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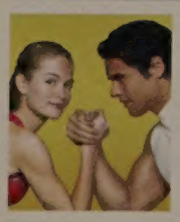
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Photographed for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by
Joel Benjamin

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR



RECOVERY PROGRAM

As we were working on this health and fitness issue, fattening holiday goodies were arriving at the IMPROPER's offices every few days. I'd like to say we shunned the brownies and cookies and caramel-covered popcorn, but the real story is that whoever spotted the goodies' arrival at the reception desk was then unofficially responsible for running down the editorial hall yelling "food up front!" so that we could swoop in before the sales staff (whose offices are closer to the front door) got all the good stuff.

Most feeding frenzies were followed by remorse, as staffers lamented the collapse of their willpower. "I haven't been to the gym in three weeks," one groaned, prompting another to confess to having eaten a heaping plate of Mexican wedding cookies in one sitting over Thanksgiving. Add in some bitter weather, lunch breaks spent gift shopping instead of going to the gym, and open-bar holiday parties that made it impossible even to consider getting up the next day for that 6 am spinning class, and you've got a recipe for weight gain.

If any of this sounds familiar, consider this issue a sort of intervention. To help recharge your commitment to fitness, we've got a feature on the newest classes, equipment and personalized programs at local gyms (page 16) and a look at some of Boston's most extreme fitness fanatics (page 22).

Finally, ever devoted to saving you from the perils of dorkdom and pop cultural ignorance, we round out this issue with our list of what's in and what's out for 2004 (page 27).

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

WISHY-WASHY

I found that your "Wishful Thinking" section (The Word, Dec. 17) provided insight into our local celebrities' personalities. It is sad that most of them were wishing for themselves and not for the greater good of people.

Jodi Applegate: You have plenty of money—buy your own freakin' weekend spa getaway. Hopefully during your massage, you could relax enough to think about somebody else.

Kelly Malone: Do some more public service announcements on the air—you'll at least be getting paid when you think about someone else!

Susie Castillo: Whatever dignity the Miss USA pageant had just imploded. Need a car and shoes? Heard of a job?!

Ming Tsai: After wishing for world peace you deserve fresh powder in Salt Lake. But couldn't you wish for good health for everyone? At the least you could cook up an elixir to take care of that! Do any nonprofit cooking?

Alex Beam: Demanding credibility and responsibility via humor. Couldn't agree more!

These local celebs, except for Alex Beam, need to take some PR courses.

—KRIS HARRIS
Via e-mail



COORS TWINS COVER BOB PERACHIO

Editor's Note: *If our interview subjects sounded self-centered, that's solely because we threatened to strangle them with a cashmere Burberry scarf if they said they wanted world peace, an end to hunger or any of the usual noble wishes. We wanted variety, frivolity and personal specifics, and we thank them for cheerfully playing along. And, of course, we're pretty sure any one of them would gladly trade the best gift they received for an end to world suffering. (In fact when we interviewed Ming Tsai, he was preparing to fly to Puerto Rico to attend a conference on global peace.)*

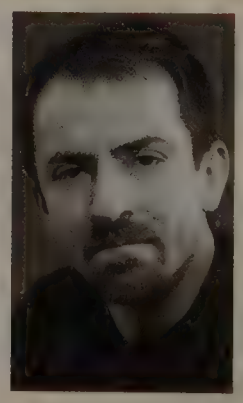
A TOAST TO THE HOST

The day before reading Ezra's "Host with the Least" article (Dec. 3), I was mulling over the catchy expression "the hostess with the mostest." I was delighted to see the saying rejuvenated—and revamped—in Ezra's title. As usual, Ezra's self-deprecating irony made me roar with laughter. He speaks to a broad cultural spectrum, and, like the best stand-up comedians, manages to include far more than he excludes in his humor. This praise is long overdue.

—KATHLEEN HALEY
Cambridge

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ERIC ANTONIOU



Eric Antoniou was born in Greece and moved to Boston 20 years ago. He studied at the New England School of Photography and has been shooting professionally for the past 15 years, specializing in theater and performing arts. Antoniou's photographs have appeared in the *New York Times*, the *Boston Globe*, *People* and *Rolling Stone*, among others. His latest work for the IMPROPER, the "Dress Rehearsal" fashion spread featuring dancers from Boston Ballet, begins on page 30.

Tell Us What You Think

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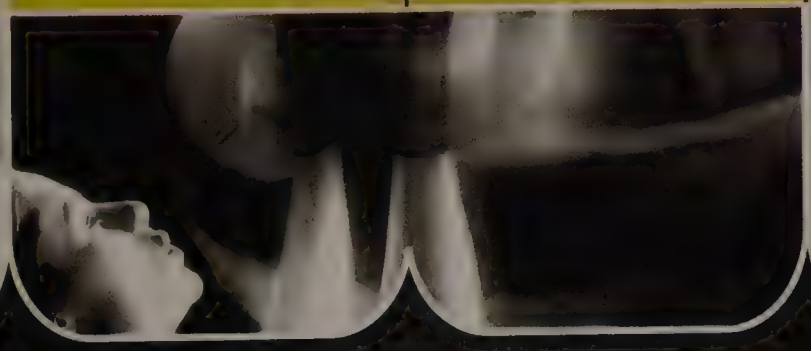
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the Word

TRENDS TITTLE TATTLE PEOPLE PANACHE

EDITED BY ERIN HAGEDORN & JULIE SURATT

new in town

A SHORE THING



Surprisingly for a city by the sea, Boston doesn't have a lot of casual seafood joints—the kind of places where you'd find mahogany booths and brass fixtures; ceramic mermaids and trickling waterfalls; and giant, colorful menus that read, "Our seafood is so fresh, it deserves a slap." Captain Fishbones, which recently replaced the Sports Depot in Allston, is all that and more.



It's not as casual as, say, Woodman's of Essex—there are no picnic tables or plastic bibs—but it's no Legal Sea Foods either. Instead, Fishbones is the kind of place you'd stop by for lobster rolls or fried clams, or to watch the Bruins game while seated at the bar with a bud (and a Bud). The menus are pretty much what you'd expect from a place that promises "seafood, steaks and more." Certainly, "more" is an understatement. Options range from burritos and quesadillas to salads to ribs to pasta to burgers and pizza, in addition to the seafood selections. The entrées are similar to the Sports Depot's due to the fact that Captain Fishbones is still under the command of Matt Renaghan and Jay Arcand, who've owned the former train station since the early 1970s. (The two also own Captain Fishbones in Quincy's Marina Bay.)

What *is* different is the ambience—in addition to the waterfall and mermaid in the dining room, the owners have installed fancy new bathrooms and removed all but one the video games. Also of note are the five flat-screen TVs that have replaced the Sports Depot's 70 sets. "Our client base has broadened," says GM Sheldon Cohen. "You won't find the rowdy Saturday afternoon football crowd, but it's still a great place to watch a game." As fans of the former Sports Depot, we'd rate Captain Fishbones—no frills, hearty food, killer desserts and utterly unpretentious—a worthy successor. *353 Cambridge St., Allston (617-783-2300). —Erin Hagedorn and Julie Suratt*

sports

AINGE YOU HAPPY?



Ricky Davis helped the Celtics beat the Mavericks Dec. 17.

Playing the Bad Guy...

Celtics GM Danny Ainge must love Major League Baseball players union honcho Gene Orza, the man who shot down the Alex Rodriguez trade. While an inordinate amount of attention was focused on the 2004 Red Sox lineup, Ainge executed the Celtics' second major trade of the season, acquiring Ricky Davis, Chris Mihm, Michael Stewart and a second-round draft selection from the Cavaliers while sending Tony Battie, Kedrick Brown and Eric Williams to Cleveland to play with LeBron James. So how did we make out? It's not as if Ainge gave up Bird, Parish and McHale, but the centerpiece of the Cleveland deal, Ricky Davis, is only 24 and has been traded three times already. He's notorious for selfishness and once missed intentionally at the wrong basket in an attempt to get the rebound and record a triple-double. Sample headline from the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* after the trade: "Cavaliers finally throw out their dirty laundry in dealing Davis." That said, Ainge is the most dedicated realist in Boston. He knows what a championship team looks like, and he knows the Celtics were treading water in the pond of mediocrity that is the Atlantic Division of the NBA Eastern Conference. Maybe this isn't the team that will win the championship, but when the Celtics beat Antoine Walker and the Dallas Mavericks Dec. 17, it was possible for a moment to imagine how a new banner might look hanging from the FleetCenter rafters. *—Ezra Dyer*

inner view

RUIZ ROCKS



On Dec. 13 Chelsea native John "the Quiet Man" Ruiz picked up the World Boxing Association interim heavyweight title after 12 grueling rounds with former World Boxing Council champ Hasim Rahman. Ruiz's win surprised critics who have time and again panned the former WBA titleholder (he lost the belt to Roy Jones Jr. in March 2003) as unskilled and perhaps unworthy. Now the Quiet Man awaits a monumental decision. Jones can choose to duke it out with Ruiz in a rematch for the title or simply abdicate the throne, thereby crowing Ruiz the heavyweight champ. We caught up with Ruiz to chat about inspiration, 12th round jitters and the looming presence of Mike Tyson.

IB: *What decision do you expect from Roy Jones Jr. about the WBA title?*

JR: I don't expect anything. He's more of a person who the last fight would be enough for him. I gave him everything I had and he's not returning the favor. He's a great fighter, but as a person, he just doesn't exist to me. Every time he doesn't get his way, he's a crybaby. He doesn't fulfill his obligations. I'd love to get another shot at him, and it could be announced in a week or a month. Who knows, anything could happen.

IB: *What do you think was your worst match?*

JR: The Roy Jones fight. I was having so many problems in my personal life. I wasn't even mentally ready for it. I would like to go back and not even take that fight because I wasn't mentally ready. I feel like I almost beat myself.

IB: *If you could match up against any one boxer in history who would it be?*

JR: The only person I thought about when I was younger was [Evander] Holyfield. He actually came to my gym in Somerville, and I told my trainer I would love to fight him one day. It was a dream come true to fight him for the world championship.

IB: *Who do you most look up to in the boxing world?*

JR: I personally look up to my mother. She raised four of us herself and I love her so much. There's really nobody in any sport I could look up to other than my mother.

IB: *How many times have you seen the movie* Rocky*?*

JR: I don't know how many times I've seen it, but watching the movie and picturing my life is kind of the same. You know, receiving no backing and working for a goal. I'm glad everything worked out for me.

IB: *Do they really cut you if your face swells up during a fight?*

JR: No. Believe it or not, I heal up pretty good. I have two black eyes on my face and a week from now it would all be cleared up. Thank God for that.

IB: *I recently read an article that mentions Mike Tyson as a possible opponent. What would a fight with him mean to you?*

JR: It would be a great fight for me. I would welcome it. What I really would love is to have a fight in Massachusetts. It's been a long time since there's been a heavyweight fight here. A fight like Roy Jones or Mike Tyson in Massachusetts, I would love it. I love the fans over here. They treat me so well.

—Jessica Iredale

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tasty tidbits

A SPEAKEASY ON BOYLSTON?

A Little Bit Country... Looks like things are going well for the folks over at Faneuil Hall's Rustic Kitchen. Executive chef Bill Bradley just announced plans to open a second installment of his much lauded restaurant (taken over from Todd English in 2002) in Hingham. Chef de cuisine Jacob Aecio will man the kitchen at Bradley's new, more rustic and rural locale, which is set to open this summer.

Novel Idea... Cambridge's Interactive Cuisine chef/owner Julia Shanks is spicing up book club gatherings (which lord knows could use a little bit of oomph sometimes) around the city by preparing special menus that reflect a club's current selection. "She'll do any novel or non-fiction book," says a spokeswoman for Interactive Cuisine. Some recent menus have centered around *Gourmet* editor Ruth Reichl's memoir, *Tender at the Bone*, and Linda Greenlaw's *Lobster Chronicles*. Shanks works with the club to create a menu, does the shopping and then performs an interactive cooking demonstration while preparing the meal. *www.interactivecuisine.com (617-868-5995).*

North End News... The owners of Brighton tapas joint Tasca have opened a sibling venture in the North End called the Belvedere. Like its Comm. Ave. counterpart, the Belvedere serves tapas in its martini bar/lounge, while the lower level specializes in pub grub. Menu aside, the best part of the Belvedere might be its panoramic view of the city. *50 Salem St., Boston (617-367-6444).*

Falling Star... Copley Square's White Star Tavern is no more. After 21 years in the restaurant biz on Boylston Street, owner Frank Bell threw in the towel on Dec. 1 in favor of selling property insurance. Bell started with Back Bay Bistro in 1983, which turned into Small Planet Bar & Grill in '92 and then the White Star in '98. He and his wife were approached about selling the restaurant about nine months ago. "That deal fell through," says Bell. "But the more we thought about closing, the more we liked it, and immediately several more attractive offers came in." The deal is still in the works, so mum's the word on who'll be moving into the Boylston boîte. A few blocks away on Columbus Avenue, Grillfish has also closed. A spokesman for the Miami location reports that the Boston restaurant shut down as of Dec. 13, but he too is holding his tongue about what lies ahead for the vacated space. Rumor has it that Anthony Susi, the chef/owner of Sage in the North End, is interested.

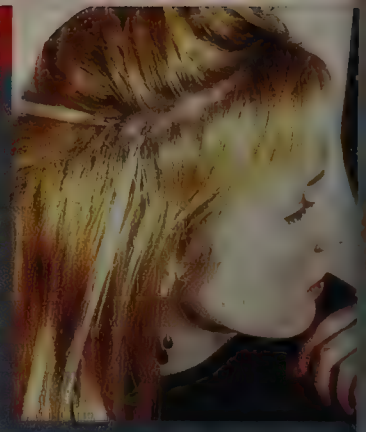
Rewind... The Jazz Age makes a comeback with the Glynn Hospitality Group's newest endeavor, Dillon's, which replaces Barcode (formerly the beloved hamburger haunt Division 16) on Boylston Street in late December. The 1920s-themed gin joint is a departure from Glynn's Irish pubs (the Harp, Parris, Ned Devine's, the Green Briar and Black Rose). Bamboo woodwork and large banana fans hearken back to the time of flappers, and patrons will find an extensive array of Prohibition-era cocktails, as well as a full dining room menu. *955 Boylston St., Boston (617-421-1818).*



By the Bay... When the Bay Tower Room took itself off the market by filing for Chapter 11 in October, we wondered what would become of the room with a view. Turns out the owners of Brookline's Ballroom Veronique are salvaging what remains of the function hall. The restaurant is gone for good, but Veronique owner Jim Apteker has kept the function rooms full since the previous owners went into the red. In the coming months he plans to change the name and renovate the interior, bringing the ballroom's capacity up to 1,200. "It's going to be the best thing the city's seen in a long time," says Apteker. *—E.H., J.S. and Jessica Iredale*

sam says

CROWNING GLORY



I've suffered my share of bad hair extensions. Bad weaves. Wiglike disasters. Head trauma from ripping extensions out myself (not advised). You name it, I've done it. Given my colorful history, you can imagine my reluctance when Mitch Derosa of Mitchell John Salon called with an invitation to try the latest in faux locks. But in the name of beauty research, I offered my head up on a silver platter. The procedure's initial description sounded suspiciously like its loathsome predecessors—attaching synthetic hair near the root, blah, blah, blah. Three hours later I was completely converted. Jeanne Snyder, the faux-hair artiste, combined several synthetic hair colors to match my own tone. Then, two stylists bonded the synthetic hair to my own, using a soldering iron–like tool that created a seal which Snyder says lasts roughly three months. The best part = your real hair is completely protected, and only an expert can tell the real from the fake. I've been sporting my new 'do for a month, and it's holding strong. *Mitchell John Salon, 67 Broad St., Boston (617-951-0122). $375 and up. —Samantha House*

improper reports

WINTER DENIAL

Don't let snow and icy winds darken your sunny disposition. There are plenty of places in Boston where you can pretend it's still summer.


Snow be damned at CityGolf.

***Dine at El Oriental de Cuba.** There's no embargo against Cuban fare at this Jamaica Plain haunt. Try a *morir soñando* ("to die dreaming"), a nonalcoholic, Creamsicle-like beverage. $2.50. *416 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6464).*

***Go sunless tanning at 30 Newbury Spa.** If you can't do it naturally, fake it. This spa offers several options for combatting your deathly pallor with a spray-on tan. *30 Newbury St., 4th Floor, Boston (617-266-7606).* www.30newburyspa.com.

***Have an ice cream cone at Emack and Bolio's.** This socially conscious ice cream haven offers microbrewed sodas and smoothies in addition to innovative ice cream flavors like grasshopper pie (crème de menthe liqueur with Oreos and chocolate flakes). *290 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-7127); 1663 Beacon St., Brookline (617-731-6256).* www.emackandbolios.com

***Go sunglasses shopping at Filene's Basement.** No matter the season, Filene's Basement has an extensive selection of discounted designer sunglasses. *426 Washington St., Boston (617-542-2011).*

***Lounge in the indoor courtyard garden at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum.** The museum features a lush courtyard garden, reminiscent of the open air gardens of ancient Roman villas. *280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401).* www.gardnermuseum.org. *$10 ($11 on weekends).*

***Take indoor golf lessons at CityGolf.** This practice facility offers a 280-square-foot indoor green and a staff of PGA professionals who conduct virtual reality course simulation, putting lessons and swing analysis. *38 Bromfield St., Boston (617-357-4653).* www.citygolfboston.com.

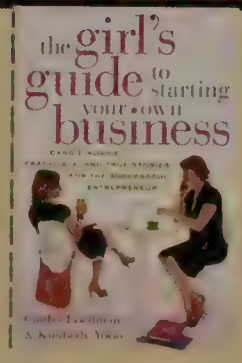
***Sample the Polynesian cocktails and cuisine at the Tiki Room.** This restaurant's sunny atmosphere and colorful drink menu bring a slice of the tropics to Lansdowne Street. The kitchen stays open until 1 am, so you can order late-night snacks like grilled-pineapple-and-cilantro shrimp. *1 Lansdowne Street, Boston (617-351-2580).*

—Julie Babayan

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Women's Work... You know you're successful when a how-to guide draws on your experience to fill its pages. Authors Caitlin Friedman and Kimberly Yorio pay homage to Rialto chef/co-owner Jody Adams in *The Girl's Guide to Starting Your Own Business*. Friedman and Yorio plied Adams with questions about how to make a partnership work and how to assess goals. Adams' sage advice comes from years of making her mark on the restaurant scene with the Sapphire Restaurant Group. Says Adams of the book, "I think it's fabulous." If she does say so herself.



Middle Earth to America... Seems three feature films with a combined running time of more than 10½ hours, extensive media coverage and DVD extended editions aren't enough to satiate the public's obsession with Middle Earth. Come August, the Museum of Science will be the launch pad for the U.S. premiere of *The Lord of the Rings Motion Picture Trilogy—The Exhibition*. New Line Cinema and the Museum of New Zealand partnered to bring the exhibition—which includes original costumes and jewelry (precious ring included), displays of prosthetic Hobbit feet, Orc teeth and filmmaking special effects—to the States. *LOTR–TE* is at the MOS Aug. 1–Oct. 24.

Good as Gold's... City dwellers have a new option on the health circuit. Lean, mean, no-nonsense workout haven Gold's Gym is opening a five-floor fitnessplex in Downtown Crossing Jan. 15. The 26,000-square-foot facility will feature executive locker rooms with private showers, a juice bar, aerobics and spinning studios, and a cardio floor with Broadcast Vision Theatre on every machine. Then there are Gold's ubiquitous dumbbells, barbells, weights and Nautilus. Can't you feel the testosterone? *52 Summer St., Boston (617-426-2929).*

Outlook Not Good... Looks like Harvard Square's Grolier Poetry Book Shop is about to lose the independent bookseller's uphill battle for survival in this age of behemoth chains and online retailers. Owner Louisa Solano says that "unless a miracle happens" the store will close by the end of the month. The 76-year-old institution once lured such greats as E.E. Cummings, Robert Pinsky, Donald Hall and Allen Ginsberg to browse its shelves. Solano sums up the problem: "It's called lack of funding. It's called the Internet." People have been calling to offer their help, but "unless someone comes up with a creative way to pay bills and get some new inventory," says Solano, the shop is kaput.

Funny Business... Think you're funny? See how you stack up against the rest of the country at NBC's open call to find the "funniest person in America," with the second season of *Last Comic Standing*. Talent scouts from the reality show will be checking out comedians (professional and amateur) at the Comedy Connection Jan. 27. If your three-minute bit tickles their funny bones, you might find yourself onstage with executive producer/host Jay Mohr vying for a contract with NBC. *Open call: 10 am-6 pm. 245 Quincy Market Place, Boston.*

Take It Upstairs... Faneuil Hall's Bell in Hand Tavern recently doubled its size with the addition of a second-floor bar and lounge area. The new area boasts a state-of-the art sound system, which is perfect for the bar's Thursday-Saturday cover bands, as well as banquette and lounge seating. *45-55 Union St., Boston (617-227-2098). —E.H., J.I. and J.S.*

Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to theword@improper.com.

"One cannot think well, love well, sleep well if one has not dined well." – Virginia Woolf

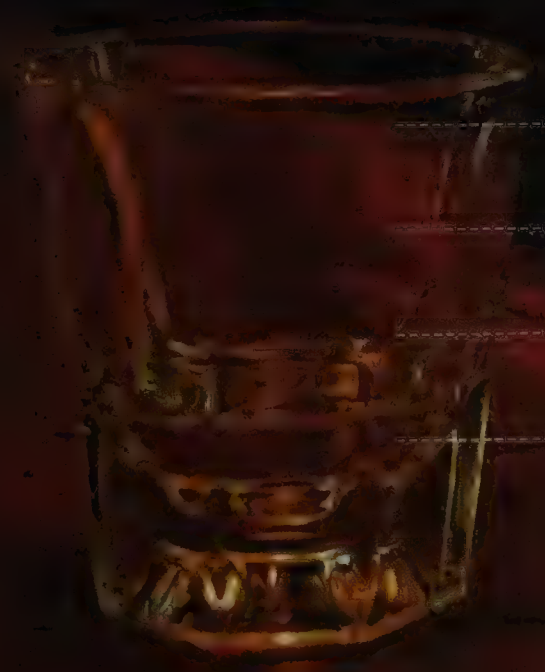


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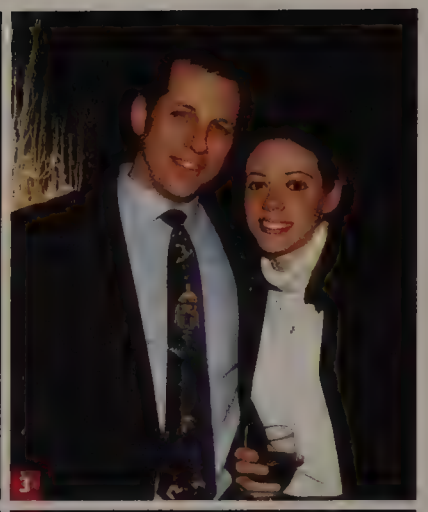
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PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY







The Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children celebrated the **17th Annual Together Against Abuse Gala** Dec. 11 at the Boston Center for the Arts' Cyclorama in the South End. More than 550 party-goers attended the benefit, which honored exceptional individuals for their contributions to the community. The event's honorees were Walter McCarty, Boston Celtics forward and founder of the I Love Music Foundation, and Suzanne Reno, an original founder of the MSPCC's GoodStart home visiting program. More than $800,000 was raised.

1. **Joseph P. Kennedy III**, CEO of Citizens Energy Corp. and his wife, **Beth**.
2. From left: **Stephen Pagliuca**, chairman of the MSPCC and managing partner of the Boston Celtics; **Marylou Sudders**, president and CEO of MSPCC; and **Tom Reilly**, attorney general.
3. **Barry Pollack**, attorney at Donnelly, Conroy & Gelhaar, and **Nicole Masnyk**, consultant at Huron Consulting Group.
4. **Tim Allen**, senior vice president of Fidelity Investments, and his wife, **Sarah**, church school director for the Church of the Redeemer in Newton.
5. From left: **Corey Cutler**, attorney for Cutler & Associates; **Andrea Bottkova**, attorney; and **Maria Parrilla** and her husband, **Jimmy**, co-owners of El Taino in Roslindale.
6. **Thi Linh** and **Peter Wernau**, account supervisor and vice president of interactive services, respectively, for Hill Holliday.
7. From left: **Robert Tishman** and **Susan Porter**, both board members for the MSPCC; **Jim Pallotta**, managing director for Tudor Investments, and his wife, **Kim**.
8. From left: **Karen Kaplan**, **Jeff Greenler**, and **Margaret Boles Fitzgerald**, president, vice president and executive vice president and director of community relations, respectively, for Hill Holliday.











The **Boston's Rising Stars** fund-raiser, presented by Tufts–New England Medical Center and Celtics captain Paul Pierce, was held Dec. 11 at the Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel. More than 400 guests attended the event, which featured a reception, dinner, an auction of sports memorabilia and a multimedia presentation of "Boston's Rising Stars," 10 of the city's most promising high school athletes. Boston Red Sox general manager Theo Epstein and the 2003 Saugus Little League team were also honored at this event. Paul Pierce announced the establishment of the Paul Pierce Center for Minimally Invasive Surgery at Tufts–New England Medical Center. The Celtics star has pledged $250,000 to the center.

9. **Paul Epstein**, social worker for Brookline High School, and **Saskia Epstein**, social worker for the Home for Little Wanderers.
10. From left: **Arthur Solomon**, chair of the dinner; **Paul Pierce**, Boston Celtics captain; and **Malcolm Sherman**, former chairman of New England Medical Center.
11. From left: **Mahmood Malihi**, principal at Leggat McCall Properties; **Soosie Lazenby**, president of Sports & Entertainment Matters; and **John DiFrisco**, sales manager for the McCue Corp. in Salem.
12. **Leslie Epstein**, director of the creative writing program at BU, and his wife, **Ilene**, owner of The Studio women's clothing store in Brookline.









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ezra BY EZRA DYER



RANDOMANIA III

Oh my God, this is, like, so random

It's come to my attention that I've passed the 100-column threshold. I'm not sure which column was number 100, but I'll bet it was special. What's important to me is whether 100 columns is enough to compile into a book. Perhaps I should write to Dave Barry and ask how the whole "making a book out of stuff you've already written" thing works. See, I want book money. I've got expensive tastes. These Starbucks gingerbread lattes are killing me. Of course, promoting my book is going to be difficult. I never should've punched Stedman Graham at the Oak Room. But you know what? He had it coming.

Along with hunting and pecking my way through 80,000 words, I realized that it's been over a year since I let myself off the linear narrative hook with a random thoughts article. So here you go: the third, semi-annual installment of Randomania.

*High on my list of People I'd Like to Hit with a Big Rock are Hallmark browsers. Most Hallmark stores are filled with painfully earnest cards that say things like, "This joyful holiday season, our family wishes you joy and prosperity and joy. We are thinking of you so very much it hurts. We wuv you." Then there's a tiny section with cards that offer messages like, "Roses are red, violets are blue. I'm sorry your grandma's dead, let's go get a brew." Those are the ones I like. But if someone's standing in front of that section, you're boxed out. I can only pretend to read the sentimental cards for so long. I start giving the offender dirty looks and gradually edge into their personal space. Eventually I'll reach across and grab a card from directly in front of them, hoping they get the hint. They usually don't. So I'd like to suggest that Hallmark stores install sensors in the nonsappy card section, like the ones on auto-flush toilets. If the sensor doesn't detect movement within three minutes, a trap door opens and the card-hoarder falls into a piranha tank. Now that'd be a Hallmark moment.

*How often should you wash your mattress pad? You wash your sheets. You don't wash your mattress. Somewhere between those poles lies the nebulous land of the mattress pad. I'm thinking maybe once every three rotations of sheets?

*The Dyers were discussing acupuncture at Christmas when my mom brought up a story I'd never heard before: A few years ago my dad's acupuncturist called to cancel an appointment because one of her friends had been killed by a lion. The deceased made the unfortunate decision to adopt a lion that was being kicked out of a circus because it kept attacking people, and it turned out that this kitty hadn't changed his mauling ways. So which soothing words did my father use to console his bereaved acupuncturist, whose friend had become Purina Lion Chow? "It's a jungle out there." Apparently, acupuncture doesn't make you more sensitive.

*Almost as satisfying as finding a nicely stained, solid wood dresser for $35 on Craigslist was the fact that someone else wanted it. I got there first. Getting a good deal is even more exciting when there's the possibility of conflict. I imagined my competitor showing up and both of us running off with drawers, eventually pulling the dresser apart and ending up on *The People's Court* screaming at each other. But if my fellow dresser hunter is reading this and is still feeling like he or she missed out on a great deal, don't worry: you did. HA HA HA.

I'D LIKE TO SUGGEST THAT HALLMARK STORES INSTALL SENSORS IN THE NON-SAPPY CARD SECTION. LIKE THE ONES ON AUTO-FLUSH TOILETS.

*So far, the only thing that I've found that doesn't stick to ant-killing glue traps is ants. The area around my toaster oven is regularly covered with ants. An exterminator came and sprayed some chemicals that were supposed to kill the ants within four days, but unless I'm now dealing with undead zombie ants, the stuff didn't work. The exterminator also left a glue trap under the sink, presumably to catch any ants who decided to migrate the 4,000 ant-miles between the toaster oven and the sink. I tried putting the glue trap on the counter, but the ants just walk around it and go about their anty business. The ants are winning, which, given the brain size disparity here, is like getting beaten at chess by an Atari 2600. I guess I'll just keep spraying them with Formula 409 and wiping them up with a paper towel. I may have an infestation of scavenging insects and an apartment full of pesticides, but my countertop has never been cleaner. IB

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Soroff ON

JEFF CORWIN

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Animal expert, environmentalist and Disney Channel/Animal Planet hottie Jeff Corwin was born and raised in Norwell. After graduating from Norwell High, he received a bachelor of science degree in biology and anthropology from Bridgewater State and a masters in wildlife and fisheries conservation from UMass Amherst. He began working for the conservation of endangered species as an adolescent, going on an expedition to the rainforests of Belize, and by 1994 he had addressed the U.N. General Assembly regarding deforestation. From 1997-1999, he hosted *Going Wild with Jeff Corwin*, Disney Channel's popular series, and since 2000, he has partnered with Animal Planet as host and executive producer of the *Jeff Corwin Experience*. His camera-friendly good looks led *People*'s editors to choose him as one of the "50 Most Beautiful People" of 2002, and *Entertainment Weekly* included him on its "It List" that same year. His first book, *Living on the Edge*, was published last fall by Rodale Press, and he recently established an interactive museum and environmental education center in Norwell called EcoZone. When not traveling the world, he lectures on wildlife, ecology and conservation. He lives on a private island off the coast of Massachusetts with his wife, Natasha, and their baby girl, Maya Rose.

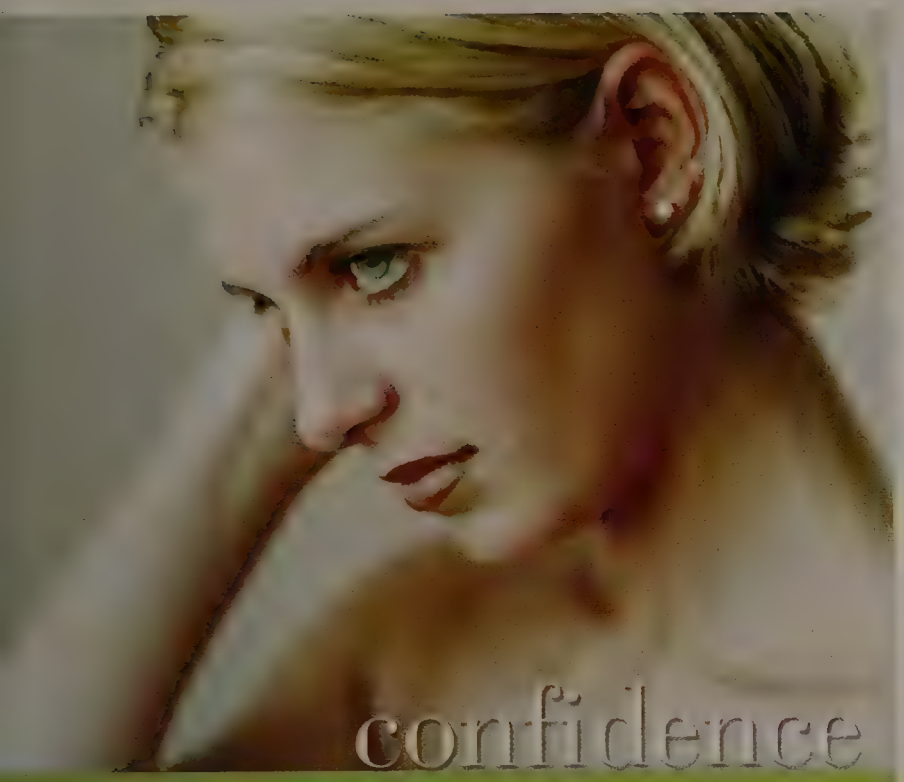
Jonathan Soroff: *If you could be any animal, what would it be and why?*
Jeff Corwin: Probably a king cobra. I love snakes, and if you're a king cobra you're top dog, the top of the food chain. You're deadly.
JS: *What animal from your travels would you most like to bring home as a pet?*
JC: Well, my philosophy is not to keep exotic animals, because I think it's bad for the animals and for people. But I'd have to pick this awesome elephant in Nepal, who took me around in the jungle. We took naps together, bathed together and just had great fun.
JS: *What's your take on zoos?*
JC: Well, I have two opinions. The first is that there's nothing more miserable than a bad zoo—one that's poorly managed, with bad enclosures, where the husbandry and care of the wildlife is not a priority. The flip side is that, to me, there's nothing more magical than a good zoo, where the people are dedicated to the welfare of the animals and the animals have ideal habitats that provide stimulation and good environmental quality. Many zoos have become a final reservoir for species that have all but disappeared in the wild.
JS: *What was your scariest animal encounter?*

I LOOK AT HUMAN BEINGS NOT AS SOMETHING ABOVE THE NATURAL ORDER, BUT AS PART OF IT. FOR ME, IT'S ABOUT SUSTAINABILITY AND RESPECT

JC: Probably my wife, on hour 27 of the 29 hours she spent in labor, bringing our baby daughter into the world. But in the field? Probably being pummeled by elephants in Borneo, or last year in Peru, when I got charged by a bear. That scared the crap outta me.
JS: *Stupidest thing you ever did around a wild animal?*
JC: I've done so many, but I'd have to say when I was in Belize, as a grad student. I was studying snakes, and I was hiking about two miles away from anywhere in the jungle when this coral snake crossed the path. Instinctively, I reached out to stop it with my foot and I had sandals on. He bit me, and this is the deadliest, most venomous snake in the New World. It takes about four hours to die from a coral snake bite and I didn't receive the first round of antivenom until about three and a half hours after being bitten.
JS: *Ever shot yourself with a tranquilizer dart?*
JC: [Laughs.] No, but once I was helping put a radio collar on an African elephant, and I almost pricked myself with the counter-drug to the sedative, a stimulant that probably would have instantly made my heart explode.
JS: *Surest sign of animal intelligence?*
JC: Oh, I see it all the time. For example, last year, I was in Borneo working with orangutans. There was one about 20 feet up in a tree and I climbed up to get closer, and I was so focused on the animal that the branch I was on snapped and I slipped. The orangutan reached out and grabbed my hand and held onto me, which means two things: he understood what the outcome would be and he understood that he could intervene.
JS: *OK, the Croc Hunter: Do they need to up that guy's dosage, or what?*
JC: He has his own way of doing things. We have very, very different styles.
JS: *How tactful. OK, Marlon Perkins and that guy Jim—think they were a gay couple?*
JC: Well, if they were, you definitely know who was the bottom.
JS: *Strangest animal?*
JC: Probably the hyena. They're cunning, efficient predators. They have a primate level of intelligence. They're so matriarchal that the highest-ranking male in a clan is below the lowest-ranking female, who is usually a scruffy adolescent pup. The females grow sexual organs that look like male penises, but they're actually vaginal canals. For years, scientists thought they were hermaphrodites. How's that for butch?



JS: *OK, now what's up with the platypus?*
JC: They're awesome! An egg-laying mammal, that sweats milk, with a duck-like bill! They defy evolution!
JS: *World's most endangered species?*
JC: Tragically, there are many. Today, I'd say the Sumatran rhino, which will probably be extinct in the wild within the next decade. The black-footed ferret in this country. The spectacle bear of South America. I remember being in Hawaii and going to film this bird sanctuary. The guy there was making a giant fuss over a tiny, innocuous-looking green bird that was chirping away for a mate, and I said, "What's the big deal?" He said, "That's the last one."
JS: *Worst tropical disease you've ever had?*
JC: Oh, I've had rot—foot rot, funguses, skin things—that would make you burn the sheets. I've had dengue fever, parasites in my stomach. Once, I thought I was over a bad case of New Delhi belly that I picked up in India, and two months later, my wife and I are walking through New Orleans. All of a sudden, I was about to blow.
JS: *Any thoughts on fur?*
JC: I would never wear it, and neither would my wife, but there are people who live in very cold places who hunt and gather and use those materials. I look at human beings not as something above the natural order but as part of it. For me, it's about sustainability and respect. I don't think it comes down to one PC choice. It's a way of thinking. I want to be a sustainable user.
JS: *So I take it you're not a member of PETA?*
JC: No, but I have great respect for them. They're very important as an organization because they highlight issues and wrongs that need to be righted. But I'm not a vegetarian, and I wear shoes made out of leather, and I view myself as part of the food chain. Look, bad things happen to really nice antelope. I don't think we need to punish ourselves for being living organisms that eat other living organisms.
JS: *Grossest thing you ever ate in your travels?*
JC: Gigantic worms in Borneo. Imagine something roughly the size of a profiterole, half a cigar long, that looks like a maggot. It's undulating and translucent, so you can see the guts, with a giant beetle-like head that has mandibles. And then you look up and see a bunch of human heads in a basket over the fire, smoking, so you don't argue. You say, "These are the best worms I ever tasted!"
JS: *So what did the Masai tribesmen think of you being named one of* People*'s 50 Most Beautiful People?*
JC: [Laughs.] I don't know if they saw it, although my show is on in 90 different countries and I've been recognized in the weirdest places. I was in the Himalayas, on an old train with no heat, and this old guy comes up and says, "Are you Jeff Corwin?"
JS: *Last question: What's up with the short-shorts?*
JC: Hey, listen. I like to be free and easy and enjoy a little breeze. IB



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PHOTOGRAPHS BY RICHARD SMITH

MEAN MACHINES

Wish your health club had a bench press machine with a built-in back massager and a latte holder? In Boston's competitive gym market, ask and ye just might receive.

BY EZRA DYER

When it comes right down to it, you could probably get a pretty decent workout without any gym equipment at all. Back in the day, people stayed fit by running away from tigers and dragging each other around by the hair. However, like teeth-whitening strips and unlimited night and weekend minutes, TV-equipped treadmills and self-spotting bench-press machines can be counted among the many perks of living in a post-hunter-gatherer society. With fitness equipment manufacturers constantly creating new and improved devices to sculpt your every muscle, how do gyms decide which machines are worth buying and which ones are doomed to ThighMaster obsolescence?

"It's a combination of things," says Smaiyra Million, general manager of the **Sports Club/LA**. Suggestions from employees are one factor in determining what kind of equipment is on the must-have list. The Sports Club/LA purchased its newest machine, the Gyrotonic Expansion System (which provides a workout that according to Million is like a combination of yoga, dance, gymnastics and tai chi) at the request of a trainer who recently earned her certification to teach it. "You want to look for something that's going to be around for a while and have legs," Million says, "so that we can integrate it into a meaningful program at the club."

Requests from members also influence health clubs' decisions, particularly when members point out something they've seen at another club. "Our members travel, and I learn a lot that way," says Caleb Davis, co-owner of **Metropolitan Fitness**. "I've had members come back from California and give me literature about a machine they used there."

Local competition carries even more weight, since gyms don't want to be left behind when a popular new machine like the Cybex Arc Trainer (which is sort of a cross between an elliptical machine and a StairMaster) comes out. "If people go out and see other things in the city that are out there, that carries a heightened sense of urgency for us," Million says.

Ever wonder why every gym worth its smoothie bar has a row (or two) of elliptical machines? Brian Walker, manager of the **Total Fitness** workout equipment store on Newbury

Metropolitan Fitness' new Cybex Arc Trainers and treadmills



Healthworks recently upgraded its equipment with the Balazs boxing system and a Pro Spot machine, which forces the user to balance the load, like free weights.

Street, explains that Precor, the company that invented the elliptical machine, gave local gyms demo models to try. Members asked for more, and the rush was on. "For a gym to remain competitive, you have to have the popular item," Walker says. "There's definitely a sense of trying to keep up in the industry."

But keeping equipment current doesn't just mean buying a slew of new $6,000 treadmills (yes, the ones at your gym are designed for near-constant use and thus cost a lot more than the home models hawked on QVC). Mitch Shechtman, director of fitness operations for **BodyScapes**, recently ordered a $5,500 Arc Trainer, but he also regularly updates smaller pieces like stability balls and wobble boards. "We try to provide our trainers with the tools they need to work with their clients," he says. "One of our trainers has a client who golfs, and I saw him doing golf swings with a 22-pound body bar. I thought that there must be something better, and the trainer said that he could use a medicine ball with a rope attached. So we ordered two. There's so much you can do with stability balls, medicine balls, tubing, wobble boards, DynaDisc. If you get on a leg-press machine, you know you're only working your legs."

Trade shows are another way health club decision makers learn about new equipment. The Boston-based International Health, Racquet & Sportsclub Association holds an enormous show in Las Vegas in March, and the pages of its magazine, *Club Business International*, are filled with new gear ranging from dumbbells to elaborate machines that look as if they were built for the Marquis de Sade.

Maria Shea, regional fitness director for **Healthworks Fitness Centers for Women**, recently ordered a ProSpot machine after trying it at a trade show. The ProSpot is the latest variation on the tried-and-true Smith Machine, which allows bench pressing without a spotter. Unlike the Smith, the ProSpot forces the user to balance the load, just like free weights. Shea also ordered a Balazs boxing system, which features hanging punching bags that can be moved around on ceiling-mounted tracks so that everyone in a boxing class can have their own bag to abuse. While trade shows can expose gym managers to new equipment that they wouldn't have known about otherwise, Davis says that it pays to remember that not every new device deserves a spot on the gym floor. "New gimmicks are coming out all the time," he says. "For example, workout machines that have personal computers built in are not a good idea. You cannot have a great workout if you're searching the Net."

And having a great workout is, after all, the point.

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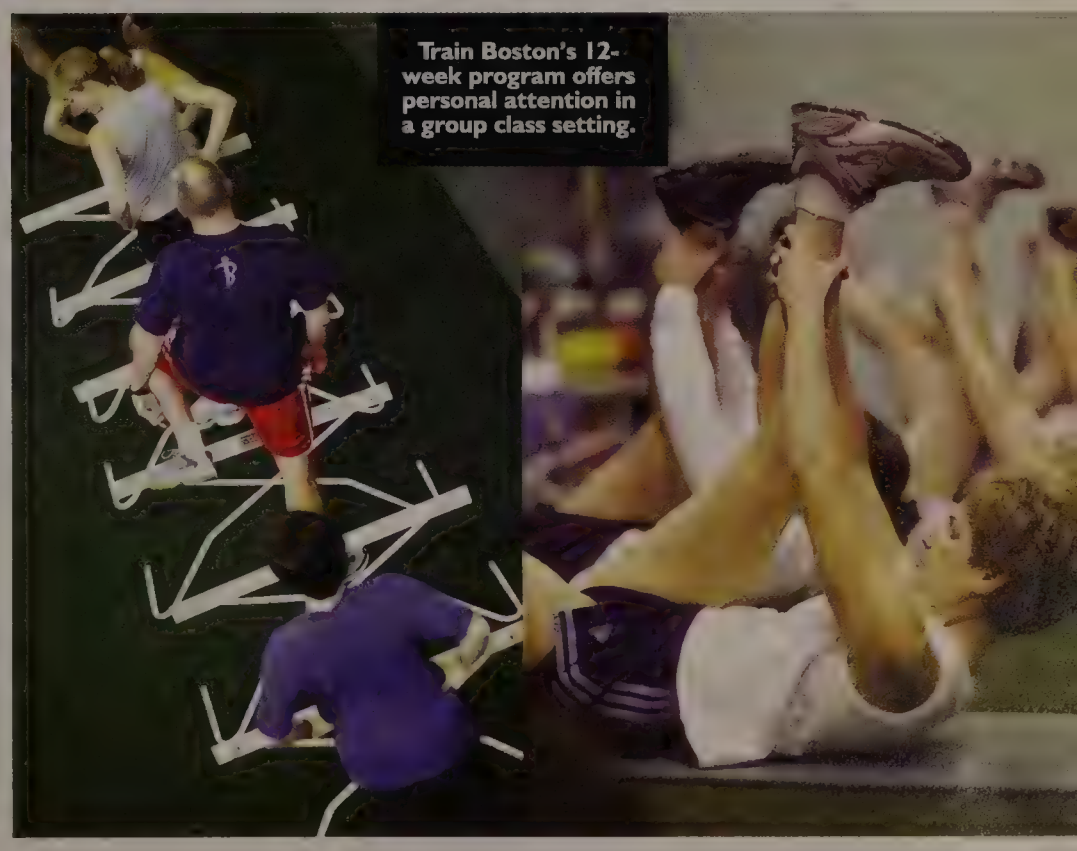
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www.wellbridgeac.com.

Body Building

Many gyms offer private sessions with trainers to familiarize patrons with the equipment and help them plan a workout. **Train Boston** goes beyond that: You get a physical therapy–based fitness evaluation specific to your chosen activities and any issues you might have (for example, a bum knee). They'll test everything from flexibility, strength and cardiovascular fitness to biomechanics and functional movement. Started in 1999 by physical therapist Tim Brewster (who has trained members of the New England Revolution and the Patriots), Train Boston offers a unique 12-week program that provides personal attention but also the motivation of a group class setting. Classes get progressively more difficult as the weeks go on, and the focus shifts from flexibility, strength and core work to a more intense cardiovascular workout. "The objective is to ramp up a person's fitness level," says Brewster. "It's a very similar program to what we offer professional athletes in our mini training camp, only with slightly less resistance." Hey, if it's good enough for the Pats, then it's good enough for us. *$1,299 for nonmembers; $999 for members.*

Sound Off!

Created in 1997 by former U.S. Marine Corps captain Charla McMillian, **FitBoot** is an intensive six-week training regimen. "It's boot camp—similar to what you've seen in the movies," says McMillian. Alas, you're not likely to be doing push-ups, pull-ups or jumping jacks next to Richard Gere. Your fellow "recruits," as they're called, range from couch potatoes to competitive athletes, and your instructors—all former army officers—are garbed in camouflage and boots. "There's some yelling," McMillian admits. "But there are times when you need to impart a sense of urgency. You'd be surprised what an individual can do when someone makes it seem really important that he or she do it." The class meets five mornings a week at 7 am on the banks of the Charles. The military basic training drills are designed to improve strength, endurance, flexibility



Train Boston's 12-week program offers personal attention in a group class setting.

CLASS ACTS

Group exercise goes creative

BY JULIE SURATT

This time of year, working out gets to be a chore. Who wants to schlep to the gym in the ice and cold, or worse, go out jogging? But luckily, local gyms have done their best to come up with an enticing array of classes to lure you through the doors and get you started on your New Year's resolution to get in shape. We surveyed trainers and gym-goers alike to determine which classes people are talking about this year, and which ones they should know about.

and agility while building teamwork and leadership skills. "Our recruits stand a little prouder," says McMillian, "whether they're walking into a room or sitting at a boardroom table." $350. *Classes begin in January.*

Bring the Noise

It might sound like a peculiar name for a fitness class, but P.H.A.T.—which stands for Pelvis, Hips, Abs and Thighs—is a feel-good class that lets you shake your booty. "We're trying to create a dance club feel in a studio," says instructor Kristin Burgess of **Wellbridge Athletic Club**. The lights are dim and the music (house and club) a bit louder than normal during this hour-long class. It's a full cardiovascular workout with a focus on the abdominals, hips and thighs (hence the name). The pelvis comes into play with undulations and hip thrusts. "When people first take the class, they laugh hysterically," says Burgess. "I tell them that it's like doing a bad wedding dance. Their arms are flailing and their hips are swinging." But the best part? "The bigger the rear end, the easier it is," she says with a smile. "We want people to be proud of how they look."

Disco Fever

Club Dance at **Crunch Fitness** is another class that re-creates the atmosphere of a club—with pulsating music, a strobe light, a fog machine and a disco ball. Gym-goers garbed in club gear (minus the heels) enter through a velvet rope guarded by bouncers (who double as trainers). "It feels like you're waiting in line at Studio 54," says fitness director Franny Benedetto. But is this fitness—or fun? It's both, according to Benedetto, who says instructor Craig Smith teaches the class a few dance moves, and for the last 20 minutes, "we just kick up the music and everyone just jams." The only thing missing is a bartender, and Crunch takes care of that: All participants get a ticket for one free drink at a nearby bar...after class of course. *Nonmembers admitted for $5.*

Dance to the Beat of Your Own Drum

Nia isn't new. Founded some 20 years ago in California, it combines modern dance, yoga, martial arts and tai chi into one touchy-feely workout. But recently, there's been a upsurge in interest in Nia on the East Coast. Margo Morado, founder of newly opened **Casa Nia**, says that Nia's creators, Carlos and Debbie Rosaf, were "sick of aerobics—tired of pounding up and down to loud music." So they came up with a class that allows you to kick off your shoes and sway, twirl, lunge and cha-cha barefoot to music. "All the movements are natural," says Morado. "It can be an intense workout, or you can move slowly—it's an individual decision." Instructors motivate the class with exclamations like "Hug the sky!" or "Imagine you're a wave crashing onto the rocks!" "The images inspire you to move," says Morado. *Class prices vary.*

BAR EXAM

Five energy bars vie for the title of tastiest preworkout treat

BY EZRA DYER

You don't want to be hungry when you're working out. Besides being distracted by hallucinations of pastrami sandwiches hovering in front of the treadmill, you won't have the energy you need to properly flog yourself. On the other hand, you don't want to feel unpleasantly full, either. Enter the energy bar: big enough to hold you over until you hit the showers, small enough that you won't feel it churning your innards while you churn the stationary bike. But are there any energy bars that don't taste like pressed sawdust? We put five bars to a pseudo-scientific taste test to find out which ones you want to pack in your gym bag and which ones you want to use as a sinker next time you're deep-sea fishing. (For control purposes, we used peanut butter flavor for each brand tested.) First, we put each bar under a handsaw to see how many passes it took to cut a piece off. Then, we taste tested them. Finally, we brought them to the Common to see if the local wildlife—namely squirrels and geese—had any favorites. And the rankings are...



From top: The PowerBar wilts at room temperature; the saw test; squirrels liked everything but the Clif; geese get in the Zone.

5.

The Clif Bar took 24 passes with the saw before a chunk crumbled off the end, which is a good indicator of its rubbery resistance to chewing. Sample comments from our taste testers included, "I think this is for farm animals," and simply, "No." At the park, a squirrel sampled a bite and declined a second helping. While we've tried other Clif Bars that taste better (the Ice series gives you a nice shot of caffeine via embedded espresso beans), the peanut butter version should be tossed—off a cliff.

4.

Right away the PowerBar lost points because of its extreme sensitivity to temperature. At room temperature, this bar didn't have much power, and was essentially a gooey mess. We stopped sawing after 80 passes, but there was still a peanut butter dingleberry hanging off the end. And anyone who's taken a PowerBar skiing knows that when it gets cold it can be used as a weapon or, in a pinch, a shovel to dig out from an avalanche. But it doesn't taste bad, with testers offering noncommittal comments like, "It tastes like oatmeal that wasn't cooked," and "Sticky but crunchy, and grainy." The taste bears only an abstract relationship to peanut butter, but the geese seemed to like it, although they chased each bite with a mouthful of grass.

3.

The Balance Bar, like the Clif, is sturdily constructed and resisted the saw for 22.5 passes. Better sharpen those incisors. But once you get chewing, the Balance Bar has a nice texture, and if we had a couple glasses of wine we might even tell it that it has great mouth feel. Comments included, "tastes like real peanut butter," "creamy texture" and "strange aftertaste." That aftertaste kept this bar in the middle of the pack, but the squirrels agreed that the Balance Bar is worthy of stashing in your gym bag or tree.

2.

This bar tasted the most like it was cooked by your grandma, if your grandma was some kind of a health freak who makes her own energy bars instead of cookies. It took only 13 passes of the saw to break something off—an indication of the Odwalla's nice chewability. One tester summed it up: "That's good. Fruity, chocolaty and peanutty." There was almost an interspecies squirrel-goose battle over a chunk of this bar. It didn't take first place, but you're not an oddballa if you like the Odwalla.

1.

Besides requiring a mere nine passes with the saw, the Zone bar seduced testers with its come-hither crunchiness. Testers said, "Tastes like a Rice Krispies bar with peanut butter on it," "Mmmm, mmmm," and the highest compliment of all: "This is something I'd eat as junk food." We gave the squirrels only a little piece because we wanted to eat the rest ourselves. Tough luck, squirrels. When it comes to energy bars, we're in the Zone.



Wellbridge's P.H.A.T. class turns club moves into a cardio workout.

Play Ball

Acea Theroux, program director at the **Boston Athletic Club**, is pumped about BAC's muscle-sculpting class, Core Body Sculpt, which combines stability-ball training with upper-body speed exercises. "The class promotes posture, strength and balance," he says.

During the first 40 minutes, participants roll forward and backward over the large plastic stability balls, relaxing their core muscles (abdominals, lower back and hips), while smooth jazz plays in the background. To increase strength and balance, Theroux asks the class to perform exercises that range from chest presses and push-ups to squats—all using the stability ball. The slow movements and mellow music allow participants to truly let go of their tension. "The point is total body awareness," Theroux says. "You learn how to use your body for everything you do. If you can make a movement smooth, it takes the pressure off the joints and makes functional, everyday movements easier."

The tempo picks up during the last 20 minutes of the class as the music switches to dance club tunes. The balls are put aside, and exercisers work with lightweight dumbbells in quick intervals that get progressively shorter and faster in order to increase the heart rate. "Most people rarely get an upper-body cardio workout," Theroux says. During this class, they get that—and muscle conditioning at the same time.

Balance Challenge

It seems like every year, there's a new piece of gym equipment that everyone wants to try (see the minitrampoline and ab rollers as prime examples). This year, the buzz is about Bosu. An acronym for Both Sides Up, the Bosu is half of a plastic stability ball mounted on a 25-inch round platform. You can use it ball side up or platform side up.

"After doing conditioning classes for two years, our members were looking for a tool to challenge them in a different way," says Jacqie Stathis, group exercise manager for the **Sports Club/LA**. Bosu fits the bill. It provides a muscle-conditioning workout that's made even more challenging by requiring balance. For example, class participants might place a body bar on top of the platform (with ball side down) and do push-ups on the bar. "It works your abdominals much harder because you're working to stabilize your abdominals and core muscles at the same time you're doing another exercise," Stathis says. Using the ball as a minitrampoline incorporates cardio intervals into the workout. "It's fun for members—and provides an intense workout, with an emphasis on stability, balance and agility."

GET WITH THE PROGRAM

Want results? Personalize it.

BY JESSICA IREDALE

So, you've joined a gym. Or maybe you've had a membership for years. Good for you. But working up a sweat a couple of times a week probably won't turn Saddlebag Sam into Svelte Sven. In order to see results, most people need a focused plan


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Since the personal training phenomenon hit gyms nationwide years ago, sports clubs have been introducing combination fitness/nutrition programs designed to maximize individual results. Doctors, nutritionists and personal trainers are continuously working to develop fitness regimens that meet their clients' needs—from weight loss to flexibility to body sculpting—and local gyms are whipping clients into shape with the latest programs.

Trimming down and firming up are the obvious goals of most fitness programs. But with obesity reaching epidemic proportions in this country, it's clear that sticking with a diet and exercise routine is easier said than done. **Healthworks Fitness Centers for Women** is addressing the problem with **LEAN** (Lifestyle Exercise and Nutrition), a personalized 12-week program scheduled to launch at the women's-only gym Jan. 19. (Call for price.) UMass Boston professor of exercise science and physical education Kyle McInnis developed LEAN using data from the National Weight Control Registry on the diets of men and women who lost weight and kept it off for five years. After a program coach measures the client's resting metabolism and customizes her program to fit her goals, the client receives Web-based software to record what she eats and a pedometer to record daily step count. "Some people leave their home in the morning, drive to work, get out of the car and take the elevator," says Healthworks' regional fitness director Maria Shea. "[The pedometer] creates simple awareness that they can walk around the city during the day and increase their steps." The Web-based diet program allows clients to track their daily food intake (it registers everything from Kashi Go-Lean to martinis), and coaches can log on to see where their clients need to make changes. Exercise and nutrition tips are provided weekly in person, or via e-mail if the client is pressed for time. After completing the 12 weeks, members have the option to join a maintenance program.

Boston Athletic Club also rolls out a new weight management program in mid January. **Solutions** is based on five components: nutrition, cardiovascular work, food supplements, resistance training and personal assistance. "People often fail with a weight-loss program because they're missing one of those components," says program manager Acea Theroux. "Someone might know how to eat, but not know how to make it work with their body." Members meet with a trainer for an overall assessment—including weight loss goals, body fat, and postural and core muscle analysis—before developing a workout plan. After the assessment, clients can choose to work on their own, or for an additional fee (call for information) they can meet weekly with a trainer or nutritionist to focus on any of the five components. One of the unique aspects of Solutions is its use of food supplements, including Apex fitness and endurance products like on-the-go bars and creatine and glutamine shakes.



The Sports Club/LA's Gyrotonic Expansion System isn't as scary as it looks.

Losing weight isn't the only thing on people's minds these days. Office drones everywhere are becoming more aware that all that time spent sitting at a desk affects mobility and flexibility. The fitness gurus at the **Sports Club/LA** are zeroing in on those areas with two new programs. **Advantage**, introduced in November, is a customized exercise program focusing on posture and muscle and joint relief. The initial Advantage assessment ($225) includes two sessions with a trainer. First the trainer assesses the client through a health history, an activity profile and photo analysis of posture and movement patterns, looking for flexibility deficits, joint dysfunctions and muscle imbalances. In a follow-up session, the trainer reviews the results with the client and discusses strengthening and stretching techniques. Sports Club/LA fitness manager Jennifer Green describes Advantage as a substitute for chiropractic services. "There's not a lot of equipment involved," she says. "It's more resistance work and core strengthening." Clients can choose to work on their own, or one-on-one with a trainer for an additional fee.

Also aimed at improving strength and flexibility, the Sports Club/LA's **Gyrotonic program**, introduced six months ago, is designed to increase flexibility, balance and core strength through spinal movements. It focuses on breathing and on circular, undulating movements from yoga, dance, gymnastics, swimming and tai chi. Clients have a choice of working one-on-one with a certified Gyrotonic trainer (cost varies depending on the number of sessions) or taking a group Gyrokinesis class (free for members). In the hour-long private training sessions, clients use a piece of equipment called the Gyrotonic Expansion System, which looks like a medieval torture device but is actually similar to a pilates reformer. Trainers guide clients through fluid movements on the machine for the full hour. Gyrokinesis classes don't use the Expansion System. Instead members go through seven spinal postures, using a stool for balance exercises.

Finally, the Sports Club/LA is offering a little TLC for athletes who just want to improve their game. Its three-part **Sports Connection** program ($795 for members) combines training, nutrition and rejuvenation. Included in the package are a sports nutrition evaluation, five sport-specific training sessions (games include football, squash, swimming, basketball and others) with a National Academy of Sports Medicine–certified trainer, two deep-tissue massages and two follow-up nutrition sessions. Whether clients are looking to improve their marathon time with sprint drills or need tips on their tennis serve, trainers are prepared to advise. Fitness manager Jennifer Green recommends completing the program within three months to achieve maximum results, and adds that nonathletes are welcome to join the program as well. IB

GYM ETIQUETTE

You Better Shape Up

BY JESSICA IREDALE

It's 6 pm, the gym is packed, and your only goal is a quick and efficient workout. Claim a treadmill, punch in your settings and you're ready to go. Then you spot him/her: the gym offender. Maybe he's the guy who sprays you, as well as his machine, with disinfectant, or tries to strike up a conversation with you while you're in the middle of a rigorous cardio routine. Or the gal who single-handedly creates a traffic jam on the 20-minute circuit with 20-minute rests between each set, or takes nudity in the locker room to exhibitionist level. Either way he or she is known to repeatedly violate the (unspoken) gym code of conduct and create an air of discomfort in the process. We asked local gym-goers to sound off on their biggest peeves. Read on to find out if your behavior qualifies as a no-no.

"What annoys me is really sweaty people who don't wipe down their machine after use. Also, anyone who lifts a weight one rep every 20 minutes but sits on the machine and hogs it up. Another is when you are the only person on the treadmill and there are 30 open ones and someone gets on the one directly next to you." —Erin, 23.

"There was one guy who was doing leg stretches with one of those rubber spider things, and when he lifted his legs up…let's just say his shorts weren't long enough. Guys: wear longer shorts. For the women, there's just no need to blow-dry your hair in the nude. And spitting in the shower or blowing your nose in the shower…No." —Heather, 24.

"I hate it when people use the gym to socialize and girls try to wear cute outfits. Come on—there is nothing cute about sweating on a treadmill." —Catherine, 23.

"There's no need for people to walk around completely naked in the locker room. It's not your private bathroom at home. We don't want to see your body." —Kristen, 24.

"I hate it when I'm working out and feeling pretty good—running fast, sweating, breathing hard—and all of a sudden, I take a deep breath and find that the air is contaminated with a fart. It is just not appropriate, especially in the gym at 6 am!" —Jessica, 23.

"People who unnecessarily invade your space. They set up directly in front of you in an uncrowded group class, or choose the locker right next to yours even though plenty of lockers are free, or put their mat directly in line with yours in yoga so you can't help but bump arms. It's so inconsiderate." —Claudia, 31

"I guess my pet peeve is people who think that they own the gym. A few months ago there was this lady who wanted to use a machine I was on because it was part of her circuit training, so I let her work in. Thirty seconds later she was back and belligerent because she wanted to use it again, and she didn't want to wait for me to finish my set. She ended up getting the manager and making a big scene. Afterwards, other people in the gym came over and sympathized." —Wilson, 27.



Boston Athletic Club's Solutions program begins with an overall health assessment (below). BAC program director and trainer Acea Theroux gives a client some one-on-one time (right).

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FITNESS FANATICS

FROM RUNNING ULTRAMARATHONS TO CLIMBING NEW ENGLAND'S HIGHEST MOUNTAINS, NO WORKOUT IS TOO TOUGH FOR THESE EXTREME EXERCISERS.

IN APRIL 2003, CARILLI WAS DIAGNOSED WITH A LOCALIZED, NONINVASIVE FORM OF BREAST CANCER. SHE REQUIRED RADIATION TREATMENTS, BUT NOTHING COULD THROW HER OFF HER FITNESS REGIMEN.

BY KRISTEN PAULSON

They work full-time jobs all week—then they work out. On weekends, they compete in triathlons, climb icy slopes, run for hours and hoist their bikes over barriers in cyclocross competitions. These extreme exercisers know mysterious things we don't know—and may not want to—like their body fat percentage and how dehydrated they can get before they'll get sick. They do it all because they love the outdoors, or are fond of their fit reflection—or perhaps because they can't help themselves. Here's a closer look at what makes four ultra-active Bostonians tick.

TRI-CITY TRAINER

Teri Carilli's job as an engineering manager for Adobe Systems takes her to Seattle, Wash., and San Jose, Calif., for one week at a time every month or so.

Unlike many of us, however, Carilli, 41, doesn't use travel as an excuse to skip a workout. She exercises daily on the road; if she misses a day, she works out twice the following day. Her unique way of staying motivated is to put a sticker on her calendar after each workout. "At the end of the month, I love seeing 31 stickers," she says. When training for a race, Carilli also keeps a fitness log.

In Seattle, she trains with weights and takes spinning classes as a member of the city's Sound Mind and Body Gym. If the weather is nice, she'll head to Green Lake's three-mile circuit and run several loops. "After restaurant and hotel food, exercise makes me feel normal again," she explains.

When in San Jose, Carilli uses a travel pass to gain access to the city's Gold's Gym (she's a member of her local Gold's in Arlington), where she lifts weights and runs on a treadmill. If it's a Thursday, she attends a friend's spinning class at another Gold's Gym in nearby Mountain View. Sometimes, she and her friend bicycle in Palo Alto; Carilli often brings her bike with her on her trips.

Back home in Arlington, Carilli pumps iron three days a week at Gold's and runs on alternate days—on the treadmill when the weather is bad, or outdoors for six to 12 miles. "If I'm training for a marathon, the mileage goes up," she says.

So far Carilli has run the New York City and Boston marathons. On fall weekends, she runs road races, competes as part of the women's cycling team Dansko Love, or participates in cyclocross—sort of an obstacle course for bikes.

Her first taste of cyclocross came in 1999, when she watched the national championships in Fort Devens, Mass. The sport's fast, three-kilometer courses feature a mix of terrain, from narrow single track through wooded areas, to sandpits, steep grassy hills and 16-inch barriers that participants carry their bikes over. Carilli also enjoys rock climbing, snowboarding and cross-country skiing.



In April, Carilli was diagnosed with a localized, noninvasive form of breast cancer. She required radiation treatments, but nothing could throw her off her fitness regimen. "Having a routine and workouts and being able to stay focused really helped keep me sane," she says. She rode her bike 16 miles (a sprint really) daily to her treatments in Waltham. Last July, she rode a "century," 100 miles in one day, with a local bike group. It was a hilly ride on a warm day. All the while, Carilli says, she would tell herself, "You can still do this. If you can do this, you're fine."

NUMBER CRUNCHER

Most athletes are content to excel at one sport. Phil Johnson, 35, can't stop there.

On October 25, the triathlete from Reading, Mass., completed the Great Floridian—his first Ironman competition—in Clermont, Fla. Altogether, he swam 2.4 miles, biked 112 and ran 26.2.

"My time was awful," he confesses sotto voce, as if hiding a shameful secret. "Medical people told me to stop. I threw up for an hour because I wasn't drinking enough water. It was 100 degrees on the bike course—I still have weird burn marks on my back where I missed applying sunscreen."

To prepare for the Great Floridian, Johnson, who works in sales at Cambridge-based Funk Software, trained 20 hours per week from May through October. His training consisted of a weekly 100- to 140-mile bike ride (taking five to six hours on Saturdays), weight training at the Cambridge Racquet & Fitness Club, and swimming in Walden Pond and North Andover's Styles Pond. "My training has been out of control this [past] year," he admits.

Johnson prefers Olympic-length races—mere one-mile swims, 40-kilometer bike rides and 10-kilometer runs—to Ironman triathlons. "I compete, but I'm not number one in my age group," he sighs. "There are so many good triathletes in New England."

An admitted type A personality, Johnson is driven by a fear of aging and a desire to look buff for class reunions. Racing is fun for him—he says he enjoys the competition and meeting people.

Johnson's fitness mania started in the late 1980s when he found himself 30 pounds heavier than his high school weight of just a few years earlier. He started running, which he'd always enjoyed, and within about four months had trimmed his 5'10" frame down to 139 pounds. Light and fast, he began to train for marathons by running 40 miles a week and eventually averaged 60 to 80 miles per week, punctuated by frequent road races. He even ran the Boston Marathon a few times (though he says he did "terribly"). Then, in 1995, a running buddy introduced him to Massachusetts-based triathlon club Team Psycho.

For Johnson, joining a club provided additional motivation. "It's good guidance," he says. "My training got a lot more specific with the group. I did more sprint workouts, and I'm always meeting people to run with."

When he's not preparing for a race, Johnson, who works out at Cambridge Racquet & Fitness Club, does base training to maintain his fitness level. To track his progress, he keeps a daily fitness log on a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet, charts his heart rate on his laptop using a Polar heart rate monitor and Polar Performance software, and weighs himself twice a day. During a typical "easy" base-training week in the winter, Johnson works out twice a day, five days a week. That adds up to 15 hours of running, lifting weights, taking spinning classes and cycling at home on his CompuTrainer—a computerized stationary bike.

For added flexibility, Johnson takes Bikram yoga twice a week (in a room heated to 90 degrees). He also surfs twice a month year-round at Good Harbor Beach in Gloucester or at Hampton Beach in New Hampshire.

FJORD EXPLORER

Cheryl Wallace smiles around the lopsided bump on her lip where eight stitches were recently removed—the vestiges of a mountain biking face plant.

Still, she doesn't plan on slowing down.

Aside from mountain biking, the driven 42-year-old kayaks, hikes, ice climbs, runs, fly-fishes, snowshoes, skis cross-country and canoes, to name a few of her seemingly inexhaustible list of outdoor pursuits. Despite how tiring all this activity may sound, Wallace says, "I never feel like I'm working out—I feel like I'm on a big adventure."

Wallace, a marketing consultant who lives in Arlington, is also a trainer with Leave No Trace—a nonprofit that promotes responsible outdoor recreation—and a registered Maine sea kayak guide. This co-founder of the Sea Chicks kayaking club has paddled Alaska's Glacier Bay and North Carolina's Outer Banks and leads outdoor trips throughout New England with Wild Women Outfitters. Closer to home, she enjoys paddling to Grave's Lighthouse in Boston Harbor and traversing the locks of the Charles River.

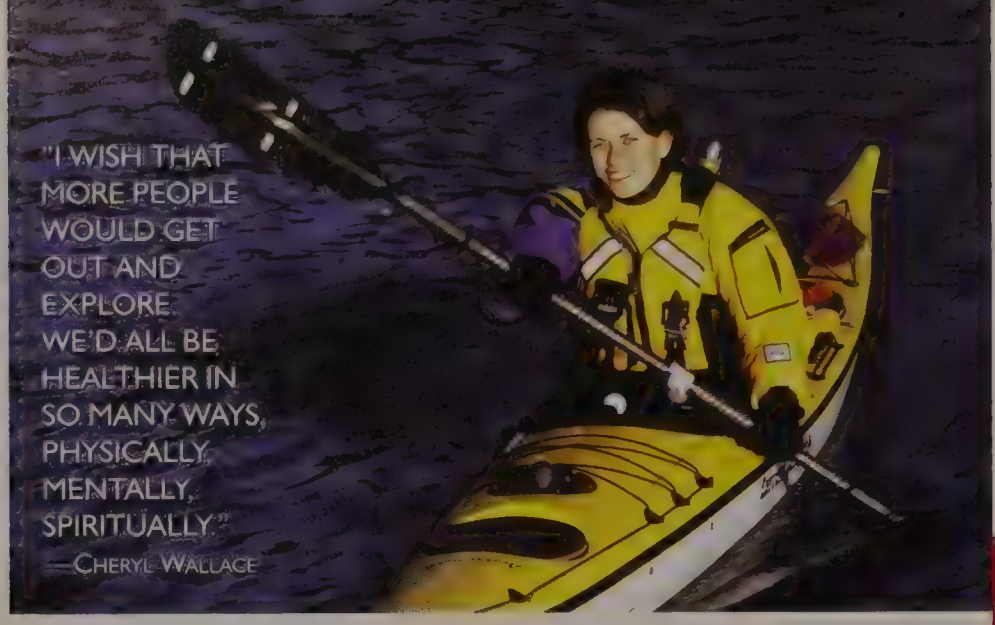
Out of the water, the intrepid explorer has ridden her bike around Ireland and gone ice climbing in North Conway, N.H. Recently, Wallace spent a week with friends at Lake Placid in upstate New York, climbing in the Adirondacks and scaling Mount Marcy (elevation 5,344 feet).

Soon, Wallace plans to climb California's Mount Whitney (elevation 14,494 feet) with a group of friends and spend a week in the White Mountains with Chicks with Picks, an elite women's climbing group. To relax this winter on weekends, she says she hopes to climb every one of New England's 67 4,000-foot peaks.

Just for fun.

Wallace's love of beauty, teaching, learning and keeping fit keep her in constant motion. Her interest started early.

"I became goal oriented in ninth grade when I started running. My coach said, 'If you plan for nothing, you get nothing. How fast do you want to be?'" Wallace set a goal to break the five-minute mile, met it, and thought, "This goal stuff works." She has remained active ever since. "There is always a next event for me. Early on, my goals centered around times and competing. But now my goals are more adventure based. I would love to become qualified to climb the world's highest peaks. I'd love to paddle around Ireland, the coast of South America, anywhere there's water."



The avid climber explains her motivation: "When I stand at the top of a mountain, the view is so beautiful. I can't help thinking so many people would enjoy the same sight," she explains, her piercing blue eyes emphasizing her zeal. "I love the solitude at the top, and yet I always think about how much other people are missing out on, about the fact that they will never get to see the 360-degree view from the top of Mount Lafayette, for instance. On one hand, I like that I have it all to myself, yet I wish that more people would get out and explore. We'd all be healthier in so many ways, physically, mentally, spiritually."

To stay conditioned for all that exploring, Wallace uses weight and endurance training to "enhance performance and avoid injury" (a phrase she repeats frequently, like a mantra). Three times a week, she works with personal trainer Beth Wyatt at the Porter Square Healthworks gym, where she combines stretches, crunches, isometric exercises and weight training—all designed to increase her bone density and prevent osteoporosis. For endurance training, she bicycles (or opts for an indoor exercise bike in the winter), uses the StairMaster and runs 45 to 60 minutes twice a week.

FANATIC FUEL

Our fitness fanatics take varied approaches to getting the nutrition they need to keep up their exhausting pace. Some consult with medical or nutrition professionals and count calories religiously. Some mostly listen to what their body tells them. Here's a peek at what our eager exercisers eat.

MORE, PLEASE

"Part of the reason I love working out is so I can eat more," says Teri Carilli. She eats a lot of fruit and smoothies. For lunch, she eats a big salad with half a sandwich, fruit and yogurt. Dinner is almost anything, including pasta and red meat, and she says her vice is ice cream. Normally, she explains, "I aim for somewhere around 2,000 calories a day and try to make it a good mix of fruit, veggies, protein and carbs. But obviously this changes depending on the level of training I'm doing. For instance, in the century (100-mile bike ride), a person would burn off 1,500 to 2,000 calories or so. I get to eat lots more after a ride like that."

BALANCING ACT

Phil Johnson received help from nutritionist Nancy Clark to fine-tune his eating. He runs in the morning to jump-start his metabolism and usually has a homemade protein shake at around 9 am. He nibbles Balance Bars every few hours to keeps his metabolism going, but generally he tries to stick with a 40-30-30 eating plan (40 percent of calories from protein and 30 percent each from fats and carbohydrates). "I eat tiny meals throughout the day and my biggest meal at night, which I know isn't good," he says. "My wife prepares a meal, and it's the only time I get to see her."

MEGA MILLIGRAMS

After having bloodwork to test for vitamin depletions, Cheryl Wallace follows a regimen of about 18 supplements daily, including a 3,000 mg omega-3 fatty acid supplement for cardiac health, emotional well-being and joint health, and 650 mg of chondroitin-glucosamine complex for joint health. She eats four small meals a day, drinks coffee, and, because she has trouble keeping weight on, makes this breakfast smoothie from a recipe her personal trainer, Beth Wyatt, gave her:

Beth Wyatt's Smoothie

In blender, combine one tablespoon peanut butter, 8 ounces soy milk, ½ cup low-fat plain yogurt, fruit (strawberries, blueberries, a banana, an apple or a pear), one heaping teaspoon of glutamine (for protein synthesis and workout recovery) and one tablespoon flaxseed oil.

ULTRA ENERGIZED

During a 100-mile race, Don Allison eats easily digestible items that are high in carbohydrates, like chicken soup (the salt replaces the sodium lost through sweat) and turkey sandwiches. He avoids simple sugars to keep his metabolism at baseline. "I don't count calories at all," he says, describing his philosophy as, "Eat when you are hungry; sleep when you are tired."

This wilderness superheroine-in-training has also added one other accomplishment to her extensive outdoor resume: modeling. In a rare moment of stillness, Wallace was photographed by Vermont outdoor gear company Orvis for its 2002 catalogue. She's shown kneeling in the water and smiling as she displays her catch of a huge striped bass.

ULTRAMARATHON MAN

In the early 1990s, when Don Allison was in his late 30s and working at *New England Runner* magazine, he saw a copy of *UltraRunning*, a Massachusetts-based magazine for people with a passion for running "ultras," or races exceeding the standard marathon distance of 26 miles.

Ultras sounded interesting to Allison. "If all these people are doing it, I should be able to do it too," he thought. At that point, the 5' 9", 150-pound fitness enthusiast had been running for 15 years and thought, why not do an ultra? His first was the New England 50-Mile Championship in 1992, and he has since completed 30 ultradistance runs (in addition to 50 marathons and two Ironman triathlons). Merging his newfound passion with his career, Allison sought and obtained an editor position at *UltraRunning* in 1996 and is now the magazine's publisher, having bought the publication from the previous owners in 2000.



Did 50 miles seem daunting at first?

"It was a formidable distance," he recalls. "It scared me a little bit." To put it in perspective, Allison focused on how many hours it might take. People go skiing all day, he reasoned, why not run all day? After all, "fresh air," he says, "is one of the great joys of life."

With the primary goal of finishing each race (time is secondary in ultras), Allison works out six days per week, and his minimum workout consists of 60 to 90 minutes of steady aerobic activity. "I also do a lot of cross-training, such as bike riding, swimming and hiking." Doing a variety of exercises rather than just running is easier on muscles, tendons and connective tissue, Allison adds. He works out at World Gym in Weymouth, where he lives, or at the Brandeis University gym in Waltham, lifting weights, stretching and doing chin-ups, dips, hip flexor exercises and crunches. In all seasons Allison likes to run and hike the Skyline Trail at the Blue Hills Reservation (he once did a 10-hour workout there).

But how does he race 50 miles?

Step by step, apparently.

"There's a saying in ultrarunning: It doesn't always get worse. You can work your way out of it [if you're feeling bad]," Allison explains.

During the Vermont 100-Mile Endurance Run—which takes many participants more than 24 hours to complete—he set small goals, such as getting to the next aid station or running three more miles. "The task would seem too formidable if I said I had 37 miles left," says Allison.

In ultras, it's not about endorphin highs as much as it's about coping with dramatic mood swings. Running the Western States 100-Miler in 2000, Allison felt like stopping at mile 70, but his pacer told him to continue.

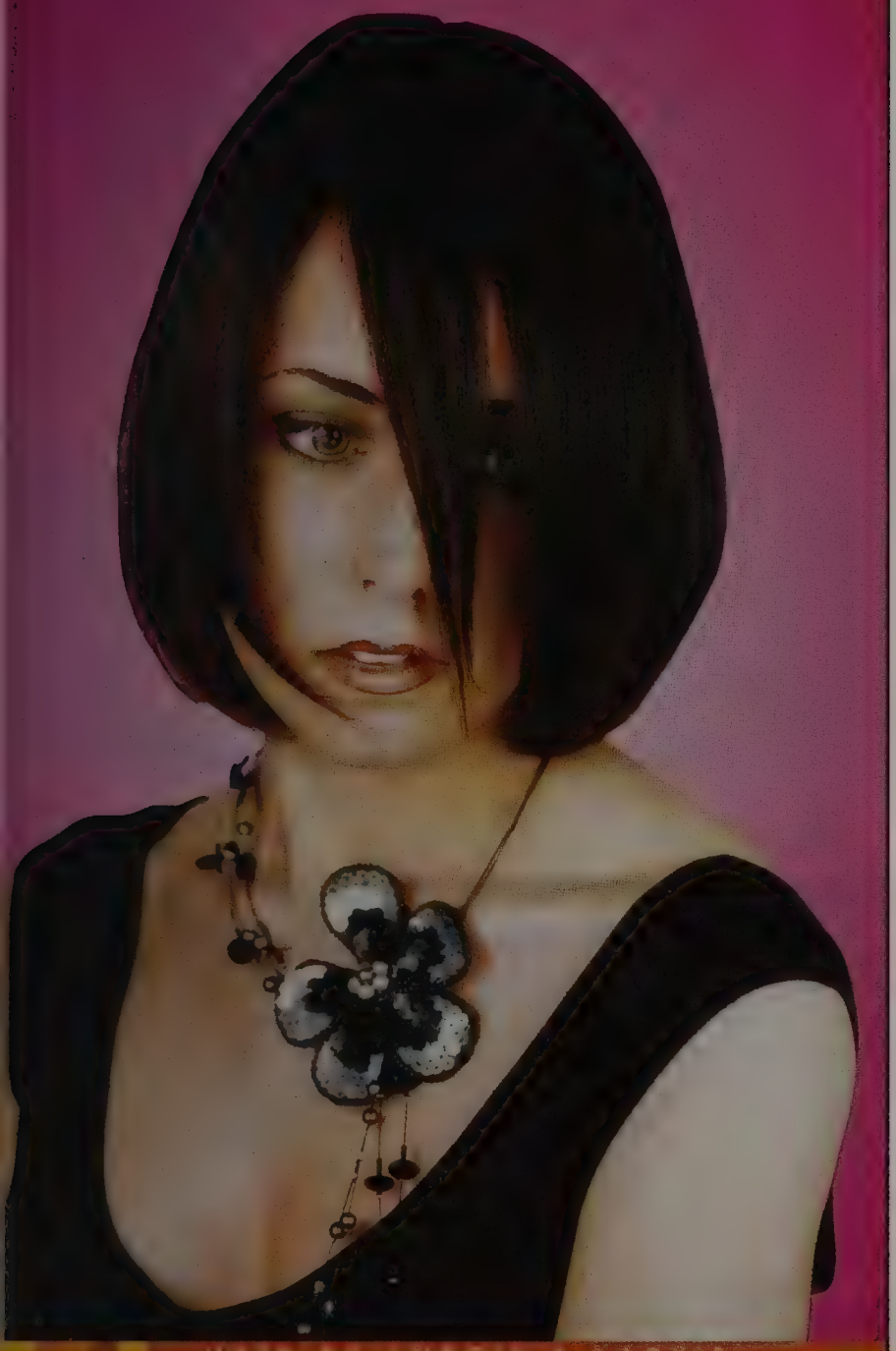
"Do you want me to fall flat on my face?" asked Allison. "Yes," replied the pacer. Thus annoyed—and encouraged—Allison ran the remaining 30 miles.

Building flexibility into his workout regimen is key. When he doesn't feel motivated, Allison employs tricks like allowing himself to skip a day, or breaking his workout into 15-minute segments.

Whatever length the race, Allison competes only with himself. What keeps him going, ultra to ultra, is staying fit, seeing the country and meeting his goals.

"I'll keep going as best as I can," he says. "Right now, I'm looking forward to my run in about an hour." IB

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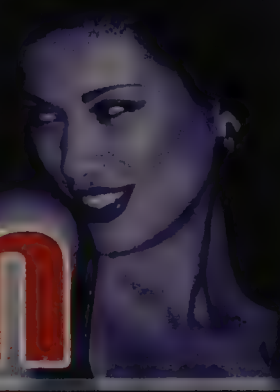
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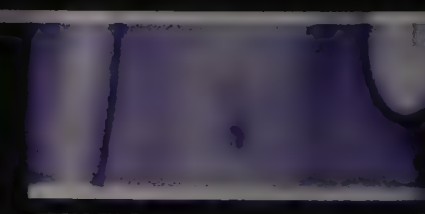
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WHAT'S IN AND OUT FOR 2004

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in	out
Sidecars	Martinis
Cheese	Crackers
OPS	Batting average
Padded jeans	Padded bras
Friendster	Online dating
Middle Earth	Middle America
Paris	Paris Hilton
Teen stars	Divas
Neon	Pastel
New England Patriots	The Patriot Act
Soy	Cow
Preppy	Mod
Station wagons	SUVs
Big hair	Flat hair
Levi's	Sevens
White tea	Green tea
Paul Smith	Jaclyn Smith
Peapod	Grocery shopping
Small plates	Huge entrées
East Boston	Roslindale
Average Joes	Metrosexuals
The "bump"	The six-pack
Sqrat	Jackalope
Keith Foulke	Byung-Hyun Kim

in	out
Quorn	Korn
Ellen	Rosie
Burlesque	Pole dancing
The Lord of the Rings trilogy	*The Matrix* trilogy
Bald	Hair systems
Border terriers	Pugs
Most Extreme Elimination Challenge	*American Idol*
Rockin'	Talkin'
Canadian drugs	Canadian air masses
Tuesday	Thursday
North Shore diet	The South Beach Diet
Straight leg	Boot cut
Downloads	Discs
Full coverage	Thongs
Maine coons	Persians
Carson Kressley	Steven Cojocaru
Pinot noir	Shiraz
Pearls	Diamonds
Tagless	Tags
Turntablists	DJs
Apologizing	Groping
Ombudsmen	Hall monitors
Gawker.com	Dailycandy.com
Uncut	Cut

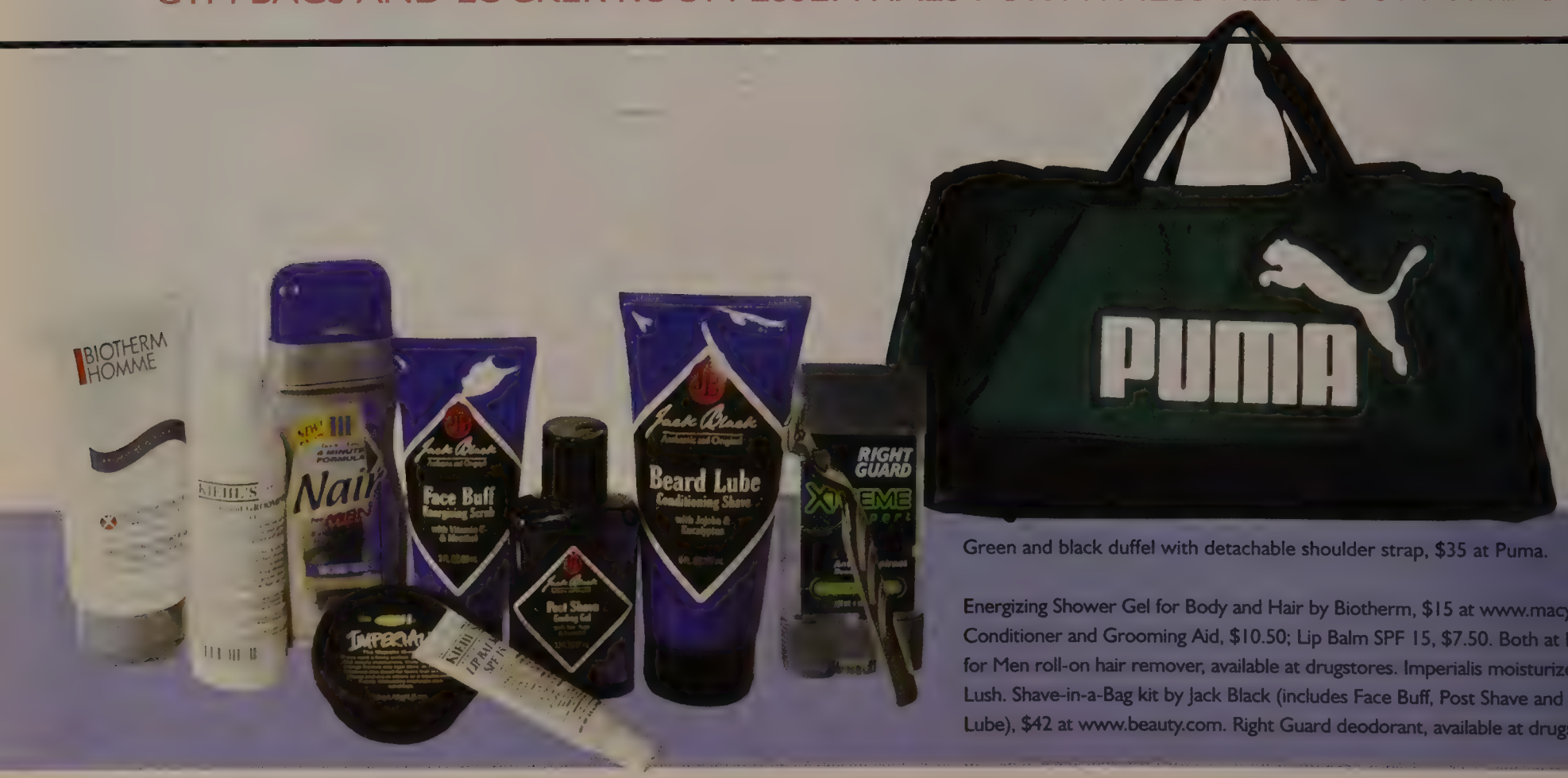
HIS 'N'

GYM BAGS AND LOCKER ROOM ESSENTIALS FOR FITNESS FIENDS ON THE GO



Black sack by Adidas, $9.99 at City Sports.

Ultra Facial Moisturizer, $13; Superbly Efficient Anti-Perspirant & Deodorant Cream, $10. Both at Kiehl's. Shave Crème by MAC, $8.50 at www.mac cosmetics.com. Portable Panacea Ultimate Body Cure (includes shampoo, conditioner and lather) by Not Soap, Radio, $30 at www.notsoapradio.com. Amplify Volumizing System by Matrix, $12.95 at Salon D'Emilio. Travel facial soap by Clinique, $14.50 at Filene's.



Green and black duffel with detachable shoulder strap, $35 at Puma.

Energizing Shower Gel for Body and Hair by Biotherm, $15 at www.macys.com. Conditioner and Grooming Aid, $10.50; Lip Balm SPF 15, $7.50. Both at Kiehl's. for Men roll-on hair remover, available at drugstores. Imperialis moisturizer, $16.3 Lush. Shave-in-a-Bag kit by Jack Black (includes Face Buff, Post Shave and Beard Lube), $42 at www.beauty.com. Right Guard deodorant, available at drugstores.



ed and white logo bag, $45 at Puma.

urt's Bees head-to-toe starter kit (includes Milk and Honey Body Lotion, Beeswax Lip Balm, Garden Tomato Toner, Almond Milk Beeswax Hand Crème, Citrus Facial Scrub, Hand Salve, Coconut Foot Crème, Avocado Butter Hair Treatment, Lemon Butter Cuticle Crème, Rosemary Mint Shampoo Bar and eppermint Shower Soap), $12; Burt's Bees travel toothpaste and toothbrush, $2. All at www.burtsbees.com. Improper Copper Cream Colour Base by IAC, $14.50 at Filene's. Finishing Touch mini electric shaver (for the bikini line), $10 at Target. The Portable Panacea by Not Soap, Radio (includes exfoliator, ave serum and moisturizer), $30 at www.notsoapradio.com. Arrid Total antiperspirant/deodorant, available at drugstores. Work-Out Makeup by Clinique, 15.50 at Filene's. Venus razor by Gillette, available at drugstores.

HERS

BY SAMANTHA HOUSE

PHOTOGRAPHED BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN





Red and pink Nike rolling bag, $24.99 at CitySports.

Creme de Corps, $15 at Kiehl's. Emma pencil case cosmetics bag, $26 at www.elissabloom.com. Skin's Shangri La skin conditioner, $38.40 at Lush. Venus razor by Gillette, available at drugstores. Biolage Color Care Conditioner by Matrix, $4 at Salon D'Emilio. Sage deodorant by Weleda, $7.99 at www.drugstore.com. Gentle Waterproof Mascara by Clinique, $13.50 at Filene's. L'Ombre Dans L'eau hair and body wash, $26 at Diptyque. Stay-Matte oil blotting sheets by Clinique, $13.50 at Filene's.

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617-351-2430

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Kiehl's
112 Newbury St.
617-247-1777

Lush
166 Newbury St.
617-375-5874

The Puma Store
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617-369-7091

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dress REHEARSAL

Boston Ballet dancers show off winter's true colors as they prepare for *Raw Dance*

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHED BY ERIC ANTONIOU



On her: Yellow empire waist dress, $295 at DKNY. Eighteen-karat gold and peridot drop necklace by Marco Bicego, $2,500; matching earrings, $450. Both at Shreve, Crump & Low. On him: Yellow and blue striped shirt, $130 at Thomas Pink. Denim pants, $145 at DKNY.



Hot pink sequined top, $128; black cropped pants, $108. Both at French Connection. Clear crystal ring by Baccarat, $210 at Shreve, Crump & Low. White boots with straps, $360 at Stuart Weitzman.



Pink and yellow
sleeveless sweater
with rhinestone
detailing, $175 each
leather gloves
pink and yellow
$198/pair. All
DKNY

lue striped shirt,
l 30 at Thomas Pink.
instriped pants,
145 at DKNY.



Pink suit jacket, $450 at DKNY. Sapphire and diamond necklace, $56,000 at Shreve, Crump & Low.

Raw Dance, featurin
new choreography b
Boston Ballet dancer
is at the Bosto
Center for the Ar
Jan. 30–Feb.

DKN
37 Newbury S
617-236-047

French Connectio
Copley Plac
617-424-181

Shreve, Crump & Lo
330 Boylston S
617-267-910

Stuart Weitzma
Copley Plac
617-266-869

Thomas Pin
Copley Plac
617-267-044

Hair: Mitch Derosa fo
Mitchell John Salo
67 Broad S
617-951-012

Makeup: Lisa Deros
for Mitchell John Salo

Model
Sarah Lamb
Sabi Varga an
Samantha Mednic

Choreographe
Gianni Di Marc



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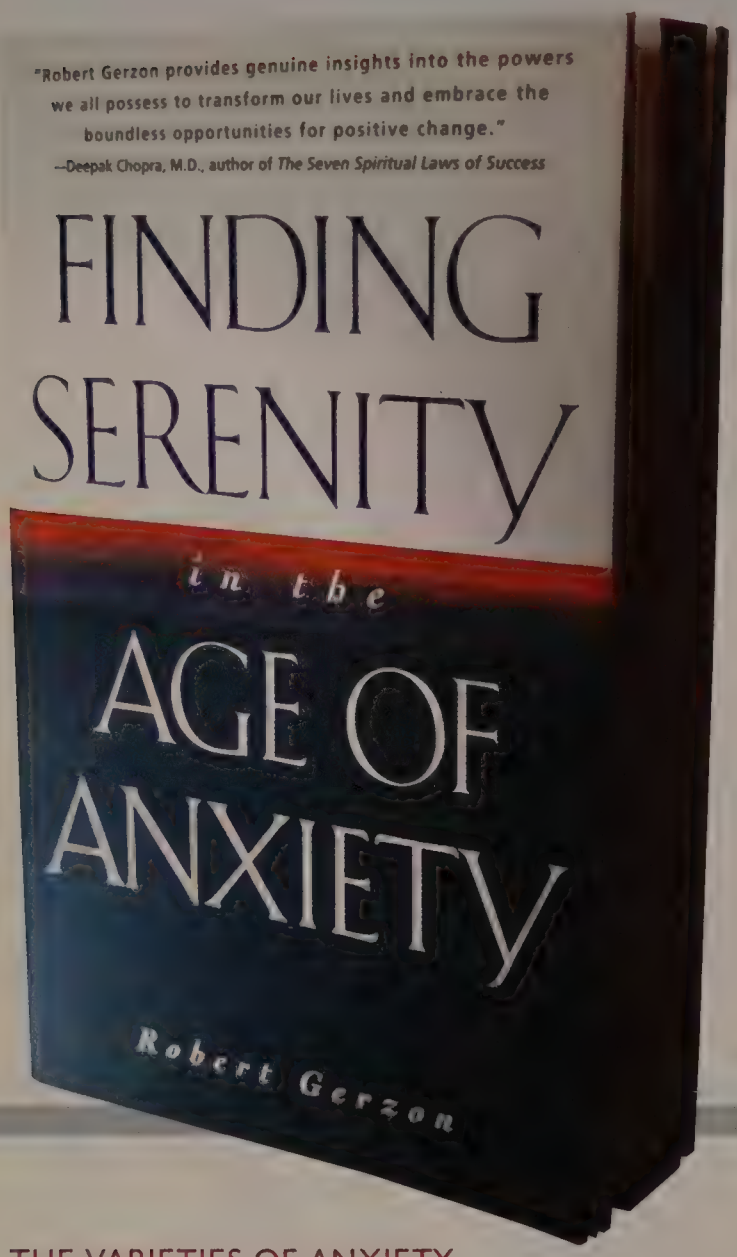
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BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



THE VARIETIES OF ANXIETY

***Finding Serenity in the Age of Anxiety* is a new book by local psychotherapist Robert Gerzon.**

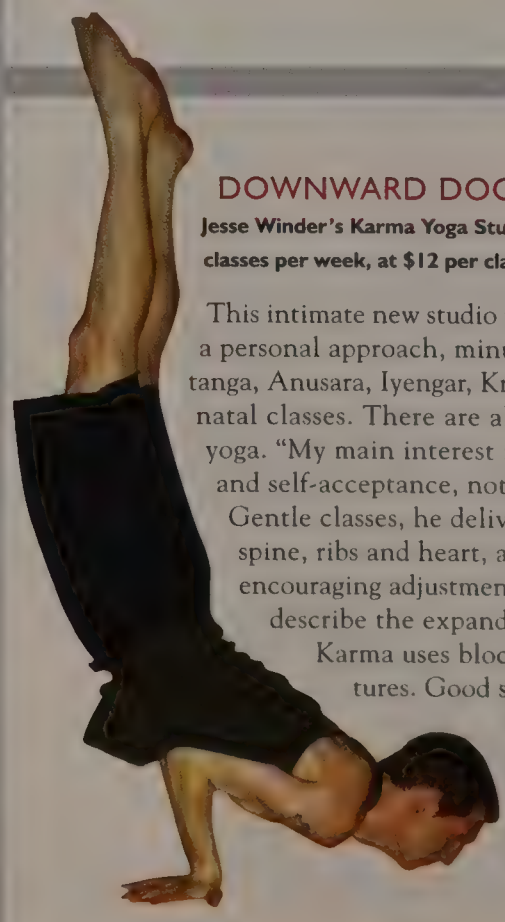
Anxiety, that unfriendly inner chattering, would appear to have only negative connotations. People dread it, medicate it, get paralyzed by it. What good does anxiety do? Psychotherapist Robert Gerzon manages to first divide anxiety into types: toxic, natural and sacred. The worst kind, toxic anxiety, causes fear, distraction and negative anticipation, regardless of whether those feelings are warranted. By contrast, natural anxiety serves as a realistic "seat belt" against tangible dangers, but it also traps you in the too-tight confines of your "comfort zone," preventing anxiety's happy partner, excitement, from having its day. But sacred anxiety actually uses its energy to prompt a wider, deeper, hungrier inquiry into the meaning of your life. Examples of people who thrived on this type of anxiety include Buddha, Job, Emerson and the philosopher Kierkegaard, who wrote: "The more profoundly he is in anxiety, the greater is the man." Gerzon explores this idea transfixingly.



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Pod, at 313 Washington St., in Brookline Village, sells pure and natural household, bath and baby items. Call 617-739-3802.

Within the urban sweetness of Brookline Village sits this light green oasis, with its subtly piquant aroma. The store and its Zenishly arrayed items all seem to say "Breaaathe!" The selection starts with beautiful infant items—white kimono booties and a little scarf alongside lovely toy animals vegetable-dyed in interesting blues and greens. Di Santa Maria Novella brand soaps and dusting powders from Florence look and smell exotically Italian. Living Herbs baby soap, ultra mild, comes in a cloth bag clasped with a diaper pin. Potpourri, pungent yet not cloying, is on sale and also permeates Pod's air. The furniture equivalent of this re fined feeling comes in tightly packed, low Dos leather poufs in attractive pales ($340) filled amazingly, with polar fleece. Asymmetrical Japan ese dishes highlight—and demand—food's beauti ful presentation. The loftlike barn upstairs offer heavy Canadian wool blankets; puffy, fat knitte blankets and throws; and bumpy, white pebbl quilts. Red and green decorative Chinese lanterns some suitable for a candle, loll about invitingly And Pod carries Chilewich "plynyl" flooring whose greens and grays exude nature's aura.



DOWNWARD DOG, UPWARD SPIRIT

Jesse Winder's Karma Yoga Studio, at 1132 Mass. Ave., in Cambridge, offers around 50 classes per week, at $12 per class. Call 617-547-9642.

This intimate new studio teaches a range of yoga styles, not just one. Providin a personal approach, minus the cult of personality, Karma Yoga teaches Ash tanga, Anusara, Iyengar, Kripalu, Kundalini and power yoga and also offers pre natal classes. There are also different levels, including the rigorous Vinyas yoga. "My main interest is in your using yoga to improve your quality of lif and self-acceptance, not steep you in a religion," owner Winder says. In hi Gentle classes, he delivers a running patter describing the inner life of th spine, ribs and heart, as participants stretch and pose and pause. His mild encouraging adjustments (say, loosening up those tight, soldierly shoulders describe the expanded possibilities of body and spirit that yoga afford Karma uses blocks and straps for ease and greater extension of pos tures. Good sticky mats are provided—no need to tote your own Karma employs 15 teachers, each with his or her ow comforting and inspiring style. Winder himself, ex tending his chest forward like a lithe lizard, in ground posture, models the gratification and sinu ous strength to be gained.

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IN THIS SECTION: Review: Turner Fisheries Dish: Bombay Bistro becomes Rani Wine: Pairing food and wine Tasty Tidbit: It's Boston Wine Festival time again

REVIEW

OCEAN BOUNTY

Turner Fisheries wows with delicious chowder and sublime seafood

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

One of my colleagues, a well-traveled devotee of good food, is death on hotel restaurants. His absolutist opinion and ironclad rule against hotel dining are the result, no doubt, of too many late night dinners on tiring business trips, where dining in the hotel is a perfunctory refueling exercise dictated by convenience. He was skeptical when I told him he could dine at a different hotel restaurant in Boston every night of the week and not only escape having a bad meal, but dine at some of the best tables in the city. Turner Fisheries in the Westin Hotel at Copley Plaza is a case in point.

A multimillion dollar renovation has transformed Turner Fisheries into a handsome, hospitable venue, with upholstered banquettes and booths, large beige cylindrical lampshades on dark wooden lamps and square shades on chandeliers, two huge canvasses depicting sea life on two walls, and a striking blue and green leaded stained glass panel on a third. Dark woodwork everywhere gives the place a clubby atmosphere. Frette linens add a note of luxury.



The ultimate surf and turf: grilled sirloin steak and steamed lobster with Yukon potato puree and chili lime sauce

TURNER FISHERIES

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Turner's gustatory delights begin with its bread—crusty standard French and slightly sourdough baguettes from Iggy's—and crisp flatbread crackers, all served with sweet butter. The menu offers almost a dozen appetizers in addition to shellfish from the raw bar, and more than a dozen main courses, providing ample choice in a manageable repertoire. In a city where soup in most upscale restaurants fetches double-digit prices, Turner's Hall of Fame clam chowder was an astounding value at $5. Not a cup, but a generous bowl of creamy, full-flavored broth and lots of chopped clams, Turner's chowder ranked with the best. Even better was the baby bouillabaisse ($9), a large bowl of tomato-infused broth, made pungent with garlic and onions and aromatic with saffron. The delicious broth was not the end of the story, for the bouillabaisse was chock full of firm, flavorful fish and shellfish, including salmon, monkfish, shrimp, sea scallops and mussels. The quality of the sea scallops stood out, for far from the tough, rubbery texture to which these delicate mollusks are often reduced in soups and stews, Turner's remained satiny and tender. A large crisp crostini lathered with pink aioli provided the crowning touch.



Turner's Grand Plat de Mer includes lobster, white gulf shrimp, oysters, Chatham topneck clams, Prince Edward Island mussels, Jonah crab claws and three dipping sauces.

A third appetizer, hand-diced yellowfin tuna with red beet carpaccio ($12), brought a small mountain of lean, sashimi-quality tuna, carved into small cubes and presented on an attractive teardrop-shaped white plate, with the beets moistened with a well-balanced sherry vinaigrette. Finally, among the starters, a Caesar salad boasted fresh, crisp Romaine lettuce. Dressed in a somewhat timid vinaigrette, it lacked the kick usually provided by anchovies and mustard. Still, topped with slices of pleasantly salty Grana Padano cheese and crisp focaccia croutons, the salad made a tasty and refreshing treat.

It would be difficult to choose the winner from among the main courses. Braised monkfish loin with roasted garlic risotto and carrot and mint salad ($26) demonstrated why monkfish—a notoriously ugly fish known as *lotte* to the French—has become so popular. Roasted to a firm, resilient texture, yet tender to the bite, its mildly garlicked flavor went well with the sweet, earthy carrots and lively dose of mint. Only the sticky, almost gummy texture of the risotto detracted from the dish. Seared yellowfin tuna with Romanesco cauliflower and truffled cauliflower emulsion ($28 constituted a reprise of the appetizer tun rare, moist, flavorful and melt-in-the mouth tender. The Romanesco caul flower, a light green cross between broc coli and cauliflower, was a satisfyin accompaniment.

The brioche- and herb-crusted co with Yukon gold potato and spinac ($25), a thick loin of good-textured, flak white fish, reminded me why cod really the king of fish. The spinach and potat accompaniment, enriched with swee creamy Parmesan cheese, made this a elegant dish. The least successful selec tion I tried was the sautéed wild salmo with porcini mushrooms, green apple an butternut squash broth ($25). While th fish had a pleasant flavor, its textur seemed flaccid, leading me to skepticis about its "wild" origins. Perhaps it ha recently escaped from a commercia salmon farm. The sauce, punctuated b large chunks of sweet-tart apple, made remarkably good foil for the mild fish.

Turner's desserts included a chocolat cake ($9), soft and mousselike, garnishe with red currant coulis and macadamia nu



A recent multimillion dollar renovation has given Turner Fisheries a clubby atmosphere.



Chef de cuisine Eric Heinrich



Warm chocolate cake with red currant sauce and macadamia nut ice cream

ce cream and served in a portion large and ch enough to be shared by two. Even bet- er was the *cajeta dulce de leche* ($8), a urnt caramel custard tart with roasted lums combined with a layer of dark hocolate on a crispy rice crust, garnished ith slightly sweetened whipped cream. It ouched all the key taste and texture bases o marvelous effect.

Turner's wine list includes a number of xcellent choices, particularly in the wer price ranges, providing a welcome ontrast to many of its Copley Square eighbors. Georges Duboeuf's 2001 Moulin à Vent, a classic Beaujolais, was uity but with good acid balance, making a splendid accompaniment to the fish. qually good was the 2002 Santa Maria alley pinot noir, a red grape variety that have long considered a good match with oultry and many fish, delivering a superb ouquet and a fine finish.

Turner Fisheries' staff is all class. On the rst evening I visited, they were not really sted, since the restaurant was sparsely opulated from the time we arrived until e left. On a second midweek evening, owever, all but a few tables were occupied upon our arrival. The hostess at first advised that our wait would be about 20 minutes, but upon spying my scarcely disguised grimace, she reconsulted her list and seating chart, did some juggling, and within two minutes we were seated at a comfortable booth. Waiters on both of my visits were knowledgeable, attentive and unfailingly friendly, but with a professional demeanor rather than the cloying chumminess with which friendliness is sometimes confused.

I may never persuade my colleague that his prejudice against hotel restaurants would be quickly dissipated if he sampled the likes of Turner Fisheries—or Meritage, Azure, Great Bay, Bambara, Rialto, Aujourd'hui or Clio, to name only the most prominent among Boston hotel restaurants. Sometimes preconceptions and ideology get in the way of savoring the full range of possibilities that life presents. Fortunately, the mindset of hotel restaurant detractors serves to benefit gastronomic opportunists like myself, making it possible to snare a table at a first-rate restaurant like Turner Fisheries on short or no notice. iB

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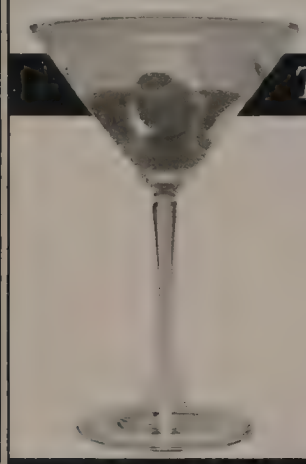
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TASTINGS

BY JULIE SURATT

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*



Chef Daniel Bruce offers a gourmet buffet at the Boston Wine Festival opening gala at the Boston Harbor Hotel.

Events

Boston Wine Festival
Boston Harbor Hotel, Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-330-9255). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Jan. 9-April 9. The Boston Wine Festival continues through April and offers more than 50 wine and food pairing events. •Jan. 9, 7 pm, $75: Grand Opening. Celebrate the festival's 15th anniversary with a selection of 50 wines and a buffet prepared by its founding chef **Daniel Bruce**. •Jan. 13 and 14, 7 pm, $195: The Battle of the Cabernets. This four-course dinner compares some of the top cabernets from different regions in California. •Jan. 19, 6:30 pm (dinner 8 pm), $135 (seminar only; seminar and dinner $185): Louis Jadot. Master sommelier **Olivier Masmondet** hosts this seminar comparing white Burgundies from the many regions of the Côte de Beaune followed by a four-course dinner paired with top wines from Louis Jadot. •Jan. 20, 6:30 pm (dinner 8 pm), $135 (seminar only; seminar and dinner $185): Guigal. Wine importer **Fred Ek** offers a tasting of the traditional Rhone appellations followed by dinner featuring the great white and red wines of Guigal.

Chocolate Tour
From the Trolley Stop Store, corner of Boylston and South Charles streets, Boston (617-269-3626). Sat. and Sun., 11:30 am and 12:45 pm. Through March 28. $60. This fully narrated three-hour trolley tour stops for chocolate desserts at the Top of the Hub restaurant, the Omni Parker House Hotel and Le Meridien hotel.

Cooking Class
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-720-1300). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Saturdays, 11 am. $35 (includes brunch). Pastry chef **Michael Rhodes** teaches a class on how to make chocolate and candies. Class size is limited to eight people.

Extreme Beer Fest
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston. www.beeradvocate.com/events/extreme_2004.php. Jan. 17, 1-5 pm or 6-10 pm. $25, $30 at the door (price includes 10 four-ounce samples). Partake in a room full of unusual beers and listen to talks by **Jim Koch** (Sam Adams), **Sam Calagione** (Dogfish Head) and **Todd Charbonneau** (Harpoon Brewery). Redbones provides barbecue, and Formaggio Kitchen offers cheese tastings.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. $25 (includes light food). Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** offers a series of chats. •Jan. 17: dessert wines/sherry.

Harpoon Winter Luau
Tiki Room, 1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-35 2580). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Jan. 1. Enjoy Harpoon beer bowls, pu pu platters ar tropical fun.

Holiday Tea
Boston Harbor Hotel, Rowes Wharf, Boston (61 439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquariur Daily, 2:30-4 pm, through Jan. 10. $29.50. Enj sparkling wine with strawberries and Devonshi cream followed by tea, sandwiches and cookies

North End Market Tour
(617-523-6032). MBTA: Green Line to Hayma ket. Wed., Fri. and Sat. $45. **Michele Topor**, 30-year resident of the North End and a profe sionally trained chef, offers a brief history of tl neighborhood and then a tour of nine special food shops.

Oysterology Nights
McCormick & Schmick's, North Market Buildin Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-720-5230 MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Jan. 20, 7 pm. $30. Enjoy a selection of oysters paired wi pinot grigio and pinot noir. **Tiffany Marani** Horizon Beverage Company describes the win and oyster shuckers demonstrate their trade.

Raw Bar Happy Hour
Jasper's Summer Shack, 50 Dalton St., Boston (61 867-9955). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA Mon.-Fri., 4-6:30 pm. $3. Enjoy oysters, clams shrimp cocktail from the raw bar, along with half dozen other tempting creations.

Tuesday Night Tastings
Les Zygomates, 120 South St., Boston (617-54 5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Tue., and 8 pm. $25. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** ed cates guests on various aspects of wine. Chef **Ia Just** pairs hors d'oeuvres with each wine and c fers a brief cooking demonstration. •Jan. 1 German Rieslings •Jan. 20: affordable Bordeau

Winter Cooking Class: Party Food
Rialto, The Charles Hotel, One Bennett St Cambridge (617-661-5050). MBTA: Red Line Harvard. Jan. 10, 11 am. $75. Chef **Jody Adan** shows how to prepare 10 elegant finger foo paired with three different wines.

DISH

100 Percent Chance of Rani Today

Todd does Disney…
Boston's newest buns…

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX



Bombay Bistro in Coolidge Corner recently reopened as Rani Bistro

When is a closed restaurant not really a closed restaurant? When it reopens with a new name, new decor, new concept…and the same owners. Such is the case of **Rani Bistro** in Brookline. A few months ago, owners **Samir** and **Prakruti Majmudar** closed **Bombay Bistro**, leading devotees of the Coolidge Corner restaurant to assume the worst: that they would be deprived of dependably delicious Indian food.

Fear not, fretful fans! Rani Bistro has opened its doors to a bigger, brighter, much better-looking dining room, with a new focus on the cuisine of India's Hyderabad region. Rich, aromatic and complex, Hyderabadi-style specialties include such dishes as chicken with green mangoes; a very hot green pepper curry; and both Hussaieny lamb and tengai gadam (add your punchline here). Also available are vegetarian and tandoori items and, of course, those wonderful Indian breads. Best of all, every entree is priced at around $12.

SECOND COURSE

Bad news/good news: It's against the rules at Disney World to bring your own food into the park. However, if your winter plans include a vacation trip to Orlando, there's a new alternative to mystery mouse meat. Boston's very own **Todd English** is opening **Todd English's Bluezoo**, with a restaurant with more than 300 seats, at the park's Dolphin Hotel. According to English's Web site, the menu features "coastal cuisine with both international and New American culinary influences." Dishes range from the simple, such as grilled Florida red snapper, to more English-accented fare such as Bluezoo surf and turf, which combines a skirt steak with sausage-stuffed shrimp. Among the sundae selections on the dessert menu are Nutty Nutcase, Fruit Loop and Hoity Toity.

Some people question the wisdom of English opening so many restaurants in so many places, but it's certainly a smarter business move than Disney's new ride, Mission: Space Thrill. At a reported $100 million, the most expensive theme park ride ever built is racking up incredible maintenance costs, which are only slightly offset by providing each rider with an air sickness bag. Ugh.

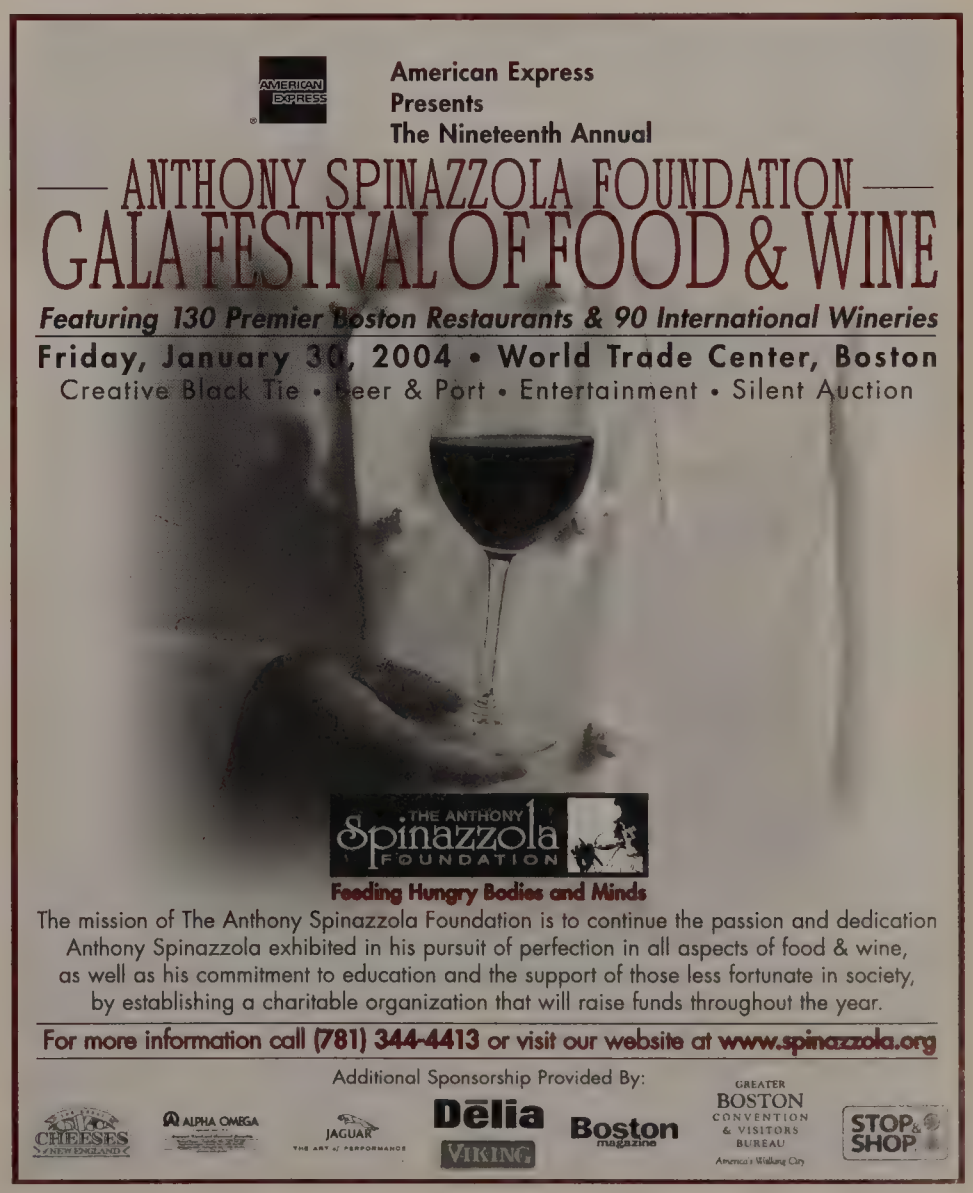
Back in Boston, the Olives Group has promoted **Clay Conley**, formerly chef de cuisine at Olives Tokyo, to the position of culinary director. It's an irresistibly pretentious-sounding title ("Lights! Camera! Slice 'n' dice!"), but do we really want to second-guess a company whose personnel manager bears the godlike title "director of human potential"? Sure we do.

Buns awaaaaaay! Brunch can be a real dilemma. Buffets are expensive and tempt people to overeat. A la carte brunches can add up, too, once you order fresh-squeezed orange juice or even coffee with your omelette. So, without wincing as you reach for your wallet, and without resorting to a pitiful McBreakfast, what can you do? You can go to **Aquitaine Bar à Vin Bistrot** in the South End for a complete brunch on Saturday between 10 am and 3 pm for just $9.95. This is a big deal not just for the warm, house-made iced cinnamon buns, but for the choice of three egg items, all served with home fries, toast, orange or grapefruit juice, *and* Illy coffee. Best buns in the South End? We report. You decide. iB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to dish@improper.com.

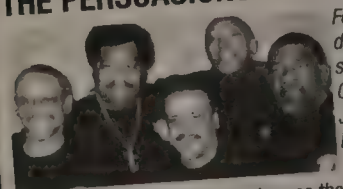




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WINE

Acidity's the Thing

BY SANDY BLOCK MW



This may not make sense to everyone, but if there's one general all-purpose bit of advice I dispense freely to people who ask me for the key to pairing wine and food—other than just drink what you like and forget about it, which is clearly the cardinal rule—it's that wines with strong acidity levels are the most adaptable to the widest variety of dishes. Acidity? Sounds revolting. But take it from me, if you forget everything else, it's not a bad rule of thumb: A wine that tastes sharp and even searing will often support food flavors beautifully. This is especially important in a restaurant setting where you're the lucky one appointed to order the wine and every diner's chosen something different. The wine with the noticeable bite is the one that will stand the best chance of making everyone happy.

What if you can't abide acidic flavors? Drink something mellower by all means. But how many people who squeeze lemon juice on their seafood eat lemons? How many who enjoy vinaigrette on their salad would choose to eat the dressing by itself? And if you put mustard on your hot dog, does that mean you enjoy the taste of mustard without accompaniment? The point is that flavors affect one another, often dramatically. They're not experienced in isolation. So even if you'd find an acidic tasting wine too harshly flavored to sip it by itself as a cocktail, recognize that its flavors change once you introduce food into the equation. And the way it generally works is that, unless you're serving an ultra hot spicy dish, wines with sharp acids taste softer with food, even food that's itself acidic (like, for example, ceviche).

Don't take my word for it; check it out yourself. Buy a low-acid wine, like a pinot grigio, and a strongly acidic one, like a sauvignon blanc (from Sancerre or New Zealand). Taste them side by side. Most people, other than confirmed acid freaks like myself, will find the milder pinot grigio more pleasant. Now, get some prosciutto and try a slice with each. One may still be pleasant, but the other's electrifying. Prepare a plate of greens and do the same test. Odds are you'll like the acidic wine better.

How do we know which wines are likely to feature prominent acidity? It depends on which grape varieties produce the wine and where they're grown. Cold-climate vineyards create the zestiest tasting wines with the crispest acids. Champagne is a perfect example. It's produced in a region too cold to make palatable table wine. Not only are its flavors sharp, but the bubbles reinforce the impression of tartness. We don't normally think of Champagne with food, especially this time of year when its association with celebration is so strong. But it can actually be a great dinner wine. So what's classic with Champagne? Subtle or bland food (the Champagne accents and enlivens it), salty-flavored foods (think caviar, oysters, smoked fish) and most especially dishes that have sharp or acidic accents themselves, because the wine tends to neutralize them. This is particularly so with Champagnes that are chardonnay-based and therefore invariably the lightest and most delicate of the species.

Other great examples of wines either grown in cool climates or originating from the right variety to make them characteristically acidic are Chablis; white Burgundy in general; German riesling (particularly hailing from the Mosel-Saar-Ruwer); Alsace, Australian or New Zealand Riesling; sauvignon blancs of most origins; Loire Valley wines (white or red); pinot noirs (ranging from Burgundy to Oregon to the cool central coast of California); New England wines; most Italian red wines (especially sangiovese or barbera-based reds, but also such modest wines as Montepulciano d'Abruzzo); and trebbiano-based whites (like Orvieto and Frascati). Probably the strongest example of success in the market today in this rather diverse category is New Zealand sauvignon blanc. Now in vogue, these wines not long ago occasioned derisive sneers because of their sour taste. But with any of these wine styles, the prominent acidity is a characteristic that needs to be preserved because winemaking and grapegrowing techniques can easily obliterate it. The less oak that's used in the fermentation and aging, the sharper the wine's flavors will be. The colder the fermentation is, the more the natural acids will be preserved. The good news is that these prominently acidic wines are generally more moderately priced.

What's the opposite of an edgy, acidic wine with food? Probably the least adaptable wines are those with high levels of alcohol. These wines require richer dishes or they'll overwhelm the food. They clash with spicy flavors, the excess alcohol combining to set off an explosive reaction on your palate. In addition to accentuating the heat, strongly alcoholic wines also tend to make bitter, earthy and salty flavored dishes taste stronger, often unpleasantly so. So ironically, while your best food bet may be a lighter wine whose acidity you notice, your worst is most likely going to be one that's robust, rich and impressively potent when tasted on its own. IB

One of only 18 Americans certified as a master of wine, Sandy Block is assistant vice president of wine for Horizon Beverage.

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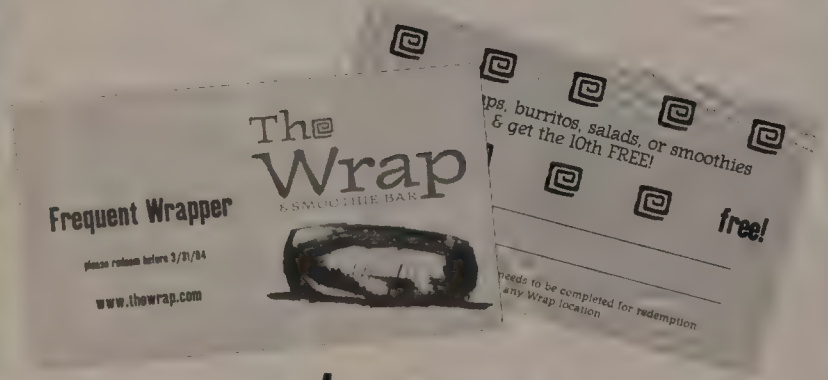
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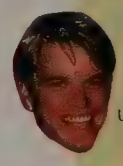
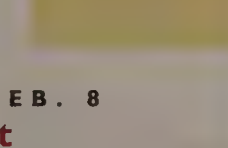
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MPROPER PICKS

january 7-20

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			7 The MFA exhibition *Rembrandt's Journey* shows through Jan. 18, so get your last-minute tickets. *See Museums & Galleries on page 68.*	8 The Stanley B. Repertory Theatre Company presents its production of ***12 Angry Men*** through Jan. 24. *See Performing Arts on page 50.*	9	10  A celebrity unexpectedly stops by for dinner in ***Thanksgiving When You're Dating Matt Damon***. *See Performing Arts on page 50.*
11 The Middle East hosts a fashion show by designer **Lori Greene** with a live acoustic set by the Lost City Angels. *See CityScope on page 48.*	12 ***Les Triplettes de Belleville***, Sylvain Chomet's celebrated animated film, is at the Coolidge Corner Theatre. *See Movies on page 54.* 	13	14 The **Boston Marathon Dating Party** speeds through the Big Easy. *See CityScope on page 48.*	15	16	17 The **Greater Boston Antiques Festival** features more than 160 antiques dealers selling their wares. *See CityScope on page 48.*
18	19	20				



EVEREST: DAVID BREASHEARS/MACGILLIVRAY FREEMAN FILMS

THU/JAN. 8-SUN./FEB. 8

Movies: IMAXed Out

Who knew that Boston boasts the largest consumer library of large-format films? Between three theaters—Museum of Science's Mugar Omni Theater, the New England Aquarium's Simons IMAX and the Comcast IMAX Theater at Jordan's Furniture—Greater Boston owns 30 titles. But you'll find only half of them playing at any one time. The good news is that from Jan. 8-Feb. 8, some of our personal faves will be shown as part of the first annual IMAX Fest. Among them: *Everest*, *Ghosts of the Abyss*, *Into the Deep*, *Bugs!* and *To the Limit*. The only problem is deciding which theater to go to. Here are a few stats to help you decide: The MOS's Omni Theater has New England's only 180-degree IMAX dome; Jordan's offers 3D technology and shaking seats; and the Aquarium has the region's largest screen, seven stories tall. Sample a film at each. *www.imaxfest.com*.

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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TUE./JAN. 20–SUN./JAN. 25

Performing Arts: Clowning Around

Is it possible that the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus has become passé? Too, you know, *obvious*? 'Cause it seems that the latest trend for circus troupes is to do away with the elephants and tigers and, instead, cue the fog machine and ethereal music. Cast in a new (and much dimmer) light, the circus has become less of a *circus* and more like performance art. That's the case with Cirque Éloize, which bills itself as "theater with acrobatic performances, poetry and circus thrills." Instead of jugglers, clowns and acrobats, you've got "artists" who dance, sing, juggle and tumble. You've got to hand it to these French Canadians: They put on a mighty impressive show. *Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-931-2787). Tue.–Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 3 and 7:30 pm; Sun., 1 and 6 pm. Jan. 20–25. $25–$57.*



FRI./JAN. 9–SUN./JAN.11

CityScope: Kinky Kraziness

One of our favorite winter activities is to head to the Park Plaza Hotel to see the looks of horror on guests' faces when the lobby fills up with barely dressed youngsters in leather getups and gimp masks. The Fetish Fair Fleamarket, sponsored by the New England Leather Alliance, is worth attending for this reason alone. But those interested in more than an ironic chuckle can browse artworks, meet porn stars, attend a demonstration or a lecture, and talk to activists. And, of course, there's the shopping. The hotel's ballrooms are filled with vendors selling outré accoutrements like leather corsets, wood paddles, floggers (the industry term for whips) and yes, even dungeon furniture. On Friday evening, there's an activists round table with a discussion on S&M issues and a slide show by photographer Barbara Nitke. The vendors start selling Saturday morning. $10. 18+. www.nla-newengland.org.

SAT./JAN. 17

Tastings: Extremely Fun Beer Fest



You might not expect Jim Koch, founder of Samuel Adams, to be such a friendly, down-to-earth guy. We've run into him at Souper Salad (yes, he gets his own lunch!) and on the street, and he's as normal as can be. You'd never guess he's the head of a $200 million company. And lest his quirky mannerisms lead you to think that he downed a few lagers before stepping out, think again. That's just his inimitable style. You too can make the acquaintance of this personable guy at the **Extreme Beer Fest** at the Boston Center fo the Arts, Jan. 17. If you're a beer lover, this is a not-to-be-missed event. Partake in a room full of unusual beers and listen to talks by Koch, Sam Calagione of Dogfish Head and Todd Charbonneau of Harpoon Brewery. Redbones provides grilled meats, and Formaggio Kitchen offers cheese tastings. *Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston. www.beeradvocate.com. 1-5 pm or 6-10 pm. $25, $30 at the door (price includes 10 four-ounce samples).*

THU./JAN. 8 AND SAT./JAN. 10

Music: A Hunka Hunka Birthday Love

The King would be a creaky 69 years old Jan. 8, and were he alive, he would no doubt be hosting one helluva throwdown. Even though Elvis is long gone, celebrations of his birthday continue throughout the city. Faneuil Hall's Boston Rocks features Las Vegas–based Elvis impersonator Steve Connolly, and guests can watch him swivel and sneer while they indulge in a buffet and birthday cake. Of course, Dick's Last Resort is throwing its (free) annual Elvis karaoke contest (with a King-size $500 cash prize), complete with an Elvis shrine and a jelly doughnut–eating contest. Then, on Jan. 10, Berklee Performance Center presents *Love Him Tender: Spirit of the King*, with Steve Connolly as Elvis ($23-$26). *Boston Rocks, 245 Quincy Market, Boston (617-726-1110). Dick's Last Resort, 55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261).*

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Advice to Contributors

Submit updated listings for festivals, events and benefits by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Festivals, Benefits & Events

THURSDAY, JAN. 8

Tyler Hamilton Foundation Gala

The Cyclorama, 539 Tremont St., Boston (781-990-1486). www.tylerhamiltonfoundation.org. 7-11 pm. Tickets start at $50. Tyler Hamilton (the Marblehead cyclist who finished eighth in last year's Tour de France despite breaking his collarbone) hosts this fund-raiser for youth cycling and multiple sclerosis research programs. The evening features live and silent auctions, food from area restaurants, live music from the Chad Hollister Band and raffles.

FRIDAY, JAN. 9

Fetish Fair Fleamarket

Park Plaza Hotel, 64 Arlington St., Boston (617-876-6352). www.nla-newengland.org. Through Jan. 11. $10. The New England Leather Alliance hosts this biannual fetish fashion and alternative sexuality expo. The event includes goods for sale, lectures and workshops.

Singles Atomic Bowling Night

Town Line Ten Pins, Route 99, Saugus (866-286-2582). www.funfunfun.org. 7:30 pm. $10 members, $15 nonmembers plus bowling fees. Singles from their 20s through their 40s are invited for a night of black-light bowling with a DJ, followed by live music in the lounge.

World of Wheels

Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Columbia Point, Boston (617-367-3555). www.worldofwheels.com. Fri.-Sat., 5-11 pm; Sun., 10 am-9 pm. $14. More than 300 cars, including the *Dukes of Hazzard*'s General Lee, are on display at the 30th annual World of Wheels expo. The event also features appearances by Red Sox pitcher Bronson Arroyo, the Coors Twins and former U.S. congressman Ben Jones, who played Cooter on the *Dukes of Hazzard*.

SATURDAY, JAN. 10

Northeast Motorcycle Expo

Shriner's Auditorium, Exit 39 off Route 93, Wilmington (877-245-3976). www.nemotorcycleexpo.com. Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $13. The fifth annual Northeast Motorcycle Expo features custom bikes, a stage show from the Texas Bikini Team, vendors, motorcycle dealers and more.

SUNDAY, JAN. 11

Neon Goddess Opening Reception and Runway Show

Middle East Rock Club, 472/480 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. www.daniellegilardi.com. 7 pm. Free admission. The opening reception for Danielle Gilardi's *Neon Goddess* photography exhibition features a rock fashion show by designer Lori Greene and a live acoustic set by the Lost City Angels.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 14

Boston Marathon Dating Party

The Big Easy, 1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-591-1400, ext. 5). www.bostonypa.com. 6:30 pm. $15 in advance, $20 at the door. The Boston Marathon Dating party matches up single professionals ages 21-40 on 15 three-minute dates. Cash bar.



The General Lee, the trusty ride of them crazy Duke boys, is on display at the World of Wheels expo Jan. 9-11

SATURDAY, JAN. 17

Greater Boston Antiques Festival

Shriner's Auditorium, Exit 39 off Route 93, Wilmington (781-862-4039). www.neantiqueshows.com. Early preview Sat. at 9 am for $10 admission; regular hours Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 10 am-4 pm. $7. More than 160 antiques dealers from 10 states display furniture, jewelry and more in one of the area's biggest antiques shows.

Rock & Roll Library Benefit

Middle East Upstairs, 472/480 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). www.rocklibrary.com. 9 pm. $10. The Rock & Roll Library continues its fund-raising efforts with a concert featuring Lamont, the Hidden, Shanghai Valentine and Bones Brigade.

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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater

JUST OPENED

After Mrs. Rochester
Ruth Nagel Jones Theatre, Wellesley College, Wellesley (781-283-2000). www.theatre.wellesley.edu. *Thu., 7 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 4 pm. Jan. 9-24. $20.* Polly Teale's play dramatizes the life of author Jean Rhys and looks at Rhys' obsession with Bertha Mason, the mad woman in the attic in Charlotte Bronte's novel *Jane Eyre.*

American Voices: Drama, Dialogue, Downtown
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: *Green Line to Boylston. Jan. 12, 7 pm. $10.* Actors Ruben Santiago-Hudson, Jacqui Parker and Baron Kelly read August Wilson's Tony Award– and Pulitzer Prize–winning play *Fences,* about a former Negro League baseball player working as a garbage collector in a northern industrial city in the mid 1950s. A question-and-answer session with the cast and director Steven Maler takes place afterward.

Cirque Eloize Nomade: At Night the Sky Is Endless
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-931-2787). MBTA: *Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 7:30 pm; Sun., 1 and 6 pm. Jan. 20-25. $25-$57.* Cirque Eloize combines theater with acrobatic performances, poetry and circus thrills. The company is made up of artists who dance, sing, juggle and tumble.

Far Away
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.bcaonline.org. *Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 5 and 8 pm; Sun., 5 and 7 pm. Jan. 8-24. $25.* Caryl Churchill's play is about a little girl who learns that something mysterious and disturbing is happening on her aunt's property, where she is staying. It's a dark take on increasingly accepted levels of inhumanity in a world in conflict.

Full Gallop
Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-358-PLAY). www.bu.edu/bpt. MBTA: *B Green Line to Pleasant Street. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Jan. 8-Feb. 1. $25.* Annette Miller stars in this play by Mark Hampton and Mary Louise Wilson about the life of fashion editor Diana Vreeland and her struggle to survive in the fashion world after being fired from *Vogue* magazine.

An Infinite Ache
Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 East Merrimack St., Lowell (978-454-3926). www.merrimackrep.org. *Wed., Thu. and Fri., 8 pm (except Jan. 14); Sat., 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. Jan. 8-Feb. 1. $32-$39.* In just 90 minutes, David Schulner's play chronicles the events in one couple's life from their first date to their final days.


The collective dance showcase *Dance Straight Up!* is at Tsai Performance Center

Love Him Tender: Spirit of the King
Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). www.spiritoftheking.com. *Jan. 10, 8 pm. $23-$26.* Las Vegas–based performer Steve Connolly stars as Elvis Presley in this musical production, which includes live performances of the King's songs and reenactments of some of the defining moments of his career.

A Midsummer Night's Dream
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat. 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. Jan. 10-Feb. 28. $35-$69.* Director/choreographer Martha Clarke presents this dance-theater rendition of Shakespeare's play.

Private Lives
The Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-8819). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Wed., 2 and 7:30 pm; Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Through Jan. 31. $22-$43.* Noel Coward's Tony Award–winning romantic comedy is about newlyweds and their exes sharing the same hotel on their honeymoon.

Thanksgiving When You're Dating Matt Damon
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway St., Somerville (617-931-2787). www.theatrecoop.org. MBTA: *B Green Line to Pleasant St. Jan. 9 and 10, 8 pm. $10.* See what happens when a celebrity drops by for Thanksgiving dinner.

The Threepenny Opera
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands (617-332-1646). www.newrep.org. MBTA: *D Green Line to Newton Highlands. Wed., 2 and 7 pm; Thu., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Jan. 7-15. $27-$42.* Bertolt Brecht and Kurt Weill's musical, starring Nancy E. Carroll, satirizes upper-class society while exploring how the lower class survives.

12 Angry Men
Stanley B. Theatre at the Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). Wed.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Jan. 8-24. $20. In this jury room drama by Reginald Rose, 12 men deliberate over the fate of a youth charged with murder.

Urinetown
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-931-2787). MBTA: *Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. Through Jan. 18. $30-$87.* Winner of 2002 Tony awards for best direction, best book and best original score, this musical by Greg Kotis is about a couple who fall in love during a water-shortage crisis.

Whatnot
Puppet Showplace Theatre, 32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). MBTA: *D Green Line to Brookline Village. Jan. 7-10, 8 pm. $20.* A xylophone missing its eighth note and a dog that becomes a flowering tree are just a few of the objects categorized as "whatnot" in this showcase featuring puppetry, masks, movement theatre, dance and music.

NOW RUNNING

Bad Dates
Huntington Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: *E Green Line to Symphony. Tue., 7:30 pm; Wed., 2 and 7:30 pm; Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. Through Feb. 1. $14-$64.* *Six Feet Under*'s Julie White stars in Theresa Rebeck's play about a restaurant manager re-entering the dating scene.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-6912). www.blueman.com/ticketinfo/boston. MBTA: *Green Line to Boylston. Wed., 8 pm; Thu., 5 and 8 pm; Fri., 7 and 10 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 3 and 6 pm. Ongoing. $43 and $53.* This production abandons all dialogue and focuses on making an impact through tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Jacques Brel Is Alive and Well and Living In Paris
Stuart Street Playhouse, Radisson Hotel, 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 5 and 9 pm; Sun., 3 and 7 pm. Through Jan. 11. $42.50-$47.50.* This musical revue features the lyrics and music of Belgian poet/lyricist/songwriter and performer Jacques Brel.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: *Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. Ongoing. $30-$34.* This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

Dance

Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Boylston. Jan. 16, 7:30 pm; Jan. 17, 8 pm; Jan. 18, 3 pm. $37-$52.* The Trocks, a group of male ballet dancers, perform female roles such as swans, princesses and Victorian ladies in *Le Lac des Cygnes (Swan Lake, Act II), Le Grand Pas de Quatre* and *Ramona's Wedding.*

Dance Straight Up!
Tsai Performance Center, Boston University, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-876-4275). www.bu.edu/tsai. MBTA: *B Green Line to BU East. Jan. 17, 8 pm; Jan. 18, 3 pm. $25.* A collective dance showcase features world premiere works by local groups including Bennett Dance Company, Collage Dance Ensemble, Lorraine Chapman the Company, and Malinda Allen of the Moving Laboratory.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

STAND-UP CLUBS

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: *Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12.* The Beantown Comedy Vault at Remington's features local stand-up comedians. •Fridays and Saturdays: Dick Doherty's Comedy Pro Tour •Sundays: open-mike night.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: *Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8 pm, $12; Thu., 8:30 pm, $12; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm, 10:15 pm, prices vary; Sun., 7 pm, $12.* The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Jan. 8: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist •Jan. 9 and 10: Bob Nelson from *Kindergarten Cop* •Jan. 12: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, the Wildman of Comedy •Jan. 13: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz •Jan. 14: Harrison Stebbins •Jan. 15: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist •Jan. 16, $25: George Wallace •Jan. 17, 7, 9 and 11 pm, $25: George Wallace •Jan. 18, 8 pm: $25: George Wallace •Jan. 19: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox •Jan. 20: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz.

Comedy Studio
The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507). MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10.* Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Jan. 8: Tim McIntire, Clair McManus, Matt Winninger, Jeremy Turoff, Myq Kaplan and Erin Judge •Jan. 9: Kelly MacFarland, TJ Griffin, Erin Judge, Greg Thibideau, Chris & Dave Walsh, and Larry Murphy •Jan. 10: Kelly MacFarland, TJ Griffin, Dave Thompson, Erin Judge and Brian Gordon •Jan. 11: Sam Walte Brian Longwell, Anthony Spencer, Dot Dwy Emily Singer and Erin Judge •Jan. 13: Myst Lounge magic show •Jan. 14: Dan Sally, Tony Kelly MacFarland, Mike Herman, Erin Judge, Bri Longwell and Mark McKay •Jan. 15: Tim McIntir JJ, Janet Cormier, Trey Monaghan, Mike Flynn a Erin Judge •Jan. 16: Dan Sally, Chris Walsh, La Murphy, Professor Samsonelli and Erin Judge •J 17: Dan Sally, Erin Judge, Brian Gordon and Ka Jenkins •Jan. 18: Sam Walters, Chris Tabb, E Judge and EJ Murphy •Jan. 20: Mystery Loun magic show

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). MBT *Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to New Engla Medical Center. $10-$22.* •Jan. 8, 8:30 pm: M Blakeney •Jan. 9 and 10, 8:45 pm: Matt Blaken John Pizzi and Pete Costello •Jan. 15, 8:30 p Larry Miles •Jan. 16 and 17, 8:45 pm: Paul Gillig Harrison Stebbins and Ed Murphy.

IMPROV COMEDY

Faces for Radio
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 510-4447). www.faces4radio.com. MBTA: *Red L to Central. Thu., 8 pm. $8.* Improv comedians pe fun at everything, including themselves.

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). ww improvasylum.com. MBTA: *Green or Orange Line Haymarket, or Green or Blue Line to Government C ter. Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 and 10 pm. $ $20. Dinner packages also available.* Improvisation a sketch comedy in the North End. •Wed.-Sat.: *prov Asylum Announces the End of Major Hostilitie* new show on the mainstage.

ImprovBoston
1253 Cambridge St., Inman Square, Cambridge (6 576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: *Line to Central . $5-$12.* Boston's longest-runni improvisational comedy troupe creates everythi on the spot: the characters, the stories, the setting even the songs and dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: *Hump.* This series for experimental and improvi tional theater features ScripTease and The Tr •Thu., 8 pm, $12: *Unnatural Selection.* A maste ceremonies randomly eliminates players until o one is left. 10 pm, $5: *The Great and Secret Com Show.* Brothers Chris and David Walsh perfo stand-up and music, play short films and do charac sketches in a display of sibling rivalry •Fri., 8 p $10-$12: *Playbook.* Eight playwrights submit outli for an original play, and the troupe improvises a f length show. 10 pm, $12: *Theatre Sports.* Two tea of improvisers face off. •Sat., 6 pm, $12: *Impr Boston Family Show.* 8 and 10 pm, $12: *ImprovBos Mainstage.* Blending storytelling, music and audie participation, a cast of improvisers creates a sh that changes with every performance.

COMEDY SHOWS

Dave Frishberg with Joel Chasnoff
Jewish Theatre of New England, 333 Nahanton S Newton Centre (617-965-5226). www.thea mania.com. MBTA: *D Green Line to Newton C tre. Jan. 17, 8 pm; Jan. 18, 2 pm. $26.* Musici Dave Frishberg, known for such songs as "My A torney Bernie" and "I'm Hip," performs his mus and comedian Joel Chasnoff performs between a

Gourmet Detective
Ristorante Marino, 2465 Mass. Ave., Cambri (800-697-2583). www.mysterycafe.com. MBT *Red Line to Porter. Jan. 10 and Jan. 17. 7:30 pm. $ for dinner and show.* The Gourmet Detective ser up Italian cuisine with a murder mystery.

Joey & Maria's Italian Wedding
Tremont Playhouse, 275 Tremont St., Boston (8 733-5639). MBTA: *Green Line to Boylston. Fri. Sat., 7:30 pm. $49.* This interactive dinner sh follows Maria and Joey through their wacky w ding. Throw on a blue tuxedo or your puffiest go and join the festivities.

Larry Lee Lewis Comedy Show
Chops Lounge, 1271 Boylston St., Boston (617-2 8300). MBTA: *Green Line to Boylston. Sat., 10 $15.* The Triple L Show presents 90 minutes nonstop variety entertainment. •Jan 10: Jo David •Jan. 17: Larry Lee Lewis.

Open Mike Night
Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 547-0759). MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. Mon pm.* Open mike for creative talent.

Stash's Comedy Jam
All Asia Cafe, 334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-4 1544). MBTA: *Red Line to Kendall.* www.stashcom jam.com. *First and third Sunday of every mon 8 pm.* Enjoy standup comedy at this open m with host Stash.

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Buzzkill

The Aileen Wuornos biopic is a *Monster* mush

BY PAUL SHERMAN

The outstanding 1992 documentary *Aileen Wuornos: The Selling of a Serial Killer* asked whether someone who's confessed to seven murders is still entitled to a fair trial. *Monster*, the new dramatic movie starring Charlize Theron as the Florida hooker who shot seven johns and was executed in 2002, raises another issue: whether someone who's committed seven murders is entitled to a sympathetic portrayal.

The answer is, of course, yes—but only if the movie is able to pull off such a feat. Writer-director Patty Jenkins' *Monster* is too much of a one-note tale to do so, though, with Wuornos as a kicked-around victim who, hurt and confused, starts to reap revenge on the (male) world that's treated her like dirt for so long. That's the only side of desperate, love-starved Wuornos we see, which leaves *us* starved for more insight into this woman.



Charlize Theron plays serial killer Aileen Wuornos in *Monster*.

The plot takes two intertwining paths. One involves Wuornos meeting teen lesbian Selby (Christina Ricci) and deciding to give women a try. The other follows Wuornos' killing spree: She shoots and kills a john in self-defense after he savagely beats her, and then she continues to kill other johns who don't beat her. Meeting Selby and killing in self-defense are coincidental events. But as the movie tells it, Wuornos' reasons for killing the other men are as much about getting money and cars that she and unwitting Selby can use as they are about quenching her deep-seated rage.

The depiction of the love and hate within Wuornos doesn't quite come off. Newcomer Jenkins' script and direction capture the first flush of lust and infatuation between the women convincingly enough, but it's increasingly hard to feel for a love that's doomed because one of the lovers is a multiple murderer. But that's the tack that *Monster* takes, and "if only it weren't for those pesky murders" is not the foundation for great tragedy.

Monster wants us to think "if only this woman hadn't been so emotionally abused," and you do think that, but only to a certain extent. This is one of those crime dramas that seeks to show the humanity in its killer and asks us to sympathize with her on an everyday level. That becomes especially obvious when Scott Wilson, one of the stars of *In Cold Blood*—the most human, dramatic and mournful movie about killers—turns up as one of Wuornos' victims. But while you can practically see the chip on Wuornos' broad shoulders—Theron gained 25 pounds for the role—she's often just too plain dumb to feel for. For instance, when she tries to "go straight and get a real job" by applying at a law firm instead of someplace more attainable, or when she drives around for days afterward in the cars of the men she murdered, you hardly wonder why people treat her as if she's stupid. She is.

Intelligence is hardly a requirement for a movie heroine, especially an antiheroine. But seeing a stupid person do stupid things is not very dramatic, and attempts to portray Wuornos as more self-aware don't work. The ineffective voice-overs seem tacked on and fail to broaden her into a more well-rounded character. Her history as a victim of childhood sexual abuse comes across only in one unremarkable dialogue scene, and for all the weight Theron packed on and makeup she wore to look like the less attractive Wuornos (and for all her dreaded Oscar buzz because of that), Theron's performance doesn't provide that intangible spark that could have drawn us into the character and the movie. And don't expect any clarity from the unclear symbolism and irony of the title, which comes from the nickname Wuornos gave a Ferris wheel she was scared to ride on as a kid.

As it progresses, *Monster* plays like a descent into madness, though the movie never really addresses Wuornos' instability, perhaps because that would make her seem less like "one of us" driven to violence. The movie's silence on that topic gives it an odd feeling.

Nick Broomfield, the director of *Aileen Wuornos: The Selling of a Serial Killer*, revisited Wuornos for his documentary *Aileen: Life and Death of a Serial Killer*, which has yet to play locally and which reportedly shows an increasingly delusional Wuornos before her execution. Maybe that film succeeds in capturing Wuornos where *Monster* fails. iB

Monster ★★

Written and directed by Patty Jenkins. With Charlize Theron, Christina Ricci and Bruce Dern. Rated R. Newmarket Films.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

The Backyard ★★½
This documentary about backyard wrestling will t an eye-opener to those unfamiliar with the trend teens starting their own hardcore wrestling leagu and beating the bejesus out of each other wi garbage cans, sheets of plywood and, of cours folding metal chairs. Director Paul Hough goes Nevada, Arizona, New York and even England talk to these kids who powerbomb each other oblivion. Hough keeps things moving along ar he makes no judgments, which is a definite im provement from the outrage with which the mai stream media have treated backyard wrestling. (A Coolidge Corner.)

Big Fish ★★★
Forget about the present-day drama between a blu tery dying Southerner (Albert Finney) and his sem estranged grown son (Billy Crudup) in Tim Burton latest. The real action is in the tall tales about th dying man's earlier life. These sequences featurin Ewan McGregor are the first thing anyone will r member from this movie. Burton gives them an ey popping heightened reality, while McGregor's live performance might remind you of another opt mistic dreamer from a Burton movie—Johnn Depp's Ed Wood. With his performance as a swa gering, Camelot-era man-about-town in *Down Wi Love* and now this role, McGregor has improbab shown himself to be a crackerjack portrayer American gumption. The rest of the movie falter but McGregor's scenes are bull's-eyes. (At Bosto Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Calendar Girls ★★
It's depressing that much of English moviemaking h become a minstrel show of stiff upper lips and pluck underdogs. In this comedy, a chapter of the twe Women's Institute publishes a popular nearly nud calendar. But the true story that the film is based o gets shoehorned into the *Full Monty* formula of tr umphant everyday heroes. Although any movie wit Helen Mirren and Julie Walters as its stars deserv some respect, this is too cute and too flimsy. (A Boston Common, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

Cold Mountain ★★½
With its female bonding, its romance set against backdrop of war, and its overgroomed star, Anthon Minghella's adaptation of Charles Frazier's novel one part *Fried Green Tomatoes*, one part *Last of th Mohicans* and one part infomercial for whatever lin of cosmetics Nicole Kidman is wearing. By defaul this is the best of the season's big dramatic epic clearly besting *The Last Samurai* and *House of San and Fog*, and much of it works: the budding romanc of Kidman's and Jude Law's characters interrupted b the Civil War, the strife that besets all the characte because of the war, the supporting characters playe by the likes of Philip Seymour Hoffman, Natali Portman, Ray Winstone and Jack White of th White Stripes. But while Kidman's minister daughter has her civilized life collapse around he and gets pushed to the brink of starvation an poverty, before being aided by Renee Zellweger Ma Kettle– meets–Peppermint Patty farmgirl, th actress always looks as if she's made up to go shop ping. It's hard to feel her plight in your gut becaus of it. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Company ★
Robert Altman's drama set within the Joffrey Ballet of Chicago is perhaps the veteran director's wor film. There's little attempt to develop the charac ters, conflict is almost nonexistent, and the danc numbers look like a cross between Mummenschan and a Fruit of the Loom commercial. Althoug many of the company's real dancers appear in sup porting roles, Barbara Turner's script offers no in sight into this insular community. The character such as the imperious artistic director (Malcoli McDowell), a second-tier dancer trying to get t the next level (Neve Campbell) and her coo boyfriend (James Franco), are one-dimensional a best. And Altman inserts most of the dance num bers in seemingly random fashion, without contex (At Kendall Square and Coolidge Corner.)

The Cooler ★★
As he often has, William H. Macy plays a guy gettin the fuzzy end of life's stick in this Vegas comedy drama. He's a sad sack whose luck is so bad that hi job is merely to turn up at the casino where he work and cool down gamblers' hot streaks. He's about t quit and, presumably, try to change his luck in life especially now that he's started a relationship with round-the-block casino waitress (Maria Bello). Tha might have been an interesting tale had writer-direc tor Wayne Kramer stuck to it. Instead, the stor brings in too many outside forces—including the re









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Viggo Mortensen plays Aragorn and Ian McKellen plays Gandalf in *Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*.

turn of the cooler's estranged son (Shawn Hatosy) and the pressures the casino manager (Alec Baldwin) is feeling to "modernize"—that clutter the plot. The interesting hero at the center just gets smothered by it all. (At Copley Place and Harvard Square.)

Girl with a Pearl Earring ★★

Based on Tracy Chevalier's novel, this film gives a speculative background story to Johannes Vermeer's 1660s painting. As director Peter Webber strives to get the Dutch master's lighting and composition just right, his poor characters walk around in a stiff, humorless daze, and the story turns stilted in no time. Colin Firth's Vermeer is a garden-variety tortured artist, in this case tormented by the bourgeois wife (Essie Davis) and mother-in-law (Judy Parfitt) pushing him to paint more and earn more. His household's new maid (Scarlett Johansson) puts no such demands on him, and the pair start a secret friendship that leads to her posing for the famous portrait. Although the relationships between the sexes and between the classes can be interesting here, the central pair's sexual tension is so laden with pregnant pauses and symbolism (like Vermeer's penetrating piercing of the maid's ears) that this overripe art house melodrama is almost instant self-parody. (At Kendall Square.)

The House of Sand and Fog ★★

Local author Andre Dubus III's father wrote the story on which *In the Bedroom* was based. Now the younger Dubus has had a novel adapted, and you could call this similar film *In the Three-Bedroom*. Like the previous movie, it compounds tragedy upon tragedy. The first is when emotional wreck Kathy (Jennifer Connelly) loses her house when it is mistakenly seized for nonpayment of taxes. Before she can correct the mistake, the house goes up for auction and is grabbed by a down-and-out former Iranian colonel (Ben Kingsley) who wants to sell it to maintain his family's standard of living. The struggle between these two people dependent on the house is inevitably headed for more tragedy, but the plot takes a convoluted and not very involving path to get there, and is too dependent on an imprudent sheriff's deputy (Ron Eldard) who tries to help Kathy but repeatedly messes things up. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Japanese Story ★★

Nothing like a near-death experience to break the romantic ice. At least that's what this Australian romance would have you believe. The geologist (Toni Collette) and the married Japanese businessman (Gotaro Tsunashima) she's assigned to escort to remote mineral mines can't stand each other initially. Then they almost die when their rental car gets stuck in the desert, and once they get it moving it's not long before they're having a fling. The *Brief Encounter*–like story then goes for an emotional home run that it just can't pull off, because the depth of the relationship never quite convinces. (At Copley Place.)

The Last Samurai ★★

Dances with Wolves goes east in this 1870s tale of a cavalry officer (Tom Cruise) who's sent to Japan to help train the emperor's troops to fight off a rebellion by samurai opposed to Japan's modernization. When the officer, who's been disillusioned ever since witnessing Custer's brutal campaign against Native Americans, is taken prisoner by the samurai and carted back to their mountain camp, he sees that, like the Indians back home, they're not the savages the government claims they are. Director Ed Zwick (*Glory*, *Courage Under Fire*) again exhibits the social conscience that is his trademark, but his message is compromised by his casting of Cruise. Although the movie salutes community and unselfishness, it also expends most of its energy glorifying its star. Ultimately, it's as hypocritical as someone who says "Do what I say, not what I do." (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King ★★

Peter Jackson has once again given us an expansive spoof of bombastic, medieval fantasy adventures: the furrowed brows, the swords and sorcery, the creatures, the hair extensions. Oh, that's right, it's not *supposed* to be silly. Jackson is obviously an imaginative, capable director, but after three movies and seven hours, I still don't care a lick about anything that happens to any of these solemn, solemn people. The *LOTR* trilogy epitomizes the sort of movie that wins technical Academy Awards but that no one takes seriously. Yet for reasons I just can't understand, a lot of folks have taken these films seriously. (Come on, isn't Tolkien's attractive-human-heroes-versus-ugly-Orc-villains plot just a tad juvenile?). Maybe Jackson can go back to making interesting movies like *Heavenly Creatures* and *Forgotten Silver* now. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Lost in Translation ★★★½

Sofia Coppola dealt with shared pain in her 2000 directorial debut, *The Virgin Suicides*, and she conjures up a similar funny-sad tone in her tale of two Americans (Bill Murray, Scarlett Johansson) adrift in Tokyo. He's a washed-up movie star making a bundle endorsing Japanese booze; she's the wife of a work-consumed photographer (Giovanni Ribisi). They're staying at the same hotel and killing time at the same hotel bar, and their misery loves company. The characters make a great movie couple, although their relationship is platonic (with its share of sexual tension). Murray gives a Buster Keaton–like, sad-clown performance built mainly around physical and especially facial reactions to absurd situations, and Johansson is a little heartbreaker. (At Copley Place, Harvard Square, Coolidge Corner and suburbs.)

Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World ★★★

An intense, eye-popping opening battle and director Peter Weir's realistic storytelling help this naval epic sail over dull patches, gabby interludes and ho-hum subplots. The level of authenticity is so much higher than any mere piece of spectacle in this 1805 story of the crew of an English ship that is attacked by a French ship and then spends the rest of the movie tracking it to get revenge. Russell Crowe plays the battle-wise captain and Paul Bettany is the ship's inquisitive scientist, and though these friends' dialogues about the merits of science can't compare with the action sequences, Crowe especially breathes great life into his character. For once, the special effects serve the story in a big movie, and not the other way around. (At Boston Common, Fenway, Harvard Square and suburbs.)

Paycheck ★★

It would have been great to have a fun action-thriller nestled between this season's literary-minded Oscar seekers and the kids' stuff. Too bad this ain't it. Like *Minority Report*, John Woo's adaptation of a Philip K. Dick short story is a Hitchcock-like accused-man-on-the-run story turned futuristic. This time it's Ben Affleck as an engineer who's had three years of his memory erased after working on a secret project, but who left himself an envelope of seemingly everyday items that he knew he could use to get himself out of his predicament. That's a cool premise, but it gets so convoluted that its credibility soon plummets. (How *did* he just happen to have that fortune-cookie fortune with the important message and important number preprinted on it?) (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Peter Pan ★★

Unless you're 10 years old, there's not much chance you'll be overly enchanted by the latest film version of J.M. Barrie's tale of Victorian lass Wendy (Rachel Hurd-Wood), flying Peter (Jeremy Sumpter), Captain Hook (Jason Isaacs) and the Lost Boys. This one is heavy on visual effects and crafting, and it breaks tradition by actually casting a boy as Peter, so the puppy love between him and Wendy is less pretend than usual. But you keep waiting for something distinctive to spill from this version directed by P.J. Hogan (*Muriel's Wedding*, *My Best Friend's Wedding*), and it never quite does. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Shattered Glass ★★★

The story of Stephen Glass, the hotshot *New Republic* reporter who turned out to have faked most of his articles, becomes a fascinating drama that avoids the usual stodginess of docudramas. Instead of showing us the hows and whys of Glass' fakery—does anyone really know that besides Glass himself?—the movie presents Glass (Hayden Christensen) as an eager-to-please go-getter who appears taken in by his own veneer of guilelessness (and who also appears to be the best co-worker anyone could have). That self-deception may be the biggest and most interesting deceit in the movie, which also touches upon entertainment's dangerous, seductive power over journalism. The strong supporting cast includes Peter Saarsgard, Chloe Sevigny, Hank Azaria and Melanie Lynskey. (At Kendall Square and Copley Place.)

Stuck on You ★★★

Anyone who branded the Farrelly Brothers "gross-out kings" without seeing the sweetness in their comedies (*There's Something About Mary*, *Kingpin*) might finally get the point this time. Their endearing story of two conjoined twins (Matt Damon, Greg Kinnear) who move from Martha's Vineyard to Hollywood so one can pursue an acting career is amusing and good-natured, with winning performances from its two leads and, as variations of themselves, Cher and Meryl Streep. The visual gimmick of having conjoined twins works much better than the problematic gimmickry of the brothers' *Shallow Hal*, though their penchant for casting their New England buddies in supporting parts might make you wonder why half of Hollywood has a Boston accent. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

By Popular Request: Katharine Hepburn

•Jan. 12, 6 pm. **Pat and Mike** *1952*. Hepburn plays an athlete who is determined to prove her independence from her domineering fiance and meets up with corrupt sports manager Mike (Spencer Tracy). George Cukor directs.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Coolidge Selects

•Opening Jan. 16. **Todd Dowd and the Language of Music** *2003*. Mark Moormann directs this documentary about Tom Dowd, an innovative recording engineer and producer of noted albums by John Coltrane, Ornette Coleman, Otis Redding, Clapton, the Allman Brothers and many others.
•Now playing. **Prisoner of Paradise** *2003*. Malc Clarke and Stuart Sender's documentary look Kurt Gerron, a German-Jewish actor who was s to a concentration camp and forced to write direct a pro-Nazi propaganda film.
•Now playing. **Les Triplettes de Belleville** (*Triplets of Belleville) 2003*. When her grandso kidnapped during the Tour de France, Mad Souza and her dog team up with a song-and-da troupe to rescue him. Sylvain Chomet directs animated feature film.
•Opening Jan. 15. **The Company** *2003*. See New leases for a description.

Midnight Movies

•Jan. 9 and 10, 12 am. **Kingpin** *1994*. Roy Mun (Woody Harrelson) and Ernie McCracken (Murray) take on the professional bowling circui this comedy from the Farrelly brothers.
•Jan. 16 and 17, 12 am. **Rushmore** *1998*. Wes An son directs this comedy about a determined young dent who falls for a teacher at his prep school.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Serge Daney: L'Homme Cinema

•Jan. 9, 7 pm. **Les Enfants du Paradis** *(Childre Paradise) 1945*. Marcel Carne's tragic love story lows the relationship between a mime and an tress who is being courted by three other men.
•Jan. 10, 7 pm. **Plein Soleil** *(Purple Moon) 19* Rene Clement's film is an adaptation of Patri Highsmith's novel *The Talented Mr. Ripley*. •A showing, 9:15 pm. **Pickpocket** *1959*. Robert Br son directs this tale of a young man who emba on a career as a petty thief.
•Jan. 11, 7 pm. **Nuit et Brouillard** *(Night and F 1955*. Alain Resnais' documentary combines co footage with black-and-white newsreels and st to tell the story of the Holocaust. •Also showin pm. **Hiroshima Mon Amour** *(Hiroshima My Lo 1959*. A French woman spends the night wit Japanese man in Hiroshima who reminds her of first love, a German soldier she met during Wo War II. Alain Resnais directs.
•Jan. 12, 7 pm. **Les Dames du Bois de Boulog** *(The Ladies of the Park) 1945*. Based on De Diderot's novel *Jacques le Fataliste*, Robert Bresso film tells the story of an aristocrat who seeks venge upon her lover by tricking him into mar ing a former prostitute.
•Jan. 13, 7 pm. **Mon Oncle** *(My Uncle) 1958*. simple man tries to adjust to his nephew's mod way of life. Jacques Tati directs. •Also showing pm. **Limelight** *1952*. A fading stage comedian friends a suicidal dancer in Charles Chaplin's d matic comedy.
•Jan. 14, 7 pm. **Czlowiek z Zelaza** *(Man of Ir 1981*. Andrzej Wajda interweaves newsreel foot with a narrative to portray the lives of several ch acters living in Warsaw during the early 1980s.
•Jan. 16, 7 pm. **Psycho** *1960*. Alfred Hitchcoc thriller follows a young woman who embezz money and finds herself in trouble at a roads motel. •Also showing, 9 pm. **North by Northw** *1959*. An advertising executive is mistaken fo spy and while being pursued across the coun meets a beautiful woman who is eager to help h survive. Alfred Hitchcock directs.
•Jan. 17, 7 pm. **La Maman et la Putain** *(The Mot and the Whore) 1973*. Jean Eustache directs this p trait of a narcissist and his everyday life in Paris.
•Jan. 18, 7 pm. **Fanny and Alexander** *1983*. Ingm Bergman's autobiographical film is about a brother a sister whose lives change after the death of their fath
•Jan. 19, 7 pm. **Bird** *1988*. Clint Eastwood doc ments the troubled life and career of jazz musici Charlie "Bird" Parker.
•Jan. 20, 7 pm. **I Clowns** *(The Clowns) 1988*. Fe erico Fellini's comical pseudo-documentary about clowns' lives in the circus arena. •A showing, 9 pm. **Ginger and Fred** *1986*. A pair of tired Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers imitators unites to perform for a TV variety show. Federi Fellini directs.

VES Faculty Screenings: Yvonne Rainer in Person

•Jan. 15, 7 pm. **After Many a Summer Dies t Swan: Hybrid** *2002*. Director, actress and produc Yvonne Rainer films the dance piece she produc for Mikhail Baryshnikov's White Oak Dance Pr ject in 2000. •Also showing, 7 pm. **Rainer Var tions** *2002*. This documentary directed by Chari Atlas focuses on Yvonne Rainer.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Argentinian Cinema

•Jan. 9, 8:15 pm; Jan. 10, 4 pm; Jan. 14, 6 pm. **T de Repente** *(Suddenly) 2003*. Diego Lerman

ts this story of an overweight lingerie store at-
dant in Buenos Aires and a lesbian punk cou-
who take her on journey to profess their love
her.
n. 16, 8:15 pm; Jan. 17, 4:15 pm. **Bolivia** *2001*.
rector Adrián Caetano tells the story about an il-
al immigrant from Bolivia who gets a job on the
skirts of Buenos Aires, where he confronts
ism, xenophobia and violence.

t on Film

n. 8, 7 pm; Jan. 11, 2:40 pm, Jan. 15, 1:30 pm;
. 18, 10:30 am. **Yves Saint Laurent: His Life and**
nes *2002*. This documentary about designer Yves
nt Laurent includes interviews with his mother,
er, business partner and admirers.
n. 8, 8:30 pm; Jan. 11, 4:10 pm; Jan. 15, 2:30 pm;
. 18, 12 pm. **Yves Saint Laurent 5, Avenue Marceau**
16 Paris *2002*. David Taboul's documentary looks at
igner Yves Saint Laurent in his workshop.

inese Cinema

n. 9, 6:30 pm. **The Accused** *1995*. A Chinese
der's corrupt judicial methods come to light after
oman's suicide. Fan Yuan directs.
n. 10, 12:45 pm. **Song of Youth** *1959*. Cui Wei
Chen Huai'ai direct this film, set in 1931, about
ung girl who becomes important in founding the
ple's Republic of China.
n. 11, 12:30 pm. **Journey to the Western Xia**
pire *1997*. Lu Wei's drama focuses on a Chinese
ll village caught between two warring clans.

ench Cinema

n. 7, 8 pm; Jan. 8, 2 pm; Jan. 11, 10:30 am; **Al-**
st Peaceful *2002*. A Jewish tailor and his wife
to re-establish their business in Paris in 1946.
n. 8, 5 pm. **Comment J'ai Tué Mon Père** *(How I*
ed My Father) 2001. A French doctor's happiness
hreatened by the arrival of his estranged father,
o abandoned his family years ago to practice
dicine in Africa. Anne Fontaine directs.

story on Film

n. 10 and 17, 10:30 am. **Morning Sun** *2003*. Carma
nton, Geremie Barme and Richard Gordon's docu-
ntary chronicles China's Cultural Revolution.
n. 15, 4:15 pm. **The Gate of Heavenly Peace**
95. Carma Hinton and Richard Gordon's docu-
ntary follows the protests at Tiananmen Square
989 and the resulting Beijing Massacre of June 4.

lian Cinema

n. 7, 6 pm; Jan. 8, 3 pm. **I Vitelloni** *(The Young*
the Passionate) 1953. Federico Fellini directs this
racter study of five restless young men growing
n a small town on the Adriatic.

andinavian Film Festival

n. 14, 8 pm. **Kitchen Stories** *2003*. Bent Hamer
te and directed this comedic drama about
t–World War II Swedish social researchers who
to modernize bachelors' kitchens.
n. 15, 8 pm. **Noi Albino** *2003*. A 17-year-old
dreams of escaping from the prisonlike fjord
t is his home in Iceland and taking the girl
n the local filling station with him. Dagur Kari
cts.
n. 16, 6:30 pm. **All Hell Let Loose** *2002*. This
is about a middle-aged man whose patriarchal
er is challenged by the women in his family. Di-
ed by Susan Taslim.
n. 17, 12:45 pm. **Days Like This** *2001*. Mikael
ström directs this story about tenants in an
tment building who are trying to get their lives
ether. A vacuum cleaner salesman comes into
middle of it and learns each of their stories.
n. 17, 2:30 pm. **Jalla! Jalla!** *(Hurry! Hurry!)*
0. Although in love with his girlfriend, a young
is about to marry another girl in order to pre-
t her from being sent back to Lebanon. Directed
osef Fares
h. 18, 1:45 pm. **The New Country** *2000*. A 15-
-old Somalian boy meets a 40-year-old Iranian
in a refugee camp in Skåne, in the south of
den. They embark on a journey to avoid being
orted. Geir Hansteen Jörgense directs.
h 18, 4:15 pm **Reconstruction** *2003*. A young
ish man's love for a married woman alters his re-
. Christoffer Boe directs.

SEUM OF SCIENCE

gar Omni Theater

rough Jan. 16. **Space Station**. Blast into space
the astronauts and cosmonauts of the Interna-
al Space Station. *Call for show times*.
rough Feb. 12. **Jane Goodall's Wild Chimpanzees**.
r the world of the wild chimpanzees of Africa's
bbe Stream National Park. *Call for show times*.
rough June. **Lewis and Clark: Great Journey**
t. Trek through raging rivers and uncharted
derness to commemorate the bicentennial of
journey, brought to life by *National Geographic*.
for show times.
h. 17-May 28. **India: Kingdom of the Tiger**. Ex-
plore the kingdom of the Bengal tiger from the Hi-
malayas to Rajasthan. *Call for showtimes*.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater

- Now playing. **The Matrix Revolutions**. In this sequel to *The Matrix*, Neo and the rebel leaders battle the machines that have overpowered the human race. *Call for show times*.
- Now playing. **Bugs! 3D**. This film focuses on the world of insects in the tropical rain forests of Southeast Asia. See bugs magnified up to 250,000 times their normal size. *Call for show times*.
- Now playing. **Ghosts of the Abyss**. Director James Cameron takes audiences two miles beneath the sea's surface to explore the wreckage of the Titanic. *Call for show times*.
- Now playing. **Ocean Wonderland 3D**. This film explores the ocean floor of the Bahamas and Australia's Great Barrier Reef and finds sharks, sting rays and rainbows of tropical fish. *Call for show times*.
- Now playing. **Santa vs. the Snowman 3D.** A lonesome snowman turns his jealousy of Santa Claus into a full-scale war, with squirt guns and a 50-foot-tall toy soldier. *Call for show times*.

Cinema Venues

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Rd. (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Hynes Convention Center
900 Boylston St. (617-954-2000). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.

Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Reservoir.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

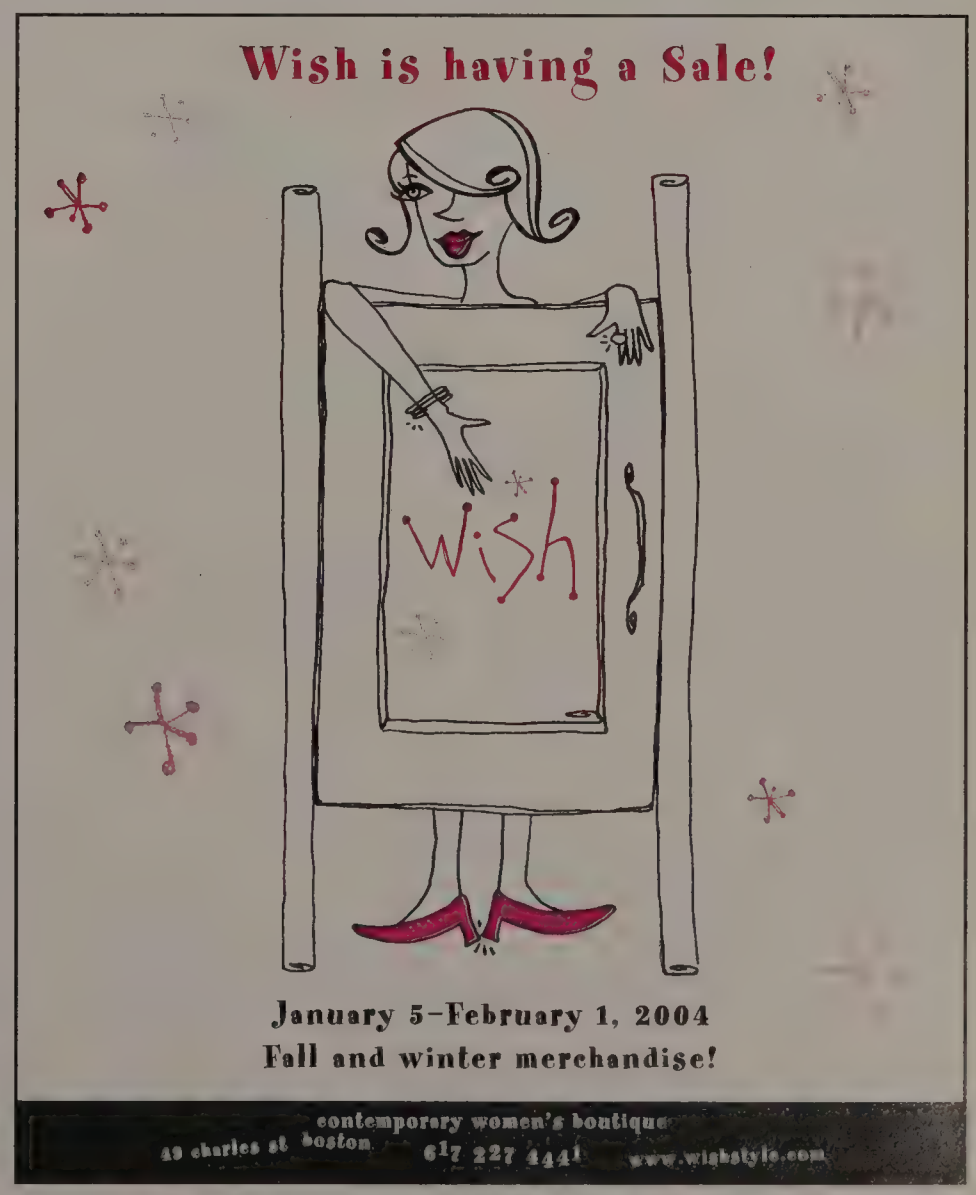
West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
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Turns of Fate

After drawing Phil Spector out of retirement to produce its second album, Starsailor ends up charting its own course

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Phil Spector might never have been a suspect in the fatal shooting of a club hostess at his Los Angeles home early last year if it wasn't for the British band Starsailor. The legendary producer might have already choked to death at that same mansion, the victim of a ham sandwich.

"Our drummer had to give him the Heimlich maneuver," says singer-guitarist James Walsh, whose band shared that fateful 2002 lunch on an invitation from Spector's daughter, a Starsailor fan who had seen the band perform the night before. When the producer for the Ronettes and John Lennon began choking on his food, drummer Ben Byrne sprang into action. "We saved his life," Walsh says.



Only two tracks produced by Phil Spector made the final cut on Starsailor's new album.

The relationship didn't end there. "We went for lunch and thought that would be the end of it," Walsh says. "While we were up there, he basically told us he was producing our [next] record, and it was difficult to say no really."

So Spector showed up a few months later at England's Abbey Road studios, where he had remixed the Beatles' *Let It Be*, and began producing Starsailor's new disc, *Silence Is Easy*.

It wasn't easy working with Spector, who had retired from producing after the Ramones' 1980 album *End of the Century* (he allegedly pulled a gun on Dee Dee Ramone during the recording sessions). According to the band, he was pleasant enough, and didn't pull any guns, but seemed distracted from the proceedings.

"We wanted to give him the benefit of the doubt and say, It might seem like a mad idea now, but maybe in a few weeks' time, it will all start to come together," says Walsh, whose band plays the Paradise Jan. 20. "We persevered with Phil Spector a lot longer than we would have with anyone else, because he's the guy who produced 'Imagine' and is capable of genius. But it just got to a stage where we weren't sure that he knew where he was going, or what he wanted to do with the songs. He was letting things go, like really badly out-of-tune guitars."

"It was all about tape echo—I don't remember anything else he used really," the 23-year-old singer says from a tour stop in Germany. "He was quite hands-on with the arrangements, which we found uncomfortable and daunting, because we wanted to live and die by our own arrangements."

Starsailor dismissed Spector in October 2002, and the band kept only two of the songs he produced for *Silence Is Easy*—the title track and "White Dove." Not that one would be able to pick them out on the CD (available as an import and due for American release Jan. 27), as other songs the band co-produced with Danton Supple have a richness from strings that some might mistake for Spector's famous "wall of sound."

"He was one of the most legendary producers ever, but we still kept faith in our own instincts," Walsh says. "Phil Spector definitely had an influence on the album, even on the tracks he didn't [produce]. He instilled a confidence in us by coming out of retirement after 20 years or whatever and choosing Starsailor to work with. He gave us confidence in our own abilities."

Starsailor began its own fateful path at a music college where Walsh met drummer Byrne and bassist James Stelfox. Another singer had called in sick for a concert, and Walsh stepped in. "If he hadn't been ill, the rest of the band might not have heard me," he says, "and I might not have heard them."

"Our friendship sort of happened quite quickly, 'cause we shared the same musical influences," Walsh says of the band, rounded out with keyboardist Barry Westhead and named after an album by '60s folk-rocker Tim Buckley. "I remember swapping [Tim's son] Jeff Buckley's *Grace* and Nick Drake's *Five Leaves Left* albums with the bass player and saying, 'These are albums you should really listen to.'"

Now Starsailor, whose 2001 debut *Love Is Here* was a hit in England, stands to give Coldplay a run for its money with the bolder, romantic sweep of *Silence Is Easy*. The band has already guaranteed its own footnote in rock history.

"Watching the *Imagine* DVD and seeing Phil Spector in the room with John Lennon, it's incredible that we have a link to John Lennon and the Beatles," Walsh says. "There aren't a lot of bands that can say that really."

As for his band's shock at hearing about the February 2003 shooting of hostess and B-movie actress Lana Clarkson in the Spector mansion, the singer adds, "I know he's not an ordinary bloke, but I don't personally think he's capable of anything like that." iB

Starsailor
plays the Paradise Jan. 20.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or email to music@improper.com. Include dates, tim prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadlin four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not cepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from ferent sources. Although we make every effort to pro accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahe to double-check dates and times (see complete list venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Gomez Jan. 19, Paradise Rock Club (617-42 NEXT).
Hot Stove, Cool Music Benefit for the Jimmy Fur with Kay Hanley, Bill Janovitz, Peter Gammo Trauser, the Gentlemen and DJ Carbo Jan. 11, P adise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
B.B. King Jan. 7, Lowell Memorial Auditoriu (617-931-2000).
Linkin Park, Hoobastank, P.O.D. and Story of t Year Jan. 17, Worcester Centrum Center (617-93 2000).
Natalie MacMaster Jan. 12, Symphony Hall (61 876-4275).
Bette Midler Jan. 20, FleetCenter (617-931-2000
Sevendust, Element Eighty and Ill Nino Jan. Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Starsailor Jan. 20, Paradise Rock Club (617-42 NEXT).
3 Doors Down and Tantric Jan. 20, Orpheum Th atre (617-931-2000).
The Thrills Jan. 12, Paradise Rock Club (617-42 NEXT).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 7

Abbey Lounge Superflow.
Bill's Bar E3 with Solid 8, 9 pm, $8.
Bravo @ the MFA Ronnie Ron, 5:30 pm, no cove
Breezeway Bar and Grill P.J. Adamson.
Cantab Lounge Candy's blues jam, 9 pm, no cov 21+.
Clery's Karaoke with DJ Rhythm Nights.
Club Passim Marc Herman and Charlie Strater C release, 8 pm, $10, all ages.
Desmond O'Malley's Brogue, 9 pm, no cover, all ag
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover, 2 after 9 pm.
Elephant and Castle Pete Massa, 6 pm, no cover, 21
Encore Lounge Stacey Baker and Emily DeGra 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
The Fireplace Camelia Group, Latin Jazz, 9:30 p no cover, all ages.
The Green Dragon Tavern Green Line 9:30 pm, cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Blue Rhino Jazz Group, 10: pm, no cover, 21+.
Hennessy's Jay Sharon, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Johnny D's Alastair Moock and Noe Venable, 8: pm, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's DJ Rhythm Nights.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.
Kennedy's Peter Rice, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.
Lowell Memorial Auditorium B.B. King, $39.5 $49.50.
Middle East Upstairs: Double Helix and Nikulydi $8, 18+.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 7:30 pm, no cover, all ag
Purple Shamrock DJ Massi, 21+.
The Rack Groove Authority, 21+ no cover.
Remington's Al Vega Trio and Johnny Souza, 8: pm, no cover, all ages.
Ryles Jazz Club Andy Voelker Trio, 7:30 pm, $1 18+.
Scullers Moutin Reunion Quartet, 8 and 10 p $16, all ages.
Sky Bar The Knee Hi*s and Bishop Allen, 8 p 21+.
Tap Bruce Jacques, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Sandra Aran, 8:30 pm, no cover, ages.
Wonder Bar Barry Ries, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

THURSDAY, JAN. 8

Abbey Lounge Goldenwest Motorlodge.
Bill's Bar Changing Skin, Rubikon and 30 Stones pm, $10.
Boston Rocks Elvis' 69th Birthday Bash with Ste Connolly, 7 pm, no cover.



Songstress Bette Midler performs at the FleetCenter Jan. 20.

Bravo @ the MFA Bill Duffy, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Chris Waller, Gordon Beadle and New Day, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Clery's DJ Rhythm Nights.
Club Passim Girlyman and We're About It, 8 pm, $12.
Coogan's DJ Steve.
Dick's Last Resort Elvis Birthday Tribute, 7 pm, no cover, 21+ after 9 pm.
Encore Lounge Mary Callahan and Brain Patton, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
The Fireplace Gwen Leathers, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
The Good Life Cambridge Grover Mooney Trio, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Briar DJ Stelah, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Pinnies, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Dwight Richter Band, 11:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Harp DJ Lou, Dick-n-Jane, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Hurricane O'Reilly's Karaoke.
Johnny D's *The Noise* magazine presents the Maxie Awards, 9 pm, $5.
Jose McIntyre's DJ Massi and DJ Rhythm Nights., 9 pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.
Kennedy's John Mansfield, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.
Kirkland Café Twisted Rico All Acoustic Revue, 8:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Oak Bar Sarah Brindell, 7:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
Old South Meeting House Dave Whitney, 12:15 pm, $5, all ages.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 21+.
The Rack Sugarfoot, no cover, 21+.
Regattabar John Payne Saxophone Choir, 8:30 pm, $12, all ages.
Scullers Myanna and Wanetta Jackson, 8 pm and 10 pm, $12, all ages.
Sky Bar International Penpal, 8 pm, 21+.
Sophia's Latin Party Boys, 9 pm, $10 after 9:30 pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Sandra Aran, 8:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
T. the Bear's Place The Pilot Light, All Shes On and Decadence, $7.
Western Front Dis 'n' Dat Band, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner and Joe McMahon, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery GoGirls Music Fest, 7 pm, $7, all ages.

FRIDAY, JAN. 9

Abbey Lounge Max Cherry, the Patrons and Dusky Silo.
Atrium Lounge Alfredo Cardim, 5:30-8:30 pm; Bert Seager, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
The Attic Electric Hummus, 8:30 pm, 21+.
Avalon Sevendust, 6:30 pm, $20, all ages.
Bill's Bar Meet the Day with Yellow Brick Hill, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Bravo @ the MFA Bill Duffy, 5:30 pm, no cover charge.
Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis Jazz Duo, 7 pm, no cover, all ages.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Chopping Block Rooftop Suicide Club, Kenne Highland and his Vatican Sex Kittens and Three Speed Amplifier, $5 21+.
Club Passim Laura Risk and Paddy League, 8 pm, $12, all ages.
Common Ground Pressure Cooker, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Coogan's DJ Tom.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+ after 9pm.
Encore Lounge Jan Peters, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
The Good Life Cambridge Jim Porcella Quartet, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Good Life Downtown El Eco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Big Delicious 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Green Street Grill Kilombo Mambo, 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.
The Harp DJ Lou, DJ Rowdy B, The Zoo, 10:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Jiggle and New Blood Revival, 9:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30 pm; Spike the Punch, 9:30 pm $5, 21+.
Hurricane O'Reilly's DJ Massi.
Jacob Wirth Sing-along with Mel Stiller, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.
Johnny D's Chicken Slacks Soul Revue, 9:45 pm.
Jose McIntyre's DJ Big Daddy.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover, 21+.
Kennedy's Matt Fulton, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.
Kirkland Café Hansen Sisters, Alison Block and the Micky Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Model Sons, Quick Fix and the High Ceilings, $8, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Jazz Quintet, 8:15 pm, no cover, all ages.
Parris Chorduroy, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Purple Shamrock DJ Craig, 21+.
The Rack Sugarfoot, no cover, 21+.
Redline Shadowkings, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Joe Bargar and the Soul Providers, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
Scullers The Persuasions, 8 and 10:30 pm, $21, all ages.
Somerville Theatre Marc Cohn, 8 pm, $25-$39.50.
Sophia's Latin Party Boys, 9 pm, $10 after 9:30 pm, 21+.
Sky Bar Heather Hates You, Grandevolution, and Tricycle, 8pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Sandra Aran, 9 pm, no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place Juliana Hatfield, Unbusted and Willy Mason, $10.
Western Front Forward Sound Clash, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic and Joe McMahon, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAY, JAN. 10

Abbey Lounge Andrea Gillis, Auto Interiors and Rollover Baby.
Atrium Lounge Alfredo Cardim, 5:30-8:30 pm; Bert Seager, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Berklee Performance Center Love Him Tender: Spirit of the King with Steve Connolly as Elvis, 8pm, $23-$26.
Bob the Chef's No Way Jose, 7:30 pm, all ages.
Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis Jazz Duo, 7 pm, no cover, all ages.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim BCMFest's Club Passim Celtic Cabaret, $20, all ages.
Common Ground The Swinging Johnsons, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Coogan's DJ Craig.
Desmond O'Malley's Chixie Dicks, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort The Big '80s, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+ after 9 pm.
Encore Lounge Kezia Hirsey, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
The Good Life Cambridge El Eco, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Mike Shea Trio, featuring Johnny Souza, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Ego System, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Death by Marriage, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Green Street Grill Kilombo Mambo, 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.
The Harp DJ Lou, DJ Rowdy B and the Zoo, 10:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's DJ Misha, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Hurricane O'Reilly's DJ Massi.
Johnny D's The Fritters and the Irreverends, 9:45 pm, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's DJ Dennis McCarthy.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.
Kennedy's Cabaret with Dorothy Miller, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.
Kirkland Café Arcade, Selling Venue, Avatar and IXth Commandment, 8:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Give and Harris, 18+; Downstairs: Dwele and Scratch, $20, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Nameless Coffeehouse Labrys, Rob Laurens, Jon Waterman, and Lisa Bastoni, 8 pm, $8, all ages.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Jazz Quintet, 8:15 pm, no cover, all ages.
Parris Central Basement, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Soljuh and DJ Tom, 21+.
Regattabar The Bad Plus, 7:30 and 10 pm, $20, all ages.
Sky Bar Spike Emerson Society, Chocolate Milk and the Screwdrivers, 8 pm, 21+.
Somerville Theatre Hamza El Din, 8 pm, $21.50, all ages.
Top of the Hub Sandra Aran, 9 pm, no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place Throe, Midnight, Jeremiah Freed, Junction 18 and Asect, 9 pm, $10.
Western Front Fall Back at the Front, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Nando Michelin and Fishlung Trio, 9:30 pm, $10, all ages.

SUNDAY, JAN. 11

The Attic The Coalboilers, 8 pm, $5, 21+.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan Duo, 11 am-2 pm, no cover, all ages.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Bill Staines, Billy Novick, Guy Van Duser, Mason Daring, Jeannie Stahl and Stuart Schulman, 7:30 pm, $15, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Gospel brunch with the Bibletones, 10 am, all ages; Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover, 21+ after 9 pm.
Encore Lounge Carol O'Shaughnessy, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
Forsyth Chapel Liber unUsualis, 4 pm, $10, all ages.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons, 9:30 m, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Cuban Rumba brunch with Tony Perez, 12-3pm; Balla Tounkara, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Hennessy's Paul Duffy, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Ridgley Snow, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Kennedy's Jazz brunch with Kezia Hirsey, 12-4 pm, no cover, all ages.
Matt Murphy's Bud E. Green, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Newton Free Library Paul Speidel and Steve Skop, 2 pm, no cover, all ages.
Paradise Bill Janovitz, Kay Hanley, Peter Gammons, the Gentlemen and Trauser, 8 pm, $25, 18+.
Purple Shamrock DJ Massi, 21+.

Regattabar The Milton Academy Jazz Band, 3 pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz brunch with Steve Rochinski, 10 am, no cover, all ages.
Sky Bar Vibrotica, Voodoo Jets, and Release, 8pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Marshall Wood Trio, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place Seeking 7 and the Six Fifteens, $5.
Washington Square Tavern Jazz brunch with Jon Hazilla Trio, 11:30 am-2:30 pm, no cover, all ages.

MONDAY, JAN. 12

Cantab Lounge Singer-Songwriter Open Mike, 8 pm; Laurel Brauns, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Choppin' Block Open Jazz Jam with the Marianne Solivan Quartet, 8 pm, $4, 21+.
Club Passim Old Time Music—Alia, 7 pm, $10, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm. no cover, 21+ after 9 pm.
Encore Lounge Steve Heck, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Irish Seisiun, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Blues jam, 8 pm, $2, 21+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.
Paradise The Thrills, 8 pm, $14, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 21+.
Sky Bar Blue Ribbon Envy, Sore Loser and Furvis, 8 pm, 21+.
Symphony Hall Natalie MacMaster. 3 pm, $25-$37.
Top of the Hub Marshall Wood Trio, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner and Joe McMahon, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAY, JAN. 13

Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm; Junji Shirota and Friends, 10 pm, no cover, all ages.
Club Passim Open Mike, 7 pm, $5, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Alex Miranda, 7:20 pm, no cover, 21+ after 9 pm.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
The Green Dragon Tavern Cool Black Kettle, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill High Plains Drifters, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Johnny D's Revista Do Samba, 8:30 pm, 21+.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Karaoke with Dana Z, 21+.
The Rack BlackSole, no cover, 21+.
Sky Bar Jess McDonough Band, Todd Martin and Jess Tardy, 8 pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub April Hall, 8:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Autumn Rhythm, Winter Pageant and Tristan da Cunha, $5.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 14

Abbey Lounge The Probates, Amizago, Country Doctors and Teresa Storch.
Bill's Bar Stratejacket, Plan B and Sweatpant Boners, $10, 18+.

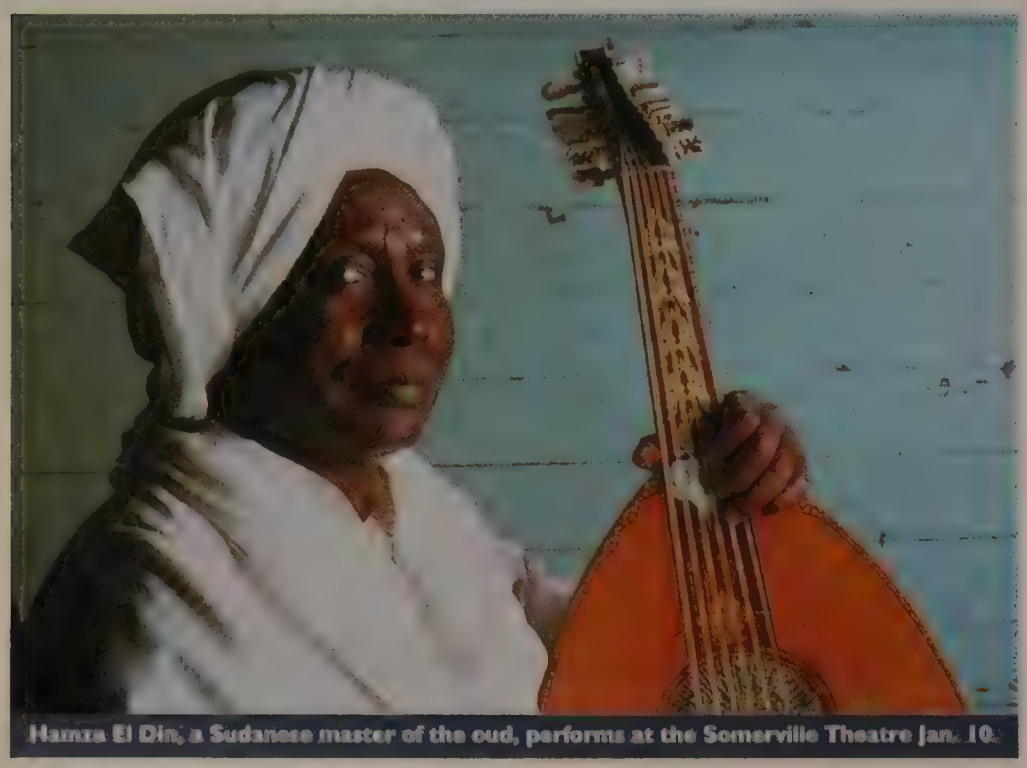


Fiddler Natalie MacMaster performs at Symphony Hall Jan. 12.

Bravo @ the MFA Ronnie Ron, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Clery's Karaoke with DJ Rhythm Nights.
Club Passim Joel Henry and Felix McTeigue, 8 pm, $10, all ages.
Desmond O'Malley's Terry Brennan, 9 pm, no cover, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover, 21+ after 9pm.
Encore Lounge Stacey Baker and Emily DeGraff, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
Elephant and Castle Pete Massa, 6 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Fireplace Nadine Chase, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
The Green Briar DJ Stelah, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Green Line, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Blue Rhino Jazz Group, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Hennessy's Jay Sharron, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Johnny D's Peter Mulvey and Flynn, 8:30 pm, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's DJ Rhythm Nights.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.
Kennedy's Peter Rice, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.
Middle East Upstairs: Rilo Kiley, Tilly and the Wall and Jake Bellows, $10, 18+.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 7:30 pm, no cover, all ages
Purple Shamrock DJ Massi, 21+.
The Rack Tracy Rose, no cover, 21+.
Remington's Al Vega Trio and Johnny Souza, 8:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
Scullers Carol Welsman , 8 and 10 pm, $18, all ages.
Sky Bar James the Viking, Will Brierly and the Roller Holsters, 8 pm, 21+.
Tap Bruce Jacques, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub April Hall, 8:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place Baby Strange, Halogens, Ad Frank & the Fast Easy Women and Stereobirds, 9 pm, $7.
Western Front Christ Kjorness Ensemble and Taste Explosion, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar Barry Ries, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

THURSDAY, JAN. 15

Abbey Lounge Goldenwest Motorlodge.
Bill's Bar Fat Can Reuben, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Bravo @ the MFA Ronnie Ron, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Chris Waller, Gordon Beadle and New Day, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Clery's DJ Rhythm Nights.
Club Passim Annie Lin, Francis Kim Band and Kevin So, 8 pm, $12, all ages.
Coogan's DJ Steve.
Desmond O'Malley's Karen Fiore, 9 pm, no cover, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Groove Authority, 7:20 pm, no cover, 21+ after 9pm.
Encore Lounge Mary Callahan and Brain Patton, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
The Fireplace Gwen Leathers, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
The Good Life Cambridge Color and Talia, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Dwight Ritcher Band, 11:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Harp DJ Lou, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Melvin Sparks Band and Megalodon, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Hurricane O'Reilly's Karaoke.
Jose McIntyre's DJ Massi and DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.
Kennedy's John Mansfield, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.
Kirkland Café Surca, Com'On Man and Eric Couville, $5.
Oak Bar Sarah Brindell, 7:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
Old South Meeting House Billy Novick, 12:15 pm, $5, all ages.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 21+.
The Rack U-Neek Aproach, no cover, 21+.
Regattabar The Teresa Inês Quintet, 8:30 pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Vadim Neselorskyi, 7:30 pm; Eric Bloom Jazz Quartet, 9:30 pm, $7, 18+.
Scullers The Andy Ezrin Trio, 8 and 10 pm, $12.
Sophia's Latin Party Boys, 9 pm, $10 after 9:30 pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub April Hall, 8:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place Black Helicopter, Cancer to the Stars, the Bon Savants and Anti-Love Project, 9pm, $7.
Western Front Wild Cubby Crew, 9 pm, $5, 21+.



Hamza El Din, a Sudanese master of the oud, performs at the Somerville Theatre Jan. 10.

Wonder Bar Johnny Horner and Joe McMahon, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAY, JAN. 16

Abbey Lounge The Curses.
Atrium Lounge Alfredo Cardim, 5:30-8:30 pm; Be Seager, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Attic Boris McCutcheon Band, 8:30 pm, 21+
Bravo @ the MFA Rusty Scott, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis Jazz Duo, 7 pm, cover, all ages.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, pm, 21+.
Choppin' Block Jeepers H. Crackers, These Lie Capital Radio and the Rusted Crowns, $5, 21+.
Club Passim 4 Way Street and James O'Brien, 8 pr $12, all ages.
Common Ground Heather Hates You and the Acn Brats, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Coogan's DJ Tom.
Dick's Last Resort Velvet Jones, 7:20 pm, no cove 21+ after 9 pm.
Encore Lounge Jan Peters, 9:30 pm, no cover, a ages.
The Good Life Cambridge John Kordelski Quarte 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Jim Porcella Quartet, pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Magnus, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Green Street Grill Kilombo Mambo, 11:30 pm, $ 21+.
The Harp DJ Lou, DJ Rowdy B, Peat Moss and th Fertilizers 10:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Adam Ezra Group, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Hurricane O'Reilly's DJ Massi.
Jacob Wirth Sing-along with Mel Stiller, 8 pm, n cover, all ages.
Johnny D's Luther "Guitar Junior" Johnson, Dwigl Ritcher 9:45 pm, $10.
Jose McIntyre's DJ Big Daddy.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.
Kennedy's Matt Fulton, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.
Kirkland Café Jack T and the Kings, Rollo Toma Quartet and AJ Crowe, $5.
The Linwood Baby Ray, Rosie Huntress and Arms Legs, $7.
Middle East Upstairs: The Skels, Sinners an Saints, Confront and 12 Cent, $9, 18+; Downstair Ambulance LTD and Black Moustache, $9, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Tommy and Allan, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Jazz Quintet, 8:15 pm, n cover, all ages.
Porters Bar and Grill Jim Devlin Trio.
Purple Shamrock DJ Craig, 21+.
The Rack In the House, no cover, 21+.
Redline Shadowkings, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Regattabar Charlie Haden and Kenny Barron, 7:3 and 10 pm, $22.
Ryles Jazz Club Black Sea Salsa Band, 8 pm, $1 18+.
Scullers The Christian McBride Band, 8 and 10:3 pm,$20.
Sky Bar Rabadango and Little Rock Cannonball, pm, 21+.
Sophia's Latin Party Boys, 9 pm, $10 after 9:30 pm 21+.
Top of the Hub April Hall, 8:30 pm, no cover, a ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Standard and Aberdee City, 11:15 pm, $8.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic and Joe McMahon 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAY, JAN. 17

Abbey Lounge The Collisions.
All Asia Chris Keene, 7 pm.
Atrium Lounge Alfredo Cardim, 5:30-8:30 pm; Be Seager, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis Jazz Duo, 7 pm, n cover, all ages.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, pm, 21+.
Choppin' Block, Jeepers H. Crackers, Blank Trad tion and the Necrowafers, 21+.
Club Passim Odetta, 7 and 10 pm, $25, all ages.
Common Ground DJ Chu, 10 pm, $3, 21+.
Coogan's DJ Craig.
Desmond O'Malley's Martini Bros., 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Booty, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21 after 9 pm.
Encore Lounge Kezia Hirsey, 9:30 pm, no cover, ages.
The Good Life Cambridge Fred Woodward Tri 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Mike Shea Trio, 9 pm no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Dick-n-Jane, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

"One of the city's most anticipated new restaurants" —Mat Schaffer, *The Boston Herald*, September 2003

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Green Street Grill Kilombo Mambo, 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.
The Harp DJ Lou, DJ Rowdy B, Peat Moss and the Fertilizers, 10:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's DJ Misha, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Hurricane O'Reilly's DJ Massi.
Johnny D's Luther "Guitar Junior" Johnson, 9:45 pm.
Jose McIntyre's Dj Dennis McCarthy.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.
Kennedy's Cabaret with Dorothy Miller, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.
Kirkland Café Ballast, Tween 20, 8:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Lamont, the Hidden, Shanghai Valentine, and Bones Brigade, $10, 18+; Downstairs: III Kings and Fear Nuttin' Band, $10, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Tommy and Allan, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Jazz Quintet, 8:15 pm, no cover, all ages.
Parris Flavor, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Brick Park and DJ Tom, 21+.
Regattabar Charlie Haden and Kenny Barron, 7:30 and 10 pm, $24, all ages.
Ryles Jazz Club Boston Horns, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
Scullers The Christian McBride Band, 8 and 10:30 pm, $20, all ages.
Sky Bar Blake and His Family Dog, 8 pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub April Hall, 9 pm, no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place Mr. Len, Roosevelt Franklin and Kice, 9:30 pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Galery Rara Avis and Spiral 7, 9:30 pm, $10.

SUNDAY, JAN. 18

The Attic The Coalboilers, 8 pm, $5, 21+.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan Duo, 11 am-2 pm, no cover, all ages.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Gospel brunch with Bishop Charlie's Angels, 10 am, all ages; Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover, 21+ after 9 pm.
Encore Lounge Carol O'Shaughnessy, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Cuban Rumba brunch with Tony Perez, 12-3pm; Balla Tounkara, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Hennessy's Paul Duffy, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Matt Dorko and Larry Kukers, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Kennedy's Jazz brunch with Kezia Hirsey, 12-4 pm, no cover, all ages.
Kirkland Café John Lincoln Wright, 8:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Mang Dub, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Purple Shamrock DJ Massi, 21+.
Regattabar Charlie Haden and Kenny Barron, 3 and 7 pm, $20.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz brunch wtih Frank Vardaros, 10 am, no cover, all ages.
Sanders Theatre Joyful Noise, 5:30 pm, $30, all ages.
Sky Bar Shipyard Wreck and Paradaem, 8 pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Dan Moretti, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.
Washington Square Tavern Jazz brunch with Jon Hazilla Trio, 11:30 am-2:30 pm, no cover, all ages.

MONDAY, JAN. 19

Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's Open Mike, 8 pm; Kris Delmhorst, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Choppin' Block Open Jazz Jam with the Marianne Solivan Quartet, 8 pm, $4, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover, 21+ after 9pm.
Encore Lounge Steve Heck, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
The Green Briar Irish Seisiun, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Blues jam, 8 pm, $2, $21+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.
Paradise Gomez, 8 pm, $20, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 21+.
Scullers The Brussels Jazz Orchestra, 8 and 10 pm, $20.
Sky Bar Butterknife, 8 pm, $5, 21+.
Top of the Hub Dan Moretti, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner and Joe McMahon, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAY, JAN. 20

Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm; Mark Simos and the Dangerous Boys, 10 pm, no cover, all ages.
Club Passim Open Mike, 7 pm, $5, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Julian, 7:20 pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9:30 pm, no cover.
FleetCenter Bette Midler, 8 pm, $39.50-$250.
The Green Dragon Tavern Cool Black Kettle, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill High Plains Drifters, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Johnny D's McKrells and the Waybacks, 8:30 pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Kevin Devine, $8, 18+.
Orpheum Theatre 3 Doors Down and Tantric $31-$39.50.
Paradise Starsailor, 8 pm, $13.50, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Karaoke with Dana Z, 21+.
The Rack ZMQ, no cover, 21+.
Regattabar Los Changos: Julio Santillán, Fernando Huergo and Franco Pinna, with Fernando Brandão, Carlitos Michelini, Evan Harlan and Marta Gómez, 8:30 pm, $12, all ages.
Sky Bar Negative Space and Banana Fish Zero, 8 pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Neske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place Amanda Palmer, the Halogens and Mappari, 9:50 pm, $7.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.



Sevendust (above) plays with Element Eighty and Ill Nino Jan. 9 at Avalon

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
Atrium Lounge *Millenium Bostonian Hotel, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-523-3600). MBTA: Orange or Green Lines to Haymarket.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Boston (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave, Boston (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Choppin' Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-734-4177). MBTA: Green Line to Brigham Circle.*
Clery's *113 Dartmouth St., Boston (617 262-9874). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., All (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line Harvard Ave.*
Coogan's *171 Milk St., Boston (617-45 7415). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Cottonwood Café *222 Berkeley St., Bos (617-247-2225). MBTA: Green Line to lington.*
Desmond O'Malley's *30 Worcester Rd. Framingham (508-875-9400).*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Gre Line to Prudential.*
Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St Boston (617-350-9977). MBTA: Blue L to State.*
Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Bosto (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Fireplace *1634 Beacon St., Boston (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line Washington.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green to North Station.*
Forsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetery, Forest Hills Ave., Boston (617-524-335 MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills.*
The Good Life Cambridge *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-8800). MB Red Line to Central.*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617 523-1112). MBTA: Green or Orange L to Haymarket.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshal Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cam bridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Li Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (61 742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to Nort Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allst (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to G ernment Center.*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Bo (617-722-0161). MBTA: Red Line to N Station.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (440-6022).*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Julien Bar *250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-19 MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (6 426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (6 482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (617-267-8 MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (6 232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Vi*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-4 9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Pl (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-5 3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-56 MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Cent*
Nameless Coffeehouse *3 Church St., Cambridg (617-864-1830). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. J. Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Gree Line to Copley.*



The Gentlemen perform at the Hot Stove, Cool Music benefit at the Paradise Jan. 11.

ld South Meeting House *310 Washington St., oston (617-482-6439). MBTA: Blue or Green Line Government Center.*
rpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-32-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
ıradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-52-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
urris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). BTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
's Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-'6-1557).*
ıt Flanagan's *79 Parkingway St., Quincy (617-773-;00). MBTA: D Green Line to Mission Hill.*
ough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-1-3455).*
irple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060). BTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
ıe Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). BTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
:dline *59 J.F.K. St., Cambridge (617-491-9851). BTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
:gattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-661-00). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
ıes Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge 17-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
nders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-6-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
ullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambridge 17-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Symphony Hall *301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony.*
Tap *19 Union St., Boston (617-367-0033). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Washington Square Tavern *714 Washington St., Brookline (617-232-8989). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington.*
Western Front *343 Western Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*

ADVANCE SEATING

PCOMING HEADLINERS

ınti-Flag, Against Me, None More Black, and Rise gainst Jan. 23, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
ıs I Lay Dying and Sworn Enemy Feb. 17, Axis 617-423-NEXT).
rykah Badu March 6, Orpheum Theatre (617-31-2000).
arenaked Ladies and Gavin DeGraw March 2, leetCenter (617-931-2000).
ig Head Todd and the Monsters Feb. 27, Avalon 617-423-NEXT).
avid Bowie March 30, FleetCenter (617-931-000).
arah Brightman Jan. 31, FleetCenter (617-931-000).
eltic Fiddle Festival with Kevin Burke, Johnny unningham and Christian LeMaître Feb. 21, omerville Theatre (617-876-4275).
lvis Costello Feb. 27, Wang Center (617-931-000).
aco De Lucía Feb. 14, Orpheum Theatre (617-76-4275).
ropkick Murphys March 11-14, Avalon (617-23-NEXT).
n Durkin and the Bomb Squad Jan. 31, Paradise ock Club (617-423-NEXT).
lelissa Ferrick Jan. 31, Somerville Theatre (617-31-2000).
Art Garfunkel Jan. 31, Marriott Copley Hotel (617-931-2000).
Josh Groban Feb. 24, Wang Center (617-428-9393)
Ari Hest and the Clarks Jan. 22, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Angélique Kidjo Feb. 27, Somerville Theatre (617-876-4275).
Habib Koité Feb. 15, Somerville Theatre (617-876-4275).
Ladysmith Black Mambazo Feb. 6, Sanders Theatre (617-876-4275).
Missing Joe Jan. 24, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
MxPx, Simple Plan, Motion City Soundtrack and Sugarcult Feb. 7, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Henry Rollins Feb. 6, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).
The Samples Feb. 29, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Sol y Canto Jan. 31, Blackman Theatre, Northeastern University (617-373-2247).
Rod Stewart Feb. 29, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Sting March 15 and 16, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Cassandra Wilson Feb. 7, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).

classical music

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 7

Music in the Cathedral
Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-4826, ext. 1103). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park. 12:15 pm. $2. Christopher Jennings performs on the organ.

THURSDAY, JAN. 8

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $26-$86. Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos leads the orchestra in a performance of Berlioz's *L'Enfance du Christ.*

FRIDAY, JAN. 9

Boston Chamber Music Society
New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-349-0086). www.bostonchambermusic.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. $16-$42. The Boston Chamber Music Society performs works by Paganini, Puccini, Wolf, Scarlatti, Menotti and Boccherini.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30 pm. $26-$86. Same program as Jan. 8.

SATURDAY, JAN. 10

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $26-$86. Same program as Jan. 8.

Emmanuel Music
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7:30 pm. $18-$48. Craig Smith leads the chorus in a performance of Handel's oratorio *Jephtha.*

Music for Viols and Friends
First Church Congregational, Lindsay Chapel, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (617-776-0692). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $16. Carol Lewis performs works by Sumarte, Sainte-Colombe, Marais and Bach on the viola da gamba.

SUNDAY, JAN. 11

Boston Chamber Music Society
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-349-0086). www.bostonchambermusic.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $16-$42. Same program as Jan. 9.

The Boston Symphony Chamber Players
New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $17-$30. Ludovic Morlot leads the Chamber Players in works by Lutoslawski, Nielsen and Dvorak.

Emmanuel Music
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 11 am. Free. The chorus performs Bach's Cantata 32 as part of the normal Sunday church service.

Forest Hills Cemetery
Forsyth Chapel, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston (617-524-3354). www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 4 pm. $10. A cappella trio Liber unUsualis performs songs from medieval England.

New England Conservatory
Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green line to Symphony. 3 pm. Free. NEC Prep School faculty and alumni perform works by faculty member Larry Bell.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 14

Music in the Cathedral
Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-4826, ext. 1103). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park. 12:15 pm. $2. Sheila Beardslee performs on the recorder, accompanied by organist Robert Barney.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Jazz chair Ken Schaphorst performs on the trumpet.

THURSDAY, JAN. 15

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $26-$86. James Levine conducts the orchestra in works by Mozart, Dvorak and Elliott Carter.

FRIDAY, JAN. 16

Boston Classical Orchestra
Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-423-3883). www.bostonclassicalorchestra.org. MBTA: Blue or Green line to Government Center. 8 pm. $23-$45. Boston Symphony principal harpist Ann Hobson Pilot joins the Boston Classical Orchestra in a performance of harp concertos by Handel and Debussy.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30 pm. $26-$86. Same program as Jan. 15.

Handel and Haydn Society
New England Conservatory's Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-262-1815). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$58. Grant Llewellyn leads the orchestra in Tartini's *Devil's Trill,* as well as additional works by Tartini, Vivaldi and Geminiani.

Longy School of Music
Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $10. The Colonial Youth Orchestra of Concord-Carlisle High School, directed by Andrei Sobchenko, performs works by Mussorgsky and Rimsky-Korsakov.

SATURDAY, JAN. 17

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $26-$86. Same program as Jan. 15.

FleetBoston Celebrity Series
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $31-$41. The St. Lawrence String Quartet performs works by Haydn, Ravel and Boston composer Osvaldo Golijov.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Gil Rose leads the Boston Modern Orchestra Project. Program includes Michael Gandolfi's *Themes from a Midsummer Night,* and former NEC president Gunther Schuller's 1964 work *Variants, for Jazz Quartet and Orchestra.*

SUNDAY, JAN. 18

Arsenal Center for the Arts
The Commander's Mansion, the Arsenal on the Charles, 440 Talcott Ave., Watertown (617-923-0100). www.arsenalarts.org. 4 pm. $10. Guitarist Eliot Fisk and harpsichordist John Gibbons perform.

Boston Classical Orchestra
Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-423-3883). www.bostonclassicalorchestra.org. MBTA: Blue or Green line to Government Center. 3 pm. $23-$45. Same program as Jan. 16.

Emmanuel Music
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 11 am. Free. The chorus performs Bach's Cantata 13 as part of the normal Sunday church service.

Handel and Haydn Society
Jesuit Urban Center, 775 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-262-1815). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: Silver Line to Mass. Ave. 3 pm. $29-$58. Same program as Jan. 16.

Longy School of Music
Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 2:30 pm. $20. Violinist Irina Muresanu and pianist Dana Ciocarlie perform works by Bartók, Janacek, Violeta Dinescu and others.

MONDAY, JAN. 19

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green line to Symphony. 8 pm. $12-$20. The Chicago Children's Chorus performs a benefit concert for the Boston Children's Chorus.

TUESDAY, JAN. 20

Longy School of Music
Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Cellist Tom Kraines performs a program of 20th- and 21st-century music, including his own compositions and improvisations.

dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $5, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Jay Ine spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Monsta Mondays DJ Kaptain Krunch spins rock, and live bands perform, 9 pm, $6, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJ Sensae spins R&B and hip-hop, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Lounge DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Scott Damgaard, live music, 9 pm, 21+.

The Rack
Dance Party with DJ Mike Janedy, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+. •Jan. 12 and 19, Join the Patriots' Lonie Paxton and friends in a benefit for the Active Force Foundation, 9 pm.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJs spinning top-40 tunes, R&B and dance. Downstairs: live acoustic music with Justin Beech.

TUESDAYS

An Tua Nua
What's Up Night A night of R&B, house, funk and soul music, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

Aria
One Nation DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women).

Bill's Bar
Phat Tuesdays Old-school hip-hop with DJ D Sharp, 9 pm, $10, 19+, college ID required.

The Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, 21+.

The Kells
Orange DJs John Davis and Pat Fontes bring the house music, and weekly guest DJs drop by for a spin, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Eddie Lee spins house, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Phoenix Landing
Spectrum DJs Flack, Verbnine and C combine dub, retro-futurism and breakbeats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Ricky spins, 10 pm. •Jan. 13, BlackSole performs live jazz, 6:30-10:30 pm, no cover, 21+. •Jan. 20, live jazz with ZMQ, 6:30-10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

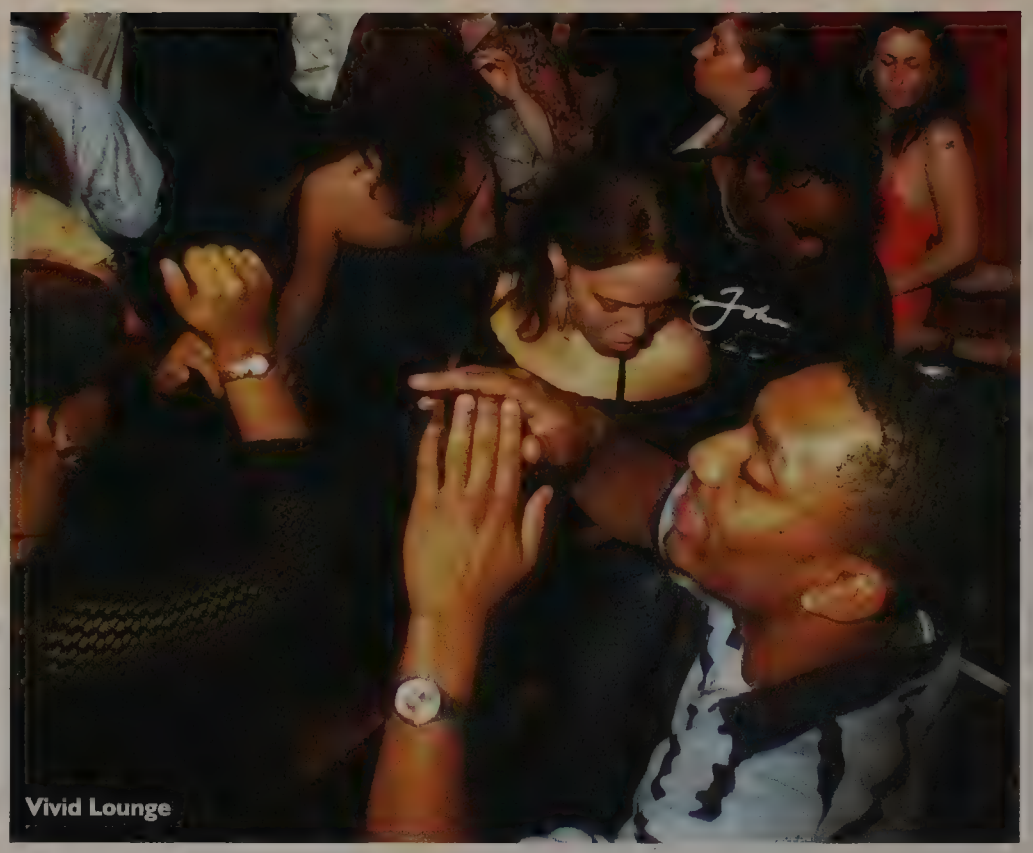
Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Dave Jordan spins top-40 and R&B. Downstairs: Stu Sinclair, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, $21+.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

Aria
Lust DJ John Morris spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, no cover for 21+ (men), $5 for 19+ (women).

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins Greek and international tunes, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.


Vivid Lounge

Common Ground
What a Way to Go Go Mod Night with DJ Vin, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
Weekly Therapy Party Guest DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, no cover.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Rhythm Nights spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up R&B, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mercury Lounge DJs Nomadik and Timmy Allen host this evening of soul, funk and house, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin deep house, trance and grassroots techno, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
Beach Party night with DJs spinning top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
International Wednesdays DJ JC is in the Latin Lounge; DJs Alex and Felix are in the back, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Massi spins top-40, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Q
DJ Sean spins a retro mix of '70s and '80s tunes.

The Rack
DJ Ricky spins spins dance, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. •Jan. 7, live music with Groove Authority, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+. •Jan. 14, Tracy Rose performs, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Cabin Stabbin' Wednesdays Dub and DJ Boogie Ba Do start the party reggae-style, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B. Downstairs: Live music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Mastermillions spins hip-hop and top-40 hits, 10:30 pm, no cover, 19+ with college ID.

Vertigo
Downstairs: Psychedelic trance music by DJs Dino, Mathwin and Dave Henshaw. Upstairs: Analog Lounge with DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tain
DJs spin hip-hop, progressive, tech and funky house, 6-11 pm, no cover, 21+.

An Tua Nua
The Skinny DJ Ren Justice spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; DJ Roger M spins vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women).

Avalon
International Thursdays DJ Gee Spin and guests play rap and Eurohouse tunes, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Axis
Square One Thursdays Resident DJs Ali Ajami and John Debo host a night of progressive dance music, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

Big Easy
DJ Matt Phipps spins top-40 in this New Orleans–themed nightspot, 9:30 pm, $8, 21+.

Boston Rocks
On the Rocks DJ Mike spins top-40 dance and hip-hop, 7 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian's mix features tunes of the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Red Velvet DJ Geespin and DJ Master Jay spin hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm, 19+ (women), 21+ (men).

Embassy
DJ JC spins international house, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

Felt
After work live jazz, 6 pm, no cover.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou spins late night. •Jan. 8, Dick 'n' Jane perform.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
Nonstop music and dancing with DJs Christian, Massi, Joshua Carl, Damon and Push, ladies free; guys $5 after 10 pm, 21+.

I/D
Spend Resident DJs Nailz, Taner and Tasty cue up the beats, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Rhythm Nights hosts karaoke downstairs, 8-11 pm, 21+. DJ Massi gets the dance party started upstairs, 11 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ David James spin dance tunes and old-school, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Doc spins the latest tunes, 21+.

La Boom
Privilege DJ Felix cranks the noise, 11 pm-2 am, 21+.

Level
Life DJ Adilson pumps house, trance and progressive, and DJ NFerna spins hip-hop, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Ricky Fatts spins house and hip-hop. 10:30 p $15, 19+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando pres drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 21

The Place
DJ Mike Janedy spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ David Mee spins deep house, progressive tech downtempo and soul classics in the front lounge night, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett performs live, 9 pm, 21+.

Q
DJ Hustle Simmons from JAM'N 94.5 spins h hop all night long, 9 pm, $5, ladies free all nig 21+.

The Rack
DJ Littles spins from 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 2 •Jan. 8, Sugarfoot performs, 6-10 pm, no cover, 2 •Jan. 15, Live music with U-neek Aproach, 6- pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali and Ross spin a mix electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cov 21+.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lou music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

711 Boylston
Play Thursdays DJ trio Groovefire spins ho music with special guests Beat Khemistry, 6 p 2 am.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Steve Sosong spins new dance a R&B; Downstairs: Justin Beech, 9 pm-1 am, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ JR Vega hosts Latin Night with live music by Latin Party Boys; free salsa lessons with Dan M shall, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ B-Spin plays hip-hop and house, 10:30 pm, cover, 19+ with college ID.

Sweetwater Café
Dance to top-40 tunes, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 1

Vertigo
Brazilian and Latin mix with DJs Guy and Bruno, pm, $10.

The West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJs Laze and Gabe play fu and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech a funky house, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 fr the '70s, '80s and '90s, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Floss DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 p $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women).

Avalon
Avaland Guest and global DJs spin progressi dance music, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Steve Austin spins hip-hop, old-school a dancehall, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins top-40, and cover band Bo Day Off plays the hits, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
F Night WBCN's Bradley J spins '80s classics, a alternative and rock tribute bands perform li 9 pm, cover varies, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft DJs Sensae and Johnny Wall Black spin top-40 dance and hip-hop tunes acco panied by interactive video shows, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Eddie K spins a mix of international, Latin a house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Circuit Girl
Anything Goes Melinda Ancillo hosts this wome night with DJ Kris Kono spinning house, 10 p $10, 21+.

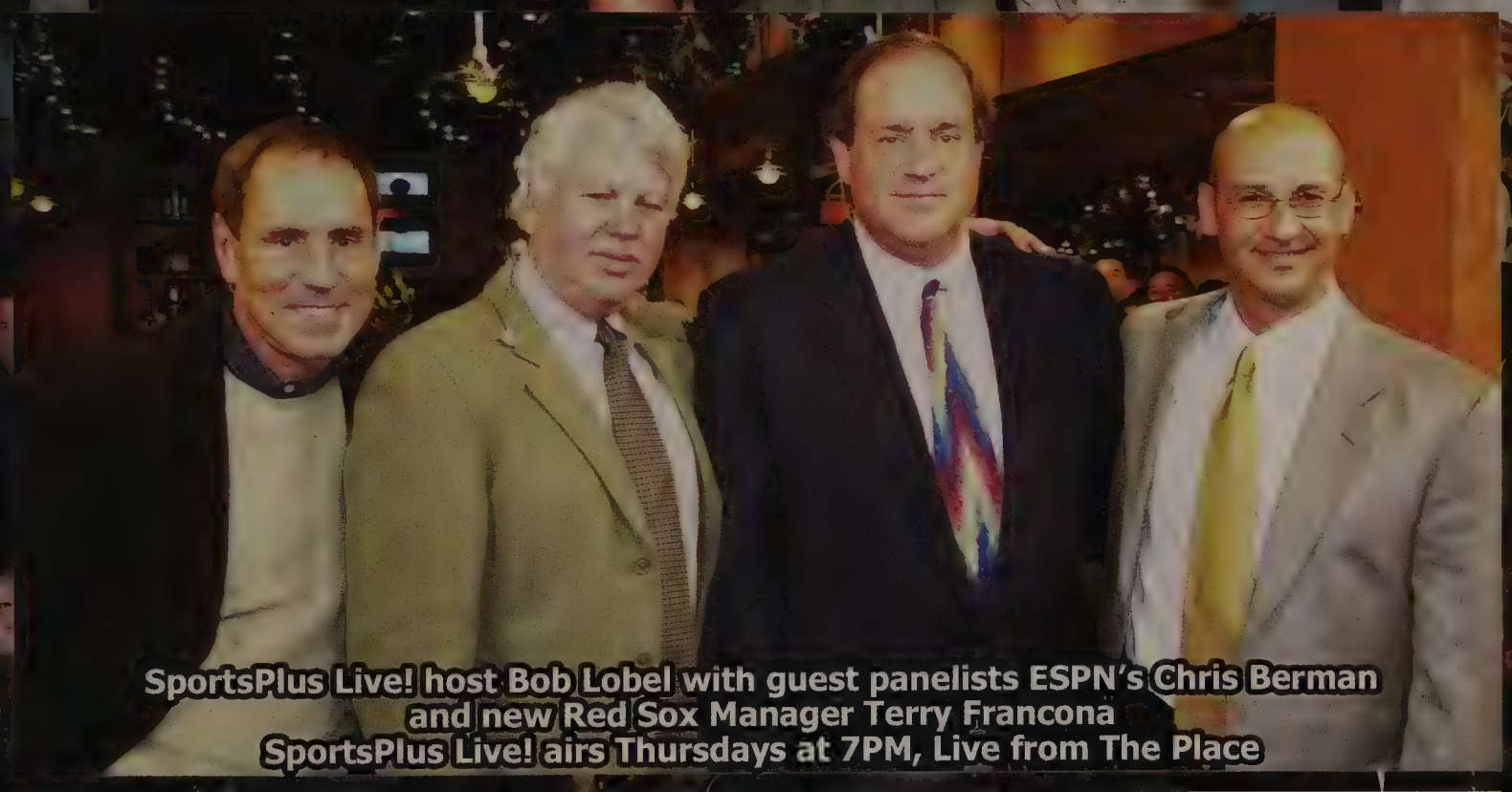
Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 2

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 2

Embassy
DJ Nailz and DJ Eddie Lee spin hip-hop, 10:30 p $20, 19+.

The Place

where people meet



SportsPlus Live! host Bob Lobel with guest panelists ESPN's Chris Berman
and new Red Sox Manager Terry Francona
SportsPlus Live! airs Thursdays at 7PM, Live from The Place

BUD LIGHT

ESPN 25TH ANNIV. PARTY

ESPN IS CELEBRATING ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY WITH BUD LIGHT & THE PLACE
HOSTED BY CHRIS BERMAN OF ESPN MONDAY JAN 12

2 BROAD ST. BOSTON, MA (FANEUIL HALL) 617.523.2081 WWW.THEPLACEBOSTON.COM

The Exchange
DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Felt
After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs the party, spinning high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Bob Gallagher spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, $10, 21+. •Jan. 9, the Zoo performs live. •Jan. 16, live music with Peatmoss.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, $10, 9 pm, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Big Daddy spins, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Mike Gioscia or DJ Edgar spins house and old favorites, $5, ladies free before midnight, 21+.

La Boom
Fashion Fridays Firefly Promotions hosts this fashion night featuring DJ Rick Naples, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

Level
Secret Society DJ Hoff spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B on the fourth and fifth floors, and DJ Niko spins Greek and international tunes on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Matrix
DJ Adilson of Roxy Saturdays spins high-energy house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

The Modern
DJ JC plays Latin rhythms, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Rockpile** WAAF's Jay Ferrera broadcasts live, and rotating bands perform, 9 pm, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•Jan. 9, Chorduroy performs, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+. •Jan. 16, Flavor performs, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Shake What Your Mama Gave You DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
Glo Promotions hosts weekly guest DJs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Craig spins the latest hits, 10 pm.

Q
DJ B-Spin spins hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Johnny C with KISS 108's Artie, 10:45 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. •Jan. 9, live music with Sugarfoot, 6:30-10:30 pm, no cover, 21+. •Jan. 16, In the House performs, 6:30-10:30, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Lite Nite DJ Easy spins a mix that includes neosoul and a few feel-good classics, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm, $15 for 18+, $10 for 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance; downstairs: live music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover before 10 pm, 21+.

Sophia's
Sangria and Salsa Salsa and merengue lessons, 7-10 pm, followed by the Latin Party Boys and DJs Mike C and Zino spinning Latin dance, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room, and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.



Sweetwater Café
Top-40 and acoustic shows on two floors, 5 pm, $5, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

The Upstairs Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins U.S. and U.K. indie, Brit pop, mod, British invasion and '60s soul.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with Latin vibes. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
DJs spin hip-hop, house and vocals, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Vivid Lounge
Brian Roache spins top-40, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJs Laze and Gabe play funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

Aria
Classic Spin Back Guest DJs spin classics of the '70s, '80s and '90s plus old-school hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women).

Avalon
Resident DJ Nailz plays house, techno and trance, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Kevin Munroe spins house and trance, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Start! DJ Gibby spins alternative rock and '80s hits, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins top-40, and local cover band Syndicate plays the hits, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Dance Night DJ Rob Nockshis spins dance music all night, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. VJ Johnnie Walker presents top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows, 11 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Franklin creates a lounge atmosphere with his international, Latin and house sounds, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood It's women's night at Hollywood w two floors of hip-hop and house music, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Roger M spins international house, 10:30 $15, 19+.

The Exchange
DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm, 21+.

Felt
DJ Ghost spins hip-hop and house, 9 pm, no co

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favori disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep hous pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upst with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, $10, 21+. •Jan. the Zoo performs live. •Jan. 17, live music w Peatmoss.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 $10, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and h hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, w downstairs DJ O'Toole plays top-40, 10 pm, 21+.

La Boom
Wild on @ La Boom DJ Tim Collins and KISS host a night of music and dancing, 10 pm, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik sp Russian and international music on the third fl 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal ho travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth flo 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 9 pm, 21+.

Matrix
DJ G Spin of JAM'N 94.5 plays hip-hop, while back room features dance favorites from the '80s '90s and top-40 tunes, 9 pm, $10, $21+; $20, ladies only.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night. DJ Antonio O spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10 pm,

The Modern
DJ Eddie Lee plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin da music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez Willie D, ladies free, men $5 before 10:30 pm; $ 18+; $10, 21+ after 10:30 pm. •**The Male counter** New England's longest-running all-m dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 $15, 19+; no cover 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos sp top-40 and hip-hop mixes, $15, 18+; $10, 2 •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-h in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 2 •**Underground** DJs spin hip-hop, top-40, dar techno and reggae for the under-21 crowd, 7-11 $14. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes up hits from '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•Jan. 10, Central Basement performs, 10 pm, co varies, 21+. •Jan. 17, Live music with Flavor, 10 cover varies, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins 80s, new w and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Rick Naples spins high-energy dance, 10 $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Tom Hogan spins the groove, 10 pm, $5, 2 •Jan. 10, Soljuh performs. •Jan. 17, Live music w Brick Park.

Q
DJ Josh Carl spins house and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 2

The Rack
Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi and DJ Littles host the broadcast and dance party, 8 pm, 21+, no cover.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins, 9 pm, cover, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins house and techno, 9 pm, $15, 21+.

711 Boylston
Fever DJ Yorgo spins a mix of ethnic and inter tional music, 10:30 pm, 21+.

issy K's
pstairs: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8 pm; Down-airs: Kevin Kirrane, 9 pm, no cover before 10 pm.

ophia's
] Zino spins salsa and merengue while a Latin band ays on the first floor and DJ Edwin Matos spins ıtin dance on the second floor, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

pin
Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the ınt room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro fa-ırites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

he Sugar Shack
B-Spin blends hip-hop and house, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

weetwater Café
ıp-40 and acoustic shows, two floors, 8 pm, $5, +.

enu
ula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek ntabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 ı, 19+.

ertigo
Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 ı, $15, 21+.

ivid Lounge
ian Roache spins top-40, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

he West Street Grille
te Night Lounge DJs Laze and Gabe play funk and ɔ-40 all night, 10:30 pm, 21+.

UNDAYS

n Tua Nua
Adrienne spins Brit-pop and new wave tunes, ɔm-1 am, $3, 19+.

ria
Roger M spins international house and Latin pop, pm, $15, 21+.

valon
ıy Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and ı:hno, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

ll's Bar
ggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub ation and DJ K-Don, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

ɔston Rocks
s spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

lt
ıy DJ Eddy K spins the tunes at service industry ıt, no cover.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
Fluid Sundays DJs Joshua Carl and Paul Dailey spin tribal and deep house, breaks, techno and jungle beats, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
SIN DJ Doc spins hip-hop, house and top-40, 11 pm, no cover.

La Boom
Futurebeat: Alien Disco DJ Addambombb spins a mix of retro progressive tracks, trip-hop and synth-pop, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Mystic Reggae DJ Junior Rodigan spins reggae, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $3, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
Red Square Lounge The front bar becomes a lounge, 10 pm-2 am.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Massi tops the weekend off with an array of tunes, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Reverie Boston DJ Shannon and weekly guest DJs spin goth, industrial and lounge, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
DJ Dave Jordan plays an array of top-40 tunes; then check out Greg Lattrell, 9 pm, 21+.

Trio
Vibe Lounge DJs provide the vibe, 10 pm, 21+.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins Brazilian beats, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Whiskey Park
Cherry DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock classics, hip-hop, house and R&B.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Dad's *911 Boylston St., Boston (617-296-3237).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
The Exchange *148 State St., Boston (617-726-7601).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The G Spot *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
La Boom *One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000)*
Light *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *(El Copa, Male Encounter, Officers' Club, Oxygen, Rio, Underground and Uptown) 1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
711 Boylston *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Sweetwater Café *5 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-2515).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
Vivid Lounge *148 State St., Boston (617-726-7600).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*

BeerAdvocatE.com™

Weekly Dig

HARPOON BREWERY
Love Beer. Love Life. Harpoon

REDBONES

Extreme Beer Fest
Saturday, January 17 2004
The Cyclorama
@ The Boston Center for the Arts
(539 Tremont Street, Boston)



Are you ready? Is your palate ready?

Join **BeerAdvocate.com** for the nation's first festival dedicated exclusively to showcasing beers that push the boundaries of brewing, featuring beers with alcohol contents that rival spirits, beers aged in bourbon barrels, beers made with enough hop to rip your tongue from your mouth, beers from yore, beers employing exotic ingredients that make one ponder … and more!

Discover a whole new world of beer during two sessions of Extreme Beer:

Session One (1pm-5pm):

Featuring Guest Speakers:

- **Jim Koch** (Boston Beer Co. / Sam Adams)
- **Sam Calagione** (Dogfish Head)
- **Todd Charbonneau** (Harpoon Brewery)

Session Two (6pm-10pm):

Musical Guests:

Three Day Threshold
www.threedaythreshold.com

Note: This could quite possibly be the best damn beer fest in Boston, ever.

Ticket Info:

Tickets are only $25 in advance, or $30 at the door, and include:

- 4 hours of **Extreme Beer**
- legendary barbecue food a la carte by **Redbones**
- artisanal cheese pairings by **Formaggio Kitchen**
- homebrew education by the **Boston Wort Processors**
- fest guide; sample cup; ten 4oz beer tickets (more available)

For more info, tickets and the list of beers: **beeradvocate.com**

Our Connoisseur Session has sold out!
Don't be left out in the cold! Buy your Session One or Session Two tickets now!

This is a 21+ with valid ID event.

www.ticketweb.com
TICKETWEB
866-468-7623

museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. *Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.*

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*The Continuous Stroke of Breath: Calligraphy from the Islamic World* features Arabic, Indian, Persian and Turkish calligraphy from the 9th through 20th centuries. Through July 18.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm.* •*Molasses Flood: The 1919 North End Disaster* is an exhibition of historic photographs and newspaper articles chronicling the event. Through Jan. 31 •Members of the Boston Afro-American Artists Association exhibit their work. Through Jan. 31.

Carpenter Center for Visual Arts
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). www.ves.fas.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-11:30 pm; Sun., 12-11:30 pm. Free.* •*Wim Wenders: Photos* features photographs from the German filmmaker's travels in Australia. Through Jan. 11.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. *Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm.* •*Gifts from Stephen and Sybil Stone*, an exhibition of more than 150 paintings, drawings, prints and sculptures from the Stones' collection, shows through Jan. 18. •*Ron Kuivila: An Outgoing Message* is a sound-art exhibition of dial tones, busy signals and rings from telephone systems. Through Jan. 18. •*Puppets, Ghosts, and Zombies: The Sculpture of Pat Keck* shows through Jan. 18. •*Debra Weisberg: (Sub)Surface* features an architectural installation along a 40-foot elevator shaft. Through January. •*Joseph Wheelwright: Stone Heads and Tree Figures*, a sculpture exhibition, shows through May 16. •*Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Sense of Place, Part II* features paintings by various artists. Through summer 2004.

Fogg Art Museum/ Busch-Reisinger Museum
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Before Expressionism: Art in Germany circa 1903* features drawings, prints and paintings from German avant-garde artists. Through Feb. 15. •*Harvard Collects American Art* shows through Feb. 22. •*Life as Art: Paintings by Gregory Gillespie and Frances Cohen Gillespie* shows through March 28.

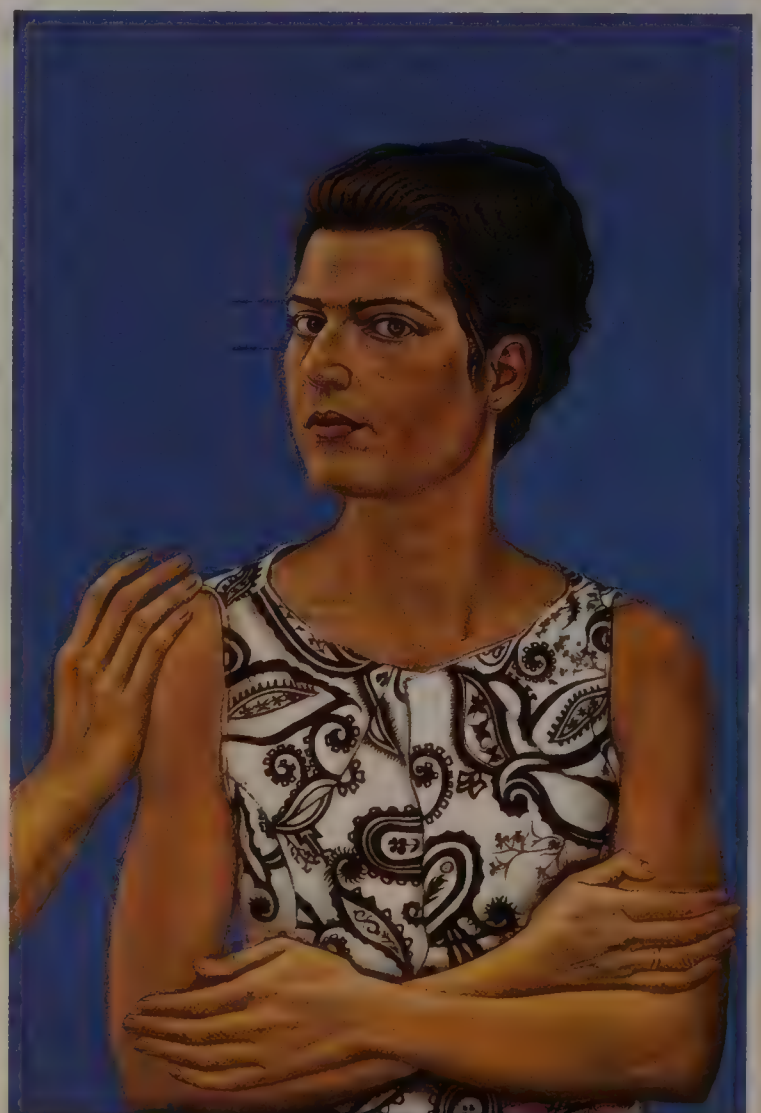
Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm.* •*Into the Mountains* features the photography of mountaineer Bradford Washburn. Through spring 2004. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species by glass artists Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7, $5 students and seniors.* •The next exhibition, *Made in Mexico/Heche en México*, begins Jan. 21.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, free for those under 18. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm.* •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. •*Raphael, Cellini, and a Renaissance Banker: The Patronage of Bindo Altoviti* features a painting by Raphael, sculpture by Cellini and busts of Cosimo de' Medici and Altoviti. Through Jan. 11. •Elaine Reichek's embroideries, which depict Biblical images borrowed from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists, display online in the virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). www.mit.edu/museum. *MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5, $3 students and seniors, $1 children.* •*Knowing Where to Stand: Photographs by Anne Whiston Spirn* shows 50 color landscapes. Through Jan. 30. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm; Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15 adults, $13 students and seniors, free for children 17 and under. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free. Special exhibitions are an additional cost.* •*Rembrandt's Journey: Painter/Draftsman/Etcher* is a comprehensive exhibition of more than 200 of Rembrandt's works. Through Jan. 18. •Works by French printmaker Jacques Callot and artists whom he influenced show in *Callot and His World: Princes, Paupers and Pageants*. Through Jan. 25. •*The Maker's Hand: American Studio Furniture, 1940-1990* features one-of-a-kind pieces made in small shops. Through Feb. 8. •Johannes Vermeer's *Young Woman with a Water Pitcher*, a rare painting on loan from the Metropolitan Museum of Art, displays through Feb. 22. •*Draped in Dragons: Chinese Court Costumes* features clothes worn by members of the Qing imperial court. Through May 2. •More than 200 jades dating from the Neolithic period to the Qing Dynasty display in *Chinese Jades from the Hartman Collection*. Through August. •*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.


Frances Cohen Gillespie's *The Touch, Self-Portrait* is on display at Harvard's Fogg Art Museum through March 28.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13 adults, $11 seniors, $10 children.* •*Magic: The Science of Illusion* is an interactive exhibition that looks at mind reading, levitation, transformation and the "disembodied head" illusion. Through Feb. 22. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum
33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. *Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free.* •*Generals, Admirals, and American War Leaders*, an exhibition of personal and official autographs from famous American leaders, shows through Jan. 11. •*Coming Up on the Season: Migrant Farmworkers in the Northeast* traces the lives of the workers who harvest produce in the Northeast. Through Feb. 1. •*Hatch Show Print's Rock 'n' Roll Posters* features letterpress posters for concerts by musicians including Johnny Cash, Frank Zappa and Bruce Springsteen. Through June 13. •*The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'd* is an exhibition of 18th-century local history. Ongoing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household objects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. •*To Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community* is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www.pem.org. *Sun.-Mon., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am-9 pm. Adults $12, seniors $10, students $8; children 16 and under and residents of Salem free.* •*Luxury and Innovation: Furniture Masterworks by John and Thomas Seymour* features 72 examples of classic American furniture. Through Feb. 17. •*Vanished Kingdoms: The Wulsin Photographs of China, Tibet, and Mongolia 1921-1925*, an exhibition of color images taken by American explorers Janet E. and Frederick R. Wulsin, shows through Feb. 29. •*Under the Imperial Gaze* features two large-scale Chinese scrolls. Through May 2. •*Men Plow, Women Weave* displays images of weaving and plowing by Chinese artists. Through May 30.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology
11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50 adults, $6 seniors and students, $5 children* •*Portraits from China, 1923-1946: Photographers and Their Subjects* features the work of Hedda Morrison, Owen Lattimore and Frederick Wulsin. Through Jan. 15. •*These Shoes Were Made for...Walking?*, a collection of 49 pairs of shoes from ancient to contemporary times, shows through February. •*Painted by a Distant Hand: Mimbres Pottery from the American Southwest* features artifacts from New Mexico's Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through December. •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments* features the museum's l Mesoamerican cast collection. Ongoing. •*Encour with the Americas* is an ongoing exhibition featu original sculpture and plaster casts of Mesoam can cultures. •*Hall of the North American Indi Change and Continuity* features art depicting the sponse of Native Americans across the continen the arrival of Europeans. Ongoing. •*Pacific Isla Hall*, another ongoing exhibition, displays artif from the Pacific Islands.

Somerville Museum
One Westwood Road, Somerville (617-666-981 www.losttheatres.org. *Thu., 2-7 pm; Fri., 2-5 pm Sat., 12-5 pm.* •*The Lost Theatres of Somerville* co bines oral histories, photographs, memorabilia and teractive media to explore the rise and fall Somerville's 14 historic movie theaters, only on which operates today. Through March 28.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acme art.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat. am-5 pm.* •William Freed shows his work in *Still Abstractions*. Jan. 15-Feb. 21.

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). w alianzagallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Cop Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm.* •The galle permanent collection of crafts, ceramics, sterling ver, gold, sculptural clocks and tea pots displ through January.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alp gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tu Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •*Works on Paper* features the work of Bernard Chaet, Aaron Fink and Grah Nickson. Through Jan. 7. •Paul Sattler shows n paintings. Jan. 10-Feb. 4.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). w ardengallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mo Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm.* •Ron Ehrl shows paintings. Through Jan. 31.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-449 www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. *MBTA: Green L to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •Alex K shows paintings through Feb. 4. •*Print Publish Spotlight: Graphic Studio*, a group show, displ through Feb. 4.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). MBT Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 p Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Jonathan Lerman shows dra ings. Jan. 7-Feb. 28.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). w bernardtoalegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm.* •Nicho Nixon and Penelope Umbrio show their photog phy. Through Feb. 14.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). w chasegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mo Sat., 10 am-6 pm.* •Dean Richardson shows paintir Through Jan. 31.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). w childsgallery.com. *MBTA:Green Line to Copl Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 p* •*The Art of Music* (watercolors), *Winter Wond land* (winter-themed etchings) and *19th-Cent Caricatures: Daumier, Gavarni and Gillray* displ through Jan. 11. •*Lithographs of Adolph Del Tropical Paradise* (watercolors) and *Peter Mor Drawings* show Jan. 12-March 6.

Clifford-Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 300, Boston (617-695-025 www.cliffordsmithgallery.com. *MBTA: Orange Line Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5:30 pm.* •*Winter Wh* a group show of white mixed-media work displays the main gallery Jan. 9-31. •*Back in Black*, a gro show of mixed-media work in black, displays in t project room Jan. 9-31.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). w copleysociety.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copl Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm.* •*Tricia Rose Burt: Invitational Exhibition* and *A Salon of French Lan scapes* show Jan. 8-31.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (617-268-8050). MBT Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. • exhibition of works by Jeff Eldredge, Dan McC and Norman Crump is ongoing.

lipse Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). BTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 -6 pm. •Richard Stimpson shows line wings. Through Jan. 31.

uator Gallery
Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston 7-540-9236). MBTA: Orange Line to k Bay. www.equatorgallery.com. *n.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm.* he gallery specializes in Latin Ameri- fine art, including paintings, textiles l ceramics.

rt Point Arts Community llery
Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). w.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to th Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 5 pm. •Dorothea Van Camp, Chris ı and Chris Parris show their work in *the Edge of Form.* Jan. 9-Feb. 14.

lerie d'Orsay
Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). w.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; ., 12-6 pm. •An ongoing exhibition of ıtings, sculpture and fine prints from 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rem- ndt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse Chagall.

llery AA/B
Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617- 574 - 2). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: nge Line to Back Bay. Thu.,12-6 pm; Fri., ım-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •Gallery artists v their work. Through February.

e Gallery at Black and ıite
Huntington Ave., Suite 205 (617-266- (1). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Mon.-Fri, 10 5 pm. •*Still Life*, black-and-white pho- aphs by Eva Hidvegi Demjen, shows ugh Jan. 31.

llery NAGA
Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). v. gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to ngton. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Paul lly shows figures and still lifes, and Louis li shows paintings. Jan. 9-31.

novese/Sullivan Gallery
Thayer St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-426-9738). -Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Dew Point* features work of Lee Boroson. Jan. 9-Feb. 1 .

ley & Steele
Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.haley le.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., m-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment.* e gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prints. going.

ward Yezerski Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www. ardyezerskigallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Ar- on. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •Maria Magdalena pos-Pons shows her photography. Jan. 9-Feb. 3.

rst Gallery
Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-491-6888). v.hurstgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Har- . Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Thu., 12-7 pm. ziyo-e: Designs from Three Centuries features e than 60 Japanese woodblock prints. Through 25.

ernational Poster Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). rnationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to ley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. e gallery's permanent collection showcases a va- of vintage posters. •*Fresh Powder*, the gallery's annual holiday show, features vintage ski ers from Europe. Through Jan. 30.

i Rotenberg Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www. rotenberg.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. -Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm.* •*Introduc- 2004*, a group show by emerging artists, dis- s Jan. 8-31.

i Aso Studio
St. Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www.kaji tudio.com. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. and Thu., 4:30-6:30 pm; Sat., 3-5 pm, and by intment.* •*Holiday Store*, a group show of paint- and ceramics by 15 artists, displays through 15.

hryn Schultz Gallery
Lowell St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www. bridgeart.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.- 11 am-5 pm, Sun., 1-5 pm.* •*Human Condition*, up show of works in all media, displays Jan. eb. 18.


Stacy Henniger-Quackenbush's work in lead is at the Judi Rotenberg Gallery beginning Jan. 8.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www. kiddersmithgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm.* •Phil Bower re-creates historic photographs from the past 150 years in paintings in *Phil Was Here*. Through Jan. 10. •*Live From Texas: Texas-Based Artists Take to the Road*, a group show, displays Jan. 13-Feb. 21.

Kingston Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 12-5 pm.* •Ed Fetter shows his photography. Through Jan. 31.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •Paula DeSimone, Jill Fishon-Kovachick and Eric Tardif show ceramic work, furniture and sculptural birds in *Layers and Patterns*. Jan. 15-March 5.

Mark Gallery
141 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6275). www. markartgallery.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm, and by appointment.* •John Lobosco and Sandys Moore show paintings in *Northern Lights*. Jan. 10-Feb. 13.

Martin Lawrence Gallery
77 Newbury St., Boston (617-369-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.martinlawrence.com. *Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-7 pm.* •The gallery's ongoing exhibition includes works by Chagall, Erté, Hallam, Kondakova, Lichtenstein, Picasso and Warhol.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www. mercurygallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •*Out of the Studio*, a group show of landscapes and seascapes, displays Through Jan. 7. •*Tree of Life*, a group show of works by Joseph Solman, Ann Strassman, Miranda Thomas, Lucette White and Karl Zerbe, displays Jan. 17-Feb. 9.

Miller Block Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). www. millerblockgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30-5:30 pm.* •Arlayne Peterson shows new mixed-media work. Through Feb. 4.

Mills Gallery
539 Tremont St., Boston (617-348-2926). www. bcaonline.org. *MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed., Thu. and Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-10 pm.* •*The Drawing Show*, a juried exhibition of contemporary drawings, displays Jan. 16-March 7.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. *Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm.* •*Making Magic* (mixed media), *The Ring* (jewelry), and *Beaded Beads* (beadwork by Axl Russmeyer) show through January.

NAO Project Gallery
535 Albany St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-451-2977). www.naoprojectgallery.info. *MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay or Green Line to Copley. Wed., Fri. and Sat., 11 am-4 pm and by appointment.* •Beth Brideau shows her paintings. Jan. 15-Feb. 28.

New Art on Newbury
285 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7727). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Thu., 11 am-6 pm; Fri. and Sat., 11 am-11 pm. •The *Second Anniversary Holiday Show* features the work of 30 local artists and includes oils, watercolors, photography, mixed-media works and sculptures. Through Jan. 15.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www. nielsengallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment.* •Gregory Gillespie shows paintings in *Demons and Paradise*. Through Jan. 17. • Stuart H. Williams shows works on paper. Through Jan. 17.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm.* •A local-artists showcase is ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •*Sydney Hurwitz: Etchings* shows Jan. 15-Feb. 21.

Perrin Gallery
320A Harvard St., Brookline (617-277-4357). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Brendan Killian shows paintings and drawings. Through Jan. 17.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm.* •Hideaki Miyamura shows his pottery in *Risk and Discovery*, and Gunnar Norrman shows his drawings in *The Rhythm of Light*. Jan. 12-Feb. 9.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery has an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •The gallery displays photographs by Sebastiao Salgado and Lewis Wickes Hine. Jan. 8-Feb. 21.

The Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm.* •*Domesticated Animals*, a group show of mixed-media works, displays through Jan. 18.

Soprafina Gallery
99 Beacon St., Somerville (617-498-0999). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm; •*vARieTy Exhibition*, a group show of glass, ceramics, paintings and watercolors, displays through Jan. 17.

Victoria Munroe Fine Art
59 Beacon St., Boston (617-523-0661). www. munroefineart.com. *MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm and by appointment.* •*Small Epiphanies*, a group show of small paintings and drawings, displays Jan. 15-Feb. 14.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www. vosegalleries.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •*Realism Now: Traditions and Departures, Mentors and Protegées* is a group show of works by contemporary realist painters and sculptors. Through Jan. 17.

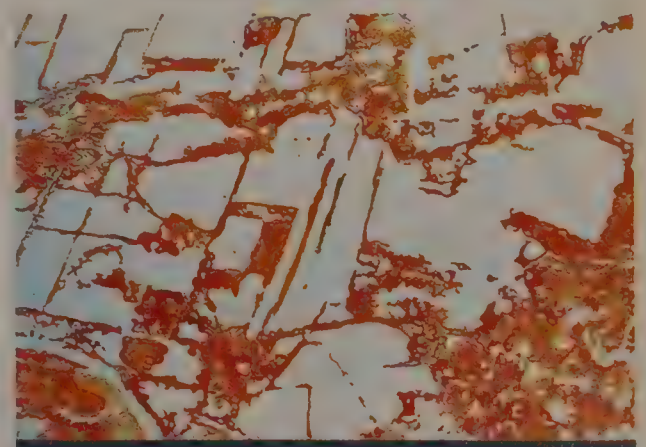
William Scott Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-542-4030). www. williamscottgallery.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm.* •Chet Jones shows paintings. Through Jan. 13.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www. griffinmuseum.org. *MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5.* •*Hard Boys and Bad Girls*, photographs of aspiring professional wrestlers by Thomas McGovern, shows through Jan. 15. •*10th Juried Exhibition* features the winning photographs from the show. Through Feb. 27.

New England School of Photography
Gallery One, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-437-1868). www.nesop.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm.* •*Workshop Show* displays through Jan. 30.

Panopticon Gallery
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Commuter Rail to Waltham. www.panopt.com. *Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm.* •Bradford Washburn shows his aerial photographs in *Colossal*. Jan. 10-Feb. 28.


Beth Brideau's *3100' #7*, at NAO Project Gallery

books & poetry

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to books @improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 7

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free.* **Tom Franklin** reads from his novel *Hell at the Breech*, about a group of 1890s Southern sharecroppers who begin a terror spree after one of their friends is killed.

THURSDAY, JAN. 8

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. *MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free.* **Ellen Waterston** reads from her memoir, *Then There Was No Mountain*, about her struggle to decide whether to send her drug-addicted daughter to a wilderness survival program.

McIntyre and Moore Books
255 Elm St., Somerville (617-628-2313). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 5 pm. Free. Poets **Doug Holder, Richard Wilhelm, Robert K. Johnson, Linda Haviland Conte, Jennifer Matthews** and **Marc Goldfinger** read from their work to celebrate the 14th issue of Ibbetson Street Press's poetry magazine. The reading is followed by an open-mike session.

Newtonville Books
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free.* **Al Blanchard** reads from his novel *Crucial Judgment*, about a member of a hung jury who sets out to prove the defendant's innocence.



David Baron reads Jan. 15.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Poet and novelist **Joseph Torra** reads.

FRIDAY, JAN. 9

Boston Public Library
Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10 am. Free pass required.* The Seussentennial Imagination Tour celebrates the memory of **Theodor Geisel**'s memory with live performances based on the life, words and art of Dr. Seuss. Events include readings of Dr. Seuss books, an Interactive Imagination Workshop, costumed characters and more.

SATURDAY, JAN. 10

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5 pm. Poets **Karen Weiser** and **Jim Behrle** read from their work.

SUNDAY, JAN. 11

McIntyre & Moore Booksellers
255 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-4840). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 5 pm. Free. Ibbetson Street Press hosts a poetry reading to celebrate the release of its 14th poetry journal. Local poets **Dorian Brooks, Robbie Gamble, Lyn Lifshin, David Surette, Marc Goldfinger, Jennifer Matthews, Linda Haviland Conte, Sara Medinger** and **Melissa Shook** read.

MONDAY, JAN. 12

Arsenal Center for the Arts
The Commander's Mansion, Arsenal on the Charles, 440 Talcott Ave., Watertown (617-923-0100). www.arsenalarts.org. *7:30 pm. Free.* Poet **Fred Marchant** and author and editor **DeWitt Henry** read from their work and discuss the craft of writing.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. *MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free.* **Azar Nafisi** reads from her new memoir, *Reading Lolita in Tehran*, which tells how Nafisi and seven of her students found temporary escape from the trials of their daily lives in Iran by secretly meeting to read literature.

TUESDAY, JAN. 13

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass.Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.bkstore.com/harvard. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free.* **Valerie Hurley** reads from her novel *St. Ursula's Girls Against the Atomic Bomb*, about an 18-year-old girl who starts a group to discourage evil in the world and bring peace.

Newtonville Books
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free.* **Peter Manseau** and **Jeff Sharlet** discuss their book *Killing the Buddha: A Heretic's Bible*, which combines their writings on American religious culture with new, imagined books of the Bible written by 13 other authors, including Rick Moody, Peter Trachtenberg and Haven Kimmel.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 14

Boston Public Library
Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. **Douglas Brinkley** discusses his new book, *Tour of Duty: John Kerry and the Vietnam War*, an account of Kerry's naval career.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. *MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free.* **Doctor Jerome Groopman** reads from his memoir, *The Anatomy of Hope*, an exploration of the way hope affects one's capacity to cope with serious illness.

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. Free.* **Douglas Brinkley** discusses his new book, *Tour of Duty: John Kerry and the Vietnam War.*

THURSDAY, JAN. 15

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.bkstore.com/harvard. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free.* **Mohammed El-Nawawy** discusses the book he co-wrote, *Al-Jazeera: The Story of the Network That Is Rattling Governments and Redefining Modern Journalism*, which offers a look at the all-Arab news network and its controversial role in the Arab world.

Newtonville Books
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free.* **David Baron** reads from his book *The Beast in the Garden: A Modern Parable of Man and Nature*, a true account of problems caused by encroaching mountain lions in a small town near Boulder, Colo.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 6:30 pm. Free.* Historian **Stephen Puleo** discusses his book, *Dark Tide: The Great Boston Molasses Flood of 1919*, about a molasses tank collapse in the North End that killed many Bostonians.

Spontaneous Celebrations
45 Danforth. St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.spontaneouscelebrations.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7 pm. Free.* Poets **Judah Dorring, Talia Kingsbury, Aliza Shapiro, Taryn Levitt, N. R.Nangeroni, Susan Wolf, J*me, Letta Neely, atul Hannan, Flynn May, Michelle Brennan, Ja Friedman, Mal, Renee C. Farster, Alicia Gorar Jess Dugan** and **Raquel Evita Seidel** read from work to celebrate the publication of *Pinned Do Pronouns*, the newest book from Conviction Bool

FRIDAY, JAN. 16

Newtonville Books
The Attic, Union Street Bar, 107R Union St., N ton Center (617-244-6619). www.newtonbooks.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Newton tre. 7:30 pm. Free.* Rock 'n' Roll Will Save Life features authors **Steve Almond, Jen Trynin, Parrish** and **Brett Milano** reading from their w and a musical performance by Boris McCutcheo

TUESDAY, JAN. 20

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). w brooklinebooksmith.com. *MBTA: C Green Li Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free.* **Howard Spivak,** England Medical Center's chief of general pedia and adolescent medicine, and **Deborah Proth Stith**, professor at the Harvard School of P Health, read from *Murder Is No Accident*, a they co-wrote that examines teen violence.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). w newtonvillebooks.com. *MBTA: D Green Li Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free.* **Valerie Hu** reads from her novel, *St. Ursula's Girls Agains Atomic Bomb.* See Jan. 13 Harvard Coop listin a book description. Also, **Nicole Louise Reid** r from her novel *In the Breeze of Passing Thing* which a Southern girl and her family flee t their mentally ill father.

Ongoing

Amazon Poetry Slam (Last Sunday)
Milky Way, 403-405 Center St., Jamaica Plain (524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Bro pm. $7. The Last Sunday of every month, Milky Way hosts the all-women Amazon P Slam.

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge ho poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Harvard Square Coop (Sundays)
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-20 MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. Hear other Boston-area poets are doing; every Sunda Harvard Coop hosts a poetry exchange on Level

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway (Tuesdays)
255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). w jimmytingle.com. *$10. 8 pm.* Eight local p perform their own work in a two-hour theat show on the third Tuesday of the month.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). v poetryjam.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. P jam, 7:30 pm; poetry slam, 9 pm, $6.* At the po slam, the Jeff Robinson Trio plays background t for the featured poet of the week.

O'Brien's Pub (Mondays)
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBT Green Line to Harvard Ave. 9 pm. O'Brien's pres a mix of rock and spoken word one Mond month. The performers are all predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry (Saturdays
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Lin Central. 8 pm. $3. Every Saturday is po night—the evening is titled Open Bark—a spoken-word event takes place on the fo Saturday of each month.

Stone Soup Poetry Night (Monday
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Camb (617-227-0845). MBTA: Red Line to Central. pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have weekly readings.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursd
Borders Boston, 10-24 School St., Boston (617- 4995). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downt Crossing. 6:30 pm. Free. The second Thursda each month offers a selection of featured poets an opportunity for others to take the open mik

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education

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THURSDAY, JAN. 8
Gallery Talks
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 6 pm. Free with museum admission ($15). **Sue Reed** leads a curatorial talk on engraver Jacques Callot (1592-1635).

Thursday Morning Talks
Holy Trinity Armenian Church, 145 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-0632). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 11 am. $15. **Alex Jones**, Pulitzer Prize–winning journalist and director of the Shorenstein Center on the Press, Politics and Public Policy at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, speaks about freedom of speech in a time of war.

SUNDAY, JAN. 11
Gallery Talks
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 2 pm. Free with museum admission ($15). **Barbara Martin** lectures on Egyptian burials.

In Rembrandt's Studio
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 1 and 3 pm. Free. Conservator **Phoebe Dent Well** and painter and printmaker **Sarah Belchetz-Swensen** discuss the drawing and painting techniques of Rembrandt and other artists of the 17th century.

MONDAY, JAN. 12
Making a Career Resolution?
Hebrew College, 160 Herrick Road, Newton Centre (617-451-8147, ext. 3117). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 7-9 pm. $10. Presented by Young Jewish Women Professionals, this workshop features discussions on graduate school, work/life balance and interview skills and more.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 14
Gallery Talks
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 6 pm. Free with museum admission ($15). **Chris Atkins** speaks on Dutch interiors in the age of Vermeer.

The Next Generation of Information and Communication Technologies
Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-589-0419). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. 7 pm. Free. Could hydrogen replace oil or natural gas? Does "information revolution" translate into more knowledge—or more confusion? How do we build machines smaller than the eye can see? **William Durgan**, **Brian King** and **William Michalson** discuss the future of information and communication technologies.

THURSDAY, JAN. 15
Genealogical Workshops
Regional Archives Building, 380 Trapelo Road, Waltham (866-406-2379). 1:30 pm. Free. Learn about boat passenger lists and Canadian border crossings.

Science Journalism and Related Fields
MIT, Building 4, Room 237, 182 Memorial Drive, Cambridge (617-253-4733). www.events.mit.edu. 3 pm. Free. Panelists with careers in science journalism discuss their work and answer questions about how to develop a career in science writing, broadcast journalism or technical writing.

Thursday Morning Talks
Holy Trinity Armenian Church, 145 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-0632). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 11 am, reception at 10:15 am. $15. **Benjamin Zander**, conductor of the Boston Philharmonic, speaks on the art of possibility.

FRIDAY, JAN. 16
Time and Sequence in the Brain: Insights from a Songbird
MIT, Whitehead Institute, McGovern Auditorium, 9 Cambridge Center, Cambridge (617-324-0483). http://events.mit.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 12:30 pm. Free. The Biological Frontiers Seminar Series presents **Dr. Michale S. Fee**, associate professor of neuroscience in MIT's Department of Brain & Cognitive Science.

SATURDAY, JAN. 17
Studio Furniture Symposium
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 9 am-5 pm. $15-$25. Contemporary furniture makers whose work is featured in the exhibition *The Maker's Hand* discuss the evolution of the studio furniture movement from 1940 to 1990.

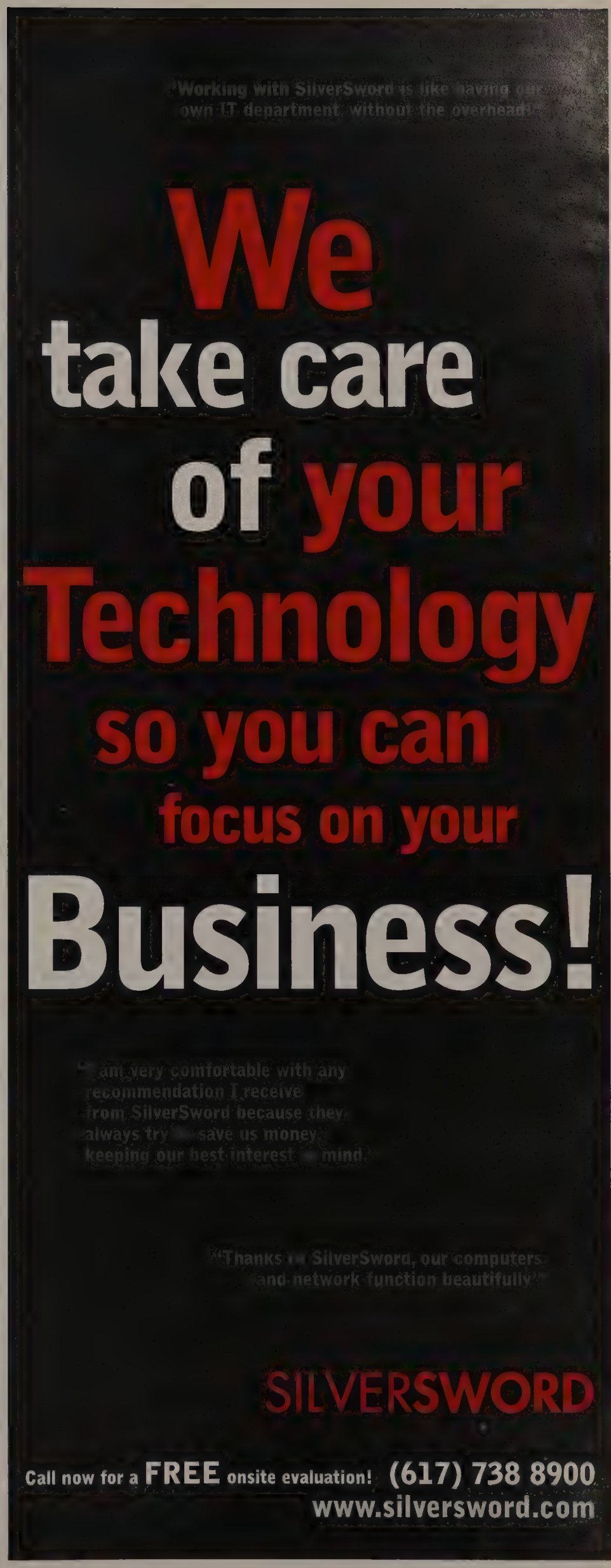


Alex Jones, director of the Shorenstein Center at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, speaks Jan. 8.

MONDAY, JAN. 19
Civil Rights Photographers
John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (877-616-4599). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 2-2:30 pm. Award-winning photojournalist **Charles Moore** chronicled many of the milestones in the Civil Rights movement for *Life* magazine. **Benedict Fernandez** met Martin Luther King Jr. in 1967 and began documenting King's public and private moments in the final year of King's life. In this slide show presentation moderated by *Eyes on the Prize* producer Callie Crossley, both men share their photographs and personal stories from this period.

Photographing the Civil Rights Movement: A First-Person Perspective
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 11 am. Free. Photojournalist **Ernest C. Withers** discusses his experiences with and his images of the people he has traveled with, including Martin Luther King, Medgar Evers and James Meredith.

TUESDAY, JAN. 20
IAP Usability
MIT, Building 2, Room 131, 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-324-0877). http://events.mit.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 1 pm. Free. Learn how to create a user-friendly Web site.



gay & lesbian

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Submit information, including telephone numbers and nearest T-stop, by fax (617-859-1446) or mail, or e-mail gaylesbian@improper.com.

Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley at 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am.; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's new leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 10 pm, $5 for 19 and 20, free for 21+. DJ John Morris spins progressive house for Lust, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $15, 21+. For 20 years, these folks have cranked out Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. Enjoy three separate dance floors plus drag acts. Rotating DJs spin house.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show, and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+.* On Saturdays, Buzz's two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—pool room and lounge keep the men busy until 2 am.

CityGirl Caffé (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-9 pm; Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-4 pm. This small, laid-back café in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated, draws a mixed gay/hetero crowd for lounging and sandwiches. Brunch is served every weekend.

Club Café and Moonshine Bar (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+.* This South End spot draws a dressy bunch for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Wednesdays, join VJ Cliff Cunningham. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Cliff Cunningham.

Diesel Café (Daily)
257 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-8717). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Mon.-Thu. 7 am-midnight, Fri., 7 am-1 am, Sat., 8 am-1 am, Sun., 8 am-12 am. All ages. Diesel is a popular place for GLBT people to go for coffee and snacks.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3 pm-2 am; Sat., 1 pm-2 am; Sun., 12 pm-2 am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This quiet, friendly neighborhood bar starts hopping as it gets closer to 2 am.

Fritz Lounge (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 12 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. TV sets show satellite sports broadcasts, and Fritz is home base to a softball league. Brunch is served until 3:30 pm on weekends.

Here at 711 Boylston (Tuesdays)
711 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5502). www.hereboston.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 9 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+.* Boston's Tuesday night gay dance party features and disco and pop.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. *$8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am.* This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Patrons relax with a friendly crowd and mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm, $6. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. *10 pm, $6 weekdays; $8 weekends, 21+. $6-$8.* On the second Friday of the month is the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground. The typical lineup features singer Leah Callahan with guest musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Tuesdays, Thursdays-Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 12 pm-2 am. •Wed.: Game Nite hosted by either Diamond Dunhill or Rainbow Frite, 10 pm, no cover. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition with PJ McWhiskers. •Fri.: Best Night Out with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Machine with DJ Brad Gwynn playing house music. 10 pm-2 am, $7, 21+. •Tue.: Service Industry Night with DJ Afrodite.

ManRay (Wednesdays-Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am.* Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 19+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. $12, 19+; $8, 21+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: New Wave Dance Party with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. $12, 19+; $8, 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). www.dykenight.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. 9 pm-2 am. $5, 21+.* On Thursday nights, the Midway hosts Kristen Porter's Dyke Night, with rotating DJs, pool and dancing.

Milky Way Lounge (Sundays)
401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+.* Candyland night is for gay men and women, transgendered persons and their allies. Live entertainment includes Fireballs Drag Bingo, spoken-word events and jazz. A dance party hosted by resident DJ Jamila caps off the evening. •Every Sunday there is free bowling with dinner. On the last Sunday of every month, the Milky Way presents the all-women Amazon Poetry Slam, a popular lesbian event. 8 pm, 7:30 pm sign-up, $7.

Night Games (Fridays)
Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000). www.circuitgirl.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan. 10 pm, $10, 21+.* Resident DJ Kris Kono pumps the dance tunes at Circuit Girl's Anything Goes night.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). www.paradisecambridge.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+.* Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Thu.: Fire and Ice with DJ Dan Leavey. •Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music. •Mon.: Pool tournament and pizza. •Tue: DJ Scott Thinsdale.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7673). Members-only club; visitors must be accompanied by a member. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs. Members: $10; guests: $20.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music pumps, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Vapor (Wednesdays-Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-422-0862). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adilson. 19+. •Thu.: The Music Factory with DJ Pauli Paul and DJ Ron Stele spinning hip-hop, reggae and funk. $5 before 11, $2 after 11, 21+. •Fri.: Inner Circle. $10, 21+. •Sat.: Evolution with DJ Jay Ine. •Sun.: T-Dance party with DJ Danae grooving to local, tribal, and house while DJ Niterain spins classic oldies. 21+.


Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo runs Jan. 16-18.

Books

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). www.calamusbooks.com. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-7 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm.* Boston's bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered people.

We Think the World of You Bookstore
540 Tremont St., Boston (617-574-5000). www.wethinktheworldofyou.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon., 11:30 am-5:30 pm; Tue..-Fri., 10 am-7 pm; Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 11:30-5:30 pm.* This community-centered gay and lesbian bookstore stocks literature, art books, DVDs and videos.

Shows & Events

Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.celebrityseries.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Jan. 16, 7:30 pm; Jan. 17, 8 pm; Jan. 18, 3 pm. $37-$52.* The Trocks, a group of male ballet dancers, perform female roles such as swans, princesses and Victorian ladies in *Le Lac des Cygnes (Swan Lake, Act II)*, *Le Grand Pas de Quatre* and *Ramona's Wedding.*

First Event 2004
Crowne Plaza Hotel, 2 Forbes Road, Woburn (781-932-0999). www.tcne.org/events/FirstEvent/index.html. *Jan. 14-18. Reservations required.* The Tiffany Club of New England holds its 24th annual First Event, a weekend of workshops and seminars for transgendered and transsexual people. Daytime activities include instructional seminars and makeovers. Nighttime activities include pool parties, fashion shows, performances, music, dancing and cocktail parties. Contact the Tiffany Club at *firstevent@tcne.org* for more information.

***Pinned Down by Pronouns* Book Release Party**
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth. St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). Jan. 15, 7 pm. Free. Poets Judah Dorrington, Talia Kingsbury, Aliza Shapiro, Taryn Levitt, Nancy R. Nangeroni, Susan Wolf, J*me, Letta Neely, Amatul Hannan, Flynn May, Michelle Brennan, Jaclyn Friedman, Mal, Renee C. Farster, Alicia Goranson, Jess Dugan and Raquel Evita read from their work to celebrate the publication of *Pinned Down by Pronouns*, a new book edited by feminist poets Toni Amato and Mary Davies.

Ongoing

Atención Latina Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (800-834-3242). www.fenwayhealth.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.* FCH collaborates with the Elizabeth Stone House to provide this safe, confidential space to discuss healthy relationships, domestic violence and other issues.

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. *MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. Wednesdays, 6-9 pm.* The Boston Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered and Questioning Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown South G/L Bowling Leagu
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-88 1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Bost (617-927-6032). www.fenwayhealth.org. *MBT Green Line to Hynes. 7 pm.* This group meets t second Tuesday of every month for a discussion wi bisexual and bi-curious men.

Bi Rap
The Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant S Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tuesday the month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

BOSS
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Bost (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. *MBT Green Line to Hynes. 6-8 pm.* This group for gay a bisexual men of color meets the last Thursday each month to discuss culture, lifestyle, creativi and health.

Boston Bay Blades
www.bayblades.org/boston. All are welcome to jo this competitive, recreational group of rowers a scullers.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. *Tue. 7 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Sy phony.* The league comprises gay and lesbian playe and their friends.

Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers
First Church of Jamaica Plain, corner of Centre and El Streets, Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.or *Every Wed., 7:30 pm, $8.* Square-dancing and En lish country dancing lessons are available for le bians, gays, bisexuals and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-424-8990). www.bgbl.com. The league offers full regular season and playoff schedule each year.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBT Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm, Fri, 3 pm. The center provides social activities for que tioning young people, ages 13-25.

Boston Ironsides Rugby Football Clu
Moakley Field, South Boston (617-524-5814 MBTA: Red Line to JFK. Rugby players of any leve age, race and orientation are welcome to play. The are a variety of events and matches taking pla throughout the fall.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston. www.lesbia avengers.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Thu., 7 pm.* This bi- and transsexual-friendly direct-action p litical group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/b *MBTA: Orange Line to Green St. Wednesdays, 7 pm* A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org. This 1,40 member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
(617-417-0876). Third Saturday of the month, 10:3 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian an Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support an activities and holds a concurrent meeting for inte ested parents and their partners. For info, e-ma medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center, at the Boston Livi Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-9595) www.biresource.org. *MBTA: Orange Line to Bac Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm free.* An informal group for people who think the may be bisexual or attracted to more than one sex.

oming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, isexual, Transgender and uestioning People

17-256-8693). This group welcomes those who nt to discuss the challenges and the joys of com- g out. It meets Thursday nights, 7-8:30 pm, in ambridge.

ompass

81-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area pport, information, and social group for people as- ned female at birth who feel that is not an accu- e or complete description of their gender. Part of e FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group meets nthly. E-mail *CompassFTM@usa.com* for details.

ontroversy Thursday

atrix (B Room), 275 Tremont St. (lower level of xyplex), Boston (617-542-4077). Certain Thurs- ys (call for details), $8, no sneakers. This gay and dance party features DJ John Morris at 10 pm.

osmetically Correct

isa Restaurant, 439 Tremont St., Boston. MBTA: *een Line to Arlington. First Fridays, 6:30 pm, free.* his social group for lipstick lesbians meets on the st Friday of each month. Lipstick encouraged. E- il M.*Antoinette@ididitmyway.com* for info.

agger

17-621-6090). The Theater Offensive's guerrilla eater group, Dagger, gathers on Wednesdays from pm to create performances representing men's perspectives. For more information, e- il dagger@theateroffensive.org.

ie Down Low

nway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. 17-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: *een Line to Hynes. Last Friday of the month. 7-9 pm.* discussion group for gay and bisexual men of color address heritage, lifestyle, culture and health.

ast Coast Wrestling Club

01-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www.east stwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay male stlers has more than 160 members.

legant Outings

6-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This up welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional men 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and so- sticated to get together with like-minded women conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Explore Gender in a Safe Place

Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes.* An ongoing support group for people born into female bodies or who have grown up being viewed as biologically female.

FLAG Flag Football

www.flagflagfootball.com. *Saturday mornings.* Join Boston's GLBT Flag Football League for a casual spring season, followed by a formal fall season. All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston

Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). Sat., 10 am. All are welcome to join this running club.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline

(617-267-9001 or 888-340-4528). Mon.-Fri., 6-11 pm; Sat. and Sun., 5-10 pm. This toll-free hotline is confidential and provides support for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning callers.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston

The First Parish Church in Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month, 8-10 pm. $2.

GayLab

www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Professionals Building Community

(617-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to join this business-networking organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered professionals.

Gaymes Group

(508-339-4250). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians. Members get together on a regular basis to play board, card and parlor games.

Gender Questioning Group

Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes.* Biological males meet on Monday evenings. The groups are moderated by psychologist Randi Kaufman.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color

Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: *Red Line to Central.* This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday from 10:30 am-12 pm.

Girlz 2 Girlz

(617-482-1078 ext. 277). This mentoring program for girls aged 13-19 who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered or questioning meets the second and fourth Friday of each month, 6-8 pm. Contact Jayms Battaglia.

GLBT Seniors

Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6272). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes. Mondays.* Support group for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered seniors ages 60 and over.

HIV Counseling and Testing

Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes.* Anonymous HIV testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

LGBT Considering Parenting Group

Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes.* A short-term (eight-week) group for LGBT persons who are considering becoming parents. Sliding fee scale available. Call for information.

Liquid Assets Swimming

www.swim-lanes.org. *Tue., Wed. and Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings.* This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

Meow Boston

groups.yahoo.com/group/Meow_Boston. This social group caters to feminine bisexual women and lesbians in the Boston community. For women 21+.

The Network/La Red

(617-427-7233). The Network is a support group working to end abuse in lesbian, bisexual women's and transgender communities. E-mail *info@the networklared.org* for more information.

Out to Dance

(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston

This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s. E-mail *twentysomethingsboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.*

Peer Listening Line

(800-399-7337). Trained GLBT volunteers provide confidential information, referrals and support.

The Rainbow Cafe

rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social group for activist, academic, intellectual or artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments.

Slice of Rice

Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes. Wed., 6-7 pm.* This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin

The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail *somoslatinos lgbt@hotmail.com* for more information.

Support Group for HIV-Negative Gay and Bisexual Men

7 Haviland St., Boston (617-967-6231). MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes. First three Tuesdays of each month, 6-8 pm.* Discuss new safe-sex practices and strategies for managing risk and communicating with sexual partners.

Support Group for Lesbians with Cancer

Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes. Wed. evenings, once a month. Free.* For those who want to discuss the impact of this disease on their lives.

Swingtime Boston

Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: *C Green Line to Washington Street. First Saturday of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing, $8.* Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered community.

Wonder Women Boston

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. WWB is a social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s. It meets the first Thursday of every month.

A great Mexican taqueria

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The Best Burrito in Boston

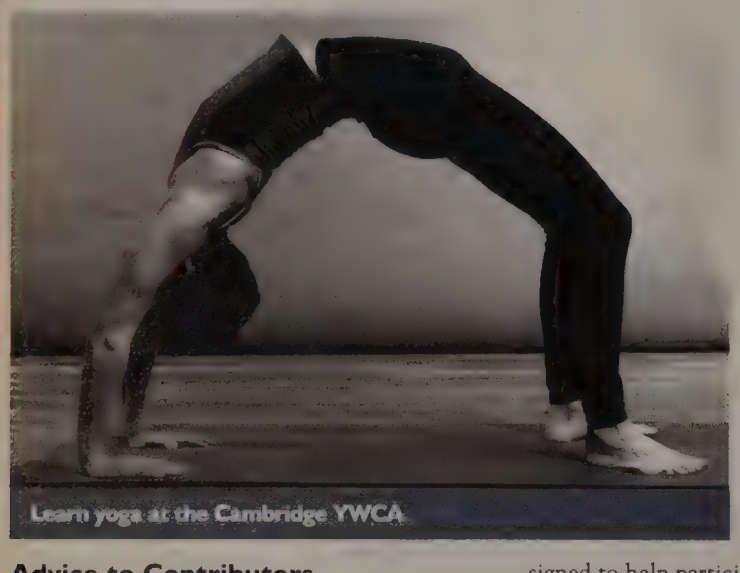
BEST OF BOSTON

BURRITOS
TACOS
ENCHILADAS
QUESADILLAS

3 Locations:
1728 Mass Ave., Cambridge, 617.354.7400
149 First St., Cambridge, 617.354.5550
1294 Beacon St., Brookline, 617.739.3900



body & mind


Learn yoga at the Cambridge YWCA

Advice to Contributors
Submit information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Dances of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767 or 617-491-8694). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Jan. 16, 7:30-9:30 pm. Requested donation, $6-10. Join hands in simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honoring the spiritual traditions of the world. Everyone welcome. All dances are taught and are accompanied by live music.

Dharma Film: Shadowlands
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. Jan. 9, 7pm. $10. Co-sponsored with the Institute for Meditation & Psychotherapy, this film series explores mind and spirit in the cinema. This evening's feature is *Shadowlands*, a film based on the real-life romance between Oxford scholar C.S. Lewis and poet Joy Gresham. The film is followed by refreshments and a moderated discussion.

Drum and Dance Saturday
Earth Drum Council, First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (978-371-2502). www.earthdrum.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Jan. 17, 8-11:30 pm. $6. Bring drums, spoons, tambourines and clapping hands for this day of dance and percussion.

Fetish Fair Fleamarket
Park Plaza Hotel, 64 Arlington St., Boston (617-426-2000). www.nla-newengland.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Jan. 9-11. $10. Hosted by the New England Leather Alliance, this biannual event brings together shopping, erotic art, sex education and activism.

Open House
Earthsong Yoga Center, 186 Main St., Marlboro (508-480-8884). www.earthsongyoga.com. Jan. 13, 7:30 pm. Free. Learn about the classes held here, such as kundalini yoga for weight loss or hypnotherapy for smoking cessation.

Water Supply Protection Talk
Veggie Planet Restaurant at Club Passim, 47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-824-4225 or 617-492-5300). http://boston.earthsave.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Jan. 11, 3 pm (doors open at 2:30 pm). Free ($10 for dinner). Mike Davis, an advocate with the Clean Water Fund/Clean Water Action, speaks about what activists, community organizations and the EPA are doing locally and nationally to protect public drinking water from pollution.

Classes

High Frequency Yoga for Women
Carmela Cattuti, 151 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-970-5320). www.yogame.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Jan. 17, 10-12 pm. $45. This class focuses on working the abdominal muscles and demonstrates techniques for increasing stamina and transforming negative thought patterns. Beginners welcome.

Intro to Reiki Energy Healing
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (781-648-9334 or 617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Jan. 14, 6-7:30 pm. Free. Learn about this ancient healing art that is intended to reduce stress, relieve pain and facilitate personal growth.

Mindfulness Meditation Program
Christine's Day Spa, 1280 Centre St., Suite 6, Newton Centre (617-928-0932 or 617-928-0811). www.christinesdayspa.com. Jan. 18-Mar. 7: every Sun., 5:30-7 pm, and Feb. 28, 1-5 pm. $299, includes class and materials. This eight-week program is modeled after the stress reduction clinic at the University of Massachusetts Medical School and is designed to help participants learn to listen to their bodies' needs, stay in the present moment and develop a sense of inner calm. Meditation techniques are also taught.

Reiki Energy Healing Clinic
Arlington Reiki Associates, 366 Mass Ave, #304, Arlington (781-648-9334). www.arlingtonreiki.com. Jan. 9, 6:30-9:30 pm. $10. Come experience a relaxing Reiki energy healing treatment.

Skills to Get Organized in the New Year
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 90 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circlesofwisdom.com. Jan. 14, 7:15-9:15pm. $25. Deal with your 2004 to-do list using skills learned from Pamela Kristan's book *The Spirit of Getting Organized.* Learn to create systems in tune with your soul and how to pare down to what you really need.

Yoga Nidra
In the Moment Wellness Center, 106 Access Road, Norwood (781-762-9281). www.inthemoment.org. Jan. 13, 7:45-8:30 pm. $10. Yoga Nidra, also known as yogic sleep, uses guided imagery, body awareness and breathing techniques with the goal of pursuing holistic relaxation. This practice may help develop memory and increase mental capacity and creativity.

Ongoing

Beginner's Meditation
Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tues., 6-7:15 pm. Free. This class offers novices a chance to try meditation in a soothing setting.

Empowerment Classes
Prana Power Yoga, 282 Centre St., Newton (617-641-9642). www.pranapoweryoga.com. Mon., 12 pm. Free. This is a gathering to discuss eating concerns, body image and exercise and to provide group support for those who struggle with food and eating disorders.

Restorative Yoga
Karma Yoga Studio, 1132 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-547-9642). www.karmayogastudio.com. Thurs., 10:30-11:45 am. $12 per class. Appropriate for those recovering from injury, surgery or illness, this class focuses on restoring the body to a natural, healthy state through postures, stretching and gentle motion.

Yoga for Fitness of Body, Mind & Spirit
YWCA, 7 Temple St. Cambridge (781-648-0722). www.innerfocusyoga.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central Sq. Tues., 7:30-8:45 pm. Suggested donation: $10. Certified Kripalu yoga instructor Dee Greenberg teaches participants to strengthen, stretch and relax the body and mind using basic hatha yoga and breathing techniques.

Yoga/Newton
The Green Planet, 22 Lincoln St, Newton Highlands (617-320-9792). www.thegreenplanet.com. Sun., 9-10:30 am. $16/class. Or at Myrtle Church, 21 Curve St, West Newton (617-320-9792). Wed., 6-7:15 pm. $12/class. This yoga class is designed to help participants develop movement awareness to improve balance, strength and flexibility.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Deadline is four weeks before publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Home Games

Boston Bruins
•FleetCenter, Boston
Tickets: 617-931-2000
Jan. 8, 7 pm vs. Pittsburgh Penguins
Jan. 10, 1 pm vs. Detroit Red Wings
Jan. 12, 7 pm vs. Buffalo Sabres
Jan. 19, 1 pm vs. New York Rangers

Boston Celtics
•FleetCenter, Boston
Tickets: 800-462-2849
Jan. 7, 7 pm vs. Orlando Magic
Jan. 9, 7:30 pm vs. Cleveland Cavaliers
Jan. 14, 7 pm vs. Houston Rockets
Jan. 18, 12:30 pm vs. San Antonio Spurs

Events

Greater Boston Track Club Invitational
Gordon Indoor Track Facility, Harvard University, Allston (617-282-5537). www.gbtc.org. Jan. 18. 10 am-4 pm. College, club and masters athletes compete at this annual event. Runners of all abilities welcome.

To Play

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

BSSC Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Brookline and Dedham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333) www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers amateur Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

FENCING

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLOOR HOCKEY

BSSC Coed Floor Hockey
Leagues are held in Newton and Brighton (617-789-4070, ext. 238). www.bssc.com. All levels, individuals and teams are welcome.

FOOTBALL

BSSC Coed Indoor Flag Football
Games are played in Brighton. (617-789-4070, ext. 242). Sign up individually or with a group of friends.

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.com. *Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton.* New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. *Tue.-Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays.* New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bosthash.com. *Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round.* If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, then consider joining these self-proclaimed "serious drinkers with a running problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. *Weekly runs on Friday nights, 6 pm.*

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Run
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. *Weekly runs on Thursday nights, 7 pm.*

VFW Logan Post 3.223-Miler
VFW James Logan Post, 1192 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org/BAEvent. Logan. *Weekly runs followed by pizza and Harpoon beer on Thursday nights, 7:10 pm.*

SKATING

Bay State Skating School
Various area MDC rinks (781-890-8480). www.baystateskatingschool.org. *Check Web site for schedules. $108.50 for a seven-week class.* Skating classes for adults and children teach the fundamentals using either figure skates or hockey skates.

SOCCER

BSSC Indoor Soccer
(617-789-4070). Teams forming now. Games played in Charlestown, Cambridge, Brighton, Reading and Canton. Individuals and teams are welcome.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed teams forming in Cambridge, Watertown, Brookline and Newton. Teams and individuals are welcome to set and spike their way to glory.

WOMEN'S FLAG FOOTBALL

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Saturday mornings. Teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-868-8379). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels. Weekly practices held year-round.


Glen Murray and the Bruins take the ice against the Pittsburgh Penguins Jan. 8

BE INSPIRED BY THE BEST.

Swami Asokananda
Baron Baptiste
Barbara Benagh
Mitchel Bleier
Maty Ezraty
Donna Farhi
Lilias Folan
Gessner Geyer
Ann Greene
Julie Gudmestad
Gary Kraftsow
Judith Hanson Lasater
Cyndi Lee
Sudha Carolyn Lundeen
Timothy McCall
Chuck Miller
Kelly Morris
Todd Norian
Aadil Palkhivala
Shiva Rea
Natasha Rizopoulos
Halé Sofia Schatz
Sianna Sherman
Rod Stryker
Patricia Walden
Rodney Yee

CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR TEACHERS

Tuesday, April 20–Thursday, April 22

ALL-DAY INTENSIVE WORKSHOPS

Friday, April 23

MAIN CONFERENCE

Saturday, April 24–Sunday, April 25

PLUS A MINI-CONFERENCE

Graceful Passages:
Yoga for Women at Midlife

THE YOGA JOURNAL BOSTON CONFERENCE

yoga JOURNAL CONFERENCES

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Things to See

Cirque Eloize Nomade: At Night the Sky Is Endless
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-931-2787). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 7:30 pm; Sun., 1 and 6 pm. Jan. 20-25. $25-$57. Cirque Eloize combines theater with acrobatic performances, poetry and circus thrills. The company is made up of artists who dance, sing, juggle and tumble.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1600). www.jfklibrary.org. *MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Jan. 19, 10:30 am. Free.* The Crabtree Puppet Theater presents African folktales featuring Anansi the Spider.

Kids Variety Show
Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-738-6533). www.coolidge.kidsshow.info. *MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Sat., 10:30 am. $10, $8 children.* •Jan. 10: The film *Muppets from Space* is an adventure in which the Muppets search for Gonzo's past. •Jan. 17: *The Jim Show* features high-energy physical comedy.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. *MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50. Reservations recommended.* •Jan. 7, 10:30 am, ages 3-6: *Moccasin Stew* tells the story of Coyote, who is always outwitted by the creatures he wants to eat. •Jan. 8, 10:30 am, ages 3-6: In *Bingo the Circus Dog*, Bingo is kidnapped, and his owner sets out on an adventure to find him. •Jan 10-11, 1 and 3 pm, ages 5-9: In *Fairy Tales of the Bros. Grimy*, a janitor uses sponges, mops and garbage cans to come to the rescue of a puppet show missing its puppeteer. •Jan. 14-15, 10:30 am, ages 3-6: A new twist on *Cinderella* takes place in the land of the Woodland Fairies, where the King wants his son to marry a rare fairy princess. •Jan. 17-18, 1 and 3 pm, ages 4-8: Three farm animals set off to win a singing contest in *The Bremen Town Musicians*.

Things to Do

Borders Books and Music
Cambridgeside Galleria, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Sat., 12 pm.* Staff members read from new and classic storybooks.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8 adults/$7 children.* Check out *Making America's Music: Rhythm, Roots & Rhyme.* Kids can mix hip-hop tunes in the Streetscape, jive in the jazz club and rock at the school dance through hands-on exhibits. •Mon., Wed. and Fri., 11 am-12 pm, ages 3 and under: Shake, wiggle and giggle in *Music and Movement*. •Fri., 3-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2-4 pm: Science activities based on the PBS show ZOOM! •Fri., 7 pm: Participate in Sing-a-Story. •Mon., Tue. and Wed., 11:30 am and 12:30 pm; Thu., 11:30 am; Fri., 11:30 am, 12:30, 6:15 and 7:15 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11:30 am, 12:30, 2:30 and 3:30 pm: Experience the world of performing arts in KidStage. •Sat. and Sun., 10:30 and 11:30 am, 2:30 and 3:30 pm: In the Art Studio.•Jan. 11, 10 am-5 pm: Join the Japanese Society of Boston at the Japanese New Year's celebration, *Oshogatsu*. Interactive activities for families include origami, a Lion Dance, a tea ceremony, Japanese drumming and the Japanese art of candy sculpture. The event kicks off the new exhibit, *Five Friends from Japan: Children in Japan Today*, on view until May 9, which features hands-on lessons about Japanese writing, attire, music and more. •Jan 19: Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration.

Coop Kids
Harvard Coop, 400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Free. •Jan. 10, 11 am: *Snow Day, Katy and the Big Snow* and other snow stories. Stay and make paper snowflakes after the readings. •Jan. 17, 11 am: Listen to stories about Martin Luther King Jr. and then make birthday cards.

Etiquette for Children
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). www.fireplacerest.com. *MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Jan. 14 and Jan 17, 3:30-5 pm. $50 (reservations required).* Etiquette experts from the Proper Manner present a dining etiquette tutorial. Price includes a four-course meal along with instruction.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. $7.50/$5 children. Jan. 17, 9 am-12 pm. Penguins, Parrots and Pelicans* teaches second and third graders about the world of birds. Make a bird craft to take home.

Ice Skating at Frog Pond
Frog Pond, Boston Common, Boston (617-635-2120). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Sun., 10 am-9 pm; Mon., 10 am-5 pm; Tue.-Thu., 10 am-9 pm; Fri.-Sat., 10 am-10 pm. $3, free for children under 14 (not including skate rental). Lace up your skates for a few laps on the ice.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). web.mit.edu/museum. *MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. $5, $1 children.* •*Holography, the Light Fantastic.* The MIT Museum displays the largest collection of holograms in the world and describes the artistic and scientific facets of the medium. •*Robots and Beyond.* Take a look behind the scenes of MIT's artificial intelligence research labs in this interactive exhibit.

Museum of Fine Arts Children's Room
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. $15, free for children 17 and under.* Children ages 6-12 can participate in hands-on art projects. •Jan 12-16: Draped in Dragons: Fibers and Design.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $10 children.* •Sat. and Sun., 11 am-12 pm. The museum's Science Theater Program offers *Animals and Stories Alive!*, featuring professional storytellers who combine folk tales and myths with visits from live animals. •*Magic: The Science of Illusion.* Discover how illusions come together through science, math, psychology and the art of performance at this new exhibition. Through Feb. 22. •Charles Hayden Planetarium: Tue.-Thu., 3:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 3:30 and 7 pm; Sun., 1:30 and 4 pm. Free. Learn to identify the stars, planets, constellations and celestial events during the presentation *The Sky Tonight*. •Gilliland Observatory: Fri., 8:30-10 pm (weather permitting). Free. Use the observatory's two telescopes to find the moon, stars, constellations and planets. •Mugar Omni Theatre, check Web site for show times, $8.50, $6.50 children: *Jane Goodall's Wild Chimpanzees, Space Station* and *To Fly!*. •*Theater of Electricity:* Daily at 12 and 2 pm. The Van de Graaff generator provides a risk-free lightning show.

Museum of Transportation
Larz Anderson Park, 15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). www.mot.org. *Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5.* The Museum of Transportation has a large collection of rare and antique cars as well as exhibits on automobile history. •*The Evolution of Speed* exhibit explores the history of American auto racing with race cars and displays. •*Racing of Our Youth* lets kids explore the world of slot cars, Hot Wheels and soapbox racing with go-carts to climb in, tracks to build and races to compete in. •Daily: Join the Family Scavenger Hunt through the museum and receive a free prize.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617- 796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. *MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. Registration required.* •Jan. 8 and Jan. 15, 7 pm: pajama storytime for children ages 4 and older •Jan. 9 and Jan 16, 10:30 am: Friday morning preschool films •Jan. 13, 3:30 pm: Chinese New Year event. Children learn about this tradition through stories, crafts and edible treats.

Starr Gallery
333 Nahanton St., Newton (617-558-6484). www.lsjcc.org. *MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre, bus to the Gosman Jewish Community Campus.* •Jan. 4-April 11: Mon., Tue. and Thu., 10 am-7 pm; Wed., 12 pm-4 pm; Fri., 10 am-2 pm; and Sun., 12 pm-4 pm. The exhibit *The Power of Puppets: Suspended Reality* includes an assortment of puppets from across the United States, plus an interactive do-it-yourself corner for learning the art of puppeteering.

around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wednesdays (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm, Fri., 10 am-9 pm; June-Aug., daily, 10 am-5 pm, Fri. until 9 pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (617-338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Mon.-Sun., 9:30 am-6 pm. $7.50.

Forest Hills Cemetery
95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-524-0128). www.foresthillstrust.org. *MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. Daily, 7:30 am-sundown. Free.*

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.*

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-2 pm. Free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-8 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-739-1200). www.afroamusem.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10 am-4 pm. $5, $3 students, seniors.*

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $10 seniors and children.*

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5, $3 children.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1, Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.50, $8.50 children.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (617-635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. Tours start at 9 am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. $3.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10 am-4 pm; weekends, 10 am-5 pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $6, $4 seniors.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8 am-6 pm. $3.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). Museum open daily, 10 am-5 pm. Winter ship hours: Thu.-Sun., 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-450-1235). Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their lo treatment appointments.

Big Brothers
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. Be a big brother.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Become friend to a young girl.

Boston Cares
(617-263-2273). More than 70 volunteer opport nities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). A volunteer organization of peo between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). HIV/AIDS organization nee volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events

Call to Action Project
(781-395-8307). datalova@aol.com. Donate qu blocks to be pieced into quilts and placed on auctı to benefit the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AII Foundation.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). Volunteers are needed educate the public about HIV.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support children and adults with developmental disabiliti

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). Help adults living with cancer.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
livmates@rcn.com. Spend your lunch hour reading an elementary school in Cambridge or Somerville

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a chil

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Play with homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

House Rabbit Network
(781-431-1211). Provide foster care for homele rabbits.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). Share your time with an elderly i dividual, mentor children or teach an adult to rea

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusett
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Association for the Blind
(800-852-3029). Read or shop with a blind person

Mass. Substance Abuse Info Helplin
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone wi people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(617-536-3557). Volunteers are needed to assist elde

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

Parental Stress Line
(617-528-5800). Telephone counselors needed.

Pine Street Inn
(617-521-7626). Serve breakfast to homeless gues

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexi
(617-577-1111). Record textbooks in digital forma

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Work at a battered-women's agen

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dini room, clothing room and groceries program at th homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-hour d mestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely pe ple over the phone.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportuniti to volunteer with other young professionals.

StandUp for Kids
(800-365-4543). Help rescue homeless children.

VNA Care Network
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.


Harvard Museum of Natural History

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RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

Searching for Bart

We met you two summers ago at the Cantab one hot night. We danced to Little Joe Cook and then both groups of friends went our separate ways. A few months later, my friend and I ran into you again at Harvard Gardens. You took a fancy to her...and she to you. The glitch? She was in a long-term relationship. Well, she's single now...and still talks about what a cool guy you were. The details we can remember about you: Bart, went to Skidmore, worked for the Fed, lived in the Copley/South End 'hood, wore a Campers/Fat Tire T-shirt (both times we saw you) and had a great sense of humor. She was blond, cute...and was wearing a camouflage shirt (both times we saw you). If you remember her and are interested in meeting up (drinks at the Cantab?), send an e-mail. Thanks from her matchmaking friends.
—goingoutshirt@hotmail.com

Frances

We met in the United Airlines first class lounge at LAX airport in August—on our way back to Boston. I was returning from a trip to Australia. You were returning from a visit with your sister in L.A. and were headed back to Boston to stay with your other sister in the Back Bay area. We talked a bit in LAX and talked some more after we landed in Boston. You were going through a transitional period in your life—but I gave you my phone number on a card from my favorite restaurant in Paris in the event that you needed a friend in Boston. You never called. I still think about you today and hope that we'll bump into each other in the Back Bay, in an airport, etc. Are you still in Boston? If not, I will gladly travel to South Africa to see you again. Please e-mail me if you see this message.
—roadlesstraveled1 @hotmail.com

Irish Pat the Plow Guy

Thank you for saving our asses—literally. They were freezing off while my roommate and I, two twenty-something graduate students, fought to get our little Civic out of the middle of the road. Luckily you came along with your tractor and saved the day. I'm writing this before finally going to bed at 3 am. Without you we would have been there hours longer. Thank you, thank you, thank you! With love and admiration,
—The JP girls

S...

I love the Impersonals and I never thought I would need to write one, but I can't seem to get this girl out of my mind. She seems to be tattooed on my brain. On Friday, Dec. 5, I was at work at a major hotel in the Back Bay. As I walked through the lobby, I saw you greeting your fellow students for the party upstairs, which was for the school of communication at Boston University. I talked to you briefly about the party upstairs and you said I was welcome to go too. I had a white shirt, red tie and black pants. You were beautiful, your name started with an S (yes, I remember it) and you were a junior. Unfortunately, I had to go back to work and I never saw you again. I regret not asking you for your number or if you wanted to get a drink sometime. I would love to get the chance to get to know you better.
—bostonbackbayguy@yahoo.com

Rufus/Lucas? Peabody Snake Lover

I met you in the checkout line of PJ's Pets on Route 1 in Peabody about two months ago. You were buying stuff for your snake, and I was buying stuff for my turtles. We talked inside the store and you followed me out to the parking lot. You asked me out, and it pained me to say no, but at the time I was a taken girl. I'm single now and would love to take you up on your offer if it still stands!
— RhodyTurtleGirl@aol.com

Charlestown Girl

We met at the Teatro on Dec 10. You were sitting at the bar by the window, waiting for a table and for your friends to finish smoking outside. I was the guy in black overcoat, working on my martini and looking for a place to sit and order my dinner. We chatted for a while. You mentioned you worked for Brown Bros. Harriman and lived in Charlestown. Then your friends arrived, having finished their smoke, and your table reservation came through. We said goodbye and you left before I could ask your name. There was something about you that I can't forget and I don't want to spend the rest of my life in regret. It might be Improper to come looking for the No-Name girl at her offices, so I am trying this Impersonal route in the desperate hope that you or one of your friends might notice it somehow. If you do and want to take it further, drop me an e-mail—let's rendezvous at Teatro for an encore and check out the chemistry.
—teatroguy@yahoo.com

Wile E

To the coyote in my parking lot. You: a beautiful thing blocked by a tow truck. Me: a young Jewish doctor wanting to get home. I was up all night on call, and you gave me the energy I needed when you asked me to lunch. Your eyes are amazing. they looked up at me and asked to come to your apartment, I felt wonderful. But I was embarrasse because my place was messy and roommate sometimes gets jealou I declined. I fear this turned you Please know how you changed m life. I think about you all the tim and hope I have not missed my chance with you. I want you to h at my moon, young coyote. I coul feel the sparks between us; don't that die. I did want to go to the sorority party, but I am sometim uncomfortable in social situation with girls. I didn't want to ruin o start. Let's start again. Please ca me. I want to show you how this doctor operates.
—starkymd@yahoo.com

Once, Twice, Three Times a Charm

What started out as an ordinary Saturday (Nov. 22) turned into anything but when you stepped or the train. It was the C Line, and I couldn't help but notice you lookin me. You were carrying a black leat case, probably coming from work, wearing a black peacoat. You sat across from me, behind a couple w a case of beer. I was wearing a cre coat, with many shopping bags, sitting next to a friend. At Summit Ave. you exited the train and I watched you enter Anna's Taqueria chance or heck I happened to cros paths with you once again. It was Monday (Dec 8.) on my way to wo If the train had not been so crowd would have said hello. I exited the train at Kenmore. I hope to see yo again, but I hope that you will rea this and make three times a charm
—nbinikos@yahoo.com

Elizabeth at Sugar Shack Dec. 13

You were there with two of your friends. I wanted to talk to you ea in the night but I never got the chance; you had some other guy o your ear all night. I did come up t you and introduce myself while yo were at the coat check getting rea to leave. You said that you were leaving because you and your frie were tired, and the last time you v at the Shack was 1999, but that yo had a good time and you would be back. You seemed so nice, I'm kick myself because I didn't talk to you sooner, and I don't know if I could wait another five years! I know thi a long shot, but you can't blame a brother for trying. I'd like to get t know you better. Write back if you interested, or at least intrigued.
—reige@hotmail.com

rockie horoscope

ANUARY 7 – 20, 2004

BY ROCKIE GARDINER

CAPRICORN DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

he situations you're already involved in don't change drastically in the New Year. However, hey're liable to intensify or impact on you more than they already have. Since your Saturn uler continues to travel through Cancer, your cosmic complement, long-term relationships n both your personal and business life could become more serious. You may have to ssume greater responsibility for significant others or back off entirely. Keep in mind that rosperous Jupiter in earthy Virgo keeps the funds flowing through the summer.

AQUARIUS

ANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

he biggest change, the one that'll affect how you react to lmost everything, is your unpredictable Uranus ruler's shift ut of Aquarius for good. Whatever lesson the Great Awakener aught you is now part and parcel of the persona you present. Vhat you're left with now, and for years to come, is artistic, dealistic Neptune in your sign. If you haven't already started, ry to explore whatever talents you do possess and check out he art forms that appeal to you. 2004 is the year you reach a igher level of spiritual awareness too.

PISCES

EBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

s it time for a total transformation—especially for Fish orn in February—or simply a change in appearance, ttitude or demeanor? This year, independent-minded, umanitarian Uranus remains in Pisces, even during its etrograde session, which runs June through November. leanwhile, your Neptune ruler continues inching its way rough Aquarius, introducing artistic folks into your social cene. Because benevolent Jupiter is in your marriage house, nese folks are also likely to be wealthy, witty and wise.

ARIES

ARCH 20–APRIL 19

he New Year begins and ends with a surge of passion, udacity and determination. There may be moments in ay when you doubt your progress, but they'll pass as on as your Mars ruler slips away from Saturn's straints. Family matters can seem more serious than ey really are—don't let them interfere with a hot mmer romance. Late September, when prosperous, rotective Jupiter gives the nod, is the time to launch a ew project—you haven't been in such a cosmically vored position for the last two years.

TAURUS

PRIL 20–MAY 20

ecause your affectionate Venus ruler goes retrograde in the gn of the Twins this spring, you could find yourself in an asperating dilemma, unable to make up your mind and ove on. Venus' extended trip through Gemini—from April rough July—can also have an impact on financial matters d other things of value. Be patient, use your imagination find a solution, and trust that luck will prevail in March, gust and November, when Venus and Jupiter, the bearers good fortune, fulfill your heart's desires.

GEMINI

AY 21–JUNE 20

2004 quick-witted Twins get to master the art of ctoring prudence and practicality into the decision-. aking process without compromising their ultimate vision. agine: more money, less guilt! Because your Mercury ruler osses the border between realistic earth signs and inspired e signs during its three retrograde sessions, you'll come t with high spirits and high ideals intact. April, August d December are the months to go on vacation, visit old ends or write the screenplay. June and July? The best time r making mad, passionate whoopee.

CANCER

UNE 21–JULY 22

is year Saturn stretches from six to 27 degrees of Cancer, olding impressionable young Crabs into shape along the y. The divine disciplinarian brings a sense of sponsibility and mature behavior no matter what your age, so prepare to grow into the person you were destined from birth to become. The trickiest time for the USA and George W. is June, when the planet of repression and retribution sits on their sun degree.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

Try to do some skiing, skating or scuba diving during the first two months of 2004. Physical activity coupled with a change of climate will rejuvenate your body and spirit like nothing has in years. While partnership matters continue to be unclear, fanciful or difficult to nail down, they shouldn't throw you for a loop anymore, like a Uranian twist of fate. A clandestine fling in June might become more intense and last longer than either one of you figures; a meeting not only of sexual appetites, but of minds and creative talents as well.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

You remain the chief beneficiary of Jupiter's largesse through September, after which the jolly giant moves into your Libra money house for the next 13 months. Don't take opportunities to become wealthier and wiser for granted. Because unpredictable Uranus can upset Virgins born in August, while destructive Pluto nails those born in mid-September, knowing what to do and having the wherewithal to do it would be a very good thing. When your Mercury ruler turns retrograde in April, August and December, take a vacation, plan a reunion or go on retreat.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

Your luck should improve dramatically once expansive Jupiter gets to Libra in time for your birthday. Thirteen months of protection, prosperity and enthusiasm follow, so plan to launch a pet project while the force of the Greater Fortuna is with you. A romance or a close friendship may go south while your Venus ruler is retrograde in the sign of the Twins this spring; give yourself lots of time—say, until August—for things to settle before making your choice. Saturn in your career midheaven suggests that you're going to be president of something some day soon.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

In 2004 you won't feel you're slogging through a swamp because your Mars co-ruler doesn't go retrograde. Instead, the Red Planet takes swift, sure steps around the zodiac from hot, horny Aries to sociable Sagittarius. In the course of the year you'll get to sample the best or the worst qualities nine signs have to offer before you move on. Compare that with the six months you've just spent treading water in soulful Pisces, sacrificing self-preservation in an often futile attempt to be compassionate. Change, the fixed Scorpio will find, is good.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

If the odds are favorable, take the chance and the ultimate payoff. As long as Jupiter is in your career midheaven, you'll continue to expand your influence, spread your good name and enjoy your ruling planet's protection, even while it's retrograde from Jan. 4 until May 4. You'll have a risky adventure when fiery Mars is in impulsive Aries this winter, and a joyful Leo experience when it explores new terrain in July. Venus in your Gemini partnership house for months on end can make this spring an especially social and marriage-minded season.

rious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise er the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE RDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, *www.rockiehoroscope.com*. Read my daily forecast online at *www.laweekly.com*.

So you forgot his Birthday - Big Deal!
Bubbles aren't as much fun in
January anyway!



JANUARY 2004

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 Little Bobby's Birthday	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

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The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.**



Alexandra Tufino toted her IMPROPER to the Washington Monument in Washington, D.C., where she said "Yup... Washington Monument, alright."



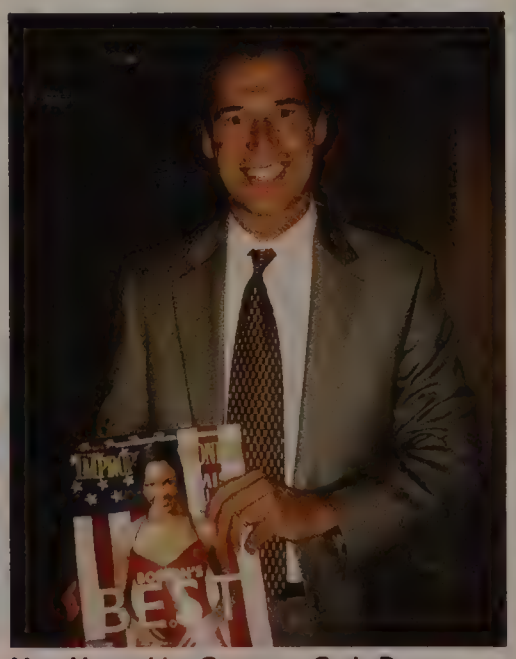
Susanna Hamilton takes a break near the summit of Volcan Villarrica outside of Pucon, Chile. If "volcan" means what we think it does, we'd be careful with that pick.



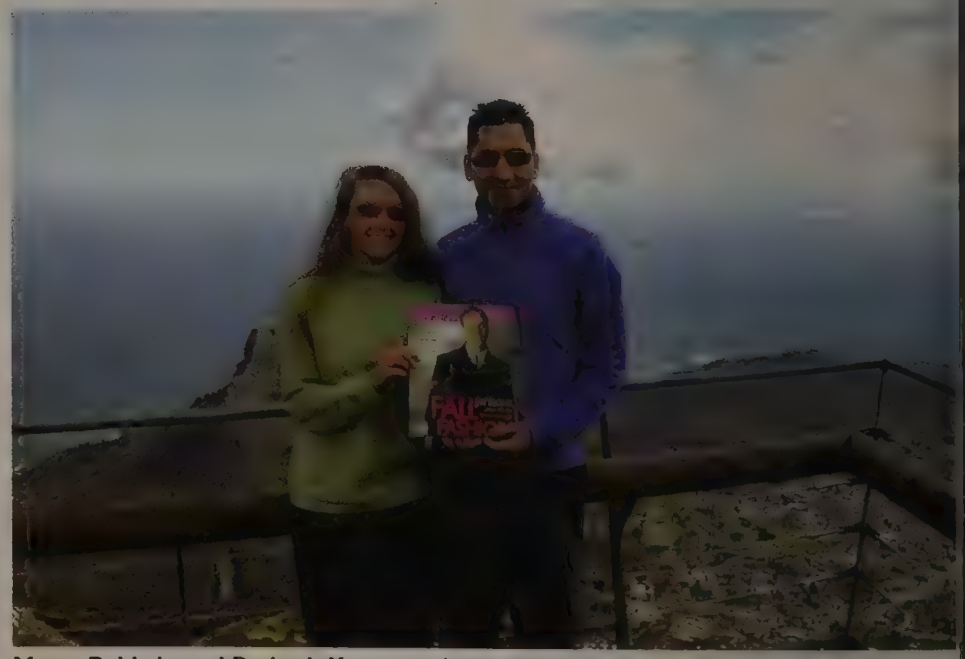
Mireille Stanbro traded her IMPROPER for a gold machete an almost-new Desert Oasis pop-up camper and a falafe sandwich at this bazaar in Damascus, Syria.



Armenian Republic of Karabagh president Arkadi Goukassian gets improper.



New Hampshire Governor Craig Benson lives free and dies to read the IMPROPER.



Merry Baldwin and Prakash Kara stand atop Table Mountain in South Africa. Momen after this picture was taken, they were magjacked for their IMPROPER.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Throwing a slimy salmon a record-breaking distance and then jumping into the ocean at the Polar Bear Jump Off and Ugly Fish Toss, Jan. 16-18, in Seward, Alaska.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned.

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IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Monday, December 22, **Captain Fishbones** in Allston hosted a Grand Opening/Holiday Party.









1. **Erik Bednarek**, landscape architect for VHB; **Denise Renaghan**, co-owner of Captain Fishbones; and **Melanie Bednarek**, personal trainer from Sports Club LA.
2. **John Grady**, attorney, and **Jackie Grady**, senior claims assistant, both from the Law Offices of John J. Grady.
3. **Bob Constantino**, CEO for Rondele Cheese, and **Michelle Galvam**, contract manager for RMX Corporation.
4. **Matt Renaghan**, co-owner of Captain Fishbones; **Paul Stewart**, director of development for the Boston Bruins Foundation; and **Jay Arcand**, co-owner of Captain Fishbones.

On Friday, December 12, the **Boston Athletic Club** held its annual holiday party. Gifts were donated to **Toys for Tots**.







1. **Ben Springer**, corporate sales; **Acea Theroux**, program director; **Kristie McLean**, chiropractor; **Ale Tyson**, personal training manager; **Kerry Turner**, sales manager; and **Jay Suddy**, fitness manager, all the Boston Athletic Club.
2. **Corporal Vince Dolan**, **First Sergeant John Ragusa**; **MSYSGT Nick Anastos** and **Colonel Ed Murphy**, all of the United States Marine Corps.
3. **Patti Daly**, general manager, BAC; **Joey Gutierrez** of Boston; **Barbie Lyons**, shift supervisor; and **P Furlong**, physical therapist for the Boston Athletic Club.

PHOTOS: FISHBONES, MIKE BURNS; BOSTON ATHLETIC CLUB, JU



It's time again for you to choose

BOSTON'S BELOVED BARTENDERS

Who's your favorite bartender? _____

Where does he/she work? _____

Which night(s) does he/she work? _____

What's his/her signature drink? _____

What makes him/her the best? _____

_____

_____

Your name/phone number/e-mail: _____

[Deadline: January 30, 2004]

Send to:
BELOVED BARTENDERS
The Improper Bostonian Magazine
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor, Boston, MA 02116
Fax: 617-859-1446

WHAT MAKES A GREAT BARTENDER?

Is it sheer *Cocktail*-esque flair with the bottles, an encyclopedic knowledge of potent potions, a simple willingness to go through the credit-card routine for someone with a two-drink tab? We want to know. Pick up a pen and tell us who makes the mixes, pours the pints and sets up the shots that shake and stir your unflagging adoration. Show your appreciation by voting to immortalize your favorite mixologist in our next Beloved Bartender issue.

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Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch



RESTAURANTS

75 Chestnut *75 Chestnut St., Boston, 617-227-2175, www.75chestnut.com.* Providing regional American cuisine served in an intimate setting. Bar opens at 5pm. Dinner served from 5:30pm - 10pm.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled PortabellaPaninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC,V.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2002. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

Captain Fishbones **SEAFOOD, STEAKS AND MORE* 353 Cambridge St, Allston 617-783-2300 (formerly the Sports Depot).* Captain Fishbones boasts a reasonably priced menu of fresh seafood, succulent steaks, awesome burgers and a healthy variety of salads and pizza. Meet your friends at a great bar surrounded with five 42" plasma screen TV's. Join us for a free appetizer special Monday thru Friday from 4-6pm. Full menu from 11:30A.M. to 12:30A.M. Plenty of free parking. You can visit the Captain in Quincy at 332 Victory Rd, 617-471-3511 www.captainfishbones.com

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., South Boston,617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant *Boston Park Plaza Hotel ,34 Columbus Ave, Boston 617 482-3999; Faneuil Hall Marketplace, North Market Bldg. 617-720-5522.* Recognized nationwide for its fresh seafood and lively atmosphere, McCormick & Schmick's offers over 40 varieties of fresh seafood, and a unique menu that changes daily. The bar is also a popular destination where all cocktails are made fresh and handshaken. $1.95 Bar menu served Monday through Friday 3:30-6:30 p.m. and late night every night from 10 p.m - midnight.

M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Ned Devine's *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere inthe heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998,1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 am. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches.

Sidney's Grille *20 Sidney St, Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why Bon Appetite magazine says, "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breakfast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus visit www.sidneysgrille.com

Solas *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am 7 days a week.

Sunset *Grill & Tap:130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331; Cantina: 916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

BARS/CLUBS

Beer Specialty

Boston Beer Works *112 Canal St., near the Fleet Center, 617-896-BEER, 61 Brookline Ave., across from Fenway Park, 617-536-BEER and 278 Derby St., in Historic Salem, 978-745-BEER.* Boston's oldest and largest restaurant brewery with 3 locations! Bold American Food. Award Winning Beer. 15 microbrewed beers always on tap. 16 American wines by the glass. 15 championship billiards tables at our Canal Street location. Complete party planning capabilities. Private Rooms. Customizeable menus. Lunch. Dinner. Late Night. Always a good time. Check out the BIGGER and BOLDER menu.

Sunset *Grill & Tap: 30 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331; Cantina: 916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exoic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

Felt *533 Washington St., Boston, 617-350-5555.* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A trilevel venue offering sophisticated billiards, New York style lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or for a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere combined with the delicious creative entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Eclectic cuisine by Chef Casey Lloyd.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing with DJ Littles and Johnny C til 2 am. House bands include Sugarfoot Horns, Black Sole and Zeke Martin.

Clubs

Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston, 617-482-7799.* Located in Boston's trendy Theater District, Pravda 116 is a chic restaurant, bar and club. The menu focuses on contemporary American cuisine with specialties like roasted pork medallions. DJs in the bar and dance club keep the energy level hig Restaurant open Tuesday-Saturday, 5:30-10pm bar, 5pm-2am and dance club Wednesday-Saturda 10pm-2am. AE, CB, DC, MC, V.

Roxy *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremor Hotel), 617-338-7699.* We've got it ALL right here The hottest dance venue in the City! Thursdays: TH LATIN QUARTER, salsa, merengue and contempo rary latin dance. Doors at 10:30, proper dress & I/ Fridays: MONDO BAR, international and hous spun by DJ Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. Doors a 10pm, proper dress & ID. Saturday: ROXY SATUF DAY NITES, high energy house, dance mixes, spun b DJ Adlison. Door at 9pm, 21+, No jeans, sneaker hats or athletic wear.

Comedy

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Marke Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyco nectionboston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connectio located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Build ing in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is ope seven nights a week and offers the best in local an national comedy. During the week, the national renowned club offers some of Boston's best comi like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," Pa Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frar Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes th audience and on the weekends, this is the only plac to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jo Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Ja Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-946* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great ■ cape in the financial district! Two floors, three bar open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live banc downstairs!

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-208 www. theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. Mingl Let your hair down; see and be seen on the b screen. Simply the hippest way to spend a night all-out fun in Boston's Financial District. Come aft work. Come to dance. Come to go wild with yo friends. There's always something exciting happe ing—and you never know who you'll bump into. Jo us and experience what the buzz is all about.

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 61 227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertai ment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includ American and Irish specialties. Live cover banc nightly.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marke place Boston,617-725-1051.* Winner of The Ir proper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 200 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurar nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal, a marti and a fine cigar. Casual indoor & outdoor dining un 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing with I Littles and Johnny C til 2 am. House bands inclu Sugarfoot Horns, Black Sole and Zeke Martin.

Irish

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 617-74 2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates i 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs America, the menu features American and Irish sp cialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston,61 742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specia and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensi beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best a petizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five night week with pop bands direct from Ireland. He nessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Sp its," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.



The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 617-523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11 am - 1 am 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

The Green Dragon *11Marshall St., Boston, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 617-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the hem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

General

The Alley *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. www.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Cigar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

Aqua *120 Water St., Boston, 617-720-4900.* Boston's newest place to be seen is now open in the heart of the Financial District. Whether relaxing with a martini in one of our cozy booths, sipping a margarita on our roof deck or watching your hometown favorites on our high definition plasma TV. Aqua has what you're looking for after work and late night with our resident and guest DJs spinning your favorite mixes through our state of the art sound system all night long.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0001.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For more info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Boston Rocks *245 Quincy Market Place Boston,617-726-1110 www.boston-rocks.net. 21+.* Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St.,617- 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2002. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Cheers *Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-227-0150, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Offering pub fare until 11:45pm. Live entertainment every Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Cheers *Beacon Hill 84 Beacon St., Boston, 617-227-9605, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Full menu available until 11:45pm. Watch your favorite team on DirecTV.

Downtown Lounge *138 Portland St., Boston 617-523-8383.* Tempting tapas, modern martinis and contemporary cocktails are just a few of the elements awaiting your arrival. A distinctive destination in the heart of North Station, located just one block from the Fleet Center. Share crab taquitos, shaved portobello mushrooms or grilled white pizza. Revive with a specialty martini while sinking into soft curvy seating. Spacious and sublime, Downtown Lounge is an attractive meeting place for business, luncheons, social, after work cocktails and events.

Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 617-338-7699* A new twist on Boston's Cabaret Tradition! Live Music 7 nights a week 9:30pm-1am (til 2am on Saturdays). Always open mike! Party where the Stars go after the Show! Tuesday: Bobby Femino (Piano Bar), Wednesday: Brian Nash & Stacey Baker (Standards/Pop), Thursday: Mary Callahan (Contemporary Cabaret), Friday: Jan Peters (Contemporary Cabaret), Saturday: Clara Lofaro (Standards/Pop), Sunday: Dorothy Miller & Michael Larson (Contemporary Cabaret).

The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010.* Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St.,Boston 617-722-0161.* The newest edition to Boston's night scene. This New Orleans style bar is just steps away from the Fleet Center. Hurricane O'Reilly's serves up the best that Boston nightlife has to offer. Come dance the night away with the hottest music around. We will leave you yearning for Bourbon Street.

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Regattabar *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Tuesday-Saturday nights and occasional Sunday afternoons. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square. Shows at 8:30pm Tues-Thurs, 7:30pm & 10:00pm Fri. & Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617.876.7777 for tickets and information, 800.881.1818 for hotel reservations and information.

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Dick's Last Resort *Prudential Center, 55 Huntington Ave., Boston, 617-267-8080, www.dickslast-resort.com.* On Sunday, Dick's has live gospel music for brunch from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The buffet includes salads, hot entrees, carved beef and ham stations, an omelet station, waffles and desserts. Adults $15.99 and children $6.99. Live music - no cover, no dress code and definitely no class. Open daily, Dick's Last Resort is billed as "The shame of Boston."

Harvard Gardens *315 Cambridge St., Beacon Hill, Boston, 617-523-2727. www.harvardgardens.com.* Cozy up to the beautiful mahogany bar or slip into a comfy booth and enjoy Harvard Gardens' menu of cool cocktails and comfort food. Brunch serves up eggs and pastrami hash, thick-cut French toast with caramelized bananas, specialty pizzas and Boston's best Bloody Mary. Harvard Gardens serves brunch Saturday and Sunday, 11:30am - 3:00pm.

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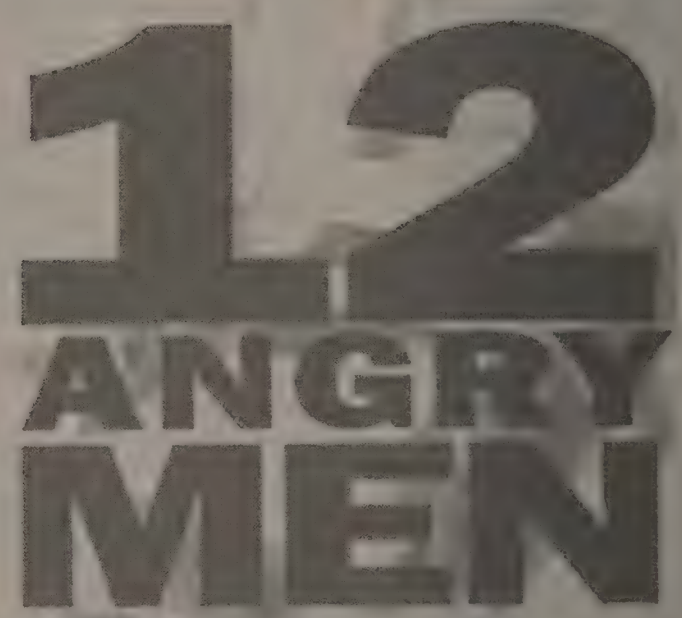
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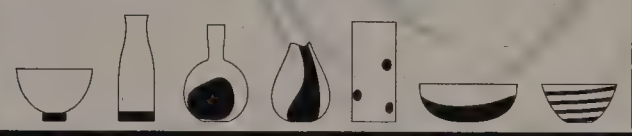
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LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF











At the Pops, top: Gen Tracy and David Jacobs. Middle row: Andrea Masano and Richard DeAgazio; Doris Yaffe and Benson Willis. Bottom row: Bob Crowe; Paul Verrochi and George Albrecht.

WHERE'S TINY TIM WHEN YOU NEED HIM?

Boston's corporate bigwigs proved they're no Scrooges with **A Company Christmas at Pops**—a gala concert benefiting an outreach program that allows 60,000 grade-school kids to attend concerts throughout the year.

Symphony Hall was fully decked, with poinsettias, wreaths, bell ringers and carolers, and even the statue of BSO founder Henry Lee Higginson was festooned with a bow tie made of ribbon.

Present and accounted for: office supplies mogul **Tom Stemberg** (the evening's chairman); newspaper publishers **Pat Purcell** and **David Jacobs**; the latter's shiksa-goddess wife, **Gen Tracy**; attorney at large and Thurston Howell III doppelganger **Bob Crowe**; car czar **George Albrecht**; banking bigwig **Chad Gifford**; software gazillionaire and mega-philanthropist **John Cullinane** with the lovely **Diddy** (no known relation to P. Diddy); financial titan **Richard DeAgazio**; custom tailor to the stars **Alan Rouleau**; Morgan Stanley's blonde bombshell **Karen Keaney**; insurance behemoth **William van Faasen**; naturally carbonated publicist **Doris Yaffe**; sportswear designer **Andrea Masano**; and one (presumably Jewish) man who said, "Where's the deli platter? I feel like I'm with a bunch of Gentiles."

Following cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and a boxed supper, beloved maestro **Keith Lockhart** led the Pops in a medley of seasonal favorites that included an appearance by ruby-throated warbler **Maureen McGovern** (the '70s icon responsible for such hits as "The Morning After," from *The Poseidon Adventure*, and "Love Theme from *Superman*"). However, the evening's showstopper turned out to be **Mitt Romney**, who took the stage to read "'Twas the Night Before Christmas," responding to the crowd's enthusiastic applause with the aw-shucks comment, "I do this all the time."

All the Who's from Who's Who-ville seemed to enjoy themselves thoroughly, and only the Grinch could have left not bubbling over with holiday cheer.

A BLUE-BLOODED CHRISTMAS...

The Old Guard was waltzing around the Christmas tree and fa-la-la-la-la-ing all over the place at the umpteenth annual **Winter Ball**, one of Boston's most enduring and endearing social traditions.

The multigenerational black-tie crowd nicely complemented the festive yet tastefully decked ballroom of the **Park Plaza**, and the band alternated between cheek-to-cheek numbers and newer stuff while everyone danced, drank and dallied with folks they don't get to see much of the rest of the year.

In fine fettle and looking fabulous were such socialites as **Vicky Whitney** (with her debutante-in-waiting daughter **Tory**); the spectacular **Tita Hyland** and her affable other half, **Douglas**; Chestnut Hill lovebirds **Fred Church** and **Carolyn Graham** with the latter's daughter, **Christie**; couture-clad glamazon **Julie Sprague**; the ultra-lovable **Nicholas** and **Mary Kay Holder**; gorgeous young thing **Panda Ebling**; investment hottie **Dave Daglio** and the stunning **Allison Moran**; lawyer-cum-folksinger **Henry duLaurence**; bohemian hipsters **Lina Tilman** and **Anders Corr**; Brooklinian by way of Britain **Andrew McIlwraith** and his Brahmin wife, **Tish Robbins**; the magnificent **Rhys Gardiner**; Boston's answer to Jimmy Stewart, **Peter Creighton**; twinkle-toed heiress **Marigold Randall**; and gala fixture **Michael Halperson**, squiring a recent import from Virginia, **Vanessa McLaughlin**. The women's dresses were more fashion forward than usual; in fact, several young ladies could have passed for one of the Hilton sisters, although not as badly behaved.

Meanwhile, there was the personal trainer who told people he was a taxidermist, a lawyer who introduced herself as a stunt double, one man who responded to the friend who asked where he'd been by saying, "Over there, with the North Sho contingent," and another (in his mid 30 who said, "What's with all these white bo with afros? Must be the new style."

Overheard elsewhere during the eveni from a woman who'd hosted a dinner par earlier that night: "I had to give everyone to-go cup, even though I only live tw blocks away. Anyone who's ever tasted m cooking will tell you that it requires cocktail." iB

At the Winter Ball, clockwise from top: Vicky and Tory Whitney, Panda Ebling and Mark Kay Holder; Peter Creighton and Gretchen Amidon; Richard Breed, Vicky Whitney and Parker Treacy; Cheryl Yung, Lina Tilman and Anders Corr; Allison Moran and Dave Daglio; Henry duLaurence; Corey Smaller and Katherine Noble; Vanessa McLaughlin and Michael Halperson

















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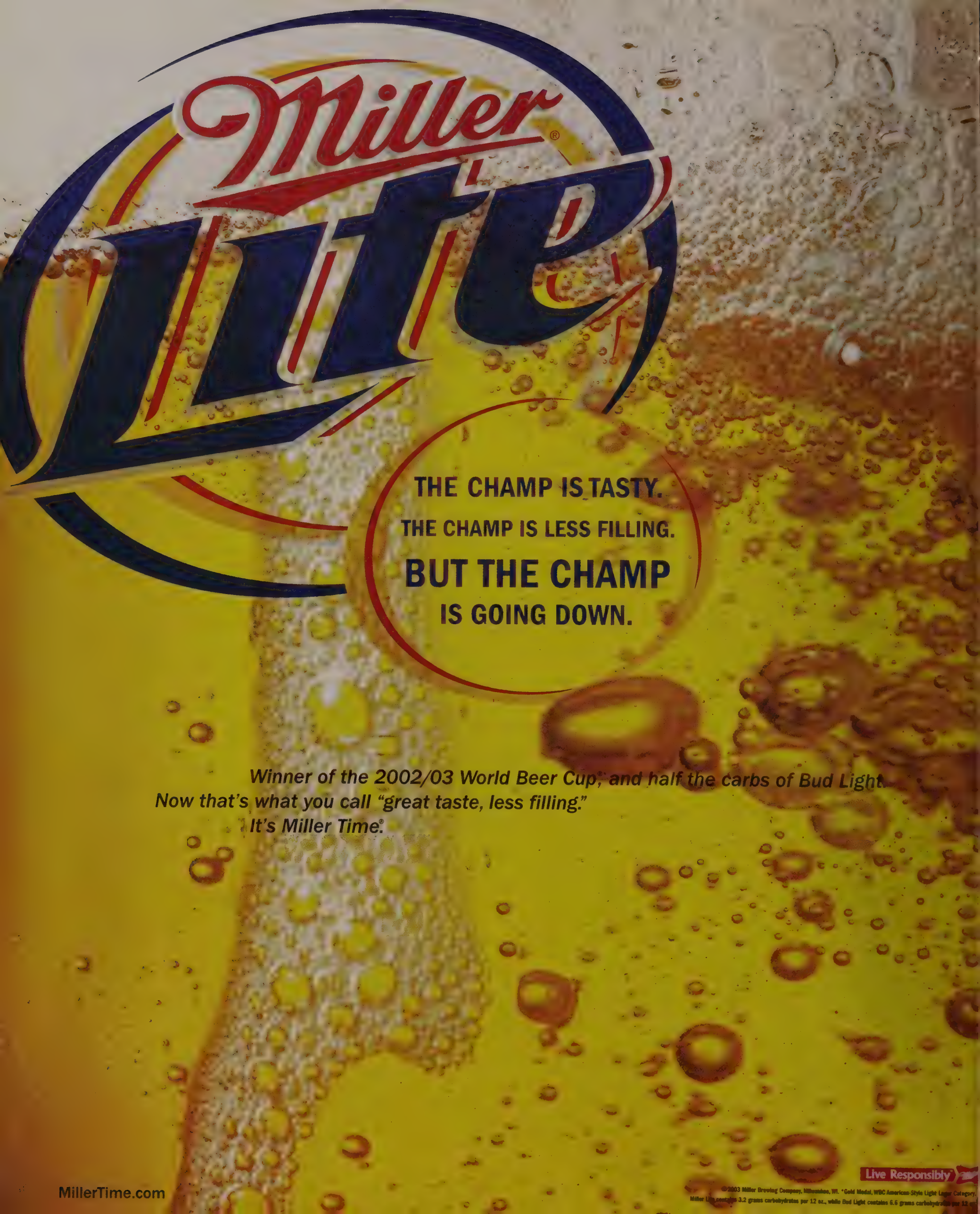
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Shimmery fabrics and playful accessories light up this evening wear.
PHOTOGRAPHED BY SEBASTIAN SMITH



Photographed for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by
Eric Antoniou

Hair: **Mitch DeRosa and Monrüd for Mitchell John Salon;** clothes and jewelry (left to right): Courtney, **suit by Arden B;** Jeri, **pleated skirt by Arden B, sequined top from Holiday, pendant necklace by Jane Jewelry, shoes by Bandolino;** Shawn, **clothes and jewelry from Turtle;** Mike (seated), **shirt by DKNY, pants from Market;** Adam (on floor), **shirt by DKNY, pants by Polo Ralph Lauren;** Jordan, **shirt by DKNY;** Susanna and Rousanna, **clothes by Arden B.**

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR



HIT SINGLES

If you're currently without significant other and looking to change that (or simply to improve your love life), our annual Bachelors & Bachelorettes issue may give you hope. The 20 single men and women we profile in this issue stand as proof that there are interesting, smart, talented and attractive men and women in Boston who are not married or in a serious relationship. (Even more heartening is the fact that we had a far greater number of worthy nominees than we could include in this issue.)

Among our bachelors this year, you'll find a Bermuda-born TV news reporter with impeccable manners and baking skills, the lacrosse- and bridge-playing leader of a local band, and the "politically hip," 20-something founder of a nonprofit with offices in three cities. Our bachelorettes include a Patriots cheerleader who's studying law at Harvard, a former police officer turned attorney who ice-climbs and plays the flute, and the press secretary to the state's highest elected official.

You can meet some of these men and women—and other singles—at an upcoming IMPROPER-hosted party celebrating the single life. Check *www.improper.com* for more info.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

MORE GYM GRIPES

Please add these to the list of workout pet peeves ("Gym Etiquette," Jan. 7): People on their cell phones. We hear you all day on the street, subways and elevators. People who are actually working out don't want to hear your cell phone conversations while you're on the StairMaster. Sitting on a machine with no intention of moving is another one. And the final peeve: trainers who are only interested in training women or showing them the equipment, and when a guy (me) asks for assistance they act like I ruined their day.

—SAM DOUGLAS
Brighton

ON THE WARPATH

I'd like to know why you call your magazine THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN if no one from your company has the first clue about Boston. Yuppies and college kids aren't Boston—maybe they're the Back Bay and Beacon Hill, but that's not the real Boston, never mind an improper one. It's too bad you can't focus more on the real people who make Boston great, the people from Eastie and what hasn't yet been yuppified in the North End and Southie. That would be a good magazine, but you messed it all up with your wannabe Bostonians—now that sounds like a good title for a magazine.

—MICHAEL PROCHILO
East Tikrit Airfield, Iraq

A BONE TO PICK

I adore THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and rely on every issue to give me an accurate update of city happenings and restaurant tips. It's an added plus to have available for my job as a concierge with the Lenox Hotel. However, after reading "What's In and Out for 2004" (Jan. 7), three of my four-legged friends and I decided we had to send you an e-mail.

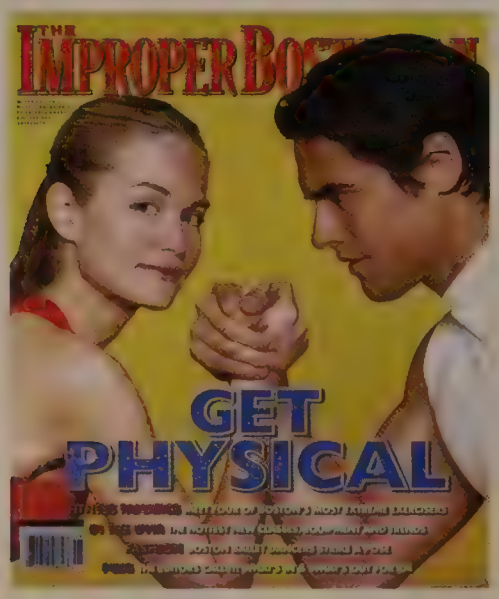
We all beg to differ that pugs are out this year! Miss Rosie is my pug, Lucy belongs to Meredith White, rooms division manager, and the newest addition to the Lenox/Briar Group pug family (as of Christmas) is Hank, who belongs to Robert Fathman, Azure's executive chef. With their smiling faces, curly tails and adoring personalities, Miss Rosie, Lucy and Hank all feel that pugs will continue to be very "in" dogs in the year 2004.

—CINDY COOKE
Boston

CORRECTIONS

The Jan. 7 Tasty Tidbits item on Dillon's contained errors. The Glynn Hospitality Group owns Dillon's, the Black Rose, Clerys, Hurricane O'Reilly's, Jose McIntyre's, the Purple Shamrock and Coogan's. Ned Devine's, Parris, the Harp and the Green Briar are owned by the Briar Restaurant Group.

In the article "New Jacked City" in the same issue, we misspelled the names of Nia's creators. They are Carlos and Debbie Rosas.



"GET PHYSICAL" COVER PHOTOGRAPH: JOEL BENJAMIN

PLEASE ADD THIS TO THE LIST OF WORKOUT PET PEEVES: PEOPLE ON THEIR CELL PHONES.

—SAM DOUGLAS
BRIGHTON

CONTRIBUTOR

SANDY BLOCK, M.W.



IMPROPER wine editor Sandy Block was the first U.S. resident living on the East Coast to pass the Master of Wine examinations. A founding member of the Institute of Masters of Wine, North America, he has served as the group's vice president and on its board of directors. Block is currently assistant vice president of Horizon Beverage Company and teaches advanced courses at Boston University's Elizabeth Bishop Wine Resource Center. His guide to expanding your wine palate, "Beyond the Big Ten," begins on page 22.

Tell Us What You Think

SEND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR TO: The Improper Bostonian, 142 Berkeley St., Third Floor, Boston, MA 02116. E-mail: letters@improper.com. Fax: 617-859-1446. Letters must be signed; please include your town and phone number. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

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new in town

L-EGANT

If you can judge a restaurant by its opening party, then L, the new restaurant on the first floor of Louis Boston, is guaranteed to attract gorgeous, well-dressed A-listers and hipsters. On the other hand, if you judge a restaurant by its menu, the place will be filled with gourmands seeking out the cuisine of chef Pino Maffeo—whom Louis Boston owner Debi Greenberg dubs an "up-and-coming talent."

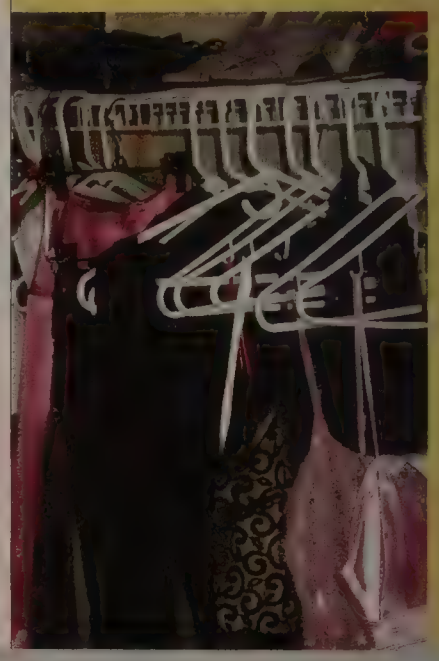


To be sure, L's opening party on Jan. 7 was a success—despite the 17-degree weather outside. Maybe the stars were aligned just right, but hordes of people garbed in Gucci and Prada kept filing through the doors—and no one seemed eager to leave. They were too busy admiring the new decor and scarfing up warm potato spring rolls with crème fraîche and Osestra caviar, and crab cakes in mini-martini glasses with avocado paste. Maffeo, a Boston native who most recently worked with New York phenom Patricia Yeo at AZ and Pazo, has developed a menu that has Southeast Asian and Japanese influences. Although we'll miss Cafe Louis' famed paper-thin gourmet pizzas, Maffeo's menu seems positively mouthwatering, with dishes like braised beef short ribs with taro puree and smoked truffle anglais, and slow-cooked salmon with lime risotto, crystallized ginger and herb crust. But with so many good-looking people to ogle—clad in such finery—will anyone even notice the food? *234 Berkeley St., Boston (617-266-4680). —Erin Hagedorn and Julie Suratt*

sam says

CLOSET CASE

In a perfect world, closets would self-organize at the beginning of every year. Outdated trends, the shirt that looked good in the store (you bought it, then never wore it) and all vestiges of the '90s would get ejected. In reality, though, you've got to do it yourself, and unless you're unemployed or have an incredibly dull social life, chances are it's not happening. Enter Emily Neill of Closet Smarts. The self-proclaimed fashion maven has turned cleaning out the closet into a full-time job. First, Neill asks you to fill out a questionnaire that gives her an idea of your personal style, body type and budget. From there, she weeds out the unwanted, unwearable and just plain ugly and determines what you have and what you need. Next it's time to shop. Whether it's the Garment District or Neiman Marcus, Neill—who's spent years working in a local boutique—holds your hand through a personalized retail excursion to fill in your wardrobe blanks. The result is a contemporary, cohesive and neatly organized closet full of clothes. $300 for a five-hour consultation. Personal shopping is individually priced. *(617-797-4079). —Samantha House*



inner view

SLANG CITY



It's been parodied a million times on the big screen, yet it never seems to get old: Foreign exchange student fumbles English colloquialisms while smug Americans yuk it up. Somerville resident and English-as-a-second-language teacher turned Web master A.C. Kemp has taken pity on helpless non-English speakers with SlangCity.com. The site is a guerrilla tour of naughty and nice ways to express yourself, with special features on insults, music and sex talk. Here she chats about talkin' jive with newbies.

IB: *Why did you start SlangCity in the first place?*
AC: I started teaching English as a second language about eight years ago. My students were asking me questions about slang, and I realized there was a real need for it because they couldn't get the information anywhere else. So the Web site was an extension of the class I taught. I started it just over a year ago.
IB: *Who is using the site?*
AC: I put it up for my students, but most of the people who go to it are Americans.
IB: *What's the most popular part of the site?*
AC: Definitely the body parts map, followed by the adult slang picture dictionary. That [section] was very difficult to do without being pornographic. It involves a lot of poses with stuffed animals.
IB: *What slang phrases are hardest to explain?*
AC: Oh gosh. When I first started teaching, people were always asking about really bad things [like] "What does 'blow me' mean?" You can't use euphemisms. You have to be really explicit. The first year I taught, I was really blushing, but I've gotten over that now.
IB: *You interpret pop and rap lyrics a lot on the Web site. How do you find out the meaning of the words such as "milkshake" and "wanksta" if you're not sure?*
AC: I look on the Internet, or I'll ask friends. Sometimes I call radio stations. One time I was working on the Missy Elliott song "Work It," and I thought that I knew what she was talking about, but I wanted to be sure before putting it on the site. I called Emerson College's rap station and asked this guy. I think he was pretty embarrassed.
IB: *What's your favorite American slang expression in another language?*
AC: I had a student once ask me about what Americans say when they have an orgasm. I said, "They say 'I'm coming.'" She said, "In Japan we say, 'I'm going.'" I thought that was the funniest thing.
IB: *What are some new slang phrases most people wouldn't have heard yet?*
AC: The ones that I tend to get asked about on the Web site are from songs. I've been asked about "milkshake" and "ice cream" lately. They're pretty funny if you listen to the songs.
IB: *Last question: Do you know what a Trojan war helmet is?*
AC: I have no idea. Do you know what it is?
IB: Yes.
—Jessica Iredale



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tidbits & morsels

CHEZ NFL

Pregaming... As we write this, it's too early to tell if the Pats will go all the way to Houston, but at least one Patriot is guaranteed to be in Reliant Arena on Super Bowl weekend. Former wide receiver (from 1961–1969) Gino Cappelletti and Chez Henri chef Paul O'Connell will represent New England at the 13th annual Taste of the NFL on Jan. 31. The charitable shindig, which raises funds for hunger relief, features a chef and a player from each NFL city. O'Connell plans to whip up oven-baked crêpes with cardamom-scented eggplant and goat cheese, while Cappelletti will be on hand to sign autographs and mingle with fans.



Chefs Andrew Wilkinson and Otto Hiu Tou of Skipjack's.

Turning the Tables... Looks like it's the season of change at the elegant Four Seasons. The hotel's Bristol Lounge has closed for renovations until early March. The new lounge will feature more bar, table and sofa seating, a refurbished interior in rust and neutral colors, and the debut of daily breakfast—just in time for the hotel's eatery Aujourd'hui to undergo a similar overhaul until June.

Take Shelter... With three floors of space, Sanctuary, which opened New Year's Eve, is more of a giant tapas emporium than a restaurant. The menu, created by former SoHo chef Stephen Lancaster, features Spanish, Asian and Latin dishes and five different kinds of sangria (including the intriguing white sangria). Given general manager Gabe Butcher's soft Irish brogue and his guarantee of "three floors of music and fun" (not to mention the Asian-inspired decor), this is far from your typical tapas bungalow. *189 State St., Boston (617-573-9333).*

Sports Arena... At last there's a sports bar and grill fit to fill the void left by Allston's now-defunct Sports Depot. Southie's Stadium opened at the height of postseason football excitement last Thursday—just in time for Sunday's playoff game. The upscale sports bar features two floors, three bars, 30 flat screen TVs (including one in the men's room) and a dance floor. Diners can nosh on typical pub grub like wings, burgers and steaks in a warm atmosphere with hardwood floors and sports memorabilia tacked on the walls. *232 Old Colony Ave., Boston (617-269-5100).*

JP Sips... In addition to an eclectic array of ethnic eateries, Jamaica Plain now has a Chinese teahouse. Centre Street's Cha Fahn: A Tea Room, which opened two months ago, offers 35 teas, a light lunch and dinner menu, pastries and desserts. Co-owners Shane O'Brien and Chih-Wei Hung were flirting with the idea of opening a bubble tea lounge, but decided on a more traditional approach. O'Brien says herbal teas—like the fire infusion, a blend of cassia bark, ginger, ginseng, orange peel, licorice root, star anise and black and Sichuan peppercorns—are the best-sellers. *763 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-983-3575).*

Nice Pile of Brix... Brix Wine Shop isn't your average packie. The South End spirit shop, which opened Dec. 20 on Washington Street under the co-ownership of best friends Carri Wroblewski and Klaudia Mally, boasts a well-rounded inventory as well as a stunning interior with natural cork floors, a back bar wall and a 10-foot marble tasting table. But don't worry, the upscale decor doesn't necessarily reflect the wines' prices. "We wanted to bring the standard of shopping in a retail store to a more boutique level," says Wroblewski. *1284 Washington St., Boston (617-542-2749).*

Out to Lunch... Fans of the Back Bay Skipjack's, fear not. The papered windows are not signs of a final farewell but, rather, of better things to come. Renovations are under way to revamp the interior and install a sushi bar. The kitchen will reopen Jan. 30 with the same menu and prices but more daily specials and an extensive sushi menu by master sushi chef Tsui "Otto" Hiu Tou. *199 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-3500).*

—Erin Hagerdorn, Jessica Iredale and Julie Suratt

improper reports

TURN-ON TIME

Valentine's Day is approaching, and it's time to kick your libido into high gear. Forget little blue pills. The search for effective, natural aphrodisiacs ends here: These creative suggestions will help you to find that lovin' feeling.



Get ready to get lucky at the Union Oyster House.

✻**Dine at the Union Oyster House.** Oysters' reputation as an aphrodisiac dates back at least to the second century, when the Roman satirist Juvenal wrote, "What decency does Venus observe...when she eats giant oysters at midnight?" Head to the Union and let the loving begin. $9.95. *41 Union St., Boston (617-227-2750).* www.unionoysterhouse.com.

✻**Brew up some ginseng tea from Boston Tea Company.** Ginseng, which takes its name from the Chinese *jen shen* ("man root"), is an herb notorious for its energizing effects. In short, downing some hot man root tea is a sure way to ensure a spicy Boston tea party for two. $16. *(201-518-5030).* www.bostontea.com.

✻**Order guacamole at the Olé Mexican Grill.** Interestingly, the avocados (which some say resemble certain body parts) are mashed right at your table at Olé. If you fear that all that avocado grinding will get you too heated, you can order the guacamole to go. $9.50. *11 Springfield St., Cambridge (877-816-9996).* http://olegrillcambridge.citysearch.com.

✻**Try some truffles at L'Espalier.** L'Espalier's prix fixe dinner offers several dishes that include the libido-stimulating mushroom. The white truffle and cauliflower soup with Roxbury russet apples and the sole with black truffles are good bets. $68. *30 Gloucester St., Boston* (617-262-3023).

✻**Order something spicy at Chinatown's Penang.** The piquant dishes will leave you in a flushed and heated physical state that mirrors sexual arousal. Try the *mee siam* with Thai chili sauce, a clay-pot curry, or the spicy sizzling beef. $5.95-$10.95. *685-691 Washington St., Boston (617-451-6373).* www.penangboston.com.

✻**Make like a bridegroom at the Beacon Hill Bistro.** Apparently, 19th-century French grooms were said to have eaten three full courses of asparagus in preparation for their wedding night. If three courses is too extreme for you, just order the smoked salmon with potatoes, greens and asparagus. $8.50. *25 Charles St., Boston (617-723-1133).* www.beaconhillhotel.com/bistro.html.

✻**Take a ride on the Boston Chocolate Tour.** Traverse the city by trolley, stopping along the way to taste a multitude of mouthwatering confections. If Le Meridien's sumptuous Chocolate Bar Buffet doesn't get you in the mood, nothing will. $60. *Corner of Charles and Boylston streets, Boston (617-269-3626). Sat. and Sun., 11:30 and 12:45 pm.* www.trolleytours.com. *—Patrice Taddonio*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Rainbow Bright... Oilily, In the Pink and Madura aren't the only splashes of color on Newbury Street these days. Susan Sargent Designs joined the shopping promenade's bold-color brigade in late November. The Vermont-based artist and colorist's custom-designed and Scandinavian-influenced rugs, fabrics, pillows and accessories are infused with her signature palette of periwinkle, paprika, lime, passion and burnt orange—but never gray. "We have been starved for too long in the land of beige," says Sargent. *132 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2226).*

A Rose Is a Rose... In the wake of Trista and Ryan's gauchè gag-fest nuptials, it's amazing anyone would want to step up to bat on ABC's second stab at *The Bachelorette*. But lo and behold, not one, but two Boston boys joined this season's cast of potential suitors. Harvard graduate and architect Chris Ritter and sports facility manager Brian Holden (both 31) were among the 25 gents vying for the affection of Bob Guiney castoff Meredith last Wednesday night. Neither man went in expecting magic. "I can't really say I thought I was going to meet my soulmate," says Holden. Ritter concurs: "I didn't do it thinking I would find true love." And it's a good thing: The two bachelors were denied roses in the first episode. Both named meeting the other guys in the house as the highlight of the experience.

It Don't Mean a Thing... Think swing dancing's second wind peaked in the '90s? So did we. But apparently West Coast swing (not to be confused with retro big-band swing) is alive and well. Ned Devine's debuts the Left Coast style, which is danced to contemporary R&B, Top-40 and blues, at its new Downtown Swing night Jan. 26. An optional dinner and cocktail hour (5:30-6:30 pm) is followed by a swing demonstration, lessons and open dancing until closing time. Singles and groups are welcome, and admission is $10. *One Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-248-8800).*



Finding Jesus... You could say the spirit of Christmas literally went missing for Jerry Carvalho this year. The longtime Somerville resident, known for his elaborate manger scene (spotlighted in the IMPROPER's year-end issue), was the victim of two Scrooge-like thefts. Early in December, Carvalho's baby Jesus statuette (originally his father's 40 years ago) was taken from his property by a passerby who used it as a grab gift at an Inman Square coffee shop's holiday party. The statuette was returned the following day by the sympathetic recipient of the "gift." Just a few days after Christmas, Carvalho noticed the baby Jesus was again missing, and early on New Year's Day his sign asking for the return of the statuette was torn down and a beer bottle placed in the empty creche. "Dollar-wise it's not worth a lot," says Carvalho. "It's too bad. Normally we would've left it up until Little Christmas (Jan. 6). We put it up for the enjoyment of others, not for ourselves."

Good Morning, NYC... Mix 98.5's loyal listeners have a little afternoon adjusting to do. Longtime DJ Gregg Daniels just landed a slot on Mix 102.7 FM in New York. After 12 years on the air in Boston, the energetic DJ joins fellow Mix alum Lynn Hoffman on the new morning program. No word on Daniels' replacement, but frankly, with his voice and her style, the new duo might give Howard and Robin a run for their money.

—E.H., J.I. and J.S.

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PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

















More than 600 party-goers attende the **Tyler Hamilton Foundation Gal** Jan. 8 at the Cyclorama. Hamilton, a international-level professional cy clist, launched his charitable founda tion to fight multiple sclerosis an help provide opportunities for aspirin young cyclists. The fund-raiser fea tured live and silent auctions, foo from Boston's top restaurants and liv music by the Chad Hollister Band. A native of Marblehead, Hamilton ga nered eighth place in last year's Tou de France despite breaking his colla bone in an early stage of the race. H is also honorary chair of the Nationa MS Society's Cycling Series.

1. From left: **John Scully**, vice president wi Goldman Sachs; **Janel Jorgensen**, director operations at Oracle; **Carlie Wakeman**, princ pal consultant with Edgewater Technology; a **Tim Hornbrook**, product manager at Fideli Investments.
2. From left: **Kathryn Loebs**, attorney; **Hug Bolton**, banker for Brown Brothers Harrima and **Amy Wakeman**, new marketing for Aviva
3. **Chris Gootkind** (left) and **Rich Coffman**, bo investment managers at Wellington Managemen
4. From left: **Forrest Rodts**, artist; **Becky Easte brooks** and her husband, **Darby**, builder f Easterbrooks Construction in Marblehead.
5. **Caroline** and **Joe McNamara**, advertising e ecutive and writer, respectively, for Hill Holliday.
6. From left: **Todd Maynard**, owner of Mystic Riv Construction; his wife **Charlotte**, owner of Cr ative Development Co.; and **Mark Russell**, estate manger for Cumberland Farms in Canton
7. **Tyler Hamilton** (left) and **Joe Tonon**, preside of the Tyler Hamilton Foundation.
8. **Kris Munroe**, artist, and **Susan Hamilton**, i terior designer for Winter Street Architects.

Jazz pianist/vocalist Paul Broadnax was among the performers at the ***Lavender* CD Release Party** held Jan. 8 at Maison Robert to benefit cancer support programs provided by VNA Care Network, a nonprofit home health care, hospice and wellness agency. More than 100 guests attended the party celebrating the CD, recorded by classically trained pianist, registered nurse and cancer survivor Beverly Pickering and distributed free to cancer patients.









9. From left: **Jill Tobacco**, public relations for Weber Shandwick; **Joel Jacobs**, deputy CIO for Mitre; and **Carly Gartman**, account executive for Weber Shandwick.
10. From left: **Brad Bleidt**, owner of Business 1060 AM; **Rachel Regan**, manufacturing consultant for Total Systems Development, and her husband, **Tim**, a Black Hawk helicopter pilot.
11. **Eleanor McMahon**, account supervisor at Weber Shandwick, and **Keith Sachs**, partner at Melick, Porter & Shea.
12. **Susana Ngan**, financial planner for Financial Perspectives, and **Wilson Amorin**, first vice president of corporate finance for Kimball & Cross.

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Proper bead catching technique



More proper bead catching technique

(Happy Mardi Gras.)



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ezra

BY EZRA DYER



SLIPPING A MICKEY

The real line on Disney World

I just got back from Disney World. Why would a sane adult willingly visit a child-infested theme park, you ask? There's no Ez Jr. or li'l Ezzette running around, which would be the first obvious reason. And I didn't get married and decide I wanted the cheesiest honeymoon south of the Poconos, which would be the second reason. Nope, I just wanted to go on some cool rides. As it turns out, that's the worst reason you could have for going to Disney World. If you want to experience gut-wrenching G-forces and involuntary screams of terror while crammed into a rubbery, vomit-stained seat, Boston's many fine cabbies would be happy to punch your ticket on the Storrow Drive Heart Attaxi. If you want to take a spin on the Aerosmith Rock 'n' Roller Coaster at MGM Studios, however, I have some advice: wear comfortable shoes.

I assume Kofi Annan hasn't heard about Disney's line-routing system, which flouts Geneva Convention prohibitions against psychological torture. I'm surprised I didn't see any Taliban prisoners being interrogated while waiting in line for the Rock 'n' Roller Coaster. You move down to one end of the line, get within feet of the ride's entrance, then turn the corner and plod back to the other end, somewhere near Jacksonville. This process is repeated about 80 times. The upshot is, if the Swedish Bikini Team is in line somewhere in front of you, then you get to check them out every time they go past in the opposite direction. Of course, this being Disney World, the line looked like a bunch of Orcs that had escaped from Middle Earth. You could find a more attractive crowd in an Ozarks strip club. For example, the couple behind us was passing the time by popping each other's zits. I'm not kidding. This guy's girlfriend was squeezing his zits and plucking hairs out of his face, and because of the twisting line I kept seeing them every two minutes. I'm not normally rude to strangers, but these people needed to know that this wasn't what I had in mind when the tram driver in the parking lot told me to have a magical day. "How many more people are they gonna *squeeze* in this place?" I said loudly as we passed the offending couple. "This ride's gonna *burst*!" They both gave me dirty looks but didn't relent. I don't even want to think about what they must do when they're not surrounded by hundreds of people. It probably involves gerbils and floor wax.

The Rock 'n' Roller Coaster was worth waiting in line for an hour, if for no other reason than it sped me away from the gruesome Line Trolls for a minute or so. One of the only conscious thoughts in my head as we looped around the track was "I've got to scream a little deeper. I sound like a girl." Then it was off to Indiana Jones and the Temple of Disappointment. This was supposed to be a three-scene act on giant sets with lots of stunts, but before the show, a friendly man with a microphone told us he had good news: The first set was broken and thus couldn't roll out of the way to reveal sets two and three, so we wouldn't get to see the final two scenes. I guess I should just be glad he didn't have bad news, because then I'd probably have caught meningitis from my seat.

The first act was certainly entertaining, with a Harrison Ford stunt-double dodging spears, flames and the famous giant rolling boulder, but the ending was extremely anticlimactic. Indiana got up after the boulder smooshed him and that was it. With

> THE LINE FOR THE ROCK 'N' ROLLER COASTER LOOKED LIKE A BUNCH OF ORCS THAT HAD ESCAPED FROM MIDDLE EARTH

that kind of unfulfilled expectation, the boulder should have been blue. Everyone sat there digesting their disappointment before quietly shuffling away. I wanted to scream, "Wally World's closed? You can't close Wally World...The moose says you set is broken, I say it works." But by then I was busy fantasizing about sitting somewhere dark with a beer and some Buffalo wings and a football game on TV. Somewhere that wasn't built to resemble a 19th century trading post with fiberglass rocks outside, which ruled out the greater Orlando area.

Now, as I sit in Boston writing this, the temperature is 2 degrees. There's an overturned coffee on the sidewalk outside my building that I'll be stepping over until March. And waiting in line for a rollercoaster while drinking a beer in 80-degree weather doesn't sound so bad. iB

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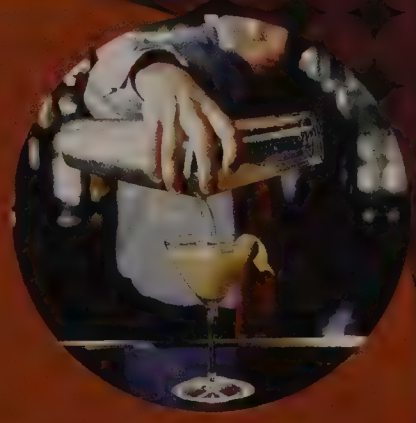
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Soroff ON

NICHOLAS MARTIN

BY JONATHAN SOROFF



Theatrical giant Nicholas Martin, artistic director of the Huntington Theatre Company, was born in Brooklyn. A graduate of Carnegie Mellon University, he spent 35 years as an actor, appearing in *Alice in Wonderland* on Broadway and working extensively with San Diego's Old Globe theater company. For 10 years, he belonged to Ellis Rabb's storied APA-Phoenix Repertory Company, whose other members included the likes of Helen Hayes. He left acting 12 years ago to direct, and in 1999 won an Obie award for directing *Betty's Summer Vacation*. His other New York directing credits include *Hedda Gabler* (on Broadway), *Chaucer in Rome*, *The Time of the Cuckoo*, *You Never Can Tell* and *The Rivals*. Among the productions he has helmed at the Huntington are *Betty's Summer Vacation*—which earned him an Elliot Norton award for Best Director in 2002—*Butley*, *Springtime for Henry*, *Hedda Gabler*, *Fully Committed* and *Dead End*. In 2001 he was named to *Entertainment Weekly*'s annual "It List" as one of the Top Creative People in the Country. In addition to his duties with the Huntington and as a drama professor at BU, he is currently preparing to direct a new play on Broadway, *Match*, starring Frank Langella and Ray Liotta. He lives on Beacon Hill.

Jonathan Soroff: *Is directing a desire to play God?*

Nicholas Martin: To a certain degree, although most of us would never phrase it that way. There's too much human involvement, if you know what I mean. You're not really pulling the strings, like on a puppet, because they're actors, and actors aren't easy.

JS: *Are they a pain in the ass?*

NM: By and large, I love actors. The most complicated people, and the ones you have to watch out for, are the playwrights.

JS: *I make it a rule never to date either.*

NM: Very wise, on both scores. I'm living proof.

JS: *Is it my imagination, or is everything on Broadway a bloated, overblown, lowest-common-denominator spectacle?*

NM: Exactly. The play I'm doing on Broadway next week is a rarity, because it's a new play and it's not a musical. Makes it worth leaving Boston for seven weeks.

JS: *If Shakespeare were alive today, would he be doing Broadway, regional theater, or what?*

NM: Shakespeare was Broadway in the Elizabethan world. I think *The Taming of the Shrew* was *Hairspray*, and *King Lear* was *Miss Saigon*, or *Les Mis*. Know what I mean?

> LIFE HAS DEALT ME SO MANY UNEXPECTED CATASTROPHES, IT'S BLUDGEONED ME INTO SPONTANEITY. I CAN'T WORRY ABOUT SUPERSTITIONS.

JS: *Sure—popular entertainment. So what's the state of the American theater?*

NM: Well, I don't want to denigrate Broadway, because I've had a wonderful time there. But it's perilous for serious plays, and even for good solid comedies without music. Elsewhere in the country, like here, the theater is really quite healthy.

JS: *Biggest theatrical disaster of your career?*

NM: Some people might say my whole acting career, which was the first 35 years of my life. I didn't start directing until 12 years ago. Then again, my life as an alcoholic was a pretty major disaster, too. But at least that has a happy ending…I hope.

JS: *What superstitions of the theater do you believe in—like saying "Break a leg" instead of "Good luck," or "the Scottish play" instead of* Macbeth*?*

NM: Oh, I'll say *Macbeth* right here, or tell someone "Good luck." Life has dealt me so many unexpected catastrophes, it's bludgeoned me into spontaneity. I can't worry about superstitions.

JS: *You have a track record for getting big names to appear in your productions—Nathan Lane, John C. Reilly, Gwyneth Paltrow. How do you get people like that to come here?*

NM: I sleep with them. [Laughs.] I wish! I'm just lucky. Part of the excitement for me is to be able to offer substantial people parts they otherwise wouldn't play. Nathan was one of them. I know some people were disappointed he wasn't singing selections from *The Lion King*, but those are the breaks.

JS: *How do you deal with TV and film actors whose egos have run amok?*

NM: Funny you should ask. Only today I was fighting with my New York producers. We're doing a three-character play, and they want a big female star to play opposite Frank Langella and Ray Liotta, who aren't exactly chopped liver. They're pushing a bunch of big names on me—television and movie stars—all of whom are psychotic and would destroy not only me but the street the theater's on. So you have to fight to avoid that.

JS: *Biggest diva you ever worked with?*

NM: I'll have to say Estelle Parsons. I love her. Don't get me wrong. She was wonderful with me, but she just splintered that cast.

JS: *Isn't being a diva sometimes the only way to get things done?*

NM: I'm not interested in that. I've had a lot of it, and I won't have it here in Boston. I want to have fun. I want to work with people I love. You know, people say someone like Nathan Lane is a prima donna, and he's a dream to work with. So the answer is no.

JS: *Worst thing you ever had to say to an actor?*

NM: You're fired.

JS: *How about a stage direction?*

NM: Stop moving. It's tough, because they don't know they're doing it.

JS: *Does Andrew Lloyd Webber deserve the death penalty?*

NM: Yeah, as far as I'm concerned, especially since when you hear a song of his, it's stuck in your head for the rest of the day, and you hate yourself for it. I mean, he did what he had to do, but he certainly ruined the musical there for 10 years or so.

JS: *Agree or disagree: All weddings, even the bad ones, are good theater?*

NM: Absolutely. I was just at a wedding with another director, and we were crying and laughing. I said, "If two mean-spirited show business people are sobbing, it must be a good show."

JS: *What everyday scene regularly strikes you as theatrical?*

NM: Anyplace where children play.

JS: *If you could stage-manage one thing in your life, what would it be?*

NM: A more successful search for a significant other. I was never good at it, and since I've taken this job it's been almost impossible.

JS: *How about working with animals and children?*

NM: I like it. I think they get a bad rap. If you find the right kids or the right dog they're OK. Even an animal that takes a dump onstage—audiences love it. I've never had to deal with anything like that, although several of the actresses I've worked with came close.

JS: *Is applause a narcotic?*

NM: Oh, yeah. Even for a director. That's the only time I'm jealous of actors. I feel like it's mine. The standing ovation has gotten a little tired, though.

JS: *I know! It used to be you couldn't get one in Boston. Now there are standing ovations for things…*

NM: …like *The Graduate*! I know. I was there. [Laughs.] I think people spend so much on tickets, they want to feel they've gotten their money's worth. [But] you wish they'd be a little more selective, although you always want it for your own show.

JS: *Last question: Can you believe you get paid to do what you do?*

NM: No. It's a gift, and I'm very lucky and very grateful. But at the same time, I feel that my recompense is accurate. [Laughs.]

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TALENT, BRAINS, GOOD DEEDS, GOOD LOOKS... YOU'LL FIND IT ALL IN THIS YEAR'S CROP OF BACHELORS AND BACHELORETTES

With all the egregiously cheesy dating shows on TV—*The Bachelor, Joe Millionaire, Average Joe, Boy Meets Bo* etc., ad nauseam—it's easy to forget that there are single people out there who:

a) actually care about something other than themselves;
b) have something to offer beyond eight-pack abs, an artificially whitened smile or blandly plastic good looks;
c) aren't obsessively searching for either a mate or a large pile of money;
d) could accurately be described as reasonably sane, stable and baggage free.

Yet they're out there, and Boston happens to be a good place to find them.

As implausible as it may seem in a culture that pushes the idea of coupledom as the ultimate in human fulfillmen being single is not a disease, a handicap or a liability. Nor is everyone worth dating already taken. In fact, we're su rounded by interesting, accomplished and appealing singles who are not spoken for. They're the kind of people you be happy to have your best friend date; the type your parents would approve of. For anyone not paired off, they're t sort you'd be lucky to settle down with.

In compiling our annual list of the city's most eligible bachelors and bachelorettes, we're indebted to our reader who flooded our mailbox with suggestions. We also relied on our own network of contacts. What we've come with, we hope, is an eclectic and diverse cross-section of impressive people who lead full and interesting lives. O group of 10 men and 10 women includes one gay man and one lesbian—the same ratio as the general populatio And finally, by no means are we saying that these are Boston's only worthwhile bachelors and bachelorettes. The are plenty of great catches in the sea, and we sincerely hope that reading this will inspire you to nominate your fa tastic friend/relative/colleague/acquaintance when we publish our ballot again next year.

Here's hoping this gives some inspiration to all you frustrated singletons and makes for interesting reading for the smug marrieds.

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

PHOTOGRAPHED BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN



JERI COLBERT

25, law student and Patriots cheerleader

ere's our pick to play Wonder Woman. 's not often that an Ivy League legal ind comes packaged in an NFL cheerader's body, but this extraordinary oung woman is all that and so much ore. Born and raised in Durham, N.C., olbert was a competitive gymnast grow- g up and a high school cheerleader be- re joining the Army and receiving a S. in American politics and systems en- neering from West Point. A member of e Army Rabble Rousers (West Point's heerleading squad), she accompanied a ilitary attaché to Africa, visiting Côte lvoire, Benin, Togo and Liberia, among her places. Fluent in French, she's an tstanding cook and has volunteered as domestic violence counselor at Boston edical Center, as well as for the Special lympics and Habitat for Humanity. Her bby of running marathons is temporar- on hold while she pursues her law de- ee at Harvard and works with the Patri- s' pep squad. Her diverse career goals clude running for Congress, owning a alth club and writing books, and with r drive and energy, chances are she'll able to check off all three before she rns 30. Multitasking like mad while aking it look easy, she's proof that not ly can you have it all, you can look rgeous doing it.

GLENN JONES

26, news reporter for Fox25

A native of Bermuda, Jones is a perfect gentleman: In that island's strong British tradition, he treats women with the utmost respect, even observing such niceties as opening doors and pulling out chairs. After graduating from the Williston Northampton School in western Mass., he studied broadcast journalism at Emerson College, which named him one of its distinguished young alumni. During four years as a TV reporter in Fort Myers, Fla., he won several Associated Press awards and covered such stories as Jeb Bush's reelection, the Florida recount and the launch of the space shuttle. In October, he returned to Boston to work as a morning reporter for Fox, where his schedule has him eating dinner at 5 pm, in bed by 7:30 and waking at 2:45 am. Despite the grueling hours—he says the only other part of the job that he dislikes is wearing makeup—he finds time for an active social life. In addition to being an avid golfer, he works out daily ("If you're gonna wear those ugly socks and Bermuda shorts," he jokes, "you gotta have nice legs") and loves playing baseball, softball and soccer. At home, he's a voracious reader, enjoying the latest best-sellers and subscribing to numerous magazines. He loves to cook, with baking (especially cookies) a specialty. His musical tastes embrace everything from opera to pop, hip-hop and jazz, while weekend jaunts to places like New Orleans, Mohegan Sun or home to Bermuda are his preferred way to recharge his batteries. To top it all off, he's well dressed and as handsome as they come, with a shy, introverted side that's like catnip to the ladies.

LORIE KOMLYN

33, high school administrator

A force of nature, with looks to match, Komlyn grew up in Connecticut and came to Boston as a teenager to study ballet and modern dance at the arts high school where she now works. At Washington University, in St. Louis, she majored in psychology and women's studies while performing with a modern dance company. She then spent a year with the New England Dance Theater in Stamford, Conn. As a volunteer in the office, she developed an interest in licensing rights and copyright management while working to acquire performance rights to a piece of music. That interest led her to earn a law degree (specializing in entertainment law) at Golden Gate University in San Francisco. After clerking for a family court judge in Connecticut and working at a sports marketing agency in New York, she moved back to Boston and further broadened her resume with a stint as a private investigator and a year of teaching fourth grade. Eventually, she found a position that combined her love for education and the arts, returning three and a half years ago to her alma mater, where she serves as senior associate dean for admission and placement. She's a member of the Classics Dance Theatre, an interactive nonprofit ballet company that teaches dance, performance and stagecraft to schoolchildren throughout New England, and an avid figure skater who takes lessons at the Skating Club of Boston. She subscribes to the symphony, belongs to the Appalachian Mountain Club and adores hiking, camping and skiing. This summer, her goal is to learn to ride a Harley. A vegetarian, she admits she's not a great cook, but then again, you can't be good at everything.

JESSE LEVEY

24, CEO of United Leaders

It's hard to believe that at the tender age of 24, Levey has already founded a thriving nonprofit. He actually started United Leaders in his college dorm room. Four years later, it's a nationally recognized, million-dollar organization with offices in Cambridge, San Francisco and Washington, D.C. A self-described "social and political entrepreneur," Levey started the group as a nonpartisan organization aiming to recruit and train the next generation of leaders in politics and public policy. Last year, 750 applicants from more than 200 schools in 46 states vied for the 36 fellowships United Leaders awarded. On top of that, he was tagged "politically hip" by the *Boston Globe*. Born and raised in the Bay Area, he studied political science and communications at Tufts. He's an avid runner who has completed the Boston Marathon and is currently training for one in Vienna. He loves the theater and has appeared in several Shakespearean productions at Tufts, including *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and *Romeo and Juliet*. He loves to entertain and hosts regular martini nights in his South End apartment. As for sustenance, he mostly dines out and is a regular at all the hottest spots in town. Fluent in Spanish and willing to talk to anyone, he's passionate about working toward political change—a marked characteristic since he was 4 years old. Add to that his clean-cut good looks, and it's obvious why we've dubbed him one of the city's sexiest young do-gooders.



MIKE BATTISTA

25, professional lacrosse player for the Boston Cannons

A hunka, hunka burnin' hottie, Newton native Battista studied communications and advertising at Loyola in Maryland. He works as a sales rep for Atlantic Sportswear, a company that sells athletic apparel to colleges and high schools, while pursuing a second career as a Major League Lacrosse midfielder. His training regimen includes a daily two-hour workout that keeps him in Olympian athletic condition. A former BMX bike racer, he's a fanatical Patriots fan and spends as much time as possible in the summer at his family's place in Yarmouth. Being a complete jock doesn't preclude a creative side, though; like all nice Italian boys, he's an excellent cook who can make mouthwatering ravioli and gnocchi. He's also not shy around a karaoke machine, belting out a Sinatra classic or some tricky top-40 tune with the aplomb of a pop star. A casual, easygoing guy who's equally at home at a dance club or a neighborhood bar, he's got the kind of smoldering good looks that give women heart palpitations. There ought to be a bumper sticker that says, "Lacrosse players do it however they want."

MELISSA

on-air personality, WBCN 104 FM

A witty, sexy bundle of contradictions, Melissa (who won't divulge her age) played clarinet in the band and belonged to the pep squad at Kings Park High School on Long Island. But she describes herself as "the cheerleader from hell—grumpy, with Bon Jovi hair that actually stuck out the sunroof of my car." As a child, she wanted to be an actress, but a career in radio satisfies her desire to be center-stage. In contrast to the music geeks who go into radio because of an encyclopedic knowledge of music, Melissa is there to entertain, which she does brilliantly, as co-host of the Deek & Melissa show weeknights from 7 to midnight. After graduating from Ithaca College, she came to Boston and began interning at 'BCN while hosting "A Feast of Irish Music" under the pseudonym Siobhan on WATD in Marshfield. "It was hilarious," she recalls, "I came on right after 'Planting and Gardening'—this Jewish chick from Long Island pretending to be Irish and playing bagpipe music." Her big break at 'BCN came after seven years, when program director Oedipus put her on the air opposite Deek last April Fools' Day. Since then, she's built a following of listeners who tune in for the show's goofy but intelligent repartee. Her own taste in music ranges from Bach to the Beatles to Audioslave, and her unusual hours allow her to keep the rock and roll schedule of sleeping till noon, going to the gym and arriving for work late in the afternoon. She lives with her cat, Leroy, whom she insists is "the smartest cat on the planet, a genius, and definitely smarter than most of the men I've dated." Guys without a sense of humor need not apply.

PETER DZIEDZIC

26, corporate lawyer at Ropes & Gray

Our gay bachelor is quite the go-getter. Born and raised in Southington, Conn., Dziedzic went to Yale, where he was student activities coordinator for his residential college and organized a casino night that *Rolling Stone* magazine dubbed one of the "Top 10 parties in the country." At 19, he ran for public office, losing a race for state rep but feeding a lifelong passion for politics and public policy (he says his dream job would be White House chief of staff). A graduate of the University of Virginia School of Law, he's now a second-year associate at one of Boston's most venerable white-shoe firms, where he helps structure major deals. Currently he's editing an amicus brief on gay marriage to the Supreme Judicial Court on behalf of law professors and international human rights groups. An avid sports fan, he played intramural hockey in college, competes in a gay softball league and enjoys racquetball, golf, skiing and running. As for spectator sports, he's a college basketball fanatic. On the artistic side, he played clarinet in high school and once soloed with the Hartford Symphony. Although he rarely gets the opportunity to cook, he enjoys spending time in the kitchen. A weakness for all the latest electronic gadgets and a drive to try all the newest restaurants draw him out as often as possible, although his gorgeous Back Bay pad is a sweet place to kick back and relax.

MONIQUE BURNS

37, co-founder, New Leaders for New Schools, and CEO, the Principal Initiativ

It doesn't get any more impressive than th stunning Brookline native, who graduate from Brookline High and then Dartmou (with a double major in English ar drama). After four years working in brar management for Quaker Oats in Chicag Burns earned an M.B.A. from Harvard ar decided to apply it to improving the cou try's public schools. For four years, sh worked as a consultant to school superi tendents in Washington, D.C., ar Philadelphia before returning to Harvar Graduate School of Education. On her w to earning a Ph.D., she founded New Lea ers for New Schools, an organization th recruits, trains and places principals schools in such cities as New York, Chica and Washington, D.C. *Fast Compa* named the organization one of its "Top Groups That Are Changing the World giving it an A-plus rating in social impa More recently, Burns launched the Princ pal Initiative to provide skill developme and world-class curricula to school leade A three-sport varsity athlete who now sta fit with pilates, running and strength trai ing, she retired three years ago from women's basketball league. A passion f adventure travel has taken her everywhe from Bali to Mali—the further off th beaten track the better. She's also a sing who has belonged to a gospel choir and ar cappella group. Her other hobbies inclu interior decorating (her home and friends and it's rare that she doesn't have some sc of craft project under way. Somehow, sh still finds ample time to lavish on her n merous friends and family, whom she ca the most important thing in the world her. With her priorities in the right ord and an amazing ability to get things don not to mention a casually elegant beau she's the kind of person most of us on dream of being.



COURTNEY MEI O'REGAN

22, public relations manager at Caprice

Yowzah, yowzah, yowzah! This spectacular young woman of "Chirish" descent (her mother is Chinese; her father is Irish) is a Holliston native who graduated last May from BU. As public relations manager for Caprice, she handles the popular Theater District nightspot's advertising and plans private functions and special events—think J.Lo in *The Wedding Planner*, minus the weddings. Well-traveled (she's an old hand at Europe and last year spent two weeks touring India), she's also an avid reader who belongs to a book club and whose tastes lean toward literary fiction (Gabriel Garcia Marquez is a favorite). Her thirst for knowledge and new experiences has led her to take hip-hop classes at the gym and teach herself to cook, and her New Year's resolutions are to learn how to breakdance and how to spin like a professional DJ. Free time finds her doing yoga, running or dancing at a club, and while she describes herself as "a bit of a nerd," we're more apt to describe her as perfectly lovely.

JIM RUSHTON

33, director of sales for WEEI 850 AM and WRKO 680 AM

You'd be hard pressed to find a more optimistic or energetic individual than this Worcester native, who studied economics and government at Hamilton College in upstate New York. He began his career in radio at Mix 98.5 and in 1996 joined WEEI to handle the station's business development. By 1998, he was local sales manager. He was named general sales manager the following year and gained his current position in 2001. Throughout his steady ascent up the corporate ladder, the contagiously upbeat Rushton has played as hard as he's worked, becoming a regular at all the hottest spots in town and spending as much time as possible with friends. A home improvement nut, he enjoys working on projects at his summer house in West Dennis, where you're also liable to find him playing golf, kayaking or kicking back on the beach. A four-time Boston marathoner, he runs to relax and works out four times a week. During the winter, he enjoys heading north to the ski slopes. He's a major sports fan who attends home games at Fenway 40-50 times per season and also loves going to Patriots games (a perk of his job is excellent seats). Involved in numerous charities through his work, he's also a co-founder of the Commonwealth Courage Foundation, which raises money for the families of 9/11 victims. An all-around good guy, he's devoted to his family and as sweet and good-natured as they come.

SHAWN FEDDEMAN

30, Governor Mitt Romney's press secretary

Infectiously upbeat, she's been known to skip through the halls of the State House, but this savvy political operative is no lightweight. A native of Potomac, Md., Feddeman attended an all-girls school in Bethesda before earning a B.A. in English and French at Holy Cross in Worcester. She returned to the D.C. area to work in public affairs before moving back to Massachusetts in 1996 to work on then-governor William Weld's senatorial campaign. From there, she worked at the Department of Social Services for a year before becoming assistant press secretary to Paul Cellucci. She paid her dues in the governor's press office for four years and later worked on Romney's 2002 campaign for governor. In December of that year, she was named Romney's press secretary, a job she's handled with flair and finesse. Although the demands of her career require long hours, she still finds time to run (she's done both the Marine Corps and Chicago marathons and is contemplating Boston), travel (a trip to Thailand is planned for this spring) and read voraciously (history and best-sellers top her list). A sports nut who's a fanatical Redskins fan (sorry Pats), she knows her way around a kitchen thanks to cooking lessons in Strasbourg, France. (She also speaks fluent French.) Fans of the Learning Channel's *While You Were Out* may recall her from the episode when her State House office got the makeover treatment. Appealing in just about every way, she's like a cross between Mary Tyler Moore and Mary Matalin, with a highly developed sense of how to have a good time.

JORDAN TOBINS

27, owner of the Upper Crust

It's hard to see beyond his J. Crew catalog looks, but when you dig a little deeper, Tobins gets more and more interesting. A native of Sharon, he graduated from Roxbury Latin and then Williams College, where he received a B.A. in neuroscience and psychology. He worked in the restaurant industry throughout college and fell in love with the business. In 2001, he opened the Upper Crust, a Beacon Hill pizza joint that combines mom-and-pop casualness and comfort with a sleek techno look. Its instant success allowed him to open a second location in Coolidge Corner, and this month, another is slated to start doing business in Key West, Fla. Not surprisingly, he has plans for further expansion. An avid boater, he spends as much time as possible at his family's place on the Cape. He's learning to fly as well. He fits in air time whenever possible and has only one hour of flying time to go before qualifying for his private pilot's license. On warm weekend mornings, he takes two-wheeled excursions on his Ducati motorcycle. An excellent cook, he speaks French and wrestled competitively throughout high school and college. He also enjoys singing, getting together semiregularly for jam sessions with his guitar-playing roommate and other musician friends. In short, he's a bit like the improbably talented heartthrob on a daytime soap opera.



ROBIN SHEEDY

29, corporate lawyer at Hemenway and Barnes

This gorgeous dynamo, of Japanese and Native American ancestry, was raised in upstate New York and graduated from Western New England College in Springfield, Mass. As an undergrad, Sheedy worked as a police officer in Yarmouth, dealing with the usual bar brawls and domestic disturbance calls, but participating in a few drug busts as well. With a scholarship to New England School of Law, she earned her J.D., and she also has a master's from BU in banking and financial law. For the past two years, she has worked with venture capital funds and technology startups, structuring private equity financing and commercial loan transactions for one of Boston's most prestigious old firms. A triathlete and marathoner (she completed Boston's last year), she swims, bikes and runs and has become an avid ice climber. In her spare time, in addition to pro bono work, she mentors an eighth grader through Citizen Schools and plays flute in a trio (her minor in college was music performance). Her extensive travels have included a three-week trek to one of the base camps of Mount Everest, and in March, she's taking a two-and-a-half-month sabbatical to return to Nepal and work as a base-camp manager for a film expedition. Adventurous, accomplished and devastatingly attractive, she's a triple threat and the total package.

JOHN MONAHAN

38, news reporter for Fox25

What can we say? Fox25 is just crawling with foxes. A Dorchester boy who attended BC High followed by UMass (where he earned a B.A. in broadcast communications), Monahan started his career in TV at a local cable access channel. From there, he moved to California, working for nine years at Fox and CBS affiliates in Monterey. Highlights of his California career included interviewing then-president Bill Clinton and various movie stars. But perhaps most memorable was his ride in a news copter that was forced to crash-land on an aircraft carrier eight miles off the coast. He interrupted his California years to spend six months in Salamanca, Spain, working toward a graduate degree. In 2000, he returned to Boston, and he now applies his reporter's derring-do on the evening news. With mornings off, he works out, and he plans to return to two of his loves: painting (acrylics and watercolors) and improving his guitar playing. He's also looking for a volunteer opportunity to parallel the experience he had as a Rotarian in California, working on public service projects like blood drives, painting a senior citizens home and installing outdoor lighting for a high school playing field. He says he's a hazard in the kitchen, but he can barbecue with the best of 'em. Whenever he can, he likes to give his passport a workout on trips to places like Brazil and Turkey. All that, and handsome to boot.

SUZY AMOR

26, grad student

Gorgeous is only the shallowest of the adjectives that describe our lesbian bachelorette. In addition to being smokin', Amor is smart, sporty, sophisticated and super cool. Born and raised in Connecticut, the child of Portuguese parents, she speaks that language, as well as Spanish, fluently. As a child, she spent summers at her family's home in Portugal, and she embodies that country's laid-back, friendly, hospitable vibe, as well as its chic European flair. A graduate of Simmons College, where she studied human biology and played on the soccer team, she's currently working toward a graduate degree as a physician's assistant (while working in the restaurant business and exploring modeling opportunities) and hopes to specialize in pediatrics. Wild about animals, she's utterly devoted to her two Labrador retrievers, a chocolate and a yellow, with whom she spends much of her spare time hiking and running. This spring, she plans to complete the Boston Marathon. In the winter, she snowboards, and in summer, she surfs. An avid reader with a taste for the classics, she's an outstanding chef (traditional French and Italian cuisine are her specialties), and she studied the piano for six years at the prestigious Yamaha School of Music. A wine buff, she occasionally attends tastings, and her passionate interest in science leads her frequently to natural history and science museums. Well-rounded, well-read, well-spoken and well-dressed, she's everything a woman could wish for.

NICHOLAS BOYNTON

24, defenseman for the Boston Bruins

This corn-fed cutie is as laconic and lai
back as he is easy on the eyes. Born an
raised in Nobleton, Ontario, he grew u
on a farm and started playing hockey in
mediately after high school. After fou
years in the juniors in Ottawa, he playe
minor league for two seasons in Prov
dence before joining the Bruins three se
sons ago. A guitar player, he's buddi
with Ken Casey of the Dropkick Murph
and once played with the band onstage
the FleetCenter. Four years ago, he w
diagnosed with diabetes, and in additio
to watching his own health, he visits th
Joslin Diabetes Center, co-hosts an a
nual fund-raiser for research and do
meet-and-greets with kids suffering fro
the disease. He also participates whol
heartedly in the numerous public servi
and charitable efforts the Bruins unde
take. In his spare time, he enjoys playi
golf and fishing, and he just bought a bo
for water-skiing on the lakes back hom
where he spends summers. He's a count
boy at heart, although he has a health
dash of urban sophistication—living
the North End, he knows a fair amou
about fine wines, enjoys an occasion
cigar and gets to Las Vegas at least thr
times a year to play baccarat. A majo
league catch, he's a great guy with a hea
as big as the country he comes from.



ADAM EZRA

27, musician

his troubadour with the soul of a poet has
e dreamboat looks of a pop star married
ith a searing intellect, an activist's social
nscience and a well-developed sense of
umor that prevents him from taking it all
o seriously. The son of a musician, Ezra
ull name Adam Ezra Olshansky) grew up
Wayland and studied environmental ge-
graphy at Colgate. He lived in South
frica, doing land assessment and hitch-
iking around the country, and later in
anada, where he worked as a farm laborer,
efore devoting himself full-time to music.
fter stints in Chicago and California,
oning his chops and leading the life of an
inerant musician—living out of his car,
aying in coffee shops and overcoming a
atural ambivalence about performing—he
turned to Boston and formed his band,
e Adam Ezra Group, a year and a half
o. Since then, he's released an album of
s original, folk-tinted songs and earned a
yal following through his barefoot perfor-
ances at venues like Harpers Ferry, the
radise and Bill's Bar. At Colgate, he was
ptain of the lacrosse team, and he's now a
ach at Curry College in Milton. He also
joys camping, hiking and (somewhat sur-
isingly) playing bridge, which he learned
m his grandmother. (Finding people his
e to play, he says, has proven difficult.)
is other artistic pursuits include painting,
ulpting and (not surprisingly) writing po-
ry. An ingrained wanderlust leads him to
avel sporadically, although he prefers
ing something substantial—like the re-
f work he performed in Kosovo a few
ars back—to simple tourism. A mop of
uly brown hair and the duende of a born
usician make him irresistible, and a sin-
re desire to improve the world makes him
rthy of the adulation.



SUSANNA AND ROUSANNA GEVONDIAN

28, registered nurses, entrepreneurs and graduate students

These absurdly sexy twins were born in Armenia and raised there until the age of 15, spending a year in Moscow before emigrating to the United States. After attending St. Elizabeth's Medical Center School of Nursing in Boston, they practiced as registered nurses while attending UMass Boston, Rousanna studying neuroscience and Susanna chemistry. Both are now in the second year of an M.B.A. program, concentrating in health care management. Simultaneously, they work as managers for Violet Cosmetics, an all-natural skin care line from Europe, and are developing a business plan to expand its distribution. Avid volleyball and tennis players, their numerous accomplishments were recently highlighted in *Builders and Leaders* magazine, a Boston University publication. Fluent in Armenian, Russian and English, with a passing knowledge of French, they love to dance, especially salsa or Latin, and they're rarely apart. Like the super-sexy Eastern European Bond girl from the Cold War era—times two—they're gorgeous, exotic, resourceful and smart.



RONALD TAMLER

28, M.D., Ph.D., M.B.A.

A one-man brain trust, this dashing European with a hint of a British accent is the sort of cerebral overachiever that women who go for intellect are liable to get the vapors over. Hailing from Dusseldorf (and a rarity for his generation in being a German-born Jew), Tamler was schooled primarily in Germany, where he acquired both his courtly, old-world manners and fluency in four languages—German, English, French and Hebrew. (His knowledge of Latin allows him to understand a smattering of other tongues as well.) After earning a Ph.D. and a doctorate in free-radical biology, as well as an M.B.A., he moved to the Boston area two and a half years ago because he had fallen in love with the city on an earlier visit. He is now a senior resident at Boston Medical Center and plans to specialize in endocrinology. Passionate about everything that captures his imagination, he's a bit of a gadget freak and spends free time swimming in Newton's Crystal Lake (near his home), reading the greats (volumes by Anton Chekhov and Phillip Roth are currently on his nightstand), and playing piano and synthesizer. Although his doctoring duties keep him occupied, he still finds time to explore his adopted city, which he does with a wide-eyed wonder that makes him delightful company. In fact, the only negative comment we've heard about him is his penchant for making puns, but one look into his striking blue eyes, and most women, we're sure, would forgive him. IB

BEYOND the BIG ten

With a huge variety of wines awaiting discovery, it's time to venture out of your comfort zone. Here's a guide to getting started.

BY SANDY BLOCK, M.W.
PHOTOGRAPHED BY TONY SCARPETTA

Burgeoning enrollments in local wine classes hint at this fact: More people are having fun with wine than ever before, enjoying it casually and on a regular basis. And why not? It's an excellent contemporary cocktail and a natural partner to all of the flavorful and creative food we've been eating. Last year at this time, we ran a feature ("Wine Hits Its Prime") that addressed some common questions and presented practical tips to help readers learn to enjoy wine, a Wine 101 of sorts. Now, a year later, we offer advice for taking your enjoyment of wine to the next level, with specific tips for exploring the huge variety of options that exist beyond the top 10 wines (chardonnay, merlot, cabernet sauvignon and company) that most people know.

A Word About Quality

Although it doesn't have to be this way, most wine drinkers don't start out as adventurous explorers; we advance forward in small steps from familiar turf. That's not surprising. Consider vegetables. Few toddlers naturally like the taste of broccoli, spinach or kale; it doesn't matter that those foods are "good for you" or that some adults eat them with enthusiasm. Kids tend to start with the mild-tasting or sweet vegetables, like carrots, then move on from there.

Similarly, the novice wine drinker often can't appreciate the taste of a bolder-flavored wine, even one that's rated highly by "experts." That's why it makes no sense to preach to wine novices that they must enjoy the wine equivalents of spinach. They likely will find these bolder wines too strong or "bitter" and may have difficulty opening to their flavors in the future.

The wine styles that are hardest to appreciate without considerable tasting experience are the ones that most professional wine critics tend to hold in the highest esteem. But just as with children and vegetables, adults are sometimes uncomfortable when they're told they should like wines that don't taste good to them. The difference is that adults will often believe the experts are right and their own palate is somehow wrong. Surveys have shown that a lot of occasional wine drinkers worry about making the wrong selection in a social situation, fearing they'll appear unsophisticated. On the other hand, wine novices don't want to be pushed into buying a wine they won't like. No wonder it's so much easier to just drink beer.

It helps the budding wine enthusiast to remember that the only definition of a "good wine" that counts is a wine that appeals to you with the food you like to eat. It has nothing to do with ratings, recommendations or anyone else's so-called expert opinion. For instance, the same critic who adamantly dismisses wines that he or she considers too sweet might also use sugar and milk in Asian green tea or European roast coffee. Why? Because they like it better that way, regardless of how the tea or coffee is "supposed" to be enjoyed.

What's Popular Now

The wines that do best in today's market are affordable, featuring labels that are easy to understand and flavors that appeal to a variety of consumers. They're well

marketed, easy to buy and easy to "use." Just like most beer. The difference is that the typical beer consumer exhibits strong brand loyalty, whereas wine drinkers tend to experiment freely among styles, much like some diners who "live to eat" do. Wine can be confusing though, and for this reason people tend to stick within a range. The Wine Market Council, a nonprofit association of grape farmers, producers and sellers of wine, recently conducted a survey of consumer habits to determine why people end up choosing particular wines. It found that for most consumers, the type or variety of wine was the single most important variable, followed closely by price. (The good news here is that prices are moderating lately, with many wines that were almost impossible to find now offered by the glass at top restaurants, as supply continues to outstrip demand.) The brand of wine turns out to be a less significant factor than its type or price, and the country or region where the wine was produced appears to be the least important factor of all in influencing product choice.

So the message is clear: Most of us are looking for wines in a comfort zone—flavors we know we like at the price we're willing to pay, whatever that might be.

That explains why only a few popular varieties continue to dominate the wine market in the U.S. They're long-term winners, easy for people to remember and buy. So what are we drinking today? Increasingly more red wine, and, for now at least, 75 percent American wine. As of last year, the number one category of American wine, by far, remained chardonnay, which constituted 34 percent of varietal wine sales. Merlot was second at 17 percent, cabernet sauvignon next at 15 percent and white zinfandel fourth, with 14 percent. So those "big four" account for 80 percent of the market. The only others to register were sauvignon blanc (5 percent), zinfandel (3 percent) and pinot noir (2 percent). Among the imports, pinot grigio was as dominant a number one choice as chardonnay was among domestic varietals, followed by Australian shiraz. Both of these categories continue to grow dramatically each year. If we add Chianti, which is next in popularity, we have the 10 basic "flavors" that constitute the wine-drinking repertoire of most Americans.

The Next Step

Of course, there's a lot more variety available than this top 10 list would suggest; one glance at the selections your typical conscientious wine merchant displays will prove that point. But there's a gap between the bounty of choices available and what peopl for the most part, are buying. If you've found your comfort zone among the most popul types of wine but are beginning to feel you're in a rut, you might want to explore the fo lowing alternatives. These less popular wines (listed with their retail price range per b tle) are comparable to the best-sellers in their flavor profiles but can add a little mo spice to your wine-drinking adventures.

If you like chardonnay…try a pinot blanc or a Chablis

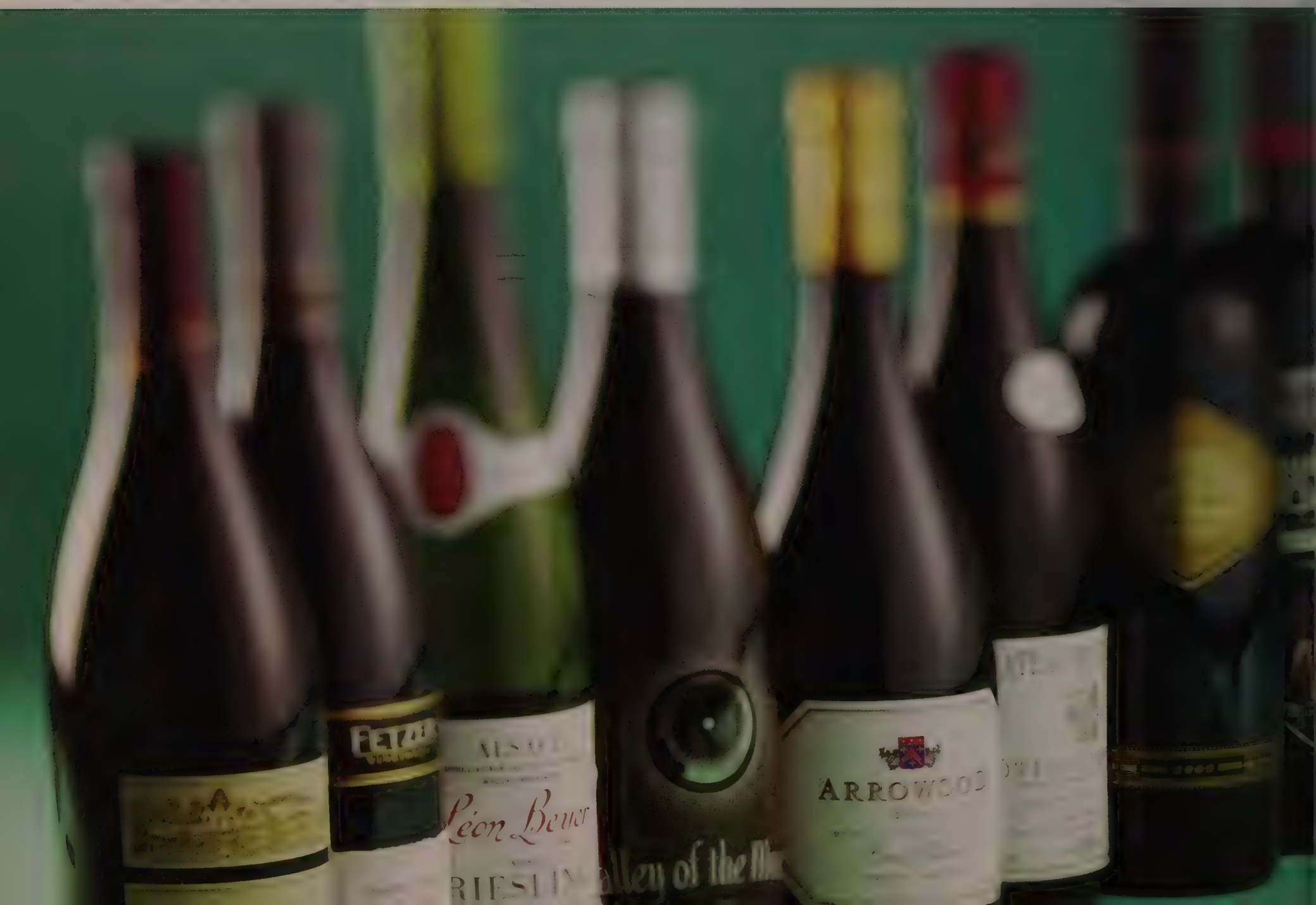
Chardonnay's so popular because it's mild and relatively full bodied and, most impo tantly, it marries well with oak flavors. There's a buttery richness many chardonnays e hibit that appeals to some palates.

Pinot blanc is related. It originates, like chardonnay, in Burgundy, but is usually ev milder in flavor, lower in acidity and slightly lighter in body. Its most appealing traits i its soft texture, which gives it a creamy feel on your palate, and the faint hint of spic which you'll taste in the finish, after swallowing. Because it's so mild, it pairs well wi spicy dishes. Good pinot blanc is grown all over California and the Pacific Northwe Alsace in France, and Friuli in northern Italy, where it's labeled "pinot bianco." (Pri range: $10 to $20.)

Wines from Chablis, a village in northern France, are actually 100 percent chardo nay in composition, but they have a slightly different flavor profile than your avera California, Australian or Chilean chardonnay. They're crisper in acidity and show strong suggestion of minerality in the flavor. Chablis is a wonderful choice for seafoo including raw shellfish, and it's most popular among chardonnay drinkers who don't pr fer the rich buttery style but tend to go for wines with a bit of an edge to their flavo Chablis also tends to be a touch lighter in body than most other chardonnays, so it's great way to begin a meal. (Price range: $15 to $40.)

If you like pinot grigio…try a muscadet or an Oregon pinot gris

Pinot grigio is light, easy drinking, and somewhat bland, sometimes featuring a hint "spritz." It doesn't have much of a bite and is popular as a cocktail or with lighter dish and because it doesn't have strong flavor it's adaptable to a wide range of cuisines.



Muscadet is a French wine from the Loire Valley that, like some pinot grigio, is bottled right from the yeast, without significant aging. It's low in alcohol and has a refreshing taste. The difference is that muscadet is more piquant than pinot grigio, with slightly sharper flavors that suit it beautifully for mussels or oysters. But it's got that same light-bodied, easy-drinking feel. (Price range: $8 to $12.)

Oregon pinot gris is a natural extension because it's made from the same grape as pinot grigio, but here you generally get more apple, more spice and, often, some oak aging, which makes the wine more medium bodied than light. (Think pinot grigio after it's worked out in the gym for several months.) Sometimes a lush, silky Oregon pinot gris will have just a touch of sweetness, so if this is a characteristic you want to avoid, ask your server or wine seller. (Price range: $12 to $18.)

If you like sauvignon blanc...try an Orvieto or an Alsace riesling

Sauvignon blanc has become popular because of its incomparably zesty, citric accent, which can be a dream with so many different foods that display salty, tart or even mild, bland flavors.

Orvieto, a wine from Italy's Umbria region, is composed primarily of trebbiano, a sharp-tasting grape with a hint of lemon. Usually bottled without any oak aging, Orvieto's very fresh tasting and clean, without the extremely acidic edge that many sauvignons have. Wonderful as an aperitif, it's also great with pasta (hold the red sauce) and shrimp. (Price range: $10 to $15.)

Sauvignon blanc fans can find a wonderful surprise in Alsace riesling—it's bone dry (usually, make sure you ask) and every bit as acidic, but generally gentler on the palate. The acids tend to be less aggressive than with sauvignon blanc, and more mouthwatering. Featuring aromas that are floral and applelike, Alsace riesling is a super wine with salty dishes, like ham or sausages, as well as with white-meat dishes like pork or roast chicken. (Price range: $15 to $30.)

If you like white zinfandel...try a German riesling

This recommendation is a stretch, because it's been shown that most white zin drinkers—who like the wine's sweetness and mild, gentle, strawberrylike fruit—won't drink any other wine. German rieslings, particularly wines originating in the Rheinhessen or Pfalz regions, tend to be every bit as sweet as white zinfandel but with more acidity and more flavor, most of it on the apricot, apple and peach side of the fruit spectrum. These are gentle, soft, straightforwardly fruity wines with interesting flavors, and they work well with the spiciest dishes. (If you're looking for more spice or more flavor nuance try rieslings from, respectively, the Rheingau or Mosel-Saar-Ruwer region.) They're also great served extremely cold before dinner. Generally those graded "Kabinett" are the best bets, although prices are considerably higher than for any white zinfandel. (Price range: $12 to $25.)

If you like merlot...try a carmenere

Merlot may be slipping a bit, but it remains incredibly popular because it's flavorful but smooth, without painful acid or tannins.

Carmenere from Chile is an interesting story. Once confused with merlot, it's now bottled as a separate varietal although the two are related. Carmenere tends to have a touch more spice than merlot and is just a bit fuller in body. But it's got that same soft, round, velvety feel and a similar blackberrylike flavor. You can drink it with very casual fare, like burgers, or dress it up and serve it with a steak. (Price range: $9 to $25.)

If you like cabernet sauvignon...try a cabernet Franc

Cabernet sauvignon is the red wine aristocrat, highly aromatic, rich in flavor, full in body, with strong tannins and a capacity to develop over time in the bottle into a more complex, interesting drink. It's classic with lamb.

A member of the same family, cabernet Franc tends to have more acidity and a bit less in the way of tannins. More medium- than full-bodied, it's also got a somewhat herbal, green edge to the flavor; where cabernet sauvignon can be lush and sappy, this variety usually shows more of a crisp, vegetal side to balance the dominant dark berry flavors. Some is made in California, some beautiful ones are produced up in Washington, and probably among the most interesting examples come from the Loire Valley. These wines, under the obscure appellations of Chinon and Bourgeuil, provide a uniquely tart, refreshing interpretation of the grape. (Price range: $10 to $30.)

If you like shiraz...try a syrah or a Côtes du Rhone

Shiraz is on fire because it's got it all: spice, loads of flavor, low tannin levels and an easy price point.

Syrah is the same grape as shiraz, although wines labeled as syrah tend to be a touch rougher, with more understated fruit and perhaps more pepper. Generally, they're slightly less satisfying as a cocktail but can be more interesting with heartier, slow-cooked dishes. Although syrah isn't on the radar screen among the varietals that are popular from California, it's been the fastest-growing new grape there for the past several years. Washington also makes great syrah, and Chile has been getting in on the act too, with some delicious, richly fruity wines. (Price range: U.S. $12 to $25, Chile $10 to $20.)

The southern French blend Côtes du Rhone generally incorporates some syrah, along with grenache and other grapes. It has a more rustic feel than Australian shiraz, with less direct fruitiness, more alcohol and more earthy tones. But it's a terrific choice for all kinds of casseroles and stews. (Price range: $10 to $18.)

If you like Chianti...try a barbera or a Montepulciano d'Abruzzo

Chianti, in all its permutations, is on the leading edge of our never-ending romance with Italian food. It's great with red sauces because of its tart, cherrylike flavors.

Barbera, a grape from Piedmont in northern Italy, is among the most underrated in the world. Like Chianti (which is made from the sangiovese grape), barbera has strong acids, but it tends to have a bit of an earthier feel, with less tannin. Most importantly, with barbera there's more of the red fruit feel in the "middle" of the palate than there often is with Chianti. Barbera is a very adaptable, easy-to-like wine that can go with everything from lasagna to roasted veal chops. (Price range: $12 to $25.)

Montepulciano d'Abruzzo, from a region further south in Italy, is a sharp-tasting, less potent, lighter-bodied version of Chianti. It's made for red sauces, the zingy Montepulciano fruit echoing the tomato flavors of pizza or a spaghetti dish. It's a casual style of wine that doesn't require a big investment. Just be sure you like tart flavors. (Price range: $7 to $10.)

If you like zinfandel...try a petite sirah

Zinfandel is a powerhouse of a wine, often with alcohol levels in excess of 15 percent, that's got loads of gulpable fruit and usually moderate tannins.

Petite sirah—darker, bolder, more rustic and more peppery—outdoes zinfandel. Where some zins have a soft fruit elegance, petite sirah, which like zinfandel hails from California, is all about overstatement. It's a great winter wine, especially with very hearty dishes, including all kinds of grilled, even charred meat. In fact, a bit of petite sirah is often added to zinfandel to deepen its color and intensify its flavor. The only problem is that petite sirah is not planted in great quantities and can be harder to find. (Price range: $10 to $25.)

And finally, if you like pinot noir...sorry, there's nothing else like it. Except maybe a Rioja, sometimes. But there's so much variety in pinot that you can explore it endlessly without getting bored. IB



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Satin corset, $1,311; green tweed pencil skirt, $430. Both by Stella McCartney, at Gretta Luxe.

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Madame X headpiece by Marie Galvin, $275 at www.galvinizedhats.com. Double-strand blue topaz necklace, $230; matching earrings, $100. Both by Jane Jewelry, at Jasmine Sola or www.janejewelry.com.

Dark green satin corset, $995; matching skirt, $470. Both by Stella McCartney, at Gretta Luxe. Yellow mother of pearl necklace (worn as bracelet), $210 at www.janejewelry.com.



Carnelian and gold earrings by Jane Jewelry, $145 at www.janejewelry.com. Dark green wool coat by Stella McCartney, $3,045 at Gretta Luxe. Rosebud headpiece by Marie Galvin, $225 at www.galvinizedhats.com.

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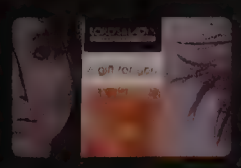
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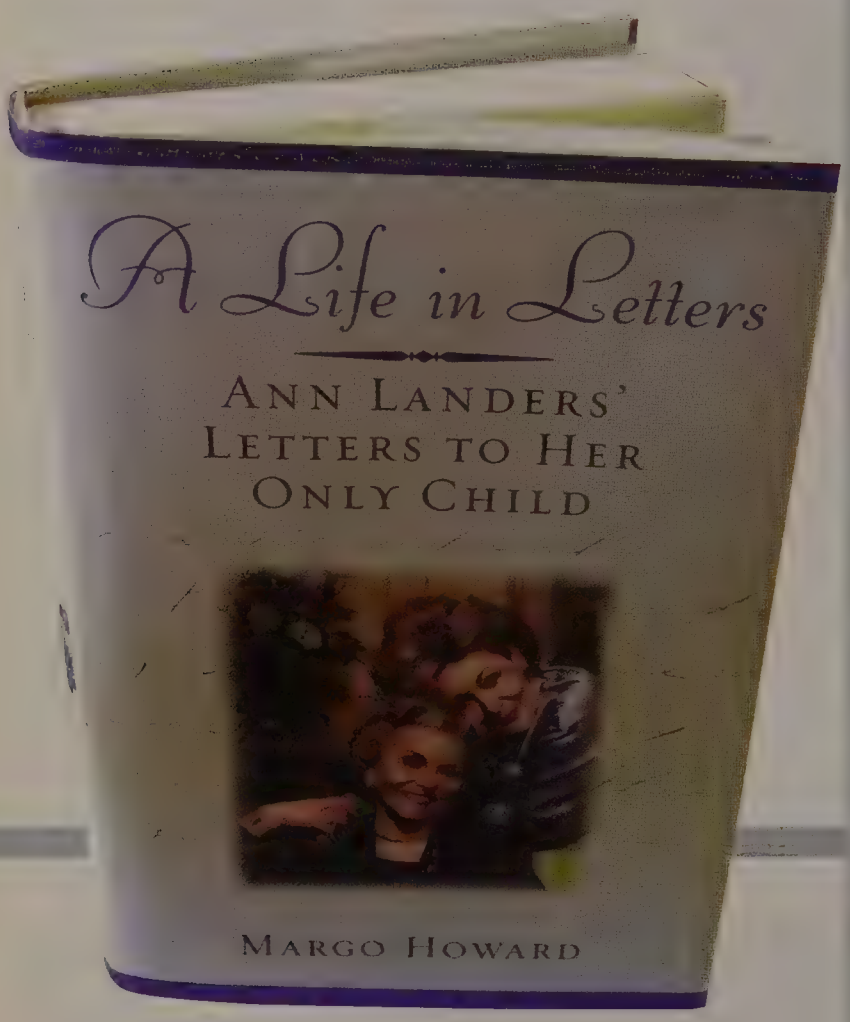
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MOPSY

SERENDIPITOUS SHOPPING: OUR UNFETTERED CORRESPONDENT SEEKS OUT THE SALUBRIOUS AND THE CEREBRAL

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



ADVICENIK MAMA SENDS LETTERS

***A Life in Letters: Ann Landers' Letters to Her Only Child* is compiled and annotated by Margo Howard.**

This most scrumptiously adored daughter, Margo, received many missives over the years from her famous mother, advice columnist Ann Landers. They're bursting with wild energy—often with a kind of vaudevillian ta daaa!—and, of course, opinions and advice. To her much-nicknamed daughter (Mugs, Mugsy, J. Fred) she affectionately poured out her flow of impressions, rife with Yiddishisms. She opposed the Vietnam War, hated Jimmy Carter ("That Georgia jerk. He really is a fake.") and struggled with and against her twin sister, "Popo," who became known as Dear Abby. The sisters' rivalry was played out in the media ("*The Times Herald*—I was on that paper for years but they played her column on the Editorial page and I was back with the truss ads and the pimple cream.") and in Landers' heart, mixing love, competition, irritation and pain. Toward her husband she was full of cozy, purring affection, and even the famous letter announcing their divorce has a kind of shade-darkened dignity and generosity. Squeezing life's juiciness, she advised: "Again, doll, enjoy life. When you're in love the whole world is Jewish—even when your husband ain't."

BUBBLY, EARTHY, MISCHIEVOUS BATHTIME

Lush is a cosmetics and bath store at 166 Newbury St. Call 617-375-5874 or go to www.lush.com.

Though fully clothed, the shoppers perusing the wares at Lush are clearly looking forward to heading home to a spicy bath. The store—one of the British retailer's four U.S. locations—is laid out like a vegetable market, with bath yummies displayed in wooden bins. Meringue-textured Bath Bombs, for instance, exude essential oils when placed beneath the faucet's waterfall. Bubble-creating items with names like Hot Toddy, Sex Bomb and Waving Not Drowning look like little biscuits and come in vibrant colors like lavender and lime. (See also Buffy the Backside Slayer and I Love Juicy.) Some bath additives are sparkly or include embedded flowers, thus increasing their gift potential. Big, serious chunks of soap are sold by the pound. Solidity is the order of the day for products that are ordinarily liquid, like shampoo and conditioner. Little tublets of moisturizer and hand creams—rife with vanilla pod, almond oil, rose petal infusion and honey—await a dab. The Brits are famous bathers, and the cheeky adverts here suggest possible aphrodisiac powers. That may be a stretch, but you'll at least end up with a sugary clean body.







REALLY SMILE THIS TIME

Burba Dental Partners, at 129 Highland Ave., Salem, offers advanced cosmetic dentistry in a spa atmosphere. Call 978-744-7575 or go to www.burbadental.com.

Let's say you have an imperfect set of teeth that necessitate curbing your smile's full ecstasy. Perhaps i too late, or too expensive, to correct things via orthodonture. A few sessions of cosmetic dentistry cou be a smart alternative. "We look at your mouth the way a jeweler sees jewels," says Randall Burb whose skills include recontouring, reshaping and bonding teeth. Providing a setting of spa-spangle luxurious comfort for patients, Burba uses layered porcelain veneer to dramatically improve the siz shape, color or angle of teeth. Short teeth—perhaps the victims of grinding—can be made to loo longer; chipped pearlies can be veneered back into wholeness. And even too-gummy gums can l tamed and minimized with laser treatment. The strength and function of back teeth may also need hel and flashy gold or junky-looking silver fillings can be made white, so you can say a huge, happy Ahh and allow your laugh to reveal prettier secret places. More than just your teeth improve, says Burb Sometimes self-conscious smile-avoiders exude a grimness or a withholding that's mistaken for ang with nicer-looking teeth, confidence grows rosier.



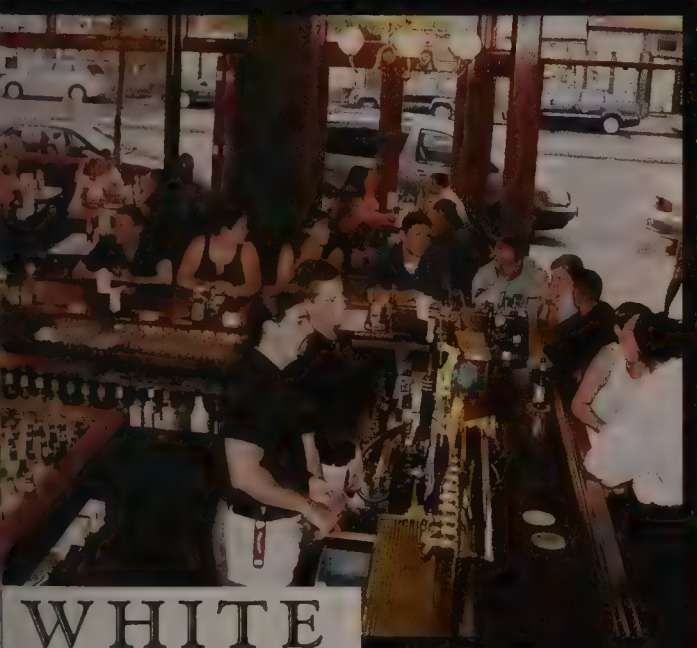






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REVIEW

YANKEE FOOD IS DANDY

A Boston institution since 1826, Durgin-Park remains a shrine of beef for locals and tourists alike

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

I first heard of Durgin-Park early in my childhood, growing up in East Hartford, Conn. My father, whose interest in food preceded and conditioned my own (he was not only an accomplished cook but catered weddings for friends and relatives) told me about a restaurant in Boston that would satisfy my carnivorous proclivities. Durgin-Park's roast prime rib, he advised, was so gargantuan that it could not be contained by the restaurant's dinner plates. Not only that, but beef at Durgin-Park was classically served rare, or as my mother termed it, "almost mooing." Indeed, for a long time Durgin-Park prominently displayed a sign stating, "We are not responsible for steaks ordered well done."

Durgin-Park may have abandoned its provocative and politically incorrect notice about well-done steaks—indeed, state law requires that menus contain warnings about undercooked meat. But the restaurant has not flinched from its commitment to quality beef, and to quantity—the prime rib still hangs off the plate as in days of yore.



A New England clambake with baked beans and a brewski at Durgin-Park: Is there anything more Boston?

DURGIN-PARK
340 Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038)

HOURS Mon.-Sat., 11:30 am-10 pm; Sun. 11:30 am-9 pm

RESERVATIONS for parties of 15 or more

CREDIT CARDS all major

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes

PARKING validated for 75 State Street after 5 pm

LIQUOR LICENSE full bar

An expansive restaurant seating more than 500 in several dining rooms in Faneuil Hall's North Market Building, this historic place—"established before you were born," boasts a sign over the door—serves most of its food on the second floor. There, from an open kitchen with well-weathered stainless steel ovens and counters, the bustling waitstaff transports food-laden trays to the far-flung corners of a sea of long, communal tables covered in red and white checkered tablecloths. The White Room, furthest from the stairs, to the right, strikes a contrast, with white tablecloths and copper wainscoting and paneling, an eclectic array of framed photographs, antique advertising posters, newspaper and magazine articles, and mirrors competing for wall space with coathooks. Ceiling fans turn slowly overhead, and windows in arched niches look out onto Quincy Market. Another flight up is a slightly upscale space, the Peter Faneuil Room, its smaller tables dressed in white tablecloths. Shiny stainless steel pitchers on all tables are kept well supplied with ice water, and cloth napkins are the order of the day.

Meals at Durgin-Park begin with a large slice of cornbread, baked on the premises, accompanied by a pat or two of butter (the restaurant's butter bill is said to range between $2,000 and $3,000 per week). The butter alleviated the slight dryness of the cornbread and accentuated its pleasant sweetness. Appetizers included the obligatory clam chowder ($3.95), one of only eight offerings listed in bold print as a house specialty. It lived up to its billing, thick with potatoes and clams but mercifully devoid of flour or cornstarch. The fish chowder ($2.95) ran a close second among the appetizers, with shredded fish and potatoes giving it substantial body, complemented by a full-flavored broth.

French fried onion rings ($2.95), on the other hand, were ghastly—heavy with doughy breading and flavorless—and mammoth in portion. Shrimp scampi ($9.95) almost merited their bold print, but the price, which by Boston restaurant standards was reasonable, seemed excessive compared with the value that other menu offerings delivered. In contrast to the prodigious portions of most Durgin-Park dishes, these five medium-large shrimp looked forlorn on the large gratin dish. Four of the five displayed exemplary texture—the fifth was a bit mealy—and all of them satisfied the taste buds, thanks to the garlicky butter and dusting of minced parsley.

While appetizers can be fine and good, the reason to come to Durgin-Park is for the main event. Here it did not disap point. The roast prime rib of beef, Durgi Cut ($24.95), was as glorious in its abun dance, richness and robust beef flavor a my father reported long ago. The evenin I ordered the roast prime rib, I was blesse with one of Durgin-Park's veteran wait resses, who have been described as brusqu bordering on rude. Neither of those adjec tives fit her: She was pleasant and upbea More important, her obvious experienc and influence in the kitchen served m well. I asked whether it was possible to ge an end cut of the prime rib that was at th same time rare. She rose to the challeng and returned with a magnificent slab, al most two inches thick, with an outsid layer of crusty, caramelized fat protectin the rare, succulent, tender interior. My re quest for a rare end cut must not hav been unprecedented, for she knew exactl what to look for and timed her attac carefully. My appetite dented by th chowder, all I could manage was to eat th meat closest to the bone, leaving the re for a doggie bag. Ever alert and responsiv my waitress prepared two bags: one wit the bone picked almost clean, expressl for my Labrador retriever, whom I ha mentioned, and the other, with the rar now boneless beef, to be savored for a least two lunches by the noncanine mem bers of my household.

Boston scrod ($14.95) is another hous specialty—it's offered broiled or bake with seasoned breadcrumbs. I selected th former and received a fine slab of fish, fir and flaky, only slightly flawed by too muc liquid in the bottom of the plate. Broile lamb chops ($24.95), on the other hand suffered no such shortcoming. Four hug chops, double thick, arrived rare as o dered, exquisitely tender and juicy. The size betokened lambs that were beyon adolescence, but since the flavor of matu lamb is something I savor, I considered it plus. Ground sirloin steak ($7.95) was juicy half-pound of good-quality, rare bee and while an inadequately hot grill faile to sear it sufficiently, its robust beef flav was beyond reproach.

In fancy steakhouses around the city an elsewhere, many steaks and chops com unadorned with garnishes, and these hav to be purchased separately at à la cart



Chef Tommy Ryan has toiled in Durgin-Park's kitchen for 42 years.



The roast prime rib of beef literally hangs off the plate.



Durgin-Park seats more than 500 in several dining rooms.

prices ranging from $5 on up. At Durgin-Park, all main courses, except pasta, came with a choice of two vegetables. Potatoes were available in the form of fresh, hot French fries, a welcome contrast to the dismal onion rings. Other vegetables included sweet, spicy butternut squash puree, crunchy cole slaw, boiled buttered cabbage, and al dente zucchini with red bell peppers, all delicious. Boston baked beans, the only one of Durgin-Park's side dishes that merited bold print as a house specialty, were sweet with molasses and savory with salt pork.

Durgin-Park offers a limited number of wines, including a very decent house cabernet sauvignon for $4, and an even better Hardy's Nottage Hill cabernet-shiraz from Australia for $5. Not only were these wines priced below most other Boston restaurants' wines by the glass, but the glasses were filled to the brim—not elegant, but certainly a welcome contrast to the skimpy wine pours that are all too common.

Desserts included a mammoth slice of Boston cream pie ($3.95), light vanilla cake alternating with thick layers of vanilla custard, with chocolate frosting and thin-sliced toasted almonds. House specialty desserts included Indian pudding ($3.25) and strawberry shortcake ($3.95), but being skeptical of strawberry shortcake in December, and recalling the Indian pudding as a heavy creation that might be too much after all that beef, I chose the coffee Jello ($1.50), made from slightly sweetened black coffee and accompanied by thick, moderately sweet whipped cream. Getting the cubes of shimmering Jello to stay on my spoon proved a challenge.

In these days of the Atkins diet, where well-marbled beef is considered almost therapeutic rather than lethal, Durgin-Park may generate a whole new constituency. The newcomers will have to get in line, though, behind the steady parade of loyal regulars and hungry tourists who have long been its principal patrons. Obviously, Durgin-Park's cornbread and French fries do not fit the Atkins protocol, but less carb-heavy sides like cole slaw, zucchini and cabbage do. Best of all, it's gratifying that medical science has restored this marvelous shrine of beef to respectability. For its steadfastness and refusal to knuckle under to culinary trendiness, Durgin-Park fully deserves its premier position among Boston eateries. **iB**

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TASTINGS

BY JULIE SURATT

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Events

Anthony Spinazzola Foundation Benefit Dinner
Aujourd'hui, 200 Boylston St., Boston (781-344-4413). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Jan. 29, 6:30 pm. $500. Each course of this dinner is prepared by a different visiting chef and paired with fine and rare wines. Proceeds benefit the Anthony Spinazzola Foundation's Culinary Apprenticeship Program.

Anthony Spinazzola Foundation Gala Festival of Food and Wine
World Trade Center Boston, 200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (781-344-4413). Jan. 30, 7:30 pm-12 am. $175. This black-tie celebration of food and wine features 120 restaurants and 90 winemakers.

Boston Wine Expo
World Trade Center, 200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (877-946-3976). www.wine-expos.com. *Jan. 31 and Feb. 1, 1-5 pm. $60, $70 at the door.* More than 440 international and domestic wineries from 12 different countries pour nearly 2,000 wines.

Boston Wine Festival
Boston Harbor Hotel, Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-330-9255). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Jan. 9-April 9. This festival continues through April and offers more than 50 wine and food pairing events. •Jan. 21 and 22, 7 pm, $185: Quarterly Review of Wines: Best of the Best •Jan. 27 and 28, 7 pm, $195: Meritage Madness •Feb. 2, 7 pm, $135: Stag's Leap •Feb. 3, 7 pm, $135: Bonny Doon.

Chinese New Year
Peking Tom's, 25 Kingston St., Boston (617-482-6282). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Jan. 20-25. This weeklong celebration features special cocktails, hot-pot dishes, wine and sake dinners and Chinese dragon dancing.

Devlin's Wine Dinner
Devlin's, 332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822). MBTA: B Green Line to Allston Street. Feb. 2, 6-10 pm. $39.95. Executive chef **Gary Hanlon** offers an internationally inspired four-course meal with wine pairings.

Extreme BBQ: Turducken Thursdays
Jake's Dixie Roadhouse, 220 Moody St., Waltham (781-894-4227). Thursdays. Jake's offers turducken: a boneless turkey stuffed with a boneless duck stuffed with a boneless chicken stuffed with andouille sausage—smoked for eight hours.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. $25 (includes light food). Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** offers a series of chats. •Jan. 31: single-malt scotch.

It's Italian
Accardi & Sons, 85 Commercial St., Medford (877-927-7787). www.womenchefs.com. *Jan. 27, 2-4:30 pm. $20.* **Bernadette DeVirgilio**, president of Bernadette Baking Corp., discusses the artisan cheeses of Northern Italy.

Kir-Yianni Wine Dinner
Meze Estiatorio, 100 City Square, Charlestown (617-242-6393). MBTA: Orange Line to Community College. Jan. 27, 7 pm. $65. Greek wine expert **Nick Cobb** presents wines from Greece's Kir-Yianni Estates paired with a four-course meal.

Lunar New Year Gala
Empire Garden Restaurant, 690-698 Washington St., Boston (617-426-9492). MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. Jan. 25, 6-10 pm. $60. Celebrate the Year of the Monkey with an eight-course Chinese banquet. Proceeds benefit the capital campaign of the Asian American Civic Association.

Radius Winter Cooking Series
Radius, 8 High St., Boston (617-426-1234). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Jan. 24, 11 am-2:30 pm. $125. Chef de cuisine **Brian Reimer** teaches you how to make braises, stocks and stews.

The Sun WineFest
Mohegan Sun, One Mohegan Sun Blvd., Uncasville, Conn. (800-477-6849). Jan. 24, 11 am-4 pm; Jan. 25, 11 am-5 pm. $45 one day/$70 two days. Sample tastings from more than 150 vineyards and several New England restaurants, and watch chef demonstrations by **Todd English**, **Ming Tsai** and **Jasper White** at this two-day Grand Tasting to benefit the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

Taste–Boston
EVOO, 118 Beacon St., Somerville (617-36[illegible]8142). www.taste-boston.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Jan. 26, 6:30 pm. $65.* Chef/owner **Peter McCarthy** creates a four-course meal paired with wine.

A Taste of Eastie
Hilton Boston Logan Airport Hotel, 85 Terminal Road, East Boston (617-561-1044). MBTA: Blue Line to Airport. Jan. 22, 6-9 pm. $35, $40 at the door. Taste food from Italian, Latin American, American, Polish and Asian restaurants. Proceeds raise funds for the East Boston Main Streets Programs.

Vietnamese New Year
Pho Republique, 1415 Washington St., Boston (617-262-0005). Jan. 27. $45. Celebrate the Vietnamese New Year (Tet Nguyen Dan) with a special menu highlighting traditional dishes from China and Vietnam.

White Wine in Winter
Westport Rivers Winery, 417 Hixbridge Road, Westport (508-636-3423). Jan. 24, 12 pm. $52. Sample seafood dishes from McCormick & Schmick's paired with Imperial sec, chardonnay and rieslin[illegible]

Wine & Food Tasting: Southwest France
The Butcher Shop, 552 Tremont St., Boston (617[illegible]423-4800). Jan. 27, 6 -7:30 pm. $40. Taste rich dry red wines such as Cahors and Madiran, as well as sweet wine from Saussignac, paired with the food of southwest France.

Wine Dinner
Blue Room, One Kendall Square, Cambridge (617[illegible]494-9034). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Jan. 29, 6:30 pm. $85. This four-course dinner showcases wines from the vineyards Elk Cove and Bethel Heights, in the Willamette Valley of Oregon.

Wine, Women and...
Seaport Hotel, One Seaport Lane, Boston www.divasuncorked.com. *Jan. 31, 9 am. $29[illegible]* This daylong wine seminar features classes geared toward women.

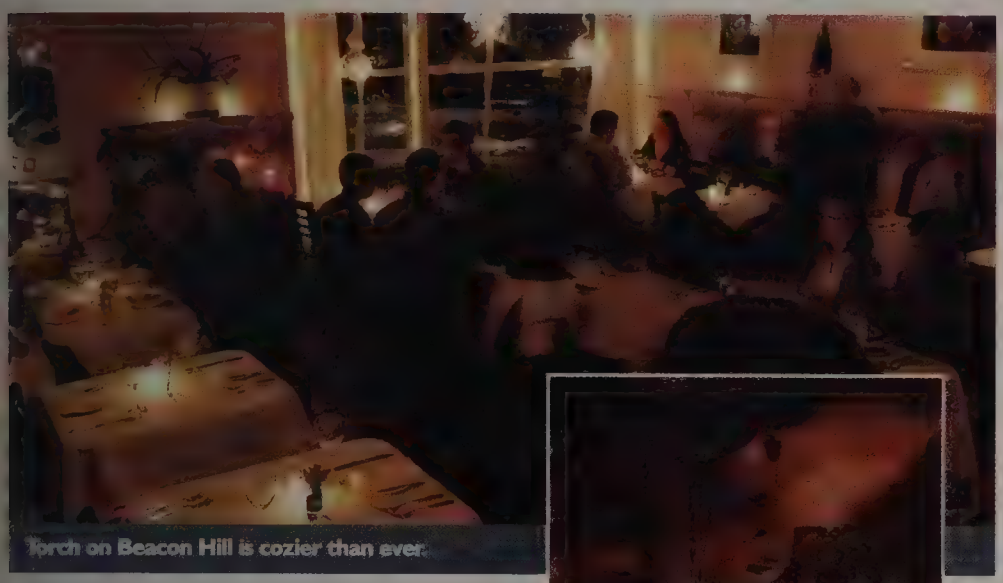
Winter Jubilee
Hilton Back Bay, 40 Dalton St., Boston www.beersummit.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Jan. 24, 1-5 and 6-10. $25.* The beer fest is limited to beers with an alcohol content of 7 percent or higher.

DISH

Trending Spaces

UpStairs with the seer...Re-Torch-ing...

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX



Torch on Beacon Hill is cozier than ever.



Predicting the future in dining is a risky business, and never more so than when trends collide instead of collude. We've got slow-food ideals in a fast-food culture. We ponder the specter of mad cow disease in a city full of steakhouses. We want comfort food, luxurious treats and special meals designed to accommodate trendy diets. So what might be in store for 2004?

It's not all about the food, according to Deborah Hughes, co-proprietor of UpStairs on the Square. It's the experience of breaking bread and affirming connections. "People are so much more careful about who they eat with," she says.

As for upcoming menus, "I think people will be offering food that's attentive to special diets," Hughes predicts, "South Beach, Atkins." She also foresees "way less-fancy desserts" that are "evocative and familiar. Beautiful, simple, wonderful things, with less ego on the plate." (In case you're wondering, the stellar butterscotch pudding is still on the UpStairs dessert menu).

In short, according to Hughes, diners are seeking "close-to-the-earth pleasures...and a healthy dose of luxe."

SECOND COURSE

Light switches: After five years in business, Torch owners Evan and Candice Deluty decided to liven up their cozy Beacon Hill restaurant with major renovations, a menu overhaul, and special attention to pre- and post-theater diners. Italian dishes have been added to the formerly all-Parisian-inspired lineup. However, the likes of housemade potato gnocchi with artichoke, tomato and parmesan reggiano and pan-seared monkfish with butternut squash risotto and rock shrimp haven't knocked such favorites as chef Evan's salmon tartare off the menu. Candice has expanded the strictly French wine list to include offerings from California, Italy, Argentina and New Zealand, with many available by the glass. If you've got theater tickets, let the Delutys know, and you can count on getting to the show on time.

Social promotions: Smart restaurateurs are planning way, way ahead to attract diners. Les Zygomates has already scheduled Tuesday night wine tastings through the end of 2004. For a mere $25, you get a brief cooking demo from chef Ian Just, four or five hors d'oeuvres carefully paired with the wines, and commentary from sommelier Geoffrey Fallon. We can hardly wait till Dec. 21, which features "The Best of the Rest: Wines from Weird Places."

Don't care about mad cow? Not on the Atkins diet? Craving close-to-the-ground pleasures like BBQ and beer? Looking for a bargain, without resorting to tacky coupons or resigning yourself to a chain restaurant with down-market decor? Yes? For the remaining Wednesdays in January, you can snack on a $5 combo of BBQ ribs and Edison Light beer at Bomboa. Throughout the year, a new appetizer/drink combo will be featured each month and offered every Wednesday night. Tax, gratuity and frequent-flier miles not included. iB

Serving Dish

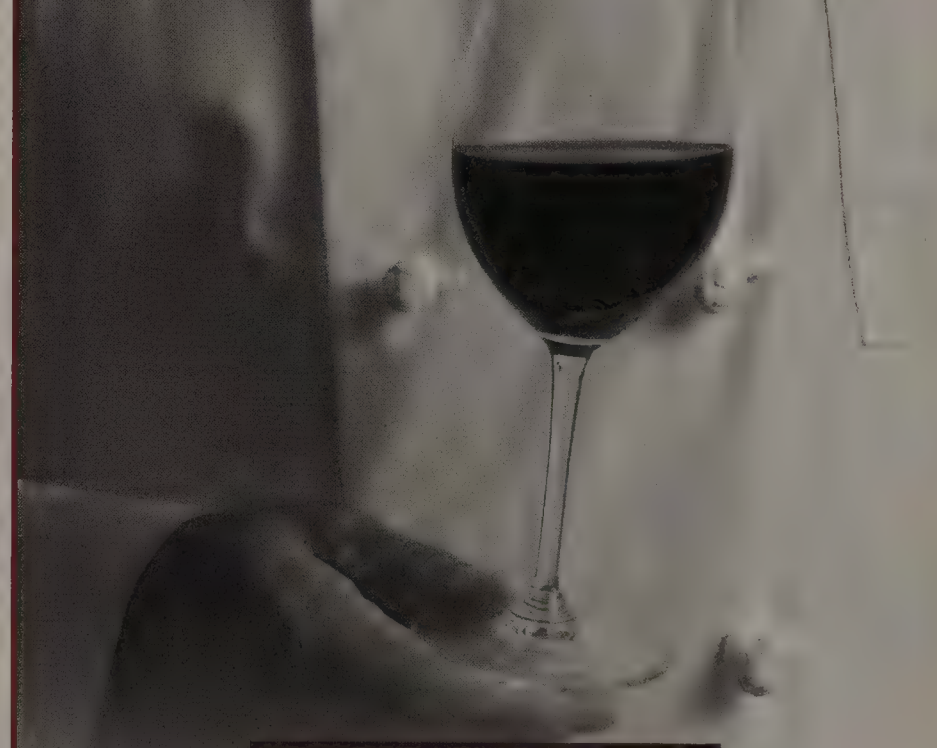
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For more information call (781) 344-4413 or
visit our website at www.spinazzola.org

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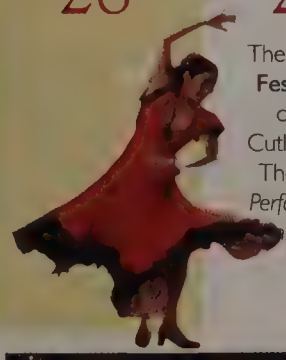
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january 21-february 3

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			21	22	23	24
			The exhibition ***Made in Mexico*** opens today at the **Institute of Contemporary Art**. *See Museums & Galleries on page 72.*	 Have lunch with author **Anita Shreve** at Figs restaurant in Wellesley and hear her discuss her new novel. *See Books & Poetry on page 76.*	**Cracktorch**, one of Boston's best live rock bands, plays at T.T. the Bear's Place. *See Music on page 56.*	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	The outrageously catchy pop-punk band **Against Me** plays an all-ages show with Anti-Flag at Avalon. *See Music on page 54.*	Try out for *Last Comic Standing*, NBC's search for the **funniest person in America**, at the Comedy Connection. *See Performing Arts on page 46.*	 The **Flamenco Festival** kicks off at the Cutler Majestic Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 44.*			
1	2	3				
	The Brattle's **Humphrey Bogart** series continues with *The Desperate Hours* and *High Sierra*. See Movies on page 50.					



FRI./JAN. 30

Tastings: A Spin on Food

The **Anthony Spinazzola Foundation Gala Festival of Food & Wine** is the mother of all Boston food festivals. While the city's "Taste of..." events typically feature 30 or 40 restaurants proffering gourmet samples, the black-tie Spinazzola gala boasts a whopping 120 restaurants and 90 winemakers. Spinazzola, a much-loved *Boston Globe* food and wine writer who died in the mid 1980s, must have been quite a presence on the dining scene to have inspired this bash, where Bostonians will lay down $175 to nibble such delicacies as smoked bluefish rillette on brioche, lobster risotto and pork tacos with duck fried rice. The foundation, formed in 1992, offers grants to hunger relief agencies, programs for the homeless and culinary apprenticeships and scholarships. *World Trade Center Boston, 200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (781-344-4413). 7:30 pm-12 am. $175.*

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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EDITED BY:

ERIN HAGEDORN

Books & Poetry, Gay & Lesbian, Movies, Music

JULIE SURATT

Around Town, Children, Education, Performing Arts

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY:

Jessica Iredale Museums & Galleries

Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind

Paul Sherman Film Capsules

Ezra Dyer CityScope, Dance Clubs, and Sports

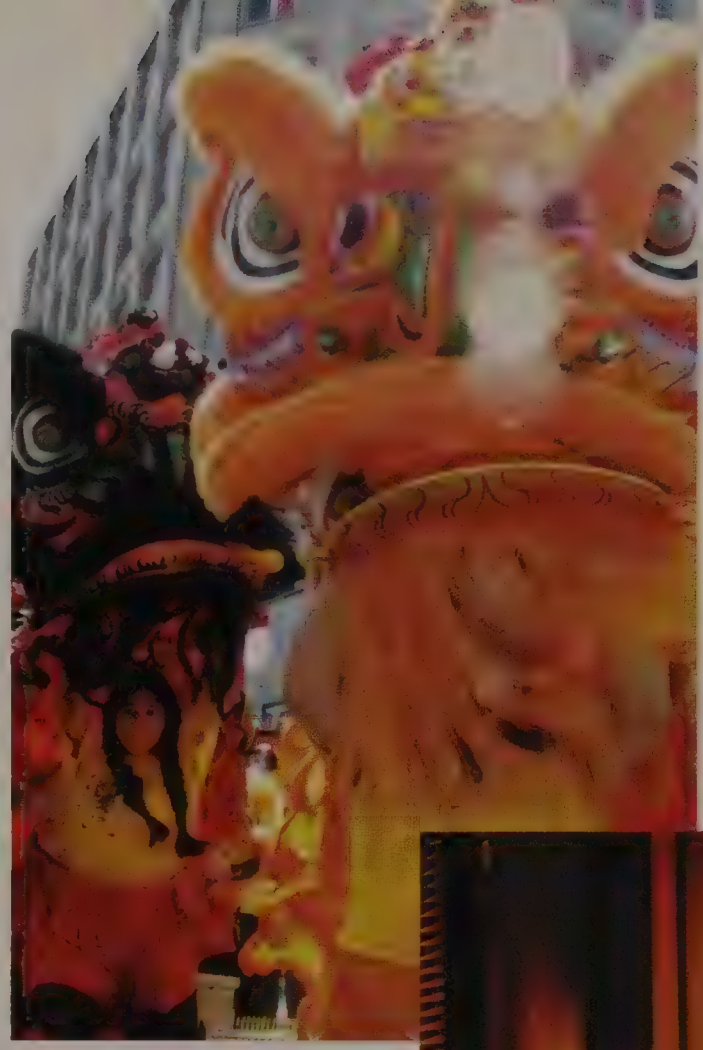




FRI./JAN. 23–SUN./JAN. 25

CityScope: Monkeying Around

Many of us poor slobs are still reeling from being a bit too...enthusiastic on New Year's Eve, and the idea of attending another New Year's celebration is unthinkable. Fortunately, alcohol isn't the focus at the **Chinese New Year** celebrations that take place around the city starting on Jan. 23, the day after the official start of the Chinese New Year. The most notable, an all-day celebration in Chinatown on Jan. 25, ushers in the Year of the Monkey, Chinese year 4702, with performances and dances in the street. After the street celebrations, revelers can make their way to the evening festivities, a giant eight-course banquet at Empire Garden ($60), including Pan-Asian entertainment and dancing. Other restaurants are getting in on the New Year action: On Jan. 23, China Pearl is having a banquet ($25), and Peking Tom's is offering a three-course meal and Chinese lionhead dancing ($47.02). (Peking Tom's will also offer an expanded menu with special cocktails through Feb. 1.) The Children's Museum celebrates the New Year all day on the 25th with demonstrations of Chinese traditions and martial arts performances. *Empire Garden, 690-698 Washington St., Boston (617-426-9492). China Pearl, 9 Tyler St., Boston (617-542-2574). Peking Tom's 25 Kingston St., Boston (617-482-6282). Children's Museum, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855).*



WED./JAN. 21 AND THU./JAN. 22

Books & Poetry: Still Radical After All These Years

Not many octogenarians are still rabble-rousing. But radical historian and ex-BU professor **Howard Zinn** ha made a career out of promoting a controversial view of American history that takes into account the perspective of the "dispossessed" with books like *A People's History of the United States*. On Jan. 21, he gives a lecture at the First Parish Church on his new tome, *Artist in Times of War*, in which he talks about war, dissent and the potential of artists to create change. The next day, fellow historian Davis Joyce reads from his new biography of Zinn called *Howard Zinn: A Radical American Vision* (which includes an introduction by MIT linguist Noam Chomsky) at the BU Barnes & Noble. The reading is sure to be jam packed, especially since Zinn will be there, so you activist types better ge there early. *First Parish, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). 7:30 pm. Free. Barnes & Noble at Boston University. 660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484).* http://bu.bkstore.com. *7 pm.*





SAT./JAN. 31–SUN./FEB. 1

Tastings: Wine, Oh!

One of the speakers at this year's Boston Wine Expo, *Wine for Women* author Leslie Sbrocco, attempts to take the mystery out of wine tasting by comparing different grape varietals to women's clothing. For example, to distinguish between chardonnay and pinot gris, Sbrocco says you should picture throwing on a little black dress for a night out versus a pair of denim jeans. Pinot noir? Seductive satin. Zinfandel? Black leather pants. Rosé? Beachwear. Those who don't need a primer in wine (or fashion) can simply indulge in samples from more than 440 wineries from 12 different countries. *World Trade Center, 200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (877-946-3976).* www.wine-expos.com. *Jan. 31 and Feb. 1. 1–5 pm. $60, $70 at the door. Sbrocco teaches* Taste Wine Like a Pro: Learn the Secrets of the Art of Blind Tasting *on Jan. 31, at 3:30 pm.*

TUE./JAN. 27–SUN./FEB. 8.

Performing Arts: Here's to You, Mrs. Robinson

"Would you like me to seduce you?" The line made famous by Anne Bancroft in Mik Nichols' 1967 film, *The Graduate*, now belongs to Lorraine Bracco. Best known for h roles in *Goodfellas* and *The Sopranos*, Bracco has temporarily cut ties with the mafia and modesty (more on that later) to play sultry Mrs. Robinson in Terry Johnson's comedic play. Academy Award, Emmy and Golden Globe nominee Bracco is joined Tony Award nominee Jonathan C. Kaplan (as Benjamin) and *All My Children* alum Devon Sorvari (as Elaine) in the classic story of an older, married temptress who lure a naive young man into the sack. If an all-star cast and a racy May/December romanc don't pique your interest, maybe the promise of full frontal will. Yup, 53-year-old Bracco follows the lead of Broadway's first Mrs. Robinson (Kathleen Turner) and bar all. Thirteen nights on stage in the buff? That takes some serious *stugots*. *Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-931-2787). Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $30-$72.*



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Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 21

Pre-Marathon Benefit Party
The Place, 2 Broad St., Boston (617-591-1400). www.bostonypa.com. 6 pm. $20. The Boston Young Professionals Association and three 2004 Boston Marathon entrants host this party to benefit the Children's Hospital and the Disability Law Center. The evening includes a buffet and free massages and Golden Tee video golf. Cash bar.

THURSDAY, JAN. 22

Rendez-Vous Dalida
French Library and Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. 5:30-7:30 pm. $10 members; $15 nonmembers. Enjoy a glass of French wine and hors d'oeuvres at this party to celebrate the birthday of French pop music icon Dalida, who died in 1987.

FRIDAY, JAN. 23

An Evening of Improv Benefit
Old Town Hall, Salem (978-790-8546). www.salemtheatre.org. 8 pm. $15. The Salem Theatre Company presents a night of improv comedy modeled after the TV show *Whose Line Is It Anyway?* Erik Rodenhiser leads a troupe of Boston comedians in the show, which raises money for the STC's May production of *The Tempest*.

International Rescue Committee Benefit
Steinert Hall, 162 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-1154). www.theirc.org. 7 pm. $25 suggested donation. The Balmus Ensemble plays a concert to benefit the International Rescue Committee refugee resettlement agency.

SATURDAY, JAN. 24

Building a Healthy Armenia Benefit
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-743-2097). www.healthshares.org. 8 pm. $25, $15 students. The Arev Ensemble and Zulal perform to benefit the Building a Healthy Armenia project to improve access to medicines in Armenia.

Winter Garden Fantasy
Winston Flowers and Garden, Route 9, Newton (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. $100. The Brookline Arts Center celebrates its 40th anniversary with dining and dancing in the garden at this fund-raiser.


The Balmus Ensemble plays a concert to benefit the International Rescue Committee Jan. 23.

SUNDAY, JAN. 25

The Benefits of Yoga
Hotel Marlowe, 25 Edwin H. Land Blvd., Cambridge (617-395-2523). 11 am-1 pm. $10. The Hotel Marlowe offers an introductory class to benefit the Yoga Foundation. This workshop addresses the history of yoga and features poses taught by Bethany Cantin, founder and director of the Yoga Foundation.

Chinese New Year Celebration
Locations throughout Chinatown, Boston (617-542-2574). Free, $25 for banquet at Empire Garden. Celebrate the Year of the Monkey with festivities all day, including lion dances in the street (Chinatown is closed to cars for the day). A banquet at Empire Garden restaurant follows the celebration.

Project Bread Benefit Concert
Regent Theatre, 7 Medford St., Arlington (781-646-4849). www.regenttheatre.com. 6:30 pm. Tickets start at $20. Dennis Brennan and a lineup of local musicians perform to benefit Project Bread's anti-hunger efforts.

THURSDAY, JAN. 29

Anthony Spinazzola Foundation Benefit Dinner
Aujourd'hui, 200 Boylston St., Boston (781-344-4413). Jan. 29, 6:30 pm. $500. Each course of this dinner is prepared by a different visiting chef and paired with fine and rare wines. Proceeds benefit the Anthony Spinazzola Foundation's Culinary Apprenticeship Program.

FRIDAY, JAN. 30

Gala Festival of Food and Wine
World Trade Center Boston, 200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (781-344-4413). 7:30 pm-12 am. $175. This black-tie celebration of food and wine features 120 restaurants and 90 winemakers.

Stardust Memories
Danversport Yacht Club, 161 Elliot St., Danvers (617-730-2700). www.brooklineadulted.org. 7-10 pm. $15. Bob Bachelder's Totem Pole Orchestra pl big-band music to benefit the Jimmy Fund. Com mentary hors d'oeuvres. Cash bar.

SATURDAY, JAN. 31

Boston Wine Expo
World Trade Center, 200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (8 946-3976). www.wine-expos.com. Through Feb 1-5 pm. $60, $70 at the door. More than 440 inter tional and domestic wineries from 12 different co tries pour nearly 2,000 wines.

Dancing in the Streets BHCA Winter Dinner and Dance
Ritz-Carlton Boston, 15 Arlington St., Boston (6 227-7959) 7 pm-1:30 am. $125 per person with bu and dancing at the Ritz; $100 dessert and dancing o Black tie optional. The Ritz's ballroom is transform with street signs, trees and gas lights at the Bea Hill Civic Association's annual winter fund-rai The evening includes dinner at homes on Ac Street or at the Ritz; a reception, dancing to mu from the Allnighters and five door-prize package


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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater

JUST OPENED

La Calisto
New England Conservatory at the Cutler Majestic Theater, 219 Tremont St., Boston (800-233-3123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. Jan. 23-25. $15. First performed in Venice in 1651, Pietro Francesco Cavalli's opera recounts the story of a young nymph, Callisto, who resists the blandishments of a lusty Jupiter and is rewarded for her courage, chastity and devotion to the goddess Diana.

The Dazzle
Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. Jan. 22-Feb. 8. $32. Playwright Richard Greenberg has constructed this tale loosely based on the lives of Homer and Langley Collyer, upper-class brothers from turn-of-the-century New York who were found dead in their mansion surrounded by 131 tons of trash.

Dora the Explorer Live
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed.-Thu., 7 pm; Fri., 10:30 am and 7 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am, 2 pm and 5 pm. Jan. 28-Feb. 1. $15-$38. Dora is a 7-year-old whose adventures take place in a tropical world filled with jungles, beaches and rainforests. She teaches Spanish words and phrases to the audience and asks them to help her solve problems and puzzles.

The Gigolo Confessions of Baile Breag
Súgán Theatre at the Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.bcaonline.org. *Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Jan. 30-Feb.28. $22-$32.* The third play in Irish playwright Roan Noone's award-winning Baile trilogy, *The Gigolo Confessions* tackles love and relationships. Paddy tries to persuade William to join his thriving gigolo business while William's former girlfriend, the strong-willed Rosie McCann, deals with her father's descent into madness.

The Graduate
The Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-426-936). www.broadwayinboston.com. *Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. Jan. 27-Feb. 8. $30-$72.* Lorraine Bracco of HBO's *The Sopranos* stars as Mrs. Robinson in Terry Johnson's adaptation of the classic film about a college graduate confused about his future.

Inherit the Wind
Wheelock Family Theater, 180 The Riverway, Boston (617-879-2000). In July 1925, a trial in Dayton, Tenn., pits two intellectual greats, Clarence Darrow and William Jennings Bryan, in a debate over creationism versus evolutionism in this play by Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee.


The Flamenco Festival takes over the Cutler Majestic Theatre at Emerson College Jan. 29–Feb. 1.

Kiss Me, Kate
Lowell Memorial Auditorium, 50 East Merrimack St., Lowell (978-454-2299). www.lowellauditorium.com. *Jan 21, 8 pm. $27.50-$46.50.* Cole Porter's musical comedy revolves around two bickering couples and their antics during a touring production of *The Taming of the Shrew.*

The Laramie Project
Arlington Friends of the Drama, 22 Academy St., Arlington (781-646-5922). www.afdtheatre.org. *Jan. 30 and 31, 8 pm; Feb. 1, 2 pm; Feb. 6 and 7, 8 pm; Feb. 8, 2 pm. $15.* The play documents the aftermath of the hate crime perpetrated against gay University of Wyoming student Matthew Shepard.

The Last Five Years
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.bcaonline.org. *Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 and 7 pm. Jan. 30-Feb.28. $25-$35.* This contemporary musical from Tony Award–winning composer Jason Robert Brown chronicles a young couple's romance in an unusual way: Her story begins at the end of their relationship, while his starts on the day they met.

Psycho Beach Party
The Footlight Club, 7A Eliot St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3200). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Jan. 23-24, 30-31, Feb. 6-7, 8pm. $15. Charles Busch's postmodern farce is about a perky '60s surfer girl with multiple personalities and a terrible secret.

Quixotic Arts Festival
Chelsea TheatreWorks, 189 Winnisimmet St., Chelsea (857-498-0042). www.burning.org. *Jan. 22-25 and 29-31. $10.* This festival of theater and dance is co-produced and directed by Caleb Hammond. Featured works include *I Am Perverse Enough to Desire Something, I Think*, a work adapted by Hammond from the notebooks of Obie Award–winning playwright and director Richard Foreman; *Sanctuary*, by local playwright Kati McKenna; and *Not Really Virginia*, by Hammond and choreographer Vyvyanne Loh.

NOW RUNNING

After Mrs. Rochester
Ruth Nagel Jones Theatre, Wellesley College, Wellesley (781-283-2000). www.theatre.wellesley.edu. *Thu., 7 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 4 pm. Through Jan. 24. $20.* Polly Teale's play dramatizes the life of author Jean Rhys and looks at Rhys' obsession with Bertha Mason, the mad woman in the attic in Charlotte Bronte's novel *Jane Eyre.*

Bad Dates
Huntington Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Tue., 7:30 pm; Wed., 2 and 7:30 pm; Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. Through Feb. 1. $14-$64.* *Six Feet Under*'s Julie White stars in Theresa Rebeck's play about a restaurant manager re-entering the dating scene.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-6912). www.blueman.com/ticketinfo/boston. *MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed., 8 pm; Thu., 5 and 8 pm; Fri., 7 and 10 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 3 and 6 pm. Ongoing. $43 and $53.* This production abandons all dialogue and focuses on making an impact through tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Cirque Eloize Nomade: At Night the Sky Is Endless
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-931-2787). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 7:30 pm; Sun., 1 and 6 pm. Through Jan. 25. $25-$57. Cirque Eloize combines theater with acrobatic performances, poetry and circus thrills. The company is made up of artists who dance, sing, juggle and tumble.

Far Away
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.bcaonline.org. *Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 5 and 8 pm; Sun., 5 and 7 pm. Through Jan. 24. $25.* Caryl Churchill's play is about a little girl who learns that something mysterious and disturbing is happening on her aunt's property, where she is staying. It's a dark take on increasingly accepted levels of inhumanity in a world in conflict.

Full Gallop
Nora Theatre Company at Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-358-7529). www.bu.edu/bpt. *MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant Street. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Through Feb. 1. $25.* Annette Miller stars in this play by Mark Hampton and Mary Louise Wilson about the life of fashion editor Diana Vreeland and her struggle to survive in the fashion world after being fired from *Vogue* magazine.

An Infinite Ache
Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 East Merrimack St., Lowell (978-454-3926). www.merrimackrep.org. *Wed., Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. Through Feb. 1. $32-$39.* In just 90 minutes, David Schulner's play chronicles the events in one couple's life from their first date to their final days.

A Midsummer Night's Dream
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat. 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. Through Feb. 28. $35-$69.* Director/choreographer Martha Clarke presents this dance-theater rendition of Shakespeare's play.

Private Lives
The Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-8819). www.lyricstage.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed., 2 and 7:30 pm; Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Through Jan. 31. $22-$43.* Noel Coward's Tony Award–winning romantic comedy is about newlyweds and their exes sharing the same hotel on their honeymoon.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. *MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. Ongoing. $30-$34.* This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

12 Angry Men
Stanley B. Theatre at the Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). Wed.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Through Jan. 24. $20. In the jury room drama by Reginald Rose, 12 men deliberate the fate of a youth charged with murder.

Dance

Dreams
Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, 41 Second St., East Cambridge (617-577-1400). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Jan. 23-24 and 30-31, 8 pm; Jan. 25 and Feb. 1, 6 pm. $25. This new work by Prometheus Dance combines dance, theater, music and video. With a score by composer John Kusiak, *Dreams* is based on the private world that occurs during sleep.

Flamenco Festival
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.worldmusic.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. $35-$50.* •Jan. 29, 7 pm; Jan. 30, 8 pm: The Spanish group Compañía Andaluza de Danza makes its Boston debut with 18 dancers and five musicians. The company presents two traditional choreographed pieces: *La Leyenda*, by José Antonio, and *Blood Wedding*, by Antonio Gades. •Jan. 31, 8 pm; Feb. 1, 3 pm: Ballet Flamenco Sara Baras presents *Sueños*. Dancer/choreographer Sara Baras shares the stage with eight dancers and seven musicians in this dreamlike performance portraying traditional flamenco's fire and passion.

Raw Dance
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.bcaonline.org. *Jan. 30-Feb. 1, 8 pm. $22, $25 at the door.* Several dance sets choreographed by Gianni Di Marco, Vikto Plotnikov and Yury Yanowsky. Dancers from the Boston Ballet perform.

The Studio Series at CasaNia: Original Dance and Choreography
CasaNia Studio, 46 Porter Road, Cambridge (617-491-5144). www.casania.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Jan. 31, 8 pm. $8.* Choreographer Rythe Lee presents *Mothers, Martyrs and Muffins: The Musical*, a complex unraveling of the effects of eating meals in the midst of absurd and dysfunctional environments. Deborah Butler presents *Blue Flower* in which she pays homage to her butoh teacher through a series of vignettes.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

STAND-UP CLUBS

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-72 2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault at Rem ington's features local stand-up comedians. •Frida and Saturdays: Dick Doherty's Comedy Pro To •Sundays: open-mike night.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Bost (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston com. *MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Governme Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mo Wed., 8 pm, $12; Thu., 8:30 pm, $12; Fri. a Sat., 8 pm, 10:15 pm, prices vary; Sun., 7 pm, $1* The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcas up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Ja 21: Harrison Stebbins •Jan. 22: Frank Santos, t R-Rated Hypnotist •Jan. 23, $22: Jeff Garlin fr HBO's *Curb Your Enthusiasm* •Jan. 24, $25: Je Garlin •Jan. 25: Dave Rattigan •Jan. 26: Amate Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, the Wildman Comedy •Jan. 27: Last Comic Standing •Jan. Harrison Stebbins •Jan. 29: Frank Santos, the Rated Hypnotist •Jan. 30, $22.50: Colin Quin

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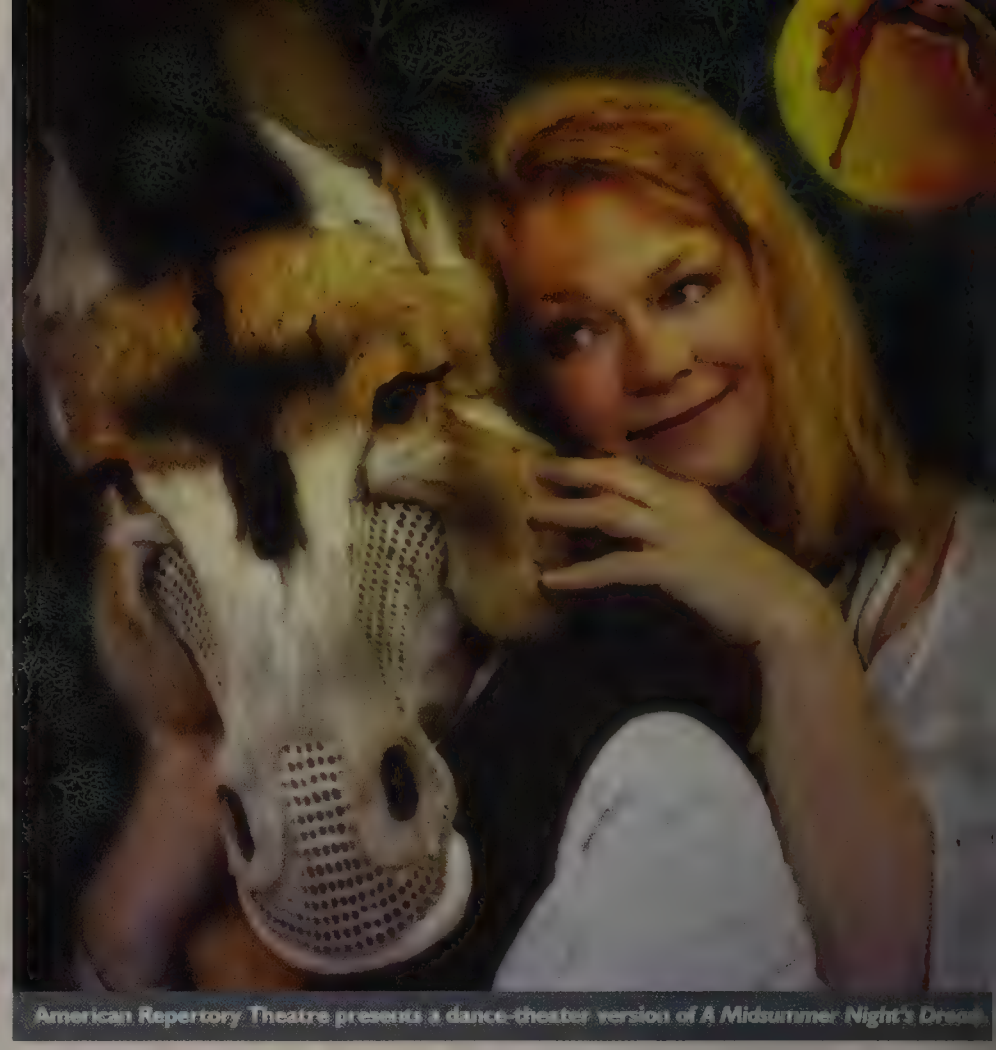
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American Repertory Theatre presents a dance-theater version of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

host of Comedy Central's *Tough Crowd* •Jan. 31, $25: Colin Quinn.

Comedy Studio

The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Jan. 21: Tony V, Kelly MacFarland, Margie Chebotariov, Amy Tee, Derek Gerry, Erin Judge, Kirk Etherton, Lee Ann Cook and Randy Winn •Jan. 22: Tim McIntire, Tommy Morello, Erin Judge, Mike Whitman, Noah Garfinkle, Steve Calechman and Brett Jordan •Jan. 23: Chris & Dave Walsh, Larry Murphy, Erin Judge, J Montepare, Arielle Goldman, Dan Sulman, Max Goldberg and Greg Johnson •Jan. 24: Brian Gordon, Erin Judge, Dan Sulman and Joe Mande •Jan. 25: Sam Walters, Dan Sally, Myq Kaplan, Erin Judge, Dan Sulman, Bob Hagearty, Jesse Gersten and Eric Reuben •Jan. 27: Mystery Lounge •Jan. 28: Erin Judge Birthday Show with Kelly MacFarland, Tony V, Chris O'Carroll, Tom Flynn, Shane Mauss and Erik Charles Neilson •Jan. 29: Tim McIntire, Steve Calechman, Erin Judge, Todd Andrews, Pete Bowers, Tim Kaelin, Denise Robichau and Michael Koran •Jan. 30: Alex Fulsky, Nate Johnson, Hugh Chatfield, Alison Block, Erin Judge, Chris & Dave Walsh and Larry Murphy •Jan. 31: Tissa Hami, Rob O'Reilly, Erin Judge, Rick Jenkins and Brian Gordon •Feb. 3: Mystery Lounge.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to New England Medical Center. $10-$22. •Jan. 22, 8:30 pm: Larry Miles •Jan. 23 and 24, 8:45 pm: Larry Miles, Craig Boggis and Larry Norton.

IMPROV COMEDY

Faces for Radio

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.faces4radio.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu., 8 pm. $8.* Improv comedians poke fun at everything, including themselves.

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. *MBTA:Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 and 10 pm. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available.* Improvisation and sketch comedy in the North End. •Wed.-Sat.: *Improv Asylum Announces the End of Major Hostilities*, a new show on the mainstage. •Jan. 21 and 28, 9:45 pm, $5 (or free with mainstage show): Somebody's in the Doghouse. From a single audience suggestion, Leah Gotcsik and Marty Johnson build three parallel storylines.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Inman Square, Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central . $5-$12.* Boston's longest-runni improvisational comedy troupe creates everythi on the spot: the characters, the stories, the settings even the songs and dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: T *Hump*. This series for experimental and improvi tional theater features *ScripTease* and *The Tri* •Thu., 8 pm, $12: *Unnatural Selection*. A master ceremonies randomly eliminates players until o one is left. 10 pm, $5: *The Great and Secret Com Show*. Brothers Chris and David Walsh perfo stand-up and music, play short films and do charac sketches in a display of sibling rivalry •Fri., 8 p $12: *George and Martha*. This fully improvised sh revolves around this happy couple as they entert two different guess each week in their Midweste living room. 10 pm, $12: *Theatre Sports*. Two tea of improvisers face off. •Sat., 6 pm, $12: *Impr Boston Family Show*. 8 and 10 pm, $12: *ImprovBos Mainstage*. Blending storytelling, music and audier participation, a cast of improvisers creates a sh that changes with every performance. •Sun., 7 p $5: *Sgt. Culpepper's Improvisational Jamboree*. T evening combines three shows into one. Watch p formances by visiting and local troupes.

COMEDY SHOWS

Funniest Person in America Auditions

Comedy Connection, 245 Quincy Market Pla Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). ww comedyconnectionboston.com. *MBTA: Gr or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or ange Line to Haymarket. Jan. 27, 10 am-6 p* Talent scouts from NBC's *Last Comic Standi The Search for the Funniest Person in Amer* will be holding auditions for professional a amateur comedians. The finalist will win a c tract with NBC.

Gourmet Detective

Ristorante Marino, 2465 Mass. Ave., Cambri (800-697-2583). www.mysterycafe.com. *MBT Red Line to Porter. Jan. 31 and Feb. 7, 7:30 pm. for dinner and show.* The Gourmet Detective ser up Italian cuisine with a murder mystery.

Larry Lee Lewis Comedy Show

Chops Lounge, 1271 Boylston St., Boston (617-2 8300). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Sat., 10 $15. The Triple L Show presents 90 minutes of n stop variety entertainment. •Jan. 24: Jim Laulett

Open Mike Night

Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon. pm. Open mike for creative talent.

Stash's Comedy Jam

All Asia Cafe, 334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617 1544). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. www.stashcom jam.com. *First and third Sunday of every mo 8 pm.* Enjoy standup comedy at this open m with host Stash.

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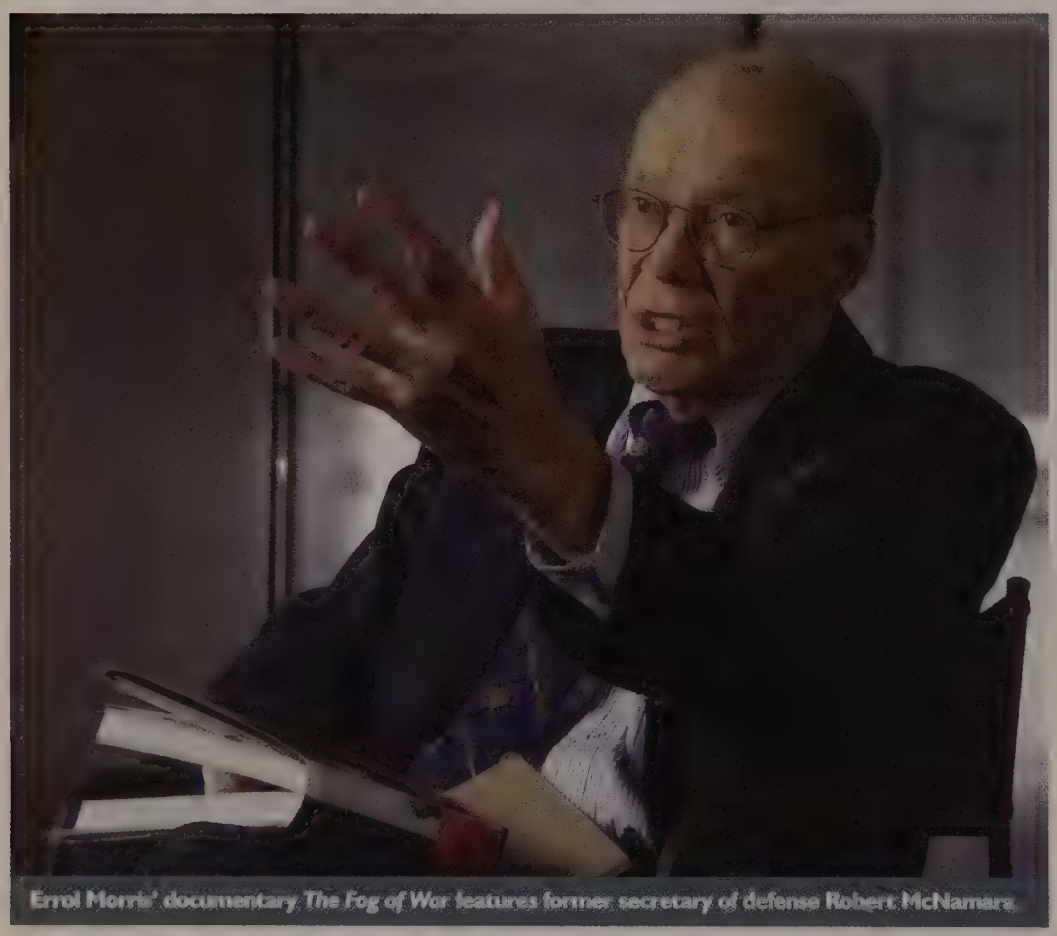
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Life After Wartime

The Fog of War marches over *The Statement*

BY PAUL SHERMAN

The lingering moral residue of the Vietnam War turns out to be more interesting than that of World War II, at least as seen in a pair of new movies, Cambridge moviemaker Errol Morris' Vietnam War documentary *The Fog of War* and Norman Jewison's fictionalized *The Statement*, about the hunt for a Nazi collaborator. Of course, it's always been easier to separate the good guys from the bad in WWII, though even that distinction is never a given in either movie.



Errol Morris' documentary *The Fog of War* features former secretary of defense Robert McNamara.

The difficulty of deciding who's the hero and who's the villain is the dramatic undercurrent in *The Fog of War*, which Morris compiled from a series of extended interviews with former secretary of defense Robert McNamara. This whip-smart technocrat served under presidents Kennedy and Johnson and oversaw the expansion of the Vietnam War into the pit of quicksand it became. Nearly 30 years after leaving his post he offered a very qualified mea culpa, claiming he opposed the war's escalation and kept matters from getting even worse.

It would be easy to see *The Fog of War* as Morris' attempt to coax a fuller confession of wrongdoing out of McNamara, or at least make McNamara look bad. After all, Morris' last documentary was *Mr. Death*, in which he and his camera sat back as Fred A. Leuchter, a creepy designer of (creepier) execution devices, ruined his career by setting out to prove there were no gas chambers at Auschwitz. But McNamara is no crackpot, and you respect him, as Morris himself obviously does, for answering Morris' questions.

It's also obvious from the start that McNamara, now in his mid 80s and still sharp, isn't going to be tricked into saying anything he doesn't want to. If there's anything dubious about McNamara's life, the man is well aware of it. He spent the latter days of WWII analyzing the efficiency of U.S. firebombing of Japan so it could be improved—and it was improved, so much so that U.S. forces burned 100,000 Japanese civilians in one night during March 1945. "[General LeMay] and I were behaving as war criminals," McNamara says, without prodding from Morris.

The Fog of War places McNamara's Vietnam experience within the overall context of his WWII military experience and his postwar stint as a Ford executive. Ultimately, the notion of McNamara unburdening himself of Vietnam guilt becomes secondary to the movie's focus on war as a series of choices made by individuals, and the idea that it's naive to expect the "good guys" to be good. This acknowledgement of moral ambiguity makes the movie unusually contemporary. When McNamara explains the quagmire of Vietnam by saying, "we didn't know enough about the Vietnamese to empathize with them," the comment puts a chill in your spine in light of the current war in Iraq. (*The Fog of War* was filmed about two years ago.)

The Fog of War unfurls in the same style as *First Person*, Morris' inspired cable-TV series of interview-based short films, with McNamara addressing one camera head-on, other cameras capturing him at off-kilter angles, injected montages of archival footage, and music chiming in. (Frequent Morris collaborator Philip Glass composed the soundtrack.) The film also includes fascinating audiotapes of cabinet meetings during the Kennedy and Johnson administrations. It's meant to be a heady stew, and it works.

If *The Fog of War* is a fitting marriage of form and function, *The Statement* is an iffy fit from the start. It positions its 1990s-set Holocaust tale as a popcorn thriller, as two French investigators (Tilda Swinton, Jeremy Northam) hunt down a former Nazi collaborator (Michael Caine) who, it turns out, has been sheltered and financially supported by a secret society within the Catholic Church.

This movie wants to move beyond simple good guys and bad guys, too. The script would have the audience partially sympathize with the collaborator, but even though the church and political higher-ups who've sheltered him now fear exposure from his capture, he's not enough of a pawn to earn sympathy. (It's hard to sympathize with a character who has killed seven Jews from his own village.) Besides, the vagueness of the church's complicity with the Nazis in *The Statement* makes real evildoers come off like totally generic movie villains. With its cast of Brits as Frenchmen (including the late Alan Bates) and its listless, rambling action, *The Statement* just feels out of whack, in so many ways. **iB**

The Fog of War ★★★

Directed by Errol Morris. Rated PG-13. Sony Pictures Classics.

The Statement ★½

Directed by Norman Jewison. Written by Ronald Harwood. Based on the novel by Brian Moore. With Michael Caine, Tilda Swinton, Jeremy Northam and Ciaran Hinds. Rated R. Sony Pictures Classics.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Bad Santa ★★★½
Finally, a Christmas movie about a degenerate cussing, sex-addicted, drunk degenerate. In a Sa suit. Billy Bob Thornton is an absolute hoot as department store St. Nick who, with his midget, costumed partner (Tony Cox), sets up shop ev December in a different city and a different st and then robs the store safe on Christmas Eve. T Santa's aversion to anything and everything bes drink and tail makes him an unrepentant poster for misanthropy, while director Terry Zwigoff (G *World*) again proves to be one of the movies' g guys by not wimping out with a soft, *Elf*-style e ing. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Big Fish ★★★
Forget about the present-day drama between a b tery dying Southerner (Albert Finney) and his se estranged grown son (Billy Crudup) in Tim Burt latest. The real action is in the tall tales about dying man's earlier life. These sequences featur Ewan McGregor are the first thing anyone will member from this movie. Burton gives these sce an eye-popping heightened reality, while McG gor's lively performance might remind you of other optimistic dreamer from a Burton movi Johnny Depp's Ed Wood. With his performance swaggering Camelot-era man-about-town in *D with Love* and now this role, McGregor has impro bly shown himself to be a crackerjack portraye American gumption. The rest of the movie falt but McGregor's scenes are bull's-eyes. (At Bos Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Calendar Girls ★★
It's depressing that much of English moviemak has become a minstrel show of stiff upper lips plucky underdogs. In this comedy, a chapter of twee Women's Institute publishes a popular caler of nearly nude women. But the true story on wh the film is based gets shoehorned into the *Full Mo* formula of triumphant everyday heroes. Altho any movie with Helen Mirren and Julie Walter its stars deserves some respect, this one's too c and too flimsy. (At Boston Common, Ken Square and suburbs.)

The Company ★
Robert Altman's drama set within the Joffrey Ba of Chicago is perhaps the veteran director's w film. There's little attempt to develop the cha ters, conflict is almost nonexistent, and the da numbers look like a cross between Mummensch and a Fruit of the Loom commercial. Altho many of the company's real dancers play suppor roles, Barbara Turner's script offers no insight i this insular community. The characters, such as imperious artistic director (Malcolm McDowell second-tier dancer trying to get to the next le (Neve Campbell) and her cook boyfriend (Ja Franco), are one-dimensional at best. And Altr inserts most of the dance numbers in seemingly dom fashion, without context. (At Kendall Sq and Coolidge Corner.)

The Cooler ★★
As he often has, William H. Macy plays a guy ting the fuzzy end of life's stick in this Vegas c edy-drama. He's a sad sack whose luck is so bad his job is merely to turn up at the casino where works and cool down gamblers' hot streaks. I about to quit and, presumably, try to change luck in life, especially now that he's started a r tionship with a round-the-block casino wait (Maria Bello). That might have been an interes tale had writer-director Wayne Kramer stuck t Instead, the story brings in too many out forces—including the return of the cooler's tranged son (Shawn Hatosy) and the pressures casino manager (Alec Baldwin) is feeling to "r ernize"—that clutter the plot. The interesting h at the center just gets smothered by it all. (At C ley Place and Kendall Square.)

Girl with a Pearl Earring ★★
Based on Tracy Chevalier's novel, this film pu speculative backdrop tale to Johannes Verme 1660s painting. As director Peter Webber strive get the Dutch master's lighting and composition right, his poor characters walk around in a stiff, morless daze, and the story turns stilted in no ti The movie's Vermeer (Colin Firth) is a garden-v ety tortured artist, in this case tormented by bourgeois wife (Essie Davis) and mother-in (Judy Parfitt), who push him to paint more and more. His household's new maid (Scarlett Joh son) puts no such demands on him, and the start a secret friendship that leads to her posing the famous portrait. Although the relationships tween the sexes and between the classes can be

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teresting here, the central pair's sexual tension is so laden with pregnant pauses and symbolism (like Vermeer's penetrating piercing of the maid's ears) that this overripe art house melodrama is almost instant self-parody. (At Kendall Square.)

The House of Sand and Fog ★★

Local author Andre Dubus III's father wrote the story on which *In the Bedroom* was based. Now the younger Dubus has had a novel adapted, and you could call this similar film *In the Three-Bedroom*. Like the previous movie, it compounds tragedy upon tragedy. The first is when emotional wreck Kathy (Jennifer Connelly) loses her house when it is mistakenly seized for nonpayment of taxes. Before she can correct the mistake, the house goes up for auction and is grabbed by a down-and-out former Iranian colonel (Ben Kingsley) who wants to sell it to maintain his family's standard of living. The struggle between these two people dependent on the house is inevitably headed for more tragedy, but the plot takes a convoluted and not very involving path to get there, and is too dependent on an imprudent sheriff's deputy (Ron Eldard) who tries to help Kathy but repeatedly messes things up. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Japanese Story ★★

Nothing like a near-death experience to break the romantic ice. At least that's what this Australian romance would have you believe. The geologist (Toni Collette) and the married Japanese businessman (Gotaro Tsunashima) she's assigned to escort to remote mineral mines can't stand each other initially. Then they almost die when their rental car gets stuck in the desert, and once they get it moving it's not long before they're having a fling. The *Brief Encounter*–like story then goes for an emotional home run that it just can't pull off, because the depth of the relationship never quite convinces. (At Copley Place.)

The Last Samurai ★★

Dances with Wolves goes east in this 1870s tale of a cavalry officer (Tom Cruise) who's sent to Japan to help train the emperor's troops to fight off a rebellion by samurai opposed to Japan's modernization. When the officer, who's been disillusioned ever since witnessing Custer's brutal campaign against Native Americans, is taken prisoner by the samurai and carted back to their mountain camp, he sees that, like the Indians back home, they're not the savages the government claims they are. Director Ed Zwick (*Glory*, *Courage Under Fire*) again exhibits the social conscience that is his trademark, but his message is compromised by his casting of Cruise. Although the movie salutes community and unselfishness, it also expends most of its energy glorifying its star. Ultimately, it's as hypocritical as someone who says "Do what I say, not what I do." (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King ★★

Peter Jackson has once again given us an expansive spoof of bombastic, medieval fantasy adventures: the furrowed brows, the swords and sorcery, the creatures, the hair extensions. Oh, that's right, it's not *supposed* to be silly. Jackson is obviously an imaginative, capable director, but after three movies and seven hours, I still don't care a lick about anything that happens to any of these solemn, solemn people. The *LOTR* trilogy epitomizes the sort of movie that wins technical Academy Awards but that no one takes seriously. Yet for reasons I just can't understand, a lot of folks have taken these films seriously. (Come on, isn't Tolkien's attractive-human-heroes-versus-ugly-Orc-villains plot just a tad juvenile?). Maybe Jackson can go back to making interesting movies like *Heavenly Creatures* and *Forgotten Silver* now. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Lost in Translation ★★★½

Sofia Coppola dealt with shared pain in her 2000 directorial debut, *The Virgin Suicides*, and she conjures up a similar funny-sad tone in her tale of two Americans (Bill Murray, Scarlett Johansson) adrift in Tokyo. He's a washed-up movie star making a bundle endorsing Japanese booze; she's the wife of a work-consumed photographer (Giovanni Ribisi). They're staying at the same hotel and killing time at the same hotel bar, and their misery loves company. The characters make a great movie couple, although their relationship is platonic (with its share of sexual tension). Murray gives a Buster Keaton–like, sad-clown performance built mainly around physical and especially facial reactions to absurd situations, and Johansson is a little heartbreaker. (At Copley Place, Coolidge Corner and suburbs.)

Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World ★★★

An intense, eye-popping opening battle and director Peter Weir's realistic storytelling help this naval epic sail over dull patches, gabby interludes and hohum subplots. The level of authenticity is so much higher than any mere piece of spectacle in this 1805 story of the crew of an English ship that is attacked by a French ship and then spends the rest of the movie tracking it to get revenge. Russell Crowe plays the battle-wise captain and Paul Bettany is the ship's inquisitive scientist, and though these friends' dialogues about the merits of science can't compare with the action sequences, Crowe especially breathes great life into his character. For once, the special effects serve the story in a big movie, and not the other way around. (At Boston Common, Fenway, Harvard Square and suburbs.)



The Alloy Orchestra plays a live score to *The General* at the Somerville Theatre Jan. 24.

Monster ★★

No matter how hard it tries, and no matter how much Charlize Theron transforms herself into less attractive, much rougher Aileen Wuornos—the prostitute whom Florida executed for killing seven men—this docudrama isn't nearly as sympathetic or as interesting as *Aileen Wuornos: The Selling of a Serial Killer*, Nick Broomfield's decade-old documentary. In the docudrama, Wuornos is a much-abused woman who decides to try her luck with women after she meets a younger lesbian (Christina Ricci). But with no other way to make money, she keeps hooking, and after a john gets violent, she kills him in self-defense. Then she continues to kill. Although you feel her rage, the movie's Wuornos is a little too dumb to sympathize with (she keeps riding around in her victims' cars), and Theron fails to provide the spark that might make her more fascinating than stupid. The movie also puts all its emotional eggs in the basket of the doomed lesbian affair—which fails to be the riveting tragedy writer-director Patty Jenkins wants it to be. (At Copley Place and Kendall Square.)

Paycheck ★★

It would have been great to have a fun action-thriller nestled between this season's literary-minded Oscar seekers and the kids' stuff. Too bad this ain't it. Like *Minority Report*, John Woo's adaptation of a Philip K. Dick short story is a Hitchcock-like accused-man-on-the-run story turned futuristic. Ben Affleck plays an engineer who's had three years of his memory erased after working on a secret project, but who left himself an envelope of seemingly everyday items that he knew he could use to get himself out of his predicament. That's a cool premise, but it gets so convoluted that its credibility soon plummets. (How *did* he just happen to have that fortune-cookie fortune with the important message and important number preprinted on it?) (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Peter Pan ★★

Unless you're 10 years old, there's not much chance you'll be overly enchanted by the latest film version of J.M. Barrie's tale of Victorian lass Wendy (Rachel Hurd-Wood), flying Peter (Jeremy Sumpter), Captain Hook (Jason Isaacs) and the Lost Boys. This one is heavy on visual effects and crafting, and it breaks tradition by actually casting a boy as Peter, so the puppy love between him and Wendy is less pretend than usual. But you keep waiting for something distinctive to spill from this version directed by P.J. Hogan (*Muriel's Wedding*, *My Best Friend's Wedding*), and it never quite does. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Shattered Glass ★★★

The story of Stephen Glass, the hotshot *New Republic* reporter who turned out to have faked most of his articles, becomes a fascinating drama that avoids the usual stodginess of docudramas. Instead of showing us the hows and whys of Glass' fakery—does anyone really know that besides Glass himself?—the movie presents Glass (Hayden Christensen) as an eager-to-please go-getter who appears taken in by his own veneer of guilelessness (and who also appears to be the best co-worker anyone could have). That self-deception may be the biggest and most interesting deceit in the movie, which also touches upon entertainment's dangerous, seductive power over journalism. The strong supporting cast includes Peter Saarsgard, Chloe Sevigny, Hank Azaria and Melanie Lynskey. (At Kendall Square and Copley Place.)

Stuck on You ★★★

Anyone who branded the Farrelly Brothers "gross-out kings" without seeing the sweetness in their comedies (*There's Something About Mary*, *Kingpin*) might finally get the point this time. Their endearing story of two conjoined twins (Matt Damon, Greg Kinnear) who move from Martha's Vineyard to Hollywood so one can pursue an acting career is amusing and good-natured, with winning performances from its two leads and, as variations of themselves, Cher and Meryl Streep. The visual gimmick of having conjoined twins works much better than the problematic gimmickry of the brothers' *Shallow Hal*, though their penchant for casting their New England buddies in supporting parts might make you wonder why half of Hollywood has a Boston accent. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

By Popular Request: Katharine Hepburn

•Jan. 26, 6 pm. **Desk Set** *1957*. Hepburn plays a headstrong researcher who clashes with a man (Spencer Tracy) who is trying to replace her staff with computers. Directed by Walter Lang.

•Feb. 2, 6 pm. **Suddenly, Last Summer** *1959*. A wealthy New Orleans widow (Hepburn) offers a doctor a million dollars to lobotomize her niece (Elizabeth Taylor), traumatized after witnessing her cousin's murder. Joseph L. Mankiewicz directs.

BRATTLE THEATRE

Mondays and Tuesdays—Humphrey Bogart: The Stuff That Dreams Are Made Of

•Jan. 26. **In a Lonely Place** *1950*. Nicholas Ray rects this film noir in which Bogart plays a scre writer who gets a hat-check girl to give him idea his next screenplay. When she is murdered, he is prime suspect. •Also showing. **Dead Reckon** *1947*. Rip Murdock (Bogart) sets out to learn w happened to his dead friend and falls in love w the woman whose husband his friend was accuse killing. Directed by John Cromwell.

•Jan. 27. **Beat the Devil** *1953*. Four crooks stranded in Italy while their steamer is being paired and each hatches a secret plot to steal nium. Directed by John Huston.

•Feb. 2 and 3. **The Desperate Hours** *1955*. In thriller, thugs hold a man and his family hostag their suburban home. Directed by William W •Also showing. **High Sierra** *1941*. Bogart pla man who is sprung from prison by a crook makes him help with a robbery. It goes wrong the two men go on the run. Directed by Ra Walsh.

Wednesdays—Snubbed! (Not Nominated for Best Picture)

•Jan. 21. THE IMPROPER's Paul Sherman introdu **Once Upon a Time In America** *1984*. Robert Niro and James Woods play childhood friends grow up to be gangsters in New York. Directed Sergio Leone.

•Jan. 28. **The Wild Bunch** *1969*. Sam Peckinpah rects this drama about a group of outlaws who de to commit one last crime before retiring.

Thursdays—Recent Raves

•Jan. 29. **Onibus 174** (*Bus 174*) *2002*. This do mentary about a bus hijacking and hostage stan in Rio de Janeiro in 2000 uses news footage from event. Directed by Felipe Lacerda and José Padil •Feb. 5. **Lost in Translation** *2003*. See New Rele for a description.

Weekend Special Engagements

•Jan. 23-25. **En la Ciudad Sin Límites** (*The Cit No Limits*). *2002*. This Spanish thriller, directe Antonio Hernández, centers around a man's visi Paris to join his family around their ill father. Fa secrets come to the surface, most notably one the father reveals.

•Jan. 30-Feb. 1. **Kill Bill, Vol 1**. *2003*. A former sassin (Uma Thurman) falls into a four-year c when a coworker opens fire at her wedding c mony. When she wakes up, she seeks reve Quentin Tarantino directs.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Coolidge Selects

•Now playing. **The Backyard** *2002*. Paul Hough rects this documentary about the violent and biz world of backyard wrestling.

•Now playing. **The Company** *2003*. See New leases for a description.

•Now playing. **Prisoner of Paradise** *2003*. Malc Clarke and Stuart Sender's documentary look Kurt Gerron, a German-Jewish actor who was to a concentration camp and forced to make a Nazi propaganda film.

•Now playing. **Todd Dowd and the Languag Music** *2003*. Mark Moormann directs this docum tary about Tom Dowd, an innovative recording gineer and producer of noted albums by J Coltrane, Ornette Coleman, Otis Redding, Clapton, the Allman Brothers and others.

•Now playing. **Les Triplettes de Belleville** (*Triplets of Belleville*) *2003*. When her grandso kidnapped during the Tour de France, Mad Souza and her dog Bruno team up with a song-a dance troupe to rescue him. Sylvain Chomet dir this animated feature film.

•Opening Jan. 30. **Eat This N.Y.** *2004*. Kate Nc directs this documentary about two best frie from Minnesota struggling to open a restauran Manhattan.

•Opening Jan 30. **The Fog of War: Eleven Less from the Life of Robert S. McNamara** *2003*. movie review for a description.

Human Rights Watch International Film Festival

•Jan. 23, 6 and 8 pm. **War Takes** *2002*. Th Colombian filmmakers turn their cameras on th selves, using personal stories to expose the to reality in their war-ravaged country. Patricia tano and Adelaida Trujillo direct.

•Jan. 24, 1 and 3 pm. **Life on the Tracks** *2002*. I Carolino's documentary follows a poverty-stric Filipino family's struggle to survive.

•Jan. 24, 5 and 8 pm. **When the War Is O** *2002*. Francois Verster's documentary explores aftereffects of the South African struggle aga

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apartheid. •Immediately following. **State of Denial** *2002*. Elain Epstein's documentary focuses on six people dealing with AIDS in South Africa.
•Jan. 25, 12 and 2 pm. **Dans, Grozny, Dans** *(The Damned and the Sacred) 2002*. Jos De Putter's documentary follows a Chechen youth dance troupe as it prepares for a European tour.
•Jan. 25, 4 and 6 pm. **Scenes from an Endless War** *2002*. Norman Cowie's experimental documentary focuses on American policies toward globalism, militarism and the war on terrorism. •Immediately following, **Welcome to Hadassah Hospital** *2002*. Ramon Geiling's documentary goes inside Jerusalem's Hadassah Hospital, where Jewish and Arab caregivers treat Palestinian and Israeli patients.
•Jan. 26, 7 pm. **Balseros** *2002*. Carlos Bosch's documentary follows Cuban exiles who were sent to the Guantanamo Bay refugee camp before entering America.

Midnight Movies: The Genius of Bill Murray

•Jan. 23 and 24, 12 am. **Lost in Translation** *2003*. See New Releases for a description.
•Jan. 30 and 31, 12 am. **Groundhog Day** *1993*. In this comedy, Murray plays a weatherman who relives the same day over and over again. Harold Ramis directs.

Midnight Movies: Kung Fu Madness

•Jan. 23, 12 am. **Can Que** *(Crippled Avengers) 1978*. A group of men, brutalized by an evil warlord, learn kung fu with the help of an old teacher and his idiot pupil. Directed by Cheh Chang.
•Jan. 24, 12 am. **Gui Ma Tian Shi** *(Taoism Drunkard) 1983*. Cheung-Yan Yuen's absurd kung fu classic includes run-ins with watermelon robots, a villain with porcupine quills and a cross-dressing, opium-smoking grandmother.
•Jan. 30, 12 am. **Miu Meng Yan Che** *(A Life of a Ninja) 1983*. Ninja hunter Chen Kuan-tai seeks out his deadly foe in Tso Nam Lee's film.
•Jan. 31, 12 am. **Zhi Fen Shuang Xiong** *(Pantyhose Hero) 1990*. Sammo Hung Kam-Bo plays a detective investigating the murder of homosexual men. In order to find the killer, he and his partner pretend to be gay.

Special Programs

•Jan. 22, 7:30 pm. **The Policeman**. Ephraim Kishon's satire follows hapless a Tel Aviv beat cop on the eve of his retirement who encounters religious zealots and hookers and accidentally solves a phony crime. In Hebrew with subtitles.
•Feb. 2, 7pm. **Stories from a Small Planet on the Big Screen**. The producers of the PBS series *Frontline/World* present this free screening and discussion of three short documentaries that introduce countries and cultures rarely covered by the mainstream media.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Masterworks of Modern Cinema

•Feb. 2, 7 pm. **Last Year at Marienbad** *1961*. In Alain Resnais' surreal drama, a sophisticated man tries to convince a woman that they shared a romantic encounter the previous year at the hotel where they are staying.

People We Like—Some of Serge Daney's Favorite Films

•Jan. 21, 7 pm. **The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance** *1962*. A powerful political figure, famous for shooting a local gunman, reveals the truth behind the shootout. John Ford directs. •Also showing, 9:15 pm. **She Wore a Yellow Ribbon** *1949*. John Wayne stars in John Ford's film about an aging military captain who tries to protect a group of women from an Indian attack.
•Jan. 23, 7 and 9 pm. **Night of the Hunter** *1955*. Robert Mitchum plays an ex-con who sets out to get his deceased cellmate's hidden money. Charles Laughton directs.
•Jan. 24, 7 pm. **Annie Hall** *1977*. Woody Allen's Academy Award–winning film follows the ups and downs of two mismatched New York neurotics during the 1970s.
•Jan. 24, 9 pm; Jan. 30, 7 pm. **The King of Comedy** *1983*. Robert De Niro plays a down-on-his-luck, mediocre comedian intent on making an appearance on a late-night talk show. Martin Scorsese directs.
•Jan. 25, 7 pm. **Rio Bravo** *1959*. A Texas sheriff enlists the town drunk and a cripple to prevent a jailbreak. Howard Hawks directs.
•Jan. 26, 7 pm. **Milestones** *1975*. Robert Kramer's drama follows six storylines as different individuals travel across the United States at the end of the 1960s.
•Jan. 27, 7 pm. **The Go-Between** *1970*. A young boy enables a forbidden affair between a wealthy girl and common boy by relaying their messages. Joseph Losey directs. •Also showing, 9:15 pm. **Le Plaisir** *1952*. An old man attends a ball in disguise, a group of prostitutes attend a religious service and an artist has a deadly affair with his model in Max Ophüls' film adaptation of short stories by Guy de Maupassant.
•Jan. 28, 7 pm. **Serge Daney: Itinèraire d'un Ciné-fils** *(Serge Daney: Journey of a Ciné-Son) 1992*. Pierre-André Boutang and Dominique Rabourdin's documentary explores Daney's career as a film critic.



Osama screens at the MFA's Human Rights Watch International Film Festival Jan. 22.

VES Faculty Screenings

•Jan. 22, 7 pm. **Albert Alcalay: Self-Portraits** *2003*. Alcalay appears in person to introduce the documentary that studies his development as an artist, from inspiration in a concentration camp to becoming a Harvard faculty member. Rob Eustis, Allen Moore and Rob Tranchin direct.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Argentinian Cinema

•Jan. 21 and 22, 8:15 pm. **Bolivia** *2001*. Director Adrián Caetano tells the story of an illegal immigrant from Bolivia who gets a job on the outskirts of Buenos Aires, where he confronts racism, xenophobia and violence.

Art on Film

•Jan. 29, 7:30 pm. **My Architect** *2003*. In this documentary, writer/director Nathaniel Kahn, the son of legendary architect Louis Kahn, sets out to find how his father went from high status to bankrupt and homeless.
•Jan. 31, 7:45 pm. **Cecil Taylor: All the Notes** *2003*. Christopher Felver is present for the screening of his ode to pianist Cecil Taylor. Footage of a performance is cut with images of on-stage mayhem.
•Feb. 1, 1 pm. **The Coney Island of Lawrence Ferlinghetti** *1996*. Christopher Felver's documentary is a glimpse of the life, art and politics of beat poet Lawrence Ferlinghetti. •Immediately following, **West Coast: Beat & Beyond** *1984*. Christopher Felver's film includes footage of beat-era artists Jack Kerouac, Allen Ginsberg, Gregory Corso, Ken Kesey and Lawrence Ferlinghetti.

The Films of Moritz Bleibtreu

•Jan. 30, 7:30 pm. **Das Experiment** *2000*. Bleibtreu is present for the screening of Oliver Hirschbeigel's film. Bleibtreu plays a journalist who goes undercover to investigate a government-run prison experiment.
•Jan. 31, 4 pm. **Lammbock** *2001*. Two marijuana-smoking best friends get in trouble when the cannabis expert in town turns out to be an undercover narcotics agent. Christian Zübert directs. •Also showing, 6 pm. **Lola Rennt** *(Run, Lola, Run) 1998*. Tom Tykwer's film goes through three versions of one scenario in which a girl has 20 minutes to get the money to bail her boyfriend out of trouble.
•Feb. 1, 3:30 pm. **Solino** *2002*. An Italian man moves his wife and two sons to Germany to open a pizza parlor. The family breaks apart due to homesickness and the brothers' feud over a girl. Fatih Akin directs.

History on Film

•Jan. 22, 3:45 pm; Jan. 31, 10 am. **Morning Sun** *2003*. Carma Hinton, Geremie Barmé and Richard Gordon's documentary on China's Cultural Revolution of the 1960s and '70s includes rare archival footage and clips from Communist propaganda films. •Also showing, 4:15 pm; Jan. 31, 2:15, pm. **The Weather Underground** *2002*. Sam Green and Bill Siegel's documentary includes interviews with members of the group of American radicals who landed on the FBI's most wanted list 30 years ago.
•Jan. 25, 10:30 pm. **The Gate of Heavenly Peace** *1995*. Richard Gordon and Carma Hinton's documentary on the 1989 protests in Tiananmen Square includes historical and archival footage, as well as interviews with students, workers and government officials.

Human Rights Watch International Film Festival

•Jan. 22, 7:30 pm. **Osama** *2003*. A widowed mother dresses her 12-year-old girl in boys' clothes to evade the Taliban. Siddiq Barmak directs.
•Jan. 23, 6 pm. **Rana's Wedding** *2003*. A Palestinian girl wants to marry a different man than the one her father has picked for her. Hany Abu-Assad directs. •Also showing, 8 pm. **Ford Transit** *2002*. Director Hany Abu-Assad's documentary follows cabdriver Rajai as he detours around roadblocks and speeds through short cuts in Ramallah and Jerusalem.
•Jan. 24, 10:30 am. **Domestic Violence 2** *2002*. Frederick Wiseman's documentary follows court cases that deal with domestic violence in families. •Also showing, 2 pm. **Pinochet's Children** *2002*. Paula Rodriguez's documentary follows the lives of three people who grew up during the rule of Argentinian dictator Augusto Pinochet. •Also showing, 3:45 pm. **Power Trip** *2003*. An American global power company struggles to teach residents of the former Soviet Republic of Georgia that in the new market economy, they must pay for their electricity. Paul Devlin directs.

New England Film Artists Presents

•Jan. 29, 6 pm; Jan. 31, 12:45 pm. **Seeing the Landscape: Richard Serra's Tuhirangi Contour** *2003*. Alberta Chu's documentary looks at artist Richard Serra's latest large-scale outdoor installation, in New Zealand.

Scandinavian Film Festival

•Jan. 21, 6:15 pm. **Den Osynlige** *(Invisible) 2002*. After a run-in with some bullies, a timid boy finds that no one can hear or see him. Joel Bergvall and Simon Sandquist direct.
•Jan. 22, 2 pm. **Fyra Kvinnor** *(Four Women) 2002*. News of a friend's engagement prompts a woman to return to her hometown and get reacquainted with old friends. Baker Karim directs.
•Jan. 28, 8 pm. **Joki** *(The River) 2001*. Two teenagers try to save a woman who is attempting to drown herself and her child in the local river. Jarmo Lampela.
•Jan. 30, 5:30 pm. **Vinar av Glas** *(Wings of Glass) 2000*. Family tensions mount when an Iranian girl living in Sweden falls in love with a Swedish boy. Reza Bagher directs.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater

•Through Feb. 12. **Jane Goodall's Wild Chimpanzees**. Enter the world of the wild chimpanzees of Africa's Gombe Stream National Park. *Call for show times*.
•Through May 28. **India: Kingdom of the Tiger**. Explore the kingdom of the Bengal tiger, from the Himalayas to Rajasthan. *Call for showtimes*.
•Through June. **Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West**. Trek through raging rivers and uncharted wilderness to commemorate the bicentennial of the explorers' journey, brought to life by *National G graphic*. *Call for show times*.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater

•Through Feb. 8. **The Matrix Revolutions**. In sequel to *The Matrix*, Neo and the rebel lea battle the machines that have overpowered human race. *Call for show times*.
•Through June 30 **Bugs! 3D**. This film focuses the world of insects in the tropical rain forest Southeast Asia. See bugs magnified up to 250, times their normal size. *Call for show times*.
•Through June 30 **Ghosts of the Abyss**. Dire James Cameron takes audiences two miles bene the sea's surface to explore the wreckage of the tanic. *Call for show times*.
•Through June 30 **Ocean Wonderland 3D**. T film explores the ocean floor of the Bahamas Australia's Great Barrier Reef and finds sharks, s rays and rainbows of tropical fish. *Call for show ti*

SOMERVILLE THEATRE

•Jan. 24, 8 pm. **The General** *1927*. The Alloy chestra provides live accompaniment to Bu Keaton's silent comedic drama. Keaton pla Southern engineer whose train is stolen by Un soldiers during the Civil War.

Cinema Venues

BELMONT

Studio Cinema

376 Trapelo Rd. (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Public Library

666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: G Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)

100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MB Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre

201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common

175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: G Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science

Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Lin Science Park.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Lin Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema

399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Lin Reservoir.

Coolidge Corner Theatre

290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Gr Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre

40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Lin Harvard.

Fresh Pond

168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MB Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive

24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Lin Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema

One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony

10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema

27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Gr Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema

1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony

35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Ora Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre

55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Lin Davis.

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Whisked Away

Cassandra Wilson embraces her roots and extends the jazz vocabulary

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Cassandra Wilson began the New Year in a familiar place—her Mississippi hometown of Jackson, where she spends the holidays with family and has recorded her most recent CDs.



Cassandra Wilson's daring cover songs often garner acclaim from the original artists. Her latest CD, *Glamoured*, is a mix of covers and originals.

"It's a wonderful time to gather with old friends and bring the musicians who I generally work with in New York down to Mississippi, to get them out of their usual context and see how they react to the setting," says the dusky-voiced jazz chanteuse, who even recorded 2002's *Belly of the Sun* in a train depot. "It's just a much more relaxed atmosphere. In New York, there's so much more that grabs your attention."

Wilson has grabbed her share of attention in New York over her past decade. Starting with 1993's *Blue Light 'Til Dawn*, her CDs have consistently charmed critics and fans alike with their languid, sensual mix of daring covers and originals. She won a Grammy for Best Jazz Vocal for 1996's *New Moon Daughter* and was called "America's Best Singer" by *Time* magazine in 2001.

Her list of admirers includes storied musical artists as well. "Bono of U2 wrote me a wonderful note for covering 'Love is Blindness,'" says Wilson, who tackled Willie Nelson's "Crazy" and Bob Dylan's "Lay Lady Lay" for her latest CD, *Glamoured*. "I've had wonderful conversations with [Dylan]. Van Morrison was great when I did 'Tupelo Honey,' and Joni Mitchell reached out [regarding Wilson's cover of 'Black Crow'] and we had a really great meeting."

"When I approach a song, it's definitely from a jazz perspective," says Wilson, who plays Berklee Feb. 7. "I like making covers my own. As long as it's seamless, there's nothing wrong with mixing it up.We interpret the popular songbook, and it's no different than what [jazz] singers have been doing all along. I reach for material from my time, my coming of age, from what's happening now. I hope it extends the vocabulary."

"I like to describe the process as a song picking me rather than the other way around," she adds. "If [a song] really resonates for you, then find a way to interpret it that makes sense for you."

Sometimes that means a song that Wilson remembers from her youth is transformed in her folk and blues–shaded approach. But *Glamoured* (a Gaelic word meaning to be whisked away) includes one of her more faithful covers in a vocal-bass duet of "Throw It Away," a ballad by jazz veteran Abbey Lincoln, who—along with Mitchell, Billie Holiday and Nina Simone—stands among Wilson's key influences.

"[She's] a major influence, not just in her style or musicianship, but what she stands for, how she deals with her group, how she is a leader, how she incorporates her life inside of her songs and how she constantly writes," Wilson says of Lincoln, who gave her blessing to the cover and provided words for a third verse. "I really enjoy writing music and want to continue to do that. And it's not something that jazz vocalists are encouraged to do, quite frankly."

"'Throw It Away' has helped me the last couple of years to deal with impermanence and movement," adds Wilson, 48. "I was going through a divorce, and moving out of our home that I'd been in for about 14 years, and that song helped me to go through all the clutter in my life."

Not that Wilson was seduced by the simplicity of life back in Mississippi while recording *Glamoured*. Halfway through the sessions, she sought new creative textures with Italian jazz guitarist-producer Fabrizio Sotti back in New York.

"When you're going through changes in life, it's often reflected in the music, and there were things I wanted to include, to experiment," she says. "Fabrizio has spent a lot of time in the hip-hop world and brings [those] production values to the table."

"There are a couple of tunes that are an indication of a more energetic, rhythmically intense approach," Wilson says, citing the original composition "I Want More." "There are two rhythmic strains that are happening, like a double-Dutch jump rope, going into that song. That's very much a part of jazz too, where everything is not what it seems to be. It's very complex, with layers of rhythm."

Those rhythms should be in fine hands when Wilson plays at Berklee with drummer Terri Lyne Carrington (who cowrote "I Want More" with Wilson and Sotti) and percussionist Jeffrey Haynes, plus guitarist Brandon Ross, bassist Reginald Veal and harmonica player Gregoire Maret.

And if Wilson doesn't sell as many CDs as Diana Krall or Norah Jones, it doesn't seem to bother her. "Everybody has their own path," Wilson says. "I represent something that perhaps will take Middle America a lot longer to get into." iB

Cassandra Wilson
plays the Berklee Performance Center Feb. 7.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. b (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, email to music@improper.com. Include dates, ti prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadli four weeks prior to publication date. Listings n cepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from ferent sources. Although we make every effort to pr accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call a to double-check dates and times (see complete li venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Anti-Flag, Against Me, New Mexican Disa Squad, None More Black and Rise Against
Jan. 26, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Sarah Brightman
Jan. 31, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Alex Bugnon
Jan. 21, Scullers Jazz Club (617-783-0090).
Jen Durkin and the Bomb Squad
Jan. 31, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Ann Hampton Callaway and Liz Callaway
Jan. 31, Sanders Theatre (617-482-2595).
Melissa Ferrick
Jan. 31, Somerville Theatre (617-931-2000).
The Funk Brothers with Peabo Bryson and Pho Snow
Jan. 24, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-20
Ari Hest, the Clarks and Andy Stochansky
Jan. 22, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Missing Joe
Jan. 24, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
The Sixth Annual Superbowl MC Battle with KRS-One
Jan. 28, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Sol y Canto
Jan. 31, Blackman Center for the Arts (617-3 2247).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 21

Abbey Lounge Joe Mazzari Band, Spike Emer Society, Karinations and Local Jack, 21+.
Asgard Brogue,9 pm, no cover, all ages.
Bill's Bar Kabir, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Jazz Quartet, pm, $3-$7, all ages.
Bravo @ the MFA Ronnie Ron, 5:30 pm, no co
The Burren Hot Day at the Zoo, 10 pm, no co 21+.
Cantab Lounge Candy's blues jam, 9 pm, c varies, 21+.
Club Passim Chris and Meredith Thompson Carl Cacho, 8 pm.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Green Line.
The Harp DJ Lou, 10:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Johnny D's Pat DiNizio and Mike Gent, 8:30 pm
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie, 8 pm, cover, all ages.
Lizard Lounge Nell Bryden, 7-9 pm, $6; Sarah R dau and Certainly Sir, 10 pm, $6.
Middle East Upstairs: Brilliant Misstake, Thirds and Debris $8, 18+.
Midway Café Solid Bunny.
Oak Bar Sarah Brindell, 7:30-10:30 pm, no cove
Paradise Lounge: Blackout Bar with DJs Mark Damian, 9 pm, $3, 18+.
Plough and Stars Bad Art, cover varies, 21+.
Purple Shamrock DJ Massi, cover varies, 21+.
Regattabar Hector Cuevas and the Boston La Band, 8:30 pm, $16.
Remington's Al Vega Trio and Johnny Souza, pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Greg Hopkins Quintet.
Scullers Alex Bugnon, 8 and 10 pm, $20, all ages
Sky Bar Sol Phonic, 8 pm, 21+.
Toad Weed, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place Mappari, the Halogi Amanda Palmer and Moki, $7.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Wally's Stepchildren I and pm, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar Barry Ries, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+
Zeitgeist Gallery Geoff Mullen and Eli Kessler pm-12 am, $6.
Les Zygomates Silas Hubbard, 7:30-11:30 pm.


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ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

As I Lay Dying and Sworn Enemy Feb. 17, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
Erykah Badu and Floetry March 6, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Barenaked Ladies and Gavin DeGraw March 2, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Better Than Ezra March 5, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Big Head Todd and the Monsters Feb. 27, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
David Bowie March 30, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Celtic Fiddle Festival with Kevin Burke, Johnny Cunningham and Christian LeMaître Feb. 21, Somerville Theatre (617-876-4275).
Elvis Costello Feb. 27, Wang Center (617-931-2000).
Paco De Lucía Feb. 14, Orpheum Theatre (617-876-4275).
Dropkick Murphys March 11-14, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Josh Groban Feb. 24, Wang Center (617-428-9393).
Angélique Kidjo Feb. 27, Somerville Theatre (617-876-4275).
Habib Koité Feb. 15, Somerville Theatre (617-876-4275).
Ladysmith Black Mambazo Feb. 6, Sanders Theatre (617-876-4275).
Method Man Feb. 22, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Moments in Grace, My Chemical Romance and Poison the Well March 19, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
MxPx, Simple Plan, Motion City Soundtrack and Sugarcult Feb. 7, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
My Morning Jacket Feb. 29, Somerville Theatre (617-931-2000).
O.A.R. and Robert Randolph & the Family Band Feb 12, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Liz Phair March 28, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Henry Rollins Feb. 6, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).
The Samples Feb. 29, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
The Saw Doctors March 17, The Roxy (617-423-NEXT).
Rod Stewart Feb. 29, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Sting March 15 and 16, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Cassandra Wilson Feb. 7, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).

THURSDAY, JAN. 22

Asgard Jack & Present Co., 9 pm, no cover, all ages.
Berklee Performance Center Peru Negro, 7:30 pm, $25-40.
Bill's Bar Lovewhip and Mass Hysteria, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's ZMQ, 7:30 pm.
Bravo @ the MFA Rusty Scott, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Bar & Grill Pocket.
The Burren Swingin' Johnsons, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Cantab Lounge Chris Waller, Gordon Beadle and New Day, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Matt and Shannon Heaton, 8 pm, $14.
Dick's Last Resort Death by Marriage, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Fireplace Harry Fix Jazz Trio, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Good Life Cambridge Fascinatin' Trio, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Live jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
The Harp Brick Park.
Harper's Ferry Danny Godinez Band, Buddahead and Paperthin Stages, $7, 21+.
Johnny D's Benefit for the Somerville Homeless Coalition with Dan Gonzales, 9 pm, $10.
Kirkland Café New Dumb, Odd Body and Ken.
Lizard Lounge Superhoney, 9 pm.
Mary Baker Eddy Library Curtis Madigan, 6 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: The Drags, Asect and Rocketscience, $9, 18+.
Oak Bar Sarah Brindell, 7:30-10:30 pm, no cover.
Old South Meeting House Commonwealth Jazz, 12:15-1 pm, $5, all ages.
Paradise Ari Hest, the Clarks and Andy Stochansky, 8 pm, 18+. Lounge: Bubble Up Rub a Dubwise Reggae night with WERS's Rockers and DJ Bud E Green, 9 pm, $5 for 18+, no cover for 21+.
Plough and Stars Down Dog, cover varies, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett.
Regattabar David Maxwell's Maximum Blues, 8:30 pm, $12, all ages.
Ryles Jazz Club Patricia Vlieg, 7:30 pm, $9.
Scullers E.S.T., 8 and 10 pm, $16, all ages.
Skellig Back Room: John Cate, 10pm, no cover; Front Room: Tina Lech, Ted Davis and Patrick Murray, 9 pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Snafoo, 8 pm, $6, 21+.
The Green Dragon Green Line, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, 9:30 pm no cover, 21+.
Tir na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7 pm, no cover; the Tom Glynn Band, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place Seekonk and Erica Cashman, $7.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Francisco Mela Quartet, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Sofia Koutsovitis Quartet, 7-9 pm, $7.
Les Zygomates Kim Trusty, 8 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, JAN. 23

Abbey Lounge The Spitzz.
Asgard Scott Robinson, Haviland, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
The Attic Joie Calio of Dada, Kevin Smith, 8:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Bill's Bar Rana and Freight Train, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Maxi. Downstairs: Eugene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Jazz Quartet, 7:30 pm.
Bravo @ the MFA Bill Duffy. 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Swingin' Johnsons, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Choppin' Block Meat Depressed and Angel Russell, $5, 21+.
Club Passim Julie Rosenthal and Vance Gilbert 7 and 10 pm, $18.
Dick's Last Resort Hit Squad, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Good Life Cambridge Grover Mooney and the Moon Unit, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Stan Strickland Band, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Brick Park.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scooby Snax.
The Harp Darik and the Funbags.
Harper's Ferry Papa Grows Funk, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Plaid Daddy.
Johnny D's Beatle Juice, 9:45 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.
Kirkland Café Just Another Victim, Nitlings, Dana Mier and the Mickey Bliss Organ Combo.
The Linwood Stray Bullets, Army of Darkness, Bloodmask and Bugs & Rats, $8.
Lizard Lounge The Benders, 9 pm, $5.
Mary Baker Eddy Library Courtney and Ethan Rowe, 6 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Barn Burning, Read Yellow and Detachment Kit, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Antibalas Afro-Beat Orchestra, $12, 18+.
Midway Café Jumbiles and Anushkapop.
Milky Way Jason Hatfield and the Marmalade, Sleepyhead, Ray Mason Band and Pete Diamond, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy and Tony.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.
The Palladium Life of Agony, Flaw and Skrape, 7:30 pm, $25.
Paradise Missing Joe and Kotter, 8 pm, 18+; Lounge: Jamie Cullen, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.
Parris Brian Kirk and the Jirks.
Plough and Stars Twilight Ranchers, cover varies, 21+.
Porters Bar and Grill Greytone Duo Matt and Jason.
Regattabar Ahmad Jamal, 7:30 and 10 pm, $20.
Ryles Jazz Club Chick Corea Tribute Band, 8 pm, $10.
Scullers Rebecca Parris, 8 and 10:30 pm, $2[illegible] ages.
Skellig Back Room: Jet City, 10 pm, $3. F[illegible] Room: Helena Delaney, Fabian Joyce and [illegible] Gannon, 9 pm, $3.
Sky Bar Buck 50 and OK Panic, 8 pm, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 9:30 pm cover, 21+.
Toad The Keiran Ridge Band, no cover.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place Cracktorch, the Charms release show, Sarah Borges and the Confid[illegible] Men, and Sugabomb, $10.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Darren Barrett Quintet, 9 pm cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic and Joe McMa[illegible] 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Shimon Ben Shir Group, 7-9 $10; Dolce No, 9:30 pm-12 am, $10.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm, no cov[illegible]

SATURDAY, JAN. 24

Asgard Sunset, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
The Attic The Bocks and Father Grundy, 8:30 21+.
Avalon Josh Wink, 10 pm, $20, 19+.
Berklee Performance Center The Funk Bro[illegible] with Peabo Bryson and Phoebe Snow, 8 pm, $2[illegible] $45.50.
Bill's Bar The Dorm, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Tom O' Carroll, 5 pm. Upst[illegible] Maxi. Downstairs: Eugene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Black Sole Ensemble, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Random Axis, 10 pm, 21+.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrille[illegible] pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Charlotte Kendrick and Cary Pi[illegible] 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm, no cover
The Good Life Cambridge Stan Strickland B[illegible] 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Mike Shea Trio, fe[illegible] ing Johnny Souza, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Pig Pen.
Great Scott Bling Kong, the Allston Plan, 9 pm
The Green Dragon Tavern Swingin' Johnsons.
The Harp Central Basement.
Harper's Ferry Carbon Leaf, $10, 21+.



Pop rockers Missing Joe play a show at the Paradise with Kotter Jan. 23.

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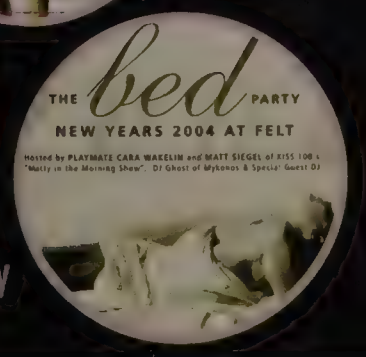
playboy party



jlo swimsuit show



vogue party



bed party

2004 resolution=

TO THROW THE HOTTEST PARTIES OF THE YEAR!

Johnny D's CJ Chenier, 9:45 pm, $12.
Kirkland Café Annette Farrington.
The Linwood The Family Jewels, $7.
Lizard Lounge The Douglas Fir, Francine and the Mittens, 9:30 pm, $8, 21+.
Middle East The Traps, the Konks, Turpentine Brothers and Little Killers, $8, 18+. Downstairs: Buffalo Tom, Dear Leader and Big Digits, $15, 18+.
Midway Café Dogtag.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy and Tony.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.
Paradise Lounge: Tony Roberts and Mindflow, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Parris Darik and the Funbags.
Plough and Stars One Thin Dime, cover varies, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Syndicate.
Regattabar Ahmad Jamal, 7:30 and 10 pm, $22.
Ryles Jazz Club Lance Martin Band, 8 pm, $10.
Scullers Rebecca Parris, 8 and 10:30 pm,$24, all ages.
Skellig Front Room: Noel Scott, Chris McGrath, Ted Davis, 9 pm, $3.
Sky Bar Chapter in Verse, Semipure, Jason Myles Goss and Rainy Day Crush, 8 pm, $7, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Liquid Vision, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 7 pm; the Splendid Nobodies, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub The Maggie Gallowy Quartet, 9 pm, no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place Vinyl Ritchie compilation CD-release show, $8.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Darren Barrett Quintet, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Onerous Three and the Gill Aharon Trio, 9:30 pm, $10, all ages.
Les Zygomates Daniela Schaechter Trio, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.

SUNDAY, JAN. 25

The Attic The Coilboilers, 8 pm, $5, $21+.
Bill's Bar King I, 10 pm, 21+.
The Black Rose Tom O'Carroll, 5 pm. Downstairs: Eugene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Sonny Watson Jazz Quartet, 10 am-3 pm.
Bravo @ the MFA Sunday jazz brunch with the Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30 am-3 pm.
Breezeway Bar & Grill Sunday jazz brunch with Michael Shea.
The Burren Singer-Songwriter Series, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.
Cantab Lounge Candy's blues jam, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Heather Masse, Ben MacDonald, Aoife O'Donovan and Crooked Still, 7:30 pm, $12.
Harper's Ferry The Casual Fiasco, $3, 21+.
Hennessy's Paul Duffy.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Ridgley Snow, 9 am-2:30 pm; blues jam and salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa.
Kennedy's Midtown Keza Hirsey, no cover, all ages.
Lizard Lounge Poetry slam, 7 pm; poetry jam, featuring the Jeff Robinson Trio and featured poet J*me, 9 pm, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Captain Cutthroat, No Name Maddix, Biopop and the Device, $8, 18+. Downstairs: the Dresden Dolls, World Inferno Friendship Society, Ho-Ag and S&M&M, 4 pm, $10, all ages.
Midway Café The Coachmen and Kelly Hajaar, 9 pm.
Mr. Dooley's Maike Barrett, 8 pm.
Paradise Lounge: Mark Geary and Paddy Saul, 7 pm, $10, 21+.
Plough and Stars Jay Beck and Dan Fram, 5 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Regattabar Ahmad Jamal, 3 and 7 pm, $20.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday brunch with Yoko Miwa, 10 am-3 pm.
Skellig Front Room: Watch City Opry, 4 pm, no cover, all ages.
Sky Bar Let It Ride, Rattle Battle and Shuttlecock, 8 pm, $5, 21+.
Toad The David Goodrich Trio, 7 pm, no cover; Session American with Ry Cavanaugh, Sean Staples, Dinty Child, Jimmy Fitting and Billy Beard, 10 pm, no cover.


Songstress Sarah Brightman brings her Harem World Tour 2004 to the FleetCenter Jan. 31

Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Pick-Ups, $5.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Wally's Stepchildren III, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Johnny Horner Trio, 9:30 pm, 21+.

MONDAY, JAN. 26

Avalon Anti-Flag, Rise Against, Against Me, None More Black and New Mexican Disaster Squad, 6 pm, $15, all ages.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Cantab Lounge Carl Cacho, 9:30 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Songwriter Tribute Night to Patty Griffin, 7 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Lizard Lounge Comedy Hour hosted by Kim Davis, 7:45-9:30 pm, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: No One's Kind, Absolve, September Twilight and Unscarred, $8, 18+. Zuzu: The Unhappy Hour with Aaron Shadwell.
Midway Café Midway Groove Thang.
Milky Way Milky Way Acoustic Universe Winter Showcase, 9 pm, $6, 21+.
Plough and Stars Beek Rhodes and Jefferies, cover varies, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard.
Toad Shwang, featuring Anita Suhanin, 8 pm, no cover; the Tim Gearan Band, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.
Wally's Jazz Cafe José Ramos Special Blend Band, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Johnny Horner Trio, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Jason Domnarski Trio, 7 pm, no cover, all ages.

TUESDAY, JAN. 27

The Black Rose Sunday's Well.
The Burren Open mike with Hugh McGowan, 7pm, 21+.
Cantab Lounge Flynn Cohen and Chagrin River, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Open mike, 7 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Alex Miranda, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Cool Black Kettle.
Johnny D's Acoustic in the Round, 8:30 pm, $7.
Lizard Lounge Reed Foehl, 9:30 pm, $6, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Big Bear, Parts and Labor, $8, 18+. Zuzu: Zemog el Gallo Buen.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 7:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
Paradise Lounge: Benevento/Russo Duo, 8:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Plough and Stars Michael Tarbox, cover varies, 21+.
Regattabar The Greg Hopkins Jazz Orchestra, 8:30 pm, $12.
Scullers Rudy Linka and the Miles Evans Quartet, 10 pm, $14.
Skellig Front Room: Larry Reynolds and family, 9 pm, no cover, all ages.
Sky Bar Antonini Comedy Show with host Anthony Spencer, 7:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Toad Bourbon Princess, no cover.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Wally's Stepchildren II and III, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Groove Authority, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 28

Asgard Tom Groleau, 9 pm, no cover, all ages.
Avalon The Sixth Annual Superbowl MC Battle with KRS-One, 9 pm, $20-$25, 18+.
Bill's Bar NBFB, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Bravo @ the MFA Ronnie Ron, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Candy's blues jam, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim New Faces wit John Gerard, Mark Stepako Jason Goss, Leesa and Natha Pyritz, 8 pm, $8.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7: pm, no cover.
The Fireplace Eric Bindma 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Taver Green Line, 9:30pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Taylor Street, 8: pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Michel Currie, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.
Lizard Lounge Teddy Goldste and Christopher Williams, 7 pm, $10.
Middle East Upstairs: Ma Copeland, the Working Title ar Slow Coming Day, $10, 18+.
Midway Café Moki and Sidewa Ends.
Milky Way Elevate Open Mik the Foundation, 8pm, $5, 21+.
Oak Bar Sarah Brindell, 7:30 pr no cover, all ages.
Paradise Lounge: Blackout B with DJs Mark, DJ Damian ar Model Sons, 9 pm, $3, 18+.
Plough and Stars Bad Art, cov varies, 21+.
Regattabar The Patri Williamson Group, 8:30 pm,$1
Remington's Al Vega Trio ar Johnny Souza, 8:30 pm, no cove
Ryles Jazz Club Bruce Bartle Trio, 8 pm, $7, 21+.
Scullers Hiromi, 8 and 10pr $18, all ages.
Skellig Front Room: Bluegra Session, 9 pm, no cover, all ages
Sky Bar Something Else, Spin Norman and Black Taxi, 8 pr 21+.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7 pm, cover; the Ken Clark Organ Tri 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Tri 8:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Gas lines, the Halogens Residenc Aerial Love Feed and Raymon $7.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9: pm, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Joe Maneri and band, 8:30 p $10.
Les Zygomates David Eure, 7:30 pm, no cover, ages.

THURSDAY, JAN. 29

Asgard Ryan McHugh, 9pm, no cover, all ages.
Berklee Performance Center The Great Americ Songbook: the Music of Irving Berlin, 8:15 pm, $1
Bill's Bar Dennis Brennan, Jabe and Boris M Cutcheon, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Joe Bargar and the Soul Provide 7:30 pm, all ages.
Bravo @ the MFA Rusty Scott, 5:30 pm, no cover
Breezeway Bar & Grill Pocket.
The Burren Swingin' Johnsons, 10 pm, no cov 21+.
Cantab Lounge Chris Waller, Gordon Beadle a New Day, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Samoa Wilson and Rachael Davis, pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Death by Marriage, 7:20 pm, cover.
The Fireplace Jes Perry, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Good Life Cambridge Live jazz, 9:30 pm, cover, 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Live jazz, 9:30 pm, cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinni no cover, 21+.
The Harp Dick and Jane, 9:30 pm, 21+, no cover.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Johnny D's Magnolia Sisters, 8:30 pm, $12.
Kirkland Café Dan Hilton and the Whatnot.
Lizard Lounge The Mobius Band and Secret M chines, 9 pm.
Mary Baker Eddy Library Nial Djuliarso, 6 pm, cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Alphatide and Decemb Sound, $7, 18+.
Oak Bar Sarah Brindell, 7:30 pm, no cover, all ag
The Palladium The Dillinger Escape Plan, the L cust, Your Enemies Friends and Orthrelm, 7:30, $1

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The Clarks play at the Paradise Jan. 22. Also on the bill are Ari Hest and Andy Stochansky.

Paradise Lounge: Dubwise Reggae night hosted by DJ Bud E. Green, 9 pm, 18+.
Plough and Stars Marc Wakefield, cover varies, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett.
Regattabar The Bruce Gertz Quintet with Jerry Bergonzi, John Abercrombie, Joey Calderazzo and Adam Nussbaum, 8:30 pm, $14.
Ryles Jazz Club Daniela Schacter and Phil Wilson and Tiger Okoshi, 8 pm, $8, 21+.
Scullers Jerry Butler, 8 and 10 pm, $23-$28, all ages.
Skellig Front Room: Tina Lech, Ted Davis and Patrick Murray, 9 pm, no cover, all ages. Back Room: Boston Horns, 10 pm, $3, all ages.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7 pm, no cover; Baby Ray and Scott Bishop, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Kim Trusty, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.

FRIDAY, JAN. 30

Asgard Nicki Glasser Band, 9:30pm, no cover, all ages.
The Attic Dr. Awkward and Kevin Emerson, 8:30 pm,21+.
Avalon Micro, 10 pm, $20, 19+.
Bill's Bar Loveless with Heavy Stud & Spaceshots, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Curraghs Fancy. Downstairs: Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Jazz Quartet, 7:30 pm.
Bravo @ the MFA Bill Duffy, 5:30 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Choppin' Block Black Helicopter, 21+.
Club Passim Rachel Loshak and Merrie Amsterburg, 8 pm, $12.
Common Ground Undercover, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Magnus, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Good Life Cambridge Fascinatin' Rhythm, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Color and Talia, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Freeze Pop, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
The Harp Speed.
Harper's Ferry Spookie Daly Pride and Town Hall, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Spike the Punch, 5-7:30 pm and 9:30 pm-12:30 am, $5, 21+.
Johnny D's Toni Lynn Washington, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton, 8 pm, no cov
all ages.
Kirkland Café The Motive, Paved Country, W
stronauts and the Mickey Bliss Organ Combo.
Lizard Lounge Teitur, 7:15 pm, $6; Jabe and
Coming Grass, 9:30 pm, $7.
Mary Baker Eddy Library Theresa Perez, 6 pm,
cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Him, Mice Parade
Mileece, $10, 18+. Downstairs: Les Savy Fav, F
Armisen (of *Saturday Night Live*) and the Inforr
tion, $12, 18+.
Midway Café Martin Daniels, Tons of Chill, Ro
314 and Bees Deluxe,21+.
Milky Way Punk Rock Prom, 9 pm, $9, 21+
Mr. Dooley's Paul Duffy.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm, no cover,
ages.
The Palladium Pennywise, Guttermouth, Stre
Armstrong, Bleed the Dream, 8 pm, $15.
Paradise Lounge: The Frolic Room with Thru
Keyhole Burlesque and DJ Brother Cleve Door
pm, 21+.
Parris Catunes.
Plough and Stars Los Diablos, cover varies, 21+.
Regattabar The Bruce Gertz Quintet with Je
Bergonzi, John Abercrombie, Joey Calderazzo
Adam Nussbaum, 8:30 pm, $14.
Ryles Jazz Club Thaddeus Hogarth, 8 pm, $10, 2
Scullers Jerry Butler, $23-$28.
Skellig Back Room: Swingin' Johnsons, 10 pm,
Front Room: Helena Delaney, Fabian Joyce, S
Gannon, 9 pm, $3.
Sky Bar Slycee Jenkins and Sad Marvin 8 pm, $6, 2
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies, 10 pm, no co
21+.
Toad The Freelance Bishops, no cover.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway and her Quinte
pm, no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place Jon Langford's Ship & Pi
Dollar Store Lenny and the Piss Poor Boys, $8.
Wonder Bar The Johnny Horner Quartet, 9:30
21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Lift, 9:30 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm, no co
all ages.

SATURDAY, JAN. 31

Asgard RipChordz, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
Bill's Bar The Dorm, $8, 18 +.
Blackman Center for the Arts Sol y Canto, 8
$20.

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The Black Rose Jim Coyle, 5 pm. Upstairs: Curraghs Fancy. Downstairs: Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Pat Loomis, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Six Shot Brody, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Karaugh Brown and Sam Shaber, 8 pm, $14.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm, no cover.
FleetCenter Sarah Brightman, 7:30 pm, $45-$250.
The Good Life Cambridge John Kordelski Trio featuring Candida Rose, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Mike Shea Trio featuring Johnny Souza, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
The Harp Speed.
Harper's Ferry Badfish, a tribute to Sublime, $8.
Johnny D's Ryan Montbleau and Josh Dodes, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kirkland Café Rover, Rearview Mirror, Line of Girls and Gary Rand.
The Linwood Crumb Sullivans, Rosie Huntress and Arms & Legs, $7.
Lizard Lounge Scamper, the Rudds and Orange Park, 9 pm, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Sam Bigelow, Spacecake and the Local Motive, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Plan B, State Radio, Meet the Day, New Blood, $9, 18+.
Midway Café Secret Cock, the Kitty Kill and Triple Creme.
Mr. Dooley's Paul Duffy, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.
Paradise Jen Durkin and the Bomb Squad with Paranoid Social Club, 8 pm 18+. Lounge: Mark Femino Band with Super 400, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Parris Catunes.
Plough and Stars Armadillos, cover varies, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Scoobie Snacks.
The Roxy Stephen Lynch, 8 pm, $20, 18+.
Sanders Theatre Ann Hampton Callaway and Liz Callaway, 8 pm, $41-$51.
Scullers Jerry Butler, 8 and 10:30 pm, $23-$28, all ages.
Skellig Back Room: Undercover, 10 pm, $3; Front Room: Noel Scott, Chris McGrath and Ted Davis, 9 pm, $3.
Somerville Theatre Melissa Ferrick, 8 pm, $21.50-$25.50.
Springstep Natraj, 8 pm, $15, all ages.
Tír na nÓg Liquid Vision, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 7 pm, no cover; Nobody's Child, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub The Maggie Gallowy Quartet, 9 pm, no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place Adam Green, $10.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Lift, 9:30 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.

SUNDAY, FEB. 1

The Attic The Coilboilers, 8 pm, $5, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Rusty Scott Organ Group, 10 am-3 pm.
Bravo @ the MFA Sunday jazz brunch with the Bill Duffy Duo, 11:30 am-3 pm.
Club Passim Andrew Kerr, 7:30 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Gospel brunch, 10-3 pm.
Hennessy's Paul Duffy.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Matt Dorko and Larry Kukers, 9 am-2:30 pm; blues jam and salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa.
Middle East Upstairs: Throne and Inhale, $7, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Maike Barrett, 8 pm, $5, 21+.
Skellig Front Room: Watch City Opry, 4 pm, no cover, all ages.
Top of the Hub Bourbon Street Paraders, 12 pm, no cover, all ages; Gordon Beadle Trio, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.
Wonder Bar The Johnny Horner Trio, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Lift, 9:30 pm, $10.

MONDAY, FEB. 2

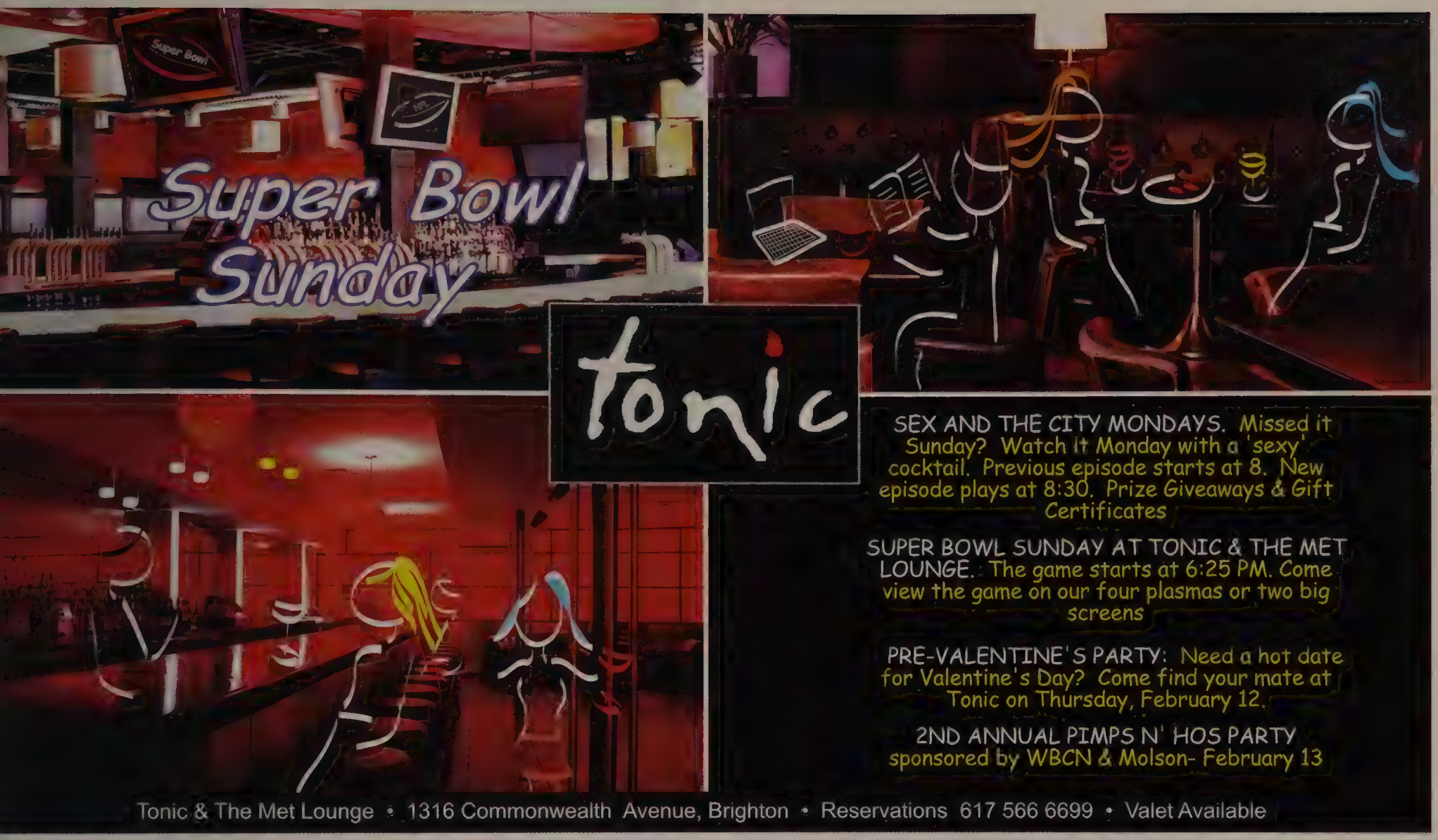
Charlie's Kitchen The Acro-brats, Roma and Heather Hates You, 9:30 pm, $5.
Club Passim Open mike, 7 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Harp Maxie Courtney, 10 pm, $10.
Middle East Upstairs: We Regazzi, Volcano and I'm Still Excited, $8, 18+.
Midway Café Susan Levine, Jack Kid, Licia Sky, Jerald Harscher and Terence Hegarty, 7pm., 21+.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard.
Top of the Hub Gordon Beadle Trio, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.
Wonder Bar The Johnny Horner Trio, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Lift, 9:30 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Black Soul, 7-11 pm.

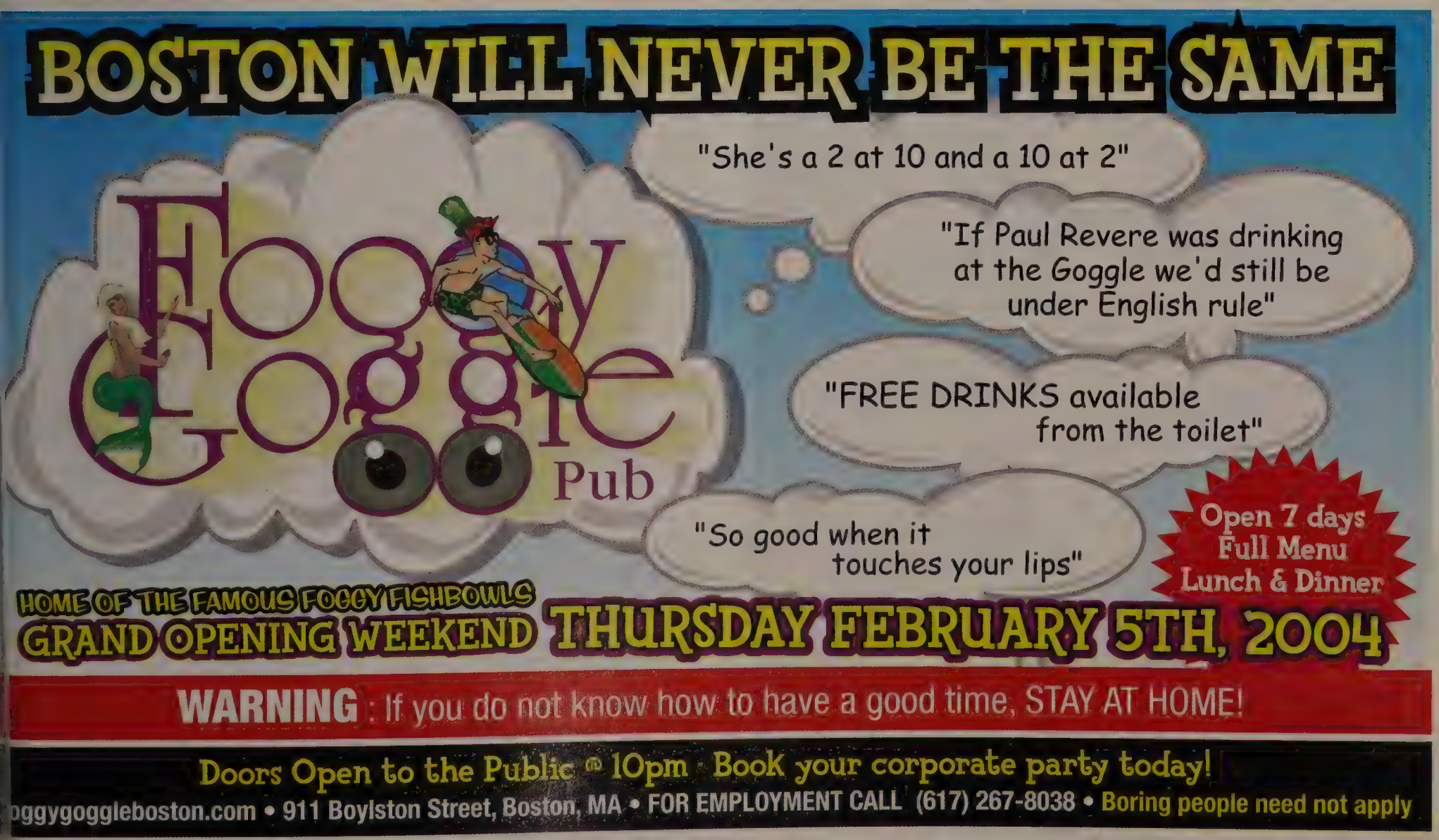
TUESDAY, FEB. 3

Club Passim Matt and Shannon Heaton, 8 pm, $1
Dick's Last Resort Julian Morelli, 7:20 pm, n cover.
Johnny D's Bohola, 8:30 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: Mark Kozelek, $15, 18 Downstairs: OK Go!, Spiraling, $12, 18+.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 7:30 pm, no cover, all age
Paradise Stiff Little Fingers, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
Regattabar The Mike Stern Quartet with Richa Bona, Dave Weckl & Bob Franceschini, 8 and pm, $16.
Skellig Front Room: Larry Reynolds and Famil 9pm, no cover, all ages.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band, 10 pm, no cov 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8 pm, no cov all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Stills, $10.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Lift, 9:30 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Jason Domnarski Trio, 8 pm-12 an

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-49 1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684) MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave, Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Lin to Government Center.*
Blackman Center for the Arts *360 Huntington Ave Boston (617-373-2247). MBTA: E Green Line to Northeastern.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3474).*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Charlie's Kitchen *10 Eliot St., Cambridge (617-49 9646). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Choppin' Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (61 734-4177). MBTA: Green Line to Brigham Circle.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudenti*
Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Boston (617-350-9977). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Fireplace *1634 Beacon St., Boston (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (617-728-1600). MBTA: Red Line to South Statio*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (61 624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
The Good Life Cambridge *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Centra*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Par Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112) MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Great Scott *1222 Commonwealth Ave., Allston (617-734-4502). MBTA:Blue Line to Harvard Ave*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (61 789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*


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Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Julien Bar *250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (617-267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Mary Baker Eddy Library *200 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-450-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
The Palladium *261 Main St., Worcester (800-477-6849).*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Pat Flanagan's *79 Parkingway St., Quincy (617-773-3400). MBTA: D Green Line to Mission Hill.*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
Porters Bar and Grill *173 Portland St., Boston (617-742-7678).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-931-2000). MBTA: Green Line to Boyleston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Skellig *240 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0679).*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Springstep *98 George P. Hassett Drive, Medford (781-395-0402).*
Tir na nOg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Virgin Megastore *360 Newbury St., Boston (617-896-0950). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Washington Square Tavern *714 Washington St., Brookline (617-232-8989). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 21

Centennial Concert Series

New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm. Pianist Min Soo Sohn performs works by Bach and Rachmaninov.

THURSDAY, JAN. 22

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $26-$86. Antonio Pappano conducts the BSO in a program featuring works by Debussy, Berg and Shostakovich.

FRIDAY, JAN. 23

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30 pm. $26-$86. Same program as Jan. 22.

Cantata Singers

New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-267-6502). www.cantata singers.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm. The Cantata Singers perform works by Bach and the world premiere of James Primosch's *Matins*.

Cavalli's *La Calisto*

Cutler Majestic Theatre,219 Tremont St., Boston (617-824-8000). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 8 pm. $15 ,$12 students, seniors. NEC Opera Theater returns to the Cutler Majestic Theatre for a production of Cavalli's *La Calisto*. Christopher Larkin conducts and Marc Astafan directs the opera about the mythological source of the constellation Ursa Minor.

SATURDAY, JAN. 24

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 12 pm. $18. Boston Pops conductor Keith Lockhart leads the BSO in a concert designed to introduce children to classical music.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$95. Same program as Jan. 22.

Cavalli's *La Calisto*

Cutler Majestic Theatre,219 Tremont St., Boston (617-824-8000). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 8 pm. $15, $12 students and seniors. Same program as Jan. 23.

SUNDAY, JAN. 25

Cavalli's *La Calisto*

Cutler Majestic Theatre,219 Tremont St., Boston (617-824-8000). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 8 pm. $15, $12 students and seniors. Same program as Jan. 23.

Centennial Concert Series

New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newengland conservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm. Harpist Franziska Huhn and flutist Alicia DiDonato perform works by Berio, Hindemith, Godefroid, Bach and Mozart.

Emmanuel Feldmann, Cello

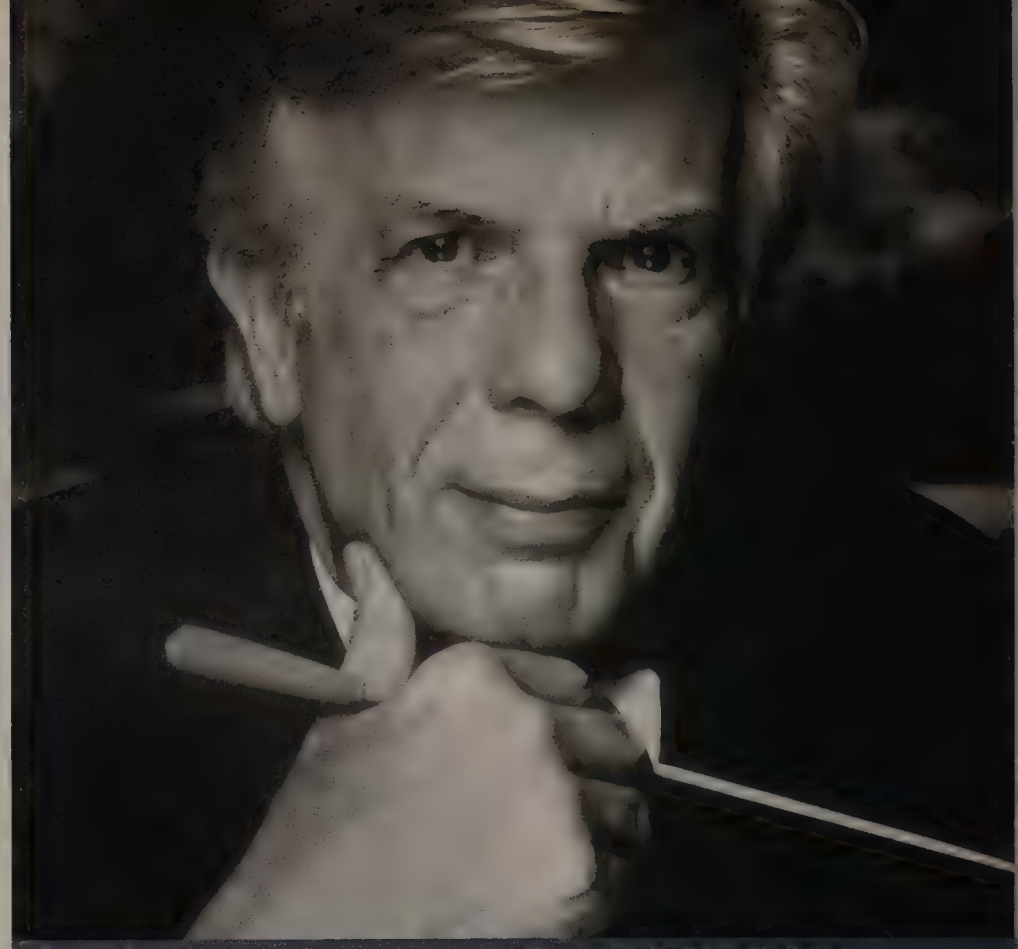
New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newengland conservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 7:30 pm. Cellist Emmanuel Feldmann performs Bach's Suite No. 3, Franck's Sonata for Cello and Piano and other works with pianist Joy Cline-Phinney.

Newton Free Library

330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. Faculty from the All Newton Music School present a concert of baroque and contemporary music.

Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra of Boston

Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-349-0086). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. $30-$45. Isaiah Jackson leads the Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra of Boston in a performance of Joseph Schwantner's *New Morning for the World: Daybreak of Freedom*. The work is composed around the words of Martin Luther King Jr. François Clemmons narrates.



Christoph von Dohnanyi conducts the BSO at Symphony Hall Jan. 29–Feb. 1

MONDAY, JAN. 26

Gabriel Chodos, Piano

New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newengland conservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm. Gabriel Chodos, NEC's chair of the piano department, performs Liszt's Sonata in B Minor and Chopin's 24 Preludes, Op. 28.

TUESDAY, JAN. 27

Piano Department Festival

New England Conservatory, Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm. Through Jan. 29. The three-day festival of piano performances features NEC students performing works by Bartók, Janacek and Stravinsky.

Yanvar Trio

Longy School of Music, Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy. edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free, reservations required. The Yanvar Trio presents a program of Romantic works, including Chausson's Trio in G Minor, Opus 3 and Dvorak's Trio Opus 90, *Dumky*, as well as a work by Boston composer Arlene Zallman.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 28

Arthur Berger Memorial Concert

New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.new englandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm. American modernist composer and former NEC faculty member Arthur Berger is honored posthumously at this showcase of his work.

THURSDAY, JAN. 29

Boston Conservatory's Winterfest

Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology, 41 Berkeley St., Boston (617-912-9240). www.bostonconservatory. edu. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington or Orange Line to Back Bay. 8 pm. $12. Pat Hollenbeck directs the Boston Conservatory Percussion Ensemble in works by Varese, Schnitte, Cage and Steve Reich.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $26-$86. Christoph von Dohnányi conducts the BSO in a program featuring György Kurtág's *Stele*, Schumann's Piano Concerto and Brahms' Symphony No. 4.

FRIDAY, JAN. 30

Boston Conservatory's Winterfest

Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology, 41 Berkeley St., Boston (617-912-9240). www.boston conservatory. edu. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington or Orange Line to Back Bay. 8 pm. $12. Pianist Krill Gerstein performs works by Bach, Rachmaninoff, Beethoven and Prokofiev.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$95. Same program as Jan. 29.

What Makes It Great?

New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-482-6661). www.celebrity series.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm. $25. Classical music commentator Robert Kapilow and pianist Wu Han present works by Chopin. Kapilow speaks about the works during the first half of the program, and Wu Han performs them during the second half.

SATURDAY, JAN. 31

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $29-$95. Same program as Jan. 29.

Opera unMet's Grande Dammes

New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm. $20, $10 students and seniors. Under the direction of Opera unMet's Marshall Hughes, soprano Cynthia Miles Gray, mezzosoprano D'Anna Fortunato and soprano Kim Bolling sing pieces from *Carmen*, *Aida*, *Madama Butterfly* and *Daughter of the Regiment*.

SUNDAY, FEB. 1

Boston Conservatory's Winterfest

Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology, 41 Berkeley St., Boston (617-912-9240). www.boston conservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington or Orange Line to Back Bay. 3 pm. $12. Violinist Irina Muresanu and pianist Michael Lewin perform works by Brahms, Beethoven and a premiere by composer Andy Vores.

Boston Conservatory's Winterfest

Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology, 41 Berkeley St., Boston (617-912-9240). www.boston conservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington or Orange Line to Back Bay. 7 pm. Free. A group of Boston Conservatory students and faculty perform in a string ensemble without a conductor.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $26-$86. Christoph von Dohnányi conducts the BSO in a program featuring Brahms' Symphony No. 4 in E Minor, Op. 98 and pieces by Mozart and Mahler.

The Chamber Series: John Harbison and His World

Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3355). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 4 pm. $22, $18 students and seniors. American composer John Harbison presents a program including his vocal, piano and chamber works as well as pieces by Schütz.

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dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $5, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Jay Ine spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Monsta Mondays DJ Kaptain Krunch spins rock, and live bands perform, 9 pm, $6, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJ Sensae spins R&B and hip-hop, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Scott Damgaard, live music, 9 pm, 21+.

The Rack
Dance Party with DJ Small Marco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+. •Jan. 26, Join the Patriots' Lonie Paxton and friends in a benefit for the Active Force Foundation.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJs spin top-40 tunes, R&B and dance. Downstairs: live acoustic music with Justin Beech.

TUESDAYS

An Tua Nua
What's Up Night A night of R&B, house, funk and soul music, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Phat Tuesdays Old-school hip-hop with DJ D Sharp, 9 pm, $10, 19+, college ID required.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+.

The Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, 21+.

The Kells
Orange DJs John Davis and Pat Fontes bring the house music, and weekly guest DJs drop by for a spin, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Eddie Lee spins house, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Phoenix Landing
Spectrum DJs Flack, Verbnine and C combine dub, retro-futurism and breakbeats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Ibiza DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Ricky spins 10:30 pm-2 am.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

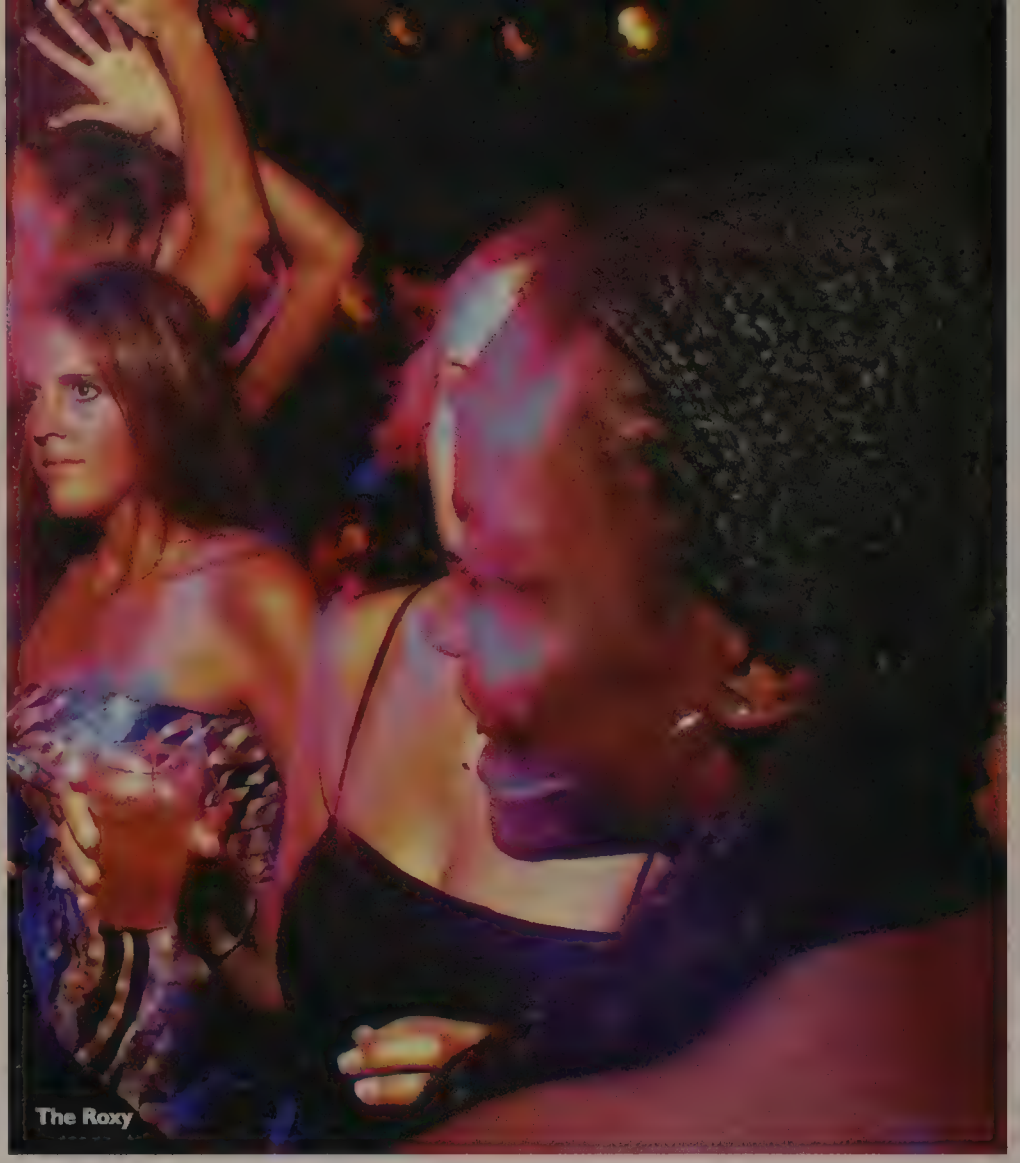
Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Dave Jordan spins top-40 and R&B. Downstairs: Stu Sinclair, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, $21+.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

Aria
Lust DJ John Morris spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, cover varies.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins Greek and international tunes, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.


The Roxy

Common Ground
What a Way to Go Go Mod Night with DJ Vin, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
Weekly Therapy Party Guest DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, no cover.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Rhythm Nights spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up R&B, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mercury Lounge DJs Nomadik and Timmy Allen host a night of soul, funk and house, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin deep house, trance and grassroots techno, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
Beach Party night with DJs spinning top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
International Wednesdays DJ JC is in the Latin Lounge; DJs Alex and Felix are in the back, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Massi spins top-40, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Q
DJ Sean spins a retro mix of '70s and '80s tunes.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Ricky spins spins, 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Cabin Stabbin' Wednesdays Dub and DJ Boogie Ba Do start the party reggae-style, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B. Downstairs: Live music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Mastermillions spins hip-hop and top-40 hits, 10:30 pm, no cover, 19+ with college ID.

Vertigo
Downstairs: Psychedelic trance music by DJs Dino, Mathwin and Dave Henshaw. Upstairs: Analog Lounge with DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tain
DJs spin hip-hop, progressive, tech and funky house, 6-11 pm, no cover, 21+.

An Tua Nua
The Skinny DJ Ren Justice spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; DJ Roger M and DJ Thanos spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women).

Avalon
International Thursdays DJ Gee Spin and guests play rap and Eurohouse tunes, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Axis
Square One Thursdays Resident DJs Ali Ajami and John Debo host a night of progressive dance music, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

Big Easy
DJ Matt Phipps spins top-40 in this New Orleans–themed nightspot, 9:30 pm, $8, 21+.

Boston Rocks
On the Rocks DJ Mike spins top-40 dance and hip-hop, 7 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian's mix features tunes of the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
DJ JC spins international house, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

Felt
After work live jazz, 6 pm, no cover.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou spins late night. •Jan. 22, Brick Park performs. •Jan. 29, live music with Dick 'n' Jane.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
Nonstop music and dancing with DJs Christian, Massi, Joshua Carl, Damon and Push, ladies free; guys $5 after 10 pm, 21+.

I/D
Spend Resident DJs Nailz, Taner and Tasty cue up the beats, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Rhythm Nights hosts karaoke downstairs, 8-11 pm, 21+. DJ Massi gets the dance party started upstairs, 11 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ David James spin dance tunes and old-school, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Doc spins the latest tunes, 21+.

La Boom
Privilege DJ Felix cranks the noise, 11 pm-2 am, 21+.

Level
Life DJ Adilson pumps house, trance and progressive, and DJ NFerna spins hip-hop, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Ricky Fatts spins house and hip-hop. 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Place
DJ Mike Janedy spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ David Mee spins deep house, progressive techno, downtempo and soul classics in the front lounge all night, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett performs live, 9 pm, 21+.

Q
DJ Hustle Simmons from JAM'N 94.5 spins hip hop all night long, 9 pm, $5, ladies free all night, 21+.

The Rack
Ibiza DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Littles spins from 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali and Ross spin a mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

711 Boylston
Play Thursdays DJ trio Groovefire spins house music with special guests Beat Khemistry, 6 pm-2 am.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Steve Sosong spins new dance and R&B; Downstairs: Justin Beech, 9 pm-1 am, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ JR Vega hosts Latin Night with live music by the Latin Party Boys; free salsa lessons with Dan Marshall, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ B-Spin plays hip-hop and house, 10:30 pm, no cover, 19+ with college ID.

Sweetwater Café
Dance to top-40 tunes, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Brazilian and Latin mix with DJs Guy and Bruno, 10 pm, $10.

The West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJs Laze and Gabe play funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and funky house, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 from the '70s, '80s and '90s, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Floss DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women).

Avalon
Avaland Guest and global DJs spin progressive dance music, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Steve Austin spins hip-hop, old-school and dancehall, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins top-40, and cover band Bob's Day Off plays the hits, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
F Night WBCN's Bradley J spins '80s classics, and alternative and rock tribute bands perform live, 9 pm, cover varies, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft DJs Sensae and Johnny Walker Black spin top-40 dance and hip-hop tunes accompanied by interactive video shows, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Eddie K spins a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

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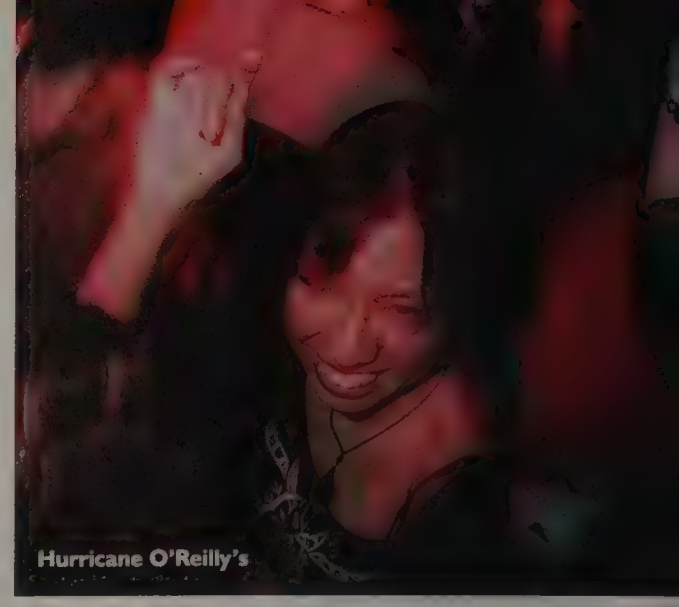

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Hurricane O'Reilly's

Circuit Girl
Anything Goes Melinda Ancillo hosts this women's night with DJ Kris Kono spinning house, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, and two guest DJs spin on the first floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Nailz and DJ Eddie Lee spin hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $20, 19+.

The Exchange
DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Felt
After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs the party, spinning high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Bob Gallagher spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, $10, 21+. •Jan. 23, Darik & the Funbags perform live. •Jan. 30, live music with Speed.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, $10, 9 pm, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Big Daddy spins, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins house and old favorites, $5, ladies free before midnight, 21+.

La Boom
Fashion Fridays Firefly Promotions hosts this fashion night featuring DJ Rick Naples, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

Level
Secret Society DJ Hoff spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B on the fourth and fifth floors, and DJ Niko spins Greek and international tunes on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Matrix
DJ Adilson of Roxy Saturdays spins high-energy house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

The Modern
DJ JC plays Latin rhythms, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Rockpile** WAAF's Jay Ferrera broadcasts live, and rotating bands perform, 9 pm, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•Jan. 23, Brian Kirk & the Jirks perform, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+. •Jan. 30, the Catunes perform, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Shake What Your Mama Gave You DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
Glo Promotions hosts weekly guest DJs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Craig spins the latest hits, 10 pm.

Q
DJ B-Spin spins hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Johnny C with KISS 108's Artie, 10:45 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Lite Nite DJ Easy spins a mix that includes neosoul and a few feel-good classics, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance; downstairs: live music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover before 10 pm, 21+.

Sophia's
Sangria and Salsa Salsa and merengue lessons, 7-10 pm, followed by the Latin Party Boys and DJs Mike C and Zino spinning Latin dance, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room, and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Sweetwater Café
Top-40 and acoustic shows on two floors, 5 pm, $5, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with Latin vibes. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
DJs spin hip-hop, house and vocals, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Vivid Lounge
Brian Roache spins top-40, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJs Laze and Gabe play funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

Aria
Classic Spin Back DJ Kon spins classics of the '70s, '80s and '90s plus old-school hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women).

Avalon
Resident DJ Nailz plays house, techno and trance, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Kevin Munroe spins house and trance, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Start! DJ Gibby spins alternative rock and '80s hits, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins top-40, and local cover band Syndicate plays the hits, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Dance Night DJ Rob Nockshis spins dance music all night, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. VJ Johnnie Walker presents top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows, 11 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Franklin creates a lounge atmosphere with his international, Latin and house sounds, 10 pm, ($10 after 11 pm), 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

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Ekco Lounge
Hollywood It's women's night at Hollywood with two floors of hip-hop and house music, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Roger M spins international house, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Exchange
DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Felt
DJ Ghost spins hip-hop and house, 9 pm, no cover.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites, disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, $10, 21+. •Jan. 24, Central Basement performs live. •Jan. 31, live music with Speed.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, while downstairs DJ O'Toole plays top-40, 10 pm, 21+.

La Boom
Wild on @ La Boom DJ Tim Collins and KISS 108 host a night of music and dancing, 10 pm, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 9 pm, 21+.

Matrix
DJ G Spin of JAM'N 94.5 plays hip-hop, while the back room features dance favorites from the '80s and '90s and top-40 tunes, 9 pm, $10, $21+; $20, 18+ ladies only.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night. DJ Antonio Ortíz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10 pm, $7.

The Modern
DJ Eddie Lee plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies free, men $5 before 10:30 pm; $15, 18+; $10, 21+ after 10:30 pm. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, $15, 19+; no cover 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins top-40 and hip-hop mixes, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Underground** DJs spin hip-hop, top-40, dance, techno and reggae for the under-21 crowd, 7-11 pm, $14. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes up hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•Jan. 24, Darik & the Funbags perform, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+. •Jan. 31, Live music with the Catunes, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins 80s, new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Rick Naples spins high-energy dance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Tom Hogan spins the groove, 10 pm, $5, 21+. •Jan. 24, Syndicate performs. •Jan. 31, Live music with Scoobie Snacks.

Q
DJ Josh Carl spins house and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi and DJ Littles host the live broadcast and dance party, 8 pm, 21+, no cover.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins house and techno, 9 pm, $15, 21+.

711 Boylston
Fever DJ Yorgo spins a mix of ethnic and international music, 10:30 pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8 pm. Downstairs: Kevin Kirrane, 9 pm, no cover before 10 pm.

Sophia's
DJ Zino spins salsa and merengue while a Latin band plays on the first floor and DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on the second floor, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ B-Spin blends hip-hop and house, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Sweetwater Café
Top-40 and acoustic shows, two floors, 8 pm, $5, 21+.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Stele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

Vivid Lounge
Brian Roache spins top-40, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJs Laze and Gabe play funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, 21+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Adrienne spins Brit-pop and new wave tunes, 9 pm-1 am, $3, 19+.

Aria
DJ Roger M spins international house and Latin pop, 11pm, $15, 21+.

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ K-Don, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Felt
Play DJ Eddy K spins the tunes at service industry night, no cover.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
Fluid Sundays DJs Joshua Carl and Paul Dailey spin tribal and deep house, breaks, techno and jungle beats, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
SIN DJ Doc spins hip-hop, house and top-40, 11 pm, no cover.

La Boom
Futurebeat: Alien Disco DJ Addambombb spins a mix of retro progressive tracks, trip-hop and synth-pop, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Mystic Reggae DJ Junior Rodigan spins reggae, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $3, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
Red Square Lounge The front bar becomes a lounge, 10 pm-2 am.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Massi tops the weekend off with an array of tunes, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Reverie Boston DJ Shannon and weekly guest DJs spin goth, industrial and lounge, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
DJ Dave Jordan plays an array of top-40 tunes; then check out Greg Lattrell, 9 pm, 21+.

Trio
Vibe Lounge DJs provide the vibe, 10 pm, 21+.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins Brazilian beats, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Whiskey Park
Cherry DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock classics, hip-hop, house and R&B.



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An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Dad's *911 Boylston St., Boston (617-296-3237).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
The Exchange *148 State St., Boston (617-726-7601).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The G Spot *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
La Boom *One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Light *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *(El Copa, Male Encounter, Officers' Club, Oxygen, Rio, Underground and Uptown) 1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
711 Boylston *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Sweetwater Café *5 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-2515).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
Vivid Lounge *148 State St., Boston (617-726-7600).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*

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Tuesday, March 9, 2004 at 2:00 PM

Hosted by The Bar & Nightclub Tradeshow at the Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, Nevada.

For more information please contact Marty Winslow at (781) 229-0984





museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors
Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*The Continuous Stroke of Breath: Calligraphy from the Islamic World* features Arabic, Indian, Persian and Turkish calligraphy from the 9th through 20th centuries. Through July 18.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm. •*Molasses Flood: The 1919 North End Disaster* is an exhibition of historic photographs and newspaper articles chronicling the event. Through Jan. 31 •Members of the Boston Afro-American Artists Association exhibit their work. Through Jan. 31.

Carpenter Center for Visual Arts
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). www.ves.fas.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-11:30 pm; Sun., 12-11:30 pm. Free. •*New Spring Faculty 2004*, a group show of works by Harvard's Department of Visual and Environmental Studies, displays Jan. 29-Feb. 29.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. •*Debra Weisberg: (Sub)Surface* features an architectural installation along a 40-foot elevator shaft. Through January. •*Joseph Wheelwright: Stone Heads and Tree Figures*, a sculpture exhibition, shows through May 16. •*Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Sense of Place, Part II* features paintings by various artists. Through summer 2004.

Fogg Art Museum/ Busch-Reisinger Museum
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Before Expressionism: Art in Germany Circa 1903* features drawings, prints and paintings from German avant-garde artists. Through Feb. 15. •*Harvard Collects American Art* shows through Feb. 22. •*Life as Art: Paintings by Gregory Gillespie and Frances Cohen Gillespie* shows through March 28.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •*Into the Mountains* features the photography of mountaineer Bradford Washburn. Through spring 2004. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species by glass artists Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7, $5 students and seniors. •*Made in Mexico/Hecho en México* features 20 international artists' interpretations of Mexican culture. Jan. 21-May 9.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, free for those under 18. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. •Elaine Reichek's embroideries, which depict Biblical images borrowed from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists, display online in the virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing.


Yasumasa Morimura's *An Inner Dialogue with Frida Kahlo (Hand Shaped Earring)* is at the ICA.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). www.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5, $3 students and seniors, $1 children. •*Knowing Where to Stand: Photographs by Anne Whiston Spirn* shows 50 color landscapes. Through Jan. 30. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm; Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15 adults, $13 students and seniors, free for children 17 and under. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free. Special exhibitions are an additional cost. •Works by French printmaker Jacques Callot and artists whom he influenced show in *Callot and His World: Princes, Paupers and Pageants*. Through Jan. 25. •*The Maker's Hand: American Studio Furniture, 1940-1990* features one-of-a-kind pieces made in small shops. Through Feb. 8. •Johannes Vermeer's *Young Woman with a Water Pitcher*, a rare painting on loan from the Metropolitan Museum of Art, displays through Feb. 22. •*Draped in Dragons: Chinese Court Costumes* features clothes worn by members of the Qing imperial court. Through May 2. •More than 200 jades dating from the Neolithic period to the Qing Dynasty display in *Chinese Jades from the Hartman Collection*. Through August. •*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13 adults, $11 seniors, $10 children. •*Magic: The Science of Illusion* is an interactive exhibition that looks at mind reading, levitation, transformation and the "disembodied head" illusion. Through Feb. 22. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum
33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Coming Up on the Season: Migrant Farmworkers in the Northeast* traces the lives of the workers who harvest produce in the Northeast. Through Feb. 1. •*Artist to Icon: Early Photographs of Elvis, Dylan and the Beatles* is an exhibition of 48 black-and-white photographs taken early in the careers of the three rock legends. Jan. 31-June 6. •*Hatch Show Print's Rock 'n' Roll Posters* features letterpress posters for concerts by musicians including Johnny Cash, Frank Zappa and Bruce Springsteen. Through June 13. •*A Glimpse of Boston Theater, 1850-1903* includes 15 playbills and programs from that period. Through June 20. •*The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'd* is an exhibition of 18th-century local history. Ongoing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household objects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. •*To Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community* is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www.pem.org. Sun.-Mon., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am-9 pm. Adults $12, seniors $10, students $8; children 16 and under and residents of Salem free. •*Luxury and Innovation: Furniture Masterworks by John and Thomas Seymour* features 72 examples of classic American furniture. Through Feb. 16. •*Under the Imperial Gaze* features two large-scale Chinese scrolls. Through May 2. •*Men Plow, Women Weave* displays images of weaving and plowing by Chinese artists. Through May 30. •*Vanished Kingdoms: The Wulsin Photographs of China, Tibet, and Mongolia 1921-1925* an exhibition of color images taken by American explorers Janet E. and Frederick R. Wulsin, show through June 13.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology
11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50 adults, $6 seniors and students, $5 children •*These Shoes Were Mad for...Walking?* is a collection of 49 pairs of shoe from ancient to contemporary times. Through Feb ruary. •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monument* features the museum's large Mesoamerican cast col lection. Ongoing. •*Encounters with the Americas* i an ongoing exhibition featuring original sculptur and plaster casts of Mesoamerican cultures. •*Hall o the North American Indian: Change and Continuit* features art depicting the response of Native Ameri cans across the continent to the arrival of Euro peans. Ongoing. •*Pacific Islands Hall*, another ongo ing exhibition, displays artifacts from the Pacifi Islands.

Somerville Museum
One Westwood Road, Somerville (617-666-9810) www.losttheatres.org. Thu., 2-7 pm; Fri., 2-5 pm an Sat., 12-5 pm. •*The Lost Theatres of Somerville* com bines oral histories, photographs, memorabilia and in teractive media to explore the rise and fall o Somerville's 14 historic movie theaters, only one o which operates today. Through March 28.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmfineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue. Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •William Freed shows his work i *Still Life Abstractions*. Through Feb. 21.

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). www alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •Th gallery's permanent collection of crafts, ceramic sterling silver, gold, sculptural clocks and tea pot displays through January.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Paul Sattler shows new paint ings. Through Feb. 4.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Ron Ehrlic shows paintings. Through Jan. 31. •Norma Bessoue shows her new paintings. Feb. 2-28.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490) www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Lin to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Alex Kat shows paintings through Feb. 4. •*Print Publisher Spotlight: Graphic Studio*, a group show, displa through Feb. 4.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). MBTA Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Jonathan Lerman shows draw ings. Through Feb. 28.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line t Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Nichol Nixon and Penelope Umbrio show their photogra phy. Through Feb. 14.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-2255). www chappellgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arling ton. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm and by appointment •Kathy Goodell shows *Ero-Topographies*, drawing and sculptures. Jan. 31-Feb. 28.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •Dean Richardson show paintings. Through Jan. 31.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www childsgallery.com. MBTA:Green Line to Copley Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm •Three exhibits, *Lithographs of Adolph Dehn, Tropical Paradise* (watercolors) and *Peter Moran: Drawings*, show through March 6.

Clifford-Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 300, Boston (617-695 0255). www.cliffordsmithgallery.com. MBTA: Or

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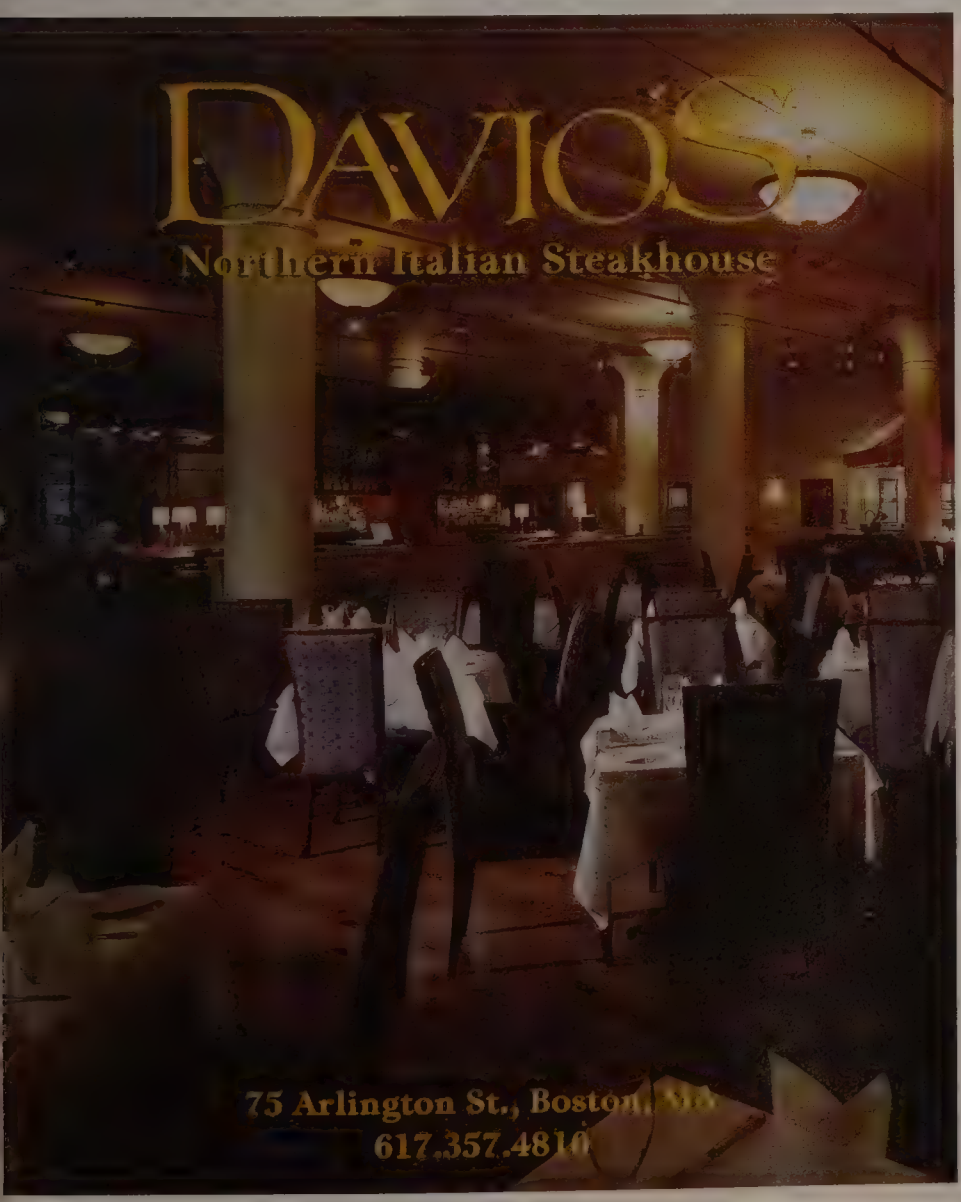
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ange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*Winter White*, a group show of mixed-media work, displays in the main gallery. Through Jan. 31. •*Black as Night*, a group show of mixed-media work in black, displays in the project room. Through Jan. 31.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Tricia Rose Burt: An Invitational Exhibition* and *A Salon of French Landscapes* show through Jan. 31.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (617-268-8050). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •An exhibition of works by Jeff Eldredge, Dan McCole and Norman Crump is ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat , 9 am-6 pm. •Richard Stimpson shows line drawings. Through Jan. 31.

Equator Gallery
450 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-540-9236). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.equatorgallery.com. *Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm.* •The gallery specializes in Latin American fine art, including paintings, textiles and ceramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •Dorothea Van Camp, Chris Nau and Chris Parris show their work in *On the Edge of Form*. Through Feb. 14.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall.

The Gallery at Black and White
295 Huntington Ave., Suite 205 (617-266-2641). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Mon.-Fri, 10 am-5 pm. •*Still Life*, black-and-white photographs by Eva Hidvegi Demjen, shows through Jan. 31.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Paul Rahilly shows figures and still lifes, and Louis Risoli shows paintings. Through Jan. 31.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
23 Thayer St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Dew Point* features the work of Lee Boroson. Through Feb. 1.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.haleysteele.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •The gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prints. Ongoing.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons shows her photography. Through Feb. 3. •John Goodman shows his photography in *Habana Cuba*. Through Feb. 10.

Hurst Gallery
53 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-491-6888). www.hurstgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Thu., 12-7 pm. •*Ukiyo-e: Designs from Three Centuries* features more than 60 Japanese woodblock prints. Through Jan. 25.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters. •*Fresh Powder* features vintage ski posters from Europe. Through Jan. 30.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Introductions 2004*, a group show by emerging artists, displays through Jan. 31.



Cheiromancy (Palm Reading), by Carol Golemboski, shows at the Photographic Resource Center through March 14.

Kaji Aso Studio
40 St. Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www.kajiasostudio.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Tue. and Thu., 4:30-6:30 pm; Sat., 3-5 pm, and by appointment. •*Dreaming Cricket*, a group show of multimedia works, displays Jan. 24-Feb. 13.

Kathryn Schultz Gallery
25 Lowell St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www.cambridgeart.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm, Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Human Condition*, a group show of works in all media, displays through Feb. 18.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*Live from Texas: Texas-Based Artists Take to the Road*, a group show, displays through Feb. 21.

Kingston Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •Ed Fetter shows his photography. Through Jan. 31.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •Paula DeSimone, Jill Fishon-Kovachick and Eric Tardif show ceramic work, furniture and sculptural birds in *Layers and Patterns*. Through March 5.

Mark Gallery
141 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6275). www.markartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm, and by appointment. •John Lobosco and Sandys Moore show paintings in *Northern Lights*. Through Feb. 13.

Martin Lawrence Gallery
77 Newbury St., Boston (617-369-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.martinlawrence.com. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-7 pm. •The gallery's ongoing exhibition includes works by Chagall, Erté, Hallam, Kondakova, Lichtenstein, Picasso and Warhol.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Tree of Life*, a group show of works by Joseph Solman, Ann Strassman, Miranda Thomas, Lucette White and Karl Zerbe, displays through Feb. 9.

Miller Block Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). www.millerblockgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30-5:30 pm. •Arlayne Peterson shows new mixed-media work. Through Feb. 4.

Mills Gallery
539 Tremont St., Boston (617-348-2926). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed., Thu. and Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-10 pm. •*The Drawing Show*, a juried exhibition of contemporary drawings, displays through March 7.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*Making Magic* (mixed media), *The Ring* (jewelry), and *Beaded Beads* (beadwork by Axl Russmeyer) show through January.

NAO Project Gallery
535 Albany St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-451-2977). www.naoprojectgallery.info. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay or Green Line to Copley. Wed., Fri. and Sat., 11 am-4 pm and by appointment. •Beth Brideau shows her paintings. Through Feb. 28.

New Art on Newbury
285 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7727). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Thu., 11 am-6 pm; Fri. and Sat., 11 am-11 pm. •*New Art for the New Year*, a group show of oils, watercolors, photography, paintings and sculpture, displays through Feb. 8.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •*The Self-Reliant Spirit*, a group show, displays Jan. 24-Feb. 28.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •A local-artists showcase is ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Sydney Hurwitz: Etchings* shows through Feb. 21.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Hideaki Miyamura shows his pottery in *Risk and Discovery*, and Gunnar Norrman shows his drawings in *The Rhythm of Light*. Through Feb. 9.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery displays photographs by Sebastiao Salgado and Lewis Wickes Hine. Through Feb. 21.

The Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Portraits*, a group show of multimedia work, displays Jan. 30-April 25.

Soprafina Gallery
99 Beacon St., Somerville (617-498-0999). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm; •Marjorie Forte shows charcoal drawings and Jorg Fraske shows paintings in *Language*. Jan. 30-Feb. 28.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •William St. George, Anne Grandin and Judy St. Peter show new oil paintings. Sandra Mueller-Dick shows watercolors, and Christina Keating shows acrylics. Through Jan. 31.

Studio Soto
63 Melcher St., Boston (617-426-7686). www.studiosoto.com. MBTA: Orange Line to South Station. Fri. and Sat., 2-5 pm. •*Personal Pop* is a group show of works influenced by pop art, postmodernism and minimalism. Through Feb. 1.

Victoria Munroe Fine Art
59 Beacon St., Boston (617-523-0661). www.munroefineart.com. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm and by appointment. •*Small Epiphanies*, a group show of small paintings and drawings, displays through Feb. 14.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Selections from the gallery's permanent collection, including works by Fitz Hugh Lane, Frank Benson and John Singer Sargent, show through March.

William Scott Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-542-4030). www.williamscottgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Chet Jones shows his new landscapes. Through Jan. 31.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. •*10th Juried Exhibition* features the winning photographs from the show. Through Feb. 27.

New England School of Photography
Gallery One, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-437-1868). www.nesop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm. •*Workshop Show* displays through Jan. 30. •Susan Clain shows her work. Feb. 2-March 5.

Panopticon Gallery
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Commuter Rail to Waltham. www.panopt.com. *Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm.* •Bradford Washburn shows his aerial photographs in *Colossal*. Through Feb. 28.

Photographic Resource Center
832 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University West. www.bu.edu/prc. *Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm.* •*Concerning the Spiritual in Photography*, a group show of contemporary and historic spiritual photographs, displays Jan. 23-March 14.



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				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 Little Bobby's Birthday	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
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Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 21

Barnes & Noble at Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). http://bu.bkstore.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm.* **William Martin** reads from his novel *Harvard Yard*, about an antiquarian bookseller who follows the clues in hopes of finding a Shakespeare play thought to have been lost in the Harvard Hall fire of 1764.

Center for New Words Author Event
Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge (617-876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Alison Bechdel** reads from her book *Dykes and Sundry Other Carbon-Based Life Forms to Watch Out For*, about a lesbian whose same-sex relationships change as her friends go mainstream.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.bkstore.com/harvard. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free.* **Yakov M. Zilberberg** reads from his book, *Three Poetic Tales: As Told by Mister Persey the Scribbling Pooch*, a collection of stories told from a dog's point of view in verse.

THURSDAY, JAN. 22

Barnes & Noble at Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). http://bu.bkstore.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm.* **Davis Joyce** discusses his book *Howard Zinn: A Radical American Vision*, a biography of the Boston University professor emeritus that emphasizes Zinn's involvement in the civil rights movement and Vietnam War protests. Howard Zinn is present at the reading.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. *MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free.* **Chris Bohjalian** reads from *Idyll Banter: Weekly Excursions to a Very Small Town*, his collections of essays and newspaper columns observing the small-town ways of Vermont.

Brookline Booksmith Author Event
Figs Restaurant, 92 Central St., Wellesley (781-431-1160). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. *12 pm. $35, includes a copy of the book.* **Anita Shreve** discusses her new novel, *All He Ever Wanted*, about a man reflecting on his marriage after years of love and betrayal.

Center for New Words
Durrell Hall, Cambridge Family YMCA, 820 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Irshad Manji** reads from her new book, *The Trouble With Islam: A Muslim's Call for Reform in Her Faith*, in which she criticizes elements of present-day Islamic culture.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free.* **James Sullivan** reads from his memoir, *Over the Moat: Among the Ruins of Imperial Vietnam*, about his efforts to fuse his American roots with Vietnamese culture.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free.* **Margot Livesey**, **Andrea Barrett** and other contributors read from *The Story Behind the Story: 26 Stories by Contemporary Writers and How They Work*. Each of the 26 short works of fiction features an essay on how the writer completed the work.

SUNDAY, JAN. 25

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass.Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.bkstore.com/harvard. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 2 pm. Free.* **David Baron** reads from *Beast in the Garden: A Modern Parable of Man and Nature*, which examines the relationship between nature and human populations through the true story of a jogger who was killed by a lion in Boulder, Colo.



Ana Menendez reads from *Loving Che* Jan. 28.

MONDAY, JAN. 26

Newtonville Books
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free.* **Kim Ablon Whitney** reads from her young-adult novel *See You Down the Road*, about a young woman who lives with her family in a trailer.

TUESDAY, JAN. 27

Boston Public Library
685 Tremont St., Boston (617-536-8241). www.bpl.org. *6:30 pm. Free.* Historic geographer **Nancy S. Seasholes** discusses her book *Gaining Ground: A History of Landmaking in Boston*, a look at how one-sixth of Boston was built on reclaimed land.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. *MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free.* **Thomas Mallon** reads from his novel *Bandbox*, a lighthearted story set in Manhattan during the 1920s about rival men's magazines. Also, **Jim Shepard** reads from his book *Project X* about two eighth-grade misfits who flirt with the idea of revenge on their classmates.

WordsWorth Books Author Event
The First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free.* **Paul Auster** reads from his newest novel *Oracle Night*, about a series of strange events related to a struggling author's blank notebook.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 28

Barnes & Noble at Boston University
660 Beacon St, Boston (617-267-8484). http://bu.bkstore.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm.* **Hilary Hamann** reads from *Anthropology of an American Girl*, about a young woman's life as she goes from high school in the Hamptons during the 1970s to college in New York City during the '80s.

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. Free.* **bell hooks** reads from her book *The Will to Change: Men, Masculinity, and Love*, which examines the different stages of a man's life and the role patriarchy plays in each.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.bkstore.com/harvard. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free.* **Penelope Tzougros** reads from *Wealthy Choices: The Seven Competencies of Financial Success*, which gives tips on handling personal finances.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free.* **Ana Menendez** reads from her novel *Loving Che*, about a young woman's search to discover her Cuban roots.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free.* **Todd Balf** reads from his book *The Darkest Jungle: The True Story of the Darien Expedition and America's Ill-Fated Race to Connect the Seas*, which chronicles an 1850s expedition to find a canal route that would connect the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.

WordsWorth Books Author Event
The Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. *7 pm. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free.* CBS reporter **Bob Schieffer** reads from his memoir, *This Just In: What I Couldn't Tell You on TV*, about his 40 years in the TV news business.

THURSDAY, JAN. 29

Brookline Booksmith Author Event
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. *MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free.* **Lynne Cox** reads from her memoir, *Swimming to Antarctica: Tales of a Long-Distance Swimmer*, about her experiences long-distance swimming, including the time she finished the first Antarctic mile, which she completed in 32-degree water in 25 minutes.



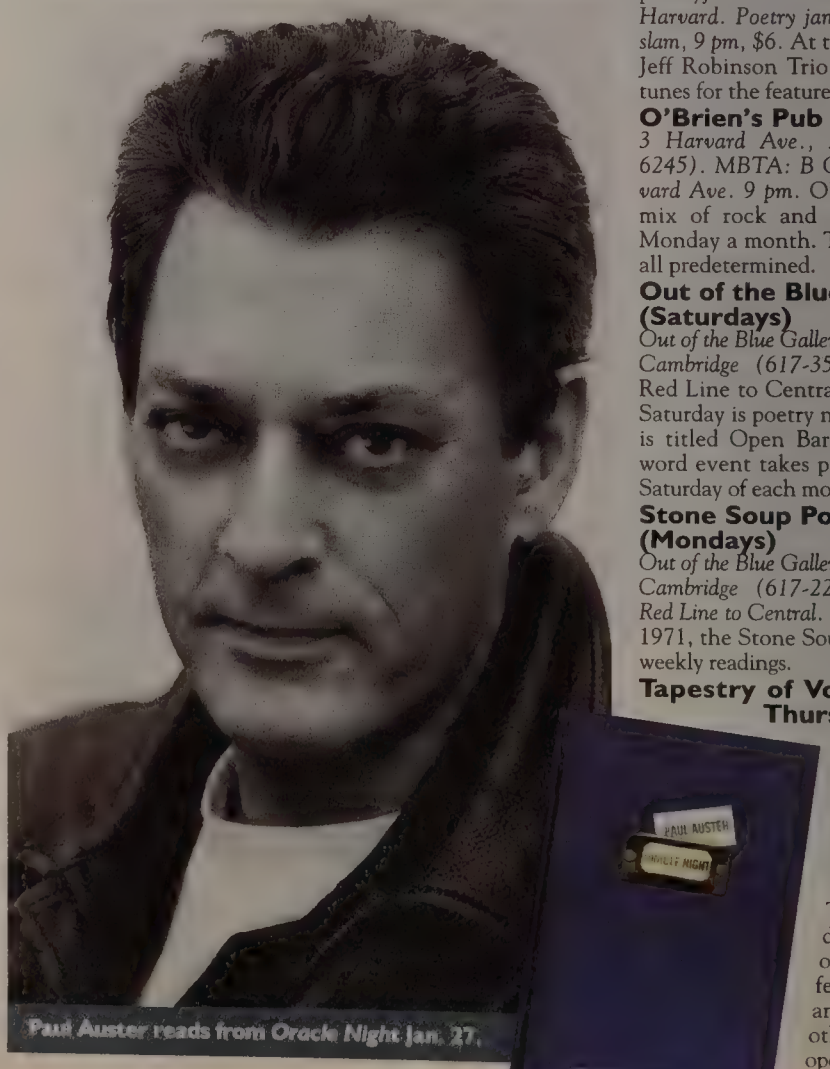
Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.bkstore.com/harvard. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free.* **Hilary Hamann** reads from *Anthropology of an American Girl*. See Jan. 28, Barnes & Noble, for a description.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free.* **Suki Kim** reads from her debut novel, *The Interpreter*, the story of a young Korean-American interpreter's quest to uncover the truth about her parents' homicide.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free.* **Caroline Leavitt** reads from her novel *Girls in Trouble*, about a Massachusetts teen's decision to put her baby up for adoption.

SATURDAY, JAN. 31

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5 pm. Free.* Poets **Shanna Compton** and **Gina Myers** read from their work.



Paul Auster reads from *Oracle Night* Jan. 27.

SUNDAY, FEB. 1

Poetry in the Chapel
Forsyth Chapel, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3354). www.foresthillstrust.org. *MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 2 pm. $5.* Jamaica Plain–based poets **Rafael Campo**, **Susan Eisenberg**, **Carolyn Gregory** and **Kurt Leland** read from their work.

MONDAY, FEB. 2

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. *MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free.* **Max Barry** reads from his novel *Jennifer Government*, a satirical story about a near future in which American corporations have taken over the world.

TUESDAY, FEB. 3

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free.* **Peter Robinson** reads from *Playing with Fire*, his latest novel in the Inspector Banks mystery series.

Ongoing

Amazon Poetry Slam (Last Sunday)
Milky Way, 403-405 Center St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 9 pm. $7. The Last Sunday of every month, the Milky Way hosts the all-women Amazon Poetry Slam.

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge hosts a poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Harvard Square Coop (Sundays)
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. Hear what other Boston-area poets are doing; every Sunday the Harvard Coop hosts a poetry exchange on Level Two.

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway (Tuesdays)
255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jimmytingle.com. *8 pm. $10.* Eight local poets perform their own work in a two-hour theatrical show on the third Tuesday of the month.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). www.poetryjam.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Poetry jam, 7:30 pm; poetry slam, 9 pm, $6.* At the poetry slam, the Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the featured poet of the week.

O'Brien's Pub (Mondays)
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. 9 pm. O'Brien's presents a mix of rock and spoken word one Monday a month. The performers are all predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry (Saturdays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. $3. Every Saturday is poetry night—the evening is titled Open Bark—and a spoken-word event takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month.

Stone Soup Poetry Night (Mondays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-227-0845). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7:30 pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have held weekly readings.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
Borders Boston, 10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 6:30 pm. Free. The second Thursday of each month offers a selection of featured poets and an opportunity for others to take the open mike.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. *Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 21
Artists in Times of War
Cambridge Forum, First Parish, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-495-2727). www.cambridgeforum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. Free.* Historian **Howard Zinn** talks about war, dissent and the role of the artist and discusses the question, What is the everyday potential of artists to create change?

Exploring Design: Contemporary Architecture and Urban Design
Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. Free. **Robert Campbell**, architect and Pulitzer Prize–winning critic, reviews contemporary efforts to design buildings, communities and cities.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Lecture
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 12 pm. Free.* From Green Hill to Fenway Court: Mrs. Gardner's Greenhouses and Gardens is a walking tour that explores the museum's continuing horticultural legacy and seasonal courtyard displays.

Knowing the Cold War Enemy
Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University, 34 Concord Ave., Cambridge (617-495-8600). www.radcliffe.edu/events. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free.* Radcliffe fellow **David Engerman** outlines the impact of the USSR—and the scholars who studied it—on broader currents of American intellectual life during the Cold War.

THURSDAY, JAN. 22
Citizen King
Ford Hall Forum at Blackman Auditorium, Northeastern University, Boston (617-373-5800). MBTA: E Green Line to Northeastern. 6:30 pm. Free. Filmmaker **Orlando Bagwell** talks about and shares excerpts from his new documentary that marks the 75th anniversary of the birth of Martin Luther King Jr.

Sea Dragons: Predators of Prehistoric Oceans
Harvard Museum of Natural History, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free.* Author, artist and conservationist **Richard Ellis** discusses some of the fiercest predators that inhabited prehistoric oceans.

Thursday Morning Talks: Eleanor DeLorme
Holy Trinity Armenian Church, 145 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-0632). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 11 am. $15. **Eleanor DeLorme**, Wellesley College art historian and author of *Josephine: Napoleon's Incomparable Empress*, discusses Empress Josephine of France.

SUNDAY, JAN. 25
Barks and Babies: When Dog People Become Real Parents
Isis Maternity, Two Brookline Place, Brookline (617-264-4747). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. 5:30-7:30 pm. $65. **Jennifer Vickery** from the Pawsitive Dog helps attendees learn how to introduce their new baby to their dog.

From Pearl Harbor to Vietnam to Iraq: A Participatory Peek Behind Power
Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-6710). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10:45 am. Free. Playwright **David Rothauser** discusses his views on how fear has been used to keep the United States perpetually at war since 1941.

Migrant Farmworkers in the Northeast
National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). 2 pm. $3. Take a guided tour of the new exhibition, *Coming Up on the Season: Migrant Farmworkers in the Northeast*, which traces the path of the fruits and vegetables we eat and the lives of the people who grow and harvest them in six parts of the Northeast.

MONDAY, JAN. 26
In Hot Water
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (617-552-7145). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7 pm. Free. At this lecture sponsored by the Green Decade Coalition/Newton, **Heather Tausig**, director of conservation at the New England Aquarium, discusses her new film *In Hot Water*, which examines the issue of global climate change, its impact on the oceans and sea life, and actions individuals can take to make a change.

120 Days in Deep Hiding
Boston Public Library South Boston Branch, 646 Broadway, South Boston (617-268-0180). 7 pm. Dr. **Robert E. Morris**, author of *120 Days in Deep Hiding: Outwitting the Iraqis in Occupied Kuwait*, speaks about the experiences he based his book on.

TUESDAY, JAN. 27
Silent Thunder: Breaking Through Cultural, Racial and Class Barriers in Motorsports
Larz Anderson Auto Museum, 15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). 7 pm. $7. Auto racing veteran **Leonard W. Miller** speaks about the racial divide in American motorsports.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 28
After the Empire: The Breakdown of the American Order
Cambridge Forum, First Parish, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-495-2727). www.cambridgeforum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. Free.* Historian **Emmanuel Todd** discusses his views on America's waning influence as a global superpower. He asks whether the United States is alienating its allies to the point where we are in danger of being marginalized.

Funkology and Its Canons: Understanding the Funk Perspective in Music
Boston University College of Fine Arts Building, 855 Comm. Ave., Room 219, Boston (617-353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. *MBTA: Green Line to BU Central. 8 pm. Free.* **Victor Coelho**, a professor of music at the University of Calgary, discusses how to understand the funk perspective in music.

The Politics of Sex, Drugs and HIV/AIDS
Ford Hall Forum at Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-373-5800). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State; Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 6:30 pm. Free. Forty-one percent of the estimated 20,000 people living with HIV in Massachusetts were infected either through needle sharing or through sex with a needle-sharing partner. This panel discusses what political leaders should do to safeguard the health of the Commonwealth and asks, Does Massachusetts need a syringe-access program?

Technology and the Visual Arts
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Jan. 28, 6:30-8 pm. $5. **William J. Mitchell** of MIT's Media Arts and Sciences Program and **George Fifeld**, curator of new media at the DeCordova Museum, explore what increasingly sophisticated technology means to individuals and society as a whole, and to contemporary visual art.

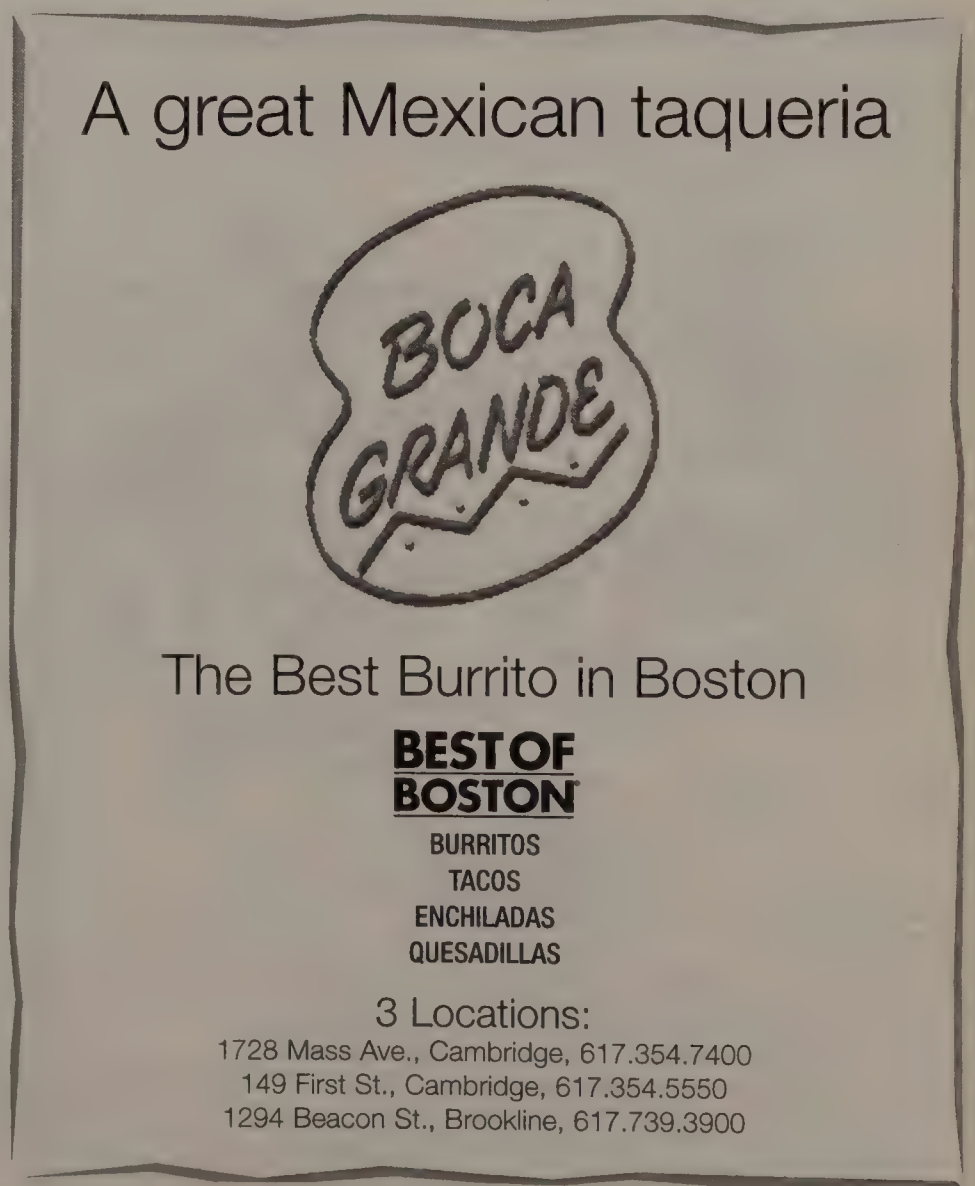
THURSDAY, JAN. 29
Thursday Morning Talks: Jill Medevow
Holy Trinity Armenian Church, 145 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-0632). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 11 am. $15. **Jill Medevow**, director of the Institute of Contemporary Art, speaks on the topic of building a vision.

Translating the Inuit
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 2-4 pm. $15.* Lawrence Millman spent two years wandering the Arctic in search of Inuit folktales. He describes his adventures at this lecture.

What's Next for Online Marketing?
Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-589-0419). www.mimc.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. 6:30-9 pm. $60.* What's ahead for online media and marketing in 2004? Find out at this panel discussion with industry visionaries.

SATURDAY, JAN. 31
CDs 101 (or Everything You Wanted to Know About Producing a CD But Were Afraid to Ask)
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 2-4 pm. $15.* Learn from successful cabaret performers how to select material, create arrangements, record songs, mix and master the music, and create your CD's packaging and design.





gay & lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information, including telephone numbers and nearest T-stop, by fax (617-859-1446) or mail, or e-mail gaylesbian@improper.com.

Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley at 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am.; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's new leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 10 pm, $5 for 19 and 20, free for 21+. DJ John Morris spins progressive house for Lust, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $15, 21+. For 20 years, these folks have cranked out Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. Enjoy three separate dance floors plus drag acts. Rotating DJs spin house.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show, and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+.* On Saturdays, Buzz's two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—pool room and lounge keep the men busy until 2 am.

CityGirl Caffé (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-9 pm; Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-4 pm. This small laid-back café in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated, draws a mixed gay/hetero crowd for lounging and sandwiches. Brunch is served every weekend.

Club Café and Moonshine Bar (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+.* This South End spot draws a dressy bunch for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Wednesdays, join VJ Cliff Cunningham. •On Thursdays and Fridays,VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Cliff Cunningham.

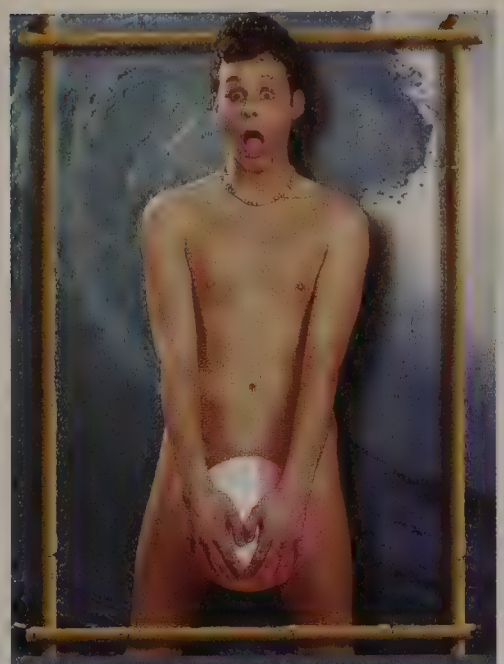
Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3 pm-2 am; Sat., 1 pm-2 am; Sun., 12 pm-2 am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This quiet, friendly neighborhood bar starts hopping as it gets closer to 2 am.

Fritz Lounge (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 12 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. TV sets show satellite sports broadcasts, and Fritz is home base to a softball league. Brunch is served until 3:30 pm on weekends.

Here at 711 Boylston (Tuesdays)
711 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5502). www.hereboston.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 9 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+.* Boston's Tuesday night gay dance party features and disco and pop.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. *$8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am.* This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 pm, $6 weekdays; $8 weekends, 21+. $6-$8. Patrons relax with a friendly crowd and mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm, $6. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •On the second Friday of each month is the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground. The typical lineup features singer Leah Callahan with guest musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.


Paul Conroy plays a lovelorn surfer in *Psycho Beach Party* at the Footlight Club.

Machine (Tuesdays, Thursdays-Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 12 pm-2 am. •Wed.: Game Nite hosted by either Diamond Dunhill or Rainbow Frite, 10 pm, no cover. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition with PJ McWhiskers. •Fri.: Best Night Out with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Machine with DJ Brad Gwynn playing house music. 10 pm-2 am, $7, 21+. •Tue.: Service Industry Night with DJ Afrodite.

ManRay (Wednesdays-Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am.* Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 19+. •Thu.: Campus night features DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. $12, 19+; $8, 21+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: New Wave Dance Party with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Cohen. $12, 19+; $8, 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). www.dykenight.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. 9 pm-2 am. $5, 21+.* On Thursday nights, the Midway hosts Kristen Porter's Dyke Night, with rotating DJs, pool and dancing.

Milky Way Lounge (Sundays)
401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+.* Candyland night is for gay men and women, transgendered persons and their allies. Live entertainment includes Fireballs Drag Bingo, spoken-word events and jazz. A dance party hosted by resident DJ Jamila caps off the evening. •Every Sunday there is free bowling with dinner. On the last Sunday of every month, the Milky Way presents the all-women Amazon Poetry Slam, a popular lesbian event. 8 pm, 7:30 pm sign-up, $7.

Night Games (Fridays)
Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000). www.circuitgirl.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan. 10 pm, $10, 21+.* Resident DJ Kris Kono pumps the dance tunes at Circuit Girl's Anything Goes night.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). www.paradisecambridge.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+.* Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Thu.: Fire and Ice with DJ Dan Leavey. •Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music. •Mon.: Pool tournament and pizza. •Tue: DJ Scott Thinsdale.

Rise (Saturday)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. Private, members-only club, predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays features resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music pumps, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Vapor (Wednesdays-Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-422-0862). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adilson. 19+. •Thu.: The Music Factory with DJ Pauli Paul and DJ Ron Stele spinning hip-hop, reggae and funk. $5 before 11, $2 after 11, 21+. •Fri.: Inner Circle. $10, 21+. •Sat.: Evolution with DJ Jay Ine. •Sun.: T-Dance party with DJ Danae grooving to local, tribal, and house while DJ Niterain spins classic oldies. 21+.

Books

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). www.calamusbooks.com. *Mon.-Sat., 9 am-7 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm.* Boston's bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered people.

Center for New Words
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). MBTA; Red Line to Harvard. www.centerfornewwords.com. Cambridge's center for women's writing and ideas hosts open mikes and author events.
•Jan. 21, 7 pm. Free. **Alison Bechdel** reads from her book *Dykes and Sundry Other Carbon-Based Life Forms to Watch Out For*, about a lesbian whose same-sex relationships change as her friends become more mainstream. *At the Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge.*
•Jan. 22, 7 pm. Free. **Irshad Manji** reads from her new book, *The Trouble with Islam: A Muslim's Call for Reform in Her Faith*, which criticizes elements of contemporary Islamic culture. *At Durrell Hall, Cambridge Family YMCA, 820 Mass. Ave., Cambridge.*

We Think the World of You Bookstore
540 Tremont St., Boston (617-574-5000). www.wethinktheworldofyou.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon., 11:30 am-5:30 pm; Tue..-Fri., 10 am-7 pm; Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 11:30-5:30 pm.* This community-centered gay and lesbian bookstore stocks literature, art books, DVDs and videos.

Shows & Events

***Best Lesbian Erotica 2004* Book Release Party**
Midway Café, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). www.dykenight.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. 9 pm-2 am. $5, 21+.* Best Lesbian Erotica 2004 editor Tristan Taormino hosts a reading featuring contributing writers. A dance party follows and goes until 2 am. Proceeds benefit breast cancer patient Raelyn Gallina.

Boston Women's Rainbow Chorus
Longy School of Music, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-424-8900). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Jan. 23, 8 pm. $10-$25. Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-424-8900). Jan. 24, 8 pm. $10-$25. The Boston Women's Rainbow Chorus performs its winter concert, Gracias a la Vida, which includes folk music and poetry from Latin America.

The Laramie Project
Arlington Friends of the Drama, 22 Academy St., Arlington (781-646-5922). www.afdtheatre.org. *Jan. 30 and 31, 8 pm; Feb.1, 2 pm; Feb. 6 and 7, 8 pm; Feb. 8, 2 pm. $15.* This play documents the aftermath of the hate crime perpetrated against gay University of Wyoming student Matthew Shepard.

Psycho Beach Party
The Footlight Club, 7A Eliot St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3200). www.footlight.org. *Jan. 23, 24, 30 and 31; Feb. 6 and 7, 8 pm. $15, $12 students.* The Footlight Club hosts Charles Busch's postmodern farce about a perky '60s surfer girl with multiple personalities and a terrible secret. The show includes a raffle of Busch memorabilia, original go-go choreography and other surprises.

Ongoing

Atención Latina Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (800-834-3242). www.fenwayhealth.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.* FCH collaborates with the Elizabeth Stone House to provide this safe, confidential space to discuss healthy relationships, domestic violence and other issues.

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. *MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. Wednesdays, 6-9 pm.* The Boston Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered and Questioning Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6032). www.fenwayhealth.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 7 pm.* This group meets the second Tuesday of every month for a discussion with bisexual and bi-curious men.

Bi Rap
The Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tuesday of the month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

BOSS
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 6-8 pm.* This group for gay and bisexual men of color meets the last Thursday of each month to discuss culture, lifestyle, creativity and health.

Boston Bay Blades
www.bayblades.org/boston. All are welcome to join this competitive, recreational group of rowers and scullers.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. *Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony.* The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers
First Church of Jamaica Plain, corner of Centre and Eliot streets, Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org. *Every Wed., 7:30 pm, $8.* Square-dancing and English country dancing lessons are available for lesbians, gays, bisexuals and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-424-8990). www.bgbl.com. The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm, Fri, 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people, ages 13-25.

Boston Ironsides Rugby Football Club
Moakley Field, South Boston (617-524-5814). MBTA: Red Line to JFK. Rugby players of any level, age, race and orientation are welcome to play.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. www.lesbianavengers.org. *Thu., 7-8 pm.* This bi- and transsexual-friendly direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. *MBTA: Orange Line to Green St. Wednesdays, 7 pm.* A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
(617-417-0876). Third Saturday of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for interested parents and their partners. For info, e-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center, at the Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-9595). www.biresource.org. *MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm,*

free. An informal group for people who think they may be bisexual or attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Group
(617-256-8693). This group welcomes those who want to discuss the challenges and the joys of coming out. It meets Thursday nights, 7-8:30 pm in Cambridge.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area support, information, and social group for people assigned female at birth who feel that is not an accurate or complete description of their gender. Part of the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group meets monthly. Email CompassFTM@usa.com for details.

Controversy Thursday
Matrix (B Room), 275 Tremont St. (lower level of Roxyplex), Boston (617-542-4077). Certain Thursdays (call for details), $8, no sneakers. This gay and bi dance party features DJ John Morris at 10 pm.

Cosmetically Correct
Masa Restaurant, 439 Tremont St., Boston. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. First Fridays, 6:30 pm, free*. This social group for lipstick lesbians meets on the first Friday of each month. Lipstick encouraged. Email M.Antoinette@ididitmyway.com for info.

Dagger
(617-621-6090). The Theater Offensive's guerrilla theater group, Dagger, gathers on Wednesdays from 6-9 pm to create performances representing women's perspectives. For more information, e-mail dagger@theateroffensive.org.

The Down Low
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes. Last Friday of the month. 7-9 pm*. A discussion group for gay and bisexual men of color to address heritage, lifestyle, culture and health.

East Coast Wrestling Club
(401-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www.eastcoastwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay male wrestlers has more than 160 members.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional women 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophisticated to get together with like-minded women for conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Explore Gender in a Safe Place
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes*. An ongoing support group for people born into female bodies or who have grown up being viewed as biologically female.

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. *Saturday mornings*. Join Boston's GLBT Flag Football League for a casual spring season, followed by a formal fall season. All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). Sat., 10 am. All are welcome to join this running club.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
(617-267-9001 or 888-340-4528). Mon.-Fri., 6-11 pm; Sat. and Sun., 5-10 pm. This toll-free hotline is confidential and provides support for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning callers.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
The First Parish Church in Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month, 8-10 pm. $2.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Professionals Building Community
(617-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to join this networking organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered professionals.

Gaymes Group
(508-339-4250). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians. Members get together on a regular basis to play board, card and parlor games.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes*. Biological males meet on Monday evenings. The groups are moderated by psychologist Randi Kaufman.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: *Red Line to Central*. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday from 10:30 am-12 pm.

Girlz 2 Girlz
(617-482-1078 ext. 277). This mentoring program for girls aged 13-19 who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered or questioning meets the second and fourth Friday of each month, 6-8 pm. Contact Jayms Battaglia.

GLBT Seniors
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6272). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes. Mondays*. Support group for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered seniors ages 60 and over.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes*. Anonymous HIV testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

LGBT Considering Parenting Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes*. A short-term (eight-week) group for LGBT persons who are considering becoming parents. Sliding fee scale available. Call for information.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. *Tue., Wed. and Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings*. This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

Meow Boston
groups.yahoo.com/group/Meow_Boston. This social group caters to feminine bisexual women and lesbians in the Boston community. For women 21+.

The Network/La Red
(617-427-7233). The Network is a support group working to end abuse in lesbian, bisexual women's and transgender communities. Email *info@thenetworklared.org* for more information.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

Peer Listening Line
(800-399-7337). Trained GLBT volunteers provide confidential information, referrals and support.

The Rainbow Cafe
rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social group for activist, academic, intellectual or artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes. Wed., 6-7 pm*. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
somoslatinoslgbt@hotmail.com. The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. Email for more information.

Support Group for HIV-Negative Gay and Bisexual Men
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-967-6231). MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes. First three Tuesdays of each month, 6-8 pm*. Discuss new safe-sex practices and strategies for managing risk and communicating with sexual partners.

Support Group for Lesbians with Cancer
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes. Wed. evenings, once a month. Free*. For those who want to discuss the impact of this disease on their lives.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: *C Green Line to Washington Street. First Saturday of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing, $8*. Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. WWB is a social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s. It meets the first Thursday of every month.

Order a slice of history

Established in 1868 and located in the heart of Boston's theater district, Jacob Wirth Restaurant offers traditional European cuisine with a distinctive American flair.

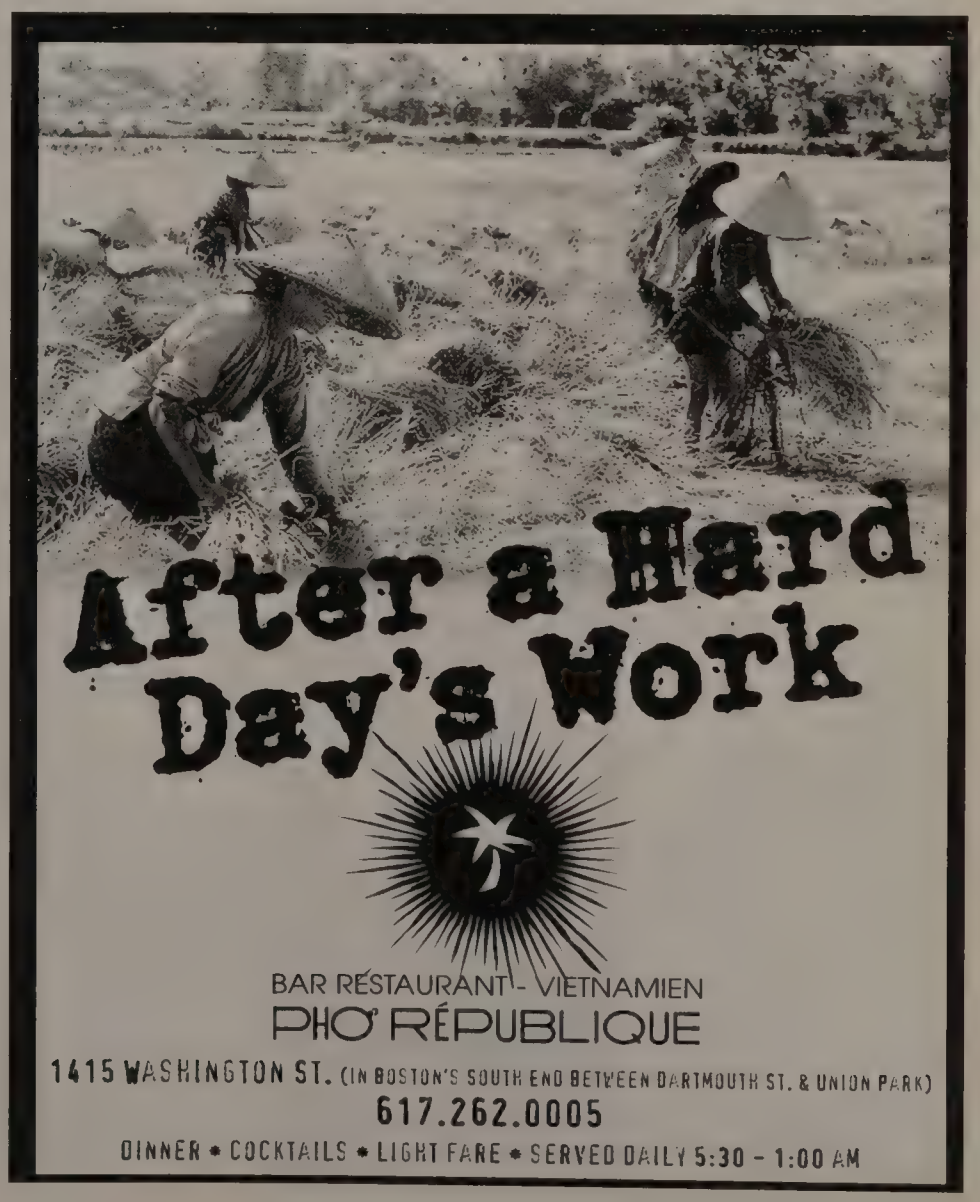
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body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Chinese New Year Celebration and Open House
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545). www.charlesrivershiatsu. com. *Jan. 23.* Tour the school, speak with students, check out shiatsu, martial arts and acupuncture demonstrations, and sample sushi at this open house.

Lectures

Holistic Cleansing and Rejuvenation with Ayurveda
Theosophical Society in Boston, 21 Maple St., Arlington (978-369-9228 or 781-648-0101). www.ts boston. org. *Jan. 23, 7:30 pm. $5.* Acupuncturist and ayurvedic practitioner Jonathan Glass lectures on the philosophy and teachings of Ayurveda, an ancient East Indian healing practice. The talk covers the roles of nutrition and cleansing in improving wellness.

Classes

Art, Body and Soul Day
Art and Soul, 91 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-661-7376). www.artsoulyoga.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Jan. 24, 10 am-5 pm. $75.* This workshop is led by expressive arts therapist Kat Mitchell, who demonstrates facilitated bodywork, movement and creative expression through sound, imagery and words.

The Benefits of Yoga
Hotel Marlowe, 25 Edwin H. Land Blvd., Cambridge (617-395-2523). Jan. 25, 11 am-1 pm. $10. The Hotel Marlowe offers an introductory class to benefit the Yoga Foundation. This workshop addresses the history of yoga and features poses taught by Bethany Cantin, founder and director of the Yoga Foundation.

Chillin': Meditation for Teens and Young Adults
Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Jan. 31, 1-5 pm. $15.* This workshop, designed for teens ages 14-19, introduces meditation instruction, sitting and walking practice, and includes group discussion. These skills are intended to help teens relate better with family, friends, school and themselves.

Dream Workshop
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass Ave., Arlington (617-924-6763 or 781-646-3680). www.unicorn books. org. *Jan. 24, 10 am-5 pm. $60.* Participants can learn how to better understand dreams and use them to answer questions about their lives.

Fighting Depression with Herbs, Laughter and Connection
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter. org. *Jan. 24, 2-5 pm. $35.* Winter can bring feelings of isolation and lethargy. This workshop with Dr. Lynn Caesar teaches ways to relieve the winter blahs with medicinal herbs, laughter and camaraderie.

Intro to Aromatherapy
Amethyst Conference Center, 25 Elm St., Somerville (781-393-4416). www.commonground center.com. *Feb. 4, 7-9 pm. $25.* Aromatherapy is the use of essential oils from plants to relieve discomfort. This interactive workshop explores the principles, benefits and common uses of aromatherapy.

Intro to Yoga Backbends
Back Bay Yoga Studio, 1112 Boylston St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-375-0785). www.backbayyoga.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center. Jan. 31, 2-4:30pm. $35.* Learn the moves that make backbends easier and enable yogis to lengthen and expand their bodies.

Learn to Teach BalleCore
Fitness Centers for Women, 441 Stuart St., Boston (617-698-2673). www.ballecore.com. *Jan. 23-26, 30 hours.* BalleCore is a mind/body fitness program integrating pilates, hatha yoga and classical ballet that is designed to help participants lose weight and develop strength and balance. Learn the fundamentals in this teacher-training intensive class.

The Nature of Desire
(617-965-7846). www.healingheartpower. com. *Jan. 24, 2-5 pm. $5-10 suggested donation.* The Boston Area Sexuality and Spirituality Network hosts monthly meetings covering topics related to exploring sex holistically. This month's workshop focuses on desire, and how acknowledgement and acceptance of one's desires may help create a healthier sex life.

Negativity: A Fresh Perspective
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 90 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circles ofwisdom.com. *Feb. 3, 7-9 pm. $30.* This class with Dr. Trish Whynot introduces methods of viewing negativity from a constructive perspective to minimize its influence.

Psychic Development Workshop
Sheraton Needham Hotel, 100 Cabot St., Needham (617-527-3583). www.themysticway.com. *Jan. 24, 10am-5pm. $145.* Psychic and healer Ross Miller discusses how to identify guardian angels and spirit guides to receive their guidance. Participants also attempt to feel their aura, rediscover past lives, give psychic readings to others and more.

Sweat Your Prayers Dance Jam
Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-9363 or 617-522-9797). www.dancecomplex. org. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Feb. 2, 8-9:30 pm. $8-11, sliding scale.* This freestyle dance workshop features deep listening, improvisation and other exercises designed to stimulate creativity. All levels welcome.

Transforming Emotions
Open Doors, 360 Washington St., Brighton (617-202-6333). www.opendoors7.com. *Jan. 28, 7-9 pm. $30.* Participants learn techniques developed by Taoist masters for refining, transforming and recycling emotional energy.

Ongoing

Basics of Yoga
The Yoga Studio, 74 Joy St., Boston (617-523-7138). www.yogastudio.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Charles or Green Line to Government Center. Mon., 12-1:30 pm and 5:30-7 pm. $10-15, drop-in.* This hatha yoga school features a blend of styles and methods and hosts several classes for beginners.

Introduction to Kabbalah
The Kabbalah Centre, 751 Beacon St., Newton (617-969-1881). www.kabbalah.com. *Wed., 7 pm. Free. Call to enroll.* Kabbalah is a collection of ancient wisdom and philosophy about the nature of the universe. The philosophy is intended to help followers get in tune with these universal laws and live a more harmonious life. Find out more at this lecture.


The Hotel Marlowe hosts an introductory class to benefit the Yoga Foundation Jan. 25

Yoga/Cambridge
St. Mary's Church, 8 Inman St., Cambridge (781-648-3455). www.yoganow.net. *Wed., 5:30-7 pm. $17, drop-in.* Take a beginner-level class in BKS Iyengar yoga, a spiritually integrated form of yoga, with instructor Patricia Walden.

Yoga/South End
South End House, 48 Rutland St., Boston (617- 522-7199). www.angelfire.com/ma/patrice. *MBTA: Orange line to Mass Ave or Back Bay. Mon. and Tue., 7 pm. $15-$17.* These mixed-level yoga classes are taught by certified Kripalu yoga instructor Patrice Flesch. Drop-ins and beginners are welcome.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.*

Home Games

Boston Bruins
• FleetCenter, Boston
Tickets: 617-931-2000
Jan. 22, 7 pm vs. Buffalo Sabres
Jan. 24, 7 pm vs. Florida Panthers
Jan. 29, 7:30 pm vs. New York Islanders
Feb. 1, 1 pm vs. Pittsburgh Penguins
Feb. 3, 7:30 pm vs. Atlanta Thrashers

Boston Celtics
• FleetCenter, Boston
Tickets: 800-462-2849
Jan. 23, 7:30 pm vs. Washington Wizards
Jan. 28, 7 pm vs. Detroit Pistons
Jan. 30, 7:30 pm vs. New York Knicks

Events

BSSC Sunday River Ski Trip
Transportation leaves from Newton at 5:30 pm and Newburyport at 6:45 pm. (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. *Jan. 23-25. $309, $339 nonmembers.* Hit Sunday River with a group for a weekend of skiing and apres-skiing. Trip includes transportation, two-day lift tickets, two nights at the Bethel Inn, two breakfasts and Saturday dinner.

To Play

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

BSSC Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Brookline and Dedham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333) www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. *Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus.* The club offers amateur Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

FENCING

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. *Adult classes evenings and Saturdays.* Learn the basics of fencing.

FLOOR HOCKEY

BSSC Coed Floor Hockey
Leagues are held in Newton, North Reading and Brighton (617-789-4070, ext. 238). www.bssc.com. All levels, individuals and teams are welcome.

FOOTBALL

BSSC Coed Indoor Flag Football
Games are played in Revere and Tewksbury. (617-789-4070, ext. 242). Sign up individually or with a group of friends.

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.com. *Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton.* New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.



Paul Pierce and the Celtics rev it up against the Detroit Pistons Jan. 28

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mystic rugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. *Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays.* New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.boston hash.com. *Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round.* If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, then consider joining these self-proclaimed "serious drinkers with a running problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. *Weekly runs on Friday nights, 6 pm.*

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Run
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. *Weekly runs on Thursday nights, 7 pm.*

VFW Logan Post 3.223-Miler
VFW James Logan Post, 1192 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org/BAEvents/Logan. *Weekly runs followed by pizza and Harpoon beer on Thursday nights, 7:10 pm.*

SKATING

Bay State Skating School
Various area MDC rinks (781-890-8480). www. baystateskatingschool.org. *Check Web site for schedules. $108.50 for a seven-week class.* Skating classes for adults and children teach the fundamentals using either figure skates or hockey skates.

SOCCER

BSSC Indoor Soccer
(617-789-4070). Teams forming now. Games played in Charlestown, Cambridge, Brighton, Reading and Canton. Individuals and teams are welcome.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed teams forming in Cambridge, Watertown, Brookline and Newton. Teams and individuals are welcome to set and spike their way to glory.

WOMEN'S FLAG FOOTBALL

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Saturday mornings. Teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-868-8379). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels. Weekly practices held year-round.

BE INSPIRED BY THE BEST.

Swami Asokananda
Baron Baptiste
Barbara Benagh
Mitchel Bleier
Maty Ezraty
Donna Farhi
Lilias Folan
Gessner Geyer
Ann Greene
Julie Gudmestad
Gary Kraftsow
Judith Hanson Lasater
Cyndi Lee
Sudha Carolyn Lundeen
Timothy McCall
Chuck Miller
Kelly Morris
Todd Norian
Aadil Palkhivala
Shiva Rea
Natasha Rizopoulos
Halé Sofia Schatz
Sianna Sherman
Rod Stryker
Patricia Walden
Rodney Yee

CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR TEACHERS

Tuesday, April 20–Thursday, April 22

ALL-DAY INTENSIVE WORKSHOPS

Friday, April 23

MAIN CONFERENCE

Saturday, April 24–Sunday, April 25

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Advice to Contributors

Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Things to See

Cirque Eloize Nomade: At Night the Sky Is Endless

Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-931-2787). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 7:30 pm; Sun., 1 and 6 pm. Through Jan. 25. $25-$57. Cirque Eloize combines theater with acrobatic performances, poetry and circus thrills. The company is made up of artists who dance, sing, juggle and tumble.

Dora the Explorer Live

Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed.-Thu., 7 pm; Fri., 10:30 am and 7 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am, 2 pm and 5 pm. Jan. 28-Feb. 1. $15-$38. Dora is a 7-year-old whose adventures take place in a tropical world filled with jungles, beaches and rainforests. She teaches Spanish words and phrases to the audience and asks them to help her solve problems and puzzles.

Kids Variety Show

Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-738-6533). www.coolidge.kidsshow.info. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Sat., 10:30 am. $10, $8 children. •Jan.24: Gary Rosen presents a concert called Food Glorious Food. •Jan. 31: The Amazing Richard performs magic.

Puppet Showplace Theatre

32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50. Reservations recommended. •Jan. 21-22, 10:30 am, ages 3-6: *Fox Tales* tells the story of Coyote, who is always outwitted by the creatures he wants to eat. •Jan. 24-25, 1 and 3 pm, ages 4-8: In *The Dino Show*, meet tyrannosaurus rex, brontosaurus and others in this story about searching for dinosaurs. •Jan. 28-29, 10:30 am, ages 3-6: In *The Fairy Circus*, 20 hand-crafted marionettes dance and fly to music. •Jan. 31 and Feb. 1, 1 and 3 pm, ages 3-6: Journey with a princess to Mystery Mountain to visit the Great Green Dragon in *Sir George and the Dragon*.

Sesame Street Live: Everyone Makes Music

Lowell Memorial Auditorium 50 East Merrimack St., Lowell (978-454-2299). www.sesamestreetlive.com. Jan. 22, 7 pm; Jan. 23, 10:30 am and 7 pm; Jan 24, 10:30 am, 2 and 5:30 pm; Jan. 25, 1 and 4:30 pm. $13-$16 ($11 opening night). Join the *Sesame Street* gang as they search for their new music teacher's lost instruments.

Things to Do

Borders Books and Music

Cambridgeside Galleria, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Sat., 12 pm. Staff members read from new and classic storybooks.

Children's Museum

300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8 adults/$7 children. •Jan. 25, 11 am-4 pm: Chinese New Year Celebration. Learn Chinese traditions through hands-on activities, and watch martial arts performances. •The exhibition *Five Friends from Japan: Children in Japan Today* features hands-on lessons about Japanese writing, attire, music and more. Through May 17. •In *Making America's Music: Rhythm, Roots & Rhyme*, kids can mix hip-hop tunes in the Streetscape, jive in the jazz club and rock at the school dance through hands-on exhibits . •Mon., Wed. and Fri., 11 am-12 pm, ages 3 and under: Shake, wiggle and giggle in *Music and Movement*. •Fri., 3-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2-4 pm: Science activities based on the PBS show ZOOM! •Fri., 7 pm: Participate in Sing-a-Story. •Mon., Tue. and Wed., 11 am and 12 pm; Thu., 11 am; Fri., 11 am and 12 pm, 6:15 and 7:15 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am and 12 pm, 2:30 and 3:30 pm: Experience the world of performing arts in KidStage. •Sat. and Sun., 10:30 and 11:30 am, 2:30 and 3:30 pm: Japanese *suminagashi* in the Art Studio. Float ink on water and then create a design.

Coop Kids

Harvard Coop, 400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Free. •Jan. 24, 11 am: Listen to readings of Caldecott and Newberry prize–winning books. After the readings, stay and paint. •Jan. 31, 11 am: Listen to stories about snowmen and then make popcorn snowmen.

Etiquette for Children

The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). www.fireplacerest.com. *MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Jan. 21, 3:30-5 pm. $50 (includes four-course meal). Reservations required.* Etiquette experts from the Proper Manner present a dining etiquette tutorial.

Ice Skating at Frog Pond

Frog Pond, Boston Common, Boston (617-635-2120). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Sun., 10 am-9 pm; Mon., 10 am-5 pm; Tue.-Thu., 10 am-9 pm; Fri.-Sat., 10 am-10 pm. $3, free for children under 14 (not including skate rental). Lace up your skates for a few laps on the ice.

Ice Skating Classes

Rinks located in Brighton, Brookline/Cleveland Circle, Cambridge, Hyde Park/Dedham, Lynn, Medford, Neponset/Dorchester, Newton, North End, Somerville, South Boston and West Roxbury (781-890-8480). www.baystateskatingschool.org. *Ages 4 ½ and older.* Learn to do a triple axel or try out your hockey skills.

Museum of Fine Arts Children's Room

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. $15, free for children 17 and under.* Children ages 6-12 can participate in hands-on art projects related to exhibitions. •Jan. 21-23: *Ancient Nubian Traditions: Sculpture and Design* •Jan. 25-30: *Nature's Elegant Design: Miniatures.* •Feb. 2-6: *Impressionist Masterpieces: Painting Studies.*

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $10 children.* •*Magic: The Science of Illusion.* Discover how illusions come together through science, math, psychology and the art of performance at this new exhibition. Through Feb. 22. •Daily Mars Updates: Mon.-Sat., 1 pm. Free. Hear about the latest findings from the Mars rovers. •Sat. and Sun., 11 am-12 pm. The museum's Science Theater Program offers *Animals and Stories Alive!* featuring professional storytellers who combine folk tales and myths with visits from live animals. •Charles Hayden Planetarium: Fri., 7 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12:30 pm. Free. Learn to identify the stars, planets, constellations and celestial events during the presentation *The Sky Tonight: Mars Update.* •Gilliland Observatory: Fri., 8:30-10 pm (weather permitting). Free. Use the observatory's two telescopes to find the moon, stars, constellations and planets. •Mugar Omni Theatre, check Web site for show times, $8.50, $6.50 children: *Jane Goodall's Wild Chimpanzees, Everest* and *Solarmax.* •*Theater of Electricity:* Daily at 12 and 2 pm. The Van de Graaff generator provides a risk-free lightning show.

Museum of Transportation

Larz Anderson Park, 15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). www.mot.org. *Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5.* The Museum of Transportation has a large collection of rare and antique cars as well as exhibits on automobile history. •*The Evolution of Speed* exhibit explores the history of American auto racing with race cars and displays. •*Racing of Our Youth* lets kids explore the world of slot cars, Hot Wheels and soapbox racing with go-carts to climb in, tracks to build and races to compete in. •Daily: Join the Family Scavenger Hunt through the museum and receive a free prize.

Newton Free Library

330 Homer St., Newton (617- 796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. *MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. Registration required.* •Jan. 22 and Jan. 29, 7 pm, ages 4 and older: Pajama Storytime for children •Jan. 23 and Jan 30, 10:30 am: Preschool Films •Jan. 22, 4:15 pm: Fun with Folktales. Children explore the theme of light in folktales and create a light-related craft. •Jan. 27, 4 pm: Bug Works. Children can have fun with bugs.

Take a Winter Walk

Gore Place, 52 Gore St., Waltham (781-894-2798). Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm. $5 for rental of children's snowshoes; $4 for each additional pair of children's snowshoes; $5 for adult snowshoes. Explore nature, search for animal tracks, identify trees, and meet sheep, goats, chickens and rabbits living at the farm.

around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory

725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wednesdays (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum

300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm, Fri., 10 am-9 pm; June-Aug., daily, 10 am-5 pm, Fri. until 9 pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom

One Milk St., Boston (617-338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park Street. Mon.-Sun., 9:30 am-6 pm. $7.50.

Forest Hills Cemetery

95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-524-0128). www.foresthillstrust.org. *MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. Daily, 7:30 am-sundown. Free.*

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.*

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum

Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $8.

King's Chapel

58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-2 pm. Free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery

580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-8 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History

46 Joy St., Boston (617-739-1200). www.afroamericanmuseum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10 am-4 pm. $5, $3 students, seniors.*

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $10 seniors and children.*

Museum of Transportation

15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5, $3 children.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1, Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.50, $8.50 children.

Old Faneuil Hall

Boston (617-635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. Tours start at 9 am. Free.

Old North Church

193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. $3.

Old South Meeting House

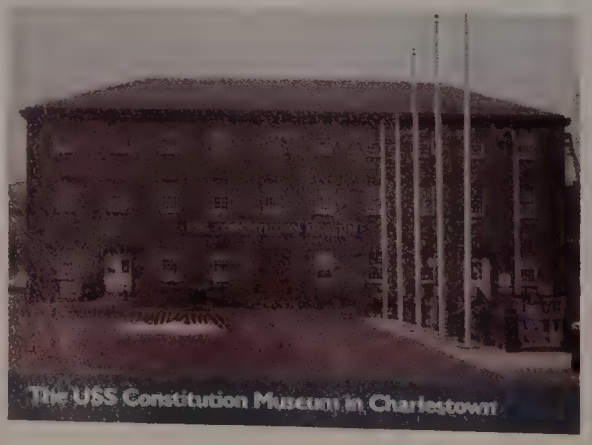
310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10 am-4 pm; weekends, 10 am-5 pm. $3.

Old State House Museum

206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk

800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $6, $4 seniors.



The USS Constitution Museum in Charlestown

Trinity Church

206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8 am-6 pm. $3.

USS Constitution & Museum

Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). Museum open daily, 10 am-5 pm. Winter ship hours: Thu.-Sun., 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program

(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster care child.

AIDS Action Committee

(617-450-1235). Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society

(617-556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers

(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. Be a big brother.

Big Sister Association

(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Become a friend to a young girl.

Boston Cares

(617-263-2273). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees

(617-367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center

(617-236-1012). HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Call to Action Project

(781-395-8307). datalova@aol.com. Donate quilt blocks to be pieced into quilts and placed on auction to benefit the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS

(617-661-3040, ext. 213). Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Charles River Arc

(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support to children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

(617-632-3307). Help adults living with cancer.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch

livmates@rcn.com. Spend your lunch hour reading at an elementary school in Cambridge or Somerville.

Home for Little Wanderers

(617-585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative

(617-287-1900). Play with homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers

(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

House Rabbit Network

(781-431-1211). Provide foster care for homeless rabbits.

Jewish Volunteer Program

(617-558-6585). Share your time with an elderly individual, mentor children or teach an adult to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts

(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Association for the Blind

(800-852-3029). Read or shop with a blind person.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info Helpline

(617-536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers

(617-536-3557). Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.

(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

Parental Stress Line

(617-528-5800). Telephone counselors needed.

Pine Street Inn

(617-521-7626). Serve breakfast to homeless guests.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic

(617-577-1111). Record textbooks in digital formats.

Respond Inc.

(617-625-5996). Work at a battered-women's agency.

Rosie's Place

(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room and groceries program at this homeless shelter.

SafeLink

(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston

(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Single Volunteers Boston

www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young professionals.

StandUp for Kids

(800-365-4543). Help rescue homeless children.

VNA Care Network

(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

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RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

Sparks at the B.B.G.

You were the handsome bartender with clear blue eyes and dark brown hair. Our eyes met when you served me a glass of wine on a busy Sunday night. I felt as though we shared a moment, as if time had stopped just for us. I haven't experienced that type of unspoken connection in quite some time. I was the tall, blond athletic type wearing a dark blue business suit. I don't know if you remember me, but I can't get you out of my mind. I write this hoping that you, too, are gay. If not... take this as a sincere form of flattery. You light up the bar.

—J.T.

New Year's Eve Max

"Just Max" from Somerville: It was New Year's Eve at La Boom. I had no expectations for the night except to dance and break a bad-luck curse that follows me every New Year's Eve. Then I met you, a young handsome Portuguese man with longish light brown hair and a goatee and wearing a white shirt and a nice smile. We danced for hours like we were the only ones on the dance floor. At the end of the night you asked how you would find me and then your brother handed me his cell phone. I put my number in the phone in haste and left you too fast to go with my friend who was leaving. I found out when I got home that I put my number in incorrectly. I wish I could go back to those moments and say goodbye differently. Even if we were not to meet again I wish I had kissed you goodbye and thanked you for making my night so special. I am now the one asking the question: How do I find you?

—vogliofindu@yahoo.com

A Holiday Secret Just for You, Neighbor

I think you are so sexy you scare me! Scarier, you're also funny, fun, playful, good to animals and you might even be nice. But you are Mr. Mystery, and that's scary to me! I know all about your dog and why I have had fun chats with you. But I don't even know what you do! For work, for fun, for family... (Are you from Jupiter, or further off? Is that why a landing strip has been built by our building?) Ah, well, you have a girlfriend now. Which is great, congrats. I just wanted to be friends and who knows. That should still be possible...but how? A hint, maybe? You live right next to me!

—Your neighbor

Your Sweet Smile

I was riding the D Line Train inbound on Dec. 13 at around 8pm. You got on at Reservoir. The T was super crowded with all the young people going out, but I noticed you through the crowd. You were the blond girl standing in the stairwell, facing me. I was the brunette girl wearing a black jacket, sitting in the forward-facing seat closest to you. You were wearing a striped scarf or sweater, and even though it was cold out, you were showing your stomach. I think you had a Walkman on, and your bag had buttons or patches on it. You reminded me of Dido or Jewel for some reason. (Sorry for the trite comparison.) You seemed off in your own world for the most part, like I was, but then you looked at me and smiled the sweetest smile twice. I still don't know if you were just being friendly or if you can like girls like that. So why do I write? Maybe it's that a boy just broke my heart and I was glad that in those few seconds you made me forget. Maybe it's that I am in girl withdrawal and found myself wondering how you kiss. Maybe it was one of those times when it's a relief that someone else can find the same solitude in the crowd. Or maybe it's just that it's rare when someone beautiful smiles at you for no apparent reason. But whatever it was, I couldn't stop thinking about you. I wondered what you were listening to on your Walkman, where you were going, and what you ate for breakfast that morning. Even if you don't "go that way," you could still tell me all about the last boy who broke your heart, and I'd be glad to listen. And if you can go that way, maybe I'd find out what's behind your secret smile. If not, just know that you made me feel better in those briefest moments before the crowd overtook us and you made your exit. So I want to thank you.

—DLineDec13@hotmail.com

Fellow Distraught Retailer (from the Dec. 17 Issue)

I feel your pain when dealing with less-than-socially-adept customers. In fact, I wrote a song about it called "The Horrors of Retail." Contact me via my band's Web site and I'll sing it to you. And have a peaceful retail season.

—Lucretia,
www.lucretiasdaggers.com

Hong Kong, Saturday Nite, Dec 20

Your name is Philip, you live in Jamaica Plain and your birthday is Oct. 21. I know this because you let me look at your license as proof for your name. I was the birthday girl wearing the black shirt partying hard with a bunch of my friends. You got me a Cape Codder. There was definitely a connection between us. We went outside to smoke even though we're both trying to quit. I was shivering and you gave me your black leather jacket to keep warm. You were a complete gentleman and it breaks my heart I took off in the manner I did without asking for a number or e-mail. We owe each other a dance. I'd love to see you again. Get in touch! Or who knows, maybe we'll run into each other again at the Hong Kong. Until then, here's my e-mail.

—gia2481@yahoo.com

Victoria at Starbucks

You were studying at Starbucks on Harvard Ave. for your finals in occupational therapy. I was studying pharmacology. I sat down next to you and you said I could bother you any time. So here I am bothering you. You said you cook Mexican food and I would love to try some sometime.

—lordosis77@yahoo.com

December 29, Three Cents for Coffee

We were in Torrefazione, late on a Monday morning. You were in gray, with the only sexy rat tail I've ever seen. You gave me three cents so that I'd have exact change for my coffee. I was too shy to say anything but thanks. I think you might even work nearby. Give me the chance to thank you properly—or at least buy you a coffee. I'll bring the change.

—SMURFY517@aol.com

Sonsie New Year's Eve

You were the dark-haired woman (beautiful and tastefully dressed) with the blond girlfriend and her outrageously under-clad pal and husband at the bar. I was the tall guy drinking bourbon trying to look comfortable in difficult territory and probably staring at you, observing no date to help you bring in the New Year. I wanted to start up a conversation, but nothing much good comes from meeting in a bar. Perhaps the dignified person inside would be willing to do it over coffee? Write me—it could be the start of a beautiful friendship and/or the next big thing of 2004.

—irontiger51@yahoo.com

Coffee for Two?

It was the morning of Jan. 4 at the Dunkin' Donuts on Mason Street in Salem. You wore a silver ring on your right hand. I wore the look of sleep all about me—from the hair that wasn't brushed to the slippers on my feet. Your name is Dave. You offered me a ride, but I declined, for fear that you might get close enough to notice that my hair wasn't the only thing that wasn't brushed. Let's get together for some coffee when both my hair and teeth are sparkling clean! E-mail me.

—GolfGirlSalem@yahoo.com.



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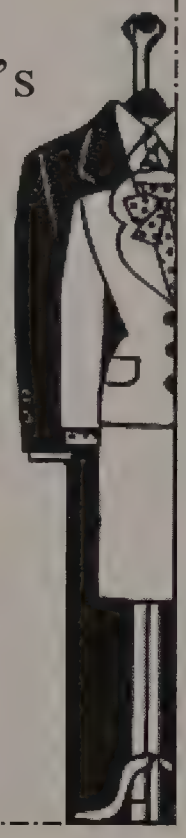


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rockie horoscope

JANUARY 21 – FEBRUARY 3, 2004 BY ROCKIE GARDINER



AQUARIUS JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18

You'll receive encouragement and support from a neighbor, a distant relative, a former schoolmate or a casual acquaintance who appreciates what you're selling, be it a product, a concept or, more likely, yourself. While the sun is in Aquarius, you can't help but project the humanitarian concerns and progressive attitudes the rest of us relate to and rely on. Launch your latest project with the new moon on the 21st; by Groundhog Day, when the sun joins idealistic Neptune, you may discover that you already have a devoted fan base.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19

If you're thinking about redirecting your career path or have recently done so, now would be a good time to make a bold financial move. While courageous Mars is in your Aries money house, why not strike out for greater independence? By the time the sun gets to Aries in April, you could enjoy the first rewards of the action you take this week. If a higher income isn't a goal, simply lay back and, while Venus is still in your sign, let the rest of us pay homage to your artistry, good taste and beautiful soul.

ARIES

MARCH 20-APRIL 19

Pushing your weight around? The powerful connection between your single-minded Mars ruler—in your sign, but only until Groundhog Day—and passionate Pluto can make you quite irresistible, but somewhat overwhelming. If that's the case, try a gentler, less insistent approach. Since it follows that "to the victor belong the spoils," who wants those spoils to be spoilsports? Use the new moon energy on the 21st to inaugurate another phase of your long-range career plan; then you can net more money next month.

TAURUS

APRIL 20-MAY 20

Get serious. It's not every day, week or month that your pleasure-loving Venus ruler forms a constructive relationship with realistic Saturn. Because the year of the Monkey begins on such a practical, productive note, you can significantly improve your financial situation and career opportunities before the Rooster crows next year. Your first test comes as the month ends, when Venus confronts generous Jupiter in your house of romance, risk and recreation. Will you spend wisely or go for broke? Either way, play the lottery.

GEMINI

MAY 21-JUNE 20

Shop around for the most useful object you think you need because you won't be this practical again for many moons. Once the airy Aquarius new moon introduces a fresh approach to traditional ways of doing things, you're likely to become enamored with a novel idea that you can see to its conclusion. Meanwhile, the urge to spend lots more money on the house or a family matter won't abate until acquisitive Venus and expensive Jupiter quit egging each other on. You might become entangled in this contest until the Super Bowl is history.

CANCER

JUNE 21-JULY 22

Another new moon, another reason for the Moon Child to start something new. But first, try making some whoopee! While affectionate Venus and restrictive Saturn form a favorable trine, you may actually feel good about the limitations the gods have imposed on your sex life. Venus in water sign–friendly Pisces can come up with other pleasurable opportunities, particularly mutually profitable ones. So before you get swept away by the innovative Aquarius lunar vibe, take another look at your current relationships and their positive effects.

LEO

JULY 23-AUGUST 22

Read for Aries. You, the preferred object of desire, might have to withstand a horny Ram's prolonged attack. But after the new moon kicks in, Leos born in July could feel obliged to reconnect and confess to their partners. August birthdays may discover something unusually interesting or artistic about their current gig and be inspired to work as hard as they play. While your sun ruler is in Aquarius, the sign of your cosmic complement, every interaction with a significant other can be much more meaningful than you think.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22

Remind yourself that Valentine's Day falls during Aquarius, and that the dawning of the Aquarius new moon in your house of romance can lead to something/someone special. Keep an eye out for prospects for true love, especially after Luna enters Pisces on the 23rd. A Virgo sun and a Pisces moon are a match made in heaven. Another chance at happiness pops up when enthusiastic Jupiter in Virgo and loving Venus align on the 29th. Mark the date: That's also when your Mercury ruler receives Jupiter's blessing.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22

More stuff may be going on than you can handle. There's that aggressive partner, Mars, in your Aries marriage house, aligning with a nosy neighbor. There's your Venus ruler advocating that you head for a semblance of stability, but quite a lot more responsibility, with someone who is overseas or in academia. Plus there's the Aquarius new moon promising that something new, and infinitely more interesting, is about to sprout from under the family tree. Before the month is out, you'll have a jealous fit and a reason to spend like a sailor.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21

You'll be your persuasive and sexy beast best while your co-ruling planets, Mars and Pluto, perfect their supportive trine this week. Besides the goodies you'll get without half trying, this pairing can bring a lot more money from the work you usually do, as well as from something you do purely on your own. The more adventurous or innovative, the better. The future-oriented Aquarius new moon is bound to bring a household or family matter to the fore, or, if you were born in November, an issue the entire neighborhood can relate to.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21

A pastime you can be passionate about, a passionate love affair, a romantic adventure—any one or all three can follow from the positive energy flowing from courageous Mars to regenerative Pluto in your sign. If ever there was a fortuitous time to make a change, now would be it. Although you may get a glimpse of an either/or predicament facing you when affectionate Venus opposes your all-encompassing Jupiter ruler next week, push won't come to shove until the Pisces sun confronts Jupiter in early March.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20

You might get into an argument with a co-worker or an authority figure when Mercury opposes Saturn, but since lovely and loving Venus is favoring your ruling planet at the same time, who cares? The rewards the goddess bestows on you now can be materialistic as well as romantic, and of the finest quality. Entertain constructive thoughts and envision your heart's desires, so when the Aquarius new moon brings fresh, inventive energy onto the scene, you'll be in a proper, i.e., positive, frame of mind.

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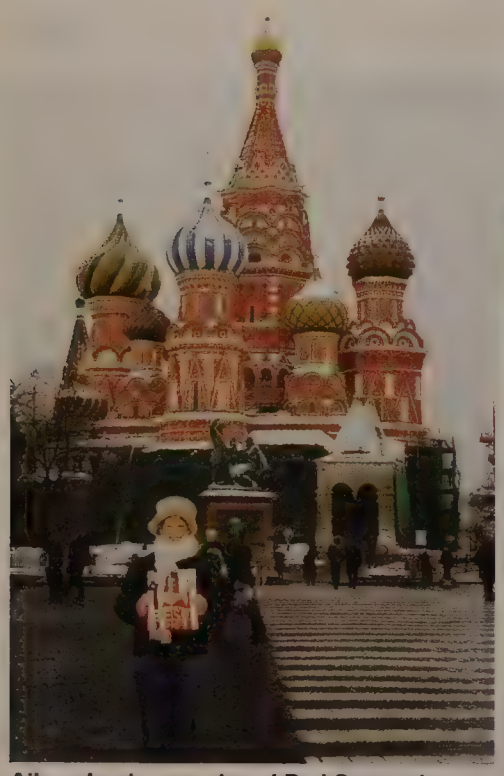
Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you were. The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.



Abraham Lincoln "presenter" George Cheevers hangs out at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. Look out, it's John Wilkes Booth! Sorry. We bet he gets that a lot.



Jen Goldstein, Dana Kelley, Liz Shanley and Kim Humby confirm that what happens in Vegas stays in Vegas. In that vein, we sincerely hope that Celine Dion keeps happening in Vegas.



Aileen Jamieson enjoyed Red Square in Moscow until she was shaken down for her IMPROPER by the Russian mafia.



Faraz Ali and Carsten Hilker stand atop a Mayan pyramid in Tikal, Guatemala. This location was used as a spaceship takeoff site in *Return of the Jedi*. At least that's what we're told. What do we look like, Trekkie geeks? Whoa, settle down, Captain Kirk.



Fresh gov. of PA Edward Rendell can finish this verse: "In West Philadelphia born and raised..." Try to get that out of your head.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Frying an entire turkey while painting their entire torso at a tailgate party before Super Bowl XXXVIII, Feb. 1, at Reliant Stadium in Houston, Texas.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned.

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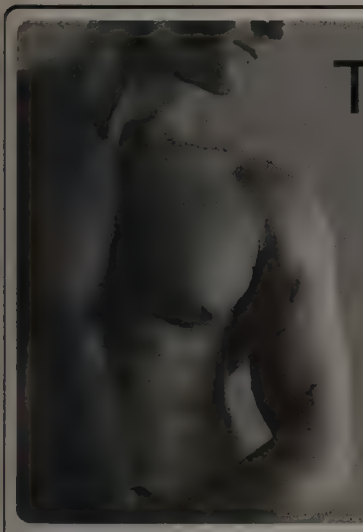
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For more information, or to purchase tickets, contact the American Heart Association at 508-935-3906.

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The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Thursday, January 1, **FELT** presented "The Bed Party" with co-hosts Playmate Cara Wakelin and **KISS 108**'s Matt Siegel of the Matty in the Morning Show. All of the billiard tables were transformed into beds where guests sipped **Moët Champagne** and enjoyed platters of chocolate-dipped strawberries.





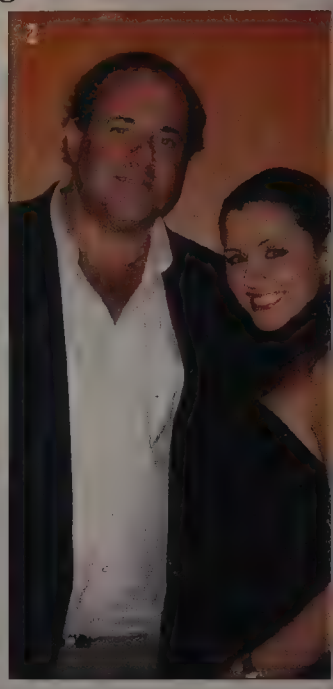




1. **Ajay Pathak**, Playboy Golf president, and **Starla Pathak**, residency coordinator, NEMC.
2. **Thi Nguyen** and **Cindy Smith**, waitresses at Felt.
3. **Alex Depetris**, Boston University law student, with Playboy Playmate **Cara Wakelin**.
4. **Virginia Depetris**, marketing manager for Felt; **Matt Siegel** morning DJ for KISS 108 FM; and **Brian O'Donnell**, general manager and co-owner of Felt.

On Monday, January 12, **The Place** played host to **ESPN**'s 25th Anniversary Party. The star-studded event was sponsored by **Bud Light**.







1. **Joe Boike**, Massachusetts State Trooper, with **Errol Apostolopoulos**, co-owner of The Place, and **Billy Fairweather**, co-owner of The Place.
2. ESPN star **Chris Berman** with Playboy Playmate Miss March 2003 **Pennelope Jimenez**.
3. **Rich Wheeler**, owner of TK O'Shea's in Rockland, with **Bridget O'Reagan**, project manager for Protocal Marketing, and **Stephen North**, program manager for **Harte-Hanks**.

On Wednesday, December 10, **Ralph Lauren Newbury Street** and *The New Yorker Magazine* hosted a private screening of *Cold Mountain* to benefit the Boston Public Library.



Kathy Connor, general manager, Ralph Lauren Newbury Street; **Kathy Baker**, actress; and **P.A. d'Arbeloff**, executive director of the Boston Public Library Foundation.

PHOTOS: FELT, VIRGINIA DEPETRIS; THE PLACE, KAREN DANA; RALPH LAUREN, PHOTOGRAPH © 2003 ALLAN E. DINES

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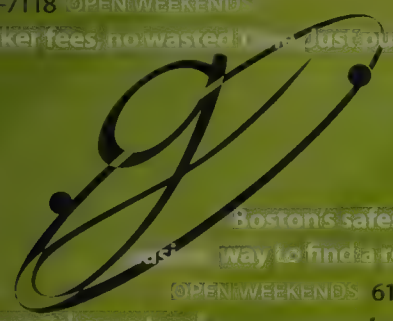
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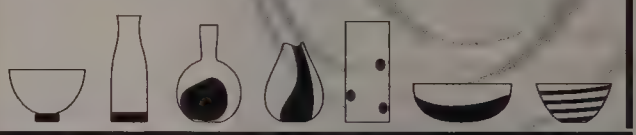
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Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444, Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., South Boston,617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant *Boston Park Plaza Hotel ,34 Columbus Ave, Boston 617 482-3999; Faneuil Hall Marketplace, North Market Bldg. 617-720-5522.* Recognized nationwide for its fresh seafood and lively atmosphere, McCormick & Schmick's offers over 40 varieties of fresh seafood, and a unique menu that changes daily. The bar is also a popular destination where all cocktails are made fresh and handshaken. $1.95 Bar menu served Monday through Friday 3:30-6:30 p.m. and late night every night from 10 p.m - midnight.

M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11 am - 2am 7 days a week.

Ned Devine's *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere inthe heart of downtown Boston. Open 11 am - 2am 7 days a week.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998,1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 am. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches.

Science Street Café *Science Park, Boston, 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out Boston's newest nightspot - The Science Street Café at the Museum of Science. Try our out-of-this world signature martinis, gourmet appetizers and decadent desserts - all while listening to live music. Perfect before or after an Omni film. Open 6-10pm. Parking available.

Sidney's Grille *20 Sidney St, Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why Bon Appétit magazine says, "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breakfast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus visit www.sidneysgrille.com

Solas *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11 am - 2 am 7 days a week.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

BARS/CLUBS

Beer Specialty

Boston Beer Works *112 Canal St., near the Fleet Center, 617-896-BEER, 61 Brookline Ave., across from Fenway Park, 617-536-BEER and 278 Derby St., in Historic Salem, 978-745-BEER.* Boston's oldest and largest restaurant brewery with 3 locations! Bold American Food. Award Winning Beer. 15 microbrewed beers always on tap. 16 American wines by the glass. 15 championship billiards tables at our Canal Street location. Complete party planning capabilities. Private Rooms. Customizeable menus. Lunch. Dinner. Late Night. Always a good time. Check out the BIGGER and BOLDER menu.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exotic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

Big City - pool hall, pizza kitchen, Beer Bar *138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8pm, free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Felt *533 Washington St., Boston, 617-350-5555.* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering sophisticated billiards, New York style lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or for a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere combined with the delicious creative entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Eclectic cuisine by Chef Casey Lloyd.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing with DJ Littles and Johnny C til 2 am. House bands include Sugarfoot Horns, Black Sole and Zeke Martin.

Clubs

Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston, 617-482-7799.* Located in Boston's trendy Theater District, Pravda 116 is a chic restaurant, bar and club. The menu focuses on contemporary American cuisine with specialties like roasted pork medallions. DJs in the bar and dance club keep the energy level high. Restaurant open Tuesday-Saturday, 5:30-10pm, bar, 5pm-2am and dance club Wednesday-Saturday 10pm-2am. AE, CB, DC, MC, V.

Roxy *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 617-338-7699.* We've got it ALL right here! The hottest dance venue in the City! Thursdays: THE LATIN QUARTER, salsa, merengue and contemporary latin dance. Doors at 10:30, proper dress & I/D. Fridays: MONDO BAR, international and house spun by DJ Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. Doors at 10pm, proper dress & ID. Saturday: ROXY SATURDAY NITES, high energy house, dance mixes, spun by DJ Adlison. Door at 9pm, 21+, No jeans, sneakers, hats or athletic wear.

Comedy

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www.theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. Mingle. Let your hair down; see and be seen on the big screen. Simply the hippest way to spend a night of all-out fun in Boston's Financial District. Come after work. Come to dance. Come to go wild with your friends. There's always something exciting happening – and you never know who you'll bump into. Join us and experience what the buzz is all about.

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 617-227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston,617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal, a martini and a fine cigar. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing with DJ Littles and Johnny C til 2 am. House bands include Sugarfoot Horns, Black Sole and Zeke Martin.

Irish

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 617-742-*



2286. Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston,617-742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 617-523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11am - 1am 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

The Green Dragon *11Marshall St., Boston, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 617-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

General

The Alley *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. www.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

Aqua *120 Water St., Boston, 617-720-4900.* Boston's newest place to be seen is now open in the heart of the Financial District. Whether relaxing with a martini in one of our cozy booths, sipping a margarita on our roof deck or watching your hometown favorites on our high definition plasma TV. Aqua has what you're looking for after work and late night with our resident and guest DJs spinning your favorite mixes through our state of the art sound system all night long.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Boston Rocks *245 Quincy Market Place Boston,617-726-1110 www.boston-rocks.net. 21+.* Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St.,617- 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2002. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Cheers *Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-227-0150, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Offering pub fare until 11:45pm. Live entertainment every Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Cheers *Beacon Hill 84 Beacon St., Boston, 617-227-9605, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Full menu available until 11:45pm. Watch your favorite team on DirecTV.

Downtown Lounge *138 Portland St., Boston 617-523-8383.* Tempting tapas, modern martinis and contemporary cocktails are just a few of the elements awaiting your arrival. A distinctive destination in the heart of North Station, located just one block from the Fleet Center. Share crab taquitos, shaved portobello mushrooms or grilled white pizza. Revive with a specialty martini while sinking into soft curvy seating. Spacious and sublime, Dowtown Lounge is an attractive meeting place for business, luncheons, social, after work cocktails and events.

Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 617-338-7699* A new twist on Boston's Cabaret Tradition! Live Music 7 nights a week 9:30pm-1am (til 2am on Saturdays). Always open mike! Party where the Stars go after the Show! Tuesday: Bobby Femino (Piano Bar), Wednesday: Brian Nash & Stacey Baker (Standards/Pop), Thursday: Mary Callahan (Contemporary Cabaret), Friday: Jan Peters (Contemporary Cabaret), Saturday: Clara Lofaro (Standards/Pop), Sunday: Dorothy Miller & Michael Larson (Contemporary Cabaret).

The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010.* Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St.,Boston 617-722-0161.* The newest edition to Boston's night scene. This New Orleans style bar is just steps away from the Fleet Center. Hurricane O'Reilly's serves up the best that Boston nightlife has to offer. Come dance the night away with the hottest music around. We will leave you yearning for Bourbon Street.

Jillian's Boston *145 Ipswich St., Boston, 617-437-0300.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring more than 200 high tech games, six full bars, 50 pool tables, racing simulators, Black Jack for Fun and much more. Atlas Bar and Grill on Jillian's first floor offers full service dining featuring innovative American cuisine, a giant screen video wall and dancing every Friday & Saturday night. www.jilliansboston.com.

Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Lounge. Cocktails. Dancing. Nightlife. Come see the lights of Parris. Sample the eclectic lounge menu featuring grilled pizza, oyster shooters ans steak tartar. Sip a Classic, Apple or French 75 martini, and then motion onto the huge dance floor featuring Live Music with the best bands and DJs Thursday through Saturday. Named for the original architect of the Greek-revival-style building, Alexander Parris, you're nightlife experience at Parris will be Boston and beyond. Open 5pm - 2am Wednesay - Saturday. Cover charge on Friday and Saturday.

Roxy *279 Tremont St.,(in the Tremont Hotel), Boston , 617-338-7699.* We've got it ALL right here! The hottest dance venue in the City! Thursdays: THE LATIN QUARTER, salsa, merengue and contemporary latin dance. Doors at 10:30, proper dress & I/D. Fridays: MONDO BAR, international and house spun by DJ Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. Doors at 10pm, proper dress & ID. Saturday: ROXY SATURDAY NITES, high energy house, dance mixes, spun by DJ Adlison. Door at 9pm, 21+, No jeans, sneakers, hats or athletic wear.

Jazz

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston,617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal and martini. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live jazz afterwork and bands 7 nights a week, dancing with DJ Littles and Johnny C til 2 am. House bands include Sugarfoot Horns, Black Sole and Zeke Martin.

Regattabar *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Tuesday-Saturday nights and occasional Sunday afternoons. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square. Shows at 8:30pm Tues-Thurs, 7:30pm & 10:00pm Fri. & Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617.876.7777 for tickets and information, 800.881.1818 for hotel reservations and information.

Latin

Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston 617-351-7001.* A multistory Latin-themed restaurant and club, Sophia's treats guests to a tantalizing Tapas-style menu, live Salsa bands and hi-energy Latin dance. From a romantic dinner and salsa lessons to hi-energy dance and mingling on the roof deck over sangria and Salsa, an evening at Sophia's is always Hot! Hot! Hot

Sports Bar - Upscale

Captain Fishbones **SEAFOOD, STEAKS AND MORE* 353 Cambridge St, Allston 617-783-2300 (formerly the Sports Depot).* Captain Fishbones boasts a reasonably priced menu of fresh seafood, succulent steaks, awesome burgers and a healthy variety of salads and pizza. Jois us Super Bowl Sunday at a great bar surrounded with five 42" plasma screen TVs. Join us for a free appetizer special Monday thru Friday from 4-6pm. Full menu from 11:30 A.M. to 12:30 A.M.. Plenty of free parking. You can visit the Captain in Quincy at 332 Victory Rd.,617-471-3511 www.captainfishbones.com

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www.theplaceboston.com.* Voted Boston's Best Sports Bar 3 years in a row by The Improper Bostonian! Mingle with your favorite sports celebrities: Brady, Thornton, Walker, Garciaparra. You never know who you'll run into. Enjoy the wildest party atmosphere in the heart of the Financial District. It's never the same experience twice – we've got exclusive sports video productions and game coverage on our state-of the-art flat screen TVs. So join us to see what the buzz is all about and find out why people in-the-know feel right at home.

BRUNCH

Captain Fishbones **SEAFOOD, STEAKS AND MORE* 353 Cambridge St, Allston 617-783-2300 (formerly the Sports Depot).* Captain Fishbones is proud to present an award winning buffet brunch. For only $9.99 come and join the Captain for an all you can eat brunch. Full menu from 11:30 A.M. to 12:30 A.M. Plenty of free parking. You can visit the Captain in Quincy for breakfast Saturday and Sunday 8 A.M. to 12 P.M. at 332 Victory Rd, 617-471-3511 www.captainfishbones.com

Dick's Last Resort *Prudential Center, 55 Huntington Ave., Boston, 617-267-8080, www.dickslast-resort.com.* On Sunday, Dick's has live gospel music for brunch from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The buffet includes salads, hot entrees, carved beef and ham stations, an omelet station, waffles and desserts. Adults $15.99 and children $6.99. Live music - no cover, no dress code and definitely no class. Open daily, Dick's Last Resort is billed as "The shame of Boston."

Harvard Gardens *315 Cambridge St., Beacon Hill, Boston, 617-523-2727. www.harvardgardens.com.* Cozy up to the beautiful mahogany bar or slip into a comfy booth and enjoy Harvard Gardens' menu of cool cocktails and comfort food. Brunch serves up eggs and pastrami hash, thick-cut French toast with caramelized bananas, specialty pizzas and Boston's best Bloody Mary. Harvard Gardens serves brunch Saturday and Sunday, 11:30am - 3:00pm.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended 617-661-5005.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**, *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF













Clockwise from top: Liz, Kenneth and Marianne Novack; Doris Yaffe, Charles Stith and Deborah Prothrow-Stith; Lynn Dale and Elaine Mangum; Collette Royer; Gloria and Larry Lieberman; Barbara and Jorge Quiroga, Mayor Tom Menino and his wife, Angela

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS...

For many of the city's power elite, the **Bristol Lounge** at the **Four Seasons** is the default setting when it comes time to pick a place to have drinks, meet for a night on the town or grab a low-key but civilized bite to eat. It's not surprising, then, that 800 of them turned out for a party to mark the Bristol's temporary closing, and the questions on everyone's mind seemed to be what the renovations would look like and what the hell were they supposed to do until March, when it's scheduled to reopen?

Shoulder-to-shoulder in a bar that usually has plenty of breathing room were such prominent types as Hizzonah **Tom Menino** and his wife, the lovely **Angela**; the hotel's affable GM, **Tom Gurtner**, and his wife, **Nui**; bluesman and rock legend **Peter Wolf**; kabuki socialite **Marilyn Riseman**; philanthropic party pair **Joel** and **Randi Cutler**; marketing maven **Irma Mann**; newspaper publisher **Jeff Coakley**; deal-maker **Kenneth Novack** with his wife, **Marianne**, and daughter, **Liz**; notorious South End reprobate **Bolton "Bo" Harris**; theatrical producer **Temple Gill** and her arts-patron husband, **Christopher Yens**; former ambassador to Tanzania **Charles Stith** and his wife, **Dr. Deborah Prothrow-Stith** (who are off to Johannesburg at the end of the month to celebrate her birthday); newly engaged man-about-town **Jim Tye** (who was off to Brazil for some R&R); and one man who returned from tipping the men's room attendant and declared, "I now have the cleanest hands in the world, and it only cost me two dollars."

The overflow crowd descended on the wait staff coming from the kitchen like a swarm of well-dressed locusts, while servers with trays of drinks tried valiantly to ease the crush at the bars. Nevertheless, pretty much everyone seemed to enjoy themselves, as evidenced by the fact that the party went on well into the evening, and a few stragglers stayed until it was almost time for the workmen to arrive.













Clockwise from top left: Maura Connolly (left) and Beth Dickerson; Alex and Lisa Pierpont; Rick Garofalo; Kathy McLaughlin; (from left) Rob White, Taher Bouzayen and Santo Russo; Denise Hajjar (left) and Susan Libnot

L OF AN EVENING...

Meanwhile, the first truly groovy party of 2004 was the VIP opening of **L**, the new café on the ground floor of **Louis**. The party spilled out of the restaurant and into the store, which has expanded from carrying only cutting-edge clothing to include high-end housewares. A DJ spun ambient lounge music from a CD bar in the middle of the room, while an eclectic assortment of recognizable faces sipped sparkling wine and socialized amid shelves laden with lavish coffee table books, gourmet munchies and expensive crockery.

Present and accounted for: fashionista **Denise Hajjar**; Kennedy School of Government honcha **Kathy McLaughlin**; Tunisian rapscallion **Taher Bouzayen**; investment scamp **Rob White**; ubiquitous hipster **Santo Russo**; TV producer **Lisa Pierpont** and her husband, **Alex**; newlyweds **Josh Ribner** and **Amy Masters**; suspiciously tanned design avatar **Rick Garofalo** of Repertoire; Back Bay bright young things **Rachael** and **Andy Goldfarb**; celebrity chef **Paul O'Connell** of Chez Henri; the extremely pregnant **Wendy Pierce**; sybaritic fun couple **Jake** and **Cynthia Katz**; and one woman who said, "Can you believe I'm in Louis with a plastic barrette in my hair? At least it's not a scrunchy."

In addition to tasty morsels from the hip new eatery's menu, there was a dessert buffet with hypodermic syringes for guests to inject their choice of filling into miniature doughnuts. One of the only negative comments overheard all evening was when someone complained, "This is a deceptively small glass," to which a friend replied, "Well you're a deceptively big drinker." IB

IN MEMORIAM...



During the holidays, Boston lost a precious gem, Barbara Dorfman, who died unexpectedly a few days before Christmas. With her husband, Sumner, she operated the jewelry store on Newbury Street that bears their name. For decades, she dealt in the rarest of the rare—from diamonds as big as the Ritz-Carlton (across the street), to South Sea pearls the size of goose eggs and wristwatches so exquisitely engineered and crafted that they actually warranted a six-digit price tag.

Despite a rarefied clientele ranging from royalty to rock stars, but consisting almost entirely of the very rich, Dorfman remained approachable and down-to-earth, with a casual, easygoing charm leavened by a healthy sense of humor. "You know diamonds shrink," she once told me with a straight face. "People buy what they think is a huge ring, and before you know it, they're back, looking for something bigger."

On a first name basis with seemingly everyone in the Back Bay, Dorfman was as friendly with the waiters at her favorite restaurants as she was with the high rollers who were her customers. On social occasions and at cultural events, she was exquisitely turned out, usually in quietly chic, Upper East Side head-to-toe black and often sporting some eye-popping bauble she borrowed from the store. A devoted wife and mother, dutiful sister, and doting friend—in a cubic zirconia world, she was a D-flawless diamond.

Avez-vous dish?

Dirt? A spectacular social occasion?

Call J.S. at 617-859-1400, ext. 303, or e-mail *jonathan@improper.com.*

MONT BLANC



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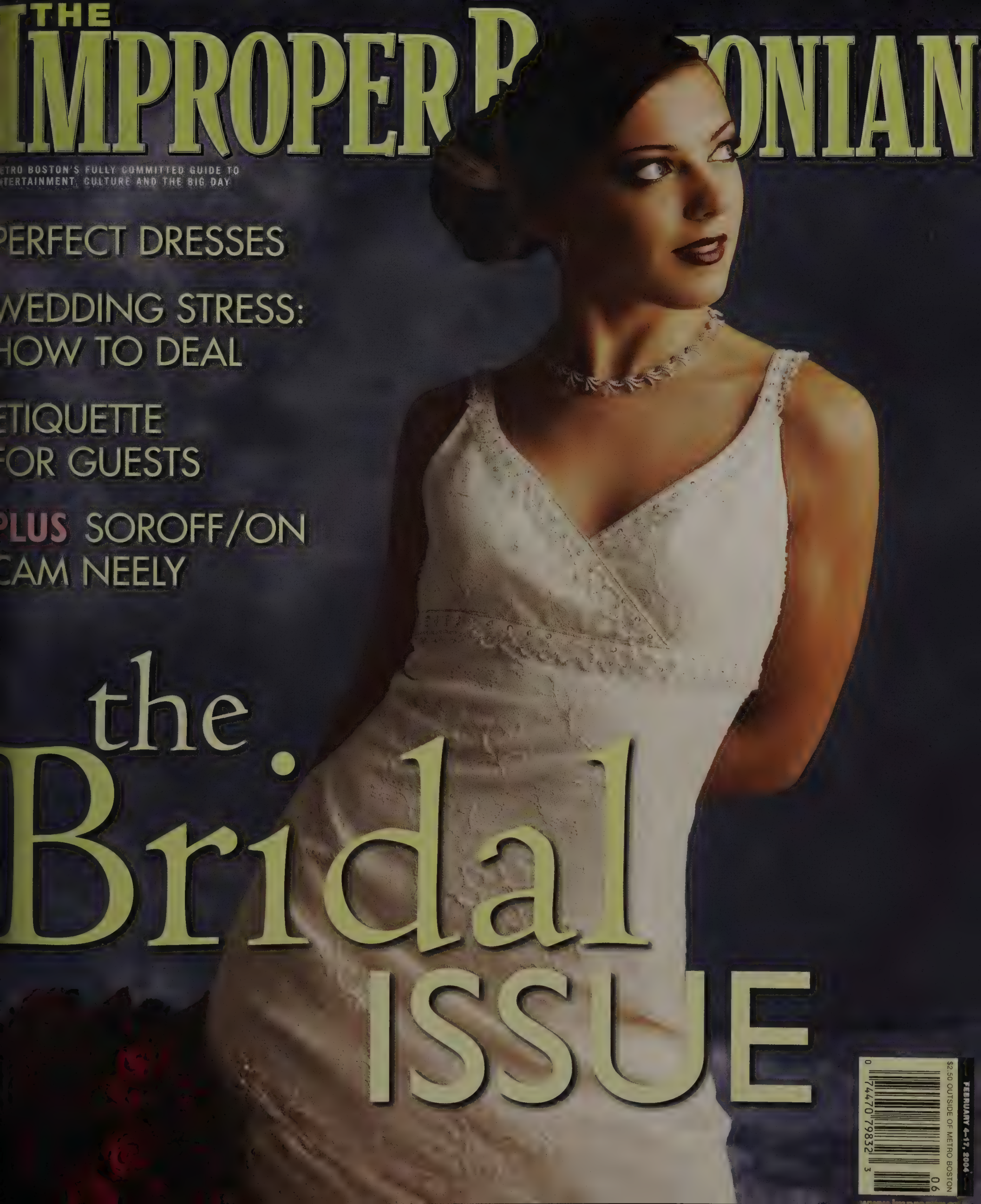
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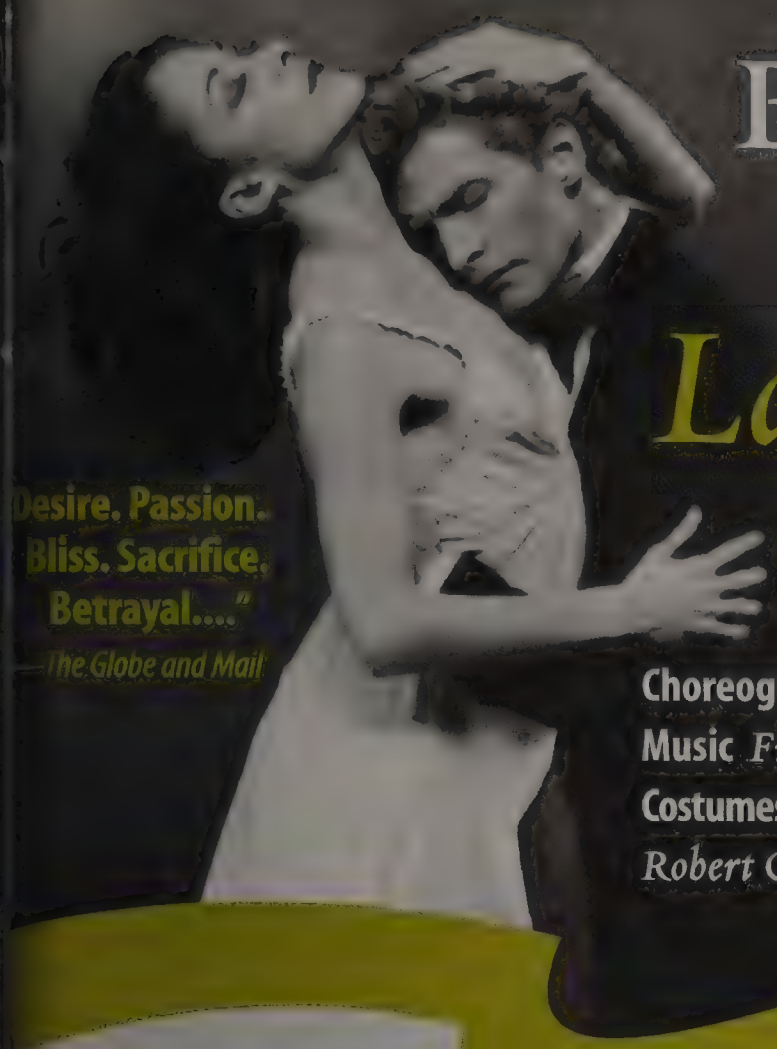
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BY MARGIT FEURY RAGLAND

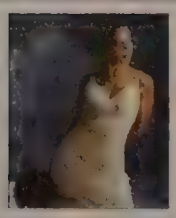
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Photographed for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by
Bob Perachio

Model: **Ekatrina for Maggie Inc.;** photographer's assistants: **Brian Silverstein and Alix Winsby;** bridal gown: **The Altered Bride;** hair: **Suzi Mello and Kelli Cangiano for Beaucage;** makeup: **Jenny Brown;** jewelry: **Alpha Omega**

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR



TYING THE KNOT

With six pages of bridal fashion, and feature stories devoted to topics like coping with wedding-planning nightmares, our annual bridal issue is a marriage of the pretty and the practical.

Along with pre-wedding tips for brides on managing their slacking groom and keeping the peace with their future mother-in-law, this issue has suggestions for bridesmaids and groomsmen gifts as well as a guide to nearby inns with honeymoon potential. (Many couples are opting for short, local "mini-moons" immediately after the wedding and a bigger trip later on.)

Focusing on the quest for the perfect dress, recently married Julie Suratt turns in a firsthand account of the mayhem and deep bargains that rule at the semi-annual Filene's Basement Bridal Gown Sale (the next one's Feb. 20).

Even if you aren't one of those getting down on one knee this Valentine's Day or flashing a brand new rock, there's a must-read in these pages for you: etiquette tips for wedding guests. After all, everyone attends a wedding sooner or later, and wouldn't brides everywhere be happier if we all got a clue about the guest gaffes that drive them crazy? "Don't wear white" is just the beginning.

Unmarrieds may also want to know that the party celebrating the *Improper*'s recently published bachelor/bachelorette issue has been set for Feb. 18, from 7 to 10 pm, at Caprice (275 Tremont St.). Come meet other singles and hear one of this year's bachelors, Adam Ezra, perform with his band.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

IT'S RAINING MEN... OR AT LEAST DRIZZLING

I just picked up the latest issue (Bachelors and Bachelorettes, Jan. 21), and your cover speaks loudly. I think it's a very accurate depiction of the Boston singles scene: three single men for every five single women!

—SHARON YATES
Charlestown

Would it be possible to order a laminated copy of the IMPROPER's photograph of bachelor Mike? I want to obsess over it for a few hours each day before stalking him.

Oh, wait. Peter is the gay bachelor. Damn.

—BRIAN ETHAN
Boston

CHALK IT UP TO POISON

It's comforting to know that someone in this city shares my frustration with minivans, Hallmark stores and many other things (Ezra, Jan. 7). As far as Ezra's ant problem goes, I suggest taking a trip to Chinatown and purchasing some "Miraculous Insecticide Chalk" (I'm not sure it's legal, but I'm pretty sure they still sell it). When I lived in Los Angeles I experienced a terrible ant invasion, and the chalk fixed the problem immediately. The chalk costs only a dollar or two, so if for some reason Ezra's ants are more resilient than the West Coast breed, he won't be out of pocket for too much.

—ALYCIA MACK
Charlestown



THE BACHELORS AND BACHELORETTES COVER IS AN ACCURATE DEPICTION OF THE BOSTON SINGLES SCENE: THREE SINGLE MEN FOR EVERY FIVE SINGLE WOMEN!

—SHARON YATES,
CHARLESTOWN

BACHELORS & BACHELORETTES COVER PHOTO: ERIC ANTONIOU

CONTRIBUTORS

MARGIT FEURY RAGLAND



A former staff editor at *Family Circle*, *Woman's Day*, *Walking* and *Cornell* magazines, Margit Feury Ragland is now a freelance writer and editor based in Boston. Her work has appeared in a variety of national magazines including *Self*, *Fitness*, *Health*, *Glamour*, *Marie Claire*, *Redbook* and *Ladies' Home Journal*.

She says that writing the piece "How to Deal: A Guide for Brides" for the IMPROPER made her feel better about some of the things that didn't go perfectly at her own wedding last August—such as her aunts' misguided attempt to spruce up her simple, elegant wedding cake with gaudy fake flowers. "How to Deal" begins on page 20.

BOB PERACHIO



Bob Perachio has been professionally shooting advertising and editorial photography for the past five years. His clients include Deloitte Consulting and Motts, and his work has appeared in *Savvy* and *Greenwich* magazines. His latest work for the IMPROPER appears in this issue's fashion feature, "Blooming Beauties," on page 30. To see more of Perachio's work, visit *www.rdpphotography.com*.

Tell Us What You Think

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CHOP SHOP

It isn't often that you see the words "lard," "offal," "wieners" and "tongue" inscribed on the windows outside a bar. Nor do you generally find links of sweet Italian sausage, skinned chickens and sides of beef dangling within view of diners sipping 1999 Chateau Vieux Robin Bordeaux and nibbling on olives and honeyed figs. Maybe in Madrid—where in some bars, whole smoked hams, complete with cloven toes, swing overhead—but Boston?

Judging by the crowds of men and women pouring in and out of the Butcher Shop every night, however, Boston is ready for the new venture from No. 9 Park wunderkind Barbara Lynch.

Lynch has found a winning formula—part full-service butchery, part charcuterie and wine bar. What's particularly impressive is that the Butcher Shop opened in the South End just seven weeks after B&G Oysters Ltd., the other half of Lynch's project with business partner Garrett Harker (the "G" of B & G), and just three months before Lynch is due to give birth to her first child.





Chef/owner/expectant mom Barbara Lynch



If it's hard to imagine how a place that carves up sides of beef during the day could attract the nighttime fine-dining crowd, rest assured that the place looks and feels more like a bistro than a butcher shop (although a glass refrigerator case in the back displays ground pork, skirt steak and duck rillettes). There's a long, black soapstone bar and floor-to-ceiling windows, and tables are set with elegant wine glasses and china. A huge wooden butcher-block table—swathed in freshly torn butcher paper—becomes a convenient leaning post for minglers in the evening (yes, it's frequently standing room only). But that doesn't mean you can't order the salumi plate or foie gras terrine with figs and brioche toast as you survey the crowd. It's the hippest you'll feel in a long time. *552 Tremont St., Boston (617-423-4800). —Erin Hagedorn and Julie Suratt*

sports

Though this issue of the IMPROPER hits newsboxes just after the Super Bowl, we have to go to press before we know the big game's outcome. We've therefore taken the liberty of preparing two Super Bowl write-ups, one win, one lose. Please read whichever one is appropriate:

DOWN PAT



Back to City Hall Plaza?

The Patriots showed they've got the Super Bowl routine figured out when they nailed down their second NFL championship with a 20–7 victory over the Carolina Panthers. True to their strategy all season, the Pats shut down Panthers running back Stephen Davis (51 yards on 20 carries) and managed enough offense to get the job done, scoring on a Brady touchdown pass to Troy Brown, a Eugene Wilson interception (returned for the TD) and two field goals (53 and 49 yards) from Adam Vinatieri. After the game, Patriots players and coaches celebrated, albeit cautiously. "Just because we haven't lost a game in four months and are legitimately one of the great teams in the history of the NFL doesn't mean we're going to get all crazy," said quarterback Tom Brady. "In fact, coach has practice scheduled tomorrow. The preseason is right around the corner. We can't rest on our laurels." When asked for his reaction to the win, coach Bill Belichick replied, "I will not be satisfied until I can travel back in time and vanquish my nemeses, the 1972 Dolphins." Meanwhile, a drunken mob tore down the remaining sections of the Central Artery, which city officials had shrewdly labeled "Goalposts."

PATS DOWNED

The Patriots' miraculous streak came to an end Sunday when the Panthers pulled off a stunning upset to claim their first NFL championship. It figures. We should've known this couldn't last. What were we thinking? We knew we shouldn't have washed our lucky Pat the Patriot jersey, but we did it anyway. Around the city, dejected fans reprised the scene after the seventh game of last year's ALCS by staggering around and silently mouthing the word "Why?" At least Carolina's six touchdowns meant that savvy bettors covered the 38-point over/under, despite the Patriots' solitary field goal. After the game, an angry Bill Belichick tore off his signature fleece headband and declared, "I knew I should've instituted an eight o'clock curfew. Everyone to bed. NOW!" *—Ezra Dyer*

inner view

LOVE OVER LUNCH



Valentine's Day is the double-edged sword of holidays, warming the hearts of happy couples and leaving the rest of us lonely and cynical. Before you make "Down with love" your personal mantra and hole up with a fifth of vodka or a gallon of Ben & Jerry's, consider more proactive alternatives. LunchDates founder Steve Penner has been solving dating dilemmas for single Bostonians for more than two decades with his lunch-hour match-making service. Here, he chats about singledom in Boston and the best ways to escape the lonely hearts club.

IB: *Would you say there are more single men or single women in Boston?*

SP: Women think there aren't enough single men, and men think there aren't enough single women. There tend to be more single men than women in their 20s. In the 30s, it's about even, and in the 40s, there are more women than men. Overall, there are a lot more singles out there than 30 years ago. An old maid used to be someone who was 25 and never married. Now a lot of women wouldn't consider getting married at 25.

IB: *What's the biggest complaint you get from women about meeting men in Boston?*

SP: Either that men don't go out enough, or that the men are too short.

IB: *From men?*

SP: That women are too heavy.

IB: *Who are the hardest people to match?*

SP: Heavy smokers, men who are short and women who are overweight.

IB: *Do you think opposites attract?*

SP: No. I think people look for people who are similar to themselves—[especially] those in their 20s. They aren't like the older generations—they're more [self-sufficient]. Twenty years ago, a lot of women looked for men to take care of them and be their breadwinner. Nowadays women are breadwinners and are looking for men like themselves.

IB: *Are there certain foods you shouldn't order on a LunchDate?*

SP: I think men are a little tired of women always ordering salads, but, then again, men want women who are slender. Actually, the only complaint we get in that area is that the other person drank too much.

IB: *How about some suggestions for things singles can do on Valentine's Day?*

SP: Go where the opposite sex is. Bookstores are good places to meet women because women tend to read more than men. And for both sexes, especially in this election year, volunteering at political campaigns is a great place to meet people. [In general] Boston is a difficult place to meet someone. A lot of my clients say, "Back in Dallas or Chicago, I had no problem meeting people." Here, you've got to go to singles things or do personal ads.

—Jessica Iredale



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BEER GOGGLING...HAIL REGINA



Foggy What?... Relive your spring break glory days year-round at the Foggy Goggle. The Boylston Street bar plans to open Feb. 5 in Dad's old digs, and the new owners have left no trace of the former diner. A Bourbon Street–style deck and a Hawaiian hula hut provide a change in atmosphere from Dad's leather banquettes and chrome fixtures, and tropical libations like Swamp Water and Foggy Punch are the specialty. House rules include "If you don't know how to have fun, stay home," and they sound pretty serious about it. *911 Boylston St. Boston (617-267-8038).*

Alotta Regina... It's more than a little frustrating for those of us who are Pizzeria Regina addicts to find a line out the door every time we head to the North End—even in sub-zero temperatures. But there will soon be two more locations to choose from, as the beloved dough-slingers recently announced plans to open two new pizzerias this spring—one in the Prudential Center and the other at South Station. The new restaurants will feature expanded menus and bring the total number of Reginas nationwide to 14.

Sweet Sensations... Prepare for a sugar rush. Bradley Brown, former executive pastry chef at La Bettola, the Garden of Eden and Sonsie, and his wife, Carrie, are set to open the Blue Frog Bakery in Jamaica Plain in early March. Handmade croissants, scones, muffins, raspberry squares, chocolate chip cookies and brownies will be on the menu along with lighter fare like soups and sandwiches. Keep your eye out for the real crème de la crème, Brown's specialty, French-inspired mousse cakes. *3 Green St., Jamaica Plain (617-522-6202).*

The Whole Family... The organic apple doesn't fall far from the tree when it comes to Steve Bernard, founder of Cape Cod Potato Chips, and daughter Nicole Dawes. Dawes recently hauled her dad out of retirement with her plan to launch her own line of organic snack foods called Late July. "It wasn't until I was pregnant with my first child that I realized how few great-tasting, organic snacks there are," says Dawes. She sold her dad on the idea, tested recipes in her own kitchen for months and finally introduced her first line of crackers last fall. USDA-certified organic saltine, butter and cheddar crackers—all free of trans fats and hydrogenated oils—are available at Shaw's and Stop & Shop.

—Jessica Iredale, E.H. and J.S.

sam says

GOO FOR YOU

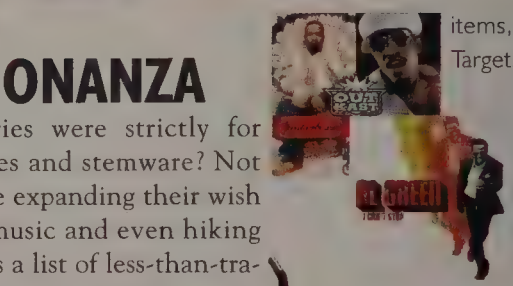
Realizing that he liked only one or two products from each brand he carried in his salon, style maven Charles Maksou has stepped it up a notch by creating his own hair product line. Maksou's simple, easy-to-use line encompasses all the great qualities of the top products he loves. He worked with several labs to develop the line, called, simply, Maksou, which includes 11 items. Relax: a conditioning relaxing balm. Play: a texturizing paste. Build: a matte-finish thickening cream. Smooth: a straightener and cuticle sealer. Behave: a versatile firm-holding gel. Shine: a silky formula for shiny hair. Enhance: a lightweight mousse enriched with botanicals for volume and waves. Polish: a laminating and defining glossifier. Reflect: a brilliant spray shine. Wave: a salt-infused solution for volume and waves, and Flex: a flexible-hold hairspray. Maksou Salon and Day Spa, 125 Broad St., Boston (617-443-8622). $7–$28.

Samantha House

improper reports

REGISTRY BONANZA

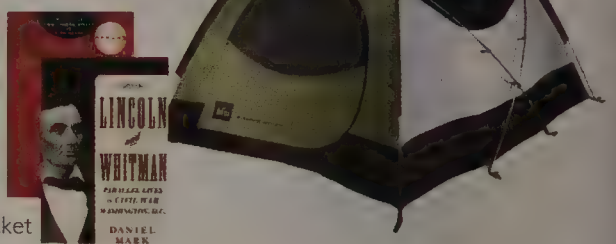
Thought bridal registries were strictly for china, espresso machines and stemware? Not anymore. Newlyweds are expanding their wish lists to include travel, music and even hiking and camping gear. Here's a list of less-than-traditional registries.





* Register for your dream honeymoon, from the hotel to airfare to dinner at a five-star restaurant, and have your friends pay for it at TheBigDay.com. *(800-304-1141).*
* Do some virtual page-flipping through hundreds of catalogs, including Bombay Company, Linensource and the Sharper Image, at CatalogCity.com. *(831-649-2489).*
* Create a his-and-hers reading wish list with Wordsworth's online or in-store registry. *30 Brattle Street, Cambridge (800-899-2202).* www.wordsworth.com.
* For a multitude of practical and economical housewares, rather than a few fancy, big-ticket items, register at Walmart.com or Target.com.
* Whether you prefer classic music or punk rock, achieve melodic matrimony with Tower Records' online registry. *95 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (617-876-3377).* www.towerrecords.com.
* First home a fixer-upper? Home Depot's in-store registry has an endless supply of tools and supplies. *(800-553-3199).*
* Register for adventure and travel gear at REI's in-store registry (or online at WeddingChannel.com). *401 Park Drive, Boston (800-426-4840).*

—Patrice Taddonio



IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Nice Tie... Dashing preppies now have a new clothing option that ought to perfectly complement a pair of Nantucket reds and a natty blazer: a tie emblazoned with a map of Beacon Hill. The silk ties, made in Italy and sold to benefit the Beacon Hill Civic Association, cost $55 (or $45 for BHCA members). Besides being stylish, the ties ought to help Beacon Hill residents find their way home after a night at the Hill. *Call 617-227-1922 to tie one on.*

A Mammoth Experience... The Brattle Theatre and the Enormous Room are teaming up for a new series of movies and DJs at the Central Square hotspot. M.O.S. (from the old Hollywood slang for shooting without sound, or, in faux German, "mit out sound") takes place the last Saturday of each month. The Enormous Room's favorite DJs spin tunes to accompany the Brattle's choice of films—which are screened silently (subtitled when available). The series launched Jan. 25 with a Classic Kung Fu–themed night and DJs Nick Follett and P.J. Gray. *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-5550). 9 pm. No cover.*

Valentine's for Nerds... Love and technology merge in two unusual Valentine's Day packages offered by the Hotel @ MIT. Hardware-loving couples who buy into the hotel's "iMac-nificent" package get his-and-her iMacs, a one-night stay in the Presidential suite, Champagne and dinner for two at Sidney's Grille—for $3,295. The Personal Tech package gets you two Palm Pilots, a night in a suite, dinner for two at the Grille and transportation to a Blue Man Group performance (plus two tickets). This one's $995 a couple. What else would you expect from a hotel a stone's throw from MIT? Available through Feb. 28. www.hotelatmit.com.

The Concorde of Coaches... Sure Fung Wah's got game when it comes to convenient, cheap transportation to the Big Apple. But luxurious? Not exactly. If price is no object and high-speed Internet and Ethernet access and reclining leather chairs a necessity, look to LimoLiner. The luxury motor coach service, which launched a few months ago, takes passengers from the Hilton Back Bay to the Hilton Midtown Manhattan in four hours. Five music stations, DVD screening, an en route attendant and complimentary snacks, beverages and magazines are just some of the other amenities. Each bus—excuse us, *carriage*—also has a mini conference room for corporate meetings. The LimoLiner departs three times daily Monday through Friday, and once on Sundays, for $69 one way. Call it the un–Fung Wah. (888-546-5469). www.limoliner.com.



Incoming Choppers... In a town where grinning at a stranger is as suspicious as a handshake in a dark alley, it takes a lot of guts to publicly promote a campaign that encourages random smiling. Hokey as it sounds to our Back Bay ears, Bren Bataclan launched the Smile Boston Project (not to be confused with SmileBoston cosmetic dentistry) last fall, after noticing an inherent lack of smiling in Boston. The Cambridge-based artist began leaving large smiley-face paintings all over Boston with notes that read, "This painting is yours if you promise to smile at random people more often." Bataclan, who plans to take his project to other cities, says he has received tremendous feedback from the project via his Web site. Check out his art at *www.bataclan.com.*

Mystery Books... Stalkers, restraining orders and other extreme cases aside, everyone loves a secret admirer. Harvard Book Store has tapped into the excitement of a mysterious crush, and through Feb. 15, will wrap your Valentine's gift (purchased at the store) and notify the lucky man or woman that someone's been thinking of them. It's your responsibility to divulge your identity and the recipient's job to pick up the gift.

—E.D., E.H., J.I. and J.S.

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PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

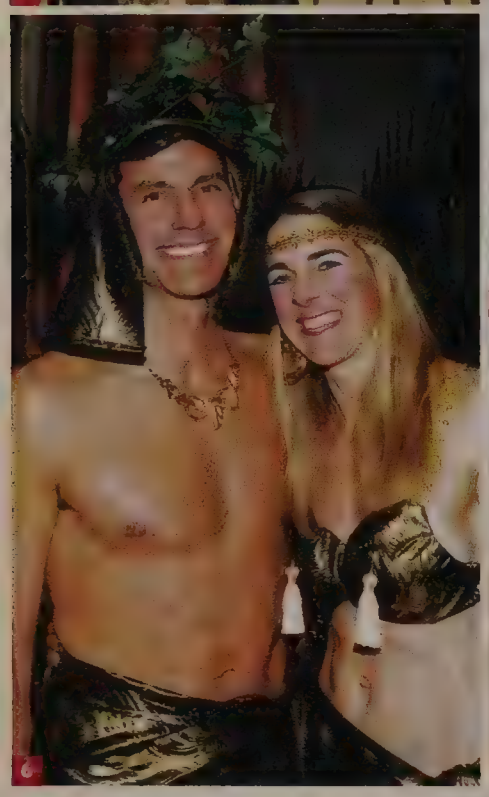






Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay celebrated **Big Night 5** at the Hynes Convention Center Jan. 24. More than 1,000 party-goers were transported back to ancient times at the "Walk Like an Egyptian"–themed gala. Highlights of the evening were a sumptuous dinner prepared by four Boston celebrity chefs and entertainment by Earth, Wind & Fire. The $1,000-per-plate event raised $1.4 million for the Big Brothers Big Sisters agency.

1. **Jim Pallotta**, managing director for Tudor Investment Corporation, and his wife, **Kim**. The Pallottas were co-chairs of the event.
2. From left: **Debbie Gravina**; **Peter Wolf**, musician; and **Paulina Neely**.
3. **Chris Poirier**, software executive for Resinate Corporation, and his wife, **Allison**.
4. **Demond Martin**, equity research associate for Adage Capital Management, and his wife, **Kia**, a doctoral student at Harvard.
5. **Paul Margolis**, venture capitalist for Longworth Venture Partners in Waltham and vice chairman of Big Brothers; his wife, **Diane** (right); and **Sean McDonough** (middle), television announcer for the Boston Red Sox and master of ceremonies.
6. **Rip Reeves**, money manager at Standish Mellon, and his wife, **Suzie**.
7. From left: **Gay Crowley**; **Dave Andonian**, chairman and CEO of Affinnova Inc. in Cambridge; and his wife, **Kris Ann**.
8. **David Ilsley**, financial advisor, and his wife, **Kathy**.











The Muscle Team 2004 dinner and auction was held Jan. 21 at the Park Plaza Hotel. More than 300 friends of the Muscular Dystrophy Association attended the benefit, which raised $140,000 to help fight the disease.

9. **Travis Roy**, motivational speaker and founder of the Travis Roy Foundation; and **Melissa Caron**, client solution manager at Profit Logic in Cambridge.
10. From left: **Kerry Collins**, manager of community relations and special events for the Boston Bruins; **Marty Lapointe**, Boston Bruins forward, and **Heather Riva**, season ticket account executive for the Boston Bruins.
11. **Lauria Brennan**, leasing director for Equity Office Properties, and **Jo Jo White**, director of special projects for the Boston Celtics.
12. From left: **Kristen Mastroianni**, former Channel 5 sportscaster and emcee of the event; **Van Gikas**, vice president of Vanderweil Engineers; and his wife, **Nicole**.





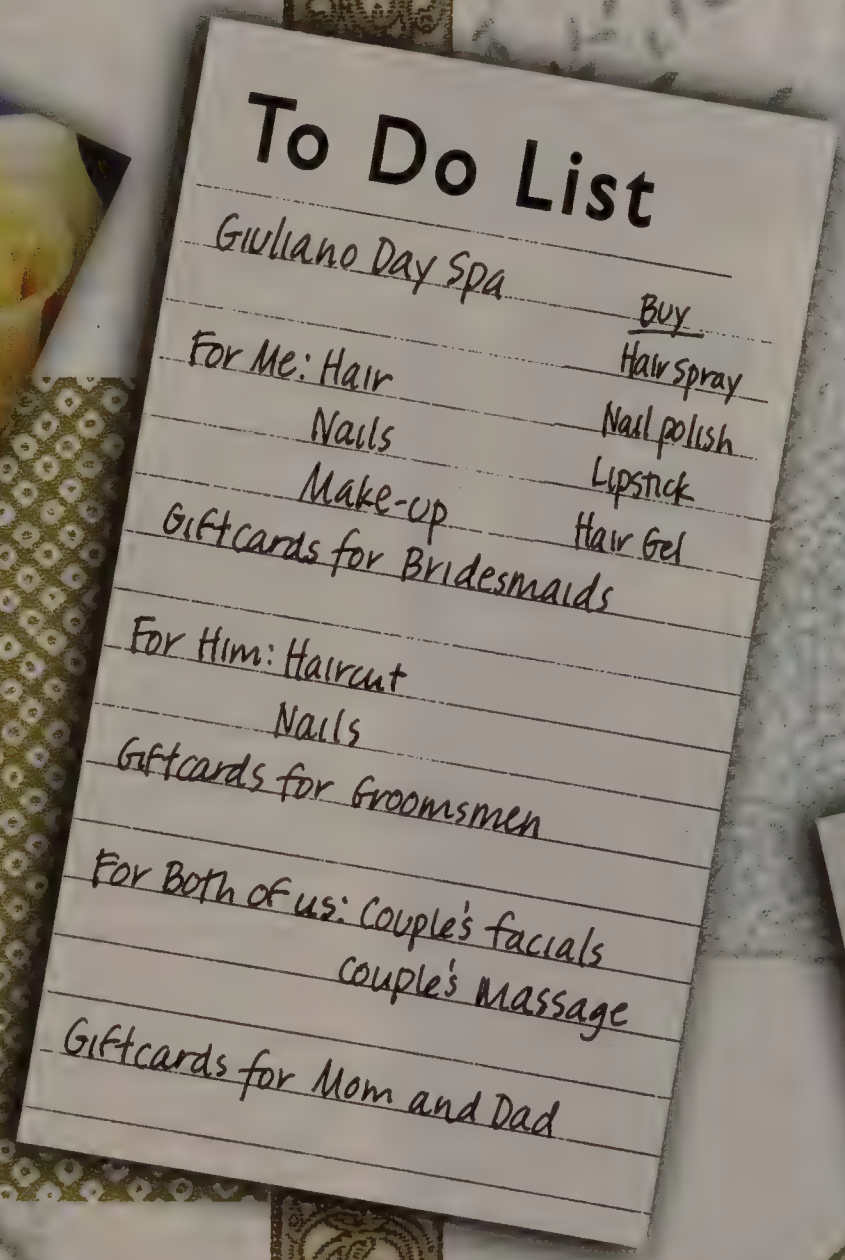


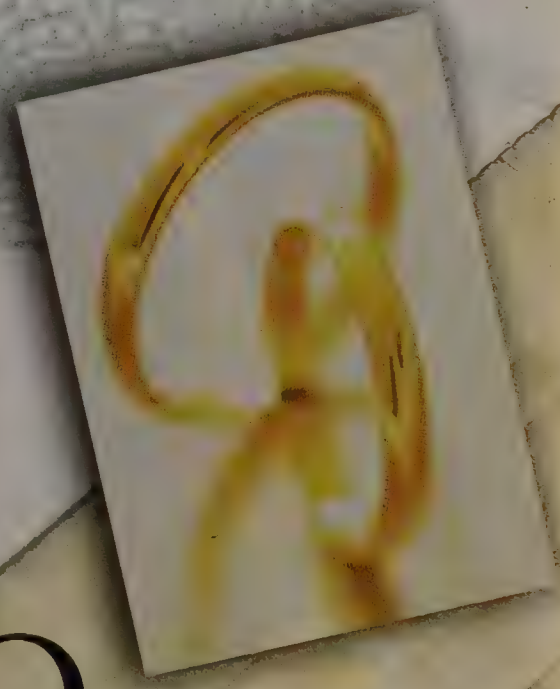


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ezra BY EZRA DYER



STATE OF MY UNION

Stick with me and 'roid-raging terrorists won't get you

I just watched the State of the Union address and I'm now extremely jealous of the president's speechwriters. They have the easiest writing job in the world: The State of the Union address doesn't actually say how anything is going to be done, just that it would be really swell if a bunch of stuff happened. It's like a letter to Santa. So, with an eye toward getting noticed by some White House honchos and landing a plum presidential speechwriting gig, here's my own State of Ez's Union address.

Mr. Speaker, members of Congress, guests who are working hard and guests who are hardly working: Here's what's up with me. Over the past year, much has happened. Some of it has been gravy, and some of it has tested our resolve, which means it was probably bad, because when did eating an ice cream cone at the beach test your resolve? Maybe if it fell in your lap and a seagull tried to peck it off or something. The main thing to remember is that none of it was my fault. Why didn't the Red Sox go to the World Series, you ask? All I've got to say is that if Grade A eggs are the largest, then Grade E would sure be little ones. Yup. Grade E little, they might call them.

But I'm not here to point fingers, I'm here to pull them. Pull them into a glorious new era. An era of economic growth in which I will upgrade my bank account to one where I can visit the teller without getting charged $2. An era of a cleaner environment, where Roommate Scott will get his boxes of stuff out of the hallway because, honestly, they've been sitting there "temporarily" since we moved in last September. An era of strengthened family values, or else I'll give you something to cry about. Finally, this will be an era of parallel construction for *all* of our sentences.

Unfortunately, there will always be forces of evil in the world, depraved outlaws who seek to undermine the happiness of every American with their nefarious policies. Specifically, I'm talking about the Harbor Garage next to the aquarium, where they charged me $56 to park overnight, even though their signs say that the maximum is $28. Well, it's $28 until 5 am, then it's another $28, apparently because of a very expensive time warp that occurs in the Harbor Garage early every morning. They refuse to change their signs to make this clear, even if you point out that it would be cheaper just to park on the nearest handicap ramp (a $50 ticket). The Harbor Garage and, to a lesser extent, North Korea, prove that there is still much work to be done before the world is safe from mankind's darkest impulses.

I will continue my popular culture education initiative, which has seen me read the first three Harry Potter books and watch *The Real World: San Diego* as often as three times a week. No longer am I confused by references to Muggles or left out of debates about Robin's possible breast augmentation ("possible": wink wink).

On the health front, we must fight that scourge of our society, steroids. Everywhere you go you see the effects of this devastating epidemic. It's such a prevalent problem that the other day I saw a guy roid-rage at the Souper Salad lettuce bin, flipping over the entire salad bar when he found a wilted piece of radicchio mixed in with the iceberg. "Third time this week that's happened," the manager told me. What price big muscles? This is no kind of example for our children. When I asked my 4-year-old cousin who his favorite football player was, he said Lyle Alzado. I asked him who his favorite wrestler was, and he said Hulk Hogan—'80s Hulk Hogan. I asked him who his favorite governor was, and you can probably guess who he named: Howard Dean! Howard Dean mad! Arrgggaghhh! Now there's a guy with a steroid problem. It's time to stop the madness, and I'm leading the way by changing my 'roiding ways. I only use them myself because having small testicles is so convenient.

OVER THE PAST YEAR, MUCH HAS HAPPENED. THE THING TO REMEMBER IS THAT NONE OF IT WAS MY FAULT

I'd like to close this speech by sharing a letter from a child that's loaded with sickening sentimentality. Unfortunately, little kids don't write to me and ask grandiose questions about how they can change the world. So I wrote a letter to myself left-handed. It reads, "Dear Ez. My name is Little Chucky, and I have a question for you. What lives in the forest, has brown fur, and can't see a damn thing?" No-eye deer, Chucky, no-eye deer. IB

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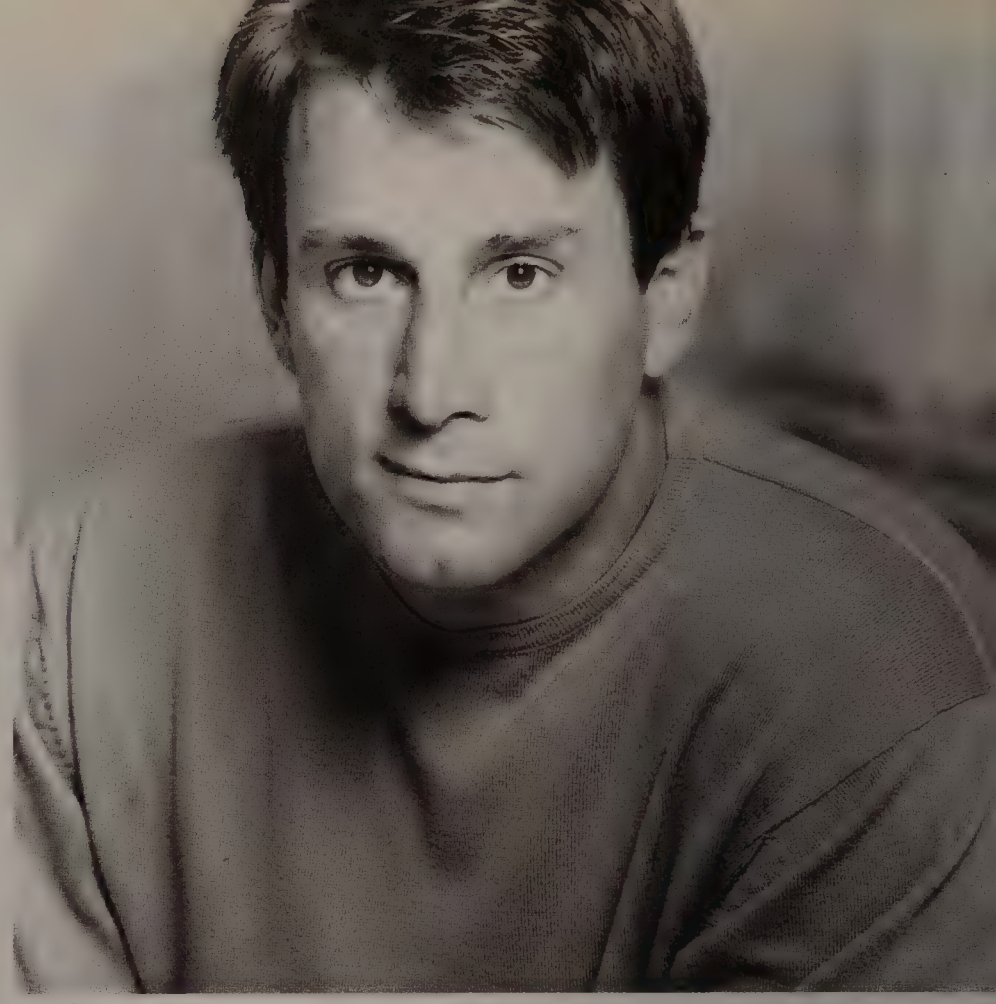
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Soroff ON

CAM NEELY

BY JONATHAN SOROFF



Hockey legend Cam Neely was born and raised in British Columbia and spent 13 years playing in the NHL, first for the Vancouver Canucks and (for 10 years) as a Boston Bruin. With 726 games played, 395 goals and 299 assists, he was one of the game's all-time greatest players, and his pugnacious, hard-driving style defined the term "power forward." Only the second player in Bruins history to record back-to-back 50-goal seasons, he had 14 career hat tricks and for many years led the Bruins in scoring. He was also named to the NHL All-Star team several times. His career ended in 1996 due to a hip injury that resulted from an aggressive check by Pittsburgh Penguins player Ulf Samuelsson. Even before being forced into retirement, however, he had created the Cam Neely Foundation, which he serves as president of. In August 1997, it opened the Neely House, a guest house for cancer patients and their families at New England Medical Center. In addition to his numerous other charitable efforts, Neely has also guest-starred on the television show *Beverly Hills, 90210* and appeared in the motion pictures *Monument Ave.*, *Dumb and Dumber*, *Mighty Ducks II* and *Me, Myself & Irene*. On Jan. 12, the Bruins retired his number 8 at a ceremony at the FleetCenter, and he was scheduled to join actors Michael J. Fox and Denis Leary on Jan. 31 in hosting his second annual gala fund-raiser to benefit a trio of charities. Neely lives in Lincoln with his wife, Paulina, and their children, Jack and Ava.

JS: *What one adjective would you use to describe hoisting your jersey to the rafters a few weeks ago?*

CN: Unbelievable.

JS: *If I'd asked you when you were 15 what you'd be doing now, what would you have said?*

CN: That I'd be a petroleum distributor, which is a fancy way of saying someone who pumps gas. That was one of my last jobs as a youngster. My Dad owned a service station and I worked there.

JS: *Is Boston the best hockey town in the U.S.?*

CN: I believe so, going on my experience of playing in the Garden.

JS: *Speaking of which: Don't you miss it, and more to the point, doesn't the FleetCenter suck?*

CN: I'm not a fan of the FleetCenter. It's a huge change in atmosphere. The Garden was awesome. I don't know how comfortable it was, but it was the best place to play.

JS: *Do you still watch hockey religiously?*

> AFTER 13 YEARS OF BEING ABLE TO GET MY FRUSTRATIONS OUT PHYSICALLY, SHOVING THAT OFF WAS TOUGH, ESPECIALLY WHEN I WANT TO BOP SOMEBODY.

CN: I never did. I was always a participant, never a spectator.

JS: *So what sports do you watch?*

CN: Probably golf, which oddly enough I hated when I was a kid.

JS: *What is it with hockey players and golf?*

CN: The seasons obviously mesh, and there's a lot of similarities, like the mechanics of the swing.

JS: *Has hockey changed for the better or worse since you left?*

CN: I think it was starting to change for the worse even my last few years playing. My opinion is that expansion hasn't helped the game. There used to be 21 teams. Now there's 30, and it's thinned the talent out in a way that affects the dynamics on each team. Also, going to the conference format, like basketball, has hurt the divisional rivalries. We don't have the Montreal/Boston matchups like we used to. Hockey's really a regional sport. It's not a national sport, and when you take that rivalry out, people aren't as excited as they used to be.

JS: *Ever consider joining the Ice Capades?*

CN: [Laughs.] Only if they had full-contact Ice Capades.

JS: *I'll look into it. So who's funnier—Denis Leary or Michael J. Fox?*

CN: Their senses of humor are different. Denis is more caustic, and Mike's wit is very dry and quick.

JS: *What one thing would you like to say to Ulf Samuelsson?*

CN: How about "F--- you"? [Laughs.] I've said just about everything I have to say to him.

JS: *Wayne Gretzky or Bobby Orr?*

CN: Oh, what Bobby did for hockey in New England is pretty amazing. You look at a lot of the New England kids playing in the NHL now, it's probably because their parents got into hockey when Bobby Orr was playing. What he did for the position of defense, too. He changed the way it was played. As for Wayne Gretzky, what he did for the game nationally was major. It's hard to compare them because it was different eras, but they both added a tremendous amount to the game.

JS: *Would you ever let Jack play pro hockey?*

CN: If he wanted to, absolutely. Whatever he wants to do.

JS: *How about Ava?*

CN: Yeah! [Chuckles.] She's got some of my toughness, so she'd probably be great.

JS: *You still a brawler?*

CN: [Laughs.] I'd like to be, when I get aggravated, and I would be, if I could get away with a five-minute penalty instead of handcuffs.

JS: *So how do you handle all that rage you used to expel through playing? On the ice, you were known as a fighter, but in your personal life and socially, your reputation is very gentlemanly.*

CN: Well, that transition was hard. After 13 years of being able to get my frustrations out physically, which was a nice release, shoving that off was tough, especially when I want to bop somebody. But it's no different than being in an office. You just can't do it. I've always been very conscious of what I should and shouldn't do. [Laughs.] Also, I'm a Gemini, so maybe that explains the two sides of my personality.

JS: *Are all your teeth your own?*

CN: No! I have bits of some, and two are definitely gone for good. There's probably five or six that are mostly courtesy of my dentist.

JS: *What's your response to the stereotyping of hockey players as toothless, uneducated goons from nowheresville?*

CN: You don't hear that much anymore. Years ago, that image was prevalent, but I think people are more sophisticated, and they look at the game differently. Back in the '70s, when it was one brawl after another, and the movie *Slap Shot* came out—a lot of people who saw that movie never watched hockey, and they assumed all hockey players were like that.

JS: *What about salaries for pro athletes. Are they out of control?*

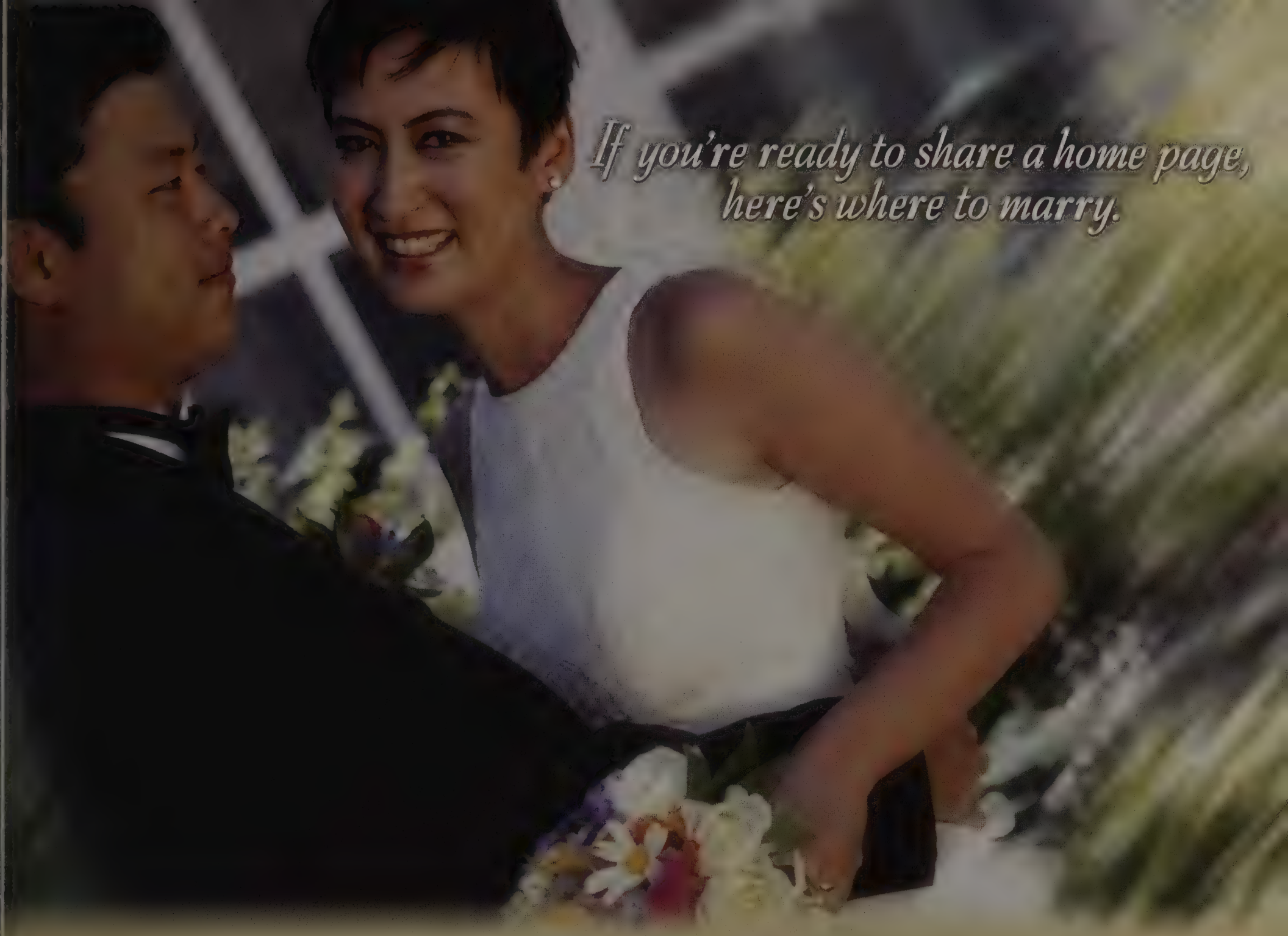
CN: Well, the owners have to look at whether they can justify paying these kinds of salaries while making sure the fans can afford to go see the games. When you price the fans out, you've gotta think they're paying them too much, but that's the owners' fault. I don't care what profession you're in—if someone offers you more money, you're gonna take it.

JS: *If you were a character in Disney on Ice, who would you be?*

CN: [Laughs.] Probably the Beast.

JS:*What do you most want to be remembered for?*

CN: Well, what I do with the foundation is pretty special, and how it affects people's lives in a more serious way. It's very gratifying to me. But on the other hand, my hockey career was extremely gratifying to me, too, and exciting. What we're accomplishing here will probably be better remembered, over the long term. But then, one wouldn't be possible without the other. IB



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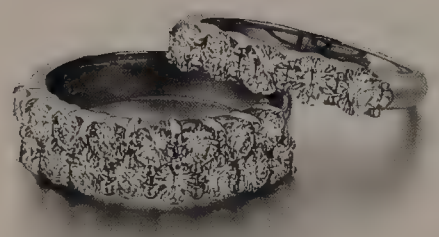


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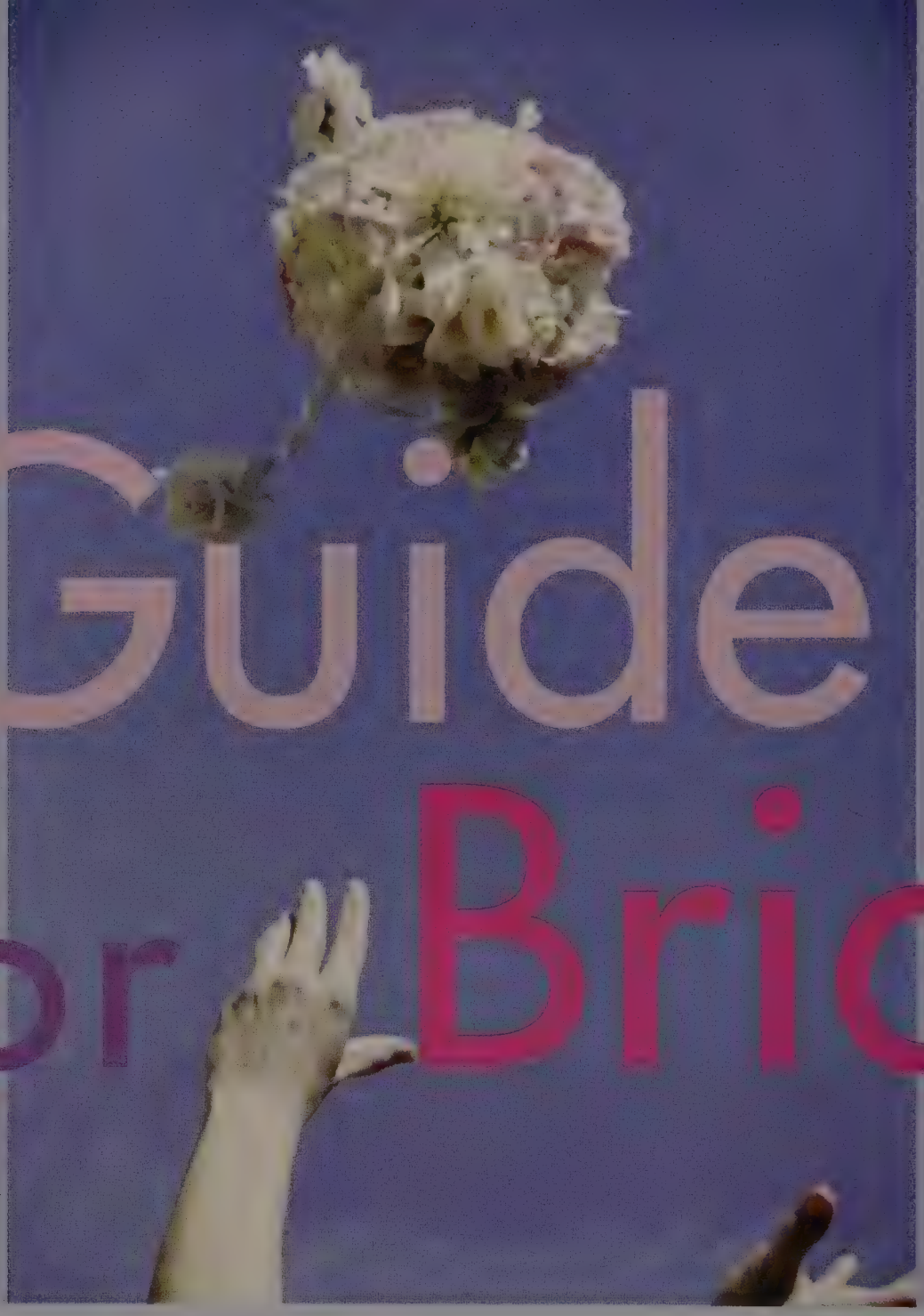


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BLOOMING BEAUTIES



Tuxedos, white shirts and black ties at Aquascutum. Cufflinks, watches and rings at Alpha Omega. Models: Anthony and Matt for Maggie Inc

HOW TO DEAL: A Guide for Brides



FAMILY STRESS AND UNEXPECTED MISHAPS ARE PART OF ANY WEDDING, BUT THEY DON'T HAVE TO RUIN YOUR DAY. TAKE IT FROM THOSE WHO'VE BEEN THERE.

BY MARGIT FEURY RAGLAND

Every bride dreams her wedding will be perfect. But forget about it—it's not going to happen. With an event that brings together a group of not-so-carefully cast characters, inevitably something or someone will botch things up.

"In my 17 years of shooting weddings, I've never been to one where everything went exactly as planned," says videographer Jim Nogueira, owner of JMN Productions in Milford. "There are always things that don't quite happen the way that they're supposed to."

For one bride, it was the guest who spilled red wine on her gown just before she was introduced at the reception. For another, it was the trolley driver who took the guests on a two-hour scenic route to the reception that was only 15 minutes from the church—while an expensive cocktail party went to waste.

With countless potential mishaps waiting to happen, how does a bride cope? We got the lowdown from recent brides and other experts who know just how to deal—with moms, bridesmaids, in-laws and anyone else who could trip you up as you make your way down the aisle.

THE SLACKING GROOM

The whole reason you're getting married is that you love this guy. Keep reminding yourself of that fact. Without a doubt there will be moments when you want to call the whole thing off, but the reality is most men just aren't programmed to plan a big, beautiful party. And if you think he can at least plan the honeymoon, think again.

✻When you hear the advice "Put everything in writing," that goes for dealing with your groom too. If you want him to get you a list of addresses, don't just tell him. He'll forget. Put it on the groom's to-do list on the fridge, with the date of when you want it done and when you put it there.

—Jon Saphire, owner of Saphire Manor, a wedding reception site in Sharon

✻After not being around for the entire planning period [due to visa issues], when my groom finally returned from Mexico, less than two weeks before the wedding, he suddenly wanted to take over the planning of music. He had burned a few CDs that he basically wanted to hand over to the DJ to play. "Why bother paying for a DJ?" was my first thought. My second was worse: "My wedding will just be a night of his friends slam dancing." After some heated discussions, we both chose our must-have lists of music and agreed to let the DJ do the rest. You must be willing to compromise, especially if it's an issue between you and your fiancé.

—Laurie Pani of Charlestown, married August 2002

✻Remember that your groom has probably not been envisioning this day since he was very young. And chances are, no matter how many times he's been a groomsman, he's never been on the "inside" of wedding planning before. Cut him some slack.

—Lee Ann Wolff, wedding dance instructor in Lawrence

MADDENING MOMS

Perhaps they mean well, but mothers of the bride often are the most stress-inducing participants in wedding planning. Mothers generally fall into one of two cate-

gories: those who won't budge from their dead-set opinions and those who change their mind each time you speak with them. Don't let your mother (or your future mother-in-law) make you loony.

⁎My mother was the quintessential mother of the bride. The biggest argument was over the length of our guest list. After she had just added 45 people to it, she insisted that I would not enjoy myself at a wedding with more than 100 guests. She started lopping off my friends' names. She then proclaimed that if there was even the slightest chance that someone might be insulted by not being invited, I must invite them. I kid you not—she never even noticed that she was arguing two opposite points! Then she suddenly began inviting neighbors that had moved away years ago, who we had not been close to when they lived in the neighborhood. I just tried to keep my sense of humor. And I reminded myself of what the comedian Rita Rudner once said: "Of course my mother can push my buttons. She installed them!"

—Margaret Munro Lyons of Jamaica Plain, married May 2002

⁎Figure out what's really, truly important to you before you start planning and don't settle for less than what you want. Everything else is negotiable. My mother was set on having the ceremony in Provincetown, near our family summer home. But the reception site was on the other side of the Cape. I found plenty of other, more convenient places to have the ceremony. But my mother kept pushing the issue. To end the battle, I gave in. But to keep our guests entertained on their traffic-filled trip to the reception, we made a CD for everyone that had songs chosen by members of the wedding party, including everyone from our parents to our 7-year-old niece from Mexico.

—Laurie Pani

⁎Leave your future mother-in-law at home when picking out your bridal gown. All brides are so happy when they first come in to look for their dress. But they make the mistake of bringing along the whole peanut gallery. As soon as the first person says, "No, that dress isn't you" or "You look better in ivory," the bride gets confused, upset and often leaves crying. Bring one friend or your mother with you. If you put on the dress and feel special, then that's the dress to buy.

—Yolanda Cellucci, owner of Yolanda's Bridal Salon in Waltham

"WHEN YOU HEAR THE ADVICE 'PUT EVERYTHING IN WRITING,' THAT GOES FOR DEALING WITH YOUR FIANCÉ TOO."

—JON SAPHIRE, OWNER, SAPHIRE MANOR

⁎My husband's family decided not to come to the wedding due to their objections with his marrying a non-Jewish woman. Relative to that, everything else was pretty low-stress. Even now that we're married we still cope with the stress of his family, but we really focus on how lucky we are to be together and to have found one another. Our wedding day was about celebrating our love and our new life together, not about family issues.

—Lynne Schaffer of Newton, married September 2003

⁎My mother-in-law kept adding more and more of her friends to the guest list, to the point where my in-laws had twice the number of guests my parents had. My advice to other brides: Give your mother-in-law-to-be a set number of people she can invite, and be firm about making her stick to it.

—A Charlestown bride who was married in September 2003 and who hopes to be friends with her new mother-in-law (so we agreed not to print her name)

BRATTY BRIDESMAIDS

Just because they're your best friends or closest relatives doesn't mean they'll love the dress, or that they'll know how to be helpful. Choose them carefully, and then don't take anything they say or do too personally.

⁎My maid of honor kept crying at inopportune times, such as at my bridal shower. Two days before the ceremony, she called to say that I could ask someone else to be my maid of honor if I wanted to. I was very lucky to have four other bridesmaids who picked up the slack that my maid of honor wasn't able to carry. One of my bridesmaids was married a year and half before and understood wedding stress. She would take me out to bars and let me vent.

—Cree Holland McDaniels of Boston, married August 2002

⁎Pick bridesmaids you can count on. Often there's pressure to include people that you wouldn't want to spend a lot of time with during stressful events. Try to avoid the formalities. You need people who will prop you up, not tear you down. If you wouldn't want to travel with her, then don't put her in your wedding party.

—Margaret Munro Lyons

⁎One of my bridesmaids couldn't make it to pick out bridesmaid dresses. Then, when it was time to choose the flowers, she was unavailable. Two months before the wedding, she realized she might not be able to make it to my big day. I gave up and suggested that we just plan for her not to attend.

—Lynne Schaffer

UNEXPECTED PAINS IN THE NECK

Sometimes the people you least expect to cause problems can stress you the most.

⁎My brother, a groomsman, never got the message that we were getting pictures taken on the beach between the wedding and the reception. When I arrived at the reception, my brother was upset and his wife was furious. She screamed at me in the parking lot and told me I didn't love my brother—who is my hero, by the way. I ended up in tears. All I could do was wipe my face clean, put my chin up, and try not to let it affect my special day. If something upsets you on your wedding day, put it past you for the day and deal with it when all the emotions are passed.

—Laurie Pani

"PICK BRIDESMAIDS YOU CAN COUNT ON. IF YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO TRAVEL WITH HER, THEN DON'T PUT HER IN YOUR WEDDING PARTY."

—MARGARET MUNRO LYONS, MARRIED MAY 2002

⁎After spending about an hour and a half at my first fitting—standing in the most unnatural, contorted poses—my limbs were numb and I thought I would drop. Suddenly the seamstress said, "Oops, I just bled on your dress!" I thought she was kidding until I looked in the mirror and saw the reflection of my bridesmaid, staring in open-mouthed horror, at the back of my dress. Miraculously, blood can come out of white fabric with peroxide. Who knew?

—Margaret Munro Lyons

⁎One of our guests brought a portable TV into the reception, so he could watch the football game at dinner. Thankfully, he was considerate enough to wear a headset, so the other tables didn't have to listen to the play-by-play. Make sure you have a designated "bouncer" to deal with unexpected rude or unwelcome guests.

—Lynne Schaffer

BOTTOM-LINE ADVICE

⁎Don't try and do it all on your own. Delegate, delegate, delegate. If people ask if they can help, give them one—or two—things to do.

—Laurie Pani

⁎When you feel that you can't cope, it's time to turn to sushi, margaritas and Ativan!

—Margaret Munro Lyons

⁎Take a deep breath before walking down the aisle. Enjoy the moment and relish in the fact that you are going to have the most wonderful day. It will go by soooooooo fast!

—Cree Holland McDaniels

⁎Remember that everyone who comes to the wedding is there because they love you and are happy for you. Don't worry about whether they'll like the entrée or the wedding favors.

—Lynne Schaffer

⁎As soon as you hit the rehearsal, the planning is over. Accept what is, let go of what is not, and have a blast. Come on, it's your party!

—Margaret Munro Lyons

THE WELL-MANNERED WEDDING GUEST



CAN YOU WEAR WHITE TO A WEDDING? DO YOU REALLY HAVE A WHOLE YEAR TO SEND A GIFT? ETIQUETTE EXPERTS AND BRIDES HELP ENSURE YOU DON'T BECOME A PAIN IN THE BUSTLE.

BY ERIN HAGEDORN ILLUSTRATION BY SCOTT HAGEDORN

Even if you've no immediate plans to tie the knot yourself, you'll probably be attending a wedding sometime soon. Other than a flat-screen TV or a big pile of money, one of the best gifts you can give the betrothed couple doesn't come with a price tag. It's the gift of good manners and not adding to the happy pair's already sky-high stress level by acting foolishly, imposing or making some kind of unreasonable request.

Some behavior rules for wedding guests are pretty obvious, and if you have a handle on the standard social graces, you'll easily avoid decorum disaster: Don't discuss bachelor party shenanigans in front of the bride. You may not body-check other single women in order to catch the bouquet. No matter how good they look, do not taste-test the wedding cake icing or leer at the bride. Don't wear anything that would embarrass Pamela Anderson.

Other rules for guest behavior, however, are a little less apparent, especially if you've never been married yourself and haven't dealt with the scads of "innocent" requests (Can you seat me next to the hottie groomsman? Can I bring along a friend?) or worried about registries or reception costs per person.

Here, on behalf of stressed out brides and grooms everywhere, and with the goal of turning you into the guest that would do Miss Manners proud, we address all those nagging wedding etiquette questions you never quite discovered the answers to. We enlisted the help of local etiquette gurus Samantha von Sperling of Polished Social Image Consultants; Jodi R. R. Smith, founder of Mannersmith Etiquette Consulting; Kim Sternick, director of catering for Legal Sea Foods at the Exchange Conference Center; and a quartet of recent brides: Jessica, Rebecca, Anne and Tara.

Is it OK to ask a good friend if you can be in his/her wedding party?

Samantha: As much as you may want to be involved, it's not fair to pressure the bride this way. Don't take it personally if you're not asked. A wedding is one day. A friendship is for life.

Jodi: No! Choosing one's wedding attendants is a difficult enough task without a friend adding stress by insisting they be included. Even if you asked the bride to be your maid of honor for your wedding, she's not obligated to ask you in return.

Jessica: No. That would be totally presumptuous and highly inappropriate. If asked, be gracious. If not asked, be similarly gracious.

Should you always buy a gift from the couple's registry?

Samantha: If the couple has a registry, obviously they have selected items that they like and/or may need. However, if you live in another country where the store is not accessible or you wish to give something else that you think would be unique or that only you could give them, go ahead. It's the thought that counts.

Jodi: No. A registry is a wish list created by the bride and groom. It's there for those who wish to use it as a guide. Some of the best, most creative gifts are the ones that are not from the registry.

Jessica: Yes, unless you know the couple well enough to identify a unique gift that you're confident will delight them. And always include a gift receipt.

Anne: If I had to go back and do it all over again, I would make sure to register for more items. I mean, I like silver platters and all, just not 80 of them.

Tara: A friend from school received a crystal vase that wasn't on her registry. She and her spouse sent the vase back to the couple who gave it to them with a note that said a gift off their registry would be more appreciated. [The two couples] haven't spoken since.

What's the appropriate attire for the church ceremony? Are bare shoulders still taboo?

Kim: Technically yes. You should be appropriately attired for a wedding. Bare shoulders do not make you a sinner as long as the rest of your coverage is appropriate.

Samantha: It's poor etiquette to bare your shoulders in a house of worship. Generally it's better to bring at least a wrap, shawl or pashmina to cover your shoulders.

Jodi: Some religious sites are very modern and may not require the same level of modesty. If you're not sure, it's better to be covered than not.

Can you ask the bride for permission to bring a guest if your invitation is made out only to you?

Samantha: No. Here is an exception: You know the bride extremely well, she is not on a shoestring budget, you yourself just got engaged (or your aged aunt is flying in from Timbuktu) and it is an emergency. Only then can you ask, but you do not expect.

Jodi: It depends. If you are not dating anyone, then you cannot ask to add additional guests and expense to an already expensive event. If you've been seriously dating someone and there's the possibility that the bride was unaware of your relationship, then you can call to let her know you have someone in your life.

Rebecca: Absolutely not. Someone did this to me and my fiancé. We made the mistake of leaving a blank space on our reply cards where people could fill in the number of people coming. We had to e-mail them and explain that they couldn't. It was very awkward for both sides.

Kim: No! Wedding guest lists are compiled for many reasons. Perhaps it's financial or there are space limitations. And never bring [an uninvited] guest that you haven't RSVPed for.

Is it appropriate to wear white or black to a wedding?

Samantha: An all-white outfit is seen as stealing attention away from the bride. Remember, it's her day. Off-white, on the other hand, is OK. An all-black outfit for a winter wedding or a wedding in a cold climate is acceptable; a black summer dress is also OK.

Jodi: Black was banned from weddings in days of old because it was worn by those in mourning, and mourners would not attend a wedding. In some cultures it was seen as a bad omen or as a way of showing your disapproval of the pair. Nowadays, black is considered elegant and sophisticated. White, on the other hand, is seen as being petty and trying to steal the spotlight from the bride.

Is it better to bring your wedding gift to the wedding or mail it?

Samantha: The bride should be delighted that you were thoughtful enough to give a gift, period. However, note that the happy couple may be catching a plane after dinner or have some such other arrangement. Weddings can be chaos. It may be easier for the bride to receive a gift beforehand by mail.

Jodi: Wedding gifts should be sent to the bride in advance of the wedding. Gifts brought to a wedding run the risk of being lost, broken or stolen.

Jessica: Mail it after the wedding. Hauling gifts from the reception back home is a drag, and receiving gifts after the wedding is always fun. I actually really enjoyed those under-the-wire gifts received 364 days after the wedding.

How long do you have after the wedding to send your gift?

Samantha: Typically, wedding gifts should be received by the couple before their wedding day, but if you do send your gift after the wedding day, send it at soon as possible.

Jodi: I'd like to dispel this myth. Guests do not have a year to send a gift, and bridal couples do not have a year to write their thank you notes. Wedding gifts should be sent a week or two prior to the wedding, and thank you notes should be completed within six weeks of the marriage. Wedding gifts sent before the wedding may be acknowledged upon receipt.

Jessica: Exactly 365 days.

How much should you spend on a wedding gift?

Samantha: It's appropriate to spend between $50 and $1,000 for a wedding gift depending on your budget and relationship to the bride or groom.

Jodi: How much do you make? Where do you live? What's your relationship to the couple? An investment banker who is the groom's brother and best man might spend $500. A recent college grad or the bride's roommate might spend $75. An elderly great aunt might spend $25. In Boston, typically, a married couple attending a wedding will give a gift in the $100 to $200 range.

Rebecca: If it's a formal wedding, $100 or more, especially if you're part of a couple.

If you don't go to the wedding, should you still send a gift?

Samantha: If you choose not to attend a wedding you were invited to and then don't send a gift, you are sending the message that you are choosing to terminate your relationship with this person. In other words, this is construed to be a rude and aggressive gesture.

Jodi: While wedding invitations do not require the obligation of a gift, if someone was kind enough to extend an invitation to one of their life's most precious events, you should be kind enough to reciprocate with at least a token of your esteem.

Jessica: I think it's good karma to send something to let the couple know they're in your thoughts.

Tara: If the couple came to your wedding and gave you a gift, you definitely have to send a gift. If you don't really know the couple then you don't have to.

Kim: A card thanking them for the invitation as well as offering congratulations is a must. A gift is not, although it is nice and I certainly would send one.

If you get invited with a guest but are single, can you bring a friend of the same sex?

Samantha: If you do not have a serious girlfriend or boyfriend to bring, you should RSVP and thank [the couple] for the kind invitation but say that only you will be attending. To not do this would be selfish.

Jodi: If there are going to be eligible men at the event (sans dates), I'd go alone. Weddings are great places for meeting new romantic partners. As a female, if everyone is bringing a date, I'd pick a male friend to attend with me.

Jessica: Sure bring anyone, if the invitation is addressed to you and guest.

Tara: I don't think it's appropriate. Weddings can cost as much as $200 a person. Don't make your friends pay so that you can have someone to gossip with.

Is it OK to get blitzed at the wedding?

Samantha: It is absolutely not OK to get obnoxiously, fall-down drunk at a wedding. A little tipsy is acceptable. And if you are an aggressive, belligerent drunk, don't even think about it. A side note: At one wedding, the bridesmaids jumped onto the table and lifted up their skirts to dance the can-can. Unless you are in Las Vegas and the bride and groom are being married by Elvis accompanied by showgirls, this is not appropriate behavior.

Jodi: No. In fact, I cannot think of a social event where it's acceptable to "get blitzed." Weddings are not keggers.

Kim: No! Although it makes for great stories, those aren't the kind of memories the bride and groom want to have.

Rebecca: Absolutely.

Lisa: Sure, just don't cause a scene. IB





Top row: Wheatleigh, Lenox, Mass.



marvelous MINI-MOONS

FOR BOSTON'S NEWLYWEDS, POSTNUPTIAL RELAXATION IS A CAR RIDE AWAY



The Main Inn at the Old Inn on the Green, New Marlborough, Mass.

BY JESSICA IREDALE

Tradition has it that once the vows are said, the cake cut and bouquet tossed, it's time for the newlyweds to hop on a plane and head out for a week's recuperation in a tropical paradise. But if the happy couple just dropped upwards of $35,000 on their big day, seven nights at the Ritz-Carlton Bali might not be in their budget. Sometimes just-marrieds are simply exhausted from months of wedding planning, and unwilling to deal with airports and travel itineraries. Or perhaps their careers are too demanding to allow for an extended vacation on top of time already taken off for the wedding.

Wedding planner Arlene Cronk, who founded the Boston Wedding Group, says she sees many two-career couples opting for a shorter trip immediately after the wedding. "If they're getting married during a particularly busy season, and they can't leave work for an extended period of time, couples often take just a couple of days after the wedding and then take the extended honeymoon in a month or so."

Kimberly and Chris Hine, who made a brief escape to Martha's Vineyard after their July wedding in Lexington, are one example. "We decided we'd rather save the money for when we really needed a break from work, and when it was cold in New England and warm in Mexico," says Kimberly. "We didn't want to spend a lot of time traveling and dealing with the hassle of flying right after the wedding. We wanted to just relax and chill."

Whether to save time, money or their sanity, many couples are following their New England nuptials with a two- or three-day romantic getaway—a mini-moon, if you will. Lucky for Boston brides and grooms, the Northeast is stocked with inns, bed-and-breakfasts and upscale resorts that specialize in candlelit dinners, in-room massages, jacuzzis for two and privacy with a view. From ultra-luxe cottages to cozy B&Bs, here's a sampling of spots with the goods for a sweet mini-moon.

MAINE

THE WHITE BARN INN

37 Beach Ave., Kennebunkport (207-967-2321).
www.whitebarninn.com. 1.5 hours from Boston.

If there ever was a reason to honeymoon in Maine, this is it. With its AAA Five Diamond Award–winning dining room, the grand dame of New England inns tops nearly every food and travel writer's not-to-be-missed list. A cluster of waterfront cottages, an 1860s clapboard homestead and two converted barns add up to 29 accommodations, and all are decorated with lavish fabrics and 19th-century antiques. White Barn pampers guests with terry-lined silk robes, chichi Molton Brown toiletries and hardy fruit baskets in every room, and other on-site amenities include a heated outdoor swimming pool and in-room spa services. White Barn sales manager Anita Taggersell recommends the butler-drawn Double Bubble Champagne bath ($34.50 plus cost of Champagne) for newlyweds. The service includes candles, Champagne from the wine list and Molton Brown products with orchid and cinnamon. Honeymooners are greeted with Champagne at their first dinner in the dining room (a must). Luxury-seeking couples can splurge for Room Eight, which features a king-size bed, double-sided fireplace that burns in two rooms, Jacuzzi tub and a glass-enclosed steam shower. The Loft Suite tops out with a cathedral ceiling, a private deck and entranceway, a king-size bed, a fireplace, an oversize marble bath and whirlpool, and a steam shower. Three days seem too short? Many agree. "People who come on their honeymoon tend to come back for their anniversaries," says Taggersell. *$275–$750 nightly.*



Beach Plum Inn, Menemsha, Martha's Vineyard



The Summer House Siasconset, Nantucket

MASSACHUSETTS

BEACH PLUM INN & RESTAURANT

50 Beach Plum Lane, Menemsha, Martha's Vineyard (508-645-9454). www.beachpluminn.com. 3 hours from Boston.

Blooming gardens, panoramic ocean views, private beaches and a Champagne greeting by innkeeper Craig Arnold are all selling points of this classic shingled inn. But the six secluded cottages are the real draw for just-marrieds. Bridal Wreath, the honeymoon suite, has a king-size four-poster bed, a lofted ceiling and a sitting area. Newlyweds can hole up in their cottage and take advantage of the Jacuzzi, while away the hours in the two-person hammock on their private sun deck, or loll on Menemsha Beach or the nearby private beaches Lucy Vincent (part of which is a nude beach) and Squibnocket. If love isn't sustenance enough, the inn serves complimentary breakfast every morning and has a four-star restaurant. In addition to the cottages, six suites are available in the main house. *$210–$400 nightly.*

THORNCROFT INN

460 Main St., Vineyard Haven, Martha's Vineyard (800-332-1236). www.thorncroft.com. 2–2.5 hours from Boston.

Couples-only resorts can raise a few eyebrows. Swingers? Sandals? Don't worry, the Thorncroft is simply an old-fashioned country inn that specializes in honeymoons, anniversaries, engagements and elopements. While you won't find any children wandering the 14 restored rooms, you will find canopied beds, wood-burning fireplaces, private balconies, two-person whirlpools and in-room 300-gallon hot tubs. Guests in all rooms receive a full country breakfast and afternoon tea and pastries, and the three-and-a-half-acre property, located in West Chop, is one block from the beach and just under a mile from the shops and restaurants on Main Street. "Our guests aren't looking to be in the middle of the noise," says innkeeper Carl Buder. "We're near enough to everything you want, but we're not remote either." *$210–$475 nightly.*

THE SUMMER HOUSE SIASCONSET

17 Ocean Ave., Siasconset, Nantucket (508-257-4577). www.thesummerhouse.com. 2.5–3 hours from Boston.

Real estate tycoons would probably give their first born for a piece of the Summer House's Nantucket beachside property. On the easternmost tip of the island, the 10 rose-covered cottages perched on a bluff overlooking the Atlantic provide a pitch-perfect backdrop for romance. The Summer House's Penrose cottage has a working fireplace, and every cottage comes equipped with a marble Jacuzzi and is stocked with the Summer House's lush Frette robes and duvets (plus, for newlyweds, a complimentary bottle of Champagne). Breakfast is served daily in the gardens, the restaurant or in bed, and lovebirds travel for miles to experience dining at the main restaurant, amid candlelight and live piano music indoors, or alfresco on the porch. "In June or September, it's not unheard of for us to have honeymooners in four out of the 10 cottages," says general manager Susan Manolis. *$250–$925 nightly.*

WHEATLEIGH

Hawthorne Road, Lenox (413-637-0610). www.wheatleigh.com. 2 hours from Boston.

Wheatleigh was originally built as a wedding present for the owner's daughter in the late 1800s, and that fact hints at its inherent romantic charm. An inn for more than 20 years, the 19-guestroom Italian-style villa overlooking the Berkshire mountains and lakes has been called the most sophisticated country house hotel in America by travel guru Andrew Harper. Tiffany windows, elaborate mantles and high ceilings create an old-world feeling, but the amenities are as modern as they come. Chocolate, Champagne and fruit are standard for honeymooners, but general manager Francois Thomas says the most romantic service is the complimentary five-course, private in-room dinner. The two-floor treehouse suite, called the Aviary, has a downstairs sitting room that opens to a terrace and a spiral staircase that leads up to sleeping quarters—almost literally in the trees—with king-size bed, soaking tub and separate shower. *$545–$1,550 nightly.*

THE WHALEWALK INN

220 Bridge Road, Eastham (800-440-1281). www.whalewalkinn.com. 1.5 hours from Boston.

Far from the tourist traps of Hyannis and Falmouth, Eastham's Whalewalk Inn is neatly situated on the quiet Outer Cape, between Cape Cod Bay and the National Seashore. French doors, four-poster king-size beds and wing-backed chairs decorate each of the 16 rooms on the three-acre compound, and available room options include steam showers, heated tile floors and heated towel rack, Jacuzzis and whirlpool tubs. Newlyweds are greeted with Champagne and can enjoy a gourmet country breakfast and an afternoon hors d'ouevres hour daily. Assistant innkeeper Heather Conlin suggests booking one of the largest and most unique accommodations: Carriage House 5 or 6, or Room 1 in the Main Inn. All three have fireside sitting areas, the Carriage House rooms have balconies overlooking the Inn's wildflower field, and Room 1 has a private entrance. The Whalewalk Inn also offers in-season discounts (a rarity) for honeymooners. *$160–$325 nightly.*

OLD INN ON THE GREEN & GEDNEY FARM

Route 57, New Marlborough (800-286-3139). www.oldinn.com. 2.5–3 hours from Boston.

Well known as a beautiful site for wedding ceremonies and receptions, the Old Inn on the Green is equally desirable for a honeymoon. Two Normandy-style barns and a restored inn and manor house are nestled in the rolling hills of the old Berkshire village of New Marlborough. Honeymooners have several options for romantic accommodations. Gedney Farm has 16 rooms, some with four-poster beds, granite fireplaces, whirlpools and glass ceilings. A grand terrace spans the back of Gedney Manor, and most of its 12 rooms have stunning views to the southwest. (The manor's Room 507 has a king-size bed and the original period fireplace.) Thayer House, located on the New Marlborough village green, has six rooms with lavish fabrics, whirlpool or clawfoot tubs, separate showers, and fireplaces. and looks out to a courtyard terrace and pool. Newlyweds receive Champagne in their suite or with dinner in one of the dining rooms. *$185–$365 nightly.*

NEW HAMPSHIRE

THE INN AT THORN HILL

Thorn Hill Road, Jackson Village (603-383-4242). www.innatthornhill.com. 3 hours from Boston.

After being closed more than a year for an extensive overhaul, this getaway in the White Mountains is revamped and refreshed, and two rooms in the Main Inn are particularly well suited to honeymooners. The Presidential Suite includes a gas fireplace, double Jacuzzi, steam shower, king-size bed, wet bar and—best of all—a sweeping view of the mountains. One floor below, the Mount Washington room lends a fairy tale feel with its turret chamber. The inn also offers private cottages among its 25 suites. Couples who choose Thorn Hill's Excursion Honeymoon package ($750 for a two-night stay) find a dozen red roses, a half bottle of Champagne and a fruit and cheese basket in their room when they arrive. The package also includes four meals: a candlelit three-course dinner in the dining room (or as room service), two full country breakfasts in bed with fresh flowers, and a picnic lunch for two, with sandwiches, cookies and fruit. In summer, the Excursion Honeymoon comes with a canoe trip down the Saco River with a picnic lunch and a bottle of wine. In winter, newlyweds can enjoy the fresh air à la *Doctor Zhivago*, by curling up under a blanket with some Champagne for a private one-horse open sleigh ride. *$125–$340 nightly.* IB



The Thorncroft Inn, Vineyard Haven, Martha's Vineyard

tokens of affection

STAND-UP GIFTS FOR THE PEOPLE WHO STAND UP FOR YOU

BY SAMANTHA HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHED BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN



Classic flask, $19 at Pottery Barn,
617-266-6553.



Engraved money clip/keychain,
$16.50 at www.iengravedgifts.com.



Leather backgammon set,
$110 at Koo de Kir,
617-723-8111.



Striped cufflinks, $56 at www.weddingtulle.com.



Engraved pocketknife, $22.50 at
www.iengravedgifts.com.

groomsmen



Pamper kit, including Brown body shimmer with puff, $10.50; Brown soap, $8; Brown body balm, $18; eye makeup remover, $8.50. All at Sephora, 617-262-4200.



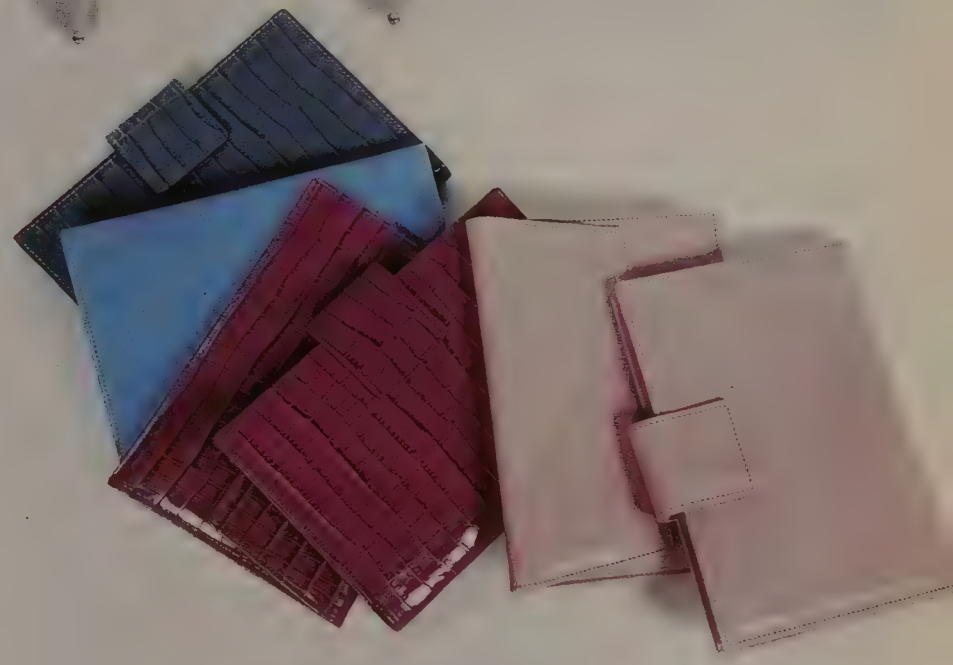
Pink and white polka dot robe, $138 at www.bedheadpjs.com.



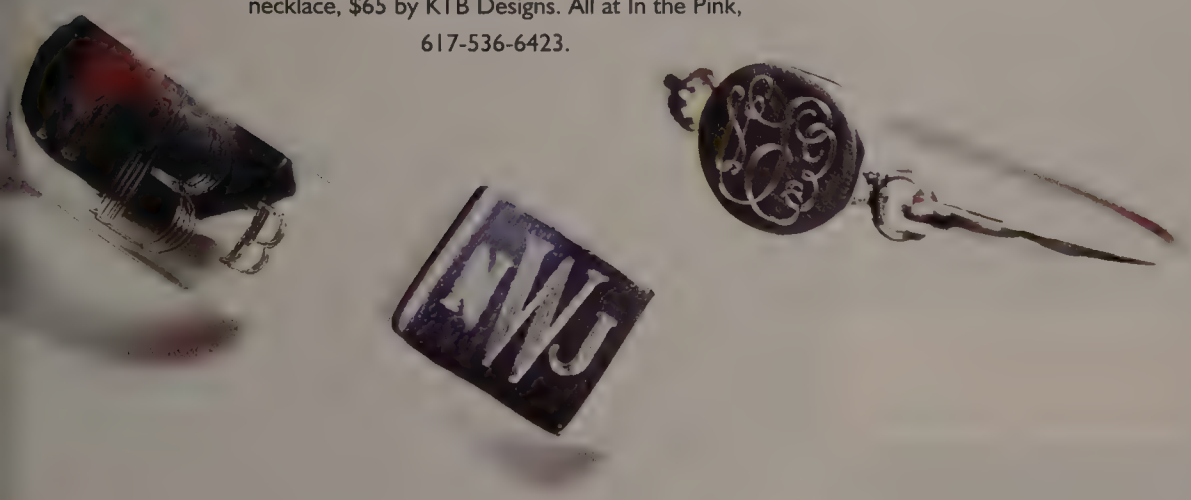
Confetti earrings by Jane Jewelry, $135 at Sarahsota, 617-527-7083.



Monogrammed silver rings, $55; bracelet, $65; and necklace, $65 by KTB Designs. All at In the Pink, 617-536-6423.



Leather brag book, $60 at www.patinaweb.com.





Embroidered makeup bag, $45 at www.shopbluedragonfly.com.

bridesmaids

BATTLE OF THE brides

IT'S EVERY WOMAN FOR HERSELF AT THE FILENE'S BASEMENT BRIDAL GOWN SALE

BY JULIE SURATT

PHOTOGRAPHED BY BILL STREICHER

Ladies, in five minutes, I'm going to open these doors and walk everyone to the escalator. The operative word is walk." So says the Filene's Basement employee with the dubious honor of being here at 8 am to open the floodgates to the store's semiannual Bridal Gown Sale. "Also, we have a few rules: Don't push each other. The last thing you want is a broken arm on your wedding day. And please share."

Alas, only 50 or so women can hear his warnings, as the line of nearly a thousand brides-to-be (or wannabes) snakes up the stairs and down Summer Street. Fortunately, as the first woman in line, I hear him loud and clear.

I have risen before dawn on this Friday morning in February, hopped on the T to Downtown Crossing and worked my way up to the front of the line, interviewing women who have queued up in front of the store. All are eager to snag one of the designer wedding dresses (which typically sell for thousands of dollars) on sale today at Filene's for a mere $249.

Audra Shulman of Danvers—her fists enclosed in fire engine red boxing gloves—is third in line, having arrived at 6:45 am. Intimidated by her menacing glare, I quickly reassure her that I'm a reporter on assignment and not shopping for myself. Good, she says, "because I'm prepared to use these gloves in case anyone gets in my way." But how will she try on dresses wearing boxing gloves? "Oh, I'm just here for reinforcement," she says. It's actually Shulman's twin sister, Stacey, who's getting married at the end of August. "But if someone has a dress she likes, watch out," says Audra.

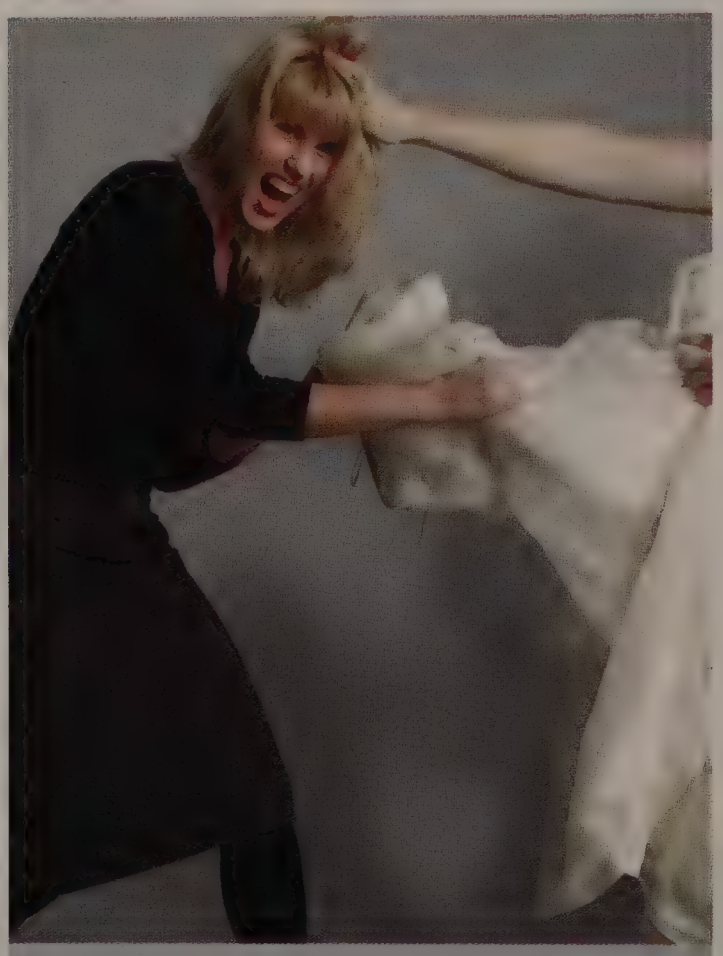
Stacey, as it turns out, is waiting down the block at the other entrance. In order to cover more ground, she's brought her mother and two friends (both Stacey's size, so they can model dresses). They have whistles around their necks and code words—which they refuse to tell me—to shout out if they find the perfect dress. How will they know when they've found it? "The first tear we shed, that's the one," says Shulman's mother.

Most of the women are dressed in layers, with tights and tank tops under their jeans and sweaters so they can maintain some modesty as they try on gowns. Luckily, there aren't that many men around. Sam, friend of Brighton bride-to-be Carol Cullati, is one of the few exceptions. "I trust his sense of fashion," says Cullati. "Plus, he can beat off all the other girls."

Some of the women in line are novices; others are in their second or third year of searching. Some are engaged; others don't even have intendeds. Some know exactly what they want ("off-the-shoulders," "not too princessy"); others will take what they can get. All have the same plan: to run in and grab as many dresses as they can and then retreat to a corner to try them on.

As 8 am approaches, the crowd, high on adrenaline and coffee, becomes more animated. I look up the stairs and see a handful of women in bright orange T-shirts that read "Team Bandetti." Other groups sport baseball caps, or headbands with fuzzy antennae—anything to make them easier to spot from a distance.

I ask a foursome—Amy, Taryn, Catherine and Elizabeth—for advice (two are repeat customers) and end up befriending them. They show me their engagement rings,



IF YOU'RE GOING TO THE FILENE'S BASEMENT SALE:

- Wear tights and a snug-fitting tank top under your clothes. Keep in mind that TV crews may be covering the event.
- Bring as many friends as you can find. A caveat: Married friends won't end up competing with you for dresses.
- Leave your coat and purse at home. They weigh you down.
- Don't wear makeup—it could ruin the dress.
- Get there before 7 am.
- Go with an open mind. Sleeves can be removed, sizes altered.

and eventually one of them notices the diamond ring on my left hand (a coincidence, I swear!). "So why aren't you shopping for yourself?" one asks. Um, I hadn't really thought of it. (I had just gotten engaged the week before.) "You should at least try," they say. I look around and realize that as the first person in line, I'm the envy of hundreds of women. "Hmm," I say, "I really should, right?" But only for the sake of accurate reporting, of course.

So at 8 am, when the doors open, I follow the Filene's employee to the top of the escalator and then sprint down. Thousands of dresses hang on long racks. There's no organization, just dress after dress in varying styles and sizes. I grab as many as I can hold. With six dresses wrapped around my neck, shoulders and arms, I retreat to a corner beside my new buddies. Women are shouting everywhere. Within 60 seconds, literally every dress has been pulled off the rack. Women are still streaming down the escalator, but all the dresses have been claimed, at least temporarily.

I hang my gowns on a post and strip down to my bra and underwear to start trying them on. Unlucky women who were too late to find a dress start prowling around like sharks, waiting for rejects. One woman tries to grab one of my gowns off the hook, and I have to chase her off.

I'm a size 4, and most of the dresses are at least 8 or 10, so I have to imagine how each dress will look when it's fitted properly. I pass my rejects on to my new friends and receive a few in exchange. One dress—strapless, off-white, with a beaded top and straight bottom, and no crinoline—looks like it could be a keeper, but I'm not convinced until five different women approach me and ask to have it if I don't end up buying it. It's a size 12, but it's simple and less princessy than many of the dresses I've seen. No, I'm keeping it for now, I say.

I grab a few of the dresses that I don't want but suspect others might and start walking around. It's time to barter. "I'll trade you this size 10, white long-sleeve for that sleeveless," I say. Some women are agreeable; others sneer and turn away. There's one gown I really want, but the woman who holds it won't even consider any of the dresses I have. I trade a few of my dresses for others and reapproach her. "No, I'm not trading," she says. Meanwhile, the gowns start to get heavy in my arms, but I don't want to put them down, for fear they'll be taken. I try on the strapless again and ask my new friends what they think, and one says, "Take it."

So I do. At 9 am, one hour after starting my unplanned-for search, I'm finished. I leave behind a scene of mayhem: hundreds of women in various states of undress shouting out things like, "Searching for a size 8 off-white!" I buy the dress—originally on sale for $2,700 at Yolanda boutique—for $249 plus tax. What a bargain. Of course, making a size 12 dress fit a 5-foot-10-inch, size 4 body involves serious alterations—including dividing the dress into a bustier and skirt, to lengthen it—and costs an additional $350. But when I try it on a few months later, after all the refitting's done, it carries a unique sense of victory. iB

Julie Suratt, married last summer, went to the February 2003 Filene's Basement Bridal Gown Sale. This winter's sale takes place Feb. 20. Doors open at 8 am, and all dresses are $249.

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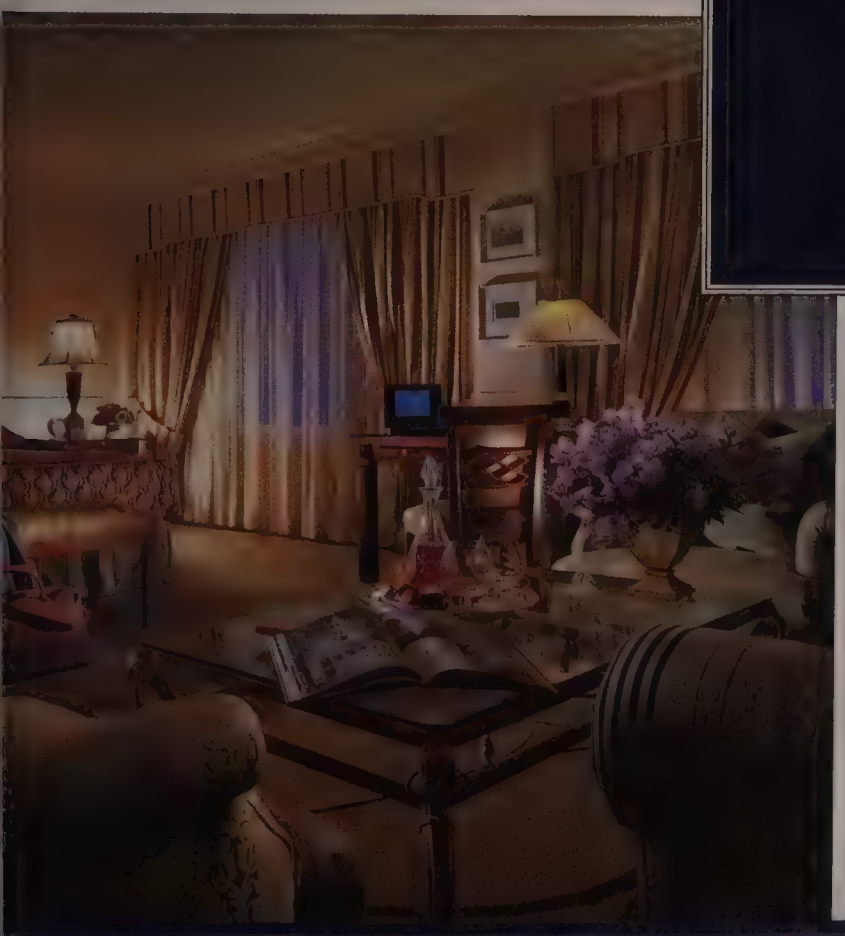
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It has a nice ring to it.



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PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY BOB PERACHI

SOPHISTICATED
18-karat white gold and diamond necklace, $8,550; earrings, $2,600; engagement ring, $6,000. All at Alpha Omega. Chantilly lace dress, $2,300 at the Altered Bride.



INNOCENT
18-karat white gold and diamond necklace, $2,400; earrings, $3,300; platinum asscher cut diamond ring, $14,000. All at Alpha Omega. Silk satin dress, $1,800; silk organza jacket, $450. Both at the Altered Bride.



TRENDY
18-karat gold and diamond bracelet, $2,300; platinum asscher cut diamond studs, $18,700. Both at Alpha Omega. Gown with tulle overlay, $1,200; hair comb by Marie Galvin, $60. Both at the Altered Bride.

CASUAL
Silk satin dress with silk organza overlay, $2,200; scalloped veil with gold pencil edge, $195. Both at The Altered Bride.

SEXY

18-karat white gold and diamond necklace, $12,500; earrings, $2,400; platinum and diamond pave eternity band, $14,500. All at Alpha Omega. Silk gown with Swarovski crystal straps, $1,800; "Secret Garden" headpiece by Marie Galvin, $375. Both at the Altered Bride.

18-karat white gold and diamond dangling earrings, $18,000; platinum asscher cut diamond ring, $35,000. Both at Alpha Omega. Silk gown with vintage brooch, $1,600; veil with Swarovski crystal detailing, $250; "Katrine" headpiece by Marie Galvin, $375. All at the Altered Bride.

Models: Ekaterina, Sarah, Nesha, Katrine, Nina and Lauren All for Maggie Inc.

Hair: Suzie Mello and Kelli Cangiano for Beaucage
71 Newbury St.
617-437-7171

Makeup: Jenny Brown

Flowers: Ilex
73 Berkeley St.
617-422-0300

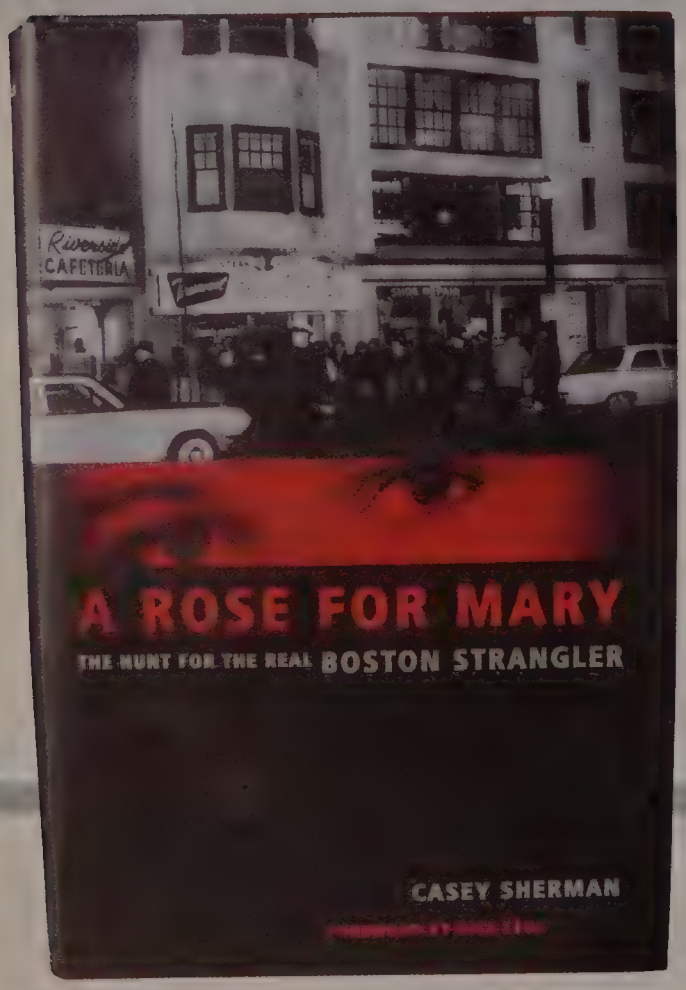
Alpha Omega
57 JFK St.
Cambridge
617-864-9111

The Altered Bride
376 Boylston St.
617-859-8289

MOPSY

SERENDIPITOUS SHOPPING: OUR UNFETTERED CORRESPONDENT SEEKS OUT THE SALUBRIOUS AND THE CEREBRAL

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT THE BOSTON STRANGLER?

A reporter and nephew of one of the Boston Strangler's victims turns up a different story in *A Rose for Mary*.

In January 1964, the last of the Boston Strangler's victims, Mary Sullivan, was murdered at 44A Charles Street. Fourteen months later, Albert DeSalvo, incarcerated on unrelated sex offenses, claimed to be the strangler, making confessions that were rich in detail but often counter to the facts. DeSalvo's strutting attorney, F. Lee Bailey, and politically ambitious then-senator Edward Brooke—both of whom stood to gain on book deals if DeSalvo was "proven" to be the killer—were content to see DeSalvo found guilty. Decades later, Sullivan's nephew, WBZ reporter Casey Sherman, became intent on finding his aunt's real killer. His exciting, looping quest makes for a fascinating book. Players include Sherman, his mother and countless relatives of the murdered. The DeSalvo family also cooperated with Sherman in attempting to disprove Albert's guilt, forming a touching common bond. Attorney General Tom Reilly resisted Sherman's years-long efforts. But grisly exhumations of DeSalvo (killed in prison) and Sullivan, DNA evidence and taped phony confessions seem to point away from DeSalvo. Sherman's story is zestily motivated, and the good and bad guys are often flip-flopped. The denouement is scary, though the case, lacking a blood sample, remains open.



HOUSE CALLS FOR THE BELOVED CRITTERS

Doggie Day helps take care of your pets at your home when you're away. Call 617-426-7387, or visit *www.doggieday.com*.

There are no tender anxieties—short of the well-being of one's children—to rival worries about who will take care of your dog/cat/ferret/parakeet when you're away. When neighbors fail (and most neighbors don't deliver Doggie Day levels of attention anyway), this highly professionalized service is a reliable comfort. As it happens, 80 percent of what Doggie Day touchingly calls its "clients" are actually cats. Become a member for $29, and after an at-home get-to-know-pooch (or tabby) visit, you can call on Doggie Day to come over once, twice, even three times a day to feed your pet. Services include the delicate, crucial procedures like giving shots, subcutaneous liquids and pills. They'll even clean litter boxes and aquariums. Professionalism is part of the package—Doggie Day employees wear uniforms and drive company vehicles. Once you've signed up, you can call in a panicked emergency from the airport and they'll leap into action. Best of all, they'll do vet visits—both prearranged or on an emergency basis. Your animal's needs are customized; dogs can be walked solo or with a group. Dogs of a feather flock together, and animals of different sizes and incompatible personalities are kept apart.

THE WEATHER OUTSIDE: FRIGHTFUL; GAS FIRE: DELIGHTFUL

Black Magic, at 21 New St. in Cambridge, sells gas, electric and wood stoves and fireplaces for heat. Call 617-876-4456.



Black Magic sells lovely, rustic, wood-burning stoves, the kind that bring flickerings of Vermont into your living room in their chubby little metal containers. But as the shop's Bill Bornheimer says, "Gas is king." Compared with natural gas, wood is less controllable, involves chores of lugging and ash disposal, and can pose problems for asthmatics. The gas heaters at Black Magic look downright wood-stovey, screened by glass, with imitation logs or glowing coals perched beneath merrily dancing flames. Along with hypnotic beauty and, of course, heat, these stoves add significant value to a house or apartment. Gorgeous, silvery cast metal pieces look plausibly antique. Various venting options are available, including tapping into an existing chimney or whisking fumes outside through a pipe. In addition to freestanding stoves, Black Magic carries gas, wood and electric "fireplaces," which are built into the wall like the real thing. Set inside one of the Black Magic's beautiful mantel adornments, a gas fireplace can lend an estate-like dignity to a room.



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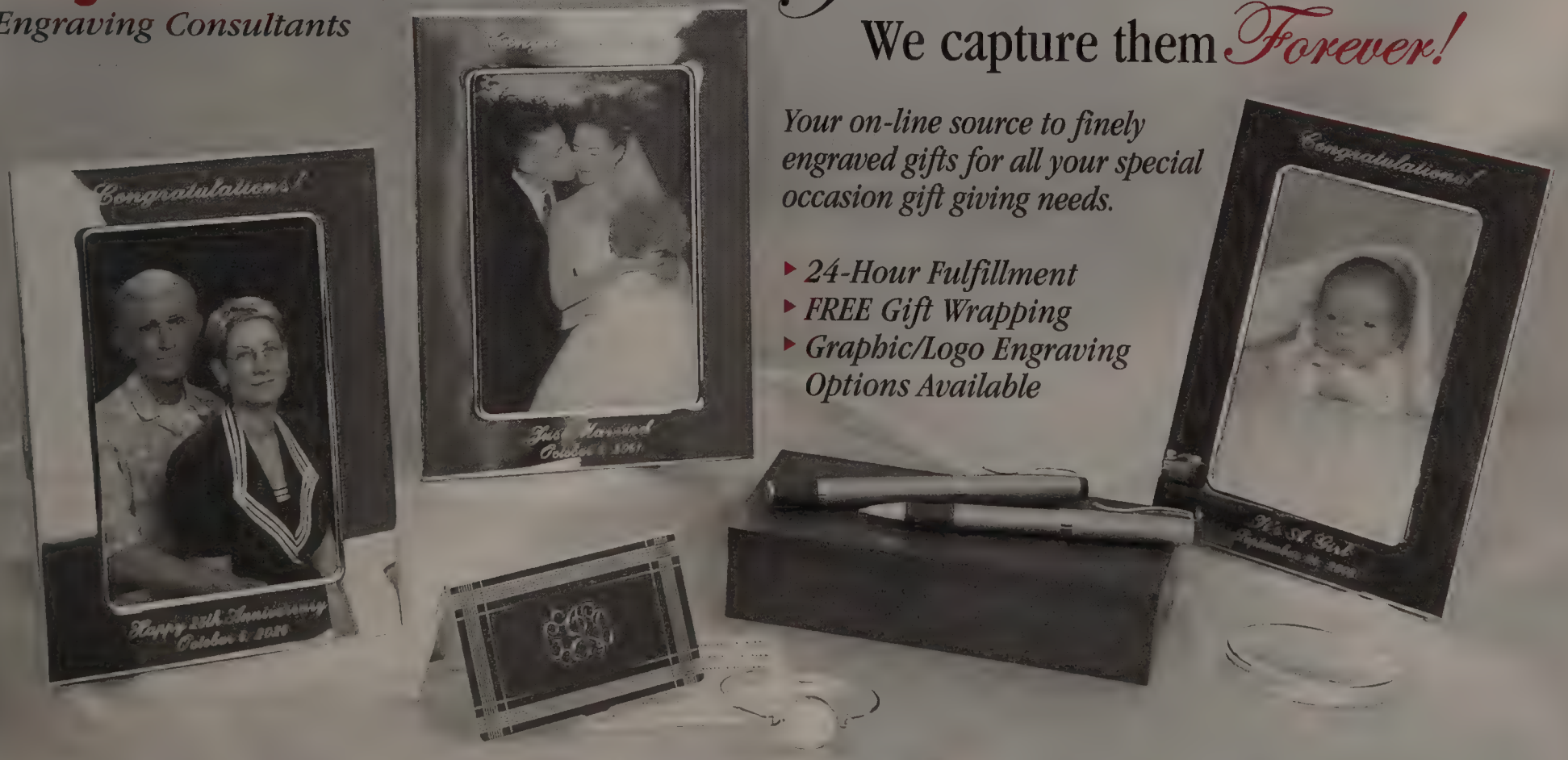
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REVIEW

BACK IN BLACKFIN

Tony Ambrose brings his Hingham-based Blackfin Chop House and Raw Bar to Boston

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

When Anthony Ambrose announced several months ago that he was closing his Huntington Avenue restaurant, Ambrosia, and reopening it as the Blackfin Chop House and Raw Bar, I had mixed feelings. Ambrosia had long been a beacon, attracting discriminating Boston diners with creatively conceived and professionally executed cuisine that did justice to its name, a play on the owner's last name. At the same time, its physical appointments and decor, which many likened—not as a compliment—to a luxurious hotel lobby, were reflected in its aggressive prices.

The makeover of Ambrosia into the Blackfin Chop House and Raw Bar—a name it shares with Ambrose's highly regarded restaurant in Hingham—addresses both of these issues. First, Ambrose has totally renovated the space, creating a veritable shrine to deep-sea fishing. A huge tuna coffin, trimmed with shiny anodized aluminum and accompanied by a massive block-and-tackle apparatus, dominates the dining room, together with a floor-to-ceiling wine storage tower. The restaurant has two bars—one with television sets, in the cocktail area to the left of the entrance, and the other along one wall in the main dining room, where a dozen high-back stools accommodate diners rather than drinkers. Walls of midnight blue reach to the enormously high ceiling. A large black-framed mirror and colorful prints adorn the walls, but the major decorative artifacts are a half dozen sturdy tuna poles and reels that protrude from mounts around the dining room.

Blackfin's tables are dressed in crisp, white napery, with substantial tableware, hefty steak knives and handsome glassware. In welcome contrast to so many restaurants, even tables for two are of sufficient size, so that the bread basket does not crowd out the wine. (The only downside is the minimal space between tables, which makes private conversation difficult and impedes easy access by the wait staff.)

In addition to transforming his restaurant's design and decor, Ambrose has modified its prices. Appetizers, soups and salads range from $7 to $14, while main courses start below $20. On one evening I began with a generous portion of fried calamari ($10) served with two sauces, a sweet and spicy red pepper vinaigrette and a piquant aioli laced with capers and anchovies. Lightly breaded and quickly fried in fresh oil, the calamari had a wonderfully clean, crisp flavor, which the toothsome dipping sauces enhanced. Unfortunately, the dish arrived at table lukewarm, and some of the larger pieces bordered on tough. A second appetizer, the Maryland crab cake ($11), could have served as a main course given its ample size, over four inches across and almost two inches high. Its light, almost delicate texture and high proportion of sweet, delicious crabmeat profited from the pleasantly herbed breading. Tomato, horseradish and cilantro salad provided an excellent garnish.



Dry-aged sirloin with scalloped potatoes and a thyme-infused port wine sauce

BLACKFIN CHOP HOUSE AND RAW BAR
116 Huntington Ave., Boston
(617-247-2400)
HOURS Mon.-Thu., 5-10 pm; Fri. and Sat., 5-11 pm
RESERVATIONS recommended
CREDIT CARDS all major
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes
PARKING valet
LIQUOR LICENSE full bar

Less successful than the individual appetizers was the Blackfin platter ($22 for two), consisting of four oysters, four clams, four pieces of sashimi and a small toasted slice of French bread topped with eggplant-pepper salad. While the briny oysters were first-rate in their shimmering freshness—save for an errant shell fragment in one of them—the cherrystones promised by the menu turned out to be tiny littlenecks. Though delightfully sweet, they were so small as to provide little more than a taste. The sashimi slices were also terrific as far as they went, which was not very far. Finally, the eggplant and pepper salad bruschetta, a mélange of al dente, julienned strips of red and yellow peppers and eggplant, would have been much better had it not been refrigerator cold, and I thought it odd that this platter for two contained one small slice of this well-conceived bruschetta.

The main course selections achieved a uniformly high standard. Jumbo shrimp scampi ($24), that ubiquitous oxymoron, brought five large, perfectly textured shrimp in a lemony sauce, accompanied by creamy lemon risotto studded with slices of yellow and red grape tomatoes. Three luscious spears of tender sautéed asparagus, which I chose to regard as an early harbinger of spring as I looked out at pedestrians coping with Boston's frigid January temperatures, crowned the dish. Pan-roasted monkfish loin ($23), an enormous piece of firm-fleshed fish served with its spine intact but otherwise perfectly boned, came with a refreshingly light sauce of lemon and herbs. Accompaniments included fresh, flavorful, al dente green and yellow beans and a generous mound of delicious creamed spinach made with whole rather than chopped leaves. The other garnish, scalloped potatoes, boasted a flavorful cheese and bread-crumb topping, browned under the broiler, but the potatoes themselves seemed bland. I suspected I'd been recognized when our waiter asked whether I'd like the potatoes served separately rather than on the plate with the fish and vegetables. Gratified that someone had finally heeded my long and frequent lament about how so many restaurants layer food high on a plate in muddled heaps, I welcomed with satisfaction the potatoes' arrival in a small ramekin.

On a subsequent visit, the roasted cod loin ($23) turned out to be one of the best pieces of cod I have tasted in some time. The firm, flaky flesh, enhanced by a felicitously herbed bread crumb topping, was superb. Service of the garnishes, however, reverted to form, as garlic mashed potatoes

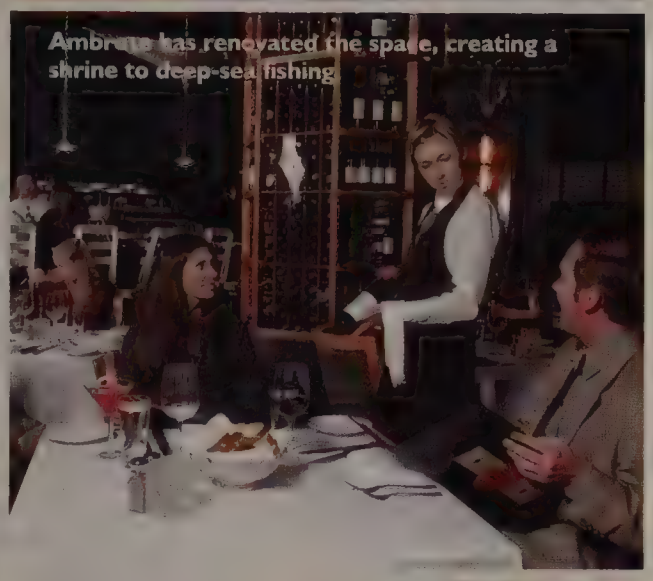
were heaped together with the beans and creamed spinach—standard accompaniments to Blackfin's main courses—in a typical fashion that obscured and diminished their individual merits.

While the maritime theme and decor of the restaurant led me to concentrate on its seafood offerings, I wasn't disappointed when I moved to the chop side of the menu. The whimsically named "pig chop" ($20) represented a remarkable bargain at the price, and the moist, tender goodness of this double-thick cut of pork, grilled medium rare as ordered, satisfied my carnivorous urge. The accompanying bourbon-whipped sweet potatoes, while rich and satisfying, evidenced little in the way of bourbon flavor, and again, they were layered and mushed together on the plate with the other vegetable garnishes.

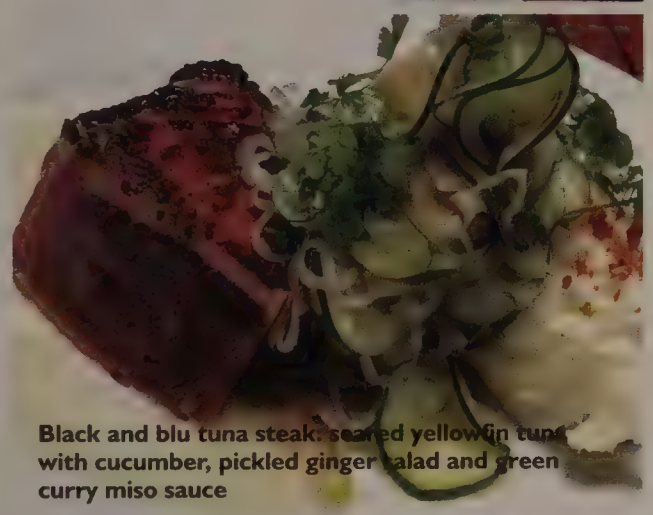
Blackfin's dessert selections, enjoyable if not outstanding—an adjective our enthusiastic waiter applied to virtually every selection we made—included an oversized molten chocolate cake ($7.95). A cylinder about five inches in diameter and one inch high—easily twice the size typically served as a restaurant dessert—profited from caramel and chocolate sauce swirled around its plate, while a small scoop of vanilla ice cream, taking the place of the espresso ice cream usually featured, further helped to alleviate the cake's slight dryness. Deep-dish apple tart with cinnamon streusel and bourbon sauce ($6.95) combined sweet-tart cubes of al dente apples with a tender crust. Again, the promised bourbon flavor seemed AWOL.



Executive chef (and fisherman) Tony Ambrose (left) and sashimi chef Teruo Yoshioka



Ambrosia has renovated the space, creating a shrine to deep-sea fishing



Black and blu tuna steak: seared yellowfin tuna with cucumber, pickled ginger salad and green curry miso sauce

Blackfin's wine list, in contrast with its food prices, fetches aggressive tariffs, with no red wine priced under $30 per bottle. However, the perfectly delightful La Villa Prosecco ($22), an off-dry sparkle from Italy, proved a remarkable bargain, adding a festive note to dinner. Wines by the glass included one of my favorites, Beaulieu Rutherford cabernet sauvignon ($8), a consistent, well-structured Napa red, as well as a full-bodied shiraz, Kirrallaa Bushbines from Australia's Claire Valley ($7). While these prices were thoroughly reasonable, the pours were a tad skimpy.

Service at Blackfin varied from excellent early one evening in the beginning of the week to harried and a little disorganized on a subsequent, busier weekday. As noted earlier, on my first visit the waiter was attentive and efficient, offering the special treatment for the potato garnish. And while I assumed his diligence was due to my being recognized as a restaurant reviewer, my wife noted that he seemed equally attentive to all the diners within his jurisdiction. Only his frequent use of the modifier "outstanding" disconcerted, since he applied it indiscriminately to choices ranging from truly excellent to satisfactory, diminishing his credibility. On the other hand, if a waiter does not display enthusiasm for what he is bringing to the table, he should probably find another line of work. Fortunately, most of Blackfin's food warrants enthusiasm, making it a worthy successor to Ambrosia. iB





TASTINGS

BY JULIE SURATT

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Events

Black History Month Celebration
Bob the Chef's, 604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-6204). Owner **Darryl Settles** offers four weeks of specially priced menu items in honor of Black History Month. •Feb. 4-7: Bob's Famous Chicken •Feb. 8-14: mustard-fried catfish •Feb. 15-21: barbecued spare ribs.

Boston Wine Festival
Boston Harbor Hotel, Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-330-9255). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Through April 9. The Boston Wine Festival continues through April and offers more than 50 wine and food pairing events. •Feb. 4, 7 pm, $295: Super Tuscan •Feb. 5, 6:30 pm (seminar)/8 pm (dinner); $185 (dinner and seminar)/$135 (dinner only): Steele •Feb. 9, 7 pm, $135: Storybrook Mountain Vineyards •Feb. 11, 7 pm, $135: Turnbull •Feb. 12, 7 pm, $135: Hess •Feb. 13, 7 pm, $185: Valentine's Day Dinner Dance •Feb. 15, 10 am-2 pm, $65: Valentine's Brunch •Feb. 16, 7 pm, $135: Moet & Chandon •Feb. 17, 7 pm, $135: 1990 Vintage.

Champagne with Apstein
Boston University Lifelong Learning, 808 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-9852). Feb. 12, 6-8 pm. $60. Boston Globe freelance wine writer **Michael Apstein** teaches you how to appreciate Champagne and sparkling wines.

Chocolate Fest
Whole Foods Market, 15 Westland Ave., Boston (617-375-1010). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Feb. 7, 1-4 pm. This annual event features demonstrations, sweet samples and gift ideas for Valentine's Day.

Chocolate Lovers Wine Tasting
Nantasket Beach Hotel and Conference Center, 45 Hull Shore Drive, Hull (781-925-9793). Feb. 7, 1-4 pm. $35, $40 at the door. Enjoy selections from confectioners, restaurants and wine cellars at this space overlooking Nantasket Beach.

Cooking with Rialto
Rialto, Charles Hotel, One Bennett Street, Cambridge (617-661-5050). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Feb. 7, 11 am. $75. Chef **Jody Adams** shows how to make eight exotic walkabout foods paired with three wines chosen by wine director **Patrick Dubsky**.

Family Dinner
Westport Rivers Winery, 417 Hixbridge Road, Westport (508-636-3423). Feb. 6, 6:30 pm. $25, $15 children. Parents and children can enjoy a two-course meal paired with wine or beer (and cider for the kids). Dinners include a refresher on table manners, some conversation cards to spark family discussions and a brief presentation on selecting and serving wine or beer.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. $25 (includes light food). Fireplace chef/owner **Jim Solomon** offers a series of tastings. •Feb. 14: Bourbon.

Fun with Fondue
Hyatt Regency Boston, One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-422-5579). Chef **Brad Ozerdem** offers a series of fondue-related events. •Feb 12, 6 pm, $49: The Original New England Artisanal Cheese Fondue. Ozerdem and cheesemaker **Peter Dixon** of Westminster Dairy host this wine dinner featuring fondue made with New England artisanal cheeses. •Feb. 17, 6-8:30 pm, $19, $29 at the door: Tuesday Tasting: Fun with Fondue & Beer. Ozerdem pairs fondues with beer.


Have fun with fondue at the Hyatt Regency Boston Feb. 12 and 17.

Harvest Review
Harvest, 44 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-868-2255). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Chef **Eric Brennan** pays homage to New England farmers and purveyors of seafood, produce and cheese with this monthly event. •Feb. 11, 6 pm, $39 All Things Chocolate—Sweet & Savory with pastry chef **Molly Hanson.**

Maggiano's Cooking Class
Maggiano's Little Italy, Four Columbus Ave., Boston (617-542-3456). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Feb. 7, 10 am-2 pm. $10. Chef James Drake teaches attendees how to create an intimate dinner for two.

Pancake Breakfast
Verrill Farm, 11 Wheeler Road, Concord (978-369-4494). Feb. 7, 9-11 am. $5. Enjoy pancakes, Massachusetts maple syrup, bacon, and coffee, juice or milk.

Radius Winter Cooking Series
Radius, 8 High St., Boston (617-426-1234). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Chef de cuisine **Brian Reimer** and wine steward **Scott Fraley** teach this cooking series. •Feb. 7, 11 am-2:30 pm Cupid at the Stove.

Sauza Tequila Night
Tremont 647, 647 Tremont, Boston (617-266-4600). Feb. 9, 6:30 pm. $65. Begin the evening with a margarita reception followed by a four-course dinner paired with Sauza tequila.

Super Hunger Brunch
Participating restaurants throughout Greater Boston (617-427-5200). www.gbfb.org. *Feb. 7 and 8, 11 am-2 pm.* More than 50 restaurants offer brunch for $20, $25, $35 and $50 (prices vary according to the restaurant) to benefit the Greater Boston Food Bank.

Wine Wednesdays
Caffé Umbra, 1395 Washington St., Boston (617-867-0707) Wed., 5-7 pm. **Mark Thomas Gavigan** of Boston Wines hosts this night of wines paired with food. •Feb. 4: Spain •Feb. 11 dessert wines.

DISH

Battle Hmmm of the Republique

Suit hits the Pho…V-Day brunch… Moo-mentum

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

First came the letter from a New York attorney's office informing **Pho Republique** owner **Jack Bardy** that his restaurant was infringing on the trademark of the attorney's client, a restaurant called **Republic**. Bardy shrugged off the order to "cease and desist."

Now a federal lawsuit has been filed, and Bardy, who's planning to open a Shanghai-themed eatery in Cambridge in March, has a very full plate indeed.

He says he has no idea what prompted the legal action ("There are a lot of restaurants with 'republic' in the name," he says) and that even though the New York Republic serves Asian food, "if you tried the food there, you wouldn't confuse the two places. It's a very mediocre operation: Asian fast-food."

Bardy is readying himself to go to court, if necessary. "I'm going to defend the good name of Pho Republique," he says. "Let's do it. I'm ready for a good fight."

We'll keep you posted. Meanwhile, calls to Republic's lawyer in Manhattan were not returned. And although a local attorney familiar with trademark law says that at first glance the suit is "very aggressive and perhaps untenable," he adds that it's "hard to evaluate without seeing the allegations."





Will Jack Bardy have to change his restaurant's name?

SECOND COURSE

For years, **L'Espalier** has been one of the city's top-rated venues for a romantic dinner. Now, appropriately starting on Valentine's Day weekend, chef/owner **Frank McClelland** is also offering a Sunday brunch menu. If your romance lingers past sunrise, put away the prepackaged English muffins and treat yourself to deluxe dishes such as baked Wellfleet oysters on the half shell in Meyer lemon and salsify custard, with chervil and Iranian Ossetra caviar. That's just for starters; other first courses include smoked trout with onion, Comte cheese and spinach tart with Aunt Midge's sauce, and duck sausage, maple baked beans and house-smoked bacon with a corn fritter. If the prix fixe option seems like too much commitment too soon, you can order à la carte.

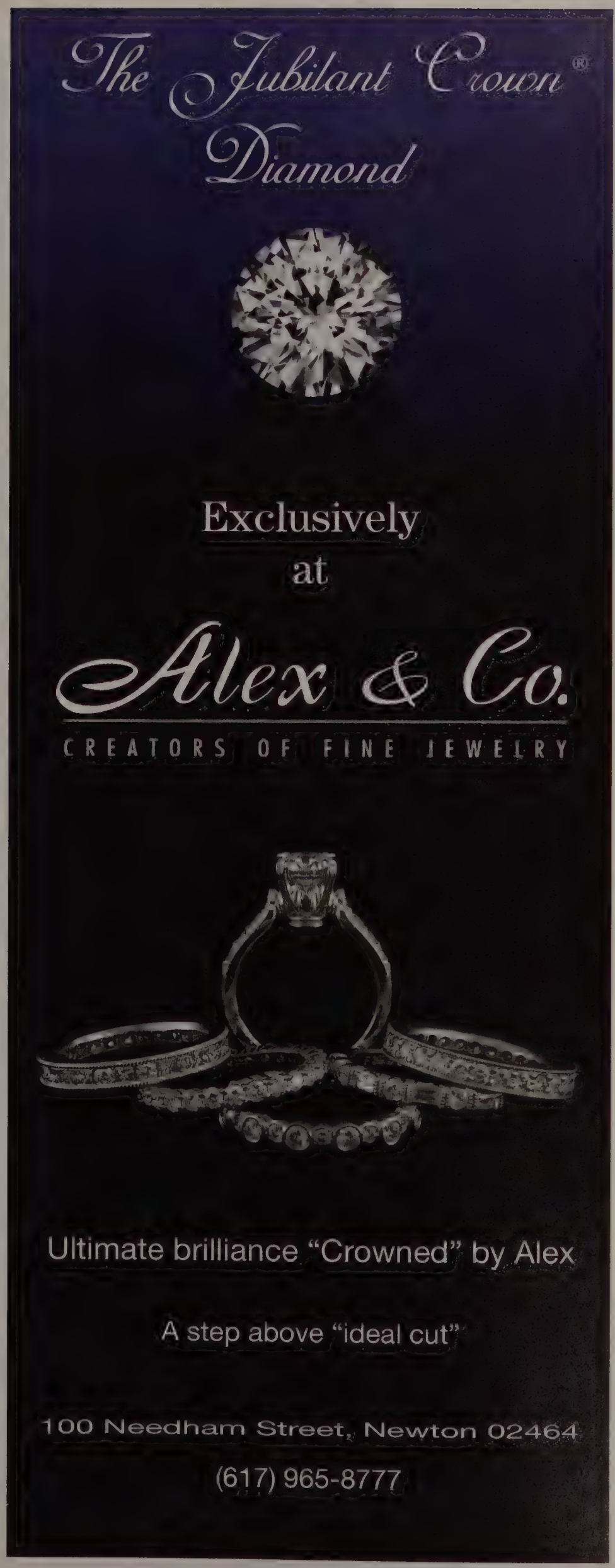
Troquet, the Theater District restaurant best known for the carefully paired wine and food items on its menu, is adding a new partnership to the mix. Chef **Scott Hebert** and pastry chef **Natalia Andalo**, who are married, are now partners in the business with original owners **Chris** and **Diane Campbell**. After almost three years, Troquet is expanding, adding a 50-seat dining room on the second floor. The downstairs space has been revamped as a lounge area, offering a full bar with creative cocktails and a menu of small plates seven days a week.

Delayed gratification: If you're thinking "lobster pizza" for lunch, hold that thought till dinnertime. In the fall, **Excelsior** started to serve a limited lunch menu in the downstairs bar area, hoping to draw clientele from business and residential neighbors. Ridiculously cold weather and a lack of foot traffic led the restaurant to reconsider, and so the doors are closed until spring, when lunch plans will be reevaluated.

Caffeinated carnivores: In Seattle, a steakhouse is featuring a dish of filet mignon coated with Starbucks espresso grounds. Will any of Boston's steakhouses pick up on the trend? IB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to dish@improper.com.





WINE

Gift of Grape

BY SANDY BLOCK, M.W.



The first time somebody gave me a bottle of wine as a gift I thought, "That's pretty cool." I didn't know much about wine at the time, but the present made a definite impression. After unwrapping the bottle, I put it away, assuming it would only get better and better as all wines do the longer you save them. Wrong! I mistakenly carted my treasure, a modest Entre Deux Mers, from apartment to apartment until the right moment arrived and then, with great fanfare, uncorked what turned out to be nothing more than expensive vinegar, brownish in color and sherry-like in flavor. The lesson: Wine's a great gift, but the giver should help out the recipient with some information.

Now I almost always give wine, I guess because it's expected of me. But there are lots of reasons wine is an ideal gift choice. For one thing, you might benefit at some point by being able to enjoy the present with the person you're giving it to. Secondly, you can avoid the last-minute "What should I get?" scramble if you buy a case of something you like and then dole it out, bottle by bottle, as gift-giving occasions arise. Third, if you introduce your recipient to a bottle that's hip and obscure, it says a lot about your taste for the finer things. (Just make sure to include "how to" instructions regarding when you drink it and with what.) Last of all, for the biggies that can leave your checkbook bleeding (weddings, anniversaries and other such occasions), sticking to the wine solution can cut your shopping time as well as your bill significantly.

Let's get specific. If you're giving a wine that you hope might be enjoyed over a long period of time, then you need to choose from a vintage that has aging potential. Ask your retailer for a bottle, or a case, that's expected to improve over time. (If you're looking for a bottle from a meaningful year that will touch the recipient because of a shared memory or a significant event, you might be less fussy about its developmental potential.)

Buying older wine is always tricky because of uncertainty about how it has been stored and shipped before you get your hands on it. You're better off giving something current and including instructions about its estimated peak drinking time frame. The great thing nowadays is that there are so many wines that taste good now but will continue to improve over time. A number of recent vintages have achieved iconic status in the past few years, such as 2000 Bordeaux and 1997 brunello, but these don't represent great value because they've been hyped so aggressively that everyone wants them. Here's my short list of recent vintages to consider when selecting a wine gift that you want the recipient to enjoy in the future:

2001 Bordeaux. The vintage would be more famous if it didn't follow 2000, which, despite economic woes and anti-French sentiment, caused a buying frenzy. The good thing is that prices are considerably lower for comparable wines than in 2000. The wines get interesting starting at about $25, and the good ones can age at least another 10 years.

2001 California cabernet sauvignon. Ripe, big and full-bodied, with earlier accessibility than Bordeaux of the same year. The only downside is that prices, unaccountably, have not moderated much. But you can generally find your favorite Napa or Sonoma heavyweight if you look hard enough. Expect to pay $30 to infinity for an ageworthy bottle. Many of these will continuing developing for decades if stored properly.

2002 red Burgundy. A return to form that rivals the super 1999s at prices that are actually lower. Stick with the big-name premier and grand crus (starting at about $40) and you can expect them to age beautifully for up to 15 years.

1998 Brunello di Montalcino. The 1998 Tuscans were no slouch, even in comparison with the incomparable 1997s. In fact the 1998s are even a bit better structured for the long haul. Tough to appreciate young, these are bottles for the cellar, and you'll have to shell out $60 and up. But your patience will be rewarded if you can resist drinking the wine for up to 15 years.

2000 vintage port. This is a great gift because it's so sturdy and can age practically indefinitely. Very ripe year, beautifully lush forward fruit. Prices are not cheap: $50 for the no-names, $100 for the blue chips.

2002 German riesling. Ageworthy whites? These are, particularly from great estates in the Mosel-Saar-Ruwer and Rheingau. The wines are so agreeable early, you wouldn't think so, but a good spätlese has 10 years ahead of it at a minimum. The only caveat: Cool storage is essential. The cost: $20 to $150 depending on the quality you want.

2002 Chilean reds. Yes, you can age wines from Chile and they will get better, trust me. This may be one of the finest vintages on record, and the wines are a steal, as in $15 for a beautiful bottle with a five- to seven-year life span. IB

One of only 18 Americans certified as a master of wine, Sandy Block is assistant vice president of win for Horizon Beverage.

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Visit any or all of these Authentic Irish Pubs between February 6th and March 12th for your chance to spend St. Patrick's Day in Ireland! Eat, drink and practice your best Irish accent and you may just be celebrating in the Irish homeland.

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IMPROPER PICKS

february 4-17

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			4 	5 At the Lizard Lounge's new Soul Low series, musicians play short, quiet sets. Tonight, **Beth Boucher** performs. *See Music on page 64.*	6 **Caliente: Heat Up the Night** is a Mexican-themed party benefiting the Institute of Contemporary Art. *See CityScope on page 48.*	7
8 **Andy Warhol and the Factory,** at the Harvard Film Archive, features films by and about the pop artist. Tonight is *Absolut Warhol*. *See Movies on page 58.* 	9	10  *New Yorker* film critic **David Denby** reads from his book *American Sucker* at Brookline Booksmith. *See Books & Poetry on page 82.*	11 **Tonic** hosts a pre-Valentines Day social for single young professionals. *See CityScope on page 48.*	12	13 **The Bugs Bunny Film Festival** returns to the Brattle Theatre starting today. *See Movies on page 56.* 	14 If you're single, find your Valentine at the **Lock and Key Party** at Felt. *See CityScope on page 48.*
15	16	17				


The acrobats of Chi roll into town Feb. 7.

SAT./FEB. 7

Performing Arts: Head over Heels

Shanghai acrobatic troupe **Chi** rolls into town on its first U.S. tour, bringing its graceful blend of acrobatics and martial arts. But there's more to this high-flying act than meets the eye. The 40 dexterous gymnasts, dancers, tumblers and jugglers, some of whom hail from the award-winning Shanghai Acrobatic Troupe, use their *chi*, or life energy, to keep a strong mind/body connection and perform in precise harmony. The show, *Chi: A New Era in Acrobatics*, is directed and choreographed by Li Xining, who has worked with Cirque du Soleil, so expect a wealth of artsy shenanigans. *Orpheum Theatre, 1 Hamilton Place, Boston (617-876-4275). 8 pm. $20-$37.*

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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ERIN


JULIE

AGENDA

THU./FEB. 5

Music: Looney Tunes



Curtis Eller, the angry, yodeling banjo player

Curtis Eller is known as the angry, yodeling banjo player who sings songs about pigeon racing and Jesus. If that's not enough to pique your interest, Eller (a former juggler and acrobat) is touring with his oddball band, the American Circus, who usually play at burlesque shows and vaudeville revues but have also performed at funerals and horse-races. Eller and the American Circus show off their curious blend of waltzes, polkas and carnival music on a double bill with the local, kitschy string band Reverend Glasseye and his Wooden Legs—a guaranteed interesting evening. *Middle East Upstairs, 472-480 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). 9 pm. $8, 18+.*

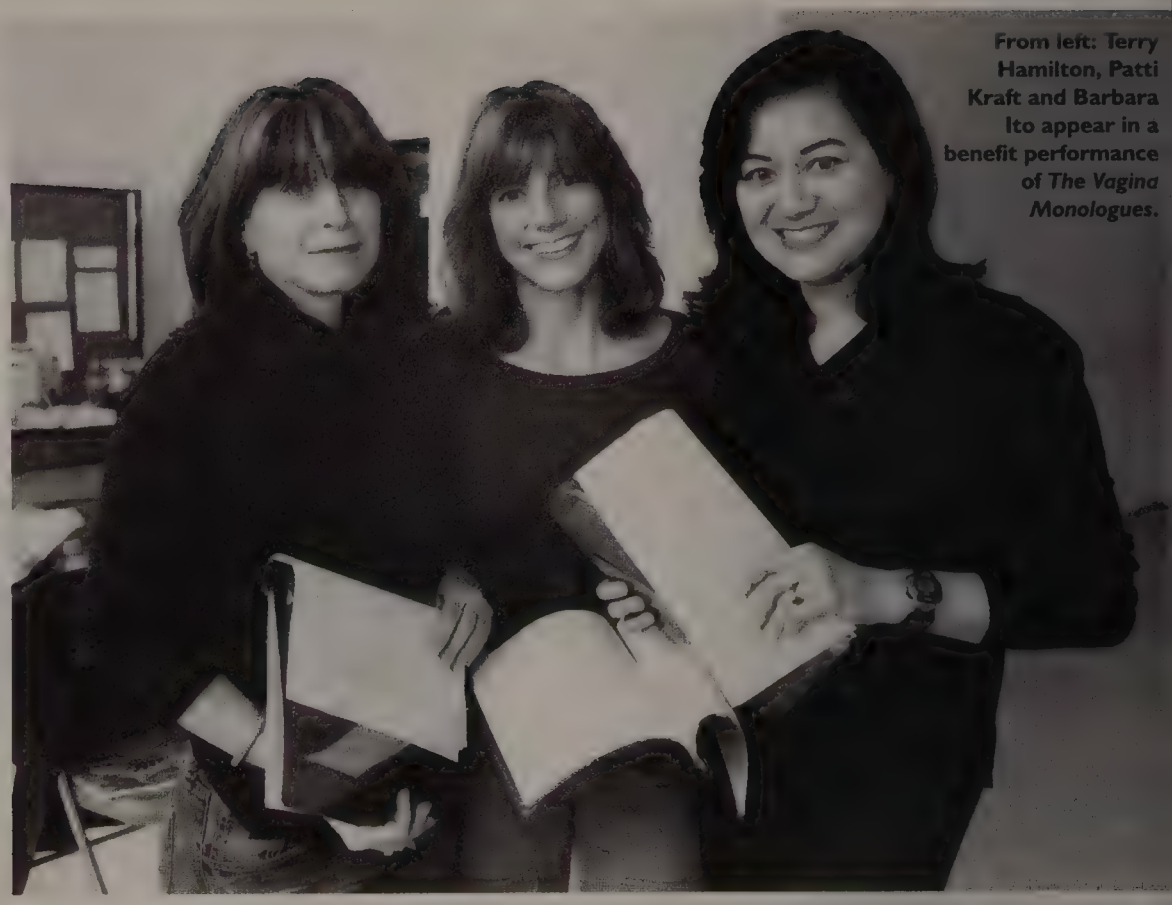


Wendy Liebman performs at the Comedy Connection on Valentine's Day.

SAT./FEB. 14

Heart Attack

Men, you may not be aware of this, but **Valentine's Day** falls on a Saturday this year. Not only that, it's a three-day weekend for many of us, thanks to President's Day on Feb. 16. If that plants a seed of creativity in your mind—something along the lines of, Maybe I should plan an overnight at a bed-and-breakfast in Vermont—think again. By the time you read this, all rooms at cozy inns will have been booked (and most have three-night minimums anyway). However, there are a handful of fun activities you can do in the city that aren't booked. Here are a few: Laugh aloud with funnygal Wendy Liebman at the Comedy Connection. Limber up at a special Valentine's Day partner yoga class at the Baron Baptiste Power Yoga Institute. Get in the mood by watching *Casablanca* at the Brattle Theatre. Or catch the Lizard Lounge's Valentine's Day show, starring Anngelle Wood, Chroma, the Kitty Kill, Starla Dear, Sugabomb and Drab. If none of these options appeal, you could always buy flowers (they don't have to be roses!), light some candles, order takeout Thai and snuggle up on the couch with a rental. She'll appreciate that you thought of it yourself.



From left: Terry Hamilton, Patti Kraft and Barbara Ito appear in a benefit performance of *The Vagina Monologues*.

THU./FEB. 5

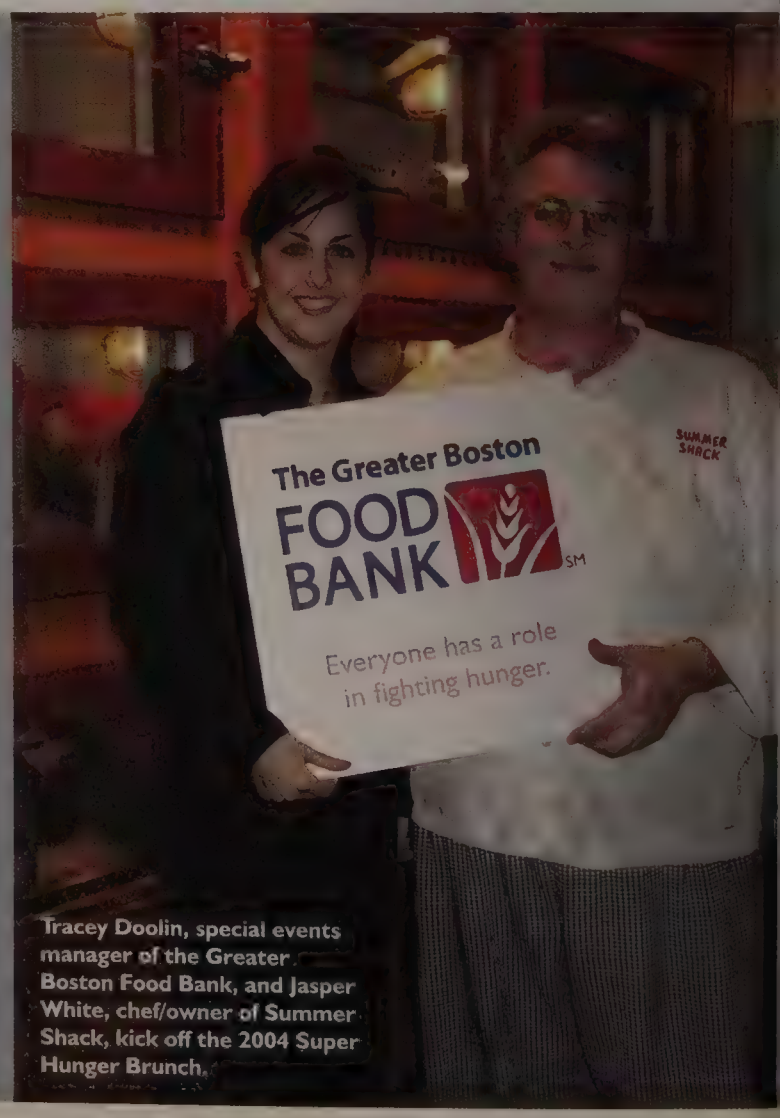
Performing Arts: Wonder Women

A couple of years ago, Eve Ensler came to town with her blush-inspiring play **The Vagina Monologues**, which featured excerpts from interviews with more than 200 women around the world about, yup, their vaginas, among other womanly concerns. The Obie Award–winning show, which doubles as tribute to women and their sexuality, is back, and this time it also doubles as a fund-raiser to prevent violence against women. The production features prominent local women offering testimony to the fairer sex. Among the stars are Marjorie O'Neill Clapprood, former state rep and now president of Marjorie O'Neill Clapprood Associates; Terry Hamilton, wife of Aerosmith bassist, Tom; Joanne Chang, chef/owner of Flour Bakery; Patti Kraft, wife of the New England Patriots' vice chairman, Jonathan; Barbara Ito, local president of the American Federation of Radio and Television Artists; and WCVB co-anchor Susan Wornick. Proceeds benefit the Second Step Inc., which provides transitional programming for survivors of domestic violence and their children. *John Hancock Hall, 180 Berkeley St., Boston (617-965-2026). 7:30 pm. $150-$350.*

SAT./FEB. 7 AND SUN./FEB. 8

Tastings: One Morning at a Time

There's an undiagnosed condition that many Bostonians (particularly those living in the South End) are plagued with: It's called bruncha-holism. Symptoms include an overwhelming desire to sleep late, plus extreme cravings for eggs Benedict and bloody Marys. If you're a confirmed (or recovering) addict, you'll want to know about the **Super Hunger Brunch** Feb. 7 and 8. More than 60 of our favorite eating establishments in Boston and beyond, including Blu, Bambara, the Fireplace, Jasper White's Summer Shack, L'Espalier, Rialto and Via Matta, offer brunch for either $20, $25, $35 or $50 (the price varies depending on the restaurant). *Proceeds benefit the Greater Boston Food Bank. (617-427-5200). www.gbfb.org. 11 am-2 pm.*



Tracey Doolin, special events manager of the Greater Boston Food Bank, and Jasper White, chef/owner of Summer Shack, kick off the 2004 Super Hunger Brunch.

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Festivals, Benefits & Events

THURSDAY, FEB. 5

Vagina Monologues Benefit Performance
John Hancock Hall, 180 Berkeley St., Boston (617-965-2036). www.thesecondstep.org. 7:30 pm. $150 and up. Prominent Boston women perform Eve Ensler's play to raise money to fight violence against women.

FRIDAY, FEB. 6

Caliente: Heat Up the Night at the ICA
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. 7:30-12 am. $100, $150 VIP. The ICA's New Group hosts this Mexican-themed party featuring salsa dancing, music by DJ Felix Cutillo, food, cocktails and an exhibition of art inspired by Mexico. Proceeds benefit the ICA/Vita Brevis program to commission art works for public settings.

Go Red for Women Luncheon
Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (508-935-3906). 11:30 am-1:30 pm. $150. The American Heart Association kicks off its "Go Red for Women" campaign to fight heart disease among women with a luncheon and fashion show by Denise Hajjar. Boston media celebrities including Heather Unruh of WCVB and Bonnie Schneider of WLVI model the collection.

Green Street Studios Fund-Raiser
185 Green St., Cambridge (617-864-3191). Feb. 6-7, 8 pm. $25. Dancers perform to support Green Street Studios' movement education programs.

Lowell WinterFest
Various locations, downtown Lowell (800-443-3332, ext. 20). www.lowell.org. Through Feb. 7. Fri., 6:30 pm-1 am; Sat., 1-8 pm. Free. This annual winter festival includes a soup and chowder competition, free skating in the Tsongas Arena, fireworks, the Snow-Shoed Waiter competition and the National Human Dogsled Championship, where teams of four people pull a dog sled with a driver and a "musher."

SATURDAY, FEB. 7

Dance Party Fund-Raiser
Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center, 85 West Newton St., Boston (617-547-9699). 8:30 pm-1 am. $50 in advance, $60 at the door. This fund-raiser for the Anna Myer and Dancers company includes music from Vickie True's seven-piece rhythm and blues band, food and a sneak preview of the company's next premiere.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 11

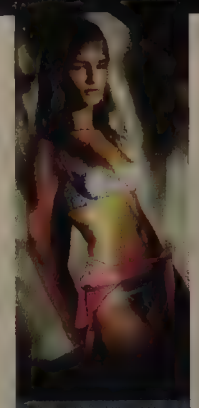
Happy Hour for Argentina
Felt, 533 Washington St., Boston (617-457-8788). 6-10 pm. $15 in advance, $20 at the door. This benefit for Argentinean charities features a DJ, appetizers, free pool, prizes, and a tango demonstration. Cash bar.

A Night of Comedy and BBQ
Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). 6 pm. $40. Jimmy Tingle hosts, Steven Wright performs and Redbones provides the food at this benefit for the Emerson College baseball team.


The Human Dogsled race at Lowell WinterFest

BE MY VALENTINE

Get friendly with Cupid at these Valentine's Day events


It's Brassieres at Brasserie Jo Feb. 6

FRIDAY, FEB. 6

Brassieres at Brasserie Jo
Brasserie Jo at the Colonnade Hotel, 120 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-425-3240). 12-1:30 pm. Purchase a bit of intimate apparel for V-Day at this lunchtime La Perla lingerie fashion show.

SATURDAY, FEB. 7

Cherchez L'Amour Gala
Hyatt Regency Boston, One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (508-276-1200). www.sudiko.com. 8:30 pm-1:30 am. $40 in advance, $50 at the door. Creative black-tie attire. This singles dance features a cocktail reception, hors d'oeuvres, live swing music and a DJ. A portion of proceeds benefits multiple sclerosis research.

Hearts for the Home Benefit
Seaport Hotel, Boston (617-524-3116, ext. 349). 7 pm-1 am. $100. Singles and couples are invited to this cocktail party, dinner and dance to benefit the Italian Home for Children.

SUNDAY, FEB. 8

Wedding Valentine Show
Yolanda's Bridal Shop, 355 Waverly Oaks Road, Waltham (617-739-5300) 11 am-3 pm. Get some ideas for your wedding with a band/DJ showcase, samples of food from Table of Contents catering and a Yolanda fashion show.

TUESDAY, FEB. 10

Have a Heart Valentine's Gala
Sheraton Braintree Hotel, Braintree (781-681-1229) 6:30 pm. $75. This benefit for Partners Home Care includes food and wine tastings, a drawing for jewelry and live music.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 11

Pre-Valentine's Day Social
Tonic, 1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-254-3800, ext. 1414) 6-10 pm. $10. This get-together to benefit the Franciscan Hospital for Children includes appetizers, music and raffle prizes.

THURSDAY, FEB. 12

The Heartbreakers Ball
Whiskey Park, 64 Arlington St., Boston. www.jetsetevents.com. 8 pm-2 am. $20 in advance, $25 at the door. This Valentine's party features open bar from 8-10 pm, food from McCormick & Schmick's, live jazz by the Japanese Swing Cats and door prizes.

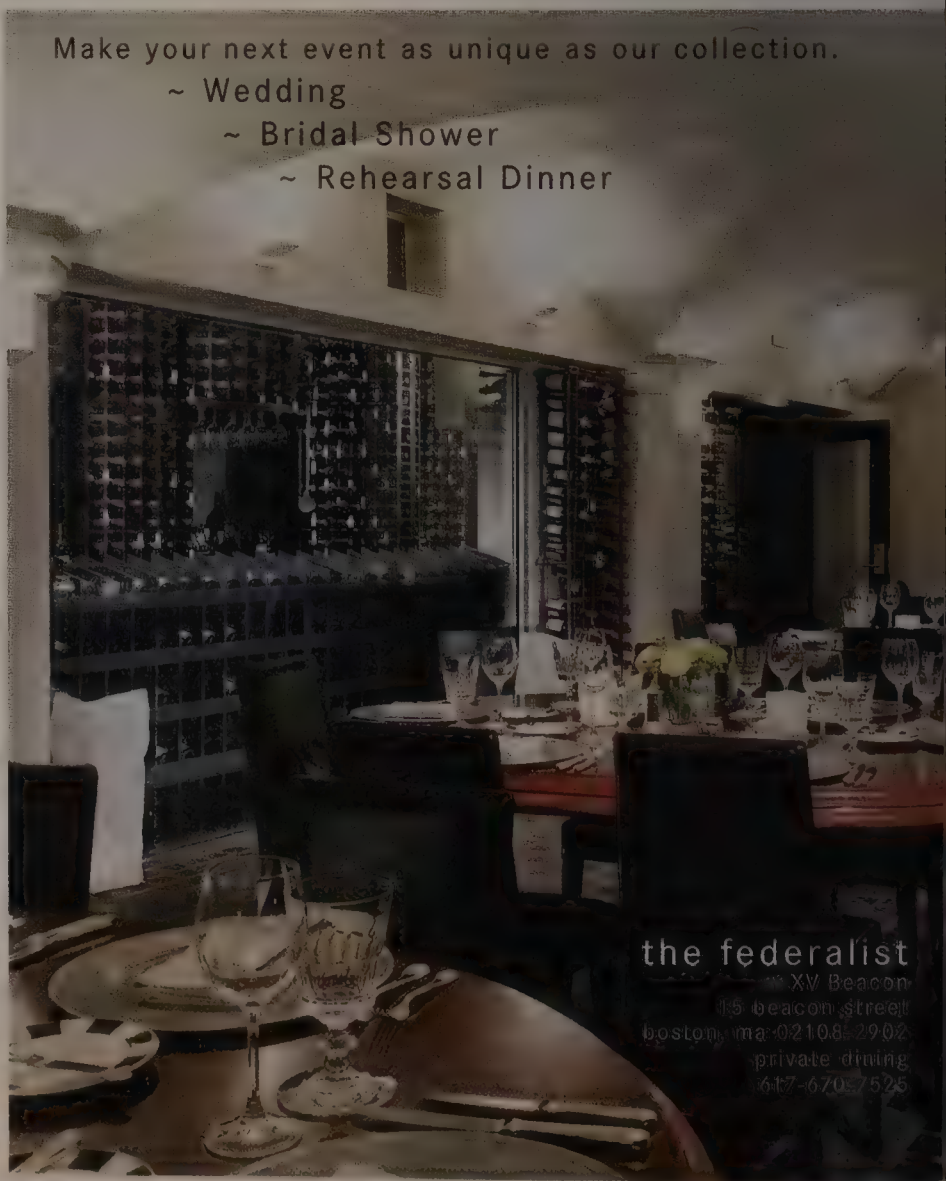
Me & Ro Trunk Show
Matsu, 259 Newbury St., Boston (617-426-1522) 5-8 pm. Pick up a gift and sip champagne at this jewelry show. A portion of proceeds benefits the Boston Center for the Arts.

SATURDAY, FEB. 14

Lock and Key Party at Felt
Felt, 533 Washington St., Boston (617-591-1400). www.bostonypa.com. 6:30 pm. $20 in advance, $25 at the door. Girls get locks, guys get keys and everyone's got the night to find a match at this Valentine's Day singles party.

Valentine's Day Salsa Party
Knights of Columbus Hall, 75 West School St., Charlestown. www.salsaboston.com. 8 pm. $20 in advance, $25 at the door. Shake your booty Latin style with dance performances and music from DJs Pedro Santiago and Hernan and conga player Giovanni Hidalgo.





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performing arts

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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater

JUST OPENED

Boston Marriage
Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 East Merrimack St., Lowell (978-454-3926). www.merrimackrep.org. *Wed., 2 and 8 pm; Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. Feb. 12-March 7. $32-$36.* David Mamet's play revolves around an ambiguous relationship between two women living together at the turn of the century.

Conspiracy of Memory
Boston Theatre Works at Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-728-4321). www.bostontheatreworks.com. MBTA: *B Green Line to Pleasant Street. Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Feb. 8-22. $25.* In this play by Steven Bogart, an elderly Holocaust survivor is forced to confront his shattered past when he deals with the effects of Alzheimer's.

Flanagan's Wake
Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theatre, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: *Red Line to Davis. Thu.-Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $27.50.* Friends gather to mourn the passing of Flanagan in the fictional town of Grapplin, Ireland. Actors improvise stories and songs at Flanagan's wake based on audience suggestions.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
Lowell Memorial Auditorium, 50 East Merrimack St., Lowell. (978-454-2299). www.lowellauditorium.com. *Feb. 14, 8 pm. $27.50-$46.50.* Four actors play more than 40 roles in this production of Jimmy Roberts and Joe DiPietro's musical comedy about dating, husbands, romance, lovers, wives and in-laws.

Lead Me to the Valley, Virginia Cha, Virginia Cha
The Theatre Cooperative, Elizabeth Peabody House, 277 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-1300). www.theatrecoop.org. *Fri. and Sat., 8 pm. Feb. 6 and 7. $10.* This play by Bill Doncaster is the second in the Theatre Cooperative's series of new one-act plays by New England playwrights. Doncaster speaks after the performance.

Nunsense: 20th Anniversary All-Star Tour
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-931-2787). MBTA: *Green Line to Boylston. Tue., 8 pm; Wed., 7 pm; Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 1 and 7 pm. Feb. 10-15. $25-$68.* The cast for this 20th-anniversary production of the award-winning musical comedy written and directed by Dan Goggin includes Georgia Engel from *The Mary Tyler Moore Show.*

Only We Who Guard the Mystery Shall Be Unhappy
First Parish, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-495-2727). www.cambridgeforum.org. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $50, $100 and $300.* Cambridge Forum and the American Repertory Theatre present a benefit reading of Tony Kushner's new work in progress, featuring Karen MacDonald in the role of Laura Bush. A panel discussion on the intersection of art and politics follows.

The Spitfire Grill
The Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-8819). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Wed., 2 and 7:30 pm; Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Feb. 13-March 13. $22-$43.* Centered around a town where everyone has a secret, this musical by Fred Alley and James Valcq tells the story of Percy, an outsider who transforms the town by turning around its fading local grill.

Twelfth Night, or What You Will
Emerson Stage at Semel Theatre, Tufte Performance Center, 10 Boylston Place, Boston (617-824-8369). www.emerson.edu/emersonstage. *Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun. 2 pm. Feb. 26-29. $14.* Shakespeare's romantic comedy showcases mistaken identities, disguised genders and misplaced passions.

The Unemployable Livia Peacock
T&A Theatre at the Boston Center for the Arts, Leland Center, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.bcaonline.org. *Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 and 7 pm. Feb. 6-28. $20.* After retiring early from her job as a kindergarten teacher, Livia Peacock's life turns comic when she meets a young executive who launches her on a new career path. Comedian Rick Park directs this play by Nancy Pearson.

The Vagina Monologues
John Hancock Hall, 180 Berkeley St., Boston (617-965-2026). MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Feb. 5, 7:30 pm. $150-$350.* This performance of the Obie Award–winning play by Eve Ensler features prominent women from the Boston community, including Terry Byrne, Marjorie Clapprood, Joanne Chang, Terry Hamilton and Susan Wornick, a benefits the V-Day Worldwide Campaign, wh fights violence against women.

NOW RUNNING

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (6 426-6912). www.blueman.com/ticketinfo/bost MBTA: *Green Line to Boylston. Wed., 8 pm; Thu. and 8 pm; Fri., 7 and 10 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 p Sun., 3 and 6 pm. Ongoing. $43 and $53.* This p duction abandons all dialogue and focuses on mak an impact through tribal rock music, humorous tics, props and three men painted blue.

The Dazzle
Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham (78 279-2200). Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 p Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. Through Feb. 8. $ Playwright Richard Greenberg's tale is loosely ba on the lives of Homer and Langley Collyer, upp class brothers from turn-of-the-century New Y who were found dead in their mansion surround by 131 tons of trash.

The Gigolo Confessions of Baile Breag
Súgán Theatre at the Boston Center for the Arts, Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.bcaonli org. *Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 an pm; Sun., 3 pm. Through Feb.28. $22-$32.* The th play in Irish playwright Roan Noone's awa winning Baile trilogy, *The Gigolo Confessions* tack love and relationships. Paddy tries to persua William to join his thriving gigolo business wh William's former girlfriend, the strong-willed Ro McCann, deals with her father's descent i madness.

The Graduate
The Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (6 426-936). www.broadwayinboston.com. *Tue.-Fri. pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. Thro Feb. 8. $30-$72.* Lorraine Bracco of HBO's *Sopranos* stars as Mrs. Robinson in Terry Johnso adaptation of the classic film about a colle graduate confused about his future.

Inherit the Wind
Wheelock Family Theater, 180 The Riverway, Bos (617-879-2000). www.wheelock.edu/wft. *Thro Feb 28.* This play by Jerome Lawrence and Rob



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E. Lee dramatizes the July 1925 trial in Dayton, Tenn., in which Clarence Darrow and William Jennings Bryan debated teaching evolution versus creationism.

The Laramie Project
Arlington Friends of the Drama, 22 Academy St., Arlington (781-646-5922). www.afdtheatre.org. *Feb. 6 and 7, 8 pm; Feb. 8, 2 pm. $15.* The play documents the aftermath of the hate crime perpetrated against gay University of Wyoming student Matthew Shepard.

The Last Five Years
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.bcaonline.org. *Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 and 7 pm. Through Feb.28. $25-$35.* This contemporary musical from Tony Award–winning composer Jason Robert Brown chronicles a young couple's romance in an unusual way: Her story begins at the end of their relationship, while his starts on the day they meet.

A Midsummer Night's Dream
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat. 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. Through Feb. 28. $35-$69.* Director/choreographer Martha Clarke presents this dance-theater rendition of Shakespeare's play.

Psycho Beach Party
The Footlight Club, 7A Eliot St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3200). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Feb. 6-7, 8pm. $15. Charles Busch wrote this postmodern farce about a perky '60s surfer girl with multiple personalities and a terrible secret.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. *MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. Ongoing. $30-$34.* This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

The Threepenny Opera
New Repertory Theatre, 154 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands. (617-332-1646). www.newrep.org. *Wed., 2 and 7 pm; Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat. 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. Through Feb. 8. $27-$42* Based on John Gay's play A *Beggar's Opera*, this musical by Kurt Weill and Bertolt Brecht satirizes bourgeois society by portraying a world largely inhabited by members of the underclass and underworld.

UNIVERSITY THEATER

Don Pasquale
Boston University Opera Institute, Boston University Theatre, Boston (617-273-1668). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. Feb. 12-15. $10-$15. When a young, wealthy Italian man falls for an American student in Rome, his uncle becomes furious and demands he drop the girl or else face disinheritance in this comic opera by Gaetano Donizetti.

The Gondoliers
The Boston Conservatory, 31 Hemenway St., Boston (781-736-3400). www.bostonconservatory.edu. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Thu..-Sat., 8 pm. Feb. 5-7. $14-$16.* Two brothers in the kingdom of Barataria try to discover which one of them is the rightful king in this opera by Gilbert and Sullivan.

The Winter's Tale
Brandeis University Department of Theater Arts,, Spingold Theatre Center, Brandeis University, Waltham (781-736-3400). Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. www.brandeis.edu/theater. *Tue.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. Feb. 10-15. $16-$20.* In Shakespeare's play, King Leontes, tortured by jealousy, banishes his queen and their infant daughter. They are presumed dead—until an unlikely miracle occurs.

Dance

Chi: A New Era in Acrobatics
Orpheum Theatre, 1 Hamilton Place, Boston (617-876-4275). www.worldmusic.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Park. Feb. 7, 8 pm. $25-$37.* Chi comes from a centuries-old Chinese tradition that fuses acrobatics and martial arts. Directed and choreographed by Li Xining, choreographer for Cirque de Soleil, this production showcases 40 gymnasts, dancers, tumblers and jugglers displaying feats of balance, speed and grace.

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston. (617-931-2787). www.wangcenter.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Fri., 7:30; Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Feb. 6-8. $35-$55.* Directed by Jim Vincent, this contemporary dance company combines everything from American musical theater to ballet.

Moving to Word: A Shared Choreographers' Concert
The Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Central Square, Cambridge (617-547-9363). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Feb. 6-7, 8 pm. $9. This new work by Boston choreographers blends modern dance, ballet, jazz and improvisational performance art. The production includes a male duet focusing on tenderness and strength, as well as a female duet representing a woman's struggle to find her identity and self-worth.



Nunsense is at the Wilbur Theatre Feb. 10-15.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

STAND-UP CLUBS

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault at Remington's features local stand-up comedians. •Thu.: Dick Doherty's Comedy Pro Tour •Fridays: *The Fun Room*, Corey Manning. •Saturdays: Boston's Best Standup. •Sundays: open-mike night.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. *MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8 pm, $12; Thu., 8:30 pm, $12; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm, 10:15 pm, prices vary; Sun., 7 pm, $12.* The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Feb. 4: Harrison Stebbins •Feb. 5: Frank Santos, the R-rated Hypnotist •Feb. 6, $21: Bobby Collins •Feb. 7, $25: Bobby Collins •Feb. 8: E.J. Murphy •Feb. 9: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox •Feb. 10: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz •Feb. 11: Harrison Stebbins •Feb. 12: Frank Santos, the R-rated Hypnotist •Feb. 13, $22.50: Wendy Liebman, co-star on Comedy Central's *Dr. Katz: Professional Therapist* •Feb. 14, $25: Wendy Liebman •Feb. 15: Joe Yannetty and Joe List •Feb. 16: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox •Feb. 17: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz.

Comedy Studio
The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Feb. 4: Kelly MacFarland, Tony V, Dan Hershon, TJ Griffin, Malissa Hunt, Emily Singer and Gary Sohmers •Feb. 5: Chris Coxen, Max Goldberg, Malissa Hunt and Dot Dwyer •Feb. 6: Chris Walsh, Myq Kaplan, Max Silvestri, Dave Grabiner, Malissa Hunt, Dave Walsh and Larry Murphy •Feb. 7: Max Silvestri, Dan Sally, Malissa Hunt, Myq Kaplan and Brian Gordon •Feb. 8: Sam Walters, Jim Flaherty, Dan Sulman, Malissa Hunt, Janet Cormier, Greg Thibideau and Dave Thompson •Feb. 10: Mystery Lounge •Feb. 11: Tony V, Kelly MacFarland, Anthony Spencer, Jeremy Turoff, Malissa Hunt, Brian Longwell, Dan Sulman and Joe Meade •Feb. 12: Tim McIntire, Eric Cheung, Malissa Hunt, Brian Longwell, Adam Pearlman, Ira Proctor and Pete Gray •Feb. 13: Tissa Hami, Dave Walsh, Larry Murphy, Chris Walsh, Malissa Hunt, EJ Murphy, Steve Calechman and Erik Charles Neilson •Feb. 14: Alex Fulsky, Steve Calechman, EJ Murphy, Malissa Hunt and Brian Gordon •Feb. 15: Sam Walters, Alison Block, Rob Reuter, Dan Shulman, Derek Gerry, Malissa Hunt and JJ •Feb. 17: Mystery Lounge.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to New England Medical Center. $10-$22. •Feb. 5, 8:30 pm: Tony V •Feb. 6 and 7, 8:45 pm: Dave Russo, Mike Katroubis and Chris Jones • Feb. 12-14, 8:30 pm: Rich Ceisler, Stephanie Peters and Mark Riley. •

IMPROV COMEDY

Faces for Radio
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.faces4radio.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu., 8 pm. $8.* Improv comedians poke fun at everything, including themselves.

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). ww improvasylum.com. *MBTA:Green or Orange Line Haymarket, or Green or Blue Line to Governme Center. Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 and 10 p $15-$20. Dinner packages also available.* Improvis tion and sketch comedy in the North End. •We Sat.: *Improv Asylum Announces the End of Ma Hostilities*, a new show on the mainstage.

ImprovBoston
1253 Cambridge St., Inman Square, Cambridge (61 576-1253). www.improvboston.com. *MBTA: Red Li to Central . $5-$12.* Boston's longest-running impro sational comedy troupe creates everything on the sp the characters, the stories, the settings—even t songs and dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: *The Hump*. Th series for experimental and improvisational theat features *ScripTease* and *The Tribe*. •Thu., 8 pm, $1 *Unnatural Selection*. A master of ceremonies randor eliminates players until only one is left. 10 pm, $5: T *Great and Secret Comedy Show*. Brothers Chris a David Walsh perform stand-up and music, play sh films and do character sketches in a display of sibli rivalry •Fri., 8 pm, $12: *George and Martha*. This fu improvised show revolves around this happy couple they entertain two different guests each week in th Midwestern living room. 10 pm, $12: *Theatre Spor* Two teams of improvisers face off. •Sat., 6 pm, $1 *ImprovBoston Family Show*. 8 and 10 pm, $12: *Impr Boston Mainstage*. Blending storytelling, music and a dience participation, a cast of improvisers create show that changes with every performance. •Sun. pm, $5: *Sgt. Culpepper's Improvisational Jamboree*. Th evening combines three shows into one. Watch p formances by visiting and local troupes.

Kitsch in Sync
Puppet Showplace Theatre, 32 Station St., Brookli (617-731-6400). www. kitschinsync.org. *MBT D Green Line to Brookline Village. Feb. 6, 8 p $7.* This comedy troupe performs improvisation sketches.

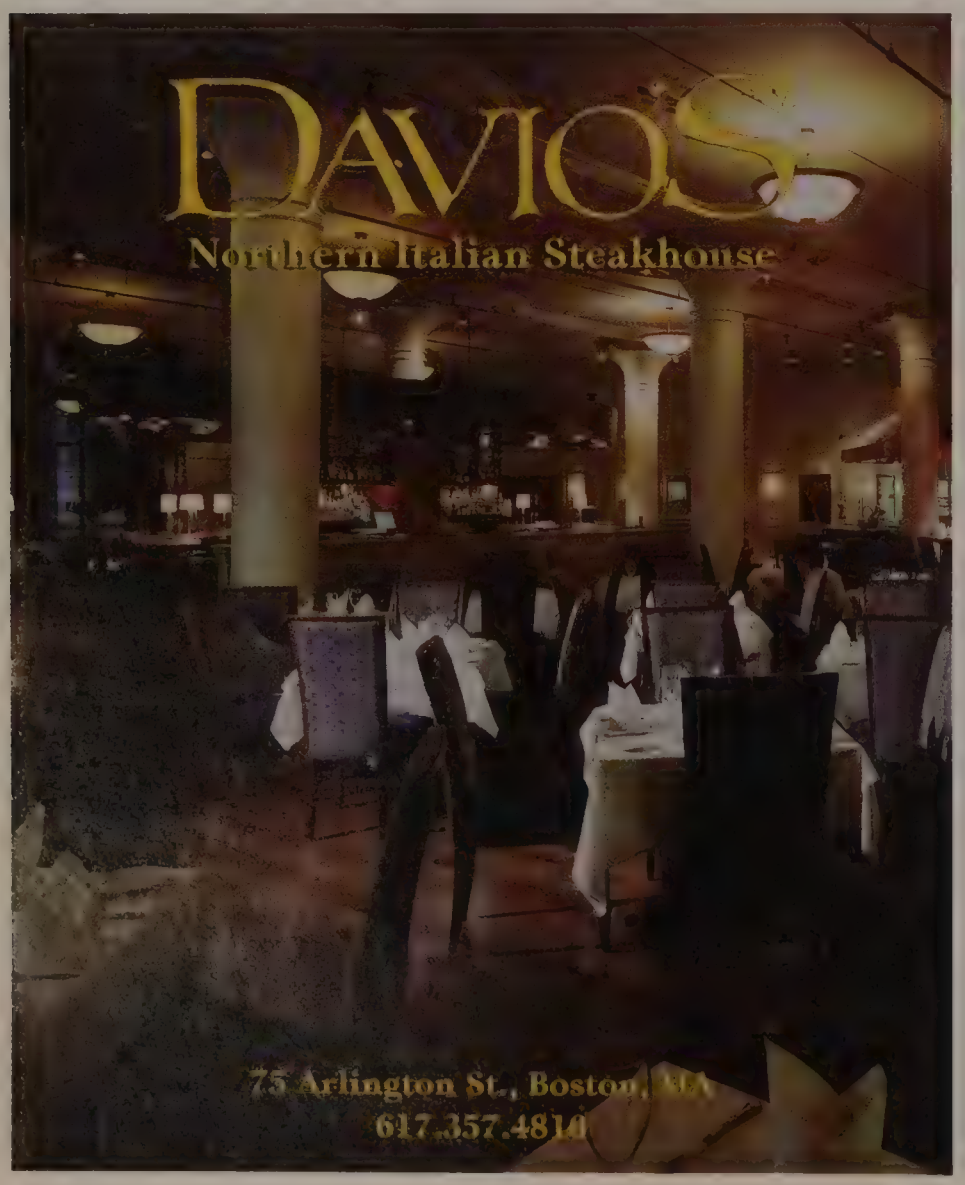
COMEDY SHOWS

Gourmet Detective
Ristorante Marino, 2465 Mass. Ave., Cambrid (800-697-2583). www.mysterycafe.com. *MBT Red Line to Porter. Feb. 7 and 14, 7:30 pm. $49 dinner and show.* The Gourmet Detective serves Italian cuisine with a murder mystery.

Larry Lee Lewis Comedy Show
Chops Lounge, 1271 Boylston St., Boston (617-26 8300). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Sat., 10 p $15. The Triple L Show presents 90 minutes of no stop variety entertainment. •Feb. 7: Larry Lee Lev •Feb. 14: Sparky Schneider.

Open Mike Night
Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon., pm. Open mike for creative talent.

Stash's Comedy Jam
All Asia Cafe, 334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-49 1544). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. www.stashcome jam.com. *First and third Sunday of every mont 8 pm.* Enjoy standup comedy at this open mi with host Stash.



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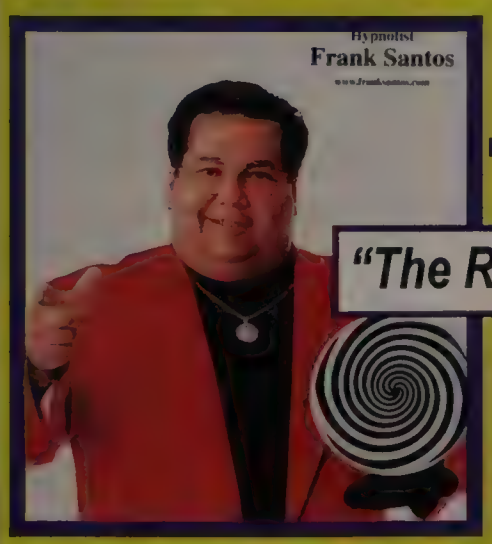
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Leonard Lite

The Big Bounce is less filling, but still tasty

BY PAUL SHERMAN

The Big Bounce is no *Out of Sight* or *Get Shorty*. Elmore Leonard wrote the novel back in 1969, before he'd quite found the distinctive thriller/comedy voice that resulted in those memorable 1990s books and movie adaptations. So it's no surprise that, like the book on which it's based, *The Big Bounce* feels flimsy next to more stylish, substantial Leonard movies. Its central crime scheme feels halfhearted, its colorful supporting cast sometimes doesn't get the screen time it deserves and its ending is iffy. But it's also no surprise that second-tier Leonard is more entertaining than most other movies.



Owen Wilson and Sara Foster star in the breezy new comedy *The Big Bounce*.

Maybe *The Big Bounce* is a mild success because it doesn't pretend to be anything more than a breezy lark. Director George Armitage and screenwriter Sebastian Gutierrez (*Judas Kiss*) have moved the action from Michigan to Hawaii, and the laid-back sun-and-surf setting certainly offers the appropriate tone for the story (and the appropriate fantasy escape destination for chilled Bostonians). Like the Oahu waves rolling into the shore, Jack Ryan (Owen Wilson) has drifted to Hawaii, in his case for the surf and the occasional con. Jack might be too shortsighted ever to get ahead in life, but Wilson's performance gives him enough charm to keep the viewer interested. Although he's not too smart, he's got the sense to realize that fact, and that's where much of his charm comes from, especially when the movie opens with Jack's amusing voice-over about his old pals "bad luck and bad choices."

Every good beach bum like Jack needs a sun bunny, and *The Big Bounce* has a great one in Nancy (newcomer Sara Foster). The willowy, bikini-friendly blond catches Jack's eye, but she's already the mistress of shady hotel developer Ray Ritchie (Gary Sinise). Bad girl Nancy claims she loves Ray, but she also wants to entice Jack into helping her steal $200,000 from Ray's safe. Although wizened Walter (Morgan Freeman), the local judge and bungalow-motel owner with whom Jack gets a job, keeps telling him that Nancy is bad news, Jack's hormones keep telling him to stick close to Nancy.

Or at least as close as Nancy will let him get. Nancy is no mere femme fatale, and Foster's poised performance treads a tricky line. Her Nancy is naughty but not slutty, and fun-loving but not a bimbo. In one of the movie's best sequences, she keeps Jack occupied in an upstairs living room and Charlie Sheen's dim Bob Jr., a foreman in Ray's company whom she needs to befriend as part of the robbery scheme, occupied in the downstairs living room. She's leading them both on with temptation, yet totally in control of the situation (and her peek-a-boo outfits).

At moments like that, *The Big Bounce* stands up to any of the Leonard movies, and director Armitage (*Miami Blues*, *Grosse Pointe Blank*) continues to be a master at squeezing comedy from violent situations like the film's opening, in which Jack cold-cocks a construction foreman (Vinnie Jones) with a baseball bat. Armitage isn't afraid to sit back and let his cast take over, either, as in a scene in which Jack and Nancy stroll on the beach in a minutes-long conversation—you really sense the playful chemistry between the characters (and the actors) because it's all filmed in a single shot. Another dose of unadulterated fun comes in a dominoes game featuring Jack, Walter, and characters played by Willie Nelson and Harry Dean Stanton (who are in the movie all too briefly). The relaxed and amusing scene feels as if Armitage just let the camera roll on these four colorful people, and who could blame him?

The less visible effort *The Big Bounce* exerts, the more it succeeds. That's why the ending, following some twists and turns in the robbery, feels labored. The movie was originally supposed to be in theaters last fall, and you sense there have been some reshoots and re-editing (the movie runs only about 85 minutes). The arbitrary ending feels as if it's one of several shot, and several snippets in the movie's commercials (including Nancy pulling a gun on Jack) are not in the finished film. To paraphrase Spencer Tracy's famous quip, there's not much meat on *The Big Bounce*, but *most* of what's there is choice. **IB**

The Big Bounce ★★★

Directed by George Armitage. Written by Sebastian Gutierrez. With Owen Wilson, Morgan Freeman, Sara Foster, Gary Sinise, Charlie Sheen, Bebe Neuwirth, Willie Nelson and Harry Dean Stanton. Rated PG-13. At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Along Came Polly ★★
That old Hollywood myth about opposites attra ing gets a serviceable but unremarkable treatmen this Ben Stiller–Jennifer Aniston romantic come He's a risk-averse analyst for an insurance compa whose new wife (Debra Messing) leaves him for other man on their honeymoon; she's a ragamuf who never plans anything in advance. When he h to choose between the two, which TV star will B spend the rest of his life with? This is just the lat in the growing list of "put Ben Stiller in uncomfo able situations" comedies, and unfortunately, often plays more like *Duplex* than *Meet the Paren* It's buoyed somewhat by the amusing supporti performances of Philip Seymour Hoffman, A Baldwin and Hank Azaria. (At Boston Commo Fenway and suburbs.)

The Battle of Algiers ★★★½
This 1965 look at the 1950s Algerian uprisi against the French colonials is one of the great do dramas. Now in rerelease, the movie's realism is s bracing and its violence still jarring and disturbi The movie has only become more morally compl over time, as it asks us to sympathize with revolutio aries who, essentially, perform terrorist acts. T movie is also too intense and immediate to co across as preachy, though. (At Kendall Square.)

Big Fish ★★★
Forget about the present-day drama between a bl tery dying Southerner (Albert Finney) and his se estranged grown son (Billy Crudup) in Tim Burto latest. The real action is in the tall tales about t dying man's earlier life. These sequences featuri Ewan McGregor are the first thing anyone will member from this movie. Burton gives these scen an eye-popping heightened reality, while McG gor's lively performance might remind you of a other optimistic dreamer from a Burton movie Johnny Depp's Ed Wood. With his performance a swaggering Camelot-era man-about-town in *Do with Love* and now this role, McGregor has improb bly shown himself to be a crackerjack portrayer American gumption. The rest of the movie falte but McGregor's scenes are bull's-eyes. (At Bost Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Cold Mountain ★★½
With its romance set against the backdrop of war, female bonding and its overgroomed star, Antho Minghella's adaptation of Charles Frazier's novel one part *Last of the Mohicans*, one part *Fried Gre Tomatoes* and one part infomercial for whatever li of cosmetics Nicole Kidman is wearing. By defau this is the best of the season's big dramatic epi clearly besting *The Last Samurai* and *House of Sa and Fog*. Much of it works: the budding romance Kidman's and Jude Law's characters interrupted the Civil War, the strife that besets all the chara ters because of the war, the supporting charact played by the likes of Philip Seymour Hoffman, N talie Portman, Ray Winstone and Jack White of t White Stripes. But while Kidman's minister's daug ter has her civilized life collapse around her and g pushed to the brink of starvation and poverty, befo being aided by Renee Zellweger's Ma Kettle–mee Peppermint Patty farmgirl, the actress always loo as if she's made up to go shopping. It's hard to fe her plight in your gut because of it. (At Bost Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Company ★
Robert Altman's drama set within the Joffrey Bal of Chicago is perhaps the veteran director's wo film. There's little attempt to develop the chara ters, conflict is almost nonexistent, and the dan numbers look like a cross between Mummensch and a Fruit of the Loom commercial. Althou many of the company's real dancers play supporti roles, Barbara Turner's script offers no insight in this insular community. The characters, such as t imperious artistic director (Malcolm McDowell) second-tier dancer trying to get to the next lev (Neve Campbell), and her cook boyfriend (Jam Franco), are one-dimensional at best. And Altm inserts most of the dance numbers in seemingly ra dom fashion, without context. (At Kendall Squa and Coolidge Corner.)

The Fog of War ★★★
In Cambridge moviemaker Errol Morris' series of i terviews with former JFK and LBJ secretary of d fense Robert McNamara, the shrewd technocr doesn't unburden himself of any more responsibili for the Vietnam quagmire that occurred under h watch. McNamara is too cagey for that. But Mor finds fertile territory in McNamara's observations human nature, war and politics. (Morris has subt tled the movie "Eleven Lessons from the Life



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Jay Hernandez, Martin Henderson and Will Yun Lee star in the high-speed action-adventure *Torque*.

Robert S. McNamara.") When McNamara talks about the Vietnam effort failing because the American government didn't know enough to empathize with the Vietnamese, it's hard not to think of Iraq. And when McNamara talks about the moral dilemmas of making decisions in times of strife, he sheds light on all the political crossroads that have turned presidents gray. More than a dry Q&A, *Fog* unfolds in Morris' typically cinematic style, featuring montages of archival footage, cockeyed camera angles and Philip Glass' churning music. (At Kendall Square and Coolidge Corner.)

Girl with a Pearl Earring ★★

Based on Tracy Chevalier's novel, this film puts a speculative backdrop tale to Johannes Vermeer's 1660s painting. As director Peter Webber strives to get the Dutch master's lighting and composition just right, his poor characters walk around in a stiff, humorless daze, and the story turns stilted in no time. The movie's Vermeer (Colin Firth) is a garden-variety tortured artist, in this case tormented by his bourgeois wife (Essie Davis) and mother-in-law (Judy Parfitt), who push him to paint more and earn more. His household's new maid (Scarlett Johansson) puts no such demands on him, and the pair start a secret friendship that leads to her posing for the famous portrait. Although the relationships between the sexes and between the classes can be interesting here, the central pair's sexual tension is so laden with pregnant pauses and symbolism (like Vermeer's penetrating piercing of the maid's ears) that this overripe art house melodrama is almost instant self-parody. (At Kendall Square.)

Japanese Story ★★

Nothing like a near-death experience to break the romantic ice. At least that's what this Australian film would have you believe. The geologist (Toni Collette) and the married Japanese businessman (Gotaro Tsunashima) she's assigned to escort to remote mineral mines can't stand each other initially. Then they almost die when their rental car gets stuck in the desert, and once they get it moving it's not long before they're having a fling. The *Brief Encounter*–like story then goes for an emotional home run that it just can't pull off, because the depth of the relationship never quite convinces. (At Copley Place.)

Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King ★★

Peter Jackson has once again given us an expansive spoof of bombastic, medieval fantasy adventures: the furrowed brows, the swords and sorcery, the creatures, the hair extensions. Oh, that's right, it's not *supposed* to be silly. Jackson is obviously an imaginative, capable director, but after three movies and seven hours, I still don't care a lick about anything that happens to any of these solemn, solemn people. The *LOTR* trilogy epitomizes the sort of movie that wins technical Academy Awards but that no one takes seriously. Yet for reasons I just can't understand, a lot of folks have taken these films seriously. (Come on, isn't Tolkien's attractive-human-heroes-versus-ugly-Orc-villains plot just a tad juvenile?). Maybe Jackson can go back to making interesting movies like *Heavenly Creatures* and *Forgotten Silver* now. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Lost in Translation ★★★½

Sofia Coppola dealt with shared pain in her 2000 directorial debut, *The Virgin Suicides*, and she conjures up a similar funny-sad tone in her tale of two Americans (Bill Murray, Scarlett Johansson) adrift in Tokyo. He's a washed-up movie star making a bundle endorsing Japanese booze; she's the wife of a work-consumed photographer (Giovanni Ribisi). They're staying at the same hotel and killing time at the same hotel bar, and their misery loves company. The characters make a great movie couple, although their relationship is platonic (with its share of sexual tension). Murray gives a Buster Keaton–like, sad-clown performance built mainly around physical and especially facial reactions to absurd situations, and Johansson is a little heartbreaker. (At Copley Place, Coolidge Corner and suburbs.)

Monster ★★

No matter how hard it tries, and no matter how well Charlize Theron transforms herself into less attractive, much rougher Aileen Wuornos—the prostitute whom Florida executed for killing seven men—this docudrama isn't nearly as sympathetic or as interesting as *Aileen Wuornos: The Selling of a Serial Killer*, Nick Broomfield's decade-old documentary. In the docudrama, Wuornos is a much-abused woman who decides to try her luck with women after she meets a younger lesbian (Christina Ricci). But with no other way to make money, she keeps hooking, and after a john gets violent, she kills him in self-defense. Then she continues to kill. Although you feel her rage, the movie's Wuornos is a little too dumb to sympathize with (she keeps riding around in her victims' cars), and Theron fails to provide the spark that might make her more fascinating than stupid. The movie also puts all its emotional eggs in the basket of the doomed lesbian affair—which fails to be the riveting tragedy writer-director Patty Jenkins wants it to be. (At Copley Place and Kendall Square.)

My Architect ★★★

Much like last year's *The Stone Reader*, Nathaniel Kahn's new film is documentary as compelling quest. Kahn's mission is to learn more about his father, architect Louis Kahn. The elder Kahn died in 1974, when Nathaniel was a boy, and it turns out he had three families that he juggled (he remained married to the same woman, while fathering children with two others). The movie's drama is in its depiction of someone who was world-class in his field, yet whose personal life was a farce. The filmmaker struggles to understand how his mother and Louis Kahn's other families could tolerate such a situation, as he, like them, expresses his love for the man. With no easy answers, Kahn is left to look for answers in his father's work, a search that takes him from Philadelphia to Bangladesh. (At Coolidge Corner and Kendall Square.)

Shattered Glass ★★★

The story of Stephen Glass, the hotshot *New Republic* reporter who turned out to have faked most of his articles, becomes a fascinating drama that avoids the usual stodginess of docudramas. Instead of showing us the hows and whys of Glass' fakery—does anyone really know that besides Glass himself?—the movie presents Glass (Hayden Christensen) as an eager-to-please go-getter who appears taken in by his own veneer of guilelessness (and who also appears to be the best co-worker anyone could have). That self-deception may be the biggest and most interesting deceit in the movie, which also touches upon entertainment's dangerous, seductive power over journalism. The strong supporting cast includes Peter Saarsgard, Chloe Sevigny, Hank Azaria and Melanie Lynskey. (At Kendall Square and Copley Place.)

The Statement ★½

Director Norman Jewison reconfigures the Holocaust drama as a popcorn thriller in this 1990s-set film about the search for a French collaborator with the Nazis who's being shielded by a secret society within the Vatican. It works for the first half hour but then quickly falls apart. The casting of Michael Caine (as the collaborator) and other Brits as Frenchmen comes off oddly, as does the script's inability to get specific about the intrigue within the church. It ends up turning a story inspired by truth into the most generic movie villainy. (At Kendall Square.)

Torque ★

The ads tout that *Torque* is from the producers of *The Fast and the Furious*, *xXx* and *S.W.A.T.* That's something to brag about? This shameless heap of obnoxious behavior and product placement is even worse than seen in those. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

By Popular Request: Katharine Hepburn

•Feb. 9. **Guess Who's Coming to Dinner** *1967*. White, upper-class parents (Hepburn and Spencer Tracy) are challenged when their daughter brings home her black fiancé (Sidney Poitier).

BRATTLE THEATRE

Bogie & Bacall Weekend

•Feb. 6, 7:30 pm; Feb. 7, 12:30 pm and Feb. 8, 5 pm. **The Big Sleep** *1946*. Detective Philip Marlowe (Humphrey Bogart), hired by a rich family to keep an eye on a young daughter, finds himself falling for the older daughter (Lauren Bacall). Howard Hawks directs.

•Feb. 6, 5:30 pm; Feb. 7, 7:30 pm and Feb. 8, 9:30 pm. **To Have and Have Not** *1944*. In this adaptation of Ernest Hemingway's novel, two debt-ridd friends (Bogart, Walter Brennan) agree to transp a fugitive running from the Nazis. In the meanti Bogart's character falls for a local club singer (call). Howard Hawks directs.

•Feb. 6, 9:45 pm; Feb. 7, 3 pm and Feb. 8, 7:30 p **Key Largo** *1948*. A gangster holds a war vete (Bogart) and others (including Lauren Bac hostage at a Florida Keys hotel. As a hurricane ra the personal lives of the gangsters and their hosta surface. John Huston directs.

•Feb. 7, 5 pm and Feb. 8, 2:45 pm. **Dark Pass** *1947*. After escaping from prison, a man (Boga who has been convicted of killing his wife underg plastic surgery and plots revenge on his wife's killer. Bacall plays an artist who takes Bogart while he recuperates. Delmer Daves directs.

Bugs Bunny Film Festival

•Feb. 13, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm; Feb. 15, 1:30, 3 and 5:30 pm; Feb. 17, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30 and 9 pm. **Starring Bugs Bunny**. This cartoon program cludes the classic cartoon shorts *What's up Do Rabbit of Seville* and *What's Opera Doc?*

•Feb. 14, 1:30, 3:30 and 5:30 pm.; Feb. 16, 1:30, 3 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm. **Looney Tunes Revue** T revue features Bugs Bunny's peers—Roadrunn Marvin the Martian, Daffy, Pepe le Pew and Taz.

Humphrey Bogart: The Stuff That Dreams Are Made Of

•Feb. 9 and Feb. 10, 7:30 pm; Feb. 11, 1 pm. **African Queen** *1951*. Bogart won an Oscar for performance as the gruff captain of an African riv boat who falls for a missionary, played by Kathar Hepburn. John Huston directs. •Also showing and 9:45 pm. **The Caine Mutiny** *1954*. A U.S. N captain (Bogart) is overthrown by his crew, and Navy must determine through a trial whether mutiny was a criminal act or not. Edward Dmyt directs.

Recent Raves

•Feb. 5, 5:15, 7:30 and 9:45 pm. **Lost in Translat** *2003*. See New Releases for a description.

•Feb. 12, 6 and 8:30 pm. **Fatal Fallout** *2003*. T documentary explores the possibility of terrorists jacking a plane and striking a nuclear power pla Director Gary Null shows past nuclear disasters t lustrate the gravity of the current nuclear situatio

Snubbed! (Not Nominated for Be Picture)

Feb. 4, 1, 5:15 and 10 pm. **Being John Malkov** *1999*. A puppeteer (John Cusack) encounters a p tal that transports him into the head of movie s John Malkovich. Spike Jonze directs. •Also sho ing at 4 and 7:30 pm. **Blue Velvet** *1986*. In this su alistic David Lynch film, an innocent suburb young man (Kyle MacLachlan) becomes involve an underworld of blackmail and brutality.

•Feb. 11, 8 pm. **Close Encounters of the Th Kind** *1977*. An average guy (Richard Dreyfuss) an alien encounter and goes on a quest to disco the truth behind the experience. Steven Spielb directs.

A Valentine's Day Tradition

•Feb. 14 and 15, 7:30 and 9:45 pm. **Casablan** *1942*. As the owner of a nightclub, Rick (Boga discovers that his former flame (Ingrid Bergma is married to a Resistance leader. Things get co plicated as Rick, his ex-lover and her husba concoct a plan to escape the Nazis. Michael Cu directs.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Balagan: Experimental Film and Video Series

•Feb. 5, 7:30 pm. This program highlights S Vanderbeek's work, which includes live-action a mation, experimental projection techniques, co puter graphics and other innovations.

Chlotrudis Short Film Festival

•Feb. 16, 7 pm. The Chlotrudis Society for In pendent Film's nominees for Best Short Film of 2 screen, and viewers can vote for their favorite. tries come from nine countries, and the winning f will be presented March 28 at the Chlotru Awards Ceremony at the Brattle Theatre.

Coolidge Selects

•Now playing. **The Company** *2003*. See New R leases for a description.

•Now playing. **Eat This New York.** *2004*. K Novak directs this documentary about two frie from Minnesota struggling to open a restaurant Manhattan.

•Now playing. **The Fog of War: Eleven Lesso from the Life of Robert S. McNamara** *2003*. S New Releases for a description.

•Now playing. **Les Triplettes de Belleville** (T *Triplets of Belleville) 2003*. When her grandson kidnapped during the Tour de France, Mada Souza and her dog Bruno team up with a song-a

anthem

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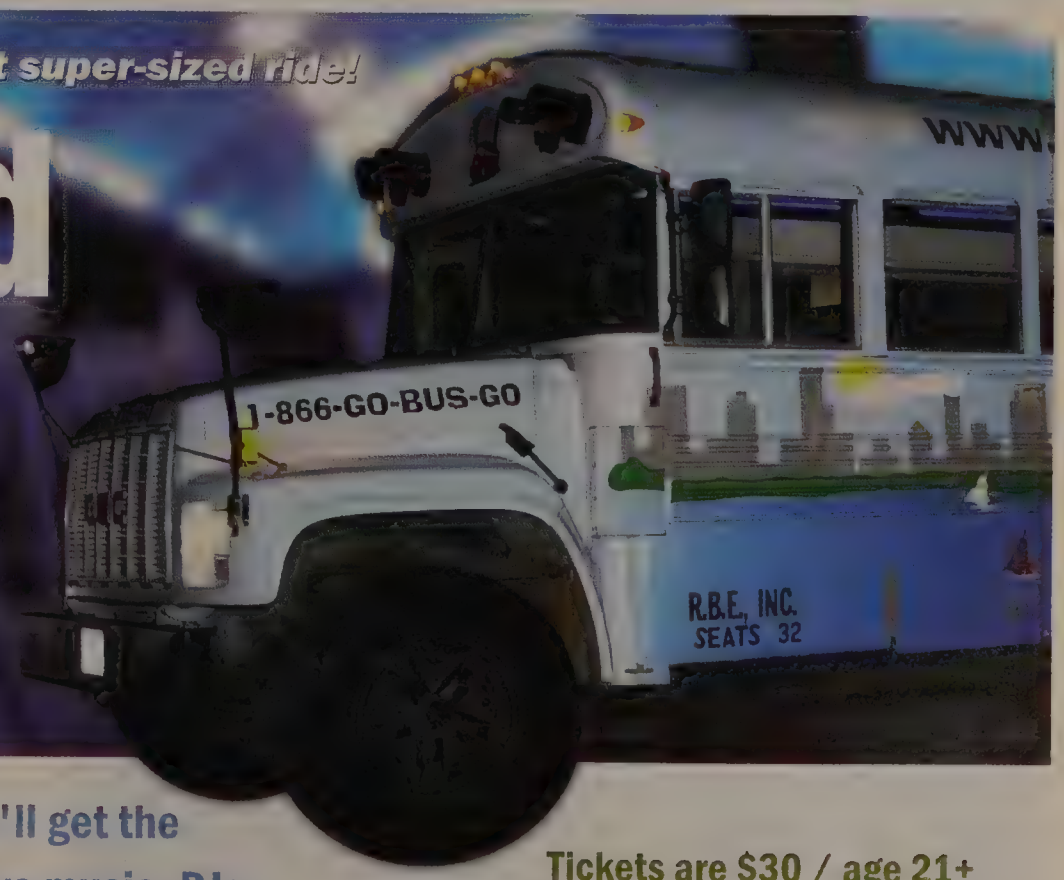
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Andy Warhol's Kiss shows at the HFA Feb. 14.

dance troupe to rescue him. Sylvain Chomet directs this musical animated feature.
•Opens Feb. 13. **My Architect** *2003*. See New Releases for a description.

Cult Classics

•Feb. 6, 7, 13 and 14, 12 am. **Office Space** *1999*. Bored office worker Peter Gibbons (Ron Livingston) decides to stop going to work and start saying what he really thinks. Doing so results in his getting a promotion *and* a girlfriend (Jennifer Aniston). Mike Judge directs.

Midnight Movies: Kung Fu Madness

•Feb. 6, 12 am. **Fay Lung Kwo Gong** (*Enter the Fat Dragon*) *1978*. A farm boy who idolizes Bruce Lee moves to Hong Kong to work for his uncle and becomes an unlikely kung fu hero. Sammo Hung directs.
•Feb. 7, 12 am. **Meng Gui Xue Tang** (*Haunted Cop Shop 2*). 1988. In this action film, government troops battle ghostly beings, vampires and flesh-eating zombies. Jeffrey Lau directs.
•Feb. 13, 12 am. **Return of the Chinese Boxer** *1974*. A clan of ninjas challenge a famed Chinese boxer to a deadly contest.
•Feb. 14, 12 am. **The Dragon, the Hero** *1979*. Two kung fu fighters, both descendants of the legendary Stone Rock Fist, join forces to shut down a smuggling ring that is exporting Chinese treasures. Godfrey Ho directs.

Relatively Speaking: Famous Families' Favorite Flicks

•Feb. 9, 7 pm. **The Secret of Roan Inish** *2002*. In this 1940s-set John Sayles film, a 10-year-old girl who lives in a fishing village discovers her personal heritage and the history of the island Roan Inish. This film was selected by Michael Shannon, chief of emergency at Boston Children's Hospital, and his wife, Elaine, a painter and former dancer. A Q&A with the Shannons follows the screening.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Directors in Focus: Andy Warhol

•Feb. 8, 7 pm; Feb. 9, 9 pm. **Absolut Warhola** *2001*. This documentary, centered around interviews with Warhol's relatives, explores the artist's Slovakian roots. Stanislaw Mucha directs. •Also showing, Feb. 8, 9 pm. **Four of Andy Warhol's Most Beautiful Women** *1964*. Warhol films four aspiring actresses who strike poses for the length of this plot-free experimental film. This is a condensed version of Warhol's *Thirteen Most Beautiful Women*. Shows with **Mrs. Warhol** *1966*. Directed by Warhol and starring his mother Julia Warhola, this film captures a day in the life of a blond starlet and her latest husband.
•Feb. 10, 9 pm. **Nico: Icon** *1999*. This documentary features archival performance footage of the Velvet Underground singer. Susanne Ofteringer directs. •Also showing 9 pm. **Lou Reed: Rock and Roll Heart** *1998*. Directed by Timothy Greenfield-Sanders, this documentary offers insight into the life and music of the Velvet Underground leader .
•Feb. 11, 9 pm; Feb. 14, 7 pm. **Pie in the Sky: The Brigid Berlin Story** *2000*. This documentary features interviews with the now 60-something Warhol actress, as well as commentary from Warhol's associates (including Patt Hearst and John Waters). Director Vincent and Shelly Dunn Fremont ar present at the Feb. 14 screening.
•Feb. 13, 7 pm. **Blow Job** *1963* Warhol's static camera lens focuses o an anonymous man's face. Boston Uni versity professor Roy Grundmann in troduces the film. •Also showing, **Viny** *1965*. This film utilizes strobe light and Velvet Underground music to por tray the main character's arrest. •Als showing, **The Velvet Underground an Nico** *1966*. Warhol's documentar shows the band playing their music.
•Feb.14, 9 pm. **Kiss** *1963*. A variety c real-life couples kiss, each for th length of one camera roll. •Also show ing, **Eat** *1963*. Pop artist Robert Indi ana eats several mushrooms in this ex perimental work.
•Feb. 15, 7 pm; Feb. 16, 9 pm. **Lone some Cowboys** *1968*. Warhol codi rected this surreal Western spoof wit Paul Morrissey. •Also showing, 9 pm **Couch** *1964*. In this silent film, lumi naries from Allen Ginsberg to Jack Ke ouac make themselves at home o Warhol's famous couch. Shows wit **Since** *1966*. Warhol's friends re-enac the assassination of John F. Kennedy i this unfinished film.
•Feb. 16, 7 pm. **My Hustler** *1965*. I this film, originally intended for the soft-porn ma ket, an aging gay man hires a young hustler for th weekend.

Frames of Mind

•Feb. 11, 7pm. **First Program of the Lumier Brothers** *1895*; **A Trip to the Moon** *1902*; **The Var ishing Lady** *1896*; **A Trick of the Light** *1995*. Th selection of short silent films includes works fro the Lumiere Brothers and Georges Melies.

Masterworks of Modern Cinema

•Feb. 9, 7 pm. **Weekend** *1968*. Jean-Luc Godard d rects this exploration of the hostile relations be tween a couple who are taking a weekend trip to th countryside.

People We Like—Some of Serge Daney's Favorite Film

•Feb. 4, 7 pm. **Mon Oncle** *1958*. When directo Jacques Tati's comic alter ego, Monsieur Halo visits his sister's family, he must adapt to the modern lifestyle. •Also showing, 9:30 pm. **Les Va cances de Monsieur** (*Mr. Hulot's Holiday*) *1953* A bumbling klutz wreaks havoc on the worl around him while on vacation. In French wit English subtitles.

Texture Analysis: Fashion and Film

•Feb. 10, 7 pm. **The Earrings of Madame De.** *1953*. This drama, set in early 20th-century Pari tracks the journey of a pair of diamond earring pawned by a woman to pay off gambling debts. Ma Ophüls directs.
•Feb. 17, 7 pm **Notebook on Cities and Clothe** *1989*. In this documentary, Japanese fashion de signer Yohji Yamamoto talks about his creativ process. Wim Wenders directs.

Tribute to Zacharias Kunuk

•Feb. 6, 7 pm. **Atanarjuat** (*The Fast Runner*) *200* Kunuk's first film, which won the Cannes Came d'Or for Best First Film, follows two sparring Inu families who are upset over the marriage of their r spective son and daughter.
•Feb. 7, 7pm. **Qimuksiq** (*Dogteam*) *1995*. **Unikausi** (*Stories*) *1995*. **Angakkuiit** (*Shaman Stories*) *200* In *Angakkuiit* and *Qimuksiq*, Kunuk shows Inuit tra ditions through documentary and dramatize footage. *Unikausiq* is a six-minute animated film b his sister, Mary Kunuk. Zacharias Kunuk attends th screening.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

African Film Festival

•Feb. 12, 8 pm. **The River** *2003*. In this drama, young man flees to Guinea after killing the man wh killed his best friend. Mama Keita directs.
•Feb. 13, 6:30 pm; Feb. 16, 1:30 pm. **Si Guerik The Queen Mother** *2001*. In this documentary, d rector Idrissou Morai-Kpai travels home to h Wassangari village and finds that his mother ha broken free of her traditional cultural role. •Als showing, 8 pm; Feb. 15, 4 pm. **Me and My Whit Pal** *2003*. S. Pierre Yameogo's drama follows broke African student who works as a parking a tendant and becomes drawn into the world of dru trafficking.
•Feb. 14, 12:15 pm. **African Short Film Program** Five short films, including documentaries and dr mas, are shown.

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•Feb. 15, 2 pm. **Wariko** *(The Jackpot) 1994*. Fadika Kramo-Lancine's comedy, about a man who has won the lottery but lost the ticket, provides insight into the lives of the Ivory Coast's urban poor.

American Cinema

•Feb. 6, 8 pm; Feb. 8, 11 am; Feb. 12, 2:30 pm; Feb. 14 and 15, 10:30 am; Feb. 16, 3 pm. **Girlhood** *2003*. In this coming-of-age documentary, two teenage girls who have been released from a Maryland juvenile facility attempt to improve their lives. Liz Garbus directs.

•Feb. 12, 6 pm; Feb. 15, 12:15 pm. **The Weather Underground** *2002*. This documentary by Sam Green and Bill Siegel explores the motives of the Weather Underground, the group of young American radicals who planned to overthrow the U.S. government during the Vietnam War era.

Argentinian Cinema

•Feb. 11, 8 pm; Feb. 12, 4:15 pm; Feb. 14, 2:45 pm. **Momentos** *1981*. When a married but unsatisfied middle-aged architect meets a seductive young man who is also married, she finds herself in a passionate affair. Maria Luisa Bemerg directs.

Art on Film Premiere

•Feb. 5, 6 pm. **Smoke and Mirrors: A Geisha Story** 2003. In this documentary, director Artemis Willis explores the life of an 88-year-old former geisha living in Queens. Live musicians perform the film score.

Free Films for All Ages

•Feb. 16 and 17, 10:30 am and 12 pm. This 45-minute program includes animated films showing objects including Valentines, clothes, musical instruments and log cabins being made by hand.

New England Film Artists Presents

•Feb. 7, 4 pm. **Beyond Good and Evil: Children, Media and Violent Times** *2003*. Miguel Picker and Chyng F. Sun's documentary explores the impact of media on children's perceptions of the world. The directors discuss the film after the screening.

The Robin Hood Project

•Sat., Feb. 7, 1 pm. **Robin Hood** *1922*. Alan Dwann's silent film is accompanied by live music from Hesperus. Musicologist Tina Chancey comments before the film on the relationship between film and music.

Special Screening for Teachers

•Feb. 11, 4 pm. **Angel on the Right** *2002*. Djamshed Usmonov's black comedy set in post-Soviet Tajikistan follows a man's journey as he returns to his homeland to care for his ailing mother. The screening is followed by a discussion, refreshments and free curriculum guides.

Starring Moritz Bleibtreu

•Feb. 5, 8 pm. **Taking Sides** 2001. In this Berlin-set courtroom drama, a naive orchestra conductor is wrongly accused of consorting with Nazis.

•Feb. 6, 6 pm. **Im Juli** *(In July) 2000*. A bored young physics teacher travels to Istanbul, where he meets a free-spirited young woman. Fatih Akin directs.

•Feb. 11, 6 pm. **Luna Papa** *1999*. In this drama, an aspiring teenage actress gets pregnant by a man who claims to be Tom Cruise's friend. The girl's brother and father then accompany her on a trip through central Asia.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater

•Through Feb. 5. **Dolphins**. Dive under the sea for an adventure with dolphins and the people who study them. *Call for show times*.

•Through Feb. 8. **Everest.** Join a mountaineer team as they successfully climb Mount Everest following the devastating loss of fellow climbers. *Call for show times*.

•Through Feb. 8. **Pulse: A STOMP Odyssey.** Explore the cultures and rhythms behind the hit Broadway show *Stomp*. *Call for show times*.

•Through Feb. 8. **Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure.** Learn how Sir Ernest Shackleton and his ship's crew spent two-years trapped in Antarctica on their 1915 mission. *Call for show times*.

•Through Feb. 12. **Jane Goodall's Wild Chimpanzees**. Enter the world of the wild chimpanzees of Africa's Gombe Stream National Park. *Call for show times*.

•Through May 28. **India: Kingdom of the Tiger.** Explore the kingdom of the Bengal tiger, from the Himalayas to Rajasthan. *Call for showtimes*.

•Through June. **Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West**. Trek through raging rivers and uncharted wilderness to commemorate the bicentennial of the explorers' journey, brought to life by National Geographic Films. *Call for show times*.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater

•Through Feb. 8. **The Matrix Revolutions.** In this sequel to *The Matrix*, Neo and the rebel leaders battle the machines that have overpowered the human race. *Call for show times*.

•Through Feb. 8. **Into the Deep.** The first IMAX 3D film shot underwater, this documentary explores a Southern Californian kelp forest and the creatures that inhabit it. *Call for show times*.

•Through Feb. 8. **Lost Worlds: Life in the Balance.** Harrison Ford narrates this trip from the Equator to the Arctic, emphasizing the diversity of the natural world-and people's importance in maintaining that diversity. *Call for show times*.

•Through Feb. 8. **Ocean Men.** Journey into the depths with two free divers whose goal is to dive deeper than anyone else ever has on a sole breath of air. *Call for show times*.

•Through June 18 **Bugs! 3D.** This film focuses on the world of insects in the tropical rain forests of Southeast Asia. See bugs magnified up to 250,000 times their normal size. *Call for show times*.

•Through June 18. **Ghosts of the Abyss.** Director James Cameron takes audiences two miles beneath the sea's surface to explore the wreckage of the Titanic. *Call for show times*.

•Through June 18. **Ocean Wonderland 3D.** This film explores the ocean floor of the Bahamas and Australia's Great Barrier Reef, with their sharks, sting rays and rainbows of tropical fish. *Call for show times*.

Cinema Venues

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Rd. (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Reservoir.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.

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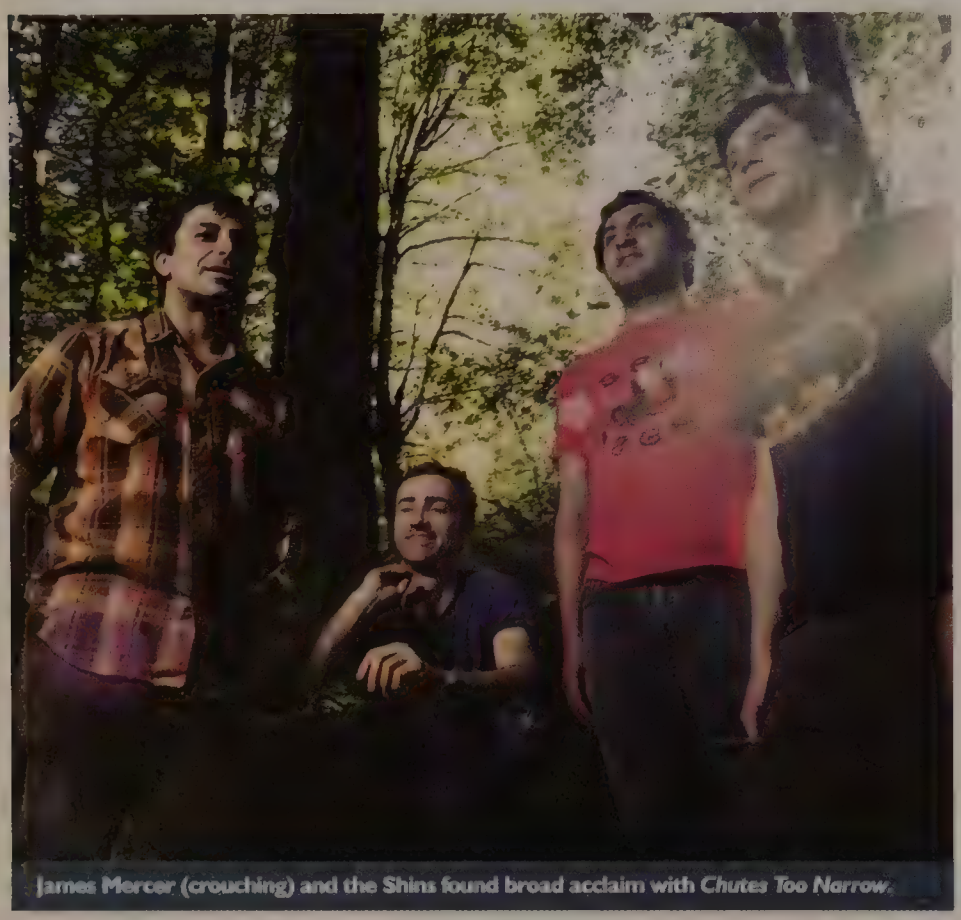
The Shins climb to the top of the critical heap with an indie-pop masterpiece

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Not many years ago, James Mercer was an aspiring singer-guitarist in Albuquerque, N.M., where he worked in glass and ceramic factories.

"It was nicer than turning bolts," says Mercer, whose band the Shins released its 2001 debut, *Oh, Inverted World*, on the Sub Pop label. "I remember thinking, 'I'm going to push real hard to do something good here, and if this doesn't work, I'm going back to school and get some kind of career going.'"

Mercer is too busy to worry about that now, touring behind the Shins' second full-length release, *Chutes Too Narrow*, an indie-pop masterpiece named one of 2003's top 10 albums by publications from *Entertainment Weekly* to *The New Yorker*. And the Shins have left the smaller stages of the Middle East and T.T. the Bear's to headline the Roxy Feb. 13.



James Mercer (crouching) and the Shins found broad acclaim with *Chutes Too Narrow*.

"It's an incredible change, especially when I think of starting in Albuquerque, recording the first record in our bedrooms and basements," says Mercer, on the phone from New York the day after the band's performance on *The Late Show with David Letterman*.

Back in those bedroom days, Mercer first realized the group's potential after the band Modest Mouse invited them on tour. The Shins burned a five-song EP to sell at gigs. "That was when Napster was at its peak, and suddenly we were all over the place," Mercer says. "People were finding out about us."

Next came their record deal with Sub Pop, home to Hot Hot Heat and formerly Nirvana. The Shins even managed to incur the wrath of indie-rock purists when "New Slang," a song from *Oh, Inverted World*, was used in a McDonald's commercial.

"At a Chicago ad agency, some kid working the music liked the Shins and thought we might want to make some money," says Mercer, 32, whose fledgling band wrestled with the idea, then decided to ask three times the offered price. "They came real close. So now we've got better equipment."

"I know a lot of people were pissed off about that," he says. "A lot of people have strong political beliefs that are anticorporate. You can't please everybody."

Musically though, the Shins seem to be pleasing most everyone who hears the band—at least people keen on cleverly literate art-pop with wistful turns and punky edges.

"I try and stay away from the more clichéd way to do a pop song," Mercer says. "It's so crucial to have a good musical foundation. I just concentrate on that, so it's strongly musical and melodic. It's more fun to work on that. The lyric stuff is more of a pain in the ass sometimes."

"I write about whatever I can, whatever's inspiring enough," he says of his slightly cynical lyrics, "like relationships I've had, or whatever I happen to be thinking about when I'm needing to write songs."

Mercer has sweeping experiences to draw from. His dad was in the Air Force, and Mercer himself was born in Hawaii and lived throughout Europe before moving to Albuquerque. His father also performed in clubs as a country-western singer.

"I was always around music, and my dad was famous for cranking the stereo at midnight," he says. "And living in England during high school, I fell in love with all those late new wave, neopsychedelic bands that were popular."

Mercer's early influences included British groups Echo and the Bunnymen, the Cure and XTC, and later encompassed American indie heroes like Pixies, Sonic Youth and Pavement. He even fronted a Dinosaur Jr. cover band in Albuquerque.

Of New Mexico, he says, "It's pretty, but not much of a supportive music scene for anything really. Not enough people. The sad thing is, when you're in a town of that size, when a good band does start up, they always move."

In turn, while the Shins were signed out of Albuquerque, Mercer and drummer Jesse Sandoval soon moved to Portland, Ore., and guitarist Dave Hernandez now lives in Seattle. Keyboardist-bassist Marty Crandall remained in New Mexico.

"There's a huge music scene in Portland. I don't know if it helps us, but it's a lot of fun to go to some great shows," says Mercer. Describing sessions with his bandmates in his Portland basement studio, he says, "They arrange their own stuff and they're fast, so it works out pretty well. It's not too much of a problem for us to live so far apart."

And if major labels come calling, would Mercer leave the indie world behind? If the situation made sense, he says. "I'm more of a pragmatist and think that indie rock exists for a lot of practical reasons, not just political ones," Mercer says. "If you're a band with a niche audience, you're not going to do well on a huge major label."

The Shins' audience, nonetheless, is growing. IB

The Shins
play the Roxy Feb. 13

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fa (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or b email to music@improper.com. Include dates, times prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline i four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not ac cepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from dif ferent sources. Although we make every effort to provid accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahea to double-check dates and times (see complete list o venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

As I Lay Dying and Sworn Enemy Feb. 17, Axis (617 423-NEXT).
Howie Day and Stereophonics Feb. 11, Orpheu Theatre (617-931-2000).
Paco De Lucía
Feb. 14, Orpheum Theatre (617-876-4275).
Bo Diddley
Feb. 13, Harper's Ferry (617-254-9743).
Habib Koité Feb. 15, Somerville Theatre (617-876 4275).
Ladysmith Black Mambazo
Feb. 6, Sanders Theatre (617-876-4275).
MxPx, Simple Plan, Motion City Soundtrack an Sugarcult
Feb. 7, Avalon (617-423-NEXT). Sold out.
Matt Nathanson and Erin McKeown Feb. 6 and 7 Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
O.A.R. and Robert Randolph & the Family Ban Feb. 12 and 13, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
John Ondrasik
Feb. 16, Paradise Lounge (617-423-NEXT).
Henry Rollins Feb. 6, Berklee Performance Cente (617-747-2261).
The Shins, Cass McCombs and Sam Jayne
Feb. 13, the Roxy (617-423-NEXT).
Stiff Little Fingers Feb. 8, Paradise Rock Club (617 423-NEXT).
Cassandra Wilson Feb. 7, Berklee Performanc Center (617-931-2000).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 4

Bravo@the MFA Ronnie Ron, 5:30-9 pm, no cove
Cantab Lounge Candy's blues jam, 9 pm, cove varies, 21+.
Club Passim Matt and Shannon Heaton, 8 pm, $1
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm-12 am, n cover .
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard, n cover.
Harper's Ferry Kaki King and Jesse Ciarmotaro, $8 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
Johnny D's Nikulydin, 8:30 pm, 21+.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover; Gaffne CD-release party, featuring members of Superhone 10 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: Amusia, Greytone, Bowma and Juniper's Daughter, $8, 18+.
Paradise Lounge: Blackout Bar with DJs Mark an Damian, 9 pm, $3, 18+.
Regattabar The Mike Stern Quartet with Richar Bona, Bob Francesehini and Dave Weckl, 8 and 1 pm, $18.
Remington's of Boston Al Vega Trio and Johnn Souza, 8:30 pm-12:30 am, no cover
Ryles Jazz Club Bruno Raberg, 7:30 pm, $8.
Scullers Marta Gomez, 8 and 10 pm, $14.
Sophia's Live salsa, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Toad Planet 3, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm-12:3 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Dears and My Favorite $7.
Wonder Bar Barry Reis, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Silas Hubbard, 7:30-11:30 pm, n cover.

THURSDAY, FEB. 5

Abbey Lounge The Other Girls, 9:30 pm, 21+; Val halla Kittens, 10:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Bill's Bar Dayjob Manufacturing CD-release part Stoic, Sinapse, Rubikon and Breathe, $18, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Groove Authority, 7:30 pm, $3-$7.
Bravo@the MFA Ronnie Ron, 5:30-9 pm, n cover.
The Burren The Swinging Johnsons, 10 pm, 21+.



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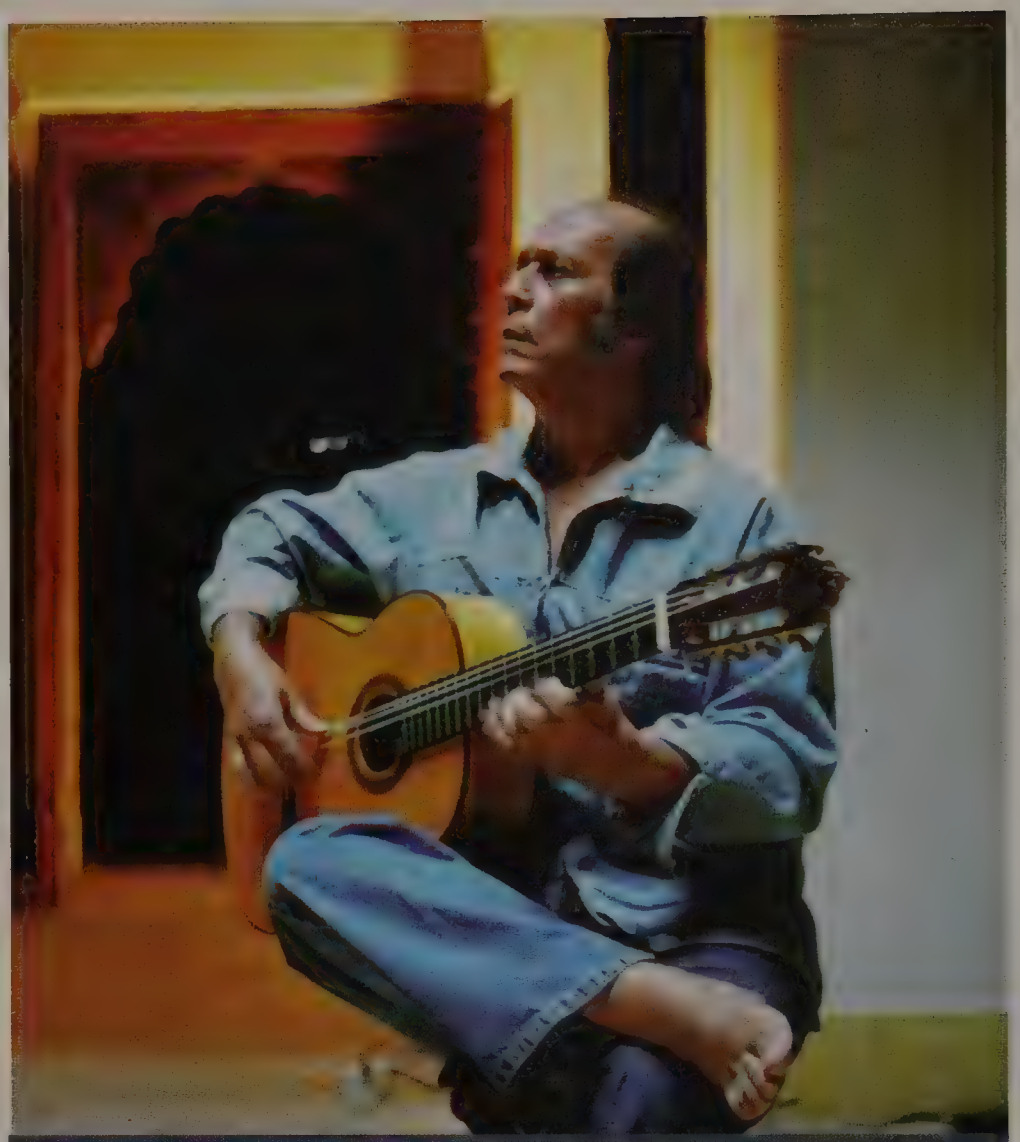
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Cantab Lounge Chris Waller, Gordon Beadle and New Day, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Rose Polenzani and Daniel Burke, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Death by Marriage, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
The Harp Steamroller Picnic.
Harper's Ferry Kick the Dog, Earthworm Justice and Damon Burke, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Danny Trucker and the Vibe Tribe.
Institute of Contemporary Art Just Play, 8 pm, $12-$16.
Johnny D's Steve Riley and the Mamou Playboys, 9 pm, 21+.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, featuring Beth Boucher, 7-9 pm, no cover; Club D'Elf, 10 pm, $7.
Middle East Upstairs: Curtis Eller and Reverend Glasseye & His Wooden Leg, $8, 18+. Downstairs: Notwist and Themselves, $14, 18+. ZuZu: Alexander McGregor, Pantsyell and Esker Moraine.
Paradise Lounge: The Bubble Up with Amani, Jim-Trapella and Toussaint, 9 pm, no cover for 21+, $5 for 18+.
Regattabar The Bruce Katz Band, 8:30 pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Syncopation, 7:30 pm, $8.
Scullers Jason Moran and the Bandwagon, 8 and 10 pm, $14.
Sophia's Latin Party Boys, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7-9 pm, no cover; the Mercy Brothers, Mike Dinallo and Barrence Whitfield, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Bella Morte, You Shriek, Mindfield and DJ Addambombb, $10.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner and Joe McMahon, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Kim Trusty, 8 pm-midnight, no cover.

FRIDAY, FEB. 6

Abbey Lounge Malibu Lou, 9 pm, $5; Muck and the Mires, 9:30 pm, $5; the Dents, 10:30 pm, $5; the Marvels, 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.
The Attic The Blushing Brides (Rolling Stones tribute band), 10 pm, $8.
Berklee Performance Center Henry Rollins, 7:30 pm, $20.50.
Bill's Bar Tracy Hoxie's Birthday Bash, featuring Waltham, $12, 21 +.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Jazz Quartet, 7:30 pm, $3-$7.
Bravo@the MFA Bill Duffy, 5:30-9 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Susan Greenbaum, 8 pm, $12.
Common Ground Goldies, 10 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort The Exciters, 8:30 pm-1:30 am, no cover.
Grand Canal Maxi, 5-7 pm; Spike the Punch, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Death by Marriage.
The Harp Steamroller Picnic.
Harper's Ferry Robert Bradley's Blackwater Surprise, Morning 40 Federation and Logan, $15, 21+.
Hennessy's Felise Brown, Me and Julio, 5-7 pm.
Johnny D's Funky White Honkies, 9:45 pm, 21+.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton and Peter Rice.
The Linwood Sam Lowry, Sean P. Rogan and Marc Flynn, $6.
Lizard Lounge Mark Erelli, 7:15 and 10 pm, $10.
Middle East Upstairs: Victory at Sea, the Helms and Officer May, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Joint Custody, Focusin and Vacationland, $9, 18+. ZuZu: Gian Carlo Buscaglia.
Mr. Dooley's Inchiore.
Paradise Matt Nathanson and Erin McKeown, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
Parris The Zone, 10 pm, $5.
Porters Bar and Grill Brian Burrill.
Redline Shadowkings, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
Regattabar Michel Camilo Trio, 7:30 pm, 10 pm, $20.
Ryles Jazz Club T Lavitz, 8 pm, $10.
Sanders Theatre Ladysmith Black Mambazo, 8 pm, $20-$37.
Scullers New York Voices, 8 and 10:30 pm, $22.
Sky Bar Whilliker, 9 pm, 21+.
Sophia's Latin Party Boys, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.
Toad The John Troy Band, no cover.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm-1 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Sand Machine, American Girls Club, the Fever Monument and the Bravery, $7.



Flamenco guitarist Paco De Lucía plays a concert at the Orpheum on Valentine's Day.

Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic and Joe McMahon, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Kabarett 16-bit, 9:30 pm, $8.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm-12 am, no cover.

SATURDAY, FEB. 7

Abbey Lounge The Itchies, 10:30 pm, $5; Mr. Airplane Man, 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Avalon MxPx, A Simple Plan and Sugarcult, 5 pm, all ages. (Sold out.)
Berklee Performace Center Cassandra Wilson, 8 pm, $35.50.
Bob the Chef's Pat Loomis, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Edie Carey and Rose Cousins, 7 pm, $14; Edie Carey and Rose Cousins, 10 pm, $14.
Dick's Last Resort The Big 80s, 8:30 pm-1:30 am, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Harper's Ferry Max Creek, $10, 21+.
Johnny D's Pressure Cooker, 9:45 pm, 21+.
Kennedy's Midtown Dorothy Miller.
Kinsale Sirsy.
The Linwood Army of Jasons, Godboxer and Anuska Pop, $7.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, featuring Tim Hughes, 7-9 pm, no cover; the Billy Nayer Show with the Chandler Travis Philharmonic, 10 pm, $7.
Middle East Upstairs: Lyres, the Real Kids and Coffin Lids, $10, 18+. Downstairs: Aerial Love Feed, Bon Savants, the Cignal, Emergency Music, December Sound and the Good North, $9, 18+. ZuZu: DJs J Mascis, Clint Conley and Mary Timony.
Mr. Dooley's Inchiore.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Assembly of Dust Feb. 22, Paradise Rock Club 617-423-NEXT).
Erykah Badu and Floetry March 6, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Barenaked Ladies and Gavin DeGraw March 2, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Better Than Ezra March 5, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Big Head Todd and the Monsters Feb. 27, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Mary Black March 13, Berklee Performance Center (617-876-4275)
David Bowie March 30, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
The Casualties Feb. 28, Axis (617-423-NEXT0.
Celtic Fiddle Festival with Kevin Burke, Johnny Cunningham and Christian LeMaître Feb. 21, Somerville Theatre (617-876-4275).
Elvis Costello Feb. 27, Wang Center (617-931-2000).
Dropkick Murphys March 11-14, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Evanescence Feb. 29, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Josh Groban Feb. 24, Wang Center (617-428-9393). Sold out.
Angélique Kidjo Feb. 27, Somerville Theatre (617-876-4275).
Lúnasa March 6, Somerville Theatre (617-876-4275).
Method Man March 31, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Kate and Anna McGarrigle
March 12, Somerville Theatre (617-876-4275)
My Morning Jacket
Feb. 29, Somerville Theatre (617-931-2000).
North Mississippi Allstars and Mofro
Feb. 25, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Liz Phair March 28, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
The Samples Feb. 29, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
The Saw Doctors
March 17, the Roxy (617-423-NEXT).
Rod Stewart
Feb. 29, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Sting March 15 and 16, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Thrice, Moments in Grace, My Chemical Romance and Poison the Well
March 19, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
The Unseen, the Virus and Crash and Burn
Feb. 20, Axis (617-423-NEXT).

Paradise Matt Nathanson and Erin McKeown, pm, $12, 18+.
Parris The Zone, 10 pm, $5.
Regattabar Michel Camilo Trio, 7:30 and 10 pm $22.
Ryles Jazz Club Frankie V, 8 pm, $12.
Sander's Theater Loudon Wainwright III an Cheryl Wheeler, 8 pm, $22-$26.
Scullers New York Voices, 8 and 10:30 pm, $22.
Somerville Theater Super Furry Animals, 8 pm $15.
Sophia's Live Latin Band, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Liquid Vision.
Toad Gregg's Saturday Showcase 7-9 pm, no cove Georgia Overdrive and Bart Carusso, 10 pm, n cover.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm- am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Moonraker, Chauncey and V olet Nine, $10.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30 pm, n cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Jeff Platz Group, Carson, Sexto and Galipault, 9:30 pm-12 am, $10.
Les Zygomates Daniela Schaechter, 8 pm-12 an no cover.

SUNDAY, FEB. 8

The Attic The Coalboilers. 10 pm, $5.
Bill's Bar Dub Station with DJ K-Don and th Berklee College Bob Marley Ensemble, 10 pm, $ 21+.
Bob the Chef's Nat Simpkins Jazz Quartet, 10 am- pm.
Bravo@the MFA Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30 am-3 pn no cover.
Cantab Lounge Candy's blues jam, 9 pm, cov varies, 21+.
Club Passim Billy Jonas, 7:30 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort The Bibletones, 10 am-3 pm, n cover; Big Time, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
Forsyth Chapel Balla Tounkara and the Morr Sandvik Duo, 4 pm, $12, all ages.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnson
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Ridgley Snow 9 an 2:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Kerza Hersey.
The Linwood Cheredovanie and Taylor Street, $1
Lizard Lounge Poetry slam, 7 pm; poetry jam, fe turing the Jeff Robinson Trio and poet Delaila Aset, 9 pm, $5.
Middle East Downstairs: Urge Overkill, $20, 18- Upstairs: Denali, the Binary System (featurir Roger Miller), $10, 18+. ZuZu: Tim Heroux Band.
Newton Free Library Brother Rumas Barrett, 2 pn
Paradise Stiff Little Fingers, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
Regattabar Michel Camilo Trio, 3 and 7 pm, $20.
Ryles Jazz Club Moadon Tsavta Boston, 8 pn $12.
Toad Session American with Ry Cavanaugh, Sea Staples, Dinty Child, Jimmy Fitting and Billy Bear 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Bourbon Street Paraders, 12 pm- pm; Paul Nagel Trio, 8 pm-12 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Lungfish, Thalia Zedek an the Nationale Blue, $7.
Washington Square Tavern Jon Hazilla Trio, 11:3 am-2:30 pm, no cover, all ages.

MONDAY, FEB. 9

Berklee College of Music Kelley Hunt.
Bill's Bar Random Acts of Violence, Beyond th Embrace, Seemless and Trauma Concept, $8, 18+.
Cantab Lounge Dean Stevens, 9 pm, cover varie 21+.
Club Passim Gregory Douglass CD-release show an Chad Perrone, 8 pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm-12 an no cover.
Harper's Ferry Blues jam, $2, 21+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover; Davi Berkeley (ex-member of the Humming), 10 pm.
Middle East Downstairs: The Suicidegirls Live Bu lesque Tour, $10, 18+. Upstairs: Interference, Blu Sky Goodbye, Starla and the Big Screen, $8, 18+ ZuZu: Unhappy Hour with Pete Cassani.
Ryles Jazz Club Big Band Tuesdays, 8 pm, $9.
Toad Shwang, featuring Anita Suhanin, 8-10 pn no cover; the Tim Gearan Band, 10:30 pm, n cover.
Top of the Hub Paul Nagel Trio, 8 pm-12 am.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner and Joe McMahor 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Todne Texeira, 7-11 pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, FEB. 10

Cantab Lounge King Wilkie, 10 pm, cover varie 21+.

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Malian musician Habib Koité performs at the Somerville Theatre Feb. 15.

Dick's Last Resort Alex Miranda, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Gazsa, 8:30 pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, featuring Scott Bishop, 7-9 pm, no cover; Sam Bisbee, Jedediah Parish and the Mother Tongues, 10 pm, $7.
Middle East Upstairs: Miles from Home, 9 pm, $8. ZuZu: Sarah Borges.
Regattabar The Hilary Noble and Rebecca Cline Enclave, 8:30 pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Laura Allen Trio, 7:30 pm, $7.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
Toad Liz Morrison, 7-9 pm, no cover; Christian McNeill (of Hybrasil), 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Groove Authority, 8 pm-12 am, no cover.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 11

Abbey Lounge Ray Lemiuex, 10:30 pm, $5; GoneBabyGone, 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Bill's Bar Parker House, Theory, Patrick McAloon Band and Rory Lowe Band, $8, 18+.
Bravo@the MFA Ronnie Ron, 5:30-9 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Candy's blues jam, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Chris Whitley, 8pm, $18.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
Johnny D's Brian Webb and Stacy Rose, 8:30 pm, 21+.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, featuring Leah Callahan, 7-9 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Great American with Greystreet and Rich Girl Method, 9 pm, $8 for 18+, $6 for 21+. Downstairs: Beat the Bush, a benefit for Howard Dean with comedians Tim McIntire, Peter Dutton, the Walsh Brothers and music by Audrey Ryan Band, Jim's Big Ego and Soulfege, 7 pm. ZuZu: Jason Hatfield and Marmalade.
Orpheum Theatre Howie Day and Stereophonics, 7:30 pm, $23.
Regattabar The Mili Bermejo Trio, 8:30 pm, $14
Remington's of Boston Al Vega Trio and John Souza, 8:30 pm-12:30 am, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Laura Allen Trio, 7:30 pm, $7.
Scullers Will McMillan and Bobbi Carrey, 8 p $18.
Sophia's Live salsa, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Toad Adam Ezra, 7-9 pm, no cover; the Ken Cl Organ Trio, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm-12 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Hotel, California Stadium, Deafening and Shore Leave, $7.
Wonder Bar Barry Reis, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates David Eure, 7:30-11:30 pm, cover.

THURSDAY, FEB. 12

Abbey Lounge Valhalla Kittens, 10:30 pm, $5- 21+.
Bill's Bar Tony Roberts Band, Beautiful Mista and Jordan Carp, $8, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Joe Bargar and the Soul Provid 7:30 pm $3-$7.
Bravo@the MFA Ronnie Ron, 5:30-9 pm, no co
The Burren The Swinging Johnsons, 10 pm, 21+
Cantab Lounge Chris Waller, Gordon Beadle a New Day, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Chris Smither, 8 pm, $30.
Dick's Last Resort Groove Authority, 7:20 pm- am, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies
Hennessy's Danny Trucker and the Vibe Tribe.
Johnny D's Bridgette St. John, 9 pm, 21+.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, featuring Jody Blackw 7-9 pm, no cover; Hybrasil, 10 pm, $7.
Middle East Upstairs: Kabir, 9 pm,$10, 18+. Dow stairs: Revelation Theory, $9, 18+. ZuZu: Alexan McGregor with Soltero and Val Allen.
Orpheum Theatre O.A.R., Robert Randolph & Family Band and Toothpick, 7:30 pm, $27.50.
Regattabar The Javon Jackson Quartet, 8 and pm, $14.
Ryles Jazz Club Matrix Trio, 7:30 pm, $9.
Scullers The Nicole Nelson Band, 8 and 10 p $12.
Sophia's Latin Party Boys, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.



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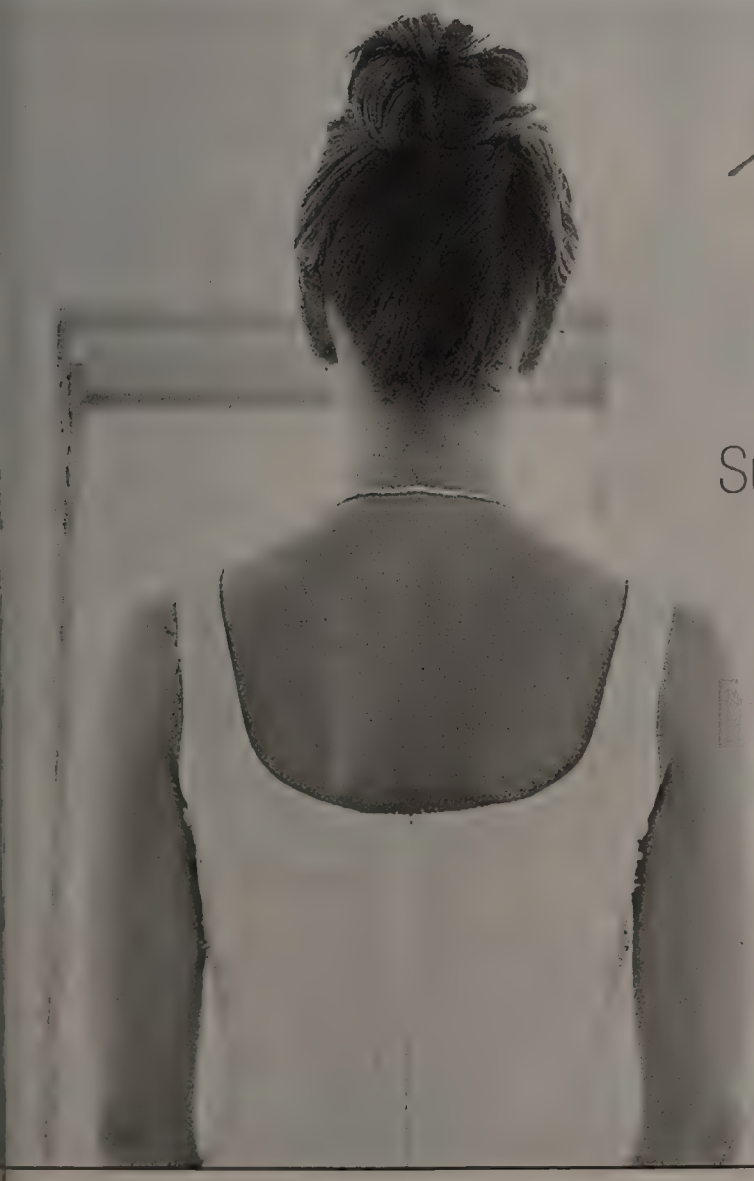
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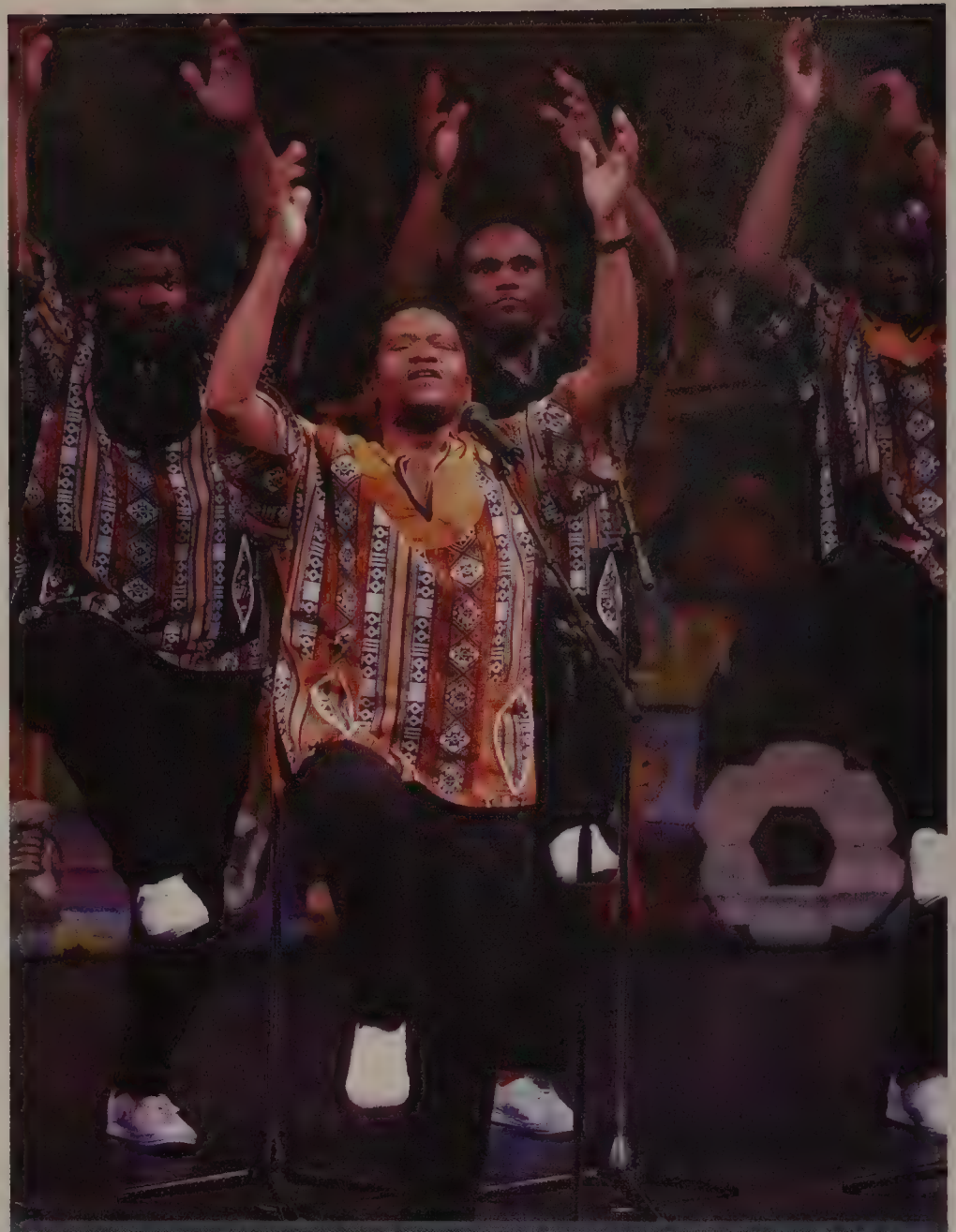
Toad The Family Jewels, 7-9 pm, no cover; Billy Block's Western Beat Roots Revival, hosted by John Cate and the Van Gogh Brothers, with Betty Dylan, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner and Joe McMahon, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Kim Trusty, 8 pm-12 am, no cover.

FRIDAY, FEB. 13

Abbey Lounge Skullf---ers CD release show, 8:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Bill's Bar Three Day Threshold, Cancer to the Stars and the Drags, $8, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Jazz Quartet, 7:30 pm, $3-$7.
Bravo@the MFA Bill Duffy, 5:30-9 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Chris Smither, 8 pm, $30.
Dick's Last Resort Death by Marriage, 8:30 pm-1:30 am, no cover.
Grand Canal Maxi, 5-7 pm; Brick Park.
The Green Dragon Tavern Say When.
Harper's Ferry Bo Diddley, 8 and 11 pm, $20, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio 5-7 pm; Incadence.
Johnny D's Babaloo, 9:45 pm, 21+.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton and Peter Rice.
The Linwood Foam-n-Mesh, Dow Jones and the Industrials, Lock and Key, $7
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, featuring Joe Pesci, 7-9 pm, no cover; Adonai and I and the Well, 10 pm, $7.
Middle East ZuZu: Gian Carlo Buscaglia.
Milky Way The Spurs, 9 pm, $10 cover.
Mr. Dooley's Christy O'Connell.
Orpheum Theatre O.A.R., Robert Randolph & the Family Band and Toothpick, 7:30 pm, $27.50.
Paradise Ours, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Parris The Interns, 10 pm, $5.
Porters Bar and Grill Nate Watkins.
Redline Shadowkings, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
Regattabar Irma Thomas, 7:30 and 10 pm, $28.
Ryles Jazz Club Mango Blue, 9 pm, $10.
Roxy The Shins, 6 pm, $15, 18+.
Scullers Carol Sloane and the James Williams Trio, 8 and 10:30 pm, $22 .
Sophia's Latin Party Boys, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.
Toad Woodpile, no cover.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm-1 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Autumn Defense, featuring John Stirratt of Wilco, Kelley Stoltz and Mike Murray, $10.
Uncommon Coffeehouse Ina May Wool, 8 pm, $12.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic and Joe McMahon, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

SATURDAY, FEB. 14

Bob the Chef's Pat Loomis, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim DaVinci's Notebook, 7 and 10 pm, $17.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm-1:30 am, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern B. Walter.
Harper's Ferry Seeking Homer CD-release party, $8, 21+.
Johnny D's Four Piece Suit, 9:45 pm, 21+.
Kennedy's Midtown Dorothy Miller
The Linwood Shaun Wolf Wortis, Carol Gleason, Joel Thibodeau, Andy Goldins, Cat Puckett, Dave Herlihy, Edith, the Weistronauts, Family Jewels, the Douglas Firs, the Burrs, Chris Brokaw and David Michael Curry.
Lizard Lounge Valentine's Day show with Anngelle Wood, Chroma, the Kitty Kill, Starla Dear, Sugabomb and Drab, $6.
Middle East Upstairs: Second Anuual St. Valentine's Day Massacre, 9 pm, $10, 18+. Downstairs: Apollo Sunshine, Lake Trout and Self-Righteous Brothers, $12, 18+. ZuZu: Ready Steady Go-Go.
Mr. Dooley's Christy O'Connell.
Orpheum Theatre Paco De Lucia, 8 pm, $35-$50.
Parris The Interns, 10 pm, $5, 9 pm.
Regattabar Irma Thomas, 7:30 and 10 pm, $30.
Ryles Jazz Club Megawatt Blues Crushers, 8 pm, $10.
Sanders Theatre Harvard Krokodiloes and the Radcliffe Pitches, 8 pm, $8.
Scullers Carol Sloane and the James Williams Trio, 8 and 10:30 pm, $22 .
Sophia's Live Latin Band, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Liquid Vision.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 7-9 pm, no cover; Caged Heat, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm-1 am.


South African troupe Ladysmith Black Mambazo performs at the Sanders Theatre Feb. 6

T.T. the Bear's Place The So & So's, $8.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 8 pm-12 am, no cover.

SUNDAY, FEB. 15

Bob the Chef's Sonny Watson Jazz Quartet, 10 am-3 pm, $3-7.
Bravo@the MFA Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30am-3 pm, no cover
Cantab Lounge Candy's blues jam, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim DaVinci's Notebook, 8 pm, $17.
Dick's Last Resort Bishop Charlie's Angels, 10 am-3 pm; Big Time, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Matt Dorko and Larry Kukers, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Kerza Hersey.
The Linwood Arms and Legs, Yellow Brick Ed and the J Walkers, $7.
Lizard Lounge Poetry slam, 7 pm; poetry jam, featuring the Jeff Robinson Trio and poet Philip Robinson, 9 pm, $5.
Matt Murphy's The Well, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Fast Action Fuses with the Tampoffs, Defcon 4, Dial M for Murder and the Hound, 9 pm, $8, 18+. Downstairs: The Gathering, Agollach, 8 pm, $15, 18+. ZuZu: Jonny Spaceman and karaoke with the Big Digits.
Parris Maxie Courtney, 10 pm, $5.
Regattabar Irma Thomas, 3 and 7 pm, $26.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday jazz brunch, 10 am.
Scullers Dave Koz, 7 and 9 pm, $35.
Somerville Theatre Habib Koité, 7:30 pm, $21.50-$27.50.


Toothpick plays at the Orpheum Feb. 12 and 13.

Toad Session American with Ry Cavanaugh, Sean Staples, Dinty Child, Jimmy Fitting and Billy Beard, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Bourbon Street Paraders, 12 pm-2 pm; Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm-12 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place South and Metric, $12.

MONDAY, FEB. 16

Bill's Bar Monsta Monday with Back of the Neck, Burnt by the Sun, Premonitions of War and Breather Resist, $8, 18+.
Cantab Lounge Women in Docs, 9:30 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Choppin' Block Marianne Solivan Quartet, 8 pm, $4, 21+.
Club Passim Arabesque, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
Harper's Ferry Blues jam, $2, 21+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Mendoza Line, Centro-Matic and the Pale, 9 pm, $9, 18+. ZuZu: The Unhappy Hour with Mike Gent.
Paradise Lounge: John Ondrasik of Five for Fighting, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
Ryles Jazz Club Big-Band Tuesdays, 7:30 pm, $9.
Toad Shwang, featuring Anita Suhanin, 8-10 pm; the Tim Gearan Band, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Leo Blais, Snow Patrol and Drew O'Doherty, $7.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner and Joe McMahon, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Jason Domnarski Trio, 7-11 pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, FEB. 17

Axis As I Lay Dying, Himsa, Sworn Enemy, a
With Honor, 7 pm, $10, all ages.
Cantab Lounge Meridian, 10 pm, cover vari
21+.
Dick's Last Resort Julian Morelli, 7:20 pm-12 a
no cover.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Rick Lee, 8:30 pm.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover; S
Bisbee, 10 pm, $7.
Middle East Upstairs: Constants in Breaking w
Carrigan, Shark, Bear and Vaguely Starshaped
pm, $8, 18+. ZuZu: Sarah Borges.
Regattabar The Robin Kenyatta Quartet, 8:30 p
$12.
Ryles Jazz Club Ken Cervenka, 7:30 pm, $8.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
Toad Christian McNeill (of Hybrasil), 10 pm,
cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm-12
am.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30 pm,
cover, 21+
Les Zygomates Silas Hubbard, 8 pm, no cover.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-4 1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684) MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424) MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave, Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Li to Government Center.*
Blackman Center for the Arts *360 Huntington Av Boston (617-373-2247). MBTA: E Green Line to Northeastern.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3474).*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Charlie's Kitchen *10 Eliot St., Cambridge (617-4 9646). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Choppin' Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (6 734-4177). MBTA: Green Line to Brigham Circle.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudent*
Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-338 7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Fireplace *1634 Beacon St., Boston (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (617-728-1600). MBTA: Red Line to South Stati*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (6 624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
The Good Life Cambridge *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Pa Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112 MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Great Scott *1222 Commonwealth Ave., Allston (617-734-4502). MBTA:Blue Line to Harvard Ave.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (6 789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*

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The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
Institute of Contemporary Art *955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152).MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Julien Bar *250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (617-267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway Park.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Mary Baker Eddy Library *200 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-450-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Pat Flanagan's *79 Parkingway St., Quincy (617-773-3400). MBTA: D Green Line to Mission Hill.*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
Porters Bar and Grill *173 Portland St., Boston (617-742-7678).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-931-2000). MBTA: Green Line to Boyleston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Skellig *240 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0679).*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Washington Square Tavern *714 Washington St., Brookline (617-232-8989). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 4

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. $16. Ton Koopman conducts the BSO in a rehearsal of pieces by J.S. Bach, C.P.E. Bach and Mendelssohn.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Guest conductor Federico Cortese leads the NEC Symphony Orchestra in works by Berlioz, Mozart and Stravinsky.

THURSDAY, FEB. 5

Boston Landmarks Orchestra
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-520-2200) www.landmarksorchestra.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. 8 pm. Free. Charles Anbacher conducts a concert featuring the America debut of Russian pianist Ekaterina Mechetina.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $26-$86. Ton Koopman conducts the BSO in pieces by J.S. Bach, C.P.E. Bach an Mendelssohn.

New England Conservatory
St. Botolph Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line Mass. Ave. 8 pm. Violinist Magdalena Richter pe forms works by Bach Mozart, Prokofiev and Ravel.

FRIDAY, FEB. 6

Boston Chamber Music Society
New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-349-0086). www.bostochambermusic.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. $16-$42. The BCMS perform selections by Schoenfield, Shostakovich an Mendelssohn.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). .www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30 pm. $26-$86. Same program as Feb. 5.

New England Conservatory
Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass Ave. 8:30 pm. NEC Preparatory School voice in structor Aaron Sheehan joins the orchestra in a pe formance of works by Britten, Dowland and Hahn.

SATURDAY, FEB. 7

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $26-$86. Same program as Feb. 5.

Chameleon Arts Ensemble of Boston
First and Second Church, 66 Marlborough St., Boston (617-427-8200). www.chameleonarts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm. $15-$30. The concert With Song the Spirit Only Hears, with guest guitarist David Leisne, features music by Bartók Mendelssohn, Bruce Adlophe, Alan Hovhaness an Ursula Mamlok.

Lexington Sinfonietta
National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Rd., Lexington (781-863-9581). 8 pm. $15-$25. The Lexington Sinfonietta performs pieces by Stravinsky, Brahm and Beethoven with guest conductor Jonatha McPhee and violinist Bayla Keyes.

Lydian String Quartet
Brandeis University, Slosberg Recital Hall, South St Waltham (781-736-3400). www.brandeis.edu MBTA: Commuter rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 8 pm $15, $8 students and seniors. The Lydian String Quartet performs works by Schubert, Berg an Beethoven.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-482-6661). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm $41-$46. Pianist Leon Fleisher celebrates his 75t birthday with this performance of works by Bach Kirchner, Brahms and Schubert.

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Pianist Viktoria Postnikova plays at Symphony Hall Feb. 12.

www.radiusensemble.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $10, $5 students.* The ensemble performs Sofia Gubaidulina's *Garden of Joys and Sorrows*, with narration by WBUR's Robin Young, and a new work by Boston composer Curtis Hughes.

SUNDAY, FEB. 8

Boston Chamber Music Society

Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-349-0086). www.bostonchambermusic.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $16-$42.* Same program as Feb. 6.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 28 The Fenway, Boston (617-734-1359). www.gardnermuseum.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 1:30 pm. $20, 10 students.* A pianist and string quartet perform pieces by Haydn, Harbison and Faure.

Lavazza Chamber Ensemble

St. Paul's Church, 15 St. Paul St., Brookline (617-566-4953). www.lavazzachamberensemble.org. *MBTA: C Green Line to St. Paul. 7:30 pm. Free.* The ensemble performs works by Brahms, Kodály, Beethoven, Shostakovich, Dvorák and others.

New England Conservatory

Brown Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 4 pm.* Violinist Jin-Kyung Joen and pianist Roberto Poli perform works by Mozart, Ravel, Satie and Richard Strauss.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm.* Violinist James Buswell performs works by Janácek, Martinu, Bartók and Enesco with pianist Gloria Chien.

MONDAY, FEB. 9

NEC Callithumpian Consort

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm.* The NEC players perform Peter Maxwell Davies' *Miss Donnithorne's Maggot*, Giacinto Scelsi's *Kya*, Earle Brown's *Center* and Morton Feldman's *The Viola in My Life*.

TUESDAY, FEB. 10

The Bach Keyboard Project

First Church Cambridge, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (617-661-0570). www.tuesdayswithsebastian.info. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $10.* Organist Christa Rakich and harpsichordist Peter Sykes perform works by Bach.

Boston Modern Orchestra Project

Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-363-0396). www.bmop.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7 pm. $15.* As part of the Who's Afraid of Modern Music series, the BMOP presents a concert featuring the music of George Antheil, Morton Feldman and Harry Partch.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $26-$86.* Same program as Feb. 5.

King's Chapel

King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Government Center or Orange Line to State St. 12:15 pm. $3.* Baroque flutist Na'ama Lion performs works by Telemann, Braun and Bach.

New England Conservatory

Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 7:30 pm.* Violinist Maria Benotti, cellist Lynn Nowels and pianist Eda Mazo-S lam celebrate composer Gard Read's 91st birthday with a per mance of Read's *Five Aphorisms.*

New England Conserv tory Presents Voices

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough S Boston (617-585-1122). www.n englandconservatory.edu. *MBTA Green Line to Symphony or Ora Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm.* John H leads the NEC Contemporary semble in an all-vocal program turing works by Britten, Trim Stravinsky and Ives.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 11

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconser tory.edu. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or ange Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm.* Benjamin Zander c ducts the NEC Philharmonia in Mahler's *Symph No. 9* and other works.

THURSDAY, FEB. 12

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-2 1200). www.bso.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to S phony. 10:30 am (rehearsal); 8 pm (performanc $16 (rehearsal); $26-$86 (performance).* Genn Rozdestvensky conducts the BSO and pianist V toria Postnikova in works by Suk, Martinu Dvorák.

FRIDAY, FEB. 13

Boston Classical Orchestra

Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-423-3883). www.bos classicalorchestra.org. *MBTA: Green Line to G ernment Center. 8 pm. $23-$45.* Conductor Ste Lipsitt and the BCO present a Valentine's-then program titled It Takes Two to Tango, with husba and-wife musicians from the Boston Sympho joining the BCO.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-2 1200). www.bso.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to S phony. 1:30 pm. $26-$86.* Same program as Feb.

Handel and Haydn Society

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-2 3605). www.handelandhaydn.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $25-$58.* Gr Llewellyn conducts a program entitled Baro Love Duets, featuring romantic pieces by B and Handel.

Longy Chamber Orchestra

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MB *Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free.* Conductor A Manson leads the orchestra in performances Stravinsky's *Pulcinella Suite* and Pergolesi's *Sta Mater.*

SATURDAY, FEB. 14

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-2 1200). www.bso.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to S phony. 1:30 pm. $26-$86.* Same program as Feb.

SUNDAY, FEB. 15

Handel and Haydn Society

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-2 3605). www.handelandhaydn.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $25-$58.* Same p gram as Feb. 13.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 28 The Fenw Boston (617-734-1359). www.gardnermuseum.o *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 1:30 pm. $* Violinist Corey Cerovsek and pianist Paa Jumppanen perform three violin sonatas Beethoven.

The Masterworks Chorale

Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (6 496-2222). www.masterworkschorale.org. MB *Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. $16-$36.* The Cho performs Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana.* Soloists clude Junko Watanabe, Craig Hanson and Rob Honeysucker.

TUESDAY, FEB. 17

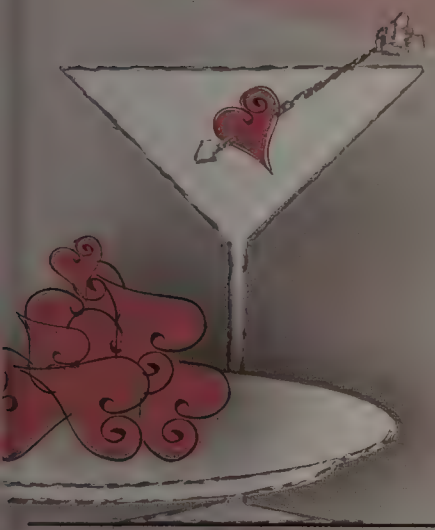
King's Chapel

King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-2 2155). www.kings-chapel.org. *MBTA: Green Lin Government Center or Orange Line to State St. 12 pm. $3.* Organist Yee-Yeon Soh performs works Buxtehude, Sweelinck and Mozart.

Cocktails with Cupid

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February 12, 2004
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dance clubs



Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $5, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Jay Ine spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Monsta Mondays DJ Kaptain Krunch spins rock, and live bands perform, 9 pm, $6, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJs spin R&B and hip-hop, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Harp
•Feb. 9, live music with Maxie Courtney, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Scott Damgaard plays live music, 9 pm, 21+.

The Rack
Dance party with DJ Small Marco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Vertigo
The Night DJs G-Squared and Steve Austin kick off the work week with hip-hop, house, old school, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 19+ (women), 21+ (men)

TUESDAYS

An Tua Nua
What's Up Night A night of R&B, house, funk and soul music, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Phat Tuesdays Old-school hip-hop with DJ D Sharp, 9 pm, $10, 19+, college ID required.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+.

The Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Orange DJs John Davis and Pat Fontes bring the house music, and weekly guest DJs spin, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Eddie Lee spins house, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Phoenix Landing
Deep Tones DJ Brynmore spins a mix of soul, funk, house and acid jazz, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Ibiza DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Ricky spins 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Trio
Always Best Tuesday The night features all hip-hop, all night, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

Aria
Lust DJ John Morris spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, $8, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, $21.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins Greek and international tunes, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
What a Way to Go Go Mod Night with DJ Vin, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Rhythm Nights spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up R&B, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mercury Lounge DJs Nomadik and Timmy Allen host a night of soul, funk and house, 9 pm, $3-5, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin deep house, trance and grassroots techno, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
International Wednesdays DJ JC is in the Latin Lounge; DJs Alex and Felix spin in the back, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Massi spins top-40, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Q
House DJs host break-dancing contests, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Ricky spins spins, 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Cabin Stabbin' Wednesdays DJ Boogie Ba Do spins dub to start the party, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Jazz Wednesdays Jazz legend Ron Murphy and his quintet bring cool jazz to the main lounge, 9 pm-11 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B. Downstairs: Live music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Vertigo
Anitya Downstairs: Psychedelic trance music by DJs Dino, Mathwin and Dave Henshaw. Upstairs: Analog Lounge with DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake, 10 pm, $5, free before 11 pm or with NYC ID, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
Fizzle DJ Ren Justice spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; DJ Roger M and DJ Thanos spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
International Thursdays DJ Gee Spin and guests play rap and hip-hop tunes, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Mark Morris and Catunes play pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
DJ JC spins international house, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Exchange
Heaven and Hell DJs Chaos, 7L and Mr. Aru spin house and hip-hop, 9:30 pm-2 am, 19+ (with college ID).

Felt
After work live jazz, 6 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou spins late night, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
Nonstop music and dancing with DJs Christian, Massi, Joshua Carl, Damon and Push. Ladies free, guys $5 after 10 pm, 21+.

I/D
Square One Thursdays DJs Dres and Wagz host night of progressive dance music, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Massi gets the dance party started upstairs, 1 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ David James spi dance tunes and old-school, 10 pm, no cover, 21+

Kinvara Pub
DJ Doc spins the latest tunes, 21+.

La Boom
Privilege DJ Felix cranks the noise, 11 pm-2 am, 21+

Level
Life DJ Adilson pumps house, trance and progres sive, and DJ NFerna spins hip-hop, R&B and regga 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Ricky Fatts spins house and hip-hop. 10:30 pm $15, 19+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando preser drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cove 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Carrie spins upbeat lounge in the front, 10 pm no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett performs live, 9 pm, 21+.

Q
DJ Hustle Simmons from JAM'N 94.5 spins hip-ho all night long, 9 pm, $5, ladies free all night, 21+.

The Rack
Ibiza DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:3 pm. DJ Littles spins from 10:30 pm-2 am, no cove 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali and Ross spin a mix electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cove 21+.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin loung music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

711 Boylston
Play Thursdays DJ trio Groovefire spins hous music with special guests Beat Khemistry, 6 pm 2 am.


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Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Steve Sosong spins new dance and R&B. Downstairs: Justin Beech, 9 pm-1 am, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ JR Vega hosts Latin night with live music by the Latin Party Boys; free salsa lessons with Dan Marshall, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
Hip Hop Event Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip-hop, 9 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5 pm-10 pm, no cover.

The West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJs Lazee Boy and Gabe play funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 from the '70s, '80s and '90s, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Floss DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Avaland Guest and global DJs spin progressive dance music, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Steve Austin spins hip-hop, old-school and dancehall, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Axis
Avaland DJ Caprice spins hip-hop as part of Avaland, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins top-40, and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
F Night WBCN's Bradley J spins '80s classics, and alternative and rock tribute bands perform live, 9 pm, cover varies, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft VJ Johnny Walker Black spin top-40 dance and hip-hop tunes accompanied by interactive video shows, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Eddie K spins a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, and two guest DJs spin on the first floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Nailz and DJ Eddie Lee spin hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $20, 19+.

The Exchange
DJs Tiziano and Luca spin house and hip-hop upstairs, while DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B in the vault, 9:30 pm, $10, 21+.

Felt
After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs, spinning high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Bob Gallagher spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •Feb. 6, Steamroller Picnic performs live, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, $10, 9 pm, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Big Daddy spins, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins house and old favorites, $5, ladies free before midnight, 21+.

La Boom
Fashion Fridays Firefly Promotions hosts this fashion night featuring DJ Rick Naples, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

Level
Secret Society DJ Hoff spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B on the fourth and fifth floors, and DJ Niko spins Greek and international tunes on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.


Level

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Matrix
DJ Adilson of Roxy Saturdays spins high-energy house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

The Modern
DJ JC plays Latin rhythms, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Rockpile** WAAF's Jay Ferrera broadcasts live, and rotating bands perform, 9 pm, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•Feb. 6, live music with the Zone, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+. •Feb. 13, the Interns perform, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Shake What Your Mama Gave You DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
Industrie hosts weekly guest DJs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Craig spins the latest hits, 10 pm.

Q
DJ B-Spin spins hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, $5 (with complimentary Stoli vodka from 9 pm-10 pm), 21+.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Johnny C with KISS 108's Artie, 10:45 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Lite Nite DJ Easy spins a mix that includes neo-soul and feel-good classics, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Bruno spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance. Downstairs: live music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover before 10 pm, 21+.

Sophia's
Sangria and Salsa Salsa and merengue lessons, 7-10 pm, followed by the Latin Party Boys and DJs Mike C and Zino spinning Latin dance, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room, and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Trio
Boston After Dark Dance to hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with Latin vibes. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vivid Lounge
Brian Roache spins top-40, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJs Lazee Boy and Gabe play funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

Aria
DK Kon spins high energy vocal house and hip hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Total Request Avalon DJ Tim Collins plays your requests, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

The Avenue
DJ Kevin Munroe spins house and trance, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Start! DJ Damien spins alternative rock and '80s hits, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Dance Night DJ Rob Nockshis spins dance music all night, 9 pm, $8 ($10 includes access to Jake Ivory's rock 'n' roll piano bar), 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. VJ Johnnie Walker presents top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Franklin creates a lounge atmosphere with his international, Latin and house sounds, 10 pm, ($10 after 11 pm), 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood It's women's night at Hollywood with tw
floors of hip-hop and house music, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Roger M spins international house, 10:30 pm
$15, 19+.

Felt
DJ Ghost spins hip-hop and house, 9 pm, no cove
21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorite
disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop an
vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house,
pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstai
with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, $10, 21+. •Feb.
Steamroller Picnic performs live, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm
$10, 21+.

I/D
X Night WFNX presents a night of retro '80s an
rock, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hi
hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, whi
downstairs DJ O'Toole plays top-40, 10 pm, 21+.

La Boom
Wild on @ La Boom DJ Tim Collins and KISS 10
host a night of music and dancing, 10 pm, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spi
Russian and international music on the third floo
10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays**
Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal hous
travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floo
10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 9 pm, 21+.

Matrix
DJ Gee Spin plays hip-hop in the front room, whi
DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins house and 90s dance in th
back, 9 pm, $10, 21+ (men), 19+ (women).

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Or
spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10 pm, $
ladies are free before 10:30 pm, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Eddie Lee plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dan
music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez a
Willie D, ladies free, men $5 before 10:30 pm; $1
18+; $10, 21+ after 10:30 pm. •**The Male E**
counter New England's longest-running all-ma
dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 a
$15, 19+; no cover 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spi
top-40 and hip-hop mixes, $15, 18+; $10, 21
•**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-h
in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21
•**Underground** DJs spin hip-hop, top-40, danc
techno and reggae for the under-21 crowd, 7-11 p
$14. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes up hits from t
'70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•Feb. 7, live music with the Zone, 10 pm, cov
varies, 21+. •Feb. 14, live music with the Interr
10 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins 80s, new wa
and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Rick Naples spins high-energy dance, 10 p
$10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Tom Hogan spins the groove, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Q
DJ Josh Carl spins house and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21

The Rack
Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi and DJ Littles host the li
broadcast and dance party, 8 pm, 21+, no cover.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins mode
mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins house and techno, 9 pm, $15, 21

711 Boylston
Fever DJ Yorgo spins a mix of ethnic and intern
tional music, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8 pm. Dow
stairs: Kevin Kirrane, 9 pm, no cover before 10 pm.



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Sophia's
DJ Zino spins salsa and merengue while a Latin band plays on the first floor and DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on the second floor, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and house, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Trio
Best Of Night DJs spin Eurohouse, hip-hop and classics, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

Vivid Lounge
Brian Roache spins top-40, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJs Lazee Boy and Gabe play funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, 21+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Adrienne spins Brit-pop and new wave tunes, 9 pm-1 am, $3, 19+.

Aria
DJ Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ K-Don, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
Fluid Sundays DJs Joshua Carl and Paul Dailey spin tribal and deep house, breaks, techno and jungle beats, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Doc spins hip-hop, house and top-40, 11 pm, no cover.

La Boom
Futurebeat: Alien Disco DJ Addambombb spins a mix of retro progressive tracks, trip-hop and synth-pop, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Satellite A new "by girls, for girls" lesbian night featuring DJ Dee and dance music, amateur drag contests, and films , 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Parris
•Feb. 15, Live music with Maxie Courtney, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $3, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Massi tops the weekend off with an array of tunes, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Reverie Boston DJ Shannon and weekly guest DJs spin goth, industrial and lounge, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
DJ Dave Jordan plays an array of top-40 tunes, 9 pm, 21+.

Trio
Vibe Lounge DJs provide the vibe, 10 pm, 21+.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins Brazilian beats, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Whiskey Park
Cherry DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock classics, hip-hop, house and R&B.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Dad's *911 Boylston St., Boston (617-296-3237).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
The Exchange *148 State St., Boston (617-726-7601).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The G Spot *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
La Boom *One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Light *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617 524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *(El Copa, Male Encounter, Officers' Club, Oxygen, Rio, Underground and Uptown) 150 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
711 Boylston *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-651*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-700*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Sweetwater Café *5 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-2515).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-030*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
Vivid Lounge *148 State St., Boston (617-726-760*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*







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museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors
Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*The Continuous Stroke of Breath: Calligraphy from the Islamic World* features Arabic, Indian, Persian and Turkish calligraphy from the 9th through 20th centuries. Through July 18. •*Rocks, Mountains, Landscapes, and Gardens: The Essence of East Asian Painting*, an exhibition of rocks used in East Asian art, shows through Aug. 1.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm. •*Boston Police Department 150th Anniversary* is an exhibit illustrating the police department's 150-year history. Through Feb. 27. •*Match-up Interfaith Volunteers* is a photojournalism exhibit on the theme of relationships late in life. Through Feb. 27. •*Modern Illuminations* features new illuminated manuscripts by students at Shady Hill School. Through Feb. 27. •*Faces and Places*, an exhibit of historical maps of Boston, shows through April 30.

Carpenter Center for Visual Arts
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). www.ves.fas.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-11:30 pm; Sun., 12-11:30 pm. Free. •*New Spring Faculty 2004*, a group show of works by Harvard's Department of Visual and Environmental Studies, displays through Feb. 29.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. •*Joseph Wheelwright: Stone Heads and Tree Figures*, a sculpture exhibition, shows through May 16. •*Jirimani* is a photographic transparency installation by Jo Yarrington. Feb. 7-May 30. •*Self-Evidence: Identity in Contemporary Art* is a group show of multimedia work focusing on self-representation in art. Feb. 7-May 30. •*Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Sense of Place, Part II* features paintings by various artists. Through summer 2004.

Fogg Art Museum/ Busch-Reisinger Museum
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Before Expressionism: Art in Germany Circa 1903* features drawings, prints and paintings from German avant-garde artists. Through Feb. 15. •*Harvard Collects American Art* shows through Feb. 22. •*Life as Art: Paintings by Gregory Gillespie and Frances Cohen Gillespie* shows through March 28.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •*Into the Mountains* features the photography of mountaineer Bradford Washburn. Through spring 2004. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species by glass artists Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7, $5 students and seniors. •*Made in Mexico/Heche en México* features 20 international artists' interpretations of Mexican culture. Through May 9.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, free for those under 18. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. •Elaine Reichek's embroideries, which depict Biblical images borrowed from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists, display online in the virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). www.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5, $3 students and seniors, $1 children. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm; Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15 adults, $13 students and seniors, free for children 17 and under. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free. Special exhibitions are an additional cost. •*The Maker's Hand: American Studio Furniture, 1940-1990* features one-of-a-kind pieces made in small shops. Through Feb. 8. •Johannes Vermeer's *Young Woman with a Water Pitcher*, a rare painting on loan from the Metropolitan Museum of Art, displays through Feb. 22. •*Traveling Scholars 2003* features the work of three of the Museum School's travel scholarship recipients. Feb. 8-March 14. •*Draped in Dragons: Chinese Court Costumes* features clothes worn by members of the Qing imperial court. Through May
•More than 200 jades dating from the Neolithic p
riod to the Qing Dynasty display in *Chinese Jad*
from the Hartman Collection. Through August. •*18*
Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Colle
tion features the only complete set of 18th-centu
French royal furniture in the United States. Ong
ing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historic
American masterpieces. Ongoing.

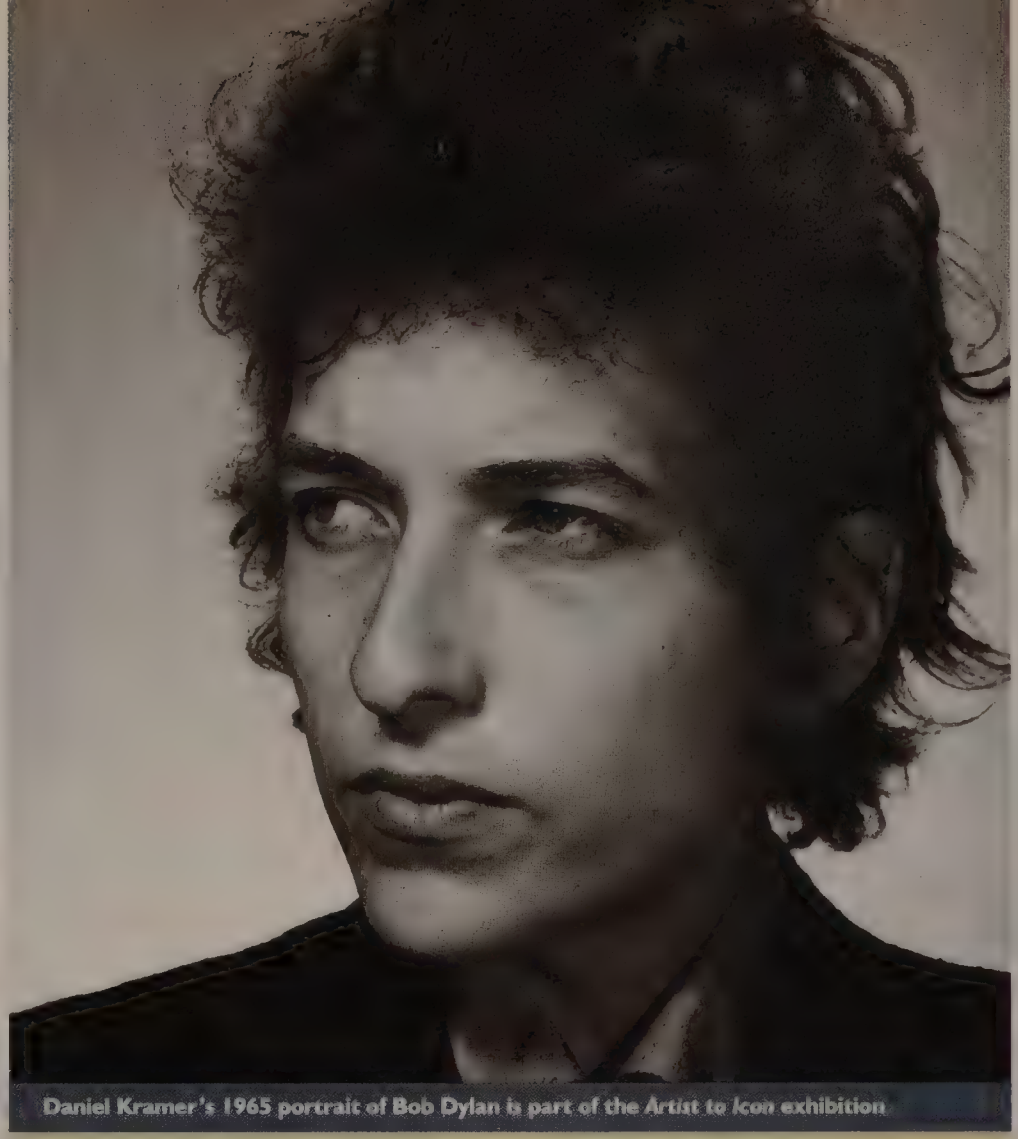
Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.or
MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun
9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13 adults, $11 senior
$10 children. •*Magic: The Science of Illusion* is an i
teractive exhibition that looks at mind reading, le
itation, transformation and the "disembodied hea
illusion. Through Feb. 22. •*A Bird's World* explor
the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoin
•*The Computing Revolution* traces the history
computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s
today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Mo*
eling the Mesozoic showcases the museum's collecti
of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. O
going. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibitio
features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and
giant grasshopper. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum
33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). ww
monh.org. *Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm*
Free. •*Artist to Icon: Early Photographs of Elvi*
Dylan and the Beatles is an exhibition of 48 blac
and-white photographs taken early in the careers
the three rock legends. Through June 6. •*Hat*
Show Print's Rock 'n' Roll Posters features letterpre
posters for concerts by musicians including John
Cash, Frank Zappa and Bruce Springstee
Through June 13. •*A Glimpse of Boston Theate*
1850-1903 includes 15 playbills and programs fro
that period. Through June 20. •*The Enchant*
Clocks of George McFadden is ongoing. •*Lexingt*
Alarm'd is an exhibition of 18th-century local hi
tory. Ongoing. •*Made in Massachusetts* featur
household objects from the past three centurie
Ongoing. •*To Build and Sustain: Freemasons*
American Community is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). ww
pem.org. *Sun.-Mon., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am*
pm. Adults $12, seniors $10, students $8; children
and under and residents of Salem free. •*Luxury and I*
novation: Furniture Masterworks by John and Thom
Seymour features 72 examples of classic America
furniture. Through Feb. 16. •*Under the Imperi*
Gaze features two large-scale Chinese scroll
Through May 2. •*Geisha: Beyond the Painted Sm*
examines geisha culture through painting, woo
block prints, photography, video, musical instr
ments and authentic accessories. Feb. 14-May
•*Men Plow, Women Weave* displays images of wea
ing and plowing by Chinese artists. Through M
30. •*Vanished Kingdoms: The Wulsin Photographs*
China, Tibet, and Mongolia 1921-1925, an exhibitio
of color images taken by American explorers Jan
E. and Frederick R. Wulsin, shows through June 1

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology
11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). ww
peabody.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvar*
Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50 adults, $6 seniors and st
dents, $5 children •*These Shoes Were Ma*
for...Walking? is a collection of 49 pairs of sho
from ancient to contemporary times. Through Fe
ruary. •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monumer*
features the museum's large Mesoamerican cast co
lection. Ongoing. •*Encounters with the Americas*
an ongoing exhibition featuring original sculptu
and plaster casts of Mesoamerican cultures. •*Hall*
the North American Indian: Change and Continui
features art depicting the response of Native Ame
cans across the continent to the arrival of Eur
peans. Ongoing. •*Pacific Islands Hall*, another ong
ing exhibition, displays artifacts from the Paci
Islands.

Somerville Museum
One Westwood Road, Somerville (617-666-9810
www.losttheatres.org. *Thu., 2-7 pm; Fri., 2-5 pm a*
Sat., 12-5 pm. •*The Lost Theatres of Somerville* co
bines oral histories, photographs, memorabilia and i
teractive media to explore the rise and fall
Somerville's 14 historic movie theaters, only one
which operates today. Through March 28.


Daniel Kramer's 1965 portrait of Bob Dylan is part of the *Artist to Icon* exhibition

Preview

Shooting Stars

Early portraits of musical icons show at the National Heritage Museum

Before Elvis Presley, Bob Dylan and the Beatles came along, blue suede shoes were a footwear faux pas, Highway 61 was a southern byway, and a yellow submarine was a deli sandwich with mustard. By the late 1950s and early 1960s, rock and roll had won over the nation's youth, but the music's stars had not yet achieved cultural prominence. The National Heritage Museum's new exhibition, *Artist to Icon: Early Photographs of Elvis, Dylan and the Beatles*, presents a unique look at the musicians who launched the era of guitar leads, heavy beats and protest ballads—captured on film before they were household names in America.

"The focus is on more intimate portraits in the period just before they jumped to superstardom," says Jim Fricke, curatorial manager at the Experience Music Project in Seattle, where the traveling exhibition was created. In 48 black-and-white photographs taken by five photographers—all of whom had close relationships with the musicians—Presley, Dylan and the Beatles are depicted before their worldwide fame: playing small venues around the world, recording songs that would become platinum hits, and waiting in lunch lines. "One of the things that's documented here is a kind of innocence about the music business that has passed for a lot of people," adds Fricke. "Nowadays you go from unknown to the cover of *People* magazine pretty quickly. All the artists here had the opportunity for an artistic adolescence."

33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Through June 6. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free.—Katherine Marshall.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmfineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue

Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •William Freed shows his work in *Still Life Abstractions*. Through Feb. 21.

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). www.alianzagallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm.* •Gina Poppe shows glass work. Feb. 10-March 20.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •Paul Sattler shows new paintings. Through Feb. 4. •Hiro Yokose shows oil and wax on canvas. Feb. 7-March 3.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm.* •Norma Bessouet shows her new paintings. Through Feb. 28.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •Alex Katz shows paintings through Feb. 4. •*Print Publisher's Spotlight: Graphic Studio*, a group show, displays through Feb. 4. •Josef Albers shows square screenprints. Feb. 7-March 24.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •Jonathan Lerman shows drawings. Through Feb. 28.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm.* •Nicholas Nixon and Penelope Umbrio show their photography. Through Feb. 14.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Monmouth St., Brookline. (617-566-5715). www. brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C *Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm.* •*The Art of Black and White Photography*, a group show of work by Anne Hwang, Sarah Oliveira, Heather B. Brown and John Martino, displays through Feb. 27. •Mark Richards and David Stern show color photography. Through Feb. 27.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-2255). www.chappellgallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm and by appointment.* •Kathy Goodell shows *Ero-Topographies*, drawings and sculptures. Through Feb. 28.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm.* •George Gabin shows oil paintings. Feb. 4-28.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA:*Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm.* •Three exhibits, *Lithographs of Adolph Dehn*, *Tropical Paradise* (watercolors) and *Peter Moran: Drawings*, show through March 6.

Clifford-Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 300, Boston (617-695-0255). www.cliffordsmithgallery.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5:30 pm.* •Andrea Champlin shows abstract oil paintings. Feb. 6-28.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm.* •*The 15th Annual Student Show* and *Stephen D. Paine Scholarship: Award-Winners & Honorable Mentions* show Feb. 5-21.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (617-268-8050). MBTA: *Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm.* •An exhibition of works by Jeff Eldredge, Dan McCole and Norman Crump is ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm.* •Paul Crimi shows acrylic and oil paintings. Through Feb. 28.

Equator Gallery
450 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-540-9236). MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay.* www.equatorgallery.com. *Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm.* •The gallery specializes in Latin American fine art, including paintings, textiles and ceramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: *Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm.* •Dorothea Van Camp, Chris Nau and Chris Parris show their work in *On the Edge of Form*. Through Feb. 14.



Patricia Peacock's *These Are My Dresses*, at the Judi Rotenberg Gallery through Feb. 28.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm.* •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall. •*Modern Masters: Works on Paper* shows Feb. 5-29.

The Gallery at Black and White
295 Huntington Ave., Suite 205 (617-266-2641). MBTA: *E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Mon.-Fri, 10 am-5 pm.* •The gallery features rotating exhibitions of black-and-white photographs.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: *Red Line to Broadway. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •Greg Poulins shows new paintings through March.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •Bryan McFarlane shows his work in *Egg Series*, and Robert Siegelman displays his work in *New Woodcuts*. Feb. 7-28.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.haleysteele.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment.* •The gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prints. Ongoing.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •John Goodman shows his photography in *Habana Cuba*. Through Feb. 10. •Morgan Bulkeley shows new oil paintings, and Neeta Madahar shows floral prints in *Sustenence*. Feb. 13-March 9.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm.* •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm.* •*Hot Stuff*, works by Patricia Peacock and Jacob Kulin, and *Walking from L.A. to San Francisco*, by Danica Phelps, show Feb. 5-28.

Kaji Aso Studio
40 St. Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www.kajiasostudio.com. MBTA: *E Green Line to Symphony. Tue. and Thu., 4:30-6:30 pm; Sat., 3-5 pm, and by appointment.* •*Dreaming Cricket*, a group show of multimedia works, displays through Feb. 13.

Kathryn Schultz Gallery
25 Lowell St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www.cambridgeart.org. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm, Sun., 1-5 pm.* •*Human Condition*, a group show of works in all media, displays through Feb. 18.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm.* •*Live from Texas: Texas-Based Artists Take to the Road*, a group show, displays through Feb. 21.

Kingston Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 12-5 pm.* •Gail Erwin shows handmade paper casts. Through Feb. 28.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm.* •Paula DeSimone, Jill Fishon-Kovachick and Eric Tardif show ceramic work, furniture and sculptural birds in *Layers and Patterns*. Through March 5.

Mark Gallery
141 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6275). www.markartgallery.com. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm, and by appointment.* •John Lobosco and Sandys Moore show paintings in *Northern Lights*. Through Feb. 13. •Peter Arvidson shows new oil paintings. Feb. 14-March 12.

Martin Lawrence Gallery
77 Newbury St., Boston (617-369-4800). MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington.* www.martinlawrence.com. *Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-7 pm.* •The gallery's ongoing exhibition includes works by Chagall, Erté, Hallam, Kondakova, Lichtenstein, Picasso and Warhol.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •*Tree of Life*, a group show of works by Joseph Solman, Ann Strassman, Miranda Thomas, Lucette White and Karl Zerbe, displays through Feb. 9.

Miller Block Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). www.millerblockgallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30-5:30 pm.* •Kara Maria shows paintings, and Angela Dufresne shows drawings. Through March 2.

Mills Gallery
539 Tremont St., Boston (617-348-2926). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed., Thu. and Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-10 pm.* •*The Drawing Show*, a juried exhibition of contemporary drawings, displays through March 7.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. *Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm.* •*The Ring* (jewelry) shows through Feb. 29. Ceramics by Bennet Bean, lampworked glass by Jay Musler and jewelry by Lydia Gerbig-Fast and Sandra Enterline display through Feb. 29.

NAO Project Gallery
535 Albany St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-451-2977). www.naoprojectgallery.info. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay or Green Line to Copley. Wed., Fri. and Sat., 11 am-4 pm and by appointment.* •Beth Brideau shows her paintings. Through Feb. 28.

New Art on Newbury
285 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7727). MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Thu., 11 am-6 pm; Fri. and Sat., 11 am-11 pm.* •*New Art for the New Year*, a group show of oils, watercolors, photography and sculpture, displays through Feb. 8.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment.* •*The Self-Reliant Spirit*, a group show, displays through Feb. 28.

108
108 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-3833). www.gallery108.com. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard or Porter. Tue, Thu., Fri., 12-6 pm; Wed., 2-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm; Sun. by appointment.* •Devin Powers shows paintings in *Pill Pop*. Through Feb. 21.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: *Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm.* •A local-artists showcase is ongoing.



Sanctuary, by George Gabin, at the Chase Gallery through Feb 28.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •*Sydney Hurwitz: Etchings* shows through Feb. 21.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm.* •Hideaki Miyamura shows his pottery in *Risk and Discovery*, and Gunnar Norrman shows his drawings in *The Rhythm of Light*. Through Feb. 9. •B.A. King shows iris prints in *The Seeing Spirit*. Feb. 14-March 16.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •The gallery displays photographs by Sebastiao Salgado and Lewis Wickes Hine. Through Feb. 21.

The Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm.* •*Portraits*, a group show of multimedia work, displays through April 25.

Soprafina Gallery
99 Beacon St., Somerville (617-498-0999). MBTA: *Red Line to Davis. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm;* •Marjorie Forte shows charcoal drawings, and Jorg Fraske shows paintings in *Language*. Through Feb. 28.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm.* •*Paint*, a group show of watercolors, displays through Feb. 29.

Studio Soto
63 Melcher St., Boston (617-426-7686). www.studiosoto.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to South Station. Fri. and Sat., 2-5 pm.* •*Beyond the Surface*, a group show of paintings, displays Feb. 14-29

Victoria Munroe Fine Art
59 Beacon St., Boston (617-523-0661). www.munroefineart.com. MBTA: *Green or Red Line to Park Street. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm and by appointment.* •*Small Epiphanies*, a group show of small paintings and drawings, displays through Feb. 14.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •Selections from the gallery's permanent collection, including works by Fitz Hugh Lane, Frank Benson and John Singer Sargent, show through March.

William Scott Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-542-4030). www.williamscottgallery.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm.* •*Gallery Artists' Salon Show* displays Feb. 6-28.

Zeitgeist Gallery
1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060). www.zeitgeist-gallery.org. MBTA: *Red Line to Inman Square. Tue.-Sun., 1-7 pm.* •Scott Cahaly and Ivan Brens show new work in *Painted Worlds*. Through Feb. 15.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: *Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5.* •*10th Juried Exhibition* features the winning photographs from the museum's 10th juried show. Through Feb. 27.

New England School of Photography
Gallery One, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-437-1868). www.nesop.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Kenmore. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm.* •Susan Clain shows her work. Through March 5.

Panopticon Gallery
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Commuter Rail to Waltham. www.panopt.com. *Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm.* •Bradford Washburn shows his aerial photographs in *Colossal*. Through Feb. 28.

Photographic Resource Center
832 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). MBTA: B *Green Line to Boston University West.* www.bu.edu/prc. *Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm.* •*Concerning the Spiritual in Photography*, a group show of contemporary and historic spiritual photographs, displays through March 14.

books & poetry

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to books @improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 4

Barnes & Noble at Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). http://bu.bkstore.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm.* **Joseph Finder** reads from his novel *Paranoia*, about an employee at a high-tech corporation who, in order to maintain his materialistic lifestyle, must betray everyone he cares about.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. *MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free.* **Brad Meltzer** reads from his new novel, *The Zero Game*, about congressional staffers whose innocent betting game turns deadly.

PEN New England Author Series
Hotel Marlowe, 25 Edwin Land Blvd., Cambridge (617-356-0515). MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. 6:30 pm. Free. Harvard University writing fellow **Rose Moss** discusses her books, including the novels *The Family Reunion* and *The Terrorist* and the nonfiction book *Shouting at the Crocodile: Popo Molefe, Patrick Lekota and the Freeing of South Africa.*

THURSDAY, FEB. 5

Barnes & Noble at Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). http://bu.bkstore.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free.* **Nicole Williams** discusses her book *Wildly Sophisticated: A Bold New Attitude for Career Success*, which offers advice to working women on how to build a successful career.

Harvard Book Store Author Event
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. *6 pm.* **Ken Auletta** reads from his book *Backstory: The Craft and Business of Journalism in America*, a collection of his articles for *The New Yorker* including profiles of some major figures in journalism.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.bkstore.com/harvard. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free.* **David Callahan** reads from his book *The Cheating Culture: Why More Americans Are Doing Wrong to Get Ahead*, about the increasing societal acceptance of cheating in corporate, professional and academic culture.

FRIDAY, FEB. 6

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm.* **Brian Sullivan** reads from his book *If Ever Two Were One: A Private Diary of Love Eternal*, which recounts the tragic romance of a Victorian-era Harvard student and his wife through journal entries, letters and images of the actual diary.

Newtonville Books in the Attic
107R Union Street, Newton Centre (617-244-6619). 6:30 pm. Free. **Ha Jin** reads from *The Crazed*, his novel about a Chinese university professor and his favorite student set during the Tiananmen Square uprising of 1989.

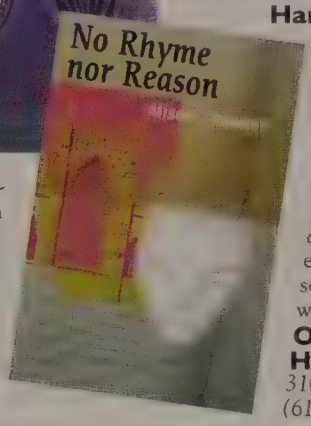
Symphony Hall
301 Mass. Ave., Boston (888-266-1200). www.bostonsymphonyhall.org. *MBTA:E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 7:30 pm. $29.95-$69.95.* **Maya Angelou** reads and discusses her work, including *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings, Wouldn't Take Nothing for My Journey Now* and *Even the Stars Look Lonesome.*

MONDAY, FEB. 9

Barnes & Noble at Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). http://bu.bkstore.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm.* Boston University Professor **Ha Jin** reads from his novel *The Crazed*. See Feb. 6, Newtonville Books in the Attic for a description.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.bkstore.com/harvard. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free.* **David Grinspoon**, principal scientist at the Southwest Research Institute's Department of Space Science, discusses his book *Lonely Planets: The Natural Philosophy of Alien Life*, which examines research and hypotheses surrounding extraterrestrial life.


Alison Theaker reads Feb. 11.



TUESDAY, FEB. 10

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. New Yorker* film critic and journalist **David Denby** reads from his new book, *American Sucker*, about his experiences entering the stock market just before it went bust.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm.* Local author **Mary Sullivan** reads from her new novel, *Ship Sooner*, about a young girl with exceptional hearing growing up in a sleepy Massachusetts town.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.bkstore.com/harvard. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free.* Harvard University Professor **Barry Mazur** discusses *Imagining Numbers (Particularly the Square Root of Minus Fifteen)*, his book on imagination's key role in mathematical exploration.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm.* **Nathaniel Bellows** reads from *On This Day*, his novel about two recently orphaned siblings dealing with the fallout of their parents' deaths.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 11

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. *MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free.* **Alison Theaker** reads from her novel *No Rhyme nor Reason*, an England-set thriller about stolen poetry, backstabbing friends and illicit lust.

Emerson College Reading Series
Emerson Room, 120 Boylston St., Boston (617-824-8750). www.emerson.edu. *MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7 pm. Free.* **Patricia Powell** reads from her novel *A Small Gathering of Bones*, which explores the personal, spiritual and cultural struggles of a young gay man in Jamaica during the late 1970s.

Harvard Book Store
Brattle Theater, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm.* **Brian Greene** reads from *The Fabric of the Cosmos: Space, Time and the Texture of Reality*, which examines modern science's understanding of the universe, including recent developments in superstring and M-theory.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. *7:30 pm.* **Adam Braver** reads from his novel *Mr. Lincoln's Wars*, which deals with the imagined personal, emotional and political struggles of Abraham Lincoln. Also, **Willard Randall** reads from *Alexander Hamilton*, his biography of the famously fiery American statesman.

Sorenson Center for the Arts
Babson College, Wellesley (781-239-5989). www.babson.edu. *MBTA: D Green Line to Woodland. 7:30 pm. Free.* Vermont state poet **Ellen Bryant Voigt** reads from her work.

THURSDAY, FEB. 12

Barnes & Noble at Boston University
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). http://bu.bkstore.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free.* **Eric Steeves** reads from his novel *Paradise Made*, about a man who turns to crime after the death of his wife and son.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free.* **Peter Smith** reads from his memoir, *Two of Us*, about how he bonded with his young son through their shared affinity for the Beatles.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm.* **Alice Flaherty** talks about her book *The Midnight Disease: The Drive to Write, Writer's Block and the Creative Brain*, in which she explores the physiological sources of the impulse to write and the creative drive.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston. (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. *$5. 12:15-1 pm.* **Michael Sokolow** discusses the life of Charles Benson, a Salem-based, mixed-race mariner of the 19th century and the subject of Sokolow's biography, *Charles Benson: Mariner of Color in the Age of Sail.*

FRIDAY, FEB. 13

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm.* **Tariq Ali** discusses his book *Bush in Babylon: The Recolonization of Iraq*, a critique of the way the Bush administration has dealt with Iraq in the wake of Sept. 11.

SATURDAY, FEB. 14

First Unitarian Society Newton Parish Hall
1326 Washington St., West Newton (617-965-7846). 7-10 pm. Free. This book launch party for **Linda Marks**' *Healing the War Between the Genders: The Power of the Soul-Centered Relationship* includes a reading, music and a potluck dinner.

Under the Covers
Paradise Lounge, 969 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8819).



Ha Jin reads from his new novel Feb. 6 and 9.

www.newtonvillebooks.com. *MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St. 6 pm. $7.* PEN New England, Newtonville Books and Cover 2 Cover host this Valentine's Day event. Authors **A.M. Homes**, **Jennifer Haigh**, **Stephen McCauley**, **Michelle Chalfoun**, **Fred Marchant** and **Elizabeth Searle** read erotic literature, and musicians **Jake Brennan** and **Sara Borges** perform. Author **Michael Leventhal** hosts and author **Steve Almond** DJs.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 18

Borders Boston
Borders Downtown Crossing, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Downtown Crossing.12:30 pm. Free.* Pulitzer Prize–winning journalist **Mark Obmascik** discusses his new book, *The Big Year*, about three men participating in the North American Big Year, an annual birding competition.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free.* **Joseph Finder** reads from his novel *Paranoia*. See Feb. 4, Barnes & Noble at Boston University for a description.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free.* **Francesca Dipaco** reads from her novel *Ask Me Anything*, a Manhattan-set story about a young woman's ventures in love, sex, art and friendship.

Ongoing

Amazon Poetry Slam (Last Sunday)
Milky Way, 403-405 Center St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 9 pm. $7. The last Sunday of every month the Milky Way hosts the all-women Amazon Poetry Slam.

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. $5. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge hosts a poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Harvard Coop (Sundays)
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. Hear what other Boston-area poets are doing; every Sunday the Harvard Coop hosts a poetry exchange on Level Two.

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway (Sundays)
255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 7 pm. $10.* The Off Broadway Poetry Ensemble, a collective that includes a machinist and a mountain climber, performs original work in a two-hour theatrical show every Sunday.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). www.poetryjam.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Poetry jam, 7:30 pm; poetry slam, 9 pm, $5.* At the poetry slam, the Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the featured poet of the week.

O'Brien's Pub (Mondays)
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. 9 pm. O'Brien's presents a mix of rock and spoken word one Monday a month. The performers are all predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry (Saturdays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 10 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. $3. Every Saturday is poetry night—the evening is titled Open Bark—and a spoken-word event takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month.

Stone Soup Poetry Night (Mondays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-227-0845). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7:30 pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have held weekly readings.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
Borders Boston, 10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 6:30 pm. Free. The second Thursday of each month offers a selection of featured poets and an opportunity for others to take the open mike.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. *Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 4

Financial Planning 101
60 School St., Boston (617-591-1400). www.bostonypa.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Park Street. 6:30 pm. $20 (includes hors d'oeuvres). Cash bar.* The Boston Young Professionals Association hosts this gathering featuring financial advice from Baystate Financial Services.

The Language of Music and Art
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7 pm. $13. Boston Philharmonic conductor **Benjamin Zander** and his wife, **Rosamund**, psycho-therapist and landscape painter, discuss art's capacity to impact people physically.

Understanding the Bible
Cambridge Forum, First Parish, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-495-2727). www.cambridgeforum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. Free.* **John Buehrens**, former president of the Unitarian Universalist Association, discusses his views on the Bible. Citing contemporary, literary, political and feminist readings, he argues for a movement toward tolerance and humanity.

THURSDAY, FEB. 5

The Last Snowball: Reconstructing the Ultimate Climate Shocks
Harvard Museum of Natural History, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free.* Geologist **Paul Hoffman** discusses his research into the "Snowball Earth" theory, which attributes the origin of multicellular life to extreme climatic fluctuations.

The Shipwreck of Uluburun
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 10:30 am. $2.* A 3,400-year-old shipwreck found off the southwest coast of Turkey has yielded knowledge about ancient Mediterranean societies. Listen to maritime archaeologist **Claire Calcagno** speak about her experiences as a team member of the excavation project.

Thursday Morning Talks: Samantha Power
Holy Trinity Armenian Church, 145 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-0632). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 11 am. $15. **Samantha Power**, a Pulitzer Prize–winning author and lecturer on public policy at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard, discusses American foreign policy in an age of terror.

FRIDAY, FEB. 6

High Performance Equipment Design
Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-589-0419). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. 7-8 pm. Free.* Find out how the MIT Center for Sports Innovation develops new technologies and products to enhance the sporting experience.

Photography Salon
Brookline Arts Center, 86 Monmouth St., Brookline (617-566-5715). MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. 6:30 pm. Free. Landscape photographers **Mark Richards** and **David Stern** discuss their work, which captures New England images.

SATURDAY, FEB. 7

Learning to Look
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 9:30-11 am. $10. This slide presentation, tour and discussion provide an in-depth look at the exhibition *Made in Mexico/Hecho en Mexico*, which focuses on Mexico as a locale, inspiration and idea for artists.

SUNDAY, FEB. 8

The Three Gorges Dam Project
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 3 pm. Free. **Deirdre Chetham**, executive director of the Harvard University Asia Center, discusses the history and future of China's controversial Three Gorges Dam, a project that has already flooded parts of 13 cities and hundreds of towns and villages along the Yangtze River.

MONDAY, FEB. 9

A Conversation with Martha Clarke
American Repertory Theatre, Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-495-8600). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5 pm. Free. New York Times senior cultural correspondent **John Rockwell** speaks with **Martha Clarke** about her experience as a dancer, choreographer and director.

Text and ConText
Commander's Mansion, The Arsenal on the Charles, 440 Talcott Ave., Watertown (617-923-0100). 7:30 pm. Free. This series features artists and writers from different disciplines discussing their craft. This evening features filmmaker **Karen Aqua** and poet **Sarah Brownsberger**.

TUESDAY, FEB. 10

Remembering Trauma
Ford Hall Forum at Boston Playwright's Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-373-5800). www.fordhallforum.neu.edu. *MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant Street. 6:30 pm. Free.* Clinician and laboratory researcher **Richard McNally** contends that traumatic experiences are indeed unforgettable and that the evidence for repressed memories is surprisingly weak.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 11

The Realm of Vanishing Cultures
Cambridge Forum, First Parish, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-495-2727). www.cambridgeforum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. Free.* *National Geographic*'s explorer-in-residence **Wade Davis** discusses ways to ensure that cultural and biological diversity don't vanish forever.

THURSDAY, FEB. 12

eBay
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 10:30 am. $2.* **Tracy Marks**, a successful eBay seller, discusses how the online auction site eBay operates and the basics of online buying and selling.

Object Lessons: Two Packet Ship Paintings by Renowned Liverpool School Artists
MIT Museum, 265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 12-1 pm. Free. Nautical Collections curator **Kurt Hasselbalch** examines the stories embedded in two paintings by Miles Walters and his son Samuel, two Liverpool School artists. He highlights the artists' lives, explains the Liverpool School and discusses packet ships in general.

On Rebuilding a Free Culture
Radcliffe Institute, Askwith Lecture Hall, Longfellow Hall, Appian Way, Cambridge (617-495-8608). www.radcliffe.edu/events. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free.* **Lawrence Lessig**, professor of law at Stanford Law School, discusses recent laws that threaten the free culture of technology.

Thursday Morning Talks: SuEllen Fried
Holy Trinity Armenian Church, 145 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-0632). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 11 am. $15. **SuEllen Fried**, child advocate and author of *Bullies, Targets and Witnesses: Children Abusing Children*, discusses bullying.

MONDAY, FEB. 16

Only We Who Guard the Mystery Shall Be Unhappy
Cambridge Forum, First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-495-2727). www.cambridgeforum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $50, $100 and $300.* Cambridge Forum and the American Repertory Theatre present a benefit reading of Tony Kushner's new work in progress. A panel discussion led by director Robert Woodruff on the intersection of art and politics follows.

TUESDAY, FEB. 17

Artist Discussion
School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Anderson Auditorium, 230 The Fenway, Boston (617-369-3718). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 6 pm. Free. Sculptor **Carol Bove** talks about her bookshelf constructions—of paperback literature and art and pornography magazines from the 1960s and 1970s—which look critically at sex, psychedelia and the utopian politics of the era.

Humanitary Action: Impartial Aid or Alibi for the Powers That Be?
The French Library and Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington or Copley. Feb. 17, 8:45 am. **Dr. Alain Dubos** talks about his experiences with the humanitarian group Doctors Without Borders.



gay & lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information, including telephone numbers and nearest T-stop, by fax (617-859-1446) or mail, or e-mail gaylesbian@improper.com.

Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley at 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am.; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's new leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 10 pm, $5 for 19 and 20, free for 21+. DJ John Morris spins progressive house for Lust, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $15, 21+. For 20 years, these folks have cranked out Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. Enjoy three separate dance floors plus drag acts. Rotating DJs spin house.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show, and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+.* On Saturdays, Buzz's two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—pool room and lounge keep the men busy until 2 am.

CityGirl Caffé (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-9 pm; Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-4 pm. This small laid-back café in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated, draws a mixed gay/hetero crowd for lounging and sandwiches. Brunch is served every weekend.

Club Café and Moonshine Bar (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+.* This South End spot draws a dressy bunch for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Wednesdays, join VJ Cliff Cunningham. •On Thursdays and Fridays,VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Cliff Cunningham.

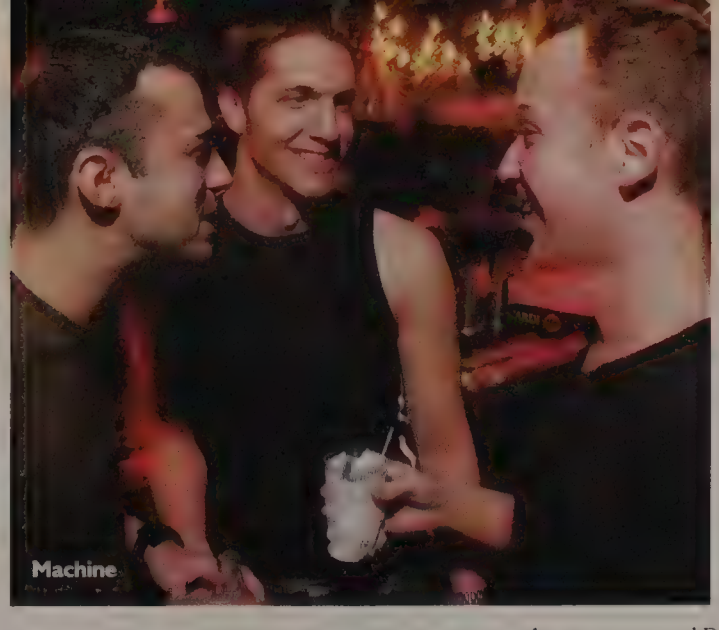
Diesel Café (Daily)
257 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-8717). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Mon.-Thu. 7 am-midnight, Fri., 7 am-1 am, Sat., 8 am-1 am, Sun., 8 am-12 am. All ages. Diesel is a popular place for GLBT people to go for coffee and snacks.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3 pm-2 am; Sat., 1 pm-2 am; Sun., 12 pm-2 am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This quiet, friendly neighborhood bar starts hopping as it gets closer to 2 am.

Fritz Lounge (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 12 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. TV sets show satellite sports broadcasts, and Fritz is home base to a softball league. Brunch is served until 3:30 pm on weekends.

Here at 711 Boylston (Tuesdays)
711 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5502). www.hereboston.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 9 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+.* Boston's Tuesday night gay dance party features and disco and pop.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. *$8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am.* This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.



Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 pm, $6 weekdays; $8 weekends, 21+. Patrons relax with a friendly crowd and mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •On the second Friday of each month is the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground. The typical lineup features singer Leah Callahan with guest musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Tuesdays, Thursdays-Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 12 pm-2 am. •Wed.: Game Nite hosted by either Diamond Dunhill or Rainbow Frite, 10 pm, no cover. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition with PJ McWhiskers. •Fri.: Best Night Out with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Machine with DJ Brad Gwynn playing house music. 10 pm-2 am, $7, 21+. •Tue.: Service Industry Night with DJ Afrodite.

ManRay (Wednesdays-Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am.* Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 19+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. $12, 19+; $8, 21+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: New Wave Dance Party with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. $12, 19+; $8, 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). www.dykenight.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. 9 pm-2 am. $5, 21+.* On Thursday nights, the Midway hosts Kristen Porter's Dyke Night, with rotating DJs, pool and dancing.

Milky Way Lounge (Sundays)
401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+.* Candyland night is for gay men and women, transgendered persons and their allies. Live entertainment includes Fireballs Drag Bingo, spoken-word events and jazz. A dance party hosted by resident DJ Jamila caps off the evening. •Every Sunday there is free bowling with dinner. On the last Sunday of every month, the Milky Way presents the all-women Amazon Poetry Slam, a popular lesbian event. 8 pm, 7:30 pm sign-up, $7.

Night Games (Fridays)
Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000). www.circuitgirl.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan. 10 pm, $10, 21+.* Resident DJ Kris Kono pumps the dance tunes at Circuit Girl's Anything Goes night.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). www.paradisecambridge.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+.* Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Thu.: Fire and Ice with DJ Dan Leavey. •Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music. •Mon.: Pool tournament and pizza. •Tue: DJ Scott Thinsdale.

Rise (Saturday)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. Private, members-only club, predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays features resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music pumps, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Vapor (Wednesdays-Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-422-0862). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adilson. 19+. •Thu.: The Music Factory with DJ Pauli Paul and DJ Ron Steele spinning hip-hop, reggae and funk. $5 before 11, $2 after 11, 21+. •Fri.: Inner Circle. $10, 21+. •Sat.: Evolution with DJ Jay Ine. •Sun.: T-Dance party with DJ Danae grooving to local, tribal, and house while DJ Niterain spins classic oldies. 21+.

Books

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). www.calamusbooks.com. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-7 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm.* Boston's bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered people.

Center for New Words
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). MBTA; Red Line to Harvard. www.centerfornewwords.com. Cambridge's Center for women's writing and ideas hosts open mikes and author events.

Shows & Events

The Laramie Project
Arlington Friends of the Drama, 22 Academy St., Arlington (781-646-5922). www.afdtheatre.org. *Feb. 6 and 7, 8 pm; Feb. 8, 2 pm. $15.* This play documents the aftermath of the hate crime perpetrated against gay University of Wyoming student Matthew Shepard.

Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition Meeting
JRI Health, 132 Boylston St., Boston (617-983-0219). http://www.masstpc.org/contact. *Feb. 9, 7 pm.* Activists from across the state meet to discuss discrimination on the basis of gender identity. The event is open to all who are interested in promoting the idea of gender freedom.

Psycho Beach Party
The Footlight Club, 7A Eliot St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3200). www.footlight.org. *Feb. 6 and 7, 8 pm. $15, $12 students.* The Footlight Club presents Charles Busch's postmodern farce about a perky '60s surfer girl with multiple personalities and a terrible secret. The show includes a raffle of Busch memorabilia, original go-go choreography and other surprises.

Valentine Gala
The Boston Park Plaza, 64 Arlington St., Boston (617-426-2000). www.equalmarriage.org. *Feb. 14, 6:30 pm-12 am. $100.* This benefit dinner featuring DJ Ann Rogers includes dancing and a silent auction. The event is sponsored by the Freedom to Marry Coalition of Massachusetts. Black tie optional.

Valentine's Ball for Women
The Sons of Italy, 117 Swanton St., Winchester (781-729-9787). www.djdee.com. *Feb. 14. $10.* Hosted by Fever Dance Productions, this Valentine's Day ball is for singles and couples. There is dancing and a cash bar.

Ongoing

Atención Latina Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Bosto (800-834-3242). www.fenwayhealth.org. *MBTA Green Line to Hynes.* FCH collaborates with th Elizabeth Stone House to provide this safe, conf dential space to discuss healthy relationships, d mestic violence and other issues.

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Bosto (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. *MBTA: Green or Re Line to Park Street. Wednesdays, 6-9 pm.* The Bosto Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendere and Questioning Youth hosts weekly meetings an social events for young people seeking communit support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown South G/L Bowling Leagu
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-88 1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and le bians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Bosto (617-927-6032). www.fenwayhealth.org. *MBTA Green Line to Hynes. 7 pm.* This group meets th second Tuesday of every month for a discussion wit bisexual and bi-curious men.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cam bridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tuesday of th month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to a bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

BOSS
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Bosto (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. *MBTA Green Line to Hynes. 6-8 pm.* This group for gay an bisexual men of color meets the last Thursday each month to discuss culture, lifestyle, creativit and health.

Boston Bay Blades
www.bayblades.org/boston. All are welcome to joi this competitive, recreational group of rowers an scullers.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. *Tue. 7- pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Sym phony.* The league comprises gay and lesbian playe and their friends.

Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers
First Church of Jamaica Plain, corner of Centre and Eli streets, Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.or *Every Wed., 7:30 pm, $8.* Square-dancing and Eng lish country dancing lessons are available for le bians, gays, bisexuals and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-424-8990). www.bgbl.com. The league offers full regular season and playoff schedule each year.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm, Fri, 3- pm. The center provides social activities for que tioning young people, ages 13-25.

Boston Ironsides Rugby Football Clu
Moakley Field, South Boston (617-524-5814) MBTA: Red Line to JFK. Rugby players of any leve age, race and orientation are welcome to play.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston. MBTA: Gree Line to Hynes. www.lesbianavengers.org. *Thu., 7- pm.* This bi- and transsexual-friendly direct-action po litical group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu *MBTA: Orange Line to Green St. Wednesdays, 7 pm* A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400 member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
(617-417-0876). Third Saturday of each month, 10:3 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian an Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support an activities and holds a concurrent meeting for inte ested parents and their partners. For info, e-ma *medfordcolage@hotmail.com.*

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center, at the Boston Livin Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-9595) www.biresource.org. *MBTA: Orange Line to Bac Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm free.* An informal group for people who think the may be bisexual or attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning People
(617-256-8693). This group welcomes those wh want to discuss the challenges and the joys of com

ing out. It meets Thursday nights, 7-8:30 pm in Cambridge.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area support, information, and social group for people assigned female at birth who feel that is not an accurate or complete description of their gender. Part of the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group meets monthly. Email CompassFTM@usa.com for details.

Controversy Thursday
Matrix (B Room), 275 Tremont St. (lower level of Roxyplex), Boston (617-542-4077). Certain Thursdays (call for details), $8, no sneakers. This gay and bi dance party features DJ John Morris at 10 pm.

Cosmetically Correct
Masa Restaurant, 439 Tremont St., Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. First Fridays, 6:30 pm, free. This social group for lipstick lesbians meets on the first Friday of each month. Lipstick encouraged. Email M.*Antoinette@ididitmyway.com* for info.

Dagger
(617-621-6090). The Theater Offensive's guerrilla theater group, Dagger, gathers on Wednesdays from 6-9 pm to create performances representing women's perspectives. For more information, e-mail *dagger@theateroffensive.org*.

The Down Low
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Last Friday of the month. 7-9 pm.* A discussion group for gay and bisexual men of color to address heritage, lifestyle, culture and health.

East Coast Wrestling Club
(401-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www.eastcoastwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay male wrestlers has more than 160 members.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional women 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophisticated to get together with like-minded women for conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Explore Gender in a Safe Place
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.* An ongoing support group for people born into female bodies or who have grown up being viewed as biologically female.

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. *Saturday mornings.* Join Boston's GLBT Flag Football League for a casual spring season, followed by a formal fall season. All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). Sat., 10 am. All are welcome to join this running club.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
(617-267-9001 or 888-340-4528). Mon.-Fri., 6-11 pm; Sat. and Sun., 5-10 pm. This toll-free hotline is confidential and provides support for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning callers.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
The First Parish Church in Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. *$2.* This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Professionals Building Community
(617-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to join this networking organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered professionals.

Gaymes Group
(508-339-4250). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians. Members get together on a regular basis to play board, card and parlor games.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. $5-10.* An open mike night for new and established performers, this spoken word event meets the second Thursday of each month, 7:30pm.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). www.fenwayhealth.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.* Biological males meet on Monday evenings. The groups are moderated by psychologist Randi Kaufman.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday from 10:30 am-12 pm.

Girlz 2 Girlz
(617-482-1078 ext. 277). This mentoring program for girls aged 13-19 who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered or questioning meets the second and fourth Friday of each month, 6-8 pm. Contact Jayms Battaglia.

GLBT Seniors
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6272). www.fenwayhealth.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mondays.* Support group for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered seniors ages 60 and over.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.* Anonymous HIV testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Laffan
This social and networking group for women includes single women, couples and parents interested in art, cultural events, outdoor and sporting activities, intellectual and social pursuits, public service and travel. Members receive a weekly email calendar of events. For info, e-mail *Laf fan_Boston2004@yahoo.com*.

LGBT Considering Parenting Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). www.fenwayhealth.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.* A short-term (eight-week) group for LGBT persons who are considering becoming parents. Sliding fee scale available. Call for information.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. *Tue., Wed. and Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings.* This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

Meow Boston
groups.yahoo.com/group/Meow_Boston. This social group caters to feminine bisexual women and lesbians in the Boston community. For women 21+.

The Network/La Red
(617-427-7233). The Network is a support group working to end abuse in lesbian, bisexual women's and transgender communities. Email *info@the networklared.org* for more information.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

Peer Listening Line
(800-399-7337). Trained GLBT volunteers provide confidential information, referrals and support.

The Rainbow Cafe
rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social group for activist, academic, intellectual or artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed., 6-7 pm.* This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. Email *somoslatinos lgbt@hotmail.com* for more information.

Support Group for HIV-Negative Gay and Bisexual Men
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-967-6231). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. First three Tuesdays of each month, 6-8 pm. Discuss new safe-sex practices and strategies for managing risk and communicating with sexual partners.

Support Group for Lesbians with Cancer
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed. evenings, once a month. Free. For those who want to discuss the impact of this disease on their lives.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Street. First Saturday of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing, $8. Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. WWB is a social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s. It meets the first Thursday of every month.





body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Book Launch Party: Healing the War Between the Genders
First Unitarian Society of Newton, 1326 Washington St, West Newton (617-965-7846). www.healingheartpower.com. *Feb. 14, 7-10 pm.* Local author Linda Marks' new book honors the age-old drama between the genders and explores ways to work toward harmony. This event features live music and aims to bring the community together for dialogue, networking and fun.

Dances of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767 or 617-491-8694). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Feb. 4, 7:30-9:30 pm. Requested donation, $6-10. Join hands in simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honoring the spiritual traditions of the world. Everyone is welcome. All dances are accompanied by live music.

Drum and Dance Saturday
Earth Drum Council, First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (978-371-2502). www.earthdrum.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Feb. 5, 8-11:30 pm. $6.* Bring your stomping feet, clapping hands, drums, spoons and tambourines for this day of dance and percussion.

Erotic Art
(617-965-7846). www.healingheartpower.com. *Feb. 7, 2-5 pm. $5-10 suggested donation.* The Boston Area Sexuality and Spirituality Network hosts monthly meetings that explore the topic of sex holistically. This event features work by erotic artists in media including video, illustration, photography and writing.

Healthy Food Networking Dinner
99 Crescent St., Newton (617-964-2951). http://integrativemedalliance.org. *Feb. 17, 7-9 pm. $20, suggested donation. Please call ahead.* This gourmet macrobiotic dinner for caregivers and those interested in optimum health takes place at the home of a member of the Integrative Medical Alliance.

A Yoga Time Out
The Paulist Center, 5 Park St., Boston. www.yogame.com. *MBTA: Red line to Park St. Feb. 10, 5-6:45 pm. $30.* Bring a friend to this yoga party for movement, meditation, journal writing and socializing while enjoying herbal tea and organic cookies. All levels welcome.

Lectures

Eight Steps to Happiness Public Talks
All Saint's Parish, 1773 Beacon St., Brookline (508-758-3033). www.serlingpa.org. *Feb. 11, 7-8:30 pm. $10 suggested donation.* Buddhist nun Gen Kelsang Choma leads meditation and a discussion on the topic of "great beginnings, great beings."

Sex and Spirituality: Everything You Always Wanted to Know but Were Afraid to Ask
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 90 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circlesofwisdom.com. *Feb. 4, 7:15-9:15 pm. $20.* Do certain levels of spiritual evolution require sexual abstinence? Can sexual fulfillment and orgasm elevate your spirituality? This educational workshop addresses sex and spirituality questions like these and also includes a guided meditation.

Classes

Achieve Success with Guided Imagery
Worcester State College, Chandler St., Worcester (508-929-8031). http://www.fac.worcester.edu/dgce/cbi/saturday.htm. *Feb. 7, 9 am-12 pm. $50.* During this workshop offered by the Center for Business and Industry, participants will experience guided imagery group sessions aimed at opening the mind to new possibilities and greater achievements.

Integrating Sexuality and Spirituality
Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, 318 Harvard St., Suite 32, Arcade Bldg., Brookline (617-731-2626). www.grandopening.com. *MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Feb. 17, 7:30-9:30 pm.* Explore your spiritual and sexual needs and learn how to integrate the two through meditation and discussion in this workshop taught by Linda Marks, founder of the Boston Area Sexuality and Spirituality Network.

Moving Out of Back Pain
Harvest Co-op Market, 581 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1580). www.harvestcoop.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Feb. 10, 6-8 pm.* Learn gentle and easy movement and breathing exercises that may help reduce back stress and pain. The class also teaches movements to help repair bad posture and avoid future back pain.

Partner Yoga for Valentine's Day
Baptiste Power Yoga Institute, 139 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-423-9642). www.baronbaptiste.com. *Feb. 13, 7:30-9:30 pm or Feb. 14, 1-4 pm. $25 and up (individuals)/$50 and up (couples).* Come alone or with a pal to try out this combination of contact and hatha yoga. This technique allows two people to share weight, balance and support. Beginners welcome.

Safety: Impact Model Mugging for Men
Impact, 374 Boylston St. (Route 9), Brookline (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. *Feb. 7, 9 am-12 pm. $58.* Learn ways to handle the most common situations in which men are attacked. Participants learn conflict de-escalation, prevention strategies and easy self-defense techniques, and practice these skills in realistic situations.

See for Yourself: Natural Vision Improvement
Wellspace, 1 New St., Fresh Pond Mall, Cambridge (617-876-2660). www.wellspace.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Alewife. Feb. 6, 7:15-8:45 pm.* Find out how vision may be repaired with eye exercises and other natural approaches at this evening lecture.

Retreat

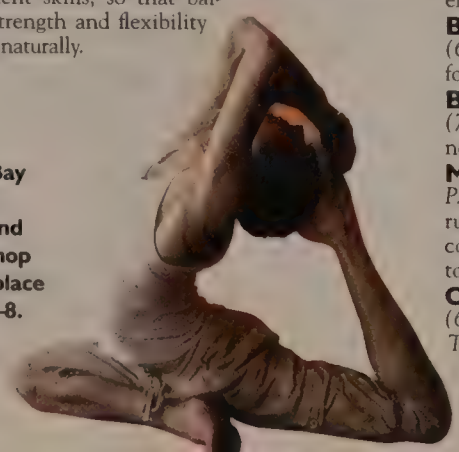
Moving Through Stillness Yoga Weekend
Back Bay Yoga Studio, 1112 Boylston St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-375-0785). www.backbayyoga.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center. Feb. 6-8, 16.5 hours. $150. Registration required.* Explore moving, breathing, chanting and meditation during this weekend workshop.

Welcome Weekend
Kripalu Center, Lenox. (800-741-7353). www.kripalu.org. *Feb. 6-8. $130 plus $258-$542 for weekend accommodations and meals.* Visitors to Kripalu Yoga and Health Center's welcome weekend receive an introduction to yoga, give and receive shoulder massages and take part in "conscious listening" sessions.

Ongoing

Mindful Modern Dance
CasaNia Studio, 46 Porter Rd., Cambridge (617-491-5144). www.casania.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Thurs., 9:30-11 am. $15, drop in. First class is free.* Modern dance movements are slowed down to focus on the body's alignment, breathing and centering to help you dance with ease and without pain. There is some partnering and hands-on work.

Yoga/Newton
The Green Planet, 22 Lincoln St, Newton Highlands (617-320-9792). www.thegreenplanet.com. *Sun., 9 -10:30 am. $16/class. Or at Myrtle Church, 21 Curve St, West Newton (617-320-9792). Wed., 6-7:15 pm. $12/class.* This class assists with development of movement skills, so that balance, strength and flexibility emerge naturally.



Back Bay Yoga's weekend workshop takes place Feb. 6–8.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.*

Home Games

Boston Celtics
• FleetCenter, Boston
Tickets: 800-462-2849
Feb. 4, 7 pm vs. L.A. Clippers
Feb. 6, 7:30 pm vs. Atlanta Hawks

Events

CSC/Jimmy Fund Ski Challenge
Nashoba Valley Ski Area, Westford. (617-632-3611). Feb. 14, 9 am. $50. Computer Science Consulting raises money for the Jimmy Fund with an individual ski challenge, team races, an outdoor barbecue, an auction, a special guest appearance by freestyle skier Wayne Wong and an après ski party.

To Play

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

BSSC Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Brookline and Dedham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333) www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. *Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus.* The club offers amateur Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

FENCING

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. *Adult classes evenings and Saturdays.* Learn the basics of fencing.

FLOOR HOCKEY

BSSC Coed Floor Hockey
Leagues are held in Newton, North Reading and Brighton (617-789-4070, ext. 238). www.bssc.com. All levels, individuals and teams are welcome.

FOOTBALL

BSSC Coed Indoor Flag Football
Games are played in Revere and Tewksbury. (617-789-4070, ext. 242). Sign up individually or with a group of friends.

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.com. *Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton.* New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. *Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays.* New and experienced players are welcome.



Ricky Davis and the Celtics are at home Feb. 4

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. *Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round.* If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, then consider joining these self-proclaimed "serious drinkers with a running problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. *Weekly runs on Friday nights, 6 pm.*

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Run
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. *Weekly runs on Thursday nights, 7 pm.*

VFW Logan Post 3.223-Miler
VFW James Logan Post, 1192 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org/BAEvents/Logan. *Weekly runs followed by pizza and Harpoon beer on Thursday nights, 7:10 pm.*

SKATING

Bay State Skating School
Various area MDC rinks (781-890-8480). www.baystateskatingschool.org. *Check Web site for schedules. $108.50 for a seven-week class.* Skating classes for adults and children teach the fundamentals using either figure skates or hockey skates.

SOCCER

BSSC Indoor Soccer
(617-789-4070). Teams forming now. Games played in Charlestown, Cambridge, Brighton, Reading and Canton. Individuals and teams are welcome.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed teams forming in Cambridge, Watertown, Brookline and Newton. Teams and individuals are welcome to set and spike their way to glory.

WOMEN'S FLAG FOOTBALL

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Saturday mornings. Teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-868-8379). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels. Weekly practices held year-round.

Another MB Entertainment Group Event

Valentines Day 2004

don't spend it alone..... spend it with

[illegible] Faneuil Hall

Saturday February 14th

Club Q will act as matchmaker on Saturday night February 14th. There will be raffles for dinner in the North End, ski trip to Loon Mountain and tickets for Blue Man Group. You will get hooked up on this night in more ways than one. There will be complimentary cocktails provided by Stoli to loosen up the crowd and get the night started right. If you're single we want you to Mingle.

For guestlist info and table reservations

call 617.742.2221

A single rose representing them
Their commitment and never ending love
Their dreams and the promises made
And how their feelings will never fade
The way he knew right from the start
That she was the one who held the key to his heart
How he drops at nothing to get the extra smile
For one more chance to see her smile
They passed it's rose so it would reminisce time
Cause it reminded them of the greatest love there will ever miss
The Single Rose
by Southern Blends



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BLUE MAN GROUP

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February 18, 2004 Spring Fashion Preview

March 3, 2004 The Man Issue

March 17, 2004 The Shores of Boston

March 31, 2004 Boston's Beloved Bartenders

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children

Advice to Contributors

Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Things to See

Disney on Ice

FleetCenter, One Fleet Center, Suite 200, Boston (617-931-2000). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to North Station. Sat., 11 am, 3 and 7 pm; Sun.-Fri., 1 and 5 pm. Feb. 12-22. $10-$65. Mike, Sully and Boo are reunited—on ice. Figure skaters bring the *Monsters, Inc.* story and characters to life through colorful costumes, sets and choreography.

It's Magic: 400 Years of Fun

Fuller Conference Center, One Old Sturbridge Village Road, Sturbridge (800-733-1830). Sat., 8:30 pm. Through March 27. $10. In this interactive show, Robert Olson portrays six magicians from the past. The magical journey starts in 16th-century England and ends in the 20th century.

Kids Variety Show

Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-738-6533). www.coolidge.kidsshow.info. *MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Sat., 10:30 am. $10, $8 children.* •Feb. 7 : In *Feast of Fools,* Alex the Jester interacts with his wacky friends, including a monkey who has a pet human. •Feb. 14: Derek Burrows performs African, Caribbean and Latin American folktales with music, with help from the audience.

Puppet Showplace Theatre

32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. *MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50. Reservations recommended.* •Feb. 4-5, 10:30 am, ages 3-6: *The Aunt and the Grasshopper* is a funny interpretation of several of Aesop's well-known fables. •Feb. 10-11, 10:30 am, ages 3-6: *The Singing Turtle* is a traditional Japanese folktale about a boy who gets his mother the medicine she needs with help from a talkative musical turtle. •Feb. 14-16, 1 and 3 pm, ages 4-10: *Jack and the Beanstalk* tells the story of Jack, whose climb up an enchanted beanstalk leads to adventures with a magical chicken, an enchanted harp and a hungry giant. •Feb. 17, 1 and 3 pm, ages 4-9: In *Bathtub Pirates,* sail along with Captain Blackbeard and his crew of buccaneers as they take over a bathtub and brave the high seas.

Quincy Art Association

26 High School Ave., Quincy (617-770-2482). www.quincyart.org. *Feb. 8, 1-3 pm. $25. Ages 5 and older. Early registration recommended.* Make your own felt-quilted Valentine's banner at the Children's Valentine Workshop.

Winnie the Pooh

Boston Children's Theatre at McCormack Theatre, UMass, Boston, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston (617-424-6634). www.bostonchildrenstheatre.org. *MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Feb. 7-8, 18-22, 28-29, 2 pm. $10-$20.* In this adaptation of A.A. Milne's classic tale, a young boy and the toy bear he loves explore their friendship and the world around them.

World's Fair for Kids

Boston World Trade Center, 200 Seaport Blvd., (617-424-6634). www.wfkids/boston.html. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Feb. 14-16, 9 am-6 pm. $12, $8 children, free for children under 3. Ages 3-13.* With themed pavilions that include Creative Kids, Sporting Kids, Kids in the Kitchen, Traveling Kids, Discovery Kids and Tech Kids, this kickoff to Boston Kids Week offers live entertainment, a petting zoo, games, magic, music and a 75-foot inflatable whale.

Things to Do

Borders Books and Music

Cambridgeside Galleria, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Sat., 12 pm.* Staff members read from new and classic storybooks.

Children's Museum

300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8 adults/$7 children.* •Kids can mix hip-hop tunes in the Streetscape, jive in the jazz club and rock at the school dance through the hands-on exhibits of *Making America's Music: Rhythm, Roots & Rhyme.* •*Five Friends from Japan: Children in Japan Today* features hands-on lessons about Japanese writing, attire, music and more. Through May 17. •Mon., Wed. and Fri., 11 am-12 pm, ages 3 and under: Shake, wiggle and giggle in Music and Movement. •Mon., Tue. and Wed., 11 am and noon; Thu., 11 am; Fri., 11 am and 12 pm, 6:15 and 7:15 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am and 12 pm, 2:30 and 3:30 pm: Experience the world of performing arts in KidStage. (American Sign Language performances Feb. 14, 12:30 and 1:30 pm.) •Feb. 13, 6:45-7:45 pm: Enjoy a family sing-along with musical guest Nancy Cassidy. •Feb. 14, 11:30 am-12:30 pm, ages 6 and older: Use soda, straws, eggs and other kitchen materials to do scientific experiments at Kitchen Science: Science Playground. •Feb. 15-21: The museum celebrates Black History Month.


Mike, Sully and Boo reunite on ice during Disney on Ice's *Monsters, Inc.* at the FleetCenter.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-496-8204). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. $7.50/$5 children.* •Feb. 16-20, 9 am-5 pm, $35: Winter Scavenger Hunt. This family scavenger hunt gives you the chance to explore the museum while searching for clues, solving a secret message and learning how animals survive in the snow. •Feb. 7, 9-11 am, ages 4-5, $35: Forest Friends. Learn about the animals who live in the forest through stories, artifacts and crafts. •Feb. 7, 9 am-12 pm, grades K-1, $35: Ancient Adventures. Uncover the mysterious past of ancient American cities by studying artifacts, searching the museum, and making crafts.

Ice Skating at Frog Pond

Frog Pond, Boston Common, Boston (617-635-2120). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Sun., 10 am-9 pm; Mon., 10 am-5 pm; Tue.-Thu., 10 am-9 pm; Fri.-Sat., 10 am-10 pm. $3, free for children under 14 (not including skate rental). Lace up your skates for a few laps on the ice.

Ice Skating Classes

Rinks located in Brighton, Cambridge, Cleveland Circle/Brookline, Hyde Park/Dedham, Lynn, Medford, Neponset/Dorchester, Newton, North End, Somerville, South Boston and West Roxbury (781-890-8480). www.baystateskatingschool.org. *Ages 4 ½ and older.* Learn to do a triple axel, or try out your hockey skills.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). web.mit.edu/museum. *MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. $5, $1 children.* •*Holography, the Light Fantastic.* The MIT Museum displays the largest collection of holograms in the world and describes the artistic and scientific facets of the medium. •*Robots and Beyond.* Take a look behind the scenes of MIT's artificial intelligence research labs in this interactive exhibit.

Museum of Fine Arts Children's Room

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. $15, free for children 17 and under.* •Mon.-Fri., 3:30-4:45 pm, ages 6-12: Children's Room. Children can participate in hands-on art projects related to exhibitions. Projects: Feb. 4-6, Impressionist Masterpieces: Printing Studies; Feb. 9-13, Screens and Scrolls: Sumi-e Painting. •Sat. and Sun., 11 am-4 pm, teenagers: Learn about everything from kings to kangaroos with the help of self-guided gallery activities, including puzzles, games and sketching. •Sat., 11:30 am, 12:30 pm and 1:30 pm: Art Alive. Children can experience art through various entertaining mediums, from books to the stage. •Feb. 11 and 25, 4:30-6:30 pm, teenagers: In Teen-to-Teen Art Talks, adolescent art aficionados have the chance to both discuss and create.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $10 children.* •Sat. and Sun., 11 am-12 pm. The museum's Science Theater Program offers *Animals and Stories Alive!*, featuring professional storytellers who combine folk tales and myths with visits from live animals. •Mon.-Sat., 1 pm., through Feb. 8: Learn about the latest findings from the Mars rovers, Spirit and Opportunity. •*Magic: The Science of Illusion.* Discover how illusions come together through science, math, psychology and the art of performance at this exhibition. Through Feb. 22. • Fri., 8:30-10 pm (weather permitting). Gilliland Observatory: Use the observatory's two telescopes to find the moon, stars, constellations and planets. •Mugar Omni Theatre (check Web site for show times), $8.50, $6.50 children: *Jane Goodall's Wild Chimpanzees* (through Feb. 12), *Everest* and *Solarmax.* •*Theater of Electricity*: Daily at 12 and 2 pm. The Van de Graaff generator provides a risk-free lightning show.

Museum of Transportation

Larz Anderson Park, 15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). www.mot.org. *Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5.* The Museum of Transportation holds a large collection of rare and antique cars as well as exhibits on automobile history. •*The Evolution of Speed* exhibit explores the history of American auto racing with race cars and displays. •*Racing of Our Youth* lets kids explore the world of slot cars, Hot Wheels and soapbox racing with go-carts to climb in, tracks to build and races to compete in. •Daily: Join the Family Scavenger Hunt through the museum and receive a free prize.

National Heritage Museum

33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. *Feb. 12, 10:30 am. $3. Ages 4 and under.* Make your own blue suede shoes and read books based on songs by the Beatles, Bob Dylan, and Elvis at the *Yellow Submarine* story hour.

Newton Free Library

330 Homer St., Newton (617- 796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. *MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. Registration required.* •Feb. 10, 10:30 am, Druker Auditorium: Laugh and sing at the preschool sing-along, led by children's librarians. •Feb. 6 and 13, 10:30 am, Druker Auditorium: Watch a movie for preschoolers. •Feb. 11, 10:30 am, ages 2-3; Feb. 12, 3:30 pm, ages 4-7: Valentine's Day Craft Hour. Listen to heartwarming stories and make Valentine crafts. •Feb. 17, 2 pm, ages 5 and older: African Drumming Family Concert. Take a musical journey through Africa, and make your own music with balafons, hand drums and other instruments.

Take a Winter Walk

Gore Place, 52 Gore St., Waltham (781-894-2798). Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm. $5 for rental of children's snowshoes; $4 for each additional pair of children's snowshoes; $5 for adult snowshoes. Ages 3-9. Explore nature using activity packs to search for animal tracks, and identify trees, and meet sheep, goats, chickens and rabbits living at the farm.

Winter Camp

Massachusetts Audubon Society, Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary, 280 Eliot St., Natick (508-655-2296). Feb. 17-19. •Winter Wanderers: Tue.-Thu., 9 am-12 pm, $45, grades K-1 •Winter Detectives: Tue.-Thu., 9 am-3 pm, $55, grades 2-3 •Amazing Adventures in Winter: 9 am-3 pm, $55, grades 4-5. Explore the wintery outdoors, learn to identify trees, play snow games and enjoy hot chocolate.



around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
25 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: Green Line to BU East. Wednesdays (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-6855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm, Fri., 10 am-9 pm; June-Aug., daily, 10 am-5 pm, Fri. until 9 pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (617-338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park Street. Mon.-Sun., 9:30 am-6 pm. $7.50.

Forest Hills Cemetery
95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-524-0128). www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. Daily, 7:30 am-sundown. Free.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.mnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $8.

King's Chapel
63 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-2 pm. Free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-8 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-739-1200). www.afroamuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10 am-4 pm. $5, $3 students, seniors.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $10 seniors and children.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5, $3 children.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1, Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.50, $8.50 children.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (617-635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. Tours start at 9 am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. $3.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10 am-4 pm; weekends, 10 am-5 pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $6, $4 seniors.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8 am-6 pm. $3.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). Museum open daily, 10 am-5 pm. Winter ship hours: Thu.-Sun., 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-450-1235). Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. Be a big brother.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Become a friend to a young girl.

Boston Cares
(617-263-2273). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Call to Action Project
(781-395-8307). datalova@aol.com. Donate quilt blocks to be pieced into quilts and placed on auction to benefit the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support to children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). Help adults living with cancer.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
livmates@rcn.com. Spend your lunch hour reading at an elementary school in Cambridge or Somerville.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Play with homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). Share your time with an elderly individual, mentor children or teach an adult to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Association for the Blind
(800-852-3029). Read or shop with a blind person.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(617-536-3557). Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

Parental Stress Line
(617-528-5800). Telephone counselors needed.

Pine Street Inn
(617-521-7626). Serve breakfast to homeless guests.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1171). Record textbooks in digital formats.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Work at a battered-women's agency.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room and groceries program at this homeless shelter.

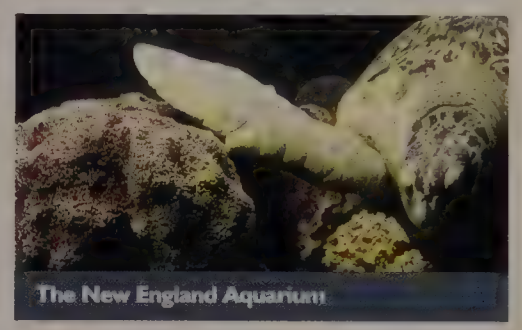
SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young professionals.

StandUp for Kids
(800-365-4543). Help rescue homeless children.

VNA Care Network
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.


The New England Aquarium

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OUT OF THE CLOSET.

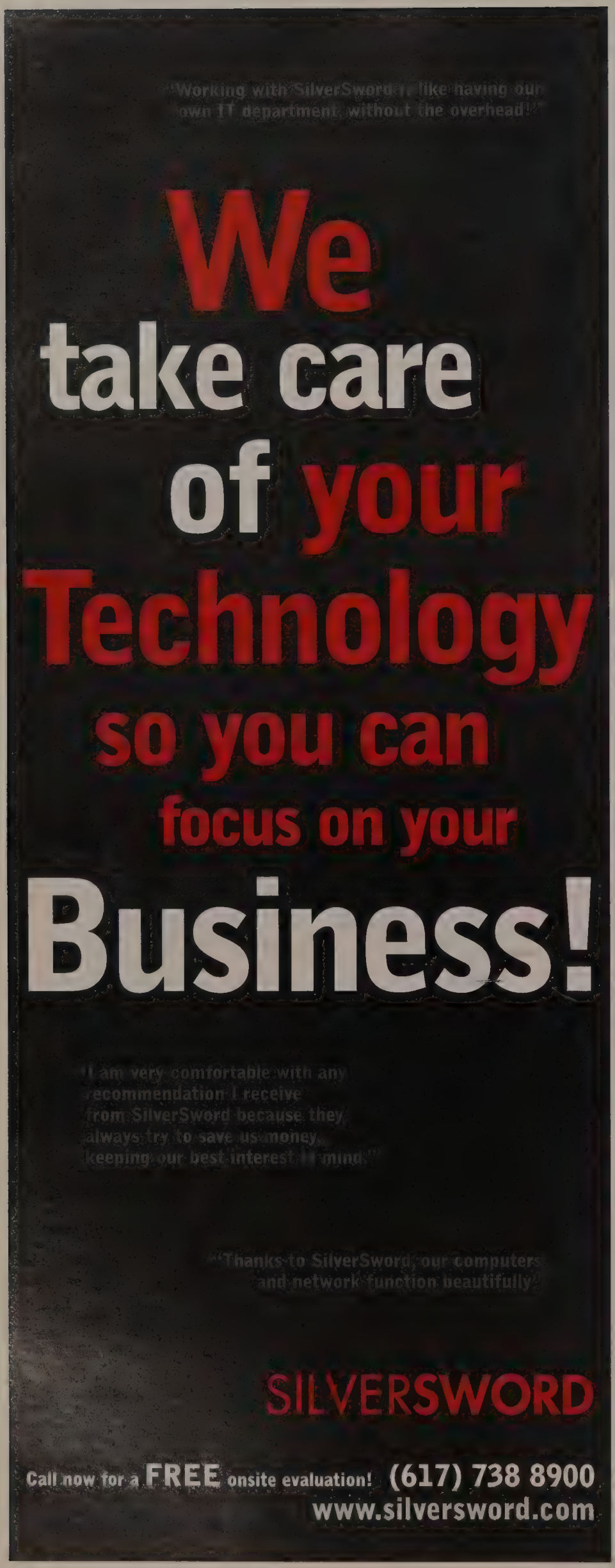


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improperimpersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see. (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity.) Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

Dancing at Hurricane O'Reilly's

You were the handsome Asian male with a brown shirt that had glitter from a nearby bachelorette party. I was the strawberry blond with glasses in a jean skirt. We were both at the end of a pub crawl. While we each danced with others that night, we always came back to each other until it felt like it was just the two of us on the dance floor, then we danced with no one else. When we said our goodbyes with a sweet kiss at closing, you said you had your ways of finding me and you were sure we'd meet again. This is my way of finding you to ask, will you be my Valentine?

—bostonsocialworker@hotmail.com

Travel Companion

Well, not exactly: On the Jan. 22 flight 194 from Atlanta to Boston, our eyes met and held as I was boarding the plane. You (blond, blue-eyed cutie) were already sitting in first class. I, (brown-eyed, petite brunette with the spunky orange coat) was headed back to coach. Unfortunately, our only other bit of contact occurred while waiting in baggage claim. Did I sense a connection as I managed a smile toward you? I'm kicking myself for not asking you to grab a coffee with me. Might you be a local or just a visitor in good ol' Beantown? If local, will you let me redeem myself and join me for that coffee? We can exchange travel stories.

—dragonfly14762000@yahoo.com

Rude to a T

It's amazing that since the MBTA has increased the cost of their tokens from $1 to $1.25, many of the riders complain, harass and are downright rude to those who work at the MBTA. For example, the other night I was in line at the Arlington stop and a man was asking the token seller how long it would take to walk from Arlington to Park Street. The token seller stated that he had never walked it but it might take between 15 and 20 minutes. The man replied, "I guess I'll give you the quarter now!" Then he called the token seller an asshole and added what he could do with the quarter. The token seller replied, "Sir here's your token and have a good night." If that was me I would have been calling this arrogant guy every name in the book. I know the token sellers and train drivers do not make the decisions on fare increases, time schedules, etc. I also know that when I have a gripe, such as this latest fare increase, I contact the MBTA and speak to management. They are the ones who make the decisions and are responsible. For the small-minded guy (creep) who took it out on this innocent person, you should take a cab and pay more. For the rest of you, it's very rare I even hear a kind word out of your mouths while I'm on the train or in line waiting to buy a token. It's just plain rudeness most of the time.

—Friendly T rider

Back Bay Station Orange Line

It was Jan. 6 at 8:45 am. You: tall, dark and handsome, with brown hair/blue eyes, pinstripe suit, charcoal gray overcoat, black wingtips and a black gym bag. You sat down just across from me on the train and our eyes kept meeting until I got off at State Street. You kept moving your leg (nervous twitch?) and wiggling your feet. I looked you over from head to toe to head to toe. I'd love to meet you for coffee and to talk some. Let me know.

—mass_appeal@hotmail.com

Collisions/Rudds Show at T.T. the Bear's Jan. 2

You were an indie-looking boy, with light brown hair, wearing a trucker cap (what else?) and holding a black leather jacket. I think your shirt was maybe plaid-ish. You kept wandering around to different girls (and boys), but I didn't get the impression that you were with any of them. During the beginning of the Rudds' set you were standing to my left, and there was another blond girl in between us who you talked with briefly. We only made eye contact once from across the room and as I was leaving you were near the door putting on a black hoodie. But if you see this, whoever you are—you have a friendly face, and I'd love to talk to you.

—robotentrails@yahoo.com

The Second N Is Not Silent

Meghan, I had a great time with you on the New Year's Eve harbor cruise, even helping you clean up your spilled champagne. I had no idea the second N was not silent. I really hope I'll see you again. E-mail me.

—invncble11@msn.com

Red Line Friday, Jan. 12

We were riding the Red Line that night toward Alewife. When I reached into my pockets for my gloves, my elbow hit you. I apologized, and you said that the close-together seats on the T were meant to get Bostonians to talk. I said it would be easier if we weren't so bundled up against the near-zero temperature. You said it makes people look like meatloafs. You were bundled up, but you have black hair, dark skin and a great smile. E-mail me.

—loaf11204@yahoo.com

You're So Vain

You probably think this ad is about you. You always wished for someone to write an IMPROPER ad about you, reading each issue with anticipation. Well, this time it is about you (and isn't it always all about you?), but I bet it's not quite what you expected. People warned me about you, and you are everything they warned me about: jealous, back-stabbing, selfish, calculating, self-righteous, vicious, crass, shallow, hypocritical, obsessive and anal-retentive. Talk about measuring your life in spoons. My dear Miss Prufrock, you will end up old and gray and lonely with only that book you keep of guys you have kissed/made out with/hooked up with to keep you company. Here is a to-do entry for your precious day planner: Get a life!

—snowballed03@yahoo.com

Lauren from Southie

Lauren from Southie (and Cheers). We shared an American flight from Boston to Orlando on Jan. 8. You mentioned the IMPROPER Impersonals, so here's one for you. We talked the entire flight, and the three hours went by way too quickly. I enjoyed your company and would love to do it again—if not in flight, how about lunch? I told you what I appreciate.

—tmail4me@yahoo.com

New Year's Eve Max

"Just Max" from Somerville: It was New Year's Eve at La Boom. I had no expectations for the night except to dance and break a bad luck curse that follows me every New Year's Eve. Then I met you, a young handsome Portuguese man with longish light brown hair and a goatee and wearing a white shirt and a nice smile. We danced for hours magically and passionately throughout the night. At the end of the night, you asked how you would find me, and then your brother handed me his cell phone. I put my number in the phone in haste and left you too fast. I found out when I got home that I put my number in incorrectly. I wish I could go back to those moments and say goodbye differently. Even if we were not to meet again I wish I had kissed you goodbye and thanked you for making my night so special. I am now the one asking the question: How do I find you?

—vogliofindu@yahoo.com

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery.

So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see!

e-mail:
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fax: 617-859-1446

or write to:
Improper Impersonals
The Improper Bostonian Magazine
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

JOIN THE TEAM

Receptionist/Sales Assistant

Reliable individual sought to manage front desk activities, including answering and screening phone calls, handling shipping and receiving, maintaining office equipment and supplies, as well as providing administrative support to the staff. The ideal candidate will be an organized, efficient, friendly, enthusiastic team player with a great sense of humor. PC/Mac proficiency, 50wpm, experience with Word, Excel and Filemaker required.

Account Executive

The ideal opportunity for an accomplished business-to-business sales rep to break into a career in media and magazine publishing. Strong organizational, planning, written and verbal skills are a must. Join a great team!

Advertising Sales Manager

Seeking an individual with strong management skills to oversee THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN's advertising sales department. The ideal candidate will be someone who is well-organized, highly motivated and articulate. You must have a minimum of three years managerial experience and 3 solid references. Advertising experience is a plus.

Classified Account Executive

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN is looking for a self-motivated "Bostonian" with a great attitude and a lot of energy. Sales experience a plus, but not necessary.

Photo Editor

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN is seeking a full-time photo editor. A bachelor's degree and at least two years' professional experience working with photographers are required. The candidate must have photography skills, a thorough understanding of composition, lighting, and the technical aspects of photography, and excellent organization and communication skills. Graphic design skills (QuarkXpress, Photoshop) and a strong familiarity with Boston photographers preferred. Creativity and the ability to handle multiple projects under tight deadlines are essential. E-mail resume and cover letter to editor@improper.com, or send them to Editor, **IMPROPER BOSTONIAN**, 142 Berkeley St., Third Floor, Boston, MA 02116; fax: 617-859-1446.

Email resumes to robyn@improper.com

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rockie horoscope

FEBRUARY 4 – 17, 2004

BY ROCKIE GARDINER



AQUARIUS JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18

In your own idiosyncratic way, you're the person with the power to inspire and transform, to be the muse and the magician. But if you don't want to accept the responsibility, if your ambitions don't reach those heights, feel free to take refuge in "what might have been." Just make sure that you aren't oblivious to the opportunities that come to light during the Leo full moon period. Besides opening your heart to a lovable partner, you're also ripe for a thrilling adventure.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19

The wily Fish will elude a manipulative parent or employer who tries to direct your next move by playing on his or her sympathies. The innovative Fish will spot a financial opportunity, preferably one based on pleasurable pastimes, such as gardening, before the week is out. The artistic Fish will incorporate the life-giving power of the sun as it melds with Pisces' imaginative Neptune ruler to create works that colleagues will admire. But none will be happier than the Fish whose abiding faith in their team won the Super Bowl.

ARIES

MARCH 20-APRIL 19

A hazy impression of how the future will unfold becomes clearer the further into February you get. The illusions that sustained you, the romantic notions you entertained last week, fade in the light of the rational Aquarius sun. And as your energetic Mars ruler approaches the line between self-reliant Aries and sensitive, sensible Taurus, you may realize that you can't run the entire show by yourself. But will you turn to colleagues, clients or members of the circle you travel in for support? If you want to taste success you will.

TAURUS

APRIL 20-MAY 20

Feeling slightly schizoid? How can the Bull act with such generosity of spirit one day and behave like a green-eyed monster the next? Simple, because your Venus ruler opens your heart chakra when it faces expansive Jupiter, but while the love planet is challenged by manipulative Pluto, you become jealous and vindictive. Other slash-and-burn reactions may follow once assertive Mars moves into your sign. Call the shots, get into shape, even schedule surgery, but do it before spring arrives and Mars leaves.

GEMINI

MAY 21-JUNE 20

This is a good time to work on a problem/project that's been lingering far too long. Try to think outside the box and seek advice from unfamiliar, uninvolved faces, not the same bunch of sympathetic listeners. While benevolent Jupiter rewards your Mercury ruler, it is OK to capitalize on the advantages accorded you, and pretty dumb not to. You'll probably be offered another favorable opportunity in May, after Mercury's next retrograde period, but you won't have as much financial support then as you can amass now.

CANCER

JUNE 21-JULY 22

You're moving on. New concerns and other interests appear after irritable, impatient Mars in your career midheaven stops applying pressure. For the next seven weeks, "pleased and pleasurable" will better describe the atmosphere at work. But you won't get bored; Mars in Taurus is quite productive, artistic and aware of the bottom line. Can more money be far behind? Not if you spend time focusing on financial growth while your moon ruler is full in your Leo money house. Opportunities like this are few and far between.

LEO

JULY 23-AUGUST 22

An artistic breakthrough for musicians, a religious experience for the faithful and, for inventive minds, a "eureka" moment awaits. While your sun ruler merges with inspirational Neptune in Aquarius, the limitations imposed by significant others could disappear in a flash. The Leo full moon can also offer an opportunity to pierce the veil of illusion. And while a potential partner might be fudging the facts, it's probably because he or she is in hot pursuit of a fantasy that includes you. Hoopla and glamour shots follow.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22

Someone in the family could be jealous of the attention you're enjoying or the lucky breaks you're getting. If that person wasn't so mean or manipulative, you might consider sharing the good fortune that prosperous, protective Jupiter promises. If your turn at bat hasn't come up yet, be patient—it will. Until then, you may also benefit from an infusion of courageous Martian energy, especially if it is directed to joint money matters. Here's an entrepreneurial opportunity that's about to catch fire.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22

Enough of the family, bring on the friends and lovers. Like your Aries counterpart, the further you immerse yourself in the innovative Aquarius energy field, the less pressure you'll be under, the more liberated you'll feel. Some snarling and snapping from your mate or an ex could linger on, but it won't have the impact it did, and you won't get as angry. You should be able to move out of martyr mode as soon as your Venus ruler leaves pity-me Pisces for hot and horny Aries on the 8th. Get ready for a real adventure.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21

What a good time to upgrade your equipment, launch a Web site and break out the bubbly! This week, the inventive Aquarius sun and imaginative Neptune conspire to make one of your dreams come true. Still, you'll have to expend some effort; nothing comes easily to the Scorpio strategist. Although even the eagle-eyed among you might not grasp the implications right away, scattered here and there are astrological indications that something very sexy and ultimately very expensive is about to capture your fancy.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21

Reminding an optimistic Centaur to be careful about a money matter is often futile. But since the humanitarian Aquarius sun and idealistic, illusionary Neptune are meeting in your house of assets and acquisitions this week, before you write the check, stop and question the validity of the cause you're about to support and the credentials of the solicitor. A scam could be brewing closer than you think. The heartfelt Leo full moon provides a reason to treat yourself and a loved one. Don't wait for Valentine's Day.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20

If you were born in December, you should take the Sagittarius warning to heart. If you are a January Goat, consider promoting a fantasy of your own. A lot of personal charisma and a radiant aura will help push your agenda forward fast. And since assertive Mars should mellow you out while it transits earthy Taurus, you probably won't rub people, especially family members, the wrong way much longer. The full moon period can be especially warm, while, come Valentine's Day, Venus won't be sweet to your Saturn ruler.

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Attorney Ronald Beitman of Kistin, Latimer, Babitsky & Beitman will share his first-hand knowledge of the case as the attorney for one of the victim's family in a wrongful death action. Attorney Thomas M. Tang of Gibson & Behman, P.C will address those policies nd procedures every bar owner should follow to avoid such a catastrophic event at there establishment and how to minimize your liability exposure. Bob Johnston a claims analyst for CNA Insurance will be present to answer all questions and concerns with respect to your insurance policy and Marty Winslow from the Massachusetts Licensed Beverage Association, the state affiliate to the American Beverage Licensees, will be present to address the changes in legislation regarding public safety issues.

Monday, March 8, 2004 at 1:30-2:30 PM

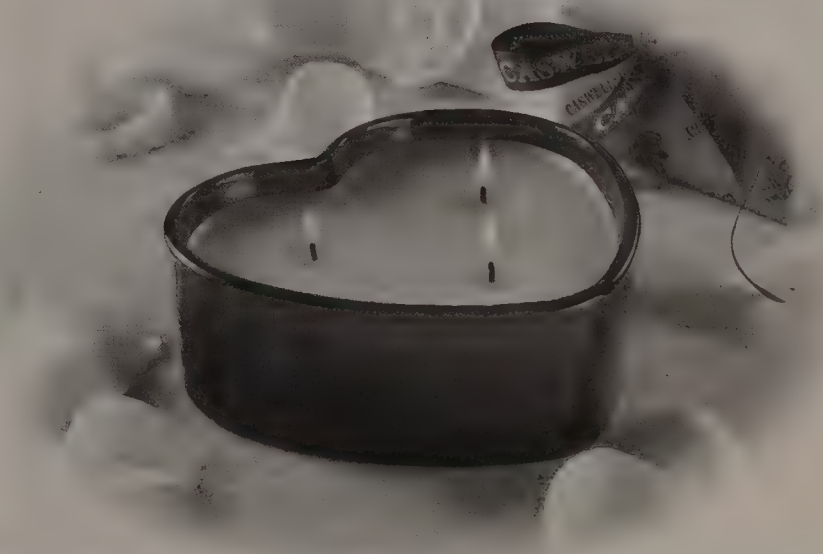
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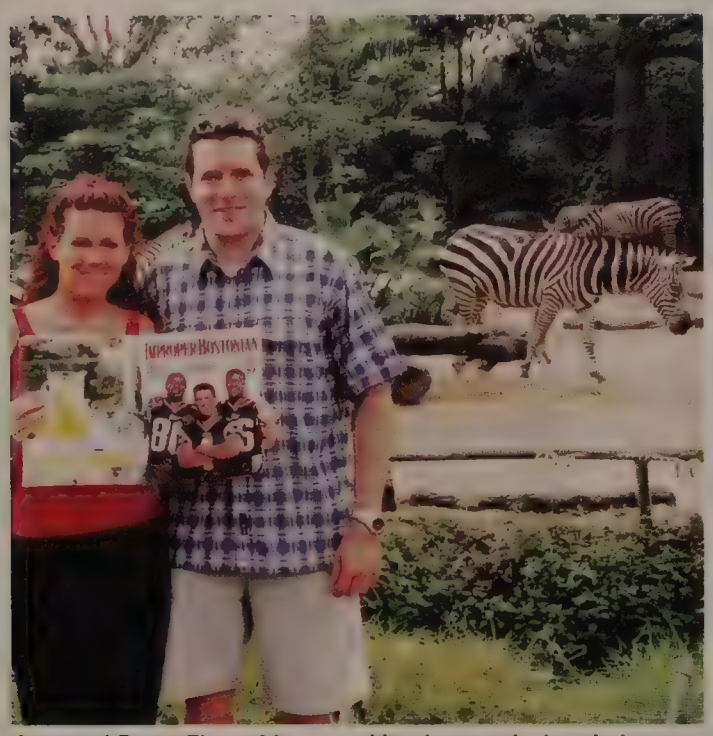
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IMPROPER sightings

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Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you were. The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.



Amy and Barry Finegold stopped by the zoo during their honeymoon in Singapore. Barry, an inventor, was testing his latest device, an equine pectoral supporter called ZeBra.



Nik and Dawn Atsalis spent their honeymoon in sunny Santorini, Greece. Sunny honeymoon...Excuse us while we go trademark the word "sunnymoon."



Meredith Pierce Hunter and Jonathan Hunter honeymooned on Italy's Amalfi Coast, which is like Venice without the buildings.



Alison McNeill, Cayle Armstrong, Liz and Curt Hall, Alastair McEachern and Russell Havens take a break from matrimonial proceedings and platypus racing in Liz's hometown of Tamworth, Australia.



Nothing but romance erupted during Becky and Jamie Marks' honeymoon near Costa Rica's Arenal Volcano.



Jennifer Schlenker and Mark Koza tied the knot in Bermuda. Thank you, Mark, for not wearing dorky shorts in this picture.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Sipping Kristal next to the Hilton sisters and sneering disdainfully at just about everything at Milan Fashion Week, held Feb. 22–March 1 in Milan, Italy.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116. or via email to sightings@improper.com
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned.

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to find the most beautiful
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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN
MAGAZINE

Issue date: February 18 Advertising deadline: February 4
To Book Space Now, Call 617-859-1400 ext 221

IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Monday, January 19, the newly opened **Sanctuary** on State Street hosted a holiday party.






1. **Jonathan MacOmber**, actor, and **Dave Demarzo**, owner and general manager of Soho.
2. **Katie Gallichio**, waitress, **Erin Clemmey**, hostess, and **Madeline Shedno** waitress, all of Boston Beer Garden.
3. **Juan Umana** and **Juan Gauldron**, both cooks at Soho; **Stephen Lancaster**, executive chef at Sanctuary; **Robinson Garcia**, cook at Soho; and **Guillermo Munoz**, chef at Black Rhino.
4. **Simone Valentine**, Boston Beer Garden; **Michelle Lawrence** and **Alicia Cokorogianis**, both nurses at New England Medical Center.

On Thursday, January 22, **The Hilton Hotel Boston Logan Airport** played host to the 8th Annual **"A Taste of Eastie."** This local tastings event, sponsored by **The Improper Bostonian**, benefits the **East Boston Main Streets Program**.





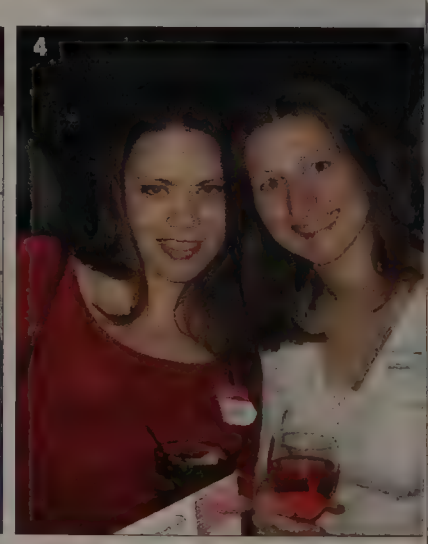


1. **Thomas Kennedy**, vice president and CRA manager of Sovereign Bank; **Andre Porter**, deputy director of the Office of Business Development; **Maria Di Stefano**, executive director of East Boston Main Streets; **Vincent P Peschio**, president of East Boston Main Streets; **Charlotte Golar Richie**, chief of housing and director of the Department of Neighborhood Development.
2. **Paul Scapicchio**, Boston city councilor; **Father Jonathan Parks S.D.B**, principal of Savio Preparatory High School; **Robert Travaglini**, Mass. State Senate president; and **Anthony Petruccelli**, state representative.
3. **Mohammed Idham**, banquet chef; **Robert Bruno**, executive sous chef; and **John Coviello**, executive chef, all of the Hilton Hotel.
4. **Dena White**, lounge manager; **James Magnasco**, owner; and **Deborah D'Andrea**, restaurant manager, all of Jimmy Magg's Restaurant & Lounge.

On Monday, January 26, **8minuteDating** held an event at **Vox Populi**.



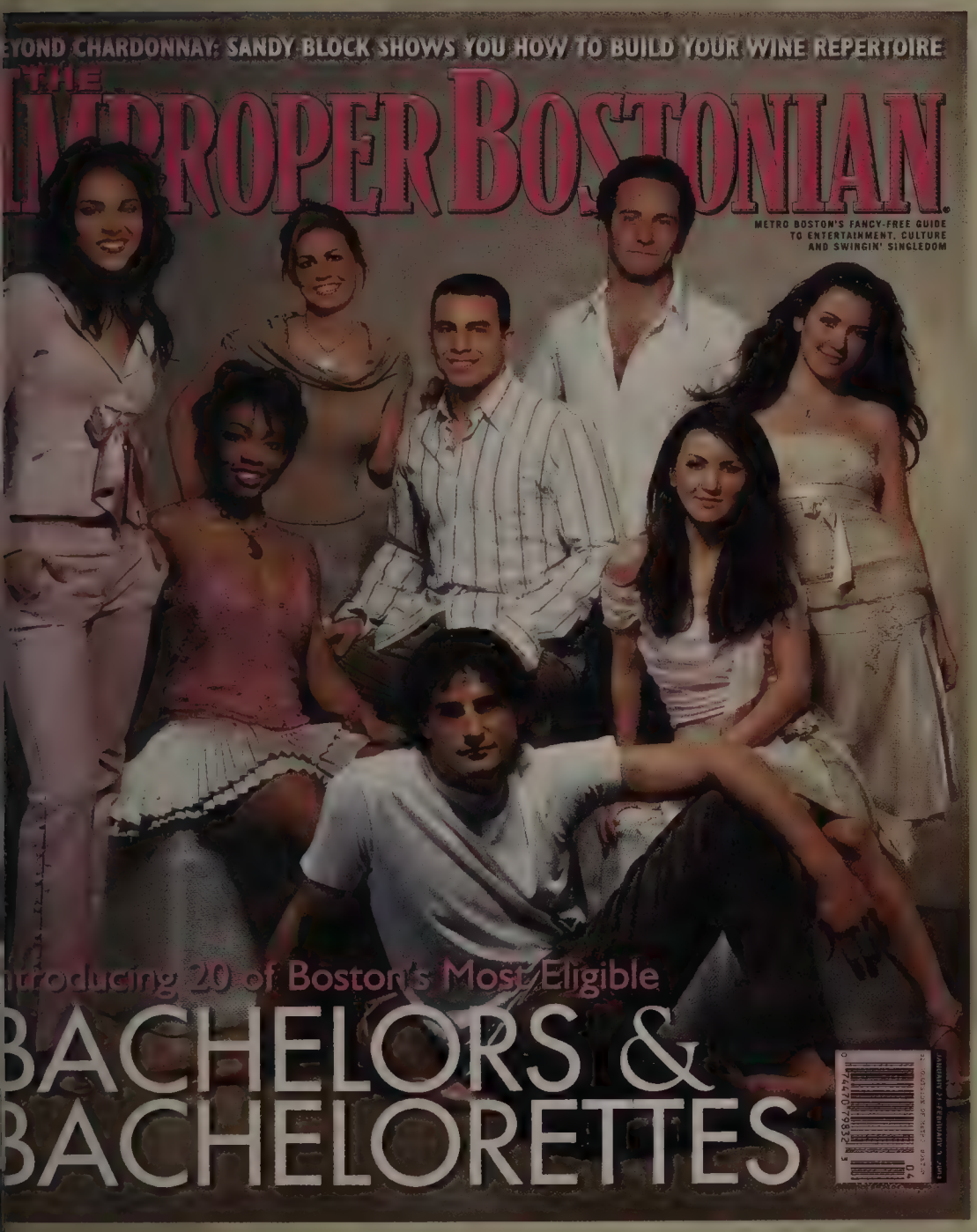




1. **Beth Bresnahan**, **Carla Richmond**, and **Maggie Dex**, all salesmodels for Preston Marketing Concepts.
2. **Kevin Murphy**, graduate student at Boston University, and **Alyssa Niewola**, nurse at Women & Infants Hospital.
3. **Ryan Driscoll**, bartender at Vox Populi, and **Kelly Yout**, event organizer for 8minuteDating.
4. **Jenn Ballinger**, systems administrator for Charles River Apparel, and **Caitlin Fitzgerald**, physical therapist for HealthSouth.

PHOTOS: VOX POPULI AND SANCTUARY, MIKE PURNS; HILTON HOTEL BOSTON LOGAN AIRPORT, JESSICA P

You are invited to be our guest for an Improper Event!



THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

is throwing a party to celebrate our annual

BACHELORS & BACHELORETTES ISSUE

Wednesday, February 18

7-10pm at Caprice

275 Tremont Street, Boston

With a live performance by the Adam Ezra Group

Meet some of this year's Bachelors & Bachelorettes.
You don't have to be single to enjoy this bash—
There will be something for everyone!

Hors d'oeuvres will be provided by Caprice.
$5 donation at the door to benefit Boston Cure Project for Multiple Sclerosis

Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch



RESTAURANTS

75 Chestnut *75 Chestnut St., Boston, 617-227-2175, www.75chestnut.com.* Providing regional American cuisine served in an intimate setting. Bar opens at 5pm. Dinner served from 5:30pm - 10pm.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled PortabellaPaninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC, V.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2002. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.best-margaritas.com.

Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

Captain Fishbones **SEAFOOD, STEAKS AND MORE* 353 Cambridge St, Allston 617-783-2300 (formerly the Sports Depot).* Captain Fishbones boasts a reasonably priced menu of fresh seafood, succulent steaks, awesome burgers and a healthy variety of salads and pizza. Meet your friends at a great bar surrounded with five 42" plasma screen TV's. Join us for a free appetizer special Monday thru Friday from 4-6pm. Book your rehearsal dinners today! Full menu from 11:30 A.M. to 12:30 A.M. Sunday Brunch 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.. Plenty of free parking. You can visit the Captain in Quincy at 332 Victory Rd, 617-471-3511 www.captainfishbones.com

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444, Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., South Boston,617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant *Boston Park Plaza Hotel ,34 Columbus Ave, Boston 617 482-3999; Faneuil Hall Marketplace, North Market Bldg. 617-720-5522.* Recognized nationwide for its fresh seafood and lively atmosphere, McCormick & Schmick's offers over 40 varieties of fresh seafood, and a unique menu that changes daily. The bar is also a popular destination where all cocktails are made fresh and hand-shaken. $1.95 Bar menu served Monday through Friday 3:30-6:30 p.m. and late night every night from 10 p.m - midnight.

M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11 am - 2 am 7 days a week.

Ned Devine's *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere in the heart of downtown Boston. Open 11 am - 2 am 7 days a week.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998,1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 0pm. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches. Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Sidney's Grille *20 Sidney St, Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why Bon Appétit magazine says, "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breakfast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus visit www.sidneysgrille.com

Solas *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11 am - 2 am 7 days a week.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

BARS/CLUBS

Beer Specialty

Boston Beer Works *112 Canal St., near the Fleet Center, 617-896-BEER, 61 Brookline Ave., across from Fenway Park, 617-536-BEER and 278 Derby St., in Historic Salem, 978-745-BEER.* Boston's oldest and largest restaurant brewery with 3 locations! Bold American Food. Award Winning Beer. 15 microbrewed beers always on tap. 16 American wines by the glass. 15 championship billiards tables at our Canal Street location. Complete party planning capabilities. Private Rooms. Customizeable menus. Lunch. Dinner. Late Night. Always a good time. Check out the BIGGER and BOLDER menu.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exotic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1 am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

Big City - pool hall, pizza kitchen, Beer Bar *138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8pm, free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Felt *533 Washington St., Boston, 617-350-5555.* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering sophisticated billiards, New York style lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or for a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere combined with the delicious creative entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Eclectic cuisine by Chef Casey Lloyd.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 10pm. Live DJs 7 nights a week, dancing with Ibiza's DJ Marco, resident DJs DJLittles and Johnny C til 2 am. Join us in our new private VIP room! Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Clubs

Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston, 617-482-7799.* Located in Boston's trendy Theater District, Pravda 116 is a chic bar and club. DJs 5:30pm - 10:30pm keep the energy level high. Bar 5:30pm-2am and dance club 10:30pm - 2am Wednesday-Saturday. Credit cards accepted AE, CB, DC, MC, V.

Stadium – Clubhouse *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Stadium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale nightclub featuring two bars, a hardwood dance floor and parking. An exciting yet relaxed 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety of music and beautiful people crowding the dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights. An ideal place for your next bachelor, bachelorette or birthday party.

Comedy

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www. theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. Mingle. Let your hair down; see and be seen on the big screen. Simply the hippest way to spend a night of all-out fun in Boston's Financial District. Come after work. Come to dance. Come to go wild with your friends. There's always something exciting happening – and you never know who you'll bump into. Join us and experience what the buzz is all about.

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 617-227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston,617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal and martini. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 10pm. Live DJs 7 nights a week, dancing with



Ibiza's DJ Marco, and resident DJs DJLittles and Johnny C til 2 am. Join us in our new private VIP room! Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Irish

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 617-742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston, 617-742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 617-523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11am - 1am 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

The Green Dragon *11Marshall St., Boston, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 617-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

General

The Alley *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. www.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

Aqua *120 Water St., Boston, 617-720-4900.* Boston's newest place to be seen is now open in the heart of the Financial District. Whether relaxing with a martini in one of our cozy booths, sipping a margarita on our roof deck or watching your hometown favorites on our high definition plasma TV. Aqua has what you're looking for after work and late night with our resident and guest DJs spinning your favorite mixes through our state of the art sound system all night long.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For more info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Boston Rocks *245 Quincy Market Place Boston, 617-726-1110 www.boston-rocks.net. 21+.* Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 617- 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2003. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.best-margaritas.com.

Cheers *Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-227-0150, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Offering pub fare until 11:45pm. Live entertainment every Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Cheers *Beacon Hill 84 Beacon St., Boston, 617-227-9605, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Full menu available until 11:45pm. Watch your favorite team on DirecTV.

Downtown Lounge *138 Portland St., Boston 617-523-8383.* Tempting tapas, modern martinis and contemporary cocktails are just a few of the elements awaiting your arrival. A distinctive destination in the heart of North Station, located just one block from the Fleet Center. Share crab taquitos, shaved portobello mushrooms or grilled white pizza. Revive with a specialty martini while sinking into soft curvy seating. Spacious and sublime, Dowtown Lounge is an attractive meeting place for business, luncheons, social, after work cocktails and events.

The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010.* Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston 617-722-0161.* The newest edition to Boston's night scene. This New Orleans style bar is just steps away from the Fleet Center. Hurricane O'Reilly's serves up the best that Boston nightlife has to offer. Come dance the night away with the hottest music around. We will leave you yearning for Bourbon Street.

Jillian's Boston *145 Ipswich St., Boston, 617-437-0300.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring more than 200 high tech games, six full bars, 50 pool tables, racing simulators, Black Jack for Fun and much more. Atlas Bar and Grill on Jillian's first floor offers full service dining featuring innovative American cuisine, a giant screen video wall and dancing every Friday & Saturday night. www.jilliansboston.com.

The Junction – Your Neighborhood Bar & Grill. *110 Dorchester St., South Boston, 617-268-6429.* Delicious food, great atmosphere and friendly staff –and it all happens at the Junction - South Boston's Neighborhood Bar & Grill. Enjoy our half-priced appetizers on weekdays from 3 to 6 pm. Join us for live music & entertainment on the weekends and for our fun trivia nights on Tuesdays.

Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Lounge. Cocktails. Dancing. Nightlife. Come see the lights of Parris. Sample the eclectic lounge menu featuring grilled pizza, oyster shooters ans steak tartar. Sip a Classic, Apple or French 75 martini, and then motion onto the huge dance floor featuring Live Music with the best bands and DJs Thursday through Saturday. Named for the original architect of the Greek-revival-style building, Alexander Parris, you're nightlife experience at Parris will be Boston and beyond. Open 5pm - 2am Wednesay - Saturday. Cover charge on Friday and Saturday.

Jazz

Regattabar *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Tuesday-Saturday nights and occasional Sunday afternoons. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square. Shows at 8:30pm Tues-Thurs, 7:30pm & 10:00pm Fri. & Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617.876.7777 for tickets and information, 800.881.1818 for hotel reservations and information.

Latin

Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston 617-351-7001.* A multistory Latin-themed restaurant and club, Sophia's treats guests to a tantalizing Tapas-style menu, live Salsa bands and hi-energy Latin dance. From a romantic dinner and salsa lessons to hi-energy dance and mingling on the roof deck over sangria and Salsa, an evening at Sophia's is always Hot! Hot! Hot

Sports Bar - Upscale

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www.theplaceboston.com.* Voted Boston's Best Sports Bar 3 years in a row by The Improper Bostonian! Mingle with your favorite sports celebrities: Brady, Thornton, Walker, Garciaparra. You never know who you'll run into. Enjoy the wildest party atmosphere in the heart of the Financial District. It's never the same experience twice – we've got exclusive sports video productions and game coverage on our state-of the-art flat screen TVs. So join us to see what the buzz is all about and find out why people in-the-know feel right at home.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal and martini. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 10pm. Watch all your favorite teams on one of our 18 TVs or in our private VIP lounge on of our 6 new 50" plasma TVs! Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Stadium *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* Boston's Best Damn Sports Bar, Period. A brand new, high-end sports bar featuring two floors, three bars, 30 flat screen TVs – including the one in the men's room, a dance floor and parking. Stadium menu offers an enticing selection of appetizers, salads, steak & burgers, fresh seafood and drinks

BRUNCH

Captain Fishbones **SEAFOOD, STEAKS AND MORE* 353 Cambridge St, Allston 617-783-2300 (formerly the Sports Depot).* Captain Fishbones is proud to present an award winning buffet brunch. For only $9.99 come and join the Captain for an all you can eat brunch. Full menu from 11:30 A.M. to 12:30 A.M. Plenty of free parking. You can visit the Captain in Quincy for breakfast Saturday and Sunday 8 A.M. to 12 P.M. at 332 Victory Rd, 617-471-3511 www.captainfishbones.com

Harvard Gardens *315 Cambridge St., Beacon Hill, Boston, 617-523-2727. www.harvardgardens.com.* Cozy up to the beautiful mahogany bar or slip into a comfy booth and enjoy Harvard Gardens' menu of cool cocktails and comfort food. Brunch serves up eggs and pastrami hash, thick-cut French toast with caramelized bananas, specialty pizzas and Boston's best Bloody Mary. Harvard Gardens serves brunch Saturday and Sunday, 11:30am - 3:00pm.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended 617-661-5005.

Museum of Science – Skyline Room *Science Park, Boston, Ma, 02114.* Enjoy Sunday Brunch in the beautiful Skyline Room overlooking the Charles River at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., then check out the latest Omni film. Combination tickets start at $32 and include on-site parking when available. Brunch only, $24. Reservations recommended. For more information call (617) 723-2500 or visit mos.org.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**, *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar. including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

IMPROPER SHOPPER

Classifieds for Bostonians

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Wardrobe revamping, fashion tuning, and personal shopping. 617-797-4079. For more information see display ad on this page.

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1998 MAZDA PROTÉGÉ
88,000 highway miles. Needs minimal body work. AC/CD player/AUTO. Valued at $3700, asking $2800 OBO. Call 617-416-0240.

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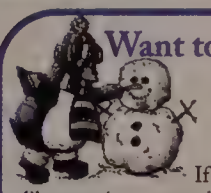
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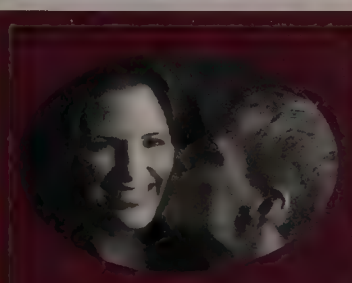
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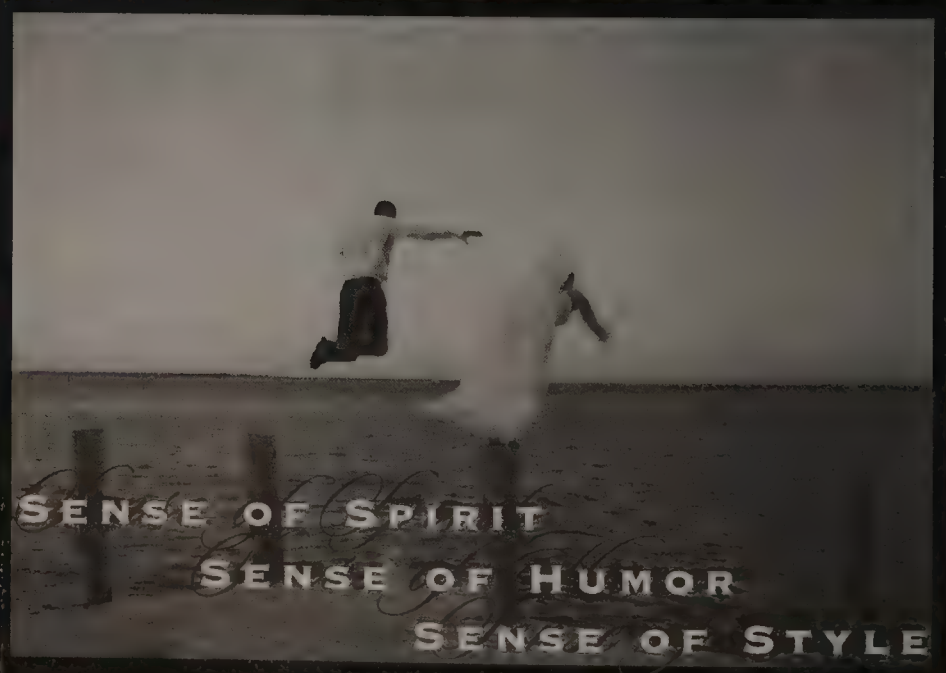
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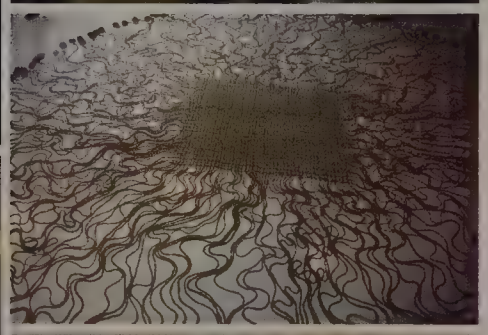
LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF











At the ICA, clockwise from upper right: the crowd; a piece in the Made in Mexico exhibition; Gary Croteau and Jay Leo; Karen and John Rotenberg; Gay Gillies, Trevania Henderson and Sam Bogash

LEAVING THE HEADLIGHTS ON...

It was like a quick trip to Mexico, minus the gastrointestinal distress, when the **Institute of Contemporary Art** hosted an invitation-only preview of its newest exhibition, **Made in Mexico**.

Despite the brass-monkey weather outside, guests got into a south-of-the-border vibe as they perused the three floors of galleries while sipping wine and nibbling delicious Mexican-inspired nibbles.

Among the attendees: interim Mexican consul to Boston **Rodrigo Marquez**; ICA director **Jill Medvedow**; Ars Libra operator **Gabriele Ouellette**; the madcap **Tanya Contos** (who looks like a prettier version of Frida Kahlo); biotech mogul **Sam Bogash**; real estate cutie **Jay Leo**; hair deity **Gary Croteau**; Nashville-bred socialite **Trevania Henderson** and artist **Gay Gillies** (who left their husbands at home to look after the kids); Back Bay fabulons **Lois** and **Steve Kunian**; art dealer **Abi Ross Goodman** and her affable other half, **Mark**; nightlife czarina **Mindy D'Arbeloff**; attorney-at-large **Matthew Kozol**; and so on and so forth down the list of the usual suspects.

"I didn't know you were made in Mexico," joked one guest, greeting a friend.

"Sure I was. And more than once, I might add," was his saucy reply.

However, the raciest remark came from the fur-and-cashmere-clad woman who said, "Thank God I'm wearing a padded bra. Otherwise, you'd clearly see how cold it is outside."

THE SQUARE ROOT OF THE AREA TIMES PI, OR SOMETHING...

Remember in 10th-grade geometry class, when you wondered, "When the hell will I ever need to know this stuff?" Well, you were right, which was proven once again by the way-swanky **Fifth Anniversary Party** at **Radius**.

Even if you vaguely recalled that the restaurant's name means a straight line extending from the center of a circle to any point on its circumference, it would have been utterly useless, since it was impossible to walk in a straight line anywhere, so packed was the party with assorted celebrities and VIPs, and so potent and potable were the pomegranate martinis.

Present and accounted for in a throng that rivaled Milan for stylishness, L.A. for looks and Rio for balls-to-the-wall party-heartiness: former GE chief **Jack Welch** and his paramour, **Suzie Wetlaufer**; Red Sox CEO **Larry Lucchino** and the magnificent **Stacey**; WBZ anchor-babe **Lisa Hughes**; rock jock **Greg Hill** of WAAF; hockey legend **Cam Neely** with the gorgeous **Paulina**; former J. Geils frontman **Peter Wolf** and celebrity chef **Ming Tsai** (both sporting dark glasses); nightlife kingpin **Manos Linoxilakis** and his incomparable other half, **Cynthia**; music mogul **Richie Balsbaugh**; Brazilian supermodel **Fabiana**; Martha's Vineyard madman **Michael Stutz**; real estate visionary **Jonathan Kaye**; Tudor Investments honcho **Jim Pallotta** and his lovely wife, **Kim**; tall, blond stunner **Hollis Colby** and Republican publican **Tom Kershaw** of Cheers; the absurdly sexy **Susan Callendar**; ridiculously photogenic pair **Jeff** and **Nicole Bellows**; attorney-about-town **Evan Kushner**; tag-teaming babe-a-licious blond sisters **Karen Keaney** and **Heidi Barclay**; Gallic funboy **Christophe Mueller**; TV reporter and hot patootie **Peg Rusconi**; and enough eye candy to cause some serious whiplash.

Although the festivities were scheduled to end by 10, no one seemed even remotely inclined to leave, and, in fact, at 11, guests were still arriving. But that's only one of the ways in which the hosts turned out to be dead wrong. The invitation promised, "a party to remember," and I'm still trying to recall exactly what happened. IB





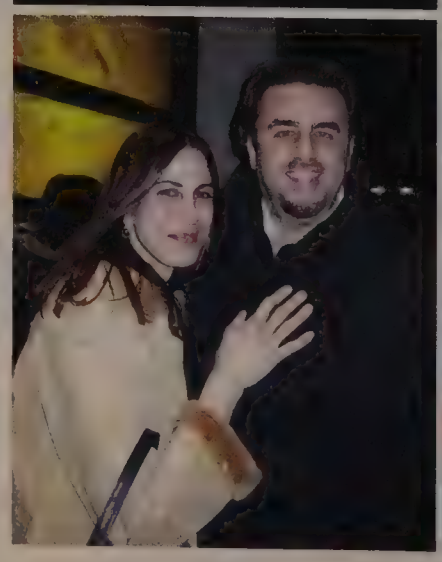








At Radius, top row: Lynne Smith; Hollis Colby and Tom Kershaw. Second row from top: Jeff and Nicole Bellows; Susan Callendar. Third row from top: Jim Pallotta, Paulina Neely, Kim Pallotta and Cam Neely. Bottom right: Greg Hill, Tracy Paris and Melissa Prince. Below: Cynthia and Manos Linoxilakis



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RICHARD SMITH

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Photographed for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by
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Jessica preferred to have several options.



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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR



SPRING LOOKS

The IMPROPER's fashion and beauty editor, Samantha House, began work on our Spring Fashion Preview issue back in September. Yup, while you and I were reluctantly stowing our sandals and surveying our sweaters, designers were flocking to New York's Fashion Week to show their spring '04 collections. In this issue, House shows us the trends she saw on the runways and what we can expect to see in Boston stores.

For a cheat sheet on what to buy to be en vogue, turn to page 17, where House previews spring's hottest looks. Soft cardigans, cropped jackets and metallics are among the must-haves for women. Four fashion features highlight those trends and others—all in bright hues that give you even more reason to long for the thaw. And our beauty feature shows you the lip and eye colors that complete the look. (Men, check out page 23 for fashionable clothes that won't hurt your wallet.)

Even as we were finishing up this issue, House headed off to New York for fall '04 Fashion Week, previewing the stuff we'll all be seeing six months from now. (The early word is '40s-style skirts, sleek floor-length gowns, fur shrugs and stoles, the rebirth of gold lamé and a farewell to super-low-rise pants.)

If all this fashion talk doesn't do it for you, maybe cupcakes do. Writer and foodie Ruth Tobias rounds out this issue with a look at some of Boston's most winter-blues-busting desserts and a suggestion: If you're going for carbs, go for broke.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

BEYOND BACHELORS AND BACHELORETTES

There are a lot of couples living in Boston that have moved past the singles scene (as covered in your Jan. 21 Bachelor and Bachelorettes issue), have planned and executed their weddings (as covered in your Feb. 4 Bridal issue) and are now raising families (as covered in your...wait, you don't have an issue for that). We're young, we read your magazine, but we have kids. What do young families do in Boston? Perhaps you can provide a guide, because having kids doesn't render one suddenly uninterested in having a life. Boston is an exceptional place to raise a family. Many young couples are choosing to stay where the action is, where services are convenient and where entertainment is always available. However, the activities available for young married couples in Boston are not always obvious. Please consider an issue dedicated to young families, which includes activities not only for stay-at-home moms, but also for working parents.

—FELIPE SCHWARZ
Boston

AVOID THE 'ROIDS

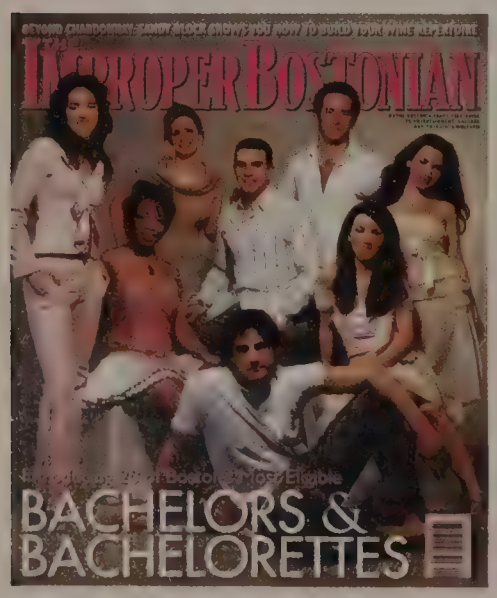
I've never written to a magazine before but I had to let you know that Ezra's last column ("State of My Union," Feb. 4) about exorbitant parking rates, borderline-psychotic Bostonians, etc., was truly hilarious. I laughed out loud while reading it alone in my kitchen, nearly choking on a mouthful of cereal. I'm also now inspired to pick up the Harry Potter series that's been sitting in my apartment for ages. (Riding at the tail end of my schooling, I have time to do things like chew my food and read for pleasure.)

Oh, and one more thing: The testicular shrinkage benefits of steroids (makes you a faster runner, right?) are offset by the simultaneous increase in breast tissue one experiences as well. Just a little heads-up. I look forward to the next issue—thanks for adding to the levity in my life!

—SARAH KIM
Boston

CORRECTION

The Proper Bostonians byline in the Feb 18 issue's online table of contents should have read Kerry Brett Hurley.



WHAT DO YOUNG FAMILIES DO IN BOSTON? PERHAPS YOU CAN PROVIDE A GUIDE, BECAUSE HAVING KIDS DOESN'T RENDER ONE UNINTERESTED IN HAVING A LIFE.

—FELIPE SCHWARZ
BOSTON

CONTRIBUTOR

RUTH TOBIAS

Freelance food writer Ruth Tobias grew up in Oklahoma. After completing undergraduate studies at UCLA, she earned master's degrees in both poetry (from the acclaimed University of Iowa Writers' Workshop) and English (from none-too-shabby Boston University). A longtime foodie who specializes in Italian fare, Tobias has also studied at the Cambridge School of Culinary Arts. She has contributed to the *Boston Globe*, *Slammed* and the upcoming *Oxford Encyclopedia of American Food and Drink*. Her latest piece for the IMPROPER, "The Sweetest Cure," begins on page 32.

BACHELORS & BACHELORETTES COVER: ERIC ANTONIOU

Tell Us What You Think

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new in town

SLEEK HAVEN

Sanctuary, a sleek, modern addition to Faneuil Hall, opened on New Year's Eve, and business hasn't slowed for a minute. A departure from the owners' other bars, Aqua and the Black Rhino, Sanctuary is more elegant and chichi (think Saint meets Teatro). And it's a far cry from the typical tourist traps that populate Quincy Market (as evidenced by the strict dress code: no sneakers, jeans are discouraged).



The inside is striking; the top two floors have incredibly high curved ceilings, half-moon banquettes and long, glowing blue bars. The lower level, which is open only on weekends, is a funky, red-hued space with exposed granite walls and a plenty of room for mingling. On recent weekends, there's been a line down the block to get in.

Late-night diners scarf up tapas (sweet potato dumplings; chorizo y garbanzos; lobster tamales; enchiladas de pollo, all under $10) and drink white sangria by the pitcherful. Other dining options include sandwiches (like El Cubano for $8); salads (Tokyo tuna for $8); soups (Cuban black bean for $4); and larger plates like the Big Kahuna Polynesian pupu platter ($18); Jamaican Me Crazy chicken ($15); and the Yucatan Beach Shack mahi mahi taco platter ($17). *189 State St., Boston (617-573-9333). Mon.-Sun., 11:30 am–2 am.*

—E.H. and J.S.

sports

TEN REASONS...

...to be optimistic about the 2004 Red Sox as spring training gets under way Feb. 20.

1. **Curt Schilling.** Enough said.
2. **The Yankees.** The Evil Empire became the first team in 100 years to lose three 15-game winners (Andy Pettitte, David Wells and Roger Clemens) in one offseason.
3. **Terry Francona.** Did Grady Little ever take the stage at the Paradise and lead the crowd in a rousing "Yankees Suck" chant? Also, see No. 1, who likely wouldn't be here if the Sox hadn't brought Francona aboard.
4. **Last year's team.** They came within five outs of the World Series, and for the most part they're back.
5. **Manny and Nomar.** We were excited about the A-Rod deal, but you can't complain when you're left with two of the best hitters in the game.
6. **The front office.** Theo Epstein and company have proven that they'll consider any move to make the team better.
7. **The Patriots.** If they can win two Super Bowls in three years...
8. **Blasts from the past.** Besides Schilling, former Sox Ellis Burks and Brian Daubach are back. Let's hope Daubach regrows his lucky beard.
9. **The National League.** Face it: they all stink.
10. **Keith Foulke.** Let us all observe a moment of silence for the closer-by-committee idea. All hail the closer! *—Ezra Dyer*

inner view

OSCAR BUZZ KILL

Golden Globes...Grammys...Screen Actors Guild Awards...'Tis the season of celebrity worship. Though we've stroked countless Hollywood egos and logged far too many hours of Joan and Melissa, the biggest spectacle's still to come: Oscar makes his yearly appearance Feb. 29. Here, three local personalities—executive director of the Coolidge Corner Theatre **Joe Zina**, comedian **Kelly MacFarland** and pop culture columnist for the *Boston Globe* **Renee Graham**—chat about their Academy Awards wish list.

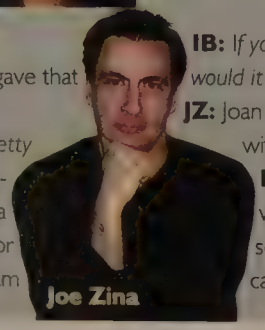
IB: *What are your choices for best actor, actress and film (even if they're not nominated)?*



JZ: Bill Murray [*Lost in Translation*], for his sophistication, wit and charm. Sean Penn [*Mystic River*], though he was better in *21 Grams*; *Mystic River* wasn't his best performance. Charlize Theron [*Monster*] gives me hope that I can return to my original beauty after killing a few people.

KM: Diane Keaton in *Something's Gotta Give*. She gave that part her all. She was hysterical!

RG: For best actor, Chiwetel Ejiofor in *Dirty Pretty Things*. A criminally overlooked performance in a criminally overlooked film. For best actress, Condoleezza Rice as national security advisor on ABC's *Nightline* for claiming the Bush administration never implied Saddam Hussein was linked to the Sept. 11 attacks. She could easily devour Hannibal Lecter with some fava beans and a nice Chianti. *American Splendor* for best picture. Save for a single nomination for Best Adapted Screenplay, the Academy really blew it with this one. It was sweet without being sappy, cynical without being bitter. Every performance—especially Paul Giamatti and Hope Davis—was pitch perfect.



IB: *If there were such a category, who would take home the Oscar for worst performance or film?*

JZ: George Clooney in *Intolerable Cruelty*.

KM: That fish, Nemo. I didn't buy it that he was really lost, and I think they could've tried harder to find him.

RG: Halle Berry in *Gothika*. Yes, there are far worse things than looking at Halle Berry for two hours. If this is any indication of her post-Oscar career, she may soon find herself starring in a sequel to *B.A.P.S.*

IB: *If you could ban one person from the red carpet for life, who would it be?*

JZ: Joan Rivers. If her skin gets any tighter, she'll be in competition with Gollum on the carpet for attention.

KM: Courtney Love. The only carpet she should be walking on is the one lining the halls of Betty Ford. "Have some coffee Courtney...and put your dress down. We can see your panties."

RG: Anyone with the name "Rivers." (Except Rivers Cuomo of Weezer.)

IB: *What topic will we be sick of hearing about by the end of the end of the night?*

JZ: How many women's breasts will fall out of their...gowns.

KM: Those Hobbits. They're so creepy.

RG: The proposed time warp/delay to save the world from naughty celebrity behavior.

IB: *If you could plan something to one-up Janet Jackson and Justin Timberlake's Super Bowl stunt, what would it be?*

JZ: To have Jack Nicholson pull out his johnson.

KM: I would show both of my breasts...and the nipple decorations would be even more disgusting!

RG: Somewhere out there, there's a hideously well-paid publicist already conjuring up new stupid celebrity tricks to lower the bar and garner our attention. So I'll leave that to the experts.

IB: *Who are you most looking forward to seeing on the red carpet?*

JZ: The Fab Five from *Queer Eye*.

KM: Ashton Kutcher. He's so delicious.

RG: Absolutely nobody. I find all the pregame nonsense tiresome, whether it's the Super Bowl or the Academy Awards. If I never again hear someone say, "Who are you wearing?" it'll be too soon.

—Jessica Iredale



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tasty tidbits

EASY AS PIE

Pie, Oh My... Apple is only the beginning of the sweet and savory varieties at Somerville's **Petsi Pies**. Inspired after baking up a storm for a friend's wedding, Renee McLeod opened Petsi (pronounced Pete-see, it's McLeod's childhood nickname) just before Thanksgiving. "I realized I was having such a blast, why not open that pie shop I've been talking about?" says the former graphic designer. Pecan, blueberry and chai-spiced apple pies are also on the menu, along with spinach and zucchini–and–curry custard tarts. So what's the pie lady's favorite? "It would have to be sweet potato," she says. *285 Beacon St., Somerville (617-661-7437).*


Renee McLeod at Petsi Pies

That's a Lot of Cake... How many pastry chefs does it take to make a wedding cake? It took 57 to bake the latest Guinness Book of World Records contender for largest wedding cake—all 17 feet, seven tiers and 15,032 pounds of it. After seven days of mixing and baking, the behemoth confection stood tall at **Mohegan's Sun**'s New England Bridal Showcase. Mohegan's executive pastry chef, Lynn Mansel, headed the project, which called for 10,000 pounds of pound cake batter and 4,810 pounds of vanilla and almond frosting. The current title-holder, made for Disney's Shrek and Fiona wedding celebration, weighed in at 5,334 lbs. Guinness' jury is still out on Mohegan's play for the record, but in this case, we think they can probably have their cake and eat it too.


The world's biggest wedding cake?

Pizza Anytime... Staking out a niche among the dozens of pizza parlors in town is quite a challenge. For the pie-masters at **Pizza Oggi** (*oggi* means "today" in Italian), the recipe for success is all in the crust. Catering veterans Steve Welch and Laura Edelstein of Prince Street Caterers opened Oggi in Jamaica Plain several months ago, and their herbed oil–brushed crust with black and white sesame seeds is a carbohydrate binge. The take-out-only joint also features gourmet pies, sandwiches and vegetarian specials like ginger-coated broccoli and carrot pizza with garlic and herbs. *8 Perkins St., Jamaica Plain (617-971-9797).*

I Scream, You Scream..."Is this the best ice cream you've ever had?" asked the owner of the newly opened **Cold Stone Creamery** as he treated the IMPROPER office to a taste-test last week. After a lick or two...or 25...we decided it was definitely a contender. The Arizona-based chain opened in Charlestown's City Square in early February and has plans to open another shop in the Theater District soon. Its shtick is super-premium ice cream (read 14 percent butterfat) rolled onto a frozen granite stone and mixed with a choice of 40 mix-ins. Flavors range from French vanilla to eggnog to banana, but our consensus fave was the sweet cream. With creations like mint ice cream with chocolate chips, brownie and fudge, we were compelled to lick our bowls clean. *100 City Square, Charlestown (617-242-0100). —E.H, J.I. and J.S.*


Mix-ins are back at Cold Stone Creamery

sam says

LITTLE SHOP OF FLOWERS

Don't let appearances fool you. Ilex, the South End's newest retailer (opened Feb. 14), is much more than a florist. Sure, you can walk in and pick out your own fresh-cut flowers, but I recommend taking advantage of the store's full range of styling services. They can handle anything from coordinating the look and feel of a party to everyday decorating. My favorite is the bridal styling service. Instead of spending a fortune on a wedding planner to pick every detail of your big day, you can tell Ilex owner/designer Andrew Anderson what you have in mind, and he'll turn your wedding into a one-of-a-kind masterpiece—coordinating everything from the color of the bridesmaids' gowns to the linens, lighting, flatware and, of course, flowers. Whether it's creating a simple flower arrangement or throwing a huge bash, the experts at Ilex understand that achieving subtle elegance is all in the details. *73 Berkeley St., Boston (617-422-0300). —Samantha House*

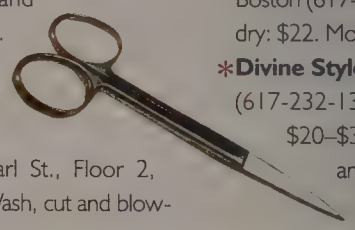


improper reports

CHEAP HAIRCUTS FOR WOMEN

Is it possible to get a woman's haircut for less than $35? You bet.

- ***Dellaria Salon**, 623 Comm. Ave, Boston (617-262-8750). Wash, cut and blow-dry: $30 and up. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am–8 pm; Sat., 8:30 am–6 pm.
- ***Learning Institute for Beauty Sciences**, 867 Boylston St., Boston (617- 424-6565). Wash, cut and blow-dry by student stylists: $9. Mon.–Thu., 9:30 am–9 pm; Fri., 9:30 am-4 pm.
- ***Supercuts**, 829 Boylston St., Boston (617-236-0310). Wash, cut and blow-dry: $16.95 and up. Mon.–Fri., 9 am–8 pm; Sat. 9 am–7 pm; Sun. 10 am–5 pm.
- ***Salon Infineti**, 141 Pearl St., Floor 2, Boston (617-695-3665). Wash, cut and blow-dry: $35 and up. Mon., 10 am–7 pm; Tue–Fri. 8:30 am–7 pm.
- ***Ojee's**, 88 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-247-4141). Wash, cut and blow-dry: $25 and up. Tue.–Fri., 11 am–7 pm; Sat. and Sun., 9 am–5 pm.
- ***The Master's Hairstyling**, 126 State St., Boston (617-523-1191). Wash, cut and blow-dry: $25. Mon.–Fri., 7 am–4 pm.
- ***Clipper Hair Styling**, 225 Franklin St., Boston (617-426-2891). Wash, cut and blow-dry: $22. Mon.–Fri., 6 am–4 pm.
- ***Divine Styler**, 754 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-232-1380). Wash, cut and blow-dry: $20–$30. Tue.–Fri., 8 am–6 pm; Sat., 7 am-3 pm.



—Elena DeBellis

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

That's a Trip... The Briar Group's six pubs (the Green Briar, the Kinvara, the Harp, Ned Devine's, M.J. O'Connor's and Sólás) are giving away six round-trip tickets to Shannon, Ireland. The drawing is held on March 12th at M.J. O'Connor's, which ought to give the winners enough time to find the proper Celtics jersey to wear on St. Patty's Day in Ireland. (We're imagining it looks just like the scene in the "Jump Around" video.)

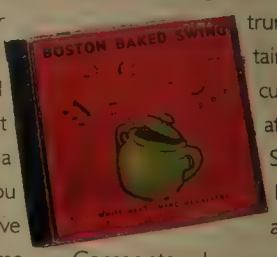
Italian Ice... Since the demise of Bertucci's in Davis Square in 2002, Greater Boston has been sorely lacking a facility in which to play some indoor boccie. Well, the good news is that the recently refurbished Steriti Memorial Rink in the North End has added not just one, but two boccie ball lanes, and refurbished its skating rink! After $5.3 million in much-needed renovations, the city unveiled the new rink and lanes in October. Rink manager Jim Tobin reports that, surprise, surprise, the lanes are a hit with the North End old-timers. "Everyone's welcome, and if you don't know how to play, it's a slow deal. You could pick it up after watching a game." *583 Commercial St., Boston (617-523-9327).*

Freaky Friday... Ladies, shine up your nose rings, strap on your latex, and touch up the Manic Panic in your mane. The Miss Gothic Massachusetts Pageant is seeking women, 18 and up, who are "devilish, dark and doomed" to participate in the 2004 competition March 5 at ManRay. The reigning queen, Tatiana de Profundis, will pass her title on to the lucky lady who proves most morose. We're not exactly sure what the prizes (lifetime wardrobe from Hot Topic?) or duties (blogging on gothornot.com?) include, but the Web site warns: As always, the living need not apply. *www.missgothicmass.com.*

Making the Video... Watertown's Deluxe Town Diner went Hollywood for a day when Picture Park Productions teamed up with Blue Man Group to shoot the music video for "I Feel Love" from the troupe's CD ***The Complex***. Director Harry McCoy says Blue Man chose Deluxe for its classic diner charm and proximity to Boston. Deluxe owner Don Levy says the 14-hour shoot went smoothly, and the men in blue remained true to form by turning frappes into an artistic medium. Look for the video on cable TV later this month.

Designer Consignor... If you're going the profitable, as opposed to charitable, route when purging your closet of old designer duds, check out Cuff & Tweed. The Marlborough-based consignment service, launched in 2003, auctions designer wardrobe castoffs on eBay and gives you 70 percent of the cut. Founder and sole employee Elizabeth Zalman says it takes roughly two weeks to complete a cycle—meaning from the moment you make your appointment until you receive your check. Zalman comes to your home, picks what she wants, snaps some digital shots, lists the goods on eBay and runs a seven-day auction. There's only one rule: clothes must be designer label. *(617-686-5407). www.cuffandtweed.com.*

Tootsie Tappers... Unless you remember the 69 Boyz' 1994 club hit "Tootsie Roll" ("to the left, to the left"), the all-American chocolate candy doesn't normally call music to mind. However, Brookline native (and CEO of Tootsie Roll Industries for 40-plus years) Mel Gordon composes big-band swing music on the side. The trumpet-playing captain of industry, who cut his business teeth at Harvard Business School and honed his musical talents at New England Conservatory, has penned 66 swing tunes since 1942, and Craig Ball and the White Heat Swing Orchestra have recorded 17 of them for the CD *Boston Baked Swing*. Keep an ear out for these Tootsie tunes on New England big-band radio stations.



—E.H., J.I., and J.S.

Got scoop?

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PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HOWLEY





The 19th annual **Anthony Spinazzola Foundation Gala Festival of Food and Wine** was held Jan. 30 at the World Trade Center Boston. More than 4,000 guests attended this black-tie benefit, which featured food and wine from more than 130 restaurants and 90 international vintners. The foundation raised $600,000 to support its mission of "feeding hungry bodies and minds" through grants to hunger-relief agencies, programs for the homeless and culinary scholarships.

1. From left: **Richard Brackett**, managing partner at Capital Grille in Chestnut Hill; **Jennifer Gower**, restaurant manager at Mistral; **Chris Scott**, managing partner at Capital Grille on Newbury Street; and **Susan Norton**, publicist for Mistral.
2. From left: **George Dixon**, manager at Nashawtuc Country Club in Concord; **Toni Spinazzola**, director of human resources for *The Boston Globe*; **Susan Wornick**, news anchor for WCVB Channel 5; and **David Josef**, fashion designer.
3. **Jodi Adams**, chef and co-owner of Rialto in Cambridge, and **Dante deMagistris**, chef at Blu.
4. From left: **Ed Costa**, partner and general manager of Vinalia; **Amanda Villa**; and **Mark Giordano**, northeast regional sales manager for Bonny Doon Vineyard.
5. **Marjorie Clapprood** and her husband, **Chris Spinazzola**, chairman of the board for the Spinazzola Foundation.
6. From left: **Greg Peterson**, high tech sales for Lightbridge Inc., in Burlington; **Bernadette Santangelo**; and her husband, **Matt**, vice president with Merrill Lynch.
7. **Timothy Kelley**, financial adviser for American Express, and **Mary Hearn**, nursing student at Curry College.









Boys and Girls Club of Boston's Partners for Youth Dinner was held Feb. 4 at the Park Plaza Hotel. More than 500 people attended the event, which raised $1.5 million for this rapidly growing organization.

8. New England Patriots owner **Bob Kraft** (left) and his son, **Josh**, director of the Chelsea Boys & Girls Club.
9. From left: **Randy Peeler**, partner at Berkshire Partners; **Lynda Whitlock** and **Frank Wisneski**, CEO and president of the board of overseers, respectively, for the Boys & Girls Club.
10. From left: **Susan Carrabes**; her husband, **Joe**, senior vice president of Putnam Investments; and **Kristen Astley**.
11. From left: **Jerry Jordan**, president of Hellman Jordan Management; his wife, **Darlene**, director of the Boys & Girls Club; **John Spooner**, writer and money manager; and his wife, **Susan**, trustee of the New England Aquarium.









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BOWLED OVER

After the Super Bowl, hooligans took over the city. Most of them started at my apartment.

Saddam's Spider Hole" would be a great name for a gay bar in Baghdad. That million-dinar idea occurred to me while trying to think of a way to describe my apartment after my Super Bowl party, because even a week after the fact, there are some startling similarities between my place and Saddam's hidey-hovel: both are underground, both are filled with dirty dishes and both smell like raunchy unwashed dictator armpit. But there's one major difference: Saddam didn't throw the most kick-ass Super Bowl party ever, and I did.

The planning and preparation that went into my Super Bowl party might have been rivaled only by the actual Super Bowl. I had to get a keg and a bunch of 30-packs, plus fixins for bloody Marys; go grocery shopping for snacks, grilling items and ingredients for my famously delicious chili; drive to my parents' house to get an extra TV to accommodate overspill out of the main living room area; borrow extra chairs and stools from various friends around the city; and write an e-mail rallying the faithful. Some other ideas for enhancing the party were also given a shot, such as creating Green Monster–like stadium seating by moving the couch forward and placing a row of stools behind it. Other schemes—like my plan to take the tailgate off my father's truck and somehow affix it to a wall so that we could tailgate in my apartment—remain unfulfilled, damn great ideas.

The e-mail apparently worked, because at one point I counted 30 people in my crib, including one girl dressed in full Mardi Gras regalia with a towering feather headdress, fishnet stockings and a bustier. I still have no idea who she was, but you know what they say: A party ain't a party till a Mardi Gras dancer girl shows up and eats chili. Perhaps she was an apparition conjured by seven-layer dip and too many cups of Bud Light.

By halftime, someone who was really drunk got the idea to order the Lingerie Bowl on pay-per-view (his name rhymes with "Pez"), but that notion was abandoned because the Lingerie Bowl is sophomoric, objectifies women and promotes eating disorders and the pursuit of unrealistic body images. Also I couldn't figure out how to order it. So we watched the Super Bowl halftime show, which, as everyone on the planet now knows, had a major surprise in store: P. Diddy! I couldn't believe it when he rose up out of the stage and sang "Mo' money, mo' problems." After that I went to the bathroom.

During the second half the tension mounted. Touchdowns flew back and forth as I struggled to pay attention to the game and not fall off my stool. By the fourth quarter, my friend Andy looked like a man experiencing a ball-removal operation without anesthesia. He just sat there on the floor, hugging a 30-pack, grimacing and pulling his hair. But when the winning field goal split the uprights, Andy joined the rest of the room in doing what happy Patriots fans do best: breaking stuff. People sprayed each other with beer. The coffee table got knocked over, propelling the aforementioned tasty seven-layer dip onto the rug (people reading this who happen to be my building manager should know that it cleaned up easily and didn't leave a spot). Somehow my floor lamp got broken in such a way that the wiring leads are exposed (yes, I need to throw it away before I become tempted to piece it back together with duct tape and eventually electrocute myself).

BY HALFTIME, SOMEONE WHO WAS REALLY DRUNK GOT THE IDEA TO ORDER THE LINGERIE BOWL ON PAY-PER-VIEW (HIS NAME RHYMES WITH "PEZ").

But it was worth it. After all the energy I've invested in this team this season (and, for that matter, over the course of my life), they rewarded me with another championship. Sure, Roommate Scott and I spent about $500 on supplies, my apartment was destroyed and I had the regular misery of Monday morning compounded by a hangover that hung over until about Wednesday. And instead of being merely insanely jealous of Tom Brady, I'm now Mike Tyson–level insanely jealous of Tom Brady. Would Blue Cross/Blue Shield cover a chin dimple implant? Sure, two Super Bowl MVP trophies and having every woman under the age of 90 want to bone you might be priceless, but maybe my MasterCard can buy me a cute chimple. That's something to think about while I look for a good spot to mount that tailgate for next year. IB

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Soroff ON

LYNN HOFFMAN

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Lynn Hoffman is a New York–based radio personality and an on-air host for VH1 Classic. Born in Boston, she was raised in Newton and graduated from Newton South before earning a bachelor's degree in communications from the Art Institute of Boston in 1992. Having recorded a radio ad for her father's office furniture business at the age of 19, she landed her first professional broadcasting job as a traffic and news reporter for Metro Networks. Two weeks after starting, she moved into the prime-time morning drive slot. In 1996, she was hired as John Lander's co-host on the morning show on WBMX Mix 98.5. Her five-year run won consistently high ratings and made her a household name in Boston. She moved to New York in February 2002 and three months later landed the job at VH1 Classic, the fledgling MTV Networks channel that focuses on the music of the '60s, '70s and '80s. The channel has steadily gained viewership, and in her position as host, Hoffman has worked with such legendary artists as David Crosby, Donna Summer, Hall & Oates, Pat Benatar and Suzanne Vega. In addition to her TV work, she was recently tapped as morning drive-time DJ for WNEW Mix 102.7, in New York, pairing up with her former Boston colleague, Gregg Daniels, and she does extensive voice-over work for radio stations throughout the country. She lives in Manhattan with her boyfriend.

Jonathan Soroff: *OK, so you're reunited with Gregg Daniels. Does it feel like old times?*

Lynn Hoffman: I feel like a kid back in college again, living in the dorms, because not only do we work together, but he lives right upstairs from me, too.

JS: *So your life is sort of like a sitcom.*

LH: More like my own little reality show.

JS: *I understand that you bet against the Patriots in the Super Bowl?*

LH: I didn't want to. I did it kicking and screaming. I lost a coin toss, and it was the hardest Super Bowl I ever had to watch. It was one of those good old-fashioned radio stunts: The bet was that whoever had the losing team would have to do an entire broadcast from a public location in their bathing suit. I can tell you, during the last quarter, I was doing sit-ups and push-ups.

JS: *So where will you have to do your show?*

LH: Right now, they're considering Grand Central Station and the Port Authority.

JS: *So do people recognize you on the street now?*

LH: Well, the great thing is that VH1 Classic is now in 36 million homes. We started in only 12 million. We're also on a couple of airlines, which is fantastic. So the word is spreading, and I think 2005 is when it's really going to kick into high gear, as in full-on, 24-hour programming, advertising, etc.

JS: *So you're bracing yourself for major stardom.*

LH: I'm really excited, and a lot of really great things have come from it too.

JS: *Like?*

LH: Well, let's just say that you're probably gonna get sick of seeing me on television in the next three years. I just finished shooting a Time-Life commercial with Roger Daltrey from the Who. It was the funnest day of my life.

JS: *In Boston, you were a big fish in a small pond. Do you feel like a small fish in a big pond in New York?*

LH: Well, I don't feel like I'm a big fish, by any means. You know, when you're not here, New York might seem overwhelming—like the biggest celebrity of all celebrities, impossible to connect with it. But when you're here, it's totally approachable and something you can get your arms around. New York puts its pants on one leg at a time, just like everywhere else.

JS: *You're in a business that's completely geared toward youth. How do you stay young?*

LH: It's called moisturizer!

JS: *Seriously, you're in your 30s…*

LH: Early 30s.

JS: *Whatever. How do you relate to the Britney and Justin teenybopper crowd?*

LH: Well, the greatest thing is that VH1 Classic is totally not geared toward kids, so I'm covered there, and the radio station is geared toward adults, so I don't really have to deal with that.

JS: *So screw the kids!*

LH: I gotta tell you, if I never see Britney again, I won't be upset.

JS: *Ever go to work looking like hell just because you can?*

LH: That's the beauty of radio. The only thing that makes up for waking up at 4 am is that nobody but the people you work with gets to look at you.

JS: *So who convinces all those small-business owners with really thick accents that it's a good idea for them to do their own radio spots?*

LH: [Laughs.] I love that question! There are so many of those, and they're awful, but that's all about the advertiser. When they're going to buy an ad, they have a decision. They can either have it voiced by a professional, or they can have the DJ they like do it for them, or they can voice it themselves. They're usually told by the salespeople that it's a good idea to have a professional do it, because it will make their product stand out and sound better, but sometimes they're cheap, and since it's their money, they call the shots.

JS: *Has radio become completely corporate and generic?*

LH: From where I sit? No. If you're creative and you have a boss who doesn't micromanage you and lets you do your thing, you couldn't ask for anything more, and that's what I have.

JS: *Is satellite radio the future?*

LH: I would have to say yeah. I love it. I think with over a thousand cable channels on TV, why wouldn't radio be next?

JS: *Do musicians hit on you?*

LH: A lot of them are just charming and flirtatious.

JS: *C'mon! You're a good-looking woman. For a rock star, hitting on good-looking women is part of the job.*

LH: OK. I can think of one who did a full lip-lock while I was trying to get him to do something on tape. Anyway, it's happened a couple of times, and it's not OK. I don't care if you are a rock star. I don't know where your mouth has been. You could be the Pope, and I still wouldn't want to kiss you.

JS: *Worst part of your job?*

LH: Having to get up at 4 am.

JS: *Best perk?*

LH: Well, for TV, it's wardrobe, hair and makeup, which is every girl's dream. And the fact that I have to get a manicure and a facial. It's part of the job. The best perk of radio is getting to work with my best friend, and the creativity.

JS: *When was the last time you paid for a CD?*

LH: Last week, actually. I bought the new Seal CD. I believe in supporting the music business, because it supports me.

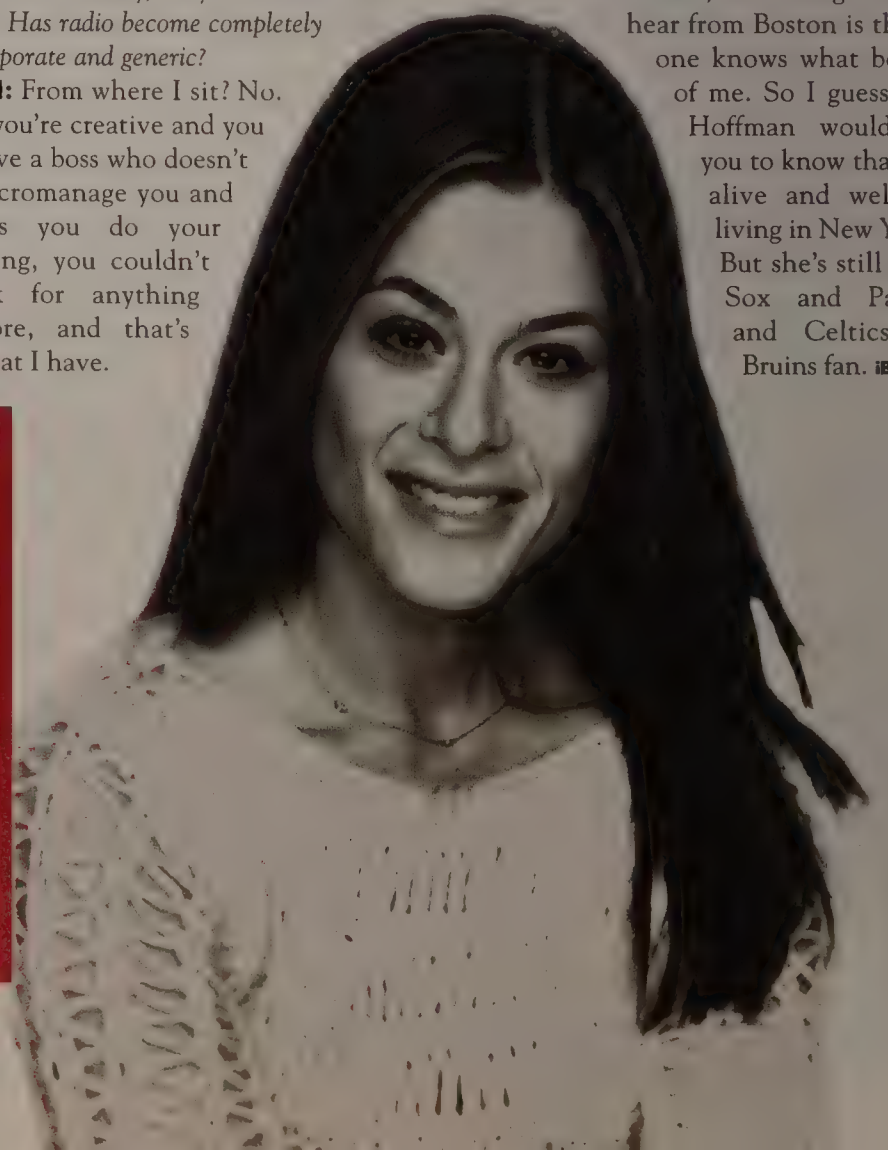
JS: *Ever find yourself using your radio/TV announcer persona at home?*

LH: Only in bed. [Laughs.] I try not to talk about work at home, because my boyfriend is in the business as well, so it would just be a complete turn-off.

JS: *Last question: Fill in the blank: Lynn Hoffman would like you to know that…*

LH: Well, the thing I always hear from Boston is that no one knows what became of me. So I guess Lynn Hoffman would like you to know that she's alive and well and living in New York… But she's still a Red Sox and Patriots and Celtics and Bruins fan. IB

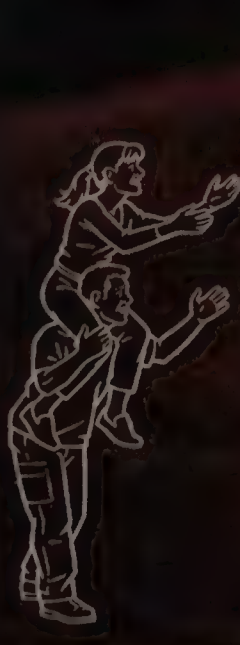
NEW YORK MIGHT SEEM OVERWHELMING—LIKE THE BIGGEST CELEBRITY OF ALL CELEBRITIES. BUT NEW YORK PUTS ITS PANTS ON ONE LEG AT A TIME, JUST LIKE EVERYWHERE ELSE.



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Proper bead catching technique



More proper bead catching technique

(Happy Mardi Gras.)



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tantalize



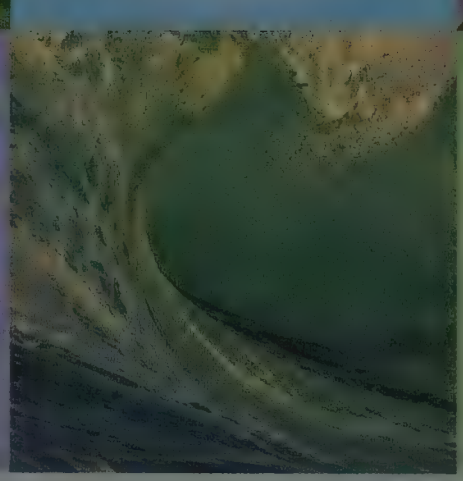
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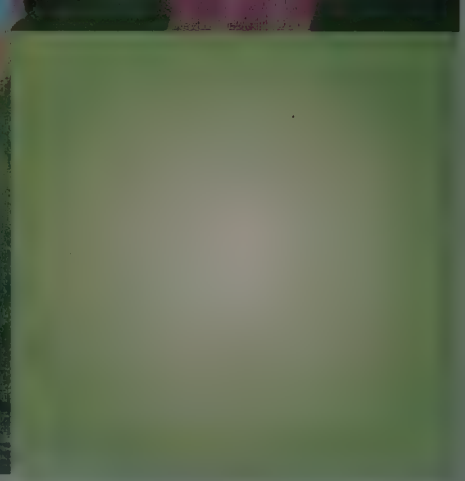


senses









Guidance

Spa & Health and Wellness

spring fashion 2004

It may seem hard to believe as the cold continues to rage in Boston, but spring *will* eventually arrive, and the designers are ready with a shot of color and optimism that will lift your spirits and add kick to your wardrobe. The ladylike look has been slowly making its way back for the last few seasons, and this spring's fashions inject even more of that femininity into our dressing. So, what should you keep around and what should you toss? Here's a list of the things you won't be able to live without this year.

Color, color, color. Even if you never thought you'd dare to wear bright yellow, you'll be surprised how much you'll have to have it. From pastels to fluorescents, color is the new black, and it's already staring to pop up everywhere in the form of accessories. Further into spring, it will show itself in skirts, shirts and dresses as well.

A cardigan that goes with everything you own is a must this spring. Look for 50s-inspired styles made from cashmere, with opalescent buttons. Pair with a camisole and jeans, or wear over a slip dress for an ultrafeminine look.

A trench coat (think Audrey Hepburn) will keep you dry and warm, and stylish as well. Opt for either the full-length traditional type in tan, or try a half-length in a more modern, patterned style like plaid or a floral print.

One structured bag for day to night is all you need for toting your necessities. Get rid of last year's oversized slouchy bag and replace it with a square, plum, crocodile print bag instead.

A cropped jacket pairs nicely with dark denim for the workplace or dinner, as well as with a satin skirt for a first date. Think bolero or flare at the bottom to add a fresh touch to pieces you already own.

Flowing fabrics like chiffon are always in style for spring, but the newest designs add layers upon layers. Pieces with tiered layers or dresses with handkerchief hems update your look.

Metallics like gold and bronze are the perfect complement to any of the current trends. Mix a silvery satin top with a bright skirt for day or evening wear.

Knee-length skirts. Pack up those tight little skirts and trade them in for A-line or pencil-straight skirts with hemlines that hit around the knee. The new style is about sophistication, not baring maximum skin. iB

—Samantha House

i on style: vibrant color 18

spring fling 20

shop and save 22

tropical 25

greatest hits 26

Pearls are back with a vengeance— trade in your diamonds.

Satin dress by Kay Unger, $350; pearl necklace by 21st and Stone, $150; chandelier earrings by Carmen, $120. All at Bloomingdale's.

i on style

1.

2.

3.

1. Yellow sneakers by Polo Sport, $79 at Bloomingdale's

2. Multicolored belt with flower embellishment, $320 at Escada

3. Fluorescent slides, $480 at Escada

4. Blue sheer bra, $205; matching briefs, $189. Both at La Perla

VIBRANT

LIGHT UP YOUR WARDROBE WITH THESE BRIGHT ACCENTS

4.



5. Silk scarf by Emilio Pucci, $240 at Saks Fifth Avenue

6. Pink sunglasses by Dior, $250 at Saks Fifth Avenue

7. Yellow heels, $225 at DKNY

8. Leather zip wallet by M0851, $140 at Matsu

9. Glass heart pendant on rope necklace by Lalique, $130 at Saks Fifth Avenue

10. Green slides by Jimmy Choo, $420 at Saks Fifth Avenue

11. Polka-dot sling-backs by Jimmy Choo, $420 at Saks Fifth Avenue

COLOR

BY SAMANTHA HOUSE

PHOTOGRAPHED BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Escada 617-437-1200	Saks Fifth Avenue 617-262-8500
Bloomingdale's 617-630-6600	Matsu 617-266-9707
DKNY 617-236-0476	La Perla 617-423-5709

SPRING

FIVE FROCKS FOR DAY OR NIGHT

BY SAMANTHA HOUSE

PHOTOGRAPHED BY DAVID SHOPPER

Whether you're headed out to brunch or off for a weekend on the Cape, spring dresses are the simplest way to pull off feminine chic. Easy to throw on, they give the wearer a put-together look with little or no effort. This year, when the warmer season finally arrives, look for dresses in prints, florals and vibrant colors. Hemlines this spring are to the knee, and both A-line and straight skirts are popular. Keep a soft cardigan on hand for those cool nights, and you'll retain the ladylike allure that's bound to be so popular this spring.

Paisley-print dress, $169 at Holiday Boutique. Black, open toe ankle-strap pumps, $228 at DKNY. Red bean necklace by Baccarat, $195 at Shreve, Crump & Low.
Black and white flowerprint dress, $295 at Wish. Gray and beige pumps, $178 at DKNY. Red heart necklace, $195 at Shreve, Crump & Low.

FLING



Shot on location
at Vinalia

DKNY
617-236-0476

Escada
617-437-1200

Holiday Boutique
617-973-9730

In the Pink
www.inthepinkonline.com

Shreve, Crump & Low
617-267-9100

Wish
617-227-4441

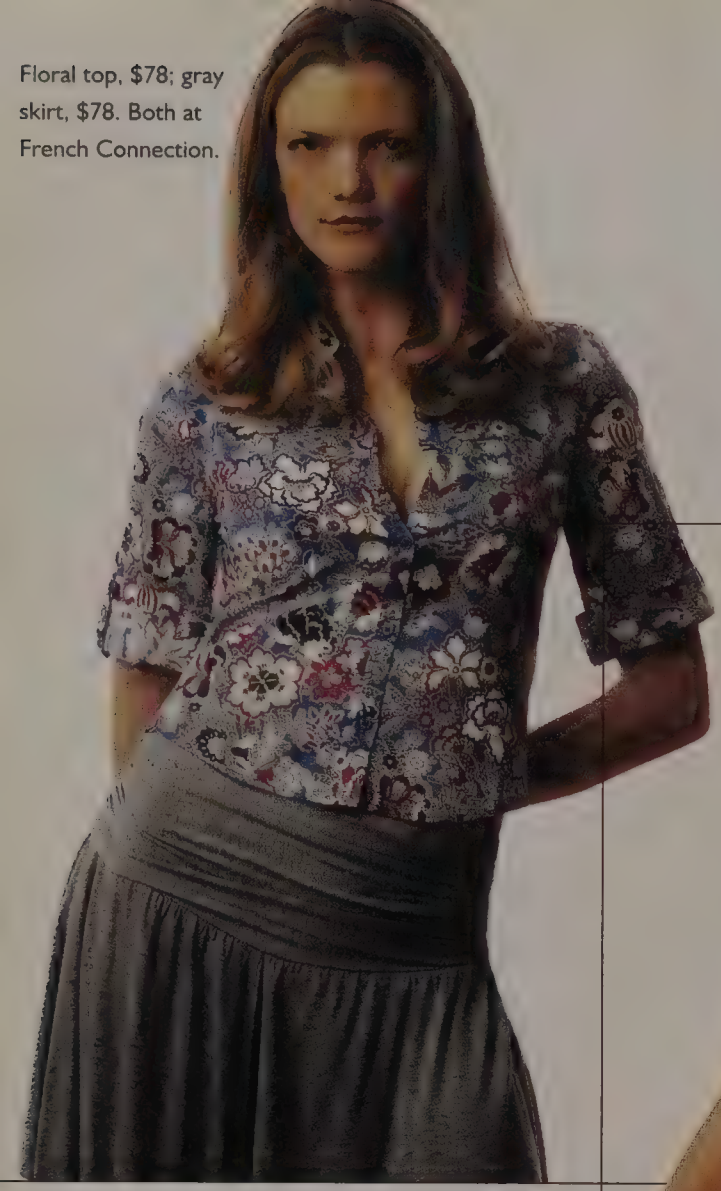
Models (from left) Jihan
Kerry, Fabiana
Angie and Heather
all for Maggie Inc

Left to right: Polka-dot dress, $1,150 at Escada. Black leather pumps, $225 at DKNY. South Sea pearl necklace, $88,050 at Shreve, Crump & Low. Hot pink dress, $295, gray suede sling-backs, $198. Both at DKNY. Laura Gibson beaded necklace, $24,650 at Shreve, Crump & Low. "Toast of the Town/Sabrina" dress by Lilly Pulitzer, $174 at In the Pink. Pink heels, $198 at DKNY.

SHOP AND save

22 PIECES WITH PRETTY PRICE TAGS

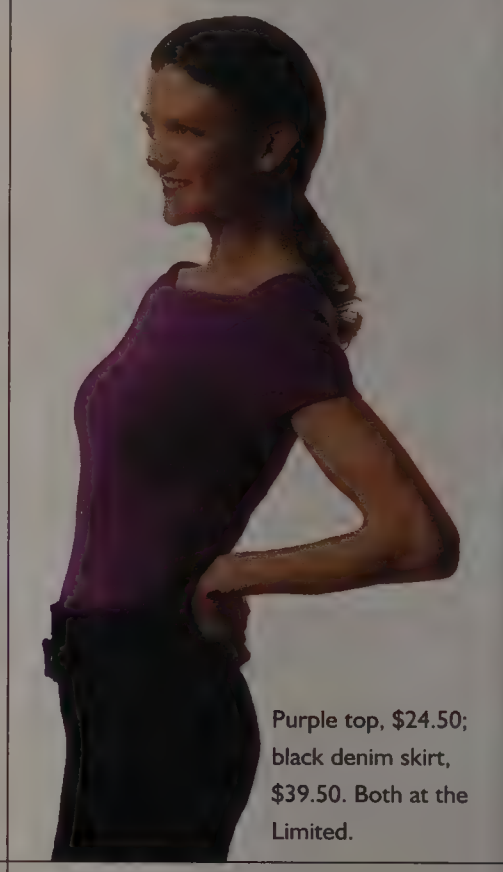
BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHED BY BOB PERACHIO



Floral top, $78; gray skirt, $78. Both at French Connection.

Pink and white striped dress, $118 at Armani Exchange.





Purple top, $24.50; black denim skirt, $39.50. Both at the Limited.

Tan ribbed blazer, $49; matching pants, $39.50. Both at Wet Seal.



Pink top, $12.99; charcoal floods, $24.99. Both a Tello's. Black lace glovelets, $6.50 at Claire's.



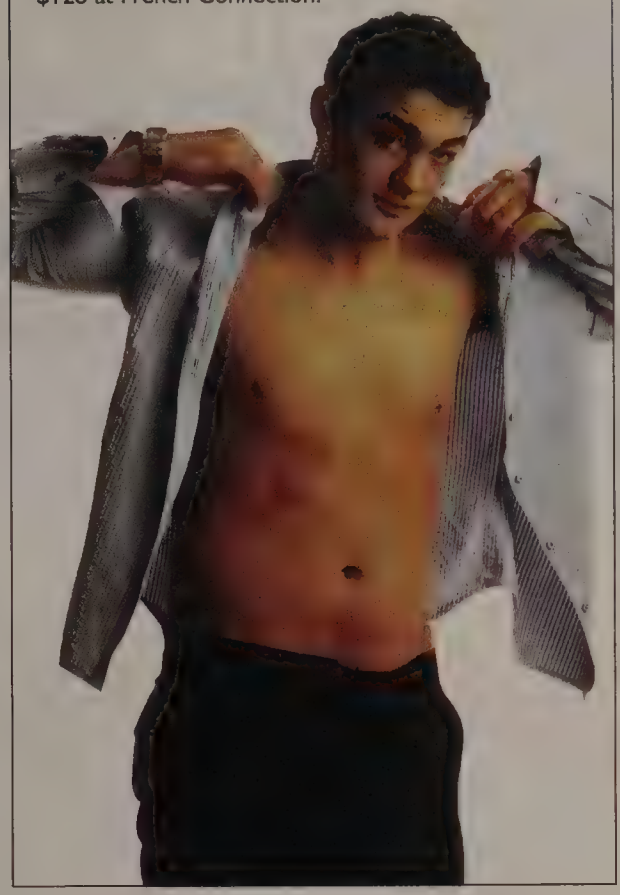
Green jacket, $39.90;
bronze jeans, $39.99.
Both at H&M.



Striped shirt, $49.50; tan pants, $44.50; leather belt, $36.50;
"wanted" belt buckle, $19.50. All at Express for Men.



Blue shirt, $88 at Armani Exchange. Pinstripe pants,
$128 at French Connection.





Blue suit,
$179.99;
yellow shirt,
$14.99. Both
at Marshalls.

Striped shirt
with water
drops, $78;
jeans, $118.
Both at
French
Connection.



Armani Exchange
617-927-0451

Claire's Boutique
617-423-3880

Express for Men
617-424-9511

French Connection
617-424-1819

H&M
617-482-7001

The Limited
617-236-1883

Marshalls
617-262-6066

Wet Seal
617-695-3590

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TROPICAL

THIS SPRING, PAIR WARM, SUNSET SHADES WITH BRIGHT, COOL HUES

BY SAMANTHA HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHED BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN



LIPSTICKS

1. Colour Surge Lipstick in Extreme Pink by Clinique, $13.50 2. Lipstick in Molly by Stila, $16.50 3. Crème Lipstick in Orient by Chanel, $23 4. Colour Surge Lipstick in Peach Pop by Clinique, $13.50 5. Satin Lipstick in Délicat by T. LeClerc, $20 6. Lipstick in Laurel by Stila, $16.50 7. Crème Lipstick in Bengal by Chanel, $23 8. Lasting Impact Lipcolour in Sanama by Lancome, $21

SHADOWS

9. Pan Palette in Sage by Stila, $28 10. Gleam Cream in Crepe de Chine by BeComing, $12 11. Eye shadow in Chromozone 1 by MAC, $32 12. Color Focus Palette in Calypso by Lancome, $37 13. Eye shadow in Emmanuelle by Nars, $18 14. Eye shadow in Heart of Glass by Nars, $18

PENCILS

15. Powerpoint eye pencil in Tealo by MAC, $13 16. Le Crayon Khol in Vatulele by Lancome , $19.50. 17. Lipliner in Jilted Love by Nars, $18 18. Powerpoint eye pencil in Lilacky by MAC, $13

Beauty Note:

Trade in last year's black, smoky eyes for plums and browns. With a sweep of mascara, these soft colors are your best bet this season. Natural blush gives your face warmth, while a berry gloss plumps up lips without looking overdone.

great

LOOKS THAT WILL EASE YOU INTO THE WARMER SEASON IN STYLE

Black and white dress by Sigal Dekel, $265 at Turtle. Floral bag by Isabella Fiore, $80 at Bloomingdale's.

The debutante is back. Ladylike silhouettes and floral prints define the look.

Prints that pop are "it" for spring. Unusual pairings, like florals with plaid, spice up your wardrobe.

best HITS

PRODUCED BY
SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHED BY
BILL STREICHER

Three-piece ensemble, $3,735 (jacket not shown); classic red bag with beige chain-link strap, $1,550. All at Chanel.

Beauty Note

Stick-straight hair is no longer en vogue. Pump up your natural waves with a little product and a diffuser. If your hair needs a lift, twist small sections and then wrap them around a curling iron for soft waves.

For Olivia's curly do, we used Maksou Enhance for body ($21) and Maksou Flex for hold ($17). For her wavy look, we used Maksou Smooth ($21).

Sequined top, $265; jeans, $125; yellow clutch, $225; lotus heels, $235. All at DKNY. Crash Test glass pendant on leather by C. Linea, $78; matching ring, $42. Both at Turtle.

Cropped pants and ruffled jeans and a sparkly top spell casual elegance.

Plunging necklines and blush colors make for a romantic spring.



Sequined dress, $395 at DKNY. Green glass pendant on leather by Matthew Jacobs, $45 at Firefly Jewelry and Gifts.

Hair: Charles Maksou
for Maksou Salon
126 Broad St.
617-443-8633

Bloomingdale's
55 Boylston St.
617-630-6000

Chanel
5 Newbury St.
617-859-0055

DKNY
37 Newbury St.
617-236-0476

Firefly Jewelry and Gifts
270 Newbury St.
617-375-5885

Fresh
121 Newbury St.
617-421-1212

Intermix
186 Newbury St.
617-236-5172

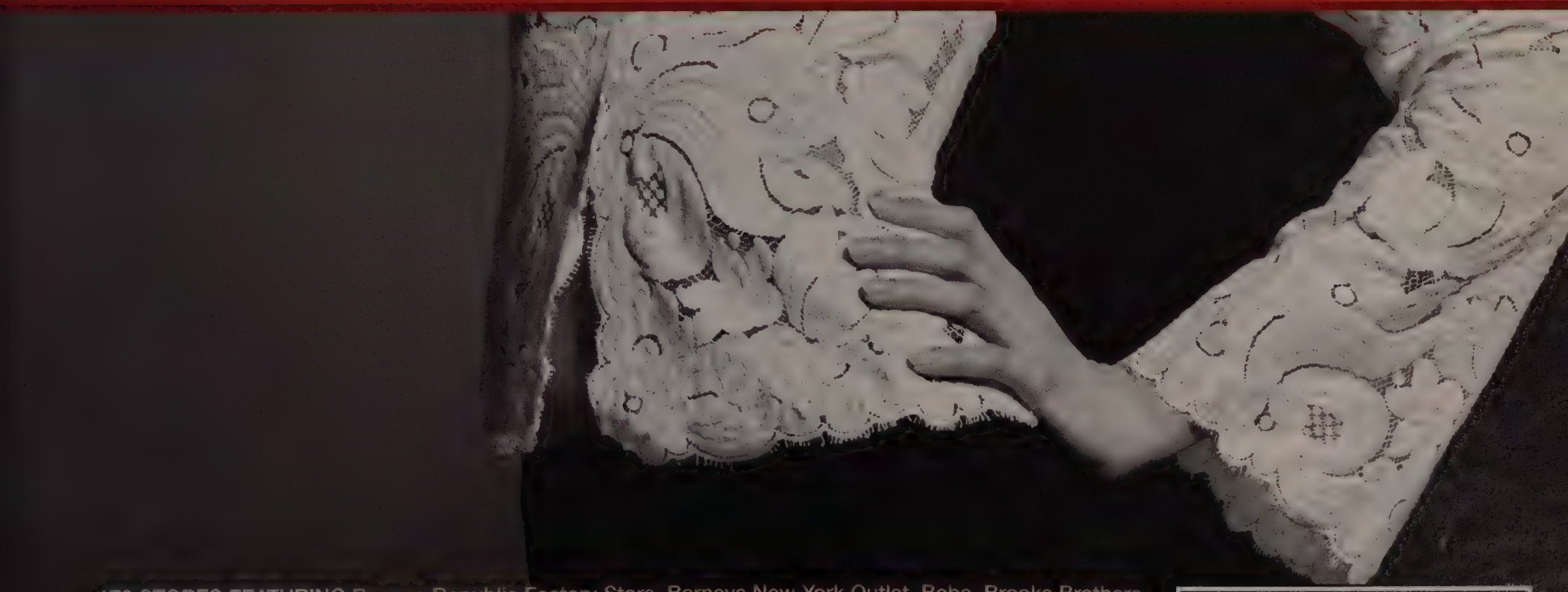
Turtle
619 A Tremont St.
617-266-2610

Look smart
in fitted suits
and dresses
that hug
your body.

Pinstriped jacket by Stella McCartney, $950; matching pants, $545; belted jersey by Stella McCartney, $305; leather bag by Moschino, $590. All at Intermix.



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Clockwise from top left: Athan's black forest cake; the shop's interior; the Bolero; Athan's baklava

It's been a long, cold winter, and you need some relief. May we suggest the little bakery on the corner?

the sweetest Cure



Walking around Boston in the thick of winter is like touring a horror-movie set at the end of a long day of filming: everywhere shuffling zombies, wraiths huddled vampire-style beneath great cloaks, Frankensteins stiff-jointed and moaning about the cold. We are one wretched lot, practically begging for the stake to put us out of our misery.

Better make that a fork to put a spring in our step and warmth in our hearts. A dessert fork, that is.

Atkins mania notwithstanding, we all know from sugar highs, and we love the way carbs calm us like a lullaby. Some of us can even cite scientific studies on the levels of mood-boosting serotonin in chocolate. In other words, we know that our cravings for baked goods and sweets have a physiological as well as a psychological basis. And while it's all well and good to ignore such cravings during the warmer months—the time for halters and short shorts—why not heed them in the February deep freeze, when coats and quilts may cover our cabooses but can't ever comfort our core selves the way cake and candy can?

With that question in mind, we set out in search of sweets to thaw our spirits—the richest, gooiest goodies around. Here's a sampling of what we found—and downed, bite by bite.



Clockwise from top: Flour's pain aux raisins, the Scharffen Berger double chocolate cookie, Flour's interior, sugar brioche buns

ATHAN'S

A charmingly old-fashioned sweet-shoppe aura surrounds Athan's in Brookline's Washington Square; crossing the neat, white corner threshold to enter the sunny, wood-floored interior, you half expect to see aisles lined with penny candy. The quaint surroundings don't prepare you for the sophisticated and elegant treats at this Mediterranean-influenced bakery; from crisp, lacy Florentines to intriguing fig gelato, everything is housemade. Especially chic—not to mention calorific—are the single-serving versions of Athan's mousse-filled layer cakes. About four to five inches square, these babies take the cake, so to speak, when it comes to indulgence. The **Bolero** ($3.95) is a gorgeous little milk chocolate cylinder with a pebbled surface; underneath the ganache is a sprinkling of almonds, and beneath that, a heaping of mousse sits atop a bed of sugar-syrup-soaked genoise, both plenty chocolaty but not the least bit cloying. Or take the **black forest** ($3.95), an oblong combo of chocolate genoise and black-cherry mousse, the lightness of which likewise keeps the sweetness in check. It's swathed in dark-chocolate shavings and sifted with powdered sugar. Last but not least are the dozen or so exquisite varieties of **baklava**. Nine bucks gets you a pound, or about 10 pieces. Some are studded with walnuts, some with pistachios; some are filled with chocolate, some rolled in shredded filo; and all are positively drenched in honey. Between Athan's ambience and your sugar-induced haze, you're sure to be transported to better days. *1621 Beacon St., Brookline (617-734-7028).*

FLOUR BAKERY AND CAFÉ

If a bakery could single-handedly revive a whole neighborhood with its presence, what couldn't it do for you? When Flour opened a few years ago, the South End stretch of Washington Street was a commercial—and culinary—wasteland. Now, SoWa brimmeth over with bistros and gourmet shops, and Joanne Chang's bakery-café is at the symbolic heart of it all. Here at the cheery counter—where the menu is scrawled on blackboards in pastel chalk—it's all about brioche, the richest of yeast doughs, chock-full of whole eggs and butter. Pillowy and wonderfully eggy, brioche is the basis for Flour's superb **pain aux raisins** ($2.50), a tall, tender, generously iced, nautilus-shaped bun. Likewise simply yet richly flavored are the **brioche au chocolat** and **sugar brioche buns** ($2.50), the former filled and the latter dusted with their namesake ingredients. Flour also produces what may be the single most chocolaty cookie ever—the **Scharffen Berger double chocolate** ($1.50), which from the first bite tastes as though it contains more chocolate than chocolate itself does. One caveat: the goods go fast at Flour, especially on weekends, so get your fix early—it's bound to last you the whole day anyway. *1595 Washington St., Boston (617-267-4300).*

BY RUTH TOBIAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY RICHARD SMITH

LOVELY LOAVES

With the low-carb diet craze at its peak, even bread is beginning to seem as sinful as, say, mile-high pie. As long as that's the case, you might as well make your carb crimes count. Why feel guilty about white or wheat when you can go for stollen or focaccia? Bakeries these days are offering up loaves with all kinds of twists and flavor flourishes, so there are plenty of pleasures to choose from.

At **Clear Flour Bakery**, tucked away at the edge of Brookline near Brighton's Packard's Corner, a number of savory breads will do the starchy trick; these don't merely sit in your stomach, they kick back and channel-surf. Roasted potato–rosemary ($1.75-$3.50), for one—at once olive oil–smooth and peppery. Or corny polenta bread ($4) with not one but three cheeses (Parmesan, Romano and Asiago). Or focaccia-like rustic Italian fougasse, punchy with Gorgonzola and walnuts ($4.75).

Cheese also stars in several of the dense, wonderfully chewy loaves you'll find on the shelves at **Big Sky Bread Co.** in Newton Centre, from blue cheese–walnut to cheddar-garlic to Parmesan-pesto. But you'll also find some interesting sweet breads here. Babka is a Polish specialty traditionally served at Easter, flavored with orange peel and almonds. Almonds also appear in the bittersweet Swiss chocolate–almond bread. And cinnamon chips make for a neat variation on classic cinnamon-swirl bread.

Keep in mind that neither bakery makes all varieties daily; be sure to call ahead to check availability.

Clear Flour, 178 Thorndike St., Brookline (617-739-0060); Big Sky, 105 Union St., Newton (617-332-4242)

MIKE'S PASTRY

When it comes to bakeries in the North End, Mike's, however famous, is not necessarily the be-all and end-all. (That honor goes, arguably, to Maria's, whose enormous mostaccioli—like Fig Newtons gone wild with cocoa, diamond-shaped and chocolate-frosted—are worth a mention.) That said, since traditional Italian sweets aren't as gooey as we're used to in this country, the more Americanized array of treats at Mike's makes it just the place for a good old, down-and-dirty, come-what-may pig-out. Let's begin with the brownies, a few inches long on all sides and topped with a centimeter-plus of spot-on ganache. Mike's makes several types, but the best of the bunch are the **peanut butter brownies** ($1.50)—the smooth, peanutty stuff is thickly spread out just beneath the chocolate over a brownie that's more fudgy than cakelike. Then there's the candy selection. Best, of course, when they're freshly made (which admittedly isn't always), items like chocolate-covered **cashew-caramel turtles** ($2.75)—big as burger patties and chewy as all get-out—and **M&M cups** ($2.75), which are veritable demitasses of solid chocolate studded throughout with mini candies, could make even the sweetest tooth beg for mercy (and perhaps some Colgate). *300 Hanover St., Boston (617-742-3050).*



Clockwise from top: Mike's cashew-caramel turtles, a happy customer, M&M cups



Clockwise from top left: Finale's Peanut Butter Joy; white chocolate-macadamia cookies; Dark Chocolate Decadence

FINALE

For many a sweets-savvy Bostonian, this "dessert-erie" is the first name in edible extravagance. To visit the take-out counter at either of its two stylishly appointed locations (in Park Plaza and Harvard Square) is to gaze upon lusciousness in all its myriad shapes and sizes. Still, some offerings are more boldly, blatantly luscious than others. As at Athan's, these cakes and tarts assume miniature forms that aren't just pick-me-ups, they're pick-me-up-and-carry-me-off-to-cloud-nines. The **Peanut Butter Joy** ($5.50) is a striking, comma-shaped concoction pairing moist chocolate buttermilk cake with a surprisingly subtle mousse that smacks of vanilla almost as much as peanut butter. The simply presented, near-black **Dark Chocolate Decadence** ($4.75) is Finale's espresso-tinged rendition of that neoclassic, the flourless truffle cake. Thoroughly dense and intense, it captures the very flavor you imagined your childhood mud pies would have. Meanwhile, the Cookie Monster in you will devour the rich **white chocolate–macadamia** ($2), all cocoa-buttery and unctuous with nut oil. *1 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-423-3184); 30 Dunster St., Cambridge (617-441-9797).*

KAM LUNG BAKERY

With baked goods, "rich" needn't simply mean "fatty"; it can also indicate a level of opulence that turns a mere snack into a true treat. Case in point: the **lotus seed–paste moon cakes** ($2.50) at Chinatown's Kam Lung Bakery. The drum-shaped pastries are golden-brown and glossy, with surprisingly intricate embossed tops. Equally surprising is the amount of filling the delicate crust manages to contain. Biting into the mound of lotus seed paste, you'll experience a flavor something like musky caramel. The texture, however, is smoother, going down much more easily. Compared with the beautiful moon cakes, Kam Lung's strangely yellow-orange **walnut cookies** (50 cents) are coarse and homely; their claim to indulgence rests on their belly-boggling size, measuring about half a foot wide and more than an inch thick. According to tradition, these mildly nutty-sweet, crumbly disks, each topped with four walnut halves, bring good luck—so the bigger the better. If a few bites can end your winter blues, maybe a few more can bring an abrupt end to winter altogether. *77 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-542-2229).* IB



Left to right: Kam Lung Bakery's walnut cookies, lotus seed–paste moon cakes

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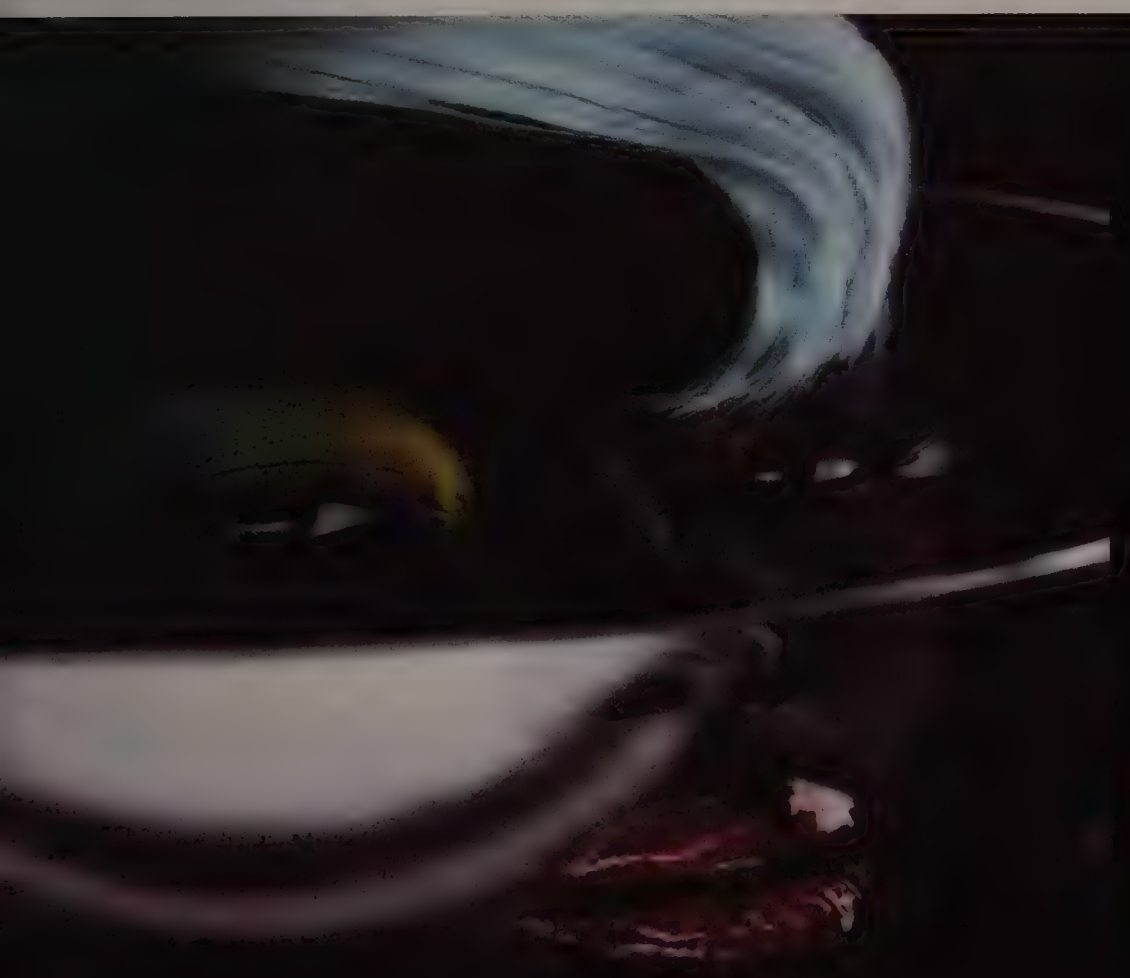
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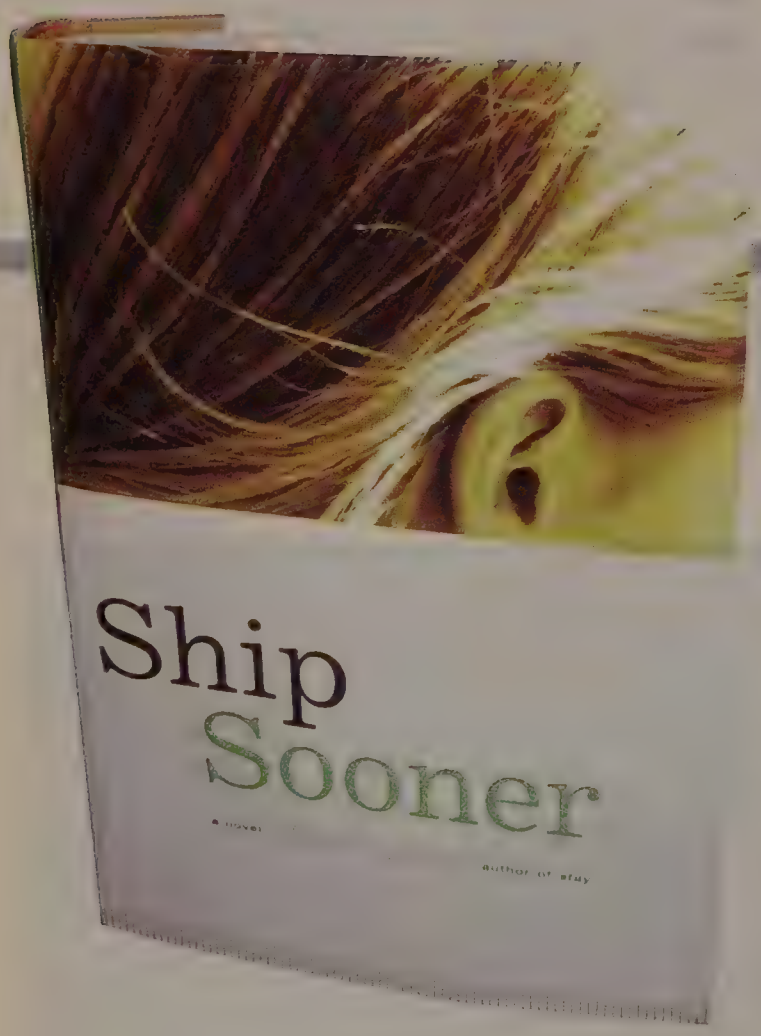
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MOPSY

SERENDIPITOUS SHOPPING: OUR UNFETTERED CORRESPONDENT SEEKS OUT THE SALUBRIOUS AND THE CEREBRAL

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



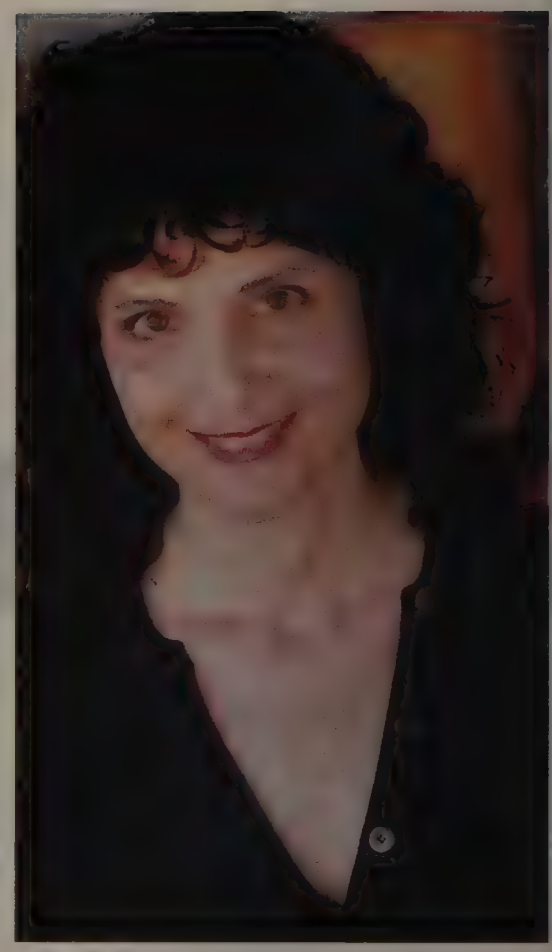
GIRL WITH PEARLY HEARING

***Ship Sooner* is Cambridge author Mary Sullivan's second novel.**

Thirteen-year-old Ship Sooner is a girl afflicted (or blessed) with hearing so acute she has to wear ear protection to suppress the crunchingly loud sounds of life. The fatherless younger sister of moody and sarcastic Helen, Ship lives in her sister's shadow, ever hopeful but mostly cast aside. At times, she chooses to tune into the secret specialness of her ultrasensitive hearing, and she often learns much more than she bargained for. Ship listens in on her friend Brian and his blustering, abusive father. And to Ship's horror, she witnesses a sex scene between Helen, her boyfriend and, eventually, lurking Brian himself. It's arousing and disturbing, and she feels betrayed. A reader must suspend disbelief to enter into the fantasy dreamland of the book's long, dramatic end section. Ship finds an abandoned baby in the woods, partly a metaphor for her own loneliness and her equally strong need to be a protector and worthwhile person. In the climax, the secret of the baby's origin is revealed.

ELECTRIFY YOUR OWN ENERGY

Daena Giardella offers workshops in improvisation Monday mornings, beginning March 15 at 10 am. Not just for actors, the seven-week workshop, taking place in West Newton, costs $540. For information, call 617-924-9596.



Improvisation, says Daena Giardella, is "the art of acting from the moment." Giardella has the requisite quick wit, but her classes emphasize the methods behind improv's madness. Mixing the personal (scary upcoming job interview, emptying nest, divorce) with the external and universal (George Bush, earthquakes), the improviser learns how to build a monologue that arcs from beginning to middle to end. Scenes are developed, sometimes based on a suggestion from Giardella, and class members join in, jamming on the spot. These improvisations tap into the interesting momentum brought on by conflict, that bedeviling element that provides the vivacity of drama. Giardella helps participants track the flow from "breakdown" ("Oh, I can't do it!") to breakthrough, then on to assimilation, whereby the dreaded inner critic, now transformed, actually provides energy and encouragement. Standing in your own spotlight and feeling the texture of expression and connection, building character—right there!—scriptless, is a good feeling.



THE NORTH END OF SOMERVILLE

Sessa's, at 412–424 South Highland Ave., Somerville, is a truly Italian grocery emporium. Call 617-776-6687.

Sessa's is this kind of place: When a loyal shopper comes in the door, owner Giancarlo Sessa is already one step ahead of her, rushing to slice up a package of succulent, paper-thin soppressata—her favorite. Giant bells of provolone hang from the ceiling alongside swinging panettones, fascinatingly sneering dried fish and festive strings of peppers. Prosciutto, cured for 14 months, looks beautifully antique overhead. A gigantic block of provolone cheese yields its contents in chunks and slices. Local Italian insiders swirl around here, requesting prosciutto cotto with rosemary, stingingly fresh parmesan slices, fat mozzarella balls and homemade sauces that are ladled in the back room: marinara, meat or mushroom. The tightly packed aisles offer more than 25 kinds of olive oil and a huge sweep—80 varieties—of pasta, the starriest brands being Del Verde and Mennucci. The pastas range from infinitesimal dot-sized varieties to ethereal angel hair and fatter fettucini, plain and whole wheat, and such specialties as oval artichoke-flavored pieces. These Giancarlo recommends cooked with mascarpone, artichoke hearts and toasted pine nuts. Then, for dessert, try cold, luscious, layered tiramisu. Also available: wide flower-painted bowls and earthenware garlic roasters. It may be a few miles from the North End, but Italo-authenticity rules here.

Spend St. Patrick's Day IN IRELAND



Visit any or all of these Authentic Irish Pubs between February 6th and March 12th for your chance to spend St. Patrick's Day in Ireland! Eat, drink and practice your best Irish accent and you may just be celebrating in the Irish homeland.

SIX TRIPS, SIX WEEKS.

Here's your chance - Join in on the Craic!

(for all you non-Irish, craic = Irish for loads of fun!)

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the Kinvara irish pub
34 HARVARD AVE. ALLSTON 617.783.9400

the Harp irish pub
85 CAUSEWAY ST. BOSTON 617.742.1010

Ned Devine's irish pub
UINCY MARKET BLDG. 2ND FLOOR BOSTON 617.248.8800

M.J. O'Connor's irish pub
NEXT TO PARK PLAZA HOTEL BOSTON 617.482.2255

Sól's irish pub
710 BOYLSTON ST. BOSTON 617.933.4803

IN THIS SECTION: Review: Anthem Dish: A fresh spin on Spinazzola
Tasty Tidbit: A caviar tasting at the Oak Bar

REVIEW

FINE-TUNING ANTHEM

Chef Robert Fathman has his way with comfort food at the former Commonwealth Fish & Beer Company

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Anthem dominates the corner of Portland and Valenti streets near the FleetCenter, its entrance marked by a large, stylized letter A. The only vestiges of the Commonwealth Fish & Beer Company, which previously occupied the site, are the copper-clad HVAC ducts running along a portion of the high black ceiling—the massive copper brewing kettles are gone, as are the long, shiny copper-topped tables. White tablecloths are covered with brown butcher paper, to suggest the casual atmosphere appropriate to pre-FleetCenter event dining, but soft, absorbent white cotton napkins add a touch of comfort and class.

There is nothing casual about Anthem's oversized wine glasses, which if they are not Riedel are a reasonable facsimile. A well-put-together wine list includes the 2000 Bommarito cabernet sauvignon ($13 a glass), a big wine with intense fruit, good balance and a fine bouquet. More down-to-earth and affordable was the Folie à Deux, Menage à Trois ($21 a bottle), a simple, grapey beverage good for quaffing. Somewhat ponderous, it nevertheless was equal to the task of standing up to Anthem's savory meat courses. Nor would "casual" be a fair descriptor of Robert Fathman's cuisine. Formerly of the Federalist and Trio (and still overseeing the menu at Azure), Fathman produces dishes that are always well conceived and professionally executed, and at times inspired. Only some of the presentations—addressed below—disappointed.

One starter, the fried calamari ($8.25), took the standard appetizer to a new level. Lightly battered and flash fried, the crisp squid was accompanied by a provocative salsa of chopped jalapeño peppers, tomato, papaya and broad-leafed parsley, all moistened with rice wine. Perhaps my favorite appetizer was the spinach and artichoke fondue ($9). Served in a black cast iron fondue dish, it featured distinctive artichoke flavor, felicitously combined with engagingly herbaceous spinach and tangy cheese. Chunks of hard-crusted, toasted bread made a terrific vehicle for soaking up this delicious gruel, and I consumed every morsel and drop. Similarly creative and tastebud-provoking, the salad of endives and chicory ($9) combined warm halves of fingerling potatoes; green beans; a couple of spears of asparagus; smoky, meaty pancetta; and a perfectly poached egg on top of fresh, pleasantly bitter endives and chicory, all lathered with a whole-grain mustard dressing.

ANTHEM
138 Portland St., Boston
(617-523-3838)

HOURS Mon.-Thu., 11:30 am-2:30 pm and 4:30-10 pm; Fri., 11:30 am-2:30 pm and 4:30-11 pm; Sat., 4:30-11 pm; Sun., 4-9 pm

RESERVATIONS recommended

CREDIT CARDS all major

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes

PARKING on street

LIQUOR LICENSE full bar

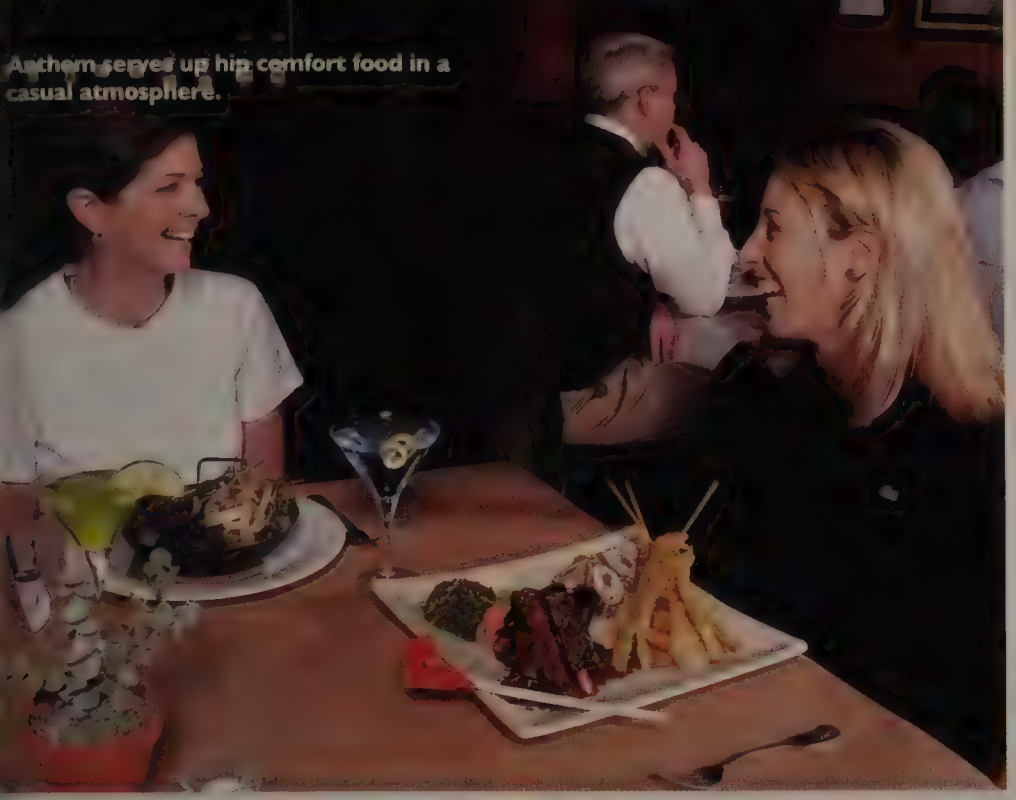


The pu-pu platter includes fried tuna maki, seaweed salad, sweet and spicy braised pork ribs and tempura shrimp and vegetables.

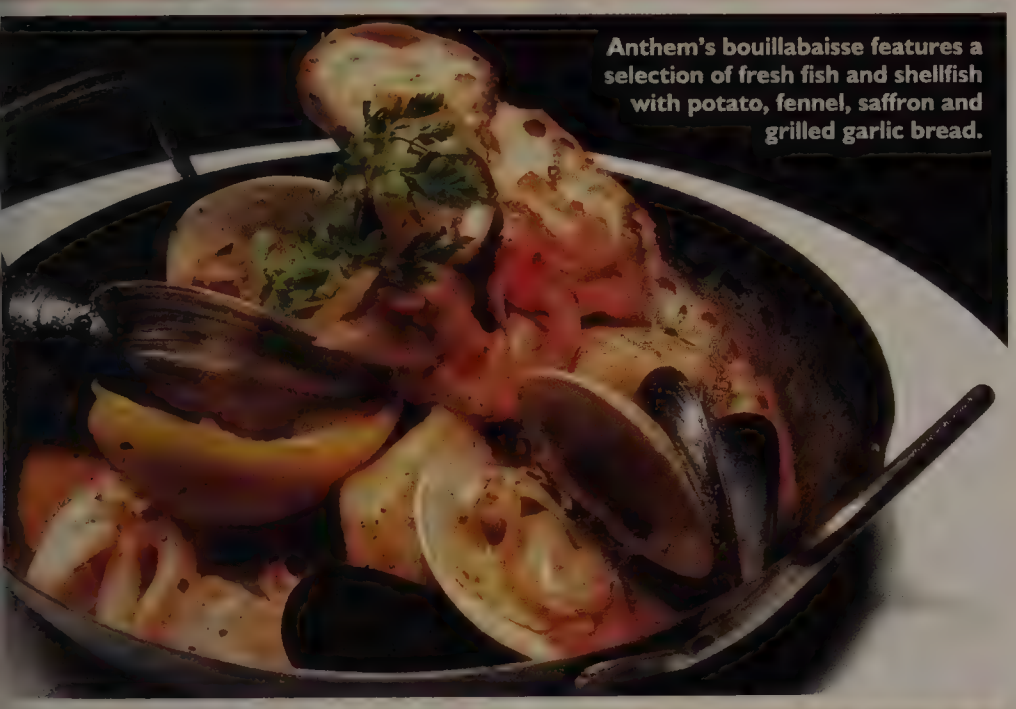
Anthem's main courses did not quite sustain the high quality of the appetizers. Two of the main course offerings I tried soon after Anthem's opening—presumably while Fathman and sous chef Sildo Junior were still fine-tuning the menu—disappointed. The half roast chicken ($14.25) was moist but bland, lacking the garlic and herb–encrusted savoriness that the average French bistro kitchen turns out with consistent regularity. Fortunately, the dish was rescued by tasty French-fried sweet potatoes and first-rate, garlicky bok choy. Another weak main course early on was the "fish, fish and shellfish stew" ($18), a cioppino of sea scallops, shrimp, mussels, calamari, swordfish, tomato and onions. An overly timid dose of garlic and a surprising lack of assertive herbs left the dish dull and uninteresting, despite its impressive ingredient list. By the time of my subsequent visits, this dish had been renamed "bouillabaisse" and re-engineered, with the garlic ratcheted up several notches and a generous infusion of vibrant herbs. The anticipated saffron, however—promised by the menu and essential to classic bouillabaisse—escaped my notice.

My biggest quarrel with Anthem's main courses was not with the merits of the individual ingredients, but with the way they are mushed together (in a fashion critiqued several years ago in a GQ article that coined the phase "the Boston Glob"). Bouillabaisse, of course, is conceived and rightfully served as a stew. Not so the other dishes. The Niman Ranch pork shank ($17), for example, an impressive cut of tender, flavorful, fall-off-the-bone meat, had to share its oval plate with a bottom layer of polenta and a jungle of broccoli and broccoli rabe. These garnishes would have been enhancements if they could have been savored individually. While I am not advocating cafeteria-style divided plates, some respect for the distinctive tastes and textures of starch and vegetable accompaniments is clearly warranted. The most egregious layering and stacking of ingredients afflicted the "mighty meatloaf" ($9.50), a moist, delicious combination of beef and Italian and Spanish sausage served on a thick slice of toast and under an inch-high layer of mashed potatoes like a shepherd's pie. The meatloaf muddle was further exacerbated by the curious mélange of vegetables with which it shared the plate, a mix that included cucumber, carrot, cooked zucchini, cauliflower and red pepper. Those ingredients ranged in temperature from warm to refrigerator-cold.

Anthem's desserts included its much talked about "fried twinky" ($5), a whimsical idea that may or may not have begun with an actual Hostess Twinkie. It was a pastry cream–filled sponge cake fried crisp and served with a mountain of whipped cream and luscious fresh berries. More to my taste was the apple pan dowdy ($6), firm chunks of apple in a syrupy sauce with sweetened crust, served in a small, black cast iron skillet and crowned by a giant



Anthem serves up hip comfort food in a casual atmosphere.



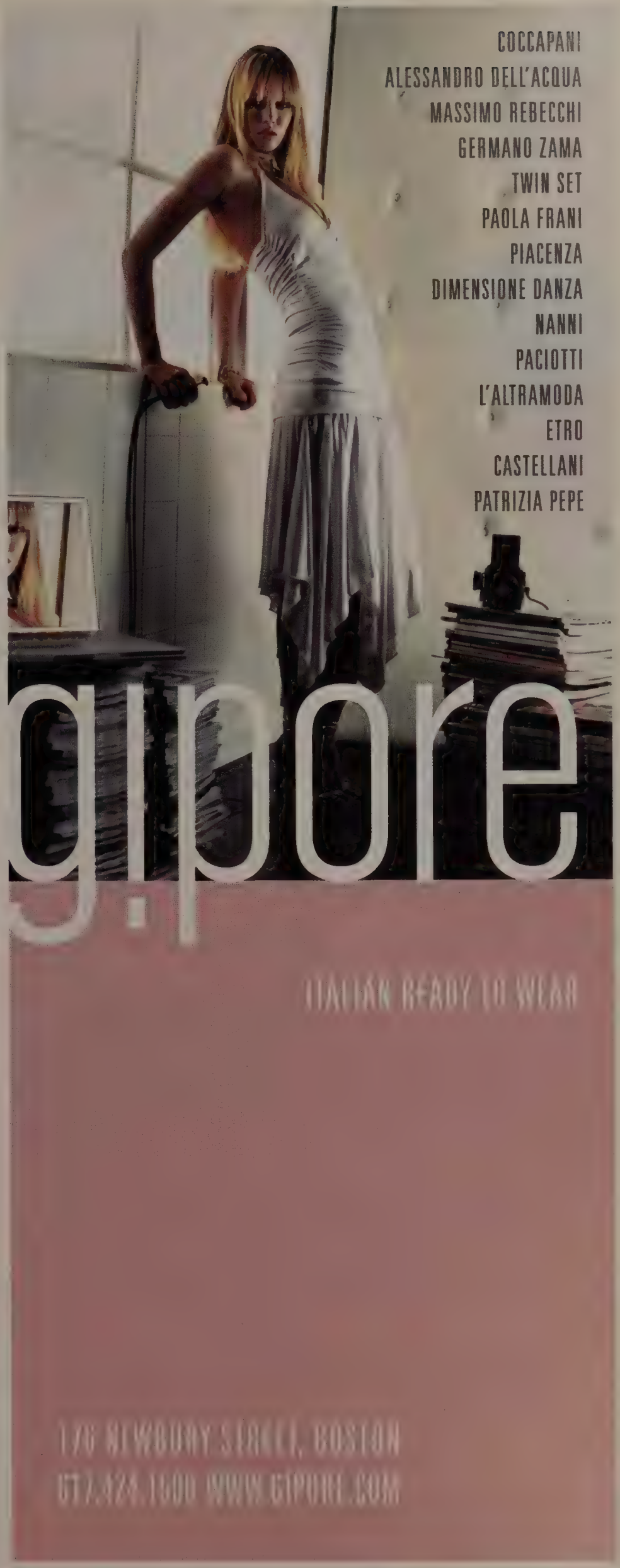
Anthem's bouillabaisse features a selection of fresh fish and shellfish with potato, fennel, saffron and grilled garlic bread.



Szechuan peppercorn-crusted seared tuna salad with roasted tomato, pine nuts and kalamata olive tapenade

scoop of vanilla ice cream. It proved more than ample for sharing.

Service at Anthem, rendered by a young wait staff smartly attired in black, was friendly and attentive, but since I arrived on all of my visits after the crowds had departed for the tip-off or face-off, I never got to observe them under pressure. Their energy and enthusiasm, however, suggested that they could rise to the occasion. Clearly Anthem will do more than satisfy the basic needs of hungry, thirsty patrons of FleetCenter contests and spectacles. The culinary concepts and insights of Fathman, as effected by his skillful sous chef Junior, should create fans in their own right. iB





TASTINGS

BY JULIE SURATT

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Boston Wine Festival
Boston Harbor Hotel, Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-330-9255). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Through April 9. The Boston Wine Festival continues through April and offers more than 50 wine and food pairing events. •Feb. 18, 7 pm, $135: 15th Anniversary Dinner •Feb. 19, 7 pm, $135: Penfolds •Feb. 22, 10 am-2 pm, $65: New Orleans Jazz Brunch •Feb. 23, 6:30 pm (seminar), 8 pm (dinner); $295 (dinner and seminar), $195 (dinner only): St. Julien •Feb. 24, 7 pm, $135: Staglin •Feb. 25, 6:30 pm (seminar), 8 pm (dinner); $225 (dinner and seminar), $175 (dinner only): Bouchard •Feb. 26, 7 pm, $135: Newton •March 1, 7 pm, $135: Washington State •March 2, 7 pm, $135: Domaine Chandon.

Buying and Serving Fine Wine and Fresh Fish
Westport Rivers Vineyard & Winery, 417 Hixbridge Road, Westport (800-993-9695). Feb. 28. $52. Westport's wines are paired with a menu featuring regional fresh fish dishes from **Laura Foley Ramsden**'s *Foley Fish* cookbook. Ramsden, of M.F. Foley Fish of Boston and New Bedford, leads a practical demonstration on how to select fresh seafood.

Caviar Tasting
The Oak Bar, Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 St. James Ave., Boston (617-267-5300) Feb. 18-29. $20-$34. Sample high-quality American caviar from California-based Tsar Nicoulai.

Celebrate with Jacques Pépin
Boston University Lifelong Learning, 808 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-9852). www.bu.edu/lifelong. Feb. 26, 6-8 pm. $70. Gastronomic luminary Jacques Pépin creates a feast. In addition to tasting his fare, participants receive a copy of his book, *Jacques Pépin Celebrates*.

Cooking Demonstration: Crepes
Verrill Farm, 11 Wheeler Road, Concord (978-369-4494). Feb. 29, 2 pm. Free. Chef **Kevin Carey** demonstrates how to make sweet and savory crepes.

Country-Style Dinner Series
Caffé Umbra, 1395 Washington St., Boston (617-867-0707). $45. Chef/owner **Laura Brennan** hosts this series of informal country-style Italian and French dinners with sous chef **Adam Halberg**. The three-course dinners will be paired with two wines. •Feb. 24: Neapolitan Feast.

Fat Reds on Fat Tuesday
Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar, 217 Stuart St., Boston (617-292-0808). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Feb. 24, 6:30 pm. $85. In celebration of Mardi Gras, this event features live Cajun music and a Creole-inspired five-course menu paired with red wines.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. $25 (includes light food). Fireplace chef/owner **Jim Solomon** offers a series of tastings. •Feb. 28: zinfandel.

Fun with Fondue
Avenue One, One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-422-5579). Chef **Brad Ozerdem** offers a series of fondue-related events. •Feb. 28, 3 pm, $45: Leap into Fondue. Food and beverage director **Luis Oliveira** joins Ozerdem in pairing fondues with wines from the Avenue One collection.

Harvest Wine Dinner
Harvest, 44 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-868-2255). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Feb. 24, 6:30 pm. $60. **Steve Edmunds**, owner and winemaker at Edmunds St. John Vineyard, hosts this multicourse wine dinner prepared by chef **Eric Brennan**.

L'Espalier's Cheesemakers Series
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023) MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. $55. L'Espalier welcomes award-winning cheesemakers from around New England to host a series of special events. A four-course meal with four wines is served. •March 2, 7 pm: **Mark** and **Gari Fisher** from Woodcock Farm.

Mexican Fiesta
Olé Mexican Bar & Grill, 11 Springfield St., Cambridge (617-492-4495). Feb. 28, 11 am. $40. Co-sponsored by the Boston Young Professionals Association and Olé Mexican Bar, the event features hands-on cooking instruction with Olé's chef and complimentary margaritas.

Rendez-vous: La Chandeleur
The French Library and Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Feb. 19, 5:30-7:30 pm. At this celebration of *Chandeleur* (or Candlemas) participants have the opportunity to flip a crepe with one hand while holding a gold coin in the other. French legend has it that those who succeed will be blessed with happiness in 2004.

South American Wine Dinner
Solea Restaurant & Tapas Bar, 388 Moody St., Waltham (781-894-1805). Feb. 24. $75. Solea kicks off its wine dinner series with a Brazilian Carnival–inspired, five-course tapas dinner with dessert and wines from Chile and Argentina.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). Tue., 6 and 8 pm. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** educates on various aspects of wine while chef **Ian Just** prepares hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demos. •Feb. 24, $30: Barolo & Barbaresco •March 2, $25: Napa.

Wine-Oyster Tasting
McCormick & Schmick's, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-720-5230). Feb. 24, 6-8 pm. $30. McCormick & Schmick's presents a sampling of fresh oysters, fine wines from Oregon and an oyster-shucking demonstration.


The Oak Bar hosts a caviar tasting Feb. 18–29.

DISH

Super Comestibles and Collectibles

Parallel parties...Meet Mariposa... Bam-Aid...

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

On the same weekend, in two very different cities, two chef-centered events kept the focus on major fun while raising major funds to fight hunger.

Kicking off the weekend was Boston's annual **Anthony Spinazzola Foundation Gala Festival of Food & Wine**, whose executive director, **Michelline Dufort**, oversaw the assembly and distribution of 4,500 gift bags to this year's attendees. Back in 1999, recalls Dufort, the unthinkable happened, when the supply of gift bags was depleted prematurely, resulting in grumpy guests. Particularly unhappy were those who are dedicated to collecting a Spin wine glass from each year's gala.

"You wouldn't believe how many people come up to me and tell me they have all 19 years of wine glasses," says Dufort. If some of those devoted collectors were lucky enough to rate as "VIP attendees—six to eight hundred of our nearest and dearest friends," says Dufort—their gift bags were conveniently placed in their cars as they arrived at the event this year. Is there a gap in your collection? Too bad—nothing's on eBay yet.



Some people go to Spinazzola for the food and wine, others for the souvenir glasses.

More importantly, this year's event raised more than $600,000 to support the Spinazzola Foundation's culinary apprenticeship and other programs. Special features are in the works for next year's 20th gala, says Dufort: "We're producing our own documentary, behind the scenes." And how about a commemorative carafe to match all those wineglasses?

The next day, in Houston, on the eve of Super Bowl Sunday, **Chez Henri** chef/owner **Paul O'Connell** was cooking alongside such nationally known chefs as **Susan Spicer** and **Bob Kinkead** at a $400-a-plate fund-raising dinner called **Taste of the NFL**. Since 1992, the event has raised over $4 million to benefit hunger relief, with funds distributed through Second Harvest.

The day after serving up smoked cod and lobster chowder with chili lime butter ("people loved it, went crazy for it," says O'Connell), the chef caught the big game in person to top off a week of eating "lots of barbecue" and being lavished with freebies, from beef jerky to stuffed animals.

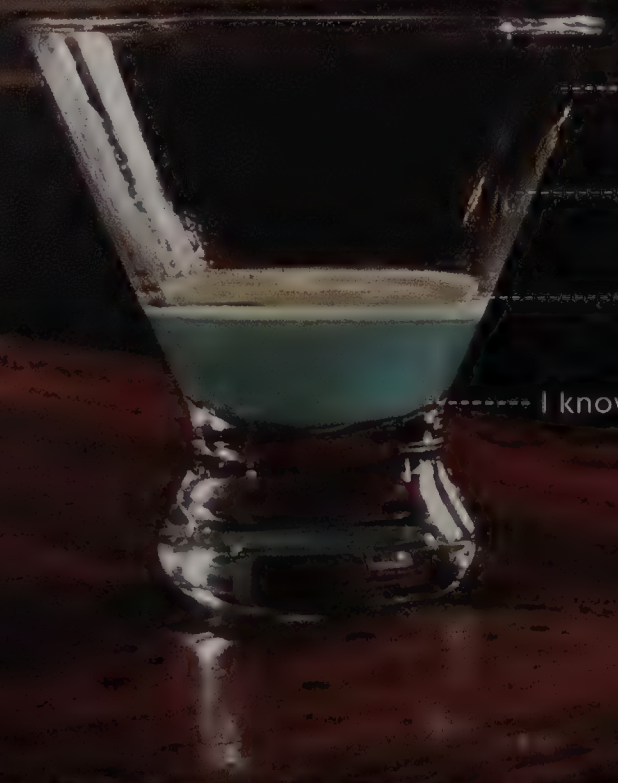
Now that he's back in town, O'Connell is consulting with **Suzanne Mermelstein** as she prepares to launch her first business, a bakery called **Mariposa**, in Cambridge's Central Square. Slated to open in late March or early April, Mariposa will combine the influence of Mermelstein's Eastern European heritage—think soft, not crusty, breads, such as potato poppyseed rolls—with what O'Connell calls a very California sensibility. Hot lunch entrées will be aimed at attracting the "techie guys in khakis" who work in the neighborhood, says O'Connell.

Finally, for the rest of February, **Lala Rokh** on Beacon Hill is offering diners a sweet opportunity to provide help for reconstruction efforts in the earthquake-devastated region of Bam in Iran. One hundred percent of proceeds from every order of a special dessert—Persian rice pudding served with a red pear and cardamom compote, drizzled with a quince glaze—will benefit the Help Bam relief fund established by Lala Rokh owners **Babak Bina** and **Azita Bina-Seibel**. IB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to dish@improper.com.





Nothing like a few drinks with co-workers.

Oh look, there's Steve from accounting. What a stud.

Oh look, there's Donna from marketing. What a tramp.

I know you're a "hands on" manager, but my knee doesn't work for you.

21ST AMENDMENT

Where Beacon Hill Meets. 150 Bowdoin Street Boston, MA 617.227.7100

"One cannot think well, love well, sleep well if one has not dined well." – Virginia Woolf



photography: Darlene DeVita

the paramount

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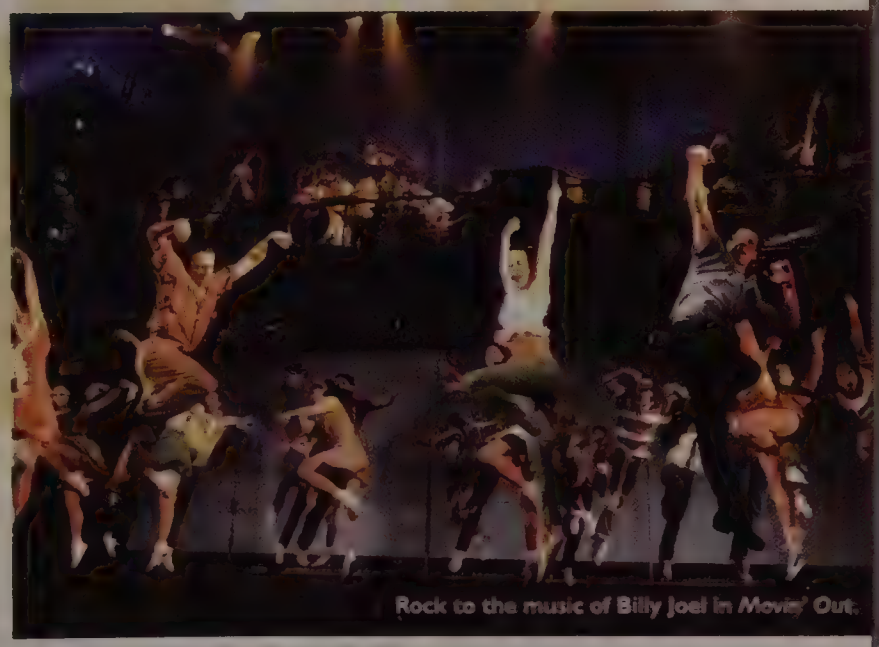
Breakfast & Lunch: Monday-Friday: 7AM to 4:30PM, Saturday & Sunday: 8AM to 4:30PM
Dinner: Nightly 5PM to 10PM | Open Friday & Saturday nights until 11PM

agenda

IMPROPER PICKS

february 18 - march 2

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			18 Join us at the IMPROPER's annual **Bachelors & Bachelorettes party** at Caprice. *See CityScope on page 46.*	19  **Henry Louis Gates Jr.** moderates a discussion with musician **Quincy Jones** about his career, at Sanders Theatre. *See Education on page 79.*	20	21 The **Celtic Fiddle Festival** takes over the Somerville Theatre. *See Music on page 62.* 
22 The **TerrierFest Juggling Convention** takes place all day at Boston University. *See CityScope on page 48.*	23 At ZuZu, it's officially **Unhappy Hour**, with singer Paula Kelley. *See Music on page 64.*	24	25	26	27 If you're up at midnight, the Coolidge Corner Theatre plays the hilarious ***Wet Hot American Summer***. *See Movies on page 58.*	28 Celebrate Leap Year at the **Dance Complex's Dance Marathon**. *See CityScope on page 48.*
29 **The Samples** play a show at the Paradise Rock Club. *See Music on page 66.*	1 Show off your obscure knowledge at **Johnny D's Team Trivia Night**. *See Music on page 66.*	2 Lionel Bart's musical ***Oliver!*** is at the Wang Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 50.*				



Rock to the music of Billy Joel in *Movin' Out*.

TUE./MARCH 2–SAT./APRIL 10

Performing Arts: The Entertainer and the Modern Woman

For ABBA fans (like ourselves), *Mamma Mia!* was a blast, with audience members dancing in the aisles and singing along to "Dancing Queen" and "Fernando." Billy Joel fans will take the same delight in *Movin' Out*—his new collaboration with choreographer Twyla Tharp. Unlike *Mamma Mia!* though, *Movin' Out* focuses equally on dance and music. (Joel's songs are sung by live performers—not the Piano Man himself.) The plot follows the lives of five friends over two decades. *Time* magazine called *Movin' Out* the No. 1 show of the year. We'll call Tharp and Joel the duo of the hour: She's Got a Way, and he's Easy Money, willing to Go to Extremes. As for us, we're Keeping the Faith. *Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.broadwayinboston.com. Mon.–Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $30–$87.*

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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EDITED BY:
ERIN HAGEDORN
Books & Poetry, Gay & Lesbian, Movies, Music
JULIE SURATT
Around Town, Children, Education, Performing Arts
ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY:
Ezra Dyer CityScope, Dance Clubs, and Sports
Jessica Iredale Museums & Galleries
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules


ERIN


JULIE

THU./FEB. 19

The Circus Is in Town



If you're a short-attention-span concert-goer, this rock show–meets–sideshow is for you. The Bill's Bar event is hosted by zany street performers the **Daredevil Chicken Club**, who take the stage between sets by rock and hip-hop acts. The Chicken Club's shenanigans always focus on rubber-chicken tricks, but their performances also often include acrobatics, giant juggling balls, a flaming stolen wallet and hypnosis. The DCC isn't the only unique act on the bill: Gina Marie, a New York photographer who has worked for the NYPD forensics department, performs the art of *nawa shibari*, a type of traditional Japanese rope tying. Four bands—electro pop outfit Mindfield; hip-hop act Earth Defense Force; the loud and raucous One of Us and rock outfit Fluttr—fill in the gaps. The racket starts at 7 pm. *5.5 Lansdowne St., Boston (800-594-8499). www.billsbar.com. $10 for 18+, $8 for 21+.*

SUN./FEB. 29

CityScope: Party with Oscar

Will Peter Jackson and his Hobbits finally win the big Oscar? Will we get to see Bill Murray make an acceptance speech? How do you pronounce Shohreh Aghdashloo? It's always more fun to find out when you're at an Oscar party surrounded by fellow film lovers (and those who love to rank on the celebs' fashion sense). Ever-swanky Saint is throwing an Oscar Night America Benefit, where you can watch the Academy Awards and at the same time help support the Ellie Fund's fight against breast cancer. The party includes canapés, a silent auction, live music, door prizes and a Sam Adams beer sampling. As you'd expect, the dress is Hollywood glitz and glam. Across the river, the Brattle Theatre hosts its much more subdued Brattle Oscar Party, which features the live telecast projected on the Brattle's big screen, plus snacks, drinks and an auction. Expect lots of loud comments and more than a bit of heckling during the Red Carpet Revue. Both parties promise to continue until the last Oscar is doled out. *Saint, 90 Exeter St., Boston (617-426-3339). www.elliefund.org. 6 pm. $40 in advance, $55 at the door if available. Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-876-6837). $50.*



FRI./FEB. 20–SUN./MARCH 7

Performing Arts: Gold Rush Redux

Resurrecting a Broadway blockbuster hit from the late 1970s (based on a hilarious English satire from the 17th century) and hiring a team of actors that includes Academy Award winner Richard Dreyfuss, Bronson Pinchot (better known as Balki Bartokomous from the TV sitcom *Perfect Strangers*) and Eric Stoltz (*Mask*, *Pulp Fiction*) would seem to make for a winning combo. But Bostonians get to be the real judges as *Sly Fox* makes its pre-Broadway engagement here Feb. 20–March 7. Larry Gelbart's tale of greed and guile is set in San Francisco at the dawn of the Gold Rush. Dreyfuss stars as devious con man Foxwell J. Sly, who sets out to swindle as many people as he can. Bonus cast member: Elizabeth Berkley (Jessie from *Saved by the Bell*). *Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.telecharge.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston, Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Tue.–Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $38-$88.*



Richard Dreyfuss stars in *Sly Fox*.



TUE./FEB. 24

CityScope: Bra-vo!

The press release announcing Bomboa's Mardi Gras party—a celebrity bra auction to benefit the Avon Foundation Breast Cancer Crusade—reads, "Bomboa owners Kasey Anton, Carlos Hidalgo and Felino Samson will donate one dollar for every brassiere shown." Contrary to what you might guess, guests are not encouraged to lift up their shirts and flash their foundations, says publicist Rebecca White. They are, however, invited to bring a bra—a training bra, a corset or anything in between—and show it to the threesome. (We think our first interpretation sounds like a lot more fun.) A special collection of autographed celebrity bras will be auctioned off to raise additional funds for the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer. Among the contributors: *The View* commentator, *Survivor* champ and Boston College alum Elisabeth Filarski Hasselbeck. (Will it be bigger than a rubber band??) If it's anything like last year's event, when bras were hanging from the bar and light fixtures, anything goes. *35 Stanhope St., Boston (617-236-6363). 5:30 pm–2 am.*


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Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings for festivals, events and benefits by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 18

The IMPROPER Bachelors and Bachelorettes Issue Party
Caprice, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080). 7-10 pm. $5 donation at the door to benefit the Boston Cure Project for Multiple Sclerosis. Meet some of the IMPROPER's featured bachelors and bachelorettes at this party, which includes hors d'oeuvres and live music from the Adam Ezra Band.

FRIDAY, FEB. 20

Women's Day Heart Health Fair
Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston (617-227-0012, ext. 245). 8:30 am-2:30 pm. Free. The Heart Health Fair features free heart health screenings, yoga, kickboxing and other fitness demonstrations, and healthy-cooking demonstrations by local chefs from Legal Sea Foods and Meze Estiatorio.

SATURDAY, FEB. 21

Project Step Benefit Concert
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-5777). www.winsormusic.org. 7:30 pm. Proceeds from this concert by Winsor Music benefit Project Step, a music training program for students of color, The program includes music by Bach, Haydn, Mozart, Mendelssohn and George Walker.

MARDI HARDY

If you can't make it to New Orleans, maybe you can earn a few beads at these events

FRIDAY, FEB. 20

Mardi Gras Masquerade Party and Zulu Parade of the Golden Blade
Kirkland Café, 425 Washington St., Somerville. 8 pm-12 am. $10. Club Bohemia Revue hosts this annual masquerade party, featuring a Creole-Cajun buffet, a Zulu parade, coronation of a Mardi Gras king and queen and live music from Confederacy of Dumpsters, Chicken Slacks Soul Revue, Mr. Sparkle and the Second Line Social Aid and Pleasure Society Brass Band.

SATURDAY, FEB. 21

Children's Hospital Mardi Gras Party
The Baseball Tavern, 1306 Boylston St., Boston. 8 pm. $10. This Mardi Gras party includes appetizers and live music and raises money for the Children's Hospital Medical Center.

Mardi Gras Date Auction
The Big Easy, One Boylston Place, Boston (617-242-6064). www.mardigrasdateauction.org. 6-10 pm. $30 in advance, $35 at the door. Bid on a night on the town with one of 14 bachelors or bachelorettes to benefit the American Liver Foundation. The event also features door prizes, music and dancing, and Harpoon beer and appetizers from 6-8 pm.



Top: the 2003 Mardi Gras masquerade party at the Kirkland. Bottom: Last year's Mardi Gras date auction

TUESDAY, FEB. 24

Donate a Bra for Mardi Gras Celebrity Bra Auction
Bomboa, 35 Stanhope St., Boston (617-236-6363). 5:30 pm-2 am. Bomboa donates $1 to the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer for every bra that guests bring to this Fat Tuesday party. The evening also includes an auction of autographed celebrity bras, a $5 appetizer menu and special Mardi Gras drinks.

Mardi Gras at Caprice
Caprice, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. 9:30 pm. Free. The French Library and Cultural Center hosts a Mardi Gras bash featuring live music, a raffle, a Champagne toast and other festive trappings.

Mardi Gras Madness
Dick's Last Resort, 55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). 5 pm. Dick's party includes a transvestite stage show led by Kris Knievel, live music from Soul City, a contest for the most outrageous Mardi Gras costume, a crawfish-eating contest and New Orleans food and drink.

FRIDAY, FEB. 27

Friends Ball
Boston Harbor Hotel, Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-254-3800, ext. 1414). 7 pm-12 am. $150. Creative black tie. This Mardi Gras–themed benefit for the Franciscan Hospital for Children features a Creole dinner buffet, open bar, live and silent auctions and live music from the Winniker Orchestra. WHDH reporter Janet Wu emcees.

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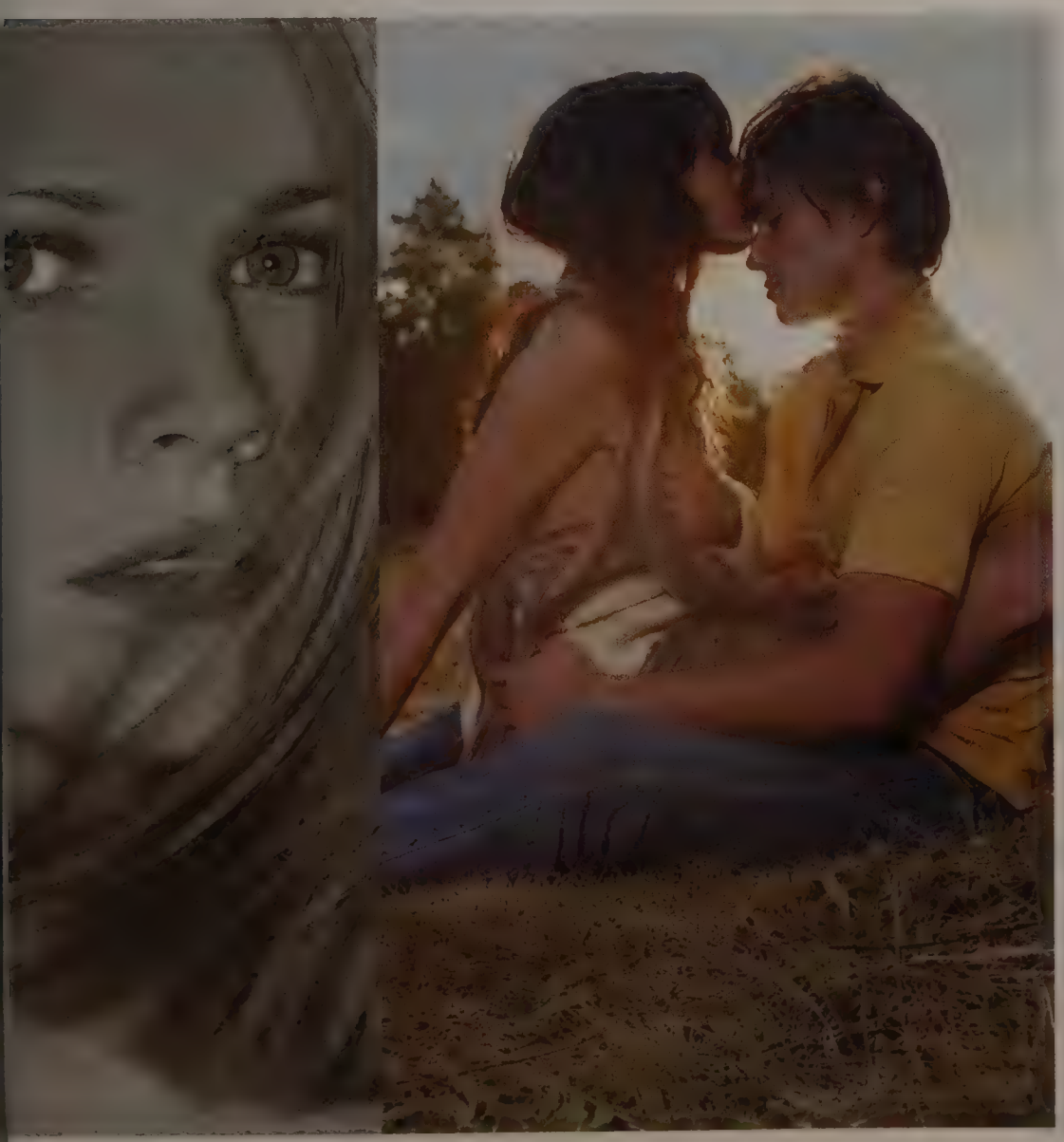


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SUNDAY, FEB. 22

TerrierFest Juggling Convention

George Sherman Union Grand Ballroom, 775 Comm. Ave., Boston. www.bu.edu. 11 am-9 pm. Free. The Boston University Juggling Association hosts its second annual convention, featuring lessons, games, music, unicycling, contests and plenty of juggling.

TUESDAY, FEB. 24

Hampshire House Engagement Celebration

84 Beacon St., Boston (617-227-9600). 6-8 pm. Free. At this event, couples have the opportunity to meet with wedding professionals such as florists, jewelers, photographers and others. The evening also includes cocktails and hors d'oeuvres.

Networking Event

Sophia's, 1270 Boylston St., Boston (781-453-1947) www.bostonsocialnetwork.com. 6 pm. $19 in advance, $29 at the door. The Boston Social Network holds a networking party for professionals in their 30s and 40s. The evening includes a wine tasting, hors d'oeuvres and salsa lessons.

FRIDAY, FEB. 27

The Crystal Ball

Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-423-6300, ext. 237). www.tsf.org. 9 pm-1 am. Black tie. This party, which benefits the Steppingstone Foundation's educational programs, includes live music from Eye to Eye, hors d'oeuvres, dessert, dancing, a silent auction and a raffle.

SATURDAY, FEB. 28

Carnevale Masquerade Ball

The Algonquin Club, 217 Comm. Ave., Boston. www.saveveniceboston.org. 7 pm. Tickets start at $175. The Young Friends of Save Venice host this annual black-tie fund-raiser, which includes live and silent auctions, dinner, dancing, live music from Horns in the House and a prize for best Carnevale costume.

Leap Year Dance Marathon

The Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-9363). 6 pm-6 am. $20 donation or $50 in pledges. Bands take turns playing live sets at the Dance Complex's annual 12-hour dance fund-raiser. The event includes food, raffle prizes and the memorial dedication of the Julie Ince Thompson Theatre.



The City Feast benefit dinner to fight juvenile diabetes hits four North End restaurants Feb. 29.

TomorrowNite 2004 Gala

Wang Center for the Performing Arts, 270 Tremont St, Boston (617-965-5262). 7-11 pm. $150. This benefit party for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital features cocktails, a gourmet dinner and appetizers, a silent auction and live music from Rollins Ross and Soul Source.

12 Hours of Bolton Benefit

Bolton Valley Resort, Bolton Valley, Vt. (802-434-3444). www.boltonvalley.com. 12 pm-12 am. $50 pledge. Skiers get in as many runs as they can in a 12-hour period to raise money for the Vermont Children's Aid Society. The event includes food, live music and demo events.

SUNDAY, FEB. 29

Black and Green 2004: The Power of Words

Montserrat Aspirers Community Center, 358 Washington St., Dorchester (617-542-7654, ext. 23) 2-5:30 pm. $7. The Irish Immigration Center and the Montserrat Aspirers host this annual event, which this year features as guest speakers poet Askia Toure, author Thomas Rice and Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts CEO Darnell Williams.

City Feast Dining for a Cure

Terramia Ristorante, 98 Salem St., Boston, as well as Bricco, Lucca and Prezza in the North End (781-431-0700). 6 pm. $150. Terramia and other participating restaurants serve a five-course dinner with wine pairings to benefit the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. Boston Bruin Nick Boynton, who was diagnosed with juvenile diabetes during his rookie year, visits all the restaurants.

Leap into Spring Book Signing and Fashion Event

MIT Endicott House, 80 Haven St., Dedham (617-924-2182). www.dressingwell.com. 1-4 pm. $35. Mary Lou Andre celebrates the release of her book, *Ready to Wear: An Expert's Guide to Choosing and Using Your Wardrobe*, at this fashion show and book signing. Proceeds benefit Dress for Success Boston, an organization that helps low-income women transition into the workforce.

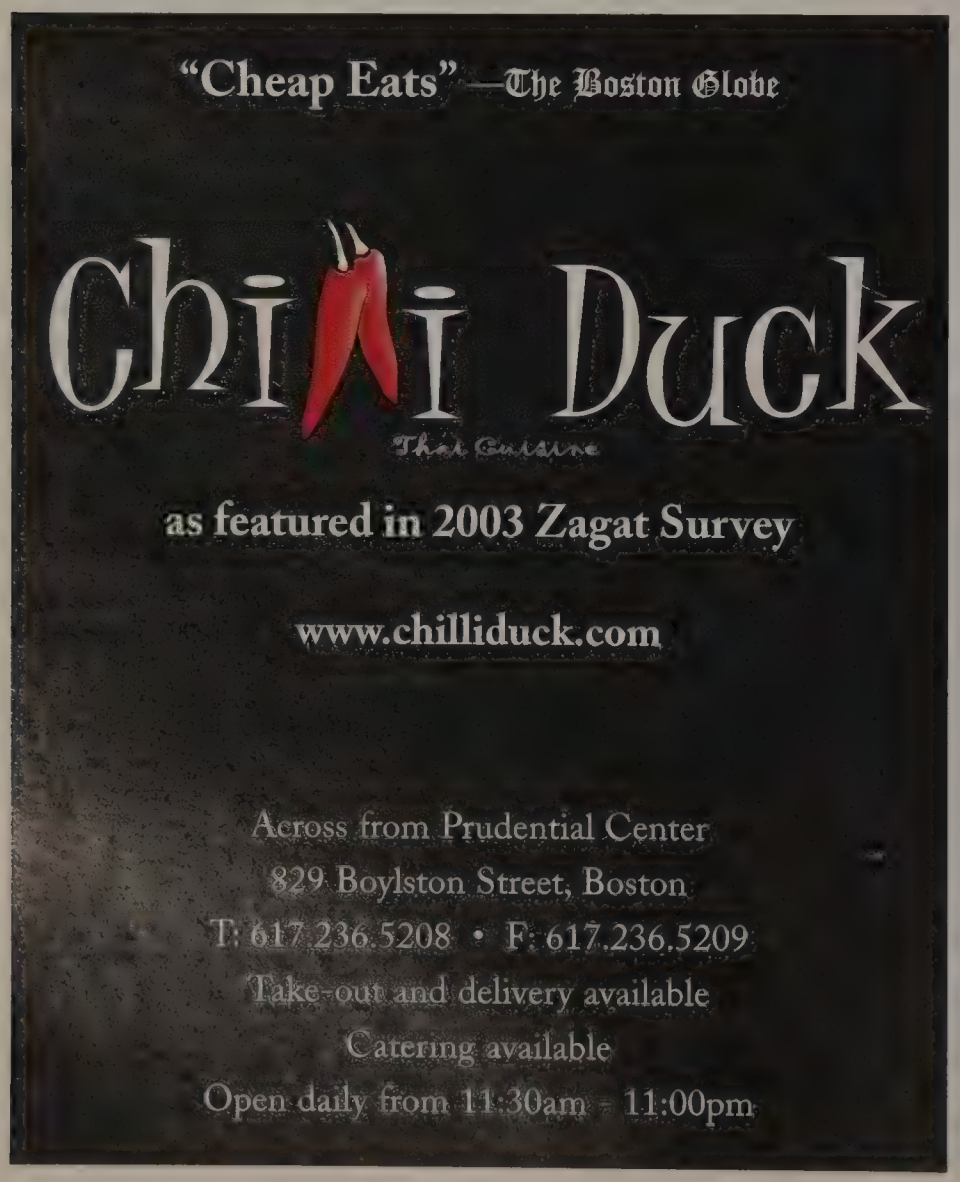
Oscar Night America Benefit

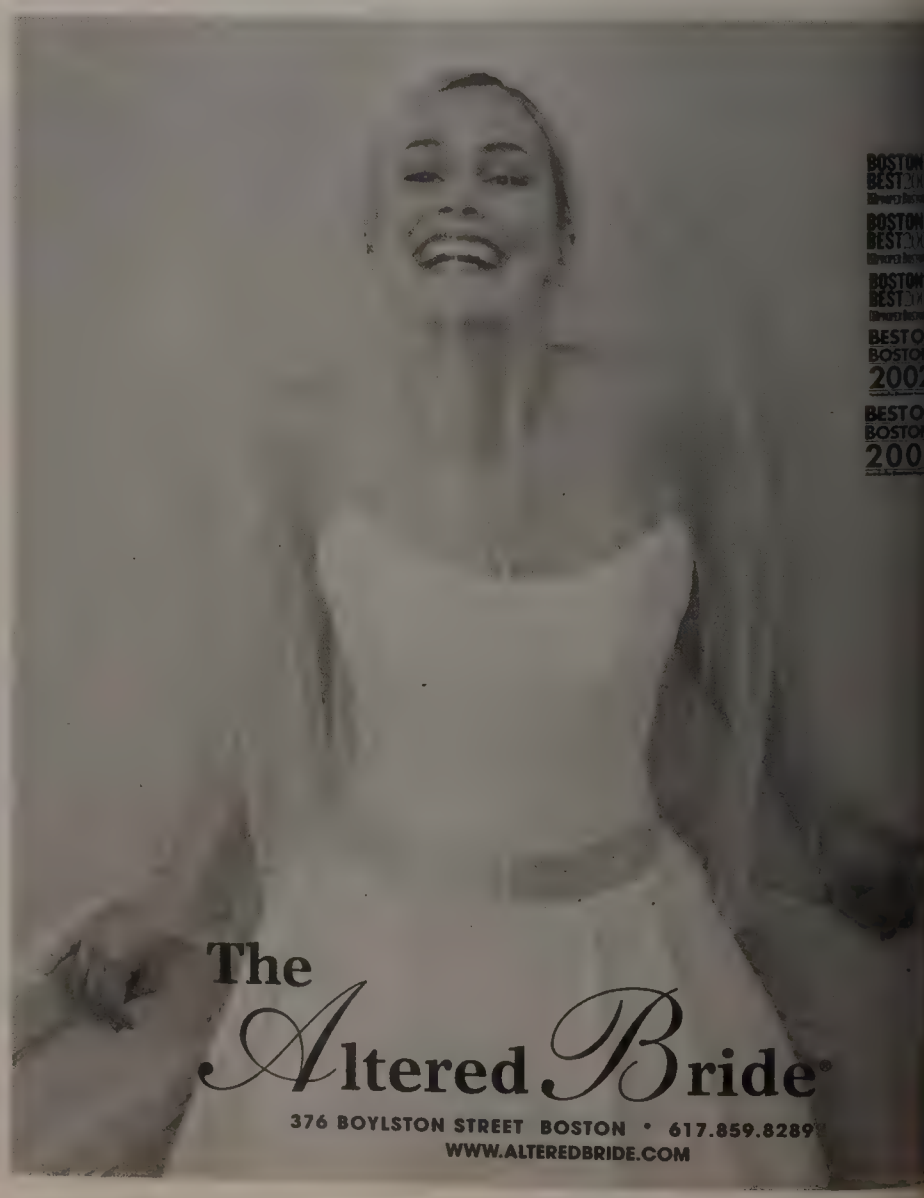
Saint, 90 Exeter St., Boston (617-426-3339) www.elliefund.org. 6 pm. $40 in advance, $55 at the door if available. Dress is Hollywood glitz and glam. Watch the Academy Awards at this benefit for the Ellie Fund, an organization that fights breast cancer. The party includes food samples, a silent auction, live music, door prizes and a Samuel Adams beer sampling reception from 6-7:30 pm.

TUESDAY, MARCH 2

Eight-Minute Dating Event

Good Time Emporium, 30 Sturtevant St., Somerville (617-628-5559). www.eightminutedating.com. 7 pm. $35. This singles event for professionals ages 27-40 includes appetizers and eight dates over the course of the night.







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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nexttticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater

JUST OPENED

Between Two Worlds
Leventhal-Sidman JCC, 333 Nanhanton St., Newton Center (617-965-5226).www.lsjcc.org. Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. Feb. 28-29. $26. This play, based on S. Ansky's *The Dybbuk*, features masked actors and puppets.

Blue Hair Troupe
Tremont Theatre, 276 Tremont St., Boston (866-443-2248). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.bluehairtroupe.com. Wed. and Thu., 2 pm; Sat., 3 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Feb. 27-March 28. $32. This satirical musical revue transforms the Tremont Theatre into a "senior center for the performing arts." Clad in bouffant wigs and lots of polyester, the cast parodies popular songs, with the theme of dealing with the onset of old age.

(In)Compleat Works of Gilbert and Sullivan
Boston University's Tsai Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (978-232-1115) www.newenglandlightopera.org. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant Street. Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 3 and 8 pm, Feb. 20-21. $25-$30. This revue is a lively romp based on all 14 of Gilbert and Sullivan's operas.

Love's Fowl
Longy School of Music, Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, One Fallen Street, Cambridge (617-731-6400). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu., 8:30 pm; Sat., 8:30 pm. Feb. 19-21. $20. Using puppets, Susan Vitucci and Henry Kreiger turn *Chicken Little* into a comedic Italian opera.

Movin' Out
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-426-9366). www.broadwayinboston.com. Mon.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm; March 2-April 10. $30-$87. Choreographer Twyla Tharp created this new musical, inspired by the music of Billy Joel, which centers around two decades in the lives of five lifelong friends.

Oliver!
Wang Center, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.telecharge.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston, Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Tue., 7:30 pm; Wed., 7pm; Thu. and Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 7:30 pm; Sun., 1 and 7 pm. March 2-7. $28-$78. Lionel Bart's musical about an orphan who "wants more" is based on Dickens' classic story.

Opening Night Carmen
Longy School of Music, Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, One Fallen Street, Cambridge (617-731-6400). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Fri., 8:30 pm; Sat., 4:30 pm. Feb. 20-21. $20. Julie Goell performs this unusual version of Georges Bizet's *Carmen* with the help of a mop, a broom and a few puppets in her one-woman "mopera." This performance is part of the Festival of Puppet Musicales sponsored by the Puppet Showplace Theatre.

Sing a Song of Sixpence
Longy School of Music, Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, One Fallen St., Cambridge (617-731-6400). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sat., 7pm. Feb. 19-21. $9 (students) and $12. With the help of her puppets, Liz Joyce transforms Arthur A. Penn's musical into a humorous tale.

Sly Fox
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston; Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. Feb. 27-March 7. $21-$88. Richard Dreyfuss and Eric Stoltz star as con men in this comedy by Larry Gelbart set in San Francisco during the gold rush of the 19th century. The cast includes TV veterans Elizabeth Berkley and Bronson Pinchot.

Twelfth Night, or What You Will
Emerson Stage at Semel Theatre, Tufte Performance Center, 10 Boylston Place, Boston (617-824-8369). www.emerson.edu/emersonstage. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun. 2 pm. Feb. 26-29. $14. Shakespeare's romantic comedy involves mistaken identities, disguised genders and misplaced passions.

Tycho & Kepler
Leverett Old Library Theatre, 80 Plympton St., Cambridge (617-257-7480) www.industrialtheatre.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu..-Sat., 8 pm. Feb. 6-21. $15. This original work by the Industrial Theatre explores the relationship between two Renaissance astronomers.

Wait Until Dark
Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). www.stonehamtheatre.org. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. Feb. 26-March 14. $32. This psychological thriller—written by Frederick Knott and made popular by the 1967 film version—is about a blind woman, a con man and a doll full of heroin.

NOW RUNNING

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-6912). www.blueman.com/ticketinfo/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed., 8 pm; Thu., S and 8 pm; Fri., 7 and 10 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm Sun., 3 and 6 pm. Ongoing. $43 and $53. This production abandons all dialogue and focuses on making an impact through tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Boston Marriage
Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 East Merrimack St. Lowell (978-454-3926). www.merrimackrep.org Wed., 2 and 8 pm; Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. Through March 7 $32-$36. David Mamet's play revolves around an ambiguous relationship between two women living together at the turn of the century.

Conspiracy of Memory
Boston Theatre Works at Boston Playwrights' Theatre 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-728-4321). www.bostontheatreworks.com. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant Street. Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm Sun., 3 pm. Through Feb. 22. $25. In this play by Steven Bogart, an elderly Holocaust survivor struggling with Alzheimer's comes face-to-face with the past.

Dinner with Friends
Concord Players, 51 Walden St., Concord (978-369-2990). www.concordplayers.org. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm Sun., 2:30 pm. Through Feb. 28. $15. Donald Margulies' Pulitzer Prize–winning play shows how a couple's separation affects a decades-long friendship with another couple.

Flanagan's Wake
Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Thu.-Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm Through March 4. $27.50. Friends gather to mourn the passing of Flanagan in the fictional town of Grapplin, Ireland. Actors improvise stories and songs at Flanagan's wake based on audience suggestions.

The Gigolo Confessions of Baile Breag
Sugan Theatre at the Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.bcaonline.org. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8

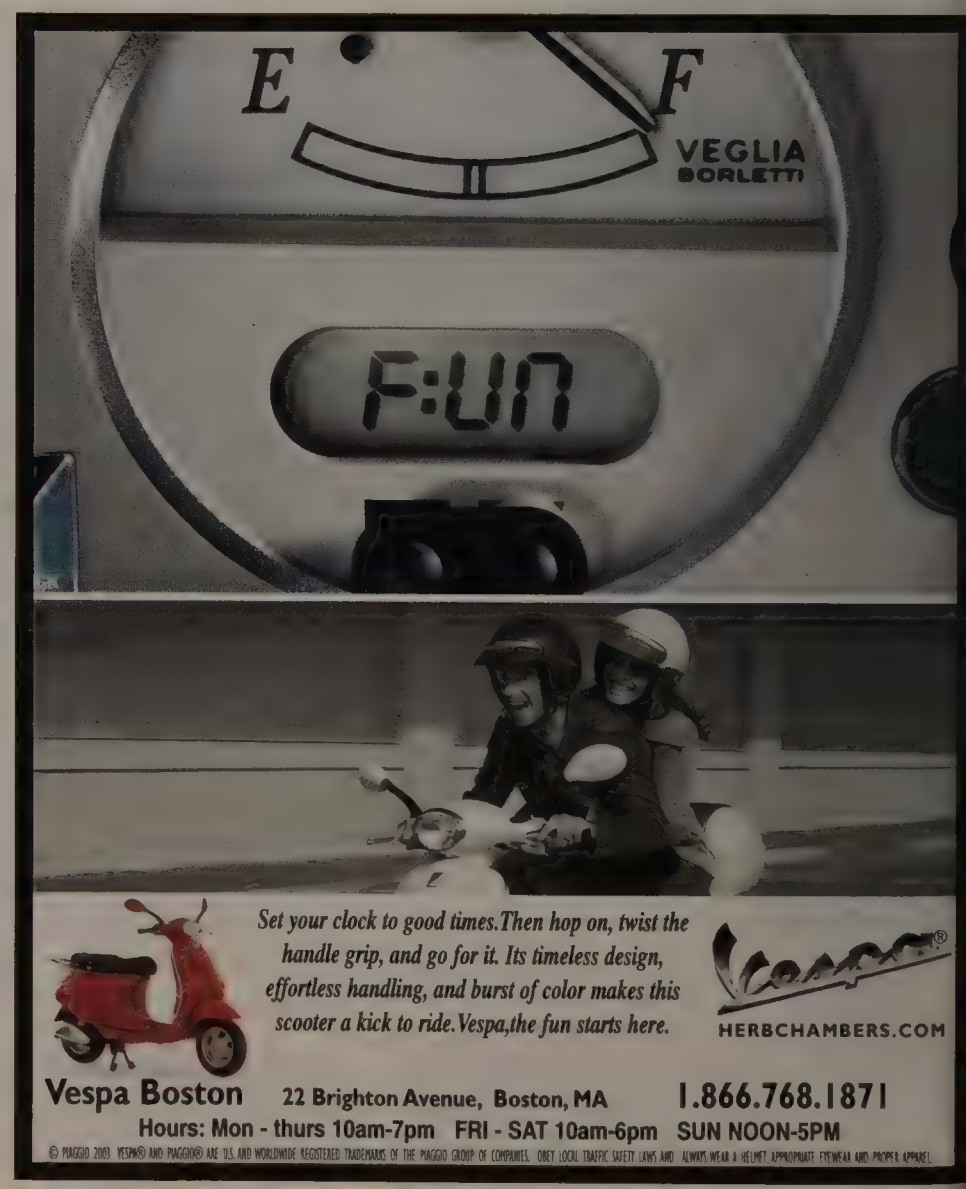


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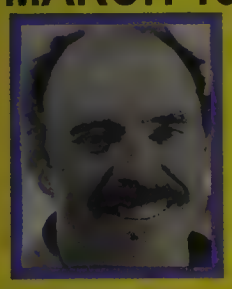
DANE COOK

MARCH 12



JOHN VALBY

MARCH 13



STEVE SWEENEY

MARCH 19-20

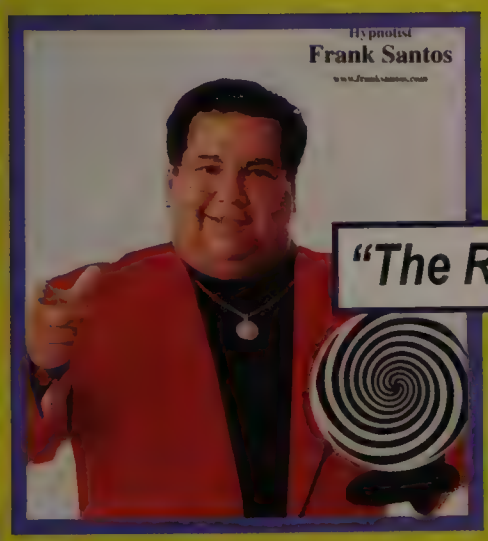


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pm; Sun., 3 pm. Through Feb.28. $22-$32. The third play in Irish playwright Roan Noone's award-winning Baile trilogy tackles love and relationships. Paddy tries to persuade William to join his thriving gigolo business while William's former girlfriend, the strong-willed Rosie McCann, deals with her father's descent into madness.

Inherit the Wind
Wheelock Family Theater, 180 The Riverway, Boston (617-879-2000). www.wheelock.edu/wft. Through Feb 28. This play by Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee dramatizes the July 1925 trial in Dayton, Tenn., in which Clarence Darrow and William Jennings Bryan debated teaching evolution versus creationism.

Jacques Brel Is Alive and Well and Living in Paris
Stuart Street Playhouse, Radisson Hotel, 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 5 and 9 pm; Sun., 3 and 7 pm. Ongoing. $42.50-$47.50. This musical revue features the lyrics and music of Belgian poet/lyricist/songwriter and performer Jacques Brel.

The Last Five Years
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.bcaonline.org. Wed., 7:30 pm; Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 and 7 pm. Through Feb.28. $25-$35. This modern musical from Tony Award–winning composer Jason Robert Brown tells the story of a young couple's romance in an unusual way: Her story begins at the end of their relationship, while his starts on the day they meet.

A Midsummer Night's Dream
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat. 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. Through Feb. 28. $35-$69. Director/choreographer Martha Clarke presents a dance-theater rendition of the classic Shakespeare play.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

The Spitfire Grill
The Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed., 2 and 7:30 pm; Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Through March 13. $22-$43. Set in a town where everyone has a secret, this musical by Fred Alley and James Valcq tells the story of Percy, an outsider who transforms the town by turning around its fading local grill.

The Unemployable Livia Peacock
T&A Theatre at the Boston Center for the Arts, Leland Center, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 and 7 pm. Through Feb. 28. $20. After she retires early from her job as a kindergarten teacher, Livia Peacock's life turns comic when she meets a young executive who launches her on a new career path. Comedian Rick Park directs this play by Nancy Pearson.

UNIVERSITY THEATER

A Piece of My Heart
Balch Arena Theater, Tufts University, 40 Talbot Ave., Somerville (617-627-3493). www.tufts.edu/as/drama. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm. Feb. 19-28. Shirley Lauro's play, based on the true stories of six women who served in the Vietnam War, depicts the women's struggle to make sense of the war and the way that Americans shunned them on their return.

The Vagina Monologues
Blackman Auditorium, 360 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-373-2245). Mon., 8 pm.; Tue., 6 pm. Feb. 23-24. $12. Northeastern University students perform Eve Ensler's play—a series of excerpts from more than 200 interviews with women around the world—in a benefit to fight violence against women.

Dance

Aurora Borealis: A Festival of Light and Dance
Boston University Theatre Mainstage, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Feb. 20-21, 8 pm; Feb. 22, 2 pm. $10. This program features the work of choreographers Judith Chaffee, Micki Taylor-Pinney, Ramelle Adams and Margot Parsons, as well as works by student choreographers Gabrielle Orcha and Sarah Foster. Featured pieces include *Prickly Pear*, a dance about the struggle for individual territory and personal space, and *Commodities*, which looks at the interaction between those who yield power and those they command.

Decay of the Angel
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont Street, Boston (617-876-4275). www.worldmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Feb. 20, 7:30 pm; Feb 21, 8 pm. $25-$35. In a performance influenced by Japanese *butoh*, Maureen Fleming performs movement poetry, curving her body into artistic shapes. This performance combines the Japanese art of flower arrangement by artist Gaho Taniguchi, film and images by photographer Lois Greenfield and music by Philip Glass.

Mohamed Kalifa Kamara
Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, 41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). www.cmacusa.org. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Feb 21, 8pm. $12-$15. Mohamed Kalifa Kamara and company present a program of West African music and dance.

Perú Negro
Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave, Boston (617-876-4275). www.worldmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Feb. 22, 7:30 pm. $25-$40. Founded by musician-choreographer Ronaldo Campos de la Colina, this troupe of 20 dancers and percussionists takes the audience through song and dance that celebrates Peru's African legacy.

Robert Rios Flamenco Troupe
Tasca Restaurant, 1612 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-730-8002). www.tascarestaurant.com. MBTA: Green B Line to Washington Street. Feb. 23, 6:30 and 8:30 pm. $5 cover. Watch traditional Flamenco dances and listen to music of the Spanish gypsies.

Three Classics
Boston Conservatory Dance Theater, 31 Hemenway St., Boston (617-912-9222). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Thu..-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2 pm. Feb. 19-22. $5-$16. The show includes Luis Fuente's *Simfonia en C* (music by Georges Bizet); Martha Graham's *Primitive Mysteries*, staged by Yuriko (music by Louis Horst); and Paul Taylor's *Arden Court*, staged by Sandra Stone (music by William Boyce).



Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

STAND-UP CLUBS

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault at Remington's features local stand-up comedians. •Thu.: Dick Doherty's Comedy Pro Tour •Fridays: The Fun Room, with Corey Manning. •Saturdays: Boston's Best Standup. •Sundays: open-mike night.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8 pm, $12; Thu., 8:30 pm, $12; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm, 10:15 pm, prices vary; Sun., 7 pm, $12. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Feb. 19: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist •Feb. 20: Dom Irrera, from CBS's *The King of Queens* •Feb. 21: Dom Irrera •Feb. 22: Ira Procter •Feb. 23: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, the Wildman of Comedy •Feb. 24: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz •Feb. 25: Harrison Stebbins •Feb. 26: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist •Feb. 27: Brad Sherwood, from ABC's *Whose Line Is It Anyway?* •Feb. 28: Brad Sherwood •Feb. 29: Dave Rattigan.

Comedy Studio
The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Feb. 18: Tony V, Kelly MacFarland, Vito Lantz, Christine Herman, Jon Rineman, Randy Winn, Brett Jordan, Bob Hagearty, Matt Winninger and Malissa Hunt •Feb. 19: Malissa Hunt, Lee Ann Price, Sandy Asai, Greg Johnson, Corey Manning, Kirk Etherton and Mike Herman •Feb. 20: The Walsh Bros., Tommy Morello, Alana Devich, Malissa Hunt, Larry Murphy, Chris Tabb, Rob O'Reilly and Joe Wong •Feb. 21: Mark McKay, Jim Flaherty, Alana Devich, Chris Tabb, Malissa Hunt, Tommy Morello and Brian Gordon •Feb. 22: Sam Walters, TJ Griffin, Malissa Hunt, Dan Sally, Jay Mon tepare, Arielle Goldman, Alana Devich and Winston Kidd •Feb.24: Mystery Lounge •Feb. 25: Tony V Experiment, Malissa Hunt, Janet Cormier, Jesse Gersten, Peter Bowers, Tim Kaelin and Reggie Harris •Feb. 27: Mike Whitman, the Walsh Bros., Malissa Hunt, Nate Johnson, Michael Della Penna, Janet Cormier and Tim Fenn •Feb. 28: Brian Gordon, Mike Whitman, Erik Charles Neilson, Nate Johnson and Ku •Feb. 29: Sacrificing Virgins: 10 first-time comedians •March 2: Mystery Lounge.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to New England Medical Center. $10-$22. •Feb. 19, 8:30 pm: Brad Mastrangelo •Feb. 20 and 21, 8:45 pm: Brad Mastrangelo, Paul Keenan and Kelly MacFarland •Feb. 26, 8:30 pm: Larry Miles •Feb. 27 and 28, 8:45 pm: John La Roccia, Spike Tobin and John Joyce.

IMPROV COMEDY

Faces for Radio
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.faces4radio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu., 8 pm. $8. Improv comedians poke fun at everything, including themselves.

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA:Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 and 10 pm. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. Improvisation and sketch comedy in the North End. •Wed.-Sat.: *Improv Asylum Announces the End of Major Hostilities*, a new show on the mainstage.

ImprovBoston
1253 Cambridge St., Inman Square, Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central . $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: the characters, the stories, the settings—even the songs and dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: *The Hump.* This series for experimental and improvisational theater features *ScripTease* and *The Tribe*. •Thu., 8 pm, $12: *Unnatural Selection*. A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one is left. 10 pm, $5: *The Great and Secret Comedy Show*. Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and music, play short films and do character sketches in a display of sibling rivalry •Fri., 8 pm, $12: *George and Martha.* This fully improvised show revolves around this happy couple as they entertain two different guests each week in their Midwestern living room. 10 pm, $12: *Theatre Sports*. Two teams of improvisers face off. •Sat., 6 pm, $12: *ImprovBoston Family Show*. 8 and 10 pm, $12: *ImprovBoston Mainstage*. Blending storytelling, music and audience participation, a cast of improvisers creates a show that changes with every performance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5: *Sgt. Culpepper's Improvisational Jamboree*. This evening combines three shows into one. Watch performances by visiting and local troupes.

COMEDY SHOWS

Cormier's Comedy Madness
All Asia, 334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Feb. 22, 8 pm. $5. Janet Cormier hosts an evening of comedy celebrating Black History Month.

Gourmet Detective
Ristorante Marino, 2465 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (800-697-2583). www.mysterycafe.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Feb. 28, 7:30 pm. $49 for dinner and show. The Gourmet Detective serves up Italian cuisine with a murder mystery.

Open Mike Night
Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon., 8 pm. Open mike for creative talent.

Chris Rock
*Orpheum Theatre, Hamilton Place, Boston (617-931-2000). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. Feb. 20, 7 pm. $39-$61.*Comedian-actor Chris Rock brings his standup comedy to Boston as part of his Black Ambition tour.

Stash's Comedy Jam
All Asia Cafe, 334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. www.stashcomedyjam.com. First and third Sunday of every month, 8 pm. Enjoy standup comedy at this open mike with host Stash.

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When Rocky Met Sally

Meg Ryan's boxing movie has no punch

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Against the Ropes takes a square peg and tries to bash it into a round hole. Not surprisingly, the results are clumsy and unsuccessful. The film is based on the real-life story of Jackie Kallen, the brash Cleveland woman who became the most successful female manager in boxing. Full of awkward transitions and unfortunate clichés, however, it does what Hollywood so often does—turns interesting reality into by-the-numbers drama.

You know you're in for a bumpy ride when *Against the Ropes* abruptly segues from its 1972 prologue—in which young Kallen gets scolded by her fighter-trainer father for showing interest in boxing—to the present day. Kallen (Meg Ryan) is now secretary to the cartoonish Italian-American (Joe Cortese) who runs the Cleveland Coliseum, an arena that frequently hosts boxing nights, we're led to believe. There's nothing about this woman's life between 8 and 38, and something immediately feels amiss.



Charles S. Dutton, Meg Ryan and Omar Epps team up in the new boxing movie, *Against the Ropes*.

Kallen—whose two main traits are her flat Midwest accent and her trashy outfits—does all the work, but gets none of the credit from her boss or from arrogant Sam LaRocca (Tony Shalhoub), the promoter (and "made man") who controls boxing in Cleveland. The puzzling relationship between Kallen and these men is indicative of flaws in Cheryl Edwards' (*Save the Last Dance*) screenplay. It's intent on having us root for Kallen, yet it totally dulls her female-empowerment story. The short-sighted attempt to make her look good by portraying her adversaries as stooges actually serves to undermine sympathy for the heroine, given her years-long association with them. The cartoonishness continues with Kallen's entry into managing, when LaRocca belittles her during an argument and challenges her boxing knowledge by offering to sell her the contract to an underachieving fighter for $1.

Eventually, Kallen ends up managing Luther (Omar Epps), a ghetto thug whom she thinks she can turn into a boxer after she sees him pummel the fighter whose contract she bought. Defying her boss (who fires her) and LaRocca (who won't give Luther a bout in Cleveland), she enlists a wise old trainer (Charles S. Dutton, who also directed) and starts moving Luther up the middleweight ladder. This middle section is easily the best part of the movie, but it's dragged down by contrivances and confusing turns—such as Kallen opening her own boxing gym while she has just one fighter under contract and her life is supposedly in hock. The action moves to an unconvincing climax when Kallen, who fast becomes a sports celebrity, gets starry-eyed from all the media attention and loses the trust of Luther, who feels overlooked. To soothe frustrated Luther, she sells his contract to LaRocca, provided LaRocca gives Luther a title shot against the middleweight champ he also manages.

The subsequent big-fight climax, in which LaRocca wants to make Luther look bad, is so bungled that it almost reaches the so-bad-it's-good level. Almost. Amazingly, the movie has Dutton's old trainer still handling Luther during this fight (even though the trainer is Kallen's guy), while LaRocca quivers in his boots because Kallen shows up at the fight to cheer on Luther. (Are we supposed to think LaRocca's afraid she's gonna slug someone?). The post-fight last scene then actually offers up a deadly speedball of the mustiest clichés imaginable: the slow clap of approval and the freeze-frame ending. Oh brother.

Part of the problem with *Against the Ropes* is that it's such a fabrication. It turns out the real Kallen has kids, unlike the movie's; the real Kallen is Jewish, the movie's is not (if you cast Meg Ryan and don't tell us her character is Jewish, she's not); the real Kallen was a sportswriter, not a secretary; and the real Kallen was a publicist representing such fighters as Tommy Hearns before she became a manager. (Meanwhile, Luther is apparently fictional. And there was a Cleveland Coliseum, but it closed in the 1990s). I didn't know any of this before seeing the movie, but it explains why *Against the Ropes* feels like half-hearted hogwash. There's actually a scene in which Luther asks Kallen why she's never had kids. It's supposed to be poignant, since she's become a surrogate mother/sister to him, but no wonder the scene fails. Everyone involved knew the generic story they were filming had little resemblance to Kallen's genuinely interesting real life, and it shows. Why no one saw this problem before cameras rolled is one of the multiplex's eternal mysteries. IB

Against the Ropes ★★

Directed by Charles S. Dutton. Written by Cheryl Edwards. With Meg Ryan, Omar Epps, Tony Shalhoub and Dutton. Rated PG-13. At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Along Came Polly ★★
That old Hollywood myth about opposites attracting gets a serviceable but unremarkable treatment in this Ben Stiller–Jennifer Aniston romantic comedy. He's a risk-averse analyst for an insurance company whose new wife (Debra Messing) leaves him for another man on their honeymoon; she's a ragamuffin who never plans anything in advance. When he has to choose between the two, which TV star will Ben spend the rest of his life with? This is just the latest in the growing list of "put Ben Stiller in uncomfortable situations" comedies, and unfortunately, it often plays more like *Duplex* than *Meet the Parents*. It's buoyed somewhat by the amusing supporting performances of Philip Seymour Hoffman, Alec Baldwin and Hank Azaria. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Big Bounce ★★★
Owen Wilson could make just about anything entertaining—well, except an *I Spy* movie. He's very amusing as a trouble-magnet drifter in this adaptation of an early Elmore Leonard novel. The book is Leonard before he really found his sharp thriller/comedy voice, and the movie definitely shares the novel's flimsiness. But Wilson and the Hawaii setting have the laid-back mood that makes this crime comedy work. So does newcomer Sara Foster, whose playful performance as the beach bunny who drags the drifter into a robbery scheme adds breezy insolence to the mix. The colorful cast also includes Morgan Freeman, Charlie Sheen, Willie Nelson and Harry Dean Stanton. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Big Fish ★★★
Forget about the present-day drama between a blustery dying Southerner (Albert Finney) and his semi-estranged grown son (Billy Crudup) in Tim Burton's latest. The real action is in the tall tales about the dying man's earlier life. These sequences featuring Ewan McGregor are the first thing anyone will remember from this movie. Burton gives these scenes an eye-popping heightened reality, while McGregor's lively performance might remind you of another optimistic dreamer from a Burton movie—Johnny Depp's Ed Wood. With his performance as a swaggering Camelot-era man-about-town in *Down with Love* and now this role, McGregor has improbably shown himself to be a crackerjack portrayer of American gumption. The rest of the movie falters, but McGregor's scenes are bull's-eyes. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

City of God ★★★½
A quartet of Oscar nominations has brought back this Brazilian drama, one of last year's highlights. Bold and brutal from start to finish, its dog-eat-dog world and stylistic energy recall *Mean Streets* and *Amores Perros* as its stories criss-cross and bubble into each other, and as 18-year-old hero Rocket (Alexandre Rodrigues) tries to somehow get out of his crime-rocked neighborhood alive. Full of humanity, ambiguity and belligerence, it's a wonderfully orchestrated car crash you just can't take your eyes off of. (At Copley Square, Harvard Square and suburbs.)

Cold Mountain ★★½
With its romance set against the backdrop of war, its female bonding and its overgroomed star, Anthony Minghella's adaptation of Charles Frazier's novel is one part *Last of the Mohicans*, one part *Fried Green Tomatoes* and one part infomercial for whatever line of cosmetics Nicole Kidman is wearing. By default, this is the best of the season's big dramatic epics, clearly besting *The Last Samurai* and *House of Sand and Fog*. Much of it works: the budding romance of Kidman's and Jude Law's characters interrupted by the Civil War, the strife that besets all the characters because of the war, the supporting characters played by the likes of Philip Seymour Hoffman, Natalie Portman, Ray Winstone and Jack White of the White Stripes. But while Kidman's minister's daughter has her civilized life collapse around her and gets pushed to the brink of starvation and poverty, before being aided by Renee Zellweger's Ma Kettle–meets–Peppermint Patty farmgirl, the actress always looks as if she's made up to go shopping. It's hard to feel her plight in your gut because of it. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Company ★
Robert Altman's drama set within the Joffrey Ballet of Chicago is perhaps the veteran director's worst film. There's little attempt to develop the characters, conflict is almost nonexistent, and the dance numbers look like a cross between Mummenschanz and a Fruit of the Loom commercial. Although many of the company's real dancers play supporting



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In Tim Burton's *Big Fish*, Ewan McGregor (standing, left) portrays young Ed Bloom in flashback sequences recalling the elderly man's life.

roles, Barbara Turner's script offers no insight into this insular community. The characters, such as the imperious artistic director (Malcolm McDowell), a second-tier dancer trying to get to the next level (Neve Campbell), and her cook boyfriend (James Franco), are one-dimensional at best. And Altman inserts most of the dance numbers in seemingly random fashion, without context. (At Kendall Square and Coolidge Corner.)

The Dreamers ★½
Who would've thought an NC-17 story about having sex and loving old movies could be so grating and uninteresting? Bernardo Bertolucci's tale of an American college student (DiCaprio look-alike Michael Pitt) in 1968 Paris who discovers movies at the Cinémathèque Française and sex with a French movie buff (Eva Green) is full of mildly annoying characters and pointless cinematic in-jokes (complete with naggingly literal inclusion of clips for every reference). The French woman has a too-intense relationship with her brother (Louis Garrel), and the plot of the outsider pulled into a pre-existing duo's heady world makes this a pale imitation of *Performance*, a better movie from the era this one wishes to re-create. And all the movie name-checks are sophomoric, even if you know the references; if you don't know them, this must be like nails on a blackboard. (At Harvard Square.)

The Fog of War ★★★
In Cambridge moviemaker Errol Morris' series of interviews with former JFK and LBJ secretary of defense Robert McNamara, the shrewd technocrat doesn't unburden himself of any more responsibility for the Vietnam quagmire that occurred under his watch. McNamara is too cagey for that. But Morris finds fertile territory in McNamara's observations on human nature, war and politics. (Morris has subtitled the movie "Eleven Lessons from the Life of Robert S. McNamara.") When McNamara talks about the Vietnam effort failing because the American government didn't know enough to empathize with the Vietnamese, it's hard not to think of Iraq. And when McNamara talks about the moral dilemmas of making decisions in times of strife, he sheds light on all the political crossroads that have turned presidents' heads gray. More than a dry Q&A, *Fog* unfolds in Morris' typically cinematic style, featuring montages of archival footage, cockeyed camera angles and Philip Glass' churning music. (At Kendall Square and Coolidge Corner.)

Japanese Story ★★
Nothing like a near-death experience to break the romantic ice. At least that's what this Australian film would have you believe. The geologist (Toni Collette) and the married Japanese businessman (Gotaro Tsunashima) she's assigned to escort to remote mineral mines can't stand each other initially. Then they almost die when their rental car gets stuck in the desert, and once they get it moving it's not long before they're having a fling. The *Brief Encounter*–like story then goes for an emotional home run that it just can't pull off, because the depth of the relationship never quite convinces. (At Copley Place.)

Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King ★★
Peter Jackson has once again given us an expansive spoof of bombastic, medieval fantasy adventures: the furrowed brows, the swords and sorcery, the creatures, the hair extensions. Oh, that's right, it's not *supposed* to be silly. Jackson is obviously an imaginative, capable director, but after three movies and seven hours, I still don't care a lick about anything that happens to any of these solemn, solemn people. The *LOTR* trilogy epitomizes the sort of movie that wins technical Academy Awards but that no one takes seriously. Yet for reasons I just can't understand, a lot of folks have taken these films seriously. (Come on, isn't Tolkien's attractive-human-heroes-versus-ugly-Orc-villains plot just a tad juvenile?). Maybe Jackson can go back to making interesting movies like *Heavenly Creatures* and *Forgotten Silver* now. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Lost in Translation ★★★½
Sofia Coppola dealt with shared pain in her 2000 directorial debut, *The Virgin Suicides*, and she conjures up a similar funny-sad tone in her tale of two Americans (Bill Murray, Scarlett Johansson) adrift in Tokyo. He's a washed-up movie star making a bundle endorsing Japanese booze; she's the wife of a work-consumed photographer (Giovanni Ribisi). They're staying at the same hotel and killing time at the same hotel bar, and their misery loves company. The characters make a great movie couple, although their relationship is platonic (with its share of sexual tension). Murray gives a Buster Keaton–like, sad-clown performance built mainly around physical and especially facial reactions to absurd situations, and Johansson is a little heartbreaker. (At Copley Place and suburbs.)

Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World ★★★
An intense, eye-popping opening battle and director Peter Weir's realistic storytelling help this naval epic sail over dull patches, gabby interludes and ho-hum subplots. The level of authenticity is so much higher than any mere piece of spectacle in this 1805 story of the crew of an English ship that is attacked by a French ship, and then spends the rest of the movie tracking it to get revenge. Russell Crowe plays the battle-wise captain and Paul Bettany is the ship's inquisitive scientist, and though these friends' dialogues about the merits of science can't compare with the action sequences, Crowe especially breathes great life into his character. For once, the special effects serve the story in a big movie, and not the other way around. (At Fenway, Harvard Square and suburbs.)

Monster ★★
No matter how hard it tries, and no matter how successfully Charlize Theron transforms herself into less attractive, much rougher Aileen Wuornos—the prostitute executed by Florida for killing seven men—this docudrama isn't nearly as sympathetic or as interesting as *Aileen Wuornos: The Selling of a Serial Killer*, Nick Broomfield's decade-old documentary. In the docudrama, Wuornos is a much-abused woman who decides to try her luck with women after she meets a younger lesbian (Christina Ricci). But with no other way to make money, she keeps hooking, and after a john gets violent, she kills him in self-defense. Then she continues to kill. Although you feel her rage, the movie's Wuornos is a little too dumb to sympathize with (she keeps riding around in her victims' cars), and Theron fails to provide the spark that might make her more fascinating than stupid. The movie also puts all its emotional eggs in the basket of the doomed lesbian affair—which fails to be the riveting tragedy writer-director Patty Jenkins wants it to be. (At Boston Common, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

My Architect ★★★
Much like last year's *The Stone Reader*, Nathaniel Kahn's new film is documentary as compelling quest. Kahn's mission is to learn more about his father, architect Louis Kahn. The elder Kahn died in 1974, when Nathaniel was a boy, and it turns out he had three families that he juggled. (He remained married to the same woman, while fathering children with two others.) The movie's drama is in its depiction of someone who was world-class in his field, yet whose personal life was a farce. The filmmaker struggles to understand how his mother and Louis Kahn's other families could tolerate such a situation, as he, like them, expresses his love for the man. With no easy answers, Kahn is left to look for answers in his father's work, a search that takes him from Philadelphia to Bangladesh. (At Coolidge Corner and Kendall Square.)

Mystic River ★★
As is usually the case with adaptations of books, Clint Eastwood's *Mystic River* retains nearly all the plot of Dennis Lehane's novel but jettisons much of the detail that enriched that plot. In this case, that means the movie primarily follows the investigation into the murder of a 19-year-old woman. But the murderer was fairly easy to pick out in Lehane's book, and the case was just an excuse to explore the emotional wounds of the three childhood friends pushed back together by the crime—the father (Sean Penn), the detective (Kevin Bacon) and the prime suspect (Tim Robbins). As a result, much of the drama falls flat, and the whole thing is about as dull and gray as the typically murky Eastwood-movie cinematography. (At Fenway, Copley Place, Harvard Square and suburbs.)

21 Grams ★★
Director Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu used time to great effect in his bracing debut, *Amores Perros*. In his follow-up (his first American movie), his use of nonlinear structure doesn't go so smoothly. Again he blends three stories—of a newly widowed woman (Naomi Watts), a born-again ex-con (Benicio Del Toro) and a terminally-ill professor (Sean Penn). But the first half of the film is so hyper that it's hard to get into it. The action jumps so often in time, and among the three characters, that it lacks a center. When the movie finally settles down, and we see the three lives intersect, the action gets genuinely dramatic at last, and Watts' raw performance is especially compelling. But that first half is a big price to pay to get to the second. (At Copley Place.)

The Weather Underground ★★★½
This year, the Oscar nominations for Best Documentary have actually gone to some good movies (not always the case). Sam Green and Bill Siegel's look at the Weathermen, the early-1970s radicals who sought to "bring the war home" by bombing empty buildings in the military-industrial complex, is one of them. The movie includes some amazing vintage footage, especially that with charismatic leader Bernardine Dohrn, as well as present-day visits with many of the radicals, who offer an interesting range of opinion on their former activities. (At the Museum of Fine Arts.)

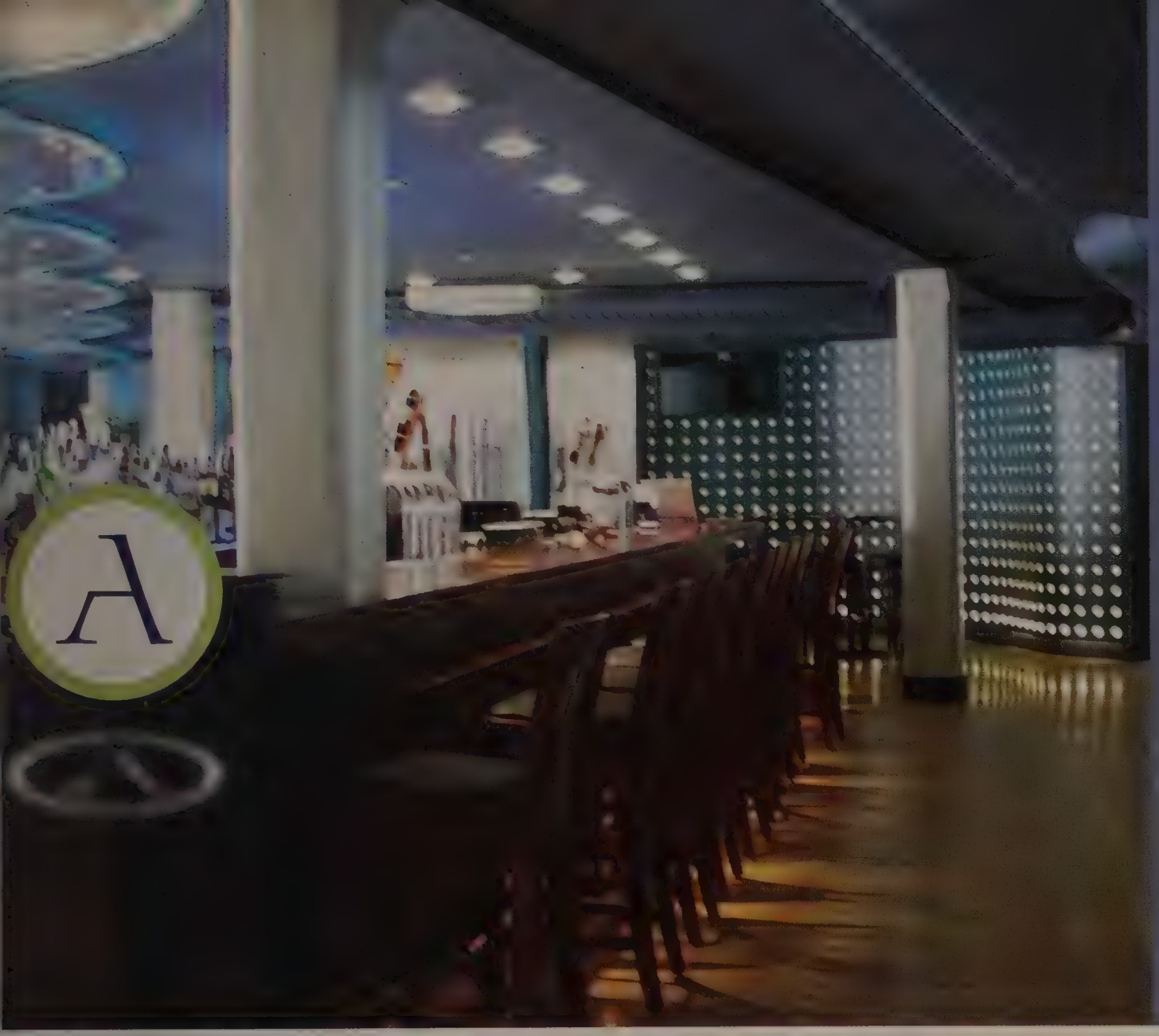
You Got Served ★½
If it's called *You Got Served*, why do I feel as if I got punk'd by this silly little excuse for product placement? (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
By Popular Request: Katharine Hepburn
•Feb. 23. 6 pm. **The Lion in Winter** *1968*. King Henry II (Peter O'Toole) organizes a family reunion with his three sons and his exiled wife (Hepburn) to name the heir to his throne. Anthony Harvey directs.

BRATTLE THEATRE
Bugs Bunny Film Festival
•Feb. 18, 1:15 and 3:15 pm **The Ninth Annual Bugs Bunny Film Festival Program 2: Looney Tunes Revue**. Films featuring Daffy, Pepe, Taz, the Roadrunner, Marvin the Martian, Sylvester and Tweety, Speedy and Bugs screen.
•Feb. 19, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm **Bugs Bunny Film Festival Program 1**. Bugs Bunny clas-



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sics, such as *What's up Doc?*, *Rabbit of Seville* and *What's Opera Doc?* screen.
•Feb. 20-22, 1:30 and 3 pm. **Bugs Bunny matinees.** Highlights from both programs of the Bugs Bunny Film Festival screen.

A Salute to Quincy Jones
•Feb. 18, 8 pm, Quincy Jones appears in person for a discussion of his career as a film scorer. •Also showing, 5:15 pm. **In the Heat of the Night** *1967*. Sidney Poitier stars in this drama about an African-American detective investigating a homicide in a racially divided Southern town. Norman Jewison directs. •Also showing, 9:30 pm. **In Cold Blood** *1967*. Two young robbers kill a farmer and his family to prevent being identified in this adaptation of Truman Capote's novel, based on a real-life case. Richard Brooks directs.

Special Engagements
•Feb. 20-23, 25 and 26, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm; Feb. 24, 4 and 10 pm **Kitchen Stories** *(Salmer fra Kjokkenet) 2003*. In 1950s Norway, a Swedish man helps research the kitchen habits of single men but is forbidden to talk to anyone participating in the study. Bent Hamer directs.
•Feb. 24, 7:30 pm. **Reservoir Dogs** *1991*. Author and film scholar Peter Biskind introduces Quentin Tarantino's film about what happens before and after five criminals' failed robbery attempt. (See the Feb. 24 Books & Poetry listings for information on Biskind's 6 pm talk before the show.)

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Balagan: Experimental Film and Video Series
•Feb. 19, 7:30 pm. **City Symphonies.** This collection of films about city life includes shorts by Jack and Olga Chambers, Dominic Angerame and Jem Cohen.

Coolidge Selects
•Now playing. **Eat This New York**. *2004*. Kate Novak directs this documentary about two friends from Minnesota struggling to open a restaurant in Manhattan.
•Now playing. **The Fog of War: Eleven Lessons from the Life of Robert S. McNamara** *2003*. See New Releases for a description.
•Now playing. **My Architect** *2003*. See New Releases for a description.
•Feb. 23, 7 pm. **Oscar Shorts: The Docs**. The 2004 Academy Award–nominated short documentaries screen.
•Feb. 26, 7:30 pm. **Silent Shakespeare.** This compilation from the British Film Institute focuses on early silent film versions of Shakespeare's plays, including *The Tempest*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *King Lear*, *Twelfth Night* and more.

Midnight Movies
•Feb. 20, 21 and 27, 12 am. **Wet Hot American Summer** *2001*. Janeane Garofalo and David Hyde Pierce star in this 1980s-set comedy about the last day of summer camp. David Wain directs. •Also showing, 12 am. **Blood Feast** *1963*. A Florida caterer, obsessed with the goddess Isis, attempts to resurrect her spirit by creating a ritual feast of human organs. Herschell Gordon Lewis directs.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Andy Warhol and the Factory: Selected Works
•Feb. 27, 7 pm. **The Chelsea Girls** *1966*. Nico, Ondine, Brigid Berlin and nine other Factory stars appear in this avant-garde film of vignettes set in different rooms in the Chelsea Hotel.
•Feb. 28, 7 pm. **Outer and Inner Space** *1965*. Warhol's experimental film consists of shots of Edie Sedgwick sitting next to a video monitor with a close up of her face on it. •Immediately following. **Poor Little Rich Girl** *1965*. Warhol documents the routines and conversations that make up a day in the life of his "starlet," Edie Sedgwick. •Also showing, 9 pm. **Nico Icon** *1995*. This documentary includes archival footage of Nico performing with the Velvet Underground and solo. Susanne Offeringer directs. •Immediately following. **Lou Reed: Rock and Roll Heart** *1998*. This documentary includes interviews with Reed, performance footage and comments from other musicians. Timothy Greenfield-Sanders directs.

Conservator's Choice
•Feb. 29, 7 pm. **In Short: Rossellini, Godard, Truffaut, Clair, Polanski, Lester**. HFA conservator Julie Buck introduces six short films made by these directors between 1953 and 1963.

Frames of Mind
•Feb. 18, 7 pm. **Germania, Anno Zero** *(Germany Year Zero) 1947*. The third in a trilogy, this film follows a young boy who tries to earn money and food for his family in post–World War II Berlin. Roberto Rossellini directs.
•Feb. 25, 7 pm. **Bronenosets Potyomkin** *(Battleship Potemkin) 1925*. Live piano music by Yakov Gubanov accompanies this silent account of a 1905 mutiny on the Black Sea. Sergei Eisenstein directs.


Russell Crowe plays an English naval captain in Peter Weir's epic *Master and Commander*

Masterworks of Modern Cinema
•Feb. 23, 7 pm. **Sans Soleil** *1982*. Chris Marker's fictionalized documentary is a series of scenes drawn from letters from a world-traveling freelance cameraman.

Texture Analysis: Fashion and Film
•Feb. 24, 7 pm. **The Bride Wore Red** *1937* A penniless singer (Joan Crawford) pretends to be a rich heiress. She is courted by a wealthy suitor but falls in love with a postman. Dorothy Arzner directs.

Young Turks of the German Cinema
•Feb. 20, 7 pm; Feb. 24, 9 pm. **Geturkt** *(Weed) 1996*. A young German immigrant offers a friend weeds from his mother's garden in Fatih Akin's short film. •Immediately following. **Wir Haben Vergessen, Zuruckzukehren** *(We Forgot to Go Back) 2000*. This documentary explores the director Fatih Akin's Turkish background.
•Feb. 20 and Feb. 22, 9 pm. **Lola und Bilidikid** *(Lola and Billy the Kid) 1998*. Gay Turkish émigrés encounter homophobia within their native culture and their new adopted German culture. Kutlug Ataman directs.
•Feb. 21, 7 pm; Feb. 23 at 9 pm. **Die Auslandstournee** *(Tour Abroad) 1998*. After her father dies, an 11-year-old befriends a gay cabaret singer and searches for her missing mother. Ayse Polat directs.
•Feb. 21 and Feb. 25, 9 pm. **Sevda Heisst Liebe** *(Sevda Means Love) 2000*. A girl hiding her relationship from her protective older brother learns that he is conducting an illicit relationship with her boyfriend's sister. Sinan Akkus directs. •Immediately following. **Dealer** *1998*. A petty criminal attempts to start a new life with his girlfriend and daughter by abandoning crime and running a bar. Thomas Arslan directs.
•Feb. 22, 7 pm. **Die Liebenden von Hotel Osman** *(The Lovers of Hotel Osman) 2001*. A young couple traveling from Berlin to Istanbul pretends to be married in order to stay together in a very traditional Turkish hotel. Idil Uner directs. •Immediately following. **Deutsche Polizisten** *(German Cops) 1999*. Aysun Bademsoy's documentary explores the lives of Germany's Yugoslavian and Turkish policemen, whose careers put them at odds with their traditional culture.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

African Film Festival
•Feb. 19, 3:30 pm. **The River** *2003*. In this drama, a young man flees to Guinea after killing the man who killed his best friend. Mama Keita directs.
•Feb. 20, 6 pm. **African Short Film Program.** Five short films screen, including Zola Maseko's *A Drink in the Passage (1997)*, Benny Malapa's *Rapbizz (2002)*, and Jean-Marie Teno's *Alex's Wedding (2003)*.
•Feb. 21, 11 pm. **Wariko** *(The Jackpot) 1994*. In Fadika Kramo-Lancine's comedy, a poor man living on the Ivory Coast realizes that he has won the lottery but lost the winning ticket.
•Feb. 26, 8 pm; Feb. 27, 6:15 pm; Feb 28, 2:15 pm. **Rachida** *2002*. Terrorist threats force an Algerian teacher into hiding. Yamina Bachir-Chouikh directs.
•Feb. 27, 8 pm. **Khorma** *2002*. A young Tunisian orphan becomes apprentice to a professional announcer of marriages, births and deaths. Jilani Saadi directs.
•Feb. 28, 12:15 pm. **African Dance: Sand, Drum and Shostakovich** *2002*. Ken Glazezebrook and Alla Kovgan's documentary follows eight international dance companies that competed in the 1999 Festival International de Nouvelle Danse in Montreal. •Immediately following, **Black Spring** 2002. Benoit Dervaux's film examines traditional African dance choreography.

American Cinema
•Feb. 19, 1:30 pm. **Girlhood** *2003*. This documentary follows the lives of two teenage girls who withstand neglect and abuse in a juvenile facility. Liz Garbus directs. •Also showing, 7:45 pm; Feb. 26, 2:30 pm; Feb. 28, 10:30 am. **The Weather Underground** *2002*. See New Releases for a description.

Chinese Cinema
•Feb. 20, 8 pm; Feb. 21, 3:30 pm; Feb. 22, 11 am; Feb. 26, 6:15 pm; Feb. 28, 4 pm. **Mang Jing** *(Blind Shaft) 2003*. Two Chinese men concoct a scheme to kill mine workers, pose as their relatives and collect their compensation. Li Yang directs.

Films by Christopher Felver
•Feb. 19, 5:30 pm. **West Coast: Beat and Beyond II** *2004*. Felver captures readings and performances by David Amram, Amiri Baraka, John Cage, Diane di Prima, Ramblin' Jack Elliott, Allen Ginsberg, Michael McClure, Ray Manzarek and others. •Immediately following. **Taken by the Romans** *1990*. Felver's film chronicles the work of Roman artists in their city from World War II to present day.
•Feb. 21, 1:15; Feb. 26, 4:15 pm. **Donald Judd's Marfa Texas** *1998*. Felver's film is an account of artist Donald Judd, who left New York for the prairies of southern Texas. •Immediately following. **Tony Cragg: In Celebration of Sculpture** *1993*. Sculptor Tony Cragg installs exhibitions in his studio. Christopher Felver directs. •Immediately following. **John Cage Talks about Cows** *1987*. Felver's film follows artist and musician John Cage.

Free Films for All Ages
•Feb. 18, 19 and 20, 10:30 am and 12 pm. A series of short, animated films screen in conjunction with February school vacation week.

Visiting Film Artist Pat O'Neill
•Feb. 24, 12 pm. *The Decay of Fiction (2003)*. Animation artist Pat O'Neill is present for this screening of his film, which digitally transforms Los Angeles' Ambassador Hotel into a haunted mansion.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater
•Through May 28. **India: Kingdom of the Tiger.** Explore the kingdom of the Bengal tiger, from the Himalayas to Rajasthan. *Call for showtimes.*
•Through June. **Lewis and Clark: Great Journe West.** Trek through raging rivers and uncharte wilderness to commemorate the bicentennial of th explorers' journey, brought to life by National Ge graphic Films. *Call for show times.*

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater
•Through March 11 **Bugs! 3D.** This film focus on the world of insects in the tropical rain fores of Southeast Asia. See bugs magnified up t 250,000 times their normal size. *Call for sho times.*
•Through March 11. **Ghosts of the Abyss.** Dire tor James Cameron takes audiences two miles b neath the sea's surface to explore the wreckage the Titanic. *Call for show times.*
•Through March 11. **Ocean Wonderland 3D** This film explores the ocean floor of the Baham and Australia's Great Barrier Reef, with the sharks, sting rays and rainbows of tropical fis *Call for show times.*
•Through March 11. **Volcanoes of the Deep Se** Dive to the bottom of the sea with a team of scien tists, as they explore hydrothermal vents, shi wrecked gardens, predators and bioluminescen creatures. *Call for show times.*

Cinema Venues

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Rd. (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Gree Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Gree Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line Science Park.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line Reservoir.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Gree Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.

Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Re Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Gree Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orang Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line Davis.

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Teamwork

The soul sisters of Floetry find common poetry between basketball and music

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Marsha Ambrosius is the "songstress" who primarily sings. Natalie Stewart is the "floacist" who mostly flows with the spoken word. Together, they're Floetry, a British-born duo that blends soul, hip-hop, jazz and poetry in a way that's more straight-up than eccentric male counterparts OutKast.

Just don't get the idea that Floetry wants to make itself any easier to define through its self-styled terminology.



Natalie Stewart (left) and Marsha Ambrosius create their own musical vocabulary as Floetry.

"We always knew we wanted to own our language," Stewart says from the duo's Philadelphia home base the night before Floetry began a national tour opening for kindred spirit and longtime supporter Erykah Badu (the tour stops at the Orpheum March 6). "If you coin your own words, no one can tell you what it is that you're supposed to do and not supposed to do."

Ambrosius adds of her descriptor, "People say, 'What's that mean? You're a singer?' No, I'm the songstress. And for Nat, it's 'Does that mean you're a rapper or an MC or a poet?' Nah, it means she's the floacist. Just take that for what it is, and you kind of make yourself as you go along. And you can always grow 'cause you're very much your own."

Floetry has truly grown since Ambrosius and Stewart moved to the U.S., starting in Atlanta, then settling in Philly. Working in a studio owned by Will Smith's onetime partner "Jazzy Jeff" Townes, the duo's work caught the ear of Michael Jackson, who recruited them to join him in the studio to record Ambrosius' song "Butterflies" for his 2001 album, *Invincible*. "It was a blur," Ambrosius says. "I don't believe it half the time. I just look at the [platinum] plaque in my front room."

Then came the duo's 2002 debut, *Floetic*, which earned three Grammy nominations for the group and sold half a million copies behind airplay of both the title track and "Say Yes."

Long before the pair merged poetry and music, Ambrosius and Stewart met in their early teens through a mutual love of basketball. (Ironically, the group's manager is J. Erving, son of Philadelphia 76ers legend Julius "Dr. J" Erving.)

"We were two people from different sides of South London who showed up on the basketball court and grew to know each other as friends through our interests," says Ambrosius, 26.

"We perform like we play ball," Stewart, 25, adds of the pair's intuitive way of shadowing and complementing each other's distinct vocal roles. "We don't step on each other's toes. We don't showboat. We don't try and beat each other."

"We knew we had a connection," says Ambrosius, "because we had the same type of passion to be the best at what we do, even if Nat was more toward the performance-poetry side and I was more into production and writing music."

So after a decade of friendship and a stab at college, the duo secured their new connection when Stewart put words to one of Ambrosius' melodic verses and they performed the piece at a poetry show. "We realized that it was special, so we wrote more," Stewart says. "We never had a process. We've never said, 'I'm going to go here. You go there.' It just is what it is. We don't try to take control of our art."

"We didn't even completely understand our songs when we made them [for *Floetic*]," Stewart adds. "Then we lived with them and grew with them." That growth is displayed on the group's new CD/DVD, *Floacism "Live,"* which includes live versions of songs from *Floetic* plus three new studio cuts.

Tracks from a New Orleans show document Floetry's warm bond with its fans, many of whom sing along with the group's songs about love, broken relationships and self-awareness. "It's just about knowing thyself," co-writer Stewart says, "being able to say, 'Yeah, I've been through that situation' or 'I was a part of something like that' rather than just pointing fingers and passing judgment on other people."

"We're just trying to figure out our purpose in life," she says. "So we just talk about what we feel and think."

"My dad always said success is a journey, not a destination," Stewart says. "Marsha and I have been through a lot of stuff, from laughter to tears, from thought to silence, just lots of different things."

"This might not be the thing we're remembered for the most," she concludes about Floetry. "We might be remembered for a book that we write, or the score that Marsha does, or the children that we give birth to. We just enjoy the moment." iB

Floetry
plays the Orpheum Theatre March 6.

Advice to Contributors
Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by f (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or email to music@improper.com. Include dates, time prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not a cepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers
Information for the Music section is compiled from d ferent sources. Although we make every effort to provi accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahe to double-check dates and times (see complete list venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

A Cappella Festival Feb. 21, Quincy Market Rotun (617-523-1300).
Barenaked Ladies and Gavin DeGraw March FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Big Head Todd and the Monsters Feb. 27, Avalo (617-423-NEXT).
Bonnie Bramlett Feb. 21, Regent Theatre (78 646-4849).
Bright Eyes Feb. 29, Somerville Theatre (617-93 2000).
Elvis Costello, Steve Nieve and the Brodsk Quartet Feb. 27, Wang Center (617-482-9393).
The Casualties Feb. 28, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
Evanescence Feb. 29, Avalon (617-423-NEXT Sold out.
Reid Genauer and the Assembly of Dust Feb. 2 Paradise Rock Club 617-423-NEXT).
Josh Groban Feb. 24, Wang Center (617-42 9393). Sold out.
Percy Hill Feb. 27, Paradise Rock Club (617-42 NEXT).
Stephen Kellogg, State Radio and Brian Webb Fe 26, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Angélique Kidjo Feb. 27, Somerville Theatre (61 876-4275).
North Mississippi Allstars and Mofro Feb. 25, Pa adise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
The Samples Feb. 29, Paradise Rock Club (617-42 NEXT).
The Sounds, Ima Robot and Kill Hannah Feb. 2 Axis (617-423-NEXT).
Rod Stewart Feb. 29, FleetCenter (617-931-2000)
The Unseen, the Virus and Crash and Burn Fe 20, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
Dweezil Zappa and Lisa Loeb Feb. 22, Paradi Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 18

Abbey Lounge The Guts, 9:30 pm, 21+; the Eg bots, 10:30 pm, 21+; the McGunks, 11:30 pm, 21+
Asgard Scott Thompson and Tyler Ingrahm, 9:3 pm, no cover, 21+.
Bill's Bar The Nine and Millis Pride, $10, 18+.
Bravo @ the MFA Ronnie Ron, 5:30-9 pm, n cover.
Breezeway Maggie Rose, 7:30-10:30 pm.
The Burren Hot Day at the Zoo, 9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's blues jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Karaugh Brown and Julie Rosenthal, pm, $10.
Common Ground What a Way to Go-Go with D Vin, 10 pm, $3.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm-12 am, n cover.
Encore Lounge Stacey Bakery and Emily De Graf 9:30 pm.
Hard Rock Café Boston The Psychedelic Furs, pm, $20-$25.
Harper's Ferry Rover and Grey Area, $5, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover, 21+ Zyrah's Orange, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Paper Thin Stages, Bab Strange and Pickax, 9 pm, $8 (18+), $6 (21+ Downstairs: Kings of Leon and Cracktorch, 18+ Zuzu: Jason Hatfield and the Marmalade.
Midway Café Bleu and Greek Embassy, 21+.
Milky Way Tastemakers Industry Networking Even 9 pm, $5.
Oak Bar Sarah Brindell, 7:30-10:30 pm, no cover.
Paradise Umphrey's McGee with Joshua Redman, pm, $14, 18+. Lounge: Blackout Bar with DJs Mar and Damien, 9 pm, $5.
Plough and Stars Bad Art, cover varies, 21+.
Regattabar The Dave Douglas New Quintet, 8:3 pm, $18.
Remington's Al Vega Trio and Johnny Souza, 8:3 pm-12:30 am, no cover.



Thursdays

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Ryles Jazz Club Ken Cervenka, 7:30 pm, $8.
Scullers Claudia Villela and Ricardo Peixoto, 8 and 10 pm, $18.
The Skellig Singer-Songwriter Series with Tom Bianci, 10 pm.
Sky Bar Night Rally, Steel Ponies and Polski Fiat, 8 pm, $5, 21+.
The Tap Bruce Jacques, 9 pm.
Toad Smooch, 7-9 pm; the Freelance Bishops, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Nancy Mroczek PhD, the Plugheaded Monkeys, Blacklisted and Vas Deferens $5.
The Western Front Andrew Fenlon, 9 pm, no cover.
Wonder Bar Barry Ries, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates David Eure, 7:30-11:30 pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, FEB. 19

Abbey Lounge Vic Thrill, 9: 30 pm, 21+; Biopop, 10:30 pm, 21+; Valhalla Kittens, 11:30 pm, 21+.
Asgard Ryan McHugh, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Berklee Performance Center Dave Cowan, 8:15 pm, $5.
Bill's Bar Mindfield, Earth Defense Force, One of Us and Fluttr, $10, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Black Sole Ensemble, 7:30 pm, $3-$7.
Bravo @ the MFA Rusty Scott, 5:30-9 pm, no cover.
Breezeway One Achord, 7:30-10:30 pm.
The Burren Swingin' Johnsons, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Chris Waller, Gordon Beadle and New Day, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Laura Cortese Band, 8 pm, $12.
David Friend Hall at Berklee George Russell Jr. Trio, 1 pm; Ron Madhi Quintet, 4 pm; Ed Blomquist, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort The Rockhoppers, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
Encore Lounge Mary Callanan and Brian Patton, 9:30 pm.
The Good Life Downtown Bombay Jim and the Swinging Saphires, 6:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Hyatt Regency's Avenue One The Jason Hunter Quartet, 5:30-9:30 pm, no cover.
Johnny D's Marcia Ball, 9 pm, $20.
Kirkland Café Andres Wilson, BJ Snowden, Sandy Hammond and Sofia Koutfovitis, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover, 21+; Club D'elf, 10 pm, $7, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Streetlight Manifesto, Stray Bullets and the Delegates, 9 pm, $8, 18+. Downstairs: Inner Visions, 8 pm, $10, 18+. Zuzu: Alex McGregor with Amy Pop and Star Star Quarterback.
Milky Way DJ Ren Justice presents Shake What Your Momma Gave You Party, 9 pm,$4.
New England Conservatory, St. Botolph Hall Joel Yennior, 7 pm, no cover.
Oak Bar Sarah Brindell, 7:30-10:30 pm, no cover.
Paradise Lounge: the Bubble Up with DJ Bud E. Green, 9 pm, $5 for 18+, no cover for 21+.
Plough and Stars The Ellen Jewell Band, cover varies, 21+.
Regattabar The Dave Douglas New Quintet, 8 and 10 pm, $18.
Ryles Jazz Club Jeremy Ragsdale and Sara Lieb, 7:30 pm, $7.
Scullers Toots Thielemans, Kenny Werner and Oscar Castro Nieves, 8 and 10 pm, $26.
The Skellig Groove Authority, 10 pm.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 21+.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7-9 pm; the Armadillos, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Damone, Avoid One Thing and Unbusted.
The Western Front Reggae Mix 'n' Mingle with Stepper's Heaven, 9 pm, $8.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner and Joe McMahon, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Ahiroya Tskamoto, 7-9 pm, $8; Jennifer Matthews, Vickie Vox and Red Velvet Slide, 9:30 pm-12 am.
Les Zygomates Kim Trusty, 8 pm-12 am, no cover.

FRIDAY, FEB. 20

Abbey Lounge Weak Twos, 9 pm, 21+; Summer Villains, 9:30 pm, 21+; The IO's, 10:30 pm, 21+; Bluegrazer, 11:30 pm, 21+.
Asgard Natalie Flannagan, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Axis The Unseen, the Virus and Crash and Burn, 7 pm, $10, all ages.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Jazz Quartet, 7:30 pm, $3-$7.



Barenaked Ladies (above) play at the FleetCenter March 2. Also on the bill is Gavin DeGraw.

Bravo @ the MFA Bill Duffy, 5:30-9 pm, no cover.
The Burren Bumpin' Uglies, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Tony Bird, 8 pm, $15.
Common Ground Joint Chiefs, 10 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm-1:30 am.
Encore Lounge Jan Peters, 9:30 pm.
The Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the No Way Jose Band, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Aaron Burnett Trio, 6:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Pig Pen.
The Green Dragon Tavern Freeze Pop.
Harper's Ferry Entrain, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Spike the Punch.
Johnny D's Sam Kininger (Soulive) and Trebec, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kirkland Café Club Bohemia Mardi Gras Masquerade Ball and Zulu Parade of the Golden Blade, 8 pm-12:30 am, $10 including buffet.
The Linwood T House of the Almighty, Angry Hill CD release, Stratejacket and Dogfight, $8.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover, 21+; Grey Star Morning, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Mary Baker Eddy Library Steve Gaubatz, 6-8 pm, no cover, all ages.
Middle East Upstairs: Fooled by April, Passenger, Scamper and the Crumb Sullivans, 9 pm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Mary Lou Lord, the Gossip and Young

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Air April 12, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Altan March 20, Sanders Theatre (617-876-4275).
Los Amigos Invisibles March 12, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Erykah Badu and Floetry March 6, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Better Than Ezra March 5, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Mary Black March 13, Berklee Performance Center (617-876-4275).
David Bowie and the Polyphonic Spree March 30, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Jonatha Brooke March 26, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).
Celtic Fiddle Festival with Kevin Burke, Johnny Cunningham and Christian LeMaître Feb. 21, Somerville Theatre (617-876-4275).
The Delgados March 28, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
The Dresden Dolls March 9, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
Dropkick Murphys March 11-14, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Great Big Sea March 20, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
The Irish Tenors March 14, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Paul Kelly March 8, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Ben Kweller and Death Cab for Cutie April 10, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
G. Love and Special Sauce March 18, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
Lúnasa March 6, Somerville Theatre (617-876-4275).
Baaba Maal March 26, Somerville Theatre (617-876-4275)
Kate and Anna McGarrigle March 12, Somerville Theatre (617-876-4275)
Method Man March 31, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Bette Midler: Kiss My Brass Tour March 15, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Liz Phair March 28, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Preservation Hall Jazz Band March 12, Symphony Hall (617-931-200).)
The Push Stars March 4, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
The Saw Doctors March 17, the Roxy (617-423-NEXT).
Sting March 15 and 16, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Thrice, Moments in Grace, My Chemical Romance and Poison the Well March 19, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
The Thrills March 27, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
The Vines, Jet, the Living End and Neon March 19, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).

People, 8 pm, $12, 18+. Zuzu: Gian Carl Buscaglia.
Milky Way Thru the Keyhole Burlesque and DJ Am Deadly, 9 pm, $8.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy Whelan and Tony O'Riorden.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm-12 am, n cover.
Paradise Reid Genauer and the Assembly of Dust, pm, $16.50, 18+. Lounge: the Soft Explosions an Antler, 7 pm, $5, 21+.
Plough and Stars Chris McDermott, cover varies 21+.
Regattabar The José De Santos, Val Ramos an José Ramos Flamenco Trio, 7:30 and 10 pm, $14.
Ryles Jazz Club Ken Clark Organ Trio, 8 pm, $10.
Scullers Toots Thielemans, Kenny Werner an Oscar Castro-Neves, 8 and 10:30 pm, $28.
The Skellig Swingin' Johnsons, 10 pm.
Sky Bar Drive Like It's Stolen 8 pm, $6, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies, 21+.
Toad The Coots, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm-1 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Murphy's Law, Kings o Nuthin' and Meat Depressed, $10.
The Western Front Hip-hop and R&B showcase, pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic and Joe McMahon 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery John Cremona, 7-9 pm, $8; Out takes Unlimited, 9-10:30 pm.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8-12 pm, n cover.

SATURDAY, FEB. 21

Abbey Lounge Andrea Gillis, 9:30 pm; Muck an the Mires, 10:30 pm; the Woggles, 11:30 pm, 21+.
Asgard Alex Nackman, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Berklee Performance Center Nanci Griffith, 7:3 pm, $35-$39.50, all ages.
Bob the Chef's ZMQ, 7:30 pm, $3-$7.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, pm, 21+.
Club Passim Flynn, 8 pm, $12.
Common Ground Swinging Johnsons, 10 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Booty, 8:30 pm-1:30 am.
Encore Lounge Kezia Hirsey, 9:30 pm.
The Good Life Cambridge Weepin' Willie, 9:30 pm no cover, 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Jim Porcella Trio, 9:3 pm, no cover, 21+.
Great Scott DJs Victoria and Carl, Emergency Music the End of the World and the Narrator, 9 pm, $5.
Grand Canal Thomas Park.
The Green Dragon Tavern Random Axis.
Harper's Ferry Dirty Dozen Brass Band, $15, 21+.
Johnny D's Superhoney, 9:45 pm, $10.
Kirkland Café Rock E. Rollins, John Macey and th Score and Nick Danger, $5.
The Linwood Ghost 24, Roma, Sumo and Supachik $7.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover, 21+; th Pills, Rocket Science, Sparkola and Bully Pulpit, 1 pm, $5, 21+.
Middle East Downstairs: the Bags reunion, Beefy DC and Black Helicopter, 8 pm, $10, 18+. Zuzu Soul Le Lu Jah.
Midway Café Burning Sensations and Pheremones 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy Whelan and Tony O'Riorden.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm-12 am, n cover.
Paradise Eastmountainsouth and Julian Coryell, pm, $12, 18+. Lounge: Car Crash Show, 9 pm, $7 21+.
Plough and Stars The Bag Boys, 5:30-7 pm, cove varies; Ray Corvair Trio, cover varies, 21+.
Quincy Market Rotunda 7th annual A Cappell Fest, 11:30 am-5 pm.
Regattabar Les Hombres Calientes, Irvin Mayfiel and Bill Summers, 7:30 and 10 pm, $20.
Regent Theatre Bonnie Bramlett, 8 pm, $20-$40.
Ryles Jazz Club Four on the Floor, 8 pm, $12.
Scullers Toots Thielemans, Kenny Werner an Oscar Castro-Neves, 8 and 10:30 pm, $28.
The Skellig Six Shot Brody, 10 pm.
Sky Bar Medomasod and Tycoon Dog, 8pm, $7 21+.
Somerville Theatre Celtic Fiddle Festival, 8 pm $21.50 or $27.50.
Tír na nÓg Liquid Vision, 21+.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 7-9 pm; Davi Johnston, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Tarbox Ramblers CD-release show, Downbeat 5, Triple Thick and Whoa Man Jesus, $10.
The Western Front Red Pill, 9 pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30 pm no cover 21+.

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Zeitgeist Gallery The Bopants Katt Hernandez, 7 9 pm; Pete Robbins and Centric, Walter Wright and Sensory Overlords, 9:30 pm-12am.
Les Zygomates Daniela Schaechter Trio, 8 pm-12 am, no cover.

SUNDAY, FEB. 22

Berklee Performance Center Peru Negro, 7:30 pm, $25-$40.
Bob the Chef's Paulo Danay Jazz Quartet, 10 am-3 pm.
Bravo @ the MFA Jazz brunch with Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30 am-3 pm, no cover.
Breezeway John Kordalewski, 11-3 pm.
The Burren Singer-Songwriter series with Danielle, 8 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's blues jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Gospel brunch with Silver Lining, 10 am-3 pm; Big Time, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
Encore Lounge Carol O'Shaughnessy, 9:30 pm.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Ridgley Snow, 9 am-2:30 pm; blues jam and salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa.
Lizard Lounge The Lizard Lounge poetry jam, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Mr. T Experience, Manplanet and the Knee Hi's, 9 pm, $8, 18+. Downstairs: Rane, 8 pm, $9, 18+. Zuzu: Lenny and the Piss Poor Boys Cry.
Midway Café Ho-ag, Shark Mountain, 21+.
Milky Way The Sex Worker's Show Part III, featuring Miss Dominica K, 9 pm, $8.
Paradise Lisa Loeb and Dweezil Zappa, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
Plough and Stars Mare Wakefield, 5 pm, cover varies; Cranktones, 9:30 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Regattabar Les Hombres Calientes, Irvin Mayfield and Bill Summers, 3 and 7 pm, $18.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday jazz brunch with Steve Rochinski, 10 am.
The Skellig Watch City Opry, 4 pm.
Somerville Theatre Dougie McLean, 8 pm, $22.50-$38.
Toad Session American with Ry Cavanaugh, Sean Staples, Dinty Child, Jimmy Fitting and Billy Beard, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Bourbon Street Paraders, 12- 2 pm; Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm-12 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Concept 6 and Dana Mier, $5.
United Parish of Brookline Synergy Quintet Brass Ensemble, 4 pm, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Acoustic Improv and Philosophical Inquiry with Nat Mugavero, 3-5 pm; Audrey Ryan, 7-9 pm.

MONDAY, FEB. 23

Axis The Sounds, Ima Robot and Kill Hannah, 7 pm, $13, all ages.
Berklee Performance Center New Music Festival, featuring the Elizabeth Ziman Band, the Chie Imaizumi Orchestra, Against the Grain and Kronrider, 8:15 pm, $5.
Cantab Lounge Singer-songwriter open mike, 8 pm; Patty Keough, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Common Ground Karaoke, 9 pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
Encore Lounge Steve Heck, 9:30 pm.
Harper's Ferry Blues jam, $2, 21+.
Johnny D's Team trivia night, 9 pm, no cover.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Kevorkian's Angels, Disengaged and Bane of Existence, 9 pm, $8 for 18+, $6 for 21+. Downstairs: the Von Bondies, Runner and the Thermodynamics and the Count Me Outs, 8 pm, $10, 18+. Zuzu: Unhappy Hour with Paula Kelley.
Milky Way CNM Juke Box.
Paradise Lounge: Helvete, Cathach, Falcifier and Fodladgh, 9 pm, $3 for 18+, no cover for 21+.
Plough and Stars Beek, Rhodes and Jeffries, cover varies, 21+.
The Skellig Open mike with Hugh McGowan, 8 pm.
Toad Shwang, featuring Anita Suhanin, 8-10 pm.; the Tim Gearan Band, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Paul Schmeling Trio, 8 pm-12 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place High Llamas, $10.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner and Joe McMahon, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Dave Tronzo Funkloric Trio, 7-9 pm, $7 donation; the Fringe, 10 pm-12:30 am, $10.
Les Zygomates Black Soul, 7-11 pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, FEB. 24

Berklee Performance Center New Music Festival, featuring Rachel Solomon, Mystiq directed by Cody Geil, Spectrum directed by Ian Rapien, and Andrew Douglas, 8:15 pm, $5.



Lisa Loeb plays with Dweezil Zappa Feb. 22 at the Paradise Rock Club.

The Burren Open mike with Hugh McGowan, 7 pm.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm, 21+; True Life Bluegrass, 10 pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Mardi Gras Madness with Soul City, 7 pm-12 am, no cover.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9:30 pm.
Harper's Ferry Fat Tuesdays with Alex Howland and Backbone Blues, $6, 21+.
Johnny D's California Guitar Trio, 8:30 pm, $12.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Elefant, the Good North and Aberdeen City, 9 pm, $10, 18+. Zuzu: Sarah Borges.
Midway Café Waipiki, 21+.
Milky Way Reverend Pete's Rock-Star Karaoke, 9 pm, $3.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 7:30-10:30 pm, no cover.
Paradise Lounge: Heavy Rotation Records Showcase, 8 pm, $5 for 18+, no cover for 21+.
Plough and Stars Michael Tarbox, 21+.
Regattabar Dead Cat Bounce CD-release show, 8:30 pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Big Band Tuesdays, 7:30 pm, $9.
Sky Bar Antonini comedy show with host Anthony Spencer, 7:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Davod Johnston Band, 21+.
Toad Christian McNeill (of Hybrasil), 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Baby Boy H, $5.
Wang Center Josh Groban, 8 pm, $38-$72, sold out.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Whimsy, 9 pm- 12 am.
Les Zygomates Groove Authority, 8 pm-12 am, no cover.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 25

Abbey Lounge Joe Guese Band, 10:30 pm, 21+.
Asgard Jordan Carp, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Berklee Performance Center Rite of Spring, a jazz concert by Berklee faculty members, 8:15 pm, $5.
Bill's Bar Buddahead, $10, 18+.
Bravo @ the MFA Ronnie Ron, 5:30-9 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Jeff Felder, 7:30-10:30.
The Burren Johnny Connolly and Casey McNeil, 9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's blues jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Punks Are Folks Too!, 8 pm, $10.
Common Ground What a Way to Go-Go with DJ Vin, 10 pm, $3.
David Friend Hall at Berklee Bruce Katz Trio, 7:30 pm, free.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
Encore Lounge Stacey Bakery and Emily DeGraff, 9:30 pm.
Johnny D's Leon Russell and Tim Gearan, 8:30 pm, $25.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover, 21+; the Blind King and the Vinyl Skyline, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: the States, the Medicine Line, Roh Delicate, Parker Hill, 9 pm, $8 for 18+. $6 for 21+. Downstairs: the Skatalites, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
Midway Café Emerson Lake, 21+.
Milky Way Elevate open mike, Tribeca, Brand Agent, Camp Lo and Tajai, 8 pm, $5-$8.
Oak Bar Sarah Brindell, 7:30-10:30 pm, no cover.
Paradise North Mississippi Allstars and Mofro, 9 pm, $17.50. 18+. Lounge: Blackout Bar with DJs Mark and Damian, 9 pm, $5 for 18+, $3 for 21+.
Plough and Stars Bad Art, cover varies, 21+.
Regattabar The Aardvark Jazz Orchestra, 8:30 pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Ezra Weiss Sextet, 7:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Paula West and the Eric Reed Trio, 8 and 10 pm, $18.
The Skellig Singer-Songwriter series with Tom Bianci, 10 pm.
Sky Bar Amazing Device, 8 pm, $5, 21+.
The Tap Bruce Jacques, 9 pm-close.
Toad Dinallo and Whitfield Duo; the Ken Clark Organ Trio, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Franz Ferdinand, $8.
The Western Front Gabe Johnson Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
Wonder Bar Barry Ries, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Silas Hubbard, 7:30-11:30 pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, FEB. 26

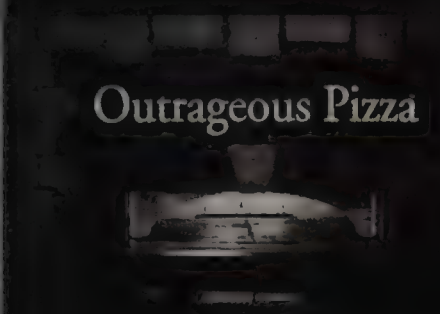
Abbey Lounge Brenda Vee, 9:30 pm; Valhalla Kittens, 10:30 pm; Lenny and the Pisspoor Boys, 11:30 pm, 21+.
Asgard Jude Nemo and Geoff Foster, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Berklee Performance Center Justin Hughes and Max Joseph, 8:15 pm, $5.
Bill's Bar Psychedelic Breakfast, $10, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Paulo Danay Jazz Quartet, 7:30 pm, $3-$7.
Bravo @ the MFA Rusty Scott, 5:30-9 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Pocket, 7:30-10:30 pm.
The Burren Swingin' Johnsons, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Chris Waller, Gordon Beadle and New Day, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim StoryLAB, Tales from the Homefront, 8 pm, $10.
Common Ground Love Night with DJ Brian, 10 pm, $3.
David Friend Hall at Berklee Armstead Christian, 4 pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Classix Trax, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
Encore Lounge Mary Callanan and Brian Patton, 9:30 pm.
Hyatt Regency's Avenue One The Jason Hunter Quartet, 5:30-9:30 pm, no cover.
Johnny D's Buckwheat Zydeco, 9 pm, $16.
Kirkland Café Those Dirty Swedes, Research Has Shown and Super Vain, $5.
The Linwood Charlie Freak, Syphilloids and Oma, $6.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover, 21+; Lucky 57, Barn Burning and the Irreverends, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
The Mary Baker Eddy Library Curtis Madigan, 6 pm, no cover, all ages.
Middle East Upstairs: Air Hockey Champion CD release show, Roxie, Midnight Evils and the Glow, 9 pm, $8, 18+. Downstairs: Traditional Rap Tour, 9 pm, $15, 18+. Zuzu: Alex McGregor.
Oak Bar Sarah Brindell, 7:30-10:30 pm, no cover.
Paradise Stephen Kellogg, Brian Webb and Star Radio, 8 pm, $12, 18+. Lounge: the Bubble Up with DJ Bud E. Green, 9 pm, $5 for 18+, no cover for 21+.
Plough and Stars Sugar in the Gourd, cover varies, 21+.
Regattabar The Dominique Eade Quartet, Mick Goodrick and John Lockwood, 8:30 pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Ergo and Ned Evett, 7:30 pm, $7.
Scullers Bruce Katz Quartet and David "Fathead" Newman, 8 and 10 pm, $18.
The Skellig Boston Horns, 10 pm.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 21+.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7-9 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Benefit for Kitty Angels with Bourbon Princess, the Kitty Kill, the Hidden Caged Heat, Karinations, Rosie Huntress, Mercury Charm Offensive, Brett Rosenberg and Lisa Bastoni, $10.
The Western Front Reggae Mix 'n' Mingle with D 'n' Dat and Strictly Yard, 9 pm, $8.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner and Joe McMahon, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Vadim Neselovkyi Group, 9:3 pm-12 am.
Les Zygomates Kim Trusty, 8 pm-12 am, no cover.

FRIDAY, FEB. 27

Asgard Sunset, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Avalon Big Head Todd and the Monsters, 7 pm, $22.50, 18+.
Bill's Bar Illuminada with Amun Ra and Concentric, $10, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Tracey Rose, 7:30 pm, $3-$7.
Bravo @ the MFA Bill Duffy, 5:30-9 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, pm, 21+.
Club Passim Rob Siegel, 8 pm, no cover.
Common Ground All Mod Cons (Jam Tribute), 1 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm-1:30 am.
Encore Lounge Jan Peters 9:30 pm.
The Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the N Way Jose Band, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Syndicate.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scooby Snax.
Harper's Ferry Jim Weider Band, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Blockhead.
Johnny D's Milo Z, 9:45 pm, $10.
Kirkland Café Melodeego, Kevin Emerson, Steve Marden and the Egregious Errors and the Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
The Linwood Death Accident, Hip Tanaka CD release show, Sand Machine and Where's Holden, $7.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover, 21+; Lars Vegas, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
The Mary Baker Eddy Library Peter Mayer, 7:30-pm, $10-$12.
Middle East Upstairs: Toussaint, Red Pill and Sara Rabdau, 9 pm, $12, 18+. Downstairs: the Walkmen, the National and the Autumn Rhythm, 8 pm, $1 18+. Zuzu: Gian Carlo Buscaglia.
Midway Café Otis Grove and Orjazzm, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin, 8 pm-12 am, no cover.
Paradise Percy Hill and Fuzz, 9 pm, $14, 18+ Lounge: Meika Pauley, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Plough and Stars RPM's, cover varies, 21+.
Regattabar The Charles Mingus Bird Band, 7:3 and 10 pm, $24.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Jazz Orchestra, 8 pm, $10.
Scullers Earl Klugh, 8 and 10:30 pm, $30.
Sky Bar Savin Ill, 8 pm, $7, 21+.
The Skellig Swingin' Johnsons, 10 pm.
Somerville Theatre Angelique Kidjo, 8 pm, $24.5 or $29.50.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies, 21+.
Toad The Dwight Ritcher Band, no cover.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm-1 am
Wang Center Elvis Costello, Steve Nieve and th Brodsky Quartet, 8 pm, $40-$65.
The Western Front Hot Like Fire, 9 pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic and Joe McMahon 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm-12 am, n cover.

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Afro-Peruvian group Peru Negro performs traditional music and dances Feb. 22 at Berklee Performance Center.

SATURDAY, FEB. 28

Abbey Lounge Scheme, 9:30 pm; the Rudds, 10:30 pm; the Details, 11:30 pm, 21+.
Asgard The I.T. Band, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Axis The Casualties, 7 pm, $12, all ages.
Bob the Chef's Pat Loomis, 7:30 pm, $3-$7.
The Burren Undercover, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Ryan Montbleau and Peter Prince, 8 pm, $10.
Common Ground DJ Chu, 10 pm, $3.
Dick's Last Resort Hit Squad, 8:30 pm-1:30 am.
Encore Lounge Kezia Hirsey, 9:30 pm.
The Good Life Cambridge Weepin Willie, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Dick and Jane.
Great Scott DJ Vicotoria, DJ Carl, Mittens and Challenger, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Side Effects.
Harper's Ferry Mr. Brownstone, $12, 21+.
Johnny D's Swingin' Johnsons, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kirkland Café The Motive, Weight Less, Felonius Junk and XIth Commandment, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover; All the Queen's Men, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: The Slip, Leslie Halpert and Nathan Moore, 9 pm, $12, 18+. Downstairs: Steve Kimock Band, 9 pm, $25, 18+.
Midway Café The Konks, Tunnel of Love and Secret Cock, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin, 8 pm-12 am, no cover.
Paradise III Kings, OVM/JT and the Dirty Truth, 9 pm , $10, 18+. Lounge: Chords and Discourse series: Elvis Costello Tribute, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Plough and Stars The Bag Boys, 5:30-7 pm, cover varies; One Third Dime, cover varies, 21+.
Regattabar The Charles Mingus Bird Band, 7:30 and 10 pm, $26.
Ryles Jazz Club Victor Mendoza, 8 pm, $10; Four on the Floor, Dance club, 8 pm, $12.
Scullers Earl Klugh, 8 and 10:30 pm, $30.
The Skellig Random Axis, 10 pm.
Sky Bar Mersa, Blue Letter Days, Satellite 7 and the Wrong Marianne, 8 pm, $6, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Liquid Vision, 21+.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 7-9 pm; Frank Morey Band, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm-1 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Mates of State, Dear Leader and On Fire, $10.
The Western Front Crucial Massive, 9 pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Malaby/Sanchez/Rainey Trio, 8 pm-12 am.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 8 pm-12 am, no cover.

SUNDAY, FEB. 29

Avalon Evanescence, Default and Atomship, 6:30 pm, all ages, sold out.
Axis Mest, Fall Out Boy, Matchbook Romance and Dynamite Boys, 7 pm, $15, all ages.
Bob the Chef's Brian Kelly, 10am-3 pm.
Bravo @ the MFA Jazz brunch with Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30 am-3 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Fred Woodard Trio, 11am-3 pm.
The Burren Singer-Songwriter series with Danielle, 8 pm.
Club Passim Amy Correia and Kyler England, 8 pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Gospel brunch, 10 am-3 pm; Big Time, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
Encore Lounge Carol O'Shaughnessy, 9:30 pm.
FleetCenter Rod Stewart, 8 pm, $49.75-$95.25.
Harper's Ferry Caroline Guide, Pete Schmidt and Cara Aley, $5, 21+.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Matt Dorko and Larry Kukers, 9 am-2:3 pm; blues jam and salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa.
Lizard Lounge The Lizard Lounge poetry jam,9 pm, $5, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Joan of Arc, Love of Everything and Make Believe, 9 pm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Music for America and Wake Up present Party and Politics with De la Soul, 8 pm, $25. Zuzu: Rockabilly Night with Dana Stewart.
Midway Café Black Kites, 21+.
Milky Way Ren Jender's Amazon Slam with DJ Kristin Korpos, 8:30, $7.
Paradise The Samples and Brian Vander Ark, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
Plough and Stars John Cremona, 5 pm, cover varies, 21+; the Coachmen, 9:30 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Regattabar Boston Musical Theatre's *All That Jazz* with Mara Bonde and David Ripley, 3 and 5:30 pm, $20.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday jazz brunch with Yoko Miwa, 10 am.
The Skellig Watch City Opry, 4 pm.
Sky Bar On the Drop, Kweejeebo and Oshe, 8 pm, $6, 21+.
Somerville Theatre Bright Eyes and Jim James, M. Ward, 8 pm, $16.
Top of the Hub Bourbon Street Paraders, 12-2 pm; Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm-12 am.
The Western Front Merida Castillo Band and the Cuban Social Club, 5-11 pm.
Zeitgeist Gallery Acoustic Improv, Philosophical Inquiry and Nat Mugavero, 3-5 pm; Baguco, 8-11 pm.

MONDAY, MARCH 1

Bill's Bar Monsta Monday, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Team trivia night, 9 pm.
Middle East Zuzu: Unhappy Hour, 10 pm.
Regattabar The Igor Butman Quartet, 8:30 pm, $12.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner and Joe McMahon, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAY, MARCH 2

Club Passim Bitch and Animal, 8 pm, $12.
FleetCenter Barenaked Ladies with Gavin DeGraw and Butterfly Boucher, 7:30 pm, $35-$45, all ages.
Johnny D's Dave Hull and Andy Cohen, 8:30 pm, $8.
Middle East Upstairs: Kayo Dot, Irepress, Eclectic Collective and A Cold Reality, 9 pm, $8 for 18+, $6 for 21+.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 7:30-10:30 pm, no cover.
Regattabar The Igor Butman Quartet, 8:30 pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Big Band Tuesdays, 7:30 pm, $9.
Scullers Steve Smith and Buddy's Buddies, 8 and 10 pm, $18.
Sky Bar Ladyfriend (x-Tarmak), 8 pm, $5, 21+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm-12 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Grant Lee Phillips and Jake Brennan, $10.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenny Trio, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Boston (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-876-4275). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3474).*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Choppin' Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (617 734-4177). MBTA: Green Line to Brigham Circle.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Cottonwood Café *222 Berkeley St., Boston (617-247-2225). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
David Friend Hall at Berklee *921 Boylston St., Boston (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudentia*
Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (61 624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
The Good Life Cambridge *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Centra*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Par Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112) MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Great Scott *1122 Commonwealth Ave., Allston (617-566-9014). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (61 789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617 876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Hard Rock Café *131 Clarendon St., Boston (617-424-7625). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010 MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254 9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Hyatt Regency's Avenue One *One Avenue Lafayette, Boston (617-912-1234). MBTA: Red Green Line to Park.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617 482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (617-267-8644 MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Mary Baker Eddy Library *200 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-450-7500). MBTA: Green Line to Prudential, Symphony or Hynes/ICA.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Villag*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Broo*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*



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Evanescence plays at Avalon Feb. 29.

Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
New England Conservatory of Music, St Botolph Hall *241 St. Botolph St., Boston (617-585-1122). MBTA:Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Old South Church *645 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1970). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
P.A.'s Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
Quincy Market Rotunda *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-523-1300). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regent Theatre *7 Medford St., Arlington (781-646-4849).*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Skellig *240 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0679).*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wang Center *268 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Washington Square Tavern *714 Washington St., Brookline (617-232-8989). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington.*
The Western Front *343 Western Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7772). MBTA: #70 bus from Central Square Station.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 18

Boston Philharmonic
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bostonphil.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. $23-$63. Benjamin Zander conducts the Boston Philharmonic in a performance of Mahler's Second Symphony.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm. Free. Collin Durrant leads the NEC Concert Choir and the Chamber Singers in works by Schutz, Lotti, Poulenc and Copland.

THURSDAY, FEB. 19

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $26-$86. Gennady Rozhdestvensky conducts the BSO in a performance of works by Glazunov, Sibelius, Prokofiev and Shostakovich.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm. Free. Donald Palma coaches the NEC Chamber Orchestra as it performs works by Mendelssohn, Brahms and Haydn.

FRIDAY, FEB. 20

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$95. Same program as Feb. 19.

The (In)Compleat Works of Gilbert and Sullivan
Boston University Tsai Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-8725). www.newenglandlightopera.org. MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. East. 7:30 pm. $25-$30. This revue is based on all 14 of Gilbert and Sullivan's operas.

SATURDAY, FEB. 21

Boston Early Music Festival
St. Paul Roman Catholic Church, 29 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-424-7232). www.bemf.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $15-$45. The medieval ensembles Sequentia and Dialogos perform a program titled The Emperor's Cantors: The Globalization of Medieval Chant.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$95. Same program as Feb. 19.

Brandeis University
Brandeis University, Slosberg Recital Hall, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3400). www.brandeis.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 8 pm. Free. The Department of Music's graduate composers perform Notes for the New Century, a program compiling their original works.

The (In)Compleat Works of Gilbert and Sullivan
Boston University Tsai Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-8725). www.newenglandlightopera.org. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University East. 2 pm. and 7:30 pm. $25-$30. Same program as Feb. 20.

SUNDAY, FEB. 22

American Classics
Pickman Concert Hall, Longy School of Music, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. $15-$20. Ben Sears and Brad Conner team up with the Camptown Ladies in a performance entitled Hooray for the Ladies, which mixes classic American songs.

Boston Philharmonic
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bostonphil.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $23-$63. Same performance as Feb. 18.

Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-278-5102). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 1:30 pm. $5-$20. Soprano Lauren Skuce, violinist Ida Karafian, cellist Fred Sherry and pianist Anne-Marie McDermott perform works by Stravinsky, Haydn, Adolphe and Ravel.

FleetBoston Celebrity Series
New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 3 pm. $41-$51. The Takacs Quartet joins pianist Andreas Haefliger in a performance featuring music from the Classical era to the 20th century.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm. Free. BSO percussionist Frank Epstein leads a concert titled Rendezvous in Rhythm, with the NEC Percussion Ensemble and guest Anton Fig, drummer on *The Late Show with David Letterman*.

TUESDAY, FEB. 24

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $26-$86. Same program as Feb. 19.

Boston University
Boston University Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-8724). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University East. 8 pm. Free. David Martins conducts a performance by the Boston University Wind Ensemble.

King's Chapel
King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. 12:15 pm. $3. Violinist Peter Hanley and cellist Irina Chirkova perform as part of the Tuesday Recital Series.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm. Free. Ken Schaphorst of NEC's jazz studies and improvisation department and NEC guest lecturer Steve Lacy conduct the NEC Wind Ensemble in a performance of their own works.

Partita Party
First Lutheran Church, 299 Berkeley St., Boston (617-661-0570). www.tuesdayswithsebastian.info. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm. $10. Organist Christa Rakich and harpsichordist Peter Sykes perform as part of the Bach Keyboard Project.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 25

Boston University
Boston University Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-8724). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. East. 8 pm. Free. Boston University College of Fine Arts faculty members perform a concert including the works of Mozart, Saint-Saens and Schubert.

New England Conservatory's Weilerstein Trio
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm. Free. Violinist Donald Weilerstein, pianist Vivian Hornik Weilerstein and cellist Alisa Weilerstein perform works from Schumann, Schnittke and Dvorak.

THURSDAY, FEB. 26

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 10:30 am (rehearsal); 8 pm (performance). Rehearsal $16; performance $26-86. Herbert Blomstedt conducts the BSO in a rehearsal of pieces by Mendelssohn, Mozart and Nielsen.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm. Free. The NEC Jordan Winds perform *Carnevale*, adapted for chamber winds by Thomas Stone from music by Stravinsky, plus works by Mozart, Gabrieli, Veloso and Howard Hanson.

FRIDAY, FEB. 27

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30 pm. $26-$86. Same program as Feb. 26.

FleetBoston Celebrity Series
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $50-$100. Mezzo-soprano Cecilia Bartoli joins the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment in a performance of arias by Salieri and his contemporaries.

Handel and Haydn Society
New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-262-1815). www.handandhaydn.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm. $29-$58. Gra Llewellyn conducts the Handel and Haydn Cho in A Madrigal Mystery Tour, a concert featur madrigals by Gesualdo, Monteverdi and Alexan Goehr.

SATURDAY, FEB. 28

Auros Group for New Music
Longy School of Music, Pickman Hall, 27 Garden S Cambridge (617-323-5444). www.auros.co MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $10-$20. Co temporary chamber ensemble the Auros Group p forms a program titled Voices in Words and Mus Works Inspired by Women Poets.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-26 1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Sy phony. 8 pm. $29-$95. Same program as Feb. 26.

FleetBoston Celebrity Series
Boston University Tsai Performance Center, 6 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-8724). www.celebr series.org. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston Univers East. 12 and 2 pm. $15-$25. Conductor Robe Kapilow's presentation of Prokofiev's *Peter and t Wolf* combines music and narration.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-58 1122). www.chineseperformingarts.net. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. A 8 pm. $15-$25. The Foundation for Chinese P forming Arts presents this performance by pian Dang Thai-Son.

Spectrum Singers
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (61 492-8902). www.spectrumsingers.org. MBTA: Gre Line to Arlington. 8 pm. $20-$30. The Spectru Singers perform with pianists Karen Harvey a James Barkovic in a performance entitl Masquerade and Memory, featuring works Copland, Scott Joplin, Charles Fussell and others.

SUNDAY, FEB. 29

Boston Philharmonic
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-26 1200). www.bostonphil.org. MBTA: E Green Line Symphony. 3 pm. $23-$63. Same program as Feb. 1

Cantata Singers
Roxbury Community College Media Arts Center, 12 Columbus Ave., Roxbury (617-267-6502). ww cantatasingers.org. MBTA Orange Line to Roxbu Crossing. 3 pm. $15, $10 adults, $5 children. T Cantata singers present a performance of Benjam Britten's children's opera, *The Little Sweep*.

FleetBoston Celebrity Series
New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gair borough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.celebr series.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or C ange Line to Mass. Ave. 3 pm. $35-$40. Clarinet Richard Stoltzman joins the Borromeo String Qu tet for a performance of works by Haydn a Brahms.

Handel and Haydn Society
Jesuit Urban Center, 775 Harrison Ave., Boston (61 262-1815). www.handelandhaydn.org. 3 pm. $2 $58. Same program as Feb. 27.

James Lawrence Memorial Concert
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fe way, Boston (617-278-5102). www.gardnerm seum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 1: pm. $20. Douglas Boyd conducts the Gardn Chamber Orchestra.

Mikhail Glinka's 200th Birthday
New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gair borough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.n englandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm. Fr Tatyana Dudochkin leads a concert in honor of t 200th birthday of Russian composer Mikh Glinka. Guests include members of the Bolsh Theatre of Moscow, the Parker String Quartet a NEC faculty.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-58 1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. A 8 pm. Free. Cellist Laurence Lesser leads the Fi Monday at Jordan Hall, with the NEC string facul and the Biava Quartet performing songs by Ba and Gubaidulina.

TUESDAY, MARCH 2

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-26 1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Sy phony. 8 pm. $26-$86. Same program as Feb. 26.

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dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $5, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Jay Ine spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Monsta Mondays DJ Kaptain Krunch spins rock, and live bands perform, 9 pm, $6, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJs spin R&B and hip-hop, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Scott Damgaard plays live music, 9 pm, 21+.

The Rack
Dance party with DJ Marco Small, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Vertigo
The Night DJs G-Squared and Steve Austin kick off the work week with hip-hop, house and old-school, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 19+ (women), 21+ (men).

TUESDAYS

An Tua Nua
What's Up Night A night of R&B, house, funk and soul music, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Phat Tuesdays Old-school hip-hop with DJ D Sharp, 9 pm, $10, 19+, college ID required.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+.

The Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Orange DJs John Davis and Pat Fontes bring the house music, and weekly guest DJs spin, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Eddie Lee spins house, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Phoenix Landing
Deep Tones DJ Brynmore spins a mix of soul, funk, house and acid jazz, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Ibiza DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Ricky spins 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

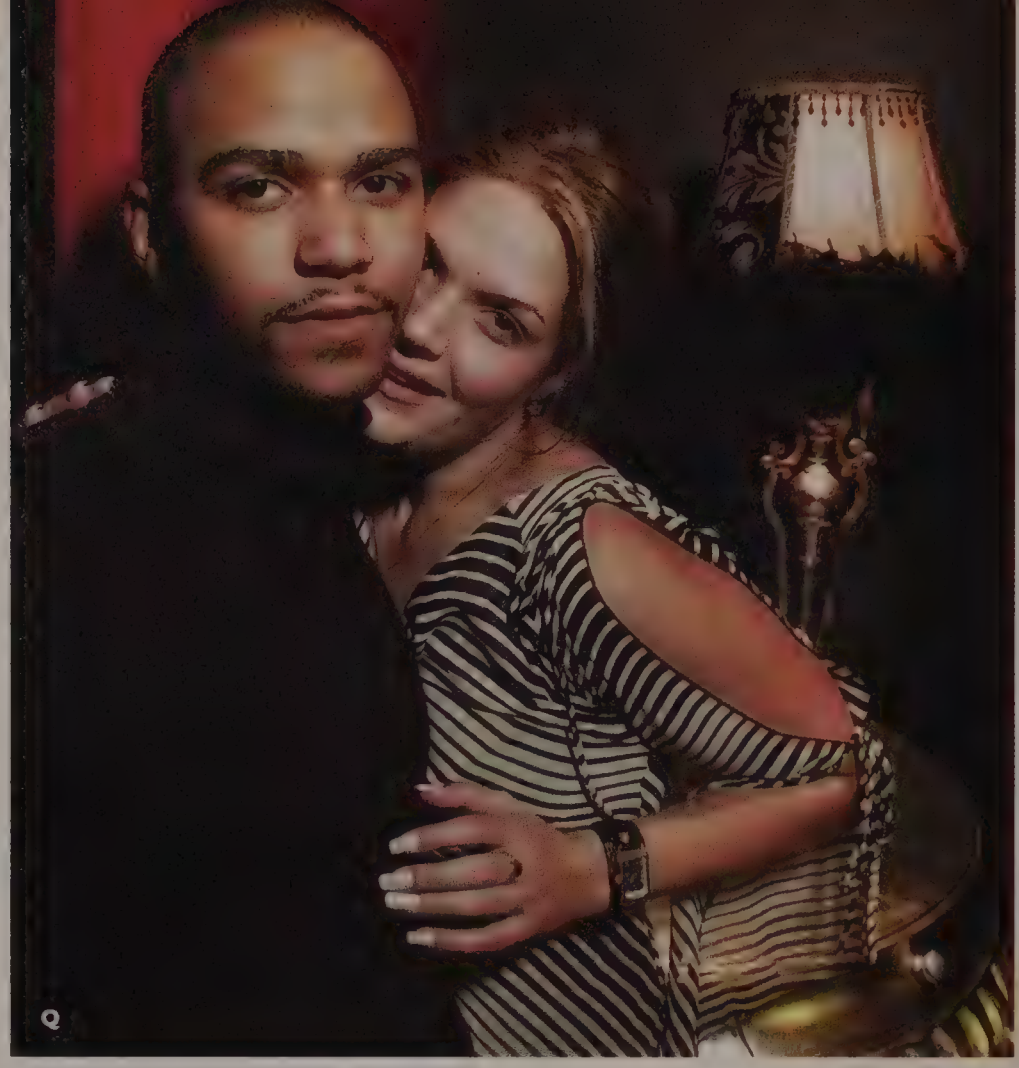
Trio
Always Best Tuesday The night features all hip-hop, all night, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

Aria
Lust DJ John Morris spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, $8, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, $21.



Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins Greek and international tunes, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
What a Way to Go Go Mod Night with DJ Vin, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up R&B, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mercury Lounge DJs Nomadik and Timmy Allen host a night of soul, funk and house, 9 pm, $3-5, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin deep house, trance and grassroots techno, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
International Wednesdays DJ JC is in the Latin Lounge; DJs Alex and Felix spin in the back, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Massi spins top-40, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Q
House DJs host break-dancing contests, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Ricky spins spins, 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Cabin Stabbin' Wednesdays DJ Boogie Ba Do spins dub to start the party, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Jazz Wednesdays Ron Murphy and his quintet bring cool jazz to the main lounge, 9 pm-11 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B. Downstairs: Live music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Vertigo
Anitya Downstairs: Psychedelic trance music by DJs Dino, Mathwin and Dave Henshaw. Upstairs: Analog Lounge with DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake, 10 pm, $5, free before 11 pm or with NYC ID, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
Fizzle DJ Ren Justice spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; DJ Roger M and DJ Thanos spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
International Thursdays DJ Gee Spin and guests play rap and hip-hop tunes, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Mark Morris and Catunes play pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and Salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
DJ JC spins international house, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Exchange
Heaven and Hell DJs Chaos, 7L and Mr. Aru spin house and hip-hop, 9:30 pm-2 am, 19+ (with college ID).

Felt
After-work live jazz, 6 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou spins late night, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •Feb. 26, Brick Park.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
Nonstop music with DJ Massi or DJ Ryan, no cover, 21+.

I/D
Square One Thursdays DJs Dres and Wagz host a night of progressive dance music, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Massi gets the dance party started upstairs, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ David James spin dance tunes and old-school, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Doc spins the latest tunes, 21+.

La Boom
Privilege DJ Felix cranks the noise, 11 pm-2 am, 21+.

Level
Life DJ Adilson pumps house, trance and progressive, and DJ NFerna spins hip-hop, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Ricky Fatts spins house and hip-hop. 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

Parris
•Feb. 26, the Zoo performs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Carrie spins upbeat lounge in the front, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett performs live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Q
DJ Hustle Simmons from JAM'N 94.5 spins hip-hop all night long, 9 pm, $5, ladies free all night, 21+.

The Rack
Ibiza DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Littles spins from 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali and Ross spin a mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

711 Boylston
Play Thursdays DJ trio Groovefire spins house music with special guests Beat Khemistry, 6 pm-2 am.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Steve Sosong spins new dance and R&B. Downstairs: Justin Beech, 9 pm-1 am, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ JR Vega hosts Latin night with live music by the Latin Party Boys; free salsa lessons with Dan Marshall, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
Hip Hop Event Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip-hop, 9 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5 pm-10 pm, no cover.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJs Lazee Boy and Gabe play funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 from the '70s, '80s and '90s, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Floss DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Avaland DJ Nailz spins progressive dance music, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Steve Austin spins hip-hop, old-school and dancehall, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Axis
Avaland DJ Caprice spins hip-hop as part of Avaland, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins top-40, and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
F Night WBCN's Bradley J spins '80s classics, and alternative and rock tribute bands perform live, 9 pm, cover varies, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft VJ Johnny Walker Black spins top-40 dance and hip-hop tunes accompanied by interactive video shows, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Life at Buzz Girls-only lesbian night with DJ Bruno spinning R&B and hip-hop tunes downstairs and DJ Ilabash spinning reggae upstairs, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 18+

Caprice
DJ Eddie K spins a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, and two guest DJs spin on the first floor, 10 pm, 21+.

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

presents

The 10th Annual Boston's Beloved Bartender Issue



After many a night listening to the details of their patrons' lives, Boston's favorite drink slingers will tell you a little about themselves and share their professionally perfected recipes. Throughout these pages, Boston's hippest restaurants, bars, clubs and beverage companies also get a shot at the limelight. This issue is a Boston tradition and a city fave! You won't want to miss the chance to advertise in this intoxicating issue—in fact make it a double!

The Improper Bostonian is distributed to more than 250 restaurants, bars and clubs.

Our readers frequent local bars and restaurants more than 16 times a month!

The Improper Bostonian reaches more than 392,900 readers every two weeks!

Call 617-859-1400, ext.221, to book advertising space now.

Issue date: March 31 Advertising deadline: March 19

Embassy
DJ Nailz and DJ Eddie Lee spin hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $20, 19+.

The Exchange
DJs Tiziano and Luca spin house and hip-hop upstairs, while DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B in the vault, 9:30 pm, $10, 21+.

Felt
After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs, spinning high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Bob Gallagher spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •Feb. 20, Catunes perform live, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •Feb. 27, live music with the Zoo, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs Big Daddy and Rizzi spin, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins house and old favorites, $5, ladies free before midnight, 21+.

La Boom
Fashion Fridays Firefly Promotions hosts this fashion night featuring DJ Rick Naples, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

Level
Secret Society DJ Hoff spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B on the fourth and fifth floors, and DJ Niko spins Greek and international tunes on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Matrix
DJ Adilson of Roxy Saturdays spins high-energy house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

The Modern
DJ JC plays Latin rhythms, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Rockpile** WAAF's Jay Ferrera broadcasts live, and rotating bands perform, 9 pm, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•Feb. 20, live music with Central Basement, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+. •Feb. 27, Drop Dead Sexy performs, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Shake What Your Mama Gave You DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
Industrie hosts weekly guest DJs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Craig spins the latest hits, 10 pm, $5.

Q
DJ B-Spin spins hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, $5 (with complimentary Stoli vodka from 9 pm-10 pm), 21+.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Johnny C with KISS 108's Artie, 10:45 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Lite Nite DJ Easy spins a mix that includes neo-soul and feel-good classics, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

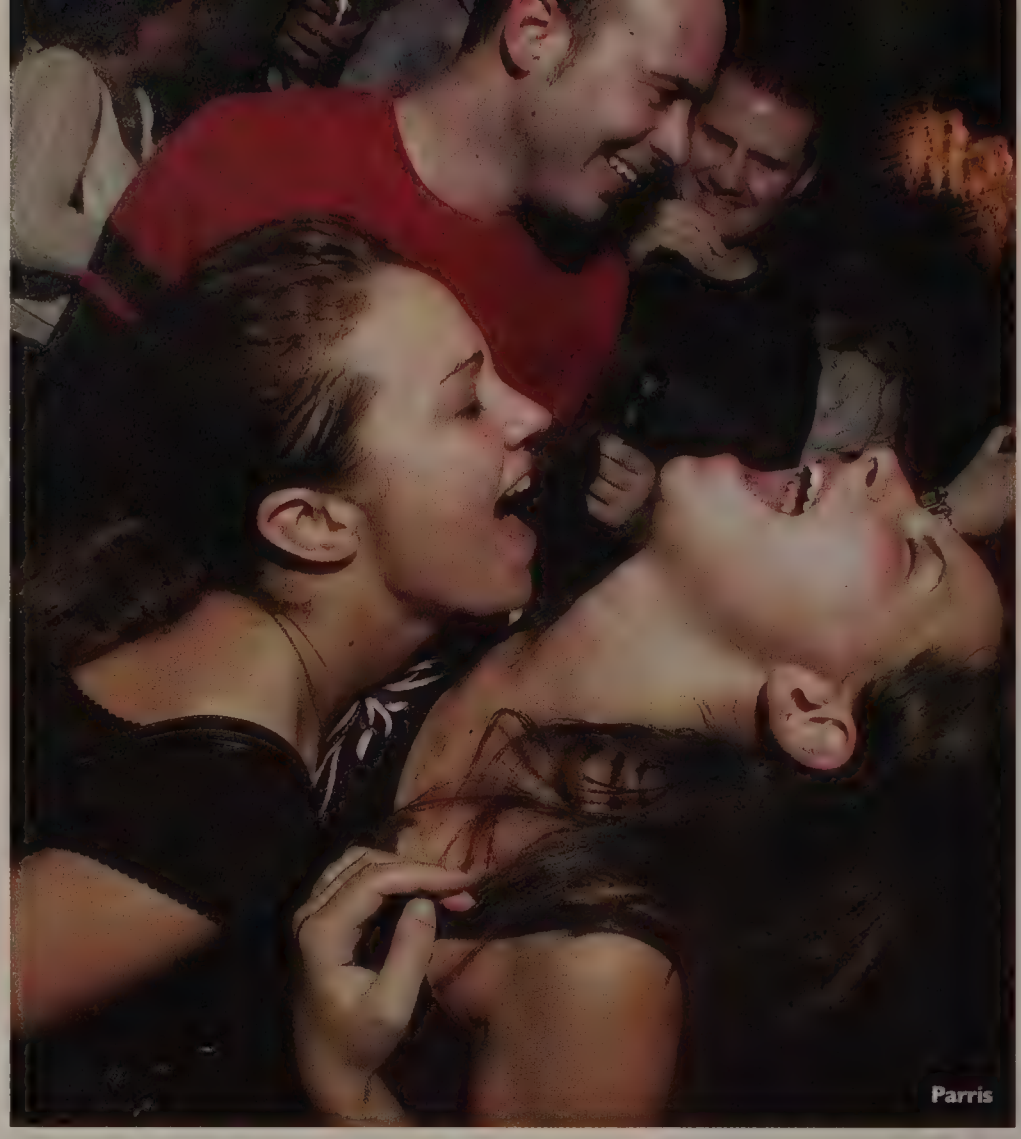
The Roxy
DJ Bruno spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance. Downstairs: live music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover before 10 pm, 21+.

Sophia's
Sangria and Salsa Salsa and merengue lessons, 7-10 pm, followed by the Latin Party Boys and DJs Mike C and Zino spinning Latin dance, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room, and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.


Parris

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Trio
Boston After Dark Dance to hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with Latin vibes. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vivid Lounge
Brian Roache spins top-40, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJs Lazee Boy and Gabe play funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

Aria
DK Kon spins high-energy vocal house and hip hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Total Request Avalon DJ Tim Collins plays your requests along with top-40, dance and hip-hop, 10 pm, $15 ($10 before 12:30 am), 21+.

The Avenue
DJ Kevin Munroe spins house and trance, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Start! DJ Damien spins alternative rock and '80s hits, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Dance Night DJ Rob Nockshis spins dance music all night, 9 pm, $8 ($10 includes access to Jake Ivory's rock 'n' roll piano bar), 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. VJ Johnnie Walker presents top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Franklin creates a lounge atmosphere with his international, Latin and house sounds, 10 pm, ($10 after 11 pm), 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood It's women's night at Hollywood with two floors of hip-hop and house music with DJ MsLadyJ upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Roger M spins international house, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop, house, and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites, disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, $10, 21+. •Feb. 21, Central Basement performs live, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •Feb. 28, the Zoo performs live, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

I/D
X Night WFNX presents a night of retro '80s and rock, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, while downstairs DJ O'Toole plays top-40, 10 pm, 21+.

La Boom
Wild on @ La Boom DJ Tim Collins and KISS 108 host a night of music and dancing, 10 pm, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 9 pm, 21+.

Matrix
DJ Gee Spin plays hip-hop in the front room, while DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins house and 90s dance in the back, 9 pm, $10, 21+ (men), 19+ (women).

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10 pm, $7, ladies are free before 10:30 pm, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Eddie Lee plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies free, men $5 before 10:30 pm; $15, 18+; $10, 21+ after 10:30 pm. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, $15, 19+; no cover 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins top-40 and hip-hop mixes, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Underground** DJs spin hip-hop, top-40, dance, techno and reggae for the under-21 crowd, 7-11 pm, $14. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes up hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•Feb. 22, live music with Kristin & the Noise, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+. •Feb. 28, live music with Drop Dead Sexy, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins 80s, new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Rick Naples spins high-energy dance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Tom Hogan spins the groove, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Q
DJ Josh Carl spins house and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi and DJ Littles host the live broadcast and dance party, 8 pm, 21+, no cover.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins modern mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins house and techno, 9 pm, $15, 21+.

711 Boylston
Fever DJ Yorgo spins a mix of ethnic and international music, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8 pm. Downstairs: Kevin Kirrane, 9 pm, no cover before 10 pm.

Sophia's
DJ Zino spins salsa and merengue while a Latin band plays on the first floor and DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on the second floor, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and house, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Trio
Best of Night DJs spin Eurohouse, hip-hop and classics, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

Vivid Lounge
Brian Roache spins top-40, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJs Lazee Boy and Gabe play funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, 21+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Adrienne spins Brit-pop and new wave tunes, 9 pm-1 am, $3, 19+.

Aria
DJ Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ K-Don, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+

Caprice
DJ Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
Liquid Sundays DJs Joshua Carl and Paul Dailey spin tribal and deep house, breaks, techno and jungle beats, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
I.R.N. Service Industry Night DJ Doc spins hip-hop, house and top-40, 11 pm, no cover.

La Boom
Futurebeat: Alien Disco DJ Addambombb spins a mix of retro progressive tracks, trip-hop and synth-pop, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Satellite A new "by girls, for girls" lesbian night featuring DJ Dee and dance music, amateur drag contests, and films, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Jump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $3, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Massi tops off the weekend with an array of tunes, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Reverie Boston DJ Shannon and weekly guest DJs spin goth, industrial and lounge, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
DJ Dave Jordan plays an array of top-40 tunes, 9 pm, 21+.

Trio
Vibe Lounge DJs provide the vibe, 10 pm, 21+.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins Brazilian beats, 11 pm, $5, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Whiskey Park
Sherry DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock classics, hip-hop, house and R&B.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-4121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-2508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-3000).*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-2110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Dad's *911 Boylston St., Boston (617-296-3237).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
The Exchange *148 State St., Boston (617-726-7601).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The G Spot *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
La Boom *One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Light *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *(El Copa, Male Encounter, Officers' Club, Oxygen, Rio, Underground and Uptown) 1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
711 Boylston *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Sweetwater Café *5 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-2515).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
Vivid Lounge *148 State St., Boston (617-726-7600).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*







museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors
Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Gary Schneider: Portraits* is a 30-year collection of the artist's black-and-white and color photographs. Feb. 28-June 13.•*The Continuous Stroke of Breath: Calligraphy from the Islamic World* features Arabic, Indian, Persian and Turkish calligraphy from the 9th through 20th centuries. Through July 18. •*Rocks, Mountains, Landscapes, and Gardens: The Essence of East Asian Painting*, an exhibition of rocks used in East Asian art, shows through Aug. 1.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm. •*Boston Police Department 150th Anniversary* is an exhibit illustrating the police department's 150-year history. Through Feb. 27. •*Match-up Interfaith Volunteers* is a photojournalism exhibit on the theme of relationships late in life. Through Feb. 27. •*Modern Illuminations* features new illuminated manuscripts by students at Shady Hill School. Through Feb. 27. •*Faces and Places*, an exhibit of historical maps of Boston, shows through April 30.

Carpenter Center for Visual Arts
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). www.ves.fas.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-11:30 pm; Sun., 12-11:30 pm. Free. •*New Spring Faculty 2004*, a group show of works by Harvard's Department of Visual and Environmental Studies, displays through Feb. 29.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. •*Joseph Wheelwright: Stone Heads and Tree Figures*, a sculpture exhibition, shows through May 16. •*Jirimani* is a photographic transparency installation by Jo Yarrington. Through May 30. •*Self-Evidence: Identity in Contemporary Art* is a group show of multimedia work focusing on self-representation in art. Through May 30. •*Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Sense of Place, Part II* features paintings by various artists. Through summer 2004.

Fogg Art Museum/ Busch-Reisinger Museum
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Harvard Collects American Art* shows through Feb. 22. •*Life as Art: Paintings by Gregory Gillespie and Frances Cohen Gillespie* shows through March 28.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •*Dodos, Trilobites, and Meteorites...Treasures of Nature and Science at Harvard* features specimens from scientific explorations of the earth throughout the past 200 years. Through spring 2004. •*Into the Mountains* features the photography of mountaineer Bradford Washburn. Through spring 2004. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species by glass artists Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7, $5 students and seniors. •*Made in Mexico/Heche en México* features 20 international artists' interpretations of Mexican culture. Through May 9.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, free for those under 18. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. •Elaine Reichek's embroideries, which depict Biblical images borrowed from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists, display online in the virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm.•*Son et Lumière*, a group exhibition of sound, light and video installations, shows through April 14. •Mike Roger's *Cross Country* is a Super 8 film documenting a cross-country road trip. Through April 4.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). www.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5, $3 students and seniors, $1 children. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing.

The Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. •*If These Dolls Could Talk: 150 Years of Black Dolls* is an exhibition of 19th-and 20th-century handmade, porcelain, plastic and sculptured dolls. Through May 1.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm; Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15 adults, $13 students and seniors, free for children 17 and under. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free. Special exhibitions are an additional cost. •Johannes Vermeer's *Young Woman with a Water Pitcher*, a rare painting on loan from New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art, displays through Feb. 22. •*Traveling Scholars 2003* features the work of three of the Museum School's travel scholarship recipients. Through March 14. •*Draped in Dragons: Chinese Court Costumes* features clothes worn by members of the Qing imperial court. Through May 2. •*Gauguin Tahiti*, a retrospective of the painter's work from Tahiti, shows. Feb. 29-June 20.•More than 200 jades dating from the Neolithic period to the Qing Dynasty display in *Chinese Jades from the Hartman Collection*. Through August. •*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13 adults, $11 seniors, $10 children. •*Magic: The Science of Illusion* is an interactive exhibition that looks at mind reading, levitation, transformation and the "disembodied head" illusion. Through Feb. 22. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum
33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Artist to Icon: Early Photographs of Elvis, Dylan and the Beatles* is an exhibition of 48 black-and-white photographs taken early in the careers of the three rock legends. Through June 6. •*Hatch Show Print's Rock 'n' Roll Posters* features letterpress posters for concerts by musicians including Johnny Cash, Frank Zappa and Bruce Springsteen. Through June 13. •*A Glimpse of Boston Theater, 1850-1903* includes 15 playbills and programs from that period. Through June 20. •*The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'd* is an exhibition of 18th-century local history. Ongoing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household objects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. •*To Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community* is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www.pem.org. Sun.-Mon., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am-9 pm. Adults $12, seniors $10, students $8; children 16 and under and residents of Salem free. •*Under the Imperial Gaze* features two large-scale Chinese scrolls. Through May 2. •*Geisha: Beyond the Painted Smile* examines geisha culture through painting, woodblock prints, photography, video, musical instruments and authentic accessories. Through May 30. •*Men Plow, Women Weave* displays images of weaving and plowing by Chinese artists. Through May 30. •*Vanished Kingdoms: The Wulsin Photographs of China, Tibet, and Mongolia 1921-1925*, an exhibition of color images taken by American explorers Jane E. and Frederick R. Wulsin, shows through June 13.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology
11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50 adults, $6 seniors and students, $5 children •*These Shoes Were Made for...Walking?* is a collection of 49 pairs of shoes from ancient to contemporary times. Through February. •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments* features the museum's large Mesoamerican cast collection. Ongoing. •*Encounters with the Americas* an ongoing exhibition featuring original sculpture and plaster casts of Mesoamerican cultures. •*Hall of the North American Indian: Change and Continuity* features art depicting the response of Native Americans across the continent to the arrival of Europeans. Ongoing. •*Pacific Islands Hall*, another ongoing exhibition, displays artifacts from the Pacific Islands.

Somerville Museum
One Westwood Road, Somerville (617-666-9810). www.lostheatres.org. Thu., 2-7 pm; Fri., 2-5 pm and Sat., 12-5 pm. •*The Lost Theatres of Somerville* combines oral histories, photographs, memorabilia and interactive media to explore the rise and fall of Somerville's 14 historic movie theaters, only one of which operates today. Through March 28.



Where Do We Come From? What Are We? Where Are We Going? is part of the exhibition *Gauguin Tahiti*, at the MFA Feb. 29–June 20.

Preview

Island Post-Impressions

The MFA highlights Gauguin's tropical treasures

Just as Degas is synonymous with ballerinas, and Toulouse-Lautrec with cabaret scenes, their contemporary Paul Gauguin (1848-1903) brings images of Tahiti to mind. In the 1890s, the French artist left his family, famous artist friends and Paris to spend the better part of a decade plumbing the depths of human existence in the South Seas. While there, he produced some of his greatest post-impressionist paintings and sculpture. One hundred years after Gauguin's death, the Museum of Fine Arts commemorates the master's island sojourns with *Gauguin Tahiti*, opening Feb. 29. The exhibition—which makes its only U.S. appearance at the MFA—features more than 150 pieces, including paintings, carved wood sculpture, drawings, prints and illustrated manuscripts, from the artist's Polynesian period and the years that led up to it.

The highlight of the exhibition is Gauguin's masterpiece, the painting *Where Do We Come From? What Are We? Where Are We Going?*, which is reunited for the first time since 1898 with eight of the nine works it originally exhibited with in Paris. In the painting, three groups of figures—representing early life, young adulthood and the approach of death—illustrate the questions posed in its title. Other exhibition highlights include a Maori-inspired carved door frame that Gauguin designed for his own home, and *Noa Noa*, the illustrated manuscript Gauguin wrote to explain his work in Tahiti and the Marquesas to the Parisian audience. *Feb. 29–June 20. Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3392). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. $22, $20 students and seniors, $7.50 children. —Jessica Iredale*

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Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •William Freed shows his work in *Still Life Abstractions*. Through Feb. 21. •*Beyond Likeness*, a show of modern portraits by George McNeil, Robert Beauchamp and Nanno de Groot, displays Feb. 26-April 3.

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). www.alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •Gina Poppe shows glass work. Through March 20.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Hiro Yokose shows oil and wax on canvas. Through March 11.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Norma Bessouet shows her new paintings. Through Feb. 28. •*Unspoken Neighbors*, a show of landscapes by Margaret Gerding, displays March 2-30.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Josef Albers shows square screenprints. Through March 24.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Jonathan Lerman shows drawings. Through Feb. 28.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Sheila Pepe shows large-scale installations, and Anna Colette shows color photography. Feb. 18-March 13.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Monmouth St., Brookline. (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm. •*The Art of Black and White Photography*, a group show of work by Anne Hwang, Sarah Oliveira, Heather B. Brown and John Martino, displays through Feb. 27. •Mark Richards and David Stern show color photography. Through Feb. 27.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-2255). www.chappellgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm and by appointment. •Kathy Goodell shows *Ero-Topographies*, drawings and sculptures. Through Feb. 28.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •George Gabin shows oil paintings. Through Feb. 28.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA:Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Three exhibits, *Lithographs of Adolph Dehn*, *Tropical Paradise* (watercolors) and *Peter Moran: Drawings*, show through March 6.

Clifford-Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 300, Boston (617-695-0255). www.cliffordsmithgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Andrea Champlin shows abstract oil paintings. Through Feb. 28.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*The 15th Annual Student Show* and *Stephen D. Paine Scholarship: Award-Winners & Honorable Mentions* show through Feb. 21. •The *125th Anniversary Exhibition* shows Feb. 26-March 20.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (617-268-8050). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •An exhibition of works by Jeff Eldredge, Dan McCole and Norman Crump is ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •Paul Crimi shows acrylic and oil paintings. Through Feb. 28. •Gordon Przybyla shows his paintings in *The Nude*. March 2-27.

Equator Gallery
450 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-540-9236). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.equatorgallery.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •The gallery specializes in Latin American fine art, including paintings, textiles and ceramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Family and Friends* features the art of Fred Levy and Tony Carmoega. Feb. 20-March 27.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall. •*Modern Masters: Works on Paper* shows through Feb. 29.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.,12-5 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm. •*Pets Unleashed*, a group show of mixed-media work, shows through Feb. 28.

The Gallery at Black and White
295 Huntington Ave., Suite 205 (617-266-2641). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Mon.-Fri, 10 am-5 pm. •The gallery features rotating exhibitions of black-and-white photographs.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Greg Poulins shows new paintings. Through March.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Bryan McFarlane shows his work in *Egg Series*, and Robert Siegelman displays his work in *New Woodcuts*. through Feb. 28.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
23 Thayer St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Pat Keck shows her sculpture in the north gallery, and gallery artists show mixed-media works in the south gallery. Through March 2.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.haleysteele.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •The gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prints. Ongoing.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Morgan Bulkeley shows new oil paintings in *New York*, and Neeta Madahar shows floral prints in *Sustenance*. Through March 9.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Hot Stuff*, works by Patricia Peacock and Jacob Kulin, and *Walking from L.A. to San Francisco*, by Danica Phelps, show through Feb. 28.



Zephyr by Deborah Brown is at Gallery AA/B.

Kaji Aso Studio
40 St. Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www.kajiasostudio.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Tue. and Thu., 4:30-6:30 pm; Sat., 3-5 pm, and by appointment. •Students from the studio's summer school programs in Greece and Japan show their works. Feb. 20-March 11.

Kathryn Schultz Gallery
25 Lowell St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www.cambridgeart.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm, Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Human Condition*, a group show of works in various media, displays through Feb. 18.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*Live from Texas: Texas-Based Artists Take to the Road*, a group show, displays through Feb. 21.

Kingston Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •Gail Erwin shows handmade paper casts. Through Feb. 28. •Audrey Goldstein shows her sculptures. March 1-31.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •Paula DeSimone, Jill Fishon-Kovachick and Eric Tardif show ceramic work, furniture and sculptural birds in *Layers and Patterns*. Through March 5.

Mark Gallery
141 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6275). www.markartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm, and by appointment. •Peter Arvidson shows new oil paintings. Through March 12.

Martin Lawrence Gallery
77 Newbury St., Boston (617-369-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.martinlawrence.com. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-7 pm. •The gallery's ongoing exhibition includes works by Chagall, Erté, Hallam, Kondakova, Lichtenstein, Picasso and Warhol.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Dialogue* features expressionist paintings from the 1930s to the present. Feb. 21-March 16.

Miller Block Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). www.millerblockgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30-5:30 pm. •Kara Maria shows paintings, and Angela Dufresne shows drawings. Through March 2.

Mills Gallery
539 Tremont St., Boston (617-348-2926). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed., Thu. and Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-10 pm. •*The Drawing Show*, a juried exhibition of contemporary drawings, displays through March 7.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*The Ring* (jewelry) shows through Feb. 29. Ceramics by Bennet Bean, lampworked glass by Jay Musler and jewelry by Lydia Gerbig-Fast and Sandra Enterline display through Feb. 29.

NAO Project Gallery
535 Albany St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-451-2977). www.naoprojectgallery.info. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay or Green Line to Copley. Wed., Fri. and Sat., 11 am-4 pm and by appointment. •Beth Brideau shows her paintings. Through Feb. 28. •Karen Moss displays her mixed-media art March 1-April 30.

New Art on Newbury
285 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7727). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Thu., 11 am-6 pm; Fri. and Sat., 11 am-11 pm. •*Find the Next Kline for Your Valentine*, a group show of works by 25 local artists, displays through March 14.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •*The Self-Reliant Spirit*, a group show, displays through Feb. 28.

108
108 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-3833). www.gallery108.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard or Porter. Tue, Thu., Fri., 12-6 pm; Wed., 2-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm; Sun. by appointment. •Devin Powers shows paintings in *Pill Pop*. Through Feb. 21.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •A local-artists showca is ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). ww peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pr •*Sydney Hurwitz: Etchings* shows through Feb. • Harold Reddicliffe shows paintings. Feb. 26-April

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). ww puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copl Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •B. King shows iris prints in *The Seeing Spirit*. Throug March 16.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBT Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoi exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century America and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997 www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am pm. •The gallery displays photographs by Seba tiao Salgado and Lewis Wickes Hine. Throug Feb. 21. •John Dugdale shows his contempora sepia photographs. Feb. 26-April 3.

The Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). ww societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copl Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Portraits*, group show of multimedia work, displays throug April 25.

Soprafina Gallery
99 Beacon St., Somerville (617-498-0999). MBT Red Line to Davis. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm •Marjorie Forte shows charcoal drawings, and Jo Fraske shows paintings in *Language*. Through Feb. 2

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). ww stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copl Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Paint*, group show of watercolors, displays through Feb. 2

Studio Soto
63 Melcher St., Boston (617-426-7686). ww studiosoto.com. MBTA: Orange Line to South Statio Fri. and Sat., 2-5 pm. •*On the Surface*, a group sho of paintings, displays through Feb. 29.

Victoria Munroe Fine Art
59 Beacon St., Boston (617-523-0661). ww munroefineart.com. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Pa Street. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm and by appointmen •Drawings by Christine Hiebert show Feb. 1 March 20.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). ww vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Selec tions from the gallery's permanent collection, inclu ing works by Fitz Hugh Lane, Frank Benson and Joh Singer Sargent, show through March.

William Scott Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-542-4030). ww williamscottgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Bac Bay. Wed.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Gallery Artist Salon Show* displays through Feb. 28.

Zeitgeist Gallery
1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060) www.zeitgeist-gallery.org. MBTA: Red Line to Inma Square. Tue.-Sun., 1-7 pm. •*Comix as Art: Origin Comic Art from the Underground*, a group show work by comic artists, displays Feb. 24-March7.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). ww griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Win chester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. •*10th Juri Exhibition* features the winning photographs fro the museum's 10th juried show. Through Feb. 27.

New England School of Photography
Gallery One, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-437 1868). www.nesop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Ken more. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm. •Susan Clain shows he work. Through March 5.

Panopticon Gallery
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Commute Rail to Waltham. www.panopt.com. Mon.-Fri., 1 am-6 pm. •Bradford Washburn shows his aerial pho tographs in *Colossal*. Through Feb. 28.

Photographic Resource Center
832 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). MBTA: Green Line to Boston University West. www.bu edu/prc. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 1 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Concerning th Spiritual in Photography*, a group show of contemporar and historic spiritual photographs, displays throug March 14.



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books & poetry

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Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 18

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 12:30 pm. Free. **Mark Obmascik** reads from his book *The Big Year*, which follows three men in their quest to win a bird-watching competition called the North American Big Year.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Boston native **Joseph Finder** reads from his new novel, *Paranoia*, in which a low-ranking employee for a telecommunications firm becomes a spy for a rival company.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.6 pm. Free. **Elizabeth Alexander** reads from her essay collection, *The Black Interior*, which includes reflections on modern African-American art, film and literature.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www. bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Helen Helfer** discusses the book she edited, *Footprints on the Land: American Stories About Race*, in which 52 Americans share their personal experiences with racism and race.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www. newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. Former *Seventeen* advice columnist **Francesca Delbanco** reads from her debut novel, *Ask Me Anything*, about a 20-something aspiring actress in New York City who writes advice columns and struggles to get her personal life in order.

WordsWorth
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www. wordsworth.com. MBTA:Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Eva Hoffman** reads from her book *After Such Knowledge: Memory, History and the Legacy of the Holocaust*, which addresses the impact of the Holocaust on 20th- and 21st-century America.

THURSDAY, FEB. 19

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **James Shreeve** discusses his book *The Genome War*, a chronicle of the scientific community's efforts to decode the human genome.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Mark Kurlansky** reads from his book *1968: The Year That Rocked the World*, which analyzes the major political and social events of 1968.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www. bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Newsweek editor **David France** discusses his book *Our Fathers: The Secret Life of the Catholic Church in an Age of Scandal*, which details the history of sexual repression and abuse within the Catholic Church.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www. ci.newton.ma.us. 7:30 pm. Free. **Eva Hoffman** reads from *After Such Knowledge: Memory, History and the Legacy of the Holocaust*. See Feb. 18, WordsWorth listing for a description.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www. newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. Local author **Mary Sullivan** reads from *Ship Sooner*, her novel about an awkward teenage girl whose acute hearing both helps and torments her. Also, local writer **Jennifer Haigh** reads from her debut novel, *Mrs. Kimble*, about a man who deceives his first, second and third wives.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA:Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Jerome Groopman** reads from *Anatomy of Hope*, in which he describes how his patients' resilience in the face of illness affects him as a doctor and as a person.

SATURDAY, FEB. 21

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA:Red Line to Harvard. 5 pm. Free. Poets **Ange Mlinko** and **Fanny Howe** read from their work.

SUNDAY, FEB. 22

A Pro Arte Home Companion
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.proarte.org. 3 pm. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. $9-$45. **Garrison Keillor** reads excerpts from his works, and the Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra performs music by composers Arthur Foote, Victor Herbert, George Chadwick and Jacques Ibert.

MONDAY, FEB. 23

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
CCAE, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA:Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. **Baron Wormser** reads from his new poetry collection, *Subject Matter*. Also, **Patrick Donnelly** reads his poetry.

TUESDAY, FEB. 24

Barnes and Noble
660 Beacon Street, Boston (617-267-8484). http:// bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: B, C or D Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. **George J. Annas** discusses *The Rights of Patients*, his book about ethical and legal issues facing the American health care system.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Mike Heppner** reads from his novel, *The Egg Code*, in which a small-town hacker tries to thwart a management company that has taken control of the Internet. Also, **Starbuck O'Dwyer** reads from *Red Meat Cures Cancer*, his novel that satirizes the fast-food industry.

Harvard Book Store Author Event
Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free; tickets required. **Peter Biskind** reads from his book *Down and Dirty Pictures*, which describes how studios like Sundance and Miramax influenced the rise of independent filmmaking.

Harvard Book Store Author Event
Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free (tickets required). Former Harvard University museums director **James Cuno** discusses his new book, *Whose Muse? Art Museums and the Public Trust*, in which five leading museum directors discuss issues such as exhibiting "offensive" works.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www. newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. Travel writer **Scott Haas** discusses his book *Are We There Yet? Perfect Family Vacations and Other Fantasies*, in which he recalls vacations in America and Europe with his wife and young children.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www. wordsworth.com. MBTA:Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **David Shipler** reads from his book *Invisible Poor: America's Forgotten Workers*, in which he describes the forces that prevent many of the working-class poor from achieving economic stability.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 25

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 12:30 pm. Free. **Alison Smith** reads from her memoir, *Name All the Animals*, about the effect that her brother's death at 18 had on her childhood, family and religious faith.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Cecelia Ahern**, daughter of Irish prime minister Bertie Ahern, reads from her novel *P.S. I Love You*, about a young woman's discovery of a series of letters from her deceased lover.





Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Steven Johnson** reads from his book *Mind Wide Open: Your Brain and the Neuroscience of Everyday Life*, which explains the relationship between specific parts of the brain and a person's personality.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www. bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Mohammed El-Nawawy** discusses *Al Jazeera: Inside the Arab News Network That Rattles Government and Redefines Modern Journalism*, his book about the Arab TV news station.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci. newton.ma.us. 7:30 pm. Free. **Helen Kwok** discusses her novel *The Concubine's Daughter*, about a Chinese woman who emigrates to America with her husband and son during China's Cultural Revolution.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www. newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Kim Ablon Whitney** reads from her young-adult novel *See You Down the Road*, about a teenage girl who lives in a trailer and whose family wants her to quit high school and marry a man she doesn't love.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www. wordsworth.com. MBTA:Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Valerie Boyd** reads from *Wrapped in Rainbows*, her biography of writer Zora Neale Hurston.

SATURDAY, FEB. 28

WordsWorth
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www. wordsworth.com. MBTA:Red Line to Harvard. 5 pm. Free. Poets **Matvei Yankelvich** and **Susan Cheever** read their work.

SUNDAY, FEB. 29

Authors at MIT
77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-2341). http:// web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 4 pm. Free. NPR commentator **Sarah Vowell** discusses her writings, which explore her love of history, her relationship with her family and the various oddities of American life.

John F. Kennedy Library Forum
Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfk library.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 2 pm. Free. Boston Globe columnist **James Carroll** moderates a discussion with **Ellen Goodman** about her new collection of essays, *Paper Trail: Common Sense in Uncertain Times*.

MONDAY, MARCH 1

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
CCAE, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA:Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. **Kai Maristed** reads from her novel *Broken Ground*, about a woman who returns to Germany after the fall of the Berlin Wall to search for her missing daughter. Also, **James Wood** reads from his novel *The Book Against God*, about a Ph.D. candidate whose career, marriage, family and friendships are falling apart.

TUESDAY, MARCH 2

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 7 pm. Free. **Peter Senese** and **Robert Geis** discuss the novel they co-wrote, *Cloning Christ*, about a genetic scientist who finds what could be the cross on which Jesus Christ was crucified.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Washington Post managing editor **Steve Coll** reads from his book *Ghost Wars*, about the CIA's role in wars in Afghanistan that may have facilitated Osama bin Laden's rise to power.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Charles Beye** reads from his book *Odysseus: A Life*, an examination of the Greek hero at the center of Homer's *Odyssey*.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www. wordsworth.com. MBTA:Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Sarah Dunant** reads from her historical novel *The Birth of Venus*, which tells the story of a young girl in 14th-century Rome who falls in love with an artist who is painting her family's chapel.

Ongoing

Amazon Poetry Slam (Last Sunday)
Milky Way, 403-405 Center St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 9 pm. $7. On the last Sunday of every month, the Milky Way hosts the all-women Amazon Poetry Slam.

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge hosts a poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Harvard Coop (Sundays)
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www. bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. 3 pm. Free. Hear what Boston-area poets are doing at the Harvard Coop's weekly poetry exchange on Level Two.

Jimmy Tingle's Off-Broadway (Tuesdays)
255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jimmy tingle.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $10. Eight local poets perform their work in a two-hour theatrical show on the third Tuesday of the month.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). www. poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Poetry jam, 7:30 pm; poetry slam, 9 pm. $6. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the poetry slam's featured poet of the week.

O'Brien's Pub (Mondays)
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. 9 pm. O'Brien's presents a mix of rock and spoken word one Monday per month. Performers are predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry (Saturdays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. $3. Every Saturday is Open Bark poetry night, and the fourth Saturday of each month is a spoken-word event.

Stone Soup Poetry Night (Mondays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7:30 pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have held these weekly readings.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). MBTA: MBTA: Blue Line to Government Center. 6:30 pm. Free. The second Thursday of each month offers a selection of featured poets and an opportunity for others to take the open mike.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 18

African-American Origins of Spirituals, Blues and Jazz
Boston University, College of Fine Arts, 855 Comm. Ave., Room 219, Boston (617-353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. 8 pm. Free. **Ann Sears**, professor of music at Wheaton College, discusses the musicology of spirituals, blues and jazz.

An Encounter with Chuck Close
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-359-3300). www.mfa.org/calendar. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 7 pm. $15-$18. Modern portrait artist **Chuck Close** speaks about his distinctive style of painting portraits using colorful patterning and vivid brushwork.

Genealogical Roundtable: Open Forum for Genealogical Quandaries
National Archives, Regional Archives Building, 380 Trapelo Road, Waltham (866-406-2379). www.nara.gov/regional/boston. 6:30 pm. Free. Participants learn how to locate genealogical records, as well as what they might expect to find in the records.

THURSDAY, FEB. 19

Astrology: Reach for Your Stars
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 10:30 am. $2. Astrologist **Joyce Levine** talks about the significance of birthdays.

Celebrating Quincy Jones: A Discussion with the Music Master
Sanders Theater at Harvard University, Memorial Hall, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-8678). www.fas.harvard.edu/~ofa. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free (tickets required). Harvard's Learning from Performers program honors musician **Quincy Jones** in a discussion moderated by professor of humanities **Henry Louis Gates Jr.**

Visioning
Center for Women & Enterprise, 1135 Tremont St., Boston (617-536-0700). www.cweboston.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Ruggles. 6 pm. $125. Participants will discover the challenges and rewards of self-employment while they create a working strategy of their business vision.

FRIDAY, FEB. 20

National Woman's Heart Day Campaign
Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston (617-227-0012, ext. 245). www.sistertosister.org/boston.shtml. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 8:30 am-2:30 pm. Free. Sister to Sister's health fair to raise awareness of heart disease among women features screenings, fitness demonstrations including yoga and kickboxing, panel discussions on heart disease, and heart-healthy cooking demonstrations from local chefs.

SATURDAY, FEB. 21

Tracking at the Quabbin
Mass Audubon at the Quabbin Wilderness (508-655-2296). www.massaudubon.org. 10 am-3 pm. $40. Naturalist **Bob Bowker** leads participants on a search for animal tracks in the Quabbin Wilderness.

SUNDAY, FEB. 22

Making Silent Sentinels Speak: The Archaeology of China's Buried Armies of Clay
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-359-3300). www.mfa.org/calendar. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 3 pm. Free. Professor **Robert E. Murowchick**, director of the International Center for East Asian Archaeology and Cultural History at Boston University, discusses the latest research into the legions of terra-cotta soldiers that guard the mausoleum of Qin Shihuangdi, the first emperor of China during the Qin dynasty, as well as new discoveries of miniature armies dating to the later Han dynasty.

22nd Annual W.E.B. DuBois Memorial Address
The Community Church of Boston, Lothrop Auditorium, 565 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5710). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10:45 am. Free. **Dr. Kenneth C. Edelin**, associate dean for students and minority affairs at Boston University Medical School, discusses the "color line" and the continued power of racism in American society.

TUESDAY, FEB 24

Naturalism, Choice and Creativity: Transcending Free Will
Center for Naturalism at 38 Cameron Ave., Suite 100, Cambridge (617-492-4091). www.38cameron.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 8-10 pm. $7. Philosopher and writer **Tom Clark** leads a discussion and lecture on naturalistic self-understanding as a tool for motivation.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 25

Eating Disorders Public Forum
Gutman Conference Center, Harvard Graduate School of Education, 6 Appian Way, Cambridge (617-724-1744). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30-9:30 pm. Free. This forum is designed to educate the community about eating disorders and related issues, as well as to promote dialogue concerning such topics as image, self-esteem and stress. Guest speakers include actress **Geri Halliwell**, Miss America 2003 **Erika Harold** and psychiatrist **Rebecca Knapp**. **Lisa Hughes** of WBZ-TV 4 News moderates a panel discussion.

Howard Gardner on Genius
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-359-3300). www.mfa.org/calendar. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 3 pm. $10-$13. **Howard Gardner**, professor of cognition and education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education and author of *Frames of Mind: The Theory of Multiple Intelligences and Creating Minds*, examines similarities between creative geniuses, including Einstein and Picasso.

THURSDAY, FEB. 26

Why Don't Americans Vote?
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 10:30 am. $2. Political activist **Paul Lachelier** presents his views on the lack of political awareness among Americans today, and proposes a plan for change.

FRIDAY, FEB. 27

The Emergence of Folkscience
MIT, E25-117, 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-1000). http://events.mit.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 4 pm. Free. The Brain and Cognitive Science Department sponsors a talk by **Frank Keil**, professor of psychology and linguistics at Yale University.

SUNDAY, FEB. 29

The Common Sense of Ellen Goodman
John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (877-616-4599). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass, free shuttle to library. 2 pm-3:30 pm. Free. During this discussion, moderated by *Boston Globe* columnist **James Carroll**, author/columnist **Ellen Goodman** touches on the era of Clinton scandals, the "amBushing" of America and the war on terrorism.

Economics for the Rest of Us
The Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-6710). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10:45 am. Free. **Ellen Frank,** author of *Corporation Nation*, discusses the role corporations play in a democratic society and whether voluntary associations like religious communities can revitalize public discourse.

Slide Introduction to Gauguin Tahiti
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-359-3300). www.mfa.org/calendar. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 1 and 2 pm. Free. A half-hour slide show provides background and insight into the museum's exhibition of the work of impressionist artist Paul Gauguin.

Yes, Virginia, It Is Rocket Science: Team America Rocketry Challenge
MIT Museum, 265 Mass Ave., Building N52, Cambridge (617-253-4444). www.web.mit/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 2-4 pm. Free. MIT students discuss rocket design and construction at this family event, which also features astronautical exhibits and displays

TUESDAY, MARCH 2

Introduction to Flash
The Technology Learning Center, Museum of Science, Boston (617-267-4430). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. 6-9 pm. $170-$188. This introductory course to Flash, the motion graphics tool for the Web and other interactive media, will focus on creating animation and adding sound and dynamic media.



writers & readers series
coming soon



Thursday, February 19th 7PM
JAMES SHREEVE *The Genome War*
Veteran Science writer James Shreeve swings by to discuss his first-hand account of the race to be the first to decode the human genome. *The Genome War* shares the thrilling and dramatic tale of the match between biologist Craig Ventor and the U.S. Governments Human Genome Project.



Wednesday, February 25 7PM
CECELIA AHERN *PS I Love You*
Our friend Marian Keyes calls this debut by the 22 year-old daughter of Ireland's Prime Minister, "sweet and sad and funny: a charming journey from grief to hope."



Tuesday, March 2 7PM
STEVE COLL *Ghost Wars*
Steve Coll, managing editor of the Washington Post, joins us to discuss his news-breaking account of the CIA's involvement in covert wars in Afghanistan that fueled Islamic militancy and gave rise to bin Laden's al Qaeda.

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gay & lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information, including telephone numbers and nearest T-stop, by fax (617-859-1446) or mail, or e-mail gaylesbian@improper.com.

Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am.; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's new leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 10 pm, $5 for 19 and 20, free for 21+. DJ John Morris spins progressive house for Lust, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $15, 21+. For 20 years, these folks have cranked out Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. Enjoy three separate dance floors plus drag acts. Rotating DJs spin house.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show, and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—pool room and lounge keep the men busy until 2 am.

CityGirl Caffé (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-9 pm; Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-4 pm. This small laid-back café in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated, draws a mixed gay/hetero crowd for lounging and sandwiches. Brunch is served every weekend.

Club Café and Moonshine Bar (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Wednesdays, join VJ Cliff Cunningham. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Cliff Cunningham.

Diesel Café (Daily)
257 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-8717). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Mon.-Thu. 7 am-midnight, Fri., 7 am-1 am, Sat., 8 am-1 am, Sun., 8 am-12 am. All ages. Diesel is a popular place for GLBT people to go for coffee and snacks.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3 pm-2 am; Sat., 1 pm-2 am; Sun., 12 pm-2 am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This quiet, friendly neighborhood bar starts hopping as it gets closer to 2 am.

Fritz Lounge (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 12 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. TV sets show satellite sports broadcasts, and Fritz is home base to a softball league. Brunch is served until 3:30 pm on weekends.

Here at 711 Boylston (Tuesdays)
711 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5502). www.hereboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 9 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Boston's Tuesday night gay dance party features and disco and pop.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.


Nancy Pearson stars in *The Unemployable Livia Peacock*

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 pm, $6 weekdays; $8 weekends, 21+. Patrons relax with a friendly crowd and mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •On the second Friday of each month is the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground. The typical lineup features singer Leah Callahan with guest musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Tuesdays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 12 pm-2 am. •Wed.: Game Nite hosted by either Diamond Dunhill or Rainbow Frite, 10 pm, no cover. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition with PJ McWhiskers. •Fri.: Best Night Out with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Machine with DJ Brad Gwynn playing house music. 10 pm-2 am, $7, 21+. •Tue.: Service Industry Night with DJ Afrodite.

ManRay (Wednesdays-Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 19+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. $12, 19+; $8, 21+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: New Wave Dance Party with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. $12, 19+; $8, 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). www.dykenight.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. 9 pm-2 am. $5, 21+. On Thursday nights, the Midway hosts Kristen Porter's Dyke Night, with rotating DJs, pool and dancing.

Milky Way Lounge (Sundays)
401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+. Candyland night is for gay men and women, transgendered persons and their allies. Live entertainment includes Fireballs Drag Bingo, spoken-word events and jazz. A dance party hosted by resident DJ Jamila caps off the evening. •Every Sunday there is free bowling with dinner. On the last Sunday of every month, the Milky Way presents the all-women Amazon Poetry Slam, a popular lesbian event. 8 pm, 7:30 pm sign-up, $7.

Night Games (Fridays)
Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000). www.circuitgirl.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan. 10 pm, $10, 21+. Resident DJ Kris Kono pumps the dance tunes at Circuit Girl's Anything Goes night.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Thu.: Fire and Ice with DJ Dan Leavey. •Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music. •Mon.: Pool tournament and pizza. •Tue: DJ Scott Thinsdale.

Rise (Saturday)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. Private, members-only club, predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays features resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night, and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing in this new restaurant/lounge.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music pumps, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Vapor (Wednesdays-Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-422-0862). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adilson. 19+. •Thu.: The Music Factory with DJ Pauli Paul and DJ Ron Stele spinning hip-hop, reggae and funk. $5 before 11, $2 after 11, 21+. •Fri.: Inner Circle. $10, 21+. •Sat.: Evolution with DJ Jay Ine. •Sun.: T-Dance party with DJ Danae grooving to local, tribal, and house while DJ Niterain spins classic oldies. 21+.

Books

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). www.calamusbooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-7 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. Boston's bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered people carries fiction, erotica and titles by gay and feminist activists.

Center for New Words
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). MBTA; Red Line to Harvard. www.centerfornewwords.com. Cambridge's center for women's writing and ideas hosts open mikes and author events. *•Feb. 20 , 7:30 pm. $5.* Playwright **Mary-Ann Greanier** and poet **Jaclyn Friedman** perform at this poetry and spoken word open mike night for women.

We Think the World of You
540 Tremont St., Boston (617-574-5000). www.wethinktheworldofyou.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This community-centered gay and lesbian bookstore stocks literature, art books, DVDs and videos. *•Feb. 23, 6:30 pm.* **Patrick Moore** reads selections from his book, *Beyond Shame: Reclaiming the Abandoned History of Radical Gay Sexuality*, his defense of gay male culture of the 1970s.

Shows & Events

Bay State Stonewall Democrats Board Meeting
400 Talcott Ave., Building 131, Second Floor, Watertown (781-293-1157). www.baystatestonewalldems.org. Feb. 28 , 7-8:30 pm. The organization holds a monthly board meeting open to all members and registered Democrats to discuss advocacy issues in Massachusetts for the gay and lesbian community.

ClimACTs
Boston Center for the Arts' Cyclorama, 539 Tremont St. Boston (617-426-7700). www.thetheateroffensive.org MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Feb. 21, 7 pm $125. The Theater Offensive, New England's leading presenter of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender theater, celebrates its 15th anniversary with a bacchanalian gala. Enjoy martinis by BuzzBoston food, dancing, and appearances by playwright Paula Vogel, *Queer as Folk*'s Peter Paige and *Die Mommy Die*'s Charles Busch.

An Evening with Yolanda
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Feb. 21, 10 pm. $12. Singer-songwriter, visual artist and drag queen Yolanda performs an acoustic concert of her music.

Family Tea Dance
First Church, 6 Eliot St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-1634). Feb. 22, 3-5 pm. DJ Shelly Cullen hosts an afternoon dance for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people and their families and friends.

T&A Theatre Company Benefit
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Feb. 23, 8 pm. $25. Cast members from *The Unemployable Livia Peacock* and Under Control Puppet Company, along with transgendered musician Yolanda, gather to benefit the queer theater company.

T&A Theatre Company Reading Series
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Feb. 24, 8 pm. $5-$20. **Todd Michael Hall** reads his play *After-Life*, about struggles with depression, suicide, obesity and homosexuality.

The Unemployable Livia Peacock
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through Feb. 28. Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 and 7 pm. $15-$20. Nancy Pearson stars in the T&A Theatre Company's production of her play about a kindergarten teacher who leaves her job to pursue other interests.

Ongoing

Atención Latina Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (800-834-3242). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. FCH collaborates with the Elizabeth Stone House to provide this safe, confidential space to discuss healthy relationships, domestic violence and other issues.

AGLY
. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., ston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MBTA: reen or Red Line to Park Street. Wednesdays, 6-9 ı. The Boston Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, Bisex-l, Transgendered and Questioning Youth hosts ekly meetings and social events for young people eking community, support and a place to discuss levant issues.

eantown South G/L Bowling League
ston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-52). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and les-ns in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

i-Curious Men's Group
nway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston 17-927-6032). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: reen Line to Hynes. 7 pm. This group meets the cond Tuesday of every month for a discussion with sexual and bi-curious men.

i Rap
mbridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cam-dge (617-354-8807). First and third Tuesday of the nth, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all sexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

OSS
nway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston 17-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: reen Line to Hynes. 6-8 pm. This group for gay and sexual men of color meets the last Thursday of ch month to discuss culture, lifestyle, creativity d health.

oston Bay Blades
vw.bayblades.org/boston. All are welcome to join is competitive, recreational group of rowers and ullers.

oston Boasts Squash
17-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 ı; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Sym-ony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players d their friends.

oston Gay and Lesbian Contra ancers
rst Church of Jamaica Plain, corner of Centre and iot streets, Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). ww.lcfd.org. Every Wed., 7:30 pm, $8. Square-ncing and English country dancing lessons are ailable for lesbians, gays, bisexuals and their ends.

oston Gay Basketball League
17-424-8990). www.bgbl.com. The league offers a ll regular season and playoff schedule each year.

oston GLASS Community Center
Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: reen Line to Hynes. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm, Fri, 3-5 n. The center provides social activities for ques-ning young people, ages 13-25.

oston Ironsides Rugby Football Club
oakley Field, South Boston (617-524-5814). BTA: Red Line to JFK. Rugby players of any level, e, race and orientation are welcome to play.

oston Lesbian Avengers
ston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston. MBTA: Green ne to Hynes. www.lesbianavengers.org. Thu., 7-8 pm. his bi- and transsexual-friendly direct-action politi-l group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

oston Uncommons
entral Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., maica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. BTA: Orange Line to Green St. Wednesdays, 7 pm. gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

hiltern Mountain Club
88-831-3100). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-mem-r gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

OLAGE
17-417-0876). Third Saturday of each month, 10:30 n-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and lays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and tivities and holds a concurrent meeting for inter-ted parents and their partners. For info, e-mail edfordcolage@hotmail.com.

oming Out as Bisexual
ston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Liv-g Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-595). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to ack Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, pm, free. An informal group for people who ink they may be bisexual or attracted to more an one sex.

oming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, isexual, Transgender and uestioning People
617-256-8693). This group welcomes those who ant to discuss the challenges and the joys of com-g out. It meets Thursday nights, 7-8:30 pm, in ambridge.

ompass
781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area pport, information, and social group for people as-gned female at birth who feel that is not an accu-rate or complete description of their gender. Part of the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group meets monthly. Email CompassFTM@usa.com for details.

Controversy Thursday
Matrix (B Room), 275 Tremont St. (lower level of Roxyplex), Boston (617-542-4077). Certain Thurs-days (call for details), $8, no sneakers. This gay and bi dance party features DJ John Morris at 10 pm.

Cosmetically Correct
Masa Restaurant, 439 Tremont St., Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. First Fridays, 6:30 pm, free. This social group for lipstick lesbians meets on the first Friday of each month. Lipstick encouraged. Email M.Antoinette@ididitmyway.com for info.

Dagger
(617-621-6090). The Theater Offensive's guerrilla theater group, Dagger, gathers on Wednesdays from 6-9 pm to create performances representing women's perspectives. For more information, e-mail dagger@theatreoffensive.org.

The Down Low
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Last Friday of the month. 7-9 pm. A discussion group for gay and bisexual men of color to address heritage, lifestyle, culture and health.

East Coast Wrestling Club
(401-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www.east coastwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay male wrestlers has more than 160 members.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional women 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophisticated to get together with like-minded women for conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Explore Gender in a Safe Place
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. An ongoing support group for people born into female bodies or who have grown up being viewed as biologically female.

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Saturday mornings. Join Boston's GLBT Flag Football League for a casual spring season, followed by a formal fall season. All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). Sat., 10 am. All are welcome to join this running club.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
(617-267-9001 or 888-340-4528). Mon.-Fri., 6-11 pm; Sat. and Sun., 5-10 pm. This toll-free hotline is confidential and provides support for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning callers.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
The First Parish Church in Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Professionals Building Community
(617-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to join this networking organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered professionals.

Gaymes Group
(508-339-4250). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians. Members get together on a regular basis to play board, card and parlor games.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. $5-10. An open mike night open to new performers, this queer-positive, dyke-positive, bi-positive and trans-positive spoken word event meets the second Thursday of each month, 7:30pm.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Biological males meet on Monday evenings. The groups are moderated by psychologist Randi Kaufman.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday from 10:30 am-12 pm.

Girlz 2 Girlz
(617-482-1078 ext. 277). This mentoring program for girls aged 13-19 who identify as gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, transgendered or questioning meets the second and fourth Friday of each month, 6-8 pm. Contact Jayms Battaglia.

GLBT Seniors
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6272). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mondays. Support group for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered seniors ages 60 and over.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Anonymous HIV testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Laffan
This social and networking group for women includes single women, couples and parents interested in art, cultural events, outdoor and sporting activities, intellectual and social pursuits, public service and travel. Members receive a weekly email calendar of events. For info, e-mail Laffan_Boston2004 @yahoo.com.

LGBT Considering Parenting Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. A short-term (eight-week) group for LGBT persons who are considering becoming parents. Sliding fee scale available. Call for information.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue., Wed. and Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

Meow Boston
groups.yahoo.com/group/Meow_Boston. This social group caters to feminine bisexual women and lesbians in the Boston community. For women 21+.

The Network/La Red
(617-427-7233). The Network is a support group working to end abuse in lesbian, bisexual women's and transgender communities. Email info@the networklared.org for more information.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

Peer Listening Line
(800-399-7337). Trained GLBT volunteers provide confidential information, referrals and support.

The Rainbow Cafe
rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social group for activist, academic, intellectual or artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. Email somos latinoslgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Support Group for HIV-Negative Gay and Bisexual Men
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-967-6231). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. First three Tuesdays of each month, 6-8 pm. Discuss new safe-sex practices and strategies for managing risk and communicating with sexual partners.

Support Group for Lesbians with Cancer
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed. evenings, once a month. Free. For those who want to discuss the impact of this disease on their lives.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Road, Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Street. First Saturday of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing, $8. Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. WWB is a social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s. It meets the first Thursday of every month.



body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Dances of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767 or 617-491-8694). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Feb. 20, 7:30-9:30 pm. Requested donation, $6-10. Join hands in simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honoring the spiritual traditions of the world. All dances are taught and are accompanied by live music.

Drum and Dance Saturday
Earth Drum Council, First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (978-371-2502). www.earthdrum.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Feb. 19, 8-11:30 pm. $6. Bring your stomping feet, clapping hands, drums, spoons and tambourines for this day of dance and percussion.

Sacred Sound and Silence
The Society of St. John the Evangelist, 980 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (617-876-3037). Feb. 26, 7:30 pm. Donations welcome. Reservations are suggested; seating is limited. The brothers of this monastery welcome Japanese musician Yoshio Kurahashi for a concert of traditional Shakuhachi flute music, as well as Japanese folk tunes and traditional American songs.

Ta Ke Ti Na: The Magical Rhythms of the Rattle
Cambridge Masonic Hall, 1950 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (978-371-2502). www.earthdrum.com. Feb. 27-29, 20 hours. $350. Austrian composer and percussionist Reinhard Flatischler is the creator of Ta Ke Ti Na, process for learning music through stepping, clapping, a Brazilian *caxixi* rattle and the rhythmic voice. This workshop is designed to help participants integrate emotional and rational thought and expand awareness.

Lectures

Eight Steps to Happiness Public Talks
All Saint's Parish, 1773 Beacon St., Brookline (508-758-3033). www.serlingpa.org. Feb. 25, 7-8:30 pm. $10, suggested donation. Buddhist nun Gen Kelsang Choma hosts an evening of guided meditation and discussion of how to transform adversity into spiritual insight.

Fitness Lecture Series
Forever Fit Health & Fitness Center, Watertown (617-964-1188). www.stayforeverfit.com. Feb. 19, 7:15-9 pm. Free. Please call ahead. This fitness center hosts talks on the benefits of proper nutrition, training methods, goal setting and related topics.

Classes

Beginners Meditation Workshop
Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Feb. 21,10 am-4 pm. $40. This workshop features meditation instruction along with group discussion and is designed for people with no meditation experience or who are relatively new to Vipassana (insight meditation).

Contact for Couples
Earthdance, 252 Prospect St, Plainfield (617-634-5678). www.earthdance.net. Feb. 27-29. $250 per person. Through improvisational dance, couples explore the subjects of trust, giving and receiving, and maintaining a sense of self.

Forrest Yoga Intensive with Jill Miller
Back Bay Yoga Studio, 1112 Boylston St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-375-0785). www.backbayyoga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center. Feb. 24, 6 to 9 pm $45. This vigorous yoga workout is designed to take participants on a physical and mental journey and provides a rigorous sequence of asanas and pranayama.

High Frequency Yoga for Women
Carmela Cattuti, 151 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-970-5320). www.yogame.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Feb. 21, 10-12 pm. $45. This class focuses on developing the abdominal muscles and includes techniques for increasing stamina and transforming negative thought patterns. Beginners welcome.

Intro to Healing Herbs
Harvest Co-op Market, 581 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1580). www.harvestcoop.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Feb. 24, 6-8 pm. Learn how to stay healthy and treat minor ailments with the help of healing medicinals. Learn the common herbs and their benefits, basic herbal preparations.

Jivamukti Yoga
Back Bay Yoga Studio, 1112 Boylston St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-375-0785). www.backbayyoga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center. Feb. 28, 2-5 pm $40. Feb. 29, 1-4 pm. $40. These three-hour sessions include Sanskrit chanting, spiritual talks, asana yoga instruction and guided meditation to help elevate one's practice of yoga. All levels welcome.

Thai Massage
Yoga for Everybody Studio, Framingham (508-259-2847). Feb. 27, 7-9 pm. $15 per person, $30 for two people. Call ahead to register. This session on two-person Thai massage features a series of postures and simple massage techniques.

Women's Healing Love
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. Feb. 22, 10 am-4 pm. $80. The spiritual function of sexual energy is explored in this workshop for women only. Participants are taught *chi kung* and meditation exercises to help build on the strength of feminine yin power. This practice promotes self-love, contentment and greater compassion.

You Go Girl: Sex Tips for Gals
Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, 318 Harvard St., Suite 32, Arcade Building, Brookline (617-731-2626). www.grandopening.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Feb. 22, 7:30-9:30 pm. $34. Grand Opening proprietor Kim Airs shares some tricks of the trade to try on your guy to increase pleasure and fun. Open to women only.

Ongoing

Basics of Yoga
The Yoga Studio, 74 Joy St., Boston (617-523-7138). www.yogastudio.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles or Green Line to Government Center. Mon., 12-1:30 pm and 5:30-7 pm. $10-15, drop-in. This hatha yoga school features a blend of styles and methods and hosts several classes for beginners.

Beginner's Meditation
Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue., 6-7:15 pm. $5. This class offers novices a chance to try meditation in a soothing setting.

Introduction to Kabbalah
The Kabbalah Centre, 751 Beacon St., Newton (617-969-1881). www.kabbalah.com. Wed., 7 pm. Free. Call to enroll. Kabbalah is a collection of ancient wisdom and philosophy about the nature of the universe. The philosophy is intended to help followers get in tune with universal laws and live a more harmonious life. Find out more at this lecture.


Jill Miller teaches at Back Bay Yoga Studio Feb. 24.

Yoga/Cambridge
St. Mary's Church, 8 Inman St., Cambridge (781-648-3455). www.yoganow.net. Wed., 5:30-7 pm. $17, drop-in. Take a beginner-level class in BKS Iyengar yoga, a spiritually integrated form of yoga, with instructor Patricia Walden.

Yoga/South End
South End House, 48 Rutland St., Boston (617-522-7199). www.angelfire.com/ma/patrice. MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. or Back Bay. Mon. and Tue., 7 pm. $15-$17. These mixed-level yoga classes are taught by certified Kripalu yoga instructor Patrice Flesch. Drop-ins and beginners are welcome.

sports


The BSSC slides into Sugarloaf Feb. 20–22.

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

Boston Bruins
•FleetCenter, Boston
Tickets: 617-931-2000
Feb. 23, 7 pm vs. Florida Panthers
Feb. 26, 7 pm vs. Montreal Canadiens
Feb. 28, 1 pm vs. Philadelphia Flyers

Boston Celtics
•FleetCenter, Boston
Tickets: 800-462-2849
Feb. 25, 7 pm vs. Milwaukee Bucks
Feb. 27, 7 pm vs. Toronto Raptors
March 1, 7 pm vs. Orlando Magic

Events

BSSC Sugarloaf Ski Trip
Transportation leaves from Newton at 5:30 pm and Newburyport at 6:45 pm. (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Feb. 20-22. $309, $339 nonmembers. Hit Sugarloaf for a weekend group ski trip. Fee includes transportation, two-day lift ticket, daily adult group lessons, two nights at mountainside condos, two breakfasts and a Saturday cocktail party.

Lace Up for Leukemia
New England Sports Center, Marlborough. (800-688-6572, ext. 14). www.lace-up.com. Feb. 29, 1 pm. $20 by Feb. 23, $25 afterward. $5 pledge minimum. Lace up the blades and skate to raise money for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. At 4:30 pm, national skating stars including Oksana Baiul, Jennifer Kirk, Tiffany Scott and Philip Dulebohn take the ice for an exhibition.

To Play

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

BSSC Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Brookline and Dedham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers amateur Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

FENCING

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119 www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings a Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLOOR HOCKEY

BSSC Coed Floor Hockey
Leagues are held in Newton, Nor Reading and Brighton (617-789-407 ext. 238). www.bssc.com. All leve individuals and teams are welcome.

FOOTBALL

BSSC Coed Indoor Flag Football
Games are played in Revere and Tewk bury. (617-789-4070, ext. 242). Si up individually or with a group friends.

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostoniri wolfhounds.com. Training Tue. a Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field the Irish Cultural Center in Canto New and experienced players a welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is lookir for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Clu
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club see new players for games in Brookline and Cambridg

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mys rugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club we comes both new and experienced players who wa to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. a Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays. New a experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhas com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round. you enjoy running, drinking and singing baw songs, then consider joining these self-proclaime "serious drinkers with a running problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm Weekly runs.

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Ru
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (78 275-1584). www.srr.org. Thu., 7 pm. Weekly runs.

VFW Logan Post 3.223-Miler
VFW James Logan Post, 1192 Broadway, Somervil (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org/BAEvent Logan. Thu., 7:10 pm. Weekly runs followed b pizza and Harpoon beer.

SKATING

Bay State Skating School
Various area MDC rinks (781-890-8480). www.b stateskatingschool.org. Check Web site for schedule $108.50 for a seven-week class. Skating classes f adults and children teach the fundamentals usin either figure skates or hockey skates.

SOCCER

BSSC Indoor Soccer
(617-789-4070). Teams forming now. Gam played in Charlestown, Cambridge, Brighto Reading and Canton. Individuals and teams a welcome.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070, ex 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed teams forming in Cam bridge, Watertown, Brookline and Newton. Tea and individuals are welcome to set and spike the way to glory.

WOMEN'S FLAG FOOTBALL

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395 8326). Saturday mornings. Teams play eight-on-eigh flag football each week.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-868-8379). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Am teur folk-style wrestling group open to all skill level Weekly practices held year-round.

The 6th Annual

BOSTON BRUINS CHARITY AUCTION

Sunday, March 7, 2004 starting at 5pm
Royal Sonesta Hotel Cambridge, Massachusetts

Join the entire Bruins Team and Alumni while bidding on exciting one-of-a-kind auction items to benefit:

Boston Bruins Foundation

Auction Tickets are $100 each and may be purchased by calling

617-624-1923.

For more information visit www.bostonbruins.com.

Hotel Packages including Auction Tickets, Game Tickets and Hotel stay are available by calling The Royal Sonesta at 617-491-3600.

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children

Advice to Contributors

Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Disney on Ice

FleetCenter, One Fleet Center, Suite 200, Boston (617-931-2000). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to North Station. Sat., 11 am, 3 pm and 7 pm; Sun.-Fri., 1 and 5 pm. Through Feb. 22. $10-$65. Mike, Sully and Boo are reunited—on ice. Figure skaters bring the *Monsters, Inc.* story and characters to life through colorful costumes, sets and choreography.

It's Magic: 400 Years of Fun

Fuller Conference Center, One Old Sturbridge Village Road, Sturbridge (800-733-1830). Sat., 8:30 pm.Through March 27. $10. In this interactive show, Robert Olson portrays six magicians from the past. The magical journey starts in 16th-century England and ends in the 20th century.

Kids Variety Show

Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-738-6533). www.coolidge.kidsshow.info. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Sat., 10:30 am. $10, $8 children. •Feb. 21: Kids and parents dance and sing along as Toe Jam Puppet Band tells stories and performs shadow puppetry. •Feb. 28: Watch the comedy duo Double Vision show off its skills in a physical theater performance.

Oliver!

Wang Center, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.telecharge.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston, Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Tue., 7:30 pm; Wed., 7 pm; Thu. and Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 7:30 pm; Sun., 1 and 7 pm. March 2-7. $28-$78. Lionel Bart's musical about an orphan who "wants more" is based on Charles Dickens' classic story.

Puppet Showplace Theatre

32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50. Reservations recommended. •Feb. 18-20, 1 and 3 pm, ages 3-8: The story of a giant tortoise thought to be the last of his species, *Galapagos George* features 16 rod puppets, including sea lions, lizards, blue-footed birds and a tortoise who won't stop growing. •Feb. 21-22, 1 and 3 pm, ages 4-9: Ventriloquist Sylvia Markson performs *The Magic Trunk*, featuring a wise-cracking opossum, a genie and a talking picture. •Feb. 28-29, 10:30 am, ages 3-6: *The Frog Prince and Other Tales* features a princess who learns a lesson about seeing the world through others' eyes and a father who helps his daughter clean her room by telling her fairy tale stories. All stories are accompanied by live music.

Romeo and Juliet

The Strand Theatre, 543 Columbia Road, Dorchester (617-282-5230). www.strandtheatreboston.com. Feb. 25, 9:45 am. $10, $6 children. Shakespeare & Company brings its traveling performance of this Shakespeare's love story to Boston.

Starr Gallery

333 Nahanton St., Newton (617-558-6484). www.lsjcc.org. Feb. 18, 11 am and 1 pm. $9. Grades K-6. The troupe Grey Seal Puppets presents its show entitled *Tangle of Tales*.

Winnie the Pooh

Boston Children's Theatre at McCormack Theatre, UMass, Boston, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston (617-424-6634). www.bostonchildrenstheatre.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Feb. 18-22 and 28-29, 2 pm. $10-$20. In this adaptation of A.A. Milne's classic tale, a young boy and the toy bear he loves explore their friendship and the world around them.

Things to Do

Borders Books and Music

Cambridgeside Galleria, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Sat., 12 pm. Staff members read from new and classic storybooks.



Children's Museum

300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8 adults/$7 children. •Kids can mix hip-hop tunes in the Streetscape, jive in the jazz club and rock at the school dance through the hands-on exhibits of *Making America's Music: Rhythm, Roots & Rhyme.* •*Five Friends from Japan: Children in Japan Today* features hands-on lessons about Japanese writing, attire, music and more. Through May 17. •Feb. 15-21: The museum celebrates Black History Month. •Feb. 16-20, 9 am-4:30 pm, ages 7-10: Vacation Week Camp: Exploring Identity. Daily activities include theater and performing arts, science and nature, swimming, and field trips. •Feb. 21, 11:30 am and 12:30 pm: Critter Day:Wingmasters. Observe real hawks, from the American kestral to the golden eagle. •Feb. 28, 11am-4pm: Celebrate New England weather at Weather Fest. Meet the Thermometer Man, see more 3,000 thermometers and talk with a meteorologist. •Mon., Wed. and Fri., 11 am-12 pm, ages 3 and under: Shake, wiggle and giggle in *Music and Movement.* •Mon., Tue. and Wed., 11 am and noon; Thu., 11 am; Fri., 11 am and 12 pm, 6:15 and 7:15 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am and 12 pm, 2:30 and 3:30 pm: Experience the world of performing arts in KidStage.



Take a Winter Walk at historic Gore Place

Family Days: Seeing and Speaking

Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Feb. 21, 10 am-12:30 pm and 1:30 pm-4 pm. $10 for adult and child. Children ages 5-12 are invited to learn about the artwork in the *Made in Mexico* exhibit by making e-cards with artist/architect Prerna Sood.

Harvard Coop

1400 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-499-200). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. •Feb. 21, 11 am: Stories About Dogs. Listen to dog tales and create a biscuit pin. •Feb. 28, 11 am: Stories About Cats. Listen to cat tales and create a paper-bag puppet.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-496-8204). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. $7.50/$5 children. •Feb. 16-20, 9 am-5 pm, $35: Winter Scavenger Hunt. This family scavenger hunt gives you the chance to explore the museum while searching for clues, solving a secret message and learning about the ways animals survive in the snow. •Feb. 28, 9 am-12 pm, grades 2-3, $35: Giants of the Deep. Learn about sharks, squid, clams and whales by handling bones and artifacts, meeting live sea creatures and making crafts.

Ice Skating at Frog Pond

Frog Pond, Boston Common, Boston (617-635-2120). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Sun., 10 am-9 pm; Mon., 10 am-5 pm; Tue.-Thu., 10 am-9 pm; Fri.-Sat., 10 am-10 pm. $3, free for children under 14 (not including skate rental). Lace up your skates for a few laps on the ice.

Ice Skating Classes

Rinks located in Brighton, Cambridge, Cleveland Circle/Brookline, Hyde Park/Dedham, Lynn, Medford, Neponset/Dorchester, Newton, North End, Somerville, South Boston and West Roxbury (781-890-8480). www.baystateskatingschool.org. Ages 4 1/2 and older. Kids can learn to do a triple axel or try out their hockey skills.

Improvisation and Theater Games: A Series of Workshops

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-666-5350). www.jtoffbroadway.com. •Feb.18-20, 1-3 pm, ages 8-12, $150: Mike Manship leads workshops that teach children about the theater.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. $5, $1 children. •*Holography, the Light Fantastic.* The MIT Museum displays the largest collection of holograms in the world and describes the artistic and scientific facets of the medium. •*Robots and Beyond.* Take a look behind the scenes of MIT's artificial intelligence research labs in this interactive exhibit.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. $15, free for children 17 and under. •Feb. 16-20, 10 am-4 pm: *Vacation Week Adventures–Hand Made.* Accompany your child to this program with hands-on activities, performances and films. •Mon.-Fri., 3:30-4:45 pm, ages 6-12: Children's Room. Children can participate in hands-on art projects related to MFA exhibitions. Feb. 23-27, *The Face Is the Place: Portraits.* •Sat. and Sun., 11 am-4 pm, teens: Family Place. Learn about everything from kings to kangaroos with self-guided gallery activities including puzzles, games, and sketching. •Sat., 11:30 am, 12:30 pm, 1:30 pm: Art Alive. Children can experience art through various entertaining mediums, from books to the stage. •Wednesdays, 4:30-6:30 pm, teens: Teen-to-Teen Art Talks. Adolescent art aficionados have the chance to both discuss and create.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $10 children. •*Magic: The Science of Illusion.* Discover how illusions come together through science, math, psychology and the art of performance at this new exhibition. Through Feb. 22. •Sat. and Sun., 11 am-12 pm: The museum's Science Theater Program offers *Animals and Stories Alive!*, featuring professional storytellers who combine folk tales and myths with visits from live animals. •Fri., 8:30-10 pm (weather permitting). Gilliland Observatory: Use the observatory's two telescopes to find the moon, stars, constellations and planets. •Mugar Omni Theatre, check Web site for show times. $8.50, $6.50 children: *India: Kingdom of the Tiger* (through May 28) and *Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West* (through June) •*Theater of Electricity.* Daily at 12 and 2 pm. The Van de Graaff generator provides a risk-free lightning show.

Museum of Transportation

Larz Anderson Park, 15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). www.mot.org. Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5. The Museum of Transportation has a large collection of rare and antique cars as well as exhibits on automobile history. •*The Evolution of Speed* exhibit explores the history of American auto racing with race cars and displays.

National Heritage Museum

33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. •Feb. 19, 10 am-12 pm, ages 7-12, $5: Children's Workshop: Beatlemania! Compose silly songs, create stuffed walruses and paint an octopus garden.

Newton Free Library

330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.c newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. Registration required. •Feb. 19, 2 pm, ages 5 and older: *Sleeping Beauty.* The Drawbridge Puppet Theater performs this classic fairy tale. •Feb. 23 and March 1, 7 pm, ages 10 and older: Poetry Writing: Explore the world of poetry. •Feb. 24, 7 pm, ages 10 and older: Scrabble Club. •Feb. 24, 3:30 pm, ages 5 and older: Science Tuesday—Wingmasters. Jim and Julie bring in live owls. •Feb. 26, 4:15 pm, ages 7 and older: Fun with Folktales–Friendship. Children listen to stories about friendship, create a craft and enjoy a tasty treat.

Take a Winter Walk

Gore Place, 52 Gore St., Waltham (781-894-2798). Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm. $5 for rental of children snowshoes; $4 for each additional pair of children snowshoes; $5 for adult snowshoes. Ages 3-9. Explore nature using activity packs to search for animal tracks, identify trees, and meet sheep, goats, chickens and rabbits living at the farm.

Winter Camp

Mass. Audubon Society, Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary, 280 Eliot St, Natick (508-655-2296). Feb. 18-19. Explore the wintery outdoors, learn to identify trees, play snow games and enjoy hot chocolate. Be sure to bundle up. •9 am-12 pm, $45, grades K-1: Winter Wanderers •9 am-3 pm, $55, grades 2-3: Winter Detectives •9 am-3 pm, $55, grades 4-5: Amazing Adventures in Winter.

Winter Fest Storytelling

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-666-5350). www.jtoffbroadway.com. •Feb.18-20, 11-11:45 am, ages K-3, $5: Storytelle Tony Toledo presents participatory tales for children.

Yes, Virginia, It Is Rocket Science Team America Rocketry Challenge

MIT Museum, 265 Mass Ave., Building N52, Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 2-4 pm. Free. MIT students discuss rocket design and construction at this family event, which also features astronautical exhibits and displays.

around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
25 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: Green Line to BU East. Wednesdays (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm, Fri., 10 am-9 pm; June-Aug., daily, 10 am-5 pm, Fri. until 9 pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (617-338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park Street. Mon.-Sun., 9:30 am-6 pm. $7.50.

Forest Hills Cemetery
95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-524-0128). www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. Daily, 7:30 am-sundown. Free.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.mnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-2 pm. Free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-8 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-739-1200). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10 am-4 pm. $5, $3 students, seniors.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $10 seniors and children.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5, $3 children.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1, Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, $8.95 children.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (617-635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. Tours start at 9 am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. $3.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10 am-4 pm; weekends, 10 am-5 pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $6, $4 seniors.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8 am-6 pm. $3.

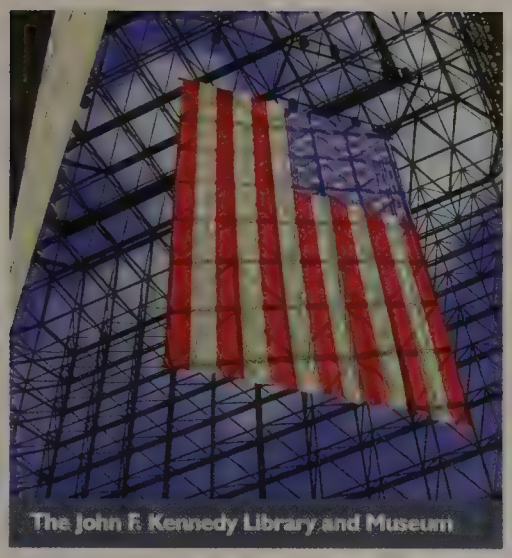
USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). Museum open daily, 10 am-5 pm. Winter ship hours: Thu.-Sun., 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-450-1235). Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.


The John F. Kennedy Library and Museum

Big Brothers
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. Be a big brother.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Become a friend to a young girl.

Boston Cares
(617-263-2273). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). Tutor Boston pre-school through high school students in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers/tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support to children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). Help adults living with cancer.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
livmates@rcn.com. Spend your lunch hour reading at an elementary school in Cambridge or Somerville.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Play with homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). Share your time with an elderly individual, mentor children or teach an adult to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Association for the Blind
(800-852-3029). Read or shop with a blind person.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(617-536-3557). Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

Parental Stress Line
(617-528-5800). Telephone counselors needed.

Pine Street Inn
(617-521-7626). Serve breakfast to homeless guests.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111). Record textbooks in digital formats.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Work at a battered-women's agency.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room and groceries program at this homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young professionals.

StandUp for Kids
(800-365-4543). Help rescue homeless children.

VNA Care Network
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.



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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
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Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

O Canada

I've seen you on the train from Porter Square in the mornings. You're a cute brunette with your hair tucking out of your Canadian hat. Are you Canadian? You're in running clothes and I wonder where you have run from, or where you are running to. You have a backpack that says "Ironman" on it and you're heading out of Boston, like me. If you'd like to run out of the city away from it all, Ironwoman, e-mail me.
—gringr@hotmail.com

Plane Talk

I regret that I didn't talk with you more on our flight home from Atlanta on Jan 19. But we both slept for most of the flight. You were a Crimson grad returning from Cheersport in Georgia and heading back to the cozy confines of your Beacon Hill apartment. I was returning from visiting some friends down south. As we landed at Logan you pointed out a beautiful sunset on the other side of the plane. We never exchanged names, and I never had the chance to say goodbye. I am curious and excited to learn more about you! We slept next to each other and we don't even know each other's names! If you would like to meet up for a drink, I'd absolutely take you up on that offer. But if fate never brings us together again, I want you to know that I enjoyed the short conversations that we shared.
—row15_Sleepers@yahoo.com

To the Raging Idiot at Fenway Bread and Circus

Today's Lesson: How not to get a date. Step #1: Don't make assumptions. You made your first mistake when you stalked me throughout the store. Then you chased me to my car assuming that I was single, that I was heterosexual, that I was "white" and lastly, that in this day and age a woman would accept an invitation to a date with a complete stranger. Step #2: Lose the chip on your shoulder. When a woman politely refuses your ridiculous proposition, it is not customary to then lash out at her by scurrying away and yelling that if you were white she would probably go out with you. In fact, if you tried to lose the Ted Bundy antics a woman would possibly be slightly more receptive to your stalking. The best part is when you played the race card, insinuating that I was racist and only refused your request for a date because you were nonwhite. Well, guess what? So am I. But that's beyond the real issue, which is that you judged me for only looking at your appearance when you asked me out with something like this: "I saw you in the store and I think you're really attractive, do you want to go see *The Graduate* with me on Saturday night?" Seems to me that you were the one judging me by my appearance, not the other way around. So enjoy *The Graduate* by yourself, as I'm sure your scare tactics are not going to score you a companion. Oh, and by the way, I hope you have front-row seats to see Lorraine Bracco in the buff because that is the closest your sorry ass is ever going to get to seeing a naked woman!
—The nonstraight, very taken, off-white woman just trying to buy some freakin' groceries with her girlfriend shopper

A Technicolor Thank You

I wore a chartreuse coat, white boots and a beehive. You were tall and thin, with curly, dark hair, and a long, tan trenchcoat. As I walked into the Garage in Harvard Square last Thursday afternoon, you said I looked amazingly beautiful—and I still glow with happiness. Thank you.
—Compliment Taken

Smitten by an Angel

Madison,
Twas by chance that we met,
For the gods did favor it.
Your Intelligence, Wit and Beauty
Did transfix me.
Yet Fate did intervene,
To cast its evil spell.
So for now it cannot be.
Yet should fate undo its evil spell,
I give you my word of honor,
Which you know I do not break,
That should the spark still linger
I would be your knight.
—smittenbyanangel@hotmail.com

Good to the Last Drop

I met you at the Last Drop on Mass. Ave. a couple weekends ago. You were so beautiful and with a Southern accent to boot! We talked about everything from the Red Sox to music to the old TV show you're named after. I've never felt such a sincere connection with someone so immediately. Unfortunately, it was your friend's birthday and you were rushed out before I had a chance to get your number. I figure this is a good shot, since we talked about this magazine. If any of the hints haven't struck so far, here's another we talked about: My name and an old western movie. E-mail me and I'll take you out for the best dirty martini you've ever had, and be a perfect Southern gentleman.
—lastdrop2004@yahoo.com

Kuwaiti Girl with a British Accent

I was sitting next to you on the Green Line from Kenmore to Arlington, where I suggested you change to the E line to get to Northeastern. You recognized me (or maybe my brother) and we had a short conversation. I didn't feel like I had a chance to ask for your number, but I'd like to finish our conversation.
—IgotONatKENMORE@yahoo.com

BullFinch

You work at the Cheers Bar on Beacon Hill. You are the tall blond bartender with the great sense of humor and thick Boston accent. I am a blond with deep blue eyes. I was wearing a tight blue quarter-sleeve shirt with black pants. Our eyes met the moment I walked in. I was in Boston for a conference. We talked about everything from sporting events to music. Although I live in New York, I am going to be back in Boston at the end of the month and would love to meet with you. Hopefully you remember my smile and deep dimples, as I cannot stop thinking about your sweet laugh, minty breath, tantalizing lips and strong arms. E-mail me and we can explore our minds or our bodies.
—evonc@hotmail.com

Hey, Naked Man

I saw you getting out of your car in your birthday suit on Fairfield Street at 11:30 pm the night after Christmas. Why were you nude?
—man_on_fairfield@hotmail.com

Jaime from Lynn

We met at Jose McIntyre's in January. I was the tall guy who was a horrible dancer. You gave me your phone number, but my discount cell phone doesn't always save the numbers that I put in it. It isn't very often that a tall guy like myself meets such a cute, sweet, tall girl. I wish I could have called you. I hope I hear from you.
—tallloudguy@yahoo.com

Finders Keepers. Losers Cheaters?

Ever abandon efforts to recover change that fell from your pocket into the land of couch seams and piggy banks? Bad move if you happened to stow away your wedding ring with your meter money. Although I have advised on the merits of the gym shower excuse, by now your story has been told. If she believed you, tell her I'm the plumber. She might not be a keeper, but the ring will be—unless you can respond with the engraving, which the rightful owner will know.
—lordofthering02116@hotmail.com



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Jake
KISS108

Kathleen says the nutrition program has educated her with healthy choices geared toward her training regimen. She also says that the Solution program has helped improve her tennis game, giving her more energy, strength, and she is winning more matches!



Kathleen
Mother of 3



"I have always worked out with a high intensity and was never able to make the gains I'm making now without the proper nutritional component. I see not only the size difference but also increase in energy, especially during my workouts."

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rockie horoscope

FEBRUARY 18 – MARCH 2, 2004 BY ROCKIE GARDINER

PISCES FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19



You can set your own agenda if you align your intentions with the creative energy of the Pisces new moon. Consider Friday the 20th another birthday; along with your solar return, it serves as the beginning of another yearly cycle. As synchronicity would have it, this week you're also blessed with the beauty and goodness that Venus bestows on your artistic Neptune ruler. Without much hoopla, an opportunity to rise above the commonplace and attain one of your cherished ideals could appear out of nowhere.

ARIES
MARCH 20–APRIL 19

Dualistic Pisces is often a weird time for the forthright Ram because the subtleties of this emotional water sign can slip right past you. Although you don't have to be on guard, it couldn't hurt to keep an eye out for a colleague's erratic behavior or your employer's overblown expectations. However, with luscious Venus in your sign, you may be too busy with your social life to pay much attention to other people's oddities. Venus urges you to look your best, indulge all your senses and flirt like there's no tomorrow.

TAURUS
APRIL 20–MAY 20

Sense and sensibility: The cutting edge that comes from having Mars in your sign is excellent for incisive psychological analysis and social commentary. Also, because Martian energy isn't always available, now would be a good time for a nip/tuck procedure, dental surgery or body-building—unless you're patient enough to wait until August 2005 when Mars returns. Since the next transit of Taurus will take six months to complete, there'll be plenty of time to consider and reconsider your decision. Plan ahead or act on impulse?

GEMINI
MAY 21–JUNE 20

A memorable Gemini poetry fest takes place whenever your Mercury ruler is inundated with inspirational Neptunian vibrations. Oh, the imagery, the rhythms, the exaggerations! Knowing how susceptible to hyperbole you are right now, a cautious Twin would direct the "willingness to suspend disbelief," a classic definition of romanticism, toward a spiritual or religious end, not toward an unattainable love object. Channeling lyrics and creating visuals are other seemingly nontoxic undertakings, but go easy with the drugs and alcohol.

CANCER
JUNE 21–JULY 22

Try to get your taxes done while the Pisces sun is still in your house of joint finances, and while a rewarding aspect from unpredictable Uranus can send unexpected bucks your way. Once the new moon on the 20th revitalizes a fiscal situation that may have outgrown its usefulness, you can declare bankruptcy, apply for a loan or extend your credit line. You're currently in a good position to see things for what they are, as well as to recognize the potential for growth. Just stay clear of drama queens and hero worshippers.

LEO
JULY 23–AUGUST 22

Despite your desire to fix what is broken, to stick to your New Year's resolutions and spend quality time on yourself, your focus is being drawn to significant others and their problems. One of those relationships could take you by storm when your sun ruler meets idiosyncratic Uranus and radically changes the way things were. If there's time and energy left, try to forge ties with entrepreneurial folks on the Net. The good fortune that Jupiter in your Virgo money house promises to deliver should take root before May.

VIRGO
AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

If you're not heading out for a midwinter vacation, this would be a good time to buckle down and do what must be done, even the boring bits. While Virgos tend to be grounded in the specifics of a situation, during diffusive Pisces you can easily absorb the more abstract aspects. There's a reason why the spaced-out Fish is your cosmic complement, so while the sun and exploratory Uranus meet, you might discover the essence of compatibility. Apply these techniques to your daily routine and share them with your co-workers. You're a smooth operator.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

These are fun times for Libra social butterflies who have no expectations. Being willing to accept anything and anyone may make for interesting dinner conversation, but going with the flow could also bring you face-to-face with a good-looking person who inspires you to aim a bit higher. While your Venus ruler travels through spirited, sanguine Aries, the vision of you as warrior princess or prince won't seem so far-fetched. Stop negotiating for a peaceful solution, and instead, fight for what you truly want.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

Establishing a comfort zone with your folks or handling a messy household matter won't seem as daunting as it was during the holiday season if you can direct supportive Pisces new-moon energy toward those ends. As odd as it may sound, even a control-freakish Scorpio could be willing to try something new this week. Although this is the first winter that inventive Uranus is in Pisces, it is far from the last. Prepare to be impressed, maybe even shocked, by unexpected changes taking place throughout the various branches of your extended family tree.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

Petty annoyances are to be expected while neighbors or siblings find or, since we're in imaginative Pisces, make up reasons to be upset with you. There's not much you can do except ignore or, if you're feeling forgiving, endure their complaints. This time of year the friction factor tends to increase due to the planets passing through pity-me Pisces. It might get worse—in early March when the sun opposes your expansive Jupiter ruler—before it gets better. Until then, redefine your fine romance. Commitment?

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

More about the money: Although Capricorns are customarily too thorough about financial matters to be deceived, there are enough "What if?" concerns in your money sector right now to ask, "What's up?" Since disruptive Uranus is also lurking in that area, something totally unexpected might happen to shake your confidence. So double-check all transactions for another week and play it even safer than usual. Also, table your desire to transform your pad into a palace until you have a clearer vision.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

Read for Gemini. You too could be swept away by the sheer poetry of what's happening, i.e., silver-tongued Mercury and visionary Neptune meeting in your sign. Or, more likely, what might happen when the sun and your Uranus ruler collide on the 21st. If you want to break free of a situation or a relationship, this would be the appropriate time to run for the hills. Or to instigate a rebellion, especially if you're under pressure to follow rules and regulations you don't agree with. Are we talking about social etiquette, sexual politics or the NCAA?

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Amy Holland (third from left) sent in this picture with (from left) Adam, Joe, Emma, Luke, Bea, Ashley, Lucy, Sarah, Jason and Christina in El Salvador for a Christmas wedding. *Feliz Navidad.*



Member of Japan's House of Councillors Kimitaka Kuze and his wife, Kazuko, know which magazine never gets lost in translation.



Jack Gilad demonstrates the IMPROPER's water resistance 60 feet below sea level off Grand Cayman. We wish someone would open a nice bar at the bottom of the ocean—most of them are real dives.



Valerie Carpenter discovered this stone whale in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. Hey, it's Stonewhale Jackson.



Richard Pena visited the Colosseum in Rome, where the ancient Romans once staged awesome battles and the occasional Rolling Stones concert.



Rhode Island governor Don Carcieri knows the rhode to Boston's Best.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Riding the speediest fowl to victory in the ostrich races at the Chandler Ostrich Festival, held March 12-14 in Chandler, Ariz.

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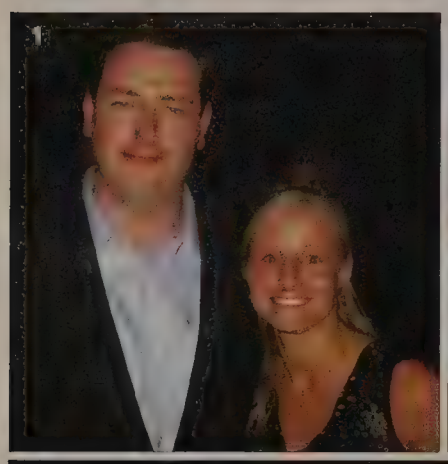
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IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Friday, January 30, **Stadium Sports Bar & Grill** held its grand opening party. Guests enjoyed cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and dancing to live music by Syndicate.







1. **Dave Greaney**, owner of Stadium, with fiancée **Kathy Labieniec**, controller for Union Capital Mortgage Corporation.
2. **Jerry Varnum**, sales executive for Aim Technology; **Tina Dwyer**, account executive for Fusion Supply; **Deborah Berkowitz**, account executive for Yahoo! Hot Jobs; and **F.J. Cassidy**, certified financial planner for Cassidy Asscociates, Inc.
3. **John Anderson**, carpenter for ARS Installations; **Dave Anderson**, dock worker for Adams Chapman; **James O'Driscoll**, carpenter for Connell Construction; and **Allen Paulsen**, dock worker for Adams Chapman.

On Thursday, January 29, **The Improper Bostonian** hosted the grand opening of **Dillon's**. The prohibition themed evening offered classic cocktails featuring **Hendrick's Gin**. Proceeds from the one-night only gambling tables will benefit **The Home for Little Wanderers**.







1. **Erin Conley**, account manager for Sam Adams; **Paul Bruno**, manager at Dillon's; and **Amy Farina**, staffing assistant for Mass. Financial Services.
2. **Maria Broper** and **Jim Bowes**, bartenders at Dillon's.
3. **Christie Hill**, assistant stylist at Maksou; **Danielle Provost**, **Stacy Provencher**, and **Marissa Foster**, all assistant buyers at Talbots; **Jason Grodsky** of Boston; **Ben Goldberg**, marketing coordinator for Marché Restaurant; and **Marc Piccuirro**, portfolio operations for Investors Bank and Trust.

On Friday, February 6, the **American Heart Association** kicked off the nationwide "Go Red for Women" campaign with a luncheon at **The Boston Harbor Hotel**. The event featured a fashion show by local designer **Denise Hajjar**, with clothes modeled by some of Boston's media celebrities.

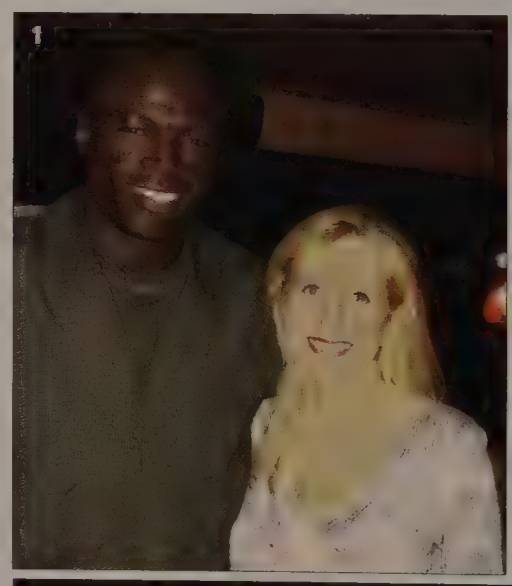


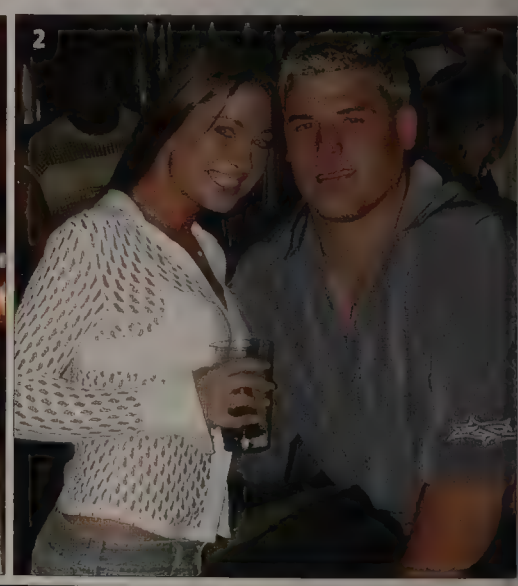




1. **Marcie Behman**, vice president at Merrill Lynch; **Lisa Hughes**, news anchor for CBS Channel 4; **Jan Saragoni**, president for Saragoni PR; and **Pat Kreger**, public affairs director for CBS Channel 4.
2. **Stacey Blaine**, model for the Model's Group; **Melanie Trumbore**, boutique manager for St. John; and **Lindsay Smith**, model for Model's Group.
3. **Nicole Glor**, director of TV relations; **George Regan**, president, and **Jen Bradley**, account manager, all of Regan Communications.

On Sunday, February 8, **The Rack** threw a Grammy Party complete with a private VIP concert by recording star **Seal**. This very special evening was hosted by Fast Freddy of **Star 93.7**.







1. **Seal** with **Heidi Barclay** of The Rack.
2. **Kerry Collins** of Boston, with **Lonie Paxton** of the New England Patriots.
3. **Jerry McKenna**, program director for Star 93.7; **Bill Millman** of Warner Brothers; and **Rob Tyler**, music director for Star 93.7.

PHOTOS: STADIUM, ALISON MORANT; AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION, JULIE KANE; DILLON'S, PATRICK MORGAN; THE RACK, ALISON MORANT



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Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2002. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

Captain Fishbones **SEAFOOD, STEAKS AND MORE* 353 Cambridge St, Allston 617-783-2300 (formerly the Sports Depot).* Captain Fishbones boasts a reasonably priced menu of fresh seafood, succulent steaks, awesome burgers and a healthy variety of salads and pizza. Meet your friends at a great bar surrounded with five 42" plasma screen TVs. Join us for a free appetizer special Monday thru Friday from 4-6pm. Book your rehearsal dinners today! Full menu from 11:30 A.M. to 12:30 A.M. Sunday Brunch 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.. Plenty of free parking and free valet service in Allston on Friday and Saturday nights. You can visit the Captain in Quincy at 332 Victory Rd, 617-471-3511 www.captainfishbones.com

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444, Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., South Boston,617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant *Boston Park Plaza Hotel ,34 Columbus Ave, Boston 617 482-3999; Faneuil Hall Marketplace, North Market Bldg. 617-720-5522.* Recognized nationwide for its fresh seafood and lively atmosphere, McCormick & Schmick's offers over 40 varieties of fresh seafood, and a unique menu that changes daily. The bar is also a popular destination where all cocktails are made fresh and hand-shaken. $1.95 Bar menu served Monday through Friday 3:30-6:30 p.m. and late night every night from 10 p.m - midnight.

M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11 am - 2am 7 days a week.

Ned Devine's *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere in the heart of downtown Boston. Open 11 am - 2am 7 days a week.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 10pm. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches. Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Science Street Café *Science Park, Boston, 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out Boston's newest nightspot - The Science Street Café at the Museum of Science. Try our out-of-this world signature martinis, gourmet appetizers and decadent desserts - all while listening to live music. Perfect before or after an Omni film. Open 6-10pm. Parking available.

Sidney's Grille *20 Sidney St, Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why Bon Appétit magazine says, "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breakfast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus visit www.sidneysgrille.com

Solas *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11 am - 2 am 7 days a week.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

BARS/CLUBS

Beer Specialty

Boston Beer Works *112 Canal St., near the Fleet Center, 617-896-BEER, 61 Brookline Ave., across from Fenway Park, 617-536-BEER and 278 Derby St., in Historic Salem, 978-745-BEER.* Boston's oldest and largest restaurant brewery with 3 locations! Bold American Food. Award Winning Beer. 15 microbrewed beers always on tap. 16 American wines by the glass. 15 championship billiards tables at our Canal Street location. Complete party planning capabilities. Private Rooms. Customizeable menus. Lunch. Dinner. Late Night. Always a good time. Check out the BIGGER and BOLDER menu.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exotic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

Big City - pool hall, pizza kitchen, Beer Bar *138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8pm, free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Felt *533 Washington St., Boston, 617-350-5555.* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering sophisticated billiards, New York style lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or for a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere combined with the delicious creative entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Eclectic cuisine by Chef Casey Lloyd.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 10pm. Live DJs 7 nights a week, dancing with Ibiza's DJ Marco, resident DJs DJLittles and Johnny C til 2 am. Join us in our new private VIP room! Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Clubs

Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston, 617-482-7799.* Located in Boston's trendy Theater District, Pravda 116 is a chic bar and club. DJs 5:30pm - 10:30pm keep the energy level high. Bar 5:30pm-2am and dance club 10:30pm - 2am Wednesday-Saturday. Credit cards accepted AE, CB, DC, MC, V.

Stadium – Clubhouse *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Stadium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale nightclub featuring two bars, a hardwood dance floor and parking. An exciting yet relaxed 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety of music and beautiful people crowding the dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights. An ideal place for your next bachelor, bachelorette or birthday party.

Comedy

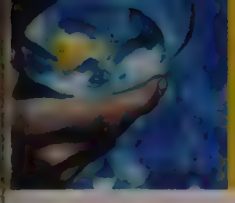
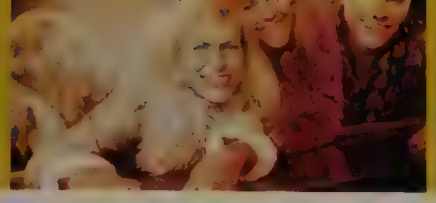
The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www. theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. Mingle. Let your hair down; see and be seen on the big screen. Simply the hippest way to spend a night of all-out fun in Boston's Financial District. Come after work. Come to dance. Come to go wild with your friends. There's always something exciting happening – and you never know who you'll bump into. Join us and experience what the buzz is all about.

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 617-227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes


American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston,617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal and martini. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 10pm. Live DJs 7 nights a week, dancing with Ibiza's DJ Marco, and resident DJs DJLittles and Johnny C til 2 am. Join us in our new private VIP room! Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Irish

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 617-742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston,617-742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 617-523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11am - 1am 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

The Green Dragon *11Marshall St., Boston, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11 am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11 am - 2am 7 days a week.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 617-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

General

The Alley *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. www.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

Aqua *120 Water St., Boston, 617-720-4900.* Boston's newest place to be seen is now open in the heart of the Financial District. Whether relaxing with a martini in one of our cozy booths, sipping a margarita on our roof deck or watching your hometown favorites on our high definition plasma TV. Aqua has what you're looking for after work and late night with our resident and guest DJs spinning your favorite mixes through our state of the art sound system all night long.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For more info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Boston Rocks *245 Quincy Market Place Boston,617-726-1110 www.boston-rocks.net. 21+.* Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St.,617- 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2003. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Cheers *Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-227-0150, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Offering pub fare until 11:45pm. Live entertainment every Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Cheers *Beacon Hill 84 Beacon St., Boston, 617-227-9605, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Full menu available until 11:45pm. Watch your favorite team on DirecTV.

Downtown Lounge *138 Portland St., Boston 617-523-8383.* Tempting tapas, modern martinis and contemporary cocktails are just a few of the elements awaiting your arrival. A distinctive destination in the heart of North Station, located just one block from the Fleet Center. Share crab taquitos, shaved portobello mushrooms or grilled white pizza. Revive with a specialty martini while sinking into soft curvy seating. Spacious and sublime, Dowtown Lounge is an attractive meeting place for business, luncheons, social, after work cocktails and events.

The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010.* Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St.,Boston 617-722-0161.* The newest edition to Boston's night scene. This New Orleans style bar is just steps away from the Fleet Center. Hurricane O'Reilly's serves up the best that Boston nightlife has to offer. Come dance the night away with the hottest music around. We will leave you yearning for Bourbon Street.

Jillian's Boston *145 Ipswich St., Boston, 617-437-0300.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring more than 200 high tech games, six full bars, 50 pool tables, racing simulators, Black Jack for Fun and much more. Atlas Bar and Grill on Jillian's first floor offers full service dining featuring innovative American cuisine, a giant screen video wall and dancing every Friday & Saturday night. www.jilliansboston.com.

The Junction – Your Neighborhood Bar & Grill. *110 Dorchester St., South Boston, 617-268-6429.* Delicious food, great atmosphere and friendly staff –and it all happens at the Junction - South Boston's Neighborhood Bar & Grill. Enjoy our half-priced appetizers on weekdays from 3 to 6 pm. Join us for live music & entertainment on the weekends and for our fun trivia nights on Tuesdays.

Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Lounge. Cocktails. Dancing. Nightlife. Come see the lights of Parris. Sample the eclectic lounge menu featuring grilled pizza, oyster shooters ans steak tartar. Sip a Classic, Apple or French 75 martini, and then motion onto the huge dance floor featuring Live Music with the best bands and DJs Thursday through Saturday. Named for the original architect of the Greek-revival-style building, Alexander Parris, you're nightlife experience at Parris will be Boston and beyond. Open 5pm - 2am Wednesay - Saturday. Cover charge on Friday and Saturday.

Jazz

Regattabar *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Tuesday-Saturday nights and occasional Sunday afternoons. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square. Shows at 8:30pm Tues-Thurs, 7:30pm & 10:00pm Fri. & Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617.876.7777 for tickets and information, 800.881.1818 for hotel reservations and information.

Latin

Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston 617-351-7001.* A multistory Latin-themed restaurant and club, Sophia's treats guests to a tantalizing Tapas-style menu, live Salsa bands and hi-energy Latin dance. From a romantic dinner and salsa lessons to hi-energy dance and mingling on the roof deck over sangria and Salsa, an evening at Sophia's is always Hot! Hot! Hot

Sports Bar - Upscale

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www.theplaceboston.com.* Voted Boston's Best Sports Bar 3 years in a row by The Improper Bostonian! Mingle with your favorite sports celebrities: Brady, Thornton, Walker, Garciaparra. You never know who you'll run into. Enjoy the wildest party atmosphere in the heart of the Financial District. It's never the same experience twice – we've got exclusive sports video productions and game coverage on our state-of the-art flat screen TVs. So join us to see what the buzz is all about and find out why people in-the-know feel right at home.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston,617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal and martini. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 10pm. Watch all your favorite teams on one of our 18 TVs or in our private VIP lounge on of our 6 new 50" plasma TVs! Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Stadium *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* Boston's Best Damn Sports Bar, Period. A brand new, high-end sports bar featuring two floors, three bars, 30 flat screen TVs – including the one in the men's room, a dance floor and parking. Stadium menu offers an enticing selection of appetizers, salads, steak & burgers, fresh seafood and drinks

BRUNCH

Captain Fishbones **SEAFOOD, STEAKS AND MORE* 353 Cambridge St, Allston 617-783-2300 (formerly the Sports Depot).* Captain Fishbones is proud to present an award winning buffet brunch. For only $9.99 come and join the Captain for an all you can eat brunch. Full menu from 11:30 A.M. to 12:30 A.M. Plenty of free parking. You can visit the Captain in Quincy for breakfast Saturday and Sunday 8 A.M. to 12 P.M. at 332 Victory Rd, 617-471-3511 www.captainfishbones.com

Harvard Gardens *315 Cambridge St., Beacon Hill, Boston, 617-523-2727. www.harvardgardens.com.* Cozy up to the beautiful mahogany bar or slip into a comfy booth and enjoy Harvard Gardens' menu of cool cocktails and comfort food. Brunch serves up eggs and pastrami hash, thick-cut French toast with caramelized bananas, specialty pizzas and Boston's best Bloody Mary. Harvard Gardens serves brunch Saturday and Sunday, 11:30am - 3:00pm.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended 617-661-5005.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**, *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

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Farragut RD. First Floor 3 bedroom water view,hardwood floors, new kitchen with frig. micro. dish/wash new bathroom, washer/dryer front & rear porch, easy parking, $2200/Month. Billy Higgins 47 Farragut Rd. South Boston, MA 02127. 617-201-6077.

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Criminal defense. Personal Injury. Immigration law. For more information please see display on this page. 508-370-3400.

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Wardrobe revamping, fashion tuning, and personal shopping. 617-797-4079. For more information see display ad on this page.

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1998 LEXUS 400-LS

Dk.Green, Tan/Int, 85K Mi. N.A.D.A. Book 22k.Selling for 19,500 Very Nice !!! If you drive it , You "will" buy it. Billy 617-201-6077.

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Medical studies through MGH. 617-724-0736. For more information see display on page 97.

MUSIC

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Online rental service-providing privately owned and leased rentals easily viewed with photos at our website. Apts. or apt. shares will be auto emailed to you daily. It is safe & simple to use. Flexible payment plans & so much more at www.easyrent.com / www.easyroommate.com 1-888-531-6139.

GRAND CENTRAL APARTMENTS

www.grandcentralapartments.com for more information please see display on page 97. 617-342-7118.

SOCIAL CLUBS

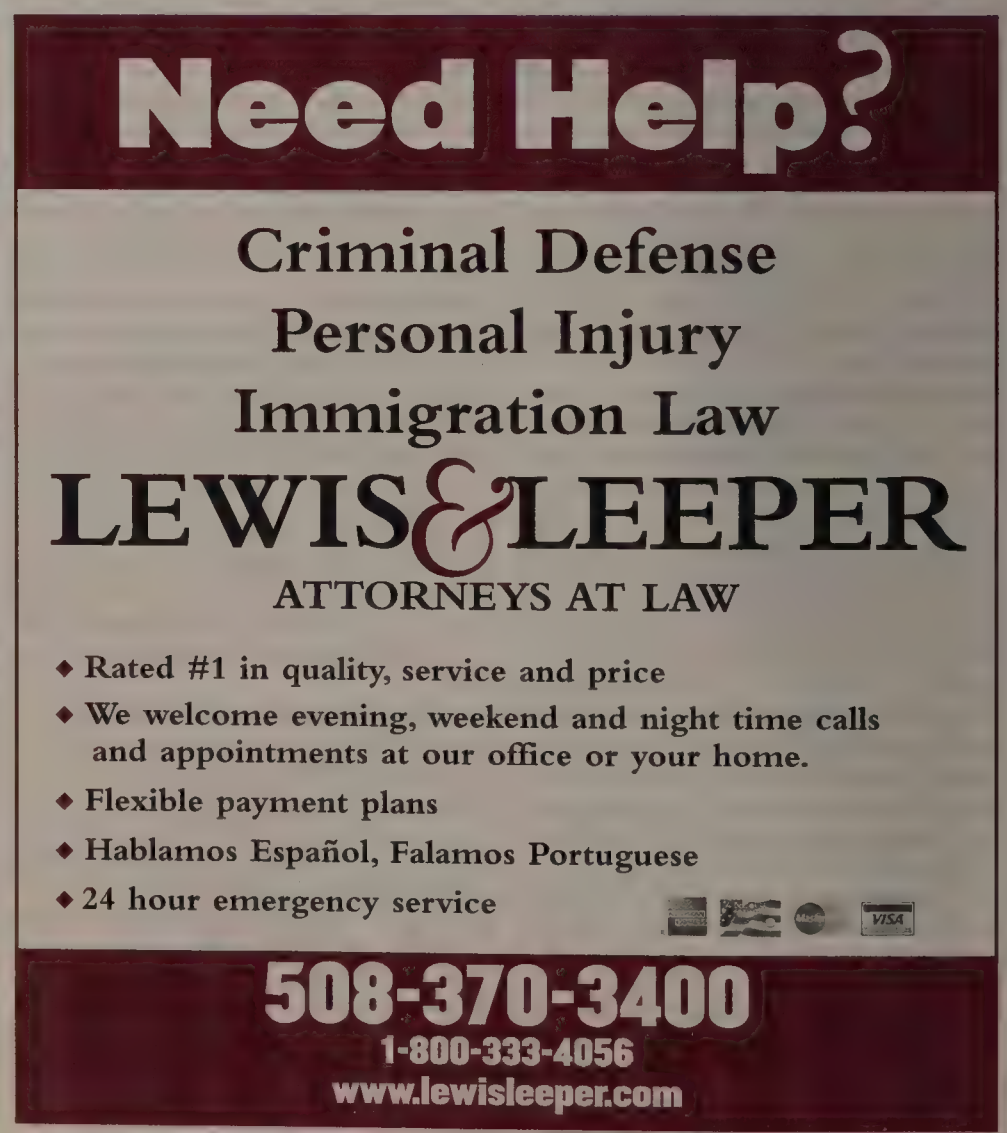
BYPA

Boston Young Professionals Association. 617-591-1400. For more information visit www.bostonypa.com. Please see our display on page 97.









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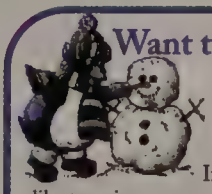
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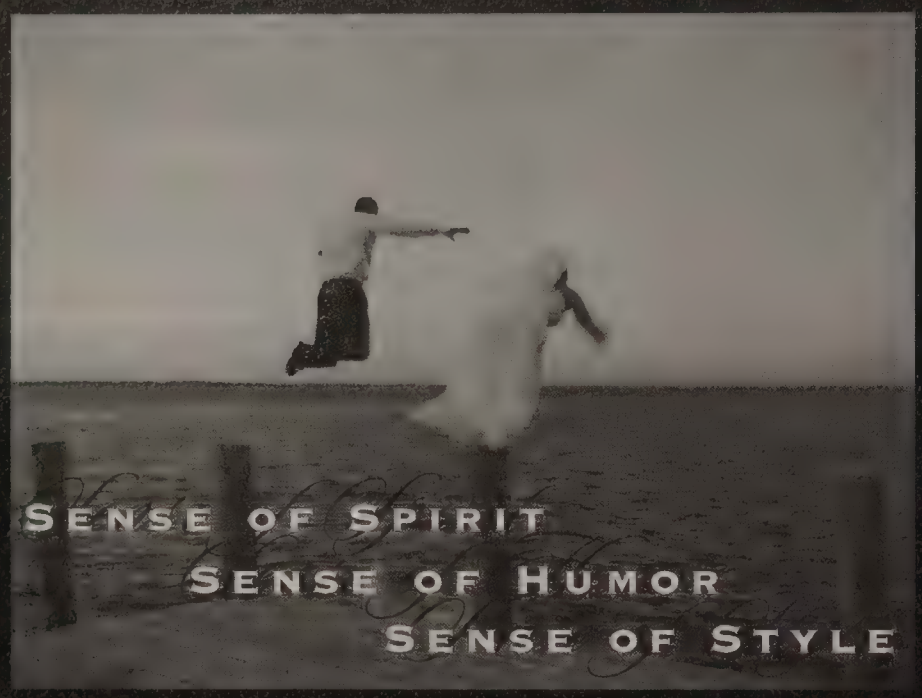
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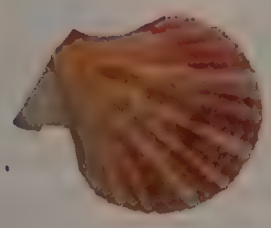


it's a SHORE thing

The Improper Bostonian's Shores of Boston issue is sure to please. We will take a look at perfect day trips to Boston's North and South shores and tell you what to do, where to eat, shop and hang out when you get there. Did you ever wonder how the shores compare? Consult our handy-dandy chart on who's got the most celebrities, the best beaches and the tastiest seafood. Speaking of seafood, in 1916, Lawrence Woodman dipped a shucked clam in batter and threw it into the deep fryer, creating the first fried clam. In this issue, Julie Suratt visits Woodman's restaurant on the North Shore and highlights it as the quintessential New England clam shack. Then she returns to Boston and compares the decor, food and view at Woodman's with that of six seafood shanties in Boston. Finally if you like your fried clams with a side of salsa, you will enjoy the *Improper*'s guide to dance classes in Boston—you'll find out where to learn everything from the cha-cha to the tango.

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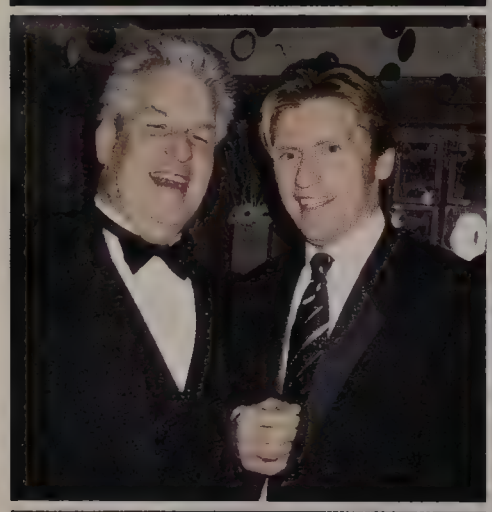
LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

















At Betting on a Cause and a Cure, clockwise from top: Donnie Wahlberg deals; Tracy Pollan and Michael J. Fox; Paulina and Cam Neely; (from left) Ken and Linda Howard and Teller; Penn Jillette; Ruvé and Neal McDonough; Lenny Clarke and Denis Leary; Nancy and Dick Friedman.

stars of varying wattage who assembled in the ballroom of the **Charles Hotel**—a turnout that included Fox's wife, **Tracy Pollan**; Dorchester homies gone Hollywood **Donnie Wahlberg**—with his stunning wife, **Kim Fey**—and **Neal McDonough** (the bad guy in the upcoming remake of *Walking Tall*), with his gorgeous glamazon of a bride, **Ruvé**; outrageous magicians **Penn and Teller**; funnyman **Lenny Clarke** and his wife, champion charter-boat captain and singer/songwriter **Jennifer**; TV stars **Robert David Hall** (of *CSI*) and **Ken Howard** (of *The White Shadow*), who brought his bewitching other half, **Linda**; film director **Sam Weisman**; J. Geils frontman **Peter Wolf**; and such notable locals as presidential pal **Dick Friedman** and the magnificent **Nancy**; celebrity chef **Jody Adams**; gambling bigwig **Gary Loveman** (CEO of Harrah's); real estate moguls **Peter** and **Paul Palandjian** with their respective wives **Minou** and **Dionne**; retired SJC judge **Maria Lopez**; liquor titan **Harvey Allen** and his current squeeze, former radio shock jock **Carolyn Fox**; Tudor Investments titan **Jim Pallotta**; uber-jeweler **Amit Handa** of Alpha Omega; improbably tall couple **Mike** and **Betsy Danziger**; limo giant **Scott Solombrino**; absurdly attractive pair **Sean** and **Natasha Clarke**, and so on and so forth down the proverbial A-list.

Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres were followed by a live auction of fantasy items and a feast fit for Elvis. After that came a few hours of gambling (with the celebrities serving as dealers), and a performance by Penn and Teller, who did a mini version of their Vegas act. By that point, everyone was hungry again and breakfast was served, after which exhaustion took over and it was time to head upstairs to bed.

"They thought of everything," said one woman, grabbing a pair of the terry cloth bathrobes that were given out as party favors.

"Not really," said her husband. "I could use a fistful of Advil."

AGAINST ALL ODDS...

For an evening that easily could have degenerated into a celebrity petting zoo, it was a wildly entertaining affair when former Bruins great **Cam Neely** teamed up with actor **Michael J. Fox** and comedian **Denis Leary** to host **Betting on a Cause and a Cure**, a big-ticket Vegas-style casino night to benefit the charitable foundations headed by each.

Like staring up at the night sky, it was impossible to count the noted painter **John Gentile**, performances by BLO singers, and buffets groaning under the weight of delicious delicacies from some of the North End's finest kitchens, including Prezza, Sage and Lucca.

Attendees, meanwhile, included the likes of Wang Center CEO **Joe Spaulding**; big-time BLO supporters **Linda Cabot Black**, **Hod** and **Cassandra Irvine**, **Suki** and **Miguel de Braganza**, **Nancy Sonna-bend**, **Peter Wender**, **Lee Day Gillespie** and **Lee Perry** (flying solo, because his wife, Cokie, was on an all-women ski trip to Steamboat Springs); bow-tied arts booster **Bill Nigreen**; the dashing and debonair **Dietrich Falkenthal**; power broker **Larry Dicara**; the effervescent **Anne Fitzpatrick Cucchiaro**; valet mogul **Andrew Tuchler** and his babe-a-licious wife, **Christine**; Putnam Investments poobah **Gordon Silver**; New Hampshire's honorary French consul **Adele Baker**; and others too numerous to mention.

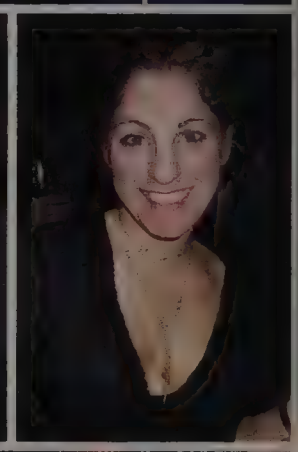
Overheard in line for the bar: "My publicist called me the other day and said, 'I need a few quotes on viscosity for Cosmo.'"

But thankfully, the topic changed before anyone could ask, "The viscosity of what?" IB

At the BLO party, top: Peter Wender and Joe Spaulding. Middle row, from left: Mary and Sherif Nada; Christine Tuchler. Bottom: Pat Simpson and Kathleen McDermott.









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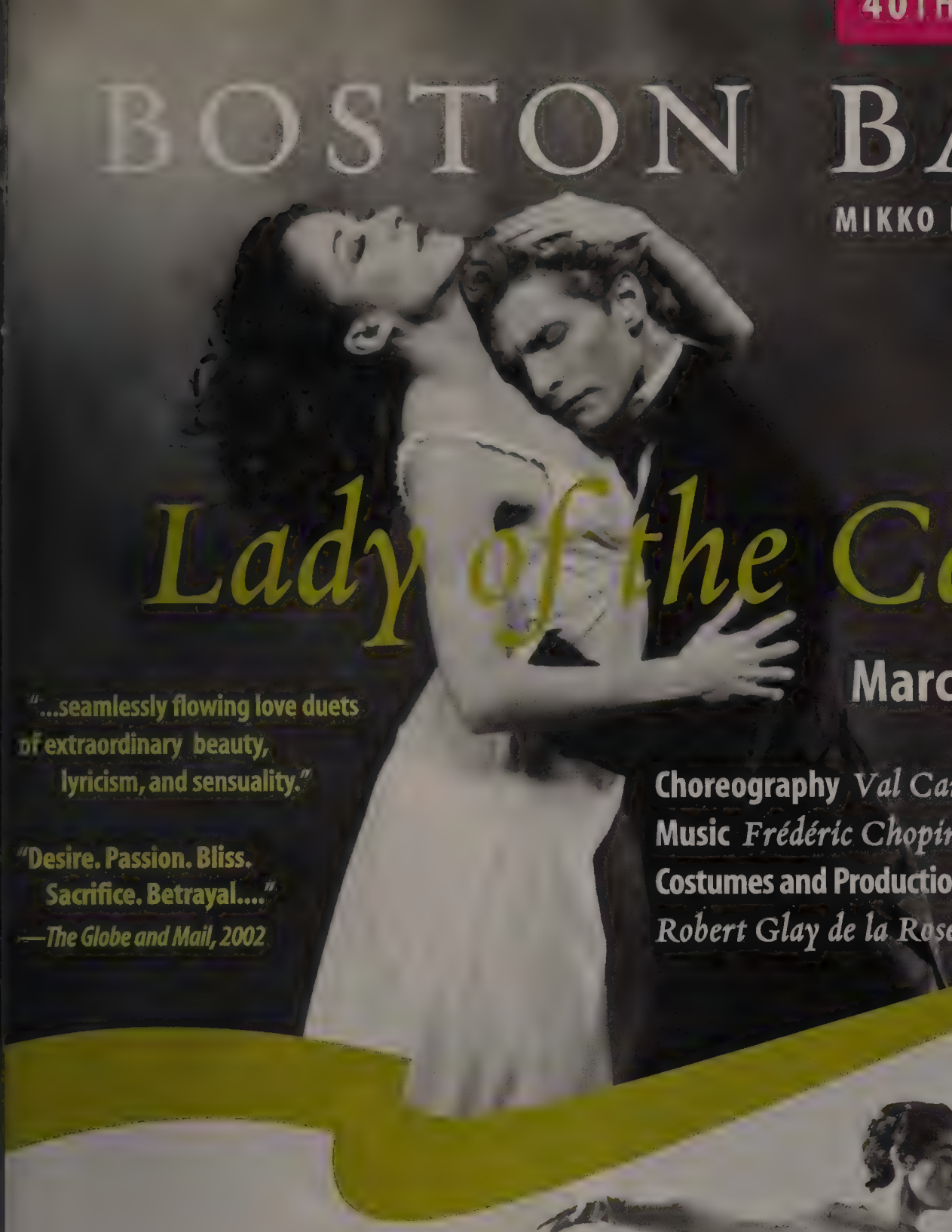
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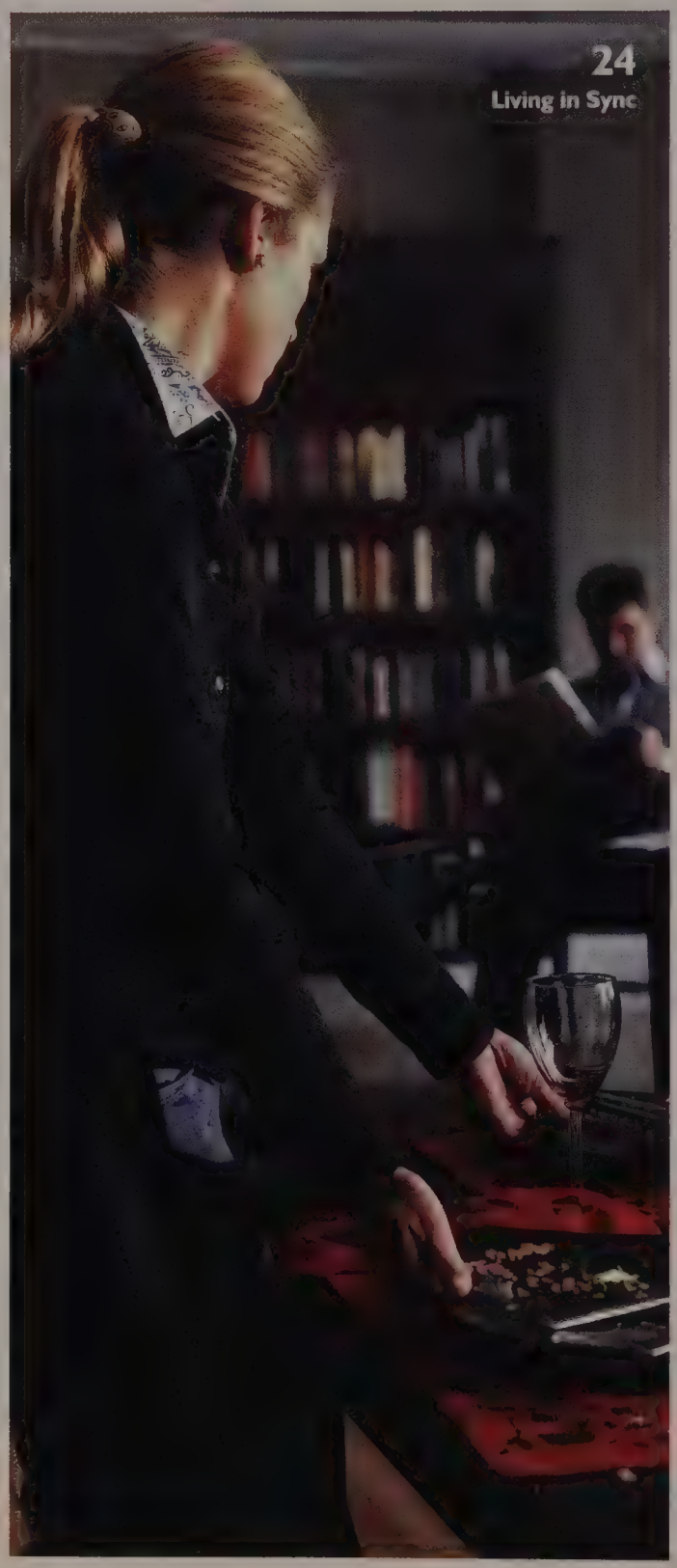
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PHOTOGRAPHED BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN



TRACY POWELL



Photographed for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by
Bill Streicher

Model: **Julie Bannerton for the Candy Ford Group;** makeup: **Jenny Brown;** dress from **Victoria's Secret**

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR



ONE FOR THE MEN

Guys, you've stuck with us through our past two issues—devoted to weddings and spring fashion, respectively—and here's your reward: our first-ever Man Issue. Persuaded by staff writer Ezra Dyer that a guy-focused IMPROPER was only fair given the four issues per year that we devote to fashion and beauty, we've filled these pages with stories of particular interest to XY chromosomers.

Ever wish you could sit down with a group of women and get straight answers to eternal questions like "What do women consider deal-breakers on a first date?" and "What's a non-meathead way to drive away a guy who's hitting on your girlfriend?" We had men tell us the questions they most wanted to ask, and then we polled females for the answers—essential reading for both sexes (page 20).

In this issue you'll also find Mayor Menino and other prominent Boston males modeling sleek suits (page 32), one man's anxiety-fraught tale of moving in with his girlfriend (page 24), plus two pages of the latest gadgets—from a gas-powered blender to a canine translator (page 26).

Don't say we never did nothin' for you, fellas.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

FASHION BASHIN'

I just returned from the Sports Club/LA and saw 60-year-old women in their '80s jumpsuits looking more fashionable than the cover and pages of your latest issue (Spring Fashion Preview, Feb. 18). The cover with those earrings and that necklace? Pick one or the other, not both. But what made these outfits outrageously bad, besides the ill-chosen shoes, the mediocre jewelry and the uninteresting photographs, is the lack of creativity.

Please, I beg of you, get rid of the white background photo shoots. Show some lifestyle shots. We live in a great city—show it off now and then. The canned shots of these models are enough to make my soy latte curdle. And makeup product shots in which you can actually see the makeup would be appreciated.

Now that *Sex and the City* has ended, women need some inspiration, some direction, some attitude. Where is the female voice of the city? Where is the hip single girl's voice? The hip married girl's voice? Is the IMPROPER a Zagat guide or a more encompassing guide to the city and the people who live in it?

—LARISSA MILLS
Boston

HE'S A MAD MAN

The Spring Fashion issue showed what women should be looking for as the weather warms up. But only one page devoted to the guys?! I guess the editors of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN don't believe we like to see the latest spring fashion, too. We deserve more than just a token page of five pictures. I take it the term "metrosexual" hasn't made its way to the staff of the IMPROPER as of yet.

—THOMAS TERRY JR.
Boston

PRICE GOWNGING?

The editors failed to fact-check "Battle of the Brides" in the IMPROPER's Bridal Issue (Feb. 4) when they reported that all dresses at the Filene's Basement Bridal Gown sale cost $249. On the morning of Feb. 20, after waiting in line for two hours, I was surprised to find that all dresses were not, in fact, $249. Many dresses were actually $499 and $699. As a loyal reader, I have always relied on the details you report in your magazine's articles and stories. In the future, please fact-check details prior to publication.

—DARCY HEITZKE
Brookline

Editor's response: *When writer Julie Suratt attended the Filene's Basement sale in 2003, all dresses were $249. We fact-checked the article against the company's Web site, which noted that all dresses were again $249.*

CORRECTION

In the Feb. 18 dining column, we listed the wrong phone number for Anthem. The correct number is 617-523-8383.



SPRING FASHION COVER PHOTO: BILL STREICHER

WE LIVE IN A GREAT CITY—SHOW IT OFF NOW AND THEN. THE CANNED SHOTS OF THESE MODELS ARE ENOUGH TO MAKE MY SOY LATTE CURDLE.

—LARISSA MILLS
BOSTON

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DANIEL SCHULMAN



A frequent contributor to the IMPROPER, Cambridge resident Daniel Schulman is a staff writer for the *South End News* and a freelance scribe for publications including *Psychology Today*, among others. Schulman's latest piece for the IMPROPER, "Living in Sync," chronicles the challenges he faced—and foolish errors he made—when he moved in with his girlfriend. "Living in Sync" begins on page 24.

Tell Us What You Think

SEND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR TO: The Improper Bostonian, 142 Berkeley St., Third Floor, Boston, MA 02116. E-mail: letters@improper.com. Fax: 617-859-1446. Letters must be signed; please include your town and phone number. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

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the word

EDITED BY ERIN HAGEDORN & JULIE SURATT

new in town

THAT'S LA MORRA



Banish any lingering memories of Fajitas & 'Ritas when you head to La Morra in Brookline Village. The only thing the two restaurants have in common is their location. Chef/owner Josh Ziskin, previously of the acclaimed Tuscan Grill in Waltham, has turned the former Tex-Mex joint into a warm and inviting Italian restaurant.

Step inside, and you'll feel miles away from Route 9 traffic that zooms by this spot a couple of blocks from the Village. It's worth the trip. Exposed brick walls, hardwood floors and soft lighting greet visitors on both floors. Every seat was filled on a Monday night, as eager diners parked themselves at the small wine bar on the first floor to wait for upstairs tables to clear.

Waiters carry wooden bowls brimming with slices of fresh bread to each table. Instead of olive oil, they serve a delectable ricotta cheese spread into which we dipped chunks of bread—too eagerly, we realized, as the waiter handed us menus listing multiple courses: *cicchetti* (Venetian-style tapas), *antipasti*, *primi* and *secondi*. We started with two small dishes from the cicchetti menu, salt cod with garlic and lemon ($3.50) and fried olives ($3), both wonderful lead-ins to squash flan with Parmesan fonduta ($8.75), roasted chicken cooked under a brick ($17.95), and red wine– and cumin-braised calamari with spinach ($16.95)—washed down with a glass of chianti, reasonably priced at $6.

Ziskin's menu focuses on Northern Italian cuisine: fresh pastas, and braised and wood-grilled meats. With the large selection of Italian wines and the decor—rustic wooden tables, sage-green glazed terracotta plates and bowls, and antique light fixtures—you might as well be dining in the Tuscan countryside. One piece of advice: Don't save room for dessert, but eat it anyway. *48 Boylston St., Brookline (617-739-0007). www.lamorra.com.* —*Erin Hagedorn and Julie Suratt*

sports

JOCK TALK

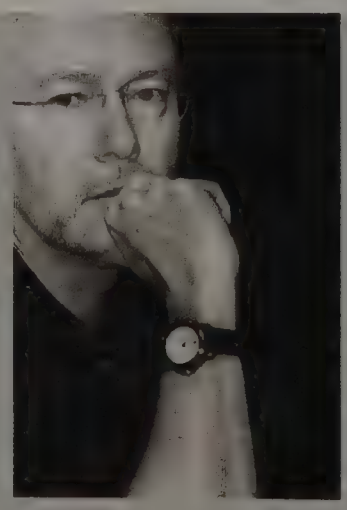
Sports Radio 850 is run by a chick!

There's a new boss in town at WEEI 850 AM, and general manager Julie Kahn isn't fazed by the fact that her station's audience is meatier than a rack of ribs at a tailgate party. (WEEI is the number one radio station in Boston among men ages 25-54.) Male listeners need not worry that on-air discussion will suddenly veer toward topics like the final episode of *Sex and the City*, as Kahn has no plans to pursue the fairer demographic. "We love our women listeners, but we don't program with them in mind," she says. So what kind of show would she like to see on WEEI, if she could hire any host? "What if we had Bob Kraft do his own show, where we search out the next great sports team executive under his mentorship? We could call it the Sports Apprentice," she says. Kahn is a sports fan herself, and it's probably to WEEI's benefit that she keeps a level head on sports matters—unlike many of the station's listeners. In fact, she might be one of the only people in New England who still has faith in Danny Ainge's long-term plans for the Celtics. "I'm sure he has a plan," Kahn says. "I think you have to give any new manager time. I'm banking on that." —*Ezra Dyer*



inner view

THE GAMBLER



As far as James McManus is concerned, Kenny Rogers ain't just whistlin' Dixie. McManus, a Chicago-based author, experienced holdin' and foldin' with the big dogs firsthand when *Harper's* magazine sent him to cover the 2000 World Series of Poker in Las Vegas. A well-seasoned if not professional poker player, he bet his $4,000 advance to win a seat in the tournament. During many grueling rounds of No-Limit Texas Hold 'Em, he ponied up thousands and lost at least one seven-digit pot. In the end, however, the amateur placed fifth overall, took home about $250,000 in winnings, and got enough material to turn his *Harper's* article into the best-selling book *Positively Fifth Street*. We caught up with the author before his national book tour lands him at Newtonville Books for a reading March 3.

IB: *What are your favorite places to gamble on the East Coast ?*

JM: Definitely Foxwoods, the Taj, the new Borgata in Atlantic City. There's a couple of smaller private games in New York City. I can't divulge their location, but lower Manhattan has a couple of good poker games involving actors and media people. Those are the places that hold big No-Limit Hold 'Em games. Everyone puts up $10,000, and the total prize pool is $3 or $4 million.

IB: *Which celebrities could you imagine would be really good poker players, and why?*

JM: Well, Ben Affleck is a real player. He got really bad cards in *Celebrity Poker*. He got lot of negative publicity for his relationship with Jennifer Lopez, but it is a definite fact that his dedication to poker was a factor in their breakup. Lou Diamond Phillips is a great player, and Jerry Buss, who owns the LA Lakers.

IB: *In a poker match between George W. Bush and Anna Nicole Smith, who would win?*

JM: Despite the fact that Texas Hold 'Em was invented in Bush's home state, I don't think any serious poker is played in the White House, so I would bet on Anna Nicole.

IB: *Are certain casinos better than others for poker?*

JM: Without question. Fairly recently, poker was not offered at the vast majority of casinos. Since its popularization on TV, more casinos have been offering it. Along with Vegas, Southern California is the capital of poker in America.

IB: *Do poker skills help you in real life?*

JM: The ability to read faces and body languages to pick up signals about who is telling the truth and who's not is certainly a skill that's useful at the table and in the rest of life.

IB: *What's the most you've lost or seen anyone lose in a game?*

JM: In my book, I lose a $1.1 million pot and win a $896,000 pot. When I lose the million dollar pot, it's recorded on the Discovery Channel. People who play poker know that losing with the best hand feels like being shot in the scrotum with a pellet gun, and the videotape captures my expression.

IB: *What's the best advice you can give a first-time poker player in Vegas?*

JM: Fold.

—*Jessica Iredale*

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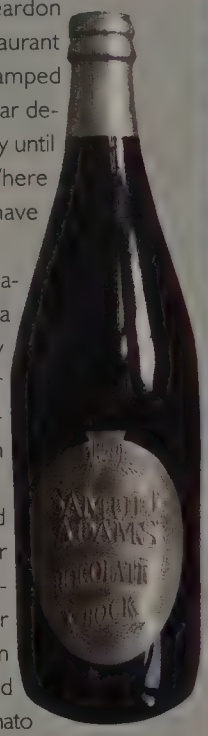
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tasty tidbits

B-BALL & LOBSTER

Good Work... Working for Jasper White doesn't sound so bad. The seafood sultan recently overhauled the former smoking section of his Cambridge Summer Shack and turned it into Frankie's Sports Bar, in honor of his prize bartender, Frank Reardon. Reardon says that after the smoking ban went into effect, that portion of the restaurant didn't see much traffic. Throughout January, White and his barkeep revamped the section, which now includes a 60-seat bar and five TVs. The sports bar debuted in mid February, serving a full Summer Shack menu, and is open daily until midnight. Reardon seems more than enthusiastic about the change. "Where else can you watch a basketball game, listen to the Sex Pistols and have Jasper's pan-roasted lobster?"



Attention Chocoholics... Chocolate and beer are two of life's simple pleasures, and thanks to Sam Adams they can be enjoyed together, one sip at a time. Sam Adams recently introduced a Chocolate Bock. The dark, malty beer infused with Scharffen Berger chocolate and a hint of vanilla flavor rolled out in February. If you haven't stocked up yet, better hurry. The limited edition batch (only 50,000 bottles) is available at Sunset Cantina on Comm. Ave.

State of the Union... In the running for Union Square's fave neighborhood café is the recently inaugurated Sherman. Husband-and-wife duo Ben Dryer and Karyn Coughlin opened the Somerville eatery—named after both the legendary Civil War general and Dryer's grandfather, a presidential speechwriter and Peabody Award winner—in mid January. The former Toscanini's ice cream employees stock coffee, organic teas, baked goods, sandwiches (pressed gruyére, caramelized onions, spinach and dijon, and pancetta, lettuce and tomato are popular) and, of course, select Toscanini flavors. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are served daily, and Coughlin hopes to screen underground films and sell independently published books in the near future. *257 Washington St., Somerville (617-776-4944).*



Sherman café in Somerville's Union Square

Southie Asian... Filling the high-quality/inexpensive Asian food void in South Boston is the Teriyaki House. The Chinese/Japanese kitchen opened last November, and while owner Jennifer Lai cites teriyaki as the specialty, it serves everything from lo mein and tempura to sushi and bubble tea. Prices can accommodate even the smallest budget, and lunch and dinner are served daily until midnight. *32 West Broadway, South Boston (617 269-2000).*

sam says

SUITED UP

It's been more than seven years since Boston native Sean Cassidy (not to be confused with *Hardy Boys* teen dream Shaun Cassidy) took off for New York to launch his boutique, Sean. Now he's back, offering a little friendly competition to Thomas Pink and Aquascutum with the opening of his boutique on Newbury Street. Parisian designer Emile Lafaurie's menswear is the featured collection. Cassidy fell head over heels for Lafaurie's Italian-made suits and colorful accents during a shopping excursion in Paris in fact, he was so moved by Lafaurie's sartorial know-how, he decided to ditch his successful publishing career to retail the Parisian designs stateside. Six stores later, Sean is now the only Lafaurie vendor in America. Styles range from lightweight wool, linen and cotton suits to painter coats and V-neck sweaters, and believe it or not, they won't break the bank (a typical suit costs $350-$450). My favorite is the poplin shirt that comes in a choice of 24 colors. *154 Newbury St., Boston (617-399-3993).* —*Samantha House*



Poplin shirts come in 24 colors at Sean

improper reports

WINE DELIVERY

Ordering in isn't just for pizza anymore. Many local wine stores in town have taken a cue from the pizza boys and now offer delivery services.



Bauer Wine & Spirits delivers in the metro Boston area for free—the minimum order is between $40 and $60, depending on where you live. Order by phone or online at www.bauerwines.com. *330 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0363).*

Best Cellars' delivery service to metro Boston costs $5 for orders of fewer than 12 bottles, but if you order 12 bottles, you get a 10 percent discount on the order in addition to free delivery. *745 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2900).*

Brix Wine Shop delivers to Boston proper and beyond. Orders of more than $100 are delivered for free, and charges vary on orders under $100. *1284 Washington St., Boston (617-542-2749).*

Federal Wine & Spirits delivers within metro Boston, with free delivery for orders over $100. Charges vary on those less than $100. *29 State St., Boston (617-367-8605).*

Huntington Wine & Spirits, a local discount liquor store, offers free delivery within metro Boston for orders over $75. *301 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-536-0164).*

Merchants Wine & Spirits offers free delivery service to metro Boston and surrounding towns. Delivery is free on orders of $75 or more within the Financial District, and $175 or more for other areas. *6 Water St., Boston (617-523-7425).*

—*Julie Babayan*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Irish Style... Brighton pub the Irish Village recently made the transition from dive to designer thanks to a facelift courtesy of interior-style guru Peter Niemitz. Perfect pulls of Guinness and an abundance of Irish expats are still the norm, but the beat-up furnishings are history. Niemitz's redesign includes a private lounge area sequestered by a velvet curtain, gold-studded black leather banquettes and all new bathrooms.

Like Minds... Ivy Leaguers and their straight-A brethren have yet another online dating service designed to channel the "smart" genes into one pool. Like Right StuffDating.com and GoodGenes.com, SquareDating—an off-shoot of an Ivy and Ivy-wannabe alumni-networking site called The Square.com—aims to unite students and alums from select schools. Company CEO Nicholas Ascheim, a Cornell and Harvard Business alum, and his cronies launched the matchmaking service in December. Members can create profiles and search others' for free. Subscription ($25 per month) is required only when you find someone you want to contact. Harvard, MIT and Tufts all made the list, natch, but surprisingly, Ascheim reports that Boston ranks third (behind New York and L.A.) in Square membership. Nerd alert. *www.squaredating.com.*

Strike Three... Making its way East is trendy Hollywood bowling alley Lucky Strike Lanes. The nightlife impresarios at Jillian's are launching the third Strike on the third floor of the Ipswich Street entertainment emporium on April 9. Co-owner Kevin Troy reports that the 16-lane alley will have lofted 20-foot ceilings, several 10-by-14-foot HDTVs, and video screens (showing their own arty videos) above each lane. With ten-pin bowling, a full menu and bar, and a lounge area, Lucky Strike will be ready to give Kings a run for its money. *145 Ipswich St., Boston (617-437-0300).*



Book It... Used book stores have seen better days. So we have to commend the courageous efforts of the bookworms at the new Inman Square literary purveyor Lorem Ipsum (the name comes from dummy text used by printers and typesetters). Owner Matt Mankins stocks a wide range of gently used "how to" titles, as well as a generous selection of pulp classics, fiction, art, poetry and short stories. The shop opened Feb. 1 and offers Wi-Fi access. *157 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-497-7669). www.loremipsumbooks.com.*

Anxiety-Free Tattooing... Go ahead, get your current flame's name tattooed across your backside. Tattooers' remorse is a worry of the past now that Newton's Angelbare salon has introduced temporary ink. Don't worry, it's not anywhere near as lame as the tattoos you find in a Cracker Jack box (it better not be for $200). The procedure looks—and feels—just like a permanent tattoo (Angelbare uses real needles), but your body art can be erased in five minutes with a chemical solution. Or it will last up to five years if you leave it alone. Salon owner and tattoo artist Shahla Whitmore creates designs of all kinds—you can choose from her selection or bring in your own. *1193 Walnut St., Newton (617-527-0002). www.angelbare.com.*

Fleeting Moments... July can't come soon enough. But when it does, hordes of Bostonians will be hopping boats to the Vineyard. This year, there's an alternative to bridge traffic and satellite parking. Beginning July 1, the first high-speed ferry will depart from New Bedford, Mass. The MV Vineyard Sound, complete with full bar, makes the trip to Oak Bluffs in less than an hour (as opposed to the usual hour and a half). Tickets are $20 one way, and while you can't bring your car on board, you can park it in the lot right across the street. *(866-453-6800). www.nefastferry.com.*

—*E.H., J.I. and J.S.*

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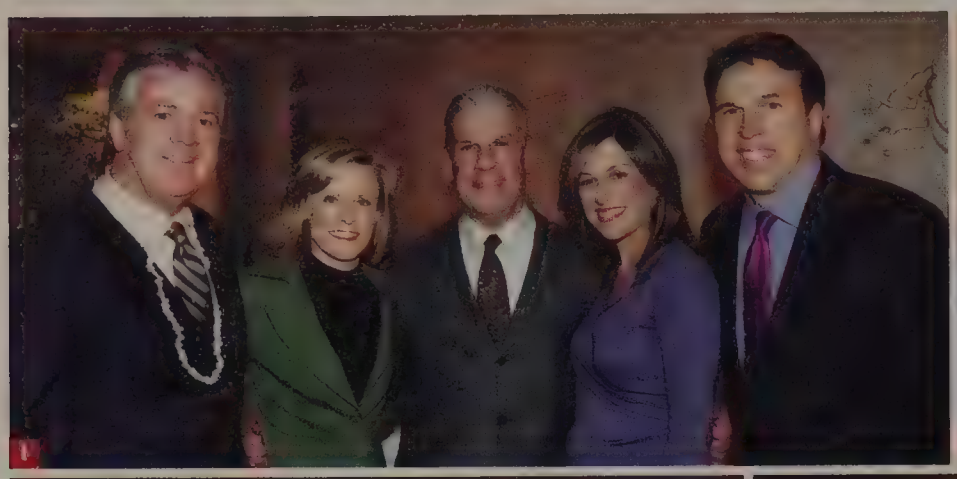


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PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY


1


2

The Museum of Fine Arts hosted the event of the season with the opening of **Gauguin Tahiti** on Feb. 23. More than 700 art enthusiasts attended this internationally acclaimed exhibition, which was visited by more than half a million people in Paris. It contains more than 125 of Gauguin's brilliant Tahitian works gathered from around the globe, including the monumental painting from the MFA collection, *Where Do We Come From? What Are We? Where Are We Going?* as well as objects from the South Seas that inspired the artist. The evening featured a reception with lively Tahitian-inspired music and decor, including tiki bars and palm trees.

1. From left: **Joe Shortsleeve** and **Lisa Hughes**, both news anchors for WBZ Channel 4; **Ed Goldman**, general manager of WBZ Channel 4; **Sara Underwood** and **Ted Wayman**, news anchors for UPN Channel 38.
2. **Morley Safer**, CBS News correspondent, and **Estrellita Karsh**, wife of photographer Yousuf Karsh.
3. From left: **Tracy West**, tournament director for the FleetBoston Classic; **Rich Wallwork**, director of corporate relations for the Trustees of Reservations; and **Gretchen Vrieze**, tournament manager of the FleetBoston Classic.
4. From left: **Katie Getchell**, deputy director for curatorial administration at the MFA; **Dan Ward**, law student at Boston College; and **Danielle Berger**, assistant to the deputy director for curatorial administration at the MFA.
5. **Deb Killick**, national sales manager for WBZ Channel 4, and **Don Lowery**, executive director of communications for Viacom.
6. From left: **Lisa Stern**, executive vice president of the Hubbell Group; **Charlie Clapp**, vice president of Howland Capital; and his wife, **Connie Hubbell Clapp**, president of the Hubbell Group.
7. **Anne Finucane**, executive vice president and chief marketing officer for FleetBoston Financial, and **Malcolm Rogers**, director of the MFA.


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7

WGBH's wine-tasting event, **Come Pour the Wine,** was held Feb. 20 at the Seaport Hotel. More than 400 guests sampled servings from 25 wineries and wine distributors while enjoying a buffet supper. The event was part of the WBGH Wine and Food Weekend, which raised $160,000 and attracted more than 1,200 guests.

8. From left: **Avi Nelson**, political analyst; **Emily Rooney**, host of *Greater Boston* on WGBH Channel 2; **Tina Sutton**, fashion writer for the *Boston Globe Magazine*; and **John Carroll**, executive producer of *Greater Boston* on WGBH Channel 2.
9. From left: **Jon Sweeney**, writer and Tong Ren healer; and **Anne Williams**, pledge host for WGBH Channel 2 and radio host of *Nightscapes* on BostonPete.com
10. From left: **Caleb Winder**, M.B.A. student at Babson College; his wife, **Phoebe**, partner at Kirkpatrick & Lockhart; **Jane Holt**, president of the National Pancreas Foundation; and her husband, **Tom**, partner at Kirkpatrick & Lockhart.
11. **Dana Knox** and **Kerry Unflat**, assistant to the president and operations assistant, respectively, at Broadway in Boston.


8


9


10


11



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ezra

BY EZRA DYER



CLASSY ACTIONS

The jury's out on whether or not I'm still a Mainer

Once upon a time I contemplated becoming a lawyer. I could see myself wearing a suit and arguing that those Hudson River fish died of old age in *General Electric v. A Bunch of Losers Who Think Rivers Shouldn't Be Flammable*—oh yeah, I'd be corporate, baby. Unfortunately, I'm not much for remembering legal stuff. I think the term "pro bono" has something to do with Ron Jeremy, the Socratic Method is an electronica band and torts are delicious. But right now, I'd like to revisit my legal-eagle alter ego because I feel the need to defend myself against a litany of slanderous accusations leveled at me by my "friends," per se, mea culpa, uma thurma turbo. Here then, I give you the alleged charge against which I, the alleged defendant, allegedly plead innocent.



Doyle, Wilson et al v. Ez. This case was brought after the defendant, Mr. Dyer, failed to bring his snowmobile on a trip to the Adirondacks. The plaintiffs, Messrs. Doyle and Wilson, also allege that the defendant got a lobster-related Trivial Pursuit question wrong and recently paid more than $100 for a pair of jeans. Therefore his Mainer card should be revoked until further notice.

Your honor, ladies and gentlemen of the jury, good morning. I'd like to draw your attention to Exhibit A, my right hand. You'll notice a scar across the top of my middle knuckle. See that? Pretty bad, isn't it? Don't worry, it's fine—it hurts a bit when I'm ladling soup down at the shelter or giving massages at the old folks' home, but I'll be alright. I'll bet you wonder how I got that scar. Fancy Boston fella like myself, I probably cut myself on a martini glass, right? Or maybe I spilled some merlot on my khakis and got so mad that I punched my IKEA occasional table? Wrong. That scar is from a sled—I'm sorry, a "snowmobile." We Mainers call them sleds.

A few years ago my hand slipped on a spark plug wrench and I bashed my knuckles into my 1977 Scorpion Sting's cylinder head. But that's not the only trouble my sled's caused. One time my mother was helping me push it back into the barn after a big storm, and she slipped and her foot got stuck in the track. I had to take her to the emergency room, ayuh. That's the truth, even though having to take your mother to the ER with a snowmobile injury sounds like the punchline to a Jeff Foxworthy joke. My point is that snowmobiles are dangerous, diabolical machines and I'm never riding one again until I can afford something a bit safer, like a 2004 Arctic Cat ZR 900 EFI Sno Pro with hand-warmers and a studded track.

On the topic of Trivial Pursuit, the questionable question was, "How many legs does a lobster have?" Being a former lobsterman, I said eight. Trivial Pursuit said the answer was 10. Now take a look at Exhibit B, the Maine license plate that once adorned my Camaro IROC-Z. Please note that when you read between the ones on either end, the plate reads 3MTA3, or, in your rear-view mirror, "eat me"—which is appropriate, because also on this plate is a tasty eight-legged lobster. So the Trivial Pursuit people count the claws as legs. Does that make sense? Members of the jury, if I asked you how many legs you have, would you say four? Would you put on a pair of gloves and walk to the dentist on your hands? Well, neither would a lobster. That'd be silly—lobsters don't even have teeth. I am right, and Trivial Pursuit, which is written by a bunch of yuppie flatlanders who wouldn't know a lobster if one walked in the door, jumped in a pot of boiling water and served itself with a side of corn, are wrong.

HAVING TO TAKE YOUR MOTHER TO THE ER WITH A SNOWMOBILE INJURY SOUNDS LIKE THE PUNCHLINE TO A JEFF FOXWORTHY JOKE

Finally, let's get into my pants. I do not dispute the fact that I bought a pair of jeans at French Connection for $108. But is that so wrong? I mean, they're boot-cuts, so I could wear them fishing or hunting, although I'd be pretty upset if I spilled bait juice on them or got mud on the cuffs. But they're perfect for when I'm going out to a lounge that's chic yet casual—you know, the kind of place where the calamari comes with something more imaginative than marinara sauce, like maybe a passion fruit chutney.

What?! My Mainer card has been suspended? Whatever. It's not like you can get a decent latte up there anyway. **iB**

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MALCOLM ROGERS

BY JONATHAN SOROFF



This year marks Malcolm Rogers' 10th anniversary as the Ann and Graham Gund Director of the Museum of Fine Arts. Born and raised in England, Rogers was educated at Oxford, receiving a B.A. in English language and literature and a Ph.D. in art history. A noted authority on 16th-, 17th- and early 18th-century portraits, he has published extensively on the topic. Prior to coming to the MFA, he served as deputy director and deputy keeper of the National Portrait Gallery in London. Highlights of his sometimes controversial tenure at the MFA have included reorganizing the curatorial departments, reopening the Huntington Avenue entrance, abolishing admission fees for children under 17, extending viewing hours and overseeing an expansion plan, which includes a new wing designed by the noted architect Sir Norman Foster. Under Rogers' guidance, the museum has mounted major exhibitions by such artists as Rembrandt, Monet, van Gogh and John Singer Sargent, as well as less conventional shows like *Herb Ritts: Work; Dangerous Curves: Art of the Guitar;* and *Crowning Glories: Two Centuries of Tiaras*. At press time, the MFA was preparing for the blockbuster exhibition *Gauguin Tahiti*, scheduled to open Feb. 29 in its only American appearance. Last December, Rogers was named a Commander of the Order of the British Empire by Queen Elizabeth. He lives in Boston.

Jonathan Soroff: *So should we be calling you Sir Malcolm these days?*

Malcolm Rogers: No. Malcolm will do just fine. But as for the CBE, I was frankly taken very much by surprise. I'm honored, being respectful of traditional institutions, and I'm very pleased that it recognizes my services to the arts on both sides of the Atlantic.

JS: *Give me a one-sentence definition of art.*

MR: Art is human creativity raised to its highest level.

JS: *Is art dictated by fashion?*

MR: Fashionable art is dictated by fashion, yes, but one of the things that gives art its mystery is the sorting out that time does. The bulk of contemporary art, whether it's music or painting, time will erase. We try to guess the effects of time, but all the evidence would suggest that, most of the time, we get it wrong.

JS: *Wouldn't that mean that museums should avoid acquiring contemporary art?*

MR: No. We pursue a very active policy of acquiring contemporary art, but generally we're trying to buy established artists whose work suggests that they will form part of the canon.

JS: *Would that include an artist like Damien Hirst, who simply puts shark heads in formaldehyde?*

MR: As it happens, we don't have any of his work, but the kind of artists in the contemporary field I think we should be collecting are those who are either inspiring the students at the school or against whom the students are rebelling.

JS: *Where should the MFA be ranked compared with the Louvre or the Met?*

MR: Very high indeed. This is one of the greatest museums in the world, but I think it's still a somewhat undiscovered treasure, under the shadow of the Met. Then again, Boston, in general, is a city that doesn't feel the need to market itself very aggressively.

JS: *What's the most underrated collection in the museum—the ancient pots and pans, those pornographic Greek vases?*

MR: [Laughs.] Although I shouldn't have any, my favorites are the real underdogs. The textiles, for instance, I love. And the silver collection. I also have a real soft spot for musical instruments, where design is wonderfully wed to craftsmanship and form. In museums, there's still this old hierarchy that exists—painting is the greatest art, and it's downhill from there—whereas I personally think a great deal of the decorative arts and applied arts.

JS: *OK, the museum's burning and you can save only one thing. What would it be and why?*

MR: Oh, I suppose, if I were truthful, I'd be tempted to save Sargent's portrait of the Boit daughters. It gives visitors so much delight, and it's so very Boston.

ONE OF THE THINGS THAT GIVES ART ITS MYSTERY IS THE SORTING OUT THAT TIME DOES. THE BULK OF CONTEMPORARY ART, WHETHER IT'S MUSIC OR PAINTING, TIME WILL ERASE

JS: *Does the MFA make money?*

MR: I inherited a deficit in my first year, but since then, we've had a succession of modest surpluses. We're not a business, and each year is a struggle. This museum is probably the world's largest privately funded museum. Unlike, say, the Met, we get no money from the city. Less than half of one percent of our income comes from public sources. So everyone who invests in us is essentially asking that we spend those resources sensibly and in a way that reflects their interests. That's what I try to do.

JS: *So money determines everything?*

MR: Well, I've yet to find an arts organization that has more money than it needs.

JS: *What's your response to the art snobs who pooh-poohed the exhibits of Herb Ritts' photos or Ralph Lauren's car collection?*

MR: Herb Ritts, I really believe, is a master of black-and-white photography. I think he ran afoul of the art establishment because he's commercial and successful and popular. A 19th-century equivalent might've been mounting a show of Winslow Homer's woodcut illustrations for magazines, and I doubt very much that anyone today would object to that. The museum world is full of strange orthodoxies. I could mount a show that included the chair you're sitting on, and no one would blink, but somehow objects that belong to a famous person are not worthy? Ralph Lauren's cars are beautiful, and we intend to display them as the sculptural forms they are. What worries me is how narrow-minded those people are who try to fence museums into very limited parameters.

JS: *What one thing in the MFA's collection do you consider butt-ugly?*

MR: [Laughs.] Nothing immediately leaps to mind.

JS: *Oh, come on. There must be something that leaves you cold, even if you don't exactly recoil in disgust.*

MR: Well, I'll admit that there a few early Egyptian pots on display that I could do without. Some of the archaeological material is a little tedious, to tell the truth.

JS: *If you could steal one thing from the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, what would it be?*

MR: The great Titian [*The Rape of Europa*].

JS: *Any artistic guilty pleasures—velvet Elvis paintings, or pictures of dogs playing poker?*

MR: Not really. I'm very much a traditionalist. But I think a lot of things have artistic merit that might surprise some people. For instance, I think Norman Rockwell was one of the great illustrators of all time. I'm shocked that people are sort of worried about whether he's serious. There's a real anxiety in America about being taken seriously, which means that people don't just enjoy.

JS: *During your tenure, there have been some major personnel changes. Do you think you're well-liked at the museum, and do you care?*

MR: Everyone wants to be liked, but in truth, you can't run a major organization with that being a big factor. You have to do what's right for the institution. You have to make decisions with the understanding that you won't necessarily be liked for what you do. That's part of leadership.

JS: *Last question: In one sentence, what function should a museum fulfill in society?*

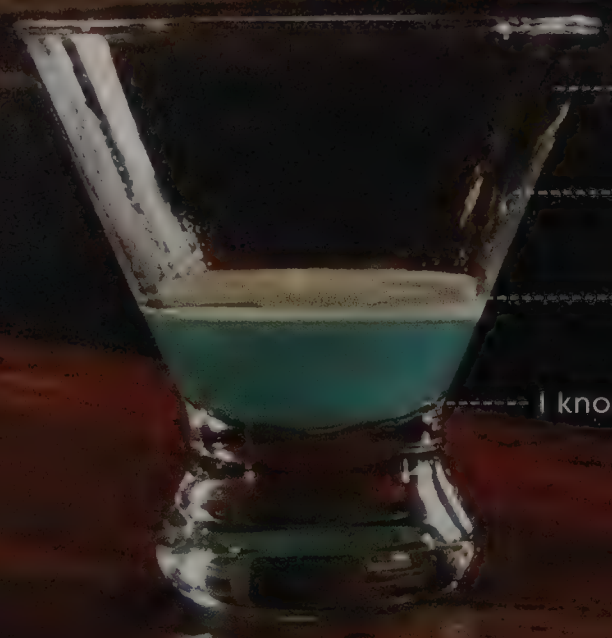
MR: To bring art and people together. IB



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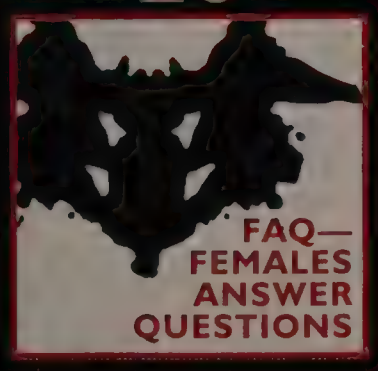
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THE MAN ISSUE

From how to understand women (straight from the mouths of babes) to must-have man gear like a gas-powered blender, this one's for you, guys.

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FEMALES ANSWER QUESTIONS

We've asked women for the inside information on everything men need to know but were too busy watching football to ask.

BY EZRA DYER

There are two basic situations where a guy would rather put his pinkie in a cigar-cutter than ask a question: when he's confused about which brand of tampon is on the shopping list, and when female behavior is involved. While we can't help you figure out whether that scrawl says "Playtex" or "Tampax," we have asked a panel of women to demystify some of the enigmas that have long befuddled men. Below are women's answers to actual questions from actual guys: What are the no-nos on a first date? What are the early warning signs that a woman is insane? And what's this "foreplay" stuff, anyway? Read on, learn how to enrich your life and your relationship, then get back to the serious business of picking your bracket for the Sweet Sixteen.

What's a deal-breaker on a first date?

"The biggest deal-breaker for me is a guy who is too smitten on the first date. There's nothing more alarming than when a guy is ready to hand himself over to you after knowing you for two hours. In no order, other peeves are getting sloppy drunk, being a teetotaler, treating me like I'm dumb, not liking puppies, and talking about other women." *—Ann, 26*

"Answering your phone. It shouldn't even be on." *—Kate, 24*

"Not opening our car door. Sorry, it's a telltale sign that you just don't get it." *—Wendy, 33*

"Not phoning if you'll be more than 10 minutes late. Reciting your entire resume and not asking about me. Not paying, especially when you did the inviting."*—Leah, 23*

"Talking about themselves incessantly. Being pretentious. Using too much hair gel. Smoking." *—Kat, 35*

"What I'll call 'lateness denial.' For example, on a date that is supposed to start at 8 pm, the guy calls at 8:25 to say that he's just leaving his house and is going to be 'about 10 minutes late.'" *—Susie, 42*

"Bringing another person with you (like a girl)." *—Alex, 34*

"If you are cheap. You most certainly are not expected to pay for everything. But if you talk about money, if you complain about prices, and if you don't offer to pick up the bill on the first date that you ask me out on, you can forget the date even happened." *—Carol, 25*

"If he: shows up late, doesn't hold the door, talks about himself the whole time, talks about an ex the whole time, still lives at home, talks about his family too much, doesn't have any goals or a job, acts really nervous, doesn't look me in the eye, drinks too much so he's slurring, doesn't sound educated or didn't go to college, talks about his parents' divorce that happened when he was 5, has no depth—mentally or culturally, and doesn't like to travel. Hmm, I swear I'm not that picky." *—Caroline, 25*

What's the best way to drive away a guy who's hitting on your girlfriend without seeming like a total meathead?

"Play it cool; don't act like you're threatened. Hopefully, you can interject some sort of joke. That way, you'll dazzle your dame with self-confidence and wit." *—Rachel, 37*

"Just introduce yourself with a big, fat, shit-eating grin because you're going home with her and he's not." *—Anne, 28*

"This is your chance to be manly and assert your territory, because every girl likes to be taken care of to a degree. If done in a tasteful and nonaggressive way, it can be very en-

dearing. Curtailing a situation by slipping an arm around her waist gets the message across subtly." —*Leah, 23*

"Start hitting on a girl nearby. Your girlfriend will walk away from the guy and you won't have to do anything." —*Katie, 25*

"You don't do anything. You wait and see what she does. If she politely brushes him off, then you're OK. If she tells him off, and he's a jerk about it, get ready to defend your lady's honor. But if she flirts back, then you're in real trouble." —*Kate, 24*

"Go up to your girl and be sweet and nice. It sends a message: 'This person has a loving lover, so don't bother.' Jealousy is unattractive in most cases. It makes you look insecure. Ride on the idea that your lover can flirt and be flirted with, knowing that they can't wait to be in your loving, wonderful, exciting arms." —*Laurel, 29*

"There is no good way. Guys will always look like meatheads when defending their women." —*Miti, 25*

Are there any telltale signs that a woman is going to be insane? What are the clues that let you know to run before her head starts spinning and she vomits pea soup?

"If you are unable to meet her family (craziness is hereditary), listen for comments such as, 'Have I shown you my collection of toilet-paper origami swans?'" —*Kat, 35*



"Changing all her plans to be with you—watch out for girls who dump their friends for you." —*Anne, 28*

"If she text-messages, e-mails or calls you late at night, watch out. You may have a psycho on your hands." —*Heather, 24*

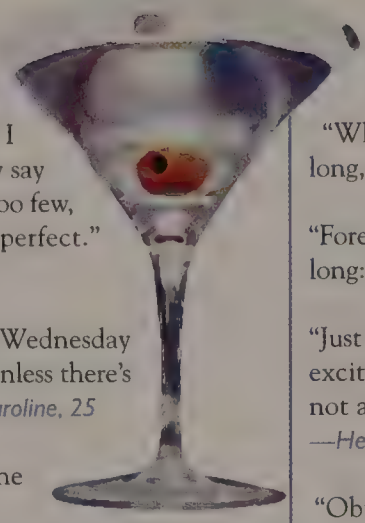
"Premature nicknames. If a woman starts using a short or long name too early. She's trying to create intimacy or demonstrate control right out of the gate. If she uses the full name, she's husband-hunting." —*Tina, 33*

"Pay attention to little things—talking in future tense on the first date and saying 'you'll find I'm very...' is a pretty good indicator. It means in their mind they are already picking out the wedding cake." —*Caroline, 25*

"I'd estimate that 75 percent of all women are insane on some level while remaining fully functional, and the smartest ones will hide it until month six. Every good girl knows to keep her insanity filter on full throttle till that time." —*Jess, 26*

We all love a girl who enjoys some cocktails, but being a flat-out lush is a turnoff. What number of drinks per week pushes a girl from fun-loving partyer to alcoholic?

"As long as ladylike behavior dominates and she knows her limits, one night of going too far should be excused. Several and you've got a problem with a 12-step solution." —*Leah, 23*



"I know that when I am drinking three or four beer or wine drinks, that's a lot better for my social standing than if I have three or four martinis. They say martinis are like breasts: One is too few, three are too many, two are perfect." —*Katie, 25*

"Drinking on Sunday through Wednesday nights—'school nights,' per se—unless there's something special going on." —*Caroline, 25*

"If she can drink you under the table, get out." —*Heather, 24*

"Run if you meet a bed-wetter." —*Tina, 33*

"Ten to 12 seems reasonable for someone who is socially active." —*Wendy, 33*

"It's not the number of drinks; it's the telltale shameless flirting/groping with bartenders by night's end, or showcasing surprising belligerence and sailor-type vocabulary without logical provocation." —*Jess, 26*

"Jesus, somebody tell me. I'm probably toeing the line. In NYC it's like 15, in Boston it's probably like two." —*Sarah, 25*

Where did women meet the boyfriends who ended up becoming their most successful relationships (past or current)?

"College." —*Kate, 24*

"My current boyfriend and I met at a bar, which I know they say is a bad thing. But we have been together for 2½ years, so "they" are wrong." —*Carol, 25*

"Through friends, but not too close friends, where the person in the middle will have to choose sides if the relationship falters. Most success comes from meeting friends of friends who only know each other well enough to provide a basic background check." —*Leah, 23*

"Every man I've ever had a relationship with (with one exception) I've met through work in some way." —*Alex, 34*

"Sad to say, my most 'successful' boyfriends I've met in bars." —*Rachel, 37*

"I don't think it really matters where you meet someone; it's more how you meet someone. My most successful relationships (believe it or not) have been when I have gone up to a man myself—either at a bar, party or other social event. No one likes a guy who's trying to be smooth in a bar." —*Caroline, 25*

"At Friendly's, over strawberry Fribbles. Of course, this was when I was 16. Dating has gone kind of downhill from there." —*Susie, 42*

How long is the actual intercourse part of sex supposed to last? How much is too much?

"Unless in the airplane bathroom, it's nice if an experience (from foreplay to the last shudder) is longer than half an hour. Then again, maybe my standards are too low." —*Jen, 27*

"When the girl glances over at the clock, it's been too long, and when she says 'Oh?' it was too fast." —*Anne, 28*

"Foreplay, 30-45 minutes. Penetration, 7-15 minutes. Too long: 20-30 minutes. Ouch." —*Susie, 42*

"Just enough to get the girl off. Boys, make sure the girl is excited first—we need to be worked up a little bit. We're not asking for hours of foreplay, but give us something." —*Heather, 24*



"Obviously this is different for every woman, but for me, switching positions at least four to five times, 45 minutes to an hour (this is getting both parties to O once or twice). Quickies should last only about 20 minutes." —*Caroline, 25*

"Depends. I mean, let's face it, too long and things start being 'uncomfortable.' But then there are those days, maybe a weekend morning, when you feel like the Energizer bunny." —*Kim, 35*

"It is supposed to last until both people are satisfied, but not a lot of guys seem to know that. It's a big mystery to them. If you reach your 'happy ending' first, you don't roll over and call it a day." —*Carol, 25*

"When the entire act starts to approach two hours, it's probably time to wrap up." —*Laurel, 29*

How many previous sexual partners is a good number for a man—i.e., not too few, not Wilt Chamberlain?

"Enough to make you a good lover. If you have only one partner, but that partner teaches you what to do before you get to me, then that's enough. If you have 50 partners and are still not a good lover, then that's a bad sign." —*Karen, 31*

"I don't think people should ask this question. Everyone lies, and if this is someone that you really like, you are going to feel jealous no matter what. People sleep with people. It's a fact." —*Carol, 25*



"Somewhere from 10 to 30. I want to know that someone has ridden around the block without training wheels, but they should still have some tread on their tires." —*Tina, 33*

"I think that experience is good as long as you follow certain rules: 1) There is no one better than your current girlfriend. 2) Never mention how someone else used to do it, or that someone else was more open-minded about sex." —*Katie, 25*

"Always ask her first, then say less than what she says." —*Jen, 27*

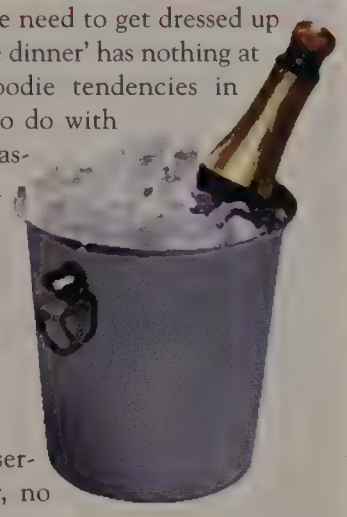
"An average of one to two per year since high school." —*Anne, 28*

"Somewhere between a good hockey score and a good football score." —*Ann, 26*

"For a historical bachelor, three per year is high enough. I don't want to know the actuals. Just lie." —*Wendy, 33*

"Three is always the right answer." —*Sarah, 25*

What's the financial cutoff between "dinner" and "a nice dinner"?



"Anywhere we feel like we need to get dressed up for. The desire for the 'nice dinner' has nothing at all to do with latent foodie tendencies in women, and everything to do with the cute dresses we buy assuming an occasion will come up."
—*Ann, 26*

"$100." —*Alex, 34*

"50 bucks." —*Susie, 42*

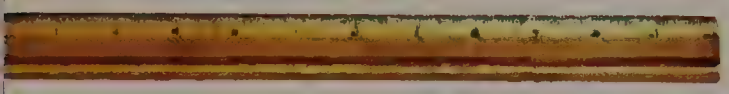
"If you have to make a reservation, it's a nice dinner, no matter what the price is." —*Anne, 28*

"Dinner: when they take your coat at the door. Nice dinner: when the waiter comes back after the meal and uses that neat little tool to sweep up the crumbs." —*Kate, 24*

"Since Boston is so expensive yet so varied in its restaurant rates, it's hard to say. I mean, we could eat a $150 meal at Grill 23 and consider that a nice dinner, but then you could also go to, say, Dolce Vita in the North End and eat for $50, and I'd consider that a nice dinner." —*Karen, 31*

"Dinner: going someplace and spending any money at all. Nice dinner: When he makes it for you and you spend $7.99 for the wine." —*Katie, 25*

We already know that size matters, so what's a nice size?



"Six inches. Shorter is OK, but it's a letdown if you get a skinny one. In all honesty, unless it's a pinkie, you get over it real fast. If you dig the guy, you really do forget about size (until you meet a bigger one!)." —*Tina, 33*

"It's nice to hit between 6 and 8 inches. Maybe it is more the motion of the ocean than the size of the boat. But if you're on rough seas, I'd want a big, sturdy boat."
—*Kim, 35*

"Five to eight inches, moderate width, maybe even a little wider." —*Laurel, 29*

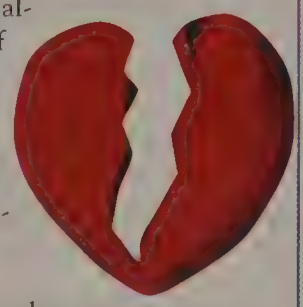
"Six or seven inches, measured from the scrotum." —*Susie, 42*

"I like them big! Eight-plus." —*Katie, 25*

"More is more." —*Jen, 27*

"Two inches thick, five to six inches long." —*Karen, 31*

How long do you wait for a woman to get over her ex, if you otherwise have a good relationship but she's still got ex issues?



"It's all specific to the girl, and although this may go against all of your manly instincts, talk about it. You'll find out." —*Leah, 23*

"Six months. If she is not that into you at that point, say bye-bye." —*Debbie, 32*

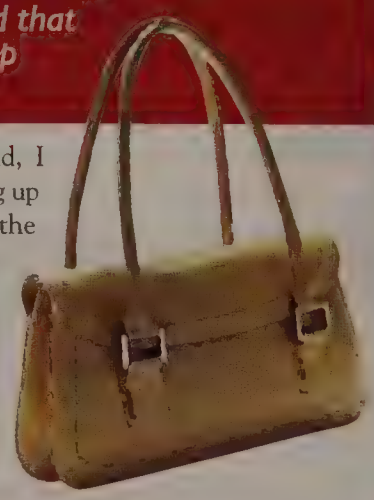
"If she was the dumpee, six months to a year. If she was the dumper, right away—she was over him a while ago." —*Katie, 25*

"If you've been with her a while and she's still talking about her ex, she's probably not 100 percent into you. I hate to say it, but that's when you really know you like someone. You totally forget about the ex and you're focused on the new guy." —*Caroline, 25*

"Longer than you probably want to know. Ex issues can last months, even years. If she mentions her ex every time you see her, or is still talking to him on a weekly basis (including e-mails), get out while you can!" —*Susie, 42*

"However long the relationship was, the recovery time is half as long. So if they dated for a year, it's six months of recovery for her." —*Laurel, 29*

After how many dates is it no longer assumed that the guy will pick up the tab?



"Four or five. That said, I have no problem picking up a drink after dinner on the second or third date. But it's important to know if you both have the same outlook on money. I can't be with a guy who's always concerned about what he's spending, because I'm not that way." —*Alex, 34*

"Donald Trump says that a lady should never pay for her own dinner. Even though he's a trillionaire, he's right." —*Adrienne, 25*

"After three. The girl should offer on dates one to three, and he should decline. Maybe on date two or three she can buy a round, but he should generally still be paying." —*Tina, 33*

"I would say after dating heavily for two months, but girls always do the fake wallet reach." —*Miti, 25*

"When it stops being dating and starts being a relationship." —*Ann, 26*

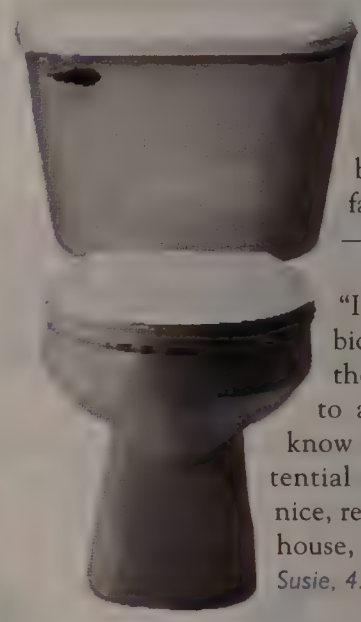
"I think that it is unfair for anyone to be expected to pay for the date. We are not in the '50s anymore." —*Carol, 25*

"Assuming that the guy picks up the tab is ancient. This is the modern world and people split bills unless the other person insists on being generous. And generous is all it would be, nothing else. But for the stupid and/or ignorant people out there, I answer in this way: After you start having sex, it's no longer assumed that the man will foot the bill." —*Laurel, 29*

"Girls are dating guys who aren't picking up the tab? Ladies, this is unacceptable. My answer: It is never no longer assumed. It should always happen this way. Period." —*Kate, 24*

How long must you date before dropping a number two at her place (or even at your own place if she's there)?

"When nature calls, you can't put her into voice mail. But I'd say if you can hold out for six to eight weeks that should do."
—*Kim, 35*



"After sex. Once you get that deep into someone's bodily functions you can't fault them for crapping."
—*Sarah, 25*

"I'm a little poopie-phobic, so I would say the later the better, say six months to a year. However, you'll know the relationship has potential when you can have a nice, relaxing poo-poo at a girl's house, and she at yours." —*Susie, 42*

"If you've got to go, take proper precautions to eliminate all evidence. Air freshener, matches, an open window—do what you must. Girls have it in their bathrooms, and so should you, along with toilet paper. These are not unreasonable requests." —*Leah, 23*

"Dropping a number two is no problem at any time. Just make sure you use the spray!" —*Karla, 22*

"It's always too soon." —*Rachel, 37*

What's your favorite excuse to get out of a date?

"My husband is back from his trip." —*Jen, 27*

"Sorry, I have to work late." —*Deniz, 27*

"I'm sick." —*Karen, 31*

"Honesty." —*Wendy, 33*

"I have to go meet my gay boyfriend at Club Café (I've actually used that one!)" —*Julie, 33*

"There's a gas leak in my apartment." —*Susie, 42*

"I have to be home in time to pill my cat." —*Kat, 35*

"I'm working late. Or working early." —*Miti, 25*

"In college, it was 'I have a sorority meeting.' Guys were always OK with being cancelled on when they got to imagine you having topless pillow fights with your sisters, à la *Animal House*." —*Kate, 24* iB

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living in sync

MOVING IN WITH HIS GIRLFRIEND REQUIRES SOME BIG ADJUSTMENTS FOR A FORMER SLOB

BY DANIEL SCHULMAN

PHOTOGRAPHED BY TRACY POWELL

he short of it: I met a girl. We fell in love. We rented a quaint one-bedroom from a pushy broker. The long of it: Well, I'm getting to that.

Living together was a fairly monumental step for a lone wolf like me—a guy known to feel caged in by a one-year magazine subscription. Ready to up the ante in our relationship, though not yet prepared to walk down the aisle, my girlfriend and I opted to take the next logical step and make sure we were truly compatible.

The disparities in our outlook on domestic life became evident on move-in day. Searching through a pile of our combined flotsam, I unearthed what I viewed as our most important item, the centerpiece of our household, and began setting up the TV near the cable jack in the living room.

"Honey," my girlfriend called from the kitchen where she was meticulously arranging our flatware, "That's where I'm putting the settee."

"Um, OK," I called back, "Can I just settee the TV on top?" I came to find that a settee is what I'd been mistakenly referring to as a bench. That was only the first of many things I'd learn.

BE NEXT TO GODLINESS

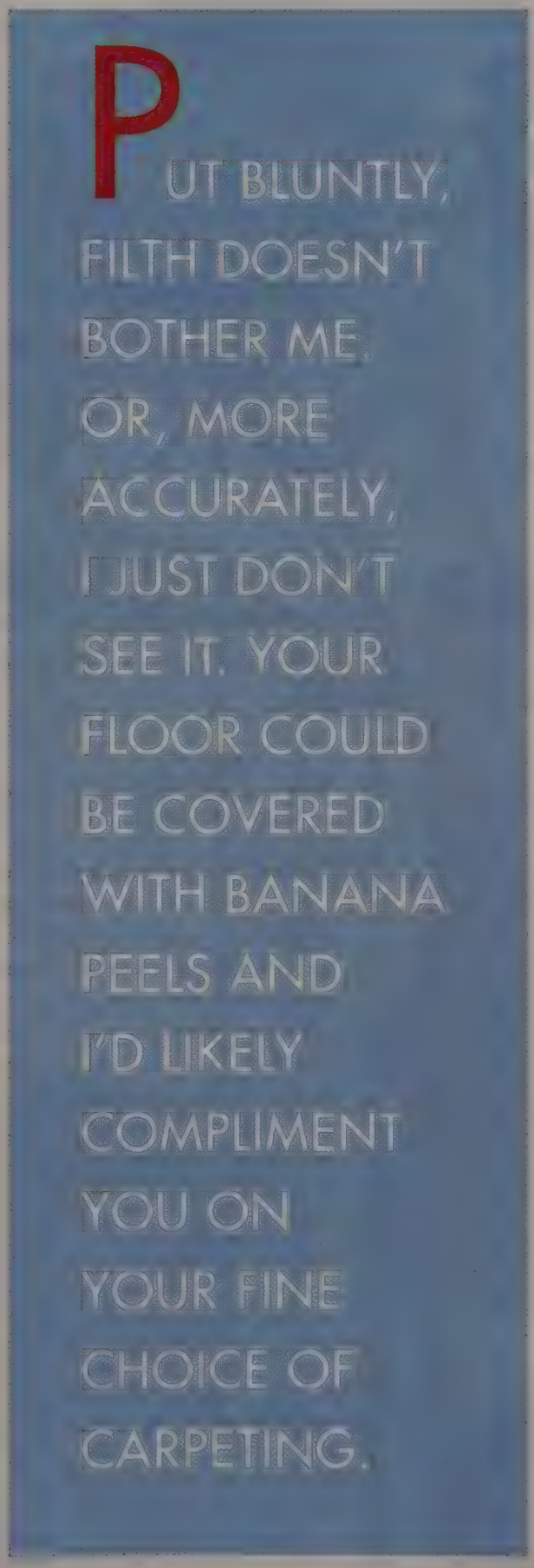
Before moving in with Stacey, I'd always considered myself domestically enlightened. I can cook, clean and launder. Left to my own devices, though, I simply choose not to. Oddly enough, my former roommates considered me something of a neat freak. Those roommates, however, were three twentysomething guys who, in the privacy of our pad, behaved like circus chimps. In those days, housekeeping involved the occasional spraying of Lysol, which I suspected one of my roomies was also using as deodorant.

As you might imagine, cleaning became a major point of contention early on in my live-in union with Stacey. When she griped that I wasn't doing my share of the chores, I responded indignantly, citing the things I did around the house: transferring my clothes from the floor to the hamper, loading the dishwasher, discovering novel places to store our mail. She clued me in that my idea of cleaning was actually picking up. Cleaning, she said, involves actually making things clean—not just creating the illusion of cleanliness.

With another lesson learned, I set about mending my ways, which proved harder than I thought. In attempting to recast myself as Mr. Clean, I immediately ran into a snag. Put bluntly, filth doesn't bother me. Or, more accurately, I just don't see it. Your floor could be covered with banana peels and I'd likely compliment you on your fine choice of carpeting.

Conversely, many women are highly attuned to dirt and disorder. I learned that my girlfriend's mood was directly related to the cleanliness of our home, and subsequently realized that her happiness had a direct effect on my own. Clean equaled content. Dirty equaled…at its worst, a night on the futon.

How did we remedy our housekeeping hang-ups? After a few months, and a few too many tiffs, we devised a system: a list of household chores, divided equally. She has her list, I have mine, and we carry out our responsibilities weekly at the time of our choosing. Honestly, I still have difficulty recognizing dirt and clutter, but with this plan I don't need to: Once a week, filth or no filth, I take the vacuum for a spin around the living room. She's happy. I'm happy.



YOU ARE A WE

Shortly after my girlfriend and I shacked up, I was out carousing with my boys (for whom bachelordom is nearly a religion) and on the receiving end of some serious ribbing. It pretty much amounted to, "Dude, you're basically married. Move to the suburbs already and buy a minivan." Offended by the notion that cohabitation had made me boring and, for lack of a better word, suburban, I replied, "Do married guys get this loaded?" and emptied a beer down my gullet.

Married or not, I had some explaining to do the next morning when a hangover left me physically unable to attend a family gathering at the home of Stacey's parents. Staring somberly at me as she headed for the door, she said, "You really need to be more of a team player." A team player?

As she pointed out, I was having difficulty adjusting to our living situation, a new life founded on shared responsibility, mutual decision-making and the doing of common laundry, in which not holding up your end can be viewed as a lack of commitment, or worse, a breach of trust. I learned this the day that I, still in the habits of single life, did a Dan-only wash, a serious faux pas that I'm still hearing about.

It's embarrassing to admit, but in learning to live as a we, not just a me, I became slightly obsessed with the team metaphor. At one point, while the Sox were making a run for the pennant, I came to view our relationship as a Martinez-Varitek type of interchange. Sure, Pedro's got a trove of nasty pitches, but he'd get a drubbing if Tek weren't calling the shots from the behind the plate. (Just a suggestion: You may choose to view your relationship as a mixed doubles game, with Anna Kournikova as your partner.)

This visualization technique really came in handy when we took a particularly terrifying step in our relationship: opening a joint checking account. The bank representative who assisted us appeared a bit rattled when I kept muttering "be a team player, be a team player," under my breath, but in the end I cowboyed up—more than I can say for our lamentable Red Sox.

THE ULTIMATE COMMITMENT (OR, HOLY CRAPIMONY!)

Not long ago, the (near) Missus and I were embroiled in a state-of-the-union type discussion. The topic turned to commitment (or, as I privately term it, yada yada yada). Somewhere during this conversation, before my brain ran a preemptive stupidity check, I came out with some unadulterated idiocy. My exact words: "But living together is, like, the ultimate commitment." She winced and grew pale. Meanwhile, I paged through my mental Rolodex wondering where I'd be sleeping that evening. As it happened, she took this remark in stride, having earned the experiential equivalent of a Ph.D. in male idiotic behavior after nearly two years of living with me. She explained gingerly, as a teacher might address an especially dimwitted pupil, that the "ultimate commitment" is, in fact, marriage.

While some live-in couples choose cohabitation as an alternative to marriage, others view it as a type of relationship boot camp in preparation for a more substantial commitment. Separately, I think we both identified with the latter category, but broaching the subject proved trying, especially given my debilitating fear of the M-word.

After our first disastrous marriage discussion, the topic surfaced with increasing frequency, which probably stemmed from the fact that my childhood chums were strapping on the world's tiniest handcuff in alarming numbers. Before long, even a passing glance at an advertisement depicting wedding paraphernalia of any sort gave me dry mouth; I took circuitous routes through Downtown Crossing to avoid the dreaded Jewelers Exchange Building. When the subject came up, I often reacted by making a joke of it, as I'm given to do in uncomfortable situations, one time going so far as to say I'd only get married if Emmanuel Lewis and Gary Coleman would act as my groomsmen.

Stacey had little patience for these antics. After all, she wasn't proposing marriage. She simply wanted to gauge my thoughts on the issue and perhaps do a little future planning (i.e., decide when to trade me in for a newer, less sociopathic model).

As we continued to discuss our future, I made an effort to approach the subject with less sarcasm. We devoted our first successful marriage conversation to what we don't want in a wedding, or a marriage.

I'm gradually coming to terms with my trepidation over marriage as I recognize what a simply world-class dame my girlfriend is and realize that letting her slip through my fingers would be a disgrace of Bucknerian proportions. The truth is I haven't yet surmounted my marriage phobia. But I'm getting better. Just last week, while strolling downtown, I passed a jewelry store and didn't even avert my eyes. IB

THE RIGHT TOOL FOR THE JOB

WHEN A TOUGH SITUATION ARISES, YOU NEED THE PROPER EQUIPMENT TO GET THE JOB DONE.

BY EZRA DYER

PHOTOGRAPHED BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

THE RIGHT TOOL FOR...

PARKING...ANYWHERE

VOLKSWAGEN TOUAREG V-8 ($43,225 BASE PRICE, WWW.VOLKSWAGEN.COM)

This Teutonic battle wagon looks understated but packs more off-road vitamins and nutrients than 10 bowls of Subaru Outback. With adjustable-air suspension, the Touareg can grow 3.4 inches taller in seconds, like Yao Ming during puberty. The center and rear differentials can be locked via a knob on the console, and the doors feature special seals that allow the vehicle to ford water nearly 22 inches deep, should you ever wish to go fly-fishing from your car. The 310-horsepower V-8 makes guttural, muscle-car noises and keeps the six-speed automatic transmission ripping up through the gears when the throttle is planted. (It's the Volkswagen that does what other Volkswagens can't—haul ass while enraging the Sierra Club!) When we asked a Porsche representative whether he was worried that the fully loaded Touareg ($55,000) might poach sales from the V-8 Cayenne S (the Touareg's Porsche cousin, with a base price of about $55,000), he replied only, "No." Which means yes.



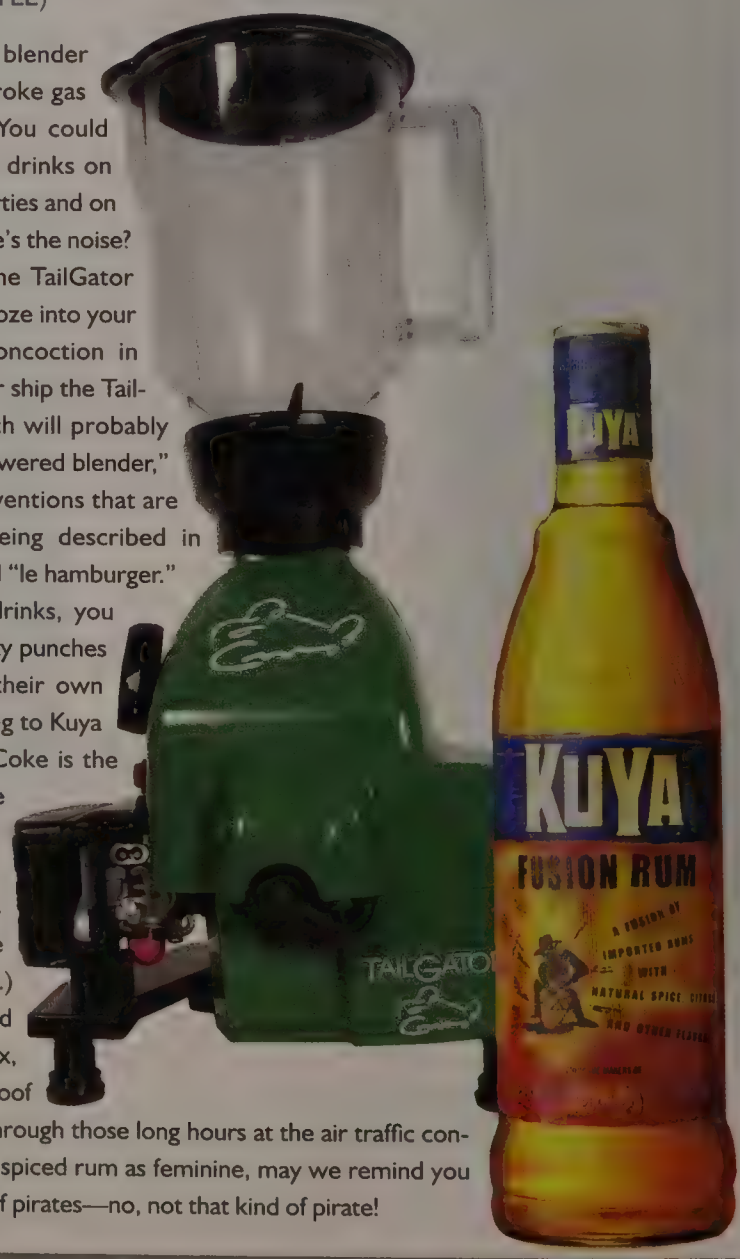
THE RIGHT TOOL FOR...

MAKING A GIRLIE-DRINK WITHOUT LOOKING LIKE A TOTAL WUSSBAG

THE TAILGATOR ($369.95, WWW.TOTALLYGROSS.COM) AND KUYA FUSION RUM ($12.99 PER 750 ML BOTTLE)

Does anyone really need a blender powered by a 24cc two-stroke gas engine? We suppose not. You could just guzzle beer and liquor drinks on the rocks at your tailgate parties and on trips to the beach, but where's the noise? And the exhaust fumes? The TailGator turns a pitcher of ice and booze into your favorite smooth-sipping concoction in abut 15 seconds. If they ever ship the TailGator to France, the French will probably resort to calling it "le gas-powered blender," just like other American inventions that are so awesome they defy being described in French, like "le hot dog" and "le hamburger."

Speaking of boozy girl drinks, you may associate rum with fruity punches and beverages shaded by their own pink umbrellas, but according to Kuya Fusion Rum, the rum and Coke is the number one cocktail in the country, and is predominantly ordered by 21- to 29-year-old men. (Don't ask us where their study came from—we're too drunk.) Kuya adds a bit of citrus and spice to the standard rum mix, but still packs a healthy 70-proof alcohol content to get you through those long hours at the air traffic control desk. If you still think of spiced rum as feminine, may we remind you that it is the drink of choice of pirates—no, not that kind of pirate!



THE RIGHT TOOL FOR...



LEARNING TO SPEAK DOGLISH

BOW-LINGUAL ($99.95, WWW.THEDOGTRANSLATOR.COM)

If your dog is circling the living room in a pained crouch, you can probably tell he needs to take a crap. But what if he's just pressing his nose against the window and barking? Does he see a squirrel? Is he restless? Is he frustrated because he can only calculate pi to the eighth decimal place in his head? The Bow-Lingual bark translator purports to answer these very questions. A disturbing amount of research went into the Bow-Lingual, which combines voice-pattern recognition technology with canine behavior data to decipher what, exactly, Fido's trying to tell you. Sample phrases include "You just don't get it" and "I'm jealous," which briefly made us wonder if we'd ordered a Girl-Lingual by accident. Does it work? You be the judge. But we will say that when the Westminster Dog Show came on TV, our test mutt took a look at the screen and declared, "I don't like you either." And when begging for pizza, he repeatedly pleaded, "Show me the love." To that we say, "Woof woof, bow wow woof."

THE RIGHT TOOL FOR...

FILMING YOUR STAY AT 18 AVENUE DE SUFFREN

PANASONIC SV-AV100 DIGITAL VIDEO CAMERA ($999, WWW.CIRCUITCITY.COM)

Ah, 18 Avenue de Suffren: the Hilton Paris. When you check into this famous Hilton, you'll want to capture every exciting moment for posterity. The Panasonic SV-AV100 is perfect for the busy traveler, fitting in the palm of your hand and recording up to 20 minutes of DVD-quality video (or up to three and a half hours of Web-quality video, although we can't imagine why anyone would need more than a few minutes of that). If you're so excited by the action surrounding the Hilton Paris that you can't focus on your close-up of the Eiffel Tower, the built-in Super Image Stabilizer helps prevent hand jitter from ruining your shot. Unfortunately, the SV-AV100 doesn't provide its own illumination, so make sure it's not too dark out before you give your film tour of Paris the green light.



THE RIGHT TOOL FOR...



DRUNK-DIALING YOUR EX IN TOKYO

VONAGE BROADBAND PHONE SERVICE (PLANS START AT $14.99 PER MONTH, WWW.VONAGE.COM)

It's bound to happen sooner or later: You wake up in the morning with the phone in your hand and a vague recollection of an ill-advised late-night conversation with an old flame. And of course, she doesn't live two blocks away, a fact that is reconfirmed when you get your next phone bill and find a charge for $182.63. Ouch. Well, now you can at least avoid the financial pain of drunk dialing by getting an Internet phone service like Vonage. Hook the nifty black box between your high-speed modem and a phone, and your broadband service becomes a way to reach out and touch someone besides yourself. The most basic plan costs $14.99 per month and gives you 500 minutes of nationwide long distance; international rates are similarly wallet-friendly (6 cents per minute to Tokyo). So go ahead and drink too much, order a pizza, and get ready to spill your guts—your talk is a lot cheaper now.



fry BOYS

WANT A LEG UP IN THE ROMANCE DEPARTMENT? TAKE YOUR ACT TO THE KITCHEN.

BY GALEN MOORE PHOTOGRAPHED BY TRACY POWELL

The fastest way to a woman's heart is through her stomach. That may not be the way you heard it originally, but it's absolutely true. Of the five senses, taste is the most intimate, and is closely associated with satisfaction and craving. Picking a good restaurant goes a long way, but creating a delicious meal can do far more to help your cause with that special someone.

"Women really appreciate men they can connect with on a sensual level," says Rialto chef and co-owner Jody Adams, who adds that good cooking can be the cornerstone of a strong relationship. "Being able to provide an experience, an atmosphere and an entire evening that you dictate—the food you select, the cooking, the music, the lighting—demonstrates an enormous amount of respect for the person you're doing it for."

That may be true, but if you're a guy who does more heating than actual cooking, the potential for disaster is high. Is it really possible for those of us who aren't Jamie Oliver or Emeril Lagasse to cook a meal that will impress, rather than horrify?

We interviewed some of Boston's average Joes who've tackled the cooking problem and overcome it, and who are now accustomed to romancing dates with their culinary skills. If these guys can do it, so can you.

REPEAT YOURSELF

Ben Wilson got a European culinary education. Well, kind of.

"I never cooked until I spent a junior year abroad in Italy," says the 27-year-old Boston lawyer. There, Wilson's German roommate, Mathias, was an artist who spoke four languages, drove an Alfa Romeo and cooked a gourmet dinner almost every night of the week. As you can imagine, Mathias was a hit with the ladies.

Returning to the United States, Wilson did not go out and buy a sports car. Nor did he learn to paint. However, living with Mathias had taught him how to cook a thing or two. That gave him the confidence to make cooking a part of his dating repertoire.

Wilson, who now lives in the North End, says that so far his results have been pretty good. At least he's avoided disaster. The key, he says, is repetition. "You don't want to be improvising on the fly," he explains. "You need the confidence of having done something already." Wilson has a selection of cookbooks to work from, but mostly he relies on Web sites, like the Food Network site (www.foodtv.com), to find a recipe he's in the mood for. The spontaneity is nice, he says, but sometimes the recipes don't work. "I've had some recent issues with it," he admits. "The recipes aren't always perfect, but then again neither am I."

Wilson cooks for himself whenever he can, to practice. He says the best dishes are ones that are easy, but not too ordinary—salmon with couscous, for example. These workaday preparations can look pretty spectacular by candlelight, he says. While cooking, Wilson always invites his date to sit with him in the kitchen, and even to help with the cooking, if she's so inclined. He never leaves her alone in the living room. "It's a nice place to be together," he says. "You have good smells happening, hopefully."

BROILED SALMON STEAKS WITH SPANISH COUSCOUS

Serves 1 Cooking time: 25 minutes

Salmon:

- 2 salmon steaks, each no more than ¾" thick
- 2 tablespoons cooking oil
- Salt and pepper
- ½ cup dry white wine
- Chopped parsley and lemon wedges, for garnish

Couscous:

- 1 cup couscous
- ½ teaspoon ground cumin
- ½ teaspoon pepper
- 1 cup frozen peas, thawed
- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil

1. Fifteen minutes before beginning, set oven to broil. Rub oil on both sides of each fish steak, then dust with salt and pepper. Place steaks in an oven-safe dish, and pour the wine around them. Place under broiler, about 3 inches from heat, and broil about 8 minutes, until fish is cooked through and still juicy. (Cut into it and check if you are not sure.) Turn oven off and set fish in oven with door open, to keep warm until ready to serve.
2. While fish cooks, make couscous according to directions on package, adding cumin and pepper to boiling water along with the couscous. When cooked, toss with peas and olive oil briefly over low heat, and remove from heat.
3. To serve, put a medium amount of couscous on each plate, and place salmon steaks on top, to one side. Pour a small amount of the cooking juices from the pan over steaks, and garnish with chopped parsley and lemon.

✱ Serve alongside a simple vegetable dish, with a bottle of light white wine, such as a sauvignon blanc or a pinot grigio. For an appetizer, simply buy a good olive tapenade and serve with thin slices of French bread. For dessert, a selection of cheeses and fruits will go well with a light meal like this (and will help you finish the wine). Try a Vermont cheddar, a camembert and aged gouda.

Salmon recipe adapted from The Way to Cook, *by Julia Child (Knopf, 1989).*

KEEP IT SIMPLE

"A lot of guys might want to have pots and pans and a big ensemble of all these things going on," says Shannon Rutherford, a 25-year-old multimedia producer. "At least, that's the way I used to approach it."

Making a big production out of dinner won't necessarily impress a woman, says the Jamaica Plain resident, although he's tried. "What would happen is, I would tell her dinner at eight, and then we wouldn't end up eating until 10." That kept his girlfriend hungry, he says, but it also pissed her off.

Rutherford's new strategy for seduction is to prepare a meal that demonstrates control and command of the kitchen. To that end, he aims to make a meal that's both tasty and healthy in under 30 minutes.

"Most of the cooking times that are given in recipe books seem to assume that you've cooked the recipe before," he says. "It takes a few run-throughs before you can actually cook a meal that says '30 minutes' in 30 minutes."

Prep work, such as peeling and chopping vegetables, is often the most time-consuming task, so tools like a garlic press and a good vegetable peeler are useful. But often, Rutherford just relies on his own ingenuity, rather than following a cookbook recipe. He says he's had the greatest success with recipes like this chicken and pasta dish, which he cobbled together from ideas found in several cookbooks.

CHICKEN FETTUCINE WITH SAGE AND BUTTERNUT SQUASH

Serves 2. Cooking time: 30 minutes

- 3 teaspoons salt
- ½ pound dried fettucine noodles
- ½ butternut squash, pre-peeled and seeded (If you can't find pre-peeled squash, be prepared to take a few more minutes peeling and seeding.)
- 1 large clove garlic, chopped fine
- 2 tablespoons cooking oil
- ½ cup chicken or vegetable stock
- ¼ cup dry white wine
- 1 large boneless chicken breast
- Black pepper
- 3 tablespoons unsalted butter
- ⅓ cup flour
- ⅓ cup fresh sage, chopped
- Additional salt and pepper, to taste
- ¼ cup Parmesan cheese, grated

1. In a kettle, boil water for pasta. Add 2 teaspoons of salt. When water boils, add pasta. Once pasta is tender, strain, run under cold water and set aside.

2. While pasta cooks, chop squash and garlic. In a roomy saucepan, sauté garlic and 1 tablespoon of oil over medium heat for 1 minute. Add squash, stock and wine. Cover tightly and cook until squash is tender, about 10 minutes. Remove from heat.

3. While squash cooks, dust chicken breast with pepper and remaining salt. In a skillet, heat 1 tablespoon of oil and 1 tablespoon of butter together over medium-high heat. Dredge chicken in flour. When the butter stops foaming, but before it browns, add chicken to skillet. Saute 5 minutes on each side, or until cooked through, being careful to reduce heat if pan begins to smoke. Remove chicken from pan and set aside.

4. Chop chicken into bite-size pieces and add to squash mixture along with ¼ cup of sage. Continue cooking over medium heat until liquid thickens noticeably, about 2 minutes.

5. When ready to serve, add pasta and remaining 2 tablespoons butter to squash mixture. Toss over medium heat to mix and heat through. Serve topped with remaining sage and grated parmesan.

A good wine with this dish is a light, spicy red, such as Côtes du Rhone or zinfandel. For dessert, try hot chocolate and cookies. Buy good cocoa (like Ghirardelli), and make or buy the cookies ahead of time.

PRESSURE COOKING

Like dating, cooking is full of potential pitfalls. We asked local cooking instructors Kate Sedan (Cambridge Center for Adult Education) and Terence Janericco (Terence Janericco Cooking Classes) for a few pointers on combining the two.

DO: Find out what she likes. Start a conversation about food. When you deliver the goods, she'll be impressed that you cared enough to discover her tastes and then figured out how to satisfy them.

DON'T: Try to impress her with expensive ingredients. You're not just throwing money at a goal. You're throwing sweat at it. And sweat is sexy.

DO: Clean your apartment, especially the bathroom. Fresh-cut flowers are always a nice touch too. Don't worry if you don't have a vase; just put them in the pitcher you use to play quarters.

DON'T: Go over the top. Candlelight is nice, but strewing the table with rose petals may be going too far.

DO: Pay attention to presentation. Try to serve something colorful, and get some green on the plate — even if it's only a sprig of parsley.

DON'T: Try to sculpt your food. Remember, this is your home kitchen, not the Ritz.

DO: Pick something you're familiar with. This is not the time to experiment.

DON'T: Pick something that requires a lot of last-minute cooking. You don't want to disappear into the kitchen for a half hour while she's cooling her heels on the couch.

And remember, if everything goes up in smoke and flames, you can always order a pizza, and still get an A for effort.

MAKE IT A JOINT PROJECT

A. R. Barrington believes it's usually best to stick with what you know when cooking for a date. "I always want to do something new and interesting," says the 29-year-old Back Bay resident. "But that's a recipe for disaster."

However, that rule isn't so hard and fast if you can convince your date to come into the kitchen and participate in the fun. Barrington says his most successful cook-at-home date happened when he and his girlfriend planned to cook dinner together for the first time. They agreed to make crab cakes—something neither of them had ever tried before.

According to Barrington, who works for a software developer, the crab cake recipe turned out to be ideal. There were plenty of vegetables to chop, keeping them both busy, but nothing too challenging. Then it all had to be mixed and shaped by hand. "We were making a huge mess together," he says. "It was a blast, and afterwards we had a romantic evening."

Be warned, though: Personalities can clash in a small kitchen. In Barrington's case, he and his date turned out to enjoy cooking together, and, he says, "that boded well for the relationship." IB

CRAB CAKES FOR TWO

Makes 6 to 8 small crab cakes. Cooking time: 55 minutes

Sauce:

- ½ cucumber, peeled and halved lengthwise
- 2 tablespoons fresh dill, chopped, plus a few sprigs for garnish
- 3 tablespoons sour cream
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon pepper

Crab cakes:

- 3 tablespoons unsalted butter
- ½ cup onion, finely chopped
- ½ cup celery, finely chopped
- ⅓ cup carrot, finely chopped
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 tablespoon dry mustard
- ½ pound lump crab meat, carefully picked over
- 2 tablespoons parsley, finely chopped
- ⅓ cup mayonnaise
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- ¼ teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- ¾ cup fine bread crumbs
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil

1. Make the sauce first: Seed the ½ cucumber, scooping out seeds with a spoon and discarding them. Chop cucumber coarsely. Stir together with dill, sour cream, salt and pepper. Set aside.

2. Sauté onions, celery and carrots in 1 tablespoon of butter over medium heat. After about 3 minutes, when onions start to wilt, add pepper, salt and mustard. Cook until vegetables are tender, about 2 minutes more. Remove from heat.

3. In a mixing bowl, combine vegetables, crab meat, parsley, mayonnaise, lemon juice, cayenne and Worcestershire sauce.

4. Spread breadcrumbs on a shallow plate. Heat vegetable oil and remaining 2 tablespoons butter in a 10-inch skillet over medium heat. Working quickly, scoop 2 tablespoons crab mixture into your hands and shape into patties 1 inch thick. Roll patties in breadcrumbs.

5. Drop patties into hot oil, cooking as many as will fit at once in the pan without touching. Fry about 1 minute, or until golden brown, turning every 15 seconds.

6. Remove and drain on a plate lined with paper towels. Serve immediately, topped with cucumber sauce and dill garnish, alongside a simple salad tossed in good dressing.

An Alsatian wine, such as a dry gewürtztraminer, is a good choice, and for dessert, ice cream always works. If dinner goes well, put on a movie and just grab the pint carton and two spoons.

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FIVE DASHING GENTS MAKE A FASHION STATEMENT.

PHOTOGRAPHED BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

TODD ENGLISH

CELEBRITY CHEF, FOUNDER OF THE OLIVE GROUP

Black jacket with stand collar and gathered waist, $1,495; linen sport shirt, $495; Flat front pant, $695. All at Giorgio Armani

"I can be in the kitchen one hour and a board meeting the next. I like clothes that are flexible and comfortable and that have a hipness to them as well."

"I'm no slave to fashion like my buddy Bill Costa. While he's wearing the latest Armani spring line, I'm waiting for my Members Only jacket to arrive."

MATT SIEGEL

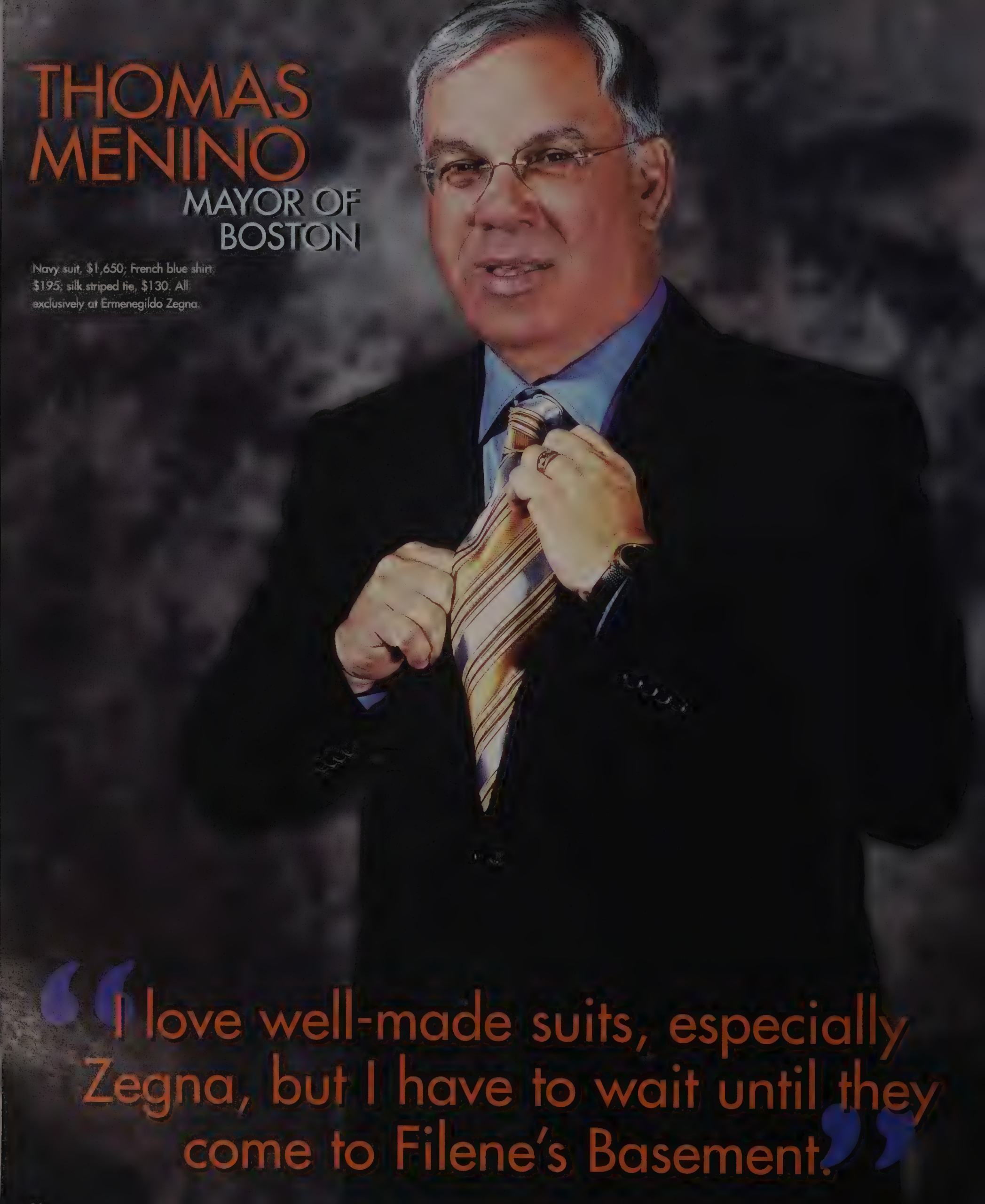
KISS 108 RADIO PERSONALITY, HOST OF "MATTY IN THE MORNING"

Suit by Prada, $1,630; green shirt by Boss Hugo Boss, $75; vibrant tie by Robert Talbott, $98.50. All at Saks Fifth Avenue

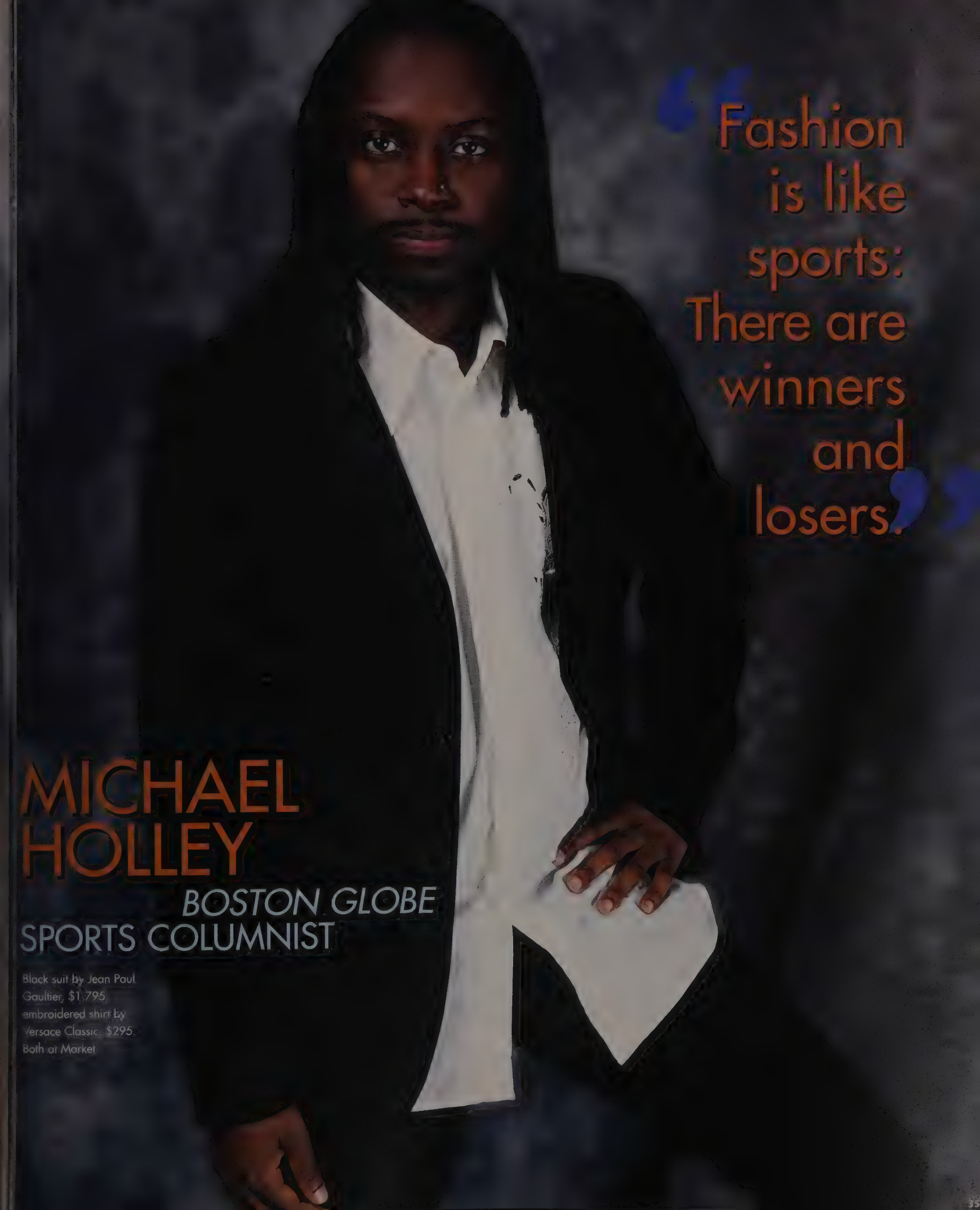
THOMAS MENINO

MAYOR OF BOSTON

Navy suit, $1,650; French blue shirt, $195; silk striped tie, $130. All exclusively at Ermenegildo Zegna.



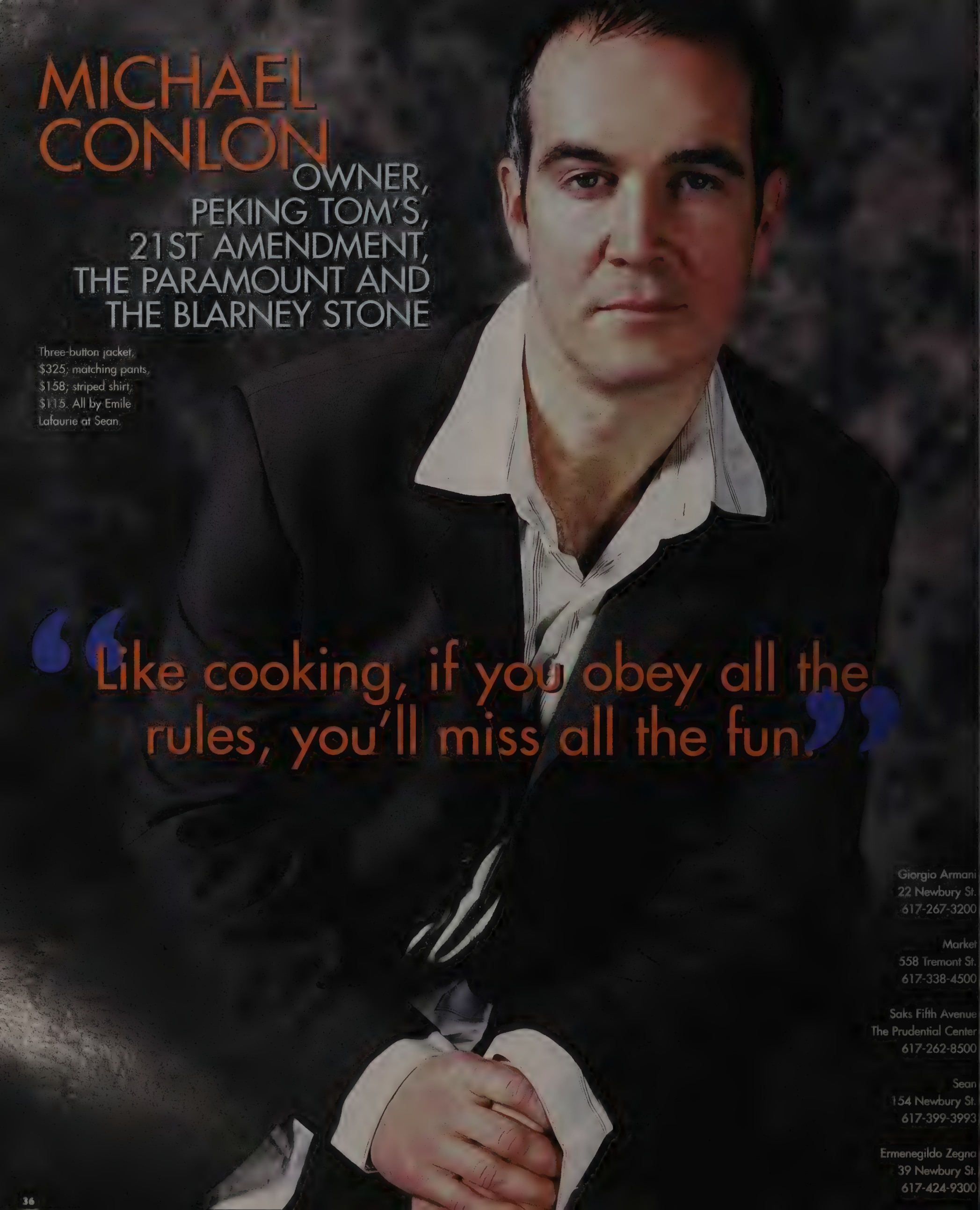
"I love well-made suits, especially Zegna, but I have to wait until they come to Filene's Basement."


“Fashion is like sports: There are winners and losers.”
MICHAEL HOLLEY
BOSTON GLOBE
SPORTS COLUMNIST
Black suit by Jean Paul Gaultier, $1,795; embroidered shirt by Versace Classic, $295. Both at Market

MICHAEL CONLON

OWNER, PEKING TOM'S, 21ST AMENDMENT, THE PARAMOUNT AND THE BLARNEY STONE

Three-button jacket, $325; matching pants, $158; striped shirt, $115. All by Emile Lafaurie at Sean.



"Like cooking, if you obey all the rules, you'll miss all the fun."

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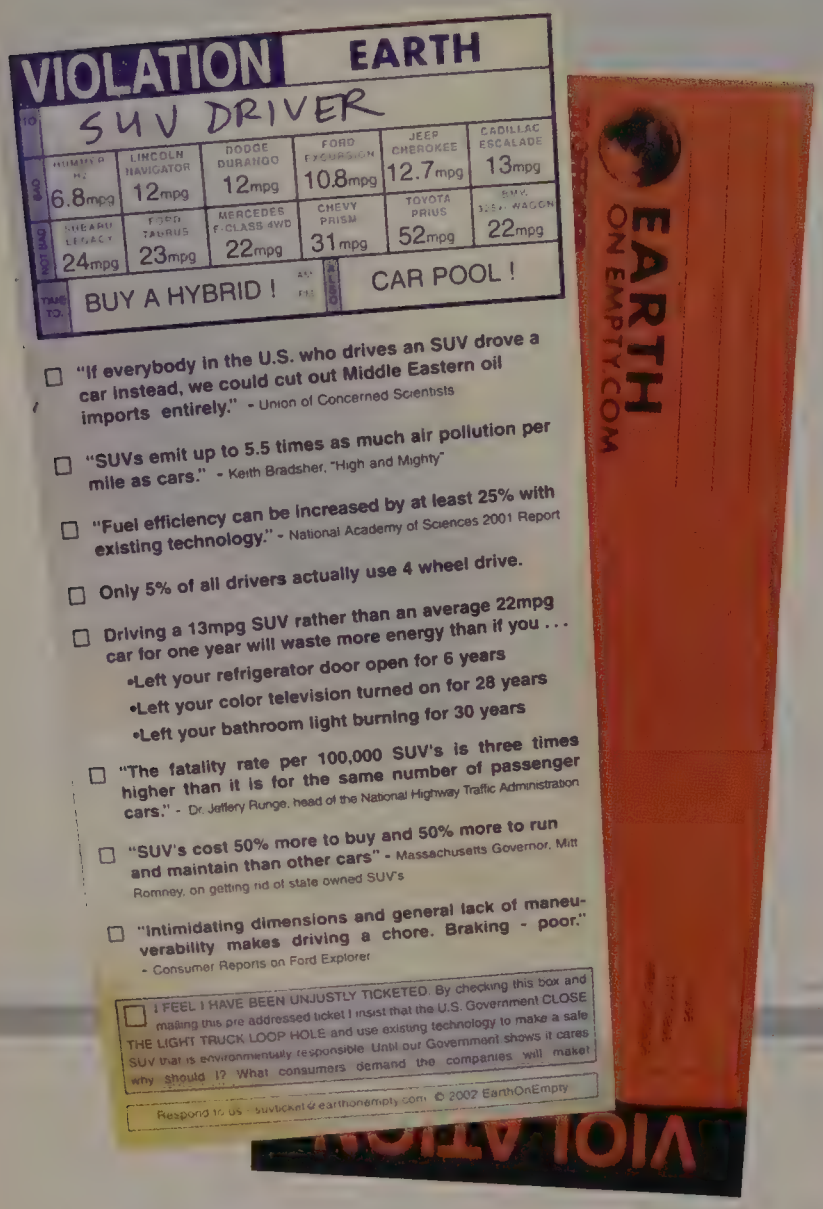
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Buy some "parking tickets" from www.earthonempty.com and spread the word about the downsides of SUVs.

Call them Bradley Shopping Vehicles, those giant, rugged SUVs that brave the wilds of Newbury Street. To draw attention to the crimes and misdemeanors of these automotive behemoths, artist John Tagiuri has designed a replica of a Boston parking ticket that delivers the same orange Ouch! Only this one reads "Violation—Earth" and lists a menu of discouraging, frightening environmental factoids. It appears that Tagiuri has picked some worst-case scenarios to make his point. For instance, he quotes anti-SUV author Keith Bradsher's assertion that "SUVs emit up to 5.5 times as much air pollution per mile as cars." While that statement lumps all SUVs in with the guiltiest offenders, few people would disagree that SUVs aren't as efficient as they could be—they're exempt from the Corporate Average Fuel Economy standard of 27.5 miles per gallon that applies to regular cars. So, if you're in the mood for some Earth-friendly activism en route to work or in the dark of night, you can "ticket" these metal fatties with citations addressed to various government officials.

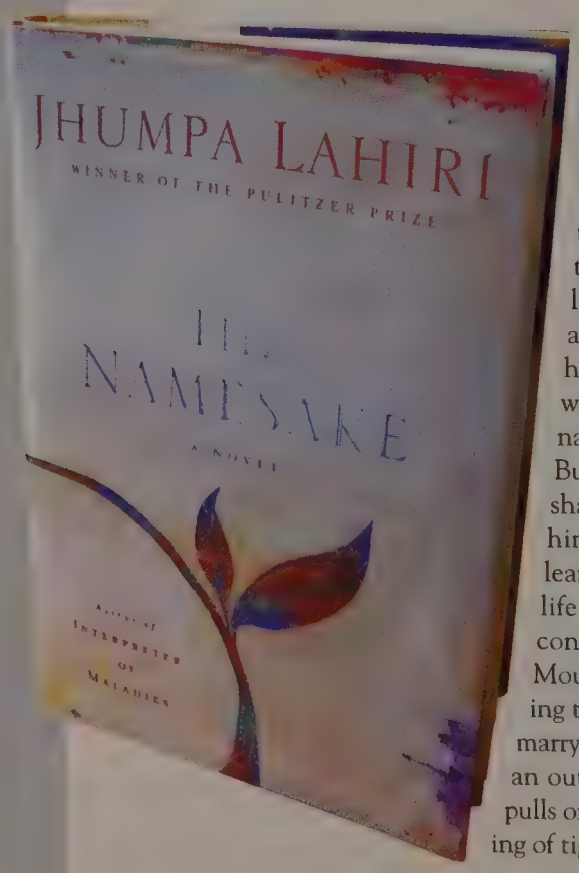
PEACE AND BEAUTY

Intarawut, at 370 Broadway in Cambridge, features Thai textiles, furniture, sculpture, jewelry and artifacts from Southeast Asia. Open weekends only. Call 617-661-6200.



At the corner where Black Ink once sat comes a shop of exotic flavor—almost a gallery more than a store—run by Kaek Intarawut, from Thailand. Gracefulness reigns here, both in the space's aura and the beauty of the items for sale. A rack of short, kimono-like jackets made by Kaek could almost be seen as an art installation, with shimmering Thai silk capturing two subtle tones in every piece—green whispers into blue, red tilts into gold. Scarves embroidered with traditional Thai designs have a subtle luminosity. Some are woven from hundreds of threads dyed different colors; some depict a Buddhist design, each pattern specific to a village. Loose, black fisherman's pants, made of a fabric called lana, are designed to be wrapped around the waist for a relaxed, even sexy look. Other fabrics here, translucent, subtle and complex, can be used as wall hangings or window treatments. Spare elm chairs have a beautifully distressed antique look. And Buddhas—in marble and wood—exude their serenity in every corner.





NAMES ACHE

***The Namesake* is the first novel by Boston University alumna Jhumpa Lahiri, who won the Pulitzer Prize for her short-story collection, *Interpreter of Maladies*.**

Written in an intimately whispering present tense that brings the reader in close, *The Namesake* concerns the American-raised son of Indian immigrants who live in Cambridge. The boy is quirkily named Gogol, after the Russian writer, because Ashima, the father, had been reading Gogol's *The Overcoat* years before, when he survived a train wreck that killed many. So the name became a sort of emotional amulet for the father. But unaware of the significance of his name—and to shake off its childhood oddity—Gogol begins to call himself Nikhil as he pursues his American life. As he learns to integrate his parents' Bengali customs with his life as a fledgling New York architect, Gogol/Nikhil reconnects with a childhood friend, a woman named Moushumi who is also of Indian parentage. While pursuing their urban American life, they gratify their parents by marrying. But their respective histories—each something of an outcast and a dreamer in high school—exert opposing pulls on them. Throughout, this beautiful book exudes a feeling of tightly textured sadness.



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IN THIS SECTION: Review: Arbor Dish: Country Life is alive no more Wine: Drink what you like
Tasty Tidbit: Jody Adams and Gordon Hamersley reunite in the kitchen

REVIEW

A TREE GROWS IN BOSTON

The addition of Arbor solidifies Jamaica Plain's standing as a dining destination

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Arbor, on Centre Street in Jamaica Plain, is one of the most appealing and enjoyable restaurants to appear on the Boston scene in some time. Since Douglas Organ, fresh from success in Southern California, opened this gem last summer, he and chef de cuisine Timothy Canning have been turning out imaginatively conceived and skillfully executed preparations for enthusiastic patrons. Arbor joins a number of other new eateries that have turned JP into one of the hottest dining venues in the city. Best of all, the menu prices, substantially below places of comparable or even lesser quality downtown, place Arbor high on the price-quality index.

Organ and Canning work their magic in a small storefront that seats fewer than 40 diners. Fortunately, an inviting bar toward the rear of the dining room looks like a pleasant place to wait, or even dine. A tiny vestibule protects the dining room from the blustery winter winds. The decor is understated but chic, almost Manhattan in feel, with black painted woodwork and paneling below wainscoting, black ceiling fans and long track minispots illuminating the upper part of the walls hung with minimalist but handsome black panels with red geometric lines. Stained, leaded glass above the red entrance door provides a splash of color. Small granite tables are set with gray fabric placemats, elegant, oversized wine glasses, and votive candles.

A coarse-textured semi-sourdough boule bread with wonderfully crisp and chewy crust, supplied by Fornax Bread Company of Roslindale, accompanied a small dish of creamy hummus spiced with smoked paprika and lemon, all bursting with Mediterranean flavors and aromas, a harbinger of delectable things to come. A tasting of six Mezze, or hors d'oeuvres ($16), served on an elongated etched glass platter included Tuscan eggplant and ricotta salad with pine nuts, mellow yet satisfying; basil-cured salmon garnished with radish, fennel, and mustard with piquant overtones of wasabi; savory goat cheese in a tiny wooden bowl shaped like a mortar, deftly dressed with warm, aromatic Provencal herbs and extra-virgin olive oil; Lulu's tchoutchouka, a ratatouille in which exotically marinated and satiny-textured, sweet red peppers dominated; harissa grilled shrimp with a crunchy texture and a tiny dollop of lime-accented couscous; and spiced lamb skewers, tender and juicy, provocatively spiced and accompanied with sweet onion marmalade. In welcome contrast to the regretful practice of throwing together disparate ingredients in one undifferentiated heap, each of these delicacies was carefully presented on the platter without impinging on its neighbors.



Charmoula grilled sea scallops with marinated red peppers and couscous salad

ARBOR

711 Centre St., Jamaica Plain

HOURS Tue.-Thu. and Sun., 5-10 pm; Fri. and Sat., 5-11 pm

RESERVATIONS recommended

CREDIT CARDS Visa and MasterCard

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes

PARKING in rear

LIQUOR LICENSE beer and wine

Grilled duck foie gras with three garnishes: sautéed apples, beet salad and persimmon coulis

First-course selections included beignets of cod brandade ($9), an enticing puree of salt cod and potatoes, formed into a ball somewhere between a ping-pong and a tennis ball in size, and sautéed to a slightly crisp exterior. A tangy sauce called gribiche—a species of mayonnaise studded with capers, tarragon and lemon—and a small mound of tender, young watercress, were splendid accompaniments. Moving on to main courses, Arbor's kitchen demonstrated versatility in all the major genres—poultry, meat and fish. Grilled Catalán spice–marinated chicken ($19) in a ragout of tomatoes, olives and spicy chorizo was moist and tender, with the provocative sauce complementing the muted flavor of the chicken. Arbor's cassoulet ($22) transported me back to the southwest of France, its heady dose of garlic and assertive herbs enhancing the white beans that play a starring role in this dish, ably supported by rich pork sausage, and not quite as ably by slightly tough pieces of duck.

Parsley-crusted native cod ($21) yielded a thick slab of perfectly textured fish, flaky yet moist, with an extraordinary, toothsome sauce of large capers and brown butter, and a garnish of roasted cauliflower. Finally, but certainly not least, the rosemary-cured pork chop ($21) made its grand appearance, one and a quarter inches thick, pink and tender, accompanied by a delicious mélange of apples, Brussels sprouts and chunks of smoky, pleasantly salty pancetta. Salted and spiced halves of roast fingerling potatoes, cooked to a perfect texture, completed the ensemble.

Arbor sustained its remarkably high standards through dessert. Valrhona chocolate pot au crème ($7), a smooth, almost


Cozy Arbor seats 40 diners in an upscale urban setting.

liquid nectar with intense chocolate flavor, would have satisfied the most unrepentant chocoholic. An imaginative variant on the ubiquitous crème brûlée was Arbor's rice pudding brûlée ($7), a large, shallow cylinder of caramelized rice and custard, its creamy starch and mellow sweetness a good foil to the robust assertive flavors that preceded it.

Arbor's wines included 2001 Col des Vents Corbieres, a serviceable French red composed of grenache, syrah, and mourvèdre, available by the half-liter carafe for only $14. Wines by the glass included a sparkler from—ready for this—New Mexico, NV Gruet Brut ($7), unremarkable but pleasant, and a Côtes du Rhône from Domaine Lafond ($7), a trifle thin but well balanced, with decent structure that made it a suitable companion to diverse dishes. Arbor's service ranged from first-rate to adequate. An uncomfortably long interval intervened between main courses and dessert one night, but on my following visit, efficiency and attentiveness were beyond reproach.

Experience has led me to conclude that restaurants whose views or physical ambience dazzles often fail to impress on the plate and on the palate. Since moving to Boston, I have added an even more reliable corollary to this axiom: Restaurant quality is usually inversely related to the availability of parking. Boston's South End, planted thick with top-notch restaurants, is a parking nightmare. In contrast, parking is ample in the bedroom suburbs, but outstanding restaurants are rare. (Le Soir and a couple of its French siblings in Newton are notable exceptions.) My recent forays to JP seemed to confirm this parking corollary. This lively, somewhat edgy Boston neighborhood has enjoyed a recent infusion of culinary talent and gastronomic resources, but I found trying to secure a parking space on Centre Street daunting. Then, after completing the second of two excellent dinners at Arbor, I discovered that there was ample evening parking just outside its rear entrance, in a lot parallel to Centre Street. This amenity, combined with Arbor's extraordinary food, make it no wonder that this tiny boîte plays to a full house almost every night. iB


Moroccan spiced lamb with sweet-and-sour eggplant fondue, toasted couscous, almonds and yogurt


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TASTINGS

BY JULIE SURATT

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Bistro Cooking at Rialto
Rialto, One Bennett Street, Cambridge (617-661-5050). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. March 8, 6:30 pm. $85. Rialto chef/owner **Jody Adams** cooks a four-course dinner alongside chef **Gordon Hamersley** of Hamersley's Bistro in celebration of Hamersley's first cookbook, *Bistro Cooking at Home.*

Boston Wine Festival
Boston Harbor Hotel, Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-330-9255). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Through April 9. The Boston Wine Festival continues through April and offers more than 50 wine and food pairing events. •March 3, 7 pm, $135: Rising Stars. Master of wine and IMPROPER columnist **Sandy Block** hosts an evening with lesser-known wineries, including Arcadian, Lane Tanner, Bacio Divino Cellars and Andrew Murray. •March 4, 7 pm, $135: Burgess •March 5: California Cabernets •March 8, 6:30 pm (seminar), 8 pm (dinner), $135 or $185: Fisher Vineyards •March 9, 7 pm, $135: Hanzell •March 10, 7 pm, $135: Nickel and Nickel •March 11, 7 pm, $175: Silver Oak Cellars •March 15, 7 pm, $175: Port with Sandy Block •March 16, 7 pm, $135: Limb Vineyards and Tohu.

Chocolate Tastings
South End Formaggio, 268 Shawmut Ave., Boston (617-350-6996). •March 4, 2-7 pm: Enjoy a comparative tasting of really dark chocolate (70 to 75 percent cacao) from around the world. •March 11, 2-7 pm: A follow-up to the dark chocolate tasting includes milk to dark chocolate and everything in between.

Country-Style Italian Dinner Series
Caffé Umbra, 1395 Washington St., Boston (617-867-0707). $45. Chef/owner **Laura Brennan** hosts this series of informal country-style Italian and French dinners with sous chef **Adam Halberg**. The three-course dinners will be paired with two wines. •March 9: Piedmont.

The Dynamic Duo
Lifelong Learning, 808 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-9852). www.bu.edu/lifelong. March 9, 6-9 pm. $60. Via Matta co-owners **Christopher Myers** and **Michael Schlow** demonstrate and discuss Italian food and wine.

Family Dinner: Tacos
Westport Rivers Winery and Vineyard, 417 Hixbridge Road, Westport (508-636-3423). March 12, 6:30 pm. $25, $15 children. Enjoy a two-course meal paired with wine, beer or cider. Dinners include a refresher on table manners, some conversation cards to spark family discussions, and a presentation on selecting and serving wine or beer.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617 975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. $25 (includes light food). Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** offers a series of tastings •March 13: New England micro-brewed beers.

Harvest Review
Harvest, 44 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-868 2255). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. $39. Chef **Eric Brennan** offers a monthly tasting series that pays homage to New England farmers purveyors, seafood, produce and cheese. •March 10: ABC Wine—Anything but Chardonnay with wine director **Stephen Sink**.

Hyderabadi Wine Dinner
Rani Bistro, 1353 Beacon St., Boston (617-734 0400). MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner March 3, 6 pm. $45. Enjoy four courses of Hyderabadi cuisine paired with three wines.

Italian Wine Dinner
Monica's, 143 Richmond St., Boston (617-227 0311). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. March 10, 7 pm. $55. The wines of Umberto Cesari, from Emiglia-Romagna, Italy, are paired with four courses prepared by chef **Jorge Mendoza**.

Pancake Breakfast
Natick Community Organic Farm, 117 Eliot St. Natick (508-655-2204). www.natickfarm.org March 6, 10 am-1 pm. $6. See how maple syrup is made and eat a traditional pancake breakfast.

Radius Winter Cooking Series
Radius, 8 High St., Boston (617-426-1234) MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 11 am-2:30 pm. $125. Chef de cuisine **Brian Reimer** and wine steward **Scott Fraley** teach this cooking series. •March 13: Food and wines of Alsace.

Readings and Conversations About Craft and the Creative Process
The Arsenal on the Charles, The Commander's Mansion, 440 Talcott Ave., Watertown (617 923-0100). www.watertownarts.org. March 15 7:30 pm. Free. Cookbook authors and *Boston Globe* columnists **Sheryl Julian** and **Julie Rivers** discuss food.

Sustainable Seafood Dinner
Devlin's Bar & Bistro, 332 Washington St. Brighton (617-779-8822). March 8, 6-10 pm $39.50. Chef **Gary Hanlon** presents a four course menu using sustainable seafood. A selection of white wines from California and New Zealand is paired with the dishes.


Rialto chef Jody Adams with buddy Gordon Hamersley.

There's a Party in My Kitchen
Rialto, One Bennett Street Cambridge (617-661-5050) MBTA: Red Line to Harvard March 13, 11 am-1 pm. $100 (includes lunch). Chef/owner **Jody Adams** offers a cooking class at this benefit for the Menus with Meaning campaign and Women Chefs and Restaurateurs. Learn recipes for hosting a get-together.

Wednesday Wine Tasting
UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933). 6:30 pm $50. Chef **Susan Regis** prepares two wine dinners •March 10: Isole e Olena (Tuscany) •March 16: Best of Italian whites: Pieropan and Jermann.

DISH

Lights out at "Life"

A little less Country, a little more Luxe...

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

On television, *The Simple Life* may be an obnoxious national success, but in Boston's Financial District, the **Country Life** restaurant has quietly closed its wholesome doors.

"The Big Dig killed us," says **Avis Ashton**, who for 18 years co-managed the vegan buffet eatery with her husband. Now that the Central Artery above it is being dismantled, the restaurant's location at the intersection of High and Broad streets is prime real estate, and the lease has expired. According to Ashton, "the economy in general, 9/11 and the Atkins Diet" also took a toll on a spot that featured dishes such as spaghetti and wheatballs, vegetarian pot pie, and a brunch of tofu scramble and whole wheat waffles. Longtime fans—including members of the Boston Vegetarian Society, which held a monthly "social dinner" at the restaurant—will be pleased to know that the Ashton family is planning to establish a holistic, vegetarian health retreat in New Hampshire.



Alas, vegan eatery Country Life is alive no more.

SECOND COURSE

Kitchen addiction: When **Chris Bussell** decided to sell Butterfish, the cozy Cambridge restaurant that's now **Craigie Street Bistrot**, he thought he'd gotten the restaurant bug out of his system. "I went back to school and completed my degree in philosophy and history at UMass-Boston, but found myself missing the culinary business for some strange reason," he says with a laugh. "Cooking gets in your blood."

So when **Terramia** owner **Carla Gomes** approached him with an offer last December, Bussell was happy to get back behind the stove at the North End restaurant. Will he open his own place again? For now, Bussell is happy where he is. "I'm having a great time being back in the kitchen," he says. "I want to do this for awhile, but who knows what's going to happen?"

Well, we know what's going to happen at the new **L**, formerly Café Louis. Come spring and summer, chef **Pino Maffeo** expects to put perfume on the menu. Perfume? Waiters wielding atomizers instead of giant pepper mills?

"Seventy-five percent of taste is smell," Maffeo explains. "I've been working on this for 11 years. I want to build a dish minus one important ingredient, then introduce that ingredient through perfume."

As he develops his new menu, Maffeo is also developing his perfumes with essential oils of lime leaf, edible flowers and basil. Just as master perfumers create wearable scents, the chef is fermenting fragrances, working on middle tones, adding warm notes of cinnamon and anise. "It's not a gimmick; it's important that it works," he says. Next up: scratch 'n' sniff menus?

Speaking of new concepts, the **Copa Café** in Lexington is "undergoing some conceptual changes," according to manager **Adam Rosencrance**. Currently, the café, which opened to great fanfare as an upscale, European-inspired restaurant featuring elaborately authentic coffee drinks, fine pastries and sophisticated "small plates," is now serving only coffee, tea and pastries. Could it be that the Copa, which often fell short of its grand aspirations, is being shopped around? "I'm unable to comment on this at this time," says Rosencrance. The Copa's downscaled offerings are "temporary," he adds, and the owners plan to "reopen" as a full-service restaurant in the spring.

A more upbeat renovation is almost complete at the Brookline location of **Brown Sugar Café**, one of the best Thai restaurants in town. Until the Comm. Ave. venue reopens in a week or so, the Fenway-area Brown Sugar is handling the overflow of diehard regulars. IB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to dish@improper.com.



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WINE

Down with Snobbery

BY SANDY BLOCK, M.W.



Don't get me wrong: I think it's great that there's so much excitement about wine nowadays. But really, folks, let's drop the attitude. It's a drink, not an identity badge. If wine's truly something you're supposed to enjoy, why don't we stop judging everyone based on what they choose to drink? It's not a question of what's cool, it's about the flavors you like. Somehow we've all become very relaxed around diverse preferences in clothing, hairstyle, sexual practice and religion. But where wine's concerned, watch out. Get caught ordering the wrong one and you'll be branded a loser and a geek; you may even put yourself out of contention for a second date or promotion.

Is there anything more absurd? As someone who's passionate about wine and spends the better part of every day tasting, thinking about and working with it, I would find the idea of anyone trying to impose their own personal likes and dislikes on others laughable if it weren't so common. Here's a list of sins I've recently heard people ripping others for: ordering the wrong color wine (red's in and there are some who view Chardonnay as a wine fit only for wimps); using inappropriate glassware (as in "How could the idiots who own this place serve wine in that?"); serving wines that are too sweet (because everybody knows that sweetness is too retro for words); choosing a bottle from the wrong region or country ("Chile's just a code word for cheap," I actually overheard an otherwise intelligent person intone); buying a bad vintage ("Doesn't he know that '98 was a wipeout in California?"); and, the all-time capper, selecting the wrong wine to serve with a dish (as in, "Hello, pinot noir doesn't go with swordfish.").

The great thing about all this supposed gaucherie is that the very expression of each judgment itself betrays a profound ignorance, in the "a little knowledge is dangerous" category. Usually some misused and half-understood technical jargon (terroir, residual, malolactic, micro-climate, organoleptic) accompanies each condemnatory utterance. But why waste energy refuting arguments based on false premises when it's so much more satisfying to show your disdain by just drinking whatever you like? If you're convinced that wine is as much about enjoyment as food is, that the bottle you choose is not a crucial statement about your worth as a human being, that you don't need to have mastered "wine talk" to impress people, and that, in fact, there's not all that much you really have to know about the glorious liquid simply to enjoy it, here are a few recommendations sure to irritate any obsessive types who may otherwise plague you, along with some basic information you can use if you want to strike first:

Beaujolais, served cool: Some of the tastiest, juiciest red wine for sheer drinking pleasure produced in all of France hails from this district in the southern part of Burgundy. It's versatile with food, fruity and low in tannin, and also a lightning rod for attracting the most clichéd wine put-downs. You'll be sure to catch attention if you order a glass, but you can head it off by informing your guest that, of course, in France you'd expect it served with a chill, as they're very relaxed about what they drink over there, whereas we're so image conscious that we have to fit all red wines into the same overheated "room temperature" mold.

Riesling from Germany: It's probably going to be sweet, but there's nothing wrong with sugar if it's balanced by acidity and fruit, and it does happen to be among the most adaptable wines with food, particularly the many contemporary dishes that incorporate fruit or sweet flavors themselves in the preparation. So take that, sucra-phobes.

Rosé: Classic European wines are often bone dry, refreshing and just the ticket for dishes like sausages, or cold roasted chicken. They're also great for drinking on a warm day when you don't want the effects of strong alcohol or tannins and you're looking for a little refreshment. This wine style is so out that it's in. Drinking it is sort of a reverse-snob statement; that you're relaxed enough with yourself to have a rosé on the table makes an impression in and of itself. If anyone questions you, just dismiss him or her with a comment like, "Check it out, Tavel ain't no white zinfandel."

Cabernet Franc from the Loire Valley: This is so obscure no one will know what to make of it, although they might object to the less-than-opaque red wine colors. "Chinon's classic," you can tell them, savoring the aroma, "so delicious, so underappreciated."

So the message is, chill and enjoy. And if anyone tries to give you a hard time about whatever wine you're drinking, just tell them I said it was OK. IB

One of only 18 Americans certified as a master of wine, Sandy Block is assistant vice president of wine for Horizon Beverage.

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3/4 7:05pm vs. MIN	3/21 1:05pm vs. BAL
3/5 7:05pm vs. NU	3/24 7:15pm vs. NYY
3/7 1:05pm vs. NYY	3/27 1:05pm vs. PHI
3/14 1:05pm vs. BAL	3/28 1:05pm vs. FLA
3/17 1:05pm vs. CLE	4/2 7:05pm vs. ATL

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agenda

MPROPER PICKS

march 3 - 16

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			3	4	5	6
				Local rockers the **Push Stars** play at the Paradise. *See Music on page 62.*	It's the **Miss Gothic Massachusetts Competition** at ManRay. *See CityScope on page 52.*	Richard Dreyfuss and Eric Stoltz star as con men in the comedy ***Sly Fox*** at the Shubert Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 54.*
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	The Wang Center's Classic Film Series continues with a free screening of ***The Wizard of Oz***. *See Movies on page 60.*		The exhibition ***The Art of the Japanese Postcard*** opens today at the MFA. *See Museums & Galleries on page 78.*	Billy Joel and Twyla Tharp's musical, ***Movin' Out***, jams at the Colonial Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 54.*	Get out your worst '80s prom attire for a fund-raiser for the children's charity **Next Step**. *See CityScope on page 52.*	WZLX morning guy **Steve Sweeney** performs at the Comedy Connection. *See Comedy on page 54.*
14	15	16				
Senator **Hillary Rodham Clinton** speaks at the JFK Library and Museum. *See Education on page 83.*		The **New England Spring Flower Show** blooms at the Bayside Expo Center. *See CityScope on page 52.*				



Puppeteer Caleb Fullam helps celebrate the Puppet Showplace Theatre's 30th anniversary.

SAT./MARCH 13

CityScope: Puppet Masters

When you were a kid, puppets were just about the niftiest things around. But for many adults, puppets fall into the same category as clowns, ventriloquist dummies and mimes—childish and slightly unnerving. If you're ready to rethink your stance on puppetry, head to Brookline Village's Puppet Showplace Theatre (the first puppetry center in New England) for its 30th anniversary gala. In addition to plenty of puppet shows, there's food, drinks, musical entertainment, raffles and a silent auction. If you aren't quite up for a gala, there are plenty of other opportunities to reacquaint yourself with the art form—the theater offers performances for adults on a regular basis, including a puppet slam March 20. *32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). 6-9 pm. $25. www.puppetshowplace.org.*

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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EDITED BY:

ERIN HAGEDORN

Books & Poetry, Gay & Lesbian, Movies, Music

JULIE SURATT

Around Town, Children, Education, Performing Arts

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Jessica Iredale Museums & Galleries

Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind

Paul Sherman Movie Capsules



ERIN



JULIE

SUN./MARCH 7 AND TUE./MARCH 16

CityScope: Do-Gooders Dine Out

It's fun to eat out. But it's even more fun to eat out and know that the money you're spending is helping others at the same time. Two tasting events this month benefit the HIV/AIDS community. The first, March 7 at Mistral, is the kickoff to the IMPROPER-sponsored **Dinnerfest 2004**, which runs through May. Dinner for a party of 8-12 at more than 30 area restaurants is auctioned off to benefit the Boston Living Center (in lieu of paying the restaurant). The second event, **Taste of the South End**, on March 16, is a gathering of chefs from 35 South End restaurants at the Cyclorama. Guests enjoy samples from places like B&G Oysters, Perdix, Tremont 647 and Caffé Umbra, as well as beer and wine and a silent auction. Proceeds go to support programs and services at AIDS Action Committee. *See CityScope on page 52 for more information.*



Mistral chef/owner Jamie Mammano hosts the kickoff to Dinnerfest 2004.

FRI./MARCH 12 AND SUN./MARCH 14

Performing Arts: Splendid China

It seems like an unlikely premise for an opera: Richard Nixon's historic meeting with Mao Zedong in February 1972, which resulted in the opening of China to Western nations. Nixon's a baritone, Henry Kissinger a bass, Pat Nixon a lyric soprano. Intrigued? We are. When stage director Peter Sellars first proposed the idea to Pulitzer Prize–winning author John Adams in 1983, Adams says he was slow to recognize the project's potential. "By 1983 Nixon had become the stuff of bad, predictable comedy routines," he says, "and it was difficult to untangle my own personal animosity…from the larger historical picture." He signed on only after poet Alice Goodman agreed to write a verse libretto in couplets, and the end result became one of the most widely performed operas of the present day. Part epic, part political satire, it examines historical, philosophical and even gender issues. And as Adams himself notes, "Was this not something—both in the sense of story and characterization—that only grand opera could treat?" See for yourself at the work's New England premiere, in production by the Boston Modern Orchestra Project. *Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (617-824-8000). www.bmop.org. March 12, 7:30 pm; March 14, 2 pm. $24-$85.*



Nixon in China at the Cutler Majestic Theatre



The Somerville Theatre is featured in the Somerville Museum's exhibition, *The Lost Theatres of Somerville*, which closes March 28.

THU./MARCH 11

Art and Movies: Old-Fashioned Films

[illegible] the end of the Somerville Museum's year-long exhibition, *The Lost Theatres of Somerville*, the museum is [illegible] showcasing several "lost" films in a vintage-film extravaganza. The night is a throwback to the [illegible] of cinema, when an evening at the movies included more than just a bucket of popcorn, a few trailers [illegible] (Fact: popcorn has been sold in movie theaters since the beginning.) Back then, the show included [illegible], newsreels and some shorts—all leading up to the feature film. The night's lineup of vintage films—all shown in [illegible]—includes a 1946 newsreel called *Bikini Atoll A-Bomb Test*, a Betty Boop cartoon and a 1949 compilation of [illegible] called ***Chills and Spills***. The highlight is Buster Keaton's 1922 short feature, *Cops*. Before the movies start, Albert Steg, curator of Zampano's Playhouse, and David Guss, curator of the *Lost Theatres* exhibit, share their thoughts on the films. The exhibition closes March 28. *One Westwood Road, Somerville (617-666-9810). 7 pm. $5.*

TUE./MARCH 9 AND WED./MARCH 10

Books & Poetry: Experts Advise

Long ago, before one of the Calendar Girls was betrothed, she had a experience with a loony roommate who was addicted to self-help books. At the time, she scoffed at those who sought advice from the likes of Tony Robbins and Dr. Phil. Now, a few years later and much wiser, that same Calendar Girl sees the benefits of knowing that men actually *are* from Mars. This month, a few experts come to town with some advice that might truly be helpful. On March 9, you have two choices: Marilyn Byfield Paul reads from *It's Hard to Make a Difference When You Can't Find Your Keys: The Seven-Step Path to Becoming Truly Organized* at Newtonville Books; or, for those who've already mastered organization, Frank Nett reads from *Retire Sooner, Retire Richer: How to Build and Manage Wealth to Last a Lifetime* at the Harvard Coop. And on March 10, Wendy Straker offers advice on how to secure a job in TV, film, magazines, advertising or public relations as she reads from *Sexy Jobs in the City: How to Find Your Dream Job Using the Rules of Dating* at the Harvard Coop. Help yourself! *See Books & Poetry on page 82 for more information.*

Spend St. Patrick's Day IN IRELAND



Visit any or all of these Authentic Irish Pubs between February 6th and March 12th for your chance to spend St. Patrick's Day in Ireland! Eat, drink and practice your best Irish accent and you may just be celebrating in the Irish homeland.

SIX TRIPS, SIX WEEKS.

Here's your chance - Join in on the Craic!

(for all you non-Irish, craic = Irish for loads of fun!)

the Green Briar irish pub
304 WASHINGTON ST. BRIGHTON 617.789.4100

the Kinvara irish pub
34 HARVARD AVE. ALLSTON 617.783.9400

the Harp irish pub
85 CAUSEWAY ST. BOSTON 617.742.1010

Ned Devine's irish pub
UINCY MARKET BLDG. 2ND FLOOR BOSTON 617.248.8800

m.j. O'Connor's irish pub
NEXT TO PARK PLAZA HOTEL BOSTON 617.482.2255

Sólás irish pub
710 BOYLSTON ST. BOSTON 617.933.4803

cityscope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings for festivals, events and benefits by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Festivals, Benefits & Events

THURSDAY, MARCH 4

Cocktails for a Cause
Trio, 174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-529-6425). $20. This after-work party at Trio includes appetizers and raffle prizes and raises money for Elizabeth Seton Academy, a new private women's high school serving Boston.

Expedition: Olympic National Park
Vox Populi, 755 Boylston St., Boston (617-269-7551, ext. 291). www.sbha.org. 6 pm. $15. This party features Harpoon beer and helps raise money for 5th and 6th grade classes at South Boston Harbor Academy Charter School to take a June trip to Olympic National Park in Washington state.

Inner-City Scholarship Fund Dinner
Boston Marriott Copley Place, Boston (617-778-5881, ext. 209). 6 pm. $350. This dinner honoring artist and philanthropist Stephen Zardis raises money for scholarships for inner-city students.

March Forth for the Arts
Zeitgeist Gallery, 1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060) www.zeitgeist-gallery.org. 2-10 pm. Free. The public is invited to join in this all-day arts festival, which features sidewalk chalk artists and performance artists, paintings on display, a live body-painting fashion show and an active graffiti wall.

FRIDAY, MARCH 5

Give Me Shelter Opening Reception
Boston Architectural Center, 320 Newbury St, Boston. www.the-bac.edu. 7:30 pm. $75. See an inflatable hemp house and other interesting architectural designs at this opening reception for the BAC's *Give Me Shelter* exhibition. The reception features hors d'oeuvres and wine.

Miss Gothic Massachusetts Competition
ManRay, 21 Brookline St., Cambridge. www.missgothicmass.com. 9 pm-2 am. The darkest beauty pageant in the land crowns the goddess of goth.

National Golf Expo Boston
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Columbia Point, Boston (800-322-4821). www.golfexpoboston.com. March 5, 1-8 pm; March 6, 10 am-7 pm; March 7, 10 am-5 pm. $10. This annual show devoted to all things golf features more than 250 displays and interactive features, including a seminar stage, an indoor driving range, product testing, free club fitting and more.

SATURDAY, MARCH 6

Le Bal des Étoiles
Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. 5:30 pm-1 am. $125 from 10 pm-1 am with dancing, wine and hors d'oeuvres; $375 with dinner, $500 VIP. The French Library and Cultural Center hosts this annual benefit party, which features a VIP caviar and champagne reception at the home of a committee member, a cocktail reception, live and silent auctions, dinner, and dancing to live music from the Winiker Orchestra.

Casino Night 2004
Park Plaza Hotel, 67 Arlington St., Boston (617-723-3870). www.bafound.org. 6 pm. $150. See Preview box for details.

CJP .406 Club Party
.406 Club, Fenway Park, 4 Yawkey Way, Boston (617-457-8535). www.cjp.org. 9 pm-1 am. $25 in advance, $35 at the door. Combined Jewish Philanthropies hosts a party for young professionals featuring music, dancing, hors d'oeuvres and prizes.

Kids Reenact the Massacre
Old State House, 206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713, ext. 21). www.bostonhistory.org. 2 pm. Free. Park rangers lead children in a reenactment of the Boston Massacre. Fun for the whole family!

Wine Tasting Fund-Raiser
Anthem, 138 Portland St., Boston (617-523-3838). 6-10 pm. $25. Taste wine, eat hors d'oeuvres and enter to win raffle prizes at this benefit for the American Liver Foundation.

SUNDAY, MARCH 7

Dinnerfest 2004 Kick-Off Party
Mistral, 223 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-450-1521). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. 5:30 pm. $20. This party kicks off Dinnerfest 2004, a program running through May in which restaurants donate the food and drink for dinner parties whose attendees make a donation to the Boston Living Center, an organization that provides services to people living with HIV and AIDS. The evening includes a silent auction in which the winner gets to host a Dinnerfest event at his or her selected participating restaurant. Sponsored by THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN.

Robbie Foundation Benefit Brunch
Anchovies, 433 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-3576). www.robbiefoundation.org. 12-3 pm. $25. This buffet brunch benefits the Robbie Foundation, an organization that helps people living with brain cancer.

MONDAY, MARCH 8

American Repertory Theatre's It's a Surprise Party
155 Seaport Ave., 8th floor, Boston (617-496-2000, ext. 8930). www.amrep.org. 6:30-9:30 pm. $500. The American Repertory Theatre promises an evening full of surprises at this benefit party.

International Women's Day Celebration
International Institute of Boston, One Milk St., Boston (617-695-9990). www.iiboston.org. 11:45 am-1:30 pm. $35, additional contributions support IIB's International Survivor Center. Dr. Nawal Nour, founder of the African Women's Health Practice at Brigham and Women's Hospital, is the keynote speaker at this lunch. Proceeds benefit women who have survived human rights abuses.

transModa Fashion Show Benefit
Sabur Restaurant, 212 Holland Ave., Somerville (617-983-9204). www.transModa.org. 7:30 pm. $100. This multicultural fashion show, featuring models and apparel from around the world, raises money for the Refugee Women's Network.

TUESDAY, MARCH 9

Jane Doe Spirit Awards Gala
Fairmont Copley Hotel, Copley Square, Boston (617-557-1811). www.janedoe.org. 6:30-9 pm. $125, $250 VIP. This benefit to support Jane Doe's anti–domestic violence efforts includes dinner featuring a variety of ethnic cuisines, music and a silent auction. The VIP reception also features a cooking demonstration from Thomas John of Mantra and Gordon Hamersley of Hamersley's.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10

Boston University Castle Open House
The Castle, 225 Bay State Road, Boston (617-353-2934). www.bu.edu/castle. Free. Engaged couples are invited to explore the Castle and meet with its wedding coordinator and other vendors, as well as sample food.

Networking Event
Sophia's, 1270 Boylston St., Boston (781-453-1947) www.bostonsocialnetwork.com. 6 pm. $19 in advance, $29 at the door. The Boston Social Network holds a networking party for professionals in their 30s and 40s. The evening includes a wine sampling, hors d'oeuvres and salsa lessons.

FRIDAY, MARCH 12

An '80s Kind of Paradise
Ballroom Veronique, Brookline (617-864-2921). www.nextstepnet.org. 9 pm. $75. Put on your worst '80s prom attire for this fund-raiser for Next Step, a program that helps children with life-threatening illnesses make the transition into adulthood. The party features live and silent auctions and the crowning of a prom king and queen. Cash bar.

New England Spring Flower Show Preview Party
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Columbia Point, Boston (617-933-4987). www.masshort.org. Benefactor preview, 6-10 pm; supporter reception, 7:30-10 pm. $250 benefactor; $95 supporter. Get a preview of the New England Spring Flower Show's landscaped gardens and floral designs. The party includes hors d'oeuvres, live entertainment and a celebrity floral design contest. The benefactor preview also includes a champagne reception, valet parking and priority coat check.

SATURDAY, MARCH 13

BCCA Benefit Jazz Concert
Brookline Community Center for the Arts, 14 Green St., Brookline (617-738-2800). www.bccaonline.com. 7 pm. $18 in advance, $24 day of show. Sandi Hammond, Ilona Kudina, Allyssa Jones and other musicians perform to benefit the Brookline Community Center for the Arts.

Boston Scholars Program Benefit
Lucky's Lounge, 355 Congress St., Boston (617-357-5825). www.bostonscholars.org. 7 pm. $25. Raise money for Boston Scholars, a program that helps disadvantaged students, at this party. Admission includes two drink tickets, appetizers, raffle tickets and live music.

Gamble at the Mansion
Gamble Mansion, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. 7-11 pm. $50. See Preview box for details.

Puppet Showplace Theatre 30th Anniversary Gala and Benefit Auction
Puppet Showplace Theatre, 32 Station St., Brooklin Village (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. 6-9 pm. $25. The Puppet Showplace Theatre celebrates its 30th anniversary with puppetry performances, live music, food and drink provided by Paris Creperie and Cambridge Brewing Company, a raffle and a silent auction. Auction items include a pass for four people to attend a live taping of *Sesame Street* in New York, an autographed Cam Neely jersey and more.

SUNDAY, MARCH 14

Greater Boston Antique and Collectible Toy Show
Dedham Holiday Inn, Dedham (508-379-9733). 8 am-2:30 pm. $3.50. Rare, collectible and antique toys, from Barbie dolls and Tonka trucks to tin windups, are for sale at this annual show.

Leap into Spring Book Signing and Fashion Event
MIT Endicott House, 80 Haven St., Dedham (617-924-2182). www.dressingwell.com. *1-4 pm. $35.* Mary Lou Andre celebrates the release of her book *Ready to Wear: An Expert's Guide to Choosing and Using Your Wardrobe* at this fashion show and book signing. Proceeds benefit Dress for Success Boston, an organization that helps low-income women transition into the workforce.

TUESDAY, MARCH 16

Taste of the South End
Cyclorama, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-424-9255). www.aac.org. 6-9 pm. $75. Thirty-five South End restaurants serve menu selections to benefit the AIDS Action Committee. The evening also features wine, beer, a silent auction and a raffle.

WWE Smackdown
FleetCenter, Boston (617-931-2000). 7:30 pm. $20 and up. The Big Show, Sable, Scotty 2 Hotty, Rikishi and other WWE stars face off and put the smack down.

Preview

Ante Up

Big money, no whammies! Losing your chips isn't so bad when the house is a charity.

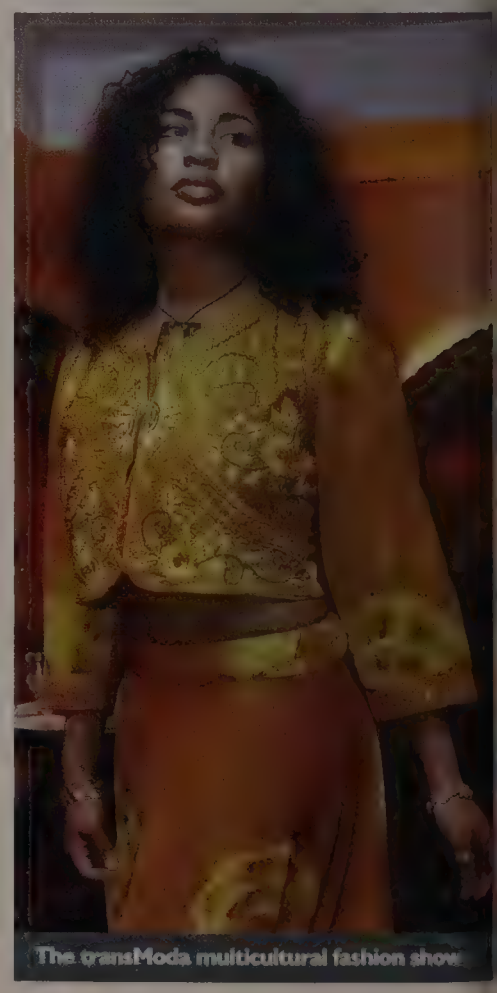
It's a bad feeling when your number doesn't come up on the roulette wheel or you bust at blackjack. But at two upcoming charity events, you can lose your shirt and feel good about doing it, because your bad luck spells good fortune for a lucky nonprofit.

Saturday, March 6, the Park Plaza Hotel goes all Bellagio when the Brain Aneurysm Foundation celebrates its fourth annual Casino Night. When you guess wrong on when to hold 'em and when to fold 'em, your money supports research of brain aneurysms and their causes. The evening also includes a buffet dinner, live and silent auctions and a live performance by the 2 Sweet Band.

The following Saturday, March 13, the Boston Center for Adult Education hosts a night of wagering at the aptly named Gamble Mansion. "Gamble at the Mansion" offers blackjack, roulette and other casino games, with the proceeds benefiting the BCAE's educational programs. Just like in Vegas, the BCAE's Back Bay mansion offers the gambler's favorite trifecta: booze, betting and a buffet. —*Ezra Dyer*

Casino Night, Park Plaza Hotel, 67 Arlington St., Boston (617-723-3870). www.bafound.org. March 6, 6 pm. $150, includes $25 in player chips.
Gamble at the Mansion, Gamble Mansion, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. March 13, 7-11 pm. $50.


The BCAE's Gamble at the Mansion


The transModa multicultural fashion show

LET THE MADNESS BEGIN

STADIUM Grand Prize Giveaway
Tuesday, March 16

Predict the sweet sixteen and win an all- inclusive Trip to MEXICO!

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Phone: 617.269-5100

performing arts

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Performing Arts. Or e-mail to performing@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater

JUST OPENED

Berwick Variety Show
Cambridge YMCA, 820 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-9622). MBTA: Red Line to Central. March 13, 8-11 pm. Price to be announced. This variety show fund-raiser for the Berwick Institute's Artist in Research Program features local performers.

The Birthday Party
American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue. -Thu., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. March 6-27. $35-69. Joanne Akalaitis directs Harold Pinter's comedic thriller set in an English boarding house in the 1950s.

Lost City
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm. March 4-27. $25. This experimental work by Conrad Bishop and Elizabeth Fuller, in collaboration with the Company One ensemble, explores the eclectic voices that shape and define Boston.

Milo's Wake
Hancock United Church of Christ, 1912 Mass. Ave., Lexington (781-862-2866). www.thelexingtonplayers.org. Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm. March 12-20. $15-$17. This comedy by Margery and Michael Forde is about a man who stages his own wake in order to feel appreciated for his life's work.

Nixon in China
Cutler Majestic Theater, 219 Tremont St., Boston (617-824-8000). www.bmop.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to Chinatown. Fri., 7:30 pm; Sun., 2 pm. March 12-14. $22-$76. Pulitzer Prize winner John Adams' opera re-creates Nixon's historic visit to Peking in 1972.

Noye's Fludde
First Church in Cambridge, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (617-972-8300). www.revels.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu., 10 am and 12:30 pm; Fri., 10 am and 7 pm; Sat., 1 and 7 pm. March 4-6. $9-$16. George Emlen directs Benjamin Britten's opera based on a medieval mystery about Noah's ark.

Our Lady of 121st Street
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. March 5-27. $30-$35. This dark comedy by Stephen Adly Guirgis is about a group of friends who return to their old neighborhood to attend the wake of their beloved teacher Sister Rose.

The Peking Acrobats
Lowell Memorial Auditorium, 50 East Merrimack St., Lowell (978-454-2299). www.lowellauditorium.com. March 12, 8 pm. $27.50-$46.50. The Peking Acrobats rely on more than 2,000 years of Chinese folk art tradition in their performances.


The American Repertory Theatre presents Harold Pinter's comedy The Birthday Party.

Van Gogh in Japan
Nora Theatre Company at Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-491-2026). www.bu.edu/bpt. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant Street. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. March 4-28. $25. R.L. Lane directs his own play about Vincent van Gogh's creative inspiration and mindset during the peak of his career.

What the Butler Saw
Huntington Theatre Company, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Tue.- Thu., 7:30 pm; Wed., 2 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. March 4-April 4. $14-$64. Darko Tresnjak directs this comedy by Joe Orton about an adulterous doctor and his adulterous wife and their run-ins with overly enthusiastic hospital staff and the police.

Yellowman
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands (617-332-1646). www.newrep.org. Wed., 2 and 7 pm; Thu.- Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. March 3-April 4. $27-$42. Dael Orlandersmith's play, a Pulitzer finalist, explores tensions between two African-American friends in the South.

NOW RUNNING

Blue Hair Troupe
Tremont Theatre, 276 Tremont St., Boston (866-443-2248). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.blue hairtroupe.com. Wed. and Thu., 2 pm; Sat., 3 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Through March 28. $32. This satirical musical revue transforms the Tremont Theatre into a "senior center for the performing arts."

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-6912). www.blueman.com/ticketinfo/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed., 8 pm; Thu., 5 and 8 pm; Fri., 7 and 10 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 3 and 6 pm. Ongoing. $43 and $53. This production abandons all dialogue and focuses on making an impact through tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Flanagan's Wake
Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Thu.-Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Through March 4. $27.50. Friends gather to mourn the passing of Flanagan in the fictional town of Grapplin, Ireland. Actors improvise stories and songs at Flanagan's wake based on audience suggestions.

Jacques Brel Is Alive and Well and Living in Paris
Stuart Street Playhouse, Radisson Hotel, 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 5 and 9 pm; Sun., 3 and 7 pm. Ongoing. $42.50-$47.50. This musical revue features the lyrics and music of Belgian poet/lyricist/songwriter and performer Jacques Brel.

Movin' Out
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-426-9366). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Mon.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm; Through April 10. $30-$87. Choreographer Twyla Tharp created this new musical, inspired by the music of Billy Joel, which centers around two decades in the lives of five lifelong friends.

Oliver!
Wang Center, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.telecharge.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston, Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Tue., 7:30 pm; Wed., 7pm; Thu. and Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 7:30 pm; Sun., 1 and 7 pm. Through March 7. $28-$78. Lionel Bart's musical about an orphan who "wants more" is based on Dickens' story.

The Shape of Things
Chelsea Theatre Works, 189 Winnisimmet St., Chelsea (617-887-2336). www.theatrezone.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. Fri. and Sat., 8 pm, Through March 13. $12. Neil LaBute's play about a student and his relationship with an art major explores power and the willingness to change in romantic relationships. Directed by Eileen Rooney.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

Sly Fox
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston; Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. Through March 7. $21-$88. Richard Dreyfuss and Eric Stoltz star as con men in this comedy by Larry Gelbart set in San Francisco during the gold rush of the 19th century. The cast includes TV veterans Elizabeth Berkley and Bronson Pinchot.

The Spitfire Grill
Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed., 2 and 7:30 pm; Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Through March 13. $22-$43. Set in a town where everyone has a secret, this musical by Fred Alley and James Valcq tells the story of Percy, an outsider who transforms the town by turning around its fading local grill.

Wait Until Dark
Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). www.stonehamtheatre.org. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. Through March 14. $32. This psychological thriller—written by Frederick Knott and made popular by the 1967 film version—is about a blind woman, a con man and a doll full of heroin.

UNIVERSITY THEATER

Wonderful Town
Boston Conservatory Theater, 31 Hemenway St., Boston (617-912-9222). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Thu.- Sat., 8 pm; Sat.- Sun., 2 pm, March 4-7. $5-$16. The Boston Conservatory Theatre Ensemble, under the direction of Paul Daigneault and Janet Roma, performs Leonard Bernstein's musical about two sisters who move to bohemian Greenwich Village in the 1930s.

Dance

Belly Dance Superstars
Baladi, 288 Green St., Cambridge (617-492-2000). www.layaleena.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. March 13, 8 pm. $20-$40. Fourteen belly dancers perform to live Arabic music.

Boston Ballet Benefit Performance
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-456-6257). www.bostonballet.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. March 6, 7:30 pm. $75-$250. To celebrate the Boston Ballet School's 50th anniversary, students and alumni dance together in the first movement from Balanchine's *Concerto Barocco*, the "Peasant Pas de Trois" from *Swan Lake*, and a new work by senior artist Viktor Plotnikov.

The Cuban Condition
Sanctuary Theatre, 400 Harvard St., Cambridge (617-354-7467). www.ballettheatre.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.- Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 4 pm. March 12-April 25. $28. The Jose Mateo Ballet Theatre performs a cabaret-style show, choreographed by Jose Mateo, exploring the Cuban influence on ballet.

Mark Morris Dance Group
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm, March 11-14. $25-$60. Mark Morris showcases his modern dance choreography as part of the Fleet Boston Celebrity Series.

Single Youth Carnival
Artists at Large, 37 Everett St., Hyde Park (617-276-3223). www.artistsatlargeinc.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills, then #32 bus to Clear Square. March 6, 8 pm. $8. This multi-media performance incorporates the improvisational dance of Nicole Bindler with music by the John Voigt Jazz Ensemble and live video from the films *Illuminations* and *Heavy Rubber*.

Doug Varone and Dancers
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (617-824-8000). www.worldmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. March 5, 7:30 pm; March 6, 8 pm. $25-$35. Doug Varone's modern-dance choreography is characterized by fluid movement and interpretation of human interactions through dynamic music and grand physical gestures.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

STAND-UP CLUBS

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 8 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault at Remington's features local stand-up comedians. •Thursdays: Dick Doherty's Comedy Pro Tour •Fridays: the Fun Room, with Corey Manning •Saturdays: Boston's Best Standup •Sundays: open-mike night.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8 pm, $12; Thu., 8:30 pm, $12; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm, 10:15 pm, prices vary; Sun., 7 pm, $12. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •March 4: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist •March 5, $35: Dane Cook from Comedy Central's Crank Yankers •March 6, 8 pm, $17: Mike McDonald and DJ Hazard; 9:45 and 11:45 pm, $35: Dane Cook •March 7: 7 and 9:15 pm, $32: Dane Cook •March 8: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, the Wildman of Comedy •March 9: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz •March 10: Harrison Stebbins •March 11: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist •March 12, $20: John Valby, a.k.a. Dr. Dirty •March 13, 6 pm, $26; 8:15 and 10:30 pm, $28: Steve Sweeney, host of "Sweeney's Neighborhood" •March 14: Frank Santorelli of *The Sopranos* •March 15: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, the Wildman of Comedy •March 16: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz.

Comedy Studio
The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •March 3: Tommy Morello, Myq Kaplan, Dan Sally and Steve Calechman •March 4: Kelly MacFarland's "Girls Go Wild" Show •March 5: DJ Hazard, Myq Kaplan, Brian Longwell, Alison Bloch and Tissa Hami •March 6: DJ Hazard, Myq Kaplan, Brian Longwell, Derek Gerry and Brian Gordon •March 7: Myq Kaplan, EJ Murphy, Mike Whitman, Randy Winn and Tim Kaelin •March 9: Mystery Lounge with Bob Riordan, Rob Herritt, Jon Stetson, Steve Kradolfer and David Oliver •March 10: Tony V Experiment, Kelly MacFarland, Peter Dutton, Rob O'Reilly, Ken Reid, Max Silvestri, Myq Kaplan, Dav

hompson and Dot Dwyer •March 11: The Geek ouncil with Tim McIntire's Techno-cult show March 12: The Circus Pigs, J.J., The Walsh Bros., lyq Kaplan, Corey Manning, MB Cowan, Larry Murhy •March 13: The Circus Pigs, Rob Reuter, Corey lanning, Erik Charles Neilson, Myq Kaplan, Brian ordon •March 14: Sam Walters, Myq Kaplan, TJ riffin, Emily Singer, Adam Pearlman, Brett Jordan, reg Johnson and Korte Yeo •March 16: The Mystery ounge, a magic and comedy show featuring Alexanr, Mike Bent, Steve Kradolfer, David Oliver, Bob Ridan, Erik Rochelle, Jon Stetson and special guests.

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lick's Comedy Stop

00 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). ww.nickscomedystop.com MBTA: Green Line to oylston or Orange Line to New England Medical Cenr. $10-$22. •March 4, 8:30 pm: Patty Ross, Artie nuario and Joe Carroll •March 5 and 6, 8:45 pm:



Doug Varone and Dancers are at the Cutler Majestic Theatre March 5–6.

John David, Artie Januario and Stacey Yannetty •March 11, 8:30 pm: Mike Donovan and Al Klemick •March 12, 8:45 pm: Mike Donovan, Al Klemick and Steve Scarfo •March 13, 8:45 pm: Mike Donovan, Sam Walters and Steve Scarfo.

IMPROV COMEDY

Faces for Radio

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.faces4radio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu., 8 pm. $8. Improv comedians poke fun at everything, including themselves.

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA:Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 and 10 pm. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. Improvisation and sketch comedy in the North End. •Wed.-Sat., 12 am, $5: *The Midnight Show.*

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central . $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: the characters, the stories, the settings—even the songs and dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: *The Hump.* Series for experimental and improvisational theater. •Thu., 8 pm, $12: *Unnatural Selection.* A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one is left. 10 pm, $5: *The Great and Secret Comedy Show.* Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and music, play short films and do character sketches in a display of sibling rivalry •Fri., 8 pm, $12: *Misunderstood.* Audience suggestions fuel an improv rock opera. 10 pm, $12: *Theatre Sports.* Two teams of improvisers face off. •Sat., 6 pm, $12: *ImprovBoston Family Show.* 8 and 10 pm, $12: *ImprovBoston Mainstage.* Blending storytelling, music and audience participation, a cast of improvisers creates a show that changes with every performance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5: *Sgt. Culpepper's Improvisational Jamboree.* Watch performances by visiting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., South Boston (617-308-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Thu.-Fri., 8 pm. $12. The group performs improvisational comedy using audience suggestions.

Kitsch in Sync

The Puppet Showplace Theatre, 32 Station St., Brookline (617-631-7400). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. www.kitschinsync.org. March 5, 8 pm. $7. This improv troupe performs sketches and games with the aid of audience suggestions.

COMEDY SHOWS

Gourmet Detective

Ristorante Marino, 2465 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (800-697-2583). www.mysterycafe.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. March 5, 13, 19, 20, 27, 7:30 pm. $49. for dinner and show. The Gourmet Detective serves up Italian cuisine with a murder mystery.

Laughing Out Loud

Koumantzelis Auditorium, Lindsay Hall, Bentley College, Waltham (781-891-3424). www.bentley.edu. March 3, 7:30 pm. $7. Social satirist Janice Perry, author of *Laughing Out Loud: A Creative Response to a World Gone Mad*, presents vignettes on current affairs.

Off Broadway Comedy Fringe

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Mondays, 9 pm. Jimmy Tingle presents a comedy-variety series.

Open Mike Night

Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon., 8 pm. Open mike for creative talent.

Chris Rock

Orpheum Theatre, Hamilton Place, Boston (617-931-2000). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. March 13, 7 pm. $39-$61. Comedian Chris Rock performs on his Black Ambition tour.

Stash's Comedy Jam

All Asia Cafe, 334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. www.stashcomedyjam.com. *First and third Sunday of every month. 8 pm.* Enjoy standup comedy at this open mike with host Stash.



Desert Storm

Hildalgo cowboys up in the sand

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Whatever happened to movies made to appeal to all audiences? In this age of specialization and of bean counters controlling Hollywood's boardrooms, the multiplex has become like cable TV, with most everything targeted to a specific demographic. You've got raunchy comedies for teenage boys, romantic fantasies for preteen girls, chick flicks for women, action movies for college guys, and so on. No wonder most movies are so narrow-minded. They're mortally afraid of alienating their target audience.



As horse racer Frank T. Hopkins, Viggo Mortensen (center) provides much of *Hidalgo*'s charm.

Hidalgo is not the greatest movie ever made, nor is it the most ambitious, but it earns a lot of goodwill for its old-fashioned desire to please the average moviegoer, whether that person is an 8-year-old girl or a 55-year-old man. Like a starting pitcher who throws a complete-game victory—saying "no, thanks" to the relief specialist who pitches only to left-handed hitters during day games on Thursdays—this reality-based tale of a U.S. Cavalry dispatch rider who enters a prestigious long-distance horse race in the Arabian Peninsula in 1890 is a small breath of fresh air.

Viggo Mortensen plays the rider, the legendary American cowboy Frank T. Hopkins. Early in the film, after winning a long-distance race, Hopkins delivers orders to cavalry officers at Wounded Knee that result in the infamous slaughter of the Native Americans there, and the guilt he feels sends him into the wilderness during a stint in a touring Wild West show. By the time my unpleasant flashbacks to the shockingly similar opening of *The Last Samurai* subsided, Hopkins was sobering up and off to the Middle East with his mustang, Hidalgo, to accept the challenge of a sheikh (Omar Sharif) who invites the cowboy to ride in a 3,000-mile race through what one character colorfully calls "God's frying pan."

As the race plays out, it becomes a chance for Hopkins and Hidalgo to prove themselves to the movie's Arabians, who rate horses (and people) by bloodline, and for the movie to throw in the sort of outlandish obstacles that would have been screamed out with exclamation points in a 1940s movie trailer ("Sandstorm! Locusts! Quicksand! Kidnapping attempts! Near-castration!"). These Saturday-matinee escapades give *Hidalgo* the unassuming fun of *The Scorpion King*—though this film is less comedic in intent and less lean—while the bonding of man and horse comes off with a more effective and lighter touch than it did in *Seabiscuit*. That's despite the fact that writer John Fusco wrote the dippy horse cartoon *Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron*. (*Hidalgo* occasionally lapses into that movie's cuteness when the horse is onscreen.)

Much of this movie's charm comes from Mortensen, who in his first starring vehicle brings an appealing modesty to Hopkins. Mortensen is content just to play his part in the story, and he never showboats. Despite a couple of overdone CGI flourishes involving a sandstorm that looks more like a tidal wave, and two hungry leopards, *Hidalgo* shares its star's meat-and-potatoes style. While it starts with many movie clichés about exotic places in olden times, it chips away at those stereotypes, and such characters as a ruthless English aristocrat (Louise Lombard), the sheikh's stifled daughter (Zuleikha Robinson) and Hopkins' main rival in the race (Said Taghmaoui) evolve as the story progresses. Director Joe Johnston also shows respect for his characters and his audience by having Native American and Arabian characters often speak in their first language, with subtitles. And, as the sheikh with a secret obsession with the Wild West, Sharif gives a sly and amusing performance.

Although *Hidalgo* bases its exploits on Hopkins' own life story, the film is obviously cut from very broad cloth. It gilds its proverbial lily with the kidnapping attempts and natural disasters, as if the race is not enough to thrill the audience. Also, it turns out there's some doubt as to whether Hopkins, who died in the 1950s, actually did many of the things he later claimed in speeches and in his unpublished memoirs. A group called the Long Riders Guild recently found no evidence of a race from Galveston to Rutland that Hopkins claimed to have won, and that the movie mentions. But white lies aside, this is one tall tale that measures up nicely. IB

Hidalgo ★★★

Directed by Joe Johnston. Written by John Fusco. With Viggo Mortensen, Omar Sharif, Zuleikha Robinson, Louise Lombard and Adoni Maropis. Rated PG-13. At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Against the Ropes ★★
You have to wonder why Paramount would decide to make a movie about Jackie Kallen, one of boxing's most successful female managers, and then fictionalize just about everything in her life story. Meg Ryan has the flat Midwestern accent down and she fills out Kallen's trashy outfits well, but this female empowerment story turns into a pile of convention and cliché, from the big-fight ending to the slow clap of approval and the freeze-frame ending that top off the resolution. If it trivializes its heroine, why in the world should we care? (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Along Came Polly ★★
That old Hollywood myth about opposites attracting gets a serviceable but unremarkable treatment in this Ben Stiller–Jennifer Aniston romantic comedy. He's a risk-averse analyst for an insurance company whose new wife (Debra Messing) leaves him for another man on their honeymoon; she's a ragamuffin who never plans anything in advance. When he has to choose between the two, which TV star will Ben spend the rest of his life with? This is just the latest in the growing list of "put Ben Stiller in uncomfortable situations" comedies, and unfortunately, it often plays more like *Duplex* than *Meet the Parents*. It's buoyed somewhat by the amusing supporting performances of Philip Seymour Hoffman, Alec Baldwin and Hank Azaria. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Battle of Algiers ★★★½
This 1965 look at the 1950s Algerian uprising against French colonials is one of the great docudramas. Now in re-release, the movie's realism is still bracing, and its "real" violence is still jarring and disturbing. The movie has only become more morally complex over time, as it asks us to sympathize with revolutionaries who, essentially, perform terrorist acts. The movie is too intense and immediate to come off as preachy, though. (At Kendall Square.)

Big Fish ★★★
Forget about the present-day drama between a blustery, dying Southerner (Albert Finney) and his semi-estranged grown son (Billy Crudup) in Tim Burton's latest. The real action is in the tall tales about the dying man's earlier life. These sequences featuring Ewan McGregor are the first thing anyone will remember from this movie. Burton gives these scenes an eye-popping heightened reality, while McGregor's lively performance might remind you of another optimistic dreamer from a Burton movie—Johnny Depp's Ed Wood. With his performance as a swaggering, Camelot-era man-about-town in *Down with Love* and now this role, McGregor has improbably shown himself to be a crackerjack portrayer of American gumption. The rest of the movie falters, but McGregor's scenes are bull's-eyes. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

City of God ★★★½
A quartet of Oscar nominations has brought back this Brazilian drama, one of last year's highlights. Bold and brutal from start to finish, its dog-eat-dog world and stylistic energy recall *Mean Streets* and *Amores Perros* as its stories criss-cross and bubble into each other, and as 18-year-old hero Rocket (Alexandre Rodrigues) tries to get out of his crime-rocked neighborhood alive. Full of humanity, ambiguity and belligerence, it's a wonderfully orchestrated car crash you just can't take your eyes off of. (At Copley Square, Harvard Square and suburbs.)

Cold Mountain ★★½
With its romance set against the backdrop of war, its female bonding and its overgroomed star, Anthony Minghella's adaptation of Charles Frazier's novel is one part *Last of the Mohicans*, one part *Fried Green Tomatoes* and one part infomercial for whatever line of cosmetics Nicole Kidman is wearing. By default, this is the best of the season's big dramatic epics, clearly besting *The Last Samurai* and *House of Sand and Fog*. Much of it works: the budding romance of Kidman's and Jude Law's characters interrupted by the Civil War, the strife that besets all the characters because of the war, the supporting characters played by the likes of Philip Seymour Hoffman, Natalie Portman, Ray Winstone and Jack White of the White Stripes. But while Kidman's minister's daughter has her civilized life collapse around her and gets pushed to the brink of starvation and poverty, before being aided by Renee Zellweger's Ma Kettle–meets–Peppermint Patty farmgirl, the actress always looks as if she's made up to go shopping. It's hard to feel her plight in your gut because of it. (At Copley Place, Fenway and suburbs.)

Dirty Dancing: Havana Nights ★★½
Compared with the shinola that's been hitting theaters lately, this sequel of sorts to the puzzlingly popu


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lar 1987 movie is actually a pleasant surprise. Set in late-1950s Cuba on the eve of Castro's revolution, it offers another story about a "nice girl" (Romola Garai) who comes of age through hip-grinding dancing and romance. In this case, it's the daughter of an American businessman who starts sweating the nights away with a local boy (Diego Luna), and her story is convincingly and solidly told. But adding an odd taste is the occasional presence of the original's Patrick Swayze. You could snip out Swayze and the plot wouldn't be affected, and we're never even told if he's playing the same character as in the original. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Eurotrip ★★

Not horrible, but not good either, this melding of *Road Trip* and *National Lampoon's European Vacation* at least has the nerve to be R-rated, but it's little more than a series of clichéd gags about Europeans (oh look, soccer hooligans!). And it expects us to root for its characters, but they're such stock characters that pulling for them is a difficult leap of faith to take. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

50 First Dates ★½

What can you say about a movie set in Hawaii with a predominantly reggae soundtrack? (Besides "Hawaii is 4,000 *miles* away from Jamaica!" and "Not all music by darker people from island cultures is interchangeable!") The dimwittedness extends far beyond the soundtrack, though. In the first 10 minutes alone, you get animal jokes, kid jokes, the most telegraphed vomiting gag ever committed to film, an old guy who curses and Rob Schneider. After that opening, the rest of the movie doesn't stand a chance. It doesn't deserve one, either. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Fog of War ★★★

In Cambridge moviemaker Errol Morris' series of interviews with former JFK and LBJ secretary of defense Robert McNamara, the shrewd technocrat doesn't unburden himself of any more responsibility for the Vietnam quagmire that occurred under his watch. McNamara is too cagey for that. But Morris finds fertile territory in McNamara's observations on human nature, war and politics. (Morris has subtitled the movie "Eleven Lessons from the Life of Robert S. McNamara.") When McNamara talks about the Vietnam effort failing because the American government didn't know enough to empathize with the Vietnamese, it's hard not to think of Iraq. And when McNamara talks about the moral dilemmas of making decisions in times of strife, he sheds light on all the political crossroads that have turned presidents' heads gray. More than a dry Q&A, *Fog* unfolds in Morris' typically cinematic style, featuring montages of archival footage, cockeyed camera angles and Philip Glass' churning music. (At Kendall Square, Copley Place and Coolidge Corner.)

Girl With a Pearl Earring ★★

Based on Tracy Chevalier's novel, this film puts a speculative backdrop tale to Johannes Vermeer's 1660s painting. As director Peter Webber strives to get the Dutch master's lighting and composition just right, his poor characters walk around in a stiff, humorless daze, and the story turns stilted in no time. The movie's Vermeer is just a garden-variety tortured artist, in this case tormented by the bourgeois wife (Essie Davis) and mother-in-law (Judy Parfitt) who push him to paint more and earn more. His household's new maid (Scarlett Johansson) puts no such demands on him, and the pair start a secret friendship that leads to her ... for the famous portrait. Although the relation... between the sexes and between the classes can ... interesting here, the central pair's sexual tension is ... with pregnant pauses and symbolism (like ...'s penetrating piercing of the maid's ears) that this overripe melodrama is almost instant self-parody. (At Boston Common, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

Good Bye Lenin! ★★½

A loyal East German goes into a coma just before the Berlin Wall falls, and when she has to lead a stress-free life after she comes to, her son goes to great lengths to make sure she never knows that her Communist country doesn't exist anymore. This great premise yields some amusing moments, but also some disappointing ones. Unlike in Billy Wilder's brilliant *One, Two, Three* (which covered similar territory after the wall went up), the comedy here never quite hits high gear because the story tempers that comedy with shades of drama. But the characters' family drama never becomes as memorable as the premise. (At Kendall Square.)



From left, Travis Webster, Scott Mechlowicz and Jacob Pitts bare all in *Eurotrip*

Monster ★★

No matter how hard it tries, and no matter how successfully Charlize Theron transforms herself into less attractive, much rougher Aileen Wuornos—the prostitute executed by Florida for killing seven men—this docudrama isn't nearly as sympathetic or as interesting as *Aileen Wuornos: The Selling of a Serial Killer*, Nick Broomfield's decade-old documentary. In the docudrama, Wuornos is a much-abused woman who decides to try her luck with women after she meets a younger lesbian (Christina Ricci). But with no other way to make money, she keeps hooking, and after a john gets violent, she kills him in self-defense. Then she continues to kill. Although you feel her rage, the movie's Wuornos is a little too dumb to sympathize with (she keeps riding around in her victims' cars), and Theron fails to provide the spark that might make her more fascinating than stupid. The movie also puts all its emotional eggs in the basket of the doomed lesbian affair—which fails to be the riveting tragedy writer-director Patty Jenkins wants it to be. (At Boston Common, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

My Architect ★★★

Much like last year's *The Stone Reader*, Nathaniel Kahn's new film is documentary as compelling quest. Kahn's mission is to learn more about his father, architect Louis Kahn. The elder Kahn died in 1974, when Nathaniel was a boy, and it turns out he had three families that he juggled. (He remained married to the same woman, while fathering children with two others.) The movie's drama is in its depiction of someone who was world-class in his field, yet whose personal life was a farce. The filmmaker struggles to understand how his mother and Louis Kahn's other families could tolerate such a situation, as he, like them, expresses his love for the man. With no easy answers, Kahn is left to look for answers in his father's work, a search that takes him from Philadelphia to Bangladesh. (At Coolidge Corner and Kendall Square.)

Starsky & Hutch ★★★

I never had any desire to see *Starsky & Hutch* on TV. But with Ben Stiller and Owen Wilson in the title roles and the action played intentionally for laughs, I was there. And I was rewarded. The two stars bring just the right daffy charm to the buddy-cops—one intense, the other laid-back—as the partners go after smug cocaine kingpin Vince Vaughn. You get Tab, muscle cars, afros, Jewfros, tube socks, disco, freedom rock, *Rhoda* head scarves and other 1970s cheese while S & H prowl the mean streets of Bay City with the help of Huggy Bear (Snoop Dogg). Think of *The Brady Bunch Movie* with guns. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

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BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Many Moods of Ol' Blue Eyes

•March 8, 6 pm. **On the Town** *1949*. Frank Sinatra plays one of three sailors who find romance while on a 24-hour pass in New York. Directed by Stanley Donen and Gene Kelly.

•March 15, 6 pm. **From Here to Eternity** *1953*. Seven intertwined lives in a Honolulu army barracks are changed by the attack on Pearl Harbor. Sinatra stars and Fred Zinneman directs.

BRATTLE THEATRE

Mondays and Tuesdays—Hitchcock in Black and White

•March 8, 5 & 10 pm; Feb. 9, 5:15, 9:30 pm. **Psycho** *1960*. A deranged innkeeper murders one of his guests in Hitchcock's classic thriller. •Also showing, March 9, 7:30. **Blackmail** *1929*. A woman kills a man in self-defense, and her detective boyfriend is assigned to the case.

•March 15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:30 pm. **Strangers on a Train** *1951*. Two men who meet on a train toy with the idea of killing each other's annoying family members.

•March 16, 7:15. **Shadow of a Doubt** *1943*. A young girl suspects her favorite uncle is a serial murderer who targets widows. •Also showing, 5;15, 9:30, **The Lady Vanishes** *1938*. Foul play is suspected when a woman mysteriously disappears on a train.

Wednesdays—Recent Raves

•March 10, 5:30, 7:30 & 9:30. **The Station Agent** *2003*. Three unlikely friends (a dwarf, an artist and the owner of a hot dog stand) meet in an abandoned train yard help each other through hard times. Thomas McCarthy directs.

Thursdays—Special Screenings

•March 11, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45. **Metropolis** *1927*. Fritz Lang's film is set in a large city where the rich live in luxurious skyscrapers while the poor are forced to live in a subterranean complex.

Weekends and Special Engagements

•March 5-7, 4:15, 7:15, 9:4... (also 2:15 on March 6 and 7). **Millennium Mambo** *2001*. Hou Hsiao-Hsien's film follows ... Taipei barmaid who conside... breaking up with her jealous D... boyfriend for a regular at her bar.

•March 8, 7:30. **Intermissio...** *2003*. Colin Farrell stars in John Crowley's film about a small-tim... crook who plans to rob a bank.

•March 12-14, 5, 7:30, 10 pm (also 2:30 on March 14). **MC5: A ... True Testimonial** *2002*. David G... Thomas' documentary include... interviews with friends and fam... ily of members of the legendar... 1960s Detroit rock outfit MC5.

•March 13, 12:30. **Gros... Anatomy** *1989*. Matthew Mo... dine stars as a blue-collar studen... at an upper-echelon medica... school in Thom Eberhardt's film.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Balagan: Experimental Film and Video Series

•March 4, 7:30 pm. **The Hour o... the Blast Furnaces** *1967*. Fer... nando Solanas' film document... Argentinian history from th... Spanish conquistadors to 20th... century rebellion. This screenin... is part of the series Film as a Sub... versive Art III: Left and Revolu... tionary Cinema: Third World.

Coolidge Selects

•Now playing. **My Architec...** *2003*. See New Releases for ... description.

•Opens March 5. **Vozvrashchenie** (*The Return...* *2003*. An estranged father takes his two sons on ... fishing trip to a deserted island where he force... them to complete unusual endurance tests. Andre... Zvyagintsev directs.

•March 5-18. **Oscar Shorts: Live Action & Anima... tion** *2004*. The 2004 Academy Award nominees i... the Best Animated Short and Best Live Actio... Short categories screen. Animated selections in... clude Bud Luckey's **Boundin'**, Dominique Monfer... and Roy Edward Disney's **Destino**, Carlos Saldanh... and John C. Donkin's **Gone Nutty**, Adam Elliot... **Harvie Krumpet** and Chris Hinton's **Nibbles**. Live... action selections include Florian Baxmeyer's **D... Rote Jacke** (*The Red Jacket*), Bobby Garabedian an... William Zabka's **Most** (*The Bridge*), Lionel Bailliu... **Squash**, Stefan Arsenijevic's **(A) Torzija** and Aaro... Schneider and Andrew J. Sacks' **2 Soldiers**. Sho... times to be announced.

Director's Cut

•March 15, 7:30 pm. **Easy Listening** *2001*. Pamel... Corkey is present for the screening of her film abou... a musician who plays easy-listening but wishes h... could play big-band swing.

Midnight Movies

•March 5, 6, 12 and 13, 12 am. **The Big Lebowsk...** *1998*. Jeff Bridges and John Goodman star in thi... comedy about mistaken identities, kidnapping... bribery and a love of White Russians. Joel Coe... directs.

Relatively Speaking

•March 8, 7 pm. **True Grit** *1969*. Henry Hathaway... Western stars John Wayne as an aging U.S. marsha... hired by a young girl to avenge her father's death.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Directors in Focus: From Dogme to Dogville: The Films of Lars von Trier

•March 3 and 9, 9:15 pm. **Medea** *1988*. Von Trier... adaptation of the classic Greek tragedy is set i... Denmark.

•March 5, 7 pm. **The Idiots** *1998*. A group of Dan... ish eccentrics addresses community politics by stag... ing "spazzes" in public places. •Also showing, 9:3... pm. **The Humiliated** *1998*. Jesper Jargil's film is a be... hind-the-scenes look at director Lars von Trier.

•March 6, 9:30 pm. **Forbrydelsens Element** (*Th... Element of Crime*) *1984*. This thriller is the story o... an ex-cop who returns to his European hometow... to solve a murder case. •Also showing, 7 pm... March 8, 9 pm. **Zentropa** *1991*. A young man... hired as a conductor for a powerful railway compan... in post–World War II Germany.

•March 15 and 16, 9 pm. **Epidemic** *1988*. A myste... rious plague strikes just as a director and screen... writer finish their film about a contagious disease.

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Global Visions: Further Pursuits: Recent Activist Cinema

•March 7, 7 pm. **The Weather Underground** *2003.* Sam Green and Bill Siegel's documentary includes interviews with former members of the 1960s radical group.

•March 14, 7 pm. **Orphans of Mathare** *2002.* Directors Randy Bell and Pacho Velez appear in person for the screening of their documentary about children orphaned by AIDS/HIV in Nairobi. •Immediately following, **Stolen Childhoods** *2003.* Leonard Morris' film documents the lives of child laborers on three continents.

Global Visions: New Italian Cinema

•March 10, 9 pm. **Rosa Funzeca** *2003.* A middle-aged prostitute struggles financially as she tries to reform her life and regain custody of her son. Aurelio Grimaldi directs.

•March 12, 7 pm. **Prendimi L'Anima** *(Soul Keeper) 2003.* Roberto Faenza's historical drama recreates the story of child psychologist Sabina Spielrein's treatment by renowned psychologist Carl Jung. •Also showing, 9 pm. **Velocita Massima** *(Maximum Velocity) 2002.* A teenage boy becomes a valuable asset to a mechanic and to the nighttime street-racing scene. Daniele Vicari directs.

•March 13, 7 pm. **Placido Rizzotto** *2000.* Pascale Scimeca's film is based on the life of Italian trade-unionist Placido Rizzotto and his struggles with a mafia chief. •Also showing, 9 pm. **Pater Familias** *2002.* A young man returns to his hometown to settle his father's estate and straighten out his past. Francesco Patierno directs.

Topics in Film: Frames of Mind

•March 3, 7 pm. **L'eclisse** *(The Eclipse) 1962.* A woman ends her failing relationship with her boyfriend and begins another imperfect affair. Michelangelo Antonioni directs.

•March 10, 7 pm. **Rear Window** *1954.* In Alfred Hitchcock's classic film, a temporarily wheelchair-bound man spies on his neighbors and begins to suspect them of murder.

Topics in Film: Masterworks of Modern Cinema

•March 8, 7 pm. **Blow-Up** *1966.* A fashion photographer gets caught up in a murder plot in 1960s London. Michelangelo Antonioni directs.

•March 15, 7 pm. **Persona** *1966.* A young nurse becomes enamored of her patient, a famous actress. Ingmar Bergman directs.



From left, Snoop Dogg, Ben Stiller and Owen Wilson in the new movie version of *Starsky & Hutch*.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART

Made in Mexico Exhibition

•March 11, 8 pm. **From the Other Side** *2002.* Featured in the 2002 Cannes Film Festival, this documentary by Chantal Akerman details the plight of those who cross the Mexican border into the U.S.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

American Cinema

•March 4, 2 pm; March 7, 10:30 am; March 11, 2:30 pm. **Rivers and Tides: Andy Goldsworthy Working with Time** *2001.* Thomas Riedelsheimer directs this documentary about sculptor Andy Goldsworthy.

Art Alive

•March 6, 10:30 am. **Her Majesty** *2001.* An adolescent girl eagerly awaits the queen of England's visit to her small New Zealand town.

•March 13, 10:30 am. **The King's Beard** *2001.* Tony Collingwood directs this animated feature about a barber in the land of the king with the world's longest beard.

Brazilian Film and Music Festival

•March 4, 4 pm; March 7, 12:15 pm. **Warrior of Light** *2001.* Monika Treut directs this documentary about Yvonne Bezerra de Mello and her work with abandoned children in Rio de Janeiro. •Also showing, 6 pm; March 7, 2 pm. **As Tres Marias** *(The Three Marias) 2001.* A woman avenges the death of her sons and husband with the help of her three daughters. Aluizio Abranches directs. •Also showing, 8 pm; March 6, 2:15 pm; March 13, 3:45 pm. **Mango Yellow** *2002.* Claudio Assis directs this portrait of the working-class lives of a group of people living in Recife, Brazil.

•March 5, 6:15 pm; March 6, 12:30 pm. **Domésticas** *2001.* Based on a stage play, this film follows the lives and difficulties of five housemaids. Fernando Meirelles and Nando Olival direct.

•March 7, 3:45 pm; March 11, 4:20 pm. **A Festa de Margarette** *(Margarette's Feast) 2002.* A silent black-and-white film about a man who wants to throw a party for his wife. Renato Falcao directs.

Cuban Cinema

•March 11, 6 pm. **Dame la Mano** *(Give Me Your Hand) 2004.* Heddy Honigmann directs this tale of a Cuban nightclub in New Jersey and the exiles who come to dance and exchange stories. •Also showing. March 11, 8:15 pm. **Nada Mas** *(Nothing) 2001.* Juan Carlos Cremata Malberti directs this story of a worker in a Havana post office.

Free Cutting-Edge Programs

•March 11, 12:30 pm **Blood Relations** *2003.* Jeannie Simms' film explores how the presence of a gun affects a California household. •Immediately following. **Mala Leche** *2003.* Naomi Uman directs this documentary about a family of immigrant dairy workers.

Friends of Film Sneak Preview

•March 7, 6 pm **Dogville** *2003.* Nicole Kidman stars as a woman who moves to a small Colorado town to escape the mob. Lars von Trier directs.

German Cinema

•March 5, 7:45 pm **Die Andere Frau** *(The Other Woman) 2004.* A woman learns of her husband's infidelities from an unknown inmate. Director Margarethe von Trotta and star Barbara Sukowa are present for the screening.

Iranian Cinema

•March 12, 6 pm; March 13, 1:45 pm. **Zendan-e Zanan** *(Women's Prison) 2004.* This film, directed by Manijeh Hekmat, depicts the hardships of women in an Iranian prison, closely following the life of a female inmate and the prison warden. Manijeh Hekmat directs.

Palestinian Cinema

•March 12, 8 pm; March 13, 12pm; March 14, 10:30 am. **Rana's Wedding** *2002.* Hany Abu-Assad directs this film about a Palestinian girl forced by her father to choose a fiancé in one day.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater

•Through June. **India: Kingdom of the Tiger.** Explore the kingdom of the Bengal tiger, from the Himalayas to Rajasthan. *Call for showtimes.*

•Through June. **Jane Goodall's Wild Chimpanzees.** Enter the world of the wild chimpanzees of Africa's Gombe Stream National Park. *Call for show times.*

•Through June. **Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West.** Trek through raging rivers and uncharted wilderness to commemorate the bicentennial of the explorers' journey, brought to life by National Geographic Films. *Call for show times.*

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater

•Through May 9. **Bugs! 3D.** This film focuses on the world of insects in the tropical rain forests of Southeast Asia. See bugs magnified up to 250,000 times their normal size. *Call for show times.*

•Through May 9. **Ghosts of the Abyss.** James Cameron takes audiences two miles below the surface to explore the Titanic's wreckage . *Call for show times.*

•Through May 9. **Ocean Wonderland 3D.** This film explores the ocean floor of the Bahamas and Australia's Great Barrier Reef, with their sharks, sting rays and rainbows of tropical fish. *Call for show times.*

•Through May 9. **Space Station 3D.** Tom Cruise narrates a tour of the international space station. *Call for show times.*

•Through May 9. **Volcanoes of the Deep Sea.** Dive to the bottom of the sea with a team of scientists, as they explore hydrothermal vents, shipwrecks, predators and bioluminescent creatures. *Call for show times.*

•March 12-May 9. **NASCAR 3D.** Experience life in the fast lane with NASCAR pit crews and drivers clocking over 200 mph. *Call for show times.*

SOMERVILLE MUSEUM

Vintage Film Extravaganza

•March 11, 7 pm. From the combined collections of Albert Steg and the Zampano Playhouse, a selection of cartoons, newsreels, and shorts screens as part of the museum's *Lost Theatres of Somerville* exhibition.

WANG CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS

Classic Film Series

•March 8, 7 pm. **The Wizard of Oz** *1939.* Relive Dorothy's famed journey down the yellow brick road.

Cinema Venues

BELMONT

Studio Cinema

376 Trapelo Rd. (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Public Library

666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)

100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre

201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St. (617-266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center.

Loews Boston Common

175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science

Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line Science Park.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line Aquarium.

Wang Center for Performing Arts

270 Tremont St (617-482-9393). MBTA: Green Li to Boylston.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema

399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line Reservoir.

Coolidge Corner Theatre

290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Gree Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre

40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.

Fresh Pond

168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive

24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema

One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Re Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony

10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema

27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Gree Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema

1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony

35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Oran Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre

55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line Davis.



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Aussie rockers Jet blast into Anglo-American consciousness

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

If television ads for the Apple iPod caught your ear in recent months, the odds are that you've been hooked by Jet's "Are You Gonna Be My Girl?", a punchy rocker with a guitar riff reminiscent of Iggy Pop's "Lust for Life."

Just don't expect the rising Australian band to apologize for selling the song to Apple or to think Iggy Pop should split any royalty checks for "Are You Gonna Be My Girl?"

"I'd like to see him try," says Cam Muncey—who co-wrote the song with fellow guitarist-singer Nic Cester. "That's like the rhythm," he says of the riff. "Motown used that before."



Singer-guitarist Cam Muncey (left) and Jet are touring behind their debut album, Get Born.

As for the iPod opportunity, Muncey adds, "It's tough to break America, and we just knew [the song] would get out to a lot of people real quick. We'd be pretty cynical if we sold millions of albums and went and did an ad. It's not cashing in here. We're talking about a band on the run."

The band never even got free iPods, which may have helped store all the songs from the Beatles, the Rolling Stones, AC/DC, the Who, Small Faces, Bachman-Turner Overdrive and Oasis that Jet could also be accused of mining for ideas.

Not that recycling is a negative in this case. "We all stand on the shoulders of everything that's come before us," Muncey says from a tour stop in England, where Jet's debut album, *Get Born*, crashed the Top 20. "No musician I know lived in a cocoon. Everything you listened to from when you were a kid on up goes into your subconscious.

"A lot of the reason we love the Beatles and the Stones is it's all about the songs, especially in the '70s and '60s, with great melodies," he says. "That's where we wanted to see our music."

"We just wanted to be raw and stripped back," adds Muncey, 24. "We definitely wanted to get all vintage gear and guitars, because it has a warm, good sound. A lot of the time, old [stuff] has that soul to it, like an old wine."

Muncey launched Jet with brothers Nic and drummer Chris Cester in the suburbs of Melbourne when the three were still in high school. "Just rehearsing in garages," Muncey recalls of the group, which added bassist Mark Wilson. "It's been a long time, but we sort of know each other really well now."

Seven years later, Jet is finally able to tour the globe. "There's no reason that a good album shouldn't translate everywhere in the world," Muncey says. "Japan was pretty crazy. People were waiting for us at the airport and train station. Everywhere we went, there was a camera in your face. In England, they're singing every song back to us."

In America, Jet is part of the Aussie Invasion bill that rolls into Avalon March 19 with the Vines and the Living End. "We think the name's a bit dorky, but it's a good bill and you're getting a fair bit for your fee," Muncey says. "Then you can come backstage and laugh at our accents."

"The Vines are good friends of ours, drinking buddies, and our careers have taken off at the same time," he says. "A lot of their stuff is pretty rooted in melodies, so we've got that in common. But if you play our records back-to-back, I don't think they sound at all similar."

One thing the bands don't have in common is an attraction to grunge (the Vines have frequently been compared with Nirvana). "I listened to a lot of Nirvana when I was young," Muncey says, "but when we sat down to write music, we didn't have that angst or tendency toward despair. We're much more optimistic people. We come from a different place."

What's most surprising about *Get Born* is the way hard-rocking tracks like "Are You Gonna Be My Girl?" "Rollover DJ" and "Cold Hard Bitch" stand next to ballads like "Radio Song" and the McCartney-meets-Oasis "Look What You've Done," which features bassist Wilson on piano.

"The sort of records we like are the ones that have more than one dimension," Muncey says. "But not all the time. I like the Strokes' first album, which comes from pretty much the same bag. That's cool, 'cause they do it well. To keep us interested, we like to mix it up, and we're not in one mood all the time."

"Some people dig one thing or the other—that's true. But there are enough rocking songs and enough ballads on the album to please everybody," he says. "Next album, get ready for more of it. We do what we want to do, and what we think people are gonna like. Basically, we give the people what we want." iB

Jet
plays Avalon March 19.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or by email to music@improper.com. Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double-check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Erykah Badu and Floetry March 6, Orpheum Theatre (617-423-NEXT).
Better Than Ezra and Ingram Hill March 5, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
The Church March 9, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Dropkick Murphys March 11-14, Avalon (617-423-NEXT). Sold out.
The Get Up Kids, Recover and Rocky Votolato March 12, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
The Irish Tenors March 14, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Jump 5 March 10, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Paul Kelly March 8, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Lúnasa March 6, Somerville Theatre (617-876-4275).
Kate and Anna McGarrigle March 12, Somerville Theatre (617-876-4275).
Bette Midler March 15, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
The Nields and Common Rotation March 13, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
The Push Stars March 4, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Sting and Chris Botti March 15 and 16, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Tantric March 11, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Three Days Grace and Lo Pro March 10, Axis (617-423-NEXT).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

Asgard Tom Groleau.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Breezeway Jeff Felder.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's blues jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Bitch and Animal, 8 pm, $12.
The Fireplace Tony Betancourt, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern J.D. Ingalls, 9:30 pm, $3.
Green Street Grill Blue Rhino Jazz Group, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Johnny D's Garage Mahal, 8:30 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, featuring Ollabelle, 7-pm, no cover; the Black Cat Burlesque Show with Electrolux, 10 pm, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Alaska, $8, 18+.
Oak Bar Sarah Brindell, 7:30-10:30 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's The Nightlies, 11 pm, 21+.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30 pm-12:4 am.
Purple Shamrock DJ Massi, 10 pm.
Regattabar Guy Davis, 8:30 pm, $14.
Ryles Jazz Club Shimon Shir-Ben Group, 7:30 pm $9.
Scullers Loston Harris Trio, $16.
Sky Bar Drednok, 8 pm, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Boris McCutcheon.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 am
T.T. the Bear's Place Paul Wine Jones, T-Model Ford, Spam, Kenny Brown and Cedric Burnside, 1 pm, $10, 21+.
Western Front Peter Bitenc Ensemble, Tim Croft Ensemble, 9 pm.
Wonder Bar Barry Ries.

THURSDAY, MARCH 4

Abbey Lounge Scene of the Crime, 11:30 pm, 21+.
Asgard Brogue.
Bill's Bar The Collisons, the Tint, Rosie Huntress, Pete Cassini, $10.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's The BlackSole Network, 7:30 pm.
Breezeway Pocket.
The Burren Front Room: Tommy, Louise, Pete

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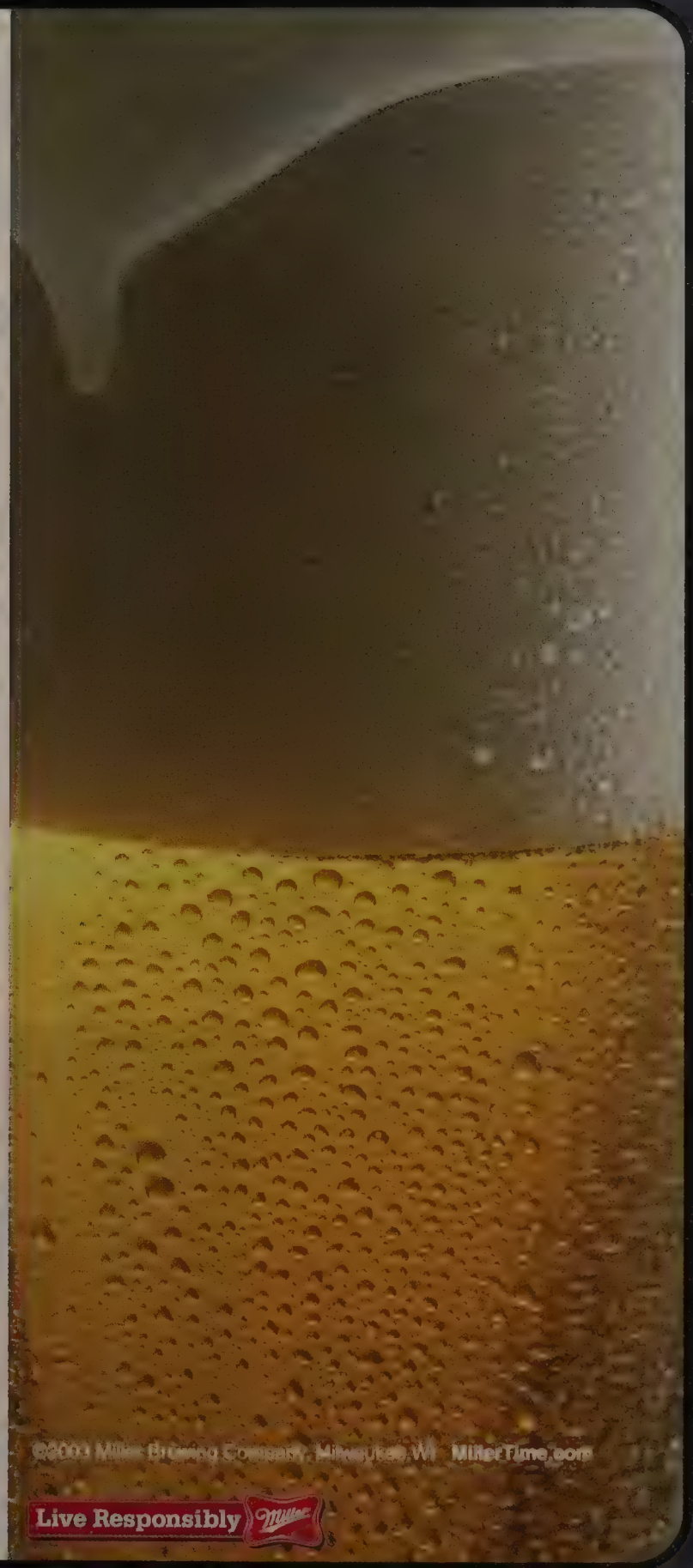
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Molloy, and Shannon Aaron; Back Room: Swingin' Johnsons, 10 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Chris Waller, Gordon Beadle and NewDay!, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Owen Plant and the MacVittites, 8 pm, $12.
Coogan's DJ Steve.
The Fireplace Rich Greenblatt, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Spitting Vinnies, 9:30 pm, $3.
Green Street Grill Dwight Ritcher Band, 11:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Harp Dick and Jane, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Johnny D's Shooglenifty, 9 pm, $12.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Kirkland Café Ken Ballou and Eric Couville, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover; Club D'Elf, 10 pm, $7.
Matrix Daughters, 9pm.
Middle East Upstairs: Emergency Music, the Gasolines, the Bon Savants and Moki, $8, 18+. Downstairs: Engine Down, the Jealous Sound and Moments of Grace, $10, 18+.
Oak Bar Sarah Brindell, 7:30-10:30 pm, no cover.
Paradise The Push Stars and Redletter, 8 pm, $15, 18+. Lounge: The Bubble Up and DJ Bud E. Green, 9 pm, no cover, 18+.
Parris Black 47, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Plough and Stars Frank Drake, 9:30 pm-12:45 am.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett and Friends, 9 pm.
Regattabar The Dave Holland Quintet, Robin Eubanks, Antonio Hart, Steve Nelson and Nate Smith, 8:30 pm, $18.
Ryles Jazz Club Ann Callahan Quartet, 7:30 pm, $8.
Scullers Equie Castrillo, $15.
Somerville Theater Moya Brennan, 8 pm, $20.50-$25.50.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Apollo Sunshine, 8:30 pm, $10.
Western Front Mix 'n' Mingle, 9 pm, $8.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon.
Worcester Centrum Alabama, 8 pm, $29.50-$150.

FRIDAY, MARCH 5

Abbey Lounge Brett Rosenberg, 11:30 pm, 21+.
Asgard The Tokyo Tramps.
The Attic Ernest Goodlife Band and Ryan Hood.
Bill's Bar Dogfight and Asect, $10 for 18+, $8 for 21+.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan; Upstairs: Innochicore.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Jazz Quartet, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Front Room: Tina Lech, Ted Davis and Dave Cory, $3.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Clery's DJ Rhythm.
Club Passim Nadine Goellner and Ember Swift, 8 pm, $12.
Common Ground The Pressure Cooker, 10 pm, $5.
Coogan's DJ Tom.
Grand Canal Maxi, 5-7 pm; the Risk.
Green Street Grill Kilambo Mambo, 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.
The Harp Flavor, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Dada, $12, 21+.
Johnny D's James Montgomery, 9:45 pm.
Jose McIntyre's DJ Big Daddy.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton.
Kirkland Café Night Rally and the Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, featuring Christian McNeill; Jim's Big Ego, 10 pm, $7.
Middle East Upstairs: The Information, the Cignal, the Flesh and Asobi Seksu, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Boris Grebenshikov & Akvarium and Cheredovanie $30, 18+.
Milky Way Annie Clark, Heidi Saperstein, Pretty the Boat and Big Machine, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm-12 am, no cover.
O'Brien's TV Eye, SWAT, the Jonee Earthquake Band and Confront, 9 pm, 21+.
Paradise Better Than Ezra, Ingram Hill and Kyle Riabko, 9 pm, $15, 18+.
Parris The Catunes, 10 pm, $10, 21.
Plough and Stars Steve Mardon, 9:30 pm-12:45 am.
Porters Bar and Grill Brian Burrill.
Purple Shamrock DJ Craig Smooth.
Redline Shadowkings, 8 pm, no cover.
Regattabar The Dave Holland Quintet, Robin Eubanks, Antonio Hart, Steve Nelson and Nate Smith, 7:30 and 10 pm, $18.
Ryles Jazz Club Soul Kitchen, 8 pm, $10.
Scullers Angela Bofil, $26.
Sky Bar Logan, Dr. Awkward and the Gulf, 8 pm, $7, 21+.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Addison Groove Project May 8, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Air April 12, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Altan March 20, Sanders Theatre (617-876-4275).
Averi April 30 and May 1, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Beyonce, Alicia Keys and Missy Elliott March 24, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Blonde Redhead and Secret Machines April 9, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
David Bowie and the Polyphonic Spree March 30, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Jonatha Brooke March 26, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).
Cowboy Mouth March 25, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
The Crystal Method April 6, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
The Delgados March 28, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
The Distillers, the Icarus Line and the Lot Six April 3, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
The Flatlanders April 7, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
G. Love and Special Sauce March 18, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
Great Big Sea March 20, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Ben Kweller and Death Cab for Cutie April 10, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Baaba Maal March 26, Somerville Theatre (617-876-4275)
Mad Caddies and Pulley March 21, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
Edwin McCain and Mieka Pauley March 30, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Method Man March 31, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
N.E.R.D. and the Black Eyed Peas April 13, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Particle April 8, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Liz Phair March 28, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Pinback, American Analog Set and El Guapo April 13, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Preservation Hall Jazz Band March 12, Symphony Hall (617-931-200).)
Damien Rice April 17, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
The Slip April 18, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
Squarepusher April 3, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Thrice, Moments in Grace, My Chemical Romance and Poison the Well March 19, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
The Thrills March 27, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Toots & the Maytals March 31, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
The Vines, Jet, the Living End and Neon March 19, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).

Tír na nÓg Jon Nolan and Hokum.
Top of the Hub The Bob Nieske Group, 9 pm-1 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Choo Choo la Rouge, Manichevitz and the Mountain Goats, 9:30 pm, $10.
Western Front True Monks, Grand Basso, 9 pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicals.

SATURDAY, MARCH 6

Abbey Lounge Brett Rosenberg, 11:30 pm, 21+.
Berklee Performance Center Nadia Weinberg, 8 pm, $30-$40.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan; Upstairs: Innochicore.



The Dresden Dolls play an all-ages show at Axis March 9.

Bob the Chef's Pat Loomis, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Front Room: Tommy, Louise, Helen Delaney and Brian Hanlon, $3.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, pm, 21+.
Club Passim Diane Zeigler, 8 pm, $14.
Common Ground The Reaganomics, 10 pm, $5.
Coogan's DJ Craig.
Grand Canal Cape Fear
Great Scott Baby Strange and the Bishop Allen, $ 21+.
Green Street Grill Kilambo Mambo, 11:30 pm, $ 21+.
The Harp Flavor, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Jiggle, $10, 21+.
Johnny D's Swingin' Neckbreakers, Muck and th Mires and Coffin Lids, 9:45 pm, $8.
Jose McIntyre's DJ Dennis McCarthy.
Kennedy's Midtown Dorothy Miller.
Kirkland Café Rootin' Tootin' Country Music Jam boree, featuring Great American, Stan Martin an the Honkytonk Heroes, and Gary Rand, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover; Waitik 10 pm, $6.
Middle East Upstairs: Eugene Mirman, $8, 18+ Downstairs: God's Little Joke, Throe, Cherry S/ Leviticus, Hexerei, Violated Trust, New Fragil Being, Deadfriend, Not Broken and DCM, 6 pm $10, 18+.
Museum of Fine Arts Brazilian Rhythms and Song featuring Valdisa Moura and Thomas Rohde, 7:3 pm, $24, 18+.
Nameless Coffeehouse Cactus Highway, Paul Ka plan, Mark Brine, Liz Carlisle, 8 pm, $8.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm-12 am, n cover.
O'Brien's The Deterrents, White Trash Deluxe, th Drags, Shitehawks and Bloodvessels, 9 pm, 21+.
Orpheum Theatre Erykah Badu and Floetry, 7:3 pm, $39.50-$49.50.
Parris The Catunes, 10 pm, $10, 21.
Plough and Stars Bag Boys, 5-7 pm, Richie Lee an the Boston Wheels, 9:30 pm-12:45 am.
Purple Shamrock Brick Park and DJ Thom Hogan
Regattabar The Dave Holland Quintet, Robin Eu banks, Antonio Hart, Steve Nelson and Nat Smith, 7:30 pm, 10 pm, $20.
Sanders Theatre Harvard Din and Tonics, 8 pm $8-$12.
Scullers Angela Bofil, $26.
Sky Bar The Midnight Collective and Odd Ma Out, 8 pm, $6, 21+.
Somerville Theatre Lunasa, 8 pm, $22-$28.
Top of the Hub The Bob Nieske Group, 9 pm-1 an
Western Front Joint Chiefs, 9 pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet.
Zeitgeist Gallery Dan Shaud's Know Trio and th Monika Heidemann Group, 9:30 pm, $10.

SUNDAY, MARCH 7

Bill's Bar Dub Station with DJ K-Don, $8, 21+.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Paulo Danay Ja Quartet, 10 am-3 pm.
Breezeway Michael Shea.
The Burren Front Room: the Gannon Family, 2 pm free; Tommy, Louise, Dan Isaacson, and Georg Keith, 6:30 pm. Back Room: Singer Songwriter S ries with Danielle, 8 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Candy's blues jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Meg Hutchinson, Ari, Lisa Baston Lisa Housman and Mr. Sparkle, 7:30 pm, $12.
The Green Dragon Tavern Swingin' Johnsons, 9: pm, $3.
Green Street Grill Cuban rhumba brunch wit Tony Perez, 12-3 pm, no cover, 21+; Bal Townkara, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Sun Five with Velvet Stylus, $ 21+.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Ridgley Snow, 9 an 2:30 pm; blues jam and salsa dancing with Rumb NaMa.
Kennedy's Midtown Kezia Hirsey, 12-4 pm.
Linwood Grill Tung, the Hidden Lucubro, $7.
Lizard Lounge Poetry slam, 7 pm; poetry jam wit the Jeff Robinson Trio and featured poet Mik McGee, 9 pm, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Patrick McAloon Band, th Edition and Pocket Sauce, $6.
Newton Free Library Follen Angels, 2 pm.
Parris The Commitments, 8 pm, $10, 21+.
Plough and Stars Eric Sommer, 5 pm-7:30 pm Cranktones, 9:30 pm-12:45 am.
Regattabar The Dave Holland Quintet, Robin Eu banks, Antonio Hart, Steve Nelson and Nat Smith, 5 and 7:30 pm, $18.
Ryles Jazz Club Eguie Castrillo Group, 8 pm, $10.
Sky Bar Lusting Kay, 8 pm, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.

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Top of the Hub Bourbon Street Paraders, 12-2 pm; Paul Nagel Trio, 8 pm-12 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Mara Levi, Tsyphur Zalan and Sonic Bonnet, 9:15 pm, $5.

MONDAY, MARCH 8

Asgard Honda.
Bill's Bar Monsta Monday, $8, 18+.
Blackthorne Tavern Karan Casey, 8:30 pm.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
The Burren Front Room: Johnny O'Leary and Vinny Costello, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Rosanna Lee, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Choppin' Block Jazz session with Marianne Solivan, 8 pm-12 am, $4, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Open mike, 8:30 pm, $3.
Johnny D's Leah Callahan, 7-9 pm.
Linwood Grill Confront, Valley of the Shadow and Scryre, $7.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover; Dave Fiuczynski's Kif: A Lab For New Music, 10 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: Under Falling Skies and Gaiah, $8, 18+.
Paradise Paul Kelly and Charlotte Martin, 8 pm, $12, 18+.
Plough and Stars Beek, Rhodes & Jeffries, 9:30 pm - 12:45 am.
Tír na nÓg The Coots.
Top of the Hub Paul Nagel Trio, 8 pm-12 am.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon.

TUESDAY, MARCH 9

Axis Dresden Dolls, 7 pm, $13, all ages.
Bill's Bar DJ Master Millions, $10, 19+.
The Black Rose Eugene Bryne.
The Burren Back Room: open mike with Hugh McGowan, 7 pm; Front Room: Tommy, Louise, Peter Molloy, and Matt Glover, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm; Boston City Limits, 10 pm, no cover, 21+. Downstairs: Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open mike, 7 pm, $5.
Green Street Grill High Plain Drifters, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Johnny D's Porch Rockers and Oh Susanna, 8:30 pm, $7.
Lizard Lounge The Resophonics, 10 pm, $5.
Matrix Daughters, 9 pm, $10; Mike Patton and Rahzel, 9:30 pm, $18-$20, all ages.
Middle East Upstairs: Go Go Go Airheart, the Union Ares and the Higher, $8, 18+.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 7:30-10:30 pm, no cover.
Paradise The Church, Sea Ray and Apollo Sunshine, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
Plough and Stars Michael Tarbox, 9:30 pm-12:45 am.
Regattabar Fred Hersch, 8:30 pm, $14.
Ryles Jazz Club Big Band Tuesdays, 8 pm, $9.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Dead Ellington, Every Forty Seconds, the Cardinal Sin and the Lawrence Arms, 9 pm, $8.
Wonder Bar Mike Mckenna Trio.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10

Abbey Lounge DirtBike Annie, 11:30 pm, 21+.
Avalon Jump 5, 7 pm, $20.25, all ages.
Axis Three Days Grace and Lo Pro, 8 pm, $13, all ages.
The Black Rose Eugene Bryne.
Breezeway J-Vibes.
The Burren Karan Casey and Niall Vallely, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Candy's blues jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Elijah Wald and Spider John Koerner, 8 pm, $12.
The Fireplace Rich Greenblatt, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern J.D. Ingalls, 9:30 pm, $3.
Green Street Grill Blue Rhino Jazz Group, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Johnny D's Broderick, 8:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover; the Black Cat Burlesque Show with Electrolux, 10 pm, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Mae, Copeland, the Working Title and Slow Day Coming, $10, 18+. Downstairs: Control Machete, $20, 18+.
Oak Bar Sarah Brindell, 7:30-10:30 pm, no cover.
Paradise Cooper Temple Clause and Calla, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30 pm-12:45 am.
Purple Shamrock DJ Massi, 10 pm.
Regattabar Yoron Israel and Organic, 8:30 pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club James Merenda and the Masked Marvels, 7:30 pm, $8.
Scullers Carol O'Shaughnessy, Jan Peter and the Tom LaMark Orchestra, 8 pm, $23.


Boston punk outfit the Dropkick Murphys play four shows at Avalon, March 11–14.

Sky Bar Monique Ortiz, Bourbon Princess, Gregory Douglass and Syd, 8 pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Kaito UK and British Sea Power, 9:30 pm, $8-$10.
Western Front Zaccai Curtis Ensemble, 9 pm.
Wonder Bar Barry Ries.

THURSDAY, MARCH 11

Abbey Lounge Scene of the Crime, 11:30 pm, 21+.
Asgard Annette Farrington.
Avalon Dropkick Murphys, the Prodigals and Ducky Boys, 6 pm, $17.50, 21+.
Bill's Bar Blue Ribbon Envy with New Blood and Brilliant Mistake, $10 for 18+, $8 for 21+.
The Black Rose Eugene Bryne.
Bob the Chef's Tracey Rose, 7:30 pm.
Breezeway Lenny Stalworth & the Funk Mob.
The Burren Front Room: Tommy, Louise, Peter Molloy and Shannon Aaron, no cover. Back Room: Swingin' Johnsons, 10 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Chris Waller, Gordon Beadle and New Day, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Pierce Pettis, 8 pm, $14.
Coogan's DJ Steve.
The Fireplace Lenny Solomon Band, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Spitting Vinnies, 9:30 pm, $3.
Green Street Grill Dwight Ritcher Band, 11:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Johnny D's Steaming Orca, 9 pm, $6.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Kirkland Cafe Lisa Bastoni, Jimmy Fox, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, featuring Pete Fitzpatrick, 7-9 pm, no cover; the Boston Pop Underground Series wtih the Candy Butchers, Jed Parish and the Animators, 10 pm, $5.
Lowell Memorial Auditorium Ronan Tynan, 8 pm, $34-$44.
Middle East Upstairs: Superlow, Topheavy and Cheaterpint, $8, 18+. Downstsairs: Mekons and Johnny Dowd, $12, 18+.
Oak Bar Sarah Brindell, 7:30-10:30 pm, no cover.
Paradise Tantric, Shinedown, 9 pm, $13, 18+.
Plough and Stars Muddy River Rounders, 9:30 pm-12:45 am.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett and Friends, 9 pm.
Regattabar The Aaron Goldberg Trio, 8:30 pm, $16.
Ryles Jazz Club Tony Lada Quintet, 7:30 pm, $8.
Scullers Bobby Caldwell, $35-$40.
Sky Bar Coppermine, 8 pm, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
Western Front Mix 'n' Mingle, 9 pm, $8.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon.

FRIDAY, MARCH 12

Abbey Lounge Stumble Weeds, 11:30 pm; Family Jewels, 10:30 pm, 21+.
Asgard Tony Roberts Band.
Avalon Dropkick Murphys, Lost City Angels and the Guts, 6 pm, $17.50, all ages.
Axis The Get Up Kids, Recover, 6 pm, $16, all ages.
The Black Rose Eugene Bryne; Upstairs: Tony O'Riordan.
Bob the Chef's Part Time Lovers Band, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+. Downstairs: Turn-ta-Bill the DJ, 9 pm, 21+.
Clery's DJ Rhythm.
Club Passim Kreg Viesselman and Jake Armerding Band, 8 pm, $14.
Common Ground The Swinging Johnsons, 10 pm, $5.
Coogan's DJ Tom.
Grand Canal Maxi, 5-7 pm; Syndicate, 7 pm.
Green Street Grill Kilambo Mambo, 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.
The Harp The Zone, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Institute of Contemporary Art Steve Lacy Quintet, 8 pm.
Johnny D's Rock Bottom, 9:45 pm.
Jose McIntyre's DJ Big Daddy,
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton.
Kirkland Cafe Slumberfunk, Man Down, New Youth and Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, featuring Jeremy O'Neill, 7-9 pm, no cover; East of Autumn, 10 pm, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: 27, Superhopper, Grubstake and Common Cold, $10, 18+. Downstairs: the Bocks CD-release show, Malvern and Morning Theft, $9, 18+.
Milky Way Lenny and the Piss Poor Boys, the Skells, Chanticlear and These Lies, 21+.
Money Penny House Concerts Peter Case, 8 pm, $12.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm-12 am, no cover.
Paradise Los Amigos Invisibles, 9 pm, $15, 18+.
Parris Speed, 10 pm, $10, 21.
Plough and Stars Paved Country, 9:30 pm-12:45 am.
Porters Bar and Grill Nate Watkins.
Redline Shadowkings, 8 pm, no cover.
Regattabar The Ron Carter Trio, Mulgrew Miller and Russell Malone, 7:30 and 10 pm, $18.
Ryles Jazz Club Mr. Nick's Blues Mafia, 8 pm, $8.
Sanders Theatre Kate and Anna McGarrigle, 8 pm, $22-$28.
Scullers Chuck Mangione, $28.
Sky Bar Monkeypox, 8 pm, 21+.
Somerville Theatre Kate and Anna McGarrigle, 8 pm, $22-$28.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.
Top of the Hub The Bob Nieske Group, 9 pm-1 am
Western Front Ladies Doin' It for Ourselves, 9 pm.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicals.

SATURDAY, MARCH 13

Abbey Lounge AM Stereo, 11:30 pm; Victory a Sea, 10:30 pm, 21+.
Avalon Dropkick Murphys, Gang Green, the Pu Uglies, 6 pm, $17.50, all ages.
Berklee Performance Center Mary Black, 8 pm $28-$37.
The Black Rose Eugene Bryne; Upstairs: Tony O Riordan.
Bob the Chef's Ray Brown, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Tommy, Louise, Helena Delaney an Brian Hanlon, $3.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook and th Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+. Downstairs: Turn-ta-Bill th DJ, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Dean Fields and Teddy Goldstein, pm, $12.
Common Ground This Is Pop?!?, 10 pm, $3.
Coogan's DJ Craig.
Grand Canal Pig Pen.
Great Scott Dear Leader and the Go Station, $5 21+.
Green Street Grill Kilambo Mambo, 11:30 pm, $5 21+.
The Harp The Zone, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Institute of Contemporary Art Steve Lacy Quintet 8 pm.
Johnny D's Dwight Ritcher, 9:45 pm.
Jose McIntyre's DJ Dennis McCarthy.
Kennedy's Midtown Dorothy Miller.
Kirkland Cafe Brenda White and the Vortex, On Big Mess, Immunity Project and Ari, $5.
Linwood Grill Tunnel Drill, Teiou Sekkai and Din $6.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, featuring Chris Mascara 7-9 pm, no cover; the Pierces and Four Way Street 9 pm, $6.
Longy School of Music Charlie Kolhase Jazz Ensem ble, 8 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Cobraman and the Philadel phia Cash Masters, Fillmore Brown, Blacktail an Great Day for Up, $10, 18+. Downstairs: Suck Brown, 18+.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm-12 am, n cover.
Paradise The Nields and Common Rotation, 9 pm $12, 18+.
Parris Speed, 10 pm, $10, 21.
Plough and Stars Bag Boys, 5 pm-7:30 pm, Sea Mencher Combo, 9:30 pm-12:45 am.
Purple Shamrock Syndicate and DJ Thom Hogan.
Regattabar The Ron Carter Trio, Mulgrew Mille and Russell Malone, 7:30 and 10 pm, $20.
Regent Theater Sol y Canto Sextet and Suma Chasquis, 3 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Gilson Schachnik, 8 pm, $10.
Scullers Chuck Mangione, $28.
Sky Bar Popgun 7, 8 pm, $6, 21+.
Top of the Hub The Bob Nieske Group, 9 pm-1 am
Western Front Cornerstone, 9 pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet.

SUNDAY, MARCH 14

Avalon Dropkick Murphys, Darkbuster and Su peryob, 1 pm, $17.50, all ages; Dropkick Murphys Kings of Nuthin, Beerzone, 6 pm, $17.50, all ages.
Bill's Bar Dub Station with DJ K-Don, $8, 21+.
The Black Rose Eugene Bryne.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Shimon Ben-Shi Group, 10 am-3 pm.
Breezeway Jeff Felder.
The Burren Front Room: the Gannon Family, 2 pm free; Louise, Dan Isaacson, and George Keith, 6:3 pm, no cover. Back Room: Singer Songwriter Serie with Danielle, 8 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Candy's blues jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Lucie Blue Tremblay and John Gorka 6 pm, $25.
The Green Dragon Tavern Swingin' Johnsons, 9:3 pm, $3.
Green Street Grill Cuban Rhumba brunch wit Tony Perez, 12-3 pm, no cover, 21+; Ball Townkara, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Jason Myles Goss, $4, 21+.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Matt Dorko and Larr Kukers, 9 am-2:30 pm; blues jam and salsa dancin with Rumba NaMa.

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Linwood Grill Tootsie, Ultravixen, Emily Grogan, $7 suggested donation.
Lizard Lounge Tribute to Charlie Parker featuring Jeff Robinson, 5 pm, $7; poetry slam, 7 pm; poetry jam, featuring the Jeff Robinson Trio and featured poet Sue Miller, 9 pm, $5.
Museum of Fine Arts Jossie Perez, 3:30 pm, $24, 18+.
O'Brien's Ceylon Mange, Heathen Shame and Vampire Belt, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Orpheum Theatre The Irish Tenors, 7 pm, $50-$75, all ages.
Plough and Stars Bruce Marshall, 5 pm-7:30 pm, the Coachmen, 9:30 pm-12:45 am.
Regattabar The Ron Carter Trio, Mulgrew Miller and Russell Malone, 3 and 7 pm, $18.
Ryles Jazz brunch with Frank Vardaros, 10 am-3 pm, no cover.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Top of the Hub Bourbon Street Paraders, 12-2 pm; Marshall Wood Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Consafos, Neva Dinova, the Elected and Azure Ray, 9 pm, $10-$12.

MONDAY, MARCH 15

Bill's Bar Monsta Monday, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
The Burren Front Room: Johnny O'Leary and Vinny Costello, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Good Little Monkey, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Choppin' Block Open jazz session with Marianne Solivan, 8 pm-12 am, $4, 21+.
Club Passim Arabesque, 8 pm, $12.
FleetCenter Bette Midler, 7 pm, $39.50-$250, all ages.
The Green Dragon Tavern Open mike, 8:30 pm, $3.
Kennedy's Midtown Kezia Hirsey, 12-4 pm.
Linwood Grill Seks Bomba, Jedediah Parish and the Mother Tongues and Paula Kelley, $7.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover; Dave Fiuczynski's Kif: A Lab for New Music, 10 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: Soaring J, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Mad Professor, 21+.
O'Brien's Applied Communications, 9 pm, 21+.
Orpheum Theatre Sting, 7:30 pm, $53.50-$127.50.
Paradise Julian Marley, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
Plough and Stars Spider John Koerner, 9:30 pm-12:45 am.
Tír na nÓg The Coots.
T.T. the Bear's Place Paddy Saul and Stephanie Jacobson and Leesa, 8:30 pm, $3.
Top of the Hub Marshall Wood Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon.

TUESDAY, MARCH 16

Bill's Bar Old-school hip-hop with DJ Master Millions, $10, 19+.
Berklee Performance Center Judy Collins, 7:30 pm, $39-$49.
The Black Rose Eugene Bryne.
The Burren Back Room: Open mike with Hugh McGowan, 7 pm; Front Room: Tommy, Louise, Peter Molloy and Matt Glover, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm; Chris Pandolfi and the Bluegrass Mofia, 10 pm; Downstairs: Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open mike, 7 pm, $5.
Green Street Grill High Plain Drifters, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Johnny D's Denise Franke, Kevin Griffin, 8:30 pm, $7.
Lizard Lounge The Resophonics, the Heygoods and Goat, 10 pm, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Brant Bjork, Codetta and Nick Oliveri, $8, 18+.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 7:30-10:30 pm, no cover.
Orpheum Theatre Sting, 7:30 pm, $53.50-$127.50.
Plough and Stars Neptune Bay, 7:30 pm-12:45 am.
Regattabar The Fernando Huergo Quintet, Jazz Argentino and Katie Viqueira 8:30 pm, $12.
Roxy The Saw Doctors, 8 pm, $28.50.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Jazz Orchestra with Frank Vardaros, 8 pm, $9.
Scullers Cheryl Bentyne, 8 and 10 pm, $25.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Big Bear, Ho-Ag and Wolf Eyes, 9:10 pm, $8.
Wonder Bar Mike Mckenna Trio.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*



The Nields (above) play a show with Common Rotation March 13 at the Paradise Rock Club.

Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Boston (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Blackthorne Tavern *402 Turnpike St., Easton, (508-238-9017).*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Choppin' Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-734-4177). MBTA: Green Line to Brigham Circle.*
Clery's *113 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Coogan's *171 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Fireplace *1634 Beacon St, Brooklinem (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square.*
First and Second Church *66 Marborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (617-728-1600). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
The Good Life Cambridge *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Great Scott *1222 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-9014). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
Institute of Contemporary Art *955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5151). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Julien Bar *250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Linwood Grill *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (617-267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Longy School of Music *1 Follen St., Cambridge (617-876-0956).*
Lowell Memorial Auditorium *50 East Merrimack St Lowell (978-454-2299).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077) MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookli (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookli Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Money Penny House Concerts *Cambridge (617-441-8860 or e-mail kerry@younghunter.com).*
Murphy's Law *837 Summer St., South Boston (617-269-6667).*
Museum of Fine Arts *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to MFA.*
Nameless Coffee House *@ First Paris Unitarian Universalist Church, 3 Church St, Cambridge (617-864-1630). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square.*
Newton Free Library *330 Homer St., Newton Centre (617-796-1360).*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave, Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800) MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
P.A.'s Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Pat Flanagan's *79 Parkingway St., Quincy (617-773-3400). MBTA: D Green Line to Mission Hill.*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
Porter's Bar and Grill *173 Portland St., Boston (617-742-7678).*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St, Boston (617-227-2060). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Redline *59 J.F.K. St. (617-491-9851). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regent Theater *7 Medford St., Arlington (781-646-4849).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001) MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
TechSpace *80 Harrison Ave, Boston (617-275-7000)*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Virgin Megastore *360 Newbury St., Boston (617-896-0950). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Washington Square Tavern *714 Washington St., Brookline (617-232-8989). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington.*
Western Front *343 Western Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Worcester Centrum *50 Foster St., Worcester (508-755-6800).*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*





Thursdays

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classical music

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

Music on Marlborough
First and Second Church, 66 Marlborough St., Boston (781-237-0153). www.m21c.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 12:15 pm. $5-$8. The Jupiter String Quartet performs works by Schubert and Mendelssohn.

New England Philharmonic
Tsai Performing Arts Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-868-1222). www.nephilharmonic.org. MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. The New England Philharmonic performs works by Beethoven, Tchaikovsky, Andy Vores and Roy Harris. The concert features the Simmons College Chorale and the Boston Conservatory Women's Chorus.

THURSDAY, MARCH 4

Biava Quartet
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The New England Conservatory presents the Biava Quartet's performance of works by Brahms, Ravel and William Bolcom.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave, Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $26-$86. Conductor Robert Spano, pianist Garrick Ohlsson and the Boston Symphony Orchestra perform a rehearsal of works by Osvaldo Golijov, Oliver Knussen and Rachmaninoff.

FRIDAY, MARCH 5

Boston Baroque Orchestra
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston (617-484-9200). www.bostonbaroque.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $21-$56. Former BSO principal Jacques Zoon performs works by Mozart featuring the Boston Baroque period orchestra.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave, Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$95. Same program as March 4.

Fromm Players at Harvard
Paine Hall, Harvard University, Cambridge (617-495-2791). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Jeffrey Milarsky conducts a performance of works by Salvatore Sciarrino, Elliot Carter, Mario Davidovsky and Giacento Scelsi.

Harvard Radcliffe Orchestra
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. James Yannatos conducts the Harvard Radcliffe Orchestra in a performance of works by Beethoven, Sibelius and Dvorák.

Janus 21 Chamber Music
Edward M. Pickman Hall, 27 Garden Street, Cambridge (617-734-5174). www.janus21.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $21, $15 students and seniors. The chamber music group presents a program featuring works by Prokofiev and Rachmaninoff.

Music at MIT
Kresge Auditorium,48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-2826). web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. 8pm. $5. The MIT Wind Ensemble performs works by Persichetti, Bach, Shostakovich and Grainger under the direction of Frederick Harris.

Music at the Meeting House
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm. Free. NEC and WGBH/89.7 FM sponsor a performance by violinist Yura Lee of works by Bartok and Bach.

SATURDAY, MARCH 6

Boston Baroque Orchestra
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston (617-484-9200). www.bostonbaroque.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $21-$56. Same program as March 5.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave, Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$95. Same program as March 4.

Fromm Players at Harvard
Paine Hall, Harvard University, Cambridge (617-495-2791). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Conductor Jeffrey Milarsky leads a performance of works by George Crumb, Gyorgi Ligeti, Bernard Rands and Tristan Murail.

Kronos Quartet
Cutler Majestic Theatre. 219 Tremont St., Boston (617-824-8000). www.kronosquartet.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. $25-45. The string quartet performs Terry Riley's *Sun Rings*.

Netherlands Bach Society
Jesuit Urban Center, 775 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-424-7232). www.bemf.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Mass Ave. 8 pm. $20-$52. The Netherlands Bach Society performs works by Bach, Schelle, Kuhnau and Dietrich Buxtehude.

SUNDAY, MARCH 7

Boston Composers, Present and Past
Loring-Greenough House, 12 South St, Jamaica Plain (617-281-8569). www.stephenbeaudoin.com. 3 pm. $10-$15. The Beaudoin/Wade voice and guitar duo performs the music of local composers Kurt Leland, Felipe Lara and Michael Wartofsky.

Boston Conservatory Orchestra
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St, Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $5-$12. Conductor Bruce Hangen leads the BCO in a performance of works by Joseph Schwantner, featuring Concerto Competition winner Mike Williams.

Emmanuel Music
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St, Boston (617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 4 pm. $18-$50. The Lydian String Quartet performs works by John Harbison and the composers who inspired him.

FleetBoston Celebrity Series
Symphony Hall 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $32-$87. The Israel Philharmonic Orchestra performs a program of works by Beethoven and Sibelius, conducted by Yoel Levi and featuring soloist André Watts.

Orion String Quartet
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 2 Palace Road, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 1:30 pm. $5-$20. The Sunday Concert series presents the Orion String Quartet. The program includes works by Beethoven.

TUESDAY, MARCH 9

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave, Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $26-$86. Same program as March 5.

Duke University Chorale
Marsh Chapel, Boston University.735 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-3560). www.bu.edu/chapel. MBTA: B Green Line to BU Central. 7:30 pm. Under the direction of Rodney Wynkoop, the Duke University Chorale performs works by Lassus, Mozart, Vaughan Williams and others.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave, Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. $16. Conductor Edo de Waart, pianist Pierre-Laurent Aimard and the BSO perform an open rehearsal of works by Dvorák, Ives and Janácek.

Music at MIT
Killian Hall, 14W-111, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (617-253-2906). web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8pm. The Ensemble 676 Nuevotango performs the music of Astor Piazzolla.

THURSDAY, MARCH 11

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave, Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $26-$86. Conductor Edo de Waart, pianist Pierre-Laurent Aimard and the BSO perfom works by Dvorák, Ives and Janácek.

Choral Music at Harvard
Sanders Theatre, Harvard University, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.fas.harvard.edu/~holchoir/imc. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. The Harvard Glee Club hosts the 2004 National Seminar of Intercollegiate Men's Choruses.

FRIDAY, MARCH 12

Blodgett Chamber Music Series
Paine Hall, Harvard University, Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. The Ying Quartet performs selections by Tchaikovsky, Janácek, Zhou Long and Ge Ganru.

Boston Classical Orchestra
Faneuil Hall, Congress St., Boston (617-423-3883). www.bostonclassicalorchestra.org. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 8 pm. The BCO performs works by Salieri and Mozart.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave, Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30 pm. $26-$86. Same program as March 11.

Choral Music at Harvard
Sanders Theatre, Harvard University, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.fas.harvard.edu/~holchoir/imc. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $15, $7 students and seniors. Same program as March 11.

Music at MIT
Kresge Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-2394). web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. 8 pm. $5. Director Dante Anzolini leads the MIT Symphony Orchestra in works by Piazzolla, Gershwin and Bartok.

Music at the Meeting House
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park St. 12:15 pm. Free. Harpist Franziska Huana performs works by Bach, Hindemith and Luciano Berio.

"Nixon in China"
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.operaboston.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm, $24-85. The Boston Modern Orchestra Project presents this contemporary opera under the direction of Scott Edmiston.

SATURDAY, MARCH 13

Boston Early Music Festival
First Church in Cambridge, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (617-424-7232). www.bemf.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $20-$52. The BEMF presents Rebel, a baroque ensemble under the direction of Jörg-Michael Schwarz.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave, Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$95. Same program as March 11.

Emmanuel Music
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm. $18-$48. Conductor Craig Smith leads a chorus, orchestra and soloists in a selection of Bach's secular works.

Choral Music at Harvard
Paine Hall, Harvard University, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-2791). www.fas.harvard.edu/~holchoir/imc. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Same program as March 11.

Longwood Symphony Orchestra
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston (617-585-1260). www.longwoodsymphony.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $15-$25. Violinist MLSO performs works by Sibelius and Bartok, featuring violinist Michael Appleman.

SUNDAY, MARCH 14

Boston Artists Ensemble
Trinity Church, 85 Hillside Ave., Newton (617-964-6553). www.bostonartistsensemble.org. 2:30 pm. $24. The Boston Artists Ensemble performs works by Arensky and Brahms, featuring soloist Wendy Warner.

Boston Classical Orchestra
Faneuil Hall, Congress St., Boston (617-423-3883). www.bostonclassicalorchestra.org. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 3 pm. Same program as March 12.

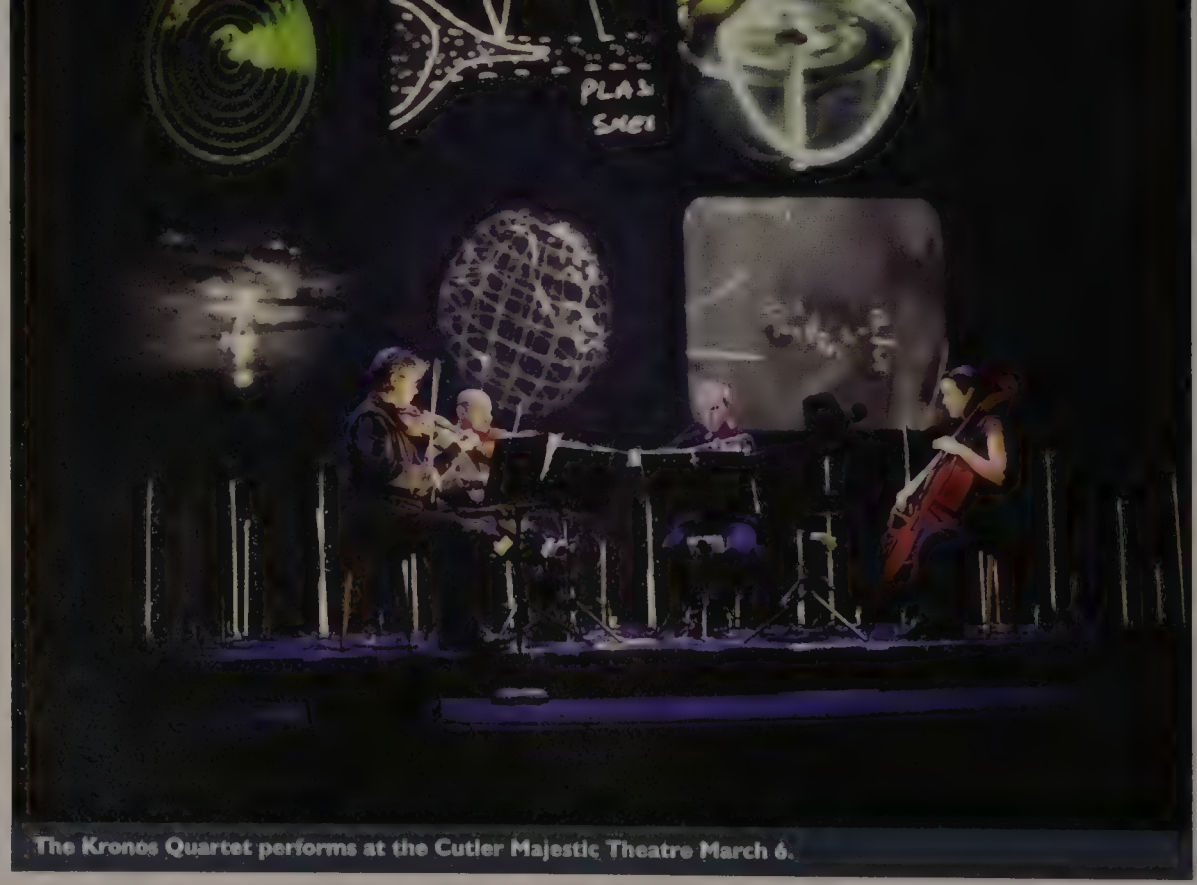
Greater Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave, Boston (617-266-1492). www.gbyso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. $10-$18. The GBYSO performs pieces by Prokofiev. Jeffrey Rink directs.

"Nixon in China"
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.operaboston.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 2 pm. $24-$85. Same program as March 12.

The Violin Sonatas of Beethoven, Part III
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 2 Palace Road, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.1:30 pm. $5-$20. Violinist Corey Cerovsek and pianist Paavali Jumppanen perform works by Beethoven.

TUESDAY, MARCH 16

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave, Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $26-$86. Same program as March 11.



The Kronos Quartet performs at the Cutler Majestic Theatre March 6.

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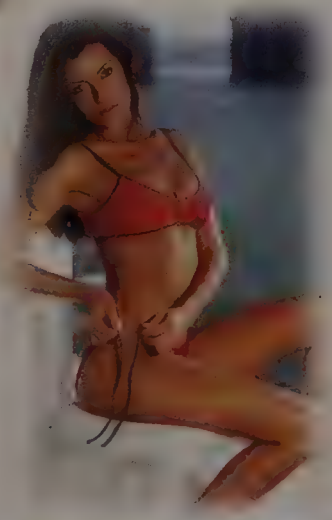


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dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $5, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Jay Ine spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Monsta Mondays DJ Kaptain Krunch spins rock, and live bands perform, 9 pm, $6, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJs spin R&B and hip-hop, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Scott Damgaard plays live music, 9 pm, 21+.

The Rack
Dance party with DJ Marco Small, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

An Tua Nua
What's Up Night A night of R&B, house, funk and soul music, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Phat Tuesdays Old-school hip-hop with DJ D Sharp, 9 pm, $10, 19+, college ID required.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+.

The Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Orange DJs John Davis and Pat Fontes bring the house music, and weekly guest DJs spin, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Eddie Lee spins house, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Phoenix Landing
Deep Tones DJ Brynmore spins a mix of soul, funk, house and acid jazz, 10 pm, no cover, $3, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Ricky spins 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Trio
Always Best Tuesday The night features all hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
MINT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Phat Tuesdays DJ Ron Steele spins hip-hop, R&B reggae and international grooves, 10 pm, 21+, proper dress required.

WEDNESDAYS

Aria
Lust DJ John Morris spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, $8, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, $21.



Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins Greek and international tunes, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
What a Way to Go Go Mod Night with DJ Vin, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up R&B, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mercury Lounge DJs Nomadik and Timmy Allen host a night of soul, funk and house, 9 pm, $3-5, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin deep house, trance and grassroots techno, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
International Wednesdays DJ JC is in the Latin Lounge; DJs Alex and Felix spin in the back, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Massi spins top-40, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Q
House DJs host break-dancing contests, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Ricky spins spins, 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Cabin Stabbin' Wednesdays DJ Boogie Ba Do spins dub to start the party, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Jazz Wednesdays Ron Murphy and his quintet bring cool jazz to the main lounge, 9-11 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B. Downstairs: Live music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
Fizzle DJ Ren Justice spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; DJ Roger M and DJ Thanos spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
International Thursdays DJ Gee Spin and guests play rap and hip-hop tunes, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Mark Morris and Catunes play pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and Salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
DJ JC spins international house, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Exchange
Heaven and Hell DJs Chaos, 7L and Mr. Aru spin house and hip-hop, 9:30 pm-2 am, 19+ (with college ID).

Felt
After-work live jazz, 6 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou spins late night, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •March 4, Dick & Jane, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
Nonstop music with DJ Massi or DJ Ryan, no cover, 21+.

I/D
Square One Thursdays DJs Dres and Wagz host a night of progressive dance music, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Massi gets the dance party started upstairs, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ David James spin dance tunes and old-school, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Doc spins the latest tunes, 21+.

La Boom
Privilege DJ Felix cranks the noise, 11 pm-2 am, 21+.

Level
Life DJ Adilson pumps house, trance and progressive, and DJ NFerna spins hip-hop, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Ricky Fatts spins house and hip-hop. 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

Parris
•March 4, Black 47, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Carrie spins upbeat lounge in the front, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett performs live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Q
DJ Hustle Simmons from JAM'N 94.5 spins hip-hop all night long, 9 pm, $5, ladies free all night, 21+.

The Rack
Ibiza DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Littles spins from 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali and Ross spin a mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

711 Boylston
Play Thursdays DJ trio Groovefire spins house music with special guests Beat Khemistry, 6 pm-2 am.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Steve Sosong spins new dance and R&B. Downstairs: Justin Beech, 9 pm-1 am, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ JR Vega hosts Latin night with live music by the Latin Party Boys; free salsa lessons with Dan Marshall, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
Hip Hop Event Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip-hop, 9 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cover.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJs Lazee Boy and Gabe play funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, 21+.

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ROCK ON

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 from the '70s, '80s and '90s, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Floss DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Avaland DJ Nailz spins progressive dance music, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Mas spins hip-hop, funk and techno, 9pm-1am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
Avaland DJ Caprice spins hip-hop as part of Avaland, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins top-40, and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
F Night WBCN's Bradley J spins '80s classics, and alternative and rock tribute bands perform live, 9 pm, cover varies, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft VJ Johnny Walker Black spins top-40 dance and hip-hop tunes accompanied by interactive video shows, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Life at Buzz Girls-only lesbian night with DJ Bruno spinning R&B and hip-hop tunes downstairs and DJ Ilabash spinning reggae upstairs, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 18+

Caprice
DJ Eddie K spins a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, and two guest DJs spin on the first floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Nailz and DJ Eddie Lee spin hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $20, 19+.

The Exchange
DJs Tiziano and Luca spin house and hip-hop upstairs, while DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B in the vault, 9:30 pm, $10, 21+.

Felt
After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs, spinning high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Bob Gallagher spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •March 5, Flavor, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •March 12, the Zone, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs Big Daddy and Rizzi spin, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins house and old favorites, $5, ladies free before midnight, 21+.

La Boom
Fashion Fridays Firefly Promotions hosts this fashion night featuring DJ Rick Naples, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

Level
Secret Society DJ Hoff spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B on the fourth and fifth floors, and DJ Niko spins Greek and international tunes on the third floor. 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Matrix
DJ Adilson of Roxy Saturdays spins high-energy house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

The Modern
DJ JC plays Latin rhythms, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.



•**Rockpile** WAAF's Jay Ferrera broadcasts live, and rotating bands perform, 9 pm, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•March 5, The Catunes, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •March 12, Speed, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Shake What Your Mama Gave You DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
Industrie hosts weekly guest DJs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Craig spins the latest hits, 10 pm, $5.

Q
DJ B-Spin spins hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, $5 (with complimentary Stoli vodka from 9-10 pm), 21+.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Johnny C with KISS 108's Artie, 10:45 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Lite Nite DJ Easy spins a mix that includes neo-soul and feel-good classics, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Bruno spins hip-hop 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance. Downstairs: live music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover before 10 pm, 21+.

Sophia's
Sangria and Salsa Salsa and merengue lessons, 7-10 pm, followed by the Latin Party Boys and DJs Mike C and Zino spinning Latin dance, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10pm, $5 after 9pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Trio
Boston After Dark Dance to hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with Latin vibes. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vivid Lounge
Brian Roache spins top-40, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJs Lazee Boy and Gabe play funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

Aria
DK Kon spins high-energy vocal house and hip hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Total Request Avalon DJ Tim Collins plays requests along with top-40, dance and hip-hop, 10 pm, $15 ($10 before 12:30 am), 21+.

The Avenue
DJ Kevin Munroe spins house and trance, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Start! DJ Damien spins alternative rock and '80s hits, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Dance Night DJ Rob Nockshis spins dance music all night, 9 pm, $8 ($10 includes access to Jake Ivory's rock 'n' roll piano bar), 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. VJ Johnnie Walker presents top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Franklin creates a lounge atmosphere with his international, Latin and house sounds, 10 pm, ($10 after 11 pm), 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood It's women's night at Hollywood with two floors of hip-hop and house music with DJ MixMistress upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Roger M spins international house, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop, house, and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites, disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, $10, 21+. •March 6, Flavor, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •March 13, the Zone, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

I/D
X Night WFNX presents a night of retro '80s and rock, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, while downstairs DJ O'Toole plays top-40, 10 pm, 21+.

La Boom
Wild on @ La Boom DJ Tim Collins and KISS 108 host a night of music and dancing, 10 pm, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 9 pm, 21+.

Matrix
DJ Gee Spin plays hip-hop in the front room, while DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins house and 90s dance in the back, 9 pm, $10, 21+ (men), 19+ (women).

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10 pm, $7, ladies are free before 10:30 pm, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Eddie Lee plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies free, men $5 before 10:30 pm; $15, 18+; $10, 21+ after 10:30 pm. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, $15, 19+; no cover 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins top-40 and hip-hop mixes, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Underground** DJs spin hip-hop, top-40, dance, techno and reggae for the under-21 crowd, 7-11 pm, $14. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes up hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•March 6, The Catunes, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •March 13, Speed, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins 80s, new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Rick Naples spins high-energy dance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom Hogan spins the groove, 10 pm, $5, 21+. •March 6, Brick Park performs. •March 13, live music with Syndicate.

Q
DJ Josh Carl spins house and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi and DJ Littles host the live broadcast and dance party, 8 pm, 21+, no cover.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins modern mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins house and techno, 9 pm, $15, 21+.

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711 Boylston
Fever DJ Yorgo spins a mix of ethnic and international music, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8 pm. Downstairs: Kevin Kirrane, 9 pm, no cover before 10 pm.

Sophia's
DJ Zino spins salsa and merengue while a Latin band plays on the first floor and DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on the second floor, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and house, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Trio
Best Of Night DJs spin Eurohouse, hip-hop and classics, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

Vivid Lounge
Brian Roache spins top-40, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJs Lazee Boy and Gabe play funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, 21+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Adrienne spins Brit-pop and new wave tunes, 9 pm-1 am, $3, 19+.

Aria
DJ Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ K-Don, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+

Caprice
DJ Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
Fluid Sundays DJs Joshua Carl and Paul Dailey spin tribal and deep house, breaks, techno and jungle beats, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Doc spins hip-hop, house and top-40, 11 pm, no cover.

La Boom
Futurebeat: Alien Disco DJ Addambombb spins a mix of retro progressive tracks, trip-hop and synth-pop, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Satellite A new "by girls, for girls" lesbian night featuring DJ Dee and dance music, amateur drag contests, and films, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Parris
•March 7, The Commitments, 8 pm, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Massi tops off the weekend with an array of tunes, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Reverie Boston DJ Shannon and weekly guest DJs spin goth, industrial and lounge, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
DJ Dave Jordan plays an array of top-40 tunes, 9 pm, 21+.

Trio
Vibe Lounge DJs provide the vibe, 10 pm, 21+.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins Brazilian beats, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Whiskey Park
Cherry DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock classics, hip-hop house and R&B.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874)*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Dad's *911 Boylston St., Boston (617-296-3237).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
The Exchange *148 State St., Boston (617-726-7601)*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The G Spot *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010)*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460)*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082)*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
La Boom *One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Light *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *(El Copa, Male Encounter, Officers' Club, Oxygen, Rio, Underground and Uptown) 1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
711 Boylston *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511)*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001)*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Sweetwater Café *5 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-2515).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300)*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699)*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
Vivid Lounge *148 State St., Boston (617-726-7600)*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*



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museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors
Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Gary Schneider: Portraits* is a 30-year collection of the artist's black-and-white and color photographs. Through June 13.•*The Continuous Stroke of Breath: Calligraphy from the Islamic World* features Arabic, Indian, Persian and Turkish calligraphy from the 9th through 20th centuries. Through July 18. •*Rocks, Mountains, Landscapes, and Gardens: The Essence of East Asian Painting*, an exhibition of rocks used in East Asian art, shows through Aug. 1.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm. •*Faces of Colombia* showcases the work of photojournalist Jim Harney. March 2-30. •*Faces and Places*, an exhibit of historical maps of Boston, shows through April 30. •*Seashells and Other Delicacies* is a show of Bela Kalman's photography. Through June 12.

Carpenter Center for Visual Arts
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). www.ves.fas.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-11:30 pm; Sun., 12-11:30 pm. Free. •*The Carpenter Center and Le Corbusier's Synthesis of the Arts* is an exhibition on the Carpenter Center and its architect. March 11-April 15.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. •*Joseph Wheelwright: Stone Heads and Tree Figures*, a sculpture exhibition, shows through May 16. •*Jirimani* is a photographic-transparency installation by Jo Yarrington. Through May 30. •*Self-Evidence: Identity in Contemporary Art* is a group show of multimedia work focusing on self-representation in art. Through May 30. •*Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Sense of Place, Part II* features paintings by various artists. Through summer 2004.

Fogg Art Museum/ Busch-Reisinger Museum
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Life as Art: Paintings by Gregory Gillespie and Frances Cohen Gillespie* shows through March 28.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •*Dodos, Trilobites, and Meteorites...Treasures of Nature and Science at Harvard* features specimens from scientific explorations of the past 200 years. Through spring 2004. •*Into the Mountains* features the photography of mountaineer Bradford Washburn. Through spring 2004. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species by glass artists Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Colors of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7, $5 students and seniors. •*Made in Mexico/Hecho en México* features 20 international artists' interpretations of Mexican culture. Through May 9.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, free for those under 18. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. •Italian painter Maurizio Cannavacciuolo shows his contemporary wall drawings in *TV Dinner*. March 10-April 15. •Elaine Reichek's embroideries, which depict Biblical images borrowed from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists, display online in the virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing.


The exhibition *The Art of the Japanese Postcard* is at the MFA March 10–June 6.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. •Mike Roger's *Cross Country* is a Super 8 film documenting a cross-country road trip. Through April 4. •*Son et Lumière*, a group exhibition of sound, light and video installations, shows through April 14.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). www.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5, $3 students and seniors, $1 children. •*Gabriele Basilico—Photographs* is an exhibition of urban landscapes. Through June 6. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing.

The Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. •*If These Dolls Could Talk: 150 Years of Black Dolls* is an exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century handmade, porcelain, plastic and sculptured dolls. Through May 1.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm; Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15 adults, $13 students and seniors, free for children 17 and under. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free. Special exhibitions are an additional cost. •*Art of the Japanese Postcard: The Leonard A. Lauder Collection* is an exhibition of 350 Japanese postcards from 1900-1940. March 10-June 6. •*Traveling Scholars 2003* features the work of three of the Museum School's travel scholarship recipients. Through March 14. •*Draped in Dragons: Chinese Court Costumes* features clothes worn by members of the Qing imperial court. Through May 2. •*Gauguin Tahiti*, a retrospective of the painter's work from the South Pacific, shows through June 20. •More than 200 jades dating from the Neolithic period to the Qing Dynasty display in *Chinese Jades from the Hartman Collection*. Through August. •*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13 adults, $11 seniors, $10 children. •*Kid's Build!* is a hands-on exhibit that explores the architectural aspects of city planning March 12-14. •*Einstein* profiles the life of Albert Einstein through his personal letters, documents and manuscripts. March 13-June 6.•*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum
33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Artist to Icon: Early Photographs of Elvis, Dylan and the Beatles* is an exhibition of 48 black-and-white photographs taken early in the careers of the three rock legends. Through June 6. •*Hatch Show Print's Rock 'n' Roll Posters* features letterpress posters for concerts by musicians including Johnny Cash, Frank Zappa and Bruce Springsteen. Through June 13. •*A Glimpse of Boston Theater, 1850-1903* includes 15 playbills and programs from that period. Through June 20. •*The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'd* is an exhibition of 18th-century local history. Ongoing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household objects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. •*To Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community* is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www.pem.org. Sun.-Mon., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am-9 pm. Adults $12, seniors $10, students $8; children 16 and under and residents of Salem free. •*Under the Imperial Gaze* features two large-scale Chinese scrolls. Through May 2. •*Geisha: Beyond the Painted Smile* examines geisha culture through painting, woodblock prints, photography, video, musical instruments and authentic accessories. Through May 9. •*Men Plow, Women Weave* displays images of weaving and plowing by Chinese artists. Through May 30. •*Vanished Kingdoms: The Wulsin Photographs of China, Tibet, and Mongolia 1921-1925*, an exhibition of color images taken by American explorers Janet E. and Frederick R. Wulsin, shows through June 13.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology
11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50 adults, $6 seniors and students, $5 children •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments* features the museum's large Mesoamerican cast collection. Ongoing. •*Encounters with the Americas* is an ongoing exhibition featuring original sculpture and plaster casts of Mesoamerican cultures. •*Hall of the North American Indian: Change and Continuity* features art depicting the response of Native Americans across the continent to the arrival of Europeans. Ongoing. •*Pacific Islands Hall* another ongoing exhibition, displays artifacts from the Pacific Islands.

Somerville Museum
One Westwood Road, Somerville (617-666-9810). www.losttheatres.org. Thu., 2-7 pm; Fri., 2-5 pm and Sat., 12-5 pm. •*The Lost Theatres of Somerville* combines oral histories, photographs, memorabilia and interactive media to explore the rise and fall of Somerville's 14 historic movie theaters, only one of which operates today. Through March 28.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Beyond Likeness*, a show of modern portraits by George McNeil, Robert Beauchamp and Nanno de Groot, displays Through April 3.

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). www.alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •Gin Poppe shows glass work. Through March 20.

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Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Hiro Yokose shows works in oil and wax on canvas. Through March 11.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Unspoken Neighbors*, a show of landscapes by Margaret Gerding, displays through March 30.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Josef Albers shows square screenprints. Through March 24.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Contemporary Folk Art* shows works from the gallery's collection of Southern and Appalachian folk art and works by Howard Finster, Hazel Kinney, Jimmy Lee Sudduth, and Mose Tolliver. March 4-April 24.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Sheila Pepe shows large-scale installations, and Anna Colette shows color photography. Through March 13.

Brickbottom Gallery
1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Under the Influence: Travel* features works by Phyllis Ewen and George Gabin. Through March 20.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Monmouth St., Brookline. (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm. •*The Art Dolls of Georgette Benisty* shows March 10-April 14.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-2255). www.chappellgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm and by appointment. •Eve Hyde, Beth Lipman, Lada Semecka, and Sasha Zhitneva show new work. March 4-27.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •Artist Kathryn Frund shows mixed-media works. March 3-27.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA:Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Three exhibits, *Lithographs of Adolph Dehn*, *Tropical Paradise* (watercolors) and *Peter Moran: Drawings*, show through March 6.

Clifford-Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 300, Boston (617-695-0255). www.cliffordsmithgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Youngsuk Suh shows iris prints in *Instant Traveler*. March 5-27.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •The *125th Anniversary Exhibition* shows through March 20.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (617-268-8050). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •An exhibition of works by Jeff Eldredge, Dan McCole and Norman Crump is ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •Gordon Przybyla shows his paintings in *The Nude*. Through March 27.

Equator Gallery
450 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-540-9236). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.equatorgallery.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. The gallery specializes in Latin American fine art, [illegible] paintings, textiles and ceramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
[illegible] Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Family and Friends* features the art of Fred Levy and Tony Carmoega. Through March 27.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall.


Greg Poulin's *Neediness* is at Gallery Katz.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.,12-5 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm. •Roger Goldenberg and Judith Morton show their recent paintings and sculptures. March 11-April 24.

The Gallery at Black and White
295 Huntington Ave., Suite 205 (617-266-2641). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Mon.-Fri, 10 am-5 pm. •The gallery features rotating exhibitions of black-and-white photographs.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Greg Poulin shows new paintings. Through March.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Collecting Light* features the urban photographs of Mary Kocol. March 5-27. •*Dim Down/Done In/Piss Poor/Long Gone/All Down* is a collection of oil paintings on panels by Ron Rizzi. March 5-27.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
23 Thayer St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Gold, Clay, and Granite* features gold-leaf paintings by Mary Boochever, pottery by Malcom Wright and granite sculptures by Jay Swift. March 5-31.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.haleysteele.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •The gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prints. Ongoing.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Morgan Bulkeley shows new oil paintings in *New York*, and Neeta Madahar shows floral prints in *Sustenance*. Through March 9.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Dot Krause shows new digital work in *Fragile Beauty*. March 4-27. •Kathy High shows multimedia work in *Soft Science: Embracing the Animal*. March 4-27.

Kaji Aso Studio
40 St. Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www.kajiasostudio.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Tue. and Thu., 4:30-6:30 pm; Sat., 3-5 pm, and by appointment. •Students from the studio's summer school programs in Greece and Japan show their works. Through March 11. •*The Drawing Exhibition* features works in various media by students, faculty and members. March 13-April 8.

Kathryn Schultz Gallery
25 Lowell St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www.cambridgeart.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm, Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Adelaide Sproul Retrospective* features sculptures and prints from 1935-2003. March 3-25.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Photographer Steve Wrubel shows color and black-and-white prints. March 3- 27.

Kingston Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •Audrey Goldstein shows her sculptures. Through March 31.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •Paula DeSimone, Jill Fishon-Kovachick and Eric Tardif show ceramic work, furniture and sculptural birds in *Patterns and Layers*. Through March 5. •Tim Harding and Colin Schleeh show abstract silk wall hangings and wood sculptures in *Smooth as Silk*. March 5-April 16.

Mark Gallery
141 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6275). www.markartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm, and by appointment. •Peter Arvidson shows new oil paintings. Through March 12. •Prilla Smith Brackett and Nancy Rubens display oil prints, monoprints and collage paintings. March 13- April 9.

Martin Lawrence Gallery
77 Newbury St., Boston (617-369-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.martinlawrence.com. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-7 pm. •The gallery's ongoing exhibition includes works by Chagall, Erté, Hallam, Kondakova, Lichtenstein, Picasso and Warhol.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Dialogue* features expressionist paintings from the 1930s to the present. Through March 16.

Miller Block Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). www.millerblockgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30-5:30 pm. •Nona Hershey shows new graphite drawings. March 6- 31.

Mills Gallery
539 Tremont St., Boston (617-348-2926). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed., Thu. and Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-10 pm. •*The Drawing Show*, a juried exhibition of contemporary drawings, displays through March 7.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Robin Quigley shows enameled broaches in *Souvenirs*, and Nick Hollibaugh shows sculptural furniture. March 3-31.

NAO Project Gallery
535 Albany St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-451-2977). www.naoprojectgallery.info. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay or Green Line to Copley. Wed., Fri. and Sat., 11 am-4 pm and by appointment. •Karen Moss displays mixed-media art through April 30.

New Art on Newbury
285 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7727). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Thu., 11 am-6 pm; Fri. and Sat., 11 am-11 pm. •*Find the Next Kline for Your Valentine*, a group show of works by 25 local artists, displays through March 14.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •*March Heat*, a group show of paintings, drawings, and sculpture, features work by sculptor Dexter Lazenby. March 6-April 3.

108
108 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-3833). www.gallery108.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard or Porter. Tue, Thu., Fri., 12-6 pm; Wed., 2-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm; Sun. by appointment. •Kate Ledogar shows her paintings in *Rock Stars and Others*. March 9-26.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •A local-artists showcase is ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Harold Reddicliffe shows paintings. Through April 3.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •B.A King shows iris prints in *The Seeing Spirit*. Through March 16.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat. 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •John Dugdale shows his contemporary sepia photographs. Through April 3.

The Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Portraits*, a group show of multimedia work, displays through April 25.

Soprafina Gallery
99 Beacon St., Somerville (617-498-0999). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Helen Morse displays hand-painted black-and-white photographs, and Judy Kramer shows her original acrylic paintings. March 3-27.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Mistral* is a collection of oil paintings by Judy St. Peter, William St. George, and Anne Grandin, acrylic paintings by Christina Keating, and watercolors by Sandra Mueller-Dick. Through March 31.

Studio Soto
63 Melcher St., Boston (617-426-7686). www.studiosoto.com. MBTA: Orange Line to South Station. Fri. and Sat., 2-5 pm. •*Two of a Kind*, a group show of mixed-media work by parents and their children, displays March 5-28.

Upstairs at Johnson's Art Gallery
353 Newbury St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-536-4065). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.- Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am - 1pm. •The *7th Annual Johnson Staff Exhibition* features works by staff members March 4-26.

Victoria Munroe Fine Art
59 Beacon St., Boston (617-523-0661). www.munroefineart.com. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm and by appointment. •Drawings by Christine Hiebert show through March 20.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Selections from the gallery's permanent collection, including works by Fitz Hugh Lane, Frank Benson and John Singer Sargent, show through March.

William Scott Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-542-4030). www.williamscottgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*The Winter Salon Show* displays through March 27.

Zeitgeist Gallery
1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060). www.zeitgeist-gallery.org. Tue.-Sun., 1-7 pm. •*Comics as Art: Original Comic Art from the Underground*, a group show of work by comic artists, displays through March 7.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. •*Landscape of the Civil War*, an exhibition of 92 original photographs from the American Civil War, displays March 11-June 25.

New England School of Photography
Gallery One, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-437-1868). www.nesop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm. •Susan Clain shows her work. Through March 5. •Rose Martin shows her photographs. March 8-April 16.

Panopticon Gallery
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Commuter Rail to Waltham. www.panopt.com. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm. •Steve Rosenthal and Nick Wheeler show their photographs. March 4-April 15.

Photographic Resource Center
832 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). MBTA: Green Line to Boston University West. www.bu.edu/prc. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 11 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Concerning the Spiritual in Photography*, a group show of contemporary and historic spiritual photographs, displays through March 14.



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March 5 & 12 @ 8 P.M. - Friday
March 6 & 13 @ 2 P.M. & 8 P.M. - Saturday
March 7 @ 3 P.M. & 7 P.M. - Sunday

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books & poetry

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to books@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Pete McCarthy** reads from *Road to McCarthy*, in which he describes his travels to Morocco and Alaska researching the history of his family name.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. BBC producer **Danny Wallace** discusses *Join Me!*, a memoir about his experiences after developing an ambiguous Web site (www.join-me.co.uk) that invites viewers to join him for unspecified reasons.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **James McManus** reads from his book *Positively 5th Street*, which looks at the often sordid history of poker and its players and also recounts the author's own experience in the World Series of Poker.

PEN New England Authors Series
Hotel Marlowe, 25 Edwin Land Blvd., Cambridge (617-824-8820). www.pen-ne.org. 6:30 pm. Free. **Suzanne Berger** reads from her works, which include the poetry collection *Legacies* and her memoir *Horizontal Woman: The Story of a Body in Exile*, about the seven years she spent incapacitated as a result of a spinal cord injury.

WordsWorth
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA:Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Poet **Jen Hofer** reads from her work.

THURSDAY, MARCH 4

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Nathaniel Bellows** reads from his novel *On This Day*, about how a brother and sister cope with the aftermath of their parents' deaths.

O'Connell Branch Library
48 Sixth St., Cambridge (617-349-4019). www.ci.cambridge.ma.us. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. 11 am. Free. **Jhumpa Lahiri** reads from her new novel, *The Namesake*, about an American boy, the son of Indian parents, who is confused about his roots, his identity and their relation to his future.

FRIDAY, MARCH 5

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. **Owen Gingerich** discusses *The Book Nobody Read: Chasing the Revolutions of Nicolaus Copernicus*, his account of the impact of Copernicus' then-revolutionary theory that the Earth revolves around the sun.

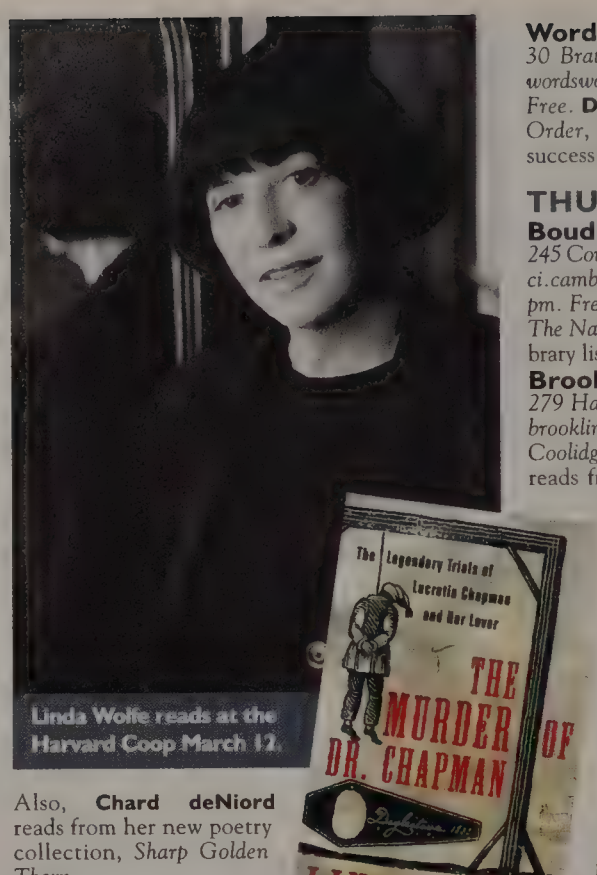
SATURDAY, MARCH 6

Paradise Lounge
969 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8819). www.[illegible].com. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St. 8 pm. $7. Cover 2 Cover presents an evening with [illegible] **Atul Gawande**, **Jessica Shattuck** and **Jen** [illegible] musicians **Boris McCutcheon** and **Ryan Montbleau**.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA:Red Line to Harvard. 5 pm. Free. Poet **Drew Gardner** reads his latest work.

MONDAY, MAR. 8

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. **D.A. Powell** reads from his new poetry collection, *Cocktails*.



Linda Wolfe reads at the Harvard Coop March 12.

Also, **Chard deNiord** reads from her new poetry collection, *Sharp Golden Thorn*.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Editors **Therese Eiben** and **Mary Gannon**, and contributing writers **C. Michael Curtis** and **Kate Whooley** discuss their book *Practical Writer: From Inspiration to Publication*, a guide on taking a manuscript through the publishing process.

TUESDAY, MARCH 9

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Kate Wenner** discusses her novel *Dancing with Einstein*, about a troubled woman who recalls her relationship with her father and his colleague Albert Einstein.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Frank Netti** discusses his book *Retire Sooner, Retire Richer: How to Build and Manage Wealth to Last a Lifetime*, a guide on investing for retirement.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. **Marilyn Paul** reads from her book *It's Hard to Make a Difference When You Can't Find Your Keys: The Seven-Step Path to Becoming Truly Organized*, her approach to dealing with disorganization.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Radio personality and musician **Jonathan Schwartz** reads from his memoir, *All in Good Time*, about growing up in the golden age of songwriting and his acquaintances with some of the stars of the era.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 12:30 pm. Free. **Chet Williamson** discusses his book *The Jazz Worcester Real Book*, a history of the jazz musicians who have lived in Worcester, Mass.

Harvard Book Store Author Event
First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. Chair of the International Planned Parenthood Council **Alexander Sanger** discusses his new book *Beyond Choice: Reproductive Freedom in the 21st Century*, in which he argues the merits of pro-choice legislation.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Wendy Straker** reads from her book, *Sexy Jobs in the City: How to Get Your Dream Job Using the Rules of Dating*, which includes career advice and job profiles in media-related industries.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Dalton Conley** reads from his book *Pecking Order*, about how birth order influences people's success in life.

THURSDAY, MARCH 11

Boudreau Branch Library
245 Concord Ave., Cambridge (617-349-4017). www.ci.cambridge.ma.us. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Jhumpa Lahiri** reads from her new novel, *The Namesake*. See March 4, O'Connell Branch Library listing for a description.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Christopher Phillips** reads from his book, *Six Questions of Socrates: A Modern-Day Journey of Discovery Through World Philosophy*, an account of the author's philosophical dialogues with people around the world.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www. bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Michael Roach** discusses his book *The Tibetan Book of Yoga*, which explores the teachings that comprise the ancient Buddhist practice of yoga.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www. newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. Local writer **Matthew Pearl** reads from his thriller *The Dante Club*, in which literary figures living in post–Civil War Boston team up to catch a serial killer who replicates scenes of torture from Dante's *Inferno*.

FRIDAY, MARCH 12

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 12:30 pm. Free. Local author **Robert B. Parker** discusses his novel *Bad Business*, a thriller in which a private investigator uncovers the personal secrets of an unfaithful couple who are under the influence of a radio sex therapist.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www. bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Linda Wolfe** reads from her book *The Murder of Dr. Chapman: The Legendary Trials of Lucretia Chapman and Her Lover*, a non-fiction account of the 19th century murder trial.

SATURDAY, MARCH 13

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www. newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 5 pm. **George Pelecanos** reads from his novel *Hard Revolution*, about two brothers embroiled in political upheaval in 1968 Washington, D.C., after Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination.

WordsWorth
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www. wordsworth.com. MBTA:Red Line to Harvard. 5 pm. Free. Poet **Nada Gordon** reads from her work.

SUNDAY, MARCH 14

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 4 pm. Free. **Linda Roghaar** reads from the book she co-edited *KnitLit Too: Stories from Sheep to Shawl...and More Writing About Knitting*, a compilation of more than 70 essays, stories and vignettes on the theme of knitting.

MONDAY, MARCH 15

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. **Richard Fein** reads from his new poetry collection, *I Think of Our Lives*. Also, **Scott Withiam** reads from his poetry collection, *Arson and Prophets*.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Nicholson Baker** reads from his novel *A Box of Matches*, about a middle-aged copy editor who keeps a journal of his musings on daily life.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Jhumpa Lahiri** reads from her new novel, *The Namesake*. See March 10, O'Connell Branch Library listing for description.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. pm. Free. Time magazine book critic **Lev Grossma** reads from his novel *Codex*, about a man who finds medieval codex in a rare book collection and dis covers parallels between the manuscript and a vide game he is obsessed with.

TUESDAY, MARCH 16

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm Free. **Katherine Newman** discusses her book *Ram page: The Social Roots of School Shootings*, a sociolog cal examination of school violence that includes in terviews with people who have been directl affected.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. pm. Free. **Laurel Ulrich** discusses her book *Yarn and Gates*, which traces the role gender has playe throughout the histories of Harvard Universit and Radcliffe College.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Neu ton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Lauren Slater** reac from *Opening Skinner's Box: Great Psychological Ex periments of the Twentieth Century*, her account o 10 important studies of the human mind.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm Free. **Edward Rutherfurd** reads from his historica novel *The Princes of Ireland: The Dublin Saga*, a sto spanning 17 centuries and centered around the evo lution of Dublin and its citizens.

Ongoing

Amazon Poetry Slam (Last Sunday)
Milky Way, 403-405 Center St., Jamaica Plain (617 524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. pm. $7. On the last Sunday of every month, th Milky Way hosts the all-women Amazon Poetr Slam.

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617 354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. $ Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge hosts poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Harvard Coop (Sundays)
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harva Square. 3 pm. Free. Hear what Boston-area poets a doing at the Harvard Coop's weekly poetry e change on Level Two.

Jimmy Tingle's Off-Broadway (Sundays)
255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jimm tingle.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $1 Local poets perform their work in a two-hour theatr cal show every Sunday night.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). www poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Poet jam, 7:30 pm; poetry slam, 9 pm. $6. The Jeff Robi son Trio plays background tunes for the poetry slam featured poet of the week.

O'Brien's Pub (Mondays)
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave. 9 pm. O'Brien's presen a mix of rock and spoken word one Monday p month. Performers are predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry (Saturdays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambrid (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm $3. Every Saturday is Open Bark poetry night, a the fourth Saturday of each month is a spoke word event.

Stone Soup Poetry Night (Mondays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambrid (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7: pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have he these weekly readings.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). MBT MBTA: Blue Line to Government Center. 6:30 pm Free. The second Thursday of each month offers selection of featured poets and an opportunity f others to take the open mike.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

Censorship: Left, Right & Center
First Parish, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-495-2727). www.cambridgeforum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. Free. Attorneys and social critics **Wendy Kaminer** and **Harvey Silverglate** discuss the repression of dissent in American schools.

An Evening with Mary Ellen Mark
Museum of Fine Arts, Remis Auditorium, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3300). www.mfa.org/calendar. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 7 pm. $13. Photographer **Mary Ellen Mark** discusses her work, including her latest project, *Twins*.

A Look at Ted Williams
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $5. **Bill Nowlin**, author and seasoned Red Sox enthusiast, leads a discussion on Ted Williams and his drive for perfection.

THURSDAY, MARCH 4

The Interpretation of Material and Method in the Preservation of Modern Art
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 12 pm. Free with museum admission ($5-$7). **Carol Mancusi-Ungaro**, conservator at Harvard University Art Museums and the Whitney Museum, discusses the conservation of modern art.

The Modern Landscape
The Copley Society, 158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6-7:30 pm. Free. **Joseph McGurl**, an influential leader of the American Landscape School, speaks about modern landscape paintings.

Revisiting Black Romantic
Harvard University, Carpenter Center for Visual Art, 24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). www.ves.fas.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free. Painter **Kehinde Wiley** and curator **Christine Kim** discuss Wiley's work, which is peppered with references to art history and tributes to hip-hop culture.

Strong Victorian Heroines
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 10:30 am. $2. **Kimberly Leighton-Manuell** discusses the strong, independent female characters created by novelists Jane Austen, Charlotte Bronte and Elizabeth Gaskell.

FRIDAY, MARCH 5

Secret Lives of Black Bears
Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. 7-8 pm. Free. Naturalist **John Foster** tells stories based on his years of research and observation of black bears.

SUNDAY, MARCH 7

Reclaiming the Commons
Veggie Planet at Club Passim, 47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-824-4225). www.boston.earthsave.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. **Dr. Brian Donahue**, associate professor of American environmental studies at Brandeis University, talks about the use of public land near cities and towns for local food production and forestry. This talk is followed by a vegan dinner for $9.50.

MONDAY, MARCH 8

From a Different Angle
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 7 pm. Free. Choreographer **Mark Morris** discusses his take on selections from the MFA's art collections.

Gender, Economic Development and Women's Human Rights
Cronkhite Graduate Center, Living Room, 6 Ash St., Cambridge (617-495-8608). www.radcliffe.edu/events. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free. Professor **Susan Okin** explains how issues concerning women and children are left out of mainstream approaches to economic development.

TUESDAY, MARCH 9

Archaeology Lecture
Yenching Institute, Harvard University, 2 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-495-2269). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5:30 pm. Free. George Washington University professor of anthropology **Alison Brooks** speaks about human origins in Africa.

THURSDAY, MARCH 11

Collecting Early Copley Society Artists
The Copley Society, 158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6-7:30 pm. Free. **Roger Howlett**, president of the Childs Gallery, offers tips on what to look for when collecting the work of early Boston artists.

Le Corbusier's Carpenter Center: The Building and the Architect
Harvard University, Carpenter Center for Visual Art, 24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). www.ves.fas.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Francesco Passanti** lectures on the pivotal 20th-century architect Le Corbusier and discusses the Carpenter Center, which Le Corbusier designed.

Documenting Our Mothers
National Archives, Regional Archives Building, 380 Trapelo Road, Waltham (866-406-2379). www.nara.gov/regional/boston. 6:30 pm. Free. Participants learn how to locate records and discover what they might expect to find in them.

The Past, Present and Future of Computing
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 10:30 am. $2. **Scott Hall** offers a brief history of computers: why they are everywhere, and what will happen to them in the future.

FRIDAY, MARCH 12

Building for Communities in Need
Boston Marriott Copley Place, 110 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-585-0180). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. $175. The Boston Architectural Center hosts a full-day symposium exploring different approaches to meeting the short- and long-term shelter needs of underserved communities.

SATURDAY, MARCH 13

Talk Show
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 12 pm. Free. Artist **Maurizio Cannavacciulo** and curator **Pieranna Cavalchini** discuss Cannavacciulo's current Gardner exhibition, *TV Dinner*.

SUNDAY, MARCH 14

A Conversation with Hillary Rodham Clinton
John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 3-4:30 pm. Free. National Public Radio senior correspondent Juan Williams moderates a conversation with Senator **Hillary Rodham Clinton**.

MONDAY, MARCH 15

Readings and Conversations about Craft and the Creative Process
The Arsenal on the Charles, The Commander's Mansion, 440 Talcott Ave., Watertown (617-923-0100). www.watertownarts.org. 7:30 pm. Free. Cookbook authors and *Boston Globe* columnists **Sheryl Julian** and **Julie Riven** talk about food.

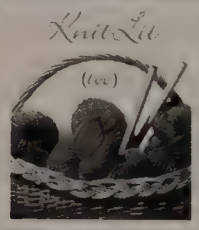
TUESDAY, MARCH 16

Aesthetic Development: Nurturing Learning; Learning About Growth
Harvard University, Larsen Hall G-08, 14 Appian Way, Cambridge (617-495-9068). www.gse.harvard.edu/aie. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 1 pm. Free. Cognitive development psychologist **Abigail Housen** and museum educator **Philip Yenawine** talk about their research organization, Visual Understanding in Education, which approaches learning through visual art.

Prayer in Public
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-373-5800). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. This panel discussion moderated by **Dan Kennedy** of the *Boston Phoenix* includes artist **Ellen Band**, social critic **Wendy Kaminer** and dean of religious and spiritual life at Wellesley College **Victor H. Kazanjian Jr.** The panel looks at the ongoing national debate about where to draw the line on prayer in the public realm.



writers & readers series
march events No tickets necessary!



3/14 Sunday 4PM
LINDA ROGHAAR *KnitLit Too*
Remember Linda Roghaar from the original *KnitLit*? No? Darn you! So, grab your needles and yarn and join her as she drops in on the world famous Booksmith Knitting Group to discuss the latest stories by knitters and for knitters.



3/24 Wednesday 7PM
DEAN KING *Skeletons on the Zahara*
In *Skeletons On the Zahara*, Dean King immerses us into a dramatic and harrowing tale rivaling that of Shackleton. Nathaniel Philbrick says of this one, "Dean King has brought to life one of the great, true-life adventure stories–a riveting tale of suffering and redemption."



3/30 Tuesday 7PM
LAURIE GWEN SHAPIRO *The Matzo Ball Heiress*
EUGENIE SEIFER OLSON *Babe In Toyland*
Laurie Gwen Shapiro, author of the riotously funny *The Unexpected Salami*, stops by to read from her hilarious and telling new novel, *The Matzo Ball Heiress*. A quirky young woman must weather the storms of love in Brookliner Eugenie Olson's hilarious and sexy debut, *Babe In Toyland*.

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gay & lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information, including telephone numbers and nearest T-stop, by fax (617-859-1446) or mail, or e-mail gaylesbian@improper.com.

Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am.; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's new leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 10 pm, $5 for 19 and 20, free for 21+. DJ John Morris spins progressive house for Lust, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $15, 21+. For 20 years, these folks have cranked out Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. Enjoy three separate dance floors plus drag acts. Rotating DJs spin house.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show, and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—pool room and lounge keep the men busy until 2 am.

CityGirl Caffé (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-9 pm; Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-4 pm. This small, laid-back café in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated, draws a mixed gay/hetero crowd for lounging and sandwiches. Brunch is served every weekend.

Club Café and Moonshine Bar (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Wednesdays, join VJ Cliff Cunningham. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Cliff Cunningham.

Diesel Café (Daily)
257 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-8717). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Mon.-Thu. 7 am-midnight, Fri., 7 am-1 am, Sat., 8 am-1 am, Sun., 8 am-12 am. All ages. Diesel is a popular place for GLBT people to go for coffee and snacks.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3 pm-2 am; Sat., 1 pm-2 am; Sun., 12 pm-2 am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This quiet, friendly neighborhood bar starts hopping as it gets closer to 2 am.

Fritz Lounge (Daily)
... Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 12 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. TV sets show satellite sports broadcasts, and Fritz is home base to a softball league. Brunch is served until 3:30 pm on weekends.

Here at 711 Boylston (Tuesdays)
711 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5502). www.hereboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 9 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Boston's Tuesday night gay dance party features and disco and pop.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.


Avalon

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 pm, $6 weekdays; $8 weekends, 21+. Patrons relax with a friendly crowd and mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •On the second Friday of each month is the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground. The typical lineup features singer Leah Callahan with guest musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Tuesdays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 12 pm-2 am. •Wed.: Game Nite hosted by either Diamond Dunhill or Rainbow Frite, 10 pm, no cover. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition with PJ McWhiskers. •Fri.: Best Night Out with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Machine with DJ Brad Gwynn playing house music. 10 pm-2 am, $7, 21+. •Tue.: Service Industry Night with DJ Afrodite.

ManRay (Wednesdays-Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 19+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. $12, 19+; $8, 21+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: New Wave Dance Party with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. $12, 19+; $8, 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). www.dykenight.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. 9 pm-2 am. $5, 21+. On Thursday nights, the Midway hosts Kristen Porter's Dyke Night, with rotating DJs, pool and dancing.

Milky Way Lounge (Sundays)
401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+. Candyland night is for gay men and women, transgendered persons and their allies. Live entertainment includes Fireballs Drag Bingo, spoken-word events and jazz. A dance party hosted by resident DJ Jamila caps off the evening. •Every Sunday there is free bowling with dinner. On the last Sunday of every month, the Milky Way presents the all-women Amazon Poetry Slam, a popular lesbian event. 8 pm, 7:30 pm sign-up, $7.

Night Games (Fridays)
Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000). www.circuitgirl.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan. 10 pm, $10, 21+. Resident DJ Kris Kono pumps the dance tunes at Circuit Girl's Anything Goes night.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Thu.: Fire and Ice with DJ Dan Leavey. •Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music. •Mon.: Pool tournament and pizza. •Tue: DJ Scott Thinsdale.

Rise (Saturday)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. Private, members-only club, predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays features resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night, and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing in this hip restaurant/lounge.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music pumps, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune video screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Vapor (Wednesdays-Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-422-0862). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adilson. 19+. •Thu.: The Music Factory with DJ Pauli Paul and DJ Ron Steele spinning hip-hop, reggae and funk. $5 before 11, $2 after 11, 21+. •Fri.: Inner Circle. $10, 21+. •Sat.: Evolution with DJ Jay Ine. •Sun.: T-Dance party with DJ Danae groovin' to local, tribal, and house while DJ Niterain spins classic oldies. 21+.

Books

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). www.calamusbooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-7 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. Boston's bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered people carries fiction, erotica and titles by gay and feminist activists.

Center for New Words
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). MBTA; Red Line to Harvard. www.centerfornewwords.com. Cambridge's center for women's writing and ideas hosts open mikes and author events.

We Think the World of You
540 Tremont St., Boston (617-574-5000). www.wethinktheworldofyou.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This community-centered gay and lesbian bookstore stocks literature, art books, DVDs and videos.

Shows & Events

Cajun Contra Dance Class
First Church of Jamaica Plain, 6 Elliot St., Jamaica Plain (617-522-2216). www.lcfd.org/jp. March 13, 7:30-11 pm. $8. Learn how to contra dance to Cajun music along with the Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers, featuring Chris Riccioti and the Grand Bois Cajun band.

"Hey Honey, Why Don't We Get Married?"
Leland Center, 537 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm, March 3-13. $10. Timothy and Tony celebrate their 20th anniversary by being allowed to marry. Through monologue, song and sketch, they tell the story of how they met and express their expectations and ideas about their future as a gay, married couple.

Love and Sex in Cyberspace
Club Cafe, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-257-0900). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. March 4, 7-9 pm. Free. The Fenway Community Health Center sponsors this open discussion for gay/bi men who want to debate the pros and cons of online dating.

The Men's Event
Westin Copley Place, 10 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-257-0900). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. March 13, 6 pm-1 am. $150. Comedian Scott Kennedy hosts 11th annual Men's Event. The fund-raiser for Fenway Community Health features a cocktail reception, a silent auction and dinner. DJ Barry Scott spins "lost 45" disco on the third floor, and Martha Wash performs hits from the '80s and '90s.

Working Stiff Cabaret
Johnny D's, 17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). www.johnnydsuptown.com. MBTA: Red Line to Hynes. March 8, 7 pm. Local musician Lea Callahan's variety show features a range of acts performed by "working stiffs." Tonight's lineup includes goth/glam cabaret players What Time Is It, Mr. Fox?, the European cabaret of Sukey Tawdry and MC/poet Michaele Saintil.

Ongoing

Atención Latina Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (800-834-3242). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. FCH collaborates with the Elizabeth Stone House to provide this safe, confidential space to discuss healthy relationships, domestic violence and other issues.

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313). www.bagly.org. MBTA: *Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wednesdays, 6-9 pm.* The Boston Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered and Questioning Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6032). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes. 7 pm.* This group meets the second Tuesday of every month for a discussion with bisexual and bi-curious men.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tuesday of the month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

BOSS
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes. 6-8 pm.* This group for gay and bisexual men of color meets the last Thursday of each month to discuss culture, lifestyle, creativity and health.

Boston Bay Blades
www.bayblades.org/boston. All are welcome to join this competitive, recreational group of rowers and scullers.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: *E Green Line to Symphony.* The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers
First Church of Jamaica Plain, corner of Centre and Eliot streets, Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.bfd.org. Every Wed., 7:30 pm, $8. Square-dancing and English country dancing lessons are available for lesbians, gays, bisexuals and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-424-8990). www.bgbl.com. The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm, Fri, 3-5 pm.* The center provides social activities for questioning young people, ages 13-25.

Boston Ironsides Rugby Football Club
Moakley Field, South Boston (617-524-5814). MBTA: *Red Line to JFK.* Rugby players of any level, age, race and orientation are welcome to play.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes. www.lesbianavengers.org. Thu., 7-8 pm.* This bi- and transsexual-friendly direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. MBTA: *Orange Line to Green St. Wednesdays, 7 pm.* A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
(617-417-0876). Third Saturday of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for interested parents and their partners. For info, e-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-1595). www.biresource.org. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm, free.* An informal group for people who think they may be bisexual or attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning People
(617-256-8693). This group welcomes those who want to discuss the challenges and the joys of coming out. It meets Thursday nights, 7-8:30 pm, in Cambridge.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area support, information, and social group for people assigned female at birth who feel that is not an accurate or complete description of their gender. Part of the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group meets monthly. E-mail CompassFTM@usa.com for details.

Controversy Thursday
Matrix (B Room), 275 Tremont St. (lower level of Roxyplex), Boston (617-542-4077). Certain Thursdays (call for details), $8, no sneakers. This gay and bi dance party features DJ John Morris at 10 pm.

Cosmetically Correct
Masa Restaurant, 439 Tremont St., Boston. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. First Fridays, 6:30 pm, free.* This social group for lipstick lesbians meets on the first Friday of each month. Lipstick encouraged. E-mail M.Antoinette@ididitmyway.com for info.

Dagger
(617-621-6090). The Theater Offensive's guerrilla theater group, Dagger, gathers on Wednesdays from 6-9 pm to create performances representing women's perspectives. For more information, e-mail dagger@theatreoffensive.org.

The Down Low
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes. Last Friday of the month. 7-9 pm.* A discussion group for gay and bisexual men of color to address heritage, lifestyle, culture and health.

East Coast Wrestling Club
(401-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www.eastcoastwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay male wrestlers has more than 160 members.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional women 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophisticated to get together with like-minded women for conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Explore Gender in a Safe Place
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes.* An ongoing support group for people born into female bodies or who have grown up being viewed as biologically female.

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Saturday mornings. Join Boston's GLBT Flag Football League for a casual spring season, followed by a formal fall season. All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). Sat., 10 am. All are welcome to join this running club.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
(617-267-9001 or 888-340-4528). Mon.-Fri., 6-11 pm; Sat. and Sun., 5-10 pm. This toll-free hotline is confidential and provides support for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning callers.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
The First Parish Church in Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Professionals Building Community
(617-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to join this networking organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered professionals.

Gaymes Group
(508-339-4250). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians. Members get together on a regular basis to play board, card and parlor games.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Stony Brook. $5-10.* An open mike night open to new performers, this queer-positive, dyke-positive, bi-positive and trans-positive spoken word event meets the second Thursday of each month, 7:30pm.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes.* Biological males meet on Monday evenings. The groups are moderated by psychologist Randi Kaufman.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: *Red Line to Central.* This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday from 10:30 am-12 pm.

Girlz 2 Girlz
(617-482-1078, ext. 277). This mentoring program for girls aged 13-19 who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered or questioning meets the second and fourth Friday of each month, 6-8 pm. Contact Jayms Battaglia.

GLBT Seniors
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6272). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes. Mondays.* Support group for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered seniors ages 60 and over.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes.* Anonymous HIV testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Laffan
This social and networking group for women includes single women, couples and parents interested in art, cultural events, outdoor and sporting activities, intellectual and social pursuits, public service and travel. Members receive a weekly e-mail calendar of events. For info, e-mail Laffan_Boston2004@yahoo.com.

LGBT Considering Parenting Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes.* A short-term (eight-week) group for LGBT persons who are considering becoming parents. Sliding fee scale available. Call for information.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue., Wed. and Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

Meow Boston
groups.yahoo.com/group/Meow_Boston. This social group caters to feminine bisexual women and lesbians in the Boston community. For women 21+.

The Network/La Red
(617-427-7233). The Network is a support group working to end abuse in lesbian, bisexual women's and transgender communities. E-mail info@the networklared.org for more information.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

Peer Listening Line
(800-399-7337). Trained GLBT volunteers provide confidential information, referrals and support.

The Rainbow Cafe
rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social group for activist, academic, intellectual or artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes. Wed., 6-7 pm.* This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatinoslgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Support Group for HIV-Negative Gay and Bisexual Men
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-967-6231). First three Tuesdays of each month, 6-8 pm. Discuss new safe-sex practices and strategies for managing risk and communicating with sexual partners.

Support Group for Lesbians with Cancer
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes. Wed. evenings, once a month. Free.* For those who want to discuss the impact of this disease on their lives.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: *C Green Line to Washington Street. First Saturday of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing, $8.* Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. WWB is a social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s. It meets the first Thursday of every month.

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body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Dances of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767 or 617-491-8694). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mar. 4, 7:30-9:30 pm. Requested donation, $6-10. Join hands in simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honoring the spiritual traditions of the world. Everyone welcome. All dances are taught and are accompanied by live music.

Self-Loving
(617-965-7846). www.healingheartpower.com. Mar. 6, 2-5 pm. $5-10 suggested donation. The Boston Area Sexuality and Spirituality Network hosts monthly meetings in Newton that cover topics related to exploring sex holistically. This month's topic is self-pleasuring.

Lectures

The Body Electric Info Gathering
Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, 318 Harvard St., Suite 32, Arcade Bldg., Brookline (617-731-2626). www.grandopening.com or www.bodyelectric.org. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. March 15, 7:30-9:30 pm. Free. Women only. Grand Opening hosts this informational meeting about the Body Electric's program Celebrating the Body Erotic, a retreat that takes place in the Northeast area in May and is dedicated to honoring and acknowledging erotic energy.

The Mind/Body Approach to Health
Safe Harbor–First Unitarian Society, 1326 Washington St., Newton (617-964- 5544). www.alternativementalhealth.com. March 11, 7:30 pm. Dr. Eva Selhub, the Director of the Medical Clinics at the Mind/Body Institute in Boston, leads this lecture on the mind/body connection, the physiology of stress and coping, and their relationship to illness.

Spring Tune-Up
Greater Boston Church of Spiritualism, Masonic Center, 32 Church St., Watertown (617-787-4830 or 617-923-4334). www.greaterbostonchurchofspiritualism.com. March 13, 9 am-5 pm. $60, includes lunch. Based on the teachings of Edgar Cayce, a reported psychic with medical diagnostic abilities, this lecture discusses lymphatic exercises, meditation, diet, healing and rejuvenation techniques.

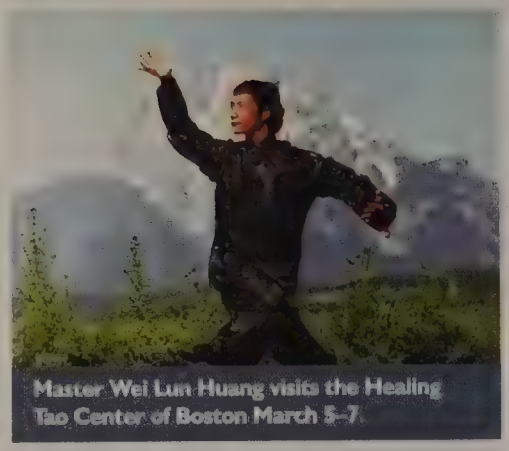
Classes

The Ancient Wisdom of Kabbalah
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 90 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circlesofwisdom.com. March 12, 7-9:30 pm. $26. Kabbalah is a 4,000-year old mystical tradition. In this workshop, author Gahl Sasson teaches participants how to use storytelling, myth, and Kabbalistic guided meditation to spur material and spiritual change in one's life.

Beginning to Meditate
The Society of Saint John the Evangelist, 980 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (617-876-3037). www.ssje.org. March 13, 10 am-3 pm. This workshop offers lessons on meditative prayer and practices for novices.

Discovering Wild Herbs
Habitat Education Center and Wildlife Sanctuary, 10 Juniper Rd., Belmont (617-489-5050). www.massaudubon.org. March 10, 7-9 pm. $18. Registration is required. Learn which common plants relieve mosquito bites and which can be enjoyed in a salad, along with many other culinary, household, cosmetic and medicinal uses.

Herbal Studies: Natural Approaches to Immune Health
Boston School of Herbal Studies,12 Pelham Terrace, Arlington (781-646-6319). www.bostonherbalstudies.com. March 6, 2-4:30 pm. $25. This class focuses on nutritious foods, strengthening tonics, antibacterial herbs, and how herbs can help maintain good health throughout the winter.


Master Wei Lun Huang visits the Healing Tao Center of Boston March 5–7.

Introduction to Reiki: Empowerment through Natural Healing
Concord-Carlisle Adult Education, Concord-Carlisle High School, 500 Walden St., Concord (781-648-9334). www.arlingtonreiki.com. March 10, 6:30-8 pm. This class teaches the basics of Reiki, an ancient hands-on healing technique intended to reduce stress, relieve pain and facilitate personal growth.

Meditation
Christine's Yoga and Pilates, 1280 Centre St., Suite 6, Newton Centre (617-928-0932). www.christinesdayspa.com. MBTA: Green Line to Newton Centre. March 7, 5:15-6:15 pm. $10. Participants explore different ways of meditating, concentrating on breathing and awareness.

Smart Women Finish Rich
Worcester State College, Chandler St., Worcester (508-929-8031). March 6, 9 am-12 pm. $50, please pre-register. Based on David Bach's book *Smart Women Finish Rich*, this workshop teaches women how to determine where they stand financially and gives tips for pursuing financial security and realizing goals.

SoulSong: Listen, Breathe and Sing
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (978-283-0495). www.vocalartscollaborative.org. March 13, 10 am-4 pm. $75. This class teaches participants how to sing in a playful, spontaneous, creative way.

Sound Healing: Discovering Your Voice
Amethyst Conference Center, 25 Elm St., Somerville (781-393-4416). www.cgnaturalhealth.com. March 6, 9 am-4 pm. $60. Explore sacred sounds, chakra toning, humming and chanting. Participants learn to incorporate their voices in meditation and healing.

Thai Massage Basics
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545 or 401-941-7231). www.charlesrivershiatsu.com or www.juliasmith.com. March 6 and 7, 10 am-5 pm. $225. This class teaches Thai medical theory, including more than 25 stretches, twists, compresses, and palming and thumbing techniques for relieving pain and tension.

Visiting Master: Wei Lun Huang
The Healing Tao Center of Boston, 440 Somerville Ave., 2nd Floor, Somerville (978-371-1410). www.bostonhealingtao.com or www.huangtaichi.com. First three workshops: March 5-6, 2-3 hours each. $80 each. Tai Chi Long Form: March 7, 10 am-5 pm. $160. Registration suggested. Master Wei Lun Huang, a tai chi and chi kung practitioner, teaches four different workshops, all open to beginners.

West African Drumming
Cambridge Friends School, 5 Cadbury Rd. Cambridge (781-316-8068). www.drumconnection.com. March 13, 12-4 pm. $75. Participants learn African rhythm in this drum workshop. All levels welcome.

Ongoing

Feldenkrais
CasaNia: A Home for Every Body, 46 Porter Rd., Cambridge (617-491-5144). www.casania.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Mon., 10-11:15 am and 7:45-9:15 pm. Thurs., 12:15 pm. $15, drop-in. Feldenkrais is a movement-awareness therapy designed to aid various physical problems, such as repetitive stress syndrome or bad posture.

Vinyasa Flow Yoga
CasaNia: A Home for Every Body, 46 Porter Rd., Cambridge (617-491-5144). www.casania.com. MBTA: Red Line Porter. $15, drop-in. Mon. and Thurs., 8-9:30 am. Tues., 7:30-9 am. This style of yoga features a series of flowing postures linked by the breath to detoxify, stretch, strengthen the body and build life force energy.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

Boston Bruins
•FleetCenter, Boston
Tickets: 617-931-2000
March 4, 7:30 pm vs. New York Rangers
March 6, 7 pm vs. Atlanta Thrashers
March 13, 12 pm vs. Buffalo Sabres

Boston Celtics
•FleetCenter, Boston
Tickets: 800-462-2849
March 5, 7:30 pm vs. Washington Wizards
March 10, 7 pm vs. LA Lakers
March 12, 7:30 pm vs. Indianapolis Pacers

Events

An Ras Mor 5K
Start/finish at the Asgard Irish Pub, 350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-247-3446). www.srr.org. March 14, 10 am. $20. A party featuring new and traditional Irish music follows this St. Patty's Day–themed road race. A portion of proceeds benefit the Cambridge Family and Children's Service.

Boston Bruins Charity Auction
Royal Sonesta Hotel Boston, Five Cambridge Parkway, Cambridge (617-624-1923). www.bostonbruins.com. March 7, 5 pm. $100. Join the entire Boston Bruins team as well as alumni at this annual party and auction to benefit the Bruins Foundation. The evening includes complimentary beer, wine and appetizers, and live and silent auctions. Auction items up for grabs include a road trip on the Bruins charter to Toronto and game-worn equipment. Dress is creative 1920s to celebrate the Bruins' 80th anniversary (or business casual). Sponsored by THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN.

Ras na hEireann USA Road Race
Start/finish at Chester St., Davis Square, Somerville (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org/BAEvents/schedule. March 14, 10 am. $18 before March 7, $20 after March 7. Dubbed "The Race of Ireland and the United States," this 3.4-mile run includes post-race parties with live music at the Burren, Joshua Tree, the Sligo, Diesel Café, Toscanini, Orleans and Redbones.

To Play

BASEBALL
Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL
BSSC Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Brookline and Dedham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING
Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers amateur Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

FENCING
Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLOOR HOCKEY
BSSC Coed Floor Hockey
Leagues are held in Newton, North Reading and Brighton (617-789-4070, ext. 238). www.bssc.com. All levels, individuals and teams are welcome.

FOOTBALL
BSSC Coed Indoor Flag Football
Games are played in Revere and Tewksbury. (617-789-4070, ext. 242). Sign up individually or with a group of friends.

RUGBY
Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING
Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, then consider joining these self-proclaimed "serious drinkers with a running problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St. Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Run
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Thu., 7 pm. Weekly runs.

VFW Logan Post 3.223-Miler
VFW James Logan Post, 1192 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org/BAEvents. Logan. Thu., 7:10 pm. Weekly runs followed by pizza and Harpoon beer.

SKATING
Bay State Skating School
Various area MDC rinks (781-890-8480). www.baystateskatingschool.org. Check Web site for schedules. $108.50 for a seven-week class. Skating classes for adults and children teach the fundamentals using either figure skates or hockey skates.

SOCCER
BSSC Indoor Soccer
(617-789-4070). Teams forming now. Games played in Charlestown, Cambridge, Brighton, Reading and Canton. Individuals and teams are welcome.

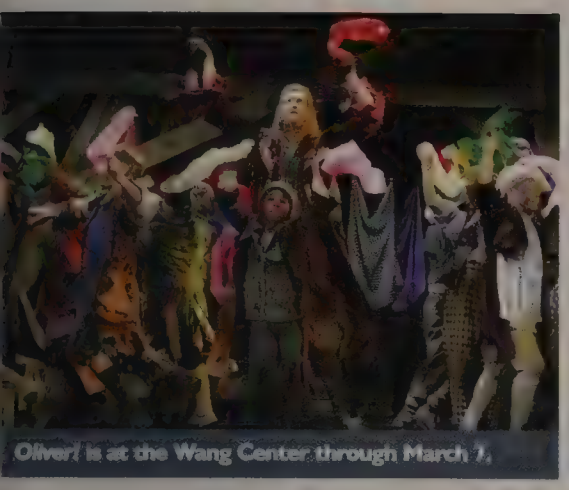
VOLLEYBALL
BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070, ext 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed teams forming in Cambridge, Watertown, Brookline and Newton. Teams and individuals are welcome to set and spike their way to glory.

WOMEN'S FLAG FOOTBALL
New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Saturday mornings. Teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

WRESTLING
Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-868-8379). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels. Weekly practices held year-round.


Joe Thornton signs an autograph at last year's Bruins Charity Auction.

children


Oliver! is at the Wang Center through March 7.

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) o Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to hildren@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ubway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief descrip- ion of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publica- ion. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Borders Books and Music
Cambridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Sat., 12 pm. Staff nembers read from new and classic storybooks.

Folktales East and West
Acton Town Hall, 471 Main St., Acton (978-264- 200) www.discoverymuseums.org. Fri., 10 am. March 12. Free. The Children's Discovery Museum nd the City Stage Performing Arts Troupe present n interactive performance of traditional folktales rom European, Chinese and Native American ultures.

Harvard Coop
400 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-499-200). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 11am. Listen to staff nembers read stories.

Kids Variety Show
Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brook- ne (617-738-6533). www.coolidge.kidsshow.info. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Sat., 0:30 am. $10, $8 children. •March 6: Comic magi- ian Jon Stetson performs. •March 13: The classic airy tale *The Three Little Pigs* is told with puppets.

Oliver!
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447- 400). www.telecharge.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston, Orange Line to New England Medical Cen- er. Through March 7. Tue., 7:30 pm; Wed., 7 pm; Thu. and Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 7:30 pm; Sun., 1 nd 7 pm. Through March 7. $28-$78. Lionel Bart's nusical about an orphan who "wants more" is based n Charles Dickens' classic story.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
2 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www. uppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50. Reservations recommended. March 3 and 4, 10:30 am, ages 3-6: *Singing Bird nd Bear & Other Tales* is a selection of Native American tales about a young woman and her ad- entures in the forest. •March 6 and 7, 1 and 3 m, ages 4-9: *The Golden Touch and Other Tales.* King Midas and other stories are presented. March 10 and 11, 10:30 am, ages 4-6: *Jack and the Beanstalk* •March 13 and 14, 1 and 3 pm, ages 3-7: *Eeyore's Birthday* features Pooh, Piglet and Eeyore, who feels neglected on his birthday.

Starr Gallery
33 Nahanton St., Newton (617-558-6484). www.lsjcc.org. March 14, 2 pm. $9. Grades K-6. Puppeteer Mark Levenson presents *The Wise Men of Chelm.*

Things to Do

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426- 855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8 adults/$7 children. •Kids can mix hip-hop tunes in the Streetscape, jive in the jazz club, and rock at the school dance through the hands-on exhibits of *Making America's Music: Rhythm, Roots & Rhyme.* •*Five Friends from Japan: Children in Japan Today* features hands-on lessons about Japanese writing, attire, music and more. Through May 17.

Family Days: Seeing and Speaking
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. March 6, 10 am-12:30 pm and 1:30 pm-4 pm. $10 for adult and child. Children ages 5-12 are invited to learn about the artwork in the *Made in Mexico* exhibit by making e-cards with artist/architect Prerna Sood.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-496-8204). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. $7.50/$5 children. •March 6, 9 am-11 am: *How Are You Hiding?* Find out how animals escape from predators.

Ice Skating at Frog Pond
Frog Pond, Boston Common, Boston (617-635-2120). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Sun., 10 am-9 pm; Mon., 10 am-5 pm; Tue.-Thu., 10 am-9 pm; Fri.-Sat., 10 am-10 pm. $3, free for children under 14 (not including skate rental). Lace up your skates for a few laps on the ice.

Ice Skating Classes
Rinks located in Brighton, Cambridge, Cleveland Circle/Brookline, Hyde Park/Dedham, Lynn, Medford, Neponset/Dorchester, Newton, North End, Somerville, South Boston and West Roxbury (781-890-8480). www.baystateskatingschool.org. Ages 4 ½ and older. Kids can learn to do a triple axel or try out their hockey skills.

Maple Sugaring
Natick Community Organic Farm, 117 Eliot St., Natick (508-655-2204). www.natickfarm.org. Through late March 6; call to schedule a tour. $3. See how real maple syrup is made. After watching the process, participants get to taste the syrup.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. $5, $1 children. Third Sunday of every month visit the museum for free. •*Holography, the Light Fantastic.* The MIT Museum displays the largest collection of holograms in the world and describes the artistic and scientific facets of the medium. •*Robots and Beyond.* Take a look behind the scenes of MIT's artificial intelligence research labs in this interactive exhibit.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. $15. Free for children 17 and under. •Mon.-Fri., 3:30-4:45 pm, ages 6-12: *Children's Room.* Children can participate in hands-on art projects related to MFA exhibitions. •Sat., 11:30 am, 12:30 pm, 1:30 pm: *Art Alive.* Children can experience art through various entertaining mediums, from books to the stage. •Wednesdays, 4:30-6:30 pm, teens: *Teen-to-Teen Art Talks.* Adolescent art aficionados have the chance to both discuss and create art.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $10 children. •Sat. and Sun., 11 am-12 pm: The museum's Science Theater Program offers *Animals and Stories Alive!*, featuring professional storytellers who combine folk tales and myths with visits from live animals. •Fri., 8:30-10 pm (weather permitting). Gilliland Observatory: Use the observatory's two telescopes to find the moon, stars, constellations, and planets. •Mugar Omni Theatre, check Web site for show times, $8.50, $6.50 children: *India: Kingdom of the Tiger* (through May 28) and *Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West* (through June) •*Theater of Electricity:* Daily at 12 and 2 pm. The Van de Graaff generator provides a risk-free lightning show.

Museum of Transportation
Larz Anderson Park, 15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). www.mot.org. Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5. The Museum of Transportation has a large collection of rare and antique cars as well as exhibits on automobile history. •*The Evolution of Speed* exhibit explores the history of American auto racing with race cars and displays.

Take a Winter Walk
Gore Place, 52 Gore St., Waltham (781-894-2798). Mon.-Fri. through March 13, 10 am-3 pm. $5 for rental of children's snowshoes; $4 for each additional pair of children's snowshoes; $5 for adult snowshoes. Ages 3-9. Explore nature using activity packs to search for animal tracks; identify trees; and meet sheep, goats, chickens and rabbits living at the farm.

around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wednesdays (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm, Fri., 10 am-9 pm; June-Aug., daily, 10 am-5 pm, Fri. until 9 pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (617-338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park Street. Mon.-Sun., 9:30 am-6 pm. $7.50.

Forest Hills Cemetery
95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-524-0128). www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. Daily, 7:30 am-sundown. Free.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-2 pm. Free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-8 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-739-1200). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10 am-4 pm. $5, $3 students, seniors.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $10 seniors and children.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5, $3 children.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1, Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, $8.95 children.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (617-635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. Tours start at 9 am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. $3.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10 am-4 pm; weekends, 10 am-5 pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $6, $4 seniors.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8 am-6 pm. $3.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). Museum open daily, 10 am-5 pm. Winter ship hours: Thu.-Sun., 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-450-1235). Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. Be a big brother.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Befriend a girl.

Boston Cares
(617-263-2273). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). Tutor Boston pre-school through high school students in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers/tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support to children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-423-9575). Tutor students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
livmates@rcn.com. Spend your lunch hour reading at an elementary school in Cambridge or Somerville.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). Volunteers needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Play with homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). Share your time with an elderly individual, mentor children or teach an adult to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Association for the Blind
(800-852-3029). Read or shop with a blind person.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(617-536-3557). Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

Parental Stress Line
(617-528-5800). Telephone counselors needed.

Pine Street Inn
(617-521-7626). Serve breakfast to homeless guests.

Project Place
(617-262-3740). Become a mentor or tutor to homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111). Record textbooks in digital formats.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Work at a battered-women's agency.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room and groceries program at this homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-hour domestic violence program.

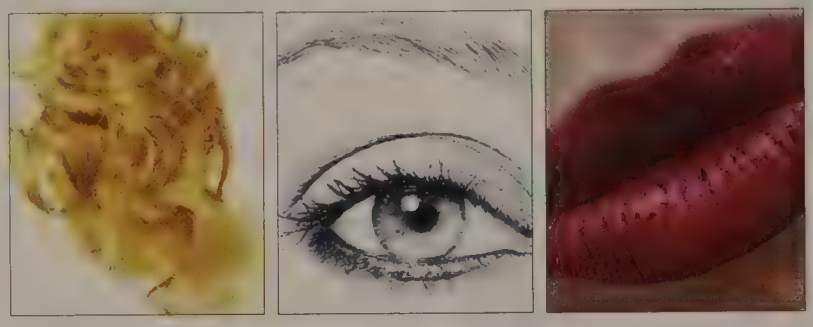
Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young professionals.

StandUp for Kids
(800-365-4543). Help rescue homeless children.

VNA Care Network
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.


Be a mentor at the Home for Little Wanderers.



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improperimpersonals

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RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

Serial Dater

"I love you, sweetheart" is a bad breakup strategy. You came into my life and pursued me with persistence. You called incessantly and in time broke my walls down. I trusted you, I believed you. I now understand why the last person you were involved with is having such difficulty letting go. I should have left the morning they came to your door. Most people don't throw I-love-yous, loads of attention and generosity around lightly. In the end I hope you get your wish, that of "trying to figure out if I can be alone" because that is what you deserve.
—dogbite703@hotmail.com

The Sexiest Dental Receptionist Around

I know that I said that I would stop asking you out. I have stopped, but every time I see you, especially that smile, it drives me nuts. I respected the fact that you were "kinda seeing someone" and took what I could get with the lunch dates as "friends." But now you have broken up with him and are "kinda seeing" someone new. I never even got my chance. I said that being friends was cool, but I lied. You are so beautiful, sweet and we have so much in common and you know it. Every time I came up to sit in that chair, knowing that a world of pain was coming my way, I would forget all about it when I saw you behind that desk. What does a guy have to do? Remember that "sweet" gesture from me on Valentine's Day last year? I am capable of even more romance than that, even though you think I'm just some bad boy from Eastie. I'm almost done with the visits and I won't see you that often anymore. Give me that one chance I never got. I would treat you right, I promise girl.
—Filling My Heart

South on 93

I first saw you when I went the wrong way on 93 and had to make a U-turn to get back onto 93 South in New Hampshire. I caught up to you on the highway and I didn't want to have to get back off the highway at Andover. You were driving a blue pick-up. You passed, I passed and you waved when I had to go. Were you heading back toward Boston? I'm hoping you live a little closer to the city, a little closer to home for me. If you can tell me what I was driving, maybe what I looked like, I might be willing to swing by and pick you up for a drink.
—southon93@hotmail.com

Feb. 8 at Attitash

It was about 2:30 pm and I was taking off my boots in Rental Return. You have reddish hair, you looked very cold and very cute because you had just taken your last run of the day from the summit. You started chatting with me about skiing and how it's a crime that I haven't hiked Mount Washington. You're from Swansea and were hoping there was a Budweiser promotion that weekend. I was the cute brunette with the dark blue coat who was there with the Genesis Fund. You called me sweetie as you left and I should've given you my number. Tell me where I'm from and I'll tell you where to find me.
—starfire718@hotmail.com

Busk Stop

Feb. 1: I was taking the Red Line and you were playing guitar on the middle platform. I was with my friends on the left platform. It was a long wait for my train. While you were trying to think of a song to play, I requested Janis Joplin's "Bobby McGee." It really was said just as a joke to my friends but you said something like, "It's not in my range." That caught my attention. You were a trooper and you played a bit of it. I told you that it was my birthday, which was a fib. You of course said, "Is it really?" (I guess you've heard of women telling people that it's their birthday when it's not, just to get free drinks and other stuff.) You asked my name and I said "Melissa" because I don't yell out my real name on a subway (but I would be glad to tell you my real name). My friend told you that I was 22 (not a lie). You sang "Happy Birthday" for me and had everyone there sing to me. But what got me was when you then sang it in another language (très cool) and then came up with a funny song to the "Happy Birthday" tune quickly. It was about how I would go to the Purple Shamrock and drink tequila shots off of a guy. It was really funny and had a plot. Unfortunately some of the lyrics I couldn't hear because the train came, but luckily the train doors open for the middle platform as well. Under my friend's encouragement I went up and kissed you on the cheeks. I wish I had a pen and paper to give you my number, because you were quite fetching when I got up closer. If I were on *Love Connection* I'd give you another date—that is, if we can have a first. In Janis Joplin's words, "Come on and take it, take another bit of my heart now baby."
—photogal21@hotmail.com

Chris?

I met someone who stopped me in my tracks in Killington, Vt., at the Pickle Barrel happy hour Feb. 7. She lives in Beacon Hill and I think she might be a teacher (unless she was kidding when she told me that). We only spoke for a few minutes but she made an impression—so much so that I've asked all my friends if they know her and one suggested trying this. Like an idiot I didn't think to ask for her number until right after she left (rookie move, learn from my mistakes all). If you know her, please forward this to her and have her contact me. If it's really her I'll know because she'll be able to tell me what I asked her when we met that surprised her, what she and her friend were drinking, what they were wearing, and what grade she told me she teaches, etc. Whoever gets this to her I'll owe big time! Thanks for the help!
—lookinginbeaconhill@yahoo.com

V-Day

We met last year on Valentine's Day and for a while it was wonderful. Even though exams, time and pride have gotten in the way of us, I still think about you. Send me an e-mail if you still think about me!
—samanthalyons2000@yahoo.com

It All Adds Up

We met 12 years ago, dated, and then went our own ways because we could never seem to get it right. Back then you were a young, hot lad and I was a shy, hot girl. I used to follow you home from work and make you really nervous when we would leave our jobs. You used to be able to tell me apart from any other customer who strode through the door because of my perfume. Years have passed and I never thought that I would see you again. Then I ran into you at the lake in Wakefield one night in July and I swear our eyes made contact, but neither one of us approached the other. I then saw you at a Dunkin' Donuts in Stoneham on Jan 2. We talked and hugged there very briefly and you told me that you moved and were now my neighbor. We have run into each other intermittently since that Friday night, and I want to ask you why people find the one true thing and throw it back for something brighter or better? You threw me away for someone better and I just let you go. If the right person is reading this, you are a tall dirty-blond/light-brown-haired, blue-eyed, 30-year-old male in the accounting profession. I am a light-brown/reddish-brown-haired, brown-eyed 30-year-old girl, also in the accounting profession. You always used to say to me, "Don't let your meat loaf." So do you wanna lend me some sugar?
—shopgirl20032001@hotmail.com

rockie horoscope

MARCH 3 – 16, 2004

BY ROCKIE GARDINER



PISCES FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

So I lied, but only to protect you. If the last couple of weeks were dominated by disturbing events and explosive reactions, you probably were celebrating a birthday. February Fish would have caught the worst of it when the sun joined erratic Uranus. Now you may turn quite conscientious and contrite because the sun supports Saturn; a bit of a downer, but constructive. Anticipate the swing to manic as enthusiastic Jupiter magnifies the brilliant Pisces sun–Mercury conjunction on the 3rd. Maybe you'll get lucky, published or married?

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

Jubilant, generous Jupiter favoring your Mars ruler provides more enthusiasm and confidence than even a shy, retiring Ram—if there is such an animal—could possibly use. With impulsive Mars in your Taurus money house, the urge to spend, especially for romantic fun and games or other risky ventures, will be hard to contain. Add the attention and approval you're enjoying while magnetic Venus is in Aries (but only until March 5), and you might assume that you can do no wrong. Well, not until a respected colleague suggests otherwise.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

The intensity of your desire increases whenever your Venus ruler aligns with powerful Pluto, planted firmly in your house of sex, secrets and other people's money. The stronger you feel about, say, a family heirloom or a handsome hunk's family jewels, the more you have to have it. But instead of leading to disaster, this supportive relationship rewards an ever-changing value system. It also makes it easier to give up something or someone else. You won't be sitting this pretty again until autumn, so choose wisely and well.

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

This is another of those super-smart periods when your Mercury ruler floods your brain with intelligence, imagination and, for a welcome change, prudence. First, you get the brainstorm; then, you realize its practical applications; and finally, as the idealistic Pisces sun and expansive Jupiter zap the Messenger, you foresee its future potential. The Virgo full moon on the 6th may present the career opportunity that can turn another good idea into a full-fledged reality. Meanwhile, a casual friend gets chummy.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

To boldly go… A woman may be the reason you're given the chance to blaze a trail you normally wouldn't stumble across yourself. There's nothing especially hazardous about this venture; you're behaving responsibly and just might contain your Cancerian concern for troubled souls. There's also the lure of not-so-filthy lucre as this full moon lands on your financial axis, currently housing generous Jupiter, the eternal optimist, and Mercury, the curious communicator. Without half-trying, you could become much smarter, and richer, than you were last week.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

Pay more attention to the small stuff. While your sun ruler and Mercury meet in Pisces, random thoughts floating through your mind, idle chatter or something you read can have a significant impact on future plans. But don't expect to get a crystal-clear image or a fully realized idea. In Pisces, this planetary merger leads to diffusion, illusion and sacrifice. A word of warning: Since the sun also opposes generous Jupiter in Virgo, good intentions may fall victim to boundless enthusiasm, unrealistic expectations, inflated costs and egos.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

This could be a seesaw sort of time, with very high highs possible as your Mercury ruler and the Pisces sun face benevolent Jupiter in your sign. Someone may promise you the moon and vice versa. The low point comes if and when this person makes a grab for the goodies, retracts an offer or otherwise proves a disappointment. However, you'll wind up so much wiser than before, and after Jupiter goes direct, wealthier as well. Just remember, until Mercury moves into Aries on the 12th you may be far too willing to suspend disbelief. Romantic foolishness!

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

Whose allegiance can you count on now? Who has your best interests at heart: a playmate, offspring or colleague? A battle among them isn't a sure thing, but you might become conflicted by too many divergent opinions. Besides, while your Venus ruler travels through bold, brave Aries, you'll tend to go it alone. That, for a Libra, is somewhat out of character. Until Venus arrives in Taurus and opts for a sensual, secure alternative, try to be more patient, primarily with yourself.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

Simpatico, sexy and solvent, too? Your everyday routine—a trip to the health food store, a visit to the vet, a brief encounter at work—can bring rewards you couldn't possibly expect. Thanks to affectionate Venus courting your Pluto co-ruler, you'll be able to maximize the benefits—material, social and otherwise—due you. Just be sure that you don't insist on having it all your way; there's a crucial compromise in the offing by midmonth. Better to have some satisfaction and money than risk everything on attitude.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

Pressured by a family situation, a career demand or blind ambition to once again overextend, the sagacious Sag should try to hold back a bit. But which Centaur among us follows another's advice? You could also anticipate a short trip, a run-in with a neighbor, maybe a conflict between hoping to be charitable and having to be practical. Because this is a particularly fertile period for romance and creative ventures, it wouldn't hurt to pay more attention to your love life, a child and your OB-GYN.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

During this full moon period, money matters can have a stronger effect on Caps born in mid January. For the others, the Pisces-Virgo dichotomy could bring about a fascinating excursion into how your mind works, a detailed research project or an actual trip. Communicating to the best of your ability, no matter if the medium is poetry or physics, results from the intellectual stimulus you're currently receiving. But if you're hearing complaints from a female in the family, wait a week and they'll be gone.

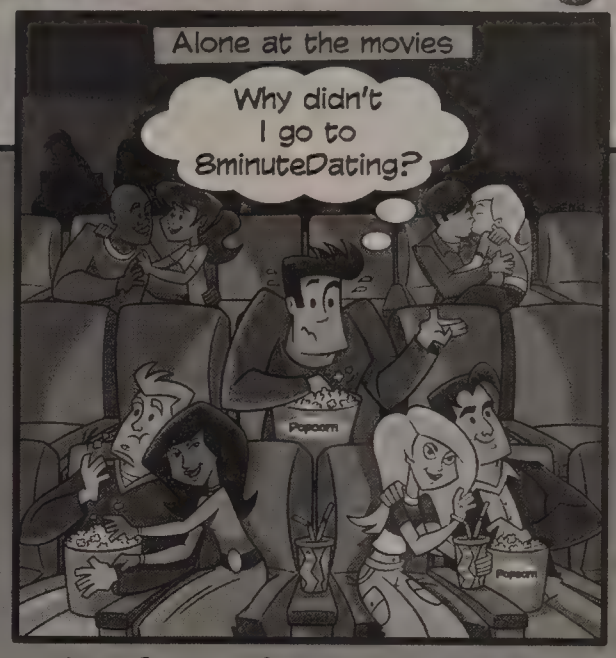
AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

It's not a woman but a macho man who may be giving you grief. If assertive Mars is attacking with a variety of motivational techniques, e.g., badgering and bullying, either hire a guy to do the dirty work or dig in yourself. Mars in earthy Taurus is determined, security-conscious and practical, so when artistic Venus arrives, the groundwork for the aesthetic improvements she'll bring will already be laid. This full moon can affect your opinion, pro or con, about a financial matter a partner advocates.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, *www.rockiehoroscope.com*. Read my daily forecast online at *www.laweekly.com*.

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IMPROPER sightings

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Leading off the Man Issue Swimsuit Sightings are Janice DaCosta and Regina Bankes in South Beach, Miami. Janice is a former American Gladiator and likes puppies.



Lisa Vancans and Jenn Breslouf model the latest Prada snorkelware in Hanauma Bay, Oahu, Hawaii. Jenn's hobbies include travel, snorkeling, reading and running a small radish boutique in Allston.



Angela White, Brooke Witkowski and Pooja Shenoy confront hydrogenuphobia (fear of water above the knee) in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic.



The Plaza Resort in Daytona Beach, Fla. relaxes its golf course dress code for Pats cheerleaders Helen Grimes, Alison Preston, Kimberly Mello, Diana Martufi, Heidi Fielek, Kristin Gauvin, Narra Martineau, Lori Dolce and Elizabeth Harlow.



Courtney Miller and Heather Stewart take a break from filming Sisqo's follow-up video, "Sarong Song," in Paradise Island, Bahamas.



Susan Cardoner poses with Exumer the dolphin at Blue Lagoon Island, Bahamas. Exumer enjoys having lungs and communicating via squeaks and clicks.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Looting, pillaging and discovering the New World long before Columbus at the Up Helly Aa Viking Festival, held March 19 in Brae, Scotland.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and will not be returned.

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Issue date: March 31 Advertising deadline: March 19

IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Wednesday, February 18, **The Improper Bostonian** hosted a party at **Caprice** to celebrate the Bachelors & Bachelorettes Issue. The **Adam Ezra Group** entertained the crowd with music from their upcoming new CD. Proceeds for the event will benefit the **Boston Cure Project for Multiple Sclerosis**.









1. **Jeff "Turtle" Goulart**, percussion; **Adam Ezra**, guitar and vocals, and **Jimmy Saulnier**, bass, all of the Adam Ezra Group.
2. **Courtney Mei O'Regan**, public relations manager at Caprice, **Jordan Tobins**, owner of Upper Crust, and **Jeri Colbert**, law student and Patriots cheerleader.
3. **Josh Huggard**, bar manager at Coolidge Corner Clubhouse; **Michelle Lawrence** and **Alicia Cokorogianis**, registered nurses at New England Medical Center, and **Douglas Epstein**, executive vice president at Horizon Beverage Co.
4. **Mike Gregorio**, sales representative for Excel division of United Liquors; **Susanna Gevondian** manager for Violet Cosmetics; **Gary Zerola**, managing partner of Light; and **Rousanna Gevondian**, manager for Violet Cosmetics.

On Friday, February 6, **Aria**'s Floss Fridays was hosted by Ace and Cameran from **MTV's Real World**.







1. **Cameran** from *The Real World*; **Katie Greenwood**, territory manager for Dale Carnegie Training; **Nicole Yarmen**, sales representative for M.S. Walker; and **Ace** from *The Real World*.
2. **Kosta Grapsas**, general manager for Aria; **Maren Sachs** and **Demetri Tsolikis**, both promoters at Aria; and **Ani Ajemian**, paralegal with Stop & Shop Corporate.
3. **Bryan Arndt**, personal trainer at Beacon Hill Athletic Club; **Sara Leiker**, stylist for Lord's & Lady's Hair Salon; and **Pat Kneib**, M.B.A. student at the University of Missouri.

PHOTOS: CAPRICE, ARIA , JULIE KANE

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Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch



RESTAURANTS

75 Chestnut *75 Chestnut St., Boston, 617-227-2175, www.75chestnut.com.* Providing regional American cuisine served in an intimate setting. Bar opens at 5pm. Dinner served from 5:30pm - 10pm.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled PortabellaPaninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC,V.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2002. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617 661.5005.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039:* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444, Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., South Boston,617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Ned Devine's *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere inthe heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998,1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 0pm. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches. Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Science Street Café *Science Park, Boston, 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out Boston's newest nightspot - The Science Street Café at the Museum of Science. Try our out-of-this world signature martinis, gourmet appetizers and decadent desserts - all while listening to live music. Perfect before or after an Omni film. Open 6-10pm. Parking available.

Sidney's Grille *20 Sidney St, Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why Bon Appétit magazine says, "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breakfast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus visit www.sidneysgrille.com

Solas *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am 7 days a week.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

BARS/CLUBS

Beer Specialty

Boston Beer Works *112 Canal St., near the Fleet Center, 617-896-BEER, 61 Brookline Ave., across from Fenway Park, 617-536-BEER and 278 Derby St., in Historic Salem, 978-745-BEER.* Boston's oldest and largest restaurant brewery with 3 locations! Bold American Food. Award Winning Beer. 15 microbrewed beers always on tap. 16 American wines by the glass. 15 championship billiards tables at our Canal Street location. Complete party planning capabilities. Private Rooms. Customizeable menus. Lunch. Dinner. Late Night. Always a good time. Check out the BIGGER and BOLDER menu.

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Billiards

Big City - Pool Hall, Pizza Kitchen, Beer Bar *138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8pm, free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Felt *533 Washington St., Boston, 617-350-5555.* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering sophisticated billiards, New York style lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or for a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere combined with the delicious creative entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Eclectic cuisine by Chef Casey Lloyd.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 10pm. Live DJs 7 nights a week, dancing with Ibiza's DJ Marco, resident DJs DJLittles and Johnny C til 2 am. Join us in our new private VIP room! Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Clubs

Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston, 617-482-7799.* Located in Boston's trendy Theater District, Pravda 116 is a chic bar and club. DJs 5:30pm - 10:30pm keep the energy level high. Bar 5:30pm-2am and dance club 10:30pm - 2am Wednesday-Saturday. Credit cards accepted AE, CB, DC, MC, V.

Stadium – Clubhouse *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Stadium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale nightclub featuring two bars, a hardwood dance floor and parking. An exciting yet relaxed 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety of music and beautiful people crowding the dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights. An ideal place for your next bachelor, bachelorette or birthday party.

Comedy

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

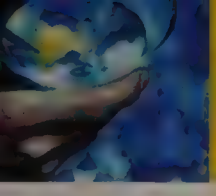
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www. theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. Mingle. Let your hair down; see and be seen on the big screen. Simply the hippest way to spend a night of all-out fun in Boston's Financial District. Come after work. Come to dance. Come to go wild with your friends. There's always something exciting happening – and you never know who you'll bump into. Join us and experience what the buzz is all about.

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 617-227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston,617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal and martini. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 10pm. Live DJs 7 nights a week, dancing with Ibiza's DJ Marco, and resident DJs DJLittles and Johnny C til 2 am. Join us in our new private VIP room! Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Irish

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 617-742-*





2286. Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston,617-742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 617-523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11am - 1am 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

The Green Dragon *11Marshall St., Boston, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 617-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

General

The Alley *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. www.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

Aqua *120 Water St., Boston, 617-720-4900.* Boston's newest place to be seen is now open in the heart of the Financial District. Whether relaxing with a martini in one of our cozy booths, sipping a margarita on our roof deck or watching your hometown favorites on our high definition plasma TV. Aqua has what you're looking for after work and late night with our resident and guest DJs spinning your favorite mixes through our state of the art sound system all night long.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Boston Rocks *245 Quincy Market Place Boston,617-726-1110 www.boston-rocks.net. 21+.* Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St.,617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2003. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Cheers *Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-227-0150, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Offering pub fare until 11:45pm. Live entertainment every Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Cheers *Beacon Hill 84 Beacon St., Boston, 617-227-9605, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Full menu available until 11:45pm. Watch your favorite team on DirecTV.

Downtown Lounge *138 Portland St., Boston 617-523-8383.* Tempting tapas, modern martinis and contemporary cocktails are just a few of the elements awaiting your arrival. A distinctive destination in the heart of North Station, located just one block from the Fleet Center. Share crab taquitos, shaved portobello mushrooms or grilled white pizza. Revive with a specialty martini while sinking into soft curvy seating. Spacious and sublime, Dowtown Lounge is an attractive meeting place for business, luncheons, social, after work cocktails and events.

The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010.* Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St.,Boston 617-722-0161.* The newest edition to Boston's night scene. This New Orleans style bar is just steps away from the Fleet Center. Hurricane O'Reilly's serves up the best that Boston nightlife has to offer. Come dance the night away with the hottest music around. We will leave you yearning for Bourbon Street.

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Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston 617-351-7001.* A multistory Latin-themed restaurant and club, Sophia's treats guests to a tantalizing Tapas-style menu, live Salsa bands and hi-energy Latin dance. From a romantic dinner and salsa lessons to hi-energy dance and mingling on the roof deck over sangria and Salsa, an evening at Sophia's is always Hot! Hot! Hot

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The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston,617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal and martini. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 10pm. Watch all your favorite teams on one of our 18 TVs or in our private VIP lounge on of our 6 new 50" plasma TVs! Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Stadium *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* Boston's Best Damn Sports Bar, Period. A brand new, high-end sports bar featuring two floors, three bars, 30 flat screen TVs—including the one in the men's room, a dance floor and parking. Stadium menu offers an enticing selection of appetizers, salads, steak & burgers, fresh seafood and drinks

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Harvard Gardens *315 Cambridge St., Beacon Hill, Boston, 617-523-2727. www.harvardgardens.com.* Cozy up to the beautiful mahogany bar or slip into a comfy booth and enjoy Harvard Gardens' menu of cool cocktails and comfort food. Brunch serves up eggs and pastrami hash, thick-cut French toast with caramelized bananas, specialty pizzas and Boston's best Bloody Mary. Harvard Gardens serves brunch Saturday and Sunday, 11:30am - 3:00pm.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended 617-661-5005.

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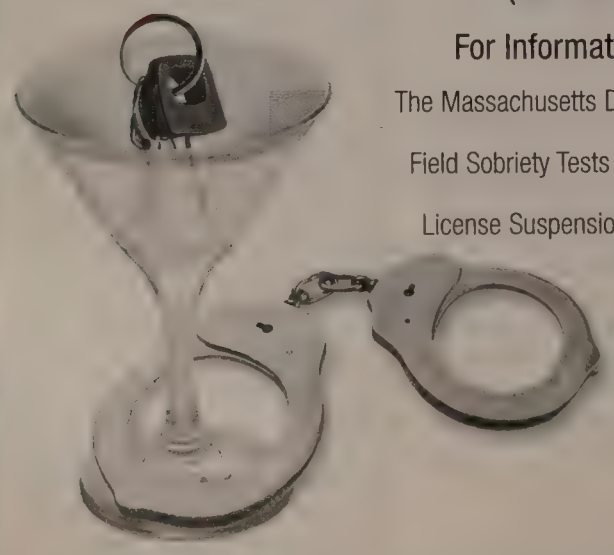
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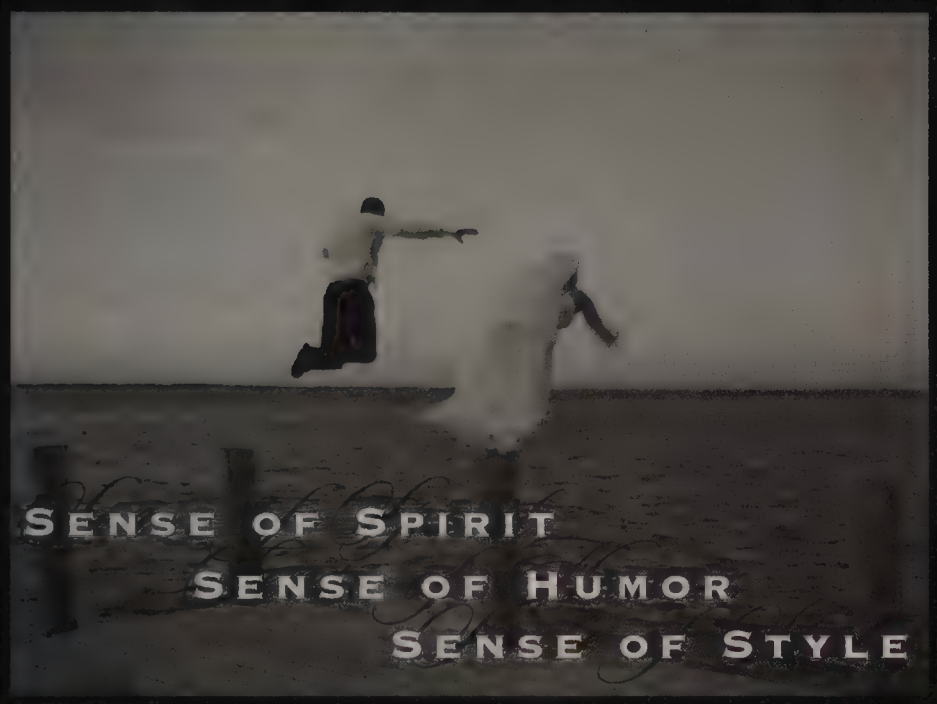
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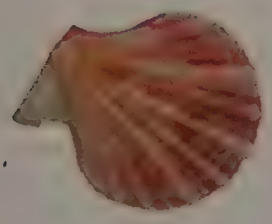


it's a **SHORE** thing

The Improper Bostonian's Shores of Boston issue is sure to please. We will take a look at perfect day trips to Boston's North and South shores and tell you what to do, where to eat, shop and hang out when you get there. Did you ever wonder how the shores compare? Consult our handy-dandy chart on who's got the most celebrities, the best beaches and the tastiest seafood. Speaking of seafood, in 1916, Lawrence Woodman dipped a shucked clam in batter and threw it into the deep fryer, creating the first fried clam. In this issue, Julie Suratt visits Woodman's restaurant on the North Shore and highlights it as the quintessential New England clam shack. Then she returns to Boston and compares the decor, food and view at Woodman's with that of six seafood shanties in Boston. Finally if you like your fried clams with a side of salsa, you will enjoy the *Improper*'s guide to dance classes in Boston—you'll find out where to learn everything from the cha-cha to the tango.

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LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF









At the Mardi Gras Date Auction, top: John Macuga and Vincenzo DiMaio. Middle row: Allyson Correia, Courtney Driscoll and Jennifer Macauley; Sarah Graham and Erik Pelletier. Bottom: Aaron Maass

HOW MUCH IS THAT HOTTIE ON THE CATWALK?

Who knew that a night of heavy drinking could actually benefit the **American Liver Foundation** (aside from simply keeping it in business)? Yet it did, when seven members of the Run for Research team, who run in the Boston Marathon to raise money for the ALF, held the fourth annual **Mardi Gras Date Auction** at the **Big Easy**.

Among the brave souls willing to put themselves on the block for a worthy cause were model and qualified marathoner **Sarah Graham** (who hoped she'd fetch "at least $700"); human resources cutie **Courtney Driscoll** and her roommate, registered nurse **Allyson Correia** (who predicted, with a facetious grin, that they'd go for "huge money"); travel business babe **Jennifer Macauley** (who tossed out Hershey's kisses to incite a bidding war); policy analyst **John Macuga** (who said hopefully, "there's some big-spendin' ladies here tonight"); tech consultant and tall drink of water **Erik Pelletier** ("I'm gonna raise a million bucks"); and sharp-dressed man **Vincenzo DiMaio** ("the sky's the limit").

As it turned out, Pelletier set a record, bringing in $1,100, while Graham earned the biggest bucks ($850) among the women. Everyone else did respectably (most fetching more than they predicted), and one unscheduled pair of bachelorettes even netted $1,200.

Meanwhile, there was the amusing irony (given the evening's cause) that to ease their jitters, a few of the participants fortified their egos with alcohol, imbibing freely. In fact, one pair of bachelorettes got so drunk that the organizers were worried about letting them go onstage. But even they behaved impeccably, and the evening went off without a hitch. (Combined with a silent auction of items like a one-week stay in Breckenridge, Colo., and a day of flying on a private plane, the event raised $10,000 more than it did last year.)

With all the high spirits—not to mention enough beads to sink a parade float—it was a fair approximation of Fat Tuesday in New Orleans, minus all the college students and rednecks shouting, "Show us your tits!"

WATCH WHAT YOU'RE WEARING...

Scantily clad revelers sporting little more than feathers and body paint, shakin' their money-makers to a samba beat. A parade, complete with musicians, drummers, a float, and giant puppets on stilts. Sounds like Rio de Janeiro, right?

Well, not quite.

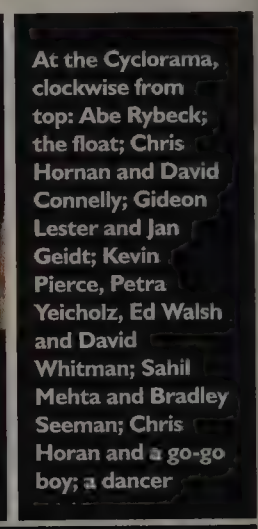
In fact, it was **ClimActs!**—a bacchanalian, carnival-themed fund-raiser for the **Theater Offensive** that raised the roof on the **Cyclorama** at the **Boston Center for the Arts**.

Guests at the VIP reception sipped drinks slung by bartenders from Buzz, while a pair of well-oiled go-go boys gyrated in their G-strings atop platforms in the middle of the room. Then it was time for an indoor parade that led the guests into the main party area, where a live auction—including such risque, outre and outlandish items as a chance to serve as a "fluffer" on a porn film—ensued.

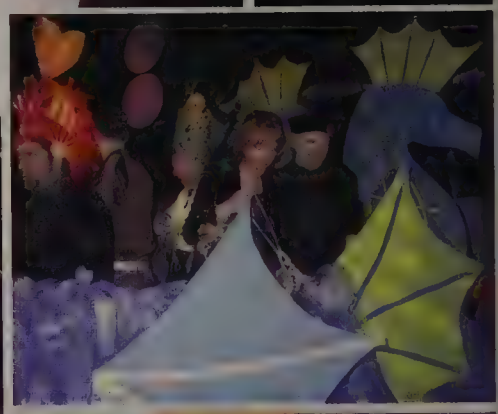
Prominent among the throng: actor **Peter Paige** of *Queer As Folk*; Pulitzer Prize–winning playwright **Paula Vogel**; drag icon/filmmaker **Charles Busch**; the Theater Offensive's fairy godfather, **Abe Rybeck**; Cambridge socialite **Joan Parker**; the American Repertory Theatre's **Gideon Lester** and **Jan Geidt**; the Commonwealth Shakespeare Company's **Steven Maler** and his other half, **Tony Liquori**; white-hot interior designers **Eileen Patterson**, **Ken Dietz** and **Dennis Duffy**; studly tie designer **Tony Corey**; art dealer **Bernie Toale** and his de facto husband-type person, Coolidge Corner Theatre impresario **Joe Zina**; fund-raising guru **Bradley Seeman** and the dashing **Sahil Mehta**; perpetual party machine **Harry Collings**; incorrigible scamp **Peter Nee**; cutie-pie couple **Chris Horan** and **David Connelly**; real estate mack-daddy **David Whitman**, and so on and so forth down the list of so-called "A-gays" and fringe-theater fans.

This being an evening with an unmistakably homo skew, there was no dearth of comments worthy of Carson on *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy*: for instance, the guest who coyly responded to a compliment on his white tie and tails by saying, "What? This old thing?" Meanwhile, the award for bitchiest fashion critique went to the guy who looked at a friend's outfit and said, "The invitation said carnival, not funeral." IB



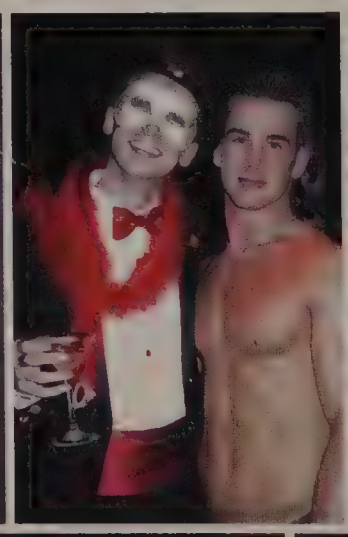


At the Cyclorama, clockwise from top: Abe Rybeck; the float; Chris Hornan and David Connelly; Gideon Lester and Jan Geidt; Kevin Pierce, Petra Yeicholz, Ed Walsh and David Whitman; Sahil Mehta and Bradley Seeman; Chris Horan and a go-go boy; a dancer



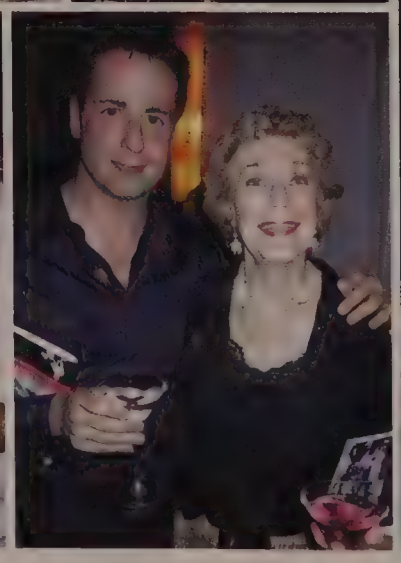












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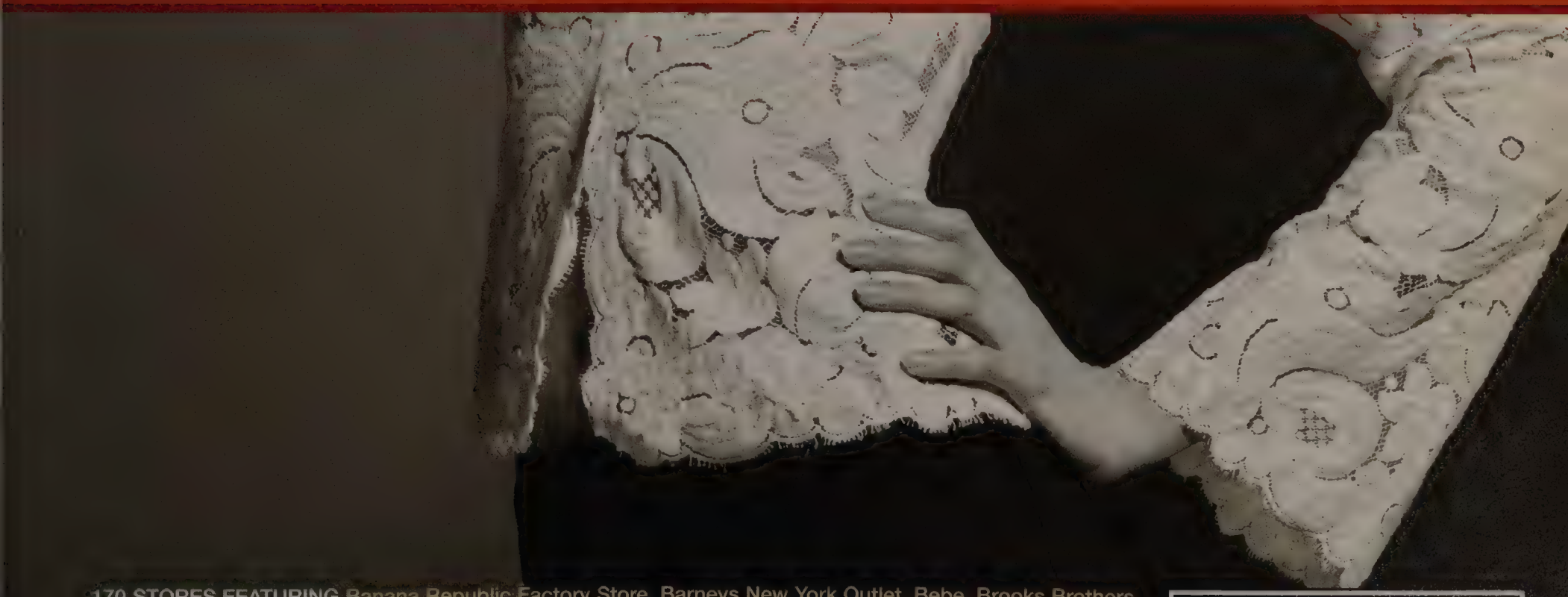
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Photographed for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by
Joe Greene, www.joegreenephoto.com

Hair: **William George for James Joseph Salon;** clothes: **Ermenegildo Zegna;** watch: **Shreve, Crump & Low**

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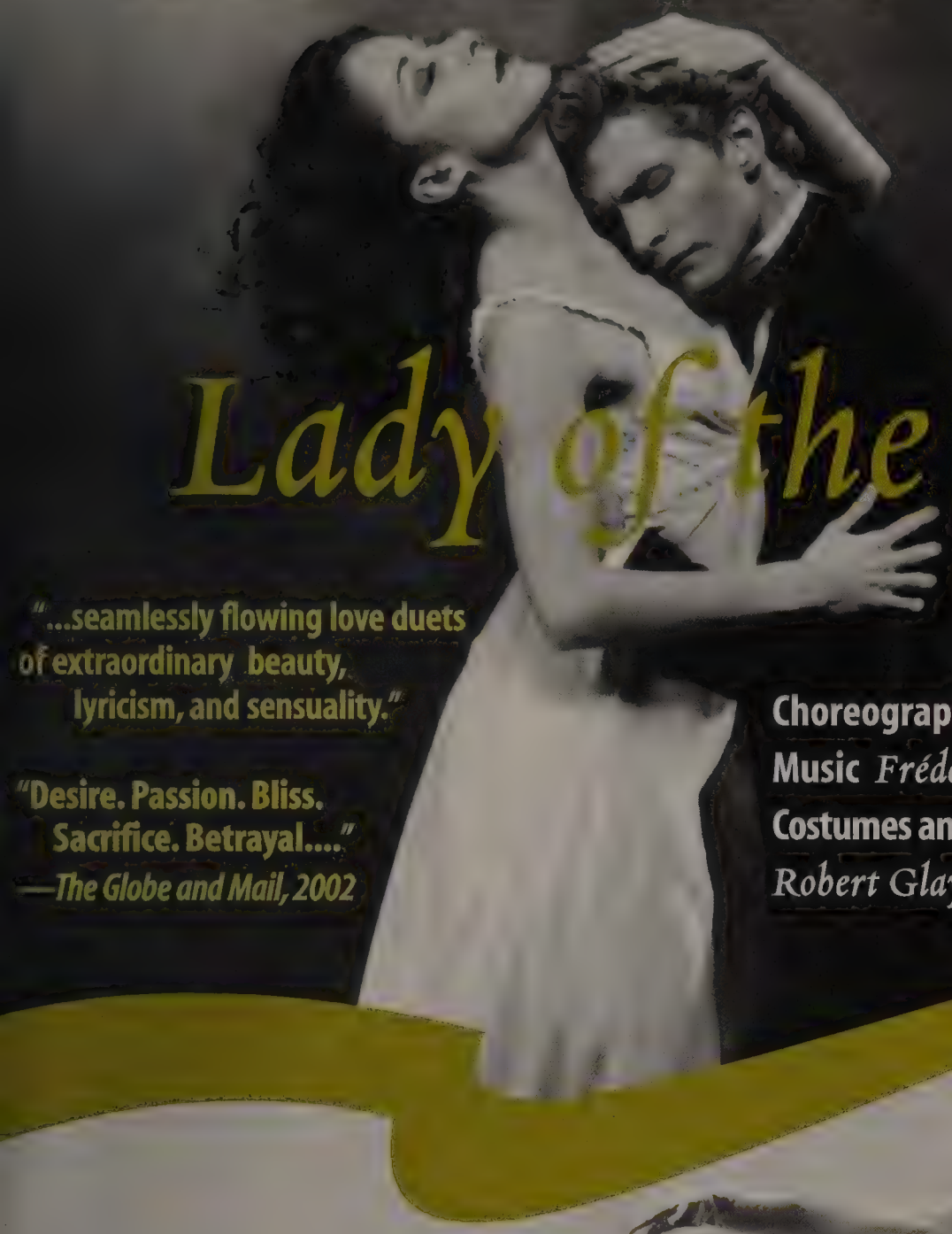
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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR



IDOL MATTERS

The last time Jamaica Plain native Joey McIntyre graced our cover, two years ago, I received e-mails from women—and a few men—not only in Boston but around the world requesting copies of the issue. This time, we've got five pages of fashion and an interview with the former New Kid on the Block, who's about to release a new album. So it's a given that by the time you read this, the fan network will have done its job, my e-mail inbox will again be stuffed with requests, and we'll be prepping packages to Finland and Brazil.

Teen crushes and dreamy photos aside, this issue has practical advice for enriching your real life too. In our main feature (page 18), we offer three itineraries to help you explore those nearby but underappreciated North and South shores. From diners where the locals eat to hidden overlooks and one-of-a-kind boutiques, we point out the spots that make for a perfect day trip.

If all you really want is a plate of fried seafood served like they do at a shore clamshack (i.e., no frills), Boston has some pretty decent facsimiles. Julie Suratt shows you where to go in and around the city (page 24).

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

GEN X VS. GEN Y

Where in the hell did you find the vacuous twits who were quoted in the "Females Answer Questions" article (March 3)? I'm not referring to all of the women quoted, of course, but a couple of them (read: Caroline and Jess) made me cringe. As a woman, I feel misrepresented! Caroline's litany of dating deal-breakers was nothing short of ridiculous. We're not all such petty, judgmental, high-maintenance witches, boys, I assure you! And another thing: Just because a person drinks on nights other than the sorority girl–sanctioned weekend ones does not make her an alcoholic. As for Jess, I didn't appreciate her estimation that "75 percent of all women are insane on some level." Speak for yourself, sister! You're supposed to be on our side!

Maybe Caroline and Jess are just too damn young too get it. I found that the older women quoted had the most accurate, interesting things to say. Perhaps next time the vapid twentysomethings should bow out of the Q&A session and go back to slurping their apple martinis in cheesy college bars.

—LAURA KOLLING
Boston

GOOD "LORD"

Well, now: Eleven Academy Awards (including Best Picture and Director). Four Golden Globes (including Best Drama and Director). Over $1 billion at the box office worldwide. Overwhelmingly positive critical response (awards from the New York critics' group and others, plus a 96 percent favorable rating on Rotten Tomatoes.com).

So, one last time—Paul Sherman, you're wrong about *The Lord of the Rings*. Congratulations on the hat trick!

—CHRIS PIERSON
Brookline

'BOUT 'MAGINE!

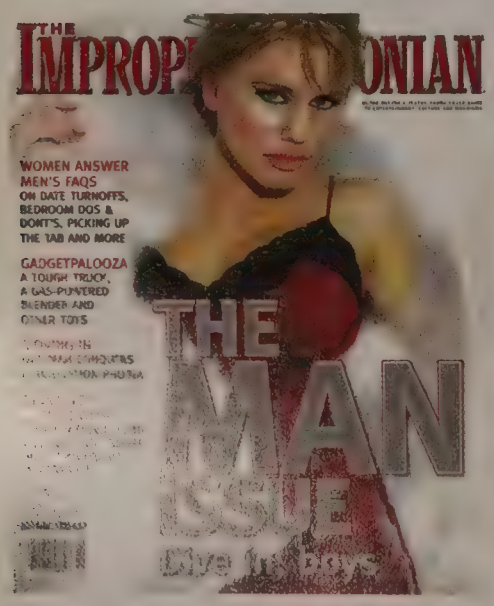
Ezra's piece on the urbanization of a "native" (March 3) was wicked. I, too, am a Mainer moonlighting as a Bostonian. If they ever come to revoke my Mainer card, I'll fight to the death with these Maine truths: I will always travel up to Boston and down to Bah Hahbah; lobster tastes better sitting off the tailgate of a truck; and, no, you can't get theyah from heyah.

—SARAH DYNAN
Jamaica Plain

CORRECTIONS

In the March 3 Last Scene Here, the picture identified as Aaron Maass is Harry Collings. Also in that issue, credit for the hairstyling in the men's fashion feature goes to William George for James Joseph Salon.

The correct phone number for Anthem, reviewed in the Feb. 18 issue, is 617-523-8383.



WHERE IN THE HELL DID YOU FIND THE VACUOUS TWITS QUOTED IN THE "FEMALES ANSWER QUESTIONS" ARTICLE? AS A WOMAN, I FEEL MISREPRESENTED!

—LAURA KOLLING
BOSTON

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LIZA WEISSTUCH



Freelance arts and travel writer and theater critic Liza Weisstuch took plenty of dance classes while growing up around New York City, but never expanded her performance career much further than her family's living room. Since completing her undergraduate studies at Tufts, she's done stints as a staff writer at a community newspaper and as an editor for America Online's *Digital City*. Her work appears in the *Boston Phoenix* and the *Boston Globe*. Her latest piece for the IMPROPER, "Shall We Dance?" begins on page 28.

MAN ISSUE COVER PHOTOGRAPH: BILL STREICHER

Tell Us What You Think

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new in town

DEAR MR. BELVEDERE

When Dan McMyler, owner of the tapas restaurant Tasca in Brighton, opened Belvedere in the North End, he had no intention of creating yet another eatery in a space that's been a revolving door for restaurants for years. (Café Ravello was the latest to fade away.)







Instead, McMyler has created a casual pub on the first floor, offering soups and sandwiches. An upscale lounge—something he felt was lacking in the North End—serves Mediterranean tapas and housemade desserts on the second floor. So far, North Enders have responded enthusiastically. The bar is busy from its 4 pm opening time, when it caters to the after-work crowd, until last call at 1 am, when the place is filled with twentysomethings out for one last drink. That's the draw of Belvedere. You'll find buff Big Dig workers quaffing frosty PBRs next to North End neo-yuppies sipping lemon droptinis.

And now that the eyesore of the I-93 overpass has been dismantled, you can't beat Belvedere's view. As you you take in the Boston skyline, try some tapas, like sirloin meatballs in a portabello mushroom sauce ($5), grilled skewers of chicken and chorizo in a roasted-chili sauce ($6), or the spinach and Parmesan tartlet ($4). All the prices are extremely reasonable. "We're trying to keep everything under $8," says manager Jack Lynch.

In early April, Belvedere will add comfort food to the menu, including pressed sandwiches and entrées like franks and beans, meatloaf and fish cakes—"the sort of food you can't get anywhere else in the North End," says Lynch. *50 Salem St., Boston (617-367-6444). —Erin Hagedorn and Julie Suratt*

sports

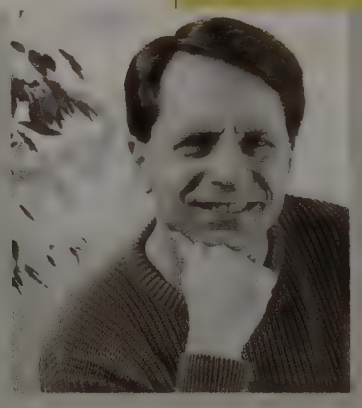
QUITE A PROJECT...



Red Sox fans looking for yet another way to indulge their obsession should check out Bill Nowlin and Cecilia Tan's new book, *The Fenway Project*, which chronicles the Sox' June 28, 2002, game against the Atlanta Braves from the perspectives of 61 different fans located in and around the ballpark. *The Fenway Project*'s observers follow the game from inside the scoreboard (as pictured at right), atop the roof (where one proposed to his girlfriend), in the computer control room, the press box, the owner's box, the far reaches of the bleachers and even the locker room (where it is revealed that there is a urinal in the alley that leads from the dugout to the locker room, just out of sight of the TV cameras). However, perhaps the most familiar perspective, given Fenway's perpetually sold-out status, is that of Denis Repp, who follows the game from the bars surrounding the park. Go to www.rounderbooks.com to order a copy of the book—unlike tickets to any of the Sox/Yankees games, there ought to be a few available. *—Ezra Dyer*

inner view

PSYCHIC ROSS MILLER



Ever wonder about those little flashes of light in the corner of your eye? Or where your other-worldly affinity for Taco Bell comes from? According to Newton psychic medium, healer and regression therapist Ross Miller, the light flashes are your guardian angels, not symptoms of premature glaucoma. As for the tacos, you might have been a conquistador in a previous life. While it might sound like a load of bull pucky, Miller's been identifying past lives and introducing clients to their guardian angels for years. We're not sure if he has a crystal ball, but he's probably one of the few mediums to hold a degree from the prestigious Wharton business school. Does that make him legit? You can decide for yourself at his psychic development and angel communication workshop, at his office (1075 Washington St., Newton) March 27. Here he chats about life in the mystic realm.

IB: *What line of work were you in before you started this business?*
RM: Most recently I was a stockbroker. I decided to do this full-time about 10 years ago when they started doing psychic readings on TV, and I realized people were ready for this and becoming more aware of it.
IB: *How does your business-school background figure into your spiritual and healing life?*
RM: It has nothing to do with my spiritual work. When I was first learning to regress and heal myself, I had to unlearn most of the things I was taught in business school in order to accept some of the universal concepts I was learning about. At times it was a hindrance rather than a help. But as far as my business goes, it helps me with marketing and advertising.
IB: *How did you become a healer and medium?*
RM: After I graduated from business school, I had a clairvoyant dream during [which] I kept hearing [the words], "You are a true seer." Once I awoke, I figured if I was supposed to be a seer, I better find out what a seer is and does. So I started studying with various psychic mediums and healers.
IB: *How many past lives have you had, and what's one of the more interesting?*
RM: I've had more than 400 lives. I had a series of dreams where I'd be ducking behind trees with bullets whizzing behind me. By the look of things, it must've been around 1917 and I got the feeling I was in Russia. I regressed myself back to that lifetime and saw that I had been a writer and revolutionary trying to overthrow Czar Nicholas II and was subsequently caught and shot by his firing squad. Years later, I had a client who started channeling the spirit of Rasputin. He came through my client and asked me to forgive him for ordering my execution.
IB: *Is there any way to tell, or can you have any control over, what you'll be in the next lifetime?*
RM: You actually choose what you're going to be, your economic circumstances, who your family members will be, who your spouse will be, between lifetimes. Typically what happens is that when you make the transition at death back into spirit, you go through the tunnel into white light. Then you have a quick life review where you see what you need to work on next time. After you join up with your soul group, or group of souls that you typically reincarnate with, you plan out your next life and how you're going to learn your various lessons. Then you begin reincarnating in another body.
IB: *What is a guardian angel?*
RM: Everyone has several angels and spirit guides that work with them. They're actually neuter, and they look like little balls of light. They're energy fields, and they sometimes appear in aura photographs. They're usually by our side helping us learn our lessons and follow our chosen paths.
IB: *OK. Now onto the important question: Will I marry Adam Brody, aka Seth from* The O.C.*?*
RM: No Adam for you. I'm sorry.
—Jessica Iredale



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tasty tidbits

BACK TO THE BRISTOL



The Season Is upon Us... Much to the delight of business bigwigs, ladies who lunch and AmEx cardholders everywhere, the Bristol Lounge is again open after a two-month respite for renovations. Regulars can expect to see a refreshed interior with expanded bar seating and new colors, furniture and fixtures, plus the debut of the $32 power breakfast. Of course, not everything needed revamping. The classic eight-ounce Bristol Burger is still available for a juicy $18. *200 Boylston St. (617-338-4400).*



Salubrious Seas... New from the ecologically friendly fishing activists at EcoFish are celebrity chef sustainable-seafood entrées (say that five times fast). High-profile members of the Chefs Collaborative—a network of more than 1,000 foodies—have created kits that feature only products harvested from environmentally conscious fisheries. Colorful boxes include two servings of fish, an original spice rub or marinade, and simple instructions on how to create the dish in 10 minutes or less. Ana Sortun of Oleana and Stan Frankenthaler, formerly of Salamander, are among the chefs who've contributed entrées. Sortun's California squid rings and crispy calamari kit and Frankenthaler's Chinese bay scallops retail for about $8 each at Wild Oats. *Wild Oats, 2151 Mystic Valley Parkway, Medford (781-395-4998).*

Table for Two... Pay attention, boys. Want to impress your lady with a romantic, home-cooked meal, but suffer from sub-par cooking skills? Dorchester chef Abdus Shakur solves the problem with his three-month-old catering service, DiningForTwo.net. You supply the home, Shakur supplies the cookin'—four courses' worth. The Web site provides complete info, but here's the short of it: You fill out an online request for a date and time and meet with Shakur to personalize the details (special occasion, surprise, etc.). He brings the food to your home, cooks and serves it course-by-course. The client is asked only to dress for a fine dining experience and supply a stove and one shelf in the refrigerator. The service is $350, and for an additional cost, Shakur can provide wine pairing, a harpist or violinist, or a massage therapist. *(617-740-8582). www.diningfortwo.net.*

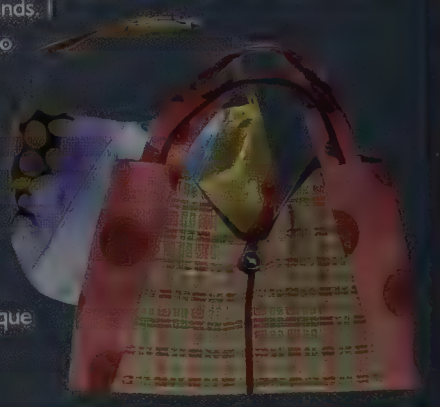
Mini Me...FYI, if you're looking for trendy buzz in a can, Red Bull is, like, so five minutes ago. The latest aluminum-clad elixir—this one with alcohol instead of caffeine—comes from none other than Hollywood don Francis Ford Coppola. The proud papa premiered Sofia Mini, an individual-sized version of his Sofia Blanc de Blancs Sparkling Wine (named after his Oscar-winning daughter), March 1. L at Louis Boston is the sole Boston purveyor of the champagne-esque drink, which is served in a bright pink 187-milliliter can equipped with its own straw (to avoid lipstick smearage). Apparently sparkling wine (especially at $8 a can) isn't just for grandmothers and teenagers drinking in the bushes. *—E.H., J.I. and J.S.*



sam says

PRIZE POCKET BOOKS

While hanging out in the Enormous Room one night, I spotted a stunning, brightly colored bag from across the room and inquired where I could get one. The cute young girl carrying it smiled and said, "I make them." She was only making them for herself and friends. I quickly buddied up to her so I could snag one for myself—to no avail. A year later, I received in the mail a small catalog with a picture that looked an awful lot like the bag I had pined for. Sure enough, Jessica Moss has gone into the handbag business. Unlike many of her competitors, all of her bags are originals because she hand sews them (most people sketch their designs and have a manufacturing company make them). Patterns range from bright polka dots and plaids to little dancing monkeys. I just love the unique shapes she fashions them in. Bags range from $72-$137. *www.jessicamoss.com. —Samantha Glouse*



improper reports

COUNTING CARBS?

The sun is finally ready to make an appearance, and the swimsuit you stuffed in the bottom drawer looks...small. Suddenly, the low-carb diet sounds like it might not be that bad. Luckily, lots of local chains and restaurants are getting in on the low-carb craze, which just might help you on your way to bathing-suit bliss. Here's a sampling:



✻**Grill 23 & Bar:** With steaks à la carte and plenty of vegetable side dishes, it's a candy store for carb counters. Executive chef Jay Murray creates at least one weekly signature special that's low in carbs, like the surf and turf—a five-ounce filet mignon with pan-roasted shrimp, ginger-butternut hash and rosemary-scented sauce. ($34). *161 Berkeley St., Boston (617-542-2255).*

✻**The Wrap:** The Wrap has always made an effort to be low fat and low calorie. Now it offers a fajita wrap, made with a low-carb wheat tortilla ($5). You can also get a wrap minus the wrap itself—all the fillings in a bowl. *Various locations.*

✻**T.G.I. Friday's:** The menu is the size of a novel, and thanks to a partnership with Atkins Nutritionals, there really is something for everyone. Check out the cheeseburger cheeseburger: two patties with American cheese—no ketchup, no bun. *($7.59). 26 Exeter St., Boston (617-266-9040).*

✻**Subway:** It seems that Subway spokesguy Jared's battle of the bulge was a marketing success. Subway recently teamed up with Atkins to offer official Atkins-approved menu items, including the chicken, bacon and ranch dressing wrap ($4.75). *Various locations.*

✻**Mr. and Mrs. Bartley's Burger Cottage:** The Atkins Burger is a bunless bacon cheeseburger with extra bacon, extra cheese, lettuce, tomato and tabouli. ($8.99). *1246 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-6559).*

✻**Jacob Wirth:** While not guaranteed, the chefs try to feature a nightly low-carb-friendly special like the grilled Kobe beef burger with charred red onion, wild mushrooms, sautéed peppers and 7.5 net carbs. ($13). *31–37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). —Lauren Vane*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION



Song Birds... One of the more intriguing (if not downright inexplicable) boutiques to pop up on our radar is the new Song store in the Prudential Mall. The experiential complement to the discount airline (which offers service between Boston and several Florida cities, as well as Las Vegas) showcases the airline's trippy, retro, '60s-inspired colors (think lime green and citrus orange) in displays that mimic a cross-section of one of the airline's fleet of plasma-screen equipped departure lounge. Shoppers can preview the in-flight entertainment and check out the kicky designs that Kate Spade came up with for the airline's uniforms. Song is pushing its new concept as an experience, rather than a retail store. So if you're looking to buy, selection is limited: The only things for sale are the flights.

Fashion Bug... Affordable isn't the most apt way to describe Newbury Street, especially when it comes to jewelry shopping. That makes Firefly Jewelry & Gifts a unique addition to the boutique promenade. Owner and former buyer at Filene's Marty Checkoway stocks a broad assortment of semi-precious jewelry, designer handbags, scarves and decorative ceramics ranging between $20 and $300. So far, the Van Glow ($35) glass suncatchers and stretchy Swarovski crystal rings ($24) are a hit with shoppers. *270 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-5885).*

Social Hour... As if the IMPROPER weren't enough, there's another media outlet focusing on the dining, arts and nightlife beat. Marisa D'Vari, of Deg.com Communications, is unleashing *Boston Social*, a live, half-hour tour of local "food, fun and fashion," on Boston Neighborhood Network TV, March 18 at 9 pm. You might recognize D'Vari from her previous show, *A Taste of Luxury,* in which the social butterfly traveled the world interviewing celebrity chefs. "I realized we had the best chefs in Boston," she says. "So I changed the focus." In the coming months, Boston Social guests will include Legal Sea Foods owner Roger Berkowitz, Steve DiFillippo of Davio's and Christopher Myers and Michael Schlow of Radius.

Out of Africa... Attorney Elizabeth Plitzuweit was so moved by the art, fabrics and crafts she saw in her travels to Morocco that she turned selling them into a full-time career. Her shop, Gazala (the name is a loose translation of the Arabic word for gazelle), opened in November in the South End. "In Morocco, 'la gazelle' is a term of affection," says Plitzuweit, "and it became a funny joke to see how many people would call us that while we were there." Exotic imports from Marrakech, Fez and Rabat include hand-painted ceramics for $4, as well as pricier items like Berber rugs, patchwork pillow cases and an intricately designed silver and camel bone door for $7,500. *256 Shawmut Ave., Boston (617-426-6466). www.gazala-art.com.*

Help Wanted...*Apprentice* fever is running rampant all over the city. Thanks to Donald Trump's reality series on NBC, "You're fired!" is the catch phrase of the season, and people are lining up for the chance to hear those two little words. This week, nightlife nabob Patrick Lyons plays the part of "The Donald" on KISS 108's *Matty in the Morning* show. Three men and three women are vying for a Lyons Group apprenticeship through a series of daily challenges, after which someone gets the boot. The contestant who proves the most savvy wins a month-long stint within the Lyons Group and $1,000 to boot. *Morning* show producer Lisa Roach says the candidates were pretty impressive. Apparently plenty of lawyers and Ivy League grads were willing to put their cushy jobs on hold to submit to the whims of "The Patrick." Meanwhile across town, NBC is hosting an open casting call for *The Apprentice II* at the Rack, March 20, from 10 am-5 pm. Be prepared for some intense cross-examination by casting execs.

Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to theword@improper.com.



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PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY











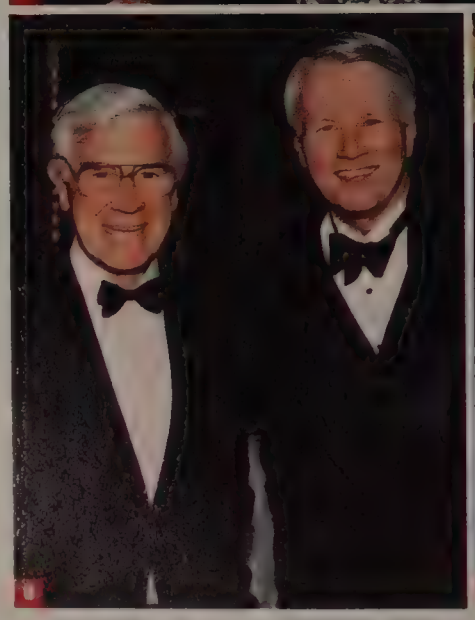
An exclusive pre-Broadway engagement of **Larry Gelbart**'s play ***Sly Fox*** took place Feb. 26 at the Shubert Theatre. Cast and crew members joined in celebrating the opening of the blockbuster comedy starring Academy Award winner Richard Dreyfuss, stage and film star Eric Stoltz and other accomplished actors including Bob Dishy, Rene Auberjonois, Bronson Pinchot, Rachel York and Elizabeth Berkley, at Blu in the Ritz Carlton Boston Common.

1. From left: *Sly Fox* actors **Rene Auberjonois**, **Eric Stoltz**, **Richard Dreyfuss**, **Rachel York** and **Bob Dishy**
2. **Professor Irwin Corey** (left), actor, and **Arthur Penn**, director of *Sly Fox*
3. **Jon Platt**, *Sly Fox* presenting producer, and **Elizabeth Berkley**, actress
4. From left: **Camilla Hall**, PR and marketing coordinator for the Sapphire Group; **Scott Shiller**, engagement manager for *Sly Fox*, and **Regan Dillon**, PR and marketing manager for the Sapphire Group in Cambridge
5. **Nick Wyman**, actor; **Nelle Nugent**, *Sly Fox* producer; and **Bronson Pinchot**, actor

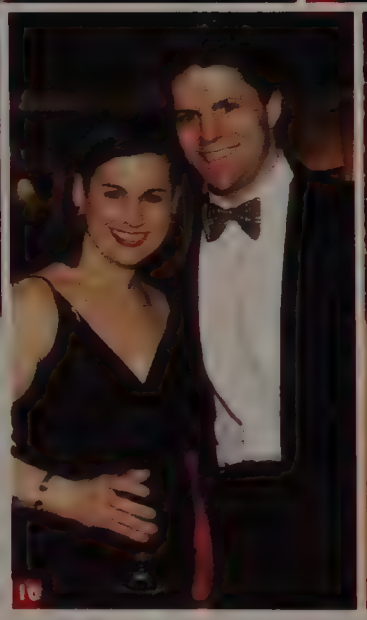
The Catholic Schools Foundation hosted its 14th annual **Inner City Scholarship Fund Dinner** March 4 at the Boston Marriot Copley Place. More than 1,000 party-goers attended the dinner, which celebrated the Inner-City Scholarship Fund, an organization that grants scholarship assistance to inner-city students who attend Catholic primary or secondary schools. This year, approximately 5,000 children will receive financial aid through the fund.













6. From left: **Bill Dougherty**, investment manager; **Anne Moran**, director of the Boston Boys & Girls Club; **Jane Driscoll**; **Liz Shannon**; and **Jack Driscoll**, attorney at Nutter, McClennen & Fish
7. **Peter Lynch**, president of the Catholic Schools Foundation and vice chairman of Fidelity Management and Research Company, and his wife, **Carolyn** [illegible] **Flatley** (left), CEO of the Flatley [illegible], and **David Smith**, chan[illegible] of the Archdiocese of Boston
[illegible] **Dorcena**, housing specialist at ABCD, and **Christine Reams**, assistant manager at North Charles in Cambridge
10. **Shannon Taylor** and her husband, **Jeff**, case team leader at Bain Capital
11. **Valerie Hicks** and her fiancé, **Brian Leary**, partner at Gadsby Hannah

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ezra BY EZRA DYER



YOU'RE SO VEIN

Sit down, young 'uns, and let grandpa tell you about his varicose vein.

There I was at the gym, grunting my way through a set of curls—the temple requires basic upkeep, you know—when something I saw in the mirror distracted me. No, it wasn't a guy excavating a mean spandex wedge while adjusting the spaghetti straps on his 'beater, although the *beaterus spandexicus* species is indigenous to my gym's meatosystem. There, in my left leg, was a bulging vein that was so big I wondered if I might have to get it its own membership. Being an amateur hypochondriac, I concluded that I was on the verge of having an embolism, and so immediately made an appointment with my doctor to find out what an embolism is, and whether it involves big disgusting leg veins.

When I showed my doc the grotesque vessel, he nonchalantly told me that all I had was a run-of-the-mill varicose vein. He didn't seem too worried about it, which made one of us. You see, I've always associated varicose veins with old ladies. A varicose vein isn't exactly the hot accessory for a happy-go-lucky young buck like myself. I envisioned myself wearing shorts in the summer, my varicose vein throbbing away in all its blue glory. What if I were playing Golden Tee at a bar or throwing a Frisbee in the park and people kept saying things like, "I hope I'm still that active at his age."

"How can I get rid of this thing?" I asked my doctor. "The varicose vein bus showed up at this stop about 30 years too early."

"Well, it's harmless, but if it's bothering you, the procedure to get rid of it is quite simple: We make an incision and rip out the entire vein."

Whoa, doc. Back up. Maybe you haven't been reading your *New England Journal of Medicine*, but these days many surgeries can be performed noninvasively using tiny cameras inside your body. The entire human genome has been mapped. Your vision can be fixed with frickin' lasers. And the treatment for varicose veins is to rip them out? I'd imagined a tiny robot going in my vein, painlessly deflating it with a laser, then dissolving into my bloodstream when it was done. This de-veining procedure sounded like it was straight out of the age of medicine where the treatment for a migraine was to saw off the top of your head and pour arsenic on your brain.

Also, I'm no doctor, but don't you need veins? I'm pale enough as it is. All I want is people saying, "Gee, Ez, your left leg is looking mighty pallid these days," and me having to reply, "That's because I had all my veins removed."

So I decided I was stuck with it, just me and My Cousin Veiny, BFF. But then I got an e-mail from my friend Braxton mentioning that he was laid up because he just had a bunch of veins removed from one of his legs. Now the case was open again. If Braxton "Hard as a Baby's Fingernails" Williams could do it, so could I, maybe. I asked him to tell me exactly how bad this ordeal was and what it entailed. "Basically I took a week off from work," he said. "You get all drugged up and limp around a lot. I'd say the only drawback, aside from the fact that surgery is generally something to avoid, is that you feel like a little bitch when you tell hot chicks you have varicose veins. If I had a dime for every time a person I wanted to sleep with told me she thought only old ladies got varicose veins, I'd be one rich pimp."

Hmmm. Well, my secret's already out, so that's not a problem. And you get drugs,

A VARICOSE VEIN ISN'T EXACTLY THE HOT ACCESSORY FOR A HAPPY-GO-LUCKY YOUNG BUCK LIKE MYSELF

which is nice. But what about the social implications? "Tomorrow I'm going to reenter the social scene like Ron Jeremy," Braxton wrote. "Straight up, I'm gonna be lacin' undergrads with wads of dubs and hittin' that tang when they see the mill in my grill. But seriously (as if I wasn't dead serious about that last comment), I plan on playing up my limp big-time. Sympathy makeout? Yes, please."

That made me feel better. If everyone with varicose veins had Braxton's attitude, there'd be a Jessica Simpson song about them playing on *TRL* right now (or perhaps more accurately, a Ludacris song on *106 & Park*). See, youth is more mental than physical. I shouldn't let a superficial sign of age influence how I act—thus, I'm going to keep my varicose vein and refuse to let it bother me. Besides, Doris and Ethel in my bridge club think it's hot. IB

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Soroff ON

SIB HASHIAN

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Rock icon Sib Hashian, the big-haired former drummer of '70s megaband Boston, was born in Roxbury and raised in Lynn, where he attended Lynn English High School and played drums in the marching band. After graduating in 1967, he spent two years playing in area clubs like the Novelty Lounge, a bar in the Combat Zone. He joined the Army in 1969 and served in Vietnam with the Fourth Infantry Division, earning his discharge as a first lieutenant in 1971. In 1975, he and childhood friend Barry Goudreau teamed up with Boston founder Tom Scholz and recorded the band's first album in Scholz's basement. That album, *Boston*, released by Epic Records in 1976, has sold more than 17 million copies and remains the biggest-selling debut album in history. In 1978, the band released the multiplatinum *Don't Look Back* and embarked on a lengthy tour that took them throughout western Europe, Scandinavia, Japan, Canada and the U.S. During the height of their popularity, they played one night in front of 130,000 fans at Dallas' Cotton Bowl Stadium (with Van Halen) and the next night at the Superdome in New Orleans. In 1982, Hashian left the band amid much-publicized infighting. He now lives on the North Shore with his wife and three children, and he is set to co-produce and appear in a production of Art Devine's play *9-Ball*, opening April 2 at the Tremont Theatre.

Jonathan Soroff: *So what have you been up to for the past 20 years?*

Sib Hashian: Since I left the band? I've been raising a family, living happily with my wife, Suzanne. I've had several businesses, including a record and CD store, a musical instrument store. I've had a bar, and a travel agency, and I've played a lot of gigs and written a lot of music with some of the younger guys in town. In 2001, I finally hooked up with my old friend Art Devine, and now I'm working on the play *9-Ball*.

JS: *So there's life after rock and roll stardom?*

SH: Positively. In fact, it's refreshing to have a life after being in the limelight and everyone trying to get a piece of you all the time.

JS: *Anything you want to say about the original band breaking up?*

SH: Nah. I'd rather not say anything.

JS: *You were kinda famous for your hair.*

SH: Yeah, I had a huge afro. It was my rebel thing. I'd gotten out of the army, where I had to have short hair, so as soon as I was discharged—September 18th, 1971—I never got another haircut. When our record came out in 1976, that was five years of growth. I've seen publications where I was voted worst hair of the '70s. I actually saw myself on VH1, where people were talking about who had the biggest 'fro. I think I won.

> THE MUSIC [IN THE 1970S] WAS FANTASTIC. YOU CAN STILL LISTEN TO THOSE SONGS. YOU'RE NOT GONNA REMEMBER SONGS YOU HEARD IN THE '90S BECAUSE MOST OF 'EM DON'T EVEN HAVE MELODIES.

JS: *Favorite memory that combines sex and drugs and rock and roll?*

SH: All three? Which time, really? When we were starting out, me and Franny [Sheehan, the bassist] had to share a room. We were very social, affable fellows, and we always made sure that after the gig we had several lovely ladies up to the room. Everyone was drinking and smoking grass and doing drugs and taking their clothes off. Before you know it, we were swapping mates.

JS: *How many pounds of pot seeds would you guess were sifted out on top of the spaceship on that first album cover?*

SH: [Laughs.] I think we got a calculation of 3.5 billion, and we wanna thank everybody for that.

JS: *How'd you stop your kids from doing all that?*

SH: Kids are smart, and my kids grew up in a climate of knowing about it. I'm not going to tell you my kids never experimented with drugs. But if they do them, they're smart about it. They're not hooked on anything. I know, because they're doing their homework.

JS: *As a former rock and roll rebel, do you think you were more permissive as a parent raising your kids?*

SH: I do have the rock and roll rebel side, but I also have the military-discipline side, so my house was very military. I never let my kids get away with anything.

JS: *Best musician you ever knew?*

SH: There's a lot of great musicians who never make it to the level of selling millions of records, but of those who did, my favorite was probably Eddie Van Halen. We did several shows with them, and he was just such a master of his instrument. I loved going onstage and watching him play up close.

JS: *Isn't it a little embarrassing to see guys who are pushing 60—like Mick Jagger or Steven Tyler—still prancing around in spandex? At what point do you hang it up?*

SH: I can't tell anyone how to feel about music, or when to hang it up, but I'm not really a big fan of seeing the older guys out there. First of all, I don't really think they're striking a chord with the young kids, and my attitude is "Give it a rest. Let somebody else do it." If I'm out there, then I'm stopping some young person from being out there. Being in a band is like being in a gang. You're looking for excitement and drugs and girls. At 60 years old, I don't know if you can pull that off.

JS: *Do you watch* The Osbournes*?*

SH: Yeah, and I feel kinda bad for Ozzy because I think his wife is manipulating him. He really doesn't get to say or do much. It's kinda like the joke's on him. He's a really nice, caring, friendly guy. Never pulls a star trip on anybody. I'm happy to say I'm still a friend of his. Our first gig was opening up for him and Black Sabbath in 1976. How 'bout that?

JS: *VH1 has that show about reuniting bands. Any chance that'll happen?*

SH: Well, the band is together. Tom still has it up and running as Boston. It's just not the same guys. We were going to do *Behind the Music*, and that didn't pan out. I knew it wouldn't. I said, "You wanna interview five different guys? There's gonna be five different stories about what went on," and it just never happened.

JS: *One thing you miss most about the rock and roll lifestyle?*

SH: I don't miss a lot of it, but if I had to pick one thing it would be that feeling after a show, when we'd go back in the drum room for a drink and a smoke, and enjoy that feeling of accomplishment. We'd leave the stage knowing we did a good job. That was rewarding.

JS: *What do you think of the local music scene?*

SH: It's disappointing now for young musicians. There's nowhere to play. There's no money out there. The record companies don't support their acts the way they used to. Now everyone plays an instrument, and some of the songs, like Rage Against the Machine? Excellent music, but there's only two or three chords, so consequently people are learning how to play songs without learning how to play their instruments. Then there's the fact that musicians these days get paid the same amount I did back in the '60s for playing a gig at a club.

JS: *What do you listen to now?*



SH: I like classical music, some R&B. I like the oldies stations, and I like modern jazz a lot, with the funk drums and the guitars.

JS: *Greatest thing about the '70s?*

SH: The music was fantastic. You can still listen to those songs. I think that's the problem with the music today. You're not gonna remember the songs you heard in the '90s, because most of 'em don't even have melodies.

JS: *Last question: What's your greatest contribution to rock and roll history?*

SH: It might've been my appearance. Or my live performances. On our first album, I kept it simple and laid it down, and I think that's timeless. But I'd like to think people will look back and remember fondly how I treated people and how I treated my craft. IB

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GOING COASTAL

FEELING HEMMED IN BY THE CITY? MAKE AN ESCAPE TO THE NEARBY NORTH AND SOUTH SHORES.

Scituate, Plymouth, Glouces-ter, Newburyport. They're so close to our beloved Boston, but how much do you know about what there is to do and see in the towns that lie along the North and South shores? We did some exploring and came up with the perfect itineraries—where to eat, shop, lounge and explore—for one-day getaways.

PHOTOGRAPHED BY BOB PERACHIO

the south shore

WEYMOUTH TO PLYMOUTH

BY JUDITH FORMAN

To many, the swath of Route 3 between Boston and Cape Cod is best known as a summer traffic jam. But go beyond the backups, and you'll find a cluster of mostly coastal communities, known together as the South Shore.

Home to city-bound commuters—and everyone ranging from the Pilgrims to the bad boys of Aerosmith—the region is chock full of quintessential New England charm.

Sound fun? Uh, maybe for your parents. But if you look beyond its somewhat staid, country club reputation, the South Shore has plenty to offer a hip, urban day-tripper, from a kitschy coffee chain to a family-run winery to miles of calming beaches.

"The South Shore represents the look and the feel of the Cape and the islands," says Anthony Ambrose, chef/owner of Hingham's Blackfin Chop House and Raw Bar and an eight-year resident of Cohasset. "And to be an hour from Boston and to have that is extraordinary."

Before you head south, a few tips: If you're going on a weekday, plan your trip around rush-hour traffic. Crawling back to Boston in stop-and-go is no fun. And be prepared to rack up some mileage. Even though the South Shore is close to the city, it's a spread-out area with only one major highway (Route 3), so the driving can be slow going. Don't be afraid to ask around for shortcuts and back roads.

Finally, beware of tourist traps, especially around Plymouth—unless you're really eager to see a wax rendition of the first Thanksgiving.

Morning

A half hour outside the city, down Interstate 93 and Route 3, is the first stop of the day. Across from a Dunkin' Donuts on Route 18 in Weymouth is a pink sight more familiar to South Shore java junkies. It's Marylou's Coffee, where locals flock for a morning cup and a strong shot of gossip. Started as one store in 1986 by Abington resident Marylou Sandry, the chain now includes 17 shops across the region.



Flavors at Marylou's Coffee in Weymouth range from banana split to blueberry cinnamon crumble.

Inside, teenage girls in pink Marylou's T-shirts serve coffee in flavors ranging from banana split to blueberry cinnamon crumble. There's also a huge (and inexpensive) selection of iced coffees, frozen drinks, muffins and pastries.

Dressed in her trademark hot pink, Sandry says business has boomed because she can offer better service than the national coffee chains. It's not uncommon for employees to know customers by drink instead of by name, and to save newspapers and take phone messages for regulars.

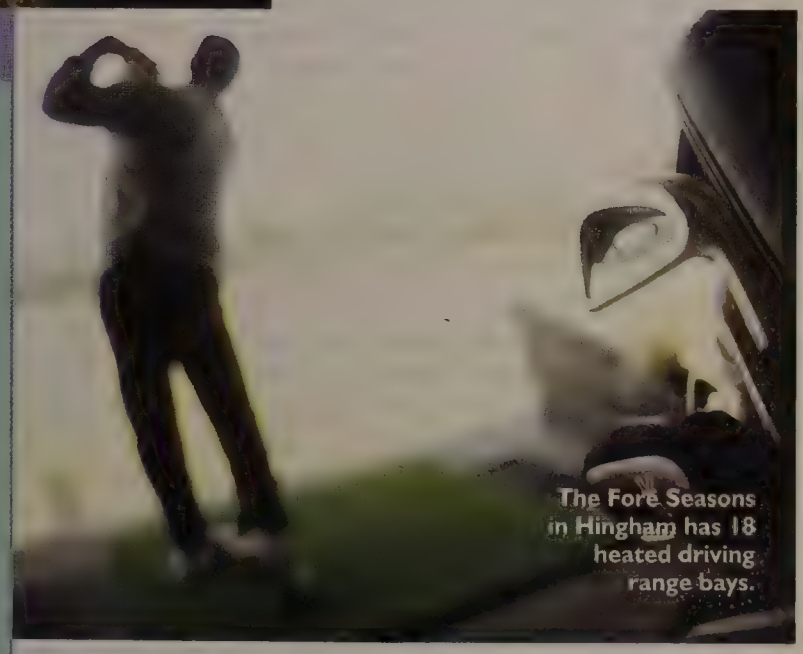


In Cohasset, Jerusalem Road's decorations include expensive homes and an ocean view.

A Braintree native, Sandry has always lived south of the city and has no plans to leave. "As soon as I get north of Boston, I don't know where I am," she says. "I don't know anything that's up there. So not knowing it, I don't miss it. I think the whole North Shore looks like Chelsea."

After breakfast, hop back onto Route 3 and head south to Route 228 in Hingham, a town dotted with colonial-style New England homes and white-steepled churches. Off Route 3A, you'll find World's End, a 251-acre, peninsula-shaped reservation perfect for hiking, jogging, mountain biking, cross-country skiing and picnicking.

For the $4.50-per-person entrance fee, you can explore the property, which is owned by a non-profit, the Trustees of Reservations. Looking out onto Hingham Harbor on a clear day, you'll see dramatic views of coastal landscapes and the Boston skyline—and feel a peace hard to find in the city.



The Fore Seasons in Hingham has 18 heated driving range bays.

If you'd rather work on your swing, take 228 to Fore Seasons, also in Hingham. The year-round golf center boasts 18 covered and heated driving-range bays and an indoor golf simulator that can reproduce 27 courses from across the country.

Afternoon

The morning's exercise has piqued your appetite, and fried seafood at the Mill Wharf in Scituate is the antidote. Grab a pub table upstairs and you'll be able to see the town lighthouse as you dig into battered scrod, scallops, shrimp, clams and onion rings. The food's pretty standard, but the view of Scituate Harbor is more than worth it.

As you head south, take a leisurely oceanside drive on Jerusalem Road and Atlantic Avenue in Cohasset. By the sparkling water, you'll find multimillion dollar homes that will make you wonder how you get by in a crowded one-bedroom in the South End. Ac-

CONTACTS

Marylou's Coffee
768 Main St. (Route 18), Weymouth
(781-340-5146)

World's End 250 Martin's Lane,
Hingham (781-740-6665)

Fore Seasons
306 Whiting St. (Route 53), Hingham
(781-741-8305)

The Mill Wharf 150 R. Front St.,
Scituate (781-545-3999)

Christmas Tree Shops
295 Old Oak St., Unit 5, Pembroke
(781-826-8884)

Plymouth Colony Winery
56 Pinewood Road, Plymouth
(508-747-3334)

The British Beer Company
6 Middle St., Plymouth (508-747-1776)

Martha's Galley 179 Court St.,
Plymouth (508-747-9200)

Tuscany Tavern 294 Court St.,
Plymouth (508-747-9291)

Peaceful Meadows Ice Cream
114 & 170 Water St., Plymouth
(508-746-2362)

Lalajava 18 Main St., Plymouth
(508-830-1410)



Stop by Plymouth Colony Winery for a peek at the bogs and a taste of sweet cranberry wine.

cording to Nancy Hamilton of the town's Dean & Hamilton Realtors, homes start at $1.2 million and head north to nearly $4 million.

"Real estate values here are on par with Wellesley and Weston," says Hamilton. "Nobody can say, 'Let's go to the South Shore and look for bargains.'"

Actually, you can—at the Christmas Tree Shops, just off Route 3 (Exit 12) in Pembroke. (You may know the South Yarmouth–based chain of discount gift shops by its annoyingly catchy "Don't you just love a bargain?" TV jingle.) Even if you arrive needing nothing, the store's selection of knick-knacks on the cheap—decorative items, toys, photo albums, stationery, food gifts, baskets and more—is impossible to resist. Your apartment will thank you.

Get back on Route 3 toward Plymouth. Tucked away off Route 44, you'll find Charles Caranci manning his family's winery. Surrounded by 9.5 acres of bogs, the Plymouth Colony Winery specializes in cranberry wine. A lifelong Plymouth resident, Caranci happily offers visitors free tastes of the sweet drink, as well as samplings of his eight other fruit wines. The winery also sells other cranberry goodies, including chutney, jellybeans, sauce and tea. If he's not too busy, Caranci, whose father started the winery in 1982, may show you around the bogs and talk you through the wine-making process.

After the wine tasting, it's time for some serious drinking. Follow 44 across Route 3 to Plymouth Center. Main Street, which becomes Court Street, is crowded with shops and restaurants. Settle into a leather wingback chair upstairs at the British Beer Company with one of the pub's 16 imported draft beers. The bar also stocks 25 bottled beers and 32 kinds of scotch.

Evening

For dinner, forget about surf-and-turf specials. Locals swear by Martha's Galley on Court Street for homemade soups and trattoria-style dining. For a more upscale meal, snag a seat at the nine-table Tuscany Tavern just down the road.

Before you leave Plymouth, stroll along the waterfront with a homemade sundae or an extra-thick frappe from Peaceful Meadows Ice Cream, which has two downtown locations. Or pick up a chocolate caramel praline cocoa at Lalajava for the 50-mile ride back to Boston. But take your time. The lights of the Prudential, unfortunately, are closer than you think.

the north

GLOUCESTER TO ROCKPORT

BY ERIN HAGEDORN

While the South Shore offers a full menu of amusement and shopping, in addition to classic New England charm, a visit to the seaside communities on Massachusetts' North Shore provides a throwback to the region's roots in shipping and fishing. There's still plenty to do, but the overall feel is more sedate, less rushed. Towns like Gloucester and Rockport, on Cape Ann—under an hour's drive from Boston—have all the charm and rustic appeal of Maine's coastal communities, but they're close enough for a day trip.


Gloucester's harbor is dotted with colorful fishing boats.

Morning

A drive up Route 1 from Boston to 128 North brings you to Gloucester, America's oldest seaport. Founded in 1623, the town is still an active fishing port, and much of it has the look and feel of a historic fishing village yet to join the new century (or the second half of the last one). Quaint shops and upscale restaurants add tourist appeal. A fun (and tasty) way to appreciate the local flavor is to have breakfast at the Dory on Commercial Street. The cozy diner is open for breakfast only (until 12:30 pm weekends and 11:30 am week

INLAND INSPIRATION

BY JUDITH FORMAN

It's not on the coastline, so some say it's not technically part of the South Shore. But nitpicking aside, there's still lots to do, see, and eat in the landlocked region just south of Boston. Here's a quick guide to some of the highlights west of the water.

Start the day with a hike around the 125 miles of trail at Blue Hills Reservation, which stretches from Quincy to Randolph. Climb up all 635 feet of Great Blue Hill (the highest of 22 area peaks) for stunning views of Greater Boston. There's also boating, fishing, golfing, ice skating and horseback riding nearby.

Come spring, check out the swimming at Memorial Beach on Lake Massapoag in Sharon. After your swim, stop by Crescent Ridge Dairy for homemade ice cream and frozen yogurt. Open year-round, the "Cridge" (as it's known locally) is especially popular on summer nights, when the parking lot becomes the place to be seen.

If the weather makes you want to stay inside, Braintree's your place. There's indoor kart racing at F1 Boston and more than 180 stores (including H&M, Pottery Barn and Coach) at South Shore Plaza.

A throwback to old-school dining, Town Spa Pizza has been an institution in Stoughton since 1955. The waitresses here are longtime fixtures, and the joint's thin-crust pizzas (linguica is a favorite) and Greek salads have satisfied generations of locals. A newer addition to town is Phatt Boys, which opened in October. Owners Scott Hartford and Fred Rash (both formerly of the Brew Moon/Rock Bottom chain) occasionally offer $75 prix fixe cigar dinners, complete with five courses, four cigars and plenty of cocktails. The restaurant also hosts a weekly jazz and blues brunch from noon to 3 p.m. on Sundays.

If an authentic Irish breakfast is more your speed, spend a lazy Sunday at Finbar's Pub and Meetinghouse in Norwood. For $6.95, chow down (between 9 am and 4 pm) on eggs, rashers, bangers, black and white pudding, home fries and toast—all served by a waitress straight from Kerry.

Sports nuts, take note: On April 12, individual-game tickets go on sale for the Brockton Rox baseball season. For as little as $4, you can watch the local franchise of the independent Northeast League play a game at Campanelli Stadium. Then, if you have time, take a detour to Foxboro, about 15 miles west, and load up on Super Bowl gear at the Patriots Pro Shop.

CONTACTS

Blue Hills Reservation
695 Hillside St., Milton
(617-698-1802)

Lake Massapoag Massapoag Avenue and Pond Street, Sharon (781-784-1530)

Crescent Ridge Dairy 407 Bay Road, Sharon (781-784-5892)

F1 Boston 290 Wood Road, Braintree (781-848-2300)

South Shore Plaza
Exit 6, Interstate-93, Braintree
(781-843-8200)

Town Spa Pizza
Washington and Plain streets, Stoughton (781-344-2030)

Phatt Boys 657 Washington St., Stoughton (781-341-5200)

Finbar's Pub and Meetinghouse 659 Washington St., Norwood (781-769-3333)

Campanelli Stadium
1 Lexington Ave., Brockton
(508-559-7000)

Patriots Pro Shop
Gillette Stadium, Route 1, Foxboro (508-384-4336)

shore

days), and it's where the fishermen meet up in the early hours. Rolling in at 8 am will make you feel like a late riser compared with the regulars. Fishing paraphernalia decorates the walls (alongside the odd nudie postcard) and nautical pictures cover the tables, as if to remind you what Gloucester is all about. The crowd is a friendly lot—mostly men being served by a no-nonsense waitress who knows nearly everyone by name. (Many regulars even have their own coffee mug hanging on the wall.)

Now that you've had breakfast, pick up a map of the area at the town's chamber of commerce, right next door to the Dory. You can easily walk downtown Gloucester—start by strolling along the harbor to see the fishing and lobster fleets up close. You'll recognize the waterfront from *The Perfect Storm*, one of several movies filmed here. Along Main and Rogers streets, just a short walk from the ocean, you can window-shop as seagulls screech overhead. After you peruse the shops (don't miss Virgilio's Italian Bakery and the enormous used music and book store Mystery Train), take a short drive along Route 127 South to Stage Fort Park, a boulder-strewn public park overlooking the ocean. Sit at one of the many picnic tables and read, have a romantic moment on the secluded giant rocks overlooking the ocean, or just relax on one of the park's pocket beaches.

CONTACTS

The Dory 29 Commercial St., Gloucester (978-283-2408)

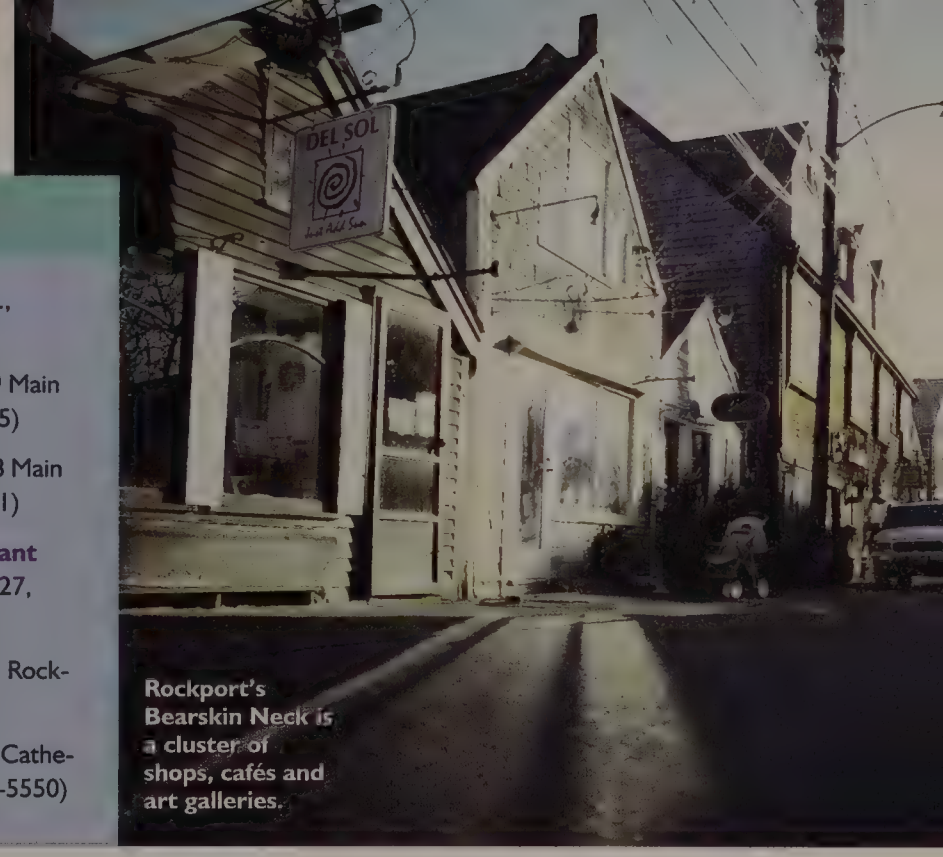
Virgilio's Italian Bakery 29 Main St., Gloucester (978-283-5295)

Mystery Train Records 178 Main St., Gloucester (978-281-8911)

Gloucester House Restaurant Seven Seas Wharf on Route 127, Gloucester (978-283-1812)

Halibut Point Gott Avenue, Rockport (978-546-2997)

Emerson Inn by the Sea 1 Cathedral Ave., Rockport (800-964-5550)



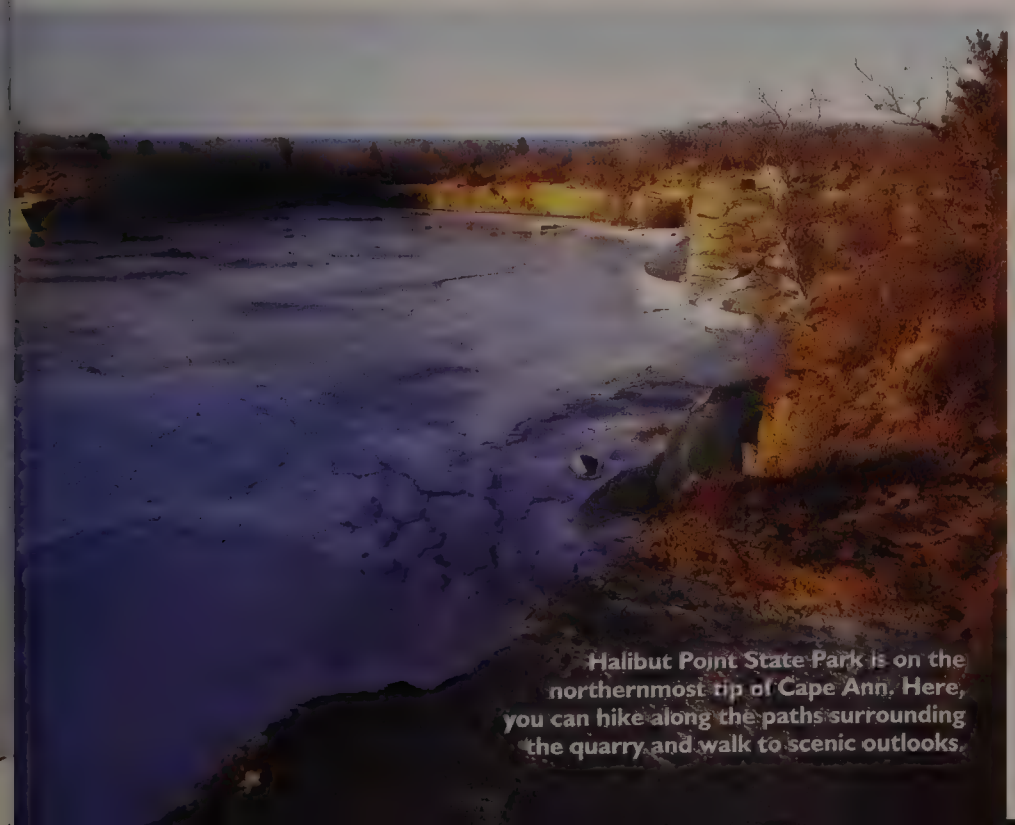
Rockport's Bearskin Neck is a cluster of shops, cafés and art galleries.

Afternoon

For fresh seafood and a front-row view of the fishermen coming in with their catch, have lunch at the Gloucester House Restaurant, on Seven Seas Wharf. Owned by lifelong Gloucester resident Lenny Linquata, it's a local institution. "In Gloucester you don't feel you're in a touristy, commercial place," Linquata says. "People here are down-to-earth. It's one of few places you'll find very poor and very wealthy people at the same place at the same time." If you're lucky, Linquata will be behind the bar. Ask him to tell you the famous story of the legendary local fisherman Howard Blackburn. (Linquata swears he doesn't mind repeating it.)

After lunch, take a quick drive up Route 127 to Rockport, a quaint seacoast town that's more ritzy and touristy than Gloucester. Many of the quaint shops are run by local artists who've lived here for years. Dock Square, in the center of town, features one of Rockport's main attractions, Bearskin Neck, a cluster of knick-knack shops (some were once fishing shacks), cafés and local art galleries along a promontory. It feels a lot like a Vermont town that's been condensed and plopped down on the seaside, and the narrow streets that wander through the small shops lead you to a great view of the harbor.

When you've had your fill of shopping, take a 10-minute drive north along Route 127's winding roads to Gott Avenue, where you'll find the coastal state park Halibut Point. Here, you can walk 10 minutes through the forest (using the self-guided tour brochure that you get in the parking lot) to the renovated World War II fire-control tower that doubles as a visitor center. Just ahead is an enormous granite quarry, and the path next to it takes you to a breathtaking seaside overlook where you can see as far as Maine's Mount Agamenticus and the Isles of Shoals off New Hampshire. Another, shorter trail takes you down to the ocean, where giant mounds of granite sit on the waterline, and you can climb over the rocks and explore the tidal pools.


Halibut Point State Park is on the northernmost tip of Cape Ann. Here, you can hike along the paths surrounding the quarry and walk to scenic outlooks.

Evening

If you're like me, by this point you'll have worked up an appetite. For an elegant dinner by the water, go to Emerson Inn by the Sea's Grand Café. The white-columned inn on the tip of Rockport, just a few minutes from Halibut Point, dates to the turn of the last century. Its romantic, classically decorated dining room offers beautiful oceanfront views, and on weekends, live piano music. In warm months, you can eat outside on the veranda overlooking the shore. Rockport has been a dry town since 1856, when an an axe-wielding seamstress named Hannah Jumper led an uprising of angry local women against drunken men. So be sure to bring your own wine to complement entrées like herb-roasted chicken Statler, beef tenderloin with Anna potatoes and traditional boiled lobster, and rich desserts like chocolate lava cake and crème brûlée. If you choose, you can spend the night in one of the inn's cozy rooms decorated with period furnishings—the ones that look out over the sea are best—and stay for a complimentary breakfast.

NEWBURYPORT AND PLUM ISLAND

BY JESSICA IREDALE

About 30 miles northwest of Rockport and Gloucester's rocky shorelines—near the New Hampshire border—are two centers of coastal Americana that are just as wholesome, with a bit less of the everyone-knows-your-name atmosphere. An hour's drive from Boston on I-95 north through Woburn and Topsfield (take Route 1A if you want the slightly longer, more scenic coastal route) brings you to pristine Newburyport, which sits neatly on the Merrimack River, and its beachside counterpart, Plum Island. The island's light-hearted mishmash of tacky summer shacks and modern beach homes and its nationally renowned bird sanctuary complement Newburyport's upscale, classic architecture (white steeple and all) and classically clad residents (J. McLaughlin's dream market) to create the quiet and quintessentially quaint New England community, free of attitude.

"There are a lot of high-energy, positive and friendly people who are very happy to be here and have access to the waterfront and shops," says Mike Duratti, Newburyport resident and general manager of the Black Cow Tap & Grill. Thrillseekers be forewarned: Despite said high energy, a typical day's activity here—at least for a tourist—includes trolling the boardwalk, hunting for tchotchkes, antiquing and bird-watching. Even typically pushy SUV drivers can be spotted surrendering right of way to pedestrians with a wave and a smile. Nope, you're not in Boston anymore.

Morning

For old-school New England, Newburyport plots are spacious, and buildings aren't as tightly packed together as in, say, historic Marblehead. Nevertheless, it's a walking town. Park your car (on the street or in a lot off Merrimac Street) and get ready to hoof it.

A walk through the sleepy streets leads you past square houses and picket fences, stately brick Federalists and a town mall. Add a couple of '57 Chevys and you've got a scene out of *Pleasantville*, so why not cop to the part and start the day off with breakfast at the local diner. The neighborhood greasy spoon, Angie's Food, is appropriately located on Pleasant Street. Its menu of standard fare like French toast, short-stack pan-

SHORE SHOWDOWN

Which shore has more? BY EZRA DYER





HISTORICAL OUTCASTS
North: Witches
South: Pilgrims
Verdict: Witches are wicked...cool. **North**

RICH COASTAL TOWN NICKNAME
North: "MBTS" (Manchester-by-the-Sea)
South: Deluxebury (Duxbury)
Verdict: Beverly Farms needs a catchy nickname, quick. **South**

NEXT STATE
North: New Hampshire
South: Rhode Island
Verdict: Year-round fun at mountains and lakes trumps beaches. **North**

TOWNS NOBODY REALLY KNOWS HOW TO PRONOUNCE
North: Woburn, Gloucester, Peabody, Swampscott
South: Scituate, Quincy, Wareham
Verdict: **Draw**

SPORTS FRANCHISE
North: Lowell Spinners (Red Sox single-A affiliate)
South: New England Patriots (Foxboro)
Verdict: This one's an easy touchdown. **South**

MUSIC VENUE


North: Tsongas Arena
South: Tweeter Center
Verdict: Those are really great woods. **South**

INDUSTRY HEADQUARTERS
North: Raytheon (Waltham)
South: Dunkin' Donuts (Canton), Papa Gino's (Dedham)
Verdict: You can't defend the country on an empty stomach. **South**

RECENT MOVIES


North: *State and Main*, *What's the Worst That Could Happen?* (Manchester), *The Perfect Storm* (Gloucester)
South: *Mystic River* (Canton)
Verdict: In this case, quantity beats quality. **North**

LANDMARK


North: The Leaning Tower of Pizza
South: Plymouth Rock
Verdict: One of these landmarks will be forever famous. **North**

COUNTRY CLUB YOU CAN'T AFFORD
North: Ipswich Country Club
South: Black Rock Country Club (Hingham)
Verdict: Black Rock has a $25,000 initiation fee; but you can't join the ICC unless Judge Smails gives you an invitation. **North**

ROCK BAND


North: Extreme (Revere)
South: Aerosmith (Duxbury, Marshfield and Norwell)
Verdict: Walk this way (south). **South**

CORRIDOR OF SCHLOCK
North: Route 1
South: Route 3A
Verdict: Saugus. Enough said. **North**

cakes, eggs any style, sausage links and hash browns will leave your belly and your wallet full. If you fear your tourist status will be discovered, coffee and a copy of Newburyport's *Daily News* spread out on your table should be sufficient local cover.

Once you've filled your stomach, get your brain in gear for the requisite New England history lesson. Did you know Newburyport is considered the birthplace of the U.S. Coast Guard? Didn't think so. But if you like obscure American history, carry on to the Range Lights, a pair of Coast Guard–operated lighthouses dating from the 19th century; the Old Hill Burying Ground, where many a sea captain and famous Revolutionary are buried; and Newburyport Public Library, an 18th-century structure where George Washington, John Quincy Adams and Benedict Arnold are said to have visited. All are within walking distance of the town center.

Newburyport's Black Cow Tap & Grill has fresh seafood and steaks, and a waterfront view.



Personalize your purse with mix 'n' match patterns and styles at Anna William in Newburyport.



With the history lesson complete, head to the town shopping district. In the State Street and Market Square vicinities, perfectly laid brick sidewalks wind past neat brick storefronts, many of which were reappointed in the 1970s. The eclectic mix of shops and galleries includes Soak, a bath shop that stocks products from the Plum Island Soap Company among other items from around the world; Soufflés, a kitchen store/coffee bar where you can buy a bamboo cheese grater and get your caffeine fix; and Anna William, a custom handbag store that lets you choose from nine styles and 130 fabrics to create a bag that's all you. Not to be missed is Wishbasket at the Tannery, a one-stop showroom for interesting high-end odds and ends—everything from Kiehl's skin care products to matelasse bedding to vintage wine label paintings, gourmet cheeses and grapefruit marmalade.

Afternoon

Shopping seems to have a direct correlation to appetite, so by this time you might want to head over to the Rockfish for some pub grub in a brownstone overlooking State Street, the town's main drag. The menu is "creative American"—soups, sandwiches, pasta, etc.

Next, it's off to Plum Island, and biking or driving is the way to go. Follow the causeway, passing the marshland on the right and the gas station on your left, and you'll reach a coastline peppered with flimsy beach cottages and upscale waterfront homes. With 11 miles of—let's face it—just sand and dunes, you've got two choices: enjoy miles of beautiful public beach, or head to the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge. The 4,662-acre sanctuary is home to more than 800 species of birds, plants and animals and is ranked as one of the nation's premier bird-watching areas. Self-guided tours take you through dunes, marshes, observation towers and platforms, and a checklist of birds you can spot at the refuge is available at the entrance gatehouse. Parking at the reservation costs $5 per car or $2 per bike.

CONTACTS

The Black Cow Tap & Grill
54 Merrimac St., Newburyport
(978-499-8811)

Angie's Food 7 Pleasant St.,
Newburyport (978-462-7959)

Soak 7 State St., Newburyport
(978-465-7625)

Soufflés 14 Market Square,
Newburyport (978-465-1523)

Anna William 1 Merrimac St.,
Newburyport (978-465-4199)

Wishbasket 50 Water St.,
Newburyport (978-465-1515)

The Rockfish 38 State St.,
Newburyport (978-465-6601)

Parker River National Wildlife Refuge 261 Northern Blvd.,
Plum Island (978-465-5753)

Evening

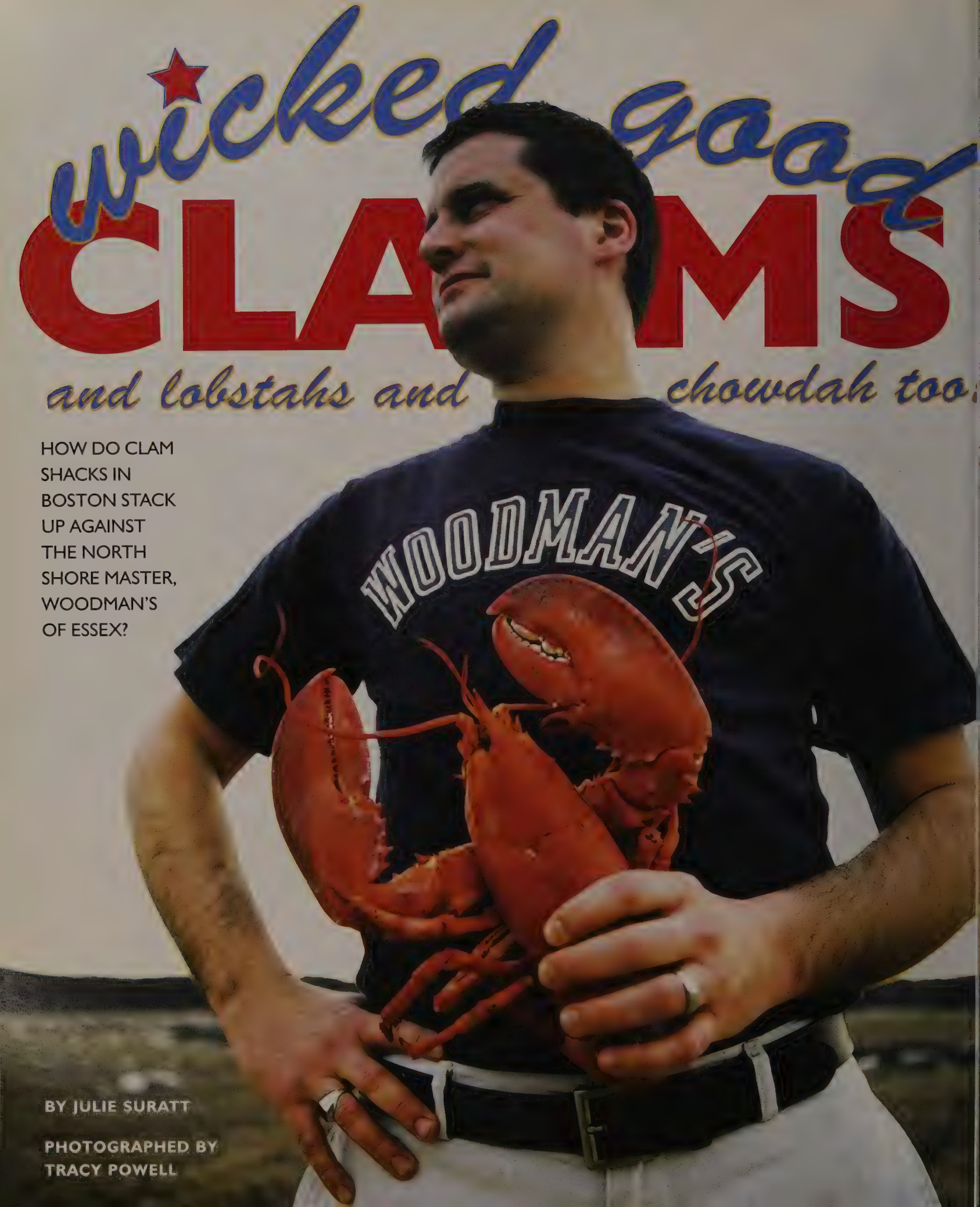
You might be familiar with the Black Cow Tap & Grill from its sibling venture in South Hamilton, Mass. The Newburyport location of the upscale seafood and steak house attracts diners from surrounding towns for its renowned cuisine, as well as its prime cut of real estate overlooking the river. If it's a nice night, try for a table on the waterfront porch. Otherwise, the dining room's got charm to spare with a lofted ceiling, hunter green walls, dark wood tables and booths, picture windows and a fireplace. A word to the wise: Don't skip the basil butter and fluffy white rolls—they alone are worth the trip. The menu is equally divided between meat and fish dishes, and entrées run from $17–$29. Baked haddock with white wine, lemon and cracker crumbs ($19) is a staff recommendation, but the grilled sirloin with red-skin mashed potatoes, grilled asparagus, blue cheese and shallot–red wine sauce ($25) ain't exactly chopped liver. Afterwards, take a starlit, digestive stroll along the riverside boardwalk that was recently revamped to the tune of $2 million. Take in the view, turn around, walk back and head home. iB


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CLERYS
The Black Rose
Coogan's
HURRICANE O'Reilly's
the Purple Shamrock
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HOW DO CLAM SHACKS IN BOSTON STACK UP AGAINST THE NORTH SHORE MASTER, WOODMAN'S OF ESSEX?



BY JULIE SURATT

PHOTOGRAPHED BY TRACY POWELL

Is there anything closer to heaven than a crispy, plump fried clam smothered with tangy tartar sauce? A tender hunk of lobster tail dripping with melted butter? A bowl of creamy chowder chock-full of clams and diced potatoes? Not for the true Yankee born-and-bred. But the setting and circumstances in which these delicacies are consumed must be just right: Forget crisply starched tablecloths, fine china and candlelight. Instead, think picnic tables, paper plates, plastic bibs and kitschy decor. In other words, think New England clam shack.

These casual restaurants dispense with all formalities and focus on one thing: serving up the freshest seafood in its most basic form—fried, boiled, steamed or broiled.

Here in Boston, we're surrounded by a number of clam shacks on the North and South shores, and of course, there are dozens on Cape Cod. But when you get a hankering for steamers or fried clams, and you're not up for an hour's drive, what are you to do?

Well, you're in luck. Boston sports a handful of eateries that offer seafood in the rough, among them Jasper White's Summer Shack, the Barking Crab, Jimbo's, No Name, Morse Fish Company and Court House Seafood. But how do they measure up against the real McCoy? To find out, I start with a drive to the North Shore to visit what many consider to be the quintessential New England clam shack: Woodman's of Essex. Legend has it that Chubby Woodman invented the fried clam back in 1916 when, at the suggestion of a local fisherman, he threw a shucked clam coated with cornmeal into a fryer. The momentous occasion warranted a note in the family bible, just after the birthdates of the Woodmans' two oldest sons: "We fried the first fried clam—in the town of Essex, July 3, 1916."

Business has been booming ever since.

I've arranged to meet Steve Woodman—Chubby's grandson—and his wife, Rhonda, for lunch. My goal is to find out from the experts what constitutes a real New England clam shack. I thought business would be slow on a Monday in February. Wrong. The place is hopping, although not nearly as crowded as on a summer day—when the line stretches out the door and down the street (and it's 45 minutes from the moment you get in line until you order).



Facing page: Eian Woodman, great-grandson of Chubby Woodman, proudly shows off a North Shore lobster. Top: The ultimate New England clam shack, Woodman's opened in 1914. Bottom: No Name, on Boston's Fish Pier, dates to 1917.

A giant wooden structure with picture windows overlooking a salt marsh, Woodman's has grown significantly from its origins as a roadside clam shack. Ninety years later, it seats 280 and serves up to 2,000 patrons a day. The classic recipes remain the same however. The fried clams are dipped in milk and coated with corn flour. The tartar sauce is great-aunt Joane's recipe.

I let Rhonda order, explaining that I want to try typical clam shack fare, and shortly after, a bounty arrives on a plastic tray: fried clams, steamers, boiled lobster, clam chowder, a lobster roll, onion rings and a fried-seafood platter. Between bites, I ask the pair, who are later joined by Steve's brother Doug, to tell me what constitutes a real New England clam shack.

First and foremost, Steve says, the entrées stick to the basics—fried, boiled and steamed. "Nothing's baked. It takes too long." You won't find monkfish marsala or seared tuna—just locally caught fish. And dessert is not part of the experience. The aim is to get the customer in and out in under an hour (which also explains the slightly uncomfortable bench seating). If you're still hungry after, you can get a soft-serve ice cream down the street.

Some of the other criteria that we decide are part of the "real" clam shack experience include ordering and pickup at a counter; menu written on a blackboard; paper plates and plastic utensils; nautically themed décor; wooden picnic tables; draft beer served in plastic cups; bathing suits and flip-flops welcome; and a water view.

To be fair, Rhonda Woodman acknowledges that the typical seaside clam shack might not thrive in Boston proper, pointing out that Bostonians expect table service, a wider selection of options on the menu, and glasses (as opposed to plastic cups) from a bar. In fact, some of our urban seafood shanties do have counter ordering and pick-up, but bathing suits and flip-flops might be too much to hope for.

THE CONTENDERS

Adjusting my mind-set to allow for these differences, I set out to gorge myself on fried clams, chowder, lobster and steamers. Armed with a set of standards, I spend the next week seeing how Boston clam shacks compare with the Essex classic.

Jimbo's

Located on the South Boston waterfront, Jimbo's—owned by the Doulos family—is the more casual version of Jimmy's Harborside, which it abuts. It might as well be miles away, though. With marine blue walls, low ceilings and nautical décor, Jimbo's feels like the lower depths of a cruise ship. The plastic menu has all the typical dishes you'd find at a clam shack, plus a few outliers: chili, chicken Parmesan and nachos. A waitress takes my order as I sit at a Formica-top table and look out at an amazing view of Boston Harbor and Logan Airport beyond. The lightly battered clams arrive in a red plastic basket with a wedge of lemon and a dish of tartar sauce. They're a bit greasy, but the accompanying clam chowder is thick and creamy, with potato chunks and bits of clams. Both the fried clams and the chowder are made from 80-year-old recipes, according to manager Michael Minihane. Have they ever thought of switching up? "If it ain't broke, why fix it?" he responds. Enough said.

Why go? Open-air seating on a wooden balcony overlooking the Harbor.

242 Northern Ave., Boston (617-542-5600).

No Name

Down the block from Jimbo's (and sharing a similar view) is No Name. Opened in 1917 by founder Yannis Contos and popular with local fishermen, the diner was called No Name because it originally had no sign. If Jimbo's feels like the steerage level of a boat, No Name is above the waterline (if not exactly on the upper deck), with paintings of ships on the walls and framed black-and-white photos of South Boston. I take a seat near the big windows at the back, fill a plastic cup with ice water from a pitcher on the table and peruse the menu. It has all the usual faves but also a selection of homemade pies (including a delicious strawberry rhubarb). Jimmy Klidaras, the nephew of owner Nick Contos, sits down with me, and we discuss local clam shacks. He's heard that Chubby Woodman invented the fried clam, but "we perfected it," he says. They are delicious: fat and juicy, with a light coating of cracker meal. The sautéed seafood platter (lobster, scallops and shrimp) is perfectly cooked. But the real winner here is the seafood chowder, chock-full of shrimp, clams, cod and haddock in a buttery broth.

Why go? Amazing prices.

15½ Fish Pier, Boston (617-423-2705).

Morse Fish Company

The oldest fish market in New England, Morse is a staple in the South End. I bypass the display case, which is stocked with more than 20 types of fish, and weave my way

	YEAR FOUNDED	SERVICE	SPECIALTY OF THE HOUSE	THE UNEXPECTED	TABLEWARE	DESSERT	DECOR	BEER/WINE	VIEW
WOODMAN'S	1914	counter	fried clams, steamers, clam chowder	deep-fried lobster tail	paper/plastic	no	historic photos	yes	salt marsh
JIMBO'S	1962	table	clam chowder	lobster quesadillas	casual china/ stainless steel	apple crisp, rice pudding, cheesecake	nautical	yes	Boston Harbor
NO NAME	1917	table	seafood chowder, sautéed seafood platter	broiled smelts	casual china/ stainless steel	homemade pies	historic photos	yes	Boston Harbor
MORSE FISH COMPANY	1903	counter	fried haddock, shrimp, scallops	soft-shell crab sandwich, catfish	Styrofoam/plastic	no	fish market	no	Holy Cross Cathedral
THE BARKING CRAB	1994	table	crabs of all varieties, calamari, crab cakes	spicy coconut shrimp curry	paper/plastic	key lime pie	seaside shanty	yes	Fort Point Channel
SUMMER SHACK	2003	table	raw bar, steamers, pan-roasted lobster	lobster tomalley toasts	casual china/ stainless steel	soft-serve vanilla	red leather booths and a beach motif	yes	Back Bay
COURT HOUSE SEAFOOD	1912	counter	fishcakes	grilled stickleback	paper/plastic	cake	historic photos	no	a house

through a maze of Formica tables and plastic patio chairs to a counter in the back. "Two-way with shrimp and oysters," shouts the guy in front of me to the chef. I look up at the illuminated menu board to see what he's getting: The combination dinners let you choose two, three or four seafood items from the menu and pair them with veggies, rice, French fries or cole slaw. "We encourage customers to be creative with their choices," says co-owner John Blacker. Not feeling in a creative mood, I opt for the standard seafood dinner. The chef passes a Styrofoam container heavy with fried haddock, scallops, shrimp, clams and French fries over the counter. I park myself by the window in the front and dip fat clam bellies into tartar sauce, sprinkle lemon over crispy fried haddock and dunk tender shrimp into a plastic dish of hot sauce. I mean to eat only a little, but 20 minutes later, the container is empty. I love every bite. There's no ocean view, but the giant Cathedral of the Holy Cross more than makes up for it. So do specials like soft-shell crab sandwich, monkfish, red perch and rainbow trout.

Why go? No frills, no pretenses; just fresh seafood how you like it.

1401 Washington St., Boston (617-262-9375).



Top: The Barking Crab sits on Fort Point Channel. Bottom: The Summer Shack combines Jasper White hospitality with a seaside atmosphere.

The Barking Crab

An admission: I love this place. It's fun, cozy and in the summer has the lively atmosphere of a German beer garden. Everything is mismatched—from the chairs and tables to the spoons and forks. Lobster traps, fishnets and wooden buoys abound. Picnic tables are set with big stones (to crack the shells of crabs and lobsters) and plastic buckets filled with chopsticks and napkins. Bartenders serve up soda and beer in plastic cups, and the windows look out over Fort Point Channel (and the three swans that visit daily). The Barking Crab first opened as a seasonal restaurant in 1994 and eventually took over the Neptune Lobster and Seafood Market next door to become a year-round operation. So despite the fact that it serves spicy coconut shrimp curry, this is the real deal. Don't miss the spicy fried calamari with hot pepperoncini, the crab cakes, baked stuffed lobster and the Jonah crab claws.

Why go? Dine next to a wood-burning stove in the winter or under a big red and yellow tent in the summer.

88 Sleeper St., Boston (617-426-2722).

Jasper White's Summer Shack

Jasper White had the best of intentions when he built his second coastal clam shack in the city (after the original in Cambridge). The Summer Shack's menu included all the usual favorites: steamers, lobster, fried clams and chowder—even corn dogs. He offered walk-up window service, and specials were scrawled in chalk on a blackboard. Patrons perched at crowded picnic tables and dined off paper plates. The only thing missing was the cry of seagulls and the pounding surf. Yet there was one problem: Patrons visiting a Jasper White restaurant didn't quite take to serving themselves. So White went back to the drawing board, and while the revamped eatery still honors the original concept of a seaside clam shack, he's made a few concessions to appeal to the finicky city dweller.

Tables are still wrapped in brown paper, and red plastic buckets catch stray shells, but friendly waiters make the rounds, and patrons order off a plastic menu. What remains of the original concept is the fantastically fresh seafood prepared to perfection. Steamers are gently cooked in a clam broth with tiny bits of celery. Ipswich clams are dipped in flour and spices, fried to a light, crispy finish and served with a slice of lemon and a small dish of tartar sauce. White has put together an amazing raw bar featuring cold-water oysters and clams. And as a result of customer demand, he's added to the menu the pièce de résistance: pan-roasted lobster, a truly mouth-watering delicacy topped with butter, chervil and chives. I'm still dreaming about it.

Why go? With Jasper White overseeing the menu, this is the most gourmet clam shack you'll ever try.

50 Dalton St., Boston (617-867-9955).

Court House Seafood

"If you're in the mood for a particular type of fish—say kingfish or mullet—and it's not on our menu, you can go next door to our fish market and buy it, and we'll steam, fry or broil it for you here," says Diane McGaffigan, manager of Court House Seafood in East Cambridge. That's fresh.

Court House doesn't have much of a view, nor does it sell beer, but it does make the most delectable fishcakes around. A Portuguese specialty, fishcakes are a mixture of whitefish and potato, coated with breading and deep fried. Right out of the fryer, they're hot and crisp on the outside, and—dipped in homemade tartar sauce—tender and moist inside, with a slightly peppery taste. Peruse the menu above the counter, order and then take a paper plate loaded with fried fish, stuffed clams or linguica (Portuguese sausage) back to the table and dig in with a plastic fork. Save room for the chocolate cake for dessert.

Why go? The Damaso family has a way with seafood. Try the fried sardines or stickleback, which are flown in from Portugal every Thursday. Or you can't go wrong with the fish cakes.

498 Cambridge St., East Cambridge (617-491-1213).

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SHALL WE dance?

DON'T WANT TO FEEL LIKE A DORK IN A CLUB OR BALLROOM? LOCAL DANCE CLASSES—FROM SWING TO SALSA TO HIP-HOP—TEACH SMOOTH MOVES YOU CAN USE.

BY LIZA WEISSTUCH PHOTOGRAPHED BY BRIAN SILVERSTEIN

If you stumbled on the dance floor at the last wedding you attended—or maybe while attempting a spin and a moonwalk to celebrate the Patriots' Super Bowl victory—have no fear. You don't have to be forever doomed to make excuses or wait at the bar whenever the music strikes up and the dancing begins.

Dance classes are a prime way to mix up an exercise routine, impress a special someone and meet new people. Any night of the week, you can find a different place around the city—from dance studios to clubs and bars—where instructors will guide you on the path to grace, coordination and confidence. Classes range from Irish set and West Coast swing to salsa and hip-hop. Some feature tricky moves, but none require performance experience, specialized shoes or legwarmers. Heck, you don't even need rhythm, but it helps. Even if you don't end up moving like Justin Timberlake or Beyonce, it's not too late get up on your two left feet and train them to groove.





Sophia's popular Salsa Wednesdays kick off with group lessons before the dance floor opens up for a fiery-footed free for all.

SALSA WITH A CLUBBY KICK

Mambo king Tito Puente once explained that salsa is what you eat, mambo is what you dance. Simple enough, right? If only the motions were as basic. You can get instruction in salsa's swift, fiery footwork at a variety of city venues. (Despite Puente's definition, "salsa" has become the default label for the popular dance done to Latin music.) One popular option, Salsa Wednesdays, takes place at a bona fide dance club, Sophia's. The evenings kick off at 8 pm with a class in *casino rueda*—couple-dancing in a circle, a traditional style that has become a popular Cuban children's game. You need not bring a better half, as partner-swapping is part of the fun.

Counting to eight is the easy part—it's what you do on each count that's tricky. Whether you join the beginner, intermediate or advanced circle (or as I call them, mild, medium or spicy), the instructors are patient bundles of energy. They know everyone is here to have fun. There are usually plenty of beginners among the 50 to 60 attendees, a healthy portion of whom don't even consider themselves regulars on the club circuit (which explains the range of attire, from get-ups that J. Lo and Ricky Martin would envy to jeans and sweaters).

When the rueda lesson ends at 9, the circle formations break down and the traditional salsa fires up. The crowd splits in two, and the Giraldo brothers—who have danced nationwide with their company Salsa y Control—each lead a group: Johnny takes the experienced dancers while Andres directs the beginners. Steps, stops and swirls are the name of the game that makes *salseros* out of all. When the dance floor opens up an hour later, and the music that has been intermittently supplied starts flowing freely, another hundred people arrive, and the brothers blend in with the revelers—sort of. (They're easily identified as the ones with no reservations about whirling.) Many who wouldn't ordinarily envision themselves swiveling their hips start keeping count to the Latin beats. The lessons play no small role in helping people shed the self-consciousness they may have brought with them.

"It's fun and low-pressure," says Andrea Vovk, 31, a research scientist from Brookline. "It doesn't matter what group you're in. Everybody looks as silly as you might feel. And the instructors—besides being friendly and outgoing—are patient."

"Everyone is here because of a common interest—everybody wants to learn how to dance," says Pepé Leyva, 34, a hair salon owner from Cuba who now lives in South Yarmouth. "It's the opposite of Lansdowne Street. There's so much socializing and not much drinking going on. It's a whole different culture."

SWINGIN' IT WEST COAST STYLE

The first thing you learn at Downtown Swing (at Ned Devine's when I attended but moving to Stadium in South Boston as of March 22) is that swing dancing doesn't just cover the jump, jive and wailing moves that signify the 1930s the way break dancing did the '80s. That energetic East Coast style enjoyed a renaissance in the late '90s thanks to the popularity of neo-swing bands like Big Bad Voodoo Daddy and Squirrel Nut Zippers. West Coast swing, however, is slower and groovier (read: easier to pick up). It's a stylized form that's more back-and-forth oriented than up-and-down. And because it's done to just about any style of music, it's an equal-opportunity boogie style.

"If you can clap to the beat and you can walk, you can learn West Coast swing," Jon Schimmel, the lively instructor, tells me. "There's a fair amount of information, so it takes time to get it all down, but once you've got the info, you can do it. And because you can dance it to such a wide variety of music, including contemporary, it appeals to a lot of people."

Thanks to the New England Swing Dance Network, an organization that promotes the growth of the West Coast swing community, there's somewhere to groove almost every night of the week in the Boston area. Ned Devine's began hosting the network's Monday night swing classes in January, with introductory level lessons beginning at 6:30. Schimmel says they'll follow the same routine at Stadium.

The dance has a leader and a follower and includes six basic foot patterns. It takes practice, but don't be shy about asking questions of whoever's gripping your hand. It's part of getting to know everyone.

During the one-hour introductory lesson, I meet half the class because the session proceeds in a line-dance format: Once the instructor teaches my half of the class the follower's moves, we reconvene with those who learned the leader's part. The two groups form parallel lines, which allows for systematic rotation of partners (and makes it tough for those who come as a couple). Chit-chatting among the passing partners becomes less common as the intermediate class starts and serious concentration is called for. Thankfully, the more advanced dancers who arrive for the later class lend a leading hand as turns are thrown into the mix of side-cross-backs and triple steps.

After the intermediate lesson, the DJ, who'd been playing a healthy mix of R&B and classic soul, cranks up the volume and the instructors shut off their mikes. Those of us fresh from the lessons are anxious to see how much we remember without someone counting aloud. While a few dozen more swing kids arrive, suck back a drink, and hit the floor, others comfortably ask for a dance from someone they stepped with in class.

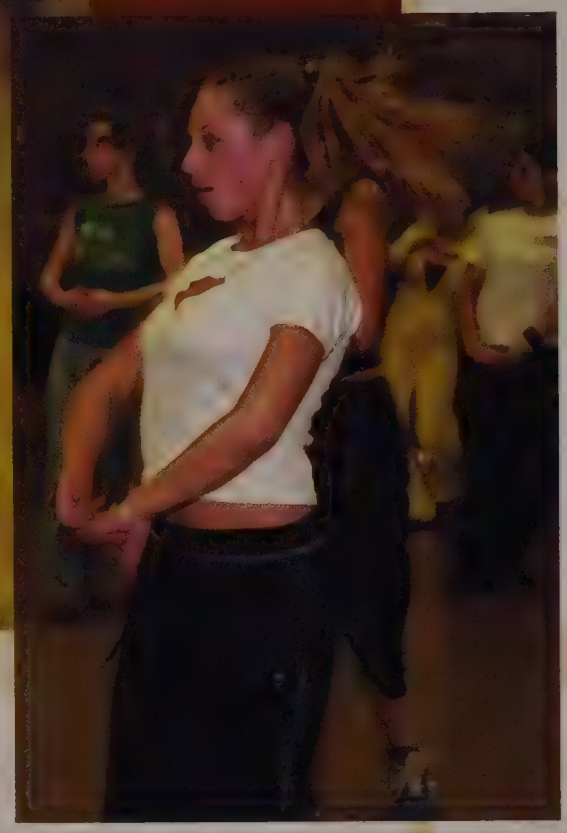
"It's a total social outlet," says Brian Barakauskas, 28, who teaches country dancing. "I think people take lessons so they can become better dancers, so they can dance with more people and have a better time."





Learn West Coast swing at the New England Swing Dance Network's Monday night classes.





Carl Alleyne (left) teaches students MTV-worthy moves at the Dance Complex.

HIP-HOP AROUND

If so many people in so many videos can do it—even the people in the background—then hip-hop dancing can't be that tough, right? Well, maybe if you practice religiously. The routines Carl Alleyne teaches in Hip Hop Explosion at the Dance Complex involve a lot of spins, kicks and slides, which are basic enough. But there are also sequences that defy words, which Alleyne steers with a string of "ah, ah, ah, ah, uh." Don't worry if you don't get the hang of the steps at first. He breaks down each sequence enough times that when he brings it all together, the rapid-fire moves will at least look familiar. Plus Alleyne encourages you to add your own finesse, so if what you do looks wildly different from his kicks and hops, just tell yourself you're adding your signature.

Perhaps Marjorie Dove, 23, who works for a nonprofit, puts it best by explaining that the class is "less about aerobics than learning how to dance. If you come for an aerobic workout, you're not gonna cut it." It's more about learning a style than following someone's motions to get your blood pumping.

Since the Dance Complex attracts experienced dancers who come for ballet and jazz classes—not to mention flamenco and African—many classically trained twirlers come to Hip Hop Explosion for a change of pace. Then there are those who "just want to learn how to dance like they see people doing it on TV," says Theo Martinez, 27, a personal trainer from Nashua, N.H. "[Hip-hop] is a popular dance style, and there are lots of places to go that play that kind of music. A lot of people take the class so they can dance better when they go out."

A LITTLE WALTZ, A LITTLE SWING, SOME HUSTLE AND SAMBA, EVERYTHING!

"We can't dance in the reception room, people. It must be done in the ballroom," says Martin Rebello in a half-scolding, half-joking tone. He ushers about a dozen loiterers into the main ballroom of Arthur Murray Dance Studio, and one of the studio's eight instructors follows behind with an enormous bowl of punch. About 20 people are already waiting, shaking their shoulders, stretching or going over a recently learned foot pattern. The mood of the room is a cross between a serious ballet class and a high school dance, until Mark Anthony's "I Need to Know" pipes in over the sound system and Rebello suggests energetically, "Waltz, waltz, waltz!"

Every Thursday night, students taking classes at any level—group or private—gather for a party. It's a chance for people to strut the stuff they recently picked up in class, learn new maneuvers from other, perhaps more experienced, dancers (at least six of the eight instructors join in) and meet people who also like to dance.

"I hear a hustle," Rebello booms as "Mony Mony" kicks into high gear. Most ask others to dance with reckless abandon, regardless of attire, age or ability, as I quickly learn when one of the instructors approaches me and offers his hand. Larry Bonneau has been teaching at Arthur Murray for 20 years, so chances are he instinctively knows how much assistance I could use. In other words, it's less a gesture of gallantry than pity.

But according to most students, having a chance to step and spin with slick steppers is part of what draws the Thursday throng.

"Everybody is very friendly and accepting," says Clive Anderson, 21, a college student. "No matter how good you are, everyone asks everyone else. People who are really advanced and have been taking classes for years have the patience to teach beginners."

The range of students isn't surprising given the variety of classes offered—from tango to hustle to swing to merengue—and the levels accommodated. According to Rebello, the Latin styles and swing classes have been most popular of late. What's striking about the Thursday affair is how the array of generations organically melts together as the rhythms pulse. Everyone has a different motivation for signing up for lessons, to be sure. Many couples take classes for their wedding, for instance. But on Thursday nights, reasons take a back seat to results.

"It's foxtrot time," says Rebello, stepping off the dance floor and resuming his MC role as a Frank Sinatra tune starts up. Some gallop off to the sidelines, while a few gents approach Margaret Linda, 83, who selects a lucky fellow. Linda, by the way, is one of the regulars who teaches partners a fresh move or two.

"I always wanted to learn to dance," says Will Butts, 28, an accountant from Dorchester. "I was at a club and I couldn't do it. So I decided to try [a class] and now I'm here every night of the week." Like Mark Anthony says, for some it's a matter of needing to know.

GREEN WITH RHYTHM

Ger Cooney is encouraging. She encourages people to drink a pint or two before class. It loosens you up, she says. She encourages everyone to have a good laugh. And once the merry music begins, her affirming shouts encourage beginners like me not to throw in the towel when the sets get too quick and the reels set my head spinning.

Cooney has been teaching set dancing in the Backroom at the Burren for seven years. Many regular students aren't here on this Monday night in February because they've flown off to Kerry, Ireland, to participate in the Gathering Festival of Irish music, dance and song—a clear indication of how addictive many find set dancing to be. Not to be confused with *Riverdance*-style step dancing, set is done in a group comprising four couples in formations similar to square dancing. This Irish tradition is measured in three-beat units called "bars," the timing of which depends on whether the music is a jig, reel, polka, slide or hornpipe.

Up to 60 people join the group on a typical Monday. Some, as I find out when a partner guides me assuredly, are regulars. But there are plenty of other novices who, without the assistance of ale, stumble and lurch as we whirl, hop, lock elbows and fling partners across the circle. Many say their initial interest was sparked because of a thirst to learn more about Gaelic culture. Some got hooked because they were hanging out at the Burren and were lured by the music playing in the Backroom. But for those versed in other dance styles, the intrinsic partner-swapping makes this a choice style for many.

"The music is a lot of fun to dance to, plus it gives you a chance to interact with the whole set of people instead of just dancing with one partner," says Richard Barbalace, a 31-year-old engineer from Cambridge.

The interaction often continues after the lesson finishes and fiddlers play jigs, reels and polkas in the bar area. The patrons are treated not only to live traditional tunes, but spontaneous dancing, too. **IB**

STEP LIVELY

Arthur Murray Dance Studio
20 Park Plaza, Suite 330, Boston (617-426-3335).
www.arthurmurray-bos.com.
Merengue, tango, waltz, rhumba and a variety of other styles are offered in private or group settings at many levels. Cost depends on personalized lesson plan.

Downtown Swing at Stadium
232 Old Colony Ave., Boston (617-623-3134).
www.westcoastswingdancing.com.
Mondays: 5:30 pm, dinner and cocktails; 6:30 pm, introductory lesson; 7 pm, "Basic Patterns & Techniques" beginner lesson; 7:45 pm, "Fun Moves and Variations" intermediate lesson; 8:45 pm, dance. $10 lesson and dance; $6 dance only; food and drink not included.

Hip Hop Explosion at the Dance Complex
536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-9363).
www.dancecomplex.org.
Thursdays: 5:45-7:15 pm; Saturdays: 9:30-10:30 am. $10.

Irish Set Dancing at the Burren
247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896).
www.burren.com.
Mondays: 7 pm. $5.

Salsa Wednesdays at Sophia's
1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001).
www.salsaboston.com.
Wednesdays: 8 pm, Casino Rueda lesson; 9 pm, mambo-style lesson; 10:15 pm, DJ-directed dance party (21+). $10; $12 with lesson.

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Annie B. Copps, Boston Magazine, January 2004

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HOMETOWN HEART BREAKER

INTERVIEW BY SAMANTHA HOUSE | PHOTOGRAPHS BY JOE GREENE

Back in 1986, if you told me I was going to meet New Kid on the Block Joey McIntyre, I would have squealed with glee and called all my friends to brag. Now that I'm a little older, and more mature, such things don't affect me that way. So when I had the chance to do a photo shoot with the Jamaica Plain native and talk to him about his new album, *8:09*, I thought, "I'll just be cool." Unfortunately, that was in no way what happened once he actually arrived.

McIntyre showed up on time with his new wife, Barrett, who looks like a petite supermodel. He shook everyone's hand, and his quick wit and easy manner made it clear why women around the world swoon for him. To calm my nerves, I turned my attention to the clothes. I handed him a pair of white pants and told him that if he was wearing colored undies, we couldn't use them because they'd show through. My face turned about five shades of red when he replied, "Don't worry, I'm not wearing any."

When I finally got up the courage to ask him a little more about himself, here's what he had to say.

Samantha House: *You just finished a new album, how do you feel about it?*
Joey McIntyre: I'm thrilled. Artistically, we slaved over it, and I think that the intent of the record came out in the finished product.
SH: *Describe the music.*
JM: It's inspired by more old school R&B with a modern production feel, but it's really about the songs.
SH: *What's the story behind the album title?*
JM: When I went out to do *Boston Public*, I needed a place to stay. The real estate broker (Barrett, now his wife) found me a place, and the address was 809. That's where I wrote the album. The funny thing is that Barrett and I met on 8/09 and got married the next year on 8/09, so it's a pretty significant number.
SH: *How much time do you spend in Boston?*
JM: I visit about four times per year for a few weeks at time. I like to catch all the seasons
SH: *What do you miss about Boston when you're gone?*
JM: It's so different from LA and New York. I can relax here—it's a good getaway. To quote Joe Perry: "It's a world-class city with a small-town feel".
SH: *Where do you like to hang out when you're here?*
JM: Aquitaine Bis in Chestnut Hill and Doyle's are my favorites.
SH: *When we talked in 2002, you were just starting your stint on* Boston Public. *Now that it's over, how do you feel about the experience?*
JM: It was awesome—getting that gig changed my life—I moved to LA, met my wife and wrote my record. Working on a show like that was a great learning experience. I really enjoyed the process of it all.
SH: *What's next for you?*
JM: I plan to go on tour in the summer and just do a lot of promoting.
SH: *Are you planning to make any videos for your album—and what about future projects with* MTV*?*
JM: With this album, I plan on making some videos, but they will probably end up on VH1 rather than MTV.
SH: *You just got married, how is that treating you?*
JM: It's awesome. We're always together because I don't want to have to run back and forth from coast to coast. When you're traveling around, you just want to have your wife with you. She's an awesome person and very supportive. I really appreciate and depend on her opinion.
SH: *Finally, please assure us that you and Barrett will never do a reality show based on your life together.*
JM: Not based on our marriage. I like Nick and Jess. I think they're real people and they're able to pull off their show. I think they were somehow able to keep their dignity—which is hard to do in a situation like that. A year ago I would have said they were crazy for doing it. But in this day and age, it's a good way to show people what you're doing.

CATCHING UP WITH JOEY MCINTYRE

Light gray suit
$925; striped shirt
$155. Both by
Z. Zegna
Ermenegildo Zegna

White textured shirt, $125; button-fly jeans, $125; yellow leather belt, $68. All at DKNY. Watch by Roger Dubuis, $16,200 at Shreve, Crump & Low.



Black metallic suit, $955; white textured shirt, $140; striped tie, $95. All by Z. Zegna at Ermenegildo Zegna. Eighteen-karat yellow gold Roadster watch by Cartier, $22,360 at Shreve, Crump & Low.

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617-236-047

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39 Newbury S
617-424-930

Herm
22 Arlington
617-482-870

Shreve, Crump & Lo
330 Boylston S
617-267-91

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MOPSY

SERENDIPITOUS SHOPPING: OUR UNFETTERED CORRESPONDENT SEEKS OUT THE SALUBRIOUS AND THE CEREBRAL

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



POETRY TREASURE, POSSIBLY VANISHING

The Grolier Poetry Book Shop, at 6 Plympton St., Cambridge, is an atmospheric literary goldmine that's been around since 1927. Call 617-547-4648 or go to www.grolierpoetrybookshop.com.

Back when the literary life was centered around places like Sylvia Beach's Shakespeare and Company, the Paris bookshop where erudite, beret-wearing poets and readers gathered, the atmosphere was probably something like what you'd find today in Harvard Square's Grolier Poetry Book Shop. In rare antique coziness, 16,000 books—both well-known and deliciously obscure titles—line the walls up to the stained glass above. Many of the volumes are as slim as a moonbeam. Black-and-white photos of poets who've stopped by speckle the walls. (Cambridge is a "laureate cluster" home to both a former U.S. poet laureate, Robert Pinsky, and the incumbent, Louise Glück.) Owner and local icon Louisa Solano converses with poets, academics and other trollers of metaphor, discussing books and their authors as if they're old friends, which they often are. She'll climb a ladder to scout out a line from Tennyson, or compare the second and fifth books of a particular poet. Grolier sells lots of international poetry, including Asian and Spanish works, along with American tomes. In "in-verse" proportion to its august poetic-shrine status, Grolier's financial situation is shaky, so aficionados will want to patronize the stomping grounds of local poets like Stephen Dobyns, Frank Bidart, Bill Knott and Jorie Graham.

CURTAINS IN TONES OF CURRY AND GINGER

Madura, at 144 Newbury St., sells beautiful curtains ready to hang. Call 617-267-0222 or go to www.madurahome.com.

Although the goods are made in France, this store is inspired by the deep, spicy colors of India. The ready-made curtains at Madura are sumptuously rich in thickness and style. You can snap them right onto your windows to bring mansion-hood to even a small apartment, and easily attached fixings further the look's sexiness. The curtains come in one long length (110 inches), and three widths (57, 78 and 137 inches), and you won't want to mini-skirt them; the Madura look requires that long swoopiness. The exotic style is enhanced by the attachments: straps, ribbons, golden hooks and dramatic twisty tassels that suggest a footman may be about to announce your visitors by blowing a horn. Yet these adornments are part of the do-it-yourself, no-decorator-needed ease. After you hang the curtains, you do minor hemming right under the window, using an ironing board and a special strip the store provides. Fabrics come in taffeta, jacquard, cotton and linens. Blackout curtains, interestingly, come in white. Ethereal sheers, sometimes rolled up with ribbons, filter the light in dreamy ways. Use them on side windows, or billow them over a bed.



EXPECTING: A SOOTHING MASSAGE

Massage therapist Ananda Lowe gives massages to women in any stage of pregnancy. Gift certificates available. At various Healthworks locations ($65 for members, $75 for nonmembers). Call 617-623-3883.



The inner and outer life of the pregnant woman is at times dreamy and abstract, but it's also busy with appointments, excitement and legitimate anxiety. A massage therapist and former doula—a trained assistant who provides support to women in labor—Ananda Lowe says that while a pregnant woman is preparing to give intensive nurture to her newborn, she needs some nurturing herself. Tension of body and soul can be lessened through the gliding, stroking and gentle kneading of a massage. As the little insidenik grows, the woman lies on this side, then that side, while her weight-burdened hips and lower back—even, if desired, the belly itself—receive attention. While the midsection is preparing its muscle tone for what Lowe calls "the job of a lifetime," the shoulders, gravitationally challenged by the growing belly, need massage attention, as does the area around the rib cage. Breathing can be restricted as the thin layers of muscle holding the torso together get a bit squished by the developing fetus; massaging the area helps. Come the big day, this detensification is in the bank as reference for the "relaxation response," that rehearsed-then-later-called-upon loosening of tension.

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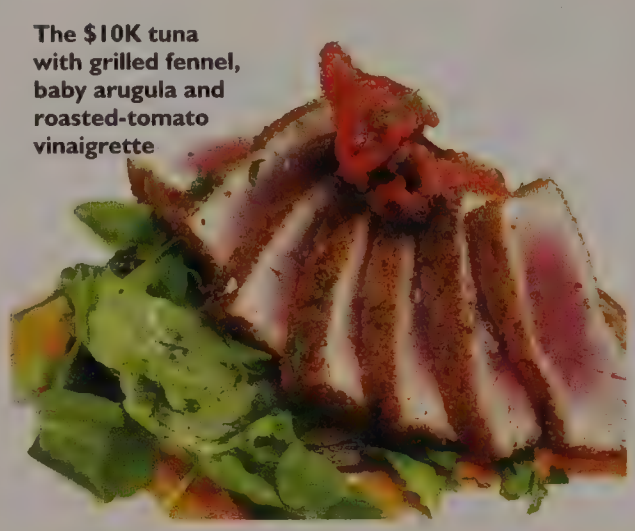
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REVIEW

A NEAR-PERFECT UNION

Seth Woods' newest restaurant, Union Bar and Grille, is worthy of all the hype

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS



The $10K tuna with grilled fennel, baby arugula and roasted-tomato vinaigrette



A selection of artisanal cheeses for two, with seasonal accompaniments and sorbet



Smoke-roasted double-thick pork chop with mustard shell beans, apple confiture and citrus pan juices



Rack of lamb with Jerusalem artichoke gratin, Tuscan kale and mission fig glaze

What's all the buzz about? In a city as full of good restaurants as Boston, why is it so difficult to score a table at a decent time at the Union Bar and Grille early in the week, and practically impossible to do so on weekends? After lucking out and getting the last available unreserved table at 7 pm one Monday, and settling for a 5:30 pm reservation the following Thursday—a dinner hour associated with early bird specials for Florida retirees—I found out. Union, the latest endeavor by Seth Woods (Aquitaine, Aquitaine Bis), is nothing short of superb, with chic, comfortable surroundings, spectacular food, informed and efficient—perhaps too efficient—service and remarkably reasonable prices.

How can you go wrong at a restaurant that starts your meal with a small black cast iron frying pan containing a round loaf of moist, rich yet light corn bread accompanied by sweet butter? Appetizers included mussels ($9), a shellfish I approach cautiously having encountered specimens of dubious provenance in the past. Not to worry here, for a baker's dozen of plump, sweet mussels were impeccably fresh and wholesome, simmered in white wine, parsley and butter with just enough garlic to enhance but not obscure their sweet flavor. Inexplicably, in a restaurant that does almost everything else well, the waiter failed to bring a receptacle—which the French call *la poubelle de la table*—for discarding the spent shells, and I was reduced to the expedient of piling them on my bread plate. Another seafood appetizer, smoked Menemsha bluefish with celery, walnut and apple salad ($8), arrived as two thin slices of pleasantly oily bluefish presented on an attractive square plate and dressed in a tangy horseradish mustard. The interplay between the tastes and textures of the walnuts, crisp celery and crunchy, sweet apples provided the perfect counterpoint for this rich, full-flavored fish.

Goat cheese and arugula salad with wood-grilled eggplant and oven-cured tomatoes ($9) provided a starter that was both refreshing and satisfying, with the warm Mediterranean flavors of the eggplant and goat cheese felicitously paired with pleasantly bitter greens including baby arugula and tingly frisée, all moistened with aromatic extra-virgin olive oil. The heartiest appetizer on the menu, boneless beef short ribs with honey-roasted root vegetables and celery slaw ($12), appeared as a small cylinder topped with crunchy celery slaw. The barbecue marinade rendered the beef sweet but not cloying, and the hearty beef flavor shone through.

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PARKING valet ($12)

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Finally among the starters, wild mushroom risotto ($14) was a triumph. Creamy in texture, with flavors ranging from exotic white truffle oil, woodsy black trumpet mushrooms and nutty, mellow Madeira wine, the risotto was served in unique, highly stylized bowls.

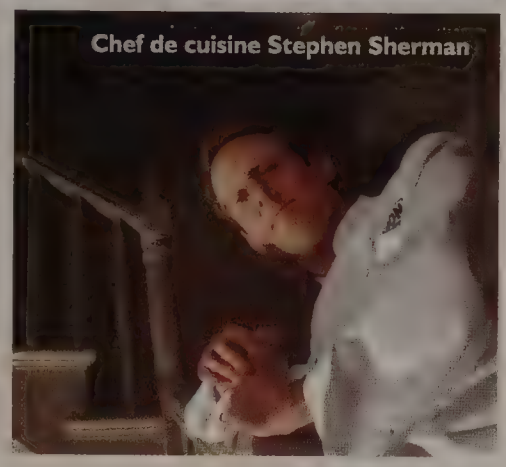
Moving to the main courses, I found the fish offerings exceptional. The $10K tuna with grilled fennel ($27) took first prize. The waiter explained that its name derives from an award that Union's chef de cuisine, Steve Sherman, won as a student at the Culinary Institute of America for designing the dry marinade used in preparing the fish. Made with fennel seed, coriander, ground black pepper and chili flakes, the marinade imparted marvelous flavors and aromas to the first-rate slab of sashimi-quality tuna. I ordered it rare and was charmed by its moist, satiny texture. It was topped by luscious fillets of roast tomatoes, whose balance between sweet and tart reminded me that tomatoes are properly classified as a fruit and not a vegetable. A second fish offering, wood-grilled swordfish steak ($25), was more simply spiced with salt and pepper, with rich earthy flavors provided by an accompanying hash of tiny cubes of sweet potatoes, small chunks of bacon and slices of Brussels sprouts, while a balsamic brown butter added an additional flavor kicker that married well with the mild fish.

Moving from sea to land, I enjoyed the roast chicken with andouille corn bread stuffing ($21). The chicken's moist flesh, crisp skin and provocatively spicy, salty dressing came with a dandy combination of garlicky greens and mildly sweet onions. Finally, the smoke-roasted double-thick pork chop ($22), a full two inches high, resembled a small loin of pork on the bone. Surprised that the waiter didn't ask how I wanted it prepared, I spoke up to say that I preferred it medium rare. Unfortunately,



The main dining room features black leather banquettes, long mirrors above the wainscoting and crisp white tablecloths.

what arrived at the table was more gray than pink, and consequently dry and uninteresting. Whether Union applies an American as opposed to French standard in delineating between rare and medium, or adheres to my parents' prejudice that pork must be cooked well-done—or simply that the waiter forgot to communicate my preference to the kitchen—I could only guess. but despite my dissatisfaction with the pork's texture, I loved the garnish of large, dark mustard shell beans (resembling kidney beans), and long slices of delicious roast parsnips that accompanied it.



Chef de cuisine Stephen Sherman

Union's desserts almost blew me away. We chose the chef's dessert tasting for two ($18), a selection of four of the offered desserts in small portions. When the dish arrived, we counted five items, rather than four, arrayed on the attractive platter placed before us, leading me to conclude that I had been recognized and the house was showcasing the talents of its pastry chef, Joshua Steinberg. Regardless, each of the five was terrific. Chocoholic that I am, my favorite was the dark chocolate fondant, a rich, intensely flavored mousse garnished with burnt-sugar ice cream, mildly sweet Anjou pear and a tiny cashew pastry. A close second, the Vermont maple bread pudding with walnut praline and toasted marshmallow ice cream, seemed a whimsical play on the classic ice cream flavor, maple walnut, with toasted marshmallow ice cream thrown in for good measure. Pistachio-crusted brown sugar cheesecake was most memorable for its accompanying kalamansi lemon sorbet, exquisitely tart. The only problem with this array of delectable desserts was keeping them straight, and while I thoroughly enjoyed the banana split with butterscotch hazelnut fudge and black cherries and the white chocolate mousse Napoleon, by the time we worked our way through all five desserts and their garnishes, they had become hopelessly but enchantingly confused.

The stage on which Union's virtuoso kitchen performs is visually engaging and comfortable. Located in a double storefront on Washington Street across from the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Union has a bar area to the left of the entrance, furnished with high tables at which full meals are served, and a good-sized dining room, accommodating perhaps 80 diners, to the right. A heavy wooden beam supports the ceiling and is itself supported by square beams vertically deployed as columns. Two large, black wrought iron chandeliers, shiny black leather banquettes and booths for four, six or eight, and long mirrors above the wainscoting create an upscale dining environment. Crisp, white tablecloths and napkins and a single votive candle dress tables set with substantial tableware and wineglasses.

Consistent with its reasonable food prices, Union offers an approachable wine list, with glasses priced as low as $6.50 and bottles beginning in the $20s. I found the Hahn Estates Central Coast cabernet sauvignon ($7/glass, $28/bottle), well structured, with good acid and a fine finish, to be a superb accompaniment to Union's food, whether fish, fowl, or meat.

If I had any criticism of Union, it was that the meal was served at a pace that at times seemed a trifle rushed. Not that the waiters hurried us, but they seemed to pounce and clear the plates the moment a fork was set down on the table, reappearing in an instant with the following course. In thinking about this phenomenon, I concluded that Union's value-priced menu, combined with the extraordinarily high quality of its food, made the brisk pace both understandable and tolerable. If tables can be turned over two or three times a night, prices can be kept reasonable while allowing a fair return for the restaurateurs. Fair enough. IB

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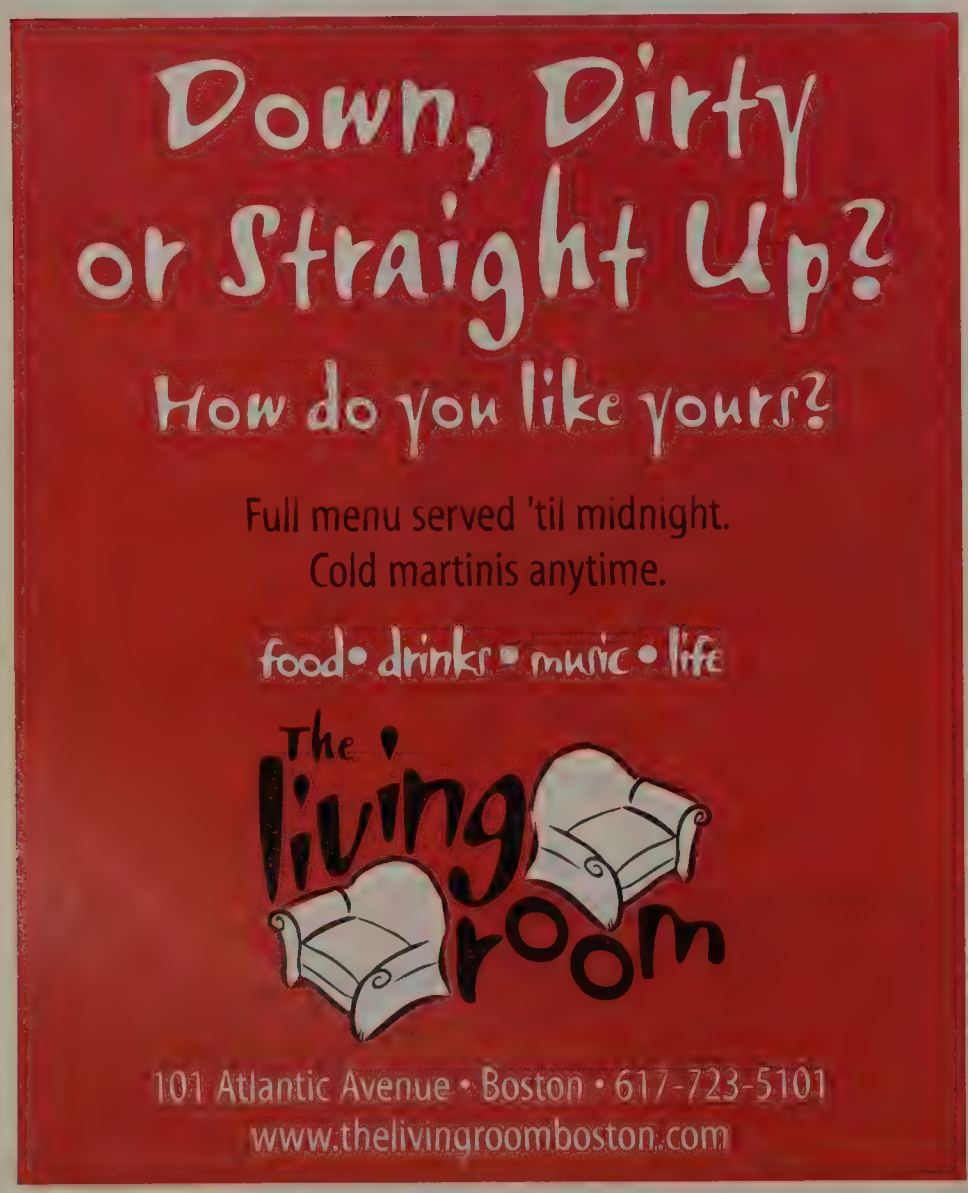
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TASTINGS

BY JULIE SURATT

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

All About Shiraz/Syrah
Millennium Bostonian Hotel, 26 North St., Boston (617-859-7170). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. March 23, 7-9 pm. $45. Taste full-bodied spicy wines from Australia and South Africa, more elegant, restrained beauties from the Northern Rhones and some of California's best examples of shiraz. Presented by Wine Experiences Inc.

Beer Release Party
Cambridge Common Restaurant, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-1228). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. March 24, 6:30-8:30 pm. Free. Be one of the first to try Smuttynose IPA, and meet the folks responsible for it.

Boston Wine Festival
Boston Harbor Hotel, Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-330-9255). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Through April 9. The Boston Wine Festival continues through April and offers more than 50 wine and food pairing events. •March 17, 6:30 pm (seminar), 8 pm (dinner), $135 or $185 (with dinner): Iron Horse •March 18, 6:30 pm (seminar), 8 pm (dinner), $175 or $225 (with dinner): Rhone Valley •March 23, 7 pm, $135: Pine Ridge •March 24, 7 pm, $135: Archery Summit •March 25, 7 pm, $135: Chehalem •March 26, 7 pm, $75: Tour of Oregon •March 29, 7 pm, $135: Rabbit Ridge •March 30, 7 pm, $135: Stonestreet.

Brewers Banquet
Redbones, 55 Chester St., Somerville (617-628-2200). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. March 29, 7 pm. $35. This beer dinner pairs barbecued ribs with stouts and porters.

Brewers Dinner
Cambridge Common, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547.1228). March 30, 6:30 pm. $35. The Common welcomes Victory Brewing Company's **Steve German**. The evening features a pairing of Victory brews with chef **Tony Patino**'s four-course meal.

California Wine Dinner
Monica's, 143 Richmond St., Boston (617-227-0311). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. March 31, 7 pm. $55. The wines of Treana and Liberty School of Paso Robles, Calif., are paired with four courses prepared by chef **Jorge Mendoza**.

Country-Style French Dinner and Wine Wednesdays
Caffé Umbra, 1395 Washington St., Boston (617-867-0707). $45. •March 9, $45: Chef/owner **Laura Brennan** hosts a three-course Parisian dinner paired with two wines. •Wine Wednesdays, 5-7 pm, $15: The restaurant offers themed wine flights paired with small tastings. March 17: Piedmont.

Fashion & French Food
Brasserie Jo, Colonnade Hotel, 120 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-425-3240). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Enjoy an authentic French lunch while viewing the latest fashions from local shops. •March 26, 12-1:30 pm: Lily Pulitzer/In the Pink.

Frenchy French Night
Tremont 647, 647 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-4600). March 22, 6:30 pm. $50. New executive chef **Matthew Audette** prepares a four-course, French-style menu with an "adventurous American" edge, paired with French wines.

Hands-On Cooking with Jody Adams
Lifelong Learning, 808 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-9852). www.bu.edu/lifelong. March 30, 6-9 pm. $60. **Jody Adams**, chef/co-owner of Rialto, focuses on casual entertaining with Italian flavors.

Hotter than Hell Night
East Coast Grill, 1271 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-491-6568). March 22, 23 and 24, 5:30 pm. This evening features a menu designed specifically for diners who sneer at Tabasco and eat jalapeños like candy.

Mustard and Wine Tastings
South End Formaggio, 268 Shawmut Ave., Boston (617-350-6996). •March 18, 2-7 pm: Mustards. England vs. France. •March 20, 1-3 pm: German Rieslings. Sample the "queen of whites."

New Orleans Festival
Magnolias, 1193 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1971). Tue.-Sat., through March 27. Chef/owner John Silberman, who worked for years with Paul Prudhomme at K-Paul's, gets back to his New Orleans roots with this special festival menu.

Turley Winery Dinner
Harvest, 44 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-868-2255). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. $135. Chef **Eric Brennan** and wine director **Steve Sink** offer a multicourse dinner featuring the wines of Turley Vineyards.

Wednesday Wine Tasting
UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933). March 24, 6:30 pm. $55. Chef **Susan Regis** prepares a wine dinner featuring the white wines of Chassagne and Puligny-Montrachet.


See the latest fashions by Lily Pulitzer at Brasserie Jo March 26.

Wine at the Greek Table
Westport Rivers Winery and Vineyard, 417 Hixbridge Road, Westport (508-636-3423). March 27, 4 pm. $52. Chef **Paul Delios** of Meze Estiatorio in Charlestown introduces diners to the flavors of Greek cooking, paired with wines from Westport Rivers.

Wine Mondays
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Enjoy a four-course dinner paired with wine. •March 22: Spain •March 30: Sommelier Erik Johnson's favorites.

DISH

When in Croma...

Bean there, done that...Salts shake-up...

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

When we heard that the Newbury Street site that housed the old **Davio's** would be the future home of an upscale British pizza franchise, we were less than thrilled. Oh joy. English pizza. According to the Web site for the original **Croma** in Manchester (England), the menu features such delights as "baked dough balls" and specialty pizzas with toppings like Peking duck, cucumber, plum sauce and mozzarella; bacon, "free-range" egg, sausage, mozzarella and tomato; and smoked haddock, leeks, lemon juice and crème fraîche.



Caffè Umbra's duck breast finished with coffee

Hold on, says **Greg Nourjian**, one of the partners in Croma, who describes himself as "kind of in charge of marketing and community relations." He's just returned from a month in the UK at the first Croma, and he assures us, "we're not going to have a fish pizza" in Boston. There will, however, be a Cajun chicken pizza.

"It's more of an entertainment concept," he says. "Basically gourmet pizzas, baked pastas and salads, with incredible decor, in a very comfortable, upscale environment." Slated to open in early May, Croma will be, according to Nourjian, "the coolest place for pizza and wine in Boston." We'll see. Sounds like the man's got a lot of baked dough balls.

SECOND COURSE

To bean or not to bean: Several columns ago, we noted that a Seattle restaurant was spotlighting steaks coated in Starbucks coffee grounds, and wondered if the trend would reach Boston. We've been informed that **Caffè Umbra** offered a "coffeed steak" on its menu last summer, specifically, "grilled hangar steak with warm portobello salad, eggplant fries, and espresso salt." Sorry to have missed it. But coffee is still on the main course menu, thanks to sous chef **Adam Halberg**'s inspiration from a stint at Osteria Stallo del Pomodoro in Modena, Italy. Apparently, those coffee-craving Italians have been seasoning beef, duck, and venison with coffee beans in lieu of pepper for a while.

Umbra chef/owner **Laura Brennan** says she's currently featuring a slow-roasted duck breast accompanied by risotto dotted with Armagnac-soaked prunes and "finished with coffee." Specifically, French roast coffee. With caffeine, as nature intended. Has anyone ordered decaf risotto?

"It doesn't come that way," says Brennan firmly. If anyone asks, "we'll just say no. I'm 50; I say no."

She's also saying no—make that *non*—to the concept of a working vacation. Brennan plans to spend a week in Paris in April with three of her longtime best friends from cooking school, and she doesn't intend to cook. Instead, she says, "I'm going to walk around, smoke Gauloises and drink truffled Cognac at the Ritz." *Très bien*.

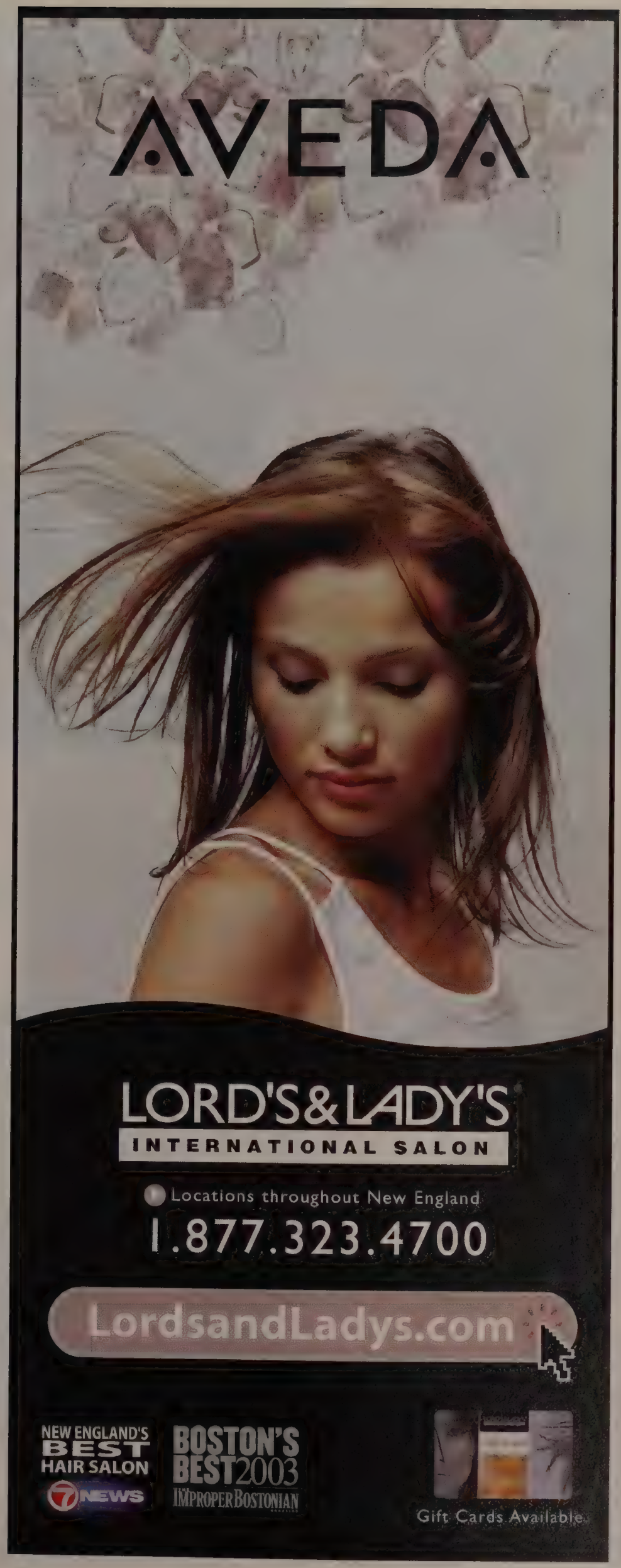
By the time you read this, **Salts** restaurant in Cambridge should be reopened. The new owners, chef **Gabriel Bremer** and general manager **Analia Verolo**, describe their menu as "contemporary American with French influence, featuring locally grown and naturally raised products."

Fluxing afresh: In the South End, two new chefs are behind the stove at **Flux**. **Chris Moore** and **Alex McWilliams** plan to add more variety to the menu, offering lots of daily specials to the usual fare of specialty pizzas, burgers, and other familiar comfort-food dishes. Also new: a skirt steak entrée, at $19 the most expensive dish on the menu...Flux Deluxe.

Until the end of March, the Massachusetts Film Bureau will benefit from your purchase of the unofficial Oscar dessert: the Salute to the Stars: Happily Ever After at Todd English's Bonfire. Word is, it's been nominated for Best Use of Chocolate in a Leading Role. IB

Serving Dish

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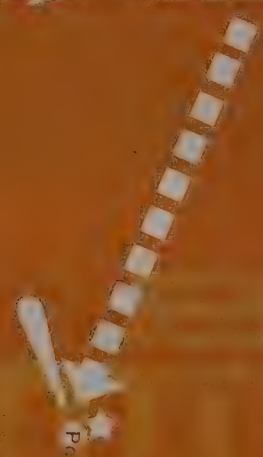
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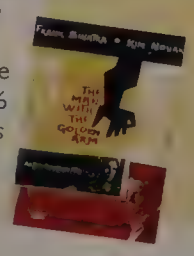
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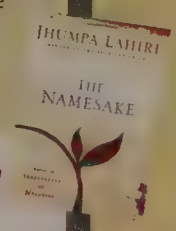
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IMPROPER PICKS

march 17 - 30

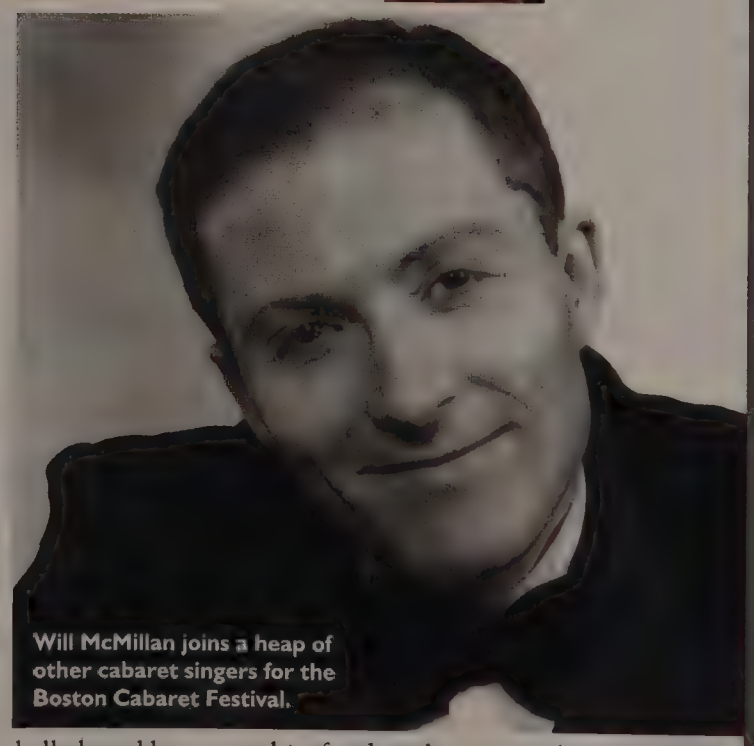
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			17	**18**	**19**	**20**
			It's **St. Patrick's Day**! Party till you puke. *See CityScope on page 48 and Music on page 56 for more information.*		**Mikhail Baryshnikov** dances in the Grand Studio at the Boston Ballet. *See Performing Arts on page 50.*	Author **Jhumpa Lahiri** reads from her latest novel, *The Namesake*, at the Cambridge YMCA. *See Books & Poetry on page 70.*
21	**22**	**23**	**24**	**25**	**26**	**27**
		Head to ZuZu for the club's **Edith Piaf** tribute, *Ziaf*. *See Music on page 60.*	**Beyonce**, **Alicia Keys** and **Missy Elliott** stop at the FleetCenter on their Ladies First Tour. *See Music on page 60.*	The Brattle screens the nut-ball Hong Kong action movie *Heroic Trio*. *See Movies on page 54.*	The **Adam Ezra Group** hosts a CD-release party at Bill's Bar. *See Music on page 60.* 	Former MTV VJ **Bill Bellamy** performs at the Comedy Connection. *See Performing Arts on page 51.*
28	**29**	**30**				
Liz Phair rocks Avalon. *See Music on page 56.*	The classic Frank Sinatra film *The Man with the Golden Arm* screens for free at the BPL, at 6 pm. *See Movies on page 54.* 					



SUN./MARCH 28

Performing Arts: That's Entertainment

Whereas most of us would give anything to make the first days of spring arrive sooner, the end of March is a sad, sad time for the city's die-hard cabaret fans. As March (Cabaret Month to aficionados) winds down, the nights of campy show tunes, wistful American standards and crazily colored feather boas grind to a halt. The Boston Cabaret Festival finishes off the month with a bang. Now in its third year, the show celebrates the New Great American Songbook with a night of contemporary songs ("contemporary" meaning from the past 20 years). The night features nine singers belting out ballads and humorous hits for three hours straight. *Carver Ballroom of the Radisson Hotel, 200 Stuart St., Boston (508-652-9834). $30 advance, $40 the day of the show. 7 pm. www.bostoncabaretfestival.com.*



Will McMillan joins a heap of other cabaret singers for the Boston Cabaret Festival.

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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Jessica Iredale Museums & Galleries
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules





WED./MARCH 17

Music: Ninja Tuneapalooza

So you're up on all the ambient hip-hop/blip-hop/glitch/dance/trance/laptop/IDM/trip-hop artists like the folks on Mo' Wax, Warp and Tigerbeat Records, right? Or did that last sentence just sound like a lot of gibberish? Either way, you'll be doing yourself a favor by checking out the Paradise March 17, when new DJs and old favorites from famed UK label Ninja Tune showcase their skills. DJ extraordinaire Kid Koala spins his usual tongue-in-cheek blend of everything from jazz to spoken word, pushing turntablism in strange new directions. But if he's too cerebral for you, Amon Tobin's hijinks on the ones and twos are guaranteed to move your caboose. Blockhead and Sixtoo are newcomers to the Ninja scene, but they each have solid resumes in avant/abstract hip-hop music. Both gents are highly regarded beatmakers for such underground rappers as Aesop Rock, cLOUDDEAD and other members of the Def Jux and Anticon crews. So if you're into hip-hop but not really into the ho's and the Humvees; if you like club music but don't dig the Cristal or Courvoisier, this lineup is right up your alley. *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-423-NEXT). 8 pm, $20, 18+.*



Kid Koala and his Ninja Tune cohorts show off their skills at the Paradise.

SUN./MARCH 28

Performing Arts: Luscious Laughter

Where would you expect to see a WWF wrestler–turned–stand-up comedian perform? The Wilbur Theatre? The Colonial? Nah, it makes much more sense that a two-time World Wide Wrestling Federation tag-team champion like "Luscious" Johnny Valiant should wow audiences at a down-and-dirty joint like the Good Time Emporium in Somerville. As pro wrestlers go, Valiant is ancient: five decades in the business. But this entrepreneurial guy who once managed Hulk Hogan hasn't let age slow his career. He's got a recurring role as a bodyguard on *The Sopranos*; he's been a play-by-play announcer, manager, guest referee and occasional wrestler for the WWF; and now he's a stand-up and improv artist. Traveling the country with his one-man show, Valiant has many stories to tell, and the evening also includes a meet-and-greet and autograph session with the star. Said online mag *Slate* of his performance: "He is funny, prowling the stage and using his graying, 240-pound frame as a comic prop." We're already amused. *30 Assembly Square Drive, Somerville. www.necwwrestling.com/valiant.htm. 7:30 pm. $10, $15 at the door.*



"Luscious" Johnny Valiant

SUN./MARCH 21

CityScope: Green Day

It may seem sacrilegious to honor the patron saint of Ireland on a day other than March 17. But since the 17th is an arbitrarily chosen date—neither the birthdate of St. Patrick nor the date of his death—we don't see the problem. South Boston holds its annual St. Patrick's Day Parade on a weekend every year, no matter what day of the week the 17th falls on. This year the festivities take place on March 21, and by then, you'll have slept off your hangover and should be ready to paint the town green. The parade features the usual hoopla—marching and pipe bands, floats, color guards and Clydesdales. And this year is the 200th anniversary of the incorporation of Southie, Boston's most Irish of neighborhoods. So be prepared to party extra hardy pre- and post-parade. *Begins at Broadway T Station (Red Line), ends at Andrew T Station, South Boston. 1 pm.*



THROUGH SUN./APRIL 25

Performing Arts: Mateo and Mojitos

If your only experience with ballet is *The Nutcracker*, and you imagine that ballet is strictly for the fur-stole/three-piece-suit set, think again. José Mateo's Ballet Theatre attracts a decidedly younger, hipper crowd with its offerings. The latest, a cabaret-style show called *The Cuban Condition*, expresses the passion and energy of Cuban culture. Audience members sip cocktails at tables that offer a close-up view of the dancers. But here's the pièce de résistance: Attendees receive a complimentary *mojito*—a drink of rum, fresh mint, sugar and lime inspired by the sugar cane fields of Cuba—at select performances, courtesy of Bacardi. *Sanctuary Theatre, 400 Harvard St., Cambridge (617-354-7467). www.ballettheatre.org. Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 4 pm. Through April 25. $28.*



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Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings for festivals, events and benefits by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Festivals, Benefits & Events

THURSDAY, MARCH 18

Station Family Fund Benefit Concert
Bill's Bar, 5.5 Lansdowne St., Boston (800-594-8499). www.billsbar.com. $10 for 21+, $12 ages 18-20. This concert benefits families of the victims of the Station nightclub fire and features Bon Jovi tribute band Jovi, the Groovehounds and Police cover band Demolition Man.

FRIDAY, MARCH 19

Baryshnikov at Boston Ballet
The Grand Studio at Boston Ballet, 19 Clarendon St., Boston (617-456-6329). www.bostonballet.org. March 19, 8 pm; March 20, 7 pm. $500 March 19, including a reception with the artist; $250 March 20. World-renowned dancer (and onetime love interest of Carrie Bradshaw on *Sex and the City*) Mikhail Baryshnikov gives two performances of *Solos with Piano... or Not: An Evening of Music and Dance.*

SATURDAY, MARCH 20

Fund for Autistic Children Pot-o-Gold Dinner
Jimmy's Allenhurst, Route 114, Danvers (866-332-2462). www.fund4autisticchildren.org. 6:30 pm. This benefit for the Fund for Autistic Children includes dinner, dancing and a silent auction.

TJC 20s/30s Elvis Lives Party
Hard Rock Café, 131 Clarendon St., Boston (781-444-7771). www.tjcboston.com. 9 pm-1 am. $15 in advance, $25 at the door. The J Connection hosts this Elvis-themed party for single Jewish professionals in their 20s and 30s. The evening includes complimentary hors d'oeuvres and cocktails for the first hour and dancing all night.

SUNDAY, MARCH 21

Barkitecture
Red Lion Inn, Cohasset (877-378-1195). www.bsar.org. 1-5 pm. $25. Hull Seaside Animal Rescue is the beneficiary of this live auction of designer doghouses. The event includes a cocktail reception and silent auction before the live auction of doghouses designed by architects from across New England.

Commander's Mansion All Seasons Bridal Fair
Commander's Mansion, 440 Talcott Ave., Watertown (617-926-7755). 12-1:45 pm and 2:15-4 pm. $7 or two for $10 in advance, $8 at the door. This bridal open house for engaged couples includes caterers, florists and photographers as well as a gown fashion show by the Altered Bride.

MONDAY, MARCH 22

Kevin's Corner Pocket Celebrity Billiards Tournament
The Rack, 21 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). www.kevinscornerpocket.cmarket.com. 6 pm-11 pm. $100. Former Bruins player Gord Kluzak hosts this party and pool tournament to benefit the Joey Fund and the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. The evening includes a dinner buffet, cocktails, live and silent auctions, music from DJ Marco of Ibiza and raffle prizes.

TUESDAY, MARCH 23

Boston Young Professionals Association Best Buddies Fund-Raiser
Lir, 903 Boylston St., Boston (617-778-0089). www.hpchallenge.org. 6-9 pm. $25. The Boston YPA hosts this fund-raiser to promote the Volvo Hyannis Port Challenge and raise money for Best Buddies International, an organization that provides friends and jobs for people with intellectual disabilities. The party includes door prizes such as Bruins and Celtics tickets.

Pravda Vodka and Chambord French Martini Singles Party
Caveau Bistro, Marche, 800 Boylston St., Boston (617-578-9700). www.marcheusa.com/index2.htm. 7:38 pm. $35. Single professionals ages 25-35 are invited to this singles party, which features martinis, raffles and giveaways.

THURSDAY, MARCH 25

Evening of Discovery
Museum of Science, Boston (781-861-7100). www.babyjohnfund.org. 6:30-10:30 pm. $100. The first fund-raiser for the Baby John Fund, which aids families of pediatric patients, features a buffet dinner, live and silent auctions, music from DJ Gary Titus and admission to the MOS's Blue Wing.

Massachusetts Women for Afghan Women
John Hancock Hotel and Conference Center, 40 Trinity Place, Boston. www.mawomenforafghanwomen.org. 7-9 pm. $50. This presentation and discussion with three Afghan women who are studying in the U.S. raises money for the Initiative to Educate Afghan Women.

The Tile Project, Destination: The World
Palmer & Dodge, 20th floor, 111 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-464-4086). www.transculturalexchange.org. 6 pm. $20. This party raises money for the Tile Project, which will commission 40 new public art works in cities around the world. The evening includes cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and a silent auction hosted by Dan Elias.

FRIDAY, MARCH 26

Passim Folk Music and Cultural Center Benefit Concert
Sanders Theatre, Harvard University, Cambridge (617-436-2222). www.fas.harvard.edu/~tickets. 7:30 pm. Tickets start at $27; $100 including VIP champagne reception with the performers. Richard Thompson headlines the annual Passim Benefit Concert to raise money for the nonprofit Passim Folk Music and Cultural Center. Other performers include Peter Mulvey, Mark Erelli and the band Halali.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27

Witness for Peace New England Benefit
Jimmy Tingle's Off-Broadway, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. 2 pm buffet and silent auction, 3 pm show. $28 show only, $38 show and buffet. The show "Chuckle with Jimmy Tingle While Supporting Economic Justice" benefits Witness for Peace's grassroots efforts to promote peace and economic justice in the Americas.

SUNDAY, MARCH 28

Boston Cabaret Festival
Radisson Hotel Boston, 200 Stuart St., Boston (508-652-9834). www.bostoncabaretfestival.com. 7-10 pm. $30 in advance, $40 at the door. The third annual Boston Cabaret Festival features nine singers performing tunes from contemporary songwriters, including Stephen Sondheim, Randy Newman and others.

An Evening With "Luscious" Johnny Valiant
Good Time Emporium, 30 Assembly Square Drive, Somerville. www.necwwrestling.com/valiant.htm. 7:30 pm. $10. Former WWF star Johnny Valiant brings his one-man show to Boston, telling a life story that includes a career as a professional wrestler, a stint on *The Sopranos* and much more.

"Fully Committed" Benefit Performance
Copley Theatre, 225 Clarendon St., Boston (617-931-2000). 5 pm. $75 (includes reception before and after the play). Actor John McGivern takes on more than 30 roles in this play set in a upscale Manhattan restaurant. Proceeds benefit Les Dames d'Escoffier, an organization of women in the food professions.

Greek Independence Day Parade
Boylston Street to Charles Street, Boston. www.fhasma.com. 1 pm. The annual Greek Independence Day parade features floats and marchers dressed in traditional garb. This year's parade celebrates the 200th Olympic games in Athens.

YOU GO, BRAGH

Got any Irish in ya? Turn green at these St. Patty's Day happenings.


Grafton Street bartender Paul Barry pulls a lucky pint.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

The Big Easy
1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000). www.bigeasyboston.com. The Big Easy presents U2 tribute band Joshua Tree for St. Paddy's Day.

The Black Rose
160 State St., Boston (617-742-2286). 8 am-2 am. The Black Rose gets things started early with an Irish breakfast. Live Irish music begins at noon with Celtic Clan upstairs and Sunday's Well downstairs. Traditional Irish fare like shepherd's pie and bangers and mash is available throughout the day.

Clery's St. Patrick's Day Party
113 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-262-9874). 12 pm. Clery's actually kicks off St. Patrick's Day Tuesday night with live music from Irish band the Pure Drop, and the band returns on the 17th starting at noon.

Grafton Street Pub & Grill
1230 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-0400). Grafton Street celebrates St. Patrick's Day with live Irish music by Acousticeol, beer specials on Bass and black-and-tans, and Irish menu items like Guinness-braised pot roast and corned beef and cabbage.

The Grand Canal
57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). 2 pm-close. Alan Loughnane plays live Irish tunes and the kitchen serves up the bangers and mash (and other Irish munchies) to celebrate St. Patty's Day.

The Green Briar
304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100). 12 pm-close. Inchicore kicks off the party with Irish music from 12-6 pm. Finbar Doyle takes over from 6-11 pm, and then an Irish DJ spins tunes until the end of the night. There are Irish drink specials like Leprechaun's Lemonade, as well.

The Green Dragon
11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). 2 pm-close. The Green Dragon serves up cottage pies, fish and chips and other Irish fare along with live music straight from Ireland—Seamus O'Henry and the Bleedin' Rockets.

The Harp
85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). The Harp serves up Irish fare like Galway-style fish and chips and St. Patrick's Day drink specials including the Irish Eyes martini and the Blarney Stone.

Hennessey's
25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). 2 pm-close. The Kevin Byrne Band gets revelers in the Gaelic spirit at Hennessey's St. Patty's party, which also includes an Irish menu.

Irish Village
224 Market St., Brighton (617-787-5427). 11 am-1 am. Doors open at 11 am for traditional Irish music, complimentary corned beef sandwiches, bagpipe players and Gaelic giveaways. At 9 pm, DJ Kelvin kicks up the party with dance music.

Kennedy's Midtown
42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). 2 pm-close. Finnegan's Rest plays live Irish music starting at 2 pm. There's a burger or two for the Americans who aren't in the proper spirit, but otherwise the menu is all Irish fare.

Kinvara Pub
34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400). Donegal Cords play live Irish music from 5-9 pm, and a DJ takes over from 9 pm till closing. There's also Irish breakfast served all day and Ireland–themed drink specials.

M.J. O'Connor's
27 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-482-2255). M. J. O'Connor's craic includes traditional Irish music and food, and St. Patrick's day drink specials garnished with a shamrock-shaped green apple slice.

Mr. Dooley's
77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). 2 pm-close. Mr. Dooley's offers an authentic Irish menu and live music from Patsy Whelan and Tony O'Riordan.

Ned Devine's
Quincy Market Building, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-8800). Live music starting at 2 pm. Ned Devine's wakes up at 2 pm with live music from Maxie Courtney. An Irish band plays from 4-8 pm, and Cosmic Box takes over from 8 pm-12 am. The menu features items like traditional Irish fish and chips and Guinness stout onion soup. There are also Irish-themed drink specials like Shamrocktinis.

The Purple Shamrock
1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060). 8 am. Lay the foundation with an Irish breakfast starting at 8 am. The party continues throughout the day with live Irish music from Joe Moriarty.

Sólás
710 Boylston St., Boston (617-933-4803). Maxie Courtney plays live Irish music from 6-9 pm; and the menu features drink specials and authentic Irish dishes like curry chicken stew.

SUNDAY, MARCH 21

The Junction
110 Dorchester St., South Boston (617-268-6429). The Junction offers parade revelers specialty martinis and live Irish music all day from Maxie Courtney. WEEI broadcasts live from the scene from 2-4 pm.

South Boston St. Patrick's Day Parade
Broadway, South Boston (617-268-7955). www.irishmassachusetts.com. 1 pm. Join the revelry in South Boston's annual homage to its Irish roots. This year marks the 200th anniversary of the incorporation of Southie, so the parade ought to be extra festive. The parade includes Irish-themed floats, marching bands and pipe bands, including the Boston Police Gaelic Column of Pipes and Drums.

Stadium
232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston (617-268-6429). 9 am-close. Stadium's St. Patrick's Day festivities begin with an Irish breakfast at 9 am. The party continues all day with Irish videos and music showing upstairs, dancing and an Irish boiled dinner.







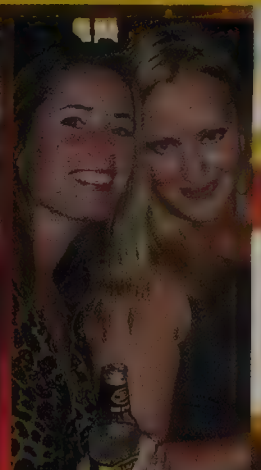
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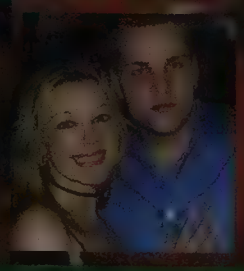




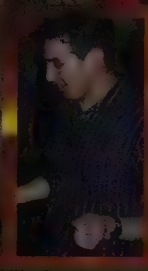
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Saint Patty's Day Wednesday, March 17th, 4pm 'til Closing.

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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater

JUST OPENED

And Then They Came for Me: Remembering the World of Anne Frank
Leventhal Sidman Jewish Community Center, 333 Nahanton St., Newton (617-558-6480). March 27, 7:30 pm. $16. Five actors from the Dallas Children's Theatre perform in James Still's multimedia play about the children of the Holocaust.

Backwater
Leland Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.- Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. March 19-April 8. $11. The Rough and Tumble Theatre brings William Donnelly's movie to the stage. What happens when, after achieving independence, you have to move back in with your parents?

Breaking Ground Festival
Huntingon Theatre Company, Studio 210, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Thu. and Fri., 7:30 pm.; Sat. 12 pm; 4 and 8 pm; Sun. 3 pm. March 18-21. $10. The festival begins with a reading of *Stabbing* by Stephen Belber. Friday's reading is to be announced. Saturday features readings by three recipients of the Huntington's Calderwood Commission for New American Plays. Sunday features a reading of *Lily*, a musical by Peter Flynn and Brooks Ashmanskas based on Edith Wharton's novel *House of Mirth*.

Centerpiece
Actors Workshop, 327 Summer St., Boston (617-721-2064). www.ellensteinbaum.com/centerpiece. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun. 2 pm. March 19-21 and March 27-28. $15. In this one-woman play, poet and journalist Ellen Steinbaum looks at the life experiences that people have in common.

An Evening with "Luscious" Johnny Valiant
Good Time Emporium, 30 Assembly Square Drive, Somerville. www.necwwrestling.com/valiant.htm. March 28, 7:30 pm. $10, $15 at the door. Two-time World Wide Wrestling Federation tag team champion "Luscious" Johnny Valiant is an actor, stand-up comedian and improv artist. He tells his life story.

Fully Committed
Copley Theatre, 225 Clarendon St., Boston (617-931-2000). March 28, 5 pm. $75 (includes reception before and after the play). Actor John McGivern takes on more than 30 roles in this play set in a upscale Manhattan restaurant. Proceeds benefit Les Dames d'Escoffier, an organization of women in the food professions.



Boston Ballet presents its spring repertory program featuring *Drink to Me Only with Thine Eyes* by Mark Morris

In the Service of the Hitties
Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Mon. and Tue., 7 pm. March 29-30. $20. Local psychologist Lawrence Hennessy wrote this new comedy that deals with the life of a psychotherapist in the world of 21st-century medicine.

The Mercy Seat
Lyric Stage, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172) www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed., 2 and 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. March 19-24. $38.50. Eric Engel directs this play by Neil LaBute about a woman who is having an affair with a man who cannot leave his family after the Sept. 11 tragedy.

Picasso at the Lapin Agile
Vokes Theatre, Route 20, Wayland (508-358-4034). www.vokesplayers.org. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat., 2pm. March 11-27. $13-$15. James Barton directs Steve Martin's comedy about a fictional run-in between Pablo Picasso and Albert Einstein at the Lapin Agile in Paris just a few years before the two men were to revolutionize the scientific and art worlds.

Rhinoceros
Chelsea Theatre Works, 189 Winnisimmet St., Chelsea (617-887-2336). www.theatrezone.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. Fri. and Sat., 8 pm. March 19-April 3. $10-$12. Caleb Hammond directs Eugene Ionesco's play about the modern-day struggle between individuality and adaptation and how one man confronts these issues when everyone in his town is suddenly transformed into rhinoceroses.

Seed the Plow
Abbott Memorial Theatre, 9 Spring St., Waltham (781-893-9171). www.hoveyplayers.com. March 19-20 and 25-27, 8 pm; March 21, 2 pm. $15. Nancy Curran Willis directs this Pulitzer Prize–winning black comedy written by David Mamet. The play tells the tale of two film execs who will do anything to get to the top in Hollywood.

Singin' in the Rain
Lowell Memorial Auditorium, 50 East Merrimack St., Lowell (978-454-2299). www.lowellauditorium.com. Sat., March 20, 8 pm. $27.50-$46.50. This classic 1950s story about the introduction of sound into film features music by composer Nado Herb Brown.

Something in the Air
Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 E. Merrimack St., Lowell (978-454-3926). www.merrimackrep.org. Tue., 8 pm; Wed., 2 and 8 pm; Thu.-Fri., 8 pm.; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30 pm.; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. March 18-31. $20-$30. Richard Dresser's comedy noir is about trying to find happiness in a material world. The characters learn that money cannot buy everything.

NOW RUNNING

Beau Jest
Windsor Club, 1601 Beacon St., Newton (617-244-9538). www.newtoncountryplayers.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Waban. Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. Through March 21. $13-$15. Julie Wiseman directs the Newton Country Players in this romantic comedy by James Sherman. A young Jewish woman thinks she has ordered the perfect man from the Heaven Sent Escort Service until she and her family discover that this heart and brain surgeon is not a Jew.

The Birthday Party
American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue. -Thu., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. Through March 27. $35-69. Joanne Akalaitis directs Harold Pinter's comedic thriller set in an English boarding house in the 1950s.

Blue Hair Troupe
Tremont Theatre, 276 Tremont St., Boston (866-443-2248). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.bluehairtroupe.com. Wed. and Thu., 2 pm; Sat., 3 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Through March 28. $32. This satirical musical revue transforms the Tremont Theatre into a "senior center for the performing arts." Clad in bouffant wigs and lots of polyester, the cast parodies popular songs, with the theme of dealing with the onset of old age.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com/ticketinfo/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 and 10 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. Ongoing. $46-$56. This production abandons all dialogue and focuses on making an impact through tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Jacques Brel Is Alive and Well and Living in Paris
Stuart Street Playhouse, Radisson Hotel, 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 5 and 9 pm; Sun., 3 and 7 pm. Ongoing. $42.50-$47.50. Eric Blau and Mort Shuman's musical revue features the lyrics and music of Belgian poet, lyricist, songwriter and performer Jacques Brel.

Lost City
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm. Through March 27. $25. This experimental work by Conrad Bishop and Elizabeth Fuller, in collaboration with the Company One ensemble, explores the eclectic voices that shape and define Boston.

Middle-Aged White Guys/ Tone Clusters
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-1300). www.theatrecoop.org. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. Through March 27. $20. Jane Martin's *Middle-Aged White Guys* and Joyce Carol Oates' *Tone Clusters* are two short pieces that explore the notion of personal responsibility.

Milo's Wake
Hancock United Church of Christ, 1912 Mass. Ave., Lexington (781-862-2866). www.thelexingtonplayers.org. Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm. Through March 20. $15-$17. This comedy by Margery and Michael Forde is about a man who stages his own wake in order to feel appreciated for his life's work.

Movin' Out
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-426-9366). www.broadwayinboston.com. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. Through April 10. $30-$87. Choreographer Twyla Tharp created this new musical, inspired by the music of Billy Joel, which centers around two decades in the lives of five lifelong friends.

Our Lady of 121st Street
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. Through March 27. $30-$35. This dark comedy by Stephen Adly Guirgis is about a group of friends who return to their old neighborhood to attend the wake of their beloved teacher Sister Ros When they arrive, they find that the nun's body missing, and no one is exactly who they thoug they'd turn out to be.

Shakespeare's R&J
Piano Factory, Devanaughn Theatre, 791 Tremont S Boston (866-811-4111). www.theatermania.co MBTA: Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line Mass. Ave. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. Throu March 27. $15. Four prep school boys read Shak speare's *Romeo and Juliet*, and their lives begin parallel the lives of the characters in the play.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (61 426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBT Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6: and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. Ongoing. $30-$3 This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair sal holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

Van Gogh in Japan
Nora Theatre Company at Boston Playwrigh Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-491-2026 www.bu.edu/bpt. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasa Street. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 p Sun., 3 pm. Through March 28. $25. R.L. La directs his own play about Vincent van Gog creative inspiration and mind-set during the peak his artistic career.

What the Butler Saw
Huntington Theatre Company, 264 Huntington Av Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.o MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Tue.- Thu., 7: pm; Wed., 2 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Su 2 and 7 pm. Through April 4. $14-$64. Dar Tresnjak directs this comedy by Joe Orton about adulterous couple and their run-ins with ove enthusiastic hospital staff and the police.

Yellowman
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newt Highlands (617-332-1646). www.newrep.org. We 2 and 7 pm; Thu.- Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8: pm; Sun., 3 pm. Through April 4. $27-$42. D Orlandersmith's play, a Pulitzer finalist, explo tensions between two African-American friends the South.

UNIVERSITY THEATER

Losing the Game
Laurie Theater, Brandeis University, 415 South S Waltham (781-736-3400). www.brandeis.edu/theat Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. Tue.- Thu., 8 p Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. March 23-2 $16-$20. Sarah Moon's new play is about a wom who escapes suburbia for the big city to experie her free will and independence.

CABARET

The Fabulous Baker Sisters
Scullers Jazz Club, 400 Soldiers Field Road, Bos (617-562-4111). www.bakersisters.com. March 31 pm. $15. The Baker sisters reunite to present a co edy show with music from the Great Americ Songbook. The duo has a background in Vaudevi nightclubs, recordings and television.

The "New" Great American Songbook
Radisson Hotel, Carver Ballroom, 200 Stuart S Boston (508-652-9834). www.bostoncabaretfesti com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Lin New England Medical. March 28, 7 pm. $30, $40 of show. The third annual Boston Cabaret Festi celebrates the "new" Great American Songbook, rected by Sophia Bilides. The program features n sicians playing songs by contemporary songwrit both established and little-known.

Dance

Les Ballets Africains
Orpheum Theatre, One Hamilton Place, Bos (617-876-4275). www.worldmusic.org. MBTA: Line to Park. March 19, 8 pm. $20-$37. The member company celebrates its 50th year of of ing Guinean traditional dance, music and st telling. The dancers are backed by musicians drums, flute, lute and xylophone.

Baryshnikov at Boston Ballet
The Grand Studio at Boston Ballet, 19 Clarendon Boston (617-456-6329). www.bostonballet.c March 19, 8 pm; March 20, 7 pm. $250 or $5 World-renowned dancer (and Carrie Bradsha love interest on *Sex and the City*) Mikhail Bary nikov gives two performances of *Solos with Pian or Not: An Evening of Music and Dance.*

The Cuban Condition
Sanctuary Theatre, 400 Harvard St., Cambri (617-354-7467). www.ballettheatre.org. MB Red Line to Harvard. Thu.- Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 4

Through April 25. $28. The Jose Mateo Ballet Theatre performs a cabaret-style show, choreographed by Mateo, exploring the Cuban influence on ballet.

Drink to Me...
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (617-695-6955). www.bostonballet.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. March 26, 8 pm; March 27, 2 and 8 pm; March 28, 2 and 7 pm. $38-$95. Boston Ballet's spring repertory program includes pieces from choreographers George Balanchine, Mark Morris, Jorma Elo and Val Caniparoli.

Lady of the Camellias
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (617-695-6955). www.bostonballet.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. March 18, 7 pm; March 19, 8 pm; March 20, 2 and 8 pm; March 21, 2 pm. $38-$95. Boston Ballet presents this show based on Alexander Dumas' semi-autobiographical novel about a love affair between a gentleman and a Parisian courtesan. The ballet is set to a score by Frederic Chopin and is choreographed by Val Caniparoli.

Rites of Passage
Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-522-9797). www.dancingoutloud.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. March 27, 8 pm; March 28, 6 pm. $9-15. Being Seen Being Heard, an intergenerational, multicultural performance ensemble, presents a concert of dance, improvisation, song and theater.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

STAND-UP CLUBS

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-7565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 8 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault at Remington's features local stand-up comedians. Thursdays: Dick Doherty's Comedy Pro Tour Fridays: the Fun Room, with Corey Manning Saturdays: Boston's Best Standup •Sundays: open-mike night.

Comedy Connection
145 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8 pm, $12; Thu., 8:30 pm, $12; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm, 10:15 pm, prices vary; Sun., 7 pm, $12. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •March 17: Harrison Stebbins •March 18: Frank Santos, the R-Rated hypnotist •March 22: Amateur showcase, hosted by Kevin Knox, the Wildman of Comedy •March 23: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz •March 24: Harrison Stebbins •March 25: Frank Santos, the R-Rated hypnotist •March 26, $21: Bill Bellamy, former MTV VJ •March 27, $25: Bill Bellamy •March 28, 10: Bill Bellamy •March 29: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, the Wildman of Comedy March 30: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz •March 31: Harrison Stebbins.

Comedy Studio
Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1107). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •March 17: Tony V, Kelley MacFarland, Greg Thibideau, Eric Cheung, Myq Kaplan, Mike Whitman, Arielle Goldman, Joe Wong, Steve Yankocy, Amy Tee and Seamus Carabine March 18: Dan Sally, Myq Kaplan, Matt Heininger, Jay Montepare, Michelle Pierce, Olin Meyers, Evan O'Television and Tommy Morello March 19: Mike Bent, The Walsh Bros., Jon Rineman, Sandy Asai, Myq Kaplan, Chris Coxen, Larry Murphy and Tim Kaelin •March 20: Mike Bent, Ira Proctor, Michael Capozzola, Myq Kaplan, Janet Cormier and Joe Mande •March 21: Sam Walters, Jeremy Turoff, Myq Kaplan, Kirt Etherton, Todd Andrews, Steve Calechman, Max Silvestri, Rebecca Anderson, Sean Donahue and Jeff MacKinnon •March 23: Mystery Lounge with Bob Riordan, Rob Herritt, Jon Stetson, Steve Kradolfer and David Oliver •March 10: Tony V, Arielle Goldman, Kelly MacFarland, Myq Kaplan, Alana Deish, Amanda White, Juggelicious, Reggie Harris and Carolyn Plumber •March 25: Sam Walters March 26: The Walsh Bros., Larry Murphy, Vito Lantz, Paul D. Day, Myq Kaplan, Ira Proctor, Dave Burdick, Tammy Two-Tone and Matt Peterson March 27: Tim Fenn, Myq Kaplan, Vito Lantz, Ian Gordon, Erin Judge, Chrissy Lavoie •March 28: Evan O'Television's "Idiot Box" •March 29: The Mystery Lounge, a magic and comedy show featuring Alexander, Mike Bent, Steve Kradolfer, David Oliver, Bob Riordan, Erik Rochelle, Jon Stetson and special guests.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to New England Medical Center. $10-$22. •March 18, 8:30 pm: Tony V and Mike Denphy •March 19 and 20, 8:45 pm: Tony V, Frank Del Pizzo and Mike Denphy •March 25, 8:30 pm: Ken Rogerson and Spike Tobin •March 26 and 27, 8:45 pm: Ken Rogerson, Spike Tobin and Mike O'Neal.

IMPROV COMEDY

Faces for Radio
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.faces4radio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu., 8 pm. $8. Improv comedians poke fun at everything, including themselves.

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA:Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. •Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 and 10 pm: *Big Dig...End of an Error!*, an improvisational and sketch comedy review •Wed.-Sat., 12 am, $5: *The Midnight Show.*

ImprovBoston
1253 Cambridge St., Inman Square, Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central . $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: the characters, the stories, the settings—even the songs and dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: *The Hump.* Series for experimental and improvisational theater. •Thu., 8 pm, $12: *Unnatural Selection.* A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one is left. 10 pm, $5: *The Great and Secret Comedy Show.* Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and music, play short films and do character sketches in a display of sibling rivalry •Fri., 8 pm, $12: *Misunderstood.* Audience suggestions fuel an improv rock opera, complete with a live band. 10 pm, $12: *Theatre Sports.* Two teams of improvisers face off. •Sat., 6 pm, $12: *ImprovBoston Family Show.* 8 and 10 pm, $12: *ImprovBoston Mainstage.* Blending storytelling, music and audience participation, a cast of improvisers creates a show that changes with every performance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5: *Sgt. Culpepper's Improvisational Jamboree.* This evening combines three shows into one. Watch performances by visiting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry
327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-308-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Thu.-Fri., 8 pm. $12. The group performs short improvisational comedy using audience suggestions.

COMEDY SHOWS

Gourmet Detective
Ristorante Marino, 2465 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (800-697-2583). www.mysterycafe.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. March 19, 20 and 27, 7:30 pm. $49 for dinner and show. The Gourmet Detective serves up Italian cuisine with a murder mystery.

Greek Comedian Basile
Meze Estiatorio, 100 City Square, Charlestown (617-242-6393). MBTA: Orange Line to Community College. March 28, 6 and 9 pm. $50 (includes one drink). Enjoy an evening of laughter and Greek food as comedian Basile talks about growing up Greek in America.

Off Broadway Comedy Fringe
Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Mondays, 9 pm. Jimmy Tingle presents a comedy-variety series featuring stand-up, sketch, short films and musical guests.

Open Mike Night
Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon., 8 pm. Open mike for creative talent.

Stash's Comedy Jam
All Asia Cafe, 334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. www.stashcomedyjam.com. First and third Sunday of every month. 8 pm. Enjoy standup comedy at this open mike with host Stash.

Jon Stewart
Orpheum Theatre, 1 Hamilton Place, Boston (617-931-2000). www.cc.com. MBTA: Red Line to Park. March 20, 7:30 and 10 pm. $36-$50. Jon Stewart, star of Comedy Central's *The Daily Show*, speaks off-the-cuff.

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Mostly Cloudy

Eternal Sunshine fails to enlighten

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind takes its title from a line in Alexander Pope's poem "Eloisa to Abelard," a lament to the pain of complicated love. It turns out the poem and the movie are a lot alike: Each has vivid flourishes, but it's hard not to get twisted up in knots while trying to follow along.

The movie is the latest mindbender written by Charlie Kaufman, who previously scripted *Being John Malkovich*, *Human Nature* and *Adaptation* (he also wrote the adapted screenplay for *Confessions of a Dangerous Mind*). Kaufman's stories are like M. C. Escher drawings in which you can't tell always tell which direction things are headed in, but you put your faith in the hope that Kaufman will get his characters to an interesting place. Sometimes you're rewarded, sometimes you're not.



Breaking up is hard to do for Jim Carrey and Kate Winslet in *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*

Like *Human Nature*, *Eternal Sunshine* bats around interesting ideas about the struggle between science and human urges, but the ride isn't nearly as involving, amusing, layered or cohesive as the metaphysical journeys in *Malkovich* or *Adaptation*. (*Human Nature* and *Eternal Sunshine* were directed by Michel Gondry, while Spike Jonze directed *Malkovich* and *Adaptation*. Coincidence?)

The premise this time marries the memory wipes of *Paycheck* and the memory-impaired romance of *50 First Dates*. *Eternal Sunshine* opens with the meeting of high-strung Joel (Jim Carrey) and free-spirited Clementine (Kate Winslet) on a wintry Long Island beach. They hit it off and seem headed for romance. But it turns out this prologue is not the beginning of the story and is not even the first time the two have met. Although neither quite realizes it, they've already been through a romance together, but when it started to go stale, Clementine went to Lacuna Inc., where Dr. Howard Mierzwiak (Tom Wilkinson) and his staff (including Kirsten Dunst, Mark Ruffalo and Elijah Wood) wiped all memory of (and heartbreak over) Joel from her mind.

After the prologue, the action appears to jump ahead to some time after the couple has broken up, but you soon realize this action is really happening before Joel and Clementine's "meeting." That's when he discovers she had him wiped from her memory, and he's so astonished and hurt that he decides to have the same procedure done.

Here's where things get trickier. As Joel is having the procedure done—a process that involves lying in a bed, semiconscious, while a big metal helmet that's hooked up to a computer scours your brain for memories of the lover and then scrubs them away—he changes his mind about erasing Clementine. He tells this to Clementine in their encounters within his memory, and the two try to hide in unrelated memories, like those from Joel's childhood, so that they will remember to reconnect in reality.

These memories make for some amusing action, especially during a kitchen scene in which visual effects shrink Carrey down to proportion as boyhood Joel, or whenever Joel and Clementine run through memories that are literally vanishing around them as the computer wipes them away. But all this action makes for essentially a one-joke comedy, and despite the appealing chemistry between Carrey and Winslet, their characters aren't that special. In fact, they're close cousins to the neurotic guy and flaky woman from *Along Came Polly*.

There is another layer of action to *Eternal Sunshine*, involving the Lacuna staff. It's mildly amusing when Wood's character tries to woo Clementine by regifting the same items she loved when Joel gave them to her. And the fact that Dr. Mierzwiak and his receptionist (Dunst) are attracted to each other despite having gone through the memory wipe after a failed fling reinforces the battle between science and humanity. But this action often comes off like so much filler.

Repetition and filler can dampen even the most intriguing premise, and they do just that here. Kaufman's successes have created high expectations for his movies, yet *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* never climbs above so-so, absurd romantic comedy and into the twisted emotional philosophy of his better movies. IB

Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind ★★

Directed by Michel Gondry. Written by Charlie Kaufman. With Jim Carrey, Kate Winslet, Kirsten Dunst, Elijah Wood, Mark Ruffalo, and Tom Wilkinson. Rated R. At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Club Dread ★
This failed horror-comedy from the comedy troup that gave us *Super Troopers* is the perfect dat movie—for anyone who wants to break up in 10 minutes or less. It's hard to feel good about anyon or anything after sitting through this one. (A Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Dirty Dancing: Havana Nights ★★½
Compared with the shinola that's been hitting th aters lately, this sequel of sorts to the puzzlingly popu lar 1987 movie is actually a pleasant surprise. Set i late-1950s Cuba on the eve of Castro's revolution, offers another story about a "nice girl" (Romol Garai) who comes of age through hip-grinding dan ing and romance. In this case, it's the daughter of a American businessman who starts sweating th nights away with a local boy (Diego Luna), and h story is convincingly and solidly told. But adding a odd taste is the occasional presence of the original Patrick Swayze. You could snip out Swayze and th plot wouldn't be affected, and we're never even told he's playing the same character as in the original. (A Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Eurotrip ★★
Not horrible, but not good either, this melding *Road Trip* and *National Lampoon's European Vacatio* at least has the nerve to be R-rated, but it's litt more than a series of clichéd gags about Europea (oh look, soccer hooligans!). And it expects us root for its characters, but they're so clichéd th pulling for them is a difficult leap of faith to tak (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

50 First Dates ★½
What can you say about a movie set in Hawa with a predominantly reggae soundtrack? (Besid "Hawaii is 4,000 miles away from Jamaica!" ar "Not all music by darker people from island cu tures is interchangeable!") The dimwittedness tends far beyond the soundtrack, though. In th first 10 minutes alone, you get animal jokes, k jokes, the most telegraphed vomiting gag ev committed to film, an old guy who curses and R Schneider. After that opening, the rest of th movie doesn't stand a chance. It doesn't deser one, either. (At Boston Common, Fenway ar suburbs.)

The Fog of War ★★★
In Cambridge moviemaker Errol Morris' series interviews with former JFK and LBJ secretary of d fense Robert McNamara, the shrewd technocr doesn't unburden himself of any more responsib ity for the Vietnam quagmire that occurred und his watch. McNamara is too cagey for that. Morris finds fertile territory in McNamara's obse vations on human nature, war and politics. (Mor has subtitled the movie "Eleven Lessons from th Life of Robert S. McNamara.") When McNama talks about the Vietnam effort failing because th American government didn't know enough to e pathize with the Vietnamese, it's hard not to thi of Iraq. And when McNamara talks about th moral dilemmas of making decisions in times strife, he sheds light on all the political crossroa that have turned presidents' heads gray. More th a dry Q&A, *Fog* unfolds in Morris' typically cin matic style, featuring montages of archival footag cockeyed camera angles and Philip Glass' churni music. (At Kendall Square, Copley Place a Coolidge Corner.)

Good Bye Lenin! ★★½
A loyal East German goes into a coma just befo the Berlin Wall falls, and when she has to lead stress-free life after she comes to, her son goes great lengths to make sure she never knows that h Communist country doesn't exist anymore. Th great premise yields some amusing moments, b also some disappointing ones. Unlike in Bi Wilder's brilliant *One, Two, Three* (which cover similar territory after the wall went up), the come here never quite hits high gear because the sto tempers that comedy with shades of drama. But t characters' family drama never becomes as mem rable as the premise. (At Kendall Square.)

Hidalgo ★★★
It's not the most ambitious movie, but this 1890-adventure earns a lot of goodwill for its old-sch desire to please the average moviegoer, and not j a narrow demographic segment. This tale of American Pony Express rider who enters a pres gious long-distance horse race in the Arabi Peninsula with his trusty mustang is a small brea of fresh air. With an unassuming and appeali Viggo Mortensen as its hero, the movie packs in t Saturday-matinee exotic entertainment of *The So pion King*, though it doesn't shoot for humor



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often, and it conveys a bond between man and horse better than the heavy-handed *Seabiscuit* did. Although based on a true story, the desert adventure should be taken with a big grain of salt, especially since it turns out hero Frank T. Hopkins may have told a tall tale or two in his day. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Intermission ★★★

Think of it as an Irish version of Scotland's *Trainspotting*. Sex, drugs and rockin' crime are the main sparks to this fiery comedy, which lights on fire when one foolish Dubliner (Cillian Murphy of *28 Days Later*) dumps his dishy girlfriend (Kelly Macdonald of *Trainspotting*) "as a test," and she promptly moves on to a married man (Michael McElhatton). This dubious act causes a ripple effect that spills into the lives of the married man's wife (Deirdre O'Kane), a surly bus driver (Brian F. O'Byrne), a macho cop dying to be a celebrity (Colm Meaney) and even an out-of-control thief (Colin Farrell). The movie is never as wild again as it is in its opening scene, so there's a steady petering, but the dark comedy usually connects, and it never totally runs out of momentum. (At Copley Place, Harvard Square and Waltham Embassy.)

Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King ★★

Peter Jackson has once again given us an expansive spoof of bombastic, middle-ages fantasy adventures: the furrowed brows, the swords and sorcery, the creatures, the hair extensions. Oh, that's right, the Oscar-winner isn't *supposed* to be silly. Jackson is obviously an imaginative, capable director, but after three movies and seven hours, I still don't care a lick about anything that happens to any of these solemn, solemn people. The *LOTR* trilogy epitomizes the sort of movies that win technical Academy Awards, but that no one takes seriously. Yet for reasons I just can't understand, a lot of folks *have* taken these seriously (come on, isn't Tolkien's attractive human heroes versus ugly orc villains plot just a tad juvenile?). Well, maybe now Jackson can go back to making interesting movies like *Heavenly Creatures* and *Forgotten Silver*. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Monster ★★

No matter how hard it tries, and no matter how successfully Charlize Theron transforms herself into less attractive, much rougher Aileen Wuornos—the prostitute executed by Florida for killing seven men—this docudrama isn't nearly as sympathetic or as interesting as *Aileen Wuornos: The Selling of a Serial Killer*, Nick Broomfield's decade-old documentary. In the docudrama, Wuornos is a much-abused woman who decides to try her luck with women after she meets a younger lesbian (Christina Ricci). But with no other way to make money, she keeps hooking, and after a john gets violent, she kills him in self-defense. Then she continues to kill. Although you feel her rage, the movie's Wuornos is a little too dumb to sympathize with (she keeps riding around in her victims' cars), and Theron fails to provide the spark that might make her more fascinating than stupid. The movie also puts all its emotional eggs in the basket of the doomed lesbian affair—which fails to be the riveting tragedy writer-director Patty Jenkins wants it to be. (At Boston Common, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

My Architect ★★★

Much like last year's *The Stone Reader*, Nathaniel Kahn's new film is documentary as compelling quest. Kahn's mission is to learn more about his father, architect Louis Kahn. The elder Kahn died in 1974, when Nathaniel was a boy, and it turns out he had three families that he juggled. (He remained married to the same woman, while fathering children with two others.) The movie's drama is in its depiction of someone who was world-class in his field, yet whose personal life was a farce. The filmmaker struggles to understand how his mother and Louis Kahn's other families could tolerate such a situation, as he, like them, expresses his love for the man. With no easy answers, Kahn is left to look for answers in his father's work, a search that takes him from Philadelphia to Bangladesh. (At Coolidge Corner and Kendall Square.)

The Passion of the Christ ★½

What's more creepy—to watch one man beaten to a literal pulp for half of Mel Gibson's Jesus movie or to realize that the movie is more about Christ's scars than his teachings? It's a toss-up, but they're the sort of things that keep the movie from being genuinely dramatic (the cheesy slo-mo moments don't help, either). You have to admire Gibson as a producer for doing it his way—on his own nickel, in subtitled Aramaic and Latin—but as a director he gets little across except violence, right up to the money shot of blood squirting from Jesus' hands as they're nailed to the cross. Also, this is the *Lord of the Rings/Harry Potter* Bible movie: If you haven't read the book three times, it's not going to fill in any of the details for you. Consequently, most of the potentially "controversial" elements are too murky to change a general audience's views on anything, since the relationship between the Jews and the Romans and the relationship between Jesus and the Jewish leaders remain unclear. In fact, if you're just an average moviegoer who can't quote scripture, but is just looking for a good story, this plodding ode to martyrdom was not made for you. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)



Stephen Chow plays a Shaolin kung fu disciple who forms a soccer team in *Shaolin Soccer*.

Shaolin Soccer ★★½

This Chinese import is one odd movie—how many other comedies could have had their release as an English-dubbed family film scrapped in favor of a smaller release as a subtitled art film? Hong Kong action star Stephen Chow (*The God of Cookery*) plays a Bruce Lee–loving Shaolin kung fu disciple who gathers a soccer team made of his former martial arts classmates and enters a lucrative tournament. The comedy is an odd combination of special effects and vaudeville-style slapstick. To add to the film's oddity, sometimes it's cringingly unfunny, while at other times it's clever, tongue-in-cheek and very funny. It's like a live-action cartoon, and the airborne soccer matches have little to do with the earthbound version the Revolution plays. Despite the change in its U.S. release, however, it remains mostly kids' stuff. (At Kendall Square.)

Starsky & Hutch ★★★

I never had any desire to see *Starsky & Hutch* on TV. But with Ben Stiller and Owen Wilson in the title roles and the action played intentionally for laughs, I was there. And I was rewarded. The two stars bring just the right daffy charm to the buddy-cops—one intense, the other laid-back—as the partners go after a smug cocaine kingpin (Vince Vaughn). You get Tab, muscle cars, afros, Jewfros, tube socks, disco, freedom rock, *Rhoda* head scarves and other 1970s cheese while S & H prowl the mean streets of Bay City with the help of Huggy Bear (Snoop Dogg). Think of *The Brady Bunch Movie* with guns. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Many Moods of Ol' Blue Eyes

•March 22, 6 pm. **Guys and Dolls** *1955*. In this classic musical, New York gambler Nathan Detroit (Frank Sinatra) attempts to finance his weekly craps game by challenging Sky Masterson (Marlon Brando) to a $1,000 bet. Joseph L. Mankiewicz directs.

•March 29, 6 pm. **The Man with the Golden Arm** *1955*. Sinatra stars as an expert card dealer in this story of gambling and drug addiction. Otto Preminger directs.

BRATTLE THEATRE

Mondays and Tuesdays—Hitchcock in Black and White

•March 22, 4:30, 7 and 9:30 pm. **Rebecca** *1940*. The naive second wife of a wealthy millionaire learns that her husband's deceased first wife still has an eerie grip on him and his household.

•March 23, 5, 7:15, and 9 pm. **The Wrong Man** *1956*. This Hitchcock film tells the true story of musician Manny Balestero, a man mistaken for a criminal.

•March 29, 7:15 pm; March 30, 7:45 pm. **Suspicion** *1941*. A shy young woman meets and marries a playboy, but his suspicious, secretive behavior leads her to suspect that he plans to kill her.

•March 29, 5:15 and 9:30 pm; March 30, 10 pm. **The 39 Steps** *1935*. A Canadian man visits London and is embroiled in a spy ring when a woman he meets is murdered.

Wednesdays—Recent Raves

•March 17, 7:30 pm. **Lilya 4-Ever** *2002*. Swedish director Lukas Moodysson's film is about an abandoned teenager who slips into a life of sex and degradation. Also showing, 5:30 and 7:30 pm. **Elephant** *2003*. Gus Van Sant's minimalist, Cannes award–winning film traces the origins of violence in a fictional American high school.

•March 24, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm. **Tokyo Godfathers** *2003*. Japanese filmmaker Satoshi Kon directs this holiday anime film about three homeless friends creating and defining a family structure on Christmas Eve in Tokyo.

Thursdays—Special Screenings

•March 18, 7 pm. **Mulholland Drive** *2001*. David Lynch's psychological thriller, starring Naomi Watts, explores identity and fate in the context of Hollywood. Also showing, 4:30 and 10 pm. **The Killer** *1989*. After hitman Jeff (Chow Yun-Fat) injures the eyes of singer Sally Yeh in a restaurant shoot-out, he must make one last hit to raise money for her expensive surgery. Directed by John Woo.

•March 25, 5:15, 7:30 and 9:45 pm. **Heroic Trio** *1992*. In tribute to the late Hong Kong film star Anita Mui, the Brattle screens this film in which Mui plays one of three female heroes who fight evil and defend Chinese children from cruelty.

Weekends and Special Engagements

•March 19-21, various times. **Piccadilly** *1929*. This Ewald André DuPont–directed silent film features the sultry Anna May Wong as the toast of London's nightlife.

•March 26 and 27, 5, 7:30 and 10 pm. **The Tenant** *1976*. Roman Polanski directs and stars in this psychological thriller about a man who rents an apartment and gradually goes insane, assuming the identity of the apartment's previous tenant, a young woman who committed suicide.

•March 28, 5 pm. **The 10th Annual Chlotrudis Awards**. The Chlotrudis Society for Independent Film announces its award winners at the Brattle Theatre amidst music, entertainment, film clips and appearances by filmmakers and actors. Black tie optional.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Balagan: Experimental Film and Video Series

•March 18, 7:30 pm. **On the Road** Films in this program ponder the ro mance and tragedy and the technolog and politics of modern transportation.

Coolidge Selects

•March 5-18. **Oscar Shorts: Live Ac tion & Animation** *2004*. The 200 Academy Award nominees in the Bes Animated Short and Best Live Actio Short categories screen. Animated se lections include Bud Luckey's **Boundin** Dominique Monfery and Roy Edwar Disney's **Destino**, Carlos Saldanha an John C. Donkin's **Gone Nutty**, Adar Elliot's **Harvie Krumpet** and Chris Hir ton's **Nibbles**. Live Action selections in clude Florian Baxmeyer's **Die Rote Jack** (*The Red Jacket*), Bobby Garabedian an William Zabka's **Most** (*The Bridge*), L onel Bailliu's **Squash**, Stefan Arsenije vic's **(A) Torzija** and Aaron Schneide and Andrew J. Sacks' **2 Soldiers**.

•Opening March 19. **Balseros** (*Rafters 2003*. Carlos Bosch and Jose Mari Domenech co-directed this documentar detailing the lives of Cuban refugees wh built and sailed homemade rafts to reac the United States.

•Opening March 19. **MC5 • A True Te timonial** *2002*. This documentary d rected by David C. Thomas looks at the legendar and influential '60s rock band the MC5.

•Opening March 19. **Eternal Sunshine of the Spo less Mind** *2002*. See review on page 52.

Midnight Movies

•March 19, 20, 26 and 27, 12 am. **Fear an Loathing in Las Vegas** *1998*. Johnny Depp ar Benicio Del Toro star in this film about a journali and his lawyer's psychedelic road trip to Las Vega Terry Gilliam directs. •Also showing March 19 ar 26, 12 am. **Wet Hot American Summer** *200* Janeane Garofalo and David Hyde Pierce star in th 1980s-set spoof about a teenage summer cam David Wain directs.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

From Dogme to Dogville: The Films of Lars von Trier

•March 22, 9 pm. **Nocturne** *1980*. This blac and-white silent film tells the story of a woma who awakens from a nightmare with a degener tive eye disease. •Also showing. **Image of Reli (Befrielsesbilleder)** *1982*. Von Trier complete this film, about a German officer who escapes du to find his mistress during the liberation of De mark, as his final project at the National Fil School of Denmark.

•March 23, 9 pm. **The Purified (De Lutrede)** *200* Jesper Jargil directed this documentary about group of late-1990s film directors, including La von Trier.

•March 26, 7 pm. **The Five Obstructions** *200* Directors Jorgen Leth and Lars von Trier explo the breakdown of the creative process during tim of frustration in their documentary inspired Leth's 1967 film, *The Perfect Human*. •Also sho ing, 9 pm. **Breaking the Waves** *1996*. Emily Wa son delivers her debut performance in this fil about a young mentally challenged girl in a Sco tish village who struggles with faith, innocen and cruelty.

•March 27, 7 pm. **Dogville** *2003*. Von Trier direc Nicole Kidman and Paul Bettany in this film abou woman who flees her troubled past to the fictior rural American town's residents, Dogville. T town's residents eventually back down on th promise to protect the woman when gangsters cor after her there. •Also showing. **Dogville Confe sions** *2003*. This companion piece to the feature, rected by Sami Saif, shows von Trier's behind-th scenes techniques and records the cast membe responses through confession booths on the set.

•March 28, 7 pm. **Breaking the Waves** *1996*. S March 26 listing for a description.

•March 29, 7 pm. **Dancer in the Dark** *2000*. Bjö Catherine Deneuve and David Morse star in th movie about a factory worker who escapes into a fa tasy world of Hollywood musicals from her youth.

•March 30, 6 pm. **The Kingdom** *1994*. This film rected by von Trier and Morten Arnfred relays t story of a Copenhagen hospital corrupted a haunted by ghosts, mad doctors, secret societies a crime. •Also showing. **The Kingdom II** *1997*. Hu Järegard stars as a plotting neurosurgeon who tempts to poison one young doctor while an inte gives birth to a half-demon baby.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART

Films on Art

•March 25, 8 pm. **The Gifted Beauties** *2000*. Norwegian documentarian Anne Kjersti Bjorn explores the works and lives of famous female surrealist artists in 1930s Paris, such as Leonora Carrington and Remedios Varo.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Art Alive

•March 20, 10:30 am. **Making Music, Making Friends**. This collection of five short films for children features fiddling frogs, piano-playing sharks and other musically minded animals.

Art on Film

•March 18, 2 pm; March 25, 2 pm and March 28, 1:30 pm. **Rivers and Tides: Andy Goldsworthy Working with Time** *2001*. Thomas Riedelsheimer directs his documentary about sculptor Andy Goldsworthy.

Fellini's Masterpiece

•March 26, 8 pm; March 27, 1 pm; March 28, 3:30 pm. **I Vitelloni** *1953*. Italian director Federico Fellini's first international success follows five adolescent friends as they search for adventure in their unremarkable seaside lives.

Films from Along the Silk Road: Central Asian Cinema

•March 19, 8 pm; March 25, 6 pm; March 27, 11 am. **Angel on the Right** *2002*. Djamshed Usmonov's dark comedy tells the story of a son fresh out of a Russian jail returning to his home village to help his ailing mother die with dignity.

Indian Cinema

March 18, 4 pm; March 20, 4 pm. **Shadow Kill** *2002*. Set in 1941, this drama tells the story of a late-employed executioner who turns to drinking when he discovers that his last hanging victim was innocent. Directed by Adoor Gopalakrishnan.

March 25, 8 pm; March 26, 6 pm; March 27, 3:30 pm; March 28, 11:30 am. **Everybody Says I'm Fine!** *2001*. Rahul Bose directs this drama about a Bombay hair salon owner who possesses the secret ability to read his customers' minds while styling their hair.

New England Film Artists Present

March 20, 12:15 pm. **Peace, Propaganda & the Promised Land: U.S. Media & the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict** *2003*. This video analyzes the ways in which American foreign policy influences media coverage about the Middle East. Directed by Bathsheba Ratzkoff and Sut Jhally.

Palestinian Cinema

March 18, 6 pm; March 21, 11 am; March 25, 4 pm. **Rana's Wedding** *2002*. Hany Abu-Assad directed this film about a Palestinian girl forced by her father to choose a fiancé in one day.

March 18, 8 pm; March 20, 2:15 pm. **Ticket to Jerusalem** *2002*. Rashid Marsharawi directs this documentary about a middle-aged man who brings his mobile cinema to war-torn villages on the West Bank.

Philippine Cinema

March 19, 6 pm. **Wretched Lives** *2001*. Joel Lamangan's film captures everyday people caught between social and political forces in the Philippines in the early 1990s, with more than a hint of outrage directed towards then-president Joseph Estrada for his manipulation of the poor.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater

Through March 30, Mon.-Thu., 1, 3 and 7 pm; Fri. and Sat., 11 am, 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9 pm; Sun., 11 am, 1, 3, 5 and 7 pm. **India: Kingdom of the Tiger**. Explore the kingdom of the Bengal tiger, from the Himalayas to Rajasthan.

Through June, 12, 2, 6, and 8 pm daily. **Jane Goodall's Wild Chimpanzees**. Travel to Africa's Gombe Stream National Park with Goodall for close encounters of the primate kind.

Through June, 10 am and 4 pm daily. **Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West**. Trek through raging rivers and uncharted wilderness to commemorate the bicentennial of the explorers' journey, brought to life by National Geographic Films.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater

Through May 9, 2:20, 4:30, 6:40 and 9:10 pm. **NASCAR 3D**. Experience life in the fast lane with the crews and drivers clocking over 200 mph.

Through May 9, Wed.- Sat., 7:50 pm. **Space Station 3D**. Tom Cruise narrates a tour of the international space station.

Through June 18, 12 and 5:40 pm. **Volcanoes of the Deep Sea**. Dive to the bottom of the sea with a team of scientists, as they explore hydrothermal vents, shipwrecked gardens, predators and bioluminescent creatures.

Through June 18, 11 am. **Bugs! 3D**. This film focuses on the world of insects in the tropical rain forests of Southeast Asia. See bugs magnified up to 250,000 times their normal size.

•Through June 18, 1 pm daily, Sun.-Tue., 7:50 pm. **Ghosts of the Abyss**. Director James Cameron takes audiences two miles beneath the sea's surface to explore the wreckage of the Titanic.

•Through June 18, 10 am, 3:30 pm. **Ocean Wonderland 3D**. This film explores the ocean floor of the Bahamas and Australia's Great Barrier Reef, with their sharks, sting rays and rainbows of tropical fish.

Special Engagements

CAMBRIDGE CENTER FOR ADULT EDUCATION

•March 20, 3-6 pm. **Anomaly** *2004*. Jessica Chen Drammeh screens her new documentary about being biracial and searching for self-identification. A question-and-answer session follows. $10.

Cinema Venues

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Rd. (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St. (617-266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center.

Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Reservoir.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Cambridge Center for Adult Education
56 Brattle St. (617-547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Museum
1 Westwood Road. (617-666-9810).

Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.



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From Boston, not Austin

Mark Erelli brings snappy western swing to the folk scene

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

A background in insect biology—specifically population dynamics of the gypsy moth—doesn't provide the usual training to become a folksinger. But for Reading native Mark Erelli, a onetime graduate student in biology, it was par for his course.

"Like many parents of their generation, my parents hoped that I'd grow up to be a doctor or lawyer," says Erelli, 29, whose parents are both local schoolteachers. "Just as soon as they got used to the idea of me being a biologist, I said, 'Well, you know what? Now I think I want to be a folksinger.'



Mark Erelli's unique style is gaining attention on the folk circuit

"Biology would have been no more of a sure bet or economically profitable than folk music," he says from a tour stop outside New York. "Both require long hours in remote places away from your friends and family."

Nonetheless, six years in the folk trenches have paid off for Erelli, who has developed into one of the region's most respected new singer-songwriters. The twist is that he turned that corner with a sound evoking western swing bands of the '30s and '40s on his fourth CD, *Hillbilly Pilgrim*.

"I always had this love of country music," he says. "I've always had some [western swing] songs in my set that I've written. I can only assume that from assimilating a bunch of different influences, it just came out. But one thing I noticed when I played these songs: people would be smiling and tapping their feet, which is about as rowdy as it gets in a coffeehouse."

Erelli traces his influences from New England blues-folk heroes Chris Smither and Bill Morrissey to Texan singer-songwriters Guy Clark, Joe Ely and Butch Hancock. "Their country music roots are much more on display," he says. "It's not a stretch at all to go from someone like Butch Hancock to Hank Williams." Or, in turn, to discover Hank Thompson and Bob Wills, two pioneers of western swing.

"It's definitely not what some people would expect to come out of Boston, but we've got so much great country music," Erelli says. "Any given night of the week you can usually go to some bar for free and see some of the best musicians anywhere. We have as good a scene as the more nationally known Americana scenes like Nashville and Austin."

Accordingly, *Hillbilly Pilgrim* owes much of its authentic sound to backing players from local western swing outfit the Spurs, whose steel guitarist Frankie Blandino was the first musician Erelli tapped for the more purebred project. "Using those guys was like importing chemistry," he says. "It sounds really natural because it is really natural for them.

"I was really serious about making music that stood up to the other stuff in that tradition," says Erelli, who performs with the Spurs at Sanders Theatre March 26, on a bill with Richard Thompson. It's an annual benefit concert for Club Passim, where Erelli returns May 8 for a solo gig.

"I had songs to make a much more serious folk record," he says. "But the other tack was to go back to the way that western swing was originally used, which was essentially dance music to let people forget about their troubles for awhile, coming out of the Depression. So I think it's a great time to bring that aspect of the music back."

Hillbilly Pilgrim sports the occasional slow tune like "My Best Was Just Not Good Enough (For You)" and "The Farewell Ball," a waltz about the last days of Enfield, Mass. (one of the towns torn down to make way for the Quabbin Reservoir in the 1930s).

But snappy numbers with clever wordplay dominate the disc. Erelli references his wife in "Brand New Baby" (which talks about meeting her "on the farm"—code for one folk festival), "Let's Make a Family" and "Troubadour Blues." The last also takes a jab at the president over job insecurity.

"The usual benchmark that people measure folksingers by doesn't apply, because nobody thinks of grand philosophical revelations in western-swing lyrics," Erelli says. "I found I could be much more personal and say things that I would think twice of saying in a folk song. It all sounds so fun and harmless, and it's easier to critique the president on the sly, or to talk about my desire to have a family."

Erelli's fans should just be glad that when he was finishing his graduate biology studies at UMass-Amherst in the late '90s, he was also catching a different kind of bug on the folk scene in Northampton, where he launched his career.

"A lot of times, people would ask me, 'Have you written any songs about bugs yet?'" remembers Erelli. "At the time, I said, 'No, I don't like to mix work and pleasure.'" iB

Mark Erelli
plays the Club Passim Benefit Concert at Sanders Theatre March 26.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or by email to music@improper.com. Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double-check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Altan March 20, Sanders Theatre (617-876-4275).
Beyonce, Alicia Keys and Missy Elliott March 24 FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
David Bowie and the Polyphonic Spree March 30 FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Jonatha Brooke March 26, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).
Dave Brubeck Quartet March 27 and 28, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).
Cowboy Mouth March 25, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
The Delgados March 28, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Bob Dylan March 24-26, Avalon (617-423-NEXT). Sold out.
G. Love and Special Sauce March 18, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
Great Big Sea March 20, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Kid Koala, Amon Tobin, Bonobo, Blockhead and Sixtoo
March 17, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Baaba Maal March 26, Somerville Theatre (617-876-4275)
Mad Caddies and Pulley March 21, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
Edwin McCain and Mieka Pauley March 30, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Liz Phair March 28, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Pretty Girls Make Graves, the Constantine Mahjongg March 29, Middle East Downstairs (617-492-9181).
Television March 24, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Thrice, Moments in Grace, My Chemical Romance and Poison the Well March 19, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
The Thrills March 27, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
The Vines, Jet, the Living End and Neon March 1 Avalon (617-423-NEXT).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

Asgard Matty Metcalf Band, 5:30 pm; Dicey Riley 9:30 pm.
Avalon Jars of Clay, 8 pm, $22 in advance; $25.2 day of show, all ages.
Bill's Bar Elevation 74, Public and Keiran Rid Band, $8 for 21+, $10 for 18+.
The Black Rose Authentic Irish music, 12 pm; Su day's Well.
Breezeway P. J. Adamson.
The Burren Traditional Irish music.
Cantab Lounge Candy's blues jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Jabe Beyer and Antje Duvekot, 8 pr $12.
Encore Lounge Stacey Baker, Emily DeGraff, 9: pm, no cover, all ages.
The Fireplace Rick Costa Jazz Trio, 9:30 pm, r cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Seamus O' Henry ar The Bleedin' Rockets.
Hennessy's The Kevin Byrne Band.
Johnny D's Sonny Landreth, 8:30 pm, $20, 21+.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-10 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Finnigan's Rest.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover.
Middle East Downstairs: Piebald, the Exit, Kev Devine and Nightmare of You, 9 pm, $22, 18+.
Midway Café Burning Sensations, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy Whelan and Tony O'Riordan.
Paradise Kid Koala, Amon Tobin, Bonobo, Bloc head and Sixtoo, 8 pm, $20, 18+. Lounge: Tribute the Pogues with the Larkin Brigade and Jason Be nett, 8 pm, $3 for 21+, $5 for 18+.
P.A.'s Jeepers H. Crackers, Wasted Chance, the D ference Engine and the Spoilers, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

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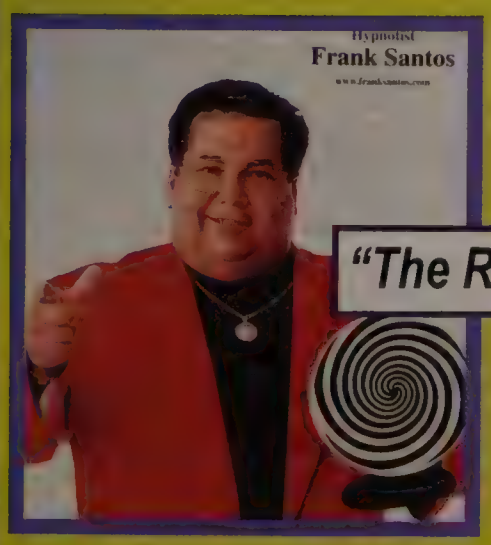


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Plough and Stars St. Patrick's Celebration and Los Diablos, 6 pm; Bad Art Ensemble, 10 pm.
Regattabar The Vardan Ovespian Quartet with Agnieszka Dziubak, 8:30 pm, $12.
Remington's Al Vega Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Roxy Saw Doctors.
Ryles Jazz Club Ball in the House, 7:30 pm, $8, all ages.
Scullers Tierney Sutton and the Christian Jacob Trio, 8 and 10 pm, $16, $51 with dinner.
Sky Bar James O'Brien and the Church of the Kitchen Sink, 8 pm, $6, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Ronan Quinn and Johnny Come Latelies.
Toad Smooch, 7-9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Darkbuster, the Curses, the Marvels and Jay Allen, $10.
Wonder Bar Barry Ries, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Insight, 7 pm, $7.
Zuzu The Blue Ribbons, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Leo Blanco, 7:30 pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, MARCH 18

Abbey Lounge Nobody's Heroes, 9:45 pm; Brainless Wonders, 10:45 pm; Meat Depressed, 11:45 pm.
Asgard Ryan McHugh.
The Attic Busker.
Axis G. Love and Special Sauce, 7 pm, $24, 18+.
Bill's Bar Jovi, Demolition Man, Groovehounds, $10 for 21+, $12 for 18+.
The Black Rose Eugene Bryne.
Bob the Chef's ZMQ, 7:30 pm.
Breezeway Pocket.
The Burren Swinging Johnsons, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Chris Waller, Gordon Beadle and New Day, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim David Rovics and Atilla the Stockbroker, 8 pm, $10.
Encore Lounge Mary Callahan, Brian Patton, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
The Harp Dick and Jane, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe.
Johnny D's Sweet Willie D with Nicole Nelson, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-10 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Kirkland Café Surca, Sofia Koutsovitis, Cat Throw and Snapshot, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover; Club D'Elf, 10:15 pm, $7.
Middle East Downstairs: Aviv Gefen, 8 pm, $25, 18+. Upstairs: No December, Seemless, All Parallels and Dualsec, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy Whelan and Tony O' Riordan.
O'Brien's Henry, 10:30 pm, 21+.
Paradise The Proclaimers, 9 pm, $16, 18+.
P.A.'s Thirdsale, Alacrity, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Plough and Stars Eilen Jewel Band, cover varies, 21+.
Regattabar McCoy Tyner Trio with Michael Brecker, 7:30 and 10 pm, $30.
Ryles Jazz Club Gypsy Schaeffer, 7:30 pm, $7. Also: Dave Bryant Quartet, 9:30 pm, $7.
Scullers Gloria Loring, 8 and 10 pm, $25, $60 with dinner.
The Skellig Primary Colors.
Sky Bar Salem Fires, Shroud of Bereavement and Malice in Leatherland, 8 pm, $6, 21+.
Sophia's Latin Party Boys, 9 pm, $10., 21+.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7-9 pm; the Freelance Bishops, 10 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Golden West Motor Lodge, Irreverends, the Dirty Truckers and Chris Keene, $7.
Western Front Mix 'n' Mingle, $8.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner and Joe McMahon, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery The BSC with Alessandro Bosetti, 7 pm, $7; Dan Gonzalez, 9:30 pm, $8.
Zuzu The Big Digits, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates The Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, MARCH 19

Abbey Lounge The Gasolines, 11:30 pm.
Asgard El Gringo.
The Attic Spookie Daly Pride.
Avalon The Vines with Jet, the Living End and Neon, 6 pm, $20.25, all ages.
Axis Thrice with Poison the Well, Vaux and Moments in Grace, 6 pm, $14 in advance, $16 day of show, all ages.
Bill's Bar Paranoid Social Club with Inhale, $8 for 21+, $10 for 18+.
The Black Rose Eugene Bryne.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Jazz Quartet, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Scooby Snax, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.


West African pop singer Baaba Maal performs March 26 at the Somerville Theatre.

Club Passim Hans-Eckardt Wenzel sings Woody Guthrie songs with Nora Guthrie, 8 pm, $12.
Encore Lounge Jan Peters, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
The Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the No Way Jose Band, no cover 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Aaron Burnett Trio, 6:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Freeze Pop.
The Harp Peatmoss, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Phish tribute with Oddway, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30 pm; Audio Underground.
Johnny D's Beatle Juice, 9:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-11 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton, 5-9 pm; Peter Rice, 9 pm.
Kirkland Café RPM's, 9th wave, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo and Undertows, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low with Yoni Gordon, 7-9 pm, no cover; Leo Blais and Appomattox, 10:15 pm, $5 in advance, $7 day of show.
Middle East Upstairs: Papermoon and M-Lab, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Midway Café James the Viking, The Invisibles, 21+.
Milky Way Quintaine Americana and Creepy Jones, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy Whelan and Tony O' Riordan.
Paradise Lounge: Gatsby, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Parris Burnt Sienna, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Addison Groove Project May 8, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Air April 12, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Averi April 30 and May 1, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Blonde Redhead and Secret Machines April 9, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Crystal Method April 6, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
The Darkness and the Wildhearts April 3, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
The Distillers, the Icarus Line and the Lot Six April 3, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
Melissa Etheridge April 23-25, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
The Flatlanders April 7, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Herbie Hancock, Jack DeJohnette & Dave Holland Trio April 18, Symphony Hall (617-876-7777).
Mason Jennings April 24, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Ben Kweller and Death Cab for Cutie April 10, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Method Man March 31, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Van Morrison April 8, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
N.E.R.D. and the Black Eyed Peas April 13, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Particle April 8, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Peaches May 2, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Pinback, American Analog Set and El Guapo April 13, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
The Rapture and Black Rebel Motorcycle Club April 5, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Damien Rice April 17, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Josh Ritter and Erin McKeown April 23, Somerville Theatre (617-931-2000).
Sonny Rollins April 10, Berklee Performance Center (617-876-7777).
The Slip April 18, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
Squarepusher April 3, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Toots & the Maytals March 31, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
The Waifs April 2, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).

P.A.'s Adam Brodsky, Cars Can Be Blue, Emergency Music and Mittens, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Plough and Stars Twilight Ranchers, cover varies, 21+.
Porters Bar and Grill Jim Devlin Trio.
Regattabar McCoy Tyner Trio with Michael Brecker, 7:30 and 10 pm, $32.
Ryles Jazz Club Fully Celebrated Orchestra, 8 pm, $9.
Scullers Gloria Loring, 8 and 10:30 pm, $30, $6[illegible] with dinner.
The Skellig Swinging Johnsons.
Sky Bar Polythene and the Stereobirds, 8 pm, $6, 21+.
Sophia's Latin Party Boys, 9 pm, $10., 21+.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.
Toad Fancy Trash and Amy Fairchild, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Aluminum Group, Certainly Sir, the Skating Club and Verona Downs, $8.
The Western Front Ed O.G. presents hip-hop, $10.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicals, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Mike Baggetta, 7 pm, $8; the Critique of Pure Reason with Xiu Xiu and the Caribbean, 9:30 pm, $9.
Zuzu Gian Carlo Buscaglia, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

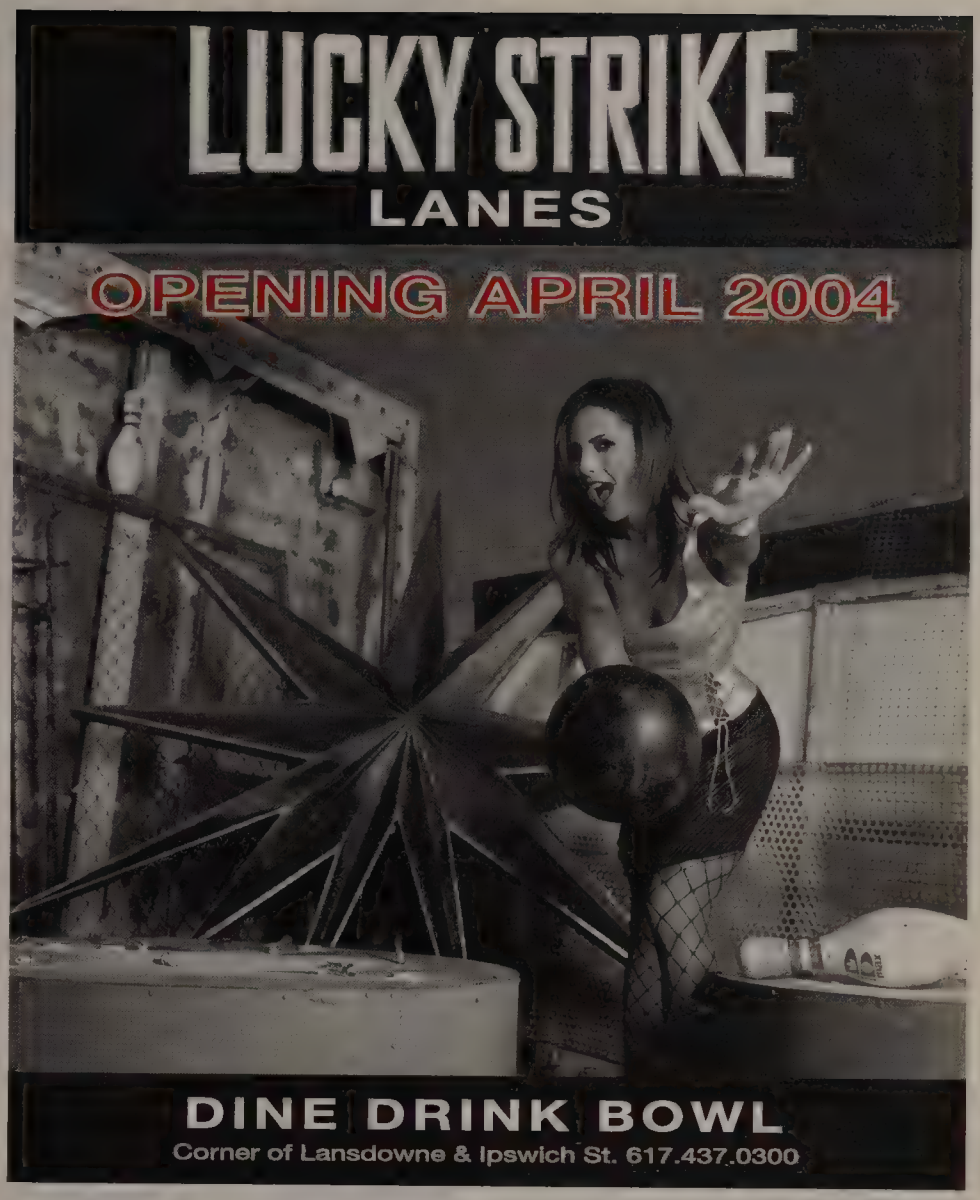
SATURDAY, MARCH 20

Abbey Lounge Monkey Butlers, 11:30 pm.
The Attic Great American with Laura Carone and Friends.
Avalon Great Big Sea, 7 pm, $20.25, all ages.
The Black Rose Eugene Bryne, Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Pat Loomis, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Swinging Johnsons, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, pm, 21+.
Club Passim Carrie Newcomer with Rebecca Hall, and 10 pm, $14.
Encore Lounge Kezia Hirsey, 9:30 pm, no cover, a ages.
The Good Life Cambridge Weepin Willie, no cove 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Jim Porcella Trio, n cover, 21+.
The Grand Canal Dick 'n' Jane.
The Green Dragon Tavern Random Axis.
The Harp Peatmoss, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Railroad Earth with Oneside, $1 21+.
Johnny D's Beatle Juice, 9:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-11 pm.
Kirkland Café Derek Swamp, Mr. Sparkle and Chr Wagner, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover. Also Sand Machine, 10:15 pm, $5 in advance, $7 day show.
Middle East Upstairs: Big D and the Kids Tabl Junction 18, Cade, Roxie and Furvis, 9 pm, $9, 18+
Mr. Dooley's Patsy Whelan and Tony O' Riordan.
Paradise John Brown's Body, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
Parris Burnt Sienna, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
P.A.'s Jazz Bastards, 9:30 pm; Porcelain, 10:30 pm Weightless, 11:30 pm, 21+.
Plough and Stars Bag Boys, 5 pm cover varies, 21 One Thin Dime, 9:30 pm cover varies, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Scooby Snax, 21+.
Regattabar McCoy Tyner Trio with Micha Brecker, 7:30 and 10 pm, $36.
Ryles Jazz Club Wildest Dreams, 8 pm, $10.
Sanders Theatre Altan, 8 pm.
The Skellig Five to Face.
Sky Bar Rich Girl Method, Catapult, Will Wil Band, Coby Carlucci and Tractor Trailer, 8 pm, $ 21+.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 7-9 pm; the Gla stones, 10 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Baby Strange, Jake Zavracl and the Cyanide Valentines, the Halogens and Vi let Nine, $8.
The Western Front Crucial Massive.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Pete Galub and the Annuals, pm, $7; 2 Duos, 9:30 pm, $12.
Les Zygomates Sandra Aran, 8 pm, no cover.

SUNDAY, MARCH 21

The Attic The Coalboilers, 8 pm, $5.
Axis Mad Caddies with Pulley and Irish Carbomb pm, $10 in advance, $12 day of show, all ages.
The Black Rose Eugene Bryne.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Sonny Watson Ja Quartet, 10 am-3 pm.
The Breezeway Bobby Ward Trio.
The Burren Singer Songwriter Series with Daniel 8 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's blues jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Zoe Lewis with Pete Donnelly, 7 pm, $12.







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Encore Lounge Carol O'Shaughnessy, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, 9 pm-1 am.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Ridgely Snow, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Middle East Downstairs: Black Heart Procession, Enon and CoCo Rosie, 8 pm, $12, 18+. Upstairs: the Fallout and Buxton, 9 pm, $6 for 21+, $8 for 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett, 8 pm.
Plough and Stars John Lincoln Wright, 5 pm cover varies, 21+; Cranktones, 9:30 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Regattabar McCoy Tyner Trio with Michael Brecker, 3 and 7 pm, $32.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz brunch with Steve Rochinski, 10 am-3 pm.
The Skellig Watch City Opry, 7 pm.
Stoneham Theatre Beolach, 2 and 7 pm, $15-$22.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.
Toad Colleen Sexton, 7-9 pm; Ry Cavanaugh, Sesan Staples, Dinty Child, Jimmy Fitting and Billy Beard, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Sax Gordon Jazz Trio.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Casual Lean, Simple Discourse and Heather Hates You, $6.
Zeitgeist Gallery Mikroknytes and Ebsk, 7 pm, $7; Whimsy, 9:30, $5.
Zuzu Eric and the Omatics, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

MONDAY, MARCH 22

Abbey Lounge Japanese Girls, Samurai.
Bill's Bar Deadwater Drowning, Since the Flood, Second Story Window and In Dire Need, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Cantab Lounge Singer-songwriter open mike, 8 pm. Also: Dana Robinson, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Encore Lounge Steve Heck, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
Harper's Ferry Fallback Crush, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-10 pm.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover; Dave Fiuczynski's Kif: A Lab for New Music, 10 pm.
Midway Café The Animal Collective, 21+.
Plough and Stars Beek Rhodes and Jefferies, cover varies, 21+.
Sanders Theatre The Spirit of Fès, 7:30 pm.
Tír na nÓg The Coots.
Toad Shwang, featuring Anita Suhanin, 8-10 pm; the Tim Gearan Band, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Sax Gordon Jazz Trio.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner and Joe McMahon, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery 3Play, 7pm, $8; the Fringe, 10 pm, $10
Zuzu The Unhappy Hour with Paul Janovitz, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Black Soul, 7 pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, MARCH 23

The Black Rose Sunday's Well.
The Burren Open mike with Hugh McGowan, 7 pm.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm; the Bagboys, 10 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open mike, 7 pm, $5.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
Hennessey's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Gypsy Spirit, 8:30 pm, $15, 21+.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-10 pm.
Lizard Lounge Resophonics, 10:15 pm, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: the New Dumb, 9 pm, $6 for 21+, $8 for 18+.
O'Brien's Tenfour, the Back and Forth of Courage, Puckish and A Hero Nextdoor, 9 pm, 21+.
Paradise Sun Kil Moon, 8 pm, $16.50, 18+. Lounge: Thaddeus Hogarth Band, 8 pm, $5, 18+.
Plough and Stars Spider John Koerner, cover varies, 21+.
Regattabar David Zoffer and Adam Larrabee, 8 pm, $12.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
Toad Christian McNeill, Jimmy Ryan, Duke Levine, Billy Beard, Andrew Mazzone, Kevin Barry and Jeremy Dryden, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Greg David Group, Marumari and Keith Fullerton Whitman, $8.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Tepfer, Ku, Spiegelman Trio and pm, $10.
Zuzu Ziaf—An Edith Piaf tribute, 10 pm, no cover 21+.
Les Zygomates Jason Domnarski Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24

Abbey Lounge Andrea Gillis, 9:30 pm; the Coffin Lids, 10:30 pm; the Lazy Gowgirls, 11:30 pm.



Beyonce plays a show with Alicia Keys and Missy Elliott March 24 at the FleetCenter

Avalon Bob Dylan, 7:30 pm. (Sold out.)
Bill's Bar Greytone, Luke and Bully Pulpit, $8 for 21+, $10 for 18+.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Breezeway J-Vibes.
The Burren Hot Day at the Zoo.
Cantab Lounge Candy's blues jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Rockwell Church, 8 pm, $14.
Encore Lounge Stacey Baker, Emily DeGraff, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
The Fireplace Paul Amorese, 9:30 pm, no cover.
FleetCenter Ladies First Tour 2004, featuring Beyonce, Alicia Keys and Missy Elliott, 7 pm, $40-$79.50.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-10 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: David Dondero, Nathan Moore, Drew O'Doherty, Dave Fernandez and Eric Waxwood, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Paradise Television, 8 pm, $25, 18+. Lounge: the Good North at Blackout Bar, 9 pm, $3 for 21+, $5 for 18+.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, cover varies, 21+.
Regattabar The Juanito Pascaul Flamenco Quartet, 8:30 pm, $14.
Remington's Al Vega Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Naftules Dream, 7:30 pm, $8; F.L.B., 9 pm, $8.
Scullers Bill and Bo Winiker Quartet with Tony Deblois, 8 and 10 pm, $18, $53 with dinner.
Sky Bar Coppermine and Reaxis, 8 pm, $6, 21+.
Toad Organ in Orbit, 10 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Fiery Furnaces and Aberdeen City, $10.
The Western Front The Onerous 3.
Wonder Bar Barry Ries, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery "The Critique of Pure Reason" with Wolf Colonel/Jason Anderson, Tiger Saw and the Autumn Rhythm, 9:30 pm, $9.
Zuzu The Blue Ribbons, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Silas Hubbard, 7:30 pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, MARCH 25

Abbey Lounge Ted from Accounting, 9 pm; Sugabomb, 9:45 pm; Meat Depressed, 10:45 pm; Suspect Device, 11:45.
Asgard Tom Glynn.
Avalon Bob Dylan, 7:30 pm. (Sold out.)
Berklee Performance Center International Folk Festival, 8:15 pm, $10-$15, all ages.
Bill's Bar 3-Feet Short, Plan B and Sweatpant Boners, $8 for 21+, $10 for 18+.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Ray Greene, 7:30 pm.
Breezeway Lenny Stalworth and the Funk Mob.
The Burren Swingin' Johnsons, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Chris Waller, Gordon Beadle and New Day, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Eliza Gilkyson, 8 pm, $15.
Encore Lounge Mary Callahan and Brian Patton, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
The Fireplace Paul Amorese, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
The Harp Dick and Jane, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Cast Iron Filter with Hot Day at Zoo, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe.
Johnny D's Downbeat 5, 9 pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-10 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Kirkland Café David Harold, Lion Heart, Sparrowhawk and Dan Hilton, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low with Catharine David, 7-9 pm, no cover; Peter C. Johnson CD-release show with the Twinemen and Dennis Brennan, 10:15 pm, $5 in advance, $7 day of show.
Middle East Upstairs: Vahalla Kittens and the Bravery, Diamonds, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
O'Brien's Bright Penny, 9 pm, 21+.
Paradise Cowboy Mouth with Zox and Griffin House, 8 pm, $16, 18+.
Plough and Stars Steve Mardon, cover varies, 21+.
Regattabar Hector Cuevas and the Boston Latin Band, 8:30 pm, $16.
Ryles Jazz Club John Payne Sax Choir, 8:30 pm, $7, all ages.
Scullers The Holmes Brothers, 8 and 10 pm, $18 $53 with dinner.
The Skellig Boston Horns.
Sky Bar Butterknife, 8 pm, $6, 21+.
Sophia's Latin Party Boys, 9 pm, $10., 21+.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7-9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Bettie Serveet, Dear Leade and Blake Hazard, $12.
The Western Front Mix 'n' Mingle, $8.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner and Joe McMahon 21+.
Zuzu The Big Digits, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates The Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm, n cover.

FRIDAY, MARCH 26

Abbey Lounge Classic Ruins, 9 pm; Country Doc tors, 9:45 pm; Blacklisted, 10:45 pm; Karination 11:45 pm.
Asgard Haviland.
The Attic Fivewise.
Avalon Bob Dylan, 7:30 pm. (Sold out.)
Berklee Performance Center Jonatha Brooke, 7:3 pm, $25.50.
Bill's Bar Adam Ezra Group, Rebecca Correia Ban CD-release show, $10 for 21+, $12 for 18+.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Jazz Quartet, 7:3 pm.
The Burren Undercover, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, pm, 21+.
Encore Lounge Jan Peters, 9:30 pm, no cover, a ages.
The Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the N Way Jose Band, no cover 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Aaron Burnett Trio, 6:3 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Grand Canal Random Axis.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scooby Snax.
The Harp Brick Park, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Superhoney, Tony C and the Trutl $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Blockhead.
Johnny D's Sun Ra Arkestra, 9:45 pm, $15.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-11 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton 5-9 pm; Pet Rice 9-1 am.
Kirkland Café AJ Crowe and the Air Conditione Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, Default Outfit ar Reckless Daughter, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover; Peter Johnson CD-release show with the Twinemen ar Dennis Brennan, 10:15 pm, $5 in advance, $7 day show.
Middle East Downstairs: Gogol Bordello, Beat Sc ence, Rev. Glasseye and His Wooden Legs, Alec Redfearn and the Eyesores, 8 pm, $10 in advanc $12 day of show, 18+.
Midway Café Bees Delux, Haitus, 21+.
Milky Way The Unbusted, Jason Hatfield and tl Marmalade, the Arrangement and UV Protect Yo 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Celtic Clan.
Paradise Indigenous, 9 pm, $14, 18+. Lounge: Jam Cullum, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Parris Darik and the Funbags, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
P.A.'s Chaz and the Motorbikes, 9:30 pm; the R Mason Band, 10:30 pm; Frank Morey, 11:30 p 21+.
Plough and Stars Ponticello, cover varies, 21+.
Regattabar Nicole Nelson Band, 7:30 and 10 p $12.
Royal Sonesta Hotel Grupo Fantasia, 7:30-11: pm.
Ryles Jazz Club James Williams Trio, 8 pm, $15.
Sanders Theatre Club Passim Annual Benefit Co cert with Richard Thompson, 7:30 pm, $27-$47.
Scullers Kendrick Oliver and the New Life Orch tra, 8 and 10:30 pm, $20, $55 with dinner.
The Skellig Fast Times.
Sky Bar Tar Beach and Named by Strangers, 8 p $7, 21+.
Somerville Theatre Baaba Maal, 8 pm, $24.50 a $29.50.
Sophia's Latin Party Boys, 9 pm, $10., 21+.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.
Toad Jabe, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Helicopter Helicopter, A Frank and the Fast Easy Women, Fooled by Ap and Bon Savants, $10.
The Western Front Live hip-hop, $10.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicals, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Hiroya Tsukamoto Septet, 7 p $8; "Outtakes Unlimited," 9:30 pm, $10.
Zuzu Gian Carlo Buscaglia, 10 pm, no cov 21+.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm, no cove

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SATURDAY, MARCH 27

Abbey Lounge The Guts, 9 pm; the Unlovables, 9:45 pm; the Dents, 10:45 pm; Methadones, 11:45 pm.
Berklee Performance Center Dave Brubeck Quartet, 8 pm, $29.50 or $35.50.
Bill's Bar 10th Annual WBCN High School Battle of the Bands, $10 in advance, $13 day of show, all ages.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's The BlackSole Network, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Random Axis, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+. .
Club Passim Kris Delmhorst, 7 and 10 pm, $15.
Encore Lounge Kezia Hirsey, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
The Good Life Cambridge Weepin Willie, no cover 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Jim Porcella Trio, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Thomas Park.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Harper's Ferry Ryan Montbleau Band, $8, 21+.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-10 pm.
Kirkland Café Rover, Gulf, Rollo Tomasi Quartet and Fragile Alex.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low with Rick Lescault, 7-9 pm, no cover. Also: Steve Mayone CD-release show with Kris Delmhorst, Bo Thayer, 10:15 pm, $5 in advance, $7 day of show.
Masonic Hall Tom Lewis, 8 pm.
Middle East Downstairs: Broken Social Scene, Stars, Dios, 8 pm, $13 in advance, $15 day of show, 18+. Upstairs: Freezepop CD-release show with Persil, 9 pm, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Celtic Clan.
O'Brien's Nancy Mroczek Ph.D. and the Plughead Monkeys, 11 pm.
Paradise The Thrills, 8 pm, $14, 18+. Lounge: Jamie Cullum, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Parris Darik and the Funbags, 10 pm, 21+.
Plough and Stars Bag Boys, 5 pm, cover varies, 21+; Ray Corvair Trio, 9:30 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Brick Park, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club James Williams Trio, 8 pm, $15.
The Skellig Six Shot Brody.
Sky Bar Captain Cutthroat, Fiend Angelic, 8 pm, $6, 21+.
Somerville Theatre Eddie from Ohio, 8 pm, $21.50 and $22.50.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 7-9 pm; David Johnston, 10 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Decembrists, Clearlake and Tom Heinl, $10.
The Western Front First 45 Clash of 2004.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Tape, Aero, Keith Fullerton Whitman, 7 pm, $8; Fishlung Trio, 10:30 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan 8 pm, no cover.

SUNDAY, MARCH 28

Avalon Liz Phair, Wheat and Katy Rose, 7 pm, $20.25, 18+.
Berklee Performance Center Dave Brubeck Quartet, 7 pm, $29.50 or $35.50.
Bill's Bar WBCN High School Battle of the Bands, $10, all ages.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, Jim Coyle.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Paulo Danay Jazz Quartet, 10 am-3 pm.
The Breezeway Michael Shea.
The Burren Singer Songwriter Series with Danielle, 8 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's blues jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Kris Delmhorst, 7:30 pm, $15.
Encore Lounge Carol O'Shaughnessy, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, 9 pm-1 am.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Matt Dorko and Larry Kukers, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: Cancer to the Stars, the High Strung, the Anti-Love Project, 9 pm, $6 for 21+, $8 for 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett.
Paradise The Delgados with Malcolm Middleton and Sluts of Trust, 8 pm, $12, 18+.
Plough and Stars Richie Lee and the Boston Wheels, 5 pm; the Coachmen, 9:30 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz brunch with Yoko Miwa, 10 am-3 pm.
The Skellig Watch City Opry, 7 pm.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Toad The Paul Ahlstrand Band, 7 pm; Ry Cavanaugh, Sean Staples, Dinty Child, Jimmy Fitting and Billy Beard, 10 pm, no cover.


John Brown's Body plays at the Paradise March 20

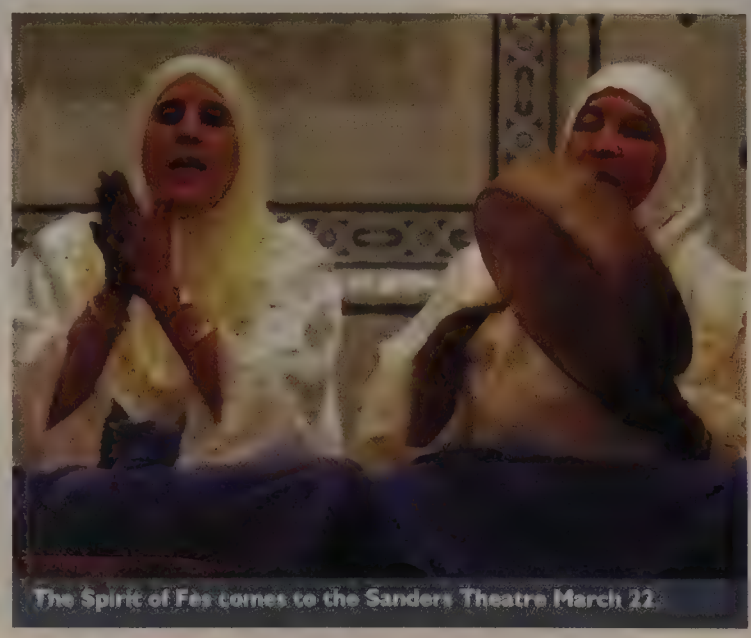
Zeitgeist Gallery Dave Piper and Dead Jazz Heroes, 7 pm, $7; "The Critique of Pure Reason" with the Butcher Shop Quintet and Barbez, 9:30 pm, $9.
Zuzu Satan's Teardrops, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

MONDAY, MARCH 29

Bill's Bar Death Before Dishonor, Backhand, Strengh for a Reason and FightNight, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's Open mike, 8 pm. Also: Chuck Pyle, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Songwriter Tribute: Richard Thompson, 7 pm, $12.
Encore Lounge Steve Heck, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
Hennessey's Joe Carson.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-10 pm.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover. Also: Dave Fiuczynski's Kif: A Lab for New Music, 10 pm.
Middle East Downstairs: Pretty Girls Make Graves, the Constantines and Mahjongg, 8 pm, $10, 18+. Upstairs: Thailia Zedik, Sons and Daughters, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Midway Café Midway Groove Thang, 21+.
Plough and Stars Jay Scheffler, cover varies, 21+.
Tír na nÓg The Coots.
Toad Shwang, featuring Anita Suhanin, 8-10 pm; the Tim Gearan Band, 10 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Star Spangles, Brett Rosenberg Problem, The Dears, $8.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner and Joe McMahon, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Dave Tronzo Funkloric Trio, 7:30 pm, $10; The Fringe, 10 pm, $10.
Zuzu Unhappy Hour with Eilen Jewell Band, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Jason Domanarski Trio 7 pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, MARCH 30

The Black Rose Sunday's Well.
The Burren Open mike with Hugh McGowan, 7 pm.
Club Passim Open mike, 7 pm, $5.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
FleetCenter David Bowie, 7:30 pm, $38.50-$76.
Johnny D's Songwriter Night, 8:30 pm.
Jordan Hall Bob Brookmeyer leads the NEC Jazz Ensemble in a jazz performance.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-10 pm.
Lizard Lounge The Resophonics, 10:15 pm, $5.
Paradise Edwin McCain with Mieka Pauley, 8 pm, $17, 18+.
Regattabar The Bad Plus CD-release show, 7:30 pm & 10 pm, $20.


The Spirit of Fes comes to the Sanders Theatre March 22

Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Jazz Orchestra with Frank Vardaros, 8:30 pm, $9.
Scullers Nestor Torres, 8 and 10 pm, $20, $55 with dinner.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
Toad Christian McNeill, Jimmy Ryan, Duke Levine, Billy Beard, Andrew Mazzone, Kevin Barry and Jeremy Dryden, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Preston School of Industry, Headband, $10.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Link and Tesseract, 9:30 pm, $7.
Zuzu Ziaf—An Edith Piaf tribute, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Kim Trusty, 8 pm, no cover.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Boston (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to.Central.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Cottonwood Café *222 Berkeley St., Boston (617-247-2225). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Boston (617-350-9977). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Forsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetary, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston (617-524-3354)*
The Good Life Cambridge *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jordan Hall *290 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-58 1100). MBTA: Green Line E to Symphony.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Julien Bar *250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900 MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Stree*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (617-267-8644 MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Masonic Hall *1930 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-1336). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookli Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Murphy's Law *837 Summer St., South Boston (617 269-6667).*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. Jam Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (61 562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-880 MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
P.A.'s Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (61 776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 441-3455).*
Porters Bar and Grill *173 Portland St., Boston (61 742-7678).*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St, Boston (617-227-2060). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Royal Sonesta Hotel *5 Cambridge Parkway, Cam bridge (617-806-4200). MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Road, Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Centr*
Skellig *240 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0679).*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623 5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-700 MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Stoneham Theatre *395 Main St., Stoneham (781 279-2200).*
Symphony Hall *301 Mass. Ave., Boston (781-647 0679). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-53 1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Washington Square Tavern *714 Washington St., Brookline (617-232-8989). MBTA: C Green Line Washington.*
Western Front *343 Western Ave., Cambridge (61 542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-492 7772). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

Music at MIT
Killian Hall, 160 Memorial Drive, Cambridge (617-253-2826). web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8 pm. Free. Featured pianist Percy Liang performs works by Hua Tang and Liszt in a student recital.

THURSDAY, MARCH 18

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 10:30 am (rehearsal), $16; 8 pm, $26-$86. Conductor Edo de Waart, mezzo-soprano Waltraud Meier and the Boston Symphony Orchestra perform works by Wagner.

FleetBoston Celebrity Series
New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-482-2595). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $36-$56. Mezzo-soprano Susan Graham is accompanied by pianist Brian Zeger.

Music at MIT
MIT Chapel, Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-2826). web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 12 pm. Free. Guitarist Glori Collver-Jacobson performs in Danzas, a program featuring the works of Gaspar dos Reis, Laurinda Almeida, Paulo Bellinati, Ernesto Nazareth, Agustin Barrios and Antonio Lauro.

FRIDAY, MARCH 19

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$95. Same program as March 18.

Cantata Singers
New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-267-6502). www.cantatasingers.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. $20-$48. The Cantata Singers perform Bach's Saint Matthew Passion.

Music at MIT
Kresge Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-2826). web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. 12 pm. Free. Thomas Reynolds and Robert Rucinski direct a performance by the MIT Concert Band.

Music at the Meeting House
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm. Free. The NEC Artist Diploma Series presents a performance by cellist Min Ji Kim.

SATURDAY, MARCH 20

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$95. Same program as March 18.

FleetBoston Celebrity Series
New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-482-6661). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $31-$46. The Beaux Arts Trio performs works by Rachmaninoff and Schubert.

Gardner Chamber Ensemble
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 2 Palace Road, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 7:30 pm. $35. Paula Robison directs the ensemble in a concert entitled Vivaldi in the Courtyard.

Musica Sacra
First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (617-349-3400). www.musicasacra.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $12-$20. Choral group Musica Sacra performs works by contemporary composer Daniel Pinkham in celebration of his 80th birthday.

SUNDAY, MARCH 21

American Classics
Sackman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-254-1125). www.benandbrad.com. 3 pm. Free. Cabaret group American Classics presents the songs of Rodgers and Hart.

The Bach Keyboard Project
Old West Church, 131 Cambridge St., Boston (617-241-0570). www.tuesdayswithsebastian.info. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 8 pm. $10 suggested donation. Organists Christa Rakich and Peter Sykes perform a Bach's Birthday Concert that includes Toccata, Adagio & Fugue in C Major, and Trio Sonata 1 in E-flat Major.

Cantata Singers
New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-267-6502). www.cantatasingers.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 2:30 pm. $20-$48. Same program as March 19.

Chamber Orchestra of Boston
New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-267-6502). www.cantatasingers.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $25. David Feltner conducts the Chamber Orchestra of Boston in a performance that features pianist Randall Hodgkin on Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 9 in E-flat and also includes works by Haydn and Stravinsky.

Goethe-Institut Boston
170 Beacon St., Boston, (617-262-6050). www.goethe.de/uk/bos/enindex.htm. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 3 pm. Free. Pianist Jerome Rosen and violinist Victor Romanul perform Beethoven's Sonatas for piano and violin.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. 2 pm. Free. The trombone section of the Boston Symphony Orchestra performs works by Telemann, Handel, Bartok, Norman Bolter, Daniel Speer and Alfred Hornoff.

MONDAY, MARCH 22

Arabic Classical Music
St. Botolph Hall, 241 St. Botolph St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 4 pm. Free. Violinist Bassam Saba performs with percussionist Karim Nagi Mohammed.

FleetBoston Celebrity Series
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (888-266-1200). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $32-$72. The San Francisco Symphony, conducted by Michael Tilson Thomas, performs works by John Adams and Gustav Mahler.

New England Conservatory
St. Botolph Room 118, 241 St. Botolph St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. Free. The American Voices Ensemble performs a concert of contemporary music, including works by John Cage, Charles Ives and Robert Kogan.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. NEC faculty member and flutist Renee Krimsier accompanies pianist Andrew von Oeyen in a performance of works by Prokofiev, Bartok and Ravel.

TUESDAY, MARCH 23

NEC's Callithumpian Consort
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. NEC's Callithumpian Consort performs work by NEC composition chair Lee Hyla as well as pieces by Iannis Xenakis and Gerard Grisey.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24

Chamber Music at Noon
Rapaporte Treasure Hall, Goldfarb Library, Waltham (781-736-3331). www.brandeis.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 12 pm. Free. Judy Eissenberg conducts students in a performance of chamber music.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Daniel Perez coaches the NEC Jazz Ensemble in a performance featuring original compositions and free improvisations.

THURSDAY, MARCH 25

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Rehearsal 10:30 am (rehearsal), $16; 8 pm, $26-$86. The BSO performs with violinist Frank Peter Zimmermann under the direction of conductor Paavo Berglund, who makes his BSO debut.


Violinist Frank Peter Zimmerman plays with the BSO March 25.

Mary Baker Eddy Library
200 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-450-7083). www.marybakereddylibrary.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Hynes Convention Center. 6 pm. Free. New England Conservatory students perform classical selections.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Faculty member Robert Labaree directs and performs in this concert of Turkish classical and folk music.

FRIDAY, MARCH 26

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30 pm. $26-$86. Same program as March 25.

Goethe-Institut Boston
170 Beacon St., Boston, (617-262-6050). www.goethe.de/uk/bos/enindex.htm. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7:30 pm. Free. Pianist Moonhee Hwang performs a recital of works by Beethoven, Liszt, Schubert and Prokofiev.

Handel and Haydn Society
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$74. Grant Llewellyn leads the orchestra in a performance of works by Beethoven.

Music at the Meeting House
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. 12:15 pm. Free. NEC and WGBH-89.7 FM sponsor a performance by pianist Sonia Chan of works by Debussy and Schumann.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$95. Same program as March 25.

Diferencias
First Congregational Church, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (617-776-0692). www.firstchurchcambridge.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. $16, $12 students and seniors. Duo Maresienne performs early music from Spain and Italy, including works by Ortiz, Selma, Butler, Falconiero and Francesco da Milano.

Emmanuel Music
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm (preconcert lecture by composer Martin Brody at 7 pm). $20, $10 students and seniors. Winsor Music presents a program directed by Peggy Pearson, featuring works by Schumann and Bach and the premiere of Martin Brody's *Tree of Life*.

Graduate Composers Concert
Slosberg Recital Hall, Brandeis University, South Street, Waltham (781-736-3310). www.brandeis.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 8 pm. Free. The Brandeis Music Department presents original works by members of the Graduate Composition Department.

SUNDAY, MARCH 28

Artist Diploma Showcase
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 2 Palace Road, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 1:30 pm. $15. Cellist Min-Ji Kim performs works by Beethoven, Chopin and Giovanni Solima.

Brandeis Music Department
Slosberg Recital Hall, Brandeis University, South Street, Waltham (781-736-3310). www.brandeis.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 3 pm. $5, $2.50 students. J.Darren Maule directs the Brandeis Wind Ensemble in a performance of works by composer Gustav Holst.

Diferencias
Somerville Museum, 1 Westwood Road, Somerville (617-666-9810). 3 pm. $14, $9 students and seniors. Same program as March 27.

Emmanuel Music
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 11 am. Free. Craig Smith conducts the orchestra and chorus in a performance of works by Bach.

Gloria! Masterpieces of the 20th Century
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $15-$60. David Hodgkins conducts a special collaborative concert with the Boston Cecilia offering an array of 20th century choral masterpieces.

Handel and Haydn Society
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $29-$74. Same program as March 26.

Music at the Meeting House
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm. Free. The NEC Artist Diploma Series presents a performance by pianist Sonia Chan.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The NEC presents a prep faculty recital featuring violinist Robert Eshbach and pianist David Hagen performing works by Brahms, Martinu and others.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. 2 pm. Free. Pianist Rita Southworth Moerschel and violinist Liana Zaretsky present a concert of works by Clara Schumann and Lily Boulanger.

TUESDAY, MARCH 30

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30 pm. $26-$86. Same program as March 25.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Lee Hyla directs this concert featuring the works of graduating student composers.

dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $5, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Jay Ine spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Monsta Mondays Kaptain Krunch spins the best old and new rock, $8, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJs spin R&B and hip-hop, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Dance party with DJ Marco Small, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

An Tua Nua
What's Up Night A night of R&B, house, funk and soul music, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Phat Tuesday DJ D Sharp spins old-school and hip-hop, 19+, college ID required.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+.

The Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Orange DJs John Davis and Pat Fontes bring the house music, and weekly guest DJs spin, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Eddie Lee spins house, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Phoenix Landing
Deep Tones DJ Brynmore spins a mix of soul, funk, house and acid jazz, 10 pm, no cover, $3, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Ricky spins 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Trio
Always Best Tuesday The night features all hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Phat Tuesdays DJ Ron Steele spins hip-hop, R&B reggae and international grooves, 10 pm, 21+, proper dress required.

WEDNESDAYS

Aria
Lust DJ John Morris spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, $8, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, $21.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins Greek and international tunes, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.



Common Ground
What a Way to Go Go Mod Night with DJ Vin, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up R&B, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mercury Lounge DJs Nomadik and Timmy Allen host a night of soul, funk and house, 9 pm, $3-5, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin deep house, trance and grassroots techno, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
International Wednesdays DJ JC is in the Latin Lounge; DJs Alex and Felix spin in the back, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Massi spins top-40, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Q
Violation Wednesdays House DJ Kevin Nazty spins today's best music. Complimentary Stoli from 9:30 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Ricky spins spins, 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Cabin Stabbin' Wednesdays DJ Boogie Ba Do spins dub to start the party, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Jazz Wednesdays Ron Murphy and his quintet bring cool jazz to the main lounge, 9-11 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B. Downstairs: Live music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
Fizzle DJ Ren Justice spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; DJ Roger M and DJ Thanos spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
International Thursdays DJ Gee Spin and guests play rap and hip-hop tunes, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Mark Morris and Catunes play pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and Salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Embassy
DJ JC spins international house, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Exchange
Heaven and Hell DJs Chaos, 7L and Mr. Aru spin house and hip-hop, 9:30 pm-2 am, 19+ (with college ID).

Felt
After-work live jazz followed by DJ Ghost spinning international house and hip-hop, 6 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursdays DJs Dubz and 40D spins reggae, R&B and hip hop, no cover, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou spins late night, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •March 18 and 25, Dick & Jane, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
Nonstop music with DJ Massi or DJ Ryan, no cover, 21+.

I/D
Square One Thursdays DJs Dres and Wagz host a night of progressive dance music, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Massi gets the dance party started upstairs, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ David James sp dance tunes and old-school, 10 pm, no cover, 21

Kinvara Pub
DJ Doc spins the latest tunes, 21+.

La Boom
Privilege DJ Felix cranks the noise, 11 pm-2 a 21+.

Level
Life DJ Adilson pumps house, trance and progre sive, and DJ NFerna spins hip-hop, R&B and regga 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Ricky Fatts spins house and hip-hop. 10:30 p $15, 19+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando prese drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $ 21+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cov 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Carrie spins upbeat lounge in the front, 10 p no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett performs live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Q
DJ Hussle Simmons from JAM'N 94.5 spins hip-h all night long, 9 pm, $5, ladies free all night, 21+.

The Rack
Ibiza DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10: pm. DJ Littles spins from 10:30 pm-2 am, no cov 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali and Ross spin a mix electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cov 21+.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin loun music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

711 Boylston
Play Thursdays DJ trio Groovefire spins hou music with special guests Beat Khemistry, 6 p 2 am.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Steve Sosong spins new dance a R&B. Downstairs: Justin Beech, 9 pm-1 am, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ JR Vega hosts Latin night with live music by t Latin Party Boys; free salsa lessons with Dan Mi shall, 9 pm, $10, 21+.



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The Sugar Shack
Hip Hop Event Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip-hop, 9 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
DJ Jim spins mixed beats.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cover.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJs Lazee Boy and Gabe play funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 from the '70s, '80s and '90s, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Floss DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Avaland DJ Nailz spins progressive dance music, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Mas spins hip-hop, funk and techno, 9pm-1am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
Avaland DJ Caprice spins hip-hop as part of Avaland, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins top-40, and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
F Night WBCN's Bradley J spins '80s classics, and alternative and rock tribute bands perform live, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft VJ Johnny Walker Black spins top-40 dance and hip-hop tunes accompanied by interactive video shows, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Life at Buzz Girls-only lesbian night with DJ Bruno spinning R&B and hip-hop tunes downstairs and DJ Ilabash spinning reggae upstairs, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 18+

Caprice
DJ Eddie K spins a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, and two guest DJs spin on the first floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Nailz and DJ Eddie Lee spin hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $20, 19+.

The Exchange
DJs Tiziano and Luca spin house and hip-hop upstairs, while DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B in the vault, 9:30 pm, $10, 21+.

Felt
After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs, spinning high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Bob Gallagher spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •March 19, Peatmoss, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •March 26, Brick Park, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs Big Daddy and Rizzi spin, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins house and old favorites, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before midnight, 21+.

La Boom
Fashion Fridays Firefly Promotions hosts this fashion night featuring DJ Rick Naples, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

Level
Secret Society DJ Hoff spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B on the fourth and fifth floors, and DJ Niko spins Greek and international tunes on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.


Roxy

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Matrix
DJ Adilson of Roxy Saturdays spins high-energy house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

The Modern
DJ JC plays Latin rhythms, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Rockpile** WAAF's Jay Ferrera broadcasts live, and rotating bands perform, 9 pm, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•March 19, Burnt Sienna, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •March 26, Darik & the Funbags, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Shake What Your Mama Gave You DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
Industrie hosts weekly guest DJs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Craig spins the latest hits, 10 pm, $5.

Q
Beach Party Night DJ Fury spins, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Johnny C with KISS 108's Artie, 10:45 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Lite Nite DJ Easy spins a mix that includes neo-soul and feel-good classics, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Bruno spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance. Downstairs: live music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover before 10 pm, 21+.

Sophia's
Sangria and Salsa Salsa and merengue lessons, 7-10 pm, followed by the Latin Party Boys and DJs Mike C and Zino spinning Latin dance, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10pm, $5 after 9pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats all night.

Trio
Boston After Dark Dance to hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with Latin vibes. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vivid Lounge
Brian Roache spins top-40, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJs Lazee Boy and Gabe play funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

Aria
DK Kon spins high-energy vocal house and hip hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Total Request Avalon DJ Tim Collins plays requests along with top-40, dance and hip-hop, 10 pm, $15 ($10 before 12:30 am), 21+.

The Avenue
DJ Kevin Munroe spins house and trance, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Start! DJ Damien spins alternative rock and '80s hits, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
The Dorm—Bill's Dance Night DJ Bruno spins a crowd-pleasing mix of hip-hop, dance, reggae and rock, 10 pm, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. VJ Johnnie Walker presents top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Franklin creates a lounge atmosphere with his international, Latin and house sounds, 10 pm, ($10 after 11 pm), 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood It's women's night at Hollywood with tw floors of hip-hop and house music with MixMistress upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Roger M spins international house, 10:30 p $15, 19+.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop, house, and dance pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorit disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop a vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upsta with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, $10, 21+. •Mar 20, Peatmoss, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 p $10, 21+.

I/D
X Night WFNX presents a night of retro '80s a rock, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and h hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, wh downstairs DJ O'Toole plays top-40, 9 pm, 21+.

La Boom
Wild on @ La Boom DJ Tim Collins and KISS 1 host a night of music and dancing, 10 pm, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik sp Russian and international music on the third flo 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vo house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fi floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 9 pm, 21+.

Matrix
DJ G-Spin plays hip-hop in the front room, while Pedro Gonzalez spins house and '90s dance in back, 9 pm, $10, 21+ (men), 19+ (women).

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio O spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10 pm, ladies are free before 10:30 pm, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Eddie Lee plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin da music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez Willie D, ladies free, men $5 before 10:30 pm; $ 18+; $10, 21+ after 10:30 pm. •**The Male counter** New England's longest-running all-m dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 $15, 19+; no cover 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos s top-40 and hip-hop mixes, $15, 18+; $10, 2 •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream h hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no co 21+. •**Underground** DJs spin hip-hop, top dance, techno and reggae for the under-21 crc 7-11 pm, $14. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; cover, 21+.

Parris
•March 20, Burnt Sienna, 10 pm, $10, 2 •March 27, Darik & the Funbags, 10 pm, $ 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins 80s, new w and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Rick Naples spins high-energy dance, 10 $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom Hogan spins the groove, 10 pm, $5, • March 20, Scooby Snax performs. •March 27, music with Brick Park.

Q
DJ Fury spins vocal house and hot dance (com mentary cocktails from 9:30-10:30 pm), 9 pm cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi and DJ Littles host the broadcast and dance party, 8 pm, 21+, no cover.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins mo mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins house and techno, 9 pm, $15,

11 Boylston
ever DJ Yorgo spins a mix of ethnic and international music, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

issy K's
pstairs: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8 pm. ownstairs: Kevin Kirrane, 9 pm, no cover before pm.

ophia's
Zino spins salsa and merengue while a Latin band ays on the first floor and DJ Edwin Matos spins tin dance on the second floor, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

pin
Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the nt room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro fa- rites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

he Sugar Shack
Boss blends hip-hop and house, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

past
s spin mixed beats.

rio
st Of Night DJs spin Eurohouse, hip-hop and ssics, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

enu
ula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi d Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

ertigo
Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 , $15, 21+.

vid Lounge
ian Roache spins top-40, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Vest Street Grille
te Night Lounge DJs Lazee Boy and Gabe play k and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, 21+.

UNDAYS

n Tua Nua
Adrienne spins Brit-pop and new wave tunes, m-1 am, $3, 19+.

ria
Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

valon
y Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and hno, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

ll's Bar
ggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub tion and DJ K-Don, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

ston Rocks
spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

izz
zilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am,), 19+

price
Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11), 21+.

rricane O'Reilly's
id Sundays DJs Joshua Carl and Paul Dailey spin al and deep house, breaks, techno and jungle ts, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

e Kells
N. Service Industry Night DJ Doc spins hip- , house and top-40, 11 pm, no cover.

Boom
urebeat: Alien Disco DJ Addambombb spins a : of retro progressive tracks, trip-hop and synth- , 9 pm, $8, 21+.

vel
ating DJs spin Latin and international on the d floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

lky Way
ellite A lesbian night featuring DJ Dee, with ce music, amateur drag contests and films, 9 pm, er varies, 21+.

oenix Landing
np This house-music night has a rotating roster ocal and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

e Place
spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

e Rack
Mike Janedy spins hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm- , no cover, 21+.

er Gods
erie Boston DJ Shannon and weekly guest DJs goth, industrial and lounge, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

sy K's
Dave Jordan plays an array of top-40 tunes, 9 pm, .

ast
wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop Brazilian beats.

o
e Lounge DJs provide the vibe, 10 pm, 21+.

hu
nivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian ht as DJ Leandro spins Brazilian beats, 11 pm, 19+.

rtigo
tian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and d beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Whiskey Park
Cherry DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock classics, hip-hop, house and R&B.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
The Exchange *148 State St., Boston (617-726-7601).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
The G Spot *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
La Boom *One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Light *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *(El Copa, Male Encounter, Officers' Club, Oxygen, Rio, Underground and Uptown) 1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
711 Boylston *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Sweetwater Café *5 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-2515).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
Vivid Lounge *148 State St., Boston (617-726-7600).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*





museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors

Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum

Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Gary Schneider: Portraits* is a 30-year collection of the artist's black-and-white and color photographs. Through June 13.•*The Continuous Stroke of Breath: Calligraphy from the Islamic World* features Arabic, Indian, Persian and Turkish calligraphy from the 9th through 20th centuries. Through July 18. •*Rocks, Mountains, Landscapes, and Gardens: The Essence of East Asian Painting*, an exhibition of rocks used in East Asian art, shows through Aug. 1.

Boston Public Library

666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm. •*Boston Police Department 1854-2004: 150th Anniversary Exhibit* illustrates the department's history. Through March 30. •*Faces of Colombia* showcases the work of photojournalist Jim Harney. Through March 30. •*Faces and Places*, an exhibition of historical maps of Boston, shows through April 30. •*Ellen Band: Portals of Prayer*, an audio installation that combines prayer and music, is sponsored by the Institute of Contemporary Art's Vita Brevis program. Through June 5. •*Seashells and Other Delicacies* is a show of Bela Kalman's photography. Through June 12.

Carpenter Center for Visual Arts

24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). www.ves.fas.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-11:30 pm; Sun., 12-11:30 pm. Free. •*The Carpenter Center and Le Corbusier's Synthesis of the Arts* is an exhibition on the Carpenter Center and its architect. Through April 15.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park

51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. •*Joseph Wheelwright: Stone Heads and Tree Figures*, a sculpture exhibition, shows through May 16. •*Jirimani* is a photographic-transparency installation by Jo Yarrington. Through May 30. •*Self-Evidence: Identity in Contemporary Art* is a group show of multimedia work focusing on self-representation in art. Through May 30. •*Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Sense of Place, Part II* features paintings by various artists. Through summer 2004.

Fogg Art Museum/ Busch-Reisinger Museum

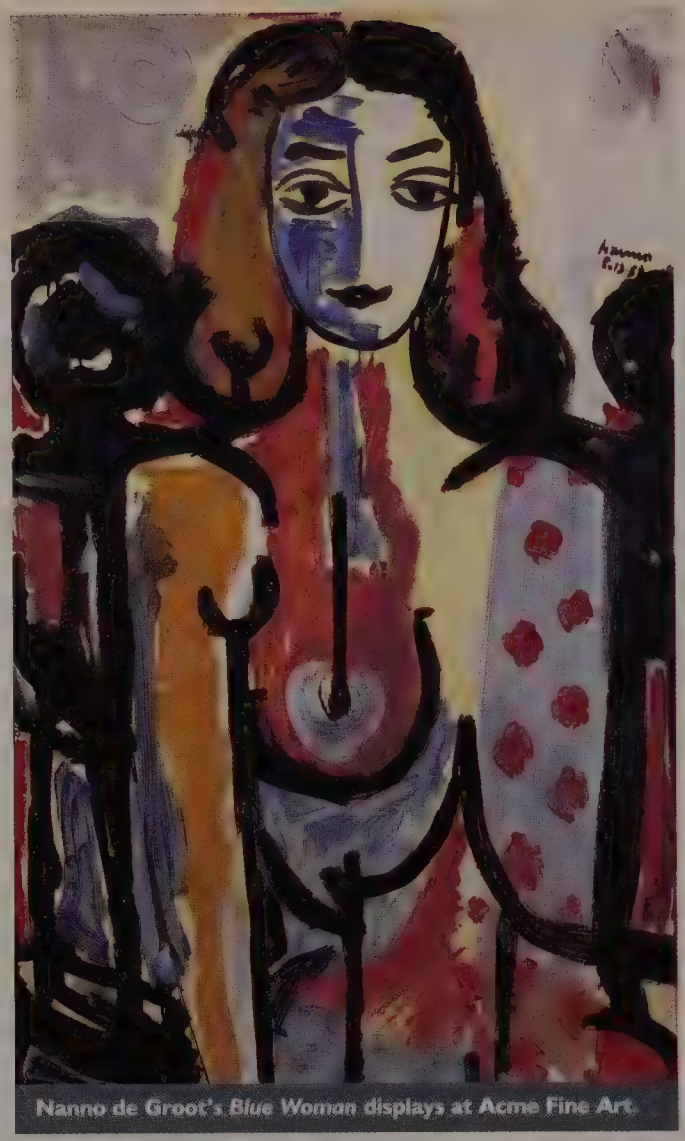
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Life as Art: Paintings by Gregory Gillespie and Frances Cohen Gillespie* shows through March 28. •*Design~Recline: Modern Architecture and the Mid-Century Chaise Lounge* features chaise lounges designed by famous architects including Le Corbusier, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, Marcel Breuer, Alvar Aalto, and Charles and Ray Eames. March 20-July 11.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •*Dodos, Trilobites, and Meteorites...Treasures of Nature and Science at Harvard* features specimens from scientific explorations of the past 200 years. Through spring. •*Into the Mountains* features the photography of mountaineer Bradford Washburn. Through spring. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species by glass artists Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7, $5 students and seniors. •*Made in Mexico/Heche en México* features 20 international artists' interpretations of Mexican culture. Through May 9.



Nanno de Groot's *Blue Woman* displays at Acme Fine Art.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, free for those under 18. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. •Italian painter Maurizio Cannavacciuolo shows his contemporary wall drawings in *TV Dinner*. Through April 15. •*Whistler's Warning*, Joseph Kosuth's installation in neon of words taken from an 1885 speech by James McNeill Whistler, shows through August. •Elaine Reichek's embroideries, which depict Biblical images borrowed from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists, display online in the virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing.

MIT List Visual Arts Center

20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. •Mike Roger's *Cross Country* is a Super 8 film documenting a cross-country road trip. Through April 4. •*Son et Lumière*, a group exhibition of sound, light and video installations, shows through April 14.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). www.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5, $3 students and seniors, $1 children. •*Gabriele Basilico—Photographs* is an exhibition of urban landscapes. Through June 6. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing.

Museum of Afro-American History

46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. •*If These Dolls Could Talk: 150 Years of Black Dolls* is an exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century handmade, porcelain, plastic and sculptured dolls. Through May 1.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm; Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15 adults, $13 students and seniors, free for children 17 and under. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free. Special exhibitions are an additional cost. •*Art of the Japanese Postcard: The Leonard A. Lauder Collection* is an exhibition of 350 Japanese postcards from 1900-1940. Through June 6. •*Draped in Dragons: Chinese Court Costumes* features clothes worn by members of the Qing imperial court. Through May 2. •*Gauguin Tahiti*, a retrospective of the painter's work from the South Pacific, shows through June 20. •More than 200 jades dating from the Neolithic period to the Qing Dynasty display in *Chinese Jades from the Hartman Collection*. Through August. •*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13 adults, $11 seniors, $10 children. •*Einstein* profiles the life of Albert Einstein through his personal letters, documents and manuscripts. Through June 6.•*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum

33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Artist to Icon: Early Photographs of Elvis, Dylan and the Beatles* is an exhibition of 48 black-and-white photographs taken early in the careers of the three rock legends. Through June 6. •*Hatch Show Print's Rock 'n' Roll Posters* features letterpress posters for concerts by musicians including Johnny Cash, Frank Zappa and Bruce Springsteen. Through June 13. •*A Glimpse of Boston Theater, 1850-1903* includes 15 playbills and programs from that period. Through June 20. •*Lunch Box Memories* is an exhibition of lunch boxes from the early 1900s through the 1980s. Through July 18. •*The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'd* is an exhibition of 18th-century local history. Ongoing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household objects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. •*To Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community* is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. Adults $13, seniors $11, students $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem free. •*Under the Imperial Gaze* features two large-scale Chinese scrolls. Through May 2. •*Geisha: Beyond the Painted Smile* examines geisha culture through painting, woodblock prints, photography, video, musical instruments and authentic accessories. Through May 9. •*Men Plow, Women Weave* displays images of weaving and plowing by Chinese artists. Through May 30. •*Vanished Kingdoms: The Wulsin Photographs of China, Tibet, and Mongolia 1921-1925*, an exhibition of color images taken by American explorers Janet E. and Frederick R. Wulsin, shows through June 13.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50 adults, $6 seniors and students, $5 children •*These Shoes Were Made for...Walking?*, a collection of 49 pairs of shoes f ancient to contemporary times, shows through M •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments* tures the museum's large Mesoamerican cast col tion. Ongoing. •*Painted by a Distant Hand: Mim Pottery from the American Southwest* features artif from New Mexico's Swarts Ranch Ruin. Thr September. •*Encounters with the Americas* is an going exhibition featuring original sculpture plaster casts of Mesoamerican cultures. •*From tion to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's In Collection* features Native American artifacts f the explorers' journeys. Through December 2(•*Hall of the North American Indian: Change and C tinuity* features art depicting the response of Na Americans across the continent to the arrival of ropeans. Ongoing. •*Pacific Islands Hall*, another going exhibition, displays artifacts from the Pa Islands.

Somerville Museum

One Westwood Road, Somerville (617-666-98 www.losttheatres.org. Thu., 2-7 pm; Fri., 2-5 pm Sat., 12-5 pm. •*The Lost Theatres of Somerville* c bines oral histories, photographs, memorabilia an teractive media to explore the rise and fal Somerville's 14 historic movie theaters, only or which operates today. Through March 28.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art

38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www. fineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Beyond Likeness*, a show of r ern portraits by George McNeil, Robert Beauch and Nanno de Groot, displays. Through April 3

Alianza Gallery

154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). ME Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; S 12-5 pm. •Gina Poppe shows glass work. Thr March 20. •Jill Solomon shows her work in *Sa Fired Clay*. March 27-April 25.

Alpha Gallery

14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www. gallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Suzanne Vincent show tempera paintings. Through March 31.

Arden Gallery

129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). w ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Co Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*U ken Neighbors*, a show of landscapes by Mar Gerding, displays through March 30.

Barbara Krakow Gallery

10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4 www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Jose bers shows square screenprints. Through M 24. •Allan McCollum shows his work Marc May 5.

Berenberg Gallery

4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. • *temporary Folk Art* shows works from the gallery lection of Southern and Appalachian folk ar works by Howard Finster, Hazel Kinney, Jimm Sudduth, and Mose Tolliver. Through April 24.

Bernard Toale Gallery

450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to ley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Sheila shows installations and drawings in *I Love York*, and Anna Collett shows new photogr Through March 27. •Laura McPhee and Mar Pore show photographs and films of India. M 30-May 15.

Brickbottom Gallery

1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to mere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Under the Influ Travel* features works by Phyllis Ewen and G Gabin. Through March 20. •*Land, Sea, Sky*, a show of landscapes, displays March 27-April 24

Bromfield Art Gallery

27 Thayer St., Boston (617-451-3605). wwwbro artgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Wed.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •Miller-Havens show paintings in *Women's Best Friends*. Through M 27. •Jemison Faust shows mixed-media wo *Renovation Series*. Through March 27.

Brookline Arts Center

86 Monmouth St., Brookline. (617-566-5 www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Gree to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm. •*Ge Benisty: Fiber Sculptures* features sculptures, and doll clothes. Through April 16.

Chappell Gallery
4 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-2255). www.happellgallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm and by appointment.* •Eve Hyde, Beth Lipman, Lada Semecka and Sasha Zhitneva show new work. Through March 27.

Chase Gallery
29 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.hasegallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm.* •Artist Kathryn Frund hows mixed-media works. Through March 27.

Childs Gallery
69 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.hildsgallery.com. MBTA:*Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm.* *Wolf Kahn: Three Decades of Print-Making* and *nne Lyman Powers: Athletes in Art* show through May 8.

Clifford-Smith Gallery
50 Harrison Ave., Suite 300, Boston (617-695-255). www.cliffordsmithgallery.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5:30 pm.* Youngsuk Suh shows iris prints in *Instant Traveler*. Through March 27.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.opleysociety.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-at., 10:30 am-5:30 pm.* •The *125th Anniversary* xhibition shows through March 20. •*The Spring Members' Show* displays March 25-April 17.

Crump Gallery
122 East Broadway, Boston (617-268-8050). MBTA: *ed Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm.* •An xhibition of works by Jeff Eldredge, Dan McCole nd Norman Crump is ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: *reen Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm.* •Goron Przybyla shows his paintings in *The Nude.* hrough March 27. •Fadi Shawish shows color and pia photography. March 30-May 1.

Equator Gallery
50 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-540-236). MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. www.quatorgallery.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 2-5 pm.* •The gallery specializes in Latin Ameriin fine art, including paintings, textiles and eramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
00 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: *Red Line to South Station. on.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm.* •*Family and riends* features the art of Fred Levy and Tony Carpega. Through March 27.

Galerie d'Orsay
3 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.alerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. on.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm.* •An ongog exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine ints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on embrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and hagall.

Gallery AA/B
35 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). ww.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to ack Bay. Thu.,12-5 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm.* •Roger oldenberg and Judith Morton show recent paintgs and sculptures. Through April 24.

The Gallery at Black and White
35 Huntington Ave., Suite 205 (617-266-2641). BTA: *E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to ass. Ave. Mon.-Fri, 10 am-5 pm.* •The gallery atures rotating exhibitions of black-and-white otographs.

Gallery Katz
60 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-6328). www.allerykatz.com. MBTA: *Red Line to Broadway. Tue.-t., 11 am-5 pm.* •Greg Poulin shows new paintgs. Through March.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.allerynaga.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. ue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •*Collecting Light* features e urban photographs of Mary Kocol. Through arch 27. •*Dim Down/Done In/Piss Poor/Long one/All Down* is a collection of oil paintings on nels by Ron Rizzi. Through March 27.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
11 Thayer St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-426-9738). ue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Gold, Clay, and ranite* features gold-leaf paintings by Mary ochever, pottery by Malcom Wright and granite ulptures by Jay Swift. Through March 31.

Haley & Steele
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.haleyteele.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment.* he gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prints. ngoing.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •Catherine Kehoe shows paintings in *Flowers*. Through April 6. •Photographer Gary Schneider shows portraits in *Head to Toe*. Through April 6.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm.* •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters. •*G'Day Mate!* features more than 100 travel posters from Australia, New Zealand, Bali, the Arctic Circle and the Soviet Union. Through April 30.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm.* •Dot Krause shows new digital work in *Fragile Beauty*. Through March 27. •Kathy High shows multimedia work in *Soft Science: Embracing the Animal*. Through March 27.

Judy Ann Goldman Fine Art
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). www.judygoldmanfineart.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •Peter Edlund shows paintings of western America in *Homeland Security*. Through March 27.

Kaji Aso Studio
40 St. Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www.kajiasostudio.com. MBTA: *E Green Line to Symphony. Tue. and Thu., 4:30-6:30 pm; Sat., 3-5 pm, and by appointment.* •*The Drawing Exhibition* features works in various media by students, faculty and members. Through April 8.

Kathryn Schultz Gallery
25 Lowell St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www.cambridgeart.org. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm, Sun., 1-5 pm.* •*Adelaide Sproul Retrospective* features sculptures and prints from 1935-2003. Through March 25.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm.* •Photographer Steve Wrubel shows color and black-and-white prints. Through March 27.

Kingston Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 12-5 pm.* •Audrey Goldstein shows her sculptures. Through March 31.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm.* •Tim Harding and Colin Schleeh show abstract silk wall hangings and wood sculptures in *Smooth as Silk*. Through April 16.

Mark Gallery
141 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6275). www.markartgallery.com. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm, and by appointment.* •Prilla Smith Brackett and Nancy Rubens display oil prints, monoprints and collage paintings. Through April 9.

Martin Lawrence Gallery
77 Newbury St., Boston (617-369-4800). MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. www.martinlawrence.com. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-7 pm.* •The gallery's ongoing exhibition includes works by Chagall, Erté, Hallam, Kondakova, Lichtenstein, Picasso and Warhol.

Miller Block Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). www.millerblockgallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30-5:30 pm.* •Nona Hershey shows new graphite drawings. Through March 31.

Mills Gallery
539 Tremont St., Boston (617-348-2926). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed., Thu. and Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-10 pm.* •*OCD* is a group show of works in all media that focus on the artists' passions. March 19-May 7.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Robin Quigley shows enameled broaches in *Souvenirs*, and Nick Hollibaugh shows sculptural furniture. Through March 31.

NAO Project Gallery
535 Albany St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-451-2977). www.naoprojectgallery.info. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay or Green Line to Copley. Wed., Fri. and Sat., 11 am-4 pm and by appointment.* •Karen Moss displays mixed-media art through April 30.

New Art on Newbury
285 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7727). MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Thu., 11 am-6 pm; Fri. and Sat., 11 am-11 pm.* •*Make Peace with the Next Warhol*, a local artists' showcase featuring works by Kate Sullivan and Owen Beane, shows March 19-April 18.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment.* •*March Heat*, a group show of paintings, drawings, and sculpture, features work by sculptor Dexter Lazenby. Through April 3.

108
108 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-3833). www.gallery108.com. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard or Porter. Tue, Thu., Fri., 12-6 pm; Wed., 2-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm; Sun. by appointment.* •Kate Ledogar shows her portraits in *Peeps*. Through March 27.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: *Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm.* •A local-artists showcase is ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •Harold Reddicliffe shows paintings. Through April 3.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm.* •Jim Schantz shows his landscapes in *Field and Forest Sing for Joy*. March 20-April 13.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •John Dugdale shows his contemporary sepia photographs. Through April 3.

The Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm.* •*Portraits*, a group show of multimedia work, displays through April 25.

Soprafina Gallery
99 Beacon St., Somerville (617-498-0999). MBTA: *Red Line to Davis. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm;* •Helen Morse displays hand-painted black-and-white photographs, and Judy Kramer shows her original acrylic paintings. Through March 27.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm.* •*Mistral* is a collection of oil paintings by Judy St. Peter, William St. George, and Anne Grandin, acrylic paintings by Christina Keating, and watercolors by Sandra Mueller-Dick. Through March 31.

Studio Soto
63 Melcher St., Boston (617-426-7686). www.studiosoto.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to South Station. Fri. and Sat., 2-5 pm.* •*Two of a Kind*, a group show of mixed-media work by parents and their children, displays Through March 28.

Upstairs at Johnson's Art Gallery
353 Newbury St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-536-4065). MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes. Mon.- Fri., 10 am - 5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am - 1pm.* •The *7th Annual Johnson Staff Exhibition* features works by staff members. Through April 26.

Victoria Munroe Fine Art
59 Beacon St., Boston (617-523-0661). www.munroefineart.com. MBTA: *Green or Red Line to Park Street. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm and by appointment.* •Drawings by Christine Hiebert show through March 20.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •Selections from the gallery's permanent collection, including works by Fitz Hugh Lane, Frank Benson and John Singer Sargent, show through March.

William Scott Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-542-4030). www.williamscottgallery.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm.* •*The Winter Salon Show* displays through March 28.

Zeitgeist Gallery
1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060). www.zeitgeist-gallery.org. Tue.-Sun., 1-7 pm. •*Images from On and Off Stage*, a show of 1960s and '70s rock music photographs by Charles Daniels, displays March 23-April 5.



Kate Ledogar's painting *Toughs* shows in the exhibition *Peeps* at 108, through March 27.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: *Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5.* •*Landscapes of the Civil War*, an exhibition of 92 rare photographs from the American Civil War, displays Through June 25.

New England School of Photography
Gallery One, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-437-1868). www.nesop.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Kenmore. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm.* •Rose Martin shows photographs. Through April 16.

Panopticon Gallery
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Commuter Rail to Waltham. www.panopt.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •Steve Rosenthal and Nick Wheeler show their photographs. Through April 15.

Photographic Resource Center
832 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). MBTA: *B Green Line to Boston University West. www.bu.edu/prc. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm.* •*Honky Tonk: Portraits of Country Music, 1971-1981* is an exhibition of photographs by Henry Horenstein. March 25-April 25.

books & poetry

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to books@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

Hotel Marlowe
25 Edwin H. Land Blvd., Cambridge (617-868-8000). MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Wine hour 5 pm; readings 6 pm. Free. Local authors **Thomas O'Grady**, **Mary O'Donoghue**, **Aidan Rooney**, **Kevin Bowen** and **Daniel Tobin** read their contributions to *Gather Round Me*, an anthology of Irish poetry edited by Christopher Cahill.

Village Books
751 South St., Roslindale (617-325-1994). MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 7 pm. Free. Local author **Sabin Willet** reads from her novel *Present Value*, about a successful couple forced to alter their lifestyle after being implicated in a financial scandal.

THURSDAY, MARCH 18

Barnes and Noble at BU
660 Beacon Street, Boston (617-267-8484). www.bkstore.com/bu. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. **Helene Stapinski** reads from her memoir, *Baby Plays Around*, about how she became a successful journalist and rock band drummer despite the disintegration of her marriage.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Vyvyane Loh** reads from her novel, *Breaking the Tongue*, about a young Chinese man who is suspected of aiding a British spy during Japan's takeover of Singapore in World War II.

Emerson College Reading Series
Emerson Room, 120 Boylston St., Boston (617-824-8750). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7 pm. Free. **Samantha Chang** reads from her book *Hunger*, a novella and short story compilation about Chinese immigrants' attempts to preserve and transcend their cultural backgrounds.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **David Hackett Fischer** reads from his book *Washington's Crossing*, which describes Washington's crossing of the Delaware River in 1776 and explores the crossing's historical significance.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Margaret Morganroth Gullette** discusses her new book, *Aged by Culture*, which argues that American society promotes negative attitudes towards aging.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Lucinda Rosenfeld** reads from her novel *Why She Went Home*, which follows a romantically and professionally frustrated woman who moves home to contemplate her future.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA:Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Jeffrey Paine** reads from his book *Re-Enchantment: Tibetan Buddhism Comes to the West*, a chronicle of the effects that Tibetan Buddhism has had on Americans' spirituality.

SATURDAY, MARCH 20

Cambridge YMCA
Durrell Hall, 820 Mass. Ave, Cambridge (617-349-4020). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 2:30 pm. Free. **Jhumpa Lahiri** reads from her new novel, *The Namesake*, about a young Indian-American man who achieves success but remains conflicted about his cultural identity.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.words worth.com. MBTA:Red Line to Harvard. 5 pm. Free. Poet **Michael Sharf** reads his latest work.

MONDAY, MARCH 22

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. **Brendan Galvin** reads from his poetry collection, *Place Keepers*.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci. newton.ma.us. 7 pm. Free. **David Mellor** discusses his how-to book, *The Lawn Bible: How to Keep It Green, Groomed and Growing Every Season of the Year*.

TUESDAY, MARCH 23

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Stephen Elliott** reads from his novel *Happy Baby*, about a boy who is physically and sexually abused during his adolescence as a ward of the state. Also, **Ben Greenman** reads from his novel *Superworse*, a literary "remix" of his short stories and essays.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Scott Haas** discusses *Are We There Yet? Perfect Vacations and Other Fantasies*, his book of essays about his obstacle-ridden travels with his wife and two young children.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1410). www.ci. newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7 pm. **Jon Papernick**, **Barbara Klein Moss**, **David Shayer-Petrov** and **Maxime Shrayer** read from their respective Jewish-themed short story collections.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www. newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Tom Perotta** reads from his new novel, *Little Children*, about the lives of several thirtysomething suburbanites and the ways in which their relationships with young children define them.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www. wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Edwidge Danticat** reads from her novel *Dew Breaker*, about a Haitian immigrant whose pleasant life in America is at odds with the brutalities he has committed in the past as a prison guard.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Dean King** reads from his book *Skeletons on the Zahara*, about the 1815 shipwreck of the American ship *Commerce* on the shores of Northern Africa and the crew's subsequent enslavement by a Saharan tribe.

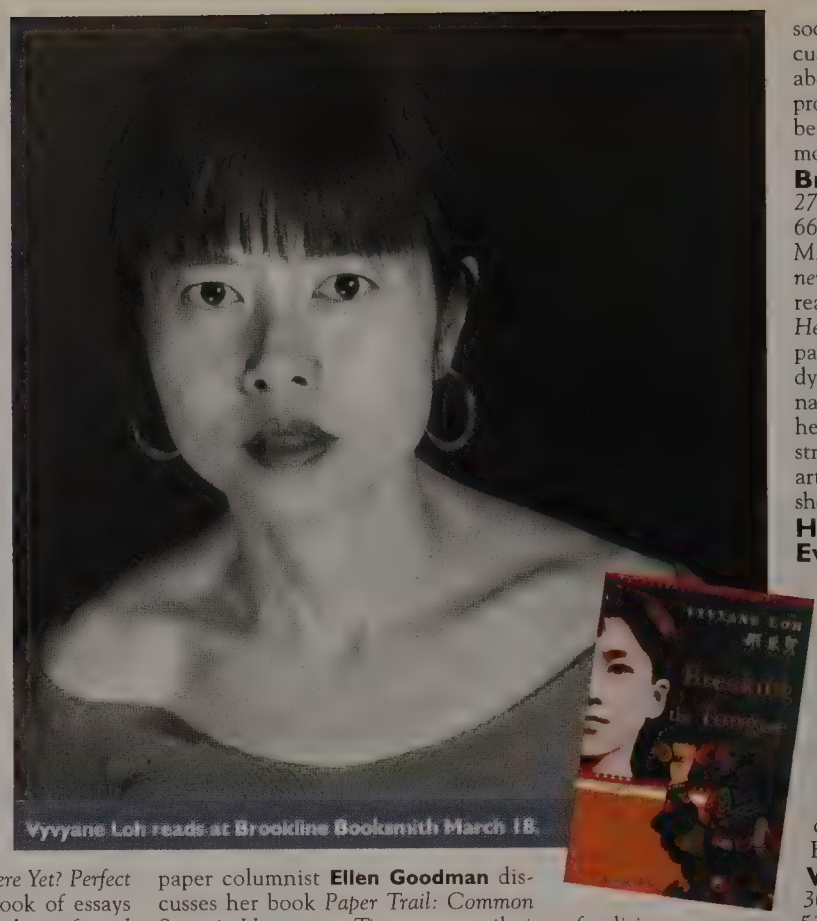
Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Chang-rae Lee** discusses his novel *Aloft*, about an aging amateur pilot forced to deal with his repressed emotions when his pregnant daughter is diagnosed with cancer and his son gets into financial trouble.

Village Books
751 South St., Roslindale (617-325-1994). MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 7 pm. Free. **Kristie Helms** reads from her novel *Dish It Up Baby*, about a woman in her twenties who moves from Kentucky to the Northeast in search of career satisfaction and romantic attachment.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www. wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Ernesto Mestre-Reed** reads from his novel *The Second Death of Unica Aveyano*, about an elderly woman who runs away from a Miami nursing home and tells the aide who finds her stories of her childhood in Cuba.

THURSDAY, MARCH 25

Harvard Book Store Author Event
Rabb Lecture Hall, Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 6 pm. Free. News-


Vyvyane Loh reads at Brookline Booksmith March 18.

paper columnist **Ellen Goodman** discusses her book *Paper Trail: Common Sense in Uncommon Times*, a compilation of politically themed essays dating from the early 1990s to the present.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www. bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Karen Desrosiers**, **Deborah Regan**, **Laurel Earnshaw**, **Charlene Pollano** and **Susan Wereska** discuss the book they cowrote, *Group of One's Own*, which contains advice for women who want to become successful writers.

Johnny D's
17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). www. johnnydsuptown.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 8 pm. Free. **Kristie Helms** reads from her novel *Dish It Up Baby*. See March 24 Village Books listing for a description.

FRIDAY, MARCH 26

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. **David Quigley** discusses his book *Second Founding: New York City, Reconstruction and the Making of American Democracy*, which explores the ways in which New York City served as a political and cultural center during the post–Civil War Reconstruction era.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www. bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Carl Ernst** discusses his book *Following Muhammad: Rethinking Islam in the Contemporary World*, in which he calls on the Western world to rethink its stereotypes of Muslims, and on the Islamic world to be more open-minded about non-Muslim societies.

MONDAY, MARCH 29

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. **Carole Simmons Oles** reads from her poetry collection, *Sympathetic Systems*. Also, **Rosanna Warren** reads from her new poetry collection, *Departure*.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Marvin Zonis** discusses his book *Kimchi Matters: Global Business and Local Realities in a Crisis-Driven World*, which argues that strong local economic systems are essential to a strong global economy.

TUESDAY, MARCH 30

Boston College's Writers Among Us Series
140 Comm. Ave., Gasson Hall 305, Chestnut Hill (617-552-4820). www.bc.edu. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. 7:30 pm. Free. Boston College associate professor **Elizabeth Graver** d cusses her novel *The Honey Thi* about a young girl with a shoplifti problem who befriends a lawyer-turne beekeeper after she and her sing mother move to a small town.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-56 6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.co MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge C ner. 7 pm. Free. **Laurie Gwen Shapi** reads from her novel *The Matzo B Heiress*, about a 31-year-old matzo co pany heiress who is at odds with h dysfunctional family. Also, Brookli native **Eugenie Seifer Olson** reads fr her novel *Babe in Toyland*, about t struggles of a twentysomething aspiri artist who works designing instructi sheets for a toy company.

Harvard Book Store Auth Event
Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Ca bridge (617-661-1515). ww harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **David E monds** and **John Eidenow** disc the book they co-wrote, *Bobby F cher Goes to War: How the Sovi Lost the Most Extraordinary Ch Match of All Time*, about the poli cal intrigue surrounding the 19 chess match between Fischer a Boris Spassky.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-3 5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBT Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Ruth Ozeki** re from her novel *All over Creation*, about a wom with ties to a radical eco-activist group who retu to her parents' Idaho farm 25 years after runni away from home.

Ongoing

Amazon Poetry Slam (Last Sunday)
Milky Way, 403-405 Center St., Jamaica Plain (6 524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook pm. $7. On the last Sunday of every month, Milky Way hosts the all-women Amazon Poe Slam.

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge hos poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Harvard Coop (Sundays)
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). ww bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harv Square. 3 pm. Free. Hear what Boston-area poets doing at the Harvard Coop's weekly poetry change on Level Two.

Jimmy Tingle's Off-Broadway (Sundays)
255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jim tingle.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $ Local poets perform their work in a two-hour thea cal show every Sunday night.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). ww poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Po jam, 7:30 pm; poetry slam, 9 pm. $6. The Jeff Rob son Trio plays background tunes for the poetry sla featured poet of the week.

O'Brien's Pub (Mondays)
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA Green Line to Harvard Ave. 9 pm. O'Brien's prese a mix of rock and spoken word one Monday month. Performers are predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry (Saturdays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambr (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 $3. Every Saturday is Open Bark poetry night, the fourth Saturday of each month is a spok word event.

Stone Soup Poetry Night (Monday
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambr (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have h these weekly readings.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). MB MBTA: Blue Line to Government Center. 6:30 Free. The second Thursday of each month offe selection of featured poets and an opportunity others to take the open mike.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

Gauguin's Paradise Lost
Museum of Fine Arts, Remis Auditorium, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 7 pm. $13. **George Shackelford**, chair of the MFA's Art of Europe department, discusses Paul Gauguin's decision to leave France for Tahiti in 1891 and the paintings and sculptures that he produced while living there.

Genealogical Roundtable
National Archives, Regional Archives Building, 380 Trapelo Road, Waltham (866-406-2379). www.archives.gov/facilities/ma/boston. 2 pm. Free. The National Archives Northeast Region, which houses archived genealogical records dating from 1789-1970, hosts an open forum at which a panel of National Archives staff will be available to answer genealogical questions and aid in searches.

Homosexuality and Civilization
Cambridge Forum, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-495-2727). www.cambridgeforum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. Free. **Louis Crompton**, emeritus professor of English at the University of Nebraska and author of *Homosexuality and Civilization*, discusses how major civilizations have treated gay men and women throughout history.

THURSDAY, MARCH 18

The Barbary War: The United States' First War Against Terrorism?
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Orange or Blue Lines to State. $5. **Dr. Michael J. Crawford**, historian and head of the early history branch of the Naval Center in Washington, D.C., discusses America's first war against terrorism, which took place more than 200 years ago.

Let's Go Mexico City: Travelers and Tourists 1860-1960
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30 pm. Free. Roxanne Davila, professor of Latin American literature at Brandeis University, discusses the changing photographic representations of Mexico City from 1860-1960.

Red Sox Nation
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 10:30 am. $2. **Jerome Berkeley** offers a look at the history of the Boston Red Sox and the role that 24-hour sports radio, television programs and books have played in the way that Boston fans view their team.

Sargent's "Madame X"
The Copley Society, 158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6-7:30 pm. Free. **Trevor Fairbrother**, Museum of Fine Arts curator and author of *The Sensualist*, a book about artist John Singer Sargent, discusses the scandalous history that has made *Madame X* Sargent's most famous painting.

SATURDAY, MARCH 20

Birding the South Shore
Mass. Audubon, 2000 Main Street, Marshfield (781-837-9400). www.massaudubon.org. 8:30 am-1pm. $22. Naturalists **David Clapp** and **Susan MacCallum** lead an informative bird-watching tour from the Salt Marshes in Scituate to the Cape Cod Canal.

Gardening 101: Planning Your Vegetable Garden
Verrill Farm, 11 Wheeler Road, Concord (978-369-3494). www.verrillfarm.com. 10 am-12 pm. $10. **Steve Verrill** offers tips for planting a successful vegetable garden. Topics include soil preparation, seed selection and planting dos and don'ts.

SUNDAY, MARCH 21

Discovery and the Camera
Sanders Theatre, Harvard University, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free. Natural history filmmaker and conservationist **Sir David Attenborough** discusses his methods for capturing revealing footage of the natural world.

Revisiting the Ancient Olympic Games: Gods, Athletes, and Spectators
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3300). www.mfa.org/calendar. 3 pm. Free. University of Texas at Arlington history professor **Donald Kyle** discusses the origin, setting and historical background of the ancient Olympic games.

Writers on War
John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 2-3:30 pm. Free. Reservations required. The Kennedy Library welcomes **Sean Hemingway**, Ernest Hemingway's grandson, who is also the editor of *Hemingway on War*, a collection of his late grandfather's writings. Hemingway discusses modern war writers.

TUESDAY, MARCH 23

Murray Brown Bag Lecture Series
Murray Research Center Conference Room, Radcliffe Yard, Cambridge (617-495-8140). www.radcliffe.edu/events. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 12-1 pm. Free. **Sumru Erkut** and **Alison Tracy** of the Wellesley Centers for Women address the question of whether a teenage girl's physical activity can be indicative of future sexual decisions.

Women's Healthcare: The Role of Feminist Bioethics and Big League Politics
Epstein Building, Brandeis University, 515 South St., Waltham (781-736-8111). www.brandeis.edu/centers/wsrc. Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 12:30 pm. Free. Pediatric neuropsychologist and Women's Studies Research Center scholar **Cheri Geckler** discusses feminist bioethics in medical education and healthcare.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24

Notions of Landscapes in Glass
Museum of Fine Arts, Remis Auditorium, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 7 pm. $13. **Tina Oldknow**, a leading authority on contemporary glasswork, discusses the presence of landscape and nature in work by artists Toshio Lezumi, Jessica Loughlin, Lino Tagliapietro, Stanislav Libensky and Maya Lin.

Small Business Workshop
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (617-928-0530). www.ci.newton.ma.us. 9:30 am. Free. **Karen Sutherland**, a management counselor with the University of Massachusetts–Boston, addresses the issues that arise when starting up your own business, including how to establish a business plan, manage your finances and create successful marketing techniques.

THURSDAY, MARCH 25

A Town Meeting with Howard Zinn
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-373-5800). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. 8 pm. Free. Historian **Howard Zinn** hosts an interactive town meeting upon the reissue of his book, *A People's History of the United States*

FRIDAY, MARCH 26

Providing Shelter: Meeting the Needs That the Marketplace Doesn't
Boston Architectural Center, Cascieri Hall, 320 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-0180). www.the-bac.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7:30 pm. Free. **Andrew Cuomo**, former secretary of housing and urban development, speaks at the Boston Architectural Center in conjunction with the exhibition *Shelter and Beyond*, a series of models and plans focused on providing shelter to underserved communities.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27

The Passion for Gardening
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 4 pm. Free. Author and horticulturalist **Ken Druse** presents a slide show and lecture on the creative visions behind unique garden spaces.

TUESDAY, MARCH 30

Celebrating America's National Pastime: Baseball
John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 5:30-7 pm. Free. Reservations required. **Charles Gibson**, host of ABC's *Good Morning America*, moderates a conversation with *The New Yorker*'s **Roger Angell** and Red Sox CEO **Larry Lucchino** about America's fixation with baseball.

Where the locals meet to eat

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Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am.; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's new leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 10 pm, $5 for 19 and 20, free for 21+. DJ John Morris spins progressive house for Lust, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $15, 21+. For 20 years, these folks have cranked out Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. Enjoy three separate dance floors plus drag acts. Rotating DJs spin house.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show, and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—pool room and lounge keep the men busy until 2 am.

CityGirl Caffé (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-9 pm; Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-4 pm. This small, laid-back café in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated, draws a mixed gay/hetero crowd for lounging and sandwiches. Brunch is served every weekend.

Club Café and Moonshine Bar (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Wednesdays, join VJ Cliff Cunningham. •On Thursdays and Fridays,VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Cliff Cunningham.

Diesel Café (Daily)
257 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-8717). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Mon.-Thu. 7 am-midnight, Fri., 7 am-1 am, Sat., 8 am-1 am, Sun., 8 am-12 am. All ages. Diesel is a popular place for GLBT people to go for coffee and snacks.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3 pm-2 am; Sat., 1 pm-2 am; Sun., 12 pm-2 am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This quiet, friendly neighborhood bar starts hopping as it gets closer to 2 am.

Fritz Lounge (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 12 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. TV sets show satellite sports broadcasts, and Fritz is home base to a softball league. Brunch is served until 3:30 pm on weekends.

Here at 711 Boylston (Tuesdays)
711 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5502). www.hereboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 9 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Boston's Tuesday night gay dance party features and disco and pop.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.



The Boston Gay Men's Chorus performs the choral opera *Night Passage* at the Cutler Majestic Theatre March 20 and 21

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 pm, $6 weekdays; $8 weekends, 21+. Patrons relax with a friendly crowd and mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •On the second Friday of each month is the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground. The typical lineup features singer Leah Callahan with guest musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Tuesdays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 12 pm-2 am. •Wed.: Game Nite hosted by either Diamond Dunhill or Rainbow Frite, 10 pm, no cover. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition with PJ McWhiskers. •Fri.: Best Night Out with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Machine with DJ Brad Gwynn playing house music. 10 pm-2 am, $7, 21+. •Tue.: Service Industry Night with DJ Afrodite.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 19+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. $12, 19+; $8, 21+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: New Wave Dance Party with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. $12, 19+; $8, 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). www.dykenight.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. 9 pm-2 am. $5, 21+. On Thursday nights, the Midway hosts Kristen Porter's Dyke Night, with rotating DJs, pool and dancing.

Milky Way Lounge (Sundays)
401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+. Candyland night is for gay men and women, transgendered persons and their allies. Live entertainment includes Fireballs Drag Bingo, spoken-word events and jazz. A dance party hosted by resident DJ Jamila caps off the evening. •Every Sunday there is free bowling with dinner. On the last Sunday of every month, the Milky Way presents the all-women Amazon Poetry Slam, a popular lesbian event. 8 pm, 7:30 pm sign-up, $7.

Night Games (Fridays)
Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000). www.circuitgirl.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan. 10 pm, $10, 21+. Resident DJ Kris Kono pumps the dance tunes at Circuit Girl's Anything Goes night.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Thu.: Fire and Ice with DJ Dan Leavey. •Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music. •Mon.: Pool tournament and pizza. •Tue: DJ Scott Thinsdale.

Rise (Saturday)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. Private, members-only club, predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays features resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night, and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing in this hip restaurant/lounge.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music pumps, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Vapor (Wednesdays-Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-422-0862). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adilson. 19+. •Thu.: The Music Factory with DJ Pauli Paul and DJ Ron Stele spinning hip-hop, reggae and funk. $5 before 11, $2 after 11, 21+. •Fri.: Inner Circle. $10, 21+. •Sat.: Evolution with DJ Jay Ine. •Sun.: T-Dance party with DJ Danae grooving to local, tribal, and house while DJ Niterain spins classic oldies. 21+.

Books

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). www.calamusbooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-7 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. Boston's bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered people carries fiction, erotica and titles by gay and feminist activists.

Center for New Words
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). MBTA; Red Line to Harvard. www.centerfornewwords.com. Cambridge's center for women's writing and ideas hosts open mikes and author events.

We Think the World of You
540 Tremont St., Boston (617-574-5000). www.wethinktheworldofyou.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This community-centered gay and lesbian bookstore stocks literature, art books, DVDs and videos.

Shows & Events

Advanced Dance Class
First Church of Jamaica Plain, 6 Elliot St., Jamaica Plain (617-522-2216). www.lcfd.org/jp. March 27 2-5:30 pm. $8. Experienced dancers can dance along with the Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers, featuring caller Chris Riccioti. A potluck supper follows from 5:30-7 pm.

Alternative Insemination Orientation
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street Boston,(617-927-6243). www.fenwayhealth.org MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. March 18, 6:30-9 pm $50 per couple, preregistration required. The Fenway Community Health Center offers an introduction to alternative insemination and to the center's own alternative insemination program.

Contra Dancing with Rick Mohr
First Church of Jamaica Plain, 6 Elliot St., Jamaica Plain (617-522-2216). www.lcfd.org/jp. March 27 7:30-11 pm. $8. Learn to dance with the Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers, featuring caller Rick Mohr and music by David Titus and Bruce Rosen.

Homosexuality and Civilization
Cambridge Forum, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617 495-2727). www.cambridgeforum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. Free. Louis Crompton, emeritus professor of English at the University of Nebraska and author of *Homosexuality and Civilization*, discusses how major civilizations have treated gay men and women throughout history.

Night Passage
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (617 424-8900). www.bgmc.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. March 20, 8 pm; March 21, 2 pm. $12-44
Reuben M. Reynolds directs the Boston Gay Men's Chorus in Robert Moran's choral opera about the 60 gay men who fled England on the eve of Oscar Wilde's arrest in 1895. The program also includes English folk songs by Benjamin Britten and the parody *A Gay Person's Guide to Gilbert and Sullivan.*

Open Mike Drag King Show
Milky Way, 405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (781 648-0722). www.djdee.com/babes. March 21, 8 pm $8. Babes in Drag Land presents a show featuring local talent and the music of DJ Dee. Performers include drag kings and "femme goddesses." Everyone is invited to partake in the dance party following the show.

Poetry Jam
Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617 547-0759). www.poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. March 21,. 7:30 pm. Free. Lani Radach, three-time Amazon Super Slam Champion and Cambridge Poetry Award nominee for Best Slam Female and Humorous Female, is the night's featured poet.

Ongoing

Atención Latina Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (800-834-3242). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. FCH collaborates with the Elizabeth Stone House to provide this safe, confidential space to discuss healthy relationships, domestic violence and other issues.

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wednesdays, 6-9 pm. The Boston Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered and Questioning Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6032). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 7 pm. This group meets the second Tuesday of every month for a discussion with bisexual and bi-curious men.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tuesday of the month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

BOSS
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 6-8 pm. This group for gay and bisexual men of color meets the last Thursday of each month to discuss culture, lifestyle, creativity and health.

Boston Bay Blades
www.bayblades.org/boston. All are welcome to join this competitive, recreational group of rowers and scullers.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers
First Church of Jamaica Plain, corner of Centre and Eliot streets, Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org. Every Wed., 7:30 pm, $8. Square-dancing and English country dancing lessons are available for lesbians, gays, bisexuals and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-424-8990). www.bgbl.com. The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm, Fri, 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people, ages 13-25.

Boston Ironsides Rugby Football Club
Moakley Field, South Boston (617-524-5814). MBTA: Red Line to JFK. Rugby players of any level, age, race and orientation are welcome to play.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. www.lesbianavengers.org. Thu., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. MBTA: Orange Line to Green St. Wednesdays, 7 pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
(617-417-0876). Third Saturday of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for interested parents and their partners. For info, e-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-9595). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm, free. An informal group for people who think they may be bisexual or attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning People
(617-256-8693). This group welcomes those who want to discuss the challenges and the joys of coming out. It meets Thursday nights, 7-8:30 pm, in Cambridge.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area support, information, and social group for people assigned female at birth who feel that is not an accurate or complete description of their gender. Part of the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group meets monthly. Email CompassFTM@usa.com for details.

Controversy Thursday
Matrix (B Room), 275 Tremont St. (lower level of Roxyplex), Boston (617-542-4077). Certain Thursdays (call for details), $8, no sneakers. This gay and bi dance party features DJ John Morris at 10 pm.

Dagger
(617-621-6090). The Theater Offensive's guerrilla theater group, Dagger, gathers on Wednesdays from 6-9 pm to create performances representing women's perspectives. For more information, e-mail dagger@theatreoffensive.org.

The Down Low
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Last Friday of the month. 7-9 pm. A discussion group for gay and bisexual men of color to address heritage, lifestyle, culture and health.

East Coast Wrestling Club
(401-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www.eastcoastwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay male wrestlers has more than 160 members.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional women 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophisticated to get together with like-minded women for conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Explore Gender in a Safe Place
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. An ongoing support group for people born into female bodies or who have grown up being viewed as biologically female.

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Saturday mornings. Join Boston's GLBT Flag Football League for a casual spring season, followed by a formal fall season. All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). Sat., 10 am. All are welcome to join this running club.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
(617-267-9001 or 888-340-4528). Mon.-Fri., 6-11 pm; Sat. and Sun., 5-10 pm. This toll-free hotline is confidential and provides support for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning callers.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church in Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Professionals Building Community
(617-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to join this networking organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered professionals.

Gaymes Group
(508-339-4250). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians. Members get together on a regular basis to play board, card and parlor games.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. $5-10. An open mike night open to new performers, this queer-positive, dyke-positive, bi-positive and trans-positive spoken word event meets the second Thursday of each month, 7:30pm.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Biological males meet on Monday evenings. The groups are moderated by psychologist Randi Kaufman.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday from 10:30 am-12 pm.

Girlz 2 Girlz
(617-482-1078, ext. 277). This mentoring program for girls aged 13-19 who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered or questioning meets the second and fourth Friday of each month, 6-8 pm. Contact Jayms Battaglia.

GLBT Seniors
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6272). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mondays. Support group for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered seniors ages 60 and over.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Anonymous HIV testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Laffan
This social and networking group for women includes single women, couples and parents interested in art, cultural events, outdoor and sporting activities, intellectual and social pursuits, public service and travel. Members receive a weekly email calendar of events. For info, e-mail Laffan_Boston2004@yahoo.com.

LGBT Considering Parenting Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. A short-term (eight-week) group for LGBT persons who are considering becoming parents. Sliding fee scale available. Call for information.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue., Wed. and Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

Meow Boston
groups.yahoo.com/group/Meow_Boston. This social group caters to feminine bisexual women and lesbians in the Boston community. For women 21+.

The Network/La Red
(617-427-7233). The Network is a support group working to end abuse in lesbian, bisexual women's and transgender communities. Email info@the networklared.org for more information.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

Peer Listening Line
(800-399-7337). Trained GLBT volunteers provide confidential information, referrals and support.

The Rainbow Cafe
rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social group for activist, academic, intellectual or artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. Email somoslatinos lgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Support Group for HIV-Negative Gay and Bisexual Men
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-967-6231). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. First three Tuesdays of each month, 6-8 pm. Discuss new safe-sex practices and strategies for managing risk and communicating with sexual partners.

Support Group for Lesbians with Cancer
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed. evenings, once a month. Free. For those who want to discuss the impact of this disease on their lives.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Street. First Saturday of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing, $8. Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. WWB is a social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s. It meets the first Thursday of every month.

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body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Body, Mind, Spirit Expo
Sheraton Ferncroft, 50 Ferncroft Road, Danvers. www.myholisticnetwork.com. March 28, 10 am-5 pm. Meet local holistic health and metaphysical practitioners from a variety of disciplines. The expo also features hands-on demonstrations and free samples and treatments.

Drum and Dance Saturday
Earth Drum Council, First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (978-371-2502). www.earthdrum.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. March 19, 8-11:30 pm. $6. Bring your stomping feet, clapping hands, drums, spoons and tambourines for this day of dance and percussion.

Healing Arts Festival
Greater Boston Church of Spiritualism, Masonic Center, 32 Church St., Watertown (617-923-4334). www.greaterbostonchurchofspiritualism.com. March 27, 11 am-3 pm. Holistic healers demonstrate acupuncture, reiki energy healing, shiatsu massage, psychic readings and more.

Reiki Conference and Expo
Holiday Inn, 242 Adams Place, Boxborough. www.cgnaturalhealth.com. April 2-3. Join others interested in reiki energy healing at this annual community gathering, which features lectures, seminars, healing treatments and musical performances.

Lectures

Cathedrals, Crop Circles and Sacred Spaces: The Energy Connection
Theosophical Society in Boston, 21 Maple Street, Arlington (781-648-0101). www.tsboston.org. March 27, 7:30 pm. $5. Freddy Silva is an international lecturer who has appeared in documentaries for the History Channel and Discovery Channel. His two-hour slide lecture explores the mystery of sacred spaces and the phenomenon of crop circles.

Understanding the Science of Acupuncture
New England School of Acupuncture, 40 Belmont St., Watertown (617-926-1788 ext. 5). www.nesa.edu. March 20, 10 am-5 pm. $100. Learn the various scientific theories behind acupuncture, including neuro-physiological mechanisms and nonmolecular explanations that use theories from modern physics.

Classes

Aikido Beginner Workshop
Shobu Aikido of Boston, 217 California St, Newton (617-332-9899). www.shobu.org. March 29, 7 pm. $150. Please preregister. Sensei William Gleason teaches a six-week seminar designed to introduce beginners to Aikido, a Japanese martial art that addresses conflict through "blending" rather than direct confrontation.

Clinical Training in Mind/Body Medicine
Harvard Medical School Department of Continuing Education, Boston (617-384-8600). www.med.harvard.edu/conted or www.mbmi.org. March 21-25. Call for price. This course provides instruction in the self-care elements of holistic medicine.

Deepen Your Yoga Practice with Pranayama
Back Bay Yoga Studio, 1112 Boylston St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-375-0785). www.backbayyoga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center. March 29, 9 am-5 pm. $85. Pranayama yoga is considered the level beyond asana yoga in the progression to meditation and enlightenment. This workshop explores ancient texts and teaches participants how basic pranayama techniques can be applied to enrich asana practice. All levels welcome.



Master Wang Haijun presents two local tai chi workshops.

Giving Too Much
Amethyst Conference Center, 259 Elm St., Somerville. (617-661-3414). www.mfourman.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. March 20, 11 am-5 pm. $65. Please preregister. In this workshop, participants learn how to evaluate their own needs to allow them to help others without feeling burdened.

Lesser Kan and Li Meditation
The Healing Tao Center of Boston, 440 Somerville Ave., 2nd floor, Somerville (617-628-6570). www.bostonhealingtao.com. March 21, 12:30-5:30 pm. $90. Lesser Kan and Li, the "water and fire" meditation, is the core of Taoist internal alchemy philosophy. This style of meditation combines yin and yang with the goal of developing and nourishing one's chi, or life force energy.

Master Wang Haijun: Chen Style Tai Chi
Asian Culture Center, 368 West Cummings Park, Woburn. March 24, 6:15-9 pm. $50. Also: MacDuffie School, 1 Ames Hill Dr., Springfield. March 27-28, 9:30 am-4:30 pm. $125 one day, $195 both days. (860-836-1068). www.wanghaijun.com. Master Wang, an expert in tai chi and martial arts theory, teaches techniques including sword, cannon fist and Chen Zhenglei's 18 Essential Movements form.

Natural Approaches to Digestive Health
The Boston School of Herbal Studies,12 Pelham Terrace, Arlington (781-646-6319). www.bostonherbalstudies.com. March 20, 2-4:30 pm. $25. Find out which foods might help alleviate specific digestive problems.

Psychic Development Workshop
Ross Miller, 1075 Washington St., Newton (617-527-3583). www.themysticway.com. March 27, 10am-5pm. Call for price and to register. Psychic and healer Ross Miller discusses how to identify guardian angels and spirit guides and receive their guidance. Participants also try to feel their aura, rediscover past lives, give psychic readings to others and more.

Restorative Yoga
Art and Soul, 91 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-661-7376). www.artsoulyoga.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. March 21, 2-4:30 pm. $25. This workshop is aimed at people who have been experiencing stress, fatigue, sickness or problems with sleep.

Rid Your Body of Toxins, Lose Weight, and Get Healthy
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 90 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010) www.circlesofwisdom.com. March 25, 7:15-9:15 pm. $30. This workshop explains how detoxifying the body can help improve health and energy.

You Go Girl: Sex Tips for Gals!
Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, 318 Harvard St., Suite 32, Arcade Bldg., Brookline (617-731-2626). www.grandopening.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. March 31, 7:30-9:30pm. $34. Grand Opening owner Kim Airs shares tricks to try on a man for increasing pleasure and fun. Open to women only.

Ongoing

Breathwork
Back Bay Yoga Studio, 1112 Boylston St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-375-0785). www.backbayyoga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center. Sun., 7-8:30 pm. $10 suggested donation. Breathwork facilitator and yoga teacher David Vendetti leads this class designed to help participants find peace through simple breathing techniques.

Personal Protection for Adults
Brookline Community Center for the Arts, 14 Green St., Brookline (781-405-1248). www.busseystyle.com. MBTA Green C Line to Coolidge Corner. Wed., 8-9:30 pm or Sun., 1-2:30 pm. This class teaches adults the Bussey style of self defense. Learn practical moves quickly in a hands-on workout.

Vinyasa Flow Yoga
CasaNia: A Home for Every Body, 46 Porter Rd., Cambridge (617-491-5144). www.casania.com. MBTA: Red Line Porter. $15, drop-in. Mon. and Thu., 8-9:30 am. Tue., 7:30-9 am. This style of yoga features a series of flowing postures linked by the breath to detoxify, stretch and strengthen the body, and build life force energy.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

Boston Bruins
• FleetCenter, Boston
Tickets: 617-931-2000
March 18, 7:30 pm vs. Minnesota Wild
March 20, 12 pm vs. Tampa Bay Lightning
March 23, 7 pm vs. Ottawa Senators
March 25, 7 pm vs. Toronto Maple Leafs
March 27, 7 pm vs. Montreal Canadiens

Boston Celtics
• FleetCenter, Boston
Tickets: 800-462-2849
March 17, 7 pm vs. Denver Nuggets
March 26, 8 pm vs. New Jersey Nets
March 28, 6:30 pm vs. Philadelphia '76ers

Events

BSSC Stowe Ski Trip
Transportation leaves Newton at 5:30 pm and Methuen at 6:30 pm (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. March 26-28. $309 members; $339 nonmembers. This ski trip to Stowe, Vt., with the Boston Ski and Sports Club includes transportation, two nights of lodging, two breakfasts, Saturday night dinner and a two-day lift pass.

To Play

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

BSSC Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Brookline and Dedham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers amateur Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

FENCING

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLOOR HOCKEY

BSSC Coed Floor Hockey
Leagues are held in Newton, North Reading and Brighton (617-789-4070, ext. 238). www.bssc.com. All levels, individuals and teams are welcome.

FOOTBALL

BSSC Coed Indoor Flag Football
Games are played in Revere and Tewksbury. (617-789-4070, ext. 242). Sign up individually or with a group of friends.

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, then consider joining these self-proclaimed "serious drinkers with a running problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Run
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Thu., 7 pm. Weekly runs.

VFW Logan Post 3.223-Miler
VFW James Logan Post, 1192 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org/BAEvents/Logan. Thu., 7:10 pm. Weekly runs followed by pizza and Harpoon beer.

SKATING

Bay State Skating School
Various area MDC rinks (781-890-8480). www.baystateskatingschool.org. Check Web site for schedules. $108.50 for a seven-week class. Skating classes for adults and children teach the fundamentals using either figure skates or hockey skates.

SOCCER

BSSC Indoor Soccer
(617-789-4070). Teams forming now. Games played in Charlestown, Cambridge, Brighton, Reading and Canton. Individuals and teams are welcome.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed teams forming in Cambridge, Watertown, Brookline and Newton. Teams and individuals are welcome to set and spike their way to glory.

WOMEN'S FLAG FOOTBALL

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Saturday mornings. Teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-868-8379). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels. Weekly practices held year-round.



Patrice Bergeron and the Bruins battle the Canadiens at the FleetCenter March 27.

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Borders Books and Music
Cambridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Sat., 12 pm. Staff members read from new and classic storybooks.

Harvard Coop
1400 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-499-200). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue. and Sat., 11 am. Staff members read stories.

Kids Variety Show
Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-738-6533). www.coolidge.kidsshow.info. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Sat., 10:30 am. $10, $8 children. •March 20: Circus clowns Bucky and Gigi entertain with comedy, magic and daring feats. •March 27: Behind the Mask Theatre showcases songs, dance and puppetry.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50. Reservations recommended. March 17 and 18, 10:30 am, ages 3-6: Deborah Costine presents *Three Pigs and Other Tales* with shadow puppets. •March 20 and 21, 1 and 3 pm, ages 5-12: Larry Hunt uses masks and puppets to illustrate the similarities between animals and humans in *Critters and Creatures*. •March 27 and 28, 10:30 am, ages 4-8: The *Peter Rabbit* tales are brought to life with decorative scenery and 19th-century costumes.

Things to Do

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-6855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8 adults/$7 children. •Kids can mix hip-hop tunes and experience jazz and rock through the hands-on exhibits of *Making America's Music: Rhythm, Roots & Rhyme*. •*Five Friends from Japan: Children in Japan Today* features interactive lessons about Japanese writing, attire and music. •March 7, 10 am-4 pm: The museum hosts its annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration with Celtic music, dancing and storytelling. •March 19, 3:30 pm: Spring Family Overnight. The museum invites children for a sleepover party with live cultural performances and creative workshops. •March 20, 11 am-2 pm: Animals from the Franklin Park Zoo visit the museum for Critter Day. •March 20, 12:30 and 1:30 pm: Kids participate in a special Kid Stage performance in American Sign Language. •March 28: The Boston-Kyoto Sister City Celebration is an all-day festival featuring children from Kodomo Kobo playing taiko drums and leading mini-workshops.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-496-8204). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. $7.50, $5 children. •Saturdays, 9 am (ongoing), $35: Saturday Scholars gives children the opportunity to learn more about their world through hands-on activities. •March 20, 9 am-12 pm, grades 2 and 3: In Raptors, Past and Present, children meet animals that catch food with their feet.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. $5, $1 for children (free admission the third Sunday of every month). •*Holography, the Light Fantastic*. The MIT Museum displays the largest collection of holograms in the world and describes the artistic and scientific facets of the medium. •*Robots and Beyond*. The exhibit offers a look behind the scenes of MIT's artificial intelligence research labs.

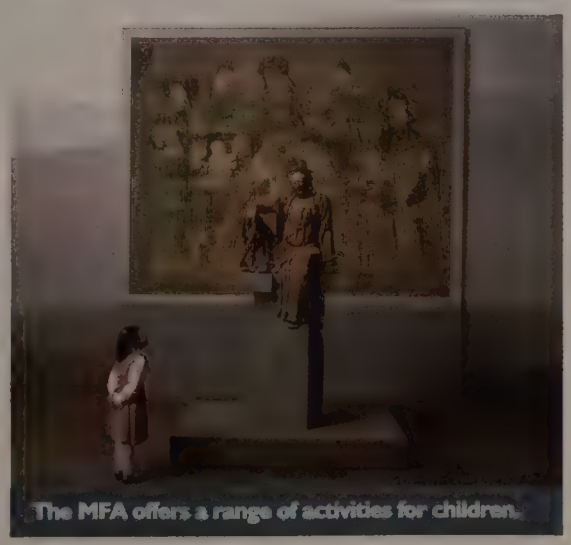
Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. $15. Free for children 17 and under. •March 20, 10:30 am, ages 6 and older: *Making Music, Making Friends* is a collection of five short films about musical animals including fiddling frogs and piano-playing sharks. •Mon.-Fri., 3:30-4:45 pm, ages 6-12: The Children's Room. Children can do interactive projects related to MFA exhibitions. •Sat., 11:30 am, 12:30 pm and 1:30 pm: Art Alive offers a range of cultural activities and events for children. Regular programs include Books Bring Art Alive, which highlights children's literature, the museum's exhibitions and collections, and hands-on art projects, and includes theatrical interpretations of art works by the Underground Railway Theater's Art InterACTions. •Wednesdays, 4:30-6:30 pm: Teen-to-Teen Art Talks. Adolescent art aficionados discuss and create art.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $10 children. •*Making Models* is a hands-on exhibit that demonstrates how models help people to understand complex ideas and phenomena. The exhibit includes a model of Mount Everest, a wave tank and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •Sat. and Sun., 11 am-12 pm: The museum's Science Theater Program offers *Animals and Stories Alive!*, featuring professional storytellers who combine folk tales and myths with visits from live animals. •Fri., 8:30-10 pm (weather permitting). Gilliland Observatory: Use the observatory's two telescopes to find the moon, stars, constellations, and planets. •Mugar Omni Theatre, check www.mos.org for show times, $8.50, $6.50 children: *India: Kingdom of the Tiger* (through May 28) and *Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West* (through June) •*Theater of Electricity:* Daily at 12 and 2 pm. The Van de Graaff generator provides a risk-free lightning show.

Museum of Transportation
Larz Anderson Park, 15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). www.mot.org. Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5. •March 20, 1 pm: Drive into History pairs a story about one child's ride through the American landscape with an exhibit of automobile artifacts from the 1920s and 1930s.

National Heritage Museum
33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. The museum offers events for families in conjunction with the exhibit *Lunch Box Memories*. •March 18, 10:30 am, ages 4 and under, $3: What's in the Box? Children decorate their own lunch boxes while listening to stories about lunch. •March 20. 1-4 pm, $5 (per family): The Who's on Your Box? program lets families view the exhibit and create their own lunch boxes, crazy straws and other lunch-related accessories. $5 per family. •March 21, 2 pm: The Tap Your Feet and Sing Along family concert features the Family Folk Chorale singing classic songs by Elvis, Bob Dylan and the Beatles.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us/Library. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. •March 19 and 26, 10:30 am: Preschool Films •March 18 and 25, 7 pm: Pajama Storytime for children ages 4 and older. •March 22, 4:30 pm, ages 5 and older (registration required): Persian New Year. Listen to stories, make arts and crafts, and sample food in honor of the Iranian holiday. •March 23, 4 pm, ages 5 and older (registration required): Sydelle Pearl reads from her book *Elijah's Tears: Stories for the Jewish Holidays*. •March 25, 4:15 pm, ages 7 and older (registration required): The *Fun with Folktales* series introduces children to creative aspects of the wind as they create "windy" projects. •March 30, 4 pm, ages 6 and older (registration required): Science Tuesday is a science workshop on minerals.


The MFA offers a range of activities for children.

around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wednesdays (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm, Fri., 10 am-9 pm; June-Aug., daily, 10 am-5 pm, Fri. until 9 pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (617-338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park Street. Mon.-Sun., 9:30 am-6 pm. $7.50.

Forest Hills Cemetery
95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-524-0128). www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. Daily, 7:30 am-sundown. Free.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-2 pm. Free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-8 pm.


The Old State House

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-739-1200). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10 am-4 pm. $5, $3 students, seniors.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $10 seniors and children.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5, $3 children.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1, Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, $8.95 children.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (617-635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. Tours start at 9 am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. $3.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10 am-4 pm; weekends, 10 am-5 pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $6, $4 seniors.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8 am-6 pm. $3.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). Museum open daily, 10 am-5 pm. Winter ship hours: Thu.-Sun., 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-450-1235). Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers
(617-956-0281). *www.bbmb.org.* Be a big brother.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). *www.bigsister.org.* Befriend a girl.

Boston Cares
(617-263-2273). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). Tutor Boston students (preschool through high school) in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). *www.csvinc.org.* Volunteers/tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). *www.crarc.org.* Provide support to children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-423-9575). Tutor students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
livmates@rcn.com. Spend your lunch hour reading at an elementary school in Cambridge or Somerville.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). Volunteers needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-585-7521). *www.thehome.org.* Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Play with homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). Share your time with an elderly individual, mentor children or teach an adult to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Association for the Blind
(800-852-3029). Read or shop with a blind person.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(617-536-3557). Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

Parental Stress Line
(617-528-5800). Telephone counselors needed.

Pine Street Inn
(617-521-7626). Serve breakfast to homeless guests.

Project Place
(617-262-3740). Become a mentor or tutor to homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111). Record textbooks in digital formats.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteers needed at this battered-women's agency.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room and groceries program at this homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young professionals.

StandUp for Kids
(800-365-4543). Help rescue homeless children.

VNA Care Network
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

WGBH
(617-300-5715). Volunteers needed to assist with pledge drives, special events and office support for this PBS TV and radio station.



improperimpersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see. (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity.) Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

7½ Club

We are seven and a half single women (the half is single half the time). While discussing why not one of us has found a man who isn't married or emotionally available, we came up with the 7½ Club. What is it? It is a group of seven and a half women who are in search of someone dateable. Since we haven't succeeded in our search solely, we are joining forces to find some dateable men! We range from all ethnicities and backgrounds, so there is a wide variety to choose from. From administrative geniuses to marketing gurus we are all different but in search of the same thing. Our first official appearance will be Thursday, April 15th, right after work at Aqua. We will be easy to find since we'll be dressed in our "official 7½ Club" shirts. As we sip martinis and decide on our next appearance location, we will be awaiting any curious bystanders. Come talk with us, have a drink. Your chances are at least one in 7½...

—The 7½ Club

Angela

Guess who's writing this message to you? It's Charlie. It has been so long since the very last day we saw each other, which happened to be my last day at the mail room at your dorm. That is close to being five years ago. I just thought I would say hi. I feel silly, but if you see this, e-mail me.

—Peace2021@aol.com

K.D.

Three chance meetings in a month (at the office, on the Orange Line and at Brandy Pete's) turned into five years of planned ones (Mount Washington Hotel, Duval Street, the Vineyard, Buckingham Palace, Eiffel Tower, Times Square, Grand Cayman, etc.). Then it all fell apart. We're both very different now, but somehow I can't shake all that the future might have in store for us and all the places and experiences that await us. Fate struck three times, let's control our fate from now on. The question is whether this is the chance meeting that bridges our past with all that is still to come.

—C.P.

My Own Bad Luck

That's what I created on Friday the 13th. As soon as I walked into Flat Top Johnny's, I spotted you playing pool with your friends and was smitten. A co-worker mentioned that he caught you giving me a long look. Skeptical, I glanced up, and sure enough, our eyes locked. You have blond hair, a beautiful smile and were wearing a light green sweater and dark jeans. I have brown hair and was sporting a gray turtleneck with two blue stripes across the chest. Unfortunately, I had to leave and couldn't figure out a way to say hi without seeming inappropriately forward. Let's give those furtive glances the fitting follow-through they deserve.

—beantownarch@yahoo.com

Symphony Whole Foods

It was the eve of Friday the 13th. We were, according to you, two "silly" girls, minding our own business and perusing the frozen foods section for a snack. You, Mr. Harassment, with your female friend and food selections in tow, decided to take it below the belt. Granted, we were carrying 44 rolls of toilet paper (twofers on 24 packs at CVS), but even still, we deserved dignity and privacy. We did not need you to point out our 44 rolls. Furthermore, we did not need you to inquire the fiber content of the brownies we were carrying. And it didn't stop there. You continued with a barrage of nonsensical comments. Never have we been so embarrassed, and we don't embarrass easily! We love Whole Foods and their their worldly food selections; however, you are one exotic flavor that left us feeling more than a little bit nauseous! Excuse us while we go put those 44 rolls to use!

—M.H and J.V.

HeelsFan

Although you hate to admit that we came to know each other by spending $25.95 on a Match.com subscription, it was the best $25.95 you ever spent, and I will forever be thankful that I replied to your message. The past two years have been an adventure; between the long distance, the "baggage" and the countless other hurdles we faced, we are finally on that road to "forever." I hope that we'll be in our rocking chairs years from now, still arguing over UConn and UNC basketball games. Two years down, hopefully 70 more to go! Happy Anniversary...I love you.

—ErinFlynn1979

Lost Starbucks Valentines

It was around 6 pm on Valentine's Day. I was waiting to pick up my Grande Nonfat Caramel Macchiato at the Copley Place Starbucks, and when my drink was called up we both reached for it at the same time. You were two people ahead of me in line, and I didn't realize we ordered the same drink. You were tall with green eyes, dark brown hair down to your neck and clean shaved. Your outfit consisted of black shoes, black pants and a gray shirt underneath a black jacket. You had a European look to you and you spoke with what seemed like an English accent. As we both reached for the drink you pulled away and asked if it was nonfat, and I replied with a smile "Yes, did you get the same drink?" You had the most amazing smile and said "Yes, but you take this one," and as I left I regret not asking you to join me. I am of average height, slim, dark blue eyes, straight dark brown hair with a hint of red down to my shoulders. I was wearing a black skirt, black boots and a white FCUK shirt. If you remember me and want to share a drink, e-mail me.

—starbucksvalentine@yahoo.com

In response to "To the Raging Idiot at Fenway Bread and Circus"

Whoever wrote that Impersonal, I feel your pain! That crazy man stalked me at the Buck a Book at Downtown Crossing, used the same lame-ass lines and accused me of being racist as well. What a loser! Who is this guy? Ladies, beware of the raging idiot, not that his charms would even work on you anyway.

—Feeling like a freak magnet

Tired

I am tired of being used by you. You say we are friends, but that usually means me giving you money. I'm done supporting whatever bad habits you are into. You need to get yourself in rehab and stop begging your friends to give money. You had a decent job and apartment and now you're ruining your life. Maybe if more of us say no you'll get the help you need.

—Boston Bill

A Blu Egg Blu

Our eyes met across a sea of people at a place we weren't supposed to be. Your smile, eyes, or something I found invigorating. The first dinner and the chase back to my place, was the tide in the ocean of our relationship. We covered this country coast to coast, event to event. Your scent, your touch, your presence is intoxicating. You are my drug and I am going through withdrawal. Together we were one, apart I am none. Best friends forever, when did "I love you" lose meaning? You were the water that nurtured my mind, body and soul. At least we'll have the cannoli dance, or one day we'll meet up to do the hanky panky. I pray that one day God puts us back together again. Until then, this egg is blue.

—831 Egg

rockie horoscope

MARCH 17 – 30, 2004

BY ROCKIE GARDINER



ARIES MARCH 20–APRIL 19

Mercury's move into truth-seeking Aries doesn't guarantee that you've become a mental giant, only that you'll try to express yourself more honestly and that you'll take liberties with the language that you normally wouldn't. Writers, freed from their concern about the aftermath, dare to say what they think. This newfound verbal acuity accelerates after your courageous Mars ruler joins the Gemini dialectic imperative on the 20th. Coupled with the Aries new moon, the timing for a brand new project couldn't be better.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

Joy to the world! The happiness and good fortune that you feel are your due are due when your affable Venus ruler and generous Jupiter's trine. Because both "benefics" are in realistic, down-to-earth signs, you won't be tempted to run up enormous bills should you decide to share the bounty you're being blessed with. And share you should. Just be careful that you don't romanticize a situation that hasn't been decided one way or the other. Wishful thinking is just that: wishful. Rational thought doesn't enter this picture.

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

You may think you're simply being realistic and acting like a sane, sensible person. But if you've been depressed for a while—your Mercury ruler is temporarily being dragged down by worrisome Saturn—consider discussing your options with someone you respect. Mercury traveling through fiery Aries suggests that you should be full of piss and vinegar and rarin' to go. But if the impetus (or, if need be, an actual reason) to shake things up at work doesn't come by the new moon on the 20th, see a headhunter.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

Don't be surprised if a client or your employer (especially the Boss Lady) dangles a carrot in front of your nose. This is one of those rare interludes when the Moon Child can do no wrong, when goodies, like manna, seem to float down from heaven. Since you know the favoritism won't last forever, make the most of the opportunities that are dropped on you, especially during the enterprising Aries new-moon cycle. Although it's an annual occurrence, this year you're in far better shape to see things through to their successful conclusion.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

Another joint financial matter could take wing with the Aries new moon on the 20th, so be sure to finish whatever business from the February new moon is still on your plate before it turns sour. Getting rid of stuff you no longer need and feelings that are festering is utterly appropriate, and the right thing to do whenever your sun ruler challenges anal-retentive Pluto. That this round of closet cleaning comes as the solar year ends is a prime example of synchronicity, but for a Leo sun-worshipper, it may also become a religious ritual.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

Set your sights on achieving a purely pleasurable objective, something easy, lusty and luscious that'll enhance your appearance and sweeten your disposition. It might not seem like a major accomplishment, but while lovable Venus favors expansive Jupiter in your sign, it—no matter what "it" turns out to be—can be a very big thing. Certainly big enough to lift you out of the doldrums and ease the anxiety you might have about a work assignment or a physical condition. Now is also a good time to try your luck.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

Like your Virgo neighbors, you're in an excellent position, plus the timing is right, to test your luck. While your Venus ruler receives Jupiter's blessing for St. Patrick's Day, be sure to celebrate whatever windfall you do get, courtesy of a colleague, with friends and loved ones. Unlike Mama Lion Martha Stewart, you won't have to go to court. However, at the Aries full moon, something quite unexpected regarding a partner or co-worker might occur that'll make you question what you thought was a given.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

While you're not directly in line to benefit from the fortunate liaison between lucky Jupiter and loving Venus, your partner is. Stay on the best of terms; you may need a staunch ally and a few creature comforts if your impulsive Mars co-ruler causes trouble when it rubs a family member the wrong way. Mars in dualistic Gemini tends to incite rebellion in the ranks and debates in the dining room. Until they actually occur, why not pursue a physically pleasurable activity you can call your own?

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

It's possible that the rewards due you might not be as massive as you deserve. Nonetheless, try to be gracious when sociable Venus and your magnanimous Jupiter ruler support each other's best intentions. Even if they don't come up to your expectations, good things always flow from this favorable trine. Besides, with spring just around the corner, can a whirlwind love affair be far behind? Perhaps your oldie but goodie main squeeze will get all fired up once passionate Mars enters your Gemini marriage house on the 20th.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

Even a reclusive Goat can benefit from the fortunate connection that beautiful Venus and lucky Jupiter make as they travel through the other earth signs. If your birthday is in December, you could be heading toward a foreign country or flirting madly with one of its natives. If you were born in January, a handsome check to improve your surroundings or to help out a relative may already be in the mail. And while your spirits might not soar very high at the spring equinox, you know something always changes when the seasons change.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

Aren't you the sitting duck? Watch out that you don't get swept away by your vivid imagination and willingness to believe whatever romantic notion is currently passing your way. While irresistible Venus tests gullible Neptune in your sign, take a time-out to count the ways you can lose your head. But if an intelligent Aquarius doesn't mind forfeiting the right to claim "I am a rational human being!" then dive in and relish every sensuous thrill you can experience—and a few you can only imagine. Take notes, draw pictures.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

Read for Aquarius. Once again, the two signs are facing similar situations. Except that Fish rarely claim to be rational beings, nor do you mind diving head first into seductive, escapist romantic experiences. However, and this is merely a warning, an unusual situation could become somewhat dangerous by the end of the month. That's when explosive Uranus in your sign is challenged by an angry and abusive Martian figure. Some find this outburst exciting, some, terrifying. For what it's worth, the aspect is an earthquake indicator.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, *www.rockiehoroscope.com*. Read my daily forecast online at *www.laweekly.com*.

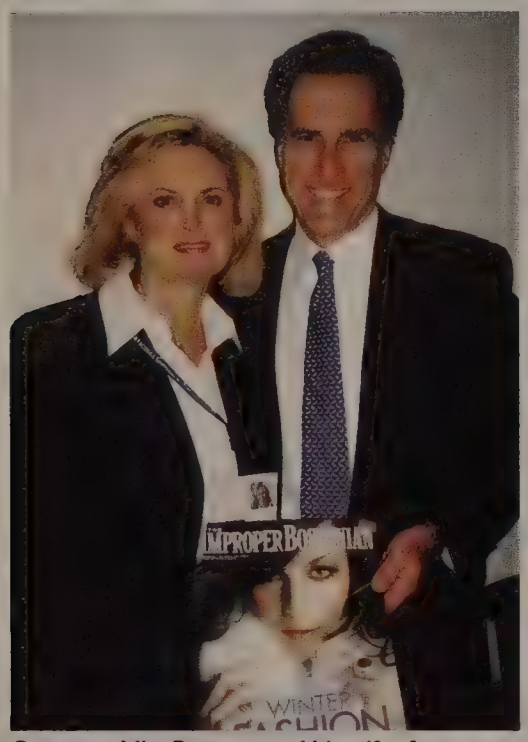




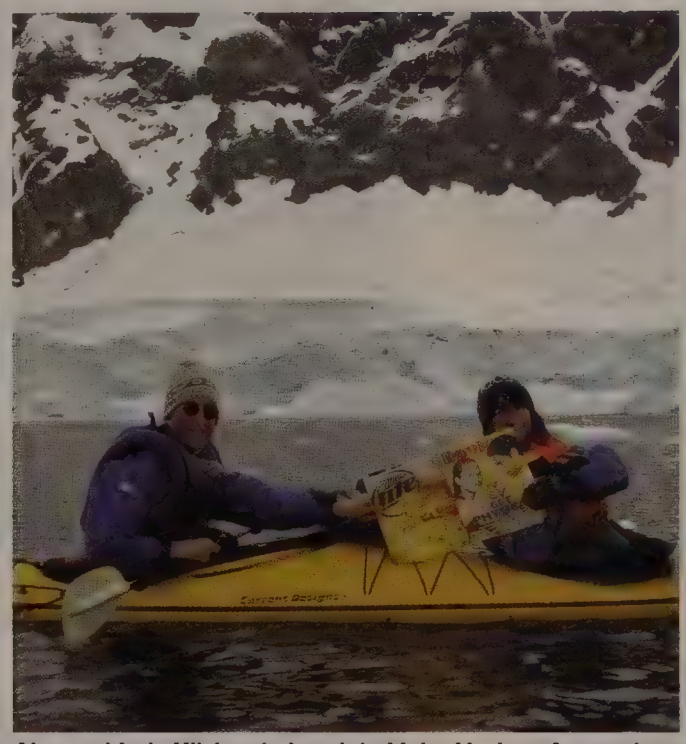
IMPROPER sightings

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Governor Mitt Romney and his wife, Anne, get some IMPROPER winter fashion tips. You heard it here first: Blue ties are the new red ties.



Alan and Judy Klickstein kayak in Neko Harbor, Antarctica. Alan says they made much quicker progress once they decided to sit facing the same direction.



Chuck Ouligian, Edward Guzelian, Aram Ouligian, Andrew Guzelian, Aram Aslanian, Eric Guzelian and Amy Kizirian celebrate the Patriots' win at Super Bowl XXXVIII in Houston's Reliant Stadium.



Ana and Steve Furtado pose with a local water taxi man in St. Lucia. They say the water taxi was fun but would've been faster if he'd worn flippers. Or had a boat.



Abby Garland, Jen Taupier, Emily Case, Amanda Reynolds, Celeste Hopkins and Alexis Sanders practically went to Cuba. Key West, Fla.: All the fun of Cuba with only half the Communism!



Author Christopher Hitchens prepares to follow up a *Vanity Fair* piece on silly New York laws by smoking his IMPROPER indoors.

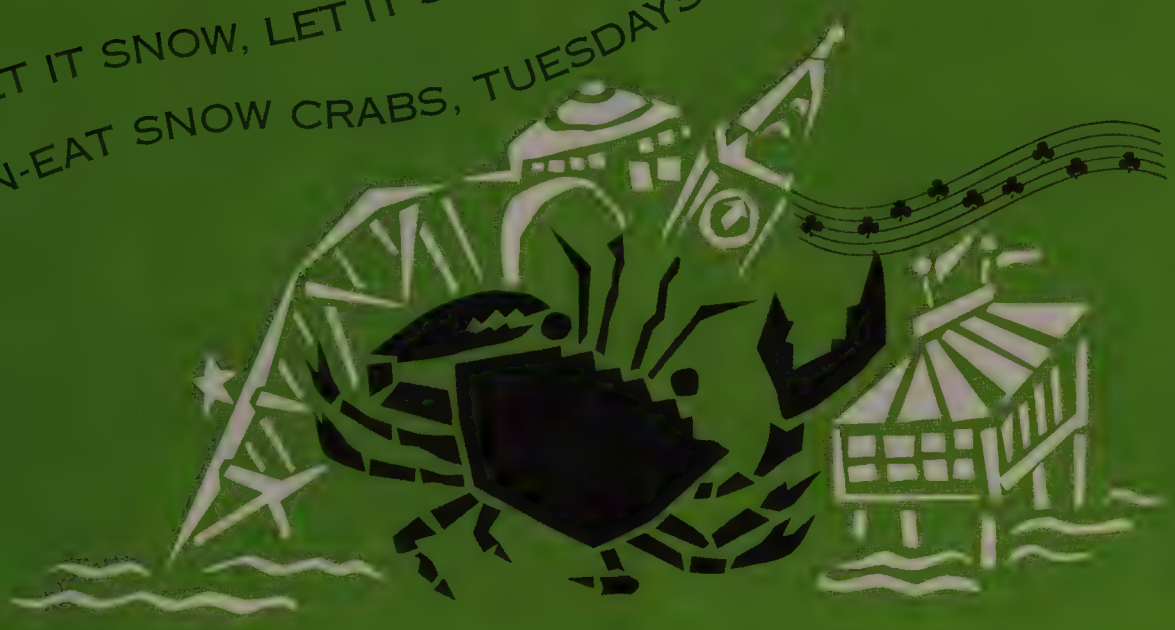
IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Choking down a Spam and cheese sandwich with extra Spam and a Spamshake on the side at Spamarama, held April 3 in Austin, Texas.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
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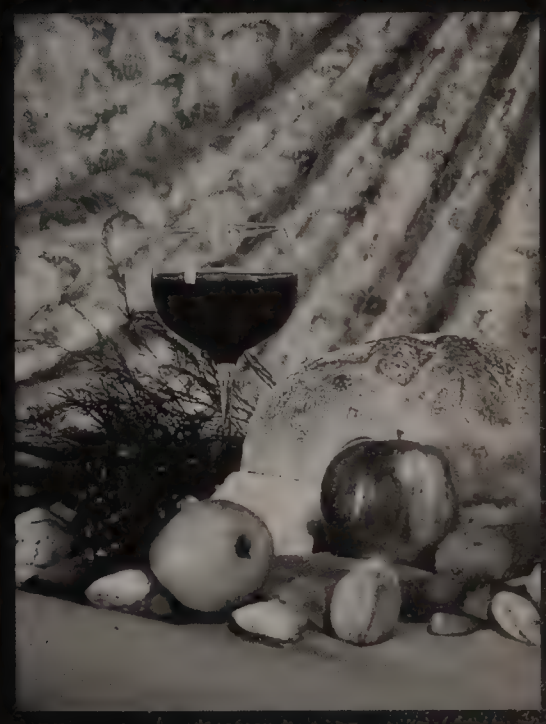
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IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Friday, February 13, **La Boom** held Ambrosia, a body painting and jewelry fashion event, created by **Firefly Promotions**. Jewelry was provided by **Artbeat International**, with body painting by Derek Muccioli and Lucia Bellotti.







1. **Shauna Smith** and **Sarah Leeper**, representatives of Firefly Promotions.
2. **Nancy Ko**, manager of Firefly Promotions, and **Lina Giangregorio**, Firefly promoter.
3. **Lucia Bellotti**, director of Artbeat International (center), with La Boom's dancing divas, **Melissa Trakimas** and **Kristen Gramizo**.

On Sunday, March 7, **The Boston Bruins** held their annual charity auction at the **Royal Sonesta Hotel** in Cambridge. This event was sponsored by **The Improper Bostonian**, and all proceeds from the auction of Bruins memorabilia will benefit The **Boston Bruins Foundation**.







1. **Brian Rolston**, center, and **Nick Boynton**, defense, both of the Bruins.
2. **Ian Moran**, defense, and **Travis Green**, center, both of the Bruins.
3. Children from S.C.O.R.E. Boston, posing with **Mariellen Burns**, spokeswoman for the Boston Police Department. Front row: **Slater Ward, Justin Cole, Maslen Ward**, and **Josh Williams**. Back row: **Ahmad Abdallah, Cedric White, Mariellen Burns** and **Kyle White**.

PHOTOS: LA BOOM, FIREFLY PROMOTIONS; BRUINS AUCTION, MARTHA BROWN

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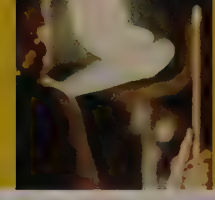
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Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch





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75 Chestnut *75 Chestnut St., Boston, 617-227-2175, www.75chestnut.com.* Providing regional American cuisine served in an intimate setting. Bar opens at 5pm. Dinner served from 5:30pm - 10pm.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled PortabellaPaninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC, V.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2002. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Captain Fishbones **SEAFOOD, STEAKS AND MORE* 353 Cambridge St, Allston 617-783-2300 (formerly the Sports Depot).* Captain Fishbones boasts a reasonably priced menu of fresh seafood, succulent steaks, awesome burgers and a healthy variety of salads and pizza. Meet your friends at a great bar surrounded with five 42" plasma screen TVs. Join us for a free appetizer special Monday thru Friday from 4-6pm. Book your rehearsal dinners today! Full menu from 11:30 A.M. to 12:30 A.M. Sunday Brunch 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.. Plenty of free parking and free valet service in Allston on Friday and Saturday nights. You can visit the Captain in Quincy at 332 Victory Rd, 617-471-3511 www.captainfishbones.com

Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444, Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., South Boston,617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11 am - 2am 7 days a week.

Ned Devine's *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere inthe heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998,1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 0pm. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches. Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Sidney's Grille *20 Sidney St, Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why Bon Appétit magazine says, "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breakfast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus visit www.sidneysgrille.com

Solas *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am 7 days a week.

Sunset Grill & Tap *:130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina** *: 916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

BARS/CLUBS

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Billiards

Big City - pool hall, pizza kitchen, Beer Bar *138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8pm, free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Felt *533 Washington St., Boston, 617-350-5555.* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering sophisticated billiards, New York style lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or for a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere combined with the delicious creative entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Eclectic cuisine by Chef Casey Lloyd.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 10pm. Live DJs 7 nights a week, dancing with Ibiza's DJ Marco, resident DJs DJLittles and Johnny C til 2 am. Join us in our new private VIP room! Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Clubs

Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston, 617-482-7799.* Located in Boston's trendy Theater District, Pravda 116 is a chic bar and club. DJs 5:30pm - 10:30pm keep the energy level high. Bar 5:30pm-2am and dance club 10:30pm - 2am Wednesday-Saturday. Credit cards accepted AE, CB, DC, MC, V.

Stadium – Clubhouse *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Stadium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale nightclub featuring two bars, a hardwood dance floor and parking. An exciting yet relaxed 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety of music and beautiful people crowding the dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights. An ideal place for your next bachelor, bachelorette or birthday party.

Comedy

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

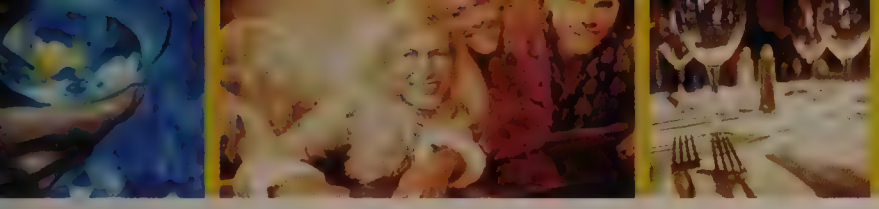
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The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 617-227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston,617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal and martini. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 10pm. Live DJs 7 nights a week, dancing with Ibiza's DJ Marco, and resident DJs DJLittles and Johnny C til 2 am. Join us in our new private VIP room! Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Irish

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 617-742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish



specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston,617-742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 617-523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11 am - 1 am 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

The Green Dragon *11Marshall St., Boston, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11 am - 2 am 7 days a week.

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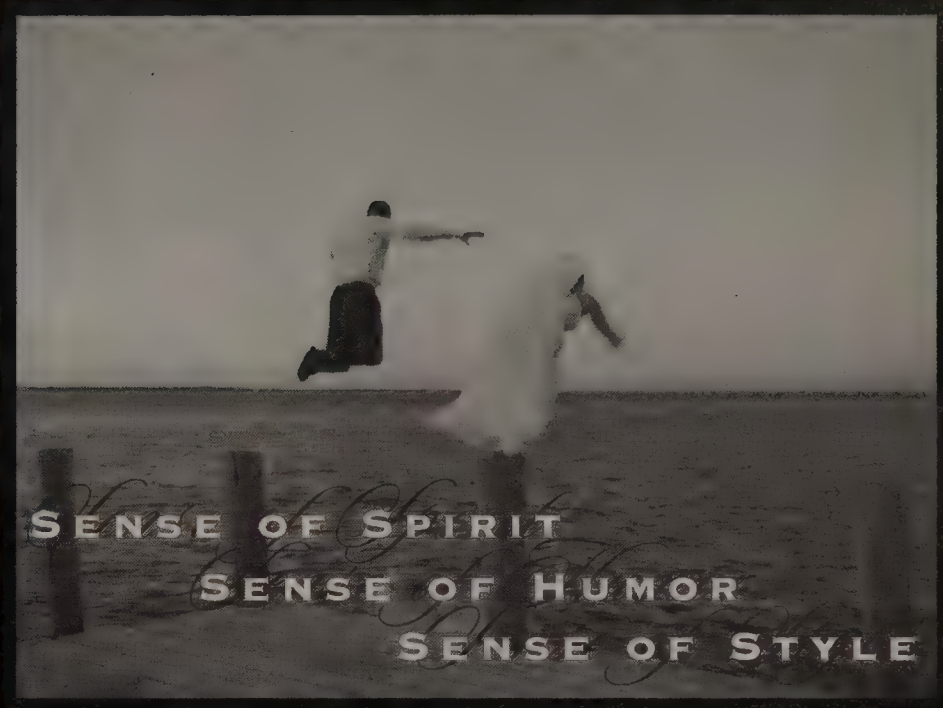
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LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF



Terry Regan, winner of the dubious honor of being mentioned in this column, at the Crystal Ball.

EMPLOYEES OF THE IRS—READ NO FURTHER...

If the bartenders for private functions at the **Four Seasons** had bothered to consult a fortune-teller, they would have known that the **Crystal Ball** was going to be an all-hands-on-deck kind of affair.

A black-tie benefit for the **Steppingstone Foundation**, it attracted 500 bright young things hell-bent on having a good time, among them: philanthropic fun couples **Mike** and **Betsy Danziger** and **Mike** and **Christine Savage**; hip marrieds **Alex** and **Lisa Pierpont**; **Doug** and **Val Fleishman**; and **Tommy** and **Carolyn Loucas**; and smashing young singles **Jed Raymond** and **Terry Regan**.

In between sweating to the tunes of funk masters **Eye to Eye** and imbibing with abandon, guests bid wildly on a silent auction that included such items as first-class jaunts to Hawaii and Venice, which helped raise an estimated $80,000. The astounding sum of $130 came from one of the people mentioned above, who paid for the dubious distinction of being mentioned here in bold-face.

Note to my accountant: Does that qualify as a tax-deductible contribution?

IT'S AN HONOR JUST TO BE INVITED, PART I...

As far as bloated spectacles go, few provide as good an excuse for throwing a black-tie party as the Academy Awards. All that bugle-beaded, histrionic silliness inspires some of us to shimmy into eveningwear and go out carousing, as if the movie business needed our help in congratulating itself.

In Boston, the glitziest Oscars party was the 13th annual **Massachusetts Movie Awards Gala**, held amid the gilded splendor of the **Wang Center**, to raise money for the **Massachusetts Film Bureau**. In addition to live broadcasts of the goings-on in Hollywood, it boasted a sumptuous smorgasbord of food, copious quantities of alcohol and plenty of stars of its own.

A partial list of the glitterati: *Mystic River* actors **Kevin Chapman** and **Tommy Guiry** with Sean Penn's right-hand man, **Tyrel Ventura** (in town visiting his father, wrestler-turned-statesman Jesse, who's following up his stint as Minnesota's governor with a teaching gig at Harvard); producer-screenwriter-and-father-to-be **Jimmy Cummings**, with his magnificent wife, **Jennifer**; car dealer gazillionaire **Ernie Boch, Jr.** (who picked up the tab for the evening); star of the large and small screens **Neal McDonough** (the evening's honoree), with his glamazon bride, **Ruvé**; *Stuck On You* producer **Kris Myer**; acting-clan member **Robert Wahlberg** (representing bros Donnie and Mark); *Melrose Place* hottie **John Enos**; *White Shadow* star **Ken Howard**; and studly Boston Bruins **Hal Gill**, **Mike Knuble**, **P.J. Axelsson** and **Brian Rolston** with their luscious wives.

Everyone partied heartily while paying sporadic attention to the awards, which—surprisingly—didn't offer the evening's most memorable moment. Instead, that came during the live auction, when auctioneer **Bob McDonough** tried to shame all the big spenders in the room into beating Cheers owner **Tom Kershaw**'s high bid on a package that included two round-trip first-class tickets to anywhere that American Airlines flies.

"Hey, Ernie Boch," McDonough shouted, "You can top that!" to which Boch responded apologetically, "Thanks, but I have my own jet."

At the Massachusetts Movie Awards Gala, top: Ken Howard and Kristen Kuliga. Below, from left: Siw Axelsson, Jennifer and Brian Rolston, PJ Axelsson, Megan and Mike Knuble and Ann Gill. Third row from top: Bob and Katie McDonough; John Enos (left) and Robert Wahlberg; Hal Gill. Bottom row: Steven Maler; Ernie Boch Jr. (left) and Neal McDonough; Jimmy and Jennifer Cummings.





















At the Oscar Night America party, clockwise from upper left: Alex Peselman and Sara Berkowitz; Eldene Amilcar; William George and Reese Inman.



IT'S AN HONOR JUST TO BE INVITED, PART II...

Meanwhile, the official **Oscar Night America Party**, a fund-raiser for the breast-cancer charity the **Ellie Fund**, took place amid the subterranean fabulousness of **Saint**.

Before the major awards were announced, the evening had taken on the vaguely louche atmosphere of *Vanity Fair*'s legendary post-Oscars bash, with glamorous-looking couples canoodling on the dimly lit banquettes and celebutantes drinking heavily at the bar.

Present and accounted for: organizer **Zvi Cole**, and the Ellie Fund's founder, **Jeff Popkin**; Fidelity glamazon **Eldene Amilcar**; Newbury Street salon god **William George**; **Dr. Kelly Carden**; Clear Channel panjandrum **Sara Berkowitz**; sudsy babe **Michelle Sullivan** of Sam Adams; supersmoothies **Alex Peselman** and **Josh Fishbein**; snack food executive **Lindsey Nickerson**; PR stud **Chris Haynes**; interior designer and onetime object of Oscar-nominee Alec Baldwin's affection, **Suzanne Logan**; an Austin Powers impersonator pinching people's behinds; and, outside, a red-headed Joan Rivers wannabe interviewing guests as they arrived on the red carpet, while faux paparazzi and autograph seekers crowded the sidewalk.

By the time the Best Picture award rolled around, it was way past everyone's bedtime, and the crowd began to disperse with the dawning realization that tomorrow was Monday, and unlike movie stars, most of us had more to do than return borrowed diamonds to the jeweler and recover from our hangovers. IB

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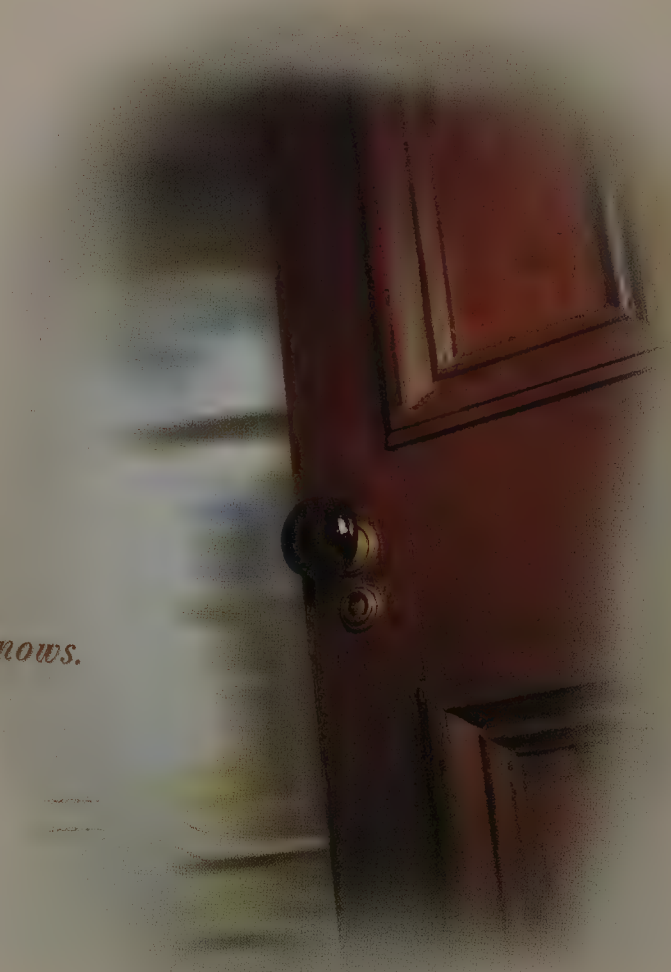
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Photographed for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by
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Hair: **Leon DeMagistris for Leon & Co.;** hair colorist: **Jay Dee Ferrara;** clothes: **available at Louis Boston;** jewelry: **available at Jasmine Sola;** glasses **available at Crate & Barrel**

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN
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LETTERS

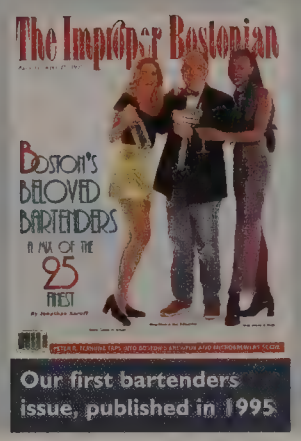
FROM THE EDITOR



TOASTS OF THE TOWN

When the IMPROPER published its first Beloved Bartenders issue, in 1995, the 56-page publication was printed on newsprint stock, and aside from the cover, its pages were largely black-and-white. The IMPROPER has changed and grown a lot since then, but our reverence for the city's most skilled and charming bartenders hasn't waned, and this year we present our 10th annual Boston's Beloved Bartenders issue.

These days, the contest attracts about 1,000 nominations from readers in praise of their favorite drinks slingers. In the winners' circle this year, you'll find pros with decades of experience as well as youngsters who've quickly earned a following. Some of the city's all-stars—like Eddie Doyle of Cheers, who appeared on our cover in 1995—have been elevated to our Most Valuable Bartenders list. Long may they reign.



Our first bartenders issue, published in 1995

In celebration of these and all the men and women whose presence behind the bar makes our lives a little happier, we'll be hosting our annual Bartenders Party on April 26, starting at 6 pm, at the Rack in Faneuil Hall. Stop by to see the mixing contest and toast your favorites.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

THE RIGHT STUFF

As a child of the '80s and teen of the '90s, I appreciated last week's interview and photo spread of Joey McIntyre (March 17). While his good looks may draw people to the cover, the inside fashion spread and interview were even better. The clothes were perfect for him, and the interview was a good update on his life, without going overboard like a bad edition of "Where Are They Now?"

Thanks for a great issue, I look forward to more.

—SABRINA DIFABRITIS
Boston

MORE FROM MEN

I was thrilled to see your issue "for men" (March 3), as it seems like there are an inordinate number of spa and bridal issues, but I was disappointed to find this issue to be soft. I understand that your core contingent in Boston pride themselves in their refined and intellectual ways. This does not mean, though, that we are vying to understand what women desperately need in the bedroom, or how to make better pasta. I grew up in the city of big shoulders, where men are men and women, well, they understand that their men need to spend the weekend at the cabin "sledding" with their boys, or tinkering with their motorcycle (thank you, Michelle). Believe it or not, we actually know how to make our women happy and would have enjoyed an issue dedicated to endeavors a bit more manly. Tell Ezra to keep up the good work—his page is usually the best of the bunch.

—JAY MCBRIDE
Brookline

IN A NASTIER VEIN

I'm happy to hear about men with the same problems as women (Ezra, March 17)! Sorry, life sucks like that. But since I'm a 28-year-old female who started getting my own lovely varicose veins in college, not only can I relate, but it's nice to know I'm not alone out there.

I used to think men would think they were ugly and it would be a reflection on me, but when I thought about getting them "plucked out," somehow they didn't seem too bad. So life is what it is and it's unfair and all, but what are you going to do? At least Ezra has less of a chance at getting more of them because of pregnancy! Thanks for the column. It made me laugh and feel like we should all form a support group.

—RENEE GORDON
Roslindale



AS A CHILD OF THE '80s AND TEEN OF THE '90s, I APPRECIATED LAST WEEK'S INTERVIEW AND PHOTO SPREAD OF JOEY MCINTYRE.

—SABRINA DIFABRITIS
BOSTON

MCINTYRE COVER: JOE GREENE

CONTRIBUTOR



JOE GREENE

Joe Greene, this issue's cover photographer, has been shooting fashion and advertising photography in Boston for the past 20 years. His recent assignments include a Web-based fashion catalog featuring Ferrari-branded apparel, and a pin-up calendar for a local radio station. While advertising assignments have taken Greene around the country, his fine art photographs hang in private homes and public spaces. You can see more of Greene's ASMP award–winning work at www.joegreenephoto.com.

Tell Us What You Think

SEND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR TO: The Improper Bostonian, 142 Berkeley St., Third Floor, Boston, MA 02116. E-mail: letters@improper.com. Fax: 617-859-1446. Letters must be signed; please include your town and phone number. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

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A MODERN TWIST

Gone are the days of the down-and-dirty bowling alleys, the lovably divey, flourescent joints where everything is covered with a layer of grime. In Boston, the Milky Way and Kings have ushered in the hip bar–meets–bowling phenomenon over the past few years. Now, Lucky Strike Lanes, a "bowling lounge" above the Jillian's playpen, has joined the bowling comeback. The glitzy 25,000-square-foot space follows on the heels of two other Lucky Strike Lanes, in California, and the chain is set to open seven other locations around the country. The Boston location opens for business April 9 (the day of the Red Sox' home opener), and the owners hope to strike upon the kind of cachet that Lucky Strike Hollywood has built up—celebs like Ashton Kutcher, Gwen Stefani and Cameron Diaz have been spotted on the lanes there. "Once you see stars in Hollywood bowling, people say, 'It's OK to bowl now, it's not square,'" says co-owner Kevin Troy.

Jillian's regulars will notice that the pool tables that used to be on the third floor are now on the second level (displacing the arcades), to make room for the couch-filled lounge and 16 bowling lanes. "It's not your typical big bowling center of the '50s and '60s," says Troy. "They lacked intimacy." Lucky Strike Lanes comes with all the modern bells and whistles: automatic scoring, a DJ on weekends and a giant video projection screen behind the pins. Bowling purists will be happy to note that dining options haven't been glammed up—comfort food like Buffalo bites, burgers, pizzas and calzones are the name of the game. So how will it stack up against the city's other new-age alleys? "There's room for all of us," says Troy. *11 am–2 am daily. $4.50 per game daytime; $5.95 evenings. 21+ after 8 pm. 145 Ipswich St., Boston (617-437-0300). —E.H.*



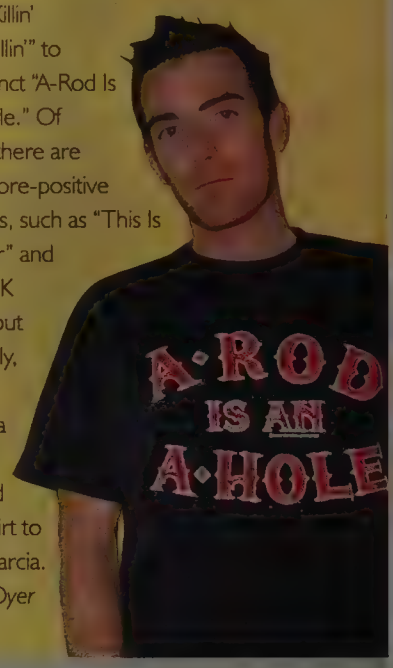
Lucky Strike Lanes will look like the LSL in Hollywood.


Co-owner Kevin Troy

sports

MR. TEE

You've seen the hawkers around Fenway in recent years, offering T-shirts that denigrate the New York Yankees in a variety of colorful ways (speculation on Derek Jeter's sexual orientation being one of the more popular subjects). This year, Chris Wrenn, the man behind the Ts, has organized the street forces into Sully's Tees, a company offering all manner of New York– (and L.A.–) bashing apparel at Newbury Comics and through SullysTees.com. Wrenn has added some timely new designs, from the catchy "Killin' with Schillin'" to the succinct "A-Rod Is an A-Hole." Of course, there are some more-positive messages, such as "This Is Our Year" and "Boston K Crew," but personally, we're sending a "Drink Beer and Fight" shirt to Karim Garcia. *—Ezra Dyer*



inner view

FOR LOVE OR MONEY

When we came across a book in a Tiffany blue cover with a large emerald cut diamond ring on the front, titled *How to Marry Money*, we were intrigued, to say the least. Someone finally published a how-to for unabashed gold diggers? Yup. The author, Boston native Kevin Doyle, plays down the gold-digging angle, calling the book "a guide for women interested in pursuing a financially rewarding marriage." (Who isn't?). Nonetheless, it's filled with tips on finding out which men have the dough and getting them down the aisle. We chatted with Doyle to get a head start on his tips, before his book hits the shelves on April 27.

IB: *Do you classify yourself as rich?*
KD: Well, comfortable.
IB: *So this is pretty much a book for gold diggers. I guess you would say there's nothing wrong with that?*
KD: If nothing else I can assure you it's going to be an entertaining read. If you want to characterize me as the king of shallow pursuits, that's your prerogative, but I wouldn't approach it from that angle.
IB: *Well, it is titled* How to Marry Rich. *Is it supposed to be tongue-in-cheek?*
KD: It's ambiguous. You can take it either way. It's however you choose to apply it. Anything you can use to learn more about yourself is valuable. I'm a successful and accomplished human being. Most of the people I have associated with all my life have been, too. I belong to clubs. My career has been up and down a few times, but I've had an honest eye. I try to associate with winners, and I encourage other people to as well.
IB: *What's the biggest mistake a person can make when trying to land a rich mate?*
KD: If there's a single mistake, I suppose it would be [being] a deliberately calculating, crafty [person]. They tend to be dangerous people. I would steer clear of craftiness and conniving.
IB: *Where are the best places in Boston to meet rich people?*
KD: You go where they go. The golf clubs, tennis clubs. There's not a lot of losers at the ballet or the opera or the museum or the symphony. I will say, in my experience, people on Newbury Street tend to be maxed on the credit cards, while people on Charles Street tend to have bank accounts that are stuffed. But there are phonies and the real thing wherever you go.
IB: *What's the most ideal kind of money to marry? Old money, new money, self-made man?*



KD: It depends. A wealthy man who owns a string of dry cleaners could have so much more refinement than a person who has tons of old money. The self-made man tends to have more energy than the man who inherited. So which one do you want? Sometimes you should judge people on their overall score.
IB: *Is love a factor in this at all, or is it just money money money?*
KD: It's a lot easier to fall in love with someone who's financially secure. If you fall in love with someone who's unsuccessful, that says a lot about you. Even in the animal kingdom, animals don't look to mate until they get food and shelter.
IB: *Is there a difference in strategy if you're trying to land a rich man vs. a woman?*
KD: I think the principles for success are the same for men and women. There's no formula to follow—do A-B-C and then you'll have whatever. If you set the table for opportunity, you improve the odds of success. You put out the welcome mat for victory, and you have a better chance of victory arriving.
—Jessica Iredale

PHOTO: MARILYN CHUNG



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WORLD'S LARGEST COD PIECE

Big Fish...A hearty helping of fish and chips has been a long-time favorite at the Black Rose in Faneuil Hall. But on March 15, the pub outdid itself, teaming with seafood manufacturer Icelandic USA to beat the Guinness record for "World's Largest Fish and Chips Serving." Edging out the existing record of 71.99 pounds with a whopping 77.75-pound serving required the Black Rose to bring in a health inspector, an official from the City of Boston Division of Weights and Measures, a custom-made fryer and lots of hungry lunch-time customers. "Everything smelled deep-fried," says manager Paula Kent, adding that the 34-pound cod "was 30 years-old, I believe." We're guessing that with its champion cod safely in the record books, the Black Rose no longer has bigger fish to fry. *160 State St. (617-742-2286).*

Politically Starved... It's not exactly a scientific method, but the folks at Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern are having a bit of fun with the Political Burger Poll. The pub is keeping tabs on the popularity of two of its menu items: the Bush Burger (Texas prime beef, Tabasco sauce and cheddar.) and the Kerry burger (prime aged Black Angus steak with garlic and parsley butter, described in a press release as "rich and stately, but still a favorite of the common man"). Meant to spark conversation about the beef between Republicans and Democrats, manager Pat McCormack explains, the burgers can stoke the fires of political controversy between diners. So far, McCormack says, Kerry is "pipping the post," which translates to being very far ahead. Patrons are just eating it up. *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656).*

Chef's Surprise... Not everyone has fallen prey to HBO's stranglehold on Sunday nights. Tony Maws, chef/owner of Craigie Street Bistrot, has been putting a spin on Sunday dinners with his Chef's Whims specials. For the menuless, four-course prix fixe dinner ($29.99 per person), diners arrive after 9 pm and surrender themselves to the chef's culinary impulses. Maws says he wanted to let loose on Sunday nights by creating different dishes for different tables. Guests needn't fear they're getting leftovers. "One common misconception is that I'm cleaning out my fridge on Sunday nights. No way," he says. "I order up [food] for Sunday night, it's four courses, each guest, and we rock." *5 Craigie Circle, Cambridge (617-497-5511). www.craigiestreetbistrot.com.*

Good Press... How does warm, crisp flattened bread plumped with fillings like marinated pork with chipotle aioli and pepper jack cheese sound? Or how about sopressata salami and provolone on Parmesan focaccia? Pressed Sandwiches, a new downtown café, doles out these and other delectable panini (all also available unpressed or in a low-carb version), along with soups, salads and other options ($5–$6.50) Mon.–Fri. What's more, you can wash down your meal with a cup of Terroir Coffee, roasted by George Howell, former owner of the much missed Coffee Connection. Beats the sad, soggy sandwiches you've been toting to work. *2 Oliver Street, Boston (617-482-9700).*

—E.H., J.I. and Jordan Salvatoriello



this just in

ALL FEET ON DECK

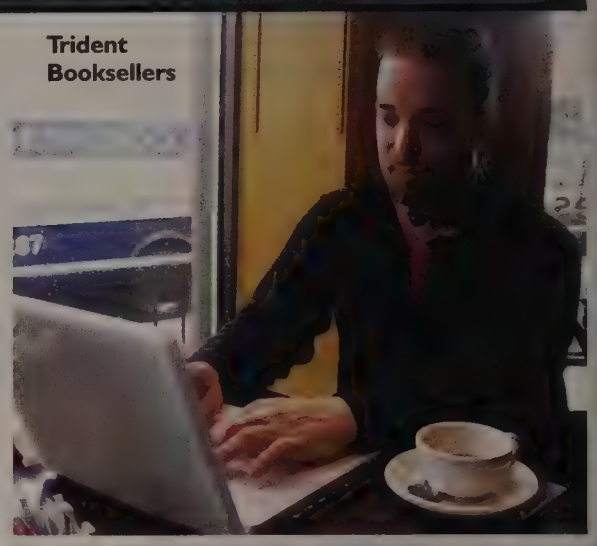
You know how hard it is to look good on your yacht, particularly when you're racing. Ermenegildo Zegna feels your pain, and now you can retire those Sperry Topsiders next season. Zegna's new line of Portofino sneakers, inspired by the Portofino yacht races in which Zegna participates each year, are designed to offer the traction you need to keep your martini upright while looking absolutely fabulous (yet casual). Available in brown, black and (of course) white, $215 at Ermenegildo Zegna. *39 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-9300).* —*Ezra Dyer*



improper reports

ALL ACCESS: WIRELESS

Charge up that laptop. Dial-up is done and, wires in general seem to be next in line for obsolescence. Wi-fi Internet access is the tech toast of the moment, and from Starbucks to Borders, it's available at a store near you.



- Complimentary wireless access is the cheapest thing on the menu at the Armani Café. *214 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-0909).*
- Enjoy a bean and cheese burrito with a free side of wi-fi at the Wrap. *247 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2200). www.thewrap.com.*
- Grab a bite at Rebecca's Café and surf the Web for a small fee through SurfandSip.com. *www.rebeccascafe.com.*
- More than 20 local Starbucks offer wireless access to T-Mobile HotSpot users. *www.starbucks.com; (800-937-8997) www.tmobile.com.*
- Sip on any of the 65 types of tea at Tealuxe while you search the Net. Set up an account at Salicom.com. *108 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-0400); 0 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-441-0077).*
- Browse more than just the books at Borders and Trident Booksellers & Café. A T-Mobile account is required at Borders. Trident's connection is free. *Borders, 10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-7188); www.tmobile.com; Trident, 338 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-8688), www.tridentbookscafe.com.*

—Patrice Taddonio

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Square Pegs... Liza's back in the headlines and suddenly cabaret is all the rage. Coincidence? We think not. Boston's seen a resurgence in variety shows in recent months, in large part because of Leah Callahan, the driving force behind Jacques' Raw Bar, Johnny D's Working Stiff Cabaret, and now Le Cabaret des Enfants Terribles, at PA's Lounge. Callahan's latest night, which takes its title from Jean Cocteau's 1929 novel, *Les Enfants Terribles,* premiered Feb. 28 and is scheduled to continue on the last Saturday of each month. The goal is to get a bunch of oddball acts under one roof. "I prefer not to have four white-guy rock bands because that's what you get everywhere else," says Callahan, who often books surrealist, "low-maintenance, high-mischief" performance acts sight-unseen. The next performance of Enfants Terribles is April 24. *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557). 9 pm. $5.*

No Storybook Ending... Like so many independent bookstores, the Avenue Victor Hugo Bookshop is closing its doors for good this May, after a 30-year run on Newbury Street. "People don't sit down and read the way they used to," says owner, Vincent McCaffrey. The bookshop will hold a half-off sale beginning April 1, with further price reductions to come. Blue Bart, the beloved store cat, will be retiring to the home of one of the store's employees. Our request for visitation rights was politely declined. *353 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-7746). www.avenuevictorhugobooks.com.*

Speed Skills... If you've ever thought about attending a performance-driving school but were deterred by the expense, consider heading to the South Weymouth Naval Air Station May 22 and 23 for the Mazda Rev It Up driving school and autocross competition. For $40 you get some basic chalkboard instruction from race drivers, followed by three hands-on skills clinics. Participants try their new techniques on eight timed laps before heading to the competition course for two more laps. The driver with the best time gets to compete Mazda's national final at the Laguna Seca raceway near Monterey, Calif. The best part of the deal is that you perform your high-RPM heroics in a new Mazda3, thus sparing your own car from autocross abuse. Go to www.mazdarevitup.com to register.



Passions... Between the media frenzy sparked by Mel Gibson's *The Passion of the Christ*, and all of the Easter marketing schemes, dare we say JC is on the verge of being overexposed? We'll just have to wait and see how many people turn out for Indy Productions' debut show, a production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*. The start-up theater company, headed by Michael Peluso (who was one of the Improper's Boston's Best Bachelors in 2002), presents Andrew Lloyd Webber's classic musical at Babson College's Sorenson Center for the Arts April 8-10. Peluso takes the stage as Judas. $22. *www.jcsuperstar.com.*

Are You Being Served?... Boston barstool comedy reigns supreme in the new indie film *Overserved*. Director Joseph Gatto of Arlington's Liquid Lunch Productions bills his all-Boston flick (from the cast to the crew to the Sam Adams Brewery set) as a *Cheers*-meets-*Clerks* comedy in which a crew of no-nonsense bartenders engages in a battle of barroom wit and wisdom with customers. Indie film buffs can get a sneak preview of the movie before it goes Hollywood at the premieres, April 5 and 6 at the Arlington Regent Theatre. On the 5th, a post-party takes place at the Paradise Lounge with the cast and crew, the band Average White Boys and comedians Scott Carney and Lamont Price. *www.overservedthemovie.com.*

—E.H., J.I., J.S. and Ezra Dyer

Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to theword@improper.com.

TRIDENT; PRESSED SANDWICHES: MARILYN CHUNG

what do...

Adrian Brody	David Arquette	Kelly Osbourne	Owen Wilson
Ashton Kutcher	David Spade	Kirsty Hume	Paris Hilton
Billy Bob Thorton	Demi Moore	Jessica Alba	Pink
Brandy	Drew Barrymore	Johnny Knoxville	Quentin Tarantino
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Christian Slater	Karl Malone	Matthew Perry	Vince Vaughn
Courtney Cox	Keanu Reeves	Mike Meyers	Woody Harrelson

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stir the senses

PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY





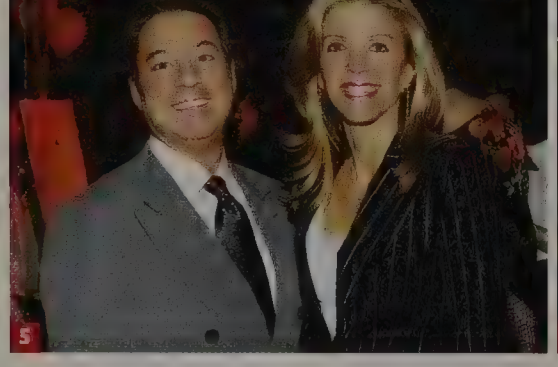
The American Repertory Theatre's (ART's) annual fund-raiser was held March 8 in raw office space on a high floor of the World Trade Center. Highlights of the evening were a guest appearance by Oscar-winning actress Holly Hunter. The lavish party included dinner, dancing and a live auction, which featured items such as a walk-on role in Steve Martin's upcoming remake of *The Pink Panther*. The event raised $300,000.

1. **Gordon MacDonald**, actor, and his girlfriend, **Holly Hunter**, actress
2. From left: **Tony McLean**, president of Broadway in Boston; **Julie Taymor**, creator of Broadway's *The Lion King*; and **Ryan Landry**, playwright
3. From left: **Anne Kaplan**, producer at VPG; **Paul Bessire**, director of external relations for the ICA; and **Collette Royer**, general manager for Giorgio Armani
4. ART board members **Barbara Lee** (left) and **Joan Parker**.
5. **Charles Gottesman**, vice chairman of Saucony, and his wife, **Merrill**
6. **Dan Mathieu**, owner of Max Ultimate Food and co-chair of the ART fund-raiser, and **Liz Krupp**, ART board member
7. **Robert Woodruff** (left), ART artistic director, and **Jeremy Geidt**, ART senior actor





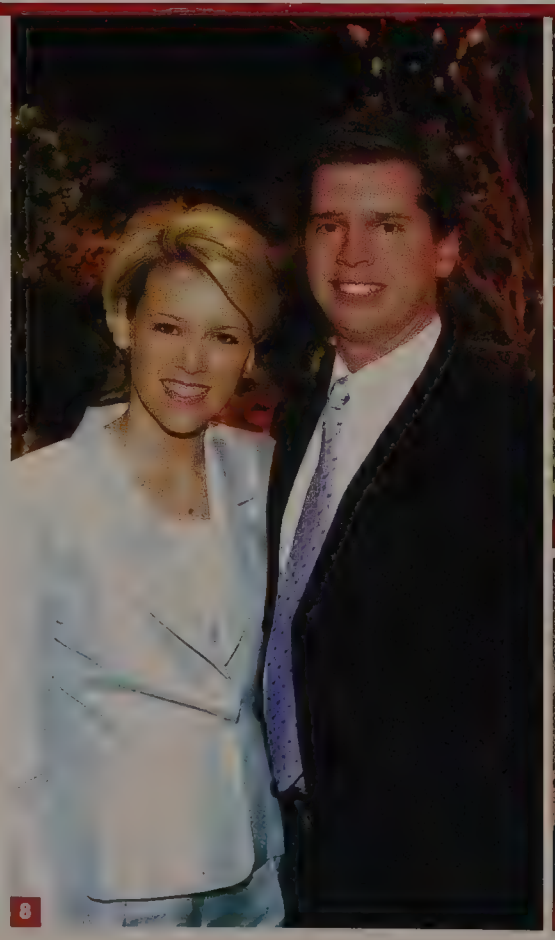






The 133rd New England Spring Flower Show Gala Preview Party was held March 12 at Boston's Bayside Exposition Center. Party-goers enjoyed landscaped gardens, elaborate floral designs, hors d'oeuvres, a full open bar and live entertainment. One highlight of the evening was the Celebrity Challenge, where eight local celebrities competed to design spectacular floral arrangements. The New England Flower show is the third largest flower show in the world and the largest annual indoor event in New England.

8. **Heather Unruh**, news anchor for WCVB-TV Channel 5, and her husband, **Nick Little**, project manager for Suffolk Construction
9. From left: **Scott Junk**, director of U.S. marketing for Reebok; **Wendy Jacobs**, director of fund-raising for the United Way; **Kate Gilbane**, nursery school teacher at Spruce Street School, and her husband, **Tom**, principal at Rockpoint Group
10. **Linda Paone**, manager for Time Warner Book Group, and **Oedipus**, program director of WBCN 104.1 FM
11. From left: **Nancy Buzby**, marketing and events manager for the *Boston Globe*; **Jack Harper**, news reporter for WCVB-TV Channel 5, and his wife, **Leslie Gaydos Harper**, news anchor for New England Channel News





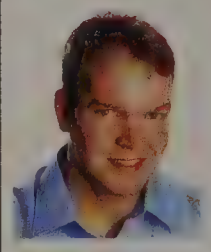






DRINK WET RESPONSIBLY





IT'S A PLEASURE

Tupperware can only dream of parties like this

If you're imagining this will be some type of lesbian sex fest, you're going to be disappointed," Elaine Lizotte, owner of KittyLixx, writes me in an e-mail. KittyLixx is, according to Lizotte's card, a purveyor of "adult novelties and purrfect pleasure toys." I have agreed to attend a KittyLixx party, wherein a group of women meet at someone's house and, fortified with a beverage or two, watch a presentation by Lizotte on the company's myriad wares. "Don't worry, I wasn't expecting it to be a lesbian sex fest," I write back to her, glad that e-mail makes it so easy to tell lies.

On the appointed night, I arrive at the home of Ann Marie, the evening's host. About 10 women are present, ranging in age from their 20s through their 40s, and some of them look like they're even more uncomfortable than I am. Lizotte helps leaven the atmosphere by passing out penis-shaped straws. She offers me one, but I decline. I'm a pretty open-minded guy, but *as if* I'm going to drink beer through a straw.

Lizotte goes on to give a little background on herself and KittyLixx. After getting laid off from an Internet company, she started her business to provide a means for women to purchase sex toys in a comfortable environment—"without the pervs watching you," as one woman comments, while I glance around and do my best to look nonpervish. Lizotte may claim that she's no longer working in the high-tech industry, but after seeing the Decadent Indulgence Techno Vibe, I'd beg to differ. The Techno Vibe features row of flashing lights along the base and looks like it could be used to direct 747s into their gates at Logan. But I'm getting ahead of myself.

After the introduction, Lizotte hands out door prizes. A woman named Melissa wins a waterproof vibrator, which prompts the woman next to me, Shelley, to say, "I keep mine in the shower. I have a little hook for it." The next prize is another vibrator, this one a "silver bullet" model. "Those are excellent," offers Shelley, who apparently is well acquainted with Mr. Steely Dan.

Soon the room is a veritable whirlwind of boudoir goodies. I guess my biggest surprise is that there's more to "pleasure toys" than just vibrators. We're talking creams, oils, sprays, candles, games, body glitter, pube stencils—it's enough to make your head spin like the tip of the Butterfly Pearl Vibe. Edibility is a theme with many of the products, such as a massage oil that Lizotte says "can be used anywhere and tastes delicious." Yeah, but how does it taste with the edible underwear? These are the kinds of tough questions that they train you to ask in journalism school.

Speaking of underwear, another item that's been going around the room is a remote-control vibrating thong. Eventually, someone other than the thong-wearer captures the remote and all hell breaks loose as the vibration is set to "hummingbird riding a jackhammer" speed. The presentation grinds to halt because everyone is laughing, as if there's anything funny about remote-control vibrating underpants.

Another surprise is the covert nature of some of the products. There's a vibrating pen that looks just like a regular pen—"great for conference calls," Lizotte says. And, in the "That's Just Wrong" category, we have I Rub My Duckie, which is a yellow rubber duckie that—you guessed it—vibrates. No one knows where the duckie's nose goes when the door's closed.

Next, a pair of fur-lined handcuffs comes out, prompting Ann Marie to say, "I already have those. I stole mine from my parents. The night of my confirmation I discovered that my parents were screwing like animals. My mom had all those hard vibrators." "Well, that's all they had back then, honey," replies Shelley sympathetically, as if Ann Marie had revealed that her mother used to churn her own butter or wash her clothes by pounding them on rocks in the river.

EVERYONE IS LAUGHING, AS IF THERE'S ANYTHING FUNNY ABOUT REMOTE-CONTROL VIBRATING UNDERPANTS

After the parade of products is over, the women head off with Lizotte one at a time to discuss their orders. A guy quietly sneaks into the kitchen and opens the fridge—the man of the house, who'd been making himself scarce the past couple hours. "Hey Brett, wanna see something?" calls one of the women, to which Brett quickly replies "Nope!" and disappears again. Well, Brett old buddy, you might've missed the presentation, but I have a feeling you'll be seeing some of this stuff real soon. iB

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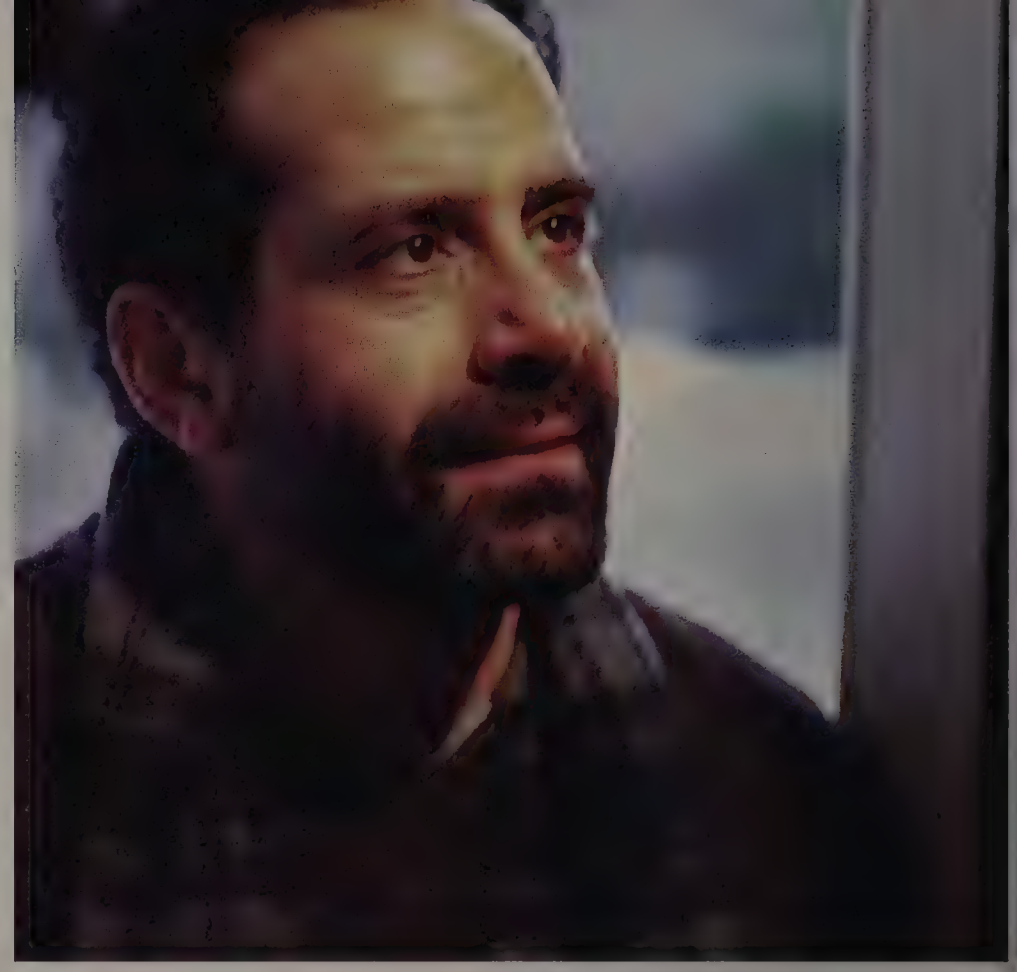
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Soroff ON

TONY SHALHOUB

BY JONATHAN SOROFF



Film and TV star Tony Shalhoub recently released his feature film directorial debut, *Made Up*, in which he co-stars alongside his wife, Brooke Adams, and Gary Sinise. Born and raised in Green Bay, Wisc., Shalhoub graduated from the University of Maine and earned a master's degree from the Yale Drama School before spending four seasons with the American Repertory Theatre in Cambridge. His distinguished New York stage career has included roles in *Conversations with My Father* (for which he earned a Tony nomination), *Waiting for Godot*, *The Odd Couple* and *The Heidi Chronicles* (in which he met his wife), as well as New York Shakespeare Festival productions of *Henry IV Part 1* and *Richard III*. His feature film debut was as a doctor in the 1990 AIDS drama *Longtime Companion*, and his other film roles include *Big Night*, *A Civil Action*, *Searching for Bobby Fischer*, *Men in Black*, *Barton Fink* and *Against the Ropes*. Well-known to TV audiences for his role as an Italian cab driver on Nantucket in the long-running sitcom *Wings*, Shalhoub is currently starring as an obsessive-compulsive crime solver in the USA Network's critically acclaimed series *Monk*. He lives in Los Angeles.

Jonathan Soroff: *Ever consider changing your name?*

Tony Shalhoub: In a way, I did. When my Dad came over from Lebanon as a boy, there was a lot of pressure to assimilate. The original, Arabic pronunciation was "Shal-HOOB," and it kind of got bastardized as SHALL-ub. That's how I grew up, and how my siblings still refer to themselves. But when I was in grad school, people started to pronounce it the original way, just because they liked the sound of it, and around then, my father started regretting the change. When I met Brooke, she liked the original better, too, so it kind of evolved that way.

JS: Made Up *is your directorial debut. What was the biggest surprise?*

TS: Going into the editing room with something I'd lived with for a period of time, watching it over and over, deconstructing it, and having it evolve in its own way. At a certain point in the editing process, a film begins to lead the director and assert what it wants to be in spite of you. It turned out to be something very different than what I thought it would be.

JS: *What would you do differently next time?*

TS: Get a different director. [Laughs.] Seriously? I'd get a distribution deal going in, because that was the hardest part of all.

JS: *You made a TV show set on Nantucket, but you have a house on Martha's Vineyard. Which island is better?*

ALL ACTORS, WHETHER THEY LIKE TO ADMIT IT OR NOT, STEAL FROM OTHER ACTORS. IT'S A TRADITION, AND I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANYTHING WRONG WITH IT.

TS: That question answers itself.

JS: *In* Made Up, *you had to purposely film your wife in an unflattering way. How'd that affect your marriage?*

TS: Well, it's an enormous challenge to make my wife look anything other than gorgeous, but it didn't really affect our marriage. Brooke's very open and bold, and she wanted to do something that was risky. I sort of let her set the parameters

JS: *How do you work with someone you're married to?*

TS: We met doing a play together on Broadway, so the genesis of our relationship was in the workplace, and we've done a lot of jobs together since then. We played a brother and sister at the American Repertory Theatre a few years ago. I don't want to get into the Freudian implications of that. But Brooke did an episode of *Wings*. She's done an episode of *Monk*. We love to work together at every opportunity.

JS: *Are you as much of a control freak as your character on* Monk?

TS: I have to admit to being a huge control freak. There's just no denying it.

JS: *How about things you're obsessive-compulsive about?*

TS: I love to worry, especially about things I have no control over.

JS: *You played a taxi driver on* Wings *and in several films. Ever get free cab rides because of that?*

TS: No, but I do get a lot of free Italian meals in restaurants because of *Big Night*.

JS: *Does being a good actor mean being a good liar?*

TS: No. Being a good actor means being a good thief. All actors, whether they like to admit it or not, steal from other actors. It's a tradition, and I don't think there's anything wrong with it. It's just natural that we draw from each other, but in essence, it's thievery.

JS: *What's one talent you wish you had?*

TS: I wish I could sing and dance.

JS: *Are you better at doing comedy or drama?*

TS: I'd like to believe I do both equally well, but I don't know whether people see me as mostly a comic or serious actor. That's the great thing about *Monk*. I get to do both, which is a rarity in television.

JS: *How about one piece of film you wish didn't exist of you?*

TS: Oh, God, there are so many. I did a little part in *Addams Family Values*, where I was sort of a glorified extra, as a favor to Barry Sonnenfeld, the director, whom I adore. I played a sort of—I'm not even sure—Brazilian sailor in a bar, trying to pick up Joan Cusack, singing "Macho Man." It was a very misguided thing.

JS: *Worst part of doing interviews?*

TS: Well, it's bizarre, but a lot of times journalists misunderstand, or misinterpret, or write it down wrong, record it badly or whatever. I remember telling a reporter one time where I went to college. When the article came out, it said I went to the University of Maine in Portland, Oregon. I thought, "What's the point of doing an interview with someone who's not paying attention?"

JS: *If your life was a song, what would it be and why?*

TS: Oh, man. At my 50th birthday party this year, I had a bunch of people and a band. Tim Curry [star of the Rocky Horror Picture Show] is a good friend, and he sang a song called "Lucky to be Loving You." I think that would be it.

JS: Made Up *has a lot to do with the pressure on women to maintain the appearance of youth and beauty. How important are looks in show business?*

TS: I don't really think they're that important. I look around and see people who aren't necessarily good-looking, but they're talented and they're working all the time. They're well regarded and well respected. Look at Paul Giamatti or Philip Seymour Hoffman. They're not classic, matinee idol handsome, but they're excellent, versatile actors and they'll never stop working. Then there are people who are maligned unfairly because they're good-looking.

JS: *Do you think you're good-looking?*

TS: Well, I'm better-looking than you. [Laughs.]

JS: *So what's your biggest personal vanity, or something you do solely to make yourself look good to others?*

TS: I suppose some kind of self-deprecating, falsely humble look I give people, with the down-turned eyes. The false embarrassment—I can kinda pull that out at will.

JS: *Plastic surgery. Had any?*

TS: No, but I have been considering it.

JS: *Really? What?*

TS: I've been contemplating doing my lower eyes. I can't bear seeing them look old and saggy. Just something minor. Other than that, just pec implants. [Laughs.]

JS: *Last question. Finish this sentence: Tony Shalhoub wants you to know that* _____.

TS: Tony Shalhoub wants you to know that he's 50 years old and hasn't had a facelift. iB


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The Black Rose
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MOST VALUABLE BARTENDERS

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PAUL BARRY
GRAFTON STREET PUB & GRILLE
1230 MASSACHUSETTS AVE., CAMBRIDGE
617-497-0400
Sun.–Fri. days

PAUL CHRISTIE
GARGOYLES ON THE SQUARE
219 ELM ST., SOMERVILLE, 617-776-5300
Wed.–Sun. nights

PETER CIPRIANI
PHO REPUBLIQUE
1415 WASHINGTON ST., BOSTON, 617-262-0005
Wed., Thu., and Sat. nights

SILVERTONE BAR & GRILL
69 BROMFIELD ST., BOSTON, 617-338-7887
Fri. nights

CY CLARK
21ST AMENDMENT
150 BOWDOIN ST., BOSTON, 617-227-7100
Mon.–Sat. days and nights

EDDIE DOYLE
CHEERS
84 BEACON ST., BOSTON, 617-227-9605
Tue., Thu. days

JON FEAGIN
THE FRANKLIN CAFÉ
278 SHAWMUT AVE., BOSTON, 617-350-0010
Mon., Wed., Thu. nights

KRIS KNIEVIL
AVALON
15 LANSDOWNE ST., BOSTON, 617-262-2424
Sun. nights (She also performs her drag act at Jacques, Tue., Thu., Fri. and Sat.)

ROB MANNKE
29 NEWBURY
29 NEWBURY ST., BOSTON, 617-536-0290
Mon. and Sat. nights

MACHINE
1254 BOYLSTON ST., BOSTON, 617-536-1950
Fri. nights

AVALON
15 LANSDOWNE ST., BOSTON, 617-262-2424
Sun. nights

LOLLY MASON
UPSTAIRS ON THE SQUARE
91 WINTHROP ST., CAMBRIDGE, 617-864-1933
Wed.–Sat. nights

CARAH MCLAUGHLIN
LOCKE-OBER
3 WINTER PLACE, BOSTON, 617- 542-1340
Tue.–Thu. and alternate Fri. nights.

ROBYN PITCHFORD
COTTONWOOD CAFÉ
222 BERKELEY ST., BOSTON, 617-247-2225
Mon. nights, Wed.–Fri., days

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

"This guy walks into a bar…"

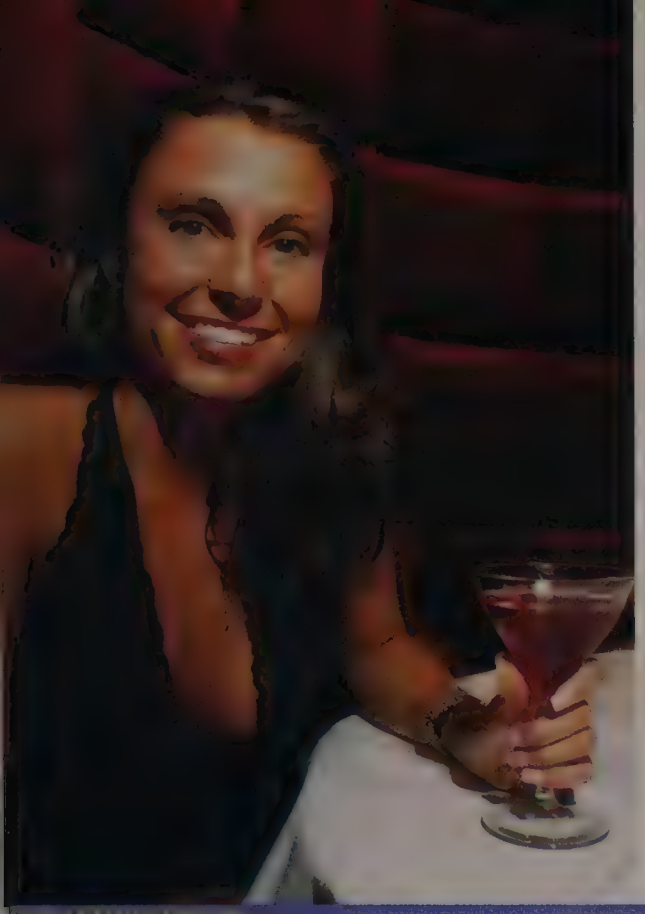
There's a reason that line is the start of so many jokes. Bars are where the fun is. They're the communal campfires we gather round to relieve the stress of everyday life, and the launching pads for celebrating the good things. They offer comfort and camaraderie, and serve as happy hunting grounds for romance, not to mention supplying the socially acceptable chemical modification that some of us crave in the form of cocktails.

Yet there are the bars you go to simply because they're there, and then there are the bars that you're drawn to because of the people who work there. Our annual list of the city's most esteemed and adored bartenders is dedicated to those individuals who make us want to keep coming back to the places where they work.

Truly great bartenders are a breed apart. They have an endless supply of goodwill, humor, patience and skill, not to mention their finesse in dealing with the occasional drunk. Like rock stars, they exude an ineffable duende that makes their customers want to consider them friends. And like priests in the temple of good times, they traffic in witticisms and wisecracks, not to mention wisdom and a willingness to listen. Anyone can learn to mix a passable cocktail, and some of the world's most monumental bores spend their lifetime slinging drinks from behind a bar. But the great bartenders have the intelligence and personality traits to succeed in any profession—it's our good fortune that our beloved barkeeps truly enjoy what they do.

In the months leading up to this issue, we published a ballot with which readers could nominate their favorite cocktail jockey. Here we present the winners and tell you a bit about what makes them—and the places they work—such a hit with their regulars. (Eleven past favorites have been elevated to our Most Valuable Bartenders list. See sidebar at left.) As always, we've included a signature drink recipe from each of our winners in the hope that you'll keep this issue around long after you've finished reading it.

And so, THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN proudly presents Boston's Beloved Bartenders for 2004. Cheers!



MELISSA SIMON
FELT
533 WASHINGTON ST., BOSTON, 617-350-5555
THU.–SAT. NIGHTS

A perpetual motion machine, Simon earned her stripes working in nightclubs, tending bar at Avalon for five years before taking up her current post at this Ladder District hot spot. In college, she studied sociology, and her work behind the bar allows her to practice as an amateur in the field, taking the time to talk to her customers even when the place gets insanely busy. Ironically, Simon is studying to become a drug and alcohol rehab counselor and hopes to work with the Department of Youth Services helping teens battle problems with substance abuse. In the meantime, her sparkling personality and dry sense of humor keep her regulars entertained, and her genuine, 100-watt smile keeps 'em coming back again and again. Explaining her amazingly upbeat disposition, she says, "If I'm not super happy, my customers know immediately, and they're not there to watch me have a bad night." We'll drink to that.

SIGNATURE DRINK

The Sexy Bitch
2 parts each Stoli Razberi and Chambord, 1 part Triple Sec, and a splash each of ginger ale, sour mix and pineapple juice. Shake until it foams, and serve on the rocks, or straight up as a shot.

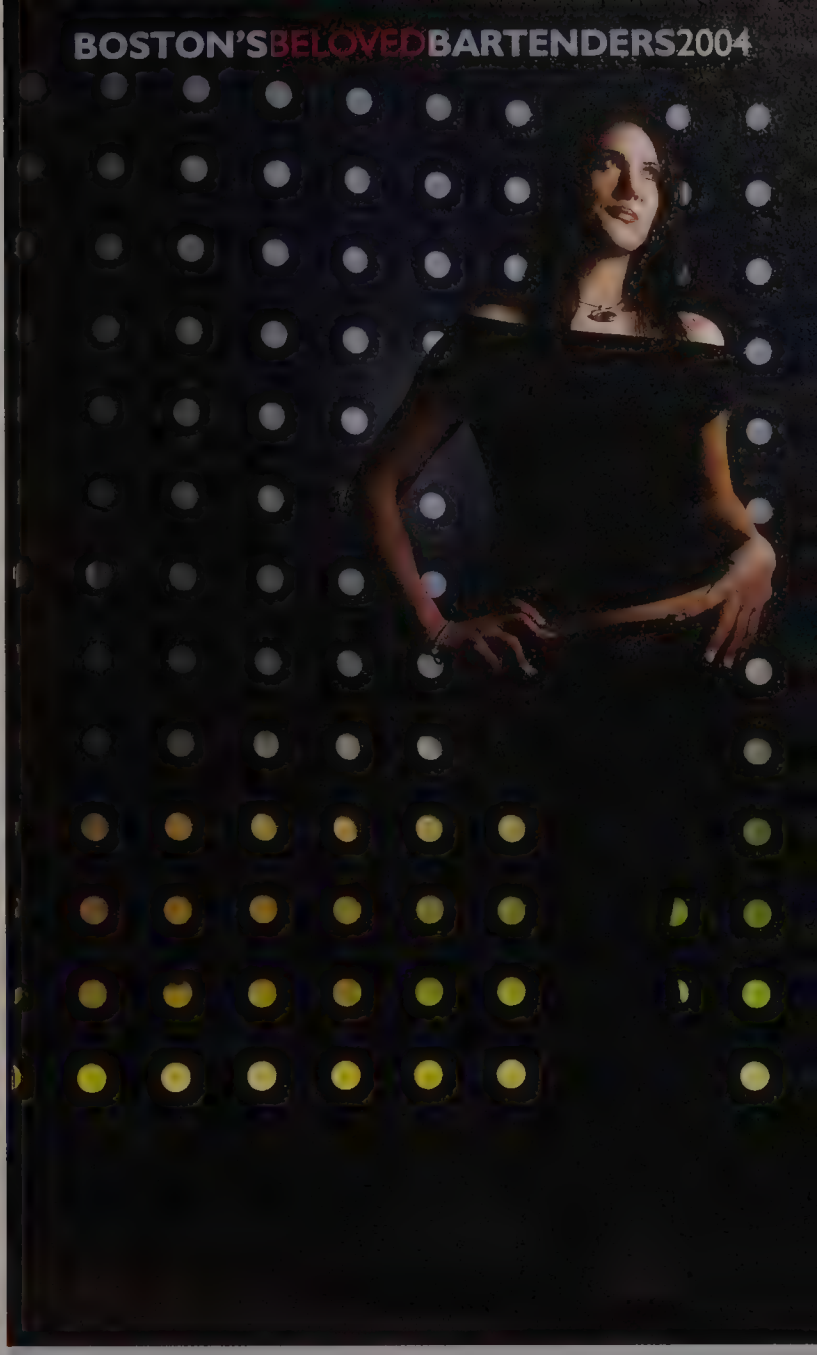


MICHAEL RAY
BLACKFIN CHOP HOUSE & RAW BAR
116 HUNTINGTON AVE., BOSTON, 617-247-2400
MON.–FRI. DAYS AND NIGHTS

As affable a chap as jolly old England ever produced, Ray still retains a touch of a British accent that makes everything from "Bordeaux" to "Budweiser" sound posh when he says it. His style combines refined, polite, old-world service with a playful edge that prevents things from becoming stuffy. "You can go anywhere for a drink," he says, "but you'll go out of your way for a bartender who makes you feel like you're at Raffles or in a James Bond movie." The atmosphere Ray brings makes eating at the bar in Tony Ambrose's upscale yet casual steakhouse as popular as sitting in the dining room. His infectiously upbeat personality allows him to relate to anyone: To the guys he's a man's man, and he's equally adept at dishing with the ladies, who consequently adore him.

SIGNATURE DRINK

Raspberry Lemondrop Martini
1½ oz. Vox Raspberry, ½ oz. Cointreau, a squeeze of fresh lemon juice and a splash of simple syrup. Shake and serve straight up in a martini glass with a sugared rim. Garnish with a lemon twist and a raspberry.



DINA MEUSE
AQUA
120 WATER ST. BOSTON, 617-720-4900
TUE., THU. AND FRI. NIGHTS

CLARKE'S
QUINCY MARKET, 21 MERCHANTS ROW. BOSTON, 617-227-7800
SUN. NIGHTS

Meuse is known among her regulars simply by her first name, and like Cher or Madonna, she has become something of an icon, at least among the patrons of the bars where she works. Some of them have been loyal customers since she put herself through college tending bar. She majored in sociology, and after leaving her job as a social worker with the state's Department of Social Services, she decided to apply her highly developed interpersonal skills in another setting where they'd be appreciated. The quintessential "people person," Meuse is laid-back and easy-going, quick to point out that "if I'm having a good time, my customers are too." A queen of the one-liner, she's liable to respond to a question like, "What do you have that's strong but sweet?" with a comment like, "Sorry, but I won't fit in a glass." Like a seasoned politician, she remembers not just the names and drinks of her regulars, but their spouses' and kids' names, as well. In short, she makes everyone who steps up to her bar feel like a big shot, which makes us want to drink a big shot in her honor.

SIGNATURE DRINK

Ankles in the Sky
Equal parts UV Cherry Vodka, UV Raspberry Vodka, blue curacao and Absolut Citron, with a splash each of cranberry juice and sour mix. Shake on ice and serve straight up as a shot.

SIGNATURE DRINK

The Bloody Dubliner

2 oz. Stoli Citros, ½ oz. lemon juice, ¼ oz. pomegranate juice, 1 oz. simple syrup. Shake on ice and serve straight up in a martini glass. Garnish with a lemon slice.



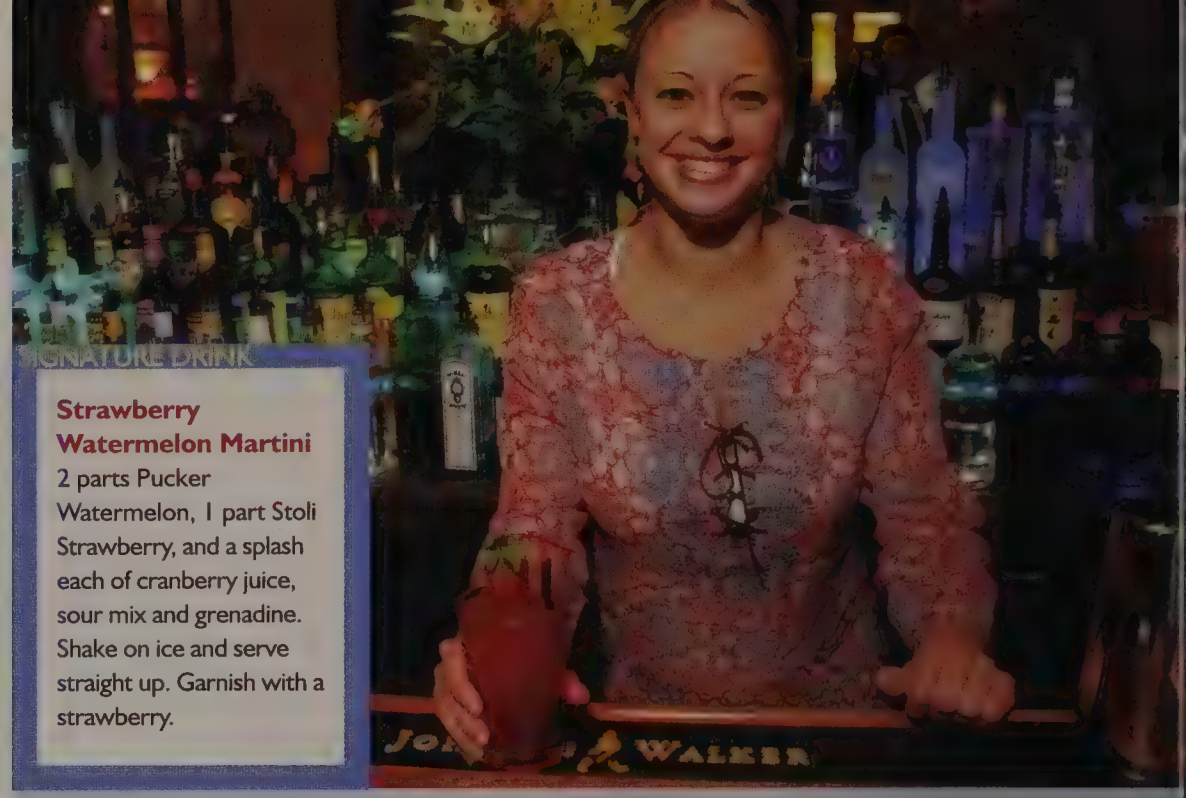
JOANIE LEONARD

THE RACK

24 CLINTON ST., BOSTON, 617-725-1051

MON.–FRI. DAYS

This native of Dublin loves to entertain her regulars with stories about colorful characters back home, and judging by her customers' loyalty, she has her countrymen's natural gift of gab. Many of Leonard's regulars—suits from the Financial District and civil servants from City Hall—come in as often as three times a week, while some—like the policemen and construction workers from the Big Dig—visit her daily. That's pretty impressive for a bartender who pours mostly soft drinks (since she works days), although she starts to get the after-work-martini crowd once the stock market closes. A blonde bundle of energy with a 100-proof personality, she's also a favorite among the tourists and vacationers who visit Faneuil Hall and return repeatedly to her bar for a bit of her blarney, a bite to eat and a libation (or two) garnished with the bar's trademark plastic animals. The perfect combination of sweetheart and smartass, she's as charming as the day is long, and an hour spent at her bar is like a well-drawn pint of Guinness.



SIGNATURE DRINK

Strawberry Watermelon Martini

2 parts Pucker Watermelon, 1 part Stoli Strawberry, and a splash each of cranberry juice, sour mix and grenadine. Shake on ice and serve straight up. Garnish with a strawberry.

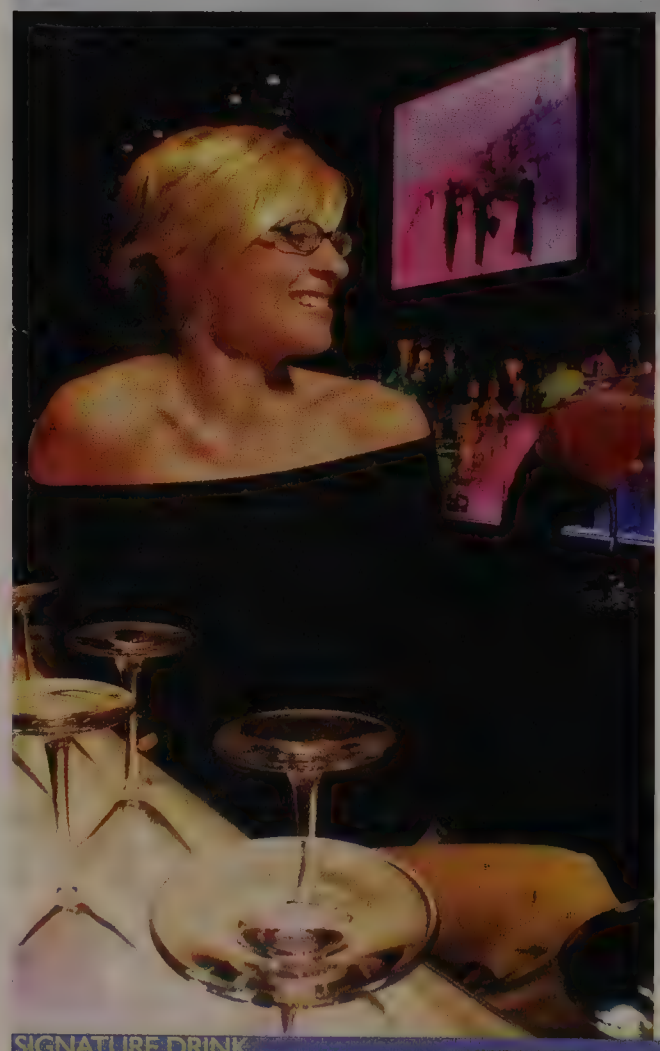
MIA SCALISI

THE PLACE

2 BROAD ST., BOSTON, 617-523-2081

WED.–FRI. NIGHTS

A chameleon who can change her style to suit her customers' moods, Scalisi can be formal and businesslike or flirty and fun, although the end of the evening usually finds her dancing behind her bar, a drink-making whirling dervish. Her energy level would make a Geiger counter go haywire, and her habit of egging her regulars on with inducements like a shot of tequila and lime juice makes her bar a nonstop party. In her trademark knee-high boots with six-inch heels, she looks a good foot taller than her petite 5'2" frame, and her heartbreaking good looks make her a particular favorite among the men, who have tried every trick in the book to get her phone number. Like the girl you drooled over in high school, she's the head cheerleader and pep squad captain at this rowdy downtown watering hole, and one trip to her bar is all it takes to see why they're usually three-deep, clamoring for her attention.



TRINA STURM

CITY BAR

LENOX HOTEL, 61 EXETER ST., BOSTON, 617-536-5300

TUE., THU., FRI. NIGHTS

As gifted as she is gorgeous, this veteran of Lansdowne Street (she worked at Axis for four years) is the bar manager of this swanky but relaxed hipster hangout in the lobby of the Lenox Hotel. What draws her to the job is the creativity: "All those bottles we get to play with—it's the best-stocked bar I've ever seen." The unique infusions—bourbon flavored with Chinese cinnamon, vanilla and caramelized figs, or rum spiced with ginger, lemon peel and cardamom—are well worth the trip. In addition to being able to make all the standard cocktails quickly and consistently, Sturm is a virtual encyclopedia when it comes to liquors, Cognacs and Armagnacs. Able to converse intelligently and engagingly on any topic (although she wisely avoids religion and politics), she's as warm as a slug of whiskey, as bracing as a gin martini and as intoxicating as a shot of tequila. Someday, she and her husband (also a bartender) hope to open their own place, but for now, we're lucky we can find her here.

SIGNATURE DRINK

The Bramble

3 parts Hendrick's Gin, 1 part Crème de Cassis. Top with fresh lime juice and a splash of simple syrup. Shake on ice and serve straight up in a martini glass. Garnish with a wedge of lime.

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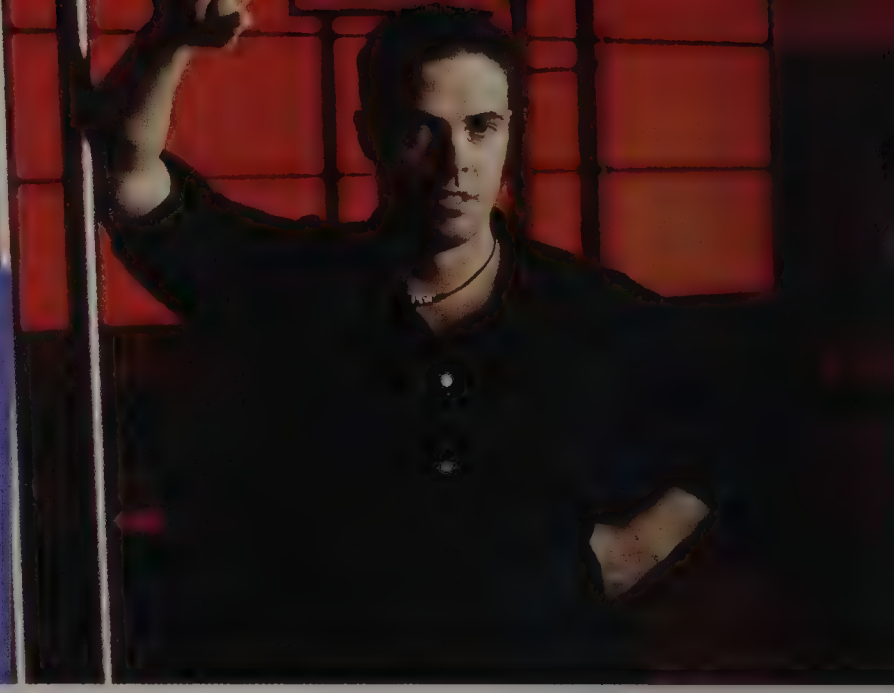
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BARRY KIERANS
TONIC
1316 COMMONWEALTH AVE., BRIGHTON, 617-566-6699
THU.–SAT. NIGHTS AND SUNDAY BRUNCH

A native of Drogheda, Ireland (a small town north of Dublin), Kierans has the charming brogue and the twinkle in his eye to prove it. Too handsome by half, with dark hair and green eyes, he's the resident heartthrob at this Allston hangout for the sophisticated postcollege crowd. His strengths include faster-than-a-speeding-bullet mixing skills—he can make seven or eight martinis a minute. "I could do any number of things," he says matter-of-factly. "I do what I do because I enjoy it. It's like getting paid to hang out with my friends." His slightly cocky style behind the bar belies a patient manner—he'll lend an ear to a customer's woes, although he's also a bit of a joker and as quick with a one-liner as he is with a cocktail shaker. It's not often that such competence comes in such a hunk-a-licious package.

SIGNATURE DRINK

The Love Martini
Equal parts Stoli Razberi, crème de cocoa and Cointreau. Shake and serve straight up in a martini glass. Garnish with a maraschino cherry.





SIGNATURE DRINK

Pomegranate Martini
To 3 parts Grey Goose Vanilla Vodka add ¼ oz. Mathilde Pêches liqueur, 3 tablespoons pomegranate puree and a splash each of fresh-squeezed lemon juice, sour mix and Sprite. Shake on ice and serve straight up in a martini glass. Garnish with a lime wheel.

MICHELLE CONTE
UNION BAR AND GRILLE
1357 WASHINGTON ST., BOSTON, 617-423-0555
MON., THU.–SAT. NIGHTS

If fabulousness came in a bottle, Conte's face would be on the label. A naturally carbonated, intoxicating redhead originally from Denver, she studied musical theater in college and voice at the New England Conservatory, which may partially account for her poise, grace and ability to improvise. "If you're paying 10 bucks for a drink, it better be good," she says. Regardless of their mood when they walk in the door, her regulars are always laughing and smiling by the time they leave. As one of the South End's choicest new destinations, Union attracts a worldly, urbane bar clientele, and Conte provides the kind of sophisticated, discerning service her customers expect. She's also a genius at developing a genuine rapport instantly—after one drink, everyone feels like a friend. Worth her weight in Goldschlager, she's as pleasant to talk to as she is to look at.

ALLY MORRILL
THE CACTUS CLUB
939 BOYLSTON ST., BOSTON, 617-236-0200
FIVE NIGHTS A WEEK (VARIES)

Morrill is the kind of bartender who makes a cold, impersonal city feel like a snug, comfortable small town. Chatty and talkative, she has a memory like a steel trap, and her ability to recall not just faces and names but drinks and details about her customers ("How was vacation?" "How's your daughter?") has earned her a loyal following. A Northeastern student who's taking some time off, she's a native of Albany, N.Y.—"So I don't really get it when people here complain about the cold," she says. It also means that she grew up a Yankees fan, although she does everything she can to hide that fact. Her first bartending gig was at a hole-in-the-wall in upstate New York, and her favorite thing about working at this Tex-Mex hot spot in the Back Bay is the wide spectrum of customers—regulars from the Back Bay and Fenway as well as tourists and shoppers from the Pru. Comfortable talking to anyone, she can be opinionated and sarcastic. For instance, a big brawny guy who orders a strawberry daiquiri is guaranteed to get a comment along with his drink. Imagine your super-cool, smart-as-a-whip kid sister behind a bar and you get the picture.

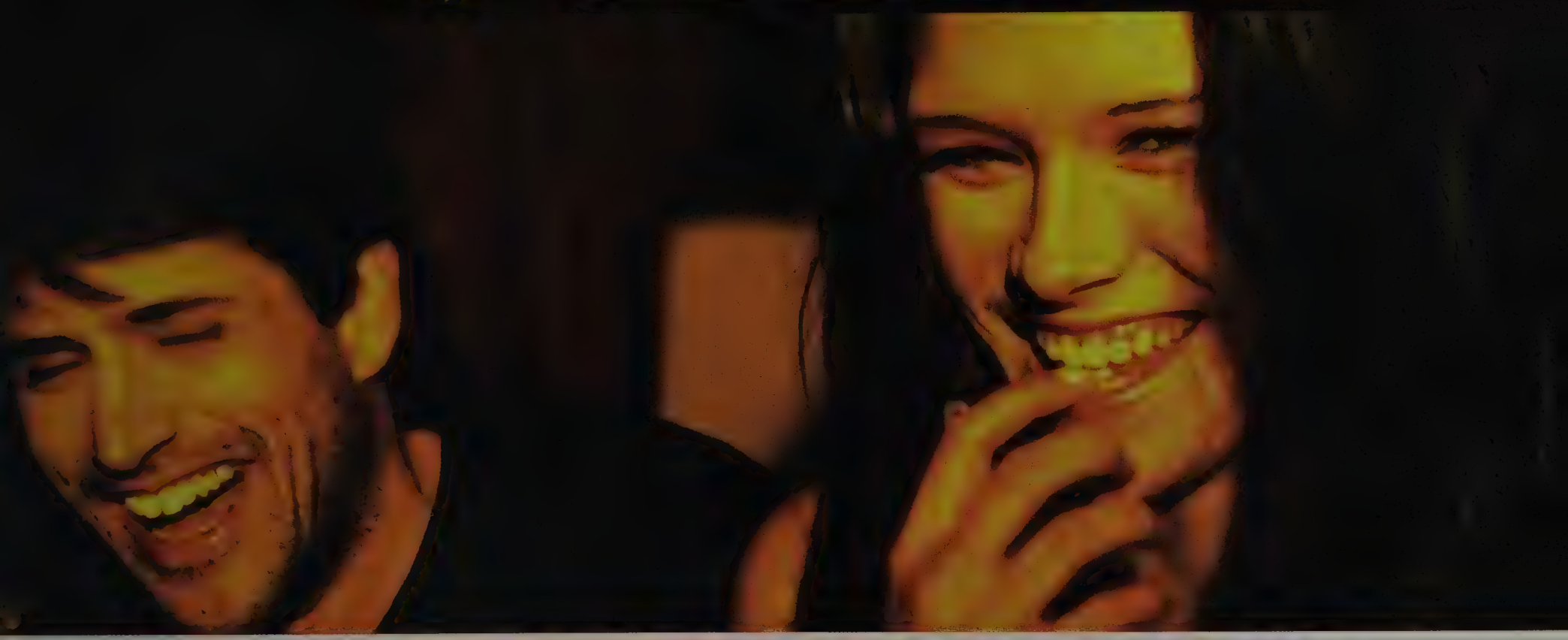
SIGNATURE DRINK

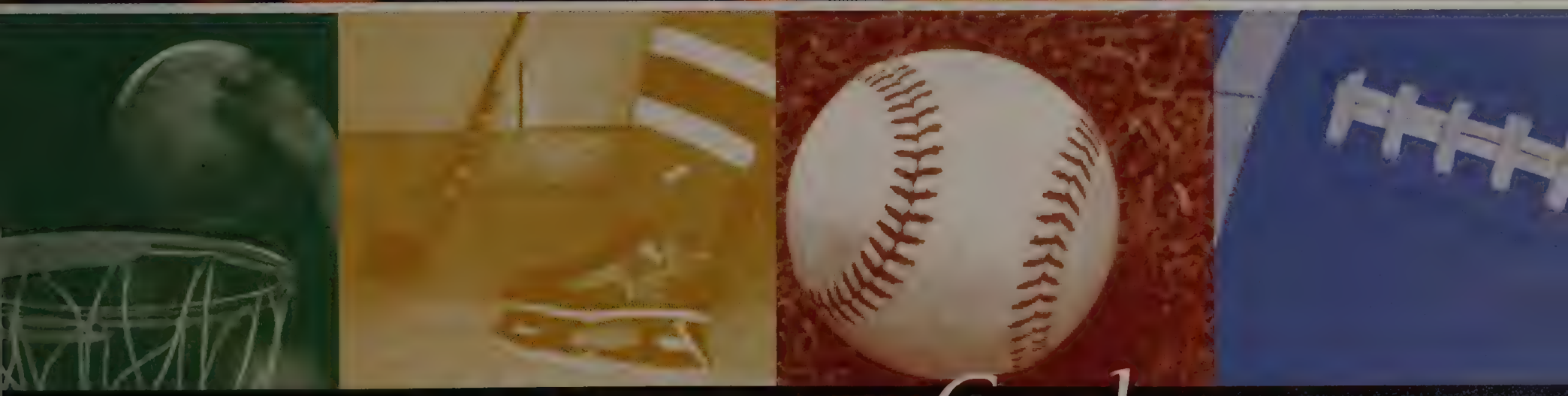
The Platinum Margarita
3 parts Hornitos Tequila to 1 part Cointreau and a splash of fresh lime juice. Fill with lemonade. Shake on ice or mix in a blender and serve straight up, on the rocks, or frozen, in a margarita glass with or without a salted rim. Garnish with lime.



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JILL SMAGULA
NOIR
1 BENNETT ST., CAMBRIDGE, 617-661-8010
TUE., WED., FRI., SAT. NIGHTS

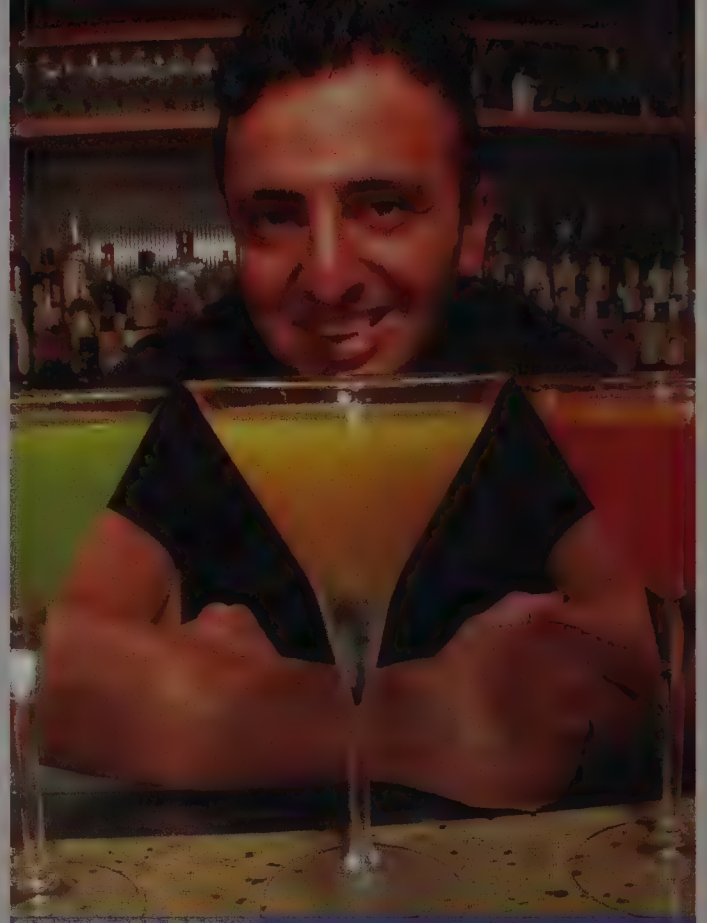
Tucked into a corner of the lobby in Harvard Square's ritziest hotel—and the holder of Cambridge's only 2 am liquor license—the upscale Noir attracts an intriguing mix of visiting dignitaries, Harvard professors and colorful Cambridge characters. Ministering to this motley crew, New Hampshire native Smagula uses her abundant charm to keep everyone happy. "Basically, I get paid to hang out with friends," she says. A big one for mixing a round of shots and making everyone at the bar toast, she's more fun than the proverbial barrel of monkeys and mixes a flawless cocktail, to boot. In fact, she invented many of the drinks on the bar's extensive menu, and she devotes her slow times to the eternal search for new yummy concoctions. She also possesses one of the cardinal virtues for any bartender in Beantown: an obsession with the Red Sox.

SIGNATURE DRINK

The Naughty Au Pear
1½ oz. Belle de Brillet, ¾ oz. Stoli Vanil, 1 oz. pear nectar. Shake on ice and serve straight up in a cocktail glass. Top off with a splash of Champagne Veuve Clicquot.

CENGIZ YILDIRIM
BLU
4 AVERY ST., BOSTON,
617-375-8550
MON.–FRI. DAYS; SAT. NIGHTS

A one-man three-ring circus, Yildirim was born in Turkey, raised in Switzerland and Germany, and has visited 72 countries, many as a bartender on luxury cruise ships like the Queen Elizabeth II. With 20 years of bartending experience and a nuclear reactor's worth of energy, he's created the exhaustive drink menus for most of the bars he's worked at. Like a mad scientist, he can mix anything together and make it taste good. "If someone says they don't know what they want to drink, I'll say, 'Name a color,' and I'll make up something they love," he says. Not surprisingly, those who come to his bar once invariably become repeat customers. In addition to knowing seemingly everyone in town, Yildirim knows exactly how to handle people—as one regular puts it, "He could sell martinis to a Mormon." Add to that the fact that we've never seen him in a mood that was less than ecstatic, and it's easy to understand why a stool at his bar is one of the most sought-after seats in town.



SIGNATURE DRINK

Vitamin C Martini
2 oz. Belvedere Orange Vodka, a splash each of Grand Marnier Centenaire, fresh-squeezed orange juice, grenadine and Southern Comfort, and a squeeze of fresh lime. Shake on ice and serve straight up. Garnish with a slice of blood orange.



SRDJAN BAJAS
THE FEDERALIST
15 BEACON ST., BOSTON,
617-670-2515
WED.–SAT. NIGHTS

This veteran mixologist—a native of Croatia, raised in Germany—has worked in Stuttgart and Munich and tended bar at some of the finest hotels in the world, including the five-star, five-diamond Broadmoor in Colorado Springs. As bar manager at Boston's most quietly elegant boutique hotel, Bajas is a fountain of knowledge about Cognacs, Armagnacs and single-malt scotches, and he oversees one of the city's best selections. In keeping with the hotel's emphasis on quality, he has developed a drink list (which he is constantly adding to) that relies on the finest and freshest ingredients. And his skill in making the classics is equaled by his creativity in coming up with new concoctions. With his European charm, attention to detail and warm, easygoing manner, he's like the bartender in *Casablanca*.

SIGNATURE DRINK

Due Campari
½ oz. each Rain Vodka and White Campari, 1 oz. Red Campari and a dash of freshly squeezed lemon juice. Shake on ice and strain into a champagne flute until one-third full. Top with Champagne Veuve Clicquot.

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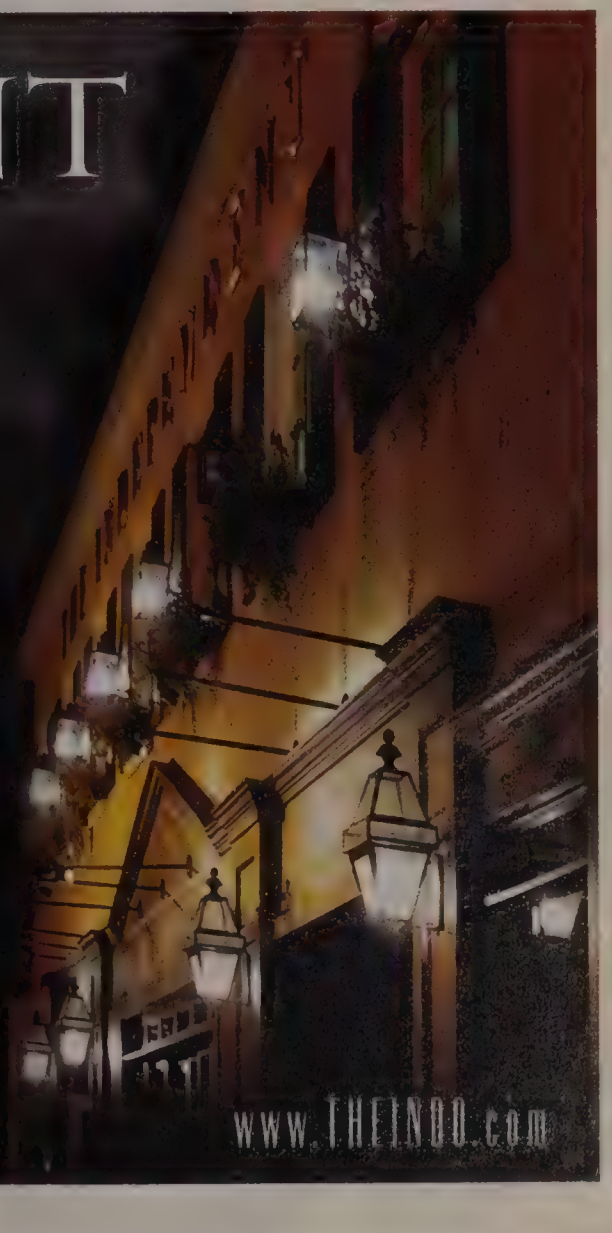
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KATY JORDAN

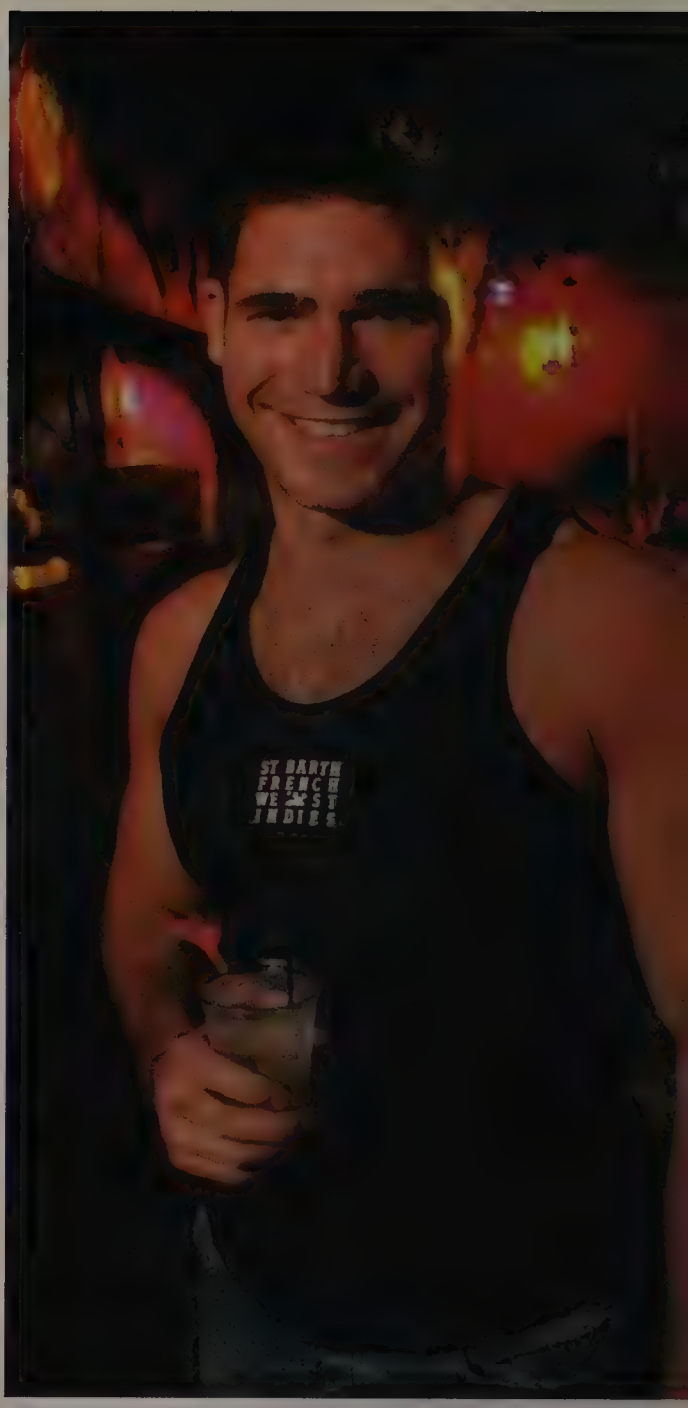
L
234 BERKELEY ST., BOSTON, 617-266-4680
TUE. DAYS; WED. NIGHTS; THU., FRI. DAYS AND NIGHTS

SAINT
90 EXETER ST., BOSTON, 617-236-1134
SAT., SUN. NIGHTS

As easygoing as she is easy on the eyes, this veteran of the Lansdowne Street club scene has been tending bar for years and clearly delights in interacting with her regulars. Presiding over the sleek, minimalist bar at L, the chic new restaurant on the first floor of Louis Boston, Jordan's approach to her job is to make sure every patron receives the very highest level of service. No private eye pays closer attention to details, and her ability to anticipate customers' needs is nothing short of clairvoyant. Whether there are two people at her bar or they're lined up three deep, the only difference in her unfailingly friendly service is how much time she has for conversation. Her experience with both high-volume drink slinging and slower-paced fine dining means she can keep the throngs happy and knows a tremendous amount about food and wine. But most importantly, her genuine love for the job is evident in every drink she makes.

SIGNATURE DRINK

Sake Lemoncello Martini
2 parts Momokawa (or other "light") sake, 1 part lemoncello and a squeeze of fresh lime juice. Shake on ice and serve straight up in a martini glass. Garnish with a lemon twist.



JUSTIN HENRY

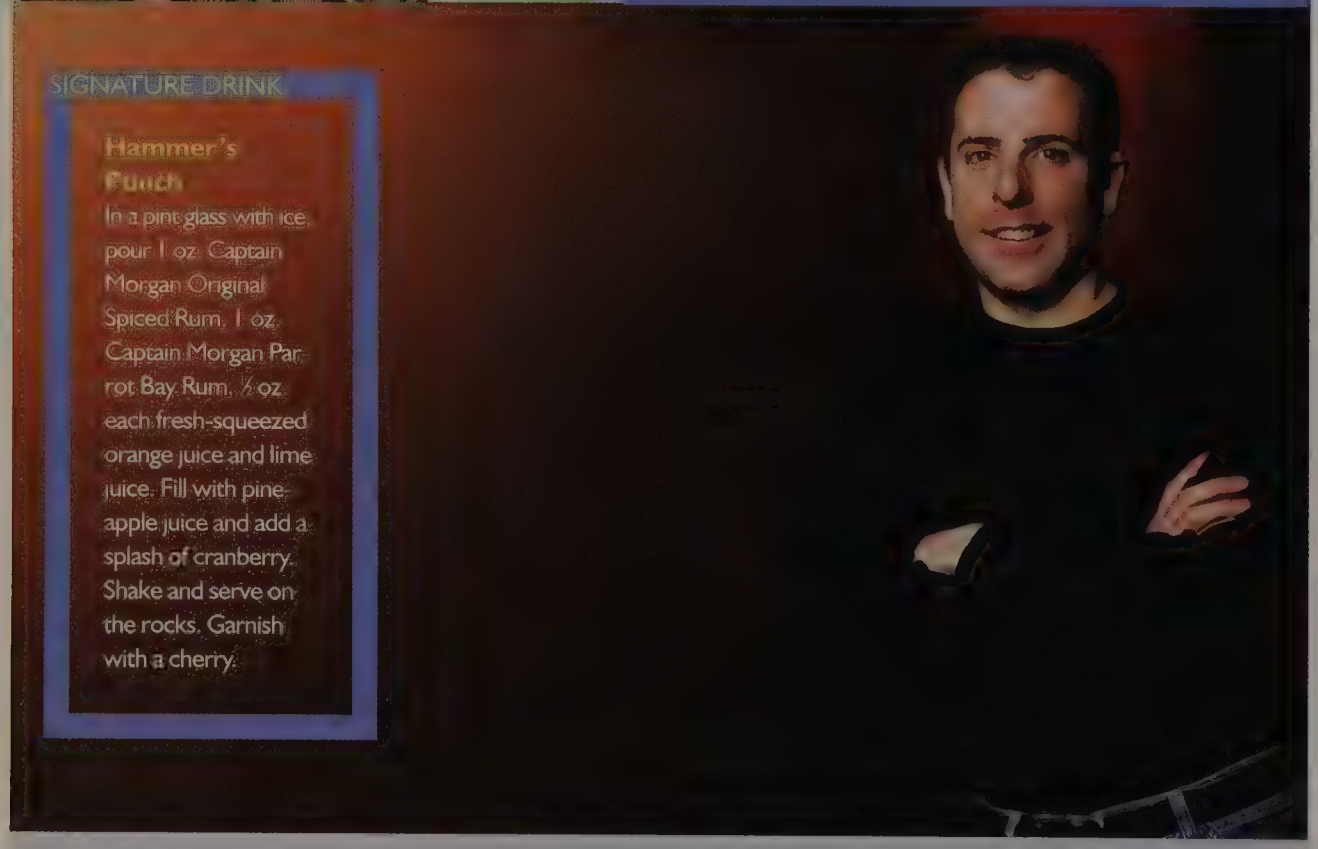
DEDO LOUNGE & BISTRO
69 CHURCH ST., BOSTON, 617-338-9999
SUN. NIGHTS

BUZZ
67 STUART ST., BOSTON, 617-267-8989
SAT. NIGHTS

Looking like he fell out of an Abercrombie & Fitch catalog, Henry is what central casting would send over if you asked them for a hottie with a head on his shoulders. During the week, he works in advertising, but on Saturday nights, you can find him slinging drinks and dancing shirtless behind the bar at Buzz, one of Boston's hottest gay discos. On Sundays, he oversees the more subdued scene at Dedo, Bay Village's ambient little lounge. Happy-go-lucky and perpetually smiling, he was probably the kid in third grade whose report card said, "Plays well with others." If you're one of the lucky guys he plucks off the dance floor to dance with him on the bar, chances are you'll leave with a dopey grin. A heartthrob who knows how to handle a martini shaker while shaking his money maker, he's the epitome of service with sizzle.

SIGNATURE DRINK

Surfer on Acid
1½ oz. each of Malibu Rum and Jägermeister, and a splash of pineapple juice. Shake on ice and serve straight up as a shot.



SIGNATURE DRINK

Hammer's Punch
In a pint glass with ice, pour 1 oz. Captain Morgan Original Spiced Rum, 1 oz. Captain Morgan Parrot Bay Rum, ½ oz. each fresh-squeezed orange juice and lime juice. Fill with pineapple juice and add a splash of cranberry. Shake and serve on the rocks. Garnish with a cherry.

GREG HAMM

SWEETWATER CAFÉ
5 BOYLSTON PLACE, BOSTON, 617-351-2515
FRI. NIGHTS AND RANDOM SHIFTS

An avuncular guy with a smile the size of the Big Dig, Hamm presides over the bar at this American tavern with live acoustic music (Thursdays through Saturdays), trivia contests, superior pub grub, cheap beer and strong drinks. The clientele runs the gamut, from construction workers to executives, and he treats them all with the punctilious service his perfectionism demands. Having worked in two of the region's premier resort areas—Ludlow, Vt. (home of the Okemo ski area) and Nantucket—he's experienced at helping people chill out. He also knows how to tailor his attentions to suit a customer's mood. "I'm good at conversation," he says, "and I'm good at leaving people alone." Laid-back and attitude free, he's as easygoing as a Sunday afternoon on the Esplanade.

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MARIO ARREDONDO

TEATRO
177 TREMONT ST., BOSTON,
617-778-6841
WED.–SAT. NIGHTS

JER-NE
10 AVERY ST., BOSTON,
617-574-7100
MON., TUE. NIGHTS

Like the Dorian Gray of Boston bartenders, Arredondo has been at it forever but still looks studly after 21 years. Perhaps it's the fact that he hails from the Colombian city of Medellin, known as the city of eternal spring. Whatever his secret, you can't argue with his success. "I'm the ice-breaker," he says, "The only ice at my bar is in the drinks." Having overseen the legendary bar scene at Biba for 13 years, he's now catering to a new generation of discerning drinkers, and some of his regulars are the children of original customers. He's become so much a part of the city's social fabric that he's known not only as a distinguished mixologist but as a lousy golfer and a frequent guest at his regulars' country clubs. Arredondo likes to say that anyone can work a busy bar, but to make an empty bar feel lively takes real skill. And his bar is always happening, whether it's jam-packed or just you and him.

SIGNATURE DRINK

California Hot Tub
4 oz. Stoli Doli (pineapple-infused vodka) and a splash each of Chambord and sour mix. Shake on ice, strain into a martini glass, and top with prosecco (Italian sparkling white wine).

LISA ROBERTS

CHEERS
84 BEACON ST., BOSTON, 617-227-9605
FIVE NIGHTS A WEEK

75 CHESTNUT
75 CHESTNUT ST., BOSTON, 617-227-2175
THU. NIGHTS

It takes a bartender of unusual talent to live up to the mythic expectations put upon Cheers by the enduring popularity of the eponymous TV show, and this Roslindale native fits the bill. Along with the Boston accent that tourists expect, Roberts has an acerbic, self-deprecating wit that outstrips sitcom dialogue. Not surprisingly, the occasional patron calls her Carla, to which she's apt to snap, "I'm not her, but why don't you shut up and have a beer?" Known as "Robo" to her colleagues because of her cyborg-like ability to handle a busy bar, she's a rabid Boston sports fan and has fun with out-of-town patrons (especially New Yorkers) when there's a Red Sox, Bruins, Celtics or Patriots game on. Like her TV counterpart, her tough exterior hides an inner softie—co-worker Eddie Doyle (see Most Valuable Bartenders) says she's one of the most active employees on behalf of the numerous charities the bar supports.

SIGNATURE DRINK

The Roborita
2 parts Absolut Mandarin to 1 part blue curacao, a splash of orange juice and pineapple juice. Shake on ice and serve on the rocks in a glass with a sugared rim. Garnish with an orange slice and a cherry.



MIKE SHERIDAN

IRONSIDE GRILL
25 PARK ST., CHARLESTOWN,
617-242-1384
TUE.–SAT. NIGHTS

Part political satirist, part sports nut, part shoulder to cry on and all-around general smartass, Sheridan has been a bartender for over 10 years, and with the myriad of amazing characters he meets, he sees every night as another chapter in a riveting book. A Southie/Dorchester native, he's known for his iconoclastic music taste—'80s hair bands like Def Leppard, Bon Jovi and Van Halen—and many of his regulars at this Charlestown neighborhood bar have become friends whom he socializes with outside of work. Although he's worked in management at several restaurants and received credit for improving the bottom line in at least two, he always finds a way to get back behind the bar. The ideal employee and the ultimate schmoozer, he guarantees at least three things when you sit down at his bar: attentiveness, entertainment and your favorite libation, exactly the way you like it.

SIGNATURE DRINK

Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough Martini
1 part Godiva Dark Chocolate Liqueur, 3 parts Van Gogh Dutch Chocolate Vodka, 1 part Just Desserts Chocolate Chip Cookie Liqueur. Shake on ice, and pour into a chocolate-drizzled martini glass. Garnish with chocolate shavings.

CHRIS COLLINS - NECN

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MOJITO, WHO ARE YOU?

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

You are what you drink.

Or are you?

To find out, we conducted a brunch-time poll to determine what the cocktail you order says about you. Our (admittedly unscientific) study employed Rorschach inkblot methodology: The name of a drink was called out, and our subjects were asked to say the first thing that came to mind when they pictured the man or woman who would order it.

Our focus group included three men and three women—a bartender, a bar owner and four highly accomplished barflies in good standing.

Some of their comments may seem harsh, judgmental and less than kind, and we certainly don't mean to offend anyone, but wouldn't you rather know what subliminal message you may be sending?

Here's what the experts had to say:

If you order a _____, you're probably _____.

GIN MARTINI
For a man: Republican.
For a woman: Crazy.

A SPECIFIC RED WINE VARIETAL
For a man: A connoisseur; sophisticated.
For a woman: Gonna have at least four.

CHARDONNAY
For a man: An out-of-town gay guy over 50.
For a woman: In from the suburbs, and going to have at least 10.

PABST BLUE RIBBON
For a man: A hipster poseur who thinks he's in Williamsburg.
For a woman: A rock chick with a lotta tattoos.

BOURBON ON THE ROCKS
For a man: Knows what he wants; either a man's man or wants to look like one.
For a woman: Heavy smoker; probably good in bed.

COSMOPOLITAN
For a man: Someone who doesn't like alcohol and shouldn't be drinking it; a neuter.
For a woman: Single and horny.

MOJITO
For a man: A loathsome, vile creature who has mistaken himself for Papa Hemingway.
For a woman: More trouble than she's worth.

B-52 SHOT
For a man: An inconsiderate pain in the ass who wants to make the bartender work hard for his tip.
For a woman: Lost her way in Faneuil Hall.

SHOT OF TEQUILA
For a man: Wishes Jimmy Buffet was playing right now.
For a woman: Wishes she was in Mexico right now.

DIET COKE
For a man: An alcoholic straight from his AA meeting; probably a narcissist.
For a woman: Has an eating disorder and is looking to score some *hielo*.

SEX ON THE BEACH
For a man: A cheesy 18-year-old; a bridge-and-tunnel, *MTV Beach Party* meathead whose car has a bumper sticker that reads, "Honk if you're horny."
For a woman: Area code 508, 781, 413, 978...

CRISTAL OR DOM PERIGNON
For a man: A freshman at BU; a gangsta wannabe; a guy who wants to impress his date and probably can't afford it.
For a woman: The divorce just went through—her boyfriend's paying.

SINGLE-MALT SCOTCH
For a man: Probably smokes cigars; paid for his date; has a small penis.
For a woman: Is the paid date—either that, or a divorcée who got all the money and is on her second round of plastic surgery.

LONG ISLAND ICED TEA
For a man: Looking to get f'ed up!
For a woman: Has been in a correctional facility since 1983.



JILL LEGRAND
LUCKY'S
355 CONGRESS ST., BOSTON, 617-357-5825
THU.–SUN. NIGHTS

LeGrand will chill with you while she's chilling your martini and can keep up the banter even when the bar is hopping. An Emerson grad who eventually wants to work in public relations and event planning for a nonprofit, she helps keep the vibe upbeat at this Rat Pack–inspired clubhouse for the unpretentiously hip, located in South Boston's Seaport District. Known for making a mean Manhattan, she's the girl with the nose ring and a million little hair extensions, whose hairstyle changes—from long to short and curly to straight—almost every night. Her approach to mixing drinks is equally improvisational. She can make a perfect classic cocktail, create something new on the spot, or, on nights when customers are three deep at the bar, keep churning out the drinks. She's like that cool chick from high school who straddled all the cliques and hung out with everyone, except that the drinks are legal.

SO YOU WANT TO BUY A BAR?

Becoming your own Sam Malone isn't as easy as you might think

BY EZRA DYER



At some time or another, most everyone who goes to bars has probably glanced around a crowd of patrons jostling one another for the opportunity to buy expensive drinks and wondered, "Why don't I own a bar?"

As you might have guessed, buying a pub isn't as simple as signing your name on the dotted line and watching the money roll in. Assuming you've already lined up financing, you'll probably want to buy a place that already has a liquor license—which means taking over an existing bar. "In Boston, it's difficult to buy a place and then put in a liquor license," says Patrick Lee, owner of the Irish Village, Grafton Street, Temple Bar and Redline. "There's a cap on liquor licenses, and they're at that cap right now. It's easier to just buy an existing place." Of the money you'll spend to purchase your new digs, Lee estimates that $100,000 to $150,000 of the price is for the liquor license alone.

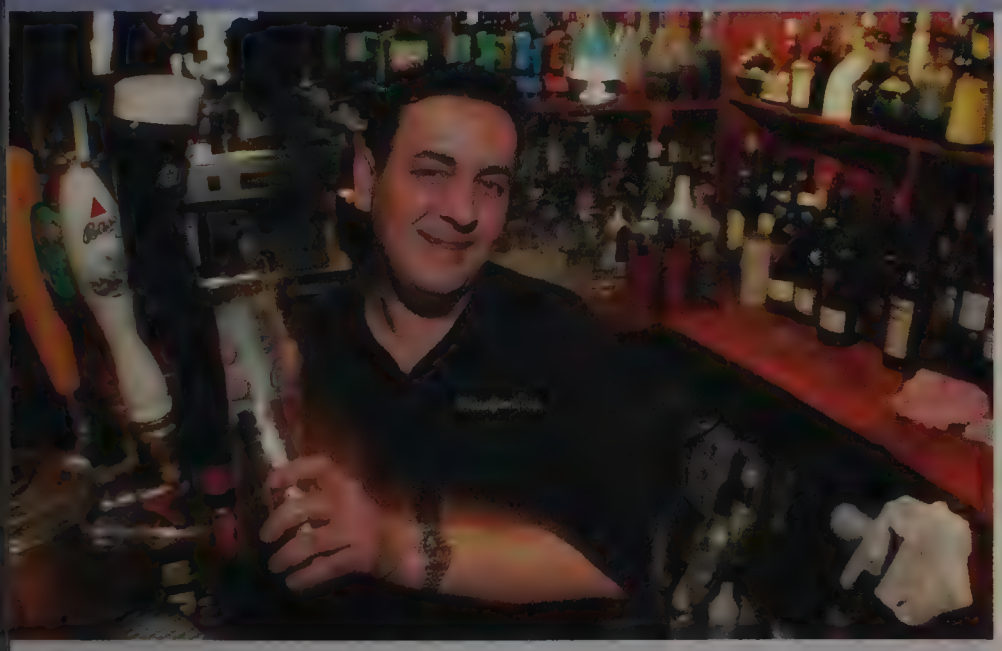
Once you've found the spot for your new watering hole, you'll need to take care of a few other details. Actually, make that a slew of other details. "You need a good attorney," says Paul Barclay, owner of the Rack. "Then, you go to the neighborhood and build up some goodwill in advance. Participate in some charities and get your name out there, because given the option, neighbors always come out of the woodwork—'I saw a coaster on the street, I'm pretty sure litter is coming from that bar!' Then, you go before the city liquor board and the entertainment board, and you get investigated by the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission to see where your money came from." Assuming all of that works out, you then need to secure liability insurance, which, in the wake of last year's Station nightclub fire in Rhode Island, is both expensive and difficult to obtain. "A lot of companies have stopped writing policies for nightclubs," Barclay says. "I used to have several companies competing for my policy, but last year I only had two, and they said, 'You think this is too expensive? Tough.'"

If you're planning on refashioning your space according to your own vision (and isn't that the point?), you embark on another epic quest: construction. "If you think it might cost $4 million, plan on it being $5.5 million," says Barclay. "Nothing goes according to plan."

Errol Apostolopoulos, owner of the Place, is currently overseeing renovations of a second bar that will occupy the space of the former Polly Esther's, near the FleetCenter. Dubbed the Greatest Bar, it's expected to open before the Democratic National Convention. "One of the things that's been an eye-opener for me is that this has been a major construction project," says Apostolopoulos. "Architects, contractors, city permits—it's a long process."

But after you've conquered all these obstacles and you're ready to open, you can kick back and relax, right? Not exactly. "Once you open, basically the only time you're not there is when you're sleeping," Apostolopoulos says. "You're taking deliveries, fixing things, hosting people, managing staff, answering questions and handling any problems. You're your own marketing, accounting and purchasing department. At the end of the day, you're doing your receipts. Your first year is very hands-on, and there's very little down time." The fun, says Apostolopoulos, comes later, when the owner can relax a bit and enjoy the fruits of his labor. "The social aspect of owning a bar is nice," he says. "It's a means of seeing your friends and staying in contact. If people are in town, they stop by. Hosting parties and events—that stuff's very fun. And in my case, I did it with friends of mine, and I get a lot of enjoyment out of that."

"It's fun owning a bar, but it's a lot of work," says the Rack's Barclay. "Virtually any bar in Boston is for sale, if the price is right." Even his? "Hey, I'm getting old..."



GAETANO "GUY" TURCO

THE WATERFRONT CAFÉ
450 COMMERCIAL ST., BOSTON, 617-523-0613
MON.–SAT. VARYING DAYS AND NIGHTS

What Alberto Tomba was to skiing, or Mario Andretti to racing cars, Turco is to bartending. A native of Sicily, he was raised in Turin, Italy, and got his start in the business at the tender age of 9, working at a place his brother owned in an Italian ski resort. With his Mediterranean charm going full blast, he can turn a room full of surly Bostonians into a crowd of convivial confreres worthy of Carnevale in Venice. With an uncanny knack for knowing a customer's drink before he even walks through the door, Turco is the quintessential North End guy—warm, welcoming and genuine. Bonus points for his accent, which makes even bad news sound OK.

SIGNATURE DRINK

The Guy Martini
1½ oz. Hypnotique, ½ oz. Grey Goose Vodka, 1½ oz. Grand Marnier. Shake on ice and strain into a martini glass. Garnish with a cherry.



SIGNATURE DRINK

Prima Rosa
1 part each Stoli Strasberi, lemoncello, lemonade and soda water, with a splash of cranberry. Serve on ice in a tulip glass. Garnish with a lemon wedge.

NATHAN HUGHES

PARISH CAFÉ
361 BOYLSTON ST., BOSTON, 617-247-4777
MON., WED., FRI. NIGHTS; SUN. DAYS

An army brat raised in upstate New York, Hughes came to Boston to play bass with a band and has also busked in T stations. Although he began tending bar as a way to support his musical aspirations, this self-described "6'1" bald guy with glasses" quickly fell in love with the business and has been plying his trade for the past eight years, first at Big City in Allston and now at one of Back Bay's most enduringly popular hangouts. Catering to a mix of local office drones, tourists, the pre- and post-theater crowd and employees of such nearby restaurants as Grill 23 and Excelsior, Hughes adapts his style to suit each customer who sits down at his bar, assessing within 30 seconds of their arrival whether they want a butler, a buddy or simply to be left alone. With a pop culture IQ in the genius range, he's able to elevate small talk to a higher level in the time it takes to down a draft. "There are so many bars to choose from in Boston," he says, "so you have to give 'em a reason to come back." Like swallows returning to Capistrano, Hughes' regulars return again and again.

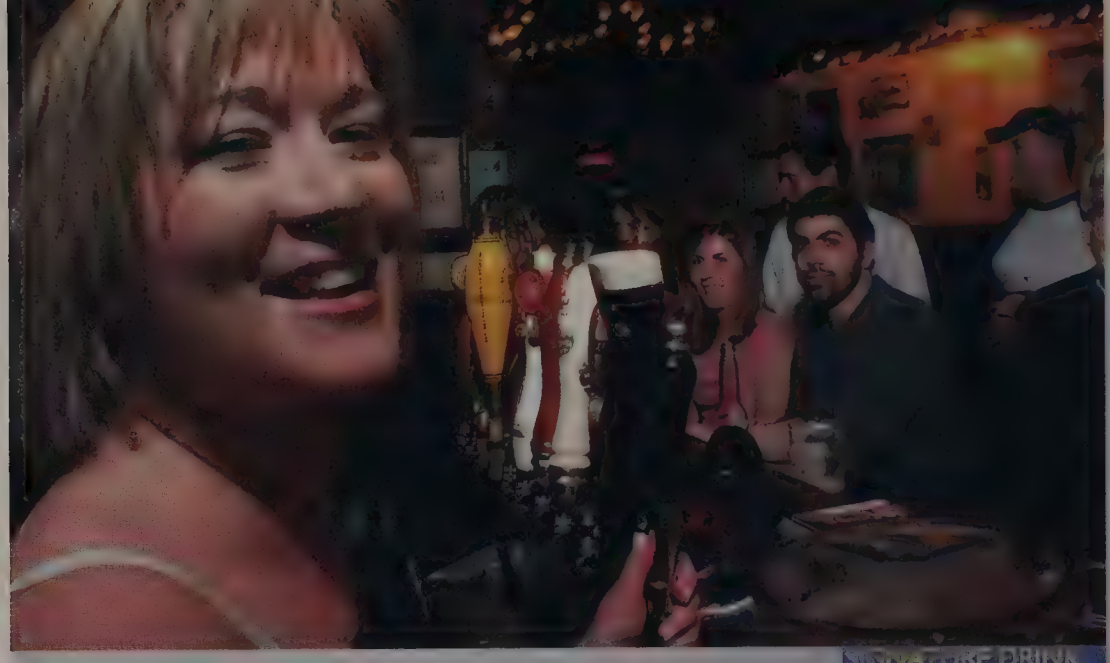
SIGNATURE DRINK

Schnossberry Martini
Equal parts Stoli Razberi and Stoli Ohranj, ¼ oz. Midori and a splash of cranberry and pineapple juice. Shake on ice and serve straight up in a martini glass. Garnish with an orange slice.



GARY MURAD
DILLON'S
955 BOYLSTON ST., BOSTON, 617-421-1818
FRI. NIGHTS

Surprisingly, Murad claims he's not the only bartender he knows with two graduate degrees. A native of Framingham, he has an M.B.A. and a law degree and works by day as a lobbyist, schmoozing the legislators on Beacon Hill. The thrill of being behind the bar (a job he initially took to help pay for grad school) has blossomed into an abiding passion, and whatever direction his career takes, Murad doesn't see himself ever giving up entirely on his sideline. "It's a social outlet, with the fringe benefit of making some money," he says. "I'd be out anyway, so I might as well be doing something worthwhile." He sees bartending in terms of performing: "It's exactly the same as being an actor or a musician or a comedian. Your job is to entertain." Besides dispensing hospitality with a theatrical flair, he's like Speedy Gonzalez behind the bar, and his cocktails are consistently perfect.



BERNIE KEAVENEY
BRENDAN BEHAN PUB
378 CENTRE ST., JAMAICA PLAIN, 617-522-5386
TUE., WED. DAYS; FRI., SAT. NIGHTS; SUN. DAYS

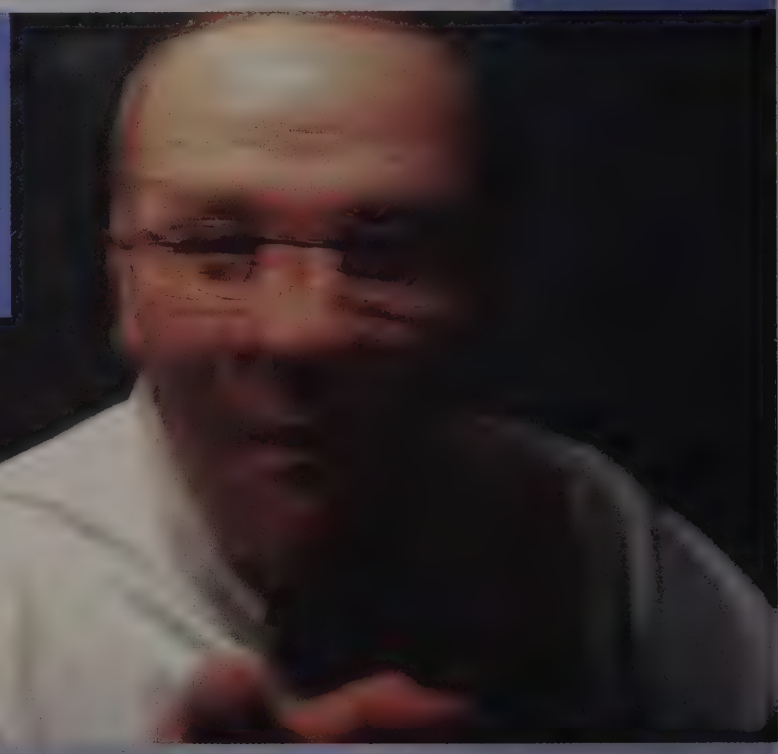
This Irish import (from County Roscommon) has the energy of a 100-megaton warhead, and her staccato, machine-gun style of talking matches her rabbit-like swiftness with the beverages. Working with two men, she's the only woman behind the bar. But she can more than hold her own with the guys. Able to take it as well as she dishes it out, she has a superb sense of humor, and a first-time visitor to her bar becomes a fan for life. In fact, some of her regulars schlep all the way from Cambridge to see her, and if that isn't high praise, we don't know what is.

SIGNATURE DRINK

Nuts and Berries
Equal parts Baileys Irish Cream, Chambord, Frangelico, Stoli Razberi and Kahlua. Shake on ice and serve as a shot.

SIGNATURE DRINK

The Pure Whore
Equal parts Stoli Vanil, Malibu Rum and pineapple juice. Shake on ice and serve as a shot.



TERRY NIXON
MR. DOOLEY'S BOSTON TAVERN
77 BROAD ST., BOSTON, 617-338-5656
FRI., SAT., SUN., TUE. NIGHTS

Imagine the friendliest person you've ever met. Now, multiply by a factor of 10 and add a thick Irish accent. That's simply the tip of the iceberg when it comes to Nixon's charm. A native of a small town called Athlone, he greets customers at this Financial District bar with such endearingly folksy truisms as "Every day above ground is a good day." He genuinely can't seem to believe his good fortune at earning a living "simply by talking to people." The gilded tongue and a sympathetic ear mean he's privy to patrons' deepest, darkest secrets, and he admits, "I hear a lot of love stories," although he declines to elaborate: "That's why they're called secrets." Besides being the soul of discretion and never betraying a confidence, he's known for his verbal pyrotechnics and his ability to pick up a conversation exactly where it left off, even if it was six months ago. His customers, many of them business travelers staying at nearby hotels, return regularly for that reason, and grateful patrons have sent postcards and T-shirts from as far away as Morocco to thank him for his hospitality. Add to that a gift for pulling a good pint of Guinness and a knack for flushing out unsavory characters without anyone noticing, and it's obvious why everyone considers him aces.


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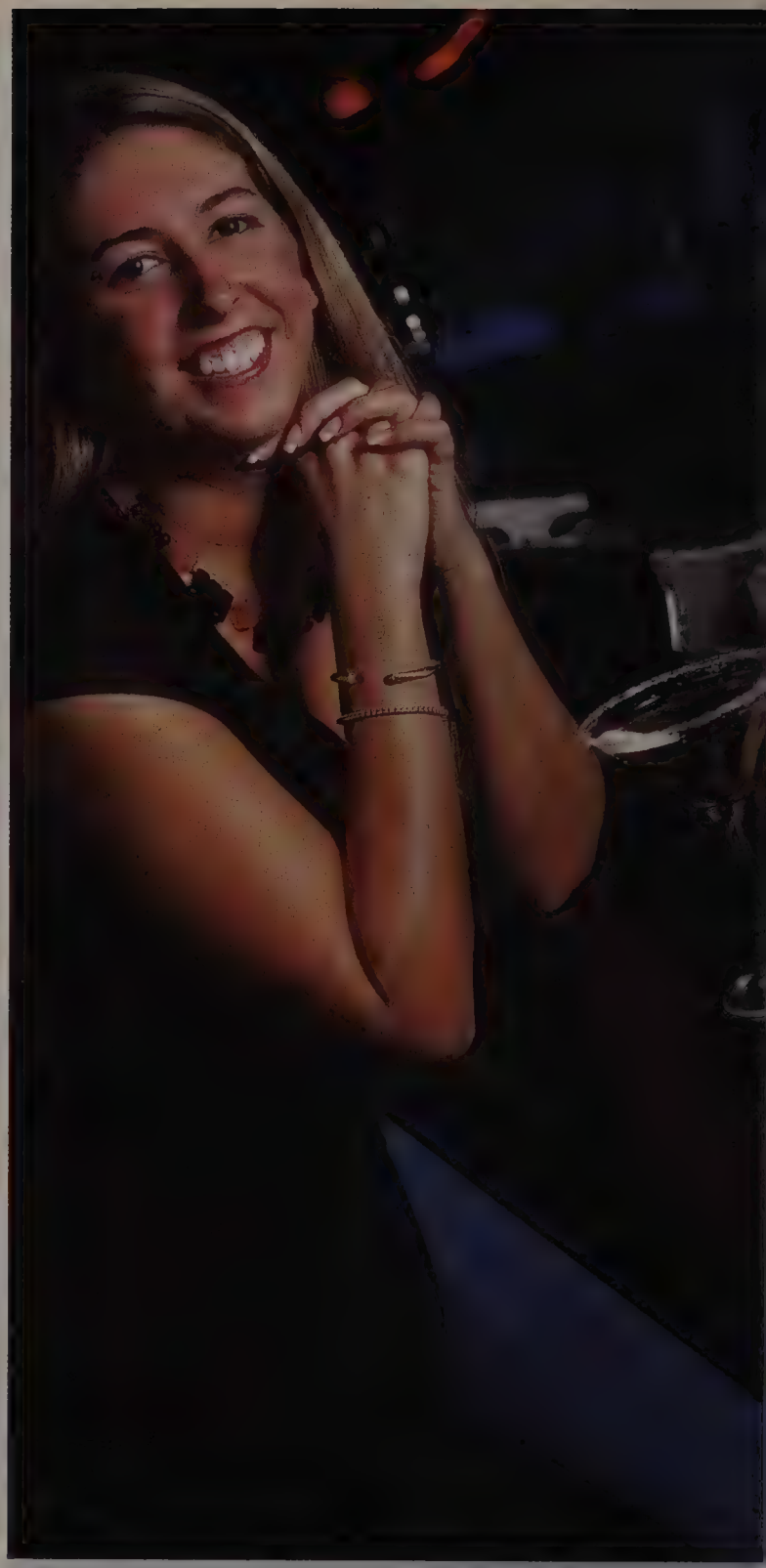
JEFFERSON RYDER
VOX POPULI
755 BOYLSTON ST., BOSTON,
617-424-8300
WED.–SAT. NIGHTS

Always the most jovial guy in the room, Ryder is a full-time dad to his two children and the elder statesman among his coworkers, who call him "Switzerland" because of his neutrality. "The world is so chaotic," he says. "Hopefully, my little stretch of bar provides an oasis of calm for my customers." His regulars tend to be the young and the restless—not to mention good-looking, successful and well-dressed—who flock to this Copley Square watering hole. With the finesse of a seasoned pro and the enthusiasm of a rookie, Ryder sees to his customers' needs and frequently uses them as guinea pigs, offering tastes of his newest concoction to grateful patrons. Skilled at relating to whomever bellies up to his bar, he's like Willy Wonka, making tasty treats for an adoring clientele.

SIGNATURE DRINK

The Clear Crantini
1½ oz. Finlandia Cranberry Vodka, ¾ oz. each Finlandia Lime Vodka and Triple Sec, 2 oz. white cranberry juice. Shake on ice and strain into a frosted martini glass. Garnish with a lime wedge and 3 floating cranberries.





SIGNATURE DRINK

Pete's Passion
Equal parts Midori, Peach Schnapps, Malibu Rum, Southern Comfort, amaretto, sloe gin and pineapple juice. Shake on ice and serve as a shot.



PETER LEROY
THE PURPLE SHAMROCK
1 UNION ST., BOSTON,
617-227-2060
MON., FRI., SAT. NIGHTS

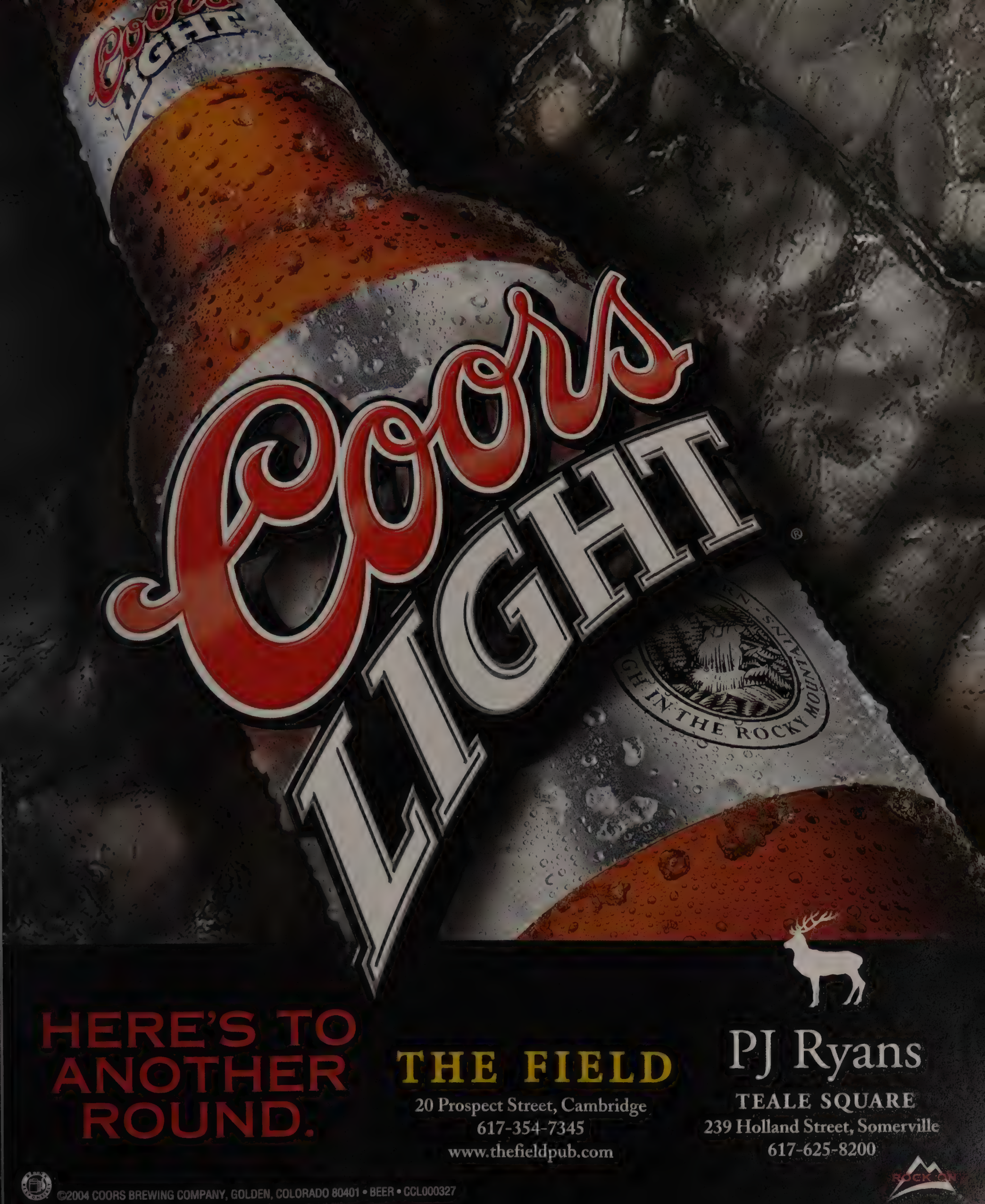
By day, LeRoy works with learning-disabled sixth-graders as a teacher's assistant with Boston Public Schools. By night, he ministers to thirsty adults at this downtown hot spot. Both callings require the patience of Job and outstanding interpersonal skills, and the similarities between dealing with unruly kids and handling rowdy after-work and weekend crowds aren't lost on him. Lightning-fast with a comeback or an amusing one-liner, he has a smile and a handshake for everyone when time permits but maintains eye contact with customers even when the bar is slammed. He's also a pro at getting the social ball rolling; when a pretty girl comes in, he won't hesitate to put her drink on a regular's tab, without asking, and tell her, "That guy over there bought this for you." Able to handle six orders (or 12–18 drinks) at a time, he's like an alcohol assembly line. What could be better than a wing-man who dispenses drinks?

JUSTINE KURLAND
SANCTUARY
189 STATE ST., BOSTON, 617-573-9333
MON., FRI., SAT. NIGHTS

Vivacious and flirtatious, this lovely and lively young lady oversees the good times at the newest hot spot in Faneuil Hall, which (despite its location) attracts an upscale crowd of young, well-dressed professionals. Having graduated from Tufts (with a degree in economics) in 2002, Kurland has been behind the bar only a few years but already has the chops of a seasoned professional. Known for her fashion flair ("I'm all about the glitter and sparkles"), she has adapted Sanctuary's all-black uniform with her trademark tuxedo pants. Not surprisingly, she's constantly getting hit on, which she says is just an occupational hazard. But not even persistent Lotharios can dampen her high spirits. Delightful, delectable, delovely.

SIGNATURE DRINK

The Sanctuary Martini
Two parts Cîroc Vodka to one part white grape juice. Shake on ice and serve in a martini glass with a white-grape-sugared rim. Garnish with a red grape.

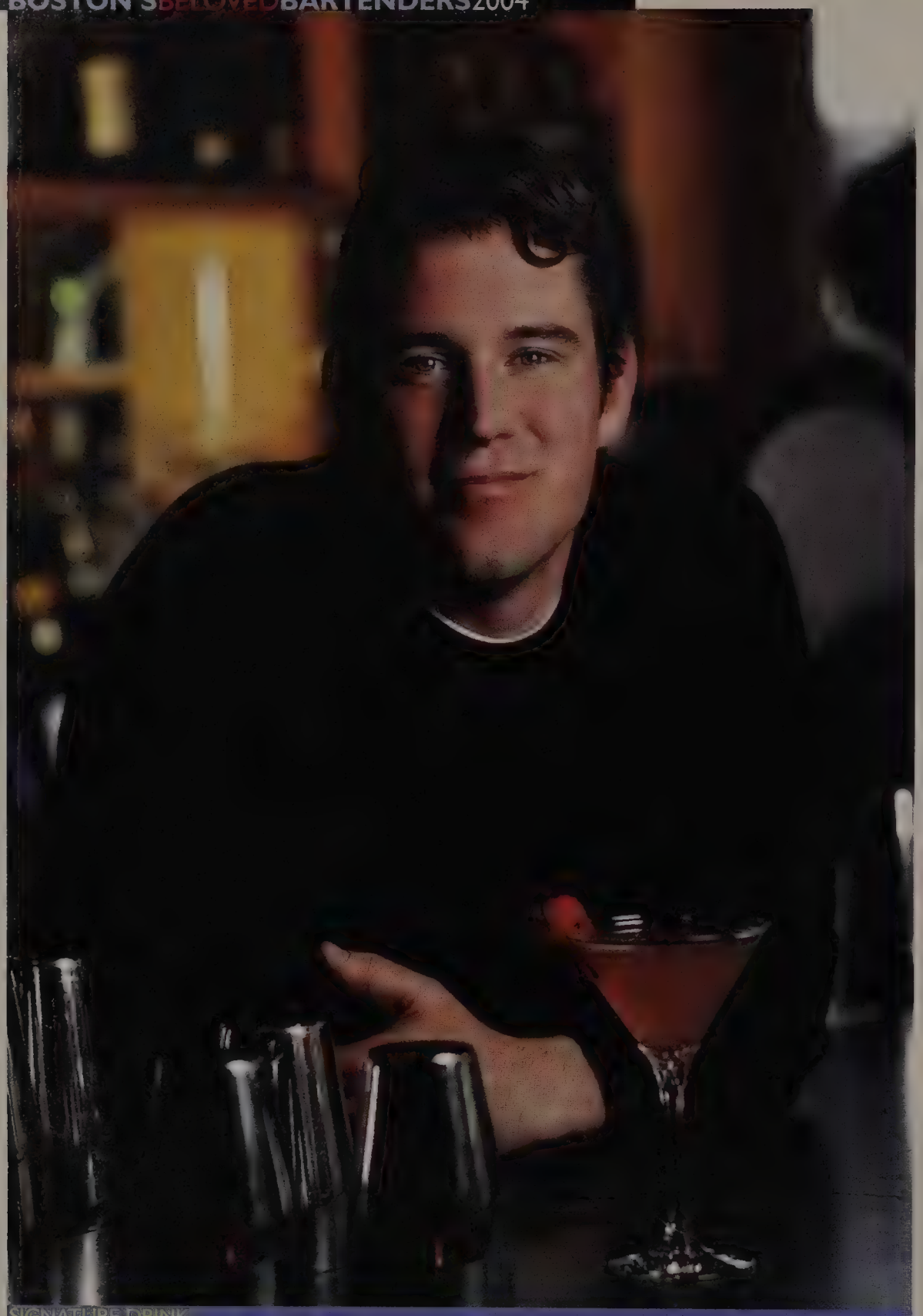


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SIGNATURE DRINK

Strawberry Mint Mojito

1 fresh strawberry, diced, a small handful of mint and ½ tablespoon sugar, muddled in a pint glass with ice. Add 2½ oz. Stoli Strasberi, ½ oz. Cointreau, ½ oz. fresh-squeezed lemon juice. Shake and serve straight up. Garnish with half a fresh strawberry.

SEAN MCKEOWN

THE FIREPLACE
1634 BEACON ST., BROOKLINE, 617-975-1900
WED.–FRI. NIGHTS

It's a testament to McKeown's talents that some devotees from his previous gigs at Grill 23, the Parish Café and the Good Life Cambridge make the trek all the way out to Brookline just to see him. While building up a telecommunications business with his brother, he started bartending at night, but two years ago decided to leave the corporate world for good and pursue a higher calling. Managing the bar at this suburban American bistro with a decidedly downtown ambience, he can crank out the drinks like a madman when there's a band performing (Wednesday and Thursday nights), although he's equally capable of carrying on an intelligent conversation when the bar is quiet. "I should be writing an advice column," he says, "with all the personal stuff—relationship problems, work angst—that people tell me about." Three times a year, he comes up with a new and original cocktail menu, and he can offer the expertise of a sommelier without the meaningless claptrap. Capable, courteous and cordial, not to mention super-cute, he's everything you'd want in a buddy or a boyfriend, let alone a bartender.

THE WORST-CASE SCENARIO BAR GUIDE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Under normal circumstances, a bar is a safe and hassle-free oasis in which to relax and enjoy a few pops. But bad things can happen to good barflies. Accordingly, we offer the following tips to help you cope with sticky situations.

What do you do if…

A fight breaks out?

Bar brawls have been romanticized to a fare-thee-well in films and television, which make them look like wacky, bottle-smashing fun. But the truth is that they usually result in bodily injury and/or a night spent in the drunk tank at the police station. No matter how bulletproof liquor makes you feel, try not to get involved, especially when bottles and pool cues are brandished as weapons. Instead, quietly and unobtrusively make your way to the nearest exit, and congratulate yourself for your Ghandi-like pacifism…and for having skipped out on a bar tab for a perfectly legitimate reason.

It's time to pay the bill and you realize you don't have any money?

Everyone forgets his or her wallet once in a while, but if you find that this happens more than, say, two or three times in a decade, you might be just a parasitic scum-sucking schnorrer. On the other hand, when this happens and it's not your habit, there are a few graceful ways to handle the situation. One is to leave something valuable behind (perhaps a piece of jewelry, or your fiancée) while you retrieve the necessary funds. Another is to offer some form of in-kind service. But no matter how cute the bartender is, we suggest you steer clear of offering sexual favors, as this is what is universally known as prostitution.

Some truly awful person is hitting on you and won't go away?

Few of us have not been the objects of unwanted attention by persistent barroom admirers. When polite but subtle hints (like, "I'd rather chew glass") fail to dissuade them, you have two choices: You can leave, which means that boorish behavior prevails, or you can borrow a page from the insect kingdom and make like the stinkbug, letting out a pungent and unmistakable fart. The only downside to this approach is that no one else is likely to find you alluring for the rest of the evening.

Your friend is hitting on a woman who's actually a man?

While it may be amusing to you to watch your dimwitted buddy chat up the unusually tall woman with the prominent Adam's apple, the situation can quickly devolve into an ugly *Crying Game* scenario, and it's your job to intervene. At an opportune moment, quietly remind your friend that no real woman has ever found him remotely that interesting, and point out all the telltale signs that she is a he. If all else fails, wait until "she" excuses herself to use the bathroom and tactfully explain that, while undeniably lovely, she is probably standing up to pee.

You find a cockroach floating in your cocktail?

Don't make a scene. As the old joke goes, be quiet or everyone else will want one. Instead of causing a ruckus, subtly alert the bartender and explain to him that you won't mention it to a soul if he introduces you to the hot blonde at the end of the bar.

The Red Sox are playing and there's no TV?

There is no known solution to this problem. Leave at once.

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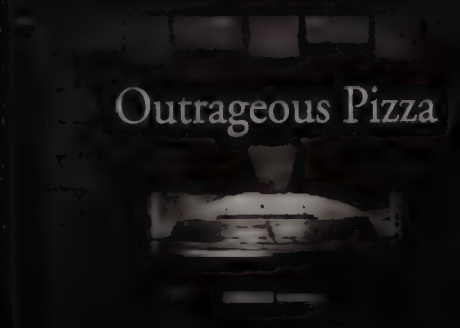
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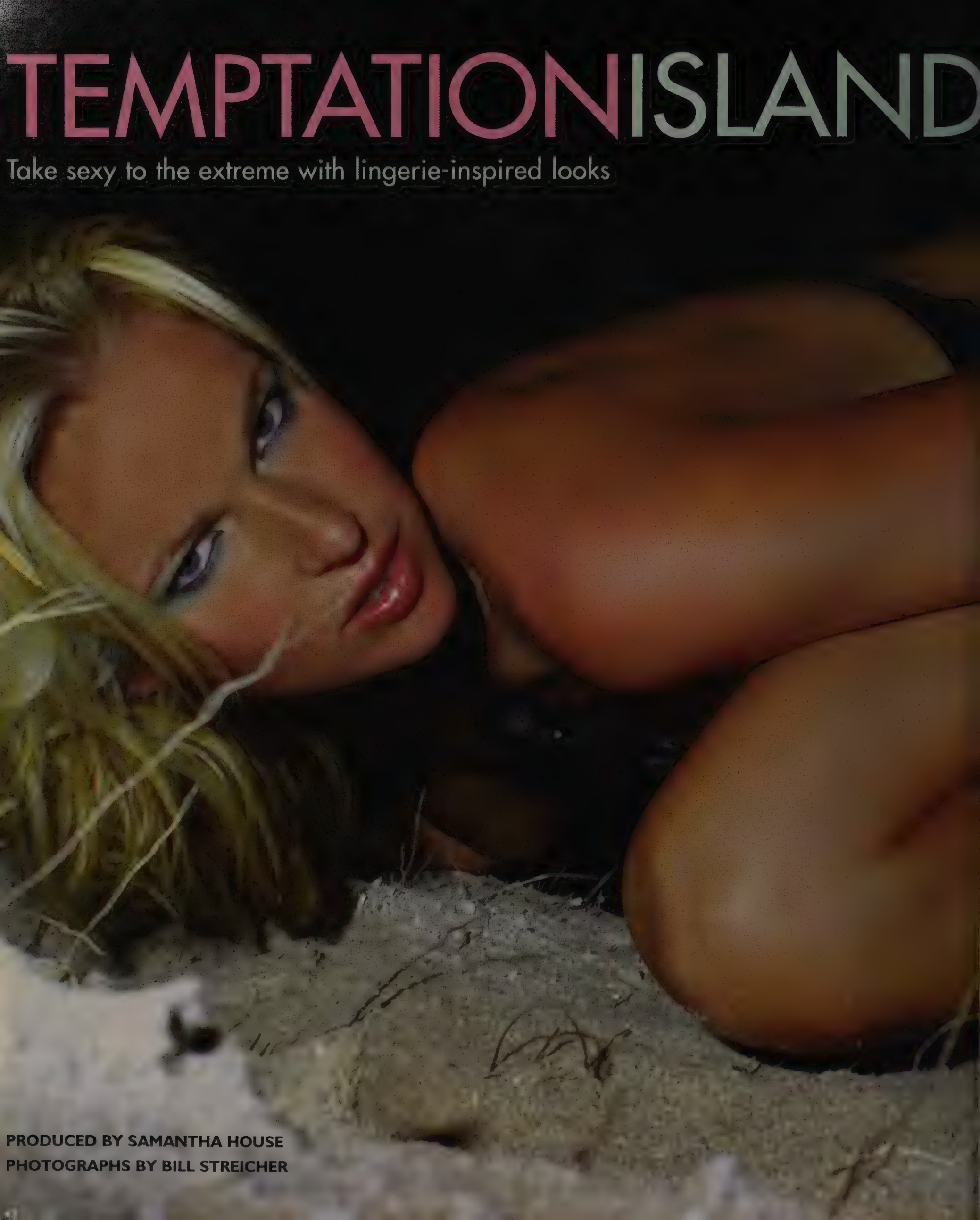


BIG CITY BAR SPECIALS
'TIL 1 AM



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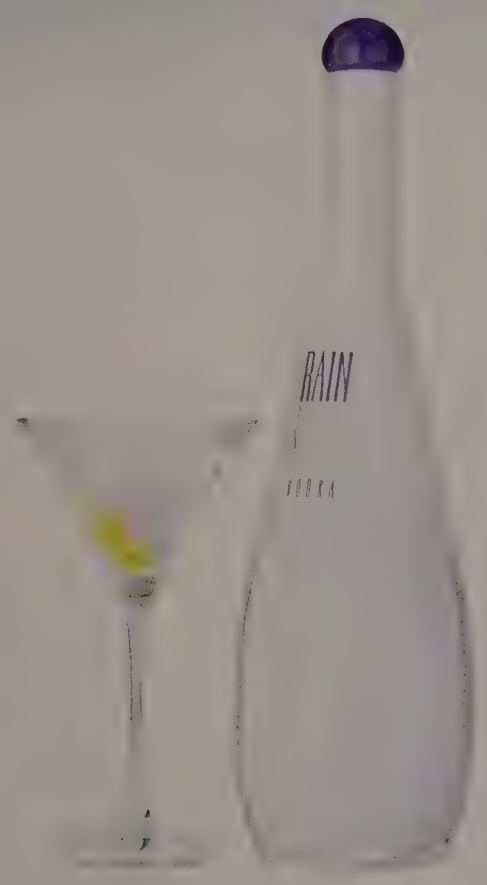
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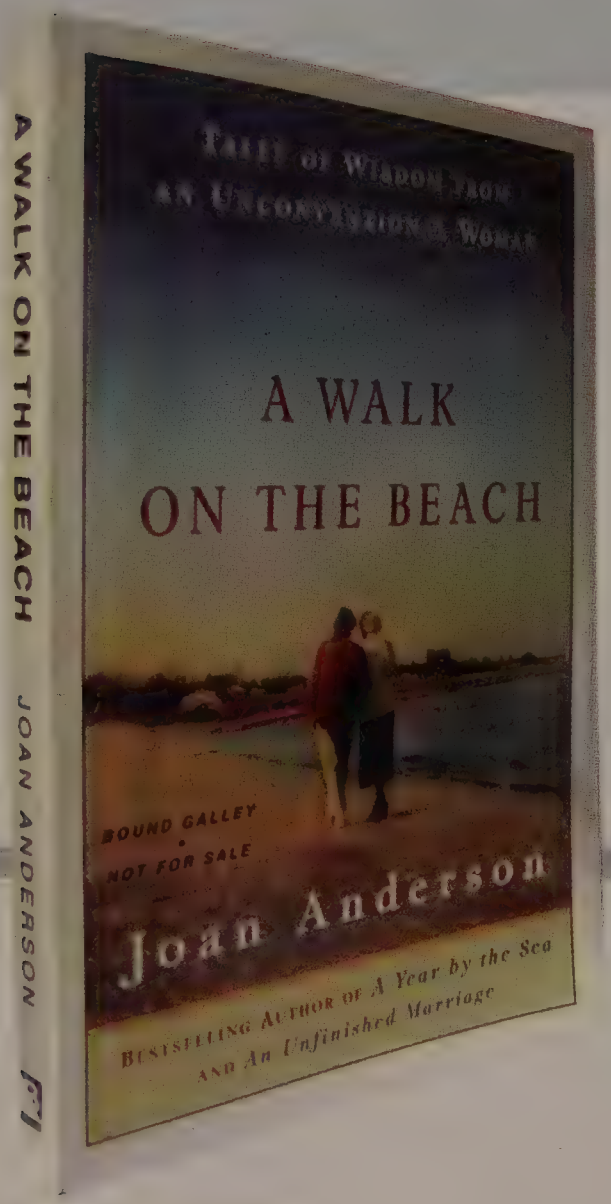
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BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



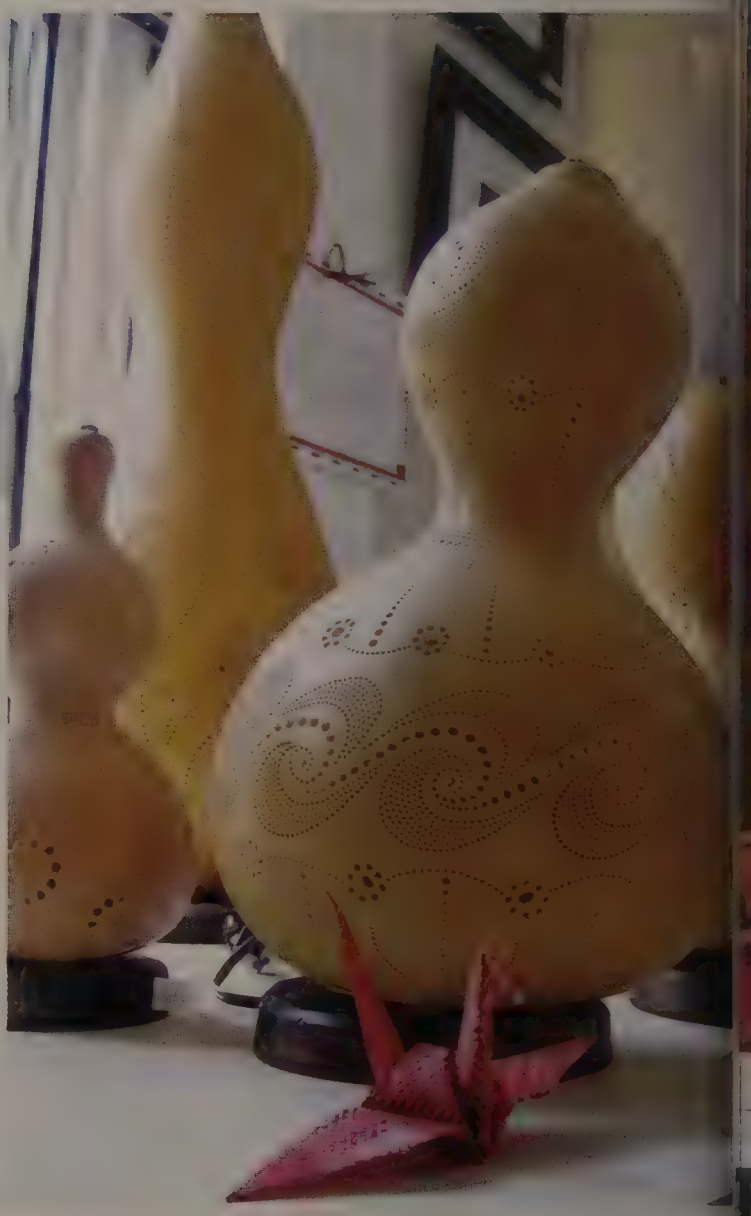
WISDOM OF THE AGES

***A Walk on the Beach*, by Joan Anderson, is a memoir of a woman's year alone on the Cape and her friendship with her elderly mentor.**

Writer Joan Anderson found herself at a crossroads in her marriage, and so took off for a year of solitude and contemplation on Cape Cod. But an unexpected—or extremely fated—encounter changed her plans. No, it wasn't an affair. Rather, on the rocky beach she met Joan Erikson, wife of the eminent psychologist Erik Erikson, who chronicled life's psychological stages. In her 90s, yet still bohemian, free-spirited and emotionally adventuresome, Erikson became Anderson's mentor and friend. Calling upon her past as a dancer and her collaborative psychological work with Erik, Joan E. encouraged Joan A. to embrace her instinctual, intuitive, bodily self, to see the world through unjaded eyes and to take risks. Inspired by Erikson's recommendation to grab life's delicious mud and get dirty, Anderson eventually hiked the Inca Trail in Peru. In the course of exploring her own final, but still stretching years, Erikson (who died in 1997) helped her younger friend leap into interesting voids. *A Walk on the Beach* documents a sort of free-floating friendship therapy, part wise-woman mentoring, part two girls laughing on the beach together, even if one of them is 94 years old.

ASIA ON MY MIND

Keiko, at 121 Charles St., sells fine Japanese handcrafts. Call 617-725-2888 or go to www.keikogallery.com.



Keiko is a haven of tranquility (its phone number even ends in the Japanese lucky number 8). A prominent aesthetic in the shop is lacquer, a substance so lusciously rare that one tree produces a single cup of it per year, then rests for 13 years. An extraordinary lacquered table with exotic asymmetrical patterns painted on it is a work of art, beautiful yet of a knockable hardness; it was sap-saturated 45 times to achieve its durable glow. Elsewhere, an enduring red lipstick kiss appears in lacquered bowls and in ringingly pure jewelry. Necklaces hang from a black cord, a single red circle or square echoing earrings in similar designs. Lacquer also forms the surface of a flat painting of a boy and girl, made of decorative papers. Another evocative painting is of a red kimono blowing in the wind. Glass, very intricately cut, appears in little blue sauce dishes for ceremonial occasions and in an impressively enormous, glinting bowl that demands its own domain for presentation. A tiny glass orchestra—sold separately or in its entirety—features musicians barely three inches tall. Keiko also sells lamps made of skinny, yellowish, dried gourds decorated with pinhole patterns that shed light with great delicacy.

ME, MY MUSCLES AND I

Rexercise, at 283-A Mount Auburn St. in Watertown, provides one-on-one personal-training in a private studio. Trainer Rex Baird has an extensive background in health and sports. Call 617-923-0010 to schedule a free consultation.



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Baird, a former neuromuscular massage therapist, has also gone on his own extensive exercise odysseys. He's run 65 marathons and has competed in the high jump and weightlifting, among other sports, and he knows what's worked and what hasn't. He describes his evolved theory of optimum activity, which involves resistance training that will help you build precious muscle while shedding fat. If you only diet, without working out, you sacrifice muscle; the same holds true if your only exercise is aerobics. Baird comically imitates the stance of modern Computer Man, Cro-Magnon division, feebly hunched and slouched, head leaning forward. Then he leans against the wall, palms flattened to illustrate the correct alignment: ears over the shoulders over the hips over the ankles. Inspiringly healthy Baird and his sleek machinery address the varying needs of golfers, runners and anyone else, using slow, controlled movements, and updating your program as you progress. "Biomarkers"—muscle mass, strength, basal metabolic rate, and body fat percentage—are the operative measurements that will mark your goals.

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REVIEW

SHELLFISH DESIRES

With B&G Oysters, Barbara Lynch opens a pearl on Tremont Street

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Barbara Lynch is one of a handful of celebrated restaurant owner/chefs who grace our city. Her No. 9 Park, which lies in the shadow of Bulfinch's gold-domed capitol building on Beacon Hill, is near the top of everyone's short list of upscale, cutting-edge Boston restaurants. Now Lynch has applied her energy, flair and expertise to two quite different restaurants in the South End: B&G Oysters Ltd. and the Butcher Shop. As their names suggest, these eateries focus on seafood and meat respectively, and adherents of the Atkins regime will find a welcome bill of fare in each. This week I explore the charms of B&G, which turns out impeccably fresh fish and shellfish, creatively and skillfully prepared and attractively presented in a lively, warm and hospitable environment. (In the next issue I will address B&G's meaty sibling, the Butcher Shop.)



Fried oysters with homemade tartar sauce

Ensconced on the corner of Tremont and Waltham streets in the South End, B&G Oysters—co-owned by Lynch and her longtime manager Garrett Harker—occupies but a few hundred square feet of space just below street level. A smart, white marble bar, which seats almost 20 diners, wraps around the open, stainless steel kitchen, in which constantly moving, no-nonsense line cooks juggle frying pans and adjust garnishes with truly remarkable agility and energy. The restaurant's clever, ergonomic design and effective use of space enable the young, energetic staff to negotiate the tight spaces with efficiency and grace. Small tiles cover one wall and part of the ceiling, with intricately recessed paneling defining the remainder. A large bay window, with seating at a counter for four diners, looks out onto Tremont Street. There are a handful of small tables, the largest of which seats up to eight, around the periphery of the restaurant.

B&G's food starts out on the right foot with excellent, hard-crusted French rolls—the product of Frank McClelland's Sel de la Terre bakery—accompanied by sweet-salty soft butter. As befits its name, B&G features a large selection of fresh oysters on the half shell. The list of these creatures from near and far—Massachusetts and Rhode Island to Prince Edward Island and the Pacific coast—changes daily, ensuring freshness and variety. At $2 per bivalve, an oyster enthusiast can run up quite a tab, especially if he or she washes them down with wine purchased by the glass.

One need not be a devotee of raw oysters to appreciate B&G, for its menu also offers nine soup, salad and sandwich options; five appetizers; and six main courses consisting of seafood with impeccably fresh and flavorful vegetable garnishes. Spicy salty shrimp ($14), almost a dozen medium-size shrimp, appeared arranged in a row on a small plate with tails up as if standing at attention. Aromatic with sea salt and cayenne and fried to perfect crunchy texture, they were accompanied by provocatively braised bok choy. *Moules frites* ($13), a dozen and a half plump, sweet mussels steamed with leek and saffron, betrayed a touch of Pernod. Accompanied by hand-cut French fries, the mussels and their starchy companion brought a little Brussels to Boston.

Salade niçoise ($13) exuded Mediterranean warmth and aromas, with pleasantly bitter arugula, extra-virgin olive oil, al dente green beans, hard boiled egg, roast sweet pepper strips, pitted black olives and tiny quarters of firm-textured fingerling potatoes. The star of the ensemble was the sashimi-quality seared tuna, two thick slices, satiny in texture and satisfying in their fresh, pristine flavor. A single white anchovy fillet crowned the masterpiece, so exquisite that I forgave the absence of my favorite niçoise ingredient, capers.

Among main courses, the baked scrod with black truffled crust ($18) vied with the sea scallops for bragging rights. Served on a pool of slightly salty celeriac puree and garnished with sautéed spinach, carrots, turnips and Brussels sprouts, the cod boasted firm, flaky yet moist flesh inside a subtly flavored crust. Broiled sea scallops ($20) brought four huge, sweet, tender scallops of perfect texture, not really broiled but rather seared in hot butter to a rich golden brown color, served on a yellow carrot puree with two or three varieties of woodsy, earthy wild mushrooms. Choosing a favorite between the scallops and cod proved impossible.

The last main course I tried, the Maine lobster roll, fetched the menu's top price, $22. It consisted of a cold salad of meaty chunks of tail and knuckle meat, tossed with a blend of herbs that enhanced rather than obscured the sweet lobster flavor, with nuggets of crunchy celery thrown in for texture counterpoint. As good as the salad was, I was disappointed, since I had been expecting warm, sautéed buttered lobster. Advised that the lobster roll would be accompanied by more of the French fries, I passed on them, and my waiter offered to substitute sautéed vegetables instead. In the preparation of its vegetables as well as its scallops, B&G deploys butter by the tablespoon, with delicious if artery-clogging results.

Buttery indulgence notwithstanding, I was not about to go without dessert. Warm

B&G OYSTERS

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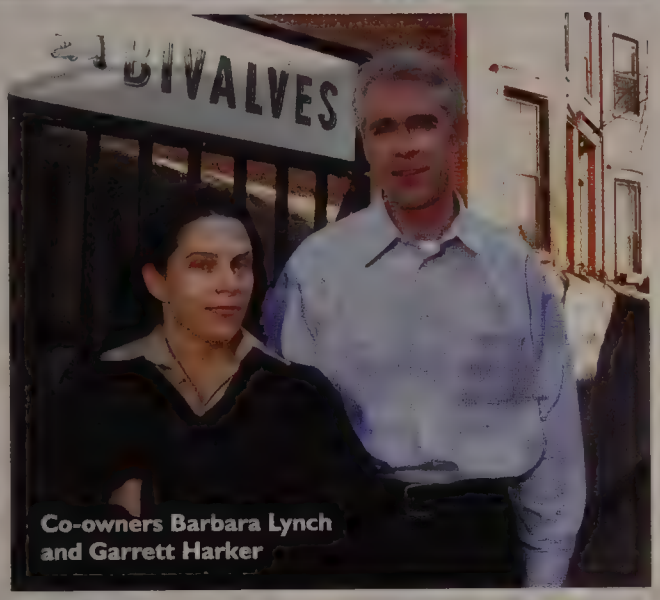


ooking over the kitchen, he bar at B&G Oysters gives iners a view of the action

hocolate cake ($8) beck-ned, but it turned out to be ather dry apart from the arm, softened squares of ittersweet chocolate in the enter. Like a fickle date, owever, I could not keep y eyes from wandering to he banana royale ($9) ice ream extravaganza that I oticed as it was en route to nother patron, and I made a ental note that it looked orthy of a little sweat on he exercise bike.

To go with its seafood, &G offers a decent wine st, including over 35 white ines and nine sparkling ines. The wine list ranged n price from $22 for a bot-le of Spanish white to the rincely sum of $125 for a alf of Krug Grand Cuvee Champagne.

My dining experiences at B&G were enhanced by the raciousness of its staff. B&G ccepts reservations only for arties of four or more. As a esult, my wife and I arrived ithout a reservation. The ostess, genuinely concerned t my disappointment at issing the last available un-eserved table, apologeti-ally seated us at the bar. The bubbly disposition of ur smiling waitress immedi-tely changed my frame of ind. "These are the best eats in the house," I re-arked to my wife, as we atched the busy cooks ply heir trade at the stove and arveled at the upbeat en-husiasm and unwavering nergy of our waitress. While estaurant employees can be rained to provide attentive, fficient service, the pleas-nt, hospitable demeanor of B&G's upbeat staff had to e the product of nature, ot nurture.



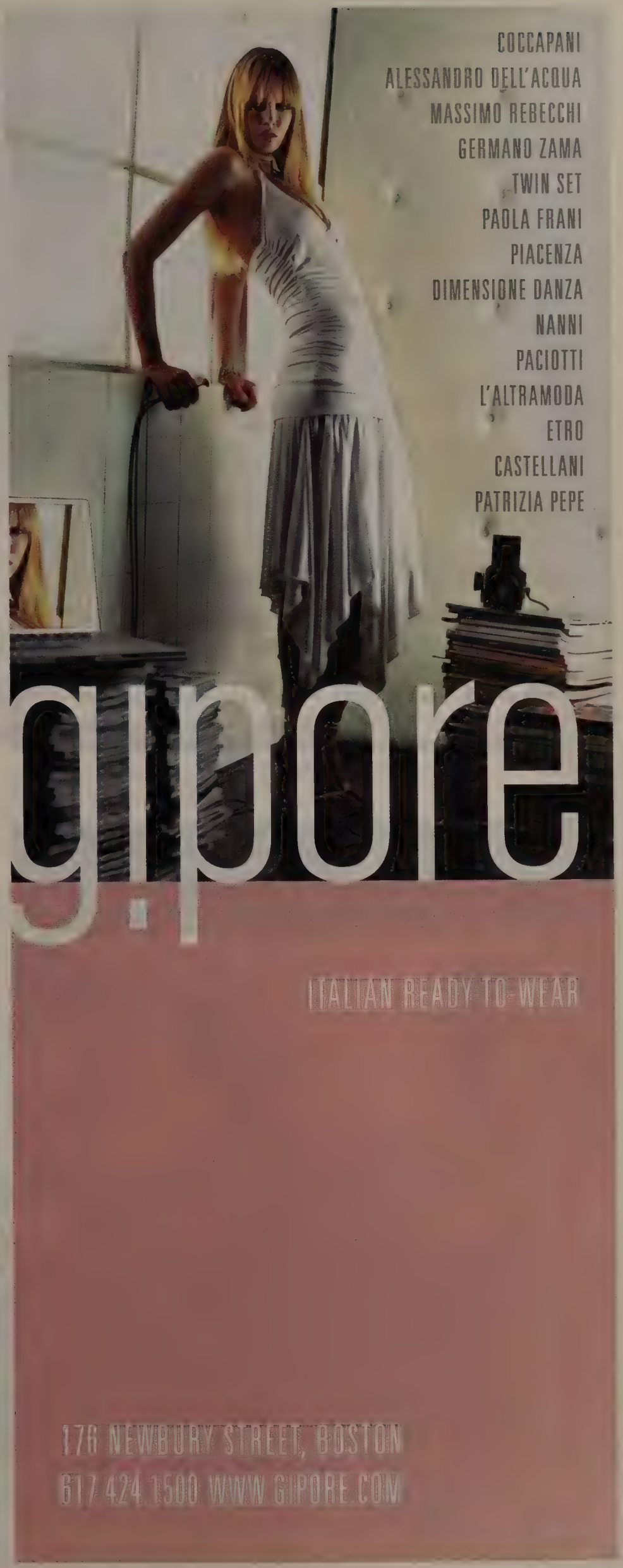
Co-owners Barbara Lynch and Garrett Harker



Maine lobster roll with homemade cole slaw, bread and butter, pickles and fries



Broiled scallops with wild mushrooms, pan jus and yellow carrot puree



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TASTINGS

BY JULIE SURATT

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Boston Wine Festival
Boston Harbor Hotel, Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-330-9255). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Through April 9. •March 31, 7 pm, $135: Justin •April 1, 7 pm, $135: Blind Wines •April 5, 7 pm, $135: Beringer •April 7, 6:30 pm ($295, seminar and dinner) and 8 pm ($195, dinner only): Wines of Burgundy with Clive Coates •April 8, 6:30 pm ($295, seminar and dinner) and 8 pm ($195, dinner only): Wines of Bordeaux with Clive Coates •April 9, 7 pm, $75: Closing Party.

California Wine Dinner
Monica's, 143 Richmond St., Boston (617-227-0311). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. March 31, 7 pm. $55. The wines of Treana and Liberty School of Paso Robles, Calif., are paired with four courses prepared by chef **Jorge Mendoza**.

Chocolate Madness
Cyclorama, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-556-8800). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. April 13, 7-9 pm. $45. This all-you-can-eat tasting of chocolate desserts from 30 Boston restaurants and bakeries is sponsored by the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League/Pro-Choice Massachusetts.

Devlin's Wine Dinner
Devlin's, 332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822). MBTA: B Green Line to Allston Street. April 5, 6-10 pm. $39.95. Executive chef **Gary Hanlon** offers an internationally inspired four-course meal with wine pairings.

Easter Chocolate Bar
Langham Hotel, 250 Franklin St., Boston (617-956-8752). MBTA: Blue Line to State. April 10. $28, $14 children. Enjoy an Easter rendition of the chocolate bar. Desserts include dark chocolate sabayon mousse torte, lemon–white chocolate cheesecake and tropical chocolate mousse cake. The Easter Bunny will visit and host an Easter egg hunt.

Fashion & French Food
Brasserie Jo, Colonnade Hotel, 120 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-425-3240). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Enjoy an authentic French lunch while viewing the fashions from local shops. •April 9: Gipore.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. $25 (includes light food). Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** offers a series of tastings. •April 10: new spring produce.

Food and Wine Pairing
Lifelong Learning, 808 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-9852). www.bu.edu/lifelong. April 13, 6-9 pm. **Chris Douglass**, chef/owner of Icarus, and **Sandy Block**, master of wine and the IMPROPER's wine columnist, pair food and wine.

Great Chefs Cooking for a Cure
125 High St., Boston (617-632-3021). March 31, 6:30-10 pm. $75. Hosted by the Friends of Dana-Farber, this event features a silent auction and all-you-can-eat samples from more than 50 restaurants. Proceeds benefit cancer research and care.

Groth 20th Anniversary Dinner
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. March 31, 7 pm. $100. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** hosts a five-course dinner featuring wines from Groth Vineyards & Winery in Oakville, Calif.

Sangria for a Cause
Sanctuary, 189 State St., Boston. www.bostonunlisted.com/events.html. March 31, 6:30-8:30 pm. $30, $35 at the door. At this Boston Unlisted event, learn how to make sangria. A portion of the proceeds benefits Run for Research and the American Liver Foundation.

Table for Ten
Participating restaurants (781-272-9936). www.nfincne.org. April 13, 6:30 pm. $100. This dine-around fund-raising event benefits Neurofibromatosis Inc. More than 20 local restaurants, including Bambara, the Capital Grille, Davio's and Lala Rokh, donate and prepare a three-course wine dinner for a table of 10. Following dinner, guests are invited to a dessert reception at the Rack, sponsored by Montilio's Bakery.

Tequila Tasting
Ole, 11 Springfield St., Cambridge (617-492-4495). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. April 1. Enjoy a tasting of tequilas by Tequila Herradura paired with appetizers by chef **Erwin Ramos**.

Tuesday Tasting
Anthem, 138 Portland St., Boston (781-444-7771). MBTA: Green Line to North Station. 6-8 pm. $19, $29 at the door. This tasting series features drinks and appetizers at a different restaurant every other week. •April 6: Anthem.

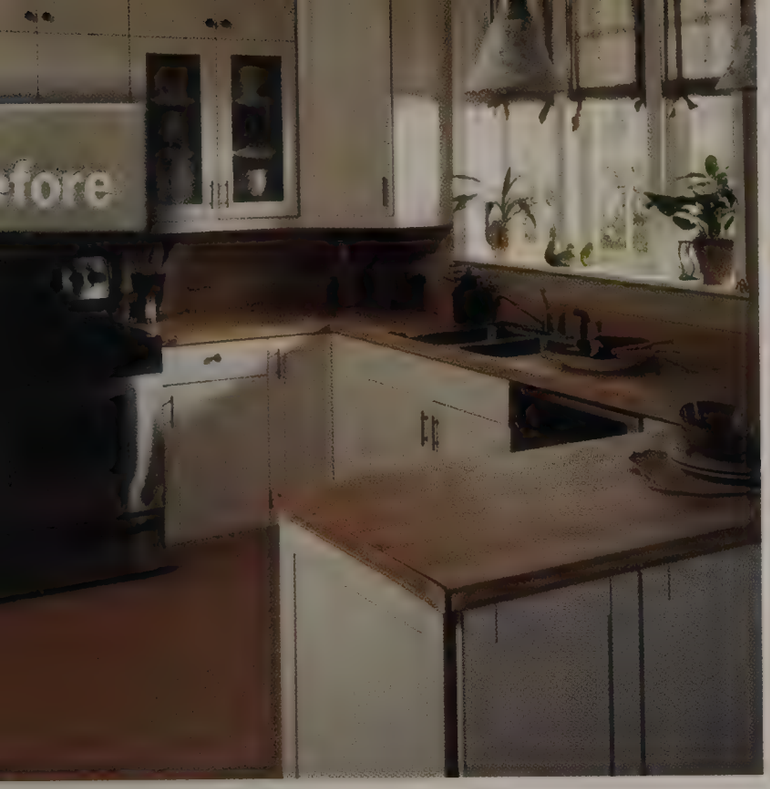
Wednesday Wine Tasting
UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933). March 24, 6:30 pm. $45. Chef **Susan Regis** prepares a wine dinner featuring California Rhone varieties.

Wine Dinner/Cheesemakers Series
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. $55. •A four-course dinner is paired with wine: April 5: Bordeaux; April 12: Loire Valley. •April 6: L'Espalier welcomes award-winning cheesemakers **John** and **Janine Putnam** from Thistle Hill Farm. A four-course meal with four wines is served.


Geoffrey Fallon features Groth Vineyards at Les Zyg March 31.

Wines of Tuscany
Millennium Bostonian Hotel, 26 North St., Boston (617-859-7170). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. April 13, 7-9 pm. $55. Italian wine expert **Deidre Magnell** leads a tasting of a cross-section of Tuscany's great wines. Presented by Wine Experiences Inc.

Wine Wednesdays
Caffé Umbra, 1395 Washington St., Boston (617-867-0707). Wed., 5-7 pm. $15. The restaurant offers themed wine flights paired with small tastings. •March 31: Alsace •April 7: Campania.

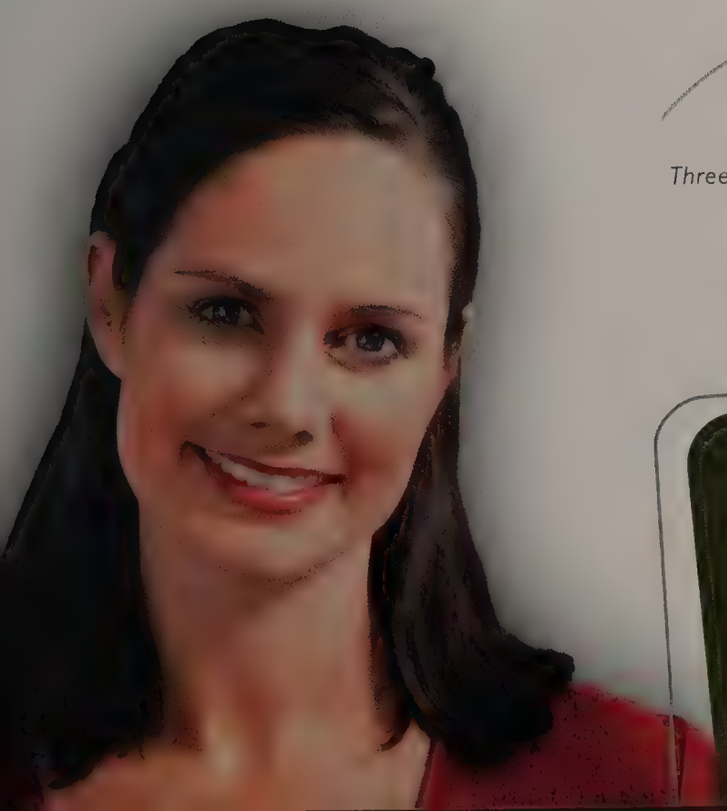




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DISH

Four Seasons and an Island

The Aujourd'hui of tomorrow… Bubbling Well runs dry…

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

When former executive chef **Ed Gannon** left the **Four Seasons Hotel** several months ago, food and beverage manager **Sam Ionnides** says, virtually every top chef in Boston expressed an interest in the plum position. So who will fill the big clogs when **Aujourd'hui** reopens in June?

He's **Jerome Legras**, a 29-year-old Frenchman who was most recently executive chef at the **Four Seasons Tokyo** and who, Ionnides claims, "can make cabbage explode in your mouth." Not literally, we hope. Anyway, after extensive renovations that include an expansion of the bar, installation of wood herringbone floors, new tapestries and reconfigured seating, the new Aujourd'hui will serve only dinner and Sunday brunch. Ionnides sums up the new decor as "simple elegance, not big bobbly things." As for the menu, look for an emphasis on whatever's regional and artisanal, from carefully sourced, locally grown fruits and vegetables to line-caught fish.



Former Four Seasons chef Ed Gannon is readying Lure on the Vineyard.

SECOND COURSE…

Meanwhile, in a galaxy far, far away—ok, Martha's Vineyard—Gannon is preparing to open the new restaurant **Lure** at the **Winnetu Inn & Resort**. Although he acknowledges "a little bit of culture shock," Gannon says he's happy with his decision to leave the city's fast pace for the more leisurely island life.

Does he miss the Boston hotel where he worked for more than 10 years? "You know, I haven't for a second, and I loved it there," he says. "This is challenging and exciting in different ways, something I've always wanted to do." At Lure, which will open for weekend dinner in mid April, Gannon and his wife **Michelle**—a former manager at **The Catered Affair**—will offer family-friendly fine dining in an 80-seat ocean-view dining room. Meanwhile, he'll move his family into a house in Oak Bluffs. And he's ready for the inevitable: "My wife said we needed to make sure our house is big enough for guests, and I reminded her we work for an inn," he says with a laugh.

Seriously, isn't there anything he misses about Boston? "Chinese food," says Gannon. "One good Chinese restaurant on the island would be monumental, maybe one that delivers…but then everyone would move out here."

Shanghaied? In Cambridge's Porter Square, **Pho Republique** owner **Jack Bardy** had the dining room half filled with furnishings and decor shipped from China for the restaurant he expected to open in the former **Metro** space. Suddenly, plans for the forthcoming **Bubbling Well** fell through, and now **Rustic Kitchen** plans to open its first Cambridge outpost in the space in June. Executive chef **Bill Bradley** and chef de cuisine **Jacob Aecio** will adapt the menu to suit Cantabrigian tastes. (The ambitious Rustic Kitchen folks are also opening an RK in Hingham this summer). Meanwhile, Bardy has put his furnishings in storage and is seeking another Cambridge location.

If annoyance at Atkins acolytes is driving you to doughnuts, stop! There's a far more rational response. At **blu** in **The Sports Club/LA**, chef **Dante deMagistris**, who creates gnocchi fit for the gods, is now serving a new Look Good, Feel Good menu at lunch. The three-course $22 menu changes weekly and features low-fat techniques such as grilling, steaming, and poaching, and ingredients such as olive oil, egg whites and yogurt instead of butter and cream.

Finally, when will **Ed Doyle**, restaurant consultant at large and former **Aura** chef, open **Haven**? According to Doyle, the process of opening his own restaurant is moving along, but is "still in snail mode." iB

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WINE

Crunchy Wines

BY SANDY BLOCK M.W.



I wanted to like them, I really did. But my first experiences with so-called organic wines in the 1980s were more about pain than pleasure. The whites were brown, nasty and undrinkable, the reds a shade better but still uniformly weird, with aggressive, alien flavors. The overall impression was that they all tasted more like the results of a failed home winemaking experiment than anything else. So my standard response for a long time when presented with an organic wine was, "No thanks. I'm actually not that thirsty."

Things have changed, however. Originally inspired by the organic food movement as a reaction against industrial agriculture, new methods of grape growing that avoid the use of artificial herbicides, pesticides and fertilizers keep gaining more adherents each year. This is especially true in parts of California, where some of the major associations of growers and producers are adopting a code of "sustainable wine-growing practices." This is a catchphrase for a set of procedures that are becoming mainstream, including avoidance of sprays, use of beneficial predators in the vineyards to eliminate insect pests, and composting. The inspiration for some growers is philosophical, but the greater number of organically inspired grape-growers appear convinced that better-tasting fruit results from healthy vines planted in minimally treated soils that teem with diverse populations of micro-organisms.

The center of this movement is in northern California's Mendocino County—a rural area directly north of Napa and Sonoma where a majority of the vineyard acreage is now "green"—and in Oregon, where a quarter of the grape crop is certified organic. To be clear, there are still very few organic wines (an estimated 20 out of California's more than 1,000 wineries use the designation), but an increasing amount of acreage is devoted to organic cultivation. Although they are sometimes lumped together, there's a difference, in the U.S. at least, between "organic wine" and "wine made from organically grown grapes."

In the past the definitions were muddy, but the biggest news recently is that since October 2002, use of the term "organic" in relation to both wine and food has been subject to uniform federal standards. "Organic" wine must not only be made from grapes originating in organically farmed vineyards, but the key supplementary requirement is that sulfites cannot be added at any point in the production process. Sulfur dioxide is a general preservative, antibacterial and anti-oxidant agent and its use has become standard in the wine industry because it helps stabilize wine, brighten its color and maintain clean flavors. In particular, it's very difficult to make a white wine that tastes fresh without adding at least some minimal sulfites at the grape crush.

So while true organic wine remains a curiosity, more and more bottles are appearing with the awkward terminology "made with organically grown grapes" on the label. For this category, sulfur dioxide additions are permitted, within acceptable limits. So you know you're getting a wine made according to environmentally sound grape-growing techniques, even if some sulfur has been added to keep it sound. But here's a confusing piece of the overall picture: American rules, clear as they are, have not been aligned with European Union regulations, which allow use of the term "organic wine" on bottles made from grapes grown organically even if there are additions of sulfur.

The reality is that sulfur dioxide is a naturally occurring compound that can be present in wine in substantial quantities even if no sulfites are added. The FDA regulated sulfites in 1986 after a correlation was found between asthmatic reactions and sulfites found in salad bar vegetables, and the amount used in virtually any wine today is minimal. Still, extremely sensitive asthmatics may experience a reaction to even small traces of sulfites.

Demand for wine made from organically grown grapes appears to be growing as an offshoot of our desire for a more healthful lifestyle and as an adjunct to the dynamic natural-food movement. There are still lingering feelings that, at least when it comes to wine, "organic" equals "strange," but this is dissipating as the trend becomes more widespread. The key point is that there is a difference between organic wine and wine made from organically grown grapes; many of the former are still what I would consider in a transitional phase, working out some of the details, while wines in the latter category not only make you feel good but usually taste delicious too. And that ultimately is the major reason to pay attention to what's on the label: to help you find a bottle whose flavors you're going to enjoy. IB

One of only 18 Americans certified as a master of wine, Sandy Block is assistant vice president of wine for Horizon Beverage.



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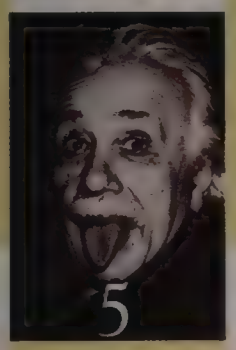
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agenda

MPROPER PICKS

march 31 - april 13

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			31 **Southern Culture on the Skids** always puts on a great live show. They're at the Middle East Downstairs. *See Music on page 72.*	1	2 The Harvard Film Archive screens legendary Japanese filmmaker Yasujiro Ozu's 1953 classic ***Tokyo Story***. *See Movies on page 70.*	3
4 It's the final day of the **Better Living Home & Garden Expo.** Check out goods from more than 200 home furnishing vendors. *See CityScope on page 60.*	5  Learn about E=mc² and all things relative at the Museum of Science's ***Einstein*** exhibition. *See Museums & Galleries on page 90.*	6 	7 Pops conductor **Keith Lockhart** and his wife, violinist **Lucia Lin,** perform together in a benefit concert for the Snappy Dance Theater. *See Classical Music on page 82.*	8	9 Indie rockers **Blonde Redhead** play a show with Secret Machines at the Paradise. *See Music on page 76.* 	10
11	12	13 The **Table for Ten** fund-raiser, which features about 20 restaurants, is followed by a reception at the Rack. *See Tastings on page 52.*				



MON./APRIL 5 & SAT./APRIL 10

Let the Exhibitionism Begin

We didn't need Paris Hilton to tell us there's quite a market for homemade porn out there. You Oughta Be in Pictures, the amateur adult film festival sponsored by Brookline sexuality boutique Grand Opening, has screened to sold-out audiences since its debut five years ago. If you caught last year's event on HBO's *Real Sex Presents: Porn 101 XXXtra Credit*, you know why. Filmmakers and their voyeuristic compatriots gather at the Coolidge Corner Theatre to watch a blush-worthy two-hour reel of risque festival submissions. Grand Opening proprietrix Kim Airs (in photo) presides over the evening's festivities, which end with a collective sigh of relief when Airs dramatically destroys the tape—only two copies are made, one for each show—to guard against unwanted circulation. *Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-731-2626). April 5, 9:30 pm; April 10, 12 am. $12, 18+. www.grandopening.com.*

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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AGENDA EDITED BY: Erin Hagedorn & Jessica Iredale

CALENDAR EDITED BY:
ERIN HAGEDORN
Books & Poetry, Gay & Lesbian, Music, Movies, Around Town, Children, Education, Performing Arts

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY:
Ezra Dyer CityScope, Dance Clubs, Sports
Jessica Iredale Museums & Galleries
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules

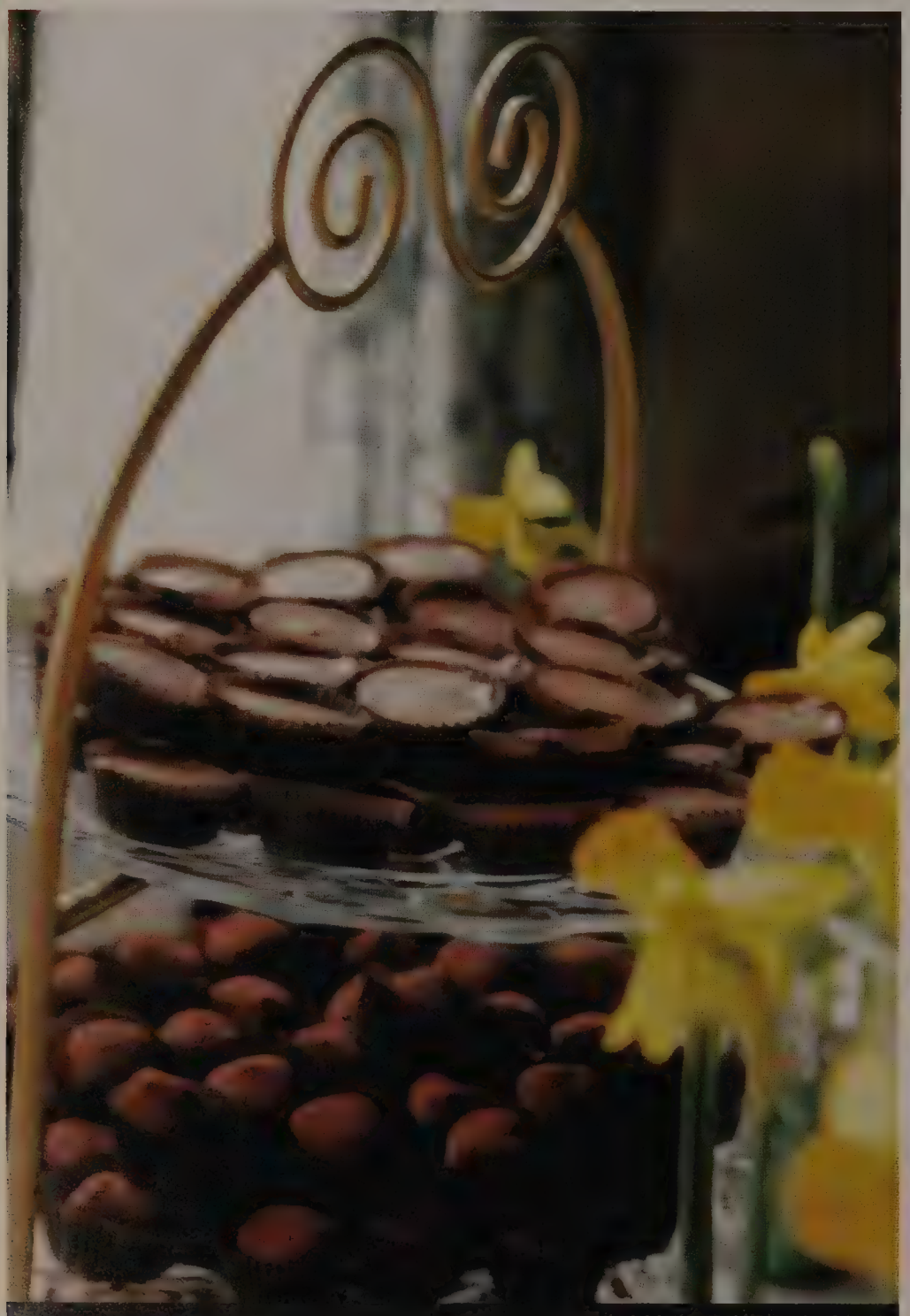




SUN./APRIL 4

CityScope: Liberal Line-Up

The impassioned coalition of community-based advocacy organizations known as the Boston Social Forum has been gearing up for its pre-DNC gathering July 23–25, where it plans to take on a thorough range of social and political issues—discrimination, poverty, the environment, foreign policy and globalization. The BSF is drawing support from all kinds of activists, from local lefty luminaries Howard Zinn and Noam Chomsky (who sit on the advisory board) to activist and author Angela Davis (who is coming to the summer forum) to heaps of local musicians. Chomsky is the "headliner" at an upcoming BSF gathering—this time a show at the Middle East that will feature an array of music and discussion about social change. The line-up: jazz/spoken word artist Shadowbox, alterna-folk rocker Michelle Shocked, hip-hopper Jake the Snake, Latin outfit Rumba Cuatro, folk signer David Rovics and local rock outfit the Reagan Babies. It'll set you back $10. *www.bostonsocialforum. org. Middle East Downstairs, 472/480 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-782-2313). 4-8 pm. $10. 18+.*



TUE./APRIL 13

Pro-Chocolate

Some cynic (albeit a scientific one) once said that chemically speaking, being in love is no different than consuming large quantities of chocolate. If that's the case, attendees should be feeling good (and possibly generous) at the NARAL Pro-Choice Massachusetts Chocolate Madness fund-raiser. Chocoholics should come prepared for a sugar rush from the all-you-can-eat buffet of dark, semi-sweet and milk chocolaty tarts, cookies and cream puffs prepared and donated by more than 30 local pastry chefs from the Belgian Truffle House, Christina's Ice Cream, L'Espalier, the Fireplace, Icarus, L.A. Burdick Chocolate, No. 9 Park, Rosie's Bakery and others. Proceeds benefit reproductive choice programs throughout the state. *April 13, 7 pm. $45. 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-556-8800 ext. 14). www.prochoicemass.org.*



TUE./APRIL 13

Music: Revenge of the N.E.R.D.

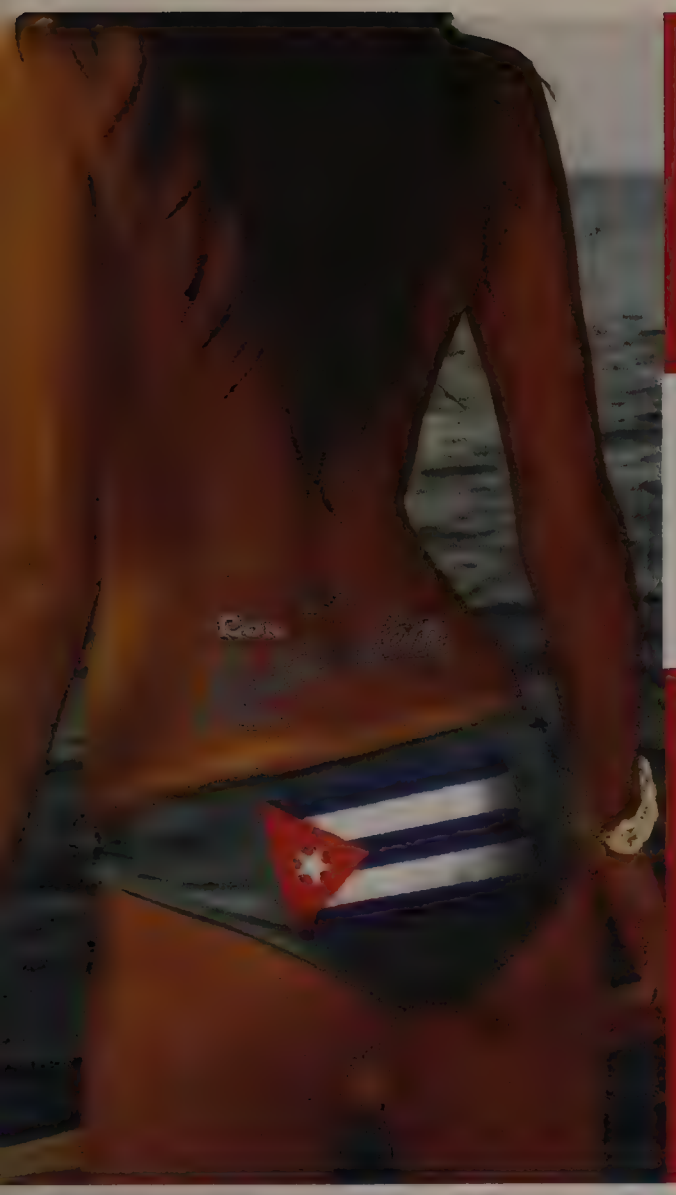
Apparently, conquering the worlds of rap and pop wasn't enough for Midas-touch beat-maker-songwriters the Neptunes (Pharrell Williams and Chad Hugo). Not satisfied with writing and producing chart-topping hits for the likes of Jay-Z, Britney Spears, 'N SYNC and Busta Rhymes, the duo decided to extend their creative genius into the world of roc as well, forming the band N.E.R.D. with high school pal Shay. The group's *In Search Of.* was one of the best rock/soul/R&B albums of 2002, proving that the skills of the William and Hugo aren't limited to top-40 fluff, and its upcoming disc, *Fly or Die*, is said to be more of the same, but better. The Black Eyed Peas, on the other hand, were once under-ground heroes who couldn't get a break. Adored by critics and loved by their cult fan base, the group was unable to reach a wider audience. Then they added a new member (a hot chick singer), penned a duet with another hot singer (Justin Timberlake), and sud-denly they were on MTV every eight minutes. Now the Black Eyed Peas are huge, but their old fans think they stink. Judge for yourself when they join N.E.R.D. at Avalon. *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-423-NEXT).*



SAT./APRIL 8

Another 48 Hours

Twenty-four hours down, 24 to go. Besides caffeine, nicotine, maybe a certain Ramones song and hopefully some creativity, we can only imagine what's going through the hopped up minds of 48 Hour Film Project participants when they reach the halfway point. Now in its fourth year, the international filmmaking competition draws legions of camera crews eager to go under the gun and produce a short film—that means writing, shooting, editing and scoring—in exactly 48 hours. Fifteen minutes before the clock starts ticking, genres ranging from mockumentary to horror are raffled off to filmmakers, and each team is given a character, a prop and a line of dialogue that must appear in its production. The 24-city tour lands in Boston on April 2, and directors call "Action!" at 7 pm. See who wins Best of City and a chance to compete nationally for the 48HFP Trophy when the local crews screen their finished products April 8 at the Brattle Theatre. *40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-876-6837). www.brattlefilm.org.*



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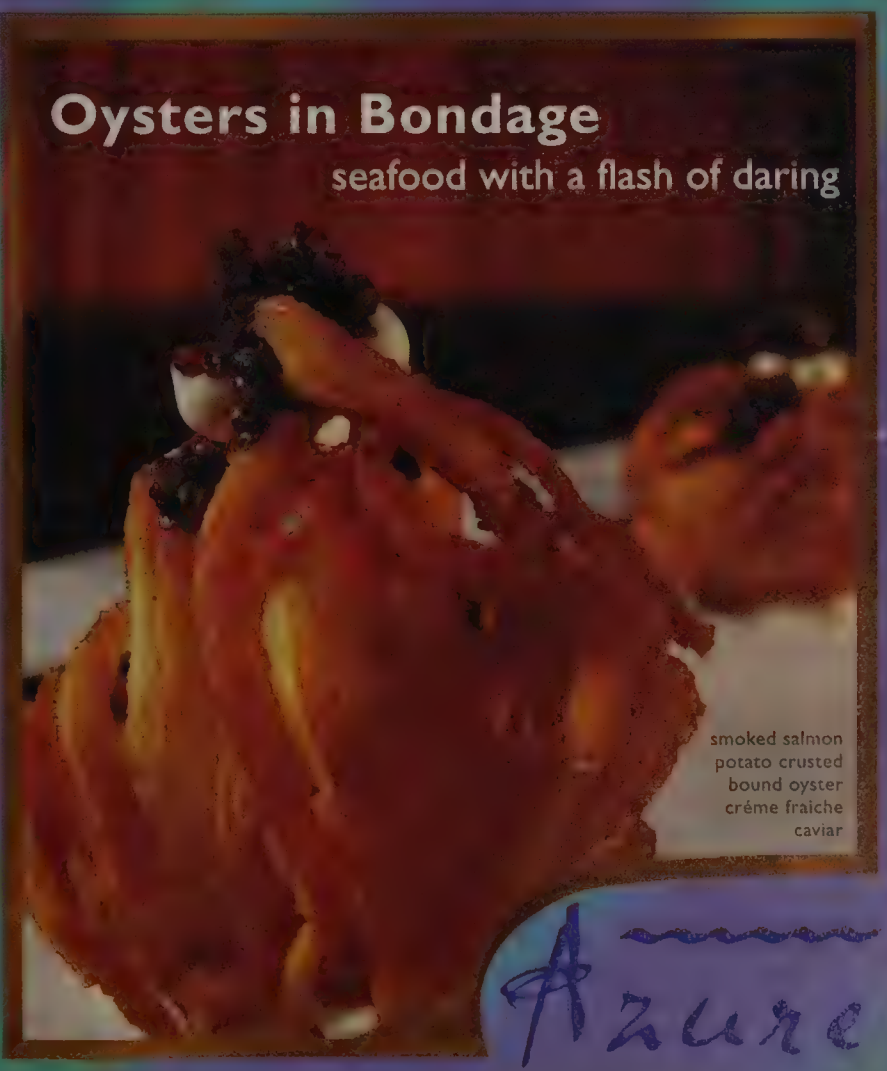
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Submit updated listings for festivals, events and benefits by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

Great Chefs Cooking for a Cure
125 High St., Boston (617-632-3021). 6:30-10 pm. $85. More than 50 restaurants offer food samples at this annual fund-raiser for the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The evening also features a silent auction and wine.

Sangria for a Cause
Sanctuary, 189 State St., Boston (617-875-7557). www.bostonunlisted.com. 6:30-8:30 pm. $35. Learn to make your own sangria while supporting Boston Marathon runners who are racing to raise funds for the American Liver Foundation.

THURSDAY, APRIL 1

April Fools Party
Clery's, Dartmouth St., Boston (617-957-7545). 6:30 pm. $10 suggested donation. Party at Clery's to benefit Boston Children's Hospital and the Disability Law Center. Complimentary drinks by Bacardi. Raffle prizes include gift certificates to B. Good, Sports Club/LA and more.

Better Living Home and Garden Expo
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Columbia Point, Boston (617-931-2000). www.bayshomeshow.com. Through April 4. $11. Boston's first home show aimed at affluent folks (and affluent-folk wannabes) features exhibits from furniture makers, decorators, appliance vendors and even Hinckley Yachts—who have a fake beach lagoon and 30-foot dock leading to a new 29-foot Talaria runabout.

Boston Art and Antiques Show Preview Party
The Castle at Park Plaza, corner of Arlington St. and Columbus Ave., Boston (617-994-4723). www.bgcb.org. 6-9 pm. $250. The Boston Red Sox sponsor this cocktail party and preview for the Boston Art and Antiques Show. Proceeds benefit the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston.

Joshua Frase Foundation Muscle Dream Team Gala
Boston Harbor Hotel, Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-715-1155). 6 pm. Sports stars from across the country come together to raise money for the Joshua Frase Foundation's fight against myotubular myopathy. The Casablanca-themed event includes a buffet dinner, open bar, live and silent auctions and live entertainment. Past attendees have included NFL stars Doug Flutie, Kurt Warner and Troy Brown.

LifeSavor
Langham Hotel (formerly Le Meridien), 2560 Franklin St., Boston (617-445-7777). www.servings.org. This benefit in support of Community Servings' programs to deliver meals to people with AIDS begins with a cocktail reception and silent auction at the Langham Hotel. Auction items include a football signed by Patriots placekicker Adam Vinatieri and a three-month lease on a Jaguar S-Type. Guests then board Old Town Trolleys and visit a restaurant for dinner. Participating restaurants include Blu, Clio, Upstairs on the Square, Grill 23 and more.

No Fooling! Night of Comedy
Comedy Connection, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-868-7687, ext. 24). $50-$100. This evening of comedy benefits Families First Parenting Programs and includes food, a raffle and a live auction.

Tacto Fashion Show
Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St., Boston. www.avalonboston.com. 11 pm. $15. Tacto introduces its "Black Line" denim collection with jewelry from Lazuli.

FRIDAY, APRIL 2

Boston Art and Antiques Show
The Castle at Park Plaza, corner of Arlington St. and Columbus Ave., Boston (617-994-4723). Through April 4. Fri.-Sat., 11 am-8 pm; Sun., 11 am-6 pm. $10. The annual Boston Art and Antiques Show features more than 40 national and international dealers offering furniture, fabrics, paintings, jewelry and more. On Saturday, from 1-4 pm, a representative from Marion Antiques conducts appraisals.


Keith Lockhart and Lucia Lin perform a benefit concert for Snappy Dance April 7

Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston Benefit Brunch
Montage, 75 Arlington St., Boston (617-994-4723). www.bgcb.org. 10 am-12 pm. $75. This brunch with designer Jefferey Bilhuber benefits the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston. Price includes admission to the Boston Art and Antiques Show.

Cods 'n' Contras Fish Ball
Christ Church, Zero Garden St., Cambridge (617-972-8300, ext. 29). www.revels.org. $50 per person, $90 per couple. This New England maritime–themed fund-raiser for the Cambridge Revels includes food, live music, an auction and contra dancing. The evening also includes performances from the Revels artistic staff.

Ecuador Medical Mission Fund-Raiser
The Rack, 24 Clinton St., Boston (617-666-4093). 6-9 pm. $20. This party features music, appetizers and a raffle and raises money for a group of Mass. General Hospital staff who are traveling to Ecuador for a medical mission.

MassArt Benefit Auction
Bakalar and Paine Galleries, Mass. College of Art, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-879-7025). www.massart.edu. 6 pm. $100 in advance, $125 day of the event. The Mass. College of Art auctions more than 300 works by nationally and internationally known artists, students and alumni.

SATURDAY, APRIL 3

Big Apple Circus—Carnevale!
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Columbia Point, Boston (617-931-2787). www.bigapplecircus.org. Through May 9. Tickets start at $13. The Big Apple Circus is in town with its Carnevale-themed show. Performers include Grandma the clown, the Los Aregos acrobatic trio, the Aniskin Troupe trapeze artists and many more.

Big Dreams Start Small Gala
Park Plaza Hotel, 64 Arlington St., Boston (617-965-5262). 6-11 pm. Black tie optional. Lenny Clarke hosts this benefit for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. The evening includes a live auction, a fashion show by Denise Hajjar and a performance by the Boston Children's Chorus.

Of Course! CCAE Gala
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789, ext. 1). www.ccae.org. 5-10 pm. $150. The Cambridge Center for Adult Education's inaugural benefit gala begins with classes taught by distinguished guests, including Tom and Ray Magliozzi of *Car Talk* and Pulitzer Prize–winning poet Lloyd Schwartz. The evening continues at the Charles Hotel with dinner, wine and a live auction. There is also an online auction on the CCAE's Web site. Proceeds benefit the CCAE's scholarship fund.

Partners by the Sea Awards Dinner
Seaport Hotel, 200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-727-7440, ext. 27309). www.pyd.org. 6 pm. $150. This black-tie benefit dinner for Partners for Youth with Disabilities features cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and music from the Rockin' George Leh Band. WCVB-TV reporter Amalia Barreda emcees.

Rallying to Serve Boston Youth
Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center, 1350 Tremont St., Boston (617-562-0900). www.tenacity.org. 6-11 pm. $150. This benefit for Tenacity's inner-city youth tennis instruction and academic programs includes dinner, dancing, live and silent auctions and a tennis exhibition by Tenacity students.

Second Helping Gala
Gillette Stadium, Foxboro (617-552-4700). www.bc.edu/alumni. 7 pm-12 am. $100. Black tie optional. The Boston College Alumni Association hosts this benefit for Second Helpings' perishable-food rescue program. The night features food, live and silent auctions, entertainment from the 27-member BC bOp jazz ensemble and a limited number of tours of Gillette Stadium.

Urban League Awards Gala
World Trade Center, Boston (617-442-4519, ext. 236). www.ulem.org. 5:30 pm-1am. $125. Black tie preferred. Grammy award–winning recording artist Peabo Bryson and Kendrick Oliver and the New Life Jazz Orchestra perform at this benefit for the Urban League of Eastern Mass. The night includes a reception, a silent auction, dinner and dancing.

SUNDAY, APRIL 4

An Evening of Music, Dance and Social Change
The Middle East Downstairs, 472/480 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-782-2313). www.bostonsocialforum.org. 4-8 pm. $10. 18+. Noam Chomsky, Michelle Shocked, Shadowbox, Jake the Snake, Rumba Cuatro and Reagan Babies perform to benefit the Boston Social Forum, a coalition of community-based advocacy organizations.

Gamble Mansion Bridal Brunch
Gamble Mansion, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. 11 am-12:30 pm & 12:30-2 pm. $15. The Boston Center for Adult Education's annual bridal open house features florists, bakers, photographers, musicians, cuisine from Boston caterers, fashions from the Altered Bride, and more.

It's My Life Drag Benefit
Jacques, 79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). 7-1 pm. Diamond Dunhill and Sassy host this drag show which features 22 performers including Ana Rexia, Rainbow Frite and Teeny Tiny Tina Turner, to benefit the Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7

Ducks Unlimited Benefit
The Harvard Club, 374 Comm. Ave., Boston (781-790-1217). www.ducks.org. 5:30 pm. $125, includes year-long Ducks Unlimited membership. Ducks Unlimited's 46th annual Boston fund-raiser features a cocktail reception, gourmet dinner and live auction.

Lockhart and Lin Snappy Dance Benefit Concert
Converse Hall at the Tremont Temple, 88 Tremont St., Boston (617-423-6000). www.snappydance.com. 7:30 pm. Concert tickets start at $50; gala tickets $250. Boston Pops conductor Keith Lockhart and his wife, Boston Symphony Orchestra violinist Lucia Lin, give a concert to benefit the Snappy Dance Theater company. A dinner reception at the in the new Ritz follows the performance.

THURSDAY, APRIL 8

BYPA Anniversary Bash
The Big Easy, One Boylston Place, Boston. (617-591-1400, ext. 5). www.bostonypa.com. 6 pm-am. $20 VIP, $15 general admission. The Boston Young Professionals Association celebrates its one-year anniversary with door prizes, open bar from 6-7:30 pm, networking from 6-8 pm and dancing all night.

The Silver Lining Benefit
Saint, 90 Exeter St., Boston. www.mctf.org. 6-10 pm. $30 in advance, $35 at the door. The Young Professionals Preventing Child Abuse Committee hosts this benefit for the Mass. Children's Trust Fund. The party includes a raffle, music, hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar.

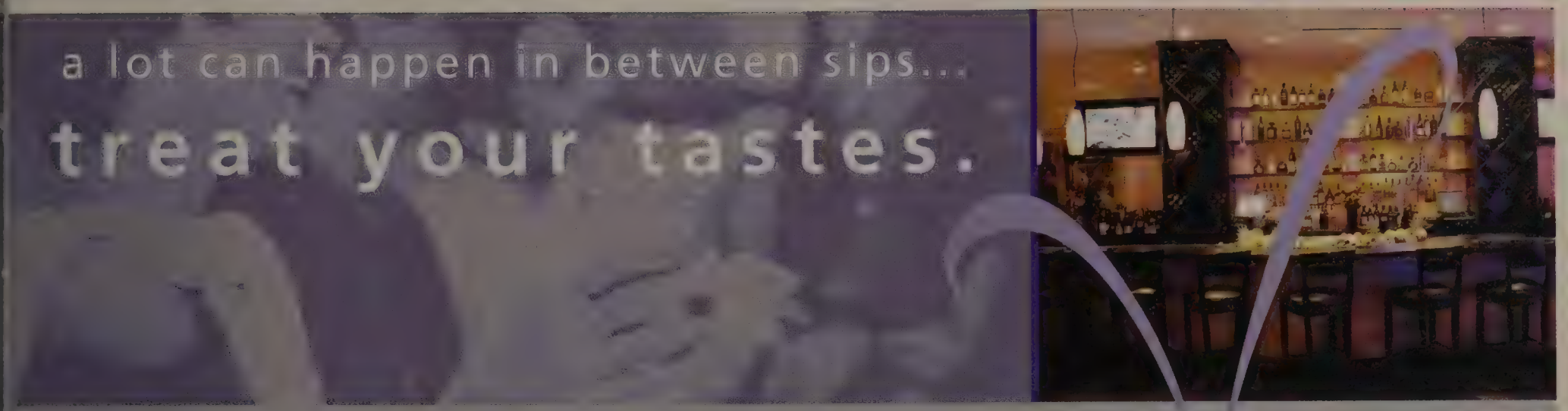
MONDAY, APRIL 12

Boston Harbor Association Auction
Wharf Room, Boston Harbor Hotel, Boston (617-481722). 5-9 pm. $100. The Boston Harbor Association holds its 11th annual auction to raise money to improve access and amenities along the Harbor. Buffet provided by Legal Sea Foods.

TUESDAY, APRIL 13

Table for Ten
Participating restaurants around the city. (781-279936). www.nfincne.org. 6:30 pm. $100. This dinner around raises money for Neurofibromatosis Inc. Participating restaurants include Lala Rokh, Bambara, Capital Grille and more than 20 others. A dessert reception with billiards, an auction and a raffle follows at the Rack.


Boston Harbor Hotel chef Daniel Bruce (with host Alison Frase, left, and event chair Laura Zecca) cooks up a special menu at the Joshua Frase Foundation Muscle Dream Team Gala April 1



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Annie B. Copps, Boston Magazine, January 2004

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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater

JUST OPENED

Big Apple Circus—Carnevale!
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mt. Vernon St., Boston (617-262-8632). www.artsboston.org. Wed.-Fri., 7 pm. April 3-May 9. $29. The Big Apple Circus features acrobatics by Los Aregos, juggling by Andrey Markov, Arabian horse stunts and a variety of trapeze and high wire acts.

Corporeal Heat
Division 4 Police Station, corner of Warren Ave. and East Berkeley St., Boston (617-369-3883). www.homepage.mac.com/fnfestival. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. April 7 and 8, 8 pm. $3-$5. International performance artists take over the abandoned police station to present their experimental works.

Jesus Christ Superstar
Sorenson Center for the Arts at Babson College, Wellesley (781-586-8817). www.jcsuperstar.com. April 8-10. Thu.and Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 8 pm and 2 pm. $22. Indy Productions, a new Boston theater company, presents Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical for a limited run during Easter week.

Last Rites
Black Box Theatre, 539 Tremont St, Boston (617-262-8632). www.artsboston.org. April 7-24. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $25. Letta Neely's play explores the relationship between two butch women who survive everything from drug abuse to breast cancer.

The Magic Flute
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont Street, Boston (800-233-3123). www.maj.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. April 2-4. Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $15. The New England Conservatory presents Mozart's opera, which follows Prince Tamino on his mission to rescue the Queen of the Night's daughter, Pamina, from her abductor, Sarastro.

Menopause—The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 & 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. March 31-May 9. $42.50. This parody by Jeanie Linders, set to the music of the 1960s and 1970s, explores the lives of four women in their 40s and offers a humorous take on the physical and mental changes they are facing.

Mojo Mickybo
BCA Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. April 2-24. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $27-$32. The Súgán Theatre Company presents this story about two boys living in Belfast in the 1970s who form a friendship based on a mutual obsession with Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid.



Paxton Whitehead and Susan O'Connor star in *What the Butler Saw* at the Huntington

9-Ball
Tremont Theatre, 276 Tremont St., Boston (866-811-4111). www.theatremania.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. April 2-May 22. $22-25. Art Devine's play is based on a real-life identity swap in Lynn, Mass., during the Vietnam War.

Othello
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (800-233-3123). www.maj.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu. and Fri, 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 pm and 7:30 pm. April 7-10. $15.-$55. The Guthrie Theater presents Shakespeare's tragedy involving scandal, misunderstood love and misplaced trust.

Ragtime
Footlight Theatre, 7A Eliot St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3200). www.footlight.org. April 2-17. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $12-18. Bill Doscher directs this production of Terrence McNally and Stephen Flaherty's musical, in which fictional characters interact with musical and historic figures.

Second Annual Shakespeare Sonnet-Thon
Boston Public Library, Copley Square, Boston (781-326-3643). www.shakespearenow.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. April 7, 5 pm. The Shakespeare Now! theatre company presents a marathon reading of all of Shakespeare's 154 sonnets, by and for the public. Call 718-326-3643 to sign up to read a sonnet.

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs
Wheelock Family Theatre, 180 The Riverway. Boston (617-879-2300). www.wheelock.edu/wft. April 2-May 2. Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat. and Sun., 3 pm. Matinee performances April 20-23, 1 pm. $12-$18. The Wheelock Family Theatre's production of this classic fairy tale is based on the original Grimm Brothers story of a jealous queen, her innocent, beautiful rival and the seven dwarfs and the handsome prince who come to the rescue.

The Sweepers
Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). www.stonehamtheatre.org. April 1-18. $16-$32. Robert Jay Cronin directs this play by John C. Picardi about three women who emigrate to Boston's North End from Italy at the end of World War II. The play is the first in a 10-part series about Italians living in the United States throughout the 20th century.

Titanic, the Musical
Arlington Friends Theatre, 22 Academy St., Arlington (781-646-5922). www.afdtheatre.org. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. April 2-18. $18. This musical by Peter Stone and Maury Yeston recounts the lives and dreams of the ill-fated Titanic passengers.

Waltzing to War
Artists-at-Large, 37 Everett St., Hyde Park (617-276-3223). www.artistsatlargeinc.org. April 3, 8 pm. $8. James Van Looy and Ian Thal perform mime, poetry and circus acts along with the Cosmic Spelunker Theater.

With Blood, With Ink
Boston Conservatory Theatre, 31 Hemingway St., Boston (617-262-8632). www.artsboston.org. April 1-3. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm. $12. This opera, based on the life of Mexican nun and poet Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz, features the music of Daniel Crozier. Directed by Kristen Z. Cairns.

NOW RUNNING

Backwater: A Movie Play
Leland Center, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.theatremania.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Through April 10. $10-12. The Rough and Tumble Theatre performs this comedy based on Bill Donnelly's screenplay about what happens when you have to move back in with your parents after achieving false independence.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com/ticketinfo/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 and 10 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. Ongoing. $46-$56. This production abandons all dialogue and focuses on making an impact through tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

The Mercy Seat
140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. Through April 17. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $22-$41. Student rush tickets available a half hour before each performance for $10. A woman and a man become entrapped in an adulterous affair in the aftermath of the September 11 tragedy.

Movin' Out
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-426-9366). www.broadwayinboston.com. Through April 10. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $30-$87. Choreographer Twyla Tharp created this new musical, inspired by the music of Billy Joel, which centers around two decades in the lives of five lifelong friends.

Rhinoceros
Chelsea Theatre Works, 189 Winnisimmet St., Chelsea (617-887-2336). www.theatrezone.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. Through April 3. Fri. and Sat., 8 pm. $10-$12. Caleb Hammond directs Eugene Ionesco's play about the modern-day struggle between individuality and adaptation and how one man confronts these issues when everyone in his town is suddenly transformed into rhinoceroses.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

Something in the Air
Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 E. Merrimack St., Lowell (978-454-3926). www.merrimackrep.org. Through March 31. Tue., 8 pm; Wed., 2 and 8 pm; Thu.-Fri., 8 pm.; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30 pm.; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. $20-$30. Richard Dresser's comedy noir is about trying to find happiness in a material world.

What the Butler Saw
Huntington Theatre Company, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Through April 4. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Wed., 2 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. $14-$64. Darko Tresnjak directs this comedy by Joe Orton about an adulterous couple and their run-ins with overly enthusiastic hospital staff and the police.

Yellowman
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands (617-332-1646). www.newrep.org. Through April 4. Wed., 2 and 7 pm; Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $27-$42. Dael Orlandersmith's play, a Pulitzer Prize finalist, explores tensions between two African-American friends in the South.

UNIVERSITY THEATER

The Cherry Orchard
Spingold Theater Center, Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3400). www.brandeis.edu/theater. April 20-25. Tue.-Sat., 8 pm, Sun., 2 and 7 pm. $16-$20. Brandeis faculty member Liz Terry directs Anton Chekhov's classic play.

First Stages
Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-358-7529). www.bu.edu/bpt. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant Street. April 5-May 11. Mon. and Tue., 7:30 pm. Donations only. Graduating playwrights from Boston University present original works.

Power of Darkness
Kresge Little Theater, MIT, 48 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4720). http://web.mit.edu/dramashop/www/ April 8-16. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm. $6.-$8. MIT assistant professor Jay Scheib directs the Dramashop presentation of Leo Tolstoy's play.

CABARET

The Fabulous Baker Sisters
Scullers Jazz Club, 400 Soldiers Field Road, Boston (617-562-4111). www.bakersisters.com. March 31, 8 pm. $15. The Baker sisters reunite to present a comedy show with music from the Great American Songbook. The duo has a background in Vaudeville, nightclubs, recordings and television.

Dance

Air & Water
Regis College Fine Arts Center, 235 Wellesley St., Weston (781-768-7000). www.regiscollege.edu. April 2 and 3, 8 pm. $15-$18. The Bennett Dance Company dancers, choreographed by Christine Bennett, go as high as 18 feet above the stage in *The Net*, and are submerged under water in *The Well*.

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (617-695-6955). www.bostonballet.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. April 13-18. Tue., 7:30 pm; Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $32-$67. The Alvin Ailey dancers return to Boston for this performance, featuring Ailey's *Revelations*.

The Cuban Condition
Sanctuary Theatre, 400 Harvard St., Cambridge (617-354-7467). www.ballettheatre.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through April 25. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 4 pm. $28. The Jose Mateo Ballet Theatre performs a cabaret-style show, choreographed by Mateo, that explores the Cuban influence on ballet.

Four Elements Festival
Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center, 85 West Newton St., Boston. www.wers.org. April 10, 8 pm. $15. (Tickets can be purchased at the Middle East box office 617-864-3278). Emerson College radio WERS-FM 88.9 and Emerson Records present the four elements of urban art: graffiti, break dancing, MCing and DJing. The festival includes DJs spinning hip-hop and break-dancing by the Floor Lords.

Lady of the Camellias
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (617-695-6955). www.bostonballet.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Extended through April 4. Thu., 7 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $38-$95. The Boston Ballet presents this show based on Alexander Dumas' semi-autobiographical novel about a love affair between a gentleman and a Parisian courtesan. The ballet is set to a score by Frederic Chopin and is choreographed by Val Caniparoli.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

STAND-UP CLUBS

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault at Remington's features local stand-up comedians.

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Comedy Connection

245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8 pm, $12; Thu., 8:30 pm, $12; Fri., 8 pm, 10:15 pm, Sat., 10:45 pm; Sun., 8 pm. Prices vary. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •March 31: Harrison Stebbins. •April 2-4: John Witherspoon from *The Tracey Morgan Show*. •April 9 and 10: Greg Proops from *Whose Line Is It Anyway?*

Comedy Studio

The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •March 31: Kelly MacFarland, Tony V, Myq Kaplan, Chris Tabb, Erik Charles Neilson, Winston Kidd, Cyndi Stiles, Elaine Schulbaum and Patrice Vinci. •April 1: Rob O'Reilly, Steve Calechman, Tony Moschetto, Ellen Moschetto, Derek Gerry, Erik Charles Neilson and Charlie Hatton. •April 2: The Walsh Bros., Larry Murphy, Abe Smith, Chris O'Carroll, Sam Walters, Bob Hagearty and Erik Charles Neilson. •April 3: Sam Walters, Bob Hagearty, MB Cowan, E.C. Neilson and Brian Gordon. •April 4: Sue Tracy, Tom Dustin, Peter Dutton, Joe Rineman, Tissa Hami, E.C. Neilson, Dan Hirshon and Joe Mande. •April 6: Mystery Lounge presents *Magic and Spirits* with Alexander, Mike Bent, Steve Kradolfer, David Oliver, Bob Riordan, Erik Rochelle, Jon Stetson and special guests. •April 7: The Tony V Experiment. •April 8: Dave Thompson, Janet Cromier, E.C. Neilson, Max Silvestri, Alex Foolski, Peter Dutton and Korte Yeo. •April 9: Kelly MacFarland, Stuart Paap, Ellen Moschetto, Mike Anthony, E.C. Neilson and Brian Gordon. •April 10: Kelly MacFarland, Margie Chebotariov, Amy Tee and E.C. Neilson. •April 13: Mystery Lounge features close-up magic at the bar and a stand-up magic show.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Thu., 8:30 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8:45 pm. $10-$22. •April 1 and 2: Robbie Printz, Joe Carroll and Mark Riley. •April 3: Robbie Printz, Joe Carroll and Benny Karl. •April 8: Joe Carroll and Pete Costello. April 9 and 10: Frank Del Pizzo, Paul Keenan and Pete Costello.

IMPROV COMEDY

Faces for Radio

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.faces4radio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu., 8 pm. $8. Improv comedians poke fun at everything, including themselves.

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA:Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. •Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 and 10 pm: *Big Dig...End of an Error!*, an improvisational and sketch comedy revue •Wed.-Sat., 12 am, $5: *The Midnight Show*. •Wed., 7 pm: *Pasta Wednesdays* serves up a pasta dinner to all audience members in the tradition of Prince Spaghetti and the North End.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Inman Square, Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central . $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: the characters, the stories, the settings—even songs and dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: *The Hump*. Series for experimental and improvisational theater. •Thu., 8 pm, $12: *Unnatural Selection*. A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one is left. 10 pm, $5: *The Great and Secret Comedy Show*. Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and music, play short films and do character sketches in a display of sibling rivalry •Fri., 8 pm, $12: *Misunderstood*. Audience suggestions fuel an improv rock opera, complete with a live band. 10 pm, $12: *Theatre Sports*. Two teams of improvisers face off. •Sat., 6 pm, $12: *ImprovBoston Family Show*. 8 and 10 pm, $12: *ImprovBoston Mainstage*. Blending storytelling, music and audience participation, a cast of improvisers creates a show that changes with every performance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5: *Sgt. Culpepper's Improvisational Jamboree*. This evening combines three shows into one. Watch performances by visiting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-308-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Thu.-Fri., 8 pm. $12. The group performs short improvisational comedy using audience suggestions.

COMEDY SHOWS

Kitch in Sync Improv Comedy

Brookline Puppet Show Place Theatre, 32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. Fri., April 2, 8 pm. $4-$7. This puppet show features improv comedy based on audience suggestions.

Mystery Café

Ristorante Marino, 2465 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (1-800-697-2583). www.mysterycafe.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. April 3 and 10, 7:30 pm. $49 dinner and show. The Gourmet Detective serves up Italian cuisine with a murder mystery.

Off Broadway Comedy Fringe

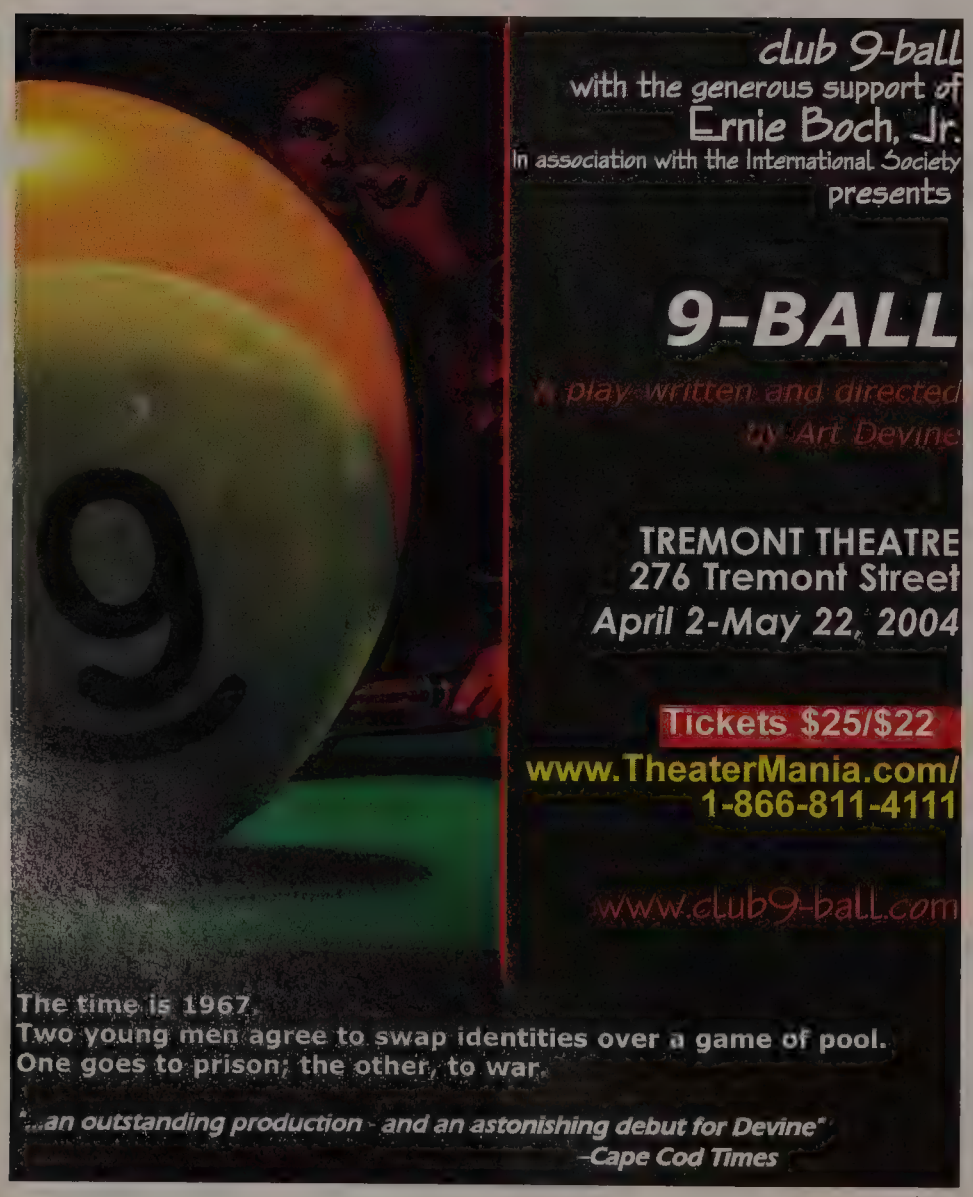
Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Mondays, 9 pm. Jimmy Tingle presents a comedy-variety series featuring stand-up, sketch comedy, short films and musical guests.

Open Mike Night

Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon., 8 pm. Open mike for creative talent.

Stash's Comedy Jam

All Asia Cafe, 334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. www.stashcomedyjam.com. First and third Sunday of every month. 8 pm. Enjoy standup comedy at this open mike with host Stash.





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Affleck and Smith get sentimental in *Jersey Girl*

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Some of the best movies of the last decade—including Gus Van Sant's *To Die For* and Steven Soderbergh's *Out of Sight*—resulted when directors crossed over from independent movies to the mainstream.

Jersey Girl is not one of them.

It's not writer-director Kevin (*Clerks*) Smith's first wide release. But this story of a hotshot New York publicist who reconnects with "real life" after his wife dies and he's left to raise their baby daughter, is his first PG-13 movie, and his most blatant attempt to hook a general audience.



In *Jersey Girl*, Ben Affleck plays a hotshot publicist whose life changes when his daughter is born

From Smith's second movie (*Mallrats*) to his most recent (*Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back*), studios have occasionally tried to foist his comedy on multiplex audiences. But the films' mild box office results reflect their mixed creative successes, and both can be attributed to the same shortcomings: in-jokes that can turn off those who aren't in the know (and annoy those who are), frequent comic-book immaturity and occasional self-indulgence. Sometimes you get the feeling Smith is making movies to serve only the fans who have his Web site bookmarked.

Aside from a logo for the 10th anniversary of his production company that Miramax let Smith slip into the opening credits, *Jersey Girl* is less indulgent than other Smith films. But it generally fits the same pattern: some interesting story elements here, some lame storytelling choices there. Ultimately, it yields the same mixed results.

The big difference is that Smith is going for more heart this time. Heart has often been an appealing counterpoint to the raunchy comedy in Smith's earlier movies, with his own recurring character, Silent Bob, sometimes providing it in the rare instances when he talks. Smith almost pulls off this overt gushing in *Jersey Girl*, and one of the reasons is Ben Affleck, who delays his inevitable slide towards AFLAC commercials with his strong performance.

Affleck plays Ollie Trinke. (Ouch, can we take that name down a notch?) At the movie's start, Ollie is a mid-1990s Manhattan music publicist in love with a book editor (Jennifer Lopez) he soon marries. She dies during childbirth, and with no family to help him out beyond a crusty townie dad (George Carlin) back in New Jersey, Ollie can't juggle his job and his kid. He unwittingly commits career suicide by dissing his client (an unseen, pre-*Independence Day* Will Smith) and the reporters at a press conference that's running late. He's fired by his own firm and is too much of a laughing stock for anyone else to hire.

Ollie's ongoing dilemma in the story—which jumps ahead to when daughter Gertie (Raquel Castro) is 7 years old—is the choice between trying to reclaim the high life he lost in New York, and embracing the blue-collar life he leads after moving back in with his dad and raising Gertie, who's a precocious charmer.

The exaggerated way *Jersey Girl* presents Ollie's life before and after "the fall" in such either/or terms is a bit hard to take: either he's in Manhattan at a big firm or in Jersey driving the street sweeper. Doesn't Ollie have any loyal clients? (Hasn't he seen *Jerry Maguire?*) And why does this slick, well-connected huckster have only one person (his former assistant, played by Jason Biggs) he can appeal to for help getting back in the business? Sure, the interview scene in which Smith regulars Matt Damon and Jason Lee cameo as PR executives who have no intention of giving Ollie a job is funny, but the whole situation is contrived. Yes, Virginia, there is public relations even in New Jersey, and if Ollie tried, he could can no doubt get a job there doing "the only thing I was ever good at," as he describes it.

Affleck and Castro have a playful chemistry, and the performances make up for some of the script's weaknesses, especially in the case of Ollie's new love interest, Maya (Liv Tyler). She's another of Smith's wish-fulfillment women—instead of the hot lesbian (as seen in *Chasing Amy*), Maya is the hot video clerk who wants to tell you how much she loves porn and masturbating, and wants to jump your bones when she hears you haven't had sex since your wife died. You'd think Smith could come up with something more real in his "grown-up" movie.

But that's Smith for you. *Jersey Girl* often has oddly appealing touches—like Affleck, Tyler and Castro singing a song from *Sweeney Todd* at Gertie's school variety show, or the celebrity cameo that influences Ollie's decision whether to head back to Manhattan or stay in New Jersey, as his daughter wants. But just as often, it defaults to the most generic touches, like including bland Fleetwood Mac or Bruce Springsteen songs at "emotional" moments. iB

Jersey Girl ★★

Written and directed by Kevin Smith. With Ben Affleck, Raquel Castro, Liv Tyler, George Carlin and Jennifer Lopez. Rated PG-13. At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind ★★
The latest mindbender written by Charlie Kaufman (*Being John Malkovich*, *Human Nature*, *Adaptation*) is, as always, like an M.C. Escher drawing in which you can't tell always tell which direction things are headed, but you put your faith in the hope that Kaufman will still get his characters to an interesting place. This time, the story about a couple (Jim Carrey, Kate Winslet) who've had their memories wiped of a fizzled relationship but try to rekindle their romantic spark fails to reward that faith. Kaufman bats around interesting ideas about the struggle between science and human urges, but despite the appealing chemistry between the stars, the ride isn't nearly as involving, amusing, layered or cohesive as the metaphysical journeys in *Malkovich* or *Adaptation*. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

50 First Dates ★½
What can you say about a movie set in Hawaii with a predominantly reggae soundtrack? (Besides "Hawaii is 4,000 miles away from Jamaica." and "Not all music by darker people from island culture is interchangeable.") The dimwittedness extends far beyond the soundtrack, though. In the first 10 minutes alone, you get animal jokes, kid jokes, the most telegraphed vomiting gag ever committed to film, an old guy who curses and Rob Schneider. After that opening, the rest of the movie doesn't stand a chance. It doesn't deserve one, either. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Fog of War ★★★
In Cambridge moviemaker Errol Morris' series of interviews with former JFK and LBJ secretary of defense Robert McNamara, the shrewd technocrat doesn't unburden himself of any more responsibility for the Vietnam quagmire that occurred under his watch. McNamara is too cagey for that. But Morris finds fertile territory in McNamara's observations on human nature, war and politics. (Morris has subtitled the movie "Eleven Lessons from the Life of Robert S. McNamara.") When McNamara talks about the Vietnam effort failing because the American government didn't know enough to empathize with the Vietnamese, it's hard not to think of Iraq. And when McNamara talks about the moral dilemmas of making decisions in times of strife, he sheds light on all the political crossroads that have turned presidents' heads gray. More than a dry Q&A, *Fog* unfolds in Morris' typically cinematic style, featuring montages of archival footage, cockeyed camera angles and Philip Glass' churning music. (At Kendall Square, Copley Place and Coolidge Corner.)

The Girl Next Door ★★
Emile Hirsch plays the teen Everyboy well, Elisha Cuthbert is whistle-worthy and Timothy Olyphant shows more life than he ever has before. Still, this is a merely decent (and flagrant) *Risky Business* knockoff, with the aforementioned trio in the respective Tom Cruise, Rebecca DeMornay and Joe Pantoliano roles. Hirsch plays a smart senior; the naughty babe he fancies (Cuthbert) is a porn star trying to get out of the business; and Olyphant plays her boss, who wants her horizontal on the set again. It's not too easy to connect the knockoff's dots but, to its credit, the film remains watchable. (Opens April 9 at Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Good Bye Lenin! ★★½
A loyal East German goes into a coma just before the Berlin Wall falls, and when she has to lead a stress-free life after she comes to, her son goes to great lengths to make sure she never learns that her Communist country doesn't exist anymore. This great premise yields some amusing moments, but also some disappointing ones. Unlike in Billy Wilder's brilliant *One, Two, Three* (which covered similar territory after the wall went up), the comedy here never quite hits high gear because the story tempers that comedy with shades of drama. But the characters' family drama never becomes as memorable as the premise. (At Kendall Square and Coolidge Corner.)

Hidalgo ★★★
It's not the most ambitious movie, but this 1890-set adventure earns a lot of goodwill for its old-school desire to please the average moviegoer, and not just a narrow demographic segment. This tale of an American Pony Express rider who enters a prestigious long-distance horse race in the Arabian Peninsula with his trusty mustang is a small breath of fresh air. With an unassuming and appealing Viggo Mortensen as its hero, the movie packs in the Saturday-matinee exotic entertainment of *The Scor*

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STELLA ARTOIS



An ex-adult film star (Elisha Cuthbert) makes an entrance into the life of a high school student (Emile Hirsch) in *The Girl Next Door*

pion King, though it doesn't shoot for humor as often. And it conveys a bond between man and horse better than the heavy-handed *Seabiscuit* did. Although based on a true story, the desert adventure should be taken with a big grain of salt, since it turns out hero Frank T. Hopkins may have told a tall tale or two in his day. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Intermission ★★★

Think of it as an Irish version of Scotland's *Trainspotting*. Sex, drugs and rockin' crime are the main sparks to this comedy, which lights on fire when one foolish Dubliner (Cillian Murphy of *28 Days Later*) dumps his dishy girlfriend (Kelly Macdonald of *Trainspotting*) "as a test," and she promptly moves on to a married man (Michael McElhatton). This dubious act causes a ripple effect that spills into the lives of the married man's wife (Deirdre O'Kane), a surly bus driver (Brian F. O'Byrne), a macho cop dying to be a celebrity (Colm Meaney) and even an out-of-control thief (Colin Farrell). The movie is never as wild again as it is in its opening scene, so there's a steady petering, but the dark comedy usually connects, and it never totally runs out of momentum. (At Copley Place, Harvard Square and Waltham Embassy.)

James' Journey to Jerusalem ★★★

In this endearing fable, a wide-eyed, young African goes on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem before he's to become his village's new pastor. But once James (Siyabonga Melongisi Shibe) gets to the Holy Land, he discovers anything but the spiritual Eden he'd expected. Israeli immigration puts him in jail because they think he wants to work illegally, then a shady businessman (Salim Daw) bails him out and puts him to work as a menial laborer with other illegal Africans. James even starts to buy into his new boss's dog-eat-dog philosophy, before his eventual realization that he's lost his spiritual way. Working with a light touch, writer-director Ra'anan Alexandrowicz and his cast make it all very convincing. (At Kendall Square.)

Johnson Family Vacation ★★

More power to Cedric the Entertainer, who headlines his first comedy here. But this knock-off of *National Lampoon's Vacation*—this time about a black Los Angeles family struggling to make it to a Missouri family reunion—strains to generate laughs. The only sustained amusement comes in the two stretches when Cedric and his fellow *Original Kings of Comedy* vet Steve Harvey face off as two grown brothers who are still as competitive (and childish) as they were at 10. (Opens April 7 at Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

MC5: A True Testimonial ★★★½

David C. Thomas' long-in-the-works documentary about the pre-punk, politically outspoken Detroit band was worth the wait. There's a surprising amount of onstage footage of the band behind the still-powerful 1968 anthem "Kick Out the Jams," some of it FBI surveillance film. These clips confirm the band's reputation for living up to their most famous song. And the interviews with surviving members Michael Davis, Dennis Thompson and the priceless Wayne Kramer are never less than interesting, especially in their differing perspectives on the still-influential band's rise and fall. (At Coolidge Corner.)

NASCAR: The IMAX Experience ★½

Warner Bros. and NASCAR—the sports equivalent of the pop-up ad—have some nerve asking people to pay to see this self-serving promotional film. They've also got some nerve having the Kiefer Sutherland–read narration blatantly plug the Warner-affiliated company that sponsors the movie. Beyond that, this is just another clumsy, narration-dependent IMAX movie. (At the IMAX theaters at the New England Aquarium and at Jordan's in Natick.)

Never Die Alone ★½

DMX as a thug who talks about Buddhism and karma—and it's not a comedy. At least, not an intentional one. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Passion of the Christ ★½

What's more creepy—to watch one man beaten to a literal pulp for half of Mel Gibson's Jesus movie or to realize that the movie is more about Christ's scars than his teachings? It's a toss-up, but they're the sort of things that keep the movie from being genuinely dramatic (the cheesy slo-mo moments don't help, either). You have to admire Gibson as a producer for doing it his way—on his own nickel, in subtitled Aramaic and Latin. But as a director he gets little across except violence, right up to the money shot of blood squirting from Jesus' hands as they're nailed to the cross. Also, this is the *Lord of the Rings/Harry Potter* Bible movie: if you haven't read the book three times, it's not going to fill in any of the details for you. Consequently, most of the potentially "controversial" elements are too murky to change a general audience's views on anything, since the relationships between the Jews and the Romans and between Jesus and the Jewish leaders remain unclear. In fact, if you're just an average moviegoer who can't quote scripture but is just looking for a good story, this plodding ode to martyrdom was not made for you. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Spartan ★★★

It looks as if David Mamet has settled into making thrillers with interesting premises and credibility-challenging twists and turns. Partially filmed in Boston, this story about the abduction of the president's daughter has its occasional stumbling blocks, like the plot's dependence on several phone calls being made to a pay phone. (How many pay phones take incoming calls anymore?) But it holds up better than Mamet's last film, 2001's *Heist*, because of unorthodox touches like its intimate focus on the Secret Service and covert ops specialists working on getting the girl back. Val Kilmer plays one of these specialists, a self-described "worker bee" who's forced to think beyond military protocol once he realizes the cynical politics behind the situation. As with the pay phones, there are several leaps of faith you just have to take—jumps that you wouldn't make for a less interesting movie. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Starsky & Hutch ★★★

I never had any desire to see *Starsky & Hutch* on TV. But with Ben Stiller and Owen Wilson in the title roles and the action played intentionally for laughs, I was there. And I was rewarded. The two stars bring just the right daffy charm to the buddy-cops—one intense, the other laid-back—as the partners go after a smug cocaine kingpin (Vince Vaughn). You get Tab, muscle cars, afros, Jewfros, tube socks, disco, freedom rock, *Rhoda* head scarves and other 1970s cheese while S & H prowl the mean streets of Bay City with the help of Huggy Bear (Snoop Dogg). Think of *The Brady Bunch Movie* with guns. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The United States of Leland ★★

A tedious post–*American Beauty* mire of suburban misery, produced by and co-starring that movie's Kevin Spacey. This one is about an oddball teen (Ryan Gosling) who, for no apparent reason, kills the retarded brother of his ex-girlfriend (Jena Malone). Writer-director Matthew Ryan Hoge casts his net wide and offers a boatload of flawed characters—like Spacey in his "smug" mode as the killer's arrogant author dad—but he doesn't come back with much. It's hard to see what the point of it all is, besides getting a numb butt. The movie's mistake-ridden humanity, including Don Cheadle's juvie-hall teacher who is sympathetic toward the teen, simply doesn't coalesce. For what it's worth, most of the actors cast to play teens (Gosling, Chris Klein and Michelle Williams) are noticeably too old for their parts. (Opens April 9 at Harvard Square, Copley Place and Waltham Embassy.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Many Moods of Ol' Blue Eyes

•April 5, 6 pm. **Ocean's Eleven** *1960*. Frank Sinatra plays a gambling man who organizes eleven men to pull off a major casino heist. Lewis Milestone directs.

•April. 12, 6 pm. **Robin and the 7 Hoods** *1964*. Sinatra plays a mob boss who donates $50,000 to an orphanage and becomes a local celebrity. Gordon M. Douglas directs.

BRATTLE THEATRE

Mondays and Tuesdays—Hitchcock in Black and White

•April 5, 5:15, 7:30 and 9:45 pm. **Notorious** *1946*. In this Hitchcock classic, a US agent (Cary Grant) drafts a down-on-her-luck woman (Ingrid Bergman) to spy on her Nazi father's friends.

Wednesdays—Recent Raves

•March 31, 1, 5, 7:15 and 9:30 pm. **The Barbarian Invasions** *2003*. Denys Arcand's sequel to his 1986 art house hit, *The Decline of the American Empire* follows estranged family members who reconnect when one battles cancer.

Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays

•April 2-4, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm; Sat. and Sun. 1:30 and 3:30 pm. **Umbrellas of Cherbourg** *1964*. Catherine Deneuve plays a teenage girl who, against her parents' wishes, falls in love with a working-class man. Jacques Demy directs.

Special Engagement–48 Hour Film Project

•April 6 and 7, 7 and 9:30 pm. Local filmmakers were given exactly 48 hours to produce a short film from scratch. The results screen here.

Special Engagement—Lucas Belvaux's "The Trilogy"

•April 8-15, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:50 pm; Sat. and Sun. matinee, 2:40 pm. **On the Run** *2002*. Lucas Belvaux directs and stars in this film about a political radical who breaks out of prison and turns to a former sympathizer for help. •Also showing, April 8, 7:45 pm. **An Amazing Couple** *2002*. In the second installation of Belvaux's trilogy, a woman hires a detective to trail her hypochondriac husband through a series of secret doctor appointments. •Also showing, April 8, 8:45 pm, **After the Life** *2002*. A police officer tries to help his drug-addicted wife through a painful recovery in the final film of Lucas Belvaux's trilogy.

A Tribute to Anita Mui

•April 1, 7:30 pm. **Savior of the Soul** *1992*. Corey Yuen's Hong Kong action classic stars Mui as a futuristic supercop. •April 1, 5:30 and 9:30 pm. **Moon Warriors** *1993* A humble fisherman tries to help a fugitive prince find his lost love but ends up falling for the woman himself. Sammo Hung directs.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Coolidge Selects

•Now playing. **Balseros** (*Rafters*) *2003*. Carlos Bosch and Jose Maria Domenech co-direct this documentary that details the lives of Cuban refugees who sailed homemade rafts to the United States.

•Now playing. **Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind** *2002*. See New Releases for a description.

•Now playing. **MC5: A True Testimonial** *2002*. See New Releases for a description.

•Opens April 2. **Good Bye, Lenin!** *2002*. See New Releases for a description.

•Opens April 2. **Hiding and Seeking: Faith and Tolerance After the Holocaust** *2003*. Menachem Daum and Oren Rudavsky's documentary follows Daum, an Orthodox Jew, and his sons as they travel to Poland to retrace their family history during the Holocaust.

•Opens April 9. **Dogville** *2003*. Lars von Trier's film stars Nicole Kidman as a woman hiding from gangsters in a small Colorado town during the Depression.

Director's Cut

•April 6, 7:30 pm. **Young Guys with Tight Shorts**. Four local filmmakers screen their short films. Selections include Matthew Rasmussen's *Marboxian*, Keith Brown's *Tough All Over*, Shandor Garrison's *Freebox* and Joshua Seftel's *Breaking the Mold*.

Midnight Movies

•April 2-3; 9-10, 12 am. **Spike and Mike's Sick and Twisted Festival of Animation**. Spike and Mike celebrate 25 years of sick and twisted animation. Films

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◆ All previous Tastes have sold out! ◆

The cost to the visitors will be $55.00 in advance and $75.00 at the door, if available. (There will be a cash bar).

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•April 3, 12 am. **The Killing Machine** *1976*. Norifumi Suzuki's kung fu film stars Sonny Chiba as a martial arts expert out to stop a group of black market thugs.

•April 9, 12 am. **The Executioner** *1981*. Sonny Chiba stars as a ninja who must take out a local drug ring. Chuen Chan directs.

Relatively Speaking

•April 12, 7 pm. **Lady in the Lake** *1946*. Robert Montgomery directs and stars as detective Philip Marlowe in the film adaptation of Raymond Chandler's mystery novel. Novelist Robert Parker and his wife, screenwriter Joan H. Parker, are present for a Q&A following the film.

Special Events

•April 5, 9:30 pm; April 10, 12 am. **You Oughta Be in Pictures**. Brookline sexuality boutique Grand Opening hosts its fifth annual amateur porn night. Local submissions are screened, and the tape is destroyed at the end of the show. Grand Opening! proprietrix Kim Airs emcees.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Close Encounters

•March 31, 7 pm. **Short Shorts**. Forgotten shorts from the archive's collection, including commercials, trailers and avant-garde films, screen.

Dogme to Dogville: The Films of Lars von Trier

•March 31, 6 pm. **The Kingdom II** *1997*.Hugo Järegard stars as a neurosurgeon in a Copenhagen hospital who attempts to poison a young doctor, while an intern gives birth to a half-demon baby.

Frames of Mind

•April 7, 7 pm. **Rashomon** *1950*. Akira Kurosawa's film looks at a murder from the point of view of everyone involved.

Masterworks of Modern Cinema

•April 5, 7 pm. **Memorias del Subdesarrollo** *(Memories of Underdevelopment) 1968*. A Cuban writer sends his wife to live in Miami and becomes involved with a younger, less educated woman. Tomas Gutierrez Alea directs.

•April 12, 7 pm. **The Outsiders** *(Ceddo) 1977*. The confrontation between Muslim culture and Christianity in Senegal is explored through Ousmane Sembene's story of a kidnapped princess.

Recent Activist Cinema

•April 3, 7 pm. **The Agronomist** *2003*. Director Jonathan Demme's documentary tells the story of Haitian freedom activist Jean Dominique who was assassinated in 2000.

Topics in Film: Texture and Analysis: Fashion and Film

•April 6, 13 and 14, 7 pm. **Hua Yang Nian Hua** *(In the Mood for Love) 2000*. Two lonely Hong Kong professionals develop a romantic interest in each other when they suspect their spouses of infidelity. Wong Kar-wai directs.

Yasujiro Ozu: A Centennial Celebration

•April 2, 7 pm; April 3, 9 pm. **Tokkan Kozo** *(A Straightforward Boy) 1929*. A kidnapped boy's insatiable appetite for candy is more than his captor is willing to put up with. •Also showing April 2, 7 pm; April 4, 9 pm. **Tokyo Monogatari** *(Tokyo Story) 1953*. An elderly couple travels to Tokyo to visit their children, only to find them impatient, ungrateful and self-absorbed.

•April 3, 9 pm. **Wakaki Hi** *(Days of Youth) 1929*. Two college friends fall for the same girl and find out she is committed to an arranged marriage.

•April 4, 7 pm; April 5, 9pm. **Ban Shun** *(Late Spring) 1949*. A woman prefers keeping her widowed father company to searching for a husband.

•April 6, 9 pm. **Tokyo no Onna** *(Woman of Tokyo) 1933*. A young man despairs when he discovers his sister pays his tuition by working as a prostitute. •Also showing, April 6, 9 pm. **Haha o Kawazuya** *(Mother Should Be Loved) 1934*. A family collapses after the death of their patriarch brings dark secrets to light.

•April 7, 9 pm. **Seishun no Yume Ima Izuko** *(Where Now Are the Dreams of Youth?) 1932*. A Tokyo business man uses his family's money and power to exploit his friends.

•April 9, 7 pm. **Hogaraka ni Ayume** *(Walk Cheerfully) 1930*. A petty thief decides to go straight when he falls in love with a virtuous woman. •Also showing April 9, 9 pm. **Tokyo no Yado** *(An Inn in Tokyo) 1935*. In this bleak story of an unemployed factory worker who turns to theft to support his family, director Ozu offers an example of classic neorealism.

•April 10, 7 pm. **Hitori Musuko** *(The Only Son) 1936*. In the director's first talkie, a poor mother sacrifices everything for her son's education and later finds it was to no avail. •Also showing, April 10, 9 pm. **Shukujo Wa Nani o Wasuretaka** *(What Did the Lady Forget?) 1937*. A stuffy Japanese society family hosts its modern young niece for a weekend in Ozu's comedy.

•April 11, 7 pm. **Soshun** *(Early Spring) 1956*. This lengthy feature captures the disillusionment of a young professional trapped in a predictable life.

•April 12, 9:15 pm; April 13, 9 pm. **Toda-ke no Kyodai** *(The Brothers and Sisters of the Toda Family) 1941*. The children of a once-important family force their widowed mother to go from one home to another.



Val Kilmer protects Kristen Bell in David Mamet's new espionage thriller, *Spartan*.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART

New England Film and Video Artists: Jane Gillooly

•April 3, 8 pm. Independent producer and director Jane Gillooly joins a group of Boston actors for a stage reading of a script for the film *The Not Yet Dead Club*, an experimental work about how women's identities change with age. Excerpts from the film accompany the reading.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Art on Film

•April 10, 10:30 am. **Rivers and Tides: Andy Goldsworthy Working with Time** *2001*. Thomas Riedelsheimer directs this documentary about sculptor Andy Goldsworthy.

Beat Artist on Film

•March 21, 8:15 pm; April 1, 6:30 pm; April 2, 8 pm; April 9, 6 pm; April 10 and 11, 4 pm. **How to Draw a Bunny** *2002*. John Walter's film about Beat artist Ray Johnson includes interviews with the artist's contemporaries, including Chuck Close, Roy Lichtenstein and Judith Malina.

Black Maria Film and Video Festival

•April 1, 12:30 pm. Selections in this festival include Marie Losier's *Bird Bath and Beyond*, Robert Fenz's *Meditations on Revolution, Part V: Foreign City*, Joe Gibbons' *Confessions of a Sociopath* and Virgil Widrich's *Fast Film*.

Fellini's Masterpiece

•March 31, 6 pm; April 1, 2:30 pm. **I Vitelloni** *(The Young and the Passionate) 1953*. Italian director Federico Fellini's first international success follows five adolescent friends as they search for adventure in their unremarkable seaside lives.

Films from Along the Silk Road: Central Asian Cinema

•April 1, 8:15 pm. **Altyn Kyrghol** *(My Brother Silk Road) 2001*. Marat Sarulu's film follows three children from a mountain village in Kyrgyzstan on their travels to the old Silk Road. Immediately following is Sarulu's short film, **The Fly-Up** *2002*, about a man who escapes his dull black-and-white world in a homemade flying machine.

•April 2, 6 pm. **Kairat** *1991*. Darezhan Omirbaev directs this story of an awkward country boy who takes a girl on a date in the city.

•April 9, 8 pm. **The Daughter-in-Law** *1972*. Khodjakuli Narliev's film is about a widow who lives with her father-in-law in the desert and hopes that one day her husband will return.

•April 10, 12:15 pm. **Takhir and Zukhra** *1945*. Nabi Ganiev's Uzbek take on *Romeo and Juliet* features childhood sweethearts who are torn apart when one is banished from a royal kingdom. •Also showing, 2:15 pm. **Nezhnost** *(Tenderness) 1967*. Three love stories intertwine during a summer in Tashkent. Elyer Ishmukhamedov directs.

•April 11, 10:45 am. **Lutiy** *(The Fierce One) 1973*. A child learns about the savagery of animals and humans as he raises a wolf cub. Tolomush Okeev directs. •Also showing, 12:45 pm. **Gibel Otrara** *(The Fall of Otrar) 1990*. Ardak Amirkulov's epic film is about the years preceding Genghis Khan's destruction of Otrar.

Indian Cinema

•April 1, 4:30 pm. **Everybody Says I'm Fine!** *2001*. Rahul Bose directs this drama about a Bombay hair salon owner who possesses the secret ability to read his customers' minds while styling their hair.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater

•Through May 27. **Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West**. Trek through raging rivers and uncharted wilderness to commemorate the bicentennial of the explorers' journey, brought to life by National Geographic Films. Call for show times.

•Through May 27. **India: Kingdom of the Tiger**. Explore the kingdom of the Bengal tiger, from the Himalayas to Rajasthan. *Call for show times.*

•Through June 12. **Jane Goodall's Wild Chimpanzees**. Travel to Africa's Gombe Stream National Park with Goodall for close encounters of the primate kind. *Call for show times.*

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater

•Through May 9. **NASCAR 3D**. See New Releases for a description. *Call for show times.*

•Through May 9. **Space Station 3D**. Tom Cruise narrates a tour of the international space station. *Call for show times.*

•Through June 18. **Bugs! 3D**. This film focuses on the world of insects in the tropical rain forests of Southeast Asia. See bugs magnified up to 250,0 times their normal size. *Call for show times.*

•Through June 18. **Ghosts of the Abyss**. Direct James Cameron takes audiences two miles benea the sea's surface to explore the wreckage of the tanic. *Call for show times.*

•Through June 18. **Ocean Wonderland 3D**. This explores the ocean floor of the Bahamas and A tralia's Great Barrier Reef, with their sharks, sting and rainbows of tropical fish. *Call for show times.*

•Through June 18. **Volcanoes of the Deep S** Dive to the bottom of the sea with a team of scie tists, as they explore hydrothermal vents, shi wrecked gardens, predators and bioluminesce creatures. *Call for show times.*

WANG CENTER

Classic Film Series

•April 12, 7 pm. **Ben-Hur** *1959*. William Wyle epic, which won 11 Academy Awards, stars Cha ton Heston as a Jewish prince persecuted by the R mans during the time of Christ.

Cinema Venues

BELMONT

Studio Cinema

376 Trapelo Rd. (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Public Library

666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Gre Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)

100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBT Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre

201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St. (617-266-5152). MBTA: Gre Line to Hynes Convention Center.

Loews Boston Common

175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Gre Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science

Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line Science Park.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line Aquarium.

Wang Center

270 Tremont St. (617-482-9393). MBTA: Gre Line to Boylston.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema

399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line Reservoir.

Coolidge Corner Theatre

290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Gre Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre

40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.

Fresh Pond

168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBT Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive

24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema

One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: R Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony

10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema

27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Gree Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema

1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony

35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Oran Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre

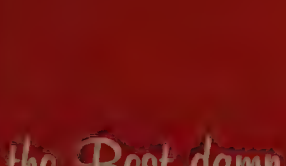
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line Davis.

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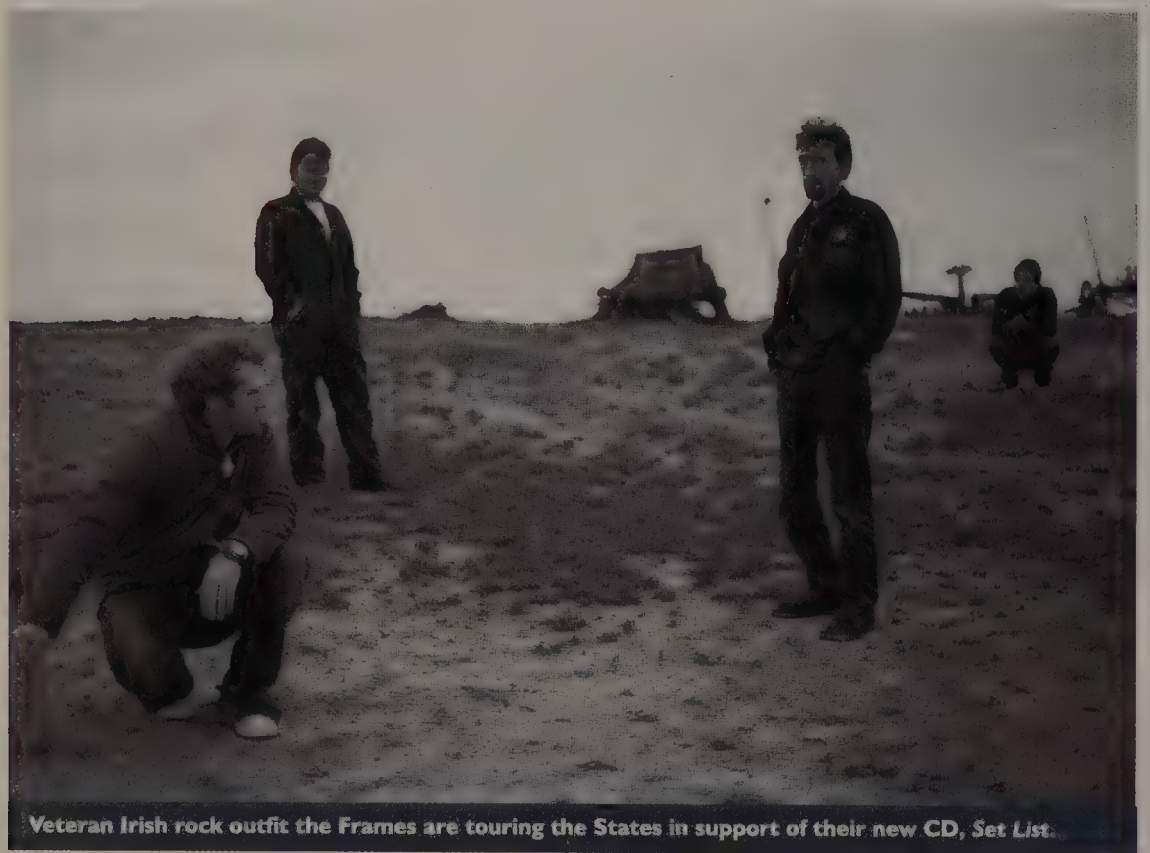
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Poetry and Perseverance

Dublin's Frames bring a magical element to the larger stage

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Only a few years ago, Irish rock fans couldn't buy a CD by the Frames—despite the fact that the decade-old band was among the country's most popular acts—simply because the group's earlier discs were out of print due to failed record deals.



Veteran Irish rock outfit the Frames are touring the States in support of their new CD, *Set List*.

At least, people couldn't buy the CDs in stores. "It became quite cultish to own a Frames record," singer-songwriter Glen Hansard recalls. "People were bidding on our records, and we didn't have any copies of them."

Things have changed. In 2003, the Frames unseated U2 as Best Group and Best Live Act in the annual readers poll of the Irish music paper *Hot Press*, while consolidating and expanding their legacy with a revelatory live disc called *Set List*.

"We put out *Set List* because we couldn't put out our old records, but we can put out these songs," Hansard says of the CD, which captures the Dublin band's emotive dynamics with a hometown club audience in late 2002. "It ended up being kind of a greatest-hits thing, which is weird, 'cause we've never had a hit in our career."

Now, after several under-the-radar visits to Boston, the Frames hit Avalon April 17, supporting upstart countryman Damien Rice, who launched his career as a solo singer-songwriter opening for the Frames in Ireland.

Hansard recalls, "He came to us and said, 'I'm a bit embarrassed saying this to you, but you've really helped me out and the States are going well for me. I'm not sure if you're gonna tell me to [get lost], but would you like to do this tour?' And we were, 'What are you saying? We'd love to do it!' For us, it's a great opportunity."

It doesn't hurt that *Set List* was just released in the U.S. on the Los Angeles label Anti, home to Tom Waits and Nick Cave. The Frames are also finishing a new studio album with Steve Albini, who once produced Nirvana and the Pixies—the latter a Hansard favorite along with influences Leonard Cohen and Bob Dylan.

"We were signed to a bunch of labels over here, and none of them ever did any work for us, but now we have an agent and label we really like," he says from a New Orleans stopover. "It's been a very long apprenticeship, but if success came to the Frames now, we've got shoulders for it."

Hansard and violinist Colm Mac Con Iomaire go back to the long-struggling group's beginnings, when they were called the Frames DC (for Dublin City) and had a female vocalist. "I could go out [on the street] and make money anytime with my guitar, and so could Colm, because he's a busker too," says Hansard, 33. "We were the only two members of the band I suppose who could go out and feed ourselves if we needed to, and we're the only two still in it."

In the Frames' early days, through a fluke audition, Hansard landed in the movie *The Commitments*, as that fictitious band's lead guitarist. But the role became Hansard's albatross in the press when the Frames released an album. "It was about how I was an actor-turned-musician," he recalls with disgust. "No clue." However, he recently saw an Irish TV ad touting a *Commitments* DVD "featuring Glen Hansard of the Frames." "For the first time," he laughs, "the Commitments need me to sell them!"

Of the Frames' Irish following, Hansard says, "We've always had a very strong audience. You know those bands that aren't popular and they're not in the newspapers, but for some reason, whenever they play a gig, a lot of people come? It was never a choice of ours to become that sort of band, but it built to a point where nobody could ignore it anymore."

"We're just a bunch of lads that play songs," Hansard adds of the Frames' unglamorous image. "The cult of personality is so rife in England, and in New York, where all the bands look great and have great haircuts. It's all about what you say rather than what you play. We've always rejected that."

The proof is onstage. "I don't think the Frames have anything to offer the world that hasn't been done," he says. "But when the elements are right, and you've got the band and the audience, a third element is invited in. That element is magic, and the only way I can describe it is that when it goes well, you see the poetry."

For the performances captured on *Set List*, the poetry ranged from symbiotic sing-alongs to a fire that broke out in Hansard's amp. "I just dropped the acoustic guitar and kept going," he recalls. "For me, the ultimate goal in life is to be able to be comfortable in my skin, grow old gracefully, and live in the moment." iB

The Frames
play Avalon with Damien Rice, April 17

Advice to Contributors
Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by f (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or email to music@improper.com. Include dates, tim prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadlin four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not cepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers
Information for the Music section is compiled from ferent sources. Although we make every effort to prov accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahe to double-check dates and times (see complete list venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Air April 12, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Alabama April 3, Worcester Centrum (617-228-600
Barenaked Ladies and Guster April 7, Tsong Arena (617-931-2000).
Blonde Redhead and Secret Machines April Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
The Crystal Method April 6, Avalon (617-42 NEXT).
The Darkness and the Wildhearts April 3, Aval (617-423-NEXT).
The Distillers, the Icarus Line and the Lot April 3, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
The Flatlanders April 7, Paradise Rock Club (61 423-NEXT).
Ben Kweller and Death Cab for Cutie April Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Pat McGee Band and Charlotte Martin April Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Method Man March 31, Avalon (617-423-NEXT
Van Morrison April 8, Orpheum Theatre (617-93 2000). April 9, Wang Center (800-447-7400). Bo shows sold out.
N.E.R.D. and the Black Eyed Peas April Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Pinback, American Analog Set and El Guapo Ap 13, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
The Rapture and Black Rebel Motorcycle Cl April 5, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Squarepusher April 3, Paradise Rock Club (61 423-NEXT).
Sugar Ray April 9, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Toots & the Maytals March 31, Paradise Rock Cl (617-423-NEXT).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

Avalon Method Man, 7 pm, $25.25, 18+.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9 pm.
The Burren Hot Day at the Zoo.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim James O'Brien and Dan Bern, 7 and pm, $20.
The Fireplace Rick Costa, 9:30 pm, no cover, all ag
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard, no cov
Harper's Ferry Madison Falls with the Irreverent $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Me & Julio, no cover.
Johnny D's Julian Kasper, 8:30 pm.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm; the Black C Burlesque show with Electrolux, 10 pm, $5.
McGann's Pub Traditional Irish music.
Middle East Upstairs: TV on the Radio, the Pa thers, Eyes Like Knives, $10, 18+. Downstai Southern Culture on the Skids, the Greenhorn and Three Day Threshold, $13, 18+.
Midway Café Poppa Wheelie Pants Yell.
Paradise Toots & the Maytals, 9 pm, $20, 18+.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble.
Regattabar The Elvin Jones Jazz Machine, 8:30 p $22.
Ryles Jazz Club Daryl Lowery and Instant! Groo CD-release show, 8:30 pm-12 am, $9.
Saint Brian Walkley Band, 9 pm, 21+.
Sky Bar Product, the Economy and Nick Jones pm, 21+.
Somerville Theatre Keb' Mo', 8 pm, $22-$37.
Toad Deb Pasternak Band, 7-9 pm; Mayberry 31 10 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Cignal, Dynasty and R Delikat, $7.
Zeitgeist Gallery Drew Sayers, the Second Helpi Trio, 7-9 pm, $7; Jorge Perez, 9:30 pm-12 am, $8.
Les Zygomates Leo Blanco 7:30-11:30 pm.

THURSDAY, APRIL 1

Abbey Lounge Sugabomb, $5-$7, 21+.
Bill's Bar The E3 Beantown Beatdown Mixtape R lease Party, $8, 21+.

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every Saturday 9pm

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Gift Certificates for 2nd, 3rd place

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The Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Tall Richards, 7:30 pm.
Breezeway Justice Dobrin Qartet, 7:30-10:30 pm.
The Burren Swingin' Johnsons, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Chris Waller, Gordon Beadle and New Day, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Rachel Garlin and Vinx, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
The Fireplace Lenny Solomon Band, 9:30 pm.
Great Scott DJs Victoria and Carl with John Vanderslice, Sufjan Stevens, and Will Johnson of Centro-Matic, $5, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, no cover.
The Harp Dick & Jane, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Harper's Ferry ROQ with Seepeoples, 7 pm, $10 18+, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe, no cover.
Johnny D's Healthcare for All Benefit with Owen Plant and Audrey Ryan, 9 pm.
Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center Aquiles Báez and Claudio Ragazzi, 8 pm, $15.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Geoff Farina (of Karate), Rebecca Gates and Igloo $9, 18+; Vyacheslav Butusov and U-Piter, $30, 18+.
Paradise Badfish (Sublime tribute band) and Zox, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Parris Maxie Courtney, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Porters Bar and Grill Brian Burrill.
Regattabar The Elvin Jones Jazz Machine, 8:30 pm, $24.
Ryles Jazz Club Kenny Helman, 9 pm-12 am, $10.
Sky Bar Passenger, No More Dolls, 8 pm, 21+.
Toad Boris McCutcheon, 7-9 pm; the Armadillos, 10 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Cruiserweight, Feable Weiner, the Sharking, Digger and Air Hockey Champion, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Western Front My Show Called Life Records Mixtape release, 9 pm, $8.
Les Zygomates The Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm-12 am.

FRIDAY, APRIL 2

Abbey Lounge Count Me Outs CD-release show, 11:30 pm, $5-7, 21+.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Tony O'Riordan. Downstairs: Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Diamond Life, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm-1:30 am.
The Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the No Way Jose Band, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Aaron Burnett Trio, 6:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Maxi, 5-7 pm; Spike the Punch, $5.
The Green Dragon Tavern Random Axis, $5.
The Harp The Zoo, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Jon Butcher with Charlie Farren and Kick the Dog, 7 pm, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Me & Julio, 5-7:30 pm; Freeze Pop, $5.
Johnny D's Milo Z CD-release show, 9:45 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton, 5-9 pm, no cover; Peter Rice, 9 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Kenne Highland Birthday Spectacular, 8 pm,no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Pilot to Gunner, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Stellastarr* and the Killers, $10, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well, $5.
Paradise Twilight Singers, 8 pm, $14, 18+. Lounge: Dana Mier Band & the Killingtons, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Parris Split Decision, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Regattabar The Elvin Jones Jazz Machine, 7:30 and 10 pm, $24.
Ryles Jazz Club Rachel Z, 9:30 pm-1 am, $12.
Sky Bar This Blue Holiday, Stereo Soul Future, the December Sound and the Nonfamous, 8 pm, $6, 21+.
Toad The Scissormen CD-release show, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Weird War (members of the Makeup), Mary Timony, Jason Hatfield and the Marmalade, $8.
Western Front Beat Society, 9 pm, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Callithumpian Consort, 7-9 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm-12 am.

SATURDAY, APRIL 3

Abbey Lounge The Traps, 9 pm; SDABS, 9:45 pm; the Spitzz, 10:30 pm; the Tampoffs, 11:30 pm; $5-$7, 21+.
Avalon The Darkness, 7 pm, $15.25.
Axis The Distillers, the Icarus Line and the Lot Six, 6 pm, $12, all ages.
Bill's Bar High School Battle of the Bands, $10, all ages.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Addison Groove Project May 8, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Christina Aguilera and Chingy June 18, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Averi April 30 and May 1, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Blink 182 and No Doubt June 8, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Blondie May 8, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Edie Brickell April 27, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Buffalo Tom May 7, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Dido June 19, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Emergenza Festival April 15-18, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Melissa Etheridge April 23-25, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Fleetwood Mac May 28, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Herbie Hancock, Jack DeJohnette, Dave Holland Trio April 18, Berklee Performance Center (617-876-7777).
Sarah Harmer and Hayden April 21, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Mason Jennings April 24, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Angelique Kidjo and Femi Kuti June 25, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Peaches May 2, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Projekt Revolution 2004 Tour with Linkin Park, Korn and Snoop Dogg July 29, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Queensryche April 22, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
The Raveonettes and the Rogers Sisters May 5, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Reel Big Fish, Sugarcult and Maxeen April 18, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Damien Rice April 17, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Josh Ritter and Erin McKeown April 23, Somerville Theatre (617-931-2000).
Silence = Your Death 2004 Tour with the Suicide Machines, Against All Authority, the Code and the River City Rebels April 30, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
Ska Is Dead Tour with Catch 22, Mustard Plug, Big D and the Kids Table, and the Planet Smashers April 29, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
Slightly Stoopid and Pepper April 21, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
The Slip April 18, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
Britney Spears June 23, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Sting and Annie Lennox June 28, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Story of the Year, Motion City Soundtrack and Letter Kills April 21, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
The Strokes May 15, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
The Thrills May 28, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Tortoise April 20, Roxy(617-338-7699).
The Waifs April 22, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).



Old-style blues artist Keb' Mo' plays at the Somerville Theatre March 31.

The Black Rose Upstairs: Tony O'Riordan. Dow
stairs: Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Pat Loomis, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers
Club Passim Brian Joseph and Susan Werner, 7 p
$22.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm-1:30 am.
The Good Life Cambridge Weepin' Willie. 9:30 p
no cover, 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Jim Porcella Trio, 9:
pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Incadence, $5.
Great Scott *The Plan* with DJs Victoria and C
and the Information with Two if by Sea, $5, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Vent, $5.
The Harp The Zoo, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's DJ Fury, $5.
Johnny D's Lovewhip CD-release show, 9:45 p
$10.
Kennedy's Midtown Reggae Nights with Bobb
Steelz & Moon, $10.
The Linwood Electric Frankenstein and Les Bant
Rouge.
Middle East Upstairs: Don Caballero and Black H
licopter, $9, 18+. Downstairs: the Sleepy Jackso
Ambulance Ltd. and On the Speakers, $10, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well, $5.
O'Brien's One Day Left, 10 pm, 21+.
Paradise Squarepusher, Cassetteboy and Jonny
9 pm, $20, 18+.
Parris Split Decision, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Syndicate.
Regattabar The Elvin Jones Jazz Machine, 7:30 a
10 pm, $26.
Ryles Jazz Club Rachel Z, 9:30 pm-1 am, $12.
Sanders Theatre Solas, 8 pm, $20-$30.
Sky Bar Sonic Bonnet, Rule 56 and Bucky Spins,
pm, $6, 21+.
Somerville Theatre Tim Piper and Working Cla
Hero, 8 pm, $25.50.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase 7-9 pm; Stepania
10 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Tyler Keith and the Preache
Kids, the Downbeat 5, Muck and the Mires, Je
Parish and the Mother Tongues CD-release sho
$8.
Western Front Hot Like Fire, 9 pm, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Sound-Lee! 7 pm, $8; Warren/G
ardullo/Balgochian, Full Metal Revolutionary Ja
Ensemble, 9:30 pm-12 am, $10.
Les Zygomates Sandra Aran, 8 pm-12 am.

SUNDAY, APRIL 4

Bill's Bar High School Battle of the Bands, $10, a
ages.
The Black Rose Tom Carroll and Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Jazz Brunch with Paulo Danay Ja
Quartet, 10 am-3 pm.
Breezeway Bobby Ward Trio, 11 am-3 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's blues jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Brian Joseph and Susan Werner, 7:3
pm, $22.
The Druid The Sherrys, 10 am-3 pm; Big Time, 7:2
pm-12 am, no cover.
Forsyth Chapel Ana Vinagre and Roberto Caste
lon, 4 pm, $12.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnson
no cover.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, 9 pm, no cover.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Ridgley Snow 9 an
2:30 pm; blues jam and salsa dancing with Rumb
NaMa.
Kennedy's Midtown Jazz brunch with Keza Hirsey.
McGann's Pub Traditional Irish music.
Middle East Upstairs: Dial M for Murder, 18-
Downstairs: Boston Social Forum Presents Noa
Chomsky, Michelle Shocked, Rumba Cuatro, Davi
Rovics, the Reagan Babies and Jake the Snake,
pm, $10, 18+.
Paradise Gavin DeGraw, 7 pm, 18+.
Regattabar The Elvin Jones Jazz Machine, 3 and
pm, $22.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz brunch with Bob Gay, 10 am-
pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Defacto and the Predicates, 8 pm, $6, 21+
Toad The Springhill Rounders, 7-9 pm; Sessio
American with Ry Cavanaugh, Sean Staples, Dint
Child, Jimmy Fitting and Billy Beard, 10 pm, n
cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Subject Bias, Strippeddow
and Theory of Regret, 9:15 pm, $5, 21+.

MONDAY, APRIL 5

Avalon The Rapture and Black Rebel Motorcycl
Club, 8 pm, $20.25.
Bill's Bar Monsta Monday, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Cantab Lounge Open Mike, 8 pm; Alastair Mooc
9:30 pm, 21+.

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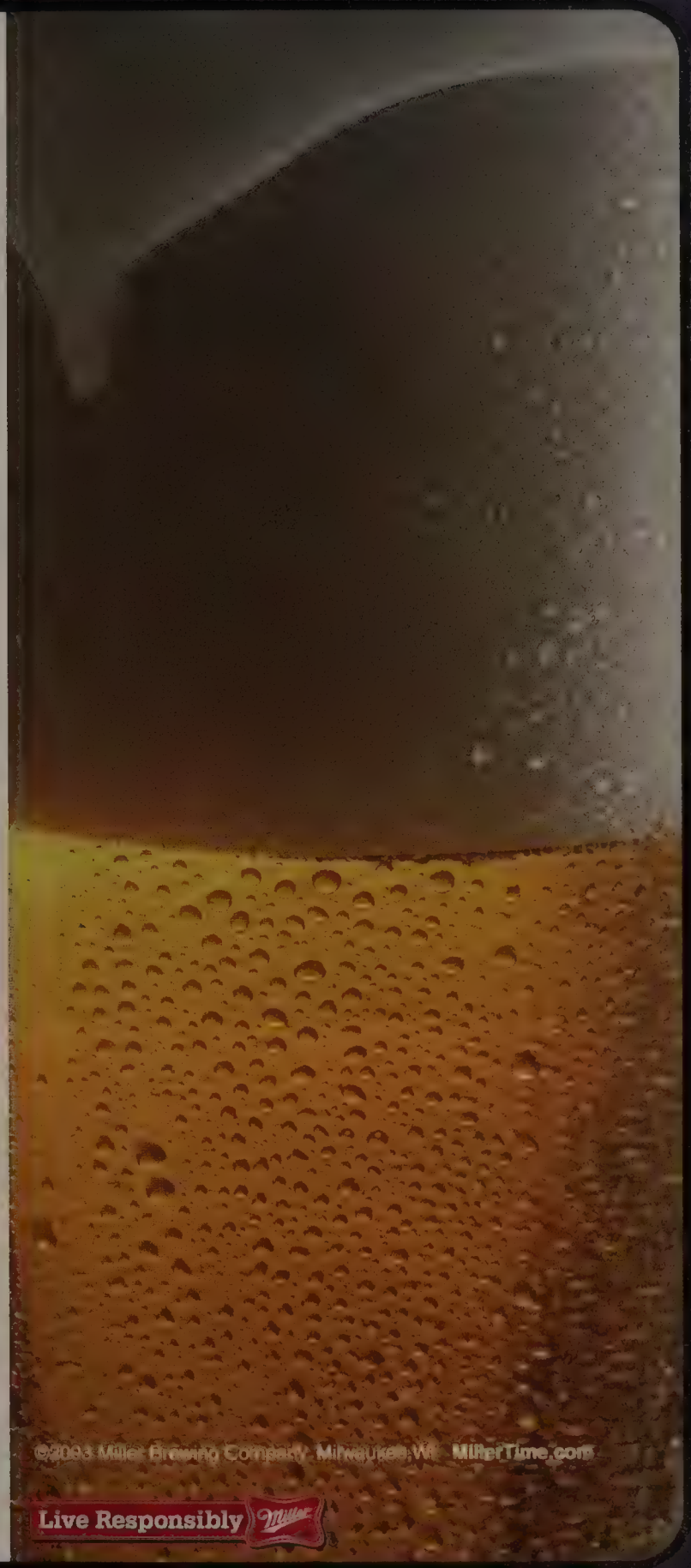
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British rock band the Darkness brings its high-energy stage antics and gaudy costumes to Avalon April 3.

Club Passim The Asylum Street Spankers, 7:30 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
The Green Briar Irish Seisiun.
Harper's Ferry Elcodrive with Everyday Visuals and Gregory Paul and the Autumn Drivers, 7 pm, $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson, no cover.
Johnny D's Pop quiz team trivia, 9-11 pm.
Middle East Making It Right and Jupiter Sunrise, 18+.
O'Brien's Sparrowhawk, 9 pm, 21+.
Toad Shwang, featuring Anita Suhanin, 8-10 pm; the Tim Gearan Band, 10:30 pm, no cover.
T.T the Bear's Place Jess McDonough, Dan Rogers and Alan Wong, $3.
Les Zygomates Black Soul, 7 pm-11 pm.

TUESDAY, APRIL 6

Avalon The Crystal Method and DJ Hyper, 8 pm, $20.25, 18+.
Axis Fantomas, Mike Patton, Melt Banana, 8 pm, $20, 18+.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm; Orrin Star, 10 pm.
Club Passim Richard Shindell, 7 pm, $20.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, no cover.
Johnny D's Chris and Meredith Thompson, 8:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Big Band Cabaret Night, no cover.
Paradise Bob Guiney, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
Regattabar The Cercie Miller Quartet and Tiger Okoshi, 8:30 pm, $12.
Remington's Al Vega Trio and Johnny Souza, 8:30 pm - 12:30 am, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Best of Boston A Cappella Scene, 9 pm-12 am, $7.
Toad Todd Thibaud, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Slater, Lock & Key, the Call Up, Jetavana Grove and Fenwick, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
Les Zygomates Jason Domnarski Trio, 8 pm-12 am.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7

Bill's Bar Daisycutter and Jaded, $8, 21+.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Breezeway Jah-N-I, 7:30-10:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Vienna Teng, 7 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
The Fireplace Rob Mitzner Trio, 9:30 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard, no cover.
Harper's Ferry Mountain of Venus, 7 pm, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Me & Julio, no cover.
Johnny D's Frank Gambale, Ohm and Chris Poland, 8:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie, no cover.
McGann's Pub Traditional Irish music.
Middle East Upstairs: Cache Toalmen, Riddle of Steel, Retisonic and Kimone, 18+.
Paradise The Flatlanders: Jimmie Dale Gilmore, Joe Ely and Butch Hancock, 8 pm, $18-20, 18+.
Regattabar The Richie Hart Trio, 8:30 pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Adam Dewey and Crazy Creek, 9 pm-12 am, $6.
Saint Brian Walkley Band, 9 pm, 21+.
Sky Bar Moneypenny, Hurricane, Supervain, 8 pm, $6, 21+.
Toad Colleen Sexton, 7-9 pm; the Ken Clark Organ Trio, 10 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Good North, Cracktorch, the Fly Seville Residency, 9:15 pm, $8, 21+.
Western Front NEC jazz, 9 pm.
Les Zygomates Silas Hubbarb, 7:30-11:30 pm.

THURSDAY, APRIL 8

Abbey Lounge Sugabomb, $5-$7, 21+.
Bill's Bar NBFB and Audible Mainframe and Logan, $10 for 18+, $8 for 21+.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Groove Authority, 7:30 pm.
Breezeway Justice Dobrin Quartet, 7:30 - 10:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Chris Waller, Gordon Beadle and New Day, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim The Jolly Bankers and Eric Merrill and Western Star, 8 pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Classic Trax, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, no cover.
The Harp Brick Park, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Roger Clyne and the Peacemakers, 7 pm, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe, no cover.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield, no cover.
Middle East Downstairs: Eek a Mouse, $18, 18+.
Orpheum Van Morrison, 7:30 pm, $67.50-127.50, all ages (sold out).
Paradise Particle, 9 pm, $14, 18+.
Parris Maxie Courtney, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Regattabar The Pierre Hurel Trio, 8:30 pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Lisa Kirchner, 9 pm-12 am, $15.
Sky Bar Dust Buffalo, Three Speed Amplifier, Sparkola, James the Viking, 8 pm, $6, 21+.
Toad Boris McCutcheon, 7-9 pm; Billy Block's Western Beat Roots Revival, hosted by John Cate and the Van Gogh Brothers with Blue Light Special, 10 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The End of the World, the Tint and Moonshot CD-release show, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
Les Zygomates The Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm-12 am.

FRIDAY, APRIL 9

Abbey Lounge Creepy Jones, 11:30 pm, $5-7, 21+.
Bill's Bar Suspect, Chamby and Fat Can, $10 for 18+, $8 fr 21+.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Celtic Clan. Downstairs: Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Jazz Quartet, 7:3 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers.
Club Passim The Mammals CD-release show, 8 pm $14.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm - 1:30 am.
The Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the N Way Jose Band.
The Good Life Downtown Aaron Burnett Trio, 6:3 pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Maxi, 5-7 pm; Block Head, $5.
The Green Dragon Tavern Say When, $5.
The Harp Catunes, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Moon Boot Lover with the Te Mile Tide, 7 pm, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30 pm, no cover.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton, 5-9 pm, no cove Peter Rice, 9 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Rockbottom, the Rudds, Bab Ray and the Ticks, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Nullse White, Drinkfist, Invision and Crowne Vict, $10, 18+
Mr. Dooley's Christy O'Connell, $5.
O'Brien's Chris Crofton and the Alcohol Stunt band, 9 pm, 21+.
Paradise Blonde Redhead and Secret Machines, pm, $16, 18+.
Parris Joe Rockstar, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Porters Bar and Grill Nate Watkins.
Regattabar The Chiara Civello Quintet, 7:30 an 10 pm, $14.
Ryles Jazz Club Aruan Ortiz Trio CD-release show 9:30 pm-1 am, $10.
Sanders Theater Leo Kottke, 8 pm, $29.
Sky Bar Viodox, Capital B and the Elephant Mer Local Radio and the Chris Dukes Band, 8 pm, $6 21+.
Toad Jim Bianco, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Wrens, Ester Drang, th Douglas Fir and Lincoln Conspiracy, 9:15 pm, $10 21+.
Wang Center Van Morrison, 7:30 pm, $55.50 $112.50, all ages (sold out).
Western Front Stepper's Heaven, 9 pm, $5.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm-12 am.

SATURDAY, APRIL 10

Abbey Lounge Choo Choo la Rouge, 11:30 pm, $5 7, 21+.
Avalon Death Cab for Cutie and Ben Kweller, 6 pm $18, all ages.
The Black Rose Upstairs Celtic Clan and Fran Ryan. Downstairs: Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Lance Martin, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers.
Club Passim Jim Kweskin Band and Samoa Wilson 8 pm, $18.
Dick's Last Resort Classic Trax, 8:30 pm-1:30 am no cover.
The Good Life Cambridge Weepin' Willie, 9:30 pm no cover, 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Jim Porcella Trio, 9:3 pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Syndicate, $5.
The Green Dragon Tavern Bald Walter, $5.
The Harp Chorduroy, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Harper's Ferry The Knot, 7 pm, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's DJ Fury, $5.
Johnny D's Nicole Nelson, 8:30 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown Reggae Nights with Bobbi Steelz & Moon, $10.



Ben Kweller (above) performs with Death Cab for Cutie at Avalon April 10.

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Middle East Upstairs: Medina Sod, Default Outfit and the Modeles, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Pernice Brothers, Lambchop and the Long Winters, $15, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Christy O'Connell, $5.
Paradise Pat McGee Band, 8 pm, $16.50, 18+.
Parris Joe Rockstar, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Brick Park.
Regattabar The Marta Gomez Group, 7:30 and 10 pm, $14.
Ryles Jazz Club Melvin Sparks Band, 9:30 pm-1 am, $10.
Sky Bar Spike Emerson Society, Delusions of Grandeur, Waling Grey and Jes Perry, 8 pm, $7, 21+.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 7-9 pm; the Mercy Brothers and William Hut, 10 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The December Sound, Unbusted, Mittens, Runner and the Thermodynamics CD-release show, 9:15 pm, $8, 21+.
Western Front Toussaint, 9 pm, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Dan Dechellis and Fishlung Trio, 9:30 pm-12 am, $10.
Les Zygomates Marianne Sullivan, 8 pm-12 am.

SUNDAY, APRIL 11

The Black Rose Frank Ryan and Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with the Sonny Watson Jazz Quartet, 10 am-3 pm.
Breezeway Michael Shea Trio, 11 am- 3 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's blues jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Ruthie Foster CD-release show, 7:30 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Silver Lining, 10 am-3 pm; Big Time, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons, no cover.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, no cover.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Matt Dorko and Larry Kukers, 9 am-2:30 pm; blues jam and salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa.
Kennedy's Midtown Jazz brunch with Keza Hirsey.
McGann's Pub Traditional Irish music.
Middle East Phantom Limb CD-release show and Bane of Existence, 18+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz brunch with Steve Rochinski, 10 am-3 pm, no cover.
Toad Session American with Ry Cavanaugh, Sean Staples, Dinty Child, Jimmy Fitting and Billy Beard, 10 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Quin, Grey Area and Lady of Spain, 9:15 pm, $5, 21+.

MONDAY, APRIL 12

Avalon Air, 8 pm, $20.25-$22.25, 18+.
Bill's Bar Monsta Monday, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Cantab Lounge Open mike, 8 pm; LemonStone, 9:30 pm, 32+.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
The Green Briar Irish Seisiun.
Hennessy's Joe Carson, no cover.
Johnny D's Working Stiff Cabaret, 7-9 pm; pop quiz team trivia, 9-11 pm.
Middle East Silverstein, Armor for Sleep, Halifax and Fear Before the March of Flames, $10, 18+.
Toad Shwang, featuring Anita Suhanin, 8-10 pm; the Tim Gearan Band, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Jason Domnarski Trio, 7 pm.

TUESDAY, APRIL 13

Avalon N.E.R.D. and Black Eyed Peas, 8 pm, $22.25, 18+.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm; Second Wind, 10 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open mike, 7 pm, $5.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, no cover.
Johnny D's Bertrand Laurence's Jellyrollers and Bill McQuaid, 8:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Big Band Cabaret Night, no cover.
Paradise Pinback, American Analog Set and El Guapo, 8 pm, $16, 18+.
Regattabar Guaranteed Swahili, 8:30 pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club All About Buford, 9 pm-12 am, $10.
Sky Bar The Sweepers, 8 pm, 21+.
Toad Todd Thibaud, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Prettytheboat, Arielle Silver, Lindsay Macindoe, Jon-Erik Borgen CD-release show and the Ariel Silver Band, 9 pm, $6, 21+.
Les Zygomates Aruan Ortiz Trio, 8-12 pm, no cover.



Hardcore punk revivalists the Distillers are part of a three-band revue at Axis April 3.

Music Venues

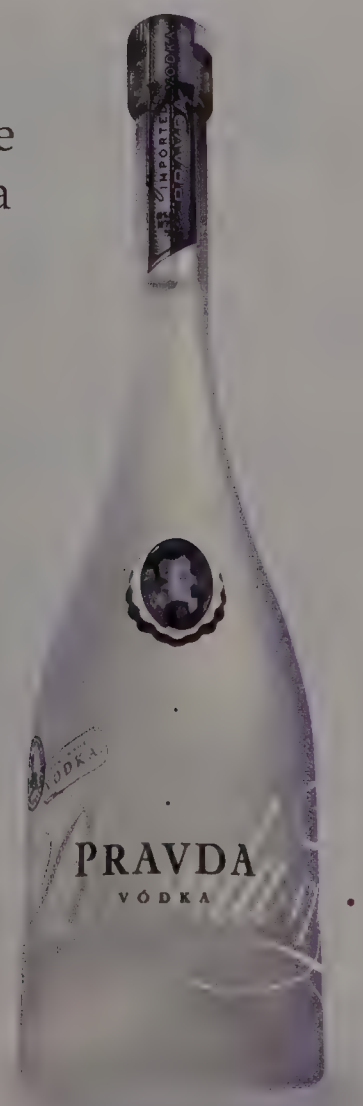
Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Boston (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Cottonwood Café *222 Berkeley St., Boston (617-247-2225). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
The Druid *1357 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-497-0965).*
Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Boston (617-350-9977). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Fireplace *1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Forsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetary, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston (617-524-3354) MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills.*
The Good Life Cambridge *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Great Scott *1222 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-9014). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Avenue.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jordan Hall *290 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-585-1100). MBTA: Green Line E to Symphony.*
Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center *85 West Newton St., Boston (617-927-1730).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Julien Bar *250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (617-267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Masonic Hall *1930 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-1336). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookline (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
McGann's *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059). MBTA: Green Line or Orange Line to North Station.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Murphy's Law *837 Summer St., South Boston (617-269-6667).*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Ave., Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Avenue.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
Porters Bar and Grill *173 Portland St., Boston (617-742-7678).*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St, Boston (617-227-2060). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Road, Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Skellig *240 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0679).*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001) MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Stoneham Theatre *395 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200).*
Symphony Hall *301 Mass. Ave., Boston (781-647-0679). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Washington Square Tavern *714 Washington St., Brookline (617-232-8989). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington.*
Western Front *343 Western Ave., Cambridge (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-492-7772). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

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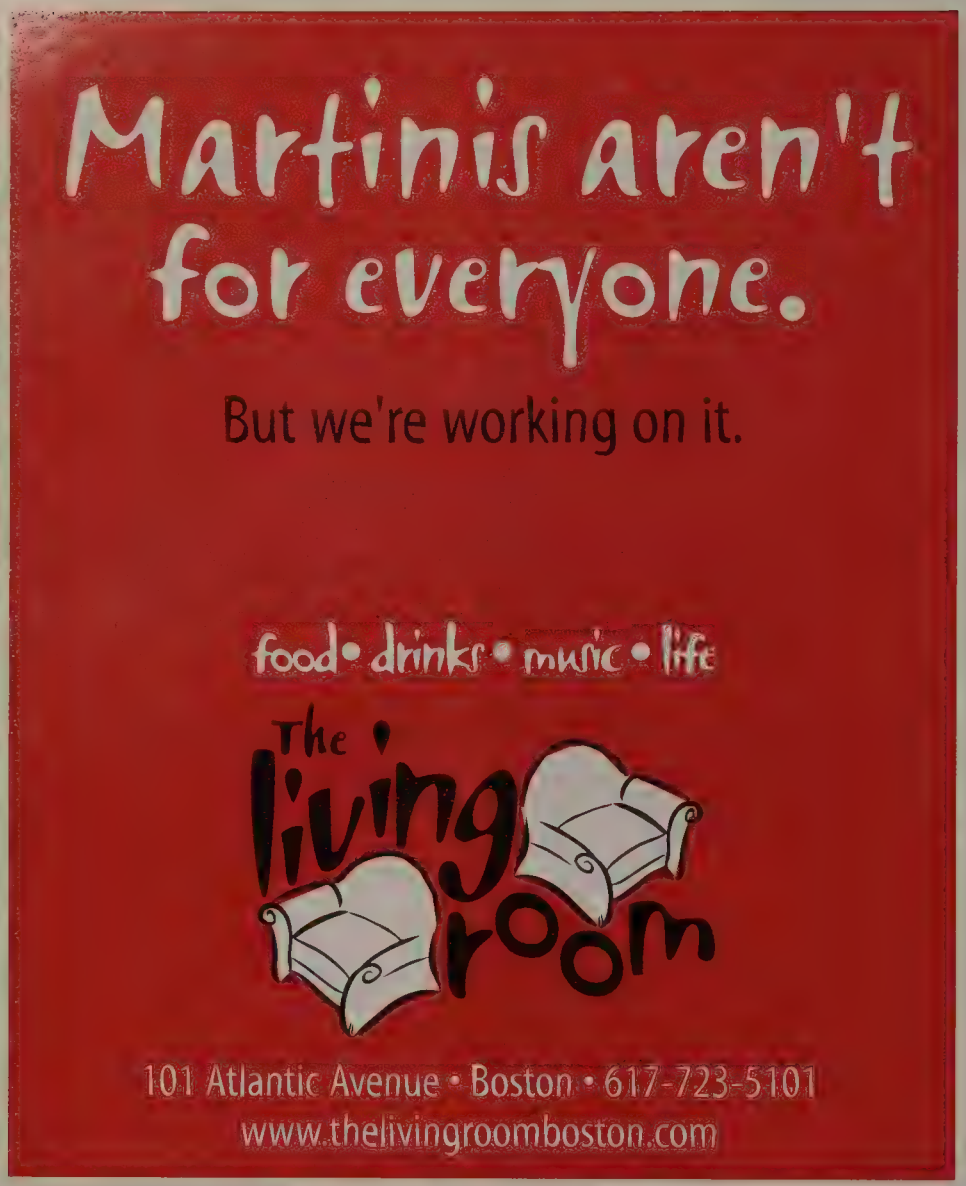
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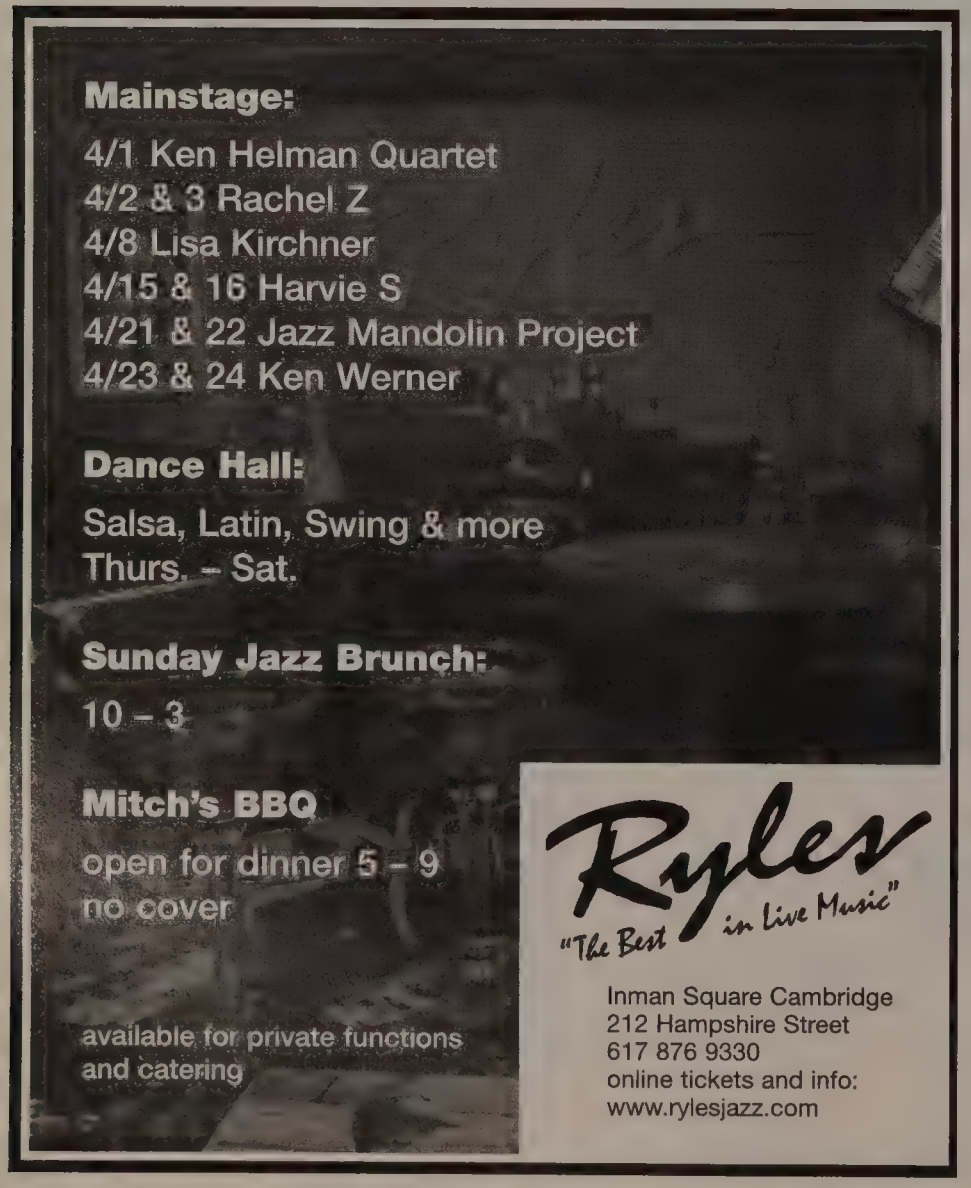


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classical music

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

Alea III
Boston University, Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-8725). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to BU Central. 8 pm. Free. Classical group Alea III performs works by Khurman, Koukos, Graugaard, Murail and Scelsi. Theodore Antoniou conducts.

Tosca
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line Boylston or Orange Line to New England Medical Center. 7:30 pm. $33-$152. Boston Lyric Opera presents Puccini's *Tosca*.

THURSDAY, APRIL 1

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 10:30 am (rehearsal), $16; 8 pm, $26-$86. Conductor Grant Llewellyn leads bass-baritone John Relyea, the Tanglewood Festival Chorus and the Boston Symphony Orchestra in a concert of works by Vaughan Williams, Thea Musgrave and William Walton.

Longy School of Music
Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. 7:30 pm. $10 (students $5). Five students from Longy's early-music, voice and opera departments perform selections by French and German composers with soprano Elly Ameling.

FRIDAY, APRIL 2

Boston Early Music Festival
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-424-7232). www.bemf.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. Countertenor Andreas Scholl and harpsichordist Markus Märkl present a program featuring music by Krieger and Handel.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$95. Same program as April 1.

Celebrity Series
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $36-$61. Soprano Dawn Upshaw presents a program including works by Luciano Berio and Osvaldo Golijov.

Classical Music at MIT
Killian Hall, 14W-111, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (617-253-2826). web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. 7:30 pm. Senior pianist Jeremy Baskin performs works by Schubert and Schumann.

Experimental Music
Zeitgeist Gallery, 1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060). http://callithumpian.org. 8 pm. $7. suggested donation. The Callithumpian Consort Experimental Music Series presents a concert of saxophone music featuring pianist Guus Janssen.

The Magic Flute
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont Street, Boston (800-233-3123). www.maj.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 8 pm. $15. The New England Conservatory presents Mozart's opera.

Tosca
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line Boylston or Orange Line to New England Medical Center. 7:30 pm. $33-$152. Same program as March 31.

SATURDAY, APRIL 3

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$95. Same program as April 1.

Boston University Chamber Chorus
College of Fine Arts Concert Hall, 855 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-353-8790). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. 8 pm. Free. The Boston University Chamber Chorus performs works by Benjamin Britten, Edward Elgar, Gerald Finzi, Gustav Holst, and Vaughan Williams. Ann Howard Jones conducts.

Celebrity Series
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $10-$25. Pianist Andrew Rangell presents a program of works by Beethoven and Charles Ives, and the world premiere of a new work by John McDonald.

Graduate Composers Concert
Slosberg Recital Hall, Brandeis University, South Street, Waltham (781-736-3310). www.brandeis.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 8 pm. Free. The Brandeis Department of Music presents a concert of works by members of the graduate composition department.

Longy School of Music
Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-254-1125). www.longy.edu. 8 pm. $25 general; $20 students, seniors and WGBH members. Tenor Yeghishé Manucharyan performs with pianist Brian Moll in a concert of arias and romances by Verdi, Mozart, Donizetti, Bizet, Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff, Tigranian and Komitas.

The Magic Flute
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (800-233-3123). www.maj.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 8 pm. $15. Same program as April 2.

Music at the Mansion
Commander's Mansion, 440 Talcott Avenue, Watertown (617-923-0100). www.arsenalarts.org. 1-4 pm. $10-20. A diverse group of musicians plays as part the music education festival, also featuring hands-on activities for adults and children.

SUNDAY, APRIL 4

Artist Diploma Showcase
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 2 Palace Road, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 1:30 pm. $10-$15. Pianist Sonia Chan presents a program including works by Bach, Schumann and Debussy.

The Magic Flute
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (800-233-3123). www.maj.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 8 pm. $15. Same program as April 2.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7 pm. Free. Faculty member and pianist Leslie Amper performs works by Bach, Haydn, Debussy and Chopin.

New England Conservatory
St. Botolph Hall, 241 St. Botolph St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7 pm. Free. Faculty member and pianist Sarah Takagi presents a program including works by Haydn, Chopin, Prokofiev and Eric Sawyer.

New England String Ensemble
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston (781-224-1117). www.newenglandstringensemble.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $10-$37. The ensemble presents a concert featuring works by Bach.

Newton Public Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1410). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: Green Line to Newton Highlands. 2 pm. Free. Pianist Amira Acre accompanies mezzo soprano Hyunjoo Yun in a performance of works by Mahler, Faure, Ravel and Schumann.

Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra
Sanders Theatre, Harvard University, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-661-7067). www.proarte.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.3 pm. $9-$45. Principal guest conductor Gunther Schuller leads the orchestra and piano soloist Veronica Jochum in a performance of works by Arnold Schoenberg, Jean Françaix and Mozart.

Tosca
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line Boylston or Orange Line to New England Medical Center. 3 pm. $33-$152. Same program as March 31.

MONDAY, APRIL 5

Student Vocal Recital
Killian Hall,160 Memorial Drive, Cambridge (617-253-2826). http://web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 5pm. Free. Graduate student Ahmed E. Ismail, baritone, accompanied by pianist Yukiko Ueno, presents a program including works by Mahler, Benjamin Britten, Gerald Finzi and Vaughan Williams.

TUESDAY, APRIL 6

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $26-$86. Same program as April 1.

Boston University Faculty Concert
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-8725). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to BU Central. 8 pm. Free. Pianist David Kopp and clarinetist Ian Greitzer lead an ensemble in performances of works by Mozart, Harris, Bernstein and Conlon Nancarrow.

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James Conlon conducts the BSO April 8–10.

New England Conservatory
Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 6 pm. Free. The Borromeo String Quartet discusses and performs works by Martinu.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-267-6502). www.cantatasingers. org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Faculty member John Gibbons performs works by Bach, Haydn, Debussy and Chopin on harpsichord.

Tosca
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line Boylston or Orange Line to New England Medical Center. 7:30 pm. $33-$152. Same program as March 31.

Tuesdays with Sebastian
Old West Church, 131 Cambridge St., Boston (617-661-0570). www.tuesdayswithsebastian.info. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. 8 pm. $10. Organist Christa Rakich and harpsichordist Peter Sykes present the works of Johann Sebastian Bach.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7

Lockhart and Lin
Converse Hall, Tremont Temple, 88 Tremont St., Boston (617-423-6000). www.nextticketing.com. MBTA:Green Line to Government Center. $50-$100. In this benefit concert for the Snappy Dance Theater, Boston Pops conductor Keith Lockhart accompanies his wife, BSO violinist Lucia Lin, on piano as the pair perform works by Henri Wienawski.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Larry Rachleff guest-conducts the NEC Philharmonia in works by Bartók and Brahms.

THURSDAY, APRIL 8

Boston Museum Trio
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 7:30 pm. $20-$24. The Museum Trio presents a program including madrigals and sonatas by Monteverdi and his Italian contemporaries, Marini, Stradella and Cima.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 10:30 am. $16 and 8 pm. $26-86. The BSO, featuring pianist Andreas Haefliger, performs with conductor James Conlon.

Psophos String Quartet
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The Psophos Quartet, under the direction of Paul Katz, performs works by Debussy, Mendelssohn and Schubert.

FRIDAY, APRIL 9

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30 pm. $26-$86. Same program as April 8.

Classical Music at MIT
Killian Hall, 14W-111, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (617-253-2826). web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. 5 pm. Students perform works by Benjamin Britten, Madeleine Dring, Johan Kalliwoda and John Harbison.

Corigliano String Quartet
Kresge Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-2906). web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8pm. Free. The Corigliano Quartet presents a program of pieces by Mozart, Mendelssohn and Andrew Waggoner.

Student Vocal Recital
Killian Hall, 14W-111, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (617-253-2826). web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. 7:30 pm. Senior Victoria Davis sings works by John Jacob Niles, Arcangelo Lori, Antonio Salieri, Tommaso Traetta, Jules Massenet and Charles Gounod.

Tosca
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line Boylston or Orange Line to New England Medical Center. 7:30 pm. $33-$152. Same program as March 31.

SATURDAY, APRIL 10

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$95. Same program as April 8.

Radius Ensemble
Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-254-1125). www.radiusensemble.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $10 general; $5 students. Composer in residence Ken Ueno presents the premiere of his *Disjecta* for violin with the ensemble. The program also includes music by Jean Françaix and Brahms.

SUNDAY, APRIL 11

Artist Diploma Showcase
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 2 Palace Road, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 1:30 pm. $10-$15. Harpist Franziska Huhn presents a program including works by Berio, Hindemith and C.P.E. Bach.

Centennial Concert Series
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The NEC Parker String Quartet presents a program including works by Brahms and Bach.

Tosca
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line Boylston or Orange Line to New England Medical Center. 3 pm. $33-$152. Same program as March 31.

MONDAY, APRIL 12

Student Vocal Recital
Killian Hall,160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (617-253-2826). http://web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 5pm. Free. Graduate student Caitlin Smythe, soprano, and pianist Yukiko Ueno present a program including works by Bürde, Fauré, Handel, Reichardt, Schumann, Wilhelm Hensel and William Walton.

TUESDAY, APRIL 13

New England Conservatory Contemporary Ensemble
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. John Heiss directs the NEC Contemporary Ensemble in works by Gyorgy Ligeti, Arnold Schoenberg, George Crumb and Colin Stack.

Tosca
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line Boylston or Orange Line to New England Medical Center. 7:30 pm. $33-$152. Same program as March 31.



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Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJs spin R&B and hip-hop, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Dance party with DJ Marco Small, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

An Tua Nua
What's Up Night A night of R&B, house, funk and soul music, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Phat Tuesday DJ D Sharp spins old-school and hip-hop, 19+, college ID required.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Sender spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Orange DJs John Davis and Pat Fontes bring the house music, and weekly guest DJs spin, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Deep Tones DJ Brynmore spins a mix of soul, funk, house and acid jazz, 10 pm, no cover, $3, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Ricky spins 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Trio
Always Best Tuesday The night features all hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Phat Tuesdays DJ Ron Steele spins hip-hop, R&B reggae and international grooves, 10 pm, 21+, proper dress required.

WEDNESDAYS

Aria
Lust DJ John Morris spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, $8, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, $21.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins Greek and international tunes, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.



Common Ground
What a Way to Go Go Mod Night with DJ Vin, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
DJs spin international house, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up R&B, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mercury Lounge DJs Nomadik and Timmy Allen host a night of soul, funk and house, 9 pm, $3-5, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin deep house, trance and grassroots techno, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
International Wednesdays DJ JC is in the Latin Lounge; DJs Alex and Felix spin in the back, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Massi spins top-40, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Q
Violation Wednesdays Weekly guest DJs spin today's best music, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Ricky spins spins, 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Cabin Stabbin' Wednesdays DJ Boogie Ba Do spins dub to start the party, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Jazz Wednesdays The Brian Walkley Band brings R&B and dance to the main lounge, 9-11 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B. Downstairs: Live music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
College Night DJ Fu spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; DJ Roger M and DJ Thanos spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
International Thursdays DJ Gee Spin and guests play rap and hip-hop tunes, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Mark Morris and Catunes play pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and Salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Exchange
Heaven and Hell DJs Chaos, 7L and Mr. Aru spin house and hip-hop, 9:30 pm-2 am, 19+ (with college ID).

Felt
DJ Ghost spins international house and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Briar
DJ Stelah spins dance tunes.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursdays DJs Dubz and 40D spins reggae, R&B and hip hop, no cover, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou spins late night, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •April 1, Dick & Jane, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •April 8, Brick Park. 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
Nonstop music with DJ Massi or DJ Ryan, no cover, 21+.

I/D
Square One Thursdays DJs Dres and Wagz host a night of progressive dance music, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Massi gets the dance party started upstairs, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ David James spin dance tunes and old-school, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Doc spins the latest tunes, 21+.

La Boom
Privilege DJ Felix cranks the noise, 11 pm-2 am, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Parris
•April 1 and 8, Maxie Courtney, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Carrie spins upbeat lounge in the front, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett performs live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Q
Hedonism Thursdays DJs spin hip-hop all night long, 9 pm, $5, ladies free all night, 21+.

The Rack
Ibiza DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Littles spins from 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali and Ross spin a mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

711 Boylston
Play Thursdays DJ trio Groovefire spins house music with special guests Beat Khemistry, 6 pm-2 am.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Steve Sosong spins new dance and R&B. Downstairs: Justin Beech, 9 pm-1 am, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ JR Vega hosts Latin night with live music by the Latin Party Boys; free salsa lessons with Dan Marshall, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
Hip Hop Event Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip-hop, 9 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
DJ Jim spins mixed beats.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cover.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 from the '70s, '80s and '90s, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Floss DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Avaland DJ Nailz spins progressive dance music, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Mas spins hip-hop, funk and techno, 9pm-1am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
Avaland DJ Caprice spins hip-hop as part of Avaland, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins top-40, and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
F Night WBCN's Bradley J spins '80s classics, and alternative and rock tribute bands perform live, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft VJ Johnny Walker Black spins top-40 dance and hip-hop tunes accompanied by interactive video shows, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Twist Women's night with DJ MsLadyJ spinning R&B and hip-hop tunes, $10, 19+ (before 11:30 pm).

Caprice
DJ Eddie K spins a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

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Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, and two guest DJs spin on the first floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $20, 19+.

The Exchange
DJs Brian Roach and Littles spin house and top 40 hits, 9:30 pm, $10, 21+.

Felt
After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs, spinning high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Bob Gallagher spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •April 2, the Zoo, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •April 9, Catunes, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs Big Daddy and Rizzi spin, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins house and old favorites, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before midnight, 21+.

La Boom
Fashion Fridays Firefly Promotions hosts this fashion night featuring DJ Rick Naples, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

Level
Secret Society DJ Hoff spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B on the fourth and fifth floors, and DJ Niko spins Greek and international tunes on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Matrix
DJ Adilson of Roxy Saturdays spins high-energy house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

The Modern
DJ Glenn spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Rockpile** WAAF's Jay Ferrera broadcasts live, and rotating bands perform, 9 pm, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•April 2, Split Decision, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •April 9, Joe Rockstar, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Shake What Your Mama Gave You DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
Industrie hosts weekly guest DJs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Craig spins the latest hits, 10 pm, $5.

Q
DJ B Spin plays hip hop and top-40, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Johnny C with KISS 108's Artie, 10:45 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Lite Nite DJ Easy spins a mix that includes neo-soul and feel-good classics, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top 40 hits, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance. Downstairs: live music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover before 10 pm, 21+.

Sophia's
Sangria and Salsa Salsa and merengue lessons, 7-10 pm, followed by the Latin Party Boys and DJs Mike C and Zino spinning Latin dance, 9 pm, $10, 21+.



Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10pm, $5 after 9pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats all night.

Trio
Boston After Dark Dance to hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with Latin vibes. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vivid Lounge
Brian Roache spins top-40, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, $10, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
DJ Kon spins high-energy vocal house and hip hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Total Request Avalon DJ Tim Collins plays requests along with top-40, dance and hip-hop, 10 pm, $15 ($10 before 12:30 am), 21+.

The Avenue
DJ Kevin Munroe spins house and trance, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Start! DJ Damien spins alternative rock and '80s hits, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
The Dorm—Bill's Dance Night DJ Bruno spins a mix of hip-hop, dance, reggae and rock, 10 pm, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. VJ Johnnie Walker presents top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Franklin creates a lounge atmosphere with his international, Latin and house sounds, 10 pm, ($10 after 11 pm), 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood It's women's night at Hollywood with two floors of hip-hop and house music with DJ MixMistress upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
DJs Eddie & Sal spin house, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Exchange
DJs Brian Roach and Littles spin house and top 40 hits, 9:30 pm, $10, 21+.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop, house, and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites, disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, $10, 21+. •April 3, the Zoo, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •April 10, Chorduroy, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

I/D
X Night WFNX presents a night of retro '80s and rock, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, while downstairs DJ O'Toole plays top-40, 9 pm, 21+.

La Boom
Wild on @ La Boom DJ Tim Collins and KISS 108 host a night of music and dancing, 10 pm, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 9 pm, 21+.

Matrix
Rum Jungle Saturday featuring top 40 hits, hou and techno, free before 11 pm, 21+.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Or spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10 pm, $ ladies are free before 10:30 pm, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Jeff London plays hip-hop, R&B, and music fro the 80's and 90's, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dan music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez a Willie D, ladies free, men $5 before 10:30 pm; $1 18+; $10, 21+ after 10:30 pm. •**The Male E counter** New England's longest-running all-ma dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 a $15, 19+; no cover 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spi top-40 and hip-hop mixes, $15, 18+; $10, 21 •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hi hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cov 21+. •**Underground** DJs spin hip-hop, top dance, techno and reggae for the under-21 crow 7-11 pm, $14. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; cover, 21+.

Parris
•April 3, Split Decision, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •Ap 10, Joe Rockstar, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins '80s new wa and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Rick Naples spins high-energy dance, 10 p $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom Hogan spins the groove, 10 pm, $5, 21 •April 3, Syndicate. •April 10, Brick Park.

Q
DJ Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi and DJ Littles host the li broadcast and dance party, 8 pm, 21+, no cover.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins mode mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins house and techno, 9 pm, $15, 21

711 Boylston
Fever DJ Yorgo spins a mix of ethnic and inter tional music, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

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APRIL 24-25

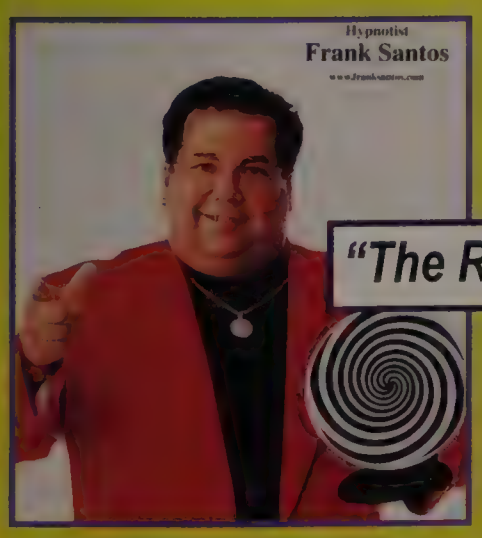


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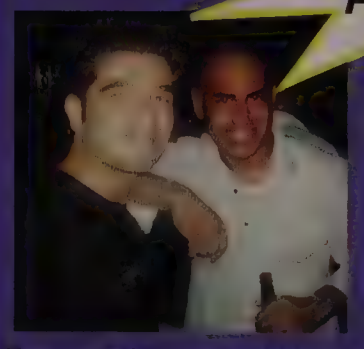
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Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8 pm. Downstairs: Kevin Kirrane, 9 pm, no cover before 10 pm.

Sophia's
DJ Zino spins salsa and merengue while a Latin band plays on the first floor and DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on the second floor, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and house, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats.

Trio
Best Of Night DJs spin Eurohouse, hip-hop and classics, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

Vivid Lounge
Brian Roache spins top-40, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, $10 21+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Adrienne spins Brit-pop and new wave tunes, 9 pm-1 am, $3, 19+.

Aria
DJ Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ K-Don, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+

Caprice
DJ Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
Fluid Sundays DJs Joshua Carl and Paul Dailey spin tribal and deep house, breaks, techno and jungle beats, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Doc spins hip-hop, house and top-40, 11 pm, no cover.

La Boom
Futurebeat: Alien Disco DJ Addambombb spins a mix of retro progressive tracks, trip-hop and synth-pop, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Satellite A lesbian night featuring DJ Dee, with dance music, amateur drag contests and films, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Reverie Boston DJ Shannon and weekly guest DJs spin goth, industrial and lounge, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
DJ Dave Jordan plays an array of top-40 tunes, 9 pm, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats.

Trio
Vibe Lounge DJs provide the vibe, 10 pm, 21+.

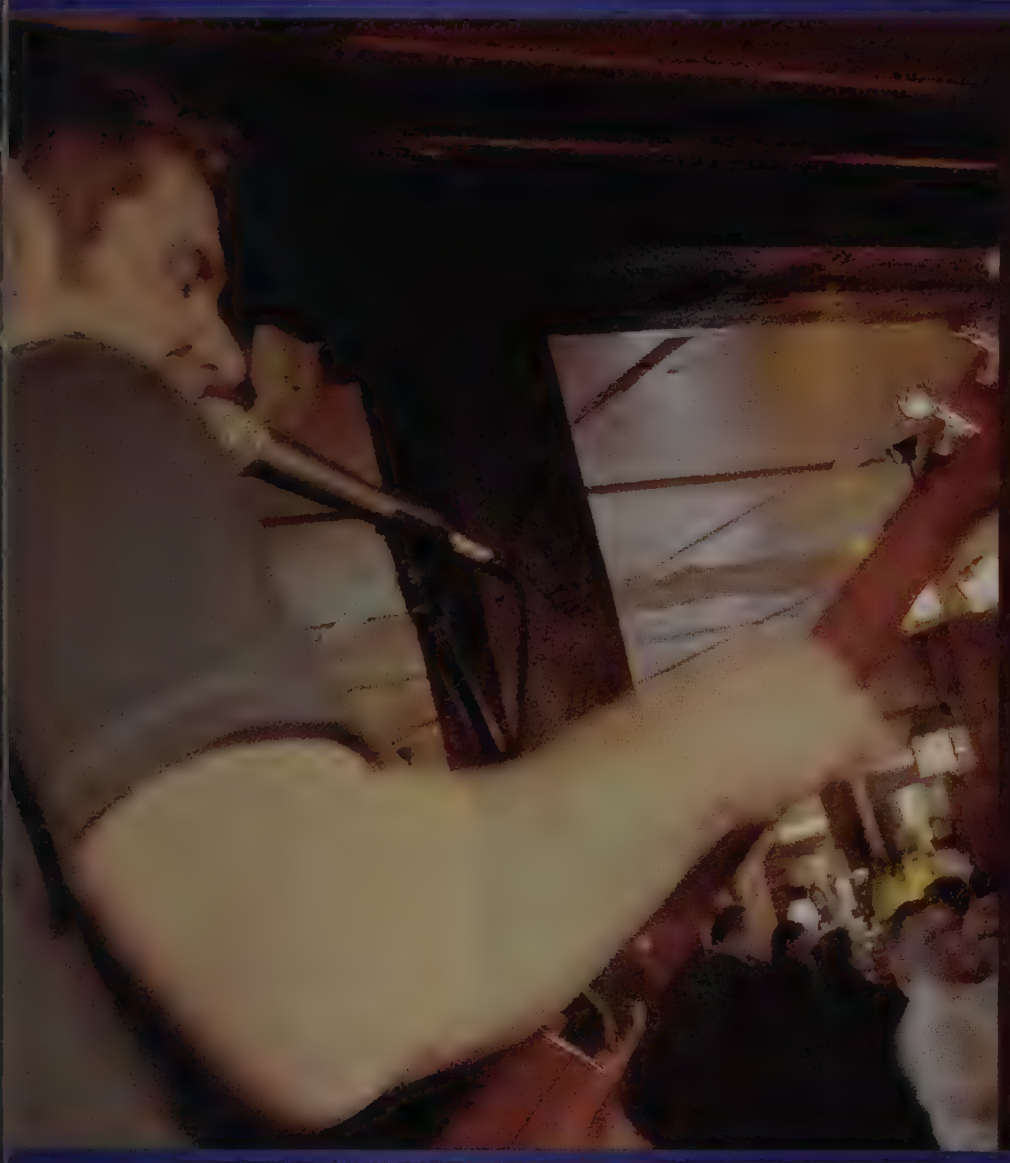
Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins Brazilian beats, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Whiskey Park
Cherry DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock classics, hip-ho house and R&B.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-212*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424)*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-700*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678)*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
The Exchange *148 State St., Boston (617-726-760*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-78 4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617 876-1655).*
The G Spot *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-101*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460)*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
La Boom *One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Light *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617 524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *(El Copa, Male Encounter, Officers' Club, Oxygen, Rio, Underground and Uptown) 150 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617 576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
711 Boylston *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-700*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Sweetwater Café *5 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-2515).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-030*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699)*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
Vivid Lounge *148 State St., Boston (617-726-760*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*



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museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors
Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Gary Schneider: Portraits* is a 30-year collection of the artist's black-and-white and color photographs. Through June 13.•*The Continuous Stroke of Breath: Calligraphy from the Islamic World* features Arabic, Indian, Persian and Turkish calligraphy from the 9th through 20th centuries. Through July 18. •*Rocks, Mountains, Landscapes, and Gardens: The Essence of East Asian Painting*, an exhibition of rocks used in East Asian art, shows through Aug. 1.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm. •*Faces and Places*, an exhibition of historical maps of Boston, shows through April 30. •*Stories Untold: Jewish Pioneer Women 1850-1910*, presented by the Jewish Women's Archive, features large-scale mixed-media paintings by Andrea Kalinowski. April 8-May 26.•*Ellen Band: Portals of Prayer*, an audio installation that combines prayer and music, is sponsored by the Institute of Contemporary Art's Vita Brevis program. Through June 5. •*Seashells and Other Delicacies* is a show of Bela Kalman's photography. Through June 12.

Carpenter Center for Visual Arts
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). www.ves.fas.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-11:30 pm; Sun., 12-11:30 pm. Free. •*The Carpenter Center and Le Corbusier's Synthesis of the Arts* is an exhibition focusing on the Carpenter Center and its architect. Through April 15.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. •*Joseph Wheelwright: Stone Heads and Tree Figures*, a sculpture exhibition, shows through May 16. •*Jirimani* is a photographic-transparency installation by Jo Yarrington. Through May 30. •*Self-Evidence: Identity in Contemporary Art* is a group show of multimedia work focusing on self-representation in art. Through May 30. •*Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Sense of Place, Part II* features paintings by various artists. Through summer 2004.

Fogg Art Museum/ Busch-Reisinger Museum
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Design~Recline: Modern Architecture and the Mid-Century Chaise Lounge* features chaise lounges designed by famous architects including Le Corbusier, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, Marcel Breuer, Alvar Aalto, and Charles and Ray Eames. Through July 11.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •*Dodos, Trilobites, and Meteorites...Treasures of Nature and Science at Harvard* features specimens from scientific explorations of the past 200 years. Through spring. •*Into the Mountains* features the photography of mountaineer Bradford Washburn. Through spring. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species by glass artists Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7, $5 students and seniors. •*Made in Mexico/Heche en México* features 20 international artists' interpretations of Mexican culture. Through May 9.


Maurizio Cannavacciuolo's wall drawing is part of *TV Dinner* at the Gardner Museum

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, free for those under 18. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. •Italian painter Maurizio Cannavacciuolo shows his contemporary wall drawings in *TV Dinner*. Through April 15. •*Whistler's Warning*, Joseph Kosuth's installation in neon of words taken from an 1885 speech by James McNeill Whistler, shows through August. •Elaine Reichek's embroideries, which depict Biblical images borrowed from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists, display online in the virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. •Mike Rogers' *Cross Country* is a Super 8 film documenting a cross-country road trip. Through April 4. •*Son et Lumière*, a group exhibition of sound, light and video installations, shows through April 4.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). www.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5, $3 students and seniors, $1 children. •*Gabriele Basilico—Photographs* is an exhibition of urban landscapes. Through June 6. •*Hub of the Universe: A Century of Flight in Massachusetts* displays artifacts and artwork from the first 100 years of flight. Through Sept. 5. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. •*If These Dolls Could Talk: 150 Years of Black Dolls* is an exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century handmade, porcelain, plastic and sculptured dolls. Through May 1.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm; Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15 adults, $13 students and seniors, free for children 17 and under. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free. Special exhibitions are an additional cost. •*Draped in Dragons: Chinese Court Costumes* features clothes worn by members of the Qing imperial court. Through May 2. •*Art of the Japanese Postcard: The Leonard A. Lauder Collection* is an exhibition of 350 Japanese postcards from 1900-1940. Through June 6. •*Gauguin Tahiti*, a retrospective of the painter's work from the South Pacific, shows through June 20. •More than 200 jades dating from the Neolithic period to the Qing Dynasty display in *Chinese Jades from the Hartman Collection*. Through August. •*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13 adults, $11 seniors, $10 children. •*Einstein* profiles the life of Albert Einstein through his personal letters, documents and manuscripts. Through June 6.•*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum
33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Artist to Icon: Early Photographs of Elvis, Dylan and the Beatles* is an exhibition of 48 black-and-white photographs taken early in the careers of the three rock legends. Through June 6. •*Hatch Show Print's Rock 'n' Roll Posters* features letterpress posters for concerts by musicians including Johnny Cash, Frank Zappa and Bruce Springsteen. Through June 13. •*A Glimpse of Boston Theater, 1850-1903* includes 15 playbills and programs from that period. Through June 20. •*Lunch Box Memories* is an exhibition of lunch boxes from the early 1900s through the 1980s. Through July 18. •*The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'd* is an exhibition of 18th-century local history. Ongoing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household objects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. •*To Build and S[ustain]: Freemasons in American Community* is ongoi[ng]

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). ww[w.]pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. Adults $13, seniors $[12] students $9; children 16 and under and residents Salem free. •*Under the Imperial Gaze* features [a] large-scale Chinese scrolls. Through May [31] •*Geisha: Beyond the Painted Smile* examines gei[sha] culture through painting, woodblock prints, p[hoto]tography, video, musical instruments and authen[tic] accessories. Through May 9. •*Men Plow, Wom[en] Weave* displays images of weaving and plowing [in] Chinese artists. Through May 30. •*Vanished Ki[ng]doms: The Wulsin Photographs of China, Tibet, [and] Mongolia 1921-1925*, an exhibition of color ima[ges] taken by American explorers Janet E. and Freder[ick] R. Wulsin, shows through June 13. •*Looking B[ack] Ways: Contemporary Artists from Africa* is an exhi[bi]tion of works by 12 African artists living in West[ern] countries. Through June 20.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology
11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). ww[w.]peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harva[rd] Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50 adults, $6 seniors and [stu]dents, $5 children •*These Shoes Were M[ade] for...Walking?*, a collection of 49 pairs of shoes fr[om] ancient to contemporary times, shows through M[ay] •*Regarding the Kalahari: The Marshall Family and [the] Ju|'hoansi !Kung, 1950-1964* is an exhibition [of] photographs and stereographs from the Kalah[ari] Desert expeditions of Laurence Marshall and [his] family. Through August. •*Painted by a Disti[nct] Hand: Mimbres Pottery from the American Southw[est]* features artifacts from New Mexico's Swarts Ran[ch] Ruin. Through September. •*Distinguished Ca[st] Curating Lost Monuments* features the museu[m's] large Mesoamerican cast collection. Ongoing. •*[En]counters with the Americas* is an ongoing exhibit[ion] featuring original sculpture and plaster casts [of] Mesoamerican cultures. •*From Nation to Nati[on]: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* f[ea]tures Native American artifacts from the explor[ers'] journeys. Through December 2005. •*Hall of [the] North American Indian: Change and Continuity* f[ea]tures art depicting the response of Native Ame[ri]cans across the continent to the arrival of Eu[ro]peans. Ongoing. •*Pacific Islands Hall*, anot[her] ongoing exhibition, displays artifacts from the [Pa]cific Islands.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.ac[me]fineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tu[e.-]Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Beyond Likeness*, a show of m[o]ern portraits by George McNeil, Robert Beaucha[mp] and Nanno de Groot, displays through April [24] •Peter Busa shows his work in *Indian Space Paint[ings]* April 8-May 15.

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). MB[TA:] Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Su[n.] 12-5 pm. •Jill Solomon shows her work in *Sag[a] Fired Clay*. Through April 25.

Allston Skirt Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-4[26]-3652). www.allstonskirt.com. MBTA: Green Lin[e] Copley. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Kanishka R[aw] shows her new paintings in the main gallery, and [Jo] Zane displays his new work in the Mini Skirt. A[pr] 2-May 1.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.a[lp]gallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. T[ue.-]Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Suzanne Vincent shows [her] tempera paintings. Through March 31. •Eric A[nd]shows landscape paintings of Vermont and Irela[nd] April 3-27.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). w[ww.]ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Co[pley] Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •De[bra] Mickilowski shows her work in *Still Lifes*. April 1[-24]

Atlantic Works Gallery
80 Border St., East Boston (617-283-7113). ht[tp://]atlanticworks.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. [By] appointment. •Laurie Hoffma shows photogra[phs] and Laura Rollins shows blueprint-covered fo[lds] objects in *Looking at the Out*. April 1-24.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-44[94]) www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green [Line] to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •A[nn] McCollum shows his work. Through May 5.

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Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Contemporary Folk Art* shows works from the gallery's collection of Southern and Appalachian folk art and works by Howard Finster, Hazel Kinney, Jimmy Lee Sudduth, and Mose Tolliver. Through April 24.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Laura McPhee and Mark LaPore show photographs and films of India. Through May 15.

Beth Urdang Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). www.bethurdanggallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Colin Brant shows recent landscape paintings. March 31-April 24.

Brickbottom Gallery
1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Land, Sea, Sky*, a group show of landscapes, displays through April 24.

Bromfield Art Gallery
27 Thayer St., Boston (617-451-3605). wwwbromfield artgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •Betsyann Duval shows her multimedia work in *Flesh and Bones*. March 31-April 24.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Monmouth St., Brookline. (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm. •*Georgette Benisty: Fiber Sculptures* features sculptures, prints and doll clothes. Through April 16.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400 x10). www.cmacusa.org. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Mon.- Fri., 10 am-6 pm. Free. •Lenore Sempert shows her work in *Collage for Change*. Through May 6.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-2255). www.chappellgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm and by appointment. •*New from Japan*, a group show of glass work by Toshio Iezumi, Naomi Shioya, Shinji Yonehara, and Takeshi and Youko Sano, displays April 3-24.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •Elisa Tenenbaum shows her landscape paintings. April 1-30.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA:Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*Wolf Kahn: Three Decades of Print-Making* and *Anne Lyman Powers: Athletes in Art* show through May 8.

Clifford-Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 300, Boston (617-695-0255). www.cliffordsmithgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Jason Young shows new work. April 2-24.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*The Spring Members' Show* displays through April 17.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (617-268-8050). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •An exhibition of works by Jeff Eldredge, Dan McCole and Norman Crump is ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •Fadi Shawish shows color and sepia photography. Through May 1.

Equator Gallery
450 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-540-9236). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.equatorgallery.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •The gallery specializes in Latin American fine art, including paintings, textiles and ceramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Relics of the Nest: Illusion and Memory*, a group show, displays April 2-May 8.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine



Nancy Rubens' *All of You* is at Mark Gallery.

prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu. and Sat.,12-5 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm. •Roger Goldenberg and Judith Morton show recent paintings and sculptures. Through April 24.

The Gallery at Black and White
295 Huntington Ave., Suite 205 (617-266-2641). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Mon.-Fri, 10 am-5 pm. •The gallery features rotating exhibitions of black-and-white photographs.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Judith Maloney shows paintings of sea and sky. Through April.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Lorie Hamermesh shows mixed-media work in *Enfold*. April 2-May 1.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
23 Thayer St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Gold, Clay, and Granite* features gold-leaf paintings by Mary Boochever, pottery by Malcolm Wright and granite sculptures by Jay Swift. Through March 31. •Hans Accola shows sculpture and Tom Pappas shows paintings. April 2-May 5.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.haleysteele.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •The gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prints. Ongoing.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Catherine Kehoe shows her paintings in *Flowers*. Through April 6.•Photographer Gary Schneider shows portraits in *Head to Head*. Through April 16.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters. •*G'Day Mate!* features more than 100 travel posters from Australia, New Zealand, Bali, the Arctic Circle and the Soviet Union. Through April 30.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Annee Spileos' mixed-media and video installation about the 1960s, *Gimmie Shelter*, is on display April 1-May 1. •Jose Goncalves shows new work in *Montage*. April 1-May 1.

Kaji Aso Studio
40 St. Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www.kajiasostudio.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Tue. and Thu., 4:30-6:30 pm; Sat., 3-5 pm, and by appointment. •*The Drawing Exhibition* features works in various media by students, faculty and members. Through April 8. •Kaji Aso and students show Japanese calligraphy and Sumi painting in the *Calligraphy Show*. April 10-May 6.

Kathryn Schultz Gallery
25 Lowell St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www.cambridgeart.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm, Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Revels*, a members show of paintings, drawings and sculpture, displays April 1-22.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Miroslav Antic shows new oil-on-canvas paintings of child laborers and show animals. March 31-May 1.

Kingston Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •Audrey Goldstein shows her sculptures. Through March 31. •Bonita Sennott shows paintings and drawings in *A Mind of Winter*, and Mary Lang shows photography in *Desire Lines*. April 1-30.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •Tim Harding and Colin Schleeh show abstract silk wall hangings and wood sculptures in *Smooth as Silk*. Through April 16.

Mark Gallery
141 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6275). www.markartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm, and by appointment. •Prilla Smith Brackett and Nancy Rubens display oil prints, monoprints and collage paintings. Through April 9. •Dorothea Van Camp shows new work. April 10-May 14.

Martin Lawrence Gallery
77 Newbury St., Boston (617-369-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.martinlawrence.com. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-7 pm. •The gallery's ongoing exhibition includes works by Chagall, Erté, Hallam, Kondakova, Lichtenstein, Picasso and Warhol.

Miller Block Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). www.millerblockgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30-5:30 pm. •Nona Hershey shows new graphite drawings. Through March 31. •Jay Kelly and Randall Sellers show new drawings. April 2-28.

Mills Gallery
539 Tremont St., Boston (617-348-2926). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed., Thu. and Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-10 pm. •*OCD* is a group show of works, in all media, that focus on the artists' passions. Through May 7.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Robin Quigley shows enameled broaches in *Souvenirs*, and Nick Hollibaugh shows sculptural furniture. Through March 31. •The gallery features a group textile exhibition, and Michael Boyd shows new jewelry. April 1-30.

Naga Gallery
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Lorie Hamermesh shows her new work. April 2-May 1.

NAO Project Gallery
535 Albany St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-451-2977). www.naoprojectgallery.info. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay or Green Line to Copley. Wed., Fri. and Sat., 11 am-4 pm and by appointment. •Karen Moss displays mixed-media art through April 30.

New Art on Newbury
285 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7727). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Thu., 11 am-6 pm; Fri. and Sat., 11 am-11 pm. •*Make Peace with the Next Warhol*, a local artists' showcase featuring works by Kate Sullivan and Owen Beane, shows through April 18.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •*March Heat*, a group show of paintings, drawings, and sculpture, features work by sculptor Dexter Lazenby. Through April 3. •*The Privilege of Solitude* is a show of works by Alfred Jensen and Forrest Bess. April 10-May 15.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •A local-artists showcase is ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Harold Reddicliffe shows paintings. Through April 3. •Daphne Confar shows portraits. April May 15.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Schantz shows his landscapes in *Field and Forest's for Joy*. Through April 13.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sa 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 p •John Dugdale shows his contemporary sepia photographs. Through April 3. •Michael Kenna sho his photographs. April 8-May 15.

The Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copl Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Portraits* group show of multimedia work, displays throu April 25.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copl Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Mistral* collection of oil paintings by Judy St. Peter, Willi St. George, and Anne Grandin, acrylic paintings Christina Keating, and watercolors by San Mueller-Dick. Through March 31. •*April in Bost* a group show of works by gallery artists, displ April 1-30.

Studio Soto
63 Melcher St., Boston (617-426-7686). www.studiosoto.com. MBTA: Orange Line to South S tion. Fri. and Sat., 2-5 pm. •*War and Peace* is an perimental art show by the Mobius artists gro April 9-17.

Upstairs at Johnson's Art Gallery
353 Newbury St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-536-40 MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.- Fri., 10 a 5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am - 1pm. •*The 7th Annual Jo son Staff Exhibition* features works by staff memb Through April 26.

Victoria Munroe Fine Art
59 Beacon St., Boston (617-523-0661). www.munroefineart.com. MBTA: Green or Red Line to P Street. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm and by appointme •Sharon Horvath shows works on paper. April 1-

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copl Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 •*The Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts Legac* show of works by four Philadelphia artists, displ through April 30.

William Scott Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-542-4030). www.williamscottgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to B Bay. Wed.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Chri Blatchford shows her work. April 2-May 1.

Zeitgeist Gallery
1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-606 www.zeitgeist-gallery.org. Tue.-Sun., 1-7 pm. •*Ima from on and off Stage*, a show of 1960s and '70s r music photographs by Charles Daniels, displ through April 5.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to W chester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. •*Landsca of the Civil War*, an exhibition of 92 rare p tographs from the American Civil War, displ Through June 25.

New England School of Photograph
Gallery One, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-4 1868). www.nesop.com. MBTA: Green Line to K more. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm. •Rose Martin sh photographs. Through April 16.

Panopticon Gallery
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Comm Rail to Waltham. www.panopt.com. Mon.-Fri., am-6 pm. •Steve Rosenthal and Nick Whei show their photographs. Through April 15.

Photographic Resource Center
832 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). MB B Green Line to Boston University West. www. edu/prc. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu. am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Honky To Portraits of Country Music, 1971-1981* is an exh tion of photographs by Henry Horenstein. Thro April 25.



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Bob the Chef's Jazz Café
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Advice to Contributors

Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to books @improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

Boston Adult Literacy Fund's Lift Your Voice!

Ritz Carlton, Boston Common, 10 Avery St., Boston (617-482-3336). www.balf.net. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 6:30 pm. $75. At this benefit, poets **Martin Espada**, **Mary Oliver** and **Kevin Young** read their own work, as well as their favorite works by other poets. Also, piano and vocal group the Jubilee Trio performs musical interpretations of poems. All proceeds support the Boston Adult Literacy Fund.

Brookline Adult and Community Education

Robert-Dubbs Auditorium, Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (617-730-2700). www.brooklineadulted.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Hills. 7 pm. $12. New England poet **Donald Hall** reads and discusses his work.

Cambridge Forum

First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-495-2727). www.cambridgeforum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. Free. Veteran CBS reporter **Bob Schieffer** discusses his new book, *This Just In: What I Couldn't Tell You on TV*, a chronicle of his 40 years in broadcast journalism.

A Conversation with Paul Krugman

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 5:30-7 pm. Free. Reservations Required. Economist and *New York Times* columnist Paul Krugman discusses his book *The Great Unraveling: Losing Our Way in the New Century*. Tom Ashbrook, host of WBUR-FM's *On Point*, is also present for the discussion.

McIntyre & Moore Booksellers

255 Elm St., Somerville (617-241-9664). www.mcintyreandmoore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 7:30 pm. Free. **George LeMaitre** discusses his historical novel, *Crucified Under Pontius Pilate*, which explores the crucifixion of Jesus Christ from Pilate's wife's perspective.

Newtonville Books and Brews

296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **David Amsden** reads from his novel, *Important Things that Don't Matter*, about an adolescent boy's relationship with his divorced parents.

THURSDAY, APRIL 1

Borders Boston

10 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Downtown Crossing. 7 pm. Free. **Mark Pearson** discusses the book he co-edited, *Europe from a Backpack*, a compilation of essays about people's European backpacking experiences.

Brookline Booksmith

279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Boston University professor **Jenna Blum** reads from her novel, *Those Who Save Us*, about a young American woman who discovers her mother's secret past involvement with German Nazis.

Center for New Words

Durrell Hall, Cambridge Family YMCA, 820 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-9622). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Poets **Minnie Bruce Pratt**, **Letta Neely** and **Michelle Tea** share their thoughts on modern war and conflict in a round-table poetry exchange entitled The War at Home.

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Hollis Gillespie** discusses her new book, *Bleachy-Haired Honky Bitch: Tales from a Bad Neighborhood*, a collection of essays about her childhood, her family and her experiences as a flight attendant and NPR commentator.

Poetry at MIT

77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-7894). http://web.mit.edu/humanistic/www. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 7 pm. Free. Poet **Kevin Young** reads his work.

Wellesley Booksmith Lunch with the Author

Figs Restaurant, 92 Central St., Wellesley (781-431-1160). 12-2 pm. $20. Registration required. **Susan Douglas** and **Meredith Michaels** discuss their new book, *The Mommy Myth*, which criticizes the American media's romanticization of motherhood.

We Think the World of You Bookstore

540 Tremont St., Boston (617-574-5000). www.wethinktheworldofyou.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 6:30 pm. Free. **Adam Hamburger** reads from *The View from Stalin's Head*, his collection of short stories about Jewish homosexuals living in Prague.

FRIDAY, APRIL 2

Harvard Book Store

1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. Harvard University professor **Laurel Thatcher Ulrich** reads and discusses her book *Yards and Gates*, about how gender has influenced the development of Harvard and Radcliffe.



Newton Free Library Book and Author Luncheon

Newton Marriott, 2345 Comm. Ave., Newton (617-969-4443). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 12 pm. $30. Advice columnist **Margo Howard**, daughter of Ann Landers, reads from and discusses her book, *A Life in Letters: Ann Landers' Letters to Her Only Child*. Also, **William Martin** reads and discusses his historical novel *Harvard Yard*, in which an antiquarian investigates the connection between a Shakespeare manuscript and Harvard's founder. Price includes lunch.

Out of the Blue Art Gallery

106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. $5. Poet and author **Timothy Gager** hosts an open mike with readings by **Jenna Blum** (see April 1 Brookline Booksmith listing for a description of her novel, *Those Who Save Us*) and mystery novelist **Al Blanchard**, author of the Steve Asher and James Callahan series.

WordsWorth Books

30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA:Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Poet **Edmund Berrigan** reads his latest work.

SATURDAY, APRIL 3

Boston National Poetry Month Festival

Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10 am-5 pm. Free. Tapestry of Voices, Kaji Aso Studio, the Boston Public Library and Northeastern University present the third annual **Boston Poetry Marathon**, in which more than 50 local poets read their work.

Cover 2 Cover

Paradise Lounge, 969 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8819). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St. 8:30 pm. $7. Authors **George Saunders**, **Jim Shepard** and **Karl Iagnemma** read selections from favorite works by other writers, and musicians **Shwang** and **Victor Cruz** perform songs by their favorite artists. Author **Steve Almond** DJs.

WordsWorth Books

30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA:Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Poets **Cate Marvin** and **Monica Yuon** read their work.

SUNDAY, APRIL 4

Boston National Poetry Month Festival

Northeastern University, Dodge Hall, 4th floor, 324 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-723-3716). MBTA: E Green Line to Northeastern. 12 pm-5 pm. Free. See April 3 Boston National Poetry Month Festival listing for description. The festival continues for a second day at Northeastern. An open mike reading takes place from 12-1 pm.

MIT Author Event

20 Ames St., Room E15-205, Cambridge (617-253-2341). http://web.mit.arts.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 4 pm. Free. **Margaret Atwood** discusses her latest novel, *Oryx and Crake*, about the sole survivor of an apocalypse brought about by bioengineering experimentation.


Hollis Gillespie reads April 1.

PEN/Hemingway Literary Awards

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (877-616-4599). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 3 pm. Free. The 2004 PEN/Hemingway Award is presented to **Jennifer Kimble** for her novel, *Mrs. Kimble*. Also, **Carlo Rotella**, author of *Cut Time*, and **John Leegant**, author of *An Hour in Paradise* receive the 2004 Winship/PEN New England Award. Novelist and two-time Pulitzer Prize nominee **Russell Banks** is the ceremony's keynote speaker.

Wellesley Free Library

Wakelin Room, 530 Washington St., Wellesley (781-235-1610). www.wellesleyfreelibrary.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Framingham. 1 pm. Free. **Andrew Clements** reads from *The Report Card*, his young adult novel about a brilliant fifth grade girl who hides her intelligence in order to fit in with her peers.

MONDAY, APRIL 5

Brookline Booksmith

279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Cook's *Illustrated* founder, editor and publisher **Christopher Kimball** discusses the book he co-edited, *Baking Illustrated*, which contains recipes and narratives about home baking.

TUESDAY, APRIL 6

Newtonville Books and Brews

296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Ben Jones** reads from his novel, *The Rope Eater*, about a teenage Union Army deserter who joins the crew of a ship bound for the Arctic. Also, **Jessica Shattuck** reads from her novel, *The Hazards of Good Breeding*, about the fragmented relations between a rigid Boston college professor, his estranged wife, their two children and their former maid.

WordsWorth Books

30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Eugenie Seifer Olson** reads from her new novel, *Babe in Toyland*, about a twentysomething aspiring artist who falls for a handsome meteorologist.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7

Barnes and Noble at BU

660 Beacon Street, Boston (617-267-8484). www.bkstore.com/bu. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. Boston University professor **Tom Cottle** reads from his new book, *When the Music Stopped: Discovering My Mother*, about his relationship with his mother, Gitta Gradova, a famous concert pianist who gave up her career to raise her children.

Cambridge Forum

First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-495-2727). www.cambridgeforum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. Free. Harvard Law professor **Elizabeth Warren** reads from and discusses the book she co-wrote, *The Two-Income Trap*, which explores the recent increase in financial difficulties in two-parent households.

Emerson College Reading Series

Emerson Room, 120 Boylston St., Boston (617-824-8750). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7 pm. Free. **Gregory Orr** reads from his poetry collection, *The Caged Owl: New and Selected Poems*.

Harvard Book Store

1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Roger Lowenstein** discusses his new book. *Origins of the Crash: The Great Bubble and Its Undoing*, a history of the 2000 stock market downturn and the varying financial climates of the 20 years leading up to it.

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Andrew Weiss** discusses his new book, *Beginning Mindfulness: Learning the Way of Awareness*, which offers a 10-week program for achieving greater mindfulness through meditation.

THURSDAY, APRIL 8

Arlington Center for the Arts

Gibbs Theater, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). www.acarts.org. 7:30 pm. Free. Poets **Bonnie Bishop, Vincent M. Livoti** and **Susan Edwards Richmonds** read their work.

Brookline Booksmith

279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **George Minot** reads from his novel *The Blue Bowl*, about a man who is accused of murdering his emotionally distant father after moving back in with him.

Center for New Words

Durrell Hall, Cambridge Family YMCA, 820 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-9622). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Nan Levinson** discusses her book, *Outspoken: Free Speech Stories*, which tells the stories of 20 individuals who have fought against censorship. **Ife Franklin** and **Denise Marika**, two of the artists featured in the book, also speak.

Harvard Book Store

1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Rachel Cohen** reads from her new book, *A Chance Meeting*, a collection of essays about personal interactions between famous American writers and artists.

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Mark Pearson** discusses the book he co-edited, *Europe from a Backpack*. See April 1 Borders Boston listing for a description.

Newtonville Books and Brews

296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Elizabeth Graver** reads from her new novel, *Awake*, about a couple who disagree about how to treat their son, who is deathly allergic to sunlight.

WordsWorth Books

30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Jodi Picoult** reads from her new novel, *My Sister's Keeper*, about a girl who sues her parents after they force her to undergo medical procedures to help her leukemia-stricken sister.

SATURDAY, APRIL 10

Wellesley Booksmith

82 Central Street, Wellesley (781-431-1160). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Framingham. 1 pm. Free. **Joseph Andrews** reads from his book, *Revolutionary Boston, Lexington and Concord*, a guide to Boston's historical sites and their backgrounds.

MONDAY, APRIL 12

Blacksmith House Poetry Series

Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. **Catherine Brady**, author of *Curled in the Bed of Love*, and **Katherine Vaz**, author of *Fado & Other Stories*, read their work.

Newton Free Library

330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Ed Rice** reads from his new book, *Baseball's First Legend, Louis Sockalexis*, about the Penobscot Indian who was professional baseball's first Native American player.

TUESDAY, APRIL 13

Borders Boston

10 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Downtown Crossing. 6:30 pm. Free. **Laura Nash** discusses the book she co-wrote, *Just Enough*, which offers strate-

gies for achieving success and happiness at work and at home.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: *C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free.* Brookline resident and syndicated newspaper columnist **Ellen Goodman** discusses her book *Paper Trail: Common Sense in Uncommon Times*, a compilation of politically themed columns from the early 1990s to the present.

Cookbook Signing and Panel
Hamersley's Bistro, 553 Tremont St., Boston (877-927-7787). www.womenchefs.org. MBTA: *Orange Line to Forest Hills. 11:30 am-2 pm. $55 (includes cookbook).* Boston Globe food editor **Sheryl Julian** and food stylist **Julie Riven** join other food industry professionals to discuss cookbook writing. After the discussion, Julian and Riven answer questions and sign their cookbook, *The Way We Cook: Recipes from the New American Kitchen*. Chef Gordon Hamersley prepares lunch using recipes from the cookbook.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: *D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:00 pm. Free.* Poets **Barbara Helfgott Hyatt**, **Regie Gibson** and **Robert K. Johnson** read their work at the library's annual Poetry Festival.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: *D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free.* **Martha Tod Dudman** reads from her new memoir, *Expecting to Fly*, about the differences between her reckless, radical youth in the 1960s and her present life as a wife and mother.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm.* **Ilana DeBare** reads from her new book, *Where Girls Come First*, a history of all-girls schools from the early 19th century to the present.

Ongoing

Amazon Poetry Slam (Last Sunday)
Milky Way, 403-405 Center St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: *Orange Line to Stony Brook. 9 pm. $7.* On the last Sunday of every month, the Milky Way hosts the all-women Amazon Poetry Slam.

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: *Red Line to Central. 7:30 pm. 21+. $3.* Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge hosts a poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Harvard Coop (Sundays)
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free.* Hear what Boston-area poets are doing at the Harvard Coop's weekly poetry exchange on Level Two.

Jimmy Tingle's Off-Broadway (Sundays)
255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jimmytingle.com. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $10.* Local poets perform their work in a two-hour theatrical show every Sunday night.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). www.poetryjam.com. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. Poetry jam, 7:30 pm; poetry slam, 9 pm. $6.* The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the poetry slam's featured poet of the week.

O'Brien's Pub (Mondays)
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: *B Green Line to Harvard Ave. 9 pm.* O'Brien's presents a mix of rock and spoken word one Monday per month. Performers are predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry (Saturdays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: *Red Line to Central. 8 pm. $3.* Every Saturday is Open Bark poetry night, and the fourth Saturday of each month is a spoken-word event.

Stone Soup Poetry Night (Mondays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: *Red Line to Central. 8 pm. $4.* Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have held these weekly readings.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). MBTA: *MBTA: Blue Line to Government Center. 8:30 pm. Free.* The second Thursday of each month offers a selection of featured poets and an opportunity for others to take the open mike.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

Secure a Mortgage Despite Difficult Credit
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-495-3045). www.bcae.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. 6 pm. $36-$39.* Real estate veteran **David Pahl** discusses alternative lending programs, the fundamentals of the mortgage process and how to read and repair credit reports.

THURSDAY, APRIL 1

At the Movies: The Psychology of Sound
Brookline Adult Education, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (617-730-2700). www.brooklineadulted.org. MBTA: *D Green Line to Brookline Hills. 7 pm. $5.* Pianist-composer **Julia Goryuchkina** discusses the various approaches that film directors take in using music and sound in their films.

A Fool's Errand
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. 10:30 am. $2.* Novelist, editor and writing coach **Pam Summa** discusses strategies for working through writer's block.

Disability Rights—An American Intervention, A Global Challenge
School of Law, Northeastern University, 400 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-373-4933). www.leadership.neu.edu. MBTA: *E Green Line to Northeastern University. 5:30 pm. Free.* **Gerard Quinn**, an expert on disability rights, presents his proposal for an international treaty protecting the disabled.

FRIDAY, APRIL 2

Einstein in Berlin
Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-589-0419). www.mimc.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Science Park. 7 pm. Free.* Author and Emmy Award–winning filmmaker **Thomas Levenson** discusses Einstein's years in Berlin, from internationally acclaimed idol to the object of Nazi rage.

SUNDAY, APRIL 4

Landscape and Land Use in America: An Historical Perspective
National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. 2 pm. Free. Northeastern University history professor **Anthony Penna** discusses how American landscapes have been transformed by both nature and people.

Women Artists Discuss: The Power of Their Own Heritages
Miller Block Gallery, 14 Newbury St., Boston (617-232-2258). www.jwa.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. 2 pm. Free.* In celebration of the 350th anniversary of the first Jewish settlement in America, Sante Fe artist **Andrea Kalinowski**, whose work appears in the *Stories Untold: Jewish Pioneer Women 1850-1910* exhibition at the Boston Public Library, participates in a panel discussion that also includes four Boston-based artists.

MONDAY, APRIL 5

How Joyce Wrote Ulysses
Burns Library, Boston College, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-552-3282). www.bc.edu. MBTA: *B Green Line to Boston College. 4 pm. Free.* University of York English professor **Derek Attridge** presents a lecture on James Joyce.

Reducing the Threats from Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Weapons
John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: *Red Line to JFK/UMass. 9 am. Free.* **Sam Nunn**, former US senator and current chief executive officer of the Nuclear Threat Initiative, discusses the status of certain global threats.

TUESDAY, APRIL 6

Implications for the Arts in Education of the "No Child Left Behind" Act
Harvard University, Larsen Hall G-08, 14 Appian Way, Cambridge (617-495-9068). www.gse.harvard.edu/aie. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. 1 pm. Free.* **Dick Deasy**, former journalist and current executive director of the Arts Education Partnership, talks about the important role of arts education in student development.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7

The Gauguin Code
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3300). www.mfa.org/calendar. MBTA: *E Green Line to Museum. 7 pm. $10-$13.* **Charles Stuckey**, associate professor at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, presents different interpretations of the images in Gauguin's symbolist art.

Learning to Look: Site
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 5:30 pm. $15 (reservations required).* This 90-minute program focuses on Mexico as a site of creative work and looks at the ways artists use site as a concept and inspiration.

Steve McQueen and Installation Art
Davis Museum and Cultural Center, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu. 2:15 pm. Free. In this open class, **Jess Irish** and her students explore film artist Steve McQueen's installation as it relates to their own art.

THURSDAY, APRIL 8

Beauty for Eye and Ear: The MFA's Collection of Musical Instruments
Museum of Fine Arts, Remis Auditorium, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3300). www.mfa.org/calendar. MBTA: *E Green Line to Museum. 6 pm. Free.* **Darcy Kuronen**, curator of musical instruments at the MFA, discusses the the museum's instrument collection.

Landscapes and Cityscapes in Modern Mexican Art and Cinema
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 6:30 pm. Free.* **Dolores Acevedo-Garcia**, assistant professor in the department of Society, Human Development and Health at Harvard University, examines Mexican immigrants' contributions to American culture.

Secrets and Proofs: The Role of Randomness
Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University, Askwith Hall in Longfellow Hall, Appian Way, Cambridge (617-495-8601). www.radcliffe.edu/events. 4 pm. Free. **Shafrira Goldwasser**, professor of electrical engineering and computer science at MIT, discusses modern cryptography, randomization techniques and the redefinition of mathematical notions.

FRIDAY, APRIL 9

Paintings and Poetry of William Blake: A Message for Our Time
Theosophical Society, 21 Maple St., Arlington (781-648-0101). www.tsboston.org. 7:30 pm. $15. **Carla Mattioli** presents slides of Blake's watercolors and etchings, as well as a poetry reading and a discussion of his works.

SATURDAY, APRIL 10

Calling All Isabellas
Isabella Stuart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: *E Green Line to Museum. 11 am-5 pm. Free.* At this second annual celebration of the Gardner Museum's namesake, all people with the name Isabella can explore the museum for free. The event includes art-making activities for kids and tours of the galleries for adults.

TUESDAY, APRIL 13

Cold War, Cool Medium: The Army-McCarthy Hearings 50 Years Later
Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. 6:30 pm. Free.* Brandeis University professor of American studies **Thomas Doherty** discusses the significance of the televised coverage of the 1950s McCarthy hearings and how the event became a media milestone.

Housing the Lowest Income Bostonians
MIT Faculty Club, E51, 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-1000). http://events.mit.edu. 5:30 pm. Free. The MIT Club of Boston sponsors a talk by **Lawrence J. Vale**, head of MIT's department of Urban Studies and Planning.

Medieval and Renaissance Survivals in the Baroque Art of Viceregal Peru
Sackler Lecture Hall, Harvard University, 32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.harvard.edu. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard Square. 6 pm. Free.* **Ramon Mujica**, an art historian from the Universidad de San Marcos in Lima, Peru, discusses Latin American art.



gay & lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information, including telephone numbers and nearest T-stop, by fax (617-859-1446) or mail, or e-mail gaylesbian@improper.com.

Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am.; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's new leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $8 for 19+. DJ John Morris spins progressive house for Lust, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $15, 21+. For 20 years, these folks have cranked out Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. Enjoy three separate dance floors plus drag acts. Rotating DJs spin house.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show, and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—pool room and lounge keep the men busy until 2 am.

CityGirl Caffé (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-9 pm; Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-7 pm. This small, laid-back café in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated, draws a mixed gay/hetero crowd for lounging and sandwiches. Brunch is served every weekend.

Club Café and Moonshine Bar (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Wednesdays, join VJ Cliff Cunningham. •On Thursdays and Fridays,VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Cliff Cunningham.

Diesel Café (Daily)
257 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-8717). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Mon.-Thu. 7 am-12 am, Fri., 7 am-1 am, Sat., 8 am-1 am, Sun., 8 am-12 am. All ages. Diesel is a gay-friendly Davis Square café that serves coffee and snacks.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3 pm-2 am; Sat., 1 pm-2 am; Sun., 12 pm-2 am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This quiet, friendly neighborhood bar starts hopping as it gets closer to 2 am.

Fritz Lounge (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 12 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. TV sets show satellite sports broadcasts, and Fritz is home base to a softball league. Brunch is served until 3:30 pm on weekends.

Here at 711 Boylston (Tuesdays)
711 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5502). www.hereboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 9 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Boston's Tuesday night gay dance party features disco and pop.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 pm, $6 weekdays; $8 weekends, 21+. Patrons relax with a friendly crowd and mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •Fri., Sat.: live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •On the second Friday of each month is the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground. The typical lineup features singer Leah Callahan with guest musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Tuesdays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 12 pm-2 am. •Wed.: Game Nite hosted by either Diamond Dunhill or Rainbow Frite, 10 pm, no cover. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition with PJ McWhiskers. •Fri.: Best Night Out with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Machine with DJ Brad Gwynn playing house music. 10 pm-2 am, $7, 21+. •Tue.: Service Industry Night with DJ Afrodite.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 19+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: New Wave Dance Party with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). www.dykenight.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. 9:30 pm-2 am. $5, 21+. On Thursday nights, the Midway hosts Kristen Porter's Dyke Night, with rotating DJs, pool and dancing.

Milky Way Lounge (Sundays)
401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+. Sunday theme nights are geared toward gay men and women, transgendered people and their allies. Live entertainment varies from week to week and includes Fireballs Drag Bingo, spoken-word events and jazz. There is free bowling if you buy dinner, and a dance party hosted by resident DJ Jamila caps off the evening. On the last Sunday of every month, the Milky Way presents the all-women Amazon Poetry Slam, a lesbian event. 8 pm, 7:30 pm sign-up, $7.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Thu.: Fire and Ice with DJ Dan Leavey. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza. •Tue: DJ Scott Thinsdale.

Rise (Saturday)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. Private, members-only club, predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays features resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night, and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing in this hip restaurant/lounge.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music pumps, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Vapor (Wednesdays-Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-422-0862). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adilson. 19+. •Thu.: The Music Factory with DJ Pauli Paul and DJ Ron Steele spinning hip-hop, reggae and funk. $5 before 11, $2 after 11, 21+. •Fri.: Inner Circle. $10, 21+. •Sat.: Evolution with DJ Jay Ine. •Sun.: T-Dance party with DJ Danae grooving to local, tribal, and house while DJ Niterain spins classic oldies. 21+.


Renita Martin and Naeemah A. White-Peppers star in the play *Last Rites*.

Books

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). www.calamusbooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-7 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. Boston's bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered people carries fiction, erotica and titles by gay and feminist activists.

Center for New Words
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). MBTA; Red Line to Harvard. www.centerfornewwords.com. Cambridge's center for women's writing and ideas hosts open mikes and author events.

We Think the World of You
540 Tremont St., Boston (617-574-5000). www.wethinktheworldofyou.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This community-centered gay and lesbian bookstore stocks literature, art books, DVDs and videos. •*April 1. 6:30 pm. Free.* **Adam Hamburger** reads from his short story collection, *The View from Stalin's Head*, about Jewish homosexuals living in Prague.

Shows & Events

Grand Engagement Benefit Concert
Arlington Street Church, 351 Boylston St., Boston (866-811-4111). www.theatermania.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. April 3, 8 pm. $22-$40. Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays presents a concert to benefit the Freedom to Marry Coalition. Lucy Blue Tremblay and acoustic duo Wishing Chair perform.

It's My Life: Drag Benefit for the Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project
Jacques, 79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. April 4. 7 pm. $6. Drag divas Diamond Dunhill and Sassy host and perform in a 22-queen drag revue, featuring Baby Crystal, Evian Waters, Teeny Tiny Tina Turner, Diana Prince, Anita Cocktail, Sexy Lexy, T-Boyd, Ana Rexic, Rainbow Frite, Sum Yung Ho and more. Proceeds benefit the Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project.

Last Rites
Black Box Theatre, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-262-8632). www.artsboston.org. April 7-24. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $25. Letta Neely's play depicts the relationship between two butch women who survive everything from drug abuse to breast cancer.

Paint the Town (La) Red: A Celebration of Survival
Park Plaza Hotel, 64 Arlington St., Boston (617-695-0877). www.thenetworklared.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. April 17, 7 pm. $100. The Network/La Red's 15th anniversary celebration and fund-raiser features readings and performances by Lambda Literary Award winner Dorothy Allison and writer/performer Monica Palacios. The gala also includes an art show, a cash cocktail bar, dinner and dancing with DJ Mocha D. Proceeds benefit the Network/La Red.

Safe Colleges 2004 Conference
LGBT Center, Tufts University, Medford (617-627-3771). www.safecolleges.info. Free. Registration required. Sat., April 3, 9 am-1 am. Thirty workshops focus on subjects from same-sex marriage to transgender rights. During the day's events, activist and scholar Barbara Smith speaks on sexuality, gender, race and sex. Following the address and workshops, the film *Jim in Bold* screens along with other independent LGBT films. A queer poetry slam and a dance-and-drag show ($5) follow.

Ongoing

Atención Latina Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (800-834-3242). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA:

Green Line to Hynes. FCH collaborates with the Elizabeth Stone House to provide this safe, confidential space to discuss healthy relationships, domestic violence and other issues.

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313). www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wednesdays, 6-9 pm. The Boston Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered and Questioning Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6032). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 7 pm. This group meets the second Tuesday of every month for a discussion with bisexual and bi-curious men.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tuesday of the month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

BOSS
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 6-8 pm. This group for gay and bisexual men of color meets the last Thursday of each month to discuss culture, lifestyle, creativity and health.

Boston Bay Blades
www.bayblades.org/boston. All are welcome to join this competitive, recreational group of rowers and scullers.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers
First Church of Jamaica Plain, corner of Centre and Eliot streets, Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org. Every Wed., 7:30 pm, $8. Square-dancing and English country dancing lessons are available for lesbians, gays, bisexuals and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-424-8990). www.bgbl.com. The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm, Fri, 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people, ages 13-25.

Boston Ironsides Rugby Football Club
Moakley Field, South Boston (617-524-5814). MBTA: Red Line to JFK. Rugby players of any level, age, race and orientation are welcome to play.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. www.lesbianavengers.org. Thu., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. MBTA: Orange Line to Green St. Wednesdays, 7 pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
(617-417-0876). Third Saturday of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for interested parents and their partners. For info, e-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-0595). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm. Free. An informal group for people who think they may be bisexual or attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning People
(617-256-8693). This group welcomes those who want to discuss the challenges and the joys of coming out. It meets Thursday nights, 7-8:30 pm, in Cambridge.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area support, information and social group for people assigned female at birth who feel that is not an accurate or complete description of their gender. Part of the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group meets monthly. Email CompassFTM@usa.com for details.

Controversy Thursday
Matrix (B Room), 275 Tremont St. (lower level of Roxyplex), Boston (617-542-4077). Certain Thursdays (call for details), $8, no sneakers. This gay and bi dance party features DJ John Morris at 10 pm.

Dagger
(617-621-6090). The Theater Offensive's guerrilla theater group, Dagger, gathers on Wednesdays from 6-9 pm to create performances representing women's perspectives. For more information, e-mail dagger@theatreoffensive.org.

The Down Low
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Last Friday of the month. 7-9 pm. A discussion group for gay and bisexual men of color to address heritage, lifestyle, culture and health.

East Coast Wrestling Club
(401-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www.eastcoastwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay male wrestlers has more than 160 members.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional women 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophisticated to get together with like-minded women for conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Explore Gender in a Safe Place
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. An ongoing support group for people born into female bodies or who have grown up being viewed as biologically female.

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Saturday mornings. Join Boston's GLBT Flag Football League for a casual spring season, followed by a formal fall season. All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). Sat., 10 am. All are welcome to join this running club.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
(617-267-9001 or 888-340-4528). Mon.-Fri., 6-11 pm; Sat. and Sun., 5-10 pm. This toll-free hotline is confidential and provides support for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning callers.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church in Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Professionals Building Community
(617-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to join this networking organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered professionals.

Gaymes Group
(508-339-4250). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians. Members get together on a regular basis to play board, card and parlor games.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. $5-10. An open-mike night open to new performers, this queer-positive, dyke-positive, bi-positive and trans-positive spoken word event meets the second Thursday of each month, 7:30pm.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Biological males meet on Monday evenings. The groups are moderated by psychologist Randi Kaufman.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday from 10:30 am-12 pm.

Girlz 2 Girlz
(617-482-1078, ext. 277). This mentoring program for girls aged 13-19 who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered or questioning meets the second and fourth Friday of each month, 6-8 pm. Contact Jayms Battaglia.

GLBT Seniors
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6272). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mondays. Support group for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered seniors ages 60 and over.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Anonymous HIV testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Laffan
This social and networking group for women includes single women, couples and parents interested in art, cultural events, outdoor and sporting activities, intellectual and social pursuits, public service and travel. Members receive a weekly email calendar of events. For info, e-mail Laffan_Boston2004@yahoo.com.

LGBT Considering Parenting Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. A short-term (eight-week) group for LGBT persons who are considering becoming parents. Sliding fee scale available. Call for information.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue., Wed. and Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

Meow Boston
groups.yahoo.com/group/Meow_Boston. This social group caters to feminine bisexual women and lesbians in the Boston community. For women 21+.

The Network/La Red
(617-427-7233). The Network is a support group working to end abuse in lesbian, bisexual women's and transgender communities. Email info@the networklared.org for more information.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

Peer Listening Line
(800-399-7337). Trained GLBT volunteers provide confidential information, referrals and support.

The Rainbow Cafe
rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social group for activist, academic, intellectual or artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

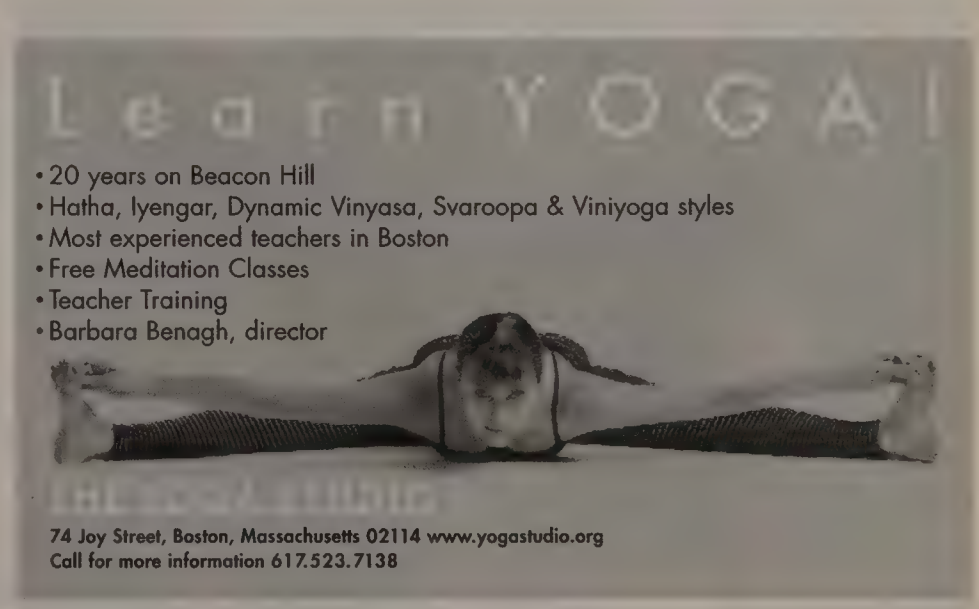
Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. Email somoslatinos lgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Support Group for HIV-Negative Gay and Bisexual Men
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-967-6231). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. First three Tuesdays of each month, 6-8 pm. Discuss new safe-sex practices and strategies for managing risk and communicating with sexual partners.

Support Group for Lesbians with Cancer
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed. evenings, once a month. Free. For those who want to discuss the impact of cancer on their lives.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Street. First Saturday of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing, $8. Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. WWB is a social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s. It meets the first Thursday of every month.





body & mind

Advice to Contributors

Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Dances of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767 or 617-491-8694). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. April 2, 7:30-9:30 pm. Requested donation, $6-10. Join hands in simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honoring the spiritual traditions of the world. Everyone welcome. All dances are taught and are accompanied by live music.

Dharma Film: "The Jew in the Lotus"
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. April 2, 7pm. $10. Co-sponsored with the Institute for Meditation and Psychotherapy, this film series explores the mind and spirit of the cinema. This evening's documentary, created by filmmaker Laurel Chiten, follows a delegation of rabbis who traveled to Dharamsala in 1990 to meet with the Dalai Lama and share the Jewish experience of spiritual survival in exile. The film is followed by discussion.

Drum and Dance Saturday
Earth Drum Council, First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (978-371-2502). www.earthdrum.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. April 3, 8-11:30 pm. $6. Bring your stomping feet, clapping hands, drums, spoons and tambourines for this day of dance and percussion.

Reiki Conference and Expo
Holiday Inn, Boxborough (781-393-4416). www.cgnaturalhealth.com or www.commongroundcenter.com. April 2 and 3. Join others interested in Reiki at this annual community gathering, which features lectures, seminars, healing treatments and musical performances.

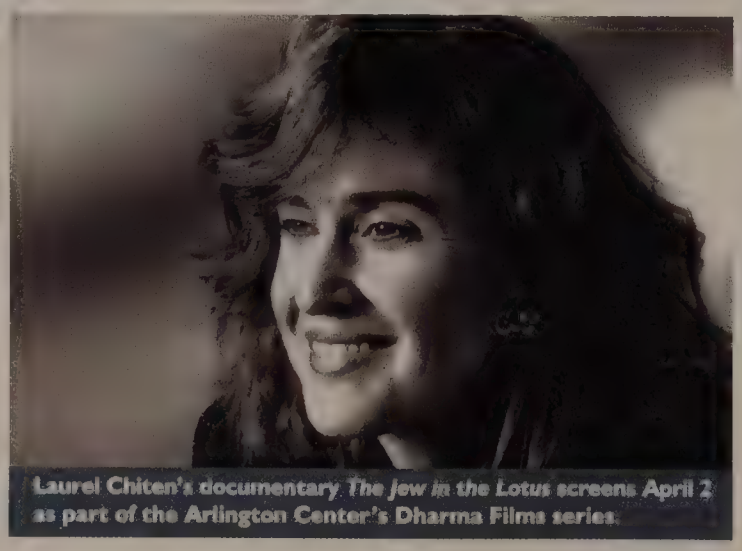
Lectures

Eight Steps to Happiness Public Talks
All Saint's Parish, 1773 Beacon St., Brookline (508-748-3033). www.serlingpa.org. April 7, 7-8:30 pm. $10 suggested donation. Buddhist nun Gen Kelsang Choma leads an evening of guided meditation and discussion on the topic of increasing gratitude and respect.

The Power of Forgiveness
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 90 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circlesofwisdom.com. April 8, 7:15-9:15 pm. $30. This lecture addresses the meaning of forgiveness, the reasons people hold on to pain, and how to remove obstacles from and gain understanding of one's life.

Sacred Prostitution
(617-965-7846). www.healingheartpower.com. Mar. 6, 2-5 pm. $5-10 suggested donation. The Boston Area Sexuality and Spirituality Network hosts monthly discussions in Newton on topics related to exploring sex holistically. Today's meeting explores the topic of prostitution's spiritual past

What Is Macrobiotics?
Center for Balance, 709 Washington St., Newtonville (617-527-0247). www.centerforbalance.org. April 6, 7-8:30 pm. $10. Join macrobiotic counselor and chef David Snieckus for a presentation and discussion of macrobiotics, along with tips for improving everyday healthfulness.


Laurel Chiten's documentary *The Jew in the Lotus* screens April 2 as part of the Arlington Center's Dharma Films series.

Classes

Free Yoga Classes
The Yoga Studio, 74 Joy St, Boston (617-523-7138). www.yogastudio.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles or Green Line to Gov't Center. April 3, 9:30 am, 11 am and 1 pm. The Yoga Studio offers free classes at three different times.

Herbal Usage and Botanicas in Boston
Boston Medical Center, 88 East Newton St., Boston (617-414-5465). www.bu.edu/cme/seminars/VODOU04/index.html. April 3, 8:30 am-6:30 pm. $170, includes lunch. The Integrative Medical Alliance and BU Medical School cosponsor this seminar that explores traditional healing practices from Caribbean cultures. Morning lectures on herbal medicine are followed by a tour of Boston's Cuban and Haitian *botánicas*. A talk by Cuban *santero* Steve Quintana and Vodou priest Erol Josue concludes the day.

Meditation
Christine's Yoga and Pilates , 1280 Centre St., Suite 6, Newton Centre (617-928-0932). www.christinesdayspa.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. April 4, 5:15-6:15pm. $10. Explore various types of meditation, including body scan, breathing awareness and loving kindness.

Oh, Oh, Onanism!
Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, 318 Harvard St., Suite 32, Arcade Bldg., Brookline (617-731-2626). www.grandopening.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. April 4, 6:30-8:30 pm. $34. Women only. In this class, women learn various techniques for "self-enjoyment" that utilize breathing, movement, positions, toys and more.

Uncovering Your Private Saboteur
Sheraton Lexington, 727 Marrett Rd., Lexington. www.bostonwomensnetwork.org. April 13, 6-8 pm. $40. The Boston Women's Network hosts this lecture on how to prevent self-sabotage and empower yourself to reach business, career and personal goals.

Weekend of Yoga with Doug Swenson
Back Bay Yoga Studio, 1112 Boylston St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-375-0785). www.backbayyoga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center. April 2-4, $150. Doug Swenson, master yoga practitioner, author and health advocate, leads classes covering Ashtanga yoga, soothing touch yoga, partner yoga, guided meditation, pranayama (breathing) and more.

Retreat

Welcome Weekend
Kripalu Center, Lenox, Mass. (800-741-7353). www.kripalu.org. April 2-4. $130 plus $258-542 for weekend accommodations and meals. Kripalu Yoga and Health Center's welcome weekend features an introductory sampling of yoga classes, massage and time spent consciously with others.

Ongoing

Aikido Basics
Shobu Aikido, 217 California St., Newton (617-332-9899). www.shobu.org. Mon., Wed., and Fri., 5:45 pm. Learn the basics of Aikido, a Japanese martial art and form of sword fighting. Visitors welcome.

Discovering Your True Self with Meditation
Maum Meditation Center, 20 Rustic St. Newton (617-935-1824). www.maum.org. Sat., 6:30-7:30 pm. $10. Maum meditation employs a process of recalling and discarding accumulated past memories to rid oneself of inner anxiety. This day features instruction, discussion and refreshments.

sports

Advice to Contributors

Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

Boston Bruins
•FleetCenter, Boston
Tickets: 617-931-2000
April 1, 7:30 pm vs. Washington Capitals
April 3, 1 pm vs. New Jersey Devils

Boston Celtics
•FleetCenter, Boston
Tickets: 800-462-2849
March 31, 7 pm vs. Portland Trailblazers
April 2, 7:30 pm vs. Golden State Warriors
April 12, 7 pm vs. Miami Heat

Boston Red Sox
•Fenway Park, Boston
Tickets: 877-733-7699
April 9, 3:05 pm vs. Toronto Blue Jays
April 10, 7:05 pm vs. Toronto Blue Jays
April 11, 2:05 pm vs. Toronto Blue Jays
April 13, 7:05 pm vs. Baltimore Orioles

Events

Battle of Boston
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Columbia Point, Boston. www.bostonboxing.com. April 2. $25, tickets available at the door. This boxing exhibition raises money for the Team New England amateur boxing club to travel to London in May to compete in the Pender-Downes Challenge Cup Tournament.

Champions on Ice
FleetCenter, Boston (617-931-2000). www.championsonice.com. April 4. Tickets start at $20. Olympic medalists and world champions including Michelle Kwan, Elvis Stojko and Irina Slutskaya perform in this figure-skating exhibition.

Fitboot Basic Training for Professionals
Charles River Esplanade near Kenmore Square, Boston (877-348-2668). www.fitboot.com. Six-week class starts April 5. Classes meet at 7 am. $350. Get in shape with Fitboot's military-style fitness boot camp.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club seeks new players for nine-a-side competition. Games take place in Cambridge.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

BSSC Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Brookline and Dedham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

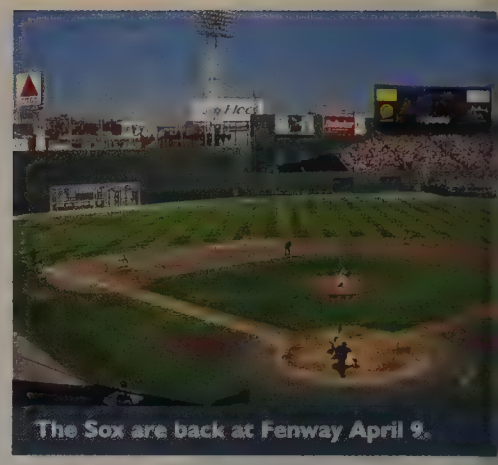
Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers amateur Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

FENCING

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLOOR HOCKEY

BSSC Coed Floor Hockey
Leagues are held in Newton, North Reading and Brighton (617-789-4070, ext. 238). www.bssc.com. All levels, individuals and teams are welcome.


The Sox are back at Fenway April 9.

FOOTBALL

BSSC Coed Indoor Flag Football
Games are played in Revere and Tewksbury. (617-789-4070, ext. 242). Sign up individually or with a group of friends.

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.com Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, then consider joining these self-proclaimed "serious drinkers with a running problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St. Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Run
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Thu., 7 pm. Weekly runs.

VFW Logan Post 3.223-Miler
VFW James Logan Post, 1192 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org/BAEvents Logan. Thu., 7:10 pm. Weekly runs followed by pizza and Harpoon beer.

SKATING

Bay State Skating School
Various area MDC rinks (781-890-8480). www.baystateskatingschool.org. Check Web site for schedules $108.50 for a seven-week class. Skating classes for adults and children teach the fundamentals using either figure skates or hockey skates.

SOCCER

BSSC Indoor Soccer
(617-789-4070). Teams forming now. Games played in Charlestown, Cambridge, Brighton, Reading and Canton. Individuals and teams are welcome.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070, ext. 222) Sun.-Thu. Coed teams forming in Cambridge, Watertown, Brookline and Newton. Teams and individuals are welcome to set and spike their way to glory.

WOMEN'S FLAG FOOTBALL

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Saturday mornings. Teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-868-8379). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels. Weekly practices held year-round.

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children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Big Apple Circus—Carnevale!
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mt. Vernon St., Boston (617-262-8632). www.artsboston.org. Wed.-Fri., 7 pm. April 3-May 9. $29. The Big Apple Circus features acrobatics by Los Aregos, juggling by Andrey Markov, Arabian horse stunts and trapeze and high-wire acts.

Borders Books and Music
Cambridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Daily, 12 pm. Staff members read from new and classic storybooks.

Dr. Suess' "Gertrude McFuzz and Lazy Andy Ant"
Jordan Hall, 290 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-482-6661). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. April 3, 2 pm. $15-$25. As part of the Family Musik series at the New England Conservatory, Robert Kapilow conducts this musical about being careful what you wish for and being satisfied with your appearance.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-200). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Every Tue. and Sat., 11 am. Staff members read children's stories.

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat
Boston's Children's Theatre at McCormack Theatre, UMass Boston, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston (617-424-6634). www.bostonchildrenstheatre.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. April 3, 4, 17, 18 and 21-25, 2 pm. $10-$22. The first collaboration by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice is a musical version of the biblical story of Joseph and his brothers.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50. Reservations recommended. •March 31 and April 1, 10:30 am, ages 3-6: Deborah Costine presents her revised version of the classic Cinderella story in *Cinderella, A Woodland Fairy Princess.* •April 3 and 4, 1 and 3 pm, ages 4-7: Perry Alley Theatre presents *Snow White and Other Tales*, which features a break-dancing cat and guitar accompaniment. •April 7 and 8, 10:30 am, ages 3-6: Palm of the Hand Theatre presents *Clowning Around*, a story about finding the clown inside of all of us. •April 10, 1 and 3 pm, ages 3-7: Paul Vincent Davis presents *Bingo the Circus Dog*, a story about circus performers searching for the show's star, who has been dognapped.

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs
Wheelock Family Theatre, 180 The Riverway, Boston (617-879-2300). www.wheelock.edu/wft. April 2-May 2. Every Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat. and Sun., 3 pm. Special performances April 20-23, 1 pm. $12-$18. The Wheelock Family Theatre presents this Grimm Brothers tale of envy about a beautiful stranger, rescued from the forest by a band of seven dwarfs, and saved by a handsome prince from the grasp of a jealous queen.

Things to Do

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8, $7 children. •Kids can mix hip-hop tunes and experience jazz and rock through the hands-on exhibits of *Making America's Music: Rhythm, Roots & Rhyme.* •*Five Friends from Japan: Children in Japan Today* features interactive lessons about Japanese writing, attire and music. •April 4, 10 am-4 pm: Children can celebrate Passover while learning about the Seder, tasting holiday foods and playing games. •April 4, 10 am-4 pm: The 23rd Annual Native American Powwow features traditional music, food, crafts and dancing. •April 5-11, 1-3 pm daily: Egg-Cellent Fun. Children can decorate Easter eggs and play games. •April 11, 2-3 pm: Easter Egg Hunt. Children can bring their own basket and search for Easter eggs around the museum.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-496-8204). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. $7.50, $5 children. •Every Sat., 9 am. $35. Saturday Scholar sessions give children the opportunity to learn about their world through hands-on activities. •April 3, 9-11 am, ages 4-5 with an adult: In *Foods from the Forest*, children can discover how Native Americans lived off the land 500 years ago. Kids can handle artifacts, meet live animals, and look through the museum galleries. •April 3, 9 am-12 pm, grades K-1: Children will learn about birds of all kinds, as well as touch the world's biggest egg and make a feathery craft in *Feathered Friends.*

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. $5, $1 for children (free admission the third Sunday of every month). •*Holography, the Light Fantastic:* The MIT Museum displays the largest collection of holograms in the world. •*Robots and Beyond:* The exhibit offers a behind the scenes look at MIT's artificial intelligence research labs.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. $15, free for children 17 and under. •April 1 and 2, 3:30-4:45 pm, ages 6-12: Children learn about the drawings and sculptures of American folk art. •April 5-9, 3:30-4:45 pm, ages 6-12: A painting workshop for children based on *Gauguin's Tahiti* exhibition, now on display in the museum. •April 7, 4:30-6:30 pm: Teen-to-Teen Art Talks. Adolescent art aficionados discuss and create art. •April 12-16, 3:30-4:45 pm, ages 6-12: Children participate in mixed-media and painting activities as they learn about Etruscan stories. •Every Tue. and Wed., 3:30-4:30 pm, ages 5 and under: Books Bring Art Alive allows children to hear youth literature read by museum educators. •Every Sat., 11:30 am, 12:30 pm and 1:30 pm: Art Alive offers a range of cultural activities and events for children.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $10 children. •*Making Models* is a hands-on exhibition that demonstrates how models help people understand complex ideas and phenomena. It includes a wave tank, a model of Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •*Einstein*, a new exhibit, provides interactive simulations that give insights into the complexities of Einstein's theories about the nature of time, energy, gravity and light. Through June 6. •Every Sat. and Sun., 11 am-12 pm: The museum's Science Theater Program features professional storytellers who combine folk tales and myths with visits from live animals. •*Theater of Electricity:* Daily, 12 and 2 pm. The Van de Graaff generator provides a risk-free lightning show. •Charles Hayden Planetarium, check Web site for show times, $8.50, $6.50 children: The kids-oriented multimedia astronomy show, *Gravity Rules* features Jack the Jester. •Every Fri., 8:30-10 pm (weather permitting). Gilliland Observatory: Use the observatory's two telescopes to find the moon, stars, constellations and planets. •Mugar Omni Theatre, check Web site for show times, $8.50, $6.50 children: *India: Kingdom of the Tiger* (through May 28) and *Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West* (through June).

Museum of Transportation
Larz Anderson Park, 15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). www.mot.org. Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5. •Every Sat., 10 am-5 pm: On *Family Saturdays* children can participate in a scavenger hunt, play with hands-on "Mystery Bags" and view the children's exhibit *A World of Parts.*

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us/Library. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. •April 13, 10:30 am: Pre-school singalong.

Sorenson Center
231 Forest St., Wellesley (617-527-9717). www.newphil.org. April 4, 12:30 pm. $8-$14. The New England Philharmonia Orchestra presents A Musical Carnival and Fun Fair, in which children listen to music, make their own instruments and participate in the instrument petting zoo.

Starr Gallery
333 Nahanton St., Newton (617-558-6484). www.lsjcc.org. Through April 11. Free. *The Power of Puppets: Suspended Reality* is an exhibition of puppets selected from renowned puppetry theaters and artists throughout the country.

around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on clear nights), April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm; Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm, Fri., 10 am-9 pm; June-Aug., daily, 10 am-5 pm, Fri. until 9 pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (617-338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park Street. Mon.-Sun., 9:30 am-6 pm. $7.50.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-2 pm. Free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-8 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-739-1200). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10 am-4 pm. $5, $3 students, seniors.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $10 seniors and children.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5, $3 children.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1, Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, $8.95 children.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (617-635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. Tours start at 9 am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. $3.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10 am-4 pm; weekends, 10 am-5 pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $5, $1 children.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $6, $4 seniors.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8 am-6 pm. $3.


Volunteer at Match-Up Interfaith.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671) Museum open daily, 10 am-5 pm. Winter ship hours Thu.-Sun., 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-450-1235). Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. Be a big brother.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Befriend a girl.

Boston Cares
(617-263-2273). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). Tutor Boston students (preschool through high school) in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040 ext. 213). Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers/tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support to children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-423-9575). Tutor students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
livmates@rcn.com. Spend your lunch hour reading at an elementary school in Cambridge or Somerville.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). Volunteers needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Play with homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). Share your time with an elderly individual, mentor children or teach an adult to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Association for the Blind
(800-852-3029). Read or shop with a blind person.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-536-3557). Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

Parental Stress Line
(617-528-5800). Telephone counselors needed.

Pine Street Inn
(617-521-7626). Serve breakfast to homeless guests.

Project Place
(617-262-3740). Become a mentor or tutor to homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111). Record textbooks in digital formats.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteers needed at this battered women's agency.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room and groceries program at this homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young professionals.

StandUp for Kids
(800-365-4543). Help rescue homeless children.

VNA Care Network
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.



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improperimpersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see. (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity.) Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

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RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

Explorer

I have two tickets for a prestigious black-tie dinner event in NYC at the Waldorf-Astoria. The event is coming up soon. I had everything all set weeks ago...meaning I had a new hot date to take to the dinner. I met him online and he lives in DC. So I hadn't met him in person. Big mistake! He cancelled. And I paid for two tickets at $250 per person. So I have an extra ticket but no date. You will have the fabulous opportunity to meet remarkable people such as: Sir Edmund Hillary, astronauts, Bob Ballard (he found the Titanic), etc... You will be seated next to a charming, attractive, 38-year-old woman, who is bright and cheerful, well-traveled, multilingual and a member of the club. In other words—me! Please send me your photo and a bio. You will gain extra points if you are familiar with the Explorers Club. You will gain many more if you are single, my age, handsome and have a zest for life! I look forward to meeting you.
—newbostongal@juno.com

Escalator Guy

You: going down the escalators at Copley one Monday morning at 10 am. You have dark hair, great eyes, are handsome and we made eye contact several times. Me: gray cashmere crew neck, jeans and the morning cup of joe. I came back to say hi but you were gone. I'd like to have the chance again. Hope to hear from you.
—CopleyTJ@yahoo.com

Oh Bloody Hell

I came across the Impersonals section only a few days ago, and truly, I believe it's a great way to share feelings with others. Yet, I was hesitant to write to you at the beginning, as I thought I might sound like a desperate guy. Oh well, maybe I am in a way, but it doesn't hurt to try.

I just moved to the Boston area a few months ago. It's really great to be here—I love the city and people can be very nice at times. I have had a chance to date a few promising young ladies. However, I have came across one thing they all have in common: fear of opening up! So, I thought about writing these few lines and sending them, through this page, to those who may read and appreciate them. I do not think I am so wrong by wanting to get to know some woman, who would not feel threatened by the fact that some man is interested in her and wants to truly and deeply know her. Is it too hard to open up to others? Is it freaking people out that much nowadays? Is it because people are so used to their worlds of isolation and seclusion that they do not want anybody to join them at all in the journey of life? And the search continues...until the right secure person is found.
—Fine_chap@hotmail.com

Vandal

I don't know what you were doing behind my apartment building or how you figured out the combination. Why didn't you just steal the bike? It would have made more sense than tying the lock into intricate knots and looping it through the brake wires. That way neither of us could enjoy it. It was a good while before I was able to get wire cutters big enough to cut the lock off. And while it was sitting there you just couldn't resist doing more. Did you make a nice wad of cash from my tires? Did the rusted chain bring you happiness? What inspires a person to be so pointlessly destructive and mean? And if you don't mind my asking, what the hell could you possibly want with a white wicker basket that has neon plastic daisies on it?
—Bikeless

Feb 27 at Abe & Louie's...

You were the most beautiful woman there that night.We struck up a conversation at the bar. You are so beautiful inside and out that I have not stopped thinking about you. We had the nicest conversation of all time. All I want is to have a cup of coffee somewhere quiet so we can talk more. Please drop me a note...even if you have to tell me to stop thinking about you. I'm a big boy, I can handle it (although it will be hard).
—nmac16@aol.com

Tom G from Watertown!

I want to thank you for getting me home safely that fateful Saturday eve. Now that I have had time to reflect,I see that I was fortunate to have stumbled upon you in my crazy drunken state (as opposed to, say, Charles Manson). I thought I would have the opportunity to say how very sweet I think you are, but you didn't call! I don't blame you for wanting to steer clear of a chick who walks up to you at the Bell and Hand and asks you for a kiss before even saying hello. Nonetheless, I would love to hear from you, but more importantly—thanks.
—S

Personality

Yes, I found the Gap at Quincy Market that blustery evening in February. What I didn't find was the bravado to ask you out! Thanks anyway for giving me directions...wrong directions, so that I would have to walk back to the 24-hour copy shop to ask you for help again. You know, if you contact me, maybe we could go to the Gap during business hours and peruse mock turtlenecks or something.
—chapstickcoatcheck@hotmail.com

Whiskey's Knight

You saved me one night not too long ago at Whiskey's. I was surrounded by some sketchy guys I was not interested in talking to and you came up to me and started talking to me like we were from the same high school and hadn't seen each other in awhile. We talked for the rest of the night even though you are a Yankees fan! You asked the bartender for two prairie fire shots, which they didn't serve, and then he cut you off for even asking. You live in Brighton near where I used to. You had to get up early and go to a Providence basketball game the next morning. You asked for my number and never called, I wish I had asked for yours. If you still have my number, it's not too late to call.
—bostondamselindistress@hotmail.com

To the Not-So-Kindhearted Soul Who Found My Wallet...

Well, I suppose that I should start with a thank you for being so kind as to return my wallet after you found it on the Amtrak train in South Station coming to Boston from New York. Or perhaps I should thank you for not taking everything in my wallet, just what you found of interest. While I am grateful that you didn't take everything in my wallet, I'm appalled at how people treat other people's things these days. Was it really worth it to take the little money I had and my T pass? Did you ever stop to think that the little money I had was what I had left from the weekend spring break I was able to take, because I had to return on Tuesday to work all week. I pass up nights of partying to baby-sit and make extra money to support myself. You know, I really thought people were better than this but I guess I was wrong. Serves me right for coming to the city from the Midwest and expecting people to treat others how they want to be treated. It's the golden rule, and somehow you've made the gold tarnish. My faith in people has been ruined, so thank you.
—thegoldenrulesdead@yahoo.com

Coffee Break

To the handsome blond I occasionally see in Starbucks getting coffee: I'm shy. Next time please say hello.
—starbucksbreak101@yahoo.com



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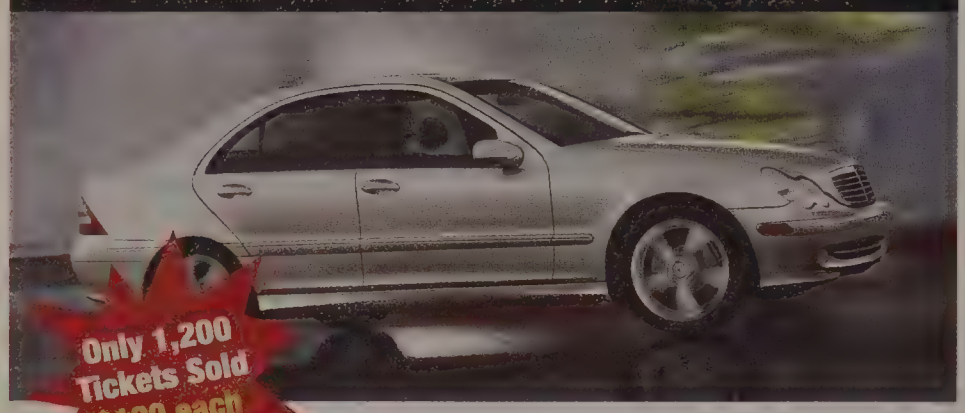
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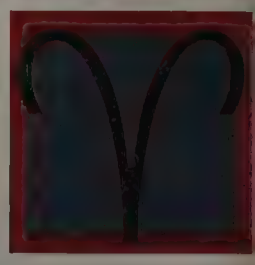
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rockie horoscope

MARCH 31 – APRIL 13, 2004 BY ROCKIE GARDINER



ARIES MARCH 20–APRIL 19

No gentle, lamb-like exit for March this year. The month ends on an aggressive note with Rams challenging roaring Lions, territorial Goats and passive-aggressive Crabs. Then, after facing whatever or whoever is making you feel anxious, you'll be poised to leap at the first potentially profitable project you're offered. This should occur around the full moon, when your Mars ruler and expansive, enthusiastic Jupiter present a plan that'll appeal to your risk-taking nature. Or you meet someone who serves the same purpose.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

While your attractive and affable Venus ruler transits your sign, make the most of being the belle of the ball. As of April 3, the pretty part of this party is over, and what you'll be left to work with is a practical mind-set, reliable intelligence and a clever mouth. Insightful Mercury enters Taurus on March 31 for a long, strange trip: the planet of communication, travel and sales turns retrograde on April 6, backpedals into Aries on the 12th, goes direct on the 30th, reenters Taurus on May 15 and finally leaves on June 5.

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

This is a tense time, when your nerves can shatter as easily as glass. While gigantic, optimistic Jupiter sweet-talks your Mercury ruler into an uncomfortable relationship, you'll tend to overlook details, overestimate results and wind up compensating like mad. But what might really throw you is how feisty Mars in your sign can trigger a startling reaction when confronted by rebellious Uranus in your midheaven. Hope that once Venus enters Gemini on the 3rd, you'll revert to your sweet, amiable self again. Or not.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

Trials and tribulations are probably old hat to you by now. Although you'll never be another Sisyphus, Hercules or Job, you're becoming quite proficient at solving problems created by having Saturn in your sign. Once you put the latest responsibility to rest, try to take a break. Otherwise, trying to fix a buddy's dilemma could cost you money. Because Mercury in your career domain is turning retrograde on the 6th for three weeks, be sure to contact clients, close deals, etc. well before then.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

You're in a situation similar to the Moon Child's, with a friend who is headed for trouble and looking to you to bail him or her out. Don't act on impulse, wait for a mutual ally's assistance around the full moon. The entire episode should be resolved by Easter. Mercury will be retrograde in your house of travel and study from April 6–30, a good time to consider (not confirm) vacation destinations, conferences you'd like to attend and how to celebrate your birthday. Come August 9, Mercury will turn retrograde again.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

An unexpected and fairly disruptive situation at work can energize a partnership arrangement, but like everybody else, you're advised to take things somewhat slowly. Don't leap at the first offer, don't fly off the handle. Life gets a bit more complicated this week with more people joining your scene, adding their two cents' worth. Meanwhile, you should be preparing for your Mercury ruler's backflip on the 6th. While you're still able to think clearly, file your taxes. Later, during retrograde, you can rewrite the Great American Screenplay.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

Don't let a frustrating situation bring you down. Sliding into a dismal depression now that spring has arrived is so un-Libra-like. However, if opposition from the Aries sun has been blocking your efforts to move forward, the Libra full moon on the 5th could well be a turning point. Get all your ducks in a row, the papers you need signed ASAP, because on the 6th Mercury turns retrograde for three weeks of "nothin' doin'." Not that you'll be any the less vocal; your Venus ruler enters expressive Gemini on the 3rd.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

Only one more temper tantrum to endure and you're pretty much done for the season. If possible, try to curb the ranting and raving going on while your insistent Mars co-ruler challenges rebellious Uranus. And be careful if an appliance shuts down or a pipe bursts during the "out of the ordinary" atmosphere on April Fools' Day. Mercury's flip takes place in your marriage house, so don't expect much progress with partnership matters, just more time (and reasons) to reconsider deals you've made and those coming up.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

You might not feel the full thrust of Martian aggressiveness until the Red Planet challenges your Jupiter ruler on the 5th, but someone in the family or your landlord could catch hell and dish it out when Mars hassles with ornery Uranus that weekend. Changes, some sudden, some premeditated, are about to happen. If you're making travel plans, do so before Mercury goes retrograde on the 6th and gremlins invade your computer, misinform you about connections, etc. Easter, however, should be glorious, no matter where you are.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

If you're into extreme sports, even marginally dangerous ones, be very careful. Athletic Mars in your house of recreation and risk is in a precarious relationship to "I didn't see it coming" Uranus. Given the fact that you might not be at your most resilient while the sun is sapping strength from your Saturn ruler, it makes sense to avoid anything that connotes recklessness. Pursuing a romantic relationship with a confirmed nonconformist can also lead to a different sort of disaster. Be safe, not sorry.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

Strict parental decisions or institutions withholding funds are mere slaps on the wrist compared with what can befall you when hot-tempered Mars attacks your independent-minded Uranus ruler. This is when accidents and earthquakes tend to happen. Try to remain invisible this week and hope that a serene, spiritual vibe will prevail for Palm Sunday and Passover. Cars and bikes better go into the shop before Mercury turns retrograde in, of all places, your house of commuting. Upgrade telecommunication devices too.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

Why Mercury turning retrograde affects Pisces so strongly is a mystery. The little guy isn't your ruling planet, and this time, it's not in a sign that frequently gives you grief. Nevertheless, prepare for its flip on the 6th, because it takes place in your house of money and other assets. Clear the fog from your head, pretty as it may be, put your wish list away for a while and concentrate on taking care of financial business. Also, be careful working around the house, especially with sharp objects and fire.

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HELP WANTED

The Improper Bostonian seeks an assistant editor. Responsibilities include researching, writing, editing, and fact-checking parts of a 20-page arts and entertainment calendar; contributing feature story ideas; overseeing several columnists; fact-checking and researching features; and occasionally writing features. A bachelor's degree, feature writing experience, command of grammar, attention to detail, organizational skills, and ability to handle multiple tasks under tight deadlines are essential. A thorough knowledge of Boston restaurants is preferred.

Send resume, cover letter including salary history, and three published clips to Editor,

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Marilyn Deinhammer, Brian Helfrich and Jacquelyn Helfrich catch some rays in Naples, Fla. Brian certainly doesn't need to ask which way the gym is.



Philbert Chin tipped a few pints at the Australian Grand Prix in Melbourne. We love how Aussies get to the point: Piece together what the sign says behind the magazine.



Jacqueline Church and Caleb Noël Ho visited Antarctica, where a penguin asked where they were from. When they said Boston, he replied, "I hear the weather there sucks!"



Susan Reigel explored the old Japanese jail in Saipan. The jail was closed after a rash of chopstick shankings in the '30s.



Lindsey Hoffman brought the *Improper*'s Music Issue, appropriately enough, to the Song and Dance Festival in Vilnius, Lithuania. We're assuming these ladies are performers in the festival and not flight attendants on Air Lithuania.



New Mexico governor Bill Richardson finds out what a nice little hacienda in the Back Bay goes for with the Real Estate issue.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER: Not losing their marbles at the British and World Marbles Championship, held April 9 at the Greyhound Pub in Tinsley Green, England.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
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The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Wednesday, March 17, **Bennigan's** at 191 Stuart Street held a party to celebrate St. Patrick's Day.





1. **Andrew Maiorana**, **Jasmeen Abdallah**, **Phil Rakhunov** and **Jackie Hackett**, all bartenders at Bennigan's.
2. **Kim Trafford**, assistant manager of Bennigan's, with the members of the band The Whatnot: **Patrick Curry**, **Chris Matthews** and **Matt Junkin**.

On Wednesday, March 24, **Tangierino** presented a 10-course meal with wine accompaniment to celebrate its new menu and revamped interior.







1. **Heike Naamad** and **Samad Naamad**, owners of Tangierino.
2. **Vinay Mehra**, CEO of THI, and **Thomas John**, executive chef at Mantra.
3. **Meghan Green Kotsifas**, WGBH, and **Peter Kotsifas**, golf pro.

PHOTOS: BENNIGAN'S, CHERYL JACKSON; TANGIERINO, MIKE BURNS

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The Improper Bostonian's Dating in Boston issue will take a look at the intricacies of wooing. One vital ingredient to the perfect date is the right venue to sit, share a meal and have quiet conversation. The *Improper* will tell you about some of the best places to go in Boston when you want to have an intimate dinner with that special someone. In addition, local author and legendary coquet Steve Almond will muse on the age-old art of flirting. And finally, on the flip side of courtship, breakups are a part of everyone's life. Susan Abbattista shares her own experiences with ill-fated relationships and talks with Bostonians who have survived the heartache.

ADVENTURES IN DATING

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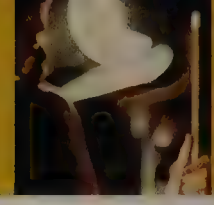
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RESTAURANTS

75 Chestnut *75 Chestnut St., Boston, 617-227-2175, www.75chestnut.com.* Providing regional American cuisine served in an intimate setting. Bar opens at 5pm. Dinner served from 5:30pm - 10pm.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston, 617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled PortabellaPaninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC, V.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2002. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.best-margaritas.com.

Captain Fishbones **SEAFOOD, STEAKS AND MORE* 353 Cambridge St, Allston 617-783-2300 (formerly the Sports Depot).* Captain Fishbones boasts a reasonably priced menu of fresh seafood, succulent steaks, awesome burgers and a healthy variety of salads and pizza. Meet your friends at a great bar surrounded with five 42" plasma screen TVs. Join us for a free appetizer special Monday thru Friday from 4-6pm. Full menu from 11:30 A.M. to 12:30 A.M. Sunday Brunch 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.. Plenty of free parking and free valet service in Allston on Friday and Saturday nights. You can visit the Captain in Quincy at 332 Victory Rd, 617-471-3511 www.captainfishbones.com

Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444, Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., South Boston, 617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11 am - 2am 7 days a week.

Ned Devine's *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere inthe heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 0pm. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches. Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Science Street Café *Science Park, Boston, 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out Boston's newest nightspot - The Science Street Café at the Museum of Science. Try our out-of-this world signature martinis, gourmet appetizers and decadent desserts - all while listening to live music. Perfect with an Omni film or the new exhibit, Einstein. Open 6-10pm. Parking available.

Sidney's Grille *20 Sidney St, Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why Bon Appétit magazine says, "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breakfast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus visit www.sidneysgrille.com

Solas *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am 7 days a week.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

BARS/CLUBS

Beer Specialty

Boston Beer Works *112 Canal St., near the Fleet Center, 617-896-BEER, 61 Brookline Ave., across from Fenway Park, 617-536-BEER and 278 Derby St., in Historic Salem, 978-745-BEER.* Boston's oldest and largest restaurant brewery with 3 locations! Bold American Food. Award Winning Beer. 15 microbrewed beers always on tap. 16 American wines by the glass. 15 championship billiards tables at our Canal Street location. Complete party planning capabilities. Private Rooms. Customizeable menus. Lunch. Dinner. Late Night. Always a good time. Check out the BIGGER and BOLDER menu.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exotic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

Big City - pool hall, pizza kitchen, Beer Bar *138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8pm, free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Felt *533 Washington St., Boston, 617-350-5555.* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering sophisticated billiards, New York style lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or for a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere combined with the delicious creative entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Eclectic cuisine by Chef Casey Lloyd.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 10pm. Live DJs 7 nights a week, dancing with Ibiza's DJ Marco, resident DJs DJLittles and Johnny C til 2 am. Join us in our new private VIP room! Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Clubs

Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston, 617-482-7799.* Located in Boston's trendy Theater District, Pravda 116 is a chic bar and club. DJs 5:30pm - 10:30pm keep the energy level high. Bar 5:30pm-2am and dance club 10:30pm - 2am Wednesday-Saturday. Credit cards accepted AE, CB, DC, MC, V.

Stadium – Clubhouse *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Stadium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale nightclub featuring two bars, a hardwood dance floor and parking. An exciting yet relaxed 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety of music and beautiful people crowding the dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights. An ideal place for your next bachelor, bachelorette or birthday party.

Comedy

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www. theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. Mingle. Let your hair down; see and be seen on the big screen. Simply the hippest way to spend a night of all-out fun in Boston's Financial District. Come after work. Come to dance. Come to go wild with your friends. There's always something exciting happening – and you never know who you'll bump into. Join us and experience what the buzz is all about.

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 617-227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal and martini. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 10pm. Live DJs 7 nights a week, dancing with Ibiza's DJ Marco, and resident DJs DJLittles and



Johnny C til 2 am. Join us in our new private VIP room! Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Irish

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 617-742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston,617-742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 617-523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11 am - 1am 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

The Green Dragon *11Marshall St., Boston, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 617-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

General

The Alley *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. www.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

Aqua *120 Water St., Boston, 617-720-4900.* Boston's newest place to be seen is now open in the heart of the Financial District. Whether relaxing with a martini in one of our cozy booths, sipping a margarita on our roof deck or watching your hometown favorites on our high definition plasma TV. Aqua has what you're looking for after work and late night with our resident and guest DJs spinning your favorite mixes through our state of the art sound system all night long.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Boston Rocks *245 Quincy Market Place Boston,617-726-1110 www.boston-rocks.net. 21+.* Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St.,617- 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2003. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Captain Fishbones **SEAFOOD, STEAKS AND MORE* 353 Cambridge St, Allston 617-783-2300 (formerly the Sports Depot).* Captain Fishbones boasts a reasonably priced menu of fresh seafood, succulent steaks, awesome burgers and a healthy variety of salads and pizza. Meet your friends for martini's at a great bar surrounded with five 42" plasma screen TVs. Join us for a free appetizer special Monday thru Friday from 4-6pm. Full menu from 11:30 A.M. to 12:30 A.M. Plenty of free parking. You can visit the Captain in Quincy at 332 Victory Rd, 617-471-3511 www.captainfishbones.com

Cheers *Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-227-0150, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Offering pub fare until 11:45pm. Live entertainment every Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Cheers *Beacon Hill 84 Beacon St., Boston, 617-227-9605, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Full menu available until 11:45pm. Watch your favorite team on DirecTV.

Downtown Lounge *138 Portland St., Boston 617-523-8383.* Tempting tapas, modern martinis and contemporary cocktails are just a few of the elements awaiting your arrival. A distinctive destination in the heart of North Station, located just one block from the Fleet Center. Share crab taquitos, shaved portobello mushrooms or grilled white pizza. Revive with a specialty martini while sinking into soft curvy seating. Spacious and sublime, Dowtown Lounge is an attractive meeting place for business, luncheons, social, after work cocktails and events.

The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010.* Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St.,Boston 617-722-0161.* The newest edition to Boston's night scene. This New Orleans style bar is just steps away from the Fleet Center. Hurricane O'Reilly's serves up the best that Boston nightlife has to offer. Come dance the night away with the hottest music around. We will leave you yearning for Bourbon Street.

Jillian's Boston *145 Ipswich St., Boston, 617-437-0300.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring more than 200 high tech games, six full bars, 50 pool tables, racing simulators, Black Jack for Fun and much more. Atlas Bar and Grill on Jillian's first floor offers full service dining featuring innovative American cuisine, a giant screen video wall and dancing every Friday & Saturday night. www.jilliansboston.com.

The Junction – Your Neighborhood Bar & Grill. *110 Dorchester St., South Boston, 617-268-6429.* Delicious food, great atmosphere and friendly staff –and it all happens at the Junction -South Boston's Neighborhood Bar & Grill. Enjoy our half -priced appetizers on weekdays from 3 to 6 pm. Join us for live music & entertainment on the weekends and for our fun trivia nights on Tuesdays.

Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Lounge. Cocktails. Dancing. Nightlife. Come see the lights of Parris. Sample the eclectic lounge menu featuring grilled pizza, oyster shooters ans steak tartar. Sip a Classic, Apple or French 75 martini, and then motion onto the huge dance floor featuring Live Music with the best bands and DJs Thursday through Saturday. Named for the original architect of the Greek-revival-style building, Alexander Parris, you're nightlife experience at Parris will be Boston and beyond. Open 5pm - 2am Wednesay - Saturday. Cover charge on Friday and Saturday.

Jazz

Regattabar *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Tuesday-Saturday nights and occasional Sunday afternoons. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square. Shows at 8:30pm Tues-Thurs, 7:30pm & 10:00pm Fri. & Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617.876.7777 for tickets and information, 800.881.1818 for hotel reservations and information.

Latin

Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston 617-351-7001.* A multistory Latin-themed restaurant and club, Sophia's treats guests to a tantalizing Tapas-style menu, live Salsa bands and hi-energy Latin dance. From a romantic dinner and salsa lessons to hi-energy dance and mingling on the roof deck over sangria and Salsa, an evening at Sophia's is always Hot! Hot! Hot

Sports Bar - Upscale

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www.theplaceboston.com.* Voted Boston's Best Sports Bar 3 years in a row by The Improper Bostonian! Mingle with your favorite sports celebrities: Brady, Thornton, Walker, Garciaparra. You never know who you'll run into. Enjoy the wildest party atmosphere in the heart of the Financial District. It's never the same experience twice – we've got exclusive sports video productions and game coverage on our state-of the-art flat screen TVs. So join us to see what the buzz is all about and find out why people in-the-know feel right at home.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston,617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal and martini. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 10pm. Watch all your favorite teams on one of our 18 TVs or in our private VIP lounge on of our 6 new 50" plasma TVs! Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Stadium *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* Boston's Best Damn Sports Bar, Period. A brand new, high-end sports bar featuring two floors, three bars, 30 flat screen TVs – including the one in the men's room, a dance floor and parking. Stadium menu offers an enticing selection of appetizers, salads, steak & burgers, fresh seafood and drinks

BRUNCH

Captain Fishbones **SEAFOOD, STEAKS AND MORE* 353 Cambridge St, Allston 617-783-2300 (formerly the Sports Depot).* Captain Fishbones is proud to present an award winning buffet brunch. For only $11.99 come and join the Captain for an all you can eat brunch. Full menu from 11:30 A.M. to 12:30 A.M. Plenty of free parking. You can visit the Captain in Quincy for breakfast Saturday and Sunday 8 A.M. to 12 P.M. at 332 Victory Rd, 617-471-3511 www.captainfishbones.com

Harvard Gardens *315 Cambridge St., Beacon Hill, Boston, 617-523-2727. www.harvardgardens.com.* Cozy up to the beautiful mahogany bar or slip into a comfy booth and enjoy Harvard Gardens' menu of cool cocktails and comfort food. Brunch serves up eggs and pastrami hash, thick-cut French toast with caramelized bananas, specialty pizzas and Boston's best Bloody Mary. Harvard Gardens serves brunch Saturday and Sunday, 11:30am - 3:00pm.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended 617-661-5005.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**, *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

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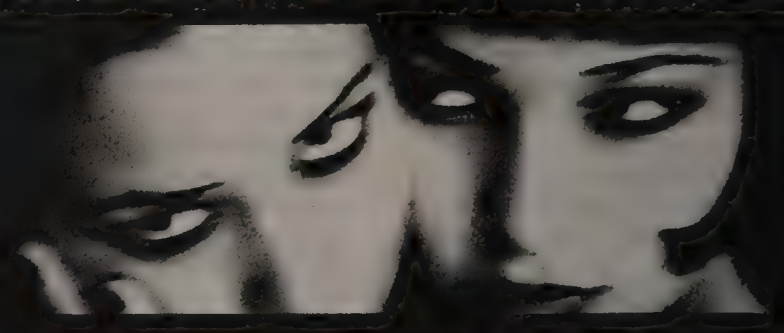
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Please make checks payable to: Leslie's Links/Dana-Farber. 100% of the proceeds from this event will be donated to The Leslie's Links Ewings Sarcoma Fund at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.
For more info e-mail wendy@leslieslinks.com, or call 617-859-1400 ext. 324.

A special thanks to: Joe Quattrocchi and Vox for hosting this event, our committee members, old friends and new for your continuous support of Leslie's Links and this wonderful cause.

Leslie's Links has raised over $700,000 since it inception in 1999. www.leslieslinks.com.
Our goal is raise $1,000,000 by December 2004.

Thank you for your support and helping us make a difference.



LESLIE'S LINKS was founded in 1999 by Leslie Semonian who battled cancer and passed away in December of 1999 at the age of 32. During the eight and a half year period of her illness, until her death, Leslie never allowed cancer to stand in the way of her goal of helping others. She knew how precious life was and energetically embraced each day. She helped others to appreciate their own lives more. She wanted to be remembered as a participant in life, not an observer. Her passion was boundless, and will continue in the hearts of the many friends and people whom she inspired.

Leslie's Links is a fund at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute which raises money for Ewings Sarcoma Cancer Research in various ways. One of which is through the Leslie's Links bike team associated with the 192-mile Pan-Mass Challenge bike-a-thon from Sturbridge to Provincetown. Leslie's Links has raised over $700,000 since inception in 1999.

Please join our hosts for the evening to support a great cause:

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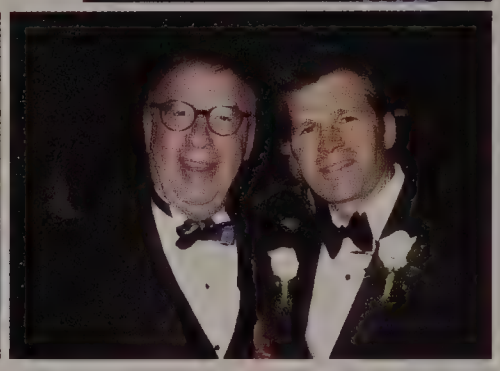
LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF









At the BPL's Litro Inferno, clockwise from top: Lisa Hughes and Dennis Lehane; John Spooner and Andre Dubus III; the Cat in the Hat; Art Buchwald

FAHRENHEIT 451...

"Out with the old, in with the new," was the theme of **Litro Inferno**—the **Boston Public Library**'s annual black-tie book-burning in Copley Square. To make room for new acquisitions while purging the library's shelves of the perverse and subversive, guests gathered beneath a giant yellow and white striped tent to drink champagne, dine on pork tenderloin and toast marshmallows for s'mores over the open flames.

The event attracted such high-wattage glitterati as two-time Super Bowl mack daddy **Bob Kraft** and his wife, **Myra**; their son **Jonathan**, and his wife, **Patti**; finance writer and stockbroker to the stars **John Spooner**; best-selling novelists and stud muffins **Andre Dubus III** and **Dennis Lehane**; octogenarian humorist **Art Buchwald**; effervescent do-gooders **Stephanie Warburg** and Ann Gund; Boston City Councilor **Mike Ross**; Back Bay philanthropists **Miguel** and **Suki de Braganza**; and a guy in a Cat in the Hat outfit who begged guests to perform the Heimlich maneuver on him and then repaid the favor by coughing up a hair ball.

During the live auction, guests bid on books like *The Origin of Species* and *Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret*, which they then doused with lighter fluid and tossed on the fire.

"This is so much fun," said one committee member who recently moved here from Rhea County, Tenn. "I even brought my old copy of the Constitution, since they're working on a new one."

WHEN CINDERELLA HITS MIDDLE AGE...

Apropos of an evening designed to remind guests of the days before their lives were ruined by marriage and children, **Young Friends of the Newly Suburban** held a toga party in the ballroom of the **Ritz** to raise money for former downtown residents who have been forced to relocate to area codes 508, 781, 978, etc.

The bacchanalian gathering included heavy hors d'oeuvres, heavy drinking and a general amnesty for anyone caught hitting on someone other than his or her spouse. During the cocktail hour, a plastic surgeon administered Botox injections, while *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy* impersonators offered unsolicited makeover tips to unsuspecting guests.

Spotted amid all the prefacelift socialites and philanthropic types: South End trendsetter **Molly Dunne** and her husband, **Stephens**; Nashville-bred arts patron **Trevania Henderson** with her husband, the dashing **John**; big-hearted Beacon Hillions **Kevin** and **Karyn Lamb**; mutual fund heiresses **Beth** and **Abby Johnson**; TV producers **Lisa Pierpont** and **Jennifer Donaldson Janes** with their respective other halves, **Alex** and **Tom**; banking scion **Charlie Gifford** and the stunning **Betsy**; Back Bay party pair **Rachael** and **Andy Goldfarb**; the unfairly photogenic **Beth Dickerson** and **David Drubner**; party animals **Mike** and **Betsy Danziger**; Channel 5 glamazon **Liz Brunner** (who arm-wrestled her date to see who would keep the one-per-couple goodie bag); and a pair of Junior Leaguers who argued about the relative merits of yoga vs. Pilates before actually coming to blows over whether or not South Natick is technically a part of Dover or Wellesley.

Following dessert and coffee, there was 15 minutes of dancing before the raffle prize was drawn and a lucky couple from Brookline won a Back Bay resident parking sticker, but by 11 o' clock, the room had cleared out, with everyone offering some version of the age-old lament: "The baby-sitter has to be home by midnight."



Liz Brunner arm-wrestles her date.

FIREARMS ARE SO BUTCH...

They say politics makes for strange bedfellows, which was certainly the case when the **Log Cabin Republicans** and the **National Rifle Association** co-hosted a gala performance of *Annie Get Your Gun* at the **Wang Center** to raise money for Gay Shotgun Weddings.

The evening began with a preperformance cocktail reception, where the high-octane crowd included **Governor Mitt Romney** and wife **Ann** (who chuckled when someone suggested that perhaps gay Mormons should be allowed to have more than one spouse); celebrity guests **Michael J. Fox** and **Tracy Pollan**; Dorchester homie **Donnie Wahlberg**; South Shore Oscar winner **Chris Cooper** and his wife, **Marianne Leone Cooper**; the American Repertory Theatre's boy wonder, **Gideon Lester**; Commonwealth Shakespeare Company head honcho **Steven Maler**; Clear Channel grand poobah **Tony McLean**; Huntington Theatre head **Nicky Martin**; and New Hampshire's openly gay Episcopal bishop, **Gene V. Robinson**, who summed the evening up by saying, "If gay people have the right to get married, they should also have the right to be forced into marriage at gunpoint."

As entertaining as the performance was, the funniest moment came in the lobby during intermission, when a live auction was hosted by comedian, gun enthusiast and star of the gay-themed NBC sitcom *It's All Relative*, **Lenny Clarke**.

Responding to a heckler in the crowd, he turned to Wang Center head **Josiah Spaulding Jr.** and said, "Hey Joe, you might not have the *Nutcracker* here anymore, but you've still got plenty of ball-breakers."











At the Gay Shotgun Weddings benefit, clockwise from top left: Neal McDonough; Tracy Pollan and Michael J. Fox; Mitt and Ann Romney; Donnie Wahlberg deals the cards; Jennifer and Lenny Clarke

PUN HOPEFULLY NOT INTENDED...

The Whitney Museum in New York has one. So does Venice. So why shouldn't Boston?

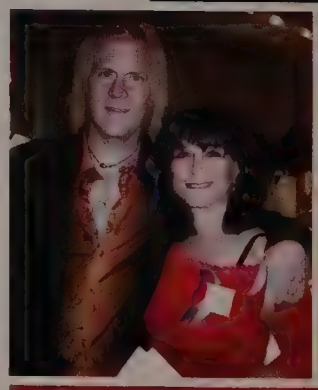
That seemed to be the rationale behind the **Children's Museum**'s first International Fingerpainting Biennial—a juried art exhibit, to be held every two years, in which countries are invited to submit the work of their most precocious and gifted 3- to 5-year-olds.

Seen sipping white wine and nibbling animal crackers at the Opening Night VIP reception were Talbots CEO **Arnold Zetcher** and his fashion-plate wife, Ellen; Aerosmith bassist **Tom Hamilton** with the stunning **Terry**; glamorina **Nina Fialkow** and her other half, **David**; Chestnut Hill socialites Debbie **Lewis** and **Vicky Whitney**; Red Sox slugger **Manny Ramirez** and the gorgeous **Julianna**; Channel 4 anchor babe **Lisa Hughes**; yoga goddess **Sara Isenberg**; celebrity chef **Ming Tsai**; and the terrifying twosome of **Leigh Weatherly** and **Glynis Hobika**.

In keeping with the tradition of art sparking controversy, there was an entry by a 4-year-old Korean girl, entitled *Why Is Michael Jackson in Jail?* To which one guest responded with the unfortunate choice of words: "That's one to handle with kid gloves."

Oh, and by the way...April Fools. iB

At the Children's Museum's Fingerpainting Biennial, from left: Tom and Terry Hamilton; Julianna and Manny Ramirez





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Photographed for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by
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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR



BEAUTY FULL

In Boston, where the official arrival of spring (March 20, brrrr) is such a tease, it's usually more practical to greet the season with a stylish new haircut or brighter shade of lipstick than with a sundress or sandals. For our annual Beauty Issue, fashion and beauty editor Samantha House enlisted the help of some of the city's talented hairstylists and makeup artists to show you the looks—from ultra-bright lips to classic updos—that are hot this spring (page 20).

Guys, we haven't forgotten you, nor have we given up on convincing you to add a few more steps to your grooming ritual (page 34). In this issue, we also give a few men the chance to sound off on women's beauty routines—what they like and don't like in hairstyles, makeup and other skin-deep topics (page 26).

Finally, we're proud to welcome a new columnist to the IMPROPER's fold. Fresh from the Sox' opening game in Baltimore, NECN sportscaster and Peabody native Chris Collins kicks off The Collins Card (page 16) with his take on the upcoming Red Sox season. Is this team headed for glory or heartbreak? Collins weighs in. We look forward to bringing you his unique view on the sacred topic of Boston sports in every issue.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

ALOHA, MON

Paul Sherman should keep his critiques of films to the actual quality of the film and not use them as a vehicle to protect the "darker people" of the world, as he does in his review of *50 First Dates* (March 31). Anyone who's ever been to Hawaii, or even done a bit of research, knows that "Jawaiian" music—reggae music blended with Pacific music—is very popular there. I was out there in November, and there are only 10 or so radio stations, and half of them really do play this reggae/Pacific Jawaiian music.

—MATTHEW ALIBERTI
Allston

AWW, SHUCKS

The review of B&G Oysters ("Shellfish Desires," March 31) was by far the best restaurant review I have ever read in Boston. I always find that, compared with food writers like Mimi Sheraton or Ruth Reichl, Boston reviewers sound like country hicks. Charles Mokriski did a splendid job of describing the atmosphere, food and wine at this charming place, and Berta Daniels' photographs were excellent. Keep up the good, varied and original writing.

—STEVE KRAUSE
Boston

WHO'S THAT GIRL?

I was a little bit concerned about the photo of Mitt Romney and his "wife," Ann, on page 116 of the Boston's Beloved Bartenders issue (March 31). Ann appears to be 15, and it looks as though she has just hit puberty. Could it be a mistake? I think so!

—JULIE PERRY
Cambridge

Editor's Note: *For Julie and others who may not have read the text that accompanied the photo in question, that was not Ann Romney, but neither was the picture taken at the Gay Shotgun Weddings benefit—that was the annual April Fools edition of Last Scene Here.*

SOUTHERN MAINE MAN

I loved your recent interview with Tony Shalhoub (March 31). But you cited Tony as a graduate of the University of Maine; he is actually an alumnus of the University of Southern Maine, in Portland. I am also an alum, and Tony is our most famous graduate. He made a special trip back to campus last year to teach some acting workshops. It's great to see his career continue to flourish.

—ERIN NEWTON
Charlestown



BARTENDERS COVER PHOTO: JOE GREENE; JENNY BROWN: BRIAN SILVERSTEIN

ANYONE WHO'S EVER BEEN TO HAWAII, OR EVEN DONE A BIT OF RESEARCH, KNOWS THAT "JAWAIIAN" MUSIC IS VERY POPULAR THERE.

—MATTHEW ALIBERTI, ALLSTON

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JENNY BROWN



Jenny Brown has been a professional makeup artist for a brief 2½ years. In addition to working as a freelance artist for Stila, Brown does makeup for fashion spreads, runway shows and films. You can see some of Brown's work on pages 20, 22, 24 and 32 of this issue.

Tell Us What You Think

SEND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR TO: The Improper Bostonian, 142 Berkeley St., Third Floor, Boston, MA 02116. E-mail: letters@improper.com. Fax: 617-859-1446. Letters must be signed; please include your town and phone number. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

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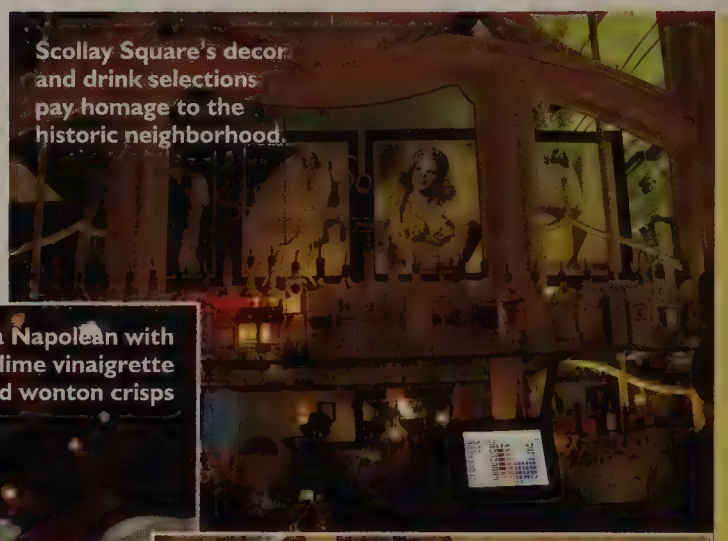
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new in town

RESURRECTION



Scollay Square's decor and drink selections pay homage to the historic neighborhood.



Ahi tuna Napolean with ginger-lime vinaigrette and wonton crisps



Those familiar with the legacy of long-departed Scollay Square will be surprised to see its new, nostalgic namesake restaurant in Beacon Hill. In its heyday, Scollay Square (the area now Government Center) was a seedy nightlife mecca, filled with tattoo parlors, gritty bars and theaters presenting burlesque and vaudeville acts. But the sleek restaurant, which draws a well-heeled Beacon Hill crowd, manages to pay homage to the bygone era without being overly kitschy. It's got plenty of memorabilia scattered throughout, though. A big bright replica of an old Scollay Square sign hangs on the wall near the entrance, and giant black-and-white photographs of the square and its icons adorn the walls.

Co-owners and longtime friends Brad Dalbeck and Chris Damian (who is also the chef) opened the restaurant in February, after coming upon local author David Kruh's book, *Always Something Doing: Boston's Infamous Scollay Square*. They fell in love with the idea of resurrecting some of the square's history and found the right spot in the former digs of the Black Goose. "Scollay Square was all about fun and friends," Dalbeck says. "It was a perfect fit for us."

Diners eat at candlelit tables next to an open kitchen or at a secluded bar in back. The menu of upscale comfort food—from the delicious (and ungreasy) herb-seasoned chicken tenderloins ($7) to seared sea scallops with crab risotto cake ($19) and grilled sirloin ($22)—runs the gamut, reflecting Damian's years of experience with different types of cuisine. There's the portabella quesadilla appetizer ($8), inspired by his stint as chef at Harvard Square's Border Café; and the menu's Asian flair—ahi tuna Napolean with ginger-lime vinaigrette and wonton crisps ($9)—comes from his tenure at P. F. Chang's. The variety is designed to eliminate what Damian calls the "veto vote"—that picky eater in a group who doesn't go to a restaurant "because they hate Chinese, are a vegetarian or only eat seafood."

As you listen to the mellow, big band–style music and linger over one of the decadent desserts (a must is the white chocolate bread pudding), get into the Scollay Square spirit and camp it up a bit. Try a Cranberry Tassel Spinner cocktail, named for burlesque star Sally Keith, a.k.a. "Queen of the Tassles," who was famous for her unusual spinning abilities. *21 Beacon St., Boston (617-742-4900). www.scollaysquare.com.* —*E.H.*

improper reports

GYM-FREE WAYS TO GET IN SHAPE

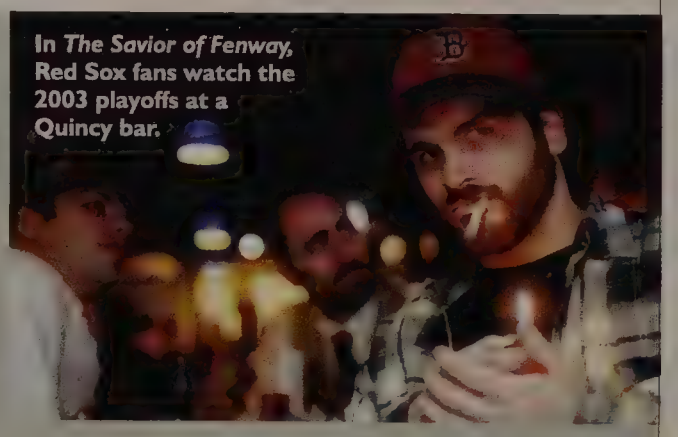
It's marathon time again. Watching thousands of people run 26.2 miles while you're on the sidelines (and likely drunk) is enough to make anyone feel inert. If you want to go the distance athletically but aren't up for the mileage of a marathon, there are plenty of activity options available locally. Here's a sampling.

- Pedal-push with the Boston Bicycle Club, which offers group rides and races for all levels. $30 a year. *www.bostonbicycleclub.org.*
- Get the thrill of rock climbing without traveling to the mountains, at the Boston Rock Gym. It's $55 for an introductory lesson and equipment rental. *78G Olympia Ave., Woburn (781-935-7325). www.bostonrockgym.com.*
- If you're ready to take it outside, gear up at REI. Beginners' climbing packages including equipment like carabiners, harness and chalk bags start at $86. *Landmark Center, 401 Park Drive, Boston (617-236-0746).*
- Sailing season opened April 1. Get out on the water with Community Boating. You don't need to own a boat: The $175 annual fee includes introductory sailing lessons and access to boats. *Charles River Esplanade between the Hatch Shell and the Longfellow Bridge (617-523-1038). www.community-boating.org.*
- Rollerblading anyone? For organized group skates and connections to skating instructors, get on track with the Inline Club of Boston, and you'll be flying down the Esplanade in no time. $20 per year. (781-932-5457). *www.sk8net.com*

—*Lauren Vane*

sports

SOX IN THE ARTS

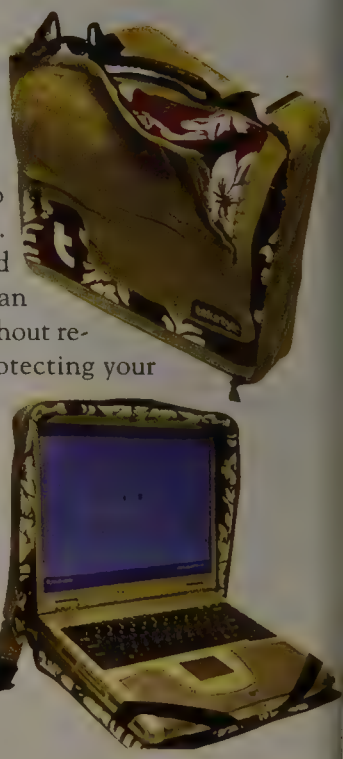


In *The Savior of Fenway*, Red Sox fans watch the 2003 playoffs at a Quincy bar.

One measure of Red Sox mania round these parts is the team's influence on culture, and lately they've been the subject of much ink beyond the sports pages. For instance, on April 17, Harvey and Frederick Frommer host a signing of their new book, *Red Sox vs. Yankees, The Great Rivalry*, at Great Bay Restaurant. Former Sox pitcher turned cigar slinger Luis Tiant is on hand too, to help bring the Sox/Yanks beef to life. Also on the literary tip, Scribner publishing has announced that Stewart O'Nan and Stephen King will be coauthoring a book chronicling the Red Sox' 2004 season, and of course Scribner is hoping the hometown boys don't disappoint come fall (or, if they do disappoint, that they do it in typically dramatic fashion). The book doesn't have a title yet—maybe they should hold an open call for names, like Sox brass did for the documentary of the 2003 season, *Still, We Believe: The Red Sox Movie*. We're voting for *The Girl Who Loved Pokey Reese*. Finally, playwright Brendon Bates won a New York International Fringe Festival Excellence in Playwrighting Award for his latest play, *The Savior of Fenway*. Set in a bar in Quincy during the final two Red Sox–Yankees playoff games of 2003, the play opens May 5 at the Cambridge Family YMCA Center and runs till May 30. If all this artistic activity is inspired by the agony of defeat (and it is), we'll be interested to see what happens if...you know. —*Ezra Dyer*

this just in

STYLIN'



Winthrop-based computer bag manufacturer Tekstyl wants you to bag your old laptop tote and slide your computer into one of its "hybrid" covers. Tekstyl's bags wrap around your laptop, so you can open it up and log on without removing the bag, thus protecting your machine from the bumps and scrapes of life on the road. The company has been around for about a year and recently added a few custom patterns (Hawaiian, anyone?) to its line. Solid-color bags start at $65 and are available at www.tekstyl.com.

—*Ezra Dyer*

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around town

SPRING COCKTAILS

Flowers aren't the only thing popping up in the city this spring. Enjoy the warmer weather with a seasonal drink:

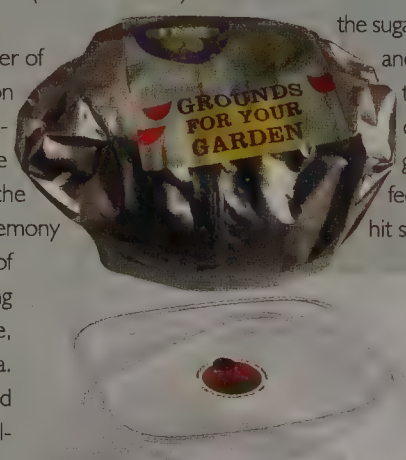
1. No. 10: Gin, Campari and fresh squeezed pink grapefruit juice, served straight up. $11. *Available through May at No. 9 Park, 9 Park St., Boston.*
2. Bonfire Bleu: Gin or vodka well shaken in a martini glass with bleu cheese–stuffed olives. $9.50. *Available through the summer at Bonfire, 50 Park Plaza, Boston.*
3. Carnival: Pineapple-infused vodka, Cointreau and white grape juice, topped with a float of dessert wine, garnished with frozen berries. $11. *Available through Labor Day at 33 Restaurant & Lounge, 33 Stanhope St., Boston.*
4. Palm Beach Cooler: Melon vodka, Barcardi Limón rum and watermelon Schnapps mixed with fresh-squeezed orange juice, lime juice and grenadine. $6.50. *Available until Labor Day at Coolidge Corner Clubhouse, 307 Harvard St., Brookline.*
5. Beacon Hill Blizzard: Dark rum, Malibu rum, cranberry juice and grapefruit juice, served over ice. $6.50. *Available through Memorial Day weekend at Kennedy's Midtown, 42 Province St., Boston.*
6. Watermelon Mojito: White or dark rum with fresh watermelon juice, soda and a splash of Sprite, muddled with mint and garnished with a sugar cane. $9. *Available through August at Bomboa, 35 Stanhope St., Boston.*

tasty tidbits

A BIT CORNY

Corn to Be Wild... Corn—used in such commonplace items as beer, disposable diapers and cheese spread—has a new, environmentally friendly use. Natural foods retailer Wild Oats Natural Marketplace has recently introduced biodegradable food containers made out of corn. Although they're most definitely inedible, they are good for packaging all your cold deli items, from fruit to pasta salad. We've been warned, however, not to pop these babies in the microwave—high temperatures cause the containers to disintegrate. *2151 Mystic Valley Parkway, Medford (781-395-4998). www.wildoats.com.*

Icing on the Cake... We knew it was only a matter of time before some kind of hall of fame came calling on Todd English. The prestigious James Beard Foundation recently announced its plans to welcome the celebrity restaurateur into its HOF for foodies, the Who's Who of Food and Beverage, in a May 10 ceremony at the New York Marriott Marquis. English's empire of Italian kitchens (Olives, Figs, Bonfire) lands him among the ranks of Who's Who inductees like Alain Ducasse, Jeffrey Steingarten and Nobuyuki "Nobu" Matsuhisa. Not bad company. In other English news, The Todd has created a special artichoke heart pizza that is available at Figs restaurants until May 15 (the date of the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer). Proceeds from the pie benefit Men with Heart, a group of philanthropic fellows who raise money to fight breast cancer.



Top: Free compost from Starbucks. Bottom: Wild Oats' eco-friendly corn containers.

Green Beans... In honor of the upcoming International Compost Awareness Week (May 2-8) we thought it appropriate to alert the public to a little-known fact: Used coffee grounds are great for your garden, and they're available daily at Starbucks—for free. The coffee conglomerate began the Grounds for Your Garden program nine years ago after it commissioned a study that determined that coffee grounds' high nitrogen content make it a good composting agent. Happily, the giveaways are a great way for Starbucks to get rid of its yucky used coffee. Spent grounds are available in recycled packaging at all 'bucks locations on a first-come-first-serve basis. *www.starbucks.com.*

Chew on This... Remember Jolt, the old-school energy drink with "all the sugar and twice the caffeine"? Well, it's staging a comeback, and this time it's chewable. Jolt Caffeine-Energy Gum is the brainchild of the amped-up cola lords and their chewy counterparts at GumRunners LLC. Packed with guarana, ginseng and caffeine (about half a cup of coffee's worth per piece), the spearmint and icy mint flavors hit shelves two months ago and are causing a "buzz" on local college campuses. According to GumRunners co-founder Kevin Gass, "Within five minutes, [the caffeine] is in your blood, as opposed to coffee that has to snake though your digestive tract." So, why is Boston the ideal market for caffeinated gum? Gass gives three simple reasons: "the students, the tech population and Boston's a fun, nightlife kind of town."

—EH., J.I., Courtney Hollands, Jordan Salvatoriello and Lauren Vane

sam says

CURL POWER



Since curly hair is en vogue right now and the trend seems to have staying power, I decided to put a new product to the test to see if it delivered the smooth, springy look everyone is after. Curl Friends, the new line by Milanese curl guru Antonio Soddu, is specifically formulated for girls with curls and includes 11 products that promise to calm frizz without any fuss. I volunteered a few co-workers to act as guinea pigs, and the results were visible within days. Soft, well-defined curls replaced frizz and flyaways, and the S.O.S. Extreme Conditioner and the Humidity Blocker Leave-in Conditioner were standouts. The hair care line is available at select salons and at www.curlfriends.com, where you can also find styling tips and a free package of sample size products ($8.95 for shipping).

—Samantha House

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Drollery and Democrats... Quick with a quip? Got a head for politics? The Comedy Connection hosts two events this spring for those would-be comedy stars. Improv troupe Chicago City Limits and Bass Ale want you to bring your best gibes to their upcoming Boston auditions (April 15, 22 and 29; call 781-662-0725 for locations) for a chance to win up to $1,000. The winner will be announced at the Reach for Greatness Bass Red Triangle Comedy Tour show May 26 at the Comedy Connection. If you lack verbal comedy chops but have a face like a donkey, the Comedy Connection is holding auditions May 16 for Democrat doppelgangers to participate in a series of Democratic National Convention shows. *(617-248-9700).*

The Look for Less... If cheap chic is your style, you're probably already a fan of Second Time Around, the clothing consignors specializing in "previously loved" designer duds. Now, the vintage vendors have expanded into the realm of furniture. Their new Harvard Square store offers "gently used," high-end sofas, bed sets, coffee tables and other home goods. They plan to carry name brands like Ethan Allen, Crate and Barrel and Adesso, as well as a few antiques—at about a third to a quarter of the retail price. As always, the shop is looking for new wares. But only those with designer label furnishings less than five years old need apply. *One Brattle Square, Cambridge (617-266-7446). www.secondtimearound.net.*

Second Skins... We can't imagine how good a pair of $60 pantyhose must look. The chichi panty mavens at Wolford Boutique set up shop in Copley Place April 15, and for their customers, price is no object. Known for its luxe hosiery (control-top sheers go for $55) and other fancy undergarments, the shop also sells gear like bodysuits and camisoles, designed by Vivienne Westwood and Karl Lagerfeld, ranging from $300 to $800. If that's out of your budget, you can always hit up the new Victoria's Secret at the other end of the mall (opening in May), where sheer control-tops cost about $8.50.

Gems on the Hill... Charles Street is becoming a leading contender in the accessories and trinkets market. The Ruby Door is the latest such vendor to move into Beacon Hill's shopping promenade—it opened on March 31. Owner/jewelry designer Tracey Weiss took over the space formerly occupied by the Beauty Mark (which moved down the street) to showcase her jewelry, as well as handbags, belts and other accessories. The necklaces, bracelets and earrings range from bulky and bright, like a lemon citrine choker for $850, to dainty and delicate, like iolite and blue chalcedony earrings for $95. *92B Pinckney St., Boston (617-720-2001). www.therubydoor.com.*



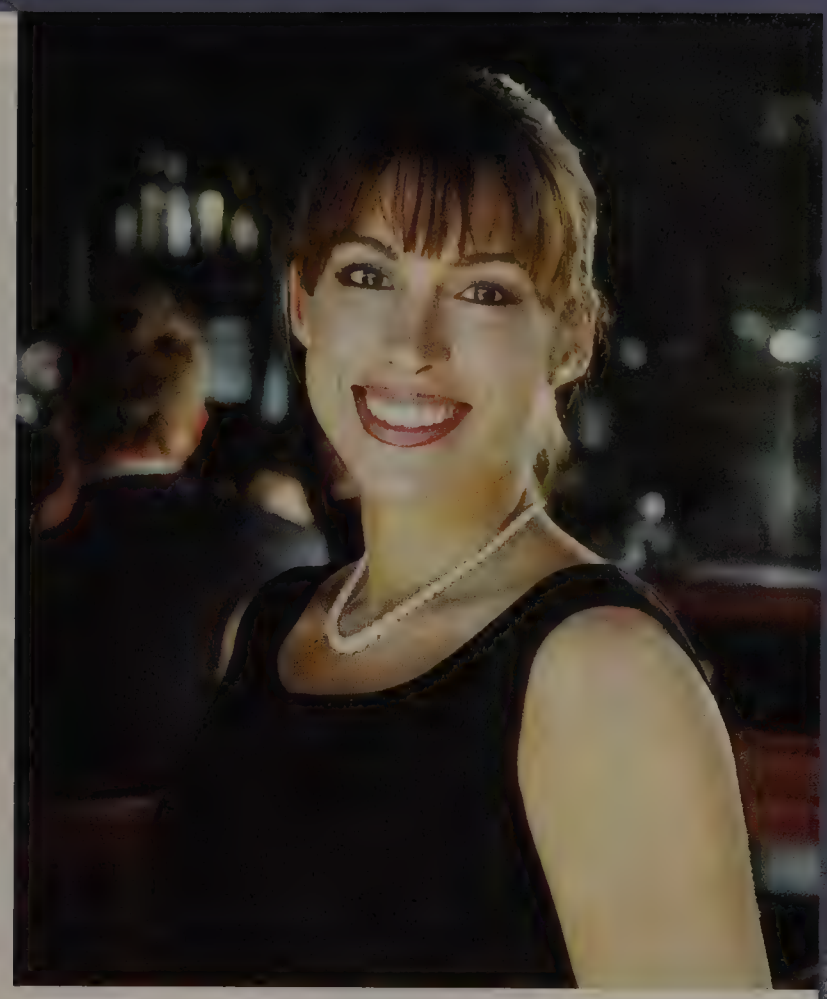
Bags at 1154 Lill Studio

Bag Ladies... With handbag designer emerging as the choice second career of the moment (Gwen Stefani, Nicky Hilton, Monica Lewinsky), we weren't surprised to find two new handbag specialty shops with virtually the same concept: Anna William opened in Porter Square March 20, and 1154 Lill Studio set up March 26 on Newbury Street. Their common schtick? Customizing. Both allow shoppers to mix and match styles and fabrics to create their own one-of-a-kind bag or buy one ready made. Anna William offers more than 150 fabrics in about 18 styles, while Lill has more than 20 bags available in hundreds of fabrics. At both places, friends can book a private handbag party where they can bring their own food and make some bags. Anna William, *2014 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-2662), www.annawilliam.com. Lill Studio, 220 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-1154), www.1154lill.com. —E.H., J.I. and J.S.*

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PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY













The Joshua Frase Foundation hosted the **7th Annual Muscle Dream Team Gala** April 1 at the Boston Harbor Hotel. More than 400 party-goers gathered to help 11-year NFL veteran Paul Frase and his wife, Alison, in their mission to find a cure for their son's neuromuscular disorder. The Frase family created the JFF in 1995 when their son, Joshua, was diagnosed with myotubular myopathy. Over the last six years, the JFF Muscle Dream Team has raised almost $2.5 million toward the fight against this illness.

1. From left: **Greg Hill**, morning personality for WAAF 103.7; his wife, **Jennifer**; and **Lenny Clarke**, comedian and star of the ABC television show *It's All Relative*.
2. From left: **Jeff Thomason**, former Philadelphia Eagles tight end; **Glen Foley**, former New York Jets QB; and **Chad Hennings**, Dallas Cowboys defensive tackle.
3. From left: **Laura Zecca**, event chair; **Paul Frase**, former Green Bay Packers defensive end, and his wife, **Alison**.
4. **Leila Gebeili**, volunteer for the JFF and **Jesse Palmer**, New York Giants QB and star of ABC-TV's *The Bachelor*.
5. **Bob Davis** (left), partner at Highland Capital Partners in Lexington, and **Alex Zecca**, vice president of Tudor Investments.
6. **Todd Philcox**, former Cleveland Browns QB, and his wife, **Amy**.

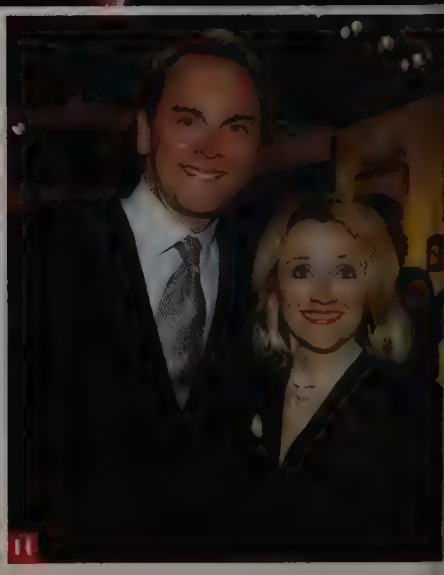
The Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston hosted its annual **Boston Art & Antiques Show benefit preview and party** April 1 at the Boston Park Plaza Castle. More than 350 guests gathered to preview art and antiques from more than 40 national and international dealers. The evening featured a live auction with items including the chance to throw a ceremonial first pitch at a Red Sox game and sit in the owners' dugout seats. More than $250,000 was raised for BGCB's five clubhouses and the 8,600 young people the organization serves.











7. **Lydia Shire**, chef and co-owner of Locke-Ober and Excelsior, and **Patrick Lyons**, president of the Lyons Group.
8. From left: **Mike Carson**, general manager for WCVB-TV Channel 5; **Linda Whitlock**, president and CEO of the Boys & Girls Club; and **Robert Cleary**, president and CEO of the Robert Cleary Group.
9. **Bob Kraft**, CEO of the New England Patriots, and his wife, **Myra**.
10. **John Henry** (right), owner of the Boston Red Sox, and his wife, **Peggy**.
11. **Jeffrey Bilhuber**, owner of Bilhuber and Associates in New York, and **Jill Goldweitz**, director of special events for the Boys & Girls Clubs.







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ELMER'S GLUED

Tony Soprano is under less surveillance than I am

It's been a while since I've updated you on the exploits of my next-door neighbor, Elmer, so here's a quick refresher: Elmer looks like Grandpa Simpson, has lived in my building for at least 15 years, and for some tenuous building-management reason has keys to my apartment.

Elmer needs to get out more. Actually, if he got out at all, that would be more. I'm confident that if the government sent him to live with Pakistani tribesmen for a few months, he'd find Osama bin Laden just by barging into people's tents and claiming he had to inspect their furnaces. Since I live in a "garden level" apartment, the furnaces for the building are behind one of my walls, and recent weeks have seen Elmer in my apartment three times with important furnace-related business. He's also been in once to do something with the gas meters, and I recently returned from a trip to find that my bed had been moved to allow access to some type of drain in the floor. I'm waiting for Elmer to reveal that he's also a T mechanic and there's a train in my closet that needs maintenance, if he could just get in there for a second.

The maintenance-related visits are legit, as far as I know. But the fact that Elmer tirelessly monitors everything that happens on the ground floor is starting to get to me. For instance, a couple of months ago I let my laundry sit in the dryer for about a half hour after it was done. When I scooped my clothes out and went to clean the lint trap—leaving a dirty lint trap is a cardinal sin with Elmer—I discovered that it had already been cleaned. So in the half hour since the dryer stopped, Elmer had visited the laundry room and cleaned the lint screen. I suppose this was meant as a friendly gesture, but I found it highly unsettling that Elmer pays so much attention to my laundry. At least I've avoided the situation Roommate Scott found himself in while doing laundry recently, when Elmer made him come into his apartment and learn about all his medications. From what I understand, this wasn't Scott's idea of a good time.

Another night, Elmer came storming out of his apartment at 11:30 when I walked into the hallway from outside. No doubt he was hoping he'd catch the perpetrator of some post–10 pm drying. He was obviously unprepared to see me and made a poor transition out of confrontational mode, blurting, "So, you're home late!" I didn't know how to respond to that, but "And you're being a nosy maniac late!" would have been appropriate.

The next example of the omnipresence of Elmer came when something died in the ceiling and stunk up my apartment. The odor was stifling, but the prospect of discovering the source of the smell was worse. If I poked up a ceiling panel and a decomposing rat fell out on my head, I might run through the wall like the Kool-Aid man and not stop until I reached McLean Hospital for a lobotomy.

I took a "let's wait this thing out, it can't decompose forever" strategy and began airing out the apartment by cracking the door to the small courtyard we share with Elmer. Since it was cold out, I never left the door open for very long. But one night I absentmindedly left it wide open while I was out for a few hours. When I returned, the door was closed. Did Elmer close it, and if so, how did he know it was open in the first place? He could've closed it from outside, but why would he be outside in the cold when there's nothing on his side of the courtyard but gravel? Is it possible the wind somehow sucked it closed? I can't be sure, and this uncertainty is spreading to other aspects of my life—are we going through toilet paper inordinately fast, or is that my imagination? I also had a dream the other night that it was I, not Scott, who got the medication tour and it took me quite a while to get back to sleep after my Nightmare on Elmer Street. Elmer moves with ninja silence in his fuzzy slippers, and he's all up in my head.

IF ELMER WERE SENT TO LIVE WITH PAKISTANI TRIBESMEN, HE'D FIND BIN LADEN JUST BY BARGING INTO PEOPLE'S TENTS TO INSPECT THEIR FURNACES

Ultimately, Elmer is harmless. But my personal paparazzo definitely needs another outlet for his considerable time and energy—the other day he called the building manager about a rattling hot-water pipe in *my* kitchen sink. I'm probably the only guy in Boston praying for a Wal-Mart to go up next to his apartment. Elmer would make one hell of a greeter, and I'm pretty sure their hardware department carries locks. IB

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Soroff ON

JOAN RIVERS

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Entertainer, fashion plate and truth-teller Joan Rivers was born and raised in New York, the daughter of Russian immigrants. She came to national prominence in 1965, with an appearance on the *Tonight Show*, and was eventually named Johnny Carson's permanent guest host. Her list of accomplishments includes writing eight books, appearances in eight feature films and countless television shows, a nationally syndicated radio program, three Broadway plays and stints as a syndicated newspaper and magazine columnist. She also developed a successful line of jewelry and skin care products for QVC, and she maintains a grueling schedule of lectures and public appearances. Among her numerous awards and accolades are a Tony nomination, an Emmy and a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. She is the mother of Melissa, with whom she co-hosts E!'s fashion revues, and doting grandmother to 3-year-old Cooper Endicott. From April 29–May 1, Rivers brings her one-woman show, *Joan Rivers Broke and Alone*, to the Wilbur Theatre.

Jonathan Soroff: *We're so excited you're coming to Boston.*

Joan Rivers: Well, I'm so excited to come, partly because I'm gonna give back some of the pictures I stole from the Gardner Museum. Not all. Some.

JS: *[Laughs.] Oh? Which ones?*

JR: The Rembrandt I like, but the Vermeer you can have back. I got it home and it just didn't work.

JS: *It clashed with the drapes? So how often do reporters start by saying, "Can we talk?" And how annoying is that?*

JR: About every other one, but it's not annoying, because it means it's entered the vocabulary. Anyway, that was years ago. I don't even use it now. I think these days what I say a lot is, "Am I wrong?"

JS: *What about "Who are you wearing?" which was actually my next question?*

JR: Oh, you're gonna be very sorry you asked. Right now, I'm wearing Manolo Blahnik sling-back orange shoes, a Christian Dior denim jacket and Kmart jeans.

JS: *So where do you shop, or do designers just give you stuff?*

JR: No. That's a myth. They lend you stuff and they pull it off your back like Cinderella. I have a wonderful man who finds things for me based on what I need. He's a genius. I don't have time to shop. Besides, every time you do go into a department store, they think, "Oh, here comes a rich celebrity," and they pull out the most expensive stuff, and then you feel terrible if it doesn't look good.

JS: *So what qualifies you to pass judgment on the way other people look?*

MY ACCOUNTANT SAID TO ME, "I'VE GOTTA ADMIT, YOU'VE HAD A GREAT LIFE." I DON'T REGRET ONE PAIR OF MANOLO BLAHNIKS OR ONE ANTIQUE I EVER BOUGHT.

JR: Unlike, say, Steven Cojocaru, or any of the others? [Laughs.] When I look back, I've always adored clothes. I worked my way through college as a fashion coordinator, doing window displays and fashion shows. I was always working in retail, so if I hadn't wound up in show-biz, there's really a very solid background there. Plus, Joan Rivers Jewelry I've been designing now for 14 years…

JS: *Do you think you define the word* chutzpah?

JR: No. I think I define the word *truth.*

JS: *How about one thing you'd never joke about?*

JR: There's nothing. If something is funny, it's funny.

JS: *Who would win in a dissing contest—you or Don Rickles?*

JR: I love him. Off-stage, he would win. On-stage, I would.

JS: *Meanest joke you ever told?*

JR: I don't think I've made a mean joke. I think I've told the truth. A lot of people can't take the truth, or they don't want to hear it.

JS: *Is there a joke you ever regretted?*

JR: Not really. Years ago, I had a line in my act that Willie Nelson was so dirty he wore a roach motel around his neck. Cute. Not even a great joke. Anyway, his daughter wrote me and said, "They're teasing me in school." I took it out immediately.

JS: *In the picture of you that I'm looking at, what percentage is the original Joan Rivers?*

JR: This is a very good topic, because I am so f---ing sick of women who lie about it. Around eight years ago, I was sitting someplace with all these great beauties—Sophia Loren, this one, that one—who were all saying, "I've never had any work done." Well, I knew the doctors that did them. I said, "This is so unfair, to tell the public, 'I'm a natural beauty, but you're not.'" So I came out very publicly and said I've done things. Now I've become the poster girl for plastic surgery, which I don't mind. Whipping girl, I do resent. I've had a facelift, my nose thinned, and I do little bits and pieces. I think every woman should. It's maintenance. You polish your car. You repaint your house…

JS: *Do you think you're more beautiful now?*

JR: I never thought I was beautiful then. I don't think I'm beautiful now.

JS: *Any cosmetic surgery you regret?*

JR: On myself, or on friends?

JS: *[Laughs.] Either.*

JR: I haven't done that much, so no. But my advice is to go to a very good doctor.

JS: *So which of your many endeavors has earned you the most money?*

JR: None. I have never owned anything. I was an employee all my life, and now that I'm an old, has-been, over-the-hill, pathetic, dead woman with a toe tag, I'm suddenly realizing I should've owned something all these years, you stupid bitch.

JS: *So you don't consider yourself rich?*

JR: Oh, God no. But I've sent a lotta kids to college, taken care of a lot of friends and relatives and people around me. I've given away lots of pieces of the pie, and I've lived very, very well. My accountant the other day was yelling at me, as usual, and then he said, "But I gotta admit. You've had a great life." I don't regret one pair of Manolo Blahniks or one antique I ever bought.

JS: *How about the sex life?*

JR: It's been great, thank you very much.

JS: *Celebrity who bugs the living shit out of you?*

JR: Russell Crowe. The arrogance of this man. I've been around a long time. I've seen them come and go. I've interviewed them when they were hot, and when they were cold. And you just want to say, "If you're not enjoying it while it's happening, what a fool you are." I mean, $20 million a picture, and the world loves me and an Academy Award. Oh, that's enough to make me punch a wall. What a moron. [Laughs.]

JS: *Worst-dressed woman in public life?*

JR: Well, Bjork, of course, defines the whole thing.

JS: *Personal motto?*

JR: Never look back, and always wear blinders. Don't worry about the person next to you. Keep your eye on your own ball.

JS: *OK, so when does Take Your Daughter to Work Day end and Melissa get a real job?*

JR: Oh, again, this annoys the living shit outta me. Look at her life. She started out on CBS *This Morning*, then went to MTV and she did E! ahead of me. She's also a spokeswoman for, I think, Bounty tissues. She does all the fashion for E! She did *I'm a Celebrity—Get Me out of Here!* And yes, she does the fashion awards with me. But why don't people look at her career and stop picking on her because they don't like me.

JS: *She's like Mini-Me. Ever consider making action figures of yourselves?*

JR: Anything, if there's a buck in it. [Laughs.] Mine would be an action figure that rushes into a department store and snatches up all the shoes.

JS: *In your press bio, your publicist misspelled the Hasty Pudding Club at Harvard as "Hasting Pudding." Are you afraid of angry Harvard people protesting in front of the Wilbur?*

JR: That's hilarious. But those people at Harvard probably spell worse than my poor little publicist.

JS: *So what's left for you to conquer?*

JR: Everything. I haven't peaked yet. It may be my Broadway show that goes into rehearsal in January. I'm going to do another tour of England.

JS: *So you plan to pop off while you're working?*

JR: Absolutely! What else is there? This is the best business in the world. IB



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THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS



TIME TO DREAM AGAIN

The Red Sox have put the 2003 season behind them. Now so should we.

Growing up in Peabody, I idolized Jim Edward Rice. One reason, among others, was that he lived in my hometown. At one point, my sister was baby-sitter to Jim Ed's kids, and he would drive her home in his Mercedes or Porsche. Life was good.

As a boy who grew up loving baseball, I remember thinking how great it would be to play like him. Rice was a Hall-of-Fame caliber player who was certain to be celebrating with New Englanders everywhere after finally winning the World Series. Forget about that long-ago-shattered dream—I now have plenty of recent painful memories of the Sox getting so close to finally doing it in 2003.

I'm fortunate to earn my living watching the Red Sox as an NECN sportscaster, and guys who've been in this business 20, 30, even 40 years have never seen a Red Sox victory parade. Here I am in my fifth year, and the carrot is so close I can almost reach out and bite it. Last year, all the anguish was finally coming to an end. The Sox clinched the wild card, scoring runs at a record pace. After beating the A's, Manny Ramirez, who hadn't said boo all spring, summer and fall, not only broke his silence but hugged me on live TV like I was his long-lost brother. A few minutes later, Lou Merloni drenched me with champagne, ruining my cell phone. No big deal—I expensed it to the station. After all, no cost is too big when a dream is about to be realized.

Next of course came the Yankees for all the marbles in the American League. It was Joe DiMaggio vs. Ted Williams. Craig Nettles vs. Bill Lee. Thurman Munson vs. Carlton Fisk. Nomar vs. Jeter. The list goes on. As much as we in New England hate to admit it, the Yankees own the Red Sox (World Series count since 1918: Yankees 26, Red Sox 0). But why not start a new count beginning in 2003—Red Sox 1, Yankees 0?

I'll never forget the ride to Game 7 at Yankee Stadium. After Game 6, when the Red Sox somehow beat Andy Pettitte to a pulp, eventually winning 9-6, David Ortiz whispered in my ear, "We are going to (bleeping) win this thing."

I agreed. How could I not? Pedro Martinez was pitching Game 7. My concern turned toward the inevitable riot back in Boston after the game. I was glad the clinching game was in the House That Ruth Built. Take that curse and shove it.

The only thing left was, well, the game. According to plan, Pedro was painting a masterpiece. The Red Sox bats sent Roger Clemens sailing, which was pretty special.

As Game 7 moved closer to the eighth inning I was going to be prepared. Heck, I've been getting ready for this for 30 years. According to my guy at the cleaners, my Hugo Boss suit wouldn't be a good mix with champagne, so I changed into my backup clothes: I put on my windbreaker, the same one I wore for the playoff-clinching win, the same one I put on when the Sox beat the A's in Oakland to get to the ALCS, the same one I would eventually wear for their World Series win. I was ready.

Cocky? Nah. Confident.

Even though I was there in person with a cameraman by my side recording everything for posterity, the eighth inning and thereafter were a blur. It's all still a blur.

Fast-forward to the start of the 2004 season, as I pack my bags to head to Baltimore for Opening Day. The Patriots have since won another Super Bowl, but the Red Sox

IT'S OPENING DAY, BUT IT FEELS LIKE OCTOBER AGAIN. INSTEAD OF YANKEE STADIUM, IT'S CAMDEN YARDS.

are still on my mind. Where did Grady Little go? Todd Walker, the Red Sox' playoff MVP, is gone too. You know something is really different when Lou Merloni is sent packing (though we know he'll be back by July 4).

It's Opening Day, but it feels like October again. Instead of Yankee Stadium, it's Camden Yards in Baltimore. But I walk through the visitors' clubhouse at Camden Yards and see the April date on the wall.

Looking around, not much has changed after all. Kevin Millar is smiling. So is David Ortiz, rocking to some music. And Manny Ramirez is back to, well, being Manny Ramirez, this year sporting a hat that clearly came from P. Diddy's closet. The time warp doesn't seem to bother anybody, and for good reason. These Red Sox have convinced themselves that it's officially time to move on.

As should I. It's time to set my windbreaker aside, break down all the Red Sox problems (Pedro's fastball, Nomar's contract), and try this thing all over again.

Baseball in Boston—is there anything better? IB



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the beauty issue



SPRING'S FAB FIVE 20



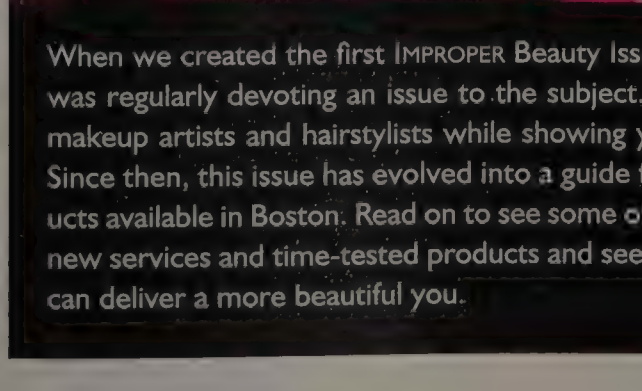
BEAUTY AND THE BOYS



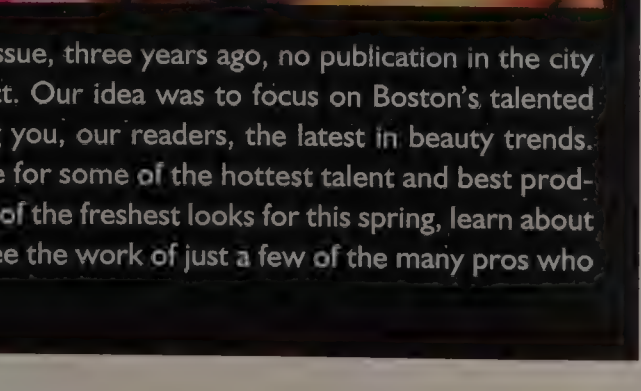
VARIETY: THE SPAS OF LIFE 30



BEAUTY'S BEST



HOW TO GIVE YOURSELF A MAKEOVER 32



MAN THE MIRROR

When we created the first IMPROPER Beauty Issue, three years ago, no publication in the city was regularly devoting an issue to the subject. Our idea was to focus on Boston's talented makeup artists and hairstylists while showing you, our readers, the latest in beauty trends. Since then, this issue has evolved into a guide for some of the hottest talent and best products available in Boston. Read on to see some of the freshest looks for this spring, learn about new services and time-tested products and see the work of just a few of the many pros who can deliver a more beautiful you.

SPRING'S

makeup and hair hits for spring and beyond

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE

PHOTOGRAPHS BY FURNALD/GRAY



hair

Try mixing up curly and straight pieces to achieve a textured style. It makes hair look fuller and can easily transition from day to evening. You can even tie it back loosely with a sparkly clip for a black-tie affair.

makeup

Colors like teal and bright blue are big this spring and are flattering on almost everyone. If wearing too much makes you feel like a drag queen, just line the tops and bottoms of your eyes with a bright eye pencil for a more subtle effect.

Hair by Charles Makso
Makeup M.A

FAB five



hair

Vamp it up Brigitte Bardot–style in this modern take on a sexy classic. Pull hair up into a loose French twist, letting pieces hang down for a truly seductive look.

makeup

An ultra-bright pout is a great way to modernize your makeup collection this season. Try sheer colors like hot pink or orange. They're surprisingly flattering and not-so-surprisingly playful.

Hair by Mitch Derosa for
Mitchell John Salon
Makeup by Giorgio Armani

hair

Soft, natural waves are all the rage. Trade in your straightening iron for curlers and a light spritz of hairspray.

makeup

The newest romantic hues are pinks and lavenders. Wear them light or bright; both send the same girly message.

Hair by Seth Selman for James Joseph Salon
Makeup by Stila





hair

Classic updos are back. Whether you want to channel Audrey Hepburn or stick with something simpler by slicking your hair back, sleek styles steal the glances. Don't save this look for a black-tie affair. Sophistication is on the menu for any event this year.

makeup

The days of dark, smoky eyes are over (or at least on hold). The new eye is lightly smoky, with flattering colors like pinks and greens. Add a brown line on the rim and berry-stained lips to polish it off.

Hair by Janet Warner for Ecocentrix
Makeup by Clinique

Makeup Artists: Jenny Brown, Kelli Redlin, Tim Quinn and Debbie Goldstein.

Models: Donovan, Kelly, Christine, Dianne and Jamie. All for Maggie, Inc.

hair

"Hollywood with a twist" consists of finger waves and deep curls, tousled to frame your face. This relaxed style bounces ever so slightly as you saunter down the red carpet.

makeup

Take a page out of the movie-star style book by sticking to classics like darkly drawn cat-eyes and red lips.

Hair by Michael Rossi for Ava
Makeup by Chane

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Bumble and bumble.

beauty AND THE BOYS

WE ASKED, THEY ANSWERED. BOSTON MEN TELL US HOW THEY REALLY FEEL ABOUT THE WAY WOMEN LOOK.

BY JESSICA IREDALE



Every morning and night—and countless times in between—at mirrors across the world, women set their faces centimeters from their reflection, steady their hands and go for that last, painstakingly perfect dash of eyeliner. Except for the lowest of low-maintenance women (we're talking, soap, water and possibly ChapStick), chances are the eyeliner is only one step in a complex beauty routine designed to impress an audience composed partially of the competition (other women) and mainly of the prey: men. But are the hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars that a woman spends each year on blushes, shadows, manis, pedis, waxing and a head full of highlights wasted on a species that couldn't differentiate between smoky eyes and conjunctivitis if their lives depended on it?

In the name of all things skin deep, we surveyed a group of average Joes between the ages of 24 and 36 to find out exactly what looks men like and dislike. We covered the important topics, such as what trends should be forever banned and which hair color is most attractive. (In our extremely unscientific survey, 57 percent preferred brunette and 43 percent preferred blonde! Yet 71 percent said they notice blondes first.) Read on to learn what our guys think about what women do (or don't do) to beautify themselves.

Is there a particular hairstyle you think is especially unflattering or unattractive?

Perms. —MIKE, 29

Younger women should keep it shoulders or beyond. Really short hair is for older ladies. —JUSTIN, 27

Pigtails! —BOB, 29

The bob went out in the '20s, the scuz went out with Sinead O'Connor. Nowadays the only faux pas is bangs. Hello '80s. —NATHAN, 24

Unnatural-looking highlights. —GREGG, 35

Long, straight hair, like down to the waist. It just doesn't go anywhere, and unless you're Crystal Gayle, it looks like crap. —ANDREW, 31

What do you think about heavy eye makeup, smoky eyes, colored eye shadow?

Booooooooo. (Wait, what are "smoky eyes"?) —ANDREW, 31

I really like the whole Egyptian eye look, and smoky eyes are attractive on some women but make others look like battered wives. —NATHAN 24

Awful, awful, and awful. Don't these girls have friends? Somebody help them. —GREGG, 35

It's OK if it is tastefully done, but everything has its limits. The less a woman can get away with the better. —JUSTIN, 27

Take it easy on the eye makeup. —PATRICK, 26

Whatever. —MATT, 29

How do you feel about women applying makeup in front of you? Is it a turn-on, or do you think it should be kept in the bathroom?

Lipstick is really the only makeup I would like to see applied in my presence. I want women to look beautiful, but I'm not interested in how they do it. —NATHAN, 24

It depends where we are. If we're engaged in a conversation (i.e., at a dinner table), she might

as well announce that she's a materialistic, self-indulgent, insecure person. In a more causal environment or even in the car it's fine. It's only insulting if it's in the face of a one-on-one conversation. —MIKE, 29

It's definitely a turn-on, as long as it doesn't take forever. But it's nice to be surprised if they do it in private. —HOWIE, 30

Couldn't care less. —LEIGH, 36

I have no problem with women applying makeup in front of me. Can't imagine why any man would. —GREGG, 35

What about lipstick? If you go out on a date with a woman who's wearing a bright shade, or lots of shiny lip gloss, are you less or more likely to want to kiss her?

Lipstick, no thanks. Smells funny, feels funny, tastes funny. Lip gloss, I might be more likely to want to kiss her. Is it flavored lip gloss? What flavor? Because I'm down for grape, but I don't do those foreign fruits, like kiwi and mango and all that junk. —ANDREW, 31

I don't feel that the shade of lipstick or glossy lips has anything whatsoever to do with wanting to kiss someone. —BOB, 29

I love kissing women who wear flavored lip gloss, since it tastes good and gives me some extra sheen. I do not like kissing women who are wearing globs of bright lipstick, since it just gets messy. Although a perfectly planted smooch on the cheek with some hooker-red color can make a guy look like the man. —NATHAN, 24

Is it a turnoff when you get into bed with a girl and her legs aren't perfectly shaved?

I would never ask for perfectly shaved legs all the time. When they grow out of control, or stubble begins to draw blood, is when it becomes an issue.
—BOB, 29

Yes! But I understand if it has been a day or two. A tiny amount of stubble is normal, but four or five days worth is almost insulting. —MIKE, 29

Just as long as they have been shaved within the last two days. —ZACH, 26

Only if she's ugly. —LEIGH, 36

Does perfume affect your attraction to a woman? Do you even notice it? Is there a particular scent you're attracted to or that you're offended by?

Yes, perfume is noticed. I like soft floral scents. —MATT, 29

Subtle, subtle, subtle. I don't want to smell the girl before I see her! I want to barely notice that she's even wearing any. Otherwise I wonder what it is she's trying to cover up! —GREGG, 35

Yes, very much so! I love Oui and Happy and B&B Juniper Breeze and Sun-Ripened Raspberry on a woman. I hate the smell of baby powder and anything that smells like what an old woman would wear. —JASON, 27

I should only smell it after I've made the decision to get close. —LEIGH, 36

It definitely heightens the attraction to someone in whom I'm already interested. I don't think it would make me notice someone I'm not otherwise attracted to, though. On the flip side, it can be a total turn-off when the scent is *too* strong and overpowering, or if it's the scent my grandmother wears. —HOWIE, 30

Just like everything else in life, moderation is key. I like perfume, since it's much better than body odor. At the same time, too much of even the best smell can kill the night. I like most perfumes but really hate coconut and Bath & Body Works fruity stuff—makes me ill. —NATHAN, 24

What are your feelings on bikini lines? What's your ideal: Brazilian (landing strip); trimmed, but not porn-star style; au natural; or not a strand in sight? Have you ever encountered a bikini line you didn't like?

Bald kind of wigs me out. I like the yard to have really nice edgework—the length of the grass on the interior is less important. —MIKE, 29

No preference, but there should be grass on the field.
—LEIGH, 36

As long as it's in check, it's fine with me. —JUSTIN, 27

I'd say any of the above—except if "au natural" looks like a forest, get to work with some hedge clippers.
—ANDREW, 31

I like a trimmed triangle. —JASON, 27

Oh boy, touchy subject. I think you said it correctly: "Trimmed, but not porn-star style." Well-maintained.
—BOB, 29

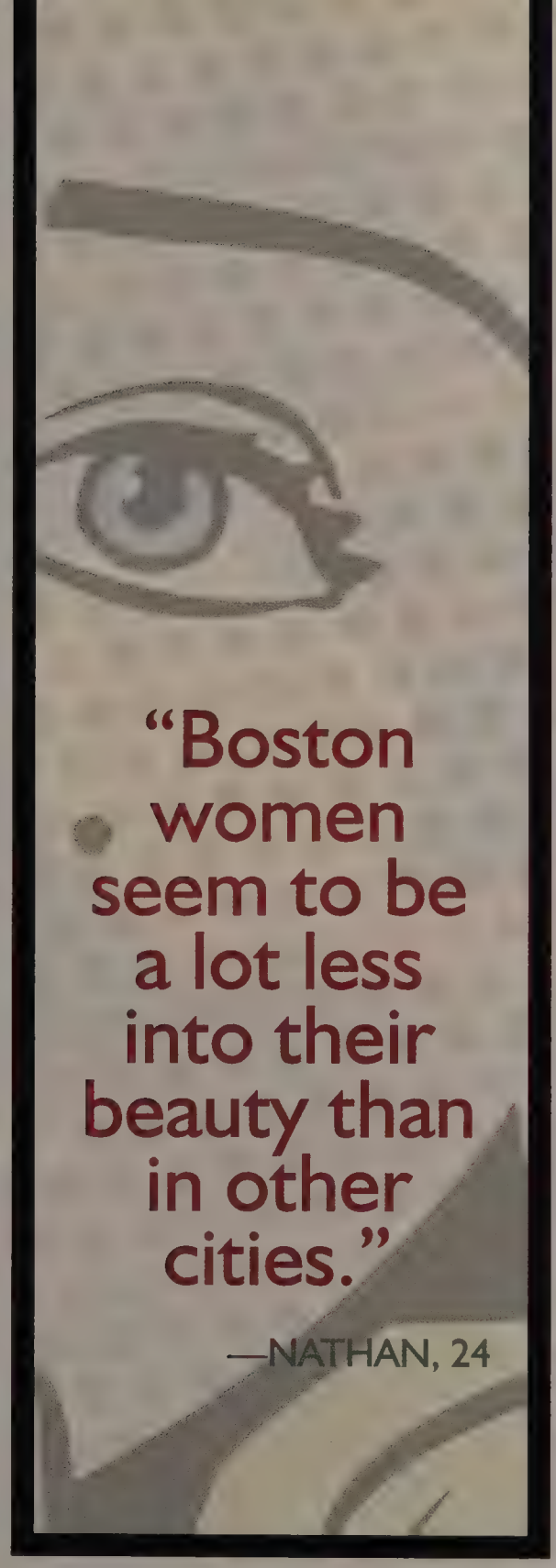
What's a beauty routine (or hairstyle or makeup trend) you wish you could permanently put an end to?

Just go easy on the makeup. Not to sound like your dad, but it makes a lot of you look like drag queens. —ANDREW, 31

Blow-drying. Sometimes it messes up the reception on my TV. —MIKE, 29

This new "bring back the '80s," flare-hairstyles-and-makeup look has got to go. It's not funny or fun.
—BOB, 29

Caked-on makeup. —PAUL, 25



How do you feel about women who get plastic surgery?

Gross. —PATRICK, 26

Gross. —BOB, 29

Not into it. —PAUL, 25

I don't have to worry about that. My wife already has implants. —ZACH, 26

What's one beauty ritual you think should be mandatory for all women?

Leg waxing/shaving, as well as armpit hair removal.
—NATHAN, 24

Exercise. —GREGG, 35

Removal of facial hair—lip and chin. —JASON, 27

Keeping their body hair under control—especially in the nether regions. —HOWIE, 30

Grooming downstairs.
—JUSTIN, 27

How do Boston women compare with women you've known in other cities? Is there any particular characteristic of Boston women's beauty routine or look that is noticeably different?

No question about it, Boston women are fat. Not trying to be mean, but they are. And generally speaking, not nearly as good-looking as in most major U.S. cities. And they have undeserved attitudes. Problem is, you get women in Boston that are a "7" walking around with the attitude of a "10" because they can. Most other cities, they would never get noticed. But in Boston they can strut around like a supermodel.
—GREGG, 35

Boston women seem to be a lot less into their beauty than in other cities. I think this must have something to do with the population as well as the weather. In the prolonged winter months, I feel as if some women let themselves go. Many do not shave their legs. This is not seen in warmer cities where bathing-suit season is year-round. I also feel as if women in Boston just do not put in as much time to "put themselves together" as women in New York do. Compared with my experience in other big cities, the women of Boston are high-spirited and nice but do not cut the cake when it comes to beauty. —NATHAN, 24

Without the constant warm season, I think our Boston ladies do just fine. It's not fair to compare them with say, So-Cal women, who are in the sun all year round. If we can just work on their attitudes a bit, I think we'd all be a lot happier. —MATT, 29 iB



variety

THE SPAS OF LIFE

BORED WITH THE SAME OLD FACIAL, PEDICURE ROUTINE? SHAKE THINGS UP WITH OUT-OF-THE-ORDINARY OFFERINGS AT LOCAL SPAS.

PHOTOGRAPH BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Stroll down Newbury Street (or almost any retail-heavy city block, for that matter) and take a look around. Day spas and salons appear in numbers to rival the boutiques and galleries. Pampering is in no short supply in this city, and if you look beyond the basic treatments (Swedish massages, clarifying facials and seaweed wraps), you'll find some off-the-wall offerings that will raise your impeccably groomed eyebrows. Seeking to separate gimmick from godsend, we tested some of the more unique services available. Here are a few worth checking out.

CHINESE HERBOLOGY WRAP

Since this was my first body treatment, I arrived at Daryl Christopher Salon and Day Spa for my Chinese Herbology Wrap expecting to be slathered with green lotions and bound like a mummy. In fact, the 75-minute treatment began with an oil massage. After I changed into the disposable underwear, I lay facedown on the heated table while aesthetician Waneeta Jones massaged oil down my back and legs. Then she sprinkled the brown, dried herbs over me to create a scratchy paste that calmed, soothed and exfoliated my skin. (The herbs are also said to alleviate water retention.) Halfway through, I moved to my back and she repeated the process on my arms, stomach and legs. After about an hour, Jones told me to get comfortable as she wrapped me in a heated foil sheet (like a baked potato) and blanket and set up heat lights; the idea here is the herbs are absorbed through the skin, and toxins are released through perspiration. Fifteen minutes later, I unwrapped to find the brown paste had virtually disappeared. I jumped in the shower (in room) to remove the excess oil and herbs and found my skin soft as a newborn's bottom. *Daryl Christopher Salon and Day Spa, 37 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-0250). $150.* —*Jessica Iredale*

CRANIOSACRAL THERAPY

I rarely fall asleep on an airplane or when I'm riding in a car. Nor do I nap. So I was shocked when I found myself dozing off during a 50-minute session of craniosacral therapy at Giuliano Spa for Beauty and Wellness. I lay down on the table fully clothed, and therapist Patty Sweeney put one hand under my left hip bone and the other on top, exerting slight pressure from above and below. Then she went around my body, doing the same on my shoulders, neck, ears (gently pushing inward with her thumbs) and the top of my head, before returning to the right hip. The purpose of this therapy, which was developed by Dr. John Upledger in the 1970s, is to improve the flow of the cerebrospinal fluid that surrounds and protects the brain and the spinal cord, thereby enhancing natural healing processes. It's said to help alleviate pain associated with migraines, sinusitis and allergies; scoliosis; TMJ and stress- and tension-related problems. It worked wonders on me…once I woke up. *Giuliano Spa for Beauty and Wellness, 338 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2220). $90.* —*Julie Suratt*

PURE-SCRIPTION SCALP TREATMENT

Before walking into Adamo Day Spa, I'd had one previous scalp massage, and that one was really more like an extended noogie. No such worries here, as therapist Linda Movessian managed to rub the French Phyto brand scalp and hair oil onto my head with nary an agitated follicle. It's one of the idiosyncrasies of the human body that having your hair pulled hard is searingly painful, but having it pulled gently is pleasant enough to lull you to sleep. After my formerly dessicated mop was properly soaked with the oils, Movessian fitted an electric warming wrap on my head that made me look like Lord Dark Helmet in *Spaceballs* but felt mighty nice. You can get a facial while the warming wrap is doing its thing, and through the end of April the 30-minute scalp treatment is free with purchase of a steam and a facial or one-hour massage. Noogie not included. *Adamo Day Spa, 5 Stagecoach Way, Cohasset Village (781-383-3011). $35.* —*Ezra Dyer*

CHAMPAGNE FACIAL

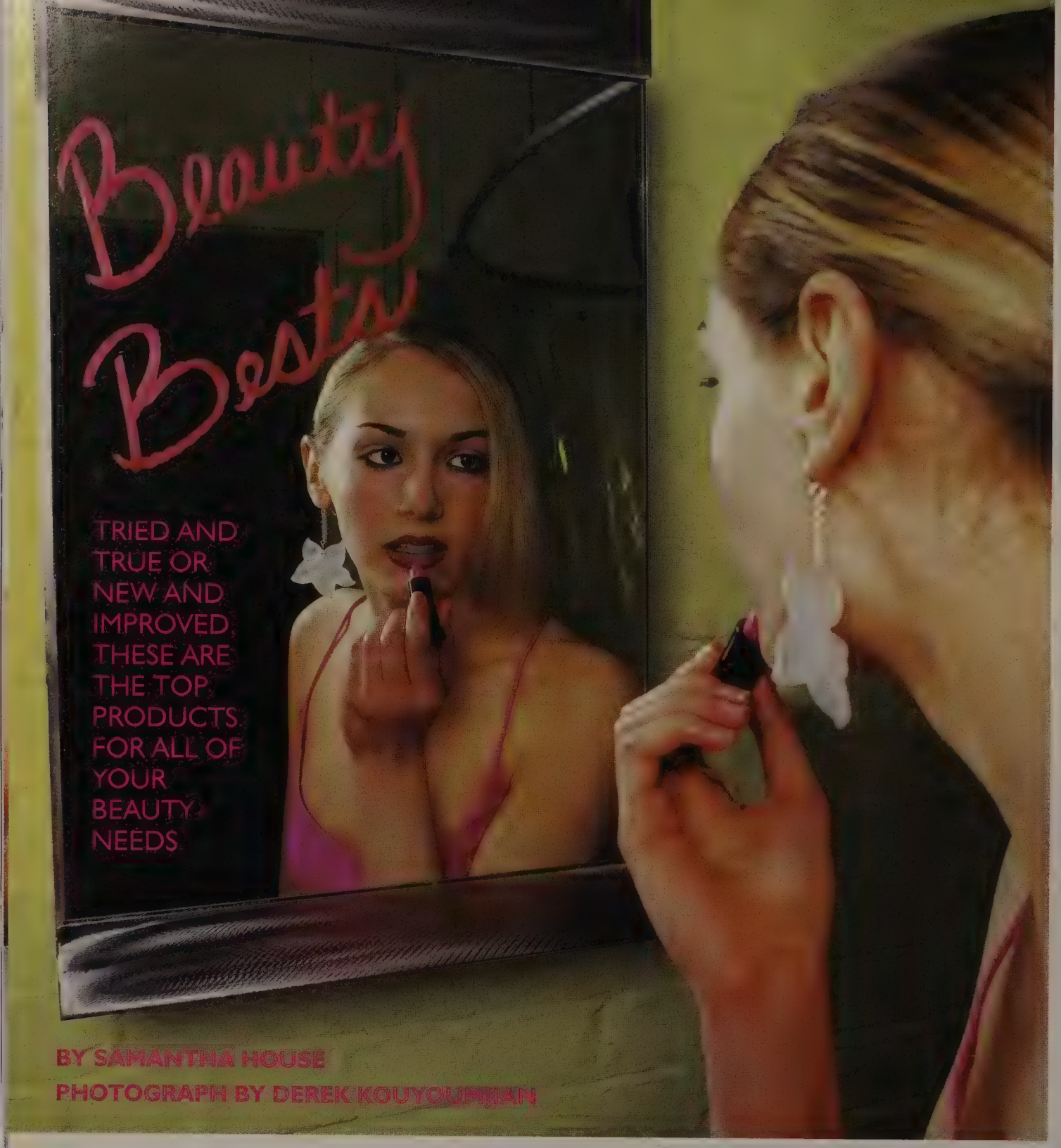
Believe it or not, the Champagne portion of my Champagne Facial at Spring Rain Spa wasn't served in a glass (although a few sips wouldn't have hurt anyone). This rejuvenating facial treatment uses the purported anti-aging and skin-firming benefits of Champagne yeast to promote collagen production and, according to spa owner Natalya Kushpel, "neutralize the damaging effects of free radicals." After I settled comfortably on the table, the aesthetician used a steam machine to open my pores, and then began a face, neck, shoulder and hand massage. Next, she cleansed, exfoliated, rehydrated and performed extractions on my skin. She explained each product and step as she went (a gentle enzyme for exfoliation, a foam mask for moisture). The Champagne yeast (which smelled surprisingly like grape bubble gum) did what was promised. After 75 minutes, my face was smooth, supple and less puffy. I'll drink to that. *Spring Rain Face and Body Spa, Reservoir Plaza, 475 Winter St., Waltham (781-895-0010). $95.* —*Andrea Tolland*

MENAGE-À-SPA

Despite this treatment's seductive name, nothing untoward happened when I went to get my facial/manicure/pedicure at G Spa. I'd experienced all three services before, but not all at once. While the aesthetician scrubbed, masked and extracted, the nail technician went to work on my toes and fingertips. When they were finished, 50 minutes had gone by and I was walking out the door feeling groomed and pretty. This is a great service for people who have little time or no tolerance for long, drawn-out spa treatments. *G Spa, 35 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-4772). $120.* —*Samantha House*

POLARITY THERAPY

Polarity therapy sounds like something you'd see a shrink for, but it's actually a massage treatment developed by Dr. Randolph Stone to balance the body's energy systems (water, heat and air) and release blocked energy. I began my hour-long session at Étant lying on a massage table, fully clothed, minus shoes and socks. Spa owner and polarity therapist Scott St. Cyr cradled my head in his hands and gently pulled to stretch my neck and create space in my upper vertebrae, and then moved to my feet, so I could feel the stretch in my back. After a head, neck, shoulder, foot and ankle massage, he told me he was using his positive and negative poles to move blocked energy. Translation: he applied light pressure to the center of my palms and the bases of my feet, and then again to my upper arm and upper thigh. Next, I rolled onto my stomach and he worked his way up my back, squeezing each vertebra individually. On my way out, St. Cyr imparted words of wisdom, which felt kind of like a horoscope reading. Apparently I'm easily intimidated and give my power away. How he knew that from a little massage is beyond me. Regardless, I left feeling relaxed and centered. *Étant, 524 Tremont St., Boston (617-423-5040). $80.*
—*Jessica Iredale*



BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPH BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

JUST FOR MEN

EYE CREAM

Biotherm Homme Hydra-Detox Yeux, $24 at Macy's. This repairing eye serum moisturizes while brightening the area around the eyes.

SHAVING CREAMS

Fresh Shaving Cream for Men, $22 at Sephora. Doesn't lather, but softens hair and prevents razor burn.

Jack Black Beard Lube, $15 at Sephora. Softens hair and skin.

Philosophy The Common Man, $12 at Sephora. Thicker consistency, gives a close shave.

HAIR-STYLING PRODUCTS

Tigi Bedhead Hair Stick, $19.99 at CVS. Neat and compact, it looks like a deodorant stick and makes hair go where you want it to without being too sticky.

Salon Selectives Control[d] Substance Molding Putty for Short or Thick Hair, $3.99 at drugstores. For a serious hold.

AGE DEFENSE

Biotherm Homme Age Fitness, $40 at Macy's. Slather on day or night to rejuvenate skin.

Elemis Time for Men Skin Survival Cream, $36. A thicker cream that protects and nourishes.

SOAPS

Caswell-Massey Bath Soaps, $7-$35 at Caswell-Massey. These come in many light fragrances that give a thick lather and a clean feeling.

Lush Honey I Washed the Kids Sweet Honey Soap, $5.95 at Lush. Smells sweet and leaves no residue.

HAND CREAM

Burt's Bees Beeswax and Banana Hand Crème, $7 at Drugstore.com. Not too fragrant, this thick cream leaves skin ultra moisturized. Great for callused hands.

RAZOR

Gillette Mach 3, $7.99 at CVS. Doesn't cut and gives your skin a close shave.

FACIAL MOISTURIZER

Babor for Men Daily Balancer, $30 at Maksou Salon and Day Spa. Great for all skin types, very light.

BODY CARE

HAND RECOVERY

June Jacobs Spa Collection Moisturizing Miracle Gloves and Citrus Hand Rescue, $50 at Grettacole. Rubber lined gloves and a dose of serious moisture add up to delightful digits.

Crabtree & Evelyn La Source 60-Second Fix, $25 at Crabtree & Evelyn. A mask-and-moisture duo for a quick pick-me-up.

HAND CREAMS

Archipelago Botanicals Morning Mint Hand Crème, $15 at Beautyexclusive.com. This amazing fragrance wakes you up.

Crabtree & Evelyn Gardener's Hand Therapy, $12 at Crabtree & Evelyn. Mega moisture

FOOT RECOVERY

Tweezerman Pedro Callus Stone, $20 at Sephora. A very rough stone that really works.

Totally Soaked Soy Foot Bath, $16 at Spashoppe.com. Soak in this solution for 15 minutes for soft skin.

FOOT CREAM

Peter Thomas Roth AHA Foot Exfoliating Foot Cream, $40 at Sephora. Deep-penetrating moisture with exfoliation.

RAZOR

Gillette Venus for Women, $7.99 at drugstores. Won't nick or cut, and it gets in close.

TWEEZERS

Tweezerman slant tweezers, $20 at Sephora. Precision action, and free lifetime sharpening.

BATH SOAKS

Crabtree & Evelyn La Source Sels de Bain, $20 at Crabtree & Evelyn. Bath salts that work magic on body and mind.

Fresh Rice Formula Hydrating Sake Bath, $75 at Fresh. With an aroma like no other, it gives your muscles a much-needed break.

SELF-TANNER

Neutrogena Instant Bronze Sunless Tanner and Bronzer, $9.40 at CVS. You can see it when you apply it, and it develops lightly.

BODY MOISTURIZERS

The Body Shop Body Butter, $16 at the Body Shop. Warm it up in your hands for a thinner application, or slather it on.

Caswell-Massey Almond and Aloe Body Balm, $18 at Caswell-Massey. Loads of moisture and fragrance.

BODY OIL

Kate Spade Beauty Sheer Body Oil, $45 at Saks Fifth Avenue. A nice, fragrant, light oil for sheen and moisture.

BODY SCRUBS

Fresh Brown Sugar Body Polish, $58 at Sephora. Sugar-based, so it won't burn, and the best afterglow.

Glo Spa Mineral Gel Scrub, $28 at Glodirect.com. Dead skin be gone!

FACE CARE

MOISTURIZERS (NORMAL SKIN)

Kiehl's Ultra Facial Moisturizer, $20.50 (4 oz.) at Kiehl's. No added fragrance or color, very pure.

Creme de la Mer The Moisturizing Lotion, $165 at Neiman Marcus. Luxurious, and a little goes a long way.

MOISTURIZERS (DRY SKIN)

Cetaphil Moisturizer, $9.50 at drugstores. Thick and creamy, it takes all the dry away.

Clinique Moisture Surge, $26 at department stores. Intense moisture, only for dry skin or dry patches.

EYE CREAMS

Sundari Chamomile Eye Oil, $32 at Beauty.com. A light oil that applies quickly and easily.

Almay Kinetin Rejuvenating Eye Treatment, $15.99 at Walgreens. Great age defense. You can see it working.

ANTI-AGING

Estée Lauder Perfectionist Correcting Serum, $52 (1 oz.) at department stores. Feels light; great for day and night.

Chanel Precision Age Delay Nuit Time Fighting Rejuvenation Night Cream, $55 at department stores. Wear while you sleep; you'll see a difference immediately.

Evian Mineral Water Spray, $8.50-$14.50 at Sephora. Great for travel. Comes in all sizes and won't spill.

FACIAL CLEANSERS

NORMAL

Cetaphil Cleanser, $7.49 at drugstores. A staple simple cleanser.

Sundari Sandalwood Cleanser for Pitta Skin, $22 at Beauty.com. A gentle wash.

DRY

Kiehl's Supremely Gentle Facial Cleanser, $10.50-$24.50 at Kiehl's. Lightly cleanses and rehydrates without a hint of harshness.

Cetaphil Cleanser, $7.49 at drugstores. Made for dry skin, this cleanser works for all but oily skin types.

OILY

Fresh Milk Face Cleanser, $35 at Sephora. Deep-cleans without drying you out. Does not foam.

Neutrogena Foaming Face Wash, $5.99 at drugstores. Leaves your face feeling squeaky clean and prevents blackheads.

ON THE GO

M.A.C wipes, $13.50 @ M.A.C stores. Quick and easy, these moistened tissues won't make you break out.

FACIAL EXFOLIANTS

Peter Thomas Roth Buffing Beads, $30 at Beauty.com. Lightweight and won't damage the skin, while leaving it without a dry patch in sight.

MD Skincare Alpha Beta Daily Face Peel, $68 at Splash Spa @ Sports Club LA. Intense treatment that renews your skin quickly.

FACIAL SPRAYS

Fresh Tonic Water for the Face, $28 at Sephora. A fragrant spritz for rehydration.

TONER

Kiehl's Blue Astringent, $9.50-$40 at Kiehl's. All you need for oily skin, this toner leaves nothing behind.

MASQUES

Origins Clear Improvement, $18.50 at department stores. A charcoal mask that simply sucks out the dirt.

Kiehl's Rare-Earth Masque, $18 at Kiehl's. Simple moisture.

HAIR CARE

BEST LINE FOR CURLY HAIR

Curl Friends, $6.95-$22. The company's many products baby and reshape curly hair, www.curlfriends.com.

HAIR REPAIR

Phytologie Phyto Citrus Mask, $36 at James Joseph Salon.

HAIRSPRAYS

Gave, $2.49 at CVS. Down and dirty, this stuff keeps locks locked in place.

Matrix Biolage Complete Control light hold, $12.50 at James Joseph Salon. A lighter fixatif, it gives you a natural hold.

HAIR PROTECTOR

Kevin.Murphy Hair.Screen, $20 at Drugstore.com. Protects with sunscreen.

SHAMPOOS AND CONDITIONERS

L'Oreal Vive shampoos and conditioners, $3.99 each at CVS. Deep-penetrating moisture makes your hair smooth as buttah.

Jason Damage Control Creme Shampoo and Conditioner, $14.95; $12.95 at Folica.com. Light, won't weigh down your hair.

Phytologie Phytojoba Shampoo, $22.50 at James Joseph Salon. Reconstructs hair and reduces tangles.

Mario Russo Gentle Shampoo with Olive Oil, $16.50 at Salon Mario Russo.

FAST FIXES

Bumble and Bumble Prep, $14 at Mitchell John Salon. Spray on for second-day styling.

Bumble and Bumble Hair Powder, $27 at Mitchell John Salon. Add this to your roots to absorb oil and make your hair look clean.

MAKEUP

MAKEUP PRIMER

Nars Makeup Primer, $30 at department stores. Makeup goes on perfectly over this smooth layer.

FOUNDATIONS

M.A.C Studio Tech Foundation, $26 at M.A.C stores. A thick base that resists caking.

Almay Skin Stays Clean Foundation, $11.97 at drugstores. Stays put, looks natural.

MAKEUP BRUSHES

Trish McEvoy, $14-$110 at Saks Fifth Avenue. Huge range of brushes that last forever. A good investment.

Chanel, $24-$47.50 at department stores. Great as a set, all you need.

Becca, $18-$60 at Nordstrom.com. Mix and match for a great set that's affordable.

LIPSTICKS

Clinique Almost Lipstick. $13.50 at department stores. A super sheer kiss of color.

M.A.C Lipstick in "O," $14 at M.A.C. stores. A gold/pink that looks perfect on everyone.

Chanel Infrarouge. $23 at department stores. Creamy colors that are multi-reflective and make your lips look fuller.

LIP BALMS

Dr. Hauschka Lip Care Stick, $11.50 at Sephora. Light and nongreasy. Comes in a stick or a pot.

Kiehl's Lip Balm, $5.50 at Kiehl's. This celebrity favorite now comes clear or tinted.

LIP REPAIR

Benefit Lipscription, $28 at Sephora. One tube exfoliates, one deep-moisturizes.

LIP GLOSSES

Bobbi Brown, $18 at Neiman Marcus. This gloss is sticky and thick, which means it really stays on.

Stila Lip Glaze, $24 at Sephora. A thin glaze with sheer colors.

Cargo Duo, $17 at Sephora. Two thin colors that complement anyone.

Chanel, $24.50 at department stores. Multi-faceted colors. The choice is all yours.

LIP LINERS

Lip Lingerie, $20 at Louis Boston. A creamy pencil that stops your lipstick from bleeding.

Wet and Wild, $.99 at drugstores. Cheap, chic and not overly creamy. Number 666 (wine with a touch of sparkle) is a good one.

MASCARAS

Benefit Bad Gal Lash Mascara, $18 at Sephora. Add more and more for lush lashes.

Christian Dior Maximeyes, $21 at Sephora. One coat builds your lashes for amazing thickness and length.

Maybelline Great Lash, $4.79 at CVS. The most natural-looking lash around.

EYE SHADOWS

Nars, $18 at Sephora. Great colors with shimmer and glitter.

M.A.C, $12 at M.A.C stores. Collect them all. Loads of colors that really stay on.

Chanel, $21.50 at the Chanel boutique. Classic shades that blend like a dream.

BLACK EYE LINERS

M.A.C Eyeliner in Smolder, $13 at M.A.C stores. The best black for blending and creating smoky eyes.

Maybelline Expert Eyes in Velvet Black, $5.49 at drugstores. A simple black for nice lines—plus, it's smudge-resistant.

BROW PENCILS

Clinique Superfine Liner for Brows, $12.50 at department stores. Has every color in the book.

M.A.C., $13 at M.A.C stores. The thinnest pencil, to draw on individual hairs.

BLUSHES

Nars Powder Blush, $22.50 at Sephora. These versatile colors suit every complexion and offer even coverage.

Stila Convertible Color, $20 at Sephora. Sheer, buildable cream color.

BRONZERS

Laura Mercier Bronzing Powder, $30 at Saks Fifth Avenue. Loose brown (not orange) powder with a shimmering, translucent color.

Bobbi Brown Shimmer Brick, $35 at Neiman Marcus. A blend of pinks and browns makes you shimmer when the light touches your face.

FACE SHINES

Giorgio Armani Fluid Sheer, $42 at Saks Fifth Avenue. Mixed with foundation, this product gives you a glow.

Pop Beauty Glam Jam, $14 at Sephora. Smooth it on the places you want to highlight for a natural shimmer.

CONCEALER

M.A.C Studio Stick Concealer, $14 at M.A.C stores. The best consistency and staying power.

POWDERS

T. LeClerc, $45 at the Beauty Mark. Very fine consistency, and it comes in every color under the sun.

Paul & Joe Face Color, $22.50 at G Spa. Every powder includes flecks of 14-karat gold.

SCAR AND TATTOO COVERAGE

Dermablend Leg and Body Cover Crème, $18 at Lord & Taylor. This foundation/powder combination covers anything.

HOW TO GIVE YOURSELF A MAKEOVER

BY SAMANTHA HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHED BY BRIAN SILVERSTEI



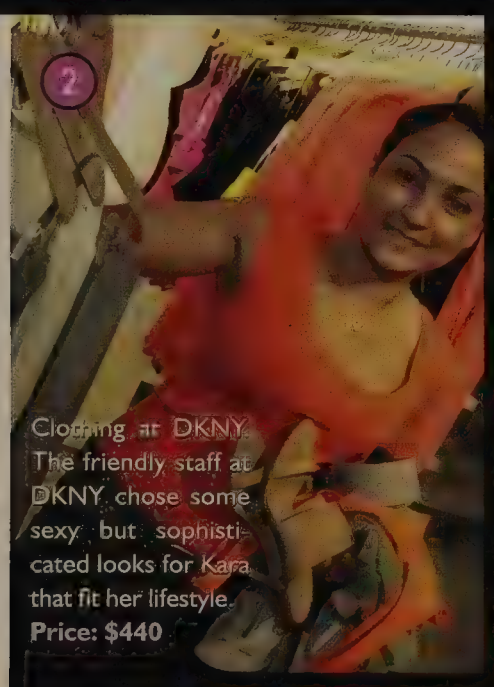
Sometimes it's hard to think outside the beauty box. If you want to change your look, it's best to leave it to the professionals. Here, our model, Kara, a 26-year-old urban planner, told us, "It's up to you," and the result was breathtaking.



1

First stop: A haircut and color at Ecocentrix salon. Colorist Kim Ryder highlighted Kara's hair with a subtle blonde. Then owner/stylist, Marc Harris cut it to the nape of her neck, leaving bangs and adding a few layers for some volume. **Price: $285**





2

Clothing at DKNY. The friendly staff at DKNY chose some sexy but sophisticated looks for Kara that fit her lifestyle. **Price: $440**

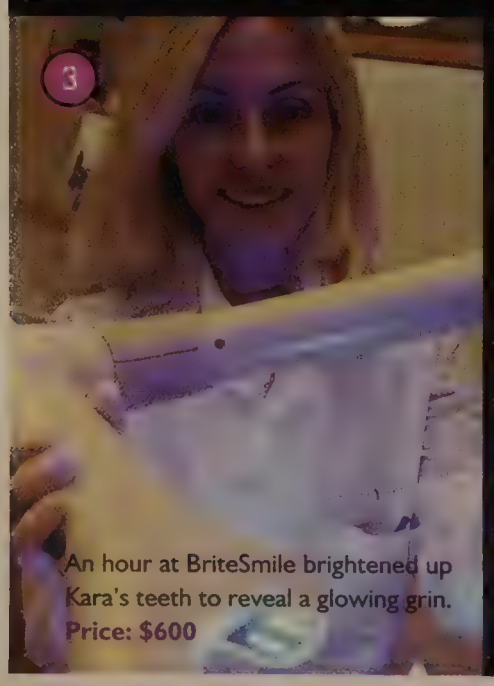
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A little color goes a long way. Kara stopped in at Tanning Etc. for a 60-second Mystic Tan, a self-tanning spray. **Price: $25 per session**



5

Tips and toes are preened and polished before an oxygen facial at G Spa. **Price: manicure, $25; pedicure, $50; facial, $45**



3

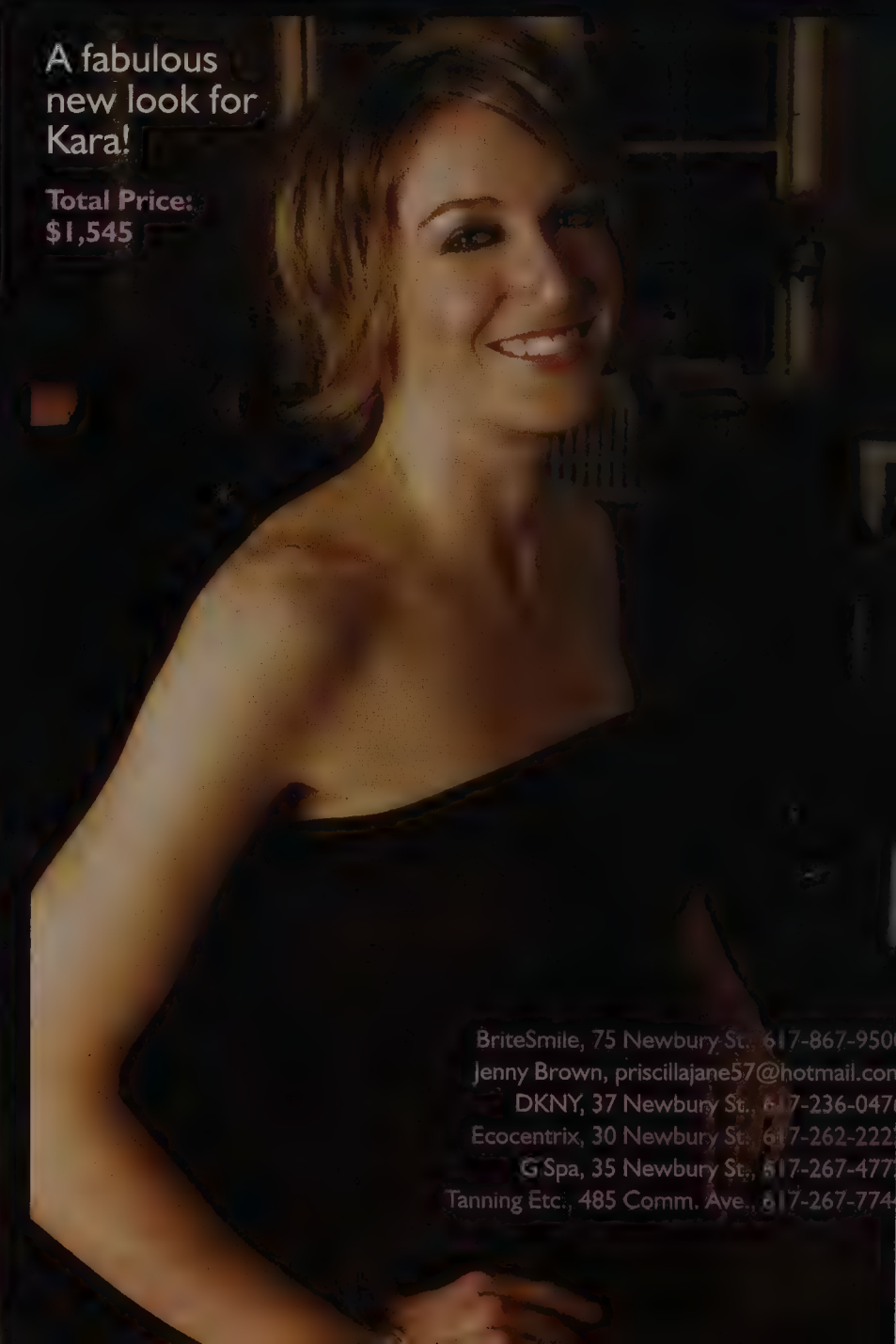
An hour at BriteSmile brightened up Kara's teeth to reveal a glowing grin. **Price: $600**

6

Finally, makeup by artist Jenny Brown adds a little smoky sexy appeal to Kara's eyes and some flush to her cheeks. **Price: $75**

A fabulous new look for Kara!

Total Price: $1,545



BriteSmile, 75 Newbury St., 617-867-950
Jenny Brown, priscillajane57@hotmail.com
DKNY, 37 Newbury St., 617-236-047
Ecocentrix, 30 Newbury St., 617-262-222
G Spa, 35 Newbury St., 617-267-477
Tanning Etc., 485 Comm. Ave., 617-267-774

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Man in the Mirror

IF YOU'RE STILL USING DISPOSABLE RAZORS AND PERT PLUS, IT'S TIME TO WAKE UP AND SMELL THE AFTERSHAVE, BOYS, AND PUT A LITTLE MORE THOUGHT INTO YOUR GROOMING ROUTINE.

BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPH BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Every man's bathroom should include the following essentials:

1. A FACIAL CLEANSER

A good cleanser that deep-cleans but does not strip your face of essential oils is the first step in having a Brad Pitt–like complexion. Try a basic cleanser like Cetaphil (at drugstores) or men's facial cleanser from Fresh (121 Newbury St.). But please, don't include in your daily routine any product that contains *benzoyl peroxide*—it's harsh on your skin.

2. AN EXFOLIANT

You know all those little ingrown hairs that you battle on a regular basis? You can get rid of most of them easily by exfoliating (sloughing off the dead skin with a mild abrasive material). Spa Nordstrom facial exfoliant (at Nordstrom.com) is a good one. Use it before you shave—it'll be the best shave of your life

3. A MOISTURIZER

If you're at all worried about having skin like leather by the time you're 50, you should be using a moisturizer on your entire face at least once per day. If you just want to get rid of flaky or dry skin, you can buy a bottle and keep it around to apply when you need it. Try Kiehl's Ultra Facial Moisturizer (available at Kiehl's, 112 Newbury St.).

4. A GOOD RAZOR

Throwaway razors are a no-no now that the Gillette Mach3 has come into the world. Own it. It's the best. Ideally, you should use a new blade each time you shave, but that can get a little pricey, so at the very least, make sure to dry it off after each use to prevent rusting.

5. SHAMPOO AND CONDITIONER

The right shampoo is one that cleans and doesn't dry out your hair. If you don't use conditioner now, you should start. It keeps your hair healthy looking and makes it easier to style. Try the L'Oréal Vive line. There's even one for preventing hair loss.

6. AFTERSHAVE

It's a good idea to keep on hand a simple aftershave lotion to prevent razor burn. Use something light, without color or fragrance, to avoid irritation.

7. BODY CLEANSER

Get rid of any white, milky soap—it leaves a residue on your body. Try glycerin soap instead. If you want to get an even better clean, use a mesh sponge, available at drugstores. It will lightly exfoliate while you scrub.

Tip: All out of shaving cream but desperate for a shave? Use hair conditioner instead. It'll soften your beard and give you a great finish. Just be sure to wash your face afterward to avoid breakouts

Tip: If you're trying a new regime start with one new produc for a week and see how it fects your skin. Then add the next product. That way, you know which one's the culpri if something goes awry.

Tip: When buying a new product choose the simplest formula. Select items that have no color or fragrance; they're less likely to make you break out.



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"Charles Maksou is the man responsible for bringing John Sahag's celebrated dry-cut method to Boston...Women who go to him once are instantly addicted to the quality of his cuts."

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"...her advice and expertise are always worth following. Let her do that voodoo that she does so well, and Christopher will give you brows that bless your face."

Experienced stylist and colorist wanted

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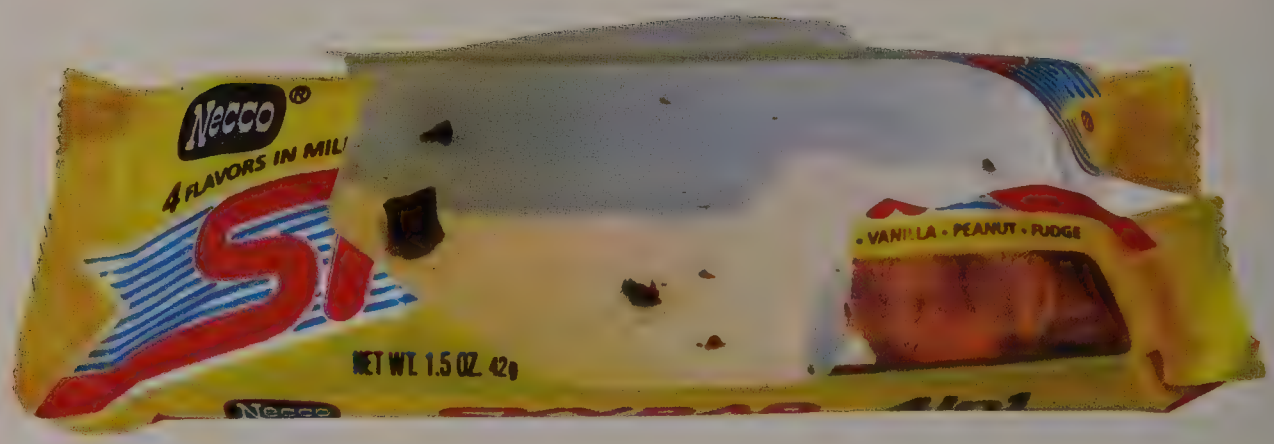
Summer Kick off Party!

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bar none

A BRIEF INQUIRY INTO THE GOLDEN AGE OF CONFECTION IN THE BOSTON AREA — AND THE TRAGIC EXODUS OF CANDY MAKERS

BY STEVE ALMOND

When the New England Confectionery Company moved out of its storied factory on Mass. Avenue last year, the entire neighborhood lost something precious: a smell. Anyone who lives or works within sniffing distance of the south Cambridge plant knows exactly what I'm talking about. On those afternoons when the company was cranking out its trademark wafers, the air was redolent with the scent of Neccos—orange and lemon and cinnamon.

The same thing happened over on Cambridge Street, where Necco shut down a second, smaller factory. Gone were the rich aromas of chocolate, mint and caramel, which wafted over the surrounding blocks like a blessing.

The Necco folks are over in Revere now, in a modernized facility where they continue to crank out wafers, conversation hearts and Clark Bars. In a cruel irony, Cambridge several years ago designated the water tower that sits atop the factory—and is painted in the style of a giant package of Neccos—a historical landmark. So there it remains. But nobody with a functioning nose will be fooled. The building now houses a pharmaceutical concern called Novartis. Yum yum.

Of course, Boston-area residents should recognize this pattern by now. Most of us have seen the giant Schrafft's sign next to I-93 in Charlestown. For years, this sign announced the nation's largest candy factory, a 900,000-square-foot building where some 1,500 employees cranked out Schrafft's world-famous boxed chocolates. But the candy maker went under in 1984, and today the Schrafft Center houses a variety of...software offices. That's how it's gone down in Boston. Once considered the nation's capital of confection, our burg is now more like a candy ghost town, haunted by the misleading signs and the sweet specter of what once was.

A CHOCOLATE REVOLUTION

Boston's confectionary history dates back to the Revolutionary War. Or, to be more precise, a decade earlier. As is often the case in these parts, the saga begins with an Irish immigrant. Specifically, a fellow named John Hannon who, in 1765, built the nation's first chocolate mill on the banks of the Neponset River, in Dorchester. Boston was an ideal location, a big, bustling port town where cocoa beans could make landfall on their voyage over from Africa.

Hannon's factory survived well into the 20th century. Walter Marshall, a retired Necco executive who used to walk by the factory as a child, says he could taste the chocolate in the air.

Marshall is something of a historian of Boston's candied past. The city's first confectioners, he notes, weren't companies in the modern sense. Forget about industrial mixers and assembly lines. These early candy makers were family operations where everything was done by hand, right in the back room.

The dawn of the industrial age—and specifically the steam engine—brought about profound changes. For the first time, local companies were able to mass-produce candies using machines.

The most prominent example was the lozenge cutter, which was patented by Oliver R. Chase in 1847. Chase produced the dry, sugary wafers that later become known as Neccos. The candies were a staple of the Union soldiers who fought in the Civil War, providing a quick, sugary jolt to the troops. So, although this may be stretching the point, it would be technically accurate to say that Neccos played a role in the abolition of slavery in this country. (All that and delicious flavor!)

Marshall notes that Neccos—"a virtually indestructible candy"—have also made the trip to the North and South poles.

That was only the beginning for Boston's sweets industry. The first half of the 20th century was, to hear Marshall tell it, our candy heyday. The city was home to 140 companies by 1950, with sales of $200 million per year. Downtown boasted a quartet of chocolate factories: Royal, Cole, Haviland and Liberty. Back then, on production days, the most prominent smell in the North End wasn't garlic, but chocolate.

Necco's own Sky Bar—a slab of milk chocolate infused with four distinct fillings—was among the most popular bars on the East Coast. Marshall still remembers when the bar was introduced, in 1938: "We used a skywriting campaign, naturally."

But the highest concentration of candy production was actually north of the river, on Cambridge's Main Street, which was known as Confectioner's Row.

Here, in the space of less than a mile, seven companies contributed to the national level of tooth decay: James O. Welch (Junior Mints and Sugar Daddies), Jack Smiley (hard candies), Graylock Confection (a marshmallow candy called Tweet), Dagget (chocolates), Fox-Cross (Charleston Chew), C.A. Briggs (candy cough drops) and Deran (chocolate and taffy).

Bob Stengal remembers all these companies. For three decades, Stengal worked nearby as the general manager of Squirrel Brand Company, which has produced various taffies, including the eponymous Squirrel Nut Zipper, since 1888.

Unfortunately, his neighbors gradually started disappearing. They would sell out, or relocate, or go under. Most painfully, the managers at these plants would often call Stengal to ask his advice.

Once the nation's capital of confection, our burg is now more like a candy ghost town



What, exactly, was behind all these failing candy concerns? In a word: consolidation. Over the past few decades, the Big Three candy makers—Hershey's, Mars and Nestlé—have gotten bigger and bigger, and they've either gobbled up smaller companies, or driven them under. Consolidation has affected distribution and retail, as well. In the age of Wal-Mart, smaller companies can't hope to compete against multinational giants. They can't afford to pay the "slotting fees" that chains charge to place products in desirable shelf locations. Nor can they hope to compete against zillion-dollar advertising budgets.

But Marshall is careful to note that simple geography was also a factor. "It used to be distribution wasn't as complicated, because everything was local," he observes. "But once you started to get national distribution, it made more sense to be centrally located, especially with all the westward expansion. The transportation costs were lower." That's why Chicago had replaced Boston as the nation's candy mecca by the 1950s.

The bottom line is this: By 1999, Squirrel Brand was the last independent, family-owned candy factory in Cambridge. And then, Stengal says, the unthinkable happened: the company was sold and relocated—to Texas, of all places. He had hoped that Necco might rescue Squirrel Brand by making an 11th-hour purchase of the company. But he wasn't exactly shocked when the end came. "Cambridge is not a friendly city to manufacturers anymore," Stengal notes ruefully, "unless you're in high tech or biotech."

As fate would have it, though, the two companies recently inked a deal that licenses Squirrel Nut Zippers and Squirrel Nut Chews to Necco, which will manufacture the bars at its new Revere plant. After a year-long absence, Zippers and Chews will be back on the market this summer.

FROM CHELSEA TO CHARLESTON

If you want to know just how much Boston's candy landscape has changed over the past century, there's no one better equipped to tell you than Nate Sloane.

As a 16-year-old living in a Chelsea tenement, Sloane first entered the candy biz in 1925, as a distributor. "We used wagons in those days," he says. "The little guys bought candy for the same amount as the big guys. And the cost back then! I used to be able to buy two half-pound bars of Hershey's or Nestlé for a quarter. Can you imagine being able to buy a pound of good chocolate for a quarter?"

In his first dozen years in the business, Sloane took over half a dozen local distribution routes. This was long before the days of corporate chains, of course. Taking over another distributor's route was as simple as a cash payment and a handshake.

But Sloane says his real dream was to manufacture a successful candy bar, to be, as he puts it, "the bottom-line seller." In 1955, he purchased Fox-Cross, which produced a chocolate-covered taffy bar known as the Charleston Chew. He immediately set about modernizing the company. Unfortunately, this meant moving from Cambridge to Everett three years later. "We needed a bigger factory. We went from 8,000 square feet to 55,000."

In some sense, Sloane says, this move was the beginning of the end for him and the bar. He wound up having so much success with the Charleston Chew that a number of the big candy firms, including Hershey's, offered to buy him out. In 1980, he finally gave in and sold the business to Nabisco.

Fox-Cross then suffered a fate typical of the industry. Nabisco sold the business to the drug firm Warner Lambert, which sold it, in 1993, to Tootsie Roll Industries. Ironically, the Chicago-based company moved the production of Charleston Chews back to Cambridge. It had previously purchased the remains of another storied local outfit, the James O. Welch Company.

Today, the Cambridge Brands factory, at 810 Main St., is the only remaining candy maker on Confectioner's Row, which is why nearby residents can still catch a whiff of Junior Mints or Sugar Babies being produced. This, however, comes as little consolation to Nate Sloane, who for a time continued to visit friends at the plant after he retired. These days, he says, the factory has lost the friendly, family atmosphere that used to pervade it.

For local residents more interested in the consumption side of the sweets business, there are, of course, plenty of upscale options to choose from.

But if, like me, you're one of those candy freaks who prefers to buy yours in bulk, the greatest loss in recent years is the Candy Shoppe, the tiny seconds store on the first floor of Necco's former chocolate factory. It was there that I went on a weekly basis to buy boxes of pecan turtles, Clark Bars and chocolate-covered raisins at obscenely low prices. I used to be able buy a three-pound box of the positively delectable Haviland Thin Mints for $1.79. (Need I say more?)

A few weeks ago, I was passing by the old factory, when suddenly my heart leapt and I pulled my car over, jumped out and half-sprinted to the shop window.

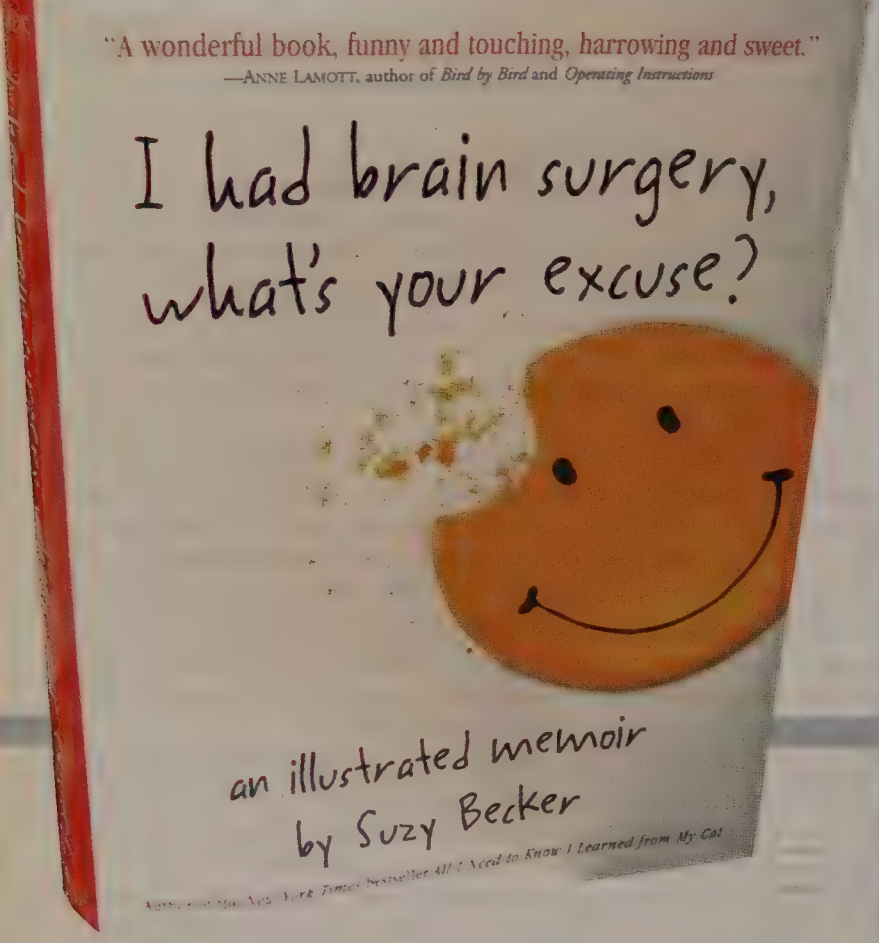
The Shoppe was empty of course—but the sign was still up on the side of the building. IB

Steve Almond is the author of the short-story collection My Life in Heavy Metal. *He is a regular commentator on WBUR 90.9 and teaches creative writing at Boston College. His latest book,* Candy Freak: A Journey Through the Chocolate Underbelly of America *(Algonquin Books), comes out on May 7.*

MOPSY

SERENDIPITOUS SHOPPING: OUR UNFETTERED CORRESPONDENT SEEKS OUT THE SALUBRIOUS AND THE CEREBRAL

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



ALL I NEED IS MY SENSE OF HUMOR

Central Mass. resident and former Radcliffe fellow Suzy Becker's latest book, *I Had Brain Surgery, What's Your Excuse?*, is an amusing illustrated memoir about her ordeal with a brain tumor.

Please understand that this is a completely nondepressing—and in fact, funny—book about a terrifying subject: brain surgery. The surger-ee is writer-cartoonist Suzy Becker, who called upon her ingrained techniques of irreverence and charming nuttiness during her ordeal. The book, which also follows the roller coaster Becker was on with her lover, Karen, has a good narrative flow in and of itself. But the Becker touch scintillates most in imagined interviews with NPR host Terry Gross, jokey charts and graphs purporting to measure this and that (a Disappointment Time Line begins with "Doll Clothes I Got for Christmas Don't Fit Doll I Got for Christmas") and streams of frisky self-talk in italics; wondering, refuting, sardonically commenting on treatments and feelings. From the margins comes "Augusta! My Imaginary Medical Superheroine," with twisty hornlike hair and a cape, giving bossy advice like "Ask her what to expect. *Now*." Post-surgery, the author endures some slushy pronunciation and word-confusion, along with love troubles, but the book wittily illustrates that by the end she's back to Becker.



PHOTOGRAPHS OF SAND AND FOG

Martin R. Anderson's photography exhibition, *Natural Magic*, is at the Gallery at Black and White, 295 Huntington Ave., Suite 205, through April 30. Call 617-266-2641.

Photographer Martin R. Anderson uses wildly different cameras. Among his tools are a WWII-e Leica and a small plastic camera once given away by banks. But he mostly relies on incredibly lo tech, black-and-white "pinhole" cameras. These consist of any old cylinder—a cookie box, a film ca ister—into which photographic paper is rolled. This film is exposed, somewhat willy-nilly, through tiny hole in the side of the cylinder. The result is haunting. Some ghost in the unconscious seems be at work as Anderson captures angels, statues and solitary landscapes. The roundness of the came bends the picture a bit, making it eerie and intimate. The image is in focus just as the human eye se it, so a shot taken from beneath the Longfellow Bridge shows clearly defined rocks in the foregroun an expanse of silky, sheeny dark water in the middle, and equally focused Boston in the distanc Sometimes it seems as if some psychic hurricane has left the scene melancholy and still. One fog picture taken in April 2001 across the Brooklyn Bridge shows some huddling shapes on the left, loo ing almost incidental or apologetic—the Twin Towers, soon to perish.

GARDENING IN THE MIDDLE GROUND

Joanne Neale, the Garden Mentor, works with gardens (plants and flowers, not lawns) in and around Boston. Call 781-444-4614.



For people who need some help with their outdoor ga den—not a gigantic landscaping operation, nor the green thumbs to do the actual gardening—Joan Neale provides educated advice. With pragmatism, n tive–New Englander botanical expertise, lots of eve updated info and a refreshingly relaxed attitude towa upkeep, Neale walks through your garden as you ta notes, weaving information on bloomworthine shade-gardens, diseases, pruning (it's an art), feedi and low-maintenance watering. Perhaps you're i peded by sketchy nature-info, or overwhelmed by ho blossoming catalogs. Neale will go plant shopping wi you, paying attention to color and texture and picki out plants and flowers that actually grow well local (some showy ones don't do so well in our climate). S suggests, for instance, certain disease-resistant roses th bloom all summer. Sometimes she designs "vignettes" plantings in nooks and crannies. Diversifying the po folio of your garden makes for variety and keeps yo overall garden looking good even when certain types plants wither. Neale believes in going optimally o ganic—relying on such methods as composting, usi ladybugs for pest control, and leaf-mulching, and reso ing to chemicals only when really necessary. Tolerati some insect damage is a possible compromise. Garde teem with facts; Neale simplifies them for you.

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PROFESSIONAL HAIRCARE

IN THIS SECTION: Review: The Butcher Shop Dish: *Bread* on the back burner
Tasty Tidbit: Chefs Collaborative benefit at Icarus

REVIEW

WHERE'S THE BEEF?

Delightful food and tiny portions make for a glass half full at the Butcher Shop

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Thanks to celebrated chef Barbara Lynch, you can enjoy surf and turf by walking across the street from one of her new South End restaurants to the other. As reported in these pages two weeks ago, Lynch's B&G Oysters charms both neighborhood aficionados and Lynch devotees across the city with its pristinely fresh raw oysters and its skillfully cooked seafood. In an exercise of "separate but equal" gastronomy, Lynch's other new venture combines a full-service butcher shop, retailing prime cuts of meat, farm-raised poultry, and charcuterie, with a limited-menu restaurant serving a selection of meat dishes.

The Butcher Shop, occupying the southeastern corner of the Waltham/Tremont Street intersection, suffers by comparison with its seafood sibling across the street. Although the two restaurants are approximately equal in size, B&G, designed with efficient functionality and style, seems larger and more comfortable and inviting. The Butcher Shop seats about 28 diners, half of them at the bar. Some of its space is given over to a glass-doored refrigerator exhibiting impressive looking cuts of fresh meat, patés and sausages, while more sausages and hams hang from an imposing wrought iron rack. Large, storefront windows admit lots of light and look out on the lively street life of the South End, and slate walls give the interior an engaging patina.

The Butcher Shop's menu contains fewer than a dozen offerings, ranging in price from $11 to $22, though there were some higher-priced menu items at the time of my visits. The antipasti della casa ($16) featured cured meats garnished with olives, figs, almonds and cheese. These were exquisite cold cuts from Italy's culinary heartland, Emilia Romagna—sopressata, a dry, yet rich and provocatively spiced sausage; salami, moist and garlicky; and prosciutto, at once sweet and salty with the satiny texture that distinguishes imported from domestic. Unfortunately, all three were served in such minuscule portions as to shock the conscience in view of their considerable tariff. The promised Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese, another of Emilia Romagna's exquisite products, consisted of a few paltry crumbles. To add insult to injury, the antipasti appeared to emerge directly from a refrigerator, assembled in advance—the plate was telltale cold.



Housemade sausages and confit pork belly with Swiss chard and lentils du Puy



Antipasti della casa with olives and pickles

THE BUTCHER SHOP
552 Tremont St., Boston
(617-423-4800)

HOURS Mon.-Sat., 11 am-midnight (butcher available 11 am-8 pm); Sun., 11 am-11 pm (butcher available 11 am-5 pm)
RESERVATIONS no
CREDIT CARDS all major
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes
PARKING on street
LIQUOR LICENSE beer and wine

So dismayed was I at the lack of value in the antipasti, despite its fine ingredients, that other shortcomings of my first meal at the Butcher Shop reaffirmed my displeasure. For example, one evening's special, fresh housemade tagliatelle ($16), came to the table lukewarm, bordering on cool, and was overcooked to boot. The pasta's tepid temperature and disappointing texture made it difficult to appreciate the rich, meaty, well-seasoned Bolognese sauce that dressed it. Moreover, I had advised our waiter that my companion and I planned to share the pasta as a classic "primo" course, hoping that it would be divided and separately plated in the kitchen. Instead, it arrived stacked on one plate, in the cliched "tall food" mode, and we had to move half of it to a second plate ourselves.

After the disappointing antipasti and pasta courses, things got better on that first visit. The foie gras torchon ($25)—the word means cooked while wrapped in a towel—was voluptuously rich, and its generous size almost did justice to its price. (The dish has since been downsized, and is now $18.) While the foie gras could have stood on its own, it profited by its garnish of Sauternes gelee, an aspic made from Bordeaux's most celebrated dessert wine, which is often sipped as an accompaniment to foie gras. A further enhancement, a slice of thick, buttery, eggy brioche toast, disappointed only in its size, far too small to accommodate the hefty portion of foie gras.

The Sauternes gelee so delighted me that I resolved to view the Butcher Shop as a glass half full rather than half empty. For example, I forgave the diminutive size of a skewer of housemade sausages ($20)—a half link each of boudin blanc (white sausage), Italian sausage flavored with fennel, and a very slender, almost tiny, link of merguez, a North African sausage that frequently accompanies couscous. Rounding out this "mixed grill," as it was called on the menu, was a small block of pork belly confit, unsmoked bacon that was flavorful, mellow and slightly sweet. Despite my surprise at the small portion and the fact that only three of the several varieties of sausage mentioned on the menu (which also included black truffle and pistachio, garlic and venison, among others) were featured, I focused on the substantial merits of the individual ingredients, and relished in an unexpected and unannounced treat that accompanied the sausage: braised lettuce.

On a second visit, I chose the steak tartare ($16) as a starter. This flawless, robustly flavored raw tenderloin, coarsely chopped and combined with capers, cornichons, black pepper and extra-virgin olive oil, was as good an exemplar of this splendid dish as I have ever encountered. A piquant preparation, its richness and complexity more than compensated for its moderate size. Served in a small dish that could have passed as a custard bowl, the tartare led me to conclude that the restaurant's poor public relations in regard to its portion sizes could be remedied by a more skillful presentation. The steak tartare, according to the menu, was to have been accompanied by haricots verts (green beans)



The Butcher Shop occupies a South End corner opposite its sister restaurant, B&G Oysters.



Butcher Peter Metsch



Steak tartare with toasted brioche and pickled onions

but all that appeared alongside it were pickled pearl onions. When I called this fact to my waiter's attention, he explained "we ran out" of the beans, and that was that. (The Butcher Shop has changed the steak tartare dish since my visit, and the pickled onions are now standard.) My face must have betrayed my disappointment, for after a moderate interval, he brought me an elegant, long white platter containing at one end a lobe of sautéed foie gras and buttery toast rounds with a garnish of candied pistachios, and on the other, another thick slice of the magnificent foie gras torchon with its Sauternes gelee. While I like green beans, the substitution of this culinary tour de force more than compensated for their absence.

The last menu offering I tried, the grilled Cuban sandwich ($13), consisted of a felicitous combination of shards of grilled pork confit, sweet ham, Swiss cheese and slices of housemade pickles—a creatively conceived, delicious symphony of tastes. This time, the serving—three half sandwiches on first-rate, toasted hard-crusted bread—was as generous as many of the other servings had been sparse. Combined with the surprising, midmeal amuse bouche—boy was my bouche amused—of the double foie gras extravaganza, this sudden quantum leap in serving size led me to conclude that my identity had been divined by the house.

The Butcher Shop has an excellent wine list, predominantly Italian and French, far larger than the restaurant's small size and limited menu would suggest. Particularly good, and value priced, was the 2001 Clos la Coutale Cahors ($25), a dry red from southwestern France. This traditional accompaniment to cassoulet made a particularly good foil for the rich, pleasantly fatty sausages. Moving to the Italian side of the wine list, I thoroughly enjoyed the Lacrima di Morro d'Alba by Mario Lucchetti ($26), whose forward fruit and good acid produced a structured wine that went well with the food.

Service at the Butcher Shop, in contrast to B&G, seemed a bit disorganized. The waiter on both of my visits was congenial, but he was not particularly well informed about the food or the wine. His manner, which ranged from courtly to languid, could have profited from an injection of the energy and efficiency that reign across the street at B&G.

Finally, a note about value. As any regular reader of this column knows, I am not a partisan of supersize portions. However, the scanty slices of cold cuts and miserly morsels of cheese that constituted the antipasti bordered on scandalous. The mixed grill, with its half links of sausages, was accompanied by a spoonful of lentils that would barely have filled a thimble. Even the cost of the Butcher Shop's distinguished provisions cannot justify such a disconnect between price and portion. Somewhere, somehow, there must be a golden mean—portions that satisfy rather than surfeit; tapas-size portions at tapas prices. As the Butcher Shop fine-tunes its conception and its execution, hopefully it will arrive at that place. iB





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TASTINGS

BY JORDAN SALVATORIELLO

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

events

Boston Beer Summit
The Castle at Park Plaza, 130 Columbus St., Boston (888-945-2337). www.beersummit.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. April 16, 6-10 pm, April 17, 1-5 pm and 6-10 pm, April 18, 1-5 pm. $25-$30. Sample unique beers from around the world.

Chefs Collaborative Hors d'Oeuvre Fest
Icarus, 3 Appleton St., Boston (617-236-5200). www.chefscollaborative.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington or Orange Line to Back Bay. April 25, 6-8:30 pm. $25-$30. This fund-raiser to benefit Chefs Collaborative, hosted by **Chris Douglass**, features samplings of local chefs' favorite dishes.

Demystifying Japanese and Cambodian Cuisines
The Elephant Walk, 900 Beacon St., Boston (617-451-0726). MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. April 25, 10:30 am-1 pm. $100. Veteran cooking teacher and award-winning cookbook author **Keiko Hayashi** presents time-saving cooking methods from two Asian cuisines.

Fairmont Cooks with John Ash
Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 St. James Ave., Boston (617-867-8574). www.fairmont.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. April 20, 6:30 pm. $65. Chef and cookbook author **John Ash** from Fetzer Vineyards and Fairmont executive chef **Laurent Poulain** host a two-hour cooking demonstration and five-course dinner. Each course is paired with wine from Bonterra Vineyards in California.

Fashion and French Food
Brasserie Jo, Colonnade Hotel, 120 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-425-3240). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Have an authentic French lunch while viewing the latest fashions from local shops. •April 30, 12-1:30 pm: Gipore.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. $25 (includes light food). Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** offers a series of tastings that frequently feature guest speakers. •April 24, 3 pm: Reisling/Gewürztraminer.

French Turn the Tables
Saint, 90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134). www.saintnitery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. April 26, 7 pm. $75. Enjoy a seven-course meal prepared by top chefs including **Trey Foshee** of George's at the Cove and **Raymond Ost** of Sandrine's, among others.

Louis Jadot Dinner
Le Soir Bistro, 51 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands (617-965-3100). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. April 27, 6:30 pm. $125. Le Soir executive chef **Mark Allen** and pastry chef **David James** prepare a six-course meal paired with wines presented by Louis Jadot master sommelier **Olivier Masmondet**.

Port: The Connoisseur's Wine
Lifelong Learning, 808 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-9852). www.bu.edu/lifelong. April 15, 6-8 pm. $60. Master of wine and IMPROPER wine columnist **Sandy Block** explores the many faces of port, focusing o wines produced at Taylor Fladgate and Fonseca.

Radius Cooking Series
Radius, 8 High St., Boston (617-426-1234) MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 11 am-2:3 pm. $125. Chef de cuisine **Brian Reimer** an wine steward **Scott Fraley** teach this cookin series. •April 17: Sauces, Purees and Emu sions. •April 22, $275: "Chardonnay Only Wine Dinner featuring five Montelena wine paired with a five-course dinner.

Taste of Beacon Hill
Ritz-Carlton Hotel, 15 Arlington St., Boston (617 536-5700). MBTA: Green Line to Arlingtor April 21, 6:30-9:30 pm. $55-$75. The Beaco Hill Business Association presents this annua evening of live music and samplings from var ous Beacon Hill eateries.

Taste of the Back Bay
Wang Center, 270 Tremont St., Boston (617-859 7787). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. April 2 6:30-9:30 pm. $70-$90. Sample signature dishe from the Back Bay's best restaurants, accompa nied by wine and beer.

Taste of the Towns
Hellenic Cultural Center, 25 Bigelow Ave., Wate town (617-926-1017). April 21, 5:30-8:30 pm $25. At this food festival, local establishment showcase their signature dishes and unusua recipes, accompanied by wine and beer.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542 5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 p and 8 pm. $25. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** dis cusses various aspects of wine while chef **Ia Just** pairs them with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstration. •April 20: Afford able Burgundy. •April 27: Oregon.

Tuesday Tasting: Greek Traditions
Meze Estiatorio, 100 City Square, Charlestow (781-444-7771). www.mezeboston.com. Apr 20, 6-8 pm. $19-$29. Guests sample Greek ho d'oeuvres paired with wines.

A Walking Tour of the North End
Lifelong Learning, 808 Comm. Ave., Bosto (617-353-9852). www.bu.edu/lifelong. Apr 17, 10 am-2 pm. $80 (includes lunch). Nort End resident **Daniele Baliani** of Sage leads tour through the North End introducing proc ucts needed for authentic Italian cuisine. Th afternoon culminates with lunch at Sage.


Taste of the Back Bay is at the Wang Center.

DISH

Loaves' Labors Lost?

TV or not TV?...Kebab-N-Kurry kaput...

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX



Michael Schlow's new program is a go, pending the dough.

As chef **Michael Schlow** rearranged his busy schedule to serve as host of a public television show called *The Bread Also Rises*, it seemed the "go" light couldn't have been any greener. The show's concept embraced culinary technique, bread's role in reflecting and redeveloping American immigrant cultural traditions, and multicultural nuggets of knowledge. (Did you know, for example, that the croissant originated in Vienna, or that one of New York City's most renowned bagel bakers is a native of Thailand?) The fast-paced pilot, featuring Irish brown bread from **Green Hills Bakery** in Dorchester, was a hit. Co-producers **Arnie Reisman** and **Lorie Conway** had mapped out trips around the country and lined up guests such as renowned author **Peter Reinhart**, whose baking is part of his spiritual journey. Most important, funding for the 10-part series was being provided by a well-known bakery chain.

Suddenly, the company withdrew its support, as if whisking a tablecloth out from under a carefully arranged buffet, leaving the loaves in limbo. "My feeling is it's still going to happen," says Reisman, who dismisses any notion of an anti-carb conspiracy: "Sales of doughnuts are going through the roof," he observes. And he's eager to quote **Michael Romano**, chef at New York's **Union Square Grill**: "Atkins is dead; long live bread!"

SECOND COURSE

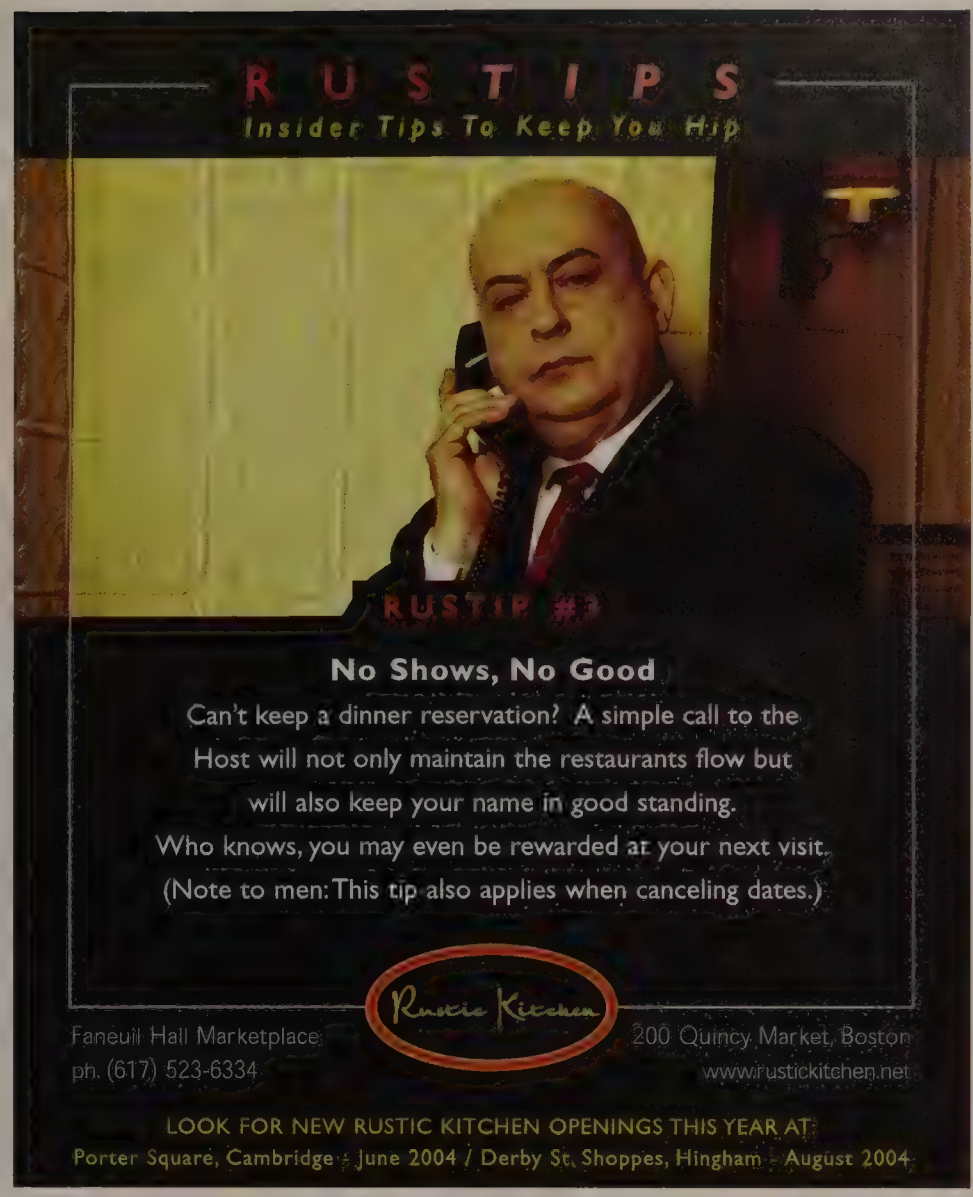
Trading spices: In yet another sign that Indian food has transcended its Boston beginnings as ethnic cheap eats, the owners of **Kebab-N-Kurry** have closed what was one of the city's first Indian restaurants to focus on their more recent, upscale enterprises, including **Curry Leaf** and **Masala Art**.

In the South End, **Icarus** is apparently re-energized after celebrating its 25th year in business. Two new options start this month: Every Monday night, Icarus chef de cuisine **Ron Abell** will prepare an ad hoc $35 prix fixe menu, available with or without a reservation. And on the second Monday of each month, Icarus will host a wine-and-cheese "tutorial"—three wines, three cheeses—featuring South End Formaggio cheesemonger **Tim Bucciarelli** and wine from **Classic Wine Imports**. Meanwhile, chef/owner **Chris Douglass** holds the fort in the kitchen, creating new dishes such as grilled sea bass with brandade de morue and blood oranges.

The Harvard Square **Legal Sea Foods** is testing new waters with an à la carte brunch menu on Saturdays and Sundays. If it's a hit, you can expect the other Legals to eventually offer the likes of omelets stuffed with lobster, goat cheese and chives; poached eggs Oscar with crabmeat, asparagus and hollandaise; and three-ounce "sampler sizes" of a variety of champagne cocktails. IB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to dish@improper.com.





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agenda

MPROPER PICKS

april 14 - 27

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			14	15	16	17
			The Carnevale-themed **Big Apple Circus** is at the Bayside Expo Center this month. *See CityScope on page 46.*		The giant suds-sampling party known as the **Boston Beer Summit** is at the Castle at Park Plaza. *See CityScope on page 48.*	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Jazz masters **Herbie Hancock, Jack DeJohnette** and **Dave Holland** play a trio show at Symphony Hall. *See Music on page 62.*		Instrumental indie-rock outfit **Tortoise** plays at the Roxy tonight. *See Music on page 62.*	Poet **Julia Alvarez** gives a reading at Harvard Book Store. *See Books & Poetry on page 80.*		Sample signature dishes from the Back Bay's best restaurants at **Taste of the Back Bay** at the Wang Center. *See Tastings on page 40.*	Celebrate 50 years of Boston Ballet School at the **Swan Lake Ball** at the Westin Copley Place. *See CityScope on page 48.*
25	26	27				
Belmont World Film's International Film Series screens Yulie Cohen Gerstel's documentary, **My Terrorist**. *See Movies on page 57.*						



Peter Davis (Henrietta's Table), Chris Douglass (Icarus), Mark Usewicz (The Independent) and Michael Leviton (Lumiere)

SUN./APRIL 25

First Course

We've never been known to turn down a good ol' pig in a blanket, but given the cast of A-list chefs participating, we're pretty sure that former king of the finger foods won't make the cut at Hors d'Oeuvre Fest. **Icarus** hosts the sampling of amuses bouche April 25 to benefit the Chefs Collaborative, a group of gourmets dedicated to developing sustainable food options and environmentally sound purchasing strategies. Among the cooks in the kitchen are Douglas Organ of Arbor, Jim Solomon of the Fireplace, Ana Sortun of Oleana, Barbara Lynch of No. 9 Park, and others. Mix and mingle with the chefs themselves while grazing the trays of savories—from spoonfuls of ceviche to beef tartare—and take home a door prize or two. *Icarus, 3 Appleton St., Boston (617-236-5200). 6 pm. $30 ($25 in advance).*

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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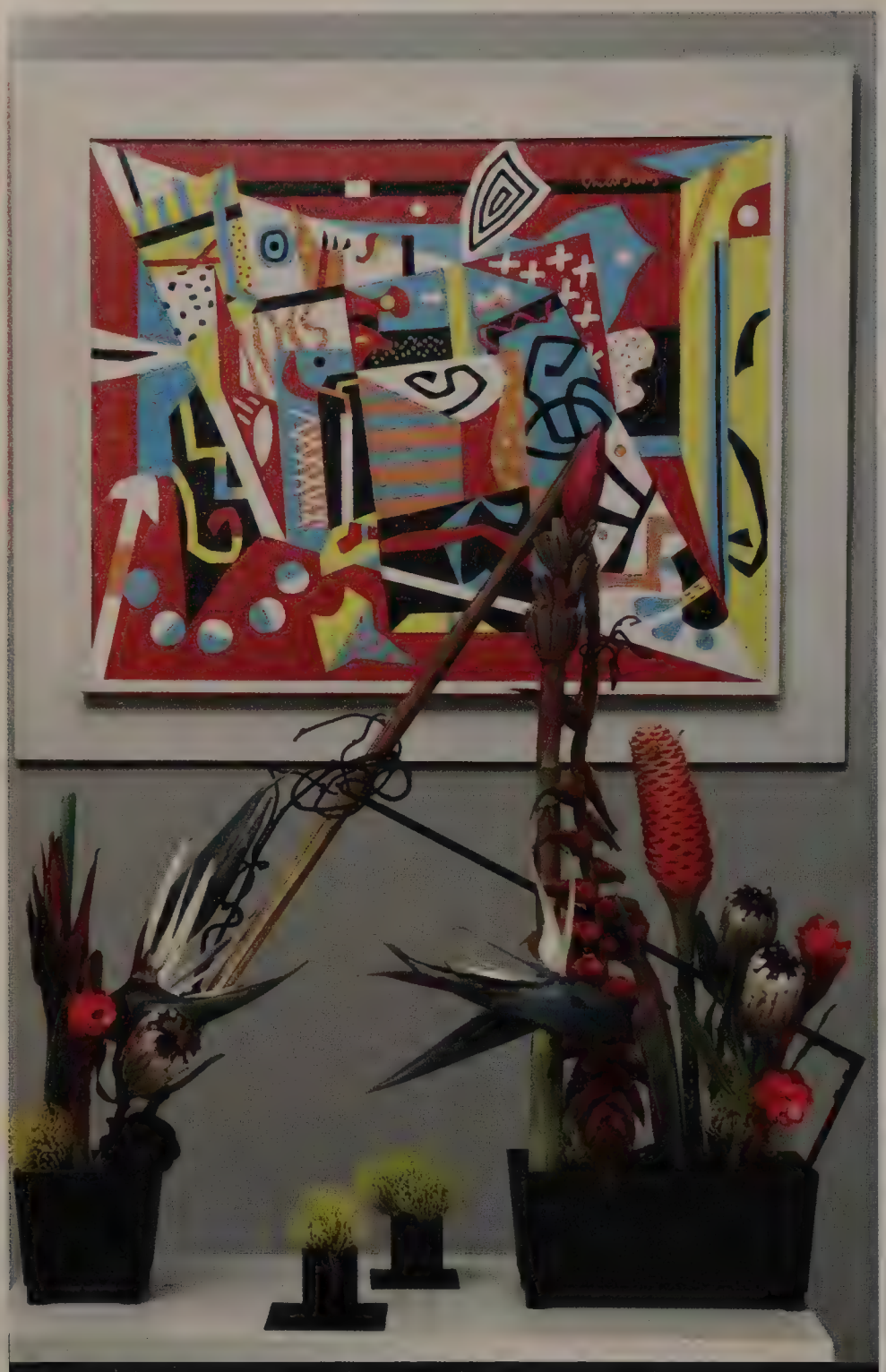
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AGENDA EDITED BY
Erin Hagedorn & Jessica Iredale
CALENDAR EDITED BY
Erin Hagedorn
Books & Poetry, Gay & Lesbian, Music, Movies, Around Town, Children, Education, Performing Arts
ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
Ezra Dyer CityScope, Dance Clubs, Sports
Jessica Iredale Museums & Galleries
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules







SUN./APRIL 25 – TUE./APRIL 27

Art: Full Bloom

April showers bring flowers a little early this year at the Museum of Fine Arts' 28th annual **Art in Bloom** event. Since 1976, volunteers from the MFA Associates organization have welcomed experts from the floral industry to sow their creative seeds in the galleries. This year, more than 60 New England garden clubs fuse foliage and artistic expression to create floral interpretations of nearly 80 works on display at the MFA, including Claude Monet's famous painting *Water Lilies*. The three-day exhibition has been known to draw more than 20,000 visitors, so if you're interested in attending any of the ticketed events (like a demo by London's Shane Connolly on the 27th or the Sneak Preview party on the 24th), get your tickets soon. *Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3395). $15-$125. www.mfa.org.*

SAT./APRIL 17

Music: Bring in the Noise, Bring in the Punk

Loved by the left, scorned by the far left (mainly for the crime of signing up with major record label EMI), the UK's **New Model Army** have taken a lot of grief over the years. Blessed with a devoted (at times fanatical) following, they've been lumped into categories like "goth," "crusty" and "punk," when all they are, really, is post-punk folk rockers. Now, why is that so hard to understand? Record-shop shelving issues aside, NMA's strength is its ability to create impassioned, anthemic paeans to a world gone awry. Whether putting the old days up on a pedestal or romanticizing today's disenfranchised castaway youth, few do it better and more earnestly than guitarist/singer Justin Sullivan and company. See them and sing along (with everyone else) at the Middle East Upstairs. *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). $10 advance, $12 doors. 18+.*



SUN./APRIL 18

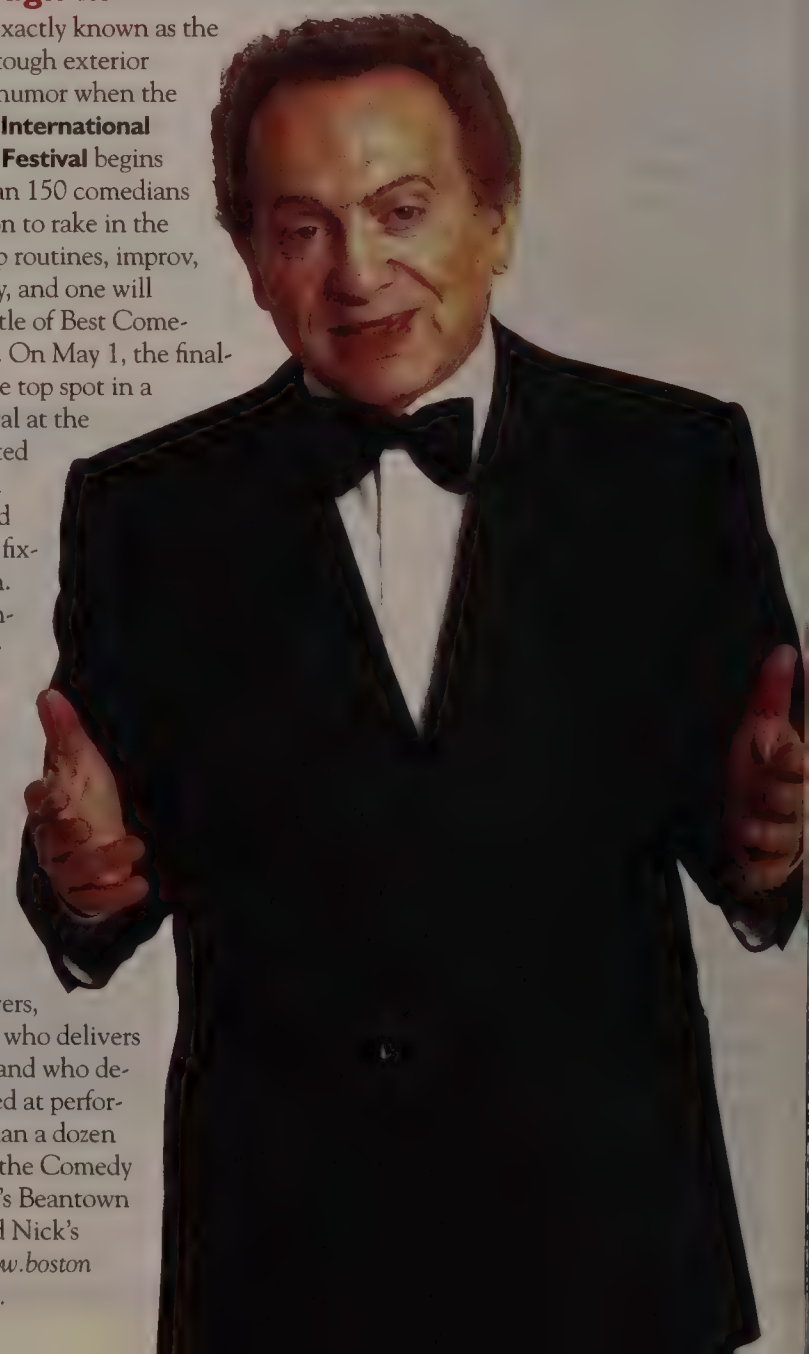
Performing Arts: Playing It Up

If you're like us, you always have the best intentions of seeing a good number of the plays that come to town, but wind up making it to far too few. You can make up for a year's worth of theatrical inactivity in one day at the annual **Boston Theater Marathon**. It's not for the fainthearted: over 10 hours, 45 new 10-minute plays, each one produced by a different New England theater company, are presented on two stages. Each play is performed twice, and companies taking part include the Commonwealth Shakespeare Company, the Theatre Cooperative, Zeitgeist Stage Company, Boston Theatre Works, Súgán Theatre Company, Huntington Theatre Company and New Repertor Theatre. The craziness starts at noon on Sunday and goes continuously until 10 pm. At 10:30 pm, audience members can join the nearly 100 actors, 40 directors and pla wrights (all of whom will probably be exhausted and very sweaty by this point) for a celebration with food, music and a cash bar. *Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-358-7529). www.bu.edu/bpt. 12-10 pm. $30.*

SUN./APRIL 25 – SAT./MAY 1

Comedy: Laugh In

Our fair city isn't exactly known as the friendliest, but its tough exterior gives way to good humor when the seven-day **Boston International Comedy & Movie Festival** begins April 25. More than 150 comedians converge on Boston to rake in the laughs via stand-up routines, improv, and sketch comedy, and one will emerge with the title of Best Comedian—and $7,000. On May 1, the finalists compete for the top spot in a comedic battle royal at the finale gala, co-hosted by local funnyman Steve Sweeney and *Hollywood Squares* fixture Tom Bergeron. Other festival highlights include one-man (or -woman) shows by comic bad boy Jackie Mason (pictured), at the Orpheum, and fashion maven/plastic surgery advocate (and BICMF lifetime achievement honoree) Joan Rivers, at the Wilbur. See who delivers a good punchline and who deserves to be heckled at performances at more than a dozen venues, including the Comedy Connection, Dick's Beantown Comedy Vault and Nick's Comedy Stop. *www.bostoncomedyfestival.com.*



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Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14

Big Apple Circus—Carnevale!
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Columbia Point, Boston (617-931-2787). www.bigapplecircus.org. Through May 9. Tickets start at $13. The Big Apple Circus is in town with its Carnevale–themed show. Performers include Grandma the clown, the Los Aregos acrobatic trio, the Aniskin Troupe trapeze artists and many others.

Men with Heart Launch Party
Kingfish Hall, 188 Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston. www.menwithheart.org. 6:30-8:30 pm. $35. This party includes hors d'oeuvres and door prizes and benefits Men with Heart, a group of men who raise money to fight breast cancer.

Pine Street Inn Benefit Dinner
Westin Copley Place Hotel, Boston. (617-521-7672). www.pinestreetinn.org. 5:30 pm. $200. Author Frank McCourt discusses how he overcame poverty, abuse and tragedy as a child to become a high school teacher and successful writer. Proceeds benefit the Pine Street Inn.

THURSDAY, APRIL 15

Clara Barton Humanitarian Awards Dinner
Seaport Hotel, 1 Seaport Lane, Boston (617-375-0700, ext. 282). 6 pm. $150. This cocktail reception and awards dinner raises money for the American Red Cross of Mass. Bay.

LVM Wine Auction
Boston Harbor Hotel, Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-367-1313). 6 pm. Wine enthusiasts bid on lots valued between $50 and $4,000 to benefit the Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts. The event includes dinner and a cocktail reception.

A Night to Aspire
Pravda 116, 116 Boylston St., Boston (626-922-8268). www.girlsaspire.org. Doors open at 7:30 pm, silent auction 8-10 pm. $20. This party, hosted by Asian Sisters Participating in Reaching Excellence, includes a silent auction and a DJ, and a drink ticket for guests arriving before 10 pm. Proceeds benefit ASPIRE's career mentor programs for high school and college girls.



FRIDAY, APRIL 16

Boston Beer Summit
The Castle at Park Plaza, Boston (888-945-2337). www.beersummit.com. Fri., 5-10 pm; Sat., 1-5 pm and 6-10 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $25 in advance; $30 at the door. This annual beer-sampling event features more than 50 brewers and 200 beers from around the world, as well as food from Brother Jimmy's BBQ.

SATURDAY, APRIL 17

Cue for the Cure
The Rack, 24 Clinton St., Boston (617-824-8146). 12-4 pm. $5 to enter tournament, which begins at 1 pm. This bracket-style billiards tournament raises money for the American Cancer Society and includes music and a raffle.



Boston Ballet's Swan Lake benefit is April 24.

SUNDAY, APRIL 18

Best Buddies Jazz Brunch
Hotel Marlowe, Cambridge (617-778-0522). www.bestbuddies.org. 11 am-2 pm. $38 in advance, $45 at the door. Siman Entertainment Jazz Trio performs at this benefit brunch for Best Buddies Massachusetts, an organization dedicated to enhancing the lives of people with intellectual disabilities. The event features a brunch buffet, a raffle and a silent auction.

Leslie's Links Benefit
Vox Populi, 755 Boylston St., Boston (617-424-8300). www.lesliеslinks.com. 7 pm-1 am. $35 in advance, $40 at the door. This party includes a DJ, dancing, live music from the Adam Ezra Band, hors d'oeuvres, a silent auction and a raffle. Proceeds benefit the Leslie's Links Ewing's Sarcoma Fund at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Hosted by the IMPROPER's Jonathan Soroff.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21

Cheers, Beers and Volunteers
Parris, 1 Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-624-8077). www.uwmb.org.cbv.htm. 6:30-8:30 pm. Come learn about volunteering at organizations including Big Brothers/Big Sisters, the Greater Boston Food Bank and Project Hope and enjoy complimentary appetizers. Harpoon beer sales benefit the United Way of Massachusetts Bay.

Taste of Beacon Hill
The Ballroom at the Ritz-Carlton, 15 Arlington St., Boston (617-720-7888). 6:30-9:30 pm. $55 in advance, $75 at the door if available. Beacon Hill restaurants, including No. 9 Park, Lala Rokh and the Paramount, serve up samples from their menus. A portion of proceeds benefits the Action for Boston Community Development's efforts to help the homeless and hungry. Sponsored by THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN.

THURSDAY, APRIL 22

Harvard Law Public Interest Auction
Austin Hall, 1515 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-8090). www.law.harvard.edu/students/opia/auction. 6 pm. This auction raises money to support Harvard Law students working for free in the public interest next summer. Past auction items have included a year's supply of Ben & Jerry's ice cream and backstage passes to a Rolling Stones concert.

SATURDAY, APRIL 24

Art in Bloom Preview Party
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3396). www.mfa.org. 8-11 pm. $125. Get a sneak peek at the Art in Bloom floral arrangements interpreting the MFA's *Gaugin Tahiti* exhibition. The party also includes music, dancing, desserts and chances to win trips and jewelry.

Boston Ballet Swan Lake Ball
Westin Copley Place Hotel, Boston. (617-456-6329). 6 pm. $500. Black tie. This annual benefit gala includes ballet performances, live music by Flipside, dinner and a live auction.

Seeing Is Believing Ball
Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 St. James St., Boston (617-739-3169). www.blindness.org. $200. Grammy Award–winning blues singer John Hammond performs at this benefit dinner for the Foundation Fighting Blindness.

Sheepshearing Festival
Gore Place Estate, 52 Gore St., Waltham. (781-894-2798). www.goreplace.org. 10 am-4 pm. $8. This annual outdoor fund-raiser for Gore Place features demonstrations of sheep-shearing, herding dogs, spinning, weaving and wool-dyeing, plus a craft fair and food vendors.

TJC 35+ Winter Wonderland Social Dance Party
Whitney Hall, Holiday Inn, 1200 Beacon St., Brookline. (781-444-7771). www.tjcboston.com. 8 pm-1 am. $15 in advance, $25 at the door. The J Conn tion hosts this social/dance for Jewish professio 35 and older, featuring a DJ and hors d'oeuvres.

SUNDAY, APRIL 25

Boston International Comedy and Movie Festival
Venues throughout the city. www.bostoncom festival.com. Through May 1. This seven-day, 1 comedian competition showcases local, natio and international performers, with a finale gal the Berklee Performance Center.

Hors D'oeuvre Fest
Icarus, 3 Appleton St., Boston (617-236-5200) 8:30 pm. $25 in advance, $30 at the door. More t 20 of the city's top restaurants serve hors d'oeu to benefit Chefs Collaborative, an organization promotes local and sustainable cuisine.

Raising the Roof Benefit
Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Bos (617-747-2262). www.ceeh.org. 2-4 pm. $35 $50. This all–a cappella concert features per mances from the Silver Leaf Gospel Singers, So Stage 7, MIT Muses, the Boston Gay Men's Ch and the Roxbury Latin Latonics. Proceeds ber the Committee to End Elder Homelessness.

MONDAY, APRIL 26

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN Boston's Beloved Bartenders Party
The Rack, 24 Clinton St., Boston. (617-725-1051 pm. The IMPROPER's annual party celebrating Beloved Bartenders issue includes a drink-mal competition and live music. Hosted by Jonathan roff and sponsored by KISS 108.

Spotlight Spectacular!
The Cyclorama, 539 Tremont St., Boston. (617- i522). 6 pm. $500. The Huntington Theatre C pany's annual spring benefit features a cocktai ception, silent auction, dinner, entertainment a live auction. Proceeds benefit the Huntingt youth education and community outreach progr

TUESDAY, APRIL 27

Boston Arts Academy Gala
The Comedy Connection, 245 Quincy Market P Boston (617-594-7956). http://boston.k12.ma.us/b pm. $150. The BAA's annual gala features a coc reception, live auction and performances from dents. Proceeds benefit the BAA and the Boston S phony Orchestra Resource Center.

Preview

Tired? No way.

Ondekoza drummers warm up by running the marathon

Most runners collapse with a sense of exhausted accomplishment as they reach the Copley Square finish line of the Boston Marathon. But for the Japanese runners of the musical group Ondekoza, the race is just a warmup. Immediately after crossing the finish line, the runners will turn into drummers, taking up their sticks and performing in the Japanese Taiko style—wearing only loincloths. (They run in normal running gear, however.)

Ondekoza formed in 1969. The group members live and work out together running and doing weight training in the mornings, reading and doing calligraphy—"to stimulate the right brain," says drummer Takahiro Yoshida, "which governs artistic creativity and instinct"—in the afternoons. The group occasionally retreats to a camp for a week of intensive rehearsals.

The marathon is, incredibly, a fairly short run for the group, which ran the perimeter of the United States between 1990 and 1993, covering nearly 10,000 miles and performing 355 concerts along the way. Their latest plan is to run across China, with completion scheduled in time for the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

The drummers are no slouches musically either, having worked with a variety of collaborators in genres ranging from classical (Seiji Ozawa) to house music music (DJ Jeremy Healy). In addition to the post-Marathon performance Ondekoza plays the preceding Saturday evening at the Copley Theatre, with fellow Japanese musicians the Bamboo Orchestra and jazz shamisen player Hiromitsu Agatsuma. Both appearances are part of the Japan Society of Boston's centennial celebration, which continues all year long with exhibitions, concerts, film series and seminars.

Saturday, April 17 (concert at Copley Theatre), and Monday, April 19 (performance in Copley Square, right after the members complete the race). For tickets to the Saturday performance ($40), call the Japan Society at 617-451-0726. —Keith Powers


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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater

JUST OPENED

Black Power
Leland Center, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.theatermania.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 and 7 pm. April 16-May 9. $20-$25. The black theater company Up You Mighty Race teams up with the New African Repertory Company in a performance of six one-act plays from the 1960s.

Boston Theater Marathon IV
Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-358-7529). www.bu.edu/bpt. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St. April 18, 12-10 pm. $30. A 10-hour marathon of 10-minute plays, each one produced by a different New England theater company.

Curse of the Starving Class
Chelsea Theatre Works, 189 Winnisimmet St., Chelsea (617-887-2336). www.theatrezone.org. MBTA: Orange Line or Green Line to Haymarket. Every Thu.-Sat., 8 pm. April 15-May 8. $15. This dark comedy by Obie Award winner Sam Shepard focuses on a dysfunctional family's search for meaning in life.

Esn: Songs from the Kitchen
Jewish Theatre of New England, 333 Nahanton St., Newton Centre (617-965-5226). www.lsjcc.org. Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. April 24-25. $12-$26. This songfest in Yiddish and English features the sights, sounds, and smells of traditional Jewish cooking.

Nine
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). www.turtle-lane.com. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. April 23-May 30. $15-$22. In this play by Arthur Kopit and Maury Yeston, based on Federico Fellini's 1963 film, a film director is on the verge of a nervous breakdown as he struggles to write and direct a new movie.

Le Roman de Fauvel
First & Second Church, 66 Marlborough St., Boston (617-262-2092). www.bostoncamerata.org. April 17, 8 pm. $22-$43. Joel Cohen directs this musical fable about sex, lies and politics in 14th-century France.

Rounding Third
Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 E. Merrimack St., Lowell (978-454-3926). www.merrimackrep.org. Tue.-Fri, 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. April 22-May 16. Richard Dresser's comedy tells the story of two Little League baseball coaches who must learn to get along in order to win the game.

Soapbox Derby
Industrial Theatre, 80 Plympton St., Cambridge (617-257-7480). www.industrialtheatre.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm. April 16-May 1. $10-$15. The Industrial Theatre's festival of new works features five plays about the art of public speaking.



Matthew Rushing is one of the Alvin Ailey dancers, at the Wang Theater through April 18.

Starlight Express
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.telecharge.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to NE Medical Center. Tue. and Thu., 8 pm; Wed. and Sun., 7 pm. April 27-May 2. $63. This production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's feel good musical features the creative team from the original London production.

NOW RUNNING

Big Apple Circus—Carnevale!
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Boston (617-262-8632). www.artsboston.org. Wed.-Fri., 7 pm. Through May 7. $29. The Big Apple Circus features acrobatics by Los Aregos, juggling by Andrey Markov, Arabian horse stunts and a variety of trapeze and high wire acts.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787).www.blueman.com/ticketinfo/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 and 10 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. Ongoing. $46-$56. This production abandons all dialogue and focuses on making an impact through tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Last Rites
BCA Black Box Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.thetheateroffensive.org. $25 general admission, Sunday matinees are pay what you can (minimum $10). Apr. 15-24. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm. Sundays, 3 pm. Playwright Letta Neely presents a story about a woman suffering from breast cancer who leaves her girlfriend and moves in with an old friend, her high school basketball teammate.

Menopause—The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). Tue.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat., 4 pm; Sun., 2 pm. Through May 9. $42.50. This parody by Jeanie Linders, set to the music of the 1960s and 1970s, explores the lives of four women in their 40s and offers a humorous take on the physical and mental changes they are facing.

The Mercy Seat
140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 pm and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Through April 17. $22-$41. Student rush tickets available one half hour before each performance for $10. Eric Engel directs Neil Labute's play about a man and woman who become entrapped in an adulterous affair in the aftermath of Sept. 11.

Mojo Mickybo
BCA Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8:00 pm; Sat., 4 pm and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Through April 24. $27-$32. The Súgán Theatre Company presents this story about two boys living in Belfast in the 1970s who form a friendship based on a mutual obsession with Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid.

9-Ball
Tremont Theatre, 276 Tremont St., Boston (866-811-4111). www.theatremania.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. Through May 22. $22-$25. Art Devine's play is based on a real-life identity swap in Lynn, Mass., during the Vietnam War.

Ragtime
Footlight Theatre, 7A Eliot St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3200). www.footlight.org. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2pm. Through April 17. $12-$18. Bill Doscher directs this production of Terrence McNally and Stephen Flaherty's musical, in which fictional characters interact with historic figures.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs
Wheelock Family Theatre, 180 The Riverway, Boston (617-879-2300). www.wheelock.edu/wft. Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat. and Sun., 3 pm. Through May 2. Special performances April 20-23, 1 pm. $12-$18. The Wheelock Family Theatre's production of this classic fairy tale is based on the original Grimm Brothers story of a jealous queen, her innocent, beautiful rival, and the seven dwarfs and handsome prince who come to the rescue.

The Sweepers
Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). www.stonehamtheatre.org. April 1-18. $16-$32. Robert Jay Cronin directs this play by John C. Picardi about three women who emigrate from Boston's North End from Italy at the end of World War II. The play is the first in a 10-part series about Italians living in the United States throughout the 20th century.

Titanic—The Musical
Arlington Friends Theatre, 22 Academy St., Arlington (781-646-5922). www.afdtheatre.org. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. Through April 18. $18. This musical by Peter Stone and Maury Yeston recounts the lives and dreams of the cruise ship's ill-fated passengers.

UNIVERSITY THEATER

Assassins
Walsh Theatre, Suffolk University, 55 Temple St., Boston (617.424.6634). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Thu.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. April 22-25. $12. Stephen Sondheim's comedic musical takes a twisted look at the pursuit of the American dream through the eyes of presidential assassins.

The Cherry Orchard
Spingold Theater Center, Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3400). www.brandeis.edu/theater. Tue.-Sat., 8 pm, Sun., 2 and 8 pm. April 20-25. $16-$20. Brandeis faculty member Liz Terry directs this production of Anton Chekhov's play.

A Dream Play
Boston University College of Fine Arts Room 10, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: Green Line to BU West. April 2, 8:30 pm; April 22, 8:30 pm; April 23-24, 9 pm; April 25, 8:30 pm. Lenny Liebowitz directs August Strindberg's dream-like play dealing with loss and redemption.

First Stages
Boston Playwright's Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-358-7529). www.bu.edu/bpt. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant Street. Mon. and Tue., 7:30 pm. Through May 11. Donations only. Graduating playwrights from Boston University present their original works.

Pippin
Emerson Stage at the Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (1-800-233-3123). www.maj.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed.- Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm. April 21-24. $15-$21. Stephen Terrell directs this classic musical by Stephen Schwartz and Roger Hirson about a young man searching for fulfillment.

Power of Darkness
Kresge Little Theater, MIT, 48 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4720). http://web.mit.edu/dramashop/ww. Through April 16. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm. $8. MIT assistant professor Jay Scheib directs the Dramashop presentation of Leo Tolstoy's play.

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead
Harvard/Radcliffe Dramatic Club at the Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-3800, www.fas.harvard.edu/~tickets. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. April 14-15, 7:30 pm; April 16-17, 8 pm. $10-$12. Jeremy Blocker directs Tom Stoppard's play about two famously doomed characters from Shakespeare's *Hamlet*.

CABARET

Ute Lemper
Berklee Performance Center, 136 Massachusetts Ave., Boston (617-876-4275). www.worldmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. April 24, 8 pm. $25-$3
German-born cabaret performer Ute Lemper performs her vampish interpretations of songs from the Weimar era.

Dance

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theate
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (617-6 6955). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line Boylston. Tue., 7:30 pm; Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Through April 18. $32-$67. T Alvin Ailey dancers combine skill and grace in th performance of Ailey's *Revelations*.

The Cuban Condition
Sanctuary Theatre, 400 Harvard St., Cambri (617-354-7467). www.ballettheatre.org. MBT Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 4 Through April 25. $28. The Jose Mateo Bal Theatre performs a cabaret-style show, chor graphed by Mateo, that explores the Cuban in ence on ballet.

MIT Open Ballroom Dance Competition
Rockwell Gym, MIT, 106 Vassar St., Cambrid http://ballroom.mit.edu. April 24-25, 7 pm. $5-$

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MAY 1ST



STEVE SWEENEY

MAY 7-8



JEFFREY ROSS

MAY 14-16



BRIAN REGAN

MAY 16-17

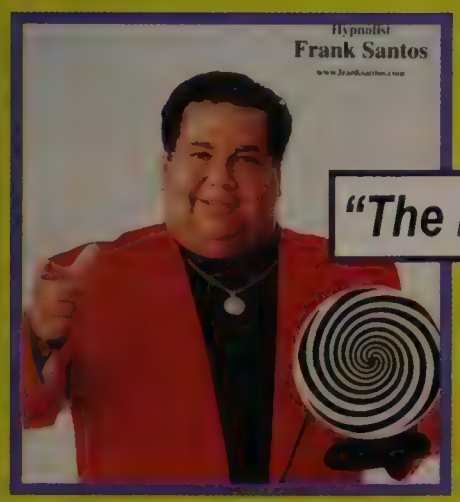


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Ten's the Limit
Green Street Studios, 185 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-4275). www.crasharts.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Fri.-Sat., 7 and 9 pm. April 16 and 17. $12. Eight Boston dance companies showcase their newest contemporary dance pieces in 10-minute segments.

Threefold
Green Street Studios, 185 Green Street, Cambridge (617-864-3191). www.greenstreetstudios.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. April 22 and 23, 8 pm. $12-$15. A modern dance showcase featuring choreography and improvisation by three artists.

Visions
Sargent Dance Studio, 1 University Rd., Boston (617-353-1597). www.bu.edu/perd. MBTA: B Green Line to BU Central. Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 8:30 pm. April 16 and 17. $5-$7. Boston University's Spring Dance Concert includes a variety of original choreography and dancing by students.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

STAND-UP CLUBS

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault at Remington's features local stand-up comedians. •Thursdays: Dick Doherty's Comedy Pro Tour •Fridays: the Fun Room, with Corey Manning •Saturdays: Boston's Best Standup •Sundays: open-mike night.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8 pm, $12; Thu., 8:30 pm, $12; Fri., 8 pm, 10:15 pm, Sat., 10:45 pm; Sun., 8 pm. Prices vary. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •April 15, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos, the R-rated hypnotist, $12. •April 16, 8 pm, 10:15 pm and 12 midnight: Dave Attell, host of *Insomniac*, $25. •April 17, 8 pm, 10:15 pm and 12 midnight: Dave Attell, $30. •April 18, 6:30, 8:30 and 10:45 pm: Mike Epps from *Friday*, $30. •April 20, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi, $12. •April 22, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos, $12. •April 23, 8 and 10:15 pm: Darrell Hammond, formerly of *Saturday Night Live*, $26. •April 24, 8 and 10:15 pm: Darrell Hammond, $29; Rickey Smiley, former host of BET's *Comic View*, 12 midnight, $21. •April 25, 7 and 9:15 pm: Rickey Smiley, $21.

Comedy Studio
Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •April 14: The Tony V Show with Kelly MacFarland, Tony Moschetto, Caroline Plummer, Larry Starr and more. •April 15: Claire McManus, Ku, Ken Reid, Jay Montepare, Mike Whitman, E.C. Neilson and Alana Devich. •April 16: Tim McIntire, Peter Dutton, T.J. Griffin, Anthony Spencer, the Walsh Brothers and more. •April 17: Tim McIntire, Peter Dutton, Jim Flaherty, Kirk Etherton, E.C. Neilson, T.J. Griffin, Dot Dwyer and Brian Gordon. •April 18: Sam Walters, Sandy Asai, D-Rob, E.J. Murphy, Matt Winnniger, E.C. Neilson and Eric Cheung. •April 20: Mystery Lounge. •April 21: Tony V with Kelly MacFarland, Brian Longwell, E.C. Neilson, Corey Manning. Brett Jordan and more. •April 22: Brian Longwell, E.C. Neilson, Arielle Goldman, Rob Reuter, Michelle Pierce and Cyndi Stiles. •April 23: Erin Judge, Dan Sally, E.C. Neilson, Myq Kaplan, Larry Murphy and more. •April 24: Steve Calechmann, Dan Sally, Greg Thibideau, Brian Gordon and more. •April 25: Sam Walters, Tommy Morello, E.C. Neilson, Max Silvestri, Ira Proctor, Jesse Gersten and Chris O'Carroll. •April 27: Mystery Lounge.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to NE Medical Center. $10-$22. •April 15-17: Jim McCue from Comedy Central. •April 22-24: Brad Mastrangelo from HBO and Showtime.

IMPROV COMEDY

Faces for Radio
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 510-4447). www.faces4radio.com. MBTA: Red L to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $8. Improv comedi poke fun at everything, including themselves.

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). ww improvasylum.com. MBTA:Green or Orange Line Haymarket, or Green or Blue Line to Governm Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also availab •Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 and 10 pm: *Dig...End of an Error!*, a revue of improvisatio and sketch comedy. •Wed.-Sat., 12 am, $5: *Midnight Show.* •Wed., 7 pm: *Pasta Wednesdays* p vides a pasta dinner to all audience members in tradition of Prince Spaghetti and the North End.

ImprovBoston
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-125 www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to C tral. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improv tional comedy troupe creates everything on spot: the characters, the stories, the settings—ev the songs and dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: *The Hu* Series for experimental and improvisational th ater. •Thu., 8 pm, $12: *Unnatural Selection.* master of ceremonies randomly eliminates play until only one is left. 10 pm, $5: *The Great and cret Comedy Show.* Brothers Chris and Da Walsh perform stand-up and music, play short fil and do character sketches in a display of sibling valry •Fri., 8 pm, $12: *Misunderstood.* Audie suggestions fuel an improv rock opera, compl with a live band. 10 pm, $12: *Theatre Sports.* teams of improvisers face off. •Sat., 6 pm, $12: *provBoston Family Show.* 8 and 10 pm, $12: *Impr Boston Mainstage.* Blending storytelling, music audience participation, a cast of improvisers c ates a show that changes with every performan •Sun., 7 pm, $5: *Sgt. Culpepper's Improvisatio Jamboree.* This evening combines three shows i one. Watch performances by visiting and lo troupes.

Improv Foundry
327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-3 6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Lin South Station. Thu.-Fri., 8 pm. $12. The group forms short improvisational comedy using audie suggestions.

COMEDY SHOWS

Mystery Café
Ristorante Marino, 2465 Mass. Ave., Cambridge 800-697-2583). www.mysterycafe.com. MBTA: Line to Porter. Sat., 7:30 pm. April 24. $49 (inch dinner). The Gourmet Detective serves up Ital cuisine with a murder mystery.

Off Broadway Comedy Fringe
Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway, 255 Elm St., Somer (617-591-1616). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. M days, 9 pm. Jimmy Tingle presents a comedy-var series featuring stand-up, sketch, short films and sical guests. •April 24, 10:30 pm. $5: Soft Pre Street Comedy Night.

Open Mike Night
Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon pm. Open mike for creative talent.

Paula Poundstone
Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham (7 279-2200). www.stonehamtheatre.org. Sat., 8 Sun., 2 pm. April 24 and 25. $27-$32. The co dian performs *Unauthorized Autobiography*, an beat commentary that focuses on recent event her life.

Stash's Comedy Jam
All Asia Cafe, 334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617- 1544). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. www.stashcon jam.com. First and third Sunday of every mo 8 pm. Enjoy standup comedy at this open mike host Stash.

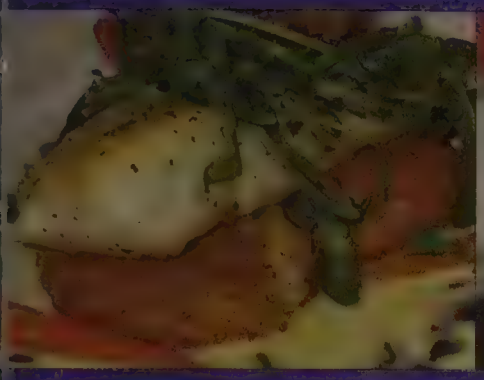
SPECIAL EVENTS

Boston International Comedy and Movie Festival
Multiple locations (617-782-8100). www.bo comedyfestival.com. April 25-May 1. More than comedians, many competing for the title of Best median, participate in this six-day annual fest •April 25, 8:30 pm. The Walk for Hunger Be Show at Nick's Comedy Stop. •April 26, 8 Boston Tea Party at the Comedy Connection; liminary Contest #1 at Dick's Beantown Co Vault; Preliminary Contest #2 at the Charles house. •April 27, 8 pm. Preliminary Contest Dick's Beantown Comedy Vault; Auction to Be the Boston Arts Academy at the Comedy Con tion. •April 27, 9 pm. Preliminary Contest #4 a Charles Playhouse.

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O Buford, Where Art Thou?

Walking Tall swings and misses

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Walking Tall is an odd choice for a remake, and the result is an odd remake. The much-sequelized, übervi-olent 1973 original dresses up the real-life exploits of Buford T. Pusser, a one-time pro wrestler who returns to his Tennessee hometown to find it controlled by thugs running illegal casinos and prostitution rings. Pusser, played by the inimitable Joe Don Baker with a nearly continuous "don't mess with me" expression on his face, fights back with a big stick of lumber, gets elected sheriff and almost literally drives the bad guys out of town on the front end of his station wagon.



WWE star The Rock and Jackass' Johnny Knoxville compare scars in *Walking Tall*

Now, ironies of ironies, you get a remake starring a onetime wrestler, and the hero isn't even ex-grappler Pusser. It's fictional ex-soldier Chris Vaughn. You also get casinos again, at a time when they're no longer entirely illegal (and the one in the movie isn't). And you get the same ultraviolence, when it's not so uncommon anymore (the original was banned in some countries due to its brutality).

The original's unusual violence and its B-movie populism made it stand out. The remake is just another violent action movie and was made by MGM. (The original, which I saw at the old Portland Twin Drive-In as a tyke, was a hit out of left field, an independent movie bankrolled by, surprisingly, Bing Crosby Productions).

For better or worse, the new *Walking Tall* is simple stuff. You know who's good, you know who's bad, and there's never any doubt. Yet, watching the film, I never felt much urge to pull for Chris (The Rock), who returns to his hometown in Washington state after eight years in the Special Forces. He's expecting to get a job at the sawmill that's been the backbone of the town, and where he thought his dad (John Beasley) still worked. But once he reconnects with his buddy Ray (Johnny Knoxville), he learns that the mill closed when Jay (Neal McDonough), another of their high-school buddies, inherited it, closed it down and greased enough palms to open a casino.

When Chris and Ray accept Jay's invitation to a night of fun at the casino, Chris sees all is not fun and games there. Bartenders are selling drugs, his ex-girlfriend (Ashley Scott) is dancing in a peep-show booth, and the croupier is slipping loaded dice into the game at the craps table. When he sees the last happen, Chris gets into a knock-down, drag-out with the bouncers—and he's the one knocked down and dragged out. Once he's up and around again, he takes a four-by-four of cedar to about half the casino (and half its bouncers). And when the crooked sheriff (Michael Bowen) won't do anything about the men who left him for dead, Chris presses charges, acts as his own lawyer and wins the trial by flashing his scars to the jury.

From there, it's just a hop, skip and a jump to Chris' being elected sheriff, and to big showdowns with Jay's paid thugs and, eventually, with Jay, who has a car salesman's grin permanently etched on his face. Although the police station shootout featuring Jay's armed thugs intentionally plays like over-the-top 1970s action, the one-on-one showdown, like so many movie fights these days, is shot so tightly that it's confusing. If only directors would pull the camera back, and get action choreographers who can let the actors tussle for more than a split-second between every edit, maybe then we'd care more.

The remake's producers must have thought this was the perfect post-9/11 time to give us a character who'll stand up and fight. It might have seemed that way a year ago. But in the wake of the Gulf War II's credibility gap and the excesses of the Patriot Act, a character who gets violent first and asks questions later doesn't make my fist pump in the air. It makes me recoil. When Chris walks into the closed sawmill for his big showdown, you just want to say, "Dude, how about putting the stick down and letting the state police and the courts handle this?" iB

Walking Tall ★★

Directed by Kevin Bray. Written by David Klass, Channing Gibson, David Levin and Brian Koppelman. With The Rock, Johnny Knoxville, Neal McDonough, Kristen Wilson and Ashley Scott. Rated R. At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Au Hasard Balthazar ★★★
Balthazar, a donkey, has a spirituality that the h
mans in Robert Bresson's often stunning 1966 pa
ble, just re-released, can't match. He provides co
fort to them and lets them load their burdens
him, yet he has no ego, pride or malice. Meanwhi
the people in the movie's French farming village f
sake Balthazar and make each other's lives mis
able. There are occasional hitches in the hum
drama, acted by nonprofessionals and first-tim
(for instance, the main instigator, a teen troub
maker, needs to be much more charismatic for t
other people to let him get away with so much). F
tingly, the donkey outdoes them all, right to t
moving finish. (At Kendall Square.)

Connie and Carla ★★★
Nia Vardalos returns to the big screen with a riff
Billy Wilder's *Some Like It Hot* that you might c
My Big Fat Drag Queen Wig. Vardalos (who wr
the script) and Toni Collette play Chicago lou
singers who witness a crime boss murdering an u
derling. The hunted women flee to West Hol
wood, where they end up impersonating drag que
in order to find work in a cabaret. Vardalos and C
lette both have a sunny kookiness that gets the co
edy over its dependence on stereotypes (there's lit
variety among the overemotional gay men th
meet). And while it may be easy to dismiss the pa
"gays are people too" sentiment, following the ha
debate over gay marriage, the sentiment see
pretty timely, after all. (At Boston Common, Fe
way and suburbs.)

Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind ★★
The latest mindbender written by Charlie Ka
man (*Being John Malkovich*, *Human Nature*, *Ad
tation*) is, as always, like an M.C. Escher drawi
in which you can't tell always tell which directi
things are headed, but you put your faith in t
hope that Kaufman will still get his characters
an interesting place. This time, the story abou
couple (Jim Carrey, Kate Winslet) who've h
their memories wiped of a fizzled relationship b
try to rekindle their romantic spark fails to rew
that faith. Kaufman bats around interesting id
about the struggle between science and hum
urges, but despite the appealing chemistry b
tween the stars, the ride isn't nearly as involvi
amusing, layered or cohesive as the metaphysi
journeys in *Malkovich* or *Adaptation*. (At Bost
Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Girl Next Door ★★
Emile Hirsch plays the teen Everyboy well, Elis
Cuthbert is whistle-worthy and Timothy Olypha
shows more life than he ever has before. Still, thi
a merely decent (and flagrant) *Risky Business* kno
off, with the aforementioned trio in the respect
Tom Cruise, Rebecca DeMornay and Joe Pantolia
roles. Hirsch plays a smart senior; the naughty b
he fancies (Cuthbert) is a porn star trying to get
of the business and Olyphant plays her boss, w
wants her horizontal on the set again. It's not
easy to connect the knockoff's dots but, to its cre
the film remains watchable. (At Boston Comm
Fenway and suburbs.)

Good Bye Lenin! ★★½
A loyal East German goes into a coma just bef
the Berlin Wall falls, and when she has to lea
stress-free life after she comes to, her son goes
great lengths to make sure she never learns that
Communist country doesn't exist anymore. T
great premise yields some amusing moments,
also some disappointing ones. Unlike in B
Wilder's brilliant *One, Two, Three* (which cove
similar territory after the wall went up), the com
here never quite hits high gear because the st
tempers that comedy with shades of drama. But
characters' family drama never becomes as me
rable as the premise. (At Kendall Square
Coolidge Corner.)

Hidalgo ★★★
It's not the most ambitious movie, but this 1890
adventure earns a lot of goodwill for its old-sch
desire to please the average moviegoer, and not
a narrow demographic segment. This tale of
American Pony Express rider who enters a pre
gious long-distance horse race in the Arab
Peninsula with his trusty mustang is a small bre
of fresh air. With an unassuming and appeal
Viggo Mortensen as its hero, the movie packs in
Saturday-matinee exotic entertainment of *The S
pion King*, though it doesn't shoot for humo
often. And it conveys a bond between man
horse better than the heavy-handed *Seabiscuit*
Although based on a true story, the desert adven



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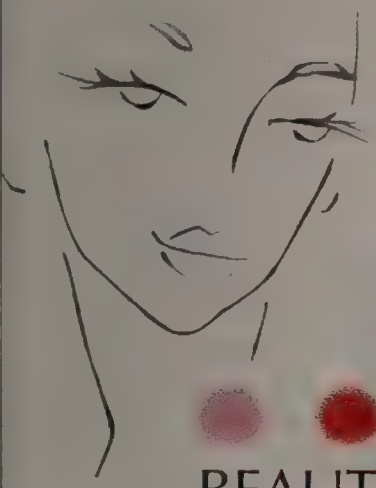
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should be taken with a big grain of salt, since it turns out hero Frank T. Hopkins may have told a tall tale or two in his day. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Intermission ★★★
Think of it as an Irish version of Scotland's *Trainspotting*. Sex, drugs and rockin' crime are the main sparks to this comedy, which lights on fire when one foolish Dubliner (Cillian Murphy of *28 Days Later*) dumps his dishy girlfriend (Kelly Macdonald of *Trainspotting*) "as a test," and she promptly hooks up with a married man (Michael McElhatton). This dubious act causes a ripple effect that spills into the lives of the married man's wife (Deirdre O'Kane), a surly bus driver (Brian F. O'Byrne), a macho cop dying to be a celebrity (Colm Meaney) and even an out-of-control thief (Colin Farrell). The movie is never as wild again as it is in its opening scene, so there's a steady petering, but the dark comedy usually connects, and it never totally runs out of momentum. (At Copley Place, Harvard Square and Waltham Embassy.)

Jersey Girl ★★
Ben Affleck turns in a strong performance as a Manhattan publicist whose wife dies in childbirth, and who soon thereafter loses his job for badmouthing a client and ends up back at his dad's in New Jersey. Affleck and Raquel Castro, as his daughter, have a playful chemistry, and the performances make up for some of the weaknesses in writer-director Kevin Smith's script. But despite oddly appealing touches, (Affleck, Liv Tyler and Castro sing a song from *Sweeney Todd* at the girl's school variety show), the action often defaults to the most generic touches, like including bland Fleetwood Mac or Springsteen songs at "emotional" moments. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Johnson Family Vacation ★★
More power to Cedric the Entertainer, who headlines his first comedy here. But this knockoff of *National Lampoon's Vacation*—this time about a black Los Angeles family struggling to make it to a Missouri family reunion—strains to generate laughs. The only sustained amusement comes in the two stretches when Cedric and his fellow *Original Kings of Comedy* vet Steve Harvey face off as two grown brothers who are still as competitive (and childish) as they were at age 10. (Opens April 7 at Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Ladykillers ★★★
The Coen brothers' latest is as much a companion piece to their *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* as it is to the Alec Guinness English comedy it remakes. In transplanting to the Deep South the tale of robbers masquerading as musicians, the Coens have given it some of the down-home feel of *O Brother*, using gospel music here as they did bluegrass in that film. Tom Hanks, who plays more of a character role here as a highfalutin' Southern intellectual trying to rob a casino, isn't George Clooney funny here, but the irrepressible Irma P. Hall, as the God-fearing landlady who finds out what the Poe-quoting intellectual is up to, just about makes up for it. (At Loews Boston Common, AMC Fenway and suburbs.)

The Passion of the Christ ★½
What's more creepy—to watch a man beaten to a literal pulp for half of Mel Gibson's Jesus movie or to realize that the movie is more about Christ's scars than his teachings? It's a toss-up, but they're the sort of things that keep the movie from being genuinely dramatic (the cheesy slo-mo moments don't help, either). You have to admire Gibson as a producer for doing it his way—on his own nickel, in subtitled Aramaic and Latin. But as a director he gets little across except violence, right up to the money shot of blood squirting from Jesus' hands as they're nailed to the cross. Also, this is the *Lord of the Rings/Harry Potter* Bible movie: if you haven't read the book three times, it's not going to fill in any of the details for you. Consequently, most of the potentially "controversial" elements are too murky to change a general audience's views on anything, since the relationships between the Jews and the Romans and between Jesus and the Jewish leaders remain unclear. In fact, if you're just an average moviegoer who can't quote scripture but is just looking for a good story, this plodding ode to martyrdom was not made for you. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Spartan ★★★
It looks as if David Mamet has settled into making thrillers with interesting premises and credibility-challenging twists and turns. Partially filmed in Boston, this story about the abduction of the president's daughter has its occasional stumbling blocks, like the plot's dependence on several calls being made to a pay phone. (How many pay phones take incoming calls anymore?) But it holds up better than Mamet's last film, 2001's *Heist*, because of unorthodox touches like its intimate focus on the Secret Service and covert ops specialists working on getting the girl back. Val Kilmer plays one of these specialists, a self-described "worker bee" who's forced to think beyond military protocol once he realizes the cynical politics behind the situation. As with the pay phones, there are several leaps of faith you just have to take—jumps that you wouldn't make for a less interesting movie. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Starsky & Hutch ★★★
I never had any desire to see *Starsky & Hutch* on TV. But with Ben Stiller and Owen Wilson in the title roles and the action played intentionally for laughs, I was there. And I was rewarded. The two stars bring just the right daffy charm to the buddy-cops—one intense, the other laid-back—as the partners go after a smug cocaine kingpin (Vince Vaughn). You get Tab, muscle cars, afros, Jewfros, tube socks, disco, freedom rock, *Rhoda* head scarves and other 1970s cheese while S & H prowl the mean streets of Bay City with the help of Huggy Bear (Snoop Dogg). Think of *The Brady Bunch Movie* with guns. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Taking Lives ★★
Angelina Jolie's latest is a half-decent, *Seven*-style tale about the search for a serial killer—until its strained final half-hour. She plays an FBI agent specializing in profiling serial killers who is asked to come up to Montreal to help police there solve a series of grisly murders. This thriller never gets too intense, but then again it never gets too gimmicky either, until that final half-hour, in which the story turns to a glaringly obvious plot twist. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The United States of Leland ★★
A tedious post–*American Beauty* mire of suburban misery, produced by and co-starring that movie's Kevin Spacey. This one is about an oddball teen (Ryan Gosling) who, for no apparent reason, kills the retarded brother of his ex-girlfriend (Jena Malone). Writer-director Matthew Ryan Hoge casts his net wide and offers a boatload of flawed characters—like Spacey in his "smug" mode as the killer's arrogant author dad—but he doesn't come back with much. It's hard to see what the point of it all is, besides getting a numb butt. The movie's mistake-ridden humanity, including Don Cheadle's juvie-hall teacher who is sympathetic toward the teen, simply doesn't coalesce. For what it's worth, most of the actors cast to play teens (Gosling, Chris Klein and Michelle Williams) are noticeably too old for their parts. (Opens April 9 at Harvard Square, Copley Place and Waltham Embassy.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Boston Jewish Film Festival
•April 20, 6 pm. **Ruthie and Connie: Every Room in the House** *2002*. This documentary tells the story of two Jewish lesbians fighting for gay rights in New York City. Deborah Dickson directs.
•April. 26, 6 pm. **Hester Street** *1975*. Joan Miklin Silver directs this look into immigrant life on New York's Lower East Side during the 1890s.

Never Too Late Group Film Program
•April 22, 2 pm. **Born Yesterday** *1950*. A junkyard tycoon hires a newspaper man to teach his ex-showgirl mistress proper etiquette. George Cukor directs.

BRATTLE THEATRE

The Brattle Family Film Revue
•April 17-22, 1:30 and 3:30 pm; April 23, 1:30 and 3 pm. This short film program includes cartoons featuring Bugs Bunny and cohorts, as well as a selection of live action shorts from the likes of Mr. Bean, Charlie Chaplin and Laurel and Hardy.

Special Engagements—Lucas Belvaux's The Trilogy
•April 14, 15, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:50 pm; Sat. and Sun. matinee, 2:40 pm. **On the Run** *2002*. The first film in Belvaux's trilogy is about a political radical who breaks out of prison and turns to a former sympathizer for help.
• April 16-22, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm; April 22, 7:45 and 9:45 pm . **An Amazing Couple** *2002*. In the second installation of Belvaux's trilogy, a woman hires a detective to trail her hypochondriac husband through a series of secret doctor appointments.
•April 22-26, 5, 7:25 and 9:50 pm. **After the Life** *2002*. A police officer tries to help his drug-addicted wife through a painful recovery in the final film of Belvaux's trilogy.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Coolidge Selects
•Now playing. **Balseros** (*Rafters*) *2003*. Carlos Bosch and Jose Maria Domenech co-direct this documentary that details the lives of Cuban refugees who sailed homemade rafts to the United States.
•Now playing. **Dogville** *2003*. Lars von Trier's film stars Nicole Kidman as a woman hiding from gangsters in a small Colorado town during the Depression.
•Now playing. **Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind** *2002*. See film capsules for a description.
•Now playing. **MC5 * A True Testimonial** *2002*. This documentary directed by David C. Thomas looks at the legendary and influential '60s rock band the MC5.
•Now playing. **Hiding and Seeking: Faith and Tolerance After the Holocaust** *2004*. Documentary director Menachem Daum traces a journey he and h Orthodox Jewish sons took to explore post-Hol caust Poland.
•Opens April 23. **Flag Wars** *2003*. This docume tary explores economic competition in the comm nity of Columbus, Ohio, between two largely o pressed minority groups. Linda Goode Brya directs.

Midnight Movies
•Through May 22, 12 am. **Spike and Mike's Si and Twisted Festival of Animation** presents a pr gram of warped cartoons, including *How to Co With Death, Sickcom, Mama I'm a Thug*, and *T Big Abandoned Refrigerator Adventure*.
•April 17, 12 am. **Dragon Princess** *1981*. Son Chiba is a karate master who trains his daughter take revenge on those who disgraced the fam name in Yutaka Kohira's film.
•April 24, 12 am. **Inframan** *1975*.Hua-Shan's an mated film incorporates everything from octop men to savage robots to staged karate fights.

Special Events
•April 19, 7 pm. **The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari** *191* The Devil Music Ensemble provides live musical a companiment to Robert Wiene's German expre sionist silent horror film.
•April 25, 7 pm. **Pale Male.** Earth Night Brookli 2004 celebrates nature with a screening of a Frede Lilien's documentary about red-tailed hawks in Ne York City, followed by a short film about the Mud River made by students from Brookline Hi School.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Frames of Mind
•April 21, 7 pm. **Lost in Translation** *2003*. So Coppola's Oscar-winning screenplay follows tw displaced Americans in Japan who find each oth and form a friendship based on their mutual loss direction.

Further Pursuits: Recent Activist Cinema
•April 16, 7 pm. **Refugee** *2003*. Spencer Nakasa directs this diary-style documentary about thr young men raised in San Francisco' Tenderloin D trict who travel to Cambodia.

Masterworks of Modern Cinema
•April 19, 7 pm. **Stalker** *1979*. Director And Tarkovsky takes the audience on a journey into mystical place called "the Zone,"where one's sec desires are revealed.
•April 26, 7 pm. **A Woman Under the Influen** *1974*. An emotionally distraught woman finds it d ficult to maintain her sanity in this film directed John Cassavetes.

Yasujiro Ozu: A Centennial Celebration
•April 14, 9 pm. **Soshun** (*Early Spring*) *195* Ozu's longest film tells a story about the disil sionment of Shoji, a young graduate whose l seems to be on a predictable course until he d cides to alter his direction.
•April 17, 7 pm. **Shukujo to Hige** (*The Lady and Beard*) *1931*. This film focuses on the Westerni tion of Japan during the Depression and follow kendo sword fencer and his involvement with th women. •Also showing, 9 pm. **Tok no Gassho** (*Tokyo Chorus*) *1931*. employee from an insurance agenc fired and faces financial challen from the demands of his family.
•April 18, 7 pm. **Hijosen no Or** (*Dragnet Girl*) *1933*. In this film int enced by American gangster movie woman leads a double life. Also sh ing, 9 pm. **Sono Yo no Tsuma** (*T Night's Wife*) *1930*. This drama t the story of a woman holding a pol detective captive while she cares her husband and critically ill child.
•April 20, 7 pm. **Nagaya Shin Roku** (*The Record of a Tenement G tleman*) *1947*. The relationship tween an old woman who does not children and the abandoned child v is left with her is at the center of O depiction of orphaned children postwar Japan. •Also showing, 8 pm. **Chichi Ariki** (*There Was a Fat 1942*. Tragedy uproots a widower his son, and the son moves away pursue his education.
•April 23, 7 pm. **Bakushu** (*Early S mer*) *1951*. In one of Ozu's most claimed postwar films, a family slo disintegrates after a daughter's un pected marriage. •Also showing, 9 pm. **Higan-bana** (*Equinox Flo 1958*. Ozu's first color film depicts


Race day gets under way in the new IMAX movie *Nascar 3D*, at the New England Aquarium through May 9.



n Connie and Carla, Nia Vardalos and Toni Collette flee criminals and impersonate drag queens.

perience of a father whose daughter does not are his ideas on arranged marriage.
April 24, 8 pm. **Umarete Wa Mita Keredo** *(I Was rn But...) 1932*. One of the director's most re-ected films, this is a dark comedic look at the rela-nship between children and their parents.
April 27, 7 pm. **Ukigusa Monogatari** *(A Story of oating Weeds) 1934*. In this silent film, Ozu tells e story of a theater troupe leader, his illegitimate n and the drama in their lives. •Also showing, 9 n. **Rakudai Wa Shita Keredo** *(I Flunked But...)* 30. This comedy about a college student plot-ng to cheat on exams was one of the director's fa-rites. •Immediately following. **Daigaku wa eta Keredo** *(I Graduated But...) 1929*. Ozu's ort social commentary on the unemployment of llege graduates highlights the inability of young ults to find jobs.

exture Analysis: Fashion and Film

April 13 & 14, 7 pm. **In the Mood for Love** *2000*. t in bustling 1960s Hong Kong, Wong Kar-wai's nsual film chronicles an urban love affair between o people who live in the same apartment building.

USEUM OF FINE ARTS

rt on Film

April 15, 2 pm; April 22, 5:30 pm; April 24, 10:30 n. **Rivers and Tides: Andy Goldsworthy Working th Time** *2001*. Thomas Riedelsheimer directs this cumentary about sculptor Andy Goldsworthy.
April 15, 8 pm; April 16, 6 pm; April 17, 2:20 n; April 22, 2 pm. **How to Draw a Bunny** *2002*. hn Walter's film about Beat artist Ray Johnson cludes interviews with the artist's contempo-ries such as Chuck Close, Roy Lichtenstein and dith Malina.

lms from Along the Silk Road: entral Asian Cinema

April 15, 4 pm. **The Daughter-in-Law** *1972*. nodjakuli Narliev's film is about a widow who re-ses to believe that her husband was killed in orld War II and cuts herself off from her family to aintain her delusion.
April 17, 10:30 am. **Without Fear** *1972*. Ali namraev's film follows a Red Army officer in the 20s as he attempts to modernize a local vil-ge. •Also playing, 12:30 pm, **Man Follows Birds** *75*. Ali Khamraev's film chronicles the education a young boy in medieval Uzbekistan.

ree Films for All Ages: Journey Asia

April 20-23, 10:30 am and 12:30 pm. This program, commended for ages 7 and up, includes five short ms that explore the culture and history of Japan.

ew England Film Artists Presents eve Subotnick

April 15, 6 pm. Animator Steve Subotnick screens d discusses his own animated films, including ass Crow and **Hairyman**, and films by his influ-ces, including Amy Kravitz's **River Lethe** and onne Andersen's **We Will Live Forever**.

utrageous Artist on Film

April 16, 8 pm; April 17, 4:10 pm; April 22, 3:45 n; April 23, 5:45 pm; April 24, 2 pm. **The Legend Leigh Bowery** 2001. Charles Atlas directs this cumentary about the flamboyant 1980s perfor-ance artist, who died of AIDS at 33.

hird Boston Turkish Film Festival

April 22, 7:30 pm, April 24, 3:40 pm; April 29, 3:45 n. **Distant** *2003*. Nuri Blige Ceylan directs this Cannes Film Festival Grand Jury Prize–winning film about two isolated cousins seeking to survive in the city.
•April 23, 7:30 pm. **The Waiting Room** 2003. A director seeking to make a film out of Dostoyevsky's *Crime and Punishment* grows apart from his girlfriend and questions his ambition and morality. Director Zeki Demirkubuz is present for the screening.
•April 24, 12:15 pm. **Block C**, *1994*. A woman dealing with a failing marriage and other personal issues is spied on by a man in her apartment complex. Director Zeki Demirkubuz attends. Following the screening, at 2 pm. Demirkubuz discusses his films.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater

•Through May 27. **Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West**. Trek through raging rivers and uncharted wilderness to commemorate the bicentennial of the explorers' journey, brought to life by National Geographic Films. Call for show times.
•Through May 27. **India: Kingdom of the Tiger**. Explore the kingdom of the Bengal tiger, from the Himalayas to Rajasthan. *Call for show times.*
•Through June 12. **Jane Goodall's Wild Chimpanzees**. Travel to Africa's Gombe Stream National Park with Goodall for close encounters of the primate kind. *Call for show times.*

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater

•Through May 9. **Space Station 3D**. Tom Cruise narrates a tour of the international space station. *Call for show times.*
•Through May 9. **NASCAR 3D**. Experience life in the fast lane with NASCAR pit crews and drivers clocking over 200 mph. *Call for show times.*
•Through June 18. **Bugs! 3D**. This film focuses on the world of insects in the tropical rain forests of Southeast Asia. See bugs magnified up to 250,000 times their normal size. *Call for show times.*
•Through June 18. **Ghosts of the Abyss**. Director James Cameron takes audiences two miles beneath the sea's surface to explore the wreckage of the Titanic. *Call for show times.*
•Through June 18. **Ocean Wonderland 3D**. This film explores the ocean floor of the Bahamas and Australia's Great Barrier Reef, with their sharks, sting rays and rainbows of tropical fish. *Call for show times.*
•Through June 18. **Volcanoes of the Deep Sea**. Dive to the bottom of the sea with a team of scientists, as they explore hydrothermal vents, shipwrecked gardens, predators and bioluminescent creatures. *Call for show times.*

STUDIO CINEMA

Belmont International Film Series

•April 18, 7:30 pm. **Open Hearts** *2003*. A tragic accident brings two people together in Copenhagen. Suzanne Bier directs.
•April 19, 7:30 pm. **The Man Without a Past** *2002*. Aki Kaurismäki's film about a man who loses his memory after being savagely beaten took home the Grand Jury Prize at the 2002 Cannes Film Festival.
•April 25, 7:30 pm. **My Terrorist** 2002. Former Israeli flight attendant Yulie Cohen Gerstel documents how her experience with terrorists aboard a flight in the 1970s changed her view of the Israeli/Palestinian conflict. •Immediately following, **Gacaca, Living Together Again in Rwanda?** *2002*. Anne Aghion's documentary depicts Rwanda's attempt to restore peace after the 1994 Tutsi genocide.
•April 26, 7:30 pm. **Borders** *2002*. Seven Africans brave a hazardous journey to illegally emigrate from Senegal to Spain. Mostefa Djadjam directs.

WANG CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Classic Film Series

•April 19, 7 pm. **Ciao America** *2002*. An Italian-American returns to Italy to get a new perspective, and ends up coaching football and falling in love. Frank Ciota directs.

Cinema Venues

BELMONT

Studio Cinema

376 Trapelo Rd. (617-484-1706). MBTA: #73 bus to Beech Street.

BOSTON

Boston Public Library

666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)

100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre

201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St. (617-266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center.

Loews Boston Common

175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science

Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

Wang Center for the Performing Arts

270 Tremont St (617-482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema

399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Reservoir.

Coolidge Corner Theatre

290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre

40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Fresh Pond

168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive

24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema

One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony

10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema

27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema

1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony

35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Museum

1 Westwood Road. (617-666-9810).

Somerville Theatre

55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.



Force of nature

Sleater-Kinney broadens its world of punk rock and politics

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Activism wasn't foreign to Sleater-Kinney when the punk trio sprang from the Pacific Northwest in the mid 1990s, partly inspired by the feminist "riot grrrl" scene.

"Women were playing the drums and being in bands, and it was very much not like you're just the girlfriend of the guy in the rock band," singer-guitarist Corin Tucker says of that scene, which was big in Olympia, Wash., where her group began. "Really exciting discussions went on about feminist ideas, and translating those thoughts into a language that was palatable for teenage girls."



Punk trio Sleater-Kinney (from left, Janet Weiss, Carrie Brownstein, Corin Tucker) plays the Roxy.

"These women read pretty sophisticated books by feminist authors, but then, in the art we made, it was turned into music, fanzines and films that were hip and cutting edge," she says. "It was taking textbooks out of a stuffy shelf and turning them into something that people could get excited about."

Certainly people could get excited about Sleater-Kinney. The trio, completed by guitarist-singer Carrie Brownstein and drummer Janet Weiss, blossomed into a tornado, with taut, angular music backing Tucker's bold voice of vibrato and bravado. "I wanted to sing in a way that would stand out and grab people's attention," she says.

But in terms of activism as well as music, Sleater-Kinney broadened its vision on its latest record, 2002's acclaimed *One Beat*. In addition to well-placed keyboards, strings and horns to supplement the band's twin guitars and drums, that CD reflected post–9/11 emotions in co-written songs such as "Far Away" and "Combat Rock," with its line "Since when is skepticism un-American?"

"I really write from instinct more than anything else," Tucker says from her home in Portland, Ore. "I feel like the songs tell me what they're about, and I have to just respond to that. And that was so clear after 9/11."

The band's performances have been equally incendiary, evidenced last summer by a bracing set at the Tweeter Center in support of Pearl Jam, which also brought the trio out for feisty encores of "Fortunate Son" and "Rockin' in the Free World" that led to a curfew battle with the promoter. But that was nothing compared with the liberal tour's political fallout.

"Going on tour with Pearl Jam right when the war on Iraq happened was intense," Tucker says. "Our first show was in Denver, which, unbeknownst to me, was a huge military audience. So I get up there before anybody and start spouting off about the war, and got booed by 15,000 people.

"Debate has opened up in the past year, and that's been really great," she adds. "The climate right after 9/11 was extremely binding and suffocating in terms of things you couldn't even talk about in public, and that's been true at times during these past four years. But there is a strange sense of hope now, hope that Bush is going to get voted out of office."

Expect more political sparks—and some new songs—when Sleater-Kinney plays the Roxy April 25. "That's our forte, our live show," Tucker says, "and we're really looking forward to getting back and being able to do that.

"This administration has been really frustrating, and I'm sure that will be reflected on the next record," she says, noting the group hopes to hit the studio this fall, but is dealing with writer's block. "We've gotten stuck, and I don't really want to force something like that."

After four CDs on the Olympia-based Kill Rock Stars, the band also isn't sure how it will release its next album, though Tucker says she doubts they would shift to a major label. "All the downloading stuff really has hurt record labels, and it's hurt a lot of indie labels," she says. "There are some places we could go, but it's just finding the right fit for us, 'cause we like to do our own thing."

The delay stands in contrast to her preference for getting things done. "As I get older, I really feel like there's no time to waste," says Tucker, 31. "I'm speaking out against things. I don't think that any of us in the band see ourselves as politicians or even sophisticated politically. But we draw inspiration from bands that talked about politics in a really artistic way like the Clash, which was a huge influence to us."

Tucker says her father helped chart her course. "He really brought me up to debate things," she says. "He's a critical thinker—and had really good taste in music. I stole his Clash records. But he also played Woody Guthrie."

Now she's the parent of a toddler. "Being a new parent, I don't think anything else can make you more political and aware and less cynical," Tucker says. "You really want the country that they grow up in to be the best it can be." iB

Sleater-Kinney
plays the Roxy April 25.

Advice to Contributors
Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fa (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or b email to music@improper.com. Include dates, times prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not ac cepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers
Information for the Music section is compiled from di ferent sources. Although we make every effort to provid accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahea to double-check dates and times (see complete list venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Edie Brickell April 27, Paradise Rock Club (617 423-NEXT).
Emergenza Festival April 15-18, Paradise Roc Club (617-423-NEXT).
Melissa Etheridge April 23-25, Avalon (617-423 NEXT).
Fuel, Dogfight and Breaking Benjamin April 1 Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Sarah Harmer and Hayden April 21, Paradis Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Israel Vibration and III Kings April 14, Axis (617 423-NEXT).
Mason Jennings April 24, Paradise Rock Clu (617-423-NEXT).
Cui Jian and Twista April 14, Avalon (617-423 NEXT).
Mariza April 17, Berklee Performance Cent (617-876-4275).
Muse April 15, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
Onelinedrawing April 20, Axis (617-423-NEXT)
Orchestra Baobab April 24, Somerville Theatr (617-876-4275).
Quannum Tour 2004, with DJ Shadow, Blackal cious, Lifesavas, the Gift of Gab, Lyrics Born, La teef and the Chief, Latryx, Joyo Velarde and DJ Sharp April 15, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Queensryche April 22, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)
Reel Big Fish, Sugarcult and Maxeen April 1 Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Damien Rice April 17, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)
Josh Ritter and Erin McKeown April 2 Somerville Theatre (617-931-2000).
Simon Shaheen & the Near Eastern Music Ensem ble April 18, Sanders Theatre (617-876-4275).
Shoghaken Ensemble April 24, Cambridge Mult cultural Arts Center (617-577-1400).
Sleater-Kinney April 25, Roxy (617-423-NEXT).
Slightly Stoopid and Pepper April 21, Axis (61 423-NEXT).
The Slip April 18, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
Story of the Year, Motion City Soundtrack an Letter Kills April 21, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Tortoise April 20, Roxy (617-423-NEXT).
The Waifs April 22, Paradise Rock Club (617-42 NEXT).
WBOS Festival for the Earth, featuring Third Ey Blind, the BoDeans and Los Lonely Boys April 24, the Hatch Shell.

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14

Avalon Cui Jian and Twista, 7 pm, $20.25, 18+.
Axis Israel Vibration and Ill Kings, 9 pm, $18, 18+.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Breezeway Lenny Stalworth and the Funk Mo 7:30-10:30 pm.
The Burren Front room: traditional Irish music, pm. Backroom: Hot Day at the Zoo, 9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Michael Troy and Charlotte Kendric CD-release show, 8 pm , $10.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacey Baker and Emily DeGra 9:30 pm.
The Fireplace Rob Mitzner Trio, 9:30 pm, no cove
The Green Briar The Love Dogs.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard, no cove
Hennessy's Me and Julio, no cover.
Johnny D's Thea Hopkin and David Horton, 9:45 p
Kennedy's Midtown Michael Larson, no cover.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low 7:30-9 pm; Deb Pasternal 8:30 pm; the Dennis Brennan Band, 9:30 pm, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Kontrast, Kevin So and Mi night Shack, the Francis Kim Band, Russel Wolf an Bigger Than Britney, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Paradise Graham Colton and State Radio, 7 p $10, 18+.
Plough & Stars Bad Art Ensemble.



kitchen

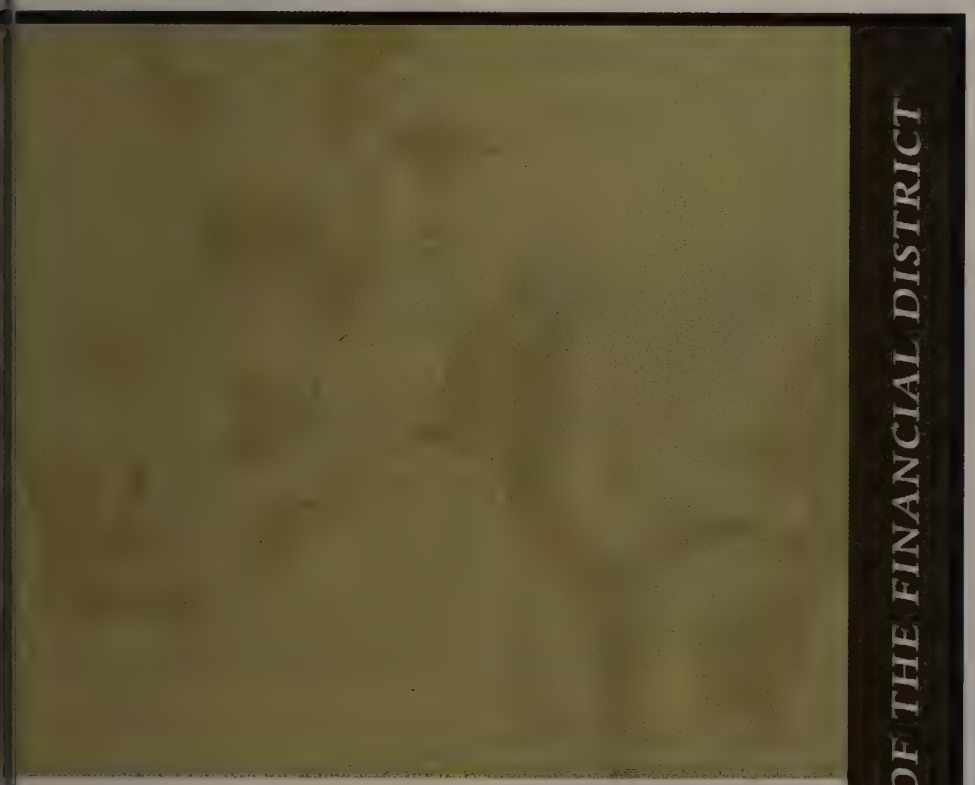
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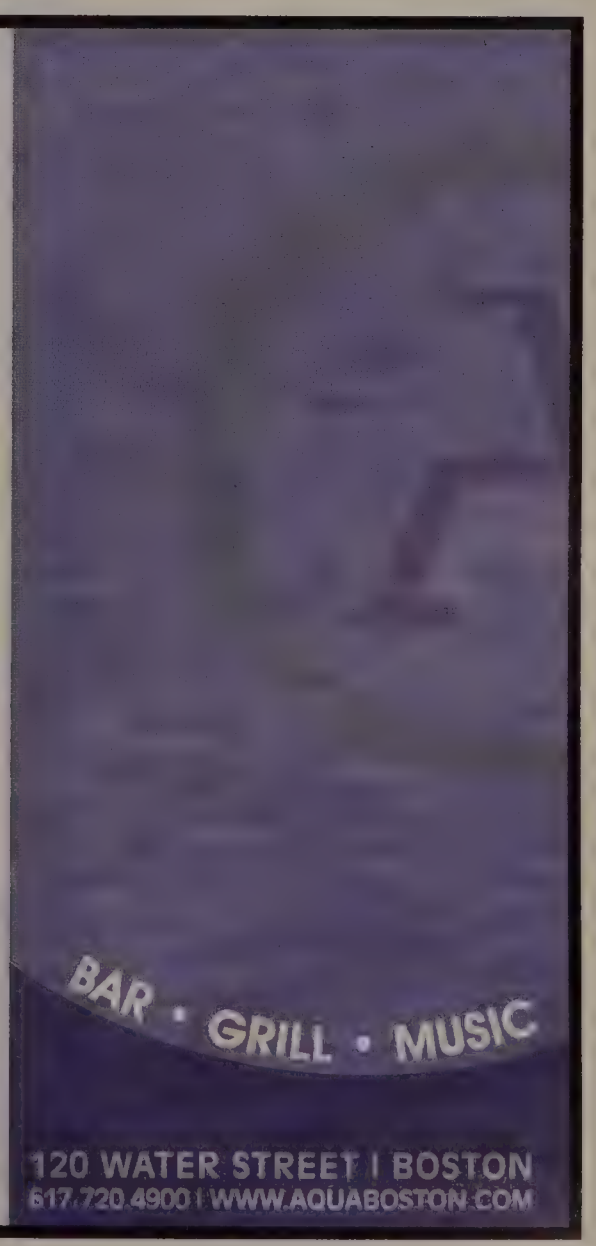


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Ryles Jazz Club Matthew Stubbs Band, 9 pm, $7.
Scullers Cubanismo, 8 and 10 pm, $28.
The Skellig Bluegrass Session, 9 pm.
Sky Bar Two Finger Split, Paradem and the Swift, 8vpm, $6, 21+.
Toad Ultimate Frisbee, 7-9 pm. Pascal, Stephanie Rearrick, and Milkbaby, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Tobin Sprout, the Fly Seville and Bon Savants, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Marion Campos Trio, 7-9 pm; Six Organs of Admittance, 9:30 pm-12 am.
ZuZu The Blind King.
Les Zygomates Leo Blanco, 7:30-11:30 pm.

THURSDAY, APRIL 15

Abbey Lounge The Drags, 11:30 pm; Amigazo, 10:30 pm; Cherry on Dragon, 9:30 pm. $5, 21+.
Avalon DJ Shadow, Blackalicious and Lifesavas, 7 pm, $25.25, 18+.
Axis Muse, 7 pm, $12, 18+.
Bill's Bar Chauncey, Sparticle and Christian Porn Machine, $10 for 18+, $8 for 21+, 18+.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's ZMQ, 7:30 pm.
Breezeway Justice Dobring Quartet, 7:30-10:30 pm.
The Burren Front room: traditional Irish Music, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Chris Waller, Gordon Beadle and New Day, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Tom Russell and Andrew Hardin, 8 pm, $18.
Dick's Last Resort Death By Marriage, 7:20 pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Mary Callahan and Brian Patton, 9:30 pm.
The Fireplace Little Joe Cook, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Briar DJ Stelah.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
The Harp DJ Lou, 10 pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry Robert Walter's 20th Congress and the Boston Horns, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe, no cover.
Johnny D's October Project, 9 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield, no cover.
Kirkland Café Flash in Blue, Polaroids and Once Over, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low 7-9 pm, no cover; Club D'elf, 9:30 pm, $7.
Paradise Emergenza Festival, 8 pm, $15 in advance, $18 day of show, 18+.
Parris Maxi Courtney, 10 pm, no cover.
Regattabar La Timba Loca, 7:30 and 10 pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Harvie S, 8 pm, $10.
Scullers Claudia Acuna Quartet, 8 & 10 pm, $18.
The Skellig Front room: Helena Delaney, 9 pm; back room: John Burrows and the Coca-Banana Band, 10 pm.
Sky Bar Dark Sky Thylacine, Lunar Girl, Lucubro, DJ Gryffin, 8 pm, $6, 21+.
Toad Lucky 57 and The Coal Palace Kings, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Beatings, Pilot Light, Union Ares and Scuba, $7.
Zeitgeist Gallery Dada Quartet, 7-9 pm; Rosie Thomas and Denison Witmer, 9:30 pm-12 am.
ZuZu Matthew Goulet, no cover.
Les Zygomates The Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm.

FRIDAY, APRIL 16

Abbey Lounge Lost City Angels, 11:30 pm; the Marvels CD-release show, 10:30 pm; the Erotics, 9:30 pm; Malibu Lou, 8:30 pm. $5. 21+.
Avalon Fuel and Breaking Benjamin and Dogfight, 6:30 pm, $15, 18+.
Axis Hudson Falcons, Sinners & Saints, Suspect Device, Skells and Blue Bloods, 6 pm, $10, all ages.
Berklee Performance Center Rainbow Band, 40th Anniversary Celebration, 8:15 pm, $5.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Mctaggarts. Downstairs: Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Myanna, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Backroom: Jet City, 10 pm, $3.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Tracy Grammer and Martyn Joseph, 8 pm, $15.
Common Ground Revibe, 10 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Encore Lounge Jan Peters, 9:30 pm.
The Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the No Way Jose Band, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Aaron Burnett Trio, 6:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Maxi, 5-7 pm; Random Axis, $5.
The Green Briar Cherry Orchard.
The Green Dragon Tavern 5 to the Face, $5.
The Harp Steamroller Picnic, 10 pm, $10.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Addison Groove Project May 8, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Christina Aguilera and Chingy June 18, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000) .
Lewis Black's Rules of Enragement May 8, Berklee Performance Ceneter (617-931-2000).
Blink 182 and No Doubt June 8, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Blondie May 8, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Blues on Tour May 3, Orpheum (617-931-2000)
Buffalo Tom May 7, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
David Byrne May 20, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).
Dido June 19, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Fleetwood Mac May 28, TweeterCenter (617-931-2000).
Fountains of Wayne and Evan Dando May 6, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Franz Ferdinand June 16, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Indigo Girls June 11, Fleet Boston Pavillion (617-931-2000).
John Hiatt May 26, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Jump Little Children and the Features May 14, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Angelique Kidjo and Femi Kuti June 25, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
The Moody Blues June 25, Fleet Boston Pavillion (617-931-2000).
Alexi Murdoch and Teitur April 28, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Peaches May 2, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
The Raveonettes and the Rogers Sisters May 5, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
RJD2, Diverse and Automato May 15, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Alejandro Sanz April 30, Orpheum (617-931-2000).
Bob Schneider April 29, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Silence = Your Death 2004 Tour with the Suicide Machines, Against All Authority, the Code and the River City Rebels April 30, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
Ska Is Dead Tour with Catch 22, Mustard Plug, Big D and the Kids Table, and the Planet Smashers April 29, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
Britney Spears June 23, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
A Static Lullaby, The Bled, Christiansen and Retisonic April 28, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
Sting and Annie Lennox June 28, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
The Strokes and the Stills May 15, Orpheum (617-931-2000).
Tesla May 4, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
The Thrills May 28, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Glenn Tilbrook May 27, Paradise Rock Cub (617-423-NEXT).

Harper's Ferry Benefit for the Rock 'n' Roll Library featuring Waltham, Seamless, We're All Gonna Die, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Audio Underground, $5.
Johnny D's Kim Wilson, 9:45 pm, $15.
Kirkland Café The Deal, Kent Variety, Audrey Ryan Band and Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, featuring Jabe Beyer, 7-9 pm; Fooled by April, Chubby Hubby, Orange Park and Meldrome, 9:30 pm, $7.
Middle East Upstairs: 90 Day Men, 9 pm, $9, 18+;
Milky Way Queercore Blitz tour, with the Dead Betties, the Kitty Kill, Davies vs. Dresch, Triple Creme and Boy Skout, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Paysy and Tony, $5.
Orpheum Theatre Silky Soul Fest with Frankie Beverly & Maze and Lenny Williams, 8 pm, $45-$60.
Paradise Emergenza Festival Semifinal, 8 pm, $15, 18+. Lounge: Mad Cat Party! featuring the Hudson Falcons, Maybe Piece and Suspect Device, 10 pm, $3, 21+.
Parris Flavor, 10 pm, $5 before 9 pm, $10 after 9 pm.
Plough & Stars Electrolux.
Regattabar Sergio Brandao and Manga Rosa Brazilian Jazz Octet with Fernando Brandao, Felipe Salles and Alida Rohr, 7:30 and 10 pm, $14.
Ryles Jazz Club Harvie S, 8 pm, $10.
Scullers Marian McPartland Trio, 8 and 10:30 pm, $25.
The Skellig Front room: Irish music, 9 pm; back room: Swingin' Johnsons, 10 pm, $3.
Sky Bar Downward Limit, Sudden Trip, Tunnel Drill and Bastard Hat, 8pm, $6. 21+.
Symphony Hall "Three Mo' Tenors" with Ramone Diggs, Kenneth Gayle and Marvin Scott, 8 pm, $45-$65.
Toad Amelia White and Sarah Borges.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm-1 am.



Canadian singer/songwriter Sarah Harmer performs at the Paradise April 21

T.T. the Bear's Place Need New Body, Mobius Band and Morning Theft, $8.
Zeitgeist Gallery Onda, Cage, Cohen and Ichiyanagi, 7-9 pm; Dave Maxwell's Outtakes Unlimited, 9:30 pm-12:30 am.
ZuZu Gian Carlo Bucaglia, no cover.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm-12 am.

SATURDAY, APRIL 17

Abbey Lounge Coffin Lids, 11:30 pm.
Artists-at-Large Gallery John Voigt, Jame Merenda and Luther Gray, 8 pm, $8.
Avalon Damien Rice and the Frames, 7 pm, $22.2 in advance, $25.25 day of show, 18+.
Berklee Performance Center Mariza, 8 pm, $25-$3
The Black Rose Upstairs: Celtic Clan. Downstair McTaggart, Happy Hour and Bobby Folkes.
Bob the Chef's Black Sole Network, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Kid session, 2 pm; Backroom: Rando Axis, 10 pm, $3.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, pm, 21+.
Club Passim Stephen Kellogg and Todd Martin, and 10 pm $16.
Common Ground Gaffney and Dr. Awkward, pm, $5.
Copley Theatre Hiromitu Agatsuma, the Ondeko Drummers and the Bamboo Orchestra, $40.
Dick's Last Resort The Big '80s, 8:30 pm, no cove
Encore Lounge Kezia Hirsey, 9:30 pm.
The Good Life Cambridge Weepin' Willie. 9:30 pm no cover, 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Jim Porcella Trio, 9:3 pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Dick and Jane, $5.
The Green Briar American Made.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnson $5.
The Harp Steamroller Picnic, 10 pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry Fighting Gravity and Cori Yarcki $8, 21+.
Johnny D's NRBQ, 9:45 pm, $15.
Kennedy's Midtown All Reggae All Night wit Satellite Sound and Big Mood Hi-Powa, 10:30 pm $5 before 11:30 pm, $10 after, 21+.
Kirkland Café Selling Venus, Odd Body, Patron and Amorium, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm; National T Turnoff Week party with local rockers, 9:30 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: New Model Army, Jason Ben nett and Pete Depressed, 9 pm, $10 in advance, $1 day of show, 18+. Downstairs: Savath and Savela with Juana Molina and DJ Nobody, 8 pm, $12 in ad vance, $14 day of show.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy and Tony, $5.
Paradise Emergenza Festival Semifinal, 8 pm, $15 i advance, $18 day of show, 18+. Lounge: Grupo Fan tasma, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Parris Flavor, 10 pm, $5 before 9 pm, $10 after 9 pm
Purple Shamrock Scooby Snax.
Ryles Jazz Club Thaddeus Hogarth, 8 pm, $10.
Sanders Theatre Jim Hall, 8 pm, $15.
Scullers Marian McPartland Trio, 8 and 10:30 pm $25.
Sky Bar Greesome, Buddha's Belly and Analo Method, 8 pm, $6, 21+.
Toad Cash Monies and the Jetsetter, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Daniel Johnston, Scou Niblett Kahoots and Joy, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Chris Cutler and Andrew Neu mann, 9:30 pm-12 am.
ZuZu Soul Le Lu Lah, no cover.
Les Zygomates Sandra Aran, 8 pm-12 am.

SUNDAY, APRIL 18

Avalon Reel Big Fish, Sugarcult and Maxeen, 6:3 pm, $17, all ages.
Axis The Slip and DJ Klock, 8:30 pm, $16, all ages
The Black Rose Downstairs: Celtic Clan; Happ Hour: Bobby Folkes.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Nat Simpkins Jaz Quartet, 10 am-3 pm.
Breezeway Bobby Ward Trio, 11 am-3 pm.
The Burren Irish music, 2 pm; Backroom: Singe Songwriter Series with Danielle, 8 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's blues jam, 9 pm 21+.
Club Passim Clumsy Lovers and Niall Connoll 7:30 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Bishop Charlie's Angels, 10 am 3 pm; Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Caro; O'Shaughnessy, 9:30 pm.
The Green Briar Inchicore.
Harper's Ferry Bang Box, $5, 18+.
Johnny D's Jazz Brunch with Ridgley Snow, 9 am 2:30 pm; blues jam, 4:30-8:30 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: Moneen, Northstar and th Fight, 9 pm, $10, 18+. Downstairs: Him, Kill Hall nah and Eighteen Visions, 8 pm, 18+.



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Paradise Emergenza Festival, 8 pm, $15 in advance, $18 day of show, 18+. Lounge: Jen Chapin and Julian Coryell, 7 pm, $10 in advance, $12 day of show, 21+.
Plough & Stars Cranktones.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday jazz brunch with Yoko Miwa, 10 am.
Sanders Theatre Simon Shaheen and the Near Eastern Music Ensemble, 7:30 pm, $20-35, all ages.
Sky Bar Childhood Scar, Oddbody and Oscar Bruno, 8 pm, $5, 21+.
Symphony Hall Herbie Hancock, Jack DeJohnette and Dave Holland Trio, 7 pm, $27.50-$37.50.
Toad The Spring Hill Rounders, 7-9 pm; Session American with Ry Cavanaugh, Sean Staples, Dinty Child and Jimmy Fitting and Killy Beard, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Bourbon Street Paraders, 12-2 pm; Tim Ray Trio, 8 pm-12 am.
Tower Records Cambridge Su Casa, 3 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place MassEquality.org benefit with AdFrank, Annie Clark, Paula Kelley, Mary Lou Lord, Britta Wolfrum and Liz Stahler, $10.
ZuZu The Bombastics, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Philippe Lejeune, 7-9 pm.

MONDAY, APRIL 19

Bill's Bar We're All Gonna Die, the Forlorn Hope and Eighteen Wheels of Justice, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Cantab Lounge Oopen mike, 8 pm; Justin Roth, 9:30 pm.
Club Passim Arabesque, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Classic Trax, 2-6 pm; Big Time Rocks, 7 pm-12 am, no cover.
Encore Lounge Steve Heck, 9:30 pm.
The Green Briar Irish Seisiun.
Johnny D's Riot Act open mike, 7-9 pm
Lizard Lounge Soul Low 7:30-8:30 pm, no cover; Crooners Delight with Kevin Barry and Consuelo Candalaria, 9:30 pm, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Cereberus Shoal, Kayo Dot, the Friendly Bears, Brass Castle and the Nightlights, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Paradise Lounge: Local H and Cobra Verde, 9 pm, $12, 21+.
Plough & Stars Beek, Rhodes and Jefferies.
Toad Shwang, 8-10 pm; Tim Gearan Band, 10:30 pm.
Top of the Hub Tim Ray Trio, 8 pm-12 am.
Zeitgeist Gallery 3 Play, 7 pm; the Fringe, 10 pm.
ZuZu The Fritters, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Black Soul, 7-11 pm.

TUESDAY, APRIL 20

Axis Onelinedrawing, 7 pm, $10, all ages.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
The Burren Open mike with Hugh McGowan, 7 pm.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm; the Jake Armerding Band, 10 pm, 21+.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9:30 pm.
Harper's Ferry Fat Tuesday featuring Alex Howland and Backbone Blues, $6, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover; the Chandler Travis Philharmonic, 9:30 pm, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Love Scene and Stateside, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Paradise Snow Patrol, 8 pm, $10, 18+. Lounge: Jessica Laurie Ensemble, 8 pm, $8, 18+.
Plough & Stars Michael Tarbox.
Regattabar Paul Im and Remember Rockefeller, 8:30 pm, $12.
Roxy Tortoise, 9 pm, $16.50.
Ryles Jazz Club Interoceanico, 9 pm, $7.
Scullers Humberto Ramirez, 8 and 10 pm, $16.
Toad Todd Thibaud, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8 pm-12:30 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Letterday, $5.
Zeitgeist Gallery Audrey Ryan and Naomi Sommers, 9 pm-12 am.
ZuZu Leah Callahan, Shaun Wolf Wortis, Jonathan Vincent and Brian O'Neill.
Les Zygomates Jason Domnarski Trio, 8 pm-12 am.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21

Avalon Story of the Year and Motion City Soundtrack, Letter Kills and Adair, 7:30 pm, $13.75 in advance, $15.25 day of show, all ages.
Axis Slightly Stoopid and Pepper, 8 pm, $15.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Breezeway Jeff Felder, 7:30-10:30 pm.
The Burren Susan McGeown, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's blues jam, 9 pm 21+.
Club Passim Christopher Williams and Susan Gibson, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacey Baker and Emily De Graff, 9:30 pm.


Mason Jennings' blend of pop, rock and folk music is at the Paradise April 24.

The Fireplace Rob Mitzner Trio, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Johnny D's Great American, Cletus and the Barnburner, 8:30 pm, $6.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie, no cover.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, featuring Michael Dinallo and Barrence Whitfield, 7-9 pm, no cover; the Dennis Brennan Band, 9:30 pm, 9:30 pm, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Elf Power, Palomar, 9 pm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Radio 4, the Fever and Certainly Sir, 8 pm, $10 in advance, $12 day of show, 18+.
Paradise Sarah Harmer and Hayden, 8 pm, $15, 18+. Lounge: The Clickers, 9 pm, $5 under 21, $3 for 21+, 18+.
Plough & Stars Bad Art Ensemble.
Regattabar Natraj with Chitravina N. Ravikiran, 8:30 pm, $16.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Mandolin Project, 9 pm, $15.
Scullers Karrin Allyson, 8 and 10 pm, $18.
Sky Bar The Easter Blood Hounds, Crash Alchemist, Blacklisted and Awakening Stick, 8 pm, $6, 21+.
Toad Colleen Sexton, 7-9 pm; the Ken Clark Organ Trio, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8 pm-12:30 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Halogens, the Fly Seville the Spaceshots and Brett Rosenberg, $8.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Dmitry Ishenko Trio and Steve Lacy, 8 pm, 10 pm.
ZuZu The Big Digits.
Les Zygomates Silas Hubbard, 7:30-11:30 pm.

THURSDAY, APRIL 22

Abbey Lounge Penis Fly Trap, 9:30pm; Nobody's Heroes, 10:30 pm; Karination, 11:30 pm.
Avalon Queensryche and Symphony X and Pamela Moore, 7 pm, $25.25, 18+.
Bill's Bar The Ducky Boys with Confront and the Call Up, $10 for 18+, $8 for 21+, 18+.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's N'Decision, 7:30 pm.
Breezeway Justice Dobrin Quartet, 7:30 - 10:30 pm.
The Burren Irish music, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Chris Waller, Gordon Beadle and New Day, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Pat Humphries and Amy Carol Webb, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Classic Trax, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Encore Lounge Mary Callahan and Brian Patton, 9:30 pm.
The Fireplace Gwen Leathers, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Briar DJ Stelah.
The Harp DJ Lou, 10 pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry OM Trio and Nikulydin, $10 for 18+, $7 for 21+, 18+.
Johnny D's Lori McKenna and Carol Noonan, 9 pm, $15.
Kirkland Café Dan Hilton and Honey Delux, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, featuring the Underwriters, 7-9 pm, no cover; Alphatide, Bowman and Greystone, 9:30 pm, $7.
Middle East Upstairs: Beauty Pill, Solea, Circle and Square, the Fakers, 9 pm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Tractenburg Family Slide Show Players, 8 pm, $10 in advance, $12 day of show, 18+.
Paradise The Waifs, 9 pm, $15, 18+.
Parris Maxie Courtney, 10 pm, no cover.
Plough & Stars Stan Martin.
Regattabar The Rusty Scott Quintet and Bill Pierce, 8:30 pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Mandolin Project, 9 pm, $15.
Scullers Karrin Allyson, 8 and 10 pm, $18.
Sky Bar Firewalk, Caroline Gulde and Juniper's Daughter, 8 pm, $6, 21+.
Toad Planet 3, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8 pm-12:30 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Mappari, Scamper, Passenger and Max Heinegg, $8.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Dmitry Ishenko Trio and Steve Lacy, 8 pm, 10 pm.
ZuZu Raymond Morin, no cover.
Les Zygomates The Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm.

FRIDAY, APRIL 23

Abbey Lounge Classic Ruins, 9pm; Country Doctors, 9:45 pm; Blacklisted, 10:45 pm; Karination, 11:45 pm.
Avalon Melissa Etheridge, 7 pm, $75.25, 18+.
Bill's Bar The Ducky Boys, Crash and Burn, Elgin James and the Suicide Gang, $10 for 18+, $8 for 21+, 18+.
Berklee Performance Center United We Funk Tour, featuring Confunkshun, the Dazz Band and Midnight Star, 7:30 pm, $48. and $58.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Sunday's Well; Downstairs: Eugene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Jazz Quartet, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Backroom: Bumpin Uglies, 10 pm, $3.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, pm, 21+.
Club Passim Grey Eye Glances and We're About 7 and 10 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Hit Squadd, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Emmanuel Church Jazz Composers Alliance Orchestra CD-release, 8 pm, $8-12, all ages.
Encore Lounge Jan Peters, 9:30 pm.
The Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the N Way Jose Band, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Aaron Burnett Trio, 6:3 pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Maxi, 5-7 pm; Brick Park, $5.
The Green Briar Stout.
The Green Dragon Tavern Freeze Pop, $5.
The Harp Peatmoss, 10 pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry The Joshua Tree (U2 Tribute) an Curtain Society, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Spike the Punch, $5.
Johnny D's Brett Rosenberg Problem, the Rudds an the Other Girls, 9:45 pm.
Kirkland Café The Din, deFault Outfit, the Tick and the Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover; Papi Thin Stages and Emergency Music and Mitten 9:30 pm, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Lamont, the Konks, Ichabo Shanghai Valentine, 9 pm, $9, 18+; Downstair Meet the Day, Sudden Ease, Missing Joe and Violet Nine, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
Milky Way Pressure Cooker, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Alan and Tommy, $5.
Paradise Mike Doughty, 9 pm, $12, 18+. Lounge Coffee House Presents Meg Hutchinson, Davi Berkley and Soltero, 9 pm, $12, 21+.
Parris The Interns, 10 pm, $5, 9 pm.
Plough & Stars Kevin Connelly Band.
Regattabar Donal Fox with John Patitucci and A Foster, 7:30 and 10 pm, $16.
Ryles Jazz Club Ken Werner, 8 pm, $14.
Scullers Duke and the Drivers, 8 and 10:30 pm, $2
Sky Bar Arcade, Climb and Thousand Days, 8 pm $6, 21+.
Somerville Theatre Josh Ritter and Erin McKeown 7:30 pm, $15.50, all ages.
Toad Freelance Bishops.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Pills, Roxie, the Schem and Starla Dear, Endway, $8.
Zeitgeist Gallery Tiger Saw, Seekonk, Picastro, Cil ing moses, 9:30 pm-12 am.
ZuZu Gian Carlo Buscaglia.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm-12 am.

SATURDAY, APRIL 24

Abbey Lounge Fast Actin' Fuses, 10:30 pm; Cocke and Loaded, 11:30 pm.
Avalon Melissa Etheridge, 7 pm, $75.25. 18+.
Berklee Performance Center Ute Lemper, 8 pm $25-$37.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Sunday's Well; Down stairs: Eugene Byrne; Happy Hour: Jim Coyle.
Bob the Chef's The Black Sole Network, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Kid Session, 2 pm. Backroom: Under cover, 10 pm, $3.
Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center Shoghake Ensemble, 2 and 8 pm, $30.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, pm, 21+.
Club Passim Paul Rishell and Annie Raines, an Lloyd Thayer, 8 pm, $12.
Common Ground The Swinging Johnsons, 10 pm $5.
Dick's Last Resort Death By Marriage, 8:30 pm, n cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Kezia Hirsey, 9:30 pm.
The Good Life Cambridge Weepin' Willie. 9:30 pm no cover, 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Jim Porcella Trio, 9:3 pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Magnus, $5.
The Green Briar The Risk.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scooby Snax, $5.
The Harp Peatmoss, 10 pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry "Monsters of Mock" w/Red Hot, th official Motley Crue Tribute Band, $10, 21+.
Johnny D's Four Piece Suit and Racky Thoma 9:45 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown All Reggae All Night wit Satellite Sound and Big Mood Hi-Powa, 10:30 pm $5 before 11:30 pm, $10 after, 21+.
Kirkland Café Friends of Kathy Duff Rock and Ro Party with Lyres, Real Kids, Eric Martin and the I lyrians and Classic Ruins, $7.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, featuring Bill Fallon, 7 pm, no cover; the Ray Corvair Trio, 9:30 pm, $7.
Middle East Upstairs: Deerhoof, 1 pm, $10, 18+ Lucero, Caged Heat, 9 pm doors, $9, 18+; Down stairs: Runner and the Thermodynamics, the Mod

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Sons, the Good North, the Infomation, Harris, 8 pm, $10 in advance, $12 day of show, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Alan and Tommy, $5.
Paradise Mason Jennings, Jason Collett, the Pierces, 9 pm, $10 in advance, $12 day of show, 18+. Lounge: Chords and Discourse, with Rob Lind, Tim Baxter and Ian Adams covering songs by the Smiths, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Parris The Interns, 10 pm, $5, 9 pm.
Plough & Stars One Thin Dime.
Purple Shamrock Syndicate.
Regattabar Donal Fox with John Patitucci and Al Foster, 7:30 and 10 pm, $18.
Regent Theatre Tiziji Munoz Trio, 8 pm, $20.
Ryles Jazz Club Ken Werner, 8 pm, $14.
Sky Bar Rabadango, the Big Lie, Busker, and Little Rock Cannonball, 8 pm, $6, 21+.
Somervile Theatre Orchestra Baobab, 8 pm, $22.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 7-9 pm.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place French Kicks, Ambulance, Laguardia and the Subject, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Blaise Siwula, Adam Lane and Toshi Makihara, 6 pm; Alex Wu, 7-9 p m; James Ilgenfritz and Fishlung Trio, 9:30 pm-12 am.
ZuZu Ready Steady Go Go.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 8 pm-12 am.

SUNDAY, APRIL 25

Avalon Melissa Etheridge, 7 pm, $75.25, 18+.
Berklee Performance Center Raising the Roof! concert to benefit the Committee to End Elder Homelessness, 2 pm, $35. and $50.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Eugene Byrne; Happy Hour: Jim Coyle.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Rusty Scott Organ Group, 10 am-3 pm.
Breezewqy Michael Shea Trio, 11 am-3 pm.
The Burren Backroom: Danielle, 8 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Silver Lining, 10 am-3 pm; Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Carol O'Shaughnessy, 9:30 pm.
The Green Briar Inchicore & Finbar Doyle.
Johnny D's Jazz Brunch with Matt Dorko and Larry Kuker, 9 am-2:30 pm; blues jam, 4:30-8:30 pm.
Lizard Lounge Poetry slam, 7 pm; poetry jam, featuring the Jeff Robinson Trio and featured poet Crystal Johnson, 9 pm, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: the Butchies, 9 pm, $10, 18+; Downstairs: the Burden Brothers, 8 pm, $8 in advance, $12 day of show, 18+.
Paradise Einsturzende Neubauten, 8 pm, $16, 18+.
Plough & Stars Dave Hickey, 5-7:30 pm; Coachmen.
Roxy Sleater-Kinney, 8 pm, $16.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz brunch with Harry Fix, 10 am.
Sky Bar Seth, Aron and Friends and Domonic and Lucid, 8 pm, $6, 21+.
Toad Session American, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Bourbon Street Paraders, noon-2 pm. Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm-12 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Sebadoh, the In-Out and Shore Leave, $12.
Zeitgeist Gallery Tufts University New Music Ensemble, 1:30-3:30 pm; Sofia Koutsovitis Quintet, 6-7 pm; Shumai, Sodastream and Chris Ziter, 9:30 pm-12 am.
ZuZu The Tim Heroux Band, no cover.

MONDAY, APRIL 26

Abbey Lounge Easy Trouble, 9 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
The Burren Front room: live Irish music, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Singer-Songwriter open mike, 8 pm; Lisa Bastoni, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Pete Seeger Tribute, 7 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Steve Heck, 9:30 pm.
The Green Briar Irish Seisiun.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover; the Bright Light Group, 9:30 pm, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: The Metro Well, Polyethylene, 9 pm, 18+; Downstairs: 21st Century Schizoid Band, 8 pm, $25, 18+.
Paradise Fastball and the Honeydogs, 8 pm, $10, 18+. Lounge: the Click, 8 pm, $5 under 21, no cover for 21+, 18+.
Plough & Stars RPMs.
Toad Shwang, 8-10 pm; Tim Gearan Band, 10:30 pm,no cover.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm-12 am.
Zeitgeist Gallery Pablo Ablanedo Octet, 7-9 pm; The Fringe, 10 pm-12:30 am.
ZuZu Sarah Borges.
Les Zygomates Jason Domnarski Trio, 7-11 pm.

TUESDAY, APRIL 27

The Black Rose Sunday's Well.
The Burren Open mike with Hugh McGowan, 7 pm.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm; Glaser, McGann, Liszt, DeMario, 10 pm, 21+.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9:30 pm.
Harper's Ferry Fat Tuesdays with Alex Howland and Backbone Blues, $6, 21+.
Johnny D's Champions of the World, 8:30 pm.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7-9 pm, no cover; 7:30 - 8:30 pm; the Chandler Travis Philharmonic, 9:30 pm, $5.
Middle East The Color Bars, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Paradise Edie Brickell and Amos Lee, 8 pm, $22.50 in advance, $24 day of show, 18+. Lounge: Jessica Laurie Ensemble, 8 pm, $8, 18+.
Phoenix Landing Cerulean City, 10 pm, $3-$5, 19+.
Plough & Stars Michael Tarbox.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Syncopation, 8 pm, $8.
Sky Bar Anthony Morgan, Sparrowhawk and Scott Robinson, 8 pm, $5, 21+.
Toad Todd Thibaud, no cover.
Top of the Hub Mark Greel Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
Zeitgeist Gallery Radius, the Switch, 9:30-12 am, no cover.
ZuZu Leah Callahan, Shaun Wolf Wortis, Jonathan Vincent and Brian O'Neill.

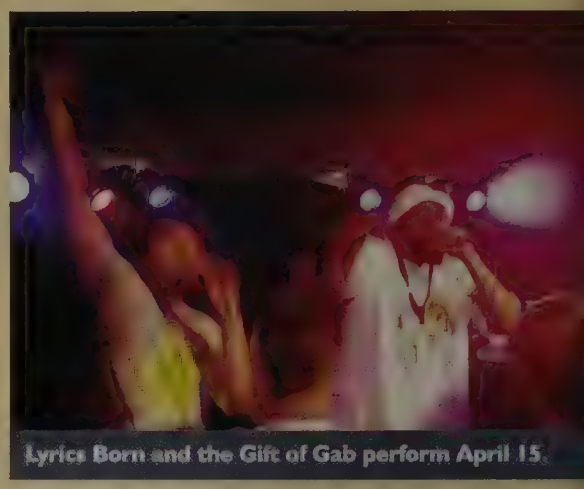
Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
Artists-at-Large Gallery *37 Everett St., Hyde Park (617-276-3223).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center *41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Choppin' Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-734-4177). MBTA: Green Line to Brigham Circle.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Copley Theatre *225 Clarendon St., Boston (617-236-1199). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Fireplace *1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
The Good Life Cambridge *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hatch Shell *Charles River Esplanade, Boston. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Murphy's Law *837 Summer St., South Boston (617-269-6667).*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regent Theater *7 Medford St., Arlington (781-646-4849).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Skellig *240 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0679).*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).*
Symphony Hall *301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). MBTA: Green Line E to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Tower Records *95 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-876-3377). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *474 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278)*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

Preview

The Other Bay Area

An outstanding hip-hop collective brings Left Coast flair to the Bay State


Lyrics Born and the Gift of Gab perform April 15.

A lot has changed in the world of hip-hop since the mid 1990s. Back then, mentioning words like "turntablism" and "trip-hop" in a conversation would have gotten you a confused look. Techno was still called dance music and was pretty much limited to clubs and raves. But one element that has remained constant is the innovative excellence of the music resonating from the San Francisco Bay–area crew known as Quannum Projects.

For better or worse, Quannum's ever-shifting line-up of artists can be hard to follow. There's producer Chief Xcel and MC the Gift of Gab, collectively known as Blackalicious. Then there's Latyrx, the dynamic pairing of the MCs Lateef the Truth Speaker and Lyrics Born. Portland, Ore.'s the Lifesavas are a recent addition to the stable as well. Songstress Joyo Velarde has lent her feminine touch to all of these artists' music over the years, in addition to releasing a single of her own. The above-mentioned acts, along with DJ Shadow, all perform when the Quannum Tour 2004 hits Avalon on April 15.

It was DJ Shadow who brought Quannum to prominence when he released the classic *Endtroducing*, a brilliant instrumental album of atmospheric hip-hop beats and soundscapes that many say singlehandedly created the genre known as trip-hop (though Shadow himself reportedly hates the term). Alongside this musical trailblazer were his cohorts, making music just as distinctive and creative in its own right.

Seasoned vets, the Quannum crew has been together for more than 10 years now, producing work that stands head-and-shoulders above most of the mainstream and independent rap game these days. Their familiarity with one another gives them a flexibility and a versatility when trading verses and layering their flows atop and alongside one another's that's virtually unmatched. The Latyrx album is a brilliant example of this, as the two MCs evoke a sense of what Run-DMC might have sounded like had they emerged from the more laconic California environment. Lyrics Born's verses range from introspective melancholy (without getting maudlin or self-indulgent, a rare skill these days) to straight-up party raps, while Gab's rhymes are always upbeat and bouncy, even when he's sharply critical.

The cherry on top of all this aural obsession is that the Quannum crew has never put out an album you'd be embarrassed to play in front of your mother. You won't find any bitches or ho's on this label or tales of bedroom conquests. You will, however, find great tracks like Latyrx's "Lady Don't Tek No," which, while taking the opposite approach, is as memorable as anything 50 Cent or the 2 Live Crew ever wrote about the fairer sex.
April 15, Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-423-NEXT). $25. 18 and older.
—Andrew Graham






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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14

Modern American Music Series
27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Pianist Synthia Sture performs pieces by Leon Kirchner, and pianist Dave Bryant performs original compositions.

Music at MIT
Killian Hall, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (617-253-2826). web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 5 pm. Free. Graduate student Mary Farbood plays works by Frescobaldi, Couperin, Bach and Peter Child on the harpsichord.

Mutter-Previn-Harrell Trio
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (888-266-1200). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $32-$67. Violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter, pianist André Previn and cellist Lynn Harrell collaborate in a program of Beethoven, Brahms and Mendelssohn.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Sergio Monterisi conducts the NEC Sinfonietta in a performance of Schumann's *Cello Concerto* as well as works by Wagner, Sibelius and Ravel.

THURSDAY, APRIL 15

Muir String Quartet
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-8725). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. 8 pm. $10. The Muir String Quartet performs works by Beethoven.

Music at MIT
MIT Chapel, Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-253-2826). http://web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 12 pm. Free. Student guitarist Nicki Lehrer performs works by Michael Bard, Roland Dyens, Augustin Barrios, Manuel Ponce and Fernando Sor.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Donald Palma coaches the conductorless NEC Chamber Orchestra in a program of works by Wagner, Mozart and more.

FRIDAY, APRIL 16

Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra
Sanders Theater, Memorial Hall, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.hcs.harvard.edu/~hro/ home. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $13-$8. James Yannatos conducts the HRO in the world premiere of Yannatos' Concerto for Violin and Orchestra. The program also includes works by Ravel and Brahms.

The Joy of Singing!
Community Music Center, 34 Warren Ave., Boston (617-482-7494). www.cmcb.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 7 pm. Free. Soprano Sangeetha Appavoo, baritone E. Mark Murphy and pianist Stephen Yenger perform a variety of music from ariosos to Broadway.

Longy School of Music
27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $10 donation suggested. James Somerville conducts the ensemble Vento Chiaro in a program of works by Stravinsky, Strauss, Wagner and Derek Bermel.

Packer and De Beenhouwer
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-8724). www.bu.edu/tsai. MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. 8 pm. $5-$10. Violinist Janet Packer and pianist Josef De Beenhouwer perform works by Schumman, Juan Orrego-Salas and Amy Beach.

Romeo et Juliette
Boston University Theater, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm. $10-$15. Boston University Opera Institute, Opera Theatre, Opera Workshop and BU Chamber Orchestra present Gounod's opera based on Shakespeare's classic love story.



The Mutter-Previn-Harrell Trio plays Symphony Hall April 14

SATURDAY, APRIL 17

Lydian String Quartet
Slosberg Recital Hall, Brandeis University, South St., Waltham (781-736-3400). www.brandeis.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 8 pm. $15. The Lydian String Quartet performs works by Beethoven, Vincent Perischetti and Mozart, with guest violist Marcus Thompson.

Simple Pleasures
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (888-266-1200). www.bostonsymphonyhall.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $35-$85. Pianist Ramsey Lewis and singer Nancy Wilson perform music from their CD, *Simple Pleasures*.

Three Rising Stars
NEC's Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.chineseperformingarts.net. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $15-$25. The Foundation for Chinese Performing Arts presents pianist Ning An, violinist Joseph Lin and cellist Wendy Law in a program of Ravel, Chopin, Ernst and more.

SUNDAY, APRIL 18

Artist Diploma Showcase
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 2 Palace Rd., Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 1:30 pm. $10-$15. Violinist Yura Lee presents a program including works by Tartini, Prokofiev and Tchaikovsky.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $26-$86. The Boston Symphony Chamber Players perform works by Brahms and Harbison.

Cantata Singers
Longy School of Music, Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-267-6502). www.cantatasingers.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $10-$15. The Cantata Singers perform their Boston Sonata Marathon, an eclectic performance that features the works of some of Boston's best composers.

Emmanuel Music
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 11 am. Free. Michael Beattie conducts the chorus in a performance of Bach's Cantata 134 as part of the regular church services.

Handel and Haydn Society
Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3605). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 3 pm. $25-$58. Under the direction of Grant Llewellyn, the Handel and Haydn Society Chorus and Period Orchestra perform jazzed up versions of works by Vivaldi, Bach, Gershwin, Dave Brubeck and Cole Porter.

John Harbison and His World
Killian Hall, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (617-253-2906). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 4 pm. Free. This performance of works by John Harbison and the composers who inspired him features violinist Rose Mary Harbison, pianist Judith Gordon and clarinetist Bruce Creditor. Harbison plays piano in the program.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Eric Rosenblith coaches the Alkipelos String Quartet in a performance of works by Schubert and Shostakovich.

MONDAY, APRIL 19

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Violinist Yura Lee performs works by Schubert and Bartok.

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TUESDAY, APRIL 20

Tuesdays with Sebastian

St. Paul's Church, 15 Saint Paul St., Brookline (617-661-0570). www.tuesdayswithsebastian.info. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner or D Green Line to Brookline Village. 8 pm. $10. Christa Rakich and Peter Sykes performs works by Bach on the harpsichord.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21

Glimmerglass Opera

The College Club, 44 Comm. Ave., Boston (607-547-5704). www.glimmerglass.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7 pm. $15. Members of the Opera's Young American Artists Program perform excerpts from the works of Gilbert & Sullivan, Verdi, Handel, Mozart and others.

Music at MIT

Killian Hall, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (617-253-2906). web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 5 pm. Free. Graduate students Ole Nielsen (flute) and Yukiko Ueno (piano) perform works by Gaubert, Vivaldi, Lavista and Delano.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. William Drury leads the NEC Wind Ensemble in McPhee's Octet Piano Concerto, and Charles Peltz conducts the ensemble in McPhee's Concerto for Wind Ensemble and Denisov's Sonata for Saxophone and Winds.

THURSDAY, APRIL 22

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $26-$86. Conductor Mario Venzago, leads violinist Gidon Kremer, violist Ula Uijona and the Boston Symphony Orchestra in a performance of works by Britten, Beethoven and Michael Nyman.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Colin Durrant conducts the NEC Symphony Orchestra in a performance of Handel's *Chandos Anthem* and Haydn's *Harmoniemesse*.

FRIDAY, APRIL 23

Boston Classical Orchestra

Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-423-3883). www.bostonclassicalorchestra.org. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 8 pm. $23-$45. BCO Music Director Steven Lipsitt helms a performance of works by Mozart, Haydn and Peter Warlock, featuring violinist Daniel Stepner.

Boston Early Music Festival

Jesuit Urban Center, 775 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-424-7232). www.bemf.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Mass Ave. 8 pm. $22-$58. Christophe Rousset directs the orchestra Les Talens Lyriques in a program entitled Amour, Amor: Music of the French Baroque.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$95. Same program as April 22.

Harvard-Radcliffe Collegium Musicum

Sanders Theater, Memorial Hall, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.hcs.harvard.edu/~hro/home. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $26-$18. Jameson Marvin conducts an orchestra and soloists in works by Handel.

Music at Brandeis University

Slosberg Recital Hall, South St., Waltham (617-496-2222). www.brandeis.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 5 pm. $5, $2.50 students. James Oleson directs the Brandeis Chamber Choir and Solo Ensembles in pieces by Schubert.

Opera at Longy

27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Donna Roll directs Longy's annual opera show, including scenes from operas by Mozart, Berlioz, Donizetti and Verdi.

SATURDAY, APRIL 24

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$95. Same program as April 22.

Longwood Symphony Orchestra

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.longwoodsymphony.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $25, $15 students and seniors. The LSO presents a tribute concert to maestro Francisco Noya, performing Mahler's Symphony No. 2, with mezzo-soprano Alexandra Montano, soprano Diana McVey and the New World Chorale.

Music at MIT

Kresge Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-2906). web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8 pm. Free. MIT faculty, students, alumni and their guests perform works by Mozart, Mendelssohn and Harbison.

Opera at Longy

27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Same program as April 23.

SUNDAY, APRIL 25

Alford P. Rudnick Memorial Concert

Harvard University, Paine Hall, Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 1:30 pm. Free. The Musicians from Marlboro ensemble performs works by Schubert, Thomas Ades, Schoenberg and Mozart.

Boston Classical Orchestra

Fanueil Hall, Boston (617-423-3883). www.bostonclassicalorchestra.org. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 3 pm. $23-45. Same program as April 23.

Brandeis Early Music Ensemble

Slosberg Recital Hall, South St., Waltham (617-496-2222). www.brandeis.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 3 pm. $5, $2.50 students. Sarah Mead directs the Early Music Ensemble in a performance of Italian Renaissance music.

Alfred Brendel Recital

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (888-266-1200). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $32-$67. Concert pianist and recording artist Brendel performs works by Mozart, Schubert and Beethoven.

Emmanuel Music

Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 11 am. Free. John Haribson conducts the chorus in a performance of Bach's Cantata 42 as part of the regular church services.

Music at MIT

Killian Hall, 160 Memorial Drive, Cambridge (617-253-2826). http://web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 4 pm. Free. Craig Smith conducts a performance of works by John Harbison and the composers who inspired him.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Frank Epstein directs the NEC Percussion Ensemble in a performance of Lori Dobson's *Percussion Quintet* and works by Gyorgy Ligeti and George Crumb.

MONDAY, APRIL 26

BU Symphony Orchestra and Symphonic Chorus

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $20-$35. David Hoose conducts the BU Symphony Orchestra and Symphonic Chorus in works by Schoenberg and Beethoven.

TUESDAY, APRIL 27

Borromeo Quartet Seminar Concert

NEC, Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Students participating in the Borromeo seminar perform the chamber music of Brahms.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $26-$86. Same program as April 22.

Longitude

27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Paul Brust directs the Longy school's new-music ensemble in works by Paul Brust, Katherine Hoover and Thea Musgrave.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. NEC faculty pianist Alexander Korsantia performs works by Stravinsky, Haydn and Mozart.





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Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $5, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Jay Ine spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Monsta Mondays Kaptain Krunch spins the best old and new rock, $8, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJs spin R&B and hip-hop, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Dance party with DJ Small Marco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

An Tua Nua
What's Up Night A night of R&B, house, funk and soul music, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Phat Tuesday DJ D Sharp spins old-school and hip-hop, 19+, college ID required.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Sender spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 21+.

The Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Orange DJs John Davis and Pat Fontes bring the house music, and weekly guest DJs spin, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Deep Tones DJ Brynmore spins a mix of soul, funk, house and acid jazz, 10 pm, no cover, $3, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Ricky spins 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Trio
Always Best Tuesday The night features all hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Phat Tuesdays DJ Ron Steele spins hip-hop, R&B reggae and international grooves, 10 pm, 21+, proper dress required.

WEDNESDAYS

Aria
Lust DJ John Morris spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, $8, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, $21.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins Greek and international tunes, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.


Felt

Common Ground
What a Way to Go Go Mod Night with DJ Vin, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
DJs spin international house, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up R&B, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mercury Lounge DJs Nomadik and Timmy Allen host a night of soul, funk and house, 9 pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin deep house, trance and grassroots techno, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
International Wednesdays DJ JC is in the Latin Lounge; DJs Alex and Felix spin in the back, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Massi spins top-40, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Q
Violation Wednesdays Weekly guest DJs spin today's best music, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Ricky spins spins, 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Cabin Stabbin' Wednesdays DJ Boogie Ba Do spins dub to start the party, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Jazz Wednesdays The Brian Walkley Band brings R&B and dance to the main lounge, 9-11 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B. Downstairs: Live music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
College Night DJ Fu spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; DJ Roger M and DJ Thanos spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
International Thursdays DJ Gee Spin and guests play rap and hip-hop tunes, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Mark Morris and Catunes play pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and Salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Clerys
Karaoke with DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Exchange
Heaven and Hell DJs Chaos, 7L and Mr. Aru spin house and hip-hop, 9:30 pm-2 am, 19+ (with college ID).

Felt
DJ Ghost spins international house and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Briar
DJ Stelah spins dance tunes.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursdays DJs Dubz and 40D spins reggae, R&B and hip hop, no cover, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou spins late night, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
Nonstop music with DJ Massi or DJ Ryan, no cover, 21+.

I/D
Square One Thursdays DJs Dres and Wagz host a night of progressive dance music, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Massi gets the dance party started upstairs, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ David James spin dance tunes and old-school, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Doc spins the latest tunes, 21+.

La Boom
Privilege DJ Felix cranks the noise, 11 pm-2 am, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Parris
•April 15 and 22, Maxie Courtney, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Carrie spins upbeat lounge in the front, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett performs live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Q
Hedonism Thursdays DJs spin hip-hop all night long, 9 pm, $5, ladies free all night, 21+.

The Rack
Ibiza DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Littles spins from 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali and Ross spin a mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

711 Boylston
Play Thursdays DJ trio Groovefire spins house music with special guests Beat Khemistry, 6 pm-2 am.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Steve Sosong spins new dance and R&B. Downstairs: Justin Beech, 9 pm-1 am, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ JR Vega hosts Latin night with live music by the Latin Party Boys; free salsa lessons with Dan Marshall, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
Hip-Hop Event Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip-hop, 9 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
DJ Jim spins mixed beats.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cover.

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West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 from the '70s, '80s and '90s, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Floss DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Avaland DJ Nailz spins progressive dance music, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Mas spins hip-hop, funk and techno, 9pm-1am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
Avaland DJ Caprice spins hip-hop as part of Avaland, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins top-40, and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
F Night WBCN's Bradley J spins '80s classics, and alternative and rock tribute bands perform live, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft VJ Johnny Walker Black spins top-40 dance and hip-hop tunes accompanied by interactive video shows, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Twist Women's night with DJ MsLadyJ spinning R&B and hip-hop tunes, $10, 19+ (before 11:30 pm).

Caprice
DJ Eddie K spins a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, and two guest DJs spin on the first floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $20, 19+.

The Exchange
DJs Brian Roach and Littles spin house and top 40 hits, 9:30 pm, $10, 21+.

Felt
After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs, spinning high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Bob Gallagher spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •April 16, Streamroller Picnic, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •April 23, Peatmoss, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs Big Daddy and Rizzi spin, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins house and old favorites, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before midnight, 21+.

La Boom
Fashion Fridays Firefly Promotions hosts this fashion night featuring DJ Rick Naples, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

Level
Secret Society DJ Hoff spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B on the fourth and fifth floors, and DJ Niko spins Greek and international tunes on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •April 23, Ibiza Sessions with DJ Small Marco spinning Ibiza-style dance music.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Matrix
DJ Adilson of Roxy Saturdays spins high-energy house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.



The Modern
DJ Glenn spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Rockpile** WAAF's Jay Ferrera broadcasts live, and rotating bands perform, 9 pm, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•April 16, Flavor, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •April 23, the Interns, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Shake What Your Mama Gave You DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
Industrie hosts weekly guest DJs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Craig spins the latest hits, 10 pm, $5.

Q
DJ B Spin plays hip hop and top-40, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-9 pm. DJ Johnny C with KISS 108's Artie, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Lite Nite DJ Easy spins a mix that includes neo-soul and feel-good classics, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top 40 hits, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance. Downstairs: live music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover before 10 pm, 21+.

Sophia's
Sangria and Salsa Salsa and merengue lessons, 7-10 pm, followed by the Latin Party Boys and DJs Mike C and Zino spinning Latin dance, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10pm, $5 after 9pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats all night.

Trio
Boston After Dark Dance to hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with Latin vibes. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vivid Lounge
Brian Roache spins top-40, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, $10, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
DJ Kon spins high-energy vocal house and hip hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Total Request Avalon DJ Tim Collins plays requests along with top-40, dance and hip-hop, 10 pm, $15 ($10 before 12:30 am), 21+.

The Avenue
DJ Kevin Munroe spins house and trance, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Start! DJ Damien spins alternative rock and '80s hits, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
The Dorm—Bill's Dance Night DJ Bruno spins a mix of hip-hop, dance, reggae and rock, 10 pm, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. VJ Johnnie Walker presents top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Franklin creates a lounge atmosphere with his international, Latin and house sounds, 10 pm, ($10 after 11 pm), 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood It's women's night at Hollywood with two floors of hip-hop and house music with DJ MixMistress upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Roger M spins international house, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Exchange
DJs Brian Roach and Littles spin house and top 40 hits, 9:30 pm, $10, 21+.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop, house, and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spi retro favorites, disco, Motown ar the latest top-40, hip-hop ar vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Trayl spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and I Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-ho R&B and top-40, $10, 21 •April 17, Steamroller Picnic, pm, $10, 21+. •April 24, Pea moss, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B ar hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

I/D
X Night WFNX presents a nig of retro '80s and rock, 10 pm, $1 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up to 40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $ 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R& and top-40, while downstairs O'Toole plays top-40, 9 pm, 21+

La Boom
Wild on @ La Boom DJ Ti Collins and KISS 108 host night of music and dancing, pm, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** Albertik spins Russian and int national music on the third flo 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, voc house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fif floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 9 pm, 21+.

Matrix
Rum Jungle Saturday featuring top-40 hits, hou and techno, free before 11 pm, 21+.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Or spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10 pm, $ ladies are free before 10:30 pm, 21+.

The Modern
DJ's Eddie Lee and Ricky Fat play hip-hop, 10: pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dar music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez a Willie D, ladies free, men $5 before 10:30 pm; $ 18+; $10, 21+ after 10:30 pm. •**The Male E counter** New England's longest-running all-m dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 a $15, 19+; no cover 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos sp top-40 and hip-hop mixes, $15, 18+; $10, 21 •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream h hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cov 21+. •**Underground** DJs spin hip-hop, top- dance, techno and reggae for the under-21 crov 7-11 pm, $14. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; cover, 21+.

Parris
•April 17, Flavor, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •April 24, Interns, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins '80s new wa and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Rick Naples spins high-energy dance, 10 p $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom Hogan spins the groove, 10 pm, $5, 2 •April 17, Scooby Snax. •April 24, Syndicate.

Q
DJ Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi and DJ Littles host the broadcast and dance party, 8 pm, 21+, no cover.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins mod mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins house and techno, 9 pm, $ 21+.

711 Boylston
Fever DJ Yorgo spins a mix of ethnic and inter tional music, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8 pm. Downstairs: Kevin Kirrane, 9 pm, no cover before 10 pm.

Sophia's
DJ Zino spins salsa and merengue while a Latin band plays on the first floor and DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on the second floor, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and house, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats.

Trio
Best Of Night DJs spin Eurohouse, hip-hop and classics, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
Bula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

Vivid Lounge
Brian Roache spins top-40, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, $10 21+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Adrienne spins Brit-pop and new wave tunes, 9 pm-1 am, $3, 19+.

Aria
DJ Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

Avalon
Day Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+

Caprice
DJ Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
Fluid Sundays DJs Joshua Carl and Paul Dailey spin tribal and deep house, breaks, techno and jungle beats, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Doc spins hip-hop, house and top-40, 11 pm, no cover.

La Boom
Futurebeat: Alien Disco DJ Addambombb spins a mix of retro progressive tracks, trip-hop and synth-pop, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Satellite A lesbian night featuring DJ Dee, with dance music, amateur drag contests and films, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Jump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Reverie Boston DJ Shannon and weekly guest DJs spin goth, industrial and lounge, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
DJ Dave Jordan plays an array of top-40 tunes, 9 pm, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats.

Trio
Vibe Lounge DJs provide the vibe, 10 pm, 21+.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins Brazilian beats, 11 pm, $5, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Whiskey Park
Cherry DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock classics, hip-hop, house and R&B.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
The Exchange *148 State St., Boston (617-726-7601).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
The G Spot *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
La Boom *One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Light *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *(El Copa, Male Encounter, Officers' Club, Oxygen, Rio, Underground and Uptown) 1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
711 Boylston *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Sweetwater Café *5 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-2515).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
Vivid Lounge *148 State St., Boston (617-726-7600).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*



museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors
Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Gary Schneider: Portraits* is a 30-year collection of the artist's black-and-white and color photography. Through June 13.•*The Continuous Stroke of Breath: Calligraphy from the Islamic World* features Arabic, Indian, Persian and Turkish calligraphy from the 9th through 20th centuries. Through July 18. •*Rocks, Mountains, Landscapes, and Gardens: The Essence of East Asian Painting*, an exhibition of rocks used in East Asian art, shows through Aug. 1.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm. •*Faces and Places*, an exhibition of historical maps of Boston, shows through April 30. •The exhibition *Boston Celebrates 350 Years of Jewish Women Building Communities in North America*, is on display through May 26: Andrea Kalinowski's mixed-media paintings in *Stories Untold* celebrate pioneering Jewish women in the American west; *Fanny Goldstein, 1895-1961* pays tribute to the BPL librarian who founded Jewish Book Week; and the *Women of Valor Poster Exhibit* highlights trailblazing Jewish women from the arts, science, sports and politics. •*Ellen Band: Portals of Prayer*, an audio installation that combines prayer and music, is sponsored by the Institute of Contemporary Art's Vita Brevis program. Through June 5. •*Seashells and Other Delicacies* is a show of Bela Kalman's photography. Through June 12.

Carpenter Center for Visual Arts
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). www.ves.fas.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-11:30 pm; Sun., 12-11:30 pm. Free. •*The Carpenter Center and Le Corbusier's Synthesis of the Arts* is an exhibition focusing on the Carpenter Center and its architect. Through April 15. •The students of Harvard's Visual and Environmental Studies department display their work in a juried exhibition. April 22-29.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. •*Ornamental Art V* features jewelry created by three emerging designers: Sarahanne Coggeshall, Karen Gilbert and Sun Hwe Park. April 25-May 9.•*Joseph Wheelwright: Stone Heads and Tree Figures*, a sculpture exhibition, shows through May 16. •*Jirimani* is a photographic-transparency installation by Jo Yarrington. Through May 30. •*Self-Evidence: Identity in Contemporary Art* is a group show of multimedia work focusing on self-representation in art. Through May 30. •*Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Sense of Place, Part II* features paintings by various artists. Through summer.

Fogg Art Museum/ Busch-Reisinger Museum
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Design~Recline: Modern Architecture and the Mid-Century Chaise Lounge* features chaise lounges designed by famous architects including Le Corbusier, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, Marcel Breuer, Alvar Aalto, and Charles and Ray Eames. Through July 11.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •*Dodos, Trilobites, and Meteorites...Treasures of Nature and Science at Harvard* features specimens from scientific explorations of the past 200 years. Through spring. •*Into the Mountains* features the photography of mountaineer Bradford Washburn. Through spring. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species by glass artists Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.


This chaise lounge by Le Corbusier is part of the Fogg Art Museum's exhibition.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7, $5 students and seniors. •*Made in Mexico/Heche en México* features 20 international artists' interpretations of Mexican culture. Through May 9. •*Ellen Band: Portal of Prayer* is the first entirely audio-based work commissioned by ICA/Vita Brevis. The exhibit explores the sonic properties of prayer. Through June 5.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, free for members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. •*Gondola Days: Isabella Stewart Gardner & the Palazzo Barbaro Circle* explores the influence that the Palazzo Barbaro in Venice, Italy, has had on artists, writers and thinkers around the world. April 21-August 15.•Italian painter Maurizio Cannavacciuolo shows his contemporary wall drawings in *TV Dinner*. Through August 15. •*Whistler's Warning*, Joseph Kosuth's installation in neon of words taken from an 1885 speech by James McNeill Whistler, shows through August. •Elaine Reichek's embroideries, which depict Biblical images borrowed from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists, display online in the virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum
Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Mon.-Sun. 9 am-5 pm. $8, seniors and students $6, children ages 13-17 $4, free for children 12 and under. •*Gifts from the World to the White House: Caroline Kennedy's Doll Collection* features 77 dolls from 30 countries that were given to Caroline between 1961 and 1963. Through Nov. 5.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. •The museum's permanent collection includes over 1,500 pieces of contemporary art including a variety of painting, murals, sculptures, photography, and print media.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5, $3 students and seniors, $1 children. •*The Hidden Jewels of Our Community* features mized-media works by MIT graduate students and their significant others. April 22-23. •Tamiko Thiel and Zara Houshmand display *Beyond Manazar*, their interactive virtual reality installment depicting a WWII interment camp. April 26-May 2.•*Gabriele Basilico—Photographs* is an exhibition of urban landscapes. Through June 6. •*Hub of the Universe: A Century of Flight in Massachusetts* displays artifacts and artwork from the first 100 years of flight. Through Sept. 5. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features sculptures by the self-described cross between "a mechanical engineer and a choreographer." Ongoing.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. •*If These Dolls Could Talk: 150 Years of Black Dolls* is an exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century handmade, porcelain, plastic and sculptured dolls. Through May 1.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm; Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15 adults, $13 students and seniors, free for children 17 and under. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free. Special exhibitions are an additional cost. •*Art in Bloom* is an exhibition of artistic floral arrangements designed by 60 New England florists. April 25-27. •Massachusetts College of Art graduate students John Burkett, Catherine Janke, Anna Mogilevsky, and Maureen Yzudiker display their art. April 22-May 3.•*Draped in Dragons: Chinese Court Costumes* features clothes worn by members of the Qing imperial court. Through May 2. •*Art of the Japanese Postcard: The Leonard A. Lauder Collection* is an exhibition of 350 Japanese postcards from 1900-1940. Through June 6. •*Gauguin Tahiti*, a retrospective of the painter's work from the South Pacific, shows through June 20. •More than 200 jades dating from the Neolithic period to the Qing Dynasty display in *Chinese Jades from the Hartman Collection*. Through August. •*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13 adults, $11 seniors, $10 children. •*Einstein* profiles the life of Albert Einstein through his personal letters, documents and manuscripts. Through June 6.•*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum
33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Artist to Icon: Early Photographs of Elvis, Dylan and the Beatles* is an exhibition of 48 black-and-white photographs taken early in the careers of the three rock legends. Through June 6. •*Hatch Show Print's Rock 'n' Roll Posters* features letterpress posters for concerts by musicians including Johnny Cash, Frank Zappa and Bruce Springsteen. Through June 13. •*A Glimpse of Boston Theater, 1850-1900* includes 15 playbills and programs from that period. Through June 20. •*Lunch Box Memories* is an exhibition of lunch boxes from the early 1900s through the 1980s. Through July 18. •*The Enchanted Clock of George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm* is an exhibition of 18th-century local history. Ongoing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household objects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. •*Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community* is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. Adults $13, seniors $11, students $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem free. •*Under the Imperial Gaze* features two large-scale Chinese scrolls. Through May •*Geisha: Beyond the Painted Smile* examines geisha culture through painting, woodblock prints, photography, video, musical instruments and authentic accessories. Through May 9. •*Men Plow, Women Weave* displays images of weaving and plowing by Chinese artists. Through May 30. •*Vanished Kingdoms: The Wulsin Photographs of China, Tibet, and Mongolia 1921-1925*, an exhibition of color images taken by American explorers Janet E. and Frederick R. Wulsin, shows through June 13. •*Looking Both Ways: Contemporary Artists from Africa* is an exhibition of works by 12 African artists living in Western countries. Through June 20. •*Peonies on Paper* features over 60 floral paintings by various Chinese artists. Through June 20.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology
11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50 adults, $6 seniors and students, $5 children •*These Shoes Were Made for...Walking?*, a collection of 49 pairs of shoes from ancient to contemporary times, shows through May. •*Regarding the Kalahari: The Marshall Family and the Ju/'hoansi !Kung, 1950-1964* is an exhibition of photographs and stereographs from the Kalahari Desert expeditions of Laurence Marshall and his family. Through August. •*Painted by a Distant Hand: Mimbres Pottery from the American Southwest* features artifacts from New Mexico's Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through September. •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments* features the museum's large Mesoamerican cast collection. Ongoing. •*Encounters with the Americas* is an ongoing exhibition featuring original sculpture and plaster casts of Mesoamerican cultures. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journeys. Through December 20 •*Hall of the North American Indian: Change and Continuity* features art depicting the response of Native Americans across the continent to the arrival of Europeans. Ongoing. •*Pacific Islands Hall* another ongoing exhibition, displays artifacts from the Pacific Islands.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Peter Busa shows his work in *Indian Space Paintings*. Through May 15.

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). www.alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. • Solomon shows her work in *Sagger-Fired Cl* Through April 25.

Allston Skirt Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-4 3652). www.allstonskirt.com. MBTA: Green Line Copley. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Kanishka R shows her new paintings in the main gallery, and Zane displays his new work in the Mini Skirt gall Through May 1.

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Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Eric Aho shows landscape paintings of Vermont and Ireland. Through April 28.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Denise Mickilowski shows her work in *Still Lifes*. Through April 28.

Atlantic Works Gallery
80 Border St., East Boston (617-283-7113). http://atlanticworks.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. By appointment. •Laurie Hoffma shows photographs and Laura Rollins shows blueprint-covered found objects in *Looking at the Out*. Through April 24.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Allan McCollum shows his work. Through May 5.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Contemporary Folk Art* shows works from the gallery's collection of Southern and Appalachian folk art and works by Howard Finster, Hazel Kinney, Jimmy Lee Sudduth and Mose Tolliver. Through April 24.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Laura McPhee and Mark LaPore show photographs and films of India. Through May 15.

Beth Urdang Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). www.bethurdanggallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Colin Brant shows recent landscape paintings. Through April 24.

Brickbottom Gallery
1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Land, Sea, Sky*, a group show of landscapes, displays through April 24.

Bromfield Art Gallery
27 Thayer St., Boston (617-451-3605). www.bromfieldartgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •Betsyann Duval shows her multimedia work in *Flesh and Bones*. Through April 24.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Monmouth St., Brookline. (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm. •*Georgette Benisty: Fiber Sculptures* features sculptures, prints and doll clothes. Through April 16. •Photographs by Andrew Miller and Patrick Cahn display through April 29.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400 x10). www.cmacusa.org. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Mon.- Fri., 10 am-6 pm. Free. •Lenore Sempert shows her work in *Collage for Change*. Through May 6.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-2255). www.chappellgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm and by appointment. •*New from Japan*, a group show of glass work by Toshio Iezumi, Naomi Shioya, Shinji Yonehara, and Takeshi and Youko Sano, displays through April 27.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •Elisa Tenenbaum shows her landscape paintings, and Norman Laliberte displays abstract still lives in the back room. Through April 30.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA:Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*Wolf Kahn: Three Decades of Print-Making* and *Anne Lyman Powers: Athletes in Art* show through May 8.

Clifford-Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 300, Boston (617-695-0255). www.cliffordsmithgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Jason Young shows new work. Through April 24.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*The Spring Members' Show* displays through April 17. •*The Portrait Artist Exhibition* shows from April 22-May 1.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (617-268-8050). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •An exhibition of works by Jeff Eldredge, Da McCole and Norman Crump is ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •Fa Shawish shows color and sepia photography. Throu May 1.

Equator Gallery
450 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-54 9236). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. ww equatorgallery.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 1 5 pm. •The gallery specializes in Latin Americ fine art, including paintings, textiles and ceramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.f pointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mo Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Relics of the Nest: Il sion and Memory*, a group show, displays through May

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). ww galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlingto Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ongoi exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints fr the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, P sarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022 www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line Back Bay. Thu. and Sat.,12-5 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 p •Roger Goldenberg and Judith Morton show rece paintings and sculptures. Through April 24.

The Gallery at Black and White
295 Huntington Ave., Suite 205 (617-266-264 MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line Mass. Ave. Mon.-Fri, 10 am-5 pm. •The galle features rotating exhibitions of black-and-whi photographs.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-6328). ww gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Tu Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Judith Maloney shows paintin of sea and sky. Through April.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). ww gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlingto Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Lorie Hamerme shows mixed-media work in *Enfold*. Through May

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
23 Thayer St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-426-973 Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Hans Accola sho sculpture, and Tom Pappas shows paintin Through May 1.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.ha steele.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fr 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointme •The gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prin Ongoing.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). ww howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to A lington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •John O'Rei shows panoramic photographs, and Gerry Bergst shows new paintings. Through May 4.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). ww internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Co ley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •T gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety vintage posters. •*G'Day Mate!* features more th 100 travel posters from Australia, New Zealan Bali, the Arctic Circle and the Soviet Unio Through April 30.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). ww judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copl Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Ann Spileos Scott's mixed-media and video installati about the 1960s, *Gimmie Shelter*, is on displ through May 1. •Jose Goncalves shows new work *Montage*. Through May 1.

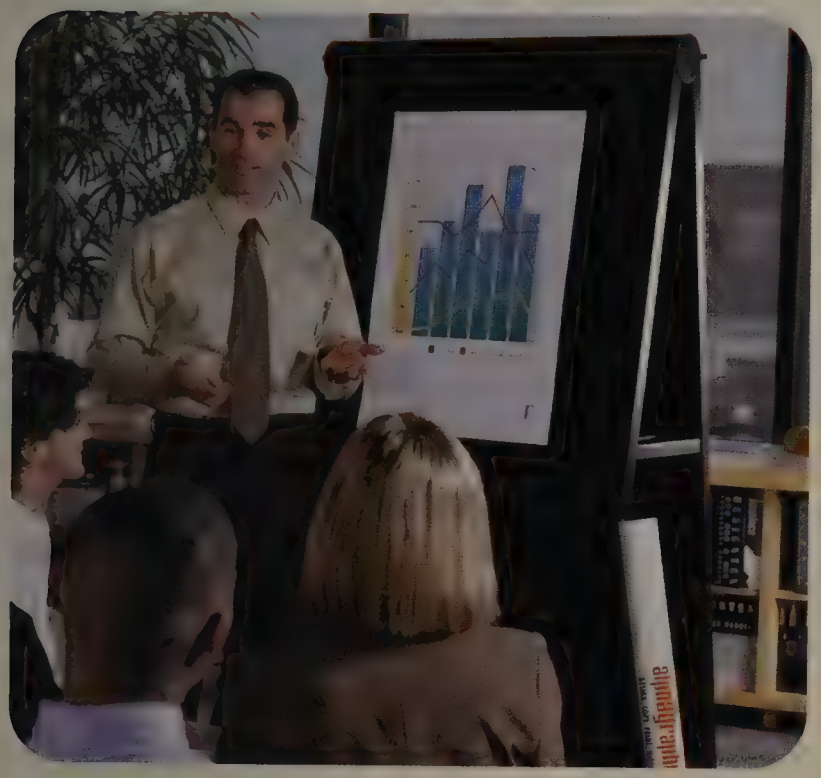
Kaji Aso Studio
40 St. Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www asostudio.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphon Tue. and Thu., 4:30-6:30 pm; Sat., 3-5 pm, and appointment. •Kaji Aso and students show Japane calligraphy and Sumi painting in the *Calligra Show*. Through May 6.

Kathryn Schultz Gallery
25 Lowell St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). ww cambridgeart.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tu Sat., 11 am-5 pm, Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Revels*, a memb show of paintings, drawings and sculpture, displ through April 22.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kid smithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copl Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Miroslav Antic sho

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Jasper White's Summer Shack
Aquitaine Group
Dedo Lounge & Bistro
Espresso Express
Gargoyles On The Square
Hamersley's Bistro
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Jones Hill Café
Le Soir
Rancatore's Ice Cream
Serving Ourselves
Sophia's

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Visit www.fobh.org for prize listings.

EVENT TICKETS

$50 at door or $20 after 8pm (music & dancing only).
For tickets or info call 617-534-2526 x 383.

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new oil-on-canvas paintings of child laborers and show animals. Through May 1.

Kingston Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •Bonita Sennott shows paintings and drawings in *A Mind of Winter*, and Mary Lang shows photography in *Desire Lines*. Through May 1.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •Tim Harding and Colin Schleeh show abstract silk wall hangings and wood sculpture in *Smooth as Silk*. Through April 16.

Mark Gallery
141 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6275). www.markartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm, and by appointment. •Dorothea Van Camp shows new work. Through May 14.



Emily Mast's untitled work is on display at Samson Projects.

Martin Lawrence Gallery
77 Newbury St., Boston (617-369-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.martinlawrence.com. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-7 pm. •The gallery's ongoing exhibition includes works by Chagall, Erté, Hallam, Kondakova, Lichtenstein, Picasso and Warhol.

Miller Block Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). www.millerblockgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30-5:30 pm. •Jay Kelly and Randall Sellers show new drawings. Through April 28.

Mills Gallery
539 Tremont St., Boston (617-348-2926). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed., Thu. and Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-10 pm. •*OCD* is a group show of works, in all media, that focus on the artists' passions. Through May 7.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •The gallery features a group textile exhibition, and Michael Boyd shows new jewelry. Through April 30.

NAO Project Gallery
535 Albany St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-451-2977). www.naoprojectgallery.info. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay or Green Line to Copley. Wed., Fri. and Sat., 11 am-4 pm and by appointment. •Karen Moss displays mixed-media art through May 1.

New Art on Newbury
285 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7727). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Thu., 11 am-6 pm; Fri. and Sat., 11 am-11 pm. •*Make Peace with the Next Warhol*, a local artists' showcase featuring works by Kate Sullivan and Owen Beane, shows through April 18.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •*The Privilege of Solitude* is a show of works by Alfred Jensen and Forrest Bess. Through May 15.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outofthebleueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •A local-artists showcase is ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Daphne Confar shows portraits. Through May 15.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Jeffrey Hessing displays his oil paintings in *Paintings and Musings*. April 17-June 1.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th century American and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-pm. •Michael Kenn shows his photograph Through May 15.

Samson Projects
46 Waltham St., Suite 20 Boston (617-357-7177 www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line Back Bay. Wed.-Sun., 12 pm. •*Super Salon* is group show of works more than 80 emergi contemporary artis Through May 20.

The Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Bost (617-266-1810). ww societyofcrafts.org. MBT Green Line to Cople Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Portraits* group show of multimedia work, displays throug April 25.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). ww stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Cople Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •*April Boston*, a group show of work by gallery artists, di plays through April 30.

Studio Soto
63 Melcher St., Boston (617-426-7686). ww studiosoto.com. MBTA: Orange Line to South Statio Fri. and Sat., 2-5 pm. •*War and Peace* is an exper mental art show by the Mobius artists grou Through April 17. •*Corvus Corax 3: Becomi Raven* is a show of visual and aural images by To Plsek and Joanne Rice. April 23 and 24.

Upstairs at Johnson's Art Gallery
353 Newbury St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-536-4065 MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.- Fri., 10 am 5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am - 1pm. •*The 7th Annual Joh son Staff Exhibition* features works by staff membe Through April 26.

Victoria Munroe Fine Art
59 Beacon St., Boston (617-523-0661). www. munro fineart.com. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Stre Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm and by appointment. •Shar Horvath shows works on paper. Through April 29.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). ww vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Cople Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 p •*The Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts Legacy* show of works by four Philadelphia artists, displa through April 30.

William Scott Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-542-4030). ww williamscottgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Ba Bay. Wed.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Chris Blatchford shows her work. Through May 1.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). ww griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to W chester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. •*Landsca of the Civil War*, an exhibition of 92 rare ph tographs from the American Civil War, displ Through June 25.

New England School of Photograph
Gallery One, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-4 1868). www.nesop.com. MBTA: Green Line to K more. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm. •Rose Martin sh photographs. Through April 16. •Terry Ble shows photographs from April 19-May 21.

Panopticon Gallery
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Comm Rail to Waltham. www.panopt.com. Mon.-Fri., am-6 pm. •Steve Rosenthal and Nick Whee show their photographs. Through April 15.

Photographic Resource Center
832 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). MBT B Green Line to Boston University West. www. edu/prc. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Honky To Portraits of Country Music, 1971-1981* is an exh tion of photographs by Henry Horenstein. Thro April 25.

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The competition will last approximately three minutes for each bartender. Semifinals for the top six competitors will take place at 8pm. Finals for the top three competitors will be at 10pm.

To compete call Tom Abisso at 1-888-437-4657 or 617-247-1666 by April 23.

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Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Downtown Crossing or Blue or Orange Line to State. 12:30 pm. Free. Former Red Sox shortstop **Johnny Pesky** discusses the book he co-wrote, *Few and Chosen*, a history of the Red Sox that includes his best-player picks.

Cambridge Forum
First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-495-2727). www.cambridgeforum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. Free. Yale University professor **Gus Speth** discusses his new book, *Red Sky at Morning*, about the efficacy of various environmental agencies and policies.

French Library and Cultural Center
53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www. frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30 pm. Free. **Dr. Charles Cogan** discusses his book *French Negotiating Behavior: Dealing with La Grande Nation*, about United States' peace policy in Iraq.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **David McCann** reads from the book he edited, *The Columbia Anthology of Modern Korean Poetry*, a collection of 20th-century poems by Korean writers.

McIntyre & Moore Booksellers
255 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-4840). www. mcintyreandmoore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 7:30 pm. Free. Boston Globe columnist **Cosmo Macero, Jr.** and members of the Local Writers Group read selections from their work.

Pine Street Inn Annual Benefit Dinner
Westin Copley Place, America Ballroom, 4th floor, Boston (617-521-7672). http://pinestreetinn.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 5:30 pm. $200. **Frank McCourt**, whose memoirs include *Angela's Ashes* and *'Tis*, discusses his experiences overcoming poverty, abuse and tragedy as a child in Ireland to become a high school teacher and successful author. Proceeds benefit the Pine Street Inn.

Readings/Spoken Word at MIT
Room 35-225, 3rd floor, 127 Mass. Ave, Cambridge (617-253-8844). http:// web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 5 pm. Free. Poet **Joy Harjo** reads from her work, which includes the poetry collection *How We Became Human*.

Wellesley Free Library
Wakelin Room, 530 Washington St., Wellesley (781-235-1610). www.wellesleyfreelibrary.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Framingham. 7 pm. Free. Boston Globe columnist **Brian McGrory** reads from his new novel, *Dead Line*, about a newspaper reporter pursuing a story on a Boston mayor's son who is wanted by the FBI.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www. wordsworth.com. MBTA:Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Laura Shapiro** reads from her new book, *Housewife's Dream: Liberation and the Kitchen in 1950s America*, about homemakers' skeptical response to prepackaged, plastic-wrapped and ready-to-serve foods in the 1950s.

THURSDAY, APRIL 15

Arlington Center for the Arts
Gibbs Theater, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). www.acarts.org. 7:30 pm. Free. Poets **Kevin Bowen**, **Cecelia Brown** and **Joan Houlihan** read their work.

Barnes and Noble at BU
660 Beacon Street, Boston (617-267-8484). http:// bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. **Suzy Becker** discusses her memoir, *I Had Brain Surgery, What's Your Excuse?*, which describes her struggle to maintain a sense of humor during and after her treatment for a brain tumor.

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **Edward Conlon** reads from *Blue Blood*, his memoir about his experiences as a fourth-generation NYPD officer.

Boston College
Cushing Hall, Room 101, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-552-4820). MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. 7:30 pm. Free. **Alicia H. Munnell** reads from the book she co-wrote, *Coming Up Short: The Challenge of 401(k) Plans*, in which she argues that the American pension system has serious shortcomings.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Lisa Carey** reads from her novel *Love in the Asylum*, about two patients in a rehab clinic who discover a former patient's unmailed letters.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Edward Conlon** discusses his memoir, *Blue Blood*. See today's Borders Boston listing for a book description.

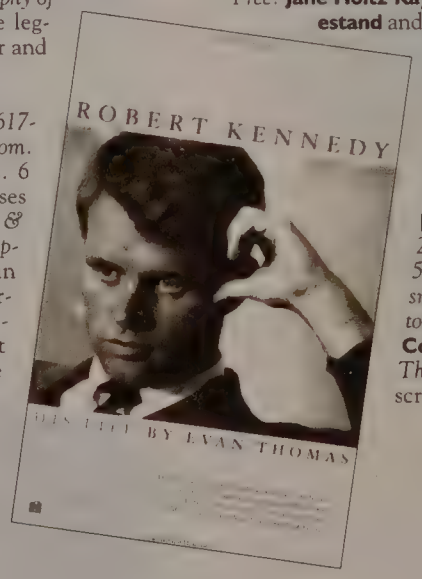
Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http:// harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Linda Barnes** reads from her new book, *Deep Pockets*, the 10th in the Carlota Carlye series, in which the private detective investigates the suspicious death of a college student who had an affair with her professor.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www. wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 1 pm. Brothers **Cal Ripken Jr.** and **Bill Ripken** discuss the book they co-wrote, *Play Baseball the Ripken Way*, an illustrated guide to the game's fundamentals.

FRIDAY, APRIL 16

Barnes and Noble at BU
660 Beacon Street, Boston (617-267-8484). http:// bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 5 pm. Free. **Leigh Montville** signs copies of his new book, *Ted Williams: The Biography of an American Hero*, about the legendary Red Sox player's career and personal life.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Lynne Truss** discusses her new book, *Eats, Shoots & Leaves: The Zero Tolerance Approach to Punctuation*, in which she argues that the correct use of punctuation is essential to the development and preservation of language and communication.



WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth. com. MBTA:Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. **Iris Chang** discusses her new book, *The Chinese in America*, a history of Chinese-American culture and communities from the 1850s to the present.

SATURDAY, APRIL 17

Great Bay Restaurant
500 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-933-5000). www. hotelcommonwealth.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10:30 am-1 pm. **Harvey** and **Frederic Frommer** read from and sign copies of their latest travel book, *Great Rivalry: Red Sox vs. Yankees*.

The Musician and the Muse
Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, 41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). www.cmacusa.org. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. 8 pm. $10. Poets **Regie Gibson**, **Iyeoka Ivie Okoawa**, **Kent Foreman** and **J*me** read from their works, and musicians **Gill Aharon**, **Todd Brunel** and **Akili Jamal Haynes** provide accompaniment.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www. wordsworth.com. MBTA:Red Line to Harvard. 5 pm. Poets **Rick Barot** and **Brian Teare** read their work.

SUNDAY, APRIL 18

Forest Hills Education Trust
95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-524-0128). www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 2 pm. $5. Poets **C.D. Collins**, **Harris Gardner**, **Barbara Claire Kasselmann** and **Richard Hoffman** read in honor of National Poetry Month.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http:// harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 2 pm. Free. **Nick Rubashkin** discusses the book he edited, *What I Learned in Medical School*, a compilation of personal stories from young doctors in training.

MONDAY, APRIL 19

Wordsworth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www. milkweed.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Jane Holtz Kay**, **Lynda Morgenroth**, **Emily Hiestand** and **Kristin Brennan** read their contributions to *Toward the Livable City*, a collection of essays about living in cities around the world.

TUESDAY, APRIL 20

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Jim Collins** reads from his new book, *The Last Best League*, which describes a season with the young players on the Chatham A's, a Cape Cod Baseball League team.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Steven Ozment** discusses his new book, *A Mighty Fortress: A New History of the German People*, an account of German history throughout the past two millennia.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www. wordsworth.com. MBTA:Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. **Ann Leary** and her husband, **Denis Leary**, discuss Ann's new memoir, *An Innocent, a Broad*, a humorous account of her experiences as a new mother living in London and dealing with her husband's sudden success as a comedian.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21

Cambridge Forum
First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-495-2727). www.cambridgeforum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. Free. Yale University professor **Elizabeth Alexander** reads from her new essay collection, *The Black Interior*, which explores contemporary African-American artistic and cultural life.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Julia Alvarez** discusses her new poetry collection, *The Woman I Kept to Myself*.

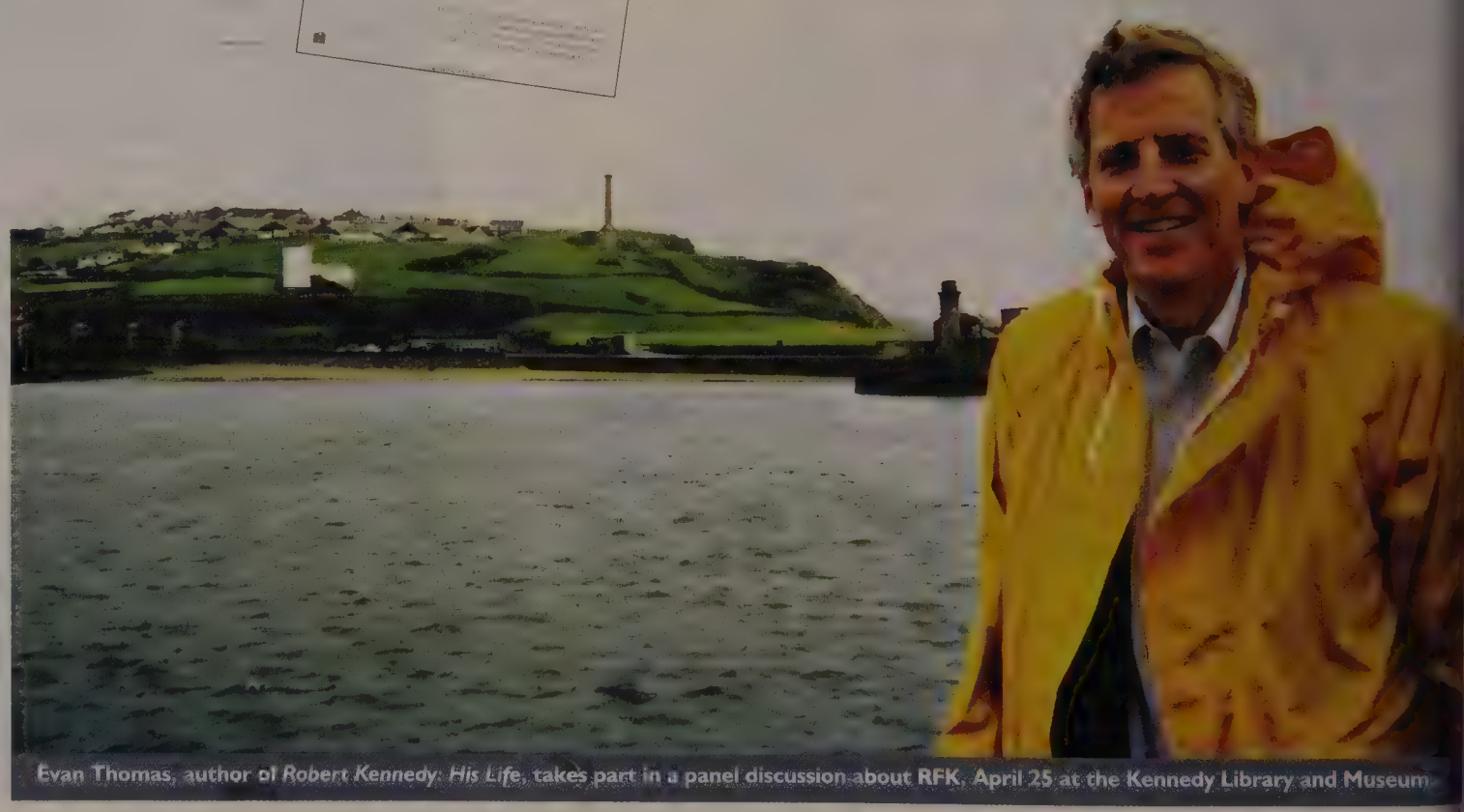
Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Hollis Gillespie** reads from *Bleachy-Haired Honky Bitch: Tales from a Bad Neighborhood*, her collection of essays about her childhood and her experiences as a flight attendant and an NPR commentator.

Newtonville Author Event
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Kirstin Waterfield Duisberg** reads from her new novel, *The Good Patient*, about a successful advertising executive whose painful childhood leads to a mental breakdown.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www. wordsworth.com. MBTA:Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. **Alexander McCall Smith** discusses the fifth novel in his No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency series, *Full Cupboard of Life*, about a Botswanan detective investigating four men who are courting a wealthy woman.

THURSDAY, APRIL 22

Arlington Center for the Arts
Gibbs Theater, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). www.acarts.org. 7:30 pm. Free. Poets **Denise Bergman, Carol Hobbs** and **Cammy Thomas** read their work.



Evan Thomas, author of *Robert Kennedy: His Life*, takes part in a panel discussion about RFK, April 25 at the Kennedy Library and Museum.

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April 18, 2004 — 7pm-1am

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Tickets are $35 in advance or $40 at the door (if available) –
see a party host or log on to **www.leslieslinks.com** to purchase tickets.

DJ and Dancing • Jonathan Soroff of *Improper Bostonian* will host
a raffle and silent auction with lots of great prizes, like a bike from Ski Market
Hors d'oeuvres • The Adam Ezra Band will play from 7:30-9:30pm,
silent auction and raffle at 9:30pm and DJ from 10pm-1am.

Please make checks payable to: Leslie's Links/Dana-Farber. 100% of the proceeds from this event will be donated to The Leslie's Links Ewings Sarcoma Fund at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.
For more info e-mail wendy@leslieslinks.com, or call 617-859-1400 ext. 324.

A special thanks to: Joe Quattrocchi and Vox for hosting this event, Ski Market, our committee members, old friends and new for your continuous support of Leslie's Links and this wonderful cause.

Leslie's Links has raised over $700,000 since it inception in 1999. www.leslieslinks.com.
Our goal is raise $1,000,000 by December 2004.

Thank you for your support and helping us make a difference.



LESLIE'S LINKS was founded in 1999 by Leslie Semonian who battled cancer and passed away in December of 1999 at the age of 32. During the eight and a half year period of her illness, until her death, Leslie never allowed cancer to stand in the way of her goal of helping others. She knew how precious life was and energetically embraced each day. She helped others to appreciate their own lives more. She wanted to be remembered as a participant in life, not an observer. Her passion was boundless, and will continue in the hearts of the many friends and people whom she inspired.

Leslie's Links is a fund at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute which raises money for Ewings Sarcoma Cancer Research in various ways. One of which is through the Leslie's Links bike team associated with the 192-mile Pan-Mass Challenge bike-a-thon from Sturbridge to Provincetown. Leslie's Links has raised over $700,000 since its inception in 1999.

Please join our hosts for the evening to support a great cause:

Lauren Abeles
Aram Aslanian
Jen Bennett
Kerry Brett-Hurley
Martha Brown
Elisabeth Carroll
Zvi Cole
Dana D'Alfonso
Allison Dargie
Courtney Dargie
Nancy Semonian Day
& John Day
Amy Finsilver
Kristine Irving
Beth Kavanagh
Judy Levine
Kerry Lynch
Diane Mantouvalos
Kristina McKay
Katherine Morse
Laurie Frigoletto-Perdoni
Susan Frigoletto-Pratt
Joe Quattrocchi
Kristin Regis
Robyn Sarkisian
Paul & Selena Semonian
Wendy Semonian
Jason Sohigian
Vicky Grigoryan-Sohigian
Jonathan Soroff
Heather & Steve Walker

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Elizabeth Graver** reads from her new novel, *Awake*, about a couple who disagree about how to treat their son who is deathly allergic to sunlight. Also, psychologist **Lauren Slater** reads from her new essay collection, *Opening Skinner's Box*, about the most influential and controversial psychological experiments of the 20th century.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Steve Olson** reads from and discusses his new book, *Count Down: Six Kids Vie for Glory at the World's Toughest Math Competition*, about the team of U.S. high school students who competed at the 2001 International Mathematical Olympiad.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. Newton resident **Walter Ford Carter** discusses the book he co-wrote, *No Greater Sacrifice, No Greater Love: A Son's Journey to Normandy*, about his trip to France with a man whom the author's father saved during World War II.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Colum McCann** reads from his new novel, *Dancer*, about a Russian ballet dancer who leaves the Soviet Union in the 1950s to pursue his career.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. **Tom Dolby** discusses his new novel, *The Trouble Boy*, about a young, gay freelance writer who is initially wowed by the New York City nightlife but must rethink his allegiances when he witnesses a crime.

FRIDAY, APRIL 23

Friday Forum at Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. **W. Barksdale Maynard** reads from his new book, *Walden Pond: A History*, about how tourism has affected the area since Thoreau's mid-18th-century writings made it a literary landmark.

Harvard Book Store Author Event
Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. Yale University professor **Harold Bloom** reads and discusses the book he edited, *The Best Poems of the English Language: From Chaucer Through Frost*, an anthology of poetry with Bloom's commentary.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. MoveOn.org campaign director **Eli Pariser** discusses his new book, *MoveOn's 50 Ways to Love Your Country*, which gives advice about becoming politically active.

SATURDAY, APRIL 24

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5 pm. Poets **Jo Ann Wasserman** and **Buck Downs** read their work.

MONDAY, APRIL 26

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. Poet **Debra Nyserom** reads from her new collection, *Torn Sky*. Also, poet **Marilyn Chin**, author of *Rhapsody in Plain Yellow*, reads her work.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Atlantic Monthly columnist **Barbara Wallraff** reads from her new book, *Your Own Words*, a guide to grammar, language usage and writing style.

A Conversation with Frank McCourt
John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 5:30 pm. Free. **Frank McCourt**, author of the memoirs *Angela's Ashes* and *'Tis*, discusses his 45-year career as a New York City high school English teacher with NPR host **Scott Simon**.

Newtonville Books in the Attic
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Steve Almond** reads from his new book, *Candy Freak: A Journey Through the Chocolate Underbelly of America*, about how his insatiable sweet tooth led him to tour candy factories across the U.S.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5 pm. Poet **Timothy Liu** reads his work.

TUESDAY, APRIL 27

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. Found magazine creator **Davy Rothbart** discusses his new book, *Found: The Best Lost, Tossed and Forgotten Items from Around the World*, about interesting discarded items found by the author.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Eve LaPlante** reads from and discusses her book, *American Jezebel: The Uncommon Life of Anne Hutchinson, the Woman Who Defied the Puritans*, about Puritan rebel who was branded a heretic for her religious beliefs.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. Local author **Elinor Lipman** discusses her latest novel, *The Pursuit of Alice Thrift*, about a socially inept surgical intern who falls for a con artist.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5 pm. Poets **William Waltz** and **Kirsten Kaschock** read their work.

Ongoing

Amazon Poetry Slam (Last Sunday)
Milky Way, 403-405 Center St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 9 pm. $7. On the last Sunday of every month, the Milky Way hosts the all-women Amazon Poetry Slam.

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7:30 pm. 21+. $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge hosts a poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Harvard Coop (Sundays)
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). www.bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. Hear what Boston-area poets are doing at the Harvard Coop's weekly poetry exchange on Level Two.

Jimmy Tingle's Off-Broadway (Sundays)
255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jimmytingle.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $10. Local poets perform their work in a two-hour theatrical show every Sunday night.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). www.poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Poetry jam, 7:30 pm; poetry slam, 9 pm. $6. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the poetry slam's featured poet of the week.

O'Brien's Pub (Mondays)
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. 9 pm. O'Brien's presents a mix of rock and spoken word one Monday per month. Performers are predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry (Saturdays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. $3. Every Saturday is Open Bark poetry night, and the fourth Saturday of each month is a spoken-word event.

Stone Soup Poetry Night (Mondays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have held these weekly readings.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). MBTA: MBTA: Blue Line to Government Center. 8:30 pm. Free. The second Thursday of each month offers a selection of featured poets and an opportunity for others to take the open mike.

education


Leonard Lauder gives a talk on the history of the postcard, April 14 at the MFA.

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14

Adoption Information Seminar
Wellesley Community Center, 219 Washington St., Wellesley (781-431-7148). www.allforchildren.org. 6:30-8:30 pm. Free. The nonprofit, international adoption agency Alliance for Children offers information on its services. The evening includes a question-and-answer session.

A Passion for Collection: The Art of the Postcard
Museum of Fine Arts, Remis Auditorium, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 7 pm. $10-$13. Art collector and business executive **Leonard A. Lauder** gives a talk on the history of the postcard, emphasizing its social importance and how it became a recognized art form.

THURSDAY, APRIL 15

Detecting Lewis and Clark: Paper Trails and Forensics
Yenching Institute, Harvard University, 2 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-495-8601). www.fas.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5:30 pm. Free. **Carolyn Gilman**, special projects historian at the Missouri Historical Society and curator of *Lewis and Clark: The National Bicentennial Exhibition*, gives a behind-the-scenes view of how the exhibition was assembled.

An Evening with Suzanne Farrell
Harvard University's Lowell Hall, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.fas.harvard.edu/ofa. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free (tickets required). New Yorker dance critic **Joan Acocella** moderates a conversation with **Suzanne Farrell**, the acclaimed ballerina and muse of the legendary choreographer George Balanchine.

Jessica Stockholder Speaks on Her Work
Harvard University, Carpenter Center for Visual Arts, 24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). www.ves.fas.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. Artist **Jessica Stockholder**, professor and director of graduate studies in sculpture at Yale University, discusses her site-specific installations, which combine painting and sculpture and employ diverse materials.

FRIDAY, APRIL 16

Modern Times, Rural Places
MIT, Room E51-095, 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-7791). http://events.mit.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 2:30 pm. Free. Duke University history professor **John Richards** gives a seminar on early modern times and the creation of rural landscape.

SUNDAY, APRIL 18

Ergonomics for Knitters
The Knitting Room, 2 Lake St., Arlington (781-483-3442). www.knitroomboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Alewife. 3-4 pm. $10. Occupational therapist and yoga instructor **Ann Marie Turo** offers instruction on proper body alignment and adaptive techniques for knitters.

MONDAY, APRIL 19

Structural Acoustics of the World's Great Violins
MIT, Killian Hall, 160 Memorial Drive, Cambridge (617-253-2906). http://web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 5 pm. Free. MIT professor and violin maker **William Frederick Fry** discusses his research and provides demonstrations focusing on the acoustics of the world's finest violins. Professor **John Harbison** leads the discussion.

TUESDAY, APRIL 20

Tuesday Night at the Opera Talks
Boston Public Library, Mezzanine Conference Room, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7 pm. Free. Musicologist **Elizabeth Seitz** lectures on Mozart's *Cosi Fan Tutte* and is assisted by live musical performances.

THURSDAY, APRIL 22

Parents' Night
The Colonnade Hotel, 120 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-424-7000). www.thecastlegrp.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential. 7:30-9 pm. $10. **Dr. T. Berry Brazelton** gives a presentation focusing on child development and contemporary parenting issues, followed by a question-and-answer period.

FRIDAY, APRIL 23

Do Angels Exist?
Theosophical Society, 21 Maple St., Arlington (781-648-0101). www.tsboston.org. 7:30 pm. $5. **Michael Hughes**, a missionary monk of the Institute for Research in Human Happiness, gives a talk on soul groups and incarnation. The seminar is followed by a video lecture, meditation and a question-and-answer session.

SATURDAY, APRIL 24

Sentimental Travelers in Venice: Introduction to the Exhibition
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 1:30 pm. Free. Exhibition co-curators, **Alan Chong** and **Anne McCauley**, discuss late-19th-century Venetian culture. This lecture includes a slide presentation and familiarizes visitors with the Gardner Museum's current archival exhibition, *Gondola Days: Isabella Stewart Gardner and the Palazzo Barbaro Circle*.

Succeeding at Work: Understanding the Culture of the American Workplace
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. www.ccae.org. 10 am-2 pm. $63. Instructor **Judy Shen-Filerman** helps to acclimate immigrants and new arrivals to the U.S. to the American workplace, with a focus on developing strategies for success. This class is for individuals who are proficient in English and can express themselves in conversation.

SUNDAY, APRIL 25

New England Anti-Vivisection Society
Omni Parker House, Press Room, 60 School St., Boston (617-523-6020). www.neavs.org. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park St. 1:30-4 pm. $5-$10. **Gloria Grow**, founder of the Fauna Sanctuary for chimpanzees formerly used in research, gives an audiovisual lecture that includes stories of recovery and resocialization.

Of Farms and Flamingos: Considering American Yard Art
National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. 2 pm. Free. **Colleen Sheehy**, of Minnesota's Frederick R. Weisman Art Museum, discusses a range of yard art and how it represents American values about landscape, the home and nature.

RFK Remembered
John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 2 pm. Free. **Evan Thomas**, author of *Robert Kennedy: His Life*, **Jack Newfield**, author of *RFK: A Memoir*, and former Kennedy speechwriter **Jeff Greenfield** discuss the legacy of Robert F. Kennedy.

TUESDAY, APRIL 27

Altar Ego
G-Spa, 35 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-4772). www.gspa.biz. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:3 pm. Free. This trendy beauty boutique offers tips for putting the thrill back in your relationship search and for finding a spouse.

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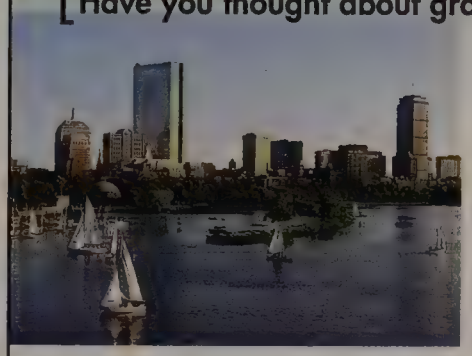
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Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am.; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's new leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $8 for 19+. DJ John Morris spins progressive house for Lust, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $15, 21+. For 20 years, these folks have cranked out Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. Enjoy three separate dance floors plus drag acts. Rotating DJs spin house.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show, and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—pool room and lounge keep the men busy until 2 am.

CityGirl Caffé (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-9 pm; Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-7 pm. This small, laid-back café in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated, draws a mixed gay/hetero crowd for lounging and sandwiches. Brunch is served every weekend.

Club Café and Moonshine Bar (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room and video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Wednesdays, join VJ Cliff Cunningham. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Cliff Cunningham.

Diesel Café (Daily)
257 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-8717). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Mon.-Thu. 7 am-midnight, Fri., 7 am-1 am, Sat., 8 am-1 am, Sun., 8 am-12 am. All ages. Diesel is a gay-friendly Davis Square café that serves coffee and snacks.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3 pm-2 am; Sat., 1 pm-2 am; Sun., 12 pm-2 am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This quiet, friendly neighborhood bar starts hopping as it gets closer to 2 am.

Fritz Lounge (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 12 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. TV sets show satellite sports broadcasts, and Fritz is home base to a softball league. Brunch is served until 3:30 pm on weekends.

Here at 711 Boylston (Tuesdays)
711 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5502). www.hereboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 9 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Boston's Tuesday night gay dance party features and disco and pop.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.


Triple Creme performs in the Queercore Blitz Tour at the Milky Way April 16

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 pm, $6 weekdays; $8 weekends, 21+. Patrons relax with a friendly crowd and mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •On the second Friday of each month is the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground. The typical lineup features singer Leah Callahan with guest musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Tuesdays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 12 pm-2 am. •Wed.: Game Nite hosted by either Diamond Dunhill or Rainbow Frite, 10 pm, no cover. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition with PJ McWhiskers. •Fri.: Best Night Out with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Machine with DJ Brad Gwynn playing house music. 10 pm-2 am, $7, 21+. •Tue.: Service Industry Night with DJ Afrodite.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 19+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: New Wave Dance Party with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). www.dykenight.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. 9 pm-2 am. $5, 21+. On Thursday nights, the Midway hosts Kristen Porter's Dyke Night, with rotating DJs, pool and dancing. Only three Dyke Nights left. •April 15, Singer/songwriters Allison McHal and Marcy Lang perform, followed by DJ Susan Esthera. •April 22, Sparkle performs, followed by DJ Susan Esthera.

Milky Way Lounge (Sundays)
401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+. Sunday theme nights are geared toward gay men and women, transgendered people and their allies. Live entertainment varies from week to week and includes Fireballs Drag Bingo, spoken-word events and jazz. There is free bowling if you buy dinner, and a dance party hosted by resident DJ Jamila caps off the evening. On the last Sunday of every month, the Milky Way presents the all-women Amazon Poetry Slam, a lesbian event. 8 pm, 7:30 pm sign-up, $7.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Thu.: Fire and Ice with DJ Dan Leavey. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza. •Tue: DJ Scott Thinsdale.

Rise (Saturday)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. Private, members-only club, predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night, and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music pumps, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune video screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Vapor (Wednesdays-Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-422-0862). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adilson. 19+. •Thu.: The Music Factory with DJ Pauli Paul and DJ Ron Stele spinning hip-hop, reggae and funk. $5 before 11, $2 after 11, 21+. •Fri.: Inner Circle. $10, 21+. •Sat.: Evolution with DJ Jay Ine. •Sun.: T-Dance party with DJ Danae groovin' to local, tribal, and house while DJ Niterain spins classic oldies. 21+.

Books

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). www.calamusbooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-7 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. Boston's bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered people carries fiction, erotica and titles by gay and feminist activists.

Center for New Words
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. www.centerfornewwords.com. Cambridge's center for women's writing and ideas hosts open mikes and author events.

We Think the World of You
540 Tremont St., Boston (617-574-5000). www.wethinktheworldofyou.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This community-centered gay and lesbian bookstore stocks literature, art books, DVDs and videos.

Shows & Events

Babes in Drag Land
Milky Way, 405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (781-648-0722). www.djdee.com/babes. April 18, 8:30 pm. $8. This monthly event includes live entertainment and dancing.

Label Wars: Bridging the Divide between Gay and Bisexual Men
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. April 22, 7-9 pm. The Fenway Community Health Center offers a panel discussion and open forum that explores ways to bridge the divide between the gay and bisexual male communities.

Last Rites
BCA Black Box Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.thetheateroffensive.org. $2 general admission, Sunday matinees are pay what you can (minimum $10). Apr. 15-24. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm, Sundays, 3 pm. The Theatre Offensive presents Lotta Neely's play about a woman suffering from breast cancer who leaves her girlfriend and moves in with an old friend, her high school basketball teammate.

Outrageous Artist on Film: The Legend of Leigh Bowery
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. April 16, 8 pm; April 17, 4:10 pm; April 22, 3:45 pm; April 23, 5:45 pm; April 24, 2 pm. Charles Atlas directs this documentary on the flamboyant, iconic fashion designer of the 1980s, who died of AIDS at 33.

Paint the Town (La) Red
Park Plaza Hotel, 64 Arlington St., Boston (617-695-0877). www.thenetworklared.org/englishevents.html. $100. April 17, 7 pm. $100. The Network LaRed, an anti-abuse organization for the lesbian, bisexual and transgendered communities, celebrates its 15th anniversary with a gala fund-raiser The evening includes a cocktail hour, an art show and performance by acclaimed author Dorothy Allison and writer-performer Monica Palados.

Queercore Blitz Tour
Milky Way Lounge, 401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.queercoreblitz.com. Fri., April 16, 10 pm. Davies vs. Dresch, the Kitty Kill, Triple Creme, BoySkout, the Dead Betties and Secret Cock perform in the first ever all-queer rock tour.

Ongoing

Atención Latina Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (800-834-3242). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBT

Green Line to Hynes. FCH collaborates with the Elizabeth Stone House to provide this safe, confidential space to discuss healthy relationships, domestic violence and other issues.

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313). www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wednesdays, 6-9 pm. The Boston Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered and Questioning Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6032). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 7 pm. This group meets the second Tuesday of every month for a discussion with bisexual and bi-curious men.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tuesday of the month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

BOSS
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 6-8 pm. This group for gay and bisexual men of color meets the last Thursday of each month to discuss culture, lifestyle, creativity and health.

Boston Bay Blades
www.bayblades.org/boston. All are welcome to join this competitive, recreational group of rowers and scullers.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers
First Church of Jamaica Plain, corner of Centre and Eliot streets, Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org. Every Wed., 7:30 pm, $8. Square-dancing and English country dancing lessons are available for lesbians, gays, bisexuals and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-424-8990). www.bgbl.com. The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm, Fri, 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people, ages 13-25.

Boston Ironsides Rugby Football Club
Moakley Field, South Boston (617-524-5814). MBTA: Red Line to JFK. Rugby players of any level, age, race and orientation are welcome to play.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. www.lesbianavengers.org. Thu., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wednesdays, 7 pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
(617-417-0876). Third Saturday of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for interested parents and their partners. For info, e-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-4595). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm, free. An informal group for people who think they may be bisexual or attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning People
(617-256-8693). This group welcomes those who want to discuss the challenges and the joys of coming out. It meets Thursday nights, 7-8:30 pm, in Cambridge.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area support, information and social group for people assigned female at birth who feel that is not an accurate or complete description of their gender. Part of the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group meets monthly. Email CompassFTM@usa.com for details.

Controversy Thursday
Matrix (B Room), 275 Tremont St. (lower level of Roxyplex), Boston (617-542-4077). Certain Thursdays (call for details), $8, no sneakers. This gay and bi dance party features DJ John Morris at 10 pm.

Dagger
(617-621-6090). The Theater Offensive's guerrilla theater group, Dagger, gathers on Wednesdays from 6-9 pm to create performances representing women's perspectives. For more information, e-mail dagger@theatreoffensive.org.

The Down Low
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Last Friday of the month. 7-9 pm. A discussion group for gay and bisexual men of color to address heritage, lifestyle, culture and health.

East Coast Wrestling Club
(401-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www.eastcoastwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay male wrestlers has more than 160 members.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional women 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophisticated to get together with like-minded women for conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Explore Gender in a Safe Place
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. An ongoing support group for people born into female bodies or who have grown up being viewed as biologically female.

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Saturday mornings. Join Boston's GLBT Flag Football League for a casual spring season, followed by a formal fall season. All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). Sat., 10 am. All are welcome to join this running club.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
(617-267-9001 or 888-340-4528). Mon.-Fri., 6-11 pm; Sat. and Sun., 5-10 pm. This toll-free hotline is confidential and provides support for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning callers.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church in Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Professionals Building Community
(617-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to join this networking organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered professionals.

Gaymes Group
(508-339-4250). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians. Members get together on a regular basis to play board, card and parlor games.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. $5-10. An open mike night open to new performers, this queer-positive, dyke-positive, bi-positive and trans-positive spoken-word event meets the second Thursday of each month, 7:30pm.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Biological males meet on Monday evenings. The groups are moderated by psychologist Randi Kaufman.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday from 10:30 am-12 pm.

Girlz 2 Girlz
(617-482-1078, ext. 277). This mentoring program for girls aged 13-19 who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered or questioning meets the second and fourth Friday of each month, 6-8 pm. Contact Jayms Battaglia.

GLBT Seniors
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6272). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mondays. Support group for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered seniors ages 60 and over.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Anonymous HIV testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Laffan
This social and networking group for women includes single women, couples and parents interested in art, cultural events, outdoor and sporting activities, intellectual and social pursuits, public service and travel. Members receive a weekly email calendar of events. For info, e-mail Laffan_Boston2004@yahoo.com.

LGBT Considering Parenting Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. A short-term (eight-week) group for LGBT persons who are considering becoming parents. Sliding fee scale available. Call for information.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue., Wed. and Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

Meow Boston
groups.yahoo.com/group/Meow_Boston. This social group caters to feminine bisexual women and lesbians in the Boston community. For women 21+.

The Network/La Red
(617-427-7233). The Network is a support group working to end abuse in lesbian, bisexual women's and transgender communities. Email info@thenetworklared.org for more information.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

Peer Listening Line
(800-399-7337). Trained GLBT volunteers provide confidential information, referrals and support.

The Rainbow Cafe
rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social group for activist, academic, intellectual or artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. Email somoslatinos lgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Support Group for HIV-Negative Gay and Bisexual Men
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-967-6231). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. First three Tuesdays of each month, 6-8 pm. Discuss new safe-sex practices and strategies for managing risk and communicating with sexual partners.

Support Group for Lesbians with Cancer
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed. evenings, once a month. Free. For those who want to discuss the impact of this disease on their lives.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Street. First Saturday of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing, $8. Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. WWB is a social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s. It meets the first Thursday of every month.



body & mind

Advice to Contributors

Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Dances of Universal Peace

Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767 or 617-491-8694). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. April 16, 7:30-9:30 pm. $6-10, requested donation. Join hands in simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honoring the spiritual traditions of the world. Everyone welcome. All dances are taught and are accompanied by live music.

Spring Fair and Psychic Mediums Day

Masonic Center, 32 Church St., Watertown (617-923-4334). April 24, 10-4 pm. Free. Hosted by the Greater Boston Church of Spiritualism, this far-out fair features vendors, private readings, spirit communication, spiritual healing and books for sale.

Tibetan Music Performance with Penpa Tsering

Theosophical Society in Boston, 21 Maple St., Arlington (781-648-0101). www.tsboston.org. April 16, 7:30 pm. $12. Penpa Tsering performs traditional sacred songs, dances, stories and chants, playing a variety of string and wind instruments.

World Tai Chi Day

Sutton Public School Gymnasium, 375 Boston Rd. (508-842-1236). www.tai-chi-arts.com. April 24, 10 am-1 pm. Hosted by the Tai Chi Arts Association, this event brings together local practitioners and teachers to celebrate the health benefits and performances of this ancient Chinese martial art.

Yoga Journal Boston Conference

Sheraton Boston, 39 Dalton St., Boston (800-561-9398). www.yjevents.com or www.yogajournal.com. April 20-25. $450 for main convention, $950 for entire conference. This event features more than two dozen yoga instructors teaching all levels. Entertainment includes yoga trance dance with Shiva Rea, and kirtan with Todd Norian and Ann Greene. Keynote addresses include a talk by Gessner Geyer on how yoga affects emotional well-being.

Lectures

An Alternative to Tears: Transforming Emotions

Open Doors, 360 Washington St., Brighton (617-202-6333 or 617-489-7717). www.opendoors7.com. April 21, 7-9 pm. $30. In the Taoist tradition, practitioners develop simple ways to refine, transform and recycle emotional energy. Come see if these techniques work for you.

Chronic Pain Symptom Reduction

Mind/Body Medical Institute, 824 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-991-0102 x210). www.mbmi.org. MBTA: #60 from Kenmore Square or #51 bus from Cleveland Circle. April 21. Call for more information. This program is designed to help patients reduce pain and regain a sense of well-being. Learn relaxation techniques, stress-reduction habits, self-care, effective communication, exercises and nutritional advice.

Eight Steps to Happiness Public Talks

All Saints Parish, 1773 Beacon St., Brookline (508-748-3033). www.serlingpa.org. April 21, 7-8:30 pm. $10, suggested donation. Buddhist nun Gen Kelsang Choma leads a guided meditation and discussion on the theme of "putting an end to problems through a supreme good heart."

Happy Hormones

Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 90 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circlesofwisdom.com. April 21, 7:15-9:15 pm. $15. Learn more about the use of essential oils for healing and balancing your hormonal system.

Meditation and Psychotherapy

Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. MBTA: Red Line to Central. April 24, 1-5:30 pm. $75. Joseph Goldstein, meditation teacher, and Dr. Edward Ryan, psychologist and associate clinical professor at the Yale University School of Medicine, engage in a dialogue about the similarities and differences between Western psychotherapy and Eastern meditation, and how these disciplines can work together. A question-and-answer session follows the discussion.

Science, the Arts and the Mind

Institute for Body, Mind and Spirituality, Lesley College, 29 Everett St., Cambridge (800-999-1959 ext. 8129). www.lesley.edu/gsass/bodymind/index.html. April 23. Free, call ahead to reserve a seat. Dr. Mark Tramo and Dr. Kathleen Howland discuss the question, Should science care about the arts, and vice-versa? This collaborative lecture addresses the question from two perspectives, that of a neuroscientist and music therapist.

Classes

Core Intensive Yoga with Jill Miller

Back Bay Yoga Studio, 1112 Boylston St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-375-0785). www.backbayyoga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center. April 23, 9 am-12 pm. $45. This intensive yoga workout creates opportunity for discovery, awareness and transformation, while providing a rigorous sequence of postures and breathing.

Intro to Sacred Sexuality

Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, 318 Harvard St., Suite 32, Arcade Bldg., Brookline (617-731-2626). www.grandopening.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. April 19, 7:30-9:30 pm. $25. Open to all. Tantra is the study of sexuality as a path to enlightenment and higher consciousness. Dr. Juliana Dahl explains the ancient history of Tantra and how it can fit into our modern life. You'll also learn a few Tantra practices to take home with you.

Pushing Hands: Non-Competitive Martial Art

Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545). www.charlesriversshiatsu.com. April 24 and 25, 10-4 pm. $180 for both days. Master Herman Kauz was a karate and judo expert before studying the art of nonresistance and cooperative action. Participants in this class learn how to win fights peacefully.

Reiki Energy Healing Clinic

Arlington Reiki Associates, 366 Mass. Ave., #304, Arlington (781-648-9334). www.arlingtonreiki.com. April 23, 6:30-9:30 pm. $10. Call ahead. Experience a Reiki energy healing treatment.

Restorative Yoga

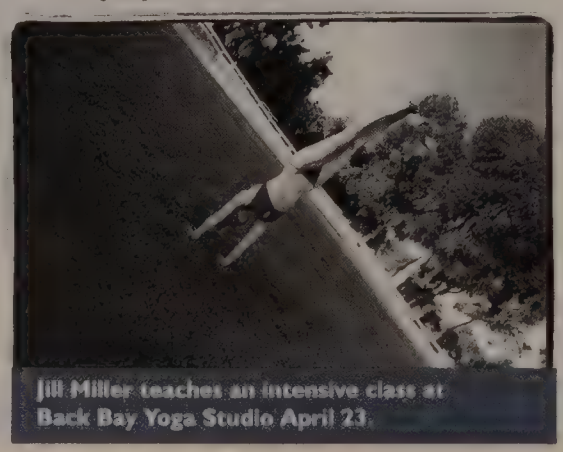
Art and Soul, 91 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-661-7376). www.artsoulyoga.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. April 18, 3-5:30 pm. This class is aimed at people who have been experiencing stress, fatigue, sickness or problems with sleep. For all levels of experience.

Spiritual Exploration and the Chakra System

The Marion Institute, 3 Barnabas Rd., Marion (508-748-0816). Introductory lecture: April 16, 7-9 pm, $10. Workshop: April 17-18, $175, includes meals. This lecture and workshop explore how the chakra system functions, how chakras are utilized for achieving clarity and healing, and how to integrate spiritual principles into everyday life.

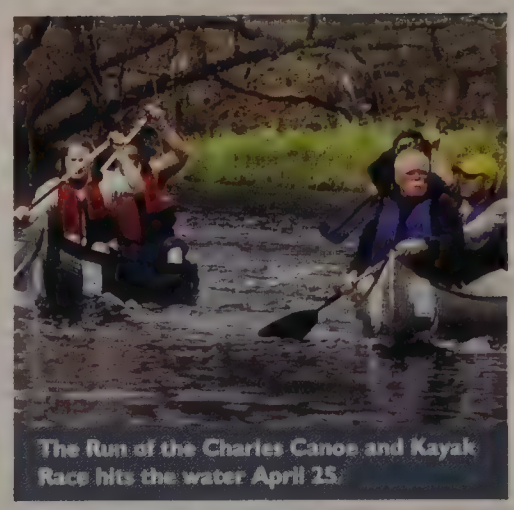
Yoga for Anxiety and Insomnia

The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. April 17, 1-4:30. $45. Learn about the anatomical and emotional aspects of being in a state of high stimulation, as well as the mechanisms of sleep and wakefulness. Then learn yoga postures designed to quiet the nervous system, relieve anxiety and promote restful sleep. Open to all levels.



Jill Miller teaches an intensive class at Back Bay Yoga Studio April 23

sports



The Run of the Charles Canoe and Kayak Race hits the water April 25.

Advice to Contributors

Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

Boston Celtics

•FleetCenter, Boston
Tickets: 800-462-2849
April 14, 7 pm vs. Atlanta Hawks

Boston Red Sox

•Fenway Park, Boston
Tickets: 877-733-7699
April 14, 7:05 pm vs. Baltimore Orioles
April 15, 7:05 pm vs. Baltimore Orioles
April 16, 7:05 pm vs. New York Yankees
April 17, 1:20 pm vs. New York Yankees
April 18, 2:05 pm vs. New York Yankees
April 19, 11:05 am vs. New York Yankees
April 27, 7:05 pm vs. Tampa Bay Devil Rays

Events

BSSC Spring Fling

Colonnade Hotel, 120 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. April 16, 9 pm-1 am. $20. The Boston Ski and Sports Club celebrates the end of winter with a night of dancing, hors d'oeuvres and drinks. A silent auction benefits the American Lung Association.

New England Championship Wrestling: Ferocity

Good Time Emporium, Somerville. www.necwwrestling.com. April 25, 7 pm. Maverick Wild defends his heavyweight title against Psycho Mike Osbourne. Other matches include a tag-team showdown between Adrenaline and Sabotage, and Mercedes Martinez versus Nikki Roxx in a special women's grudge match.

Run of the Charles Canoe and Kayak Race

Race begins in Dedham and ends at MDC Artesani Park on Soldier's Field Road in Allston (508-698-6810). www.charlesriver.org. April 25. More than 1,800 paddlers take to the Charles River in this annual relay race. Teams can tackle the full 24-mile race or shorter segments. The Finish Line Festival in Allston features food, music, awards and sports demonstrations.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club seeks new players for nine-a-side competition. Games take place in Cambridge.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

BSSC Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Brookline and Dedham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers amateur Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

FENCING

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLOOR HOCKEY

BSSC Coed Floor Hockey
Leagues are held in Newton, North Reading and Brighton (617-789-4070, ext. 238). www.bssc.com. All levels, individuals and teams are welcome.

FOOTBALL

BSSC Coed Indoor Flag Football
Games are played in Revere and Tewksbury. (617-789-4070, ext. 242). Sign up individually or with a group of friends.

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, then consider joining these self-proclaimed "serious drinkers with a running problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Run
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Thu., 7 pm. Weekly runs.

VFW Logan Post 3.223-Miler
VFW James Logan Post, 1192 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thu., 7:10 pm. Weekly runs followed by pizza and beer.

SOCCER

BSSC Outdoor Soccer
(617-789-4070). Outdoor teams forming now. Games played in Charlestown, Lexington, Reading and Canton. Individuals and teams are welcome.

SOFTBALL

BSSC Softball
(617-789-4070). Coed softball games played in Brighton, Newton, North Reading and other areas.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed teams forming for spring and summer leagues in Cambridge, Watertown, Brookline and Newton.

WOMEN'S FLAG FOOTBALL

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Saturday mornings. Teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-868-8379). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels. Weekly practices held year-round.

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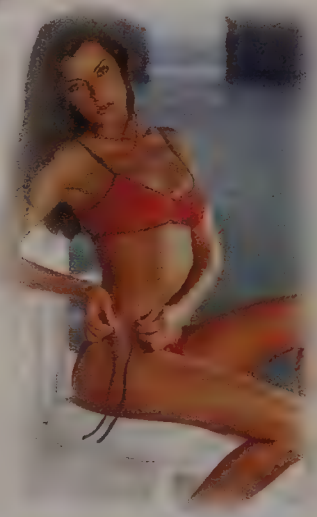


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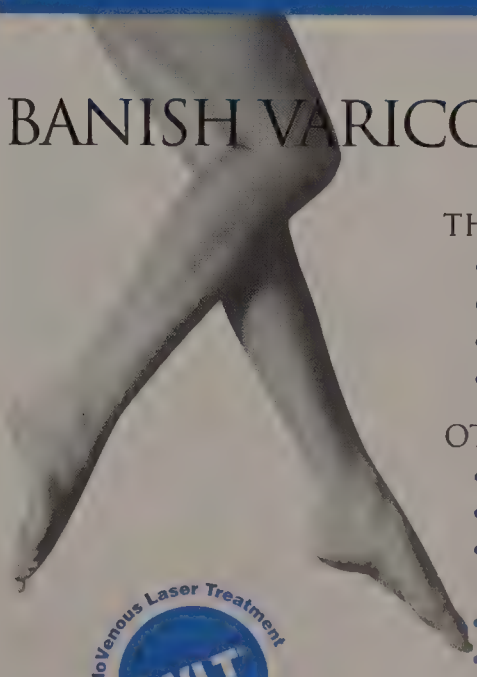

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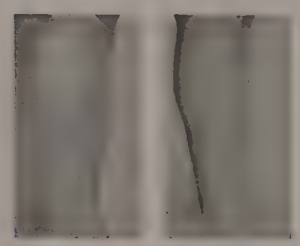
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Before After

children

Advice to Contributors

Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Bear in the Big Blue House Live

Lowell Memorial Auditorium, 50 East Merrimack St., Lowell (978-454-2299). www.bearinthebigbluehouse live.com. April 15, 7 pm; April 16, 10:30 am, 7 pm; April 17, 10:30 am, 2 pm, 5:30 pm; April 18, 1 pm, 4:30 pm. $14-$18. The Disney Channel program comes to life as Big Bear and his friends perform live on stage.

Big Apple Circus—Carnevale!

Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Boston (617-262-8632). www.artsboston.org. Wed.-Fri., 7 pm. Through May 9. $29. The Big Apple Circus features acrobatics by Los Aregos, juggling by Andrey Markov, Arabian horse stunts and trapeze and high-wire acts.

Borders Books and Music

Cambridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Daily, 12 pm. Staff members read from new and classic storybooks.

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-200). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Every Tue. and Sat., 11 am. Staff members read children's stories.

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

Boston's Children's Theatre at McCormack Theatre, UMass Boston, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston (617-424-6634). www.bostonchildrenstheatre.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. April 17-18 and 21-25, 2 pm. $10-$22. This musical version of the biblical story of Joseph and his brothers was written by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice.

Puppet Showplace Theatre

32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50. Reservations recommended. •April 14 and 15, 10:30 am, ages 3-6: In *Bingo the Circus Dog*, presented by Paul Vincent Davis, the jealous magician Fargo the Fantastic dognaps Bingo, leaving the circus performers to solve the mystery and stage a heroic rescue effort. •April 17-18, 1 pm and 3 pm, ages 4-8: Mischievous forest animals play tricks on each other, eventually learning life lessons in Paul Vincent Davis's *Raccoon Tails*. •April 19-23, Monday through Friday, 1pm and 3 pm, ages 4-8: David Stephens presents his take on classic fairy tales and also tells his own with hand, rod and glove puppets in *Three Billy Goats Gruff*. •April 24-25, 1 pm and 3 pm, ages 5-9: Set in an actual functioning kitchen, *The Pancake Show* from Great Small Works teaches the importance of family meals—the show ends with actors making pancakes for the audience. •April 28 & 29, 10:30 am, ages 3-6: Help the knight answer riddles on his quest to capture the enchanted unicorn in Sparky Davis's *Kingdom of Riddles*.

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs

Wheelock Family Theatre, 180 The Riverway, Boston (617-879-2300). www.wheelock.edu/wft. Through May 2. Every Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat. and Sun., 3 pm. Special performances April 20-23, 1 pm. $12-$18. The Wheelock Family Theatre presents this Grimm Brothers tale of envy about a beautiful princess rescued from the forest by a band of seven dwarfs and saved by a handsome prince from the grasp of a jealous queen.

The Three Little Pigs

Seully Hall at the Boston Conservatory, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-536-6340). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center/ICA. April 24, 12 & 2 pm. Free, reservations are recommended. The Boston Conservatory Opera Department presents its twist on the classic fairy tale, set to Mozart selections from *The Magic Flute*, *Cosi Fan Tutti*, *The Marriage of Figaro* and *Don Giovanni*.



See Jack the Jester in the *Gravity Rules* astronomy show at the Museum of Science.

Things to Do

Boston University Theater

264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.bu.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Sat., April 17 at 12-3 pm. Free. The Huntington Theatre Company will be offering backstage tours of the theater including the green room and sound booth. There will also be theatrical demonstrations and the opportunity to try on actual costumes and see how they are made.

Children's Museum

Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8, $7 children. •Kids can mix hip-hop tunes and experience jazz and rock through the hands-on exhibits of *Making America's Music: Rhythm, Roots & Rhyme*. •*Five Friends from Japan: Children in Japan Today* features interactive lessons about Japanese writing, attire and music. •April 17. *National Sense of Smell Day:* Kids can learn everything about the sense of smell as they make "snot" and meet search-and-rescue dogs from the Massachusetts Canine Response Team. • Every Friday, 3-5 pm; Every Saturday and Sunday, 2-4 pm. *In the Zoom Zone:* Take part in hands-on science challenges culled from the PBS TV show *Zoom*.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-496-8204). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. $7.50, $5 children. •Every Sat., 9 am. $35. Saturday Scholar sessions give children the opportunity to learn about their world through hands-on activities. •April 17, 9 am-12 pm, grades 2-3. *Poison and Prickles:* Search the Harvard Museum's galleries for plants with natural defense systems — watch out for thorns and cactus spines!

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center/ICA. $5 per person. Ages 5-12. •April 17, 11 am-4 pm. *Family Festival Day:* Children and their parents can learn about the art and culture of Mexico during a full day of interactive performances, self-guided tours through the gallery's *Made in Mexico* exhibition, craft-making and animated films.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. $5, $1 for children (free admission the third Sunday of every month). •*Holography, the Light Fantastic:* The MIT Museum displays the largest collection of holograms in the world. •*Robots and Beyond:* The exhibit offers a look at MIT's artificial intelligence research labs.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. $15, free for children 17 and under. •April 14-16, 3:30-4:45 pm, ages 6-12: Children can learn about Etruscan and Roman art, creating their own with paint and other media .•April 14, 3:30-4:30 pm, ages 6 and under: *Books Bring Art Alive*. Museum educators read children art-centered kids' books and help them to create related crafts. •April 17, 11:30 am, 12:30 pm and 1:30 pm: *Art Alive* offers a range of cultural activities and events for children. •April 20-23, 10 am-4 pm each day: *April Vacation Week Adventures—Journey to Asia, Land of Dragons*. Children can venture to the far ends of the earth without leaving Boston as they locate and learn about different dragons throughout the museum galleries (on vases, on kimonos, in sculptures), watch short films about the fantastical beasts and create their own dragons to take home.

Museum of Science

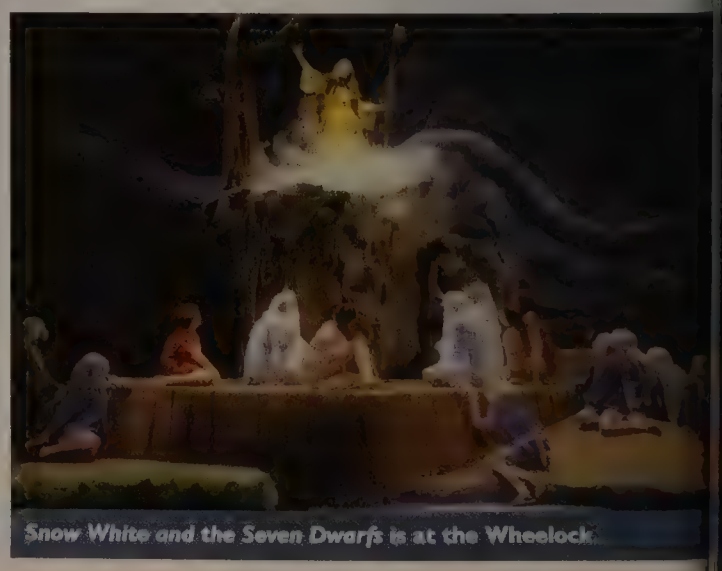
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $10 children. •*Making Models* is a hands-on exhibition that demonstrates how models help people understand complex ideas and phenomena. It includes a wave tank, a model of Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •*Einstein*, a new exhibition, provides interactive simulations that give insight into the complexities of Einstein's theories about the nature of time, energy, gravity and light. Through June 6. •Every Sat. and Sun., 11 am-1 pm: The museum's Science Theater Program features professional storytellers who combine folk tales and myths with visits from live animals. •*Theater of Electricity:* Daily, times vary. The Van de Graaff generator provides a risk-free lightning show. •Charles Hayden Planetarium, check www.mos.org for show times, $8.50, $6.50 children: The kids-oriented multimedia astronomy show, *Gravity Rules* features Jack the Jester. •Every Fri., 8:30-10 pm (weather permitting). Gilliland Observatory: Use the observatory's two telescopes to find the moon, stars, constellations and planets. •Mugar Omni Theatre, check www.mos.org for show times, $8.50, $6.50 children: *Jane Goodall's Wild Chimpanzees* (through May 27), *India: Kingdom of the Tiger* (through May 28) and *Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West* (through June).

Museum of Transportation

Larz Anderson Park, 15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). www.mot.org. Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5. •Every Sat., 10 am-5 pm: On *Family Saturdays* children can participate in a scavenger hunt, play with hands-on "Mystery Bags" and view the children's exhibit *A World of Parts*. •April 18, 10 am-5 pm. $7 for adults, $5 for children. Ticket includes access to the museum exhibits. *Lawn Events — Isabel Anderson's Horses in the Park:* Though the lawn usually displays cars, this equestrian event will entertain both kids and adults alike.

New England Wild Flower Society

Garden in the Woods, 180 Hemenway Rd., Framingham (508-877-7630). www.newfs.org. Free. •April 24, 12-4 pm: Mother Earth welcomes children into the Society's Garden in the Woods where they can learn about flower species, sketch plants and celebrate Earth Day. Additional parking and shuttle buses are available from the Hemenway School, 729 Water St., Framingham, between 12 pm and 4 pm.



Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs is at the Wheelock.





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around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on clear nights), April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm; Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm, Fri., 10 am-9 pm; June-Aug., daily, 10 am-5 pm, Fri. until 9 pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (617-338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park Street. Mon.-Sun., 9:30 am-6 pm. $7.50.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-2 pm. Free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-8 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-739-1200). www.afroamericanmuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10 am-4 pm. $5, $3 students, seniors.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $10 seniors and children.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5, $3 children.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1, Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, $8.95 children.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (617-635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. Tours start at 9 am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. $3.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10 am-4 pm; weekends, 10 am-5 pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $5, $1 children.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $6, $4 seniors.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8 am-6 pm. $3.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). Museum open daily, 10 am-5 pm. Winter ship hours: Thu.-Sun., 10 am-4 pm. Free.

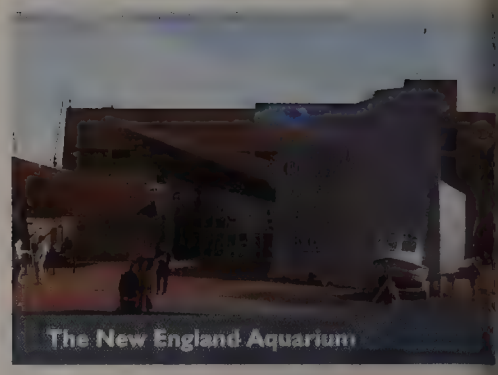
Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-450-1235). Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay
(617-375-0700). Volunteer in the administrative department.


The New England Aquarium

Big Brothers
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. Be a big brother.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Befriend a girl.

Boston Cares
(617-263-2273). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). Tutor Boston students (preschool through high school) in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers/tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support to children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-423-9575). Tutor students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
livmates@rcn.com. Spend your lunch hour reading with an elementary school in Cambridge or Somerville.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). Volunteers needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Play with homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). Share your time with an elderly individual, mentor children or teach an adult to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Association for the Blind
(800-852-3029). Read or shop with a blind person.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-536-3557). Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

Parental Stress Line
(617-528-5800). Telephone counselors needed.

Pine Street Inn
(617-521-7626). Serve breakfast to homeless guests.

Project Place
(617-262-3740). Become a mentor or tutor to homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111). Record textbooks in digital format.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteers needed at this battered women's agency.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room and groceries program at the homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young professionals.

StandUp for Kids
(800-365-4543). Help rescue homeless children.

VNA Care Network
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

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RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

I Spy You

I was walking down Newbury Street last week when I nonchalantly noticed you while passing by 29 Newbury, one my local favorite spots. I noticed you sitting in the window enjoying a nice Saturday lunch with another attractive "friend?" I don't normally do this but I found you to be absolutely gorgeous and so, of course, I was compelled to stare at you. I was the curly-haired, punky guy with a slender, fit build wearing a yellow t-shirt with brown stripes and jeans. I was accompanied by my curly red-headed friend dressed in all black. Our eyes met for a brief moment as my friend and I checked out the menu board (and you). I noticed you stumble in the conversation you were having with your companion and then you smiled at me. I really felt that there was a connection between us during that moment and I should have gone into the restaurant and introduced myself, but I was too nervous. Here is my second shot—e-mail me if you want to get together for a good time, a fab friendship or just to talk.

—Newburywindowwatcher@hotmail.com

I Blessed You

You sneezed and I said bless you. But that wasn't the first time I noticed you. I had been checking you out since the moment my group sat down next to yours at Sarsfield's Pub in Quincy, Sunday night after the parade. You introduced yourself to me as I was passing by and it was the friendliest, warmest handshake I've had in a while. You said you wanted to take me out in town because you hang out there a lot. For some reason, numbers were not exchanged—I'm blaming it on the haziness brought on by some pub brew. E-mail me, tell me your name and mine so I know it's you and not some desperate weirdo, and let's maybe move it up a notch from a handshake. Wink, wink.

—lovedthehandshake@yahoo.com

Symphony Whole Foods Girls

If 24 rolls + 24 rolls = 48 rolls, then how many rolls of toilet paper did the "silly" girls have to lose on their way through Whole Foods to end up with 44 rolls?

—Your math teacher

Life Is Too Short... I'm So Sorry

I realized this yesterday, March 24, around 8:30 am, at the Au Bon Pain on Boylston Street, when I heard a loud thud and saw a man in his early 50s lying on the floor. His hands turned white, his breathing became labored, and I stood there helpless as the paramedics were called and people took turns frantically debating on whether or not to turn him over or give him CPR or not do anything. I left as the paramedics were coming because I couldn't stand to watch anymore and I felt as if the man would have been humiliated knowing there were people crowding around him. This morning I went back and checked to see how he made out and was told the man died at Mass. General. My thoughts were with him all night, and are now with his family. I'm sorry for your loss and I'm sorry I couldn't help.

—A Woman Who Wishes She Could Have Helped Save A Life

The Vinatieri Kick

You said I gave you the Adam V. Boot and I said you held the ball while I kicked it. So appropriate on the day it was, don't you think? The kick ended up being a field goal, and since I am the best personal trainer that you know, maybe you should take my suggestions. Who knows—you may score a touchdown!

—The Cute Little Blond

Blue Line Encounter

It was the afternoon of the celebratory parade for the Pats' Super Bowl win. I was with some friends and I saw you standing by the door softly smiling to yourself. You had red hair and a black choker with a brown jacket. I tried to continue my conversation with my friends, but my eyes kept leading me back to your smile, which seemed to brighten once you noticed me looking at you. Once we got to the end of the line, you asked me what time it was—it was just before 3 pm. My friends began to exit the train, but the doors shut on us briefly, trapping us momentarily—creating what I thought to be a situation to crack a corny joke. I hoped you hadn't taken it the wrong way. You went up the stairs and my friends and I took a cab. I've occasionally looked around hoping to see you again to ask your name, but considering the nature of the day, I don't even know if you're from the area. So, if you see this, let me know if we can get caught again sometime.

—blue_line_encounter@hotmail.com

Red Line, Pastry and Dickens

You were coming from the North End and were carrying cannoli from Modern Pastry. I was reading a book on the Red Line to Harvard. It was a Thursday around 7:30. If I hadn't slid over to give you a place to stand, I would have lost my place in the book anyway when I caught your smile. Write if you're interested in talking more about Modern vs. Mike's and whether *Memoirs of a Geisha* is really Dickensian.

—loaf1204@yahoo.com

The Green Line from Cleveland Circle to Downtown.

It was around 12 pm, March 27. I noticed you around St Paul Street. At Kenmore you sat down next to me. You had a Mediterranean look and were wearing a cream-colored sweatshirt, jeans and brown shoes. You had a nice two-day beard and a great head of hair. I was wearing sweatpants and was heading to the grocery store. I had on a black hat and was playing a game on my phon We both got off at Park Street as the train was taken out of service. You glanced back and I was not sure it was me you were looking at. I really wanted to say hello but didn't due to my scruffy look. If you remember this, e-mail me. I would love to have a drink with you soon.

—Symphony0071@yahoo.com

Bowie

You are the very attractive Asian woman who was selling a floor seat to the David Bowie concert March 30 outside the FleetCenter. Another woma was trying really hard to help you. I was the guy with brown hair and a leather jacket. We talked, but I didn't want to make a low offer. It was great to see that you got it sold. I'd love to hear what you thought of the show. C I buy you a cup of coffee sometime?

—mrb5959@hotmail.com

A Blu Egg Blu

Our eyes met across a sea of people at a place we weren't supposed to b Your smile, eyes, or something I found invigorating. The first dinner and the chase back to my place, wa the tide in the ocean of our relationship. We covered this count coast to coast, event to event. Your scent, your touch, your presence is intoxicating. You are my drug and I am going through withdrawal. Together we were one, apart I am none. Best friends forever, when dic "I love you" lose meaning? You wer the water that nurtured my mind, body and soul. At least we'll have t cannoli dance, or one day we'll mee up to do the hanky-panky. I pray that one day God puts us be togeth again. Until then, this egg is blue.

—831 Egg

rockie horoscope

APRIL 14 – 27, 2004

BY ROCKIE GARDINER



ARIES MARCH 20-APRIL 19

Let it go. This is a good time to get out from under the habits that you always wind up regretting. You know, the behavior that sabotages your best intentions and sends significant others running for cover. While the supportive trine between the Aries sun and rehabilitative Pluto is at peak strength, the healing process can occur on various levels—conscious, unconscious, even cellular. Write your memoirs, speak your piece when the sun and retrograde Mercury meet on the 16th and you're at your expressive best.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

Good faith and good luck are inexorably joined now, so you can't fool around—you've got to be true to yourself. You should also try to separate fantasy from, if not a soon-to-be historical fact, then something akin to a long-term life goal—preferably nothing that smacks of sainthood or a star on your boulevard of choice. While visions of being inducted into a hallowed Hall of Fame can inspire good work, perhaps the best you've done to date, its production may cost a small fortune. Are you overly optimistic and enthusiastic, and over budget?

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

While your Mercury ruler is retrograde (until the 30th) you shouldn't even try to make travel plans; however, you can do extensive research on the arts and religions of the future destination. Right now, faith could be a strong motivating force, whether it's riding on your team's prospects for the season or your expectations for a romantic fling. Pay marked attention to what you hear or read around the 16th, when Mercury and the sun join forces. The info could change your opinion about an organization you're attached to, a cause that you support.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

Take it easy. High expectations can lead to a meltdown; ditto if you blindly trust that your luck will bail you out. And don't for a minute consider throwing caution to the wind. Simply remind yourself that whenever pleasure-loving Venus and munificent Jupiter present a situation that appears to be "too much of a good thing," moderation should be your primary m.o. This way, you won't max out the credit cards or eat your way through an entire dessert tray. Sweetness becomes cloying and generosity turns into wretched excess until the new-moon/solar eclipse on the 19th.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

Prepare to embrace the next turning point in your life, the moment when you commit to change. Maybe you'll meet your ultimate mind-body teacher; maybe you'll check out an unfamiliar religion, maybe you'll read a book. It might not be enlightenment, per se, but while your powerful sun ruler and rehabilitative Pluto trine, some sort of light flicks on. The cuspy solar eclipse on the 19th ushers in six months of avid research, questions about the direction of your career and a passion for traveling purely for pleasure.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

Nobody is pulling the rug out from under you. However, significant others could suddenly change their minds and throw you for a loop. They might also come up with an impressive song-and-dance routine concerning your career and family. Even if the prospects look as good as the promises, you're likely to be nervous about any sort of change. Pay attention to the ideas that pop into your head when your Mercury ruler and the daring Aries sun merge around the 16th. They can show you how to use shared resources to further your own interests.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

Taking your good fortune for granted might be an invitation for disappointment, not disaster. Please don't exaggerate a problem and turn it into dire circumstances when blow-it-out-of-proportion Jupiter challenges your amenable Venus ruler on the 14th. Perhaps you'll contribute more than you should to an organization you admire, a friendship you value. Maybe you won't get what you think you're entitled to. Careful, entitlement and resentment are issues a fair-minded Libra will obsess over. Let 'em go.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

Pisces and Aquarius people play a big part in this week's Scorpio scenario. They're the signs who are appealing to your spirituality and supporting your talent. Encourage them to continue. The folks who might offer up more resistance than you expect are Gemini and Sagittarius, signs that, rather than argue, usually accept or adjust to your demands. Not everything, however, is topsy-turvy. You can rely on a co-worker or health professional to provide the ideas, facts and figures you'll need during the next six months.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

Like Leo and Aries, you're being blessed with a healing force so powerful yet so subtle you might not realize what's taking place. Here it is: Redemptive Pluto in Sag is receiving positive rays from the Aries sun in your house of creativity and pure, no-strings-attached love. And while there's an element of risk involved—Aries is nothing if not daring—the benefits far outweigh the dangers. Except around the 24th, when aggressive Mars in your Gemini house of partners challenges the validity of Pluto's comeback. Relapse?

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

While it might not be completely smooth sailing ahead, the next few weeks offer no apparent problems. Sure, you'll continue to fulfill your obligations toward a significant other, and you might have to take over some of their responsibilities. But that's an easy load for most Goats to carry. Those born near the Aquarius cusp could be affected by the solar eclipse on the 19th, but since Mercury is retrograde in your house of the family tree and real estate, there's not much you can do to forestall problems in that area. Have patience and perseverance.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

Who loves you, baby? Just about anyone with a spark of curiosity in them. Especially Aries, Scorpio and Gemini natives, guys and girls who wanna have fun. And while someday you may have to pay—by forfeiting a friendship?—to play, sooner or later jealous types tend to get over their bouts with the green-eyed monster. No harm, no foul, no material gain, either. However, your spiritual and artistic stock can rise dramatically next week when appreciative Venus favors imaginative Neptune in your sign. Enter the Pisces.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

While you may feel energized (some call it infuriated) by the attention you're receiving from a sibling or neighbor, the interaction can also reinforce your high-flying idealism. Holier-than-thou is a nice place to visit when the occasion demands it; so while first Mars, then Venus supports your Neptune ruler, feel free to adopt whatever sanctimonious or saintly approach suits you. These are also highly productive artistic periods, especially for fixing up the house and garden. Angels, please; no gnomes.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, *www.rockiehoroscope.com*. Read my daily forecast online at *www.laweekly.com*.



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The Taste of Beacon Hill

4th Annual Culinary Showcase,
presented by The Beacon Hill Business Association
Wednesday, April 21, 2004 from 6:30 PM- 9:30 PM

The Ritz Carlton Boston
At the corner of Arlington and Newbury Streets.

Some of the great restaurants participating include:
No.9 Park, Lala Rokh, Peking Tom's, The Hungry "I", Panificio, Paramount, Osaka Sushi, Harvard Gardens, The Hill Tavern, The Hampshire House, 75 Chestnut, SPIRE, Torch, The Dining Room at The Ritz, Jer-Ne, Cafe Vanille, Starbucks, The Federalist, 21st Amendment, Artú

◆ All previous Tastes have sold out! ◆

The cost to the visitors will be $55.00 in advance and $75.00 at the door, if available. (There will be a cash bar).

Tickets are available at Cambridge Trust Co., 65 Beacon Street and ERA City State Real Estate at 218 Cambridge Street.
Ticket information: 617.720.7888

Beacon Hill Times · Improper Bostonian · The Ritz-Carlton

IMPROPER sightings

UNLIKE THE REST OF YOUR FRIENDS, WE WANT TO SEE THE PHOTOS FROM YOUR NEXT TRIP

Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you were. The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.



Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry always reads his IMPROPER *sooner* rather than later, and we can guess what his favorite musical is.



Kim Smith and Laurie DuBois hiked the Franz Josef Glacier in New Zealand. Franz Josef wanted his name on a bridge, since those don't melt.



Roger Biron, John Donovan, Tom Burgess, Bill Livingstone, Captain Casey, Keith Fillmore, Russell Allen and John O'Reilly took a break during a Caribbean windjammer cruise. "Long mustache, short shorts" is the Caribbean captain's credo.



Ramin Parsa-Parsi, Peta Gillyatt and Karin Vander Schaff visited Dubai's Burj Al Arab, the only seven-star hotel in the United Arab Emirates. Or anywhere.



Hanh Bach journeyed to Ha Long Bay, Vietnam. There she got invited to go on an extensive party cruise around the bay, but she balked when she found out ha long it would take—pho too long, as it turned out.



Christopher Mercurio visited Sydney, Australia. The sign says "in Australia" in case you managed to drive there from somewhere else.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Having the best of times and the worst of times because old Marley was as dead as a doornail at the Dickens Festival, held the first week of June, in Rochester, England.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned.



In celebration of

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN'S 10TH ANNUAL BOSTON'S BELOVED BARTENDERS ISSUE

YOU'RE INVITED TO

MIX IT UP

and make a toast

to the

BOSTON BARTENDERS

you love the most!

Monday, April 26, 6pm-

all night

The Rack, 24 Clinton Street, Faneuil Hall

617.725.1051

with music by

Boston's Hottest DJ

DJ JOHNNY C

The Improper's Jonathan Soroff, and KISS 108's Artie the One Man Party will host a night of awards, competitions, specialty drinks and surprises. Complimentary appetizer buffet. See who rises to the top in our 3rd Annual Bartenders Competition. Come from work in casual attire and have some fun!

IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Friday, March 26, **WBCN** celebrated its 36th birthday at **Felt**.









1. **Marty O'Malley**, accountant for State Street; **Jennifer** and **Meghan Sammarco**, both with the WBCN street team; **Cali**, promotions director and DJ with WBCN; **Elizabeth Higgins**, portfolio administrator for State Street; and **Sully**, DJ for WBCN.
2. **Tim Driscoll**, store manager for Paul Duggan Fine Watches; **Carlo Sarkissian**, manager at Bedrosian Jewelry; **Lindsay Reilly**, student from New Jersey; and **Serge Karamousayan**, owner of Serge's Fine Jewelry.
3. **Oedipus**, program director for WBCN, and **Gary Dell'Abbate**, a.k.a. Baba Booey of the *Howard Stern Show*.
4. **Cindy Smith**, waitress; **Shawn Donovan**, manager; and **Crystal Rogers**, waitress, all of Felt.

On Wednesday, March 31, **The Improper Bostonian** celebrated its Man Issue with a party at **The Place**. **Chivas Regal** provided the manly drinks, and comedian Dave Russo entertained the crowd. **Mohegan Sun**, **Clear Channel**, **The Bustonian** and others donated prizes for a raffle to benefit **The Joey Fund**.









1. **Amy Blanco**, Chivas Regal Scotch brand ambassador, Mass., and **Mike Greggorio**, United Liquor Sales.
2. **Greg Susco**, Telamon Insurance; **Marissa Foster**, assistant buyer at Talbot's; **John Barrows**, Thrive Networks; **Devin McQueeney**, vice president for Event Cast; and **Shawn Palma**, Event Cast.
3. **Mary Brolly**, **Nicole Valentino**, **Christina Durbano**, **Christine Medis** and **Danielle Harder**, all from The Place.
4. **Dave Russo**, comedian and MC for the evening, and **Jenny Brown**, makeup artist

On Friday, April 2, **The Improper Bostonian** hosted a cast party for the play *9 Ball* at **The Rack**. The cast and their guests enjoyed beers from **Stella Artois** as they celebrated the opening of *9 Ball* at the **Tremont Theater**.





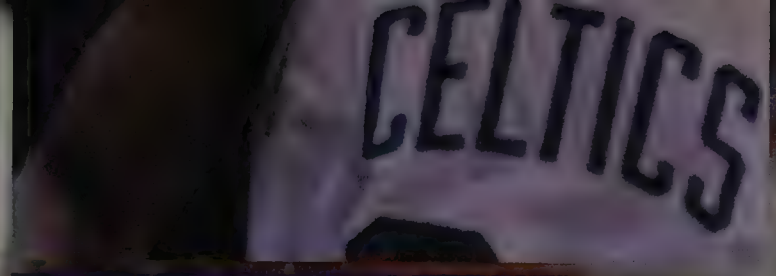




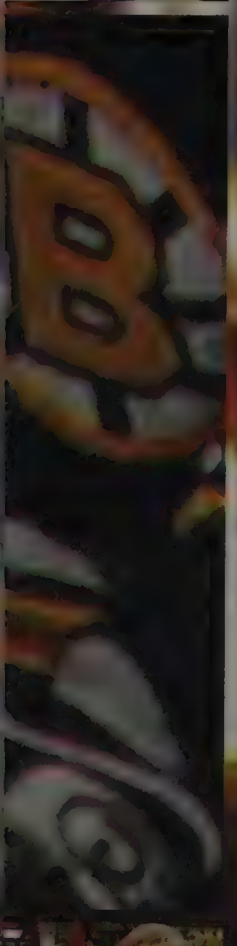
1. **Art Devine**, writer and director of *9 Ball*, and **Sandy Steele**, flight attendant for Delta.
2. **Sib Hashian**, former drummer with the band Boston and actor in *9 Ball*, with his sister **Katharine Hashian** and his wife, **Suzanne Hashian**.
3. **Ernie Boch Jr.**, sponsor of *9 Ball*; **Renee Buston**, bartender at The Good Times; and **Barry Miller,** photographer.
4. **Matt Forbes**, lawyer with Forbes & Gallagher; **Theo Von**, former cast member from *Road Rules* and stand-up comedian; and **Rachael Kushner**, student at UMass Amherst.

PHOTOS: FELT, JULIE KANE; THE PLACE, SARAH MCMANUS; THE RACK, SAMANTHA HOI









Spring is here - REALLY! Catch all the **BRUINS** and **CELTICS** Playoff action, and our beloved **RED SOX** on our *plasma flat screen TV's.*







The spring weather has finally arrived, and our picturesque ***windows are now open,*** *so come enjoy the warm breeze over a cool drink!*







We'll be open at **11am** *April 19th, Patriots Day/Marathon Monday. So stop by, grab some lunch and watch the Sox battle the Yankees before heading over to watch the big race!*













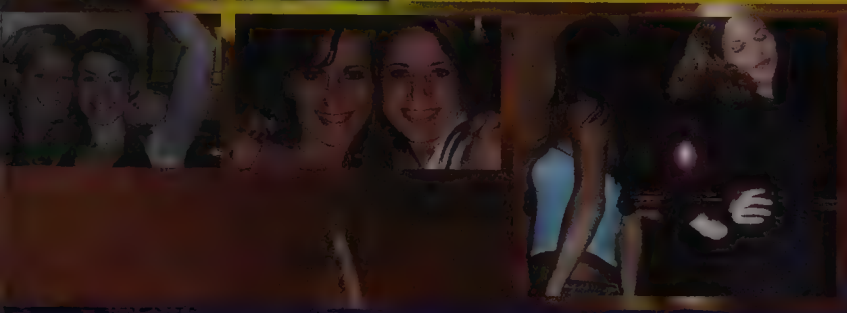
Wednesdays

NOW Wed. SportsPlus *LIVE*

Be a part of the LIVE TV audience on The Boston Globe's SportsPlus! on NESN hosted by Bob Lobel. 7pm

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Fridays and Saturdays

Party and Dance *LIVE*

Fun, dancing and excitement with VJ Laptop!

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Wednesdays

Chad LaMarsh *LIVE*

Come see this Boston Legend ROCK THE PLACE

8:30 to 11:30pm

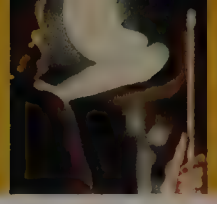


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Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch





RESTAURANTS

75 Chestnut *75 Chestnut St., Boston, 617-227-2175, www.75chestnut.com.* Providing regional American cuisine served in an intimate setting. Bar opens at 5pm. Dinner served from 5:30pm - 10pm.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled Portabella-Paninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC, V.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2002. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Captain Fishbones **SEAFOOD, STEAKS AND MORE* 353 Cambridge St, Allston 617-783-2300 (formerly the Sports Depot).* *Monday Night Special Twin Lobster Dinner $14.99 * Meet your friends at a great bar surrounded with 42" plasma screen TV's. Join us for a free appetizer special Sunday nights and Monday thru Friday from 4PM-6PM. Captain Fishbones boasts a reasonably priced menu of fresh seafood, succulent steaks, awesome burgers, pizza and a healthy variety of salads. Full menu from 11:30 A.M. to 12:30A.M. Sunday Brunch $11.99-10:00A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Plenty of free parking. You can also visit the Captain oceanside at Marina Bay, Quincy at 332 Victory Rd., 617-471-3511 www.captainfishbones.com.

Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston 617-426-3333.* Open 11am - 2am, 7days a week. Kennedy's Midtown is a cultural experience far from the maddening crowd while set in heart of it. Kennedy's serves a lunch and dinner menu of international cuisine. In the evenings they play host to some of Boston's finest Pianists who entertain with a range of tunes from Broadway to Jazz and Blues. Kennedy's embraces all the finer qualities of regal Boston and throws in a dash of old fashioned Irish Hospitality for measure.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., South Boston,617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Ned Devine's *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere inthe heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998,1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 0pm. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches. Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Solas *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am 7 days a week.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

BARS/CLUBS

Beer Specialty

Boston Beer Works *112 Canal St., near the Fleet Center, 617-896-BEER, 61 Brookline Ave., across from Fenway Park, 617-536-BEER and 278 Derby St., in Historic Salem, 978-745-BEER.* Boston's oldest and largest restaurant brewery with 3 locations! Bold American Food. Award Winning Beer. 15 microbrewed beers always on tap. 16 American wines by the glass. 15 championship billiards tables at our Canal Street location. Complete party planning capabilities. Private Rooms. Customizeable menus. Lunch. Dinner. Late Night. Always a good time. Check out the BIGGER and BOLDER menu.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exotic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1 am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

Big City - pool hall, pizza kitchen, Beer Bar *138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8pm, free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Felt *533 Washington St., Boston, 617-350-5555.* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering sophisticated billiards, New York style lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or for a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere combined with the delicious creative entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Eclectic cuisine by Chef Casey Lloyd.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 10pm. Live DJs 7 nights a week, dancing with Ibiza's DJ Marco, resident DJs DJLittles and Johnny C til 2 am. Join us in our new private VIP room! Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Clubs

Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston, 617-482-7799.* Located in Boston's trendy Theater District, Pravda 116 is a chic bar and club. DJs 5:30pm - 10:30pm keep the energy level high. Bar 5:30pm-2am and dance club 10:30pm - 2am Wednesday-Saturday. Credit cards accepted AE, CB, DC, MC, V.

Stadium – Clubhouse *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Stadium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale nightclub featuring two bars, a hardwood dance floor and parking. An exciting yet relaxed 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety of music and beautiful people crowding the dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights. An ideal place for your next bachelor, bachelorette or birthday party.

Club Q Boston *25 Union St., Boston, 617-742-2121.* Open 9pm - 2am Wednesday through Saturday. What nightlife in Boston has been waiting for, this state of the art Nightclub in the heart of Faneuil Hall attracts a stylish and eclectic crowd. Open Wednesday through Saturday Club Q hosts Boston's top DJs spinning Hip Hop, House and Top 40's. With two bars, three VIP areas and pool tables, Club Q is the place to see and be seen. Credit cards accepted.

Comedy

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyconnection-boston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www.theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. Mingle. Let your hair down; see and be seen on the big screen. Simply the hippest way to spend a night of all-out fun in Boston's Financial District. Come after work. Come to dance. Come to go wild with your friends. There's always something exciting happening – and you never know who you'll bump into. Join us and experience what the buzz is all about.

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 617-227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston,617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal and martini. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 10pm. Live DJs 7 nights a week, dancing with Ibiza's DJ Marco, and resident DJs DJLittles and Johnny C til 2 am. Join us in our new private VIP room! Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Irish

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 617-742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston,617-742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of



Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 617-523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11am - 1am 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

The Green Dragon *11Marshall St., Boston, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11 am - 2am 7 days a week.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 617-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

General

The Alley *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. www.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

Aqua *120 Water St., Boston, 617-720-4900.* Boston's newest place to be seen is now open in the heart of the Financial District. Whether relaxing with a martini in one of our cozy booths, sipping a margarita on our roof deck or watching your hometown favorites on our high definition plasma TV. Aqua has what you're looking for after work and late night with our resident and guest DJs spinning your favorite mixes through our state of the art sound system all night long.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Boston Rocks *245 Quincy Market Place Boston,617-726-1110 www.boston-rocks.net. 21+.* Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St.,617- 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2003. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Captain Fishbones **SEAFOOD, STEAKS AND MORE* 353 Cambridge St, Allston 617-783-2300 (formerly the Sports Depot).* Free Appetizer Specials Sunday Nights and Mon-Fri 4:00PM-6:00PM, Martini Bar, Tropical Temptations, Frozen Specialty Drinks, 10 taps-16oz drafts. Meet your friends for free appetizers, awesome burgers, great pizza or healthy salads. Full menu from 11:30 A.M. to 12:30 A.M. Award winning Sunday Brunch including prime rib and shrimp cocktail for only $11.99 – 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. Plenty of free parking. You can also visit the Captain oceanside at Marina Bay, Quincy at 332 Victory Rd., 617-471-3511 www.captainfishbones.com.

Cheers *Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-227-0150, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Offering pub fare until 11:45pm. Live entertainment every Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Cheers *Beacon Hill 84 Beacon St., Boston, 617-227-9605, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Full menu available until 11:45pm. Watch your favorite team on DirecTV.

Downtown Lounge *138 Portland St., Boston 617-523-8383.* Tempting tapas, modern martinis and contemporary cocktails are just a few of the elements awaiting your arrival. A distinctive destination in the heart of North Station, located just one block from the Fleet Center. Share crab taquitos, shaved portobello mushrooms or grilled white pizza. Revive with a specialty martini while sinking into soft curvy seating. Spacious and sublime, Dowtown Lounge is an attractive meeting place for business, luncheons, social, after work cocktails and events.

The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010.* Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St.,Boston 617-722-0161.* The newest edition to Boston's night scene. This New Orleans style bar is just steps away from the Fleet Center. Hurricane O'Reilly's serves up the best that Boston nightlife has to offer. Come dance the night away with the hottest music around. We will leave you yearning for Bourbon Street.

Jillian's Boston *145 Ipswich St., Boston, 617-437-0300.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring more than 200 high tech games, six full bars, 50 pool tables, racing simulators, Black Jack for Fun and much more. Atlas Bar and Grill on Jillian's first floor offers full service dining featuring innovative American cuisine, a giant screen video wall and dancing every Friday & Saturday night. www.jilliansboston.com.

The Junction – Your Neighborhood Bar & Grill. *110 Dorchester St., South Boston, 617-268-6429.* Delicious food, great atmosphere and friendly staff –and it all happens at the Junction -South Boston's Neighborhood Bar & Grill. Enjoy our half -priced appetizers on weekdays from 3 to 6 pm. Join us for live music & entertainment on the weekends and for our fun trivia nights on Tuesdays.

Murphy's Law *837 Summer St., South Boston 617-269-6667 www.murphyslawbar.com.* Leave your attitude at the door! Close to Downtown Boston, Murphy's Law is located one minute from the Ted Williams Tunnel and across from Boston Edison. Join us and bring your friends for Live Music April 15 & 17 with Sensual and April 22 & 30 with Off The Wall. Come play some darts or video games. We offer an inviting, fun and friendly atmosphere. Ten beers on tap. Available for private functions. Call for details.

Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Lounge. Cocktails. Dancing. Nightlife. Come see the lights of Parris. Sample the eclectic lounge menu featuring grilled pizza, oyster shooters ans steak tartar. Sip a Classic, Apple or French 75 martini, and then motion onto the huge dance floor featuring Live Music with the best bands and DJs Thursday through Saturday. Named for the original architect of the Greek-revival-style building, Alexander Parris, you're nightlife experience at Parris will be Boston and beyond. Open 5pm - 2am Wednesay - Saturday. Cover charge on Friday and Saturday.

Jazz

Regattabar *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Tuesday-Saturday nights and occasional Sunday afternoons. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square. Shows at 8:30pm Tues-Thurs, 7:30pm & 10:00pm Fri. & Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617.876.7777 for tickets and information, 800.881.1818 for hotel reservations and information.

Latin

Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston 617-351-7001.* A multistory Latin-themed restaurant and club, Sophia's treats guests to a tantalizing Tapas-style menu, live Salsa bands and hi-energy Latin dance. From a romantic dinner and salsa lessons to hi-energy dance and mingling on the roof deck over sangria and Salsa, an evening at Sophia's is always Hot! Hot! Hot

Sports Bar - Upscale

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www.theplaceboston.com.* Voted Boston's Best Sports Bar 3 years in a row by The Improper Bostonian! Mingle with your favorite sports celebrities: Brady, Thornton, Walker, Garciaparra. You never know who you'll run into. Enjoy the wildest party atmosphere in the heart of the Financial District. It's never the same experience twice – we've got exclusive sports video productions and game coverage on our state-of the-art flat screen TVs. So join us to see what the buzz is all about and find out why people in-the-know feel right at home.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston,617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal and martini. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 10pm. Watch all your favorite teams on one of our 18 TVs or in our private VIP lounge on of our 6 new 50" plasma TVs! Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Stadium *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* Boston's Best Damn Sports Bar, Period. A brand new, high-end sports bar featuring two floors, three bars, 30 flat screen TVs – including the one in the men's room, a dance floor and parking. Stadium menu offers an enticing selection of appetizers, salads, steak & burgers, fresh seafood and drinks

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Harvard Gardens *315 Cambridge St., Beacon Hill, Boston, 617-523-2727. www.harvardgardens.com.* Cozy up to the beautiful mahogany bar or slip into a comfy booth and enjoy Harvard Gardens' menu of cool cocktails and comfort food. Brunch serves up eggs and pastrami hash, thick-cut French toast with caramelized bananas, specialty pizzas and Boston's best Bloody Mary. Harvard Gardens serves brunch Saturday and Sunday, 11:30am - 3:00pm.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended 617-661-5005.

Museum of Science – Skyline Room *Science Park, Boston, Ma, 02114.* Enjoy Sunday Brunch in the beautiful Skyline Room overlooking the Charles River at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., then check out the latest Omni film and our newest exhibit, Einstein. Combination tickets start at $32 and include on-site parking when available. Brunch only, $24. Reservations recommended. For more information call (617) 723-2500 or visit mos.org.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**, *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

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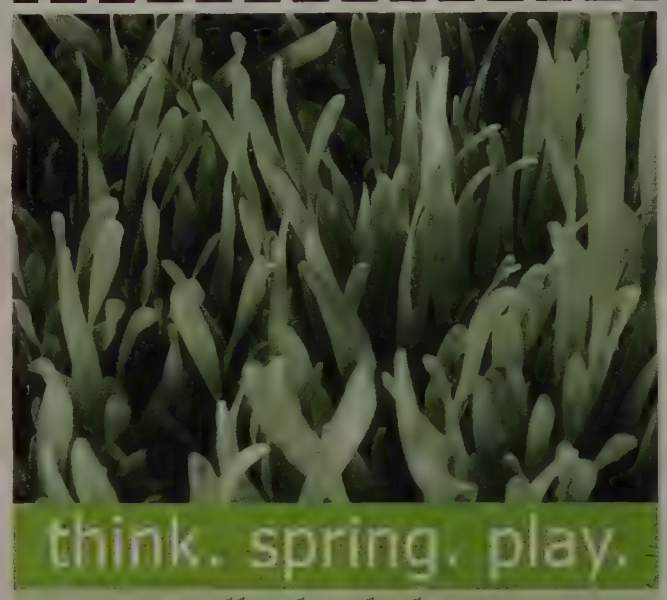
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The Improper Bostonian's Dating in Boston issue will take a look at the intricacies of wooing. One vital ingredient to the perfect date is the right venue to sit, share a meal and have quiet conversation. The *Improper* will tell you about some of the best places to go in Boston when you want to have an intimate dinner with that special someone. In addition, local author and legendary coquet Steve Almond will muse on the age-old art of flirting. And finally, on the flip side of courtship, breakups are a part of everyone's life. Susan Abbattista shares her own experiences with ill-fated relationships and talks with Bostonians who have survived the heartache.

ADVENTURES IN DATING

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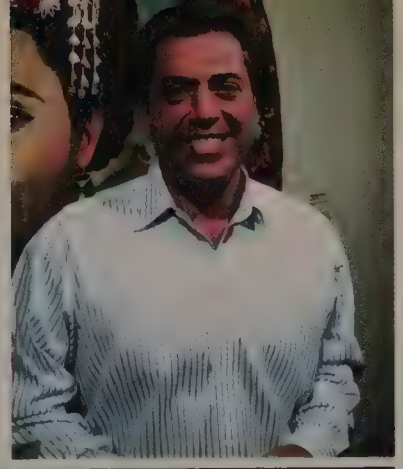
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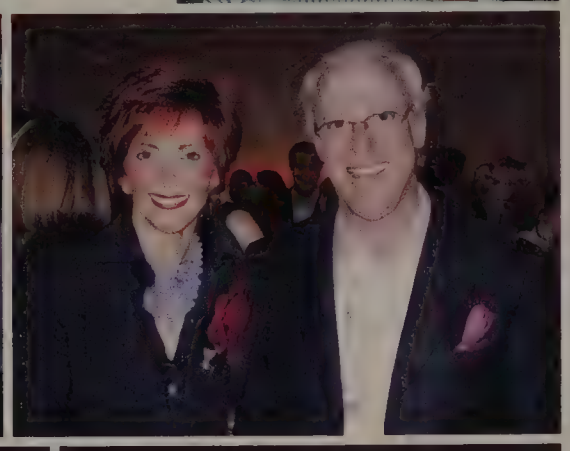
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LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF









At the Anti-Defamation League party, top: Caesar Belbel. Middle row: Janet Goff and Jennifer Winn; Judi and Douglas Krupp. Bottom: Erin Appel and Maggie Gold-Seelig.

NO NURSING ON THE DANCE FLOOR...

The **Anti-Defamation League** proved that it's pro–swingin' party with its **Young Leadership Celebration**, held at the **Institute of Contemporary Art**.

Seen nibbling sushi and sipping drinks were such attractive and agreeable types as the evening's honorees, **Liza Cohen** and **Gregg Myles Levin**; wildly chic patroness of the arts **Jennifer Winn**; über-philanthropists **Douglas** and **Judi Krupp**; black-clad raven-haired beauty **Maggie Gold-Seelig** and her other half, **Jonathan Seelig**; the Gatsby-like **Jay Gordon**; surfer dude and possessor of important hair **Adam Berger**; attorney-at-large **Caesar Belbel**; and one woman who seemed to be channeling Mae West when she said to her date, "You can tell your mother that I may be a shiksa, but I put the 'ew' in Jew."

In fact, the evening was rife with witty repartee of a Borscht Belt–meets–Oscar Wilde variety—like the man who said, "I'm hoping to meet a nice Jewish girl," to which his friend replied, "Does it matter that you're not a nice Jewish boy?"

Once the honorees were duly acknowledged and applauded, a DJ swung into action and the party kicked into high gear, with one new mother maneuvering her husband onto the dance floor with the promise, "Just one dance, honey. I swear. I'm lactating, for God's sake."

THEY SAY PERCY BYSSHE SHELLEY WAS A LAUGH RIOT TOO...

The last time many of us actually attended a poetry reading, it was to impress the English major we were trying to seduce sophomore year, which is a shame, since poetry readings don't have to be dismal affairs in dimly lit coffee houses.

In fact, they can be held in elegant surroundings, complete with cocktails and little nibbly things, which is how the **Boston Adult Literacy Fund** handled **Lift Your Voice: An Evening of Poetry and Music**, which took place at the new **Ritz-Carlton**.

The top-notch talent included such giants of the verse world as **Mary Oliver**, **Kevin Young**, and **Martìn Espada**, who read their own and other poets' work, interspersed with musical interludes by the extremely talented Jubilee Trio.

At the Boston Adult Literacy Fund, from left: Martìn Espada and Kevin Young; Lisa Hughes and Peg Rusconi; Rhys Gardiner







Looking on were such prominent figures as *New Yorker* poetry editor **Alice Quinn**, big-hearted Brahmin **Rhys Gardiner**, WBZ Channel 4 news vixens **Peg Rusconi** and **Lisa Hughes**, and one guest who said, "I didn't expect to laugh so much. If any of them decide to give up poetry, they could probably make it as comedians."

TOO BAD THERE WERE NO LEFTOVERS...

Charlie the Tuna should volunteer for **Community Servings**, or at least get Starkist to be a corporate sponsor of the group's annual **Life Savor** benefit, since it's an event that not only has good taste but tastes good.

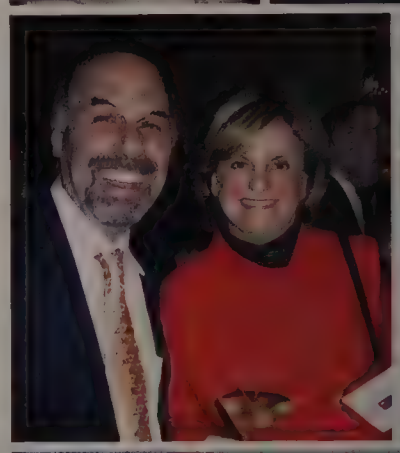
The evening began with a cocktail reception at the **Langham Hotel**, where everyone was careful to limit the intake of tasty hors d'oeuvres, saving room for the dinner parties that followed at 90 of the city's best restaurants, each one hosted by a different local luminary.

This year's celebrity crop included B-52s frontman **Fred Schneider**; Hizzonah **Tom Menino**; *Chronicle* co-host **Mary Richardson** and her producer/husband, **Stan Leven**; WBCN programming behemoth **Oedipus**; lovable food writer **Corby Kummer**; Channel 4 entertainmentrix **Joyce Kulhawik**; the ever-sparkly **Hat Sisters**; writer and daughter of "Dear Abby" **Margo Howard**; KISS 108 morning mouth **Matt Siegel**; and reality TV contestant **Brian Glazer**, the *Average Joe* also-ran whose celebrity status is based on the fact that he successfully marketed himself to the American public as a mediocrity. (That said, he seems like a nice guy.)

Among the big kahunas surfing this social wave were the party's co-chairs, tie designer **Tony Corey** and Caribbean queen **Colette Phillips**; top restaurateurs like **Michela Larson** and **Mary-Catherine Diebel**; the Langham's gallant, Gallic general manager, **Serge Denis** and his gor-











At Life Savor, top row: Colette Phillips; Mayor Tom Menino and Corby Kummer. Middle row: Stan Leven and Mary Richardson; Fred Schneider. Bottom: the Hat Sisters.

geous wife, **Jane**; perennial party-goers **Lynne** and **Gary Smith**; advertising executive **Mike Casey**; incorrigible scamp **Shawn McBride**; white-hot interior decorator **Eric Roseff**; and a woman who introduced herself to another guest by saying, "I met you here a few years ago. I was masquerading as a drunk."

Following dinner, there was music and dancing in the lobby of **One Post Office Square**, although many people begged off presumably because more than a few of them had to be back in the neighborhood the next morning, wearing a tie and carrying a briefcase.

THERE'S ALWAYS E-BAY...

Overheard at the **Preview Party** for the **New England Spring Flower Show**: A woman who won a raffle prize and then complained to no one in particular, "I live in Harbor Towers! What am I going to do with a composter?" IB

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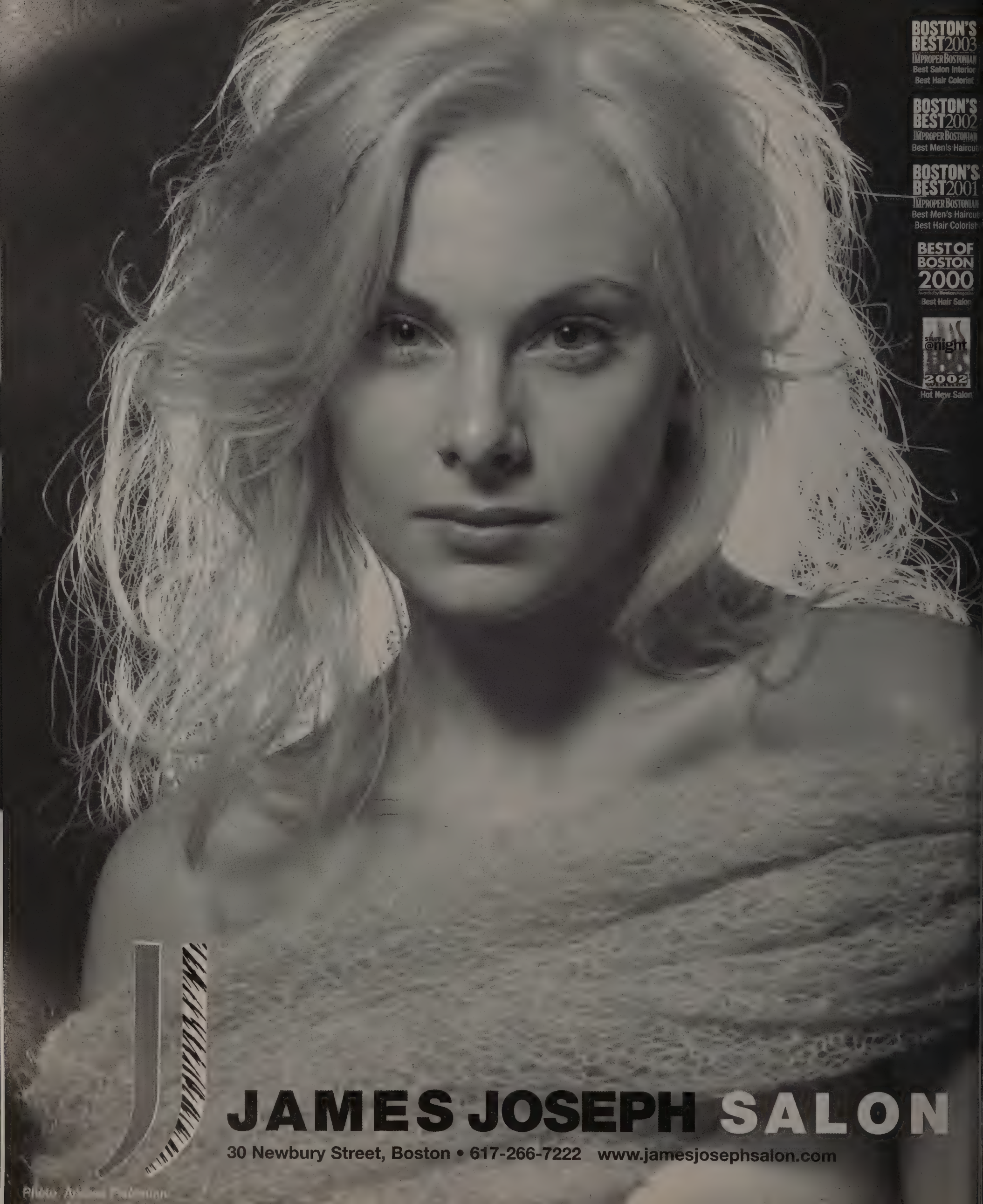
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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR



SINGLE IN BOSTON

Does it surprise you that in its annual report on the "Best Cities for Singles," *Forbes* rated our beloved burg No. 1 in 2002? That's right, *Forbes*' editors crunched the numbers on the 40 most populated U.S. metro areas, and Boston got the highest combined score for culture, nightlife, number of singles and sheer "buzz," among other criteria—including a "coolness" ranking that I won't even try to explain here.

Our appeal for singles slipped a little in last year's poll, however: We came in third behind Austin and Denver-Boulder. Still not too shabby, though, considering we beat out metro areas like New York, San Francisco and L.A. (Results aren't in yet for '04.)

Despite *Forbes*' confidence in our city as a hothouse for unmarrieds, many single Bostonians that I know, and IMPROPER readers I've met, would like better love lives. "More stories about dating and being single" is still the most frequent request we get from readers, hence our first-ever dating issue. The story possibilities are infinite, but we've made a start here with four features that range from the practical to the playful. We've even covered one of the hardest parts of dating: breaking up.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

UH-OH BOYS

In your recent article "Beauty and the Boys" (April 14), you posed the question: How do Boston women compare? One particular response jumped to my attention. After all, it's hard to ignore it when a man calls every woman in Boston fat and unattractive, with an undeserved attitude. Gregg, 35, I'd like to provide you with some feedback. A woman does not need to be a supermodel to strut. If we have a good day, if we accomplish something positive, if we learned something new, if we just bought a fun new pair of shoes, we can strut. When a woman is strutting "like a 10," she is confident, sure of herself and likely to be more woman than you are ready for—no matter what she looks like or how much she weighs. If you would prefer a done-up New York City girl or an eternally tanned California lady, I think I speak for my fellow female Bostonians when I say: Delta flies direct from Logan to L.A. and the Fung Wah bus leaves on the hour. Can't say we'll miss you.

—SARAH WEBB
Boston



I thoroughly enjoyed the article "Beauty and the Boys" in your last issue, but disagree with what appears to be a common theme in the article: that too many women in Boston wear too much makeup. If anything, I'd hate to be a MAC salesman in this town. Coming from New York, I was amazed that the lesbian population in Boston was so much larger than I had expected. Little did I realize that it was just that there's a huge number of women here who are dedicated to wearing little to no makeup and sensible shoes. Needless to say, I'm ever thankful to be gay.

—L. HEALY
Boston

SOCKING SOX FANS

Chris Collins attempts to exorcise the events at the end of last year's Red Sox season through the usual theme of eternal optimism (The Collins Card, April 14). But Boston doesn't deserve a baseball championship.

One evening last year, I headed down the street to a local pub to watch the World Series. When I walked in, I was chagrined to see not baseball but a Celtics exhibition game on all four of the pub's TVs. They grudgingly put the game on one of the TVs, but not one of the pub's patrons—who one week earlier were screaming for the Red Sox—was the slightest bit interested. This scene is typical of the attitude toward sports in this town. The average Boston sports fan lurches through an endless Sox, Patriots, Bruins, Celtics loop in a pathetic attempt to personally connect with a champion while always missing the larger story.

If you're in front of a TV watching sports while the World Series is being played and you're not watching the World Series, then clearly you're not a baseball fan. And if you're not a baseball fan, what real meaning could the Sox winning the baseball championship possibly have? Peel back the layers of a Boston fan and it's all Sox all the way down.

—BRIAN FOX
Brookline

CONTRIBUTOR

SUSAN ABBATTISTA



"When the IMPROPER asked me to write an article on surviving a breakup, I was in such a deep funk over my own big breakup that I really didn't think I could do it," says Susan Abbattista, author of "Loves Me...Loves Me Not" on page 28. "But writing the story—getting the messy contents of my head onto the page and talking with other breakup survivors—helped me in ways I didn't expect. I learned that people can carry a great deal of hidden sadness as they go through the motions of their everyday lives, and yet somehow they emerge from those dark days stronger and better than before."

Abbattista, a freelance writer and an editorial director at Cambridge BioMarketing Group, lives in Somerville.

BEAUTY COVER: BILL STREICHER; ABBATTISTA: HELEN GOODWIN

Tell Us What You Think

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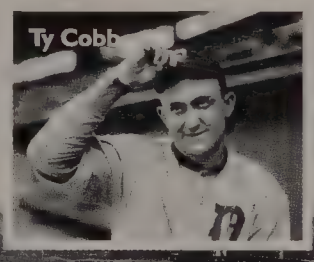
Kenmore Square is known more as a subway stop for Fenway and the nearby clubs than as a shopping or dining destination. But businesses are beginning to pop up in the area, as the city improves the sidewalks and roads and the T upgrades Kenmore station.

Some of the additions are taking place in the swanky Hotel Commonwealth, which opened last year but is still getting an interior and exterior makeover. The hotel already houses high-end seafood restaurant, Great Bay, which opened to rave reviews last year. Now, heaps of shops are opening in the hotel—Artemesia Floral Design and used book store Commonwealth Books have set up shop. Coming soon are ice cream slingers Toscanini's, gourmet wine and food shop the Wine Gallery, perfumery Nantucket Natural Oils and jewelry store Persona, LLC.

Linking many of these shops together is the new Panopticon Gallery, a winding row of display cases housing about 70 photographs. The premiere exhibition at the Kenmore Panopticon (there's another one in Waltham) is *Home Run: Vintage Baseball Photographs*. Visitors can see crisp, black-and-white images of legends like Babe Ruth, Jimmie Foxx, Ty Cobb and others, as well as rare action photos and a panoramic shot of Fenway Park, taken during the 1914 World Series. Most of the images come from rarely seen collections of institutions like the Boston Public Library and the Griffin Museum of Photography. Gallery owner Tony Decaneas explains, "I'm biased toward humanistic art, images that tell stories about the past and present." His concept is to resurrect historical Boston images (from negatives, glass plates and books) and transform them into clear, blown-up images. Exhibition themes will be timely—a show focusing on American politics is set to coincide with the Democratic National Convention in July.

The gallery is also worth checking out for its display of works by Lexington-based luminary Bradford Washburn, who, apart from being an accomplished photographer and a renowned mountaineer was the founding director of the Museum of Science.

502-C Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-8929). Mon.-Fri., 10 am–6 pm; Sat., 11 am–5 pm. www.panopt.com. —E.H.




Fenway Park, 1914

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COURTESY PANOPTICON GALLERY

improper reports

NURSERIES



It's spring (well, sort of), the time of year when many of us get inspired to start a garden—or at least get a window box blooming. Here are a few nurseries within a 30-minute drive from Boston that can supply the seeds and green things you need.

- **Mahoney's Garden Center** opened its original Winchester location in 1959 and now has six other area stores. They carry a wide selection of perennials, shrubs, ground cover, annuals and a line of "Proven Winners"—plants that remain colorful in the local climate. *242 Cambridge St., Winchester (781-729-5900). www.mahoneysgarden.com.*
- **Wilson Farms** has been a local landmark since 1884. Its 37,000-square-foot greenhouse incubates seasonal and perennial plants that you can transfer into your garden. *10 Pleasant St., Lexington (781-862-3900). www.wilsonfarm.com.*
- **Winston Flowers & Garden**'s extensive greenhouse garden shop is the picture of Victorian-era gardening. It sells antique garden furniture, and a variety of flowers ready for transplantation. A garden design manager is available for consultations. *Route 9 and Florence St., Newton (617-541-1164). www.winstonflowers.com.*
- **City Farm Florists & Nursery** carries seedlings of vegetable plants, expansive bouquets of floral annuals and perennial bulb plants such as Easter lilies. *717 American Legion Highway, Roslindale (617-469-2992). www.cityfarm.com.*
- **Thayer Nurseries** has a big selection of long-blooming, low-maintenance perennials for the novice gardner, as well as echinacea, a pretty pink flower that's better known as an immune-system booster. *270 Hillside St., Milton (617-698-2005). —Julie Babayan*

inner view

STRONG WOMAN: TRISHA MEILI

To say Trisha Meili is a woman of courage is an understatement. Known only as the Central Park Jogger since her brutal and much publicized attack in 1989, Meili revealed her identity last year with the publication of her best-selling book *I Am the Central Park Jogger.* Hers is a story of miraculous recovery—relearning how to walk and talk, and coping with permanent brain damage—that has given hope to thousands of head injury and rape survivors and their families and friends. Meili will be in Boston to receive Magic 106.7's Courage Award at its 7th Annual Exceptional Women Awards, May 6 at the Westin Copley Place.

IB: *What made you reveal your identity 14 years after the attack?*
TM: The real turning point was when I spoke at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital in Boston. I was speaking to a group of head injury patients and their families and friends about my recovery. At the end, we were answering questions, and the last one came from a man in the back of the room in a wheelchair. He asked, "Were you ever in a wheelchair?" and I said yes. And he said, "You give me great hope." He said this with such great feeling. I inspired him, but with those words he inspired me. He made me pause and think, "I need to share this story," and after that things just seemed to fall into place.

IB: *How has your life changed since going public?*
TM: I think the response has been more than I had expected and it's been confirmation that it was the right thing to do. So many different kinds of people have identified with one or another aspect of the story. It's not just rape survivors or those with a head injury, it's all people, because we're all struggling with something. People say, "Thank you so much for sharing this story. You'll never know how many people you've touched." I just hear that over and over again, and it's good for me to hear that as part of my own healing.

IB: *What's the most common question or response you get from people who hear your story or audience members who hear you speak?*
TM: A lot of times, people—these are the ones who remember when [the attack] happened—say, "I'm just so glad to see that you're well." There's "I prayed for you," and I know that that made a difference. I guess a lot of people will ask, "Were you angry about it?" That's a common thing.

IB: *What did you learn from the process of writing the book?*
TM: I felt that my recovery was a gift, and I really wanted to share it. What I've learned through the whole process was that my instinct and my intuition was right, that I was right to share it. It's a process of breaking the silence that shrouds sexual assault and disability. People don't like to talk about it. One of the things I learned is that by sharing my story it gave others permission to share their story. It breaks the danger of silence.

IB: *Your story is such an inspirational one. Who's been the biggest inspiration in your life during your recovery or after going public?*
TM: I've met so many people along the way, and each person has their own uniquely beautiful story. All those stories—it may be a story of a survivor or a caregiver—seeing all these people in different roles really inspires me to say, "Yeah, deep down the human spirit is a strong, powerful, beautiful force."



IB: *What's next for you?*
TM: I'm really enjoying what I'm doing, and in some ways instead of always looking ahead and saying, "Next there's going to be this and that." I've learned to be in the present and concentrate on what's going on now.

—Jessica Iredale

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tidbits and morsels

HOT DOUGHNUTS, COLD BEER


Krispy Kreme Doughnuts

Time to Eat the Doughnuts... The legend of Krispy Kreme Doughnuts has at last made its way into downtown Boston. The new store, which opened April 15, is located in the Shops at Prudential Center and open for business 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Looks like the doughnut could give pizza a run for its money in attracting hungry hipsters after the bars close down. The store boasts the traditional Krispy Kreme "Hot Doughnuts Now" sign that alerts customers when doughnuts are fresh, as well as a "doughnut theater" viewing area where you can watch the production line.

Decisions, Decisions... Sam Adams Beer fans already in agreement with the brewery's "always a good decision" slogan, might have a tougher decision to make thanks to the recently introduced Samuel Adams Hefeweizen. The new brew, which hit shelves in February, has a crisp, fruity character that'll likely compete with longtime warm-weather fave Sam Adams Summer Ale as the preferred beverage for a summer day at the game, beach or um...office? (Six-packs generally cost $6.99–$7.99.) Hungry hopheads should also check out a slew of new, beer-infused recipes developed by chef Todd English, available online at www.samadams.com.

Now That's Getting Your Money's Worth... Nowadays, five bucks doesn't go very far. You could drink one beer, eat a large bowl of soup or chew about five packs of gum. Or, you can check out the revamped Paradise Lounge, where every night from 5-8 pm, $4.95 is enough to get you anything on the menu. Yes, anything. "Our front lounge was only for those 21-plus until recently," says general manager Becky Nolan. "But we're trying to appeal to those of all ages with this deal." Starting at 8 pm, you must be 21 to get in, but once the clock hits 10 pm there are more great deals to be had, including a pitcher of beer and a pizza for $8.95, and $1 burgers with an alcoholic beverage. *969 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8814).*

Biscotti Bliss... Ever been deeply disappointed by something you ordered at a restaurant? A few years ago, when Belmont's Annette Downing ordered what turned out to be a bland, tooth-breaking biscotti, she took matters into her own hands. Equipped with a updated version of her great-grandmother's recipe, Downing rented out some kitchen space from a local Belmont church and Bella Biscotti was born. Word has spread about Downing's homemade delights, packaged in pretty baskets and tins. You can find her top-selling item, a dozen biscotti presented in a decorative tin ($25), and many others at Gary's Gourmet Chocolate in Watertown, Chocolate Dream and Giordano's in Belmont, or online at www.geoffanddrews.com. *(617-489-0651).*

History in the Making... Since 1826, the Union Oyster House has been serving some of the area's best seafood. On March 26, the restaurant was designated a National Historic Landmark—fitting since it's the oldest continually running restaurant and oyster bar in the states and is housed in the oldest standing brick building in Boston. Secretary Andrew Card (Bush's chief of staff), was in attendance to present the Milano family, Oyster House owners for 32 years, with a bronze plaque commemorating the designation. "We're deeply honored," said president Joe Milano. "We're the first restaurant to receive this designation, so that uniqueness makes it even more special." — *E.H., J.I., & Rich Levine*

sam says

RED-CARPET FACIALS



G Spa, the most suggestively named spa in town, has followed in the footsteps of the frequent-buyer pioneers. It's introduced a GVIP membership card to help distinguish steady customers from the riffraff. If you're a discriminating Bostonian who never, ever stands in line, you need this. Give G Spa your name, mailing address and e-mail address, and you'll receive a card that gets punched each time you receive a service. When you've purchased 11 treatments, you're entitled to a free service of your choice. (I'd pick the menage-a-spa.) That's not all you get with this (free) VIP option. It also gives you priority booking, which means that when you're in dire need of a last-minute manicure, they'll find a way to squeeze you in—that goes for the notoriously fun events held at the spa too. Members also receive e-mails with special offers, tips and info on trends. Call 617-267-4772 to join the A-list. *35 Newbury St., Boston*

—Samantha House

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Soon to Be the 6½ Club?... An Impersonal in our March 17 issue has become something of a phenomenon. Eight single women calling themselves the 7½ Club wrote that they wanted to meet some eligible men at Aqua on April 15. Dinean Wolfe, the 7½ Club's organizer, says the night was a success even if none of the women met their future husband: "When we got to Aqua, we already had a few people waiting. Everyone was very supportive and curious to see what these eight girls were all about." Danielle Garofalo, special events coordinator for Boston Billiard Club, saw the Impersonal and has hooked the 7½ Club up with their next venue for Wednesday, May 12—ladies' night at Boston Billiard, appropriately enough. What's next? Stay tuned for a TV appearance.

Bostonian Idol... Looking for your big show-biz break but don't have the cash to move to L.A.? Auditions for the second annual NEXT New England singing competition take place at Virgin Megastore on Mass. Ave. May 6-8, from 2-5 pm. The contest winner, to be decided at a May 27 finale at the Roxy, gets to sing the National Anthem before a Red Sox game this June and could land an agent from Pretty Polly Productions. *www.nextnewengland.com*

Crunchy... From the same wacky folks who brought you airborne yoga comes "flying Pilates," Crunch's new Pilates poses that can be practiced in your plane seat while en route to Tampa or some other city where people actually bare their stomachs. The instruction cards for the poses are available only on JetBlue, so don't be trying to do Pilates on another airline or the scary Crunch rabbit mascot will come looking for you.

Harvard Rocks...A few months ago, some Harvard students made their mark on the skin-mag industry with the launch of *H Bomb*. Now, those crazy Cambridge kids are putting their entrepreneurial energy into another industry: A group of students recently started up Veritas Records. According to spokesperson Stacey Proch-Wilson, "A couple of students got together who wanted more exposure for themselves and other musical acts around school." The Ivy League musicians hold a CD-release party May 6 at the Rack for the label's first album, *Primum*, a compilation of music from six student bands ranging from jazz to hip-hop and rock. *www.fas.harvard. edu/~tickets.*



Got It?... We knew it was only a matter of time before *America's Next Top Model* imitators began popping up on all over the place. Looks like Midori's first in line—the Midori It Girl model search stops at News, Sanctuary, Felt, Venu, Ned Devine's, the Palace and the Rack between April 28 and May 8 as part of an eight-city tour. In an apparent Next Top Model/HotOrNot.com hybrid, the contest tour trailer shows up at local clubs, and pretty partygoers are invited on board for a free mini makeover and head shot. Pics are posted on Midori-It-Girl.com, and the public is invited to vote on who's got the look. Once the votes are tallied, the winners from each city compete for a free trip to Manhattan, a photo shoot with a fashion photographer and a "go see" with a top modeling agency. *www.midori-it-girl.com.*

Tickets, Mastered... No, that scalper outside Fenway isn't shivering because of the cold. He's quaking in fear of the growing popularity of StubHub.com, an online venue through which registered ticket-holders and ticket-seekers nationwide can circumvent shady scalpers and safely buy or resell tickets to sports and entertainment events, by matching up with other registered users. Co-founder (and former Bostonian) Eric Baker says the site eliminates the hassles and letdowns common to other forms of "secondary ticketing" by holding sellers responsible (via their credit card) for selling legit tickets. You can log on and order tickets for events the same day. Baker describes Boston as one of StubHub's "very top markets," thanks largely to its "passionate sports fans." But StubHub's not just for sports enthusiasts: "We've seen people resell tickets for everything—the circus, motorcross, rodeo, Madonna," Baker says. "And Oprah's speaking tour—there's a big secondary market for that. Who knew?" *(866-788-2482). www.stubhub.com.*

—E.D., J.I., R.L., Courtney Hollands and Patrice Taddonio

Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to theword@improper.com.

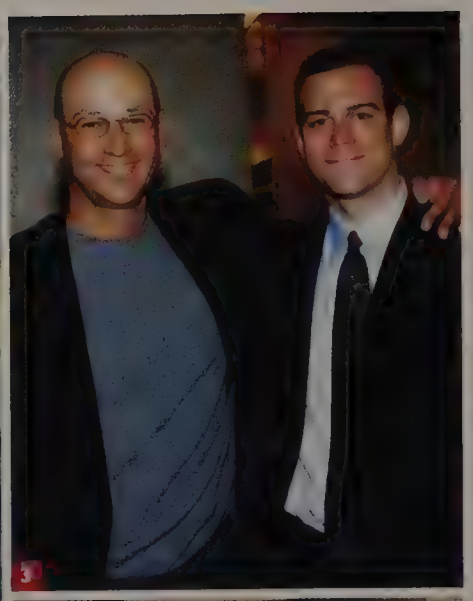
Ten brewmasters. Four continents. One Beer.

PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY















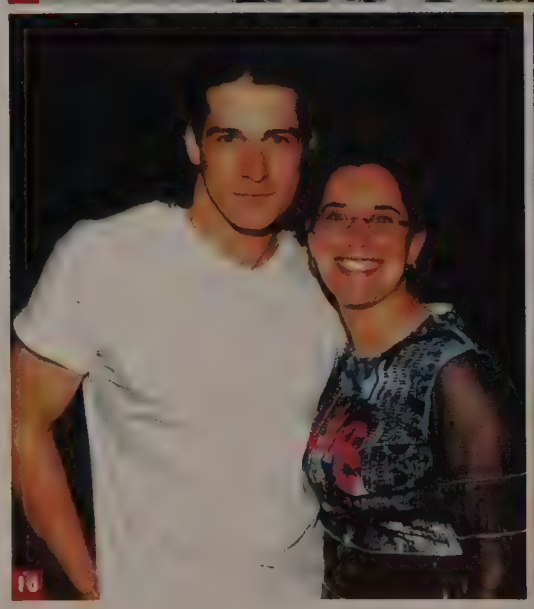
The inaugural **"Welcome Home: This Is Your 2004 Boston Red Sox"** event was held April 13 at the Boston Copley Marriott Hotel. More than 500 sports enthusiasts gathered at the event, which welcomed the players back from spring training and officially kicked off the 2004 season. *Saturday Night Live* veteran Seth Meyers and actor Ben Affleck led a team roast, and proceeds from the evening benefited the Red Sox Foundation, the team's new charitable arm, which is committed to using the power of baseball to create new community partnerships throughout New England.

1. **Kevin Millar**, Red Sox right fielder, and **Ben Affleck**, actor.
2. **Nomar Garciaparra**, Red Sox shortstop, and **Tim Wakefield**, Red Sox pitcher.
3. **Terry Francona**, Red Sox manager, and **Theo Epstein**, Red Sox general manager.
4. **Stacey Lucchino**, wife of Red Sox CEO Larry Lucchino, and **Peggy Henry**, wife of Red Sox owner John Henry.
5. **Les Otten**, Red Sox co-owner, and his daughter, **Meredith**.
6. **Michelle Mangan** and her fiancé, **Johnny Damon**, Red Sox centerfielder.
7. **Pedro Martinez**, Red Sox pitcher, and **David Ortiz**, Red Sox first baseman/designated hitter.

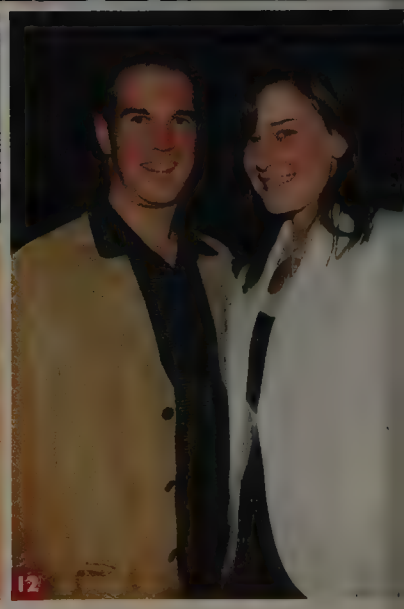
The Fourth Annual Leslie's Links pre-marathon celebration, in memory of Leslie Semonian, was held April 18 at Vox Populi. More than 400 Leslie's Links supporters and party-goers gathered to remember Leslie and support her charitable foundation. Highlights included a live performance by the Adam Ezra Group and a silent auction. All proceeds from the evening benefited the Leslie's Links Ewing's Sarcoma Fund at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.











8. From left: **Paul Semonian**, sales executive for Metavante in Braintree; **Susan Frigoletto**, director of consumer education for consumer affairs for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; and **Evan Kushner**, partner at Kushner & Marano in Newton.
9. From left: **Katherine Morse**, owner of the Flat of the Hill; **Lonnie Morris**, wrestling coach for Johnson & Wales University; **Natalia Navarro**, senior specialist for Manulife Financial; and **Bevin McKinski**, physical therapist at Quincy Rehabilitation & Nursing Center.
10. **Adam Ezra**, lead singer/guitarist of the Adam Ezra Group, and **Judy Levine**, Leslie's Links committee member.
11. From left: **Kristin Regis**, account director for Delahaye Media Link, in Portsmouth, N.H.; **Joe Quattrocchi**, owner of Vox Populi; and **Sonia Mattson**, executive recruiter for Reid & Co., in Portsmouth, N.H.
12. **Michael Conlon**, co-owner of Peking Tom's, the 21st Amendment, the Blarney Stone and Paramount, and **Kristine Irving**, owner of Koo de Kir in Beacon Hill.

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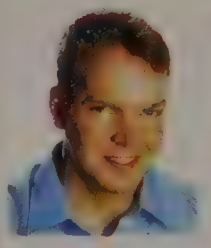
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SPUN OUT

The Dad Humor is getting out of control

The last time I was hanging out with my friend Ned, he told me that I have a Dad sense of humor—that despite the fact that I am relatively young, and childless, my jokes are heavily laden with the kind of corny wordplay one expects from a wacky dad. "Not that that's a bad thing," Ned added. "Dads are funny." I tried to refute Ned's Dad Humor theory, but later on that day the following conversation transpired.

Me: "Could I have a sip of your Fresca?"

Heather: "Yes."

Me: "You mean, 'yesca'?"

Heather: "Ned was right."

I can't deny it. Lately I've been making bad puns at an outrageous pace, and I'm wondering if there have just been more opportunities, or if I've reached the age when the Dad Humor gland kicks in and suddenly your brain becomes a pun machine.

Other recent examples: I saw "Hungarian mushroom soup" on a menu and felt compelled to say, "That must be for people who are really Hungary." When my friend Jen told me that her new boyfriend is really interested in the mining industry and wants to get into it from the ground up, I replied, "You mean from the ground down?" and followed up with, "He must really dig it." Finally, my friend Wilson forwarded me a news story about a deadly stampede in India that occurred when a politician began giving out free saris. I wrote back that I hope he said he was sari. Wilson replied, "That was Dadesque."

The strange thing is that my own Dad, while funny, isn't usually corny. His sense of humor is more Richard Pryor than Rodney Dangerfield. However, the habit of cracking yourself up (another symptom of my affliction) does run in the family, as I confirmed the other day while visiting my grandparents. My 80-year-old grandfather pointed to his white-yet-full head of hair and said, "You know I just started losing my hair a couple years ago? At this rate, in another few years I'm going to look like you." Then he cracked up while I tried to think of a comeback. What do you say to that? "Yeah, well um... you use a cane!" It's tough getting roasted by your grandfather.

I was having dinner the other night with my friends Doyle and Kara and Kara's parents, and I brought up my pun problem, using the mining comment as an example. I didn't refer to this as Dad Humor, though, out of deference to the actual dad in our midst. I needn't have worried. When I told Kara's dad about the mining enthusiast, he replied, "That sounds like a pretty mineless pursuit. I hope he doesn't get the shaft." Damn! I should've known better than to step to a dad with my Dad Humor. Doyle followed that up with "I hope his shaft doesn't collapse," which is clearly more in the perverted-uncle category.

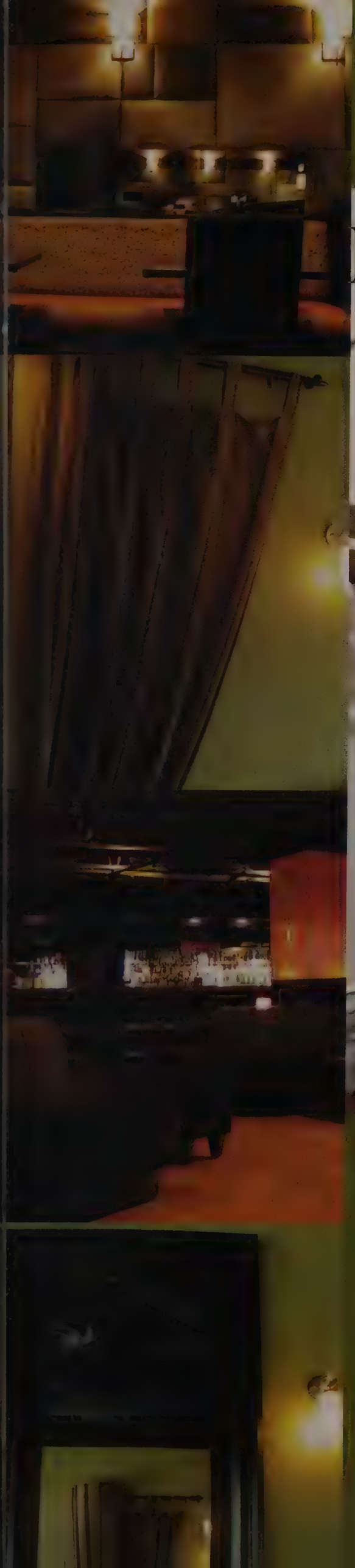
I decided I needed to cleanse myself of the bad-joke habit, and there was only one way to do it: by re-reading the very worst joke book in existence. *Dude, Got Another Joke?* by Bob Phillips is the most unfunny collection of not-hilarious material ever published. Bob Dole is funnier than Bob Phillips. Ironically enough, this book was given to me by my friend Susan as a joke. Here are the first two one-liners in Chapter One, entitled "Radical Humor": "I won't say my house is a mess, but have you ever seen a fly land in a cloud of dust?" And, "If you woke up in the night, what would you do for a light? Take a feather from the pillow; that's light enough." All of a sudden, my bad jokes aren't looking so bad.

I'M WONDERING IF I'VE REACHED THE AGE WHEN THE DAD HUMOR GLAND KICKS IN AND YOUR BRAIN BECOMES A PUN MACHINE

The cover of *Dude, Got Another Joke?* boasts "over 5 million books sold," so I assume Phillips' other titles, such as *So You Want to Be a Bible Trivia Expert*, must be better than this one. But still. Here's one of his better jokes: "What do you call a girl who lies in the middle of a tennis court? Annette." Hey, if this guy can sell 5 million books with that kind of crap, maybe I'm in the wrong line of work. Here's one I just made up: "What do you call a girl with no arms and no legs lying on a bun? Patty." I should have a book.

I'll need more material, though. Maybe I'll get in touch with Kara's dad and see if he's available to help co-author *Dad Humor Vol. 1*. I could send him a fax, but I'm sure he'd probably prefer that I page him. IB

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Soroff ON

ANTHONY KENNEDY SHRIVER

BY JONATHAN SOROFF



Anthony Kennedy Shriver with Billy Gallo

A scion of America's foremost political dynasty, Anthony Kennedy Shriver is the founder and chairman of Best Buddies International, a nonprofit devoted to people with intellectual disabilities. On May 22, the organization holds its annual fund-raiser, a bike ride from the JFK Library in Dorchester to the Kennedy compound in Hyannis Port. Through Shriver's stewardship, Best Buddies has grown to include six divisions and has served 300,000 participants and volunteers since its inception in 1989. In addition to programs in all 50 states, Best Buddies has programs in eight other countries, with additional programs under development in another 10. The son of Peace Corps founder Sargent Shriver and Special Olympics founder Eunice Kennedy Shriver, Anthony is a nephew of John F. Kennedy and a brother of Maria Shriver. A graduate of Georgetown University, Anthony has received such honors as the 1999 Jefferson Award for Greatest Public Service by an Individual Thirty-Five Years or Under as well as an honorary doctorate from Loyola College in Maryland. He lives in Miami Beach, Florida, with his wife, Alina, and the couple's four children, Teddy, Eunice, Francesca and Carolina.

NO MATTER HOW BIG YOUR DIFFERENCES, IF PEOPLE SIT DOWN, HANG OUT FOR AN HOUR, THEY FIND OUT THEY HAVE A LOT MORE IN COMMON THAN THEY THOUGHT.

Jonathan Soroff: *How much has being a Kennedy shaped who you are?*

Anthony Shriver: I think everybody's family shapes their values and direction to some extent. I clearly have two very influential parents and I grew up in an influential family, so I think my interest in public service and my interest in people with intellectual disabilities stems from my family's background. Having my Aunt Rosemary, who has intellectual disabilities, shaped that interest, and the fact that my Mom started Special Olympics and I sort of grew up with that spiked my interest in this population. It's a great family to be in, and public service is sort of the family business.

JS: *Do you have the toothy grin or the accent?*

AS: I didn't grow up in Boston, so I don't have the accent, but a lot of people complain that I have a lot of teeth, so I guess I do have the toothy grin.

JS: *Who's the best sailor in your family?*

AS: Besides me? My mother. After her, I guess my uncle, Senator Kennedy.

JS: *Speaking of him, is he as much of a wild man as they say?*

AS: He has a lot of energy, that's for sure. He's a lot of fun to be around. A lot of pep. A great guy.

JS: *Ever consider naming your child Sargent Major Shriver—you know, just pile on the military titles?*

AS: No, because I'd get in trouble with my sister. She already named her dog Sargent Shriver. I don't want her and Arnold [Schwarzenegger] getting mad at me.

JS: *Speaking of your brother-in-law, have you ever arm-wrestled him?*

AS: Of course, and I always win. He's an old man now. Remember that.

JS: *Do you call him Governor?*

AS: You don't want to know what I call him. It's not for publication.

JS: *Ever make fun of his accent?*

AS: I'd say it has been done at toasts and other occasions.

JS: *So are we going to change the Constitution so that he can become president?*

AS: I think we're going to change the Constitution, not so that he can become president, but because it's the right thing to do. I think he'd be a great president.

JS: *Tell me a secret about him.*

AS: Besides the fact that he's intimidated by my physical presence? That he's a very passive, peaceful human being, the opposite of how he's depicted in the movies.

JS: *Your sister wears the pants in that family, right?*

AS: I think in any marriage, the woman always wears the pants, if the marriage is gonna continue. Whenever you hear about a divorce, you find out the guy tried to wear the pants.

JS: *One thing as a society we should change in our treatment of the mentally handicapped?*

AS: Stop listening to stereotypes. In general, for everyone, people pass judgment and form opinions on whole segments of the population, races, ethnic groups, etc., based on stereotypes. That's why Best Buddies is so critical. The stereotypes go right out the window once you establish a relationship with another human being, whether it's an African-American, American Indian, Saudi Arabian, Pakistani, or someone with an intellectual disability. Forging a connection with people you know nothing about is a big step in the right direction.

JS: *Handicapped people face so much bullying, which is a huge problem everywhere in our society. How do you stop it?*

AS: I think those problems go away with friendship. No matter how fierce your enemy, or how big your differences, if people sit down at a table with someone, break bread, hang out for an hour, they find out they have a lot more in common than they thought. Even if they don't want to be best friends, they can at least respect each other.

JS: *What's more important: intelligence or compassion?*

AS: I'd say compassion.

JS: *What member of your family do you admire the most?*

AS: My mother.

JS: *Why?*

AS: She has enormous compassion and intelligence. She followed her gut and her heart her whole life and didn't succumb to the pressure of doing things the way society might have dictated. She held the course and she's been steady in her focus for 50 years. She's done it with an issue that has no sex appeal and doesn't garner power or prestige in the normal sense of the word—certainly not in the way her siblings did—and to pay that kind of attention to the least powerful members of our society is remarkable for someone who could have done anything she wanted to.

JS: *Your father started the Peace Corps. Ever think of joining?*

AS: Absolutely. But I guess I was too spoiled to go away for two years and live in a hut in Africa. I wish I had, in a lot of ways, but it's never too late. you know, an enormous percentage of volunteers for the Peace Corps are people in their 40s, 50s or 60s. Maybe my time will come.

JS: *Does volunteerism make someone a good person?*

AS: It's absolutely a step in the right direction. I don't know many committed, long-term volunteers who are really bad, hostile, angry people. When you give your time and energy to assist somebody else, it builds character, compassion, good fortune. Good things come your way when you volunteer.

JS: *Fill in this blank: Anthony Shriver would like to be remembered as* _____.

AS: I think I'll use that same word again: compassionate. iB

To participate in the Volvo Hyannis Port Challenge to benefit Best Buddies, call 800-718-3536 or go to www.hpchallenge.org.

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Golden Temple
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Helmand
Henrietta's Table at the Charles Hotel
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Silvertone Bar & Grill
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Spire Restaurant and Bar
Tangierino Restaurant & Lounge
Terrace Restaurant at Suffolk Downs
The Bristol Lounge at The Four Seasons Hotel
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The Grapevine
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We would also like to thank this year's Co-Chairs Jeffrey Gates, Debbie Merriam, and Craig Robbins and all of our supporters who hosted a dinnerfest event.

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THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS



SOX BORROWING THE PATS' BLUEPRINT?

The real Jim O'Brien story; a long off-season for the Bruins?

The New England Patriots have a blueprint for success. A key element is the realization by all employees that pro football is a business. If you're better than the other guy, you play. If you're not, you get better or you're out. The red-carpet treatment is for kings, not athletes. Superstars like Terry Glenn and Lawyer Milloy have moved on, but when playoff time came, the Patriots had recovered from those losses, and they won it all. Now, it seems the Red Sox brass are taking a close look at the Patriots' management philosophy.

A source close to the team tells me many of the players don't like the new approach, or trust the man pulling the strings, Sox CEO and president Larry Lucchino. The belief among some in the Sox clubhouse is that general manager Theo Epstein is a puppet hired to carry out Lucchino's bidding. My source also said that if catcher Jason Varitek doesn't get a new deal, it will cause a major problem among the players. Red Sox management is facing the reality that the team can't afford to re-sign Varitek, Lowe, Ortiz, Pedro and Nomar when their contracts expire at the end of the year, but Varitek is so well respected that a falling-out over his contract could have a paralyzing effect on the Sox' immediate future.

The facts of the baseball business guarantee that the 2005 Red Sox won't have all the same stars as this year's team, just as the salary cap contributed to Lawyer Milloy's move to Buffalo. But the bottom line is that if the Sox brass can win two world championships in three years like the Patriots, no one will question the manner in which they got there.

I've heard it said several times over the past few months that former Celtics basketball coach Jim O'Brien quit on his team. That talk should stop. Celtics CEO Wyc Grousbeck found that out firsthand after he repeatedly said in a radio interview that O'Brien "quit." Shortly after, Grousbeck got a call from O'Brien's agent threatening legal action if that kind of talk continued. Technically, O'Brien resigned. But he wanted to finish up the year and call it a day afterward. O'Brien and Celtics director of basketball operations Danny Ainge had very different philosophies, so O'Brien wanted the two sides to get together and form an exit strategy at the end of the season.

The C's weren't interested, and I can't say I blame them. But to sell this as O'Brien quitting on the team is just inaccurate. Ainge has his own agenda—one that's not completely in line with that of Grousbeck's dad, Irv, who happens to be the Green team's biggest investor. The elder Grousbeck isn't happy with the team's direction and has explored getting out of the ownership game.

Two months ago, Ainge said the Celtics would be better off not making the playoffs, allowing the team to get a better draft selection. He was right, but the problem is, you're not supposed to say that publicly. Ainge also has other issues, according to his critics. His ability to evaluate talent is up for debate since he's traded away many of the big components of a decent basketball team. And now, new coach John Carroll and the players have body-slammed Ainge's master plan by making the playoffs.

Maybe the wrong guy resigned.

Speaking of O'Brien, he's headed home to coach the '76ers in his native Philadelphia. Superstar pain-in-the-butt Allen Iverson lobbied hard for O'Brien and got his wish (now let's see if AI can behave). Also, you can look for Celtics up-and-

IF THE SOX CAN WIN TWO CHAMPIONSHIPS IN THREE YEARS, NO ONE WILL QUESTION THE MANNER IN WHICH THEY GOT THERE

comer Mark Blount to follow O'Brien to cheesesteak heaven.

I've saved the worst for last: the Boston Bruins.

Some fans are going to take a long time to get over the best-of-seven playoff loss to the Canadiens. Not me, however. I refused all year long to get sucked into the Bruins' regular-season success because I feared an early exit in the postseason. There's no excuse—not injuries, not Montreal's speed—for the Bruins' failure to win one of their last two games at the FleetCenter. None.

Joe Thornton, who is a great player and a great guy, is going to hear a lot about his 0–for–the playoffs, but to his credit he played hurt, like a gladiator.

With a work stoppage looming, this could be the longest Bruins off-season ever. Which is bad news for golfers around Boston. A bunch of unemployed hockey players will be looking to kill time, leaving the courses flooded with guys accustomed to hitting anything that moves. So beware. IB

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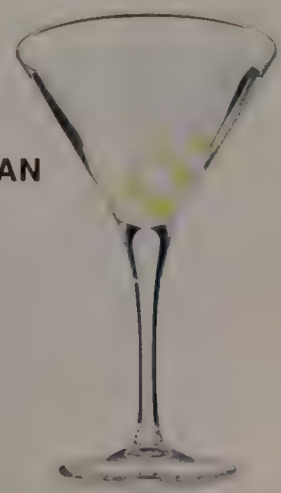


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OSUSHI

first-rate first dates

YOU'VE DONE THE ASKING... NOW WHERE DO YOU GO FOR A ROMANTIC EVENING?

BY JULIE SURATT PHOTOGRAPHS BY BRIAN SILVERSTEIN

After months of shy smiles and covert looks at the local Laundromat, you finally mustered the courage to ask your cute neighbor on a date, and your pitch worked. Good going. But before you start fantasizing about his-and-her wash loads, you've got one more hurdle to overcome: Where will you go?

The setting of this first date can affect the potential for a lasting relationship. Take her to a crowded bar, and you'll be shouting to be heard over the din of voices and loud music. Take him to the movies, and you're not likely to learn much more about him than the fact that he likes butter on his popcorn.

To really get to know your date—and fuel that connection you both felt as you lingered by the dryers—you've got to go to a restaurant where the focus is on you, the couple, and not the music, the stage or your fellow patrons. But how do you choose that one special place out of Greater Boston's seemingly endless selection of restaurants? (Zagat lists more than 700 in the city and suburbs.) Here are a few criteria to keep in mind as you narrow down the options: It should be quiet (but not dead—that can kill a date). Low lighting sets the mood. Tables should be spaced far enough apart that your neighbors aren't eavesdropping on your conversation (or vice versa). Reservations are a must: You don't want to be waiting an hour for a table when you don't know each other and you're both hungry. You might also consider a restaurant that's off the beaten path, so neither of you runs into friends or co-workers. And service should be attentive but not rushed.

With that wish list in mind, we checked out some potentially perfect spots for a special date, covering a range of price options (from impress-her expensive to charm on a budget) and cuisines (Spanish tapas to sushi to Southern grits). Here are eight restaurants that not only fit the criteria above but also have that certain je ne sais quoi that makes them feel like "the right place" from the moment you step through the door. We've also included suggestions for nearby bars, so that if the date's going well, you can extend the night a drink or two longer. May Cupid be with you.



Anthem

For the best overall atmosphere, Anthem wins hands down. Located in the former Commonwealth Beer & Fish Co., the space has retained the brewery's laid-back vibe despite the upscaled decor. Chef Robert Rathman, formerly of the Federalist and Grill 23 (and currently overseeing the kitchen at Azure, as well), has created a menu of gourmet comfort food—the kind of dishes you might find at, say, Cracker Barrel, but with a sophisticated twist and fancier ingredients. So the Southern fried chicken salad, for example, includes chicken tenders dipped in buttermilk, fried, and then tossed with spiced pecans, baby spinach, creamy ranch dressing and corn pone. Sit next to one of the huge picture windows that look out over the North Station neighborhood, get the interaction going by sharing the spinach and artichoke fondue, and talk for hours. *138 Portland St., Boston (617-523-8383).*

Price range: Low (entrées under $19)

Advice: Start the evening with the Woodbury clams steamed with tomatoes, chorizo and white beans, and end it with the much-touted deep-fried Twinkie for dessert.

Extend the night...with a glass of wine at the **Florentine Café** (333 Hanover St.).

Osushi

Reserve a table at Osushi, Boston's hippest Japanese restaurant, if you want to appear in-the-know. Groovy, trip-hop music pulsates throughout the intimate 50-seat room located on the second floor of Copley Place, and candles and drop lights cast a soft glow on the red walls. Trendsetters toting shopping bags from Thomas Pink and Louis Vuitton stop in after facials at Grettacole. But don't mistake Osushi for a mall restaurant. The sushi and sashimi, prepared by Ken Iwaoka, former head chef at Ginza, are super fresh and downright pretty. Start with the chutoro (fatty tuna) carpaccio and share a carafe of Asian pear-infused sake. (Osushi sports an extensive sake selection.) Move on to seaweed salad served in a hollowed-out orange half, and then order à la carte off the sushi menu. Linger over a passion fruit sake-tini. If you don't fall for each other, you'll certainly fall for the food. *10 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-2788).*

Price range: Low

Advice: If your date's not good with chopsticks, ask for a knife and fork.

Extend the night...with martinis at the **Oak Bar** (138 St. James Ave.).

Peking Tom's

Chinese food on a date? Isn't that more appropriate in takeout containers when you've lured him/her back to your place on date three? Wait till you experience Peking Tom's. Chef Marc Orfaly of Pigalle fame has his way with dumplings, beef and broccoli, and barbecued spare ribs—cutting back on the grease and incorporating finer cuts of meat to appeal to the hipsters who frequent this Ladder District hot spot. Yes, it's a scene, but the good kind that makes you feel like an insider for having joined the fashionable throngs for après-work reveling. The axiom here is "When in a Chinese-American restaurant, do as the Americans do..." and selections include a pupu platter: crab Rangoon (real crab!), sesame chicken wings, beef teriyaki, pork spring rolls and orange tamarind–glazed ribs. All are sublime—especially after you and your date have sipped from a gigantic scorpion bowl for two. *25 Kingston St., Boston (617-482-6282).*

Price range: Low

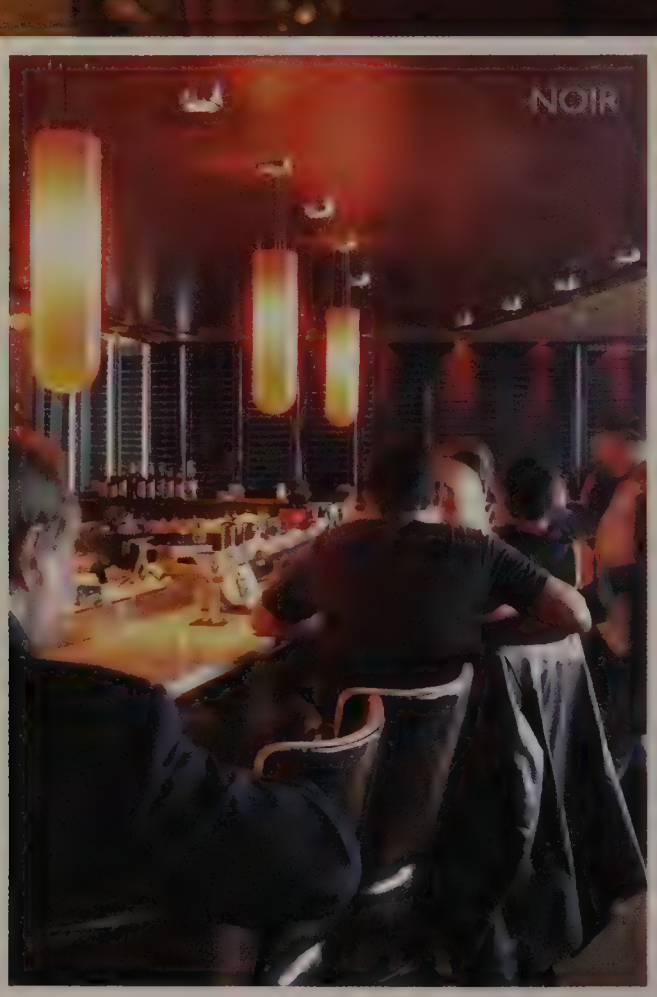
Advice: Weekends tend to be out-of-control crowded, especially late nights. Go on a weekday, so you can actually hear each other. Or make an early reservation.

Extend the night...with an order of chocolate fondue for two at **Les Zygomates** (129 South St.) and enjoy the live jazz.

Tapeo

There's something intimate about sharing a dish with someone. Perhaps your fingers accidentally touch as you pluck marinated olives off a ceramic plate or dip hunks of bread into a garlicky spread. It's like an aphrodisiac. On any given night at Tapeo on Newbury Street, you can spot couples who appear to be making such a connection over sangria and Spanish tapas. Order four or five small dishes—sharing an assortment of plates adds to the fun. You might even discover early on that Mr. Perfect refuses to eat anything covered with sauce...or that Ms. Right is a strict vegan (not that there's anything wrong with that). Standouts among the menu of hot and cold tapas include garlic shrimp, octopus vinaigrette, tortilla Española, baked goat cheese with tomato and basil, and pork tenderloin. The tables are set a bit close together, but that adds to the feeling of coziness,





as do the two fireplaces and the copper-plated walls. *266 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-4799).*

Price range: Low

Advice: Sit at the colorfully tiled bar. It feels like the patio of a Mediterranean taberna.

Extend the night...on the patio of the **Armani Café** (214 Newbury St.) and enjoy the people-watching.

Lala Rokh

Lala Rokh means "tulip cheeks," a term of endearment in the Persian language, and 19th-century Irish poet Thomas Moore adapted the term to give a name to the title character of his narrative work *Lalla Rookh, An Oriental Romance*. At the end of Moore's story, Lalla marries her prince and they live happily ever after. So you could get off to a good start simply walking through the doors of this enchanting Beacon Hill restaurant. Co-owner Babak Bina says the garden-level warren of rooms is decorated in the style of a summer home in Iran. It has the feel of a museum, with centuries-old artwork and turn-of-the-century photographs on every wall. The Persian menu might require explanation from the waiter. You can choose a hot or cold appetizer and then a main entrée paired with either *torshi* (chutney) or a *mazze*, or condiment, like yogurt with cucumbers and herbs. Or take the sampling route and order some appetizers and an entrée to share. Tasty options include velvety smoked eggplant, sautéed spinach with caramelized onions and homemade yogurt, and saffron-marinated chicken. Order some wine from Lala Rokh's reasonably priced list, and make it a night to remember. *97 Mount Vernon St., Boston (617-720-5511).*

Price range: Medium (entrées $19–$25)

Advice: Don't miss the whole garlic cloves aged in vinegar for three and a half years. (Miraculously, they don't cause bad breath!)

Extend the night...at **No. 9 Park** (9 Park St.) or the **Federalist** (15 Beacon St.).

Craigie Street Bistrot

Parking in Cambridge is a challenge, and you may not snag one of the three spots reserved for Craigie Street Bistrot, but the restaurant's Web site has directions to a stretch four blocks away, in front of the Armenian Church, that doesn't require a resident parking permit. Consult those directions so you can be sure not to miss the (strictly adhered to) 15-minute window that Craigie Street allows for reservations. Once you enter this cozy, 49-seat French boîte on the outskirts of Harvard Square, the pace (and your heart rate) will slow down considerably. Craigie Street is all about leisure. Every dish is made to order in a tiny kitchen that's just large enough for chef Tony Maws and three other cooks. Appetizers (try the stew of cockles and wild Maine mussels, or farm-fresh eggs en cocotte) arrive promptly, but you might wait a bit longer for your entrées. That's the perfect pacing for a date, though, allowing you to get to know each other over sips of wine and sourdough rolls with fresh butter. In true French fashion, the menu changes every day, depending on what Maws finds at the market that morning. From the decor (kitschy French posters) to the pace to the menu, you'll feel transported to Paris' Rue de Cherche-Midi. *5 Craigie Circle, Cambridge (617-497-5511).*

Price range: Medium

Advice: Ask your waiter for his or her recommendations. On my last visit, the waitress waxed poetic on the day-boat sea scallops, and she was right: They were out of this world.

Extend the night...with hot cocoa and sweets at **Burdick's** (52 Brattle St.) or martinis at **Noir** at the Charles Hotel in nearby Charles Square.

Excelsior

A trip to chef Lydia Shire's newest endeavor should probably be reserved for that truly special date. The view of the Public Garden is spectacular, especially when there's no foliage and you can see all the way to the lagoon. The menu offers choices like hacked ginger lobster tails, char-grilled wild king salmon and sugar-cane chicken—all phenomenal. As it should be at a restaurant of this caliber, service is attentive but unobtrusive. (When I visited, the hostess went so far as to fetch the elevator and show which door would open to the second-floor dining room.) Prices match the quality of the food and service, putting Excelsior in a category reserved for a date with Mr. or Ms. Right. If that's still TBD, you can always bypass the dining room upstairs and head straight to the swanky bar, which sports a more affordable menu of smaller bites prepared by Shire, as well as windows that open onto the street in the summer months. Whichever option you choose, you'll make a big impression. *272 Boylston St., Boston (617-426-7878).*

Price range: High (entrées over $25)

Advice: Try the man's and woman's steaks: Each bears a toothpick labeled with the appropriate chromosome (X or Y). Feel free to gender swap.

Extend the night...seated on a couch at the Four Seasons' **Bristol Lounge** (200 Boylston St.).

LOVE IS ALL AROUND

Happily, there's no shortage of romantic restaurants in Boston. Here are a few more to consider for your next date.

Casa Romero Forget Chevy's or Taco Bell, this is the real deal: Mexican food served in an authentic South-of-the-Border atmosphere. In the summer, it's worth the wait to dine on the patio under the stars. *30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-536-4341).*

The Enormous Room Kick off your shoes, prop yourself up with pillows on the carpeted platform and order a platter of Middle Eastern–inspired tastes to share. A DJ and dim lighting further set the mood. *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-5550).*

The Hungry I A seat beside a crackling fire in a Beacon Hill brownstone…what more could you want? How about terrific French food? Sold. *71 Charles St., Boston (617-227-3524).*

Kennedy's Midtown For an all-in-one date, this is the place. Indulge in steak tips in the Irish parlor, move to the bar for a pint of Guinness and cabaret tunes, and then hit the dance floor and show off your moves. *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333).*

L Chef Pino Maffeo has reinvigorated the former Café Louis, bringing stylish and tasty Asian-fusion cuisine to this chic restaurant located adjacent to an upscale clothing store. *234 Berkeley St., Boston (617-266-4680).*

La Morra Exposed brick walls and wooden beams, plus terrific Italian food prepared by former Tuscan Grill chef Josh Ziskin, make you feel like you're in Venice. *48 Boylston St., Brookline (617-739-0007).*

L'Espalier Pricey, but oh-so-good New England–French cuisine served in an 1880 Back Bay townhouse. Save this for the one you may just end up marrying. *30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023).*

Oleana Nothing's sweeter than a seat on Oleana's patio on a warm summer night—except maybe chef Ana Sortun's gourmet eats. *134 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-661-0505).*

Pigalle A real find, literally. Tucked away behind the Theater District, Pigalle offers a mini trip to Paris with delicious food prepared by chef Marc Orfaly and a wonderfully attentive wait staff overseen by his wife, Kerri Foley. *75 Charles St. South, Boston (617-423-4944).*

75 Chestnut Located in a converted Beacon Hill townhouse, 75 Chestnut has a cozy, homey feel but serves food that's decidedly more gourmet than you'd find in your own humble abode (unless, of course, you're a James Beard award winner). *75 Chestnut St., Boston (617-227-2175).*

Tangierino Dim lighting, low tables and plush banquettes with colorful pillows lend an exotic feel to this Moroccan restaurant. *83 Main St., Charlestown (617-242-6009).*

Top of the Hub Can't beat the view, and now, thanks to the efforts of executive chef Mark Porcaro and executive pastry chef Tommy Choi, the food and desserts are tops too. *Prudential Center, Boston (617-536-1775).*

Trattoria a Scalinatella Instead of spaghetti and meatballs, think handmade pappardelle in a wild boar ragu at this hidden gem in the North End. If it's a chilly night, request a seat near the fireplace. *253 Hanover St., Boston (617-742-8240).*

UpStairs on the Square Sitting downstairs at UpStairs, in the Monday Club bar, gives you the chance to indulge in gourmet cuisine at a more affordable price. *91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933).*


THE BUTCHER SHOP

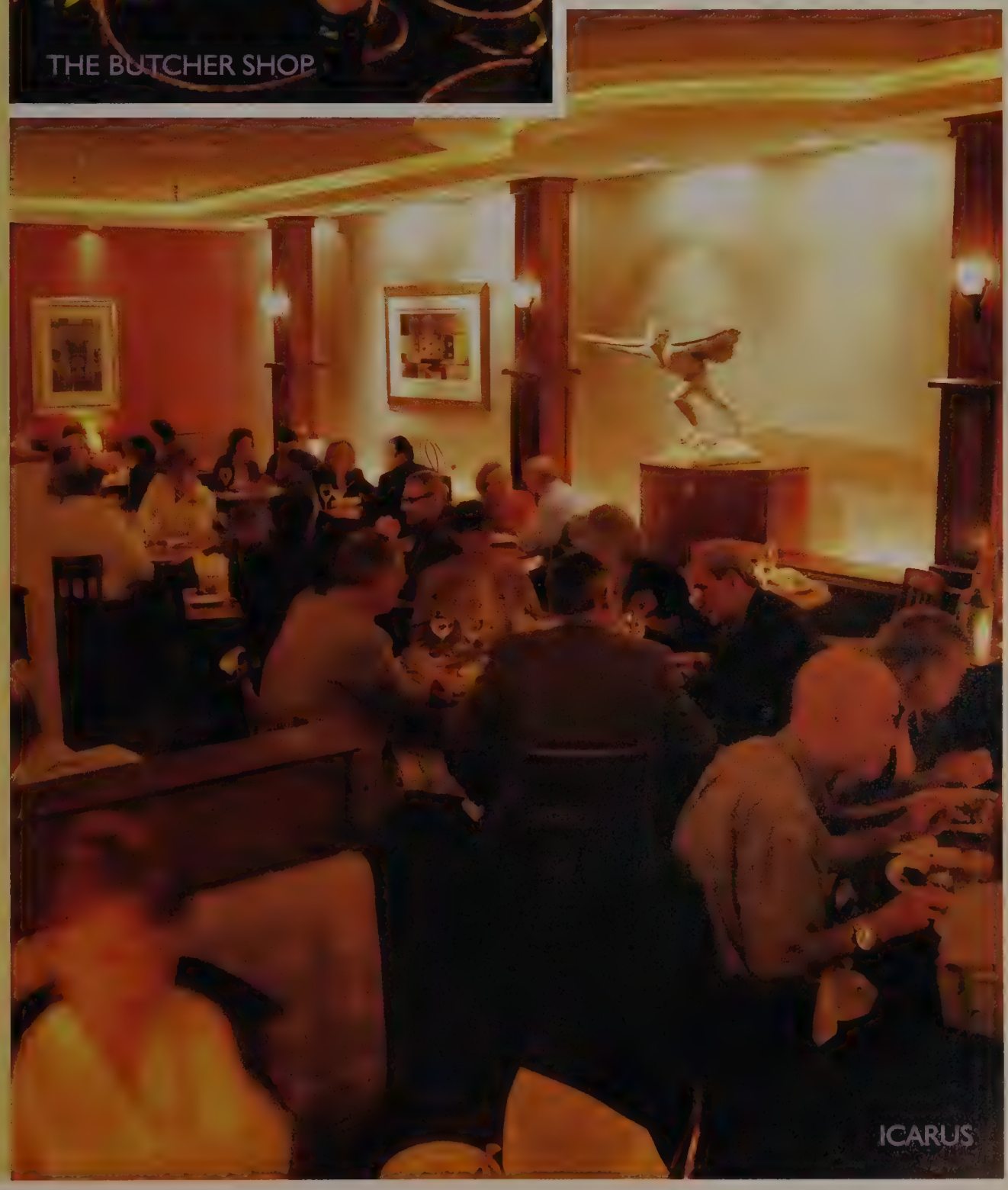
Icarus

One Icarus waitress tells me that marriage proposals are common at the restaurant. I can understand why. It's quiet, with low ceilings, and instead of overhead lights (which can sometimes make you feel like you're in the spotlight), small lamps adorn every table, along with a single flower. It feels like the dining room of an upscale social club: lots of dark wood, comfy upholstered chairs in the lounge and wooden bookshelves clustered with faded cloth hardbacks. Snuggled into a booth, you'll feel miles apart from the other guests scattered around the room at antique wooden tables. The prices at Icarus are, well, pricey, but chef Chris Douglass' cuisine ranks among the city's best, and the service is top-notch. Especially recommended are the appetizer of polenta with braised exotic mushrooms and the grilled striped bass with brandade de Morue and blood oranges. *3 Appleton St., Boston (617-426-1790).*

Price range: High

Advice: The chocolate molten soufflé cake for two takes 20 minutes to prepare, but it's oh-so worth it. Order it when you arrive.

Extend the night…with a glass of wine at **The Butcher Shop** (552 Tremont St.). iB


ICARUS



BABE MAGNETS

WE TAKE A PUPPY, A BABY AND A SNAZZY CAR TO NEWBURY STREET TO SETTLE THE AGE-OLD QUESTION: WHICH ONE ATTRACTS THE MOST GIRLS

BY EZRA DYER PHOTOGRAPHS BY RICHARD SMITH

Conventional wisdom has it that certain accessories attract women like ants to a peanut butter and jelly sandwich left on the ground. You've heard the stories: Your friend has a puppy and swears he can't walk down the street without getting mobbed by girls. Another friend has a baby and bemoans the cruel irony of the kid's woman-pulling power. Someone else just plunked down the money for a flashy new car and says nothing makes a first impression with the ladies like a pimpin' ride. Is there truth to any of this, or do these stereotypical chick magnets belong next to "cell phones cause brain cancer" in the great index of unfounded urban lore?

To find out, I procured a puppy, a toddler and a car and set out to find which one garnered the most attention. The contest was merely to see what prompted the greatest number of girls to talk to me, since attempting anything like getting phone numbers would call my highly questionable game into play, thus skewing this precise scientific experiment.

Our test-puppy was a 10-week-old black pug named Oscar. He's tiny, gregarious, and cuter than a warehouse full of Anne Geddes posters. The babe-attracting baby was Colby, a 2-year-old with a winning smile. Finally, we have the car, a 2004 BMW 645Ci convertible, which is brand-new, expensive and unequivocally sexy. If you don't look good in this car, you need to drive it straight to the *Swan* tapings and get your face fixed.

I took these three ringers to the most unforgiving crucible of profiling in Boston, Newbury Street on a Saturday. From Arlington Street to Mass. Ave., the strip is awash in Porsches, designer clothes and beautiful people. Janet Jackson could pilot a spaceship down Newbury Street with both boobs out and people wouldn't look up from their tuna carpaccio. If you get attention here, you get attention anywhere. On then, to the results.

THE CAR

Much of BMW's recent styling has been controversial, but everyone seems to agree that the new 6 Series looks gorgeous, particularly the convertible. Driving down Newbury Street, a guy pulls up next to us, scopes out the 6 and shouts to his passenger, "That car is f---ing sick!" While I'm stopped at a light, a 20-ish guy wearing head-to-toe designer duds and walking two boxers on leashes says, "That's a sweet car! I'm on the waiting list for one. Hey, how'd you get that?" I smile and drive away, proud that I've restrained myself from screaming, "Don't you know who I am?!" which is something you want to do a lot while driving this car.

Other comments I heard while driving the 645 included, "That is the phattest BMW I've ever seen!" "Sick car!" and simply, "Nice." The only problem is that all those lines came from guys. Comments from women are far more sporadic, but the thing to remember is that most other cars, even rare and expensive ones, don't get any attention from women at all. So when a girl in a BMW Z3 rolled up next to me at a stop light and asked how I liked the car, I had to remind myself that girls in BMW convertibles don't normally chat me up at intersections. The car was at work, just like when I was creeping through traffic on Boylston Street and a well-dressed woman in her 50s shouted, "That is a beautiful car! And a handsome man driving it!" Why thank you, Boylston Street sugar mama. I also had a group of teenage girls in Southie yell, "That is a phat caaaaahhh!" as I drove past, which demonstrates that this chick magnet appeals to a wide babeographic.

THE BABY

At 2 years old, Colby isn't a real baby, which is probably a good thing for babe-baiting. Real babies are ugly, hairless little lumps that do little except scream, wet themselves and stare aimlessly into space, sort of like Yankees fans. Colby, on the other hand, looks like a scaled-down actual person and can walk and talk—a big advantage. Sure, his vocabulary is limited now, but in another few months he'll probably be a functional wingman as well as a lure.

The catch to using a child to attract girls was articulated by Colby's father, Rick. "The problem with a kid is that he connotes baggage," said Rick, who suggested concocting a story to distance myself from the obvious implication. "You could say he's an Iraqi orphan," Rick offered. Yeah, I liked that. But you've got to talk to the girl to get to that point in the first place. I needed to do something more immediately apparent, like wear a Big Brothers T-shirt, or walk around loudly exclaiming, "You're really cute for a child who's not mine, one I'm just baby-sitting for the day because I'm such a nice guy who's good with children!"

I opted for none of the above and decided to see how things played out. It was looking dicey as I headed toward Newbury Street, as Colby's regular afternoon nap had been truncated by this excursion and he was looking a little cranky. He's normally free with the smiles, but after nap time he goes through a quiet phase and is less sociable. I considered giving him coffee but figured I'd get in trouble if he ends up only four feet tall because I gave him a Venti latte when he was 2 so he'd be cute for girls.

Of course, that wasn't going to be an issue if I couldn't figure out how to get him out of his car seat. But little did I know, I'd stumbled upon a great ploy, henceforth to be known as the Car Seat Move. It's unclear whether the girl approached me because of the car or Colby, since she seemed to like them both, but that's why I'm not a scientist. Anyway, I confessed that I didn't know how to get Colby out of his car seat—which effectively communicated that I'm not Daddy—and she showed me how it's done. Her name was Alison and she was from Bermuda, of all places. Before I could vocalize the George Costanza thoughts running through my head and scare her off ("If you're from Bermuda, where do you go on vacation?"), Oscar arrived and stole the show.



THE MAGNETS

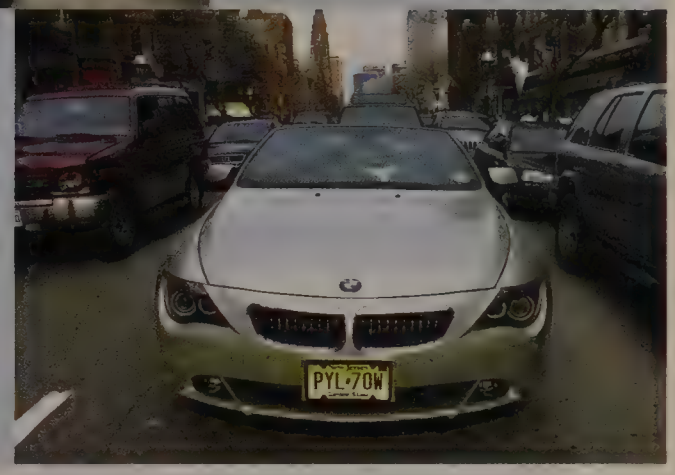
THE BABY
Name: Colby
Age: 2 years
Cost: $177,700 through age 18 (according to AOL News parenting study)
Maintenance: Regular diaper changes, meals and afternoon naps.
Ladies love him because: If you say the nonsense word "itawa," he freaks out and nobody knows why.





THE PUPPY
Name: Oscar
Age: 10 weeks
Cost: $600
Maintenance: Housebroken but has small bladder and needs to go outside regularly; doghouse must be cleaned periodically; eventually going to have to be neutered, the little freak.
Ladies love him because: He weighs four pounds and has attention deficit disorder.

THE CAR
Name: BMW 645Ci convertible
Age: Just hit the street, yo
Cost: $76,300
Maintenance: Full maintenance included for four years or 50,000 miles.
Ladies love it because: It implies ruthless power.



THE PUPPY

If ever an animal was made for this assignment, it's Oscar. He's almost small enough to fit in your hand, and everything he does is cute. If he sits, he's cute. If he hops around energetically, he's cute. If he barks, it's a tiny-yet-determined bark—cute. He could probably take a dump in your hand and it would be cute. The crowning touch: He has a tag of Oscar the Grouch on his collar. Genius.

Roughly 30 seconds after taking Oscar's leash, I was surrounded by women. Literally. There was a circle around me, and the questions were flying. What's his name? What kind of dog is he? How old is he? How big will he get? It was like magic. Colin Farrell standing naked in the street handing out free Coach bags wouldn't get this much female attention. One girl spotted his Oscar the Grouch tag and squealed, "Oh no, you *don't* have Oscar on your collar! That is the cutest thing ever." Several girls actually proclaimed Oscar a babe magnet, which was certainly the truth.

The size of the crowd varied, but there was always a crowd. At one point I handed Colby the leash to create an unbeatable babe-magnet trifecta: a cute two-year-old holding a 10-week-old puppy in front of a brand-new BMW convertible. They were unstoppable, and it was a wonder to behold. "I've never seen anything like this," said photographer Richard as he recorded the action.

And nobody will see anything like it again anytime soon, though I might try to get Colby and Oscar together for a reunion. I'm sure they'd like to play together some more, and visit new places like the Wellesley College campus, or Healthworks, or maybe Centerfolds… IB


flirting

A BRIEF PRIMER ON OUR MOST UNDERRATED MODERN ART

A true story: It's Winter 1999. I've been in Boston for about a year. I am, of course, desperately lonely. I agree to attend a poetry reading with my friend Dave, and afterwards he drags me to a bar. The place is packed. There is Irish music playing. I am drinking a beer, though I don't like beer. I spot a woman.

She has thick, brown hair, a large, shapely nose, a white blouse. I am stupidly, blindingly smitten. She is sitting with a few friends. I point her out to Dave and he says, "Why don't you go say hello?"

Right, I think. Hello.

But just then I'm struck by the world's most primal flirting fear: What comes after hello? During that moment when both parties recognize that interest is being expressed, and it's up to the flirter (in this case, me) to convince the flirtee (her) that my attentions are worth being indulged.

What am I supposed to say? I noticed your hair. It's real nice.

Am I supposed to tell a joke?

I don't know any jokes.

There are other problems: I've neglected to wash my hair. I am dressed for a poetry reading, where no one cares how you look, which is to say, as is often the case, I am dressed poorly.

Instead, I settle on an ingenious strategy of long-distance flirting, which consists of staring at her, waiting for her to notice me. She does not. Her friends do. At first they seem, well, amenable. They whisper into her ear. She looks over and sort of half smiles.

Logic now dictates that I should go over and say something, anything. But I am paralyzed by fear. So I continue to stare, while the object of my affection, understandably, grows more and more nervous.

Eventually, she gets up, and for a moment I convince myself she might actually be headed my way; my strategy (which combines elements of both shyness and stalking) has worked!

Then a bouncer comes over and explains that I am making people "nervous" and asks if I would mind taking my business elsewhere.

I return home and pound my head against the wall.

I mention this episode not just because it marked the low point of my life as a flirter, but because it offers many valuable lessons for those of you who (like me) basically suck at flirting.

Lesson number one is (to quote Sergeant Hulka): Lighten up, Francis!

The essential reason I failed so miserably in the above instance was that I was taking myself, and my mission, way too seriously.

Flirting means you're not making any great big commitments. You're just checking to see if there's any chemistry there. Period.

Lesson number two: So you get shot down, so what?

My true failure was not just that I was creepy (though I was certainly, in retrospect, very creepy) but that I was too much of a scaredy-cat to just go up to the woman and give it the old college try. But see, that's what most decent folks are going to appreciate: someone who makes an honest effort.

This brings us to lesson three: Know when you're being shot down.

Sometimes, sad to say, the energy is not there. The woman (or man) you've targeted isn't smiling, isn't touching your arm, isn't laughing at your imitation of Ted Kennedy snorting bean dip. She appears more interested in her cuticles.

Men, this does not mean she's shy. (Even shy people find a way to express interest.) It means no sale.

Your job now is a painful but simple one: Move on. Do not try to batter your way through the defenses. Do not turn snarky or hateful. This will result in bad flirt karma and will drive other desirable candidates away. After all, the person you just dissed has friends, in the world at large and very likely at the party you're both attending.

It's nothing personal. You pitched. She didn't swing. Find another batter.

And remember: Even Casanova got shot down. (He just didn't write about it.)

Lesson four is especially important, in the face of lesson number three: This is supposed to be fun.

Flirting is nothing more, or less, than an improvised dance of gestures and words. And, as any old hand at improv will tell you, this requires that you remain loose, pay attention and enjoy yourself.

You don't have to be brilliant or charming right out of the gate. You don't have to follow some lame *Cosmo* checklist. (Smile, play with your hair, blah-blah-blah…)

Such performance pressure will only muck you up. I've found it's actually OK to be goofy.

Which brings us to our fifth, and most important lesson: Good flirting, true flirting, is an end in itself.

You're not doing it because you want to get him or her into the sack (though that might, circumstances permitting, happen). You're doing it because the world is a sexy place, and you're at a party, amid the din of human company, and you want to connect with someone.

And the truth is, people can sniff out your ulterior motives. If you're just chatting some woman up because you want in her pants, she's going to know it, within about 15 seconds. And chances are she's going to react with something less than *Girls Gone Wild* enthusiasm.

In fact, the coolest flirting I've ever done or seen has had nothing to do with sex. It's just two people (of any age or gender) doing a little getting-to-know-you dance.

Let me conclude with a story relayed to me by my great-aunt Meta, who's 96 years old.

A couple of years ago, when she was a spring chicken of 94, she left her apartment on Central Park West to meet a friend for dinner.

It was February, the streets were icy, and a strong wind came up. Meta was standing on the corner, trying to decide whether to attempt to cross the street, when a group of young guys happened past.

One of them saw Meta's situation and offered to serve as her escort.

He did so, taking her arm and leading her all the way to the restaurant. She thanked him in her elegant European accent. Then, just before he turned away, with all his friends watching, he leaned in close, so his cheek was almost touching hers, and said, "Can I have your number?"

Now that's what I call flirting. **iB**

with DISASTER

BY STEVE ALMOND

PHOTOGRAPHS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN



BY SUSAN ABBATTISTA

PHOTOGRAPH BY OLIVIA GATTI

FIVE THINGS TO REMEMBER WHEN YOU'RE TRYING TO SURVIVE A BIG BREAKUP

Let's get right to it: Breakups, even the ones you know are good for you, can be pure hell. As you move through the darkest days, wads of Kleenex filling your pockets and crazy thoughts filling your head, you may not recognize the puffy-eyed person staring back at you in the mirror. Family members will attempt to cheer you with sayings like "What's meant to be is meant to be"; your friends will drag you to parties when you'd rather be hiding under the covers; and your therapist will tell you to "feel the feelings" when that's the thing that hurts the most.

I know. Last October, my "dreamboat" (as my friends called him) and I split up. Parted ways. Boom. Over. The first months passed in a blur. I rode the train to and from work each day, encapsulated by a bubble of sadness. At night I sat on the couch—grateful for the warmth of my cat, Pearl, curled up on my lap—and watched endless episodes of bad reality TV. I cried through weekends. Months passed, and I experienced my emotions not in words but in colors: November, December: black. January: dark gray. February: light gray. March: burnt orange.

As I write this now, at the start of April, I've begun to spend less time on the couch and more time out in the world—going for walks, calling friends and interviewing the people in this story. For those enduring a breakup, or still feeling the aftershocks of one, the following five "rules of the potholed road" are meant to serve as smoke signals of hope, sent up by a local therapist, some breakup survivors and me; reminders that most people go through this experience at times, and things turn out OK.

Your breakup may cause other people to act strangely.

Heartbreak is one of those universal things, like language, reason and holey socks, that are part of being human. But of the 20 or so people I approached to discuss the topic, most responded as if I'd asked them to undergo a root canal. Some said the pain was too personal to share, while others had this superstitious feeling that dwelling on lost love would bring bad luck. "I've been happily married for years," one woman said. "And I'd like to keep it that way, thank you."

Considering people's aversion to the subject, I expected a small turnout when I went to see *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*, a movie that explores just how far people will go to erase the pain of heartbreak. When I arrived at the Kendall Square Cinema one rainy Saturday night, the lobby was packed—the show sold out seconds after I got my ticket. Before the lights went down, I spotted an old friend seated up front who days earlier had dodged my questions about her breakup. Throughout the movie, as Jim Carrey's character sank deeper into a funk, I scanned the faces around me. The expression I saw most was an interesting mix of both "I can relate" and "Glad that's not me!" Breakups, I've decided, have a weird effect on people: Most don't want to talk about their own, but they have no qualms about getting a front-row seat to examine someone else's.

It's perfectly normal to have strange reactions to your own breakup.

"There's a whole range of possible things that people will think and feel when they go through a breakup," says Brenda Smith, a Back Bay psychotherapist who helps clients deal with grief and loss. "There can be depression, irritability, low tolerance for frustration, annoyance, guilt, shame, self-blame, those kinds of things. Breakups can affect us in different ways and in ways that aren't typical for us."



Iain, a 42-year-old South Boston computer consultant, describes a period of intense paralysis when his girlfriend ended their relationship in March 2003, soon after he moved from London to Boston to be near her: "For three weeks, I didn't sleep or eat much. I lost 25 pounds, and I looked like hell."

Greg, 34, a seafood salesman from Beverly, started drinking heavily when he and his wife separated in May 2000. "I was self-abusive at first," he says. "There was a moment when I said to myself, 'I'm going to drink like nobody's business.' My tolerance level at its highest point was wiping out a liter of bourbon in a night."

Maria, a 33-year-old editorial production manager from Brighton who went through a breakup just five months ago, began torturing herself with obsessive thoughts when her ex moved on: "When I found out that he had a new girlfriend, I fell apart. I kept imagining scenarios of them together—having fun, having sex, sharing things. I kept wondering if she was prettier, more fun, better than me."

Throughout the winter, I also had waves of nausea, self-destructive bouts and torturous fantasies. March marked a turning point; I began to cry less. But even though I felt stronger, the world around me still seemed fragile. The potential for loss echoed everywhere—from the front-page headlines about terrorist bombings to the hungry pigeons pecking at invisible specks on the ground. One day, as I took a walk around my Somerville neighborhood, I saw signs describing a lost cat named Monkey. The pictures of little Monkey—a white, indoor cat, just like mine—made my heart ache. I decided that I had to find him. Each day I went out, peering under porches for a white blur of fur, and each day I came home empty-handed. As the weeks passed and the pictures of Monkey wilted in the rain, I felt my spirit wilt as well. Lost cat, lost love, lost me.

Grieving may take longer, and may require more energy, than you think.

Karen, a marketing professional in her 40s who lives on the South Shore, is still mourning a 10-year relationship that ended almost a year ago. "I'm still heartbroken," she says. "The man is the love of my life, and it's really hard to say it's over." Yet Karen is allowing herself ample time to mourn. "Nobody can tell you when you should get over it. If you're hurting, you're hurting."

Smith, the psychotherapist, agrees. "Recovering from grief is not going to happen in a straight line. It's more of a roller coaster. You can have severe grief, and then it starts to abate, and then something will trigger it again."

The triggers are inescapable. On a recent Saturday, Maria got a burst of energy and decided to run some errands. "I was at the Laundromat, picking up my prefolded clothes, and there were his clothes in a big, clear bag sitting right next to mine, name tag and all! I walked out of there so sad. But I did breathe a sigh of relief—I didn't spot any panties in there."

I also experience those deer-in-the-headlights moments. As I gathered some things to take to a dinner party recently, I pulled my large tote bag from the closet. Inside the bag: shells, left over from the last beach trip I took with my ex. It was August. We drove to the Cape and laughed as we dove into the icy waves. Driving back that night, my hair thick with salt, I could still feel the pull of the waves against my body. I was so exhausted—and so content.

Learning to take good care of yourself is the best thing you can do right now.

Breakups aren't a time for abandoning yourself or setting unreasonable goals for your recovery. "Good self-care is a major part of grief work," says Smith. "Self-care, like eating well and having an exercise program, will help people get through the stages of change."

Once they get over the shock of being alone, even the most heartbroken souls can find things that sustain them. Iain eventually regained his appetite and began to dabble in photography. "I concentrated on making myself happy," he says. "I've got this artistic side that's coming out, which wasn't there when I was with her."

After a long, self-destructive stretch, Greg realized he "needed to take a step back" from his life. Last year, he took a two-month trip to Thailand. "Young chicks were everywhere, but I was there to take all the marbles that had fallen out of my head and cram them back in. I was swinging in a hammock, collecting my thoughts. There was no need to get wasted every night, no need to do anything but listen to the roosters and watch the geckos running around."

Maria and Karen, still feeling the sting of their breakups, are finding comfort in self-help materials. Maria is currently reading *Letting Go: A 12-Week Personal Action Program to Overcome a Broken Heart*, by Zev Wanderer and Tracy Cabot. She also visits Breakupgirl.net. Karen, meanwhile, is rereading *Why Men Love Bitches*, by Sherry Argov.

There are numerous options for filling the void, such as gardening, exercising, volunteering, taking a class or renting movies. The trick is knowing what works for you. When I'm really feeling down, I head to CVS and buy shampoo.

Trust that grief does not last forever.

"Grieving is a process," says Smith, "but it does have an end. The process gets easier, and the breakup gets dimmer. People are more resilient than they think."

Iain, once sick with despair, now plans to show his photographs in a gallery by the end of the summer. "I wouldn't want to go through all that pain again," he says, "but I've really grown as a person." Greg, meanwhile, has been working on maintaining a new relationship. As for his love affair with bourbon, he says, "that tide has gone out."

Maria and Karen are surrounding themselves with caring friends and testing the boundaries of their own strength. Maria recently hosted a raucous party, attended by me, at which she seemed to float upon her own contagious laughter. Karen is "trying to stay busy" and indulges herself with anything she needs at the moment, which often involves chocolate.

As for me, I face each day shaky but receptive. I've just started a class in oil painting and find surprising solace in tubes of French ultramarine, lemon yellow and alizarin red. But here is the most important thing: I felt truly happy the other day. As I walked to work, I noticed new signs posted in my neighborhood. "After being lost for weeks," the signs said, "Monkey the cat was found." iB

Pink and green floral dress with ruffle
by Blugirl $495 at Interm

color

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theory

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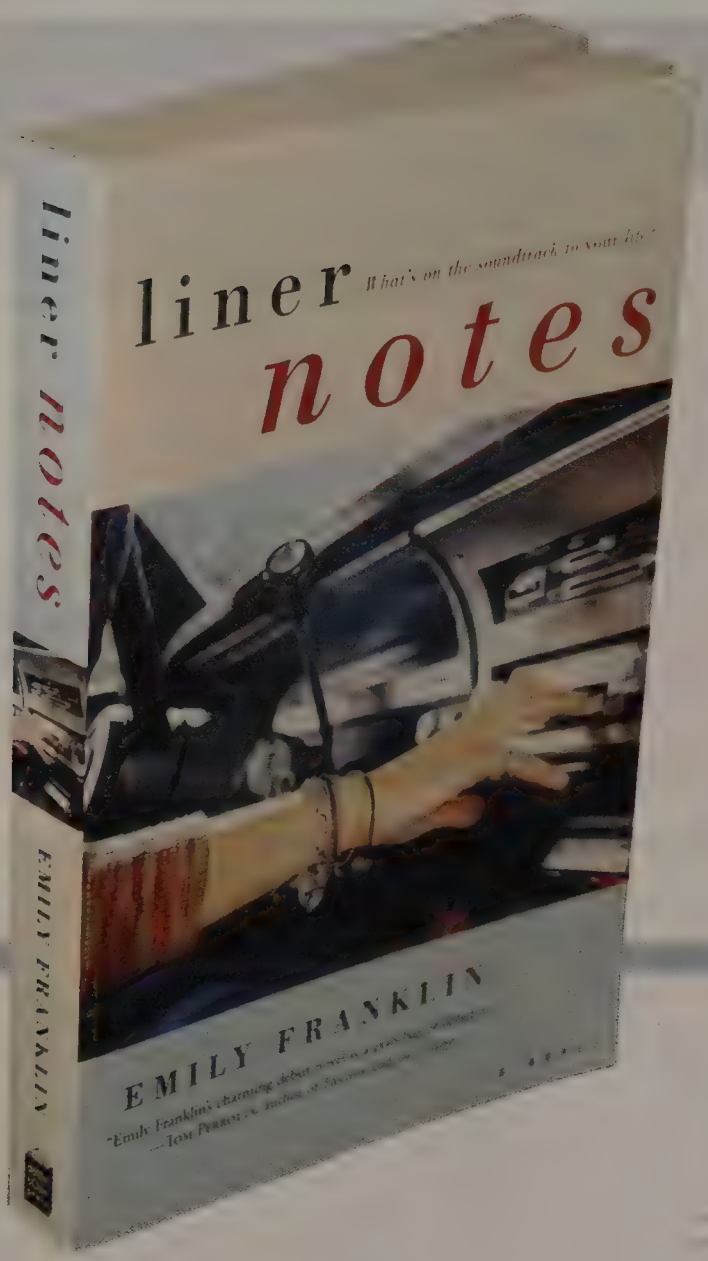
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MOPSY

SERENDIPITOUS SHOPPING: OUR UNFETTERED CORRESPONDENT SEEKS OUT THE SALUBRIOUS AND THE CEREBRAL

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



THE GENERATION ZAP

Emily Franklin of Newton has written *Liner Notes*, a novel about a mother, a daughter and old songs.

In *Liner Notes*, a mother and her adult daughter go on a road trip. This takes place before the daughter starts a job as an art restorer, and after the mother's receives the good news that her long-lasting cancer is in remission. Their soundtrack consists of tapes of daughter Laney's favorite songs—playlists included—from each phase of her life. The songs have scratched an evoking groove into each mini-era, and Laney narrates the stories of her young life—bouncing with the merriment of friendships, chickships and guyships. The book is alive with dialogue. Laney's old friends are an engaging crew, and as some get engaged, then married, Laney finds herself in a kind of single limbo, especially when her nonboyfriend friend—one of those perfectly pitched relationships—gets married. Mother and daughter reminisce about old times and friends, updating, laughing, pouring retrospect and repair onto old memories. Because Mom had been sick during long stretches of Laney's life, she gets a second-wind look at her daughter. In the coziness of their relationship, surprising parallels in their lives are revealed. And happily, the book comes to a shout-for-joy romantic conclusion.

THE HUMAN FACE OF KENDALL SQUARE

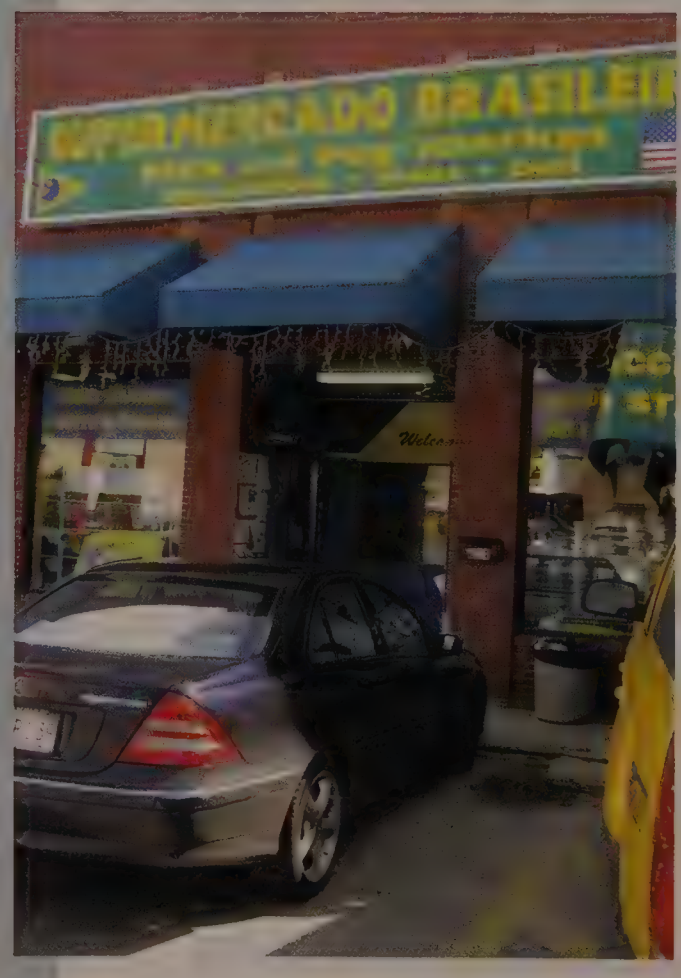
The Kendall, Cambridge's oldest boutique hotel, at 350 Main St., houses the small Black Sheep Restaurant. Cozy function rooms available. Call 617-577-1300.



In blazingly modern Kendall Square there's a tucked-away historic treasure of a hotel, the Kendall, with its cozy, publike Black Sheep restaurant. Both are housed in an 1893 red brick Victorian firehouse with beautiful detail outside— gables and cornices, plus arched windows all top-hatted by a white cupola. The lobby looks more like a living room than an inn. It's the essence of homeyness, with chairs huddled around a roaring fire, lounging ceramic dalmations, red wagons and antique fire station buckets. The decor, the antithesis of hotel-bland, features quilts, fat Stetson hat boxes, bumpity traveled trunks and old prints. One extraordinary bedroom is painted in mintissimo blue, so stingingly fresh you can almost taste the color. Some rooms have double queen beds with huge, painted headboards; one has a yellow-painted desk. The bathrooms are gorgeous. Spaciousnes prevails there, as well as in the rooms and hallways. Just inside the front door, screened off behind ar irregular white wooden wall, is the Black Sheep a tiny restaurant for guests and outsiders that offers ap pealing breakfast, lunch and dinner. Though technology booms just beyond the walls, in here you fee you could be in the English countryside.

KISSING IN THE PASSION FRUIT JUICE AISLE

Supermercado Brasileiro, at 624 Somerville Ave., Somerville, combines food and lots of ooh la la. Call 617-776-4200.



Before Easter, overhead trellises here were hung with brightly colored cellophane wrapped chocolate eggs and panettones the display representing the spirit charac terized by the owner's son, Hebert Rocha Jr., as, "Everything in Brazil is a festival." So it is with this trip to Brazillerville, ethnic not only in its groceries but in the smiling warmth, smoochy sexiness and Portuguese chat of the shoppers. A lively lunchtime deli offers fast, exotic food—chicken cooked in a dome-shaped crust, a stick of pork with spicy juttings, and a kind of lasagna called *coxinha*. Flan-like cakes drip ping the sweetness of condensed milk (itself a popular item on the shelves) are sold by the piece or full-size, and a jimmy-covered chocolate cake is a favorite you could get to know. The meat counter is full of beautifu steaks, sausages and salted meats cut to par ticular thinness for barbecues. Find fresh farmer's cheeses and cooked ones, familiar yogurts in jazzier-then-Dannon packaging passion fruit and guava juice, yams and peeled coconuts. Other specialties, pretty and accessible, are tiny, gray-speckled quail eggs, aristocratically silky hearts of palm and those Rio requisites: bras and thongs.

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REVIEW

AN ITALIAN JOB WELL DONE

La Morra is another winner for Brookline's dining scene

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Brookline is a town of many restaurants, diverse in cuisine, supported by loyal patrons, anchored in walkable neighborhoods. Some are exemplary—Taberna de Haro, Fugakyu and Washington Square Tavern spring to mind. Others are merely adequate. While new restaurants launch and old ones fall by the wayside from time to time, breaking into this fragmented market is a challenge for even the most intrepid culinary entrepreneur. Nevertheless, Josh Ziskin has taken the town by storm.

Ziskin made his mark at the Tuscan Grill in Waltham, a worthy suburban Italian outpost. He went on to hone his skills at Belvedere, a first-rate restaurant in the delightful hilltop town of La Morra, one of the seven communes of what is arguably Italy's most highly regarded wine region, Barolo, near Alba in the northwest.

While Ziskin's Piemontese experience informs the cuisine at his new restaurant, La Morra, which opened in December, he also draws on traditions from across northern Italy. For example, he offers a number of *cicchetti*, Venetian tapas, as a splendid way to begin a meal here. *Arancini di riso* ($4) a moist, rounded pyramid of risotto, redolent of flavorful stock and accented with cheese, was carefully fried to a golden brown in high-quality olive oil. *Olive farcite* ($3) consisted of four large, pitted green olives, breaded and fried, an imaginative, fun treat. *Polpette* ($4), Tuscan meatballs containing prosciutto and porcini mushrooms, boasted an intriguing, complex flavor, but their texture seemed a trifle dense. No such affliction flawed the *pate di baccala* ($3.50), Italy's version of French brandade—salt cod blended with pureed potatoes and olive oil. It was exceptionally smooth in texture, with mellow yet distinctive flavor, and not too salty.

Antipasti included a small bowl of *vongole al peperoncini* ($9), six pleasantly resilient clams in their shells, steamed with finely diced red cherry peppers and wine, evocative of the Ligurian coast. Lumache (snails) sautéed with baby artichokes, garlic and rosemary were remarkably tender, sautéed in olive oil but finished in brown butter, and mercifully without that musty flavor that sometimes bedevils snails. The least memorable of the antipasti, the beef carpaccio ($8)—an almost transparently thin slice of raw beef sprinkled with extra-virgin olive oil—came with a garnish of roasted garlic, bread crumbs and mâche greens, in a portion so tiny that it failed to make much of an impression. Better as an appetizer was one of La Morra's *contorni*, or side dishes, the *cavolonero* ($4.25), a small bowl of first-rate, pleasantly bitter black Tuscan cabbage, studded with nuggets of pancetta.



Pan-seared halibut with mussels, black olives and tomatoes

LA MORRA

48 Boylston St., Brookline Village
(617-739-0007)

HOURS Sun.–Thu., 5:30–10 pm; Fri. and Sat., 5:30–10:30 pm; Sun., 11 am–2:30 pm

RESERVATIONS recommended

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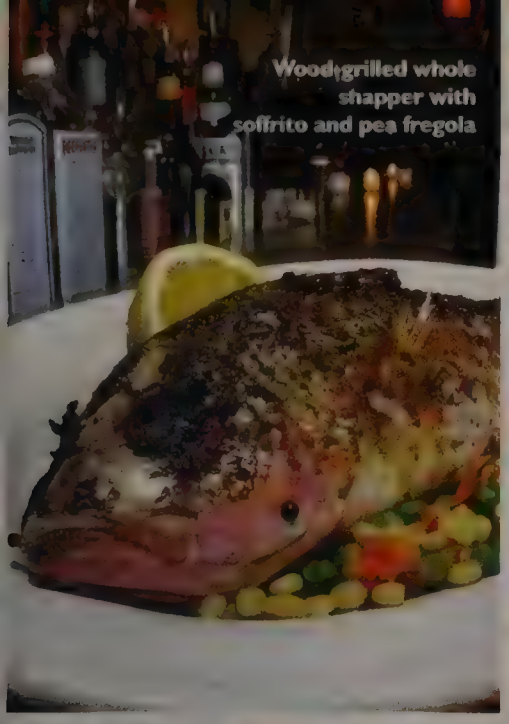
LIQUOR LICENSE full bar

La Morra's *primi* (pastas) included gnocchi with Gorgonzola cheese and radicchio Trevisano ($9), named after a city in the orbit of Venice. The incomparable, velvety texture of these potato pillows, combined with the restrained assertiveness of Italy's distinctive, creamy blue cheese, made a marvelous combination, and even the slightly charred accompanying radicchio did not diminish my enjoyment of the dish. Saffron risotto with braised veal shanks ($10) included shards of tender, succulent veal of the richest flavor, while the risotto was at once firm to the bite and creamy, showcasing the particular quality of arborio rice that makes it so well suited to risotto. Most memorable among the pastas, the *fettucelle con cerveliti* ($10) brought a superb housemade fettuccini, cooked to al dente perfection, dressed in a toothsome sauce of sweetbreads, veal cheeks and chestnuts that almost begged to be mopped up with La Morra's estimable house-baked Tuscan bread.

The *secondi*, or main courses, at La Morra included *brasato con polenta* ($19.95), which the menu translated as braised short ribs with tomato and radicchio. The translator omitted mention of the wonderfully creamy polenta that accompanied this meaty, robustly beefy preparation and rendered the ensemble a thoroughly satisfying, not to mention filling, dish. *Monkfish con finocchio e pancetta* ($18.95) combined firm-fleshed fish with tender, braised fennel, again enlivened with more of the delicious smoky-salty pancetta.

Less successful was the *lamb polpettone* ($17.95), a giant meatball that dominated the plate like a boulder. Both its unseemly presentation and slightly dry texture detracted from its skillfully herbed flavor, but the well-constructed tomato-and-wine sauce and a garnish of roasted leeks—one of my favorite vegetables, which I don't see on menus often enough—rescued the dish. Not so fortunate was the spit-roasted *porchetta* ($17.95), a thick slice of smoked pork shoulder that arrived buried under an unpleasant, almost acrid sauce of pureed parsley. The dish was so removed from the general high standard set by La Morra's cuisine that I thought it might have been snuck in from the outside by a desperate competitor. The last main course I tried, *galletto alla griglia con rapini* ($17.95), raised roast chicken to a new height, with crisp, pleasantly salty skin encasing its moist, full-flavored flesh. Only the accompanying tangle of tough, stemmy broccoli rabe missed its mark.

Dolce (desserts) included a creamy, mellowly sweet honey *panna cotta* ($8.25), served in a tortilla-shaped cookie and garnished with refreshingly sweet-tart raspberries, strawberries and blackberries. For the "if it ain't chocolate, it ain't dessert" crowd, the flourless chocolate cake ($8.25)



Woodgrilled whole shapper with soffrito and pea fregola



La Morra occupies a cozy space on the edge of Brookline Village.



La Morra chef/owner Josh Ziskin honed his skills in his restaurant's namesake village in Italy.



Semolina gnocchi with spring vegetables



turned out to be an imposing cylinder of very rich, fudgy chocolate mousse with even darker chocolate coating.

As befits a restaurant named for a wine town, La Morra has a substantial list of almost 50 wines, all from northern Italy (save one French selection, an Alsatian riesling). The consumer-friendly prices range from $15, for an excellent, well-balanced half-liter carafe of Italian merlot, to a handful of bottles below $30, on up to $100 and beyond for the most noble of Italy's red wines, Barolo and Barbaresco, from Ziskin's beloved Piemonte. I found the 2001 San Fabiano Chianti Putto ($24), a blend of sangiovese, trebbiano and malvasia nera, thin and uninteresting, making the carafe of Italian merlot the much better value. Observing other diners who ordered wine by the glass, I noted generous pours that looked to be a full six ounces, a welcome departure from the skimpy glasses that prevail at all too many Boston restaurants.

La Morra is located in the most improbable of sites, a small, two-story building on the south side of Route 9, just beyond the end of Harvard Street, on the fringe of Brookline Village. Diners with reservations are generally seated upstairs, with walk-ins on the first floor. Up and down, the space is warm, cozy and pleasantly appointed, with a stone and mortar wall along the staircase, lots of exposed brick, and curved wrought iron bars supporting small spotlights that illuminate the engaging, framed Italian poster advertisements on the walls.

The servers at La Morra provide attentive, informed and gracious hospitality, doing justice to Ziskin's superb culinary handiwork. Not only does the food taste good, but picture-perfect presentation graces almost everything that leaves the kitchen, with pastas served in oversized white bowls, and antipasti and secondi carefully arranged on plates to please the eye as well as the palate.

La Morra's reasonable prices are made even more so by a fixed-price menu available, at least at this writing, on both weekdays and weekends. At $35 for four courses—appetizer, pasta, main course and dessert—this menu has to be one of the premier dining bargains of the entire Boston area. Brookline has a number of restaurants where prices are fair and portions generous, but none that I know of combine such value with the kind of first-rate, creatively conceived and professionally executed cuisine that Ziskin presents at La Morra. IB

Sample award-winning specialties from Allston Village eateries, including

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TASTINGS

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Artisanal Cheeses of the World
Lifelong Learning, 808 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-9852). www.bu.edu/lifelong. May 6, 6-8 pm. $75. **Ihsan Gurdal**, owner of Formaggio Kitchen, discusses the craft of making and maturing cheese and leads a cheese tasting.

Boston Bakes for Breast Cancer
Eva Brownman Breast Cancer Fund. www.bostonbakesforbreastcancer.org. May 3-9. More than 90 participating restaurants feature a dessert as part of Boston Bakes. Proceeds from sales of the desserts go to the Eva Brownman Breast Cancer Fund.

Breadmaking: The ClearFlour Way
Lifelong Learning, 808 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-9852). www.bu.edu/lifelong. May 4, 10 am-5 pm. $300 (includes lunch). **Abe Faber** and **Christy Timon**, bakers and owners of ClearFlour Bakery, teach artisanal breadmaking. Participants take home the fresh-baked loaves.

Cheese and Wine Tutorials
Icarus, 3 Appleton St., Boston (617-236-5200). www.icarusrestaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington or Orange Line to Back Bay. May 10, 6:30 pm. $30. South End Formaggio cheesemonger **Tim Bucciarelli** and Classic Wine Imports host a tutorial featuring a flight of three cheeses, paired with regional Italian wines.

Edible Art
Shreve, Crump & Low, 330 Boylston St., Boston (617-267-8862). www.aiboston.edu/edibleart. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6 pm. $150. Some of Boston's leading chefs present edible interpretations of famous works of art, coupled with a silent auction of original artwork. Proceeds benefit the Art Institute of Boston's student scholarship program.

Eight Minute Wine Pairing
Meritage Restaurant, Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-3995). www.meritagetherestaurant.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Every Tuesday in May, 5:30-6:30 pm. $35. Meritage sommelier **Jamie Moore** pairs a wine with a tasting from chef **Daniel Bruce** every eight minutes, for both singles and couples.

Fashion and French Food
Brasserie Jo, Colonnade Hotel, 120 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-425-3240). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. May 7, 12-1:30 pm. Have an authentic French lunch while viewing fashions from Maria of Italy.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. $25 (includes light food). May 8, 3 pm. Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** gives a demonstration on mixing martinis.

French Cooking and Wine Tasting
The French Library and Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. May 10, 6:30-8:30 pm. $70 ($55 for members). Craigie Street Bistrot chef and owner **Tony Maws** shares *bouchon* cooking secrets and wine expertise.

Next Generation of Boston Chefs
Beacon Hill Bistro, 25 Charles St., Boston (617-723-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. May 3, 7 pm. $125. Executive Chef **Benjamin Knack** hosts a 10-course tasting dinner featuring the next class of top Boston chefs.

Taste of Allston Village
Double Tree Guest Suites, 400 Soldiers Field Rd., Allston (617-254-7564). www.allstonvillage.com/events. May 4, 6-8 pm. $25-$30. This IMPROPER-sponsored annual benefit features samples from many of Allston Village's award-winning restaurants.

Taste of the Nation
Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston (617-267-1187). www.strength.org/taste/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. April 29, 6:30-9 pm. $75-$85, VIP $125. This fund-raiser for antipoverty organizations includes food and wine tastings from Boston's top chefs, live music and a silent auction.

Taste of the North End
New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, (617-367-5915). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 7:30-11:30 pm. $65-$75. NECN's **Billy Costa** hosts this fund-raiser for Casa Monte Cassino, featuring tastings from 31 popular North End restaurants and 11 wine distributors.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 pm and 8 pm. $25. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines while chef **Ian Just** pairs them with hors d'oeuvres and offers a brief cooking demonstration. •May 4: Que Syrah Shiraz! •May 11: Red Zinfandel.

Un Delile de Mode Au Rose
Sandrine's Bistro, 8 Holyoke St., Cambridge (617-497-5300). www.sandrines.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. April 29, 5:30, 8 pm; May 1, 1 pm. $40-$60. Enjoy food from French Master Chef **Raymond Ost** while previewing local spring fashions.

Worldly Sauvignon Blanc
Millennium Bostonian Hotel, 26 North St., Boston (617-859-7170). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. May 4, 7-9 pm. $35. Wine educator **Dellie Rex** hosts this tasting and discussion, including a dessert-style wine flight, paired with sweets. Presented by Wine Experiences.


A Taste of Allston Village is May 4 at Double Tree Guest Suites.

DISH

This Could Be His Year

Fournier leads off new lineup… Steve Johnson as free agent…

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

Jeffrey P. Fournier is ready for his close-up.

"I've been the small name behind he big people for a long time," says 'ournier, who spent most of the past even years working for **Lydia Shire** t **Pignoli**, **Biba**, **Locke-Ober** and ıost recently at **Excelsior**, where he ⁄as sous chef before being tapped as he new executive chef at **Sophia's**.

Sophia's? The dance club near Fen-⁄ay Park? "That's a Latin club that's alling apart," says Fournier of his first ıpression of his new venue, just five ıonths ago. Not anymore. Fournier ıas overseen a major makeover. He ainted the downstairs dining room ımself, choosing a vivid palette of eds, yellows, oranges—"Latin colors," e says. He furnished it with new hairs, custom-designed wine racks and n elegant chef's table for 10 whose ark wood contrasts dramatically with right yellow chairs and orange charg-rs. Then the multitalented Fournier, a ainter in the artistic sense of the word, ung his own paintings on the walls.



New executive chef Jeffrey Fournier has re-vamped the menu and decor at Sophia's.

Most important, he's created a seasonal ıenu of small plates ("*not* tapas," he in-ists) mostly inspired by Central and South ımerican cuisiness and crafted with rench technique.

"When people come in, they're blown way," he says proudly. Fournier's three-art menu begins with a list of homemade ıfused liquors paired with tiny tastes: dark piced rum with sugar cane–skewered ırimp, or chamomile liqueur with truffled gg and herb crostini, for example. Next re "mini-plates," all priced at $5 or less, uch as crispy chorizo with roasted garlic uree and *arepas con queso* with mango utter. Finally, the "small plates," which ournier describes as one-third the size of a ypical main course, include selections uch as tuna ceviche with taro root chips nd spiced salt, and pan-seared snapper ⁄ith Peruvian skordalia and scallion vinai-rette. The most expensive item—charred kirt steak served with "all-night roasted ɔmatoes," pickled egg and saffron rice—is ıst $13. That's about what you'd spend for Fenway Frank and a beer right around he corner.

SECOND COURSE

Congratulations to the four Boston-area ecipients of the **2005 DiRoNA** awards: **Lumiere**, in West Newton, and the **Federalist**, **No. 9 Park**, and **Radius**, all downtown. The prestigious honor is bestowed only after a restaurant passes an anonymous, independent 75-point inspection that reviews the totality of the dining experience, from arranging a reservation to receiving the check. DiRoNA stands for Distinguished Restaurants of North America, and is not to be confused with *dirona*, which is a genus of sea slug.

What's **Steve Johnson** been up to since he left the **Blue Room** and embarked on a search for a new restaurant space in Cambridge? "Still looking, and boy have I been looking!" he says. "I am one of the most educated restaurant real estate people out there these days." Johnson is also enjoying what he calls "semi-retirement," but he'll be back in the kitchen come Memorial Day weekend. "This summer, since I don't have anything really cooking for a restaurant yet, I will be running what they call the **Way Back Eddy**—the eat-in or take-out chicken and ribs joint across from the **Back Eddy**," says Johnson. "Basically, it's a well-contrived excuse for me to spend another summer on the river down in Westport, heh heh." IB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to dish@improper.com.

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WINE

Washington Stars

BY SANDY BLOCK MW



You look at a map and wonder, How can they make wine all the way up there? And doesn't it always rain in Washington state anyway? Well, not exactly. In fact, the first time I went to the Pacific Northwest wine country I was bowled over by how hot, sunny and desertlike Washington's weather was in the summer. The vineyards rest between two mountain ranges that effectively block out passage of low-lying rain clouds and ocean breezes for much of the year. In fact, even though the weather in Seattle's always overcast, the eastern side of the Cascade Mountains is so dry that the vines actually have to be irrigated for the grapes to ripen.

Although the state produces more fine wine than any other outside of California, we don't hear a lot about Washington. Being second is fine, but when number one is literally 10 times larger, it's not much of a distinction. Yet, unlike California, with its vast oceans of blended jug wine, Washington makes only so-called premium varietal wines. Even though it's very hot during the daytime and the sun stays out an average of two hours longer per day than in California's key growing regions, eastern Washington's nighttime temperatures can plunge 40 degrees, preserving freshness and balance in the flavors of the most highly regarded grape varieties. So the wines that result taste ripe and juicy, but they're also understated. The style is closer to classical European than California. And, best of all, prices tend to be moderate.

The industry is very young, having only gotten launched in any significant sense in the early 1980s. In fact, despite still being smaller in aggregate than Napa Valley, Washington's vineyard acreage has nearly tripled in the past 10 years and keeps growing. The number of wineries has tripled in the last seven years. Most are tiny, and a great majority of the grape growers who supply them also farm other agricultural crops, like mint, hops, apples, onions and potatoes. This is a totally different scene than northern California; there's a sincere spirit of cooperation among the producers in helping to promote each other's wines that's as surprising as it is refreshing.

Whereas initially Washington state produced a preponderance of white grapes, particularly cool-climate varietals like riesling and chardonnay, today red grapes account for almost 60 percent. And if one grape has waved the banner for Washington's reputation internationally, it's merlot. But most of what you'll taste is not light, sweet or candy-like. Washington merlots tend to be darker, more intensely spicy, sharper in flavor and somewhat "dustier" than average.

Cabernet sauvignon is close to merlot in total production and tends to be somewhat more understated in flavor than comparable wines from California. But the newest star has been syrah, a virtual nonentity 10 years ago; new vineyard acreage has been growing at the fastest rate of any grape in the state. Washington syrah is not Australian in inspiration or style; most of the producers are following the French model, with earthier, somewhat vegetal flavor accents to the omnipresent raspberry notes the norm.

Chardonnay, it's no surprise, is the dominant white grape, and in Washington it tends to be more delicate, with crisper, leaner fruit flavors, than elsewhere. Many of the wines you'll taste are minimally oaky, if at all. Riesling acreage has been declining to the point where there is now a shortage, and demand is very strong as there has been something of a riesling renaissance going on nationally. Washington's predominant riesling style seems to have settled in as sweet and fruity, in the Germanic mode, rather than bone dry, as in Alsace. As the Germans have recently begun to produce more and more dry riesling, and consumers who once looked to the Mosel and Rhine as their primary sources for sweeter white wine are sometimes disappointed, Washington riesling has become one of the primary options. Northwest rieslings tend to be fuller in body and have less acidity, with riper, more developed, almost tropical fruit flavors; they have also generally been bargain priced. For fans of dessert wine, Washington doesn't tend to get much noble rot (the mold that gives grapes dessert-wine sweetness). But there are ice wines, rich, luscious and generally a quarter the price you'd pay for a German variety.

Finally, Gewurztraminer, another classic Germanic grape, is also among the more popular choices, and again, as with Riesling, the wines tend to be sweeter rather than bone dry. It produces a florally scented, spicy wine that has attained classic status paired with many Asian cuisines. IB

One of only 18 Americans certified as a master of wine, Sandy Block is assistant vice president of wine for Horizon Beverage.

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agenda

IMPROPER PICKS

april 28 - may 11

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			28	29	30	1
				New Yorker writer **Susan Orlean** reads at WordsWorth Books. *See Books & Poetry on page 82.*	The Lyric Stage Company opens its production of **Noises Off**. *See Performing Arts on page 50.* 	Controversial director **John Waters** performs his one-man show at the Coolidge Corner Theatre. *See Movies on page 56.*
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Last chance to view clothes from the Qing Dynasty. The MFA's **Draped in Dragons** exhibition closes. *See Museums & Galleries on page 78.*		Sample dishes from Allston restaurants at **A Taste of Allston Village**, at the Double Tree Guest Suites. *See Tastings on page 40.*		**Niall Ferguson** reads from his book *Colossus: The Price of America's Empire*, at the Harvard Book Store. *See Books & Poetry on page 82.*	Pop singer **Nelly Furtado** gives a concert at the Somerville Theatre. *See Music on page 64.* 	Comedian **Lewis Black** brings his stand-up routine to the Berklee Performance Center. *See Performing Arts on page 52.*
9	10	11				
View art influenced by Venice's Palazzo Barbaro at the Gardner Museum's **Gondola Days** exhibition. *See Museums & Galleries on page 78.* 						



Kendrick Oliver performs at Beyond Shelter

WED./APRIL 28

CityScope: Beyond Lansdowne

When we think of Avalon, we think of flashing lights, rock shows, drag queens and, mainly, young clubbers waving stamped hands in time to the pulsating music. While that's what you'll typically find Thursday though Sunday nights at the Lansdowne Street hot spot, the atmosphere will be decidedly more decorous for the 17th annual Beyond Shelter event, April 28. That night, Avalon trades in its edgy M.O. for a night of dignitaries, celebrities, gourmet food and, if you can believe it, big-band jazz, at the IMPROPER-sponsored benefit for Friends of Boston's Homeless. Kendrick Oliver & the New Life Jazz Orchestra provide the tunes, 25 local restaurants including Hamersley's Bistro, Icarus, Jasper White's Summer Shack and Le Soir provide the eats, and cool prizes like a trip to NYC and a stay at the Four Seasons Hotel Boston are up for grabs in a raffle. Not a bad way to spend $50. *6-11 pm. $50. 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-534-2526 ext. 383). www.fobh.org.*

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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TUE./MAY 4

CityScope: The Art of Chocolate

Imagine an art gallery opening, but instead of walking around looking at paintings and photographs, you look at chocolate—and eat it too. Local chocoholic Dana Zemack, chocolate maker and host of Cambridge Community Television's cooking program, *The Tasty Show*, is throwing a combination tasting party and chocolate sculpture show at Inman Square's Zeitgeist Gallery. For the party, Zemack is calling on her experience teaching classes in "chocolate crafting" and chocolate tasting at the Cambridge Center for Adult Education. As you stroll through the gallery, you can sample truffles, chocolate candies and chocolate-dipped fruit made by Zemack and admire the chocolate-work. You'll find old favorites—white chocolate raspberry, dark chocolate Grand Marnier—and some new flavor combos. Zemack says she's considering Baileys, root beer, pear liqueur and champagne as truffle flavors. "I'm also experimenting with interesting spices—pink peppercorn, fleur de sel, cardamom—so that people will have something a little out of the ordinary to taste," she says. *Zeitgeist Gallery, 1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060). 7-9 pm. www.thetastyshow.com. $10 suggested donation.*





THU./APRIL 29

Tastings: Art Thou Hungry?

If you've passed within a three block radius of Shreve, Crump & Low in the past few weeks, you've probably noticed the loud, orange and green sign that reads "Edible Art 2004" hanging from the jewelry titan's slick exterior. For Arlington and Boylston Street regulars, the sign may have triggered flashbacks of similar banners announcing "Edible Art 2003 [2002, 2001, etc]." Now in its 11th year, the evening of edible interpretations of famous art works, which benefits the Art Institute of Boston's student scholarship programs, has become a springtime tradition. Chefs from 29 Newbury, Azure, Bonfire, Jer-Ne, Mistral, Radius and more take their culinary creativity to another level and whip up tasty renditions of fine art that are actually served to attendees. Last year's event saw a chocolate version of Dali's melting clocks by Meritage pastry chef Lori Prescott. (It must have been at least a little painful for her to see all that hard work gobbled up before her eyes.) In addition to lots of food and drink, there's also a silent auction—items include original works by Art Institute students as well as restaurant gift certificates. *6 pm. $150. 330 Boylston St., Boston (617-267-8862). www.aiboston.edu/edibleart.*



Mr. Lif

SAT./MAY 1

Music: Back on the Map

Some of the best recent moments in Boston hip-hop have come from the stellar duo of Mr. Lif and Akrobatik, who wrap up a six-week tour at the Middle East May 1. Watching these longtime friends and veterans of the Boston hip-hop scene perform together on stage is sort of like watching the Death Star get destroyed over and over and over. Their unique combination of bombast and subtlety makes you wish the set would never end. The duo's long-awaited debut album as the Perceptionists (with producer DJ Fakts One) is sure to be an aural Molotov cocktail if the pair's recent solo endeavors are any indication. Akrobatik's *Balance* (2003) was sharp, urgent and so positive that you felt like a better person just by listening to it. The Def Jux III tour is bound to pack the house, since it features not only Ak, Lif and Fakts One performing as the Perceptionists, but also fellow favorites from the Definitive Jux label C-Rayz Walz, Murs, Hangar 18 and S.A. Smash, as well as newcomer 4th Pyramid. So get there early or be prepared to lie to your friends the next day. *Middle East Downstairs, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). $15. 18+*

SUN./MAY 2

CityScope: May Day



John Higby, aka the Yo-Yo Guy

It's official. Spring has sprung and warm (-ish) weather is here. While the college girls celebrate by parading around in micro-mini skirts, flip flops and skimpy tank tops, Harvard Square gets in the groove with its 21st Annual MayFair. Agoraphobics beware: More than 100,000 people are expected to fill the six block area surrounding the square as it transforms into an international marketplace/street performance arena for the afternoon. Vendors hawk handmade jewelry, antiques and vintage goods at the sidewalk sale, while buskers, including acrobatic comedy duo the Daredevil Chicken Club and John Higby, aka the Yo-Yo Guy, entertain the crowd. Highlights this year include a free concert by Berklee alumni on Brattle Street, Mary Poppins–style sidewalk chalk sketches at the Italian Street Painting Festival and, for those with 10 inches of hair to spare, spring shearing for Locks of Love at the Dare to Be Bare Diego Salon Charity Cut and Buzz-a-Thon. If that's not enough to pique your interest, we hear there are some free food samples too. *12-6 pm. Free. Harvard Square, Cambridge (617-491-3434). www.harvardsquare.com.*


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cityscope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings for festivals, events and benefits by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28

Beyond Shelter Event
Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-534-2526). www.fobh.org. 6-11 pm. $50, $20 after 8 pm for music and dancing only. This party benefits Friends of Boston's Homeless and features sample tastings from 25 restaurants, music from Kendrick Oliver & the New Life Jazz Orchestra, an auction and a raffle. Sponsored by THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN.

Big Apple Circus—Carnevale!
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Columbia Point, Boston (617-931-2787). www.bigapplecircus.org. Through May 9. Tickets start at $13. The Big Apple Circus is in town with its Carnevale-themed show. Performers include Grandma the clown, the Los Aregos acrobatic trio, the Aniskin Troupe trapeze artists and many others.

Boston International Comedy and Movie Festival
Venues throughout the city. www.bostoncomedyfestival.com. Through May 1. This seven-day competition showcases 150 local, national and international performers. A finale gala takes place at the Berklee Performance Center.

THURSDAY, APRIL 29

Antiques Appraisal Day Benefit
Second floor atrium of the State Transportation Building, 10 Park Plaza, Boston (617-973-8200). 12:30-3:30 pm. $10 per item donation. Experienced antiques appraisers evaluate your trash and treasures to raise money for the Transportation Children's Center school.

Edible Art 2004
Shreve, Crump & Low, 330 Boylston St., Boston. www.aiboston.edu. 6 pm. Tickets begin at $150. Support the Art Institute of Boston's scholarship fund at this annual benefit party. The event includes vintage wines, culinary creations inspired by works of art, and a silent auction featuring art, sports packages and more.

Evening of Music Benefit
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-482-4338). www.hosp.org. 8 pm. General seating $25; reserved seating and reception. Pianists Judith Gordon and David Deveau and the Borromeo String Quartet perform works by Shubert, Chopin and Mozart to benefit Hospitality Homes.

Fashion Show Benefit
Sandrine's Bistro, 8 Holyoke St., Cambridge (617-497-5300). 5:30 pm and 8 pm; also May 1 at 1 pm. $60 for Thu. shows; $40 for Sat. show. This fashion show by Teresa's Boutique features a special menu by chef Raymond Ost and a raffle. Proceeds benefit the Susan Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

Lazuli Anniversary Party and Fashion Show
Pravda 116, 116 Boylston St., Boston (617-375-7879). www.lazulijewelry.com. 9 pm. Lazuli Jewelry celebrates its anniversary with a fashion show and complimentary cocktails and appetizers. Attire is mod.

Party for a Plate
Boston Center for the Arts Cyclorama, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-427-5200). www.gbfb.org. $30 in advance, $40 at the door. The Young Alumni Clubs of Greater Boston host this fund-raiser for the Greater Boston Food Bank's hunger-relief efforts. The evening includes music plus food and beverages from Boston restaurants and breweries.

Taste of the Nation
Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston. www.strength.org. $75 in advance, $80 at the door, $125 VIP. Boston's top chefs and restaurants offer menu samplings along with wine, a silent auction and live music from Babaloo to raise money to fight hunger.

UNICEF Awards Gala
Fairmont Copley Plaza, Boston (617-277-3334, ext. 32). www.unicefusa.org. 7-10 pm. $175. Stephen Stills of Crosby, Stills and Nash is honored at this awards dinner. The evening includes a dinner reception, an auction, an award presentation and musical performances by Stills and the James Montgomery Band.


The Walk for Hunger takes to the streets to raise money for Project Bread May 2.

FRIDAY, APRIL 30

Campbell Hockey Tournament
Quincy Youth Arena, 60 Murphy Memorial Drive, Quincy (617-632-4090). Through May 1. $10. Local ex-collegiate and junior hockey players and the Boston Firefighters team face off in this tournament to raise money for leukemia research and patient care.

Leukemia and Lymphoma Society Benefit
McGann's, 197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059) 8 pm. $10. This fund-raiser for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society features live music from Didn't Planet and a raffle.

SATURDAY, MAY 1

American Cancer Society Gala
The Castle at Park Plaza, Boston (508-652-4333) 5:30 pm. Celebrate the Kentucky Derby at this fund-raiser for the American Cancer Society. The event features a cocktail reception, hors d'oeuvres, on-site gaming, dinner, dancing and a live auction. Dress for men is blazers and khakis; women wear cocktail dresses and festive hats.

Bonham & Butterfields Collectors Motorcars and Estate Auction
Larz Anderson Auto Museum, Brookline (617-522-6547). www.bonhams.com/us, www.mot.org. Sales open at 10 am May 1-2. The first day of this auction features collector cars and motorcycles, including a 1949 Maserati valued at more than $500,000, a 1913 Mercer Model 35 Roadster Runabout expected to bring at least $380,000, and classic Harley Davidsons. The second day includes of furniture, sculpture, jewelry and paintings from the Hermann estate of Falmouth

Design Home 2004
Cranberry Cove, 9 Wescott Drive, Hopkinton (617-437-8538) www.design-home.com. Through May 28. $25. Tours of this state-of-the-art model home raise money for the Home for Little Wanderers.

Kaiju Big Battel
Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-931-2000) www.kaiju.com. 6 pm. $18.25. Kaiju Big Battel's mixture of music and costumed monsters battling in cardboard cityscapes returns for its first Boston performance in a year and a half.

Nameless Coffeehouse Benefit
The Nameless Coffeehouse, 3 Church St., Harvard Square, Cambridge. www.namelesscoffeehouse.org. 8 pm. $10. Geoff Bartley, Michael Troy, Erik Balkey and Labrys perform to raise money for this nonprofit coffeehouse.

NESurf.com Fund-Raiser
The Rack, 24 Clinton St., Boston (617-852-2582). www.nesurf.com. 12-5 pm. Support Nesurf.com's free Web site devoted to New England surfing at this party, which includes appetizers, raffles and giveaways.

SUNDAY, MAY 2

MayFair in Harvard Square
Harvard Square, Cambridge (617-491-3434) www.harvardsquare.com. 12-6 pm (rain date: May 9). Free. This annual festival features six main performance areas, more than 300 artisans and merchants, international cuisine and more.

Project Bread Walk for Hunger
Walk begins and ends at Boston Common. www.projectbread.org. Start between 7-9 am. This 20-mile pledge walk raises money for Project Bread's hunger-fighting efforts.

MONDAY, MAY 3

Boston Bakes for Breast Cancer
Participating restaurants around the city. www.bostonbakesforbreastcancer.org. Through May 9. Visit Web site for a complete list of restaurants that are donating proceeds from special desserts to the Eva Brownman Breast Cancer Fund during this citywide event.

Mother's Day Cut-A-Thon
100 salons across the state (508-778-1942) www.mbcc.org. 9 am-4 pm. $10. Get a haircut for $10 at participating salons, with proceeds benefiting the Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition and environmental research at the Silent Spring Institute.

St. James Open Golf Tournament
Marlborough Country Club, 200 Concord Road, Marlborough (617-923-8860) www.sthagop.com. Shotgun start at 10 am. $175, $210 with dinner. This benefit golf tournament for the St. James Armenian Apostolic Church features a scramble format, continental breakfast, lunch, postgame cocktails, a raffle, a silent auction and a dinner banquet.

TUESDAY, MAY 4

A Taste of Allston Village
Double Tree Guest Suites, 400 Soldier's Field Road, Allston (617-254-7564). www.allstonvillage.com. 6-8 pm. $25 in advance, $30 at the door. Allston restaurants including Captain Fishbone's, Big City, Seoul Bakery and more offer tastings from their menus. All proceeds benefit Allston Village Main Streets. Sponsored by THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN.

"The Tasty Show" Chocolate-Tasting Party
Zeitgeist Gallery, 1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060). www.thetastyshow.com. 7-9 pm. $10 suggested donation. Sample fresh, homemade chocolate confections, view chocolate art and learn about chocolate at this sweet party.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5

Cinco at Sophia's
Sophia's, 1270 Boylston St., Boston. www.bostonypa.com. 6-10 pm. $40. Celebrate Cinco de Mayo while raising money for the Rogerson Communities Elder Assistance Fund. The party includes tapas, two Jose Cuervo cocktails and professional salsa dance lessons.


This 1949 Maserati goes on the block at the Larz Anderson Auto Museum May 1.

THURSDAY, MAY 6

Avon Walk for Breast Cancer Fund-Raiser
The Rack, 24 Clinton St., Boston (617-591-1400 www.bostonypa.com. 6 pm. $20. The Boston Young Professionals Association hosts this fund-raiser for the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer. The party includes appetizers, free pool and a cash bar.

An Evening with Marianne Williamson
Arlington Street Church, 351 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-3036, ext. 29) www.pathwaysboston.org. pm reception, 7 pm program. $100 VIP, $40 general admission. Marianne Williamson hosts a lecture and book-signing to benefit Pathways to Wellness, holistic medical clinic for terminally ill people. VIP tickets include a wine and cheese reception.

Exceptional Women Awards
Westin Copley Place Hotel, Boston (617-822-6534 12-2 pm. $100. Grammy Award winner Gloria Estefan, long-distance swimmer Lynne Cox and other notable women are honored at this annual awards lunch. Proceeds benefit women's cancer programs in the Boston area.

Filene's Mother's Day Glam Jam
Filene's, 426 Washington St., Boston. www.elliefund.org. 8 am-9 pm. $5. Ticket sales from this event benefit the Ellie Fund and other participating charities. Ticket holders receive 25 percent off apparel, shoes, jewelry and accessories.

Harpoon Brewery Tour and Tasting Benefit
Harpoon Brewery, 306 Northern Ave., Boston (617-482-4338). www.hosp.org. 6-8 pm. $18. This benefit for Hospitality Homes features hors d'oeuvres, unlimited Harpoon samplings and door prizes.

FRIDAY, MAY 7

Educating the Senses: An Immersion into Wine, Food, Art and Fashion
Gamble Mansion, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-26 4430, ext. 723). www.bcae.org. 6-9:30 pm. $15 This gala benefit for the Boston Center for Adu Education features a three-course dinner paired wi wine, live music, a live auction and modeling of d signer fashions.

A Taste of the North End
New England Aquarium, Boston (617-367-5915 7:30-11:30 pm. $65 in advance, $75 at the door. Mo than 30 North End restaurants offer food sample and 11 wine and beer vendors provide beverages this benefit for Casa Monte Casino, a facility th offers hospitality to international families with ch dren in Boston hospitals.

SATURDAY, MAY 8

Horizons for Homeless Children Spring Gala
The Seaport Hotel, Boston (617-287-1900, ext. 125 www.horizonsforhomelesschildren.org. 6 pm-12 a Black tie. Horizons for Homeless Children celebrat its 15th anniversary with dinner, dancing, silent a live auctions, raffles and more.

Mother's Day Portrait Extravaganza
Six portrait studios in the Boston area (617-975-060 www.prcboston.org. Through May 9. $95 per sessio $145 for groups of four or more. More than 40 lo portrait photographers volunteer their time at t annual fund-raiser for the nonprofit Photograph Resource Center at Boston University.

Tag Sale
Cambridge Friends Center, 5 Longfellow Park, Ca bridge (617-876-5312). 9:30 am-2 pm. This tag s raises money for the American Friends Servi Committee's Material Assistance Program.

When Seconds Count Gala
World Trade Center, Boston (617-243-6528). 6 p This gala benefits the Newton-Wellesley Hospit $30 million emergency-department expansion.

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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater

JUST OPENED

Antigone
McCormack Theater, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston (617-287-5640). www.umb.edu. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. May 6-8, 8 pm. $7-$10. French playwright Jean Anouilh's 1944 update of Sophocles' tragedy is a commentary on Nazi Germany and France's World War II Vichy regime.

Cosi Fan Tutte
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.blo.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. April 28-May 11. Tue., Wed., Fri., 7:30 pm; Sun. 3 pm. $33-$152. In Mozart's opera, two young Italian army officers take part in a wager to see just how faithful their soon-to-be brides will be in the face of adversity.

Elegies: A Song Cycle
BCA Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-4787). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. May 7-29. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 pm and 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $25-$35. The SpeakEasy Stage Company presents this play by composer William Finn, in which he honors departed friends and family.

Homo Erectus
Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (617-442-4691). MBTA: May 2-30. Sun. 2:30 pm. $5-$10. Local actors Mike Nurse and Francine Davis play a couple in the world's first "Viagra comedy," written and directed by John O'Brien.

Kimberly Akimbo
Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-939-9939) www.bostontheatreworks.com. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant Street. April 30-May 16. Mon., 7 pm; Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $20-$25. Boston Theatre Works presents this story about a teenage girl with a rare physical condition who must re-evaluate her life with a hypochondriac mother, an alcoholic father and a swindling aunt after the family is forced to flee its New Jersey hometown under questionable circumstances Written by South Boston's David Lindsay Abaire. Directed by Jason Southerland.

Kiss Me, Kate
North Shore Musical Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Beverly (978-232-7800). www.nsmt.org. April 27-May 16. Tue.-Sat., 8 pm (except May 4 at 7 pm; Wed., Sat., Sun., 2 pm; $30-$60. This musical comedy, based on Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew*, is a play within a play that follows four actors as they deal with their complicated off-stage lives. Alan Coats directs.

Lizzie Borden: The Musical
Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). www.stonehamtheatre.org. May 6-30. $16-$32. Veteran Broadway actress Jayne Patterson plays the lead role in this musical's Massachusetts debut. The story is a retelling of the unsolved mystery of the alleged ax-murderer. Directed by Bill Castellino.


Joan Rivers brings her one-woman show to the Wilbur Theatre April 29–May 1.

Luisa Miller
Cutler Majestic Theater, 219 Tremont St., Boston (800-233-3123). www.maj.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. April 30-May 2. Fri., 7:30 pm; Sun. 2 pm. $24-$85. Verdi's opera tells the story of a young peasant woman and her wealthy lover who will stop at nothing to be together.

Noises Off
Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. April 30-June 5. Wed., 2 and 7:30 pm; Thu. 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $20-$38. Tony Award winner Michael Frayn's play follows the cast of a play, *Nothing On*, and their on- and off-stage antics.

Ordo Virtutem
Forsyth Chapel, Forest Hills Cemetery, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-524-0128). www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. May 2, 5 pm. $12. Hildegard von Bingen's operatic play portrays 16 virtues trying to save a tormented soul from the temptation of the devil.

The Savior of Fenway
Cambridge Family YMCA Theater, 820 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-9622). www.thesavioroffenway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. May 5-30. Tue.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2 pm. $25 ($5 off at door with Fenway Park ticket stub or student ID). Boston native Brendon Bates wrote and acts in this story that chronicles the loyalties and brotherhood of Red Sox fans in a Quincy sports bar following Games 6 and 7 of the 2003 American League Championship Series. Directed by Michael Laibson.

Scapin
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands (617-332-1646). www.newrep.org. MBTA: Riverside D Green Line to Newton Highlands. April 28-May 30. Wed., 2 and 7 pm; Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $27-$45. Moliere's satire tells the story of two young men and two young women who put too much trust in a crafty, quick-witted servant. Boston's John Kuntz plays the lead role

What Time Is It?
The Theatre Cooperative,277 Broadway St., Somerville (617-625-1300). www.theatrecoop.org. May 7-29. Fri. and Sat. 8 pm. $10-$20. In Vladimir Zelevinsky's play, a disgruntled young man fed up with his job as an assistant timekeeper devises a plan involving the large clock in the center of town that could turn his dull life completely upside-down.

NOW RUNNING

Big Apple Circus—Carnevale!
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.bigapplecircus.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Through May 9. Sat-Sun, 12:30 pm and 4:30 pm. $13.-$52. The Big Apple Circus features acrobatics by Los Aregos, juggling by Andrey Markov, Arabian horse stunts and a variety of trapeze and high wire acts.

Black Power
Leland Center, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.theatermania.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 and 7 pm. Through May 9. $20-$25. The black theater company Up You Mighty Race teams up with the New African Repertory Company in a performance of six one-act plays from the 1960s.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787).www.blueman.com/ticketinfo/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 and 10 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. Ongoing. $46-$56. This newly revamped, dialogue-free production features tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Burn This
Devanaughn Theatre, 791 Tremont St., Boston (617-247-9777). www.devtheatre.org. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Through May 9. $15-$19. Lanford Wilson's play tells the story of Anna, an up-and-coming dancer/choreographer who struggles to move on after the death of her dance partner..

Curse of the Starving Class
Chelsea Theatre Works, 189 Winnisimmet St., Chelsea (617-887-2336). www.theatrezone.org. MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm. Through May 8. $15. A dysfunctional family searches for meaning in life, in this dark comedy by Obie Award winner Sam Shepard.

Encore!!
John Hancock Hall, 180 Berkeley St., Boston (617-542--9155). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. April 30, 10:30 am. $13.25 (reservations required). T Chamber Repertory Theatre presents original p trayals of famous short stories. Highlighted auth include Edgar Allen Poe, Mark Twain, Guy de Ma passant, W.W. Jacobs and Washington Irving.

Flanagan's Wake
Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theatre, 255 Elm S Somerville (617-591-1616). Through May 2. Fri. a Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $13.75-$27.50. This i prov-based, audience-interactive performance is in a fictional village in Ireland where the cast c ates entertaining stories stemming from audien suggestions.

Menopause—The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (80 447-7400). Through May 9. Tue.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat. pm; Sun., 2 pm. $42.50. Jeanie Linders' parody, to the music of the 1960s and 1970s, explores t lives of four women in their 40s and offers a hum ous take on the physical and mental changes they facing.

The MOMologues
Stuart St. Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-4 7400). www.showofthemonth.com. Through May Tue., 7 pm; Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun. pm. $38. Scituate's Lisa Rafferty, along with t other Boston-area moms, conceived this show, wh takes a humorous look at four women as they d with the various stages of motherhood.

Nine
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (6 244-0169). www.turtle-lane.com. Through May Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $15-$22. Arthur Ko and Maury Yeston based their play on Federi Fellini's 1963 movie in which a film director on t verge of a nervous breakdown struggles to write direct a new movie.

9-Ball
Tremont Theatre, 276 Tremont St., Boston (866-8 4111). www.theatremania.com. MBTA: Green L to Boylston. Through May 22. Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri. pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $22-$25. Devine's play is based on a real-life identity swap t occurred in Lynn, Mass., during the Vietnam War.

Rounding Third
Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 E. Merrimack S Lowell (978-454-3926). www.merrimackrep.o Through May 16. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 8:30 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. Richard Dress comedy tells the story of two Little League baseb coaches who must learn to get along in order to the game.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (6 426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBT Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. Ongoing. $30-$ This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair sa holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs
Wheelock Family Theatre, 180 The Riverw Boston (617-879-2300). www.wheelock.edu/ Through May 2. Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat. and Sun., 3 $12-$18. The Wheelock Family Theatre's prod tion of this classic fairy tale is based on the or nal Grimm Brothers story of a jealous queen, beautiful rival and the seven dwarfs and the ha some prince who come to the rescue.

Soapbox Derby
Industrial Theatre, 80 Plympton St., Cambridge (6 257-7480). www.industrialtheatre.org. MBTA: Line to Harvard. Through May 1. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm. $15. The Industrial Theatre's festival of new wo features five plays about the art of public speaking.

Starlight Express
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-4 7400). www.telecharge.com. MBTA: Green Lin Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Cen Through May 2. Tue. and Thu., 8 pm; Wed. Sun., 7 pm. $23-$73. This production of And Lloyd Webber's feel-good musical features creative team from the original London producti

UNIVERSITY THEATER

Anything Goes
Robsham Theater, Boston College, 140 Comm A Chestnut Hill (617-552-4002). http://www.bc. offices/robsham/schedule. April 28-May 2. $8-$ Cole Porter's light-hearted musical includes songs *It's Delovely*, *Friendship* and *I Get a Kick of You*.

Cloud 9
*Boston University Theatre, Studio 210, 264 Hunt ton Ave., Boston (617-266-0800) www.huntin theatre.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 28-May 1. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; 2 and 8 pm. $5-$10.*Caryl Churchill's play, writ in 1979, is a comedic look at the relationship tween British colonialism and sexual repression.



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Fiancés disguise themselves and drive their faithful ladies to distraction – what are two healthy, Neapolitan girls to do?

April 28, 30,
May 2m, 4, 7, 9m, 11, 2004

Sung in Italian with English translation.

Evening performances at 7:30pm
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Tickets: $33-$152. www.telecharge.com,
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Crazy for You
Agassiz Theatre, 10 Garden St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). April 29-May 8. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm (except Fri., May 7, 1 pm only). $7-$30 Harvard Stage and Galper & Rubins Productions present this musical about a man who, after years of struggling to find himself, realizes his dreams through theater.

First Stages
Boston Playwright's Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-358-7529). www.bu.edu/bpt. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant Street. Through May 11. Mon. and Tue., 7:30 pm. Donations only. Graduating playwrights from Boston University present their original works.

A New Brain
Kresge Little Theater, MIT, 48 Mass. Ave. Cambridge (617-253-6294) http://web.mit.edu/mtg/www. April 29-May 1, 8 pm. $6-$10. Inspired by a second chance at life, composer William Finn created this play after being misdiagnosed with cancer.

Playwrights in Performance
Kresge Rehearsal Room B, MIT, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4720). http://web.mit.edu/mtg/www. May 6-9, 8 pm. $6-$8. Associate provost for the arts Alan Brody directs three student-written plays.

Romeo and Juliet
Boston University Theatre, Main Stage, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. April 28-May 2. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $5-$10. The College of Fine Arts' production of Shakespeare's classic tragedy features sets and costumes by the school's graduate design students.

CABARET

All the Things You Are: A Jerome Kern Celebration
New England Light Opera (978-232-1115). www.newenglandlightopera.org. April 30-May1. Fri., at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Brookline, 8 pm; Sat., at Congregational Church of Topsfield, 8 pm; Sun., at University Lutheran Church, Harvard Square, 3 pm. $5-$15. This cabaret-style show celebrating one of America's greatest songwriters features such classics as *Old Man River, All the Things You Are* and *Smoke Gets in Your Eyes.*

Dance

Dance on the Top Floor
Robsham Theater, Boston College, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-552-4002). http://www.bc.edu/offices/robsham/schedule. May 8, 8 pm; May 9, 2 pm. $15-$25. The dances in these two performances range from comical to serious and feature the work of choreographers from around the world.

Opus Cactus
Cutler Majestic Theater, 219 Tremont St., Boston (617-876-4275). www.crasharts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. May 6-9. Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $25-$45. CRASHarts presents the company Momix in the Boston premiere of this two-act multimedia show that combines theater, circus and athleticism. Director Moses Pendelton is noted for using the bodies of his performers as props, and props as an extension of the bodies.

Parts of a Whole
Green Street Studios, 185 Green St., Cambridge (617-864-3191). May 7 and 8, 8 pm. $12-$15. Choreographers Audra Carabetta and Julie Pike Edmond premiere six works, including solo pieces, duets and works for groups of four and five dancers.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

STAND-UP CLUBS

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault at Remington's features local stand-up comedians. •Thursdays: Dick Doherty's Comedy Pro Tour •Fridays: the Fun Room, with Corey Manning •Saturdays: Boston's Best Standup •Sundays: open-mike night.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8 pm, $12; Thu., 8:30 pm, $12; Fri., 8 pm, 10:15 pm, Sat., 10:45 pm; Sun., 8 pm. Prices vary. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •April 28, 8 pm: Boston International Comedy and Movie Festival, The Best of Boston Show, $12. •April 29, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist, $12. •April 30, 8 and 10:15 pm: Jeff Dunham, comedian/ventriloquist $24. •May 1, 10:30 pm: Jeff Dunham, $25. •May 2, 7 pm: Jeff Dunham. $17 •May 3, 8 pm: Amateur Showcase, hosted by Kevin Knox, $12. •May 4, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $12 •May 5, 8 pm: Don Gavin and Harrison Stebbins, $12. •May 7, 8 and 10:15 pm: Jeffrey Ross, from MTV's *Bash*, $20. •May 8, 6, 8:15 and 10:30: Jeffrey Ross, $22 •May 11, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $12.

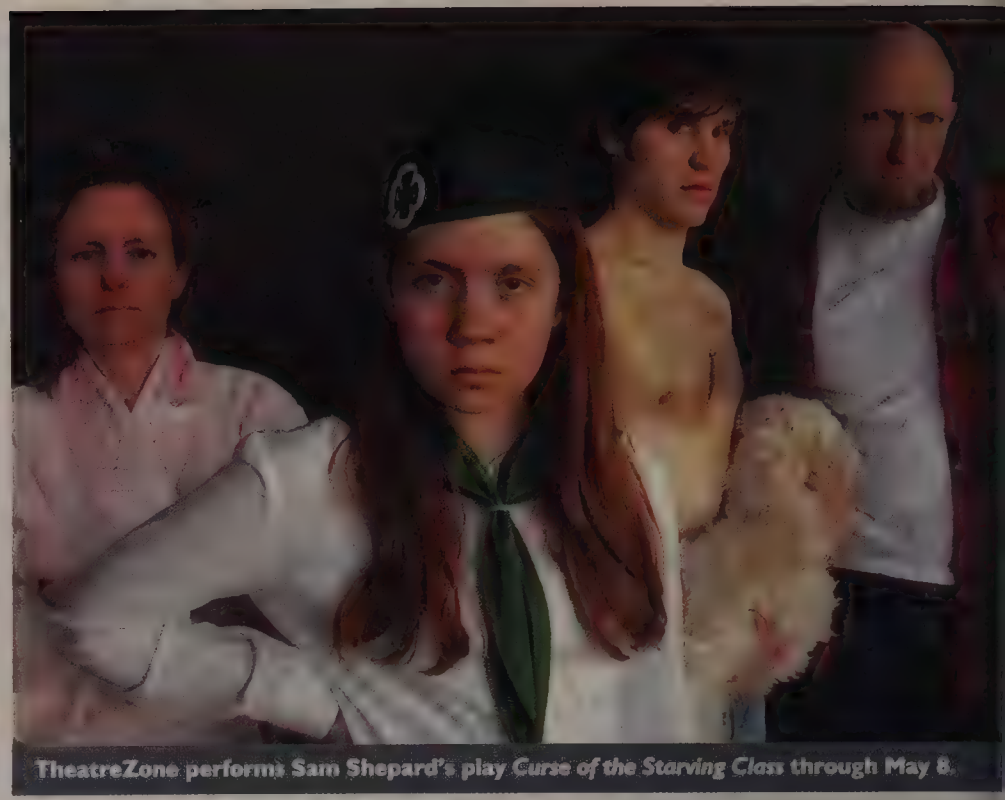
Comedy Studio
Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •April 28: The Tony V Show with Kelly MacFarland, Erik Charles Nielsen, Max Silvestri and more. •April 29: Erik Charles Nielsen, Chris Oake, Joe Wong and sketch comedy. •April 30: Chris Tabb, Mike Herman, Erick Charles Nielsen, EJ Murphy, Chrissy Lavoie and Larry Murphy. •May 1: Alex Foolski, Chris Tabb, Brian Gordon, Derek Gerry and more. •May 2: Sacrificing Virgins, 10 first-time comedians. • May 4: Mystery Lounge. Professional magicians. •May 5: Tony V & Kelly MacFarland, TJ Griffin, Alana Devich, Tom Dustin, and more. •May 6: Alana Devich, Dan Hirshon, Myq Kaplan, TJ Griffin, Abe Smith, Claire McManus, Sue Tracy, Tony Moschetto. •May 7: DJ Hazard, Brian Olson, Alana Devich, Margie Chebotariov and more. •May 8: Alana Devich, JJ, Adam Pearlman, Max Silvestri and more. •May 9: Sam Walters, Alana Devich, MB Cowan, Michael Koran, Alvin David and more. •May 11: Mystery Lounge, sleight of hand, mind reading and disappearing doves.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N. E. Medical Center. $10-$22. •April 30, 9 pm: David Letterman Auditions and Boston Comedy Festival hosted by Tony V. •May 1, 8:30 pm: Women's Comedy Festival

IMPROV COMEDY

Faces for Radio
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.faces4radio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $8. Improv comedians poke fun at everything, including themselves.

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA:Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. •Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 and 10 pm: *Big Dig...End of an Error!*, a revue of improvisational and sketch comedy. •Wed.-Sat., 12 am, $5: *The Midnight Show.* •Wed., 7 pm: *Pasta Wednesdays* provides a pasta dinner to all audience members in the tradition of Prince Spaghetti and the North End.



TheatreZone performs Sam Shepard's play *Curse of the Starving Class* through May 8.

ImprovBoston
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253 www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Centr $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisation comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: t characters, the stories, the settings—even the sor and dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: *The Hump.* Series experimental and improvisational theater. •Thu. pm, $12: *Unnatural Selection.* A master of ce monies randomly eliminates players until only on left. 10 pm, $5: *The Great and Secret Comedy Sho* Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand- and music, play short films and do charac sketches in a display of sibling rivalry •Fri., 8 p $12: *Misunderstood.* Audience suggestions fuel improv rock opera, complete with a live band. pm, $12: *Theatre Sports.* Two teams of improvis face off. •Sat., 6 pm, $12. ($10. for children): *R Puppets, Real Problems.* Puppets improvise their w through an hour-long show based on kids' input and 10 pm, $12: *ImprovBoston Mainstage.* Blend storytelling, music and audience participation, a c of improvisers creates a show that changes w every performance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5: *Sgt. Culpepp Improvisational Jamboree.* This evening combi three shows into one. Watch performances by vi ing and local troupes.

Improv Foundry
327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-3 6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Lin South Station. Thu.-Fri., 8 pm. $12. The group p forms short improvisational comedy using audie suggestions.

COMEDY SHOWS

Boston Comedy Showcase Present
Strand Theatre, 543 Columbia Road., Dorchester (6 282-5230). www.strandtheatreboston.com. April 3 pm. $15-$20. Boston's Patrice O'Neill hosts this nual event that will feature six other talented comi

Jackie Mason
Orpheum Theatre, 1 Hamilton Place, at Tremont Boston (617-679-0810). MBTA: Orange Line to B Bay. www.jackiemason.com. May 1, 8 pm. $45-$ The legendary comedian brings his one-man Bro way show to Boston. No subject is off-limits or risky for Mason, who calls himself an "equal opp tunity offender."

Joan Rivers: Broke and Alone...in Boston
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-931-2787). MB Green or Red Line to Park St. www.broadw boston.com. April 29-May 1. Thu. and Fri., 8 Sat., 7 pm. $42.50-$60. The queen of the one-li performs her one-woman show.

Rules of Engagement
Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Bo (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes C vention Center/ICA. May 8, 7:30 pm. $30-$35. median Lewis Black, from Comedy Central's D *Show*, delivers his one-man act.

Stash's Comedy Jam
All Asia Cafe, 334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. www.s comedyjam.com. First and third Sunday of e month. 8 pm. Enjoy standup comedy at this o mike with host Stash.

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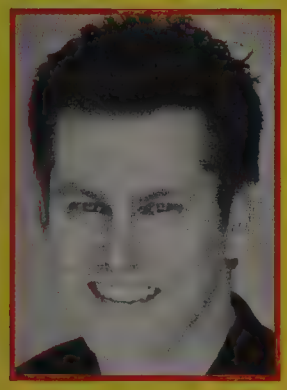
MAY 7-8



JEFFREY ROSS

MAY 14-16

BRIAN REGAN



MAY 16-17

MIKE EPPS



MAY 21-22



ROBERT SCHIMMEL

MAY 28-30

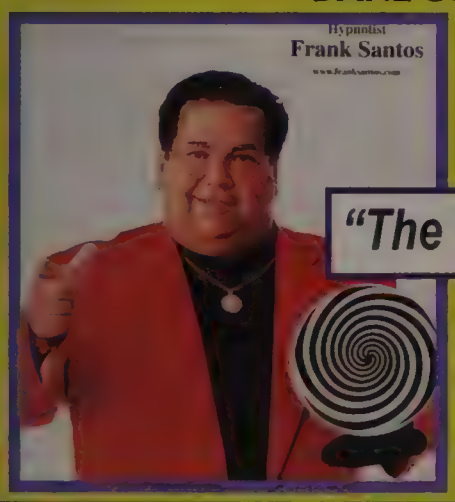


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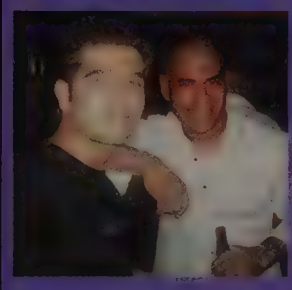
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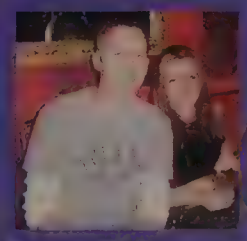












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Deja Vu

Kill Bill Vol. 2 is another derivative disappointment

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Welcome to another episode of Quentin Tarantino's *I Love the '70s!*—er, I mean *Kill Bill Vol. 2*. Uma Thurman's sword-wielding "the Bride" is back for more mayhem, having already polished off two of the paid assassins she used to work with, in *Vol. 1*. Understandably steamed that her fellow hitmen left her and her unborn baby for dead at her El Paso wedding, under the orders of their elusive boss, Bill (David Carradine), the beaten and bloodied Bride is ready to spare no hardship to knock off fellow killers Elle Driver (Daryl Hannah) and Budd (Michael Madsen) and then set her sights on Bill.

In other words, the four-hour-plus (in its entirety) tale is a simple revenge story. As is the case with most movies, there have been plenty of similar tales told onscreen. So it's not necessarily what's getting told as much as *how* it's being told that determines whether all this is worth sitting through or caring about. Unfortunately, though, nearly all Tarantino does—or seems interested in doing—is lift elements from other movies, clumsily paying homage to genre films of decades past and treating violence like a glib joke.



In *Kill Bill Vol. 2*, the Bride (Uma Thurman) continues her pursuit of Bill (David Carradine)

Ultimately, it's just plain pathetic to see Tarantino do this. Imagine a popular band that's releasing its first CD in six years (the time gap between Tarantino's *Jackie Brown* and the first *Kill Bill*), and all they can muster is an album of cover versions of songs others originated. A double album of covers, in this case. That's not a signal of much creativity.

Kill Bill Vol. 2 doesn't start with the same desperate cramming of 1970s references that began *Vol. 1*. But the hope that Tarantino might do away with the pop-culture camouflage and let his characters and his dialogue do the work never becomes reality. There's one sequence that crackles with unforced intensity, when Budd gets systematically chewed out by his boss (Larry Bishop) at the strip club where he's a bouncer. As in *Vol. 1*'s sequence when the Bride visits swordsmith Hattori Hanzo (Sonny Chiba) and convinces him to come out of retirement to make her a sword, it actually feels like two people are interacting. In general, having Madsen around helps *Vol. 2*. The *Reservoir Dogs* vet is the only star here who seems genuinely dangerous and doesn't feel like a mere actor playing bad-ass.

But, not surprisingly, *Vol. 2* is just more of the same stuff found in *Vol. 1*. Tarantino mainly clings to the style of 1960s spaghetti westerns and 1970s kung fu movies this time. Many of the scenes featuring Budd, especially those set around his trailer in the desert, favor the extreme close-ups of Sergio Leone's "Man with No Name" westerns, with the soundtrack even lifting Ennio Morricone's music from one of those movies (when the score isn't merely imitating it). And one of the flashbacks to the relationship between the Bride and Bill, in which he places her under the tutelage of a wise kung fu master (Gordon Liu), is shot to look exactly like a grainy 1970s Hong Kong action picture.

Both the spaghetti western and kung fu homages are mildly amusing (Liu is fun as a cranky mentor), but why does all this feel like the slickest, biggest-budgeted student film ever made? Tarantino was one of the first Americans to show a Hong Kong action influence in his films, but that was a decade ago; it's not special anymore. And Tarantino isn't just trying to do a 1970s goof, like *Starsky & Hutch* or *The Brady Bunch Movie* (for one, his movie isn't nearly as funny as those).

Instead, he's built both *Kill Bill* movies around the complex relationship between their heroine and the title character. But *Vol. 2*, in which we really experience Bill for the first time, does little to convey the bond between Bill and the Bride, save for some unconvincing flashbacks in which she is supposed to be a gangly, giggly, 20-ish girl who for some reason looks up to him. Damned if I know why. The casting of Carradine does not yield the same treasures as Tarantino's other reclamation projects (John Travolta in *Pulp Fiction*, Pam Grier in *Jackie Brown*), and instead of a man the Bride will kill for and fall for, Bill just seems like an old windbag who spins lame philosophical tales.

Since the whole movie—make that two movies—hinges upon the shared emotional history of Bill and the Bride, which turns out to run deeper than even she realizes, that's important stuff. But the failure of Bill as a character is more Tarantino's fault than Carradine's (though I'd like to have seen Paul Newman in the role). Also Tarantino's fault is the jokey level of the violence, which doesn't have the first movie's geysers of blood but does often treat violent fatal blows like ha-ha punchlines. It was truly bold of Tarantino to keep *Jackie Brown* free of any tongue-in-cheek air. Now, tongue-in-cheek glibness is all Tarantino has. That's a lowdown dirty shame. IB

Kill Bill Vol. 2 ★★

Written and directed by Quentin Tarantino. With Uma Thurman, David Carradine, Michael Madsen, Daryl Hannah and Gordon Liu. Rated R. At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Connie and Carla ★★★
Nia Vardalos returns to the big screen with a riff o Billy Wilder's *Some Like It Hot* that you might call M *Big Fat Drag Queen Wig*. Vardalos (who wrote th script) and Toni Collette play Chicago lounge singe who witness a crime boss murdering an underlin The hunted women flee to West Hollywood, whe they end up impersonating drag queens in orden find work in a cabaret. Vardalos and Collette bo have a sunny kookiness that gets the comedy over dependence on stereotypes (there's little varie among the overemotional gay men they meet). A while it may be easy to dismiss the passé "gays are pe ple too" sentiment, following the debate over marriage the sentiment seems pretty timely, after a (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind ★★
The latest mindbender written by Charlie Kau man (*Being John Malkovich*, *Human Nature*, *Ada tation*) is, as always, like an M.C. Escher drawi in which you can't always tell which directi things are headed in, but you put your faith in th hope that Kaufman will still get his characters an interesting place. This time, the story about couple (Jim Carrey, Kate Winslet) who've h their memories wiped of a fizzled relationship b try to rekindle their romantic spark fails to rewa that faith. Kaufman bats around interesting ide about the struggle between science and huma urges, but despite the appealing chemistry b tween the stars, the ride isn't nearly as involvin amusing, layered or cohesive as the metaphysic journeys in *Malkovich* or *Adaptation*. (At Bosto Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Girl Next Door ★★
Emile Hirsch plays the teen Everyboy well, Elis Cuthbert is whistle-worthy and Timothy Olypha shows more life than he ever has before. Still, this a merely decent (and flagrant) *Risky Business* knoc off, with the aforementioned trio in the respecti Tom Cruise, Rebecca DeMornay and Joe Pantolia roles. Hirsch plays a smart senior; the naughty ba he fancies (Cuthbert) is a porn star trying to get o of the business and Olyphant plays her boss, w wants her horizontal on the set again. It's not t easy to connect the knockoff's dots but, to its cred the film remains watchable. (At Boston Commo Fenway and suburbs.)

Good Bye Lenin! ★★½
An East German woman goes into a coma just b fore the Berlin Wall falls, and when she has to le a stress-free life after she comes to, her son goes great lengths to make sure she never learns that h Communist country doesn't exist anymore. Th great premise yields some amusing moments, b also some disappointing ones. Unlike in Bil Wilder's brilliant *One, Two, Three* (which cover similar territory after the wall went up), the come here never quite hits high gear because the sto tempers that comedy with shades of drama. But t characters' family drama never becomes as mem rable as the premise. (At Kendall Square.)

Hellboy ★★
Can't quite see what all the fuss is about over th comic book adaptation. The title character is inde a boy from hell who was found when Allied forc thwarted a Nazi attempt to open the portal to h and unleash demons. It has great visuals and a f lead performance from Ron Perlman, who plays t grown-up "H.B.," who now helps the U.S. gover ment fight off the same sort of paranormal demo whenever they intrude on our world. But the fil comprises a set of very familiar genre elements: a f ther-son relationship (with John Hurt's scientist a surrogate dad), a lovelorn hero (he pines for Seli Blair's firestarter, another demon-fighter for the go ernment) and convenient yet not-too-interesti villains (this time, it's Rasputin and Nazis). A even in a fantasy context, the notion that the Na got power from the occult, and not from huma doing inhuman things, is borderline offensive. (Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Hidalgo ★★★
It's not the most ambitious movie, but this 1890 adventure earns a lot of goodwill for its old-schi desire to please the average moviegoer, and not jus narrow demographic segment. This tale of an Ame can Pony Express rider who enters a prestigious lon distance horse race in the Arabian Peninsula wi his trusty mustang is a small breath of fresh air. W an unassuming and appealing Viggo Mortensen as hero, the movie packs in the Saturday-matinee e otic entertainment of *The Scorpion King*, though doesn't shoot for humor as often. And it convey

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bond between man and horse better than the heavy-handed *Seabiscuit* did. Although based on a true story, the desert adventure should be taken with a big grain of salt, since it turns out hero Frank T. Hopkins may have told a tall tale or two in his day. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Intermission ★★★
Think of it as an Irish version of Scotland's *Trainspotting*. Sex, drugs and rockin' crime are the main sparks to this comedy, which lights on fire when one foolish Dubliner (Cillian Murphy of *28 Days Later*) dumps his dishy girlfriend (Kelly Macdonald of *Trainspotting*) "as a test," and she promptly hooks up with a married man (Michael McElhatton). This dubious act causes a ripple effect that spills into the lives of the married man's wife (Deirdre O'Kane), a surly bus driver (Brian F. O'Byrne), a macho cop dying to be a celebrity (Colm Meaney) and even an out-of-control thief (Colin Farrell). The movie is never as wild again as in its opening scene, so there's a steady petering, but the dark comedy usually connects, and it never totally runs out of momentum. (At Copley Place, Harvard Square and Waltham Embassy.)

Jersey Girl ★★
Ben Affleck turns in a strong performance as a Manhattan publicist whose wife dies in childbirth, and who soon thereafter loses his job for badmouthing a client and ends up back at his dad's home in New Jersey. Affleck and Raquel Castro, as his daughter, have a playful chemistry, and the performances make up for some of the weaknesses in writer-director Kevin Smith's script. But despite oddly appealing touches, (Affleck, Liv Tyler and Castro sing a song from *Sweeney Todd* at the girl's school variety show), the action often defaults to the most generic touches, like including bland Fleetwood Mac or Springsteen songs at "emotional" moments. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Johnson Family Vacation ★★
More power to Cedric the Entertainer, who headlines his first comedy here. But this knockoff of *National Lampoon's Vacation*—this time about a black Los Angeles family struggling to make it to a Missouri family reunion—strains to generate laughs. The only sustained amusement comes in the two stretches when Cedric and his fellow *Original Kings of Comedy* vet Steve Harvey face off as two grown brothers who are still as competitive (and childish) as they were at age 10. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Ladykillers ★★★
The Coen brothers' latest is as much a companion piece to their *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* as it is to the Alec Guinness English comedy it remakes. In transplanting to the Deep South the tale of robbers masquerading as musicians, the Coens have given it some of the down-home feel of *O Brother*, using gospel music here as they did bluegrass in that film. Tom Hanks, who plays more of a character role as a highfalutin' Southern intellectual trying to rob a casino, isn't George Clooney funny here, but the irrepressible Irma P. Hall, as the God-fearing landlady who finds out what the Poe-quoting intellectual is up to, just about makes up for it. (At Loews Boston Common, AMC Fenway and suburbs.)

Mean Girls ★★
With a comic tone pitched somewhere between *Heathers* and *Clueless*, writer and co-star Tina (*Saturday Night Live*) Fey's comedy comes off like a watered-down version of both—not as savage as the first nor as stylized as the second. Perhaps the problem was shoehorning the story to appeal to the preteen audience of star Lindsay Lohan. She plays a 16-year-old who's been living in Africa with her zoologist parents and is now entering a conventional high school for the first time. She gets taken under the wing of the school's popular girls, and soon becomes consumed by the vain, territorial teen princesses' wicked ways. While respectable (and respectful of its audience), Fey's anti-gossip, pro-sisterhood tale is long-winded and not all that funny. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The United States of Leland ★★
A tedious post–*American Beauty* mire of suburban misery, produced by and co-starring that movie's Kevin Spacey. This one is about an oddball teen (Ryan Gosling) who, for no apparent reason, kills the retarded brother of his ex-girlfriend (Jena Malone). Writer-director Matthew Ryan Hoge casts his net wide and offers a boatload of flawed characters—like Spacey in his "smug" mode as the killer's arrogant author dad—but he doesn't come back with much. It's hard to see what the point of it all is, besides getting a numb butt. The movie's mistake-ridden humanity, including Don Cheadle's juvie-hall teacher who is sympathetic toward the teen, simply doesn't coalesce. For what it's worth, most of the actors cast to play teens (Gosling, Chris Klein and Michelle Williams) are noticeably too old for their parts. (Opens April 9 at Harvard Square, Copley Place and Waltham Embassy.)

Walking Tall ★★
The Rock convincingly stands up and fights, but it's not surprising to learn that this "whack first, ask questions later" action movie is totally generic. After all, it remakes the much-sequelized 1973 original, yet changes the hero from the real-life Buford Pusser to the fictional Chris Vaughn, a soldier who returns to his Pacific Northwest hometown to find it overrun with crime. The hero's vigilante streak doesn't make my fist pump in the air, and maybe if the bad guys and the fight scenes had less slickness and more realism, this might have come across better. The Rock may be smart and likable, but his latest isn't. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
Boston Jewish Film Festival
•May 3, 6 pm. **Crossing Delancey** *1988*. The Jewish grandmother of a New York single hires a matchmaker to boost her granddaughter's love life. Joan Micklin Silver directs.
•May 4, 6 pm. **A Time to Dance: The Life and Work of Norma Canner** *1998*. This documentary looks at Norma Canner, a Broadway actress of the 1940s who taught creative movement to mentally challenged children and became a dance therapist. Ian Brownwell and Webb Wilcoxen direct.
•May 10, 6 pm. **Driving Miss Daisy** *1989*. An elderly Jewish woman living in the South develops a friendship with her African-American chauffeur. Bruce Beresford directs.
•May 11, 6 pm. **Thunder in Guyana** *2003*. This documentary directed by Susan Wasserman tells the life story of Janet Rosenberg, an American who married a Guyanese man and contributed to the political reformation of the former British colony

BOSTON UNDERGROUND FILM FESTIVAL
The 6th annual Boston Underground Film Festival screens a variety of experimental features, shorts, animation and documentaries and hosts guest appearances by filmmakers and bands. For a schedule of events, visit *www.bostonundergroundfilmfestival.com* or call 617-975-3361.

BRATTLE THEATRE
Independent Film Festival of Boston
•April 30, 4:30 pm and May 2, 6 pm. **Goodnight, Joseph Parker** *2004*. Nick Chinlund and Paul Sorvino star in this story of a singer who returns to his hometown after seven years away. Dennis Brooks directs. •Also showing April 30, 7 pm. **Sexual Dependency** *2004*. Shot completely in split screen, this film explores the sexuality of five diverse teenagers living in Bolivia and the U.S. Rodrigo Bellot directs.
•May 1, 11:30 pm **Azumi** *2004*. Ryuhei Kitamura directs this story about a young girl who trains to become the world's most lethal assassin. •Also showing May 1, 1:30. **The Baroness and the Pig** *2004*. Patricia Clarkson stars in this film about a baroness who battles snobbery and conservatism while living in Paris. Michael MacKenzie directs.
•May 2, 9 pm. **The Story of the Weeping Camel** *2004*. This story deals with a Mongolian family of nomadic shepherds who deliver a rare white camel calf. Byambasuren Davaa and Luigi Falomi direct.

Preview

Independents Days

Is That a Zombie? No, It's Steven Tyler

Indie film buffs, get ready: Both the Boston Independent Film Festival and the Underground Film Festival are in town over the next two weeks.

The Independent Film Society of Boston's second annual Independent Film Festival showcases a variety of features, documentaries and short films, as well as musicians and artists. Joanna Horn, the festival's media director, characterizes it as an "event and venue for the filmmakers to mingle with each other," through question-and-answer sessions, panel discussions and nightly after-parties. About 50 visiting filmmakers will attend and screen their work. "We're taking a lot of films, most of which don't have distribution yet, and providing the access and the venue for both the filmmaker and the audience," says Horn. Highlights include Curtiss Clayton's *Rick*, starring Bill Pullman, which opens the festival. Festival-goers can also see the world premiere of Tufts alumnus Dennis Brooks' *Goodnight, Joseph Parker*, in which Aerosmith's Steven Tyler makes his acting debut as a New Jersey barfly.


Double Dare at the IFF

Headlining the Boston Underground Film Festival this year are two classics, *Knightriders* and *Night of the Living Dead*, by horror film icon George A. Romero—who'll attend screenings and Q&As. "This is the most above-ground edition I've ever done," says David Klieler, who founded the festival in 1997 after a few years of hosting screenings of independent and controversial films at the Coolidge Corner Theatre and the Revolving Museum. This year's festival boasts a zombie motif and includes "a stronger emphasis on music," says Klieler—local musicians the Bentmen give a zombie-themed performance, and a trailer for an upcoming documentary on Boston band Mission of Burma is on the schedule. Klieler characterizes his festival as being "more politically controversial," with edgier material than other film festivals. Also on the schedule: a variety of short films, including a collection from Canada, and the New England premiere of *Dear Pillow*, written and directed by Brian Poyser.

Independent Film Festival of Boston. Somerville Theatre (617-354-4466); Brattle Theatre (617-876-6837); and Coolidge Corner Theatre (617-734-2500). www.ifsboston.org. April 29–May 2. Opening night, $10. Express passes, $50–150.

Boston Underground Film Festival (617-975-3361). Regent Theatre (781-646-4849); Brattle Theatre (617-876-6837); and Somerville Theatre (617-354-4466). www.bostonundergroundfilmfestival.com. May 7–9. —Stephanie Hauser and Jessica Iredale

Special Engagement—Lucas Belvaux's The Trilogy
•April 28-29, 5, 7:25, 9 pm. **After the Life** *200* This third installment in Lucas Belvaux's trilo centers around the relationship between a cop a his wife.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE
Coolidge Award 2004: Zhang Yimou Retrospective
•May 3, 7:30 pm. **Raise the Red Lantern** *199* Zhang Yimou directs this story of a rebellious yo woman newly married to a wealthy nobleman.
•May 10, 7:30 pm. **Ju Dou** *1990*. A young wom forced into marriage with a factory owner falls love with her husband's nephew in Zhang Yimo retelling of *The Postman*.

Coolidge Selects
•Now playing. **Dogville** *2003*. Lars von Trier's fi stars Nicole Kidman as woman hiding from gangst in a small Colorado town during the Depression.
•Now playing. **Eternal Sunshine of the Spotle Mind** *2002*. See New Releases for a description.
•Now playing. **Flag Wars** *2003*. This documenta explores economic competition in the community Columbus, Ohio, between two largely oppressed r nority groups. Linda Goode Bryant directs.

Independent Film Festival of Bostor
•April 30, Midnight. **Azumi** *2004*. Ryuhei Ki mura directs this story about a young girl who tra to become the world's most lethal assassin.
•May 1, 10 pm. **Sexual Dependency** *2004*. Sh completely in split-screen, this film explores the s uality of five diverse teenagers living in Bolivia a the U.S. Rodrigo Bellot directs.
•May 2, 10 pm. **The Other America** *2004*. Euge Martin directs this film about coming of age i world of poverty.

Midnight Movies
•Through May 22, 12 am. Spike and Mike's S and Twisted Festival of Animation presents this ries of warped cartoons including **How to Cope w Death**, **Sickcom**, **Mama I'm a Thug**, and **The I Abandoned Refrigerator Adventure**.

Special Events
•May 1, 12 am. Director John Waters present one-man show about his controversial career which he discusses his upcoming film, **A Di Shame**, and answers audience questions. Tickets $28.50.

FILM AT MIT
Anime Club Weekly Screenings
• April 30, 7 pm-12 am. The Anime Club scre Japanese animation selections.

FILMMAKERS OPEN STUDIOS
•May 1, 9 am-5 pm. View the experimental anir tion and films of Iridium Productions at 731 Harri Ave., Boston.
•May 1, 10 am-5 pm. The winning films of the Vi Transfer, Inc. Short Film Festival will screen throu out the day at 580 Harrison Ave., Boston.
• May 1, 1-5 pm. View the films of independent fi makers the Film Posse at 535 Albany St., 2nd Fl Boston.
•May 2, 1-5 pm. The latest work from the Center Digital Imaging and Art will screen at Moody St Pictures, 282 Moody St., Waltham.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE
Frames of Mind
•May 5, 7 pm. **Memento** *2000*. Christopher No directs this psychological thriller, which unfolds in verse and tells the story of a man with no long-t memory who vows revenge on his wife's murderer.

Masterworks of Modern Cinema
•May 3, 7 pm. **Stroszek** *1977*. Werner Herzog rects this film about three men from Berlin v travel to Wisconsin in search of the Ameri Dream.
•May 10, 7 pm. **Les Rendezvous d'Annaiona** *19* Chantal Akerman directs this semi-autobiograp cal drama about a female director fighting lon ness while traveling to promote her new film.

Sharon Lockhart: Two Films
•May 1, 7 pm. **No** *2003* and **Teatro Amazo** *1999*. The first film is a cinematic landscape sh ing a Japanese couple gathering hay in real ti The second film uses a hidden camera to docum the diverse mix of audience members attendir performance at a 19th-century opera house in Br Director Lockhart introduces the films.

Yasujiro Ozu: A Centennial Celebration
•April 28, 9:30 pm; May 2, 9:30 pm. **Kaze no N no Mendori** *(A Hen in the Wind) 2004*. A wor awaiting her husband's return from the army is ven to prostitution to pay her son's hospital bills.

May 2, 7 pm. **Tokyo Boshoku** *(Tokyo Twilight) 957.* A woman leaves her abusive husband, moves ack home with her father and discovers that her egnant sister plans to have an abortion.
May 3, 9 pm. **Dekigokoro** *(Passing Fancy) 1933.* n alcoholic raises his son with the help of his best end, but the relationships between the three dis-tegrates when the father and the friend fall in love ith the same woman.
May 4, 7 pm and May 5, 9 pm. **Ochazuke no Aji** *The Flavor of Green Tea over Rice) 1952.* • In this m, which portrays a man as seen by his wife, a ece comes to visit an unhappy married couple in e country. Also showing, May 4, 9 pm. **unekata Shimai** *(The Munekata Sisters) 1950.* vo sisters with very different personalities repre-nt the struggle between modernity and tradition Japan.
May 7, 7 pm and May 10, 9 pm. **Ohayo** *(Good orning) 1959.* Two boys stop talking as a protest ainst their father who refuses to get them a televi-on set. Also showing, May 7, 9 pm and May 9, 9 n. **Akibiyori** *(Late Autumn) 1960.* Three men act matchmakers to a widow, so her daughter will not free of her familial obligations.
May 8, 7 pm. **Ukigusa** *(Floating Weeds)* 1959. **Uki-sa Monogatari** *(A Story of Floating Weeds) 1934.* one of Ozu's exemplary silent films, he tells the ory of a theater troupe leader, his illegitimate son, d the drama in their lives. •Also showing, 9:15 n and May 9, 9 pm. **Kohayagawa-ke no Aki** *(The d of Summer) 1961.* An aging businessman re-mes a relationship with his mistress, upsetting the mmunity, especially his daughters.
May 9 and 11, 7 pm. **Samma no Aji** *(An Autumn ternoon) 1962.* Director Masahiro Shinoda intro-ces the May 11 showing of Ozu's last film, in hich a widower marries off his only daughter and comes lonely and isolated.

USEUM OF FINE ARTS

rt on Film

April 29, 2 pm. **Rivers and Tides: Andy Goldswor-y Working with Time** *2001.* Thomas Riedelsheimer rects this documentary about sculptor Andy oldsworthy.

riends of Film Sneak Previews

May 2, 7 pm. **Since Otar Left**, *2003.* Julie Bertuc-lli's film describes the lives of three generations of men living in the former Soviet Union.
May 8, 7 pm. **Valentin**, *2002.* A boy in Buenos res tries to reunite his family. Directed by Alejan-o Agresti.

useum School Film Annual

April 29, 5:30 pm. Films produced by Museum hool students screen.

utrageous Artist on Film

April 29, 8:15 pm; May 2, 4:15 pm. **The Legend of igh Bowery** 2001. Charles Atlas directs this docu-ntary on the flamboyant performance artist of the 80s, who died of AIDS at 33.

hird Boston Turkish Film Festival

April 29, 3:45 pm; May 1, 11 am; May 2, 10:30 am. **stant**, *2003.* Nuri Blige Ceylan directs this Cannes m Festival Grand Jury Prize–winning film about o isolated cousins seeking to survive in the city.
April 30, 6 pm. **Metropol Nightmare**, 2003. nit Cin Guven directs this film about underpriv-dged street youth in Instanbul, which is based on s own life in a gang. Also showing, 7:45 pm. **En-unter**, 2003. Ömer Kavur directs this surreal tale out a man who thinks he has been given a second ance at life after discovering that he is seriously ill.
May 1, 1:15 pm. **The Waiting Room**, 2003. A di-tor seeking to make a film of Dostoyevsky's *Crime d Punishment* grows apart from his girlfriend and estions his ambition and morality. Director Zeki mirkubuz attends. Also showing, 3:15 pm. **Away om Home**, 2001. The characters' lives intertwine they all try to escape their troubled pasts. Di-ted by Semih Kaplanoglu.
May 2, 12:40 pm. **Everyday**, 2002. Neco Celik's n is a multicultural love story. Also showing, 2:20 n. **A Run for Money**, 2000. A store clerk must re-aluate his soul and morals after finding stolen ney in a cab. Directed by Reha Erdem.

USEUM OF SCIENCE

ugar Omni Theater

Through May 27. **Lewis and Clark: Great Journey est.** Trek through raging rivers and uncharted lderness to commemorate the bicentennial of the plorers' journey, brought to life by National Geo-iphic Films. Call for show times.
Through May 27. **India: Kingdom of the Tiger.** plore the kingdom of the Bengal tiger, from the malayas to Rajasthan. *Call for show times.*
Through June 12. **Jane Goodall's Wild Chim-nzees.** Travel to Africa's Gombe Stream National Park with Goodall for close encounters of the primate kind. *Call for show times.*



Hellboy stars Ron Perlman (right) as the demon-fighting title character.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater

•Through May 9. **Space Station 3D.** Tom Cruise narrates a tour of the international space station. *Call for show times.*
•Through May 9. **NASCAR 3D.** Experience life in the fast lane with NASCAR pit crews and drivers clocking over 200 mph. *Call for show times.*
•Through June 18. **Bugs! 3D.** This film focuses on the world of insects in the tropical rain forests of Southeast Asia. See bugs magnified up to 250,000 times their normal size. *Call for show times.*
•Through June 18. **Ghosts of the Abyss.** Director James Cameron takes audiences two miles beneath the sea's surface to explore the wreckage of the Titanic. *Call for show times.*
•Through June 18. **Ocean Wonderland 3D.** This film explores the ocean floor of the Bahamas and Australia's Great Barrier Reef, with their sharks, sting rays and rainbows of tropical fish. *Call for show times.*
•Through June 18. **Volcanoes of the Deep Sea.** Dive to the bottom of the sea with a team of scientists, as they explore hydrothermal vents, shipwrecked gardens, predators and bioluminescent creatures. *Call for show times.*

SOMERVILLE THEATRE

Independent Film Festival of Boston

•April 29, 7 pm; May 2, 6 pm. **Rick** *2003.* Bill Pullman stars as a widower who contemplates taking out a contract on his younger boss. Curtiss Clayton directs.
•April 30, 7:30 pm. **The Baroness and the Pig** *2004.* Patricia Clarkson stars in this film about an baroness who battles snobbery and conservatism while living in Paris. Michael MacKenzie directs. •Also showing April 30, 3:30 pm; May 2, 3:30 and 7 pm. **Flower & Garnet** *2004.* Keith Behrman directs this portrayal of a young boy who cannot fit in with his family. •Also showing April 30, 8 pm. **Luck** *2004.* A young man turns to high stakes gambling after he loses the girl of his dreams. Peter Wellington directs. •Also showing April 30, 8:30 pm; May 2, 2:30 pm. **Moonlight** *2004.* A young girl helps a boy recover from a shot wound and escape drug traffickers who come looking for him. Paula Van Der Oest directs. •Also showing April 30, 3 pm; May 1, 12:30 pm. **Nightingale in a Music Box** *2004.* A Chicago real estate agent and mother of two becomes involved in an international effort to take control of a new type of biotechnology. Hurt McDermott directs. •Also showing April 30, 5:30 pm. **The Other America** *2004.* Eugene Martin directs this film about coming of age in a world of poverty. •Also showing April 30, 12:30 pm; May 1, 3 pm. **This Very Moment** *2004.* Christopher Hochhäusler directs this spin on the Grimm Brothers tale "Hansel and Gretel," in which a woman abandons her stepchildren on the side of the road, only to come back for them and find them missing.
•May 1, 10 pm; May 2, 1 pm. **Blind Horizon** *2004.* Val Kilmer, Neve Campbell and Sam Shepard star in this film about a man who must rediscover his identity after being shot.•Also showing May 1, 11 am; May 2, 10 pm. **Le Jardin de Papa** *2004.* This French film follows a native-born white African and his wife who travel to a West African city on their honeymoon and discover the turmoil of postcolonialism. Zeka Laplaine directs. •Also showing May 1, 2 pm. **The Other America** *2004.* Eugene Martin directs this film about coming of age in a world of poverty. •Also showing May 1, 9:30 pm; May 2, 9:30 pm. **A Problem with Fear** *2004.* Gary Burns directs this story dealing with the fears, pressures and monotony of living in a modern city. •Also showing May 1, 6:30 pm; May 2, 6:30 pm. **Tarnation** *2004.* Jonathan Caouette documents his life from age 11, using a mixture of video diaries, home movies and short films to tell his story of growing up with a schizophrenic mother and emotionally detached grandparents.
•May 2, 9:30 pm. **Azumi** *2004.* Ryuhei Kitamura directs this story of a young girl who trains to become the world's most lethal assassin. •Also showing May 2, 5 pm. **The Saddest Music in the World** *2004.* In this film set in the Great Depression, a beer baroness holds a competition to find the saddest music in the world. Guy Maddin directs.•Also showing May 2, 12:30 pm. **Sexual Dependency** *2004.* Shot completely in split screen, this film explores the sexuality of five diverse teenagers living in Bolivia and the U.S. Rodrigo Bellot directs.

Cinema Venues

BOSTON

Boston Public Library

666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)

100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre

201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common

175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science

Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema

399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Reservoir.

Coolidge Corner Theatre

290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre

40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Fresh Pond

168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive

24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema

One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony

10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

MIT

77 Mass. Ave, Room 4-370. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema

27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema

1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony

35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre

55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.



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Minor to Major

The Raveonettes put Denmark on the rock 'n' roll map with style and concept

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Some bands get evasive or uptight when talk turns to their influences. That's not the case with the Raveonettes, the distinctively derivative Danish duo who copped their name from the Buddy Holly song "Rave On" and '60s girl groups like the Ronettes.

"We're very proud of all the references in our music, and it's very deliberate," says bassist Sharin Foo. "It's almost like an homage to all the great music that we're inspired by."



The Raveonettes: Sharin Foo (left) and Sune Rose Wagner

In addition to Buddy Holly and '60s girl groups wrapped in Spector's wall of sound, the Raveonettes reflect the noise and dissonance of the Jesus and Mary Chain, Sonic Youth and Suicide, along with the primal beat of the Cramps. There are touches of Hank Williams and surf rock. And the vocal harmonies of Foo and guitarist-songwriter Sune Rose Wagner echo the Beach Boys, Blondie and primary inspiration the Everly Brothers.

"When we started working together, it came amazingly easy to us to sing together," Foo, 28, says of her musical (never romantic) relationship with the year-younger Wagner. "We like the tension and perspective it adds that the vocals are very subtle and sweet, and then there's the music that complements it, but it's completely different and very aggressive."

That aggressive side was stressed in the relentless drone of the Raveonettes' 2002 EP, *Whip It On*, recorded entirely in the dark key of B-flat minor. The vocals are more fleshed out on *Chain Gang of Love*, the band's first full-length (which clocks in at a still-brief 33 minutes). The lineup on the newer disc includes guitarist Manoj Ramdas and drummer Jacob Hoyer, who first joined to augment the group's live sound. The critically acclaimed release also switches the key exclusively to the more accessible B-flat major.

In addition to limiting their choice of musical keys, the Raveonettes generally stick to three chords and three-minute lengths in their songs, evoking the minimalist aesthetics of Danish filmmaker Lars Van Trier. "We set up these guidelines," Foo says. "One thing was to not have any hi-hat and ride cymbal on the album. We do have lots of high-end sounds coming from all kinds of weird things, like metal and chains and whips. It's difficult to decipher, and we have little things in there that I'm not supposed to tell you about, like (film soundtrack) samples."

All those elements should be in the mix when the Raveonettes return to the Paradise May 9. The statuesque bassist mentions that her group supplements its onstage sound with prerecorded tracks—again speaking openly on a topic that's touchy for some bands.

"That is a big part of our music," she says from Los Angeles. "*Chain Gang of Love* has a laid-back feel, and when we play live, it becomes more aggressive and in-your-face. But we try and translate the same sound from the album to the live experience."

"A Raveonettes live experience is a little strange because the songs are so short," Foo adds of her group's roughly hour-long sets. "We like to keep it short because it's a lot for people to digest. It really is quite intense."

Despite the band's strict ways, she says, "We're definitely loosening up. We're working on material for a new album now and the songs are in various different keys. We've moved away from B flat, so we can go completely crazy on this next album. But the Raveonettes sound will always have that minimalistic approach."

That approach complements the duo's visual style, which shows a penchant for film noir and Jack Kerouac (whose face is tattooed on Wagner's arm), and continues a fascination with Americana.

"Our music has a really American flavor, which is kind of confusing for people," Foo says, "but it has that little twist to it which is very European and Scandinavian.

"We're definitely the first Danish band that ever played on a show like *David Letterman*," she says. "Denmark hasn't been able to break into international rock. The Swedes have done better. The Danish culture and mentality is very much about having a good lifestyle, and there's a lack of self-confidence. There's also a tendency for Danish bands to merely copy what's doing well in the U.S. and U.K., but now I think that's changing."

As for comparisons with American outfits like the White Stripes or the Raveonettes' recent tourmates the Strokes, Foo says, "We're a movement of bands that wanted to go back to 'less is more' and not so much of an overproduced, pretentious thing. But when people say, 'Do you feel like you're part of the garage movement?' There's no way we sound like a garage band."

"We definitely have pretension too, in many ways," she admits. "It's all icing on the cake really. Of course you need substance, but it's a balance. I love that tongue-in-cheek thing." iB

The Raveonettes
play the Paradise May 5.

Advice to Contributors
Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by f (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or e email to music@improper.com. Include dates, time prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not a cepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers
Information for the Music section is compiled from d ferent sources. Although we make every effort to provi accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahe to double-check dates and times (see complete list venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Addison Groove Project, May 8, Paradise Roc Club (617-423-NEXT).
Apples in Stereo April 30, TT the Bear's Pla (617-492-2327).
Averi, Flynn and the Low Life April 30, Paradi Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Blondie May 8, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Blue October and the Damnwells May 2, Paradi Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Brides of Destruction May 6, Axis (617-42 NEXT).
Buffalo Tom May 7, Paradise Rock Club (617-42 NEXT).
Catch 22, Mustard Plug and Planet Smasher April 29 Axis (617-423-NEXT).
Holger Czukay May 10, Paradise Rock Club (61 423-NEXT).
Fountains of Wayne and Evan Dando May Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Neily Furtado May 7, Somerville Theatre (617-93 2000).
Kaiju Big Battel May 1, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)
Wynton Marsalis April 28, Symphony Hall (61 423-NEXT).
Alexi Murdoch and Teitur April 28, Paradise Ro Club (617-423-NEXT).
Peaches and Tesla May 2, Avalon (617-42 NEXT).
The Raveonettes, the Rogers Sisters and t Charms May 5, Paradise Rock Club (617-42 NEXT).
Bob Schneider, Charlie Mars and Endochine Ap 29, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Seeking Homer, Averi and the Click May 1, Pa adise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Sloan and the Kicks May 11, Paradise Rock Cl (617-423-NEXT).
A Static Lullaby, the Bled, Christiansen and Re sonic April 28, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
Street Dogs and Avoid One Thing, Confront a the Marvels May 8, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
The Suicide Machines, the Code, the River C Rebels and Against All Authority April 30, A (617-423-NEXT).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28

Axis A Static Lullaby, the Bled, Christiansen a Retisonic, 7 pm, $10, all ages.
Bill's Bar Sinapse, Oma, No December and Gai $10 for 18+, $8 for 21+. 18+.
The Breezeway Lenny Stalworth & the Funk M 7:30-10:30 pm.
The Burren Hot Day at the Zoo, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Hamell on Trial and John Gerard pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry The Crowding Out Effect, $5, 21
Hennessy's Me and Julio, no cover.
Johnny D's Gibson Brothers, 8:30 pm, $12.
Kennedy's Michael Larson, no cover.
Kirkland Café Chocolate Milk, Chester French a Sweepers, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Aberdeen City, Famous a the Bocks, 9 pm, $8, 18+. Downstairs: The Alarm pm, $18, 18+.
Midway Café Quals and Nice and Easy, 21+.
Paradise Alexi Murdoch and Teitur, 8 pm, $9.25, 1
Ryles Jazz Club Chicken Slacks Soul Revue, 8 pm,
Scullers Tower of Power, 8 and 10 pm, $35.
Sophia's The Latin Party Boys.
Sky Bar Whisper Campaign, the Broken Word a Those Who Wait, 8 pm, $6, 21+.
Toad The Coachmen, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Mark Greel Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30
T.T. the Bear's Place The Oranges Band, the Seville residency, Chris Hartford and the Band Changes and Auto Interiors, 9 pm, $8.
Western Front New England Conservatory prese live jazz.

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Wonder Bar Barry Ries.
ZuZu "ZuZu Allstars" Heloise and the Savoir Faire Dancers, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Micah Blue Smaldone, 7-9 pm; Cat Show Snapshots, 9:30 pm-12 am.

THURSDAY, APRIL 29

Axis Catch 22, Mustard Plug, Big D and the Kids Table and the Planet Smashers, 6 pm, $13, all ages.
Bill's Bar Cardinal Direction, Toothpick and Sam Fisher, $12 for 18+, $10 for 21+. 18+.
Bob the Chef's The BlackSole Network, 7 pm.
The Breezeway Justice Dobrin Quartet, 7:30-10:30 pm.
The Burren Random Axis, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Chris Waller, 21+.
Club Passim Fruit and Groovelily, 8 pm, $15.
Harper's Ferry Gordon Stone Band and Otis Grove.
Hennessy's Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe, no cover.
Johnny D's Deep, 9 pm, $6.
Kennedy's John Mansfield, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: The Apes, Silent Drive, Capital Radio and Stolen Bike Crusade, 9 pm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Elefant, Seachange and Lockgroove, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
Paradise Bob Schneider, 9 pm, $15, 18+; Lounge: Meika Pauly, Noam Weinstein and Dan Fields, 6 pm, $5, 18+.
Ryles Jazz Club The Christian Scott Quintet and Ian Rapien's Spectrums, 8 pm, $7.
Sophia's The Latin Party Boys.
Sky Bar Fixer, Trucker and Pink Hearse Paparazzi Project, 8 pm, $6, 21+.
Top of the Hub Mark Greel Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Club Country, the Dirty Truckers, Barn Burning, 9:10 pm, $7.
Western Front Jah N I, $7.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner and Joe McMahon.
Zeitgeist Gallery Josh Sinton Quintet, 7-9 pm; Markus Nechay's Whimsey, 9:30 pm-12 am.
ZuZu Ponies in the Surf, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAY, APRIL 30

The Attic The Knot.
Axis The Suicide Machines, Against All Authority, the Code and the River City Rebels, 7 pm, $12, all ages.
The Big Easy Bob's Day Off, 10:30 pm, $8, 21+.
Bill's Bar Stoic, Drinkfist and Haloburn, $10 for 18+, $8 for 21+, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Jazz Quartet, 7:30 pm.
Boston College Ellis Paul, 7:30 pm, $20.
The Burren Classic Trax, 10 pm.
Cambridge Center for Adult Education Dulcimer Festival with Lorraine and Bennett Hammond, Barbara Levine and Lucy Sollogub, 8 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 21+.
Club Passim The Weepies and Meg Hutchinson, 7 and 10 pm, $15.
The Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the No Way Jose Band, 9 pm, 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Aaron Burnett Trio, 6:30 pm
Grand Canal Maxi, 5-7 pm; Cape Fear, $5.
The Green Dragon Tavern Sugar Boot, $5.
The Harp Drop Dead Sexy, 10 pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry Kotter, Without Roy and the Big Creek, $8.
Hennessy's Incadence, $5.
Johnny D's Ryan Montbleau and Named by Strangers, 9:45 pm.
Kennedy's Matt Fulton, 5-9 pm; Peter Rice, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.
Kirkland Café Rover, the Motive, Liz Stahler and Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Sin City Chainsaw, Quintaine Americana, Rock City Crimewave, Hell Wheel Drive, 9 pm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Moonraker, the So and So's, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
Midway Café Bees Delux, B.J. Snowden and Andres Wilson, 21+.
Milky Way Soulkore Productions "Sometimes It Snows in April" Prince Party with Timmy Allen, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Celtic Clan, $5.
Orpheum Alejandro Sanz, 8 pm, $75/$50/$35, all ages.
Paradise Averi, Flynn and Low Life, 9 pm, $15, 18+; Lounge: Adam Ezra Band w/Tar Beach, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Regattabar The Nicole Nelson Band, 7:30 & 10 pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Bebop Guitars, 8 pm, $10.
Scullers Tower of Power, 8 and 10 pm, $38.
Sky Bar The Spoilers, the Numbskulls, Apes of Wrath, White Trash Deluxe and Salacious Crumb, 8 pm, $6, 21+.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Christina Aguilera and Chingy June 18, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000) .
Blink 182 and No Doubt June 8, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
David Byrne May 20, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).
Dido June 19, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Fleetwood Mac May 28, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Franz Ferdinand June 16, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
John Hiatt May 26, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Indigo Girls June 11, Fleet Boston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Jump Little Children and The Features May 14, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Angelique Kidjo and Femi Kuti June 25, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Sondre Lerche May 12, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Moe June 14, Fleet Boston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
The Moody Blues June 25, Fleet Boston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Jason Mraz May 20, Orpheum (617-931-2000).
RJD2, Diverse and Automato May 15, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Sloan May 11, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT)
Britney Spears June 23, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Sting and Annie Lennox June 28, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
The Strokes and the Stills May 15, Orpheum (617-931-2000).
The Thrills May 28, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Glenn Tilbrook May 27, Paradise Rock Cub (617-423-NEXT).
WBCN River Rave 2004 with the Offspring, the Darkness, My Morning Jacket and others May 30, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).

Sophia's The Latin Party Boys, 10 pm.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.
Top of the Hub Mark Greel Group, 9 pm-1 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Apples in Stereo, Apollo Sunshine, the High Water Marks, 9:30 pm, $12 in advance, $14 day of show.
Western Front Bostonreggae.com Anniversary Bash, $10.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicals.
Zeitgeist Gallery Anna Dagmar CD-release, 7-9 pm; Sound on Survival and Eric Zinman, 9:30 pm-12 am.
ZuZu Gian Carlo Buscaglio, 11 pm, no cover 21+.

SATURDAY, MAY 1

Avalon Kaiju Big Battel and Officer May, 6:30 pm, $18.25, all ages.
The Black Rose Jim Coyle. Upstairs: McTaggarts. Downstairs: Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Pat Loomis, 7:30 pm.
Cambridge Center for Adult Education Dulcimer Festival with Sheila Kay Adams and Jim Taylor, 8 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Rachel McCartney and Bill Deasy, 7 and 10 pm, $12.
Costello's Tavern Danny Tucker Vibe Tribe.
The Good Life Cambridge Weepin' Willie.
The Good Life Downtown Jim Porcella Trio.
Grand Canal Six Shot Brody, $5.
The Green Dragon Tavern Freeze Pop, $5.
The Harp Drop Dead Sexy, 10 pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry Entrain and A440, $8.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, no cover.
Kennedy's Bobbie Steelz and Moon, $10.
Middle East Upstairs: Oxes, Helms, Big Bear, $9, 18+. Downstairs: The Perceptionists, Sa Smash, $15, 18+.
MIT MIT/Wellesley Toons, Downtown Crossing and Boston University Treblemakers, 7 pm.
Mr. Dooley's Celtic Clan, $5.
Nameless Coffeehouse Geoff Bartley, Michael Troy, Erik Balkey and Labrys, 8 pm, $10.
Paradise Averi, the Click and Seeking Homer, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Brick Park.
Regattabar Deborah Henson-Conant: Wild Woman of the Harp, 7 and 9:30 pm, $18.
Ryles Jazz Club Toni Lynn Washington, 9:30 pm, $11.
Scullers Tower of Power, 8 and 10:30 pm, $38.
Top of the Hub Mark Greel Group, 9 pm-1 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Kings of Nuthin', Blood an Whiskey, the Putnicks, 9:15 pm, $10.
Western Front Solfege Record Release Part $10.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet.

SUNDAY, MAY 2

Avalon Peaches, 7 pm, $15.25, 18+.
The Black Rose Jim Coyle and Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Nat Simpkins, am-3 pm.
Cambridge Center for Adult Education Dulcim Festival with the Hammonds, 3 pm, $5.
Cantab Lounge Candy's blues jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Clare Burson, 8 pm, $12.
The Green Briar Donegal Cords and Finb Doyle.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnson no cover.
Green Street Grill Jama Gigi and Joe Camar 10:30 pm.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, no cover.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Ridgley Snow, 9 a 2:30 pm; Blues jam.
Kennedy's Jazz brunch with Gordon Michaels, 1 3pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Illuminada, Every Forty Se onds and the Dents, Raymond, $9, 18+.
MIT Hindustani Dhrupad Vocal, 5 pm, $10-$18.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday jazz brunch with Bob Ga 10 am-3 pm.
Scullers Tower of Power, 7 and 9 pm, $35.
Somerville Theatre Bill Frisell with Brian Bla and Sam Yahel, 7 pm, $27-$37.
T.T. the Bear's Place We Ragazzi, Tight Phatomz, pm, $8.
Wellesley MIT/Wellesley Toons, Emerson Colle NoteWorthy and Amherst College Route 9, 7: pm.

MONDAY, MAY 3

The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Cantab Lounge Singer/Songwriter open mike, 8 p 21+.
The Green Briar Irish Seisiun.
Hennessy's Joe Carson, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: The WBCN Rock & R Rumble: the Charms, Jabe, the Information and C ange Island, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Nationale Blue, Sene CD-release, the Cignal and Akrasia, 9 pm, $7.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner, Joe McMahon a friends.



Pop whiz kids Apples in Stereo give a performance at T.T. the Bear's Place April 30.



Death to George

The following is an editorial from "the Committee to Bring Back the Rattlesnake Bar"

One year ago the "Rattlesnake Bar and Grill" the most exciting and fun bar and in the Back Bay was changed to George: An American Tavern. This was not due to change in ownership, but rather from the idiocy and misguidance of one of the owners. A man named Gordon Wilcox who felt he was a visionary in the restaurant field. His ideas, however proved to be as outdated as the powder blue, double knit tuxedo that he wore to Spinazzola last month and about as sharp as the 1½ star chef that he hired to create the menu. The result was a place as boring as Mr. Wilcox's personal life.

Convinced to seek therapy, Mr. Wilcox has been shipped off to Saratoga, N.Y. to watch the horseys run round and round leaving his partners to make appropriate changes and to apologize to all the loyal customers they have had over the years.

Effective mid-April, the new and improved Rattlesnake Bar opens and promises good times to all, featuring: exotic drinks, a rooftop bar, Budweiser, a private room and a menu created by Chris Schlesinger and his chefs at the East Coast Grill.

They hope to see you this spring.

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TUESDAY, MAY 4

Avalon Tesla, 8 pm, $25.25, 18+.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 21+.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, no cover.
Johnny D's Anni Clark, 8:30 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: The 26th Annual WBCN Rock & Rumble with Sugabomb, Seemless, Brett Rosenberg and Fooled by April, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Regattabar Stefon Harris, Blackout, Casey Benjamin, Marc Casey, Darryl Hall and Terreon Gully, 8:30 pm, $16.
Ryles Jazz Club Barry and Friends, 9 pm, $7.
The 711 The Latin Party Boys, 9 pm-1 am.
Venu Rumbanama, 10 pm-2 am.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio.
ZuZu Edith Pilaf Tribute, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5

The Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Cantab Lounge Candy's blues jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Nini Camps with Amos Lee, 8 pm, $10.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgarrd, no cover.
Hennessy's Me & Julio, no cover.
Johnny D's Rosie Flores and Amelia White, 8:30 pm.
Kennedy's Michelle Currie, no cover.
Paradise The Raveonettes, the Rogers Sisters and the Charms, 8 pm, $12, 18+.
Regattabar Stefon Harris and Blackout with Casey Benjamin, Marc Casey, Darryl Hall and Terreon Gully, 7:30 and 10 pm, $16.
Ryles Jazz Club Laura Allen Trio CD-release party, 9 pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Barry Ries.
ZuZu Cubby Berk, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

THURSDAY, MAY 6

Avalon Fountains of Wayne and Evan Dando, 7 pm, $18.25, 18+.
Bill's Bar SplitShift, Rubikon and Fuser, $10 for 18+, $8 for 21+, 18+.
The Black Rose Eygene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Paulo Danay Jazz Quartet, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Chris Waller, 21+.
Club Passim Emm Gryner and Kristin Cifelli, 8 pm, $12.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, no cover.
Hennessy's Shot Gun Bandits, no cover.
Kennedy's John Mansfield, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: The 26th Annual WBCN Rock N Rumble with Jake Brennan & the Confidence Men, Redletter, Meat Depressed, Throe, 9 pm, $9, 18+; Downstairs: Non Phixion, Q-Unique, DJ Eclipse, Kreators and Rhetoric, 8 pm, $15 in advance, $20 day of show, 18+.
Paradise Brides of Destruction, 8 pm, $17.50, 18+.
Regattabar Ruth Brown, 8:30 pm, $20.
Ryles Jazz Club Dave Osoff and Vykki Vox, 9:30 pm, $7.
Scullers Stacey Kent, 8 and 10 pm, $20.
Somerville Theatre Angie Stone, 7:30 pm, $20.50-$30.50.
Sophia's The Latin Party Boys.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner and Joe McMahon.

FRIDAY, MAY 7

The Attic Katrin CD-release party.
Bill's Bar The Bocks, Asect and Groovehounds, $10 for 18+, $8 for 21+, 18+.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Celtic Clan. Downstairs: Eugene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Jazz Quartet, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 21+.
Club Passim John Renbourn and Jacqui McShee, 8pm, $20.
The Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the No Way Jose Band.
The Good Life Downtown Aaron Burnett Trio.
Grand Canal Spike the Punch, $5.
The Green Briar Brick Park.
The Green Dragon Tavern Say When, $5.
Harper's Ferry BadFish, $10.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30 pm, no cover; Freeze Pop, $5.
Johnny D's Beatle Juice, 9:30 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Springhill Rounders.
Middle East Upstairs: WBCN Rock & Roll Rumble with Roxie, Stoic, Black Helicopter, Ad Frank and Fast Easy Women, 9 pm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Ill Kings, the Foundation and On the Drop, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
Milky Way T.E.R.A., Cloud Nine Music, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well, $5.

Preview

Wayne's World

Longtime cult favorites Fountains of Wayne come to Boston on the heels of their pop breakthrough



Fountains of Wayne perform at Avalon May 6.

It's on the tip of your tongue, stuck in your mind. You can't fight it. It's pop music, infectious and danceable. Just submit.

Fountains of Wayne perfected the three-and-a-half minute pop ditty with last summer's top-40 hit "Stacey's Mom," from the band's third album, *Welcome Interstate Managers*. Love it or (more likely) hate it, you can't keep from humming or—gasp—singing if it comes on the radio. The playful tale of adolescent hormones has primed Fountains of Wayne for the commercial success that evaded the band with its first two albums. And the tongue-in-cheek, new wavy video was a hit too—with its gratuitous cleavage shots of Rachel Hunter, and the band superimposed on magazine covers, swathed in day-glo purple that might have been inspired by their producer, Ric Ocasek, formerly of the Cars.

So are the guys worried about being typecast as a novelty band?

"There's definitely that fear," admits singer/guitarist Chris Collingwood over the phone. "But I haven't changed. It's not like billions of dollars are pouring in. We're working unbelievably hard."

Fountains of Wayne have indeed been busy: touring, promoting *Welcome Interstate Managers* since its release in June 2003 and rubbing elbows with other artists at the Grammy Awards in February. The band earned two nominations—Best New Artist and Best Pop Performance by a Duo or Group—but went home empty-handed.

"The actual ceremony itself isn't a good time," Collingwood says. "It's like five or six hours long with no food. We were starving and there wasn't even a candy bar machine."

Somehow it makes sense that the writers of "Stacy's Mom" would be more concerned about snacks than awards. Fountains of Wayne enjoy an easy pop craft—the sonically pleasing songs on *Welcome Interstate Managers*, about such topics as disgruntled waitresses and dead-end jobs, seem effortless. Collingwood and Fountains bassist Adam Schlesinger split the writing duties, although the two now live in different cities. (Collingwood recently moved away from New York City and his bandmates to live in Northampton with his wife and cat.)

"Adam and I had only one discussion before making the album, and we decided that it wouldn't have a concept," Collingwood notes. "I hate to even draw comparisons, but our model was the *White Album*, which doesn't make sense on a whole, yet each song is individually great."

The band's song of the moment is still "Stacy's Mom" (a new single, "Mexican Wine," is slowly gaining radio play). But teeny-bopper fans expecting a glitz-and-glam pop spectacle à la Britney might be disappointed by the Fountains' upcoming show at Avalon on May 6, which features an acoustic opening set from Evan Dando.

"Our show is our show," Collingwood says. "We've been touring extensively for years; we just aren't elaborate or theatrical."

No fireworks?

"We wanted some naked midgets on a conveyor belt, but I think Blink 182 covered that already," he adds, laughing.

Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). May 6, 7pm. $18.25. 18+.

—Courtney Hollands

Paradise Buffalo Tom, 9 pm, $17.50, 18+.
Parris Darik and the Funbags, 10 pm, $10.
Regattabar Ruth Brown, 7:30 and 10 pm, $22.
Ryles Jazz Club Marta Gomez, 9:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Sergio Mendes and Brazil 2004, 8 and 10:3 pm, $42.
Somerville Theatre Nelly Furtado, 8 pm, $30.50.
Sophia's The Latin Party Boys, 10 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Mary Lou Lord, Emergen Music, Cosmic Rough Riders and the M's, 9:15 p $10.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicals.
ZuZu Gian Carlo Buscaglio, 11 pm, no cov 21+.

SATURDAY, MAY 8

Avalon Blondie, 7 pm, $30.25, 18+.
The Black Rose Frank Ryan. Upstairs: Celtic Cla Downstairs: Eugene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Pat Loomis, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, pm, 21+.
Club Passim Mark Erelli and Felix McTeigue, 8 p $14.
Costello's Tavern Danny Tucker Vibe Tribe.
The Good Life Cambridge Weepin' Willie.
The Good Life Downtown Jim Porcella Trio.
Grand Canal Incadence, $5.
The Green Briar Infractions.
The Green Dragon Tavern Random Axis, $5.
The Harp Cental Basement, 10 pm, $10.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 5-7:30 pm, no cover.
Johnny D's Beatle Juice, 9:30 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Bobbie Steelz and Moon, $10.
Middle East Upstairs: WBCN Rock & Roll Rumb with the Model Sons, the Spaceshots, Paranoid S cial Club and the So and So's, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
MIT Rambax MIT, 3 pm.
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well, $5.
Paradise Addison Groove Project, 9 pm, $1 18+.
Parris Darik & the Funbags, 10 pm, $10.
Purple Shamrock Syndicate.
Regattabar Ruth Brown & Friends, 7:30 & 10 p $24.
Ryles Jazz Club Teresa Ines Group, 9:30 pm, $8.
Scullers Sergio Mendes & Brazil 2004, 8 & 10: pm, $42.
T.T. the Bear's Place Dear Leader, the Douglas and the Exchange Students, 9:15 pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet.

SUNDAY, MAY 9

The Black Rose Frank Ryan. Downstairs: Euge Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Sonny Watson J Quartet, 10 am-3 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's blues jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Janis Ian, 8 pm, $35.
The Green Briar Sunday's Well and Finl Doyle.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnso no cover.
Green Street Grill Jama Gigi and Joe Cama 10:30 pm.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, 9 pm - 1 am, no cov
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Matt Dorko and La Kukers, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Kennedy's Cabaret with Athene Wilson Glover pm, $15.
Middle East Upstairs: WBCN Rock & Roll Rum with the Charms, Jabe, the Information and Ora Island, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday jazz brunch with Ste Rochinski, 10 am-3 pm; Semenya Mc Cord prese "Mama Says Sing Girl," 4 pm, $20.
T.T. the Bear's Place Califone, Charlene and Dr O'Doherty, 9:10 pm, $8.

MONDAY, MAY 10

The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Cantab Lounge Singer/songwriter open mike, 8 p 21+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson, no cover.
Johnny D's Working Stiff Cabaret, 7 - 9 pm.
Paradise Holger Czukay, 8 pm, $16, 18+.
Ryles Jazz Club Boston Arts Academy Jazz Nig 6:30 pm, $10.
T.T. the Bear's Place Nashville Pussy, Artil Pyledriver and Radar Eyes, 9 pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner and Joe McMahon.

TUESDAY, MAY 11

The Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin Party, 9 pm, 21+
Club Passim Janis Ian, 8 pm, $35.
Hennessy's Scott Damgarrd, no cover.
Johnny D's Debbi McKlatchy and Sara Grey, 8 pm, $8.

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Boston-based blues artist Rachel McCartney performs at Club Passim May 1.

Middle East Upstairs: The Hiss, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Paradise Sloan, 8 pm, $12, 18+.
Regattabar The Ryoko Moriyama Quintet, 7:30 and 10 pm, $16.
Ryles Jazz Club New York Nights with the Eric Bloom Quartet, 9 pm, $7.
Scullers Julia and Zerounian Ensemble, 8 and 10 pm, $18.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Cardigans and Jonathan Rice, 9:30 pm, $13.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Boston (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cambridge Center for Adult Education *Blacksmth House, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Choppin' Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-734-4177). MBTA: Green Line to Brigham Circle.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Cottonwood Café *222 Berkeley St., Boston (617-247-2225). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Costello's Tavern *723 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-522-9263). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Boston (617-350-9977). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
First and Second Church *66 Marborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (617-728-1600). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Forsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetary, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston (617-524-3354)*
Gillette Stadium *One Patriot Place, Foxborough (800-543-1776).*
The Good Life Cambridge *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Julien Bar *250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (617-267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Murphy's Law *837 Summer St., South Boston (617-269-6667).*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
P.A.'s Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-2327). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Tweeter Center for the Performing Arts *885 South Main St., Mansfield (508-339-2333). MBTA: Commuter Rail to Mansfield.*
Washington Square Tavern *714 Washington St., Brookline (617-232-8989). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *474 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28

Artist Diploma Showcase

New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsbo ough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglan conservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphon 8 pm. Free. Part of the NEC's Centennial Conce Series, this recital features Artist Diploma stude Sonia Chan on the piano.

Brandeis Students' Performance

Slosberg Recital Hall, Brandeis University, South S Waltham (781-736-3310). www.brandeis.ed MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 8 pr Free. Brandeis faculty member Eric Chasalow lea his laptopping class in a performance of compute generated music.

Così Fan Tutte

Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-54 4912). www.blo.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylst or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. 7: 30 pr $33-$152. Boston Lyric Opera presents Mozar comic opera.

MIT String Chamber Orchestra

Killian Hall, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (617-25 2826). http:web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Li Kendall. Music Director Dante Anzolini conduc this string performance.

Music in the Cathedral Series

Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Bost (617-482-4826 ext. 1103). MBTA: Green or R Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm. $3. A concert featu ing soprano Elaine Chow.

THURSDAY, APRIL 29

Artist Diploma Showcase

New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsbo ough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newengla conservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphon 8 pm. Free. Part of the NEC's Centennial Conce Series, this recital features Artist Diploma stude Minji Kim on the cello.

Berklee College of Music Senior Recital

Room 1A, 1140 Boylston St., Boston (617-74 8820). www.berklee.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Bo ston. 7 pm. Free. Pianist Saori Furaya performs ja standards and a nocturne by Chopin.

Boston Philharmonic

Sanders Theatre, Harvard University, 45 Quincy S Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.bostonphil.or MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $23-$6 Mezzo-soprano Jane Struss is featured in the Ph harmonic's performance of Mahler's Symphony N 7 in E Minor.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-26 1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Sy phony. 8 pm. $26-$86. The orchestra, featuring Itali pianist Gianluca Cascioli, performs with conduct Daniele Gatti.

Brandeis Student Ensemble

Slosberg Recital Hall, Brandeis University, South S Waltham (781-736-3310). www.brandeis.edu. MBT Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 8 pm. Free. St dents Graham Patten (violin), Sidney Coren (cell and Joshua Klein (piano) perform.

Hospitality Homes Benefit Concert

Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (6174 4338). www.hosp.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlir ton. 8 pm. $25-$40. Pianist Judith Gordon perfor works by Shubert, Chopin and Mozart, accomp nied by the Borromeo String Quartet and pian David Deveau.

Mary Baker Eddy Library

The Atruim, 200 Mass. Ave., (617-450-700 www.marybakereddylibrary.org. MBTA: Green Li to Hynes/ICA or Green Line to Symphony Hall. 6 p Free. This local-talent performance features Ste Gaubatz on piano.

FRIDAY, APRIL 30

Advanced Music Performance Recit

Killian Hall, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (617-25 2826). http:web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line Kendall. MIT student Mahni Ghorashi gives a pia performance including works by Beethoven a Chopin.

Australian Chamber Orchestra

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-58 1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $41-$51. Music dir



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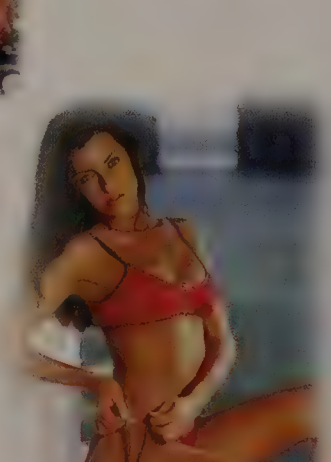
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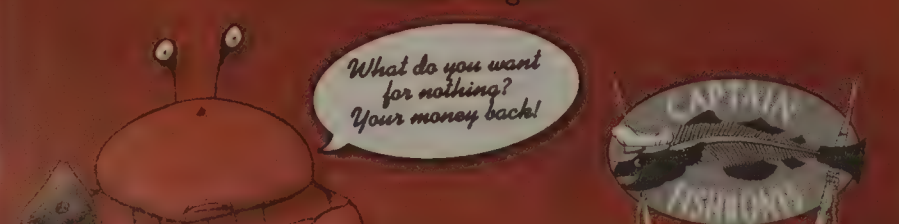
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tor Richard Tognetti leads this performance of works by Corelli, Bach, Haydn and Schubert, featuring solo pianist Piotr Anderszewski.

Asian-American Composers
Killian Hall, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (617-253-2826). http://web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 2002 List Foundation Fellowship recipient Kathy Lin performs on piano and violin in a recital of works by Asian-American composers.

Berklee College of Music Senior Recital
Room 1A, 1140 Boylston St., Boston (617-747-8820). www.berklee.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. Free. Violist Liz Meredith performs modern chamber music.

Between Tides: Music of Toru Takemitsu
Longy School of Music, Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-547-7819). www.janus21.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $21. This performance features violinist Andrew Kohji Taylor and pianist Max Levinson

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30 pm. $26-$86. Same program as April 29.

Così Fan Tutte
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4912). www.blo.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. 7:30 pm. $33-$152. Same program as April 28.

Handel and Haydn Society
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $25-$58. Grant Llewellyn conducts a performance of Italian pieces, including Vivaldi's *Gloria* to Verdi's *Ave Maria*.

Luisa Miller
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (800-233-3123). www.operaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7:30 pm. $24-$85. Opera Boston presents Verdi's tragic tale of love and betrayal, performed in Italian.

Mary Baker Eddy Library
The Atruim, 200 Mass.Ave., (617-450-7000). www.marybakereddylibrary.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA or Green Line to Symphony Hall. 6 pm. Free. This local-talent performance features Ross Snyder on violin.

A Night in Vienna
First Church of Cambridge, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (617-499-4860). www.bostonsecession.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $35. The Boston Secession's 25-member vocal ensemble presents a performance including works by Strauss, Brahms, Haydn, Mozart, Schubert and Beethoven.

Spirit of Journey: Bach to Debussy
Community Music Center, 34 Warren Ave., Boston (617-482-7494). www.cmcb.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 7 pm. Free. Pianist Anita Yu performs works by Bach, Debussy, Mozart and Rachmaninoff.

SATURDAY, MAY 1

Bach's St. John Passion
Sanders Theatre, Harvard University, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (781-235-6210). www.masterworkschorale.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $16-$36. Allen Lannom conducts the Masterworks Chorale and orchestra in this oratorio.

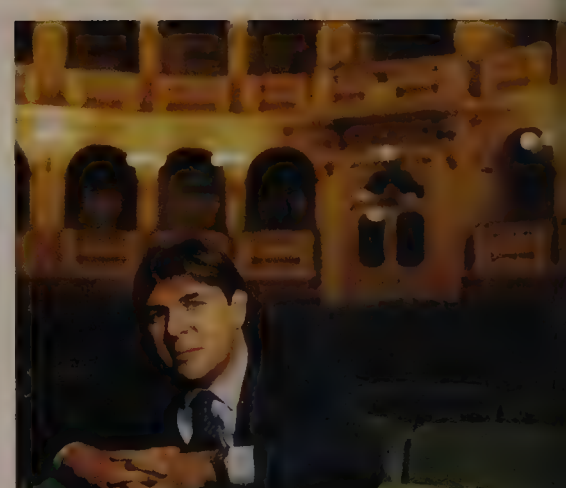
Boston Early Music Festival
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-7232. www.bemf.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm. $22-$58. Jordi Savall and his ensemble, Hespèrion XXI, perform a program of medieval music.

Boston Philharmonic
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-536-2412). www.bostonphil.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm (lecture at 6:45). $15-$54. Same program as April 29.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$95. Same program as April 29.

An Evening in Paris
Longy School of Music, Rey-Waldstein Building, 33 Garden St., Cambridge (617-547-7819). www.cambridgeopera.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $12-$22. Soprano Junko Watanabe, mezzo-soprano Susan Cooke and tenor John McMunn perform works by Pierre Bachelet, Joseph Canteloube, Léo Delibes and others, accompanied by pianist Thomas Enman.

Fête du Muguet Celebration Concert
French Library and Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org.


Daniele Gatti conducts the BSO April 29–May 1.

MBTA: Green Line to Arlington or Orange Line to Back Bay. 4 pm. $25. Soprano Catherine Sidnet contralto Marie-Noële Vidal and pianist Vérèn Rimlinger of the Voix Point Comme Concert Society perform.

MIT Concert Choir
Kresge Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambrid (617-253-2826). http://web.mit.edu/mta/www/musi performance/cchoir.html. MBTA: Red Line to Kendal 8 pm. $5. The MIT Concert Choir performs worl by Stravinsky, Brahms and conductor Willia Cutter.

New England Philharmonic
Tsai Performance Center, Boston University, 68 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-8725). www. philharmonic.org. MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. pm. The NEP presents a concert including works b Virgil Thomson, Gordon Beeferman, Leos Janác and Jean Sibelius.

SUNDAY, MAY 2

Borromeo Guest Honor Award Concert
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-58 1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The Borrome Quartet performs in concert with the winners their String Quartet Guest Artist Award for extrao dinary artistry in chamber music.

Boston Philharmonic
Sanders Theatre, Harvard University, 45 Quincy St Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.bostonphil.or MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm (lecture at 1:45 $15-$54. Same program as April 29.

Brandeis/Wellesley Orchestra
Spingold Mainstage Theater, Brandeis University, 41 South St., Waltham (781-736-3400). www.brandei edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts pm. $8-$15. Joining forces with the Brandeis an Wellesley choirs and the chamber choruses of MI and UMass Dartmouth, Neal Hampton conduc this orchestra performance.

Così Fan Tutte
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-542 4912). www.blo.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylsto or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. 3 pm. $33- $152. Same program as April 28.

Dowland to Lara: Works New and Old for Voice and Guitar
Arlington Street Church, 351 Boylston, Boston (61 281-8569). www.stephenbeaudoin.com. MBT Green Line to Arlington. 7 pm. $10 in advance, $15 the door. Tenor Stephen Marc Beaudoin and class cal guitarist David Wade give a performance featu ing premieres by Boston composers.

Handel and Haydn Society
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-26 1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Sy phony. 8 pm. $25-$58. Same program as April 30.

Luisa Miller
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Bost (800-233-3123). www.operaboston.org. MBT Green Line to Boylston. 2 pm. $24-$85. Same pr gram as April 30.

Music for Homeland Security
Harvard University, Paine Hall, Oxford St., Ca bridge (617-876-9101). MBTA: Red Line to Harva 7 pm. $8-$12. Composers and filmmakers pair c ative interaction with live 21st-century chamb music from the ensemble Odd Appetite and other

Newton Symphony Orchestra
Rashi Auditorium, 15 Walnut Park, Newton Cen (617-965-2555). www.newtonsymphonyorchest com. 7:30 pm (lecture 6:30). The NSO ends its 38 season with this concert, which features 14-year-o cellist Sebastian Baverstam and includes works fr Gunther Schuller, Schumann and Beethoven.



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MONDAY, MAY 3

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The Borromeo String Quartet, accompanied by NEC piano faculty member Veronica Jochum, performs works by Bartok and Brahms.

TUESDAY, MAY 4

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $26-$86. The BSO, featuring mezzo-soprano Nadja Michael and led by guest conductor Rafael Frühbeck, performs works by Berlioz and Ravel. Also performing is the Tanglewood Festival Chorus ,with conductor John Oliver.

Così Fan Tutte
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4912). www.blo.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. 7: 30 pm. $33-$152. Same program as April 28.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. NEC doctoral composition students perform as part of the Composers Series.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5

Music in the Cathedral Series
Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont, Boston (617-482-4826 ext. 1103). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park St. 12:15 pm. $3. A concert featuring organist Richard Benefield.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. NEC faculty members Russell Sherman and Wha Kyung Byun celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary with a recital of two-piano music by Gershwin, Debussy and Schumann.

THURSDAY, MAY 6

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $26-$86. Same program as May 4.

Museum of Fine Arts
Remis Auditorium, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 6 pm. Single show, $20; both shows, $28. The Alloy Orchestra provides live musical accompaniment to the films *Dans La Nuit* and *The General*.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The Parfait Wind Quintet performs Paquito d'Rivera's *Aires Tropicales* and Janácek's *Mládí*.

FRIDAY, MAY 7

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30 pm. $26-$86. Same program as May 4.

Cantata Singers
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-267-6502). www.cantatasingers.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $20-$48. The ensemble performs works by Schütz, Hindeman and Bruckner.

Choral Music at Harvard
Sanders Theatre, Harvard University, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.fas.harvard.edu/~holchoir/imc. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. The Harvard Glee Club, the Radcliffe Choral Society and the HR Collegium Musicum perform classical works.

Così Fan Tutte
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4912). www.blo.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. 7: 30 pm. $33-$152. Same program as April 28.

FleetBoston Celebrity Series
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-482-6661). www.celebrityseries.org. E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $37-$67. Mezzo-soprano Frederica von Stade and bass Samuel Ramey perform a program of arias, songs and operatic duets.

MIT Symphony Orchestra
Kresge Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-2826). http://web.mit.edu/mta/www/music/performance/cchoir.html. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8 pm. $5. The MIT Concert Choir performs works by Stravinsky, Brahms and conductor William Cutter.

SATURDAY, MAY 8

Arts First
Harvard University, Harvard Yard, Memorial Church Steps, Cambridge (617-496-2222). http://fas.harvard.edu/~musicdpt.html. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. pm. The Harvard Wind Ensemble performs program entitled The Music of American Originals featuring the works of Charles Ives, Leroy Anderson, Morton Gould and Raymond Scott.

Boston Baroque
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-484-9200). www.bostonbaroque.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $20-$62. The ensemble presents Monteverdi's *Vespers of 1610*.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$95. Same program as May 4.

Cantata Singers
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-267-6502). www.cantatasingers.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $20-$48. Same program as May 7

MIT Chamber Chorus
Killian Hall, 14W-111, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (617-253-2826). http://web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8 pm. Free. William Cutter directs the chamber chorus in a performance that includes the premiere of Libby Larsen's *The Nothing That Is*, as well as works by Aaron Copland and Samuel Barber.

SUNDAY, MAY 9

Borromeo String Quartet
Isabella Stewart Gardner, 2 Palace Road, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: Green Line to Museum. 1:30 pm. $35. The quartet performs a concert including works by Martinu and Brahms.

Così Fan Tutte
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4912). www.blo.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. 3 pm. $33-$152. Same program as April 28.

MIT Chamber Music Society Student Concert
Killian Hall, 14W-111, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (617-253-2826). http://web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 5 pm and 7 pm. Free. Under the direction of professor Marcus Thompson, students perform various chamber music pieces.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306) www.mfa.org/concerts. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 3 pm. $20-$24. A program entitled Mozart for Mothers and Others features Mozart's *Eine Klein Nacht Musik*, Horn Quintet and Divertimenti for Strings and Two Natural Horns.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The Tradewind Wind Quintet perform Malcolm Arnold's *Three Shanties*, Francis Poulenc's *Sextet* and Carl Nielsen's *Quintet*.

MONDAY, MAY 10

MIT Chamber Music Society Student Concert
Killian Hall, 14W-111, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (617-253-2826). http://web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 5 pm and 7 pm. Free. Same program as May 9.

TUESDAY, MAY 11

Boston Modern Orchestra Project
Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-363-0396). www.bmop.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7 pm. $15. Gil Rose hosts a program entitled The Next Next as part of the Who's Afraid of Modern Music? series.

The Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-638-9280). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $90-$185. Keith Lockhart opens his 10th season as conductor of the Boston Pops with guests singer Art Garfunkel and violinist Eugene Ugorski.

MIT Chamber Music Society Student Concert
Killian Hall, 14W-111, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (617-253-2826). http://web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 5 pm and 7 pm. Free. Same program as May 9.

New England Conservatory
Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 7 pm. Free. Students perform the piano and string chamber music of Dvorak as part of a seminar performance.

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Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $5, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Jay Ine spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Monsta Mondays Kaptain Krunch spins the best old and new rock, $8, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJs spin R&B and hip-hop, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Dance party with DJ Small Marco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

An Tua Nua
What's Up Night A night of R&B, house, funk and soul music, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Phat Tuesday DJ D Sharp spins old-school and hip-hop, 19+, college ID required.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Sender spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 21+.

The Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Orange DJs John Davis and Pat Fontes bring the house music, and weekly guest DJs spin, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Deep Tones DJ Brynmore spins a mix of soul, funk, house and acid jazz, 10 pm, no cover, $3, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Ricky spins 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Trio
Always Best Tuesday The night features all hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Phat Tuesdays DJ Ron Steele spins hip-hop, R&B reggae and international grooves, 10 pm, 21+, proper dress required.

WEDNESDAYS

Aria
Lust DJ John Morris spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, $8, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, $21.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins Greek and international tunes, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.


The Roxy

Common Ground
What a Way to Go Go Mod Night with DJ Vin, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
DJs spin international house, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up R&B, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mercury Lounge DJs Nomadik and Timmy Allen host a night of soul, funk and house, 9 pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin deep house, trance and grassroots techno, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
International Wednesdays DJ JC is in the Latin Lounge; DJs Alex and Felix spin in the back, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Massi spins top-40, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Q
Violation Wednesdays Weekly guest DJs spin today's best music, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Ricky spins spins, 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Cabin Stabbin' Wednesdays DJ Boogie Ba Do spins dub to start the party, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Jazz Wednesdays The Brian Walkley Band brings R&B and dance to the main lounge, 9-11 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B. Downstairs: Live music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
College Night DJ Fu spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; DJ Roger M and DJ Thanos spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
International Thursdays DJ Gee Spin and guests play rap and hip-hop tunes, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Mark Morris and Catunes play pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and Salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Clerys
Karaoke with DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
DJ Ghost spins international house and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Johan Van Cauwenberghe spins acid jazz, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Briar
DJ Stelah spins dance tunes.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursdays DJs Dubz and 40D spin reggae, R&B and hip hop, no cover, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou spins late night, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
Nonstop music with DJ Massi or DJ Ryan, no cover, 21+.

I/D
Square One Thursdays DJs Dres and Wagz host a night of progressive dance music, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Massi gets the dance party started upstairs, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ David James spin dance tunes and old-school, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Doc spins the latest tunes, 21+.

La Boom
Privilege DJ Felix cranks the noise, 11 pm-2 am, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Parris
•April 29, Maxie Courtney, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Carrie spins upbeat lounge in the front, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett performs live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Q
Hedonism Thursdays DJs spin hip-hop all night long, 9 pm, $5, ladies free all night, 21+.

The Rack
Ibiza DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-10:30 pm. DJ Littles spins from 10:30 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali and Ross spin a mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

711 Boylston
Play Thursdays DJ trio Groovefire spins house music with special guests Beat Khemistry, 6 pm-2 am.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Steve Sosong spins new dance and R&B. Downstairs: Justin Beech, 9 pm-1 am, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ JR Vega hosts Latin night with live music by the Latin Party Boys; free salsa lessons with Dan Marshall, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
Hip-Hop Event Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
DJ Jim spins mixed beats.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cover.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 night, 10:30 pm, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

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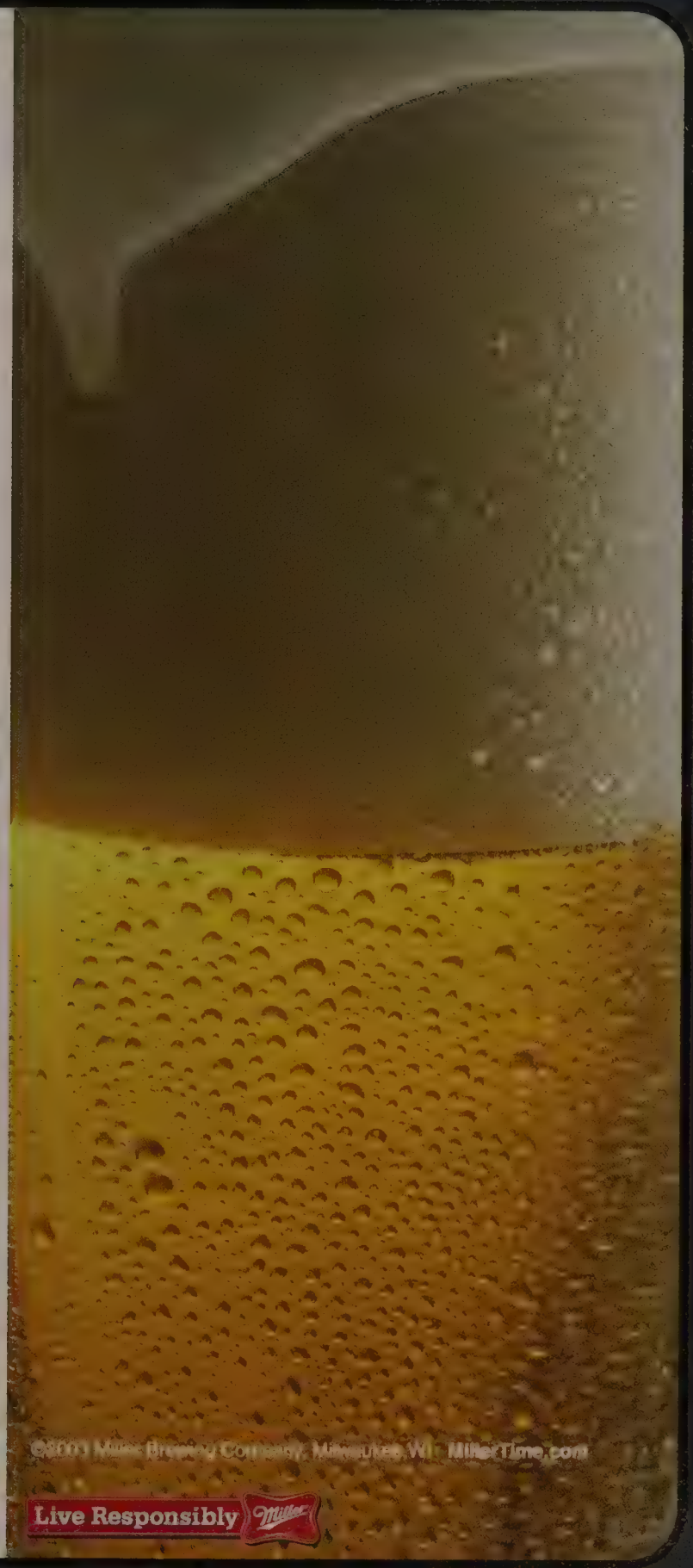
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An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 from the '70s, '80s and '90s, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Floss DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Avaland DJ Nailz spins progressive dance music, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Mas spins hip-hop, funk and techno, 9pm-1am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
Avaland DJ Caprice spins hip-hop as part of Avaland, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ Matt Phipps spining the hottest top-40, hip-hop and '80's faves, along with Boston's best cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
F Night WBCN's Bradley J spins '80s classics, and alternative rock and tribute bands perform live, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft VJ Johnny Walker Black spins top-40 dance and hip-hop tunes accompanied by interactive video shows, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Twist Women's night with DJ MsLadyJ spinning R&B and hip-hop tunes, $10, 19+ (before 11:30 pm).

Caprice
DJ Eddie K spins a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, and two guest DJs spin on the first floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Felt
After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs, spinning high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Bob Gallagher spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •April 30, Drop Dead Sexy, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs Big Daddy and Rizzi spin, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins house and old favorites, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before midnight, 21+.

La Boom
Fashion Fridays Firefly Promotions hosts this fashion night featuring DJ Rick Naples, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

Level
Secret Society DJ Hoff spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B on the fourth and fifth floors, and DJ Niko spins Greek and international tunes on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Matrix
DJ Adilson of Roxy Saturdays spins high-energy house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

The Modern
DJ Glenn spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Rockpile** WAAF's Steve Flagg broadcasts live, and rotating bands perform, 9 pm, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•April 30, Catunes, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •May 7, Darik & the Funbags, 10 pm, $10, 21+.


Felt

Phoenix Landing
Shake What Your Mama Gave You DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
Industrie hosts weekly guest DJs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Craig spins the latest hits, 10 pm, $5.

Q
DJ B Spin plays hip hop and top-40, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-9 pm. DJ Johnny C with KISS 108's Artie, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Lite Nite DJ Easy spins a mix that includes neo-soul and feel-good classics, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top 40 hits, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance. Downstairs: live music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover before 10 pm, 21+.

Sophia's
Sangria and Salsa Salsa and merengue lessons, 7-10 pm, followed by the Latin Party Boys and DJs Mike C and Zino spinning Latin dance, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10pm, $5 after 9pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats all night.

Trio
Boston After Dark Dance to hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with Latin vibes. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, $10, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
DJ Kon spins high-energy vocal house and hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Total Request Avalon DJ Tim Collins plays requests along with top-40, dance and hip-hop, 10 pm, $15 ($10 before 12:30 am), 21+.

The Avenue
DJ Kevin Munroe spins house and trance, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Start! DJ Damien spins alternative rock and '80s hits, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ Matt Phipps spining the hottest top-40, hip-hop and '80's favs, along with Boston's best cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
The Dorm—Bill's Dance Night DJ Bruno spins a mix of hip-hop, dance, reggae and rock, 10 pm, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. VJ Johnnie Walker presents top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Franklin crea a lounge atmosphere with his international, Latin a house sounds, 10 pm, ($10 after 11 pm), 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $ 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood It's women's night at Hollywood with floors of hip-hop and house music with MixMistress upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Roger M spins international house, 10:30 $15, 19+.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop, house, and dance pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favori disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upst with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, $10, 21+. •Ma Drop Dead Sexy, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •May 8, Cen Basement, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 $10, 21+.

I/D
X Night WFNX presents a night of retro '80s rock, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, w downstairs DJ O'Toole plays top-40, 9 pm, 21+.

La Boom
Wild on @ La Boom DJ Tim Collins and KISS host a night of music and dancing, 10 pm, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik s Russian and international music on the third fl 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, v house, travel and funk music on the fourth and floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 9 pm, 21+.

Matrix
Rum Jungle Saturday featuring top-40 hits, h and techno, free before 11 pm, 21+.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio C spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10 pm. ladies are free before 10:30 pm, 21+.

The Modern
DJ's Eddie Lee and Ricky Fatts play hip-hop, 1 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin d music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez Willie D, ladies free, men $5 before 10:30 pm; 18+; $10, 21+ after 10:30 pm. •**The Male counter** New England's longest-running all- dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 $15, 19+; no cover 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos top-40 and hip-hop mixes, $15, 18+; $10, •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no c 21+. •**Underground** DJs spin hip-hop, top dance, techno and reggae for the under-21 cr 7-11 pm, $14. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixe hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+ cover, 21+.

Parris
•May 8, Darik & the Funbags, 10 pm, $10, 21

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins '80s new and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Rick Naples spins high-energy dance, 10 $10, 21+.

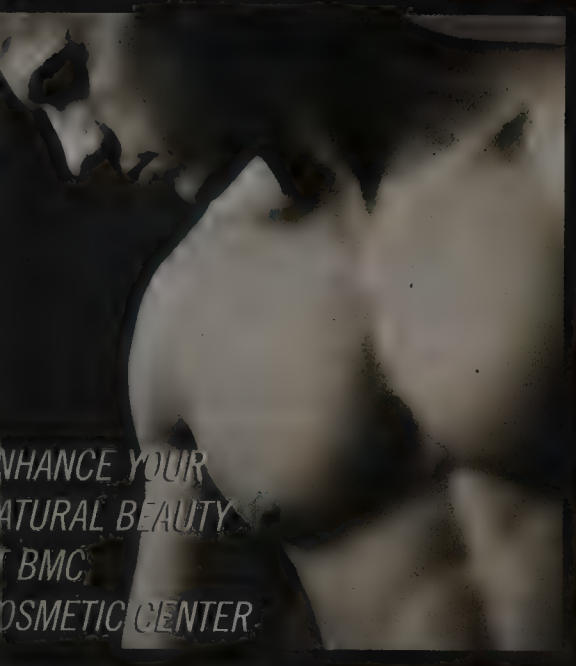
The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom Hogan spins the groove, 10 pm, $5, •May 1, Brick Park. •May 8, Syndicate.

Q
DJ Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi and DJ Littles host th broadcast and dance party, 8 pm, 21+, no cover

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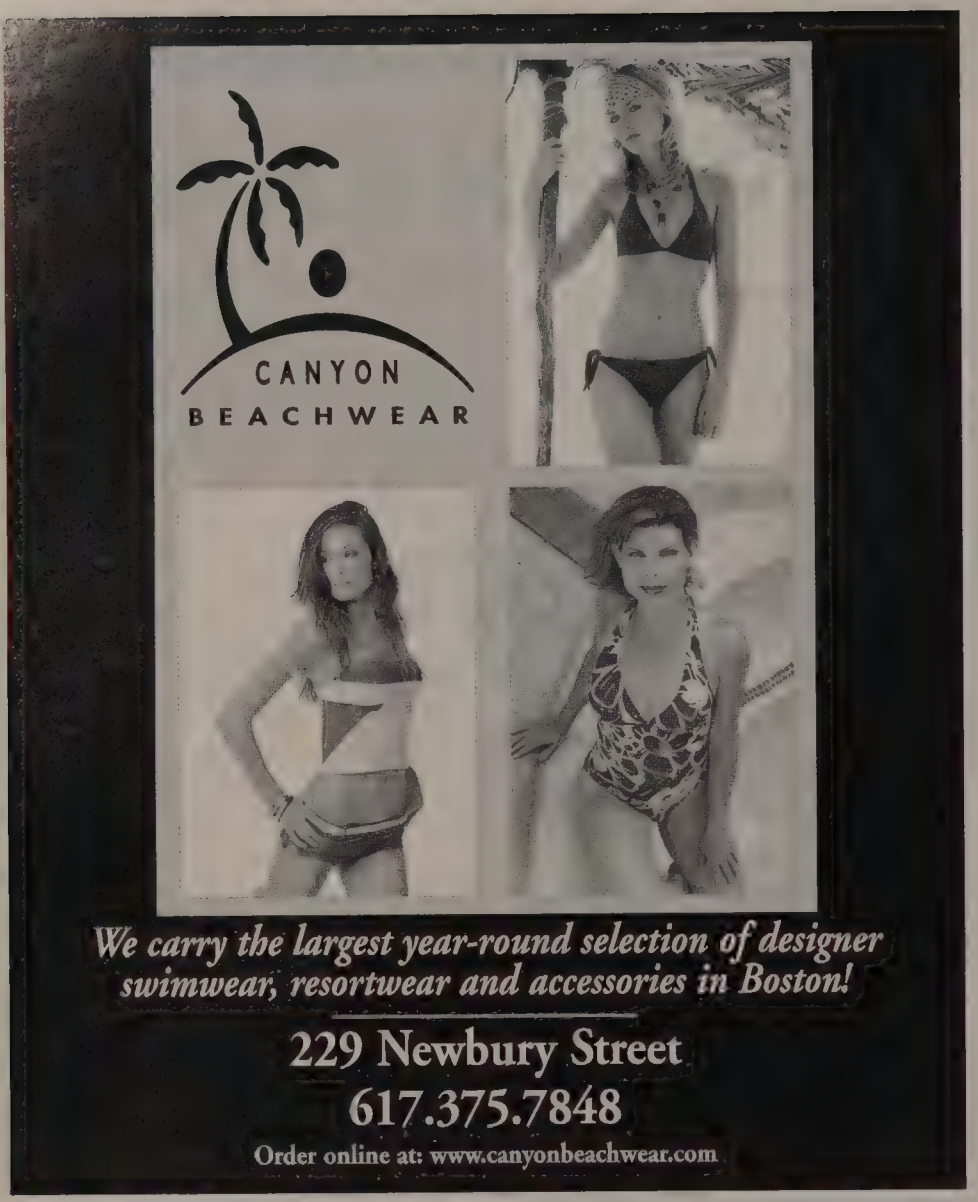
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River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins modern mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins house and techno, 9 pm, $15, 21+.

711 Boylston
Fever DJ Yorgo spins a mix of ethnic and international music, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8 pm. Downstairs: Kevin Kirrane, 9 pm, no cover before 10 pm.

Sophia's
DJ Zino spins salsa and merengue while a Latin band plays on the first floor and DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on the second floor, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and house, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats.

Trio
Best Of Night DJs spin Eurohouse, hip-hop and classics, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, $10 21+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Adrienne spins Brit-pop and new wave tunes, 9 pm-1 am, $3, 19+.

Aria
DJ Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+

Caprice
DJ Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
Fluid Sundays DJs Joshua Carl and Paul Dailey spin tribal and deep house, breaks, techno and jungle beats, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Doc spins hip-hop, house and top-40, 11 pm, no cover.

La Boom
Futurebeat: Alien Disco DJ Addambombb spins a mix of retro progressive tracks, trip-hop and synth-pop, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Satellite A lesbian night featuring DJ Dee, with dance music, amateur drag contests and films, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Reverie Boston DJ Shannon and weekly guest DJs spin goth, industrial and lounge, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
DJ Dave Jordan plays an array of top-40 tunes, 9 pm, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats.

Trio
Vibe Lounge DJs provide the vibe, 10 pm, 21+.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins Brazilian beats, 11 p $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Whiskey Park
Cherry DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock classics, hip-h house and R&B.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-21*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-242*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-70*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-967*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080)*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-987*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555)*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (6 876-1655).*
The G Spot *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-364*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-10*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-946*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-94*
La Boom *One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Light *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (61 524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *(El Copa, Male Encounter, Officers' Club, Oxygen, Rio, Underground and Uptown) 1 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617 227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
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711 Boylston *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-65*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-70*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-92*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-66*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-806*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-54 1483).*

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museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors
Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Gary Schneider: Portraits* is a 30-year collection of the artist's black-and-white and color photography. Through June 13.•*The Continuous Stroke of Breath: Calligraphy from the Islamic World* features Arabic, Indian, Persian and Turkish calligraphy from the 9th through 20th centuries. Through July 18. •*Rocks, Mountains, Landscapes, and Gardens: The Essence of East Asian Painting*, an exhibition of rocks used in East Asian art, shows through Aug. 1.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm. •*Faces and Places*, an exhibition of historical maps of Boston, shows through April 30. •The exhibition *Boston Celebrates 350 Years of Jewish Women Building Communities in North America*, is on display through May 26: Andrea Kalinowski's mixed-media paintings in *Stories Untold* celebrate pioneering Jewish women in the American west; *Fanny Goldstein, 1895-1961* pays tribute to the BPL librarian who founded Jewish Book Week; and the *Women of Valor* poster exhibit highlights trailblazing Jewish women from the arts, science, sports and politics. •*Ellen Band: Portals of Prayer*, an audio installation that combines prayer and music, is sponsored by the Institute of Contemporary Art's Vita Brevis program. Through June 5. •*Seashells and Other Delicacies* is a show of Bela Kalman's photography. Through June 12.

Carpenter Center for Visual Arts
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). www.ves.fas.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-11:30 pm; Sun., 12-11:30 pm. Free. •The students of Harvard's Visual and Environmental Studies department display their work in a juried exhibition. Through April 29. •The *VES Art and Film Thesis Exhibition* shows May 6-June 10.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. •*Ornamental Art V* features jewelry created by three emerging designers: Sarahanne Coggeshall, Karen Gilbert and Sun Hwe Park. Through May 9. •*Joseph Wheelwright: Stone Heads and Tree Figures*, a sculpture exhibition, shows through May 16. •*Jirimani* is a photographic-transparency installation by Jo Yarrington. Through May 30. •*Self-Evidence: Identity in Contemporary Art* is a group show of multimedia work focusing on self-representation in art. Through May 30. •*Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Sense of Place, Part II* features paintings by various artists. Through summer.

Fogg Art Museum/ Busch-Reisinger Museum
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Process and Paradox: The Historical Pictures of John Singleton Copley* features two rarely seen works by Copley, one of America's first great artists. May 8-August 29. •*Design~Recline: Modern Architecture and the Mid-Century Chaise Lounge* features chaise lounges designed by famous architects including Le Corbusier, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, Marcel Breuer, Alvar Aalto, and Charles and Ray Eames. Through July 11.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. • *Dodos, Trilobites, and Meteorites...Treasures of Nature and Science* at Harvard features specimens from scientific explorations of the past 200 years. Through spring. •*Into the Mountains* features the photography of mountaineer Bradford Washburn. Through spring. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species by glass artists Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.


Daphne Confar's *In Some Ways We Are Similar* is at the Pepper Gallery through May 15.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7, $5 students and seniors. •*Made in Mexico/Heche en México* features 20 international artists' interpretations of Mexican culture. Through May 9. •*Ellen Band: Portal of Prayer* is the first entirely audio-based work commissioned by ICA/Vita Brevis. The exhibit explores the sonic properties of prayer. Through June 5.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, free for members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. •*Gondola Days: Isabella Stewart Gardner & the Palazzo Barbaro Circle* explores the influence that the Palazzo Barbaro in Venice, Italy, has had on artists, writers and thinkers around the world. Through August 15.•Italian painter Maurizio Cannavacciuolo shows his contemporary wall drawings in *TV Dinner*. Through August 15. •*Whistler's Warning*, Joseph Kosuth's installation in neon of words taken from an 1885 speech by James McNeill Whistler, shows through August. •Elaine Reichek's embroideries, which depict Biblical images borrowed from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists, display online in the virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum
Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Mon.-Sun. 9 am-5 pm. $8, seniors and students $6, children ages 13-17 $4, free for children 12 and under. •*Gifts from the World to the White House: Caroline Kennedy's Doll Collection* features 77 dolls from 30 countries that were given to Caroline between 1961 and 1963. Through Nov. 5.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. •The museum's permanent collection includes over 1,500 pieces of contemporary art including a variety of painting, murals, sculptures, photography, and print media.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5, $3 students and seniors, $1 children. •Tamiko Thiel and Zara Houshmand show *Beyond Manazar*, their interactive virtual reality installment depicting a WWII internment camp. Through May 2.•*Gabriele Basilico—Photographs* is an exhibition of urban landscapes. Through June 6. •*Hub of the Universe: A Century of Flight in Massachusetts* displays artifacts and artwork from the first 100 years of flight. Through Sept. 5. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features works by the self-described cross between "a mechanical engineer and a choreographer." Ongoing.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. •*If These Dolls Could Talk: 150 Years of Black Dolls* is an exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century handmade, porcelain, plastic and sculptured dolls. Through May 1. •*The Times We Had* is an exhibition spotlighting Boston's African-American community of the 19th-century. Ongoing. •*Building on a Firm Foundation* is a 17-minute multimedia presentation that looks at 19th-century Beacon Hill through the eyes of an African-American teenager. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm; Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15 adults, $13 students and seniors, free for children 17 and under. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free. Special exhibitions are an additional cost. •*Draped in Dragons: Chinese Court Costumes* features clothes worn by members of the Qing imperial court. Through May 2. •Massachusetts College of Art graduate students John Burkett, Catherine Janke, Anna Mogilevsky and Maureen Yzudiker display their art. Through May 3.•Mass Art graduate students Timothy Horn, Thomas Howell, Christina Preher, Elif Ozudogru and Corey Smithson show their work. May 10-22.•*Art of the Japanese Postcard: The Leonard A. Lauder Collection* is an exhibition of 350 Japanese postcards from 1900-1940. Through June 6. •*Gauguin Tahiti*, a retrospective of the painter's work from the South Pacific, shows through June 20. •More than 200 jades dating from the Neolithic period to the Qing Dynasty display in *Chinese Jades from the Hartman Collection*. Through August. •*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13 adults, $11 seniors, $10 children. •*Einstein* profiles the life of Albert Einstein through his personal letters, documents and manuscripts. Through June 6. •*Risk!* is a hands-on exhibit where one can test his or her own sense of daring, while learning to deal with the uncertainty that comes with a difficult decision. Through September 6. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopp Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum
33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). ww monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 p Free. •*Artist to Icon: Early Photographs of El Dylan and the Beatles* is an exhibition of 48 blac and-white photographs taken early in the careers the three rock legends. Through June 6. •*Hat Show Print's Rock 'n' Roll Posters* features letterpr posters for concerts by musicians including John Cash, Frank Zappa and Bruce Springsteen. Throu June 13. •*A Glimpse of Boston Theater, 1850-19* includes 15 playbills and programs from that peri Through June 20. •*Lunch Box Memories* is an ex bition of lunch boxes from the early 1900s throu the 1980s. Through July 18. •*The Enchanted Clo of George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm* is an exhibition of 18th-century local history. Ong ing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household jects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. • *Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Comm nity* is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). ww pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. Adults $13, seniors $ students $9; children 16 and under and residents Salem free. •*Under the Imperial Gaze* features t large-scale Chinese scrolls. Through May •*Geisha: Beyond the Painted Smile* examines gei culture through painting, woodblock prints, phot raphy, video, musical instruments and authentic cessories. Through May 9. •*Men Plow, Wom Weave* displays images of weaving and plowing Chinese artists. Through May 30. •*Vanished Ki doms: The Wulsin Photographs of China, Tibet, Mongolia 1921-1925*, an exhibition of color ima taken by American explorers Janet E. and Freder R. Wulsin, shows through June 13. •*Looking B Ways: Contemporary Artists from Africa* is an exhi tion of works by 12 African artists living in West countries. Through June 20. •*Peonies on Paper* tures more than 60 floral paintings by various C nese artists. Through June 20.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology
11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). ww peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harva Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50 adults, $6 seniors and dents, $5 children •*Regarding the Kalahari: The M shall Family and the Ju/'hoansi !Kung, 1950-196* an exhibition of photographs and stereogra from the Kalahari Desert expeditions of Laure Marshall and his family. Through August. •*Pain by a Distant Hand: Mimbres Pottery from the Am can Southwest* features artifacts from New Mexi Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through September. •*Dis guished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments* features museum's large Mesoamerican cast collection. going. •*Encounters with the Americas* is an ongo exhibition featuring original sculpture and pla casts of Mesoamerican cultures. •*From Natio Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Col tion* features Native American artifacts from explorers' journeys. Through December 20 •*Hall of the North American Indian: Change Continuity* features art depicting the response Native Americans across the continent to the rival of Europeans. Ongoing. •*Pacific Islands H* another ongoing exhibition, displays artifacts f the Pacific Islands.

Galleries

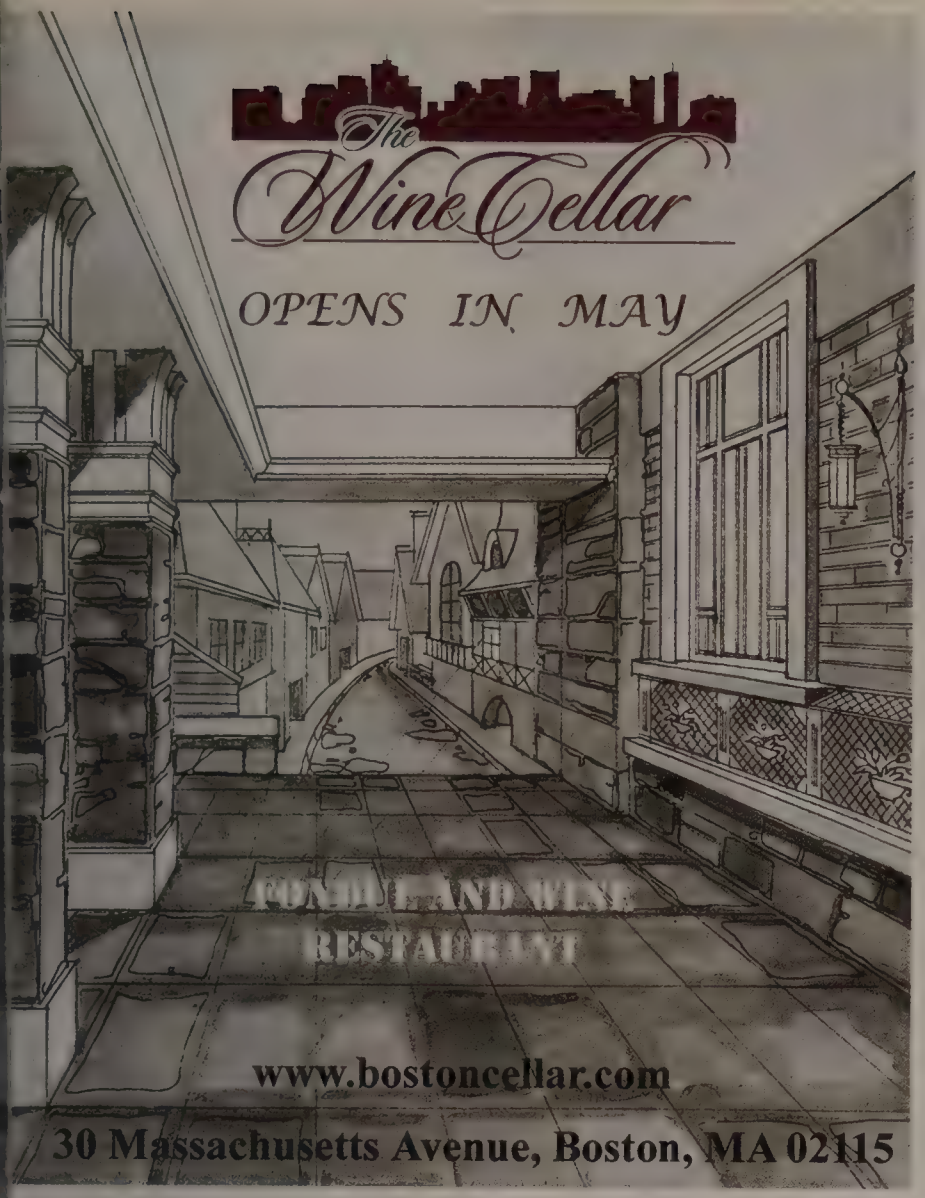
FINE ART

Acme Fine Art
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.a fineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. T Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Peter Busa shows his work ir *dian Space Paintings*. Through May 15.

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). w alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Co Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Patt and Glass* is a group show of glass works by Paul rie and others. May 1-30.

Allston Skirt Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 3rd Floor, Boston (617- 3652). www.allstonskirt.com. MBTA: Green Li Copley. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Kanishka shows her new paintings in the main gallery, an Zane displays his new work in the Mini Skirt ga Through May 1. •*Beat the Reaper* is a group sho works by emerging artists. May 7-29.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). w alphagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlin



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Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Eric Aho shows landscape paintings of Vermont and Ireland. Through April 28. •David Kapp shows his paintings of urban scenes. May 1-June 2.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm.* •Denise Mickilowski shows her work in *Still Lifes*. Through April 28. •Sebastian Picker shows his new work. May 3-29.

Atlantic Works Gallery
80 Border St., East Boston (617-283-7113). http://atlanticworks.org. MBTA: *Blue Line to Maverick. By appointment.* •Photographer Paul Weiner and organic sculpture artist Antonio Deoliveira display their work. May 1-30.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •Allan McCollum shows his work. Through May 5.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.berenberggallery.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •Jennifer Harrison and Casey McGlynn show their work. April 28-June 19.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm.* •Laura McPhee and Mark LaPore show photographs and films of India. Through May 15.

Brickbottom Gallery
1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5 pm.* •*Mobius Invitational* presents video works by the Mobius artists collective. Through May 28.

Bromfield Art Gallery
27 Thayer St., Boston (617-451-3605). www.bromfieldartgallery.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-5 pm.* •Linda Klein shows her oil paintings in *Excess*, and Heidi M. Marston displays her mixed-media work in *Explanations*. April 28-May 22.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Monmouth St., Brookline. (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: *C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm.* •Photographs by Andrew Miller and Patrick Cahn display through April 29. •Gay von Henneberg shows her paintings and sculptures in *Small Houses*. Through May 28

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400 x10). www.cmacusa.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Lechmere. Mon.- Fri., 10 am-6 pm. Free.* •Lenore Sempert shows her work in *Collage for Change*. Through May 6. •Maren Tober and Nelson Da Costa's work shows in *Artists in Exile*. Through May 7.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm.* •Elisa Tenenbaum shows her landscape paintings, and Norman Laliberte displays abstract still lifes in the back room. Through April 30. • The *14th Annual Group Exhibition* displays May 5-29.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA:*Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm.* •*Wolf Kahn: Three Decades of Print-Making* and *Anne Lyman Powers: Athletes in Art* show through May 8.

Clifford-Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 300, Boston (617-695-0255). www.cliffordsmithgallery.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5:30 pm.* •David Kelley and Carl Alvila show new work. May 7-29.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm.* •*The Portrait Artist Exhibition* shows through May 1. •*Fresh Paint*, the gallery's largest fund-raiser, features locally-inspired works by more than 80 artists. May 2-13.

Courtyard Gallery
46 Waltham St. Boston (617-556-2999). MBTA: *Silver Line to Union Park. Thu. and Fri., noon-7 pm; Sat., non-5 pm; and by appointment.* •*Some Assembly Required* features works by Robert Rauschenberg, Mark Younkle, Erick Thomas, David Schuster and others. May 7-June 7.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: *Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm.* •An exhibition of works by Jeff Eldredge, Dan McCole and Norman Crump is ongoing.



Three Runners by Anne Lyman Powers is at Childs Gallery.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm.* •Fadi Shawish shows color and sepia photography. Through May 1. •David Thompson shows his color photography. May 4-29.

Equator Gallery
450 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-540-9236). MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. www.equatorgallery.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm.* •The gallery specializes in Latin American fine art, including paintings, textiles and ceramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: *Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm.* •*Relics of the Nest: Illusion and Memory*, a group show, displays through May 8.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm.* •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall. •The work of Bruno Zupan displays through May 16.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu. and Sat.,12-5 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm.* •Recent paintings by Chris Mesarch and Beverly Rippel are on display. May 6-June 26.

The Gallery at Black and White
295 Huntington Ave., Suite 205 (617-266-2641). MBTA: *E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Mon.-Fri, 10 am-5 pm.* •The gallery features rotating exhibitions of black-and-white photographs.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: *Red Line to Broadway. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •Judith Maloney shows paintings of sea and sky. Through April. •*The Second Annual Furniture Design Exhibition: Cubbies, Doors, and Drawers* shows May-June.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •Lorie Hamermesh shows mixed-media work in *Enfold*. Through May 1. •Steve Hawley and Ed Stitt show their new paintings. May7-29.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
23 Thayer St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Hans Accola shows sculpture, and Tom Pappas shows paintings. Through May 1. •*Your Condition Is Not Permanent*, an installation by Charles Cohen, shows May 7-June 1.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •John O'Reilly shows panoramic photographs, and Gerry Bergstein shows new paintings. Through May 4.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm.* •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters. •*G'Day Mate!* features more than 100 travel posters from Australia, New Zealand, Bali, the Arctic Circle and the Soviet Union. Through April 30.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm.* •Annee Spileos Scott's mixed-media and video installation about the 1960s, *Gimmie Shelter*, is on display through May 1. •Jose Goncalves shows new work in *Montage*. Through May 1. •Tristan Govignon shows bronze sculpture in *Spirit in Form*. May 6-29.

Kaji Aso Studio
40 St. Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www.kajiasostudio.com. MBTA: *E Green Line to Symphony. Tue. and Thu., 4:30-6:30 pm; Sat., 3-5 pm, and by appointment.* •Kaji Aso and students show Japanese calligraphy and Sumi painting in the *Calligraphy Show*. Through May 6.

Kathryn Schultz Gallery
25 Lowell St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www.cambridgeart.org. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm, Sun., 1-5 pm.* •*The 7th Annual National Prize Show* displays May 3-June 24.

Kingston Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 12-5 pm.* •Bonita Sennott shows paintings and drawings in *A Mind of Winter*, and Mary Lang shows photography in *Desire Lines*. Through May 1.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm.* •*Monumental: Steel Sculpture* shows works by Dale Rogers and Rob Lorenson. May 1-June 11.

Mark Gallery
141 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6275). www.markartgallery.com. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm, and by appointment.* •Dorothea Van Camp shows new work. Through May 14.

Martin Lawrence Gallery
77 Newbury St., Boston (617-369-4800). MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. www.martinlawrence.com. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-7 pm.* •The gallery's ongoing exhibition includes works by Chagall, Erté, Hallam, Kondakova, Lichtenstein, Picasso and Warhol.

Mills Gallery
539 Tremont St., Boston (617-348-2926). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed., Thu. and Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-10 pm.* •*OCD* is a group show of works, in all media, that focus on the artists' passions. Through May 7.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •The gallery features a group textile exhibition, and Michael Boyd shows new jewelry. Through April 30. •Gerri Rachins shows new work throughout May.

NAO Project Gallery
535 Albany St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-451-2977). www.naoprojectgallery.info. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay or Green Line to Copley. Wed., Fri. and Sat., 11 am-4 pm and by appointment.* •Karen Moss displays mixed-media art through May 1.

New Art on Newbury
285 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7727). MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Thu., 11 am-6 pm; Fri. and Sat., 11 am-11 pm.* •A local-artists showcase displays through May.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment.* •*The Privilege of Solitude* is a show of works by Alfred Jensen and Forrest Bess. Through May 15.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outofthebleueartgallery.com. MBTA: *Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm.* •A local-artists showcase is ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •Daphne Confar shows portraits. Through May 15. •Harold Reddicliffe shows his paintings. May 3-June 4.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm.* •Jeffrey Hessing displays his oil paintings in *Paintings and Musings*. Through June 1.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sa 11 am-5 pm.* •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and E ropean paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlingto Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •Micha Kenna shows his photographs. Through May 15.

The Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Copl Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm.* •*Grimm Fa Tales Reinvented* is a group show of works inspired Grimm stories. May 1-July25.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copl Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm.* •*Luminosi* a show of oil paintings by William St. Geor Christina Keating, Sandra Mueller-Dick, Judy Peter and Anne Grandin, displays May 1-31.

Studio Soto
63 Melcher St., Boston (617-426-7686). www.studiosoto.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to South Statio Fri. and Sat., 2-5 pm.* •*9,192,631,770* is an instal tion on contemporary time keeping by Caroli Bagenal and Blyth Hazen. May 7-29.

Upstairs at Johnson's Art Gallery
353 Newbury St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-536-406 MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.- Fri., 10 a 5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am - 1pm. •*Creative Vehicles* show of mixed-media work by Ali Kuzmickas, Jas Nathog and Nicole Cordula Peters. May 6-June 2

Victoria Munroe Fine Art
59 Beacon St., Boston (617-523-0661). www.munfineart.com. MBTA: *Green or Red Line to Park Stre Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm and by appointment.* •Shar Horvath shows works on paper. Through April •Katherine Lynch shows her paintings of New York *Painting the Town*. May1-29.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mo Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •*T Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts Legacy*, a show works by four Philadelphia artists, displays throu April 30. •*The Fleet Is In! Marine Paintings and S Portraits* by various artists displays through May 10

William Scott Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-542-4030). www.williamscottgallery.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Bo Bay. Wed.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm.* •Christa Blat ford shows her work. Through May 1. •Dan Lehrer and Gail Spaien show their work. May 7-2

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: *Commuter Rail to W chester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5.* •Rob Hannan shows his photography in *Short Stor* Through June 11. •*Landscapes of the Civil War,* exhibition of 92 rare photographs from the Am can Civil War, displays through June 25.

New England School of Photography
Gallery One, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-4 1868). www.nesop.com. MBTA: *Green Line to K more. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm.* •Terry Bleser sh photographs through May 21.

Panopticon Gallery Kenmore
502C Comm Ave., Boston (617-267-892 www.panopt.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Kenm Tue.-Sat., 11 am-7 pm.* •*Home Run*, a show of vint baseball photographs, displays through September

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Comm Rail to Waltham. www.panopt.com. Mon.-Fri., am-6 pm. •*Beneath the Surface* is a group exhibit of nude photographs. Through June 5.

Photographic Resource Center
832 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). MB *B Green Line to Boston University West. www.edu/prc. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu. am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm.* •*2004 PRC dent Exhibition* features works by students from local photography programs. May 7-30.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Somerville Open Studios
(888-460-0722). www.somervilleopenstudios May 1 and 2, 12-6 pm. •More than 250 local a showcase works including painting, photogra printmaking, sculpture, glass, fiber, jewelry, furni and ceramics.

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Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28

Barnes and Noble at BU
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). http://bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. **Bernice Lerner** discusses her new book, *The Triumph of Wounded Souls*, about the postwar lives of seven Holocaust survivors.

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **Betsy Lerner** discusses her new memoir, *Food and Loathing*, about her struggle to deal with depression and compulsive eating habits.

Boston Public Library
Rabb Auditorium, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7 pm. Free. Brandeis professor **Brian Donohue**, author of the book *The Great Meadow: The Nature of Husbandry in Colonial Concord, Massachusetts*, discusses the ways GIS maps are being used to research colonial farming.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Elizabeth Graver** reads from her new novel, *Awake*, about a couple who disagree about how to treat their son, who is deathly allergic to sunlight.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **R.A. Salvatore** discusses his new novel, *The Highwayman*, which follows a young man through a feudalistic fantasy world as he seeks to understand and avenge his parents' deaths.

THURSDAY, APRIL 29

Arlington Center for the Arts
Gibbs Theater, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). www.acarts.org. 7:30 pm. Free. **Askold Melnyczuk**, founder of Boston University's *Agni* literary magazine, and **Sven Birkerts**, current *Agni* editor, read their poetry and fiction and discuss literature's development over the past 25 years.

Center for New Words: Conversations with Authors
Durrell Hall, Cambridge Family YMCA, 820 Mass. Ave, Cambridge (617-661-9622). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Journalist **Valerie Boyd** discusses her new book, *Wrapped in Rainbows*, about the life of author Zora Neale Hurston.

Friday Forum at Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. **Michael Ignatieff** reads from his new book, *The Lesser Evil: Political Ethics in an Age of Terror*, which argues that the use of force is a devastating but necessary component of liberal democracies' fight against terrorism.

Harvard Book Store Author Event
Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-661-1515).www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Advance tickets required. Free. **John T. Bethell** discusses the book he co-wrote, *Harvard A to Z*, a compilation of essays about Harvard University's history.

Newtonville Books Author Event
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Betsy Lerner** reads from her new memoir, *Food and Loathing*. See April 28 Borders Boston listing for a description.

Readings/Spoken Word at MIT
MIT Building 4, Room 163, Cambridge (617-253-8844). http://web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 6 pm. Free. In this spoken word event, titled "I Am Not a Separate Woman," students read poetry, essays and monologues related to being a woman of color in contemporary America.

Somerville Open Studios Event
Somerville Museum, 1 Westwood Rd., Somerville (617-666-9810). www.somervilleopenstudios.org. MBTA: Red Line to Davis.12-6 pm. Free. Poets **Doug Holder**, **Tanya Larkin**, **Celia Barry** and **Gary Duehr** read their work, which has been featured by local independent publisher Ibbetson Street Press.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. **Andrew Vachss** reads from his new novel, *Down Here*, about a former sex crimes prosecutor who is framed for the attempted murder of one of the men she put in jail. Also, *New Yorker* editor **Adam Gopnik** and contributor **Susan Orlean** read from *Americans in Paris*, an anthology of Paris-themed writings by prominent Americans from the 18th century to the present.

FRIDAY, APRIL 30

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. Journalist **Amy Goodman**, host of Pacifica Radio's *Democracy Now!*, discusses her new book, *The Exception to the Rulers*, in which she argues that corruption and hidden motives are driving current political events.

Center for New Words Benefit Breakfast
Lesley University Alumni Hall, 29 Everett St., Cambridge (617-661-9622). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 8:30 am. $25. At this breakfast, part of the center's first annual Women & the Media symposium, **Amy Goodman** discusses women's place in the media as well as her new book, *The Exception to the Rulers*. See today's Borders Boston listing for a description.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). ww w. wordsworth.com. MBTA:Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. **Jill Kargman** and **Carrie Karasyov** discuss the new novel they've co-written, *Right Address*, about the lives and secrets of New York City socialites as seen by a flight attendant who is dating a billionaire.

SATURDAY, MAY 1

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St, Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 4 pm. Free. **Bill Nowlin** reads from his new book, *Mr. Red Sox: The Johnny Pesky Story*, about the life of the legendary Red Sox infielder.

Cover 2 Cover
Paradise Lounge, 969 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-562-8819). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant Street. 8:30 pm (doors 7 pm). $7. At this Ladies Night edition of Cover 2 Cover, authors Margot Livesey and Heidi Jon Schmitt read work from other women writers, and Rachel Garlin and Dayna Kurtz play songs by other female musicians.

MONDAY, MAY 3

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. **Ralph Sneeden** and other emerging poets read their work.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St, Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Tova Mirvis** reads from her new novel, *The Outside World*, about two Jewish families—one Orthodox, one modern Orthodox—struggling to reconcile their faiths with society's demands.

Cambridge Forum
First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-495-2727). www.cambridgeforum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. Free. **Adam Nicolson** discusses his new book *God's Secretaries*, about the political motivations of the men who wrote the King James Bible and the way their version of the Bible has influenced society.

TUESDAY, MAY 4

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **Michael Connelly** reads from the newest novel in his Harry Bosch series, *The Narrows*, in which private detective Bosch searches for the Poet, a serial killer who leaves poetic clues at the scenes of his crimes.

The Evolution of Political Advertising
John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 5:30 pm. Free. *Washington Post* columnist **David Broder**, columnist and CNN commentator **Mark Shields** and Clinton-era White House press secretary **Dee Dee Myers** talk about the impact that various types of political advertising have on presidential campaigns. **David Gergen** moderates.



Michael Connelly reads May 4.

Harvard Book Store/UpStairs on the Square Author Event
Up Stairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-661-0372). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. $75. Chef **Jacques Pepin** discusses his memoir, *The Apprentice*, about his childhood, his lifelong passion for cooking, and his relationship with his wife and daughters. The ticket price includes a signed copy of *The Apprentice* and a buffet of Pepin-inspired hors d'oeuvres.

Newtonville Books in the Attic
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Michael Connelly** reads from his new novel, *The Narrows*. See today's Borders Boston listing for a description.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA:Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. **Lisa Carey** reads from her new novel, *Love in the Asylum*, about two patients in a rehab clinic who discover a former patient's unmailed letters.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St, Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Psychologist **James Hillman** reads from his new book, *A Terrible Love of War*, which questions whether the human psyche's inclination toward war can be overcome.

Museum of Fine Arts
Remis Auditorium, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3770). http://tickets.mfa.org. MBTA:E Green Line to Museum. 10:30 am. $18. National Geographic explorer-in-residence **Zahi Hawass** discusses his new book, *Hidden Treasures of Ancient Egypt: Unearthing the Masterpieces of the Egyptian Museum in Cairo*, about the museum's ancient artifacts, many of which he found.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA:Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. **Rashid Khalid** discusses his new book, *Resurrecting Empire: America and the Western Adventure in the Middle East*, about America's history of controversial involvement with Middle Eastern countries.

THURSDAY, MAY 6

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **Leigh Montville** reads from his new book, *Ted Williams: The Biography of an American Hero*, about the legendary Red Sox player's career and personal life.

Harvard Book Store Author Event
Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Harvard (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Niall Ferguson** reads from his new book, *Colossus: The Price of America's Empire*, in which he argues that the spread of U.S.–style liberal democracy is beneficial to the world.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Kate Walbert** reads from her new novel *Our Kind*, about a group of divorced and widowed suburban women who reconnect with figures from their past. Also, **Joanna Hershon** reads from her new novel, *The Outside of August*, about a girl who grows up idolizing her older brother and then discovers that he has a secret

FRIDAY, MAY 7

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). www.borde stores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Downtown Cros ing. 12:30 pm. Free. National Voting Rights Inst tute founder **John Bonifaz** discusses his new boo *Warrior-King*, in which he argues that President Bus should be impeached for preemptively attacking Ir without a congressional declaration of war.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515 www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. pm. Free. **Michael Gorra** reads from, *The Bells Their Silence: Travels Through Germany*, his trave ogue that explores Germany's culture, identity ar its troubled relationship with its own history.

MONDAY, MAY 10

Harvard Book Store Author Event
Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Harvard (617-66 1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Ha vard. 6 pm. Free. **Elaine Pagels** discusses her ne book, *Beyond Belief: The Secret Gospel of Thom* about ideologically diverse sects of early Christiani whose ideas were suppressed by the rise of orthodox

TUESDAY, MAY 11

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515 www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. pm. Free. **Ron Chernow** reads from his new boo *Alexander Hamilton*, a biography of the legendar fiery founding father who was instrumental in en neering the first Constitutional Convention.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www. newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newt Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Elizabeth Berg** discuss her new novel, *The Art of Mending*, about a mi dle-aged quilt artist whose familial relationshi are challenged when her father dies and her me tally ill sister accuses their mother of abuse.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). ww newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Ne ton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **John Griesemer** rea from his new historical novel, *Signal & Noi* about an engineer who travels to America in t 1860s to work on the transatlantic telephone cabl

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). ww wordsworth.com. MBTA:Red Line to Harvard. 7 p Atlantic Monthly columnist **Barbara Wallraff** rea from her new book, *Your Own Words*, a guide grammar, language usage and writing style.

Ongoing

Amazon Poetry Slam (Last Sunday)
Milky Way, 403-405 Center St., Jamaica Plain (6 524-3740). 9 pm. $7. On the last Sunday of ea month, the Milky Way hosts the all-women An zon Poetry Slam.

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-3 2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7:30 pm. 21+. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge host poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Harvard Coop (Sundays)
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). wu bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard pm. Free. Hear what Boston-area poets are doing the Harvard Coop's weekly poetry exchange.

Lizard Lounge Poetry (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). wu poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Poe jam, 7:30 pm; poetry slam, 9 pm. $6. The Jeff Rob son Trio plays background tunes for the poetry sla featured poet of the week.

Out of the Blue Poetry (Saturdays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambri (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 $3. Every Saturday is Open Bark poetry night, the fourth Saturday of each month is spoken-wo

Stone Soup Poetry Night (Mondays
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambri (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have h these weekly readings.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursda
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). MBT MBTA: Blue Line to Government Center. 8:30 Free. The second Thursday of each month offe selection of featured poets and an opportunity others to take the open mike.

ducation

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mit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calen-: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. dline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

EDNESDAY, APRIL 28

tifacts from Paradise: How Gauguin anged Reality to Myth
seum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston 7-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green e to Museum. 7 pm. $10-13. **Adrienne Kaeppler**, expert in Polynesian culture, explores how Gau- transformed Tahitian reality into mythical art.

rcia Vetrocq on Maurizio nnavacciuolo
ella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, ton (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. TA: E Green Line to Museum. 12 pm. Free. Art orian **Marcia Vetrocq** discusses the work of Ital- painter Maurizio Cannavacciuolo.

nning for Your Financial Security
rles River Public Internet Center, 154 Moody St., tham (781-891-9559). www.crpic.org. $5. 6 pm. s orientation session for Wi$e Up, a free online ncial planning program for women, is for em- ed women ages 22 to 35 who have basic com- r knowledge.

HURSDAY, APRIL 29

e Exception to the Rulers: The dia in Democracy
nbridge Forum, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617- 2727). www.cambridgeforum.org. Free. 7:30 pm. rnalists **Amy** and **David Goodman** and author MIT professor **Noam Chomsky** discuss the role he media in a democracy.

e Great Meadow: The Nature of sbandry in Concord, Mass.
on Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston 7-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line opley. 6 pm. Free. **Brian Donahue**, director of American Environmental Studies Program at ndeis, discusses colonial farming.

ag[in]ing Chicago
is Museum and Cultural Center, 106 Central Wellesley (781-283-2051). www.davismuseum. sley.edu. 2:50 pm. Free. **Neil Hertz**, a visiting essor of English at Wellesley College, discusses ges of Chicago in various artworks.

radise of Cities: Venice in 19th Century
lla Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, on (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. TA: E Green Line Museum. 6:30 pm. $5-$7. His- n **Lord John Julius Norwich** tells the artful his- of the Palazzo Barbaro in Venice, where the dners, joined by artists and novelists, spent time ng the late 1880s.



sh Michaels gives a talk on May 7.

FRIDAY, APRIL 30

Faith in Boston: How Congregations Matter in a Changing Metropolis
Harvard Divinity School, 45 Francis Ave., Cambridge (617-496-5711). www.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 9 am-4:30 pm. Free. A group of clergy, lay people, Harvard faculty and students discuss the current structural changes occurring in congregations around Boston. Registration required.

SATURDAY, MAY 1

The Meanings of Money
Amethyst Conference Center, 259 Elm St., Somerville (617-661-3414). www.mfourman.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square. 11 am-5 pm. $65. This workshop explores the relationship people have with money and the stigma they attach to it. Registration required.

SUNDAY, MAY 2

Model City: Representation and Reality in Jerusalem
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. Free. 3 pm. Artist **Larry Abramson** discusses his paintings of Israeli landscapes.

Reflections on the Cultural Landscape
National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.nhm.org. 2 pm. Free. National Park Service chief historian **Dwight Pitcaithley** explores how the national preservation movement has affected the American landscape.

MONDAY, MAY 3

The Evolution of Political Advertising
John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red line to JFK/UMass. Free (reservations required). 5:30-7 pm. Washington Post columnist **David Broder** discusses advertising in political campaigns, using examples from the past and present.

TUESDAY, MAY 4

Genealogical Workshop
National Archives, 380 Trapelo Road, Waltham (866-406-2379). www.archives.gov. Free. 1:30 pm. The National Archives provides informative sessions on how to search census information and naturalization and passenger lists. A tour of the archives precedes the lecture.

Steve McQueen and Contemporary Installation Art
Davis Museum and Cultural Center, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu. 11:10 am. Free. Wellesley College art professor **Patricia Berman** and her students discuss contemporary art and light installations.

FRIDAY, MAY 7

Hunting Killer Storms: Chasing on the Plains/Flying into Isabel
Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-723-2300). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. 7 pm. Free. WBZ-TV 4 meteorologist **Mish Michaels** discusses extreme weather spotting.

SATURDAY, MAY 8

The Muse and the Marketplace
Hotel Marlowe, 25 Edwin H. Land Blvd, Cambridge (617-623-8100). www.grubstreet.org. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. $100 for members, $150 for nonmembers. 9:30 am-3:30 pm. Authors including **Andre Dubus III** and **Matthew Pearl** share tips on writing and publishing for aspiring writers of all levels.

SUNDAY, MAY 9

Connecting Children with the Earth
Veggie Planet, 47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-824-4225). www.boston.earthsave.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Free. Dinner, $9.50. 3 pm. **Jane Smillie** discusses her project, CitySprouts, which creates gardens at elementary schools to teach children about growing their own food and healthful eating.

In the Kitchen with Buddha
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St, Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. 1 pm-4 pm. $55. Nourishment educator **Hale Sofia Schatz** teaches you how to nourish your body with spring dishes that are healthful and easy to prepare.

TUESDAY, MAY 11

Medical Errors and Patient Safety: Where Are We Now?
Massachusetts Medical Society, 860 Winter St., Waltham (617-373-5800). www.fordhallforum.neu.edu. 6:30 pm. Free. A panel of doctors discusses a 1999 Institute of Medicine report that stated that health care in the U.S. is not as safe as it should be.

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Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am.; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's new leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $8 for 19+. DJ John Morris spins progressive house for Lust, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $15, 21+. For 20 years, these folks have cranked out Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. Enjoy three separate dance floors plus drag acts. Rotating DJs spin house.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show, and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—pool room and lounge keep the men busy until 2 am.

CityGirl Caffé (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-9 pm; Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-7 pm. This small, laid-back café in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated, draws a mixed gay/hetero crowd for lounging and sandwiches. Brunch is served every weekend.

Club Café and Moonshine Bar (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room and video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Wednesdays, join VJ Cliff Cunningham. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Cliff Cunningham.

Diesel Café (Daily)
257 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-8717). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Mon.-Thu. 7 am-midnight, Fri., 7 am-1 am, Sat., 8 am-1 am, Sun., 8 am-12 am. All ages. Diesel is a gay-friendly Davis Square café that serves coffee and snacks.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3 pm-2 am; Sat., 1 pm-2 am; Sun., 12 pm-2 am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This quiet, friendly neighborhood bar starts hopping as it gets closer to 2 am.

Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. Club Hollywood is a lesbian night at Ekco Lounge with two floors, go-go girls and live music all night.

Fritz Lounge (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 12 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. TV sets show satellite sports broadcasts, and Fritz is home base to a softball league. Brunch is served until 3:30 pm on weekends.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 pm, $6 weekdays; $8 weekends, 21+. Patrons relax with a friendly crowd and mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •Fri., Sat.: live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •On the second Friday of each month is the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground. The typical lineup features singer Leah Callahan with guest musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.


Here, at 711 Boylston

Machine (Tuesdays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 12 pm-2 am. •Wed.: Game Nite hosted by either Diamond Dunhill or Rainbow Frite, 10 pm, no cover. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition with PJ McWhiskers. •Fri.: Best Night Out with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Machine with DJ Brad Gwynn playing house music. 10 pm-2 am, $7, 21+. •Tue.: Service Industry Night with DJ Afrodite.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 19+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: New Wave Dance Party with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Midway Café (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). www.dykenight.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. 9 pm-2 am. $5, 21+. On Thursday nights, the Midway hosts Kristen Porter's Dyke Night, with rotating DJs, pool and dancing. Only three Dyke Nights left. •April 15, Singer/songwriters Allison McHal and Marcy Lang perform, followed by DJ Susan Esthera. •April 22, Sparkle performs, followed by DJ Susan Esthera.

Milky Way Lounge (Sundays)
401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+. Sunday theme nights are geared toward gay men and women, transgendered people and their allies. Live entertainment varies from week to week and includes Fireballs Drag Bingo, spoken-word events and jazz. There is free bowling if you buy dinner, and a dance party hosted by resident DJ Jamila caps off the evening. On the last Sunday of every month, the Milky Way presents the all-women Amazon Poetry Slam, a lesbian event. 8 pm, 7:30 pm sign-up, $7.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Thu.: Fire and Ice with DJ Dan Leavey. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza. •Tue: DJ Scott Thinsdale.

Rise (Saturday)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. Private, members-only club, predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

711 Boylston (Tuesdays)
711 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5502). www.hereboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 9 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Here is Boston's Tuesday night gay dance party features and disco and pop.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night, and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music pumps, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Vapor (Wednesdays-Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-422-0862). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adilson. 19+. •Thu.: The Music Factory with DJ Pauli Paul and DJ Ron Steele spinning hip-hop, reggae and funk. $5 before 11, $2 after 11, 21+. •Fri.: Inner Circle. $10, 21+. •Sat.: Evolution with DJ Jay Ine. •Sun.: T-Dance party with DJ Danae grooving to local, tribal and house while DJ Niterain spins classic oldies. 21+.

Books

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). www.calamusbooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-7 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. Boston's bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered people carries fiction, erotica and titles by gay and feminist activists.

Center for New Words
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-531
MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. www.centerfornewwords.com. Cambridge's center for women's writ and ideas hosts open mikes and author events.

We Think the World of You
540 Tremont St., Boston (617-574-5000). www.thinktheworldofyou.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This community-centered gay and lesbian bo store stocks literature, art books, DVDs and videos.

Shows & Events

Center for New Words: Benefit Breakfast
Lesley University Alumni Hall, 29 Everett St., Cambridge (617-661-9622). www.centerfornewwords.c MBTA: Red Line to Porter. April 30, 8:30 am. $25. this breakfast, part of the center's first ann Women & the Media symposium, **Amy Goodm** discusses women's place in the media as well as new book, *The Exception to the Rulers*.

Center for New Words: Conversations with Authors
Durrell Hall, Cambridge Family YMCA, 820 M Ave, Cambridge (617-661-9622). www.centerfor words.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. April 2 pm. Free. Journalist **Valerie Boyd** discusses her book, *Wrapped in Rainbows*, about the life of aut Zora Neale Hurston.

Contra Dancing with Linda Leslie
First Church of Jamaica Plain, 6 Elliot St., Jama Plain (617-522-2216). www.lcfd.org/jp. May 8, 7 11pm. $8. Learn to dance with the Boston Gay Lesbian Contra Dancers, featuring caller Linda Le and music by Heathen Creek.

Lesbians, Gays & Friends Fellowsh Annual Speaker Series
Old South Church, 645 Boylston, Boston (617-5 1970). www.oldsouth.org. MBTA: Green Lin Copley. April 28, 7 pm. Free. Retired Episco Bishop John Shelby Spong, one of Ameri leading church figures in the debate over the rig of homosexual people, gives a lecture entit "Beyond Limits to Wholeness: A Christian Beyond Theism but Not Beyond God." The lec is followed by a reception in Gordon Chapel.

13th Annual Women's Dinner Part
Westin Copley Place, 10 Huntington Ave., Boston (6 267-0900). www.fenwayhealth.org/giving/dinner htm. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. May 1, 6 pm am. $125. This fund-raiser for Fenway's Wom Care Fund celebrates women's health, loves, li and families. The evening begins with a cock reception followed by dinner, the presentatio the Dr. Susan M. Love award, dancing, entert ment and a silent auction.

Ongoing

Atención Latina Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Bo (800-834-3242). www.fenwayhealth.org. MB

Green Line to Hynes. FCH collaborates with the Elizabeth Stone House to provide this safe, confidential space to discuss healthy relationships, domestic violence and other issues.

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wednesdays, 6-9 pm. The Boston Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered and Questioning Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6032). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 7 pm. This group meets the second Tuesday of every month for a discussion with bisexual and bi-curious men.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tuesday of the month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

BOSS
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 6-8 pm. This group for gay and bisexual men of color meets the last Thursday of each month to discuss culture, lifestyle, creativity and health.

Boston Bay Blades
www.bayblades.org/boston. All are welcome to join this competitive, recreational group of rowers and scullers.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers
First Church of Jamaica Plain, corner of Centre and Eliot streets, Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org. Every Wed., 7:30 pm, $8. Square-dancing and English country dancing lessons are available for lesbians, gays, bisexuals and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-424-8990). www.bgbl.com. The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm, Fri, 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people, ages 13-25.

Boston Ironsides Rugby Football Club
Moakley Field, South Boston (617-524-5814). MBTA: Red Line to JFK. Rugby players of any level, age, race and orientation are welcome to play.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. www.lesbianavengers.org. Thu., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wednesdays, 7 pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
(617-417-0876). Third Saturday of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for interested parents and their partners. For info, e-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-1595). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm, free. An informal group for people who think they may be bisexual or attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning People
(617-256-8693). This group welcomes those who want to discuss the challenges and the joys of coming out. It meets Thursday nights, 7-8:30 pm, in Cambridge.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area support, information and social group for people assigned female at birth who feel that is not an accurate or complete description of their gender. Part of the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group meets monthly. Email CompassFTM@usa.com for details.

Controversy Thursday
Matrix (B Room), 275 Tremont St. (lower level of Roxyplex), Boston (617-542-4077). Certain Thursdays (call for details), $8, no sneakers. This gay and bi dance party features DJ John Morris at 10 pm.

Dagger
(617-621-6090). The Theater Offensive's guerrilla theater group, Dagger, gathers on Wednesdays from 6-9 pm to create performances representing women's perspectives. For more information, e-mail dagger@theatreoffensive.org.

The Down Low
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Last Friday of the month. 7-9 pm. A discussion group for gay and bisexual men of color to address heritage, lifestyle, culture and health.

East Coast Wrestling Club
(401-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www.eastcoastwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay male wrestlers has more than 160 members.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional women 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophisticated to get together with like-minded women for conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Explore Gender in a Safe Place
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. An ongoing support group for people born into female bodies or who have grown up being viewed as biologically female.

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Saturday mornings. Join Boston's GLBT Flag Football League for a casual spring season, followed by a formal fall season. All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). Sat., 10 am. All are welcome to join this running club.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
(617-267-9001 or 888-340-4528). Mon.-Fri., 6-11 pm; Sat. and Sun., 5-10 pm. This toll-free hotline is confidential and provides support for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning callers.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church in Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Professionals Building Community
(617-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to join this networking organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered professionals.

Gaymes Group
(508-339-4250). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians. Members get together on a regular basis to play board, card and parlor games.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. $5-10. An open mike night open to new performers, this queer-positive, dyke-positive, bi-positive and trans-positive spoken-word event meets the second Thursday of each month, 7:30pm.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Biological males meet on Monday evenings. The groups are moderated by psychologist Randi Kaufman.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday from 10:30 am-12 pm.

Girlz 2 Girlz
(617-482-1078, ext. 277). This mentoring program for girls aged 13-19 who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered or questioning meets the second and fourth Friday of each month, 6-8 pm. Contact Jayms Battaglia.

GLBT Seniors
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6272). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mondays. Support group for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered seniors ages 60 and over.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Anonymous HIV testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Laffan
This social and networking group for women includes single women, couples and parents interested in art, cultural events, outdoor and sporting activities, intellectual and social pursuits, public service and travel. Members receive a weekly email calendar of events. For info, e-mail Laffan_Boston2004@yahoo.com.

LGBT Considering Parenting Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. A short-term (eight-week) group for LGBT persons who are considering becoming parents. Sliding fee scale available. Call for information.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue., Wed. and Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

Meow Boston
groups.yahoo.com/group/Meow_Boston. This social group caters to feminine bisexual women and lesbians in the Boston community. For women 21+.

The Network/La Red
(617-427-7233). The Network is a support group working to end abuse in lesbian, bisexual women's and transgender communities. Email info@the networklared.org for more information.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

Peer Listening Line
(800-399-7337). Trained GLBT volunteers provide confidential information, referrals and support.

The Rainbow Cafe
rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social group for activist, academic, intellectual or artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

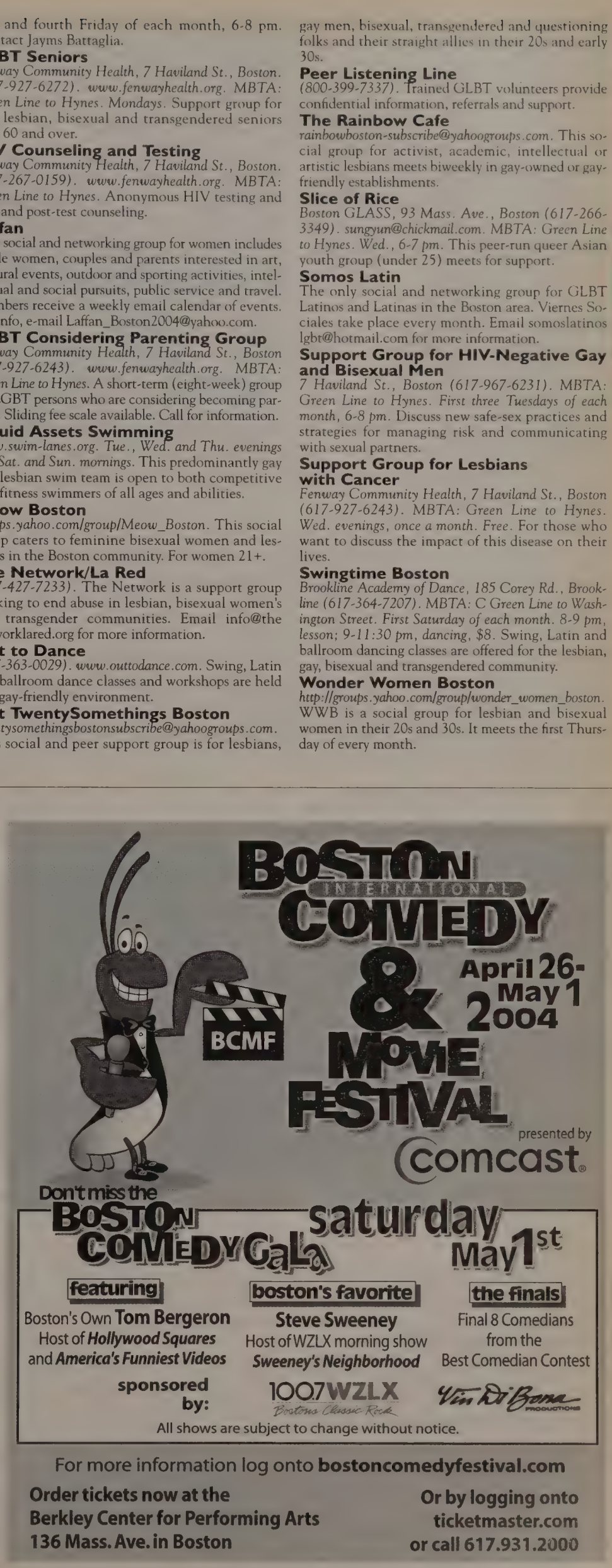
Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. Email somoslatinos lgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Support Group for HIV-Negative Gay and Bisexual Men
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-967-6231). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. First three Tuesdays of each month, 6-8 pm. Discuss new safe-sex practices and strategies for managing risk and communicating with sexual partners.

Support Group for Lesbians with Cancer
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed. evenings, once a month. Free. For those who want to discuss the impact of this disease on their lives.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Street. First Saturday of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing, $8. Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. WWB is a social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s. It meets the first Thursday of every month.



body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Dharma Film: Rivers and Tides
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. May 7, 7 pm. $10. Co-sponsored with the Institute for Meditation & Psychotherapy, this film series explores the mind and spirit of the cinema. Tonight's feature, *Rivers and Tides*, is a documentary on Scottish environmental artist Andy Goldsworthy, who creates impermanent structures from natural materials. The film is followed by a discussion.

An Evening with Marianne Williamson
Arlington Street Church (886-468-7619). www.pathwaysboston.org or www.marianne.com. May 7, 7 pm. Call ahead for tickets. Pathways to Complementary Medicine presents best-selling author and inspirational speaker Marianne Williamson, whose work focuses on bringing spiritual themes "down to earth."

Kirtan with Bhagavan Das
Back Bay Yoga Studio, 1112 Boylston St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-375-0785). www.backbayyoga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center. May 7, 8 pm. $20, prepaid. Bhagavan Das, a yogi who has created music with Mike D of the Beastie Boys, hosts an evening of Hindu devotional music. Das presents his perspective on blending Eastern consciousness with the Western lifestyle.

New England Tai Chi Conference
Radisson Hotel, Milford (781-254-1062). www.tqhi.org. May 7-8. This expo is designed to make attendees feel comfortable with all types of alternative health practices. Classes are offered in tai chi, qi gong, herbalism, psychology, massage, acupuncture and feng shui.

Spring Health Festival
Pleasant Street Health Collaborative, 294 Pleasant St. (Rte.139), Stoughton (781-344-8878). May 8, 1-4 pm. Meet practitioners of qi gong, meditation, massage, reflexology and reiki for an informative day of music, entertainment and refreshments.

Lectures

Alternative and Natural Pet Care
Center for Balance, 709 Washington St., Newtonville (617-527-0247). www.centerforbalance.org. May 4, 7-8:30 pm. $10. Confused about natural health alternatives for your pet? In this class, learn about Reiki energy healing for animals, the contents of commercial pet foods, how to find a holistic veterinarian and more.

Coming to Our Senses: Living Life as If It Really Mattered
Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. MBTA: Red Line to Central Square. May 7, 7-9 pm. $25. Jon Kabat-Zinn, meditation teacher, writer, and scientist, describes mindfulness practices that may help participants increase compassion, comfort and wisdom.

Healthy Hormones for Women
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 90 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circlesofwisdom.com. May 4, 7:15-9:15 pm. $20. Participants learn about hormone imbalances, along with natural and holistic approaches to healing.

The Meanings of Money
Amethyst Conference Center, 259 Elm Street, Somerville. (617-661-3414). www.mfourman.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. May 1, 11 am-5 pm. $65. Registration is required. Participants explore the conscious and unconscious meanings they may assign to money and how those meanings shape relationships to wealth.


Open Doors in Brighton offers an intro to Boabom and Seamm Jasani May 8

Classes

Energy Bodies Playshop
CasaNia Studio, 46 Porter Rd., Cambridge (617-491-5144). www.casania.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. May 1, 2:30-5:30 pm. $30. This class covers chakras, the energy focal points of the body, then moves to Nia dance, a harmonious blend of dance, martial arts and healing practices.

Intro to Boabom and Seamm Jasani
Open Doors, 360 Washington St., Brighton (617-202-6333 or 617-480-8237). www.opendoors7.com. MBTA: B Green Line to Washington St. May 8, 12:30 pm and 2 pm. Free. Boabom and Seamm Jasani are the fast and slow facets of an ancient Tibetan art of relaxation, healing, meditation and self-defense.

Laughter Therapy: A Natural Anti-Depressant
First Unitarian Society-Parish Hall, Newton (617-964-5544). www.alternativementalhealth.com or www.fusn.org. April 29. This class focuses on the physiology of laughter and discusses its immune system–enhancing benefits. Participants also get a chance to experience a laugh session themselves.

Meditation
Christine's Yoga and Pilates, 1280 Centre St., Suite 6, Newton Centre (617-928-0932 or 617-928-0811). www.christinesdayspa.com. MBTA: Green Line to Newton Centre. May 2, 5:15-6:15 pm. $10. Explore various types of meditation, including body scan, breathing, awareness and loving kindness.

Moon Salutation Asana
Art and Soul, 91 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-661-7376). www.artsoulyoga.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. May 2, 6-8pm. $20. Learn flowing yoga poses and postures that stimulate core energy and stretch the body.

The Promise of Dharma in a World Gone Wild
Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. MBTA: Red Line to Central. May 8, 9 am-5 pm. $100. Jon Kabat-Zinn, meditation teacher, writer and scientist, leads this class on meditation and mindful dialogue, through which participants explore their potential for wisdom and compassion.

Reflexology: Foot Massage for Health
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. May 8, 9 am-12 pm. $31. Reflexology is the study of areas located on the foot that correspond to all major glands, organs and bodily functions. Participants learn to massage feet in a way that may ease emotional, mental and physical stress.

Thai Massage
Yoga for Everybody Studio, Framingham (508-259-2847). April 30, 7-9 pm. $15 per person, $30 for two people. Call ahead to register. Bring along a friend or loved one and learn the two-person exercise practice of Thai massage, which features a series of postures and simple massage techniques.

Yoga with Tias Little
Cambridge Masonic Hall, 1970 Massachusetts Ave., Porter Square, Cambridge (617-523-7138). www.yogastudio.org. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. May 7-9, 10 hours. $170. Preregistration is required. Little's teaching blends Western and Eastern perspectives together for a weekend workshop. Practice meditation along with inversion and supine yoga poses, with the goal of cultivating the flame of the inner spirit.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

Boston Red Sox
• Fenway Park, Boston
Tickets: 877-733-7699
April 28, 7:05 pm vs. Tampa Bay Devil Rays
April 29, 7:05 pm vs. Tampa Bay Devil Rays
May 7, 7:05 pm vs. Kansas City Royals
May 8, 1:20 pm vs. Kansas City Royals
May 9, 2:05 pm vs. Kansas City Royals
May 10, 7:05 pm vs. Cleveland Indians
May 11, 7:05 pm vs. Cleveland Indians

Events

5K Race for Research
Race begins at the MDC Lederman Field, Charles River Esplanade, Boston (203-652-0209). www.themmrf.org. May 8, 9 am. $25 in advance, $30 day of the race. This 5K race raises money for the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club seeks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club (BSSC) Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Brookline and Dedham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

FENCING

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLOOR HOCKEY

BSSC Coed Floor Hockey
Leagues are held in Newton, North Reading and Brighton (617-789-4070, ext. 238). www.bssc.com. All levels, individuals and teams are welcome.

FOOTBALL

BSSC Coed Indoor Flag Football
Games are played in Revere and Tewksbury. (617-789-4070, ext. 242). Sign up individually or with a group of friends.

KICKBALL

BSSC Kickball
Games are played Tuesdays in Charlestown (617-789-4070, ext. 223). Relive your playground days with 10-on-10 kickball(five men and five women per team).

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, then consider joining these self-proclaimed "serious drinkers with a running problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Run
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Thu., 7 pm. Weekly runs.

VFW Logan Post 3.223-Miler
VFW James Logan Post, 1192 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thu., 7:10 pm. Weekly runs followed by pizza and beer.

SOCCER

BSSC Outdoor Soccer
(617-789-4070). Outdoor teams forming now. Games played in Charlestown, Lexington, Reading and Canton. Individuals and teams are welcome.

SOFTBALL

BSSC Softball
(617-789-4070). Coed softball games played in Brighton, Newton, North Reading and other areas.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070, ext. 222) Sun.-Thu. Coed teams forming for spring and summer leagues in Cambridge, Watertown, Brookline and Newton.

WOMEN'S FLAG FOOTBALL

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Saturday mornings. Teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-868-8379). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels. Weekly practices held year-round.


Play outdoor soccer with the BSSC.

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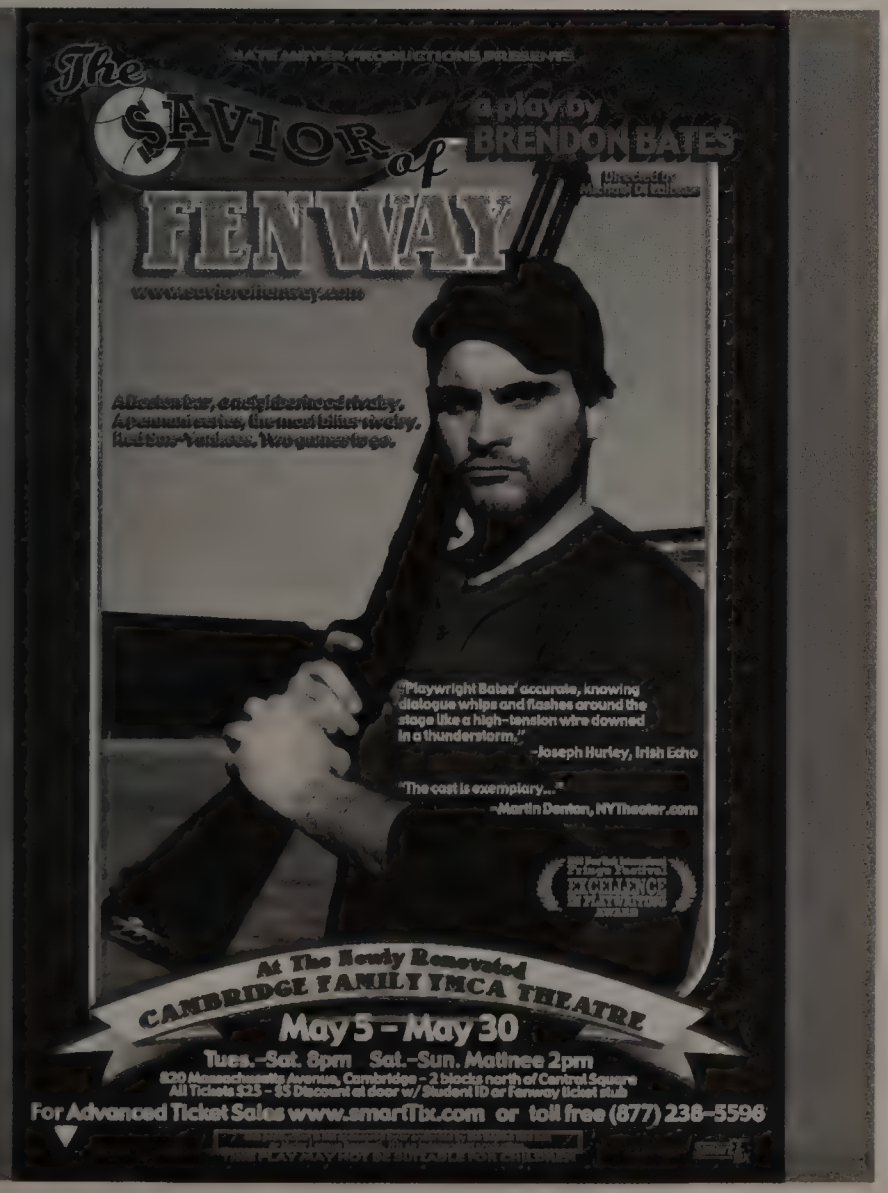


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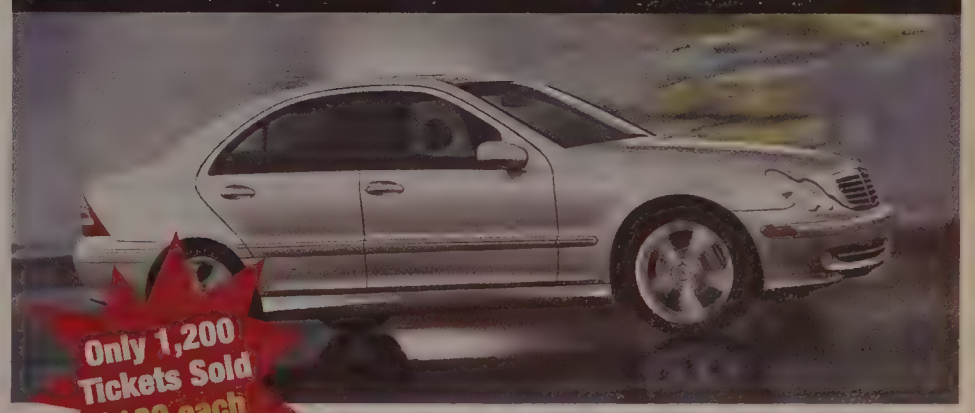
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children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Big Apple Circus—Carnevale!
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.bigapplecircus.org. Wed.-Fri., 11 am and 7 pm., Sat.-Sun. 12:30 and 4:30 pm. May 5, 11 am only. Through May 9. $13-52. The Big Apple Circus features acrobatics by Los Aregos, juggling by Andrey Markov, Arabian horse stunts and trapeze and high-wire acts.

Borders Books and Music
Cambridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Sat., 1 pm. Staff members read from new and classic storybooks.

Boston Lyric Opera
John Hancock Hall, 180 Berkeley St., Boston, (617-542-6772). www.blo.org. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. May 2, 12:30 and 2:30 pm. $15 adults, $10 children. The Boston Lyric Opera presents Engelbert Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel*.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Every Tue. and Sat., 11 am. Staff members read children's stories.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50. Reservations recommended. •April 28 and 29, 10:30 am, ages 3-6: In *The Kingdom of Riddles*, a king and queen send a knight to catch a unicorn. Along the way, the knight asks the audience to help him solve riddles posed by a jester, a witch and a dragon. •May 1 and 2, 1 pm and 3 pm, ages 4-8. Through songs and stories with shadow puppetry by Nappy's Puppets, *Jack Tales* explores the adventures of Jack-Be-Nimble, Jack Horner, Jack and the Animals, and Jack and the Little Giant. •May 5 and 6, 10:30 am, ages 3 and up: Lenny Gerwick presents a musical mystery, *The Case of the Missing Woodpile*. •May 8 and 9, 1 pm and 3 pm, ages 5-9: Palm of the Hand Puppet Theatre presents *Tales From Around the World*.

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs
Wheelock Family Theatre, 180 The Riverway, Boston (617-879-2300). www.wheelock.edu/wft. Through May 2. Every Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat. and Sun., 3 pm. $12-$18. The Wheelock Family Theatre presents this Grimm Brothers tale of envy about a beautiful princess rescued from the forest by a band of seven dwarfs and saved by a handsome prince from the grasp of a jealous queen.

Things to Do

Boston by Little Feet
Fanueil Hall, Congress St., Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Sun, 2 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am. $10 adults, $8 children ages 6-12. •*Boston by Little Feet* is a walking tour exploring the history and architecture of Boston.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8, $7 children. •April 28-30, 11 am-4 pm. *Art Studio: Finger Puppets*. Families can make their own finger puppets to take home. •May 1, 12-3 pm. *Lei Day*. Kids can listen to Hawaiian music and learn how children in Hawaii celebrate Lei Day.•May 2, 1-2 pm. Barney Saltzberg reads from his new book, *Crazy Hair Day*. Prizes available for kids who come with their own crazy hairstyle. •May 7, 7:45 and 8:15 pm. *Friday Night Lights*. Watch the Boston Children's Chorus. •May 8, 11:30 am-1:30 pm. *Kitchen Science*. Kids 6 and older can get a hands-on experience by experimenting with food. •May 9, 12-3 pm. *Japanese Children's Day Celebration*. Kids can take part in a museum-wide celebration of Kids Day in Japan, including performances, workshops and exhibits. •*Five Friends from Japan: Children in Japan Today* features interactive lessons about Japanese writing, attire and music. •Every Friday, 3-5 pm; Every Saturday and Sunday, 2-4 pm. *In the Zoom Zone*: Take part in hands-on science challenges culled from the PBS TV show *Zoom*.


Alesya Goulevich's colorful Hula-Hoop act is part of the Big Apple Circus

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-496-8204). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. $7.50, $5 children. •Every Sat., 9 am. $35. Saturday Scholar sessions give children the opportunity to learn about their world through hands-on activities. •May 8, 1-5 pm.. *Feathered Friends Family Festival*. Families can celebrate the world of birds with displays, demonstrations and activities offered for all ages.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. $5, $1 for children (free admission the third Sunday of every month). •*Holography, the Light Fantastic*: The MIT Museum displays the largest collection of holograms in the world. •*Robots and Beyond*: The exhibit offers a look at MIT's artificial intelligence research labs.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. $15, free for children 17 and under. •April 28, 3:30-4:30 pm, ages 6 and under: *Books Bring Art Alive*. Museum educators read children art-centered kids' books and help them to create related crafts. •Sat., 11 am, 12:30 and 1:30 pm: *Art Alive* offers a range of cultural activities and events for children.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $10 children. •*Einstein* provides interactive simulations that give insight into the complexities of Einstein's theories about the nature of time, energy, gravity and light. Through June 6. •*Making Models* is a hands-on exhibition that demonstrates how models help people understand complex ideas and phenomena. It includes a wave tank, a model of Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •Every Sat. and Sun., 11 am-12 pm: The museum's Science Theater Program features professional storytellers who combine folk tales and myths with visits from live animals. •*Theater of Electricity*: Daily, times vary. The Van de Graaff generator provides a risk-free lightning show. •Charles Hayden Planetarium, check www.mos.org for show times, $8.50, $6.50 children: The kids-oriented multimedia astronomy show *Gravity Rules* features Jack the Jester. •Every Fri., 8:30-10 pm (weather permitting). Gilliland Observatory: Use the observatory's two telescopes to find the moon, stars, constellations and planets. •Mugar Omni Theatre, check www.mos.org for show times, $8.50, $6.50 children: *Jane Goodall's Wild Chimpanzees* (through September), *Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West* (through June) and *India: Kingdom of the Tiger* (through September).

Museum of Transportation
Larz Anderson Park, 15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). www.mot.org. Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5. •Every Sat., 10 am-5 pm: On Family Saturdays, children can participate in a scavenger hunt, play with hands-on "Mystery Bags" and view the exhibition *L'Automobile*, a show of French cars. Through April 2005.

around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on clear nights), April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm; Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm, Fri., 10 am-9 pm; June-Aug., daily, 10 am-5 pm, Fri. until 9 pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (617-338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park Street. Mon.-Sun., 9:30 am-6 pm. $7.50.

Faneuil Hall
Boston (617-635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. Tours start at 9 am. Free.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-2 pm. Free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-8 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-739-1200). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10 am-4 pm. $5, $3 students, seniors.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $10 seniors and children.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5, $3 children.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept.-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1, Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, $8.95 children.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. $3.

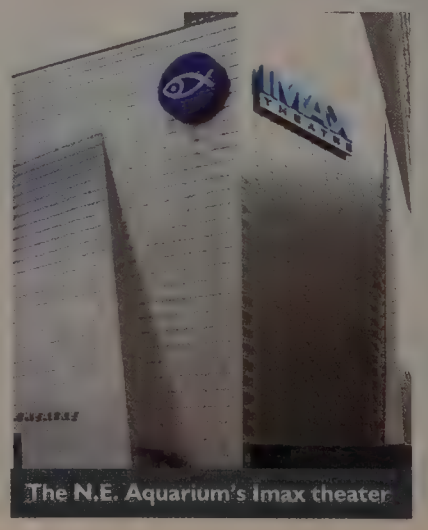
Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10 am-4 pm; weekends, 10 am-5 pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $5, $1 children.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $6, $4 seniors.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8 am-6 pm. $3.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). Museum open daily, 10 am-5 pm. Winter ship hours: Thu.-Sun., 10 am-4 pm. Free.


The N.E. Aquarium's Imax theater

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-450-1235). Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their loca treatment appointments.

American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay
(617-375-0700). Volunteer in the administrativ department.

Big Brothers
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. Be a big brother.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Befriend a girl.

Boston Cares
(617-263-2273). More than 70 volunteer opportu nities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). A volunteer organization of peopl between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). HIV/AIDS organization need volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). Tutor Boston students (preschoo through high school) in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). Volunteers are needed t educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers/tuto needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support t children and adults with developmental disabilities

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literac
(617-423-9575). Tutor students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
livmates@rcn.com. Spend your lunch hour reading an elementary school in Cambridge or Somerville.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). Volunteers needed to support te minally ill patients and their families.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Play with homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). Share your time with an elderly in dividual, mentor children or teach an adult to read

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusett
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Association for the Blind
(800-852-3029). Read or shop with a blind person

Mass. Substance Abuse Info Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone wit people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-536-3557). Volunteers needed to assist elders

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

Parental Stress Line
(617-528-5800). Telephone counselors needed.

Pine Street Inn
(617-521-7626). Serve breakfast to homeless guest

Project Place
(617-262-3740). Become a mentor or tutor t homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111). Record textbooks in digital forma

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteers needed at this battered women's agency.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dinin room, clothing room and groceri program at this homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-hour domestic violence pr gram.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friend ship to lonely people over th phone.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers on shot opportunities to volunte with other young professionals.

StandUp for Kids
(800-365-4543). Help rescu homeless children.

VNA Care Network
(617-547-2620). Support term nally ill patients.

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE



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detail of *Whistler's Warning (c.c.c.c.c.)*, 2003, a neon installation by Artist-in-Residence, Joseph Kosuth.

Photo by Mary Kocol for the Gardner Museum.

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If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see. (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity.) Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

Orange Line Aussie?

It was the morning of April 15 and we were caught up in the chaos of the Orange Line incident. At Wellington station we both grabbed copies of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN, thus my hope that you might actually be reading this right now. After assisting you by providing directions to your destination, I complimented you on the beauty of your extraordinary eyelashes. You also had sparkling brown eyes, brown hair and an intriguing accent, possibly Australian? You were wearing a two-tone blue Columbia coat and jeans. If you remember this encounter and are interested, let's get together for lunch or a coffee. I'm curious to know what brings such a fetching girl to the States and whether you're into sports-adventure activities.

—MrMysteriousX@hotmail.com

Doctor TC at MGH

Two things: The first is, thank you for making me feel so much calmer as I waited in the "staging room" outside the OR on April 2. Usually I am all nerves before surgery (who could blame me), but you distracted me with conversation, reassurance and yes, your pleasing looks, and for that I am very grateful. And how interesting to find out I had previously been a featured case in grand rounds! Not very many women can tell that story to their friends. Secondly, I'd love to meet you again, when I am not laying on a gurney with a blue shower cap—as lovely and alluring as it might be—on my head. I don't know that you're always up for a drink, conversation and fun. All I can say is if you have to have surgery, why not meet a very nice and cute guy at the same time?

—ms_knewknees@yahoo.com

Arr, Matey

You: Gap Girl in Central Square with short, dark hair and cute tortoiseshell glasses. Me: hefty guy in orange raincoat, galoshes and black glasses buying my niece a birthday gift. Our eyes met, my ears turned red and you smiled. You made this fisherman get wobbly on dry land. Maybe we can meet sometime and I could make you my catch of the day.

—fishermanjacques@hotmail.com

Watertown Proper Bostonian

Suzy, I was lucky to speak with you and get your name. I know that you are a very reserved and proper Bostonian who is on a fast-track career path. You are focused on your work and leave little time for extravagances such as lunch at a restaurant of your choice. I know that you are looking to let your hair down and "have some fun." I also know that there is a cultural difference between us. You seem to simmer under your cool facade. You are tall, dark-haired and have beautiful, long legs. You are exotic in appearance and inscrutable in your actions. I know that you desire to throw caution to the wind. Take a chance and see where we are taken. I would really like to have the opportunity to finish what we were trying to start.

—Nick, gsbost@yahoo.com

Dear Betty-Mouse

I write to express my intense desire to recapture your heart. I know you love me, as I still am in love with you. I understand that you are having trouble with a relationship, and not necessarily me. I need you to know that I will continue to seek out your good graces, to be your companion, and feel an intense desire to continue to work together to make us the best we can be with each other. For my faults I ask your forgiveness, for it's most painful for me to realize I pushed you away from me through some of my actions—or in some cases, inactions. To have had you in my life—trips to Quebec City, Christmas in Tennessee, Sunday drives—has been the greatest of pleasures. I will respect your decision, but understand that as time passes, our time will pass with it. I will no longer be able to harbor such feelings for you, and unfortunately will most likely exit your life forever. Gift me with your blessings of companionship and love and don't run from our relationship, for I am a better man because of you. I love you much.

—Your big fish

Tired

I am tired of being used by you. You say we are friends but that usually means me giving you money. I'm done supporting whatever bad habits you are into. You need to get yourself in rehab and stop begging your friends to give money. You had a decent job and apartment and now you're ruining your life. Maybe if more of us say no you'll get the help you need.

—Boston Bill

From San Fran Man

This is for the sweet, crazy, nervous, beautiful girl from South Kingstown who rides the Red Line from Porter Square to South Station every day. You probably don't know this but it is the little things that made me love you so. Your ability to overload me with stand-up comedy material, your fantastic dancing skills and your spacious apartment. I will think about all of those times that we were together, good and bad, and how I wanted you passionately. You will always occupy a special place in my heart. All I can do now is fall back on the lyrics of a song from a long time ago: "Now it's night, once again. And that same old feeling is setting in. It all seems so familiar but I hope this time. That the girl on the moon will soon be mine. All mine, tonight." I love ya, kid! Come rain or come shine!

—The King of San Francisco

Baxter's Owner

I've seen you a couple of times down at the waterfront with your yellow lab, Baxter. I'm one of the women who comes with my dog. You seem very nice and friendly, and if you're curious to know which one I am then e-mail me to find out. Maybe we can get together sometime.

—princessnavy2001@yahoo.com

Dear Life Coach

I wanted to thank you for teaching me about who you really are and how incredibly feeble, selfish, shallow, desperate and conniving a person like you can be. You came on with airs as someone who is very secure and solid, caring and helpful and in the know. You lied to everyone. You are not even from here and you act like you belong. You don't belong here. How dare you try to swindle the people of Boston out of their money in offering your "services." When we met, you couldn't have posed more perfectly as a true friend and aide when we were in need. We lost everything in our life and you were right there like a desperate rat to take advantage of us and our situation in any way you could, the whole time acting like you really cared. You knew exactly what you were doing. With the moves that you made, you gave new meaning to the term "kicking someone when they're down." When things started to change and sorrow and loss turned into opportunity, (not for you) then you started to panic. Trying your best, you attempted to move all of your pieces on the chessboard to trick us and take all you could from our misfortune turned good, but you lost the game, and you will continue to lose until you come from a truthful place and stop thinking the world owes you something because your "spouse" up and left you. True "life coaches" do not coach for their own personal gain. You are not a life coach. You are an "imported" closeted lesbian and pitifully damaged person who should go back to where you came from and leave us native Bostonians alone. Thank you for the education.

—Former Client

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rockie horoscope

APRIL 28 – MAY 11, 2004

BY ROCKIE GARDINER



TAURUS APRIL 20–MAY 20

Lucky at cards and lucky at love: It's a rare and wondrous thing, the rewarding earth trine between generous Jupiter in Virgo and the productive Taurus sun. Be grateful that after 12 years patiently awaiting your turn, this particular trine aspect has finally come around again. There may have been notable triumphs in between, but the support you're getting from the stars this week favors your body, mind and spirit, the creative work you do and the risks you take. Wait until Mercury turns direct on the 30th before accepting the glory and the goodies.

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

A casual acquaintance or an organization of well-intentioned folks could help with a trying situation at home. Don't be averse to accepting their advice simply because you think you're smart enough and strong enough to solve your own problems. True, some of the financial burden lifts once your Mercury ruler goes direct on the 30th, but it could be another week or two until you get the response you're seeking from your usual allies. Right now, you're all quite defensive about your positions, and no one wants to be the first to cave.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

It looks like the power behind the throne may harbor plans to divide and conquer. Protect your turf and try to avoid taking sides; the lunar eclipse May 4 could diminish your influence and/or affect your income. Since that's also the day that Jupiter comes out of retrograde, you're justified in wondering, Is there a payoff on the horizon? Before pushing for an answer, wait to see what follows from the full moon confrontation. Mars' entrance into Cancer on the 7th gives you more energy, courage and chutzpah.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

This week you bounce back from whatever damage may have been inflicted by the first partial solar eclipse of the year. Nothing is as effective a remedy for Leos as the rewarding trine between lucky Jupiter and your sun ruler. And to keep you from sharing your bounty with the world, as is your custom, the sun also forms a positive sextile with sensible Saturn. Riches and realism! Prizes and practicality! Wow! Mercury turning direct on the 30th lifts travel restrictions, making it safe to surf for a luxurious vacation destination.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

Like the Lion, Virgins are due to receive generous blessings from the sun's favorable trine to growth-oriented Jupiter in your sign. If no notable reward shows up today, don't complain. Wait until May 4, when enthusiastic Jupiter comes out of retrograde and begins to deliver on its promise of prosperity. And don't discount your Mercury ruler's change of direction either; once it's moving forward, it'll provide another piece of the puzzle known as the family dilemma. The drama intensifies May 1. May Day! May Day!

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

By hook or by crook, you're determined to get your own way, particularly if a neighbor or a sneaky sibling opposes your plan. The customary Libran charm, sociability and tact might not melt their resistance, but since you have enough resources at your disposal right now, you can circumvent a dramatic climax if you want to. Who's kidding whom? Who would want to? A kicking, screaming battle of wits and wiles would keep you entertained—I mean engrossed—far longer than any peaceful, diplomatic resolution. Bring on the fireworks.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

You want what you want, you want it now and you want it bad. This longing for a thing of beauty isn't simply another casual stroll through your house of acquisitions and assets, but a well-thought-out campaign to nail the object of your desire. As long as your Pluto co-ruler is being seduced by venal Venus, you're pretty much at the mercy of your passion. Once May is over, you could get a break, a time-out; however the itch to possess, if not this prize, then one that's equally attractive, will reappear in July.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

Like Scorpio, you may become obsessed with something or someone just out of reach. While Venus in "here, there, everywhere" Gemini tantalizes Pluto in your sign, it'll be hard to hang on to what you think you got. This on-again, off-again relationship can drive you to distraction for the next three months. Meanwhile, blessings befall you while the pleasure-loving Taurus sun trines your Jupiter ruler midweek. The good fortune-cookie prediction, the lucky break you stumble into and the loving arms that catch you should not be taken for granted.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

Mercury turns direct in your home base and puts the petty annoyances you've endured during retrograde to rest. News about a worrisome family matter takes an upward turn, and other people's money becomes readily available soon after Jupiter also goes direct. There's a comfy, cozy feeling that things are going to be fine, that you've passed some sort of test. Whether you still feel this way once aggressive Mars enters your Cancer marriage house on the 7th is arguable. And arguing is what you'll be doing a lot of—that and having make-up sex.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

So much for the love fest. There could be trouble in paradise this week as friends and lovers, theirs and yours, no longer see eye-to-eye. Jealousy, deception, even a juicy bit of gossip might unleash a storm that could rage on and off for three interminable months. Stay out of it as long as you possibly can. It's enough that you weather the tempest tossed your way during the Taurus-Scorpio lunar eclipse on the 4th. Choosing between career and family is always tricky business. Go with your gut reaction.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

Rally round your flag of choice! Independent Uranus in your sign is featured this week, encouraging you to let your more radical sentiments and offbeat ideas loose on the rest of us. Jupiter, turning direct in your house of partners, makes your significant others, both the allies and the antagonists, more receptive than they've been all year long. Chances are they may even listen. Chances also are that once Mercury in your Aries money house faces forward on the 30th, you can cash in on other people's good fortune. Take a chance.

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

If you're gearing up for battle—as the Aries warrior, if only to blow off steam, periodically does—don't underestimate your current opponent or the target of your anger. What may seem like an easygoing, devil-may-care foe is really a cunning manipulator who won't willingly relinquish his or her hold over you. While your Mars ruler confronts power-crazed Pluto—thankfully it's only once every two years—the conflict could get a lot worse if you stick to your guns. Try an alternative approach.

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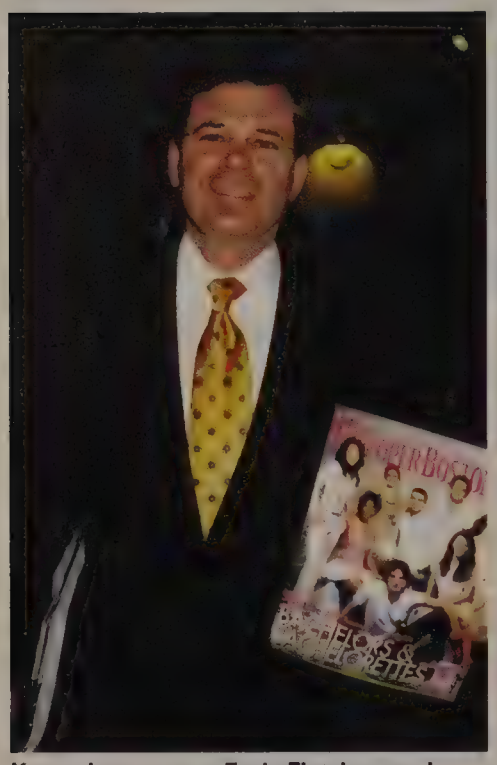
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Kentucky governor Ernie Fletcher reads up on Boston's bachelors and bachelorettes.



Charlie Leocha and Mario Leon visited the 200-foot-high Perito Moreno Glacier, just north of Tierra del Fuego in Argentina. That water looks tierra del frigorific.



Holly Mason and Nena Oliveira dug clams at the Mont St. Michel monastery in France.



Shawn and Sarah Byrne summited Mount Rigi, near Lucerne, Switzerland, where the air is as clear as the holes in the cheese and the army carries little red knives with tweezers and scissors in them.



Greg Kanarian, Anthony Abdelehad, Jeremy Kline, Peter McElhinney, Pete Platukis and David Prasee took the Man Issue to Vegas, where it was last seen playing craps at 5 am in the Bellagio.



That thing got a hemi-sphere? Aline Kurkjian and Laura Sacco tease the equator in Quito, Ecuador.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Impersonating Saint Domenico by draping themselves in live snakes at the Procession of the Snake Catchers, May 6, in Cocullo, Italy.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and will not be returned.

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Friday, March 12, Tom Clark, chair of the Inishowen Group, and Ellen Witt held a reception for Shaun Gallagher, the Lord Mayor of Derry, Northern Ireland, and his delegation of investment officers.









1. Mayoress of Derry **Majela Gallagher**; **Tom Clark**, chairman of the Inishowen Group; and Lord Mayor of Derry **Shaun Gallagher**.
2. **Gerry O'hEara**, Derry city councilor, and **Lisa Clark** and **Jamie Clark**, owners of James Patrick Salon on Newbury Street.
3. **Ellen Witt**, associate director of Washington Gateway Main Street, and **Carl Lizio**, developer.
4. **Jim King**, political consultant, and **Martin Lynch**, professor of Irish Studies at Tufts.

On Tuesday, April 6, **The Improper Bostonian** hosted a Spring Fashion Show at **Sanctuary**. Guests enjoyed **Ketel One** martinis and **Moët & Chandon** Champagne as **Maggie's** models showed off the beautiful spring line from **in the pink**.



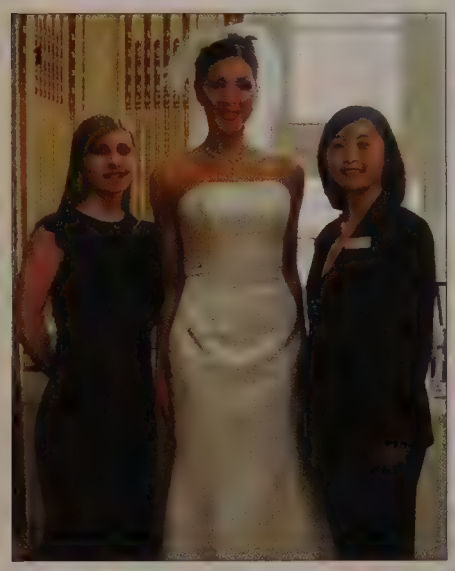






1. **Joseph Henry**, maintenance executive for the Hamilton Co.; **Kelly Henderson** administrative assistant to head of equity for Columbia Management; and **Mark Awdycki**, guidance counselor at Arlingt High School.
2. **Jeanie Flynn** of Jeanie Flynn PR Consulting and **Johnny Karatheodor** owner of the Office Bar & Grill.
3. **Andrew Anderson**, co-owner of Ilex Flowers; **Kellie Innocenti**, assistant broadcast manager for Filene's; and **Janet Wu**, 7NEWS Healthcast reporter for WHDH TV.
4. Maggie's model in clothing from in the p

On Sunday, April 4, the Gamble Mansion hosted a wedding show featuring gowns from the **Altered Bride**.



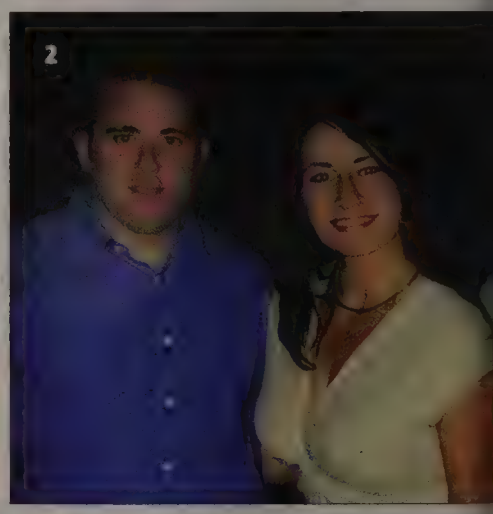




1. **Melissa Burgman**, merchandise manager; **Summer Brancoccio**, model; and **Hera Hong-Lee**, bridal consultant, all from the Altered Bride.
2. **Lesley Bender**, model; **Roseanna Martino**, owner; and **Kristen Fournier**, model, all from the Altered Bride.
3. **Dave Sambrano**, engineer for Nortel Networks; **Susan Sambrano**, director of functions; **Heather Quick**, function assistant; **Anna Buehler**, function assistant; and **Kristina Kernan**, function assistant, all from the Gamble Mansion.

On Wednesday, April 14, Steve Curry held a benefit for the **Ally Foundation** at **Peking Tom's**. All proceeds from the event went towards Curry's Boston Marathon pledge to benefit the Ally Foundation.





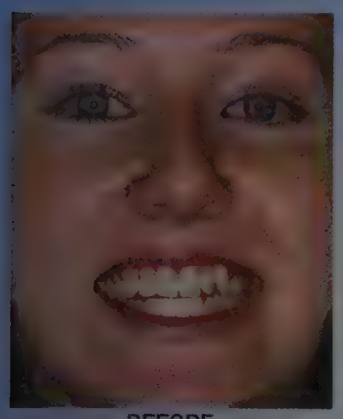


1. **Dianne Higgins**, pharmaceutical rep, and **Kristi Stanek**, marketing executive for Digitas.
2. **Jamie Mariani**, accountant for KPMG, and **Monica Hargis**, marketing director for Peking Tom's.
3. **Steve Stiles**, **Andrea Casanova**, and **Lisa Rebello**, all of the Ally Foundation, and Boston Marathon runner **Steve Curry**.

PHOTOS: INISHOWEN GROUP, ELLEN WITT; SANCTUARY, SARA SCHIANO; THE GAMBLE MANSION, JULIE KANE; PEKING TOM'S, CARRIE WALLA

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Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled Portabella-Paninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC, V.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2002. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Captain Fishbones **SEAFOOD, STEAKS AND MORE* 353 Cambridge St, Allston 617-783-2300 (formerly the Sports Depot).* *Monday Night Special Twin Lobster Dinner $14.99 * Meet your friends at a great bar surrounded with 42" plasma screen TV's. Join us for a free appetizer special Sunday nights and Monday thru Friday from 4PM-6PM. Captain Fishbones boasts a reasonably priced menu of fresh seafood, succulent steaks, awesome burgers, pizza and a healthy variety of salads. Full menu from 11:30 A.M. to 12:30A.M. Sunday Brunch $11.99-10:00A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Plenty of free parking. You can also visit the Captain oceanside at Marina Bay, Quincy at 332 Victory Rd.,617-471-3511 www.captainfishbones.com.

Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston 617-426-3333.* Open 11am - 2am, 7days a week. Kennedy's Midtown is a cultural experience far from the maddening crowd while set in heart of it. Kennedy's serves a lunch and dinner menu of international cuisine. In the evenings they play host to some of Boston's finest Pianists who entertain with a range of tunes from Broadway to Jazz and Blues. Kennedy's embraces all the finer qualities of regal Boston and throws in a dash of old fashioned Irish Hospitality for measure.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., South Boston,617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Ned Devine's *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere inthe heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998,1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 0pm. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches. Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Science Street Café *Science Park, Boston, 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out Boston's newest nightspot - The Science Street Café at the Museum of Science. Try our out-of-this world signature martinis, gourmet appetizers and decadent desserts - all while listening to live music. Perfect with an Omni film or the new exhibit, Einstein. Open 6-10pm. Parking available.

Solas *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11 am - 2 am 7 days a week.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

BARS/CLUBS

Beer Specialty

Boston Beer Works *112 Canal St., near the Fleet Center, 617-896-BEER, 61 Brookline Ave., across from Fenway Park, 617-536-BEER and 278 Derby St., in Historic Salem, 978-745-BEER.* Boston's oldest and largest restaurant brewery with 3 locations! Bold American Food. Award Winning Beer. 15 microbrewed beers always on tap. 16 American wines by the glass. 15 championship billiards tables at our Canal Street location. Complete party planning capabilities. Private Rooms. Customizeable menus. Lunch. Dinner. Late Night. Always a good time. Check out the BIGGER and BOLDER menu.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exotic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

Big City - pool hall, pizza kitchen, Beer Bar *138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8pm, free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Felt *533 Washington St., Boston, 617-350-5555.* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering sophisticated billiards, New York style lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or for a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere combined with the delicious creative entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Eclectic cuisine by Chef Casey Lloyd.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 10pm. Live DJs 7 nights a week, dancing with Ibiza's DJ Marco, resident DJs DJLittles and Johnny C til 2 am. Join us in our new private VIP room! Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Clubs

Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston, 617-482-7799.* Located in Boston's trendy Theater District, Pravda 116 is a chic bar and club. DJs 5:30pm - 10:30pm keep the energy level high. Bar 5:30pm-2am and dance club 10:30pm - 2am Wednesday-Saturday. Credit cards accepted AE, CB, DC, MC, V.

Stadium – Clubhouse *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Stadium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale nightclub featuring two bars, a hardwood dance floor and parking. An exciting yet relaxed 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety of music and beautiful people crowding the dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights. An ideal place for your next bachelor, bachelorette or birthday party.

Club Q Boston *25 Union St., Boston, 617-742-2121.* Open 9pm - 2am Wednesday through Saturday. What nightlife in Boston has been waiting for, this state of the art Nightclub in the heart of Faneuil Hall attracts a stylish and eclectic crowd. Open Wednesday through Saturday Club Q hosts Boston's top DJs spinning Hip Hop, House and Top 40's. With two bars, three VIP areas and pool tables, Club Q is the place to see and be seen. Credit cards accepted.

Comedy

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyconnection-boston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston; 617-523-2081 www.theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. Mingle. Let your hair down; see and be seen on the big screen. Simply the hippest way to spend a night of all-out fun in Boston's Financial District. Come after work. Come to dance. Come to go wild with your friends. There's always something exciting happening – and you never know who you'll bump into. Join us and experience what the buzz is all about.

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 617-227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston,617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal and martini. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 10pm. Live DJs 7 nights a week, dancing with Ibiza's DJ Marco, and resident DJs DJLittles and Johnny C til 2 am. Join us in our new private VIP room! Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Irish

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 617-742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in



America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston,617-742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 617-523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11am - 1am 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

The Green Dragon *11Marshall St., Boston, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 617-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

General

The Alley *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. www.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

Aqua *120 Water St., Boston, 617-720-4900.* Boston's newest place to be seen is now open in the heart of the Financial District. Whether relaxing with a martini in one of our cozy booths, sipping a margarita on our roof deck or watching your hometown favorites on our high definition plasma TV. Aqua has what you're looking for after work and late night with our resident and guest DJs spinning your favorite mixes through our state of the art sound system all night long.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Boston Rocks *245 Quincy Market Place Boston,617-726-1110 www.boston-rocks.net. 21+.* Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St.,617- 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2003. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Captain Fishbones **SEAFOOD, STEAKS AND MORE* 353 Cambridge St, Allston 617-783-2300 (formerly the Sports Depot).* Free Appetizer Specials Sunday Nights and Mon-Fri 4:00PM-6:00PM, Martini Bar, Tropical Temptations, Frozen Specialty Drinks, 10 taps-16oz drafts. Meet your friends for free appetizers, awesome burgers, great pizza or healthy salads. Full menu from 11:30A.M. to 12:30A.M. Award winning Sunday Brunch including prime rib and shrimp cocktail for only $11.99 – 10A.M. to 2 P.M. Plenty of free parking. You can also visit the Captain oceanside at Marina Bay, Quincy at 332 Victory Rd., 617-471-3511 www.captainfishbones.com.

Cheers *Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-227-0150, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Offering pub fare until 11:45pm. Live entertainment every Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Cheers *Beacon Hill 84 Beacon St., Boston, 617-227-9605, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Full menu available until 11:45pm. Watch your favorite team on DirecTV.

Downtown Lounge *138 Portland St., Boston 617-523-8383.* Tempting tapas, modern martinis and contemporary cocktails are just a few of the elements awaiting your arrival. A distinctive destination in the heart of North Station, located just one block from the Fleet Center. Share crab taquitos, shaved portobello mushrooms or grilled white pizza. Revive with a specialty martini while sinking into soft curvy seating. Spacious and sublime, Dowtown Lounge is an attractive meeting place for business, luncheons, social, after work cocktails and events.

The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010.* Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St.,Boston 617-722-0161.* The newest edition to Boston's night scene. This New Orleans style bar is just steps away from the Fleet Center. Hurricane O'Reilly's serves up the best that Boston nightlife has to offer. Come dance the night away with the hottest music around. We will leave you yearning for Bourbon Street.

Jillian's Boston *145 Ipswich St., Boston, 617-437-0300.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring more than 200 high tech games, six full bars, 50 pool tables, racing simulators, Black Jack for Fun and much more. Atlas Bar and Grill on Jillian's first floor offers full service dining featuring innovative American cuisine, a giant screen video wall and dancing every Friday & Saturday night. www.jilliansboston.com.

The Junction – Your Neighborhood Bar & Grill. *110 Dorchester St., South Boston, 617-268-6429.* Delicious food, great atmosphere and friendly staff –and it all happens at the Junction -South Boston's Neighborhood Bar & Grill. Enjoy our half -priced appetizers on weekdays from 3 to 6 pm. Join us for live music & entertainment on the weekends and for our fun trivia nights on Tuesdays.

Murphy's Law *837 Summer St., South Boston 617-269-6667 www.murphyslawbar.com.* Leave your attitude at the door! Close to Downtown Boston, Murphy's Law is located one minute from the Ted Williams Tunnel and across from Boston Edison. Join us and bring your friends for Live Music April 15 & 17 with Sensual and April 22 & 30 with Off The Wall. Come play some darts or video games. We offer an inviting, fun and friendly atmosphere. Ten beers on tap. Available for private functions. Call for details.

Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Lounge. Cocktails. Dancing. Nightlife. Come see the lights of Parris. Sample the eclectic lounge menu featuring grilled pizza, oyster shooters ans steak tartar. Sip a Classic, Apple or French 75 martini, and then motion onto the huge dance floor featuring Live Music with the best bands and DJs Thursday through Saturday. Named for the original architect of the Greek-revival-style building, Alexander Parris, you're nightlife experience at Parris will be Boston and beyond. Open 5pm - 2am Wednesay - Saturday. Cover charge on Friday and Saturday.

Jazz

Regattabar *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Tuesday-Saturday nights and occasional Sunday afternoons. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square. Shows at 8:30pm Tues-Thurs, 7:30pm & 10:00pm Fri. & Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617.876.7777 for tickets and information, 800.881.1818 for hotel reservations and information.

Latin

Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston 617-351-7001.* A multistory Latin-themed restaurant and club, Sophia's treats guests to a tantalizing Tapas-style menu, live Salsa bands and hi-energy Latin dance. From a romantic dinner and salsa lessons to hi-energy dance and mingling on the roof deck over sangria and Salsa, an evening at Sophia's is always Hot! Hot! Hot

Sports Bar - Upscale

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www.theplaceboston.com.* Voted Boston's Best Sports Bar 3 years in a row by The Improper Bostonian! Mingle with your favorite sports celebrities: Brady, Thornton, Walker, Garciaparra. You never know who you'll run into. Enjoy the wildest party atmosphere in the heart of the Financial District. It's never the same experience twice – we've got exclusive sports video productions and game coverage on our state-of-the-art flat screen TVs. So join us to see what the buzz is all about and find out why people in-the-know feel right at home.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston,617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal and martini. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 10pm. Watch all your favorite teams on one of our 18 TVs or in our private VIP lounge on of our 6 new 50" plasma TVs! Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Stadium *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* Boston's Best Damn Sports Bar, Period. A brand new, high-end sports bar featuring two floors, three bars, 30 flat screen TVs – including the one in the men's room, a dance floor and parking. Stadium menu offers an enticing selection of appetizers, salads, steak & burgers, fresh seafood and drinks

BRUNCH

Captain Fishbones **SEAFOOD, STEAKS AND MORE* 353 Cambridge St, Allston 617-783-2300 (formerly the Sports Depot).* *Captain Fishbones is proud to present an award winning buffet brunch including prime rib and shrimp cocktail for only $11.99. Come and join the captain for an all you can eat feast and try our own Bloody Mary Martini or a Mimosa Cocktail. Full Menu from 11:30A.M.to 12:30 A.M. Plenty of free parking. You can visit the Captain oceanside at Marina Bay, Quincy for breakfast Saturday and Sunday 8 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. 332 Victory Rd. 617-471-3511 www.captainfishbones.com

Harvard Gardens *315 Cambridge St., Beacon Hill, Boston, 617-523-2727. www.harvardgardens.com.* Cozy up to the beautiful mahogany bar or slip into a comfy booth and enjoy Harvard Gardens' menu of cool cocktails and comfort food. Brunch serves up eggs and pastrami hash, thick-cut French toast with caramelized bananas, specialty pizzas and Boston's best Bloody Mary. Harvard Gardens serves brunch Saturday and Sunday, 11:30am - 3:00pm.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended 617-661-5005.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**, *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

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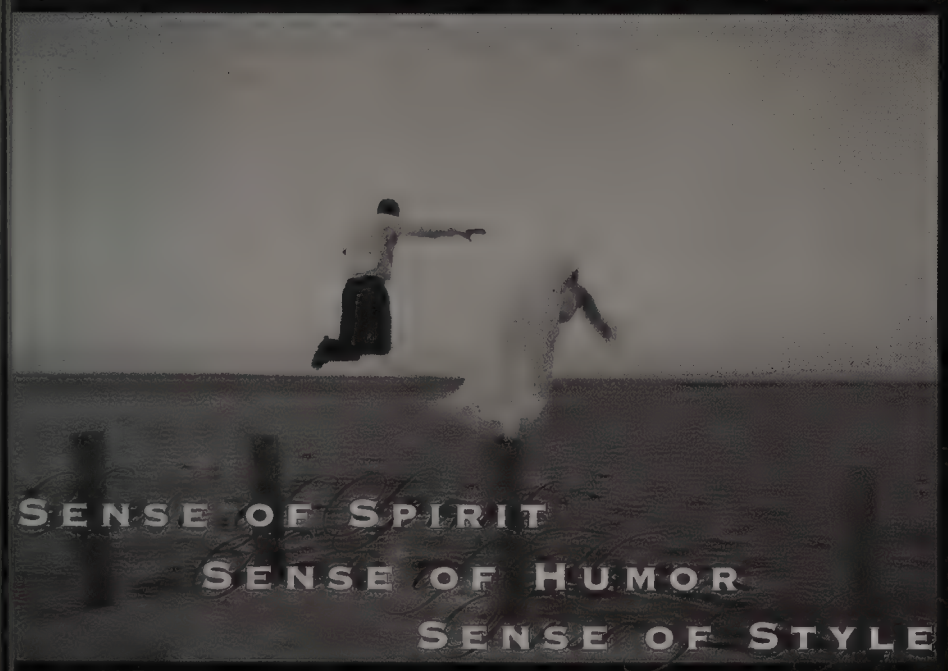
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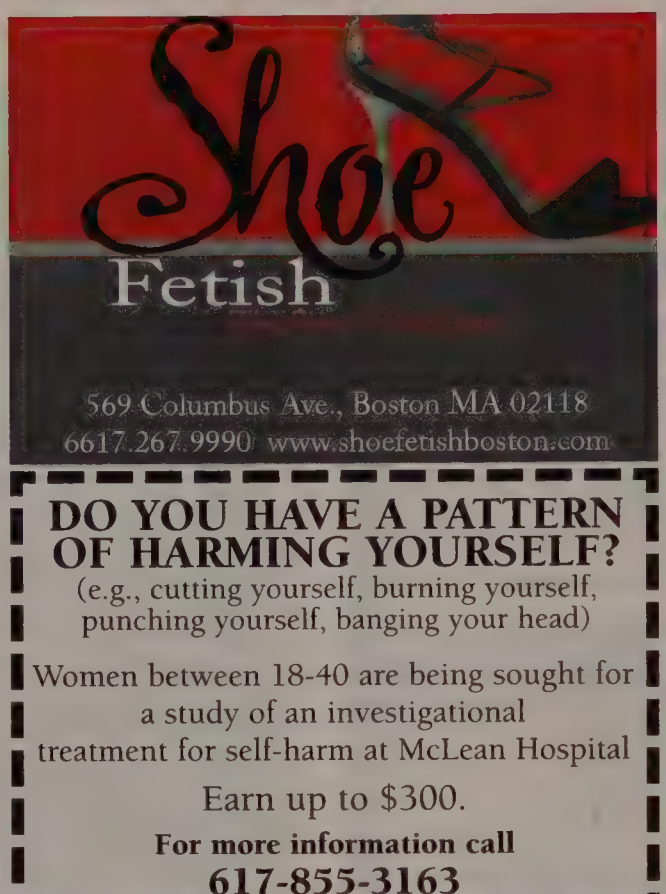
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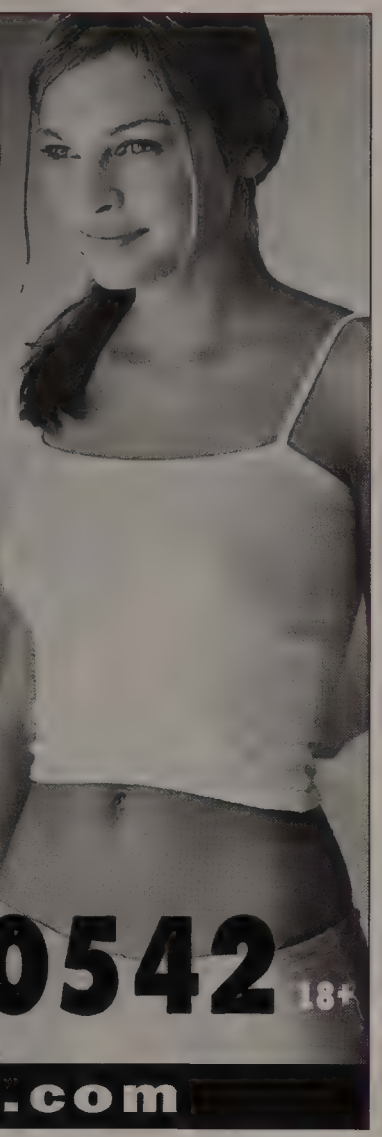
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LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF









At Circle the Globe, top: Meg and Jim Gordon. Bottom row: Lloyd Gordon and Alan Lewis; Jay Gordon and Jana Reed; Harriet Lewis and Diane Gordon

CAREFUL WHAT YOU BID ON; YOU MIGHT GET IT...

It was like a quick jaunt around the world—minus the jet lag, strange food and surly security people telling you to take your shoes off—when **Thompson Island Outward Bound** hosted its **Circle the Globe** fund-raiser at the **Park Plaza**.

The evening began with cocktails, a silent auction and the milling around of such notably high-profile types as travel titans **Alan** and **Harriet Lewis** of Grand Circle Corp. (the evening's honorees); Brahmin board member **George Lewis**; power plant potentate **Jim Gordon** and his stunning other half, **Meg**; the exceedingly chic **Jana Reed**, squired by the improbably tall **Jay Gordon**; Jay's party-monster parents, **Lloyd** and **Diane**; Back Bay lovebirds **George Denny** and **Leigh Weatherly**; the vivacious **Janet Roache**; blonde glamazon **Allison Drescher**; the noticeably pregnant **Karen Vigurs-Stack** and **Molly Dunne** with the respective expectant fathers, **Ken Stack** and **Stephens Dunne**; power-broker **George Regan**; and others of an equally impressive ilk.

Everything had a globe-trotting theme—from the blow-up globes that served as centerpieces to the place cards that looked like boarding passes—and anyone with a few thousand dollars to spare could bid on such items as a week-long cycling trip in Tuscany, a first-class trip to London with an insider's tour of Windsor Castle, and an exotic, adventurous fortnight in Costa Rica.

The winner of a week's stay at a private beachfront home on Cape Cod, however, seemed somewhat clueless about what she was bidding on.

"One glass of wine and I'm spending 2,500 bucks to rent a house in Harwichport!?" she said to her tablemates. "Oh, well. If all of you come, it'll be worth it."

HOW TO PUT YOUR BOSS IN THE HOT SEAT...

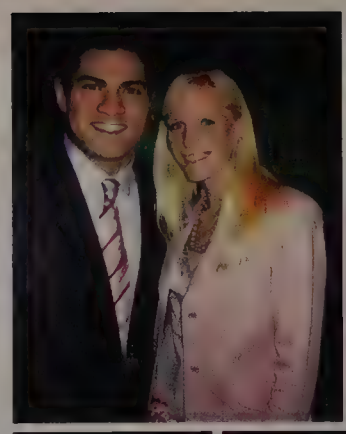
Under One Roof was an aptly named event, given the assortment of bigwigs and boldfaced names assembled in one room to raise money for **Wellspring House**, a Gloucester-based charity aimed at ending homelessness.

Held at the **Cyclorama**, the festivities started with martinis and a raw bar that would have made the Gorton's fisherman blush, followed by an elegant sit-down dinner, entertainment by the likes of the Boston Children's Chorus and a quartet called Bluegate, and the usual dosage of speeches and awards.

Among the high-and-mighty on-hand: honorees **Anne** and **Chad** (Fleet Bank) **Gifford**; **Phyllis** and **Paul** (Reebok) **Fireman**; **Jane** and **Bill** (old Yankee money) **Saltonstall**; Bank of America CEO **Ken Lewis**; advertising behemoth **Jack Connors** of Hill, Holliday; Red Sox CEO **Larry Lucchino** and his lovely wife, **Stacey**; Lieutenant Governor **Kerry Healey**; NFL Napoleon **Bob Kraft** and the Empress, **Myra**, with several players from the Super Bowl–winning Patriots; United Way honcha **Marian Heard**; philanthropic fun couple **Caroline** and **Bob Collings**; éminence grise **Hubie Jones**; and so on and so forth down the list of people with serious juice in this town.

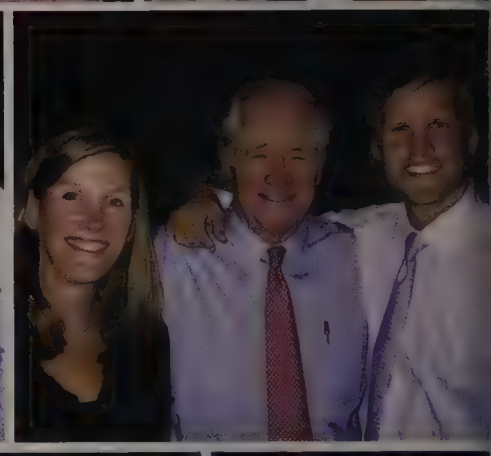
In the middle of each table was a limited-edition ceramic vase by sculptor Miranda Thomas that the highest bidder at each table got to take home. It was an effective fund-raising device and undoubtedly upped the ante by forcing groups of high-rollers who were seated together to compete to see who was the most generous.

In fact, in his remarks to the crowd, Patriots linebacker **Tedy Bruschi** said: "There's a lot of deep pockets at my table. Bob Kraft, I'm lookin' for a big number!"











At Under One Roof, top row: Tedy and Heidi Bruschi; Caroline and Bob Collings. Middle row: Bob Kraft; Betsy Gifford, Chad Gifford and Betsy's husband, Charlie. Bottom: Carol Fulp and Marian Heard

BEYOND THE USUAL BLAH, BLAH BLAH...

Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote, "Without a rich heart, wealth is an ugly beggar," which is undoubtedly why everyone looked so gorgeous at the fund-raiser for the **Pine Street Inn**'s homeless-women's shelter, held at the **Westin**.

The evening began with a VIP meet-and-greet with Pulitzer Prize–winning author **Frank McCourt**, and the eclectic crowd included the likes of real estate developer **Bob Walsh**; senatorial widow **Nikki Tsongas**; *Globe* publisher **Richard Gilman**; WBZ on-air babe **Robin Hamilton**; the **Mayor** and **Mrs. Menino**; banking bombshell **Allison Bibbins Ward** of Mellon; soignee sophisticate **Sandy Shapiro**; gorgeous shutterbug **Tanit Sakakini**; renowned South End artist **Joanne Rothschild**; tireless volunteer **Kate McCandless Tomkinson**; Irish consul general **Isolde Moylan McNally**; and the lovely **Joanne Magliozzi** (wife of *Car Talk*'s Tom).

Following dinner, there were some well-chosen words from McCourt, who recalled how he helped feed homeless men during his own desperately poor childhood, and a few more from big-shot attorney and board member **Vin McCarthy**, who said that instead of worrying about whether Kevin should be able to marry Mitchell, we should be worrying about all the people who don't have a roof over their heads.

"I go to a lot of run-of-the-mill, chicken-on-a-plate fund-raisers," said one woman, "but this is the first one I remember where the speeches were not only interesting but true." iB



At the Pine Street Inn party, right: Robin Hamilton. Below: Bob Walsh, Lydia Downie and Frank McCourt; Catherine Rooney





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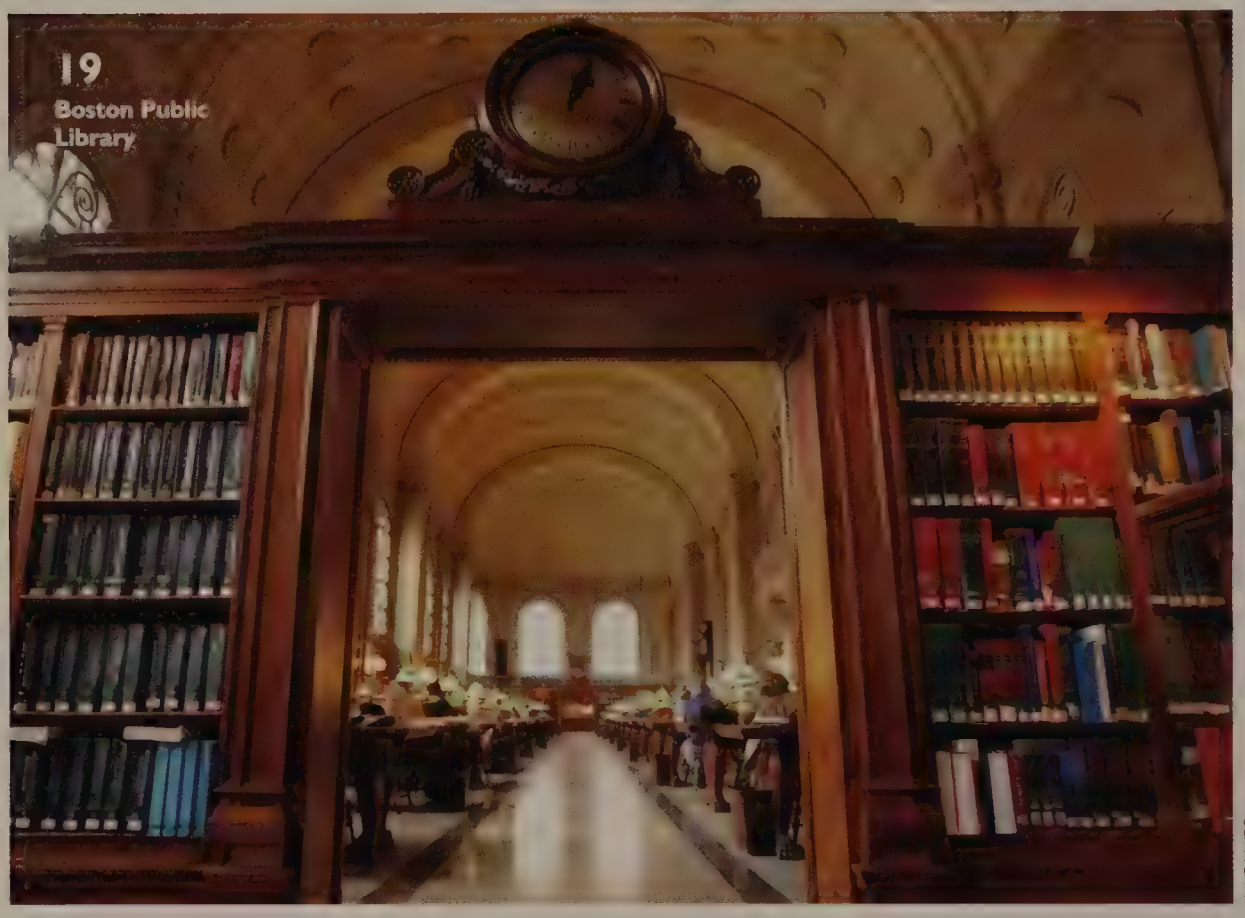
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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR



HOMETOWN HOMAGE

As the flowers pop up in the Public Garden, so do those other Boston perennials: tourists. Armed with maps and guidebooks, they pose for pictures with the ducklings, traipse the Freedom Trail and shop Faneuil Hall. They're discovering the city that we see every day and that we, being human, sometimes take for granted because it's so familiar.

In planning our Why We Love Boston issue, we took a step back and looked at all those local highlights the guidebooks tell tourists to appreciate on a visit to Boston—and the things tourists can't truly know because they don't live here. What local landmarks and traditions are we most deeply attached to? Who are the people we're glad to claim as our own? What would we miss most if we moved away?

We boiled it all down to 10 people, 10 places and 10 things (page 19)—by no means a complete list, but, as writer Jonathan Soroff puts it, "It's a start and something to keep in mind the next time you find yourself wondering how you wound up here or why you continue to stay."

That's Boston as we see it now. What the future holds, we can only guess, and Ezra Dyer takes a wild stab at that in "Boston 2054" (page 26).

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

TAKING SIDES

Couldn't Chris Collins come up with a better story line than a lifeless recap of yesterday's news? ("Time to Dream Again," April 14). Last season ended with shattered dreams and now a new season has begun with a fresh outlook? Really? Where was Collins after the other heartbreak seasons of 1967, 1975, 1978, 1986, 1995 and 2001? For decades Red Sox fans have been notorious for their short memories and their ability to carry on with the "this is the year" mantra. Mr. Collins' stating of the obvious in a story lacking insight or intrigue was a major disappointment—just like so many Red Sox seasons. I look forward to the 2004 baseball season, but I can't say the same of the next Collins entry. This *is* the year!

—DANNY KILE
Boston

I just read Chris Collins' "Time to Dream Again" column, and I could not agree more with this man. It is time to move on from the 2003 Red Sox season and look forward. Like Collins, I was in Baltimore for the season opener against the Orioles. He's right on when he says that Kevin Millar is still smiling and David Ortiz is still rocking. I had the opportunity to meet a couple of the players and there was no talk of 2003. Only 2004. That's what its all about—faith and hope that this could be the year. Baseball is back in Boston. Life is good.

—MAGGI HEALEY
Boston

LETTERS ON LETTERS

A quick response to Ms. Webb's comments to the editor entitled "Uh-oh Boys," which appeared, ironically, in the Dating Issue (April 28): While her response was quite predictable and somewhat understandable, it unfortunately missed, and indeed highlighted, the point Gregg was trying to make. Boston women are among the smartest, wittiest, most active women in the country. Unfortunately, they're also among the most insecure, particularly about their looks. Hey, if you've "accomplished something positive, learned something new, or just bought a new pair of shoes," you have every right to strut. Men love happy, self-confident women. What men don't love is women trying to be something they're not, and here's where the problem lies. Don't strut "like a 10," Sarah, strut like you. The frustration isn't that Boston women aren't "10s"—most of us guys aren't either. What's frustrating is when we approach a woman to engage in light conversation and we get a look back that suggests that unless we look like Brad Pitt or have Trump-like wealth we don't belong in the same area code.

As someone who's lived in both LA and NYC, I prefer Boston, and there's no doubt the "beauty quotient" is a lot higher in those cities. Strangely enough, a "10" attitude gets old pretty fast, even if you *are* a "10." Here's to a little self-confidence and using the assets you do have, and you have plenty. Good luck and happy hunting.

—JIM BROWN
Boston



I am writing to address the letter to the editor entitled "Socking Sox Fans" (April 28). I believe that I speak for all Boston sports fans when I ask, "Where is Brian Fox from, because surely it's not Boston?" If you were not thoroughly scarred emotionally (and in some cases physically) by what happened last year in Game Seven of the ALCS, then how dare you call yourself a true Bostonian, never mind a Red Sox fan?

If I were Brian, I would consider myself lucky that I didn't get my ass kicked for turning on the World Series in that pub.

—ANDREA GIACALONE
Cambridge

CORRECTION

NEXT New England's singing competition, written up in the April 28 The Word ("Improper Speaking"), is actually going to be held at the Rack on May 27.

Tell Us What You Think

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new in town

A THAI TREAT

Anyone who bought property in the South End more than five years ago is probably jumping up and down with joy. (Five years ago, you could buy a one-bedroom in the South End for $200,000; now, nothing goes for less than $300,000.) The area is still expanding at an unbelievable rate, bringing in all kinds of shops, restaurants and boutiques.

The central part of the South End is recognized as the center for shopping and dining. (B&G Oysters and the Butcher Shop recently joined the multitude of restaurant options.) But the trickle-down effect has recently made its way to the western part of the South End, near Mass. Ave. Here, three specialty shops have just popped up on Shawmut Avenue—a cozy new salon called Moxie Star; Inner Nourishment, a homeopathy and nutrition counseling service next door; and, a few steps further down, Richella's skin-care studio.

Nearby, on Washington Street near the intersection with West Springfield, a new restaurant, Equator, is set to open in mid May.



Equator is set to open in mid May.

Chef and owner Somchai Sriweownetr

Crab cakes served with creole tartar sauce

It's run by the Sriweownetr family, who also own the cozy Thai Village restaurant on Tremont Street. Although Equator's menu is heavily Thai-influenced, it features a wild mix of ethnic cuisines, from classical European to American and Italian. Traditional dishes like pad thai, lemongrass chicken, and crispy duck panang are joined by distinctly un-Thai options like boneless spare ribs, mad cow pasta, fettuccini and southern tomato salad. Most entrées are about $12–$16, with prime rib options in the $20 range.

Thai Village fans will notice other differences in addition to the varied menu. To go with its pricier menu, Equator is roomier—it seats 50—and more elegant as well. It also has an extensive dessert menu. Choices range from chocolate mousse to fried ice cream and crème brûlée. Once it receives a permit, Equator plans to serve breakfast outside on the patio, with traditional American fare. *1721 Washington St., Boston (617-536-6386). Open daily, 11 am-10 pm (a bit later on weekends).* —*E.H.*

sam says

MAKEOVERS & MODELS

If you've walked by a Victoria's Secret lately, you may have noticed the retailer is revamping the stores to match its ad campaign: super sexy and sultry (weird Bob Dylan cameos excluded). Black, creme and titanium designs will replace the dainty, pink boudoir feel. Also new is VS's makeup line—I tried it and was pleasantly surprised. The shades are a perfect blend of color and subtlety and glide on smooth as silk. If you're looking for an excuse to check them out, head to the Copley Place VS store May 26 for makeup demos and appearances by legendary makeup artist Charlie Green and supermodel Gisele. —*Samantha House*



inner view

MISSED MANNERS

Everyone has childhood memories of being coached to say "please" and "Thank you." Fast-forward to adulthood, and while please and thank you are still part of the drill, social situations are governed by enough rules of decorum to trip up most of us at least once in a while. Marblehead-based manners guru Jodi R.R. Smith, owner of the etiquette consulting firm Mannersmith, simplifies social dos and don't's in her new etiquette books, *The Girl's Guide to Social Savvy* and *The Guy's Guide to Social Savvy*. Smith recently spoke with the IMPROPER about the etiquette evolution, the rules of cell phones and the ongoing debate of how long you have to give a wedding gift.



Jodi R.R. Smith

IB: *How do you keep up with the rules of etiquette?*

JS: There are overarching guidelines, and the specifics change with the times. One of the things I like to say in my seminars is that etiquette is evolution. One guideline is, you pay attention to who you're with. For example, if we're having tea on Newbury Street and a friend of mine walks by, I might wave and introduce her to you, but I wouldn't go off with her and leave you at the table. People are saying there's no etiquette for cell phone usage; well, of course there is. You pay attention to who you're with. A lot of people didn't understand the guideline to begin with and had no idea of it as the technology evolved.

IB: *What's a rule of etiquette that's really changed over the years?*

JS: It's hard to say because the more things change, the more the guidelines stay the same: being thoughtful, respectful. There are a lot of nasty myths out there, [such as] you have a year to give a wedding gift. That's not the case. You should be giving a wedding gift in advance. Since we're coming up on wedding season, people should be aware of this. The gift should be sent to the bride or the bride's family.

IB: *If you could offer one key piece of advice for a social setting what would it be?*

JS: For dinner, the one thing I recommend is to give your guests an idea of what you're planning to order. The overarching guideline here is symmetry of dining. If go to dinner with my husband and I order a soup, a salad, an entree and dessert, he really shouldn't be ordering just an entrée.

IB: *What's the biggest difference in etiquette between men and women?*

JS: The biggest difference is that women are—and I'm talking in gross stereotypes—a little more tuned in to the guidelines of behavior than men. The way to think about it is that women tend to interact in inclusionary circles and men tend to interact in hierarchical forms. I think both genders need a little brushing up.

IB: *In which area are people most clueless?*

JS: I have two biggest sellers—the things I get hired for. Number one is gracious dining. If you've eaten out recently you've seen people not putting their napkins in their lap, not waiting for everyone to be served. There are so many little things that go into making a meal pleasant. The second is small talk. I get brought into corporations to help marketing and sales people with their clients. Eating with each other and talking nicely with each other seem to be the two biggest challenges right now. —*Jessica Iredale*

Best Domestic Airline

– Condé Nast Traveler, 2002 & 2003 Readers' Choice Awards

(And a few choice words from our customers, too.)

"Thank you for treating all your customers like first-class passengers. My flight could not have been better." — *Donna Lamy*

"JetBlue is the best thing that ever happened to air travel. I frequently tell friends and family how fantastic JetBlue's service and performance are. Don't change a thing!" — *Margaret Shea*

"JetBlue is the only airline I choose to fly. The comfort and friendly service top all others."— *Michael Lallo*

"Just finished booking a flight and everything was very easy. You designed your website for people like me, who like things that are easy to work with."
— *Gerald Weir*

"I don't know how far this e-mail will actually go, but I hope it does go somewhere because my experience with JetBlue was and has been fantastic."
— *B.B.*

"I usually feel like I am nothing more than one of many herded cattle in the cabin, but the lightheartedness and happy personalities I found at JetBlue were refreshing." — *Dominick Caputo*

"Please don't change – except if you want to start offering more free flights to loyal customers like me!"
— *Anne Le Brun*

"Clearly JetBlue is doing something right – hiring great people who understand the lifetime value of a customer." — *Debra Bluman*

"I feel like if JetBlue doesn't fly there, then I don't want to go there!" — *Sarah Uzelac*

"What I especially liked is when I booked online and made a mistake, I immediately called and, without question, the mistake was corrected. Keep up the good work." — *J.M.K.*

"While the big guys have forgotten that the customer should at least be treated politely, you are surpassing my expectations in regard to friendliness and efficiency!" — *Sandra Roberts*

"At last, an airline that does what an airline is supposed to do – get you safely to your destination, get you there on time and actually treat the customer as a real human being. Bravo!!!" — *Walter Gordon*

"As long as you are going where I need to go, you will have our business." — *Cathleen Odijk*

"My kids keep talking about the TV, the Terra Chips® and the shapes on the tails of your planes. When they're happy and excited, so are the parents."
— *Debbie Sansolo*

"I loved this airline, and I will never fly another again unless JetBlue doesn't fly to where I'm going."
— *Lauren Dalton*

"Thank you for making travel enjoyable and affordable again." — *Karen Evans*

"Beyond pricing, you've improved the flying experience. JetBlue has shown that all airlines aren't alike, and need not be boring mass transit. Continued success." — *Eric Bogel*

"I love flying your airline!! Everyone has such positive energy. Great job and keep smiling." — *Donna Wahlig*

"If flattery will, indeed, get me everywhere, let me start by saying I absolutely LOVE flying JetBlue. Your planes more comfortable – the seats, the legroom, the ECTV... the list goes on." — *Trish Doherty*

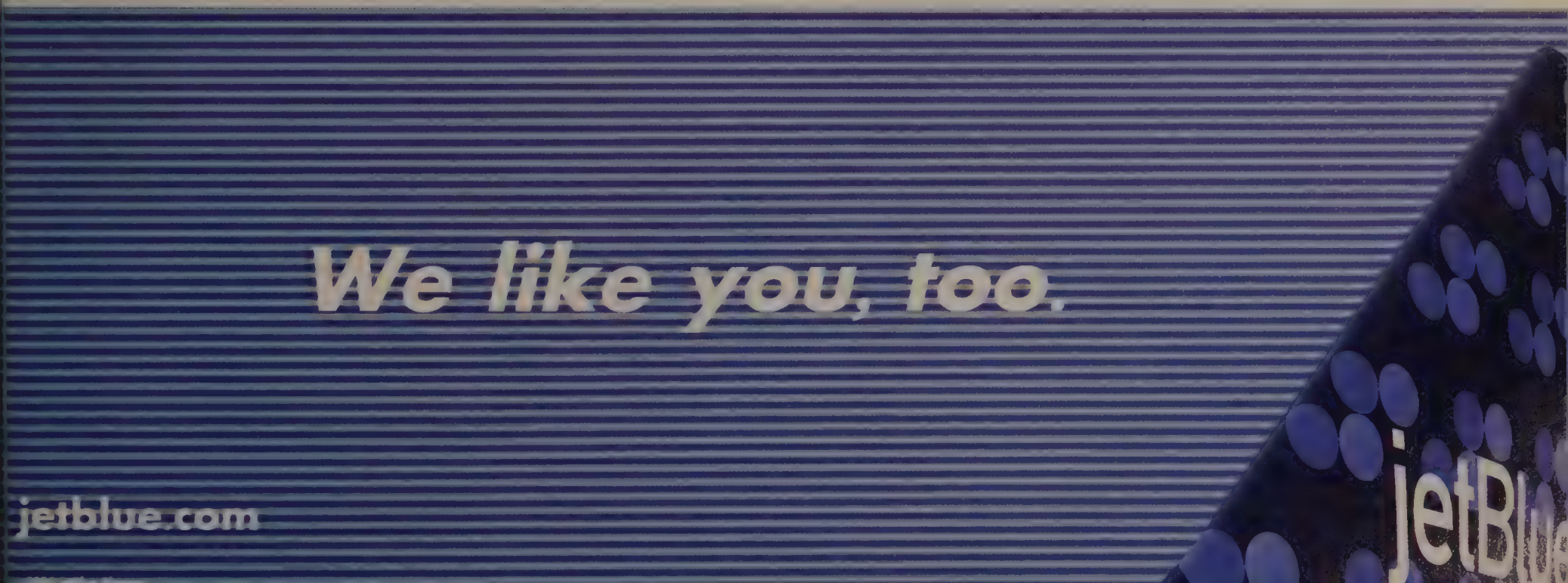
't want to take any other airline ever again."
— *E. Gabay*

"Because I'm tall, the best thing you could have done was to take out the 27th row. With the extra room, you've made a good traveling experience great."
— *Joanne Yatkofsky*

"I can't tell enough people how much I love your airline." — *Elizabeth Alonso*

"I honestly think that JetBlue is outstanding! The service is excellent, and they treat you like a human being. I would certainly highly recommend it!"
— *Alfred Reyes*

"Love the DIRECTV® – keeps kids entertained and it's free!"— *James Webb*



tidbits and morsels

MUNCHING ON MEXICAN



Queremos Qdoba... Beantown burrito lovers now need only to make a dash for the Prudential Center Food Court to get their Mexican food fix. On April 28, just in time for Cinco de Mayo, Qdoba Mexican Grill, a Colorado-based chain that prides itself on its fast-casual Mexican cuisine, opened the first of 20 locations planned for the Bay State. Is the Pru a little too far from the office for lunch? No worries—by the end of 2004 there will be Qdoba's at Downtown Crossing and around BU and Northeastern. *800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-9233).*



Alcohol and Architects... What happens when the world's oldest brand of vodka and one of the world's most decorated architects get together? No, not indecipherable blueprints and asymmetric skyscrapers. On May 1, Wyborowa—a Polish vodka vendor since 1823—released its new Single Estate vodka in Boston, New York and Los Angeles. While Wyborowa took care of what went into the bottle, the outside was left up to renowned architect Frank Gehry, who fell in love with the project after a visit to the estate and created a sleek, minimalist design of clear glass, strong lines and curves. *$30 a bottle, available at Kappy's Liquors, 216 Border St., East Boston (617-567-9500) and Blanchard's Liquors, 103 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-5588).*

No Carbs for You... Unless you've been living under a rock (or under Keyshawn Johnson's massive ego) for the last couple of years, you know that if you're looking to shed a couple of pounds, it isn't a bad idea to cut down on the carbohydrates in your diet. Pasta? Out. Rolls? Out. The Sheraton Hotel's new Lo-Carb Lifestyle Menu? In. On April 16, the hotel giant launched its Atkins/South Beach diet–friendly menu at 200 of its North American hotels (including Boston). The menu contains such low-starch selections as the Updated Caesar Salad ($8.25, $10.50 w/chicken, 4 grams of carbohydrates), the "No Buns Allowed" Burger ($10.50, 2.2 grams) and the Ultimate Portobello Chicken Burger ($11.50, 2.9 grams). *39 Dalton St., Boston (617-236-2000).*


Starbucks' new sandwiches

Starbucks Surprise... When Starbucks announced the launch of its new line of sandwiches and salads, we were skeptical. Was this the next New Coke, Crystal Pepsi, or McRib—another misguided case of overexpansion? But an officewide taste test pretty much left us with egg on our face—or rather turkey, mustard and pepperoncini. The sandwiches were good. Mozzarella with roasted tomatoes on ciabatta was fresh and tasty, like homemade, and the Italian combo was served on focaccia bread from Iggy's. Even more surprising are the prices: $4.50–$5.50—not much more than a venti latte. Look for the sandwiches and salads (eight total) at select Starbucks locations. *—E.H., J.I. and Rich Levine*

sports

MAKING TRACKS



An ambitious project is under way two hours from Boston, in Tamworth, N.H. Club Motorsports Inc.'s Valley Motorsports Park will include a 150,000-square foot clubhouse, a hotel, and most importantly, a 3.3–mile road course. The facility runs on the country-club business model—drivers pay an initiation fee plus monthly dues for track time. Initiation fees range from $4,500 to $22,000 depending on the level of membership, and prices are ramping up as the projected opening date in late summer/early fall approaches. So if you've got a need for speed, here's a good way to get it out of your system without meeting any more of Massachusetts' finest. Go to www.clubmotorsports.com for more information. *—Ezra Dyer*

improper reports

KEEP IT CLEAN

Leave your sponge and bucket at home. These car washes will clean out your vehicle, not your wallet—all under $10.



*__Allston Car Wash__ 434 Cambridge St., Allston (617-254-3200). Mon.–Wed. 8 am–6 pm, Thu.–Fri. 8 am–7 pm, Sat., 8 am–5 pm, Sun. 9 am–3 pm. Automatic exterior car wash, $8.95.

*__M & L Stop & Wax__ 946 Saratoga St., East Boston (617-567-5800). Mon.–Fri. 7 am–4 pm, Sat. 8 am–12 pm. Manual exterior car wash, $10.

*__Scrub-A-Dub__ 143 Harvard St., Brookline (617-277-3033). Mon.–Sat. 7:30 am–8 pm, Sun. 8 am–6 pm. Automatic express car wash, $8.50.

*__Shield System Car Washes__ 36[illegible] Western Ave., Brighton (617-782-6414). Mon.–Fri. 8 am–7 pm, Sat. [illegible] am–6 pm, Sun. 8 am–5 pm. Automatic soft cloth car wash, $8.

*__Squikee Clean Car Wash__ 45[illegible] Bremen St., East Boston (617-567-7603). Mon.–Sun. 7:30 am–8 pm. Automatic exterior car wash, $7.

—Kim Farrington

IMPROPER SPEAKING

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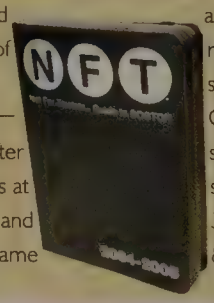
Italian Interiors... If you're in the market for a new kitchen, and money is no object, Arclinea in Boston's Design District might be worth a look. The luxe Italian kitchenaire's flagship U.S. store, which opened in February, features an imported collection of custom-made stainless steel and marble-topped ranges by design heavy and Italian architect Antonio Citterio. Displayed exclusively at the Boston showroom is the Convivium kitchen model (yours for a tidy $80,000-$130,000). Another exclusive is a Todd English recipe for Parmesan pudding with sweet pea sauce, handwritten on the store's 15-foot chalkboard by the celeb chef himself. *10 St. James Ave., Boston (617-357-9777). www.arclineaboston.com.*

Surf This Way... Whether searching for info on Aerosmith's new CD, *Honkin' on Bobo*, or beefing up on band trivia before the group plays the Tweeter Center June 24, diehard fans should check out Toysinourattic.com. We stumbled upon the online trove of Aerobilia just after it turned one year old in January. Click on the Aerosmith Freedom Trail link for a tour of the band's former 1970s stomping grounds, at 1325 Comm. Ave., and other of their favorite Boston hangouts. Or if you're the *E! True Hollywood Story* type, skip all that touristy junk and go right to the They Were So Drugged Up... link for juicy nuggets of pre-rehab history.


Aerosmith

***NFT* Hits BOS...**Just because you're an expert on Jamaica Plain doesn't mean you know jack about the North End. Fortunately, the guide-book publisher Not for Tourists has just released its first Boston edition. The pocket-size book packs handy information about restaurants, entertainment venues and other destinations into a neighborhood-by-neighborhood format. *NFT: Not for Tourists Guide to Boston* also includes maps, so get out there and discover some unfamiliar corner of the city. *www.notfortourists.com.*

What's My Name Again?... After a year-long identity crisis, the folks at Boylston Street's Rattlesnake Bar and Grill (which briefly went by the name George: An American Tavern) have discovered the meaning in the old adage "If it ain't broke, don't fix it." The Tex-Mex tavern's reincarnation as George was, well, underwhelming to Rattlesnake fans. Management finally chucked the idea and reintroduced a new and improved Rattlesnake on April 15, with the rockin' roof deck still intact. "There was such a clamor to bring back the Rattlesnake that we couldn't ignore the issue," says co-owner Craig Davignon. "The response has been so positive, we've been busy every night since we've been open." Colorful murals and a casual atmosphere have replaced George's understated, uptight decor, and East Coast Grill's Chris Schlesinger spiced up the menu with his signature pan-Latin dishes. *384 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-7772).*



Walk on Fame... Taking first prize for the most creative form of celebrity worship are CraftBoston's rag rugs, literally woven from the shirts off famous people's backs. Matt Damon, Ben Affleck, Edie Falco, Jamie Lyn Discala, a handful of Patriots and some celeb chefs are among the stars who donated their shirts to benefit Artists for Humanity. The rugs, seven in total, were woven by Jamaica Plain fiber artist Claudia Mills and will be either auctioned online or raffled off at CraftBoston's art show at the World Trade Center May 21-23. *www.craftboston.org. —E.H., J.I., Courtney Hollands and Ezra Dyer.*

Got scoop?

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PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY


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The U.S. Fund for UNICEF New England **2004 Children's Champion Award Dinner** was held April 29 at the Fairmont Copley Plaza. Guests enjoyed a private reception with honoree Stephen Stills, a buffet dinner, and entertainment provided by the James Montgomery Band. The highlight of the evening was a musical performance by Stills, who is best known for his work with Buffalo Springfield and Crosby, Stil and Nash. All proceeds benefited UNICEF.

1. From left: **Stephen Stills**, of Crosby, Stills & Nash; **Kimberlea Tracey**, executive director of UNICEF; and **Sean Flannery**, senior vice president of State Street Global Advisors.
2. **Matthew Santangelo**, vice president Merrill Lynch, and his wife, **Bernadette**
3. **David Hauck**, editor of the *Christian Science Monitor*, and **Storey Hieronymus Hauck**, owner of the boutique Turtle in the South End.
4. **Stan Grossfeld**, Pulitzer Prize–winning photojournalist for the *Boston Globe* and co-chair of the event, and his wife, **Stacey Kabot**.
5. **Fairfax O'Riley** (center), strategy director for RLM Software in Cambridge; his wife, **Rowan** (left); and **Lyssa O'Riley**, photographer.
6. **Kristen Stills**, wife of Stephen Stills, an **Jarel Portman**, CEO and managing director of Handwritten Films in L.A.

Edible Art 2004 was held April 29 at Shreve, Crump & Low. More than 500 party-goers gathered to sample succulent masterpieces inspired by renowned works of art. Proceeds support student scholarships for the Art Institute of Boston (AIB) at Lesley University.


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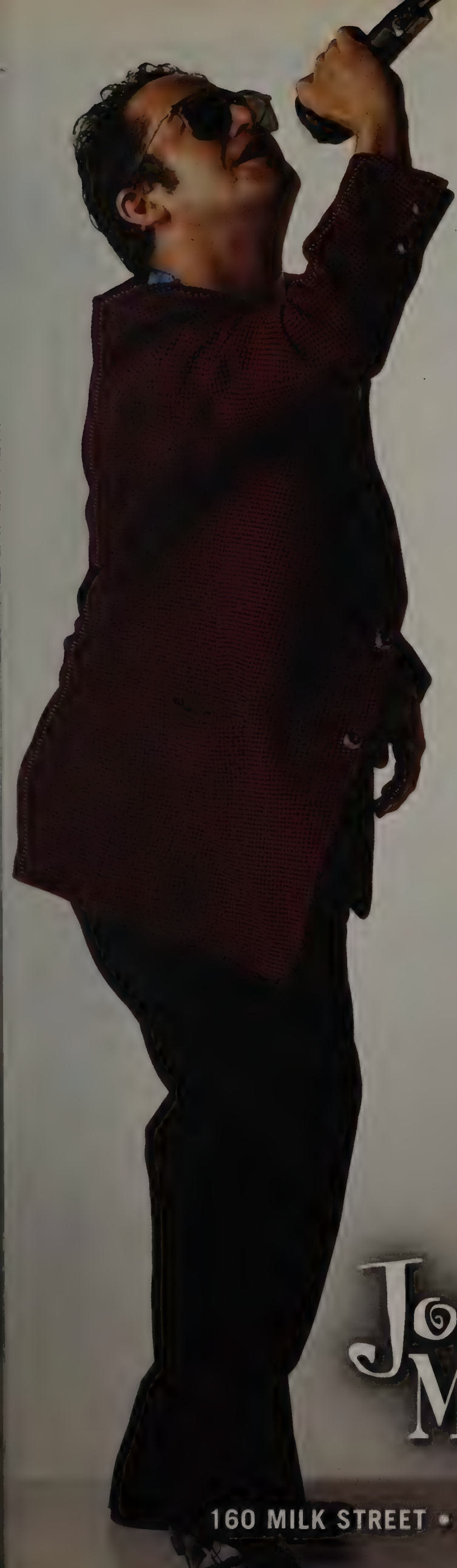

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7. From left: **Upton Bell**, vice president of Your Legacy on Video; **Cathy Schlager**, district sales manager for Crystal Cruises; **John Madfis**, leasing representative for General Growth Properties in Natick; and **Donald Perrin**, AIB board overseer.
8. From left: **Bob Grinberg**, investor; **Tony Ambrose**, chef/owner of the Blackfin restaurants; and **Debbie Lewis**, owner of 29 Newbury Street.
9. **Kim Kozol** (left), co-chair of Edible Art, and **Virginia Raffa**, Edible Art committee member.
10. From left: **Lynne Poland**, "The Cigar Lady"; **Brooks Bornhofft**, account manager for PCI Corporation; and his father, **Eric Bornhofft**, managing director of MedTech Capital Inc.
11. **Paula Jacq'lyn** (left), clothing designer in Martha's Vineyard and Boston, and **Carol Campbell**, administrator for the Stoughton public schools.


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10


11



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GOOGLE EYED

There's nothing like an Internet self-search to confirm you're just another Yahoo

Despite my fascination with myself, I don't make a habit of self-Googling. Like looking down at the world from a plane, Google makes you realize how insignificant you are. But I was still surprised when I gave it a try recently and found out just how many other Ezra Dyers showed up for the Google party.

Roughly half the Internet appears to be devoted to genealogy pages, which baffles me. Why do so many people care where they came from? My aunt once told me that my relatives go back to the Mayflower, which means that I ought to go apologize to the nearest Native American. Thanks for teaching my ancestors about fertilizer; sorry about the smallpox and alcoholism.

Google tells me there were lots of Ezra Dyers round these parts back in the 1800s. For instance, Dr. Ezra Dyer reported on a case of traumatic paralysis at the New England Ophthalmological Society meeting in the Back Bay in 1885. Wow, you must've been pretty smart, Dr. Dyer! Too bad you're now talkin' topthology with the worms!

A religious site has a story about Ezra Dyer. Or, more accurately, Ezra the Wool-Dyer: "When Jesus had spoken his words of commentary on the Scripture the whole assembly in the Synagogue fell into silence. But one person alone did not remain silent. Seated near the back of the synagogue, the man quietly began to cry. Many turned their heads to see who it was who was weeping. And they saw that it was Ezra, the Wool-Dyer." The point of this story, according to the site, is that "the story of Ezra the Wool-Dyer provides us with a glimpse of how Eternity breaks into time." What's left unexplained is why Ezra the Wool-Dyer is such a pussy. Crying right there in the synagogue? This Ezra the Crier is hurting my tough, manly image. I'm going to tell Google this site is spamming me with dog porn and get it delisted. I'm glad I found out about this.

Ezra Dyer was also a big-shot lawyer in Oklahoma in the 1940s, while Ezra H. Dyer served as an officer with the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States in Missouri during the Civil War. Way to go, Ezra H. Dyer! I was going to be bummed if you were a Confederate, but it appears you fought nobly against your slave-owning, toothless, inbred Missouri brethren (apologies to readers whose Google genealogy results show that they're descended from toothless, inbr Missouri Confederates). Ezra H. Dyer, i ever get interested in history and becom incredibly lame, I'm going to play you in Civil War reenactment.

There were also lots of close matches the Ezra Dyer search, such as an excer from *The Maddest Idea* by James L. Nelso This novel about the American Navy du ing the Revolutionary War features a cha acter named Ezra Rumstick, who is qui the salty dog: "Rumstick followed his ga out toward Dyer Island. 'Men die in wa Isaac,' he said after a pause. 'They w men-of-war's men, and they made choice.'" Ezra, that is the saltiest dialog this side of Captain Ahab or my leg's n made of wood. Your grammar is appallin but I'm sure I'd want you on my side duri a naval battle or clichéd sentiment co test, you big fictional galoot.

Another interesting find was the "De Uncle Ezra" advice column on Corn University's Web site. Dear Uncle Ezra

I WAS SURPRISED AT HOW MANY OTHER EZRA DYERS SHOWED UP FOR THE GOOGLE PARTY

written by Cornell founder Ezra Corn whose advice-dispensing credibility called into question by the fact that died in 1874. For instance, one pare writes to Uncle Ezra and asks why t school doesn't offer more alternatives drinking. Uncle Ezra responds that the are plenty of other things to do in Itha besides drink. For instance, students c "swim and use the gymnasiums for baske ball, volleyball and badminton, or sign for countless intramural sports, from so cer to innertube waterpolo." Uncle Ez you're so out of touch. Everyone kno that you only play innertube waterpo when you're totally wasted! Perhaps t parent should ask Uncle Ezra to set daughter up with the guy who asked wh steps he could take to improve his stu habits. I'm sure he knows where the ba minton court is. iB

YOU THINK THAT'S FUNNY?
Your search of ezra@improper.com returned 0 resul



Death to George

The following is an editorial from "the Committee to Bring Back the Rattlesnake Bar"

One year ago the "Rattlesnake Bar and Grill" the most exciting and fun bar and in the Back Bay was changed to George: An American Tavern. This was not due to change in ownership, but rather from the idiocy and misguidance of one of the owners. A man named Gordon Wilcox who felt he was a visionary in the restaurant field. His ideas, however proved to be as outdated as the powder blue, double knit tuxedo that he wore to Spinazzola last month and about as sharp as the 1½ star chef that he hired to create the menu. The result was a place as boring as Mr. Wilcox's personal life.

Convinced to seek therapy, Mr. Wilcox has been shipped off to Saratoga, N.Y. to watch the horseys run round and round leaving his partners to make appropriate changes and to apologize to all the loyal customers they have had over the years.

Effective mid-April, the new and improved Rattlesnake Bar opens and promises good times to all, featuring: exotic drinks, a rooftop bar, Budweiser, a private room and a menu created by Chris Schlesinger and his chefs at the East Coast Grill.

They hope to see you this spring.

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Soroff ON

JEFF TAYLOR

BY JONATHAN SOROFF



Monster.com founder Jeff Taylor was born and raised in the Boston area and received his undergraduate degree from UMass Amherst. In the fall of 1993, while operating his own recruitment ad agency, the idea for Monster came to him in a dream. (The name is a reference to a client who told Taylor, "No more big ideas. I want a monster idea.") Monster was one of the first dot-com success stories and has grown into a global network serving more than 16 million visitors, in 21 countries, monthly. A frequent speaker at colleges, universities and professional conferences, Taylor has an honorary doctorate from Bentley College and serves on the boards of Junior Achievement and the Wang Center for the Performing Arts. In addition to guest DJing at area nightclubs and restoring classic cars, he became the Blimp Waterskiing World Champion in 2000. He lives with his wife and children in Newton.

Jonathan Soroff: *The monster on the logo—is that you?*

Jeff Taylor: The eyes, the fangs…yes.

JS: *How many of your former employees would you guess used Monster.com to get a better job?*

JT: Maybe 50, over 10 years. But I encourage my employees to put their résumés on Monster, because if I can't earn the opportunity of having them work for me, I don't deserve to have them.

JS: *You've reinvented the workforce and the process of leaving a job you're not happy in. Is there still such a thing as long-term company loyalty?*

JT: I think company loyalty is at risk, but loyalty to a boss, or your team, is as strong, if not stronger, than ever. I also think the number-one reason people leave a job is because of their boss. Even though the reasons people cite are things like more pay or a shorter commute, it's really all about the boss, and the relationship with the employee.

JS: *How do you feel when an employee leaves?*

JT: Absolute disappointment if it's somebody I think is great for the company, and I fight it. I don't just let the person walk out the door.

JS: *So how do you turn that situation around?*

JT: I've kept maybe a hundred people from leaving my company by listening. Usually, they're looking for opportunities or challenges they don't feel the company's providing, and a lot of times I've been able to find those things for them. Also, by following through on promises that maybe the company had made and never delivered on. Ultimately, I've challenged their thought-process on the new job that they were going to. Someone who's going to sell snowplow blades isn't gonna change the world, whereas with what we do, they really can change the world.

THE NUMBER ONE REASON PEOPLE LEAVE A JOB IS BECAUSE OF THEIR BOSS. EVEN THOUGH THEY CITE THINGS LIKE MORE PAY OR A SHORTER COMMUTE, IT'S REALLY ALL ABOUT THE BOSS.

JS: *Worst job you ever had?*

JT: When I was probably 14, I was a dishwasher at a big steak and drinking place in Newton, and my job was to dump those barrels full of old alcohol and whatever into the trash, in this narrow alley. It was disgusting. And the owner didn't know my name, so he called me something like "Frank."

JS: *Best job you ever had?*

JT: This one. Even though I sold my company back in 1995, I love being able to lead the charge. I've dedicated my life to helping people love their jobs.

JS: *But doesn't your company actually promote job dissatisfaction by holding out the promise that there's something better out there?*

JT: I think it's more likely that we're not the cause; we're the effect. The cause is that you already don't like your job. You can then effectively go to Monster.

JS: *Worst way to quit a job?*

JT: A fight with the boss—"F*** you!" "F*** you!"—and then walk out the door, slamming it behind you.

JS: *How long should someone stay in a job?*

JT: As long as they're learning something.

JS: *What's too soon to quit?*

JT: I'd quit after one day if the job wasn't right.

JS: *Biggest lie you've ever seen on a résumé?*

JT: I think the word "consultant" is the most abused. Someone doesn't have a job for three years—they're always consultants.

JS: *Single best piece of advice for someone who's been out of a job for a long time?*

JT: You have got to go look for a job. I find people who are out of work and haven't even done a résumé yet. They keep kinda hoping that some beautiful opportunity will land in their lap. I'm all for "Work hard, play hard," but if you're unemployed, it's a "work hard" scenario.

JS: *Strangest job you've ever listed on Monster?*

JT: Mortician. Home Shopping Channel announcer. There have been a few, although we're fairly mainstream. There's lots of kinda fringe jobs but nothing that bizarre. The more exotic stuff is something like being a grip on a movie.

JS: *How do you stop someone from trying to hire someone to do something illegal?*

JT: One of the most difficult things in our business is controlling those kind of "work from home" type jobs. What amazes me is these scams where someone asks you to send $100 along with your maiden name, college ID and three friends' Social Security numbers. And people do it!

JS: *OK, write a help wanted ad for president of the United States.*

JT: Let's see. Job title: Leader of the free world. Requirements: 20 years' experience in related field with progressive track record. Minimum of one year's experience in politics. Actually having survived all 12 months a plus.

JS: *So are you addicted to the TV show* The Apprentice?

JT: I've watched it twice. I thought it was a little slow. I saw the first episode, and one of my main thought was that my view of women in the workplace is a b more advanced.

JS: *Who would you rather work for: Donald Trump or Martha Stewart?*

JT: Martha Stewart. Real e tate doesn't particularly in terest me from a busines perspective. Martha Stew art's been an incredibl brand presence. It's one o the things I admire abou the empire that she's built. also think that in the way approach staff and employ ees, I could be an interestin partner to her.

JS: *One thing on a résumé that makes someone irresistible?*

JT: Great skills and progres sive experience. I think was Calvin Coolidge wh said something about persistence taking th place of any education. It shows on your r sumé. If there's a development of skills, yo can see it.

JS: *So having a Harvard M.B.A. isn't the sexiest thing in the world?*

JT: Well, getting an M.B.A. or finishing co lege are progressive experiences. They' chapters in your life and they add up to story. So the more chapters you create, th more interesting you are to an employer.

JS: *Most egregiously underpaid profession?*

JT: Teachers. I've got three kids and it's ju incredible how much a really great teach can impact someone's life. I don't thin that's reflected in their compensation. Aft that, I'd say a really great DJ. They can r ally make a club happen and they general don't get the recognition they deserve.

JS: *What if one of your kids came to you an said he wanted to be the guy who sweeps up behind the elephants in the circus?*

JT: I'd say, "Get a big broom." If that's wh made him happy, I'd say, "Go for it."

JS: *Three secrets for a successful job interview*

JT: Research. Dress to kill. And walking knowing you already have the job. Effe tively, pretty much anyone coming in for a interview has the skills required to get th job, so most people spend the whole ho talking themselves out of the job. I think lot of people also think that what they we doesn't matter, and I think that what yo wear is part of the impression you make the first 15 seconds, which is very impo tant. As for research, most people don have any idea about the company, or th position, or the opportunity, and they into the interview without being prepared

JS: *Last question: How often do you hear some version of "You've created a monster!"*

JT: I hear some bad pun every day. IB

To see one or to be one...
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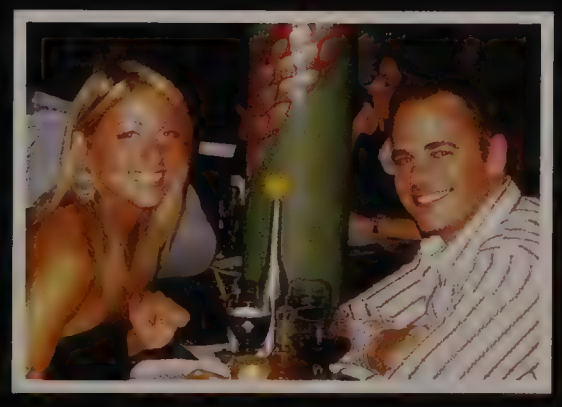
















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THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLIN



SHOW THEM THE MONEY

Players get a bum rap from fans and media

The world of a professional athlete is like no other. Dealing with sports divas daily, that was an essential lesson to learn early in my career. It's as pointless to compare your status in life against that of say, Manny Ramirez ($20 million a year), as it would be to envy Donald Trump.

I often wonder why people try to hold athletes to a different standard when it comes to earning a living. How many professionals from all walks of life are criticized for trying to make more money? I'll tell you how many: none.

The art of the deal is something to marvel at until that person is a professional athlete, be they a flame-throwing pitcher (see Pedro Martinez) or a crafty and rugged defensive back (see Ty Law). The words "greed" and "selfish" quickly come up.

Let's take Law, for example. The Patriots star, who is considered one of the best cornerbacks in the world, has taken more fire than the O.J. jury for his comment, "I gotta eat." The bottom line that's being missed in all of this is the fact that the Patriots wanted to cut Law's contract. Here was the Super Bowl–winning cornerback, fresh off three interceptions in the AFC championship game, coming off a career year. But because of the stupid system in place, the Patriots wanted to cut his pay.

So what happens? We—the media and fans—harp on the "I gotta eat" comment. That's a cheap shot. He obviously didn't mean it that way. What he meant was he wanted his money, which he deserved.

People bring up how much teachers and YMCA counselors make. But that's not the issue. The issue is that one of the best individuals in the country at his craft doesn't want to get paid less money than he's worth. Period.

Wasn't this country founded on the principles of capitalism and earning fair market value? Is it too much to pay $10 million for a guy to throw a baseball? Probably. But that's the going rate. Is it right to pay some Fortune 500 executive a $25 million bonus when his company loses money? I don't hear anybody complaining about that one.

What you need to remember is that these guys are the best in the world at what they do. In just about any business, if you can stake a claim to being the best in your field, you're going to get paid like it. And when it's time for a raise, you'd be best served to use any means possible to negotiate.

Now on to Pedro Martinez. He's a light
ning rod if I ever saw one. Pedro is earnin
$17.5 million this year, and next year he's
free agent. He says he will go to the tea
that makes him the best offer.

Oh my God! Have that man arrested.

What do people expect him to say? I
fact, I'd say the same thing. Maybe there
another city out there he'd rather live i
than Greater Boston.

It's up to the Red Sox whether Pedro
headed elsewhere. If they want him to sta
they'll make him the offer. If they don'
they'll let him go.

I've always been from the school o
thought that if there's money to b
made—and we know there's a little bit i
pro sports—why shouldn't the athlete
reap it? The last time I checked, fan
weren't flocking to Fenway Park to se
Sox owner John Henry. Henry has a
awful lot invested in the team, just as Bo
Kraft does in the Patriots, like all othe

IS $10 MILLION TOO MUCH TO PAY A GUY TO THROW A BASEBALL? PROBABLY BUT THAT'S THE GOING RATE. IF THERE IS MONEY TO BE MADE—AND WE KNOW THERE'S A LITTLE BIT IN PRO SPORTS—WHY SHOULDN'T THE ATHLETES REAP IT?

owners in pro sports. They're all entitle
to turn a profit, but don't attack the gu
holding a baseball or the guy interceptin
the football, the same guys you cheere
all year long en route to one of the mo
exciting sports years in Boston sports hi
tory. After all, if you or I were in their si
uation, we'd go for the money.

Maybe it's time we stop worryin
about feeding Ty Law and eat a litt
crow ourselves. IB

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News.

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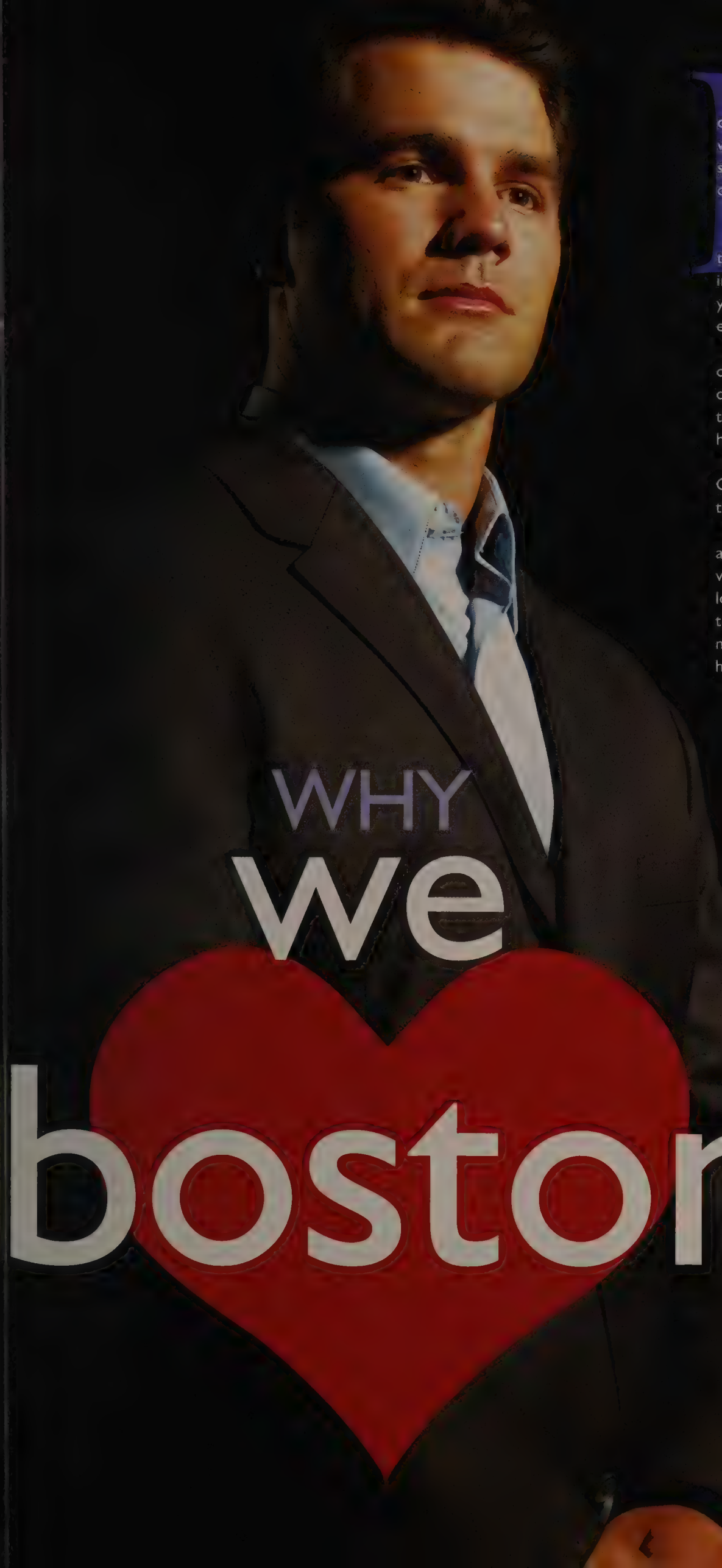
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BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Bostonians have plenty to bitch about. The driving sucks. The weather sucks. The cost of living is at the ridiculous end of the spectrum, and the odds of catching a cab when you really need one are infinity-to-one.

So why live here?

It's a question we ask ourselves often, or at least every time some knucklehead makes the inevitable but stunningly irrelevant comparison with New York. (Memo to them: Yes, you're right. This isn't New York. It's not Tokyo or Srinagar, either.)

Whatever its faults, Boston has plenty going for it—history, charm, enough decent hospitals to minimize the likelihood of dying from Ebola—and its assets far outweigh such liabilities as the chronic case of coitus interruptus we've suffered at the hands of every major sports team except the Patriots.

Not to sound like a press release from the Chamber of Commerce, but we love this city. How? We decided to count the ways.

What we realized was that if Julie Andrews had been singing about Boston in "My Favorite Things," *The Sound of Music* would be as long as Wagner's *Ring Cycle*. The list of reasons to love Boston goes on and on, and ours is by no means exhaustive. It's a start, though, and something to keep in mind the next time you find yourself wondering how you wound up here or why you continue to stay.

people

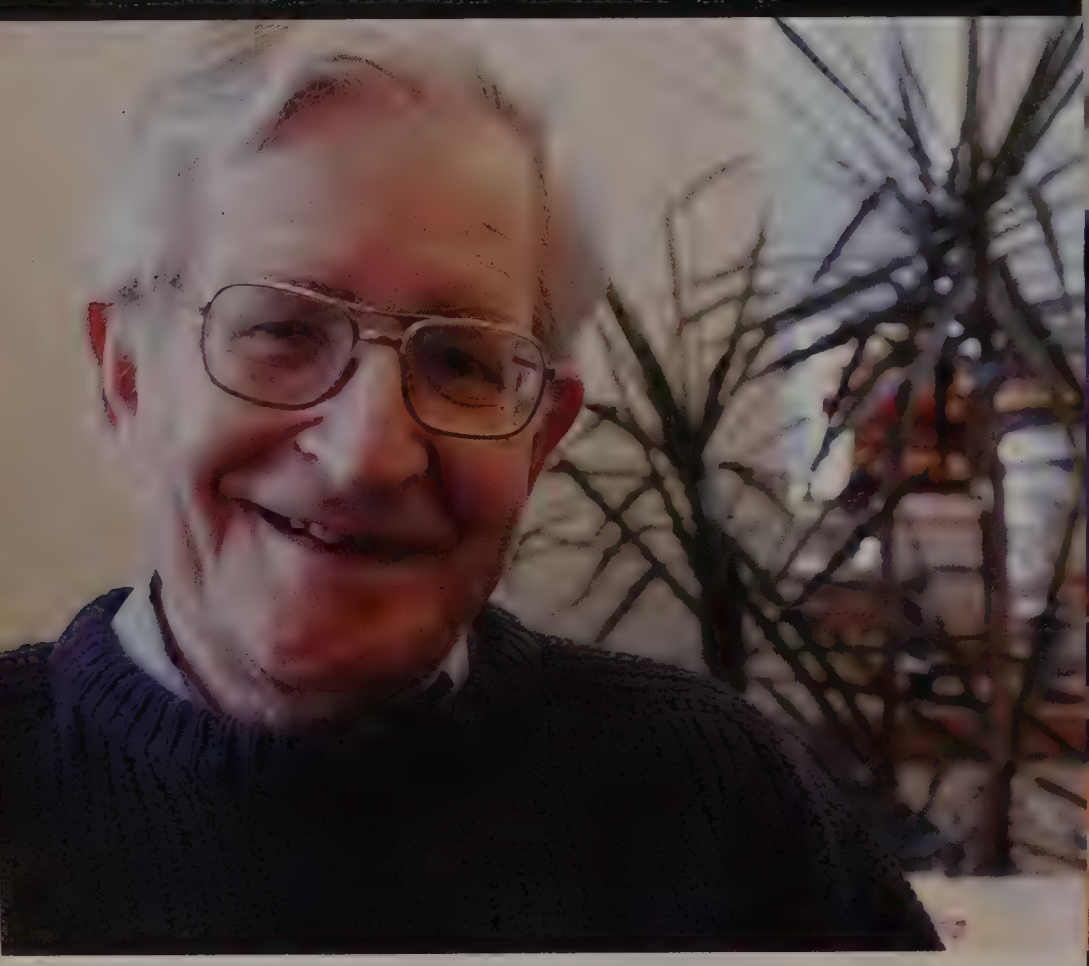
ADAM VINATIERI

After the Red Sox' heart-crushing exit from the ALCS playoffs last year, the city needed a reason for a little sporting cheer. That was provided in spades by the New England Patriots, who began a remarkable 15-game winning streak back when the Red Sox were still battling Oakland. That run culminated in the Pats' second Super Bowl title in three years, and the second to be clinched by an Adam Vinatieri field goal. "For those of us who are big sports fans, we'll always see him kicking the Super Bowl winners with all the flashbulbs going off," says Patriots owner Bob Kraft. "Adam's made 17 game-winning kicks in eight years. I don't think there's anything more comforting than seeing Adam Vinatieri walk out on the field when the game's on the line. He's a wonderful young man, and we're proud to have him represent the team and our family, both on and off the field." And while the Patriots place great emphasis on the team philosophy, the kicker position is an inherently individual role. Despite that, *Boston Globe* sportswriter Michael Holley says Vinatieri's one of the guys. "He defies the stereotype of a kicker as an aloof, peripheral part of the team," Holley says. "He's a football player who just happens to be a kicker."



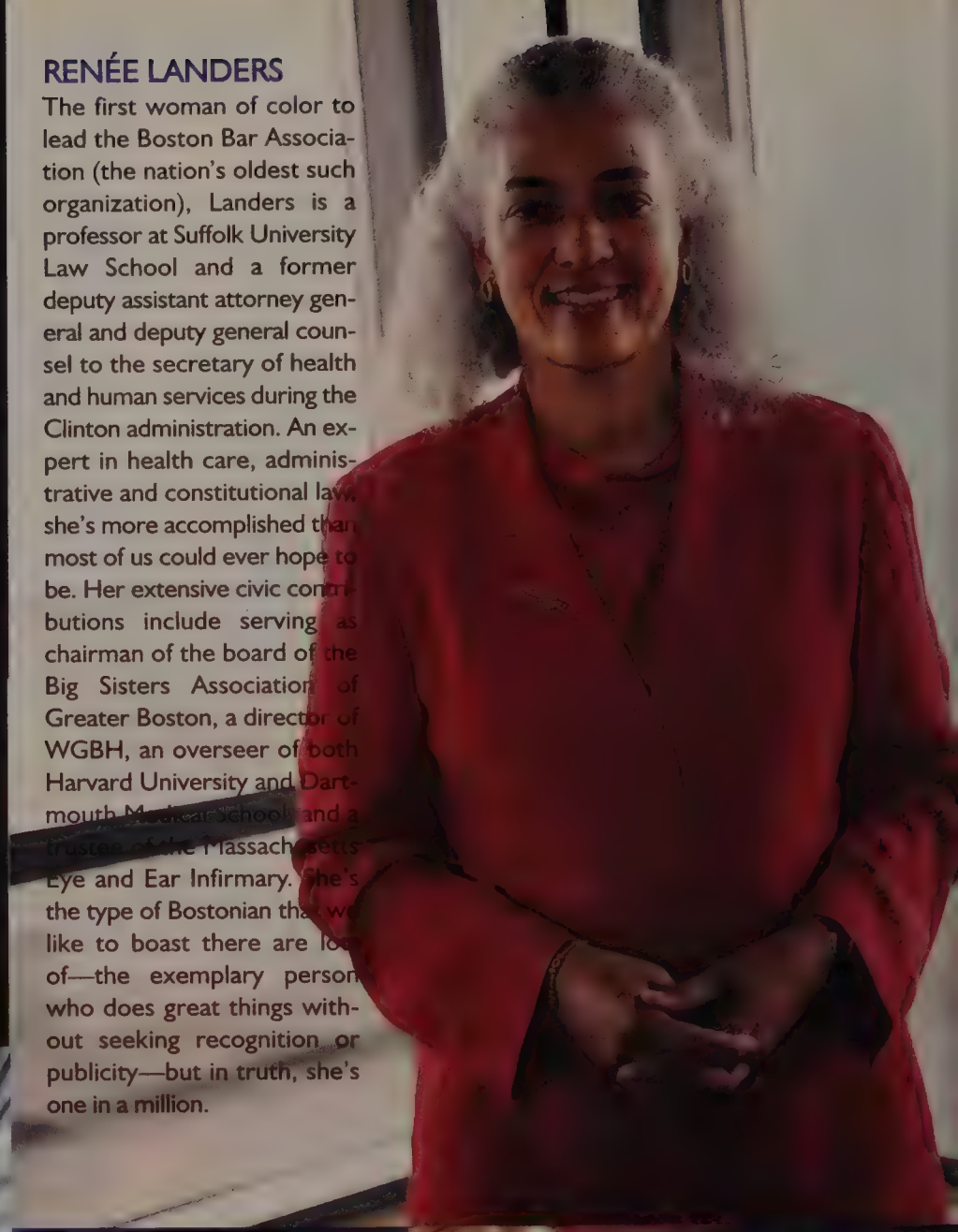
THE SAUSAGE GUY ON LANSDOWNE STREET

It's usually not a good thing to say you can smell someone from a mile away, but in the case of Dave Littlefield, aka the Sausage Guy, it's, in fact, a compliment. As soon as you leave the bleacher seats at Fenway or stumble out of a nightclub onto Lansdowne Street, it hits you: the heady scent of grilling meat, onions and peppers. By the time the Sausage Guy's pushcart heaves into view, your salivary glands have hijacked your better judgment and you're ordering one with everything on it. Even some vegetarians we know have grown weak-kneed with desire. Furthermore, the friendly patter Littlefield serves up with each sandwich makes the experience that much more gratifying. Forgive the groan-worthy pun, but we swear: You never sausage a guy!



NOAM CHOMSKY

The father of modern linguistics is such a genius that Nobel Prize winners have trouble following what he's trying to say. Chomsky's C.V. reads like a greatest hits of higher education: UPenn undergrad and grad school, a fellowship at Harvard, stints at Princeton's Institute for Advanced Study and as a lecturer at English universities Oxford and Cambridge, and decades of distinguished service on the faculty of MIT. He has written and lectured on topics including philosophy, intellectual history, modern culture, international affairs and U.S. foreign policy, and the awards and honors that have been heaped upon him include being named a fellow of the National Academy of Science and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Among brainiacs the world over, "Chomsky says…" is synonymous with intellectual cred, and he lives right here in our midst. Now we know how the folks in Jersey felt when Einstein was their neighbor.



RENÉE LANDERS

The first woman of color to lead the Boston Bar Association (the nation's oldest such organization), Landers is a professor at Suffolk University Law School and a former deputy assistant attorney general and deputy general counsel to the secretary of health and human services during the Clinton administration. An expert in health care, administrative and constitutional law, she's more accomplished than most of us could ever hope to be. Her extensive civic contributions include serving as chairman of the board of the Big Sisters Association of Greater Boston, a director of WGBH, an overseer of both Harvard University and Dartmouth Medical School and a trustee of the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary. She's the type of Bostonian that we like to boast there are lots of—the exemplary person who does great things without seeking recognition or publicity—but in truth, she's one in a million.



MARY RICHARDSON

As co-host of WCVB-TV 5's *Chronicle*, a program that celebrates, navigates and elucidates all things New England, Richardson's like a tour guide, critic, concierge and best friend to her rabidly loyal fan base. Perky without being cloying, she has real journalistic cojones; as a TV reporter, she once tracked members of the Manson family to their apartment and scored an interview. Whether she's reporting a tear-jerking feature on homelessness or fluff like the romantic inns of the White Mountains, her delivery never seems forced or disingenuous. In a business of personalities who seem attractive on-air and are unpleasant once the cameras are off, Richardson's the antithesis of a diva: warm, genuine, smart, interesting and interested. If *Chronicle* were a national show, she'd be America's sweetheart, but the fact that it's the only local nightly TV news magazine left makes her our very own.

ROBERT B. PARKER

No one has done more to immortalize Boston in print than the prolific Parker. The dean of American detective fiction, he's the rightful heir to Hammett and Chandler (whom, perhaps not coincidentally, he wrote about in his doctoral thesis). Since the first Spenser novel appeared, in 1971, Parker's tough but erudite detective has transcended two-dimensional gumshoe status to become an American literary icon. Meanwhile, the popular TV show he inspired not only made Boston look fabulous but also rescued Robert Urich's career from the indignity of having starred as Dan Tanna in *Vegas*. That Parker has also found time to pen a western and a series of mysteries involving female P.I. Sunny Randall, as well as run an independent TV and film production company, is nothing short of astonishing. Furthermore, the philanthropic generosity shown by him and his wife, Joan, prove that under his gruff exterior there's a warm and fuzzy center.

LENNY CLARKE

Quite simply, the guy is piss-your-pants funny, whether he's doing his stand-up act at one of the local comedy clubs his brother owns, appearing in the latest Farrelly brothers movie, or playing a Southie bar owner on ABC's Archie Bunker–meets–*La Cage Aux Folles* sitcom, *It's All Relative*. A Cambridge native, Clarke once ran for mayor while working in the city's sanitation department, and one can't help but think how much better off, or at least funnier, the People's Republic might be if he'd gotten elected. His wife, Jennifer, meanwhile, is not only one of Martha's Vineyard's best charter-boat captains and a champion fisher-woman but a singer and songwriter as well, further upping Clarke's cool quotient. A master of the intelligent rant, he's a latter-day Jackie Gleason. We defy anyone who's ever seen him perform not to crack a smile as soon as he appears.

HOMETOWN PRIDE

INTERVIEWS BY JESSICA IREDALE

Now that you know why we think our city's so great, we thought it only fair to include a few more opinions. We asked 12 of our notable neighbors to tell us what they love about Boston. Here they explain what makes them proud of their city and happy to stay put.

"I love the city's passion for its sports teams. It's incredible to play in front of sold-out crowds every night at Fenway, whether it's a cold night in April or a classic New England evening in July. The passion in Boston is tremendous, which is really the key thing about playing here."

—**Jason Varitek**, *catcher, Boston Red Sox*

"Probably what I love most about Boston is its diversity in every regard. From architecture, old and contemporary, to the amazing array of culture—we speak 140 different languages in Boston—resources, food and vegetation, it's just a wonderful diversity. I think this city has an amazing presence in terms of the world of intellect and ideas, writers and publishing, and all of those things that I think are a pretty essential part of what my training as a librarian is about. Bottom line: I like Boston, I like the people here and I like the natural and the built environment that make up this great city."

—**Bernie Margolis**, *president, Boston Public Library*

"The bars. I've been in literally thousands of bars across the country, and Boston has a great bar culture. You can strike up a conversation and feel at home, even if you're a Yankees fan."

—**Jim Koch**, *brewer, Samuel Adams*

"Tough question. There is so much to love. The cultural life, of course, the rich traditions and strong and diverse cultural offerings. The diversity of the people and the influences on life here. The great restaurants. The sports, and the fanatical devotion to our teams. The beauty of the city, and the fact that so much natural beauty lies right next door, in every direction. The fact that I'm a Northeast guy at heart, and I feel very at home here. Gertrude Stein (I think) once said, disparagingly, about another city, "There's no there there." There's a lot of there here! I can't think of another city in the country that I would be prouder to call home. And did I mention the Boston Pops?"

—**Keith Lockhart**, *conductor, Boston Pops*

"It's hard to pick the one thing I love most. Because I'm a Gemini, I'll pick two. First, the people: direct, funny and outgoing. We may love to lay on our horns, but we're really pretty friendly. And then there's the city itself. Between the scenery and the architecture, this is one beautiful, walkable city. Patriots' Day always makes me proud to be a Bostonian. I love that it's a historic, citywide party capped off with the drama of the marathon and the suspense of the Sox game. It always seems like the first real day of spring. What keeps me here? My fella, my friends, the fact that Boston just feels like home...and the basil gimlets at Via Matta!"

—**Lisa Hughes**, *news anchor, CBS-TV 4 News*

"Growing up in New Jersey gave me a permanent affection for places where people brag in a kind of reverse way: Our weather is worse than yours, our politicians more deplorable, our car insurance system is more messed up, our scandals are greater. Like New Jersey, Boston also has good, American ethnic mixes and hybrids and a tradition of superior fast food (fried clams, hot dogs, pizza). And as a childhood Brooklyn Dodgers fan, I have hated the Yankees forever. This is a great community for poetry. My close friends and neighbors include Frank Bidart, David Ferry, Louise Glück, Lloyd Schwartz, Gail Mazur, Tom Sleigh, Askold Melnyczuk—friendships going back decades. When we were all puppies, Bishop and Lowell were attending readings at the Blacksmith House. Lowell taught Plath and Sexton and Starbuck in the same BU classroom where Derek Walcott, Rosanna Warren, Leslie Epstein, Ha Jin and I teach our classes now. In other words: people, and memories of people."

—**Robert Pinsky**, *former U.S. poet laureate*

"Boston is a vibrant city of neighborhoods—I've traveled a great deal in recent years, and as a result, appreciate home more than ever. It's also a very safe city compared with most. The fact that we're recognized internationally for our community policing initiatives. The quality of life. While there is always room for improvement, I haven't visited another city that's as clean, vibrant, safe and community oriented."

—**Kathleen O'Toole**, *commissioner, Boston Police Department*

"It's the overwhelming self-confidence of the people who live here. You can see it in the rotaries as you drive. People know that they're more important than you. Therefore, they often pull out right in front of your car. Or at traffic lights. As soon as the light hints at turning green, bam! Those fists are all over the horn. Because the city is brimming with VIPs, they can't be expected to wait. You can even see this confidence when you're out walking. Nobody says hello because, heck, they're just too good for that silliness. The self-confidence of Bostonians is refreshing."

—**Christopher Muther**, *columnist, The Boston Globe*

"What I enjoy most about this city are its cultural offerings: theater, museums and, of course, great restaurants! What keeps me here is my wonderful circle of friends, many that I met in college. Some of my friends and I are part of a wine group called Divas Uncorked that sponsors wine dinners and educational forums for women interested in learning about wine. I would be more proud of Boston if the powers that be in the city did more to change the culture by reaching out to people of color to make sure that they are included in every level of Boston society—from affordable housing to good jobs and education—and to welcome them fully in Boston's sometimes closed social circles."

—**Karen Holmes Ward**, *executive producer and host, CityLine on WCVB-TV 5*

"The many different accents that are spoken here, even within a 20-mile radius: 'Ya wan mustahd wit dat hutdug, bubby?' It's always fun to quickly figure out if someone is from Everett or Somerville. That I'm not a typical Bostonian and I really love sex! The deep roots of established friendships. And three seasons out of the year: spring, summer and fall. That's why I winter in Los Angeles now."

—**Kim Airs**, *owner, Grand Opening*

"I love that there's so much art and entertainment in the city. It's enough that you can feel a part of it versus being overwhelmed by it in New York. I'm proud to be a Bostonian because gays can get married in our state. I'm here because it is a city you can live in and make a contribution to the art scene."

—**Joe Zina**, *executive director, Coolidge Corner Theatre*

"Well, I guess the stock or more boring answer would be its proximity to the New England states. I'm a Cape Cod lover, a Maine lover and a Vermont lover. To me, it's the greatest place to be in the country. Look what we have around us. I love the size of our city. It doesn't swallow you up. You can actually walk down the streets and bump into people you know all the time. When I drive to work in the morning, I invariably see someone I know. Obviously, I love the fish, and now we have great farmers who grow specialty items for us chefs. I love the seasons. I wait all year long for football season to start so I can load up my fireplace with wood and cook for my friends on Sunday and have a fire. I love our mayor. I think he's the greatest mayor in the country because he loves to eat. Bostonians are great eaters. I think Boston's a beautiful city. Every day, when I look out over the Public Gardens from Excelsior, that's pretty special."

—**Lydia Shire**, *chef/owner, Excelsior and Locke-Ober*

REALITY TV CONTESTANTS

Boston seems to produce an inordinate number of reality cast members, from "Boston Rob" of CBS's *Survivor: All Stars* to the losers on *Average Joe*—Brian G., Brian W. and Justin. One might argue that our contribution to TV's perverse voyeuristic streak is a dubious distinction at best, but when you think about it, what's more American than eavesdropping on your neighbors? Watching people make jackasses of themselves is much more fun when you live next door to them or know you might bump into them in a bar. Bonus points for the fact that Omarosa Manigault-Stallworth (the one everybody loved to hate on *The Apprentice*) *isn't* from here.

MBTA CONDUCTOR PAUL GERRISH

Anything that mitigates the aggravation of commuting via public transportation merits our admiration, and Gerrish, a three-year veteran of the T, does just that. As a conductor on the C branch of the Green Line, which travels from Cleveland Circle in Brookline to Government Center, via Beacon Street, Gerrish keeps up a steady patter of infotainment, offering somewhat goofy monologues that combine announcements of the stops with jokes and bits of useful news. Miraculously, this isn't as annoying as it sounds; rather than irritating his riders, he soothes frayed nerves and rarely fails to put a smile on everyone's face. Not bad, when you consider that the only available entertainment on most mass transit is the ads for suicide hotlines and personal-injury lawyers.

VIVIEN LI

More than any other person, Li deserves credit for cleaning up Boston Harbor. Before she became executive director of the Boston Harbor Association, the harbor was bordering on being an open sewer. Today, 90 percent of the city's ocean beaches are swimmable for 90 percent of the summer, and Li vows to improve on that. The harbor is the centerpiece that Boston was originally built upon, and it's once again teeming with life, both aquatic and recreational. By combining the tenacity of a social activist, the pie-in-the-sky idealism of a visionary and the exacting standards of an environmentalist, she's returned one of the city's most precious resources to good working order.

places



THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM

The mark of a truly great house museum—whether it's the Frick in New York or the Peggy Guggenheim in Venice—is how compellingly it reflects the quirks and eccentricities of the personality that created it. On that score, the Gardner has them all beat. The headstrong daughter of a rich New York dry-goods merchant, Isabella Stewart married Brahmin scion John "Jack" Gardner in 1860 and then spent the next 60 years scandalizing Boston society with such outlandish behavior as wearing diamond antennae in her hair, walking a lion on a leash down Boylston Street, and practicing Buddhism. Before she died, she completed her folie de grandeur, a Venetian palazzo in what was then a questionable part of town. She stuffed it with art treasures she collected and willed it to the people of Boston with the stipulation that nobody could touch a thing. The result is a museum where some of the world's greatest masterpieces (Titian's *Europa*) hang alongside some absolute crap (or at least work of considerably less artistic merit). A lovable lunatic, Gardner gave the city one of its greatest assets.

THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY READING ROOM

Proof that civilization is good for something, the BPL's Bates Hall is one of the many public spaces that make us proud to be from Boston. The stunningly beautiful, grand and imposing room—named for Joshua Bates, the library's first private benefactor—is one of several attractions housed in the magnificent edifice. After spending some time here, visitors can marvel at the library's other treasures: the gorgeous murals painted by John Singer Sargent, a rare-books collection that houses curiosities like a first edition Shakespeare folio and the personal correspondence of John Quincy Adams, and the central courtyard, an oasis where the soothing splashing of fountains drowns out the noises of downtown. One of the chief reasons Boston warrants the nickname "the Athens of America."





THE PUBLIC GARDEN

In Paris, there's the Tuileries. In Rome, Tivoli. Mexico City has Chapultepec Park. For our money though, there's no prettier green space in the world than the little gem that connects the Boston Common to the Comm. Ave. Mall. It's picturesque at any time of year—the flowers in warm weather are breathtakingly spectacular, while the place retains an icy beauty during winter months. The Public Garden also earns bonus points for being home to two of the city's most beloved attractions: the Swan Boats and the Make Way for Ducklings statues. Like stepping into a fairy tale, right in your own backyard.



HARVARD SQUARE

Before you start whining that Harvard Square is in Cambridge, not Boston, let's get one thing straight: Cambridge is really just an outcropping of Boston. In fact, when Harvard was founded, the area surrounding it was referred to simply as "the new land" until—lacking a sense of urgency or originality—our forefathers named the land for an English university town and were done with it. Today, visitors to Boston invariably feel the need to make a pilgrimage across the river and see for themselves the ivy-clad towers of America's most prestigious university. And while we'll admit that we enjoy the bragging rights of proximity to this educational status symbol, the parts of Harvard Square we like the best are the buskers, oddball retailers like Out of Town News, the greasy spoons and the punks who hang out in the Pit. Certainly, the Square isn't what it used to be, but accusations that it's been turned into a theme park or minimall are alarmist. It's still got the funk.

ENWAY PARK

o put it in anatomical terms: If Boston were a person, enway Park would be a vital organ. Plenty of people ould argue, more specifically, it's Boston's heart—and a essimist would point out that since 1918 it's given us othing but heartache. The fact remains, however, that enway belongs alongside the Colosseum in Rome and ie playing fields of Eton as one of the most storied venues the history of sport. Its dominant feature is the Green onster, which has been green only since 1947 (before at, the left-field wall was awash in advertisements). oday, the park boasts such charming anachronisms as ne of the few remaining manually operated scoreboards in a pro sports field. (Fun fact: The tribal-looking markings that run down the borders are the names of former owners Thomas and Jean Yawkey spelled out in Morse code.) A misguided attempt at adding luxury seating resulted in the .406 Club (formerly the 600 Club), which has all the charm of a departure lounge in a Midwestern airport, but overall, Fenway looks largely the same as it has since 1912. No other major league ballpark has as much character or is more deserving of landmark status.

THE FREEDOM TRAIL

OK, so it's hokey, and those slow-moving tourists who are mesmerized by the red stripe on the sidewalk and don't watch where they're going are a pain in the ass. But living among so many significant American Revolutionary landmarks is still cool. Philly has that cracked bell and the building where John Hancock got flamboyant with his signature. D.C. has a bunch of big marble and granite things. We've got the buildings, the boats, the steeples and the cobblestones where it all started, not to mention a harbor that hosted the most notorious tea party in history. In fact, there are so many significant landmarks in Boston that it's easy to take them for granted. In any other American city, the spot where the telephone was invented (or anesthesia or the Internet) would be the most historically hallowed ground in town. Here, they have to compete with the Paul Revere House, the Old North Church, the gold dome of the State House and Old Ironsides.

THE HATCH SHELL AND THE ESPLANADE

Even some lifelong Bostonians mistakenly refer to it as "The Half Shell" or "The Hat Shell," but whatever you call it, this outdoor venue for live concerts—most famously the nationally broadcast annual Fourth of July performance by the Boston Pops—adds enormously to our enjoyment of life. So does the park surrounding it. The Charles River Esplanade is one of the truly democratic spaces in the city, used by everyone from princesses to paupers for running, rollerblading, picnicking, sunbathing and general lollygagging. With the stunning views of the boat traffic, the Charles River bridges and the skylines of Cambridge, the Back Bay and Beacon Hill, it's as beautiful as playgrounds get.

THE HARBOR ISLANDS

Underutilized and underappreciated, the 34 islands in Boston Harbor are like miniature versions of Martha's Vineyard, but they're only a short ferry ride from the downtown waterfront. How cool is it to explore a Civil War fort, or camp overnight in a site where you can see both the magnificent clockface of the Customs House Tower and the furry face of a harbor seal? A terrific getaway within spitting distance of the Financial District, the islands in Boston Harbor don't get nearly the props they deserve.

THE NORTH END (AND ITS REATTACHMENT TO THE REST OF THE CITY)

We never thought we'd say it, but the Big Dig might just have been worth it, if only for reuniting the North End with the rest of downtown. Since the 1950s, Boston's version of Little Italy has been like the crazy aunt in the attic: isolated, overlooked and neglected in favor of more accessible neighborhoods like the Back Bay, the South End and Beacon Hill. Now that the elevated eyesore of I-93 is being dismantled, the views both of and from the North End are stunning, and the neighborhood once again feels like it's part of Boston instead of some splinter principality. The only downside to all this, of course, is that it makes carbo-loading on pasta and cannoli that much more tempting and convenient.

SYMPHONY HALL

When Symphony Hall was built, in 1900, Eurocentric snobs pooh-poohed it as a Spartan shoebox with none of the splendor of the great music halls of cities like Vienna and Paris. Well, the joke's on them. Their venues might be dripping with plaster putti and crystal chandeliers, but we've got the most acoustically perfect concert hall in North America, and one of the top three in the world. Our only complaint: The gift shop doesn't sell miniature reproductions of the statues adorning the niches in the wall, surely a missed marketing opportunity if ever there was one.

things



THE LEONARD P. ZAKIM BUNKER HILL BRIDGE

Design snobs dismiss it as gimmicky, saying the vertical towers mimic the obelisk shape of the Bunker Hill Monument while the triangulated cables echo the sails of the USS Constitution, or some such drivel about it being derivative. Whatever. We love it. The world's widest cable-stayed suspension bridge is an immediate icon, an instant classic and a welcome addition to the city's skyline.



DUNKIN' DONUTS

You can keep your Krispy Kremes. The confection that sends us into paroxysms of ecstasy is a donut from the Randolph-based chain. In fact, for a true Bostonian, there's no greater excuse for ingesting empty calories. Just ask any beat cop where he got his spare tire. The Boston Kreme, in particular, warrants citation as the Most Holy Snack Food of the One True and Apostolic Donut Maker. Of course the coffee's not bad either.

THE FROG POND

So the rink's a bit dinky, and the music can tend toward the anodyne and annoying. Nevertheless, a winter afternoon spent skating in America's oldest public park, with the 19th-century facades of Beacon Street as a backdrop, is like stepping into a Currier & Ives print. One thing Boston does well is twee, and it doesn't get any more twee than this.

FOREST HILLS CEMETERY

Unsung and undiscovered even by many lifelong Boston residents, this "garden cemetery" combines the historic interest of Mount Auburn with the botanic beauty of the Arnold Arboretum and the artistic allure of the Museum of Fine Arts. To wit: Lake Hibiscus, at the center of Forest Hills, is the only lake in the city of Boston; E.E. Cummings is one of the many luminaries buried there; and Forest Hills has the world's second-largest collection of work by master sculptor Daniel Chester French. Special programs, like the exquisitely beautiful and moving, Buddhist-inspired, Lantern Festival every July, add to the appeal. It might seem a bit morbid to hang out in a graveyard, but one visit, and you'll be dying to return.

PRO SPORTS TEAMS

Patriots. Red Sox. Bruins. Celtics. Most of them (Patriots excepted) should be playing with blue balls at this point. But despite the seasonal championship tease, we adore them anyway. What more do we need to say?

BOSTON BALLET

Only a few decades ago, Boston didn't really have its own ballet company. Now it boasts one that's world-class. Despite rumblings of financial woes and a tempest in a teapot over *The Nutcracker*'s eviction from the Wang Center, Boston Ballet is one of the most vibrant arts organizations in the country, presenting consistently excellent dance performances with lavish and eye-catching productions. The dew is barely off the lily for artistic director Mikko Nissenen, but already the impish Finnish impresario has become an integral part of the local arts scene, and he's been true to his word that things are going to keep getting better. It's like that lyric from *A Chorus Line*: "Everything's beautiful at the ballet." Ain't it the truth.

CLAM CHOWDER

No other regional dish can touch the heavenly perfection of a good bowl of Boston clam chowder. A delicate medley of clams, cream, onions and potatoes, it's hearty, earthy, nourishing and soul-satisfying. Just do us a favor if you're not originally from around here. When you order a cup or a bowl, don't be a wise guy and ask for "chowdah." It makes you sound like a chowdah-head.

OUR ACCENT

Speaking of chowdah…Is there any regional dialect more wicked pissah than a Boston accent? The birthplace of the un-P.C. phrase "What ahhh you, retahded?", Boston has perfected the fine art of dropping post-vocalic *r*'s and adding them where they have absolutely no business being. As a result, we not only get "Pahk the cah in Hahvid Yahd," but phrases like "I ate peetzur in Ayzhur" ("I ate pizza in Asia"). Especially useful for confusing out-of-towners, the Boston accent is all the more precious in that no one who didn't grow up here can even begin to approximate it, as most recently demonstrated by the cast of *Mystic River*.

FILENE'S BASEMENT

The now-widespread phenomenon of discount retailing began with Filene's, and the Basement is still the best place in the world to find bargains on brand-name stuff. No self-respecting Bostonian would pay top dollar for something they can find here at slash-and-burn prices. Semiregular extravaganzas like the Louis sale or the Bridal Event are Boston's equivalent of the running of the bulls in Pamplona. At this point, the joke's a bit shopworn, but we still hear it regularly: "Where'd you buy that?" "Oh, this fabulous little Italian place—Fellini's Basamente." Saks, schmaks. The Basement appeals to both the fashion plate and the skinflint in all of us. iB

BOSTON MARATHON

Other cities have 26-mile road races. We have *the* marathon. Although it thoroughly eludes us why anyone would want to run that far (unless they're being chased by an ax-wielding maniac), we welcome the opportunity to spend a Monday afternoon in April standing on a rooftop, drinking beer and shouting till we're hoarse. If a bunch of overachieving athletes want to run themselves to exhaustion, that's their prerogative. We're just thankful for another long weekend and an excuse for hitting the bottle before 5 o'clock.



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BOSTON 2054

BY EZRA DYER

ILLUSTRATION BY SCOTT MAGOON

Cambridge has been voted Best Place to Live in America by *Modern Hippie* magazine. Editors lauded the town's bike lanes and plentiful natural-food stores and the replacement of city waste-disposal services with a giant compost heap in Kendall Square.

Traffic gridlock is worse than ever, as ToyotaDaimlerGM's revolutionary two-dimensional car never managed to pass government crash tests. However, Boston is in the process of doubling the capacity of the Central Artery, having recently begun construction of an elevated highway that will pass over North End Park. The project, dubbed "The Big Frig(gin' Highway)" is already $800 billion over budget.

Mayor Menino, who in 2040 became the country's first-ever cyborg mayor, celebrates his 60th anniversary in office. A ceremony at City Hall Plaza in Menino's honor was hosted by Governor Affleck and featured a performance by Aerosmith.

Fenway Park remains home to the Red Sox, but capacity has increased to 82,000 through the continued addition of seats, including the wildly popular **Prudential seats** atop the roof of the Prudential Building. With the Sox having won 26 World Series in the past 50 years, the chant "Red Sox suck!" has become a familiar refrain at New York sporting events, concerts and bar mitzvahs.

Harvard has reached an accord with the citizens of **Harvston** (formerly Allston). Residents were initially outraged by the name change, as well as a new zoning requirement that all buildings be covered with ivy. But protest has fizzled since the school has promised to build a really nice hockey rink.

Boston's project of converting all street signs to **read in both English and Bawstlish** is finally nearing completion. The city undertook the initiative to conform to the 2050 ruling of the Academie Anglais that Bawstlish had diverged enough from English to become its own language. MIT linguists have found that Bawstlish is most similar to a language spoken by a small sect of Druids in the 13th century who believed that pronouncing the *r* sound only on words that are supposed to end in *a* was an idear that would produce a wicked bountiful haaavist.

Global warming has melted the polar ice caps, but a shift in tectonic plates has raised Boston's elevation by 100 feet, sparing the city from the flooding that destroyed much of New Jersey. With the millions of cubic feet of beach sand the city dredged and imported from the Bahamas before those islands went under, Boston, with its balmy clime, is now the second most popular East Coast winter vacation spot. The most popular year-round destination in the country is still Dunkin-World, Dunkin' Donuts' man-made theme island off Randolph.

Newbury Street is even more popular, now that the Newbury Street League has installed turnstiles at each end and implemented a $500 admission fee to simply walk down the street. "This block is more exclusive than ever," says Sergio Fabiotini, owner of the Golden Sandal high-end flip-flop boutique. "I myself can hardly afford to come to work every day. The Sultan of Oman is my cashier. It is fabulous."

In an effort to relieve Boston's parking crunch, the city has passed an act giving meter maids almost unlimited authority. The **Iron Maidens**, as they are called, travel in packs and carry nunchucks. One motorist who brought a suit against the Maidens for slashing his tires disappeared before the case went to trial. Since then, no tickets have been appealed. Everyone still double-parks in Southie.

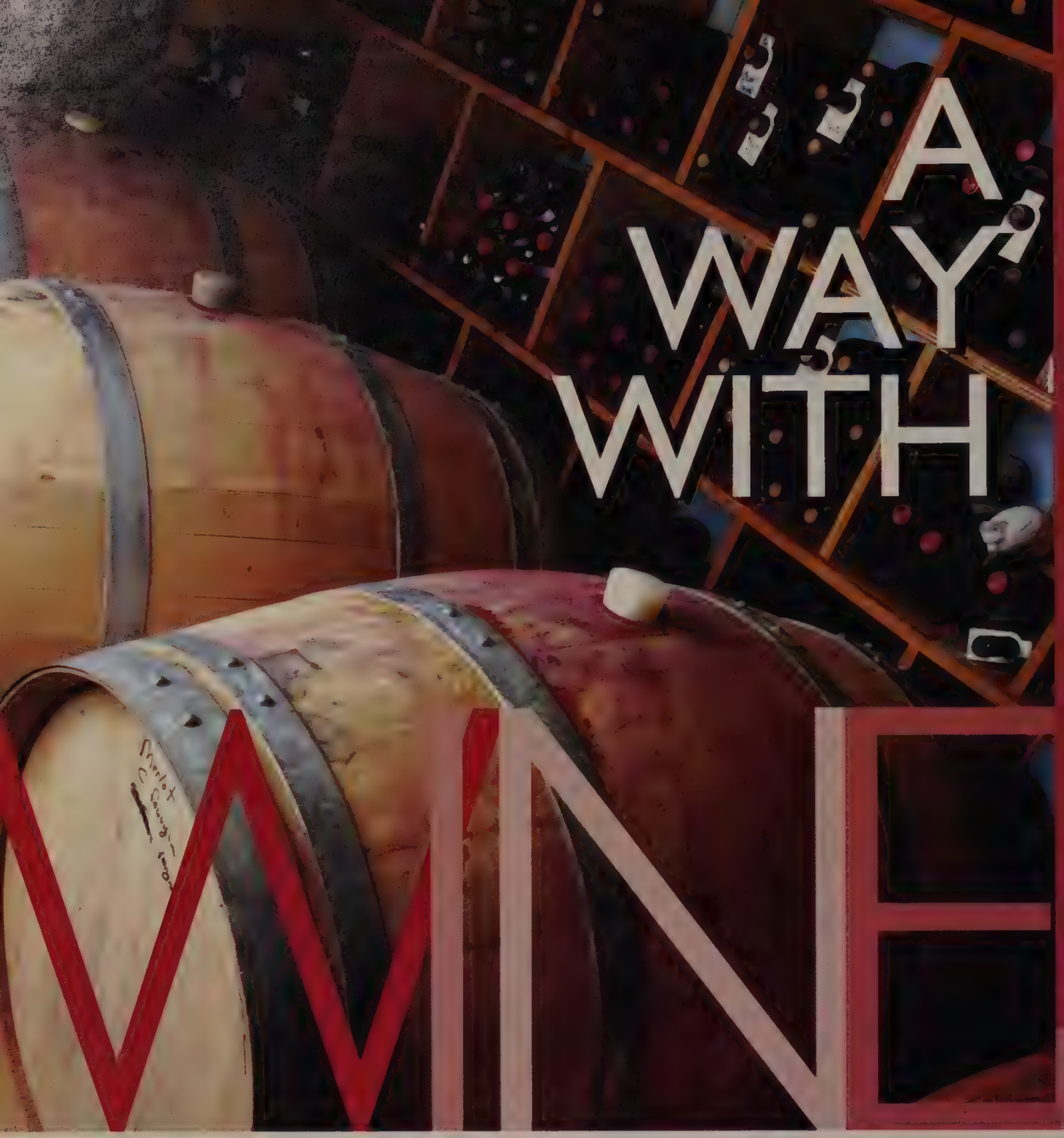
The institution of marriage is a hot topic in the state legislature, as the **Heterosexual Polygamy Bill** has been repeatedly blocked by a group of gay conservatives. The debate drew national attention when 96-year-old Madonna traveled to Boston and wed all her babies' daddies in a ceremony performed by a rogue minister.

The Public Garden is temporarily closed after an environmental accident involving the new **robot-powered Swan Boats**. The Swan Boat Pedalers' Union decried the installation of the nuclear humanoid tour guides when they were installed as "temporary" replacements during the Swan Strike of '45, and indeed the high-tech tours have run anything but smoothly. "I thought it was a little odd when our tour guide lifted the boat out of the water and carried it to Jiffy Lube in Brighton," said Matilda Poutine, a tourist from Quebec. However, between the Swan Boats, the Make Way for Ducklings statues and the Duck Tours (which now constitute 85 percent of traffic on city streets), Boston still leads the nation in the fowl-themed tourism industry.

Due to their popularity, the lights on the Comm. Ave. Mall remain up year-round. However, the policy of taking down **the giant inflatable snowman on the roof of City Hall Plaza** sometime around Easter has been less popular. "We've been really busy lately" said a city spokesperson. "Street cleaning just started again, and the school system needed help with its homework, and if it bothers you so much you can take it down yourself instead of sitting there on the couch like God's gift. You've got two hands, mister."

Starbucks is Boston's largest employer after diversifying its offerings beyond coffee, pastries and sandwiches. In fact, Starbucks Travel's Air Starbucks is the number-one carrier out of **LoganBucks**, according to a study by Bank of Starbucks' StarConsultingBucks division. And the Stanley Cup finals aren't looking good for the Bruins, who will have a tough time getting past the dominant Seattle BuckStars.

The elderly **Farrelly brothers** have finished shooting their latest film, set in Quincy, about a Tourette's-afflicted widow with her head on backwards who falls in love with an alcoholic garbageman who is actually a hologram. Early reviews are good, and there is already talk that **Matt Damon**'s performance as the widow might have the Academy talking Oscar. iB



A WAY WITH WINE

SOME OF IT IS QUITE GOOD—AND SOME IS A BIT FUNKY—BUT FOR THESE LOCAL HOBBYISTS, HOME WINEMAKING IS A WAY TO CARRY ON OLD TRADITIONS AND CREATE NEW ONES.

BY JUDITH GAINES

PHOTOGRAPHS BY BRIAN SILVERS

Mario Rufo, a Boston-area wine merchant, stands amid an animated throng in Dorchester's Venezia restau rant, eyeing the cause of all the excitement: bottles of dark red zinfandels and ruby cabernets, pale pin rosés, a few white rieslings and fume blancs, and lots of young red blends. The occasion is the annu awards dinner of W.I.N.E.—Winemakers in New England—and the wines, bottles of which dot tables all over th restaurant's lobby, have been created by the people around him, who can barely contain their enthusiasm.

"You have to hand it to these folks," says Rufo, a wine judge for the competition, as he gags slightly on a white blend that reminds him of wet cardboard. "I mean, some of this wine just isn't that great. But they're so proud of what they've made. The other day, I was talking to one guy whose wine smelled like rotten eggs. I was trying not to hurt his feelings, but I felt I should tell him that the nose was pretty bad. 'Yes,' he said, not the least bit perturbed, 'but if you can just get past the nose.'"

Some of it could be called Chateau Moldy Leaf Litter—wine with the essence of the mildew that sometimes forms in the old wooden barrels in which it's stored. Some could be Blanc de Bleach—reeking of the chemicals used to clean the corks and bottles the homemade winemakers frequently recycle. Some is gaseous or bitter. Some is so strong it could be rocket fuel. Much of this wine, at least to my palate, is simply too young and immature to drink yet, since few of these enthusiasts can bear to wait even a year before consuming it. But there's no doubt that most of them are pleased with the results of what is often a time-consuming passion. Nor is there any doubt that amateur winemaking in Boston is on the rise.

No exact tallies are available for the number of home winemakers in the Greater Boston area. But Roger Savoy, former president of the International Home Wine and Beer Association and owner of the Modern Homebrew Emporium in Cambridge, estima that the total has reached the tens of thousands. Other aficionados say it's at least seve thousand—considerably more, in any case, than just a decade ago. A market once dor nated by older Italian, French and German men now includes more young people, m women and a wide range of ethnicities.

And for all the homemade wine that is corky or oxidized or smells like old pa bags, Savoy and others agree there is some that is very good indeed.

To many enthusiasts, Dr. Steve Ranere is the dean of home winemaking in the Bost area. During the day, Ranere is an internist at Mount Auburn Hospital in Cambridge. I he's a vintner by night, making seven different varieties, plus several blends, with h from a supporting crew of about 10 relatives and friends. The huge, climate-control basement of Ranere's Belmont home is chock-full of wine-producing equipment: crush presses, sinks, vats, barrels, bottles and dewdrop-shaped storage vessels called carboys. T basement walls are lined with bottles of Ranere's award-winning signature brew—a ble of cabernet sauvignon, cabernet franc, and merlot—plus a woodsy sangiovese, a clas French colombard, several earthy and full-bodied red zinfandels, a delicious pinot gri and more. Here and there, a slab of prosciutto hangs from the ceiling as well.

Ranere, a Brighton native, calls his wine "Ranucci," a combination of the names Ranere and Gentilucci (his mother's family name). The wine blends the efforts of both families, plus Ranere's longtime friends Peter Berlandi, a Boston management consultant; Joe Demella, a Cambridge plumber; and Ron Segalini, a Lexington attorney. Berlandi, Ranere and Segalini went to high school together, have traveled together, cook together, and for nearly 30 years have been making wine together too.

Kathy Ranere, Steve's wife, says that especially in the autumn, when they crush the newly harvested grapes, she feels as if she's living in a winery. "The whole house ferments in the fall," she says. And the sweet, rich smell of crushed grapes pervades not only the house but also the Raneres' yard and parts of the neighborhood. Even nieces and nephews and the Ranere kids' friends get involved, helping to haul the roughly 8,000 pounds of grapes that go into Ranucci wines each year. "If the girls want to date, we tell them it has to be someone who can lift the grapes," Kathy quips. "They're keepers if they're willing to schlep." In fact, daughter Katy's fiancé, Kit Hughes, now helps the Raneres with their winemaking.

Steve Ranere has been crushing grapes since he was 4 years old, when he would help his grandfather, who lived in central Italy. As Ranere grew up, he says, he often saw other relatives making wine as well. He started making his own in 1977, when a new priest at St. Columbkille's Church in Brighton, which had used a homemade wine for communion, decided God might be better served by a commercial vintage and gave the church's wine press to the Raneres.

At first, Steve recalls, the wine they made was "tart, strong, almost vinegary, with no subtle qualities," But he enlisted the advice of family and friends, took courses in wine appreciation at the Cambridge Center for Adult Education and read all the books he could find on the topic. Over the years, he has upgraded his equipment and made many refinements to the process. His wine has become more than just a hobby or a pleasant retreat from the stresses of the medical profession—it's something he's proud to share with the people he cares about most.

Winemaking, says Kathy Ranere, "is the strongest link between us, our children and our extended family. It isn't just the taste of the wine. It's what it means, the whole culture of wine. It's a way for us to come together around a table and enjoy life."

Asked if it seems odd that a doctor is so deeply involved in winemaking, Steve Ranere says, "Not at all. Studies show that wine, especially red wine, can reduce heart disease if drunk in moderation. In Italy, people live to be 100 years old or more drinking two glasses of wine a day. People have been doing it for centuries and living long, healthy lives."

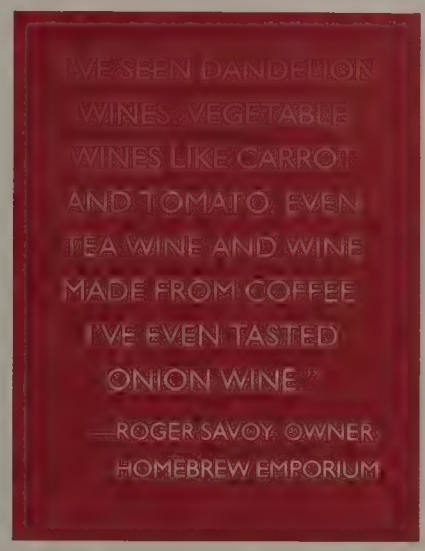
Most home winemakers buy their grapes from a local produce dealer, such as American Vinegrape Distribution in Everett or Beer & Wine Hobby in Woburn. These distributors roll California grapes trucked to Boston in huge tractor-trailers at harvest time. Some hobbyists who lack the facilities to crush and press their grapes buy specially prepared juice concentrate, typically made by companies in Canada, where the homebrew contingent is much larger than in the U.S.

When asked what type of wine they like to produce, many Boston-area winemakers name red zinfandel. But syrah, sangiovese, cabernet and merlot are popular as well, as are white zinfandel, chablis and chardonnay. Some hobbyists use an inexpensive grape called vitis elegante, or even Thompson seedless, which are cheaper still.

Often, these vintners make their own idiosyncratic blends. In South Weymouth, Domenic Qualtieri, a windshield repair shop owner, mixes cabernet and chablis to make a dry rosé that is especially popular with the women in his family, as well as a heartier zin blend that the men prefer. "He's like a chemist, he's so careful making his blends," says Qualtieri's wife, Maria, his official taster.

Other winemakers take a less scientific approach. "I call my wines A, B, C and D," says Peter Neville of Weymouth, who raises funds for a group serving men and women with disabilities when he's not making wine. "I call my wines 'good,'" says Frank Russell, a mailman in South Boston.

Not every home winemaker uses grapes. "People make all sorts of fruit wines—apple, blueberry, cherry, blackberry, raspberry, apricot," says Savoy at his Cambridge shop. "I've also seen dandelion wines, vegetable wines like carrot and tomato, even tea wine and wine made from coffee. One of my customers brought me some lavender wine. You'd be surprised at all the varieties. I've even tasted onion wine."



The wines typically are made and stored in garages or basements or in some sort of garden or backyard shed—almost anywhere that's enclosed and dark and has a cool, stable temperature. Often, a few friends join forces to purchase equipment and share winemaking tasks. Teaming up allows economies of scale as well as merriment. Most of those interviewed estimated that their wines cost them about $2–$4 a bottle, not counting their labor.

Many wine hobbyists have been making their vino for several years, and over time have improved not only the taste of their product but also its appearance. "My father used to put his wine in old whiskey bottles and then stick it in a brown bag," Maria Qualtieri recalls. "Now I'm always looking for nice bottles for Domenic, and everybody has their own labels."

In honor of both his hobby and his profession, windshield repairman Qualtieri calls his wine "SuperGlass." Many other winemakers use playful or sentimental labels. Joe Polidoro, a retired Brookline pharmacist, calls his creations "Dolce Fa Niente," which means "Sweetness in doing nothing." His goal when his wine is ready, he explains, is to sit back and relax in the company of friends, just sipping.

Some amateur winemakers like to get creative with their labeling. Paul Barker, who owns the Scali Deli in downtown Boston, and his winemaking partners John Addonizio, a marketing director in Medford, and David Ventola, a chemical engineer who lives in Reading, have dubbed their wines "Bottle o Celli." The labels feature an image of Venus stomping grapes in a scallop shell. One especially charming label, for a vintage they named "Vino Delle Tre Mamme," prominently pictures the three men's mothers (Maria Barker, Antonietta Addonizio, and Anne Ventola), who, the label says, have lived their lives "in complete dedication to their families and children."

Winemaking is a complicated process that involves hauling the grapes, crushing and destemming them, pressing the juice, fermenting, filtering, and then bottling, corking and labeling the wines, not to mention cleaning all the equipment. But not one of these hobbyists describes it as work. They see winemaking as a social process, a fun way to get together with friends, an opportunity in many cases to continue a tradition that's been in their families for generations, as well as a chance to put their personal stamp on a beverage they enjoy.

Barker, Addonizio and Ventola have known each other since they were young boys, and although they have married and moved into different homes, their hobby gives them a way to hang out together in their old neighborhood, where they create their wine in Barker's mother's basement. "We sit on milk crates, tasting and bottling the wine, and my mother sends down some food. It's a happy time," Barker says.

"Even if sometimes the wine isn't that great, you're proud of it," he continues. "It's like having kids. You love them, regardless. They can do no wrong." iB

Facing page: The Raneres' wine cellar. Below (left to right): a wine press; winemakers Peter Berlandi, Steve Ranere, Kathy Ranere, Stephen Ranere Jr., Ron Segalini and Anthony Gentilucci; a pair of carboys, or holding tanks



MATERIAL



Yellow mini dress by Kay Unger, $360 at Neiman Marcus. Gold earrings
Kipepeo, $98; cherry shoes by Stella McCartney, $480. Both at Intern

SASSY

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PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHS BY FURNALD/GRAY



Blue suit by Paul Smith, $995; shirt by Frey, $325; polka-dot tie by Etro, $105. All at Neiman Marcus. Orange top by Mia, $145; striped skirt by Charlotte, $100; orange multi-strand necklace by Lee Angel, $275; matching earrings, $125. All at Intermix.

From left: Blue suit, blue shirt and polka-dot tie, see information on previous page. Black suit by Armani, $1,495; white shirt by Zegna, $220; striped tie by Gucci, $130; all at Neiman Marcus. Green satin dress by Tracy & Michael Atelier, $925 at Neiman Marcus; blue earrings by Wendy Mink, $88 at Intermix. Tan suit by Paul Smith, $995; striped tie by Etro, $105; striped men's shirt by Ike Behar, $150; all at Neiman Marcus.



Patterned dress by Roberto Cavalli, $685; cat necklace by Baby Phat, $85; matching earrings, $65; white leather bag by Ronny Kobo, $198. All at Intermix.

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MOPSY

SERENDIPITOUS SHOPPING: OUR UNFETTERED CORRESPONDENT SEEKS OUT THE SALUBRIOUS AND THE CEREBRAL.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



CULTURE SHOCK ABSORBER

Margalit Eren Rabinovich, licensed social worker, helps families with the issues of relocation from abroad. Phone consultation and coaching available. $125 per hour. Call 617-678-8815 or 617-332-6010.

An immigrant from Israel, therapist Margalit Eren Rabinovich is sympathetic to the cultural, practical, emotional and psychological jolts that face a family newly settled in the United States. Consulting and coaching, often on the phone, she helps overwhelmed new arrivals handle the stresses of their new culture. Landlocked in their own language and traditions, one or both spouses may become isolated and depressed, lacking the feedback and the stimulation that familiar people and customs provide. Divorce is not uncommon in these situations. Rabinovich, empathic and clear, puts a wider frame around immigrants' homesickness, negativity and loneliness, normalizing their distress as she walks them through the stages that such dislocations inevitably entail. She makes practical suggestions—especially urgent for families with children who are now expected to be American—on how to make those necessary adjustments to local norms without abandoning the values and customs of yesterland. Rabinovich encourages family togetherness and advises her clients to get support from fellow newcomers, while also inviting them to adapt and be curious about the different ways Americans go about things. In turn, they begin observing their own self and culture through new eyes.

THE MEN IN THE LITTLE WHITE THEORIES

***Opening Skinner's Box*, by Lauren Slater, examines 10 psychological experiments of the 20th century.**



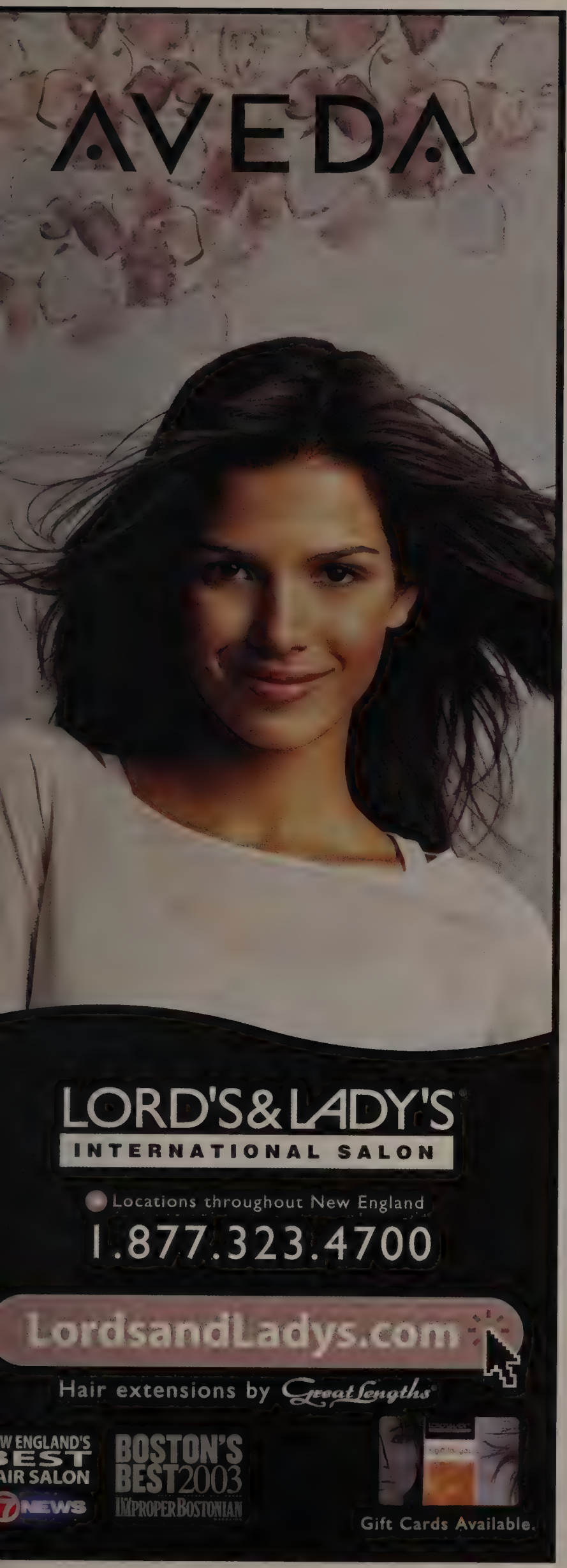
Many of the innovative and daring psychological experiments of the 20th century seem positively dangerous in retrospect. B.F. Skinner famously put his daughter in a "baby box" and used depersonalized "positive reinforcement" to train her responses. Stanley Milgram, studying obedience, persuaded people in his experiment to give subjects on the other side of a partition increasingly dangerous shocks (the shockees were actually actors feigning pain, as the shock button was a fake). David Rosenhan sent people into a mental hospital to pose as patients while acting normal—and in that setting, the mental health professionals diagnosed the moles as mentally ill. All these stories paint fascinating pictures of the ways that psychology (is it philosophy, science or fiction?) explores sanity, volition and moral constraints. But Lauren Slater, a psychologist who has written about her own past experiences of seeping into mental illness, writes here about the long-term fallout from the work of these men. If psychology is sometimes dry, this book is liquid and luscious in the way it questions these experimenters' work. Slater talks to people who were involved in these bold adventures—some were duped, some were harmed and some were actually helped. And she muses broadly on how each trend brandishes its certitude, wondering whether Prozac and other drugs are really any better than lobotomy—and whether these psychological uplifts threaten what she calls "the dividends of darkness."

FURNITURE TREASURES UNDERGROUND

The Organic Furniture Cellar, at 263 Pearl St., Cambridge, is open Saturdays from 10 am–5 pm, from Labor Day unt the middle of June. Call 617-492-5426.



Descend into the underworld treasures that has been home the Organic Furniture Cellar the past 22 years. Nostalgic p tures, random class photos, a sweet paintings adorn the wa Peopled by apartment-furnishe students, the ghosts of hippies a seekers of sturdy antique bargai the store is packed with items l round wooden tables on stylis fluted legs, or shape-shifting hogany drop-leaf tables that into an anorexic little hallway with wings outstretched, acco modate a party. You'll find tall a low mahogany chests, oak a maple bureaus, and cedar che to repel chomping insects. So pieces are romantically orna like Empire beds and sleigh beds, bureaus highly decorated with carved posts, triangular creden painted with luscious dreamy fruit, and red cupboards in "Depression Chinoiserie." Pretty, slant-fr desks purr, catlike, in small areas. Mission oak desks, with their rustic wooden honesty, have slat areas underneath to hold books and conceal junk. One huge room displays chairs—queenly seats w needlepoint, lyre-backs ($300 for six) and whole sets of affordable dining room chairs, prettier t just-functional. Those stately black wooden chairs, gold-lettered with Harvard's seal, require no deg and cost only $125.



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IN THIS SECTION: Review: Terramia Ristorante Dish: Les Zyg's Just opens Sorriso
Tasty Tidbit: Matching Food and Wine at the Millennium Bostonian

REVIEW

TERRAMIA IS A WORLD-BEATER

Christopher Bussell cooks up Italian classics in this longtime North End favorite

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

When people learn that I review restaurants, a common reaction is a mixture of wonder and envy. "You get to dine out regularly at someone else's expense?" is one reaction. "What a tremendous opportunity to retaliate against mediocre food, aggressive prices, overbearing headwaiters and shoddy service," is another. Both reactions are off the mark. I get a bill at the end of my meal like everyone else, and like every diner, I'm conscious of the value each meal delivers for its price. How else could one explain my penchant for sampling bargain-priced wines in lieu of Grand Cru Classé Bordeaux in my gastronomic adventures?

I choose every restaurant I review in the hope that it will provide a pleasant, memorable dining experience at a reasonable price, and I'm sorely disappointed when that does not occur. (Terramia, to my delight, met both criteria.) So far as retribution goes, I don't relish writing negative comments about a restaurant. Since my mother inculcated in me that old cliché that if you can't say something nice, say nothing at all, from time to time I simply discard my notes and abandon the idea of writing about a particular restaurant—unless, of course, its PR hype and "emperor's new clothes" qualities demand that readers be alerted.

This preamble is an attempt to explain that restaurant reviewing is not a steady parade of resplendent repasts in enchanting eateries, but rather entails a fair amount of muddling through modest but mandatory meals, pen in hand, week in and week out, with the inevitable highs and lows that accompany all human endeavors. That is what has made the last three weeks so enjoyable, since in that time I've had the good fortune to encounter two first-rate Italian restaurants, where the artistry of the chefs and the authenticity of their cuisine make dining an unalloyed pleasure, and where real value is delivered. That both restaurants are located in areas that have more than their fair share of run-of-the-mill eateries made my experience all the sweeter.

Terramia, on Salem Street, is somewhat more expensive than Brookline Village's La Morra (reviewed in the April 28 IMPROPER), but from a price-quality point of view, it is one of the more noteworthy venues in the North End. Originally Terramia showcased the highly regarded handiwork of talented chef Mario Nocera, with whom the present owner, Carla Agrippino-Gomes, opened the restaurant in the early '90s. Agrippino-Gomes bought out Nocera a couple of years ago when Nocera returned to Italy, and recently she brought Christopher Bussell on board as her executive chef. Bussell formerly owned and operated Butterfish, a tiny boîte in Cambridge's Craigie Circle that played to strong reviews until Bussell quit the business to go into education. Apparently the lure of the kitchen was too strong, and Bussell is back behind the stove at Terramia, putting out refined Italian classics.



Rock shrimp with spring asparagus and tiny tomatoes on tarragon risotto

TERRAMIA RISTORANTE

98 Salem St., Boston
(617-523-3112)

HOURS Sun.-Thu., 5-10 pm; Fri.-Sat, 5-10:30 pm

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This compact, 45-seat restaurant occupies a small storefront in which two tables for six fill the charming alcoves at the windows. Framed prints and unframed oil canvases hang on the room's soft yellow, stucco-textured walls, while Victorian sconces illuminate the exposed beam ceiling. Butcher paper covers white tablecloths to provide an informal ambience, but absorbent white cotton napkins portend that serious dining is in the offing.

Crusty Tuscan loaves from Brookline's Clearflour Bakery arrived at the table accompanied by a tasty cannelini bean puree flecked with diced red peppers and flavored with fruity extra-virgin olive oil. An appetizer of grilled sardines ($11 pristinely fresh in flavor and firm in tex ture, was complemented by a small cylin der of caponata composed of eggplant, re pepper and capers. *Gamberi con finnoch* ($13) brought a spectacular salad featu ing giant shrimp (larger than jumbo) of re markably vibrant flavor and impeccabl texture, tart-sweet blood orange segmen and a marvelous array of greens includin young, tender arugula, and a slaw of fres fennel. Another salad, *pera con Gorgonzo* ($9), consisted of grilled red pears wit arugula, walnuts and creamy Gorgonzo cheese with red and green lettuce toppe by a delightful thicket of crispy fried onio slivers, which added to the taste and tex ture contrasts of this toothsome treat.

Primi, all served in huge, oversized bow verging on the size of small basins, in cluded *linguini con vongole* ($19). Althoug the menu described this dish as made wi cherry tomatoes, I thought that the vibra red color, luscious, sweet-tangy flavor, ar marvelous texture came from plum tom toes. In any event, the result, enlivene with basil and moistened with white win created an al dente pasta so stunning as dislodge all but the most resolute of Atki followers from their no-carbohydra regime. A second pasta offering, *raviolo aperto* ($19), featured large, open-face ravioli with sea scallops, shrimp and fre zucchini in a lobster mascarpone sauc The three huge, satiny scallops and thr firm-textured jumbo shrimp were all t more remarkable since these shellfish a so easily made rubbery if overcooked to t slightest degree. The voluptuous lobst sauce and herbaceous essence of the zu chini complemented the superb shellfi and their tender pasta envelopes.

Terramia's *secondi*, or main courses, i cluded a double-thick Niman Ranch po chop ($25) garnished with peach radicchio and balsamic vinegar. A f inch thick, juicy, and rare as ordered, t pork's exquisite tenderness made it m in the mouth. The braised radicch which I first took for endive, provide pleasantly bitter counterpoint to t pork, while the peach added a mut sweetness to the ensemble. A garnish tender escarole delivered an unanti pated dividend. Moving to the roast



Bistecca di Manzo con Porcini i Cavolo*—beef grilled with saffron-infused napa cabbage, white yams, porcini mushrooms and *lingua di manzo

rganic baby chicken ($24), I narveled at its succulent lesh and fresh, well-herbed, lavorful skin. The sauce, a eduction of the cooking uices studded with pancetta Italian bacon) and tomato livers, accompanied finger-ng potatoes roasted to the oint of perfect al dente tex-ure, and more braised greens. his small, whole bird, with s substantial garnishes, con-ituted a feast in itself.

Terramia's wine list has few hoices under $30, but for ightly more ($36), my com-anion and I enjoyed a bottle f Ludola Nuova Vino Nobile Montepulciano from the 1999 ntage. This classic red from he southern Tuscan town of Montepulciano consisted of 00 percent sangiovese, the ajor grape of Chianti. iven a little time to breathe, he wine's bold tannins and agrant bouquet came into eir own.

Service at Terramia was effi-ent, responsive and profes-nal despite the tight quar-rs, which the waitstaff avigates with grace and ility. Tableware was replaced tween every course in a anner befitting a more pricey d upscale eatery. The only rvice lapse I experienced was e waiter's failure to present d leave the cork after open-g the wine, a nicety that be-mes more than an empty sture when one seeks to cork and liberate the re-ainder of a good bottle of ne for later enjoyment. IB



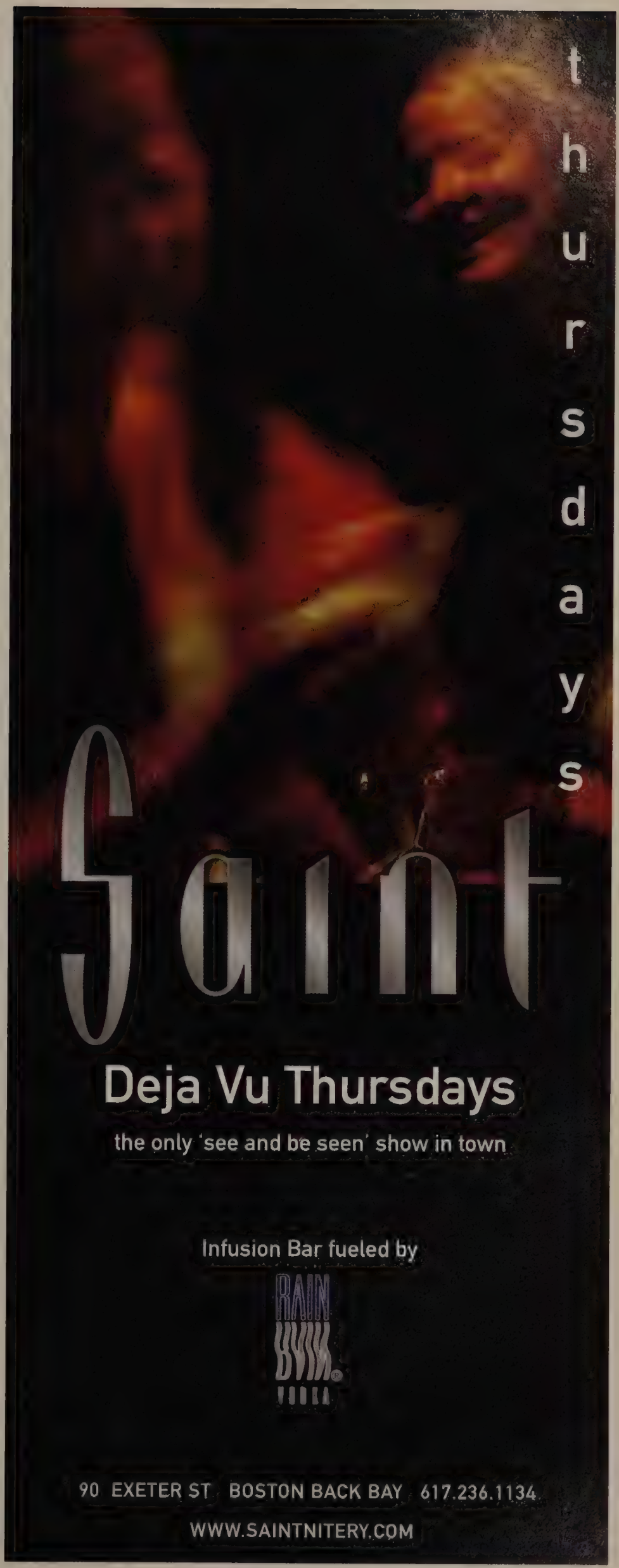
***Bustini di Aragosta*—Maine lobster fritters with crispy vegetables in a balsamic honey glaze**



Executive Chef Christopher Bussell



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TASTINGS

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.


Daniel Bruce prepares treats for Meritage's Eight Minute Wine Pairings.

events

Andy's Trip to Thailand Dinner
Tremont 647, 647 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-4600). www.tremont647.com. May 17, 6:30 pm. $45. Chef **Andy Husbands** celebrates his recent trip to Thailand with five courses of Southeast Asian cuisine as well as a Singha reception and passed appetizers.

Brooklyn Brewery Beer Tasting
Bauer Wine & Spirits, 330 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0363). www.bauerwines.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. May 14, 5-7 pm. Free. Bauer Wine & Spirits hosts a sampling of three beers from the Brooklyn Brewery: a lager, a brown ale and a Bavarian-style wheat beer.

Dine Round the World
Hannum Hall at the YWCA, 7 Temple St., Cambridge (617-492-5177). May 20, 5:30 pm. $25-$35. The Central Square Business Association celebrates Cambridge's restaurants with a food and wine tasting featuring dishes from more than a dozen Central Square chefs.

Eight Minute Wine Pairing
Meritage Restaurant, Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-3995). www.meritagetherestaurant.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Every Tuesday in May, 5:30-6:30 pm. $35. Meritage sommelier **Jamie Moore** pairs a wine with one of chef **Daniel Bruce**'s tasting spoons every eight minutes.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. $25 (includes light food). Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** offers a series of tastings. •May 22: 3 pm: Make your own wine, the art of blending.

Guest Chef Dinner Series
Sage Restaurant, 69 Prince St., Boston (617-248-8814). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. $80. Sage hosts guest chefs in celebration of its five-year anniversary. Each chef will prepare a five-course dinner paired with wines. Reservations are required. •May 13: Victor LaPlaca of Olives NYC. •May 18: Ana Sortun of Oleana. •May 20: Pino Maffeo of Restaurant L.

Matching Food and Wine: A Primer
Millennium Bostonian Hotel, 26 North St., Boston (617-859-7170). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. May 18, 7-9 pm. $50. Learn how to pair wine and food at a tasting led by wine instructor **Dellie Rex**, sponsored by Wine Experiences Inc.

Mixing It Up
Vinalia, 101 Arch St., Boston (617-737-1777). www.bostonunlisted.com. May 25, 6:30-8:30 pm. $20-$30. Learn how to mix some vodka-based drinks at this tasting of Ciroc Vodka, hosted by Boston Unlisted.

Nantucket Wine Festival
Events held at various Nantucket restaurants (508-228-1128). www.nantucketwinefestival.com. May 19-23. $35-$800 per event. The eighth annual festival includes a variety of wine-related events, including a winemakers symposium, wine and food seminars and tastings, and a charity gala.

Pairing with Chef Kerry
Westport Rivers Winery, 417 Hixbridge Road, Westport (508-636-3423). May 15, 4 pm. $52. Westport Rivers executive chef **Kerry Romaniello** shows guests how she creates pairing menus.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 pm and 8 pm. $25. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines while chef **Ian Just** pairs them with hors d'oeuvres and offers a brief cooking demonstration. •May 18: Australian Reds. •May 25 Petite Sirah.

Tuesday Tasting, an Epicurean Adventure
Sophia's, 1270 Boylston St., Boston (781-444-7771). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. May 18 6-8 pm. $25, $19 in advance. Enjoy three different wines and an assortment of hors d'oeuvres while relaxing on Sophia's roof deck.

A Walking Tour of Chinatown with Bik Ng
BU Center for Lifelong Learning, 808 Comm. Ave. Boston (617-353-9852). www.bu.edu/lifelong May 22, 10 am-2 pm. $75 (includes food and gratuities). Tour Chinatown's herbal stores and markets and find out where to buy exotic fruits, vegetables, seasonings and other Chinese delicacies with chef and teacher **Bik Ng**. The tour is followed by a luncheon at Peach Farm restaurant.

Wine Wednesdays
Caffé Umbra, 1395 Washington St., Boston (617-867-0707). Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $15. The restaurant offers themed wine flights paired with small tastings. •May 12: Whites from Veneto •May 19: Chianti.


Dellie Rex hosts Matching Food and Wine: A Primer, May 18 at the Millennium Bostonian

DISH

Just Beside Himself

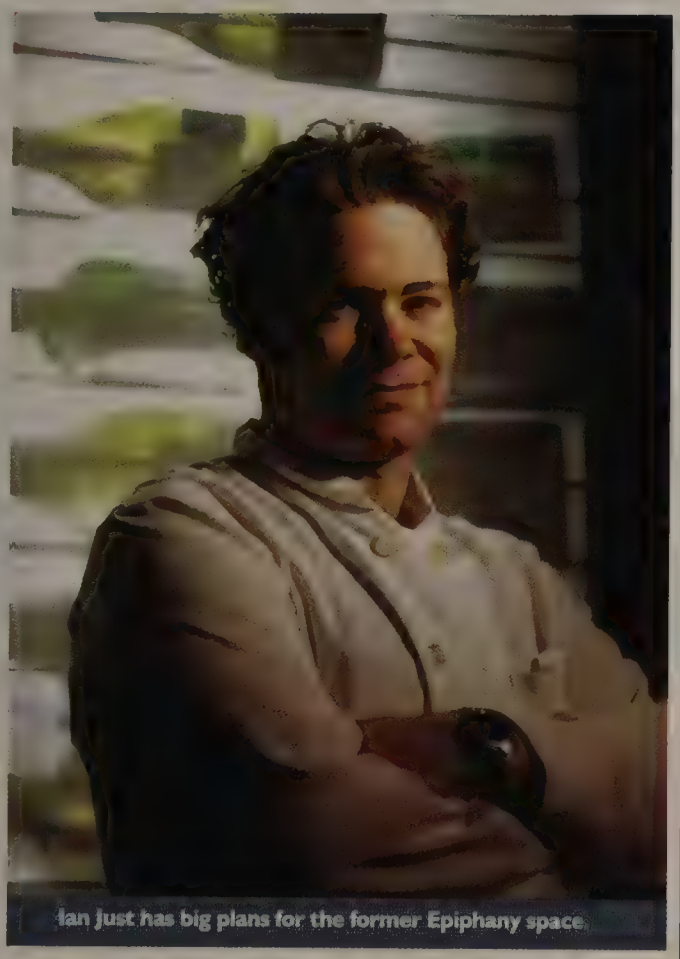
Les Zyg gets a Zybling…
Cooking up congrats…

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

Location, location, location. Whether you're talking residential real estate or restaurant space, you know it can make or break your financial future. That's why **Ian Just**, chef/owner of **Les Zygomates**, is so thrilled about opening his second restaurant right next to his first, on South Street in the Leather District.

"I'm trying to invest in my future," says Just of his new venture, **Sorriso**. "It's gonna be fun. No investors, no banks, no nothin'. A lot of things fell into place for me."

After 10 years of success at Les Zyg, Just is confident he can succeed in a spot that was formerly home to **Oskar's** and, most recently, the short-lived **Epiphany**. "I watched that space struggle for years," says Just. Unlike its predecessors, Sorriso—the Italian word for *smile*—will not be a loungey type place. Instead, Just has hired Peter Niemitz to create a "classy" setting that befits a "real trattoria," where diners will enjoy a menu he describes as country Italian, with mid-teen prices.



Ian Just has big plans for the former Epiphany space.

When Sorriso opens in August, Just anticipates an "automatic synergy" between his two restaurants. Zybling revelry, perhaps.

SECOND COURSE:

Congratulations to two local winners of the **International Association of Culinary Professionals 2004 Cookbook Award** competition! **Didi Emmons**' *Entertaining for a Veggie Planet* won in the Health and Special Diet Category. Raise a glass of soymilk and toast the chef of Harvard Square's **Veggie Planet**! And **Gordon Hamersley**, chef/owner of **Hamersley's Bistro**, won in the Chefs and Restaurants category for his first cookbook, *Bistro Cooking at Home*, co-written with **Joanne McAllister Smart**. By the way, these are both excellent cookbooks that will get lots of use in your kitchen, whether you want to roast a chicken à la Hamersley or toast a chickpea à la Emmons.

Congratulations to **Marc Orfaly**, chef/owner of **Pigalle**, who's just been named by *Food & Wine* as one of the magazine's Top 10 Best New Chefs in America. Watch for his photo on the cover of the July issue.

Time to exfoliate those knees and heels—the seventh annual **Chefs in Shorts** event is just around the corner. This year's starting lineup behind the grills next to the Seaport Hotel features such chefs as **Joanne Chang** from **Flour**, **John Merrill** of **Aura at the Seaport** (of course) and **Paul Delios** of Charlestown's **Meze Estiatorio**. Delios is getting busier by the day; Meze is now open for lunch and brunch. Lunch items range from traditional Greek—say, spanakopita and lamb meatball sandwiches—to more updated dishes, such as Mediterranean black mussels steamed in lobster stock and ouzo with feta cheese, tiny tomatoes, garlic and fresh herbs. The prix-fixe brunch menu changes weekly, but expect to see the likes of crème brûlée French toast, Greek vegetarian dips (what does a Greek vegetarian taste like?) and frittata dishes. IB

Serving Dish

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Best Sushi, ***The Improper Bostonian*** - 2002
Best Sushi, ***Boston Magazine*** - 2001, 2002
Best Sushi, **Citysearch.com** - 2000,2001,2002,2003
Best Sushi, **New England News Channel 7** - 2003
Best of **City Search** 2002, 2003
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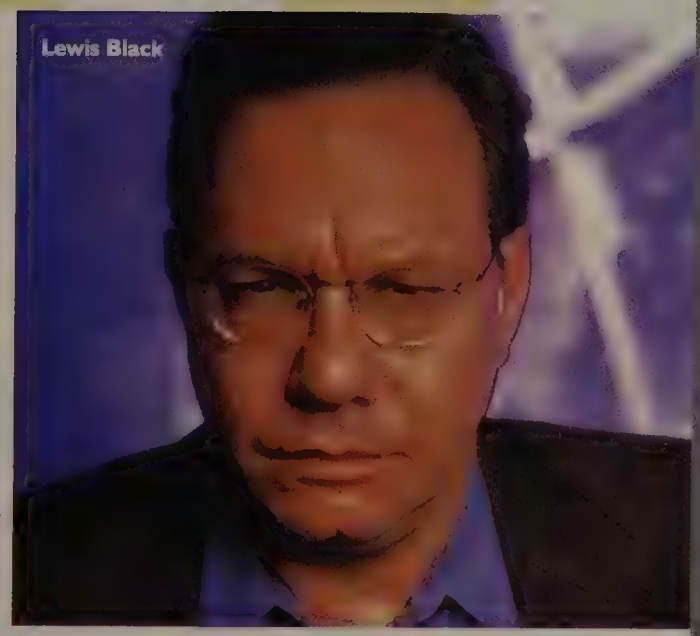
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agenda

MPROPER PICKS

may 12 - 25

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			12	13	14	15
					Check out surrealist films at the Brattle Theatre's 100th-birthday tribute to **Salvador Dali**. *See Movies on page 54.*	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	Enjoy five courses of Asian cuisine by Andy Husbands at **Andy's Trip to Thailand** at Tremont 647. *See Tastings on page 40.* 					**Mission of Burma, the Dresden Dolls** (left), and **Sunburned Hand of the Man** at Avalon. *See Music on page 62.*
 23	24	25				
Homo Erectus, the first "Viagra comedy," is at the Community Church of Boston. *See Performing Arts on page 48.*		Sample tasting spoons by chef Daniel Bruce at an **Eight Minute Wine Pairing** at Meritage. *See Tastings on page 40.* 				



SUN./MAY 23

CityScope: Music, Laughter and Hope

Most of the really glitzy, A-list charity events are held at a suitably swanky venue, like the Four Seasons, the Ritz or the World Trade Center. So when we saw that Comedy Central comedian Lewis Black, former poet laureate Robert Pinsky and Theo Epstein and his band Trauser were slated to appear at the Studio 25th Anniversary Gala, we thought for sure we'd be making our way to a five-star hotel ballroom—not the Brookline High School auditorium. Yup, twin sisters and owners of Brookline clothing store the Studio Ilene Epstein (Theo's mom) and Sandy Gradman are packing BHS with a who's who of Boston to celebrate 25 years of making Brookline women look and feel good. The benefit for Women's Cancers Programs at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, aptly titled Music, Laughter & Hope, is hosted by media maven Liz Walker, and cabaret artists the Follen Angels and swing-jazz-rock band Four Piece Suit also perform. That's reason enough for us to take it back to high school. *Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (617-738-5091). www.jimmyfund.org/studio. 8 pm. $50-$200.*

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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AGENDA EDITED BY
Erin Hagedorn & Jessica Iredale

CALENDAR EDITED BY
Erin Hagedorn

Books & Poetry, Gay & Lesbian, Music, Movies, Around Town, Children, Education, Performing Arts

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
Ezra Dyer CityScope, Sports
Jessica Iredale Dance Clubs, Museums & Galleries
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules







This photograph of Fay Wray, by Peter Urban, is on display at the Bates School, one of the stops on the SOWA tour.

SUN./MAY 23

CityScope: SoWa Art Walk

If you live in the South End, you're aware that no legitimate South Ender has bought into the cutesy contractions SoWa and NoWa—terms coined by hyper-creative marketing types to refer to the areas south and north of Washington Street. If you're a non–South Ender (shall we call ourselves NoSos?), consider yourself warned—should you use these phrases in the company of a bona fide South Ender, you will stick out like Michael Jackson in the *Sesame Street* studio audience. Even if you don't like the abbreviation, you'll want to be in the South End on May 23 for the SoWa Art Walk. It's a day when South Enders and NoSos alike roam the streets of the South End exploring all kinds of art galleries, studios and loft spaces and getting a behind-the-scenes look at the artists' creations. You can also stop by the inaugural South End Open Market (with crafts, antiques and a farmer's market), which debuts outside 540 Harrison Ave., from 9 am to 5 pm. *www.gatewaymainstreet.org. 11 am-6 pm.*

SUN./MAY 23

CityScope: Turning Japanese

From John G. Avildsen (director of 1984's *The Karate Kid*) to Quentin Tarantino to Sofia Coppola, American filmmakers have been paying their celluloid respects to Japanese culture for years. But there's more to the Eastern isle's culture than martial arts, karaoke, or, in the case of Spike TV's *Most Extreme Elimination Challenge*, really weird game shows, and Boston-based Japanese artist Kaji Aso, owner of the Kaji Aso Studio, is prepared to introduce us to the more delicate Japanese traditions. On May 23, the studio holds its annual Japan Festival. We're pretty sure there won't be any crane kicks or Hattori Hanzo sword demos, but there will be haiku readings by the Boston Haiku Society, Tea House tours, Japanese food, ikebana and origami workshops and calligraphy and sumi paintings by the master Aso himself. *Kaji Aso Studio, 40 Saint Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www.kajiasostudio.com. 2-7 pm. $8.*

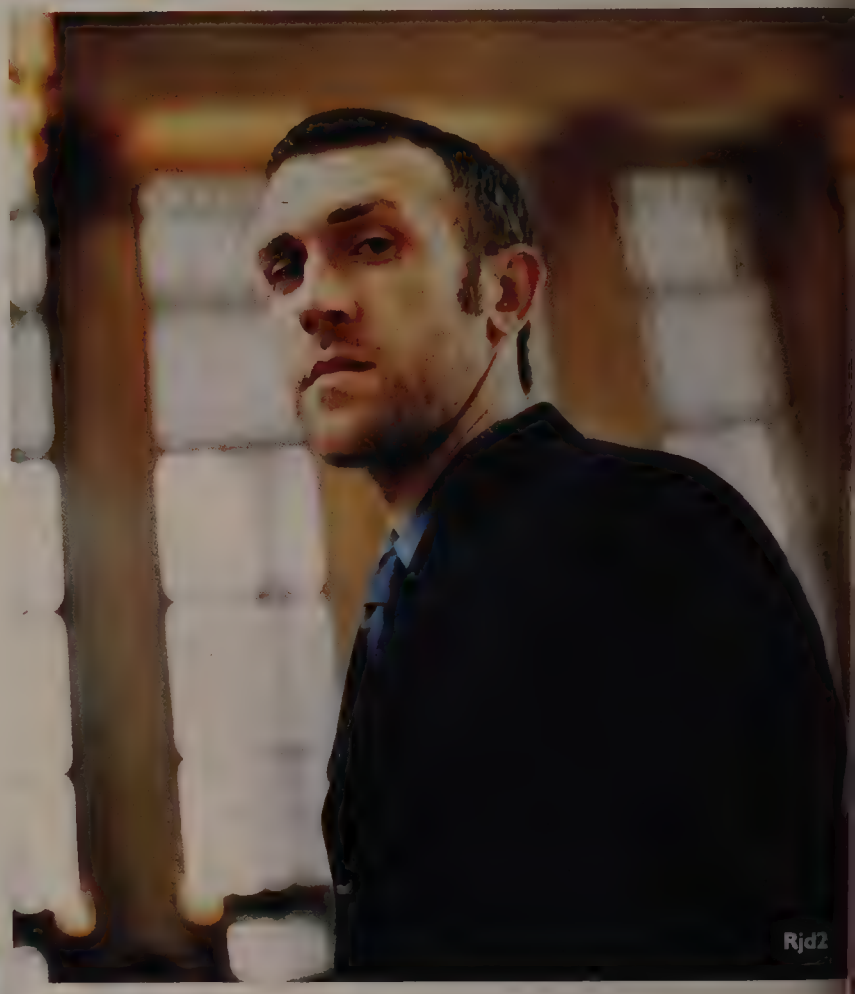
THROUGHOUT MAY

Performing Arts: Dancing Days



The Dance Complex and the city of Cambridge present DanceMonth throughout May.

Dancing, like singing and creating an impressive stock portfolio, is one of those things that everyone wishes they did well. However, if you're like us, your dance moves are more Elaine than Beyoncé and should be reserved either for the privacy of your home or events heavily clouded by alcohol. The city of Cambridge and the Dance Complex have declared May DanceMonth, and just because we're better suited to spectating than taking center stage doesn't mean that we can't appreciate those blessed with rhythm. All month long the area's best choreographers host performances and events at the Dance Complex in Central Square. Highlights include Dancesongs of the Birdozoic, on May 15 and 16. Watch Dance Complex faculty, including Margot Parsons and Kieran Jordan, as well as Prometheus Dance co-directors Diane Arvanites-Noya and Tommy Neblett, perform choreographed works to live music by the hard-rockin' chamber quartet Birdsongs of the Mesozoic. Also, every Tuesday at noon, take in an hour-long performance, from salsa to tango, while savoring an organic lunch from Whole Foods Market. Those looking to rediscover their plié or Samba can brush up at a free 20-minute class at the Dance Complex Open House on May 23. *The Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-574-9363). www.dancemonth.com.*



SAT./MAY 15

Music: Out of the Shadow

Setting a new standard for innovation in hip-hop, Ohio's Rjd2 and Chicago's Diverse represent an approach that's coming to seem more and more old-fashioned in the hip-hop world: innovation with roots in tradition. Today's mainstream hip-hop artists often seem content to rest on their piles of cash and ice, comfy in Escalades and tipsy on Cristal, their DJs miming the motions while a DAT plays the beats. Fortunately, Rjd2 and Diverse continue to push hip-hop forward by making music that's not just a carbon copy of yesterday's flavor of the month, and you can see them do it live at their May 15 show at the Paradise. DJ/producer Rjd2 has already released *Deadringer*, an album that expanded the definition of "instrumental hip-hop" while staying true to the form's origins and aesthetic essentials. Currently much in demand, he's also done a slew of remixes for notable artists in and out of the hip-hop genre, such as Massive Attack and Polyphonic Spree. He produced almost half of the tracks on Diverse's debut album, blending the rapper's emphatic flow with dusty funk samples and driving riffs lifted directly from the original vinyl. Diverse shares with Rjd2 the methodology of making new art with old tools; their collaborative tracks recall some of the rough-yet-bouncy pop rap of the early and mid 1990s, with modern lyrical twists and musical touches added to the mix. After the show, you can tell Rjd2 personally that you just read the first item about him that didn't mention DJ Shadow. (Whoops!) *Paradise Rock Club, 967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-423-NEXT). 8 pm. $15*

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cityscope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings for festivals, events and benefits by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12

Design Home 2004
Cranberry Cove, 9 Wescott Drive, Hopkinton (617-437-8538). www.design-home.com. Through May 28. $25. Tours of this state-of-the-art model home raise money for the Home for Little Wanderers.

A Gala Evening at the Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-632-3021). Dinner at 5:30 pm, concert at 8 pm. $250 (dinner and concert), $125 (concert only). The friends of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute host this dinner and performance by the Boston Pops to benefit cancer research at Dana-Farber. The program honors George Gershwin and features his works.

Night of Illumination
Hotel Marlowe, 25 Edwin Land Blvd., Cambridge (617-599-0213). www.ccaa.org. 7-10 pm. $125. This annual benefit for Cambridge Cares About AIDS is an informal cocktail party featuring a silent auction, entertainment and surprises.

Step Out and Swing Dance for Peace at Home
Parris, 250 Quincy Market Building, Faneuil Hall, Boston (978-546-3137). www.peaceathome.org. 7-11 pm. $25 in advance, $30 at the door. This benefit for Peace at Home's Silent Witness domestic violence-awareness art installation includes live music from the Love Dogs, appetizers and swing dance lessons from 7-8 pm.

THURSDAY, MAY 13

Business Women's Breakfast
Tremont Boston, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-2350, ext. 234). www.atask.org. 8-9:30 am. $50. The Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence honors its Seeds of Hope scholarship recipients at this benefit breakfast.

Fresh Paint Benefit Auction and Party
Copley Society Gallery, 158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. 6-9 pm. $50. The Copley Society auctions off the 80 works from its *Fresh Paint* exhibition to raise money for member exhibitions, educational outreach programs, workshops and lectures.

Give to Live Spring Luncheon and Fashion Show
Marriott Copley Place, Boston (508-879-2006). www.aidforcancerresearch.org. 10 am-2 pm. $75. Isabella fashion boutique presents a luncheon and fashion show of the Zenobia fall collection to raise money for cancer research.

New England Women's Leadership Awards
World Trade Center, Boston (617-288-7120). www.danmarrclub.org. This awards ceremony benefits community programs at the Colonel Daniel Marr Boys and Girls Club in Dorchester.

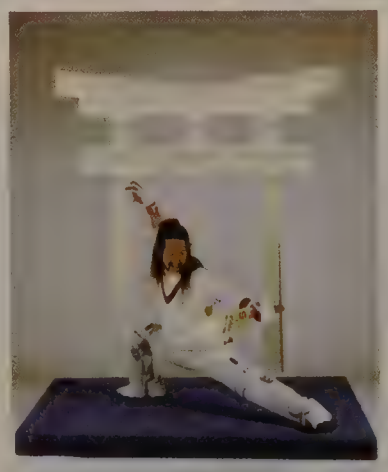
FRIDAY, MAY 14

Comedy for the Cure Benefit
Puppet Showplace Theatre, 32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). 7 pm. $20. The Kitsch in Sync Improv Comedy Troupe performs to raise money for the Pan-Mass Challenge and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

Pan-Mass Challenge Benefit Party
The Bell in Hand, 45 Union St., Boston (617-744-1109). 5:30 pm. $20. The Bell in Hand hosts this benefit party for the Pan-Mass Challenge and the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The party includes appetizers, a DJ and raffles.


The Copley Soiree, May 16, is a night of ballroom dancing.

A Venetian Masked Ball
Four Seasons Hotel, Boston (617-542-4912, ext. 251). www.blo.org. 7 pm. $500 for dinner and evening festivities; $125 dessert and dancing only. The Boston Lyric Opera celebrates the culture of Italy with a black-tie masked ball. The evening includes a dinner of Italian cuisine, a performance of Neapolitan love songs, dancing to live music from the Horns in the House, and live and silent auctions. Proceeds benefit the Emerging Artists Fund.


Kung Fu Cricket, by SunTek Chung, at the Super Salon Soiree

SATURDAY, MAY 15

Avon Walk for Breast Cancer
Start/finish at Joe Moakley Park, South Boston (617-576-3113). www.avonwalk.org. Through May 16. $55 registration fee, $1,800 pledge commitment. Walk either a marathon or a marathon-and-a-half to raise money for breast cancer research.

Boston Heart Ball
Westin Copley Place, 10 Huntington Ave., Boston (508-935-3960). 6 pm. The American Heart Association hosts this annual black-tie benefit party, which features dinner, dancing, live and silent auctions and a raffle for a 2004 Mercedes-Benz.

Glimmer Gala
.406 Club, Fenway Park, Boston (617-778-5981, ext. 215). 7 pm-12 am. $75. The Professionals Team of the Inner-City Scholarship Fund hosts this benefit party, which includes cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, live entertainment, and live and silent auctions.

Sacred Ground: A Tribute to the MacDowell Colony
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (212-535-9690). www.cambridgemadrigals.org. $100. The Cambridge Madrigal Singers perform to benefit the MacDowell Colony's artist residency program. A reception follows the concert.

SUNDAY, MAY 16

The Copley Soiree
The Grand Ballroom at the Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, Boston (617-227-9009). 7-10 pm. $45. Semiformal; black tie optional. Singles and couples are welcome at this evening of ballroom dancing, which includes an exhibition by professional dancers, hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar and a door prize from DePrisco Diamond Jewelers. Ballroom, Latin, swing and salsa music are played; singles are seated together.

Great Strides: Taking Steps to Cure Cystic Fibrosis
10K Boston walk, register online at www.cff.org/great_strides/index.cfm. 11 am. This 10K pledge walk raises money to support the Cystic Fibrosis Society.

MONDAY, MAY 17

Bike Party and Benefit
Redbones, 55 Chester St., Somerville (617-628-2200). www.redbones.com. 5-9 pm. $10. Celebrate pedal power at this annual benefit for MassBike and the New England Mountain Bike Association. Admission includes valet bicycle parking, a Redbones barbecue sandwich, a beverage and a raffle ticket.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

CHAI Benefit
Four Seasons Hotel, Boston (617-227-6641, ext. 4108). www.jfcsboston.org. 6:30-9 pm. Tickets start at $180. Opera Boston soloists and Berkshire Hills Music Academy students perform at this benefit for the Community Housing for Adult Independence program for adults with disabilities.

THURSDAY, MAY 20

CraftBoston Preview Gala
World Trade Center, 200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-266-1810). www.craftboston.org. 6-9 pm. $150. Get first crack at the crafts on sale at this benefit for the Society of Arts and Crafts. Hors d'oeuvres and cocktails are served. The show is open to the public May 21-23.


Redbones' eighth annual Bike Party and Benefit takes place May 17

Dine Round the World
Hannum Hall at the YWCA, 7 Temple St., Cambridge (617-492-5177). 5:30 pm. $35. International restaurants in Central Square offer samples from their menus. A wine tasting precedes the event.

Hidden Gardens of Beacon Hill Tour
Various locations in Beacon Hill, Boston (617-227-4392). www.beaconhillgardenclub.org. 9 am-5 pm. $25 in advance, $30 day of tour. Sixteen private gardens not visible from the street are opened to the public in this annual self-guided tour. Proceeds benefit more than 30 local charities.

Kids in Need Benefit Concert
T.T. the Bear's Place, Cambridge (781-863-1216). pm. $12. Black Helicopter, Victory at Sea, Thai Zedek, Seekonk, Valerie Forgione and Ninety Ninety perform to raise money for the Kids in Need Foundation.

Reflections 2004
Park Plaza Hotel, 64 Arlington St., Boston (617-540222) www.vpi.org. 5:30 pm. $150. Broadway actress Elaine Stritch and Blue Man Group perform to benefit Victory Programs, an organization that assists people with drug addictions and terminal illnesses. The evening also includes dinner and a silent auction.

Starry Night Benefit
Metcalf Hall Ballroom, Boston University, 775 Comm Ave., Boston (781-769-4174). www.massstar.org pm. $75. This event featuring dinner, a silent auction and cocktails raises money for MassStar proactive youth citizenship initiatives.

Super Salon Soiree
Samson Projects Art Gallery, 46 Waltham St., Boston (617-357-7177). www.samsonprojects.com. 6-8 pm. More than 80 works in various mediums are on display at the closing party for the gallery's *Super Salon* exhibition. Artists include William Wegman, Lo Erik Fiske and many others. A portion of proceeds from sales benefits the Children's Art Centre of the United South End Settlements.

SATURDAY, MAY 22

Cappella Clausura Benefit
First Unitarian Society, 1326 Washington St., W Newton. (617-964-6609). www.aleclair.org. Cappella Clausura presents a performance of works by female composers of the 17th century. Proceeds benefit the Women's Lunch Place.

Volvo Hyannis Port Challenge
Ride leaves from the JFK Library in Boston and ends at the Kennedy Compound in Hyannis. (800-718-3539) www.hpchallenge.org. Raise money for Best Buddies International by entering this pledge bike ride to the Cape. Riders can opt for either 20-mile or 90-mile routes. A postrace party includes a clambake and a private concert at the Kennedy compound.

SUNDAY, MAY 23

Kaji Aso Studio Japan Festival
Kaji Aso Studio, 40 Saint Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www.kajiasostudio.com. 2-7 pm. $8. The festival includes calligraphy demonstrations, origami workshop, haiku readings, theater performances, tea house tours, a ceramics sale and Japanese food à la carte.

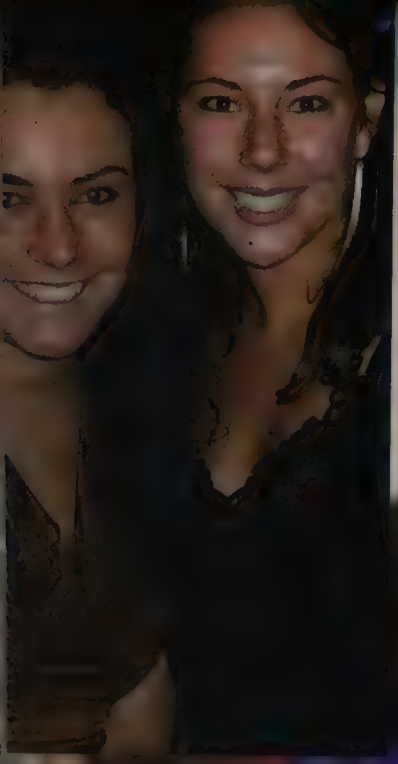
Music, Laughter and Hope: The Studio 25th Anniversary Gala
Brookline High School Auditorium, Brookline (617-738-5091). www.jimmyfund.org/studio. 8 pm. and $75; VIP $200. Former U.S. poet laureate Robert Pinsky reads and comedian Lewis Black performs at this benefit for women's cancer programs at Dana-Farber. Music is provided by the Follen Angels, Four Piece Suit and Theo Epstein and his band Trauser.

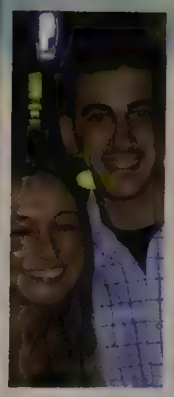
Newton Historical Society House Tour
Various homes in Newton (617-796-1450). www.newton.ma.us/jackson. 11:30 am-5 pm. $25. This self-led tour of some of the finest homes in Newton benefits the Newton History Museum at the Jackson Homestead.

SoWa Art Walk
Various locations, South End, Boston. www.gatemainstreet.org. 11 am-6 pm. Dozens of artists open their studios to the public at this inaugural art event. The Art Walk also includes the debut of the SoWa End Open Market, at 540 Harrison Ave., which features arts, crafts, antiques and a farmer's market.

TUESDAY, MAY 25

Party in the Park Luncheon
Back Bay Fens, Boston (617-232-5374). www.emmanecklace.org. 11:30 am. This reception and luncheon under tents on the Back Bay Fens raises money for the Justine Mee Liff Fund for the Emmanecklace.

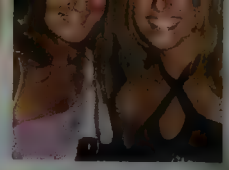














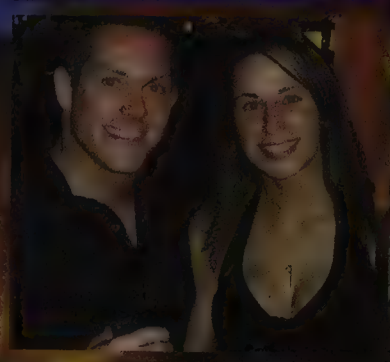
AM 1510's The Zone's "PROS ON PROS"
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Gerry Cooney and Bill "Spaceman" Lee





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Farewell to our friend Lisa Sarro







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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater

JUST OPENED

Anger Box
Eliot Hall, 7A Eliot St., Jamaica Plain (617-887-2336). www.theatrezone.org. May 14 and 15, 8 pm. $15. TheatreZone presents this collection of monologues from 10 characters who talk about the existence of God. Written by Jeff Goode.

BTW Unbound
Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-939-9939). www.bu.edu/bpt. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St. May 20-23. Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 12 pm. $5 per night ($12 for a festival pass). Boston TheatreWorks presents this festival showcasing new works by cutting-edge playwrights.

The Love of the Nightingale
Abbott Theatre, 9 Spring St., Waltham (781-893-9171). www.hoveyplayers.com. May 14-23. Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; May 23, 2 pm; May 27, 8 pm. $13-$15. This modern reworking of the Greek myth of Philomele, directed by Luke Dennis, tells the story of a Athenian princess and the revenge she seeks on her corrupt brother-in-law, the king of Thrace.

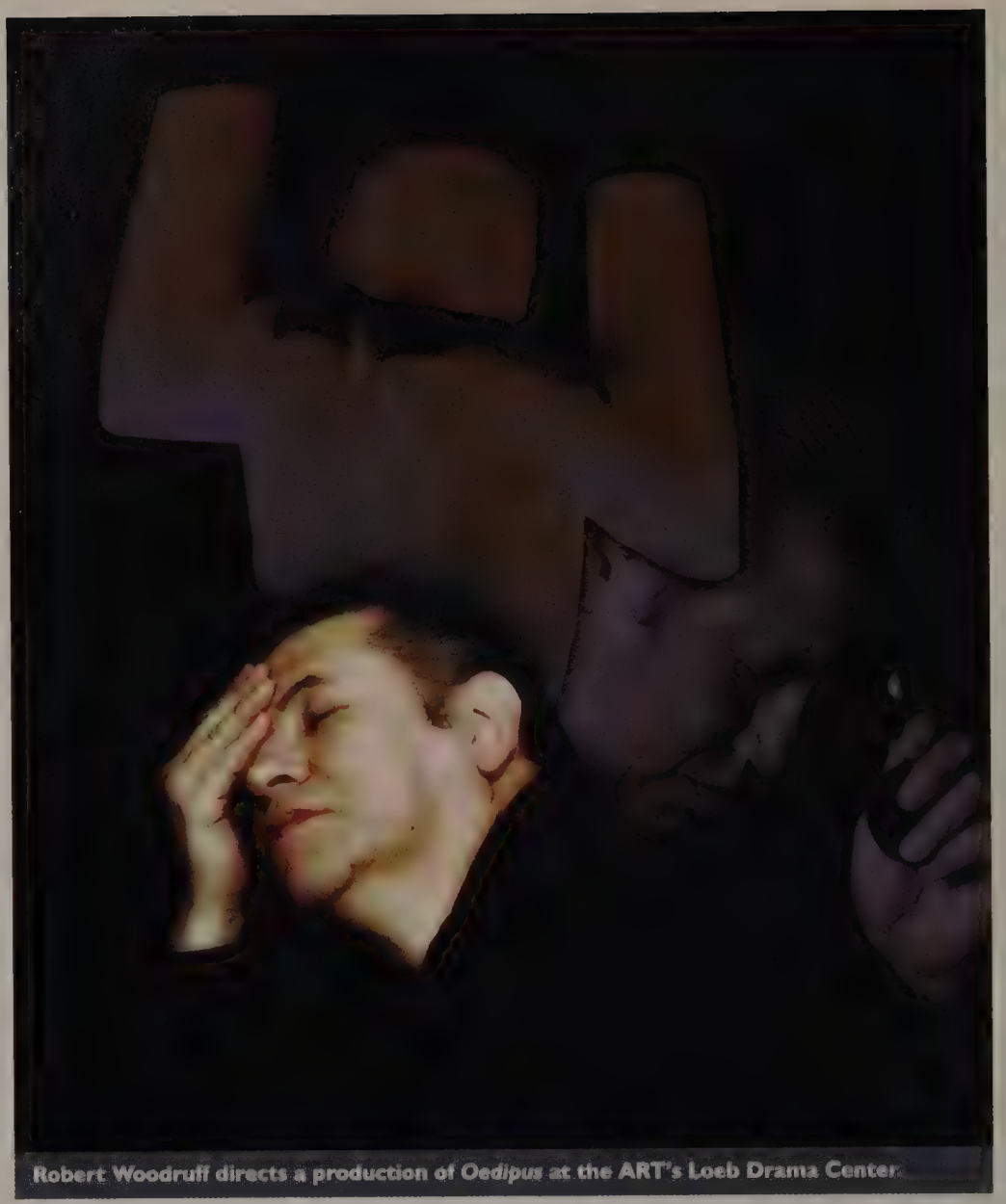
Oedipus
ART Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. May 15-June 12. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm (May 25-27, 10 pm); Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm; $35-$69. The American Repertory Theatre presents Stephen Berg and Diskin Clay's adaptation of Sophocles' tragedy about a young king who fulfills a prophecy delivered at his birth. Directed by Robert Woodruff. Music by Evan Ziporyn.

Oklahoma
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-426-9366). www.broadwayinboston.com. May 25-June 5. Mon., Tue. and Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm; May 26, 7 pm; May 27, 8 pm; June 2, 8 pm; June 3, 2 and 8 pm; $30-$78. This classic musical about families living in Oklahoma during the turn of the last century makes a return to the theater where it premiered 60 years ago.

Popcorn
Black Box Theater, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-759-8836). www.zeitgeiststage.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. May 14-June 5. Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 5 and 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $15-$25. The Zeitgeist Stage Company presents this satirical comedy about a Hollywood director who is taken hostage by two murderers who blame his violence-filled movies for their killing spree. Written by Ben Elton.

The Rose Tattoo
Huntington Theatre Company, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. May 14-June 13. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm (excluding May 25); Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm (excluding May 16, May 23 and June 13). $14-$64. This Tennessee WIlliams play tells the story of a Sicilian widow who is tormented by memories of her husband and finds solace in the company of a truck driver. Directed by Nicholas Martin.

To Kill a Mockingbird
Gloucester Stage, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4433). www.gloucesterstage.com. May 21-June 6. Fri. and Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5 pm. $7-$15. The Gloucester Stage Company presents Christopher Sergel's stage adaptation of Harper Lee's classic novel about life and racism as seen through the eyes of children. Directed by Norm Jones.


Robert Woodruff directs a production of *Oedipus* at the ART's Loeb Drama Center

NOW RUNNING

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com/ticketinfo/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 and 10 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. Ongoing. $46-$56. This newly revamped, dialogue-free production features tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Elegies: A Song Cycle
BCA Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through May 29. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 pm and 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $25-$35. The SpeakEasy Stage Company presents this play by William Finn, in which he honors departed friends and family.

Homo Erectus
Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (617-442-4691). Through May 30. Sun. 2:30pm. $5-$10. Local actors Mike Nurse and Francine Davis play a couple in the world's first "Viagra comedy," written and directed by John O'Brien.

Kimberly Akimbo
Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-939-9939) www.bostontheatreworks.com. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant Street. Through May 16. Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $20-$25. Boston Theatre Works presents this story about a teenage girl with a rare physical condition who must re-evaluate her life with a hypochondriac mother, an alcoholic father and a swindling aunt after the family is forced to flee its New Jersey hometown under questionable circumstances. Written by South Boston's David Lindsay Abaire. Directed by Jason Southerland.

Kiss Me, Kate
North Shore Musical Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Beverly (978-232-7800). www.nsmt.org. Through May 16. Tue.-Sat., 8 pm; Wed., Sat., Sun., 2 pm; $30-$60. This musical comedy based on Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew* is a play within a play that follows four actors as they deal with their complicated off-stage lives. Alan Coats directs.

Lizzie Borden: The Musical
Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). www.stoneham theatre.org. Through May 30. $16-$32. Veteran Broadway actress Jayne Patterson plays the lead role in the Massachusetts debut of this musical, which retells the story of the alleged axe-murderer. Directed by Bill Castellino.

Menopause—The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). Through May 23. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat. 4and 8 pm; Sun. 2 pm. $42.50. Jeanie Linders' parody, set to the music of the 1960s and 1970s, explores the lives of four women in their 40s and offers a humorous take on the physical and mental changes they are facing.

Nine
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). www.turtle-lane.com. Through May 30. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $15-$22. Arthur Kopit and Maury Yeston based their play on Federico Fellini's 1963 movie in which a film director on the verge of a nervous breakdown struggles to write and direct a new movie.

9-Ball
Tremont Theatre, 276 Tremont St., Boston (866-811-4111). www.theatremania.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through May 22. Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $22-$25. Art Devine's play is based on a real-life identity swap that occurred in Lynn, Mass., during the Vietnam War.

Noises Off
Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through June 5. Wed., 2 and 7:30 pm; Thu. 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $20-$38. Tony Award winner Michael Frayn's play follows the cast of a show, *Nothing On*, ar their on- and off-stage antics.

Proof
Beatrice Herford's Vokes Theatre, 97 Boston Po Road, Wayland (508-358-4034). www.vokesplaye org. Through May 22. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; May 15 a 22, 2 pm. $13-$15. The Vokes Players of Wayla present David Auburn's Tony Award– and Pulitz Prize–winning family drama, which follows a you woman struggling to put her life back together aft the death of her unstable, yet brilliant, father.

Rounding Third
Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 E. Merrimack S Lowell (978-454-3926). www.merrimackrep.o Through May 16. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8: pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. Richard Dresser's comedy te the story of two Little League baseball coaches w must learn to get along in order to win the game.

The Savior of Fenway
Cambridge Family YMCA Theater, 820 Mass. Av Cambridge (617-661-9622). www.thesaviorofl way.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Throu May 30. Tue.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2 pm. $ ($5 off at door with Fenway Park ticket stub or s dent ID). Boston native Brendon Bates wrote a acts in this story that chronicles the loyalties a brotherhood of Red Sox fans in a Quincy spo bar following Games 6 and 7 of the 2003 Ame can League Championship Series. Directed Michael Laibson.

Scapin
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton Hi lands (617-332-1646). www.newrep.org. MBT Riverside D Green Line to Newton Highlands. Thro May 30. Wed., 2 and 7 pm; Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; S 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $27-$ Moliere's satire tells the story of two young men a two young women who put too much trust i crafty, quick-witted servant. Boston's John Ku plays the lead role.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (6 426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBT Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. Ongoing. $ $34. This comedic whodunit set in a unisex h salon still holds the record as Boston's long running play.

What Time Is It?
The Theatre Cooperative,277 Broadway St., Son ville (617-625-1300). www.theatrecoop.org. Thro May 29. Fri. and Sat. 8 pm; Sun. May 16 and 2 pm. $10-$20. In Vladimir Zelevinsky's play, a gruntled young man fed up with his job as an a tant timekeeper devises a plan involving the l clock in the center of town that could turn his life completely upside-down.

UNIVERSITY THEATER

Our Husband Has Gone Mad Again
Sala de Puerto Rico, MIT Stratton Center, 2nd Fl 84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4720). ht web.mit.edu/blacktg/www/home.html. May 15 and Call for times and prices. MIT's Black Theater G and African Students Association present this c edy about the vanity and ignorance of a former t tary major who takes to politics in Africa. Dire by Associate Professor Thomas DeFrantz.

CABARET

Mad Maids
The Raw Bar: Jacques Underground, 79 Broadway Boston (617-426-8902). www.jacquescabaret. May 14, 9 pm. $8. Cabaret artist Leah Callah show, inspired by Jean Genet's *The Maids*, tells story of a French madame who is murdered by two maids.

Dance

Crabtree/Weber
Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-9363). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Ma 12:05 pm. $12. Choreographers Brian Crabtree Jody Weber share their newest dances.

Dance Complex Open House
Dance Complex, 536 Massachusetts Ave., Camb (617-547-9363). www.dancemonth.com. M Red Line to Central. May 23, 1-5 pm. Free. L dance basics in 20-minute mini-classes as pa Dance Month.

DanceMonth
DanceMonth has several free events and con scheduled for the month of May. Visit www.d month.com/events.htm for a complete listing.

Dances from the Roof of the Worl
Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., B (617-747-2261). www.tibetanarts.org. MBTA:

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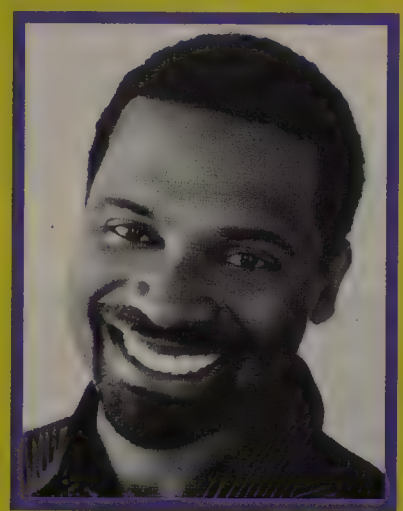
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'Day-Day' from "Friday After Next" and "Next Friday"

MIKE EPPS



MAY 21-22



ROBERT SCHIMMEL

MAY 28-30

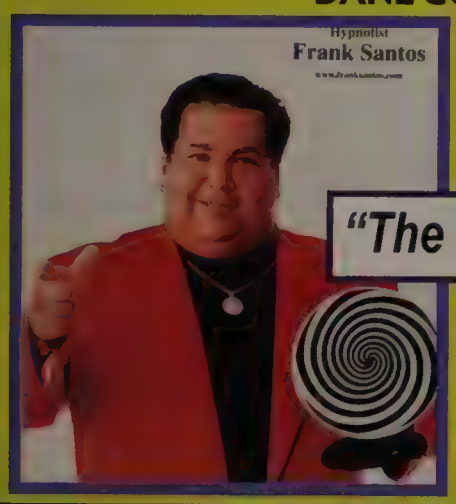


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Line to Hynes/ICA. May 14, 7:30 pm. $18-$50. The Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts presents a performance of mask and animal dances and operas based on ancient Indian myths.

Dance Songs of the Birdozoic

Julie Ince Thompson Theatre, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-9363). May 15 and 16. Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $15. This collaboration between the Dance Complex and the band Birdsongs of the Mesozoic combines choreography and original live music.

Drawers

Green Street Studios, 185 Green St., Cambridge (617-864-3191). www.greenstreetstudios.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. May 14 and 15, 8 pm. $12-15. Mosaic Dance Body presents this performance about people's relationships with their underwear.

Jam'ntastic

Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-9363). www.dancemonth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. May 18, 12:05 pm. $12. Whole Foods Markets caters this lunch-hour Dance Month event featuring an interactive salsa performance.

Jeannette Neill Dance Studio Spring Dance Concert

Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-6467). MBTA: Green Line to BU East. May 21 and 22. Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 3 and 8 pm. $15-$20. Jeannette Neill Studio presents its annual Tsai Performance Center show, featuring a variety of dance styles.

Paul Taylor Dance Company: 50th Anniversary Celebration

Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. May 21-23. Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $42-$60 Taylor and his company celebrate their 50th season with a performance of old and new works.

Princess Pamplemousse

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, 41 Second St., Cambridge (508-655-0675). www.cmacusa.org. May 18 and 25, noon. Free. The Princess dressed as a lemon performs an improvisational dance in the courtyard as part of Dance Month.

Shared Choreographers Concert

Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-9363). www.dancemonth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. May 21 and 22. 8 pm. $9. This program provides new and developing artists with the opportunity to produce their work in concert.

A Spring Concert

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, 41 Second St., Cambridge (508-655-0675). www.cmacusa.org. May 21 and 22, 8 pm. $15-$20. The Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center dancers perform contemporary works by six choreographers.

Swan Lake

Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (617-695-6955) www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. May 13-23. May 18 and 19, 7 pm; Thu. 7 pm; Fri. 8 pm. Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 8 pm. $39-$96. Boston Ballet finishes up its 40th year with this production of one of Tchaikovsky's most beloved ballets. Choreography by Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov.

Tapestry 2004

National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-863-5360). www.thedanceinn.com/dip.html. May 14, 7:30 pm. $32-$35. This performance honors this year's Tapestry Award recipient, jazz and tap dancer and choreographer Sarah Petronio, with dance performances and musical guests, including Jimmy Slyde, Dianne Walker, Paul Arsianian and John Lockwood.



The Paul Taylor Dance Company celebrates its 50th season at the Shubert, May 21-23

Comedy

Advice to Contributors

Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

STAND-UP CLUBS

Beantown Comedy Vault

Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault at Remington's features local stand-up comedians. •Thursdays: Dick Doherty's Comedy Pro Tour •Fridays: the Fun Room, with Corey Manning •Saturdays: Boston's Best Standup •Sundays: open-mike night.

Comedy Connection

245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8 pm, $12; Thu., 8:30 pm, $15; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm and 10:15 pm; Sun., 7 pm. Prices vary. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •May 12, 8 pm: Benefit for J.P.S. Foundation. •May 13, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15.•May 14, 8 and 10:15 pm: Brian Regan, $26. •May 15, 6pm, 8:15pm and 10:30 pm: Brian Regan, $25 (first show), $31 (last two). •May 16, 7 pm: Brian Regan, $22.50. •May 16, 9pm and 11:15 pm: Mike Epps, from *Next Friday* and *All About the Benjamins*, $30. •May 17, 7 pm: Mike Epps, $30. •May 18, 8 pm: Boston Comedy Festival Award winners Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $12. •May 21, 8 and 10:15 pm: Robert Schimmel, $22.50. •May 22 6, 8:15 and 10:30pm: Robert Schimmel, $22.50 (first show), $27.50 (last two). •May 23, 4 pm: Jimmy Keys. Boston's Best Comedian Series, $15. •May 24, 8 pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $12. •May 25, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $12.

Comedy Studio

Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. • May 12: Tony V, Kelly MacFarland, Tony Moschetto, Scott Krisner, Mandi Donovan and more. •May 13: Erin Judge, Tissa Hami, Jim Flaherty, Matt Winninger, Dan Sally and Alana Devich. •May 14: Greg Rodrigues, Dave Thompson, Eric Cheung, Brett Jordan and more. •May 15: Greg Rodrigues, Dave Thompson, Derek Gerry and more. •May 16: Sam Walters, Mark Basch, Michael Della Penna, Brian Longwell and more.•May 18: Magic and comedy show. •May 19: Tony V, Kelly MacFarland, Baratunde, Amanda White and more. •May 20: Janet Cormier, Peter Dutton, Michelle Pierce and more. •May 21: Rebecca Anderson, Ken Reid, Steve Calechman, Jay Montepare and Alana Devich •May 22: Steve Calechman, Jay Montepare, Mike Whitman, Alana Devich and more. •May 23: Sam Walters, Larry Starr, Cyndi Stiles and more. •May 25: Mystery Lounge: Magic and more.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. $10-$22. •May 13, 8:30 pm: Ken Rogerson and Steve Scarfo. •May 14, 8:30 pm: Ken Rogerson, Steve Scarfo, and EJ Murphy. •May 15, 8:45 pm: Ken Rogerson, Daniel Koziak and EJ Murphy. •May 20, 8:30 pm: Kevin Knox and Jack Lynch. •May 21, 8:30 pm: Kevin Knox, Jack Lynch and Johnny K. •May 22, 8:45 pm: Kevin Knox, Jack Lynch and Johnny K.

IMPROV COMEDY

Faces for Radio

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.faces4radio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $8. Improv comedy troupe pokes fun at everything, including themselves.

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA:Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. •Wed.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 and 10 pm: *Dig...End of an Error!*, a revue of improvisational and sketch comedy. •Sat., 12 am, $5: *The Midnight Show.* •Wed., 7 pm: *Pasta Wednesdays* provide pasta dinner to all audience members in the tradition of Prince Spaghetti and the North End.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-12 www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Ce $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisati comedy troupe creates everything on the spot characters, the stories, the settings—even the s and dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: *The Hump.* Serie experimental and improvisational theater. •Th pm, $12: *Unnatural Selection.* A master of c monies randomly eliminates players until only o left. 10 pm, $5: *The Great and Secret Comedy S* Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stan and music, play short films and do chara sketches in a display of sibling rivalry •Fri., 8 $12: *Misunderstood.* Audience suggestions fue improv rock opera, complete with a live banc pm, $12: *Theatre Sports.* Two teams of improv face off. •Sat., 6 pm, $12. ($10. for children): *Puppets, Real Problems.* Puppets improvise their through an hour-long show based on kids' inp and 10 pm, $12: *ImprovBoston Mainstage.* Blen storytelling, music and audience participation, a of improvisers creates a show that changes every performance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5: *Sgt. Culpe Improvisational Jamboree.* This evening comb three shows into one. Watch performances by ing and local troupes.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-6421). www.improvfoundry. com. MBTA: Red Li South Station. Thu.-Fri., 8 pm. $12. The group forms short improvisational comedy using audi suggestions.

COMEDY SHOWS

Comedy for the Cure Benefit Show

Brookline Puppet Showplace Theatre, 32 Station Boston (617-731-6400). MBTA: D Green Li Brookline Village. May 14, 7 pm. $20. The Kits Sync improv comedy troupe performs in a benef Pan Mass Challenge and the Dana-Farber Ca Institute.

Stash's Comedy Jam

All Asia Cafe, 334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617 1544). www.stashcomedyjam.com. MBTA: Line to Kendall. First and third Sunday of every m 8 pm. Enjoy standup comedy at this open mike host Stash.



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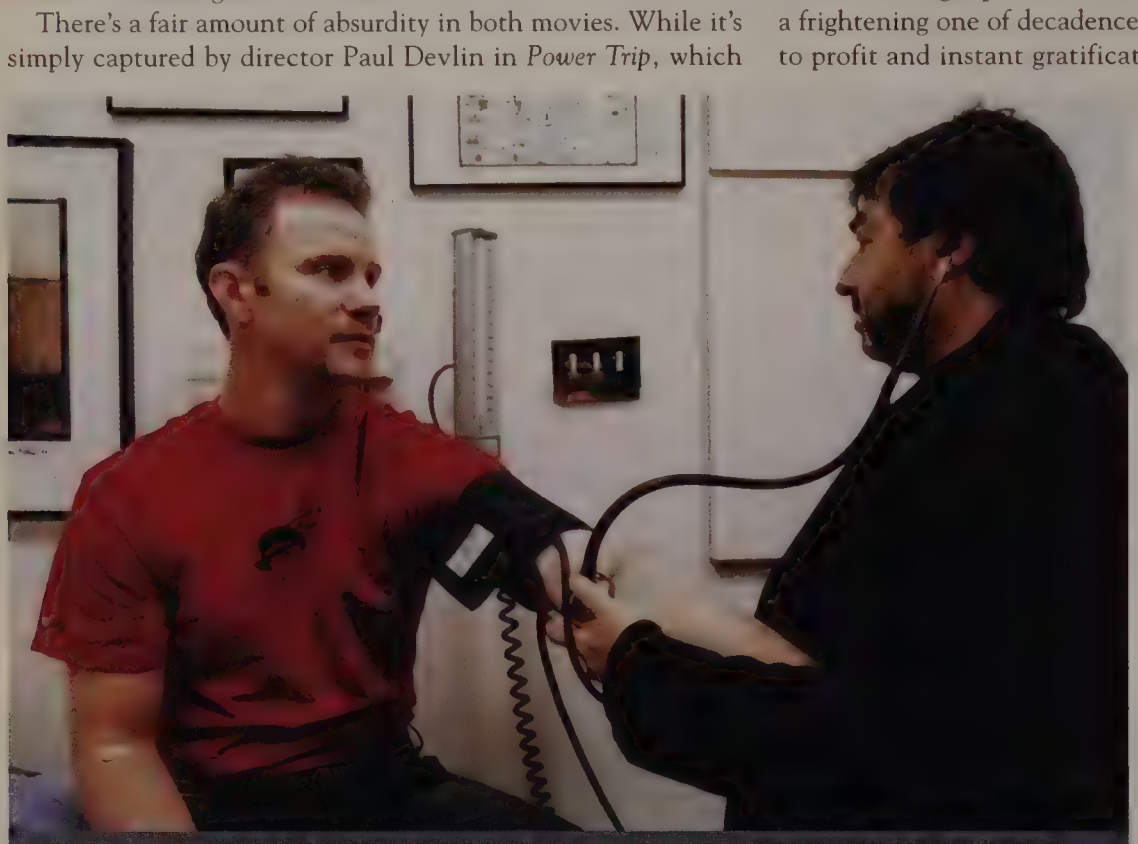
Calories and Kilowatts

Super Size Me and *Power Trip* fill you up

BY PAUL SHERMAN

There are journeys to be taken in the documentaries *Super Size Me* and *Power Trip*, but our vehicles have left the road and the wheels are wobbly. At times in these very different yet equally fascinating movies, it even seems as if civilization is teetering on the brink.

There's a fair amount of absurdity in both movies. While it's simply captured by director Paul Devlin in *Power Trip*, which



Morgan Spurlock checks in with a physician in a scene from his documentary, *Super Size Me*.

chronicles the unusually melodramatic electrical problems in the former Soviet republic of Georgia, the absurdity is totally the handiwork of director Morgan Spurlock in *Super Size Me*. You've probably heard about Spurlock's movie: He's the guy who ate only at McDonald's for a month and made a movie about the effect it had on his body.

It's tempting to think of Spurlock as a lighter (and lighter-touch) Michael Moore. Like Moore, Spurlock is an instigator with a purpose. And though he's not as aggressive as Moore, it's surprising how overt Spurlock's cinematic and culinary experiment is in its attempt to demonstrate that the fast-food industry—and the food industry in general—is poisoning the American public. (It seems the experiment could've spoken for itself, without the blatant advocacy.)

Whether or not McDonald's or any other company is legally culpable for the effects of what they're peddling, the danger of it is all over *Super Size Me*. Spurlock gains 10 pounds before the first week is over, and after three weeks, the effect on his liver is, to quote one of his three doctors, "obscene." When he isn't showing the plain unpleasantness of his Mickey D's binges—like the time he vomits in the parking lot after downing a super-size Double Quarter-Pounder with Cheese Value Meal—Spurlock includes a number of tangents. He visits a lawyer who is spearheading lawsuits against the food industry (and who previously took on the tobacco industry) and goes to a school cafeteria where the food service has been outsourced to a company that does little more than pump junk food into the kids. At one point, he attempts to find nutritional information at any of McDonald's 83 Manhattan locations.

It's to Spurlock's enormous credit that he actually makes all of this amusing. He plays the role of guinea pig with such a commitment and sense of humor that the rather depressing message of *Super Size Me* goes down easier. Whether Spurlock intended it or not, the larger picture of this country that his movie paints is a frightening one of decadence, self-indulgence and slavishness to profit and instant gratification, at the expense of common sense and humanity. The obesity epidemic is really just the tangible symptom of deeper problems of companies behaving badly, Americans being mentally and physically lazy, and both parents and school systems not doing right by their children. (One of Spurlock's visits is to a Worcester elementary school where the kids have gym one hour a week.) The overall effect is like watching a society that's so self-destructive it's on the verge of collapse.

Collapse is a pretty good description of what happened in Georgia after the Soviet Union disbanded. One of the changes that citizens didn't cotton to was paying for electricity, which was provided free in the U.S.S.R. Georgians jerry-rigged all sorts of wiring setups to illegally tap into free power. If that failed, they simply didn't pay their bills. (This wasn't just out of custom; the average monthly power bill is about half the average monthly income.) That's the stranger-than-fiction setting *Power Trip* takes us to, when American power company AES takes over the newly privatized electricity distribution company in the sprawling Georgian capital of Tbilisi.

The common citizens are hardly the worst offenders in the story. The Georgian government is riddled with corruption (during power shortages, the energy minister sidetracks the little remaining juice to his friends and family) and the army won't even pay its bill. Pretty soon, AES (which inherits a 10 percent collection rate on bills) has no option but to start cutting off service to delinquent customers. *Power Trip* comes up with an appealing and intriguing guide to all this chaos in Piers Lewis, a well-traveled Brit who becomes AES's regional manager in Tbilisi. Considering that the movie has played in the Human Rights Watch Film Festival (and before that, last year's Independent Film Festival of Boston), it also throws us a pleasant curve by not being about corporate villains. iB

Super Size Me ★★★

Directed by Morgan Spurlock. Not Rated. At the Coolidge Corner Theater, Loews Harvard Square and Waltham Embassy.

Power Trip ★★★

Directed by Paul Devlin. In English and Georgian with subtitles. Not Rated. At the Coolidge Corner Theater.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Bobby Jones, Stroke of Genius ★★
Jim Caviezel putts for our sins in this glowing ography of legendary golfer Bobby Jones. I d know if it's a good thing or a disappointment director Rowdy Herrington doesn't make this as cheesy as his Patrick Swayze messterpiece, *House*. But this one—while mostly TV-m cliché—has a few interesting touches. Those clude the performances of the kids who play J as a boy (Devon Gearhart, Thomas Le Caviezel's portrayal of Jones' Sandleresque tem and a fun performance from Jeremy Northa Walter Hagen, Jones' hedonistic rival. All in it's competent and mostly dull, which I gue probably par for a golf movie. (At Boston C mon, Fenway and suburbs.)

Connie and Carla ★★★
Nia Vardalos returns to the big screen with a ri Billy Wilder's *Some Like It Hot* that you might *My Big Fat Drag Queen Wig*. Vardalos (who w the script) and Toni Collette play Chicago lou singers who witness a crime boss murdering an derling. The hunted women flee to West Ho wood, where they end up impersonating drag qu in order to find work in a cabaret. Vardalos and lette both have a sunny kookiness that gets the c edy over its dependence on stereotypes (there's variety among the overemotional gay men meet). And while it may be easy to dismiss the p "gays are people too" sentiment, following the bate over gay marriage the sentiment seems pr timely, after all. (At Boston Common, Fenway suburbs.)

Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind ★★
The latest mindbender written by Charlie K man (*Being John Malkovich*, *Human Nature*, *Ada tion*) is, as always, like an M.C. Escher drawi which you can't always tell which direction th are headed in, but you put your faith in the h that Kaufman will still get his characters to an teresting place. This time, the story about a co (Jim Carrey, Kate Winslet) who've had their m ories wiped of a fizzled relationship but try to re dle their romantic spark fails to reward that fa Kaufman bats around interesting ideas about struggle between science and human urges, but spite the appealing chemistry between the s the ride isn't nearly as involving, amusing, lay or cohesive as the metaphysical journeys *Malkovich* or *Adaptation*. (At Boston Comm Fenway and suburbs.)

The Girl Next Door ★★
Emile Hirsch plays the teen Everyboy well, El Cuthbert is whistle-worthy and Timothy Olyph shows more life than he ever has before. Still, th a merely decent (and flagrant) *Risky Bus* knockoff, with the aforementioned trio in th spective Tom Cruise, Rebecca DeMornay an Pantoliano roles. Hirsch plays a smart senio naughty babe he fancies (Cuthbert) is a porn trying to get out of the business and Olyphant her boss, who wants her horizontal on the set ag It's not too easy to connect the knockoff's dots to its credit, the film remains watchable. Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Good Bye Lenin! ★★½
An East German woman goes into a coma jus fore the Berlin Wall falls, and when she has to a stress-free life after she comes to, her son go great lengths to make sure she never learns tha Communist country doesn't exist anymore. great premise yields some amusing moments; also some disappointing ones. Unlike in Wilder's brilliant *One, Two, Three* (which co similar territory after the wall went up), the co here never quite hits high gear because the tempers the humor with shades of drama. Bu characters' family drama never becomes as m rable as the premise. (At Kendall Square.)

Hellboy ★★
Can't quite see what all the fuss is about ove comic book adaptation. The title character deed a boy from hell who was found when A forces thwarted a Nazi attempt to open the por the underworld and unleash demons. It has gre suals and a fun lead performance from Ron Per as the grown-up "H.B.," who now helps the government fight off the same sort of parano demons whenever they intrude on our world the film comprises a set of very familiar genre ments: a father-son relationship (with John H scientist as a surrogate dad), a lovelorn her pines for Selma Blair's firestarter, another de fighter for the government) and convenien



Because every drop is precious.

not-too-interesting villains (this time, it's Rasputin and Nazis). And even in a fantasy context, the notion that the Nazis got power from the occult, and not from humans doing inhuman things, is borderline offensive. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Jersey Girl ★★

Ben Affleck turns in a strong performance as a Manhattan publicist whose wife dies in childbirth, and who soon thereafter loses his job for badmouthing a client and ends up back at his dad's home in New Jersey. Affleck and Raquel Castro, as his daughter, have a playful chemistry, and the performances make up for some of the weaknesses in writer-director Kevin Smith's script. But despite oddly appealing touches (like Affleck, Liv Tyler and Castro singing a song from *Sweeney Todd* at the girl's school variety show), the film often defaults to the most generic touches, like the inclusion of bland Fleetwood Mac or Springsteen songs at "emotional" moments. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Johnson Family Vacation ★★

More power to Cedric the Entertainer, who headlines his first comedy here. But this knockoff of *National Lampoon's Vacation*—this time about a black Los Angeles family struggling to make it to a Missouri family reunion—strains to generate laughs. The only sustained amusement comes in the two stretches when Cedric and his fellow *Original Kings of Comedy* vet Steve Harvey face off as two grown brothers who are still as competitive (and childish) as they were at age 10. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Kill Bill Vol. 2 ★★

It used to be fun when Quentin Tarantino put all of his pop-culture influences into a blender and spit them back out. What happened? Tarantino may have been one of the first American directors inspired by Hong Kong's 1980s action heyday, but since his *Reservoir Dogs*, a hundred other movies have mined the same sources. And *Pulp Fiction* was never as self-conscious as the second half of *Kill Bill* (or its predecessor, released last fall). Tarantino doesn't so much blend influences here as simply ape them one at a time: Sergio Leone close-ups and spaghetti western music in one of its chapters; grainy film, Chinese dialogue and a king fu homage in the other. At least *Vol. 2* has Michael Madsen, the only star here who seems genuinely dangerous and doesn't come off like a mere actor playing bad-ass. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Mean Girls ★★

With a comic tone pitched somewhere between *Heathers* and *Clueless*, writer and co-star Tina (*Saturday Night Live*) Fey's comedy comes off like a watered-down version of both—not as savage as the former nor as stylized as the latter. Perhaps the problem was shoehorning the story to appeal to the preteen audience of star Lindsay Lohan. She plays a 16-year-old who's been living in Africa with her zoologist parents and is now entering a conventional high school for the first time. She gets taken under the wing of the school's popular girls and soon becomes consumed by the vain, territorial teen princesses' wicked ways. While respectable (and respectful of its audience), Fey's anti-gossip, pro-sisterhood tale is long-winded and not all that funny. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Passion of the Christ ★½

What's more creepy—to watch one man beaten to a literal pulp for half of Mel Gibson's Jesus movie or to realize that the movie is more about Christ's scars than his teachings? It's a toss-up, but they're the sort of things that keep the movie from being genuinely dramatic (the cheesy slo-mo moments don't help, either). You have to admire Gibson as a producer for doing it his way—on his own nickel, in subtitled Aramaic and Latin—but as a director he gets little across except violence, right up to the money shot of blood squirting from Jesus' hands as they're nailed to the cross. If you're just an average moviegoer who can't quote scripture, but is just looking for a good story, this plodding ode to martyrdom was not made for you and has little to offer you. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)



From left: Amanda Seyfried, Rachel McAdams, Lacey Chabert and Lindsay Lohan in *Mean Girls*

Still, We Believe: The Boston Red Sox Movie ★★★

It's good to see the Red Sox get some attention—you hardly hear anything about those guys these days. Surprisingly, this documentary about the Sox' 2003 season manages not to be redundant, because it focuses on eight different fans, most of whom are pretty colorful. My favorites are Brockton realist Jermaine, inseparable East Boston diehards Erin and Jessamy and, last but not least, Watertown pessimist "Angry Bill." His mood swings (over the course of a game, an inning or even an at-bat) are priceless and are something with which every Sox fan can commiserate. There's a lot of pain going on, especially come Game Seven against the Yankees, but this is a pleasure to watch. (At Boston Common and suburbs.)

Walking Tall ★★

The Rock convincingly stands up and fights, but it's not surprising to learn that this "whack first, ask questions later" action movie is totally generic. After all, it remakes the much-sequelized 1973 original, yet changes the hero from the real-life Buford Pusser to the fictional Chris Vaughn, a soldier who returns to his Pacific Northwest hometown to find it overrun with crime. The hero's vigilante streak doesn't make my fist pump in the air, and maybe if the bad guys and the fight scenes had less slickness and more realism, this might have come across better. The Rock may be smart and likable, but his latest movie isn't. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Young Adam ★★

Could someone please make an NC-17 movie that has something more remarkable about it than being NC-17? In this drama set in 1950s Glasgow, Ewan McGregor plays a failed writer who thinks with his tally-whacker, an opportunistic seducer whose wandering heart leaves a trail of hurt and even death. Despite a gritty tone, an effective nonlinear time structure, yet another strong McGregor performance and a fine cast (also including Tilda Swinton, Emily Mortimer and Peter Mullan), this would-be indictment of masculine sexuality gets unintentionally comical, after yet another husband decides to leave his wife alone with McGregor's character for long stretches of time. It dulls the drama when sex-starved women literally drop into his lap, and credibility steadily oozes out of this, like air from a split balloon. (At Kendall Square and Waltham Embassy.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Jewish Women on the Screen

•May 17, 6 pm. **Kissing Jessica Stein** *2001*. After failing to find a good relationship with a man, a career woman explores a romantic relationship with a woman. Charles Herman-Wurmfeld directs.

•May 24, 6 pm. **Funny Girl** *1968*. Barbra Streisand stars as legendary comedian Fanny Brice in William Wyler's film.

Ninth Annual IberoAmerican Film Festival

•May 25, 6 pm. **Mujeres Apasionadas** *(Passionate Women) 2003*. Four longtime acquaintances are called together to study a mystery surrounding the death of a sculptor. Maureen Jimenez directs.

BRATTLE THEATRE

Mondays—Von Sternberg: Dietrich & Beyond

•May 17, 5:45, 9 pm. **Blonde Venus** *1932*. The wife of an ill chemist must return to her old job as a nightclub performer to earn extra money and eventually must choose between her job and her husband. •Also showing, 7:30 pm. **The Blue Angel** *1930*. A high school teacher confronts a sexy cabaret singer with whom his students are obsessed, and ends up falling in love.

•May 24, 5:30, 9:30 pm. **Morocco** *1930*. Gary Cooper and Marlene Dietrich star in this film about a cabaret singer. •Also showing, 7:30 pm. **Shanghai Express** *1932*. Passengers on a train from Peking to Shanghai are overtaken by rebels from the civil war in China.

Tuesdays—Sex & Death & God: Controversy on Screen

•May 18, 5, 7:30, 10 pm. **Natural Born Killers** *1994*. Woody Harrelson and Juliette Lewis star as serial killers who go on a gory spree. Oliver Stone directs.

•May 25, 5, 9:45 pm. **Tie Me Up! Tie Me Down!** *1990*. Antonio Banderas stars in this story of a young man who kidnaps a porn actress with whom he is obsessed, Pedro Almodovar directs. Also showing, 7 pm. **Henry & June** *1990*. Maria de Medeiros, Fred Ward and Uma Thurman star in this NC-17-rated film about the meeting of Anaïs Nin and Henry Miller in 1930s Paris. Philip Kaufman directs.

Wednesdays—Recent Raves

•May 12, 5:40 and 9:30 pm. **The Revolution Will Not Be Televised** *2003*. Kim Bartley and Donnacha O'Brien direct a documentary of Venezuelan president Hugo Chavez, filmed at the time of the 2002 Venezuelan coup. •Also showing, 7:30 pm. **The Fog of War** *2003*. Errol Morris directs this documentary on former secretary of defense William McNamara.

•May 19, 5:30, 7:30, and 9:30 pm. **Bubba Ho-Tep** *2002*. JFK and Elvis, alive and well in a retirement community, protect their fellow retirees from undead mummy Bubba Ho-Tep. Don Coscarelli directs.

Thursdays—Ozu, A Celebration

•May 13, 5:15 and 7:15 pm. **Good Morning** *1959*. When their parents refuse to buy them a television, two Japanese boys protest by refusing to speak. Yasujiro Ozu directs. •A showing, 9:30 pm. **Balloonhat** *200* A.G. Vermouth's documentary follo two Americans—a balloon artist an photographer—who have travel around the world taking photos of pe ple wearing balloon hats.

•May 20, 5 and 8 pm. **Early Spri** *1956*. A young office worker, feeli trapped by his predictable life, beg an affair with a coworker. Yasujiro O directs.

NYC Midnight Movie Making Madness Information Session

•May 22, 1 pm. Producers from N Midnight Movie Making Madness h an information session about their c test and screen films by former finali

Weekends—Special Engagement: Salvador Dali Centennial Tribute

•May 14, 8, 10 pm and May 15, 5: 7:30, 10 pm. **L'Age D'or** *1930*. S vador Dali and Luis Buñuel's Surrea film is a series of vignettes that ch lenged the political and religious tablishments of the time. •Imme ately following. **Un Chien Anda** *1929*. Salvador Dali and Luis Buñu first collaboration is a compilatio Surrealist images like hands cove with ants, a bound priest and bre morphing into buttocks.

•May 15, 12:30 and 3 pm; May 16 4:30, 7 and 9:30 pm. **Spellbound** *19* Dali collaborated on the dream quence in Alfred Hitchcock's film about an amne who poses as the head of a psychoanalysis institu

Weekends—Special Engagement: Local Premiere

•May 21-23, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm; Sat. and S matinee, 3:30 pm. **Big Animal** *2000*. A cou adopts a camel abandoned by a circus. Jerzy St directs.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Coolidge Award 2004: Zhang Yimo Retrospective

•May 17, 7:30 pm. **To Live** *1994*. The changing l of a married couple are chronicled over the cours four decades.

•May 23, 12 pm. **The Turandot Project**. This d mentary focuses on Zhang Yimou's productio Puccini's opera *Turandot*.

Coolidge Selects

•Now playing. **Super Size Me** *2003*. See review page 52.

•Now playing. **Power Trip** *2003*. See review page 52.

•Opens May 21. **Morlang** *2001*. An artist is hau by a message from his deceased wife in Tjebbo F ning's directorial debut.

•Opens May 21. **The Rage in Placid Lake** *20* Awkward teenager and social misfit Placid Lake to reinvent himself as a conservative insura agent after an accident puts him in the hosp Tony McNamara directs.

Midnight Movies—Cult Classics

•Through May 22, 12 am. Spike and Mike's S and Twisted Festival of Animation presents thi ries of warped cartoons, including **How to C With Death**, **Sickcom**, **Mama I'm a Thug** and **Big Abandoned Refrigerator Adventure.**

•May 15, 12 am. **Once Upon a Time in Chi** *1993*. Jet Li returns as do-gooding doctor Wong Hung in the third installation of Tsui Hark's seri

•May 22, 12 am. **Once Upon a Time in Chi** *1993*. Man Cheuk Chiu replaces Jet Li as Wong Hung, who this time battles a dangerous lion-d ing team in Yuen Bun's film.

FILM AT MIT

Anime Club Weekly Screenings

•May 14, 7 pm-12 am. Japanese anima selections screen.

Chicks Make Flicks

•May 12, 7 pm. **The Flute Player** *2003*. Filmm Jocelyn Glatzer presents a screening and discussi her documentary about the life and work of opera Arn Chorn-Pond.

FILMMAKERS OPEN STUDIOS

•May 12, Curry Student Center Ballr Northeastern University, 360 Huntington A Boston. 5-10 pm. Filmmakers Information N offers panels, workshops, seminars and a trade for people in the film and television industry. $

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From left: Gabby Soleil, Vanessa Williams, Solange Knowles, Bow Wow and Cedric the Entertainer in *Johnson Family Vacation*

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Beautiful Music: Michel Legrand on Film

•May 17, 9 pm. **Eine Liebe in Deutschland** *(A Love in Germany) 1983*. This film about the wartime love between a German shopkeeper and a Polish prisoner of war features music by Legrand. Andrzej Wajda directs. •May 18, 7 pm. **Les Misérables** *1995*. Director Claude Lelouch reworks the classic story into a modern tale of a retired boxer who transports a Jewish family across the France-Switzerland border during World War II and realizes the similarities between the book's characters and himself.

•May 19, 7 pm. **Le Joli Mai** *1963*. Chris Marker's film studies Paris and Parisians during the final month of the Algerian War and features a soundtrack by Legrand. •Also showing, 9 pm. **L'Amerique Insolite** *(America the Strange) 1958*. In this documentary, director Francois Reichenbach examines America's fascination with parades and pageantry.

•May 21, 9pm. **Les Demoiselles de Rochefort** *(The Young Girls of Rochefort) 1967* Director Jacques Demy pays tribute to the Hollywood musical in this film that follows twin girls in Paris as they search for love. •Also showing, 7 pm; May 22, 9 pm. **Les Parapluies de Cherbourg** *(The Umbrellas of Cherbourg) 1964*. Jacques Demy's legendary romance, shown in a remastered color print, features a celebrated score by Legrand. •Also showing May 21, 7 pm. **Lola** *1961*. Demy's film is the story of a lonely man who finds purpose in a woman named Lola, only to lose her to another lover.

•May 23, 7 pm. **Atlantic City** *1980*. Louis Malle's film about life in the shadow of Atlantic City casinos marks his transition to English-language films. •Also showing, 9 pm. **The Thomas Crown Affair** *1968*. Legrand was nominated for two Academy Awards for his musical contribution to Norman Jewison's classic bank-robber thriller.

•May 24, 9 pm. **Vérités et Mensonges** *(F for Fake) 1976*. In his last film, Orson Welles re-edits and draws from other directors' films to create a montage based on forgery.

•May 25, 7 pm. **Eva** *1962*. Joseph Losey's film depicts an author bored with success until he meets his equal in a woman who takes him on an emotional ride. •Also showing, 9 pm. **The Go-Between** *1970*. Joseph Losey tells the story of a forbidden love affair that defies the rules of the English class system.

Directors in Focus: Double Shinoda

•May 14, 8 pm. **Shinju Ten no Amijima** *(Double Suicide) 1969*.Director Masashiro Shinoda appears in person to present his film, based on an 18th- century puppet-theater drama, about a love affair between a wealthy businessman and a courtesan.

•May 16, 7 pm. **Spy Sorge** *2003*. Shinoda is present for this screening of his historical thriller about German newspaper correspondent and former World War II Russian spy Richard Sorge.

Masterworks of Modern Cinema

•May 17, 7 pm. **Ju Dou** *1990*. Directors Zhang Yimou and Yang Fengliang concoct an oedipal story of a young bride who falls in love with her husband's adopted nephew.

•May 24, 7 pm. **Zendegi va Digar Hich** *(And Life Goes On) 1991*. Director Abbas Kiarostami combines documentary and fiction for a film about the survivors of a deadly earthquake in Iran.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Art on Film

•May 13, 2 pm; May 15, 10:30 am; May 20, 4:15 pm. **La Ville Louvre** *(Louvre City) 1990*.Nicholas Philibert presents this behind-the-scenes look at the Paris art museum the Louvre.

Boston Gay & Lesbian Film/Video Festival

•May 12, 8 pm. **Touch of Pink** *2003*. A South Asian–Canadian struggles with his own fantasies of romance and old movies in London and his mother's traditional values. Ian Iqbal Rashid directs.

•May 13, 8 pm. **Goldfish Memory** *2003*. Liz Gill directs a story about singles in Dublin who unintentionally repeat the same dating mistakes

•May 14, 6 pm. **Radical Harmonies** *2002*. Dee Mosbacher's documentary follows the evolution and impact of women's music over the past 30 years. •Also showing, 8 pm. **Robin's Hood** *2003*. An African-American lesbian social worker and her French girlfriend become outlaws in this film based on the Robin Hood legend. Sara Millman directs.

•May 15, 3:45 pm. **Saints and Sinners** *2004*. Abigail Honor directs a documentary about two men who want to marry in their Catholic faith. • Also showing, 5:45 pm.**When Ocean Meets Sky** *2003*. Carson Kressley narrates this documentary of the 50-year history of the gay resort Fire Island Pines. Crayton Robey directs. • Also showing, 8 pm. **Rise Above: The Tribe 8 Documentary** *2003*.Tracy Flannigan documents the radical lesbian punk band Tribe 8 in a look into their personal lives, victories and tragedies as a controversial performing group.

•May 16, 12:30 pm and May 22, 10:30 am. **Tipping the Velvet** *2002*. Andre Davies directs this story about a woman who has a passionate lesbian love affair after she realizes she has an attraction to women. •Also showing, 5:15 pm. **Garden** *2003*.Israeli filmmakers Ruthie Shatz and Adi Barash document one year in the life of two outcasts who live in an area of Tel Aviv called the Garden.•Also showing, 7 pm. **Wild Side** *2003*.After running away to the city, transsexual Stephanie returns to her rural home to care for her dying mother. Sebastien Lifshitz directs.

•May 19, 8:15 pm. The program Men's Short Films includes David Andre Ward's **All Over Brazil** *2003*; Larry Lafond's **GayDar** *2003*; Georgina Lock's **Short, White, Pleated** *2001*; Q. Allan Brocka's **Seventy** *2003*; Matthew Fox's **Lucky Bugger** *2001*; Thomas Gustafson's **Fairies** *2003* and David Young's **Freud Slips** *2004*.

•May 20, 8 pm. **Cowboys and Angels** *2003*. David Gleeson directs this story of Shane, an office worker looking to reinvent himself as an artist with the help of his roommate.

•May 21, 6:30 pm. **No Secret Anymore: The Times of Del Martin & Phyllis Lyon** *2003*. This documentary captures the long-standing political struggles of the two lesbian partners in their work and their private relationship. Joan E. Biren directs. •Also showing May 21, 8 pm. The program Women's Short Films includes Neasa Hardiman's **Olive** *2003*; Colette Burson's **Little Black Boot** *2003*; Buboo Kakati's **The Nearly Unadventurous Life of Zoe Cadwaulder** *2003*; Mouncy Ferguson's **Straight Sex** *2003*; Hariette Yahr's **Baker's Men** *2002*; Aarin Burch's **Michigan Fever** *2004* and Eve Bregman's **After-School Delight** *2003*.

•May 22, 5 pm. **Don't You Worry, It Will Probably Pass** *2003*. Cecilia Neant-Falk's documentary follows three girls as they come to terms with their sexuality. •Also showing, 6:30 pm. **Father and Son** *2003*. Alexander Sokurov directs this portrait of a father-son relationship that is so close the men are mistaken for lovers. •Also showing, 8:15 pm. **Eating Out** *2004*. Q. Allen Brocka directs a comical story about a college man and woman and how they become involved with each other.

•May 23, 5:30 pm. **Put the Camera on Me** *2003*. Darren Stein and Adam Schell direct a documentary about Stein's childhood in the California suburbs. •Also showing May 23, 7 pm. **Straight-Jacket** *2004*. Richard Day directs a story.about a 1950s film star who marries his secretary to conceal his homosexuality.

Cinema Tropical

•May 16, 3:15 pm and May 20, 6 pm. **Bajo California: El Limite del Tiempo** *(Under California: The Limit of Time) 1998*. After accidentally killing a woman at the Mexico-California border and abandoning his pregnant wife, an artist travels back to his home of Baja, California. Carlos Balado directs.

•May 23, 3:30 pm. **Te Busco** *(I'm Looking for You) 2002*. This film recounts a young man's childhood memories of helping his grandfather seduce a beautiful singer. Ricardo Coral Dorado directs.

French Nouveaux Cineastes

•May 12, 6 pm; May 13, 4 pm; May 16, 10:30 am. **Ah! Si j'étais Riche** *(If I Were a Rich Man) 2002*.A man caught in the midst of his wife's infidelity suddenly wins the lottery and tries to hide his new fortune until he finalizes his divorce. Gerrard Bitton directs.

•May 19, 6 pm; May 20, 2 pm; May 23, 11 am. **Se Souvenir des Belles Choses** *(Try to Remember) 2002*. Zabou Breitman directs this story of a woman's experiences at a memory-loss clinic.

Pavel Juraeek: New Wave Master Rediscovered

•May 13, 6 pm. **Konec Sprna v Hotelu Ozon** *(End of August at the Hotel Ozone) 1966*.In a postnuclear world, an elderly woman leads eight young women in a search for men with whom to procreate. Jan Schmidt directs.

•May 15, 12:15 pm. **Postava k Podpirani** *(Joseph Killian) 1966*. Jan Schmidt and Pavel Juraeek's film depicts Stalinist bureaucracy when a man rents a tomcat from a pet store only to find that the store is closed the next day. A pseudo-documentary of Juraeek's creative process, entitled **Klie k Ureovani Trpasliku aneb Posledni Cesta Lemuela Gullivera** *(The Key for Defining Dwarves, or The Last Travel of Lemuel Gulliver)* follows.

•May 22, 3 pm. **Popad Prozaeinajiciho Kata** *(Case for a Rookie Hangman) 1969*. Pavel Juraeek directs this take on Jonathan Swift's *Gulliver's Travels*.

•May 23, 1:15 pm. **Kazdy Zalady Muz** *(Every Young Man) 1965*. Juraeek directs a military film in two segments. The first follows a young man to his military physical and the second portrays soldiers talking about girls.

Youth Film

•May 22, 2 pm. **Animated Artifacts** *2004*. Inspired by objects in the MFA's collection, city youths and Karen Aqua worked together to create this animated short.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater

•Through May 27. **Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West**. Trek through raging rivers and uncharted wilderness to commemorate the bicentennial of the explorers' journey, brought to life by National Geographic Films. *Call for show times.*

•Through May 27. **India: Kingdom of the Tiger**. Explore the kingdom of the Bengal tiger, from the Himalayas to Rajasthan. *Call for show times.*

•Through June 12. **Jane Goodall's Wild Chimpanzees**. Travel to Africa's Gombe Stream National Park with Goodall for close encounters of the p mate kind. *Call for show times.*

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater

•Through June 18. **Bugs! 3D**. This film focuses the world of insects in the tropical rain forests Southeast Asia. See bugs magnified up to 250,0 times their normal size. *Call for show times.*

•Through June 18. **Ghosts of the Abyss**. Direc James Cameron takes audiences two miles bene the sea's surface to explore the wreckage of the tanic. *Call for show times.*

•Through June 18. **Ocean Wonderland 3D**. T film explores the ocean floor of the Bahamas a Australia's Great Barrier Reef, with their shar sting rays and rainbows of tropical fish. *Call show times.*

•Through June 18. **Volcanoes of the Deep S** Dive to the bottom of the sea with a team of sci tists, as they explore hydrothermal vents, sh wrecked gardens, predators and bioluminesce creatures. *Call for show times.*

Cinema Venues

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Studio Cinema

376 Trapelo Road. (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Public Library

666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Gre Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)

100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBT Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre

201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common

175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Gre Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science

Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Lin Science Park.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Lin Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema

399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line Reservoir.

Coolidge Corner Theatre

290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Gr Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre

40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.

Harvard Film Archive

24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema

One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: T Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews Fresh Pond

168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBT Red Line to Alewife.

Loews Harvard Square

10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Lin Harvard.

MIT

77 Mass. Ave, Room 4-370. MBTA: Red Line Kendall.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema

27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Gr Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema

1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony

35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Ora Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Museum

1 Westwood Road. (617-666-9810).

Somerville Theatre

55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Li Davis.

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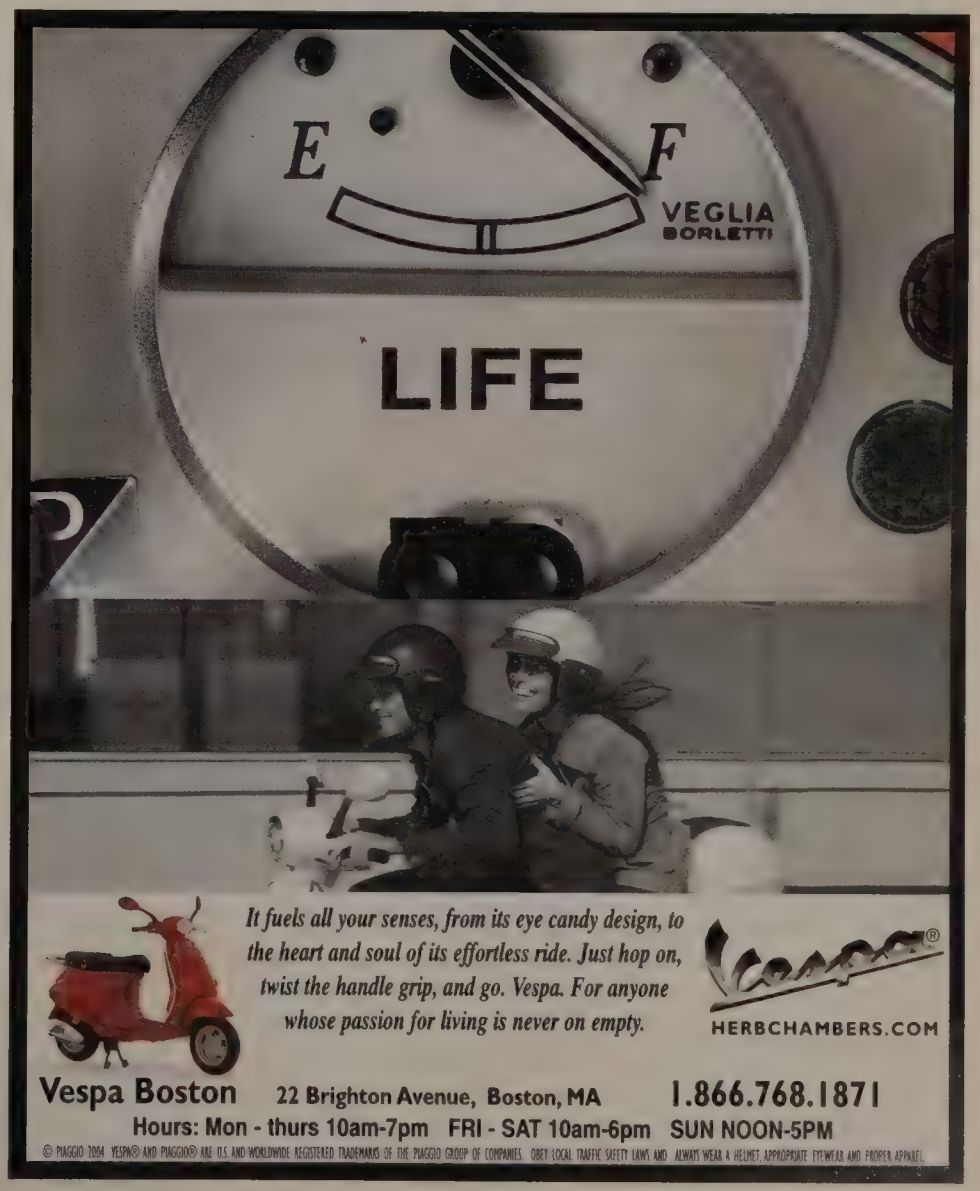
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High Concept, Lower Case

The Magnetic Fields condense pop songs from many forms

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

When Stephin Merritt, a onetime Bostonian and the mastermind of the Magnetic Fields, says he grew up in "33 houses in 23 years," it sounds like a good concept for an album. But, he's quick to add, "It wasn't my idea."

Merritt has enough of his own ideas for concept albums. The key stroke was the Magnetic Fields' opus, 69 *Love Songs*, one of 1999's most critically acclaimed releases. That three-disc set surpassed 130,000 in sales (more than the band's five previous CDs combined) and cast the thirtysomething New York transplant as the Cole Porter of his generation.



Stephin Merritt (second from left) and the Magnetic Fields play May 22 and 23.

"It was obvious from the moment that I thought of 69 *Love Songs* that it was going to be successful," he says of that witty, whimsical set of 69 songs that ranged from cabaret to country to synth-pop and most everything in between. "[Success] was the point, artistically and commercially.

"It took me a long time to figure out how to follow 69 *Love Songs*," Merritt admits. But five years later, there's *i*, a new Magnetic Fields CD whose song titles all begin with the ninth letter of the alphabet.

"For 69 *Love Songs*, I very much started out with a concept," Merritt says from his Manhattan apartment. "But for *i*, I was in the middle of making the album before the concept of the album actually occurred to me."

"More than half the songs began with the letter *i*, so I decided to make that an asset rather than a liability, and ran with it," he says. "The idea of *i* is more like a parody of the idea of 69 *Love Songs*, an even more arbitrary theme. Love songs are two-thirds of songs anyway, and probably a quarter of all songs in English begin with *I*."

The CD ranges from the opening minuet "I Die" to the Cure/Human League-like "I Thought You Were My Boyfriend," the sly "I Wish I Had an Evil Twin" (with the delicious couplet "My evil twin would lie and steal, and he would stink of sex appeal") and the harpsichord-laced "In an Operetta." And despite the disc's extensive use of first person (along with if, is, in and it's), the openly gay songwriter says, "It's not personal at all."

Overall, the new disc sounds more low-key and downbeat than 69 *Love Songs*, due in part to the focus on Merritt's deep, melancholy vocals. However, he adds, "I'm singing in a higher octave than ever before, so I'm trying for that commercial chihuahua voice"—a seeming reference to today's vapid pop competition as well as his pet dog Irving (named after Irving Berlin).

In contrast to 69 *Love Songs*, which featured additional singers and players, Merritt supports his voice on *i* with the core Magnetic Fields lineup of Claudia Gonson on piano and drums, Sam Davol on cello and John Woo on banjo and guitar, plus the singer's own quixotic instrumentation.

"I have a hundred some-odd instruments, but I ended up using a pretty limited palette," Merritt says. "I decided to only use instruments that I could play well. So in my case, that's pretty much ukelele, marimba and harmonium."

The quartet plans to keep things stripped down for a tour that hits Berklee Performance Center May 22 and 23, featuring about two-thirds of *i*, a fraction of 69 *Love Songs* and probably a song each from the band's other records. For one thing, there'll be no live drums. "I have hearing damage and can't actually stand around playing guitar in front of drum kits anymore," says Merritt, who isn't fond of playing concerts anyway.

He has plenty of other things to keep him busy, starting with three offshoot bands: the 6ths (which features guest vocalists), the bubbleglum Gothic Archies and Future Bible Heroes, an electro-pop outfit whose latest record influenced the acoustic direction of *i*. "[That] was entirely synthetic," he says, "and I wanted to swing the other way."

In the five years since 69 *Love Songs*, Merritt has also worked with theater director Shi-Zheng Chen on two Chinese operas ("I don't like Western opera," the singer says) and scored the soundtrack to the film *Pieces of April*.

As for the concept of "33 houses in 23 years," Merritt can thank his mother, with whom he lived throughout the Northeast. She played guitar and fueled her son's musical acumen, which paid off in 1989 when he cultivated the Magnetic Fields in Boston, before moving to New York in 1993.

"When I was 14," Merritt says, "she said, 'I don't care what you do with your life. I just want you to be happy, with the single exception that I want you to promise me that you're never going to try and be a professional musician.' I said, 'Sure, why would I want to be a professional musician?'"

And today? "Now she's very enthusiastic about it." iB

The Magnetic Fields
play Berklee Performance Center May 22 and 23.

Advice to Contributors
Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, o email to music@improper.com. Include dates, tir prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadlin four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not cepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers
Information for the Music section is compiled from ferent sources. Although we make every effort to pro accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call a to double-check dates and times (see complete li venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

David Byrne May 20, Berklee Performance Ce (617-931-2000).
Emergenza Festival May 20-23, Paradise Rock C (617-423-NEXT).
Ginuwine, Jagged Edge, Avant and Joe May FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Zakir Hussain & Masters of Indian Percussion 14, Sanders Theatre (617-876-4275).
Eileen Ivers & Immigrant Soul May 22, Somer Theatre (617-876-4275).
Gary Jules May 18, Paradise Rock Club (617- NEXT).
KISS Concert 2004 May 22, Tweeter Center (931-2000).
Sondre Lerche May 12, Paradise Rock Club (423-NEXT).
Magnetic Fields May 22 and 23, Berklee Pe mance Center (617-931-2000).
Mission of Burma, the Dresden Dolls and burned Hand of the Man May 22, Avalon (423-NEXT).
Jason Mraz May 20, Orpheum Theatre (617- 2000).
Piebald, the Jealous Sound, the Format and A One Thing May 23, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Willy Porter and Angie Aparo May 20, Club Pa (617-492-7679).
Rjd2, Diverse and Automato May 15, Paradise (617-423-NEXT).
The Strokes and the Stills May 15, Orpheum atre (617-931-2000).
Von Bondies, WBCN Rumble Finals May 20, dle East (617-931-2000).
Andrew WK, the Locust and No Motiv May 21 Matrix (617-931-2000).
Zero 7 May 22, Axis (617-423-NEXT).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12

Berklee Performance Center Michael B $35.50.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Breezeway Jeff Felder, 7:30-10:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's blues jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Hanneke Cassel CD-release sh pm, $14.
Hennessy's Me & Julio, no cover, 21+.
Johnny D's Red Stick Ramblers, 8:30 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown Michael Larson, no cover
Middle East Upstairs: Willard Grant Conspi Decibully, Certainly Sir, Volcano and I'm Sti cited, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Paradise Sondre Lerche, 8 pm, $12 advance day of show, 18+. Lounge: the Bravery, 9 p over 21, $5 under 21, 18+.
Regattabar The Issi Rosen Quartet, 8:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Caraher Funkatronic, 9-10:3 Less Deluxe Trio, 10:20 pm-12 am, $7.
Scullers Suede, 8 and 10 pm, $20 show; $58 d and show.
Tír na nÓg Jimmy Ryan.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm-12:3
T.T. the Bear's Place 50 Foot Wave, feat Kristin Hersh of Throwing Muses, and the Scale, 9 pm, $12.
The Western Front Andrew Fenion Ensemble.
ZuZu The Eilen Jewell Band.

THURSDAY, MAY 13

Abbey Lounge Gone Baby Gone, 11:30 pm.
Bill's Bar September Twilight, Cade and Inv $10 (18+), $8 (21+).
The Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's N'Decision, 7 pm.
Breezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30-10:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge New Day, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Christine Kane CD-release show Beat Williams and Jean Synodinos, 8 pm, $12.

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Harper's Ferry Woody's Last Dance, benefit for Greyhound Friends with Entrain and Another Planet, $20, 21+.
Hennessy's Shot Gun Bandits, no cover, 21+.
Johnny D's Porch Rockers, 5 Helena, 9 pm.
Kinsale Stretch.
Middle East Downstairs: Weapons of Mic Destruction Tour with M.O.P., Pharoahe Monch and Scratch, 8 pm, $25, 18+.
Paradise Lounge: Brendon Thomas CD-release show, 7 pm, $5, 18+.
Plough and Stars Muddy River Rounders.
Regattabar Jack Donahue, 8:30 pm, $16.
Ryles Jazz Club Dave Osoff and Mosaic and Vykki Vox Band, 9 pm-12 am, $7.
Scullers Dee Dee Bridgewater, 8 and 10 pm, $22 (show), $60 (dinner and show).
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Nikki Sudden, Three Electric Bastards, the Scheme, Stephen Brodsky and Brett Rosenberg, 9 pm, $10.
The Western Front Reggae and R&B Party, 9 pm, $5.
Zeitgeist Gallery Evil Otto, Prana Trio, 7-9 pm, $7; Mr. Lucky, 9:30-11:30 pm, $8.
ZuZu The Blind King.

FRIDAY, MAY 14

Abbey Lounge The Itchies, 11:45 pm.
The Attic Jiggle the Handle.
Berklee Performance Center Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts, 7:30 pm.
The Big Easy Syndicate.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Sunday's Well; Downstairs: Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Joan Watson-Jones, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Pamela Means, 8 pm, $15.
FleetBoston Pavilion Ginuwine, Jagged Edge, Avant and Joe, 7:30 pm, $50.75-65.75, all ages.
The Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos & the No Way Jose Band.
The Good Life Downtown Weepin Willie, 7:30 pm.
Grand Canal Magnus, $5.
The Green Briar Random Axis.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Hootchies, $5.
The Harp The Zoo.
Harper's Ferry Max Creek, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Me & Julio, 5-7:30 pm; Spike the Punch, $5.
Johnny D's Paula Kelly, 9:45 pm.
Matrix Blue Print, Eyedea and Abilities.
Middle East Upstairs: Damn Personals, the Unbusted and Dust Buffalo, 9 pm, $8, 18+. Downstairs: WBCN Rumble Semifinals, 8 pm, $9, 18+.
Milky Way Nikulydin, Amun Ra, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Inchicore, $5.
Paradise Jump Little Children and the Features, 9 pm, $15, 18+. Lounge: Lloyd Cole with Dave Darby, 8 pm, $15, 21+.
Parris Loud Mouth, 10 pm, $5 before 9 pm, $10 after 9 pm.
Plough and Stars Eilen Jewell Band, 6-8:30 pm; Los Diablos, 9:30 pm-12:45 am.
Regent Theatre A Night at the Rock Opera, 8 pm.
Regattabar Roomful of Blues, 7:30 and 10 pm, $18.
Ryles Jazz Club Black Sea Salsa Band, 9:30 pm-1 am, $10.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Christina Aguilera and Chingy June 18, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000) .
Allman Brothers Band and Los Lonely Boys Aug. 21, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Barenaked Ladies and Alanis Morrissette Aug. 9, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Blink 182 and No Doubt June 8, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Chicago and Earth, Wind and Fire June 30, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Eric Clapton July 3 and 4, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Johnny Clegg July 8, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).
Harry Connick Jr June 30, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Cowboy Junkies and Shawn Colvin July 7, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
The Dead and Warren Haynes July 30 and 31, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Deep Purple, Joe Satriani and Thin Lizzy Aug. 14, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Dido June 19, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Disco Mania with KC & the Sunshine Band, the Village People, Martha Wash, Evelyn "Champagne" King and the Trammps June 8, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Five for Fighting and Glen Phillips June 13, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Fleetwood Mac May 28, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Franz Ferdinand June 16, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Great High Mountain Tour with Alison Krauss & Union Station, Jerry Douglas, Ralph Stanley, the Whites, the Cox Family and more May 31, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Josh Groban July 27, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Indigo Girls June 11, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Angelique Kidjo and Femi Kuti June 25, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Kiss and Poison July 16, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Kottonmouth Kings June 9, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Diana Krall June 22, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Linkin Park July 29, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Dave Matthews Band July 6 and 7, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
John Mayer, Maroon 5 and DJ Logic Aug. 20, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Moe and Galactic June 4, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
The Moody Blues June 25, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Alexi Murdoch and Teitur April 28, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Matt Nathanson June 11, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Willie Nelson June 17, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Ozzfest with Ozzy Osbourne, Judas Priest, Slayer and Slipknot July 12, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Primus June 23, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Britney Spears June 23, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Rod Stewart July 20, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Sting and Annie Lennox June 28 and 29, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
311, the Roots and Medeski, Martin & Wood July 23, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
The Thrills May 28, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Glenn Tilbrook May 27, Paradise Rock Cub (617-423-NEXT).



Sucka Brown plays downstairs at the Middle East May 22 with String Theory, Savin Hill and Pure Fiction

Sanders Theatre Zakir Hussain and Masters of dian Percussion, 8 pm, $25-$45.
Scullers Dee Dee Bridgewater, 8 and 10:30 p show $22; dinner and show $60.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway with the B Nieske Group, 9 pm-1 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place eX-Girl, Skeleton Key, Faux and Slick Pig, 9:15 pm, $10.
The Western Front Reggae and R&B Showcas pm, $5.
Zeitgeist Gallery Peter Eldridge, Dave Brophy, pm, $10; Whimsy, 10 pm-12:30 am, $5.
ZuZu Latin with Gian Carlo Buscaglia, no cover

SATURDAY, MAY 15

Abbey Lounge Collisions 8:30 pm; Scrapple, 9 p Chandler Travis, 9:45 pm; Plastic Cheese, 10:45 p Polka Party, 11:45 pm.
The Big Easy Joe Rockstar.
The Black Rose Happy Hour: Tom Carroll; Upsta Sunday's Well; Downstairs: Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's The BlackSole Network, 7:30 pm
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thriller pm, 21+.
Club Passim Kevin So, 8 pm, $15.
The Good Life Cambridge Weepin Willie.
The Good Life Downtown Jim Porcella Trio.
Grand Canal Ego System, $5.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johns $5.
The Harp The Zoo.
Harper's Ferry Spookie Daly Pride and Logan, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, no cover, 21+.
Johnny D's Evan Goodrow Band, 9:45 pm.
Kinsale Tenaments.
Middle East Upstairs: Oneside, Spacecake, Kie Ridge Band and December Sound, 9 pm, Downstairs: WBCN Rumble Semifinals, 8 pm, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Inchicore, $5.
O'Brien's Nancy Mroczek, 12 am.
The Orpheum The Strokes and the Stills, 8 $27.50, all ages.
Paradise Rjd2, Diverse and Automato, 9 pm, 18+. Lounge: Lloyd Cole with Dave Darby, 8 $15, 21+.
Parris Central Basement, 10 pm, $5 before 9 $10 after 9 pm.
Plough and Stars Bag Boys, 5-7:30 pm; Pa Country 9:30 pm-12:45 am.
Purple Shamrock Brick Park
Regattabar Tiger's Baku, 7:30 and 10 pm, $14.
Ryles Jazz Club Boston Horns, 9:30 pm-1 $10.
Somerville Theatre Eileen Ivers & Immigrant S 8 pm, $26.50-$29.50.
Tír na nÓg Kevin Connelly.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway with the Nieske Group, 9 pm-1 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Loveless, Baby Strange Knee-Hi's and Superlow, $8.
The Western Front Reincarnation, 9 pm, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Cellopallooza, 9:30 pm-12 $10.
ZuZu Soul Le Lu Jah.

SUNDAY, MAY 16

Avalon Queer as Folk—The Future of Babylon T
The Black Rose Happy Hour: Tom Carroll; Do stairs: Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Nick Goomi am-2:30 pm.
Breezeway John Kordaleski, 11 am-3 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Passim Campfire Preview with Julie Rosen Chris O'Brien, Kate Klim and Bridget Matros pm, $10.
The Green Briar Inchicore & Finbar Doyle.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, no cover, 21+.
Johnny D's Jazz Brunch with Ridgley Snow, 2:30 pm.
Kinsale Frank Ryan.
Middle East Upstairs: the Briefs, the Real Mc zies, the Sleazies, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Paradise Josh Kelley, Toby Lightman, 8 pm, 18+.
Plough and Stars Jordan Carp, 5-7:30 pm; C tones, 9:30 pm-12:45 am.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz brunch with Yoko Miw am-3 pm.
Scullers John Pizzarelli and Bossa Nova, 7 and $35 (show); $73 (dinner and show).
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Top of the Hub Bourbon Street Paraders, 12 pm; Paul Schemling Trio, 8 pm-12 am
T.T. the Bear's Place Scissor Sisters, 10:30 pm,
Zeitgeist Gallery Fernando Huergo's Jinga Qui 3:30-5 pm, $10; Jorge Perez Trio, 7:30-9:30 pm,


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MONDAY, MAY 17

The Black Rose Tony O'Riordian.
Cantab Lounge Singer Songwriter Open Mike, 8 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Arabesque, 8pm, $12.
Hennessy's Joe Carson, no cover, 21+.
Johnny D's Raycharles Lamontagne, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.
Kinsale Houghie Purcell.
Middle East Upstairs: Overkill River, the Stairs, Shearwater, the Nightlights, 9 pm, $8, 18+; Downstairs: Supersuckers, 8 pm, $12, 18+.
Paradise Metric, 8 pm, $10, 18+. Lounge: the Click with Guests, 8 pm, $5 under 21, free over 21, 18+.
Plough and Stars Beek and Rhodes & Jefferies.
Ryles Jazz Club Turkish Jazz Project, 8:30 pm, $10.
Tír na nÓg The Coots.
Top of the Hub Paul Schmeling Trio, 8 pm-12 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Shannon Wright, Thalia Zedek, Isle of Citadel, $8.
Zeitgeist Gallery Red Door Exchange, 7:30-9:30 pm, $7; The Fringe, 10 pm-12:30 am, $10.
ZuZu The Unhappy Hour with Phil Aiken, Hilken Mancini and Chris Colbourn.

TUESDAY, MAY 18

The Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm, 21+. Manhattan Hand-Off, 10 pm.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, no cover, 21+.
Johnny D's Wright-Weiss, 8:30 pm, $8.
Kinsale Tom Courtney.
Middle East Upstairs: Zagnutt, the Whatnot, Stray Allusions and the Midnight Collective, 9 pm, $8 (18+), $6 (21+).
Paradise Gary Jules, 8 pm, $10-$12, 18+. Lounge: the Candy Butchers, 8 pm, $8, 18+.
Plough and Stars Michael Tarbox.
Ryles Jazz Club New York Nights with the Dekel Bor Trio, 9 pm-12 am, $7.
Scullers Miguel Zenon, 8 and 10 pm, $16 (show), $54 (dinner and show).
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
Top of the Hub Aaron Burnett Group, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
ZuZu Ziaf, an Edith Piaf Tribute.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

Abbey Lounge Red Chord, $5.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Breezeway Lenny Stalworth and the Funk Mob, 7:30-10:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's blues jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Willy Porter and Angie Aparo, 7 and 10 pm, $20.
Hennessy's Me & Julio, no cover, 21+.
Johnny D's Not Your Average Folk.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Deathray Davies and Señor Happy, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Paradise Evan and Jaron and Mieka Pauley, 8 pm, $13-$15, 18+.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble.
Regattabar The Greg Burke Quartet with Jerry Bergonzi, 8:30 pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club The Boston Latin Project, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Miles Donahue, 8 and 10 pm, show $20; dinner and show $58.
Tír na nÓg Mayone Thing.
Top of the Hub Aaron Burnett Group, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Tim Easton, the Kickbacks and Rosavelt, 9:10 pm, $8.
The Western Front New England Conservatory jazz, 9 pm.
Zeitgeist Gallery Sonho Meu, 7-9 pm, $8; Katt Hernandez, Jay Sullivan, Nmperron and Lindy's Radio, 9:30 pm-12:30 am, $8.
ZuZu The Eilen Jewell Band.

THURSDAY, MAY 20

Berklee Performance Center David Byrne, 7:30 pm, $34.50.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Ray Greene and Innervisions, 7 pm.
Breezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30-10:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge New Day, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Willy Porter and Angie Aparo, 7 and 10 pm, $20.
Harper's Ferry The Blue Dogs and the Navigators, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Shot Gun Bandits, no cover, 21+.
Johnny D's Vernon Reid & Masque, 9 pm, $16.
Kinsale Stretch.
Matrix Life of Agony.
Middle East Upstairs: Exhumed, Uphill Battle, Watchmaker and Leukorrhea, 9 pm, $12, 18+.



Reunited Boston favorites Mission of Burma play Avalon Saturday, May 22

WBCN Rumble Finals and the Von Bondies, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
The Orpheum Jason Mraz, 8 pm, $28.50-$32.50.
Paradise Emergenza Festival, 8 pm, $15 in advance, $18 day of show, 18+. Lounge: Steve Poltz, 5 pm, $12 in advance, $15 day of show, 18+.
Plough and Stars Starhick & Zipper.
Regattabar The Katie Viqueira Group, 8:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Ellen O'Brien, 9 pm-12 am, $10.
Scullers Poncho Sanchez, 8 and 10 pm, show $20; dinner and show $58.
Sky Bar Mindfield, 9 pm; One of Us, 10 pm; Fluttr, 11 pm. $6, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Top of the Hub Aaron Burnett Group, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Kids in Need Benefit and Black Helicopter, Victory at Sea, Thalia Zedek, Seekonk, Valerie Forgione and Ninety in Ninety, 8:30 pm, $10 in advance, $12 day of show.
The Western Front SoulKore presents Reggae, R&B, and Poetry Showcase, 9 pm, $5.
Zeitgeist Gallery Evil Otto, 7 pm.
ZuZu The Blind King.

FRIDAY, MAY 21

The Attic Ten Shekel Shirt with Two Finger Split.
Avalon Way Out West.
The Big Easy The Swinging Johnsons.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Curraghs Fancy; Downstairs: Eugene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Jazz Quartet, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Steve Forbert, Steve Earle and Mark Stuart, 8 pm, $20.
The Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the No Way Jose Band.
The Good Life Downtown Weepin' Willie, 7:30 pm.
Grand Canal Audio Underground, $5.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scooby Snax, $5.
The Harp Peatmoss and the Fertilizers.
Hennessy's Me & Julio, 5-7:30 pm; Incadence, $5.
Johnny D's Wildest Dreams.
The Kowloon Restaurant Sopranos, $42.
Matrix Andrew WK, the Locust and No Motiv, 6 pm, $16 in advance, $18 day of show.
Middle East Downstairs: State Radio, the Lost Trailers and Sand Machine, 8 pm, $10 in advance, $12 day of show, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy and Tony, $5.
Paradise Emergenza Festival, 8 pm, $15 in advance, $18 day of show, 18+. Lounge: David Reilly with Living Syndication, 8 pm, $8 in advance, $10 day of show, 21+.
Parris Speed, 10 pm, $5 before 9 pm, $10 after 9 pm.
Plough and Stars Steff Mahan, 6-8:30 pm; Jumpin' Juba, 9:30 pm-12:45 am.
Regattabar The Duke Robillard Band, 7:30 and 10 pm, $14.
Ryles Jazz Club Mimi Fox Trio, 9:30 pm-1 am, $10.
Sanders Theatre Mystic Chorale's Coming Together and Silver Leaf Gospel Singers, 8 pm, $12-$16.
Scullers Poncho Sanchez, 8 and 10:30 pm, $22 (show), $60 (dinner and show).
Top of the Hub Aaron Burnett Group, 9 pm-1 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Lost City Angels, the Call Up, Six Gun Radio and the Hidden, 9:15 pm, $8.
The Western Front MDH hip-hop showcase, 9 pm, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Micah Blue Smaldone and Death Vessel, 7-9 pm, $8; David Maxwell's Outtakes Unlimited, 9:30 pm-12:30 am, $10.
ZuZu Latin Night with Gian Carlo Buscaglia.

SATURDAY, MAY 22

Avalon Mission of Burma, Dresden Dolls and Sunburned Hand of the Man, 6 pm, $25.25, all ages.
Axis Zero 7, 6 pm, $15, 18+.
Berklee Performance Center Magnetic Fields, 8 pm, $17-$25.
The Big Easy Bob's Day Off.
The Black Rose Happy Hour: Bobby Folkes; Upstairs: Curraghs Fancy; Downstairs: Eugene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Les Sampou, Danya River, 8 pm, $15.
The Good Life Cambridge Weepin' Willie.
The Good Life Downtown Jim Porcella Trio.
Grand Canal Dick "n Jane, $5.
The Green Briar Inchicore.
The Green Dragon Tavern Bald Walter, $5.
The Harp Peatmoss and the Fertilizers.
Harper's Ferry The West Coast Jam Invasion, Tea Leaf Green and New Monsoon, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, no cover, 21+.
Johnny D's Flynn.
Kinsale Brick Park.
Kirkland Café John Macey and the Score, the M shalls and City of Roses.
Middle East Upstairs: Jake Zavracky and the nade Valentine, Alphatide, Surefire and Every Visuals, 9 pm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Sucka Bro String Theory, Savin Hill and Pure Fiction, 8 $10, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy and Tony, $5.
Paradise Emergenza Festival, 8 pm, $15 in adva $18 day of show, 18+. Lounge: Chords and course, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Parris Speed, 10 pm, $5 before 9 pm, $10 after 9
Plough and Stars Bag Boys, 5-7:30 pm; One T Dime, 9:30 pm-12:45 am.
Purple Shamrock American Made.
Regattabar Annie Royer: Cabaret de Paris, and 10 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Shelley Neill, 9:30 pm-1 am, $1
Sanders Theatre Mystic Chorale's Coming gether with Silver Leaf Gospel Singers, 8 pm, $16.
Scullers Jimmy Scott, 8 and 10:30 pm, show dinner and show $63.
Somerville Theatre Somerville Struts, 8 pm, $18.
Tír na nÓg Los Diablos.
Top of the Hub Aaron Burnett Group, 9 pm-1 a
T.T. the Bear's Place Acid Mothers Temple, Arachnoid Space, Broken River Prophet, 9:15 $10 in advance, $12 day of show.
Tweeter Center KISS Concert 2004 with Ma 5, Jessica Simpson, Avril Lavigne, David Corey, for Fighting, J.C. Chasez, Liz Phair, Ja Rule, Paul and more, 12 pm, $65-$200.
The Western Front Hot Like Fire, 9 pm, $10.
Zeitgeist Tom Luther, Gabriel Guerrero, and lung Trio, 9:30pm-12 am, $10.
ZuZu Ready Steady Go Go, no cover.

SUNDAY, MAY 23

Avalon Piebald CD-release show, the Jealous So the Format and Avoid One Thing, 6 pm, $12.7 ages.
Axis Punks vs. Psychos with the Business, Nekromantix, Roger Miret & the Disasters Horropop, 6:30 pm, $13, all ages.
Berklee Performance Center Magnetic Fiel pm, $17-$25.
The Black Rose Happy Hour: Bobby Folkes; D stairs: Eugene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Maggie Ros am-2:30 pm.
Breezeway Tony Vaughn Quartet, 11 am-3 pm
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim The Wholesale Klezmer Band, $15.
The Green Briar Inchicore and Finbar Doyle.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, 9 pm, no cover, 2
Johnny D's Jazz Brunch with Matt Dorko and Kukers.
Kinsale Christy O'Connell.
Middle East Upstairs: Riverboat Gamblers, the vels and Turbo AC's, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Paradise Emergenza Festival, 8 pm, $15 in adv $18 day of show, 18+.
Plough and Stars Tom Hagerty, 5-7:30 pm; C men, 9:30 pm-12:45 am.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz brunch with Patricia Adan am-3 pm.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.
Top of the Hub Bourbon Street Paraders, 12-
Greg Abate Trio, 8 pm-12 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Kimone and Action Sl $7.
Zeitgeist Gallery Sofia Koustovitis Quartet, 7- $7; James Ilgenfritz Anagram Ensemble, 9:30 p am, $7.
ZuZu The Alrighters.

MONDAY, MAY 24

The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Cantab Lounge Singer Songwriter open mike, 21+.
Club Passim Falcon Ridge Preview Tour with J Foucault, Terence Martin, George Wurzbach Carla Ulbrich, 8 pm, $12.
Hennessy's Joe Carson, no cover, 21+.
Kinsale Eamon Sheehan.
Middle East Upstairs: Presley, Anushka Pop, $8, 18+.
Paradise Lounge: Helvete, 9 pm, $3 under 21 over 21, 18+.
Plough and Stars Josh Lederman.
Tír na nÓg The Coots.
Top of the Hub Greg Ababte Trio, 8 pm-12 am
T.T. the Bear's Place Telefon Tel Aviv, Matt Dunaway, 10:45 pm, $8.
Zeitgeist Gallery 3 Play, 7-9 pm, $7; the Frin pm; 12:30 am, $10.

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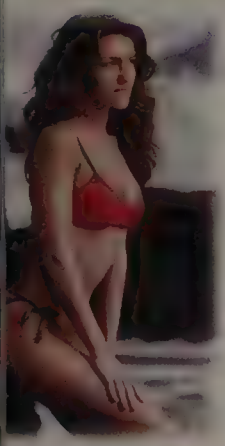


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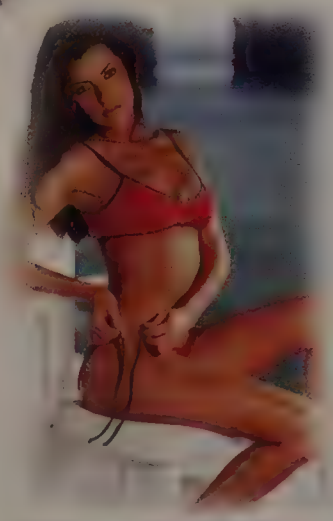
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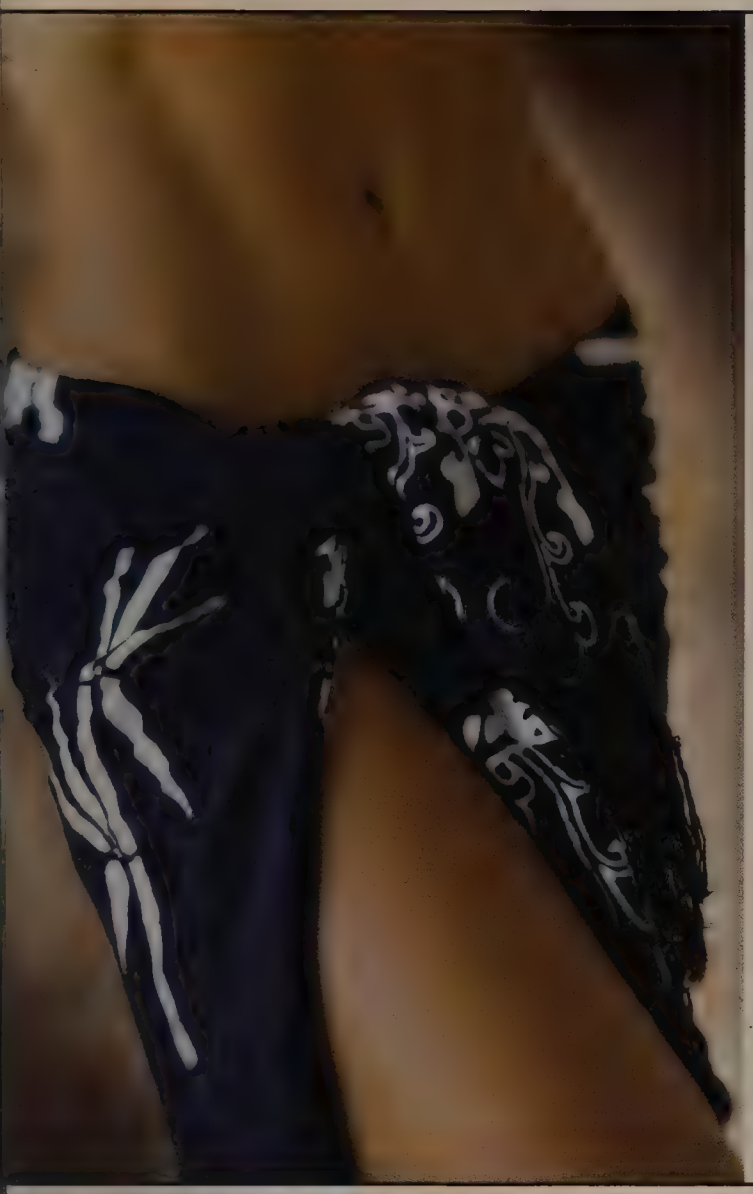
ZuZu A Rock and Roll Wine Dinner with Jay Allen.

TUESDAY, MAY 25

The Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Cantab Lounge Bluesgrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm, 21+. Old School Freight Train, 10 pm.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, no cover, 21+.
Johnny D's Joel Henry, Evan Fitzsimmons, Aram Arslanian and Janet Robin, 8:30 pm.
Kinsale Tom Courtney.
Paradise Eric Johnson, 7 pm, 18+. Lounge: Bacci with School for the Dead, 8 pm, $5, 18+.
Plough and Stars Michael Tarbox.
Ryles Jazz Club Dan Moretti with Oscar Stagnaro, 9 pm-12 am, $8.
Scullers The Frank and Joe Show, 8 and 10 pm, $15 (show), $53 (dinner and show).
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Alchemilla, the Capsules, Din and Words for Snow, 9 pm, $6.
Zeitgeist Gallery Marcin Marecki Trio, 7-9 pm, $8.
ZuZu Ziaf, An Edith Piaf Tribute.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2*
MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Cen
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-3*
4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (61*
743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston*
(617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-5*
5400).
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-*
6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61*
354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.
Choppin' Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (6*
734-4177). MBTA: Green Line to Brigham Circ
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-49*
7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (6*
783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard
Cottonwood Café *222 Berkeley St., Boston (61*
247-2225). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston*
(617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prud
Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Boston*
(617-350-9977). MBTA: Blue Line to State.
Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-3*
7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.
First and Second Church *66 Marborough St., B*
(617-267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Bo*
(617-728-1600). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston*
624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station
Forsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetary, 95 Fore*
Ave., Boston (617-524-3354)
Gillette Stadium *One Patriot Place, Foxborough*
(800-543-1776).
The Good Life Cambridge *720 Mass. Ave., C*
bridge (617-868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Ce
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Bo*
(617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to
Street.
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1*
MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.



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Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Julien Bar *250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (617-267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Murphy's Law *837 Summer St., South Boston (617-269-6667).*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
P.A.'s Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regent Theater *7 Medford St., Arlington (781-646-4849).*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Washington Square Tavern *714 Washington St., Brookline (617-232-8989). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *474 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-638-9280). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $19-$69. Keith Lockhart conducts the Boston Pops in *By George!*, a performance in honor of George Gershwin featuring the songs "An American in Paris" and "I Got Rhythm."

THURSDAY, MAY 13

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-638-9280). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $19-$69. Same program as May 12.

Longy Annual Honors Concert
Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956).www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. The winners of the Longy School of Music's honors competition perform solo and chamber pieces.

MIT Symphony Orchestra
Kresge Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-452-2394). http://web.mit.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 9 pm. Dante Anzolini directs the MIT Student Compositions concert.

FRIDAY, MAY 14

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-638-9280). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $19-$69. Same program as May 12.

Carnatic Instrumental Concert
Wong Auditorium, 2 Amherst St., Cambridge (617-258-7971). www.sulekha.com/mithas. 8 pm. $14-$25. Master U. Shrinivas and his brother, U. Rajesh, perform classical pieces on the mandolin.

Gamelan Galak Tika
Kresge Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-452-2302). www.galaktika.org. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8 pm. $8. This show concludes the 11th season of the large percussion orchestra Gamelan Galak Tika. Composed by Evan Ziporyn.

SATURDAY, MAY 15

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-638-9280). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $19-69. Same program as May 12.

Coro Allegro
Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-236-4011). www.coroallegro.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 8 pm. $15-$35. Coro Allegro performs choral selections to illuminate Dr. Horace Clarence Boyer's lecture on the development of gospel music.

Longy Ensemble
Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956).www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Jeffrey Rink conducts the winners of the Longy School of Music's annual concerto competition.

NEC Commencement Concert
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-964-0824). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. Students perform a variety of music from concertos to chamber music.

SUNDAY, MAY 16

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-638-9280). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. $19-$69. Bruce Hangen conducts the Boston Pops in *The Great American Songbook—Bright Lights! Broadway!*, a tribute to American songwriting and Broadway shows.

Music at Emmanuel
15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 4 pm.$18-50. Janice Felty (mezzo-soprano), Judith Gordon (piano), Sanford Sylvain (baritone) and David Brietman (piano) perform John Harbison's *Motetti di Montale* and works by Bartok.

New Notes
Mary Baker Eddy Library, 200 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-450-7000). www.marybakereddylibrary.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 3 pm. $5. The Boston City Singers and the New England Conservatory of Music's brass quintet perform classical and jazz works.

Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St.,Cambridge. (617-496-2222). www.proarte.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. $9-$45. Music director Isaiah Jackson conducts the orchestra in a program entitled *From Mozart to Ueno.*


The Boston Pops perform nearly every night.

MONDAY, MAY 17

Massachusetts Youth Wind Ensemble
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-964-0824). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. Michael Mucci leads the ensemble in works by Bach, Phillip Sparke and Ronald Lo Presti.

TUESDAY, MAY 18

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-638-9280). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $19-$69. John Williams conducts the Boston Pops in *Hooray for Hollywood*, a program of music from Hollywood film scores.

Dulcissime Early Music Ensemble
French Library and Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. 6:30 pm. $20-25. The ensemble performs works by Jean-Baptiste Barrière, Nicolas Barnier, Thomas Louis Bourgeois, François Couperin and Jean-Marie Leclaire.

New England Conservatory SCE Opera Scenes
Brown Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. The NEC's School of Continuing Education presents a selection of short opera scenes and arias, directed by Janice Giampa.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-638-9280). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $19-$69. Same program as May 18.

New England Conservatory SCE Opera Scenes
Brown Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Same program as May 18.

THURSDAY, MAY 20

Fleet Celebrity Series
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $41-$51. Pianist Leon Fleisher celebrates his 75th birthday with a recital in which he performs works by Bach, Roger Sessions, Schubert and others.

FRIDAY, MAY 21

Boston Modern Orchestra Project
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-363-0396). www.bmop.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $10-$38. BMOP composer-in-residence Elena Ruehr hosts a performance of works by up-and-coming composers, including David Rakowski, Augusta Read Thomas, Stephen Hartke and Evan Ziporyn. BMOP artistic director Gil Rose conducts.

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-638-9280). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $19-$69. Same program as May 19.

Dedham Choral Society Spring Concert
Old South Church, 645 Boylston St., Boston (781-326-1520). www.dedhamchoral.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8 pm. $18-$20. The Dedham Choral Society and Orchestra, conducted by Jonathan Barnhart, performs works by Dvorak, Copland and others.

Ben Schwendener and Marc Rossi
Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-8 0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to H vard. 8 pm. Free. Pianists Ben Schwendener Marc Rossi perform in celebration of the releas their second joint recording, *Living Geometry II*

SATURDAY, MAY 22

Boston Pops—Film Night
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-6 9280). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to S phony. 8 pm. $19-$69. Conductor John Will and Broadway star Brian Strokes Mitchell pay t ute to film star Audrey Hepburn and compo Henry Mancini and Bernard Hermann.

Cappella Clausura
First Unitarian Society, 1326 Washington St., New (617-964-6609). www.aleclair.org. 8 pm. $15. T performance features compositions by female c posers of the past 100 years.

Chameleon Arts Ensemble of Bosto
First and Second Church, 66 Marlborough St., Bo (617-427-8200).www.chameleonarts.org. 8 pm. $ $30. Directed by Deborah Boldin, the ensem performs its season finale concert, entitled *In Midst of the Quartet Singing.*

Harvard Group for New Music
Paine Concert Hall, 3 Kirkland St., Cambridge (6 496-2222). www.fas.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red L to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Cellist Frances-Marie U performs works by the composers of the Harv Group for New Music.

Music for a May Evening: Songs of Love and Nature
Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1115 Mass. Av Cambridge (617-349-3400). www.musicasacra MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $25. The ch group Music Sacra performs works by Brahms, B jamin Britten, Velhos Tormis and others.

Youth Orchestras
Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-8 0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harv 7:30 pm. Free. Mark Smith and George Ogata duct the Junior Young Performers Chamber Orch tra and the Young Performers Chamber Orchestr

SUNDAY, MAY 23

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-6 9280). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to S phony. 3 pm. $19-$69. Same program as May 16.

Cappella Clausura
First and Second Church, 66 Marlborough St., Bos (617-964-6609). www.aleclair.org. 8 pm. $15. Sa program as May 22.

Dedham Choral Society Spring Concert
St. Mary's Church, 420 High St., Dedham (781-3 1520). www.dedhamchoral.org. 3 pm. $18-$20. Sa program as May 21.

French Music at the Library
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (6 796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. 2 pm. Free. prano Laura Mennill, accompanied by pianist W Koffel, performs music by Franz Liszt, Fran Poulenc and Reynaldo Hahn.

Mefistofele
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-9 0824). www.choruspromusica.org. MBTA: E Gr Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $30-$60. Chorus Pro Mus performs Arrigo Boito's *Mefistofele*, an opera th widely recognized as coming the closest to Goeth original story of *Faust*. Directed by Jefferey Rink.

New Notes
Mary Baker Eddy Library, 200 Mass. Ave., Bos (617-450-7000). www.marybakereddylibrary MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 3 pm. $5. The Han and Haydn Society's Youth and Young Wome Chorus performs a variety of pieces ranging fr Bach to gospel.

MONDAY, MAY 24

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-6 9280). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Sy phony. 8 pm. $19-$69. Same program as May 22

Alice Wilkinson
Pickman Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-8 0956).www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harva 8 pm. Free. The pianist performs pieces by Moz Bartok, Debussy and Chopin.

TUESDAY, MAY 25

Youth Philharmonic Orchestra
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-5 1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $5-$10. The orch tra performs Mahler's Symphony No. 3, conduct by Benjamin Zander.

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN
MAGAZINE

dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $5, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Jay Ine spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Monsta Mondays Kaptain Krunch spins the best old and new rock, $8, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJs spin R&B and hip-hop, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Dance party with DJ Marco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

An Tua Nua
What's Up Night A night of R&B, house, funk and soul music, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Phat Tuesday DJ D Sharp spins old-school and hip-hop, 19+, college ID required.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Sender spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Orange DJs John Davis and Pat Fontes bring the house music, and weekly guest DJs spin, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Deep Tones DJ Brynmore spins a mix of reggae, soul, funk, trance and acid jazz, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Marco spins dance music, 6-10 pm. DJ, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Trio
Always Best Tuesday The night features all hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Phat Tuesdays DJ Ron Steele spins hip-hop, R&B reggae and international grooves, 10 pm, 21+, proper dress required.

WEDNESDAYS

Aria
Lust DJ John Morris spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, $8, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.



Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins Greek and international tunes, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
What a Way to Go Go Mod Night with DJ Vin, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
DJs spin international house, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Rhythm Nights gets the dance party started upstairs, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up R&B, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mercury Lounge DJs Nomadik and Timmy Allen host a night of soul, funk and house, 9 pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin house and techno, 10 pm, $5 (19+), $3 (21+).

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
International Wednesdays DJ JC is in the Latin Lounge; DJs Alex and Felix spin in the back, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Massi spins top-40, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Q
Violation Wednesdays Weekly guest DJs spin today's best music, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Cabin Stabbin' Wednesdays DJ Boogie Ba Do spins dub to start the party, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Jazz Wednesdays The Brian Walkley Band brings R&B and dance to the main lounge, 9-11 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B. Downstairs: Live music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
College Night DJ Fu spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; DJ Roger M and DJ Thanos spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
International Thursdays DJ Gee Spin and guests play rap and hip-hop tunes, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Mark Morris and Catunes play pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and Salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Clerys
Karaoke with DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
DJ Ghost spins international house and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Briar
DJ Stelah spins dance tunes.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursdays DJs Dubz and 40D s reggae, R&B and hip-hop, no cover, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou spins, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
Nonstop music with DJ Massi or DJ Ryan, no c 21+.

I/D
Square One Thursdays DJs Dres and Wagz h night of progressive dance music, 10 pm, $10, 1

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Massi gets the dance party started upstairs, 8 no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ David Ja spin dance tunes and old-school, 10 pm, no c 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Doc spins the latest tunes, 21+.

La Boom
Privilege DJ Felix cranks the noise, 11 pm-2 am,

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Milky Way
Club Thursdays Rotating DJ's spin dance mus pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Parris
DJ Tim Collins, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando pre drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5 (1 $3 (21+).

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no c 21+.

Pravda 116
DJs spin upbeat lounge music in the front, 10 pm cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett performs live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Q
Hip Hop Thursdays DJ Craig Smooth spins hop all night long, 9 pm, $5, ladies free all ni 21+.

The Rack
Ibiza DJ Marco spins dance music, 6 pm-2 am cover, 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali and Ross spin a mi electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no c 21+.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lou music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

711 Boylston
Play Thursdays DJ trio Groovefire spins house m with special guests Beat Khemistry, 6 pm-2 am.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Steve Sosong spins new dance R&B. Downstairs: Justin Beech, 9 pm-1 am, 21+

Sophia's
DJ JR Vega hosts Latin night with live music by Latin Party Boys; free salsa lessons with Dan M shall, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
Hip-Hop Event Rotating DJs spin the hottest hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
DJ Jim spins mixed beats.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15,

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, cover.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-4 night, 10:30 pm, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 the '70s, '80s and '90s, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Floss DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Avaland DJ Nailz spins progressive dance musi pm, $20, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Mas spins hip-hop, funk and techno, 9pm- no cover, 21+.

Axis
Avaland DJ Caprice spins hip-hop as part of land, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

TASTE IT ALL

Vol. 1, No. 1



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Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ Matt Phipps spining the hottest top-40, hip-hop and '80's faves, along with Boston's best cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
F Night WBCN's Bradley J spins '80s classics, and alternative rock and tribute bands perform live, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft VJ Johnny Walker Black spins top-40, dance and hip-hop tunes accompanied by interactive video shows, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Twist Women's night with DJ MsLadyJ spinning R&B and hip-hop tunes, $10, 19+ (before 11:30 pm).

Caprice
DJ Eddie K spins a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, and two guest DJs spin on the first floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Felt
After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs, spinning high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Angirsano spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •May 14, the Zoo, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •May 21, Peatmoss, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs Big Daddy spins, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins house and old favorites, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before midnight, 21+.

La Boom
Fashion Fridays Firefly Promotions hosts this fashion night featuring DJ Rick Naples, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

Level
Greek Night DJ Hoff spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B on the fourth and fifth floors, and DJ Niko spins Greek and international tunes on the third floor, 11 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Matrix
DJ Adilson of Roxy Saturdays spins high-energy house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

The Modern
DJ Glenn spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Rockpile** WAAF's Steve Flagg broadcasts live, and rotating bands perform, 9 pm, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•May 14, Loud Mouth, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •May 21, Speed, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Shake What Your Mama Gave You DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Carrie spins in the front and DJ Gabe spins vocal house in the back, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Craig spins the latest hits, 10 pm, $5.

Q
DJ Fury plays hip hop and top-40, 21+.



The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-9 pm. DJ Johnny C with KISS 108's Artie, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Lite Nite DJ Easy spins a mix that includes neo-soul and feel-good classics, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top 40 hits, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance. Downstairs: live music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover before 10 pm, 21+.

Sophia's
Sangria and Salsa Salsa and merengue lessons, 7-10 pm, followed by the Latin Party Boys and DJs Mike C and Zino spinning Latin dance, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10pm, $5 after 9pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats all night.

Trio
Boston's Finest Friday Dance to hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with Latin vibes. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, $10, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Guest DJs spin high-energy vocal house and hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Total Request Avalon DJ Tim Collins plays requests along with top-40, dance and hip-hop, 10 pm, $15 ($10 before 12:30 am), 21+.

The Avenue
DJ Kevin Munroe spins house and trance, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Next WFNX DJs spin alternative rock, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ Matt Phipps spining the hottest top-40, hip-hop and '80's favs, along with Boston's best cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
The Dorm—Bill's Dance Night DJ Bruno spins a mix of hip-hop, dance, reggae and rock, 10 pm, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. VJ Johnnie Walker presents top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice s ning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Franklin cre a lounge atmosphere with his international, Latin house sounds, 10 pm, ($10 after 11 pm), 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5,

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5,

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood It's women's night at Hollywood with floors of hip-hop and house music. DJ MixMist spins upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Roger M spins international house, 10:30 $15, 19+.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop, house and dan pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favor disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep hou pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is ups with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, $10, 21+. • 15, The Zoo, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •May 22, Peatm 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 $10, 21+.

I/D
X Night WFNX presents a night of retro '80s rock, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, w downstairs DJ Kieran plays top-40, 9 pm, $6, 21

La Boom
Wild on @ La Boom DJ Tim Collins and KISS host a night of music and dancing, 10 pm, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik s Russian and international music on the third f 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, v house, travel and funk music on the fourth and floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 9 pm, 21+.

Matrix
Rum Jungle Saturday featuring top-40 hits, h and techno, free before 11 pm, 21+.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio C spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10 $10 (men) $5 (women), ladies admitted free be 10:30 pm, 21+.

The Modern
DJ's Eddie Lee and Ricky Fatts play hip-hop, 1 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin d music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez Willie D, ladies free, men $5 before 10:30 pm; 18+; $10, 21+ after 10:30 pm. •**The Male counter** New England's longest-running all- dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 $15, 19+; no cover 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos top-40 and hip-hop mixes, $15, 18+; $10, •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no c 21+. •**Underground** DJs spin hip-hop, top dance, techno and reggae for the under-21 cr 7-11 pm, $14. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+ cover, 21+.

Parris
•May 15, Central Basement, 10 pm, $10, •May 22, Speed, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit ders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Rick Naples spins high-energy dance, 10 $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom Hogan spins the groove, 10 pm, $5, •May 15, Brick Park. •May 22, American Mad



The Big Easy Bar

$5 fridays

(FREE admission before 10pm)

5/07 Swinging Johnsons
5/14 Syndicate
5/21 Swinging Johnsons
5/28 Swinging Johnsons









Big Saturdays

Mardi Gras Party
with DJ Matt Phipps

Bachelorettes

Call for special packages



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l Boylston Place, (617) 351-7000 www.bigeasyboston.com ... In The Alley





Q
DJ Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi and DJ Littles host the live broadcast and dance party, 8 pm, 21+, no cover.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins modern mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins house and techno, 9 pm, $15, 21+.

711 Boylston
Fever DJ Yorgo spins a mix of ethnic and international music, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8 pm. Downstairs: Kevin Kirrane, 9 pm, no cover before 10 pm.

Sophia's
DJ Zino spins salsa and merengue while a Latin band plays on the first floor and DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on the second floor, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats.

Trio
Best Of Night DJs spin Eurohouse, hip-hop and classics, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, $10 21+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Adrienne spins Brit-pop and new wave tunes, 9 pm-1 am, $3, 19+.

Aria
DJ Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+

Caprice
DJ Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
Fluid Sundays DJs Joshua Carl and Paul Dailey spin tribal and deep house, breaks, techno and jungle beats, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Brazilian Night, Boston's best Brazilian Bands play, 11 pm, no cover.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Satellite A lesbian night featuring DJ Dee, with dance music, amateur drag contests and films, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Reverie Boston DJ Shannon and weekly guest DJs spin goth, industrial and lounge, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
DJ Dave Jordan plays an array of top-40 tunes, 9 pm, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins Brazilian beats, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Whiskey Park
Cherry DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock classics, hip-h house and R&B.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-21*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-242*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-70*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-967*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080)*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-987*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555)*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-74100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (61 876-1655).*
The G Spot *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-364*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-10*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617 722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-946*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-940*
La Boom *One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Light *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (61 524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *(El Copa, Male Encounter, Officers' Club, Oxygen, Rio, Underground and Uptown) 15 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617 227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051)*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
711 Boylston *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-651*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-700*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-921*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061)*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery.

So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see!

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Boston, MA 02116

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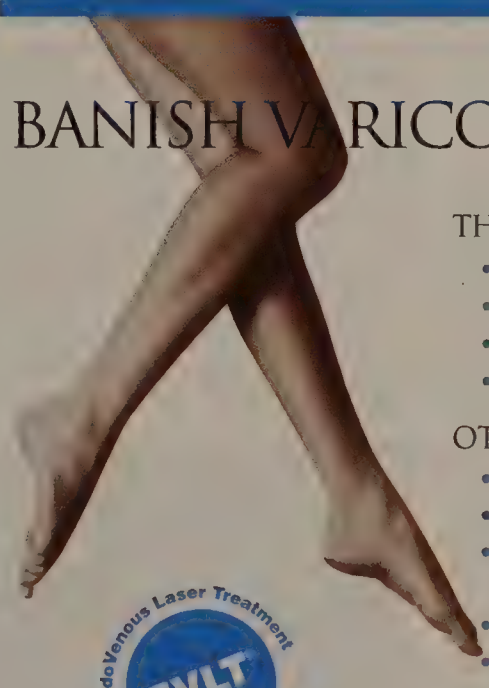
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Before After

museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors
Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Gary Schneider: Portraits* is a 30-year collection of the artist's black-and-white and color photography. Through June 13. •*The Continuous Stroke of Breath: Calligraphy from the Islamic World* features Arabic, Indian, Persian and Turkish calligraphy from the 9th through 20th centuries. Through July 18. •*Rocks, Mountains, Landscapes, and Gardens: The Essence of East Asian Painting*, an exhibition of rocks used in East Asian art, shows through Aug. 1.

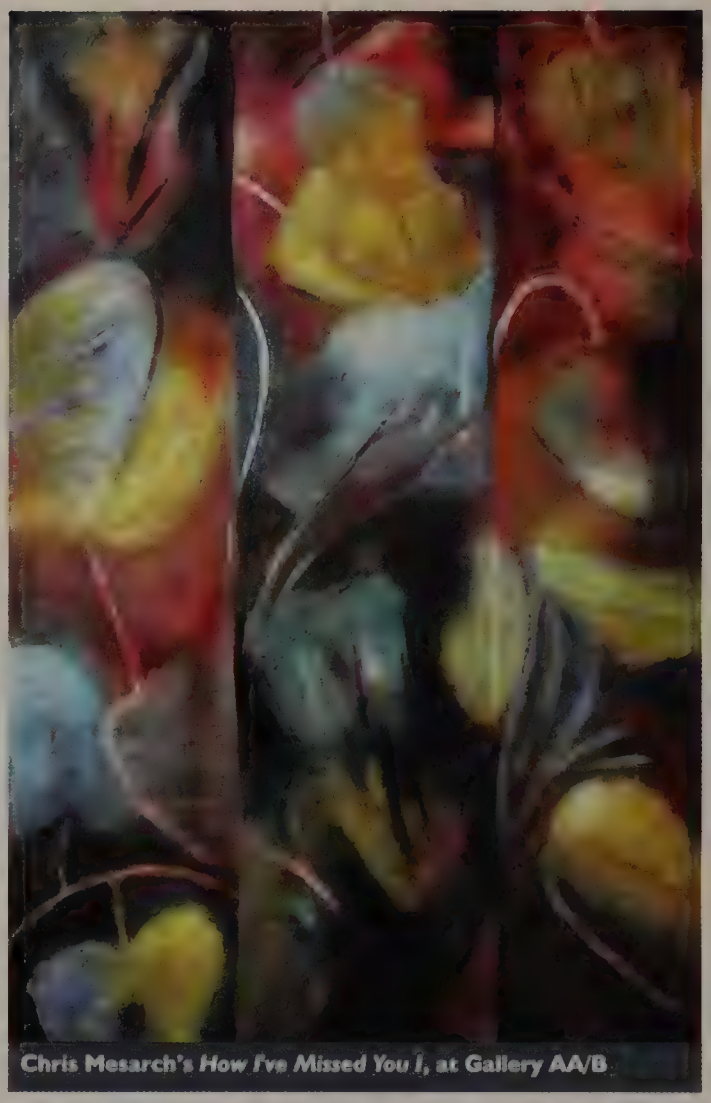
Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm. •The exhibition *Boston Celebrates 350 Years of Jewish Women Building Communities in North America* is on display through May 26: Andrea Kalinowski's mixed-media paintings in *Stories Untold* celebrate pioneering Jewish women in the American west; *Fanny Goldstein, 1895-1961* pays tribute to the BPL librarian who founded Jewish Book Week; and the *Women of Valor* poster exhibit highlights trailblazing Jewish women from the arts, science, sports and politics. •*Ellen Band: Portals of Prayer*, an audio installation that combines prayer and music, is sponsored by the Institute of Contemporary Art's Vita Brevis program. Through June 5. •*Seashells and Other Delicacies* is a show of Bela Kalman's photography. Through June 12.

Carpenter Center for Visual Arts
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). www.ves.fas.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-11:30 pm; Sun., 12-11:30 pm. Free. •The *VES Art and Film Thesis Exhibition* shows through June 10.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. •*Joseph Wheelwright: Stone Heads and Tree Figures*, a sculpture exhibition, shows through May 16. •*Jirimani* is a photographic-transparency installation by Jo Yarrington. Through May 30. •*Self-Evidence: Identity in Contemporary Art* is a group show of multimedia work focusing on self-representation in art. Through May 30. •*Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Sense of Place, Part II* features paintings by various artists. Through summer.

Fogg Art Museum/ Busch-Reisinger Museum
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Process and Paradox: The Historical Pictures of John Singleton Copley* features two rarely seen works by Copley, one of America's first great artists. through August 29. •*Design~Recline: Modern Architecture and the Mid-Century Chaise Lounge* features chaise lounges designed by famous architects including Le Corbusier, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, Marcel Breuer, Alvar Aalto, and Charles and Ray Eames. Through July 11.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. • *Dodos, Trilobites, and Meteorites...Treasures of Nature and Science* at Harvard features specimens from scientific explorations of the past 200 years. Through spring. •*Into the Mountains* features the photography of mountaineer Bradford Washburn. Through spring. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species by glass artists Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.


Chris Mesarch's *How I've Missed You I*, at Gallery AA/B

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7, $5 students and seniors. •*Ellen Band: Portal of Prayer* is the first entirely audio-based work commissioned by ICA/Vita Brevis. The exhibit explores the sonic properties of prayer. Through June 5.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, free for members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18. Gondola Days *exhibition, $3. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm.* •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. •*Gondola Days: Isabella Stewart Gardner & the Palazzo Barbaro Circle* explores the influence that Venice, Italy's Palazzo Barbaro has had on artists, writers and thinkers around the world. Through August 15. •*TV Dinner* is an exhibition of Italian painter Maurizio Cannavacciuolo's contemporary wall drawings. Through August 15. •*Whistler's Warning*, Joseph Kosuth's installation in neon of words taken from an 1885 speech by James McNeill Whistler, shows through August. •Elaine Reichek's embroideries, which depict Biblical images borrowed from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists, display online in the virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum
Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Mon.-Sun. 9 am-5 pm. $8, seniors and students $6, children ages 13-17 $4, free for children 12 and under. •*Gifts from the World to the White House: Caroline Kennedy's Doll Collection* features 77 dolls from 30 countries that were given to JFK's daughter between 1961 and 1963. Through Nov. 5.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. •The museum's permanent collection includes over 1,500 pieces of contemporary art including paintings, murals, sculptures, photography and prints.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5, $3 students and seniors, $1 children. •*Gabriele Basilico—Photographs* is an exhibition of urban landscapes. Through June 6. •*Hub of the Universe: A Century of Flight in Massachusetts* displays artifacts and artwork from the first 100 years of flight. Through Sept. 5. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features works by the self-described cross between "a mechanical engineer and a choreographer." Ongoing.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. •*The Times We Had* is an exhibition spotlighting Boston's African-American community of the 19th-century. Ongoing. •*Building on a Firm Foundation* is a 17-minute multimedia presentation that looks at 19th-century Beacon Hill through the eyes of an African-American teenager. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm; Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15 adults, $13 students and seniors, free for children 17 and under. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free. Special exhibitions are an additional cost. •Mass Art graduate students Timothy Horn, Thomas Howell, Christina Preher, Elif Ozudogru and Corey Smithson show their work. Through May 22. •*Art of the Japanese Postcard: The Leonard A. Lauder Collection* is an exhibition of 350 Japanese postcards from 1900-1940. Through June 6. •*Gauguin Tahiti*, a retrospective of the painter's work from the South Pacific, shows through June 20. •More than 200 jades dating from the Neolithic period to the Qing Dynasty display in *Chinese Jades from the Hartman Collection*. Through August. •*Draped in Dragons: Chinese Court Costumes* features clothes worn by members of the Qing imperial court. Through Sept. 19. •*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13 adults, $11 seniors, $10 children. •*Einstein* profiles the life of Albert Einstein through his personal letters, documents and manuscripts. Through June 6. •*Risk!* is a hands-on exhibit where visitors can test their sense of daring, while seeing how they deal with the uncertainty that comes with a difficult decision. Through September 6. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum
33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Artist to Icon: Early Photographs of Elvis, Dylan and the Beatles* is an exhibition of 48 black-and-white photographs taken early in the careers of the three rock legends. Through June 6. •*Hatch Show Print's Rock 'n' Roll Posters* features letterpress posters for concerts by musicians including Johnny Cash, Frank Zappa and Bruce Springsteen. Through June 13. •*A Glimpse of Boston Theater, 1850-19*[illegible] includes 15 playbills and programs from that period. Through June 20. •*Lunch Box Memories* is an exhibition of lunch boxes from the early 1900s through the 1980s. Through July 18. •*The Enchanted Cloak of George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm* is an exhibition of 18th-century local history. Ongoing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household objects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. •*Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community* is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. Adults $13, seniors $11, students $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem free. •*Under the Imperial Gaze* features two large-scale Chinese scrolls. Through May 2. •*Geisha: Beyond the Painted Smile* examines geisha culture through painting, woodblock prints, photography, video, musical instruments and authentic accessories. Through May 9. •*Man Plow, Women Weave* displays images of weaving and plowing by Chinese artists. Through May. •*Vanished Kingdoms: The Wulsin Photographs: China, Tibet, and Mongolia 1921-1925*, an exhibition of color images taken by American explorer Janet E. and Frederick R. Wulsin, shows through June 13. •*Looking Both Ways: Contemporary Artists from Africa* is an exhibition of works by African artists living in Western countries. Through June 20. •*Peonies on Paper* features more than 60 floral paintings by various Chinese artists. Through June 20.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology
11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50 adults, $6 seniors and students, $5 children •*Regarding the Kalahari: The Marshall Family and the Ju/'hoansi !Kung, 1950-196*[illegible] an exhibition of photographs and stereographs from the Kalahari Desert expeditions of Laurence Marshall and his family. Through August. •*Painted by a Distant Hand: Mimbres Pottery from the American Southwest* features artifacts from New Mexico's Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through September. •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments* features the museum's large Mesoamerican cast collection. Ongoing. •*Encounters with the Americas* is an ongoing exhibition featuring original sculpture and plaster casts of Mesoamerican cultures. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from explorers' journeys. Through December 20[illegible] •*Hall of the North American Indian: Change and Continuity* features art depicting the responses of Native Americans across the continent to the arrival of Europeans. Ongoing. •*Pacific Islands Hall*, another ongoing exhibition, displays artifacts from the Pacific Islands.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Peter Busa shows his work in *Indian Space Paintings*. Through May 15. •*Main Men: Loew, Maril, Eisner & Malicoat*, a group show, displays May 20-June 19.

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). www.alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Patterns and Glass* is a group show of glass works by Paul Marie and others. Through May 30.

Allston Skirt Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-[illegible] 3652). www.allstonskirt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Beat the Reaper* group show of works by emerging artists. Through May 29.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •David Kapp shows paintings of urban scenes. Through June 2.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Selian Picker shows his new work. Through May 2[illegible]

tlantic Works Gallery
) Border St., East Boston (617-283-7113). http://anticworks.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. By pointment. •Photographer Paul Weiner and or-nic sculpture artist Antonio Deoliveira display eir work. Through May 30.

arbara Krakow Gallery
Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). ww.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Kiki ith shows etchings and lithographs. Through he 16.

erenberg Gallery
Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www. enberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back y. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Jen-er Harrison and Casey McGlynn show their rk. Through June 19.

ernard Toale Gallery
0 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www. rnardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Cop-. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Laura McPhee d Mark LaPore show photographs and films of lia. Through May 15. •Sage Sohier shows new otographs in *Perfectable World*, and Joe Fig shows w sculpture and photographs in *Pop*. May 20-ie 30.

ickbottom Gallery
Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www. kbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lech-re. Thu.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Mobius Invitational* pre-ts video works by the Mobius artists collective. rough May 28.

omfield Art Gallery
Thayer St., Boston (617-451-3605). www.bromfield gallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. d.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •Linda Klein shows her oil ntings in *Excess*, and Heidi M. Marston dis-ys her mixed-media work in *Explanations*. rough May 22.

ookline Arts Center
Monmouth St., Brookline. (617-566-5715). www. oklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. ry's. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm. •Gay von Hen-berg shows her paintings and sculptures in *Small uses*. Through May 28.

mbridge Multicultural Arts Center
Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400, ext. 10). w.cmacusa.org. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. n.- Fri., 10 am-6 pm. Free. •Cambridge Public hools students show their work in the *Spring Art ibit*. May 17-28.

ase Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www. segallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. n.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •The *14th Annual Group* ibition displays through May 29.

ilds Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www. ldsgallery.com. MBTA:Green Line to Copley. Tue.-, 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Three ibits—*Art Within Art*, *Figure Drawings: Draped Undraped* and *Henry Botkin: Abstracts and Collages* w May 17-July 1.

fford-Smith Gallery
Harrison Ave., Suite 300, Boston (617-695-5). www.cliffordsmithgallery.com. MBTA: Or-e Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5:30 pm. avid Kelley and Carl Alvila show new work. rough May 29.

pley Society of Art
Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www. eysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-, 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Fresh Paint*, the gallery's est fund-raiser, features locally inspired works by re than 80 artists. Through May 13.

urtyard Gallery
Waltham St. Boston (617-556-2999). MBTA: Sil-Line to Union Park. Thu. and Fri., 12-7 pm; Sat., 5 pm; and by appointment. •*Some Assembly Re-ed* features works by Robert Rauschenberg, Mark nkle, Erick Thomas, David Schuster and others. ough June 7.

ump Gallery
East Broadway, Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •An ibition of works by Jeff Eldredge, Dan McCole Norman Crump is ongoing.

ipse Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: en Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •David ompson shows his color photography. Through y 29.

uator Gallery
Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-540-6). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www. atorgallery.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-m. •The gallery specializes in Latin American art, including paintings, textiles and ceramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •Persona, a group show, displays May 14-June 19.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall. •The work of Bruno Zupan displays through May 16.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu. and Sat.,12-5 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm. •Recent paintings by Chris Mesarch and Beverly Rippel are on display. Through June 26.

The Gallery at Black and White
295 Huntington Ave., Suite 205 (617-266-2641). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Mon.-Fri, 10 am-5 pm. •The gallery features rotating exhibitions of black-and-white photographs.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*The Second Annual Furniture Design Exhibition: Cubbies, Doors, and Drawers* shows through June.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www. gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Steve Hawley and Ed Stitt show their new paintings. Through May 29.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
23 Thayer St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Your Condition Is Not Permanent*, an installation by Charles Cohen, shows through June 1.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.haleysteele.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •The gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prints. Ongoing.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Elaine Spatz-Rabinowitz shows paintings, and Howard Johnson shows drawings in *Enpsychophilia*. Through June 1.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Tristan Govignon shows bronze sculpture in *Spirit in Form*. May 29.

Judy Ann Goldman Fine Art
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). www.judygoldmanfineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Whiting Tennis*, a show of new collage paintings of buildings and landscapes, displays through May 22. •Marina Berio shows photographs in *Untold Stories*. Through May 22.

Kathryn Schultz Gallery
25 Lowell St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www.cambridgeart.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm, Sun., 1-5 pm. •*The 7th Annual National Prize Show* displays through June 24.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Monumental: Steel Sculpture* shows works by Dale Rogers and Rob Lorenson. Through June 11.

Mark Gallery
141 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6275). www.markartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm, and by appointment. •Dorothea Van Camp shows new work. Through May 14. •Shaun MacDavid and Ann Solomon show paintings, monoprints and mixed-media work. May 15-June 11.

Martin Lawrence Gallery
77 Newbury St., Boston (617-369-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.martinlawrence.com. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-7 pm. •The gallery's ongoing exhibition includes works by Chagall, Erté, Hallam, Kondakova, Lichtenstein, Picasso and Warhol.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Gerri Rachins shows new work throughout May.

NAO Project Gallery
535 Albany St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-451-2977). www.naoprojectgallery.info. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay or Green Line to Copley. Wed., Fri. and Sat., 11 am-4 pm and by appointment. •Asuka Ohsawa shows drawings. May 13-June 26.

New Art on Newbury
285 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7727). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Thu., 11 am-6 pm; Fri. and Sat., 11 am-11 pm. •A local-artists showcase displays through May.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •*The Privilege of Solitude* is a show of works by Alfred Jensen and Forrest Bess. Through May 15. • *Plant Kingdoms: The Photographs of Charles Jones*, and *Tanya Steinberg: New Paintings* show May 22-June 19.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •A local-artists showcase is ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Daphne Confar shows portraits. Through May 15. •Harold Reddicliffe shows his paintings. Through June 4.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Jeffrey Hessing displays his oil paintings in *Paintings and Musings*. Through June 1.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Michael Kenna shows his photographs. Through May 15. •Roger Ballen shows photographs. May 20-June 19.

Samson Projects
46 Waltham St., Suite 203, Boston (617-357-7177). www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Super Salon* is a group show of works by more than 80 emerging contemporary artists. Through May 20.

The Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Grimm Fairy Tales Reinvented* is a group show of works inspired by Grimm stories. Through July 25.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Luminosity*, a show of oil paintings by William St. George, Christina Keating, Sandra Mueller-Dick, Judy St. Peter and Anne Grandin, displays through May 31.

Studio Soto
63 Melcher St., Boston (617-426-7686). www.studiosoto.com. MBTA: Orange Line to South Station. Fri. and Sat., 2-5 pm. •*9,192,631,770* is an installation on contemporary time-keeping by Caroline Bagenal and Blyth Hazen. Through May 29.

Upstairs at Johnson's Art Gallery
353 Newbury St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-536-4065). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.- Fri., 10 am - 5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am - 1pm. •*Creative Vehicles* is a show of mixed-media work by Ali Kuzmickas, Jason Mathog and Cordula Peters. Through June 24.

Victoria Munroe Fine Art
59 Beacon St., Boston (617-523-0661). www.munroefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line or Red Line to Park Street. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm and by appointment. •Katherine Lynch shows her paintings of New York in *Painting the Town*. Through May 29.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Realism Now: Traditions and Departures, Mentors and Proteges*, a group show of works by contemporary American realist artists, displays May 17-July 17.

William Scott Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-542-4030). www.williamscottgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Damon Lehrer and Gail Spaien show their work. Through May 29.



Elaine Spatz-Rabinowitz's *The End of the World as We Know It*, at the Howard Yezerski Gallery

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. •Robert Hannan shows his photography in *Short Stories*. Through June 11. •*Landscapes of the Civil War*, an exhibition of 92 rare photographs from the American Civil War, displays through June 25.

New England School of Photography
Gallery One, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-437-1868). www.nesop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm. •Terry Bleser shows photographs through May 21.

Panopticon Gallery Kenmore
502-C Comm Ave., Boston (617-267-8929). www.panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-7 pm. •*Home Run*, a show of vintage baseball photographs, displays through September.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Commuter Rail to Waltham. www.panopt.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*Beneath the Surface* is a group exhibition of nude photographs. Through June 5.

Photographic Resource Center
832 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University West. www.bu.edu/prc. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. •*2004 PRC Student Exhibition* features works by students from 10 local photography programs. Through May 30.

books & poetry

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to books@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St, Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Clare Naylor** and **Mimi Hare** read from the novel they co-wrote, *The Second Assistant*, about a naive former senatorial assistant who joins a Hollywood PR firm and must adapt to the hedonistic but demanding new atmosphere.

Harvard Book Store Author Event
Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. Tickets required. **Stanley Cavell** discusses his new book, *Cities of Words: Pedagogical Letters on a Register of Moral Life*, which illustrates a connection between classic Hollywood comedies and Emersonian philosophy.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. **Hampton Sides** reads from *Americana: Dispatches from the New Frontier*, his book compiling profiles of interesting Americans, including the founder of Tupperware, skateboarder Tony Hawk, World War II veterans and 9/11 survivors.

THURSDAY, MAY 13

Barnes and Noble at BU
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). http://bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. **Deirdre Imus** discusses her new cookbook, *The Imus Ranch*, which incudes heart-healthy, vegetarian recipes designed to appeal to both children and adults.

Borders Chestnut Hill
Atrium Mall, 300 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (508-845-8720). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Bus 60 to Boylston St. 7:30 pm. Free. **Judy Gelman** and **Vicki Krupp** discuss their new cookbook, *The Book Club Cookbook*, which offers recipes designed to accompany popular book club reading selections.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St, Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Suzanne Strempek-Shea** reads from her new memoir, *Shelf Life*, about a year she spent working in an independent bookstore while recovering from cancer treatments.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Charlotte Bacon** reads from her new novel, *There Is Room for You*, about a New York woman who travels to India in an attempt to better understand her mother, whose experiences growing up in Calcutta as a white, English girl shaped her emotionally.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Ben Mezrich** reads from his new book, *Ugly Americans*, about a Princeton graduate who engineered a trade of unprecedented size in the Asian financial market in the late 1990s.

FRIDAY, MAY 14

Harvard Book Store Author Event
Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Harvard (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. Tickets required. **Alexandra Fuller** reads from her new memoir, *Scribbling the Cat*, about her travels with a former African soldier who feels guilt over the role he played in apartheid.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Sara Ellenbogen** reads from her new book, *Wittgenstein's Account of Truth*, in which argues for an overhaul of traditional definitions of truth.



Tom Perrotta reads May 20.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. **Dennis McFarland** reads from his novel *Prince Edward*, about the friendship between a black boy and a white segregationist's son in a racially divided West Virginia town.

SATURDAY, MAY 15

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St, Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 2 pm. Free. **Alexandra Fuller** reads from her memoir, *Scribbling the Cat*. See May 14 Harvard Book Store listing for a description.

SUNDAY, MAY 16

John F. Kennedy Library Forum
John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 2 pm. Free. Former Kennedy Library historian **Sheldon M. Stern** discusses his book *Averting the Final Failure*, a chronicle of the covert meetings between President Kennedy and his advisers during the Cuban Missile Crisis. *Boston Globe* columnist **Brian McGrory** moderates.

McIntyre & Moore Booksellers
255 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-4840). www.mcintyreandmoore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 5 pm. Free. Poets **Deborah Priestly**, **Suzie D.**, **Joanna Nealon** and **Jennifer Matthews** read from their new poetry collections, all issued by local independent publisher the Ibbetson Street Press.

MONDAY, MAY 17

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Matthew Hart** discusses his new book, *The Irish Game*, about a large-scale art heist and its masterminds, who evaded capture for years.

WordsWorth Books Author Event
First Parish Church, 1 Church St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. **Alice Randall** reads from her novel *Pushkin and the Queen of Spades*, about a college professor whose repressed memories of her unseemly past emerge when her son, a professional football star, starts dating a stripper.

TUESDAY, MAY 18

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. CBS *Sunday Morning* host **Charlie Osgood** discusses his new memoir, *Defending Baltimore Against Enemy Attack*, about how World War II, baseball and radio influenced his childhood in Baltimore's Liberty Heights neighborhood.

Borders Chestnut Hill
Atrium Mall, 300 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (508-845-8720). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Bus 60 to Boylston St. 7 pm. Free. **Charlie Osgood** discusses his memoir *Defending Baltimore Against Enemy Attack*. See today's Borders Boston listing for a description.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St, Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Catherine Texier** reads from her new book, *Victorine*, a fictionalized account of the life of her great-grandmother, who left her husband and children for a French customs officer.

Harvard Book Store Author Event
Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. Tickets required. **Matthew Hart** discusses his book *The Irish Game*. See May 17 Newton Free Library listing for a description.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Chet Raymo** reads from his new book, *Climbing Brandon: Science and Faith on Ireland's Holy Mountain*, about the intersecting ecological, scientific and religious histories of Mount Brandon.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Danzy Senna** reads from her new novel, *Symptomatic*, about a biracial young woman whose identity conflicts complicate her relationships and career choices.

THURSDAY, MAY 20

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Tom Perrotta** reads from his new novel, *Little Children*, about the lives of several thirtysomething suburbanites and the ways in which their relationships with young children define them.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Robert Whitaker** reads from *The Mapmaker's Wife*, his new book about an 18th-century woman who gets lost in the Amazon while traveling from Peru to her mapmaker husband in France.

Newtonville Books in the Attic
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Jim Harrison** reads from his new novel, *True North*, about a middle-aged man who feels connected to nature but not people, and who blames his charismatic but abusive father for his emotional problems.

Wellesley Booksmith Author Lunch
Figs Restaurant, 92 Central Street, Wellesley (781-431-1160). www.wellesleybooksmith.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Framingham. 1 pm. $20. **Alison Smith** reads from *Name All the Animals*, a memoir describing her adolescent struggles with anorexia, her sexuality and her parents' rigid Catholicism in the wake of her older brother's death. Price includes lunch.

FRIDAY, MAY 21

Arlington Center for the Arts
Gibbs Theater, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). www.acarts.org. 7:30 pm. Free. Poets **David McCann** and **Jennifer Rapaport** read their work.

Center for New Words
Durrell Hall, Cambridge Family YMCA, 820 Mass. Ave, Cambridge (617-661-9622). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:15 pm. Free. Women and their allies can sign up to share their work at this open mike.

SATURDAY, MAY 22

Wellesley Free Library
Wakelin Room, 530 Washington St., Wellesley, 781-235-1610). www.wellesleyfreelibrary.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Framingham.1 pm. Free. **Lois Lowry** reads from *Messenger*, her new young-adult novel about a boy who tries to halt the increasing intolerance and conformity in his village.

SUNDAY, MAY 23

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 5 pm. Tickets required. $50. Author **William Novak** introduces *Meet the Press* moderator **Tim Russert**, who discusses his new memoir, *Big Russ and Me*, about his bond with his father, a WWII veteran. Price includes a signed copy of the book.

MONDAY, MAY 24

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-20... http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Lin... Harvard. 2 pm. Free. Meet the Press host **... Russert** answers questions and reads from his memoir, *Big Russ and Me*. See May 23 Newton Library listing for a description.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). w... wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 **Sheldon Rampton** reads from his new book, *... Cow USA: The Unfolding Nightmare*, about the ... industry's influence over government decision... garding health and business regulations.

TUESDAY, MAY 25

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St, Brookline (617-566-6660). w... brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Lin... Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Alan Dershowitz** ... from his new book, *America on Trial*, about ... high-profile trials have impacted American cul... and development.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). ww... newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Ne... Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Chet Raymo** discusse... new book, *Climbing Brandon: Science and Fait... Ireland's Holy Mountain*. See May 19 Harvard ... Store listing for a description.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). u... newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to ... ton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Maura Jasper** ... **Hilken Mancini** read from the book they co-w... *Punk Rock Aerobics*, a how-to about the exe... trend that includes interviews with famous (an... ness-conscious) rockers.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). u... wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvar... pm. Free. Former *National Lampoon* head w... **Tony Hendra** reads from his new memoir, *F... Joe: The Man Who Saved My Soul*, about hov... friendship with a priest influenced his life. Al... 7 pm, poets **Ilya Kamisky** and **Fred Marchant** ... their work.

Ongoing

Amazon Poetry Slam (Last Sunda...
Milky Way, 403-405 Center St., Jamaica ... (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to S... Brook. 9 pm. $7. On the last Sunday of e... month, the Milky Way hosts the all-women ... zon Poetry Slam.

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-... 2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7:30 pm. 21+. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge ho... poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Harvard Coop (Sundays)
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). ... bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harva... pm. Free. Hear what Boston-area poets are doi... the Harvard Coop's weekly poetry exchang... Level Two.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). ... poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. P... jam, 7:30 pm; poetry slam, 9 pm. $6. The Jeff R... son Trio plays background tunes for the poetry s... featured poet of the week.

O'Brien's Pub (Mondays)
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBT... Green Line to Harvard Ave. 9 pm. O'Brien's pre... a mix of rock and spoken word one Monda... month. Performers are predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry (Saturdays...
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Camb... (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. ... $3. Every Saturday is Open Bark poetry night ... the fourth Saturday of each month is a spo... word event.

Stone Soup Poetry Night (Monda...
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Camb... (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. ... $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have ... these weekly readings.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). MI... MBTA: Blue Line to Government Center. 8:3... Free. The second Thursday of each month of ... selection of featured poets and an opportuni... others to take the open mike.

education

dvice to Contributors

ubmit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calen-ar: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. leadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

VEDNESDAY, MAY 12

rchitecture and Sculpture at enway Court

abella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, oston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. IBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 12 pm. Free with lmission. Gardner Museum research fellow Gio-nna De Appolonia discusses the influence of enetian architecture on the Gardner Museum site.

dentity Fraud, the Crime of the New entury: How to Protect Yourself

ewton Free Library, 310 Homer St., Newton (617-6-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green ne to Newton Highlands. 7:15 pm. Free. The New-n Free Library continues its legal series program th a talk by Massachusetts assistant attorney gen-al John Grossman.

HURSDAY, MAY 13

etween Palazzo Barbaro and alazzo Venier dei Leoni: Patrons, rtists and Divas

ibella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, ston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. BTA: E Green Line to Museum. 6:30 pm. $5-$7. ngela Dalle Vacche, associate professor at Georgia ch and author of *The Silent Sex: The Diva in Early lian Cinema (1900-1919)*, teams up with Karole il, assistant curator of the Guggenheim Museum, discuss the ways in which wealthy American men interacted with the social scene in Venice at e turn of the century.

apping in the Charles River Basin

ston Public Library, Rabb Auditorium, 700 Boylston , Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: reen Line to Copley. 6 pm. Free. Karl Haglund, au-or of *Inventing the Charles River*, speaks as part of e BPL's Lowell Lecture Series titled "The Chang-g Face of Mapping."

ew Ways of War

oethe-Institut of Boston, 170 Beacon St., Boston 17-262-6050). www.goethe.de/boston. MBTA: een Line to Arlington. 6 pm. Free. Michael J. Glen-n, professor at Tufts University, and Herfried nkler of the Humboldt University Berlin debate rrent political issues between the United States d Germany as part of the Goethe-Institut's nsatlantic Conversation series.

RIDAY, MAY 14

lac Intensive

nold Arboretum, 125 Arborway, Jamaica Plain (617-4-1718). www.arboretum.harvard.edu. MBTA: Or-ge Line to Forest Hills. 2:30-5 pm. $25-$30. Jack exander, plant propagator at the arboretum, dis-sses different varieties of lilacs while leading a r through the arboretum's lilac collection.

ATURDAY, MAY 15

ower Power

rvard Museum of Natural History, 26 Oxford St., mbridge (617-496-8204). www.hmnh.harvard. u. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 9 am-12 pm. 7-$30. This adult mini-class examines the rela-nship between animals and nts using the Ware Collection glass flowers as a visual aid.

lake Your Own Drinking lasses, Diablo Glass & letal Studio

useum of Fine Arts, 465 Hunting-n Ave., Boston (617-369-3295). w.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line Museum. $395 for the two day rse. 10 nm-5 pm. Through May . The Diablo Glass and Metal dio, in collaboration with the FA Studio Art Class Program, sents a two-day glassblowing rse, supplemented by tours of e museum's glass art collection.

UNDAY, MAY 16

otherly Love in the ighteenth Century

wton Free Library, 310 Homer , Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton. ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. Free. 2 pm. The regional chapter of the Jane Austen Society presents this talk by Ruth Perry, a professor of literature at MIT, about Austen's works.

MONDAY, MAY 17

50th Anniversary of the Brown vs. the Board of Education Ruling

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red line to JFK/UMass. Free (reservations required). 5:30 pm-7 pm. Ernest Green, one of the Little Rock Nine, who braved threats and mob violence to attend their recently desegrated Arkansas high school in the 1950s, discusses the legacy of this landmark ruling that rejected the concept of "separate but equal" education for black and white people.

TUESDAY, MAY 18

The Language Police

Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Free. Diane Ravitich, Scott Allen Miller and Peter Blute lead a forum on the ways in which certain groups restrict what students learn.

Who's Afraid of Modern Music: Who's Next?

Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8-9:30 pm. $15. Dr. Elena Ruehr, professor of music at MIT and resident musician at the Boston Modern Orchestra Project, discusses musical theory, composition and new trends in music.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

Boston Society of Architects "Exploring Design" Series

Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400, ext. 2339). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Free. 6 pm. Brian Healy, president of the Boston Society of Achitects, discusses the Modern movement in architecture in a lecture titled "Modernism and Its Discontents."

The Cencus and a Genealogical Workshop

National Archives, 380 Trapelo Road, Waltham (866-406-2379). www.archives.gov. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Waltham. Free. 2 pm. The National Archives provides sessions on how to search census information and naturalization and passenger lists. A tour of the archives precedes the lecture.

THURSDAY, MAY 20

Moon Snails to Venus Clams: A Pictoral History of Seashells

Harvard Museum of Natural History, Geological Lecture Hall, 24 Oxford St. Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Free. 6 pm. Photographer Bela Kalman presents a lecture about seashells.

SATURDAY, MAY 22

Dinosaur Hunting in Greenland

Franklin Park Zoo's Meeting Barn, One Franklin Park Road, Boston (617-541-LION). www.zoonewengland.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills and the #16 bus to the zoo. Free with paid zoo admission ($9.50). 12 pm. Harvard professor Dr. Farish A. Jenkins discusses his recent dinosaur fossil findings during a trip to Greenland.

TUESDAY, MAY 25



Elena Ruehr discusses musical theory May 18.

Café Littéraire: Charles Baudelaire: Les Fleurs du Mal

French Library and Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. $5. 6:30 pm. The French Library and Cultural Center presents a lecture (in French) on the life and works of Charles Baudelaire, followed by a discussion of his poem, "Les Fleurs du Mal."

Walls of Heritage, Walls of Pride

Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8-10 pm. Free. Robin Dunitz and a panel of artists discuss murals and public art by African-Americans.

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Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am.; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's new leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $8 under 21. $5 for 21+. DJ John Morris spins progressive house for Lust, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $15, 21+. For 20 years, these folks have cranked out Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. Enjoy three separate dance floors plus drag acts. Resident DJ Ted Elison spins house.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show, and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—pool room and lounge keep the men busy until 2 am.

CityGirl Caffé (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-9 pm; Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-4 pm. This small, laid-back café in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated, draws a mixed gay/hetero crowd for lounging, sandwiches and beer and wine. Brunch is served on weekends.

Club Café, Club Cafe 209 Resaurant and Moonshine Bar (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room and video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Wednesdays, Watch *Queer as Folk*, 8:30 pm. •On Thursdays and Fridays,VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Scott Kennedy.

Diesel Café (Daily)
257 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-8717). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Mon.-Thu. 7 am-midnight, Fri., 7 am-1 am, Sat., 8 am-1 am, Sun., 8 am-12 am. All ages. Diesel is a gay-friendly Davis Square café that serves coffee and snacks.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3 pm-2 am; Sat., 1 pm-2 am; Sun., 12 pm-2 am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This quiet, friendly neighborhood bar starts hopping as it gets closer to 2 am.

Fritz Lounge (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 12 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. Four plasma TV sets show satellite sports broadcasts, and Fritz is home base to a softball league. Brunch is served until 3:30 pm on weekends.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.


Tipping the Velvet screens at the Gay & Lesbian Film Festival.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $8 weekends, 21+. Patrons relax with a friendly crowd and mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •On the second Friday of each month is the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground. The typical lineup features singer Leah Callahan with guest musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians. The next event is May 14, 10 pm. $8.

Machine (Tuesdays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Big and Hot, Brazilian night, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Tue.: Service Industry Night with DJ Afrodite.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 19+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: New Wave Dance Party with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Milky Way Lounge (Sundays)
401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+. Sunday theme nights are geared toward gay men and women, transgendered people and their allies. Live entertainment varies from week to week and includes Fireballs Drag Bingo, spoken-word events and jazz. There is free bowling if you buy dinner, and a dance party hosted by resident DJ Jamila caps off the evening. On the last Sunday of every month, the Milky Way presents the all-women Amazon Poetry Slam, a lesbian event. 8 pm, 7:30 pm sign-up, $7.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Omar. •Thu.: The Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturday)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. Private, members-only club, predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

711 Boylston (Tuesdays)
711 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5502). www.hereboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 9 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Here, Boston's Tuesday night gay dance party, features and disco and pop.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night, and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music pumps, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Vapor (Wednesdays-Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adilson. 19+. •Thu.: The Music Factory with DJ Pauli Paul and DJ Ron Stele spinning hip-hop, reggae and funk. $5 before 11, $2 after 11, 21+. •Fri.: Inner Circle. $10, 21+. •Sat.: Evolution with DJ Jay Ine. •Sun.: T-Dance party with DJ Danae grooving to local, tribal, and house while DJ Niterain spins classic oldies. 21+.

Books

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). www.calamusbooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-7 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. Boston's bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered people carries fiction, erotica and titles by gay and feminist activists.

Center for New Words
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. www.centerfornewwords.com. Cambridge's center for women's writing and ideas hosts open mikes and author events.

We Think the World of You
540 Tremont St., Boston (617-574-5000). www.wethinktheworldofyou.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This community-centered gay and lesbian bookstore stocks literature, art books, DVDs and videos.

Shows & Events

Boston Gay & Lesbian Film Festival
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org/film. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. May 12-23. $8-32. The film festival celebrates its 20th year with a variety of films, including prerelease screenings, documentaries and international selections, plus musical performances. See the Movies section for a schedule.

Contra Dancing with Bill Olson
First Church of Jamaica Plain, 6 Eliot St., Jamaica Plain (617-522-2216). www.lcfd.org/jp. May 22, 7:30 pm-11pm. $8. Learn to dance with the Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers, featuring caller Bill Olsen and the music of Ti'Acadie.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth, Jamaica P (617-524-6373). MBTA: Orange Line to St Brook. May 13, 7:30 pm. $5-10. This open m allows first-time performers to express their vi on transgender, gay, and bisexual issues.

Spring Fling
Provincetown Inn, 1 Commercial St., Provincet (781-891-9325).www.tcne.org. May 21-23. Pr vary. Registration required before May 14. The Tiff Club holds its 24th annual Fun 'D' Raiser in form of a retreat where participants can ming the beach.

Ongoing

Atención Latina Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Bos (800-834-3242). www.fenwayhealth.org. MB Green Line to Hynes. FCH collaborates with Elizabeth Stone House to provide this safe, co dential space to discuss healthy relationships, mestic violence and other issues.

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Bos (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green Red Line to Park Street. Wednesdays, 6-9 pm. Boston Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Tra gendered and Questioning Youth hosts weekly m ings and social events for young people seeking c munity, support and a place to discuss relevant iss

Beantown South G/L Bowling Leag
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-8 1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and bians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi and Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Bo (617-927-6032). www.fenwayhealth.org. MB Green Line to Hynes. 7 pm. This group meets second Tuesday of every month for a discussion v bisexual and bi-curious men.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., C bridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tuesday o month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open t bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

BOSS
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Bo (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MB Green Line to Hynes. 6-8 pm. This group for gay bisexual men of color meets the last Thursda each month to discuss culture, lifestyle, creati and health.

Boston Bay Blades
www.bayblades.org/boston. All are welcome to this competitive, recreational group of rowers scullers.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to S phony. The league comprises gay and lesbian pla and their friends.

Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers
First Church of Jamaica Plain, corner of Centre Eliot streets, Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). w lcfd.org. Every Wed., 7:30 pm, $8. Square-dan and English country dancing lessons are avail for lesbians, gays, bisexuals and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). www.bgbl.com. The league off full regular season and playoff schedule each yea

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MB Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm, Fri, pm. The center provides social activities for q tioning young people, ages 13-25.

Boston Ironsides Rugby Football C
Moakley Field, South Boston (617-524-58 MBTA: Red Line to JFK. Rugby players of any l age, race and orientation are welcome to play.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston. MB Green Line to Hynes. www.lesbianavengers Thu., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendl rect-action political group focuses on issues af ing lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns A Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.or MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wednesda pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org. This 1, member gay club takes part in outdoor activitie

COLAGE
(617-417-0876). Third Saturday of each month, 1 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian

ays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and tivities and holds a concurrent meeting for inter- ed parents and their partners. For info, e-mail dfordcolage@hotmail.com.

oming Out as Bisexual
ston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Liv- Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-95). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to ck Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, m, free. An informal group for people who nk they may be bisexual.

oming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, sexual, Transgender and uestioning People
7-256-8693). This group welcomes those who nt to discuss the challenges and the joys of com- out. It meets Thursday nights, 7-8:30 pm, in mbridge.

ompass
31-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area port, information and social group for people as- ned female at birth who feel that is not an accu- e or complete description of their gender. Part of FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group ets monthly. Email CompassFTM@usa.com for ails.

ontroversy Thursday
trix (B Room), 275 Tremont St. (lower level of xyplex), Boston (617-542-4077). Certain Thurs- s (call for details), $8, no sneakers. This gay and lance party features DJ John Morris at 10 pm.

ie Down Low
way Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. 7-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: en Line to Hynes. Last Friday of the month. 7-9 pm. liscussion group for gay and bisexual men of color ddress heritage, lifestyle, culture and health.

st Coast Wrestling Club
1-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www.east stwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay male wrestlers more than 160 members.

egant Outings
6-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group comes gay and gay-friendly professional women nd older who are intelligent, chic and sophisti- d to get together with like-minded women for versations, dinners, theater and networking.

plore Gender in a Safe Place
way Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. 7-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: en Line to Hynes. An ongoing support group for ple born into female bodies or who have grown eing viewed as biologically female.

AG Flag Football
w.flagflagfootball.com. Saturday mornings. Join ton's GLBT Flag Football League for a casual ng season, followed by a formal fall season. All welcome, regardless of skill level.

ntrunners Boston
ropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., ton (617-937-5858). Sat., 10 am. All are wel- e to join this running club.

y and Lesbian Helpline
7-267-9001 or 888-340-4528). Mon.-Fri., pm; Sat. and Sun., 5-10 pm. This toll-free hot- is confidential and provides support for gay, les- , bisexual, transgendered and questioning callers.

y Fathers of Greater Boston
t Parish Church in Waltham (617-742-7897). v.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bi- al fathers meets on the first and third Tuesdays e month 8-10 pm.

yLab
v.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing thy gay relationships features alternatives for ting and dating, communication games, sin- mixers and a date-matching system.

y, Lesbian, Bisexual & nsgendered Professionals ilding Community
7-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to this networking organization for gay, lesbian, xual and transgendered professionals.

ymes Group
3-339-4250). Gaymes is a social group for gay and lesbians. Members get together on a regular s to play board, card and parlor games.

nder Crash
taneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica n (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. TA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. $5-10. An open e night open to new performers, this queer- tive, dyke-positive, bi-positive and trans- tive spoken-word event meets the second rsday of each month, 7:30pm.

nder Questioning Group
way Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston 7-927-6202). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: en Line to Hynes. Biological males meet on Monday evenings. The groups are moderated by psychologist Randi Kaufman.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday from 10:30 am-12 pm.

Girlz 2 Girlz
(781-893-6113). This is a mentoring program for girls ages 13-19 who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered. Contact Marcela Aldez-Osorio.

GLBT Seniors
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6272). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mondays. Support group for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered seniors ages 60 and over.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Anonymous HIV testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Laffan
This social and networking group for women includes single women, couples and parents interested in art, cultural events, outdoor and sporting activities, intellectual and social pursuits, public service and travel. Members receive a weekly email calendar of events. For info, e-mail Laffan_Boston2004@yahoo.com.

LGBT Considering Parenting Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. A short-term (eight-week) group for LGBT persons who are considering becoming parents. Sliding fee scale available. Call for information.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue., Wed. and Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

The Network/La Red
(617-423-7233). The Network is a support group working to end abuse in lesbian, bisexual women's and transgender communities. Email info@the networklared.org for more information.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

Peer Listening Line
(800-399-7337). Trained GLBT volunteers provide confidential information, referrals and support.

The Rainbow Cafe
rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social group for activist, academic, intellectual or artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. Email somoslatinos lgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Support Group for HIV-Negative Gay and Bisexual Men
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-967-6231). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. First three Tuesdays of each month, 6-8 pm. Discuss new safe-sex practices and strategies for managing risk and communicating with sexual partners.

Support Group for Lesbians with Cancer
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed. evenings, once a month. Free. For those who want to discuss the impact of this disease on their lives.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Street. First Saturday of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing, $8. Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. WWB is a social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s. It meets the first Thursday of every month.





body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Dances of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767 or 617-491-8694). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. May 21, 7:30-9:30 pm. Requested donation, $6-10. Join hands in simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honoring the spiritual traditions of the world. Everyone welcome. All dances are taught and are accompanied by live music.

Spring into Health Party and Fund-Raiser
Wellspace, 1 New St., Fresh Pond Mall, Cambridge (781-648-9866). www.integrativemedalliance.org or www.wellspace.com. MBTA: Red Line to Alewife. May 22, 6:30-9:30 pm. $35 for one person, $50 for two. This event includes free mini-sessions with massage therapists and other holistic practitioners, music from jazz guitarist Steve Carter, sample products, prizes and snacks. Proceeds benefit the Integrative Medicine Alliance.

Wellness Fair
One Brigham Circle, Huntington Ave., Boston (617-293-0366). May 13, 11:30 am-2:30 pm. Free. New Boston Fund hosts this health and wellness fair, which includes blood pressure and body composition screenings, dance performances, kung fu demonstrations, seated massages and health food samples.

Lectures

Author Ellen Tadd
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. May 19, 6:30-8:30 pm. Free. Ellen Tadd, author of *Death and Letting Go*, helps workshop participants understand the process of death and learn how to free themselves of fears and enjoy life. Tadd discusses her work and answers questions. A book-signing and refreshments follow the talk.

Manifest Change in Your Life
Center for Balance, 709 Washington St., Newtonville (617-527-0247). www.centerforbalance.org. May 21, 7-8:30 pm. $10. Attendees focus on what they wish to change in their lives, using stories and introspection to heal and create steps toward new goals.

Sacred Journey and the Three Selves
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 90 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circlesofwisdom.com. May 19, 7-9 pm. $40. Dan Millman, author of *Sacred Journey of the Peaceful Warrior*, discusses the three aspects of selfhood—the higher self, the conscious self and the basic self—and how to harmonize those three pieces.

Science Meets the Dharma
Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. MBTA: Red Line to Central. May 21, 7-9 pm. Doors open at 6:30 pm. $25. Daniel Goleman, psychologist and the author of *Emotional Intelligence*, talks about his research on the long-term benefits of meditation, as well as his newest book, *Destructive Emotions: A Scientific Dialogue with the Dalai Lama*. The evening begins with Hanuman Goleman's short monologue performance entitled "The Mind Is a Belligerent Puppy."


Daniel Goleman presents "Science Meets the Dharma."

Workshops

The Artist's Way
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. May 23, 2-5 pm. $35. This workshop, based on *The Artist's Way* by Julia Cameron, helps participants connect with their creative, passionate, imaginative and individualistic inner selves. Some yoga and journal writing is included.

Exploring Ashtanga Yoga
Back Bay Yoga Studio, 1112 Boylston St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-375-0785). www.backbayyoga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center. May 8, 2-4 pm. $30. This workshop with Gary Damsky is geared toward experienced yoga students who would like to delve into deeper twisting and back-bending postures for awakening the spine.

Musical Keys to the Spirit of Movement Arts
CasaNia Studio, 46 Porter Rd., Cambridge (617-491-5144). www.casania.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. May 16, 12-3:30 pm. $50. This workshop features activities using rhythm, tone, melody and movement to enhance body-centered disciplines such as yoga and nia.

Psychic Development Workshop
1075 Washington St., Newton (617-527-3583). www.themysticway.com. May 22, 10am-5pm. Call to register. Psychic and healer Ross Miller discusses how to identify your guardian angels and spirit guides. Participants also try to feel their aura, rediscover past lives, give psychic readings to others and more.

Reiki Clinic
Arlington Reiki Associates, 366 Mass Ave. #304, Arlington (781-648-9334). www.arlingtonreiki.com. May 21, 6:30-9:30 pm. $10. Call ahead. Experience a relaxing Reiki energy healing treatment.

Restorative Yoga
Art and Soul, 91 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-661-7376). www.artsoulyoga.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. May 16, 3-5:30 pm. $25. This workshop is aimed at people who have been experiencing stress, fatigue, sickness or problems with sleep.

Retreat

Author Catherine Ingram
Cape Cod & Islands Association of Realtors Conference Center, 22 Mid-Tech Drive, West Yarmouth (508-428-7945). www.peaceoncapecod.org. Lecture: May 21, 7:30-10 pm. $10. Weekend retreat: May 22-23, 10.5 hours. $150. Catherine Ingram, author of the book *Passionate Presence*, hosts this weekend devoted to finding inner peace. The Friday evening talk, entitled "Dharma Dialogues," aims to help participants make peace with sadness. The weekend retreat focuses on quieting the mind and just being present, connecting with intuition and compassion and feeling more connected to one's higher self.

Ongoing

Beginning Tai Chi and Qigong
Open Doors, 360 Washington St., Brighton (617-202-6333 or 617-480-8237). www.opendoors7.com. MBTA: B Green Line to Washington Street. Thu., 5:30-6:45 pm. $12. Learn about the fundamentals of tai chi and qigong, how to acquire physical and emotional balance, and clear oneself of negative energy.

Philosophical Open House
The Philosophy Foundation, Worcester House, 28 Worcester Lane, Waltham (781-647-0020). www.philosophyfoundation.org. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. $5 suggested donation. Check out this open house to discuss the words of the wise, both ancient and modern, enjoy some con-versation and spend time in silent meditation.

Yoga Essentials
Blissful Monkey Yoga Studio, 663 Centre St. Jamaica Plain (617-522-4411). www.blissfulmonkey.com. Tue. and Thu., 5:45-7:15 pm. $15. Learn classic yoga postures (asanas), breathing and relaxation techniques. This class is aimed at beginners and those interested in furthering their current abilities.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

Boston Red Sox
•Fenway Park, Boston
Tickets: 877-733-7699
May 12, 7:05 pm vs. Cleveland Indians
May 21, 7:05 pm vs. Toronto Blue Jays
May 22, 7:05 pm vs. Toronto Blue Jays
May 23, 2:05 pm vs. Toronto Blue Jays
May 25, 7:05 pm vs. Oakland Athletics

Events

Cinco de Mayo Fiesta Run
American Legion Marsh Post, 5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org. May 13. This Mexican-themed run includes a postrace Mexican barbecue, a mariachi band and refreshments.

MARE Golf Classic
Wedgewood Pines Country Club, Stow (617-422-5678). www.mareinc.org. May 17, 11 am. $275 per golfer or $1,000 per foursome. This tournament benefits the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange.

New England Championship Wrestling: Mind Games
Framingham Civic League, 214 Concord St., Framingham (617-327-3945). www.necwwrestling.com. May 15, 7 pm. $15. Michael Sain defends his NECW heavyweight championship against "The Golden Greek" Alex Arion; tag-team champions Adrenaline defend the title against Sabotage; and Nikki Roxx squares off against Tanya Lee in the women's match at this pro wrestling extravaganza.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club seeks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club (BSSC) Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Brookline and Dedham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

FENCING

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLOOR HOCKEY

BSSC Coed Floor Hockey
Leagues are held in Newton, North Reading and Brighton (617-789-4070, ext. 238). www.bssc.com. All levels, individuals and teams are welcome.

FOOTBALL

BSSC Coed Indoor Flag Football
Games are played in Revere and Tewksbury. (617-789-4070, ext. 242). Sign up individually or with a group of friends.


NECW champion Michael Sain (standing) defends his title in Framingham May 15

KICKBALL

BSSC Kickball
Games are played Tuesdays in Charlestown (61 789-4070, ext. 223). Relive your playground da with 10-on-10 kickball (five men and five wom per team).

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.co Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home fi at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New and e perienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looki for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Clu
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club see new players for games in Brookline and Cambridg

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mys rugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club w comes both new and experienced players who wa to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. a Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays. New a experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonha com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round you enjoy running, drinking and singing baw songs, then consider joining these self-proclaim "serious drinkers with a running problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First S Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 p Weekly runs.

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Ru
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (78 275-1584). www.srr.org. Thu., 7 pm. Weekly run

Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-6 2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thu., 7:30 pm. Wee 2.6-mile runs.

SOCCER

BSSC Outdoor Soccer
(617-789-4070). Outdoor teams forming Games played in Charlestown, Lexington, Read and Canton. Individuals and teams are welcome.

SOFTBALL

BSSC Softball
(617-789-4070). Coed softball games played Brighton, Newton, North Reading and other are

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070, ext. 22 Sun.-Thu. Coed teams forming for spring and su mer leagues in Cambridge, Watertown, Brookl and Newton.

WOMEN'S FLAG FOOTBALL

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-3 8326). Saturday mornings. Teams play eight-on-ei flag football each week.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-868-8379). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. At teur folk-style wrestling group open to all skill lev Weekly practices held year-round.





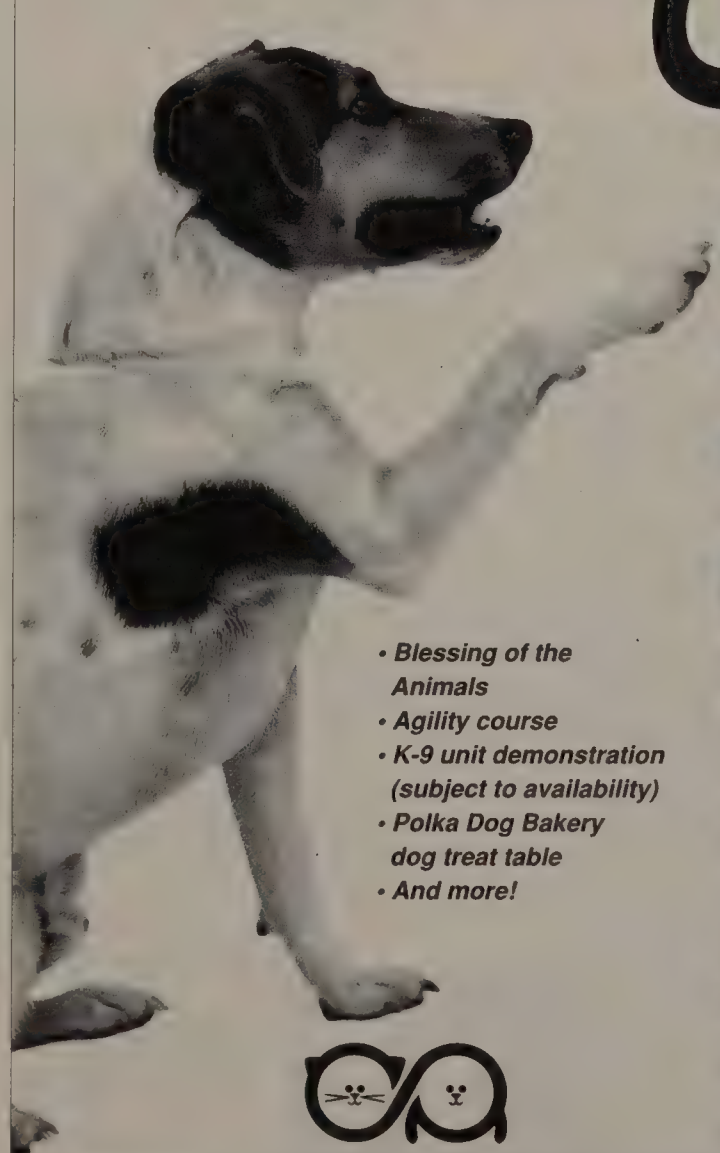
A pledge walk to benefit the
ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON

Saturday, June 19
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (rain or shine!)
Registration begins at 10 a.m.

Boston Common
At Charles and Beacon streets
Downtown Boston

For a registration form and pledge sheet, or for more information, please contact us at (617) 426-9170 ext. 116 or visit us online at www.arlboston.org

dogwalk



- *Blessing of the Animals*
- *Agility course*
- *K-9 unit demonstration (subject to availability)*
- *Polka Dog Bakery dog treat table*
- *And more!*

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON
(617) 426 -9170 • www.arlboston.org

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Borders Books and Music
Cambridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Sat., 1 pm. Staff members read from new and classic storybooks.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Every Tue. and Sat., 11 am. Staff members read children's stories.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50. Reservations recommended. •May 12 and 13, 10:30 am, ages 3-6: In *Tales of Sea and Shore*, a pirate sets sail to find a treasure. The audience helps him find clues that lead to a treasure chest full of stories, including *The Magic Talking Fish* and *Why the Sea Is Salty*. •May 15-16, 1 and 3 pm, ages 4-8: The classic *Cinderella* is presented with period costumes, scenery and a dozen handmade marionettes. •May 19-20, 10:30 am, ages 3-6: In *The Singing Turtle*, a turtle helps a young boy make money so he can buy medicine for his ailing mother. This program also includes *The Village Lion Dance* and *The Dance of the Happy Dragon*.

Things to Do

Boston by Little Feet
Faneuil Hall, Congress St., Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Sun, 2 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am. $10 adults, $8 children ages 6-12. •This regular walking tour explores the history and architecture of Boston.

Boston Duck Tours
Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston; Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston. (617-267-3825). www.bostonducktours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Science Park. Daily through November, 9 am-sunset, every 30-60 minutes. $24, $21 seniors and students, $15 children 3-11, $3 children under 3. •Amphibious vehicles tour Boston's best-known sights via the streets and the Charles River.

Boston Kite & Flight Festival
Franklin Park, The Playstead, Dorchester (617-635-4505). MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. May 15, 11 am-3 pm. •The Boston Parks and Recreation Department combines with WILD-AM 1090 to host this family event. The festival includes the Museum of Science Crafts Workshop, North Bennet Street School artisan demonstrations, discount zoo tickets, face painting and live entertainment from the Mayor's Youth Summit and WILD-AM.

Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary
280 Eliot St., Natick (508-655-2296). www.massaudubon.org. •May 21, 10-11 am, $18 (registration required), for preschoolers and parents. Natural Curiosity features a short walk where kids can discover how various creatures find shelter, eat and move around. •May 16, 3-4:30 pm, $28 per adult-child pair (registration required). *Frog and Toad Are Friends* teaches children the differences and similarities between these two creatures and how they survive in nature.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8, $7 children. •*Five Friends from Japan: Children in Japan Today* features interactive lessons about Japanese writing, clothes and music. Through May 17. • Every Friday, 3-5 pm; every Saturday and Sunday, 2-4 pm. *In the Zoom Zone*: Take part in hands-on science challenges culled from the PBS TV show *Zoom*.•May 15, 11:15 am, 1:15 pm and 2:30 pm. It's *Critter Day*, bringing fun, live animal programming. This program features a rain forest reptile show with lizards, alligators and snakes.


Five Friends from Japan, at the Children's Museum.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-496-8204). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. $7.50, $5 children. •Every Sat., 9 am. $35. Saturday Scholar sessions give children the opportunity to learn about their world through hands-on activities. •May 15, 9 am-12 pm, grades 2 and 3. Explore the land west of the Mississippi River like Lewis and Clark did. Learn about their journey, the discoveries they made and animals they met along the way. Children can explore the Peabody Museum's *Lewis and Clark* exhibit, handle artifacts and learn about the Indian tribes who helped them survive.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. $5, $1 for children (free admission the third Sunday of every month). •*Holography, the Light Fantastic:* The MIT Museum displays the largest collection of holograms in the world. •*Robots and Beyond:* The exhibit offers a look at MIT's artificial intelligence research labs.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. $15, free for children 17 and under. •Sat., 11:30 am, 12:30 pm and 1:30 pm: *Art Alive* offers a range of cultural activities and events for children.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $10 children. •*Making Models* is a hands-on exhibition that demonstrates how models help people understand complex ideas and phenomena. It includes a wave tank, a model of Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •*Einstein*, a new exhibition, provides interactive simulations that give insight into the complexities of Einstein's theories about the nature of time, energy, gravity and light. Through June 6. •*Risk!* is a hands on exhibit that lets kids look at risk and learn how math, science and probability help scientists assess risk. Through Sept. 6. •Every Sat. and Sun., 11 am-12 pm: The museum's Science Theater Program features professional storytellers who combine folk tales and myths with visits from live animals. •*Theater of Electricity:* Daily, times vary. The Van de Graaff generator provides a risk-free lightning show. •Charles Hayden Planetarium, check www.mos.org for show times, $8.50, $6.50 children: The kids-oriented multimedia astronomy show, *Gravity Rules* features Jack the Jester. •Every Fri., 8:30-10 pm (weather permitting). Gilliland Observatory: Use the observatory's two telescopes to find the moon, stars, constellations and planets. •Mugar Omni Theatre, check www.mos.org for show times, $8.50, $6.50 children: *Jane Goodall's Wild Chimpanzees* (through May 27), *Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West* (through June) and *India: Kingdom of the Tiger* (through Sept.).

Museum of Transportation
Larz Anderson Park, 15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). www.mot.org. Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5. •Every Sat., 10 am-5 pm: On *Family Saturdays* children can participate in a scavenger hunt, play with hands-on "Mystery Bags" and view the children's exhibit *A World of Parts*.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. Registration required. •May 13 and 20, 7 pm, ages 4 and up: Come wearing pajamas and listen to stories during Pajama Storytime. •May 14 and 21, 10:30 am: Films for preschoolers are shown in the Druker Auditorium. •May 20, 4:15 pm, ages 7 and up: Children will make a craft and listen to different creation myths at Fun with Folktales. •May 25, 4 pm, ages 8 and up: Science Tuesday features Pond Life, exploring the living world of ponds.

Wellesley Historical Society's May Fair
Wellesley High School, 50 Rice St., Wellesley (781-235-6690). www.wellesleyhsoc.com. May 22, 8 am-1 pm. Free. •The fair includes activities for all ages, including crafts and games, balloon sculptures, face painting, antique model trains, music by kids, raffles and a coloring contest presented by Stray Pets in Need.

around town


USS Constitution and Museum

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on clear nights), April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm; Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5pm; Fri., 10 am - 9 pm. Adults, $9, Children and Seniors $7.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (617-338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park Street. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-4 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-4 pm. $7.50.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50, students and seniors $6, children $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sun., 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily. May-September, 8 am-7 pm; October-April 8 am-5 pm

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-739-1200). www.afroamamuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Labor Day-Memorial Day, Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm; Summer, Daily, 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $11 seniors and children.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5, $3 children.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1, Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, $8.95 children.

Old Faneuil Hall
75 State St., Boston (617-338-2323). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9 am. Free

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-5 pm. Free.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. April 1-Oct. 31. Daily, 9:30 am-5 pm; November 1-March 31. Daily, 10 am-4 pm. Adults $5, Children and Seniors $4.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $5, $1 children.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $7, $4 seniors.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8 am-6 pm. $4.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-567
May 1-October 15. Daily, 9 am-6 pm; November April 30. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-450-1235). Help someone with HIV/AIDS

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their lo
treatment appointments.

American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay
(617-375-0700). Volunteer in the administrat
department.

Big Brothers
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. Be a big brother

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Befriend a gir

Boston Cares
(617-263-2273). More than 70 volunteer oppor
nities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). A volunteer organization of peo
between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). HIV/AIDS organization ne
volunteers for kitchen, office work, special event

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). Tutor Boston students (presch
through high school) in all subjects.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers/tut
needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide suppor
children and adults with developmental disabiliti

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Litera
(617-357-6000). Tutor students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
livmates@rcn.com. Spend your lunch hour readin
an elementary school in Cambridge or Somervill

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). Volunteers needed to support
minally ill patients and their families.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a chi

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Play with homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). Share your time with an elderly
dividual, mentor children or teach an adult to re

Literacy Volunteers of Massachuset
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Association for the Blind
(800-852-3029). Read or shop with a blind perso

Mass. Substance Abuse Info Helpli
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone
people affected by alcoholism and substance abu

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-536-3557). Volunteers needed to assist eld

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

Parental Stress Line
(617-528-5800). Telephone counselors needed.

Pine Street Inn
(617-521-7626). Serve breakfast to homeless gu

Project Place
(617-262-3740). Become a mentor or tuto
homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslex
(617-577-1111). Record textbooks in digital form

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteers needed at this batte
women's agency.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed at this hom
shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-hour
mestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely
ple over the phone.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opport
ties to volunteer with other young professionals.

StandUp for Kids
(800-365-4543). Help rescue homeless children

VNA Care Network
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients

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improperimpersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all ov the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see. (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity.) Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to t up e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

Joe D.

We met on a Friday night at Sanctuary. I was in a fun-lovin' mood, vulgarly assaulting you behind your back on the very small dance floor downstairs. One of your friends caught me and we started laughing. You turned around (and I must say, what a face) and we introduced ourselves. You told me you're from Revere but have lived in the South End for six years because of your business, which I think is real estate. I told you I work in cosmetics, and told you the name of the upscale department store in the Prudential Center. "Hint, hint"—can't get any clearer than that. We then went our own ways with our friends. We saw each other later on in the night. I was looking for my *Sex and the City* drunk girls, found them, then went with you to find your lost friends. We found them, along with a small fan club of yours. I couldn't wait around any longer as you were doing your mingling, so I left and went back to my friends. And for some odd reason I can't get your handsome face outta my head. So, on that note, if you even remember who I am and would like to see me again, all I can say is take that "hint, hint" part to heart.
—Unsigned

Disheveled

We've passed you day after day, season after season, and old and new mail service employees agree that you are the pinnacle of humankind. The black coat in winter, the black computer bag thrown over your shoulder, the perfectly disheveled hair…everything about you screams, "You cannot conquer time." You are manifest of our destiny. Time after time, time and again, our paths have crossed in the Yard, and it's time for us to pay homage to the joy you've brought into our lives. We love you, truly, madly, deeply.
—wevegotmail2004@yahoo.com

My Dearest ML

I thought, hoped, that by helping you through your divorce and the loss of your parents that your thanks and gratitude for me would turn into love. I knew that I was the first man you had dated after a long, failed marriage, but thought I was more to you than just a transitional relationship. I still think about being with you, kissing you for 40 minutes; not the sex but the intimacy, the sense of being a part of you. I looked at your eyes and realized that no woman had ever looked at me like that before; it gave me a warmth throughout my entire being far more exciting then any orgasm ever was. When you told me that you believed your mother had sent me to you to show you how loving and caring a man can be, it touched my heart forever. It has been three months now since I realized that you would never love me. I think of you all the time, kissing in your car, your face on top of mine in the field as we hid from the children playing, and dancing with you, fast and slow, and that face, always that face with those eyes of warmth and happiness. I wish you well, and I wish I could stop thinking of you.
—Marc

Dirty Doctor

How nice of you to litter at the Allston Car Wash! You obviously have no concern for the environment or for others. When it was brought it to your attention that the trash that you were removing from your trunk and depositing in the waste receptacle next to the gas pumps was flying everywhere, you showed nothing but a total lack of concern. You left:
-Old copies of *the New York Times*, the *Journal of the American Medical Association* and *Annals of Internal Medicine*
-Physician's notes (which should probably be shredded and not merely tossed away in a gas station only to be read by people like me who clean up after the likes of you)
-Other assorted detritus.
I heard someone say to you, "You know that your trash is flying around here." When you failed to show the slightest bit of interest, he said, "I guess you just don't care, do you?" You then just got into your car and drove off. I hope that your neighbors read this and see what kind of person you are. I also hope that your colleagues and patients read this. Know that you are not welcome at the Allston Car Wash.
—Litterbug hater

Three Girls and a Guy

My friends and I sat at the table next to the four of you, up on the right-field roof at Fenway April 10. You guys are all originally from Chicago and we had a blast watching the game, drinking beers, celebrating Sox home runs and taking some fun, "creative" pictures. Your friend from Chicago with brown hair and glasses kept yelling "Nomah!" And your lone guy friend at the game refused to tell you how much he spent on those tickets. Anyway, we were supposed to meet up at Cornwall's after the game, but my friends had a change of plans to meet some other folks, so we didn't get a chance to keep the good times rolling. We did have a lot of fun hanging with you and the pictures came out great (they are hilarious!), so it seems a shame not to be able to share them with you. Hope you get in touch.
—FenwayRFroof@yahoo.com

D-Train Reader

Absorbed. You were absorbed in a paperback the first time I noticed y on the Green Line. I tried to see wha book had captured your attention, I you were bent over, the cover lying in your lap. Then I noticed your red jacket and khaki pants. City Year? I wondered. I couldn't tell without seeing your face to guess your age. Next I noticed your softly curling brown hair. Another unusual characteristic. Before I could formulate a story that fit all the details, you hurried off the train at Boylston Street. We've seen one another, smiled at one another, and have even spoken since then. I've gathered a few more details—a PowerPoint presentation on hematology, a document from Tufts University in your bag—but rather than play hit or miss on the D Line, mail me at dtrainreader@yahoo.c We can talk over coffee or any other hot or cold beverage you prefer.
—A fellow curly-haired, D-train reader

Brother Jimmy's

You were the best part about this year's Final Four. And while I can't I've had a boy flirt by throwing ice cubes and paper wads at me since t sixth grade, I was totally captivatec Alas, my team lost and you never asked for my number. Two disappointments in one night It's never too late, you know!
—uconsux@yahoo.com

Rose

We laid on the floor together at Gallery Soto. I'd like to do it again.
—J, suchandsuchaperson@hotmail.com

BFF?

To my Chandler-esque "Friend" fror college in the Watch City who share his middle name with Ross' first name, I know circumstances have tarnished our on-again/off-again (mostly off-again) friendship, but I wanted you to know that I will be thinking of you this week as our favorite TV show ends its run. It wo be impossible not to remember all t times we watched together and the many laughs we shared; and not jus on Thursdays at 8 pm. As I prepare say my own "I dos" this summer, I want you to know that there will always be a special place in my hea for you, my friend.
—One-time feature story stalke

rockie horoscope

MAY 12 – 25, 2004

BY ROCKIE GARDINER



TAURUS APRIL 20–MAY 20

ngratulations to Bulls who already have a good fortune, along with the fortitude to tackle financial matter head on. Although a decision may already be in the works, be prepared to nsider other viable, profitable alternatives. That's because Venus, your ruling planet, is out to turn retrograde in your Gemini money house and won't return to its present sition until late July. Incidentally, Venus flips May 17th, the same day that artistic Neptune your career midheaven also shifts into reverse. Shall we review your recent output?

GEMINI

AY 21–JUNE 20

tience, please. It could take longer than usual for your ercury ruler to gain enough momentum to propel you into charted territory, beyond the same-old, same-old story you ard while it was retrograde. At the same time, Venus in ur sign is about to revisit the past, thereby justifying the eling that you're being sucked into a time warp. Rather an make a hasty and regrettable decision, wait to see what e goddess of love and nice stuff has to show you before ting one way or the other for one thing or the other.

CANCER

JNE 21–JULY 22

unexpected resource becomes available when ballsy ars—a recent addition to your sign—and independent anus align. Money can appear out of the proverbial blue; wever, understand that it is your self-confident attitude at'll attract it. This is also a good time for surgery (the ry planet rules the knife and chemical peel), but schedule either before or way after the 24th, which is when Mars ashes into Saturn and delays what you plan to accomplish. ld, brave Mars leaves Cancer on June 23 and won't return r another two years.

LEO

JLY 23–AUGUST 22

ances are you'll be drawn into a battle of wits between ends that may become more complicated than these mpetitions usually get. Decide up front just how involved u should be. And while you aren't in imminent danger of ing hurt, you'll soon tire of the endless exchange of gossip d vitriol. As for your own significant relationship—nbiguous Neptune in your house of partners turns trograde on the 17th—you may just as easily be sillusioned by a lack of progress.

VIRGO

UGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

y diplomacy instead of shrill demands. Next week, sweet d sociable Venus in your midheaven goes retrograde til the end of June. Because the goddess represents the men or artist types that can influence your career, those e the forces you'll have to contend with until early gust. Venus could also serve as a stand-in for a female the family capable of stirring up winds of discontent or inging up some past unpleasantness that you thought s dead and buried.

LIBRA

EPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

infusion of planetary activity in your career house uldn't hurt. Once Mars is embedded in Cancer, it'll add ergy to your job search. If you already have a job, it ight also make your boss more cantankerous. Aggressive ars visits your midheaven once every two years, so if you n remember what was going on in June 2002, expect mething similar either at work or at home. Since your nus ruler is retrograde in Gemini until the end of June, u may be taking care of old business—and old romantic rtners too—for most of the summer.

SCORPIO

CTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

til the sun enters adaptable Gemini on the 20th, it'll be fficult to alter the plans a headstrong partner has nceived for the two of you. However, you may want to ait a bit longer—until Mercury gets well past the point at which it turned retrograde—to ensure there'll be some progress before signing official papers. Your Mars co-ruler can change your come-on demeanor—from cool and cerebral to compassionate and nurturing—now that it's in cozy Cancer for a seven-week stay. You cook, you score.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

Prepare to entertain the goddess of uncertainty for another three months. Up to now, you've managed to deal with vivacious Venus in your Gemini house of significant others, flitting here and there, landing nowhere for any length of time. As of the 17th, Venus turns retrograde, so your partner's vagaries, vanity and venality might not bother you as much. On the other hand, promises of as yet undelivered goodies may drive you to distraction. If you like playing games, you won't get too annoyed, but if not, there could be hell (Pluto in Sag) to pay.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

Take a child under your wing. Right now, your creative and educational impulses are being emphasized, and it makes little difference whether you're sharing your wealth of knowledge or your material wealth and appreciation of the pleasures money can buy. This back-to-basics, down-to-earth atmosphere should last as long as wise and generous Jupiter continues to favor the Goat—until the fall semester starts. By taking advantage of cosmic timing, you can make a lasting impression on a young mind or a simpatico old soul.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

Will the dreams become less vivid once Neptune in your sign turns retrograde? Will you decide to listen exclusively to oldies this summer? Will the fervor or fanaticism you exhibit seasonally die down, only to surge again for the World Series? Time will tell. However, what might be revealed sooner than that is how influential you can be while impulsive Mars and inventive Uranus support your idiosyncratic viewpoint. For the next few weeks, your mind's eye is focused on the future and what the buying public will need.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

Read for Aquarius. Once again, you are on the same wavelength, sharing compatible visions. Independent Uranus in your sign receives a powerful infusion of energy from militant Mars on the 17th, just in time to compensate for your Neptune ruler's about-face. As this turning point draws near, you could become more confused than usual, eager to take a stand and make your point but doubtful of the outcome. Postpone, defer and procrastinate as long as you can; well past the next new moon, possibly until Memorial Day weekend.

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

Sensuous days filled with good and plenty are a typical Taurus treat, so while the sun illuminates your house of values, take time to enjoy the earthly pleasures Taurus offers. After your Mars ruler enters nurturing Cancer on the 7th for the next seven weeks, even comfort food may play a greater role in your life. And don't be surprised if a family matter that was relegated to the back burner two years ago starts to bother you again. Only this time, because responsible Saturn is also in Cancer, it has to be dealt with.

rious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise er the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE RDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, *www.rockiehoroscope.com*. Read my daily forecast online at *www.laweekly.com*.

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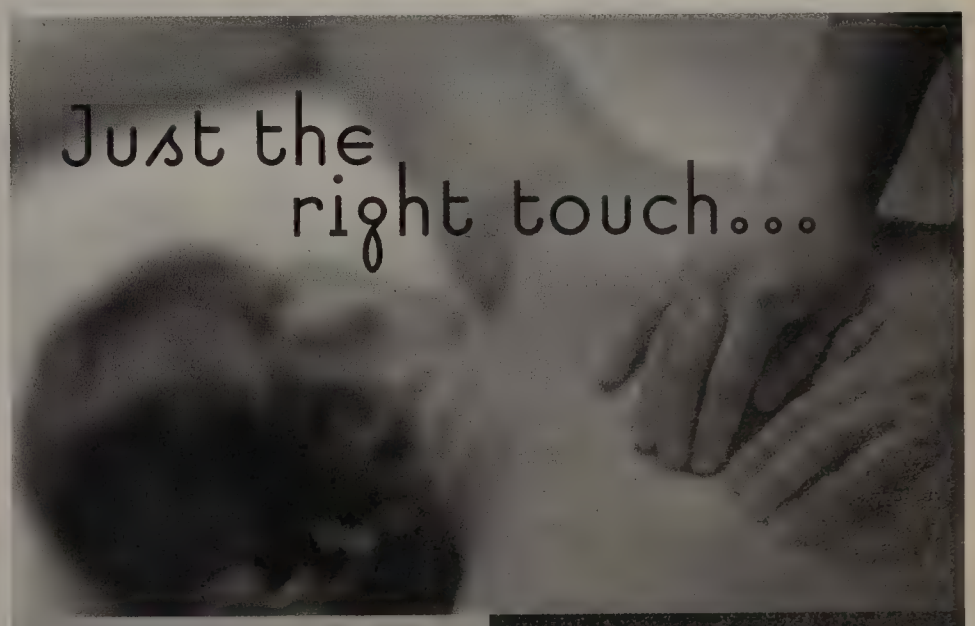
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David Shujman, David Wainer, Mark Steuer, Gabriel Santiago, Sean Pillai, Kim Stone, Natasha Steinberg, Ethan Clay, Roger Ma, Remie Ferreira, Ali Brodie and Shelby Ebert vie for the title of "Longest List of Names Ever" in Pinar del Rio, Cuba.



Karen Cummings braves wind, icy spray and the mischievous pranks of invisible fairies at Gullfoss, near Geysir, Iceland.



New Hampshire native Bode Miller takes a break from skiing really, really fast at Kvitfjell, in Norway.



Edin Maslesa and Michael Sorell met these fly honeys during Carnaval in Salvador de Bahia, Brazil.



Pauline Donnelly visited the Pommery Champagne House in Reims, France, where the sparkling wine flows like Champagne.



Arizona governor Janet Napolitano might live in Phoenix, but she reads the IMPROPER.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER: Adding their steaming hot buns to a steaming bun-pile at the Bun Festival, held May 26 on Cheung Chau Island, off Hong Kong.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned.

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IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Monday, April 26, **The Improper Bostonian** toasted the city's biggest mixers and shakers at **The Rack** to celebrate the10th Annual Boston's Beloved Bartender Issue. The event was hosted by Artie the One Man Party from **KISS 108 FM** and Jonathan Soroff of the **Improper**. **The Professional Bartending School of New England** organized a bartender's competition with great prizes from **American Express**, **Song** and **The Shops at The Prudential Center. Finlandia Vodka** and **Stella Artois** sponsored the event.








1. **Kellie Innocenti**, assistant broadcast manager for Filene's; **Glen Lawler** on premise sales manager of Horizon Beverages; **Jessica Sparks**, marketing manager for Preston Marketing; **Richard Lewis**, state manager premise for Brown- Forman.
2. Boston's Beloved Bartenders **Melissa Simon** of Felt, **Gary Murad** of Dillon's, **Jill Smagul** of Noir, and **Robert Mannke** o Avalon.
3. **Joanie Leonard**, Boston's Belc bartender from the Rack, and **C Francolini**, European developm manager for Labatt USA.
4. **Christopher Palermo**, produc for Infinity Broadcasting Corp.; **Nicole Baxter**, event coordina at the Rack; and **Michael Visel** account executive for Infinity Broadcasting Corp.
5. **Alyssa Toland**, waitress; **Jessi McAleavey**, waitress; **Eddie Doyle**, Boston's Beloved barten MVP; **Sheila McIntyre**, barten and **Christine Kelly**, bartende of Cheers.
6. **Artie the One Man Party**, emcee of the event and DJ from Kiss 108 FM.

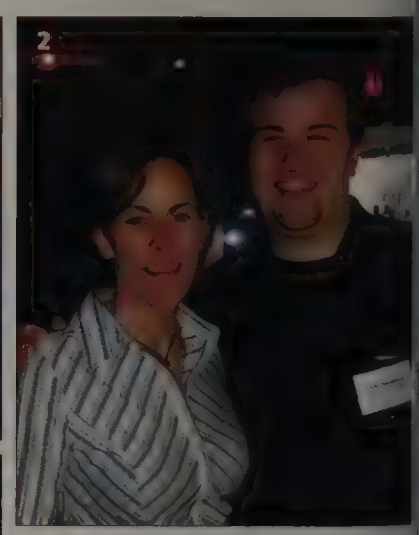
On Thursday, April 15, Boston Marathon Runners and the **Boston Athletic Association** kicked off the 108th Boston Marathon at the annual "Cheers to the Marathon" reception hosted by the **Hampshire House**.





1. **Thomas A. Kershaw**, owner of the Hampshire House and Cheers; **Tom Grilk**, president of the Boston Athletic Association; and **Gui Morse**, executive director of the Boston Athletic Association.
2. **Melissa Mattox** and **Jennifer Thomas**, both marketing coordinators for Adidas.
3. **Bob Burnaby**, organizing committee member for the Boston Marathon; **Dave McGillivray**, race director; **Sharon Gilligan** with husband **Thom Gilligan**, owner of Marathon Tours.

On Thursday, April 15, **Ryles Jazz Club** celebrated new and exciting changes the club with a very special performance by Harvie S. and a buffet compliment of **Mitch's Traditional BBQ**.


1. **Ron Gill**, producer and host for *The Jaz Gallery* on WGBH 89.7 FM; **Darryl Settles**, owner of Bob the Chef's restaurant; and **Bradley Fredericks**, proprietor of Fajitas &'Ritas.
2. **Annmarie Blythe**, manager of Ryles Ja Club, and **Dave Stedman**, booking ag with Willow Entertainment.
3. **Ken Nacar**, director of operations, and **Gary Mitchell**, owner, both of Ryles Ja Club and the S&S Restaurant.

On Wednesday, April 21, the fourth annual **Taste of Beacon Hill** was held at the **Ritz-Carlton Boston**. This culinary showcase presented by the **Beacon Hill Business Association** and sponsored by **The Improper Bostonian**, featured the food of neighborhood restaurants.







1. **Peter McCarthy**, co-owner of Peking Tom's and the 21st Amendment, and **Cy Clark**, co-owner of Peking Tom's.
2. **Donna Cooney** of Westwood; **Babak Bina**, owner of Lala Rokh and organizer of The Taste of Beacon Hill; and **Kara Cooney Field** of Charlestown.
3. **Evan Deluty**, chef and owner of Torch; **Jordan Tobins**, owner of Upper Crust Pizza; and **Devon Biondi**, program manager at MIT.

On Thursday, April 8, the **Boston Young Professionals Association** held its one-year anniversary party at the **Big Easy**.







1. **Jackie Orkin**, of Quincy; **Charles Sammon**, real estate attorney for Kushner & Marano, P.C.; and **Tina Bacci**, sales director for Strada 234.
2. **Sara Amiro**, corporate paralegal at Welch's Food Inc. and co-chair of the BYPA Board of Advisors; **Anne Harrell**, president and founder of the BYPA; and **Dawn Peters**, education coordinator at MIT Sloan and member of the BYPA Board of Advisors.
3. **Kate Peterson**, senior VIP processing rep for Columbia Funds Services Inc. and member of the BYPA Board, and **Sara Hohne**, IT research tech for the Veterans Association and co-chair of the BYPA Board.

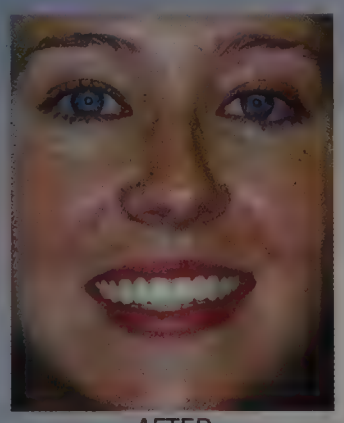
PHOTOS: THE RACK, ALISON MORANT AND JULIE KANE; HAMPSHIRE HOUSE, VANESSA GARDER; RYLES JAZZ CLUB, JULIE KANE; TASTE OF BEACON HILL, MARTHA BROWN; BIG EASY, HOWIE HECHT PHOTOGRAPHY

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The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled PortabellaPaninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC, V.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2002. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston 617-426-3333.* Open 11am - 2am, 7days a week. Kennedy's Midtown is a cultural experience far from the maddening crowd while set in heart of it. Kennedy's serves a lunch and dinner menu of international cuisine. In the evenings they play host to some of Boston's finest Pianists who entertain with a range of tunes from Broadway to Jazz and Blues. Kennedy's embraces all the finer qualities of regal Boston and throws in a dash of old fashioned Irish Hospitality for measure.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., South Boston,617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11 am - 2am 7 days a week.

Ned Devine's *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere inthe heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998,1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 0pm. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches. Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Solas *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am 7 days a week.

Strega *379 Hanover St., Boston 617-523-8481 www.stregaristorante.com.* A fine dining experience in Boston's historic North End. Enjoy our cozy, romantic atmosphere, splendid wine list and savory Italian dishes. Strega buzzes with a mix of casual tourists, local residents and love-struck couples. The menu offers something for everyone. Traditional dishes like the gnocchi are anything but simple, featuring flavor just as robust as that found in intricate dishes. Find yourself in the company of celebrities, including owner Nick Varano's pals from of the Sopranos. Available for corporate and private functions.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

BARS/CLUBS

Beer Specialty

Boston Beer Works *112 Canal St., near the Fleet Center, 617-896-BEER, 61 Brookline Ave., across from Fenway Park, 617-536-BEER and 278 Derby St., in Historic Salem, 978-745-BEER.* Boston's oldest and largest restaurant brewery with 3 locations! Bold American Food. Award Winning Beer. 15 microbrewed beers always on tap. 16 American wines by the glass. 15 championship billiards tables at our Canal Street location. Complete party planning capabilities. Private Rooms. Customizeable menus. Lunch. Dinner. Late Night. Always a good time. Check out the BIGGER and BOLDER menu.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exotic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

Big City - pool hall, pizza kitchen, Beer Bar *138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8pm, free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Felt *533 Washington St., Boston, 617-350-5555.* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering sophisticated billiards, New York style lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or for a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere combined with the delicious creative entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Eclectic cuisine by Chef Casey Lloyd.

The Rack *24 Clinton St.; Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 10pm. Live DJs 7 nights a week, dancing with Ibiza's DJ Marco, resident DJs DJLittles and Johnny C til 2 am. Join us in our new private VIP room! Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Clubs

Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston, 617-482-7799.* Located in Boston's trendy Theater District, Pravda 116 is a chic bar and club. DJs 5:30pm - 10:30pm keep the energy level high. Bar 5:30pm-2am and dance club 10:30pm - 2am Wednesday-Saturday. Credit cards accepted AE, CB, DC, MC, V.

Stadium – Clubhouse *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Stadium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale nightclub featuring two bars, a hardwood dance floor and parking. An exciting yet relaxed 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety of music and beautiful people crowding the dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights. An ideal place for your next bachelor, bachelorette or birthday party.

Club Q Boston *25 Union St., Boston, 617-742-2121.* Open 9pm - 2am Wednesday through Saturday. What nightlife in Boston has been waiting for, this state of the art Nightclub in the heart of Faneuil Hall attracts a stylish and eclectic crowd. Open Wednesday through Saturday Club Q hosts Boston's top DJs spinning Hip Hop, House and Top 40's. With two bars, three VIP areas and pool tables, Club Q is the place to see and be seen. Credit cards accepted.

Comedy

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

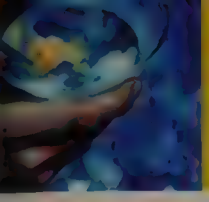
Dance Bars

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www. theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. Mingle. Let your hair down; see and be seen on the big screen. Simply the hippest way to spend a night of all-out fun in Boston's Financial District. Come after work. Come to dance. Come to go wild with your friends. There's always something exciting happening – and you never know who you'll bump into. Join us and experience what the buzz is all about.

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 617-227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston,617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal and martini. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 10pm. Live DJs 7 nights a week, dancing with Ibiza's DJ Marco, and resident DJs DJLittles and Johnny C til 2 am. Join us in our new private VIP room! Validated parking at State Street Garage.





Irish

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 617-742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston,617-742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 617-523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11am - 1am 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

The Green Dragon *11Marshall St., Boston, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 617-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

General

The Alley *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. www.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

Aqua *120 Water St., Boston, 617-720-4900.* Boston's newest place to be seen is now open in the heart of the Financial District. Whether relaxing with a martini in one of our cozy booths, sipping a margarita on our roof deck or watching your hometown favorites on our high definition plasma TV. Aqua has what you're looking for after work and late night with our resident and guest DJs spinning your favorite mixes through our state of the art sound system all night long.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Boston Rocks *245 Quincy Market Place Boston,617-726-1110 www.boston-rocks.net. 21+.* Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St.,617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2003. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Cheers *Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-227-0150, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Offering pub fare until 11:45pm. Live entertainment every Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Cheers *Beacon Hill 84 Beacon St., Boston, 617-227-9605, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Full menu available until 11:45pm. Watch your favorite team on DirecTV.

Downtown Lounge *138 Portland St., Boston 617-523-8383.* Tempting tapas, modern martinis and contemporary cocktails are just a few of the elements awaiting your arrival. A distinctive destination in the heart of North Station, located just one block from the Fleet Center. Share crab taquitos, shaved portobello mushrooms or grilled white pizza. Revive with a specialty martini while sinking into soft curvy seating. Spacious and sublime, Dowtown Lounge is an attractive meeting place for business, luncheons, social, after work cocktails and events.

The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010.* Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St.,Boston 617-722-0161.* The newest edition to Boston's night scene. This New Orleans style bar is just steps away from the Fleet Center. Hurricane O'Reilly's serves up the best that Boston nightlife has to offer. Come dance the night away with the hottest music around. We will leave you yearning for Bourbon Street.

Jillian's Boston *145 Ipswich St., Boston, 617-437-0300.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring more than 200 high tech games, six full bars, 50 pool tables, racing simulators, Black Jack for Fun and much more. Atlas Bar and Grill on Jillian's first floor offers full service dining featuring innovative American cuisine, a giant screen video wall and dancing every Friday & Saturday night. www.jilliansboston.com.

The Junction – Your Neighborhood Bar & Grill. *110 Dorchester St., South Boston, 617-268-6429.* Delicious food, great atmosphere and friendly staff –and it all happens at the Junction - South Boston's Neighborhood Bar & Grill. Enjoy our half-priced appetizers on weekdays from 3 to 6 pm. Join us for live music & entertainment on the weekends and for our fun trivia nights on Tuesdays.

Murphy's Law *837 Summer St., South Boston 617-269-6667 www.murphyslawbar.com.* Leave your attitude at the door! Close to Downtown Boston, Murphy's Law is located one minute from the Ted Williams Tunnel and across from Boston Edison. Join us and bring your friends for Live Music April 15 & 17 with Sensual and April 22 & 30 with Off The Wall. Come play some darts or video games. We offer an inviting, fun and friendly atmosphere. Ten beers on tap. Available for private functions. Call for details.

Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Lounge. Cocktails. Dancing. Nightlife. Come see the lights of Parris. Sample the eclectic lounge menu featuring grilled pizza, oyster shooters ans steak tartar. Sip a Classic, Apple or French 75 martini, and then motion onto the huge dance floor featuring Live Music with the best bands and DJs Thursday through Saturday. Named for the original architect of the Greek-revival-style building, Alexander Parris, you're nightlife experience at Parris will be Boston and beyond. Open 5pm - 2am Wednesay - Saturday. Cover charge on Friday and Saturday.

Jazz

Regattabar *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Tuesday-Saturday nights and occasional Sunday afternoons. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square. Shows at 8:30pm Tues-Thurs, 7:30pm & 10:00pm Fri. & Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617.876.7777 for tickets and information, 800.881.1818 for hotel reservations and information.

Latin

Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston 617-351-7001.* A multistory Latin-themed restaurant and club, Sophia's treats guests to a tantalizing Tapas-style menu, live Salsa bands and hi-energy Latin dance. From a romantic dinner and salsa lessons to hi-energy dance and mingling on the roof deck over sangria and Salsa, an evening at Sophia's is always Hot! Hot! Hot

Sports Bar - Upscale

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www.theplaceboston.com.* Voted Boston's Best Sports Bar 3 years in a row by The Improper Bostonian! Mingle with your favorite sports celebrities: Brady, Thornton, Walker, Garciaparra. You never know who you'll run into. Enjoy the wildest party atmosphere in the heart of the Financial District. It's never the same experience twice – we've got exclusive sports video productions and game coverage on our state-of the-art flat screen TVs. So join us to see what the buzz is all about and find out why people in-the-know feel right at home.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston,617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal and martini. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 10pm. Watch all your favorite teams on one of our 18 TVs or in our private VIP lounge on of our 6 new 50" plasma TVs! Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Stadium *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* Boston's Best Damn Sports Bar, Period. A brand new, high-end sports bar featuring two floors, three bars, 30 flat screen TVs – including the one in the men's room, a dance floor and parking. Stadium menu offers an enticing selection of appetizers, salads, steak & burgers, fresh seafood and drinks

BRUNCH

Harvard Gardens *315 Cambridge St., Beacon Hill, Boston, 617-523-2727. www.harvardgardens. com.* Cozy up to the beautiful mahogany bar or slip into a comfy booth and enjoy Harvard Gardens' menu of cool cocktails and comfort food. Brunch serves up eggs and pastrami hash, thick-cut French toast with caramelized bananas, specialty pizzas and Boston's best Bloody Mary. Harvard Gardens serves brunch Saturday and Sunday, 11:00am - 3:00pm.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended 617-661-5005.

Museum of Science – Skyline Room *Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston, Ma, 02114.* Enjoy Sunday Brunch in the beautiful Skyline Room overlooking the Charles River at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., then check out the latest Omni film and our newest exhibit, Einstein. Combination tickets start at $32 and include on-site parking when available. Brunch only, $24. Reservations recommended. For more information call (617) 723-2500 or visit mos.org.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**, *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

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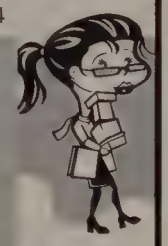
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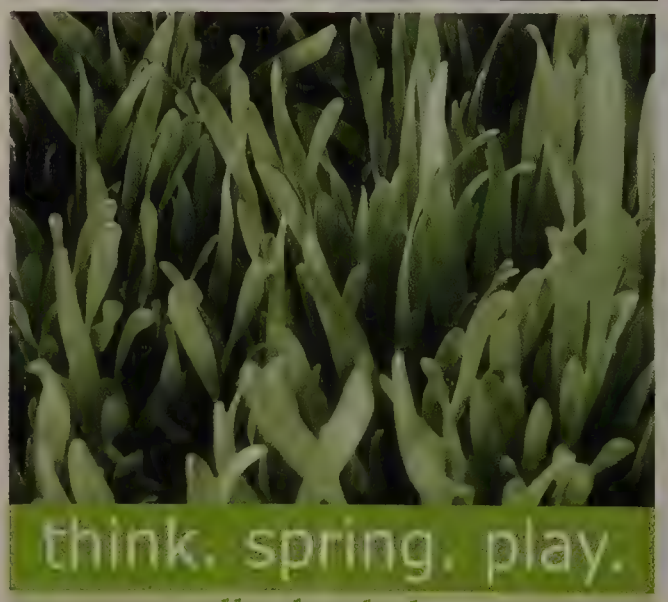
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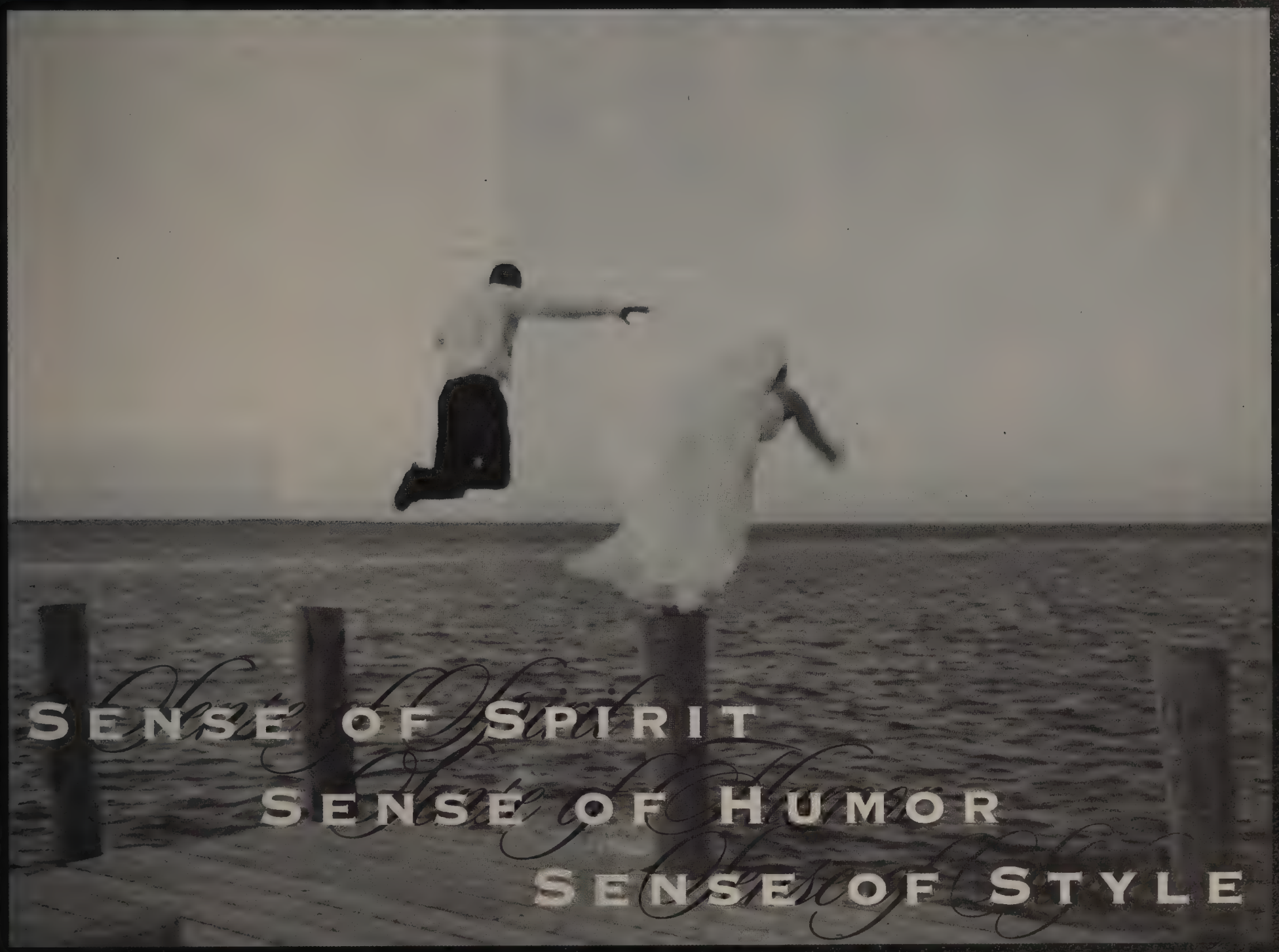


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LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF













At Literary Lights, top: Susan Orlean, Robert Pinsky, Michael Cunningham and Barbara Delinsky. Middle row: Robert Pinsky; Susan Spooner; Laura and Lionel Shapiro. Bottom row: Michael Cunningham and Betsy Hall; Susan Orlean and Larry diCara.

RECOMMENDED READING...

With apologies to Cole Porter, the only accurate way to describe **Literary Lights**, the **Associates of the Boston Public Library**'s annual black-tie gala, is to say: It was delightful. It was delicious. It was deliterary.

Held in the grand ballroom of the **Park Plaza**, the evening began with cocktails and a chance to meet the writers who were either introducing the honorees or being honored. Among the former: people's historian **Howard Zinn**; the dashingly handsome **Andre Dubus III** (squiring his stunning wife, **Fonteyn**); cerebral talk radio personality **Christopher Lydon**; and best-selling novelist **Anita Diamant**. Among the latter: former poet laureate **Robert Pinsky**; latter-day Dr. Spock (as in the pediatrician, not the pointy-eared Vulcan) **T. Berry Brazelton**; *The Orchid Thief* author **Susan Orlean** (who has at least one thing in common with fellow writers Isak Dinesen and Nora Ephron: Meryl Streep played her in a movie); and absurdly handsome author of *The Hours* **Michael Cunningham** (who also had Meryl Streep star in the movie version of his book, not to mention Nicole Kidman wearing a prosthetic nose).

Then there were the guests, an equally dazzling collection that included library honcha **Vivian Spiro** and her husband, Charrette founder **Lionel**; his gorgeous daughter, **Laura**; philanthropic duo **Bill** and **Marjie Kargman** (whose daughter-in-law, Jill, co-wrote what promises to be this summer's hottest beach read, *The Right Address*); past honoree and financial adviser to the rich and famous **John Spooner** with the delectable **Susan**; and bright young Beacon Hillions **Sam** and **Tess Atkinson**.

This being Boston, there were some snooty comments, like the observation about T. Berry Brazelton: "not only that, but his wife is a Lowell," and some amusing comments, like the guest who said, "I just met my Pulitzer Prize–winning future ex-husband."

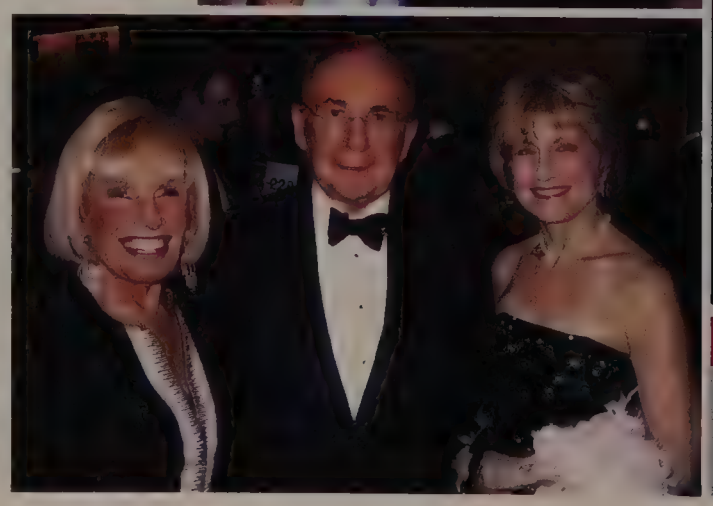
Cocktails were followed by a candlelit dinner in the ballroom, at tables decorated with ivy and books by the authors, after which came an edifying speech by Robert Pinsky, followed by the Yankee grab for the best books on each table. By the time everyone said goodnight, all that was left was some ivy and a few of what one guest described as "the sort of things you're supposed to read but no one ever does."

SOME ENCHANTED EVENING...

The **Boston Ballet** must have a fairy godmother. How else to explain the **Westin Hotel** ballroom—which normally looks like it should be filled with corporate drones snoozing through a PowerPoint presentation—being transformed into a setting fit for a fairy tale?

The event was the **Swan Lake Ball**, and the likeliest suspect for guardian-with-supernatural-powers was the evening's honorary chair, **Cathryn Keith**. A tireless volunteer for the ballet, she wears her hair in a trademark style that resembles some sort of delicious French pastry, and there's a twinkle in her eye that makes one suspect she has a magic wand tucked up her sleeve.





Be that as it may, the room was done up to resemble the night sky, with blue-black curtains studded with twinkling lights covering the walls, and the decor was only one of the evening's many delights.

Others included performances by members of the company, and the opportunity to schmooze with the likes of Tennessee belle **Trevania Dudley Henderson** and her affable other half, **John Henderson**; the highly amusing **Caleb Clapp** and his stunning blonde spouse, **Elizabeth**; fashion plate **Anna Cheshire Levitan**; the radiant (and it's not just the diamonds) **Susan Poduska** with her adoring husband, **Bill**; tall drink of water **John Osbon** and his gorgeous wife, **Andrea**; brunette bombshell **Jeryl Oristaglia**; philanthropic fun couple **David** and **Nina Fialkow**; peripatetic attorney **John Weltman**; and one guest whose first words upon arriving were, "Oh, God! Another charity auction! Don't let me bid on anything."

Adding to the visuals were the black-and-white feather boas that guests received for a donation of $100, which were worn by most of the women and several of the men and prompted one guest to say, "It's a great look—kind of like Big Bird meets Liberace." IB

At the Swan Lake Ball, clockwise from top right: David and Nina Fialkow; Ron and Ronni Casty; Joan and Ted Cutler and Valerie Wilder; Anna Cheshire Levitan and Elizabeth Clapp.

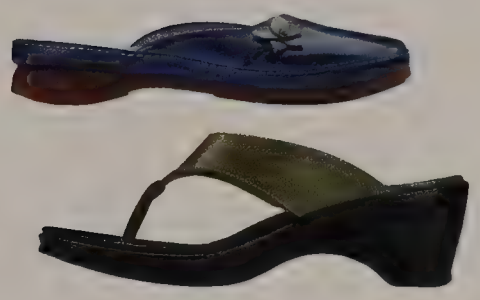




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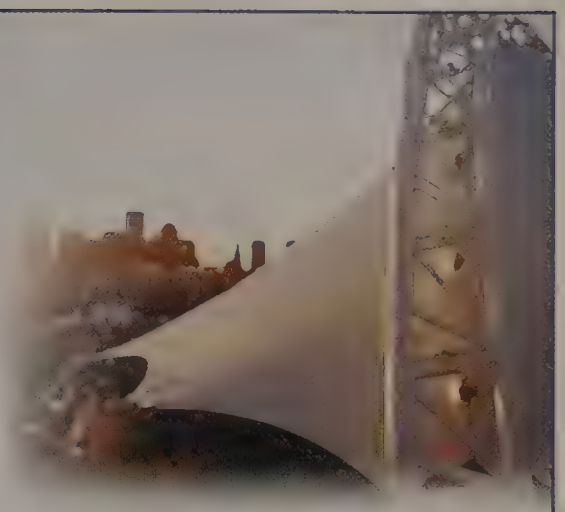
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Dido
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An Evening with The Moody Blues
FRIDAY, JUNE 25 · 8PM

An Evening with Harry Connick Jr.
JUNE 30 · 7:30PM

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JULY 6 ·7:30PM

Cowboy Junkies and Shawn Colvin
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JULY 14 · 7:30PM

Daryl Hall & John Oates and Michael McDonald
with special guest Average White Band
SATURDAY, JULY 17 · 7PM

Big Head Todd/Great Big Sea
with special guest Pat McGee Band
JULY 18 · 7PM

Gipsy Kings
JULY 21 · 8PM

An Evening with Crosby, Stills & Nash
JULY 22 · 7:30PM

Carole King
JULY 25 · 7:30PM

O.A.R.
with special guest Howie Day
FRIDAY, AUGUST 5 · 7PM

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AUGUST 8 · 7:30PM

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with special guests Joe Satriani and Thin Lizzy
SATURDAY, AUGUST 14 · 7PM

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AUGUST 18 · 7:30PM

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 20 · 7:30PM

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 21 ·8PM

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BOB PERACHIO

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Photographed for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by **Bill Streicher**

Bikini by Fisko Italy, available at Gipore

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR



SAVORING SUMMER

Carpe diem. You hear the phrase a lot, but it's an important sentiment for Bostonians on the brink of summer, and it's the message behind our lead feature story—a list of 30 things to do during the city's all-too-brief warm season. From hitting the Mr. Frosty truck for a vanilla-chocolate swirl to exploring the Harbor Islands or catching some Shakespeare from a picnic blanket, these are activities best or only enjoyed when the weather's nice.

Also in this issue, we've got details on what to do in Provincetown—easily reachable by high-speed ferry and launching a new theater this summer—and an inside look at Faneuil Hall's *American Idol*–style street performer tryouts. Finally, Ezra Dyer gets the scoop on nearby minor league teams, whose promotional antics and brand-new facilities offer a fun alternative to Fenway—for under $10.

After such a harsh winter, why not really live every minute of this summer?

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
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NORM!

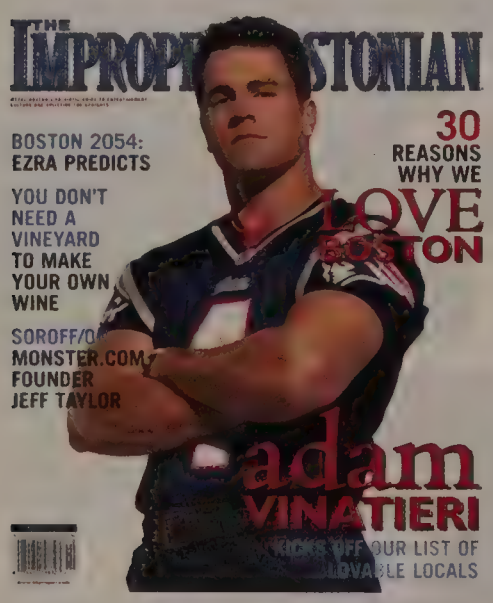
Hey IMPROPER, how come you didn't mention Cheers in the "Places We Love" section (May 12)? Sure, it might be "touristy," but then, half of your list is anyway. Don't we feel pride when we stroll by Beacon Hill's most famous watering hole, knowing that more than 11 years later, people are still flocking there to see where Sam and the gang hung out? Wasn't *Cheers* one of the best sitcoms ever?

—JUDY GLOCK
Boston

GETTIN' PAID

In response to Chris Collins' column in the May 12 issue ("Don't Knock Athletes for Wanting to Get Paid"): Collins is right. Pro sports is a business, and the movement of players is dictated by money. We all know it, so why do we complain when we see it happening? Maybe it's because we feel a sneaking suspicion, any time we buy a $4 Cracker Jack at Fenway to help pay the impossibly inflated salaries of the Pedros and Mannys of the world, that we're complicit in an outrageous injustice. We know that these guys aren't really worth 1,000 times more than a social worker or a schoolteacher—and we expect them to know it too. The fact that Pedro can say with a straight face that $15 million might not be enough to support him suggests that he's confusing what the market will bear with what he really deserves. My advice to these athletes: tell it like it is. Don't pretend you need the money, and don't pretend you deserve it. We all know better. It's a market, plain and simple, and you've got something to sell to the highest bidder. We're adults; we can take it. After all, as Mr. Collins point out, who among us wouldn't do the same thing? But if you're going to continue to treat receiving a multimillion dollar paycheck like "making ends meet," I think we all have good reason to keep complaining.

—JOHN DARLING
Somerville



TOUGH BREAKS

Quality articles on surviving the breakup of romantic relationships are few and far between. So congratulations to Susan Abbattista and THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN for printing "Loves Me...Loves Me Not" (April 28). Survivors of break-ups will find Ms. Abbattista's well-written personal account thoughtful, instructive and helpful. And the comments by the psychotherapist flavor the article even more for readers.

As a psychotherapist myself, I would like to offer another idea that readers might find useful in speeding up the recovery process: Survivors benefit from actively spending time remembering negatives about the other person. This helps them get their lost love "off the pedestal" and roots the missed partner more firmly on realistic ground—i.e., the partner was not "wonderful," only human.

—CARL SCHNEIDER
Cambridge

FLIRT IT UP, GUYS

I read "Flirting with Disaster" (April 28), and the first thought that came to mind was, "Give a girl or guy the chance first!" I've lived in a lot of different cities of the world, but none where it was so hard to enter a bar as a young, single, attractive woman and leave having at least said hi to or flirted with one single guy. Guys give you the side-glance, but when you boldly step up to the plate with a flirty or friendly remark, there's no response. Are they intimidated by a woman who comes alone? Or does this merely highlight the strange fact that most people come to Beantown bars with dates or friends and have everything on their mind *but* looking to flirt or meet somebody? Either way, it feels like a steady massacre of us "single singles" (whose friends are all coupled up, and so have to go to bars alone some nights). What gives?

—KATHLEEN HALEY
Cambridge

BUT NOW HIS EGO IS HUGE

I enjoyed Ezra's "Babe Magnets" piece (April 28). After reading the article and seeing what he looks like, I think there is something seriously wrong with this town when someone as hot as Ezra is still single!

—AMELIA AUBOURG
Boston

CORRECTION

Roger Farrington should have been credited with shooting Boston Public Library photos in the May 12 Last Scene Here column.

VINATIERI COVER: MICHAEL INDRESANO

Tell Us What You Think

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From left: Croma partners Paul Spivak, Biff Shea and Gregg Nourjian



new in town

LITTLE ITALY

Several years back, Andrew Bullock, founder of Manchester, England's popular Croma pizza, was playing a round of golf while on vacation in Spain when he was clocked by an errant ball. The offending ball belonged to Boston husband and wife Biff Shea and Wendy Spivak. Fortunately, Bullock wasn't gravely wounded, and the three became friends. On a later visit to Bullock's UK home, Shea and Spivak went to Croma. Long story short, they loved it, and the couple opens the first U.S. Croma, on Newbury Street, Memorial Day weekend.

Designed along the lines of the casual but elegant Manchester restaurant, the former Davio's storefront has been transformed into an open, airy space with bars on both floors. Thin-crust gourmet pizzas are the specialty, and they range from the more traditional types like pepperoni, and margherita pizza (with mozzarella, tomato sauce and fresh basil) to more adventurous offerings like Cajun pizza or tandoori-marinated chicken pizza—all between $8 and $13. Oven-baked pasta dishes like grilled chicken and spinach cannelloni, mushroom lasagna and eggplant Parmesan are in the $10 range. Croma also has an extensive list of wines by the glass (they've selected 30 so far), with many options for as little as $6.

Croma's signature dessert, the delectable English sticky toffee pudding—a gooey cake served warm, topped with a toffee sauce—is one of the best things we've ever tasted. Word has it that even Johnny Depp is a toffee pudding addict, so you shouldn't feel bad about ordering an extra one to take home. *269 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-3200).* —*E.H.*

this just in

ROMANCING THE STONE

Those looking to meet a mysterious stranger in a hotel bar, or sip a pricey martini, should check out the Ruby Room, in the spankin' new Onyx Hotel. Not to be confused with Britney Spears' world tour (sponsored by the hotel chain), the newest venture by Kimpton Hotels (Hotel Marlowe, Bambara) opened May 18 near the FleetCenter. And what's a boutique hotel without a swanky bar/lounge? The dimly lit, black-and-crimson-hued Ruby Room features sexy swirled carpeting, red leather couches and candlelit tables. The signature Crimson cocktail—a high-octane combo of Bombay Sapphire, ruby port, grenadine, and fresh lemon—tops off the ruby red theme and goes for $11. *155 Portland St., Boston (617-557-9950). www.rubyroomboston.com.*



inner view

BARBARA WASHBURN

Though their presentation couldn't be more different, the IMAX film *Everest* and its cheesy Hollywood studio counterpart, *Vertical Limit,* succeed in making the same point: It takes brass balls to climb mountains. In 1947 Barbara Washburn of Lexington joined her husband—Museum of Science founding director and famed photographer Bradford—on an expedition to the top of Alaska's Mount McKinley, becoming the first woman to scale the highest peak in North America. Washburn's climbs (almost all made with her husband) pioneered the way for women mountaineers, and on June 8, the Museum of Science dedicates a screening of the new film, *The Women of K2,* to her. The documentary tells the stories of five female climbers—all of whom died in climbing-related incidents—and their treks to the top of K2. Washburn took a moment to chat with us about her history as a mountaineer.

IB: *You were the first woman to climb Mount McKinley and in essence, inspired the film* The Women of K2. *Were you aware you were being a trailblazer for women when you made your first trip up the mountain?*



Barbara and Bradford Washburn

BW: I had no idea. And it was not my idea to climb Mount McKinley at all. This was a movie company that came to my husband to climb Mount Everest (they didn't know Nepal wasn't open to the public at that time). They didn't think the American public was interested in climbing, and it wasn't in that day. They wanted Brad to make a movie to interest the people, and Brad said he couldn't do Mount Everest, but he could do the same thing on Mount McKinley. So I went with him.

IB: *So it was an accident?*

BW: Good heavens, yes. I didn't want to go, I had three little kids. They knew it was cold and high, and [Brad] said, "I know you can do it," and the movie company really wanted me to go. They said it would make a great movie if a girl was in it. They really put a lot of pressure on me. I finally gave in, and I'm glad I did.

IB: *Have any of your children followed in your footsteps as a climber?*

BW: I have a grandson who's a climber, and he'll probably do it one day just for the sake of family reputation, but there's really no reason to climb Mount McKinley.

IB: *Do you have a favorite climb or trail in the world?*

BW: I don't think so. We don't do it anymore—I'm 90 years old—but I think going up on the trails in the White Mountains was fun. It was nearby and a nice way to spend a weekend.

IB: *What was the biggest challenge in making all these climbs?*

BW: Leaving my three children. The rest of it was plain hard work. Climbing Mount McKinley is not technically that difficult. I knew how to use an ice ax and walk on ropes with people. You just had to plug along and use a lot of willpower.

IB: *Did you and your husband ever consider climbing Mount Everest?*

BW: I think maybe in the old days if Brad had been the right age when Everest opened up, but when he was the right age you couldn't get to Nepal. But he's not sorry he never had to climb it. It's a long trudge.

IB: *What's your advice for women in general?*

BW: We're all for women doing everything, but I think the women on K2 were way beyond what they should've been doing. A lot of people who have been on it were climbing beyond their ability.

—*Jessica Iredale*



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PIZZA AFTER DARK

Late-Night Treat... The palate isn't always at its most discerning late at night. But when you're sober enough to seek an alternative to the greasy, gut-wrenching pizza and sausages often devoured due to hazy judgment or a lack of better options, check out Bricco. The fancy North End eatery is now serving up gourmet pizzas in its lounge from 11 pm to 2 am (and maybe even a little later), the only time you can order such pedestrian fare at this high-end Italian hotspot. Selections include traditional fare like Pizza Bricco, with fresh bufala ricotta, shaved mortadella di Bologna and parmigiano ($14), as well as more unusual offerings like Pizza Dolce di Mezzanotte, with Nutella spread, mascarpone, shaved white chocolate and mint leaves, for $12. The menu changes weekly. *241 Hanover St., Boston (617-248-6800).*

In the News... When Leather District restaurant News announced the launch of its Ladies Night menu, we read between the lines: lots of men and very few women, or, to put it bluntly, ideal man-hunting grounds. Ladies who are more in the mood to feast on food rather than men can choose from an array of free apps, salads, entrées and desserts from 5-11 pm on Wednesday nights. If you're still in the mood for a deal on Thursday, News' Timeless Thursdays promotion offers (to both sexes) a buy-one-get-one deal on martinis from 5-6 pm. *150 Kneeland St., Boston (617-426-6397). www.newsboston.com.*

Acting Bratty... And you thought brats were strictly for Midwesterners. Chelsea-based deli company Kayem recently cooked up a new line of grillin' treats just in time for summer: the Original Boston Brat, Cheddar Brat and Pale Ale Brat, the last made with Harpoon IPA. The sausage-slingers also created a cheerfully bizarre marketing program for the new meats, dubbed "Bratwürship." Or maybe you don't think a bratwurst dressed as a pimp is a little bit odd.



Spicing It Up... There's suddenly a long list of reasons to head to the Inman Square jazz club Ryles. Starting this summer, Ryles is spicing up its repertoire with live rock and folk music on Wednesday nights, and funk and soul on Friday nights. The club is overhauling its menu as well, with the introduction of Mitch's Authentic BBQ. The southern BBQ replaces the pub grub offerings, and dishes include pulled pork, ribs, biscuits and collard greens. Jazz bands will continue to grace the stage, so when the waiter asks you what kind of barbeque sauce you want, try this one out: "Smooth and spicy, just like my jazz." *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). www.rylesjazz.com. —E.H., J.I., Abby Bielagus and Megan Grant*

sam says

EXPANDED HORIZONS

New and improved versions of some of our longtime favorite stores are popping up in Beantown to help you part with your money even faster. Adidas "Originals" store recently opened its doors in Cambridge to reveal a stylish retro boutique featuring old-school products — vintage favorites reintroduced in limited numbers, as well as contemporary interpretations of classic styles. Coolest of all is the vintage trefoil logo, introduced in 1972, that appears on all Originals gear. If that's not enough to incite a spending spree, Diesel recently reincarnated into Diesel Planet. The new 3,800-square foot, bi-level store, a few blocks down from its former Newbury Street location, carries vintage and modern Diesel wear. Look for denim galore and my favorite — mesh shirts in sorbet colors — to get you inspired for spring. *—Samantha House*



improper reports

SELL YOUR BOOKS

Hoarding books is a pastime that can easily get out of control. Making the decision to part with your hardcovers and paperbacks is a tough one, but many local bookstores ease the separation process by offering store credit and cold hard cash.

- ***Boston Book Annex** is housed in the ground floor of a brownstone. It buys mostly used scholarly fare, such as philosophy and art books, paying 20 percent of the cover price in store credit, or 15 percent in cash. Buy-back hours are Mon.-Sat., 11 am-4 pm. *906 Beacon St., Boston (617-266-1090).*
- ***Brattle Book Shop** buys books between 9 am and 5 pm Mon.-Sat. Boston's oldest and largest used bookshop offers 20 to 50 percent of a book's expected selling price in cash—and another 20 percent if you opt for store credit. *9 West St., Boston (617-542-0210).*
- ***Brookline Booksmith and the Used Book Cellar** buys primarily paperbacks between 10 am-4 pm, Tue.-Sat. The buyers offer 15 percent of the cover price (or 20 percent in store credit), but leave your textbooks, computer books, and travel guides at home. *279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660).*
- ***Bryn Mawr Bookstore** doesn't pay cash for books but accepts them as donations to raise money for scholarships for young women. Buyers are usually on hand Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm, and Thu., 10 am-7 pm, but calling ahead is recommended. *373 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1770).*
- ***Commonwealth Books** is looking for "better books o good subjects" and offers store credit for 50 percent of th expected selling price depending on condition. Books ar accepted Mon.-Sat., 11 am-7 pm, at both locations. *52 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-236-0182). 134 Boylston St Boston (617-338-6328).*
- ***Harvard Book Store** pays 15 percent of the cover pric in cash, or 20 percent in store credit, and accepts book Tue.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Don't bring romances, textbook or westerns. The store's buyers can travel to buy large collections. *1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (800-542-7323).*
- ***Lorem Ipsum Books** will give you 10 to 40 percent of th market price of your books in cash, with an extra 20 perce for store credit, between 10 am and 8 pm daily. *157 Hamp shire St., Cambridge (617-497-7669).*
- ***McIntyre and Moore Booksellers** primarily buys scho arly books (not textbooks) in good condition and offers ca or store credit depending on the book. Buy-back hours a Mon.-Sat., 10:30 am-5 pm, and calling ahead is preferre *255 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-4840).*
- ***Rodney's Bookstore** considers all kinds of books and o fers what the buyer thinks is fair. Call for buy-back times. 6 *Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-6467). —Bailey Vatalaro*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Downward Dog... There are dog people and then there's everyone else. If you fall into the "everyone else" category, doggie yoga and doggie acupuncture classes may seem, well, dumb. But if you own a dog, used to own a dog or hope to own a dog someday, you know how absolutely essential it is to maintain a healthy and meaningful relationship with your pooch. Jennifer Vickery of the Pawsitive Dog has teamed up with yoga instructor Kerry Jordan and acupuncturist Claire McManus for a series called Holistic Hounds. Dog owners bring their dogs to class and learn to administer acupuncture for canine relaxation and to aid in digestion. In Doggie Yoga, owners and dogs stretch together. If only there were classes for dogs to learn how to brush their teeth and maybe do a load of laundry or two. *www.thepawsitivedog.com*


Dog yoga is part of the Holistic Hounds series.

Somerville's Armory Building



Castle Rock... Somerville's Old Armory Building (commonly referred to as "That place that looks like a castle") has proud new papas, and the price tag was nothing to scoff at. Brothers Joseph and Nabil Sater, well known for the ingenious investment they made more than 30 years ago in the raw-talent hot spot the Middle East, purchased this mother of all fixer-uppers at auction for no less than $2.375 million. The 32,200-square-foot parcel is situated in the heart of Somerville, and the word on the street is the Saters are interested in using the space to encourage the growth of Somerville's artistic community. Will it be the next It rock club? The Saters are feeding the mystery when it comes to exactly what the space will be used for, and Joseph says the building needs quite a bit of love and tender care. Still, artistic ammunition from local talent is bound to deck the halls someday soon.

Prime Time... Local fans of *The Sopranos* who've managed to keep watching through this season's mediocre plotlines might have recognized a voice on the show's May 16 episode. Cantab Lounge crooner Little Joe Cook's 1957 hit, "Peanuts," set up Tony's freaky dream sequence episode. The bluesman and recent birthday boy (his 80th) and his band the Thrillers shared the stage with the likes of the Shirelles, Louis Armstrong, and B.B. King before they began a 25-plus-year gig at the Cantab that's still going strong. So how does Cook feel about more recent prime-time exposure? Cantab owner Richard Fitzgerald says Little Joe isn't fazed—he hadn't seen the show until his song made a guest appearance.

This Little Piggy Got Smashed... Lynn-based entrepreneurs Joy Bruno and Peggy and Jodi Zeramby are behind a new company called Pig Tales that seeks to help customers vent frustration the old-fashioned way: by smashing something. The ladies' marquee items are custom piggy banks that can be emblazoned with motivational ditties such as "You are my boss, I make you look good. You live in a palace, I live in da hood." Other pig–themed merchandise includes key chains, mouse pads and fridge magnets, but you probably won't feel as satisfied taking a mallet to those at the end of a stressful day. The swine are available at *www.pgtales.com.—E.H., J.I., Abby Bielagus, Ezra Dyer and Megan Grant*

Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to theword@improper.com.


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José McIntyre's
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PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY











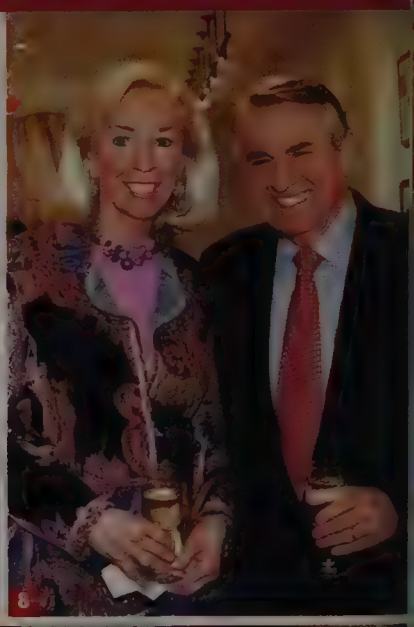
The annual **MSPCA-Angell Animal Hall of Fame Dinner** was held May 13 at the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum. The event brought together more than 450 animal lovers and several pooches to raise funds for MSPCA-Angell, which includes seven animal care and adoption centers and the three Angell Animal Medical Centers. Actress Mary Tyler Moore, a lifelong animal-rights advocate, was honored at the event.

1. From left: **Dr. Larry Hawk**, president of MSPCA-Angell; **Mary Tyler Moore**, actress; **"Monty"**; and **Robert Beal**, president of the Beal Co.
2. From left: **Jessica Gifford**, community affairs specialist for Bingham McCutchen, and her parents, **Chad Gifford**, chairman of Bank of America, and **Anne Gifford**.
3. **John Bowen**, vice president of development for MSPCA-Angell, and **Liz Brunner**, news anchor at WCVB-TV5.
4. **Carolyn Rodeno** and her husband, **Mike**, managing director for JNK Securities.
5. **Mario Russo** (left), owner of Mario Russo salon and **Frank Gilligan**, president of the Development Co.

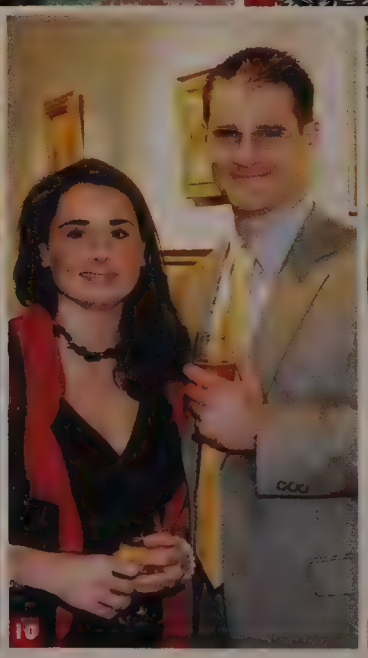
The 16th Annual Fresh Paint Benefit and Auction was held May 13 at the Copley Society of Art. More than 200 party-goers attended the springtime celebration, where local artists are invited to paint Boston scenes. Sale of the 80 paintings created for the auction by the Co/So artist members benefits the Copley Society of Art, America's oldest nonprofit art association.













6. From left: **Nicole Ritchay**, producer for the "Matty in the Morning" show on KISS 108 FM; her mother, **Susan Ritchay**, executive director for the Copley Society; and **Candace Lovely**, artist.
7. **Janet Rosenblatt**, board member for the Copley Society; and **David Colella**, general manager of the Colonnade Hotel.
8. **Marilyn Duane**, president of Metro West Homes in Framingham; and **Dr. Michael Pearlman**, medical director for DrinkInSafety.com, in Wellesley.
9. **Ann Peckham**, manager at the Boston Cosmetic Surgery Center, and her husband, **Jack**, executive director of the Real Estate Cyber Space Society.
10. **Alison Branch** and **Chris Moschella**, both financial advisors for American Express.
11. **Laura Barkan**, board member for the Copley Society; her husband, **John**, of the Barkan Companies; **Martha Ruest**, senior development officer for Riverkeeper, in New York; and **Steve Peltzman**, board member for the Copley Society and a biotech consultant.

SUNDAYS

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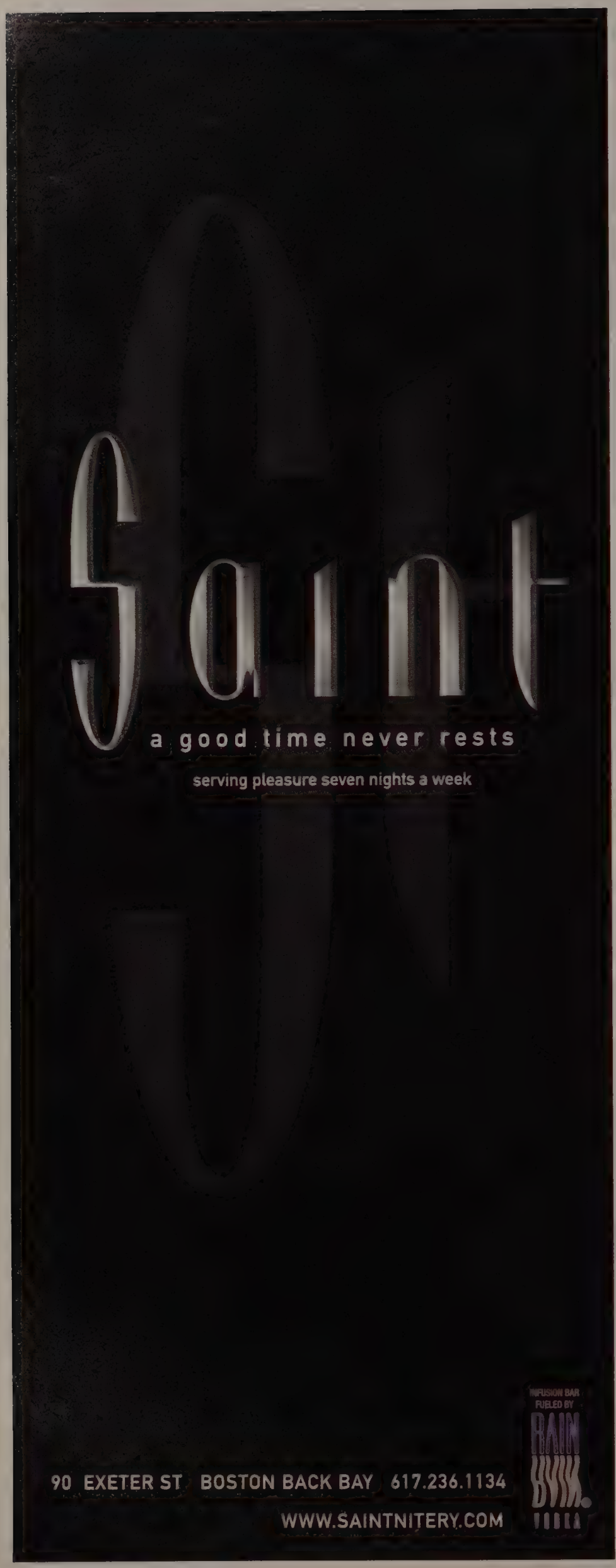
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ezra

BY EZRA DYER



CIAO, BABY

I could be a European playboy if someone would just give me a chance

Whatever you've heard about South Beach is probably true: Yes Virginia, there are Ferraris and topless beaches everywhere. After spending a recent weekend in South Beach, I now want to live there, but I don't think I have the means. I spent $500 on food and drinks in a period of 24 hours, and dropping $182,500 per year on sustenance is probably outside my budget. But you see, I was hanging with Laio and I didn't want to let him down.

Laio is an Italian who used to own a restaurant but sold it for an apparently extravagant sum. Now he spends his days enjoying the Miami good life with his hot girlfriend, Suzie. Normally I'm contemptuous of profligate Euros, but after spending the better part of a weekend hanging with Laio, I became accustomed to the ways of the playboy. I could probably get used to going to only the best clubs and bribing bouncers and lounging by pools all day and never drinking tap water. Someday I might even tip the guy in the restroom who hands you a paper towel. OK, I won't—I'll always resent that. Although I might be inclined to pay for hand-drying if the guy would let me push his forehead like a button and then make a "whooooooooshhhh" sound as he blows on my hands. That would be fun. What was I talking about?

Laio sets a high standard for leisure. I discovered this right away, when I suggested that our party stop at the Clevelander Hotel, which is on Ocean Drive and features a pool surrounded by multiple outdoor bars and a dance floor. Sounds like a good time, right? Wrong. "The Clevelander is filled with tourists," Laio said, as if I'd suggested that we go Dumpster-diving for new underwear. "We'll show you some good places that the tourists don't know about." Laio's right, tourists are so pathetic, I thought as I pulled my "Party in the City Where the Heat Is On" T-shirt down over my fanny pack.

One of Laio's favorite places is a club called Privé, which, fortunately, is open to the publique. "You can't even get in here unless you know the bouncer," Laio told us. Knowing bouncers is important in South Beach. I suspect that if Laio had enough disposable income, he'd hire a bouncer to stand in front of his apartment and give him a hard time when he comes home at night.

Once we got into Privé, I was expecting a scene reminiscent of a particular Master P video, which Mr. P described thusly in an MTV interview: "We wilding out. That video, I got an elephant with a Gucci hat and some Gucci trinkets you put around an elephant. I got my Gucci helicopter in there. It's a party. You gonna see a lot of midgets in this video." That's what I wanted in Privé. Rappers, elephants, Gucci midgets. The funny thing was, for all the drama over getting in (Laio had to catch the bouncer's attention and then bribe him), the club itself was generic. Meanwhile, the adjoining club, Opium Garden, looked like a Coleridge trip come to life. Think "immense dance club outdoors in a Chinese garden." It had no line at all. This is the influence of the Laios at work. If all of the Laios and Suzies in South Beach decided that hanging out at Burger King was cool, you couldn't get your hands on a Whopper Jr. without slipping the drive-thru guy a 20.

Other favorite Laio moments: when we were at the beach and he called and told us that we were at the wrong part of the beach, and the beautiful people were two blocks south. Or when we ordered sushi and he made a point of telling the waiter that he'd eaten at that restaurant the day before and the edamame was too crunchy, and it should be cooked longer next time. Or when he gazed disdainfully at the parade of high-end cars and pronounced, "None of these people live here. They drive in from other places. Anyone who lives in South Beach doesn't take their car out at night." It's not enough to have a nice car—to really fit in you've got to have a nice car but not be bothered to actually drive it. The ultimate would be to buy a Ferrari and just leave it at the dealership.

I appreciated Laio's attempts to show me his favorite places in South Beach, but I think we've got different tastes. He appreciates the finer things, I appreciate renting a Mustang and driving to the nearest hot-body competition to do some hollerin'. Really, the only question is who's cheesier. iB

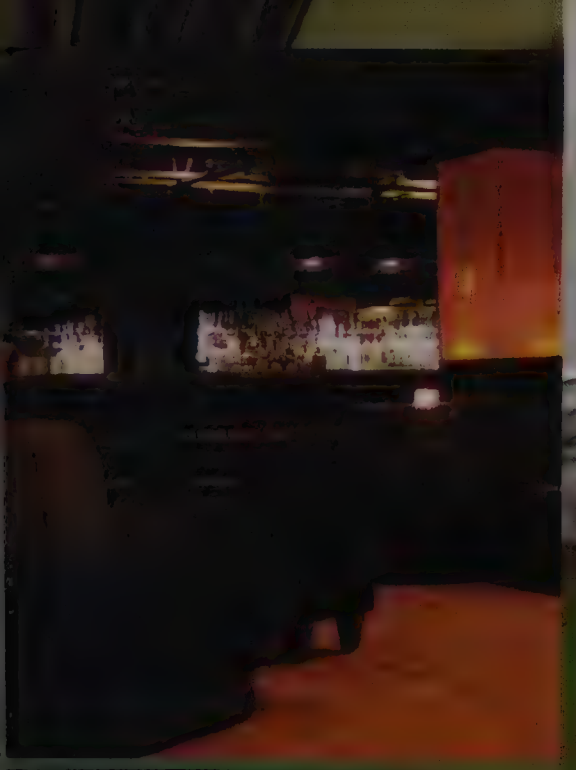
ONE OF LAIO'S FAVORITE PLACES IS A CLUB CALLED PRIVÉ, WHICH, FORTUNATELY, IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIQUE

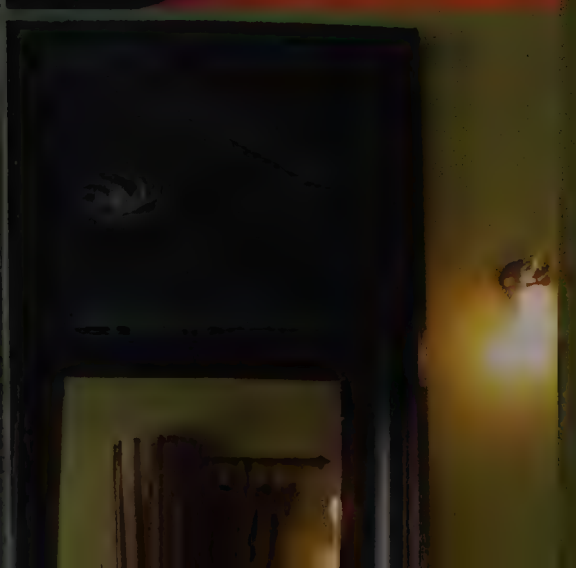
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Soroff ON

LIZ BRUNNER

BY JONATHAN SOROFF



WCVB-TV news anchor Liz Brunner was born in Connecticut and raised in Hawaii and Illinois. After winning the title of Miss Illinois, she earned a bachelor of music degree from Lawrence University's Conservatory of Music in Appleton, Wis., and for several years, she sang and taught music professionally, once even performing for the Pope. Her television career began in 1985 when she became community services representative at WCIA-TV in Champaign, Ill. She then began doing the weather on-air. She worked as morning news anchor and host of a weekend talk show for the CBS affiliate in Tampa, Fla., before joining WCVB in 1993 as a reporter and fill-in anchor on *Chronicle*. After co-hosting the *EyeOpener* newscast for several years, she became a co-anchor of the 5:30 and 11 p.m. news. In 1995, she received a regional Emmy. Brunner is actively involved with the March of Dimes, the American Heart Association and the Berkshire Hills Music Academy for Children with Williams Syndrome. She lives in Newton.

Jonathan Soroff: *Favorite thing about your job?*

Liz Brunner: Well, it's a competitive business, and I like the fact that we have the opportunity to be the first to give people information; the challenge of that, of sharing with people what's going on in the world and why they should care. I also love the things I get to do because I'm in the media. The places, the people, the access. And while I get those perks, they carry with them a responsibility to the public, and I like that balance.

JS: *Thing you hate the most?*

LB: [Laughs] It's very demanding on your personal life.

JS: *Beauty secret?*

LB: I don't have any.

JS: *Oh, c'mon. How about the eternal tan? Is it a tanning machine, spray-on or what?*

LB: I get tan taking the garbage out.

JS: *How do you spend your free time?*

LB: What free time? [Laughs.] I work out. I spend time with friends. I read. I knit. I love to cook.

JS: *Biggest nonstory of your career, when you had to cover something you thought was absurd?*

LB: Well, what comes to mind is the story about a man who had been arrested. He had a bullet in his derriere, and he was convinced that when the doctors removed the bullet, they'd put a microphone in its place.

JS: *Happens all the time; it's just not well documented. So do you live and die by the ratings?*

> [NEWS REPORTERS] DEAL WITH SUCH DEVASTATION EVERY SINGLE DAY. IT WOULD BE GREAT TO SAY THAT THERE'S NO MORE VIOLENCE, NO MORE SUFFERING IN THE WORLD.

LB: No. I try to do my job the same way—to the best of my ability—every single day. Sure, I look at the numbers. But do I think, "Oh God, I've gotta change something because of that?" No. I feel like I'm doing what I'm supposed to be doing. Ratings go up and down. If you live and die by them, you'll have ulcers.

JS: *Personal motto?*

LB: You never know you can't do something until you try, so you might as well try.

JS: *You were Miss Illinois. How'd you get sucked into the pageant thing?*

LB: It paid for my education. It was scholarship money. It was a fluke that I got into it, but between that and working in the dish room at Lawrence University, I got through college.

JS: *You washed dishes to get through school?*

LB: Oh, yeah. And my friends, when they knew I was working, would make their trays so disgustingly awful and put little notes on napkins like, "Hi, Liz!" Because they knew I was in the basement cleaning up their mess.

JS: *Greatest lengths you ever had to go to for a story?*

LB: Probably dealing with the military for a story on the radar system that keeps track of satellites and missiles. When you're dealing with the military, and top secret stuff, they can be very difficult. I had to work really hard to get inside this facility and shoot video, but I finally did.

JS: *One piece of news you'd most like to deliver?*

LB: We deal with such devastation every single day. It would be great to say we've stopped terrorism in its tracks. That there's no more violence, and no more suffering in the world. It would be great if we could say nobody is gonna go hungry, and everybody has a home. That may sound Pollyannaish, but I'd like that.

JS: *Who would you rather be: Barbara Walters or Diane Sawyer?*

LB: Oh, either, or both. They're both outstanding.

JS: *Very diplomatic. So who would win in a catfight?*

LB: Diane's a bit younger. Maybe she's stronger.

JS: *First thing that comes to mind when you turn on the TV and see yourself?*

LB: Oh, there I am.

JS: *It doesn't freak you out? Aren't you critical?*

LB: Sure I am, sometimes. In fact, we just did a promo where I thought they should have used a different take, but we're all critical of ourselves that way. And sure, there are times when I see what I'm wearing and say, "What was I thinking?" But not too often.

JS: *Piece of news you'd most like to hear about yourself?*

LB: Damn, she's good.

JS: *So are all reporters busybodies or gossips?*

LB: No. The majority of them are, probably, since it goes hand-in-hand with curiosity, but not everyone's a busybody.

JS: *Anchor chair you'd most like to sit in?*

LB: The one I'm sitting in.

JS: *Do you have a favorite sign-off line?*

LB: Have a great weekend.

JS: *Weird viewer encounters?*

LB: I couldn't even begin to tell you what the weirdest call is that I've gotten, because it's amazing how many people call the newsroom, and it's amazing what they call the newsroom about. But I guess the strangest thing is that a lot of people don't even have a question, or a news tip. They just want someone to listen to them talk.

JS: *True or false: All weathermen are liars?*

LB: I think our team is pretty accurate.

JS: *"Pretty accurate" is different than making a routine snowstorm into the coming of the next ice age. Let's just establish this: The weather is not a story!*

LB: You'd be surprised by how many people call when there's weather going on. Whether it's raining, or it's 100 degrees. It affects people, and they want to know, and they react to it. Now, I'll admit that I don't always agree when the weather's our lead story, as often as it is, but it's what people want to know.

JS: *OK, name the top things people want to know.*

LB: They want to know the weather, the headlines and if their world's gonna be OK.

JS: *What about sports scores?*

LB: Well, I care about sports scores. Go Red Sox!

JS: *Thing about your job that makes you proudest?*

LB: When a viewer feels comfortable coming up to me and saying, "I know you're delivering bad news, but somehow coming from you, I know things are going to be OK." That makes me feel like I'm fulfilling some sort of purpose.

JS: *OK, fill in the blank: Liz Brunner would like you to know that _____.*

LB: That I take my job very seriously, but do have a sense of humor. IB

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THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS



SAVE THIS MARRIAGE

Boston and Nomar have something worth holding onto

Like any married couple, Boston and Nomar Garciaparra have shared the highest of highs and, yes, sometimes the lowest of lows. Unfortunately, these days we seem to be focusing on the lows, as in Nomar's six weeks from hell last September and October, his nearly being replaced by Alex Rodriguez, his injuries and his contract issues. It hasn't been a pleasant nine months for Nomar.

At times, he has appeared to be unhappy and/or whiny, things Boston fans seem to despise most in an athlete. But we shouldn't forget what this shortstop has meant to the city, the fans and, especially, this baseball team that several million people dearly love.

Ever since he arrived here—Sept. 1, 1996 was his debut—Nomar has accomplished special things. His first major league hit was a home run. He won Rookie of the Year and was the only rookie to play in the 1997 All-Star game, and his 98 RBIs that year were the most ever for a major league leadoff hitter. His 30 homers were an all-time record for rookie shortstops. And as exciting as that first year was, it got better.

In his first playoff series in 1998, he broke an American League Championship Series record with 11 RBIs. In 1999 he was the AL batting champ, hitting .357. He upped that to .372 in 2000 and won again. You want some more?

He was only the fifth player in major league history with 30-plus homers in his first two seasons. His 10 RBIs in one game in 1999 were the most ever for a shortstop. He had a two–grand slam game in 2000. He has put together 21 hitting streaks of 10 games or more. Last year he had a six-for-six game and followed up with a five-hit performance the next day to became the first player in the expansion era to have a five-hit game and a six-hit game in the same week.

I didn't mean to throw the Bill James book at you, but if the Sox want to go by the numbers, they should be consistent and go by the numbers. This is not merely a good player we're talking about here. This is a special player. Where did it all go wrong?

Some people point toward the Boston media's routine of putting an athlete on a pedestal before bringing him down, others to his courtship and eventual marriage to Mia Hamm during the winter. And Nomar hasn't played all season due to an Achilles tendon injury. But let's be honest, Nomar's problems are as much mental as they are physical. We all know that when he's at 100 percent, he's a Hall of Famer.

Red Sox management deserves its share of the blame in its dealings with Nomar and his relationship with the media hasn't been one of legendary comradeship, but who cares? The more I've talked to him the more I understand. He just doesn't enjoy climbing the wall that's been built between him and the media.

Nomar has a healthy understanding of how fortunate he is to be playing in the majors. So he never wants to take it for granted, which is why he prepares during the off-season with the intensity of a caged animal. How much money does Nomar deserve? I can't put an exact number on it, but he deserves more than the $12 million a year that Miguel Tejada received from the Orioles. Even Nomar's detractors would agree with that.

However, offering a few dollars more than that wouldn't cut it. Nomar deserves better, and so do the fans. When was the last time you heard Nomar's name associated with anything bad off the field? Don't waste your time trying. There isn't one. And Patriots quarterback Tom Brady excluded, nobody in this town can attract the crowd that Nomar stirs up, as I discovered firsthand when he came by the NECN studios for a show last month. As we spoke in the parking lot after the show, every single person that walked by stopped. Every single one. And believe it or not, it wasn't because of my own sparkling personality.

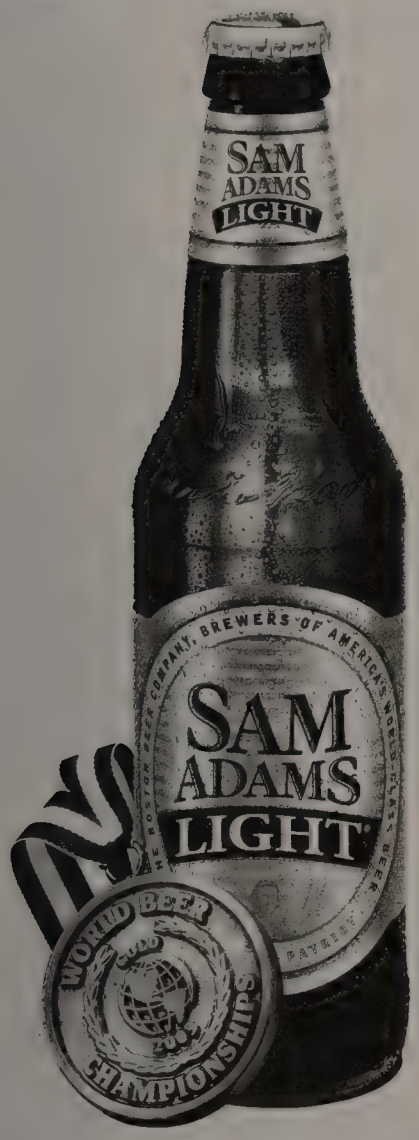
> THIS IS NOT MERELY A GOOD PLAYER WE'RE TALKING ABOUT HERE. THIS IS A SPECIAL PLAYER. WHERE DID IT ALL GO WRONG?

That's his life. It never ends. It's when he is on the baseball field, he is at peace. So don't give up on Nomar just yet. While it hasn't always seemed that way, Nomar and Boston are made for each other. Both love baseball as if it were a family member. Any marriage with such great beginnings is worth saving, including this one. iB

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News.

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Plough and Stars
Red Line
Shay's
The Cantab Lounge
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Tommy Doyle's

Braintree, Quincy

Chili's Braintree
Pat Flanagan's
Pizzeria Uno's Braintree
The Blarney Stone
The Fowler House
The Half Door

Brighton

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Common Ground
Kinvara
Our House West
Roggies
Sunset Grill/Big City
The Kells
T's Pub
White Horse Tavern
Wonder Bar

Suburbs

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Dockside-Malden
Good Times Billiards
Hartwell House
Holiday Inn-Somerville
Hugh O'Neill's
On The Border-Woburn
On The Hill Tavern
Pacini's
Pearl Street Station
Powder House Pub
Shamrock Inn
Sky Bar
Sligo Pub
Spud's
TGIF-Everett
TGIF-Woburn
Thirsty Scholar
Town Line
Veez

04 The Boston Beer Company, Boston, MA.

30 THINGS TO DO THIS SUMMER

YOU KNOW THAT HANGDOG FEELING COME THE FALL FROST? THAT REMORSE FOR ALL THE FUN STUFF YOU DIDN'T DO WHEN THE WEATHER WAS WARM? DON'T LET THAT BE YOU THIS YEAR.

BY JULIE SURATT

After a brutal winter and a virtually nonexistent spring, Bostonians can't afford to fritter away the precious summer days. When the warm weather finally arrives, you need a plan of action for squeezing every last drop of enjoyment out of those brief summer months. We've got you covered there with the to-do list to end all to-do lists for a truly fulfilling summer—activities to take part in, food and drinks to savor, places to visit. What are you waiting for?

Go picnicking

A bottle of wine, a loaf of French bread, a couple of different types of cheese, olives, grapes…or a Happy Meal. A picnic can be anything you want—all you need is a patch of grass and a warm, dry day. Grab a blanket and head to the banks of the Charles River near the Harvard Boat House on the Boston side, or to the Hatch Shell, Jamaica Pond, Larz Anderson Park in Brookline, the Public Garden or the Common.

Go canoeing on the Charles River

If you thought the view of the Boston skyline from the Longfellow Bridge was impressive, wait till you see it from a canoe in the middle of the Charles. Rent a canoe at Charles River Canoe & Kayak, just up the river from Harvard Square, and paddle downstream for a wild time in the city. *Located on the Boston side of the Charles River, upstream from the Eliot Bridge, on Soldiers Field Road. (617-462-2513).*



Shop at a farmers' market. From May through November, Massachusetts farmers load freshly picked strawberries, corn, peppers, peaches, cucumbers and other fruits and vegetables onto their trucks and head to designated markets throughout the metropolitan area. From Copley Square (Tuesdays, Fridays, 11 am–6 pm) and City Hall Plaza (Mondays, Wednesdays, 11 am–6 pm) to the suburbs, these are the spots to get the freshest local produce. The choice is yours: mealy tomatoes from a bin at the supermarket or juicy red ones right off the vine? *www.massfarmersmarkets.org.*

Go swimming at the Colonnade Hotel. An oasis amid the hustle and bustle of the city, the Colonnade's rooftop pool is truly a find. The elevator whisks you and your juiciest summer read 11 stories up and deposits you in heaven...or as close as you can get in Boston. On your way to your lounge chair, grab a towel from the cabana and a piña colada from the bar. You may never come down. *120 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-424-7000). 8 am–8 pm. $40.*

Dance the tango by moonlight. The Tango Society of Boston offers the perfect recipe for a romantic night: a full moon, Argentinean music and tango dancing on a bridge over the Charles River. Join in the dance, or simply watch from the riverbank. *Weeks Bridge, near Harvard Square. June 5, July 4, July 31, Aug. 30 and Sept. 27. (617-699-6246). www.bostontango.org.*

Attend a religious feast in the North End. A half dozen men tote a replica of St. Anthony festooned with dollar bills through the narrow streets of the North End, while thousands of revelers feast on crusty rolls stuffed with spiced beef and cheese, sip homemade red wine, and dance to the tunes of the Roma Band and the North End Band. Skip the Cape and escape to Italy at any of the North End's nine festivals, held on weekends from June through August. *See www.northendboston.com for a schedule of this year's festivals.*

Watch Shakespeare under the stars. Pack a picnic basket with gourmet goodies, grab a couple of lawn chairs and get thee to either the Publick Theatre, which features *Troilus and Cressida* (beginning July 8) and *The Merchant of Venice* (beginning July 29) on the banks of the Charles River, or Shakespeare on the Common, which presents *Much Ado About Nothing* on the Boston Common July 10–Aug. 1. *www.publictheatre.org or www.commonwealthshakespeare.org.*

Walk through the Arnold Arboretum. Most Bostonians have yet to explore these 265 acres of wilderness within the city limits. In the summer, lush greenery overhead provides a respite from the hot sun. Walk along the paths through meadows, into the woods and around ponds, taking note of the more than 4,000 woody plants. *125 Arborway, Jamaica Plain (617-524-1718). www.arboretum.harvard.edu.*

Dine alfresco. An hour's wait? Fine. It's worth it to dine under the stars. Don't miss the garden seating at Cambridge's Oleana or Harvest, or the Hungry I on Charles Street; the people-watching at Armani Café, Sonsie or Stephanie's on Newbury, or the Parish Café around the corner on Boylston; the water views at Zephyr on the Charles in Cambridge, or Oceana on the waterfront; or the rooftop dining at the Rattlesnake in the Back Bay.

Take a ferry to one of the Boston Harbor Islands

Even on the most scorching August day, you'll feel a cool breeze on the ride to one of the 34 islands in Boston Harbor. Nature lovers can hike trails lined with wildflowers on Grape and Bumpkin islands, while history buffs can tour Fort Warren on Georges Island, where Union soldiers trained and Confederate soldiers were imprisoned during the Civil War. *www.bostonislands.com.*



BONUS POINTS

Walk sections of the new Boston HarborWalk, which follows the waterfront (with a couple of breaks) from Dorchester to East Boston.

Take sailing lessons at Boston Sailing Center at Rowes Wharf (617-227-4198) or Community Boating on the Charles River Esplanade (617-523-1038).

Lobster roll at Jasper White's Summer Shack

So many places manage to ruin a lobster roll: the wrong roll, too little lobster meat, too much mayo, forgetting to add a little veggie crunch. But Jasper White does it right, combining the perfect proportions of lobster, mayo (just a dab), tarragon and cucumbers on a toasted, buttered hot dog roll. It's a taste of the Cape, without the traffic. *149 Alewife Brook Parkway, Cambridge (617-520-9500); 50 Dalton St., Boston (617- 867-9955).*



Fried clams at Woodman's. Steve Woodman, grandson of the founder of Woodman's of Essex, is so confident his clams are the best that he's willing to divulge the recipe (consider it his proverbial throwing down of the gauntlet). Freshly shucked clams are dipped in milk, then rolled in corn flour and fried to crispy, golden perfection. Dunk one of these suckers in Aunt Joane's tartar sauce, and you'll understand why folks wait in line for nearly an hour in the summer. *121 Main St., Essex (800-649-1773).*

A fruit smoothie. The next best thing to a colorful cocktail in the summer is a fruit smoothie. Among our local favorites: Jamba Juice at Boston University's George Sherman Union, the Wrap/Jera's Juice (several locations), Blue Shirt Café in Davis Square and the juice stand in the Harvard Square T station.

A sausage and a beer. But not just any sausage and beer. A sweet Italian sausage with peppers and onions from the Sausage Guy outside Fenway Park, followed by a cold Bud on the bleacher seats. 'Nuff said. *www.sausageguy.com*

Pick your own berries. It's a well-known fact: Berries taste better when you pick them yourself. Try Marino Lookout Farm in South Natick and Land's Sake in Weston for strawberries, blueberries and raspberries; Verrill Farm in Concord for raspberries and strawberries; and Russell Orchards in Ipswich for all of the above, plus blackberries. *www.pickyourown.org.*

A glass of lemoncello in the North End. Why have lemonade when you can sip lemoncello? This Italian liqueur infused with the rinds of lemons and served ice cold is a postdinner staple in Italy. You can find it at just about any restaurant in the North End, or you can purchase your own bottle of Sogno di Sorrento (a highly rated brand) from V. Cirace & Son and keep it stashed in your freezer for hot summer nights. *V. Cirace & Son, 173 North St., Boston (617-227-3193). $21.99.*

A frozen margarita. The day the delicious margarita met a blenderful of crushed ice was a glorious one for cocktail lovers everywhere, and most of the Tex-Mex joints in this town serve up some creative north-of-the-border versions. Try passion fruit at the Cactus Club on Boylston, melon at Harvard Square's Border Café, banana at Fajitas & 'Ritas downtown, or prickly pear at the Cottonwood Café, on Berkeley Street.

A soft-serve ice cream from the Frosty Truck. These days, it's surprisingly difficult to find soft-serve ice cream (not to be confused with frozen yo). Mr. Frosty parks on Boylston Street next to the Public Garden every day, and the line has been known to stretch around the corner and down Arlington Street. A vanilla-chocolate swirl is just what the doctor ordered.



Gelato

On a hot summer day, there's no treat to match rich and creamy nocciola (hazelnut) gelato served in a colorful cup with a tiny spoon. Café Paradiso, Caffé Vittoria and Mike's Pastry in the North End; Athan's and Zathmary's in Brookline; and Giordano's in Belmont all serve it. Go get some.

Raspberry lime rickey

The quintessential summer drink in New England (circa 1950), a raspberry lime rickey is a refreshing mix of raspberry syrup, lime juice, club soda and a wedge of lime. It's the perfect thirst-quencher, and you can find it at Bartley's Burger Cottage, Charlie's Kitchen and Johnny's Luncheonette, all in Harvard Square, or at any JP Licks or Brigham's, among other spots.



BONUS POINTS

Try all 36 flavors at the Scooper Bowl at City Hall Plaza, June 8–10. $7. *(800-525-4669).*

Freeze your tongue with one of 14 different scooped slushes (including root beer and orange cream) at Richie's Slush in Everett. *3 Garvey St., Everett, (617-387-3188). www.richiesslush.com.*

len Pond. Swimming holes are few and far between in Boston, which ains the mob scene at Walden Pond on weekends. It's a decent-sized l, and if you follow the footpath around to the right for a distance, can escape the crowds and have an experience more like the one reau might have had back in the mid 1800s. *Route 2 west to Route 126 . www.state.ma.us/dem/parks/wldn.htm.*

ng Beach. It's amazing that a stretch of coastline as beautiful as Man-ter-by-the-Sea is accessible by public transportation. Named for the the white sand literally "sings" as you step on it, Singing Beach is in walking distance of the quaint town center and a picturesque har- *www.seecapeann.com/see_manchester.html.*

rFire in Providence. A series of 100 bonfires lit in the middle of three s in downtown Providence, WaterFire offers the perfect excuse to an hour south. Have dinner in Little Italy and then go for an evening along the canals accompanied by ethereal music. *www.waterfire.org.*

ve-in movie. Nothing says summer like a drive-in movie. You'll have ad about an hour southwest of the city, to Mendon, Mass., but it's h it to experience a classic 1950s drive-in featuring recent releases an impressive snack bar. *45 Milford St., Mendon (508-473-4958). .mendondrivein.com.*



ovincetown

options: You can sit in traffic for five hours along Route 3, or you op on a ferry at the World Trade Center and cruise to Province-n in 90 minutes. Bay State Cruise Company runs three high-d round trips every day from May through September. (For ideas hat to do there, see "A Provincetown Primer" on page 24). *f/boston-ptown.com.*

The Big E

Nothing finishes off the summer like the Eastern States Exposition (better known as the Big E) in West Springfield. Picture an enormous county fair hosted by all six New England states, with agricultural exhibitions, amusement rides, games, concerts, circuses, parades, crafts and cooking contests. *1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield (413-205-5115). www.thebige.com. Sept. 17–Oct. 3. $12–$15.*



Freeport, Maine. Nowadays, there are plenty of outlet malls closer to home, but Freeport remains the granddaddy of outlet shopping. More than 80 factory outlets, stores and boutiques surround the three-floor L.L. Bean mothership, and most are within walking distance of each other. Round out the afternoon with lunch at Harraseeket Lunch and Lobster. *www.freeportusa.com.*

Blue Hills. Only eight miles from the city you'll find true wilderness. To navigate the more than 7,000 acres of forest land—with marshes, swamps, ponds, meadows, and even an Atlantic white cedar bog—you'll need hiking boots and a map, which you can pick up at the Trailside Museum on Route 138 in Canton. From the rocky summit of Great Blue Hill—a half-mile hike straight up—you'll get a stunning view of Boston and beyond. *www.state.ma.us/mdc/blue.htm.*

Martha's Vineyard. Rent mopeds, ride the Flying Horses Carousel in Oak Bluffs, get an ice cream at Mad Martha's, take in the view at Gay Head, ride the waves at Katama Beach, buy a T-shirt at the Black Dog Bakery, take the ferry to Chappaquiddick, go shopping in Edgartown and get another ice cream at Mad Martha's…and that's just on the first day. *www.mvy.com.* iB

Tanglewood

You've lived in Boston for how long and you've never been to Tanglewood?! Shame on you. Members of the Boston Symphony Orchestra let down their hair and get playful in the summer, offering outdoor performances of jazz, classical and pop music practically every night of the week. Pack a picnic (don't forget the wine opener) and stretch out on the lawn amid the Berkshires' beauty. *www.bso.org.*



BONUS POINTS

Spend a weekend in Montreal—a direct flight from Logan arrives in under two hours.

Watch the sun rise from the top of Cadillac Mountain in Acadia National Park in Bar Harbor, Maine.

Climb Mount Washington, three hours north of Boston, near North Conway, New Hampshire.

crowdpleasers

FANEUIL HALL MARKETPLACE IN SUMMER DEFINES THE WORD "BUSTLING." WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO KEEP THE HORDES HERE ENTERTAINED? WE VISIT THIS YEAR'S STREET PERFORMER AUDITIONS TO FIND OUT.



THE GARGOYLES

BORIS & NADINE

BY SCOTT LAJOIE PHOTOGRAPHS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

he wind starts to pick up at Quincy Market's west end, where Mike Ceceri, publicist for the North Shore Music Theatre, is seated next to two other judges, *American* l–style. A couple of metal partitions topple over around them, using a string of decorative balloons to pop. Spectators shield eir eyes and turn up the collars on their coats; Faneuil Hall Marplace workers scramble to restore order minutes before the street permer auditions are about to begin. A tablecloth begins to blow away and ceri splays out flamboyantly to keep it down. "Paula Abdul never has to l with this," he says.

The late-April weather will not cooperate much for today's festivities, but en you work the famous cobblestones at Quincy Market, you have to be pared for anything. Some of the performers, watching their peers brave elements, decide to eliminate a trick or two from their act minutes be- they are about to go on; others, like Chuckles the Komic, a 28-year et-performing veteran, persevere. When Chuckles realizes the high ds will not allow him to pull off his signature trick—juggling pins le balancing a wheelbarrow on his forehead—he remarks to the ng girl passing him the pins, "OK, now run like hell, 'cause I not that good." The audience laughs, and the judges take note. pite the failed stunt, Chuckles ends up making the cut.

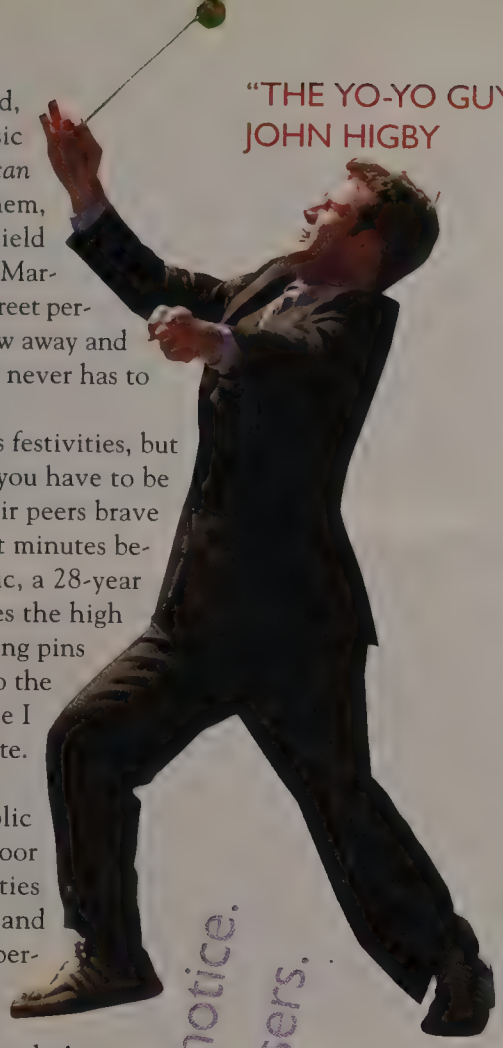
or 19 years, Faneuil Hall Marketplace has conducted public itions to select the acts who will perform for the outdoor wds at Quincy Market during the summer. Many U.S. cities e similar public venues—such as San Francisco's Pier 39 and West's Mallory Square. But according to most of today's perners, Quincy Market is the best venue in the country for elty acts—entertainers who do card tricks, illusions, yo-yo s, juggling, miming or anything else that draws a crowd. At today's tions, spectators come and go, though the size of the audience rens steady at about 150.

bout three dozen acts are selected each year for Faneuil Hall's mer program. In the past, judges were culled from various shops in the market and from Faneuil Hall Marketplace management ; even veteran performers helped, evaluating the new talent. year, however, was the first time that expert talent finders were ght in, to lend an air of professionalism to the auditions.

n, of the Jim Show, a 12-year Faneuil Hall veteran who lives merville, kicks off the audition event and stays on to emcee. ng the short breaks in between acts, he's responsible for holdhe attention of the spectators. He also has to coax acts that ver their allotted time of 10 minutes (in some cases, by al- five minutes) to wrap it up. A member of the management is seated at the end of the judges' table with signs to tell the rmer that only two minutes, then one minute, of the ald time remain, but Jim must step in a couple of times with le acerbic humor.

e performers' livelihoods for the summer hang in the nce today. If they don't impress the judges, low marks ikely influence management's decision on whether they ut on the schedule or get the hook. Missing the cut d mean more kids' birthday parties and corporate ts to earn a buck, or more trips to Harvard Square to er hone the act. "There's a certain level of pressure," Anne Goldmann, fixing her bright pink tutu. "We've here for two years and we still don't feel all that esshed." Goldmann is one half of the Daredevil ken Club, an acrobatic act that consists of her and ancé, Jonathan Taylor, both of Jamaica Plain. Tayds, "You can't get lazy." The judges like the act se of their interaction with the audience, and uo earns a coveted summer slot.

niel Forlano, a Northampton resident who per- under the name Stitch, blends into the audiafter his routine, in which he balances high up adder. "I've been here for four years now," he "I sure hope I make it." Although his act turns be a favorite among the judges, Forlano rewhat happened at a tryout a few years ago: ended up pulling me off," he says, explainat his act wasn't yet fully developed and of his humor might not have been appropriate. "Needless to say I didn't make the program that year, and I didn't bother showing my face at auditions the following year either," he says laughing. You'll see Stitch this summer at Faneuil Hall, though.



"THE YO-YO GUY"
JOHN HIGBY

In a day full of similar acts, it's personality that the judges notice. Self-deprecating humor and spontaneity are crowd-pleasers.

BLAIR TOLLESSON

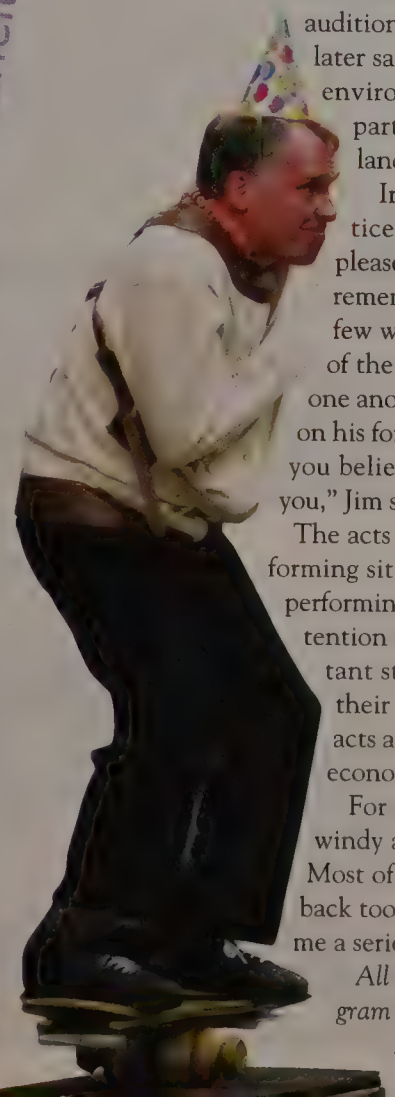
The afternoon is stressful not only for the performers, but also for judge Anne-Celeste Anders, director of corporate sales for South Weymouth–based Fun Enterprises Inc. Anders, who books many of these same acts for company parties, outing venues and other clients, says her heart went out to all the performers. "At first, I thought I was rating people too high," she says. "They're going to think, 'Oh my God, she liked almost everybody!'" According to Janine Crisostamo, marketing coordinator for Faneuil Hall Marketplace, summer performers are chosen based on a number of criteria—judges consider appearance, skill level and their overall impression of an act.

Ceceri, however, is ready to be ruthless, though if he blasts an act, he says, it's out of honesty. "I think, if I were there with my young nephews, what would I watch?" One performer, a juggler, Ceceri says, "took forever to get into the act. I looked around and saw people leaving." That act will be playing a lot of Harvard Square this summer.

Judges were particularly keen on how a performer interacts with the audience. Ceceri says he was a little hesitant at the start of the Gargoyles' unique freeze-modeling act, which has worked successfully at Quincy Market for a couple of years. But when he noticed some kids enjoying their antics, he gave them high marks. Etienne, who puts on a French accent and performs yo-yo and ladder stunts, seems to have a good rapport with the crowd. But because he goes on so late in the afternoon, his tricks have a "been there, done that" feel. He chides the audience to clap for him, saying, "My job is on the line." Indeed it is. Au revoir.

Early in the auditions, all the acts seem pretty distinct. By the end of the day, however, the judges' heads are swimming. Anders turns to Ceceri and jokes, "If I see another magic rope, I'll ask them to make a noose out of it." They're thankful that they meticulously filled out evaluation forms between each act—those will help them remember who was who.

While it sounds like there's an advantage to an early slot, it doesn't guarantee a successful audition. I bump into the Balloongineer—Royal Sorell of Peabody—in the parking garage a half hour before he's scheduled to go on. Sorell has a regular gig at Fenway Park and is leaving the day after the auditions for California and a stint at Disneyland. One of the judges later says the act wasn't spontaneous enough for such a competitive environment. "It seemed to me to be more geared to a controlled party atmosphere," the judge confides. It may work in Disneyland, but it didn't make the cut for Faneuil Hall this year.



In a day full of similar acts, it's personality that the judges notice. Self-deprecating humor and spontaneity are real crowd-pleasers. Jim of the Jim Show says the best acts are those where you remember the performer more than what he or she did. He cites a few who don't do anything particularly flamboyant, including two of the afternoon's last acts—Dave Buchanan, who pits kids against one another in races for money, and Peter Gross, who sticks a plunger on his forehead and asks audience members to toss rings at him. ("Can you believe this is my audition?" he remarks.) "That's the street for you," Jim says.

The acts all agree that the auditions don't represent a true-to-life performing situation because a crowd is already gathered for them. When performing during the summer, they say, catching that first person's attention is essential. What's more, the audition lacks the most important step of all: the hat pitch, where performers essentially make their living. Some of the older performers note that almost all the acts auditioning are solo performers; group acts just no longer work economically, unless they're husband and wife.

For most people, it's an enjoyable afternoon, even though it's windy and very chilly once the sun falls behind the main building. Most of the performers will be back next year. Ceceri hopes he'll be back too. "I'd love to do it every year," he says. "Maybe CBS can give me a series."

All the performers from Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Summer Program appear at the Faneuil Hall Street Performers Festival May 29–31, 11 am–7 pm. iB

A PROVINCETOWN PRIMER

WITH A BRAND-NEW THEATER, A RENOWNED FILM FESTIVAL, A THRIVING ARTS COMMUNITY AND DAILY HIGH-SPEED FERRY SERVICE FRO BOSTON, THE CAPE'S MOST VIBRANT TOWN MAKES A PERFECT SUMMER GETAWAY—EVEN FOR A DAY.



BY JOHN BL

PHOTOGRAPHS BY OLIVIA GA

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY

International Birdman Competition, May 30

JUNE

Annual Chef's Table, June 3
Couples Weekend, June 4–6
Wedding Expo, June 5
Helping Our Women, By the Sea Bike Trek, June 12
Provincetown International Film Festival, June 16–20
Provincetown Theater grand opening, June 22
Portuguese Festival, June 24–27

JULY

Provincetown Summer Bear Week, July 10–17
Provincetown Art Association and Museum Annual Secret Garden Tour, July 11

AUGUST

Family Pride Coalition's Family Week, July 31–August 7
FantaSea Carnival 2004, Augus

SEPTEMBER

Labor Day Weekend, Sept. 3
Art Association: Fall Consignment Auction, Sept.

Boston has plenty to offer residents and visitors during the summer months, from an evening in the bleachers at Fenway watching the Sox to a seat at a sidewalk café on Newbury Street watching the world go by. But there's a lot to be said for getting the hell out of the Hub when the weather turns nice.

While a day at the beach is enough for some people, others want a little more variety on their days off. They want to do things like shop in stores both fine and funky, eat anything from a foot-long hot dog to a five-course meal, stroll through a fine art gallery then search for bargains in a tacky gift shop. They want dinner and a drag show followed by a night of wild, uninhibited dancing in a club. In other words, they need to go to Provincetown.

Now, if the idea of going to Provincetown causes a knee-jerk, "I'm not gay" reaction, relax. While it's true that the tiny town at the tip of Cape Cod has a tradition of tolerance, that only means residents will be that much more accepting of you, even if you're an uptight family from the suburbs looking for a fun place to bring the kids for the day.

"It's the kind of town where you can just come down on the spur of the moment and enjoy the day or see a show," says Daniel Kells, "or you can plan on spending a week and just relax and explore all the town has to offer." Kells is executive director of the Provincetown Theater, a new facility opening June 22 that will be home to the town's two ing theatrical companies—the Provincetown T Company and the Provincetown Repertory Theat well as hosting various touring shows.





From top of page: Provincetown's town beach, off Commercial Street; low tide at the town beach; people-watching on the patio at Bubala's by the Bay

Theater has long been a part of the Provincetow munity, Kells explains, dating back to 1916, wh Provincetown Players presented the debut of E O'Neill's first play, *Bound East for Cardiff*, sparkin many (particularly the locals) consider the birth c ern American drama. Richard Gere, Lily Tomlin, cino, James Woods and five-time Tony Award winn Harris have all performed in Provincetown on thei up the ladder of fame. And while the show has gone on, the town has not had a permanent profe theater space since a fire destroyed the Playhouse Wharf in 1977.

Getting to Provincetown is a lot easier than you think, particularly if you don't mind starting your ture with a short ocean voyage. Boston Harbor Cru fers daily trips on a high-speed catamaran that tra you from Long Wharf to MacMillan Wharf in just utes. The cost for a round-trip ticket is $58 for a and $48 for a child. With gas prices upwards of $ lon, Cape-bound traffic that can back up for miles sides of the bridges, and less parking than the Sou on street-cleaning day, why would you ever d

RESTAURANTS

BALA'S BY THE BAY, 183-185 Commercial St., 487-0773. Serves a wide range of food, from classic omfort, in a relaxed atmosphere. www.bubalas.com.

O & SAL'S, 4 Kiley Court, 508-487-6444. Specializ- n Northern Italian cuisine. www.ciroandsals.com.

VA RESTAURANT, 133 Bradford St., 508-487-2010. sic Mediterranean and New American cuisine. www. estaurant.com.

E LOBSTER POT, 321 Commercial St., 508-487-. Fresh seafood and Portuguese specialties. v.ptownlobsterpot.com.

PI'S, 7 Freeman St., 800-571-6274. The diverse u showcases local seafood and produce. www. -restaurant.com.

incetown when you can let someone else get you e with a lot less hassle?

hat's more, you don't need a car to enjoy P-Town, e the majority of the sites, sounds, smells and tastes you'll want to sample are located on, or just a block or away from, the town's main drag, Commercial Street. n just about any day of the week, there are plenty of gs to do, and Provincetown has a summer schedule k-full of special events.

lm buffs from all over the country arrive en masse he Provincetown International Film Festival (June 0), a fan-friendly event that not only showcases films (many of which won't open in Boston until in the year), but offers a variety of activities you t find at any other film festival.

his year, writer/director Jim Jarmusch makes an ap- ance (on the 18th) to receive the festival's Film- r on the Edge award. Other highlights include a at the drive-in (located in nearby Wellfleet), a ce to sing along at a special screening of "The Wiz- f Oz" and the opportunity to join legendary film- r John Waters as he introduces a screening of one favorite films, director Ulrich Seidl's *Dog Days*.

ne of the reasons we decided to have a film festival ne in Provincetown was to build an event that l draw people to the town a little earlier in the sea- before the town gets bombarded with visitors," says anne Lampke of the Beacon Cinema Group, h organizes the festival. "The whole town gets be- what we do, which is fantastic, and the event has to where it's not only something the town and its rs look forward to, but it's become something the s look forward to, also. It's really become a big f the festival circuit."

course, summer brings a number of summer events cater to Provincetown's famous gay community. -sex couples looking for a meaningful way to cele- their relationship might want to visit for Couples end (June 4-6). And if you aren't sure and want to e all the possible options you can imagine, check e FantaSea Carnival week (Aug. 16-22). High- of this week-long gay and lesbian Mardi Gras, red by the Provincetown Business Guild, include o night, an evening of drag bingo and a fabulous e down Commercial Street.

e arts and local crafts have been an important part e community almost since Provincetown was d, and the tradition thrives to this day. Every Fri- ght, for example, art galleries in the east end of throw open their doors to host new works and ex- ns. Fans of contemporary art can check out the collection at the Rice/Polak Gallery, which kicks off its Friday night series on July 2 with a show featuring paintings by Michele Harvey and Steven Skollar, charcoal landscapes by Katherine Meyer and sculpture by David Mitchell. Aficionados who want to explore the history of art by Provincetown artists can stroll through the Julie Heller Gallery or the William Scott Gallery, where they'll not only find work from some of the best artists of Provincetown's past, like Ross Moffett and Patricia Phillips, but can explore the art of contemporary painters like Polly Burnell and Patrick Webb, who are keeping Provincetown's creative flame alive.

If you've got the time, you can even check out the Fine Arts Work Center, whose offerings include workshops on painting and sculpture as well as classes on writing fiction and poetry.

When it comes time to refuel, Provincetown ranks second to none in the variety of food it offers. If you're not ready to sit down and enjoy a full meal, there are plenty of places to graze. You can follow your nose to the Provincetown Portuguese Bakery & Coffee Shop and pick up a chunk of warm fried dough or linguica-stuffed bread. If you have a sweet tooth, ask one of the counter people to recommend a homemade Portuguese pastry.

Those who like to dine casually with a view have their choice of scenery at Bubala's by the Bay. You can sit outside along Commercial Street and feel a part of the scene as you nibble salmon tartare or slurp down some oysters. There is also seating at the back of the restaurant overlooking the ocean—there you can feel like you're miles away from the hustle and bustle as you crack open a lobster or enjoy your dessert.

If you're looking to go a bit more upscale, check out Napi's, a unique restaurant occupying a collection of buildings that once housed a string of auto garages. It's located a block off the main drag, on Freeman Street. Along with pouring some classic cocktails, Napi's offers a wide-ranging à la carte menu featuring everything from Brazilian shrimp to Russian oysters. The King's Feast (bouillabaisse and lobster for two) is a perfect way to make a romantic meal memorable.

The best way to discover what Provincetown has in store for you this summer is to get down there and explore it for yourself. IB









From top: Small beachside bungalows line Route 6A just outside Provincetown; crowds line up to taste sweets at the Portuguese Bakery; a clay sculpture by James Tyler, at the Rice/Polak Gallery; an aerial view of Provincetown, as seen from Pilgrim Monument

ART GALLERIES

ALBERT MEROLA GALLERY, 424 Commercial St., 508-487-4424. This gallery's collection of contemporary and historical art includes Picasso ceramics and works by Ann Chernow and Donna Flax. www.universalfine objects.com.

DNA GALLERY, 288 Bradford St., 508-487-7700. Contemporary art with an edge, featuring work by Paul Bowen, Peter Garfield and Anna Poor. www.dnagallery.com.

JULIE HELLER GALLERY, 2 Gosnold St., 508-487-2169. Houses an extensive collection of Provincetown art. www.juliehellergallery.com.

RICE/POLAK GALLERY, 430 Commercial St., 508-487-1052. Features contemporary paintings, sculpture, assemblage and photography by Bruce Ackerson, Arthur Burke, Barbara Abel and others. www.ricepolakgallery.com.

WILLIAM SCOTT GALLERY, 439 Commercial St., 508-487-4040. Painting, photography, sculpture and works on paper by emerging and established contemporary artists. www.williamscottgallery.com.



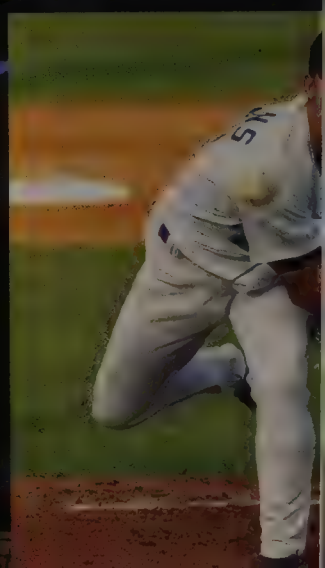
PLAY BALL

TIRED OF PAYING FOR RED SOX TICKETS—IF YOU CAN EVEN GET THEM? SEVERAL MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL TEAMS SPRUNG UP AROUND BOSTON TO PROVIDE A "TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME" EXPERIENCE WITH A FRACTION OF THE HA

BY EZRA DYER — PHOTOGRAPHS BY JESSICA RINALDI







ou entered the lottery for Green Monster seats at Fenway Park and lost. You entered for the right-field roof seats and struck out again. Eventually, deranged with the desire to attend a real, professional baseball game, you bought bleacher seats for a sday night game against the Tampa Bay Devil Rays. Sigh. Well, be it's time to expand your search beyond the hallowed walls of way Park and consider catching a minor league game or two this mer. Chances are you won't have heard of the players (although etimes a Rickey Henderson or Jose Canseco comes through on downside of their career). But the price is right, tickets are easy et and the game is still played at a level that corporate-league ball heroes can only dream of reaching.

lost casual baseball fans know about the Pawtucket Red Sox, the ox' AAA club that's the last stop before the Big Show. But as descend the ladder, the team names become less familiar. The land (Maine) Sea Dogs, the Red Sox' AA affiliate, enjoy a rabid base, but even many so-called diehards would be hard-pressed to e the Sox' local single-A team—the Lowell Spinners. Yet these ntial future Red Sox stars play barely a half-hour away in a sta- that opened in 1998. Price for a premium box seat: $7.50.

lsewhere, the stadiums (and sometimes the teams themselves) even newer. The Northeast League's Brockton Rox christened panelli Stadium in 2002. The Nashua (N.H.) Pride's Holman lium underwent a $4.5 million renovation that same year. And nn, North Shore Spirit owner and former State Street honcho Lopardo instituted a $3.5 million overhaul of historic Fraser last year. Why all the recent interest—and investment—in r league ball?

's absolutely taking off," Lopardo says, "because it's more than baseball—it's affordable family entertainment. Our most expen- seat, 60 feet from home plate, is $8. And you're six inches closer the pitcher. It's easy to get here, there's good parking, and g kids are just as thrilled to stand in front of the fence and get tograph here as they are at Fenway. Only here, that's much eas- do."

deed, at the Nashua Pride's home opener against the Somerset) Patriots (both teams play in the independent Atlantic League),

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

Brockton Rox
Campanelli Stadium, Brockton
(508-559-7070).
www.brocktonrox.com

Lowell Spinners
Edward A. LeLacheur Park,
Lowell (978-459-2255).
www.lowellspinners.com

Nashua Pride
Holman Stadium, Nashua,
N.H. (603-883-2255).
www.nashuapride.com

North Shore Spirit
Fraser Field, Lynn
(781-592-0007).
www.northshorespirit.com

Facing page, clockwise from top: Nashua Pride players during the National Anthem; pitcher Matt Hammons delivers; Holman Stadium has a *Field of Dreams* vibe; Connor Shaughnessy, 7, of Nashua, N.H., rounds the base past Pride mascot Prime Time the Moose. This page, clockwise from left: Tom Wagner, 8, of Lunenburg, Mass., waits for an autograph; the visitors' dugout at Holman; Pride players and fans.

Besides the level of player access, minor league teams also embrace a playfulness that's missing at the major league level, the antics of the Philly Phanatic notwithstanding. This year, on Aug. 14, the Spinners host "World's Largest Game of Duck, Duck, Goose" Night. The Spirit holds frequent contests between innings, such as dizzy bat races, a "waiter race," which involves carrying drinks, and the toilet bowl toss, in which contestants throw plungers at a toilet bowl from 20 feet away. "We have promotions between every inning," says Lopardo. "It's a lot more fun here than it is when you're paying somebody $17 million a year." (Northern League teams adhere to a $90,000 salary cap, and the Spirit's highest-paid player makes $3,000 per month.)

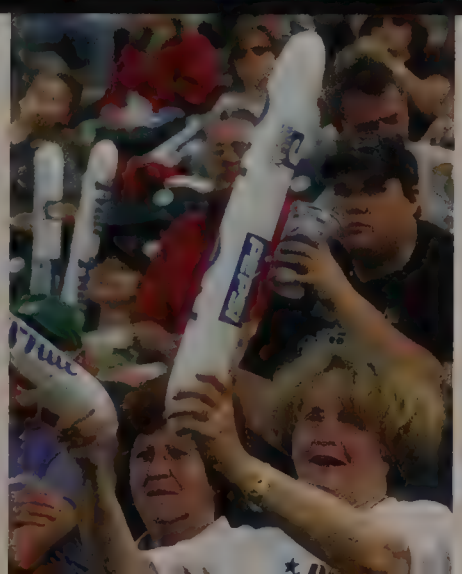
The most outlandish promotions belong to the Rox, who employ Mike Veeck as a consultant. Serious baseball fans might recognize the Veeck name: Mike is the son of Bill Veeck, the former major league team owner who famously sent a midget, the 3'7" Eddie Gaedel, to pinch-hit for the St. Louis Browns in a 1951 game (Gaedel walked). The Rox' most high-profile stunt last year involved signing *Late Show with David Letterman* stage manager Biff Henderson and sending him to the plate as leadoff man (he struck out swinging). "My favorite memory," says Veeck, "was at the Rox' first-ever home game. It was rained out, but Bill Murray led the Brockton High School marching band in a stirring rendition of 'Mustang Sally.'"

Veeck echoes Lopardo's sentiment that major-league teams are stuffy in comparison with the minor league clubs, pointing to Major League Baseball's recent reversal of a deal that would have promoted the upcoming *Spider-Man 2* movie by putting logos on bases around the league for a weekend. "I think the *Spider-Man* thing is a tremendous idea," says Veeck. "We're selling the Rox' bases to Wite-Out! We're protecting the integrity of the game!"

Veeck, who works with five other minor league teams around the country, says that the popularity of the Red Sox creates a positive trickle-down effect for the area's other baseball teams. "It's the best minor league situation you could have in the country," he says. "There is nowhere I've ever operated that has the wonderful effect that Red Sox Nation has on the minors here."



ly half the players watch the game from the dugout, while the s lean against the fence and chat with fans in the seats. The s gregarious players, combined with the tall pine trees that ring nce beyond the outfield and obscure the world beyond the sta- give the scene a New England–style *Field of Dreams* vibe. That g is underscored when you see the guy running the show in the dugout. If he looks familiar, that's because he's former Red Sox r Butch Hobson. These guys might not all be major league , but what are the chances that Manny's going to shoot the bull he fans between innings at Fenway? Some players, however, do into the majors, such as Red Sox slugger Kevin Millar, an rthern Leaguer (former Northern League player personnel direc- d current Brockton Rox owner Van Schley brokered the deal). ybe you'll get a chance to say, "I got his autograph when…"



It's not just a case of the minor league teams leeching fans away from Fenway, however. "We help create baseball fans," Veeck says. "The players in the minor leagues are hungry, and they'll do nearly anything for the fans. They realize that the game isn't really about the players, it's about the fans. You let a 7-year-old kid meet some players, get some autographs and have a good time, you've got a fan for life."

Veeck sees the relationship between the Sox and the minor league teams as truly symbiotic. "We give people the baseball experience for a fraction of the price of going to a Red Sox game. People can go to seven or eight Rox games for the price of a couple Red Sox games. But you know what? Eventually they're going to want to see the game played at its highest level. Eventually, they're gonna go to Mecca, baby." iB

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Location: Azul del Mar Resort, Key Largo, Fla., 888-253-2985; Canyon Beachwear, 229 Newbury St., 617-375-7848; Gipore, 176 Newbury St., 617-424-1500; Wrentham Village Premium Outlets, One Premium Outlets Blvd., Wrentham, Mass., 508-384-0600







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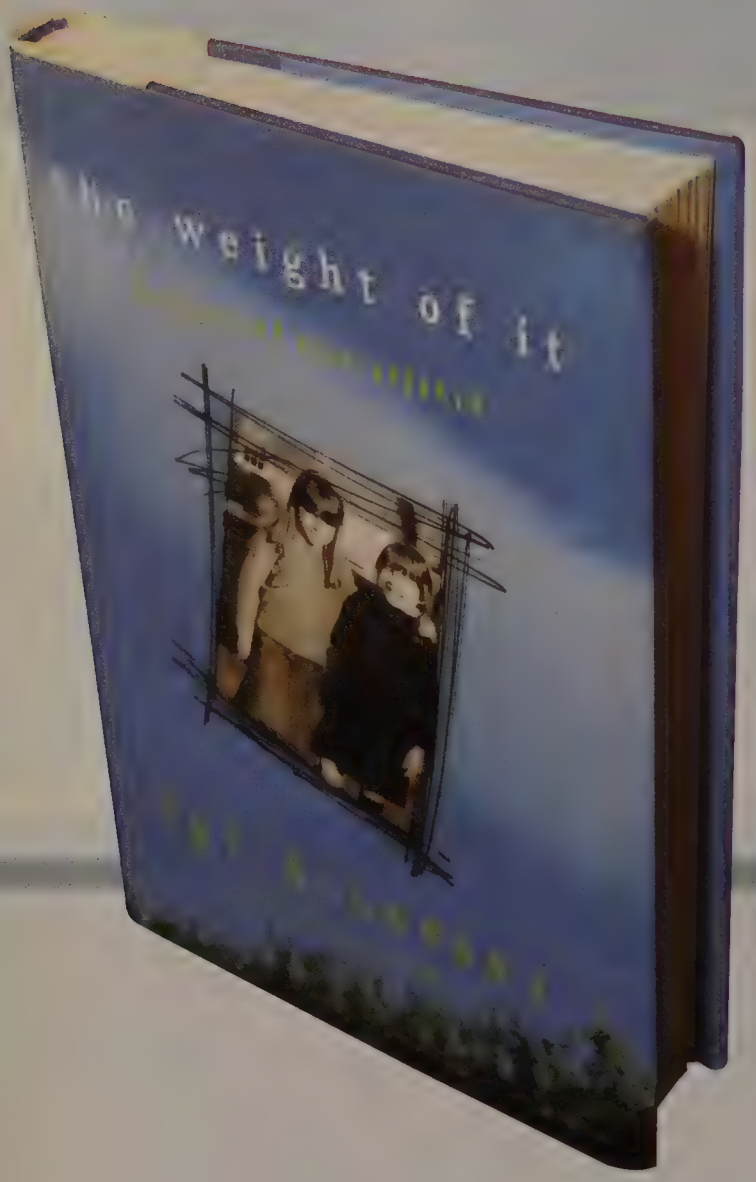
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MOPSY

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BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



SISTERS OVER TIME, AND SIZE

In *The Weight of It*, author Amy Wilensky describes her sister's battle with obesity as the two girls grew up in Sudbury.

One sister, writer Amy Wilensky, grows up "a scrawny kid." Her younger sister Alison, however, begins to inflate, and by age 16 has attained that frightening status known as morbid obesity. This is the painful contrast played out between the effortlessly thin Amy and her suffering sister. Alison diets sometimes, refuses to diet at others, and sometimes binge-eats in private. When she loses some weight, paradoxically, she feels less secure. Humiliations (after being seated by a waiter in an inconspicuous part of a restaurant, she subsequently storms out) competitions (as girls they make homemade barrettes, and as it happens, Amy's sell and Alison's do not) and storms of defiance (slicing up a coat her mother suggests Alison wear) characterize the girls' adolescent years. Sent to a psychiatrist, she brings a tiny TV and watches it throughout the hour. In her late 20s Alison loses 200 pounds through gastric bypass surgery. Throughout, Alison is a wonderfully flamboyant, colorful character beloved by many friends. She goes to art school and later becomes a chef in the South End. And when Alison is no longer the fat sheep of the family, sisterly dynamics shift in subtle ways.

MOVER AND SHAKER-UPPER

Allan Denchfield of Carrier & Ives moving company, and now A Moves, organizes, cleans up and moves things into and around spaces big and small. $50 per hour ($25 off the fourth hour). Call 617-492-4888.



Decades of experience as the owner of the punningly named moving company Carrier & Ives have acquainted Allan Denchfield with the many spatial needs people have when moving or reorganizing. He's seen chaos and debris, then brought clarity and resolution. With A Moves, his new "à la carte" incarnation, he'll help you reclaim crowded spaces, putting things up on pallets, or removing them temporarily to a storage space—where triage can happen in an emotionally cooler spot. It's instant minimalism. In his courtly way, Denchfield has facilitated the annual migration of one lady to her summer quarters and moved prominent families across town, cross-country and into assisted living. Charities, individuals or the dump will become the repository of the discarded. He can disassemble and reassemble bulky enormities, package stuff for mailing and "hang curtains or Rembrandts." Should you rent a van, he'll load, drive it if you want and reorganize stuff at the other end. Described by one client as "sensitive to moving issues—the fatigue, sadness and ambivalence relocation entails," Denchfield works to make you and your space sprucer, cleaner, Zennier.

WOMEN YOU CAN LOOK UP TO

The Tall Girls Shop, at 211 Berkeley St. in Boston, clothes the height-ful. Call 617-424-7164.



It's almost a miracle that people come in here already dressed, given the lengthy specificity of their needs. The long, long legs of jeans dangle, extending seemingly eternally from the towering racks. Catering to those 5'8" and on up to the ceiling-scraping heights of 6'6", the Tall Girls Shop carries business clothes, casual wear, digitally extended gloves, longer panty hose (an issue even for shorter women), gym apparel, jeans and sleepwear. Inseams of 36-38 inches are available. Some lines offer stretchy polyester or spandex in the waist, giving tummy control for that midsection located closer to others' eye level. Clothes also come in junior and misses' sizes, since both younger and older women come in Tall. Brands include Haggar—12 kinds of jeans—Neva, Bullet, French Dressing and fancy Pendleton wool suits made longer and with extended torsos. Without having to go up a size to get the fit, girls, women and even cross-dressers gravitate to this grail of just-rightness. Once exposed to this store, customers have wept, or bought $3,000 worth of clothes; some stock up on, for instance, Capri pants that aren't just regular pants marooned at the ankle.



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REVIEW

DOWN-TO-EARTH DOM'S

This North End spot delivers some primo pasta dishes and a homey ambience

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

At the end of Bartlett Place—a short alley off Salem Street in the North End—is a small, unprepossessing, almost funky little building housing a restaurant called Dom's. Although I've been passing by this spot for over a decade on my way to my barber shop, Dom's had never really caught my eye until recently, when a food-conscious colleague who lives in the North End mentioned that it was one of her favorite eating places in the neighborhood.

Dom's has two entrances: From the front, a foyer leads up a half flight of stairs to a small dining room overlooking Salem Street, a lively, noisy scene on a warm Saturday evening. A side entrance leads down a few stairs to a quieter venue appointed in exposed brick, blind arcades with framed prints hung below the arches, a well-placed mirror, wrought iron sconces and a scattering of wine bottles, ranging from straw covered *fiaschi* to a multiliter jeroboam. White tablecloths and cotton napkins folded into fans create a pleasant dining environment, marred only by chairs that are slightly uncomfortable and in some cases, wobbly.

A small booklet serves as Dom's menu, providing a chatty description of the kitchen's offerings, complete with recommendations and an invitation to discuss particular dishes and combinations with owners Dom Capossela or Marcello Bravo (Bravo is also the chef). In welcome contrast to so many restaurants that discourage patrons from departing from the menu as written, Dom's earnestly strives to satisfy every request. One evening I expressed indecision about which of several appetizers to choose, and Capossela suggested a tasting assortment ($7.50). These antipasti came in two waves, starting with a platter of stuffed zucchini, baked eggplant and marinated peppers. The zucchini was stuffed with mascarpone cheese, onion and garlic, topped with a sprinkling of seasoned bread crumbs and broiled in a way that preserved the al dente texture and fresh flavor of the zucchini. Hearty slices of baked eggplant were enriched with a touch of fontina cheese, richly seasoned tomato sauce and fresh ground pepper. Piquant strips of roasted red peppers, skinned and marinated in olive oil, garlic and Mediterranean herbs—at once sweet and tangy—added a delightfully savory dimension to this trio of vegetable antipasti. Immediately upon removing the empty platter, Capossela brought a fourth appetizer of creamy fresh mozzarella cheese with pleasantly salty prosciutto and slices of fresh tomatoes sprinkled with chopped parsley, slightly moistened with a fruity extra-virgin olive oil. Although slightly cold from the refrigerator, the combination nevertheless proved a refreshing, vibrantly flavored counterpoint to the vegetables that preceded it.



Lobster Diavolo with mushrooms, garlic, pepper, onions and herbs in a marinara sauce, served over a bed of linguini

DOM'S
100 Salem St., Boston
(617-367-8979)

HOURS Mon.–Fri., 3:30–11 pm; Sat.–Sun., 12–11 pm
RESERVATIONS recommended
CREDIT CARDS all major
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE no
PARKING on street
LIQUOR LICENSE beer, wine and cordials

Dom's credible antipasti set the stage for the most enjoyable part of its repertoire: the pastas. Three varieties of imported dry pasta (penne, linguini, and *capellini d'angeli*, or angel hair), four kinds of fresh pasta (gnocchi, fusilli, tagliatelle, and girello—sheets of unstuffed lasagna) and ravioli with four different fillings provided an astounding array of pasta choices. The menu offers nine sauce selections—described with painstaking detail and in almost reverent tones—to accompany these 10 pastas, resulting in a number of possible pasta-and-sauce combinations to tax anyone's arithmetic prowess.

On my first visit I opted for the ravioli tasting ($11), a quartet of ravioli: One, stuffed with ricotta, Parmesan, and Romano cheeses and dressed with a simple marinara sauce, was unremarkable but pleasant. Another was filled with lobster and ricotta and dressed with tomato cream sauce. This more ambitious undertaking didn't quite reach its aspirations due to the dry, uninteresting lobster. The other two ravioli—one stuffed with goat cheese and covered with a superb basil-packed pesto sauce, and one filled with portobello and shiitake mushrooms and dressed with a spicy puttanesca sauce—proved to be the most provocative and memorable. Unfortunately for all four of the ravioli, the dense texture of the pasta itself detracted from appreciation of their varied and delicious fillings.

Puttanesca sauce consists of tomatoes, garlic, capers, olives, scallions and onions, and takes its name from the Italian word for a lady of the night—the ingredients are dictated by what might be left in the refrigerator at the end of a slow week. Dom's puttanesca, lively with fresh tomatoes, enhanced the perfect, al dente texture of its first-rate fresh tagliatelle—flat noodles wider than linguini but narrower than fettucini. Dom's angel hair was just a trifle overdone—this very thin pasta challenges the most precise of kitchens to avoid turning it into a sticky mess by leaving it seconds too long in the pot. The mouth feel of angel hair, however, even when not perfectly textured, makes it one of my favorites, and Dom's straightforward, traditional marinara sauce made the perfect match.

The clear winner among the pastas was the linguini with white clam sauce ($10). Although created from dry pasta, these impeccably cooked, al dente noodles came dressed with as good a white clam sauce as I have ever tasted. Made up of tender morsels of clams and shallots, garlic, and scallions sautéed in just a soupçon of extra-virgin olive oil, melded into intensely flavorful clam broth and finished with a dollop of rich creamy butter, the sauce coated the pasta in a marvelous treat to the taste buds.

My companions and I would have been well advised to conclude our meals, with one exception, after the pastas. The sirloin steak ($24) missed the mark by a mile: It was thin, dry and dense. Ordered medium rare, it arrived medium well, and despite my request that any dressing be served on the side, the steak came smothered in sauce. A fish special one evening, tilapia



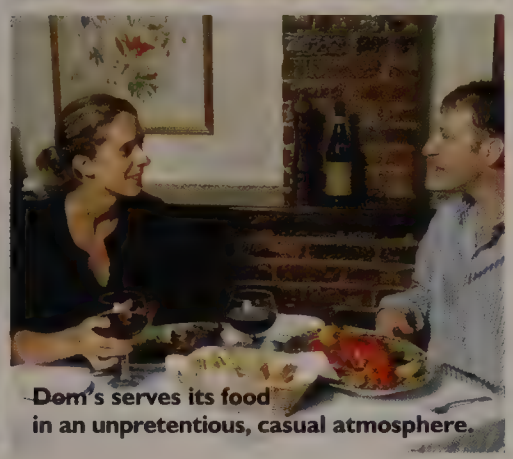
Osso bucco: Milanese veal served with risotto Milanese



The ravioli tasting brings a sampling of four styles.



Chef/owner Marcello Bravo (left) and owner Dom Capossela



Dom's serves its food in an unpretentious, casual atmosphere.

($25), suffered from substandard, soft texture, and its thick, bland, white sauce did little to rescue it. In contrast, the veal Milanese, a traditional veal cutlet pounded thin, dredged in flavored bread crumbs with a whisper of Parmesan, and fast-fried to a crisp, golden-brown crust enclosing tender, delicate flesh, hit a home run. This Italian classic appeared nowhere on the menu, but Dom's accommodating kitchen rose to the occasion when my son, for whom it is a favorite, requested it, redeeming the post-pasta courses. Unfortunately the heavy, sticky risotto that accompanied all three meat and fish courses did not deserve to dwell under the same roof as Dom's superb tagliatelle and linguini.

Dessert selections returned to the high level of the pastas. A fresh-made cannoli ($3.75), its crisp shell stuffed with creamy, mellowly sweet ricotta seconds before it was served, constituted a masterful paradigm of this standard, almost clichéd Italian treat, and at such a tiny price. *Crema caramela* ($5.25) brought a cylinder of sweet, thick, luscious custard. Finally, spumoni ($4.25), often a banal, perfunctory pyramid of rock-hard ice cream, at Dom's turned out to be a delightful, creamy-textured, pistachio studded *semifreddo*.

Dom's offers a short but serviceable section of wines, mostly Italian. The house Chianti ($8 per glass) was fruity but with good acid, making it a particularly felicitous complement to the pastas. Cabernet Sauvignon by the glass ($6.50) boasted good texture that stood up well to the garlic-laden food. A bottle of 1998 Formentino Collio ($30), an Italian cabernet franc, a grape more suited to blending than flying solo, seemed tannic, austere and less approachable.

What I liked most about Dom's was its lack of pretension and its earnest dedication to making patrons comfortable and satisfied. Rather than having officious waiters wield pepper mills and cheese graters, the tables are set with a pepper mill and a small bowl of grated cheese. Soon after an order is placed, Capossela brings a basket of decent bread and a plate of Dom's signature garlic toast, accompanied by mellow, roasted-garlic puree, along with a splendid house salad of crunchy Romaine lettuce; garlicky, creamy dressing; and a few slices of celery, cucumbers and, on one occasion, sliced tomatoes. Recorded music included Sinatra (and had I listened carefully and waited long enough, probably Tony Bennett as well).

Dom's culinary approach can be described by the Italian word *casalinga*, roughly translated as home cooking, and the restaurant's ambience is homey and casual. While Dom's may not be for everybody—there may be people who feel that Capossela's urge to sit and consult on every menu choice is a bit much, though I'm not among them—the place has a peculiar charm that I found quite engaging. Whether for a quiet, unpretentious dinner alone, or for a gathering with colleagues at the end of a long day, you could do worse than to wander into this little eatery, where Dom's *casa è la vostra casa*. IB







TASTINGS

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Casa Romero
Boston University Lifelong Learning, 808 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-353-9852). www.bu.edu/lifelong. June 5, 12-2 pm. $60. Chef and owner **Leo Romero** offers a lesson in the art of the traditional Mexican lunch on the patio of his restaurant.

Fashionista Fashion Show
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. June 6, 12 pm. $75. L'Espalier chef **Frank McClelland** and **Dava Muramatsu**, of Newbury Street clothing boutique Matsu, combine their talents for a three-course luncheon that features a catwalk fashion show. Proceeds from the lunch benefit the Boston Center for the Arts.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. $25. Fireplace chef/owner **Jim Solomon** offers a series of tastings. •June 5, 3 pm: New England cheeses with a selection of wines.

Kendall Wine Series 2004: Four-Course Wine Dinner
Kendall Hotel, 350 Main St., Cambridge (617-577-1300) MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. May 29, 6:30-9 pm. $50 per person or $149 with overnight accommodations for two. The Black Sheep Restaurant hosts a food and wine pairing featuring Monterey County wines.

Lobsterfest 2004
Kowloon Restaurant, 948 Broadway (Route 1 North), Saugus (781-233-0077). June 1-Sept. 6. $18.95 per order. Executive chef **Amorn** prepares twin lobsters. Choose from 12 varieties while soaking up the decor of one of Route 1's most famous landmarks.

Mile-Long Party & Pub Crawl
Includes six establishments. June 5, 3-7 pm. $25; $50 VIP tickets include opening party at Arbor, 711 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-522-1212). For information and tickets, call 617-522-0300. Sample food and drink at Arbor Restaurant, the Cha Fahn Tea House, Costello's Tavern, Galway House, James' Gate and the Jeanie Johnston Pub on this four-hour pub crawl through Jamaica Plain.

Night at the Chef's Table
Dinner held at 80 various Cape Cod restaurants. To reserve seating, contact Gerry Desautels (800-905-1170, ext. 48). www.asgcc.org. June 3, 7 pm. $75. At 80 restaurants across Cape Cod, diners enjoy an evening of food and drink to benefit the AIDS Support Group of Cape Cod.

An Overview of Wines from "Down-Under": Australia and New Zealand
Millennium Boston Hotel, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, 26 North St., Boston (617-523-3600). Through Wine Experiences Inc. (617-859-7170). www.wine-experiences.com. June 1, 7 pm. $30. Sample chardonnays and pinot not among others, and learn about wines fro below the equator.

Savory & Sweet Seminar
Le Soir Bistro, 51 Lincoln St., Newton Highlan (617-965-3100). First and last Monday of ea month, 11:30-3 pm. $225 per month for t classes. **Mark Allen** and **David James** of Soir teach classes on how to make a gourm meal at home. June 7: Savory appetizer a entrée.

Scooper Bowl
Boston City Hall Plaza, Boston (800-525-466 MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. June 8-1 11:30 am-6 pm. $7, $3 for children 3-10, free those under 3. Sample more than 30 types of i cream, frozen yogurt, sorbet and other sweet c lights, play games and listen to live music at t annual all-you-can-eat fund-raiser for t Jimmy Fund.

Summer Lite Tasting Menu
Sophia's, 1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-35 7001). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. June 6-11 pm. $65 paired with wines, $45 witho
Sophia's new executive chef, **Jeffr Fournier**, presents a tasting menu that i cludes Latin-inspired summer salads and c viche courses.

A Toast and a Taste
Cambridge Boat Club, 81 Gerry's Landing Roa Cambridge (617-267-5828). June 3, 6:30-10: pm. $50, $45 in advance ($80 for two). Reli wines and local tastes while admiring the vi of the Charles River. All proceeds go to bene Operation Frontline, a nonprofit organizati working to fight hunger.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-54 5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 an pm. $25. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discuss various wines while chef **Ian Just** pairs t wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief coo ing demonstrations. •June 1: The Fingerlak •June 8: Raw Bar.

Wine Wednesdays
Caffé Umbra, 1395 Washington St., Boston (61 867-0707). Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $15. T restaurant offers themed wine flights pair with small tastings. •May 26: Adam's Favori •June 2: Grapes You've Never Heard Of.


Chef Mark Allen and pastry chef David James presen a Savory & Sweet Seminar at Le Soir Bistro.

DISH

EVOO Empire Expands

ZA Man...Good-bye Gallia... Hathaway heads west

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

Six years after opening EVOO in Somerville, chef/owner **Peter McCarthy** is celebrating his success by expanding his culinary reach to nearby Arlington. **ZA,** which will take over the former Full Moon space on Mass. Ave., will specialize in individual, 10-inch pan pizzas and salads, says McCarthy. "From straightforward, regular tomato-and-cheese to smoked salmon and cream cheese pizzas," says McCarthy. With town approval in hand for a beer and wine license, McCarthy says he expects to open his new restaurant in early July. ZA, of course, is an abbreviated nickname for "pizza," in much the same way EVOO is an acronym for "extra virgin olive oil." As far as we know, McCarthy has no plans to change his name to "PM."



EVOO's Peter McCarthy is preparing to open ZA in the former Full Moon space in Arlington.

SECOND COURSE

Neighborhood, chef-owned restaurants in general report that business is good these days, after a rough couple of years. "Every year gets better," says Peter McCarthy. "We've got lots of regulars." In the South End, **Laura Brennan** of **Caffè Umbra** says business is consistently improving, and she stays focused on the food: "As soon as I hang up, I'm making gazpacho. Shrimp and scallop gazpacho with lobster cream." Nearby, the **Union Square Grill** is flourishing. On the other hand, **Gallia** recently closed abruptly. Maybe it got off on the wrong foot with an initially too-expensive menu. Maybe it had bad feng shui. Whatever, it never gained the buzz and the clientele it needed to stay afloat after almost two years.

In Brookline, at the **Washington Square Tavern,** chef/co-owner **Paul Hathaway** says he "can't complain at all" about the pace of business at the neighborhood-oriented eatery. "We never really slowed down that much," he says. Far from slowing down himself, Hathaway is preparing for an imminent move to Amherst, where he plans to open a new restaurant with his wife within the year. Sam Kochan, most recently at Grill 23 and formerly of the Franklin Café and Harvest, takes over as WST chef on June 1.

The picture is more complex at the three restaurants owned by the **Elephant Walk** group. "Three restaurants, three realities," says co-owner **Bob Perry.** Overall, he's pleased to note a "nice upward trend" after several slow years and a potentially devastating fire in the Boston Elephant Walk. (The other Elephant Walk is in Cambridge.) **Carambola** in Waltham remains a local favorite, and the Elephant Walk's cooking classes—three or four every month—are almost always booked to capacity. Most of the classes take place at the Boston restaurant, although a special grilling class will be held this summer at the Jamaica Plain home of founding chef Longteine "Nyep" de Monteiro.

At **Pigalle,** in the Theater District, co-owner **Kerri Foley** says the pace of business at her destination restaurant ebbs and flows according to the schedules and successes of the nearby shows. "Things are good right now," she says, in contrast to school vacation week in April, when most theatrical venues were dark. And it's "definitely not terrible," she adds, compared with the days at the start of the war in Iraq and "the whole French thing." iB

Serving Dish

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WINE

Qué Syrah? Shiraz?

BY SANDY BLOCK M.W.



The grape sometimes known as shiraz and sometimes as syrah has a double nature. Shiraz is Mark Twain: deceptively colloquial, easy-going, down-home and apt to spice things up a bit. It always speaks in the vernacular and often makes us smile. Syrah is Samuel Clemens: respectable, serious, a bit reserved and eminently comfortable at the most formal table. A solid, dependable citizen. Which one do you think most Americans like best?

That's right, shiraz is the people's choice. It's got a winning personality that's hard for even the most snobbish among us not to love. This is Australia's identity grape, and we all know what Australian wine has been doing in the U.S. in the last five years: growing at a parabolic rate. The land down under now stands at number two on the hit parade of countries we import from, even though it's experienced some difficulty of late (stemming mostly from a currency exchange rate that is making a shambles of all the major companies' profit-and-loss sheets). If you were to extrapolate out into the not too distant future, it's likely that Australian wine will storm into the top import spot. Shiraz, which has become our single most popular category of imported varietal red wine, is leading this charge.

Most of the Aussie shiraz we consume in such vast quantities is moderately priced, under $10 at the store. This is the red wine that we'd all been waiting for. It's got abundant quantities of fruit flavor, it's soft on the palate, without any trace of a nasty bite, and after you swallow it, if you've chosen wisely, the mildly spicy accents hang in there for a good long time. So it hits all the buttons: dark color, easy to drink, charming, blends well with food. It's what comes after merlot. For those of you who would feel guilty about ordering the aforementioned, for fear others might think you pedestrian, shiraz still has a ring of the exotic to it. "Glass of shiraz, please." How sophisticated. For about another year at least.

But of course, the story is always more complicated than it appears on the surface, because shiraz is capable of great things, beyond just slaking one's thirst and lending an air of continental rakishness to one's quaffing preferences—not that those are inconsiderable attributes in and of themselves. As with all things wine, it comes down to the climate—and to a lesser extent, the soil. If the vine grows in a region that's just a bit on the cool side, you get flavors that tend more toward the peppery, leafy, spicy end of the spectrum, with sharply delineated fruit accents (as in raspberry) that can sometimes border on the acidic. If you like these qualities, go for shiraz from such places as the Yarra Valley in Victoria, or McLaren Vale or Limestone Coast in South Australia. Richer, sweeter, earthier flavors, tending more towards ripe black cherries, with hints of chocolate and anise, are natural in wines from warmer regions, such as the Barossa and Lower Hunter valleys.

What's the best shiraz? There are some that are very pricey indeed, that are highly "extracted," in the jargon of the wine community. Translated into English, that means they're opaque, strong tasting and will coat your mouth with thick masses of fruit and tannin. As an added bonus, many also reek from vanilla. Not my style, although I appear to be in the minority, as some of the wine world's reigning gurus can't get enough of these big, hundred-dollar sexpots. Better wine stores will have them under the counter, if at all, because putting the bottles out might cause a stampede among the small coterie of cultists who follow these wines. Maybe they're for you.

My favorite way to enjoy shiraz is to drink it with dinner. Or, I imagine, with lunch, although far be it from me to encourage anyone to break the local taboo against enjoying an alcoholic beverage prior to nightfall. Preferred fare: chili, cold meat salads, ribs, Mexican bean and meat dishes, casseroles, Peking duck and slow-cooked meats. You don't have to stand on ceremony with shiraz, it's versatile as all get-out, and the wine can definitely stand up to some heat in whatever you're cooking.

Shiraz also happens to be a good blender. It's particularly gregarious with cabernet sauvignon, which usually has a darker, firmer tone. Look for wines labeled shiraz cabernet (the wineries will often give you the exact percentages) if you want something a bit fruitier, with less tannin, and those labeled cabernet shiraz if you want just the reverse.

And, of course, don't forget about syrah. For my money some of the most exciting wine coming out of California and Washington nowadays is made from this unsung grape. Whereas we're flocking in droves to shiraz, the poor syrah is often a wallflower. Perhaps it needs to change its name, an eminently American thing to do, in order to achieve greater popularity. Or, more likely, if the syrah producers stick to their guns they'll soon find that the tide of fashion has swung their way as the very popularity of shiraz begins to work against it. IB

One of only 18 Americans certified as a master of wine, Sandy Block is assistant vice president of wine for Horizon Beverage.

Bachelorettes



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agenda

IMPROPER PICKS

may 26 - june 8

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			26	27	28	29
			Tom Perotta reads from his new novel, *Little Children*, at Borders Boston. *See Books & Poetry on page 78.*	A tribute to the Smiths with members of **The Good North** and **The Information** is at the Middle East Upstairs. *See Music on page 60.*	 	The improv-based play ***Flanagan's Wake*** is at Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 48.*
 The **Boston Pops** premiere Allan Gilliland's *Dreaming of the Masters* at Symphony Hall. *See Classical Music on page 66.*	31	1	2	3	4	5
				Violent Femmes, the Presidents of the United States of America and others play the **Lansdowne Street Block Party**, 5 pm, $20, 18+. *See Music on page 62.*	Catch funny lady **Margaret Cho** at the Comedy Connection. *See Performing Arts on page 50.* 	Jamaica Plain's **Mile-Long Party & Pub Crawl** visits six restaurants and bars. *See Tastings on page 38.*
6	7	 The **Pride Lights Tree Lighting Ceremony** is at the Boston Center for the Arts. *See Gay & Lesbian on page 80.*	**The Harpoon Brewery hosts Brewstock June 4 and 5.** 			

FRI. & SAT./JUNE 4 & 5

CityScope: Brewin' Season

An event that draws more than 7,000 people to drink beer and rock out to up-and-coming bands over the course of two days, dubbed Brewstock? Sounds like a throwback to the simple days of college (or at least the fun part). Of course, there are a few minor differences between undergrad keg parties and Harpoon Brewery's 11th annual Brewstock Festival, the most obvious being the quality of beer. This year, Harpoon's cups runneth over with its Summer Beer, IPA and UFO Hefeweizen. The festivities begin Friday night, when partygoers can kick back under the Harpoon tents and listen to live rock and tranquil reggae music by Black 47, Joel Cage, Hot Like Fire, the Gentlemen and Boston Horns while feasting on barbecue from Jake's Dixie Roadhouse. A word to those who are planning to run the Harpoon 5-Miler Road Race to benefit the Angel Fund and ALS Research on Saturday morning: Go easy on the booze—there's plenty of time to catch up at the postrace party. *Fri., 5:30-11 pm (doors close at 9:30 pm); Sat., 3:30-9 pm (doors close at 7:30 pm). $10, 21+. 306 Northern Ave., Boston (888-427-7666). www.harpoonbrewery.com.*

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
Ezra Dyer CityScope, Sports
Jessica Iredale Dance Clubs, Museums & Galleries
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules





The Bentley GT



THU./MAY 27

CityScope: Hot Wheels

Tailgating is not typically an upscale affair. But when you trade Jeeps for Bentleys, and burgers and wieners for gourmet grub, it becomes just that. This year, Shelter Inc. imports 20 vintage and contemporary Bentleys and Rolls Royces, courtesy of the Yankee Region Rolls Royce Owners Club, to the World Trade Center for Heading Home, its annual benefit to fight homelessness. Each car is matched with a delicious spread prepared by chefs from Spire, Icarus, the East Coast Grill, Chez Henri, Blu, L and others. Those planning to attend should note that while they may admire the cars from afar, they will not be permitted to sit or dine in the cars, and food will not be served out of the trunks (the folks at Yankee Region aren't that dumb). On par with the luxurious cars are the auction items: a walk-on part in an upcoming Farrelly brothers' movie; a meal for 14 prepared by Chris Schlesinger of the East Coast Grill; a six-night South African photo safari; and a Red Sox package that includes two front-row dugout box seats, preferred parking next to Fenway and dinner at the Hall of Fame Club. And we thought adding marinated steak tips to our tailgate menu was high-class.

6 pm. $250. World Trade Center, 200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-864-8140). www.shelterinc.org.



Zhang Yimou's *Hero* screens at the Coolidge Corner Theatre May 27.

WED. & THU./MAY 26 & 27

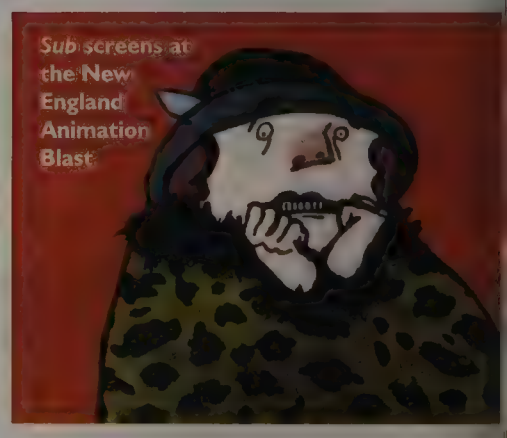
Movies: Film Hero

Brookline is a far cry from Hollywood, but among the million-plus-dollar mansions, upscale shops and tree-lined drives of the upper-crusty, über-conservative neighborhood sits one of the best arthouse movie meccas in the country. For the past 71 years the Coolidge Corner Theatre has managed to provide progressive programming and also book events that attract A-listers (like Lilli Thompson and John Waters) who would normally be considered too big for the cinema's small-time indie britches. Next up on its list of celebrity coups is a ceremony honoring Chinese cinema bigwig Zhang Yimou, who receives the first-ever Coolidge Award, which honors filmmakers who "consistently create challenging and original work." Yimou's directing credits include 1987's *Red Sorghum* and 1991's *Raise the Red Lantern*, which exemplified a departure from the traditional style of romantic Chinese filmmaking and were consequently banned from his homeland. On May 26, the director makes a rare personal appearance to accept his award. Filmmaker Allan Miller (*The Turandot Project*) and New York Film Festival program director Richard Pena also attend to toast the honoree and introduce excerpts from his films. Additionally, choreographer Ling Chu performs a dance sequence and renowned martial arts expert Bow Sim Mark gives an exhibition. The following evening, the Coolidge holds a sneak preview of Yimou's yet-to-be-released film *Hero*. The historical action epic stars Jet Li, Zhang Ziyi, Tony Leung and Maggie Cheung and reportedly features beautiful, *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*–style choreography. *Wed., 8 pm. $20-$25. Thu., 7:30 pm. 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2500). www.coolidge.org.*

SAT./JUNE 5

CityScope: The Good Life

If you grew up in the suburbs, your summer probably saw their share of block/backyard parties. Cooking out, Wiffle ball and horseshoes, and, depending on the organization level of neighborhood parents, possibly three-legged and potato sack races were all part of the routine. However, whe due to lack of backyards or traffic-free bloc such old-school fun is decidedly absent in t city. Boston-based, feel-good apparel comp Life Is Good is circumventing the urban congestion and bringing the backyard ballyhoo to the Esplanade for their 2004 Backyard Festival. The day-long IMPROPER-sponsored event benefits Project Joy, a loca program that provides therapy for underprivileged children, and features summertime festivities with all the fixings. Croquet tournaments, burger-flipping and watermelon seed-spitting contests, Nerf to face-painting, as well as the classic three-legged races are on the bill. A cookout me of hot dogs, hamburgers, veggie burgers, C Cod chips and J.P. Licks are available à la carte, and Entrain and III Kings provide musical entertainment. *11 am-6 am. Lederr Field, Charles River Esplanade. (617-266-4160). www.lifeisgood.com.*



FRI.–SUN./JUNE 4–6

Movies: Festival of Animatio

Our interest in animation is usually limited t Bugs Bunny cartoons and the occasional *Ren Stimpy* rerun. Yet there have been times whe we've been blown away by an animated mov (like last year's kooky *The Triplets of Belleville*) Now, the Brattle and the Coolidge, the city's two main purveyors of all things creatively cinematic, are teaming up for the first annual New England Animation Blast—a full weekend's worth of vintage oddities, new shorts and features and animated shorts. The weekend's centerpiece is a competition in which 15 selected new films will screen, with the audience choosing the winner. The onslaught of animation includes traditional c animation, computer animation, experiment and stop-motion, and programs range from family-friendly fare during the day to more gross-out midnight movies. There's even a show entitled "Real Cartoons," which featur "animated documentaries." In addition to th screenings, a panel discussion with Soup2Nu the Watertown-based animation studio behi the series *Dr. Katz* and *Home Movies*, takes place June 6, at 6 pm, at the Brattle. Check www.brattlefilm.org/neab for the full schedul *Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837) Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St. (61 734-2500).*



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Brewstock Festival

BEER, BANDS, & BBQ

Friday, June 4th, 5:30 - 11:00 pm
Saturday, June 5th, 3:30 - 9:00 pm

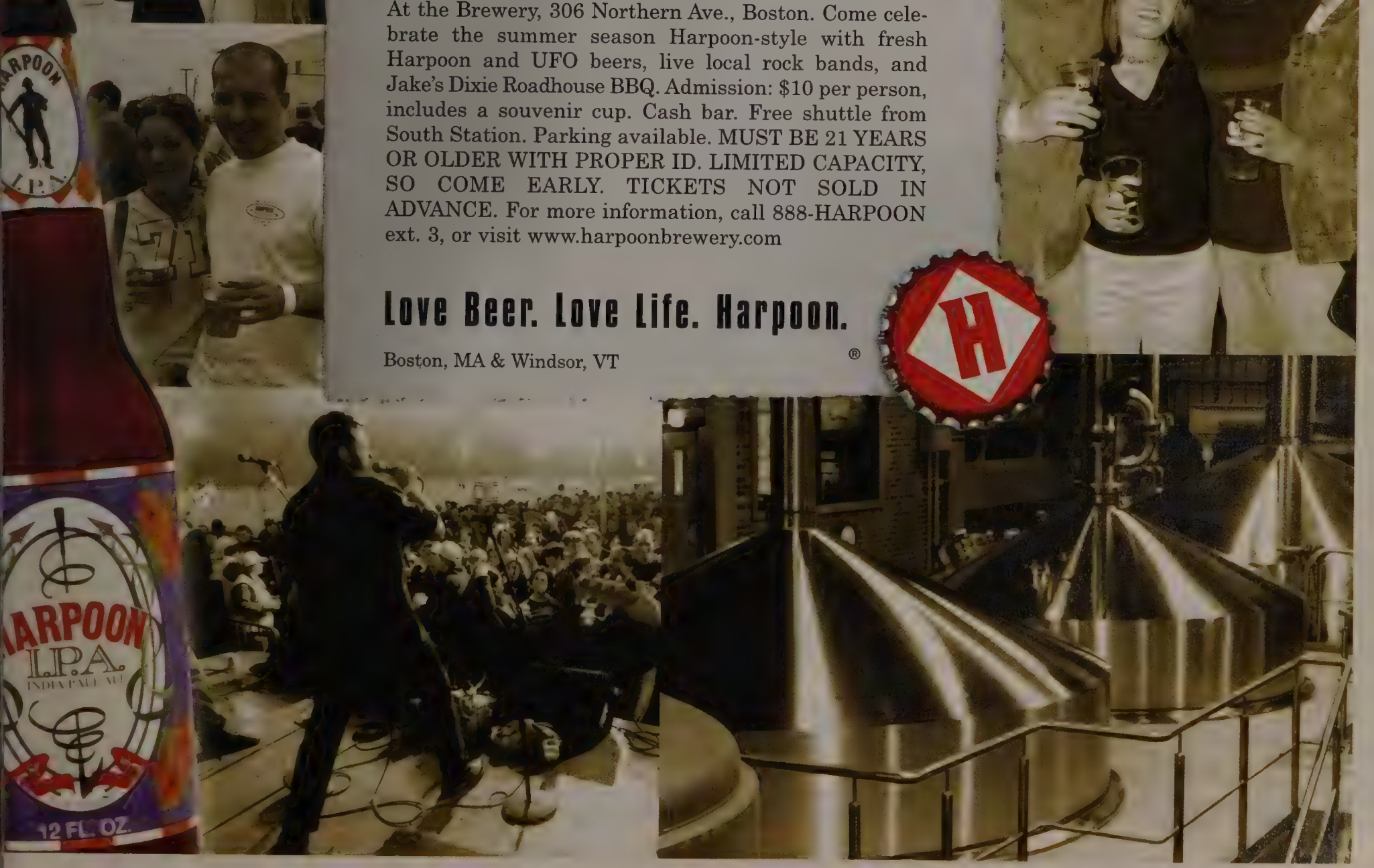
★ NEW SATURDAY HOURS ★

Entrance closes at 9:30 pm Friday & 7:30 pm Saturday

At the Brewery, 306 Northern Ave., Boston. Come celebrate the summer season Harpoon-style with fresh Harpoon and UFO beers, live local rock bands, and Jake's Dixie Roadhouse BBQ. Admission: $10 per person, includes a souvenir cup. Cash bar. Free shuttle from South Station. Parking available. MUST BE 21 YEARS OR OLDER WITH PROPER ID. LIMITED CAPACITY, SO COME EARLY. TICKETS NOT SOLD IN ADVANCE. For more information, call 888-HARPOON ext. 3, or visit www.harpoonbrewery.com

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cityscope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings for festivals, events and benefits by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26

Circle of Friends Gala
Royal Sonesta Hotel, 5 Cambridge Parkway, Cambridge (617-876-4210). 6:30 pm. $60. This annual benefit for the Cambridge Family and Children's Service is hosted by WB-TV56 newscaster Karen Marinella and WHDH-TV7 news reporter Jonathan Hall and features a silent auction with more than 500 items for sale.

Design Home 2004
Cranberry Cove, 9 Wescott Drive, Hopkinton (617-437-8538) www.design-home.com. Through May 28. $25. Tours of this state-of-the-art model home raise money for the Home for Little Wanderers.

THURSDAY, MAY 27

Heading Home 2004 Tailgate Party
World Trade Center, 200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-864-8140). www.shelterinc.org. 6 pm. $250. Classic and new Bentleys and Rolls-Royces are showcased at this high-end tailgate party held to benefit Shelter Inc. Tom and Ray Magliozzi of NPR's *Car Talk* are the honorary chairs, and food is provided by East Coast Grill, Tremont 647, Spire and other top restaurants.

SATURDAY, MAY 29

Faneuil Hall Marketplace Street Performers Festival
Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (781-492-0828). 11 am-7 pm, through May 30. Faneuil Hall Marketplace celebrates its street performers at this two-day festival. Acts include jugglers, human statues, Caribbean drummers and more.

TUESDAY, JUNE 1

The Tradition Benefit
FleetCenter, Boston (617-624-1236). www.sportsmuseum.org. 5:30-9 pm. $150 and $250. The Kraft family receives a lifetime achievement award at this annual benefit party for the Sports Museum. Other Boston sports notables receiving honors include Johnny Bucyk, Mike Haynes, K.C. Jones and Mo Vaughn.

THURSDAY, JUNE 3

Families First Father's Breakfast
Langham Hotel, Boston (617-868-7687, ext. 22). www.families-first.org. 7:30-9 am. $250. Author Bob Bigelow and former Olympic gold-medal hockey player Bill Cleary discuss the role of fathers in sports at this benefit breakfast. Proceeds go to the parenting education programs of Families First.

FRIDAY, JUNE 4

Harpoon Brewstock
Harpoon Brewery, 306 Northern Ave., Boston (888-427-7666). www.harpoonbrewery.com. Fri., 5:30-11 pm; Sat., 3:30-9 pm. $10. Harpoon's annual Brewstock festival features live music from Black 47, Joel Cage, Hot Like Fire, the Gentlemen and Boston Horns; food from Jake's Dixie Roadhouse and, of course, beer. On Saturday morning, the Harpoon 5-Miler Road Race at the brewery raises money for the Angel Fund and ALS research.

Let the Music Play Benefit Concert
Regent Theatre, Arlington (781-646-4849). www.regenttheatre.com. 7-11 pm. $15. The bands Clarias, Making it Right and Missing Joe perform along with an array of teen bands to raise money for Walter McCarty's I Love Music Foundation.

Mondo Porno
Manray, 15 Brookline St., Boston (212-598-4343). www.mondopornoparty.com. 8 pm. $15. This party and performance fuses rock bands, burlesque entertainers and sex-related product giveaways.

Pan-Mass Challenge Party
Joseph's on High, 200 High St., Boston (617-515-9547). www.pmc.org. 8:30 pm. $25 in advance, $30 at the door. Raise money for the Pan-Mass Challenge by attending this party, which includes a DJ, munchies and automatic entry into a raffle.

SATURDAY, JUNE 5

Armenia Tree Project Celebration
Seaport Hotel, Boston (617-926-8733). www.armeniatree.org. 6:30 pm. At this cocktail reception and dinner, the Armenia Tree Project celebrates 10 years' worth of efforts to reforest Armenia. Artie Barsamian and Richard Hagopian provide live music.

Boston Medical Center Gala
World Trade Center, 200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-638-6910). www.bmc.org/gala. 6:30 pm. This gala party includes cocktails, dinner, live and silent auctions and live entertainment. Proceeds benefit patient care, research and educational programs and services at Boston Medical Center.

Flea Market and Street Fair
Wellington Street at Columbus Avenue, Boston (617-266-4735). 9 am-3 pm. The Claremont Neighborhood Association hosts a street fair featuring a puppet show at 11 am, live jazz from Wally's at 1 pm, plus food, antiques, crafts, a yard sale and a raffle.

Life Is Good Backyard Festival
Lederman Field, Charles River Esplanade, Boston. 11 am-6 pm. It's an old-time backyard festival on the Esplanade, with croquet, rock climbing, a wiffle ball home run contest, live music, food vendors and more. Proceeds benefit the Project Joy organization's programs for children. Sponsored by THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN.

Mile-Long Party and Pub Crawl
Centre and South Main Streets, Jamaica Plain (617-522-0300). www.jpcentresouth.org. 3-7 pm. $25, $50 VIP ticket includes opening party at Arbor. The Art Restaurant, Cha Fahn Tea House, Costello's Tavern, Galway House, James' Gate and the Jeanie Johnston Pub are stops on this party and pub crawl.

SUNDAY, JUNE 6

Dorchester Day Parade
Dorchester Avenue, from Lower Mills to Columbia Road, Dorchester (617-287-0085). 1 pm. Highlights of this annual parade include a flyover by National Guard helicopters, nearly 20 marching bands and participation by local political leaders.

Fashionista Fund-Raiser
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. 12 pm. L'Espalier and Matsu host a three-course luncheon and fashion show of Matsu's summer line, to benefit the Boston Center for the Arts. The event includes an auction.

TUESDAY, JUNE 8

Franciscan Children's Hospital Leadership Awards Dinner
Westin Hotel Copley Place, 10 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-779-1146). 5:30 pm. $250, $500 VIP. This dinner, awards ceremony and auction benefits the Franciscan Hospital for Children.

Unsung Heroine Award Ceremony
Sheraton Boston Hotel, 39 Dalton St., Boston (617-442-9322, ext. 223). 7:30 am. $75. At this benefit breakfast, Rosie's Place honors Mayor Menino, Molly Baldwin and the Gillette Corp. for their work on behalf of women and children in the community.



Preview

Calling All Coneheads: Start Screaming


The Scooper Bowl

Forget tea—Boston's biggest party is all about ice cream. The 23rd annual Scooper Bowl Festival arrives just in time to wreak havoc on swimsuit-season physiques. After all, if you're going to blow your diet, you may as well go all out. And what better place to do so than the nation's largest all-you-can-eat ice cream fest? The event, which raises money for the Jimmy Fund at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, lasts three days (even if your stomach won't), and more than 30 flavors of ice cream—from frozen-treat enablers like Häagen Dazs, Edy's and Ben & Jerry's—will be on hand. But the fest is more than just a half-week binge session. Beyond the gustatory satisfaction (or rather, overload) visitors can enjoy contests, music, games and live radio broadcasts from the site. Remember, when you're eating ice cream for charity, everyone's a winner. Except maybe your waistline.

City Hall Plaza, Boston (800-525-4669). June 8–10, 11:30 am–6 pm. General admission, $7; kids ages 3–10, $3; kids 3 and under, free. —Gina Serpe





"OPERATION LEAN-ON-ME"
Benefit for the troops. Tickets are $20 at the door and qualifies you for prize drawings. All proceeds benefit the USO New England

Tuesday, June 8th at 5:30



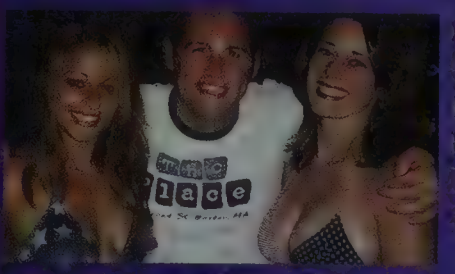
Be a part of the LIVE TV audience on the Boston Globe's SportsPlus! on NESN hosted by Bob Lobel. 7pm

Wednesdays: SportsPlus!



See a Boston legend perform your favorite songs Live Wednesdays. 8:30 to 11:30pm

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Tuesday, June 15th at 6pm

The Place

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performing arts

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Performing Arts. Or e-mail to performing@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater

JUST OPENED

Blue Hair Troupe
Tremont Theatre, 276 Tremont St., Boston (866-443-2248). www.theatremania.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. May 28-June 27. Wed. and Thu., 2 pm; Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $35. Visit the fictitious Senior Center for the Performing Arts, where elderly actors put on a revue of songs from popular Broadway shows, movies and TV shows of the 1960s and '70s. Written and directed by Andrew Diskes.

The Last Sunday in June
BCA Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-4787). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. June 4-26. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $25-$35. In this play written by Jonathan Tolins, a group of gay men gathering at a Greenwich Village home watch New York's Gay Pride Parade and discuss issues surrounding their sexuality.

Tom Jones: The Musical
North Shore Musical Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Beverly (978-232-7200). www.nsmt.org. June 1-20. Tue. and Thu., 8 pm; Wed. and Sat., 2 pm and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $7-$15. A young man's weakness for beautiful women becomes his ultimate foe in this tale of true love's test. Written by George Stiles.

NOW RUNNING

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787).www.blueman.com/ticketinfo/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 and 10 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. Ongoing. $46-$56. This newly revamped, dialogue-free production features tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Elegies: A Song Cycle
BCA Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through May 29. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 pm and 8 pm. $25-$35. The SpeakEasy Stage Company presents this play by William Finn, in which he honors departed friends and family.

Flanagan's Wake
Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theatre, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jimmytingle.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Through May 30. Fri. and Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $13.75-$27.50. The cast of this improv-based, audience-interactive performance, set in a fictional village in Ireland, creates stories stemming from audience suggestions.

Homo Erectus
Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (617-442-4691). May 30, 2:30 pm. $5-$10. Local actors Mike Nurse and Francine Davis play a couple in the world's first "Viagra comedy," written and directed by John O'Brien.

Lizzie Borden: The Musical
Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). www.stonehamtheatre.org. Through May 30. $16-$32. Veteran Broadway actress Jayne Patterson plays the lead role in this musical about the alleged ax-murderer. Directed by Bill Castellino.

The Love of the Nightingale
Abbott Theatre, 9 Spring St., Waltham (781-893-9171). www.hoveyplayers.com. May 27, 8 pm. $13-$15. This modern reworking of the Greek myth of Philomele, directed by Luke Dennis, tells the story of an Athenian princess and the revenge she seeks on her corrupt brother-in-law, the king of Thrace.

Menopause—The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). Through June 13. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat. 4and 8 pm; Sun. 2 pm. $42.50. Jeanie Linders' parody, set to music of the 1960s and '70s, explores the lives of four women in their 40s and offers a humorous take on the physical and mental changes they are facing.

Nine
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). www.turtle-lane.com. Through May 30. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $15-$22. Arthur Kopit and Maury Yeston's play is based on Federico Fellini's 1963 film, in which a film director on the verge of a nervous breakdown struggles to write and direct a new movie.

Noises Off
Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through June 5. Wed., 2 and 7:30 pm; Thu. 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $20-$38. Tony Award winner Michael Frayn's play follows the cast of a show and their on- and off-stage antics.

Oedipus
ART Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through June 12. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm (May 25-27, 10 pm); Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $35-$69. The American Repertory Theatre presents Stephen Berg and Diskin Clay's adaptation of Sophocles' tragedy about a young king who fulfills a prophecy delivered at his birth. Directed by Robert Woodruff. Music by Evan Ziporyn.

Oklahoma!
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-426-9366). www.broadwayinboston.com. Through June 5. Mon., Tue. and Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm; May 26, 7 pm; May 27, 8 pm; June 2, 8 pm; June 3, 2 and 8 pm. $30-$78. This classic Rodgers and Hammerstein musical about families living in Oklahoma during the turn of the last century makes a return to the theater where it premiered 60 years ago. Adapted from Cameron Mackintosh's production at the Royal National Theatre.

Popcorn
Black Box Theater, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-759-8836). www.zeitgeist stage.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Throug June 5. Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 5 and 8 pm; Sun., pm. $15-$25. The Zeitgeist Stage Company presen this satirical comedy about a Hollywood direct who is taken hostage by two murderers who blam his violence-filled movies for their killing spre Written by Ben Elton.

The Rose Tattoo
Huntington Theatre Company, 264 Huntington Ave Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.or MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Through June 1 Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 7 p (excluding June 13). $14-$64. This Tennesse Williams play tells the story of a Sicilian widow wh is tormented by memories of her husband and fin solace in the company of a truck driver. Directed b Nicholas Martin.

The Savior of Fenway
Cambridge Family YMCA Theater, 820 Mass. Ave Cambridge (617-661-9622). www.thesavioroffenwa com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Through May 3 Tue.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2 pm. $25. Bosto native Brendon Bates wrote and stars in this sto about Red Sox fans in a Quincy sports bar followin Games 6 and 7 of the 2003 American Leagu Championship Series. Directed by Michael Laibso

Scapin
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton Hig lands (617-332-1646). www.newrep.org. MBTA Riverside D Green Line to Newton Highlands. Throu May 30. Wed., 2 and 7 pm; Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Sa 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $27-$4 Moliere's satire tells the story of two young men ar two young women who put too much trust in crafty, quick-witted servant. Boston's John Kun plays the lead role.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (61 426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6: and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. Ongoing. $30-$3 This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair salo holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

To Kill a Mockingbird
Gloucester Stage, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (97 281-4433). www.gloucesterstage.com. Through Ju 6. Fri. and Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5 pm. $7-$15. Th Gloucester Stage Company presents Christoph Sergel's stage adaptation of Harper Lee's class novel about life and racism as seen through the ey of children. Directed by Norm Jones.

What Time Is It?
The Theatre Cooperative,277 Broadway St., Some ville (617-625-1300). www.theatrecoop.org. MBT Orange Line to Sullivan, Bus # 89 or 101. Throu May 29. Fri. and Sat. 8 pm. $10-$20. In Vladim Zelevinsky's play, a disgruntled young man, fed with his job as an assistant timekeeper, devises plan involving the large clock in the center of tov that could turn his dull life around.

UNIVERSITY THEATER

Playwrights' Platform
Boston University's Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm Ave, Boston (781-883-9106). www.playwrig platform.org. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant June 3-5 and 10-12, 8 pm. $15. During this summ festival, a variety of new short plays from local pla wrights are performed.

Dance

Contact Improv Weekend Jam
Masonic Hall, 1940 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (78 275-9727). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. May 29, am-5 pm and 8-11 pm; May 30, 10 am-5 pm. $ (one day) $50 (two days). DanceMonth conclu with this weekend of improv workshops.

Caitlin Corbett Dance Company 20th Anniversary Performance
Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, 41 Second S Cambridge. (617-577-1400). www.cmacusa.o MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. June 4, 7:30 p $30. Caitlin Corbett's modern-dance company ce brates 20 years with this avant-garde performance.

Open Floor
Green Street Studios, 185 Green St., Cambridge (61 480-9630). www.greenstreetstudios.org. MBTA: R Line to Central. June 6. $3. Dancers of all levels experience can perform at this open venue and ceive feedback from a professional member of t dance community.

Points of View
Northeastern University's Blackman Theatre, 3 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-635-6470). ww boston.k12.ma.us/baa. MBTA: E Green Line Northeastern. May 27-28, 7 pm. $8, $5 students. T Boston Arts Academy, a public high school for t

Boston's Great Dane

After success on the Left Coast, Boston comedian Dane Cook headlines at home

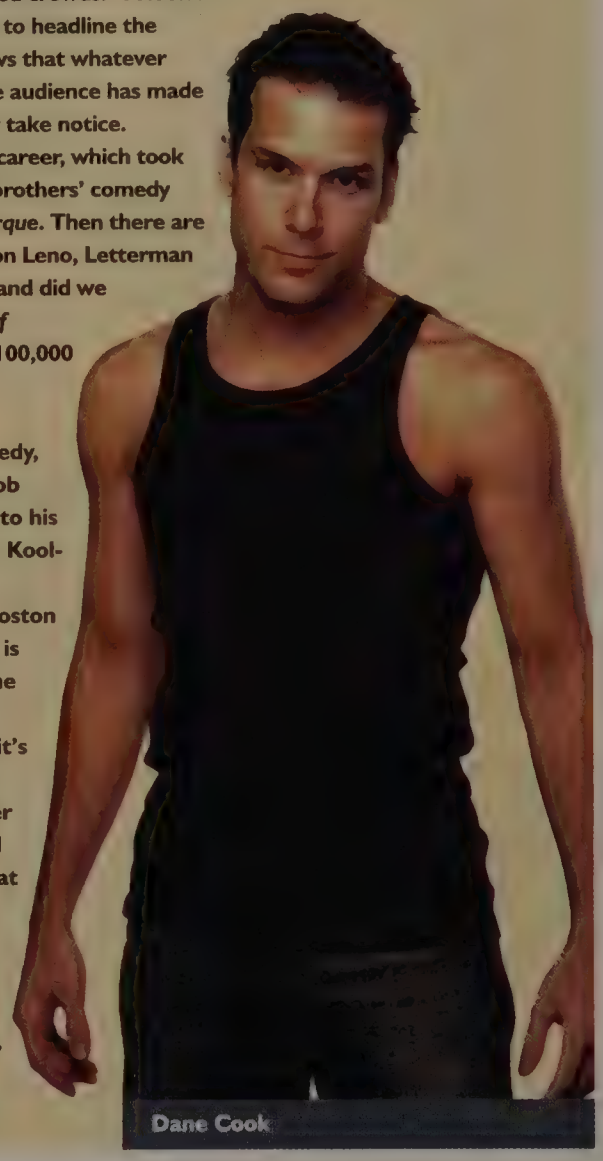
The funny thing about stand-up comedy is, well, that it's funny. And back in the mid to late '80s, Boston's comedy scene was the Will Ferrell in a country full of Bob Sagets. But while residents of Beantown were packed into comedy clubs laughing their stonewashed-clad asses off at the likes of Jay Leno, Denis Leary and Steve Sweeney, Arlington native Dane Cook was out there listening, studying and honing a craft in which he felt destined to succeed.

"Comedy was the first thing I can remember wanting to do," the 32-year-old Cook says. "So I used to sit and watch guys like Sweeney, Don Gavin and Kevin Knox, and I watched their delivery and saw how they handled crowds." A look at what's on Cook's plate as he prepares to headline the Comedy Connection (May 28-30) shows that whatever he absorbed during those nights in the audience has made Hollywood and the rest of the country take notice. There's his blossoming movie and TV career, which took off last year with roles in the Farrelly brothers' comedy *Stuck on You* and the action thriller *Torque*. Then there are his numerous television appearances on Leno, Letterman and Comedy Central's *Crank Yankers*, and did we mention his debut CD/DVD, *Harmful if Swallowed*, which has sold more than 100,000 copies since October?

But Cook's roots still lie in his explosive, high-energy stand-up comedy, which covers subjects from his first job working at a Burger King drive-thru to his fear of the oversized, pitcher-shaped Kool-Aid mascot. And despite his recent successes, stand-up and the city of Boston will always be Cook's home. "My act is what opened all the doors for me," he says. "It enabled me to build my fan base, get noticed in Hollywood, and it's the reason for everything that I'm getting a chance to do now. And after 15 years of stand-up it's going to feel unbelievable to get up and headline at the place where I started."

The Comedy Connection, 245 Quincy Market, Boston (617-248-9700). May 28, 8 and 10:15 pm, $35; May 29, 8 and 10:15 pm, 12 am, $35; May 30, 7 and 9:15 pm, $32.

—Rich Levine


Dane Cook

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visual and performing arts, perform its sixth annual Springfest Dance Concert.

Snappy Dance Theater
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (800-233-3123). www.celebrityseries.org. June 4, 7:30 pm; June 5, 8 pm. $25-$30. The Cambridge-based dance company performs a series of humorous dance vignettes, including the world premiere of "The Temperamental Wobble," a piece commissioned for the Celebrity Series and inspired by the art of illustrator Edward Gorey.

Vivencias
Copley Theatre, 225 Clarendon St., Boston (617-723-8915). www.omayraamaya.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. June 3, 8 pm. $38. The Omayra Amaya Flamenco Dance Company presents this show featuring classical and contemporary dances set to flamenco and jazz music.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

STAND-UP CLUBS

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault at Remington's features local stand-up comedians. •Thursdays: Dick Doherty's Comedy Pro Tour •Fridays: Boston's Best Standup •Saturdays: Boston's Best Standup •Sundays: Open Mike Night.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8 pm, $12; Thu., 8:30 pm, $15; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm and 10:15 pm; Sun., 7 pm. Prices vary. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •May 28, 8 and 10:15 pm; May 29, 8, 10:15 and 12 pm.; May 30, 7 and 9:15 pm.: Dane Cook. •June 4 and 5, 8 and 10:15 pm: Margaret Cho, $35. •June 7, 8 pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $12.

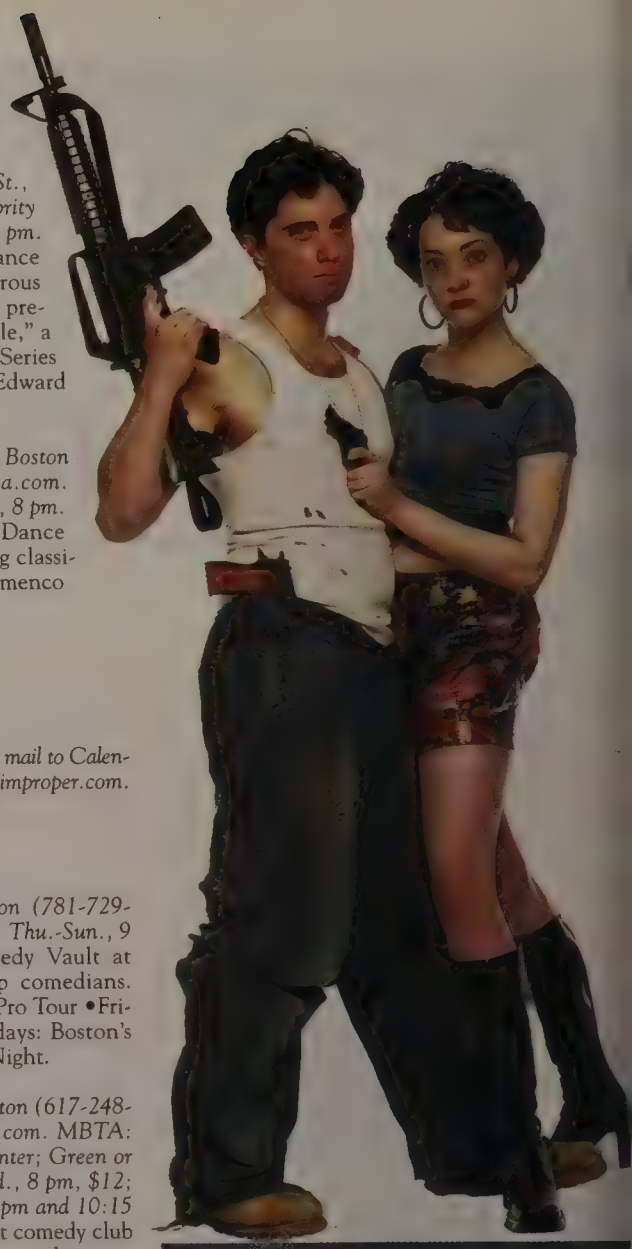
Comedy Studio
Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •May 26: Kelly MacFarland, Dan Sulman, M.B. Cowan, Chris Oake, Jesse Gersten, Chris Tabb, Alana Devich, Ben Murray, Brian Gordon, Mike Morell and Mindy Raff. •May 27: Chris Coxen, Paul D. Day, Ku, Elaine Schulbaum, Dan Sally, Alana Devich, Pete Gray, Bryan Ames, Seth Early and Brian Gordon. •May 28: Ira Proctor, E.J. Murphy, Tommy Morello, Alana Devich, Malissa Hunt, Brian Gordon, Erin Judge, Larry Murphy, the Walsh Brothers. •May 29: Chris O'Carroll, E.J. Murphy, Tommy Morello, Alana Devich, Brian Gordon, J.J. Leslie, Myq Kaplan and Claire McManus. •May 30: Sam Walters, Peter Bowes, Mike Stauffis, Constantine, Kevin Neales, Tammy Two-Tone, Chrissy Lavoie and Alana Devich. •June 1: The Mystery Lounge, a magic and comedy show. •June 2: The Tony V Experiment, Kelly MacFarland, Courtney Cronin, Nate Johnson, Sarah Martin, Dave Grabiner, Erin Judge, Gary Sohmers, Greg Thibideau, Dan Sally and Tim M. •June 3: Gay and lesbian standup comedians, hosted by Greg Rodrigues •June 4-6: Gary Gulman, Tim McIntire and Dan Sally. •June 8: The Mystery Lounge.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. $10-$22. •May 27-29, 8:30 pm: Matt Blake, Chris Boggis and Tim McIntire.

IMPROV COMEDY

Faces for Radio
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.faces4radio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $8. Improv comedians poke fun at everything, including themselves.

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA:Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available.



The Zeitgeist Stage Company's production of *Popcorn* is at the BCA

•Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 and 10 pm *Big Dig...End of an Error!*, a revue of improvisation and sketch comedy. •Wed., 7 pm: *Pasta Wednesda* provides a pasta dinner to all audience members the tradition of Prince Spaghetti and the Nor End. •Thu., 9:45 pm, NXT Show. •Sat., midnigh $5: *The Midnight Show.*

ImprovBoston
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253 www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Ce tral. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvis tional comedy troupe creates everything on th spot: the characters, the stories, the settings—ev the songs and dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: *The Hum* Series for experimental and improvisation theater. •Thu., 8 pm, $12: *Unnatural Selection.* master of ceremonies randomly eliminates playe until only one is left. 10 pm, $5: *The Great and S cret Comedy Show.* Brothers Chris and David Wal perform stand-up and music, play short films and character sketches in a display of sibling rival •Fri., 8 pm, $12: *Ay Diego.* Nationally acclaim improvisers Will Luera and Zabeth Russell's se show of improvised scenes, witty sketches and vid vignettes. 10 pm, $12: *Theatre Sports.* Two teams improvisers face off. •Sat., 6 pm, $12. ($10. children): *Improv Foundry.* A short-form improvis tional show the entire family can enjoy. 8 and pm, $12: *ImprovBoston Mainstage.* Blending sto telling, music and audience participation, a cast improvisers creates a show that changes with eve performance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5: *Sgt. Culpepper's I provisational Jamboree.* This evening combines thr shows into one. Watch performances by visiti and local troupes.

Improv Foundry
327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-30 6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. Through June, t group performs at the Improv Asylum in Cambrid (See Improv Asylum listing for info.)

COMEDY SHOWS

Stash's Comedy Jam
All Asia Cafe, 334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-49 1544). www.stashcomedyjam.com. MBTA: Red Li to Kendall. First and third Sunday of every month pm. Stash hosts this open-mike show.

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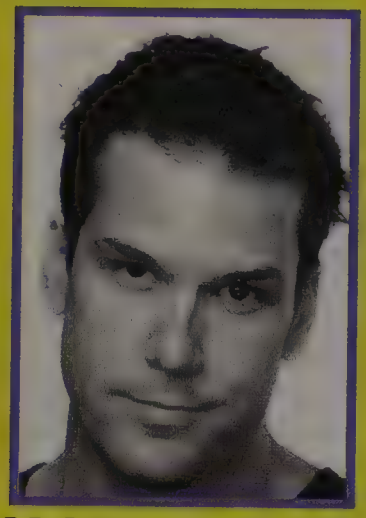
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Dynamic Duos

Twosomes take off in Jim Jarmusch's latest

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Deadpan or dull? Those are the either/or descriptions that usually apply to the movies of quintessential indie director Jim Jarmusch. Interestingly deadpan in the case of an understated comedy like *Mystery Train* or his more recent, more dramatic *Ghost Dog: The Way of the Samurai*; doggedly dull in the case of long, languid films like *Night on Earth* and *Dead Man*. His new *Coffee and Cigarettes*, a compilation of short films featuring characters indulging in its titular treats, is not only one of his most enjoyable movies, it's also one of the writer-director's best odes to minimalism.



Meg and Jack White puff away and sip Joe as a framed Lee Marvin watches

Jarmusch made the 11 shorts in *Coffee and Cigarettes* over the past 18 years, and the feature delivers them chronologically. Most pit two characters in amusing conversations in which dark undercurrents often slither around between the lines. The characters generally have the same name as the actors who play them and are, in varying degrees, based on those performers—many of whom have appeared in Jarmusch's previous movies.

You may have seen the absurd opener, "Strange to Meet You," which features a tête-à-tête between Steven Wright and pre-Oscar Roberto Benigni, on *Saturday Night Live* (the show commissioned it). It's a fun mix of Wright's ill logic and Benigni's slippery grasp of the English language. It's also a celebration of simple, two-character dialogue, as is the rest of the movie. Jarmusch repeatedly celebrates pairs of things that go well together here, whether it's his characters, coffee and smokes, black and white, twins, Abbott and Costello or, to reference one of the soundtrack's songs, crimson and clover.

"No Problem" does a good job of tapping a comic conundrum akin to Abbott and Costello's "Who's on First?" routine: Isaach de Bankole meets with old friend Alex Descas, whom he hasn't seen in a while. De Bankole is sure that worried-looking Descas must have asked him to meet to talk over a serious problem, but Descas keeps denying any problem. And de Bankole keeps asking if he has one…

The dark undercurrent running beneath "Somewhere in California" and "Cousins?" isn't doom—it's competition. The former is a playful meeting between musical nonconformists Iggy Pop and Tom Waits, in which the two subtly try to outoutlaw each other (Waits' hilariously offers that Iggy might be a "Taco Bell sort of guy"). The latter features English actors Alfred Molina (Dudley Do-Right) and Steve Coogan (*24 Hour Party People*), who meet in Los Angeles (this tea-drinking encounter is the only entry free of coffee). In the short's context, Molina is the steadily working role player and Coogan the up-and-coming star, and their career prospects determine each's willingness to become friends with the other. Coogan's polite disses of chummy Molina, who's done genealogical research showing the two expatriate Brits are cousins, are priceless.

Other memorable duos include Cate Blanchett, as both a pampered version of herself and her resentful cousin, in "Cousins," (not to be confused with "Cousins?") the short with the most upscale setting; Italian-American old-timers Joe Rigano and Vinny Vella in "Those Things'll Kill Ya," in which the first chides the second for being addicted to smokes, and the second ranks out the first for having a caffeine jones; and Meg White and Jack White in "Jack Shows Meg His Tesla Coil," which is a bit more self-explanatory than one hopes.

Sometimes, the duos are a unit of two intruded upon by a third person. That situation makes for two of the funniest shorts. In "Twins," bickering Joie Lee and Cinque Lee get their ears bent by waiter Steve Buscemi, who has cockamamie theories about twins, especially Elvis Presley and Jesse Garon Presley. In "Delirium," health-conscious GZA and RZA (from rap group the Wu-Tang Clan) deal with coffee-guzzling waiter Bill Murray (unlike Buscemi, who plays a waiter, Murray plays himself moonlighting as a waiter for reasons he won't reveal).

"Delirium" has self-referential nods to dialogue in the Wright/Benigni and Waits/Pop shorts, and it would have been the right place for *Coffee and Cigarettes* to conclude. But after bringing the movie around full-circle, Jarmusch follows "Delirium" with the less interesting "Champagne," which also is self-referential and subsequently anticlimactic. Despite this misstep (and one other underachiever, "Renee," which comes halfway in), *Coffee and Cigarettes* is still unpretentious fun. The movie unfolds in cool surroundings and with cool music, from the Pharaohs and the Stooges to Funkadelic. The world of *Coffee and Cigarettes* is a nice place to be and, unlike most movies, it celebrates stripped-down realism and individual self-expression, instead of negating them. IB

Coffee and Cigarettes ★★★

Written and directed by Jim Jarmusch. With Steven Wright, Roberto Benigni, Cinque Lee, Steve Buscemi, Iggy Pop, Tom Waits, Cate Blanchett, Alfred Molina, Steve Coogan, GZA, RZA and Bill Murray. Rated R. At Harvard Square and Coolidge Corner.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Aileen: Life and Death of a Serial Killer ★★★½
Documentary director Nick Broomfield revisi Florida multiple murderer Aileen Wuornos, decade after his *Aileen Wuornos: The Selling of a Se ial Killer*, which detailed how everyone in the sta (police, lawyers, politicians, etc.) seemed to by t ing to make a buck off her. Broomfield shows h his first film was used in Wuornos' appeal, as ev dence of how ill-prepared her first lawyer was. Ar in between interviews with an increasingly u hinged Wuornos, he and co-director Joan Church look into Wuornos' frightening Michigan chil hood. This sobering look at human mistreatmen heaped upon and later dished out by Wuorno blows away the docudrama *Monster*. (At Kenda Square through May 27; out on DVD June 1.)

The Battle of Algiers ★★★½
This 1965 look at the 1950s Algerian uprisi against French colonials is one of the great docudr mas. Now in rerelease, the movie's realism is st bracing, and its "real" violence still jarring and di turbing. The movie has only become more moral complex over time, as it asks us to sympathize wi revolutionaries who, essentially, perform terrori acts. The movie is also too intense and immediate preach, though. (At the Brattle, May 28-30.)

Breakin' All the Rules ★★½
It's not as high on laughs as it might be, but write director Daniel Taplitz's romantic comedy does good job of weaving its elaborate plot involvi coincidences, mistaken identities and a how-t break-up manual written by Jamie Foxx's pr tagonist. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburb

Good Bye Lenin! ★★½
An East German woman goes into a coma just b fore the Berlin Wall falls, and when she has to le a stress-free life after she comes to, her son goes great lengths to make sure she never learns that h Communist country doesn't exist anymore. Th great premise yields some amusing moments, b also some disappointing ones. Unlike in Bi Wilder's brilliant *One, Two, Three* (which cover similar territory after the wall went up), the come here never quite hits high gear because the st tempers the humor with shades of drama. But t characters' family drama never becomes as mem rable as the premise. (At Kendall Square.)

Heir to an Execution ★★★½
First-time moviemaker Ivy Meeropol's HBO-bou film is an involving blend of American history a personal documentary. Meeropol is the gran daughter of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, the C War radicals who were made an example of and ecuted for spying in 1953. Meeropol always kn about her grandparents, yet was puzzled over h their families failed to support them after their rest or to adopt their two sons, including her d after their execution. So she tracks down friends her grandparents and tries to contact estrang family members to find out about the grandpare she never met. Like *Strange Fruit*—last year's do mentary about Abel Meeropol, the teacher/wri who adopted the Rosenbergs' boys—this is gr history that they don't teach in school. (At the M seum of Fine Arts, June 3 and 6.)

Kill Bill Vol. 2 ★★
It used to be fun when Quentin Tarantino put his pop-culture influences in a blender and s them back out. What happened? Tarantino m have been one of the first American directors spired by Hong Kong's 1980s action heyday, since his *Reservoir Dogs*, a hundred other mov have mined the same sources. And *Pulp Fiction* never as self-conscious as the second half of *Bill* (or its predecessor, released last fall). Tar tino doesn't so much blend influences here as si ply ape them one at a time: Sergio Leone close- and spaghetti western music in one of its chapt grainy film, Chinese dialogue and a king homage in the other. At least *Vol. 2* has Mich Madsen, the only star here who seems genuin dangerous and doesn't come off like a mere ac playing bad-ass. (At Boston Common, Fenway suburbs.)

Martin & Orloff ★★★
This winning buddy comedy includes lots of fa iar alternative-comedy faces from the Upright C zens Brigade, Second City and parts elsewhere, cluding Amy Poehler, David Cross and co-wri Matt Walsh. Walsh plays a carefree shrink pulls a suicidal new patient (Ian Roberts) into whirlwind world. Although the comedy forced at first, the movie ultimately captures s of the absurd unpredictability of the original (P



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Falk-Alan Arkin) version of *The In-Laws*. (At Copley Place.)

Mean Girls ★★
With a comic tone pitched somewhere between *Heathers* and *Clueless*, writer and co-star Tina (*Saturday Night Live*) Fey's comedy comes off like a watered-down version of both—not as savage as the former nor as stylized as the latter. Perhaps the problem was shoehorning the story to appeal to the preteen audience of star Lindsay Lohan. She plays a 16-year-old who's been living in Africa with her zoologist parents and is now entering a conventional high school for the first time. She gets taken under the wing of the school's popular girls and soon becomes consumed by the vain, territorial teen princesses' wicked ways. While respectable (and respectful of its audience), Fey's anti-gossip, pro-sisterhood tale is long-winded and not all that funny. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Saved! ★★
You'll find no argument from me about this comedy's message, as it pokes fun at the repression and hypocrisy of religious fundamentalism. And the cast, playing students at American Eagle Christian High School, includes Jena Malone, Patrick Fugit and even Macauley Culkin and Mandy Moore doing some of their best work (love the end-credits duet of the Beach Boys' "God Only Knows" by Moore and co-producer Michael Stipe). But director and co-writer Brian Dannelly has made such a simplistic and smug movie that it's really only preaching to the converted, and you get the feeling he thinks his movie is much more outrageous than it really is. The film is only slightly less self-righteous than those it mocks. Check out the documentary *Hell House*, about the scare tactics of a Dallas Pentecostal haunted house, for the real thing. (Opening May 28)

Still, We Believe: The Boston Red Sox Movie ★★★
It's good to see the Red Sox get some attention—you hardly hear anything about those guys these days. Surprisingly, this documentary about the Sox' 2003 season manages not to be redundant, because it focuses on eight different fans, most of whom are pretty colorful. My favorites are Brockton realist Jermaine, inseparable East Boston diehards Erin and Jessamy and, last but not least, Watertown pessimist "Angry Bill." His mood swings (over the course of a game, an inning or even an at-bat) are priceless and are something with which every Sox fan can commiserate. There's a lot of pain going on, especially come Game Seven against the Yankees, but this is a pleasure to watch. (At Boston Common and suburbs.)

Super Size Me ★★★
See Morgan. See Morgan eat only at McDonald's for 30 days. See Morgan's weight balloon, his cholesterol shoot up and his liver start to break down. Director Morgan Spurlock, sort of a lighter (and lighter-touch) Michael Moore, serves up his McBinge very amusingly, in order to expose the poison of American fast food. He plays the role of guinea pig with such a commitment and sense of humor that the rather depressing message of *Super Size Me* goes down easier. Whether Spurlock intended it or not, the larger picture of this country that his movie paints is a frightening one of total decadence, self-indulgence and slavishness to profit and instant gratification, at the expense of common sense and humanity. (At Coolidge Corner, Harvard Square and Waltham Embassy.)

Troy ★★½
Sword-and-sandals epics like this Trojan War movie are always a little cheesy, and this one is no different. The arch dialogue and "hey, look at these expensive sets!" feeling are to be expected, as are the CGI hordes of battlers. But not the fact that half the action with the star (Brad Pitt as warrior extraordinaire Achilles) is just plain goofy. Yet, Wolfgang Petersen's movie can impress, especially in the showdown between Achilles and Eric Bana's Hector. That crucial scene is well shot and imaginatively scored, and unlike most fight scenes these days, it's *not* confusing. Meanwhile, Brian Cox brings some Yosemite Sam rootin'-tootin' fire to Agamemnon—the Greek king who finds a convenient excuse to stage an invasion (doesn't *that* sound familiar?)—and Peter O'Toole adds class as Trojan king Priam. But listless German actress Diane Kruger as Helen, the face that launched a thousand ships? Not likely. (At Loews Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Van Helsing ★
Oh, the lack of humanity. Director Stephen Sommers, the hack behind the *Mummy* movies, gives us more special-effects-heavy emptiness. Only this one is more effects-heavy and more empty. With Hugh Jackman as the title character, merely the latest gimmicky spectacle-movie evil-fighter to come down the multiplex pike, and cohort Kate Beckinsale dolled up like a hooker at the Country Music Awards, this is a bloody drag. Sommers' main priority seems to be to take the human element out of moviemaking; he even turns Dr. Jekyll's pal Mr. Hyde into a Hulk-like CGI effect. His only talent is knowing the effects whizzes' phone numbers. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)


Brad Pitt plays the Greek warrior Achilles in Wolfgang Petersen's *Troy*.

With All Deliberate Speed ★★★½
Before Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks led the Montgomery, Ala., bus boycott, and before the full-on civil rights movement that sprang from it, groups of discontented high school students in several states stood up against the inferior quality of education for black students. Their walkouts, petitions and lawsuits led to the landmark Brown vs. the Board of Education case, in which the Supreme Court ruled that "separate but equal" racial segregation was unconstitutional. This documentary is both an inspiring look at the grassroots discontent that led to national progress—with anecdotes from many of the crusaders behind it—and a cautionary tale about how the court's ruling still hasn't been fully implemented. (At Kendall Square.)

Young Adam ★★
Could someone please make an NC-17 movie that has something more remarkable about it than the fact that it's rated NC-17? In this drama set in 1950s Glasgow, Ewan McGregor plays a failed writer who thinks with his tally-whacker, an opportunistic seducer whose wandering heart leaves a trail of hurt and even death. Despite a gritty tone, an effective nonlinear time structure, yet another strong McGregor performance and a fine cast (also including Tilda Swinton, Emily Mortimer and Peter Mullan), this would-be indictment of masculine sexuality gets unintentionally comical, after yet another husband decides to leave his wife alone with McGregor's character for long stretches of time. It dulls the drama when sex-starved women literally drop into his lap, and credibility steadily oozes out of this, like air from a split balloon. (At Kendall Square and Waltham Embassy.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

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Ninth Annual IberoAmerican Film Festival
• May 26, 6 pm. **Historias Minimas** *(Minimal Stories) 2002*. Carlos Sorin's comedic drama intertwines three different story lines of people traveling from their small hometown.
• June 2, 6 pm. **La Lengua de las Mariposas** *(Butterfly Tongues) 1999*. José Luis Cuerda's film is a coming of age story about a Spanish boy who is forced to grow up fast when fascist rebels launch an attack on Spain.
• June 3, 6 pm. **The Revolution Will Not be Televised** *2003*. Filmmakers Kim Bartley and Donnacha O'Briain were inside the Venezuelan palace when a coup d'etat forcibly removed president Hugo Chavez from office. Their film records what happened during the 48-hour coup.

BRATTLE THEATRE

Mondays: Von Sternberg—Dietrich & Beyond
• May 31, 3 and 7:15 pm. **The Scarlet Empr** *1935*. In Josef Von Sternberg's film, a Germ princess is sent to Russia to marry the daughte the empress in this retelling of the legend of Cath ine the Great. • Also showing, 1, 5:15 and 9:30 p **The Devil Is a Woman** *1934*. An older man warn younger man that the woman they're both in l with is unattainable for both of them.
• June 7, 5:30 and 9:30 pm. **An American Trag** *1931*. A man attempts to kill his pregnant girlfri so he can run off with a wealthy woman. • A showing, 7:30 pm. **Crime and Punishment** *19* Peter Lorre stars as a murderer who helps the det tive investigating his crime track down the killer.

Tuesdays: Sex & Death & God—Controversy on Screen
• June 1, 5, 7:30 and 10 pm. **Santa Sangre** *1989* young man is committed to a mental institut after witnessing his circus-folk parents mutil each other in Alejandro Jodorowsky's bizarre favorite.
• June 8, 5 and 8:15 pm. **The Dreamers** *20* Bernando Bertolucci's sexually charged film foll an American exchange student who becomes volved in a passionate relationship with a brot and sister in 1960s Paris. • Also showing, Jun 7:15 pm. **Last Tango in Paris** *1972*. Marlon Bra and Maria Schneider star in Bernardo Bertoluc film about two lovers in Paris.

Wednesdays: Recent Raves
• May 26, 4:45, 7:15 and 9:45 pm. **City of God** *20* Katia Lund and Frenando Meirelles's film foll three boys growing up amid drugs and violence the slums of Rio de Janeiro.
• June 2, 7:30 pm. **The Return** *2003*. Two yo boys reunite with their secretive and possibly d gerous absentee father on a fishing trip. An Zvyagintsev directs. • Also showing, June 2, 5 and 9:45 pm. **Blind Shaft** *2003*. Two fed-up worl in a Chinese mine set out to extort money f their employers. Yang Li directs.

Thursdays: Ozu—A Celebration
• May 27, 7:15 pm. **Late Autumn** *1960*. Th family friends try to find a husband for a widow that her daughter can be released from her fa ial obligations. Yasujiro Ozu directs. • Also sh ing, May 27, 5 and 9:45 pm. **Late Spring** *194* widower pretends he is remarrying, so his dau ter will accept a marriage proposal. Yasujiro directs.
• June 3, 4:45, 7:15 and 9:45 pm. **The Flavo Green Tea over Rice** *1952*. A woman and her h band try to rescue their failing marriage when t niece comes to visit. Yasujiro Ozu directs.

Weekends: Special Engagements
• May 28-30, 2:30, 5, 7:30 and 10 pm. **Battle of giers** *1965*. Gillo Pontecorvo's film presents the gerian struggle for independence from France series of flashbacks from a leading Algerian rebel

New England Animation Bash!
• June 4-6. Old classics, new releases and sh screen. Check www.brattleflm.org/neab for the schedule.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Coolidge Award 2004: Zhang Yimo Retrospective
• May 26, 8 pm. The Coolidge celebrates the w of filmmaker Zhang Yimou, who makes a rare sonal appearance to accept the first-ever Cooli Award. Filmmakers Allan Miller (*The Turandot* ject) and New York Film Festival program dire Richard Pena speak at the event, and selected cerpts from Yimou's films screen. Other highli include a live dance performance with choreo pher Ling Chu, and an exhibition by female ma arts teacher Bow Sim Mark.
• May 27, 7:30 pm. **Hero** *2003*. Yimou's tribute to beauty of martial arts tells the story of a king w struggle for power is jeopardized by three assassins

Coolidge Selects
• Now playing. **Super Size Me** *2003*. See New leases for a description.
• Now playing. **Coffee and Cigarettes** *2004*. Se view on page 52.
• Now playing. **Power Trip** *2003*. Paul Devlin's umentary explores the way citizens in the former viet Republic of Georgia avoid paying their ele bills and contribute to the power crisis.
• Now playing. **Morlang** *2001*. An artist is haun by a message from his deceased wife in Tjebbo ning's directorial debut.
• Now playing. **The Rage in Placid Lake** *2003*. A cially awkward teenager tries to reinvent himse a conservative insurance agent after an acci puts him in the hospital. Tony McNamara direct

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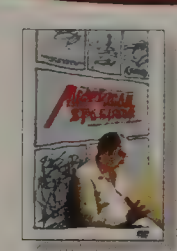
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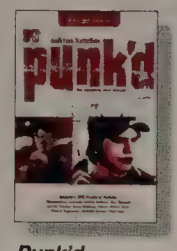
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Left to right: MacCauley Culkin, Eva Amurri and Jena Malone in Brian Dannelly's *Saved*.

•Opens May 28. **Word Wars** *2004*. Eric Chaikin and Julian Petrillo's documentary explores the world of competitive Scrabble tournaments.

Director's Cut

•June 8, 7:30 pm. **Girl at Risk** *2004*. This documentary tells the story of a troubled young girl whose relationship with a volunteer mentor may save her. Director Michelle Nicholasen answers audience questions following the screening.

Midnight Movies—Kung Fu Madness

•May 29, 12 am. **Iceman Cometh** *1989*. Clarence Fok Liu Yeung directs this story about a frozen Ming Dynasty royal guard and a killer who thaw out and pursue each other in present-day Hong Kong.
•June 5, 12 am. The winner of an audience vote for best kung fu film (announced May 29) screens at the 10th Year Anniversary celebration.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Beautiful Music: Michel Legrand on Film

•May 28, 30, 7 pm. **A Woman Is a Woman** *1961*. In this film by Jean-Luc Godard, a stripper with a deadbeat boyfriend and dreams of motherhood longs to become a music and movie star. •Also showing May 28, 9 pm. **Vivre sa Vie** *(My Life to Live) 1962*. Jean-Luc Godard directs this documentary-style film about a young woman who becomes a prostitute because she can't pay her rent.
• May 2, 7 pm; May 30, 9 pm. **Bande à Part** *(Band of Outsiders) 1964*. Jean-Luc Godard directs this film about two men and the woman they both love, who conspire to commit a robbery.
•May 29, 9 pm. **Cléo de 5 à 7** *(Cleo from 5 to 7) 1961*. Agnès Varda's film is about a young pop singer awaiting test results that will indicate whether she has cancer.

Conservator's Choice

•May 31, 7 pm. **Short Shorts**. HFA Film Conservator Julie Buck introduces a program of avant-garde shorts, trailers and commercials.

Peter Lorre: A Sinister Centennial

•June 1, 7 pm; June 2, 9 pm. **M** *1931*. Fritz Lang's thriller is about the search for a child murderer in a German city. •Also showing, June 1, 9 pm; June 2, 7 pm. **The Lost Man** *1951*. A German scientist decides to kill his fiancée when he finds out she's trading secrets with their enemy. Peter Lorre directs.
•June 4, 7 pm. **Casablanca** *1942*. Michael Curtiz's classic film, set against the backdrop of World War II, is the story of the romance between a nightclub owner and his married ex-girlfriend. •Also showing, 9 pm. **Passage to Marseille** *1944*. Michael Curtiz directs this film about a French journalist framed for murder.
•June 5, 7 pm. **The Man Who Knew Too Much** *1934*. A young girl is kidnapped after her parents unveil a terrorist plot in Alfred Hitchcock's thriller.
•Also showing, 9 pm. **The Raven** *1963*. Inspired by Edgar Allen Poe's poem, Roger Corman's film follows the son of a sorcerer on his quest to discover the truth about his wife's relationship with his nemesis.
•June 6, 7 pm. **Think Fast, Mr. Moto** *1937*. Norman Foster directs this film about a Japanese detective (Lorre) who discovers the connections between a San Francisco murder, a secret letter and a missing woman.
•Also showing, 9 pm. **Thank You, Mr. Moto** *1939*. Mr. Moto tries to find the treasure of Genghis Khan's tomb. Norman Foster directs.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Boston Jewish Film Festival

•June 3, 7:45 pm; June 6, 1 pm. **Heir to an Execution** *2003*. Ivy Meeropol's documentary chronicles the lives and legacy of her grandparents, Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, who were convicted of spying and executed during the McCarthy era. Meeropol appears in person for the June 6 screening.

Cinema India!

•May 27, 2:30 pm; May 29, 3 pm. **The Braveheart Will Take the Bride** *1995* A wealthy Londoner seeks his family's approval of his romance with the daughter of an Indian shopkeeper. Aditya Chopra directs
•May 28, 6 pm; May 30, 3:50 pm. **The Speaking Hand: Zakir Hussain and the Art of the Indian Drum** *2003* Sumantra Ghosal directs this documentary about the life of the Indian tabla player.
•June 3, 5, 3 pm. **The Lady of the House** *1999* Rituparno Ghosh directs this film about a lonely woman who opens her home to an exploitative film crew.
•June 4, 5:30 pm. **Anything Can Happen** *2003*. A copywriter helps destroy two Bombay crime lords' corrupt hold over the city. Shashanka Ghosh directs.

Cinema Tropical

•May 27, 6 pm. **Te Busco** *(I'm Looking for You) 2002*. A young boy helps his eccentric musician uncle seduce a singer. Ricardo Coral Dorado directs.

Film Directors Present

•May 29, 1 pm. **Inside Out: Stories of Bulimia** *2002*. Michelle Blair discusses and screens this documentary about five diverse women and men who struggle with eating disorders.

French Nouveaux Cineastes

•May 26, 6 pm; May 30, 12:10 pm. **Seaside** *2002*. A young factory worker dreams of leaving the coastal resort town where she's spent her whole life. Julie Lopes-Curval directs.
•May 26, 28 and June 4, 8 pm; May 27, 12:30 and 7:45 pm; May 29, 11 am; May 30, 1:50 pm; May 31, 3 pm; June 3 and 5, 1 pm. **Since Otar Left** *2003*. Julie Bertucelli directs this film about a young man who leaves his family behind in the Republic of Georgia when he goes to Paris seeking a better-paying job.
•June 2, 6 pm. **17 Fois Cécille Cassard** *(Seventeen Times Cécille Cassard) 2001*. A widow's friendship with a gay man helps her to overcome depression in Christophe Honore's film.

Youth Films

•May 31, 10:30 am and 12:30 pm. **Whale Rider** *2002*. Despite her tribe's objections, a young Maori girl fights to become chief of her village after her brother's death. Niki Caro directs.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater

•Starting May 28. **Forces of Nature** Get up close and personal with terrifying tornadoes, erupting volcanoes and enormous earthquakes. *Call for show times.*
•Through May 27. **Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West**. Trek through raging rivers and uncharted wilderness to commemorate the bicentennial of the explorers' journey, brought to life by National Geographic Films. Call for show times.
•Through June 12. **Jane Goodall's Wild Chimpanzees**. Travel to Africa's Gombe Stream National Park with Goodall for close encounters of the primate kind. *Call for show times.*
•Through Sept. 4. **India: Kingdom of the Tiger**. Explore the kingdom of the Bengal tiger, from the Himalayas to Rajasthan. *Call for show times.*

Special Screenings

•June 8, 6:30 and 8 pm. **Women of K2** Director Jen Jordan presents this documentary about five women who climbed Pakistan's K2, the world's second-highest mountain.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater

•Through June 18. **Bugs! 3D**. This film focuses on the world of insects in the tropical rain forests of Southeast Asia. See bugs magnified up to 250,000 times their normal size. *Call for show times.*
•Through June 18. **Ghosts of the Abyss**. Director James Cameron takes audiences two miles beneath the sea's surface to explore the wreckage of the Titanic. *Call for show times.*
•Through June 18. **Ocean Wonderland 3D**. This film explores the ocean floor of the Bahamas and Australia's Great Barrier Reef, with their sharks, sting rays and rainbows of tropical fish. *Call for show times.*
•Through June 18. **Volcanoes of the Deep Sea**. Dive to the bottom of the sea with a team of scientists, as they explore hydrothermal vents, shipwrecked gardens, predators and bioluminescent creatures. *Call for show times.*

38 CAMERON GALLERY

Human Rights Watch International Film Festival

•May 27, 6 pm. **Pinochet's Children** *2002*. Director Paula Rodriguez documents the lives of three Chilean students who fought against Pinochet's regime and sought to bring about social and political change. •Also showing, 8 pm. **Dans, Grozny, Dans** *2003*. Director Jos de Putter documents the journey of a group of Chechnyan child dancers whose hometown is ravaged by war.
•May 28, 6 pm. **State of Denial** 2003 Director Elaine Epstein documents South African society's struggle with the AIDS epidemic. •Also showing, 8 pm. **Ford Transit** *2002*. Director Hany Abu-Assad documents the life of a Palestinian cab driver in Israeli-occupied territory.

Cinema Venues

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Rd. (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: G Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBT Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: G Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Lin Science Park.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Lin Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Lin Reservoir.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C G Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Lin Harvard.

Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MB Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Lir Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Lir Harvard.

MIT
77 Mass. Ave, Room 4-370. MBTA: Red Lin Kendall.

38 Cameron
38 Cameron Ave., Suite 100. (617-492-40 MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D G Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: On Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red to Davis.



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Magic touch

Grant-Lee Phillips grows *Virginia Creeper* from his personal mythology

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Grant-Lee Phillips first rose to prominence with his mid-'90s band Grant Lee Buffalo, wielding a malleable voice that earned him Best Male Vocalist honors in *Rolling Stone* and playing a 12-string acoustic guitar wired through a fuzzbox. On the wings of that band's haunting hits "Mockingbirds" and "Fuzzy," Phillips, like Jeff Buckley and Radiohead's Thom Yorke, made alternative-rock radio safe for the falsetto.



Grant-Lee Phillips' new CD stands up to, and even surpasses, his old band's oeuvre.

A decade later, Phillips has come full circle on his third solo CD, *Virginia Creeper*, which stands up to—and even surpasses—his Grant Lee Buffalo oeuvre with a melancholy charm and natural assuredness that finds his comfort zone.

"It's probably a case of allowing myself to gravitate toward the stuff that felt the best and bypassing my brain for a moment," says Phillips, who brings his new band to the Paradise June 10. "I let my fingers do the walking."

Creeping might be a better word, in line with the CD title, named after a persistent, slow-moving vine. "It describes this album, describes its flow, and describes my own pace and philosophy," he says. "That's the underlying theme of *Virginia Creeper*, sort of long, low, slow impressions."

Many of those impressions come from lyrics that, like his work in Grant Lee Buffalo, reflect Phillips' attraction to the mystery in Americana. Seasoned with banjo, mandolin, ukulele, dobro, accordion and violin, the album touches on folkloric characters and imagery in such songs as "Calamity Jane" ("They're whispering like locusts in the grain") and the Appalachia-styled "Josephine of the Swamps." Other songs mention Johnny Appleseed, carnival lights and, in a cover of Gram Parson's "Hickory Wind," Carolina pine trees.

"That's just allowing my own obsessions and personal quirks to come through," Phillips says. "These characters from American folklore are as real to me as anything else, and there's a million more of them. It's sort of like our own mythology, and some of that is personification, but in some cases, some of these people actually walked the planet."

One of those people was Phillips' Native American great-grandmother, the subject of the nostalgic piano waltz "Susanna Little." "She witnessed all sorts of injustices," he says. "In the end, there was some sense of justice, if you can call it that. Some natives were given useless plots of dry dirt, and it so happened there was oil underneath."

As for the predominance of female protagonists on *Virginia Creeper*, he says, "It runs the gamut from a song about my great-grandmother to 'Lily-A-Passion,' a flowery tribute to the goddess in all. Vines and flowers are a very romantic notion, and writing about female characters is as old as the hills. It goes back to the troubadours."

Phillips can relate to troubadours, and even plays one as a recurring character on the TV series *Gilmore Girls*, whose producers were fans of his. "We're still bound to open our guitar cases on the sidewalk," he says, "all the time knowing it may be too big a vessel for the endeavor."

Growing up in Stockton, Calif., Phillips indulged in other sidewalk exploits that could serve as fodder for his own mythology. At age 10, he took his penchant for card tricks to another level as a child magician at a local amusement park and joined a vaudeville/melodrama revival house.

"That's where I was able to try my hand at everything from juggling to comedy to becoming a self-taught stuntman," he says. "That's what kept me off the streets and on the dusty sidewalks of a fake ghost town in northern California, all through my teenage years. We would perform gunfights and cowboy stunt shows on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, and Friday and Saturday evenings would be consumed with vaudeville-melodrama shows, and I'd be performing with a magic act throughout the week. And I put a band together."

Despite a crack at film school, Phillips stuck with music, fueled by the allure of indie-label groups such as the Dream Syndicate. "I went with my gut," says Phillips, 40. "And overnight success came about nine years later."

Now, after about the same period of time, following his demo-styled solo debut, *Ladies' Love Oracle*, and the more eclectic *Mobilize*, Phillips deserves more widespread recognition with *Virginia Creeper*. On his current tour, his band features drummer Kevin Jarvis and singer Cindy Wasserman—from the album—along with upright bassist Dave Carpenter. He also expects to collaborate on some songs—and share the musicians—with opening act John Doe, the X singer/bassist who toured with Phillips and Kristin Hersh (formerly of Throwing Muses) as the Exile Follies.

And yes, fans can expect a few Grant Lee Buffalo tunes on that 12-string acoustic with fuzzbox. "I get a kick out of playing those old songs," Phillips says, "as much as anyone enjoys hearing them." IB

Grant-Lee Phillips
plays at the Paradise Rock Club, with John Doe, June 10.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or email to music@improper.com. Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double-check dates and times (see complete listing venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Averi June 4, Club Passim (617-492-7679).
Blink 182 and No Doubt June 8, Tweeter Cen (617-931-2000).
Dresden Dolls June 1, Middle East (617-492-918
Melissa Ferrick June 2, Club Passim (617-4 7679).
Fleetwood Mac May 28, Tweeter Center (617-9 2000).
John Hiatt May 26, Avalon, (617-423-NEXT).
Hootie and the Blowfish June 6, South Shore M Circus (617-931-2000).
KC and the Sunshine Band, the Village Peo Martha Wash and Evelyn "Champagne" King J 8, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Alison Krauss May 31, FleetBoston Pavilion (6 931-2000).
Moe June 4, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-200
Patti Smith June 4, Paradise Rock Club (617-4 NEXT).
The Thrills and Blanche May 28, Paradise R Club (617-423-NEXT).
Glenn Tilbrook and Will Dailey May 27, Para (617-423-NEXT).
Velvet Revolver May 29, Avalon (617-423-NEX
Violent Femmes June 3, Lansdowne Street Bl Party (617-931-2787).
WBCN River Rave with the Offspring, P.O.D., P dle of Mudd, New Found Glory, Everlast, the Y Yeah Yeahs and more May 30, Tweeter Cen (617-931-2000).
X-ecutioners, Northern State and the Wy Bunch June 6, Paradise Rock Club (617-4 NEXT).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26

Abbey Lounge Bang Circus, Karinations and M ibu Lou, 21+.
Asgard Accoustic night with Jude Nemo.
Avalon John Hiatt, 8 pm, $28.75, 18+.
The Black Rose Sundays Well.
The Breezeway Bar and Grill Jeff Fedler, 7:30-1(pm, no cover before 11 pm.
The Bristol Lounge Adam Feldman, 6-10 pm.
The Burren Katie McDonnell CD-release party.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Julie Dougherty, Bill McQuaid Marylou Ferrante, 8 pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm-12 am, cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard, 9 no cover.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 9 pm, no cover.
Johnny D's Hot Club of Cowtown, 8:30 pm, $12
Kennedy's Midtown Michael Larson, no cover.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low with Peter C. John 7:30-8:30 pm; the Dennis Brennan Band, 9:30 $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Mass Hysteria, the Tint, Harmonics and the Black Freighter, 9 pm, $8, I Downstairs: Leukemia and Lymphoma benefit v Default Outfit, No One's Kind, Brilliant Mist and Bully Pulpit, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
Midway Café John Peter.
Paradise Big Bear, 9 pm, $5.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9 pm.
Regattabar The Aquiles Baez Quartet, 8:30 $12.
Roxy Danger Mouse and Money Mark, 8 pm, $ 18+.
Ryles Jazz Club The Ron Kearns Quintet, 9 pm,
Scullers Mighty Sam McClain, 8 and 10 pm, $ $54 with dinner.
Tír na nÓg Todd Martin.
Toad Dinallo and Whitfield, 7-9 pm; the Freela Bishops, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 no cover.

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T.T. the Bear's Place Matt Haimovitz, 9:30 pm, $10 in advance, $12 day of show.
The Western Front Club New England Conservatory presents jazz, 9 pm, $5.
Zeitgeist Gallery Ricardo Donoso Free Jazz Septet, 7 pm-9 pm, $7; Peruvian jazz with the Jorge Perez Quintet, 9:30 pm-12 am, $8.
ZuZu The Ellen Jewell Band, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

THURSDAY, MAY 27

Abbey Lounge Grubstake, 9:30 pm; Mercury Charm Offensive, 10:30 pm; Gone Baby Gone, 11:30; $5-$7, 21+.
Asgard Ken Selcer and Company.
The Atrium Alfredo Cardim, 5:30-9 pm.
Avenue One at the Hyatt Regency The Jason Hunter Quartet 5:30-9:30 pm.
The Black Rose Sundays Well.
Bob the Chef's ZMQ, 7 pm.
The Breezeway Bar and Grill Serious Bizness, 7:30-10:30 pm, no cover before 11 pm.
The Bristol Lounge Ben Cook, 6-10 pm.
Cantab Lounge New Day, 9 pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Death by Marriage, 7:20 pm-12:00 am.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, 9 pm, no cover.
Harper's Ferry Uncle Sammy Reunion show, $10.
Hennessy's Shot Gun Bandits, 9 pm, no cover.
Johnny D's Laura Cantrell and Amy Allison, 9 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield, no cover.
Kirkland Café Darkbloom, Research Has Shown and Enigmatic Drive, $5.
Lizard Lounge Kevin Griffin, 7:30-8:30 pm; Dead Cat Bounce and Dub and Bass, 9:30 pm, $7.
Middle East Upstairs: A tribute to the Smiths with My Favorite, Saintface and Benzos, 9 pm, $10, 18+; Downstairs: the Reverend Horton Heat, the Detroit Cobras and Mr. Airplane Man, 8 pm, $20, 18+.
Midway Café Free Expression.
Milky Way Hip-hop benefit.
Paradise Glenn Tilbrook and Will Dailey, 9 pm, $15, 18+.
PA's So and So and Heavy Petting, $5-$7, 21+.
Plough and Stars Sugar in the Gourd, 9 pm.
Regattabar The Charlie Kohlhase Quintet, 8:30 pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Bruce Gertz Quartet, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jamie Cullum, 8 and 10 pm, $14, $52 with dinner.
Tír na nÓg Ronan Quinn.
Toad Austin Nevins and Julie Rosenthal, 7-9 pm; Jedediah Parish and the Mother Tongues, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Stand, the Bleedin Bleedins, New Blood Revival and Gaffney, 9 pm, $7.
Western Front Club Nyclor presents Reggae, R&B and hip-hop showcase, 9 pm, $5.
Zeitgeist Gallery Jazz improv with the Music Now Unit, 7-9 pm, $8; Jazz improv with Bob Gullotti and Gill Aharon, 9:30 pm-12 am, $7.
ZuZu The Blind King, 11 pm, no cover, 21+.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Aerosmith June 24, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Christina Aguilera and Chingy June 18, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Allman Brothers Band and Los Lonely Boys Aug. 21, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Marc Anthony July 6, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Barenaked Ladies and Alanis Morissette Aug. 9, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Jimmy Buffet Sept. 12, Fenway Park (800-469-8499).
Chicago and Earth, Wind and Fire June 30, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Eric Clapton July 3 and 4, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Johnny Clegg July 8, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).
Phil Collins Sept. 15, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Harry Connick Jr June 30, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
The Corrs Aug. 28, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Cowboy Junkies and Shawn Colvin July 7, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Howie Day, Matt Nathanson and O.A.R. Aug. 5, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
The Dead and Warren Haynes July 30 and 31, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Deep Purple, Joe Satriani and Thin Lizzy Aug. 14, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Dido June 19, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Five for Fighting and Glen Phillips June 13, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Ben Folds, Rufus Wainwright and Guster July 8 and 11, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Franz Ferdinand June 16, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Gipsy Kings July 21, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Josh Groban July 27, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Hanson July 22, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Indigo Girls June 11, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Chris Isaak July 14, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Jack Johnson Sept. 15, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Angelique Kidjo and Femi Kuti June 25, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Kiss and Poison July 16, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Kottonmouth Kings June 9, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Diana Krall June 22, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
k.d. Lang July 9, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Linkin Park July 29, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Lyle Lovett July 10, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Dave Matthews Band July 6 and 7, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
John Mayer, Maroon 5 and DJ Logic Aug. 20, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Tim McGraw June 26, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Moody Blues June 25, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Matt Nathanson June 11, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Ozzfest with Ozzy Osbourne, Judas Priest, Slayer and Slipknot July 12, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Primus June 23, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Prince Aug. 17 and 18, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Sevendust June 12, Suffolk Downs (617-931-2000).
Sister Hazel June 11, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Britney Spears June 23, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Rod Stewart July 20, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Sting and Annie Lennox June 28 and 29, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
311, the Roots and Medeski, Martin & Wood July 23, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).

FRIDAY, MAY 28


The Reverend Horton Heat plays the Middle East May 27.

Abbey Lounge The Heartless Kings, 9 pm; Cherry on Dragon, 9:45 pm; 40 Ft. Ringo, 10:45 pm; Biopop, 11:45 pm; $5-$7, 21+.
Asgard The Tokyo Tramps.
The Atrium Bert Seager, Mick Goodrick, 9 pm-12 am.
The Attic Otis Grove, 7:30 pm, $6-$10.
Avalon Armin Van Buren, 10 pm, $20, 19+.
Bill's Bar Runner and the Thermodynamics, Hold Steady and Headband, $12 for 18+, $10 for 21+, 18+.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Tony O'Riordan; Downstiars: Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Jazz Quartet, 7:30 pm.
The Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 6 pm-12:30 am.
The Burren Classic Trax, 10 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Center for Latino Arts Jazz ensmble Sic´a, 9 pm, $15.
Club Passim Cutting Edge of the Campfire Festival, 3 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm-1:30 am.
The Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the No Way Jose Band.
The Good Life Downtown Aaron Burnett, 6:30 pm.
Grand Canal Maxi, 5-7 pm; Pig Pen, 9 pm, $5.
The Green Briar Eco System.
The Green Dragon Tavern Random Axis, 9 pm, $5.
The Harp Flavor, 10 pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry Jiggle; $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Plaid Daddy, 9 pm, $5.
Johnny D's Boston Horns, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kennedy's Midtown Springhill Rounders, no cover.
Kirkland Café Rootin' Tootin' Country Music Jamboree with Heygoods, Darlings and the Mickey Bliss Organ, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7:30-8:30 pm; Reed Foehl and Matt Hebert, 9:30 pm, $7.
Mary Baker Eddy Library Theresa Perez, 6-8 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: The Count Me Outs, Big Digits and Mittens, 9 pm, $10, 18+. Downstairs: Josh Todd, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
Midway Café Beware and Jess Chasse.
Mr. Dooley's Paul Duffy, 9:30 pm, $5.
Paradise The Thrills and Blanche, 8 pm, $14, 18+.
Parris Joe Rockstar, 10pm, $10.
PA's The Pee Wee Fist, International Penpal, $5-$7, 21+.
Plough and Stars Lloyd Thayer, 6-9 pm, Richie Lee and the Boston Wheels, 9pm.
Redline Shadowkings, 9 pm-2 am, no cover.
Regattabar The Jane Monheit Quintet, 7:30 and 10 pm, $26.
Ryles Jazz Club Soul Kitchen, 9:30 pm. $10.
Scullers The Yellowjackets, 8 and 10:30 pm, $20, $58 with dinner.
Tír na nÓg Mando Mania
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio with vocalist Maggie Galloway, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Lenny and the Piss Poor Boys, Jittery Jack, Coffin Lids and Sarah Borges, 9:15 pm, $1.
Tweeter Center Fleetwood Mac, 8 pm, $38.50-$125.
Western Front Club Grand Tracks Producers Battle featuring hip-hop instrumentals, 9 pm, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Electro-rock with Iluminada and Pretty the Boat, 9:30 pm-12 am, $5.
ZuZu Latin with Gian Carlo Buscaglia, 11 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAY, MAY 29

Abbey Lounge The Learning Curve, 9:30 p
Melvin Tayler and his Fabulous Meltones, 10:30 p
The Gladstones, 11:30 pm; $5-$7, 21+.
Asgard "It's a Twang Thang" featuring Boris M
Cutcheon.
The Atrium Alexei Tsiganov, 5:15-8:45 pm; B
Seager and Dan Greenspan, 9 pm-12 am.
Avalon Velvet Revolver, 7 pm, $20.25, 18+.
Axis The Beautiful Mistake and Spitafield, the
union Show and Slow Coming Day, 6:30 pm, $12
Black Horse Tavern Typhoon Ferri, 9:30 pm.
cover.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Tony O'Riordan. Dow
stairs: Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Pat Loomis, 7:30 pm.
The Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 6 pm-12:30 am.
The Burren Scratch My Back, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thriller
pm, 21+.
Club Passim Cutting Edge of the Campfire, 12 p
$12.
Costello's Tavern Danny Tucker and Vibe Tribe
pm-1 am.
Dick's Last Resort Classic Trax, 8:30 pm-1:30 am
The Druid Doug Nice, Deep Space and Rodr
Marabie, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Jim Porcella Trio.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnso
9 pm, $5.
The Harp Flavor,10 pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry Adam Ezra Group with Sam
Breadman Bigelow, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 5-7:30 pm, no cover.
Johnny D's Rock Bottom and Sugabomb, 9:45 p
$8.
Kennedy's Midtown Bobbie Steelz and Moon, $1
Kirkland Café Soft Caustic, Joel Fisher, Whilli
and Kate Newcomer, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low with Chris Keene, 7:
8:30 pm; Scott Janovitz and Friends, 9:30 pm, $7.
Middle East Upstairs: Mappari and Violet Nine
pm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Dick Dale, Muck and
Mires, Dana Stewart and the Old Howards, 8 p
$15, 18+.
Midway Café Lady of Spain, the Silver Lining a
Ryan Lee.
Mr. Dooley's Paul Duffy, 9:30 pm, $5.
Paradise Lounge: Randall Bramlett, 9 pm, $10, 2
Parris Joe Rockstar, 10 pm, $10.
Plough and Stars Bag Boys, 5-8 pm, Ray Corv
9pm.
Regattabar The Jane Monheit Quintet, 7:30 and
pm, $26.
Ryles Jazz Club Megawatt Blues Crushers, 9 p
$10.
Scullers The Yellowjackets, 8 and 10:30 pm, $
$58 with dinner.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 7-9 pm; Da
Johnston, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio with vocalist M
gie Galloway, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Circle and Square, 9:15 p
the Natural History, 11:15 pm; the Thermals, 12
am, $8.
Western Front Club Jah Shirt reggae, 9 pm, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Jazz Quartet, 7-9 pm, $7.

SUNDAY, MAY 30

The Attic Accoustic Sundays, featuring the Co
boilers, 10 pm, $5.
Bill's Bar The Itals, featuring Keith Porter, 10 pm
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan. Downstairs: S
day's Well.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Paulo Danay
Quartet, 10 am-2:30 pm.
The Breezeway Bar and Grill Jazz brunch with
Bobby Ward Trio, 11-3 pm, no cover.
The Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan, 11 am-2 p
Joe Barbato, 6-9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Cutting Edge of the Campfire Festi
12 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Gospel brunch with Silver L
ing, 10 am-3 pm; Big Time, 7:20 pm-12 am,
cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnie
pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, 9 am-1 pm, no cov
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Ridgley Snow, 9
2:30 pm; blues jam and salsa dancing with Run
NaMa.
Kennedy's Midtown Jazz brunch with Keza Hir
Cabaret with Gordon Michaels, 6 pm, $15.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low with Meg Toohey, 9
pm; David Fiuczynski's KIF with Fluttr, 9:30 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: Inhale, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Midway Café Tall Boys, Fat-Bay and Elomoe.
Milky Way Dynasty, 9 pm, $5.


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Paradise Lounge: the Innocence Mission, 8 pm, $13 in advance, $15 day of show, 18+.
Plough and Stars Flexible Flyer String Band, 5-8 pm; the Cranktones, 9 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday jazz brunch with Bob Gay, 10 am.
Tír na nÓg Ronan Quinn.
Toad The David "Goody" Goodrich Trio, 7-9 pm; "Session American" around the round table with Ry Cavanaugh Sean Staples, Dinty Child, Jimmy Fitting and Billy Beard, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Dixieland brunch with Bourbon Street Paraders, 12 pm-2 pm, no cover; Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm-12 am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Dollar Store, Dusky Silo, 9 pm, $8.
Tweeter Center WBCN River Rave with the Offspring, the Darkness, POD and others, 12 pm, $35-$65.
Washington Square Tavern Jazz brunch with the Jon Hazilla Trio, 11:30 am-2:30 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Jazz guitar duets with Mick Goodrick and Wolfgang Muthspiel, 8 pm and 10 pm, $10.
ZuZu Rockabilly Night with the Young Ones, 10 pm, no cover 21+.

MONDAY, MAY 31

The Bristol Lounge Ben Cook, 6-10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Singer-Songwriter Open Mike, 8 pm; Bill McQuaid, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Cutting Edge of the Campfire Festival, 12 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
Fleet BostonPavilion Great High Mountain Tour, 3 pm, $35.50-$57.50.
Hennessy's Joe Carson, 9 pm, no cover.
Middle East Glass Candy, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Plough and Stars Beek, Rhodes and Jefferies, 9 pm.
Tír na nÓg The Coots.
Toad Shwang, 7-9 pm; the Tim Gearan Band, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm-12 am, no cover.
ZuZu Unhappy Hour with Chris Perry and friends, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Tinklepotty, 7-9 pm, $8.; The Fringe, 10 pm-12:30 am, $10.

TUESDAY, JUNE 1

Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Club Passim Open mike, 7 pm, $5.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, 9 pm, no cover.
Johnny D's Jeremy Kittel, 8:30 pm, $8.
Kennedy's Midtown Michael Larson.
Middle East Noche Mexicana with Gustavo and Andres, 9 pm. Downstairs: MassConcerts presents the Legendary Pink Dots and the Dresden Dolls, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
Milky Way Rock Star Karaoke, 9 pm, $3.
Ryles Jazz Club New York Nights with Laurent Toro, 9 pm, $7.
Scullers Hugh Masekela, 8 and 10 pm, $30, $68 with dinner.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
T.T. the Bear's Place Ambulance Ltd, On the Speakers and the M's, 9 pm, $8.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2

Asgard Jude Nerno.
Black Rose Celtic Clan.
The Breezeway Bar and Grill Lenny Stalworth and the Funk Mob, 7:30-10:30 pm.
Club Passim Women's Lunch Place Benefit with Katie Barbato, Gregory Douglass, Rachel Sage, Melissa Ferrick and Syd, 8 pm, $20.
The Green Dragon Scott Damgaard.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 9 pm, no cover.
Johnny D's Jolie Holland and Dana Kletter, 8:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie.
Middle East Upstairs: Orange Goblin, Lamont and the Catheters, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Regattabar The Felipe Salles Group, 8:30 pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Americana Night with Great American, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Andre Ward, 8 and 10 pm, $18, $56 with dinner.
Tír na nÓg Ronan Quinn.

THURSDAY, JUNE 3

Asgard Tom Glynn.
Avenue One at the Hyatt Regency The Jason Hunter Quartet 5:30-9:30 pm.
Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Pat Loomis, 7 pm.



The Yellowjackets play Scullers for two shows each night, May 28 and 29.

The Breezeway Bar and Grill Serious Bizness Quartet, 7:30-10:30 pm.
Club Passim 4 Way Street and Sarah Borges, 8 pm, $12.
The Green Dragon The Spitting Vinnies.
Hennessy's Me & Julio, 9 pm, no cover.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield, no cover.
Kirkland Café Henry, Chezwick, and Concept 6, $5.
Lansdowne Street Block Party Violent Femmes, Presidents of the United States of America, the Rapture and the Von Bondies, 5 pm, $20, 18+.
Middle East Downstairs: PCR, Revelation Theory and Vaeda, 8 pm, $9, 18+.
PA's The Swift, $5-$7, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett.
Ryles Jazz Club Jane Blackstone and Natural Habitat, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Arturo Sandoval, 8 and 10 pm, $24, $62 with dinner.
Tír na nÓg Ronan Quinn.
T.T. the Bear's Place Those Who Wait, Staria and Dust Buffalo, 9 pm, $7.

FRIDAY, JUNE 4

Abbey Lounge Baby Ray, 9:30 pm; Ross Phasor, 10:30 pm; Mick Mondo, 11:30 pm; $5-$7, 21+.
Asgard Ryan McHugh and Stu Lee.
The Attic Eagles tribute band the Spread Eagles, doors at 7:30 pm, $7.
Black Rose Upstairs: Tony O'Riordan. Downstairs: Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Hakim Law, 7:30 pm.
Club Passim Averi, 8 pm, $12.
FleetBoston Pavilion Moe and Galactic, 6:30 pm, $29.50.
The Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the No Way Jose Band.
Grand Canal Maxi, 5-7 pm; Six Shot Brody.
The Green Dragon The Swinging Johnsons.
Harper's Ferry Railroad Earth, $10 in advance, $12 day of show, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30 pm; Spike the Punch, no cover.
Johnny D's Laika and the Cosmonauts and Seks Bomba, 9:45 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Springhill Rounders, no cover.
Kirkland Café Teleo Pop, Rollo Tomasi Quartet, and Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Milky Way Thaddeus Hogarth Band, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well.
Paradise Patti Smith, 9:15 pm, $26.50, 18+; Lounge: Simple Kid, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
PA's The Bamboo Steamers, the Splendid Nobodies and Blue Horizon, $5-$7, 21+.
Porter's Bar and Grill Brian Burrill.
Redline Shadowkings, 9-2 am, no cover.
Regattabar The Regina Carter Quintet, 7:30 and 10 pm, $20.
Ryles Jazz Club Funk Soul Friday with Sugarfoot and Brass Kickin Horns, 9:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Arturo Sandoval, 8 and 10:30 pm, $26, $62 with dinner.
Zeitgeist Gallery John Dyjkstra presents the Callithumpian Consort, 7-9pm, $10.

SATURDAY, JUNE 5

Abbey Lounge Count Me Outs, 11:30pm, 21+.
Bill's Bar Jeffrey Gaines, $12 advance, $15 at door, 21+.
Black Rose Upstairs: Tony O'Riordan. Downstairs: Celctic Clan, Frank Ryan.
Bob the Chef's The BlackSole Network, 7:30 pm.
Club Passim Harvey Reid and Joyce Andersen, 8 pm, $15.
Costello's Tavern Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe, 8 pm-1 am.
The Druid Rodney Marabie, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Jim Porcella Trio.
Grand Canal American Maid.
The Green Dragon Freeze Pop.
Harper's Ferry Ryan Montbleau Band, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessiun, 5-7:30 pm, no cover.
Johnny D's Lyres, Sara Borges and Wheelers and Dealers, 9:45 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Bobbie Steelz and Moon, $10.
Kirkland Café Fuzz Den, Brenda White and the Vortex, One Big Mess and Jenny Jones, $5.
Middle East Downstairs: Beulah, Stratford 4 and Emergency Music, 8 pm, $12, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well.
Nameless Coffee House New Artists Spotlight, 8 pm, $8.
Paradise Soulive, 9 pm, $18, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Syndicate.
Regattabar The Regina Carter Quintet, 7:30 and 10 pm, $22.
Ryles Jazz Club Herman Johnson, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Arturo Sandoval, 8 and 10:30 pm, $26, $64 with dinner.
T.T. the Bear's Place Marah and Sin Crowd, 9:15 pm, $8.

SUNDAY, JUNE 6

The Attic Accoustic Sundays, featuring The Coalboilers, 10 pm, $5.
Black Rose Frank Ryan and Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Nat Simpkins Jazz Quartet, 10 am-2:30 pm.
The Breezeway Bar and Grill Jazz brunch with the Zak Cruz Trio 11 am-3 pm.
Club Passim Peter Donnelly, 8 pm, $12.
The Green Dragon The Swinging Johnsons.
Hennessy's J.J, Travolte, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Matt Dorko and Larry Kukers, 9 am-2:30 pm; blues jam and salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa.
Kennedy's Midtown Gordon Michaels.
Middle East Upstairs: Midnight Creeps, Fast Actin Fuses, Swampass and Hell Wheel Drive, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Paradise X-Ecutioners, Northern State and the Wylde Bunch, 8 pm, $16, 18+.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday jazz brunch with Steve Rochinski, 10 am; Ball in the House, 7 pm, $10.
South Shore Music Circus Hootie and the Blowfish, 7:30 pm, $40-$51.
T.T. the Bear's Place Hella, Need New Body, Make Believe and the Autumn Rhythm, 9 pm, $8.
Washington Square Tavern Jazz brunch with the Jon Hazilla Trio, 11:30-2:30, no cover.

MONDAY, JUNE 7

Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Club Passim Passim School of Mu Showcase, 8 pm, $5.
Hennessy's Joe Carson, 9 pm, no cover.
Johnny D's Riot Act open mike, 7-9 pm
Middle East Upstairs: Maritime and Sr House, 9 pm, $8 advance, $9 at door, 18
Paradise Lounge: Citizen Cope (residenc 8 pm, $8 in advance, $10 day of show, 18
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard.
T.T. the Bear's Place Leah Callahan, T Hopkins and Clayton Scoble, 9 pm, $5.

TUESDAY, JUNE 8

Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Club Passim Open Mike, 7 pm, $5.
FleetBoston Pavilion KC & the Sunsh Band and the Trammps, featuring E Young, 7:30 pm, $40-$52.50.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, 9 pm, cover.
Johnny D's Noam Weinstein CD-rele party, 8:30 pm.
Middle East Noche Mexicana with G tavo and Andres, 9 pm.
Milky Way Rock Star Karaoke, 9 pm, $3
Ryles Jazz Club New York Nights w Heather Bennet, 9 pm, $7.
Tweeter Center Blink 182 and No Dou 7 pm, $39.50-$49.50.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-49 1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
Atrium Lounge *20 North St. Boston (617-523-3600). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684) MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424) MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue One *Hyatt Regency, 1 Avenue de Lafayette Boston (617-912-1234). MBTA: Red Line or Oran Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Bost (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Li to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-228 MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338 4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Center for Latino Arts *85 West Newton St., Bost (617-927-1730).*
Choppin' Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (61 734-4177). MBTA: Green Line to Brigham Circle.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave*
Costello's *723 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-522 9263). MBTA: #39 Bus.*
Cottonwood Café *222 Berkeley St., Boston (617-247-2225). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudent*
Druid *1357 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-497 0965). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Boston (617-350-9977). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-338 7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
First and Second Church *66 Marborough St., Bos (617-267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (617-728-1600). MBTA: Red Line to South Stati*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (6 624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Gillette Stadium *One Patriot Place, Foxborough (800-543-1776).*

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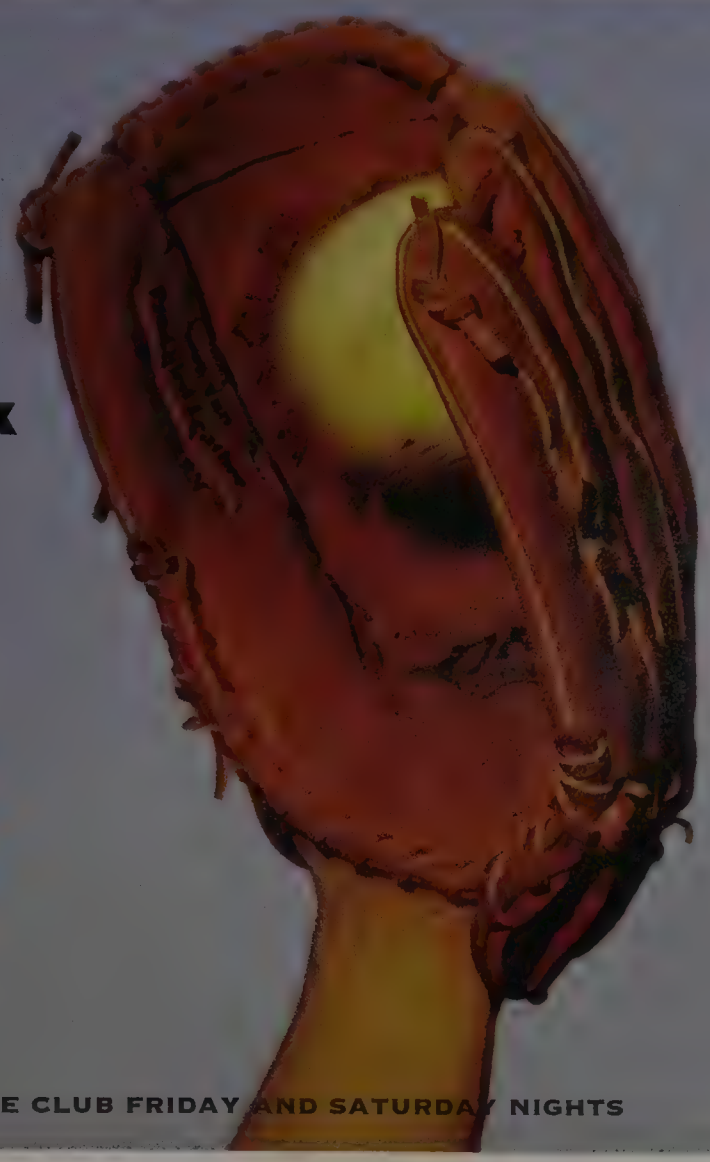


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The Good Life Cambridge *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (617-267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Mary Baker Eddy Library *200 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-450-7000). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Murphy's Law *837 Summer St., South Boston (617-269-6667).*
Nameless Coffeehouse *3 Church St., Cambridge (617-864-1630). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. Jam Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Stre*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (6 562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Governmen Center.*
P.A.'s Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (61 776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 441-3455).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambri (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623 5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-53 1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Tweeter Center for the Performing Arts *885 So Main St,. Mansfield (508-339-2333). MBTA: Co muter Rail to Mansfield.*
Washington Square Tavern *714 Washington St., Brookline (617-232-8989). MBTA: C Green Line Washington.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *474 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181 MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542- 5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

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classical music

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$69. Conductor Keith Lockhart leads the Boston Pops in "The Great American Songbook," a program featuring songs by Irving Berlin, Carole King, Paul Simon and others.

Music in the Cathedral
Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-4826). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 12:15pm. $3. This 30-minute concert features organist Maxine Thevenot.

Spring Concert
New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). MBTA E Green Line to Symphony. The NEC String Chamber Orchestra, led by Mark Beaulieu, and the NEC Youth Chorale, led by Richard Travers, perform.

THURSDAY, MAY 27

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$69. Same program as May 26.

Longy School of Music
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 1 Follen St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Faculty member Susanna Cortesio performs with the Harvey Diamond Jazz Quintet.

Music in the Atrium
Mary Baker Eddy Library, 200 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-450-7000). www.marybakereddylibrary.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 6-8 pm. Free. Frederica King performs classical piano music.

FRIDAY, MAY 28

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$69. Celtic pop fiddler Natalie MacMaster and singer-songwriter Michael McDonald join conductor Keith Lockhart for a TV taping of *Evening at Pops*.

SATURDAY, MAY 29

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$69. Same program as May 28.

Cambridge Community Chorus
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.cambridgechorus.org. MBTA Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $10. The Cambridge Community Chorus performs Mozart's *Requiem* plus works from John Antes and Joseph Bologne.

SUNDAY, MAY 30

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $16-$69. Conductor Bruce Hangen is joined by clarinetist James Campbell for the United States premiere of Allan Gilliland's *Dreaming of the Masters*.

Carnatic Violin Duet
Wong Auditorium, MIT Tang Center, 2 Amherst St., Cambridge (617-258-7971). www.sulekha.com/mithas. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 4 pm. $10-$18. A. Kanyakumari and her student Embar S. Kannan perform a violin duet.

Exsultemus
First Lutheran Church, 299 Berkeley St., Boston (857-998-0219). www.exsultemus.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 3 pm. Free. Period vocal ensemble Exsultemus ends its first season with "Lope, ole!," a program of music by Spanish composers.

TUESDAY, JUNE 1

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$69. Same program as May 26.

THURSDAY, JUNE 3

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-26 1200). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Line Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$69. Clarinetist Evan Zipor joins conductor Keith Lockhart and the Pops f MIT night.

New England Conservatory
Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-58 1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Composer A Cohen presents an evening concert in memor her mother, Rebecca Kushnir.

FRIDAY, JUNE 4

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-26 1200). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Line Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$69. Led by Keith Lockha the Pops interpret musical favorites from the '5 '60s and '70s in a program entitled "Baby Boom Bash."

SATURDAY, JUNE 5

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-26 1200). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Li to Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$69. Guest Vanes Williams joins the Pops and conductor Kei Lockhart.

SUNDAY, JUNE 6

All Saints Choir of Men and Boys
Parish of All Saints, 209 Ashmont St., Dorches (617-435-3520). MBTA: Red Line to Ashmont. 4 p Free. The choir performs an evensong and bened tion for Trinity Sunday.

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-26 1200). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Line Symphony. 3 pm. $16-$69. Conductor Keith Loc hart and the Pops celebrate the sporting spirit "Take Me Out to the Ballgame," a program featuri songs associated with baseball and other sports.

Choral Music at Harvard
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St.,Cambridge. (61 496-2222). www.fas.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Li to Harvard. 3 pm. $14-$18. The Radcliffe Cho Society presents its "Farewell to Cambridge" co cert. Jameson Marvin conducts.

New England Conservatory of Musi
Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-58 1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 11 am. Free. NE Baroque Chamber Orchestra performs works Bach, Telemann and Handel, under the direction Aldo Abreu.

MONDAY, JUNE 7

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-26 1200). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Line Symphony. 7 pm. $19-$69. Same program as June

TUESDAY, JUNE 8

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-26 1200). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Line Symphony. 8 pm. $19-$69. Violinist Jennie Shan joins conductor Keith Lockhart and the Pops.


Vanessa Williams performs with the Pops June

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dance clubs



Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $5, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Jay Ine spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Monsta Mondays Kaptain Krunch spins the best old and new rock, $8, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJs spin R&B and hip-hop, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Dance party with DJ Marco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

An Tua Nua
What's Up Night A night of R&B, house, funk and soul music, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Phat Tuesday DJ D Sharp spins old-school and hip-hop, 19+, college ID required.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Sender spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Orange DJs John Davis and Pat Fontes bring the house music, and weekly guest DJs spin, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Deep Tones DJ Brynmore spins a mix of reggae, soul, funk, trance and acid jazz, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Marco spins dance music, 6-10 pm. DJ, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Trio
Always Best Tuesday The night features all hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Phat Tuesdays DJ Ron Steele spins hip-hop, R&B reggae and international grooves, 10 pm, 21+, proper dress required.

WEDNESDAYS

Aria
Lust DJ John Morris spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, $8, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins Greek and international tunes, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
What a Way to Go Go Mod Night with DJ Vin, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
DJs spin international house, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Rhythm Nights gets the dance party started upstairs, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up R&B, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mercury Lounge DJs Nomadik and Timmy Allen host a night of soul, funk and house, 9 pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin house and techno, 10 pm, $5 (19+), $3 (21+).

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
International Wednesdays DJ JC is in the Latin Lounge; DJs Alex and Felix spin in the back, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Massi spins top-40, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Q
Violation Wednesdays Weekly guest DJs spin today's best music, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Cabin Stabbin' Wednesdays DJ Boogie Ba Do spins dub to start the party, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Jazz Wednesdays The Brian Walkley Band brings R&B and dance to the main lounge, 9-11 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B. Downstairs: Live music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
College Night DJ Fu spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; DJ Roger M and DJ Thanos spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
International Thursdays DJ Gee Spin and guests play rap and hip-hop tunes, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Mark Morris and Catunes play pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Clerys
Karaoke with DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
DJ Ghost spins international house and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Briar
DJ Stelah spins dance tunes.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursdays DJs Dubz and 40D spi reggae, R&B and hip-hop, no cover, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou spins, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
Nonstop music with DJ Massi or DJ Ryan, no cov 21+.

I/D
Square One Thursdays DJs Dres and Wagz hos night of progressive dance music, 10 pm, $10, 19+

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Massi gets the dance party started upstairs, 8 p no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran sp dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+

Kinvara Pub
DJ Doc spins the latest tunes, 21+.

La Boom
Privilege DJ Felix cranks the noise, 11 pm-2 am, 2

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Milky Way
Club Thursdays Rotating DJ's spin dance music pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Parris
DJ Tim Collins, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando prese drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5 (19+ $3 (21+).

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cov 21+.

Pravda 116
DJs spin upbeat lounge music in the front, 10 pm, cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett performs live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Q
Hip Hop Thursdays DJ Craig Smooth spins h hop all night long, 9 pm, $5, ladies free all nig 21+.

The Rack
Ibiza DJ Marco spins dance music, 6 pm-2 am, cover, 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali and Ross spin a mix electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cover, 2

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lou music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

711 Boylston
Play Thursdays DJ trio Groovefire spins house mu with special guests Beat Khemistry, 6 pm-2 am.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Steve Sosong spins new dance a R&B. Downstairs: Justin Beech, 9 pm-1 am, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ JR Vega hosts Latin night with live music by t Latin Party Boys; free salsa lessons with Dan M shall, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
Hip-Hop Event Rotating DJs spin the hottest h hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
DJ Jim spins mixed beats.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 1

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul a rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, cover.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 night, 10:30 pm, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech a funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 fr the '70s, '80s and '90s, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Floss DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 p $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Avaland DJ Nailz spins progressive dance music, pm, $20, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Mas spins hip-hop, funk and techno, 9pm-1 no cover, 21+.

Axis
Avaland DJ Caprice spins hip-hop as part of A land, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

TASTE IT ALL

Vol. I, No. I



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Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ Matt Phipps spining the hottest top-40, hip-hop and '80's faves, along with Boston's best cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
F Night WBCN's Bradley J spins '80s classics, and alternative rock and tribute bands perform live, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft VJ Johnny Walker Black spins top-40, dance and hip-hop tunes accompanied by interactive video shows, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Twist Women's night with DJ MsLadyJ spinning R&B and hip-hop tunes, $10, 19+ (before 11:30 pm).

Caprice
DJ Eddie K spins a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+, after 11 pm.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, and two guest DJs spin on the first floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Felt
After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs, spinning high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Angirsano spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •May 28, Flavor, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs Big Daddy spins, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins house and old favorites, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before midnight, 21+.

La Boom
Fashion Fridays Firefly Promotions hosts this fashion night featuring DJ Rick Naples, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

Level
Greek Night DJ Hoff spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B on the fourth and fifth floors, and DJ Niko spins Greek and international tunes on the third floor, 11 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Matrix
DJ Adilson of Roxy Saturdays spins high-energy house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

The Modern
DJ Glenn spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Rockpile** WAAF's Steve Flagg broadcasts live, and rotating bands perform, 9 pm, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•May 28, Joe Rockstar, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Shake What Your Mama Gave You DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Carrie spins in the front and DJ Gabe spins vocal house in the back, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Craig spins the latest hits, 10 pm, $5.


Boston Rocks

Q
DJ Fury plays hip hop and top-40, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-9 pm. DJ Johnny C with KISS 108's Artie, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Lite Nite DJ Easy spins a mix that includes neo-soul and feel-good classics, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top 40 hits, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance. Downstairs: live music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover before 10 pm, 21+.

Sophia's
Sangria and Salsa Salsa and merengue lessons, 7-10 pm, followed by the Latin Party Boys and DJs Mike C and Zino spinning Latin dance, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10pm, $5 after 9pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats all night.

Trio
Boston's Finest Friday Dance to hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with Latin vibes. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, $10, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Guest DJs spin high-energy vocal house and hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Total Request Avalon DJ Tim Collins plays requests along with top-40, dance and hip-hop, 10 pm, $15 ($10 before 12:30 am), 21+.

The Avenue
DJ Kevin Munroe spins house and trance, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Next WFNX DJs spin alternative rock, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ Matt Phipps spining the hottest top-40, hip-hop and '80's favs, along with Boston's best cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
The Dorm—Bill's Dance Night DJ Bruno spins a mix of hip-hop, dance, reggae and rock, 10 pm, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. VJ Johnnie Walker presents top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Franklin creates a lounge atmosphere with his international, Latin and house sounds, 10 pm, ($10 after 11 pm), 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood It's women's night at Hollywood with two floors of hip-hop and house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Roger M spins international house, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop, house and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites, disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, $10, 21+. •May 29, Flavor, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

I/D
X Night WFNX presents a night of retro '80s and rock, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, while downstairs DJ Kieran plays top-40, 9 pm, $6, 21+.

La Boom
Wild on @ La Boom DJ Tim Collins and KISS host a night of music and dancing, 10 pm, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik s Russian and international music on the third f 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturday** Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, v house, travel and funk music on the fourth and floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 9 pm, 21+.

Matrix
Rum Jungle Saturday featuring top-40 hits, h and techno, free before 11 pm, 21+.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio C spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10 $10 (men) $5 (women), ladies admitted free b 10:30 pm, 21+.

The Modern
DJ's Eddie Lee and Ricky Fatts play hip-hop, 1 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin d music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and W D, ladies free, men $5 before 10:30 pm; $15, $10, 21+ after 10:30 pm. •**The Male Encou** New England's longest-running all-male d revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, 19+; no cover 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins to and hip-hop mixes, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Ri** Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, •**Underground** DJs spin hip-hop, top-40, da techno and reggae for the under-21 crowd, 7-11 $14. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes up hits from '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•May 29, Joe Rockstar, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit ders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Rick Naples spins high-energy dance, 10 $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom Hogan spins the groove, 10 pm, $5, •June 5, Syndicate.

Q
DJ Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi hosts the live broa and dance party, 8 pm, 21+, no cover.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins mo mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

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E FUNK BROTHERS
day, July 4

25TH COMMEMORATIVE EVENING AT
CE DES NATIONS SATURDAY WITH
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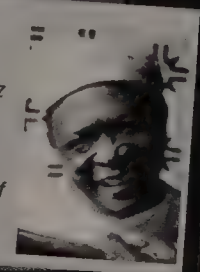
Weds, May 26
MIGHTY SAM McCLAIN

Thurs, May 27
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In England, Jamie Cullam is a star. Called "Sinatra in Sneakers" he has signed an almost $2 million record deal. This pianist/vocalist is making his US debut.



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Weds, June 2
ANDRE WARD

Thurs-Sat, June 3-5
ARTURO SANDOVAL

Weds, June 9
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Fri-Sat, June 11-12
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The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins house and techno, 9 pm, $15, 21+.

711 Boylston
Fever DJ Yorgo spins a mix of ethnic and international music, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8 pm. Downstairs: Kevin Kirrane, 9 pm, no cover before 10 pm.

Sophia's
DJ Zino spins salsa and merengue while a Latin band plays on the first floor and DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on the second floor, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins classic old-schoo, top-40, and dance, 10 pm, TK, TK

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats

Trio
Best Of Night DJs spin Eurohouse, hip-hop and classics, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Adrienne spins Brit-pop and new wave tunes, 9 pm-1 am, $3, 19+.

Aria
DJ Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+

Caprice
DJ Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
Fluid Sundays DJs Joshua Carl and Paley Dailey spin tribal and deep house, breaks, techno and jungle beats, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Brazilian Night, Boston's best Brazilian Bands play, 11 pm, no cover.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Satellite A lesbian night featuring DJ Dee, with dance music, amateur drag contests and films, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Q
Reggae with Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Reverie Boston DJ Shannon and weekly guest DJs spin goth, industrial and lounge, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
DJ Dave Jordan plays an array of top-40 tunes, 9 pm, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins Brazilian beats, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Whiskey Park
Cherry DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock classics, hip-house and R&B.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-24*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-78*
9508).
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-70*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-96*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-*
1110).
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-008*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-98*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-39*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (61*
783-2071).
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-*
0186).
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536*
2100).
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617*
277-9722).
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-*
4100).
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (6*
876-1655).
The G Spot *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-364*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-10*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (61*
722-0161).
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Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-94*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-*
9082).
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-94*
La Boom *One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-*
6800).
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Light *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077)*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (6*
524-3740).
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-*
351-2581).
The Palace *(El Copa, Male Encounter, Officers' Club, Oxygen, Rio, Underground and Uptown) 1 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6*
576-6260).
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-*
7799).
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617*
227-2060).
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-*
1881).
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
711 Boylston *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-*
0002).
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-65*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351*
7000).
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-03*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077)*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-92*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-*
6699).
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-806*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-*
0300).
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-54*
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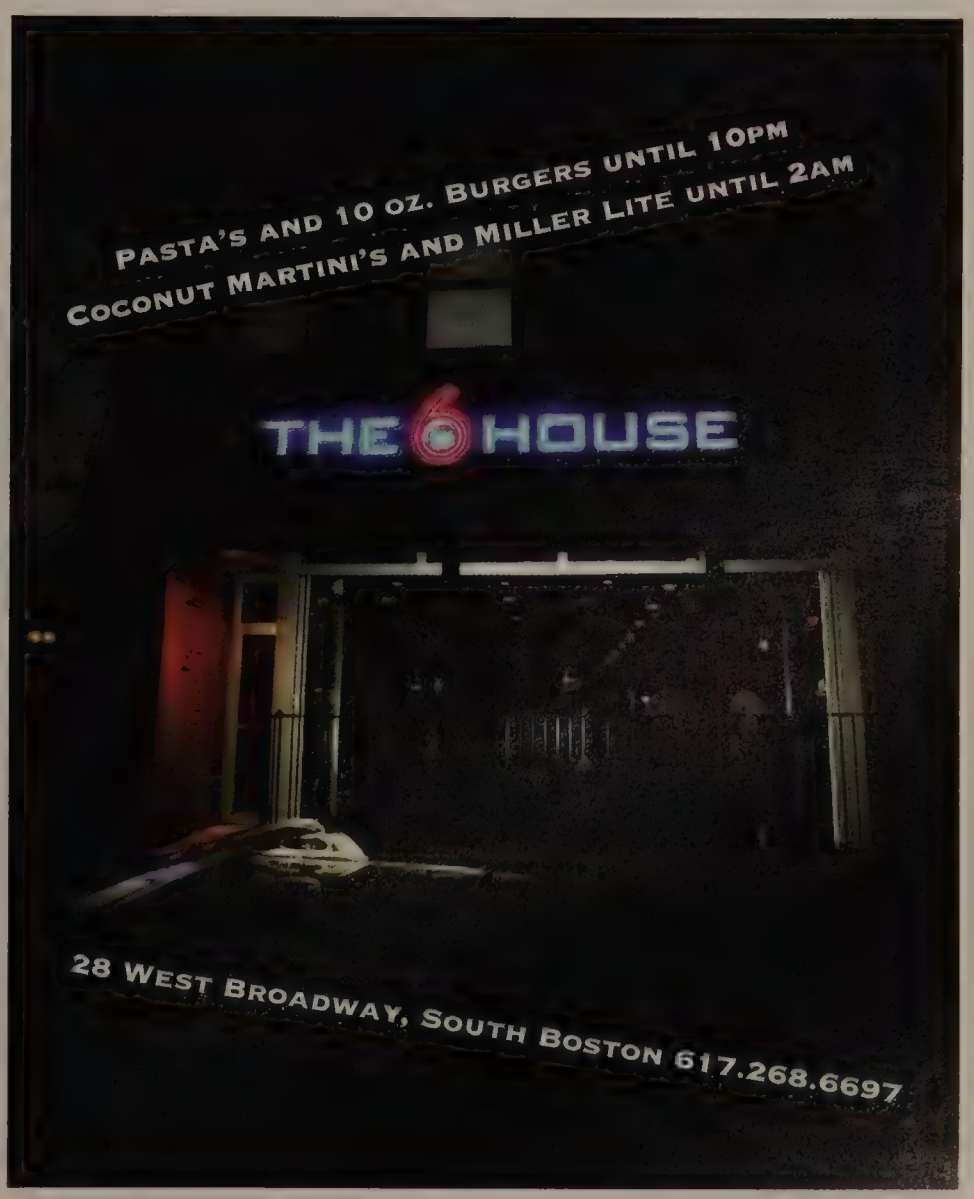
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museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors

Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum

Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Gary Schneider: Portraits* is a 30-year collection of the artist's black-and-white and color photography. Through June 13. •*The Continuous Stroke of Breath: Calligraphy from the Islamic World* features Arabic, Indian, Persian and Turkish calligraphy from the 9th through 20th centuries. Through July 18. •*Rocks, Mountains, Landscapes, and Gardens: The Essence of East Asian Painting*, an exhibition of rocks used in East Asian art, shows through Aug. 1.

Boston Public Library

666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm. •The exhibition *Boston Celebrates 350 Years of Jewish Women Building Communities in North America* is on display through May 26: Andrea Kalinowski's mixed-media paintings in *Stories Untold* celebrate pioneering Jewish women in the American west; *Fanny Goldstein, 1895-1961* pays tribute to the BPL librarian who founded Jewish Book Week; and the *Women of Valor* poster exhibit highlights trailblazing Jewish women from the arts, science, sports and politics. •*Ellen Band: Portals of Prayer*, an audio installation that combines prayer and music, is sponsored by the Institute of Contemporary Art's Vita Brevis program. Through June 5. •*Seashells and Other Delicacies* is a show of Bela Kalman's photography. Through June 12.

Carpenter Center for Visual Arts

24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). www.ves.fas.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-11:30 pm; Sun., 12-11:30 pm. Free. •The *VES Art and Film Thesis Exhibition* shows through June 10.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park

51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. •*Jirimani* is a photographic-transparency installation by Jo Yarrington. Through May 30. •*Self-Evidence: Identity in Contemporary Art* is a group show of multimedia work focusing on self-representation in art. Through May 30. •Three video installations by British filmmaker Steve McQueen show through June 29. •*Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Sense of Place, Part II* features paintings by various artists. Through summer.

Fogg Art Museum/ Busch-Reisinger Museum

32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Process and Paradox: The Historical Pictures of John Singleton Copley* features two rarely seen works by one of America's first great artists. through August 29. •*Design~Recline: Modern Architecture and the Mid-Century Chaise Lounge* features chaise lounges designed by famous architects including Le Corbusier, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, Marcel Breuer, Alvar Aalto, and Charles and Ray Eames. Through July 11. •*Vastly More Than Brick and Mortar: Reinventing the Fogg Art Museum in the 1920s*, an exhibition of 47 objects including archival photographs, building plans and objects from the Fogg's original colllection, illustrates how the museum was created. May 29-Sept. 26.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. • *Dodos, Trilobites and Meteorites...Treasures of Nature and Science at Harvard* features specimens from scientific explorations of the past 200 years. Through spring. •*Into the Mountains* features the photography of mountaineer Bradford Washburn. Through spring. •*Arctic National Wildlife Refuge: Seasons of Life and Land* is an

Aesthetic Velocity

The Institute of Contemporary Art highlights emerging artists as it readies for a move to shiny new digs



Erwachsen werden, *Fabio (Growing Up, Fabio)* is a series of 16 drawings by Kai Althoff

As the Institute of Contemporary Art preps for what's widely considered the most momentous event in its history—the construction of its new four-story building on the Fan Pier (scheduled for completion in spring 2006)—curators are launching an exhibition series designed to reflect the transition from one building to the next. Titled *Momentum*, the series spotlights emerging artists.

New York–based artist Carol Bove open the series on May 26th with installations inspired by the changing social climate of the 1960s and '70s and the 1970s-era architecture of the ICA's current building. "It was a dynamic time when there was great possibility for change," says Emily Moore, of the institute's curatorial staff. Bove creates unique sculptures using vintage shelving units and mostly first-edition books from the '60s and '70s. Also on display will be her drawings based on *Playboy* magazine images from the same era.

The ICA opens another exhibition on May 26th (though it is not part of the *Momentum* series), displaying the work of German artist Kai Althoff in *Kai Kein Respekt (Kai No Respect)*. Like Bove, Althoff looks to the past to reflect on the present. He uses photographs, paintings, installations, text, video and music to create narratives often rich with Germanic folklore. This is Althoff's first solo museum exhibition in the United States, and he's collaborating with the ICA to completely transform the exhibition space—incorporating the walls, floors and ceiling into a specific environment.



Strawberries Need Rain, by Carol Bove

The ICA plans to continue *Momentum* indefinitely, pairing exhibitions by lesser-known artists, like Bove, with shows featuring more established artists, like Althoff. "The series is conceived as a project that will take us into our new building, where we'll be able to present underknown artists and give them a significant voice," says ICA spokesperson Melissa Kuronen. "A *Momentum* exhibition will complement every major show we do."

Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. May 26–Sept. 6. —Abby Bielagus and Jessica Iredale

exhibition of 49 photographs from northeas Alaska by Subhankar Banerjee. Through Sep •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collecti glass models of plants, including more than 830 species by glass artists Leopold and Rud Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The M Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's co tion of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongo

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www boston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $ students and seniors. •*Ellen Band: Portal of Pra* the first entirely audio-based work commissione ICA/Vita Brevis. The exhibit explores the properties of prayer. Through June 5. •Kai A shows watercolors, drawings and reliefs in *Kai Respekt (Kai No Respect)*. May 26-Sept. 6. •*Mo tum I* displays work by installation artist Carol May 26-Sept. 6.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to seum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10, $7 seniors, $ dents, free for members, patrons named Isabella those under 18. Gondola Days exhibition, $3. G tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •The permanent collec features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, t tries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and de tive pieces, including works by Rembr Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. • *dola Days: Isabella Stewart Gardner & the Palazzo baro Circle* explores the influence that Venice, Palazzo Barbaro has had on artists, writers thinkers around the world. Through August 15. *Dinner* is an exhibition of Italian painter Mau Cannavacciuolo's contemporary wall draw Through August 15. •*Whistler's Warning*, Joseph suth's installation in neon of words taken fro 1885 speech by James McNeill Whistler, s through August. •Elaine Reichek's embroide which depict Biblical images borrowed from D Michelangelo and other artists, display online i virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing.

John F. Kennedy Library and Muse

Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). ww library.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $8; seniors and students $6; ch ages 13-17 $4; children 12 and under admitted •*Gifts from the World to the White House: Ca Kennedy's Doll Collection* features 77 dolls fro countries that were given to JFK's daughter bet 1961 and 1963. Through Nov. 5.

MIT List Visual Arts Center

20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). h web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/ Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 •The museum's permanent collection includes than 1,500 pieces of contemporary art inclu paintings, murals, sculptures, photography prints. •*Artur Zmijewski: Selected Works, 1998-* features video installations by Warsaw-based Zmijewski. Through July 11. •*Marjetica Potrc gent Architecture* features sculpture and urban de by Potrc. Through July 11.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). h web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Ke MIT. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $ students and seniors, $1 children. •*Gabriele Basil Photographs* is an exhibition of urban landsc Through June 6. •*Hub of the Universe: A Centu Flight in Massachusetts* displays artifacts and art from the first 100 years of manned flight. Thr Sept. 5. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Be Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. • *and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engi* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ong •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selec from the world's largest hologram collection. Ong •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerto* tures the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. • *tural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganso* tures works by the self-described cross betwe mechanical engineer and a choreographer." Ongo

Museum of Afro-American Histor

46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.af museum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. •*The Times We* is an exhibition spotlighting Boston's Afr American community of the 19th-century. O ing. •*Building on a Firm Foundation* is a 17-mi multimedia presentation that looks at 19th-ce Beacon Hill through the eyes of an African-A can teenager. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9 www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Mus



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online tickets and info
www.rylesjazz.com

Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15 adults, $13 students and seniors, free for children 17 and under. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free (doesn't include special exhibitions). •*Art of the Japanese Postcard: The Leonard A. Lauder Collection* is an exhibition of 350 Japanese postcards from 1900-1940. Through June 6. •*Gauguin Tahiti*, a retrospective of the painter's work from the South Pacific, shows through June 20. •More than 200 jades dating from the Neolithic period to the Qing Dynasty display in *Chinese Jades from the Hartman Collection*. Through August. •*Draped in Dragons: Chinese Court Costumes* features clothes worn by members of the Qing imperial court. Through Sept. 19. •*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13 adults, $11 seniors, $10 children. •*Einstein* profiles the life of Albert Einstein through his personal letters, documents and manuscripts. Through June 6. •*Risk!* is a hands-on exhibit where visitors can test their sense of daring, while seeing how they deal with the uncertainty that comes with a difficult decision. Through Sept. 6. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum

33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Artist to Icon: Early Photographs of Elvis, Dylan and the Beatles* is an exhibition of 48 black-and-white photographs taken early in the careers of the three rock legends. Through June 6. •*Hatch Show Print's Rock 'n' Roll Posters* features letterpress posters for concerts by musicians including Johnny Cash, Frank Zappa and Bruce Springsteen. Through June 13. •*A Glimpse of Boston Theater, 1850-1903* includes 15 playbills and programs from that period. Through June 20. •*Lunch Box Memories* is an exhibition of lunch boxes from the early 1900s through the 1980s. Through July 18. •*The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'd* is an exhibition of 18th-century local history. Ongoing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household objects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. •*To Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community* is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. Adults $13, seniors $11, students $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem free. •*Men Plow, Women Weave* displays images of weaving and plowing by Chinese artists. Through May 30. •*Vanished Kingdoms: The Wulsin Photographs of China, Tibet, and Mongolia 1921-1925*, an exhibition of color images taken by American explorers Janet E. and Frederick R. Wulsin, shows through June 13. •*Looking Both Ways: Contemporary Artists from Africa* is an exhibition of works by 12 African artists living in Western countries. Through June 20. •*Peonies on Paper* features more than 60 floral paintings by various Chinese artists. Through June 20. •*Havana: Photographs by Robert Polidori* features 18 large-scale photographs. Through Jan. 9, 2005. •*Bringing Japan to Boston* features Japanese artifacts from the Edward S. Morse Collection. Through April 30, 2005.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50 adults, $6 seniors and students, $5 children •*Regarding the Kalahari: The Marshall Family and the Ju/'hoansi !Kung, 1950-1964* is an exhibition of photographs and stereographs from the Kalahari Desert expeditions of Laurence Marshall and his family. Through August. •*Painted by a Distant Hand: Mimbres Pottery from the American Southwest* features artifacts from New Mexico's Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through September. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* shows through December 2005. •*Encounters with the Americas* is an ongoing exhibition featuring original sculpture and plaster casts of Mesoamerican cultures. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through December 2005. •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments* features the museum's large Mesoamerican cast collection. Ongoing. •*Hall of the North American Indian: Change and Continuity* features art depicting the response of Native Americans across the continent to the arrival of Europeans. Ongoing. •*Pacific Islands Hall*, another ongoing exhibition, displays artifacts from the Pacific Islands.



Europa, a painting by Melora Kuhn, is on display at the Chase Gallery June 2–26.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art

38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Main Modern: Loew, Maril, Eisner & Malicoat*, a group show, displays through June 19.

Alianza Gallery

154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). www.alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Patterns and Glass* is a group show of glass works by Paul Harrie and others. Through June 15.

Allston Skirt Gallery

450 Harrison Ave., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-482-3652). www.allstonskirt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Beat the Reaper* is a group show of works by emerging artists. Through May 29. •Amy Ross shows her work in the main gallery, and Joe Wardwell shows his work in the Mini Skirt. June. 4-26.

Alpha Gallery

14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •David Kapp shows his paintings of urban scenes. Through June 2. •New Talent.

Arden Gallery

129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Sebastian Picker shows his new work. Through May 29. •Jean Larson shows new works. June 2-29.

Art Interactive

130 Bishop Allen Drive, Cambridge (617-498-0100). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Participatory Democracy* is an improvisational, interactive exhibition about voting, by five local artists. Through July 29.

Atlantic Works Gallery

80 Border St., East Boston (617-283-7113). http://atlanticworks.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. By appointment. •Photographer Paul Weiner and organic-sculpture artist Antonio Deoliveira display their work. Through May 30.

Barbara Krakow Gallery

10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Kiki Smith shows etchings and lithographs. Through June 16.

Berenberg Gallery

4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Jennifer Harrison and Casey McGlynn show their work. Through June 19.

Bernard Toale Gallery

450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*And Everything Nice* is a show of mixed-media work by two artists from the Boston Drawing Project. Through May 29. •Sage Sohier shows new photographs in *Perfectable World*, and Joe Fig shows new sculpture and photographs in *Pop*. Through June 30.

Brickbottom Gallery

1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Mobius Invitational* presents video works by the Mobius artists collective. Through May 28. •The Somerville Charter School student exhibition shows June 5-26.

Bromfield Art Gallery

27 Thayer St., Boston (617-451-3605). www.bromfieldartgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •Dianne Lam shows her work in *Beach Sand Paintings*, and Selma Swartz Bromberg and Lynne Johnson show their prints and drawings in *Wind, Water, Rocks*. May 26-June 19.

Brookline Arts Center

86 Monmouth St., Brookline. (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm. •Gay von Henneberg shows her paintings and sculptures in *Small Houses*. Through May 28.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center

41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400, ext. 10). www.cmacusa.org. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Mon.- Fri., 10 am-6 pm. Free. •Cambridge Public Schools students show their work in the *Spring Art Exhibit*. Through May 28.

Chase Gallery

129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •The *14th Annual Group Exhibition* displays through May 29. •Melora Kuhn shows paintings. June 2-26.

Childs Gallery

169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA:Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Three exhibits—*Art Within Art, Figure Drawings: Draped & Undraped* and *Henry Botkin: Abstracts and Collages*—show through July 1.

Clifford-Smith Gallery

450 Harrison Ave., Suite 300, Boston (617-695-0255). www.cliffordsmithgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5:30 pm. •David Kelley and Carl Alvila show new work. Thro May 29.

Copley Society of Art

158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). w copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. T Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Donna Talman and Car Webb: An Invitational Exhibition* shows May 27-June

Courtyard Gallery

46 Waltham St. Boston (617-556-2999). MBTA: ver Line to Union Park. Thu. and Fri., 12-7 pm; S 12-5 pm; and by appointment. •*Some Assembly quired* features works by Robert Rauschenberg, M Younkle, Erick Thomas, David Schuster and oth Through June 7.

Crump Gallery

622 East Broadway, Boston (617-330-1133). MB Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. • exhibition of works by Jeff Eldredge, Dan McC and Norman Crump is ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery

164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MB Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •Da Thompson shows his color photography. Thro May 29. •Antonia Hieronymus shows her bla and-white photographs in *The Human Landsc* June 1-26.

Equator Gallery

450 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-5 9236). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. w equatorgallery.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 5 pm. •The gallery specializes in Latin Ameri fine art, including paintings, textiles and ceramic

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery

300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www pointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Stat Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Person* group show, displays through June 19.

Galerie d'Orsay

33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). w galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arling Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ongo exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints f the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, sarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall. • Leestemaker shows his work. June 4-July 4.

Gallery AA/B

535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-00 www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Lin Back Bay. Thu. and Sat.,12-5 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 •Recent paintings by Chris Mesarch and Bev Rippel are on display. Through June 26.

The Gallery at Black and White

295 Huntington Ave., Suite 205 (617-266-26 MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Lin Mass. Ave. Mon.-Fri, 10 am-5 pm. •The gal features rotating exhibitions of black-and-w photographs.

Gallery Katz

450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-6328). w gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. T Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*The Second Annual Furniture sign Exhibition: Cubbies, Doors, and Drawers* sh through June.

Gallery NAGA

67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). w gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arling Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Steve Hawley an Stitt show their new paintings. Through May • Prints by Allan Rohan Crite show in *Sele Works 1934-1998*, and Masako Kamiya shows work in *On Paper*. June 4-July 30.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery

23 Thayer St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-426-97 Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Your Condition Is Permanent*, an installation by Charles Cohen, sh through June 1. •Natercia Caneria shows mult dia installations in *Limits of Softness*. June 4-30.

Haley & Steele

91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.h steele.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.- 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointm •The gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century pr Ongoing.

Howard Yezerski Gallery

14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). w howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Lin Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •El Spatz-Rabinowitz shows paintings, and Hov Johnson shows his drawings in *Enpsychopl* Through June 1. •Matt McClune shows c paintings, and Andrew Neumann shows pai June 4-July 13.

International Poster Gallery

205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). u internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to ley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. • gallery's permanent collection showcases a varie vintage posters. •*Decade's Best*, a show of gallery's best posters, displays through Sept. 4.

udi Rotenberg Gallery
30 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.dirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-at., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Tristan Govignon ows bronze sculpture in *Spirit in Form*. May 29. Charles Movalli, Jennifer Liston Munson and Bebe ard show new work in *Poetry of Place*. June 3-26.

athryn Schultz Gallery
5 Lowell St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www.mbridgeart.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-t., 11 am-5 pm, Sun., 1-5 pm. •*The 7th Annual Na-nal Prize Show* displays through June 24.

Attitude Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.titudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. on.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Monumen-: Steel Sculpture* shows works by Dale Rogers and b Lorenson. Through June 11.

ark Gallery
1 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6275). www.rkartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Fri. d Sat., 12-6 pm, and by appointment. •Shaun Mac-vid and Ann Solomon show paintings, monoprints d mixed-media work in *Seasons and Settings*. rough June 11.

artin Lawrence Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-369-4800). MBTA: een Line to Arlington. www.martinlawrence.com. n.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-7 pm. •The llery's ongoing exhibition includes works by agall, Erté, Hallam, Kondakova, Lichtenstein, asso and Warhol.

ercury Gallery
Newbury St., Second Floor, Boston (617-859-54). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.rcurygallery.com. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. dolph Gottlieb on Cape Ann, a show of paintings, plays through June 7.

iller Block Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). www.llerblockgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. e.-Sat., 10:30-5:30 pm. •Yu-Wen Wu shows ked-media work in *Folio*, and Edda Jachens shows v paintings in *Transcending Areas*. Through June 2.

ills Gallery
ston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston 7-426-5000). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green e to Boylston. Wed., Thu. and Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. Sat., 12-10 pm. •*Somatic Scales*, a group show, plays June 4-Aug. 1.

obilia Gallery
3 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). w.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; ., 10 am-5 pm. •Gerri Rachins shows new work The "S" Series. Through May 29.

AO Project Gallery
Albany St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-451-2977). w.naoprojectgallery.info. MBTA: Orange Line to k Bay or Green Line to Copley. Wed., Fri. and ., 11 am-4 pm and by appointment. •Asuka Oh-a shows drawings. Through June 26.

elsen Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.sengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. d.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. • *Plant gdoms: The Photographs of Charles Jones*, and *Tanya nberg: New Paintings* show through June 19.

it of the Blue Gallery
Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.ftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Cen-Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •A local-artists showcase ngoing.

pper Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.ppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Ar-ton. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 • •*The Apollo Prophecies*, an exhibition of sculp-s by Kahn/Selesnick, shows through June 19.

cker Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.kergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. n.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Jeffrey sing displays his oil paintings in *Paintings and ings*. Through June 1.

hardson-Clarke Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: en Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., m-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing exhi-on of 19th- and 20th-century American and Eu-an paintings.

bert Klein Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.rtkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arling-Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. ger Ballen shows photographs. Through June 19.

lly-Michaux Galleries
Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). TA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-n; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*20th Century Master Graphics, the Spring Collection* features lithographs and etchings by Chagall, Matisse, Miro and Rouault. Through June 30.

Samson Projects
46 Waltham St., Suite 203, Boston (617-357-7177). www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •*An Accumulation of Convention: en Masse* is a group show of works by local artists. June 4-July 30.

The Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Grimm Fairy Tales Reinvented* is a group show of works inspired by Grimm stories. Through July 25.

Soprafina Gallery
99 Beacon St., Somerville (617-498-0999). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm; •Jane Goldman shows paintings. Through June 5.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •Oil paintings by William St. George, Christina Keating, Sandra Mueller-Dick, Judy St. Peter and Anne Grandin display through June.

Studio Soto
63 Melcher St., Boston (617-426-7686). www.studiosoto.com. MBTA: Orange Line to South Station. Fri. and Sat., 2-5 pm. •*9,192,631,770* is an installation on contemporary time-keeping, by Caroline Bagenal and Blyth Hazen. Through May 29.

Upstairs at Johnson's Art Gallery
353 Newbury St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-536-4065). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.- Fri., 10 am - 5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am - 1pm. •*Creative Vehicles* is a show of mixed-media work by Ali Kuzmickas, Jason Mathog and Cordula Peters. Through June 24.

Victoria Munroe Fine Art
59 Beacon St., Boston (617-523-0661). www.munroefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line or Red Line to Park Street. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm and by appointment. •Katherine Lynch shows her paintings of New York in *Painting the Town*. Through June 12.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Realism Now: Traditions and Departures, Mentors and Proteges*, a group show of works by contemporary American realist artists, displays through July 17.

William Scott Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-542-4030). www.williamscottgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Damon Lehrer and Gail Spaien show their work. Through May 29.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. •Robert Hannan shows his photography in *Short Stories*. Through June 11. •Robert Hannan shows photographs in *Short Stories*. Through June 11. •*Landscapes of the Civil War*, an exhibition of 92 rare photographs from the American Civil War, displays through June 25.

New England School of Photography
Gallery One, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-437-1868). www.nesop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm. •Graduating NESOP students show their work. Through August.

Panopticon Gallery Kenmore
502-C Comm Ave., Boston (617-267-8929). www.panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-7 pm. •*Home Run*, a show of vintage baseball photographs, displays through September.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Commuter Rail to Waltham. www.panopt.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*Beneath the Surface* is a group exhibition of nude photographs. Through June 5.

Photographic Resource Center
832 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University West. www.bu.edu/prc. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. •*2004 PRC Student Exhibition* features works by students from 10 local photography programs. Through May 30.

SPECIAL EVENTS

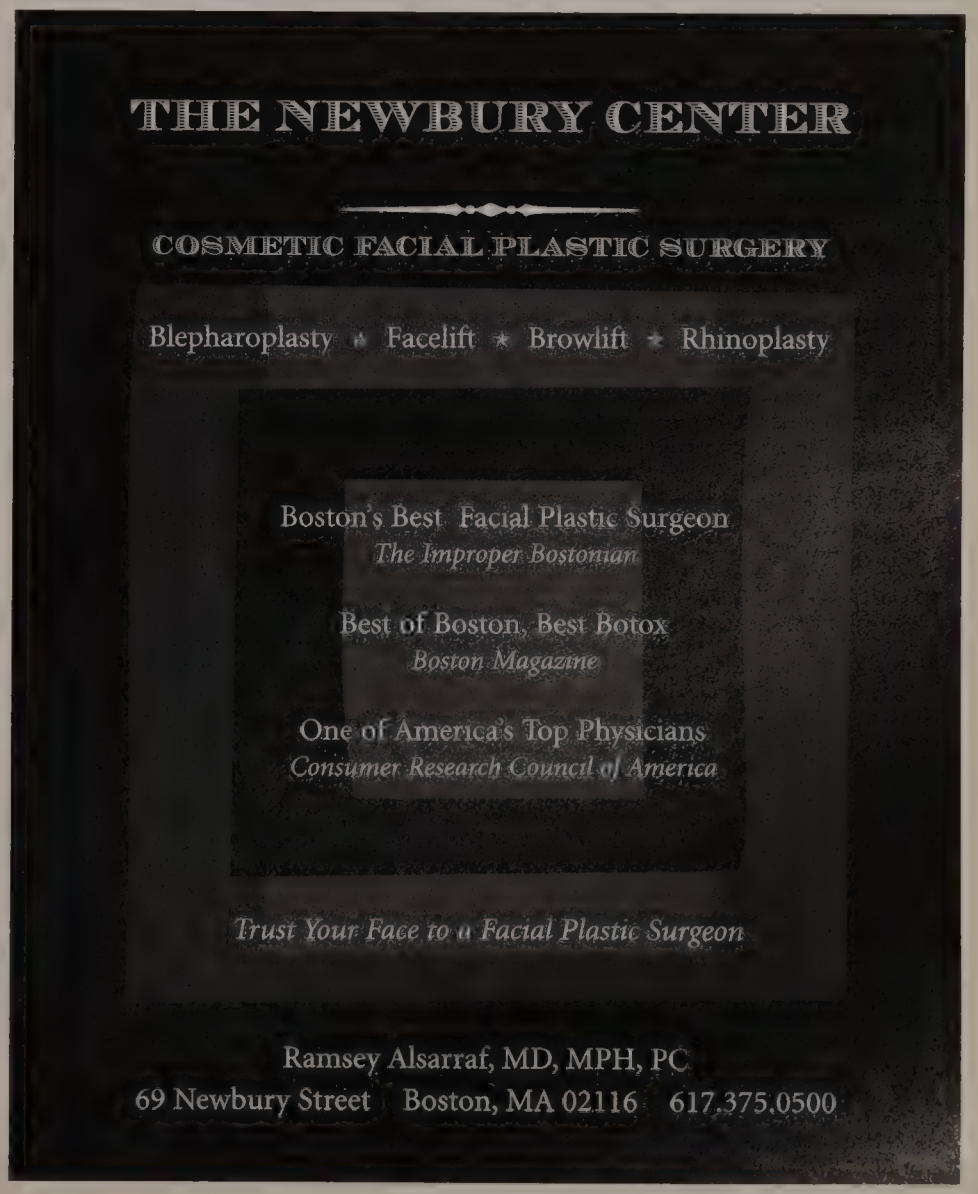
East Boston Open Studios
(617-872-2432). www.eastbostonartistsgroup.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. June 5 and 6, 12-6 pm. •The Fourth Annual East Boston Open Studios features more than 40 artists showcasing their works at studios and shops throughout the neighborhood.



www.mtiweb.edu

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Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to books @improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **Tom Perotta** reads from his new novel, *Little Children*, about the lives of several thirtysomething suburbanites and how their relationships with young children define them.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. **Le Thi Diem Thuy** reads from his new novel, *The Gangster We Are All Looking For*, about a Vietnamese girl and her refugee family who struggle for acceptance in San Diego in the late 1970s.

THURSDAY, MAY 27

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St, Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Mary Roach** reads from her nonfiction book, *Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers*, about the use of cadavers in medical and historical research and for other scientific purposes.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Andrea Seigel** reads from her new novel, *Like the Red Panda*, about a teenage foster child who plans to kill herself before starting college at Princeton.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. **Naama Goldstein** reads from *The Place Will Comfort You*, her collection of short stories about Israeli-Americans' cultural dislocation. Also, **Paul Miller** (who performs as DJ Spooky) reads from his new book, *Rhythm Science*, about how contemporary artists use technology to create multimedia works.

SUNDAY, MAY 30

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5 pm. Poets **David Abel** and **Michael Gizzi** read their work.

TUESDAY, JUNE 1

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St, Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Steve Almond** reads from his new book, *Candyfreak: A Journey Through the Chocolate Underbelly of America*, about his attempt to confront and explain his candy habit by visiting sweets manufacturers across the country.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Martha Fields** discusses her new book, *Loving Your Work by Loving Your Life*, which offers advice on improving career satisfaction.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-0372). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Diane Ackerman** reads from her new book, *An Alchemy of Mind: The Marvel and Mystery of the Brain*, about the science of the brain in relation to art, memory, consciousness and identity.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **George Colt** hosts a question-and-answer session about his new book, *The Big House*, a personal history of his family's Cape Cod summer home.

Wellesley Free Library
530 Washington St., Wellesley, 781-235-1610). www.wellesleyfree library.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Framingham. 7 pm. Free. **Beatrice Lerner** reads from her new nonfiction book, *The Triumph of Wounded Souls*, about the postwar lives of six Holocaust survivors.

THURSDAY, JUNE 3

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St, Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Kathryn Harrison** reads from her new memoir, *The Mother Knot*, about how her contentious relationship with her daughter led her to reevaluate her relationship with her own late mother.

Center for New Words: Conversations with Authors
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. Free. **Abigail Garner** discusses her new book, *Families Like Mine*, which explores the ways in which gay parents' sexual orientation impacts their children's lives.





Harvard Book Store Author Event
Longfellow Hall, Askwith Lecture Hall, 13 Appian Way, Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard. com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Samuel Huntington** reads from his new book, *Who Are We: The Challenges to America's National Identity*, which argues that America's stability and power depend on its remaining a largely Christian and Anglo-Saxon country.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Harvard professor **Charles Cogan** discusses his new book, *French Negotiating Behavior*, about the history of the French government's nationalistic diplomatic decisions.

FRIDAY, JUNE 4

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **Bob Welch** reads from his new book, *American Nightingale: The Story of Frances Slanger, Forgotten Heroine of Normandy*, about the first American nurse to die during World War I.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. **Mark Haddon** reads from his novel *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, about an autistic boy determined to find out who murdered his neighbors' dog.

SATURDAY, JUNE 5

Wellesley Booksmith
82 Central St., Wellesley (781-431-1160). www.wellesleybooksmith.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Framingham. 1 pm. Free. **Norman Gautreau** reads from his new novel, *Island of First Light*, about a widowed fisherman, a stalled writer and an abused wife whose connections to an island off the coast of Maine cause their lives to intersect.

TUESDAY, JUNE 8

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. Comedian **Jay Mohr** reads from his new memoir, *Gasping for Air Time: Two Years in the Trenches at Saturday Night Live*, about his stint as an *SNL* cast member.

Brookline Booksmith Author Event
Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St, Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 6 pm. $2. NPR commentator **Andrei Codrescu** reads from his new novel, *Wakefield*, about a motivati speaker who sells his soul to the devil in change for a lengthened life.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-52 www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red to Harvard. 7 pm. Washington Post col nist **E.J. Dionne** reads from his new book, *S Up—Fight Back*, which argues that Democ need to take a tougher stance in order to re political control and moral authority.

Ongoing

Amazon Poetry Slam (Last Sunday)
Milky Way, 403-405 Center St., Jamaica (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to S Brook. 9 pm. $7. On the last Sunday of e month, the Milky Way hosts the all-women A zon Poetry Slam.

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7:30 pm. 21+ Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge ho poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Harvard Coop (Sundays)
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harva pm. Free. Hear what Boston-area poets are doi the Harvard Coop's weekly poetry exchang Level Two.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. P jam, 7:30 pm; poetry slam, 9 pm. $6. The Jeff R son Trio plays background tunes for the poetry s featured poet of the week.

O'Brien's Pub (Mondays)
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBT Green Line to Harvard Ave. 9 pm. O'Brien's sents a mix of rock and spoken word one Mo per month. Performers are predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry (Saturdays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cam (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. $3. Every Saturday is Open Bark poetry night the fourth Saturday of each month is a spo word event.

Stone Soup Poetry Night (Monda
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cam (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have these weekly readings.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). M MBTA: Blue Line to Government Center. 8:3 Free. The second Thursday of each month of selection of featured poets and an opportuni others to take the open mike.

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education

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26

Decorating with Posters
Dos and Don'ts
International Poster Gallery, 205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. Free. Gallery owner **Jim Lapides** discusses using posters for interior decorating.

Encountering Venice: John Singer Sargent, Henry James, and Isabella Stewart Gardner
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 9-11 am. This museum seminar looks at Venice at the turn of the 21st century, and the city's influence on art.

Equal Exchange: Pioneering Socially Responsible Business
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8-10 pm. $5. **Rodney North**, co-owner of Equal Exchange, explains his organization's views on fair trade and socially responsible business ethics.

Perceiving Theosophy in the World
Theosophical Society, 21 Maple St., Arlington (617-00-4552). www.tsboston.org. MBTA: Bus 67, 77 or 9 to Arlington Center. 7 pm. $5. Energy healer **Florai Spring** speaks on theosophy's place in the Western world.

Spring Vase
Winston Flowers, 141 Congress St., Boston (617-541-160). Also May 27, 12-1 pm. Registration required. $5 (half price for mothers accompanied by their daughters). Learn to arrange flowers in the Winston style.

THURSDAY, MAY 27

Never Too Late Group
Boston Public Library, Conference Rooms 5 and 6, 00 Bolyston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.pl.org. 2 pm. **Watson Reid**, a physician-turned-musician, speaks about his experiences in the music industry and in philanthropy, and how he combined the two fields.

FRIDAY, MAY 28

Children of Buddha
Theosophical Society, 21 Maple St., Arlington (781-48-0101). www.tsboston.org. 7:30 pm. $5. Missionary monk **Michael Hughes** outlines the importance of recognizing ourselves in the teachings of Buddha.

SATURDAY, MAY 29

Photographing Endangered Birds Across the Pacific
Franklin Park Zoo Meeting Barn, 1 Franklin Park Road, Boston (617-541-5466). www.zoonewengland.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. Free with admission ($9.50). Wildlife photographer **Tim Laman** discusses his current work with rare and endangered birds as a photographer for *National Geographic*.

SUNDAY, MAY 30

The Flat of Beacon Hill: A Neighborhood Gem
Boston by Foot, Tour meets at the Charles Street exit of Charles/MGH T stop (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. $12. 2 pm. A leisurely, 90-minute, guided walking tour through the historic streets of Beacon Hill.

In Their Own Words
Forest Hills Cemetery, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston. (617-524-0128). MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 1:30, 2 pm. Take a Memorial Day tour through this historic cemetery while listening to readings of personal letters and diaries from people who lived during American wars.

TUESDAY, JUNE 1

National Archives and Records Administration
200 Trapelo Road, Waltham (866-406-2379). www.archives.gov. MBTA: Bus to Waverly Square. 1:30 p.m. Free. Attendees at this workshop, titled Behind the Census, take a guided tour of the archives and then learn how local historical resources are used in federal records.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2

Architectural Bus Tour
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3395). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 10 am-12 pm. $25 ($20 for members). The bus tour, guided by museum staff, covers the Back Bay, Government Center and other locations around the city.

Genealogy in a Nutshell
New England Historical Genealogy Society, Richard-Sloane Education Center, 101 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5740). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10 am. Free. Genealogist **Chris Hartman** discusses how rare books can be used in genealogical research.

THURSDAY, JUNE 3

Antarctica (and Argentina, Too)
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 10:30-11:30 am. $2. Learn about the natural wonders of Antarctica and Argentina, from penguins to waterfalls.

Chakra Workshop
Theosophical Society, 21 Maple St., Arlington (781-648-9334). www.tsboston.org. MBTA: Bus 67, 77 or 79 to Arlington Center. 6 pm. $30. Registration required. Reiki master **Lynn Roberson** discusses the chakra system and leads a guided exercise.

Reclaiming Dinah
Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-8102). www.brandeis.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 7-8:15 pm. Free. Members of the Women's Studies Research Center discuss the biblical figure Dinah in a modern context, incorporating Midrash, poetry and scholarly writings.

SATURDAY, JUNE 5

Boston Mural Tour
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 10 am-4 pm. $15. See examples of the African-American mural tradition throughout Boston on this bus tour.

Genealogy in a Nutshell
New England Historical Genealogy Society, Richard-Sloane Education Center, 101 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5740). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10 am. Free. See June 2 listing for a description.

Mornings at the Gardner
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 9:30 am-12 pm. $175 members, $200 nonmembers. Arrive before the museum opens and paint watercolors of the grounds and gardens. Watercolor painter **Susan Parker** instructs.

Slide Introduction to Gauguin Tahiti
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. Free. 1 pm, 2 pm. This slide presentation and talk provides background on the MFA exhibit *Gauguin Tahiti*.

Tickled Pink with Color
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 10 am-4 pm. $86, $15 materials fee. Learn about color relationships through hands-on watercolor and color wheel activities with artist **Glenn Davis**.

Your Cabaret Act
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 12-4 pm. $60. **John O'Neil**, a piano bar entertainer and cabaret artist, teaches aspiring stars how to put together their own cabaret act.

SUNDAY, JUNE 6

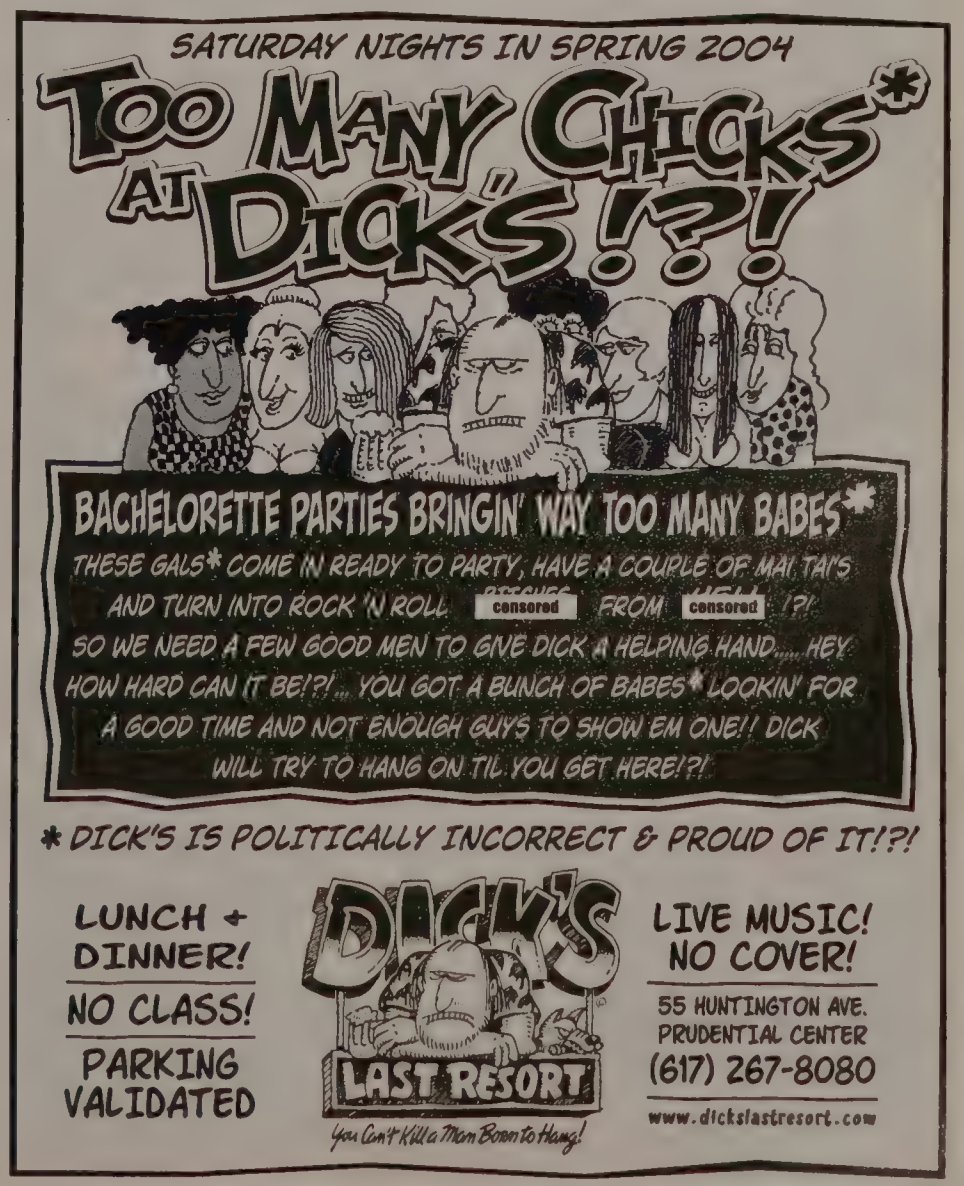
Chinese Brush Painting and Calligraphy
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. Free. 1-4 pm. Artist **Sue Yang** uses materials of Chinese painting to demonstrate different techniques.

Nature-Inspired Drawing
Peabody Essex Museum, East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www.pem.org. 1:30-3 pm. Reservations required. Free. Join illustrator **Katy Bratun** in the Peabody garden to learn about drawing techniques, scale and point of view.

TUESDAY, JUNE 8

Through Back Bay Gates and Doors
Garden Club of the Back Bay, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-292-4504). www.gardenclubbackbay.org. 10 am-4 pm. $25 in advance, $30 same day. This annual trolley tour visits private gardens, hidden patios, historic interiors, galleries and restaurants of the Back Bay.





gay & lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information, including telephone numbers and nearest T-stop, by fax (617-859-1446) or mail, or e-mail gaylesbian@improper.com.

Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am.; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's new leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $8 under 21. $5 for 21+. DJ John Morris spins progressive house for Lust, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $15, 21+. For 20 years, these folks have cranked out Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. Enjoy three separate dance floors plus drag acts. Resident DJ Ted Elison spins house.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show, and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—pool room and lounge keep the men busy until 2 am.

CityGirl Café (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-9 pm; Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-4 pm. This small, laid-back café in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated, draws a mixed gay/hetero crowd for lounging and sandwiches. Brunch is served every weekend. Now serves beer and wine.

Club Café, Club Café 209 Restaurant and Moonshine Bar (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room and video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Wednesdays, Queer as Folk, 8:30 pm. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Scott Kennedy.

Club Europa (Fridays)
57 Stuart St., Boston (617-417-0186). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.twistboston.com. Fri., 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+ after 11 pm. DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s tunes at this women's night.

Diesel Café (Daily)
257 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-8717). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Mon.-Thu. 7 am-midnight, Fri., 7 am-1 am, Sat., 8 am-1 am, Sun., 8 am-12 am. All ages. Diesel is a gay-friendly Davis Square café that serves coffee and snacks.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3 pm-2 am; Sat., 1 pm-2 am; Sun., 12 pm-2 am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This quiet, friendly neighborhood bar starts hopping as it gets closer to 2 am.

Fritz Lounge (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 12 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. Four plasma TV sets show satellite sports broadcasts, and Fritz is home base to a softball league. Brunch is served until 3:30 pm on weekends.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $8 weekends, 21+. Patrons relax with a friendly crowd and mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month is the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground. The typical lineup features singer Leah Callahan with guest musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Tuesdays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Big and Hot, Brazilian night, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Tue.: Service Industry Night with DJ Afrodite.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 19+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: New Wave Dance Party with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Milky Way Lounge (Sundays)
401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+. Sunday theme nights are geared toward gay men and women, transgendered people and their allies. Live entertainment varies from week to week and includes Fireballs Drag Bingo, spoken-word events and jazz. There is free bowling if you buy dinner, and a dance party hosted by resident DJ Jamila caps off the evening. On the last Sunday of every month, the Milky Way presents the all-women Amazon Poetry Slam, a lesbian event. 8 pm, 7:30 pm sign-up, $7.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Omar. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. Private, members-only club, predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

711 Boylston (Tuesdays)
711 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5502). www.hereboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 9 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. The Tuesday night gay dance party, Here, features disco and pop.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night, and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music pumps, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Vapor (Wednesdays–Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adilson. 19+. •Thu.: The Music Factory with DJ Pauli Paul and DJ Ron Steele spinning hip-hop, reggae and funk. $5 before 11, $2 after 11, 21+. •Fri.: Inner Circle. $10, 21+. •Sat.: Evolution with DJ Jay Ine. •Sun.: T-Dance party with DJ Danae groovi to local, tribal, and house while Niterain spins classic oldies. 21+.



The Speakeasy Stage Company's production of *The Last Sunday in June* plays at the BCA Theatre June 4-26.

Books

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-3 1931). www.calamusbooks.co MBTA: Red Line to South Statio Mon.-Sat., 9 am-7 pm; Sun., 1 pm. Boston's bookstore for gays, l bians, bisexuals and transgende people carries fiction, erotica a titles by gay and feminist activist

Center for New Words
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (6 876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to C tral. www.centerfornewwords.co Cambridge's center for wome writing and ideas hosts open mi and author events. •*June 3, 7 p Free.* **Abigail Garner** reads from new book, *Families Like Mine: C dren of Gay Parents Tell It Like It* which refutes the theory that ch dren of gay parents are different t children of heterosexual parents.

Cuttyhunk and Provinc town Trading Company
540 Tremont St., Boston (617-5 5000). www.cuttyhunk.us. MB Orange Line to Back Bay. This co munity-centered gay and lesb bookstore, formerly called We Th the World of You, stocks literatu art books, DVDs and videos.

Shows & Events

AIDS Walk & 5K Run
Hatch Shell on the Charles River Esplanade, Bo (617-437-9255). www.aacevents.org. MBTA: Line to Charles/MGH. June 6, 7:30-8:30 am. $25 istration fee. Sponsored by the AIDS Action C mittee of Massachusetts, the 19th annual A Walk kicks off at the Hatch Shell at 10 am, follow opening ceremonies at 9:30. The run (5k) begins am at Lederman Field, across from MGH.

Boston Pride Day at Faneuil Hall
Faneuil Hall Marketplace. (617-262-9405). w bostonpride.org/faneuil. MBTA: Green or Blue Lir Government Center. June 5, 10 am-6 pm. Start P Week with a day of celebration at Faneuil Hall.

Boston Pride Flag Raising
City Hall Plaza (617-262-9405). www.bostonp org/flag. MBTA: Green or Line to Government Ce June 4, 12 pm. Mayor Thomas Menino kicks Pride Week festivities with the flag-raising cerem A reception follows at the Bell in Hand Tavern.

The Last Sunday in June
BCA Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617- 4787). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Lir Boylston. June 4-26. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fr pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $25-$35. Jonat Tolins' play focuses on a group of gay men gath at a Greenwich Village home who watch New City's Gay Pride Parade and discuss issues surro ing their sexuality.

Mad Maids
PA's Lounge, 345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (776-1557). www.paslounge.com. MBTA: Red Li Porter. May 29, 10 pm. $5. The Illegitimate Th Company presents Leah Callahan's cabaret- play about power, poverty and inner conflicts.

Pink Slip Party
Club Cafe, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617- 0700). www.clubcafe.com. May 27, 7 pm-9 MBTA: Green line to Arlington. Connect other job-hunting professionals or those in of a pending pink slip. Network, make con and sympathize. Sponsored by American Ex Financial Advisors, a supporter of PRIDE work, a gay and lesbian employee network.

Pride Lights Tree Lighting Ceremo
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont Boston (617-262-9405). www.bostonpride MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. June 8, 6-8 p tree is illuminated with hundreds of pink ligh honor of Pride Week. Keith Orr emcees.

Ongoing

Atención Latina Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., B (800-834-3242). www.fenwayhealth.org. Ml

Green Line to Hynes. FCH collaborates with the Elizabeth Stone House to provide this safe, confidential space to discuss healthy relationships, domestic violence and other issues.

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313). www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wednesdays, 6-9 pm. The Boston Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered and Questioning Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi and Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6032). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 7 pm. This group meets the second Tuesday of every month for discussion with bisexual and bi-curious men.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tuesday of the month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

BOSS
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 6-8 pm. This group for gay and bisexual men of color meets the last Thursday of each month to discuss culture, lifestyle, creativity and health.

Boston Bay Blades
www.bayblades.org/boston. All are welcome to join this competitive, recreational group of rowers and scullers.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers
First Church of Jamaica Plain, corner of Centre and Eliot streets, Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.gcfd.org. Every Wed., 7:30 pm, $8. Square-dancing and English country dancing lessons are available for lesbians, gays, bisexuals and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). www.bgbl.com. The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm, Fri, 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people, ages 13-25.

Boston Ironsides Rugby Football Club
Oakley Field, South Boston (617-524-5814). MBTA: Red Line to JFK. Rugby players of any level, age, race and orientation are welcome to play.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. www.lesbianavengers.org. Thu., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wednesdays, 7 pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
(617-417-0876). Third Saturday of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for interested parents and their partners. For info, e-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-1095). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm, free. An informal group for people who think they may be bisexual or attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning People
(617-256-8693). This group welcomes those who want to discuss the challenges and the joys of coming out. It meets Thursday nights, 7-8:30 pm, in Cambridge.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area support, information and social group for people assigned female at birth who feel that is not an accurate or complete description of their gender. Part of the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group meets monthly. Email CompassFTM@usa.com for details.

Controversy Thursday
Matrix (B Room), 275 Tremont St. (lower level of Roxyplex), Boston (617-542-4077). Certain Thursdays (call for details), $8, no sneakers. This gay and bi dance party features DJ John Morris at 10 pm.

The Down Low
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Last Friday of the month. 7-9 pm. A discussion group for gay and bisexual men of color to address heritage, lifestyle, culture and health.

East Coast Wrestling Club
(401-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www.eastcoastwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay male wrestlers has more than 160 members.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional women 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophisticated to get together with like-minded women for conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Explore Gender in a Safe Place
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. An ongoing support group for people born into female bodies or who have grown up being viewed as biologically female.

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Saturday mornings. Join Boston's GLBT Flag Football League for a casual spring season, followed by a formal fall season. All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). Sat., 10 am. All are welcome to join this running club.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
(617-267-9001 or 888-340-4528). Mon.-Fri., 6-11 pm; Sat. and Sun., 5-10 pm. This toll-free hotline is confidential and provides support for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning callers.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church in Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Professionals Building Community
(617-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to join this networking organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered professionals. Monthly networking meetings.

Gaymes Group
(508-339-4250). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians. Members get together on a regular basis to play board, card and parlor games.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. $5-10. An open mike night open to new performers, this queer-positive, dyke-positive, bi-positive and trans-positive spoken-word event meets the second Thursday of each month, 7:30 pm.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Biological males meet on Monday evenings. The groups are moderated by psychologist Randi Kaufman.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday from 10:30 am-12 pm.

Girlz 2 Girlz
(781-893-6113). This is a mentoring program for girls aged 13-19 who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered. Contact Marcela Aldez-Osorio.

GLBT Seniors
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6272). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mondays. Support group for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered seniors ages 60 and over. Men-only support group meets Monday afternoons.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Anonymous HIV testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Laffan
This social and networking group for women includes single women, couples and parents interested in art, cultural events, outdoor and sporting activities, intellectual and social pursuits, public service and travel. Members receive a weekly email calendar of events. For info, e-mail Laffan_Boston2004@yahoo.com.

LGBT Considering Parenting Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. A short-term (eight-week) group for LGBT persons who are considering becoming parents. Sliding fee scale available. Call for information.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue., Wed. and Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

The Network/La Red
(617-423-7233). The Network is a support group working to end abuse in lesbian, bisexual women's and transgender communities. Email info@the networklared.org for more information.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

Partners of People with HIV
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Meets first and third Tuesdays of each month. 7-9 pm. An ongoing support group that allows individuals with HIV-positive partners to discuss issues surrounding the virus in their lives.

Peer Listening Line
(800-399-7337). Trained GLBT volunteers provide confidential information, referrals and support.

The Rainbow Cafe
rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social group for activist, academic, intellectual or artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. Email somoslatinos lgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Support Group for HIV-Negative Gay and Bisexual Men
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-967-6231). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. First three Tuesdays of each month, 6-8 pm. Discuss new safe-sex practices and strategies for managing risk and communicating with sexual partners.

Support Group for Lesbians with Cancer
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed. evenings, once a month. Free. For those who want to discuss the impact of this disease on their lives.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Street. First Saturday of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing, $8. Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. WWB is a social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s. It meets the first Thursday of every month



body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Contact Improvisation Jam
Masonic Hall, 1950 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (781-944-8787). www.geocities.com/contactimprovboston. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. May 29-30. $55 both days, $35 for one day. Contact Improv is movement with awareness that explores gravity, mass and finding your center with a partner or group. This weekend features movement classes along with a Saturday night performance and dance gathering.

Dances of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767 or 617-491-8694). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. June 4, 7:30-9:30 pm. Requested donation, $6-10. Join hands in simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honoring the spiritual traditions of the world. Everyone welcome. All dances are taught and are accompanied by live music.

Drum and Dance Saturday
Earth Drum Council, First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (978-371-2502). www.earthdrum.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. June 5, 8-11:30 pm. $6. Bring drums, spoons, tambourines and clapping hands for this day of dance and percussion.

Workshops

Art, Body and Soul Day
Art and Soul, 91 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-661-7376). www.artsoulyoga.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. June 5, 10 am-5 pm. $75. This workshop is led by expressive arts therapist Kat Mitchell, who demonstrates facilitated bodywork, movement and creative expression through sound, imagery and words.

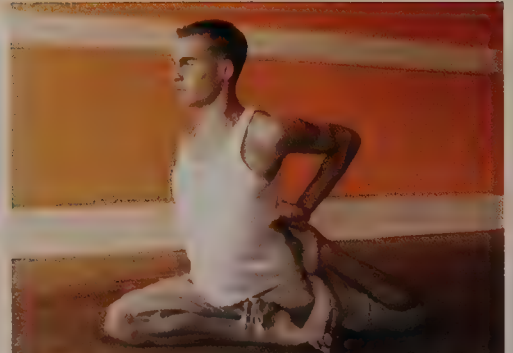
High-Frequency Yoga for Women
Carmela Cattuti, 151 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-970-5320). www.yogame.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. June 5, 10-12 pm. $45. This workshop focuses on working the abdominal muscles and includes techniques for increasing stamina and transforming negative thought patterns. Beginners welcome.

Money, Sex, Power, Love and Your Auric Field
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. June 5, 12-4 pm. $49. The chakra system is composed of seven energy centers, regulating energy flow that reflects in your auric field. Learn how interpersonal issues may interact with the chakra system and color the auric field.

See for Yourself: Natural Vision Improvement
Wellspace, 1 New St., Fresh Pond Mall, Cambridge (617-876-2660). www.wellspace.com. MBTA: Red Line to Alewife. June 4, 7:15-8:45 pm. Free. This workshop draws from numerous disciplines, including behavioral optometry, the Bates Method and vision therapy, to teach techniques for improving vision.

Shamanic Drumming Journey
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 90 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circlesofwisdom.com. June 4, 7-8:15 pm. $15. Enjoy an evening listening to the deep, meditative rhythms of the shamanic drum beat. Participants are led on a guided meditation, where they may meet guides and healing totem animals.

Shiatsu Massage for Friends and Partners
Brookline Adult and Community Education, Driscoll School, 64 Westborne Terrace, Brookline (617-730-2700). www.brooklineadulted.org. MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Street. June 5, 10 am-4 pm. $76. Shiatsu therapeutic massage is based on the same theory as acupuncture, in which treatments are designed to balance the body's energy flow. Learn Shiatsu first aid points for basic ailments as well as foot treatments to use on yourself and others.


David Vendetti leads a weekend retreat June 4–6 at the Back Bay Yoga Studio.

Sweat Your Prayers Dance Jam
Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-9363 or 617-522-9797). www.dancecomplex.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. June 7, 8-9:30 pm. $8-11, sliding scale. This freestyle dance workshop features deep listening, improvisation and other exercises designed to stimulate creativity. All levels welcome.

Retreat

Diving Deeper: Moving Through Stillness—A Weekend Retreat with David Vendetti
Back Bay Yoga Studio, 1112 Boylston St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-375-0785). www.backbayyoga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. June 4-6, 13.5 hours. $150. The goal of this workshop is to explore the subtler realms of yoga and to tap into the part of us that always wants to be still, calm and peaceful.

Spirit Day
Camp Atwater, East Brookfield (508-885-2620). www.themettacenter.com. May 29, 9 am-5pm. $105. Revive, release and rejoice at this yoga center's day-long retreat, featuring yoga with Barbara Benagh of the Yoga Studio, breath and self-massage workshops, vibrational drumming, tai chi, food and more.

Ongoing

Basics of Yoga
The Yoga Studio, 74 Joy St, Boston (617-523-7138). www.yogastudio.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles or Green Line to Government Center. Mon., 12-1:30 pm and 5:30-7 pm. $15, drop-in. This hatha yoga school features a blend of styles and methods and hosts several classes for beginners.

Beginners' Yoga/Allston
Beacon Light Yoga, 215 Brighton Ave. Allston (617-562-0717). www.beaconlightyoga.com. MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. or #57, 64, 66 and 501 bus lines. Wed., 6:30-8 pm. $15-$20, drop-in. Try the beginners' class in this peaceful environment, but call ahead if you're dropping in for the first time. Parking available.

Introduction to Kabbalah
The Kabbalah Centre, 751 Beacon St., Newton (617-969-1881). www.kabbalah.com. Wed., 7 pm. Free. Call to enroll. Kabbalah is a collection of ancient wisdom and philosophy about the nature of the universe. The practice is intended to help followers get in tune with these universal laws and live a more harmonious life. Find out more at this lecture.

Power Yoga Fundamentals
Prana Power Yoga, 282 Centre St., Newton (617-641-9642). www.pranapoweryoga.com. Wed. and Thu., 7:15 pm. $12. Learn the fundamentals of power yoga, including the basic breathing and posture techniques based on the flowing postures of vinyasa yoga. Open to all levels.

Yoga/Brookline
Roni Brisssette, 57 Waverly St. Brookline (617-738-9561). Mon. 6:30-8 pm. Call ahead. Visit this yoga teacher for an easy beginners' class and relaxing Monday evening.

Yoga/South End
South End House, 48 Rutland St., Boston (617- 522-7199). www.angelfire.com/ma/patrice. MBTA: Orange line to Mass Ave or Back Bay. Mon. and Tue., 7 pm. $15-$17. These mixed-level yoga classes are taught by certified Kripalu yoga instructor Patrice Flesch. Drop-ins and beginners are welcome.

Zen Insight
Cambridge Zen Center, 199 Auburn St., Cambridge (617-576-3229). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. www.cambridgezen.com. Thu., 6:45pm. Free. Try this drop-in beginners' meditation session and get back to the center of your being.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

Boston Red Sox
• Fenway Park, Boston
Tickets: 877-733-7699
May 26, 7:05 pm vs. Oakland Athletics
May 27, 7:05 pm vs. Oakland Athletics
May 28, 7:05 pm vs. Seattle Mariners
May 29, 1:20 pm vs. Seattle Mariners
May 30, 2:05 pm vs. Seattle Mariners
June 8, 7:05 pm vs. San Diego Padres

Events

WWE "Escape the Rules"
FleetCenter, Boston (617-931-2000). June 5, 7:30 pm. Tickets start at $20. WWE Raw stars, including Chris Benoit, Kane, Ric Flair and others hit the mat and climb the turnbuckles.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club seeks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club (BSSC) Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Brookline and Dedham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

CHARITY

Team in Training
(800-688-6572). www.teamintraining.org. This organization provides fund-raising athletes with group training and support, personalized coaching and guaranteed race entry for events including the Timberman Triathlon, Monster Challenge, Maine Marathon, Dublin Marathon and more.

FENCING

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLOOR HOCKEY

BSSC Coed Floor Hockey
Leagues are held in Newton, North Reading and Brighton (617-789-4070, ext. 238). www.bssc.com. All levels are welcome, individuals and teams.

FOOTBALL

BSSC Coed Indoor Flag Football
Games are played in Revere and Tewksbury. (617-789-4070, ext. 242). Sign up individually or with a group of friends.

KICKBALL

BSSC Kickball
Games are played Tuesdays in Charlestown (61 789-4070, ext. 223). Relive your playground da with 10-on-10 kickball (five men and five wom per team).

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.co Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home fi at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New and perienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looki for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Clu
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club see new players for games in Brookline and Cambridg

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mys rugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club w comes both new and experienced players who wa to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. a Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays. New a experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonha com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round you enjoy running, drinking and singing baw songs, then consider joining these self-proclaim "serious drinkers with a running problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First S Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 p Weekly runs.

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Run
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (78 275-1584). www.srr.org. Thu., 7 pm. Weekly run

Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-6 2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thu., 7:30 pm. Wee 2.6-mile runs.

SOCCER

BSSC Outdoor Soccer
(617-789-4070). Outdoor teams forming n Games played in Charlestown, Lexington, Readi and Canton. Individuals and teams are welcome.

SOFTBALL

BSSC Softball
(617-789-4070). Coed softball games played Brighton, Newton, North Reading and other area

VOLLEYBALL

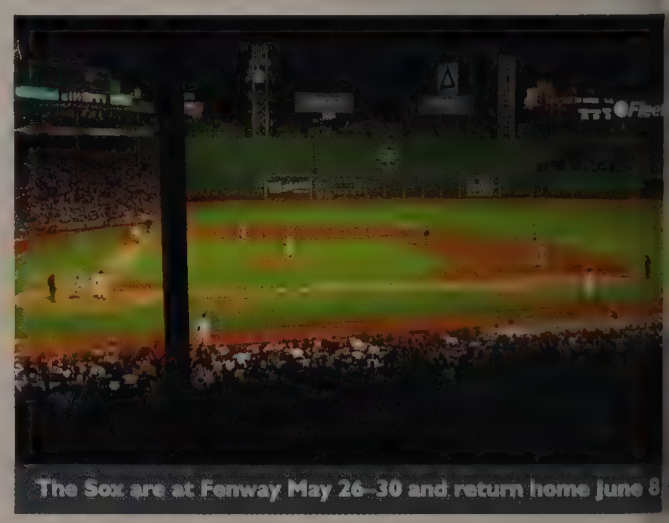
BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070, ext. 22 Sun.-Thu. Coed teams forming for spring and su mer leagues in Cambridge, Watertown, Brookl and Newton.

WOMEN'S FLAG FOOTBALL

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-3 8326). Saturday mornings. Teams play eight-on-ei flag football each week.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-868-8379). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. A teur folk-style wrestling group open to all skill lev Weekly practices held year-round.


The Sox are at Fenway May 26–30 and return home June 8



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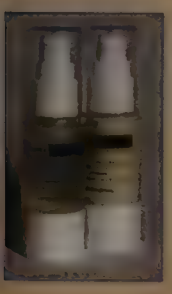
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BOSTON'S BEST 2002 — The Improper Bostonian

BEST OF BOSTON 2003 — Awarded by Boston magazine

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Borders Books and Music
Cambridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Every Sat., 1 pm. Staff members read from new and classic storybooks.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Every Tue. and Sat., 11 am. Staff members read children's stories.

ImprovFoundry Family Show
ImprovBoston, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253) www.improvboston.com MBTA Red Line to Central. $12. •Sat. May-June 6 pm: This short, improvisational show is appropriate for the entire family.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50. Reservations recommended. •May 26 and 27, 10:30 am: Deborah Costine uses shadow puppetry to tell the stories of *The Three Pigs and Other Tales* and *The Three Billy Goats Gruff.* •June 2 and 3, 10:30 am and 1 pm: Nappy Puppets retell classic nursery rhymes and fairy tales in *Father Goose Tales.*

Spring into Summer at Old Sturbridge Village
Old Sturbridge Village, 1 Village Road, Sturbridge (508-347-3362). www.osv.org. $5 for ages 3-17, $20 adults, $18 seniors. •May 29-31, 9:30 am-5 pm: Visit with the oxen, cows and calves that have joined the village this year, and the watch the reenactment of 19th-century village life.

Things to Do

Boston by Little Feet
Faneuil Hall, Congress Street, Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Sun, 2 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am. $10 adults, $8 children ages 6-12. •*Boston by Little Feet* is a regular walking tour exploring the history and architecture of Boston.

Boston Duck Tours
Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston; Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-267-3825). www.bostonducktours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Science Park. Daily through November, 9 am-sunset, every 30-60 minutes. $24 ($21 seniors and students, $15 children 3-11, $3 children under 3). •These amphibious vehicles tour Boston's most popular sights via city streets and the Charles River.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8, $7 children. •May 29, 10:30 am-12:30 pm. Children can celebrate May Egg Month with educational activities involving eggs. •Fridays, 3-5 pm; Saturdays and Sundays, 2-4 pm. *In the Zoom Zone:* Take part in hands-on science challenges culled from the PBS TV show *Zoom.*

Faneuil Branch Library
419 Faneuil St., Brighton (617-782-6705). www.bpl.org. •May 27 and June 3, 4 pm: Children ages 4 to 8 read books aloud, discuss them and create art projects based on each week's theme.

Full Moon Tour
Gore Place, 52 Gore St., Waltham (781-894-2798) www.goreplace.org $12; $10 seniors and students, $8 children. •June 3, 7 pm: Take a candlelit tour of the mansion led by a guide dressed as a character from the early 19th century. Throughout the summer, visit the grounds by day and see Bonhomme the Llama, the latest addition to Gore Place.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. •May 29, 11 am: Listen to Theresa Golding's story "Memorial Day Surprise" and make painted pots as part of craft time.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-496-8204). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. $7.50, $5 children. •Every Sat., 9 am. $35. Saturday Scholar sessions give children the opportunity to learn about their world through hands-on activities.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $5 adults; $1 children (free admission the third Sunday of every month). •*Holography, the Light Fantastic:* The MIT Museum displays the largest collection of holograms in the world. •*Robots and Beyond:* The exhibit offers a look at MIT's artificial intelligence research labs.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. $15, free for children 17 and under. •Sat., 11:30 am, 12:30 pm and 1:30 pm: *Art Alive* offers a range of cultural activities and events for children.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $10 children. •The exhibition *Einstein* provides interactive simulations that give insight into the complexities of Einstein's theories about the nature of time, energy, gravity and light. Through June 6. •*Risk!* is a hands-on exhibit that lets you learn how math, science and probability can help you assess risk. Through Sept. 6. •*Making Models* is a hands-on exhibition that demonstrates how models help people understand complex ideas and phenomena. It includes a wave tank, a model of Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •Every Sat. and Sun., 11 am-12 pm: The museum's Science Theater Program features professional storytellers who combine folk tales and myths with visits from live animals. •*Theater of Electricity:* Daily, times vary. The Van de Graaff generator provides a risk-free lightning show. •Charles Hayden Planetarium, check www.mos.org for show times, $8.50, $6.50 children: The kids-oriented multimedia astronomy show, *Gravity Rules* features Jack the Jester. •Every Fri., 8:30-10 pm (weather permitting). Gilliland Observatory: Use the observatory's two telescopes to find the moon, stars, constellations and planets. •Mugar Omni Theatre, check www.mos.org for show times, $8.50, $6.50 children.

Museum of Transportation
Larz Anderson Park, 15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). www.mot.org. Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5. •Every Sat.: On *Family Saturdays* children can participate in a scavenger hunt, play with hands-on "Mystery Bags" and view the children's exhibit *A World of Parts.*

Natural Curiosity for Preschoolers and Parents
Massachusetts Audubon Society, Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary, 280 Eliot St., Natick (508-655-2296). www.massaudubon.org. $15 members, $18 nonmembers. •June 4, 10-11am: Take a short walk around the sanctuary and discover what different animals in various habitats eat.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. •May 26, 10:30 am: Story hour for 3-year-olds. •May 26, 2pm: Story hour for 4- and 5-year-olds. •May 26, 4 pm: Children in kindergarten and first grade can enjoy stories. •May 27, 9:45 am: Two-year-olds can enjoy story time. •May 27, 10:30 am: Story hour for 3-year-olds. •May 27, 3:30 pm: Story hour for 4-and 5-year-olds. •May 27, 7 pm: *Pajama Storytime* for children 4 years and older. •June 4, 10:30 am: Films for preschoolers are shown in the Druker Auditorium. •June 8, 10:30 am: Children bring their favorite stuffed animal and a picnic lunch for a sing-along at the *Teddy Bear Picnic.* •Also June 8, 4 pm: The Once Upon a Time Players perform Robert Olsen Major's play *Cocoon,* a "buggy" version of the classic fairy tale *Sleeping Beauty.*

Newton History Museum
527 Washington St., Newton (617-796-1450). www.ci.newton.ma.us/jackson. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm; Sun., 2-5 pm. $3 (children) and $5 (adults). •The *Four-Legged* exhibit shows children the relationships between humans and animals throughout history. •Children can learn about the fight against slavery and look at artifacts from the Underground Railroad that are part of the museum's permanent collection.

Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary
291 State Highway, Route 6, South Wellfleet (508-349-2615). www.massaudubon.org. •May 29 and 30, 9 am-4 pm: The annual Horseshoe Crab Celebration welcomes the return of the horseshoe crabs to Cape Cod for the summer season with walking tours, lectures, exhibits and art projects.

around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on clear nights), April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm; Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5pm; Fri., 10 am - 9 pm. Adults, $9, children and seniors $7.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50, students and seniors $6, children $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $8.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily. May-Sept., 8 am-7 pm; Oct.-Apr. 8 am-5 pm

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-739-1200). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Labor Day-Memorial Day, Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm; summer, daily, 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $11 seniors and children.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5, $3 children.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1, Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, $8.95 children.

Old Faneuil Hall
75 State St., Boston (617-338-2323). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9 am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-5 pm. Free.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $5 (children $1).

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $7, (seniors $4).

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8 am-6 pm. $4.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). May 1-October 15. Daily, 9 am-6 pm; November 1-April 30. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster-care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-450-1235). Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay
(617-375-0700). Volunteer in the administrative department.

Big Brothers
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. Be a big brother.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Befriend a girl.

Boston Cares
(617-263-2273). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). Tutor Boston students (preschool through high school) in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers/tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000). Tutor students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
livmates@rcn.com. Spend your lunch hour reading with an elementary school in Cambridge or Somerville.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). Volunteers needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Play with homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). Share your time with an elderly individual, mentor children or teach an adult to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-926-4232). Read or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-536-3557). Volunteers needed to assist elderly.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

Parental Stress Line
(617-528-5800). Telephone counselors needed.

Pine Street Inn
(617-521-7626). Serve breakfast to homeless guests.

Project Place
(617-262-3740). Become a mentor or tutor to homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111). Record textbooks in digital format.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteers needed at this battered women's agency.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room and groceries program at the homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young professionals.

StandUp for Kids
(800-365-4543). Help rescue homeless children.

VNA Care Network
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.


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RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

Dear Family of Head Cases

Let's see—upon hearing that someone had made a racist remark to me, your 31-year-old daughter promptly had a 20-minute screaming fit at me, saying the way I walked "put people on the defensive" and that is why they say racist things. That I "walked with attitude" and she didn't know if it's "because you're a minority or from New Jersey." Then she screeched "I'm going home!" and stormed out. At which point her 33-year-old sister told me you had seen a Chris Rock special last night and "that was the history behind that."

Wow—my walk is so powerful it controls what people say! Why can't I use this all-powerful walk of mine to get a raise and a better parking space? Shall I use this power for good or evil? Whatever! Even if I was the same race and gender as Chris Rock, blaming TV for your sister's stupidity is still so lame.

So let's use your "logic" on you: Is the reason you are all so lame because a) you're white, b) from Massachusetts or c) because you roll around in your head problems like pigs in their own filth? Since you are all blithering idiots from a defective gene pool, I'll answer it for you: c. I didn't let your nasty, racist bullsh*t prevent me from meeting actual cool Massachusetts people of all races, religions and walks of life, as much as you wanted that to happen. Meanwhile, you sit at home in your father's house, single, unemployed and overweight, destined to never move out and being resentful because within two weeks of moving here, I had a great interesting job, my own affordable apartment and a great boyfriend.

You're all just trash because none of the girls in your extended family can get laid—witness your cousin, "Spinster Schoolmarm," who is pushing 30 and has never been on a date, or your other cousin who just can't handle her Mommy's drinky-drinky problem so she does drugs. Before you open your mouths to say anything to me again, fix all your many problems. Then we'll talk.

—*Me*

Orange Line, Inbound, May 6, 8:40 am

To the obnoxious guy who was sitting on the train playing loud rap music from a portable stereo (with the speakers facing outward, no less): Shame on you! And, most of all, shame on your mother for raising such a piece of crap, classless, useless son.

—*A pissed off T patron*

Dear Jacques Chez le Gap

After much coaxing from friends, I thought I should respond to your very very charming and humorous letter. It was truly a fluke that your note caught my eye. I was perusing the IB while in the subway, almost slipped off my seat and thought, wait a minute I remember this! But I really thought your letter was wonderful and I am so glad we had that brief encounter. I hope your niece liked her birthday gift.

—*Marie, chec117@yahoo.com*

Explorer's Club Gal (Mea Culpa!)

In the March 31 edition of the IMPROPER, you responded to my Impersonal. I was the Explorer's Club gal who was looking for a date to attend the Club's Centennial Bash at the Waldorf in NYC, where we were presenting Sir Edmund Hillary with a Lifetime Achievement Award for Exploration. I admit, I chose someone else—a very nice and charming Boston lawyer—but alas, in the end, there was no chemistry.

Out of courtesy, gratitude and interest, I had intended to respond to all who had replied. So, imagine my horror, when I discovered that all my responses to my ad were missing. I strongly suspect that this could be due to the fact that after the Bash I went to Europe for work for six weeks. There I encountered several computer snafus and allowed computer store personnel to "fix" my computer. Since there is another extraordinary Explorer's Club event in NYC on the horizon for which I need a date, let's try this again!

Me: bright and cheerful, attractive 38-year-old woman, well-traveled, lived abroad, multilingual and a member of the Club. You: Single, 38-45, charming, handsome, adventuresome, familiar with the Explorer's Club and have a zest for life! Please send your photo and a bio. Thank you for responding and I look forward to meeting you! This time, I promise to keep a backup. Mea culpa!

—*newbostongal@juno.com*

To the Boy in the Next Seat

We sat next to each other at the midnight showing of *Troy* May 14. Since we both arrived shortly before the movie started, we were stuck in the front of the movie theater. You were the tall guy with dark hair and glasses. I was the redhead in the green sweater. We laughed together over the cheesy delivery of lines in several scenes and I compared the music near the end to *Titanic*'s sappy score. I left the theater debating whether or not I should ask for your number or slip you mine, but in the end I was entirely too shy. If you felt the same...

—*devilorangelguess@yahoo.com*

Who Are You?

Strikingly attractive man: tall, wavy brown hair, green shirt, outdoorsy-looking. I stood in front of you in line at the River Street B&C Café at about 1:30 pm May 14 and went to a table to sit with a woman friend; you talked with two shorter men (with shorter hair) over lunch. I'm 5'7" and pretty with light brown wavy hair and a friendly smile. I was wearing a black fleece shirt. If I had what it took at the time, I would have said something to start a conversation, but that's why God invented these ads. If this sounds familiar and you'd like to continue the conversation, e-mail me.

—*synergy2be@yahoo.com.*

5:30 pm at the Central Square T Station

You: handsome, curly hair, short-sleeved black button-down shirt, tight jeans and stunning green eyes. Me: a petite Asian woman, captivated for a moment in rush hour. You remind me so much of Frodo Baggins that I'm on a quest to find you. Interested in starting our own fellowship? E-mail me.

—*mcfeathers@hotmail.com.*

Blue Line Guy

I know your name (I overheard you introducing yourself to someone else), but you don't know mine. I'm the cute brunette with the glasses. We used to see each other on the Blue Line at Government Center around 5 pm every day. You were working and I was on my way home. We smiled and said hi often. We even talked for a bit once. Then, just as suddenly as the first time I noticed you, you were gone. I had been hoping to get to know you better before you left, transferred, switched shifts... I'd love to share a drink with you sometime (and my name), so e-mail me. Put your name as the subject line so I know it's you.

—*bluelinecutie@hotmail.com*

K

To the best friend I've ever had. To the most fun I've ever had. Thank you for being my family these last three years. Thank you for helping me find my true self. Thank you for your strength and support. You're such a wonderful person, and you have a beautiful soul. I've learned so much from you. To all the great memories, and to the new ones we'll make. I'll miss you so very much. Just remember, this isn't goodbye, this is see you soon. I love you!

—*C*



devour it

The Improper Bostonian's Summer Dining Issue is delectable, delightful, and delicious. To start off we will list some of the city's finest brunch spots as well as some of the new places in town that offer this midday luxury. We will also have a chart of Boston's best and breezy outdoor dining spaces. I scream, you scream...The *Improper* will look at restaurants that are scooping out fancy frozen desserts this summer. And for those who prefer the hot and spicy, we have the season's sexiest swimwear!

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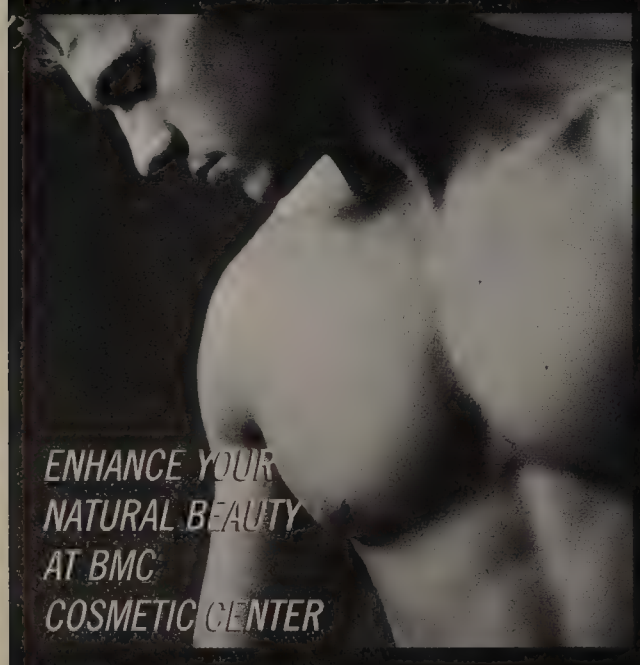
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rockie horoscope

MAY 26 – JUNE 8, 2004

BY ROCKIE GARDINE



GEMINI MAY 21–JUNE 20

You could hitch a ride on the Taurus forecast since your Mercury ruler is calling the Bulls' shots. Besides, what Gemini doesn't have something relevant to say? Or you can concentrate exclusively on feeling great and looking fabulous while Venus is retrograde in your sign. Another option is to start the birthday celebrations early and keep them coming throughout the festive Memorial Day weekend. Congratulations, there's money waiting to be spent on travel arrangements, state-of-the-art camping equipment and, last but not least, the house.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

Sympathetic Crabs are usually willing to help each other out, but this week, those born around Independence Day, like George W. Bush, may have to be not only rescued, but resuscitated, as well. While aggressive, go-it-alone Mars in Cancer collides with restrictive, play-by-the-rules Saturn, all hell can break loose. Even if you're the chief honcho of your domain, try to avoid inflicting further damage on those around you. Also be careful when shaving, cooking or confronting another authority figure, one who may have bigger balls.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

The outdoor-party season could turn into a memorable joke as one occasion after another fails to live up to inflated expectations. Hopefully, you have nothing major, like a wedding or graduation ceremony, on your calendar. It seems that spontaneous events have a better chance of not falling flat or, even worse, falling through. Try to hang loose and be more flexible so that you can get around the frustrating circumstances scheduled to pop up over the next two weeks. And keep lots of mad money on hand, just in case.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

This week, even shy, retiring Virgins are able to talk their way in and out of multilayered conversations with a varied cast of characters. Don't cross off any potential adviser, investor or customer before you've fully explained what is on your mind. Right now, people can be more amenable, more impressionable than you have any right to expect, especially family members you may have offended in a previous life. Keep an eye out for a chance to score the reputation-making assignment, the big bucks, while lucky Jupiter in your sign is lit up.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

A make-it-or-break-it situation can force your hand this week. Either you'll face the test that self-directed Mars presents and do something new and fairly risky, or you'll let a Saturnian sense of duty keep you rooted to the spot you're currently in. Family opinion may matter more than usual as both the conservative and the adventurous factions try to influence your decision. But what'll suit them might not be in your best interests, so take as much time as you can deliberating before you decide what to do. You can always change your mind.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

Your very vocal spouse or business partner may need to hear everyone and his brother's opinion before committing to a course of action that might not include you, just some of the resources you share. Because your Mars co-ruler is under heavy-duty Saturnian restrictions this week, it's doubtful that you'll be willing to assume additional responsibility or liability. What now looks to be a lose-lose proposition will lighten up eventually, but until Mars moves far enough away from fretful, fearful Saturn in June, money will be a source of contention.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

Ye olde entrepreneurial spirit can kick in again when courageous Mars and your growth-oriented Jupiter ruler form a mutually beneficial financial arrangement. Isn't there an Aries, Scorpio or Cancer native you want to work with? Someone fairly stable who could use your positive attitude and considerable intelligence? If your product or project is recreational, educational or entertaining, it'll be relatively easy to promote. Especially while Mercury, ruler sales and spiels, is so eager to reward prosperous Jupiter i your career midheaven.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

Talk may be cheap, but right now it's the most effective and cost-efficient way to resolve the difficulties you encounter when overly aggressive Mars conjuncts your Saturn ruler. Although the incident that ensues can hurt your partner or your nearest, dearest Moon Child, be grateful that this much anger erupts only once every two years. On the other hand, that's a lot of raw passion that you could try to direct elsewhere, say, the boudoir. Then there's always the stonewalling option, a practice you've been known to excel

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

It gets wild. Every couple of months, mainly when the sun challenges your Uranus ruler, Aquarians have to blow thei cover. So much for cool and collected, reasonable and rational, friendly and fair. You have permission from the cosmos to be as ornery, unpredictable and idiosyncratic a you want, especially after enduring the frustration and fu that the biannual Mars-Saturn conjunction piles on you. However, you'll be glad to know that you can pretty much buy your way out of whatever situation you and your love get yourselves into. Expensive, but not prohibitive.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

Money talks. Mercury in your house of finances is very busy this week, so arrange to have those conversations with as many people as you can. There's so little resistance right n that maybe something tangible, instead of the usual ephemeral bullshit, will take shape. However, understand t erratic Uranus in your sign is being tested by the sun, so there's a chance that you'll change horses midstream or co up with insurmountable conditions based on a "feeling." D you follow the money trail or trust your gut reaction?

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

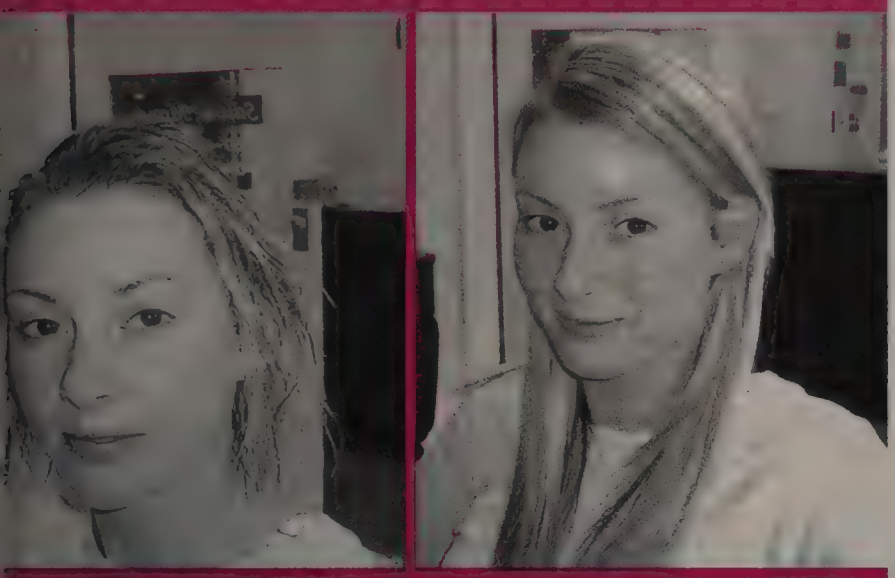
Is it yes or is it no? Do you stay or do you go? When your adventurous Mars ruler runs into restrictive Saturn this week, any progress or plans you've made could come to a abrupt halt. But Mercury is more than willing to facilitat discussions that'll get you past the roadblock. If you deci to talk it over, a compromise can be reached a lot sooner than you think. The unexpected intervention of friends a their financial assistance can also help settle a frustratin family matter and lessen your fear of imminent disaster.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

Yakkety-yak. You may find yourself in a very talkative m mainly because clever Mercury in your sign contacts practically every other planet this week. Start with the innovative idea you and a farsighted friend come up with bring it to an experienced adviser, run it past the traditio money people and only then, let yourself get carried awa imagining the enormous amount of good it'll do. For you career! What else? For humanity! But remember that because your Venus ruler is retrograde, real progress cou be very slow.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will aris over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.



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Gloria Talmantes and Lauren Marlow confronted Caesar at the Colosseum in Rome and asked, "What have the Romans ever done for us?!" OK, *besides* the aqueduct...



Rob Vacarro, Stu Sarson and Olaf Herrman sailed the British Virgin Islands, plundering and looting and saying the word "booty" a lot. Rob brought a canteen and sturdy boots, as he misheard the invitation for a "Viking trip."



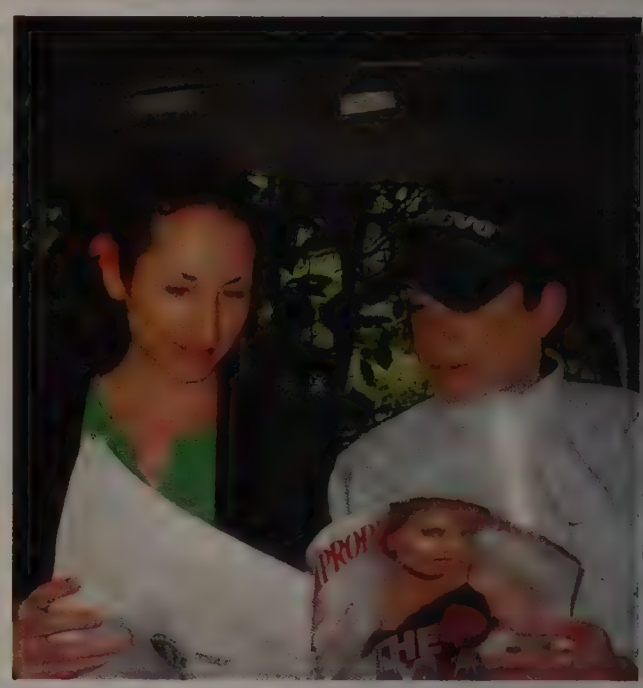
Louisiana governor Kathleen Blanco tel us that a popular pickup line for singles her state is "Can I bayou a drink?"



Bill Groth, Mitch Hallal and Charlie Sage tee it up at Coral Canyon Golf Course in St. George, Utah, where shanked balls require helicopter search and rescue.



Stephan Schrepel navigates the labyrinth at Keukenhof Gardens in Lisse, Netherlands. He was disappointed not to find David Bowie's secret castle.



If Maxine Guay and Christina Lemieux had read Fodor's *Guide to the Jungles of Brazil*, they'd have known about th pygmy headhunters who collect Volvo apparel.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Scoping out an Italian stallion-ette to drop rock on at the Procession of Unmarried Women, held June 12 in Palestrina, Italy.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned.

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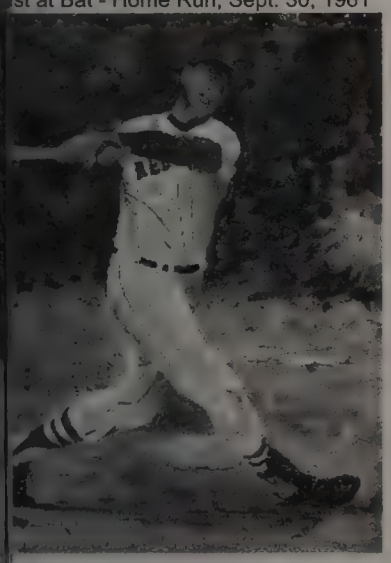
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IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Tuesday, May 4, **A Taste of Allston** was held at the **DoubleTree Guest Suites**. All proceeds from the culinary event will benefit **Allston Village Main Streets**, a neighborhood revitalizing program. Many local restaurants participated in the tasting which was sponsored by **The Improper Bostonian** and **New Balance**.







1. **Jennifer Rose**, executive director of Allston Village Main Streets, and **Mayor Thomas Menino**.
2. **Lara** and **Samara**, belly dancers from Samara Oriental Dance & Design Studio.
3. **Orlando Luis**, cook; **Chris Hart**, bar manager; and **Brian Cummings**, executive chef, all of the White Horse Tavern.

On Saturday, May 1, the **American Cancer Society** held a Kentucky Derby–themed gala called **Run for the Roses–On Track for A Cure** at the **Castle a Park Plaza**. Masters of ceremonies for the evening were Ted Wayman and Sar Underwood of **UPN 38/CBS 4**. Sponsors of the evening included **Merrill Lyn & Co.**, **Northland Investment Corp.**, **Minot Management**, **Fidelity Investments**, **Morgan Stanley** and **Institutional Equities**.

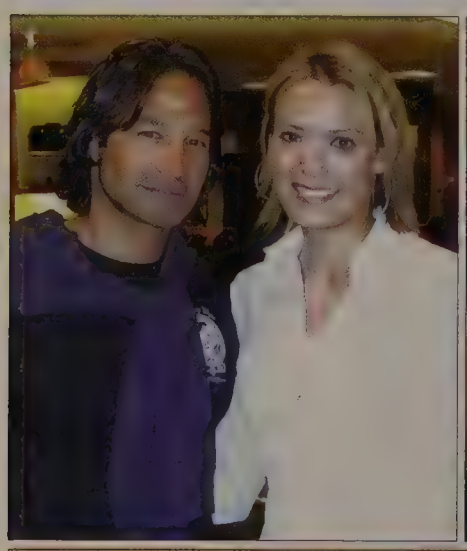






1. **Antonella** and **David Walker**, owner of David & Jewelers.
2. **Kim** and **Robert Gatof**, president and chief operating officer for Northland Investment Corp.
3. **Ted Wayman** and **Sara Underwood**, co-anchors the *Nightcast* at 10 on WSBK-TV/UPN38 and repo for CBS4 News.

On Saturday, April 24, **Aria** hosted its sixth annual Fashion Show at **Saks Fifth Avenue**.







1. **Seth Greenberg**, owner of Aria, and **Julie Pettit**, public relations and sales director for Areli Designs.
2. **Ani Ajemian**, paralegal with Stop and Shop Corporate; **Katie Greenwood**, territory manager for Dale Carnegie Training; and **Nicole Yarman**, sales representative for M.S. Walker.
3. **Kosta Grapsas**, general manager for Aria; **Joanna Roffo**, account manager for Regan Communications; and **Mitch Roberts**, controller for Aria.

On Wednesday, May 5, **Tea Party Concerts** and the **Tweeter Center** held a cocktail reception at the **Ritz-Carlton** Rooftop Ballroom to announce the 200 Tweeter Center Summer Concert Series.







1. **Jen Kelly Chambers**, director c sponsorship sales for Broadway i Boston; **Heather Frugoli**, direc sponsorship sales for FleetBostor Pavilion; and **Beth Cosimi**, dire of marketing for Tea Party Conce
2. **Mark Rosenthal**, retail sales manager for WBCN; **Mike Baez** guitarist for On the Drop; and **Br Schneckloth**, local sales manag WZLX.
3. **Kristen Apicerno**, account exe for WMJX, **Jim Fitzgibbons**, ac executive for WKLE; **Michelle Sutton**, account executive for W and **Katie Melin**, executive assi to VP of sales for Greater Media.

PHOTOS: TASTE OF ALLSTON, CARRIE WALLACE; THE CASTLE, ALLAN PINES; ARIA, JULIE KANE; RITZ ROOFTOP BALLROOM, MYKE


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Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch





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75 Chestnut *75 Chestnut St., Boston, 617-227-2175, www.75chestnut.com.* Providing regional American cuisine served in an intimate setting. Bar opens at 5pm. Dinner served from 5:30pm - 10pm.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled Portabella-Paninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1 am. AE, DC, MC, V.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2002. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Captain Fishbones **SEAFOOD, STEAKS AND MORE* 353 Cambridge St, Allston 617-783-2300 (formerly the Sports Depot).* *Monday Night Special Twin Lobster Dinner $14.99* Meet your friends at a great bar surrounded with 42" plasma screen TV's. Join us for a free appetizer special Sunday nights and Monday thru Friday from 4PM-6PM. Captain Fishbones boasts a reasonably priced menu of fresh seafood, succulent steaks, awesome burgers, pizza and a healthy variety of salads. Full menu from 11:30 A.M. to 12:30A.M. Sunday Brunch $11.99-10:00A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Plenty of free parking. You can also visit the Captain oceanside at Marina Bay, Quincy at 332 Victory Rd., 617-471-3511 www.captainfishbones.com.

Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston 617-426-3333.* Open 11am - 2am, 7days a week. Kennedy's Midtown is a cultural experience far from the maddening crowd while set in heart of it. Kennedy's serves a lunch and dinner menu of international cuisine. In the evenings they play host to some of Boston's finest Pianists who entertain with a range of tunes from Broadway to Jazz and Blues. Kennedy's embraces all the finer qualities of regal Boston and throws in a dash of old fashioned Irish Hospitality for measure.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444, Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., South Boston,617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Ned Devine's *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere inthe heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998,1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 0pm. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches. Validated parking at State Street Garage.

Science Street Café *Science Park, Boston, 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out Boston's newest nightspot - The Science Street Café at the Museum of Science. Try our out-of-this world signature martinis, gourmet appetizers and decadent desserts - all while listening to live music. Perfect with an Omni film or the new exhibit, Einstein. Open 6-10pm. Parking available.

Solas *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11 am - 2 am 7 days a week.

Strega *379 Hanover St., Boston 617-523-8481 www.stregaristorante.com.* A fine dining experience in Boston's historic North End. Enjoy our cozy, romantic atmosphere, splendid wine list and savory Italian dishes. Strega buzzes with a mix of casual tourists, local residents and love-struck couples. The menu offers something for everyone. Traditional dishes like the gnocchi are anything but simple, featuring flavor just as robust as that found in intricate dishes. Find yourself in the company of celebrities, including owner Nick Varano's pals from of the Sopranos. Available for corporate and private functions.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

BARS/CLUBS

Beer Specialty

Boston Beer Works *112 Canal St., near the Fleet Center, 617-896-BEER, 61 Brookline Ave., across from Fenway Park, 617-536-BEER and 278 Derby St., in Historic Salem, 978-745-BEER.* Boston's oldest and largest restaurant brewery with 3 locations! Bold American Food. Award Winning Beer. 15 microbrewed beers always on tap. 16 American wines by the glass. 15 championship billiards tables at our Canal Street location. Complete party planning capabilities. Private Rooms. Customizeable menus. Lunch. Dinner. Late Night. Always a good time. Check out the BIGGER and BOLDER menu.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exotic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

Big City - pool hall, pizza kitchen, Beer Bar *138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8pm, free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 & 2003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 10pm. Live DJs 7 nights a week, dancing with Ibiza's DJ Marco, resident DJs DJLittles and Johnny C til 2 am. Join us in our new private VIP room! Validated parkir at State Street Garage.

Clubs

Felt *533 Washington St., Boston, 617.350.5555* Fe is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, rig next door to the Opera House; in the heart of th buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offe ing sophisticated billiards, NewYork style Lounge, hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinn while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while li tening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The pe fect setting for a romantic dinner for two or a big birt day bash. The hip atmosphere of DJ's and dancin combined with the delicious entrees is the perfe blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Conter porary cusine by Chef Ben Stevens.

Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston, 617-48 7799.* Located in Boston's trendy Theater Distric Pravda 116 is a chic bar and club. DJs 5:30pm 10:30pm keep the energy level high. Bar 5:30pm-2a and dance club 10:30pm - 2am Wednesday-Saturda Credit cards accepted AE, CB, DC, MC, V.

Stadium – Clubhouse *232 Old Colony Ave., Sou Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Stadium Clubhouse is brand new, upscale nightclub featuring two bars, hardwood dance floor and parking. An exciting yet r laxed 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety music and beautiful people crowding the dance flo on Friday & Saturday nights. An ideal place for yo next bachelor, bachelorette or birthday party.

Club Q Boston *25 Union St., Boston, 617-74 2121.* Open 9pm - 2am Wednesday through Satu day. What nightlife in Boston has been waiting for, th state of the art Nightclub in the heart of Faneuil Hall a tracts a stylish and eclectic crowd. Open Wednesd through Saturday Club Q hosts Boston's top DJs spi ning Hip Hop, House and Top 40's. With two bars, thr VIP areas and pool tables, Club Q is the place to see ar be seen. Credit cards accepted.

Comedy

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Plac Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyconnectio boston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the hea of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a we and offers the best in local and national comedy. Du ing the week, the nationally renowned club offe some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "Th Wildman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. Thursday nights, Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypn tist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekend this is the only place to see the biggest names in cor edy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Ch Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lope

Dance Bars

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-946* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escap in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-a dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands dow stairs!

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 ww theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. Mingle. Let yo hair down; see and be seen on the big screen. Simp the hippest way to spend a night of all-out fun Boston's Financial District. Come after work. Come dance. Come to go wild with your friends. There's a ways something exciting happening – and you nev know who you'll bump into. Join us and experien what the buzz is all about.

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 617-22 2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainme and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes America and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketpla Boston,617-725-1051.* Winner of The Improp Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002



003 Boston's Best awards. This restaurant/ night-lub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of ool. Come enjoy a delicious meal and martini. Casual ndoor & outdoor dining until 10pm. Live DJs 7 nights a veek, dancing with Ibiza's DJ Marco, and resident DJs JLittles and Johnny C til 2 am. Join us in our new pri-ate VIP room! Validated parking at State Street arage.

rish

HE BLACK ROSE *160 State St., Boston, 617-742-2286.* oston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! onsidered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the enu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish usic nightly.

ENNESSY'S OF BOSTON *25 Union St., Boston, 617-742-121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil all serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish raditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine st, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. njoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop ands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Pur-eyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' ubs Fleet.

HE GRAND CANAL *57 Canal St., Boston, 617-523-112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire f John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full interna-onal menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The rand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features oston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, eltics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish ub Experience."

REEN BRIAR *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, afford-ble food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, he Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for ternational sports viewing and live entertainment. ve music five nights a week, featuring local bands on eekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday ight and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hos-itable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent lace to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social atherings and small business meetings. Open 11 am - am 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and aturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

HE GREEN DRAGON *11 Marshall St., Boston, 617-367-055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this fa-orite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant ocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serv-g lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish break-st every Sat. & Sun. from 11 am to 3pm. The tavern pasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled rewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and ntertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

INVARA *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At ie Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, ie food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". 's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub avor. Live international sports viewing via satellite in-udes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare enu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. t the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. pen 11 am - 2 am 7 days a week.

R. DOOLEY'S BOSTON TAVERN *77 Broad St., Boston, 17-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the nancial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting ace for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub ith over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open ily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through un. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

eneral

HE ALLEY *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. ww.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

AQUA *120 Water St., Boston, 617-720-4900.* Boston's newest place to be seen is now open in the heart of the Financial District. Whether relaxing with a martini in one of our cozy booths, sipping a margarita on our roof deck or watching your hometown favorites on our high definition plasma TV. Aqua has what you're looking for after work and late night with our resident and guest DJs spinning your favorite mixes through our state of the art sound system all night long.

THE BLACK RHINO *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

BOSTON ROCKS *245 Quincy Market Place Boston, 617-726-1110 www.boston-rocks.net. 21+.* Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St., 617- 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2003. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

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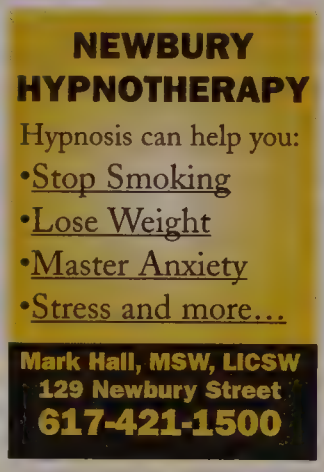
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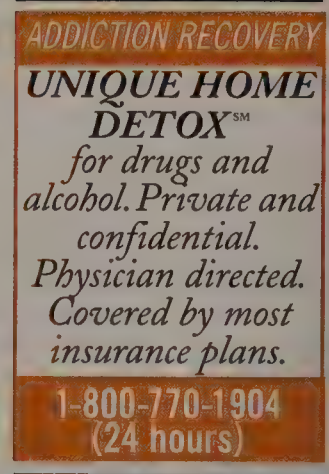
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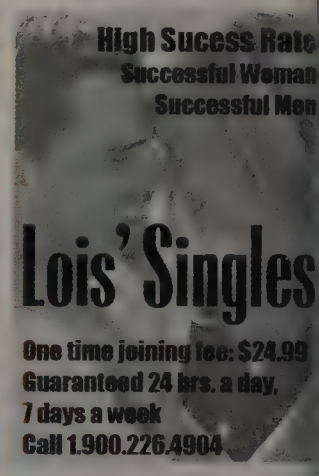
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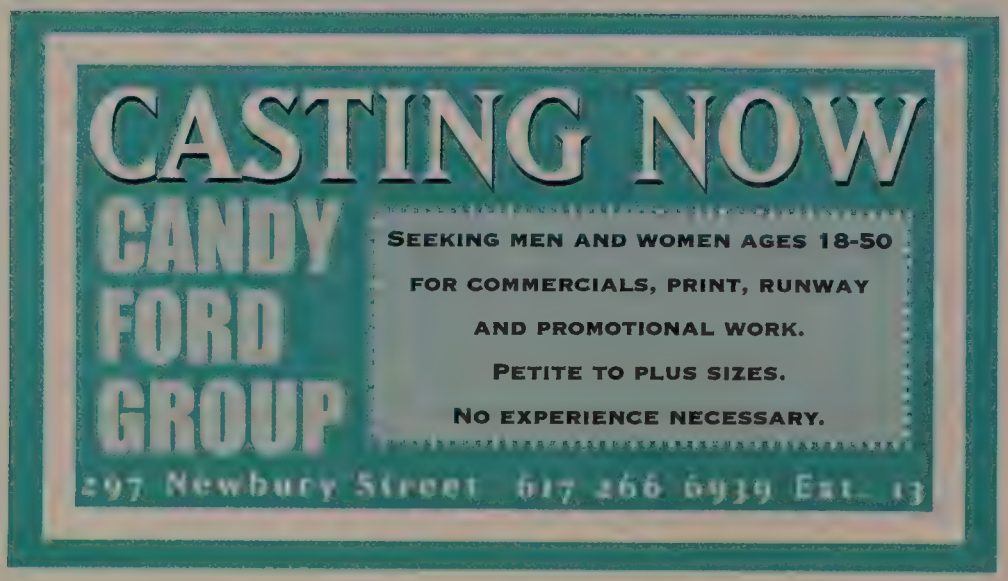
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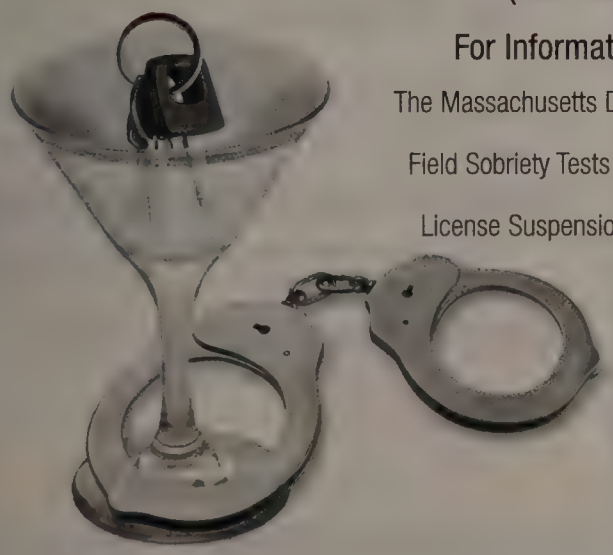
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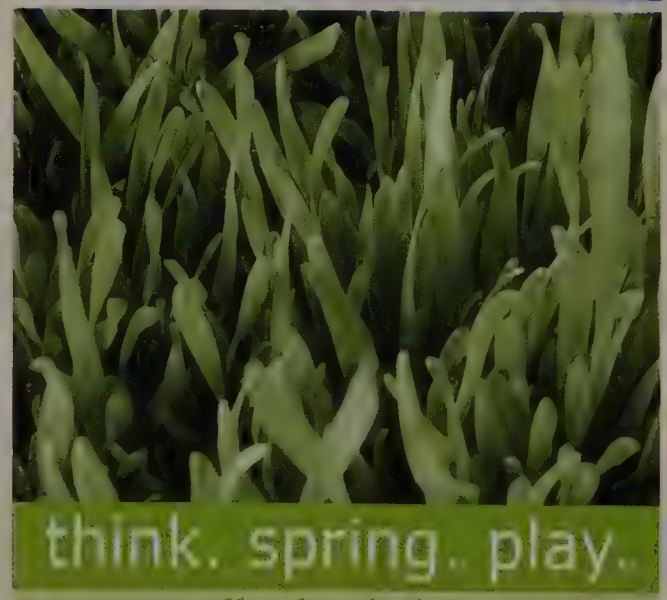
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LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF













At the ICA, top: David Drubner, Rachael Goldfarb and Gideon Lester. Middle row: Cynthia Weiner, Peter Wasserman and Phyllis Mack; Karen and John Rotenberg. Bottom row: Mario Russo and Maggie Gold-Seelig; Trevania and John Henderson; Tia Scalcione and Chris McCarthy

ALWAYS READ THE INVITATION...

Despite the party's construction theme—"Caution" tape everywhere, waiters in hard hats, gravel, and Tonka truck centerpieces—the one sign that was unnecessary at the **Institute of Contemporary Art**'s spring fund-raiser was "No Parking on the Dance Floor."

Held at the **Cyclorama**, the **Sapphire Necklace Gala** began with a cocktail hour that got everyone sufficiently lubricated, and the booty-shaking began even before the first course was served, with guests reluctant to leave the dance floor for dinner.

Duly noted among the crowd: such august personages as Fidelity honcha **Abigail Johnson**; her brother, **Edward**; his stunning wife, **Allison**; professional raffle prize winners **Shelly** and **Ofer Nemirovsky**; American Repertory Theatre scamp **Gideon Lester**; hair deity **Mario Russo**; the beyond-suave **Juan Enriquez** and his enchanting other half, **Mary Schneider Enriquez**; contemporary-art collector **Sheryl Marshall**; one-woman Mardi Gras **Maura Connolly**; the impossibly glamorous **Jennifer Winn**; dashing Bulgarian intellectual **Kyril Alexandrov**; prominent Provincetown couple **Chris McCarthy** and **Tia Scalcione**; bright young things **Alex** and **Lisa Pierpont**; short-story writer and Park Avenue princess **Cynthia Weiner**; and the inexhaustible **Rachael** and **Andy Goldfarb**, to name only a few.

Dinner was delicious, the live auction raised oodles of money for the ICA, and the band kept everyone dancing until the cows were way past their curfew.





Overheard at the bar: "When someone asks me what I do, I usually say, 'I'm a piano player in a whorehouse.'"

However, the evening's funniest moment was purely unintentional: One well-known couple arrived noticeably late and noticeably underdressed, sat down with friends and ate dessert, and then sheepishly snuck out after realizing the party they were supposed to be at was around the corner.

POPS ROCKS...

Opening Night at Pops never fails to delight, especially since it means that the lilacs are in bloom and the threat of a major snowstorm is past, so the person sitting next to you in **Symphony Hall** is less likely to smell like wet wool.

This year was no exception, and the celebration began with a cocktail reception and seated dinner for major benefactors at the **Copley Plaza**.

Puckish conductor **Keith Lockhart** (marking his 10th year as maestro) put in a brief appearance before rushing off to get ready, while a less harried crowd sipped and chatted and tied on the feedbag. Among them: PR giant **Larry Weber** and his lovely wife, **Dawn**; board chair **Peter Brooke**; mega Symphony supporters **Chet** and **Farla Krentzman**; globe-trotting socialites **Lee** and **Cokie Perry**; blonde bombshell **Julie Hatfield**; the always-colorful **Doris Yaffe**, and others of an equally glossy nature.

Meanwhile, back at Symphony Hall, other first-nighters sipped champagne and ate boxed suppers while exchanging pleasantries about where they plan to spend the summer. Present and accounted for: broadcasting eminences **Frank Avruch**, **John Henning** and **Jack Williams**; the startlingly sexy **Susan Callendar**; uber-philanthropists **John** and **Diddy Culli-nane**; Back Bay socialites **Bert** and **Ro alie Cohen**, and others too numerous mention.

The concert, which featured an appea ance by singer **Art Garfunkel**, as well as Russian violin prodigy named **Euger Ugorski**, was the expected confectio and—as always—the balloon drop duri the finale turned the audience of otherwi sedate adults into a bunch of boistero children. That, probably more than an thing else, is the surest sign that spring h arrived in Boston. iB

At Opening Night at Pops, from top: Bert and Rosalie Cohen; Bette and Frank Avruch; Chet Krentzman and Keith Lockhart; Doris Yaffe and Julie Hatfield; Irwin and Barbara Brilliant







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TONY SCARPETTA

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Photographed for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by
Joe Greene, www.joegreenephoto.com

Hair: **Claudia Acevedo for Mitchell John Salon;** pan: **available at Crate and Barrel**

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR



EATING WELL

For the cover of this Summer Dining issue, we had a bunch of concepts featuring Michael Schlow, and being a good sport he cheerfully submitted to all of them. He juggled vegetables, waded in a kiddie pool with a fishing pole, and let us wrap him in a giant fishing net, among other undignified poses. We had a feeling he'd be game—after all, this is the James Beard award winner who last year welcomed guests to the opening of his most recent venture, Great Bay, wearing a yellow fisherman's slicker and hat and appeared at another event dressed as Moses.

It was Schlow's sense of fun we were trying to convey, but in the end the simple image of smiling chef with pan seemed to capture him best. Schlow's down-to-earth personality comes through in his interview with Jonathan Soroff (on page 16). To appreciate his love for great food, head to one of his three restaurants (the other two are Radius and Via Matta).

This issue offers plenty of ideas for enjoying food this summer—from a guide to the city's brunches to a look at the surprising frozen treats local chefs are adding to their menus as the weather heats up. Are your taste buds ready?

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com



I JUST RETURNED FROM A WEEKEND IN SOUTH BEACH, AND THE ESTIMATE OF SPENDING $500 PER DAY IS RIGHT ON.

N. FICARRA
QUINCY

MIAMI VICES

I was highly amused by Ezra's Miami column ("Ciao, Baby," May 26), having just returned from a weekend in South Beach myself. His estimate of spending $500 per day is right on! I ordered a couple of bottles of water while lounging poolside at the Loews. The waitress brought it over all nice and cold in an ice bucket...and handed me a bill for $20! You think I'd learn from that? No, I needed more. Two days later, I ordered two frozen mudslides for a measly $28! I have to admit they hit the spot though. And talk about door drama. Luckily I was with three other girls all weekend, so it didn't prove to be a problem...except the one night we tried to get in with a guy in tow. Forget it: They wouldn't let him in!

And that didn't even compare to the door drama at Bed. Apparently they're open only for dinner reservations until 11:30 (on a Monday night!). Naturally, when we got inside it was empty and there was nowhere to sit except the beds—which we weren't allowed to sit on without a dinner reservation!

Good grief! But I have to admit that these little bumps were all very funny to me. I had a blast in SoBe and can't wait to go back!

—N. FICARRA
Quincy

I read Ezra's story on Miami in the last IMPROPER and thought it was great. Too funny! I just got back from a bachelor party in Miami, and the only place we could consistently get into was the Clevelander! Thanks, and keep up the good work.

—DOUG DRENIK
Natick

SUPER!

At first when I saw the picture of the Supermercado Brasileiro (Mopsy, April 28), I was excited that you guys took the time to go into one of my favorite neighborhood joints. Soon after, I was horrified to see that you referred to the *coxinha* as "a kind of lasagna." Dear friends: The coxinha is a teardrop-shaped, fried finger-food snack with a meaty filling, or about as far as you can get from lasagna. Maybe you are mistaking the "lasagna" for something at the adjacent Papa John's.

While you're at it, quit the essentializing of Brazilian culture by using the stale image of "thongs" and your voyeuristic description of "smoochy sexiness." I won't even get into the silliness of describing palm hearts as "aristocratically silky."

—ALEX D'URSO
Somerville

CORRECTION

The bathing suit on page 29 of the May 26 issue is by Fisco and is $110 at Gipore.

CONTRIBUTOR

ALICIA ABELL



Since getting married a year ago, Alicia Abell has faced many of the same challenges she writes about in "Eat Drink Man Woman," on page 20. "My husband thinks cheese should be the basis of every meal," she says. "Once we started living together, my cholesterol skyrocketed!"

A former writer for *Washingtonian* magazine in Washington, D.C., Abell is the author of two books and a regular contributor to *U.S. News & World Report*.

SUMMER FUN COVER IMAGE: BILL STREICHER

Tell Us What You Think

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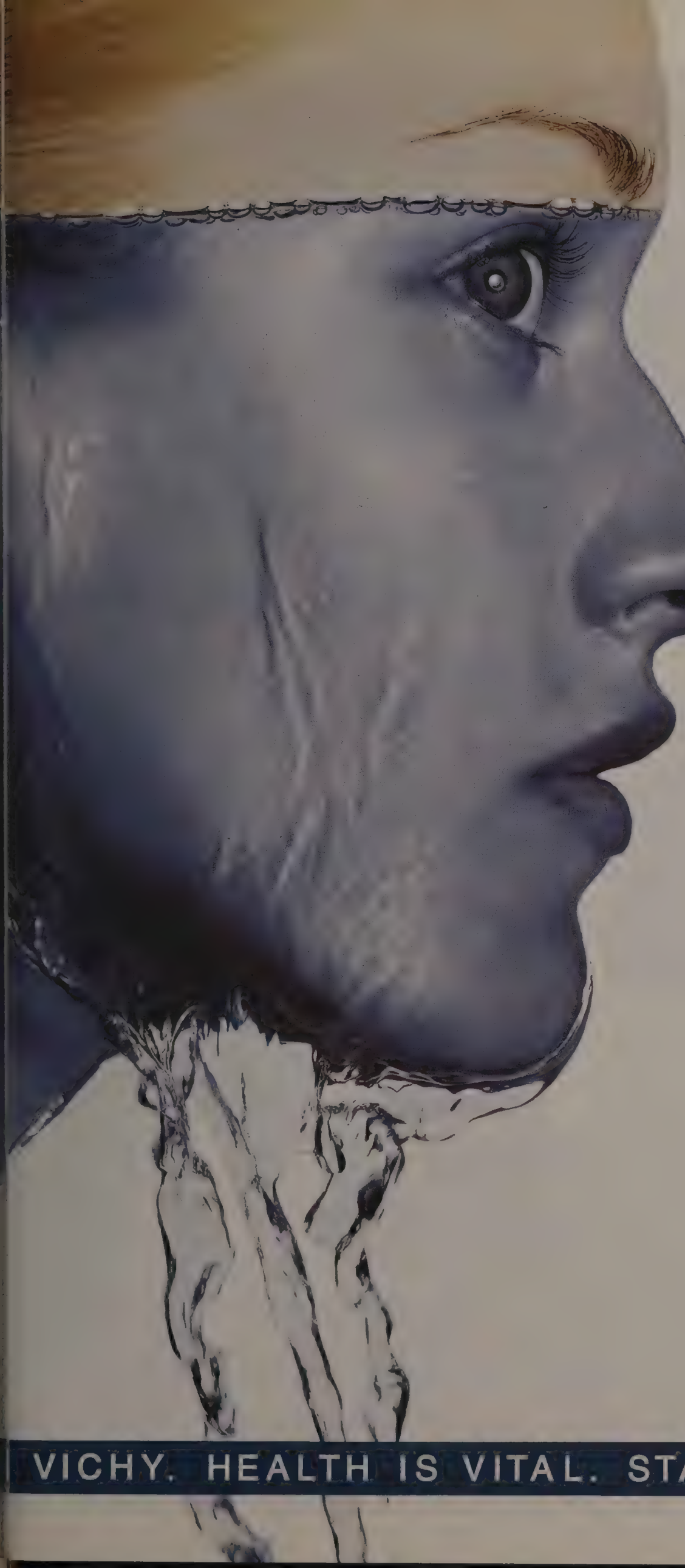
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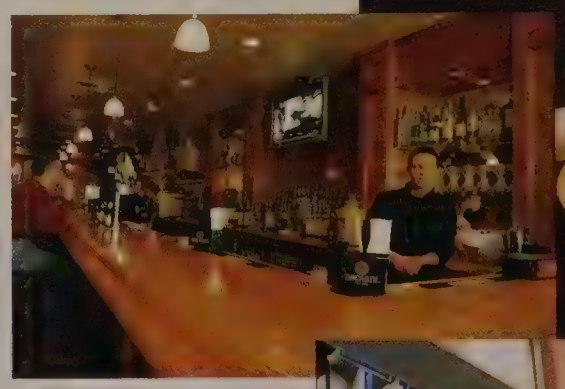
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new in town

HOUSE PARTY

The rejuvenation of West Broadway in South Boston continues with the 6 House, a new bar located next to the new Teriyaki House restaurant and across the street from new luxury condos. Are you sensing a trend here? "Southie's changing," says 6 House general manager Jamie Walsh. "A lot of friends I grew up with in Southie and Dorchester come here, but we also get a lot of the new South Boston customers too. Southie reminds me of how certain neighborhoods have evolved in Manhattan."



The 6 House (named after the old Sixth Precinct police station on D Street) aims to bring in that broad clientele with the obligatory plasma screens (four of them), a long bar seating 20-plus, and a menu that includes yuppie munchies like fried calamari ($7) and a chicken masala sandwich ($7) as well as traditional staples like a gigantic, 10-ounce burger ($7) and a steak tip sandwich ($8). In our opinion, Southie is to steak tips what the North End is to pasta, and the 6 House's measure up. Veal scallopini and veal marsala, at $14, are the most expensive items on the menu.

The drink list runs the gamut from draft beers to specialty cocktails like the coconut martini, a sweet mango-and-rum concoction served in a coconut



The 6 House's chicken marsala with handmade cheese ravioli

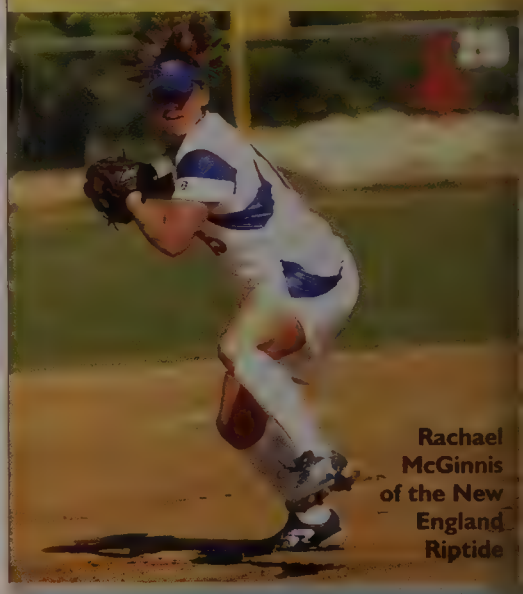


perched on a martini glass. The chocolate martini combines Bailey's, Kahlua and Stoli Vanil vodka in a glass dipped in Godiva chocolate and garnished with a strawberry, and it's tasty enough that guys might want to order an extra, for, you know, their dates. "Guys come in with their girlfriends, taste theirs, then order another one," Walsh says. Another proper summer drink is the mojito martini, which would be best enjoyed at the front of the room on a nice day, when the large windows are opened up to the sidewalk. *28 West Broadway, South Boston (617-268-6697).* — *Ezra Dyer*

sports

RIPPIN' IT UP

Unfazed by the demise of the WUSA women's pro soccer league and the well-publicized travails of the WNBA, the New England Riptide women's pro softball team plays its first home game against the Sacramento Sunbirds June 16, at Martin Field in Lowell. The Riptide join the Sunbirds, the New York/New Jersey Juggernaut, the Texas Thunder, the Akron Racers and the Arizona Heat in the inaugural season of the National Pro Fastpitch league. Riptide players hail from all over the country and include former Berkeley star pitcher Jocelyn Forest and two-time Division-I All-American Megan Matthews. Can the Riptide outlast their soccer-playing counterparts, the Boston Breakers? Time will tell. Go to www.neriptide.com for tickets. —*Ezra Dyer*



Rachael McGinnis of the New England Riptide

inner view

BARON BAPTISTE



Locally speaking, if anyone's to blame for yoga's cultural blitzkrieg in recent years, all fingers should point to Baron Baptiste. Five years ago the yoga master/marketing genius opened the Baron Baptiste Power Yoga Institute in Cambridge. To the newcomer, Baptiste's vinyasa practice probably sounds like torture—bending into pretzel-like poses for 90 minutes in a room heated to 90 degrees (and yes, there's om-ing). But most who try it leave converted, and a second studio in Boston is evidence of Baptiste Power Yoga's cult-like following. On June 17, in honor of its fifth birthday, the Cambridge studio offers all classes for $5 (down from $12), and proceeds benefit the Cam Neely Foundation for Cancer Care. (Neely is a Power Yoga aficionado.) Here Baptiste talks about his yoga and its future in the mainstream.

IB: *What's the biggest misconception people have about yoga?*

BB: That you have to be kind of a new-ager or crunchy or super flexible, or that you need to become a vegetarian, or that you're basically just kind of weird.

IB: *How do you know which type of yoga is right for you?*

BB: It's good to sample. A lot of times it comes down to a teacher that you connect with or trust, that you feel safe and challenged in a class. If you try different styles, it's important with yoga that you give it a chance. You might not connect with a teacher, but the style might be right.

IB: *More so than other sports and exercise, yoga seems to be a way of life. Why do you think that is?*

BB: I think the phenomenon behind it is that it kind of finds you. You might walk into a yoga class thinking that you want to relieve stress or tone your abs, buns and thighs, and you discover something on a more holistic level. You feel mentally more clear and focused, and that kind of experience is very personal to people. A lot of times people are like, I've been wrestling with this habit for years and I just kind lost my taste, my compulsion for it. It can be very freeing, and with that kind of transformation, there's a tendency to share it, to share the love, so to speak.

IB: *How have your studios changed over the past five years?*

BB: I think when I first came to Boston and Cambridge, yoga practice was very stereotypical, and I think it fit more with a niche crowd who had already been initiated into yoga and holistic living. People who were into yoga started bringing their friends or family who might not be open to trying yoga. On that level, it started growing into a more mainstream crowd. We have firemen, postal workers, professors, students, politicians—people who traditionally would think that yoga is not for them at all. And when you get those mainstream people and they start sharing it, it just mushrooms.

IB: *What do you think the next five years have in store for you and your studios?*

BB: I think yoga, in general, is not going away. It's only going to spread more and more into the American lifestyle. I see it morphing and coming out of the trendy phase that it's been in. All the curiosity seekers came to check it out and they stay or they go. And if they stay, they become more educated and it raises the excellence of the style and presentation.—*Jessica Iredale*



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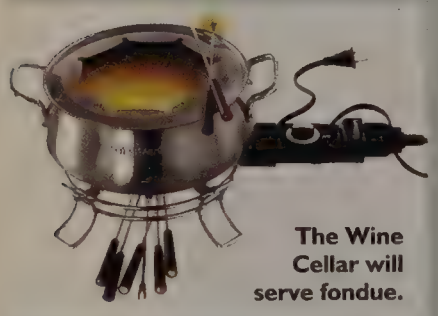
tidbits

I SCREAM!



Brigham On!... In honor of its 90th birthday, Boston-based Brigham's invited its fans to submit recipes and names for a new ice cream flavor. And it comes as no surprise that the winning flavor, which was just announced, has a Red Sox theme. Mary Kenny of Plymouth won a year's supply of ice cream, a freezer to keep it in and an ice cream party for 90 people for her idea for Reverse the Curse ice cream (a vanilla-based concoction with fudge swirls, chocolate-covered peanuts and chocolate-covered caramel cups). The limited-edition flavor hit major supermarkets throughout New England in mid May and already has the Sox stamp of approval. "We did a delivery to Fenway Park," says Brigham's Susan Butler, "and the response has been really great."

Dipping Sticks... If there's a dining concept that's underdone in this city, it's fondue. In fact, you'd be hard-pressed to find many restaurants (besides Anthem, with its yummy spinach and artichoke fondue, and Les Zygomates with its chocolate version) that offer it at all. But in two weeks, you can get your fondue fix at a new Mass. Ave. eatery called the Wine Cellar. According to general manager Thierry Charles, the menu will offer the fondue triumvirate—meat, cheese and chocolate—in more than 25 varieties. There will also be European appetizers—like assiette charcuterie with chicken galantine, rillettes and vegetarian terrine; and salad niçoise—and more than 600 wines. *30 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-236-0080). www.bostoncellar.com.*



The Wine Cellar will serve fondue.

In the Kitchen... The health-conscious purveyors of gourmet fare at Lucy's in Brookline recently welcomed new executive chef Eric Bogardus. If you've been at all hesitant to dine at an establishment that creates all dishes sans butter and cream, now's the time to overcome your reservations. Bogardus joins the team at Lucy's straight from a two-year gig as executive sous chef at Lock-Ober and, prior to that, Pignoli. Well-seasoned, indeed. *242 Harvard St., Brookline (617-232-5829). —E.H. and J.I.*

this just in

SISTER ACT 2



This summer, two local pairs of sisters are looking to make it big with two new business ventures. First, Belmont/Brighton–based Kara and Jenna LaReau have created what could be the biggest thing in children's books since Thomas the Tank Engine went into rehab and ended up on *Nickelodeon: True Hollywood Storytime*. Their fun-loving twin sock monkeys, Rocko and Spanky, hit shelves May 15 with *Rocko and Spanky Go to a Party*, the first in what will be a series of books for Harcourt.

Meanwhile, Quincy sisters Christina and Lisa Trifone have made life that much sweeter for chocoholics with their new business, the Chocolate Dive, which creates chocolate fountains for events. The giant structures overflow with 22 lbs. of melted Belgian chocolate (into which party-goers dunk cookies, fruit and other goodies), enough to feed 200–250 people. For $450, the sisters set up a fountain and take the remnants away. Oompa Loompas not included. *(617-823-0468).*



The chocolate fountain

sam says

SWEAT PROOF

Though sweating is actually good for your body (since it releases toxins), it can also be a nuisance. About three years ago, I heard about celebrities getting Botox injections under their arms to solve this little problem. To check out the procedure, I sent a friend with an excessive-sweating problem to Dr. Michael Kaminer at SkinCare Physicians of Chestnut Hill. After a quick examination, Kaminer injected my friend with 40 shots of Botox under each arm. The whole procedure took about 25 minutes, and was relatively painless, according to our subject. It took a week for the treatment to take effect, but now she simply does not sweat under her arms. The results last anywhere from six to 12 months, and the treatment costs around $1,500. *244 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-731-1600). www.skincarephysicians.net. —Samantha House*

improper reports

KIDDING AROUND

Even though three month vacations are a thing of the past, you can feel like a kid again anytime by participating in some silly juvenile activities. Here are a few fun ideas.



*On your mark, get set, go! Fasten your seatbelt and get ready for a ride because at **F1 Boston** you can race go-carts around two indoor tracks. No experience is necessary, but you must be at least 18 years of age and a licensed driver. *290 Wood Rd., Braintree (781-848-2300), www.f1boston.com.*

*If you want to get messy, you can play with paintball guns at these two facilities: **Randolph Paintball** *410 South St., Randolph (781-986-2255), www.randolphpaintball.com*; and **Ultimate Paintball Indoor Challenge** *356 South St., Whitman (866-513-2098), www.paintballhotline.com.*

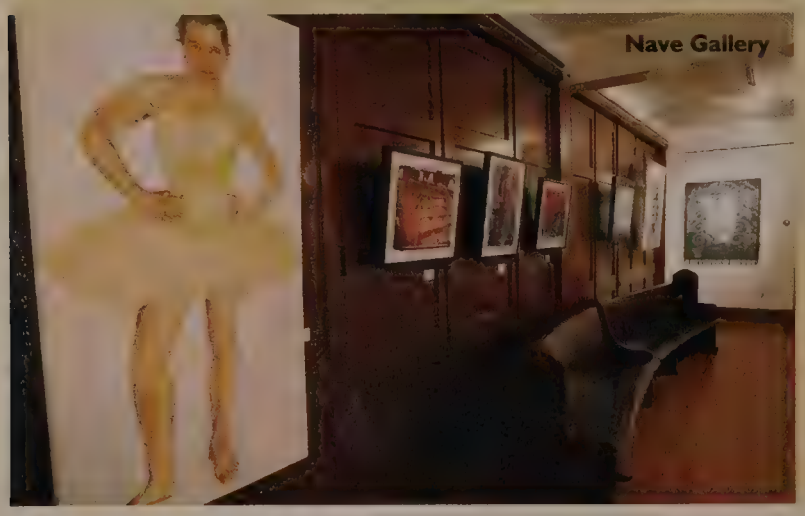
*Trade in your shoes for a pair of skates at **Chez-Vous Rollerskating Rink.** *11 Rhoades St., Dorchester (617-825-6877) www.chezvous-boston.com.*

*Remember playing tag with your friends? For a game of laser tag you can go to the **Good Time Emporium** *30 Assembly Square Dr., Somerville (617-628-5559), www.goodtimeemporium.com*; or **Lazer Zone** *330 N. Main St., Randolph (781-961-3300) and 416 Boston Post Road East, Marlborough (508-303-9900), www.lazerzone.net. —Kim Farrington*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Art for the Masses... After months of planning, the Nave Gallery, Art-Somerville's latest project, swung open its doors last month with a ribbon cutting ceremony/pancake breakfast. The bona fide gallery is set in a most unusual space—the Clarendon Hill Presbyterian Church. The non-profit group Art-Somerville helped the idea come together with the support of pastor Karl Gustafson, who volunteered the space within the church. "I really feel the church and arts are linked, and we wanted to support the Somerville arts community," Gustafson says. Exhibitions, with rotating guest curators, are expected to change every six to eight weeks, and the space will always feature the work of local artists. *155 Powderhouse Blvd., Somerville (617-625-4823). www.artsomerville. org.*



Mighty Mighty Bustonian... The Bustonian guys are at it again. Their second party bus, the Mighty Bustonian, improves on the original with an even louder stereo, a club-style lighting system with more than 800 color combinations, plush custom-made seats, a six-foot dance floor and the crowning touch, an "entertainment pole," which in some circles is also known as a stripper pole. Next time you climb aboard this bus, don't forget to bring along some dollar bills. *(866-462-8746).*



Pooch's Paradise... Has Rover been a really good boy lately? Think Spud deserves a little spoiling? The latest in the pampering-your-pup craze is Yankee Dog Retreat, a new all-inclusive luxury boutique that tends to dogs' physical and emotional needs. On a YDR, your four-legged friend is treated to everything from leisurely walks and gourmet meals to a one-hour spa visit (yes, a spa) which includes a thorough teeth brushing, a coat brushing and an herbal massage. Prices range from $40 for a basic overnight stay to $250 for a luxury weekend getaway. *1 Peabody St., North Reading (617-710-8810).*

Battle of Bulge... It's been far too long since we've had the chance to write about a good, clean, old-fashioned dance-off. Actually in this case, good and clean may not apply. On June 11 at 8:30 pm, the Palace's Male Encounter men will get down and dirty, competing against the Hard Body Exotics in the second Battle of the Bods. (Encounter defeated the Savage Men of New York in the inaugural event in April.) Each group of dancers will showcase their best moves in a competition titled "Best Male Revue" in New England. Reservations are recommended. *1500 Broadway St., Saugus (781-321-1660). —E.D., E.H., J.I. and Rich Levine*

Got scoop?

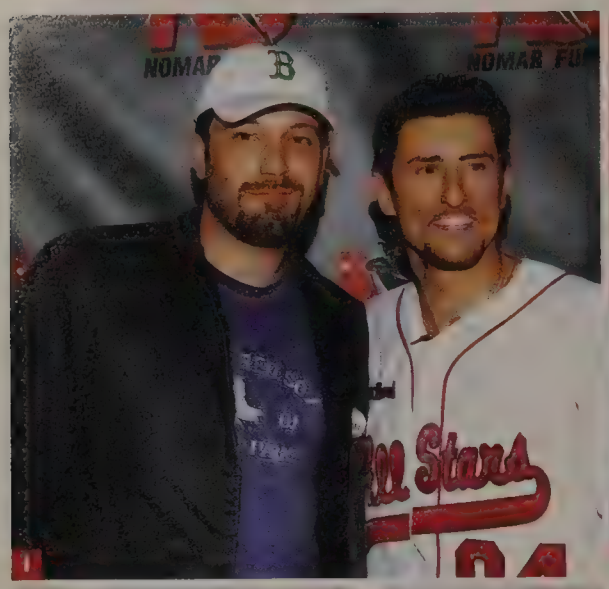
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PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY



















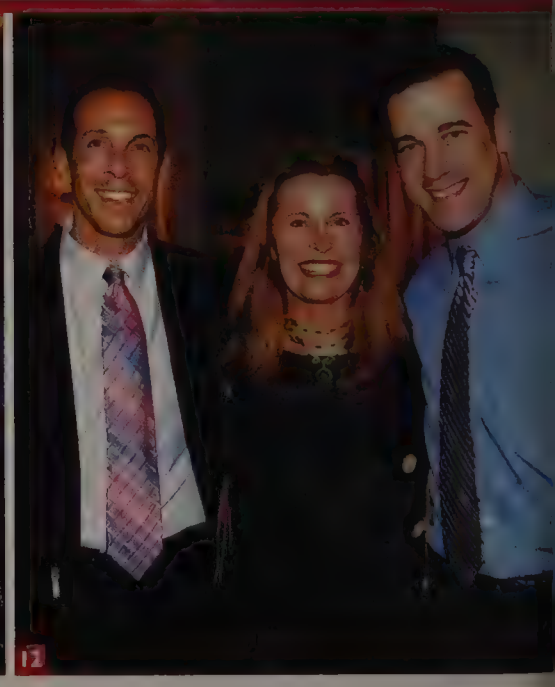
The Fifth Annual Nomar Bowl, a celebrity benefit bowling tournament, was held May 24 at Town Line Ten Pin in Malden. Boston Red Sox shortshop Nomar Garciaparra hosted the event and was joined by celebrities including actors Ben Affleck, Mike O'Malley and Seth Myers. Other attendees included Super Bowl and Stanley Cup winners, as well as many members of the Boston Red Sox. Proceeds from the event benefit five local charities chosen for their promotion of five core values of the Nomar 5 Fund: family, education, sportsmanship, citizenship and teamwork.

1. Actor **Ben Affleck**, and Red Sox shortstop **Nomar Garciaparra**.
2. Red Sox infielder **Kevin Millar** and his wife, **Geana**.
3. Governor **Mitt Romney** and his wife, **Ann**.
4. Red Sox outfielder **Johnny Damon** and his fiancée, **Michelle Mangan**.
5. Patriots guard **Joe Andruzzi** and his wife, **Jen**.
6. Red Sox manager **Terry Francona** and Red Sox general manager **Theo Epstein**.
7. Patriots wide receiver **Troy Brown**.
8. The Coors twins, **Elaine** and **Diane Klimaszewski**.
9. *Saturday Night Live* star **Seth Myers**.

Victory Programs, an alcoholism and substance abuse treatment provider, hosted its annual fund-raiser, Reflections, May 20 at the Park Plaza Hotel. More than 400 party-goers attended the dinner and silent auction. Randy Price of WHDH-TV and Mary Richardson of WCVB-TV hosted the event, and the Blue Man Group and Tony award–winning actress Elaine Stritch provided entertainment. More than $250,000 was raised for Victory Programs.







10. **Lia Pepe**, dental hygienist for Medford Dental Associates, and **Jamie McKay**, general manager for Boch Honda in Norwood.
11. **Mary Richardson**, co-anchor of WCVB-TV's *Chronicle*; **Stan Leven**, senior producer for *Chronicle*; and **Jan Quiram**, consultant for Victory Programs.
12. **Jonathan Scott**, president and executive director of Victory Programs; **April Kramer**, event chairperson (and wife of Aerosmith's Joey Kramer); and **Tom Fiske**, owner of T. Benjamin Fiske Fine Art Gallery in Milton.

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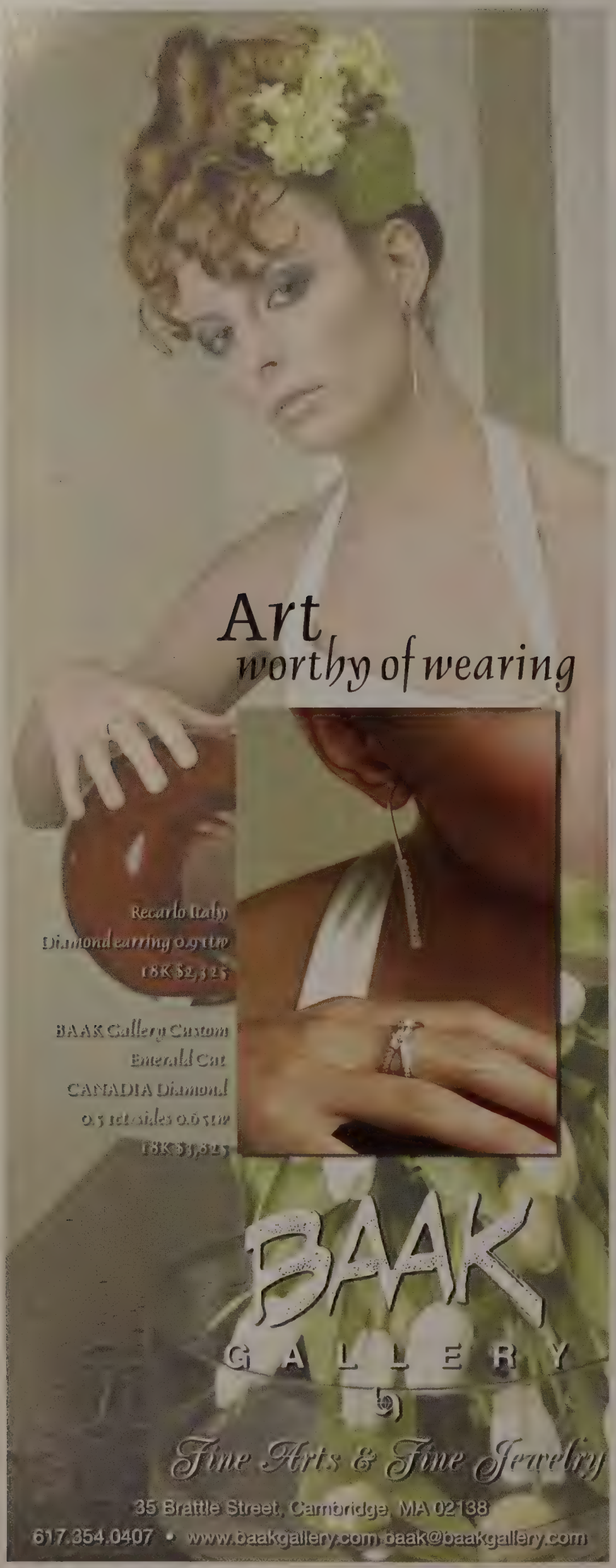
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ezra

BY EZRA DYER



REVVED UP

Mazda Rev It Up proves that I'm an excellent driver. Sort of like Rain Man.

It was my friend Burke's idea to enter Mazda's Rev It Up program when it came to town in May. For $40, Rev It Up gives you some driving instruction, followed by the chance to take two timed laps in a Mazda 3 on a twisty race course set up at the Weymouth Naval Air Station. Seven of us signed up, and the e-mail trash-talking commenced.

"You're so slow, you should leave now," I wrote to Burke. "You're so slow, you're going to get your race instruction from a Shriner. They're going to measure your laps in sea turtle life spans. Mazda's going to start a special program for you called Give It Up." Burke replied that I'd be too worried about keeping my combover in place to concentrate on driving. Burke's friend Dan chimed in with, "Speed is my mistress and she'll be riding with me on the 24th," which would have been a better boast if the race hadn't been on the 23rd.

The day of the competition, Clay earned a Did Not Finish before we even left Boston, since he was without his wallet and driver's license. There's a story behind why he didn't have his wallet, but it's a little embarrassing and he asked me not to write about it. So let's just say he got beat up by a transvestite hooker and move on.

When we arrived at the event and picked up our registration badges, I noticed Murph's said "Fun" and mine said "Pro." Murph explained that there were four competition classes based on driving experience, with Fun at the bottom and Pro at the top. I didn't know this because I'd let Burke sign me up, the dick. Now I'd be competing against the elite drivers while everyone else was timed against the dubs. To get some extra practice, I wandered over to the Beat the Crap out of Some Mazdas Center.

The Beat the Crap out of Some Mazdas Center (or, as Mazda likes to call it, the "Mazda Drive Center") was a separate track where you could take Mazda's other vehicles for a test drive. I don't think you were actually supposed to drive as fast as you could at the Mazda Drive Center, but a stallion like myself doesn't take slow for an answer. Thus, Clay and I climbed into a lowly base-model Mazda 3, and I proceeded to drive it like it had talked smack about my momma. After flying through the moose-avoidance chicane with the hammer down, I got on the brakes for a right-hand turn and…plowed off the course, making roadkill of a plastic cone. But you've got to get back on that horse, so I drove back onto the track and completed the rest of my lap at a similar velocity.

When we got in, a Mazda Rev It Up official strode over and glared at me as if I'd just run down a village of helpless peasants with a monster truck. He was on the short side, and looked like the kind of former jock who would make for a sadistic summer-camp counselor. I decided to break the ice: "Hi!" I said. "What was that all about?" he demanded. I gave him the logical explanation: It was the car's fault. The brakes felt like they were made of cheese, bro. And not even a hard cheese like Parmesan. We're talking warm Brie fondue. I'm just a good ol' boy. Never meaning no harm. "You're done here. You're done," he spat. Clay walked away, laughing for the first time all day. Mr. Chud was poised for confrontation, but I just said, "OK," and walked away feeling quite pleased with myself. Banned from the Mazda Drive Center for recklessness: I'm a bad boy.

So who won? Well, my best time around the course was 29.7 seconds, about two seconds off the day's best time but a second or two ahead of everyone I arrived with (Murph came close with a run in the 30-second range, but was fined four seconds on two counts of coneslaughter). In fact, if I'd been in the Fun class instead of Pro, I would've been in third place on the leader board, a fact I pointed out to Burke. "But you wouldn't have been in the Fun class!" he said. "You had professional driving instruction before this, so you'd be in Novice, where you wouldn't even be in the top 15!" I beg to differ. I would've been in the Fun class, because I would've lied about my driving experience on the questionnaire. If it asked, "have you ever driven a car on a track before?" I would've answered, "What's a car?" I love competing against the disadvantaged; if there was a place where I could arm-wrestle second-graders, I'd be there every day. And if that seems unsportsmanlike, talk to the two guys in the Fun class who beat me. iB

"WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?" THE MAZDA OFFICIAL DEMANDED. I GAVE HIM THE LOGICAL EXPLANATION: IT WAS THE CAR'S FAULT.

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MICHAEL SCHLOW

BY JONATHAN SOROFF PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE GREENE

Recognized as one of America's leading chefs, Michael Schlow is executive chef and co-owner of Radius, Via Matta and Great Bay. Born in Brooklyn, Schlow went to school in New Jersey and studied cooking at that state's Academy of Culinary Arts before beginning his career with renowned New York chef Pino Luongo. After stints as chef de cuisine at Manhattan hot spots Coco Pazzo and Le Madri, Schlow became executive chef at Sapore di Mare, on Long Island, and then launched the Hamptons mainstay 75 Main before returning to New York. After relocating to Boston in 1995 and earning acclaim at Café Louis, he opened Radius, featuring modern French cuisine, and followed up on its phenomenal success with Via Matta, an Italian restaurant, and Great Bay, which focuses on seafood. His numerous accolades include being named one of the Best New Chefs in the nation by *Food & Wine* in 1996, a James Beard award for Best Chef in the Northeast in 2000, a Robert Mondavi Culinary Award of Excellence, and the honor of twice cooking for Julia Child on her birthday. Active in numerous charities, Schlow has recently completed a cookbook, *It's About Time*, which will be published by Steerforth Press. He lives in Westwood.

Jonathan Soroff: *Most memorable meal you ever cooked?*

Michael Schlow: Hmm. Probably for my family, the first year I cooked dinner the night before Yom Kippur. I thought, "We're gonna starve ourselves tomorrow," so I made a six- or seven-course tasting menu the night before, and now it's become a tradition.

JS: *Rate the food critics in Boston.*

MS: To be honest, I wish the critics were harder on us, because the more difficult the food critics are, the better the restaurants will become. They could be tougher. I also think they should be anonymous. We know who too many of them are, so they're not getting the same meal the average Joe would. Publications in New York change their restaurant critics every four or five years and guard their anonymity for a reason.

JS: *McDonald's or Burger King?*

MS: Burger King, no question. McDonald's is the world's most consistent restaurant, but Burger King, for flavor, tastes better to me.

JS: *Any guilty pleasures—Funyuns, Cheez Whiz, Cap'n Crunch?*

MS: A New York City slice of pizza. I used to eat one every day. Hebrew National hot dogs. God, is that good. But I guess my ultimate, which I can't refuse, ever, is an Almond Joy.

JS: *Most obnoxious person you ever cooked for?*

MS: There are so many, and a few of them were so annoying that I was tempted to come out of the kitchen and say, "This isn't the restaurant for you." I've never actually done that, although I have asked someone to leave when they've insulted a member of our staff. I've said, "We're in the service business, not the servile business. You've got to go." People that obnoxious deserve to get kicked out.

JS: *Ever had someone taste something you've cooked and make a disgusted face?*

MS: Yeah, my Mom. My mother's a great cook and she knows good food, and she confided to me after the fact that food I'd made was really terrible.

JS: *Grossest thing you've ever eaten?*

MS: Hands down, it was in Hawaii, and they served raw baby squid stuffed with raw anchovies in a sauce made of fermented black beans, kinda sticky and gooey. It was a specialty of the house, and a delicacy, and it was like eating salty rubber bands. I couldn't get it down.

JS: *Rarest cooking ingredient you ever heard of?*

MS: Ortilan. It's a bird they eat, mostly in France. You can get them here, but they're rare, and the ritual is to cook them in a consommé that has a little bit of truffle, and when you eat it, you either take a napkin or the whole tablecloth and put it over your head so you smell the steam from the consommé, and you eat the bird whole—bones, innards, et cetera.

JS: *Favorite red meat?*

MS: I do love squab, which is not technically a red meat, or a four-legged red meat at least. Other than that, I'm a big fan of venison.

IF [A RECIPE] DOESN'T COME OUT RIGHT, EITHER GO OUT TO DINNER OR START OVER. LIFE'S TOO SHORT TO EAT BAD FOOD.

JS: *Hardest thing for you to cook, or thing that takes the most technical know-how?*

MS: Technically, the hardest thing to cook, no contest, is pasta. Perfect pasta is impossible. You have to cook it thousands of times before you approach getting it right. It's something Americans don't really appreciate, even though we eat a lot of it.

JS: *So how do you do it?*

MS: Well, ignore the old wives' tales. Put oil in the water? No. Drain it under cold water? No. None of that is true. But if you buy my book, you'll learn the secrets of great pasta. [Laughs.]

JS: *Three things every person should have in their refrigerator?*

MS: I'd say some form of hot sauce, preferably Frank's Extra Hot Sauce, as I think it is the best; it goes well on eggs, sandwiches, just about anything. They should also have bleu cheese, because you never know when you're going to need it. And Hellmann's mayonnaise.

JS: *Most chefs don't really cook at home. Do you?*

MS: All the time. Even though I work every day, I probably cook at home three nights a week.

JS: *Ever do the dishes?*

MS: Always. I hate to do dishes almost as much as I hate chopping parsley, but it's part of the job.

JS: *If they were going to name a dish after you, and generations from now people would order a Michael Schlow whatever, what would it be and why?*

MS: Maybe this crispy chicken dish that I've been working on. Crispy chicken with a spicy hoisin sauce, and a squeeze of lime over the top. It's for an Asian restaurant I'd like to build, and they could call it General Schlow's Chicken.

JS: *Best seduction recipe?*

MS: Two words: Lobster risotto. The man or woman in your life will know that you love them if you stand there and stir for 20 minutes. Guaranteed hookup. And you should do it in nothing but an apron.

JS: *Single most important kitchen tool?*

MS: The ability to read a recipe—and confidence.

JS: *Is there a silver bullet if you screw up?*

MS: No. Just start over. Honestly, at all of our restaurants, if, for example, someone gets up from the table to go to the bathroom and their entrée is ready, we have no heat lamps. We throw it in the garbage and start over. So if it doesn't come out right, either go out to dinner or start over. Life's too short to eat bad food.

JS: *Thing you make the most money from in your restaurants?*

MS: Contrary to popular belief, it's not pasta, because really good extra-virgin olive oil, really good Italian tomatoes, all that stuff costs money. It's not even soup anymore, because the expectations with soup are like lobster and caviar and truffles. I'd say our biggest moneymaker now at Via Matta is bruschetta, because it's day-old bread grilled with a topping, and at Radius, everything is kinda priced out. The stuff we used to make money off of when I was starting out—calamari, mussels, clams—are expensive now.

JS: *How do I get a reservation for 8 o'clock on a Saturday night when I remember tomorrow is my husband's birthday?*

MS: Actually, day of is your best bet, and three days before is your worst. The best thing is to call any good restaurant around one or two o'clock, because that's when they're calling to confirm reservations and people are saying, "Oh! We can't make it!"

JS: *So what's sexier: being a chef or a billionaire?*

MS: Well, I'll say this, and I mean it in all humility: People like cooking. There's something nurturing and creative and mysterious and sexy about it. You made it with your own two hands. It's a craft, and it's my calling. So from my point of view, cooking's a beautiful profession. It combines history, art, chemistry, everything. It's an amazing job.


Michael Schlow

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THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS



KILLING TIME TILL OCTOBER

The Red Sox are playoff bound; six degrees of Danny Ainge

It's only June, but here's a revelation: The Boston Red Sox are going to the playoffs, guaranteed. As for winning the World Series, that's another story. But for the Red Sox not to make the playoffs, well, it's just not possible.

It doesn't matter that D-Lowe has had trouble D-livering lately; his resume says he'll rebound before the real games begin. And sure, Byung-Hyun Kim and Ramiro Mendoza are stealing money while providing zero help. But let's be honest, it doesn't matter.

Why?

Cash. The Red Sox have lots of it. And like the New York Yankees, if there's a problem somewhere in the starting rotation or with Nomar Garciaparra's Achilles, John Henry's checkbook will be there to find a suitable replacement. Open your eyes in Fenway Park and you can't miss the revenue streams—new seats, concessions and advertisements everywhere. The only place left for advertisements is the players' backs. (You remember the big, gaudy billboard-type ads on the backs of Little Leaguers? Mine was the Peabody Teachers Federation; maybe they'd consider buying space on Manny's shirt if the Sox need cash to pick up a quality middle reliever during the stretch run.) As former Sox slugger Mo Vaughn use to say, "It's not about the money." And it really isn't when you have plenty of it. The Red Sox will do fine, even if they end up with more injuries than the Patriots.

> WITH THE PLAYOFFS INEVITABLE, THE REMAINDER OF THE SEASON IS REALLY A TUNE-UP FOR THE POSTSEASON.

With the playoffs inevitable, the remainder of the season is really a tune-up for the postseason. Manager Terry Francona should be trying out different combinations in the field, as well as mixing up the batting order. He's got a little less than four months to figure out who's the best No. 2 hitter behind Johnny Damon; whether Nomar can handle batting fourth or even fifth; and whether Bill Mueller will ever again be the guy who stunned baseball the first five months of last year and ultimately won the batting title.

If you look at the makeup of the team with Nomar and Nixon back on the scene, the only true question mark is who deserves the mythical title of ace, since virtually every other slot is wrapped up. In years past, any time a series was on the line, the manager in place would call Pedro. But now Red Sox Nation is divided, and probably more fans are in Sheriff Schilling's corner. Who's the real go-to, No. 1 pitcher, Pedro or Schilling? You're in a good position when that's one of your big questions at this point in the season.

Despite there being a few minor problems (OK, maybe Lowe's ERA isn't that minor), the Red Sox are built for October. They have two aces on the mound, a great bullpen and, with Nomar and Nixon back in the fold, one of the best lineups in baseball. The key will be winning games in October, and Sox management should always have that in the back of their minds.

As for you Red Sox fans, have a nice summer. Get some sun. Take a ride to the beach. Save up your passion for when it's going to be needed most: the fall.

Even when Celtics director of basketball operations Danny Ainge was a baseball player, he was really a basketball player.

When Ainge was in the Toronto Blue Jays system, playing AAA ball in Syracuse, he spent a lot of his time running up to the Carrier Dome, playing pickup basketball with members of the Syracuse University team. Despite being paid a nice baseball salary—and he struggled mightily with the bat in his hands—he worked little on his game. Ainge's passion was basketball.

One of the guys who took a liking to Ainge was a veteran nearing the end of his career. His name was Dave Wallace, and he's now the Red Sox pitching coach. Wallace and Ainge briefly played together in Toronto, and when Ainge landed his current job with the Celtics, Wallace called him to say congratulations. The Sox pitching coach is still waiting for a return phone call from his old buddy. If that call finally comes in late October, wouldn't it be wonderful if Wallace could offer Ainge advice on winning a championship? IB

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News.

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A drink MAN woman



SHE WANTS TO EAT LIGHT—HE WANTS PIZZA AND BEER EVERY NIGHT. CAN LOVE CONQUER CULINARY CONFLICTS?

BY ALICIA ABELL

PHOTOGRAPH BY ERIC LEVIN

y sister called a few weeks ago, on the verge of tears. "It's Billy," she said. Oh no, I thought. This new relationship seemed to be going so well. Was he turning into a commitment-phobe? Flaking on plans? "No, no. That's all great," she said. "It's the food. We eat pizza constantly. Ice cream is a nightly occurrence. I haven't drunk this much beer since college. I feel like a sumo wrestler."

She's not alone. According to Ellen Albertson, a Boston-based dietitian, certified personal fitness trainer and co-author (with her husband, Michael) of *Food as Foreplay: Recipes for Romance, Love and Lust* (see box below), it's not unusual for a woman to gain up to 10 pounds when she starts dating someone seriously. And research shows that both men and women gain weight in the first few years of marriage.

Food can put stress on relationships in other ways as well. Anna, a 24-year-old content producer from Brighton, and Andrew, a 28-year-old acoustical engineer from Natick, can't agree on anything edible: She loves creamy dishes; he despises them. He can't get his food hot enough; she thinks rosemary chicken is too spicy. Once they even fought over…the Olive Garden. "I love it, but he won't go," Anna says. "We weren't screaming, but I was definitely pouting," she says. "I was pretty upset."

Whether it's weight gain or food fights, dining differences can cause some sticky situations in a relationship. Here's what Boston couples have to say about clashes in the kitchen—and how to resolve them.

THE FEMALE FACTOR

Stereotype or not, it's usually the woman in a relationship who's more concerned about what, and how much, she eats. (Blame the media—and biology: Scientifically speaking, most men can eat much more than women without gaining weight.) This means that having a boyfriend or spouse who eats a lot of junk—or just a lot, period—can be a trial.

Consider Erica, a 29-year-old speech pathologist who lives in the South End with her fiancé, Bryce, a 31-year-old investment banker. Erica never quite realized how much Bryce ate until she moved to Boston a year ago. For the first three years, the couple had a long-distance relationship. "So when she was talking, I'd just put the conference phone at work on mute and munch," Bryce says.

"I have an unending thirst for food," he admits. "I tend to like high-carb, high-protein diets, and I don't discriminate based on time of day." One time, while on vacation, he ordered banana nut French toast and chili fries—at 10 in the morning. He's also a late-night eater, which means pepperoni pizza and fried chicken wings at 11 pm. Despite his total disregard for calories or fat, Bryce has actually lost weight since he and Erica moved in together. (How unfair is that?) "I definitely do eat more healthfully now," he says, mostly because Erica does the cooking and the grocery shopping.

This scenario—guy dates girl, guy eats something green for the first time in years—is not uncommon. Dennis, a 41-year-old salesperson from Sturbridge, was "brought up on Wonder bread, Ring Dings, Tastykakes and bologna sandwiches," says his wife, Andrea, 36, also in sales. "When we first met, his favorite dinner was a huge steak, a baked potato with sour cream, iceberg lettuce with blue cheese dressing and beer."

Now, Dennis doesn't eat red meat or chicken—and loves the difference. "I can really tell when I've been on the road for a few weeks and not eating that well," he says. "I feel lethargic, run down." His favorite dish? Kale potato soup.

The typical male-female dynamic isn't a one-way street, though. When Jamie, a 30-year-old teacher from Somerville, first met her husband, 31-year-old lawyer Matt, "I was into annoying-girl eating," she says. "No fat, no red meat, that type of thing." But after having a delicious dinner together one night, "I was like, 'What am I missing?!' Since knowing Matt, my habits have gotten much more relaxed. He's really expanded my eating."

Now, Jamie says, "I feel healthier and get a greater variety of foods. Part of it could be that I feel better about myself with Matt, and a lot of why women obsess about food is when they don't feel good about themselves."

STEREOTYPE OR NOT, IT'S USUALLY THE WOMAN IN A RELATIONSHIP WHO'S MORE CONCERNED ABOUT WHAT, AND HOW MUCH, SHE EATS.

FOOD FOR LOVE

Eating is a sensual experience. Food can be a real turn-on," says Ellen Albertson, co-host, with her husband, Michael, of the radio show *The Cooking Couple* (Sundays, 1–3 pm, WBNW-AM 1120 and WPLM-AM 1390). Here's what Albertson has to say about keeping things spicy—in and out of the kitchen.

Embrace your inner animal. "Food in the animal kingdom has always been a love offering," says Albertson. (So *that's* why we bring chocolates on Valentine's Day.) Understand that when you're cooking for people, you're also nurturing—and wooing—them, she says. Turns out gagging down that tofu could be in your best interests.

Explore aphrodisiacs. Everyone knows that chocolate arouses the same feelings that we experience when we're in love, but what about pumpkin seeds? They contain an amino acid the body needs to make nitric oxide, the same chemical compound that Viagra targets. Think of them as natural Levitra.

Any kind of seafood is good too. "It's light, protein-rich and very nutritious," says Albertson. "If you eat it over the long term, you'll be more sexually vital." Not in the mood because you're tired? "Coffee drinkers are statistically more sexually active than non–coffee drinkers," she says. Who knew?

Signal your senses. Eating involves the same senses we use in making love, including smell. The Smell and Taste Treatment and Research Foundation in Chicago found that the combined smells of black licorice and doughnuts significantly increase penile blood flow in men. Women were aroused by the scents of Good & Plenty candy and cucumbers. Smell is a primitive but powerful sense we sometimes neglect, Albertson says. Apparently so.

Dine as a duo. The most basic advice of all: Don't forget to do it (eat together, that is). Couples who sit down and share a meal a few times a week have more stable relationships, says Albertson. This is especially important when you live together. "It's very easy to find yourselves complete roommates," she says. "You need those touchstones."

FOOD FIGHTS

Some couples have even more than the usual share of food strife to deal with. Back Bay couple Craig, a 32-year-old private equity associate, and his wife, Maureen, a 34-year-old strategy consultant, are almost comic in their incompatibilities. He's allergic to seafood and legumes (beans, peas and peanuts); she's allergic to wheat. He can't eat most Middle Eastern dishes, which she loves; she can't eat most Italian, one of his favorites. Mexican? Dream on. He can't have beans; she can't have flour tortillas.

These constraints not only make meal-sharing tough, they can also cause tension. Craig's allergies are pretty obvious—he doesn't order fish—but wheat is often a hidden ingredient, found in everything from soy sauce to clam chowder. "He sees his allergies as easy to handle, while I have to be a pain in the ass, go talk to the kitchen," says Maureen. "He gets annoyed sometimes because I have to ask about everything."

The adventurous type and the faint of stomach are another common pair. Rachel, 31, who co-owns a Back Bay publishing company with her husband, adores ethnic food. In contrast, Jonathan, 29, can't stomach anything spicy: no garlic, onions, Indian or Thai. Even tapas are a problem. "He'll try to roll with it, but it's just clear when he gets there that he's not happy," Rachel says.

Jamie remembers fighting with her ex-boyfriend because all he ever wanted was American and junk food: "To him, a nice meal out was going to Chili's." It was too bad, she says, because "it's fun to go on a little food adventure, to say, 'We're gonna share this chocolate fondue because it's kind of fun and kind of sexy,' or 'Whoo-hoo! Let's try whatever's on the menu!'"

"Otherwise, it gets sort of…vanilla."

EATING IN THE MIDDLE

Let's face it: Food matters. "Personally, I think if you've got big food issues, you shouldn't be together," says Albertson, the dietitian. But for the most part, Boston couples disagree. "I think unwillingness to compromise is more of an issue than different eating habits," says Jonathan.

He and Rachel get takeout together—from different places. Sure, it's a pain, but at least they're both happy. Andrea decided that in order to convert Dennis, she needed to become a fantastic cook. "I would put something in front of him that would taste so good he didn't care," she says. Now Dennis likes bulgur meatballs better than regular ones and prefers tofu in his lasagna. (However, you need to be patient and persistent if you choose this route, Andrea warns. "I've had some scary flops," she says.)

Other solutions are simpler. Pan-Asian restaurants, with their wide-ranging menus, are great choices for couples with disparate tastes and eating habits. Craig and Maureen gravitate toward Japanese restaurants, where she can get sushi and he orders meat-and-noodle dishes. Concerned about matching your man bite for bite? Limit yourself to half to two-thirds of what he's eating, advises Albertson.

That's what my sister decided to do. "The main thing I'm doing is focusing on portion control," she says, "and remembering that he's a boy and can eat more than I can."

I have a good feeling about this Billy guy, especially in comparison with her last boyfriend. There was always something a little suspect about him. I mean, what kind of person doesn't eat chocolate? iB

let's do brunch... *again*

BY ERIN HAGEDORN AND JESSICA IREDALE PHOTOGRAPHS BY BRIAN SILVERSTEIN

Two years ago, a few IMPROPER staffers loosened their belts and embarked on a multiweekend binge to unearth the city's most interesting brunch offerings. Many eggs Benedicts later, the intrepid eaters reported on some notable weekend brunches around the city—and put together a guide to nearly 100 brunch offerings in the city and nearby suburbs. Reader response was so enthusiastic that we decided to update our research for this year's Dining Issue. This time, we're highlighting six restaurants that have started serving brunch in the past year. The new offerings include everything from traditional fare like French toast and frittatas to more unusual menu items like breakfast tacos, roasted lamb, and lobster omelets.

We've updated our brunch chart too. It lists oodles of brunch spots throughout the city—from cheap eats that will soothe your hangover to $60 buffets perfect for impressing the in-laws.

BRAVO

One of the fanciest brunches in town started last year at the Museum of Fine Arts' swank restaurant, Bravo. Here, brunch-goers dine in the roomy, art-filled space overlooking the museum's courtyard or, during warm weather, outside on the terrace. While you decide whether to go for the two-course option ($28) or the three ($34), which includes dessert, try not to fill up on the delicious baked goods in the bread basket: croissants, mini scones, little muffins and warm breads. Many of the prix fixe menu items change regularly, but a favorite first course is the smoked salmon with dill potato salad, white sturgeon caviar and horseradish dressing. Another great choice is the poached jumbo shrimp with avocado, papaya and lime salsa. Like the works on display in the museum's galleries, chef Benjamin Cevelo's delicious dishes are beautifully made. He serves the salad of butter lettuce and cucumber with crème fraîche dressing in a giant, flowerlike arrangement, dotted with beads of dressing and sprinkled with bright, diced peppers. Similarly, the entrée of handmade spinach pasta with artichokes, asparagus, tomato and ricotta comes spiraled in a bowl, and Bravo's stylish, colorful serving dishes add to the presentation. If you're more in the mood for breakfast food, you should opt for the popular buttermilk pancakes with bananas, passion fruit butter and apple-wood smoked bacon. Dessert-wise, you can't go wrong with the chocolate bread pudding or the more summery strawberry rhubarb fool with ginger-infused ice cream. To go with your meal, you can choose from several cocktails or wines by the glass ($7.50–$12), but we wholeheartedly recommend the fresh-squeezed tangerine mimosa ($10.50), which is out of this world.

Sat. and Sun., 11:30 am–3 pm. $28–$34. 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3474).



THE SUMMER SHACK

When the House of Blues closed down last year, most of us thought that Gospel Brunch was a thing of the past. The good news is that the Gospel Brunch has been resurrected, so to speak, at the Cambridge Summer Shack. Owner and chef Jasper White launched the weekly event this past Mother's Day, and he brought back many of the same people involved at the House of Blues, including sultry singer and emcee Katani. The Summer Shack's rustic-industrial decor looks like it was cobbled together from souvenir stands on Route 28. Its brunch has a neighborly atmosphere—most people eat at long, communal tables near the stage. You can't help but gorge yourself (the fifth deadly sin) on the macaroni, corn bread, hush puppies, fried chicken and home fries, and it does feel a tad blasphemous drinking mimosas while listening to the word of God. But what's most sinful is the praline French toast. It's a gooey, bread pudding–like concoction smothered in sweet maple syrup. You'll want to have your second helping of it by 12:30, because once the gospel show/sermon starts, eating pretty much grinds to a halt. Warning: when the show starts, participation is mandatory. You've got to sway and pray, but it's easy to get into the spirit as Katani and the week's featured band rouse everyone to their feet, waving, clapping and singing songs like "This Little Light of Mine." In between the spiritual numbers, some of which are mellow enough that you can sit down and sneak a sip of your mimosa, Katani reads scripture. Amen. Reservations recommended.

Sun., 11:30 am. $35 (children $25). 149 Alewife Brook Pkwy., Cambridge (617-520-9500).







LEGAL SEA FOODS

After a 50-years-plus reign as the local seafood titan, Legal finally introduced its first-ever Sunday brunch exclusively at the Charles Square location in March. Legal fans (and there are plenty—Legal was voted most popular restaurant in Zagat's 2003/04 Boston survey) have likely been chomping at the bit for a bite of lobster omelet, or salmon and eggs à la Legal. After a sampling of the goods (read: gorging to the point of discomfort), the verdict is in: Legal's brunch was worth the wait. The menu is stocked with tempting brunch–meets–seafood restaurant items: poached eggs Oscar and lobster Florentine, Cajun shrimp and andouille omelet, etc. There's a nod to more traditional brunch fare too—like brioche French toast with Vermont maple syrup and fresh fruit; or mushroom frittata with romano cheese, apple-smoked bacon and salad. Don't miss out on the warm popovers served while you weigh your options. They're sweet, crisp and airy and made from the same ingredients as the brioche French toast. Hearty appetites will likely go for the lobster, goat cheese and chive omelet, and a heavyweight portion of crispy, seasoned home fries. Whatever you choose, consider the fruit parfait as an aperitif. It is, in a word, awesome. Strawberries, pineapple and cantaloupe are ripened to perfection, and the homemade yogurt is a delicious combo of sweet and tart. As for Bloody Marys, the classic brunch beverage, Legal offers three types: traditional, Asian (with wasabi, soy sauce and ginger) and Red Tide (with Sauza Gold tequila). Or you can opt for a flight—three one-ounce servings of each.

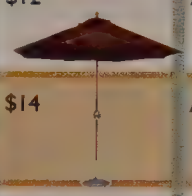
Sun., 10 am–2:30 pm. $8.95–$15.95. 20 University Road, Cambridge (617-491-9400).

NAME	ADDRESS PHONE NUMBER	HOURS	AVERAGE COST	BUFFET OR A LA CARTE	LIQUOR	NOTABLE FEATURES
Abe & Louie's	793 Boylston St. Back Bay 617-536-6300	Sat. & Sun.: 11 am–3 pm	$15	A la carte	Full bar	Elegant decor including dining room fireplace; steak and eggs, smoked salmon eggs Benedict with caviar
Aquitane	569 Tremont St. South End 617-424-8577	Sat. & Sun.: 10 am–3 pm	Prix fixe, $9.95; à la carte, $10.50	Sat.: Prix fixe or à la carte Sun.: A la carte	Full bar	Pressed sandwiches with duck, ham and Gruyère; bottomless coffee
Atlantic Fish Co.	761 Boylston St. Back Bay 617-267-4000	Sat. & Sun.: 11:30 am–3 pm	$12	A la carte	Full bar	Seven seafood items, including shrimp frittata and an oyster shooter with Absolut Pepper, Bloody Mary mix and an oyster
Beacon Hill Hotel and Bistro	25 Charles St. Beacon Hill 617-723-1133	Sat. & Sun.: 10 am–3 pm	$10	A la carte	Beer and wine	Fourteen windows flank the restaurant; poached eggs with smoked ham, toasted brioche and herb hollandaise
Bob the Chef's	604 Columbus Ave. South End 617-536-6204	Sun.: 10 am–2:30 pm	$18.95	Buffet	Full bar	Live jazz, southern grits with all the fixings
Boston Harbor Hotel – Meritage	70 Rowes Wharf Waterfront 617-439-7000; 617-439-3995	Sun.: 10:30 am–2 pm	$45	Prix fixe	Full bar	Three gourmet courses, 73 Champagnes; harbor view
Bravo at the Museum of Fine Arts	465 Huntington Ave. Boston 617-369-3474	Sat. & Sun.: 11:30 am–3 pm	$28–$34	Prix fixe	Full bar	Food as art
Charlie's Saloon	284 Newbury St. Back Bay 617-266-3000	Sat. & Sun.: 9 am–2 pm	$10	A la carte	Full bar	Entrées, such as filet Benedict, come with a screwdriver, Bloody Mary, mimosa or domestic draft
Cheesecake Factory	115 Huntington Ave. Back Bay 617-399-7777	Sun.: 10 am–2 pm	$12	A la carte	Full bar	Twenty-five entrée choices; large portions
Ciao Bella	240-A Newbury St. Back Bay 617-536-2626	Sun.: 11 am–3:30 pm	$10	A la carte	Full bar	Pint-size Bloody Marys
Claremont Café	535 Columbus Ave. South End 617-247-9001	Sat. & Sun.: 9am–3 pm	$10	A la carte	Full bar	Neighborhood favorite, cozy bistro atmosphere
Club Café – 209	209 Columbus Ave. Back Bay 617-536-0966	Sun.: 10:30 am–2:30 pm	$17.50	Prix fixe	Full bar	Extensive dessert menu; omelet and carving station
Colonnade Hotel – Brasserie Jo	120 Huntington Ave. Back Bay 617-425-3240	Sat. & Sun.: 12–3 pm	$16	A la carte	Full bar	French cocktails such as Kir Royale à l'Alsacienne, Champagne Pêche, vermouth Cassis; 10 specialty martinis
Cottonwood Café	222 Berkeley St. Back Bay 617-247-2225	Sat. & Sun: 11:30 am–2:30 pm	$10	A la carte	Full bar	Mimosas du jour, prickly pear margarita
Dick's Last Resort	55 Huntington Ave. Back Bay 617-267-8080	Sun.: 10 am–3 pm	$14.99	Buffet	Full bar	Gospel brunch; make your own Bloody Mary; Dick's famous heckling staff
The Federalist – XV Beacon	15 Beacon St. Beacon Hill 617-670-2515	Sat. & Sun.: 8 am–2 pm	$25	A la carte	Full bar after 12 pm	Sirloin steak and eggs, Vahlrona chocolate waffles
Fire and Ice	205 Berkeley St. Back Bay 617-482-3473	Sun.: 10 am–3 pm	$15.95 ($13.95 after Father's Day)	Buffet	Full bar	Lots of make-your-own options, including omelets, pancakes, and French Toast
Firefly	130 Dartmouth St. Back Bay 617-262-4393	Sat. & Sun.: 9 am–4 pm	$10	A la carte	Beer, wine and cordials	Danish Marys made with OP Aquavit, a 70-proof Swedish liquor
The Four Seasons – Aujourd'hui	200 Boylston St. Back Bay 617-338-4400	Sun.: 11 am–2:30 pm	$59	Buffet	Full bar	Peach bellini, king crab claws, jumbo shrimp
The Four Seasons – Bristol Lounge	200 Boylston St. Back Bay 617-338-4400	Sun.: 9 am–1:30 pm	$35	Buffet	Full bar	Vegetarian eggs Benedict, waffle station
Grand Canal	57 Canal St. North End 617-523-1112	Sun.: 11 am–3 pm	$10	A la carte	Full bar	Irish breakfast available; fireplace
Hampshire House	84 Beacon St. Beacon Hill 617-227-9600	Sun.: 11 am–2:30 pm	$18	A la carte	Full bar	Famous Bloody Marys, and the mix is available to take home

NAME	ADDRESS PHONE NUMBER	HOURS	AVERAGE COST	BUFFET OR A LA CARTE	LIQUOR	NOTABLE FEATURES
Harvard Gardens	316 Cambridge St. Beacon Hill 617-523-2727	Sat. & Sun.: 11 am–3 pm	$12	A la carte	Full bar	More than 22 mix-and-match omelet ingredients, Belgian waffles station, thick-cut carrot bread French toast with caramelized apples and sweet cream
The Hungry I	71 Charles St. Beacon Hill 617-227-3524	Sun.: 11 am–2 pm	$34	Prix fixe	Full bar	Three courses; romantic atmosphere with three fireplaces and outdoor terrace
Joe's American Bar and Grill	279 Dartmouth St. Back Bay 617-536-4200	Sat. & Sun.: 9 am–4 pm	$12	A la carte	Full bar	Large portions; view of Newbury Street
Joe's Waterfront	100 Atlantic Ave., North End 617-367-8700	Sat. & Sun.: 10 am–2 pm	$12	A la carte	Full bar	Outdoor deck overlooks Boston Harbor
Kingfish Hall	188 South Market Bldg. Faneuil Hall 617-523-8862	Sun.: 12–3 pm	$14	A la carte	Full bar	Extensive raw bar; outdoor dining
The Kinsale	2 Center Plaza Government Center 617-742-5577	Sat. & Sun.: 10 am–3 pm	$8	A la carte	Full bar	Patio seating; Bloody Mary menu, mojitos
Langham Hotel – Café Fleuri	250 Franklin St. Financial District 617-451-1900	Sun.: Four seatings—11 and 11:30 am, 1 and 1:30 pm	$45; $51 with sparkling wine; $56 with Champagne	Buffet	Full bar	Live jazz; downscaled version of the Saturday chocolate dessert bar; seafood raw bar; new provençale station; 10 buffet stations
Laurel	142 Berkeley St. Back Bay 617-424-6711	Sun.: 11 am–2:30 pm	$8	A la carte	Full bar	Veal, rotisserie chicken and rotisserie duck hash
Liberty Clipper Brunch	New England Aquarium Central Wharf 617-742-0333	Sun.: 11 am–1:30 pm (June 13 only: 10 am–12 pm)	$49	Buffet	Full bar	Dine on board a 125-foot schooner with views of Boston and the Atlantic
The Living Room	101 Atlantic Ave. North End 617-723-5101	Sun.: 11 am–3 pm	$8	A la carte	Full bar	Eat brunch in your pajamas; staff wears PJs as well
Metropolis Café	584 Tremont St. South End 617-247-2931	Sat. & Sun.: 9 am–3 pm	$12	A la carte	Beer and wine	Prosecco sparkling white wine, cranberry pancakes, mimosa special with fresh fruit











UNION BAR AND GRILLE

The local dining scene has been abuzz with talk of Seth Woods' (Aquitaine, Armani Café) latest venture, Union, since its opening in October, in the South End. On any given night, the dining room is filled with clientele as sleek as the black leather booths and wrought iron chandeliers, the food has critics smitten, and at the time of this article, weekend reservations were booked through July. This place is just cool—and maybe a little intimidating. But come Sunday morning, the scenester vibe is replaced with a relaxed, neighborhood feeling. Bright sunlight (the window seats almost require sunglasses) bathes the entire restaurant, and diners wearing T-shirts and jeans quietly chat over eggs Benedict and Bloody Marys. The simple, understated atmosphere leaves the spotlight on the deserving food. Asparagus and goat cheese omelets, and crisp New England codcakes with two poached eggs and hollandaise both come with seasoned home fries and choice of toast or a bagel. The beef and Andouille sausage burger with Vermont cheddar and Cobb salad appeases the post-breakfast crowd, and the B-52 French toast with orange marmalade and smoked bacon is the bomb. Even better are the prices, which match the more casual atmosphere.

Sun., 10 am–3 pm. $6–$14. 1357 Washington St., Boston (617-423-0555).

SCOLLAY SQUARE

For a neighborhood that's generally considered short on dining options, Beacon Hill does pretty well in the brunch department. Panificio, Beacon Hill Hotel & Bistro, Harvard Gardens and the grand dame of brunches, Hampshire House, are all old favorites. But if you're in the mood for something new, head up the hill to Scollay Square, a cozy joint nestled in the shadow of the State House. Brunch is set to the tune of Frank Sinatra and other big-band-era music, and a swift wait staff serves you. Dark wood fixtures, cathedral ceilings, and simple table settings combine with black-and-white photographs of the old Scollay Square neighborhood, politicians and burlesque performers to create a retro vibe in an upscale-yet-comfortable setting. The menu lists seven items—an even mix of sweet and savory ranging from simple broiled grapefruit with brown sugar and dark rum to a brawny 12-ounce New York sirloin with scrambled eggs and rosemary home fries. French toast stuffed with cream cheese, fresh raspberries, preserves and fresh berry syrup is crisp, fluffy and a dentist's worst nightmare (or dream?). The breakfast tacos (three per serving), filled with either potato and egg or chorizo and egg, are satisfying but not overstuffed. And if you're looking for a little Sunday morning buzz, the premium Kona coffee packs a punch that puts Starbucks to shame, and the mimosas are made with freshly squeezed orange juice sweeter than almost any you've tasted.

Sun., 10 am–2 pm. $6–$19. 21 Beacon St., Boston (617-742-4900).

NAME	ADDRESS PHONE NUMBER	HOURS	AVERAGE COST	BUFFET OR A LA CARTE	LIQUOR	NOTABLE FEATURES
Museum of Science – Skyline Room	Science Park 617-723-2500	Sun.: seating at 12 pm	$24	Buffet	Champagne, Bloody Marys, mimosas	Skyline view of Boston and Cambridge; Omni/Planetarium package ($32; $30 kids; $31 seniors) includes IMAX or Planetarium show and museum admission
Nightingale	578 Tremont St. South End 617-236-5658	Sat. & Sun.: 10 am–2:30 pm	$11	A la carte	Full bar	Hip decor; brioche French toast, smoked salmon BLT
Nine Zero – Spire	90 Tremont St. Beacon Hill 617-772-5800; 617-772-0202	Sat. & Sun.: 8 am–2 pm	$15	A la carte	Full bar after 12 pm	Floor-to-ceiling windows with a view of the Old Granary Burying Ground; frappes boosted with ginseng
Panificio	144 Charles St. Beacon Hill 617-227-4340	Sat. & Sun.: 9 am–4 pm	$10	A la carte	Beer and wine	Homey Italian atmosphere with homemade breads to match
Papa Razzi	271 Dartmouth St. Back Bay 617-536-9200	Sat. & Sun.: 11:30 am–3 pm	$9	A la carte	Full bar	Complimentary bellini or mimosa with entrées, which include oak-fired fruit pizza
The Red Fez	1222 Washington St. South End 617-338-6060	Sun.: 11am–4pm	$10	A la carte	Full bar	Mix of traditional American breakfast and spicy Mediterranean-influenced dishes; patio dining
Ritz-Carlton Boston – Dining Room	15 Arlington St. Back Bay 617-536-5700	Sun.: Four seatings—10:30 am, 11 am, 1 pm, 1:30 pm	$58	Buffet	Full bar	Complimentary Champagne; live music by the George Butts Jazz Duo
Ritz-Carlton Boston Common – Jer-Ne	10 Avery St. Ladder District 617-912-3355	Sun.: 11:30 am–1:30 pm	$33	A la carte	Full bar	Wasabi Bloody Mary spiked with pepper vodka; Untraditional Eggs Benedict—with grilled filet mignon and smoked salmon
Rouge	480 Columbus Ave. South End 617-867-0600	Sun.: 11 am–3 pm	$10	A la carte	Full bar	New Orleans–style breakfast options; potent cocktails, like the Hurricane Gretchen
Scollay Square	21 Beacon St. Beacon Hill 617-742-4900	Sun.: 10 am–2 pm	$12	A la carte	Full bar	Egg tacos
Sel de la Terre	255 State St. Financial District 617-720-1300	Sat. & Sun.: 11 am–2:30 pm	$12	A la carte	Full bar	Gourmet crepes, in-house bake shop
75 Chestnut	75 Chestnut St. Beacon Hill 617-227-2175	Sun.: 11 am–2 pm	$30	A la carte	Full bar	Live jazz duo, truffled lobster hash
Sonsie	327 Newbury St. Back Bay 617-351-2500	Sat. & Sun.: 11:30 am–3 pm	$14	A la carte	Full bar	Café area great for people-watching; staff says Tom Brady is a big fan
Stephanie's	190 Newbury St. Back Bay 617-236-0990	Sun.: 10 am–3 pm	$13	A la carte	Full bar	All food made from scratch; see-and-be-seen crowd; fireplace in the winter, outdoor patio in the summer
Summer Shack	50 Dalton St. Back Bay 617-867-9955	Sat. & Sun.: 11:30 am–3 pm	$12	A la carte	Full bar	Jimmy's eggs Benedict and crabcakes; Bloody Mary bar
Top of the Hub	800 Boylston St. Back Bay 617-536-1775	Sun.: 12–2 pm	$20	A la carte	Full bar	Views extending (on a clear day) to the Cape and New Hampshire; live music; poached eggs with Jonah crab cakes and asparagus
Tremont 647/ Sister Sorel	647 Tremont St. South End 617-266-4600	Sat.: 10:30 am–2 pm Sun.: 10:30 am–3 pm	$10	A la carte	Full bar	A pajama party—patrons and employees are encouraged to wear their PJs
Union Bar and Grille	1357 Washington St. South End 617-423-0555	Sun.: 10 am–3 pm	$10	A la carte	Full bar	B-52 French toast with orange marmalade
Vox Populi	755 Boylston St. Back Bay 617-424-8300	Seven days a week: 11 am–4 pm	$13	A la carte	Full bar	Strawberry French toast; Vox omelet with sautéed shiitake mushrooms, roasted tomatoes, fresh basil, and cheddar cheese.
BRIGHTON						
Bluestone Bistro	1799 Comm. Ave. 617-254-8309	Sat. & Sun.: 10 am–2 pm	$6	A la carte	Beer and wine	Breakfast pizza with eggs and cheese
Cityside Bar and Grill	1960 Beacon St. 617-566-1002	Sun.: 11 am–2 pm	$7	A la carte	Full bar	Football/baseball on 15 TVs; outdoor dining; expanded menu includes breakfast skins (like potato skins with breakfast foods), breakfast quesadilla, etc.
Devlin's	332 Washington St. 617-779-8822	Sat. & Sun.: 10 am–3 pm	$11	A la carte	Full bar	Hefty portions; expanded menu includes new brunch sides and lunch panini

NAME	ADDRESS PHONE NUMBER	HOURS	AVERAGE COST	BUFFET OR A LA CARTE	LIQUOR	NOTABLE FEATURES
Sunset Grill	130 Brighton Ave. 617-254-1331	Sun.: 11 am–3 pm	$8	A la carte	Beer, wine and cordials	Mimosa or Beery Mary (Bloody Mary with beer instead of vodka); 112 beers on tap; all-you-can-eat taco and fajita bar
Tonic	1314 Comm. Ave. 617-566-6699	Sat. & Sun.: 10 am–3 pm	Sat.: $8 Sun.: $14.95	Sat.: A la carte Sun.: Buffet	Full bar	Make-your-own-Bloody Mary; desserts from the new bakery; omelet station, carving station
White Horse Tavern	116 Brighton Ave. 617-254-6633	Sun.: 10 am–2 pm	$9.95	Buffet	Full bar	25-item buffet and omelet section
CHARLESTOWN						
Meze Estiatorio	100 City Square 617-242-6393	Sun.: 11 am–3:30 pm	$25	Buffet	Full bar	Crème brûlée French toast, orange-scented Greek sausage, baklava and rizogalo (Greek rice pudding)
Tangierino	83 Main St. 617-242-6009	Sun.: 1–6 pm	$30	Prix-fixe	Full bar	Complimentary Champagne and Moroccan mint tea; lovely Moroccan setting
Warren Tavern	2 Pleasant St., 617-241-8142	Sat. & Sun.: 10:30 am–3:30 pm	$8	A la carte	Full bar	Waterfront views
JAMAICA PLAIN						
Centre Street Café	669A Centre St. 617-524-9217	Sat. & Sun.: 9 am–3 pm	$10	A la carte	Beer and wine	Almost all organic ingredients, gigantic portions
James's Gate	5–11 McBride St. 617-983-2000	Sun.: 12–3 pm	$8	A la carte	Full bar	Irish pub ambience, roaring fireplace, outdoor seating in summer
BROOKLINE/NEWTON						
Baker's Best Café	27 Lincoln St. Newton 617-332-4588	Sat. & Sun.: 8 am–3 pm	$10	A la carte	Beer and wine	French toast with real Vermont maple syrup; pleasant atmosphere
Coolidge Corner Clubhouse	307A-309 Harvard St., Brookline 617-566-4948	Sat. & Sun.: 10 am–3 pm	$10	A la carte	Full bar	More than 40 martinis; extensive menu; 21 TVs featuring sports all day on weekends
The Fireplace	1634 Beacon St. Brookline 617-975-1900	Sat. & Sun.: 11 am–2:30 pm	$10	A la carte	Full bar	Wood-burning fire
La Morra	48 Boylston St. Brookline Village 617-739-0007	Sun.: 11 am–2:30 pm	$12	A la carte	Full bar	Mushroom and fontina cheese frittata with crispy potatoes; asparagus and goat cheese frittata with arugula; spicy La Morra Bloody Mary
Lucy's	242 Harvard St., Brookline 617-232-5829	Sat.: 10 am–2 pm Sun.: 10 am–3 pm	$10	A la carte	Full bar	Wood-burning stove; new chef Eric Bogardus
Matt Murphy's	14 Harvard St., Brookline 617-232-0188	Sun.: 11 am–3:30 pm	$9	A la carte	Full bar	Live Irish music

TANGIERINO

Tangierino's decor alone (elaborate tapestries, gilded-canopied tables and a deep red and purple color scheme straight out of a North African palace) sets it apart from other eateries, and if you wander in on a Sunday afternoon, you'll feel like you're in on a big secret. Launched in mid May, the Sultan's Sunday Brunch, as it's called, hasn't yet caught on with the masses, so privacy is virtually guaranteed. Just as exotic as the atmosphere is the menu. Instead of brunch ubiquities like eggs Benedict, omelets and pancakes, Tangierino's four-course, prix-fixe meal offers decidedly more unique fare. In fact, you'd be hard-pressed to find an egg anywhere. The meal starts off with a choice of Moroccan mint tea or Champagne, followed by Moroccan pizza, which is similar to a simple cheese quesadilla served with a tomato and pepper ragout. Next is vegetable couscous and whole-roasted lamb so tender it can be cut with a fork. Dessert is a sweet Moroccan pastry of shortbread-like dough served with heavy whipped cream and sugar. Courses arrive one-by-one in true Moroccan grandeur, wheeled out on carts and kept warm under ceramic covers. After your server brings a bowl of rosewater to wash your hands, you'll leave feeling like a sultan indeed. IB

Sun., 1-6 pm. $30. 83 Main St., Charlestown (617-242-6009).

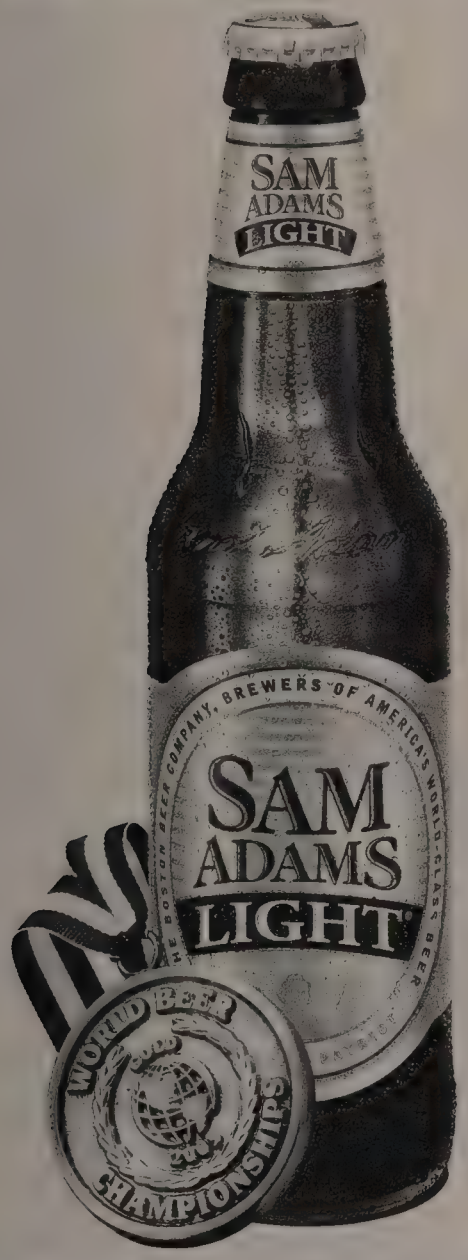


NAME	ADDRESS PHONE NUMBER	HOURS	AVERAGE COST	BUFFET OR A LA CARTE	LIQUOR	NOTABLE FEATURES
Union Street Restaurant	107-R Union St., Newton Centre 617-964-6684	Sat.: 11 am–3 pm Sun.: 10 am–3 pm	$8	A la carte	Full bar	Bloody Marys; free mini-muffins; outdoor patio
Washington Square Tavern	714 Washington St., Brookline 617-232-8989	Sun.: 11 am–2:30 pm	$8	A la carte	Full bar	Live jazz featuring students from Berklee
CAMBRIDGE						
Argana	1287 Cambridge St. 617-868-1247	Sat. & Sun.: 11 am–3 pm	$13	A la carte	Full bar	Make your own Champagne cocktail; live guitar music
Asgard	350 Mass. Ave. 617-577-9100	Sat. & Sun.: 10 am–3 pm	$8	A la carte	Full bar	Viking decor, daily brunch specials
The Blue Room	1 Kendall Square 617-494-9034	Sun.: 11 am–2:30 pm	$21	Buffet	Full bar	Big, open kitchen around wood grill; different smoothies every week; blood orange Cosmopolitan; 40-seat brick patio
Bombay Club	57 JFK St. 617-661-8100	Sat.& Sun.: 11:30 am–3 pm	$11.95	Buffet	Full Bar	All-around windows with view of Harvard Square
Casablanca	40 Brattle St. 617-876-0999	Sun.: 11:30 am–2:30 pm	$10	A la carte	Full bar	*Casablanca* movie decor, Mediterranean-influenced dishes, potato cakes with poached eggs and smoked salmon
Charles Hotel – Henrietta's Table	1 Bennett St. 617-661-5005	Sat. & Sun.: 12–3 pm	Sat.: $25 Sun.: $39	Sat.: Prix fixe or à la carte. Sun.: Buffet	Full bar	Bountiful buffet with portions fit for a field hand; outdoor dining, private dining room available
East Coast Grill	1271 Cambridge St. 617-491-6568	Sun.: 11 am–2:30 pm	$15	A la carte	Full bar	Raw bar; make-your-own-Bloody Mary bar
Grafton Street	1230 Mass. Ave. 617-497-0400	Sun.: 11 am–3 pm	$10	A la carte	Full bar	One of Boston's Beloved Bartenders, Paul Barry, serves; Irish breakfast available
Harvest	44 Brattle St. 617-868-2255	Sun.: 11:30 am–2:30 pm	$33	Three-course prix fixe	Full bar	Bloodytinis (martini version of a Bloody Mary, made with vegetable-infused vodka); garden patio
Legal Seafood at Charles Square	20 University Road 617-491-9400	Sun.: 10 am–2:30 pm	$10	A la carte	Full bar	Bloody Mary flights, Champagne flights, outdoor seating
Olé	11 Springfield St. 617-492-4495	Sun.: 10:30 am–2:30 pm	$10	A la carte	Full bar	House and techno music; complimentary muffins, margaritas and sangria; traditional and Mexican-influenced breakfast selections
Red Line	59 JFK St. 617-491-9851	Sat. & Sun.: 11 am–5 pm	$8	A la carte	Full bar	French doors open onto a covered patio for outdoor seating even if it rains
Ryles Jazz Club	212 Hampshire St. 617-876-9330	Sun.: 10 am–3 pm	$7-$12	A la carte	Full bar	Jazz brunch, live bands every week; lox and bagels; quiche
S&S Restaurant	1334 Cambridge St. 617-354-0777	Sat. & Sun.: 8 am–4 pm	$10	A la carte	Full bar	In business since 1919; strawberry mimosas
Summer Shack	149 Alewife Pkwy. 617-520-9500	Sun.: seating at 11:30 am	$35	Buffet	Full bar	Gospel Brunch with performers from the old House of Blues brunch
Sydney's Grille	20 Sydney St. 617-551-0300	Sat. & Sun.: 11:30 am–2 pm	A la carte: $14 Buffet: $15.95	A la carte and buffet	Full bar	Artichoke Swiss chard and bleu cheese quiche over mesclun greens with macadamia nut dressing
Temple Bar	1688 Mass. Ave. 617-547-5055	Sat. & Sun.: 11 am–4 pm	$8	A la carte	Full bar	Carved prime rib, challah French toast with sautéed bananas
UpStairs on the Square	91 Winthrop St. 617-864-1933	Sun.: 11 am–2:30 pm	$15	A la carte	Full bar	Two fireplaces; Harvard a capella group the Krokodiloes serenades the diners; dining on the park in the Zebra Room
Veggie Planet (Club Passim)	47 Palmer St. 617-661-1513	Sun.: 11 am–3 pm	$8	A la carte	No	Lots of vegan options, vegan and non-vegan (butter-laden) yeast-risen waffles with strawberries on top; live classical music
SOMERVILLE						
Burren	247 Elm St. 617-776-6896	Sat. & Sun.: 10 am–3 pm	$6	A la carte	Full bar	Irish breakfast available, brand-new brunch menu
The Independent	75 Union Square 617-440-6022	Sun.: 11 am–3 pm	$10	A la carte	Full bar	Make-your-own-Bloody Mary bar; frisé salad with bacon and eggs on top
Johnny D's	17 Holland St. 617-776-2004	Sat. & Sun.: 9 am–2:30 pm	$10	A la carte	Full bar	Bartender Eric Pierce's Bloody Mary recipe; huge combo meals under $9; live jazz
Orleans	65 Holland St. 617-591-2100	Sun.: 10:30 am–3 pm	$10	A la carte	Full bar	Big, comfy couches; football on large-screen TVs; relaxed atmosphere; large drink selection
Sabur	212 Holland St. 617-776-7890	Sat. & Sun.: 11 am–4 pm	$10	A la carte	Full bar	Mediterranean-inspired cuisine; Macedonian breakfast of eggs, lutenica (red pepper spread), feta cheese and homemade biscuits; hand-stretched burek, a pastry with beef and potato or cheese
Soleil Café	1153 Broadway 617-625-0082	Sat.: 8 am–1 pm	$8	A la carte	No	Sleek yet cozy atmosphere, fresh food

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some like it COLD



Anyone for black pepper gelato? How about basil and pepperoncini sorbet? This summer, Boston chefs are serving up some exotic frozen treats that aren't necessarily for dessert.

BY JUDITH GAINES PHOTOGRAPHS BY TONY SCARPETTA

There they were, as cute as buttons: four dainty dollops of tomato and olive oil sorbet, each one perched atop a littleneck clam on its half shell, each shell holding a soupçon of sherry and pink peppercorn marinade with grilled ramp mignonette, the whole concoction sitting on a perfect circle of decorative coarse white salt. As I sampled this lovely appetizer, the slight sweetness of the tomato offset the brininess of the clams, and the olive oil gave a rich, warming aftertaste to the cold sorbet.

The setting was the Beacon Hill Hotel & Bistro, where head chef Benjamin Knack, 28, was testing some creations he'll unveil this summer. Among the other new tastes are saffron sorbet over scallop seviche, gazpacho with a scoop of a mildly fennel-flavored sorbet called anise-hyssop, and a warm asparagus and cold lobster salad with mushroom ice cream.

Mushroom ice cream? Tomato and olive oil sorbet? Served as appetizers? Well, why not start your meal with ice cream?

These are savory ice creams and sorbets, no sugar added. What they add to a dish are dimensions of flavor, texture and temperature, giving chefs like Knack more ways to create what he calls "the roundest possible plate," full of contrasting tastes. And the dishes aren't all that wild and crazy, Knack explains. In a more traditional presentation of the littlenecks, for instance, they might be served on a bed of ice, with a tomato-based dipping sauce. In his version, the tomato is the ice, which helps to keep the clams cold while also adding beauty and whimsy.

Knack is one of many local chefs currently experimenting with unusual ice creams and sorbets. After a brutally cold winter and a wet spring, summer is the time for Bostonians to let loose, and nothing says summer quite as emphatically as ice cream does. In cafés, bistros, restaurants and ice cream shops all over the city, patrons will be able to choose from a huge range of exotic frozen treats, as well as more conventional favorites, sometimes in surprising combinations.

Boston's impresario of adventure may be Alex Stupak, the 24-year-old dessert wizard at Clio, in the Eliot Hotel. He's making ice cream from orris root, an ingredient he claims has not been used in cooking "for about 300 years." That may be because it has the aroma of baby powder. But it pairs well with fresh raspberries, Stupak says, which is how he intends to serve it.

Another creative delight is Stupak's cold black currant capsule, a frozen cylinder of intense black currant puree filled with crème de cassis, served with vanilla ice cream and violet marmalade. His dense, square chocolate pudding comes with eucalyptus ice cream, milk foam and a beautiful green peppermint granité so finely pulverized that he calls it "powder." Also in the works is his version of a gin and tonic: a sorbet made from quinquina, the tree bark that gives us quinine, served with lemon-lime foam and juniper gelée.

At Sage, in the North End, chef Anthony Susi is playing with more well-known ice creams but in unusual combinations. This summer he'll serve a hot, earthy mushroom soup poured over mascarpone ice cream; prune sorbet with a foie gras terrine; and basil ice cream in a tomato water soup.

If all this seems just too outré, head for Christina's Ice Cream, near Inman Square, where the novelties are more approachable. Owner Ray Ford's ice cream is so good that he supplies about 300 restaurateurs in Greater Boston, arguably some of the area's pickiest eaters. With butterfat content at 14 percent or more, these *glaces* are not for the faint of heart. But the ingredients are fresh, and flavors are intriguing. This summer, in addition to the well-known standbys, Christina's will sell ice cream flavors including black sesame, saffron, herbal chai (made with South African red tea), corn, a tangy crème fraîche, and an ice cream with fennel pollen.

At Les Zygomates, pastry chef Meg Paine says her challenge is to create frozen desserts without an ice cream maker, because the bistro doesn't have one. Lemon chiboust is one of her favorites—a cream-flavored with lemon zest and perhaps a touch of limoncello liqueur, lightened with meringue, frozen, and then sprinkled with sugar and torched as if it were a crème brûlée to give it a caramelized sugar crust. "It's a showstopper," he enthuses.

At Bricco, in the North End, executive chef Marisa Iocco has just bought a jazzy new gelato machine and hopes to offer 24 flavors—count them—this summer. Her frozen cornucopia includes basil and pepperoncino sorbet and black pepper gelato, both served as a refreshing dessert or as a side dish with cheeses or sautéed vegetables.

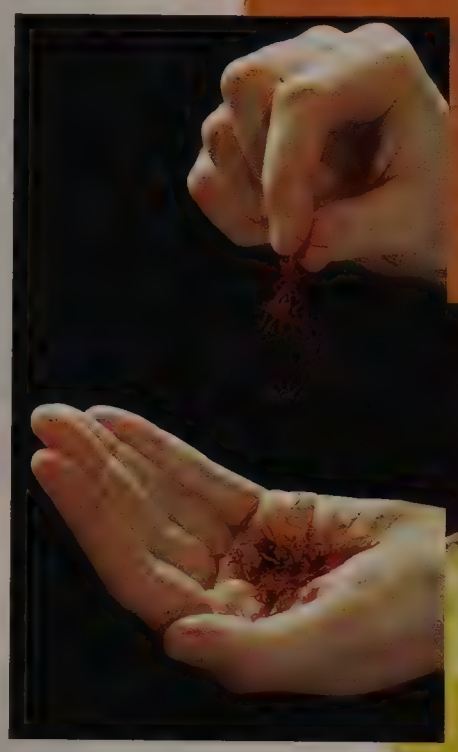
Like many ice cream aficionados, Iocco has loved the stuff for as long as she can remember. She craves it daily, especially in the summer after a long day in a hot kitchen. "Every night before I go to bed, I have a big plate of gelato," she says. "It's something my body needs."

Yankees eat more ice cream per capita than any other region of the country, according to David James, pastry chef at Le Soir in Newton. And why not, with all the great New England dairies—and plenty of ice. "It's the perfect food. I love ice cream, oh my God!" he says. The very thought takes James back to happy days on his family's farm, where they hand-cranked ice cream every summer. Now his creations include lavender ice cream, white pepper ice cream, lemongrass sorbet, pinot noir sorbet, Guinness ice cream and a frozen pink peppercorn mousse.

The key to helping patrons enjoy unconventional flavors is to pair them with classics, James says, "so you don't push people over the edge." He serves his lavender ice cream with sautéed strawberries and meringue, for instance; the Guinness ice cream accompanies a chocolate hazelnut "pop tart," and the frozen pink peppercorn mousse comes with a caramelized pineapple parfait.









Opposite page: tomato and olive oil sorbet on littleneck clams at the Beacon Hill Hotel & Bistro. **This page, top:** Beacon Hill Hotel & Bistro chef Benjamin Knack displays three of his specialty ice creams; **bottom three:** Christina's owner Ray Ford makes a number of exotic ice cream flavors, including saffron.

At Spire, in the Nine Zero Hotel, chef Gabriel Frasca says his "ice cream itch" started about six years ago, when he and his girlfriend, chef Amanda Lydon (now a chef at Upstairs on the Square), discovered an old ice cream maker in a "take-it-or-leave-it" shed on Nantucket. As they began experimenting with their find, Frasca realized that ice cream has all the qualities he appreciates most—"the texture of a rich soup or a foie gras butter, the best elements of a well-balanced sauce, a clear extraction of flavor in an emulsion that just happens to get frozen. Plus, it can be gorgeous," he says.

Among the flavors Frasca will offer this summer are white pepper–goat cheese ice cream, buttermilk sorbet, anise-hyssop ice cream, carrot ice cream, basil sorbet, and toasted grape-nuts ice cream in a sandwich. To keep the textures at their best, he melts the ice creams and respins them daily.

At Meritage in the Boston Harbor Hotel, chef Daniel Bruce describes himself as "a purist" who doesn't believe in savory ice creams. But he's playing with several sweet new creations, including his own version of a malted milk ball: a little frozen sphere of malted chocolate ice cream dipped in a thin shell of dark chocolate and decorated with a white chocolate stripe.

Frank McClelland, L'Espalier's head chef, says he doesn't like to plan too far in advance. "I let the inspiration run with whatever comes through the door," he says, meaning whatever ingredients come to him from local farms and other purveyors. But he expects to serve a basil–crème fraîche ice cream over a bittersweet chocolate custard tart sprinkled with pistachios, and also a frozen white peach soufflé.

Like McClelland, Philip Aviles, chef at Masa in the South End, loves the velvety texture of a frozen soufflé. He's serving what he calls a "tower," a chilled mango soufflé with a tropical fruit salsa that has a touch of jalapeño. A few blocks away, at Nightingale, chef/co-owner Michael Burgess says he likes to stay "on the safe side" with his food. But he's awaiting the arrival of the summer corn crop to make his sweet corn ice cream, which has what he calls "a cult following."

"There's something about ice cream that's so fun," Burgess says. "It melts in your mouth, sliding over your palate like silk, cold and great on a hot day. It takes everyone back to their childhood, like the time their grandparents took them out for ice cream, or maybe their family stopped to get ice cream cones on Sunday, on the way home from church. It's something that everyone can relate to." iB

Sunglasses, $149 at See Eyewear. Blue chiffon camisole by Milly, $222 at Wish. "Socialite" jeans, $242 at Jasmine Sola. Yellow quartz necklace, $90; matching earrings, $70. Both by Jane Jewelry at Flat of the Hill.

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Lace overlay top, $245; long denim skirt, $165. Both at DKNY. Red jade necklace, $220; matching bracelet, $100. Both by Jane Jewelry at Flat of the Hill.

Lavender top with ruffles and satin underlay, $145 at DKNY. Waistband mini by Joe's Jeans, $129 at Jasmine Sola.

Pink print top, $49.50;
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HEAL, AND PRETTILY TOO

Harnett's Homeopathy & Body Care, at 47 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-491-4747), sells a deck of cards entitled "History and Uses of 50 Healing Plants," from the New York Botanical Garden. $13.95.

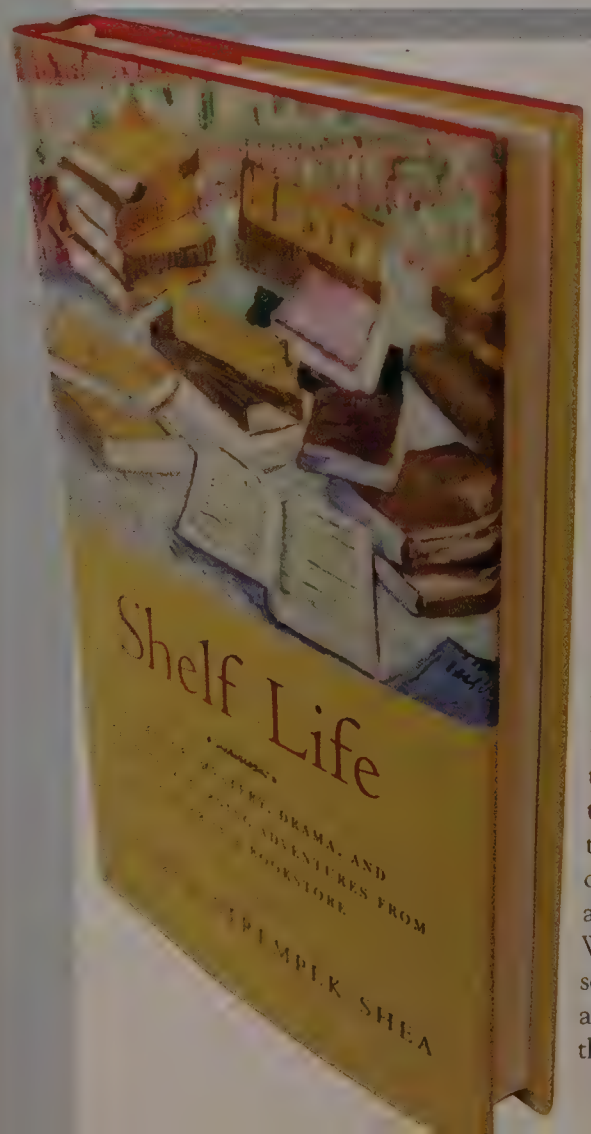
How sweet it is, given the blandness of pills in a bottle, that Mother Nature, artist and pharmacist, provides us with such an array of luscious and healing plants. These stiff cards, each one suitable for mini-framing, tell the tales of 50 plants: botanical, historical, medicinal, culinary, mystical. The "fairy flower," foxglove, according to legend, gave foxes the "seemingly magical ability to steal into hens' yards." Nonmagically, foxglove is used to strengthen heart contractions. Myrrh, of biblical fame, was used by the Egyptians to embalm the dead; nowadays, more cheerfully, it gives a spicy smell to perfumes. Raspberries were used to fasten loose teeth. In ayurvedic medicine, myrrh reduces swelling and alleviates pain. Latin names, such as *taraxacum* for dandelion (which comes from "dent to lion" or lion's tooth for its jagged leaves), *zingiber* for ginger and *syzgium* for cloves (the Chinese held cloves in the mouth to stave off bad breath when addressing the emperor) add exoticism to everyday plants and spices. The Romans warded off intoxication with parsley wreaths; cruel nettles make good soup, and marsh mallow, amazingly, is the plant ancestor of that white goo.



HELLO PINK PURSE

Anna William, at 2014 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-2662), offers ready- and custom-made handbags, and the store is available for booking "handbag parties." Also at 1 Merrimac St., Newburyport (978-465-2662).

Cheery, wide open and bursting with the pinks of spring and summer, this handbag store offers the custom joys of choosing and mixing your own elements to create a personalized bag. Though you can just buy a bag outright—they come in 18 styles—it's even more fun to custom-widget your own out of Anna William's sprawling array of styles and fabrics. From books/papers/diaper-holdable biggies with foldover flaps to dainty eensies for your change, each model of bag is displayed on the wall and individually named: Beacon Hill, Wellesley, Hampton (Massachusetts' own town, not the snootsville New York one), Lexington and others. Each part of the bag is a candidate for its own fabric, so the largest area might be black, while the flap or strap has another jazzy print and the zip-up part in its secret inner section sports yet another fabric. Further, there are numerous closure options—snaps, ribbons, zippers, pinchers. All these variations make for another deliciously inviting option: handbag parties for gal pals, available at both locations. The store becomes headquarters for your crew, and the organizer receives a complimentary bag of $74 value. You can bring your own food and drink and have a bag lunch.



AMAZON, NOT! COM

***Shelf Life* tells of writer Suzanne Strempek Shea's year working at a bookstore in Springfield, Mass.**

Where do books come from? These days, the stor brings them via the Internet, apparently. But tha depersonalized mode of literary browsing only make the human world of real bookstores, especially inde pendent, family-owned shops, more precious. An it's that atmosphere that Suzanne Strempek She sought out. A novelist who'd lived through cance and written a book about her travails, she went t work at Edwards Books, where she found a world engagement in the community of readers, the know edgeable and eccentric hangers-on (one guy loved t read titles out loud and thrilled her by reading one hers) and in the owner, Janet Edwards. Shea's love Brookline Booksmith spilled over to her cozy voc tion at Edwards. At this literary watering hole, say the owner, "It really is a world begging for connec tion." Shea describes authors' readings—including he own—that, even with sometimes squirmingly sma audiences were exhausting, gratifying, quirky fu With one foot in book-writing and the other in book selling, Shea champions authors, especially local one and celebrates the excitement that radiates throug the store as flesh and book make contact.


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IN THIS SECTION: Review: Rani Indian Bistro Dish: Grotto's "community table"
Tasty Tidbit: Chocolatier Lora Brody at UpStairs on the Square

REVIEW

RANI CURRIES FLAVOR

Coolidge Corner spot serves diverse Indian cuisine

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS



Shrimp *balchow* with salad garnish

To most people, Indian cuisine means, first and foremost, curries, those rich, aromatic stews with the assertive flavors and distinctive aromas of curry powder, an orange-yellow spice almost universally available in the average American grocery store. What is not generally appreciated is that curry is not a single spice and not particularly Indian in its origins. In fact, it's a blend of several spices from the four corners of the world. In its most authentic and refined form, it includes cumin, coriander, fennel, mustard and fenugreek, indigenous to the Mediterranean basin; chili peppers from Mexico; and black pepper, cardamom, turmeric, and kari leaf (sometimes by itself called "curry") from south Asia. Good Indian restaurants would no more use standard-issue, grocery store curry powder than a fine Italian restaurant would serve spaghetti and meatballs from a can.

Boston has the good fortune to be home to a significant number of Indian restaurants, both in the city and the suburbs. Rani, on Beacon Street in Brookline's Coolidge Corner, is one of the newest additions to these valued gastronomic resources, having opened at the end of last year. Its enterprising owners, Samir and Prakruti Majmudar, are veterans of the Boston dining scene and have owned and run Boston restaurants for the better part of 20 years. In contrast to many Indian restaurants, Rani is bright and airy, with an upbeat, contemporary look and feel. Small conical lights line the ochre-colored soffit beneath the high ceiling, casting a pleasant glow on the yellow walls of the large, square dining room, which is otherwise appointed in soothing earth tones. Illuminated niches in one wall display a variety of vases and other artifacts.

While Rani's menu mentions a special emphasis on the cuisine of Hyderabad, India's "Pearl City," its comprehensive bill of fare ranges across the length and breadth of this large country of geographical, climatic, cultural and linguistic diversity. For appetizers, the "Rani Platter" ($9), an assortment of hot hors d'oeuvres, all of them well executed, represents an obvious choice. The light, crispy and flaky pastry of the samosas (vegetable turnovers) encased moist, flavorful potatoes and peas, deftly seasoned with coriander and other spices that make up the heart and soul of Indian cooking. Translated on the menu as "dumplings" but really fritters, Sabzi pakora consisted of potatoes, carrots, cauliflower and chili, at once crunchy and moist. They were served with a sweet-tart plum sauce, the tartness probably contributed by tamarind, a common source of sour flavoring. Onion bhaji, the third installment of the quartet of appetizers on the platter, turned out to be onion and potato fritters seasoned with cumin and battered with chick pea flour. Rounding out the platter, the *batata wada*, India's answer to the potato pancake, was a plump rectangle of spiced potatoes coated with chick pea batter and fried to a golden brown, its interior moist and assertively spiced with coriander, cumin and perhaps turmeric.

RANI INDIAN BISTRO
1353 Beacon St., Brookline
(617-734-0400)

HOURS Mon.–Fri., 11:30 am–3 pm, 5–10:30 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11:30 am–3 pm, 5–11 pm
RESERVATIONS recommended
CREDIT CARDS all major
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes
PARKING on street
LIQUOR LICENSE beer and wine

Other appetizers included the shrimp *balchow* ($8), four good-sized, nicely textured shrimp in a rich, complex sauce with a provocative, peppery kick. The accompanying salad garnish of tomato, lettuce, cucumbers and onions had a cooling effect. Our final appetizer, *kakori* kebab ($8), consisted of mini links of lamb sausage that had been marinated in cumin and other spices and roasted in a tandoor (clay oven). Excessive dryness afflicted these kebabs, as it did the other tandoori offerings, but Rani's exceptional mint chutney (more on this later) went a long way to compensate for their dryness. Rani's breads, surprisingly, failed to meet my high expectations. The *peshawari naan* ($3), leavened bread baked in a tandoor with raisins and cashews, appeared to skimp on those ingredients, while the puffed-up, whole-wheat poori, as spectacular as it looked—like a well-made soufflé—seemed all show and little substance.

Of Rani's main courses, I tried two from the Hyderabad side of the menu: *kairi muri* ($12) and *hussainey* lamb ($14). The first boneless shards of moist, full-flavored chicken cooked with green mango boasted an intriguing and enjoyable tart sweet flavor. The lamb had been stewed in garlic and fresh ginger, creating a remarkably robust but nuanced sauce, warm and aromatic. Besides the ginger and garlic, it may have contained a whisper of cilantro. From a selection of traditional Indian curries listed toward the end of Rani's menu, I chose chicken madras ($12), *rogan josh* ($14) and *sali boti* ($14). Of these three the rogan josh—described as a classic curry from Kashmir, in the northwest of the Indian subcontinent—was dry and bland. Fortunately, these two adjectives were categorically inapplicable to the other two curries. The chicken madras seasoned with chilies and mustard seed featured coconut as its most prominent ingredient, which gave it a mellow, seductive sweetness that masked its heat—a deception that became apparent several bites in. It turned out to be one of the more memorable of Rani's dishes. Sali boti, described as sour and sweet lamb curry, got those flavors largely from apricots, a perfect foil for the gamy meat.

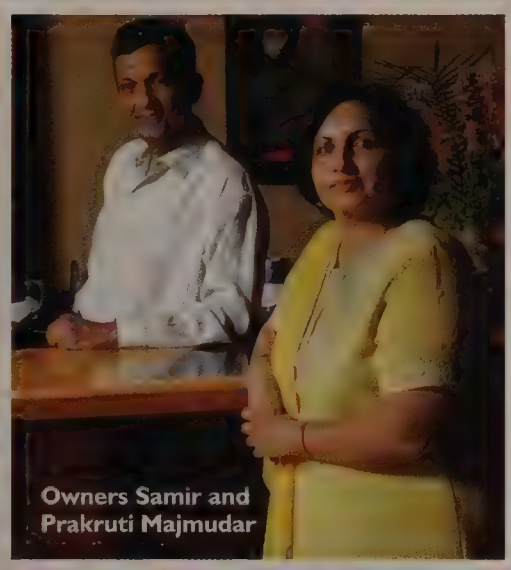
Finally among main courses, the tandoori mixed grill ($19) enabled me to sample almost the entire tandoori repertoire at Rani, from lamb to chicken to shrimp. The shrimp stood out, crunchy in texture and wonderfully moist, with robust, intriguing spiced overtones. The chicken, on the other hand, was irredeemably dry, a failing



Rani's dining room has an upbeat, contemporary atmosphere.



Sali boti



Owners Samir and Prakruti Majmudar



The Rani Platter

nared by both the cut up chicken served n the bone and the boneless pieces of nicken *kurchan*. The flesh of the tandoori nicken took on hues ranging from yellow pink from the predominant spices—yelw from turmeric (a chief ingredient of rry powder), and pink, I surmised, from e cumin. The tandoori-cooked lamb mirred the dryness of the chicken. Tandoori asting is supposed to result in meat that s been seared to a hard crust on the outde while remaining moist and tender ithin. Rani's tandoori texture failings may ave resulted from inadequate coating with arinade before or in the course of cookg. In any event, the dryness of the tanori meats was addressed by liberal spoonls of Rani's spectacular mint chutney. his refreshing condiment, a felicitous end of mango, mint, cilantro and yogurt, ould be a staple in any home.

After the heat of many of Rani's main urses, the soothing sweetness of kheer, dian rice pudding flavored with carmom ($4), brought relief, as did a ango lassi ($3.50), a refreshing yogurt ilkshake. Rani offers a decent selection of wines to accompany its food, including two bargain-priced house wines from Australia bearing the label "Peace"—one a reasonably balanced chardonnay and the other a blend of traditional Rhone grapes. Many, of course, prefer beer as the accompaniment for Indian cuisine, and Rani offers a selection of domestic and Indian brews.

I visited Rani twice, once early in the week, when desultory service mirrored a sparsely populated dining room, and once in the middle of the week, when almost every table was filled and Rani's service staff rose to the challenge of handling the hungry throng. In fact, the efficiency and attentiveness of our waiters on that visit, on which I was accompanied by four colleagues to better enable us to sample a large number of dishes, made me suspect that our journalistic mission had been discovered. Still, careful observation of the rest of the dining room, where a consistent level of satisfaction and enjoyment prevailed, suggested that other parties received comparable attention and good service. iB



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TASTINGS

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Afternoon Tea
91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933). www.upstairsonthesquare.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. June 18, 3-5 pm. $35. Cookbook author and chocolatier **Lora Brody** joins UpStairs on the Square for afternoon tea to celebrate the publication of her new book, *Chocolate, American Style*. Tea sandwiches, scones and chocolate pastries are served.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: D Green Line to Washington Square. $25. Fireplace chef/owner **Jim Solomon** offers a series of tastings. •June 19, 3 pm: Cool Summer Cocktails.

Italian Wine Dinner
Monica's, 143 Richmond St., Boston (617-227-0311). MBTA: Orange and Green Line to Haymarket. June 16, 7 pm. $55. Enjoy a four-course dinner by chef **Jorge Mendoza** while sampling wines from the Tuscan estate of Falchini.

Martini Dinner
Bomboa, 35 Stanhope St., Boston (617-236-6363). June 16, 5:30 pm-12 am. Price varies. Bomboa hosts its annual four-course martini dinner, which follows the history of the martini from the 1920s to the present.

Monday Night Wine & Cheese Tasting
Icarus, 3 Appleton St., Boston (617-426-1790). 7 pm. $30 per person. Sample wine and cheese paired by Classic Wine Imports consultant Jennifer Cullum and South End Formaggio cheese monger Tim Bucciarelli. •June 14: Pairings that express the rich *terroir* of France.

Putt for a Great Cause
Maggiano's Little Italy, 4 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-542-3456). June 20, 11:30 am. For Father's Day, the restaurant sets up a putting green for dads to compete on. The winner takes home a gas barbeque grill, and all participants receive a $10 Maggiano's gift certificate. All proceeds benefit the Make-A-Wish foundation.

Rib-O-Rama Rib Challenge
Jake's Dixie Roadhouse, 220 Moody St., Waltham (781-894-4227). June 21, 7-9 pm. $24.95. Roll up your sleeves and dig in as six area pit bosses battle for the 2004 Rib-O-Rama "Best Ribs of Boston" trophy.

Spring Fling Wine Tasting
Sonsie, 327 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0363). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. June 10, 7-9 pm. $50. Relax in Sonsie's Red Room and sample wines that match the spring weather. Sonsie's kitchen pairs small dishes to complement the wine.

A Taste of Italy
Boston University, 808 Comm. Ave., Boston (866-562-7263). June 21, 7-9 pm. $55 Slow Food members, $65 nonmembers. Taste prerelease Italian wines and meet the winemakers while feasting on bites from area restaurants.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $25. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, while chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •June 15: Sake. •June 22: California Cult Cabs ($45).

Washington Square Block Party
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. June 9, 6:30-10 pm. $20, $10 for children 15 and under. Sample the Fireplace's summer menu while the band Grupo Fantasia performs. Proceeds benefit the Brookline Fire Department.

Wine, Cheese, Art
The SOWA Art Community, 450 Harrison Ave., Boston. www.bostonsocialnetwork.com. June 16, 6-8 pm. $19 in advance, $20 at the door. South End Formaggio and the New England Cheese Makers provide wine-and-cheese pairings while visitors admire artwork from galleries of the SOWA Art Community.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Johnson** offers descriptions of the wines that complement the French–New England meal by chef **Frank McClelland**. •June 14: Rosé-Colored Glasses June 21: Burgundy.

Wines of South Africa Dinner
Tremont 647, 647 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-4600). June 21, 6:30 pm. $50. To celebrate 10 years of democracy in South Africa, chef **Andy Husbands** prepares a meal with wine to match.

Wine Wednesdays
Caffé Umbra, 1395 Washington St., Boston (617-867-0707) Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $15. The restaurant offers themed wine flights paired with small tastings. •June 9: Chenin Blanc •June 16: Wines from Tre R of Emilia-Romagne.





Lora Brody celebrates her new cookbook at UpStairs on the Square.

DISH

Convention Detention

Grotto hunkers down...Getting a big pizza the action in the Berkshires

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

If the prospect of being overrun by conventioneers in late July makes you want to hide out in a cave, we have a better suggestion: Reserve a seat at **Grotto** on Beacon Hill, where owner/chef **Scott Herritt** will set up a "community table" so folks tuck in the city can "share views, blues, and news," as well as a four-course, prix-fixe dinner for $20.04.

Actually, Herritt will be offering the same deal—choice of appetizer, a salad, choice of entrée, choice of dessert—during the week preceding the convention too. By then, he'll be celebrating Grotto's first birthday ("time flies when you're cooking and having fun," he says). And perhaps he'll be nominated for president of the Positive Attitude Party.



Grotto chef/owner Scott Herritt

Monster in a box: When chefs **Billy Boudreau** and **Tom Tenuta** left bustling Boston for the bucolic Berkshires, each expected the quiet comforts of the countryside. Tenuta, chef/owner of the former **Cena**, had recently married **Loretta Huguez**, formerly of **El Pelon Taqueria**, and they wanted more space in which to raise a family. Boudreau,who'd been a pastry chef at **Seasons at the Bostonian** and more recently chef at **02129** in Charlestown, rented a rustic antique farmhouse and planned to raise chicken. As business partners, the two men decided to open a simple pizzeria in West Stockbridge.

It seemed simple, to start. A local woodworker crafted an impressive table. A neighborhood artisan fashioned a striking marble bar. Boudreau painted the main dining room of **The Village Oven** in tones of soft avocado and rich cream. Suddenly, as soon as I put the eagle on top of the cappuccino maker," he says, he was struck with the premonition that their grasp might exceed their reach.

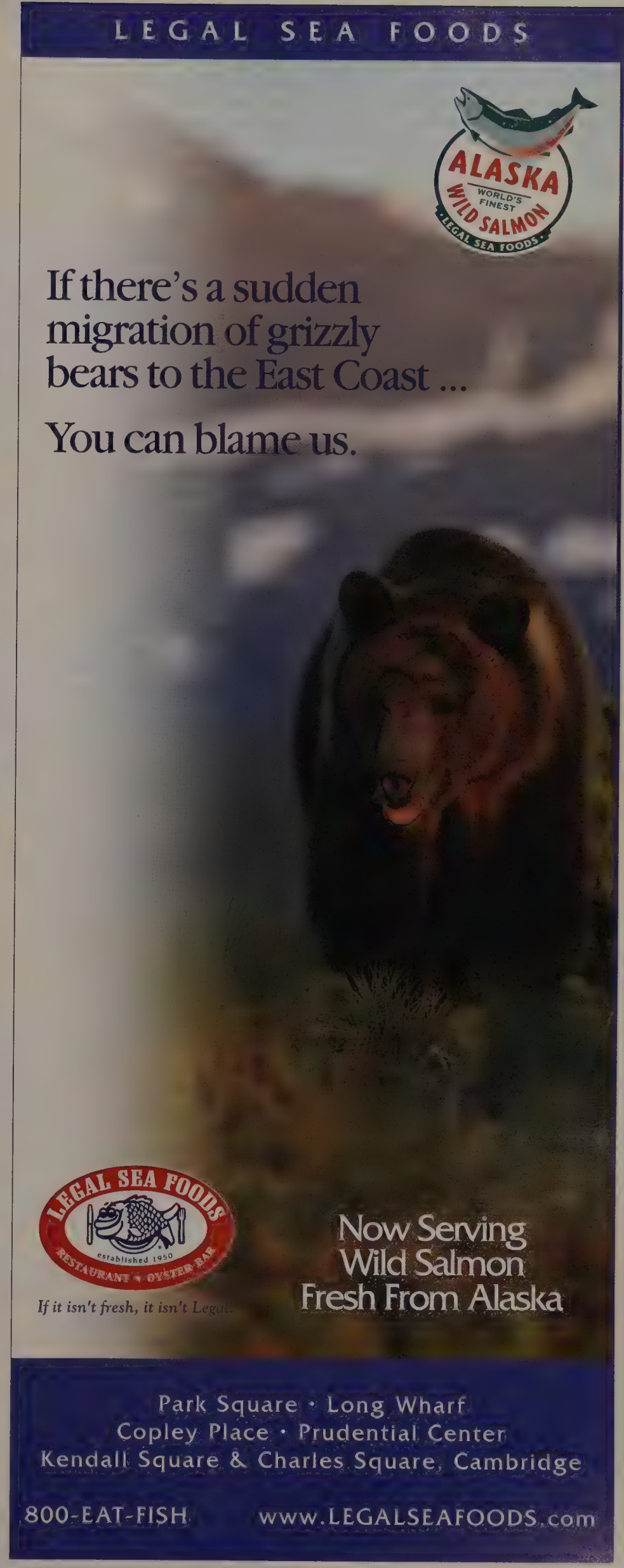
Opening day brought a stampede of diners, "75 percent more than we'd expected," says Boudreau. "Forty-five minutes before we opened, people were calling on the phone, ordering pizza." The next day, a patron patiently waited an hour and a half for his pizza. Boudreau, grappling with sudden, overwhelming popularity, told the man the pizza was on the house. But no—such was the frenzy of devotion inspired by this pizza that the man insisted on paying.

Boudreau and Tenuta were stunned. "All of a sudden, we're pizza chic," says Boudreau. On the third day, they took a brief time-out to increase their staff fourfold—from five to 20—and braced themselves to accommodate the crowds. "Maybe we'll get an unlisted phone number, a little peephole and a password," jokes Boudreau. So much for the simple life. (In case you're wondering, yes, the pizza is that good.)

Et cetera: In the Land of Todd, **Jenny Cates** has been named the new executive chef at **Bonfire**, while former Bonfire executive chef **Chris Frothingham** is now executive chef at **Kingfish Hall**. Big fish: **Legal Sea Foods**' newly appointed chief operating officer is **Darryl "Chip" Wade**, who has apparently played key roles both in the aggressive growth of **Smokey Bones** BBQ restaurants and the revitalization of the **Olive Garden** chain. As long as they keep him out of the kitchen. iB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to dish@improper.com.



PATIO & OPEN AIR DINING

ABE AND LOUIE'S
793 Boylston Street, Boston, 617-536-6300
Bring Your… Significant others
Fun Summer Drink: Apple Martini
Style File: Brooks Brothers to Dior
Celebrity Sightings: Celtics, Barry & Eliot of Jordan's Furniture
The Best Place to… Seal the deal

AQUA
120 Water Street, Boston, 617-720-4900
Bring Your… Dancing shoes
Fun Summer Drink: Puddytime
Style File: Trendy
Celebrity Sightings: C.T. and David from *The Real World*
The Best Place to… Meet someone

ASSAGGIO
29 Prince Street, Boston, 617-227-7380
Bring Your… Friends & family
Fun Summer Drink: Flirtini
Style File: Casual
Celebrity Sightings: Joey McIntyre
The Best Place to… Hang with friends or make new friends

ATLANTIC FISH CO.
761 Boylston Street, Boston, 617-267-4000
Bring Your…Family & friends
Fun Summer Drink: Lemon Drop
Style File: Casual & fun attire
Celebrity Sightings: Jessica Simpson
The Best Place to…Have all your seafood favorites

BRICCO
241 Hanover Street, Boston, 617-248-6800
Bring Your… Friends
Fun Summer Drink: Negroni
Style File: Elegant trendy
Celebrity Sightings: Tom Brady, Boston Bruins, Derek Jeter
The Best Place to… Taste some truly boutique Italian cuisine

CACTUS CLUB
939 Boylston Street, Boston, 617-236-0200
Bring Your… Friends & appetite, not your day planner
Fun Summer Drink: The Mojito Margarita
Style File: Bare what you dare
Celebrity Sightings: Cal Ripken Jr., Boston Red Sox
The Best Place to… Lick, shoot & suck

CAPTAIN FISHBONES
332 Victory Rd., Quincy, 617-471-3511
Bring Your… Appetite
Fun Summer Drink: Shipwreck, served in a coconut shell carved into a Pirate head.
Style File: Casual attire
Celebrity Sightings: Some Red Sox, some Pats
The Best Place to… People-watch in Marina Bay

CHEERS CAFÉ
Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston, 617-227-0150
Bring Your… Kids for the family friendly atmosphere
Fun Summer Drink: Watermelon Martini
Style File: Casual
Celebrity Sightings: Norm!
The Best Place to… Enjoy live entertainment on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights

DEVLIN'S
332 Washington Street, Brighton, 617-779-8822
Bring Your… Friends and enemies
Fun Summer Drink: Margarita
Style File: Casual, occasional nudity
Celebrity Sightings: Colin Farrell
The Best Place to… Get down with your bad self

DILLON'S
955 Boylston Street, Boston, 617-421-1818
Bring Your… Red Sox hat & sunblock
Fun Summer Drink: Mojito
Style File: City cool
Celebrity Sightings: Carlos Delgado
The Best Place to… Meet friends & relax

ELEPHANT & CASTLE
161 Devonshire Street, Boston, 617-350-9977
Bring Your… Friends
Fun Summer Drink: Goombay Smash
Style File: Casual
Celebrity Sightings: Cam Neely, Denis Leary
The Best Place to… Play trivia

EXCELSIOR
272 Boylston Street, Boston, 617-426-7878
Bring Your… Appetite
Fun Summer Drink: Bajito, an Excelsior signature
Style File: Manolos, Sevens & anything black
Celebrity Sightings: Mark Wahlberg, Christina Aguilera, Manny Ramirez
The Best Place to… Feel sexy & flirt

GREEN BRIAR
304 Washington Street, Brighton, 617-789-4100
Bring Your… Irish translator
Fun Summer Drink: The Craic
Style File: Shorts and tees
Celebrity Sightings: Jason Varitek
The Best Place to… Join in an Irish seisún

GREEN DRAGON
11 Marshall Street, Boston, 617-367-0055
Bring Your… Fun-loving personality
Fun Summer Drink: Sean's Happy Juice
Style File: Casual & fun
Celebrity Sightings: Lenny Clarke, Paul Revere
The Best Place to… Chill out

HARVEST
44 Brattle Street, Cambridge, 617-868-2255
Bring Your… Best friends
Fun Summer Drink: Mint Julep
Style File: Sandals & sunglasses
Celebrity Sightings: Ben Affleck, Keith Lockhart, Lili Taylor
The Best Place to… Be inspired

HENNESSY'S
25 Union Street, Boston, 617-742-2121
Bring Your… Best look
Fun Summer Drink: Frozen Mint Cookie
Style File: Summer casz
Celebrity Sightings: USA World Cup Soccer Team
The Best Place to... See and be seen

JOSÉ MCINTYRE'S
160 Milk Street, Boston, 617-451-9460
Bring Your… Tan
Fun Summer Drink: Margarita
Style File: Casual
Celebrity Sightings: José Cuervo
The Best Place to… Dance the night away

KINVARA
32 Harvard Avenue, Allston, 617-783-9400
Bring Your… Bikinis
Fun Summer Drink: The Craic
Style File: Sandals & sunglasses
Celebrity Sightings: The Bachelor
The Best Place to… Catch GAA action

LEGAL SEA FOODS, LONG WHARF
LEGAL SEA FOODS, CHARLES HOTEL
255 State Street, Boston, 617-742-5300
5 Bennett Street, Cambridge, 617-491-9400
Bring Your… Lobster bib
Fun Summer Drink: Legal Red Sangria
Style File: Nautical
Celebrity Sightings: Bill Walton
The Best Place to… Get hooked on

THE LINWOOD
69-81 Kilmarnock Street, Boston, 617-247-8099
Bring Your… Appetite for soul food
Fun Summer Drink: Watermelon Margarita
Style File: Fenway Funky
Celebrity Sightings: Red Sox
The Best Place to… Catch the game on the big screens

MR. DOOLEY'S
77 Broad Street, Boston, 617-338-5656
Bring Your… Party hat
Fun Summer Drink: Somers Frozen Irish Coffee
Style File: Business casual
Celebrity Sightings: Twice weekly
The Best Place to… Unwind

NED DEVINE'S
Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston, 617-248-8800
Bring Your… Pick up lines
Fun Summer Drink: The Craic
Style File: Business casual
Celebrity Sightings: John Kerry all summer long
The Best Place to… Eat, drink, lounge, dance

ORLEANS
65 Holland Street, Somerville, 617-591-2100
Bring Your… Friends and foes
Fun Summer Drink: Mojito
Style File: Casual or risky
Celebrity Sightings: Robert DeNiro
The Best Place to… People-watch

PARISH CAFÉ
361 Boylston Street, Boston, 617-247-4777
Bring Your… Appetite
Fun Summer Drink: Zinger
Style File: Cool & casual
Celebrity Sightings: Stevie Nicks
The Best Place to… Try the best chefs in Boston without seeing them

RATTLESNAKE BAR & GRILL
384 Boylston Street, Boston, 617-859-8555
Bring Your…Desire for fun
Fun Summer Drink: Margaritas
Style File: Casual, but sexy
Celebrity Sightings: Rod Stewart
The Best Place to… Fall in love

REDLINE FOOD & DRINK
59 JFK Street, Cambridge, 617-491-9851
Bring Your…Friends from across the river
Fun Summer Drink: Watermelon Martini
Style File: Cambridge chic
Celebrity Sightings: Ben Affleck
The Best Place to… Listen to great DJs

SAM'S CAFÉ AT CHEERS
Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston 617-227-7579
Bring Your… Game face & watch your favorite Boston team!
Fun Summer Drink: Varitek Smash
Style File: Casual
Celebrity Sightings: Boston sports fans
The Best Place to… Watch the game!

SOHO
386 Market Street, Brighton, 617-562-6000
Bring Your… Friends & enjoy the relaxing atmosphere
Fun Summer Drink: Frozen Sour Apple
Style File: Upscale casual
Celebrity Sightings: Manny Ramirez, Brooke Burke, Matt Damon
The Best Place to… Watch the game, enjoy great food and service

SWEETWATER CAFÉ
3 Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-2515
Bring Your… Drinkin' shoes
Fun Summer Drink: Fresh Squeezed Margaritas
Style File: Comfortable, laid back
Celebrity Sightings: We don't want 'em
The Best Place to… Go out and feel at home!

TEQUILA RAIN
3 Lansdowne Street, Boston, 617-437-0300
Bring Your… Friends
Fun Summer Drink: Frozen Margaritas
Style File: Summer casual
Celebrity Sightings: Nomar Garciaparra & Mia Hamm, NE Patriots, various professional athletes
The Best Place to… Bring your Red Sox pride

TIA'S
200 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, 617-227-0828
Bring Your… Personality and best look
Fun Summer Drink: Raspberry Mojito Martini
Style File: Shabby chic
Celebrity Sightings: Bruins, Patriots & Red Sox
The Best Place to… Eat lobsters, steamers & clams

TIKI ROOM
1 Lansdowne Street, Boston, 617-351-2580
Bring Your… Friends to share pupu platters with
Fun Summer Drink: 60-ounce Blue Hawaiian Bowl
Style File: Lei'd back
Celebrity Sightings: Oliver Stone, Gabe Kapler
The Best Place to… Catch a tropical vibe

THE BARKING CRAB
88 Sleeper Street, Boston, 617-426-2722
Bring Your… Friends
Fun Summer Drink: Cold Draft Beer
Style File: Casually cool
Celebrity Sightings: Ron Wood, Brian Dennehy, Bronson Arroyo
The Best Place to… Relax

THE BLACK RHINO
21 Broad Street, Boston, 617-263-0101
Bring Your… Sunscreen
Fun Summer Drink: Rossitini
Style File: Upscale, but casual
Celebrity Sightings: Bronson Arroyo
The Best Place to… Listen to reggae on Wednesdays

BOSTON BEER GARDEN
732 E. Broadway, South Boston, 617-269-0990
Bring Your… Appetite — the food is delicious!
Fun Summer Drink: Drinks for two/Sangria pitchers
Style File: Cool & casual
Celebrity Sightings: John Kerry
The Best Place to… Have Saturday & Sunday brunch

BOSTON BEER WORKS
112 Canal Street, Boston, 617-896-BEER
278 Derby Street, Salem, 978-745-BEER
Bring Your… Appetite
Fun Summer Drink: Watermelon Ale
Style File: Super chill
Celebrity Sightings: Celtics & Bruins players
The Best Place to… Grab some eats, sip some treats & shoot pool

CLERYS
113 Dartmouth Street, Boston, 617-262-9874
Bring Your… Corporate credit card
Fun Summer Drink: Pink Lemonade
Style File: Comfortable & casual
Celebrity Sightings: Derek Lowe
The Best Place to… Go where everyone REALLY knows your name

COOGAN'S
173 Milk Street, Boston, 617-451-7415
Bring Your… Work buddy
Fun Summer Drink: Piña Colada
Style File: Business casual
Celebrity Sightings: "Sam Adams"
The Best Place to… Relax & unwind

COTTONWOOD CAFÉ
222 Berkeley Street, Boston, 617-247-2225
Bring Your… Appetite for adventure
Fun Summer Drink: Prickly Pear Margarita
Style File: Casual
Celebrity Sightings: Drew Bledsoe, Will Ferrell, John Travolta
The Best Place to… Fall in love over some Margaritas

DAILY CATCH
2 Northern Avenue, Boston, 617-772-4400
Bring Your… "Precious" children
Fun Summer Drink: Ice-cold Moretti
Style File: As you are
Celebrity Sightings: Supreme Court justices
The Best Place to… Catch a harbor breeze

THE FIREPLACE
1634 Beacon Street, Brookline, 617-975-1900
Bring Your… Flip-flops
Fun Summer Drink: Watermelon Cooler
Style File: Chic casual
Celebrity Sightings: Ellis Burke, Bud Collins, Robert Kraft
The Best Place to… Escape the downtown "scene"

FLASH'S COCKTAILS
310 Stuart Street, Boston, 617-574-8888
Bring Your… Singles for the jukebox
Fun Summer Drink: Lap Dance
Style File: Fun, funky and laid back
Celebrity Sightings: Manny Ramirez
The Best Place to… Hang with the industry types

GRAFTON STREET
1230 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 617-497-0400
Bring Your… Friends from Boston
Fun Summer Drink: Banana Split
Style File: Casual-comfortable
Celebrity Sightings: Luke Wilson
The Best Place to… Start with dinner, end with drinks

GRAND CANAL
57 Canal Street, Boston, 617-523-1112
Bring Your… Style
Fun Summer Drink: Beacon Hill Blizzard
Style File: Casual contemporary
Celebrity Sightings: Prime Minister of Ireland
The Best Place to… Look chic

HENRIETTA'S TABLE
1 Bennett Street, Cambridge, 617-661-5005
Bring Your… Comfort to a new level
Fun Summer Drink: Terrace Tini
Style File: Smart, young, professional
Celebrity Sightings: Daily
The Best Place to… Eat, drink and relax

HURRICANE O'REILLY'S
150 Canal Street, Boston, 617-722-0161
Bring Your… Game
Fun Summer Drink: Hurricane
Style File: Casual fun
Celebrity Sightings: Any of the Bruins
The Best Place to… Let loose and unwind

THE INDEPENDENT
75 Union Square, Somerville, 617-440-6022
Bring Your… Sarcasm
Fun Summer Drink: Spicy Margarita
Style File: Towny chic
Celebrity Sightings: Peter Wolf, U2, Hulk Hogan
The Best Place to… Hear My Bloody Valentine and eat steak frite

JOE'S AMERICAN BAR AND GRILL/ JOE'S WATERFRONT
279 Dartmouth Street, Boston, 617-536-4200
100 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, 617-367-8700
Bring Your… Boyfriend/girlfriend & summer shades
Fun Summer Drink: Key West
Style File: Shades, sporty Pumas & preppy attire
Celebrity Sightings: U2
The Best Place to… Enjoy all the summer classics

THE LIVING ROOM
101 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, 617-723-5101
Bring Your… Own cigarettes
Fun Summer Drink: Strawberry Fields
Style File: Cool & casual
Celebrity Sightings: Nomar & Mia
The Best Place to…Enjoy a cold martini

MAI THAI
90 N. Washington St., Boston, 617-723-2022
Bring Your… Friends and family
Fun Summer Drink: Blue Velvet Mai Thai
Style File: Relaxed
Celebrity Sightings: None
The Best Place to… Eat healthy/low-carb

MEZE
100 City Square, Charlestown, 617-242-6393
Bring Your… Appetite and your friends
Fun Summer Drink: Aphrodite
Style File: Sporty casual
Celebrity Sightings: Nomar Garciaparra, Mayor Menino, Ray Bourque
The Best Place to… Have fun

M.J. O'CONNOR'S
27 Columbus Avenue, Boston, 617-482-2255
Bring Your…Camera and sunglasses
Fun Summer Drink: The Craic
Style File: Smart casual
Celebrity Sightings: The cast of *Riverdance*
The Best Place to… Enjoy an authentic Irish experience

THE PLACE
2 Broad Street, Boston, 617-523-2081
Bring Your… Party shoes
Fun Summer Drink: Stoli Doli Martini
Style File: Summer casual
Celebrity Sightings: All the time—you never know who you'll run into
The Best Place to… Celebrate events, party with friends and make new ones

THE PLAYWRIGHT
658 E. Broadway, Boston, 617-269-2537
Bring Your… Toothbrush
Fun Summer Drink: Table-tapper
Style File: Casual
Celebrity Sightings: Kevin McHale, Mark Wahlberg
The Best Place to… Win Red Sox tickets

PURPLE SHAMROCK
1 Union Street, Boston, 617-227-2060
Bring Your… Dancing shoes
Fun Summer Drink: Anything frozen
Style File: Everyone & everything
Celebrity Sightings: Mark McGrath
The Best Place to… Enjoy music every day of the week

THE RACK
24 Clinton Street, Boston, 617-725-1051
Bring Your… Good friends and your laughter too…
Fun Summer Drink: Bellini w/peach nectar & champagne
Style File: Corporate early/sexy later
Celebrity Sightings: Joe Millionaire and Red Sox players
The Best Place to… Be discovered by a Hollywood casting agent

SÓLÁS
710 Boylston Street, Boston, 617-933-4803
Bring Your… Date or find one here
Fun Summer Drink: The Craic
Style File: Corporate casual, Red Sox relaxed
Celebrity Sightings: Nicolas Cage and Johnny Damon
The Best Place to… Spark a romance over a pint

SONSIE
327 Newbury Street, Boston, 617-351-2500
Bring Your… Appetite
Fun Summer Drink: Two-Melon Margarita
Style File: Comfortably stylish
Celebrity Sightings: George Clooney
The Best Place to… Eat, drink and relax

SOPHIA'S
1270 Boylston Street, Boston, 617-351-7001
Bring Your… Manolo heels to sip champagne out of
Fun Summer Drink: Miami Libre
Style File: Marc Jacobs mini skirt for her, Armani blazer and Sixxty jeans for him
Celebrity Sightings: Jaunes, Shakira
The Best Place to… Discover Latin-inspired cuisine

STREGA
379 Hanover Street, Boston, 617-523-8481
Bring Your… Camera
Fun Summer Drink: Strega Kiss
Style File: Casual, but fun
Celebrity Sightings: Cast of *The Sopranos*, Lebron James, Tori Spelling
The Best Place to… Be treated like family

TOAST LOUNGE
70 Union Square, Somerville, 617-623-9211
Bring Your… Immorality
Fun Summer Drink: Dirty Martini
Style File: Down and dirty
Celebrity Sightings: Jenna Jameson
The Best Place to… Find a girl

TONIC
1316 Commonwealth Ave., Brighton, 617-566-6699
Bring Your… Cheering crowd
Fun Summer Drink: Raspberry Lime Rickitini
Style File: Summer casual
Celebrity Sightings: The Red Sox...need we say more?
The Best Place to… Watch the Red Sox on the big screen

TROQUET
140 Boylston Street, Boston, 617-695-9463
Bring Your… Inner oenophile
Fun Summer Drink: Ginger Fizz
Style File: Casual
Celebrity Sightings: Dr. Ruth
The Best Place to… Get a cheese plate

VOX POPULI
755 Boylston Street, Boston, 617-424-8300
Bring Your… Appetite and your wingman
Fun Summer Drink: Pedro Martini
Style File: Casually elegant
Celebrity Sightings: None
The Best Place to…Eat, drink and be merry



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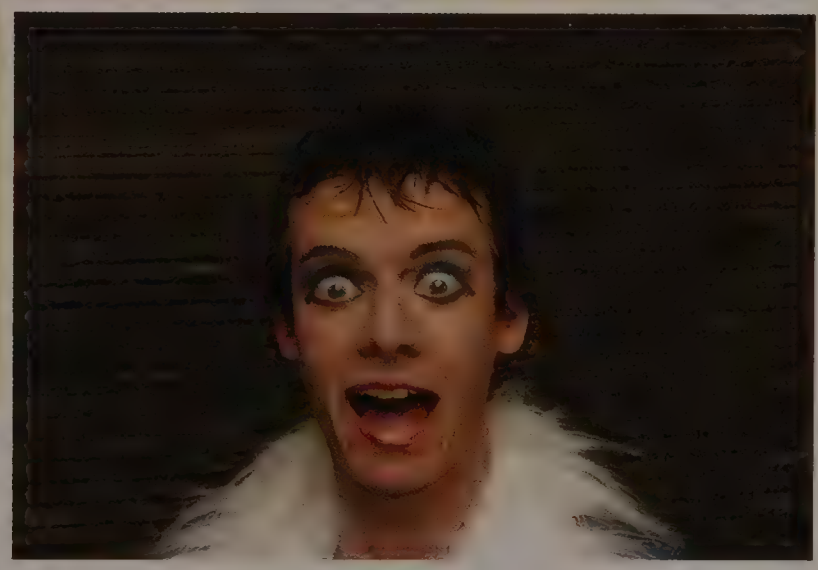
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agenda

MPROPER PICKS

june 9 - 22

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			9 The Gloucester Stage Co.'s production of Stephen Sondheim's musical-comedy **Marry Me a Little** opens. *See Performing Arts on page 52.*	10	11 	12 **Boston Pride Week** concludes with a parade beginning at Copley Square and a festival on the Common. *See Gay & Lesbian on page 92.*
13 The Brattle celebrates 50 years of **Godzilla** with a screening of Ishiro Honda's film, uncut and undubbed. *See Movies on page 58.* 	14	15 **David Sedaris** reads from his new essay collection at Borders Boston and Brookline Booksmith. *See Books & Poetry on page 88.*	16 	17 **Hiro Fukao** lectures on love, enlightenment and utopia at the Theosophical Society Center. *See Education on page 90.*	18 Boston Harbor Hotel's Movies by Moonlight series starts with a screening of **The Sting** at dusk. *See Movies on page 58.*	19 School of the MFA students show their work in *Google-ing the Real* at the **Judi Rotenberg Gallery**. *See Museums & Galleries on page 86.*
20	21 The **Rib-O-Rama Rib Challenge** is at Jake's Dixie Roadhouse in Waltham. *See Tastings on page 42.*	22				



THU./JUNE 10

Music: Musical Melodrama

On his first album, Bobby Conn claimed he was the Antichrist. He swore that when the millennium rolled around, Armageddon would destroy civilization as we know it, and he'd be anointed King of the World. Or something like that. In any case, nothing he predicted actually happened. Fortunately, he has his music to fall back on, which is good news for lovers of great rock. Schooled in the fine arts of David Bowie's 1970s glam-rock, Burt Bacharach's 1960s love-pop and James Brown's timeless tactics of stage domination, Conn has put together a live show that's not to be missed. His onstage partner (and offstage wife) Monica Bou Bou plays a mean rock violin, adding extra melodrama and emphatic stabs of poignancy to Conn's over-the-top vocals. The songs themselves are anthemic mini-operas ranging from stories of drug-addled love and loss to self-championing epics with hooks and choruses that will linger in your ears like a Q-tip made of hugs. Trans Am and the Frequency join him on the bill when he plays downstairs at the Middle East. *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). $12.*

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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Erin Hagedorn & Jessica Iredale
CALENDAR EDITED BY
Erin Hagedorn
Books & Poetry, Gay & Lesbian, Music, Movies, Around Town, Children, Education, Performing Arts
ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
Ezra Dyer CityScope, Sports
Jessica Iredale Dance Clubs, Museums & Galleries
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules





JIM NEWBERRY

SUN./JUNE 13

CityScope: River Gods


The Wah Lum Kung Fu Academy

In this town, boat racing is synonymous with the Head of the Charles Regatta, which each October fills the riverbanks with nearly 300,000 spectators and 7,000 athletes. Now approaching its 40th year, the HOCR is certainly Boston's biggest boating event, but in terms of cultural appeal, the Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival packs more punch. Typically held on the fifth day of the fifth moon of the lunar calendar (which falls between late May and mid June), the dragon boat race is a Chinese tradition that dates back nearly 2,300 years and originally honored the ancient poet/patriot Qu Yuan, who drowned himself in the Mi Lo River after China was invaded in 278 B.C. To ward off evil spirits, the boats were embellished with brightly colored, evil spirit–repelling dragon heads at the prow and tails at the stern. The decorations remain a part of the race today. Some 20,000 spectators will watch 35 teams compete, followed by a drumming performance by the Boston Chinese Dulcimer Ensemble, and a dragon dance and martial arts demonstration by the Wah Lum Kung Fu Academy. Arts and crafts by the Greater Boston Chinese Cultural Association will be on display, and tons of Asian food vendors will be on hand. *9 am-5 pm, Charles River banks between JFK Street and the Western Avenue Bridge, Cambridge (617-426-6500, ext. 778). www.bostondragonboat.org.*


Steven Epp of Theatre de la Jeune Leune

SAT./JUNE 19–SUN./JULY 18

Performing Arts: Hard Times

When Moliere's famous play *The Miser* premiered in 1668 at the Palais-Royal in Paris, it was a flop. But in the 350 some-odd years since the dismal debut, Molière's tale of a parsimonious patriarch has become a playhouse favorite worldwide, and it's the last show of the American Repertory Theatre's current season. For this tragicomedy, the ART joins forces with the Minneapolis-based theatrical company Theatre de la Jeune Lune, known for its lively, vaudevillian interpretations of classical works. Jeune Lune's co–artistic director Steven Epp stars as Harpagon, the greedy miser whose stinginess comes back to haunt him. David Ball, who has written for Jeune Lune for 25 years, adapted the play for modern audiences, and Dominique Serrand, the theater's co-founder and co–artistic director, directs. *Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). $35-$69.*

The Adam Ezra Group



WED./JUNE 9 AND THU./JUNE 17

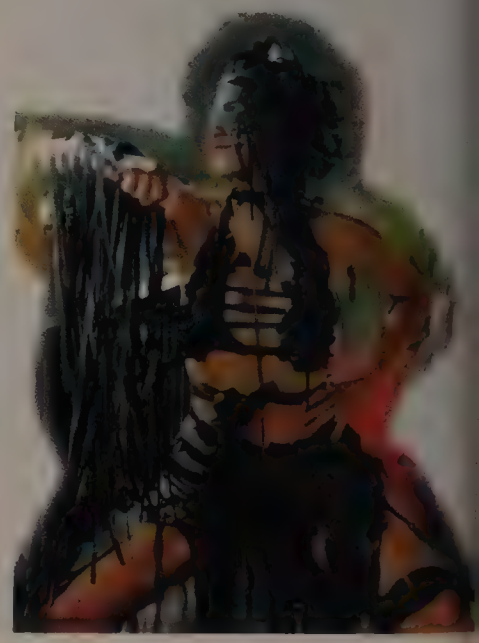
CityScope: Around the Block

Memorial Day has come and gone, and summer is unofficially under way. From now until September, the city will be decidedly underpopulated Friday through Sunday nights. So if you typically flee to the beach come summer weekends you'll need to get your dose of urban eating-drinking-partying on weeknights. Luckily the next two weeks host two mid-week block parties that tie all three social activities together. On June 9, Brookline restaurant the Fireplace hosts the first annual Washington Square Block Party to benefit the Brookline Fire Department. The restaurant's parking lot is transformed into a party zone with grilled foods, summer cocktails, games, a raffle and auction (we hear a Ray Bourque jersey and Eric Clapton tickets, among other goodies, are up for grabs) and tunes by merengue/Latin band Grupo Fantasia. Attendees are invited to mix and mingle with guests (who'll include former Red Sox greats Luis Tiant and Rick Miller) until the party moves inside and continues to the sounds of reggae group Irie Roots. Then, on June 17, perennial favorite Jose McIntyre's 11th annual Block Party takes over Central Street. Every year, hundreds of nine-to-fivers show up ready to blow off steam at the party sponsored by Jose Mac's, Budweiser, Star 93.7 and WEEI 850-AM. The Adam Ezra Group, Me & Julio and DJ Dan McCarthy provide musical entertainment, and a portion of the proceeds benefits cystic fibrosis research. *The Fireplace, 6:30 pm, $20, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900); Jose McIntyre's, 5 pm, $5, 160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*

SAT./JUNE 12

CityScope: Fashion Statement

In the 2001 film *Zoolander*, Ben Stiller's brainwashed fashion model struts down the catwalk flashing his trademark "magnum" look and showing off a line of "trash fashion" called Derelicte, which is anything but haute couture. Boston's first fashion show featuring clothes designed from trash—excuse us, recycled materials—won't have any *Zoolander*ish brainwashing or humorous assassination attempts, but it promises to be entertaining nonetheless. During the show, artists and designers present their clothes and accessories—some of which incorporate oddities like old socks, rubber inner tubes and household items. The event isn't all fun and games, however. The artists hope to enlighten as well as entertain, raising awareness of fashion industry–related environmental concerns. The night continues with an after-party featuring several dance performances. It all takes place at Andrew Square Studio, a new South Boston art space in a former warehouse. *5 Wadleigh Place, Boston (617-288-3925). 6:30 pm. www.trashfashions.com. $10.*

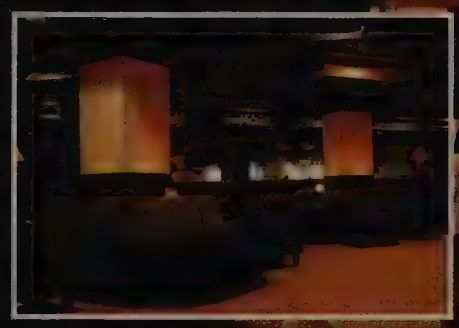


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CityScope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings for festivals, events and benefits by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9

Washington Square Block Party
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). www.fireplacerest.com. 6:30-10 pm. $20. The Fireplace's block party features a barbecue, an outdoor bar with summer cocktails, live Latin music from Grupo Fantasia and appearances by former Red Sox players including Luis Tiant. Proceeds benefit the Brookline Fire Department.

THURSDAY, JUNE 10

Cruise Back to the '80s
Cruise aboard the Bay State leaves from Long Wharf, Boston. www.thegiftfoundation.org. 7-10 pm. $35 in advance; $45 at the dock. This harbor cruise raises money for the Giving Inspiration for Tomorrow Foundation and features live '80s music from the Reaganomics, appetizers, cash bar, a raffle and door prizes.

Young Professionals of the Boston Public Library Party
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-247-8980). www.bplf.com. $75. Business/cocktail attire. This party in the BPL courtyard features appetizers, cocktails and dancing. Proceeds benefit the Boston Public Library Foundation.



The Miles for Miracles pledge walk hits the Esplanade June 19.

FRIDAY, JUNE 11

Agents of Change Benefit
Niketown, 200 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-2502). www.shareleadership.org. 8-11 pm. $45. Support the Agents of Change high school leadership development program at this party, which includes food, beverages, music, dancing, an auction and raffle prizes.

Boston Style Event
Filene's, 426 Washington St., Boston. 11:30 am-1:30 pm. Perry Ellis, *Sports Illustrated* and Filene's host an event that mixes fashion with baseball, as Perry Ellis displays its spring looks and Red Sox slugger David Ortiz greets fans.

Irish Connections Festival
Irish Cultural Centre of New England, Canton (781-821-8291). www.irishmassachusetts.com. Through June 13. The 14th annual Irish Festival features music from Solas, Sharon Shannon, Paddy Reilly, Sean Keane, Frances Black and others; a dance tent; workshops, poetry, storytellers, singers and drama presentations in the Bards Theatre; an art exhibition; hurling and football contests; free carnival rides and Irish-style street shops.

Raise the Roof for Tot Lot Benefit
Dante Alighieri Society, 41 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-868-4275). 7-11 pm. Tickets start at $35. This party features a buffet dinner, dancing to music from DJ Shelly Cullen, desserts and a cash bar. Proceeds benefit the ongoing renovation of the nonprofit Tot Lot.


A Perry Ellis fashion event comes to Filene's June 11.

SATURDAY, JUNE 12

American Parkinson's Disease Association Walk-a-Thon
Pope John Paul II Park, Neponset (617-549-9330). www.apdama.org. 10 am. This three-mile pledge walk raises money for the American Parkinson's Disease Association.

Coolidge Corner Arts Festival
Beacon Street, Coolidge Corner, Brookline (617-739-9066). www.coolidgecornerartsfestival.org. 10 am-6 pm. Rain date: June 19. More than 75 artists and craftspeople line the street in Coolidge Corner selling jewelry and art in a variety of mediums, including watercolors, photography and ceramics.

The J Connection Summer Dance Party Cruise
Cruise leaves from 290 Northern Ave., Boston (781-444-7771). www.tjcboston.com. 9 pm-12 am. $25 by June 11; $35 thereafter. The J Connection's summer dance cruise features a DJ, hors d'oeuvres, dancing and a top-deck party.

Spaulding Rehab Gala
Wang Theatre, Boston (800-477-7400). www.telecharge.com. 8 pm. Tickets start at $43.50. Bob Vila emcees an evening to benefit featuring a performance of Neil Goldberg's *Cirque* and an appearance by New England Patriot Tedy Bruschi. Proceeds support Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital's Excellence Fund. A black-tie VIP pre-party features a cocktail reception, dinner and a performance by Grammy winner Jennifer Holliday.

Trash Fashion Show
Andrew Square Studio, 5 Wadleigh Place, Boston (617-288-3925). www.trashfashions.com. 6:30 pm. Suggested donation, $10. A group of local and international artists and fashion designers presents a clothing show in which the garments and accessories are based entirely on recycled materials like inner tubes, plastics and more.

Wine and Dine for Pets
MSPCA Metro South Animal Care and Adoption Center, 1300 West Elm St. Extension, Brockton (508-586-2053). 7-10 pm. $25 in advance, $30 at the door. This wine tasting raises money to help homeless and abused animals.

SUNDAY, JUNE 13

Bunker Hill Day Parade
Bunker Hill, Charlestown. 12:30-4 pm. This annual parade begins at the intersection of Vine and Bunker Hill streets.

Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival
Charles River, between JFK Street and the Western Avenue Bridge (617-426-6500, ext. 778). www.bostondragonboat.org. 12-5 pm. Traditional dragon boats ply the Charles at this annual festival, which also features Chinese arts and crafts, martial arts demonstrations, Asian foods, a dragon dance and Japanese drummers.

MONDAY, JUNE 14

Nazareth Academy Golf Classic
Hillview Country Club, 149 North St., North Reading (781-245-0214, ext. 31). 1:30 pm. $115. The entry fee for this charity golf tournament includes greens fees, cart, a buffet dinner and a raffle and award ceremony.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16

Celebrity Sunglasses Fashion Show
Parris, Quincy Market Building, 2nd Floor, Boston (978-524-9500). 6-10 pm. $20. This sunglasses fashion show and auction of celebrities' shades benefits Prevent Blindness Massachusetts.

Rose Garden Party
Kelleher Rose Garden, Back Bay Fens, Boston (617-635-4505, ext. 3039). 5:30-8 pm. Angela Menino hosts this annual fund-raiser for ParkARTS in the Kelleher Rose Garden, in the Fens across from the MFA, which features more than 2,000 rose bushes.

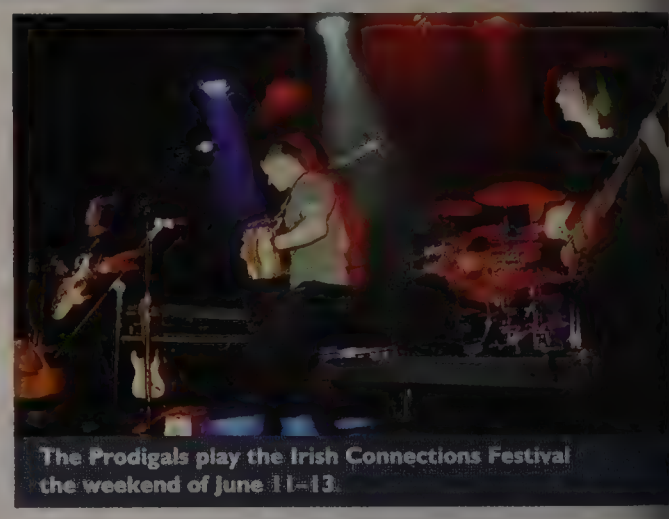
THURSDAY, JUNE 17

Culture and Cuisine of the Orient
Red River Trading Company, 55 Waltham St., Boston (617-591-1400, ext. 5). www.bostonypa.com. 6:30-9 pm. $70 in advance, $75 at the door. This Asian-themed party includes a feng shui presentation, food from Pho Republique and a lesson on the proper etiquette for eating sushi. Open bar, cocktail dress.

Jose McIntyre's Block Party
Central Street behind Jose McIntyre's (160 Milk St.), Boston (617-451-9460). 5-11 pm. $5. Door proceeds and a percentage of sales from this annual blockwide throw-down benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Music is provided by the Adam Ezra band, Me & Julio and DJ Dan McCarthy.

SATURDAY, JUNE 19

Free Sailing Day/Open House
Boston Sailing Center, Lewis Wharf, Boston (617-227-4198). www.bostonsailingcenter.com. 1-6 pm. Boston Sailing Center provides free sailboat rides around the harbor aboard vessels ranging in length from 23 to 40 feet. Refreshments served.


The Prodigals play the Irish Connections Festival the weekend of June 11–13.

Jazz Benefit Concert
Inner Space Yoga Studio, 17 Station St., Brookline Village (617-730-5757). www.yogainthevillage.com. 7 pm. $15. Grammy award winner and Blood, Sweat & Tears songwriter Fred Lipsius performs a concert to benefit the Bridge Over Troubled Waters organization for at-risk youth.

Miles for Miracles Pledge Walk
Start/finish at Lederman Field, Charles River Esplanade, Boston (866-303-9255). www.chtrust.org. $15 entry fee; $100 minimum in pledges. Walkers can choose either a seven-mile route or a two-mile route at this benefit for Children's Hospital Boston.

Rock the Boat Mardi Gras Party Cruise
Cruise leaves from 290 Northern Ave., Boston (781-444-7771). www.mardigraspartycruise.com. 9 pm-1 am. $25 in advance, $35 the day of the cruise. This annual Mardi Gras–themed party cruise includes a DJ, outdoor dancing, hors d'oeuvres and a trip giveaway.

Summer Party
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3268). www.mfa.org. 9 pm-12:30 am. $75 for Museum Council members; $125 nonmembers. Black tie. The MFA hosts a benefit party featuring cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, desserts, outdoor dancing, live music from John Keegan and Madhouse, and a silent auction of artworks.

MONDAY, JUNE 21

Boston Park Rangers Spring Soiree
Excelsior, 272 Boylston St., Boston (617-635-4505, ext. 3039). 5:30-7:30 pm. $250. Excelsior partners with the Boston Parks and Recreation Department to raise money for the Boston Park Rangers. The reception includes seasonal fare from chef Lydia Shire.

Longy School of Music Gala
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-876-0956, ext. 622). 6 pm. $300. New England Patriot Tedy Bruschi plays alto saxophone at the Longy School of Music's annual benefit concert. The evening also includes cocktails, a silent auction, dinner and a performance by the school's students.

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6:55PM Leave for Fenway...or not!

7:05PM Play Ball!

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Performing arts

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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater

JUST OPENED

Forever Plaid
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.showofthemonth.com. Tue., 7 pm; Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $35.70-$37.80. This revered musical tells the story of Forever Plaid a 1960s musical quartet that is killed on the way to its first performance but is subsequently and miraculously allowed to return to earth 40 years later to perform.

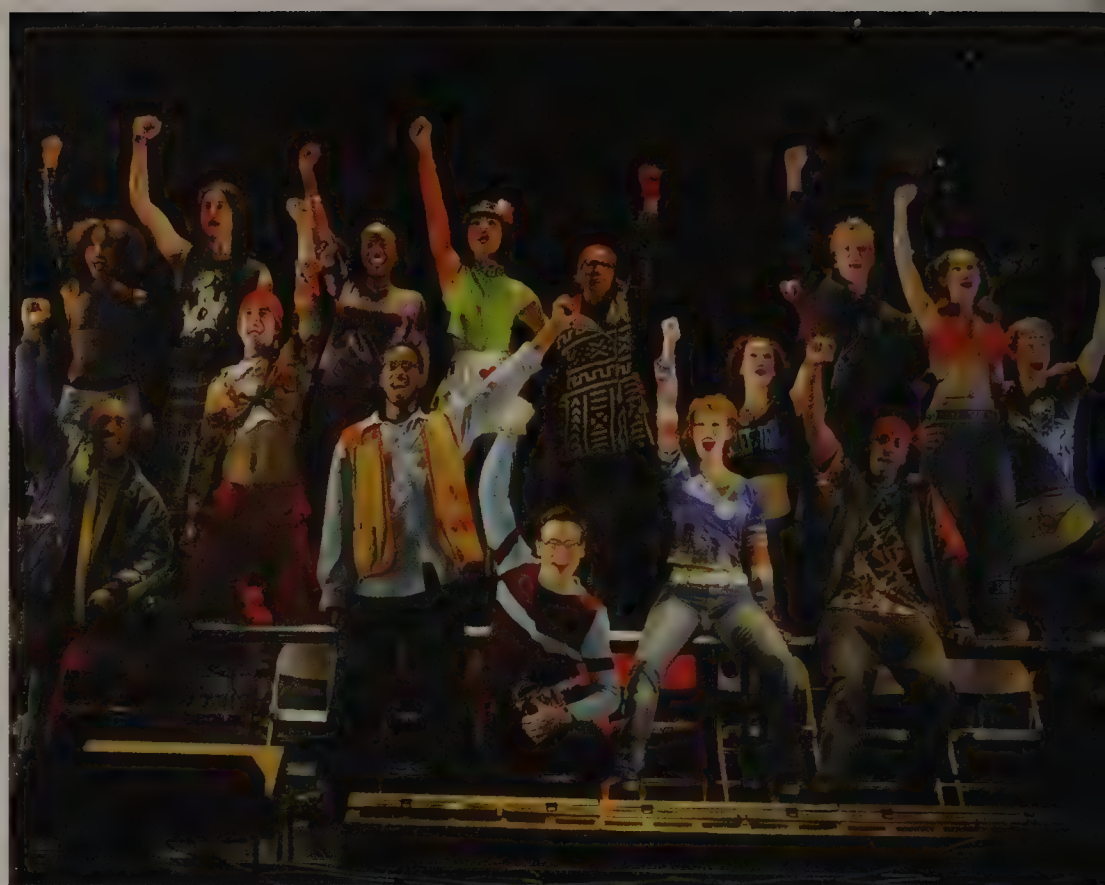
Groucho!
Stoneham Theater, 395 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). www.stonehamtheatre.org. June 10-27. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm, $19-$38. Gabe Kaplan of *Welcome Back Kotter* stars in and directs this show written by Arthur Marx, Groucho's son.

Mamma Mia!
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-426-9366). www.broadwayinboston.com MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. June 22-Aug. 8. Tue. and Wed, 8 pm; Thu., 2 pm and 8 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun. 2 pm. $37.50-$87.50. This popular musical features songs by ABBA.

Marry Me a Little
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4433). June 9-27. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm, Sat. and Sun., 5 and 8 pm. $30. This Stephen Sondheim musical comedy tells the story of two lonely singles on a Saturday night.

The Miser
ART Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. June 19-July 18. June 19, 8 pm; June 20, 2 pm; June 22, 7:30 pm. For the last production of the season, the ART teams up with Theatre de la Jeune Lune to presents Molière's classic comedy. Directed by Dominique Serrand.

Rent
Wang Theater, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.wangcenter.org. June 15-20. Tue.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm; Sat., 2 pm; Sun., 1 pm. $35-$65. Inspired by Puccini's *La Boheme*, Jonathan Larson's musical celebrates a community of artists as they deal with the AIDS epidemic. The Pulitzer Prize– and Tony Award–winning musical returns for eight performances.


The Tony Award–winning musical *Rent* returns to Boston for a run at the Wang Theatre, June 15-20.

Sin: A Cardinal Deposed
Regent Theater, 7 Medford St., Arlington (781-646-4849). www.acardinaldeposed. com. June 9-27. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 3 pm and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm and 7 pm. $30 on Wed. and Thu. $40 on Fri., Sat., and Sun. This "docu-drama" uses testimony from the deposition of former Cardinal Bernard F. Law, who was questioned when priests in his diocese were accused of sexual abuse.

That Takes Ovaries!
Blacksmith House at Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789) www.thattakesovaries.org. June 19-27. Sat., 8pm Sun., 2:30 and 7:30 pm. $20. This collection of true stories about fearless females and their guts



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NOW RUNNING

Blue Hair Troupe
Tremont Theatre, 276 Tremont St., Boston (866-443-2248). www.theatremania.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. May 28-June 27. Wed. and Thu., 2 pm; Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $35. In this musical comedy, elderly residents of the fictitious Senior Center for the Performing Arts put on a revue. Written and directed by Andrew Diskes.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com/ticketinfo/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 and 10 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. Ongoing. $46-$56. This newly revamped, dialogue-free production features tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Inherit the Wind
Footlight Club, 7A Eliot St., Jamaica Plain, Boston (617-524-3200). Jun 4-19, 8 pm, $12-$15. Playwrights Jerome Lawrence and Robert Lee bring the famed Scopes Monkey Trial of the 1920s to the stage.

The Last Sunday in June
BCA Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. June 4-26. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $25-$35. In this play written by Jonathan Tolins, a group of gay men gathering at a Greenwich Village home watch New York's Gay Pride Parade and discuss issues surrounding their sexuality.

Mad Maids
Jacques Underground, 79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902) MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. June 11, 9 pm. $8. This musical uses elements of writer Jean Genet's life to provide a modern commentary on relationships in the work place.

Menopause—The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). Through June 13. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat. 4 and 8 pm; Sun. 2 pm. $42.50. Jeanie Linders' parody, set to music of the 1960s and '70s, explores the lives of four women in their 40s and offers a humorous take on the physical and mental changes they are facing.

Oedipus
ART Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through June 12. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $35-$69. The American Repertory Theatre presents Stephen Berg and Diskin Clay's adaptation of Sophocles' tragedy about a young king who fulfills a prophecy delivered at his birth. Directed by Robert Woodruff. Music by Evan Ziporyn.

The Rose Tattoo
Huntington Theatre Company, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Through June 13. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm, Sat. and Sun., 2 and 8 pm (2 pm only on Sun., June 13). $14-$64. This Tennessee Williams play tells the story of a Sicilian widow who is tormented by memories of her husband and finds solace in the company of a truck driver. Directed by Nicholas Martin.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. Ongoing. $34. This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

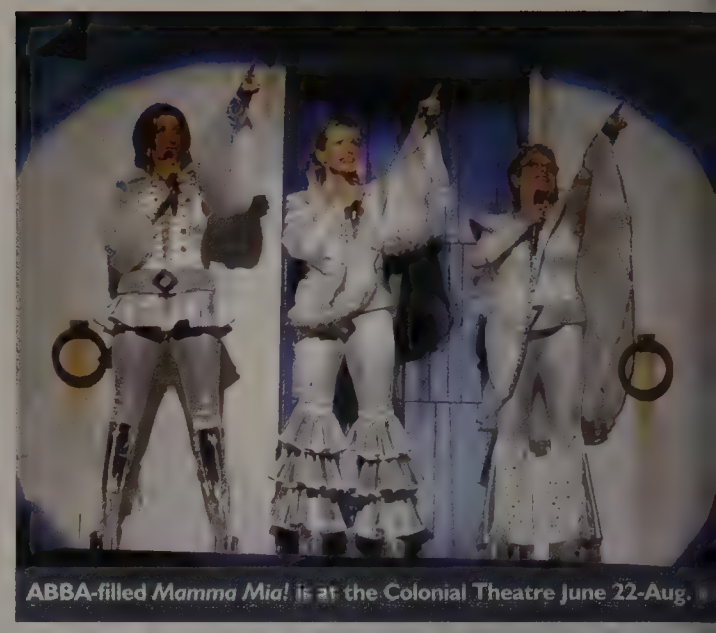
Tom Jones: The Musical
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Beverly (978-232-7200). www.nsmt.org. June 1-20. Tue. and Thu., 8 pm; Wed. and Sat., 2 pm and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $7-$15. A young man's weakness for beautiful women becomes his ultimate foe in this tale of a test of true love. Directed by Gabriel Barre.

UNIVERSITY THEATER

After Mrs. Rochester
Ruth Nagel Jones Theatre, Alumnae Hall, Wellesley College,106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2000). http://theatre.wellesley.edu. June 8-26.Tue., Thu., and Sun., 7 pm; Sat., 8 pm. $15-$20. Polly Teale's play is based on the life of author Jean Rhys, whose novel, *Wide Sargasso Sea*, was written as a prequel to Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre*. Directed by Nora Hussey

Jane Eyre
Ruth Nagel Jones Theatre, Alumnae Hall, Wellesley College,106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2000). http://theatre.wellesley.edu. June 9-26. Mon. and Wed., 7 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 3 pm. $15-$20. Wellesley Summer Theatre presents Charlotte Brontë's famous story adapted by Polly Teale and directed by Nora Hussey.

Playwrights' Platform
Boston University's Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave, Boston (781-883-9106). www.playwrightsplatform.org. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St. June 10-12, 8 pm. $15. During this summer festival, performers put on a variety of new short plays written by local playwrights.


ABBA-filled *Mamma Mia!* is at the Colonial Theatre June 22-Aug.

Dance

Launch!
Sargent Gymnasium, 1 University Road, Boston (781-861-0735). www.dancecollective.org. June 11 and 12, 8 pm. $15-$20. The Boston Dance Collective presents a performance, produced by Olivier Besson, Liz Roncka, and Dance Collective artistic director Micki Taylor-Pinney that uses the gymnasium space and equipment.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

STAND-UP CLUBS

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault at Remington's features local stand-up comedians. •Thursdays: Dick Doherty's Comedy Pro Tour •Fri. and Sat.: Boston's Best Standup •Sundays: Open Mike Night.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •June 10, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •June 11, 8 and 10:15 pm, June 12, 6, 8:15 and 10:30 pm: Doug Stanhope $20-$22.50. •June 12, 4 pm, June 13th, 1 pm: Steve Burton, $40-$60. •June 17, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15.

Comedy Studio
Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •June 9: The Tony V Experiment with Kelly MacFarland, Dan Sally, Alana Devich, Bob Hagearty, Steve Calechman, Peter Dutton, Mark Basch, Korte Yeo, Charlie Hatton, Sean Lily, Andy Turco •June 10: Dan Sally, Tommy Morello, Max Silvestri, Peter Dutton, Deb Farrar-Parkman, Pete Gray, Malissa Hunt, Dan Hirshon, Mandy Donovan. •June 12: TJ Griffin, Eric Cheung, Dan Sally, Max Silvestri, Greg Johnson, Joe Wong, Chris Tabb, JJ Leslie and Brian Gordon •June 13: Sam Walters, JJ Leslie, Joe Wong, Corey Manning, Ira Proctor, Arielle Goldman, Dot Dwyer, Dan Sally, Rob Reuter and Amanda White. •June 15: The Magic Lounge, a magic and comedy show. •June 16: Tony , Kelly MacFarland, Chris Coxen, Dan Sulman, Chrissy Lavoie, Cyndi Stiles, Adam Pearlman, Anthony Spencer, Dan Sally and Tim Kaelin. •June 17: Dan Sulman, Seth Early, Chris Foltz, Korte Yeo, Denise Robichau, Chris Tabb, Janet Cormier and Dan Sally. •June 18: The Walsh Brothers, Larry Murphy, Dan Sulman, MB Cowan, Tim Fenn, Jay Montepare, Matt Wininger, Dan Sally, Sean Caulfield. •June 19: Dan Sally, Jim Flaherty, Tim Fenn, Ku, MB Cowan, Claire McManus, JJ Leslie, Dan Sulman and Brian Gordan. •June 20: Sam Waters, Derek Gerry, Mike Herman, Frank Rockett, Dan Sulman, Amy Tee, Ellen Moschetto, Dan Sally and Erin Judge. •June 22: The Magic Lounge.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. $10-$22. •June 10, 8:30 pm: Bob Gautreau and Mike Kotroubis. •June 11 and 12, 8:45 pm: Bob Gautreau, Mike Kotroubis and Danny Kelley •June 17, 8:30 pm: Paul Gilligan and John Fish •June 18 and 19, 8:45 pm: Paul Gilligan, Ira Proctor and John Fish.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA:Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. •June 16, 9:45 pm, $5: *DINX*, a fully improvised one-act play. •Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 and 10 pm: *Big Dig...The End of an Error*, a revue of improvisational and sketch comedy. •Wed., 7 pm: *Pasta Wednesdays* provides a pasta dinner to all audience members in the tradition of Prince Spaghetti and the North End. •Thu., 9:45 pm: NXT Show. •Sat. midnight, $10: *The Midnight Show.*

ImprovBoston
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253) www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: the characters, the stories, the settings—even the songs and dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: *The Hump* Series for experimental and improvisational theater. •Thu., 8 pm, $12: *Unnatural Selection.* A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one is left. 10 pm, $5: *The Great and Secret Comedy Show.* Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and music, play short films and do character sketches in a display of sibling rivalry. •Fri., 8 pm, $12: *Ay Diego!* Will Luera and Zabeth Russell's sexy show includes improvised scenes, witty sketches and video vignettes. 10 pm $12: *Theatre Sports.* Two teams of improvisers face off. •Sat., 6 pm, $12 ($10. for children, children eleven and under accompanied by an adult are free.): *Improv Foundry.* A short-form improvisational show the entire family can enjoy. 8 and 10 pm, $12: *ImprovBoston Mainstage.* Blending storytelling, music and audience participation, a cast of improvisers creates a show that changes with every performance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5: *Sgt. Culpepper's Improvisational Jamboree.* This evening combines three shows into one. Watch performances by visiting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry
327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-308-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. Through June, the group performs at the Improv Asylum in Cambridge. (See Improv Asylum listing for info.)

The Tribe
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $5 before 8 pm, $10 after. Improv comedians poke fun at everything, including themselves.

COMEDY SHOWS

Cormier's Comedy Madness
All Asia Cafe, 334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). www.stashcomedyjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. •June 13, 8 pm: Janet Cormier hosts a night where comics find humor within diversity and differences.

Larry Lee Lewis Comedy Band
Midway Cafe, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). $5 •June 13, 9 pm: A show that combines rockabilly style music and comedy.







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Rebel Rebel

Heroes fight the system in *Baadasssss!* and *The Twilight Samurai*.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

In the movies, it's not how loud you yell, but how *well* you yell. That's the lesson to take away from *The Twilight Samurai* and *Baadasssss!* Both films are about men trapped in the lower rungs of a class system, but while *Baadasssss!*—Mario Van Peebles' docudrama about dad Melvin's making of the 1971 breakthrough black/indie movie *Sweet Sweetback's Baadasssss Song*—is more outwardly brazen, it's not as effective as veteran Japanese director Yoji Yamada's quieter, yet more surprising import.

I've never seen a samurai movie that has less mystique and more intimacy than *The Twilight Samurai*. That title takes on a few different meanings. The most significant are the 1860s setting—the time when the era of warlords and their samurai retinues was coming to an end in Japan—and the fact that protagonist Seibei (Hiroyuki Sanada) picks up the mocking nickname of "Twilight" because that's the time of day when his co-workers go out carousing and he dutifully goes home to take care of his two young daughters.

Seibei is a member of the samurai class, but his "day job" isn't as a warrior. He's a civil servant in his clan's warehouse, a widower more devoted to his kids than to getting ahead. But he soon gets caught up in the politics of class after he stands up for the honor of Tomoe (Rie Miyazawa), the childhood friend he's always loved. He ends up in a duel with her drunken ex-husband and, refusing to use a sword, KOs his foe with a stick.

Seibei, who tells Tomoe's brother he's too lowly a samurai to be worthy of marrying her (as she wishes), gets further sucked into politics after his clan's lord dies and a power struggle breaks out to fill the void. Now respected as a fighter, Seibei is ordered to kill Yogo (Min Tanaka), a warrior loyal to a master who lost the power struggle.

Yogo was ordered to commit suicide and has refused. When reluctant Seibei confronts him, Yogo engages him in a lengthy, heartfelt conversation about duty and honor. It's an amazing scene in which it's nearly impossible to decide who's playing possum with whom: Is it Yogo, who says they're just pawns in others' battles, or Seibei, who acts humble and respectful in the warrior's presence? When the swords come out, the fight is refreshingly real and a nice change from *Kill Bill* flash or *Last Samurai* showboating. Like many samurai movies, *The Twilight Samurai* recalls a Hollywood western, but this time it's not action-filled westerns, but psychological ones like *Shane* or *Unforgiven*. It's a very distinctive movie.

Like *The Twilight Samurai*, *Baadasssss!* takes place at a crossroads in history, yet it's disappointingly indistinctive. The time is circa 1970, when the black power movement is on the rise and the Hollywood studios are at a low point. Melvin Van Peebles (played by son Mario) is one of the very few American black filmmakers around, but he can't get any studio to back his movie about a black stud who becomes an unrepentant, police-fighting outlaw.

So Melvin makes *Sweet Sweetback's Baadasssss Song* independently, on his own terms and mostly with his own money. Then, against all odds, it becomes a smash that singlehandedly shows Hollywood the black audience it always ignored (the blaxploitation cycle of movies would soon follow). Mario has dad Melvin's cigar-chomping bluster down pat, but what ensues is a pretty standard story of indie-filmmaking hardship. What indie-film success story didn't struggle to make ends meet, keep on schedule, find distribution and get noticed? Mario tries to add twists to the story—some psychedelic touches, a nay-saying alter ego for Melvin who appears from time to time, and a subplot about Melvin's relationship with young Mario (Khleo Thomas)—but *Baadasssss!* never really finds an interesting cinematic perspective on its events (it was apparently financed by Showtime, and it feels like a TV movie).

In other words, there's no reason anyone who hasn't seen Melvin Van Peebles' rough-hewn and revolutionary *Sweet Sweetback's Baadasssss Song* or *Classified X* (his great rant about Hollywood's onscreen treatment of blacks, from which *Baadasssss!* often cribs ideas) should see *Baadasssss!* before heading to those primary sources. *Baadasssss!* is a competent enough slice of movie and social history, but it's no substitute for the real thing. iB



In *The Twilight Samurai*, Hiroyuki Sanada plays a civil servant and devoted father in 1860s Japan.

The Twilight Samurai ★★★

Directed by Yoji Yamada. Written by Yamada and Yoshitaka Asama. With Hiroyuki Sanada, Rie Miyazawa and Min Tanaka. In Japanese with subtitles. Not Rated. At Kendall Square.

Baadasssss! ★★

Directed by Mario Van Peebles. Written by Van Peebles and Dennis Haggerty. With Van Peebles, Ossie Davis, David Alan Grier and Nia Long. Rated R. At Kendall Square.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Coffee and Cigarettes ★★★
The short films in Jim Jarmusch's amusing collection, made in dribs and drabs over the last 18 years, all involve characters sitting around indulging in its namesake objects. The repeatedly celebrates pairs of things that go well together, whether it's those characters, coffee and smokes, black and white twins, Abbott and Costello or, to reference one of the soundtrack's songs, crimson and clover. There's Steven Wright and Roberto Benigni's absurd opener, Tom Waits and Iggy Pop trying to out-"outlaw" each other, Joie and Cinque Lee having their ears bent by a Memphis waiter (Steve Buscemi) with an oddball Elvis theory, and health nuts GZA and RZA (from Wu Tang Clan) coming upon caffeine nut Bill Murray, among others. The movie unfolds in cool surroundings and with cool music from the Pharaohs and the Stooges to Funkadelic. Its world is a nice place to be and, unlike most movies, it celebrates stripped-down realism and individual self-expression. (At Coolidge Corner and Harvard Square.)

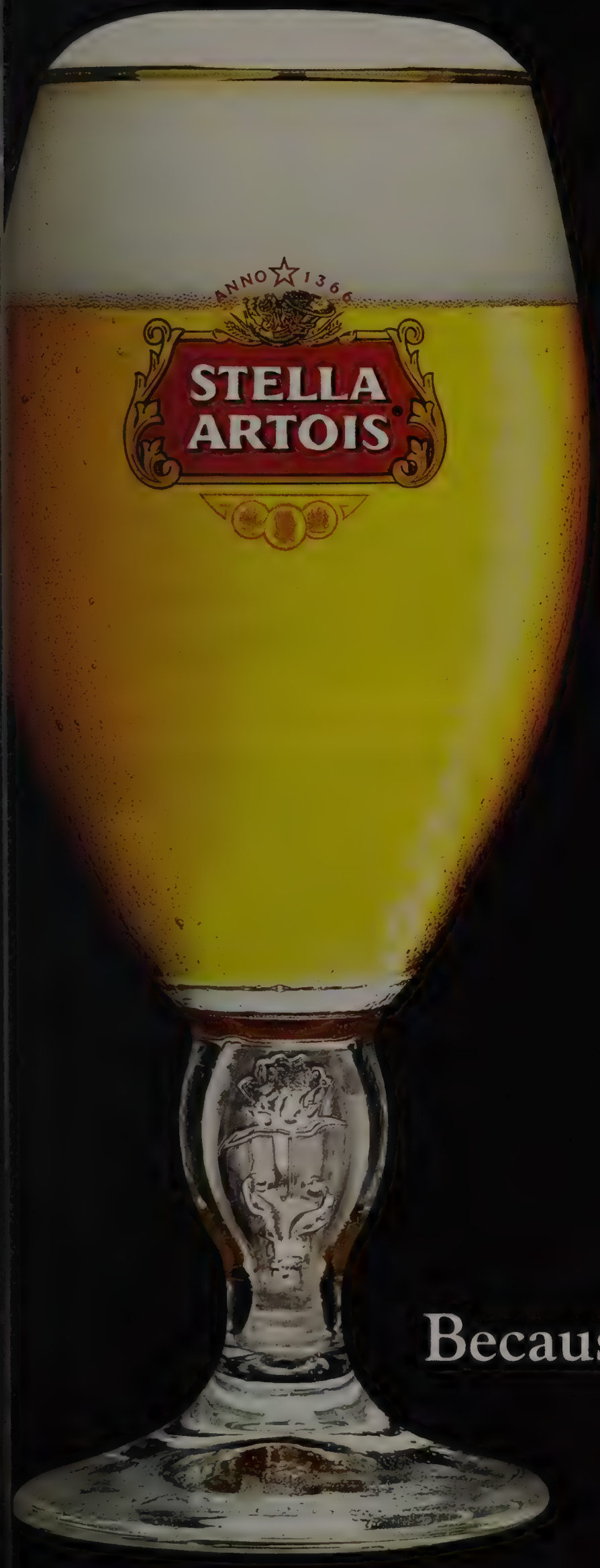
The Day After Tomorrow ★½
Wait a second. Isn't this big-budget, fake-danger spectacle the sort of movie that was no longer necessary and just too plain crass to produce following Sept. 11? I guess not. This coldly efficient disaster movie about global warming whittling at the polar ice caps, throwing the climate out-of whack and launching a new ice age is full of cheesy subplots, clunky dialogue and the supremely stupid plot of scientist Dennis Quaid walking from Philly to Manhattan in a 15-foot-of-snow, sub-sub-zero-temperature, worst-in-10,000-years storm to rescue teen son Jake Gyllenhaal. (Will someone please let him play an adult already?) (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind ★★
The latest mindbender written by Charlie Kaufman (*Being John Malkovich*, *Human Nature*, *Adaptation*) is, as usual, like an M.C. Escher drawing in which you can't tell always tell which direction things are headed in, but you put your faith in the hope that Kaufman will still get his characters to an interesting place. This time, in a story about a couple (Jim Carrey, Kate Winslet) who've had their memories wiped of a fizzled relationship but try to rekindle their romantic spark, that faith fails to pay off. Despite the appealing chemistry between the stars, Kaufman bats around interesting ideas about the struggle between science and human urges, but the ride isn't nearly as involving, amusing, layered or cohesive as the metaphysical journeys in *Malkovich* or *Adaptation*. (At Copley Place and Kendall Square.)

Good Bye Lenin! ★★½
An East German woman goes into a coma just before the Berlin Wall falls, and when she has to lead a stress-free life after she comes to, her son goes to great lengths to make sure she never learns that her Communist country doesn't exist anymore. This great premise yields some amusing moments, but also some disappointing ones. Unlike in Billy Wilder's brilliant *One, Two, Three* (which covered similar territory after the wall went up), the comedy here never quite hits high gear because the story tempers the humor with shades of drama. But the characters' family drama never becomes as memorable as the premise. (At Kendall Square.)

The Hebrew Hammer ★★★
Writer-director Jonathan Kesselman skewers blaxploitation movies, dominant Gentile culture and, of course, Jews in this very funny spoof. Decked-out private eye Mordechai Jefferson Carver (Adam Goldberg) drives a 1970s Caddy, complete with fuzzy dreidls hanging from the rear-view mirror, traverses mean streets to soul protest songs and bonds with the Kwanzaa Liberation Front. He also fights to stop Santa's evil son (Andy Dick) from wiping out Hanukkah. The Hammer takes on more mundane foes, too, like the control freaks at the Jewish Justice League, neo-Nazis (he orders "Manischewitz, straight up!" before cleaning house at a skinhead bar), Jewish women (when one begs him to talk dirty, he sweet-talks about getting a steady job and having kids who go to Stanford) and his own doting mom (Nora Dunn). Put this on a double feature with *Bad Santa*. (At the Coolidge, June 16.)

Kill Bill Vol. 2 ★★
It used to be fun when Quentin Tarantino put all his pop-culture influences in a blender and spit them back out. What happened? Tarantino was one of the first American directors inspired by Hong Kong 1980s action heyday, but since his *Reservoir Dogs*



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movies have mined the same sources. *friction* was never as self-conscious as the half of *Kill Bill* (or its predecessor, released last fall). Tarantino doesn't so much blend influences here as simply ape them one at a time: Sergio Leone close-ups and spaghetti western music in one of its chapters; grainy film, Chinese dialogue and a king fu homage in the other. At least *Vol. 2* has Michael Madsen, the only star here who seems genuinely dangerous and doesn't come off like a mere actor playing bad-ass. (At Boston Common, Fenway, Harvard Square and suburbs.)

Mean Girls ★★
With a comic tone pitched somewhere between *Heathers* and *Clueless*, writer and co-star Tina (*Saturday Night Live*) Fey's comedy comes off like a watered-down version of both—not as savage as the former nor as stylized as the latter. Perhaps the problem was shoehorning the story to appeal to the preteen audience of star Lindsay Lohan. She plays a 16-year-old who's been living in Africa with her zoologist parents and is now entering a conventional high school for the first time. She gets taken under the wing of the school's popular girls and soon becomes consumed by the vain, territorial teen princesses' wicked ways. While respectable (and respectful of its audience), Fey's anti-gossip, pro-sisterhood tale is long-winded and not all that funny. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

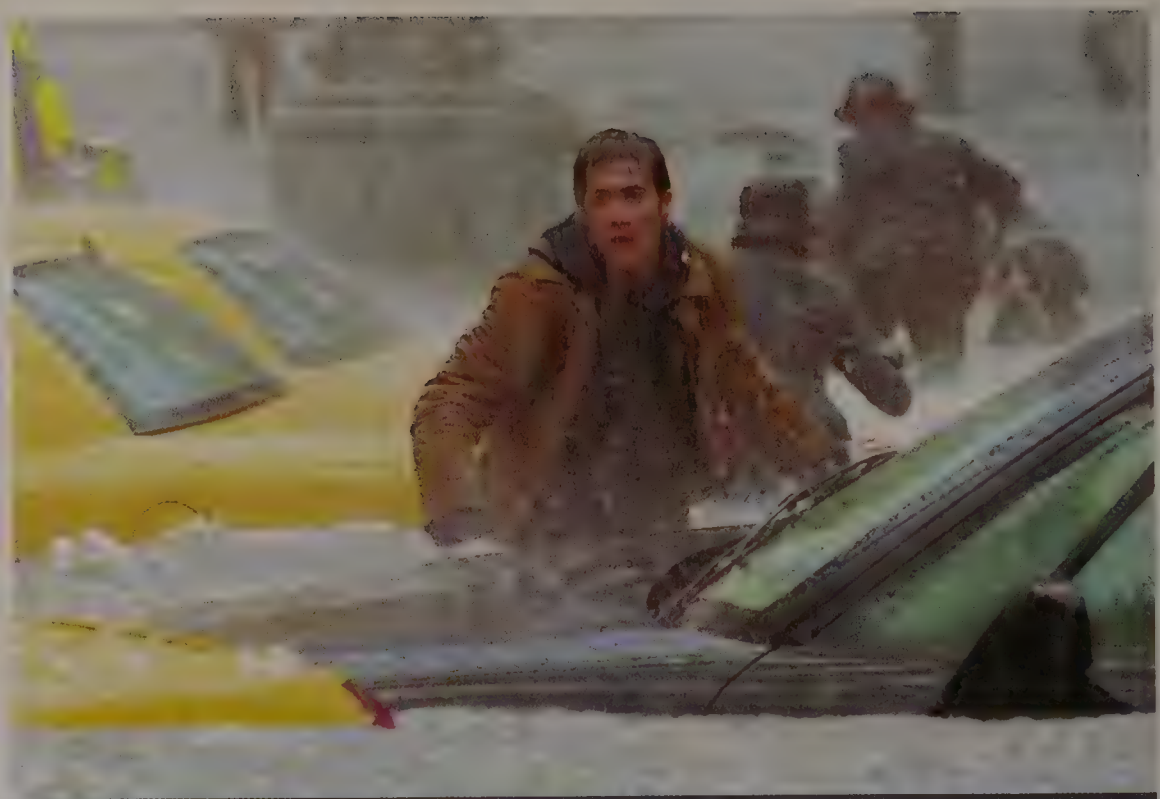
Saved! ★★
You'll find no argument from me about this comedy's message, as it pokes fun at the repression and hypocrisy of religious fundamentalism. And the cast, playing students at American Eagle Christian High School, includes Jena Malone, Patrick Fugit and even Macauley Culkin and Mandy Moore doing some of their best work (love the end-credits duet of the Beach Boys' "God Only Knows" by Moore and co-producer Michael Stipe). But director and co-writer Brian Dannelly has made such a simplistic and smug movie that it's really only preaching to the converted, and you get the feeling he thinks his movie is much more outrageous than it really is. The film is only slightly less self-righteous than those it mocks. Check out the documentary *Hell House*, about the scare tactics of a Dallas Pentecostal haunted house, for the real thing.

Soul Plane ★
This comedy built around the first African-American airline is about 15 minutes of material stretched to 85. And that 15 minutes ain't too good. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Still, We Believe: The Boston Red Sox Movie ★★★
It's good to see the Red Sox get some attention—you hardly hear anything about those guys these days. Surprisingly, this documentary about the Sox' 2003 season manages not to be redundant, because it focuses on eight different fans, most of whom are pretty colorful. My favorites are Brockton realist Jermaine, inseparable East Boston diehards Erin and Jessamy and, last but not least, Watertown pessimist "Angry Bill." His mood swings (over the course of a game, an inning or even an at-bat) are priceless and are something with which every Sox fan can commiserate. There's a lot of pain going on, especially come Game Seven against the Yankees, but this is a pleasure to watch. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Super Size Me ★★★
See Morgan. See Morgan eat only at McDonald's for 30 days. See Morgan's weight balloon, his cholesterol shoot up and his liver start to break down. Director Morgan Spurlock, sort of a lighter (and lighter-touch) Michael Moore, serves up his McBinge very amusingly, in order to expose the poison of American fast food. He plays the role of guinea pig with such a commitment and sense of humor that the rather depressing message of *Super Size Me* goes down easier. Whether Spurlock intended it or not, the larger picture of this country that his movie paints is a frightening one of total decadence, self-indulgence and slavishness to profit and instant gratification, at the expense of common sense and humanity. (At Coolidge Corner, Harvard Square and Waltham Embassy.)

Troy ★★½
Sword-and-sandals epics like this Trojan War movie are always a little cheesy, and this one is no different. The arch dialogue and "hey, look at these expensive sets!" feeling are to be expected, as are the CGI hordes of battlers. But not the fact that half the action with the star (Brad Pitt as warrior extraordinaire Achilles) is just plain goofy. Yet Wolfgang Petersen's movie can impress, especially in the showdown between Achilles and Eric Bana's Hector. That crucial scene is well shot and imaginatively scored, and unlike most fight scenes these days, it's *not* confusing. Meanwhile, Brian Cox brings some Yosemite Sam rootin'-tootin' fire to



Jake Gyllenhaal tries in vain to get a cab out of town in *The Day After Tomorrow*.

Agamemnon—the Greek king who finds a convenient excuse to stage an invasion (doesn't *that* sound familiar?)—and Peter O'Toole adds class as Trojan king Priam. But listless German actress Diane Kruger as Helen, the face that launched a thousand ships? Not likely. (At Loews Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Van Helsing ★
Oh, the lack of humanity. Director Stephen Sommers, the hack behind the *Mummy* movies, gives us more special-effects-heavy emptiness. Only this one is more effects-heavy and more empty. With Hugh Jackman as the title character—merely the latest gimmicky spectacle-movie evil-fighter to come down the multiplex pike—and cohort Kate Beckinsale dolled up like a hooker at the Country Music Awards, this is a bloody drag. Sommers' main priority seems to be to take the human element out of moviemaking; he even turns Dr. Jekyll's pal Mr. Hyde into a Hulk-like CGI effect. His only talent is knowing the effects whizzes' phone numbers. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL

Movies by Moonlight
•June 18-Sept. 10. Every Friday night at dusk, the Boston Harbor Hotel has a free screening. June 18, dusk. **The Sting** *1973*. Robert Redford and Paul Newman play con men in this film by George Roy Hill. •June 25: **To Kill a Mockingbird** *1962*. Gregory Peck plays Atticus Finch in Robert Mulligan's adaptation of Harper Lee's popular novel.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Tuskegee Airmen, American Heroes
•June 16, 6:30 pm. This event includes a screening of the documentary about the first African-American military airmen of World War II followed by a discussion that includes members of the New England Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen.

The Woman from Lowell: Bette Davis
•June 14, 6 pm. **Dark Victory** *1939*. Davis plays a young woman diagnosed with a fatal brain tumor in Edmund Goulding's film.
•June 21, 6 pm. **Now, Voyager** *1942*. An old maid from Boston becomes a new woman after a stay at a sanitarium and a cruise, where she finds love, in this film by Irving Rapper.

BRATTLE THEATRE

Local Premiere
•June 18-24, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm. **This So-Called Disaster** *2003*. Director Michael Almereyda takes a look behind the scenes at preparations for Sam Shepard's newest play, *The Late Henry Moss*, which focuses on the playwright's relationship with his father.

Special Engagement
•June 11-17, 3:30, 5:30, 7:40 and 9:50 pm and June 18-20, 1:15 and 3:20 pm. (June 12 and 13, matinees at 1:30 pm). **Godzilla** *1954*. To celebrate the 50-year anniversary of Ishiro Honda's classic, the Brattle screens the original Japanese version of the film, uncut and undubbed.

Thursdays: Ozu—A Celebration
•June 10, 5:15 and 8 pm. **Tokyo Story** *1953*. In one of Yasujiro Ozu's best-known films, a couple visits their grown children in Tokyo and is shocked by their selfishness and lack of values.

Wednesdays: Recent Raves
•June 9, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm. **The Triplets of Belleville** *2003*. In this animated, dialogue-free film by Sylvain Chomet, a grandmother searches for her grandson, kidnapped from the Tour de France, with the help of a colorful singing group.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Boston Jewish Film Festival
•June 16, 7:30 pm. **The Hebrew Hammer** *2003*. See New Releases for a description.
•June 20, 11 am. **Fiddler on the Roof** *1971*. To celebrate Father's Day, the festival presents a midday sing-along showing of Norman Jewison's musical.

Box Office Babies
•June 21, 1 pm. The Coolidge's new biweekly series provides an infant-friendly setting for viewing recent international, independent, and documentary films. Visit www.coolidge.org the week of June 14 for the program lineup.

Coolidge Selects
•Now playing. **Super Size Me** *2003*. See New Releases for a description.
•Now playing. **Coffee and Cigarettes** *2004*. See New Releases for a description.
•Now playing. **Power Trip** *2003*. Paul Devlin's documentary explores the way some citizens in the former Soviet Republic of Georgia avoid paying their electric bills.
•Now playing. **Morlang** *2001*. In Tjebbo Penning's directorial debut, an artist is haunted by a message from his deceased wife.
•Now playing. **The Rage in Placid Lake** *2003*. A socially awkward teenager tries to reinvent himself as a conservative insurance agent after an accident puts him in the hospital. Tony McNamara directs.
•Opens June 11. **Word Wars** *2004*. Eric Chaikin and Julian Petrillo's documentary explores the world of competitive Scrabble tournaments.
•Opens June 11. **Zatoichi** *2003*. Writer/director Takeshi Kitano stars in this samurai film about a gifted blind swordsman who moonlights as a masseur.
•Opens June 18. **The Story of the Weeping Camel** *2003*. In this film directed by Byambasuren Davaa and Luigi Falorni, nomadic shepherds in South Mongolia work to save a newborn camel after its mother abandons it.

Final Cut Screening
•June 11, 12 am. **All Kindsa Girls** *2004*. The rough-cut screening sold out two shows last year, and producer/director Cheryl Eagan-Donovan's finished documentary, featuring the band the Real Kids, screens as part of the music and film series.

Jazz in June Film Series
•Every Monday in June. WGBH-FM 89.7, the New England Conservatory and the Coolidge team up to show jazz documentaries and performance films that are preceded by live performances. •June 14, 7:30 pm. **The Soundies**. Featuring Cab Calloway, this documentary chronicles the history of the music films that were made for visual jukeboxes in the 1940s. The Layabouts perform before the screening. •June 21, 7:30 pm. **John Zorn: Bookshelf on Top of the Shelf**. The Daniel Rosenthal Trio performs before the screening of this film about the eclectic composer and musician.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Peter Lorre: A Sinister Centennial
•June 9, 7 pm. **My Favorite Brunette** *1947*. Bob Hope, Dorothy Lamour and Lorre star in Elliot Nugent's comedy that pokes fun at film noir. Also showing, 9 pm. **The Face Behind the Mask** *1941*. In Robert Florey's film Lorre plays an immigrant who is disfigured in a fire and falls for a blind woman.
•June 11, 7 pm; June 13, 9 pm. **The Maltese Falcon** *1941*. Lorre stars alongside Humphrey Bogart in John Huston's mystery classic. Also showing, June 11, 9 pm; June 13, 7 pm. **Beat the Devil** *1953*. Paired with Bogart in a Huston film again, Lorre stars along with Jennifer Jones in this comedy about a gang of shipwrecked thieves.
•June 12, 7 pm. **Mask of Dimitrios** *1944*. Lorre plays a novelist investigating a murder in this film by Jean Negulesco. Also showing, 9 pm. **Three Strangers** *1946*. Three strangers go in on a lottery ticket together, and conflict ensues.
The HFA is closed June 14-25 for renovations.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Boston Jewish Film Festival
•June 10, 8 pm; June 13, 1:15 pm. **Metamorphosis** *2002*. In this film based on Kafka's novella of the same name, director Valery Fokin tells the tale of a man who turns into a grotesque insect and is shunned by his family.
•June 17, 8:15 pm; June 20, 3:45 pm. **Secret Passage** *2001*. In Ademir Knovic's film, set during the Inquisition of 1492, two Jewish sisters must learn the art of Venetian glassmaking in order to gain asylum in Turkey.

Cinema India!
•June 10, 3:15 pm; June 12, 3 pm. **I Have Found It** *2000*. Two sisters and their suitors are the center of this Bollywood adaptation of Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility*. Rajiv Menon directs.
•June 11, 7:45 pm; June 13, 3:15 pm. **Maqbool** *2003*. Vishal Bharadwaj directs this adaptation of *Macbeth* set in modern Bombay.

Cinema Tropical
•June 18, 6:30 pm. **Un Oso Rojo** *(A Red Bear) 2002*. A man released from prison after seven years must reconnect with his estranged wife and young daughter. Israel Adrian Caetano directs.

French Nouveaux Cineastes
•June 9, 7:45 pm, and June 10, 1 pm. **Mon Idole** *(My Idol) 2002*. A rich couple attempts to purchase a production assistant as their own personal court jester in actor/director Guillaume Canet's comedy.
•June 10, 6 pm; June 11, 5:30 pm; June 12, 1 pm; June 16, 8 pm; June 17, 1 pm; June 19 10:30 am; June 20, 1:45 pm. **Since Otar Left** *2003*. Julie Bertucelli directs this drama about a young man who leaves his family behind in the Republic of Georgia when he goes to Paris seeking a better job.
•June 16, 5:45 pm. **A Piece of Sky** *2002*. In Benedicte Lienard's film, a woman considers testifying in court against her factory's union in order to save an old friend imprisoned for lashing out.

Other Film Offerings
•June 9, 16 pm; June 12, 11 am; June 17, 3 pm; June 19, 12:30 pm; June 20, 10:30 am. **Lost Boys of Sudan** *2003*. Megan Mylan and Jon Shenk's documentary follows two Sudanese orphans as they adjust to life in suburban America.
•June 17, 6:40 pm; June 18, 8:30 pm; June 19, 2:15 pm and June 20, 12:15 pm. **Hukkle** *2002*. Taking its title from the Hungarian for "hiccup," this film is a humorous look at the antics of the villagers of a small hamlet. Gyorgy Palfi directs.


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Iggy Pop and Tom Waits sip and smoke in Jim Jarmusch's *Coffee and Cigarettes*

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Mugar Omni Theater
•Through Sept. 4. **India: Kingdom of the Tiger**. Explore the kingdom of the Bengal tiger, from the Himalayas to Rajasthan.
•Through Sept. 6. **Adrenaline Rush: The Science of Risk**. Explore the explosive inner workings of the body as one jumps out of a plane or even asks someone out on a date.
•Through Oct. 1. **Forces of Nature.** Experience the power of earthquakes, volcanoes, and storms as scientists attempt to forecast and understand them.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
Simons IMAX Theater
•Through June 18. **Bugs! 3D**. This film focuses on the world of insects in the tropical rain forests of Southeast Asia. See bugs magnified up to 250,000 times their normal size.
•Through June 18. **Ghosts of the Abyss**. Director James Cameron takes audiences two miles beneath the sea's surface to explore the wreckage of the Titanic.
•Through June 18. **Ocean Wonderland 3D**. This film explores the ocean floor of the Bahamas and Australia's Great Barrier Reef, with their sharks, sting rays and rainbows of tropical fish.
•Through June 18. **Volcanoes of the Deep Sea**. Dive to the bottom of the sea with a team of scientists, as they explore hydrothermal vents, shipwrecked gardens, predators and bioluminescent creatures.

Special Events

SANDERS THEATRE
Boston Premiere
•June 14, 7 pm. **Juvies** 2004. This documentary, co-produced and narrated by Mark Wahlberg, explores the shortcomings of America's juvenile justice system. At this premiere, Wahlberg introduces the film, and a Q&A discussion follows with special guests. $10.

WEST NEWTON CINEMA
An Evening with Dennis Lehane
•June 22, 6 pm. Author Dennis Lehane signs copies of *Mystic River* and refreshments are served. At 7 pm, the film *Mystic River* screens, and a discussion with Lehane about the book and the film follows. Tickets are $25, and proceeds benefit the Newton Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Partnership. Call 617-492-8306 for tickets.

Cinema Venues

BELMONT
Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

BOSTON
Boston Harbor Hotel
70 Rowes Wharf. (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.
Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.
Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.
Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.
Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.
Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.
Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.
New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

BROOKLINE
Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir.
Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE
Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Pkwy. (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.
Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.
Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Sanders Theatre
45 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

NEWTON
Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.
West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060). MBTA: Bus 553 or 554 to Washington and Watertown streets.

SOMERVILLE
Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.
Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.



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Universal Language

Angelique Kidjo follows her heart along the branches of African music

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Angelique Kidjo has completed a trilogy that won't gain the fame and fortune of *The Lord of the Rings* but draws its own great personal and historical path across middle Earth.

Her CD trilogy explores the connection between the music of her native Africa and three New World regions that straddle the Equator: the United States, Brazil and the Caribbean.



Kidjo's new CD completes a trilogy that explores Africa's musical influence.

"I wanted for so long to do my trilogy that nothing would stop me," says the Afro-pop singer, whose project involved two record labels and took several years and countries to complete. "It has been a dream, and a kind of promise that I made to myself as a child, to do everything I can in my possibility, to bring about understanding among human beings, because we're just still not quite there yet."

The connection between the countries is their former role as stops on the African slavery routes. "One thing that came out of slavery is the gift of music to the world," Kidjo says. "That's the legacy that [the slaves] left us, because music helped them keep the dignity of human beings, helped them heal and give us a message of hope and forgiveness and getting together."

On 1998's *Oremi*, Kidjo put her spin on R&B ballads and soul-funk—and offered a textural hip-hop take on Jimi Hendrix's "Voodoo Child (Slight Return)." On 2002's *Black Ivory Soul*, Kidjo dug into musical links between her West African birthplace of Benin and the Brazilian region of Bahia. And on the new *Oyaya!* (which means "joy" in the African language Yoruba), she taps into musical styles from Puerto Rico, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Trinidad, Jamaica and, especially, Cuba.

"Cuba was the last place I'd been to in the process of doing this album," Kidjo says from a tour stop in Germany. "The first thing that struck me was the feeling of being spied on. I left my country because of the Communist regime, the lack of freedom, and everybody always being on your case. You never know who's going to give you up. And that was the only thing that I hated [about Cuba]. When it came to music, I found so much creativity."

Kidjo also fostered creativity when she brought her songs into the studio with producer Steve Berlin (Los Lobos) and co-producer/arranger Alberto Salas, who assembled an empathetic team of Latin and African musicians.

Most everything (except for the xylophone-like balafon) was recorded live, and the results crackle with vivid, lively performances that make *Oyaya!* the highpoint of Kidjo's trilogy.

"It was a lot of fun, a lot of good, positive energy," says the singer, who generally prefers the stage to the studio. She performs June 25 at Avalon (with Afro-pop upstart Femi Kuti) and June 26 at Pearl Street in Northampton, fronting a quartet that sports guitar, bass, piano and percussion.

Kidjo was once criticized by some for mixing African music with Western forms such as techno-funk. Has acceptance grown for her genre-blending style?

"It has always been difficult for people to get into that, because when you come from Africa, you have to fit into some category of music, and I've never fit into any those," she says. "I like to be free and do what I like. Music is the only language we speak equally, and that music is out there for everybody, and no one has the right to pin you down because you come from a different country or culture."

For starters, Kidjo steamrolls over any language barriers, singing primarily in her native Fon—in addition to Mina, Yoruba, French and English—on *Oyaya!* "You can listen to music in any language and feel the emotion," says Kidjo, whose past collaborators have included Western singers Dave Matthews and Cassandra Wilson as well as instrumentalists Carlos Santana and Branford Marsalis. "That is universal."

Although the new CD seamlessly fuses those languages with Latin styles including salsa, calypso and ska, Kidjo wanted to include Spanish. But she couldn't find a compatible lyricist to work with. "It had to have the same truth as my own language," she says. "If it goes back to Africa, where they don't speak English or Spanish, they have to groove on it too."

Kidjo is a star in her homeland, where girls cut and bleach their hair to emulate her. When she was growing up in the '70s, however, being a female singer was discouraged

"It was not accepted at all, but I was lucky enough to have the parents I had," says Kidjo, whose father promoted her first show at age 17, and whose mother formed Benin's first theater group. "She always told me, 'You gotta feel it in your heart. If there's a doubt any time, don't do it.'" **iB**

Angelique Kidjo
plays Avalon June 25.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fa (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or b email to music@improper.com. Include dates, times prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline i four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not ac cepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from dif ferent sources. Although we make every effort to provid accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahea to double-check dates and times (see complete list o venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Citizen Cope, Meika Pauley and Abdel Wright Jun 14 and 21, Paradise Lounge (617-423-NEXT).
Dido June 19, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000)
Fall Out Boy, Anberlin and Don't Look Down Jun 13, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
Five for Fighting and Glen Phillips June 13, Paradis Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Franz Ferdinand and Sons and Daughters June 16 Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Indigo Girls June 11, FleetBoston Pavilion (617 931-2000).
Jim Beam Live, featuring Gavin DeGraw, Michae Tolcher and Averi June 14, Avalon (617-423 NEXT).
Kottonmouth Kings, OPM, Big B and Strawma June 9, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Diana Krall June 22, FleetBoston Pavilion (617 931-2000).
Los Lobos June 18, Paradise Rock Club (617-423 NEXT).
Katie Melua June 19, Paradise Rock Club (617-423 NEXT).
Matt Nathanson and Sister Hazel June 11, Avalo (617-423-NEXT).
Grant Lee Phillips, John Doe and Blake Hazar June 10, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Rolling Rock Town Fair Music Festival with Finch Sevendust, Thornley and Three Days Grace Jun 12, Suffolk Downs (617-423-NEXT).
Rooney, Ozma and Straylight Run June 15, Axi (617-423-NEXT).
Skinny Puppy and Tweaker June 19, Avalon (617 423-NEXT).
Vinicius Cantuaria June 17, Scullers (617-423 NEXT).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9

Asgard Tom Groleau, 9 pm, no cover, all ages.
Avalon Kottonmouth Kings, 8pm, $15.25.
Bill's Bar Laura Glyda Band CD-release party, 1 pm, $8-$10, 18+.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 21+.
The Breezeway Jeff Felder, 7:30-10:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, no cove 21+.
Club Passim David Goodrich, 8 pm, $12, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cove 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Harper's Ferry Beantown Project, $5.
Johnny D's Nathan and the Zydeco Cha Chas, 8:3 pm, $7, 21+
Middle East My Chemical Romance, Boys' Nigh Out and Nightmare of You and Drive By, $10, 18+.
Milky Way Momentum, 8 pm, $3-$5, 21+.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 7:30 pm, no cover, all ages
O'Brien's Leave the Body, $3-$7, 21+.
Paradise Lounge Scarlet Fields, Darker My Love, pm, $3-$5, 21+.
Regattabar Either/Orchestra, 8:30 pm, $12, 21+.
Roxy Culture featuring Joseph Hill, 9 pm $15/$20.
Scullers Russell Malone, 8 and 10 pm, $18, all ages
Sophia's Live salsa, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
The Tap Bruce Jacques, 9 pm
Tír na nÓg Jon Shain, 21+.
Toad Deb Pasternak, 7 pm; Sticky, 10 pm, no cove 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place My Hotel Year, 9 pm; Feab Weiner, 9:50 pm; Favorite Atomic Hero, 10:40 p River City High, 11:30 pm. $8.
Wonder Bar Barry Ries, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Audrey Chen with Katt Hernandez and Linda Aubrey, 7 pm, $6, all ages.
Les Zygomates Leo Blanco, 8 pm, no cover.

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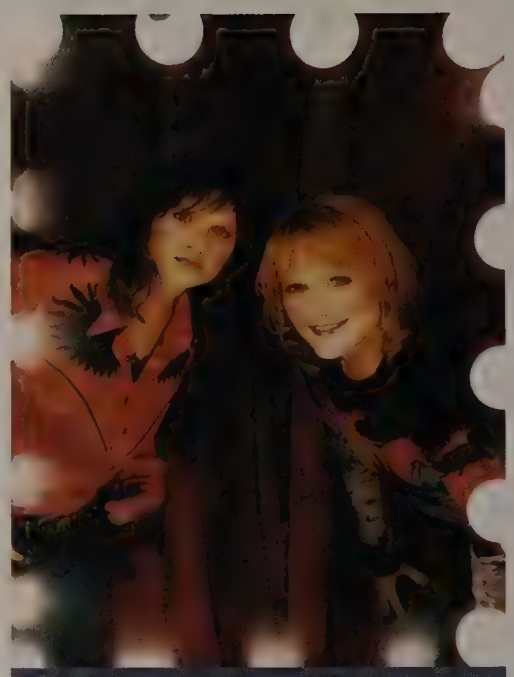
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THURSDAY, JUNE 10

Abbey Lounge Jason Hatfield, 9 pm; My Own Worst Enemy, 9:45 pm; Señor Happy, 10:30 pm, $5-$7. 21+
Axis Zebrahead and Lola Ray, 7 pm, $10/$12.
Bill's Bar The Cignal, Darker My Love, Paulson, Outsmarting Simon, 10 pm, $8-$10, 18+.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Groove Authority, 7 pm
The Breezeway Serious Bizness Quartet.
Cantab Lounge Chris Waller, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Janet Feld CD Release, 8 pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Rockfish, 7:20 pm, no cover, 21+
Grand Canal Maxi, 5 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Hennessy's Me & Julio.
Johnny D's Slaid Cleves, 8:30 pm, $7, 21+
Kinsale Stretch, no cover, all ages.
Kirkland Café Those Dirty Swedes, Turkey Hollow Boys and Once Over, $5.
Lizard Lounge Chick Singer Night with the Vykki Vox Band, 9:15 pm.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall, 9 pm, no cover.
Middle East Downstairs: Trans Am, Bobby Conn, and the Frequency, $12. Upstairs: the Battles, $9.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 7:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
O'Brien's Monkey Pox, Seeking 7, Blacklisted and Supervain, $3-$7, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club Grant Lee Phillips, John Doe and Blake Hazard, 9 pm, $14-$18, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett and Friends.
Regattabar The Patrice Williamson Group, 8:30 pm, $14, 21+.
Scullers Chris Potter, 8 and 10 pm, $18, all ages.
Sophia's Latin Party Boys, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 21+.
Toad Billy Block's Western Beat Blues Festival, featuring John Cate and the van Gogh Brothers, Tom Gillam & Tractor Pull and Tim G & Weed, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place Din, 9:15 pm; Joss, 10:15 pm; Loudly Fernando and Dom, 11:15 pm. $7.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner and Joe McMahon, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Interoceanio, 7pm, $10, all ages; Trio jazz, 9:30 pm, $8.

FRIDAY, JUNE 11

Abbey Lounge Far from Finished, 9 pm; the Dents, 9:45 pm; the Blackjacks CD-release show, 10:45 pm; Beefy DC, 11:45 pm. $5-$7. 21+.
Asgard Sun Five, 9 pm, no cover, all ages.
The Attic Caroline Guild Band, 8 pm, $5-$8, 21+.
Avalon Matt Nathanson, Sister Hazel, 7pm, $17.75.
Bill's Bar Meet the Day, 10 pm, $8-$10, 18+.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan and Sunday's Well, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Tracey Rose, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Lucy Kaplansky, 8 pm, $20, 21+.
Common Ground The Bridge, 10 pm, $5, 18+.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
FleetBoston Pavilion Indigo Girls and Cordero, 8 pm, $30-$37.50.
The Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the No Way Jose Band, no cover, all ages.
The Good Life Downtown Aaron Burnett Trio, 6:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
Grand Canal Audio Underground.
The Green Dragon Tavern Bald Walter.
The Harp Crystal Roxx, 10 pm, $10, 21+
Harper's Ferry Topaz, $8 , 21+.
Hennessy's Me & Julio, 5-7:30 pm, Freeze Pop.
Johnny D's Keith Frank, 9:45 pm, $7, 21+.
Kirkland Café Surf Music Festival with Gein and the Graverobbers, Brimstones, Phantom Creeps and the Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lucky's Lounge Justin Beach, 10 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Detachment Kit, We Ragazzi, Furvis CD-release show and Get On Get On, $9. 18+
Milky Way Devil Music, 9 pm, $6-$10, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Tommy and Allan.
Oak Bar Bill Loughlin Quartet, 8:15 pm, no cover, all ages.
O'Brien's Kenne Highland, $3-$7, 21+.
Paradise Lounge Amy Fairchild with Katie Terrio, Grey Morning Star, 9 pm, $3-$5, 21+.
Parris The Catunes, $5-$10, 10 pm, 21+
PA's Lady of Spain, the Bon Savants, Luna Di Void and Joe Six Pack; $5-$7, 21+.

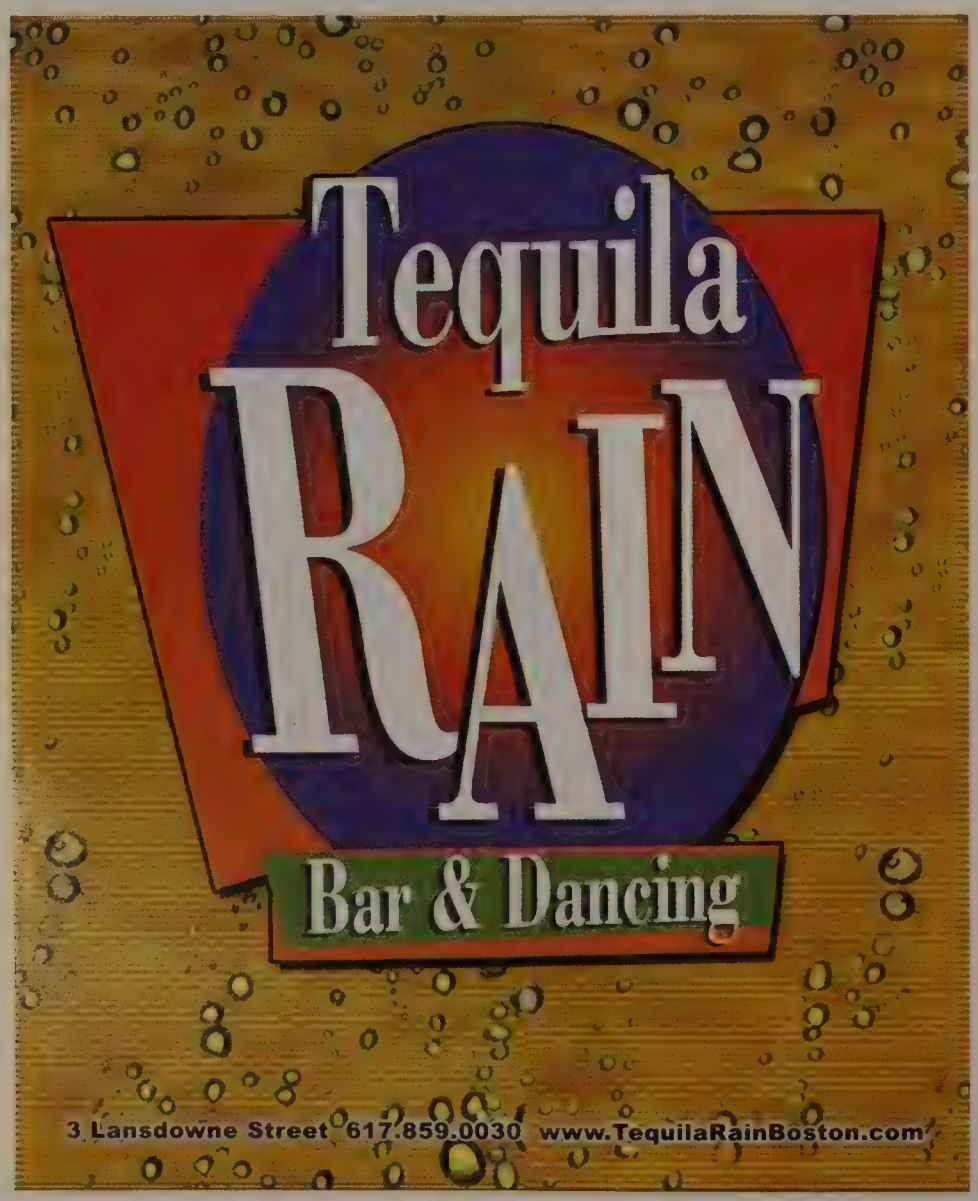


The Indigo Girls perform June 11 at the FleetBoston Pavilion.

Regattabar The Bruce Katz Band, 7:30 and 10 pm, $12, 21+.
Scullers Shirley Horn, 8 and 10:30 pm, $28, all ages.
Sophia's Latin Party Boys, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Symphony Hall Rockapella, all ages.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies, 21+.
Toad The Brilliant Mistakes, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place Bon Savant, 9:15 pm; The Bravery, 10:15 pm; The Information, 11:15 pm; The Good North, 12:15 am. $8.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, no cover, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery John Cremona and Friends, 7 pm, $10, all ages.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

SATURDAY, JUNE 12

Abbey Lounge Andrea Gillis, 9 pm; American Pulverizer, 9:45 pm; the Blackjacks CD-release show, 10:45 pm; the Curses, 11:45 pm. $5-$7, 21+.
The Attic Boris McCutcheon Band with Lou featuring Laura Carone, 8 pm, $5-$8, 21+.
Axis Autopilot Off, Riddlin' Kids, Bayside and A Second Chance, 6:30 pm, $10.
Berklee Performance Center South Central Massachusetts Choir, 7:30 pm, $25.50, all ages.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well (upstairs), Celtic Clan (downstairs).
Bob the Chef's Paulo Danay Jazz Quartet, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Sam Shaber, 8 pm, $14, 21+.
Common Ground The Reaganomics, 10 pm, $5, 18+.
Dick's Last Resort Big Boss, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Good Life Cambridge Weepin' Willie, no cover, all ages.
The Good Life Downtown Jim Porcella Trio, no cover, all ages.
Grand Canal Syndicate.
The Green Dragon Tavern Say When.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin.
International Community Church Some Girls, Daughters, Sex Pistons, and Get Down Man Mountain, 6 pm.
Johnny D's Beatle Juice, 9:30 pm, $12, 21+.
Kinsale The Mercy Brothers, no cover, all ages.
Kirkland Café Crybabies, Reckless Daughter, Selling Venus Local Jack, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: No December CD-release show, Give, Cade, All Parallels and Rat Wakes Red, $9. Downstairs: Papermoon, $9.
Oak Bar Bill Loughlin Quartet, 8:15 pm, no cover, all ages.
O'Brien's Sugar High Diaries, Jaded, Starla Dear and Ultra Vixen, $3-$7, 21+.
Paradise Lounge Common Rotation with Rory Lowe Band, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club The Decemberists, the Long Winters and the Places, 9 pm, $12-$14, 18+.
Parris Central Basement, 10 pm, $5-$9, 21+.
PA's The Ray Mason Band, Natalie Flanagan; $5-$7, 21+.







Beach Party Wednesdays is Back.



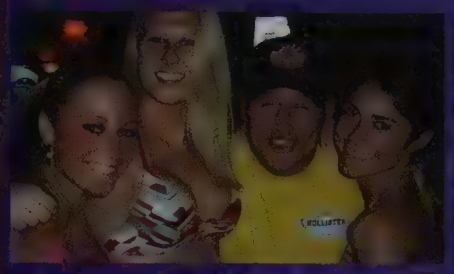
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Purple Shamrock Brick Park.
Regattabar Rebecca Parris Quintet, 7:30 and 10 pm, $18, 21+.
Somerville Theatre Jonathan Richman and Jesse DeNatale, 8 pm, $15.
Sophia's Latin music, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Suffolk Downs Rolling Rock Town Fair Music Festival, featuring Sevendust, Finch and Three Days Grace, 3 pm, $20, all ages.
Tír na nÓg Jordan Carp Band, 21+.
Toad Yoni Gordon and the Goods, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place Choo Choo La Rouge 9:30 pm; Fooled by April, 10:30 pm; Wheat, 11:45 pm. $10.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Zeitgeist Gallery Tim Ray, 9:30 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Theresa Inez, 8 pm, no cover.

SUNDAY, JUNE 13

Axis Fall Out Boy, Anberlin, Don't Look Down and Punchline, 6:30 pm, $12.
The Black Rose Frank Ryan and Sunday's Well, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Sonny Watson Quartet, 10 am.
The Breezeway Jazz brunch with Michael Shea Trio.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Katharine Pritchard and others, 8 pm, $10, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover, 21+.
Hennessy's J.J. Travolte.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Ridgley Snow, 9 am-2:30 pm; blues jam, 4:30-8:30 pm; salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9 pm-12 am.
Kinsale Frank Ryan, no cover, all ages.
Middle East Upstairs: Open mike with Vice Veses and Prolific One. Performances by Pack FM, Breez Evahflowin, and Virtuoso. Hostd by Big Zoo, $7.
O'Brien's Flesh Petal, $3-$7, 21+.
Paradise Lounge Mark Geary with Paddy Saul, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club Five for Fighting, Glen Philips, 8 pm, $20, 18+.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies, 21+.
Toad The David "Goody" Goodrich Trio, 7 pm; Session Americana, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bourbon Street Paraders, 12 pm; Bobby Keys Trio, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place Takka Takka, 9:15 pm; The Vowels, 10:15 pm; Fitless, 11:15 pm. $5.
Zeitgeist Gallery Margaret McAllister, 1:30 pm, $5, all ages; Acoustic Improv with Nat Mugavero, 3:30 pm, $5, all ages.

MONDAY, JUNE 14

Avalon Gavin DeGraw, Michael Tolcher and Averi, 7:30 pm, $17.
Berklee Performance Center Glen Veldez and Handance, 8:15 pm, $5-$10, all ages.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 21+.
Club Passim Ellis CD-release show, 8 pm, $10, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Briar Irish Seisiun, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Johnny D's Phil Rector, 7:30 pm, 21+.
Kinsale Eamon Sheehan, no cover, all ages.
Paradise Lounge Citizen Cope with Mieka Pauley, Abdel Wright 7 pm, $8-$10, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard.
Regattabar The John Scofield Trio with Steve Swallow and Bill Stewart, 7:30 and 10 pm, $22, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Jimmy Ryan, 21+.
Toad The Early Show featuring Shwang, 7 pm; the Tim Gearan Band, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bobby Keys Trio, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.
Zeitgeist Gallery 3Play, 7 pm, $8, all ages; the Fringe, 10 pm, $10, all ages.

TUESDAY, JUNE 15

Asgard Acoustic Night with Allison Block, 21+.
Axis Rooney, Straylight Run and Ozma, 8 pm, $15.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 21+.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Jam (downstairs), 8 pm, 21+.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Old Time Music Night, 8:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Kinsale Tom Courtney, no cover, all ages.


Katie Melua plays June 19 at the Paradise

Middle East Upstairs: Righteous Jams, Forward, the Prowl and the Refuseniks, $8.
Mr. Dooley's Tommy and Alan.
Oak Bar Gregory Sahagen, 7:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
Paradise Lounge James O'Brien and the Church of the Kitchen Sink, Juniper's Daughter and Owen Plant, 8 pm, $5, 18+.
Regattabar The John Scofield Trio with Steve Swallow and Bill Stewart, 7:30 and 10 pm, $24, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Gilad Barkan CD-release show, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
Scullers Curtis Stigers, 8 and 10:30 pm, $15, all ages.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band, 21+.
Toad Jabe Beyer with Jeremy Curtis, Billy Beard and Dana Colley, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place Coulter, 9 pm; Corey Heasli & the Concentration, 9:50 pm. $5.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30 pm, n cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Marcia Deihl Show, 7:30 pm $7.
Les Zygomates The Jason Domnarski Trio, 8 pm no cover.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16

Abbey Lounge The Collisions, 10:30 pm; the Emer gency, 11:30 pm. $5-$7. 21+
Asgard Jude Nemo, no cover, 21+.
Avalon Franz Ferdinand, 8 pm, $15/$16.50.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30, 21+.
The Breezeway Lenny Stalworth and the Funk Mob, 7:30-10:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, no cove 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cove 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Harper's Ferry The Beantown Project, $5.
Johnny D's Big Top Vertigo, East of Autumn, 8:3 pm, $7, 21+
Middle East Upstairs: Cabiria, Irepress and Wakin Ashland, $8. Downstairs: !!!, $12.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 7:30 pm, no cover, a ages.
Paradise Lounge Sam Phillips, 7 pm, $15, 18+.
Ryles Jazz Club Americana Night with Ad Frank, pm, $6, 21+.
Scullers Sophia Bilides, 8 pm, $18, 18+ .
Sophia's Salsa music, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Steve Mayone, 21+.
The Tap Bruce Jacques, 9 pm.
Toad The Jody Grind, 7 pm; The Ken Clark Orga Trio, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, n cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place Chris Brokaw, 9:10 pm; Pon Up, 9:50 pm; Ben Lee, 10:45 pm. $14.
Wonder Bar Barry Ries, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Weatheroutpost 12, 9:30 pm, $8 all ages.
Les Zygomates Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm, n cover.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 17

Abbey Lounge Superlow, 9:45 pm; Señor Happy 10:30 pm; Scamper, 11:30 pm. $5-$7. 21+
Asgard Tom Glynn, 21+.
Axis The Aquabats, Planet Smashers and Lederhosen Lucil, 6:30 pm, $12.
Berklee Performance Center Trichy Sankaran, Mance Grady & 100 Monkeys, 8:15 pm, $5-$10.
Bill's Bar Seeking Homer, with special guest Andy Happel, 10 pm, $8-$10, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Eugene Byrne, 21+.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's N'Decision, 7 pm.
The Breezeway Serious Bizness Quartet.
Cantab Lounge Chris Waller, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Brian Webb, 8 pm, $15, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Shock Treatment, 7:20 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Hennessy's Me & Julio.
Johnny D's Rani Arbo and Daisy Mayhem, Ray Bonneville, 9 pm, 21+.
Kinsale Stretch, no cover, all ages.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall, 9 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: The Noise Presents Ms. Pigeon, Raymond, Unbusted and December Sound, $9. Downstairs: DKT/MC5 with Marshall Crenshaw, Mark Lanegan, Cobra Verde, and Rock City Crimewave, $20.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 7:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
O'Brien's Soul Merchants, Tommy & the Terrors, Low Life, Ford Curran, $3-$7, 21+.
Paradise Lounge Rachel Yamagata with Jonathan Rice, 7 pm, $10, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett and Friends.
Ryles Jazz Club Greg Abate and El Eco featuring Claudio Roditi, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Scullers Vinicius Cantuaria, 8 and 10 pm, $18, all ages.
Sophia's Latin Party Boys, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Queen, 21+.
Toad Blast Off!, 7 pm; Johnny Hoy and the Bluefish, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place Heidi Saperstein 9 pm; Tiger Saw 9:50 pm; Joan as Police Woman, 10:45 pm; The Skating Club, 11:45 pm. $8.
Wonder Bar Johnny Horner and Joe McMahon, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Dieslow and Rot Septet, 7 pm, $5.
Les Zygomates Soul Phactor, 8 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, JUNE 18

Abbey Lounge The Marvels, 10:30 pm; Cracktorch, 11:30 pm. $5-$7. 21+
Asgard Typhoon Ferri, 9 pm, no cover.
The Attic Fallen from Grace and Breaking Laces, 8 pm, $5-$8, 21+.
Bill's Bar Waltham, the Charms and the Click, 10 pm, $12, 18+.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne (downstairs); Maxi, 9:30 pm, (upstairs).
Bob the Chef's Part Time Lovers Band, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Toshi Reagon, 8 pm, $15, 21+.
Common Ground Hi8us, 10 pm, $5, 18+.
Dick's Last Resort Classic Trax, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the No Way Jose Band, no cover, all ages.
The Good Life Downtown Aaron Burnett Trio, 6:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
Grand Canal Magnus.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scooby Snax.
The Harp Runamuk, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Dan Rockett and Jordan Carp, $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Me & Julio, Incadence.
Johnny D's Dale Watson, 9:45 pm, 21+.
Kirkland Café Patrons, Fred's Bowling Ball, AJ Crowe & the Air Conditioners and the Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall, 9 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Officer May, the Lot Six, Codetta, and Mad Man Films, $9. Downstairs: the Pills, Bleu, Jake Zavrachy and the Scheme, $10/$12.
Oak Bar Bill Loughlin Quartet, 8:15 pm, no cover, all ages.
O'Brien's A Wish for Fire, Thirdshift and Amber Spyglass, $3-$7, 21+.
Paradise Lounge Garvey J with guests, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club Los Lobos, 9 pm, $26.50, 18+.
Parris Flavor, 10 pm, $5-$10, 21+
PA's The Untouchables, the Count Me Outs, the Weisstronauts and Spanish for Hitchhiking; $5-$7, 21+.

Preview

Rooney Tunes

Retro rockers Rooney are shakin' things up with their vintage-venerating pop



Rooney performs at Axis June 15 with openers Straylight Run and Ozma.

Pro-Tooled vocals dominate the airwaves. Concerts are heavier on costume than chord changes. And L.A.-based rockers Rooney, whose melodic, tightly crafted songs are more Beatles than Britney, have had about enough of the formulaic pop that makes up most of the modern musical mainstream.

"There's no room for other types of music," singer/guitarist Robert Carmine laments over the phone. "There isn't enough space for rock and roll bands!"

It's not that Rooney is anti-mainstream—after all, the four-year old band performed its single "I'm Shakin'" on a recent episode of the Fox teen drama *The O.C.* Rather, Rooney wishes it were easier for bands that don't fit the typical top-40 formula to do what Carmine calls "the coolest thing": bring their music to the masses.

Instead of compromising their sound in hopes of reaching a wider audience, Rooney took to the road with artists like Weezer and Pete Yorn, touring relentlessly behind their eponymous and unabashedly retro-rocking 2003 debut CD.

By playing venues ranging from small London clubs to California's 100,000-capacity Rose Bowl, Rooney—whose five members' combined ages barely top 100—broadened their fan base and also proved themselves as musicians. "Our record has to be as good as all those other bands'," says Carmine. "You don't get a pat on the back for being 19 and having a record out."

Soon Rooney will have two records out: After wrapping up their current "Spit and Sweat" tour in mid-July, Rooney will enter an L.A. studio to record their sophomore album, due out this winter. Fans at the band's Axis show will get an early preview: "The best thing to do before you make a record is play the songs a lot," says Carmine, who estimates that half the set will be fresh material.

The band's reverence for 1950s and '60s rock—music from that era was the "coolest and most original," Carmine says—will continue to inform its sound. But what happens when Rooney's respect for rock icons comes into conflict with their disdain for commerce-driven musicians? (Their song "Popstars" lambastes musicians who focus on cash over craft.) In the case of a certain '60s rock pioneer turned Victoria's Secret pitchman, reverence wins out by a mile. "At this point, Bob Dylan could be in a Spice Girls video and still be incredible," Carmine laughs.

Axis, 13 Lansdowne Street, Boston (617-262-2437). June 15, 8 pm. $15. All ages.

—Patrice Taddonio

Ryles Jazz Club Brian Walkley's Flipside, 9:30 , $10, 21+.
Scullers Walter Beasley, 8 and 10:30 pm, $26.
Sophia's Latin Party Boys, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place Red Letter, 9:15 pm; Sam Bisbee, 11:15 pm; Chauncey, 12:15 am. $8.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicals, 9:30 pm,no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Three Pianists, Six Hands; 7 pm, $5, all ages; Outtakes Unlimited, 9:30 pm, $10, all ages.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

SATURDAY, JUNE 19

Asgard Steve Marden, no cover, all ages.
Avalon Skinny Puppy and Tweaker, 7 pm, $22.50.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne (downstairs), Maxi, (upstairs).
Bob the Chef's Antonio Jackson, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Colleen Sexton, Kellie Lin Knott opens, 8 pm, $12, 21+.
Common Ground Kabir, 10 pm, $5, 18+.
Dick's Last Resort Hit Squad, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
FleetBoston Pavilion Dido, 9 pm, $35.
The Good Life Cambridge Weepin' Willie, no cover, all ages.
The Good Life Downtown Jim Porcella Trio, no cover, all ages.
Grand Canal The Risk.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
The Harp Runamuk, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Hairbanger's Ball with Mr. Brownstone, $12.
Johnny D's Babaloo, 9:45 pm, 21+
Kinsale Jamm Down, no cover, all ages.
Kirkland Café Rover, Grey Area, Walk Don't Run and Line of Girls.
Middle East Upstairs: Passenger and Mellowdrone, $9. Downstairs: The Bags, Scissorfight and Malachite, $12.
Oak Bar Bill Loughlin Quartet, 8:15 pm, no cover, all ages.
O'Brien's On the Drop and Cannibal Kings, $3-$7, 21+.
Paradise Lounge Super 400 with Mark Femino and Elephant House, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club Katie Melua, 9 pm, $15, 18+.
Parris Flavor, 10 pm, $5-$10, 21+.
PA's Shenzou 5, the Census, Compass, $5-$7, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Scooby Snax.
Ryles Jazz Club Bellevue Cadillac, 9:30 pm, $12, 21+.
Scullers Walter Beasley, 8 and 10:30 pm, $26.
Sophia's live Latin music, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Bow Thayer and Jeff Berlin, 21+.
Toad The Armadillo's, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place Breaking Laces, 9 pm; Kahoots, 10 pm; The Soft Explosions, 11 pm; Adam Green, 12 am. $10.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Letters to Beany, 2 pm, no cover, all ages; Jorrit Dijkstra and the John Hollenbeck Duo, 7 pm, $8.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 8 pm, no cover.

SUNDAY, JUNE 20

The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9;30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Pat Loomis, 10 am - 2:30 pm.
The Breezeway Jazz brunch with Jeff Felder, 11 am-3 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover, 21+.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Matt Dorko and Larry Kukers, Blues jam with Rumba Nama.
Kinsale Christy O'Connell, no cover, all ages.
Middle East Upstairs: Hayden, $9.
O'Brien's Pray for the Soul of Betty, $3-$7, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club J.J. Cale, 8 pm, $20.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz brunch, 10 am, no cover.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Queen, 21+.
Toad The David "Goody" Goodrich Trio, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bourbon Street Paraders, 12 pm, Gordon Beadle Trio, 8 pm, no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place Robbers on High Street, 9:0 pm; The National 10 pm; Longwave, 11 pm. $10.
The Zeitgeist Gallery James Ricci and Friends, 1:3 pm, $5, all ages; Acoustic Improv with Nat Mu gavero, 3:30 pm, $3, all ages.

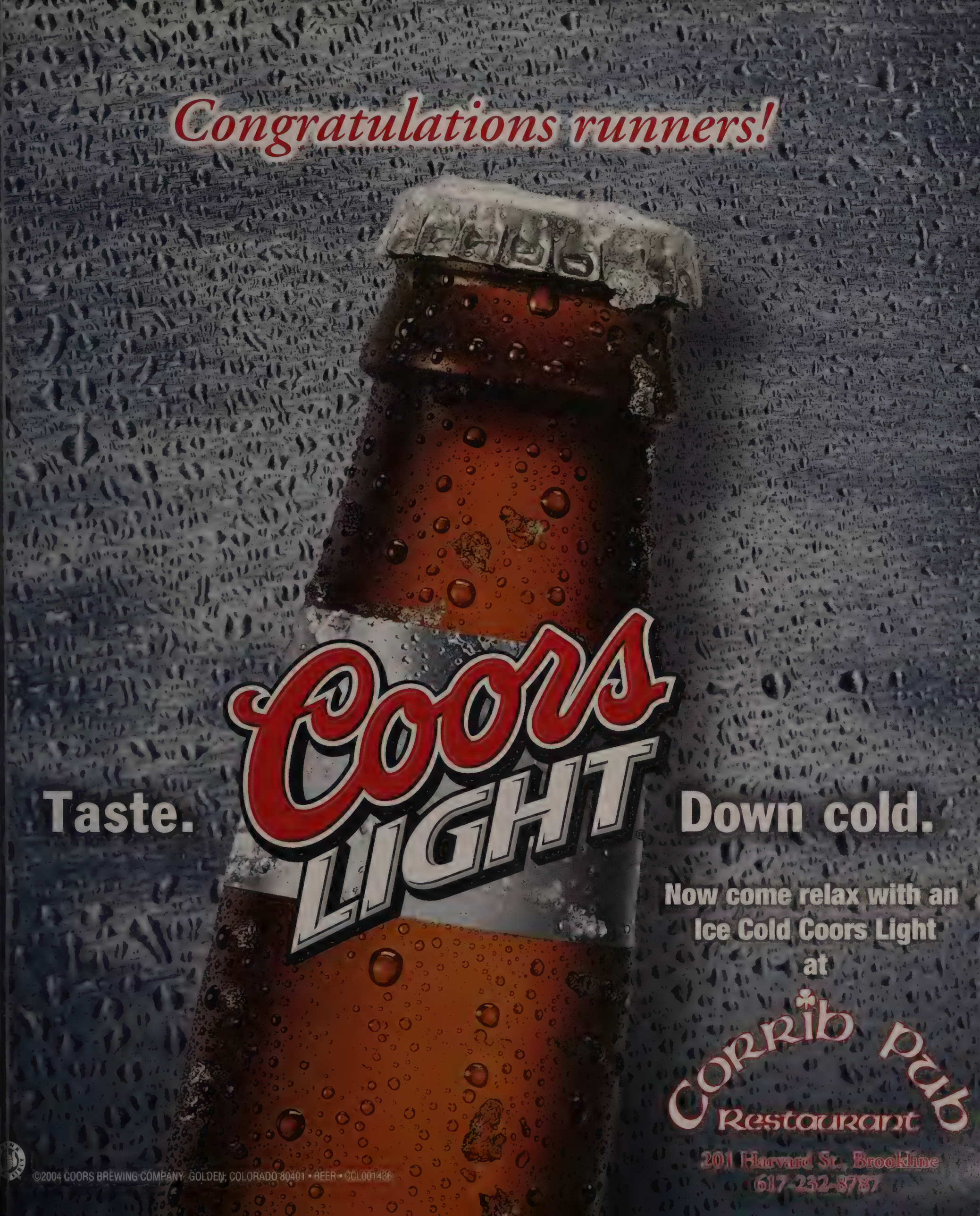
MONDAY, JUNE 21

The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Club Passim Arabesque, 8 pm, $12, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, n cover, 21+.
The Green Briar Irish Seisiun, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Kinsale Frank Ryan, no cover, all ages.
Middle East Upstairs: Audible Mainframe, Rhym Syndicate, Funk DJ, and Brenden Wesley, $1 Downstairs: Suicide Girls Live Burlesque Tour wi special guests, $12.
Paradise Lounge Citizen Cope with Mieka Paul Abdel Wright, 7 pm, $8-$10, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett.
Tír na nÓg Jimmy Ryan, 21+.
Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 7 pm; T Tim Gearan Band, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Gordon Beadle Trio, 8 pm, no cov all ages.
T.T. The Bear's The Beatings, 9 pm; Oceansize, 9: pm; Mclusky 10:45 pm. $10

TUESDAY, JUNE 22

The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Jam (downstairs), 8 p no cover, 21+.
FleetBoston Pavilion Diana Krall, 7:30 pm, $ $75.
Johnny D's Bruce McGregor, 8:30 pm, $7, 21+
Kinsale Tom Courtney, no cover, all ages.
Middle East Upstairs: Random Acts of Violen Attacking Frequencies and Dead Like Death, Downstairs: Pedro the Lion and John Vanders $12.
Oak Bar Gregory Sahagen, 7:30 pm, no cover, ages.
O'Brien's Particle Zoo, $3-$7, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club New York Nights with Paul Able pm, $7.
Scullers Janis Siegel, 8 and 10 pm, $20.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band, 21+.

Congratulations runners!



Taste.

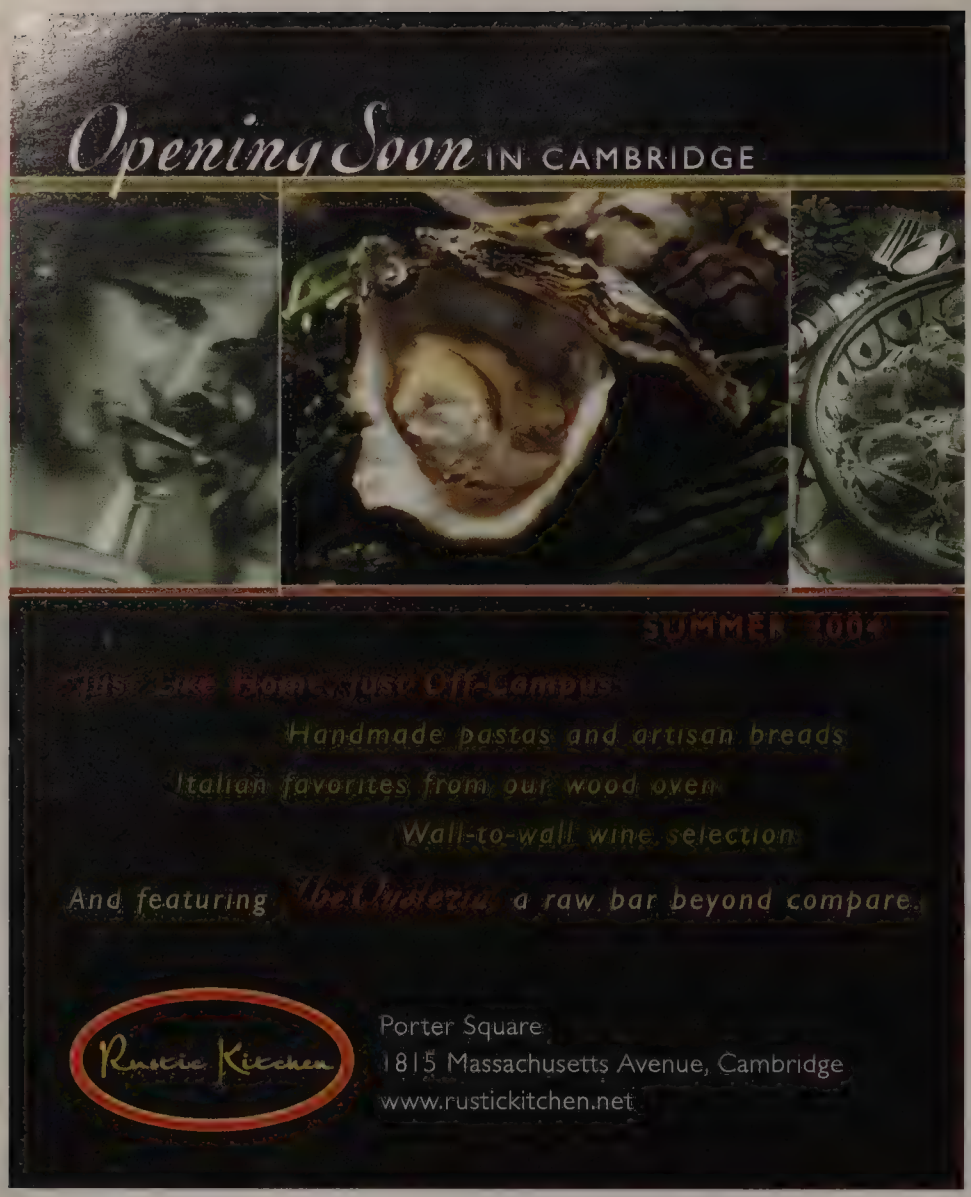
Down cold.

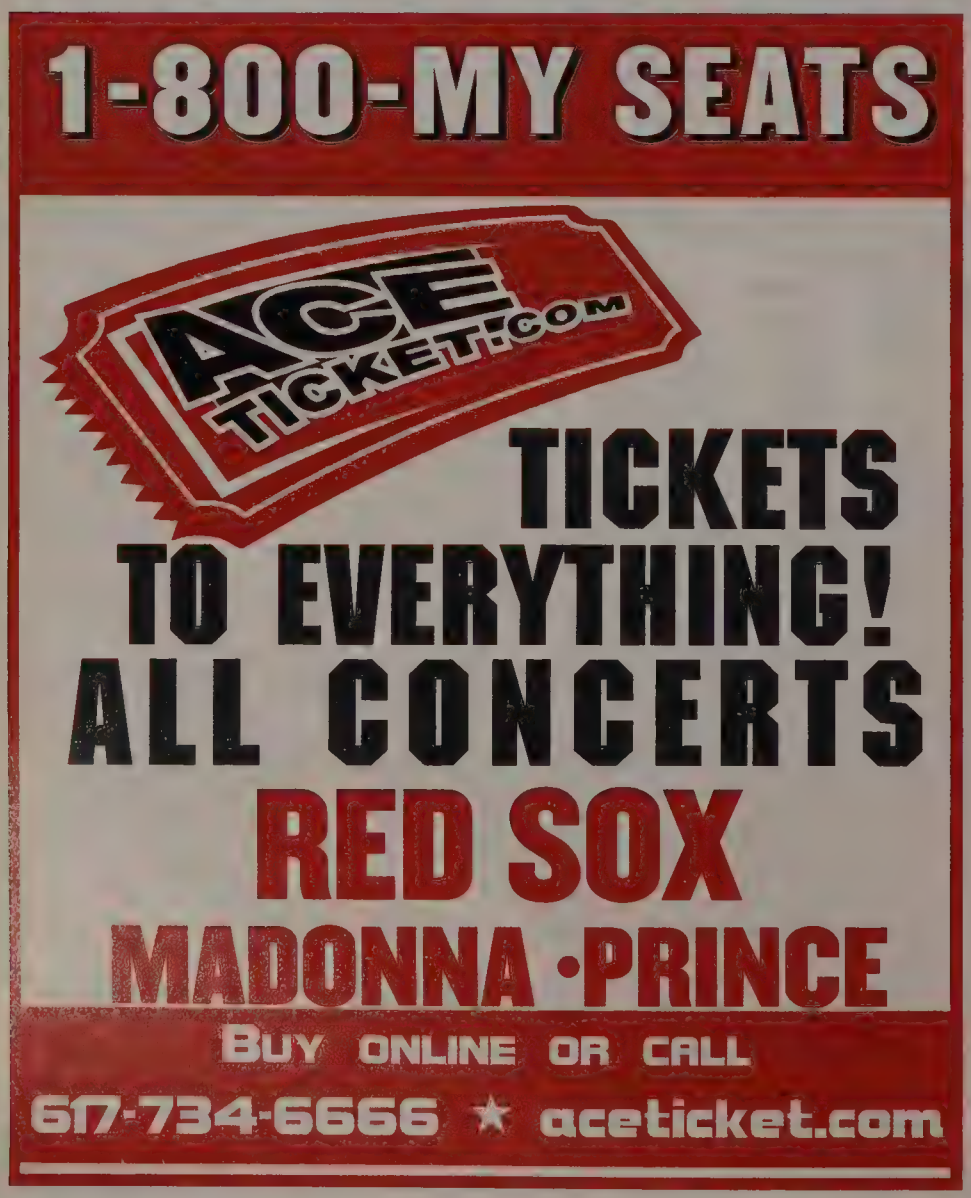
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ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINER

Bryan Adams August 8, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Aerosmith June 24, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Allman Brothers Band and Los Lonely Boys Aug. 21, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Arrested Development July 25, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Marc Anthony July 6, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Barenaked Ladies and Alanis Morissette Aug. 9, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Big Head Todd and the Monsters July 18, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Chicago and Earth, Wind and Fire June 30, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Eric Clapton July 3 and 4, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Johnny Clegg July 8, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).
Harry Connick Jr. June 30, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
The Corrs Aug. 28, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Cowboy Junkies and Shawn Colvin July 7, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Crosby, Stills & Nash July 22, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
The Dead and Warren Haynes July 30 and 31, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Howie Day, Matt Nathanson and O.A.R. Aug. 5, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Ben Folds, Rufus Wainwright and Guster July 8 and 11, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Franz Ferdinand June 16, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Gipsy Kings July 21, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Josh Groban July 27, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Daryl Hall & John Oates and Michael McDonald July 17, Fleet Boston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Hanson July 22, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Chris Isaak July 14, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Norah Jones Aug. 31, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Angelique Kidjo and Femi Kuti June 25, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Carole King July 25, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Kiss and Poison July 16, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
K.D. Lang July 9, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Huey Lewis and the News Aug. 21, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Linkin Park, Korn, Snoop Dogg, The Used and Less Than Jake July 29, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000)
Courtney Love June 23, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Lyle Lovett July 10, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Aimee Mann June 29, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Dave Matthews Band July 6 and 7, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
John Mayer, Maroon 5 and DJ Logic Aug. 20, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Tim McGraw June 26, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Moody Blues June 25, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Ozzfest with Ozzy Osbourne, Judas Priest, Slayer and Slipknot July 12, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Primus June 23, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Rush Aug. 12, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Britney Spears June 23, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Rod Stewart July 20, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Sting and Annie Lennox June 28 and 29, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Three Doors Down and Nickelback July 13, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
311, the Roots and Medeski, Martin & Wood July 23, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).

Toad Jabe Beyer with Jeremy Curtis, Billy Beard, Dana Colley, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover, all ages.
T.T. the Bear's Place Valerie Forglone 9:10 pm; Ioque, 9:50 pm; Jem, 10:45 pm. $10.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Gallery Zeigeist Coffeehouse, 9:30 pm, $5, all ages.
Les Zygomates The Jason Domnarski Trio, 8 pm, no cover.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Atrium Lounge *20 North St. Boston (617-523-3600). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Boston (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Choppin' Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-734-4177). MBTA: Green Line to Brigham Circle.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Cottonwood Café *222 Berkeley St., Boston (617-247-2225). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Druid *1357 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-497-0965). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Boston (617-350-9977). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
First and Second Church *66 Marborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (617-728-1600). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Forsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetary, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston (617-524-3354)*
Gillette Stadium *One Patriot Place, Foxborough (800-543-1776).*
The Good Life Cambridge *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*

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The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
International Community Church *557 Cambridge St. Allston (617-782-8120).*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Julien Bar *250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (617-267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., Boston (617-357-5825). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Murphy's Law *837 Summer St., South Boston (617-269-6667).*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave. Boston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paradise Rock Club and Lounge *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
P.A.'s Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
Porters Bar and Grill *173 Portland St., Boston (617-742-7678). MBTA: MBTA: Red Line to North Station.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Suffolk Downs *Route 1A, East Boston (617-567-3900). MBTA: Blue Line to Suffolk Downs.*
Symphony Hall *301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Washington Square Tavern *714 Washington St., Brookline (617-232-8989). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9

Boston Pops

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-638-9288). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$69. This celebration of conductor Keith Lockhart's 10th year with the Boston Pops features classic American pop tunes and baby boomer favorites.

THURSDAY, JUNE 10

Boston Pops

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-638-9288). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$69. Special guest Kristin Chenoweth brings Broadway vocals to the Pops. Conducted by Keith Lockhart.

Newton Free Library

330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. Vocalist Beth Purcell and pianist Roy Gould perform works by great American composers.

FRIDAY, JUNE 11

Greater Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra

Hatch Memorial Shell, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.fas.harvard.edu/~memhall. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $10-$18. The GBYSO's Summer Concert on the Esplanade features the Repertory Orchestra performing selections from Samuel Barber's *Medea*, conducted by Joel Bard. Mark Miller leads the senior orchestra in performances of works by Beethoven and Stravinsky.

Two Works by Composer Arthur Goodridge

First Church of Cambridge, 11 Garden St, Cambridge (781-608-0675). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $15-$20. Premiere performance of Goodridge's Trumpet Concerto with String Ensemble, with Brian Wallace, and Four Sonatas for Cello and Piano, with Peter Zay and Kanako Nishikawa.

SATURDAY, JUNE 12

Boston Pops

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-638-9288). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$69. Same program as June 9.

Lydian String Quartet

Brandeis University, Slosberg Recital Hall, Waltham (781-736-3400). www.brandeis.edu. MBTA: B Green Line to St. Paul St. 8 pm. $35. Guest pianist Randall Hodgkinson joins this benefit concert featuring works by Mozart, Beethoven and Dvorak. Proceeds support the quartet's Chamber Music Festival.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The NEC Youth Symphony Orchestra performs Mahler's Symphony No. 1 and Bernstein's Symphony No. 1 under the direction of Aaron Kula.

SUNDAY, JUNE 13

Boston Pops

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-638-9288). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $16-69. Keith Lockhart conducts *Red, White and Blue Pops*, a program of patriotic pieces celebrating America.

Classic Latin and Spanish Music at the Newton Free Library

330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 2 pm. Free. Mezzo-soprano Ana Maria Ugarte and pianist Scott Nicholas perform Latin American selections and classical cabaret.

David Gethmann

Christ Church Unity, 70 Colchester St., Brookline (617-232-4548). www.unityboston.org. MBTA: B Green Line to Longwood. 1:30-2:30 pm. $15 (includes reception). Gospel vocalist David Gethmann is accompanied by Fritz Weingartner and Kyle Flaherty on piano.

Lavazza Chamber Ensemble

St. Paul's Church, 15 St. Paul St., Brookline (617-566-4953). www.lavazzachamberensemble.org. MBTA: B Green Line to Street. Paul St. 7:30 pm. Free. The string ensemble performs works by Beethoven, Dvorak and Shostakovich.

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JUNE 24 Thursday 8pm
Dance Night at The Pops
Bruce Hangen, conductor
Dance the night away at Symphony Hall! We've got the Boston Pops, the dance floor, and Bruce Hangen to get you moving! Program includes favorites like "Swing Swing Swing," "In the Mood," "Mambo Jambo," and a Baby Boomer dance medley.

JUNE 25 Friday 8pm
Pops Around the World
Bruce Hangen, conductor
Catrin Finch, harp
Let the Pops be your tour guide as we entertain you with a dazzling array of melodies and rhythms from around the globe. Get your passports and fasten your seatbelts for this evening! Program highlights will include "Around the World in 80 Days," *El Salon Mexico* by Aaron Copland, and Brahms' Hungarian Dances.

JUNE 29 Tuesday 8pm
JUNE 30 Wednesday 8pm
Bon Voyage!
Keith Lockhart, conductor
Faith Prince, vocalist
The Pops will feature Tony Award-winning Broadway star Faith Prince in "Broadway Babies," in addition to musical highlights from the entire season's repertoire plus a few patriotic selections to get you ready for the Fourth of July.

JULY 1 Thursday 8pm
JULY 2 Friday 8pm
By George!
Keith Lockhart, conductor
David Deveau, piano
The Boston Pops celebrates the one and only George Gershwin with some of his best known and beloved works including *An American in Paris, Rhapsody in Blue* and selections from "Girl Crazy."

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TUESDAY, JUNE 15

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-638-9288). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$69. Same program as June 13, with additional vocal performances by three *PopSearch 2004* semifinalists.

Society for Historically Informed Performance
St. Peter's Church, 320 Boston Post Road, Weston (508-212-6038). www.sohip.org. 8 pm. $10-$15. The ensemble Amphione's Lyre plays a program entitled *Hawkins' Treasure Island*, which pays tribute to Sir John Hawkins' 19th book on music history. The concert features works by Arcangelo Corelli, Henry Purcell, Giovanni Bononcini and Francesco Geminiani.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-226-1200). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$69. Conductor Bruce Hangen leads the Pops in *Classic Pops*, a program of 10 Pops favorites from the past 50 years.

THURSDAY, JUNE 17

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-226-1200). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$69. Same program as June 16.

Society for Historically Informed Performance
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (508-212-6038). www.sohip.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm. $10-$15. Same program as June 15.

FRIDAY, JUNE 18

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-226-1200). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $16-69. Same program as June 16.

New England Conservatory
Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. NEC faculty present *Boston Bass Bash*, a program of jazz, classical and other styles of string bass music.

SATURDAY, JUNE 19

Boston Landmarks Orchestra
Boston Common Parade Ground, Boston (617-520-2200). www.landmarksorchestra.org. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park St. 4 pm and 5:30 pm. Free. Charles Ansbacher conducts the world premiere of his *The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere* at the second annual Landmarks Concert for Children.

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-638-9288). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$69. In *I Spy*, conductor Keith Lockhart and the Pops present music from the James Bond and Pink Panther films and other spy and detective movies and television shows.

Greater Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra
Sanders Theater, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.fas.harvard.edu/~memhall. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $10-$18. For its season finale concert, the GBYSO performs works by Brahms, Osvaldo Golijov and Alberto Ginastera under conductor Federico Cortese. The Repertory Orchestra performs with conductor Joel Bard.

Lydian String Quartet
Brandeis University, Slosberg Recital Hall, Waltham (781-736-3400). www.brandeis.edu. MBTA: Fitchburg Line to Brandeis/Roberts. 8 pm. $20-$35. This performance, the second in the quartet's series of four benefit concerts, features works by Beethoven, Berg and Debussy.

New England Conservatory
Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Same program as June 18.

SUNDAY, JUNE 20

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-638-9288). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $16-$69. Pops for Pops is a Father's Day tribute with Boston Pops classics and favorite sports tunes, conducted by Keith Lockhart.

New England Conservatory
Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 4:30 pm. Free. Same program as June 18.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 3 pm. Free. Pianist Maxim Lubarsky performs classical selections by Rachmaninov, Gershwin and Schumann, accompanied by vocalist Angela Rossi, bassist Oleg Osenkov and drummer Denis Frehse.

Zigen Fund Benefit Concert
Sanders Theater, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.fas.harvard.edu/~memhall. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. $10-$30. This benefit for children's education and health care in rural China features the 1997 winner of the BBC Singer of the World Competition, mezzo-soprano Guang Yang.

MONDAY, JUNE 21

Longy School of Music
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-876-0956, ext. 622). www.longy.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Sympony. 6 pm, cocktails and silent auction; 7 pm, dinner and concert. $300. At the annual Longy Gala, pianist Leon Fleisher receives the Leonard Bernstein Lifetime Achievement award, New England Patriot Tedy Bruschi plays the alto saxophone and students perform.

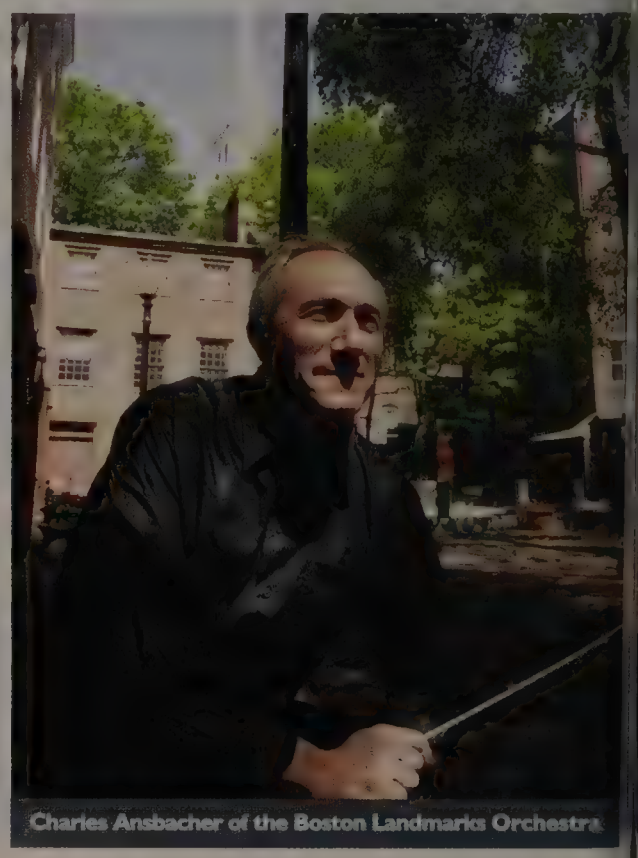
New England Conservatory
Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 4:30 pm. Free. Same program as June 18.

TUESDAY, JUNE 22

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-638-9288). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$69. Visiting composer, conductor and pianist Marvin Hamlisch presents *Mahvelous Mahvin*, featuring music from *A Chorus Line* and *The Way We Were*.

Masterworks Chorale Summer Sings
National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-235-6210). www.masterworkschorale.org. 8 pm. $8-$9. This concert of Brahms' *Requiem* features the chorale, professional soloists and conductor Allen Lammon. This is the first concert of a 10-week program, now in its 35th year.

Society for Historically Informed Performance
St. Peter's Church, 320 Boston Post Road, Weston (508-212-6038). www.sohip.org. 8 pm. $10-$15. Little Knight Music plays a program entitled *Baroque, Classical, and In-Between: The Music of Kleinknecht*, which features a recently reconstructed concerto, plus trio and solo sonatas by 18th-century composer Jakob Friedrich Kleinknecht.



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Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $5, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Jay Ine spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Monsta Mondays Kaptain Krunch spins the best old and new rock, $8, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJs spin R&B and hip-hop, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Dance party with DJ Marco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

An Tua Nua
What's Up Night A night of R&B, house, funk and soul music, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Phat Tuesday DJ D Sharp spins old-school and hip-hop, 19+, college ID required.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Sender spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Orange DJs John Davis and Pat Fontes bring the house music, and weekly guest DJs spin, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Deep Tones DJ Brynmore spins a mix of reggae, soul, funk, trance and acid jazz, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Marco spins dance music, 6-10 pm. DJ, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Ultra Lounge Tuesdays Groove to deep house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Trio
Always Best Tuesday The night features all hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Phat Tuesdays DJ Ron Steele spins hip-hop, R&B reggae and international grooves, 10 pm, 21+, proper dress required.

WEDNESDAYS

Aria
Lust DJ John Morris spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, $8, 19+.



Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins Greek and international tunes, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
What a Way to Go Go Mod Night with DJ Vin, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
DJs spin international house, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Rhythm Nights gets the dance party started upstairs, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up R&B, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mercury Lounge DJs Nomadik and Timmy Allen host a night of soul, funk and house, 9 pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin house and techno, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
International Wednesdays DJ JC is in the Latin Lounge; DJs Alex and Felix spin in the back, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Wacky Wednesdays A variety of adult entertainment, from comedy to magic, 6-11 pm, $5 for men, free for ladies, 21+.

Q
Violation Wednesdays Weekly guest DJs spin today's best music, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Cabin Stabbin' Wednesdays DJ Boogie Ba Do spins dub to start the party, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Jazz Wednesdays The Brian Walkley Band brings R&B and dance to the main lounge, 9-11 pm, no cover, 21+.

711 Boylston
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B. Downstairs: Live music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
College Night DJ Fu spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; DJ Roger M and DJ Thanos spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+, men; 19+, women with college ID.

Avalon
International Thursdays DJ Gee Spin and guests play rap and hip-hop tunes, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Mark Morris and Catunes play pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Clerys
Karaoke with DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 1 pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
DJ Ghost spins international house and hip-hop, 1 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Mo town, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Briar
DJ Stelah spins dance tunes, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursdays DJs Dubz and 40D spin reg gae, R&B and hip-hop, no cover, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou spins, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
Nonstop music with DJ Massi or DJ Ryan, no cove 21+.

I/D
Square One Thursdays DJs Dres and Wagz host night of progressive dance music, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Massi gets the dance party started upstairs, 8 pm no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran spi dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Doc spins the latest tunes, 21+.

La Boom
Privilege DJ Felix cranks the noise, 11 pm-2 am, 21-

ManRay
Pre-Pride •June 10, Kim English with special gue DJ Dena, 9 pm, $10, 19+.

Milky Way
Club Thursdays Rotating DJ's spin dance music, pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Parris
DJ Lou, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando preser drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5 (19+ $3 (21+).

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cove 21+.

Pravda 116
DJs spin upbeat lounge music in the front, 10 pm, r cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett performs live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Q
Hip-Hop Thursdays DJ Craig Smooth spins hi hop all night long, 9 pm, $5, ladies free all nigh 21+.

The Rack
Ibiza DJ Marco spins dance music, 6 pm-2 am, cover, 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali and Ross spin a mix electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cover, 21.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin loun music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

711 Boylston
Play Thursdays DJ trio Groovefire spins house mu with special guests Beat Khemistry, 6 pm-2 am.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Steve Sosong spins new dance a R&B. Downstairs: Justin Beech, 9 pm-1 am, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ JR Vega hosts Latin night with live music by t Latin Party Boys; free salsa lessons with Dan M shall, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
Hip-Hop Event Rotating DJs spin the hottest h hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
DJ Jim spins mixed beats.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 1

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul a rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, cover.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 fr the '70s, '80s and '90s, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

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Aria
Floss DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $15, 21+, men; 19+, women with college ID.

Avalon
Avaland DJ Nailz spins progressive dance music, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Mas spins hip-hop, funk and techno, 9pm-1am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
Avaland DJ Caprice spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ Matt Phipps spining the hottest top-40, hip-hop and '80's faves, along with Boston's best cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
F Night WBCN's Bradley J spins '80s classics, and alternative rock and tribute bands perform live, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft VJ Johnny Walker Black spins top-40, dance and hip-hop tunes accompanied by interactive video shows, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Twist Women's night with DJ MsLadyJ spinning R&B and hip-hop tunes, $10, 19+ (before 11:30 pm).

Caprice
DJ Eddie K spins a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+, after 11 pm.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, and two guest DJs spin on the first floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Felt
After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs, spinning high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Angirsano spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •June 11, Crystal Roxx, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •June 18, Runamuk, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs Big Daddy spins, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins house and old favorites, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before midnight, 21+.

La Boom
Fashion Fridays Firefly Promotions hosts this fashion night featuring DJ Rick Naples, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

Level
Greek Night DJ Hoff spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B on the fourth and fifth floors, and DJ Niko spins Greek and international tunes on the third floor, 11 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Adilson of Roxy Saturdays spins high-energy house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

The Modern
DJ Glenn spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Rockpile** WAAF's Steve Flagg broadcasts live, and rotating bands perform, 9 pm, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•June 11, The Catunes, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •June 18, Flavor, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Shake What Your Mama Gave You DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Carrie spins in the front and DJ Gabe spins vocal house in the back, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Craig spins the latest hits, 10 pm, $5.

Q
DJ Fury plays hip hop and top-40, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-9 pm. DJ Johnny C with KISS 108's Artie, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Lite Nite DJ Easy spins a mix that includes neo-soûl and feel-good classics, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top 40 hits, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance. Downstairs: live music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover before 10 pm, 21+.

Sophia's
Sangria and Salsa Salsa and merengue lessons, 7-10 pm, followed by the Latin Party Boys and DJs Mike C and Zino spinning Latin dance, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10pm, $5 after 9pm, 21+.

The Stadium
DJs spin hip-hop, top-40 and house music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats all night.

Trio
Boston's Finest Friday Dance to hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with Latin vibes. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Guest DJs spin high-energy vocal house and hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Total Request Avalon DJ Tim Collins plays requests along with top-40, dance and hip-hop, 10 pm, $15 ($10 before 12:30 am), 21+.

The Avenue
DJ Kevin Munroe spins house and trance, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Next WFNX DJs spin alternative rock, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ Matt Phipps spining the hottest top-40, hip-hop and '80's faves, along with Boston's best cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
The Dorm—Bill's Dance Night DJ Bruno spins a mix of hip-hop, dance, reggae and rock, 10 pm, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. VJ Johnnie Walker presents top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Franklin creates a lounge atmosphere with his international Latin and house sounds, 10 pm, ($10 after 11 pm) 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood It's women's night at Hollywood with two floors of hip-hop and house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

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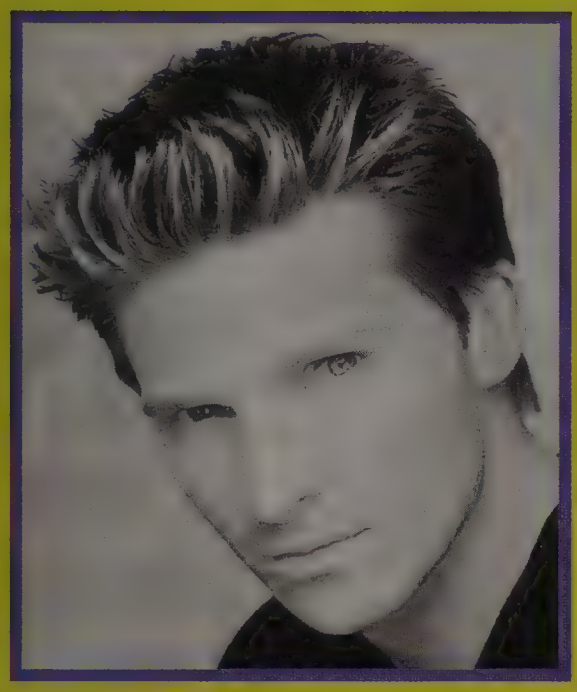
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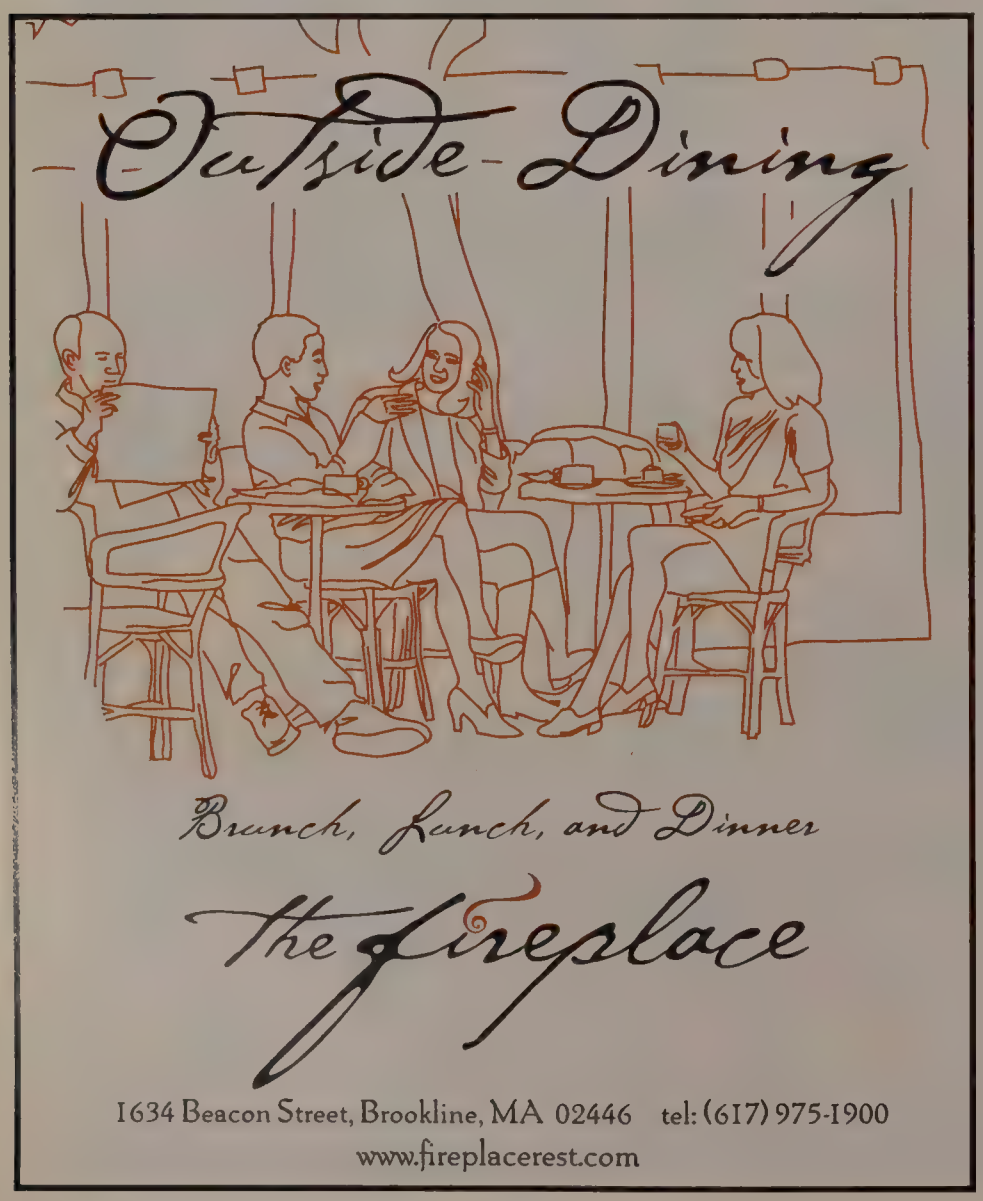






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Embassy
DJ Roger M spins international house, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop, house and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites, disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, $10, 21+. •June 19, Runamuk, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

I/D
X Night WFNX presents a night of retro '80s and rock, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, while downstairs DJ Kieran plays top-40, 9 pm, $6, 21+.

La Boom
Wild on @ La Boom DJ Tim Collins and KISS 108 host a night of music and dancing, 10 pm, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Matrix
DJ Massi from Star 93.7 spins top-40 hits, $5 for guys, free for ladies, 21+.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10 pm, $10, men; $5 women; ladies admitted free before 10:30 pm, 21+.

The Modern
DJ's Eddie Lee and Ricky Fatts play hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies free, men $5 before 10:30 pm; $15, 18+; $10, 21+ after 10:30 pm. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, $15, 19+; no cover 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins top-40 and hip-hop mixes, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Underground** DJs spin hip-hop, top-40, dance, techno and reggae for the under-21 crowd, 7-11 pm, $14. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes up hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•June 12, Central Basement, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •June 19, Flavor, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wonders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Rick Naples spins high-energy dance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom Hogan spins the groove, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Q
DJ Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi hosts the live broadcast and dance party, 8 pm, 21+, no cover.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins modern mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins house and techno, 9 pm, $15, 21+.

711 Boylston
Fever DJ Yorgo spins a mix of ethnic and international music, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8 pm. Downstairs: Kevin Kirrane, 9 pm, no cover before 10 pm.

Sophia's
Rumba Bar Live music in Sophia's lower level. •June 12, Grupo Fantasia, no cover, 21+. •June 19, Calle C, no cover, 21+. DJ Zino spins salsa an

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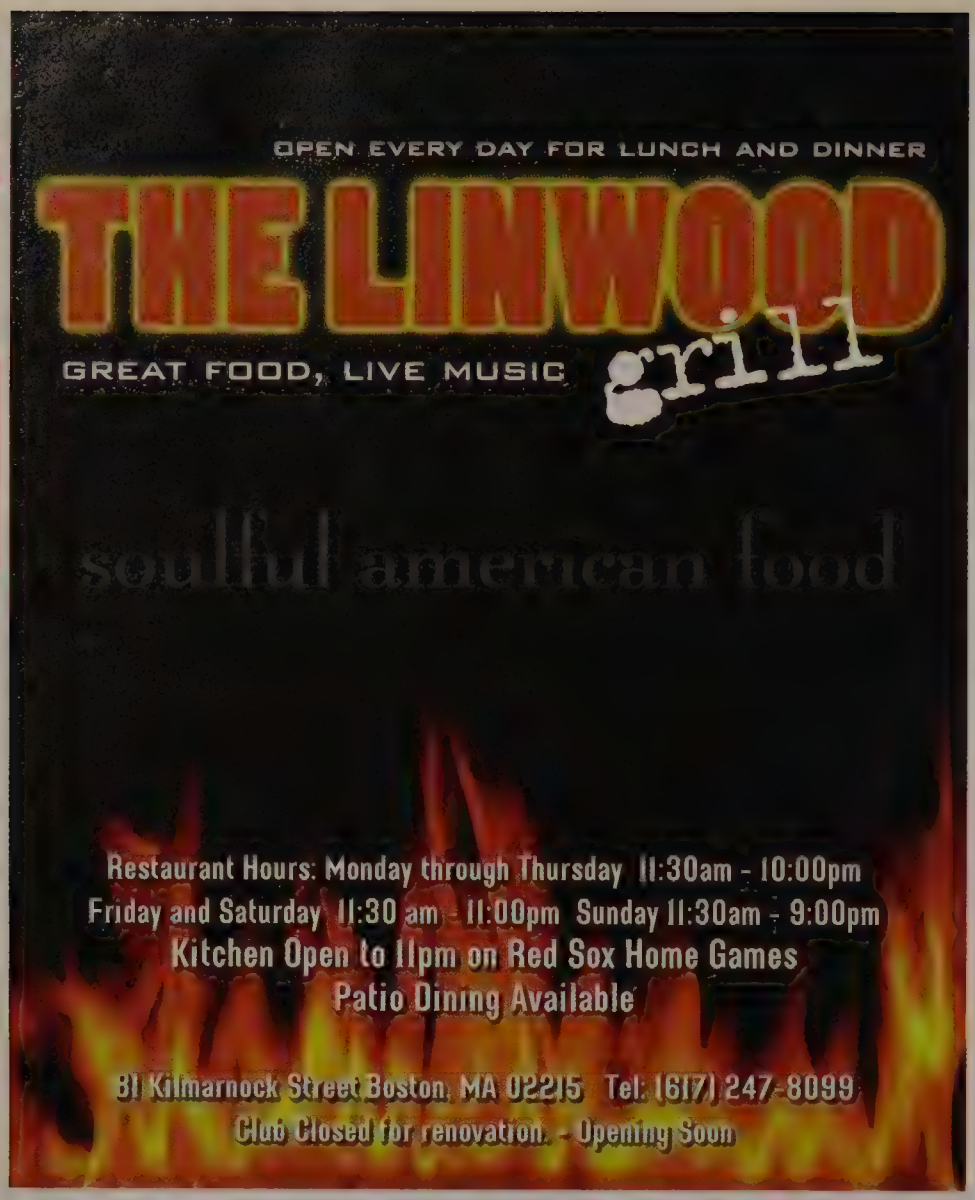
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merengue while a Latin band plays on the first floor and DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on the second floor, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Stadium
DJs spin hip-hop, top-40 and house music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins classic old-school, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats

Trio
Best Of Night DJs spin Eurohouse, hip-hop and classics, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Adrienne spins Brit-pop and new wave tunes, 9 pm-1 am, $3, 19+.

Aria
DJ Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+

Caprice
DJ Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $10 (after 11 pm), 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
Fluid Sundays DJs Joshua Carl and Paul Dailey spin tribal and deep house, breaks, techno and jungle beats, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Brazilian Night, Boston's best Brazilian Bands play, 11 pm, no cover.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Satellite A lesbian night featuring DJ Dee, with dance music, amateur drag contests and films, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Malibu Beach Party DJ Thom spins everything from reggae to Top 40 hits, with prizes all night, 4 pm-on, $5 men, free for ladies, 21+.

Q
Reggae with Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Reverie Boston DJ Shannon and weekly guest DJs spin goth, industrial and lounge, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
DJ Dave Jordan plays an array of top-40 tunes, 9 pm, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins Brazilian beats, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

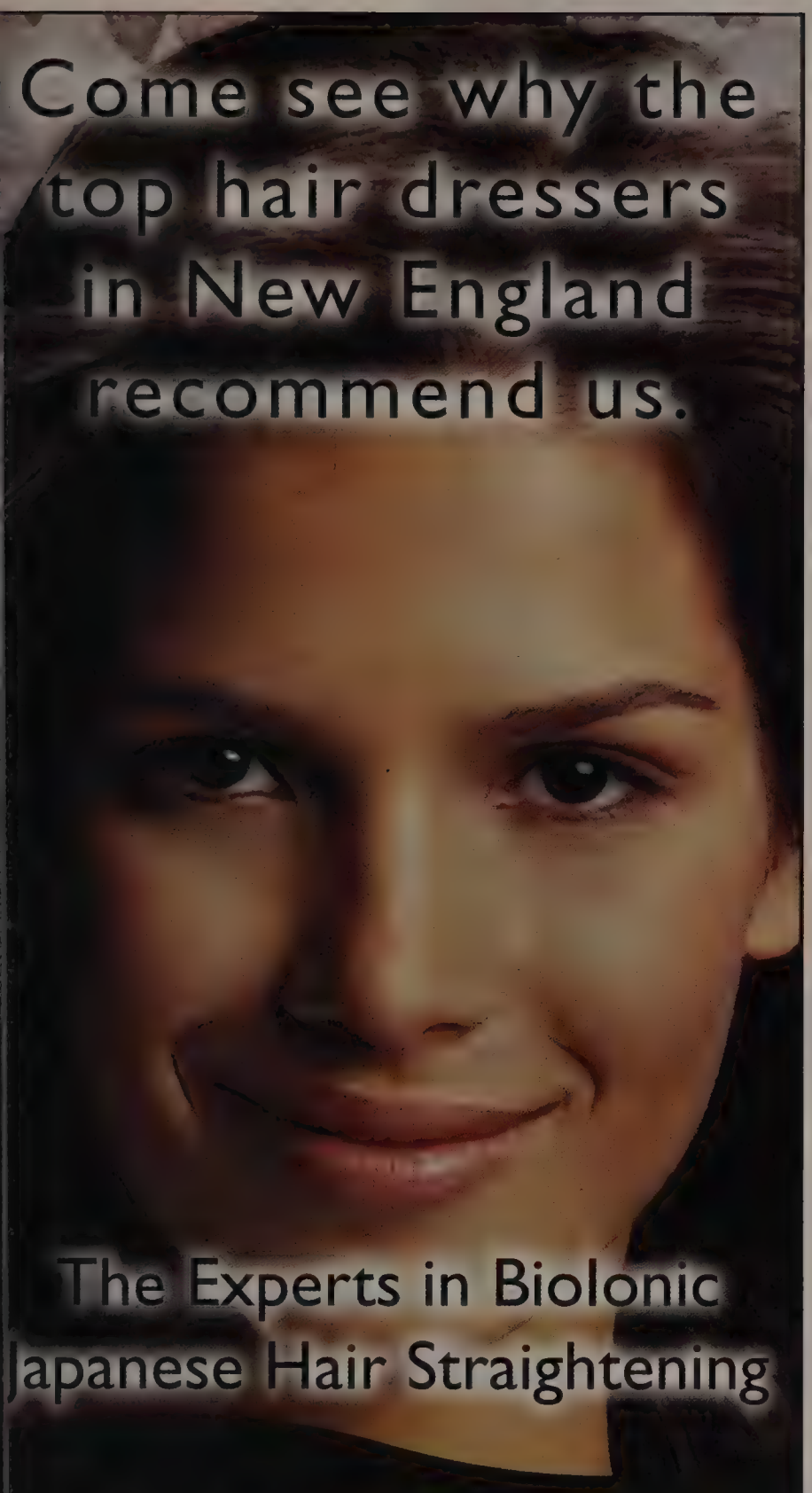
Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Whiskey Park
Cherry DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock classics, hip-hop house and R&B.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
La Boom *One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
ManRay *21 Brooline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *(El Copa, Male Encounter, Officers' Club, Oxygen, Rio, Underground and Uptown) 1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
711 Boylston *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511)*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001)*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
The Stadium *232 Old Colony Ave., Boston (617-269-5100).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300)*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077)*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211)*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*

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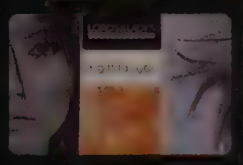
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museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors
Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Gary Schneider: Portraits* is a 30-year collection of the artist's black-and-white and color photography. Through June 13. •*The Continuous Stroke of Breath: Calligraphy from the Islamic World* features Arabic, Indian, Persian and Turkish calligraphy from the 9th through 20th centuries. Through July 18. •*Rocks, Mountains, Landscapes, and Gardens: The Essence of East Asian Painting*, an exhibition of rocks used in East Asian art, shows through Aug. 1.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm. •*Seashells and Other Delicacies* is a show of Bela Kalman's photography. Through June 12. •*Faces and Places* is an exhibition of rare maps. Through July 30.

Carpenter Center for Visual Arts
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). www.ves.fas.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-11:30 pm; Sun., 12-11:30 pm. Free. •The *VES Art and Film Thesis Exhibition* shows through June 10.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. •*The 2004 DeCordova Annual Exhibition* highlights contemporary artistic talent from New England. June 12-Sept. 5. •Three video installations by British filmmaker Steve McQueen show through June 29. •*Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Sense of Place, Part II* features paintings by various artists. Through August.

Fogg Art Museum/ Busch-Reisinger Museum
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Rococo Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* opens June 10. •*Process and Paradox: The Historical Pictures of John Singleton Copley* features two rarely seen works by one of America's first great artists. Through Aug. 29. •*Design~Recline: Modern Architecture and the Mid-Century Chaise Lounge* features chaise lounges designed by famous architects including Le Corbusier, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, Marcel Breuer, Alvar Aalto, and Charles and Ray Eames. Through July 11. •*Vastly More Than Brick and Mortar: Reinventing the Fogg Art Museum in the 1920s*, an exhibition of 47 objects including archival photographs, building plans and pieces from the Fogg's original collection, illustrates how the museum was created. Through Sept. 26. •*Extra Ordinary Day: The Bauhaus at the Busch-Reisinger* is an online exhibition that can be accessed at www.artmuseums.harvard.edu/sites/coed. Through 2005. •*To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* is an ongoing display of 19th-century art. •*Basic Research: A Selection of Postwar German Painting and Sculpture*, and *The Figure in French Sculpture, 1780-1900* are ongoing.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. • *Dodos, Trilobites and Meteorites...Treasures of Nature and Science at Harvard* features specimens from scientific explorations of the past 200 years. Through spring. •*Arctic National Wildlife Refuge: Seasons of Life and Land* is an exhibition of 49 photographs from northeastern Alaska by Subhankar Banerjee. Through Sept. 12. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species, by glass artists Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.



Tribune de Lausanne, by Herbert Leupin, at the International Poster Gallery

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7, $5 students and seniors. •Kai Altoff shows watercolors, drawings and reliefs in *Kai Kein Respekt (Kai No Respect)*. Through Sept. 6. •*Momentum 1* displays work by installation artist Carol Bove. Through Sept. 6.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, free for members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18. Gondola Days *exhibition, $3. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm.* •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. •*Gondola Days: Isabella Stewart Gardner & the Palazzo Barbaro Circle* explores the influence that Venice, Italy's Palazzo Barbaro has had on artists, writers and thinkers around the world. Through Aug. 15. •*TV Dinner* is an exhibition of Italian painter Maurizio Cannavacciuolo's contemporary wall drawings. Through Aug. 15. •*Whistler's Warning*, Joseph Kosuth's installation in neon of words taken from an 1885 speech by James McNeill Whistler, shows through August. •Elaine Reichek's embroideries, which depict Biblical images borrowed from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists, display online in the virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum
Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $8; seniors and students $6; children ages 13-17 $4; children 12 and under admitted free. •*Gifts from the World to the White House: Caroline Kennedy's Doll Collection* features 77 dolls from 30 countries that were given to JFK's daughter between 1961 and 1963. Through Nov. 5.•In honor of this election year, *Campaign!* is an exhibition following JFK's nomination, campaign and inauguration, from 1960–61. Through January 20, 2005.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. •The museum's permanent collection includes more than 1,500 pieces of contemporary art including paintings, murals, sculptures, photography and prints. •*Artur Zmijewski: Selected Works, 1998-2003* features video installations by the Warsaw-based artist, and *Marjetica Potrc: Urgent Architecture* features sculpture and urban designs by Potrc. Through July 11.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5, $3 students and seniors, $1 children. •*Hub of the Universe: A Century of Flight in Massachusetts* displays artifacts and artwork from the first 100 years of manned flight. Through Sept. 5. •*Telling It Like It Is: Student Activism at MIT during the Vietnam War* displays posters from that era. Through fall 2004. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features works by the self-described cross between "a mechanical engineer and a choreographer." Ongoing.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. •*The Times We Had* is an exhibition spotlighting Boston's African-American community of the 19th-century. Ongoing. •*Building on a Firm Foundation* is a 17-minute multimedia presentation that looks at 19th-century Beacon Hill through the eyes of an African-American teenager. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15 adults, $13 students and seniors, free for children 17 and under. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free (doesn't include special exhibitions). •*Gauguin Tahiti*, a retrospective of the painter's work from th South Pacific, shows through June 20. •More tha 200 jades dating from the Neolithic period to th Qing Dynasty display in *Chinese Jades from the Han man Collection*. Through August. •*Draped in Dra ons: Chinese Court Costumes* features clothes wo by members of the Qing imperial court. Throug Sept. 19. •*18th Century French Royal Furniture fro the Swan Collection* features the only complete set 18th-century French royal furniture in the Unit States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* di plays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13 adults, $11 s niors, $10 children. •*Risk!* is a hands-on exhib where visitors can test their sense of daring, whi seeing how they deal with the uncertainty th comes with a difficult decision. Through Sept. 6. • *Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of bir in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revoluti* traces the history of computers from the electron giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ong ing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases t museum's collection of dinosaur models, includi the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an inte active exhibition, features models of a wave tan Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum
33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm Free. •*Hatch Show Print's Rock 'n' Roll Posters* fe tures letterpress posters for concerts by musicians i cluding Johnny Cash, Frank Zappa and Bru Springsteen. Through June 13. •*A Glimpse of Bost Theater, 1850-1903* includes 15 playbills and pr grams from that period. Through June 20. •*Lun Box Memories* is an exhibition of lunch boxes fro the early 1900s through the 1980s. Through July 1 •*The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden* is ong ing. •*Lexington Alarm'd* is an exhibition of 18t century local history. Ongoing. •*Made in Massach setts* features household objects from the past thr centuries. Ongoing. •*To Build and Sustain: Freem sons in American Community* is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. Adults $13, seniors $1 students $9; children 16 and under and residents of Sal free. •*Vanished Kingdoms: The Wulsin Photographs China, Tibet, and Mongolia 1921-1925*, an exhibiti of color images taken by American explorers Janet and Frederick R. Wulsin, shows through June 1 •*Looking Both Ways: Contemporary Artists from Afri* is an exhibition of works by 12 African artists living Western countries. Through June 20. •*Peonies Paper* features more than 60 floral paintings by varie Chinese artists. Through June 20. •*Havana: Ph tographs by Robert Polidori* features 18 large-scale ph tographs. Through Jan. 9, 2005. •*Bringing Japan Boston* features Japanese artifacts from the Edward Morse Collection. Through April 30, 2005.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology
11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvar Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50 adults, $6 seniors and st dents, $5 children •*Regarding the Kalahari: The Mu shall Family and the Ju/'hoansi !Kung, 1950-1964* is exhibition of photographs and stereographs from t Kalahari Desert expeditions of Laurence Marsh and his family. Through August 30. •*Painted by Distant Hand: Mimbres Pottery from the Americ Southwest* features artifacts from New Mexic Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through September. •*Encou ters with the Americas* is an ongoing exhibition featu ing original sculpture and plaster casts of Mesoame can cultures. •*From Nation to Nation: Examini Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Nati American artifacts from the explorers' journ Through December 2005. •*Distinguished Casts: C rating Lost Monuments* features the museum's la Mesoamerican cast collection. Ongoing. •*Hall of North American Indian: Change and Continuity* f tures art depicting the response of Native Americ across the continent to the arrival of Europeans. C going. •*Pacific Islands Hall*, another ongoing exhi tion, displays artifacts from the Pacific Islands.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.ac fineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-S 11 am-5 pm. •*Main Modern: Loew, Maril, Eisner Malicoat*, a group show, displays through June 19.

ater tots. INCA'S GRAIN HALIBUT- Quinoa fritters layered with avocado mousse, sautéed asparagus tips and red oak lettuce on a bed of summer vegetable confetti. GREAT HILL FILET MIGNON - Grilled filet topped by Great Hill blue cheese served over sauteed pencil thin asparagus and chive mashed potatoes, finished with brandy glaze.



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Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). www.alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Patterns and Glass* is a group show of glass works by Paul Harrie and others. Through June 15.

Allston Skirt Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-482-3652). www.allstonskirt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Amy Ross shows her work in the main gallery, and Joe Wardwell shows his work in the Mini Skirt gallery. Through June 26.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*New Talent* introduces young artists from local schools. Through July 2.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Jean Larson shows new works. Through June 29.

Art Interactive
130 Bishop Allen Drive, Cambridge (617-498-0100). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Participatory Democracy* is an improvisational, interactive exhibition about voting, by five local artists. Through July 29.

Atlantic Works Gallery
80 Border St., East Boston (617-283-7113). http://atlanticworks.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. By appointment. •Jeannette Lazarus shows paintings and Yoav Bergner shows sculpture. Through June 30.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Kiki Smith shows etchings and lithographs. Through June 16.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Jennifer Harrison and Casey McGlynn show their work. Through June 19.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Sage Sohier shows new photographs in *Perfectable World*, and Joe Fig shows new sculpture and photographs in *Pop*. Through June 30.

Brickbottom Gallery
1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •The Somerville Charter School student exhibition, *Lost in Creation*, shows through June 26.

Bromfield Art Gallery
27 Thayer St., Boston (617-451-3605). www.bromfieldartgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •Dianne Lam displays her work in *Beach Sand Paintings*, and Selma Swartz Bromberg and Lynne Johnson show their prints and drawings in *Wind, Water, Rocks*. Through June 19. •Students of the Boston Arts Academy respond to Dante in *Living Inferno*. June 23-July 17.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Monmouth St., Brookline. (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm. •*The Gadsby Award Exhibition* shows works by four local students.

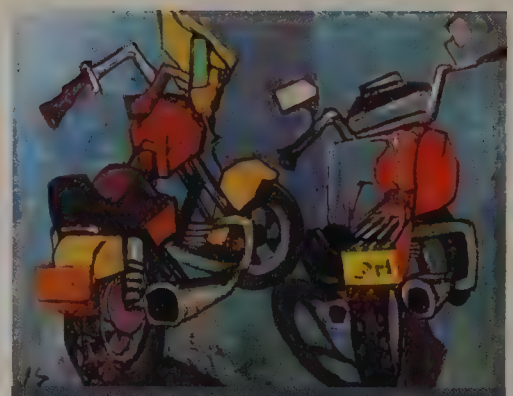
Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •Melora Kuhn shows paintings. Through June 26.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA:Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Three exhibits—*Art Within Art*, *Figure Drawings: Draped & Undraped* and *Henry Botkin: Abstracts and Collages*—show through July 1.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Donna Talman and Carolyn Webb: An Invitational Exhibition* shows through June 19.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •An exhibition of works by Jeff Eldredge, Dan McCole and Norman Crump is ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •An-



Joseph Solman's *Pair of Motorcycles*, at the Mercury Gallery June 10–July 6

tonia Hieronymus shows her black-and-white photographs in *The Human Landscape*. Through June 26.

Equator Gallery
450 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-540-9236). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.equatorgallery.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •The gallery specializes in Latin American fine art, including paintings, textiles and ceramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Persona* is a group show of portraits. Through June 19.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall. •Luc Leestemaker shows his work. Through July 4.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu. and Sat.,12-5 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm. •Recent paintings by Chris Mesarch and Beverly Rippel are on display. Through June 26.

The Gallery at Black and White
295 Huntington Ave., Suite 205 (617-266-2641). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Mon.-Fri, 10 am-5 pm. •The gallery features rotating exhibitions of black-and-white photographs.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*The Second Annual Furniture Design Exhibition: Cubbies, Doors, and Drawers* shows through June.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Prints by Allan Rohan Crite show in *Selected Works 1934-1998*, and Masako Kamiya shows new work in *On Paper*. Through July 30.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
23 Thayer St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Natercia Caneria shows multimedia installations in *Limits of Softness*. Through June 30.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.haleysteele.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •The gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prints. Ongoing.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Matt McClune shows color paintings, and Andrew Neumann shows panels. Through July 13.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters. •*Decade's Best*, a show of the gallery's best posters, displays through Sept. 6.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Google-ing the Real* is a show of video works by students at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts. Through June 19. •Charles Movalli, Jennifer Liston Munson and Bebe Beard show new work in *Poetry of Place*. Through June 26.

Kathryn Schultz Gallery
25 Lowell St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www.cambridgeart.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm, Sun., 1-5 pm. •*The 7th Annual National Prize Show* displays through June 24.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Todd Brainard shows paintings. Through June 30.

Kingston Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •Jeanne Griffin shows mixed-media works. Through June 27.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Monumental: Steel Sculpture* shows works by Dale Rogers and Rob Lorenson. Through June 11. •Roger Thomas presents his abstract and impressionist fused glass paintings in *Fusion*. June 10-Aug. 8.

Mark Gallery
141 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6275). www.markartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm, and by appointment. •Shaun MacDavid and Ann Solomon show paintings, monoprints and mixed-media work in *Seasons and Settings*. Through June 11. •*Cuatro*, is a summer group show of works by from Yuko Adachi, Bert Antonio, Amy Eisenfeld Genser and Liette Marcil. June 12-July 24.

Martin Lawrence Gallery
77 Newbury St., Boston (617-369-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.martinlawrence.com. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-7 pm. •The gallery's ongoing exhibition includes works by Chagall, Erté, Hallam, Kondakova, Lichtenstein, Picasso and Warhol.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Second Floor, Boston (617-859-0054). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.mercurygallery.com. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Vehicles*, a group show of paintings of planes, cars and trains, displays June 10-July 6.

Miller Block Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). www.millerblockgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30-5:30 pm. •Michael Harrington shows recent paintings, and Katherine Desjardins shows new work. Through July 7.

Mills Gallery
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed., Thu. and Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-10 pm. •*Somatic Scales*, a group show, displays through Aug. 1.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*Contact*, an exhibition of works by international jewelry artists, shows through June 30.

NAO Project Gallery
535 Albany St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-451-2977). www.naoprojectgallery.info. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay or Green Line to Copley. Wed., Fri. and Sat., 11 am-4 pm and by appointment. •Asuka Ohsawa shows drawings. Through June 26.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. • *Plant Kingdoms: The Photographs of Charles Jones*, and *Tanya Steinberg's Stations of the Cross* show through June 19.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •A local-artists showcase is ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*The Apollo Prophecies*, an exhibition of sculptures by Kahn/Selesnick, shows through June 19.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Ken Matsuzaki shows new paintings. June 12-July 6.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Roger Ballen shows photographs. Through June 1

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*20th Century Master Graphics, the Spring Collection* features lithographs and etchings by Chagall, Matisse, Miro and Rouault. Through June 30. •Robert Sweeney displays old and new work in *The Boston Experience: Views of the City*. Through July 31.

Samson Projects
46 Waltham St., Suite 203, Boston (617-357-7177). www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •*An Accumulation of Convention: En Masse* is a group show of works by local artists.Through July 30.

The Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Grimm Fairy Tales Reinvented* is a group show of works inspired by Grimm stories. Through July 25.

Soprafina Gallery
99 Beacon St., Somerville (617-498-0999). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •An exhibition of works by gallery artists shows June 22-July 24.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •Oil paintings by William St. George, Christina Keating, Sandra Mueller-Dick, Judy St. Peter and Anne Grandi display through June.

Studio Soto
63 Melcher St., Boston (617-426-7686). www.studiosoto.com. MBTA: Orange Line to South Station. Fri. and Sat., 2-5 pm. •*Feminine, Feminist, Female* is a group show of multimedia works. Through June 27.

Upstairs at Johnson's Art Gallery
353 Newbury St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-536-4065). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.- Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-1pm. •*Creative Vehicles* is a show of mixed-media work by Ali Kuzmickas, Jason Mathog and Cordula Peters. Through June 24.

Victoria Munroe Fine Art
59 Beacon St., Boston (617-523-0661). www.munroefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line or Red Line to Park Street. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm and by appointment. •Katherine Lynch shows her paintings of New York in *Painting the Town*. Through June 12. •Botanical paper mosaics by William Booth Gray show June 17-July 31.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Realism Now: Traditions and Departures, Mentors and Proteges* a group show of works by contemporary American realist artists, displays through July 17.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. •Robert Hannan shows his photography in *Short Stories*. Through June 11. •*Landscapes of the Civil War*, an exhibition of 9[illegible] rare photographs from the American Civil War, displays through June 25. •Karen A. Vournakis shows photographs of the sites of the original Pan Hellenic games in *Sacred Groves: Ancient Greek Athletic Sites*. June 17-Aug. 20.

New England School of Photography
Gallery One, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-437-1868). www.nesop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm. •Graduating NESOP students show their work. Through August.

Panopticon Gallery Kenmore
502-C Comm Ave., Boston (617-267-8929). www.panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-7 pm. •*Home Run*, a show of vintage baseball photographs, displays through September.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Commuter Rail to Waltham. www.panopt.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*Colossal*, an exhibition of photographs by Bradford Washburn, shows June 10-Sept. 18.

Photographic Resource Center
832 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University West. www.bu.edu/prc. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. •*The Member Exhibition* shows June 18-July 25.

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Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9

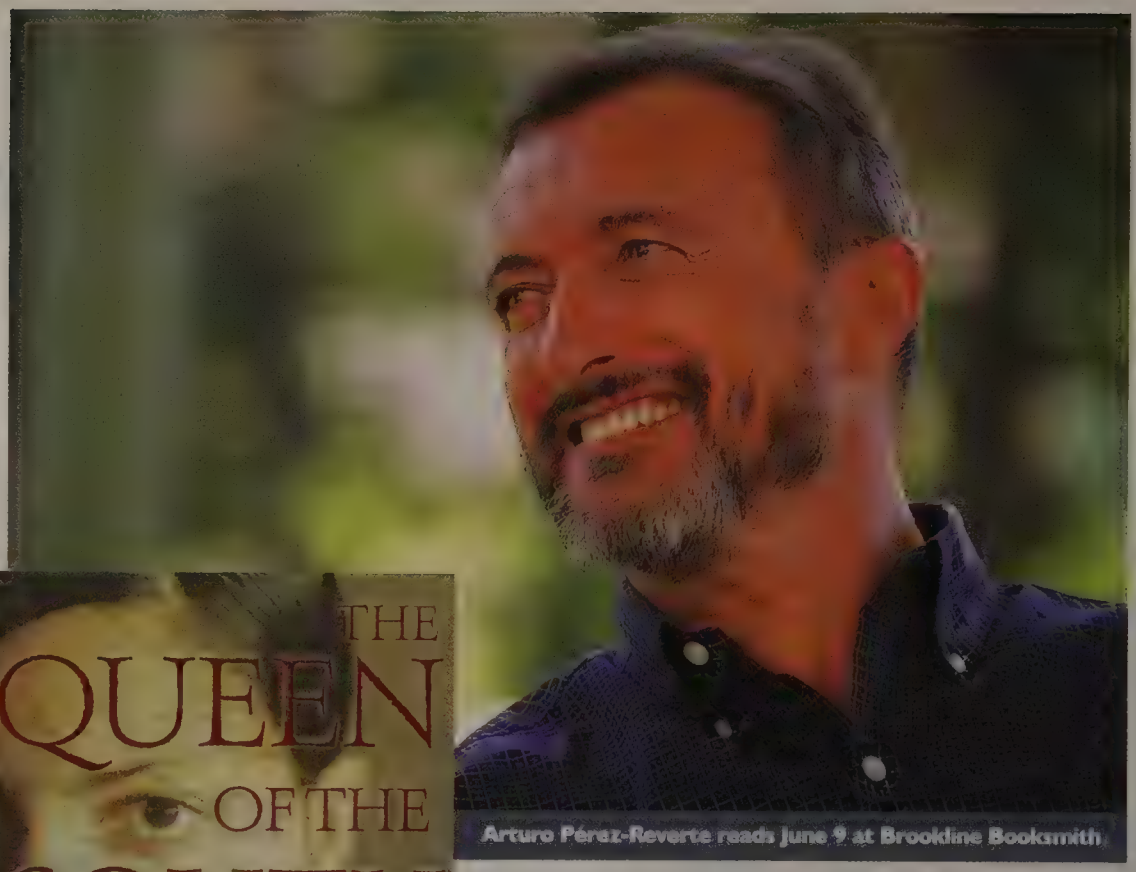
Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Orange or Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **Frank Schaeffer** discusses his new book, *Faith of Our Sons*, in which he describes his son's departure for the second Gulf War and the experiences of other families in the same situation.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St, Brookline (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Arturo Pérez-Reverte** reads from his new novel, *The Queen of the South*, about a woman who climbs to the top of a large drug-trafficking ring in the Mediterranean.

Wellesley Free Library
530 Washington St., Wellesley (781-235-1610). www.wellesleyfreelibrary.org. 2 pm. Free. Ireland's **P. J. Lynch** discusses the book he illustrated, *The Bee Man of Orn*, a retelling of Frank Stockton's 19th-century children's story.

Wellesley Free Library Annual Arnold Lecture
530 Washington St., Wellesley (781-235-1610). www.wellesleyfreelibrary.org. 7 pm. Free. **Judy Gelman** and **Vicki Levy Krupp** discuss the book they co-wrote, *The Book Club Cookbook*, which features recipes specially designed to accompany popular book club reading selections. Samples of the recipes are served.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www. wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Steve Kluger** reads from his new novel, *Almost Like Being in Love*, about two gay high school classmates who reunite 20 years after their graduation.



Arturo Pérez-Reverte reads June 9 at Brookline Booksmith

THURSDAY, JUNE 10

Borders at the Atrium
300 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-630-1120). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill. 7:30 pm. Free. **Janice Kaplan** and **Lynn Schnurnberger** discuss the book they co-wrote, *The Botox Diaries*, about the midlife crises of a suburban single mom and her best friend, a glamorous TV producer.

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **Peter Weddle** discusses *Weddle's 2004 Job Seeker's Guide to Employment Web Sites*, his self-help book about how to find a job online.

Center for New Words
Durrell Hall, Cambridge Family YMCA, 820 Mass. Ave, Cambridge (617-661-9622). www.centerfornew words.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Monique Truong** reads from *The Book of Salt*, her speculative novel about a Vietnamese man who cooked for Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www. newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Rachel Cline** reads from her new novel, *What to Keep*, which charts a girl's relationships with her divorced parents, her stepfather and her best friend and follows her from junior high school through middle-age.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www. wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. 7 pm. Free. **Marjorie Pivar** reads from her memoir, *Fourth Uncle in the Mountain*, about her relationship with her adoptive father, a Vietnamese spiritual leader and healer.

FRIDAY, JUNE 11

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Henning Mankell** discusses his new mystery, *The Dogs of Riga*, about a Swedish detective who investigates the murders of two unidentified Eastern Europeans washed ashore on the Swedish coast.

SATURDAY, JUNE 12

Ibbetson Street Press Poetry Reading
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 3 pm. The Ibbetson Street Press celebrates its new issue with readings by poets **Deborah Priestly**, **Jennifer Matthews**, **Joanna Nealon** and **Susie Davidson**. The program, hosted by **Doug Holder**, includes an open mike after the reading.

Wellesley Booksmith
82 Central St., Wellesley (781-431-1160). www. wellesleybooksmith.com. 1 pm. Free. **Susan Nichols Ferrara** discusses her new novel, *Collision Force*, about the chaos that results when an astronomer discovers that an enormous asteroid will hit the earth.

SUNDAY, JUNE 13

Wellesley Booksmith
82 Central St., Wellesley (781-431-1160). www. wellesleybooksmith.com. 3 pm. Free. **Betty Lauer** reads from her autobiography, *Hiding in Plain Sight*, about how she survived her childhood as a Jew in Nazi-occupied Poland by pretending to be Catholic.

MONDAY, JUNE 14

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Carl Lennertz** discusses his new book, *Cursed by a Happy Childhood: Tales of Growing Up, Then and Now*, in which he describes his childhood in the 1960s and compares it with that of his daughter, a preteen now growing up in New York City.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www. wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Tufts University professor **Stephanie Levine** reads from her book *Mystics, Mavericks and Merrymakers*, about a year she spent observing young girls in New York's Hasidic community.

TUESDAY, JUNE 15

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **David Sedaris** reads from his new collection of essays, *Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim.*

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St, Brookline (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 6 pm. $24.95 (including a copy of the book). **David Sedaris** reads from and discusses his new collection of essays, *Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim.*

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www. newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Chris Castellani** reads from his new novel, *A Kiss from Maddalena*, about an Italian teenager in the 1940s who tries to impress a girl and her family by refurbishing their house, which was damaged during World War II.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www. wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Calvin Trillin** reads from his new book, *Obliviously on He Sails*, a collection of poems about the Bush administration.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St, Brookline (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Alain de Botton** reads from his new book, *Status Anxiety*, which looks at the concept of status.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http:// harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **L.F. Kizilbash** reads from her new poetry collection, *Rose Water Riddle.*

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1410). www. ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Catherine Scott-Clark** and **Adrian Levy** discuss the book they co-wrote, *The Amber Room: The Fate of the World's Greatest Lost Treasure*, about the Nazi-era theft of the valuable amber panels that made up Russia's 17th-century symbol of success, the Amber Room.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www. wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **P.J. O'Rourke** reads from his new book, *Peace Kills: America's Fun New Imperialism*, a collection of humorous essays about American foreign policy.

THURSDAY, JUNE 17

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **Harvey Frommer** discusses *Red Sox vs. Yankees: The Great Rivalry*, the new book he co-authored (with his son, Frederi Frommer), which includes letters fro fans, journalists and players, as well a profiles of key players.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499 2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Fre **Kate Lehrer** discusses her new nove *Confessions of a Bigamist*, about a succes ful, married, middle-aged woman wh creates a new persona and plans to be come a polygamist. Also, PBS news caster **Jim Lehrer** reads from his ne novel, *Flying Crows*, about a police de tective who befriends a hermit living u a railroad station.

Newtonville Books in the Attic Reading and Concert
The Attic/Union Street Bar, 107R Unio St., Newton Centre (617-964-6684) www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:3 pm. Free. **Peter Smith** reads from hi memoir, *The Two of Us*, about how shared affinity for the music of the Beat les brought him and his son togethe The Steve Mayone Band performs Beat les covers.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354 5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Harve Frommer** reads from the book he co wrote, *Red Sox vs. Yankees: The Great Ri valry*. See today's Borders Boston listing for a de scription.

TUESDAY, JUNE 22

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to New ton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Zoe Heller** reads fro her new novel, *What Was She Thinking?*, about middle-aged teacher who is obsessed with a fello teacher's affair with a young student. Also, **Joann Hershon** reads from her novel, *The Outside of Au gust*, about a young woman whose relationship wit her older brother unravels in the wake of thei mother's death.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. pm. Free. Poets **Daniel Bouchard** and **Ron Sillima** read from their work. Also, Clinton administratio labor secretary **Robert Reich** reads from his boo *Reason: Why Liberals Will Win the Battle for Americ* in which he argues that the American public is tire of radical right-wingers' rhetoric.

Ongoing

Amazon Poetry Slam (Last Sunday)
Milky Way, 403-405 Center St., Jamaica Plain (617 524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. pm. $7. On the last Sunday of every month, th Milky Way hosts the all-women Amazon Poetr Slam.

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617 354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7:30 pm 21+. $3. Every Wednesday night, the Canta Lounge hosts this poetry slam downstairs in th Third Rail.

Harvard Coop (Sundays)
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000) www.bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Ha vard. 3 pm. Free. Hear what Boston-area poets ar doing at the Harvard Coop's weekly poetry ex change on Level Two.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). www poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Poetr jam, 7:30 pm; poetry slam, 9 pm, $6. The Jeff Robir son Trio plays background music for the poetr slam's featured poet of the week.

Out of the Blue Gallery (Saturdays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambrid (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have hel these weekly readings.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). MBTA: Blu Line to Government Center. 8:30 pm. Free. The sec ond Thursday of each month offers a selection featured poets and an opportunity for others to tak the open mike.

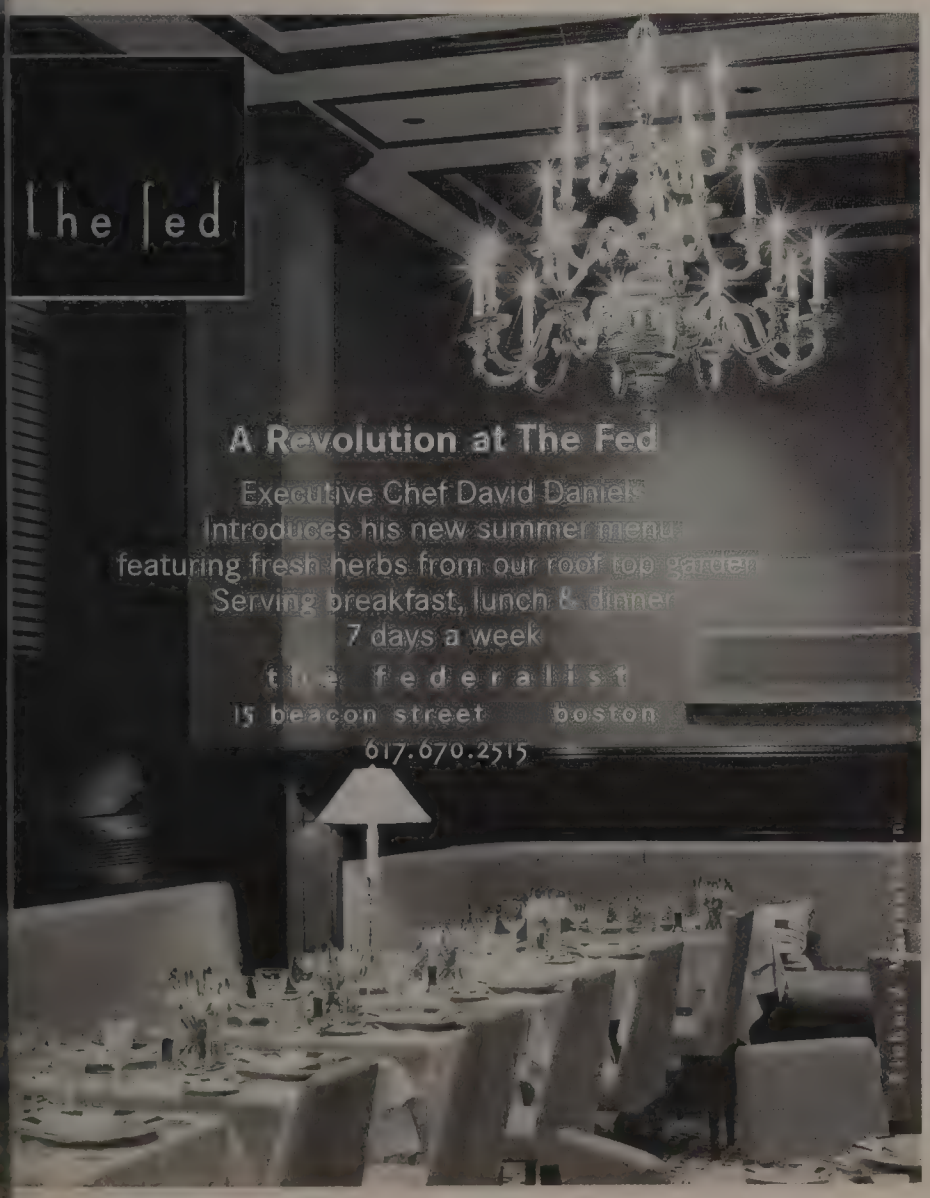


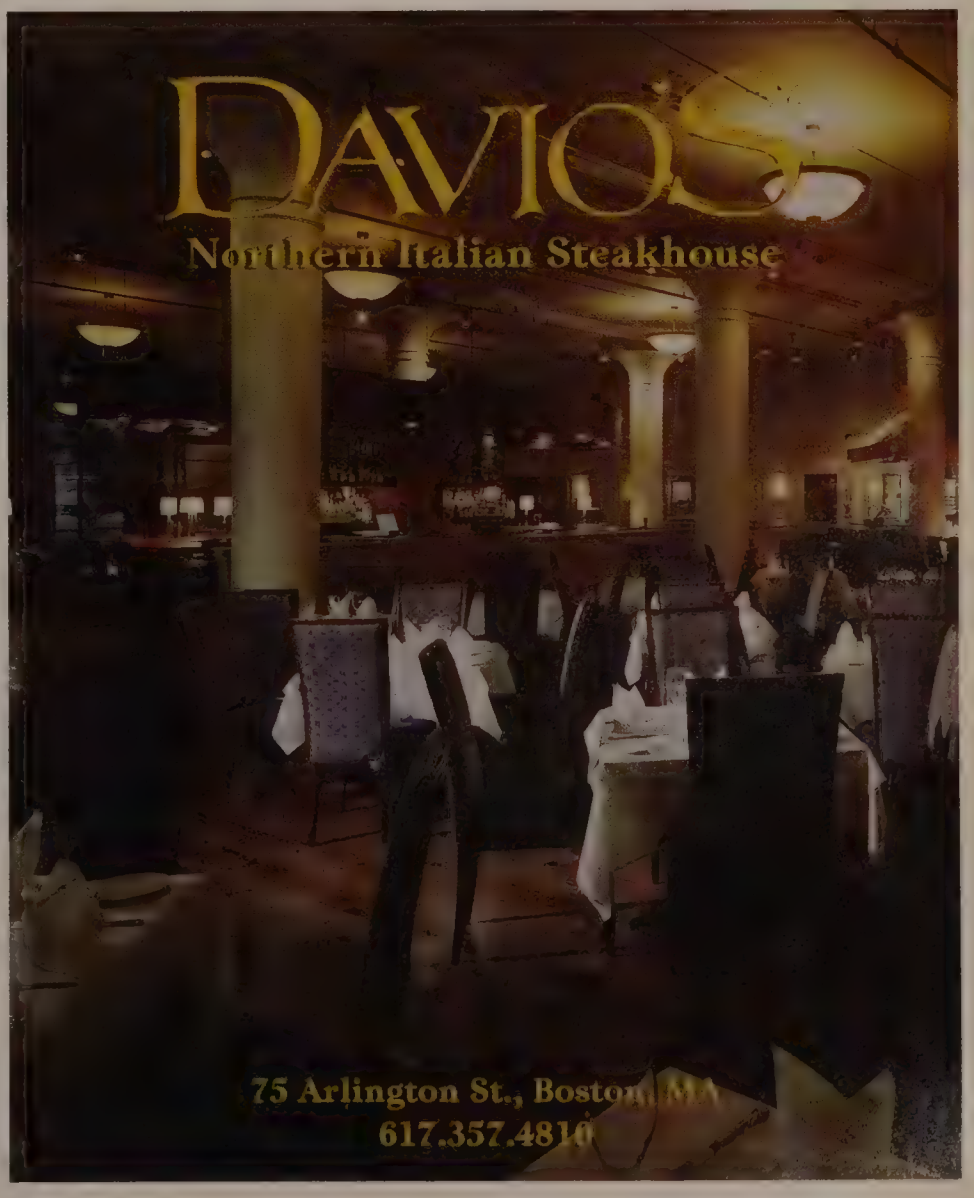
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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9

Creating a French Bouquet
Winston Flowers, 141 Congress St., Boston (617-541-1160). www.winstonflorist.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. 12 pm. $65. Create a traditional handheld bouquet using classic French techniques at this seminar. You'll also get tips on improving vase collections. Call to preregister.

THURSDAY, JUNE 10

Food Essay Writing Seminar
Grub Street Inc., New England School of English, 36 JFK St., Cambridge (617-623-8100). www.grubstreet.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7-10 pm. $45 nonmembers; $40 members. Food writer **Naomi Kooker** leads this seminar on professional food writing.

Viewpoints at the Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 6:30 pm. Free. Boston College theology professor **Don Dietrich** gives his perspective on the ICA's current exhibition, *Kai Althoff: The Artist in an Ambivalent Culture*.

FRIDAY, JUNE 11

An Evening of Creating Possibility for Your Life
Theosophical Society, 21 Maple St., Arlington (781-643-5159). www.tsboston.org. MBTA: Bus 67, 77 or 79 to Arlington Center. 7:30 pm. $5. **Liz Blumenthal** teaches this workshop on using your reality as a springboard toward the life you want to live.



Food writer Naomi Kooker lectures at the New England School of English June 10.

SATURDAY, JUNE 12

Gallery Talk
Tapestry Room, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 1:30 pm. Free with museum admission. This slide lecture and presentation by **Tucker Crum**, an art and science instructor at Wellesley College, provides an introduction to the Gardner Museum and its founder.

Songwriting with Mark McKay
Grub Street Inc., 561 Windsor St., Somerville (617-623-8100). www.grubstreet.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $3 members; $5 nonmembers. 10 am-12 pm. Singer/songwriter **Mark McKay** gives pointers on how to write a song, with an emphasis on writing good lyrics.

Understanding Money and Investments
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave, Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. $27 members; $29 nonmembers. 10 am-12 pm. Preregistration required. Topics of this lecture include savings, investments and the stock market.

SUNDAY, JUNE 13

Slide Introduction to "Gauguin Tahiti"
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Free. 1 and 2 pm. This slide presentation and discussion provides background on the museum's current exhibition of Paul Gauguin's work and suggests elements to look for in his work.

TUESDAY, JUNE 15

Anticipating Nothingness: Is Death Oblivion?
McIntyre and Moore Booksellers, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-4840). www.mcintyreandmoore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 7:30-9:30 pm. Free. McIntyre and Moore hosts monthly meetings of the Davis Square Philosophy Café. This month's discussion, moderated by director of the Center for Naturalism, **Tom Clark**, is open to all.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16

The Ins and Outs of Consulting
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 9:30 am. Free. Independent consultant **John Demambro** leads this presentation on the fields of consulting and project management.

THURSDAY, JUNE 17

The Hidden Meanings in Negro Spirituals from Slave Times
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line d to Newton Highlands. 7 pm. Free. **Celestine Reid**, associate minister of the Belmont Street African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, uses visual images of the slave trade, poetry, narrative and song to illustrate how each form can give voice to black history. There's also music by the band **Lovetones**.

The Laws of Happiness: Obtaining True Happiness
Theosophical Society, 21 Maple St., Arlington (617-290-4552). www.tsboston.org. MBTA: Bus 67, 77 or 79 to Arlington Center. 7:30 pm. $5. **Hiro Fukao**, a member of the Institute for Research in Human Happiness, discusses the ideas of love, enlightenment and utopia.

SATURDAY, JUNE 19

Acrylic Painting Demonstration and Workshop
Brookline Arts Center, 86 Monmouth St., Brookline (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. 10 am-4 pm. $40. This two-hour demonstration on acrylic painting is followed by a three-hour workshop hosted by **Declan Halpin**.

Creating a French Bouquet
Winston Flowers, 141 Congress St., Boston (617-541-1160). www.winstonflorist.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 12 pm. $65. See listing for June 9.

Gallery Talk
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 1:30 pm. Free with museum admission. See listing for June 12.

A Taste of Cuba
Peabody Essex Museum, East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www.pem.org. 5:30 pm. Reservations required. Members, $6; nonmembers, $8. **Elizabeth Padjen**, PEM consulting curator of architecture and design, moderates *Looking at Havana*, a panel discussion of photographer **Robert Polidori**'s work in Cuba. Polidori is on the panel along with other guests. A Cuban dinner and concert follow, for an additional charge.

MONDAY, JUNE 21

The Vegetarian Hasty Gourmet
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave. Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 6:30-9:30 pm. $49 members; $52 nonmembers. Learn how to prepare gourmet vegetarian dishes from around the world using simple recipes that require minimal cooking time.

TUESDAY, JUNE 22

The Cartography of Language
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. Free. Geologist **Simon Winchester** discusses the changing face of mapping.

Talk on "The Taming of the Shrew"
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line d to Newton Highlands. 7 pm. Free. **Charles Berney** of the Shakespeare Fellowship discusses cinematic interpretations of the Bard's battle-of-the-sexes comedy.

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Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am.; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's new leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $8 under 21. $5 for 21+. DJ John Morris spins progressive house for Lust, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $15, 21+. For 20 years, these folks have cranked out Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. Enjoy three separate dance floors plus drag acts. Resident DJ Ted Elison spins house.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show, and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—pool room and lounge keep the men busy until 2 am.

CityGirl Caffé (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-9 pm; Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-4 pm. This small, laid-back Caffé in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated, draws a mixed gay/hetero crowd for lounging and sandwiches. Brunch is served every weekend. Now serves beer and wine.

Club Caffé (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room and video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Wednesdays, Queer as Folk, 8:30 pm. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Scott Kennedy.

Club Europa (Fridays)
57 Stuart St., Boston (617-417-0186). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.twistboston.com. Fri., 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+ after 11 pm. DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s tunes at this women's night.

Diesel Caffé (Daily)
257 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-8717). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Mon.-Thu. 7 am-midnight, Fri., 7 am-1 am, Sat., 8 am-1 am, Sun., 8 am-12 am. All ages. Diesel is a gay-friendly Davis Square Caffé that serves coffee and snacks.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3 pm-2 am; Sat., 1 pm-2 am; Sun., 12 pm-2 am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This quiet, friendly neighborhood bar starts hopping as it gets closer to 2 am.

Fritz Lounge (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 12 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. Four plasma TV sets show satellite sports broadcasts, and Fritz is home base to a softball league. Brunch is served until 3:30 pm on weekends.



The Boston Gay Men's Chorus pays tribute to Elton John and Freddie Mercury with its "British Invasion" concert, June 10–12.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $8 weekends, 21+. Patrons relax with a friendly crowd and mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month is the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground. The typical lineup features singer Leah Callahan with guest musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Tuesdays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Big and Hot, Brazilian night, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Tue.: Service Industry Night with DJ Afrodite.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 19+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: New Wave Dance Party with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Milky Way Lounge (Sundays)
401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+. Sunday theme nights are geared toward gay men and women, transgendered people and their allies. Live entertainment varies from week to week and includes Fireballs Drag Bingo, spoken-word events and jazz. There is free bowling if you buy dinner, and a dance party hosted by resident DJ Jamila caps off the evening. On the last Sunday of every month, the Milky Way presents the all-women Amazon Poetry Slam, a lesbian event. 8 pm, 7:30 pm sign-up, $7.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Omar. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. Private, members-only club, predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

711 Boylston (Tuesdays)
711 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5502). www.hereboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 9 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. The Tuesday night gay dance party, Here, features disco and pop.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night, and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music pumps, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Vapor (Wednesdays–Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adilson. 19+. •Thu.: The Music Factory with DJ Pauli Paul and DJ Ron Steele spinning hip-hop, reggae and funk. $5 before 11, $2 after 11, 21+. •Fri.: Inner Circle. $10, 21+. •Sat.: Evolution with DJ Jay Ine. •Sun.: T-Dance party with DJ Danae grooving to local, tribal, and house while DJ Niterain spins classic oldies. 21+.

Books

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). www.calamusbooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-7 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. This store for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered people carries fiction, erotica and titles by gay and feminist activists.

Center for New Words
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to Central. www.centerfornewwords.com. Cambridge's center for women's writing and ideas hosts open mikes and author events.

Cuttyhunk and Provincetown Trading Company
540 Tremont St., Boston (617-574-5000). www.cuttyhunk.us. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This community-centered gay and lesbian bookstore stocks literature, art books, DVDs and videos.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thurs., June 9, 7 pm. Free. **Steve Kluger** reads from his novel *Almost Like Being in Love*, about two gay high school classmates who reunite 20 years after their graduation.

Shows & Events

Boston Dyke March
Parkman Bandstand, Boston Common, Boston www.dykemarch.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. June 11, 7 pm. Free. Join over 1,000 dykes, lesbians, bisexuals, queers, transwomen, transmen and their allies in this march for political and cultural change. Leslie Feinberg is the event's featured speaker.

Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers
First Church of Jamaica Plain, corner of Centre and Eliot streets, Jamaica Plain (617-522-2216). www.lcfd.org/jp. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. June 12, 7:30-11 pm. $8. This Gay Pride dance features music from the Rhythm Method String Band and is open to people of all ages.

Boston Pride Week Block Party
Stuart Street, between Arlington and Berkeley streets, Boston (617-262-9405). www.bostonpride.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. June 13, 2-9 pm. Free. This fourth annual neighborhood celebration of Boston Pride Week features food, fun and community building.

Boston Pride Week Parade and Festival
Copley Square and Boston Common, Boston (617 262-9405). www.bostonpride.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. June 12, 9:30 am, parade registration; 1 pm, parade. Free. Boston Pride Week concludes with a parade from Copley Square to Boston Common. A festival at the Common features musical acts, entertainers, food and refreshments.

Bounce
Midway Café, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617 524-9038). www.midwaycafe.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. Sat., June 12, 7:30 pm-2 am. $10. 21+. This Pride Party for the lesbian and transgender communities starts off with disco, R&B and funk from DJ Deja, and later on has hip-hop, house and new wave music.

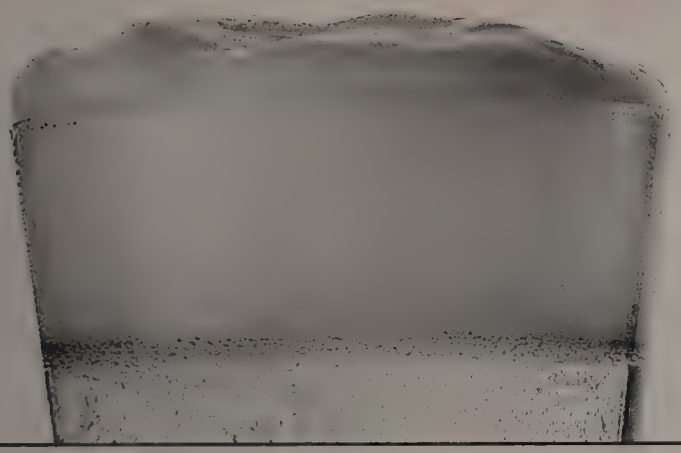
British Invasion: the Songs of Elton John & Queen
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (617-424-8900). www.bgmc.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. June 10 and 11, 8 pm; June 12, 3 pm. $12-$44. Under the direction of Reuben Reynolds, the **Boston Gay Men's Chorus** celebrates Pride week with a fully staged concert honoring two gay icons in pop music: Elton John and Queen singer Freddie Mercury.

The Last Sunday in June
BCA Theater, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. June 4-26. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $25-$35. In this play written by Jonathan Tolins and presented by SpeakEasy Stage Co., a group of gay men gathering in a Greenwich Village apartment watch New York's Gay Pride parade and discuss issues surrounding their sexuality.

27th Annual Pride Day Interfaith Service
Old South Church, 645 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1970). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. June 12, 10 am. The Pride Interfaith Coalition presents newly ordained Episcopal Bishop Gene Robinson, the first gay man to hold the position, with the 2004 Interfaith Award. Robinson gives an address.

Ongoing

Atención Latina Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (800-834-3242). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. FCH collaborates with the Elizabeth Stone House to provide this safe, confidential space to discuss healthy relationships, domestic violence and other issues.



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BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wednesdays, 6-9 pm. The Boston Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered and Questioning Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi and Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6032). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 7 pm. This group meets the second Tuesday of every month for discussion with bisexual and bi-curious men.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tuesday of the month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

BOSS
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 6-8 pm. This group for gay and bisexual men of color meets the last Thursday of each month to discuss culture, lifestyle, creativity and health.

Boston Bay Blades
www.bayblades.org/boston. All are welcome to join this competitive, recreational group of rowers and scullers.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers
First Church of Jamaica Plain, corner of Centre and Eliot streets, Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org. Every Wed., 7:30 pm, $8. Square-dancing and English country dancing lessons are available for lesbians, gays, bisexuals and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). www.bgbl.com. The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year.

Boston Gay Skins
Ramrod, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). www.bostongayskins.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 11 pm. Boston's nonracist gay skinhead collective meets the third Friday of the month.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri, 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people, ages 13-25.

Boston Ironsides Rugby Football Club
Moakley Field, South Boston (617-524-5814). MBTA: Red Line to JFK. Rugby players of any level, age, race and orientation are welcome to play.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. www.lesbianavengers.org. Thu., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wednesdays, 7 pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
(617-417-0876). Third Saturday of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for interested parents and their partners. For info, e-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-9595). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm, free. An informal group for people who think they may be bisexual or attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning People
(617-256-8693). This group welcomes those who want to discuss the challenges and the joys of coming out. It meets Thursday nights, 7-8:30 pm, in Cambridge.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area support, information and social group for people assigned female at birth who feel that is not an accurate or complete description of their gender. Part of the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group meets monthly. Email CompassFTM@usa.com for details.

Controversy Thursday
Matrix (B Room), 275 Tremont St. (lower level of Roxyplex), Boston (617-542-4077). Certain Thursdays (call for details), $8, no sneakers. This gay and bi dance party features DJ John Morris at 10 pm.

The Down Low
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Last Friday of the month. 7-9 pm. This discussion group for gay and bisexual men of color addresses heritage, lifestyle, culture and health.

East Coast Wrestling Club
(401-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www.eastcoastwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay male wrestlers has more than 160 members.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional women 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophisticated to get together with like-minded women for conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Explore Gender in a Safe Place
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. An ongoing support group for people born into female bodies or who have grown up being viewed as biologically female.

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Saturday mornings. Join Boston's GLBT Flag Football League for a casual spring season, followed by a formal fall season. All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). Sat., 10 am. All are welcome to join this running club.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
(617-267-9001 or 888-340-4528). Mon.-Fri., 6-11 pm; Sat. and Sun., 5-10 pm. This toll-free hotline is confidential and provides support for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning callers.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church in Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org, $2. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Professionals Building Community
(617-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to join this networking organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered professionals. Monthly networking meetings.

Gaymes Group
(508-339-4250). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians. Members get together on a regular basis to play board, card and parlor games.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. $5-10. An open mike night open to new performers, this queer-positive, dyke-positive, bi-positive and trans-positive spoken-word event meets the second Thursday of each month, 7:30 pm.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Biological males meet on Monday evenings. The groups are moderated by psychologist Randi Kaufman.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday from 10:30 am-12 pm.

Girlz 2 Girlz
(781-893-6113). This mentoring program is for girls ages 13-19 who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered. Contact Marcela Aldez-Osorio.

GLBT Seniors
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6272). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mondays. Support group for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered seniors ages 60 and over. Men-only support group meets Monday afternoons.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Anonymous HIV testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Laffan
This social and networking group for women includes single women, couples and parents interested in art, cultural events, outdoor and sporting activities, intellectual and social pursuits, public service and travel. Members receive a weekly email calendar of events. For info, e-mail Laffan_Boston2004@yahoo.com.

LGBT Considering Parenting Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. A short-term (eight-week) group for LGBT persons who are considering becoming parents. Sliding fee scale available. Call for information.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue., Wed. and Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

The Network/La Red
(617-423-7233). The Network is a support group working to end abuse in lesbian, bisexual women's and transgender communities. Email info@thenetworklared.org for more information.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com
This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

Partners of People with HIV
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Meets first and third Tuesdays of each month. 7-9 pm. An ongoing support group that allows individuals with HIV-positive partners to discuss issues surrounding the virus in their lives.

Peer Listening Line
(800-399-7337). Trained GLBT volunteers provide confidential information, referrals and support.

The Rainbow Cafe
rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social group for activist, academic, intellectual or artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. Email somoslatinos-lgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Support Group for HIV-Negative Gay and Bisexual Men
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-967-6231). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. First three Tuesdays of each month, 6-8 pm. Discuss safe-sex practices and strategies for managing risk and communicating with sexual partners.

Support Group for Lesbians with Cancer
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Wed. evenings, once a month. Free. For those who want to discuss the impact of this disease on their lives.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Road, Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Street. First Saturday of each month. 8-9 pm lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing, $8. Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston
WWB is a social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s. It meets the first Thursday of every month.



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body & mind

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Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Drum and Dance Saturday

Earth Drum Council, First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (978-371-2502). www.earthdrum.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. June 19, 8-11:30 pm. $6. Bring drums, spoons, tambourines and clapping hands for this day of dance and percussion.

Healing Arts in the Park

Central Park, Andover (978-394-5166). www.myholisticnetwork.com. June 12, 10 am-5 pm. Free. This body/mind/spirit festival features local practitioners of massage, acupuncture, reiki, personal coaching, nutrition, psychic cognition and more. There is also food tasting of Wild Oats products, with proceeds going to the MSPCA.

Healing Tools and Practices

Theosophical Society, 21 Maple St., Arlington (508-457-0792). www.tsboston.org. MBTA: Bus 67, 77 or 79 to Arlington Center. June 19, 1 pm. Donation required. Discover healing practices and techniques with Neal Ryder in this workshop on personal understanding and growth.

Natural Health Fair

Northeast Coalition for Natural Health, American Legion Post, Plainville (508-883-4052). June 13, 10 am-6 pm. Free. This event offers health talks and tests, prizes, and a chance to meet and chat with natural health practitioners.

Solstice Celebration at Castle Island

Castle Island, Boston (617-522-7199). www.angelfire.com/ma/patrice. Junè 21, 4:45 am. Greet the summer at this annual sunrise yoga event. Participants may also share poems and songs to celebrate.

Summer Solstice Celebration

Earthsong Yoga, 186 Main St., Marlboro (508-480-8884). www.earthsongyoga.com. June 20, 10 am. Please preregister. Free. This healing-arts center celebrates the holiday by inviting folks to experience celestial communications, 108 yoga sun salutes, meditation, refreshments and more.

Theology on Tap

Rattlesnake Bar and Grill, 384 Boylston St., Boston (617-523-2377, ext. 32). http://www.friendsatteadvent.org. June 8, 7 pm. Free. Adults in their 20s and 30s who are interested in learning about and discussing issues involving the Christian faith are invited to attend this casual evening. This week's discussion explores "Theology and Fashion."

Lecture

Near-Death Experience: Bill VandenBush

Needham Public Library, 1139 Highland Ave., Needham (781-251-2524). MBTA: Needham Line Commuter Rail train to Needham Heights. June 19, 1-4 pm. Bill VandenBush served in the army during the Vietnam War and lived through an enlightening near-death experience. His autobiography, *If Morning Never Comes*, recounts the trauma of war, his journey to the other side and the impact of what he learned. VandenBush discusses his experiences at this lecture.

Workshops

The Artist's Way Workshop

Wellspace, 1 New St., Fresh Pond Mall, Cambridge (617-876-2660). www.wellspace.com. MBTA: Red Line to Alewife. June 12, 2-5 pm $40. Preregistration is required. This workshop, based on *The Artist's Way*, by Julia Cameron, features exercises designed to help participants express their passions, authentic tastes and individuality.

Chillin': Meditation for Teens and Young Adults

Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. June 12, 1-5 pm. $15. This workshop for people ages 14 to 19 will explore exercises for relating to others and yourself with awareness, including meditation instruction, sitting and walking practice, and group discussion.

Cosmic Healing Intensive Weekend

The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlington (781-316-0282). www.bostonhealingtao.com. June 12, 12-7 pm and June 13, 9 am-4:30 pm. $320. Master Mantak Chia teaches practitioners of all levels how to raise their energy vibration, tap into universal energy and digest cosmic chi into the body.

Exploring Your Life Mission: Bringing Clarity One's Life and Work

Institute for Body, Mind and Spirituality, Lesley College, 29 Everett St., Cambridge (617-349-8129 or 800-999-1959 ext. 8129). www.lesley.edu/gsass/bodymind/index.html. June 12-13, 9 am-5:30 pm. Please preregister. $250. This workshop is designed to help participants achieve greater cognitive and intuitive awareness of their core self and their place in the world.

Feng Shui for Living Rooms and Kitchens

Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 90 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circlesofwisdom.com or www.fengshuiform.com. June 17, 7:15-9:15 pm. $30. Learn about furniture placement, color choices and feng shui methods of balancing and enhancing energy, with a focus on career, wealth and health. Participants even learn how to apply feng shui to the kitchen to promote weight loss.

Learning How to Live and Die: The Approach of Vipassana Meditation

Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. June 19, 10 am-4 pm. $60. The Buddha encouraged the frequent contemplation of the inevitability of aging, sickness and death to help followers face and master fears and appreciate life more fully. This workshop includes discussion of how to apply these teachings.

Restorative Yoga

Art and Soul, 91 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-661-7376). www.artsoulyoga.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. June 18, 6-8:30 pm. This workshop is designed for anyone experiencing stress, fatigue, sickness or problems with sleep.

Transcendental Healing

White Light Healing Center, 121B Tremont St., Suite 19, Brighton (617-779-8765). www.transcendentalhealing.com. June 15, 6 pm. $50. Learn this gentle, noncontact technique based on philosophies of transcendental meditation and reiki energy healing.

Your Intuitive Self

Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. June 19, 10 am-4 pm. $63. Participants learn to define, identify and use intuition for beneficial purposes, and learn how to have greater confidence in inner wisdom.

Retreats

Restoring Optimism

Institute for Applied Meditation, 46 Argilla Road, Ipswich (888-310-7881). www.appliedmeditation.org. June 12-13. $230. Please preregister. This meditative retreat focuses on heart rhythm meditation, which is designed to help practitioners live more from their hearts, overcome pessimism and find more meaning in life.

Seamm-Jasani Seminar

Center for Cultural Evolution, The Round House, 68 Van Nuys Road, Colrain (617-480-8237) www.events.boabom.org. June 11-13. $375, includes lodging and meals. This weekend course in Seamm-Jasani, the ancient Tibetan art of relaxation, meditation and self-healing, is led by Asanaro, author of *The Secret Art of Seamm-Jasani* and a teacher with more than 20 years of experience.





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sports


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Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

Boston Red Sox
•Fenway Park, Boston
Tickets: 877-733-7699
June 9, 7:05 pm vs. San Diego Padres
June 10, 7:05 pm vs. San Diego Padres
June 11, 7:05 pm vs. Los Angeles Dodgers
June 12, 3:15 pm vs. Los Angeles Dodgers
June 13, 8:05 pm vs. Los Angeles Dodgers
June 22, 7:05 pm vs. Minnesota Twins

Boston Cannons
•Nickerson Field, Boston University
Tickets: 888-847-9700
June 19, 7 pm vs. Long Island Lizards

Events

Reggae Ramble
American Legion Marsh Post, 5 Greenough Blvd./Elliot Bridge (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org/BAEvents/schedule. June 17. This reggae-themed run is followed by live music from Rezurection, Jamaican barbecue and refreshments.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club seeks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club (BSSC) Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

CHARITY

Team in Training
(800-688-6572). www.teamintraining.org. This organization provides fund-raising athletes with group training and support, personalized coaching and guaranteed race entry for events including the Timberman Triathlon, Monster Challenge, Maine Marathon, Dublin Marathon and more.

FENCING

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Saturday mornings. Women's teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

FLOOR HOCKEY

BSSC Coed Floor Hockey
Leagues are held in Newton, North Reading and Brighton (617-789-4070, ext. 238). www.bssc.com. All levels are welcome, individuals and teams.

KICKBALL

BSSC Kickball
Games are played Tuesdays in Charlestown or Newton (617-789-4070). Relive your playground days with 10-on-10 kickball (five men and five women per team).

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, then consider joining these self-proclaimed "serious drinkers with a running problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Run
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Thu., 7 pm. Weekly runs.

Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thu., 7:30 pm. Weekly 2.6-mile runs.

SOCCER

BSSC Outdoor Soccer
(617-789-4070). Outdoor teams forming now. Games played in Charlestown, Lexington, Reading and Canton. Individuals and teams are welcome.

SOFTBALL

BSSC Softball
(617-789-4070). Coed softball games played in Brighton, Newton, North Reading and other areas.

ULTIMATE FRISBEE

BSSC Ultimate League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070). Coed games each week at Bunker Hill Community College in Charlestown.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed teams forming for summer leagues in Cambridge, Watertown, Brookline and Newton.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-868-8379). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels. Weekly practices held year-round.



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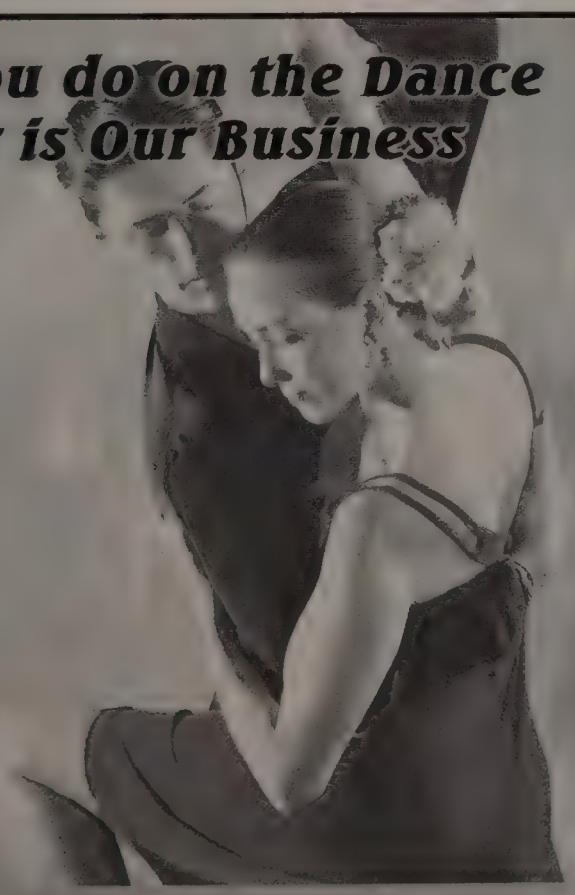
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children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Borders Books and Music
Cambridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Every Sat., 1 pm. Staff members read from new and classic storybooks.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Every Tuesday and Saturday, 11 am. Staff members read children's stories.

ImprovFoundry Family Show
ImprovBoston, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA Red Line to Central. $12. •Every Saturday through June, 6 pm: This short, improvisational show is appropriate for the entire family.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50. Reservations recommended. •June 9 and 10, 10:30 am and 1 pm: Traditional African folktales come alive through the comedic *Anansi, Spiderman of Africa*, performed by the Crabgrass Puppet theatre. •June 16 and 17, 10:30 am and 1 pm: In *The Headless Horseman of Sleepy Hollow*, Frogtown Mountain Puppeteers create a goofy spinoff of Washington Irving's classic tale.

Things to Do

Boston by Little Feet
Fanueil Hall, Congress Street, Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Sun, 2 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am. $8. Explore Boston's history and architecture by taking a walking Freedom Trail tour designed specifically for kids.

Boston Dragon Boat Festival
Charles River (617-426-6500). www.bostondragonboat.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. June 13, 12-5 pm. The 25th anniversary of New England's largest Asian-American celebration features a bright display of dragon boats. This year's festival highlights include rowing competitions, traditional drumming, dance, music, arts and crafts, food, martial arts demonstrations and more.

Boston Duck Tours
Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston; Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-267-3825). www.bostonducktours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Science Park. Daily through November, 9 am-sunset, every 30-60 minutes. $24 ($21 seniors and students, $15 children 3-11, $3 children under 3). These amphibious vehicles tour Boston's most popular sights via city streets and the Charles River.

Children's Cultural Celebration
Newton History Museum at the Jackson Homestead, 527 Washington St., Newton (617-796-1450). www.ci.newton.ma.us/jackson. MBTA: June 13, 2-5 pm. $5 per person or $15 per household. •Entertainers from around the world perform at this multicultural event. Indoor and outdoor activities include origami, calligraphy, music, dancing, storytelling and face painting.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8, $7 children. •June 19, 11:30 am and 12:30 pm. This month's Critter Day live-animal program is *Canines for Kids*. •June 19 and 20, 6-9 pm. Celebrate the summer solstice at *Midsummer Revels*. Daytime art and music workshops precede the event's outdoor parade, with street performers and the Morris dancers. •June 20, 9-10 am (members); 10:30-11:30 am (nonmembers). Infant Massage, for infants 3-9 months. Call ahead to reserve a space. •Fridays, 3-5 pm; Saturdays and Sundays, 2-4 pm. *In the Zoom Zone*: Take part in hands-on science challenges culled from the PBS TV show *Zoom*.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-496-8204). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. $7.50, $5 children. •Every Sat., 9 am. $35. Saturday Scholar sessions give children the opportunity to learn about their world through hands-on activities.

Landmarks Concerts for Children
Boston Common, Boston (617-520-2200). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. June 19, 4-5 pm. The Boston Landmarks Orchestra performs Julian Wachner's muiscal interpretation of the Longfellow poem, "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere."

Mass Audubon Society
Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary, 280 Eliot St., Natick (508-655-2296). www.massaudubon.org. Reduced admission for members. •June 10, 6-8:30 pm. $10. Family ASTRO Night Sky Adventure. •June 20, 11 am-4 pm. Drumlin Farm Strawberry Festival. $10 adults, $8 children.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http:// web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $5 adults, $2 ages 5-18, students and seniors, 5 and under free (free admission the third Sunday of every month). •*Holography, the Light Fantastic:* The museum displays the largest collection of holograms in the world. •*Robots and Beyond:* This exhibit offers a look at MIT's artificial intelligence research labs.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. $15, free for children 17 and under. •June 12, 11 am-4 pm: *Drop-In Drawing*, a free-for-all sketch time for kids. •June 12 and 13, 11 am-4 pm: *Family Place*, an all-ages array of self-guided gallery activities.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $10 children. •*Risk!* is a hands-on exhibit that lets you learn how math, science and probability can help you assess risk. Through Sept. 6. •*Making Models* is a hands-on exhibition that demonstrates how models help people understand complex ideas and phenomena. It includes a wave tank, a model of Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •Every Sat. and Sun., 11 am-12 pm: The museum's Science Theater Program features professional storytellers who combine folk tales and myths with visits from live animals. •*Theater of Electricity:* Daily, times vary. The Van de Graaff generator provides a risk-free lightning show. •Charles Hayden Planetarium, check www.mos.org for show times, $8.50, $6.50 children: The kids-oriented multimedia astronomy show *Gravity Rules* features Jack the Jester. •*Friday Night Stargazing:* Every Fri., 8:30-10 pm (weather permitting). Gilliland Observatory: Use the observatory's two telescopes to find the moon, stars, constellations and planets. Free. •Mugar Omni Theatre, check www.mos.org for show times, $8.50, $6.50 children.

Museum of Transportation
Larz Anderson Park, 15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). www.mot.org. Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $7 adults, $5 children, students and seniors. •Every Sun., 10 am: Car shows on the lawn provide old-fashioned family fun.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. •June 18, 10:30 am: Stories, songs and finger rhymes for children under 2 at the Waban Branch. Storytimes for 2- to 4-year-olds on Fridays. •June 22, 10:30 am: music and dance at the Preschool Sing-along in the Druker Auditorium. •Mondays, 11:15 am: Children ages 3-5 enjoy stories at the Nonantum branch. •Tuesdays, 1:30 pm: The Newton Corner branch has story hour for 2- to 5-year-olds.

Newton History Museum
527 Washington St., Newton (617-796-1450). www.ci.newton.ma.us/jackson. MBTA: Bus #57 to Newton Corner. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm; Sun., 2-5 pm. $3 (children) and $5 (adults). •The *Four-Legged* exhibition shows children the relationships between humans and animals throughout history. •Children can learn about the fight against slavery and look at artifacts from the Underground Railroad, part of the museum's permanent collection.

Old Sturbridge Village
1 Village Road, Sturbridge (800-733-1830). www.osv.org. $5 for ages 3-17, $20 adults, $18 seniors, 3 and under free. •Kids can build a snake-rail fence, meet the piglets, trundle a hoop and talk to the town blacksmith at this historical New England village.

around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
725 Commonwealth. Ave.., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on clear nights), April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm; Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5pm; Fri., 10 am - 9 pm. Adults, $9, children and seniors $7.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50, students and seniors $6, children $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $8.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily. May-Sept., 8 am-7 pm; Oct.-Apr. 8 am-5 pm

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-739-1200). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Labor Day-Memorial Day, Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm; summer, daily, 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $11 seniors and children.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5, $3 children.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1, Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, $8.95 children.

Old Faneuil Hall
75 State St., Boston (617-338-2323). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9 am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-5 pm. Free.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $5 (children $1).

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $7, (seniors $4).

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8 am-6 pm. $4.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). May 1-Oct. 15. Daily, 9 am-6 pm; Nov. 1-April 30. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster-care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-450-1235). Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay
(617-375-0700). Volunteer in the administrative department.

Big Brothers
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. Be a big brother.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Befriend a girl.

Boston Cares
(617-263-2273). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). Tutor Boston students (preschool through high school) in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers/tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support to children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000). Tutor students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
livmates@rcn.com. Spend your lunch hour reading at an elementary school in Cambridge or Somerville.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). Volunteers needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-online.com. Through phone conversations, counsel people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Play with homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). Share your time with an elderly individual, mentor children or teach an adult to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-926-4232). Read or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-536-3557). Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

Parental Stress Line
(617-528-5800). Telephone counselors needed.

Pine Street Inn
(617-521-7626). Serve breakfast to homeless guests.

Project Place
(617-262-3740). Become a mentor or tutor to homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111). Record textbooks in digital formats.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteers needed at this battered women's agency.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room and groceries program at this homeless shelter.

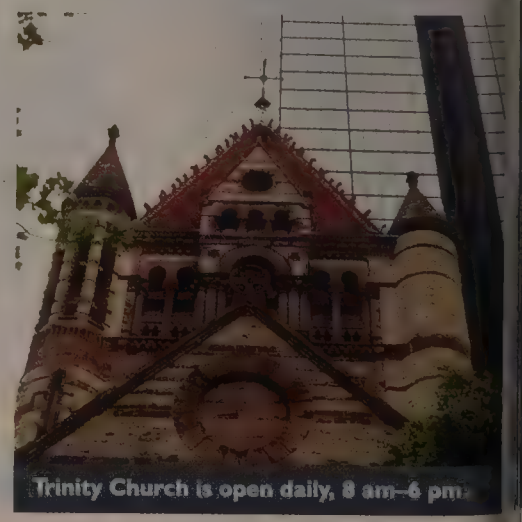
SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young professionals.

StandUp for Kids
(800-365-4543). Help rescue homeless children.

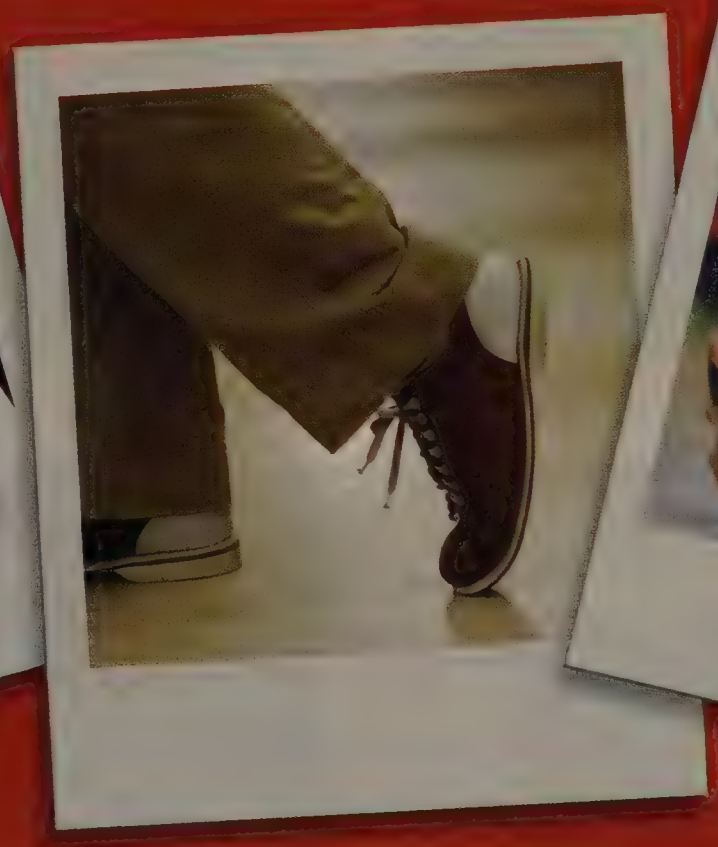
VNA Care Network
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

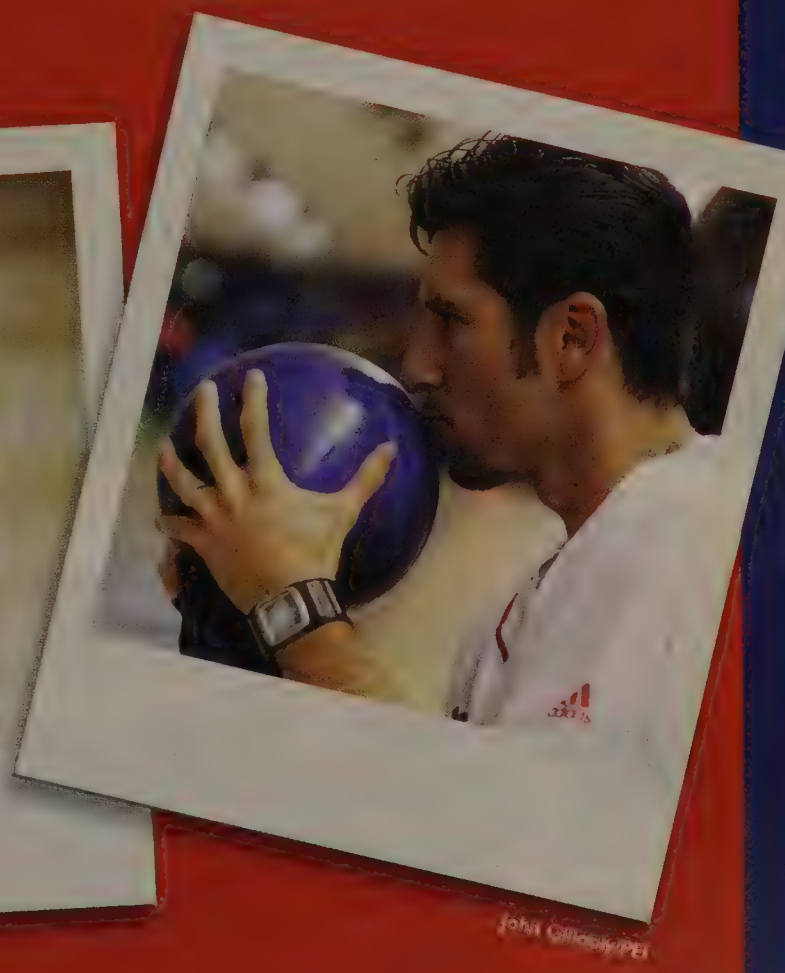

Trinity Church is open daily, 8 am–6 pm.

This is Nomar's fifth year raising thousands for charity.

Looks like baseball isn't the only sport where he has rituals.







John Gillooly/PEI

Thanks to everyone who helped raise thousands at the fifth annual Nomar Bowl. The Nomar 5 Fund has now received more than $1 million in donations in just five years. Your contributions will help support important programs in our community, including this year's beneficiaries, City Year, Cradles to Crayons, Devon Nicole House at Children's Hospital, Salesian Boys & Girls Club and the Governor's Council for Physical Fitness. Thanks for all your efforts and generosity.

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THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

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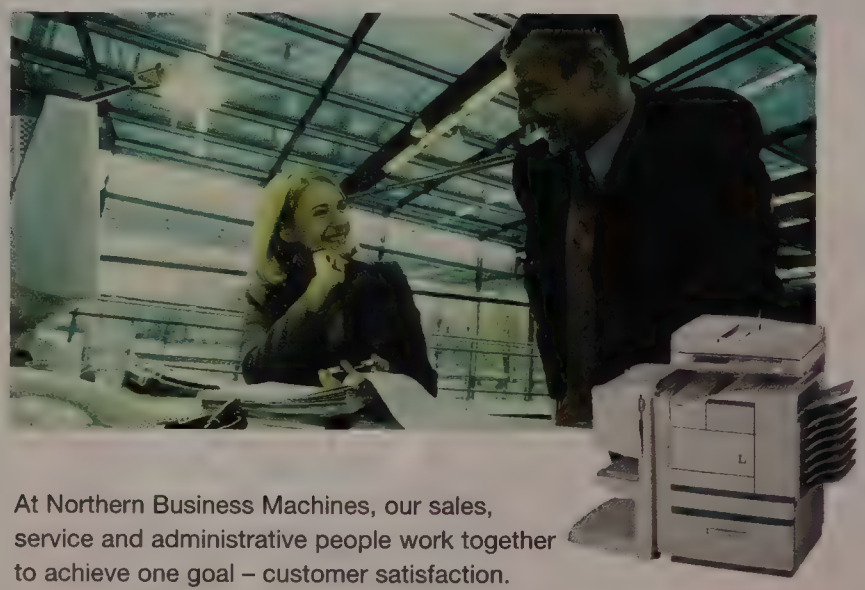
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RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

To the Angry, Angry Woman on the BU Bridge

Shout and point and gun your engine all you want and I still won't ride on the sidewalk; that's for pedestrians. I'd rather bother you and your car than Yuppie Mom with the two-seater stroller because, honestly, driving falls even higher than procreating on my list of social ills. Take out your (apparently) bad hair day on someone else.

—StreetBiker

To #29 in Purple, #1 in My Heart

While we have always been close and shared a special bond, that bond never crossed the threshold I wanted it to. Until New Year's Eve that is. Often in college, various circumstances would eat away at any chance for our friendship to develop into something more. But not on this night. What started as another memorable shared celebration concluded with unbridled passion as years of pent up energy spilled out. The unfortunate and unintended consequence of that wonderful evening is that we are both a little nicked up and have begun to drift a bit. Well, let's try to get things back on track. Let's try to rediscover the feelings that wrought our New Year's consummation. Sincerely,

—Your Neighborly Friend and Companion

Can I Borrow Your Library Card?

I saw you in the North End Library on the afternoon of June 1 at around 3 pm. You were wearing a gray sweatshirt and khaki shorts. I thought you were cute, and I'm the attractive female who was wearing the black leather jacket. We caught each other's eye a couple of times. If you remember this, e-mail me, and maybe we can get together sometime.

—bass04us@yahoo.com

To The Faneuil Hall Police Officer

To the Boston police officer who insisted I move my friend's car: It was nearly 2 am and my friend jumped out of the running vehicle to use an ATM somewhere on a dark side street near Faneuil Hall. My roommate and I waited in all our drunken glory in the car for him to return. You came by asking me to move the car. With four Bacardi and Diets and three vodka shots duking it out in my stomach, I replied, "I can't officer; I'm too drunk to drive." But you again demanded that I move the car. As my friend and I continued to protest that I was too inebriated to drive the car, you became more and more insistent. By this point you actually showed genuine confidence in my ability to move the car drunk by saying, "You can at least move it a couple of streets, can't you?" Thanks to your support and coaching, I somehow managed to move the car satisfactorily and you continued on your way. Thank you, officer. Your confidence in my driving ability while drunk is very touching. It is that confidence in your constituents that will make this city a better place.

—Dewey

THE IMPROPER IMPERSONALS POETRY CORNER

Every so often our Impersonals readers feel moved to recognize that special someone or something in their lives with a bit of poetry. Normally, we drop these warm, fuzzy missives into a dusty file at the back of our rustiest filing cabinet. But for one time only, we're printing a sample of this heartfelt googly-goo. In the future, why not buy a Hallmark card? We tell you this out of love, because you're our wittle-bitty snooker-doodle reader-weedums. And now, on with the poetry.

—The Improper Impersonals

To My Frankie Beans

Roses are red
Violets are blue
You're old enough to be my dad
But I really like you
We met at a bar
Just a few months ago
A chick threw a drink in our face
So you took me back to your place
We're truly an odd couple
But as you can see
We're two banana heads
That are just meant to be
You're turning 41
Let's get loaded and have fun
Happy birthday to you
Be nice and you'll probably get some

—Daddy's Little Girl Reese

You So Fly

You're the illest and the realest...deep and very sweet. Can't believe someone like you I was able to meet. Better yet be with, and I appreciate the time we spend, cuz I can be me freely without the need to pretend. You're unlike any other, the best of the best. Sure you're far from perfect, but far better than the rest. I'm sure you know this and must hear it all the time. On a scale of one to ten, you're way past the dime. Being who you are, this has to be expected; and know that you're admired and very well respected. I can go on and on like a never-ending song, talking about how great you are, but then this rhyme would be too long. I just wanted to express what you mean to me, though just words on a page, it's meant genuinely.

—MC Wacky-Wack

Ode to Boston

My love for Boston is deep within
my aching heart, for I have to move
to a place with no snow, no warm-
hearted people. But the love for my
family far exceeds the love for Boston

—EM

Marcus

In a fast food restaurant
We met by chance
I saw you walk by
My heart did a little dance
I gave you my phone number
Hoping you would call me
Only a couple hours later
That call came to be
We talked and got to know
Things about each other
After a lengthy conversation
We decided to hang out with one another
The trips to the beach
Were we walked hand in hand
Long drives along the ocean
Watching the waves wash the sand
The phone calls, the nights in your arms
Times together, just hanging out
The sweet music of *Jagged Edge*
Times we made love, making me shout
To you I dedicate my life
With all my love I promise
To keep away all harm and strife
To love you until my last breath
The love I feel for you is real
To come along once in a lifetime
On this day let's make this deal
To love one another forever and a day

—Jacki

45 Wines by the Glass Wine Tasting Every Wednesday 6pm Nightly Wine Pairing Menu 250 Wines by the Bottle



VINALIA

Penfolds Wine Dinner, Tuesday, June 29, 6:30pm $75 per person

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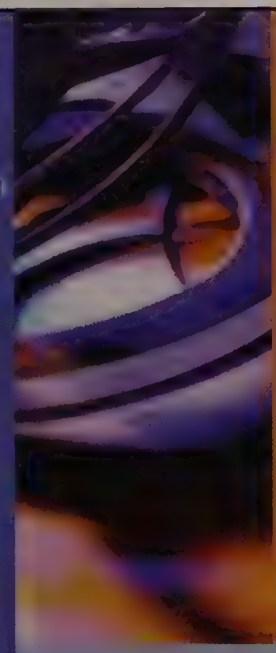
Tunes at Twilight will showcase multiple artists performing a variety of favorite hits featuring tropical Reggae sounds and cool Caribbean tunes; classic, contemporary and cutting edge Country songs; and the relaxing beats of sultry Jazz. Performers will change each Tuesday throughout the summer. The 2004 series will kick off on June 22nd and will include performances every Tuesday evening through September 7th from 6 PM – 10 PM.

Summer Swing begins with an opening night on June 16th and will continue every Wednesday night until September 8th, starting at 6:00 p.m. During these Summer Swing evenings, the Bill and Bo Winiker Big Band will recreate the excitement of the classic big band era. In addition, each week the band will pay tribute to some of America's favorite and most famous artists of Swing, including Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, Frank Sinatra, Benny Goodman, Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers, Billie Holiday, Glenn Miller, Artie Shaw and Ella Fitzgerald.

The Blues Barge – A floating stage anchored behind the Boston Harbor Hotel at Rowes Wharf provides the setting for some of the hottest local and national blues artists. The concert series begins with an opening night on June 17th and will include performances every Thursday evening through September 9th, from 6:00PM to 10:00PM. You can look for G.E. Smith, Nicole Nelson, Toni Lynn Washington, the Nighthawks, Anson Funderburgh & the Rockets with Sam Myers, Michelle Wilson and Debbie Davies.

The Movies by Moonlight series offers guests a chance to revisit a few of time's most memorable films. The 2004 series will begin with an opening showing on June 18th and will continue every Friday night until September 10th, starting at dusk. The cool evening breeze and view from Intrigue Café set the stage for the perfect opportunity to view these classic films under the stars, while enjoying the light, seasonal cuisine of Chef Daniel Bruce.

• No performances the week of July 27-30, 2004 •



MOVIES SCHEDULED TO BE SHOWN ARE:

June 18, 2004	The Sting
June 25, 2004	To Kill a Mockingbird
July 2, 2004	Yankee Doodle Dandy
July 9, 2004	To Have and Have Not
July 16, 2004	To Sir, With Love
July 23, 2004	The Greatest Show on Earth
July 30, 2004	No Movie Due to DNC
August 6, 2004	Bridge on the River Kwai
August 13, 2004	The Big Sleep
August 20, 2004	12 Angry Men
August 27, 2004	The Great Escape
September 3, 2004	The Quiet Man
September 10, 2004	On the Road to Singapore

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COMPLIMENTARY ADVANCE SCREENING OF "DODGEBALL" starring Ben Stiller & Vince Vaughn
@ 7:00 PM on June 14th, 2004
AMC Fenway 13 @ 201 Brookline Ave
Please arrive one hour early

COMPLIMENTARY POST-SCREENING PARTY
from 9PM - Midnight @ Tequila Rain @ 3 Landsdowne Street
featuring Smirnoff cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and the sounds of Tequila Rain's House DJ's

RSVP is required by June 11th @ www.smirnoffsessions.com
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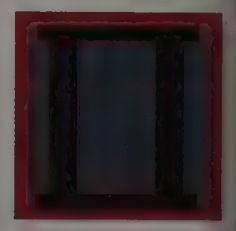
3 Locations:
1728 Mass Ave., Cambridge, 617.354.7400
149 First St., Cambridge, 617.354.5550
1294 Beacon St., Brookline, 617.739.3900

rockie horoscope

JUNE 9–22, 2004

BY ROCKIE GARDINER

GEMINI MAY 21–JUNE 20



The transit of Venus across the sun on June 8 can have a remarkable effect on you personally. Not that you'll become that much more of a prima donna than you are now, but something may occur to send your self-confidence soaring. It's also likely that you'll get a truly brilliant idea and actually entertain a concept so foreign to your way of thinking that it hasn't crossed your mind before. With changes like these in the offing, you'd be wise to prepare your significant other. Have that "what if?" talk soon.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

It's out of your hands. Much of what's taking place right now is centered in Gemini, the home of your unconscious and other behind-the-scenes maneuvering. Still, you could find yourself in an awkward position as militant Mars, advancing through Cancer, runs across abusive, power-mad Pluto. However, you have the experience and endurance (courtesy of Saturn, also in your sign) to make whatever adjustment is necessary. Try to relax; the present period of trials and tribulations eases up around the summer solstice when Mars marches into Leo.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

An association that you have tenuous ties to can become the focal point of your thoughts, hopes and social life for far longer than anyone intended. That's because the conjunction of Venus and your sun ruler this week is a lot different than the ones that have come before; this one is visible, at least on the East Coast. Although you may entertain fantasies about the ideal romantic relationship, the real one may not be nearly as tender. Things can turn nasty if one partner feels obliged to accept the other's demands when the sun confronts coercive Pluto.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

What occurs this week, while retrograde Venus meets the Gemini sun, can impact your career and reputation until the sun enters Leo in July and Venus has returned to this special spot. Even if the events seem inconsequential or are primarily social encounters, don't discount their importance. Other indications that you're negotiating a path to greater success: Your busy Mercury ruler connects with protective, prosperous Jupiter in Virgo as well as popular Venus and arty, mystical Neptune. You're the beneficiary.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

This is a good time to go someplace else, somewhere exotic or at least educational. Maybe across an ocean to watch the transit of Venus? While your ruling planet is retrograde, even brand-new experiences tend to echo ones you've had before. Not a bad thing if you need to learn a lesson about relationships and why you keep attracting the same sort of person. If there's one you want to get rid of, oust him or her when the highly adaptable, mobile Gemini sun opposes Pluto around the 10th.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

If you managed to avoid a big brouhaha during the full moon, when Venus was opposing Pluto, then you should be able to sidestep the next big confrontation; the sun's opposition to your co-ruler on the 11th. But if you think a showdown is inevitable, do something to make it less traumatic. Stage the altercation at someone else's house, in front of witnesses. Although you may have the physical and emotional strength to get through a down-and-dirty scene intact, you might not have sufficient financial resources to recover from the aftermath.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

Another round of bad behavior and/or denial is due when the Gemini sun opposes Pluto in your sign. Are you being banned from the Olympics for using illegal substances? Is your partner taking off for parts unknown? While some possibilities are definite downers, there are other planetary liaisons that suggest you're especially brilliant right now and about to receive good reviews. You might even collect cash or a pretty prize for your contribution to the arts. Might that be the art of bullshitting?

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

Free and clear. Seriously, nothing on your chart raises a warning flag right now. You could or should be collecting lots of information, especially if you're in a service profession or the healing arts. While the Gemini planets are doing their thing, disseminating and dispersing, your best bet is to log on to that energy and let it carry you through to Father's Day. Think of the next week or so as a semi-spiritual excursion, preparation for the relationship issues you'll be dealing with after summer officially begins.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

You're currently in a good spot, almost ready to accept the rewards offered by the life-giving sun and loving Venus in your Gemini house of recreation, risk and romance. If only you wouldn't deny your mystical, spiritual leanings. Are you simply being a contrary Aquarian or do you know something we don't? Since this is a relatively pleasant and productive period, try to make more than a half-assed attempt to get all the joy out of it you can. Concentrate on the creative and romantic possibilities, ignore the risk.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

Assume that, despite the maelstrom whirling around you, positive energy is getting through. That somehow your higher self, your Neptune ruler, is benefiting by the changes at home, within the family (can we still call it a circle or has it become an armed camp?). The information you get this week might serve other interests than your own, so take all conversations with a grain of salt. And when unpredictable Uranus in your sign turns retrograde on the 10th, remind yourself that you'll be far less excitable from now through October.

ARIES MARCH 20–APRIL 19

A former classmate might turn up or a neighbor may cozy up when the Gemini sun and retrograde Venus meet this week. A trip, even if it's only down memory lane, follows. Other opportunities to evaluate key relationships could appear while Venus is retrograde, but try to keep those you've established with your editor, repairmen and mechanic on an even keel. You don't want to flip them off during these tricky times. Meanwhile, the closer we get to Father's Day, a household matter or perhaps a parent may become a source of contention.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

Busy planetary activity in your Gemini money house suggests that you'll be paying more than your usual amount of attention to what's coming in and going out. Try to postpone an important financial decision until your Venus ruler flips out of retrograde on the 29th. Until then, it's likely that your sense of values will undergo a slight modification, your customary spending habits may change or, if you do sell a photograph, romance novel or screenplay, you'll become a more glamorous figure than you were last week. Art rules.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.



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Paige Rice sets an excellent example for future Sightings contributors at the Ocean Reef Club in Key Largo, Fla.



If you ever try to say that Madison, Wis., *doesn't* host the world's largest brat fest...well, Eloise, Bob and Donald here have got a big sign that says otherwise, partner.



Mike and Joyce Hanlon stand in front of Signal Hill, Newfoundland, where the first transatlantic wireless communication was received. It said, "Send Paige Rice."



Al Young hits the beach in Aruba, where even signs have little tiki-hut roofs over them. Al rode a bicycle around Aruba after burning down his rental car's straw roof.



Michael Makaitis and Tanya Nagle share a read at Rheinfels Castle, near St. Goar, Germany. Rheinfels is the family estate of Count Chocula.



Melissa and Melinda Manoukian and friends get physical aboard the Costa Mediterranea's Armenian Heritage Cruise, somewhere in the eastern Caribbean.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Doing the Hulk Hogan "I can't hear you!" gesture to the audience at the Kirkpinar Oiled Wrestling Festival, held in June in Edirne, Turkey.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
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IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Wednesday, May 12, **The Place** celebrated their 3rd Anniversary with a private party thanking all those that have supported them.







1. **Billy Fairweather**, co-owner of The Place; **SJ Torres**, co-owner of The Place; **Alan Miller**, producer of NESN's *Sportsplus*; **Errol Apostolopoulos**, co-owner of The Place; and **Michael Kalil**, marketing and event manager of The Place.
2. **Jo Sammons**, **Lisa Deltoro** and **Diane Fleischer**, all flight attendants for Delta Song.
3. **Mike Kay**, a financial advisor in Boston; **Linda Annese**, field service for Teradyne; **Dawn Herrick**, marketing director for Pravda Vodka/Chambord; **Arlene Varsamis**, finance manager for Crosby Benefit Systems; and **Andrew Schena**, marketing representative for First Community Mortgage.

On Saturday, May 15, the **2004 Heart Ball** was held at the **Westin Copley Place**. **The Improper Bostonian** sponsored this gala event to support the **American Heart Association** and its mission to fight heart disease.







1. **Steve Ballard**, regional sales manager eastern division, Ketel One; **Aliz Csaki**, account manager for Preston Marketing and **Jim Riley**, senior corporate events and public relations manager.
2. **Denise Hajjar**, owner of Denise Hajjar Designs, and **Heather Unruh**, emcee of the event and anchor for WCVB-TV Channel 5.
3. **Laurie Brackett**, of Watertown, **Richard Brackett**, managing partner, the Capital Grille; **Mary-Catherine Deibel**, co-owner of UpStairs on the Square; and **Nick Little**, project manager for Suffolk Construction.

On Wednesday, April 28, **Avalon** hosted the 17th annual **Beyond Shelter** event to benefit the homeless. The evening which included food samplings from 25 local restaurants and music by Kendrick Oliver & The New Life Jazz Orchestra, was sponsored by **The Improper Bostonian**.







1. **Kathy Gallagher**, catering manager, and **James Conforti**, owner, both of Gargoyles on the Square.
2. **Jenny Beckman** and **Adam Pritchard** of Rancatore's Ice Cream in Belmont.
3. **Jay Heaps**, player for the New England Revolution, **Jon Fador** and **Matt Quinn**, marketing representatives for the New England Patriots and the Revolution.





On Monday, May 3, **Brown Forman Spirits**, **Horizon Beverage Co.**, and **Preston Marketing Concepts** held a Glenmorangie Formal Tasting at the **Top of the Hub**. The event featured a sampling of fine scotches.

1. **Bruce Ballerstedt**, area sales manager for Brown-Forman; **Sterling Dunn**, general sales manager, Stealth division Horizon Beverage Co.; **Anthony Burnet**, regional director, Americas, Glenmorangie Single Highland Malt Scotch; and **Richard Lewi** on-premise market manage for Brown-Forman.
2. **John Sten**, shareholder litigator, Greenberg Traurig Law Firm, and **Anthony T. DiVenuti**, sales manager, Stealth division, Horizon Beverage Co.

PHOTOS: THE PLACE, KAREN DANA; WESTIN COPLEY AND TOP OF THE HUB, JULIE KANE; BEYOND SHELTER, WARREN FLINKFE

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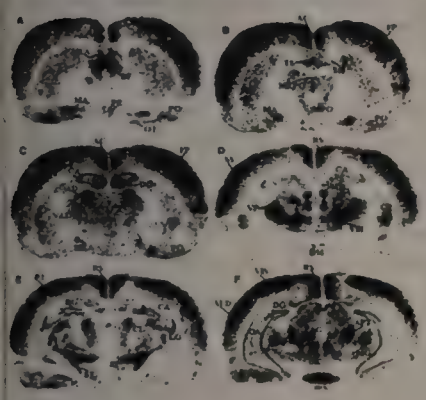
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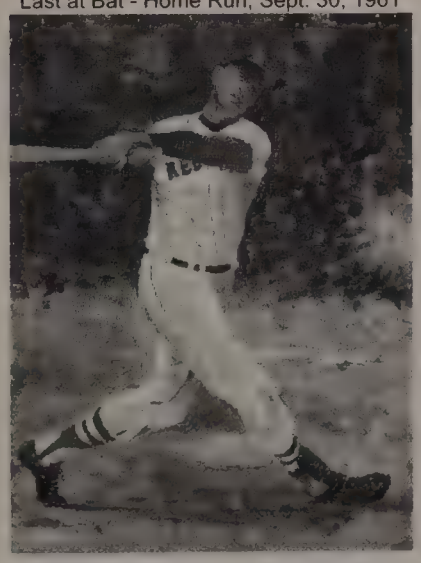
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Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled PortabellaPaninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC, V.

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Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston 617-426-3333.* Open 11am - 2am, 7days a week. Kennedy's Midtown is a cultural experience far from the maddening crowd while set in heart of it. Kennedy's serves a lunch and dinner menu of international cuisine. In the evenings they play host to some of Boston's finest Pianists who entertain with a range of tunes from Broadway to Jazz and Blues. Kennedy's embraces all the finer qualities of regal Boston and throws in a dash of old fashioned Irish Hospitality for measure.

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Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., South Boston,617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11 am - 2am 7 days a week.

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Solas *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11 am - 2 am 7 days a week.

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Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston, 617-482-7799.* Located in Boston's trendy Theater District, Pravda 116 is a chic bar and club. DJs 5:30pm - 10:30pm keep the energy level high. Bar 5:30pm-2am and dance club 10:30pm - 2am Wednesday-Saturday. Credit cards accepted AE, CB, DC, MC, V.

Stadium – Clubhouse *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Stadium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale nightclub featuring two bars, a hardwood dance floor and parking. An exciting yet relaxed 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety of music and beautiful people crowding the dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights. An ideal place for your next bachelor, bachelorette or birthday party.

Club Q Boston *25 Union St., Boston, 617-742-2121.* Open 9pm - 2am Wednesday through Saturday. What nightlife in Boston has been waiting for, this state of the art Nightclub in the heart of Faneuil Hall attracts a stylish and eclectic crowd. Open Wednesday through Saturday Club Q hosts Boston's top DJs spinning Hip Hop, House and Top 40's. With two bars, three VIP areas and pool tables, Club Q is the place to see and be seen. Credit cards accepted.

Comedy

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www. theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. Mingle. Let your hair down; see and be seen on the big screen. Simply the hippest way to spend a night of all-out fun in Boston's Financial District. Come after work. Come to dance. Come to go wild with your friends. There's always something exciting happening—and you never know who you'll bump into. Join us and experience what the buzz is all about.

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 617-227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

Irish

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 617-742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston,617-742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive



beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 617-523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11 am - 1 am 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

The Green Dragon *11Marshall St., Boston, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11 am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11 am - 2 am 7 days a week.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 617-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

General

The Alley *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. www.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

Aqua *120 Water St., Boston, 617-720-4900.* Boston's newest place to be seen is now open in the heart of the Financial District. Whether relaxing with a martini in one of our cozy booths, sipping a margarita on our roof deck or watching your hometown favorites on our high definition plasma TV. Aqua has what you're looking for after work and late night with our resident and guest DJs spinning your favorite mixes through our state of the art sound system all night long.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Boston Rocks *245 Quincy Market Place Boston,617-726-1110 www.boston-rocks.net. 21+.* Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St.,617- 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2003. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Captain Fishbones **SEAFOOD, STEAKS AND MORE* 353 Cambridge St, Allston 617-783-2300 (formerly the Sports Depot).* Free Appetizer Specials Sunday Nights and Mon-Fri 4:00PM-6:00PM, Martini Bar, Tropical Temptations, Frozen Specialty Drinks, 10 taps-16oz drafts. Meet your friends for free appetizers, awesome burgers, great pizza or healthy salads. Full menu from 11:30 A.M. to 12:30 A.M. Award winning Sunday Brunch including prime rib and shrimp cocktail for only $11.99–10A.M. to 2 P.M. Plenty of free parking. You can also visit the Captain oceanside at Marina Bay, Quincy at 332 Victory Rd., 617-471-3511 www.captainfishbones.com.

Cheers *Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-227-0150, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Offering pub fare until 11:45pm. Live entertainment every Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Cheers *Beacon Hill 84 Beacon St., Boston, 617-227-9605, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Full menu available until 11:45pm. Watch your favorite team on DirecTV.

Downtown Lounge *138 Portland St., Boston 617-523-8383.* Tempting tapas, modern martinis and contemporary cocktails are just a few of the elements awaiting your arrival. A distinctive destination in the heart of North Station, located just one block from the Fleet Center. Share crab taquitos, shaved portobello mushrooms or grilled white pizza. Revive with a specialty martini while sinking into soft curvy seating. Spacious and sublime, Downtown Lounge is an attractive meeting place for business, luncheons, social, after work cocktails and events.

The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010.* Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St.,Boston 617-722-0161.* The newest edition to Boston's night scene. This New Orleans style bar is just steps away from the Fleet Center. Hurricane O'Reilly's serves up the best that Boston nightlife has to offer. Come dance the night away with the hottest music around. We will leave you yearning for Bourbon Street.

Jillian's Boston *145 Ipswich St., Boston, 617-437-0300.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring more than 200 high tech games, six full bars, 50 pool tables, racing simulators, Black Jack for Fun and much more. Atlas Bar and Grill on Jillian's first floor offers full service dining featuring innovative American cuisine, a giant screen video wall and dancing every Friday & Saturday night. www.jilliansboston.com.

The Junction – Your Neighborhood Bar & Grill. *110 Dorchester St., South Boston, 617-268-6429.* Delicious food, great atmosphere and friendly staff –and it all happens at the Junction -South Boston's Neighborhood Bar & Grill. Enjoy our half-priced appetizers on weekdays from 3 to 6 pm. Join us for live music & entertainment on the weekends and for our fun trivia nights on Tuesdays.

Murphy's Law *837 Summer St., South Boston 617-269-6667 www.murphyslawbar.com.* Leave your attitude at the door! Close to Downtown Boston, Murphy's Law is located one minute from the Ted Williams Tunnel and across from Boston Edison. Join us and bring your friends for Live Music April 15 & 17 with Sensual and April 22 & 30 with Off The Wall. Come play some darts or video games. We offer an inviting, fun and friendly atmosphere. Ten beers on tap. Available for private functions. Call for details.

Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Lounge. Cocktails. Dancing. Nightlife. Come see the lights of Parris. Sample the eclectic lounge menu featuring grilled pizza, oyster shooters ans steak tartar. Sip a Classic, Apple or French 75 martini, and then motion onto the huge dance floor featuring Live Music with the best bands and DJs Thursday through Saturday. Named for the original architect of the Greek-revival-style building, Alexander Parris, you're nightlife experience at Parris will be Boston and beyond. Open 5pm - 2am Wednesay - Saturday. Cover charge on Friday and Saturday.

Jazz

Regattabar *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Tuesday-Saturday nights and occasional Sunday afternoons. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square. Shows at 8:30pm Tues-Thurs, 7:30pm & 10:00pm Fri. & Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617.876.7777 for tickets and information, 800.881.1818 for hotel reservations and information.

Latin

Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston 617-351-7001.* A multistory Latin-themed restaurant and club, Sophia's treats guests to a tantalizing Tapas-style menu, live Salsa bands and hi-energy Latin dance. From a romantic dinner and salsa lessons to hi-energy dance and mingling on the roof deck over sangria and Salsa, an evening at Sophia's is always Hot! Hot! Hot

Sports Bar - Upscale

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www.theplaceboston.com.* Voted Boston's Best Sports Bar 3 years in a row by The Improper Bostonian! Mingle with your favorite sports celebrities: Brady, Thornton, Walker, Garciaparra. You never know who you'll run into. Enjoy the wildest party atmosphere in the heart of the Financial District. It's never the same experience twice – we've got exclusive sports video productions and game coverage on our state-of the-art flat screen TVs. So join us to see what the buzz is all about and find out why people in-the-know feel right at home.

Stadium *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* Boston's Best Damn Sports Bar, Period. A brand new, high-end sports bar featuring two floors, three bars, 30 flat screen TVs – including the one in the men's room, a dance floor and parking. Stadium menu offers an enticing selection of appetizers, salads, steak & burgers, fresh seafood and drinks

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Harvard Gardens *315 Cambridge St., Beacon Hill, Boston, 617-523-2727. www.harvardgardens.com.* Cozy up to the beautiful mahogany bar or slip into a comfy booth and enjoy Harvard Gardens' menu of cool cocktails and comfort food. Brunch serves up eggs and pastrami hash, thick-cut French toast with caramelized bananas, specialty pizzas and Boston's best Bloody Mary. Harvard Gardens serves brunch Saturday and Sunday, 11:00am - 3:00pm.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended 617-661-5005.

Museum of Science – Skyline Room *Science Park, Boston, Ma, 02114.* Enjoy Sunday Brunch in the beautiful Skyline Room overlooking the Charles River at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., then check out the latest Omni film and our newest exhibit, Einstein. Combination tickets start at $32 and include on-site parking when available. Brunch only, $24. Reservations recommended. For more information call (617) 723-2500 or visit mos.org.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**, *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

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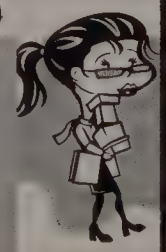
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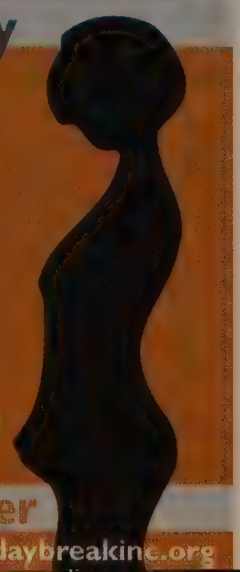
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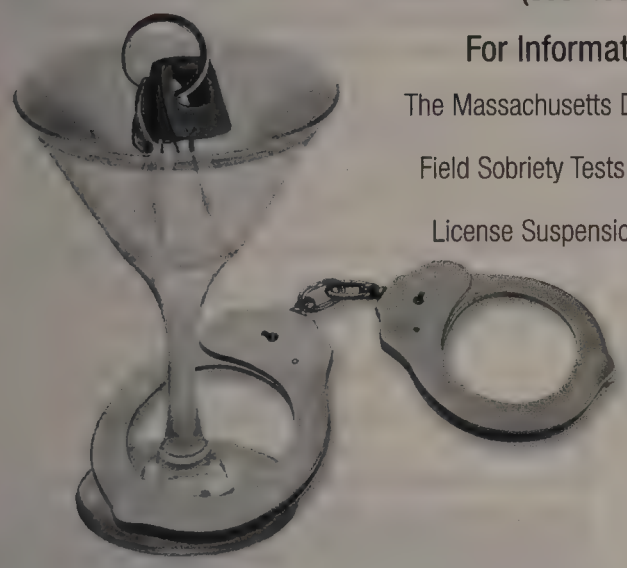
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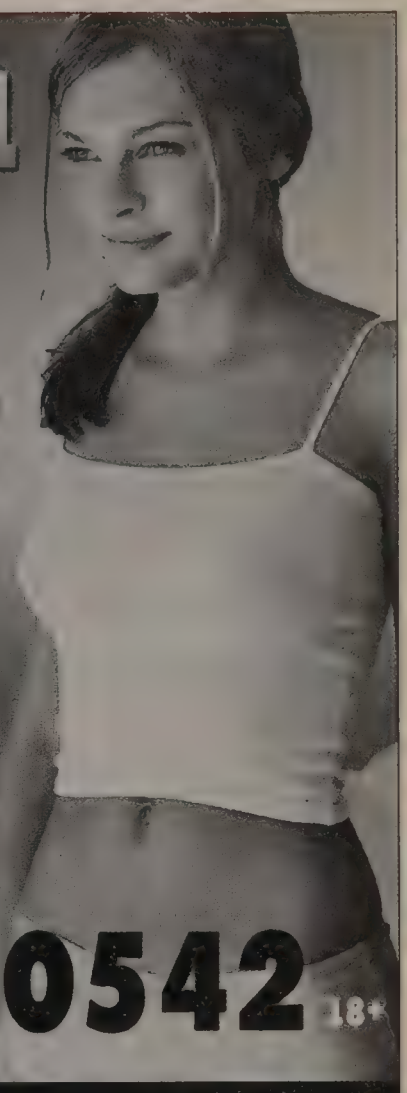
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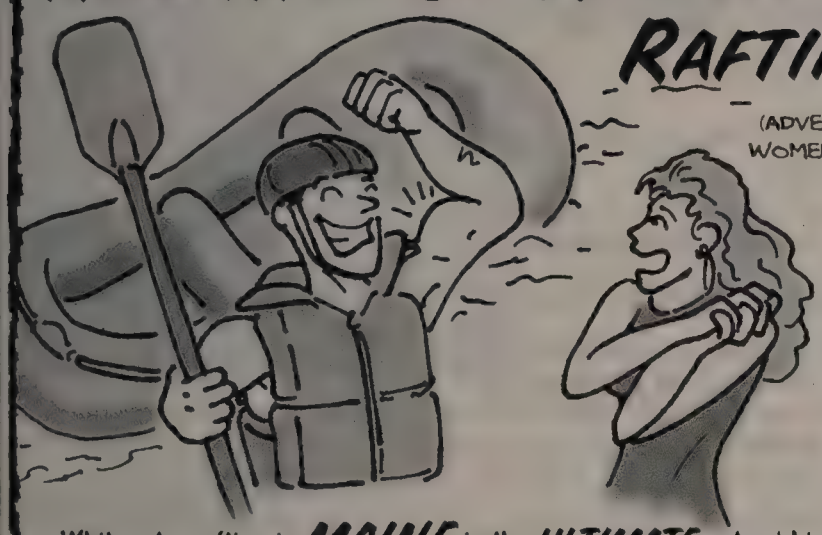


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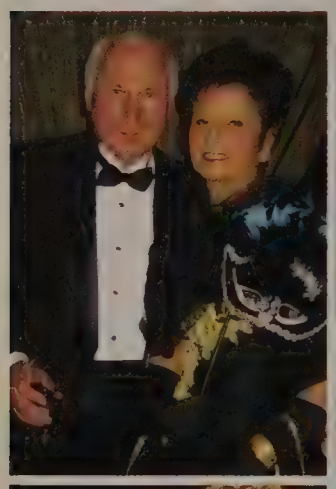
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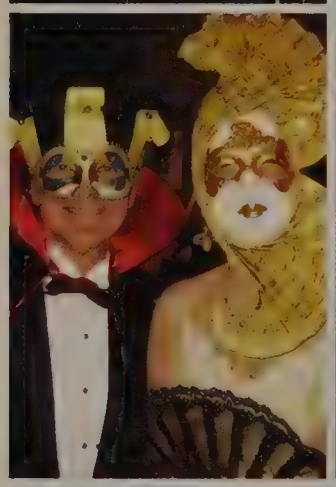
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LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF






At the Venetian Masked Ball, clockwise from upper left: Ray and Maria Stata; Alan and Kristen Rouleau; Chris Mitchum and Doreen Corkin; a cool masked couple.

WHO WAS THAT MASKED MAN?...

In addition to all the spectacular productions it mounts, **Boston Lyric Opera** is to be commended for doing more than its share to counteract the appalling lack of costume parties in Boston.

Take, for instance, the **Venetian Masked Ball** held at the **Four Seasons**, where guests went all-out to disguise themselves in get-ups worthy of Carnevale. Despite the masks, there were confirmed sightings of such local notables as mega-philanthropists **Ray** and **Maria Stata** and **Roger** and **Norma Saunders**; impossibly good-looking young things **Nicole** and **Ramsey Alsarraf**; redheaded socialite **Doreen Corkin** squired by the dapper **Chris Mitchum** (son of actor Robert); banking behemoth **Richard DeAgazio** and his lady love, **Nikki Feldbaum**; custom tailor to the stars **Alan Rouleau** and the stunning **Kristen**; patrician arts patron **Linda Cabot Black**; thoroughbred racehorse syndicator **Cynthia Frederick**; retired mutual fund poobah **Sherif Nada** and the flawless **Mary**; prominent Beacon Hillions **Hillary** and **Chris Gabrieli**; and so on and so forth.

Dinner was accompanied by a delightful performance by a trio of tenors, and dessert was barely on the table before everyone was dancing. One thing about those opera lovers: They know how to throw a buffo party.

FISH SO FRESH YOU COULD SLAP IT...

People have joked about it for years, but someone finally had the nerve to do it: serve sushi at a fund-raiser held in the **New England Aquarium**.

The first annual **Ben-Gurion Society Bash**, held by **Combined Jewish Philanthropies**, attracted the likes of the evening's honorees, **Phil Gordon** and **Lori Sidman**; art dealer **Abi Ross Goodman** and her bespectacled hipster husband, **Marc**; gorgeous redhead **Amy Finegold** and her state rep husband, **Barry**; raven-haired fashionplate **Erin Appel**; yummy couple **Marci Lorber** and **Jeff Katz**; unflagging philanthropists **Rachael** and **Andy Goldfarb**; the shockingly beautiful **Jennifer Winn**; and so and so forth down the list of prominent young Bostonians of the Hebrew persuasion.

Despite a few squawks from the penguins during the obligatory speeches, everything went off without a hitch, and everyone had plenty to eat, although as one guest pointed out, "If you don't feel like standing in line for sushi, you can always reach into a tank and pull some out."





At the Aquarium, clockwise from top: Marci Lorber and Jeff Katz; Barry and Amy Finegold; Phil Gordon and Abi Ross Goodman.





At the Galaxy of Stars party, top row, from left: Kate Shamon and Toni Senecal; Matt Ellis and Diana Shoolman; Marjorie Clapprood. Right: Rex Trailer.



JUST DON'T LET PETA CATCH YOU...

For a Monday night in May, the **Boston Children's Theater** managed to assemble a high-wattage array of local notables at the newly refurbished **State Room** (formerly the Bay Tower Room) for its **Galaxy of Stars** fund-raiser.

Present and accounted for: New York entertainment reporter **Toni Senecal** (one of the evening's honorees) and her proud parents, **Barbara** and **Paul**; children's TV legend **Rex Trailer**; radio personality **Marjorie Clapprood**; kabuki socialite **Marilyn Riseman**; dowager empress **Smoki Bacon** and her consort, **Dick Concannon**; WBZ-TV news director **Matt Ellis**; the incomparable **Spring Sirkin**; and comedian **Jimmy Tingle**, who entertained the audience after dinner while the winning bids in the silent auction were being tabulated.

"Look what I got," enthused fashion plate **Diana Shoolman**, holding up a vintage mink coat. "It's totally out of style, but I can either turn it into pillows or wear it as a joke." IB

MARTHA STEWART WOULD'VE PLOTZED...

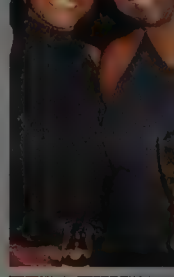
As if Boston didn't have enough historic firsts to brag about, it can now boast of hosting America's first gay society wedding.

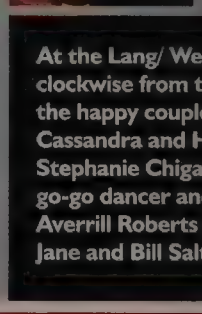
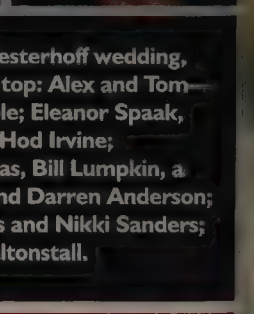
On May 17th, **Alexander Westerhoff** and **Thomas Lang** (the first couple to obtain a civil union in Vermont) were married at **Crowell Chapel** in Manchester-by-the-Sea. The Rev. **Peter Gomes** (the openly gay black chaplain of Harvard) presided, and the decidedly upscale guest list included the likes of Brahmin do-gooders **Jane** and **Bill Saltonstall**; philanthropic fun couple **Hod** and **Cassandra Irvine**; legal glamazon **Nikki Sanders** and her partner, **Averrill Roberts**; charming southern decorator **Michael Carter**; New York transplant **Ashley Scott**; and select members of the North Shore's well-heeled horsey set and the city's so-called "A-gays."

The reception was held at the couple's newly constructed mansion—a reasonable facsimile of the Petit Trianon—which is stuffed with priceless knickknacks and bric-a-brac, ranging from Greek and Roman statuary to a chair that belonged to Napoleon. In addition to enough champagne to float the Titanic and buckets of caviar, there were fireworks, go-go girls and a wedding cake shaped like a six-foot tree in a planter.

"This may well be the wackiest Monday night Manchester has ever seen," said one guest, adding, "Friday and Saturday are a reach here."

Indeed, it was one for the record books, regardless of the couple's gender, and it proved that anti-gay-marriage advocates might have at least one thing right: Same-sex weddings will certainly threaten straight couples if all of them turn out to be this fabulous.

At the Lang/ Westerhoff wedding, clockwise from top: Alex and Tom—the happy couple; Eleanor Spaak, Cassandra and Hod Irvine; Stephanie Chigas, Bill Lumpkin, a go-go dancer and Darren Anderson; Averrill Roberts and Nikki Sanders; Jane and Bill Saltonstall.

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JULY 27 • 8PM

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JULY 29 • 2PM

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JULY 30 AND 31 • 6PM

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Allman Brothers Band
with special guest
Los Lonely Boys
SATURDAY, AUGUST 21 • 7PM

Kenny Chesney
FRIDAY, AUGUST 27 • 7:30PM
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Norah Jones
AUGUST 31 • 7:30PM

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He left me. Good riddance.

He never picked up his socks.

He thought I was his mother. He didn't

make me laugh anymore. He's gone.

Who cares... All I wanted was the sofa and the dogs.

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Photographed for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by **Sam Gray**

Photographer's assistant: **Zac Hahn**

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR



ON THE HOME FRONT

With its hand-me-down furniture and unruly clutter (too many books and clothes; too little storage space), my apartment's not much to look at. I've long fantasized about redecorating and creating a cozy, orderly space I'd enjoy coming home to. But when I head to the furniture store or thumb through shelter magazines, with their endless options, I panic. What do I buy first? How do I pull it all together? And what if I hate that big, expensive sofa in six months?

It turns out I'm not the only one with questions like those. So for our annual Interiors issue, we called in the experts for some answers. In "Home Improvement" (page 24), six talented interior designers offer decorating dos and don'ts as well as tips on the latest trends in style and color and advice for choosing and working with a designer, if you opt to call in a pro.

For gorgeous inspiration, our cover story (page 18) takes you inside the home of one of Boston's top designers. Dennis Duffy's South End condo shows you what an oasis home can be.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

MY WIFE AND I WERE RECENTLY PICNICKING ON THE CHARLES WHEN A POLICE OFFICER INFORMED US WE WERE NOT ALLOWED TO DRINK OUTSIDE.

—WILLIAM DEJONG-LAMBERT
BOSTON



WELL WINE NOT?

I write to ask whether the locations you mention in the "Go Picnicking" section of the "30 Things to Do This Summer" article (May 26) are indeed places where one can enjoy the "bottle of wine" you refer to. I raise this question because my wife, 16-month-old son and I were recently picnicking on the Charles when a police officer stopped and informed us we were not allowed to drink alcohol outside in Boston. Thus, he had my wife and I pour out our bottle of wine.

Though we were glad not to be arrested, it obviously ruined the evening. As people who have enjoyed many picnics in New York City (where the police never seemed concerned about an open wine bottle) and throughout Europe (where it's not illegal to enjoy a drink with a picnic), we read your article with great interest, as it gave us hope that the same thing may indeed be possible in Boston. Is it?

—WILLIAM DEJONG-LAMBERT
Boston

Editor's response: *You are right: If you drink in public in Boston, you are, in the immortal words of Judas Priest, breakin' the law—even in the context of a picnic. While the spirit of the law is probably aimed at preventing slovenly, 40-oz.-toting blottos from clogging the sidewalks, it unfortunately also covers your bottle of Chianti on the Charles. Perhaps New York cops turn a blind eye to a benign glass of vino, but this is the state that had blue laws up until this year. What to do? You didn't hear this from us, but some people have been known to be discreet and savor the added excitement of knowing they're being naughty.*

BEAUTY BITES BACK AGAIN

I was thoroughly enjoying your "Beauty and the Boys" article in the April 14 issue until I hit your question, "How do Boston women compare with women you've known in other cities? Is there any particular characteristic of Boston's women's beauty routine or look that is noticeably different?"

I have to say, not only was the question obviously going to get some offensive answers, but the answers were worse than I had anticipated! I'm not even going to address the double standard that exists in all cities across the country with women's looks versus men's. That's not a battle I wish to take on. But I would hope that a wide-reaching magazine such as the IMPROPER would try to help women by not asking this type of question in the first place! Also, I'm wondering when the IMPROPER will be doing their follow-up article asking women about the men in Boston and their looks, clothes and intelligence. I can count on one hand the guys that I've met in Boston who are both good-looking and have an IQ higher than their waist size. If I have missed this article in a more recent IMPROPER, please let me know!

—A. HIRSCH
Brookline

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SAM GRAY



Sam Gray is a Boston-based photographer specializing in architectural and decorative interiors. He has traveled around the country shooting for such publications as *Architectural Digest*, *Better Homes and Gardens*, *Veranda*, *Traditional Home*, *Home Remodeling* and *Decorating and Home Building*. To see Gray's work, turn to "The Designer at Home," on page 18, or check out www.samgray.com.

Tell Us What You Think

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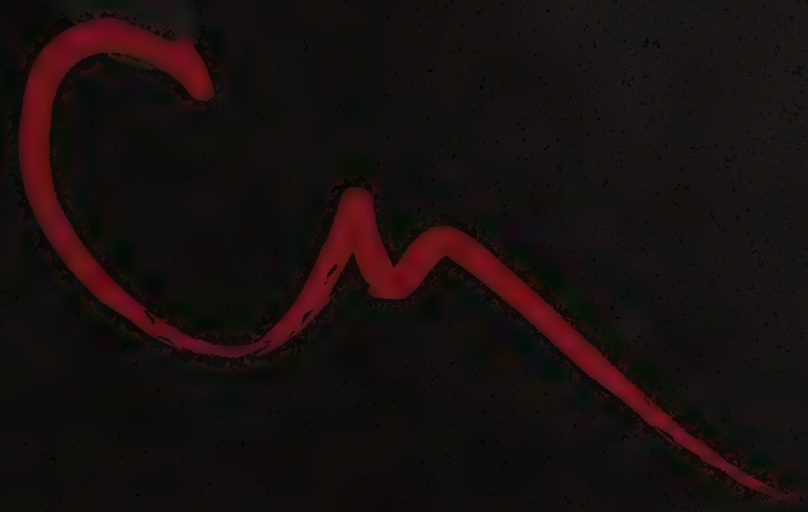
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TRENDS TITTLE-TATTLE PEOPLE PANACHE

EDITED BY ERIN HAGEDORN

new in town

THE FINER THINGS

Anyone with a slightly obsessive, type A personality will fall in love with Harvard Square's newest retailer, Cross. Packed with nifty gadgetry arranged by color, the gallery-like store's displays are reminiscent of the gorgeous order you find in a Japanese department store. Neat-freaks are exactly the kinds of people who will love Cross' products (which include much more than the pens you know them for) as well as the store's clean aesthetic.

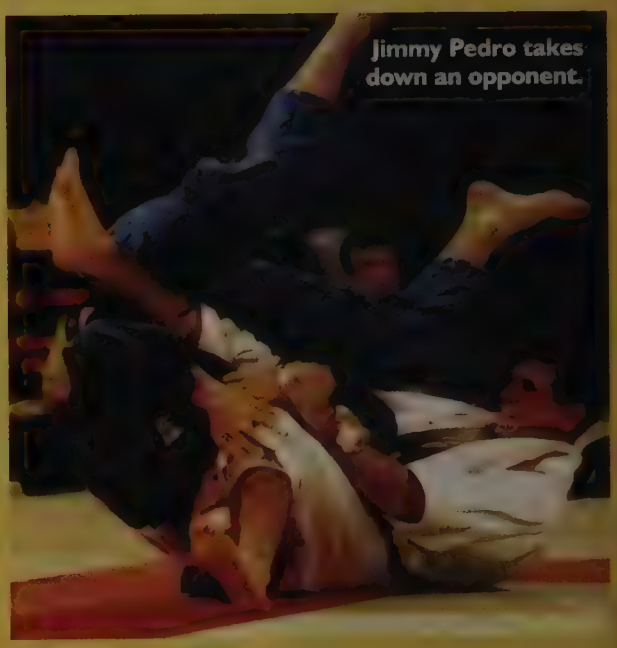
Bins are stocked with supplies to help you stay organized: notepads, designer pens ($22–$835), sticky notes, frames and photo albums—there's even a personal library kit to help you organize your books. Cross also carries books on subjects like design, decor and 500 ideas for reorganizing your workspace.

Browsers beware: You'll find yourself wanting all kinds of things you didn't know you needed—like Italian stationery, designer laptop tote bags, fancy ink blotters and leather journals. The store carries some whimsical items as well, such as the Fortune Shaker, a sleek canister containing sticks and a scroll that you can use to predict the future. *Zero Brattle St., Cambridge (617-868-7020). —E.H.*



this just in

THE ATHENS GOLD RUSH



The 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney were supposed to be the end of the road for Methuen's Jimmy Pedro. Considered by many to be the favorite to bring home the gold in judo, Pedro finished a disappointing fifth and planned to retire. "I had every intention of walking away from competition and moving on with my life," says the 33-year-old. But while attending a medal ceremony at 2002 Winter Games, he once again got the urge to compete. Now, thanks to support from his family and friends, as well as a hell of a lot of training, Pedro is ready to give us all the chance to root for him one more time this summer in Athens. "I've been to three Olympics," he says, "and now all that's left is for me to take the gold." *—Rich Levine*

inner view

PENN JILLETTE



Most know him as the larger, louder half of comedy/magic duo Penn & Teller, but now Penn Jillette has added novelist to his résumé. After 30 years of solid success with P&T's two-man act, Jillette has forayed into fiction with his first novel, *Sock*, out in July. Told from the perspective of a sock monkey named Dickey, the book is a buddy/cop story cut with enough twisted gore and sex scenarios to give the childhood toy a permanent bad rep. Jillette chatted with us about the inspiration for his dark novel, which he reads from at the Coolidge Corner Theatre July 7.

IB: *Do you own a sock monkey?*

PJ: Yes I do. I have my Dickey from when I was a kid. Though sadly, my sister informed me—after I wrote the whole damn book—that they had replaced it on me, and it's not the original. But I do have a sock monkey and it's looking at me right now.

IB: *It's a pretty dark story. What was your inspiration?*

PJ: Not to be too melodramatic, but I think it comes directly from my mom and dad dying. I was really close to them and they both died within a year of each other. Being an atheist and trying to come to grips with dealing with losing people who you really love is really hard.

IB: *Most of your paragraphs end with a lyric from a pop song. What's that all about?*

PJ: I almost always have a few lines of a song or snatch of a tune in my head, and I just used it as short hand at the end of paragraphs to help me remember what the tone was when it came to the rewrites. When I went to take them out it seemed like it might help a reader get a little bit of the tone in their head. But it's completely obsessive and in absolutely every paragraph.

IB: *What does Teller think about the book?*

PJ: We're going to find out. He's reviewing it for the *New York Times*. Either I'll get a really great review out of it, or something will go wrong with our gun bit and I'll blow his head off. Either way, I'll get some good publicity out of it.

IB: *Both of you have written before.*

PJ: I didn't even realize this, but he wrote a book about his mom and dad—and we've written three books together that are tricks and short stories—but our first real books were about our parents.

IB: *So is writing a natural offshoot of showbiz?*

PJ: Yeah. I have no evidence of this outside of myself, but in my heart, I've always felt like more of a writer than anything else. I've always loved the ideas more than the execution. It kind of seems like "funny magic guy" wrote a novel, but it's not quite that different for me. I guess *Sock* seems like a really long, strange, Penn & Teller bit.

IB: *If Sock were turned into a movie, who would play the monkey?*

PJ: I just don't know who's that small. I guess it would have to be Mini-Me to fit in a little suit. No, I don't know, but obviously if *Sock* were turned into a movie, since it was narrated, I would love to see it animated and then get to do the voice, because it really is my voice.

IB: *Who's a better writer, you or Teller?*

PJ: If you want clarity, Teller is an astonishingly good writer who's very historically minded and very accurate. I tend to bring a type of goofiness. I think my only plus is I tend to go out there. *—Jessica Iredale*



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tasty tidbits

FOOD AND THE FOURTH

Beacon Hill BBQ... So everyone knows that a 4th of July weekend without a BBQ is about as cool as winning a raffle for tickets to a Michael Bolton concert. Want to have fun but don't feel like slaving over the grill all morning/day/night? Try heading over to the Beacon Hill Hotel & Bistro for its 4th of July celebration. The special à la carte menu is available from 11 am--9 pm and includes all the BBQ faves like hot dogs, burgers, corn bread and watermelon (not to mention some patriotic homemade sangria). *25 Charles St., Boston (617-723-1133).*

Cellar Dwellers... It doesn't take much arm-twisting to get us in the mood for Legal Sea Foods, but the restaurant giant just gave us another reason to head there for dinner. Legal's Park Square location has transformed its lower level into an swanky wine cellar that, aside from being home to more than 10,000 bottles of wine, serves as an elegant place to eat. "We've always had an extensive wine list and really wanted a place to showcase it," says David Alphonse, director of beverage operations. *26 Park Plaza, Boston (617-426-4444).*


Legal Seafoods

Turning Tables... The past few months have seen some changes at Andy Husbands' Tremont 647 and Sister Sorel. Matthew Audette replaced Jason Santos as executive chef after Santos moved to Providence in December to take over as chef/co-owner of Husbands' newest venture, Kestral. Now, the South End spot welcomes Jamie Bissonnette into the exec chef seat. On June 1, the former 647 sous chef took over the kitchen. Bissonnette began working under Husbands and Santos in 2001 and expanded his culinary repertoire with stints at Pigalle, Peking Tom's and Pho Republique. He's now in the process of revamping the menu, incorporating more local produce and vegetarian options. *645/647 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-4600).*

Lite Up... Light Mexican food seems like the ultimate oxymoron. After all, even if you suck the life out of your next burrito by holding the guac, sour cream and cheese, the rice and tortilla have enough carbs to send Atkinsites into glycemic meltdown. But Olé Mexican Grill's new Modern-Mexican Lite menu does away with heavy sour creams, beans and cheese, leaving salsa, chipotle and peppers to create the south-of-the-border flavor. The menu changes daily, but diners can expect to see options like *huachinango frito* (pan-fried red snapper with cilantro and blood orange chipotle), seviche de salmon (salmon with citrus mustard and chipotle) and lots of sorbets. *11 Springfield St., Cambridge (617-492-4495).*

sam says

COUCHED IN COMFORT

When it comes to furniture, some people buy on a strictly aesthetic basis. But if you're looking for comfort as well as style, check out Boston Interiors' new Earth & Elements seating collection. Chairs and couches are upholstered in fabrics that will remind you of your favorite comfy clothes. Warning: Textiles like cotton twill (think cargo pants) and soft corduroy are enough to turn anyone into a couch potato. *31 Boylston St., Brookline (617-731-6038). www.bostoninteriors.com.*

—Samantha House



improper reports

FESTIVALS, FIREWORKS AND FUN

From festivals and live concerts to farmers markets and costume parades, there are heaps of events that you shouldn't miss this summer. Mark your calendars:

*Every year the **Brockton Fair**, one of America's oldest, swoops in with rides, games, motorsports, pig racing, fireworks and more. *July 1–11. Brockton (508-586-8000). www.brocktonfair.com.*

*Cast off your inhibitions at **Carnival 2004: FantaSEA** in Provincetown. Balls, concerts, parties, casino nights, auctions and one gigantic parade keep the P-Town party going. *Aug. 16–22. Provincetown (508-487-2313). www.ptown.org.*

*This year's **Marshfield Fair** features fireworks, sports, rides, music festivals, a farmer's market and baking competitions. *Aug. 20–29. Marshfield (781-834-6629). www.marshfieldfair.org.*

*The Caribbean American Carnival Association of Boston celebrates **Boston Caribbean Carnival** with a King and Queen and a steel band competition. *Aug. 22–28. Various locations (617-296-7083). www.bostoncarnival.com.*

*__Cambridge Carnival__** is one of the largest multicultural outdoor festivals in New England. It features a costume parade and vendors selling arts, crafts, food and clothes. *Aug. 29. Cambridge (617-492-2518).*

*__The Festival of Saints Cosmas and Damian__** in East Cambridge begins with a candlelight procession and blossoms into a street festival complete with games, Italian food and a Grand Procession. *Sept. 11 and 12. East Cambridge (888-725-9090). www.cosmas-and-damian.com.*



*Send the summer out with a bang at the 10th largest fair in North America. The **Big E** is 17 days of rides, concerts, crafts, thrill shows, circuses, parades and art exhibitions. *Sept. 17–Oct. 3. West Springfield (413-205-5115). www.thebige.com.*

—Laura Kenyon

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Lock, Stock and Two Tickets to Jamaica... New dating services pop up about as frequently as new low-carb diets. But the new Boston Lock and Key puts a funky twist on the traditional way of meeting people. At their events, women get locks and the men get keys, and their goal is to mingle until they find a match. On June 30 at the Sweetwater Café from 7-10 pm, Lock and Key launches in Boston with a Jamaican Jam Island Party. Make a match and you'll have the chance to win a free trip to the Hedonism III resort in Jamaica. The company hosts events for all ages, professions and sexual orientation and plans on running at least two local events a month. *www.bostonlocknkey.com.*

A Lang Time Coming... With gay marriage comes the logical next step: gay honeymoons. Lesbian-travel company Olivia sets sail with a sapphic newlywed cruise July 3-10. The itinerary takes passengers from Boston to Montreal—stopping in Provincetown for the 4th—and features two performances by k.d. lang. If you're a lesbian, family member of a lesbian, or just want to hang out with 1,200 lesbians on a big boat, go to *www.olivia.com.*

The Jury's Inn... Ever spent a night in the slammer? Well, here's your chance...kinda. For months, Dublin-based Jurys Hotel Group has been restoring the former Boston Police Headquarters, and in late June the Jurys Boston Hotel is slated to open. We say it's about time that Boston, the most Irish city in America, got its first Irish hotel. The newly renovated building on Stuart Street has more than 200 rooms, five meeting rooms and best of all, three eateries, including Cuffs, an Irish bar; the Stanhope Grille, a cosmopolitan restaurant that offers a breakfast buffet, lunch and dinner, and the Il Barista Wine and Coffee Bar. *350 Stuart St., Boston (617-266-7200).*

Giddy-Up... Though South Shore homeboys far outnumber the cowboys at Quincy's WaterWorks, the second season of the club's Buckwild Thursdays kicked off with a bang June 10. JAM'N 94.5's Melissa hosts the hip-hop-meets-honky-tonk night, whose main attraction is a wildly popular bucking mechanical bull. Every Thursday hundreds of boozed up patrons ride the bull in an *Urban Cowboy*–style contest. The man and woman who stay put the longest each night get to come back for the final ride-off at the end of the season for the chance to win a tropical vacation. Bud and Sissy would approve. *333 Victory Road, Quincy (617-689-0600).*

The Nudist Thing in Cambridge... Cambridge Community Television unveiled a unique fund-raising tool June 13, and it wasn't a bake sale or auction. The intrepid CCTV-ers convinced a slew of Cantabrigians to take it all off for the inaugural Cambridge Uncovered: The Calendar. Participants included dancer Rozann Kraus from the Dance Complex; a group of construction workers at a job site off Huron Avenue; the staff of the 1369 Coffee House, and Mr. June, former gubernatorial candidate Robert Reich. The au naturel calendar runs from September of this year through 2005 and costs $15. It's available at locations around Cambridge or at *www.cctvcambridge.org.*



What's Old Is New Again... Two local clubs have refashioned themselves with different names and vibes. First, the Upstairs Lounge at 69 Lancaster St., near the FleetCenter, is now Eureka! at the Upstairs Lounge. Changes include a fresh paint job and the addition of a pool table and stage, as well as some new faces behind the bar. Also revamped is Rumor nightclub (formerly Vapor) at 100 Warrenton St., in the Theater District. Friday is Lounge 54 night, with a new VIP lounge and DJs spinning hip-hop. Ya heard?

—E.H., J.I., R.I and E.D.

Got scoop?

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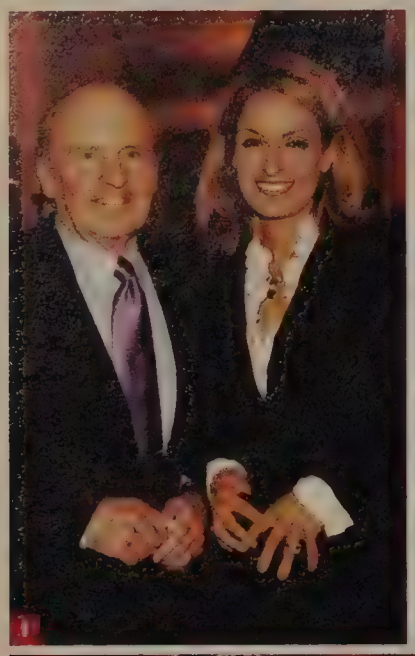
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PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY











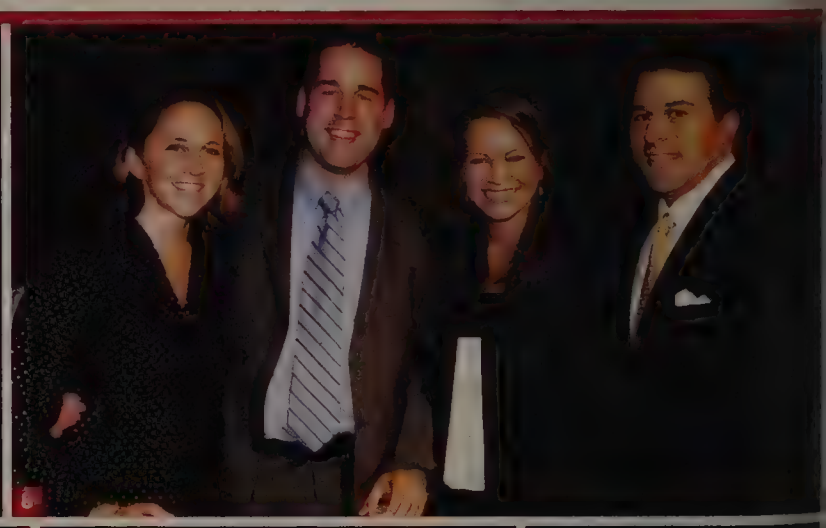


The 23rd annual **Presidents at Pops** event was held June 2 at Symphony Hall. CEOs, presidents and executives from more than 125 New England–based companies took part in this year's gala, raising over $1 million for the Boston Symphony Orchestra. The event was chaired by Jack Connors, chairman of Hill Holliday. Special guest soloist Vanessa Williams joined Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops Orchestra.

1. **Jack Welch**, former CEO of General Electric, and his wife, **Suzy**.
2. **Bob Davis**, partner at Highland Capital Partners in Lexington, and **John Fish**, president and CEO of Suffolk Construction.
3. **John Cullinane**, president of the Cullinane Group, and his wife, **Diddy**.
4. **Peter Brooke**, BSO board chairman, and his wife, **Anne**.
5. **Jenny Rovegno**, **John White**, managing director of Lehman Bros., and his wife, **Cathy**.
6. **Peter Welsh**, vice president of Suffolk Construction; **Rita Davis**; and **Kevin Leary**, president of VPNE Parking Solutions.

The Franciscan Hospital for Children's **6th Annual Community Leadership Awards Dinner** was held June 8 at the Westin Hotel Copley Place. More than 800 friends gathered to support the hospital and honor this year's award recipients. The evening included dinner and live and silent auctions. WCVB-TV anchor Natalie Jacobson and Barry Tatelman of Jordan's Furniture were co-emcees, and comedian Lenny Clarke served as guest auctioneer. The evening raised more than $800,000 for the hospital.













7. **Alan Eisner**, CEO of Regan Communications; **Laura Robbat**, senior marketing associate for Clear Channel; and her husband, **Russell**, owner of the Palace Entertainment Complex in Saugus.
8. **Kate Nolan**, accountant at Schroder Ventures; **Joe McCabe**, advertising executive for Reed Business Information in Newton; **Molly Nolan**, marketing associate at TechTarget in Needham; and **Mark Alibrandi**, financial adviser for Merrill Lynch.
9. **Lenny Clarke**, comedian, and **Selena DellaRocco**, director of development for Franciscan Hospital for Children.
10. **Barry Tatelman**, CEO of Jordan's Furniture, and his wife, **Susan**.
11. **Harold Brown**, chairman and CEO of the Hamilton Co.; his wife, **Maura** (far right); and **Claudia Uppendahl**.
12. **Louis Fouyolle**, real estate broker for All-Bright Realty in Allston, and his wife, **Helene**, architectural assistant at the Hamilton Co.

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BY EZRA DYER



OLD SCHOOL

Reunion is all the fun of college with none of the pesky learning.

I was a little ambivalent about attending my five-year college reunion. After all, I'd gone to homecoming the year after I graduated and felt like I might as well have just gone to the nearest high-school parking lot to lurk around. At least there the girls would be impressed that I could buy Zima for them. The looks I got from the students back in the fall of 1999 said, "Tailgating at a D-III football game, rooting for a school at which you're no longer enrolled: You're a sad little man." But momentum amongst my friends grew for the five-year reunion, and so it was that I found myself once again rolling onto the Colby College campus.

The five-year reunion was different from homecoming in one very important way: There were no students around to make me feel old. Or at least, not many. And the ones who were on campus didn't make me feel old, they made me feel cool. It's good to see that Colby's nerdfirmative action program is really taking shape. We're talking kids who look like the love spawn of Rick Moranis and a graphing calculator, and this is coming from a guy who wrote for the school newspaper and has seen the movie *Rad* 15 times. It's possible that Colby has hired Stephen Hawking to run the admissions department. I think I speak for all of the less intellectually gifted alumni when I say that, like, um, I don't, you know, understand that…and stuff.

Speaking of dumb alumni (dumb like a fox with transitions like that one), many brain cells perished as my classmates and I took advantage of our above-the-law status. There's nothing like spending a weekend at school when you've already graduated and they want you to give them money. It's an entirely different dynamic than when you're a student, and you're always scurrying to turn down your music or stash that Rodin you stole from the art museum and made into a bong. "What are they gonna do, take away my diploma?" was the rhetorical question of the weekend.

For example, my friend Pete and I walked into a dorm carrying two tables we'd stolen from the student union to use for drinking games. We both reflexively stopped when we saw the security officer standing there glaring at us. Then we looked at one another, shrugged and continued on our way upstairs with the pilfered furniture. Sorry, security, you're out of your jurisdiction. I've driven across the county line into Alumniville. Also falling under the category of "things that would've gotten us on double-secret probation five years ago," two Class of '99ers stole the school president's golf cart and drove it down to the field house for our dinner. The main rule was "Don't burn the place down," and my friend Steve came close to violating that one when he marched into a lounge carrying lit fireworks. Hey, Steve's a lawyer, not a common-sense salesman.

I don't want you to get the wrong idea. We're not in college anymore, and our priorities have certainly changed. The mighty river of responsibility has eroded our youthful exuberance with worries of jobs, families and retirement funds. For instance, back in school we used to sit at tables for hours on end trying to throw dice into one another's beer cups. So juvenile. Well, things have changed. We don't play beer die anymore, OK? Now we play flip cups.

My only qualm with the reunion was the dinner, which cost $43.50 and featured a slab of chalky chicken covered in what was

THERE'S NOTHING LIKE SPENDING A WEEKEND AT SCHOOL WHEN YOU'VE ALREADY GRADUATED AND THEY WANT YOU TO GIVE THEM MONEY.

supposed to be a sauce but had congealed into a thick jelly. The next week, I complained over e-mail to my friends that I'm going to pay $43.50 for a piece of cold chicken, it ought to at least be served by a naked lady. To which one of my friends replied, "We actually stopped at Kahoots [a strip club near Hartford] on the way home and I was able to get out of there with a chicken sandwich dinner and boobies for a $25 spot. I say for the 10-year reunion, we just go to Kahoots!"

Reunion was a great trip back to college days, but I'm glad I'm not a student anymore. No matter how much fun you're having in school, in the back of your mind there's always a test you should be studying for or a paper you should be writing. It never ends. Whereas with writing, you can just go home whenever…you…run…out of space.

YOU THINK THAT'S FUNNY?

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Soroff ON

TONY COREY

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Tie designer and artist Anthony (Tony) Corey was born in Boston and studied advertising and fine arts at Marist College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., graduating in 1983. An avid horseman, he has worked as a thoroughbred syndicator and owned numerous racehorses and has competed in the Hunter-Jumper A circuit. His paintings and bronze sculptures of horses regularly appear in gallery exhibits in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., during the annual summer race meet. He launched his line of neckties on a whim, when he was unable to find ties to his liking. Manufactured in Como, Italy, from silks made to his specification, Corey's line of bold, stylish neckwear is sold at upscale men's stores like Neiman-Marcus. He also comments on style and fashion for *Fox 25 Morning News*. Dedicated to community service and charitable causes, he's a member of the board of Community Servings and has created a shelter to save retired racing greyhounds from destruction. All profits from two of his neckties have gone to support breast cancer and AIDS research. He lives in the Back Bay.



Jonathan Soroff: *Do clothes make the man?*
Tony Corey: It depends. When it comes to how someone presents himself to the world, yes, definitely. Does it really make you a man, or the man? No. You need a helluva lot more than that. But when it comes to dress, it's packaging, it's advertising and it does say something about the inside too. It says what you think about yourself.
JS: *What do you look at first when you're assessing someone's appearance?*
TC: An air of confidence, even if they don't dress well or aren't particularly attractive. If they exude confidence, I pick it up from a block away and I find it very intriguing and appealing. I find people attractive if they're comfortable in their own skin.
JS: *You became a tie designer because you were looking for ties that didn't exist?*
TC: Yeah, it was very much on a whim. I realized I had ideas for ties that weren't out there, and I just decided to see if it was something I could do, if people would take those ideas seriously.
JS: *Do you think of yourself as a fashion designer?*
TC: No. I think of myself as an aesthete, and someone who likes to be entertained visually all the time, and hopefully an artist [he glances at his oil paintings hanging in his Back Bay drawing room].
JS: *Are ties impervious to fashion?*
TC: Well, they get wide or skinny or go in and out of vogue, but I think they're going to be around forever. It's still one way that a man can set himself apart, look dressy and like he's intentionally made an effort to look civilized. The open collar's great. A little hairy chest showing is sexy. But that's about animal magnetism, and sometimes it's more appropriate to look buttoned up.

> [TIES ARE] GOING TO BE AROUND FOREVER. IT'S STILL ONE WAY THAT A MAN CAN SET HIMSELF APART, LOOK DRESSY AND LIKE HE'S INTENTIONALLY MADE AN EFFORT TO LOOK CIVILIZED

JS: *Is there ever any excuse for a clip-on?*
TC: Never. [Laughs.] If I see them, I get a little bit of a rash.
JS: *How can you tell a good tie?*
TC: The first thing is just if it looks good to you at first glance, as far as color and pattern. But a real quality tie is distinguished by very subtle, fine things. The density of the silk, how much per square inch. I also like when some thought's gone into how they've treated that silk. It says, "Someone put some effort into this."
JS: *What about those stripes on the inside ticking?*
TC: The gold stripes? The highest are five gold, and it refers to the wool content of the lining. The more wool, the more expensive and plumper the lining. It doesn't mean that a tie with fewer stripes isn't as good, because the intent may be for a thinner lining and a thinner look. That's the manufacturer's preference. But if you do see five stripes, it's a high-quality lining.
JS: *Is silk the only appropriate material for ties?*
TC: No. Cotton ties are very cool in the summer and look great with a cotton suit. Knit ties—a lot of people can't stand them—but I see people doing them in an updated way and it can look great, although generally when you think of knit ties, you go, "Ugh."
JS: *How do you spot a bad tie?*
TC: Well, it's usually not the tie. It's someone who can't pair it well. Almost every tie could have a place on some outfit on some person at some occasion.
JS: *What about the theme ties—golf clubs or ticker tapes or wine labels?*
TC: I don't particularly care for them, although I have done some. One of my original goals was to do updated twists on those frumpy, clubby, status-y, motif-y ties that were so boring and never looked great to me. My whole take on design is tweaking tradition and seeing if I can pull it off. So I've done little frogs, but they weren't super-preppy. They were frogs on acid. A very busy pattern, almost geometric and comical. Also, with my involvement in the equestrian world, I do a lot of custom ties in the colors of people's racing silks.
JS: *Can women wear ties?*
TC: Yeah. I may piss some people off by saying this, but if you're feminine enough to not look like a man in menswear, it can be very sexy.
JS: *Best use for a tie, aside from around the neck?*
TC: I guess tying someone's wrists to the bedpost. [Laughs.]
JS: *Is that the most unconventional use you've ever put a tie to?*
TC: No. I've used old ties out of desperation when I couldn't find a dog leash.
JS: *One thing a tie should never, ever be used for?*
TC: Wiping your mouth. Blowing your nos
JS: *One occasion when a man should always wear a tie?*
TC: A job interview.
JS: *Is paisley a crime against humanity?*
TC: No. It's really a very casual, elega pattern, but we get sick of things. W haven't seen paisley in a while, whic means eventually we'll miss it, and it wi come back for a while.
JS: *What's up with ascots? Who can get awa with them?*
TC: Anyone but an American, for som reason. We just can't wear them. They' incredibly flattering. No one looks bad one. But an American always looks lik he's trying to be either Thurston Howe III or some louche foreign playboy.
JS: *How about the knot?*
TC: I like the four-in-hand, the one ever one knows. You can leave it loose for a full look or pull it tighter. It's very versatile. think people sometimes make it more com plicated, when they don't need to. A fi Windsor is pretty extreme.
JS: *Should all men know how to tie a bow t*
TC: No. I like that some don't because th sets me apart from them.
JS: *Person you'd most like to see wearing o of your ties?*
TC: It's always exciting when the preside wears one. Clinton did. Something I like boast about is that Prince Charles has wo them, and he's not really supposed to w non-British things. It's fun to see a ma icon wearing something I thought up wh sketching on the beach.
JS: *Last question: If you were a tie, what would you look like?*
TC: Lots of blues and greens, and a hin iridescent purple, with a geometric patt and something equestrian underlying and somehow that mish-mash would tasteful and attractive. [Laughs.] IB

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THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS



A TOUGH PROSPECT

Peabody's Jeff Allison has learned how hard the high school–to–major leagues transition can be.

The life of a big-league ballplayer is that of pure luxury. Bling is the thing when the size of your paycheck is just a way to keep score against your contemporaries. Charter planes, five-star hotels and never having to wait for a table—or anything, for that matter—are just part of the package. That said, it's hard to imagine anybody with big-league talent who's not fully vested in creating that type of life for himself and eventually for his entire family.

Peabody's Jeff Allison was the 16th overall pick in last year's Major League Baseball draft. The Florida Marlins scouted him, drafted him and eventually signed him to a $1.85 million deal.

A kid from a modest upbringing in Peabody, Allison not only fulfilled his dream of playing professional baseball but landed a big chunk of change to fall back on. Talk about a dream coming true. Since he received the big bonus, though, that dream has been a nightmare. Instead of the money being a safety cushion, it was a curse.

With a pocket full of cash, Allison found himself experimenting with some newfound friends and, even worse, the addictive drug OxyContin. His right arm was still strong, but his will was taking a beating. Not exactly what the Marlins were banking on when they signed him up.

Allison's problem is one that's more visible in basketball or football, but certainly not exclusive to those sports. The problem I'm referring to is the "hangers on," the entourage, the posse... Call it what you will, but when you're getting paid and driving the Escalade, you're a bull's-eye for the bad crowd.

Many people believe money has ruined sports. I don't agree, but sudden wealth does challenge the people involved in the game.

The Marlins definitely have a problem with Allison, but before they start assigning blame for why their prize pick isn't pitching—Allison has been placed on the restricted list—they'd better look at their own organizational structure first. While Allison certainly didn't help himself, sending an 18-year-old millionaire to live and work in a shady section of southern Florida without a mentoring program is a head-scratcher.

In the late 1980s, Salem's Jeff Juden was the same type of pitcher. Juden, the Houston Astros' first pick (and the 12th overall) in 1988, left his family in witchcraft country to stir up a potion of his own called a big-league career. Juden, too, was 18 when he left home, but the Astros organization was very involved in connecting Juden with one of its "booster families," local families (usually season ticket holders) who host young players first entering the Astros farm system.

Juden had the talent to play in the majors for 18 years but ended up playing just parts of eight seasons, his notorious temper playing a role in prematurely ending his career. But the fact that Juden made it to the majors at all is a credit to the Astros' mentors, with whom Juden still keeps in touch.

Some teams, however, just make the assumption that because 18-year-olds like Allison can throw like mature men, they are mature men. Wrong! Think about it: Three months before embarking on his professional career, the biggest decision in Allison's life was whether to order a clam plate or the super beef at the Land and Sea restaurant down the street from his house. Up to that point, Allison saw his mother or a multitude of coaches and chaperones every day.

Now he's back at home while his brand new Escalade remains in Florida. The Ma

> WHEN YOU'RE GETTING PAID AND DRIVING THE ESCALADE, YOU'RE A BULL'S-EYE FOR THE BAD CROWD.

lins put him in rehab once and were tryi to put him in another program when Allis fled, leaving baseball and his million-doll paycheck behind. He's looking to sell the calade because it brings back bad memorie

Besides his reputation, there have be other losses. Allison was forced to g back about $200,000. But money, he sa isn't everything. Allison says his drug pr lem is behind him. Now he's concentrati on straightening out his mind.

Allison should love baseball like a kid loves cake. But right now he doesn Baseball at the pro level isn't a three-ho a-day thing. It's an all-day, everyday thi So after all these years of being put o pedestal because he throws 95 miles hour, it's back to reality for young Allis He still has so much talent and so much live for. And when he realizes how lu he is to have these blessings, we will the best of Jeff Allison. IB

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News.

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the designer



Dennis Cody designed the furniture, as we
as the space, in his South End apartmen

at home



Duffy has lived in the South End since he moved from New York eight years ago.

LIGHT AND DARK, MAN-MADE AND NATURAL ELEMENTS BLEND BEAUTIFULLY IN DENNIS DUFFY'S NEW SOUTH END HOME.

When Dennis Duffy goes to work in the morning, he can go by way of the bathroom that joins his living space and his office, Duffy Design Group. Or, for a more luxurious experience, he can step into the foyer that also serves both his home and his office, in the process treating his feet to an early-morning massage on the smooth, black river stone embedded in the limestone floor.

Duffy is the interior designer known for, among other projects, Manny Ramirez's penthouse suite at the Ritz-Carlton, the Zen-like rooms of Boylston Street's boutique Charlesmark Hotel (he's about to begin a new project there), and the sleekly surprising dining room of this year's Boston Junior League Show House, at the 1805 Commandant's House in the Charlestown Navy Yard.

But this space, on Washington Street in the South End, is the designer's own, and Duffy defies the old saw that the shoemaker's children go barefoot. Besides its obvious beauty and drama, the newly created space is a testament to the clean lines, natural elements and sophisticated use of materials Duffy is known for. What's more, he can explain it.

"There are no rules; there is simply what works and what you like. I'm very aware of the building, of its architecture. I like harmonious contrast," he says. "There should be light and dark, masculine and feminine, the beauty of man-made things and the beauty of nature. I love to use art, and I always incorporate things from nature."

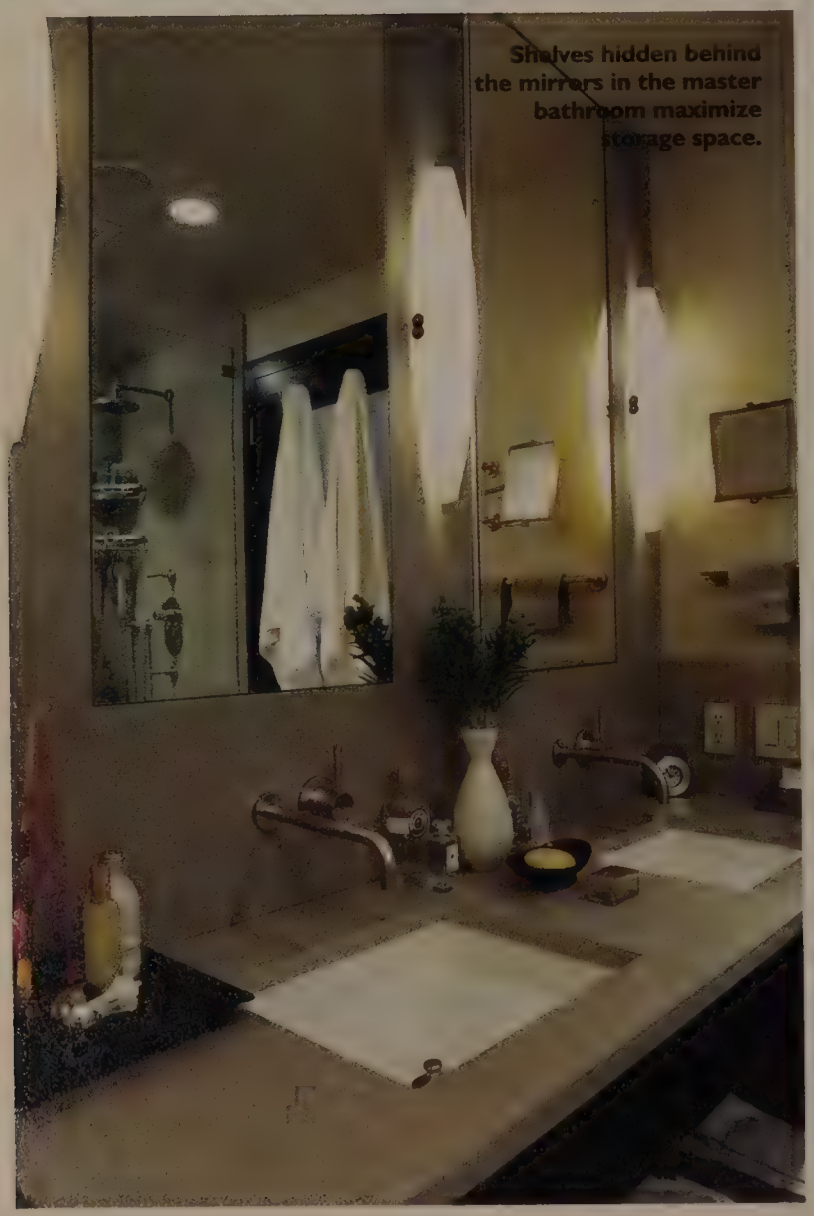
One example is that wonderfully comfortable foyer floor. Palm-size, rounded black stones set into pale limestone slabs create an abstract, pebbled rectangle that not only feels good underfoot, but recalls walled gardens, ancient well-worn walkways, or oriental rugs. Above, functional lighting is dramatic and sleek, as well—rounded fixtures gleam down from inside three deep, rectangular ceiling coffers finished in dark metallic blue. To the right, the enclosed foyer opens into the busy company office. Straight ahead, a door leads into an apartment full of light and views of the surrounding city.

Duffy says, "The entry was inspired by a Japanese garden. It sets the tone for the whole apartment."

The fifth-floor condo has an open-space layout, with areas flowing into each other, and dining and seating defined by groups of furniture. Inside the entrance is the kitchen, located at the apartment's center. The

BY REGINA COLE PHOTOGRAPHS BY SAM GRAY

Plants, sculpture, family photos and personal mementos are all displayed to underscore an ordered sense of calm.



Shelves hidden behind the mirrors in the master bathroom maximize storage space.

large cooking island is a parallelogram, its long sides aligned with the one of the building's outsid walls. A corner points to the dining area. Countertops, backsplash and the island surface are finishe in butterfly uba tuba, an especially scrumptious granite mottled in shades of green, brown and cream.

"It's worth using just so that you can say it," Duffy grins. "Uba tuba – what a name!"

The hooded stove vent, refrigerator, appliances and hardware are stainless steel. Hanging cabinet are painted the same warm neutral color as the walls.

"These cabinets appear like walls. They'd be too heavy if they were dark wood," the designer say "This space is urban, with the higher level of finish that requires. And the continuity comes from th use of the same materials throughout." Acid-etched glass set into the cabinet doors adds to the ligh sophisticated effect.

The limestone flooring—sans the black river stone—continues through all the apartment's room Walls are painted a slightly lighter color, and ceilings are a still-paler version of the same grayish taup Doors and interior windows are set with a pale, acid-etched glass; millwork is rived oak in an almos black espresso finish. The result, while full of contrast, is not stark. Eating, reading and conversatio areas are cozy, yet uncluttered. The furniture is of Duffy's own design. Sleek pieces with considerab presence, the tables and case goods are clean-lined and rectilinear. Some, like the dining table, incorp rate decorative stainless steel stringing, while others, like the coffee table, are designed for double dut with built-in storage. A desk in the master bedroom has a pale gray leather top, a particular signature Duffy's. Upholstered furniture, like the living room sofa, easy chairs and the dining banquette, has cle lines and generous proportions, the neutral fabric coordinating with the pale walls or with the da wood of other furniture pieces.

Duffy's penchant for designing his own furniture has been growing. On June 17, he introduced a ne line called Direction, which is sold to the trade through Webster & Co. in the Boston Design Cent Direction furniture is clean-lined, but not minimalist. The classically proportioned case pieces are ex cuted in dark woods like mahogany and ebony, with satiny, hand-rubbed finishes. Pieces are often inla with pale leather or brushed stainless steel stringing; some feature hardware that resembles fin de siè French jewelry.

A large master bedroom suite is secreted behind a door, while a small guest bedroom (defined b leather convertible sofa) also functions as a library, a bookcase against one wall. A flat-screen TV mount on a media cabinet creates a partition between the living room and the guest room/library. The televisi conveniently swivels to face either room. A landscape painting demurely decorates the non-TV side.

One corner of the kitchen's angular cooking island, topped in mottled granite, points to the adjacent dining area.

"When I have female guests, I put them in my bedroom and sleep out here so that they can have omplete privacy," Duffy says. " Otherwise, this is an out-of-the-way spot to put up friends, to read or atch TV."

Economy of space and hidden storage mark the home of this admitted "neat freak." Large mirrors set ush into the master bathroom's limestone walls hide many shelves. The bedroom's generous closet ace is invisible behind espresso oak and etched glass. There are books, plants, sculpture, family pho- s and personal mementos, but all are displayed so as to underscore the sense of ordered calm.

"That was carefully planned from the beginning," says Duffy. "This is a brand-new building, and 35 ercent of it was offered as unbuilt space, which is what I wanted. It enabled me to design an interior at has all the elements I need, and without having to squeeze things in around existing construction. or example," he points to the luxurious draperies that fall to the floor in vertically banded bronze, haki and sea blue, "the systems—electrical, climate controls, and so forth—are in the ceilings and alls, and the drapery hardware is completely hidden in the soffits."

One important reason that Duffy wants his home to be user-friendly and easily organized is that he's tting married next summer. This will be the couple's home.

"He visits on weekends, and the space works quite well for two people," Duffy says. "Also, we may ave more room by then. My business is outgrowing the room next door, and I hope to find bigger of- e space nearby."

Duffy has lived in the South End ever since he moved to Boston from New York eight years ago, and e says he loves this part of town. "Being this close to work has spoiled me. I don't want to have to go o far." He stands at the window and points to an abandoned red brick industrial building. "Maybe ey'll develop that in time for me to move my office there!"

There is one thing he would change if he could: "I don't have an outdoor room," he says. "No eck, though there are units in the building that have them. And, of course, there's a nice roof garden nd a shared courtyard.

"This," he says, gesturing to an installation on a wall by the apartment's entry, "is my ideal, my fa- rite thing. It has all the elements I want to have in my own space."

At the base of the three-section installation, gently gurgling water falls over a black stone wall. bove it hangs a vibrant painting of grass blades reaching up to a blue sky. Above that, one of Duffy's terior acid-etched glass lights is banded with dark wood.

"This has it all—water, grass and air. It's perfect." IB

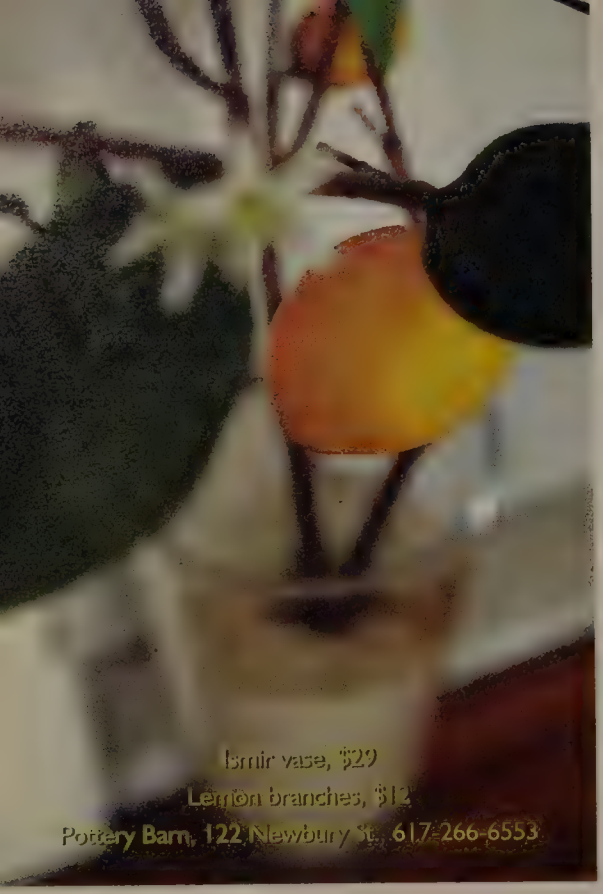


The foyer serves the apartment as well as the Duffy Design Group offices.

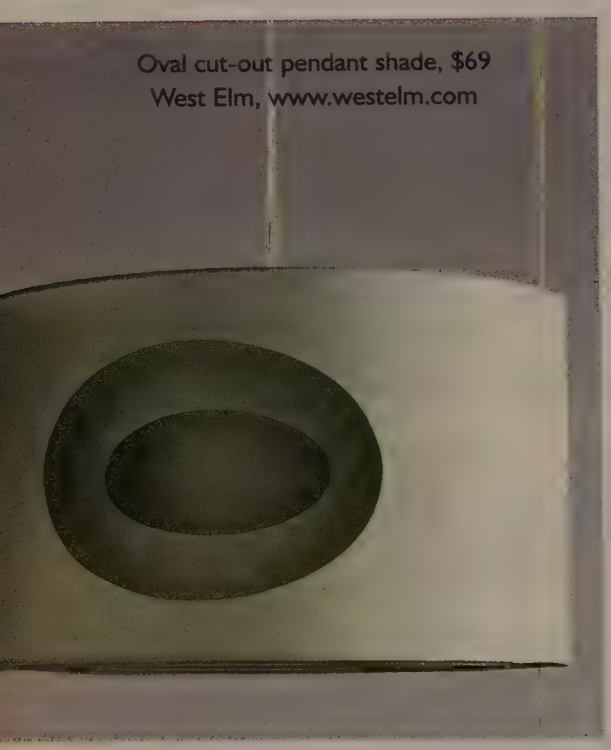
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home improvement



SIX LOCAL INTERIOR DESIGNERS SOUND OFF ON THE DOS AND DON'TS OF DECORATING.

Frank Roop's Back Bay townhouse serves as a showroom for his modern interpretations of late-18th to 20th-century French-inspired interiors.

Fotene Demoulas residential interiors run the gamut from contemporary to traditional. Her design firm has been in business in Boston for 12 years.

Duncan Hughes' design projects include residential and commercial properties. His firm is located in Boston's South End.

James Swan specializes in high-end residential interiors and has offices in Boston and Beverly Hills.

Susan Sargent is a textile colorist and interior designer. Her line of fabrics, furniture and rugs is available at her two stores, in Boston and Manchester, Vt., which also house her design firm, Bright House Interiors.

Heather Wells' design projects mix contemporary minimalism with traditional forms. She has offices in Boston and Chicago.



Susan Sargent

Heather Wells

BY JESSICA IREDALE

PHOTOGRAPH BY FURNALD/GRAY

With home makeover shows popping up all over the cable channels and interior-design magazines crowding the newsstands, it's clear that we're more obsessed than ever with the way our living spaces look. After all, as life and work become ever more stressful and complex, our yen to feel comfortable and happy in the home we retreat to at the end of the day grows stronger. But if you've never tackled a redecorating project (or if you have, with mediocre results), you might wonder: Where do you start? And how do you ensure that, when the money's spent and the delivery trucks have departed, you'll be happy with your newly feathered nest? We asked six local designers for their advice on all things interior, from hot trends and working with small spaces to what to choose first, where to save cash, and, if you opt to hire a pro, how to find the right one and work productively together. Here's what they had to say.

People always want to know what are the newest trends. What's your favorite?

Frank Roop: My favorite thing right now is clean backgrounds with vibrant colors like citrus or turquoise. Not so much muddy, bright colors, but punchy, jewel colors.

Duncan Hughes: A lot of my clients are looking for comfortable sophistication, natural tones, something that's going to create a warm, serene environment, with softer, more durable fabrics. People are really using their spaces more than ever; they're not just showpieces. So fabrics are much more durable. Lots of people have kids, but they still want the beauty. So there are teflon-processed fabrics.

Heather Wells: Mixing old-world stuff with modern things is a trend now, and I think everyone has a different version of it. They'll take their grandma's sofa and put a modern trim on it, or modern lighting with an antique rug.

Susan Sargent: In terms of color, I've been working with the whole berry/orange palette for the past year or so, and I think that's a really strong palette. Fuchsias, raspberry, orange—not like a Kool-Aid orange, but a really wonderful warm orange. I've added some pink-and-brown combinations. That's a really hot combination right now.

Fotene Demoulas: The newest colors and fabrics and trends seem to be going toward retro electric, with avocados and oranges. But they're more muted than in previous years. My favorite current trend is the 1930s, for its classic and clean lines.

James Swan: My favorite current trend with our clients is that we're moving away from trends. It's that conversation of style versus fashion. A lot of things are hot right now, but our clients want something that's a little more timeless.

We've heard that one thing that stops people from redecorating or buying new furniture is fear of making a mistake. How can buyers avoid making choices they'll regret a year down the road?

HW: Buy big pieces, like upholstery, in neutral colors. Pick whatever your neutral is and buy your larger pieces that way. Do a more traditional wood, like mahogany or walnut, instead of a sycamore or Brazilian cherry. Add color to the room in small pieces. I'd do it in pillows, vases, throws and even artwork.

DH: I'm not very fond of trends, so to speak, in design. I think there are certainly reinventions of classic designs that are relevant today, as long as someone is focused on what they like as opposed to just going with what they see in a design magazine or what their neighbor has.

JS: I always stress that the client be passionate about what they're buying. If they're buying what someone else chose, there's that possibility that they might not like it later. When our clients are passionate about the direction of the room, they tend to still love the things in the room 10 years down the road.

SS: We particularly focus on empowering people to make colorful choices. People are really scared of doing the wrong thing, and I think that's a ridiculous brainwashing. I mean, what's the worst that can happen? Most people who come to us want color. We find that a lot of it is about really trying to feel connected to your choices, getting over the fussy dos and don'ts of decorating. You can do it incrementally, and you don't have to do it all at once.

How do living spaces and design tastes in Boston differ from other towns?

FR: I think design in Boston tends to be on the more traditional side, but I do more modern stuff.

HW: We have an office in Chicago, and I would say the difference between here and there is square footage. Boston tends to be tighter, smaller and more vertical, like townhouses. But in Chicago, we do apartments that are very large, like 5,000 square feet on one floor. In Boston you would never find that.

FD: It's clean, it's less cluttered. The spaces are smaller but they're more multifunctional.

JS: Boston is generally perceived as a pretty conservative town. But what we're finding, to our delight, with our clients is that people are opening up to a fresh new vocabulary. You see it in local retailers—Montage for furniture, Louis for clothes, Good on Charles Street. They're not ignoring the traditions of the past, but they're adding a new approach to design that's unique to Boston.

SS: I've been really surprised how broad the demographic is in Boston. It's a little more casual than New York. It's younger. The "proper Bostonian" ideal is out there, but it's not really the people we see in our business. I think Boston's got a great energy, partly because of the students and the young professionals. They're very open to doing something different. Nobody wants to live in Boston and do that old Boston thing.

What's the biggest misconception people have about hiring a designer?

DH: That the designer is going to come in and impose their ideas and personal tastes on a client and be the temperamental artist. And the client is afraid of losing control of their space. For me, it's about the client and designer coming together to create a really unique space. The biggest compliment for me wouldn't be someone walking into a space and saying, "This looks like a Duncan Hughes interior." I would much rather someone say, "This looks like Joe and Mary." Another misconception is that interior design is only for the super wealthy. I think that many designers today will come in and work with clients to reorganize and limit the number of purchases.

HW: That they're hiring a designer for the designer's taste. I think you should hire a designer to find your taste. A really good interior designer should help you find who you are and leave the space as yours.
SS: I think hiring a designer is terrifying for most people, and I don't think it's even a misconception. [Some] designers have a lot of work to do. They're bossy, they're dictatorial and they spend more money than their clients want them to. That does exist, and the rest of us who don't work that way have to work so hard to overcome that. I went to this store that had all these designers on staff, and they were the snootiest bunch. One designer was outraged because the client had moved the pillows.

What information or direction is most crucial for getting results that match the client's taste?
DH: I give my clients homework, a stack or two of shelter magazines or any kind of design book to look at. I give them two different colors of Post-its—one to mark things they love and one for things they hate. Besides that information, I think it's important to communicate any good or bad experiences they've had with designers in the past. Also, any information on pieces in their own apartment that they really love—things they don't want to part with, like Aunt Betsy's old desk—that we might be able to keep or refurbish. I also like to look at their wardrobe. It gives me a really good idea of what colors they're comfortable with and what their style is.
FR: Generally I like to meet with clients a lot before I get involved with pens and paper, and normally it's learning about how they live and their kids, what kinds of clothes they like to wear, where they like to vacation and their tastes. My job is to come back with something that will please them but is not necessarily something they thought of. Why get a designer otherwise?
HW: I think the first thing they need to do is be honest about their budget. If it's an individual, they need to really share who they are with their designer so the [designer] can read them properly and not try to be something they're not.
JS: I look for—and try to push my clients to tell me—which things are nonnegotiable: "I hate red," or no floral prints or no contemporary art. There are always one or two things that individuals, couples or families are nonnegotiable on.

What's the first thing you take into account when designing a room?
FR: The first thing is to plan the space. I draw a floor plan and plan the furniture layout. Then I design the furniture and cabinetry. Then I get into color. It's almost like a coloring book. You draw all the lines and then color it in.
HW: I look at a series of things—what the function is, if it's going to be used in a formal way or a casual way—so we can pick user-friendly fabrics. If it's going to be used for kids or pets. What are the best qualities for the room—the height, the moldings, the lighting. Highlight the most significant architectural aspect of the room.
SS: The shape of the room, followed by the light. Then the relationship of the room to the rest of the house. Who uses it, what time of day, what's the mood you're trying to achieve?

What are some of the most important things to remember when trying to make the most of a small space?
DH: Shrinking down the scale of the furniture is really a mistake. What you should do is scale down the number of pieces in the room, but keep the proportions the same as a large room. If you do nothing else, remove all the extra stuff in the room. Keep it pared down and simple.
SS: I'm going to keep returning to color, because that's my schtick. There's a very misleading idea that you can't do color in small spaces because it can make the room look smaller. I think color is great for small spaces because it can make them look like little jewel boxes.
FD: Use multifunctional pieces and keep it clean.

What are some of the most common decorating mistakes?
DH: Trying to accomplish too much in any single room. Not choosing your colors properly. Not really thinking through how the colors will work with the furniture or your mood or the feeling of the room.
FR: Not having a game plan. It's really important to have the space planned out. But it's hard to do that without hiring someone who knows how to draw a floor plan.
HW: People tend to buy furniture that's scaled too large. It looks great in catalogs, but in real life, it kind of eats the room. The overstuffed chair and overstuffed sofa can be too large. They're not even that comfortable because they're not ergonomically correct for your body. And people put too many speaking pieces in a room. They'll pick a really vibrant rug, a loud sofa and a loud art piece. They need to pick one thing to get the most attention, and everything else needs to complement that piece.
JS: Not hiring a designer. [Laughs.] That's the biggest one. But beyond that, scale—the size and proportion of the objects going into the room need to be cohesive. Lighting mistakes. Lighting is such an important part of the room. Sometimes I even bring in a lighting designer to get it right.
SS: Overdoing it. We're all so bombarded with shelter magazines and decorating shows, so we see all these perfect interiors where everything is done to a T. I think it's very sterile, and unfortunately, people think their room isn't special because it doesn't look like those rooms. In the other direction, with color, we don't want the room to look like a kaleidoscope. We always encourage people not to get too carried away with color.
FD: Some people doing it on their own don't take into consideration how to get the pieces into their homes. If they're doing a room and they have a couch, and they don't consider the doorways or stairs. Just being aware of getting the pieces into the spaces and whether the rugs are too thick and you have to change the door height.

What's something you shouldn't skimp on when decorating?
DH: Not skimping on the quality of the fabrics is very important. You can try to save money on fabric and have something that looks great on an expensive piece of furniture, but if the fabric is fading after a year, the cost of reupholstering is going to far exceed doing it right the first time. Even a high-quality fabric on an inexpensive chair is much better than an expensive chair with low-quality fabric.
JS: Buy the best upholstered goods that your budget will allow. You'll have your upholstered pieces the longest, and you touch them more than anything else.
FD: If you buy a good sofa it can last you longer than other things. You can always keep reupholstering it down the line or move it into other spaces. A den sofa can become a living room sofa, etc.

What design element should be the biggest investment when working with a tight budget?
FR: Probably a really good sofa.
HW: First, I would say artwork that you really love. Each time you purchase a really significant piece of art it will travel with you and become a part of your life. It sort of charts your path through your life, and furniture doesn't do the same thing unless it's antique or something. And, I would say, get a really good sofa to anchor the room.
SS: I think comfortable upholstery is important, and the price of it has come down so much. Whereas you used to have to spend $5,000–$10,000, now you can get something under $2,000. You don't want to hit the bottom of the line with upholstery. I'm not a big drapery person either. I like the light, so draperies are not something I would spend money on.

What are some hot colors right now? In terms of paint, upholstery and accents?
DH: Browns and blues are a very hot combination right now. I'm also really getting back to neutrals that can be worked with in terms of wall and furniture colors. Adding punches of bright colors that can be rotated seasonally in terms of pillows, ceramics, artwork.
FR: Recently I'm doing a Moroccan-inspired color palette, in more of a modern way. Punchy, deep orange, saturated violet, citrusy yellow, and turquoise are the accent colors, and the background colors to make them pop are celadon, gray-blue and putty.
JS: Right now, fashionable colors are oranges, greens, pinks and raspberries. If we shift and think of colors that carry long-term style, that's all about the individual client.
SS: Berries, and really the whole pink range. Not bubblegum or girly-girl pink, but sophisticated, soft pink, right down to the vivid, saturated colors.
FD: With paints, I think a lot of neutral tones are really hot. With upholstery, textures are playing a bigger part. Fabrics that have some lines going on.

What's a trend that's over or on its way out?
DH: I know that the dark espresso finish on wood, which was the rage for the past few years, is really on the decline.
FR: In general, I see a movement away from all-white rooms, or cream, or beige on beige. I see rooms having more depth. It depends on the project and the client and the site.
HW: I think overstuffed furniture is going out.
JS: Midcentury modern—1950s stuff. It sort of peaked.
SS: Beige. That might be wishful thinking on my part. I think the tide is turning. We see it in our Newbury Street store. People say, "I don't want Pottery Barn. I don't want Restoration Hardware. I want something more fun."
FD: I think overstuffed, slipcovered furniture and chenille.

Final words of advice?
DH: Don't shy away from meeting with a designer to talk about ways your interior space can be more reflective of you. Don't feel obligated to use somebody just because you've met with them once or twice. Make sure above all else that you have a very good rapport with your designer.
FR: Keep an open mind to new ideas.
HW: Take your time. Look through a lot of magazines to figure out what the trends are and what you like most. And find the thread that runs through all the pictures and honor that—that's who you are.
JS: I'm constantly encouraging my clients to see and experience as much as they can. Watch and learn from the environments you're in. If you're traveling in hotels or restaurants, observe. Watch and learn what makes you happy—a certain light fixture, a certain upholstered piece.
SS: When people come to us, we say this should be fun for you. So many people take it way too seriously. You shouldn't be agonizing. Designing your home gives you all kinds of things to connect with it: culture, color. It develops visual and tactile skills. But at the end of it, you should really be having fun.
FD: Have fun. Don't get stressed over it. Have some self-confidence and don't be afraid to take a chance. IB



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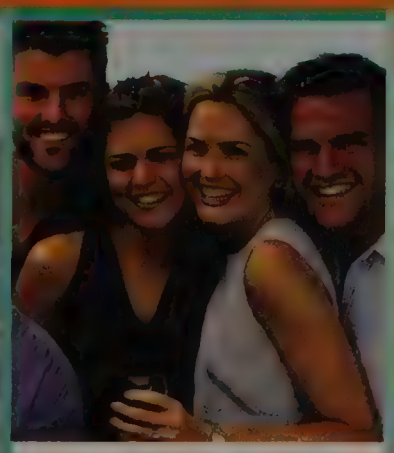
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D.I.Y.

Easy-to-make pillows brighten up any room.

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHS BY OLIVIA GATTI

Even if you flunked out of junior high home ec, there's one little craft project you can easily handle (we promise): making your own pillows. Fun fabrics and accessories plus a little creativity can yield bright cushions that will add zip to your space without pinching your wallet. And you don't even need a sewing machine. Here's how to do it.



▲ FLOWER PILLOW

What you need for a 12-inch square pillow:

½ yard of fabric (for the pillow itself)
¼ yard of fabric in a contrasting color (for the flowers)
Thread to match each of the fabrics
A sewing needle
Polyester stuffing

1. Begin by cutting out two 14-inch squares of the pillow fabric. Place the squares front to front and sew three of the edges closed with a straight stitch.
2. Sew the fourth side closed halfway. Flip the fabric right-side-out and fill it with stuffing. Using a loop stitch, close the opening.
3. Cut out rectangles in varying sizes (anywhere from 2" x 4" to 5" x 7") in the contrasting fabric to make the flowers.
4. Place a bit of stuffing the size and shape of a cotton ball in one corner of the fabric. Wrap the corner of the fabric around the stuffing and sew the fabric closed at the base of the ball.
5. Wrap the excess fabric around the ball, letting the fabric form in petal-like folds. Secure the folds with needle and thread.
6. Repeat steps 4 and 5 with the remaining squares.
7. Cut out a 12-inch oval-shaped piece from the remaining pillow fabric.
8. Sew the flowers to the oval piece, allowing the fabric to bunch at the stitching to add texture.
9. Sew the oval piece of fabric to the pillow, stitching where the flowers are attached.

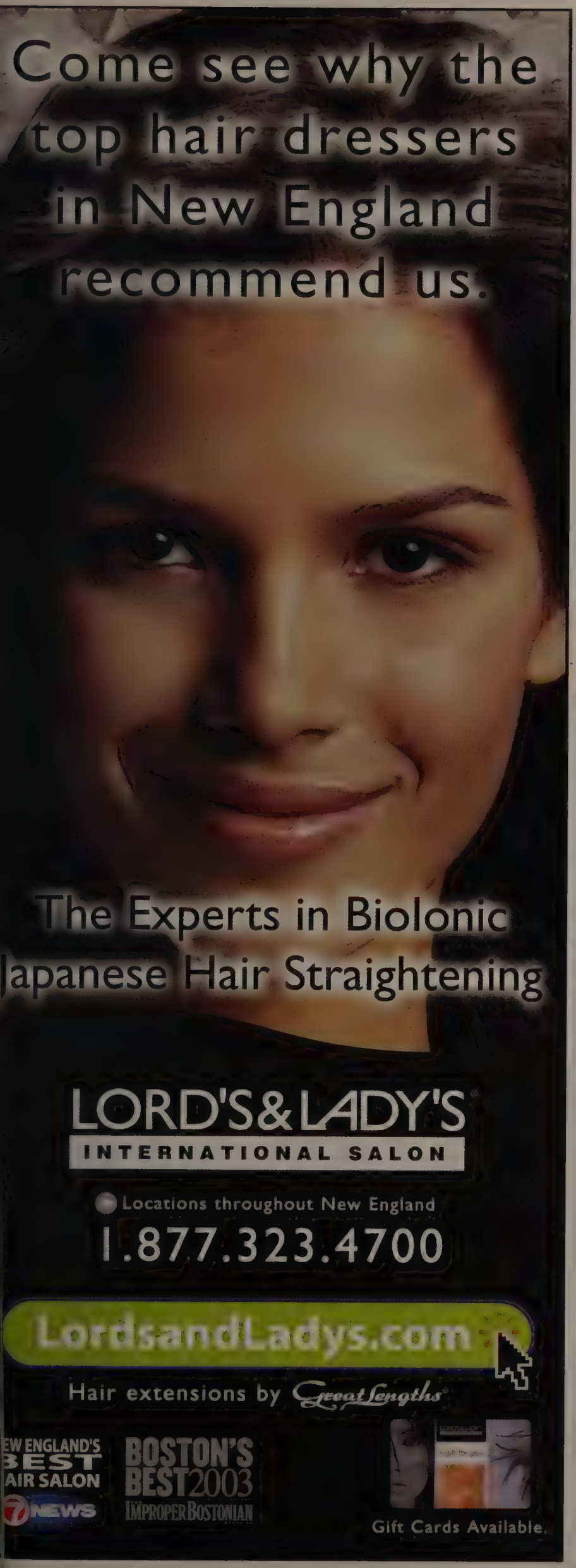
▼ BEACHY BUTTON PILLOW

What you need:

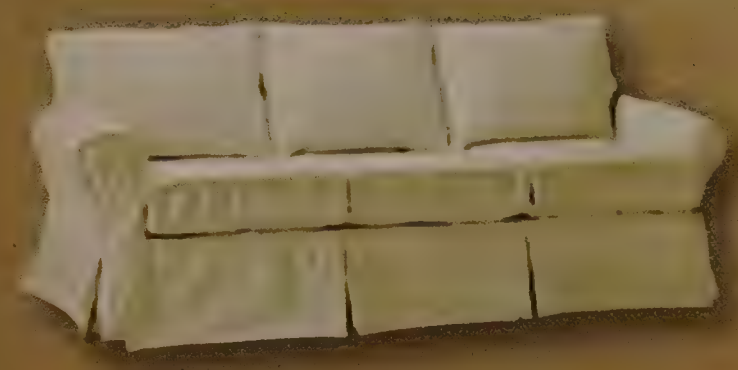
A fabric that's finished on one edge (such as the eyelet fabric shown here). Buy about ½ yard for a small pillow, 1 yard for a large one.
A handful of light-colored buttons
Thread in the same color as the fabric
A sewing needle
Stuffing (synthetic or natural)
Ribbon (optional)

1. Cut the fabric into a long rectangle. Sew individual buttons from the top to the bottom of the fabric on the front side. (Make a design or sew them on randomly—whatever you prefer).
2. After sewing the buttons on, fold the fabric in half, with the button side facing in, and match the two short ends. Sew the short ends together using a straight stitch.
3. Gather the fabric on the open end with the unfinished edge, and sew the gathered fabric together. Turn the fabric right-side-out and stuff the pillow.
4. Gather and sew the final finished edge together—or tie a ribbon around it to give it a finished look.





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Dark vintage leather jacket, $1,630; white pleated skirt, $245. Both by Postcard at Neiman Marcus. Orange suede shoes by Kors, $190 at Cuoio. Gold necklace, $4,500; gold and diamond earrings, $2,400. Both by Mattioli, both at Baak Gallery.

day

Black and nude lace bra, $195; matching underwear, $95. Both at Wolford.

Beaded silk gown dress by Rebecca Taylor, $386 at Jasmine Sola. White sandals, $39.99 at Marshalls. Moonstone necklace by Mattioli, $6,080 at Baak Gallery.

2 NIGHT

DOWN IN PLAY

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHS BY BILL STREICHER

White halter dress, $172; straw bag, $44. Both at In the Pink. Shoes by Postcard, $240 at Neiman Marcus.

Nude lace slip, $560 at La Perla.



Yellow slip dress by Mayle, $175; beaded bag by Anya Hindmarch, $650; black beaded shoes by Anya Hindmarch, $625. All at Louis Boston. Black onyx bow necklace by Paula Mendoza, $125; white gold and diamond bracelet, $3,775. Both at Baak Gallery.

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Neiman Marc
Copley Pla
617-536-36

Wolfo
Copley Pl
617-236-5

Models: Ana Cris
Kat y Kuo and Masha
Maggie

Hair: Mitch De
fo Mitchell John S

Makeup: Jenny Br
for



Striped blazer, $128; matching capri pants, $78; flower pin, $14. All at Express. Black stilettos by Charles David, $180 at Cuoio. Necklace by Paula Mendoza, $125 at Baak Gallery.



Floral print bra, $12.90; matching underwear, $7.90. Both at H&M. Watch by Vintage, $105 at Baak Gallery.



Multicolored ruffle dress by Jonathan Saunders, $1,395; green snakeskin sandals by Prada, $595; sequined bag by Anya Hindmarch, $625. All at Louis Boston. Sterling-silver necklace, $2,113; matching earrings, $1,625. Both by Paola De Luca, at Baak Gallery. Confetti ring, $63 at Baak Gallery.

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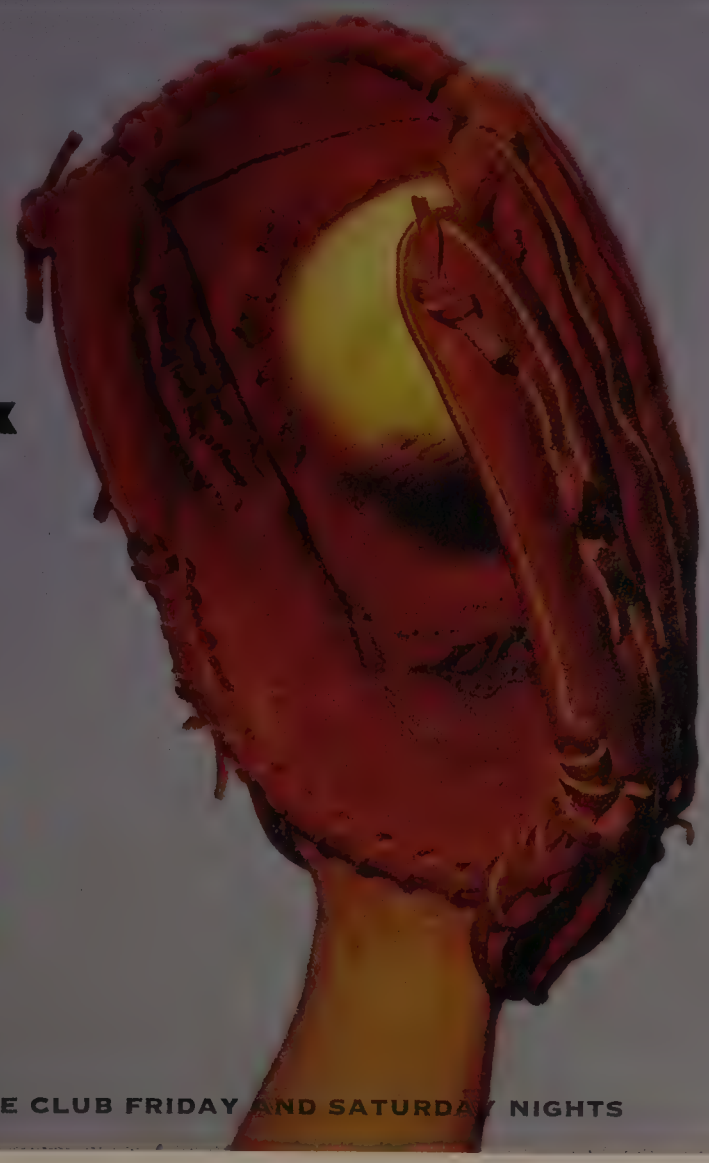
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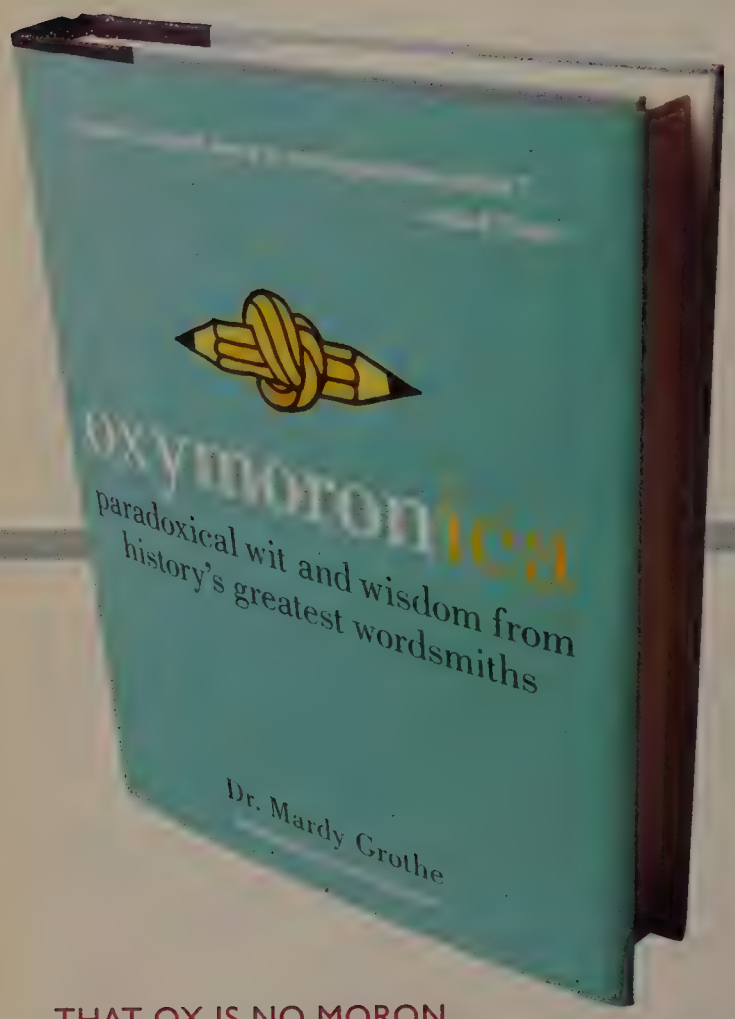


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BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



THAT OX IS NO MORON

Dr. Mardy Grothe, formerly of Lincoln, has assembled hundreds of paradoxical quotes, wordplay and "ideaplay" on all subjects in his book, *Oxymoronica*.

Verbal twists of thrilling self-contradiction, as in irony and paradox, or the curly twins of yin and yang, captivate writer, business consultant and ping-pong-er of words Mardy Grothe. The oxymoron, which weds impossible opposites like the steam on dry ice, inspired the title of the book. Divided into categories like love, politics, the literary life, advice and others, these quotes absolutely nail such topics as the human condition: "Success has ruined many a man" (Ben Franklin). Insults? Playwright Tennessee Williams called writer Truman Capote "a sweetly vicious old lady." In spite of what seems like their slicing of truth, "paradoxymorons" make more sense than plain sense. Fran Lebowitz uttered the sardonic "I figure you have the same chance of winning the lottery whether you play or not," while Victor Hugo offered the beautifully descriptive, "Melancholy is the pleasure of being sad." Some quotes, such as, "We often despise what is most useful to us" (Aesop), are perversely inspiring. Others fall into the mean-but-true genre: "He's the kind of guy who can brighten a room by leaving it" (Milton Berle, describing a contemporary). *Oxymoronica*, it turns out, sums up most things.

DISTRESS YOUR FURNITURE CHEERFULLY

Andrew Mroczek offers his furniture painting services through the store Home, at 353 Beacon St., Somerville. Call 617-864-4072 or visit the shop Friday through Monday.



Andrew Mroczek, a graduate of the Art Institute of Boston, wants to take your old, bland or perhaps troubled furniture and give it that ironically upgraded look called "distressed." You may have very ordinary furniture in your roommated pad, or for that matter in your fancy house—desks or wooden bureaus, possibly made of seen-better-days mahogany; utilitarian side tables; old boarding-house stuff from Sears—these things can use Mroczek's touch. He strips and primes pieces, then works in layers of colors—white, black, hot and hotter reds—to give them a new-old look. In the deliberately shabby tradition, he paints and irregularly repaints. The effect is, paradoxically, cheerfully colorful and tormented, with bits of almost chipped-looking areas, acceptable dings, slices and other lived-in scars showing through. The charming, now legless, top of an old-fashioned child's school desk makes a sweet computer table, with its little book-nook underneath to hide a keyboard. Shiny glass drawer pulls lighten things up. Mroczek finds orphaned pieces of old mantles that might become shelves or get recycled as an ornamental piece over a doorway, displaying the interesting textures of his technique. Home's Dorinda Jaquith calls some of these appealingly recycled pieces "the little black dress."

LE VIEUX QUARTIER DE ROSLINDALE

18 Birch Street, a shop in Roslindale, sells new and old home and garden items. Open daily except Monday; 617-323-3269.



A tiny street in Roslindale flicks its frisky little salamander tail, offering amusing shops, including Birch. This store combines old and new home and garden items, like sturdy, curly reproduction cast ir grates, great for a stepping-stone doorway or an authoritative decoration. These look as if they'd brin big old house along with them, but they're new. Similarly, the delicate yet solid, tall, round tables green cast-iron with high-perched chairs suggest some old poet-haunted quartier, as does a rusty—a actually old—fence. Ethnic and folk art of the 1940s and '50s—from the U.S. (cheery kitchen clo edged in red) and abroad (wooden cats with exotic faces from Indonesia) sit alongside Indian boxes cycled out of manically joyous tin cans and twisty metal fridge magnets, including an uncompromis rhino. Decoupage light switch plates, one showing a melancholy sepia Arc de Triomphe, emphasize confluence of the old and now. Lamps of some vintage have interesting new shades; hanging lights feminized with delicate fabrics that highlight the romance of illumination. Tiny, pretty pink dishes babies and kidlets are among a selection of junior delights.

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REVIEW

SCOLLAY'S SQUARE MEALS

Nostalgic Beacon Hill spot serves up classic fare with some new twists.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS



Tuna filet mignon in a ginger teriyaki marinade, with wasabi mashed potatoes, wilted spinach and pickled ginger

Corinthian columns and pilasters support the high ceiling of Scollay Square, a new eatery near the crest of the hill on Beacon Street. Building on these architectural flourishes of the former Bellevue Hotel lobby, Scollay Square's owners, Brad Dalbeck and Chris Damian, strive to evoke Boston of a bygone era. The name of their restaurant, emblazoned in an eye-catching neon sign over the open kitchen, summons up Boston's racy tenderloin district, which fell victim to the urban renewal wrecking ball that leveled the old West End.

Shiny hardwood floors; a drop ceiling over the kitchen, raw bar, and part of the dining room; cranberry-hued draperies; art deco glass blocks; dark woodwork, and slender, cone-shaped amber sconces have turned the space into a visually engaging dining environment. Sturdy chairs upholstered in burgundy velvet, and white tablecloths covered by butcher paper, set with heavy tableware, tall-stemmed glasses and absorbent white cotton napkins, add to the ambience. Vintage photographs of Boston in the early 20th century, including one oversize cityscape in a unique, curved frame over the hostess podium, conjure the ghost of Mayor Curley.

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Scollay Square's menu offers straightforward, uncomplicated fare ranging from shrimp cocktail to New York sirloin steak, undertaking some interesting and imaginative detours in between. The chef's riff on oysters Rockefeller, oven-fired oysters ($12), delivered a sextet of succulent, briny mollusks that shared their shells with nuggets of Tasso ham, roasted peppers, creamy spinach and perhaps a whisper of Pernod. Although the menu listed Reggiano as an additional ingredient, I did not detect it, which was just as well since the sweet-salty richness of Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese would have overwhelmed the oysters. Skillet-roasted Prince Edward Island mussels ($8), plump, sweet, and impeccably clean, came in a shallow pool of buttery broth with a small ramekin of shallot butter for dipping. In a small but appreciated touch, our waitress brought a spare bowl for disposing of the empty shells. Seared Jonah crab cakes with mixed greens ($9) yielded two delectable patties containing a minimum of filler and a high percentage of crab, redolent of the warm flavor and aroma of sage, all enhanced by a sprightly tomato garnish studded with capers.

Portabella quesadilla ($9), a large tortilla stuffed with smoky, earthy portabella mushrooms, tangy Monterrey Jack cheese and savory roast tomatoes, came with a refreshing side of shredded greens. A substantial, hearty dip of spinach and artichoke hearts ($8), enriched with Reggiano, would have been superb with a different dipping medium, but the accompanying tortilla chips, albeit brightly colored, crisp and fresh, seemed off the mark. Better would have been crudités or even small toasts. Finally, perhaps the most spectacular of the starters, wood-roasted chicken and seasonal vegetable soup ($5) set a new standard for this French country kitchen classic. Anchored in a hearty, intensely flavored chicken stock, this full-bodied, incomparable mélange of pureed vegetables—including carrots, onions, broccoli and red peppers—came in a bowl the size of a small basin. Had I consumed the whole thing, it would have made the remainder of the meal superfluous. A liberal doggie-bag policy, in which every one of our leftovers was carefully packed up for export, made it possible to enjoy the remainder of the soup the next evening for supper, where it served as a graphic reminder that the whole concept of supper, the French *souper*, comes from the word "soup."

Scollay Square's nine main courses (10 counting the nightly special) included a cider-brined, oven-roasted, double-pork chop ($19), tender, juicy, a medium rare, as ordered. While at first mayed that the chop arrived under a la of unannounced, ominous looking d gravy, I relented when it turned out to l delicious, flavorful reduction of the co ing juices, only slightly thickened. Gri salmon filet ($19), carefully cooked to tain its firm texture and its inviting p color, suffered from its tedious, clichéd sentation atop a mound of mashed p toes. Indeed, the potatoes, redolent of tery lobster, could have—and sh have—stood on their own.

Seared sea scallops ($20), sweet and der, appeared to have been three or large, thick scallops cut into top and tom halves before being seared over a flame, an expedient that preserved t impeccable texture while cooking t through. The result, six or eight half lops, ranged around a risotto cake to





Molten chocolate mini bundt cake with chantilly cream and fresh seasonal fruit



Goat cheese and rosemary crumb–encrusted rack of lamb with a crispy potato cake, grilled asparagus and a merlot reduction sauce



ith garlicky wilted spinach, made an at-active presentation. Finally among the ain courses, an order of rosemary-scented mp chops ($26) brought two double-bbed chops, perfectly grilled to a succu-nt, flavorful turn, rare as ordered. Again, owever, the presentation left much to be sired, as the chops arrived propped up on a unappetizing-looking mountain of avy-covered mashed potatoes. Fortu-ately, the gravy covered only the potatoes d not the chops. Unfortunately, it lacked e merit of the shallot-accented sauce at came with the pork.

Scollay Square's extensive wine list fers selections priced as low as $22, th a pricier category of "Intense hoices" that range from near $50 to ore than $100. Almost 25 wines are ailable by the glass, including the apey but pleasant 2002 Hahn cabernet vignon ($6). A major step up in qual-y, the 2000 San Felice "Il Grigio" Chi-ti riserva ($34/bottle), brought a re-ed wine of forward fruit and good acid, arvelous bouquet and a fine finish. mong the whites, the 2002 La Fran-sca pinot grigio from the Veneto ($22) s crisply dry and food-friendly.

From the dessert choices, all priced at $6, we selected the mini chocolate bundt cake and the white chocolate bread pudding. Chocolate mini-cakes, a frequent dessert offering as of late, often suffer from dryness, but Scollay Square's was pleasantly moist, as was its chocolate bread pudding. Both arrived delightfully warm.

Service at Scollay Square suffered from inconsistency. One weekday night, when I dined alone, my waiter seemed distracted and indifferent, and getting his attention proved a chore, even though—or perhaps because—the restaurant was so empty. One of his colleagues was no help, betraying a lack of knowledge and a surprising lack of curiosity that might have moved her to inquire of the chef when I asked her about one of the menu items. On a subsequent Saturday evening, in contrast, our waitress served our party of four with efficiency and grace.

Scollay Square may not aspire to exalted culinary heights, but it gives a solid performance and on its own terms succeeds swimmingly. Serving first-rate food at reasonable prices in an attractive, comfortable space, it constitutes a significant addition to the city center's dining resources, and with a little bit of luck will be around for some time. IB

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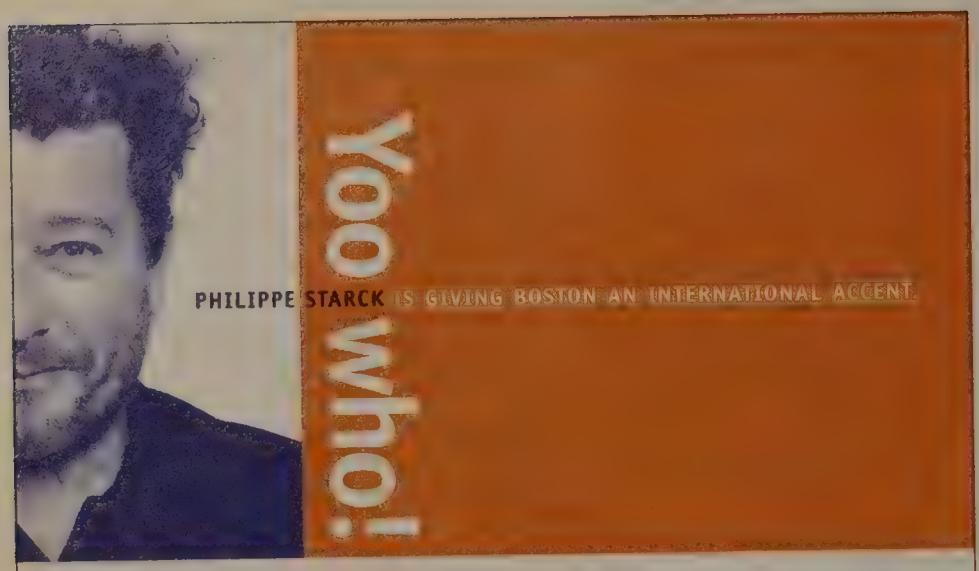
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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

After Dinner Drinks Series
Blu, The Sports Club LA, 4 Avery St., Boston (617-375-8550). www.blurestaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. June 26, 9 pm. $25. The series concludes with Tequila Night, featuring mix and match margaritas and tastes created by chef **Dante de Magistris**.

American Institute of Food & Wine
Anthem, 138 Portland St., Boston (617-523-8383). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. June 28, 6-8 pm. AIFF members, $26; nonmembers, $36. Join chef **Robert Fathman** for a sampling of some of his favorite items off Anthem's spring menu. An assortment of wines accompanies the tastings.

Casual, Intimate Summer Cooking with Jody Adams
Rialto Restaurant at the Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge (617-661-5050). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. June 25, 6 pm. $40 per class. Chef **Jody Adams** prepares a seafood dish with ingredients from a local farmer's market. Guests sample the meal with wine and can take the recipe home.

Chefs in Shorts
Eastport Park, 2 Seaport Lane, Boston (617-385-5955). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. June 25, 7-9:30 pm. $60. At the seventh annual Chefs in Shorts event, some of Boston's kitchen pros, including chefs from Olives, Legal SeaFoods and Jer-ne, create the ultimate barbeque.

Chowderfest
Boston City Hall Plaza, Boston (617-227-1528). www.bostonharborfest.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. July 5, 11 am-5 pm. $7 adults, $5 children under 12. Sample chowder from local restaurants like Hull's Red Parrot and the returning champs, Houston's, and vote for your favorite during this summer tradition.

Cooking for Singles
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave, Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. July 6, 6:30-9:30 pm. $66 members; $71 nonmembers. Instructor **Louise Natenshon** demonstrates how to prepare some simple and healthy dishes as well as a few romantic meals.

Cool Summer Drinks and Tasty Treats
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave, Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. June 27, 6:30-9:30 pm. $53 members; $56 nonmembers. **Julia Shanks**, chef and owner of Interactive Cuisine, a service that combines cooking demonstrations and gourmet dining in clients' homes, teaches the secrets to making some summer beverages, like mojitos and peach sangria, as well as treats like corn fritters.

Fantasy Tea Party
L'Espalier, 39 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center. Sat. and Sun., 2-4 pm. Prices vary. Chef **Frank McClelland** invites you to share conversation and enjoy some delicious snacks, like strawberry shortcakes and raspberry tartlets, while sipping tea.

Grill & Chill, a Prelude to Summer
Harvest, 44 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-868-2255). www.harvestcambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. June 23, 6 pm. $39. Chef **Eric Brennan** puts together a dinner consisting of some of his summer favorites, including Island Creek oysters, sea scallops and vanilla parfait. Wine director **Stephen Sink** pairs wines that complement the meal.

Grotto Anniversary
Grotto Restaurant, 37 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-367-8142). www.taste-boston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. June 29, 6:30 pm. $70. Taste-Boston, a provider of menu- and wine-tasting events, and Grotto chef/owner **Scott Herritt** celebrate Grotto's one-year anniversary with a five-course menu paired with wines.

Hot off the Vine at 33: Wednesday Wine Tasting Series
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25 a person. Join chef **Joshua Botsford** each Wednesday night for a sampling of four wines paired with a complimentary food sampling. •June 23: Wines from Lombardia, Italy are featured.

Make Your Own Ice Cream
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm Ave, Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. June 24, 6 pm. $47 members; $49 nonmembers. Learn the basic techniques for mixing and freezing ice cream. Bring a container to take home samples of your work.

Ode to Chardonnay Dinner
UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. June 23, 6:30 pm. $100. Sommelier **Shane Lessard** pairs white wines with a traditional summer menu.

Putting Together an Authentic Southern Barbeque
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm Ave, Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. June, 30. 6:30-10:30 pm. $49 members; $52 nonmembers. **Alan Gold**, a native Mississippi River and Gulf Coast cook, guides you through the preparation of some authentic Southern barbecue with dishes like sticky chicken and jalapeño cornbread.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting at Les Zygomates
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-5 5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $25. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, while chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •June 29: Sicily. •July 6: Rioja.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center. 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Johnson** offers descriptions of the wines that complement the French–New England meal by chef **Frank McClelland**. •June 30: Summer Wines (Other than "It's too hot") •July 5: California.

DISH

As the Grill Turns…

Shake-up…Mix-up…Drink up…

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

In the restaurant business, change comes with the territory. Sometimes, people take on new roles within the boundaries of the local scene. **Dina Sonnenshein**, who created what is possibly the world's best caramel shortbread cookie while working as pastry chef at **UpStairs on the Square**, has put away her apron and now handles the books at the restaurant. **Jim Becker**, the talented chef/owner of the former **Rauxa**, switched to working the front of the house when he helped chef/owner **Laura Brennan** open **Caffé Umbra** as general manager. And **Brian Simpson**, formerly bar chef at **Grill 23**, is now managing the new **Croma** on Newbury Street.

More unusual is an abrupt change at the executive level of a terrifically successful restaurant management company. Yes, it makes sense that American Food Management, the company behind **Grill 23 & Bar**, **Harvest** and **Excelsior**, would promote from within: senior manager **Paul Dias** is now senior VP of operations; **Brian Somers**, formerly chief financial officer, is executive vice president; and **Christopher Himmel** is the new vice president of business development. What surprised a lot of insiders was the sudden departure of partner and chief operating officer **Timothy Lynch** after a 20-year tenure during which he earned everybody's respect as a dedicated, savvy restaurateur…and a gifted raconteur, as well.



Paul Dias (l) and Christopher Himmel have been booted upstairs at American Food Management.

Officially, managing general partner **Ken Himmel**, back in Boston after wrapping up the development and opening of Time Warner Center in New York, is devoting himself to running the business full-time as president and chief executive officer. Unofficially, where will Tim Lynch go? Disneyland? Perhaps. With a 4-year-old son and a wife who's tolerated his demanding schedule for a long time, Lynch finally has time to travel with his family. "I'm looking forward to having a good summer of relaxation for the first time in 20 years," he says. Might he write a memoir, thick and juicy as a prime steak? "No, I've forgotten too much," he laughs.

SECOND COURSE

Fish on the outside, Asian on the inside: **The Kells** in Allston is now specializing in Asian cuisine. Of course, beer has always complemented Asian food, and now you have the option of ordering, say, Thai lobster or moo goo gai pan, even a scorpion bowl off the Polynesian drink menu. Whatever. Just keep the green food coloring far away from the kitchen on St. Patrick's Day.

Elsewhere in Allston, **Sunset Grill & Tap** owner **Marc Kadish** is exploring the esoteric nuances of matching beers with the appropriate glassware. If you're a stickler for concentrating the bouquet and preserving the delicate bubbles of an aromatic lambic, you won't be disappointed with its presentation in a tall, narrow, Champagne-style flute. Belgian ales? In a snifter, *bien sur*. For those of us more intrigued than informed, Kadish is now offering the option of two-ounce "pours" of any of the 112 beers on tap.

Finally, a book that answers the question: How do cannibals prepare their favorite sweet treats? It's called *Batter Up Kids: Delicious Desserts*. Yum. iB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to dish@improper.com.



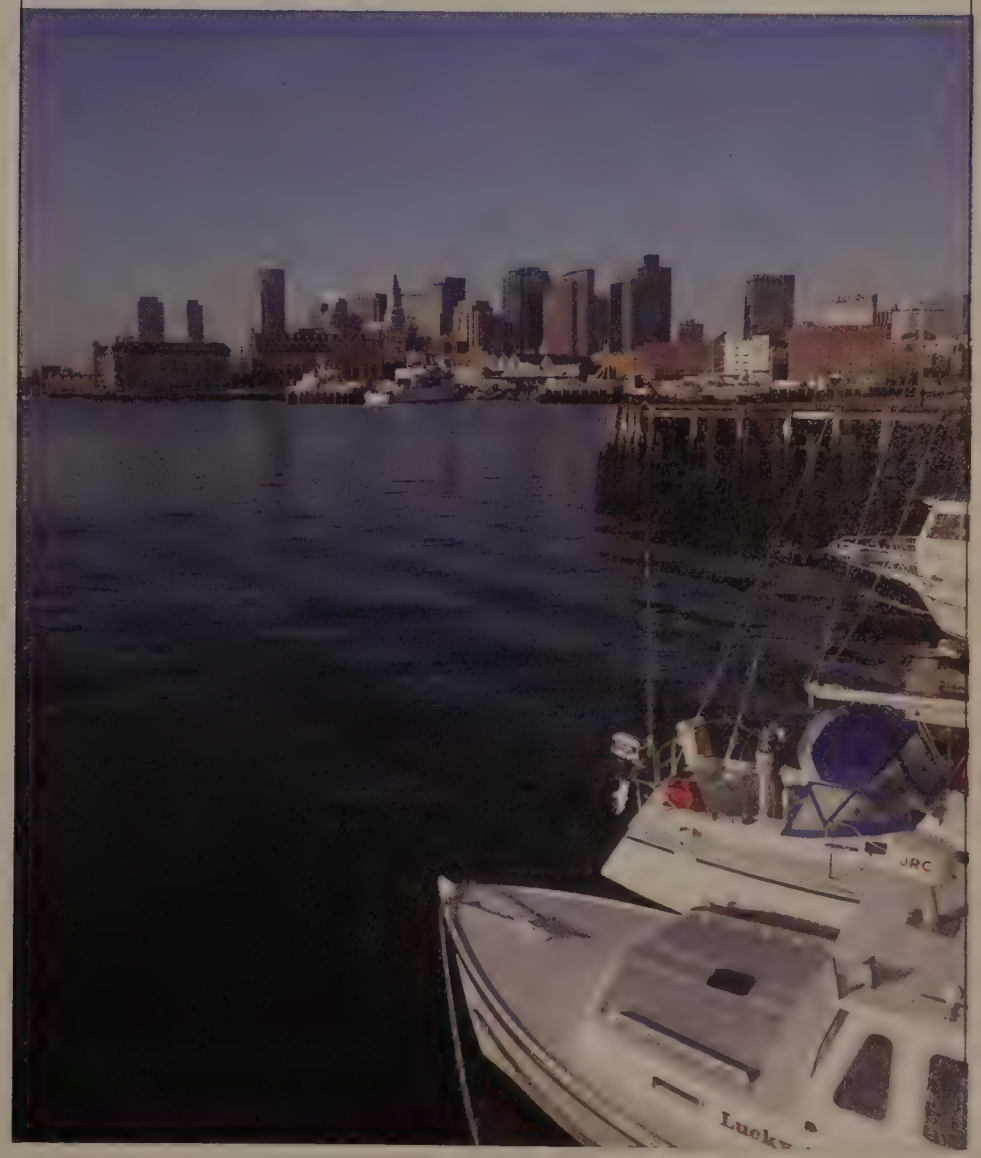
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WINE

Chile's Sensational Carmenere

BY SANDY BLOCK, M.W.



Every once in a while you do find something new under the sun, even in the world of wine. Carmenere is a grape variety from Chile that no one had ever heard of five years ago but is now causing a sensation among the cognoscenti; it makes delicious wine but is just a bit off the everyday radar screen. Chile's got a magnificent climate with a lot of unique natural advantages that make it a great source for flavorful, stylish red wine at everyday pricing. During the last decade we've been importing oceans of it, mostly cabernet sauvignon and merlot. But get ready for the next wave: carmenere.

What does carmenere taste like? If you've ever had a lush, velvety, plummy-flavored merlot but wished it had just a bit more backbone and spice, carmenere is the answer. If you drink big, rich, black cherry–like cabernet sauvignon as a rule but are sometimes put off by the tannic overbite, try a carmenere. In a way it's the missing link between those two superstar grape varieties, harvested a few weeks after merlot, but generally just prior to cabernet. And today it's grown virtually nowhere else but Chile, so it's truly a point of distinction.

This all makes sense when you delve into the grape's history. Although it's no longer part of the vineyard picture there, carmenere originates in France's Bordeaux region, where it was once the second most widely planted variety. Transported to Chile in the mid 19th century, it was mixed up with merlot, which it superficially resembles, and generally mistaken for it until about 10 years ago when grape scientists proved conclusively that carmenere constituted a separate, distinct grape variety. The reason it's no longer grown in Bordeaux is that it's highly susceptible to early-season rainstorms, a common occurrence there that severely reduces the size of the crop. Chile, on the other hand, is noted for mild, dry springtime conditions.

Although I enjoy carmenere year-round, spring and summer are really the ideal seasons. We may be drinking reds all the time now, but many people sensibly shy away from any wine with excessive tannin or alcohol in the throes of a New England summer, especially when dining outside. That's where carmenere, with its intense flavor of dark fruit, cedar and spice but soft, round texture comes in. You can cool this baby down just a bit, and because the tannins are moderate you'll gain in the refreshment department without obliterating the often blackberry-like flavor. So to me a good carmenere's ideal for outdoor barbecuing. And it can be absolutely thrilling with spicy Latin preparations, including chili con carne.

Having said that, the grape is nothing if not versatile and you'll find some carmeneres that are juicier than others, with almost a fruit-punch quality, minus the sweetness; others that are equally sumptuous but more understated, mild and perhaps a bit smokier; and still others that show richly extracted spice and mocha-like flavors with a slightly grittier feel. Price is not always an infallible guide, but the wines in the $8 to $10 range tend to follow the first and second formulae, those over $15 the last, with the many examples in between being anybody's guess. What they all share is a tendency to have very moderate acidity but a long, sustained finish.

One way to get a handle on the kind of carmenere you're buying is to look at the subregion of Chile identified on the bottle. The spiritual center appears to be in the Rapel region, south of Santiago, particularly the Colchagua Valley subdistrict. This area produces fairly full, richer-textured wines. I've tasted somewhat lighter and more elegant wines from some of the coastal regions, including parts of Aconcagua up north. Maipo, the country's classic cabernet district, produces a heavier, sometimes vegetally accented carmenere. As the grape has been attracting attention to Chile because of its uniqueness, it's begun to dominate new vineyard plantings, with many sites in parts of the country that are a bit cooler. This allows ripening to take place over a longer cycle with the result that the wines have more delicate, complex flavor accents. The bottom line is, I've rarely had a carmenere that wasn't at least pleasant, so you're not too likely to go wrong if you try one.

One of only 18 Americans certified as a master of wine, Sandy Block is assistant vice president of wine for Horizon Beverage.



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agenda

MPROPER PICKS

june 23-july 6

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			23	24	25	26
				Aerosmith and **Cheap Trick** play at the Tweeter Center. *See Music on page 58.*	**Gabe Kaplan** stars as Groucho Marx in *Groucho!* at the Stoneham Theatre for only a few more days. *See Performing Arts on page 50.*	
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
Madonna plays the first of four shows at the Worcester Centrum. *See Music on page 59.*		**Howard Zinn** speaks at the Coolidge's screening of the documentary *You Can't Be Neutral on a Moving Train. See Movies on page 54.*		An exhibition of works by **Bernd Haussmann** and **Mark Chatterley** opens at the Chase Gallery. *See Museums & Galleries on page 67.*	***Before Sunset***, with Ethan Hawke, the sequel to *Before Sunrise*, opens at the Coolidge Corner Theatre. *See Movies on page 54.*	
4	5	6				
The **Boston Pops** play their annual Independence Day concert on the Esplanade. *See Classical Music on page 61.*	Chow down at **Chowderfest** at City Hall Plaza. *See Tastings on page 40.*					











WED. & THU./JUNE 23 & 24

CityScope: Boys Play

As if teeing off while your friends are watching isn't enough pressure. At the **Playboy Scramble Golf Tournament**, on June 24 at the Georgetown Club, a pep squad of *Playboy* Playmates will be hovering over your shoulder, critiquing your slice. The tournament, which anyone can enter (after ponying up $750) brings in golfers, celebs and Playmates to raise money for the Progeria Research Foundation, which fights the premature-aging disease. This year, *Saturday Night Live*'s Seth Meyers, *Survivor* runner-up Boston Rob and *The Real World*'s C.T. are slated to partake in the festivities. Winners go on to the semifinals in Las Vegas, and the finalists then play at the *Playboy* mansion in Los Angeles. Even if you can't golf, you can go to the preparty June 23 at Felt, where the Playmates promise to be socializing. The party's open only to golfers until 10 pm; after that the public is welcome. *Georgetown Club, 258 Andover St., Georgetown (978-352-8777). Felt, 533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555). Wed., 6 pm; Thu., 1 pm.*

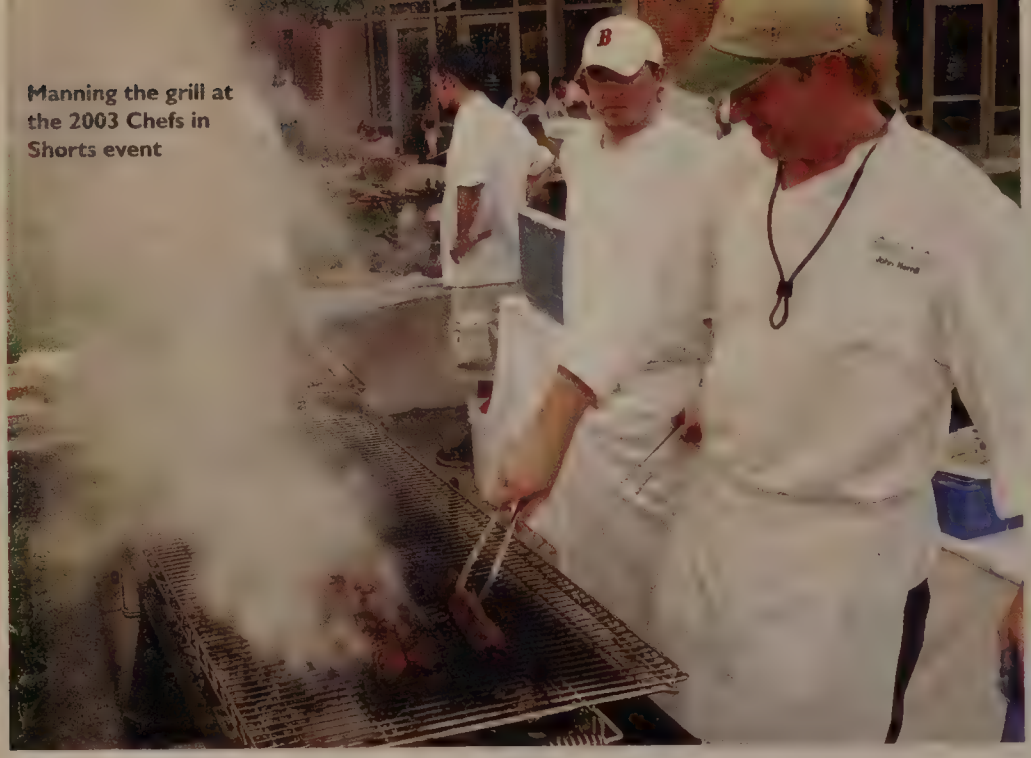
THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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Ezra Dyer CityScope, Sports
Jessica Iredale Dance Clubs, Museums & Galleries
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules







Manning the grill at the 2003 Chefs in Shorts event

FRI./JUNE 25

Tastings: Chefs in Shorts

Every year when June rolls around, local chefs leave their restaurants, exchange their long pants for summer shorts and fire up their grills for a barbecue banquet. The **Chefs in Shorts** food fest brings together leading local chefs, who set up grills in the grassy outdoor space outside the World Trade Center. Kitchen commandos from some of Boston's biggest restaurants participate—and what's better, they all look like they're having a blast doing it. This year, you can sample treats prepared by chefs including Spire's Gabriel Frasca, Bambara's Tom Berry, Bonfire's Jenny Cates, Sel de la Terre's Michael Rhoads, Kashmir's Harjit Singh, Olives' Todd Winer, Rouge's Andy Husbands and more. *Eastport Park at World Trade Center East, 2 Seaport Lane, Boston (617-385-5955). 7–9:30 pm. $60.*



Mike Skinner, aka the Streets, performs at Avalon June 28.



Nina Simone

MON./JULY 5

Movies: Blue Monday

By the end of July 4th weekend, almost everyone is red-white-and-blued out. It's time to say no to all ancillary barbecues and dinky Roman candle displays, and force the Pops' patriotic polyphony out of your head. We can pretty much guarantee you won't find any of the above at the Coolidge Corner Theatre's Summertime Blues series. Every Monday in July, the Coolidge and WGBH-FM 89.7 combine their efforts to screen a blues-, R&B- or roots music–oriented film preceded by a live musical performance. The program kicks off with an homage to the high priestess of soul Nina Simone, whose deep, bluesy voice and music are often defined as "beyond category." Paul White, a pianist, songwriter, vocalist and former Simone collaborator, opens the show with a performance of three of the songstress' most acclaimed melodies and a talk about her musical philosophies and his experience working with her. Following the musical tribute is a screening of *Nina Simone: Love Sorceress*. The film captures a 1976 Paris concert that's widely considered Simone's best performance—her musical renditions are feisty and commanding (Simone admitted to being "half high" through the whole thing), and the audience is enthusiastic. Guaranteed to blow *The Star Spangled Banner* out of your head. *290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2500). www.coolidge.org. 7:30 pm, $10.*

MON./JUNE 28

Music: Street Smarts

When **The Streets**' first CD, *Original Pirate Material*, came out a couple of years ago, lots of us thought it must be a joke. A pasty young English bloke rapping? Skepticism soon turned to intrigue, and then we were hooked. Mike Skinner, aka the Streets, created a distinctive sound by cobbling together elements of underground UK dance styles such as "garage" and "two-step," and then adding his rapped lyrics on top of the mix. Skinner's songs tend toward the storytelling variety, and his tales of scrappy clubland adventures and inebriated romps are as entertaining as his day-in-the-life vignettes and accounts of morning-after breakfasts. Skinner is adept at switching his train of thought from light and amusing to darkly musing and then back again; but while his subject matter can be gritty and bleak, it's never self-indulgent. The new Streets album, *A Grand Don't Come for Free*, which Skinner will show off at his Avalon show, is more of the same—fun, stark, cutting and relentlessly catchy. Dizzee Rascal opens. *Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). 8 pm, $17.25, 18+.*

THU.–SUN./JUNE 24–27

Movies: Universal Films

Between the Boston Film Festival, the Boston Jewish Film Festival, the Independent Film Festival of Boston and the Boston Underground Film Festival, the local film circuit has become a cinephile's dream. One of the newest cinematic celebrations, the Boston International Film Festival, serves up obscure indies, shorts and documentaries shot in locations ranging from right here in Massachusetts to as far away as Namibia.



Lightning Bug screens at the BIFF

Now in its second year, BIFF will screen 114 films. In addition to the many minute-long reels, 2[illegible] feature-length films screen, including Philadelphia Film Festival fave *Lightning Bug*, starring *That 70s Show*'s Laura Prepon, and *Noise* with Ally Sheedy. Screenings are at the Hynes Convention Center, John Hancock Hall and the Bill Bordy Theater, and the festival caps off with an awards ceremony and after-party at the Roxy June 27 at 9 pm. (866-468-7619). *www.bifilmfestival.com. $10–$150.*



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cityscope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings for festivals, events and benefits by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23

Multiple Sclerosis Benefit at SoHo
SoHo, 386 Market St., Brighton (877-687-6783). 7-11 pm. $75. This social fund-raiser for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society includes appetizers, a buffet dinner, dessert and a complimentary drink. Upscale casual dress.

Prostate Health Education Network Golf Tournament
Franklin Park Golf Course, One Circuit Drive, Dorchester (781-487-0135). 8:30 am. $250 per player. This tournament raises money for the Prostrate Health Education Network's programs and includes a hole-in-one contest where participants can compete for a BMW Z4.

THURSDAY, JUNE 24

Jammin' at the 'Kong
Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-263-7077). www.breadandjams.org. 5 pm. $20 in advance; $25 at the door. The Hong Kong kicks off this summer benefit party series with a buffet and social followed by a comedy show and dancing to '70s and '80s music. Proceeds benefit the Bread & Jams homeless day shelter.

Kick Off the Summer Party
The Living Room, 101 Atlantic Ave., Boston (781-444-7771). www.kickoffsummer.com. 6:30-10 pm. $10 in advance; $15 at the door. Summer begins on the 21st, and this annual party helps ring it in with hors d'oeuvres, a reception hosted by Ketel One vodka and a crowd of young professionals.

Lucky's Lounge Boat Cruise
Provincetown II, boards next to the World Trade Center, Boston (617-357-5825). www.luckyslounge.com. 6:30-10 pm. $35. Join Lucky's Lounge for its annual harbor party cruise, featuring live music by the Alex MacDougall Band and complimentary hors d'oeuvres.

Paws Off Party
The Rack, 24 Clinton St., Boston (617-780-2195). 7 pm. $20. Enjoy complimentary food, martinis and entertainment at this benefit for the National Philanthropic Trust Fund for Breast Cancer. The door prize is Red Sox vs. Yankees tickets, and the event also includes a silent auction of sports-related items and a raffle.

Playboy Scramble Golf Tournament
Georgetown Country Club, Georgetown (781-721-0017). www.playboygolf.com. 1 pm. $750 per player. Tee it up with the bunnies at this annual benefit golf tournament. Ticket includes admission to a VIP Playmate preparty at Felt June 23. Proceeds support progeria research.

FRIDAY, JUNE 25

Boston Celebrity Softball Classic
Fraser Field, Lynn (617-306-9693). www.heartofboston.org. $20. Celebrities including Chicago Bears star Brian Urlacher and Celtics forward Walter McCarty swing for the fences to raise money for the Heart of Boston Foundation's scholarship programs.

Chefs in Shorts
Eastport Park at World Trade Center East, 2 Seaport Lane, Boston. www.seaportboston.com. 7-9:30 pm. $60. Top chefs from around the region cook up tasty treats at this barbecue to benefit the Adopt-a-Student Foundation. Ticket includes beer, wine and food.

Kitsch in Sync Comedy Benefit
Puppet Showcase Theatre, 32 Station St., Brookline (617-492-8306). www.barcc.org. 8 pm. $20. The troupe Kitsch in Sync performs improv comedy to benefit the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center.

SATURDAY, JUNE 26

Fun with Wine and Food
Wall Street Café, 127 South St., Boston (617-591-1400). www.bostonypa.com. 1 pm. $40. Learn some tips to hosting a summer dinner party with the Boston Young Professionals Association at this combination wine tasting and cooking class.

Good Will from the Grill
Whole Foods Markets, 916 Walnut St. and 647 Washington St., Newton (617-332-1919). www.wellnesscommunity.org. 3-6 pm. Whole Foods Markets fire up the barbecues in Newton with swordfish, burgers and more to raise money for the Wellness Community's cancer support programs.

Mobilize America's Youth Party
Axis, 13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-549-9258). www.mobilize.org. 5-9:30 pm. Free. The Superspecs, Henry, Violet Nine, the Deal and James the Viking play at this party for Mobilize America's Youth, a nonprofit, non-partisan organization that encourages people ages 18-30 to vote and become active citizens.

Swim or Walk Against the Tide
Hopkinton State Park, Hopkinton (800-649-6222). www.mbcc.org/swim. $100 minimum fund-raising pledge. Take a three-mile walk or complete a one-mile swim to raise money for the Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition.

SUNDAY, JUNE 27

American Liver Foundation Walk for Research
Artesani Park, off Soldier's Field Road, Allston/Brighton (617-527-5600). www.walkforresearch.org. 9 am registration, 10 am walk. This annual 3.1-mile pledge walk along the Charles River benefits the American Liver Foundation.

TUESDAY, JUNE 29

Homes for Families Benefit
Kings, 10 Scotia St., Boston (617-227-4188). w homesforfamilies.org. 5-8 pm. $35. Enjoy bowling liards and appetizers at this party to raise money to family homelessness.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30

Jamaican Jam Island Party
Sweetwater Café, 3 Boylston Place, The Alley, Bo www.bostonlocknkey.com. 7-10 pm. $20. Single a lock or a key and must find the match at thi maican-themed party. The event features island sine, live reggae music, open bar from 7-8 pm (ing Red Stripe and Captain Morgan) and door like a trip to the Hedonism III resort in Jamai

Preview

Independence...Yea!

This year, July 4th stretches into a three- (or four-) day weekend. Here's how to make the most of it with a selection of Independence-related happenings around the city.

FRIDAY, JULY 2

BSSC Star Spangled Cruise
The Provincetown II, boarding at the World Trade Center, Boston (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. 7-11 pm. $15 members, $20 nonmembers. The Boston Ski and Sports Club kicks off the weekend with a harbor fireworks cruise featuring on-deck dancing and a DJ.

Concerts at City Hall Plaza
City Hall Plaza, Boston (617-227-1528). www.bostonharborfest.com. 12-2 pm. Also July 3, 6-9 pm. City Hall Plaza turns into a live music venue with free concerts.

SATURDAY, JULY 3

Fifes and Drums
Marching from Old City Hall Courtyard, 45 School St., Boston. www.bostonharborfest.com. 7-8:30 pm. Experience the sound of Revolution-era fife-and-drum music as the Middlesex County Volunteers Fifes and Drums march.

Splash, Sparkle and Stars Cruise
Boarding at Long Wharf Pier, Boston. www.jetsetevents.com. Boarding at 7 pm, cruise departs at 8 pm. $20, advanced ticket sales only. Take a pre–Independence Day harbor cruise featuring a DJ, dancing on the decks and door prizes. Cash bar.

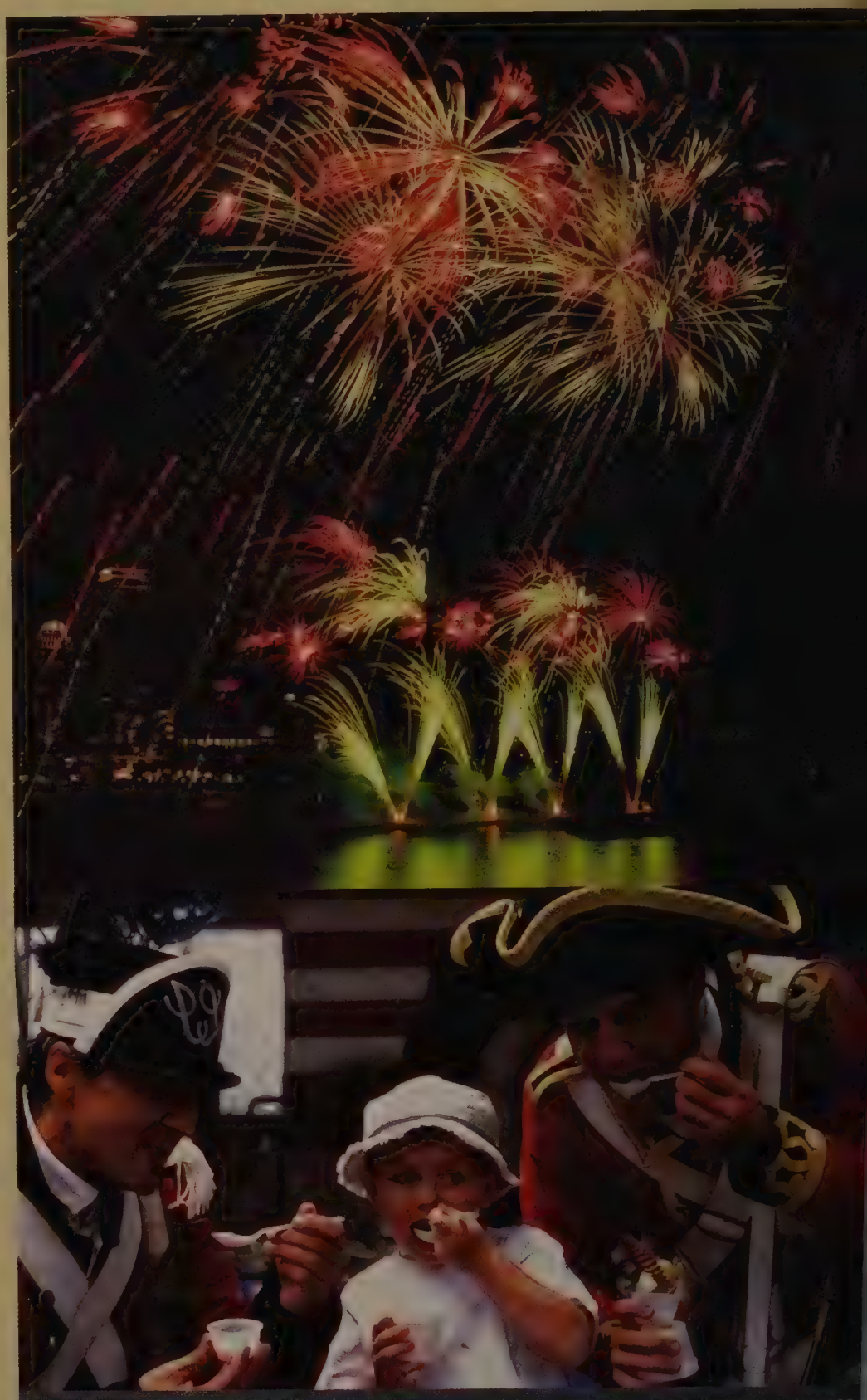
SUNDAY, JULY 4

Pops Go the Fourth
The Hatch Shell, Charles River Esplanade, Boston. www.july4th.org. Concert at 8:35 pm; fireworks at 10:35 pm. Boston's famous Fourth of July concert and fireworks display attracts from 400,000 to 700,000 spectators each year, so if you want a spot of grass in front of the Hatch Shell, arrive early. Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra begin playing at dusk, and at the concert's finale, the shells start to explode over the Charles River in sync with the music. More than 17,500 pounds of fireworks are used, and the show is visible up to three miles away, depending on the weather and sightlines.

USS Constitution Turn-Around
Boston Harbor, Boston. 10 am-2 pm. Watch Old Ironsides make her annual Independence Day cruise out into the harbor from vantage points along the water. If you're interested in being aboard for next year's turnaround, enter the lottery for tickets at www.ussconstitution.navy.mil.

MONDAY, JULY 5

Chowderfest
City Hall Plaza, Boston (617-227-1528). www.bostonharborfest.com. 11 am-6 pm. $7. The 23rd annual Chowderfest pits the city's top chowderhead chefs in a duel to the bottom of the kettle for the title of Top Chowder in the Land. Nearly 2,000 gallons of chowder get served up to thousands of visitors, and admission includes unlimited samplings.



Top: Boston's Fourth of July Fireworks display by Pyros Spectaculars uses more than 10,000 shells. Bottom: Costumed patriots share a snack during last year's Harborfest.

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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater

JUST OPENED

Beauty and the Beast
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Beverly (617-426-9366). www.nsmt.org. July 6-Aug. 1. Times vary. $30-60. The popular Disney musical features music by Alan Menken, Tim Rice and Howard Ashman.

The Direct Line Play
Provincetown Theater, 238 Bradford St., Provincetown (508-487-7487). www.provincetowntheater.com. June 25 and 26. 8 pm. $50. Directed by Phyllis Newman, this production combines 19 three-minute scenes, from 19 different playwrights, into one cohesive story.

The Importance of Being Earnest
Loeb Experimental Theater at the Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. June 25-July 10. Tue.-Thu., 7:30; Fri.,8 pm; Sat., 8 pm (additional 2 pm show July 3 and 10; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. (No show July 4). $14, $10 students and seniors. $7 on Tuesdays. Matinees $7-$10. Members of the Harvard/Radcliffe Summer Theater perform Oscar Wilde's classic, under the direction of Jeremy Blocker.

LifeX3
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4433). June 30-July 18. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm, Sat. and Sun., 5 and 8 pm. $30. This comedy by Yasmine Reza is a look at a chaotic dinner party from the perspectives of three different people.

Light Is Heard in Zig Zag
Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center, 333 Nahanton St., Newton Center (617- 965-5226). www.lsjcc.org. MBTA: #57 Bus to Newton Corner. June 23, 7:30 pm. $20-$25. Nalaga'at (Do Touch)—A Stage for the Deaf-Blind presents this performance based around motion skills and improvisation.

Short Takes
Arlington Friends of the Drama Theatre, 22 Academy Road, Arlington (781-646-5922). www.afdtheatre.org. MBTA: #80 Bus to Arlington Center. June 25 and 26. 8 pm. $10. The Arlington Friends of the Drama present this festival featuring nine original short plays by New England playwrights.

NOW RUNNING

As You Like It
Founders Theatre, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (412-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. Through Aug. 29. Thu.-Sun, 7:30 pm. $10-$49. In this Shakespeare play, a young woman named Rosalind and a young man named Orlando battle obstacles facing their romance. Directed by Eleanor Holdridge.

Blue Hair Troupe
Tremont Theatre, 276 Tremont St., Boston (866-443-2248). www.theatremania.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through June 27. Wed. and Thu., 2 pm; Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $35. In this musical comedy, elderly residents of the fictitious Senior Center for the Performing Arts put on a revue. Written and directed by Andrew Diskes.


The Last Sunday in June is at the Boston Center for the Arts Theater.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com/ticketinfo/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 and 10 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. Ongoing. $46-$56. This newly revamped, dialogue-free production features tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Forever Plaid
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.showofthemonth.com. Through July 3. Tue., 7 pm; Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $35.70-$37.80. This revered musical tells the story of Forever Plaid, a 1960s musical quartet that is killed on the way to its first performance but is subsequently and miraculously allowed to return to Earth 40 years later to perform.

Groucho!
Stoneham Theater, 395 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). www.stonehamtheatre.org. Through June 27. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm, $19-$38. Gabe Kaplan of *Welcome Back Kotter* fame stars in and directs this show written by Arthur Marx, Groucho's son.

Ingulf
Devanaughn Theatre, 791 Tremont St., Boston (617-240-6317). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Through June 26. Thu., Fri. and Sat., 8 pm. $10. This dark comedy by David L. Williams tells the story of a normal family whose world is turned upside down by the arrival of an inquisitive social worker.

The Last Sunday in June
BCA Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through June 26. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $25-$35. In this play written by Jonathan Tolins, a group of gay men gathering at a Greenwich Village home watch New York's Gay Pride Parade and discuss issues surrounding their sexuality.

Mamma Mia!
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-426-9366). www.broadwayinboston.com MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Aug. 8. Tue. and Wed, 8 pm; Thu., 2 pm and 8 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun. 2 pm. $37.50-$87.50. This popular musical is based on the songs of ABBA.

Marry Me a Little
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4433). Through June 27. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm, Sat. and Sun., 5 and 8 pm. $30. This Stephen Sondheim musical comedy tells the story of two lonely singles on a Saturday night.

The Miser
ART Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through July 18.Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat, 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. For its last production of the season, the ART teams up with Theatre de la Jeune Lune to present Molière's classic comedy. Directed by Dominique Serrand.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $34. This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

Sin: A Cardinal Deposed
Regent Theater, 7 Medford St., Arlington (781-646-4849). www.acardinaldeposed.com. Through June 27. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 3 pm and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm and 7 pm. $30, Wed. and Thu; $40, Fri.-Sun. This "docu-drama" uses testimony from the deposition of former Cardinal Bernard F. Law, who was questioned when priests of his diocese were accused of sexual abuse.

That Takes Ovaries!
Blacksmith House at Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.thattakesovaries.org. Through June 27. Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30 and 7:30 pm. $20. This collection of true stories about fearless females and their gutsy acts is based on Rivka Soloman's book *That Takes Ovaries! Bold Females and Their Brazen Acts.* An open-mike discussion follows each performance.

UNIVERSITY THEATER

After Mrs. Rochester
Ruth Nagel Jones Theatre, Alumnae Hall, Wellesley College,106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2000). http://theatre.wellesley.edu. Through June 26. Tue., Thu., and Sun., 7 pm; Sat., 8 pm. $15-$20. Polly Teale's play is based on the life of author Jean Rhys, whose novel *Wide Sargasso Sea* was written as a prequel to Charlotte Brontë's novel *Jane Eyre*. Directed by Nora Hussey

Jane Eyre
Ruth Nagel Jones Theatre, Alumnae Hall, Wellesley College,106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2000). http://theatre.wellesley.edu. Through June 26. Mon. and Wed., 7 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 3 pm. $15-$20. Wellesley Summer Theatre presents Charlotte Brontë's famous story, adapted by Polly Teale and directed by Nora Hussey.

Three Sisters
Loeb Drama Center at Harvard University, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through July 17. Director Krystian Lupa makes his U.S. debut with this adaptation of Anton Chekov's drama. This production has already been invited to the Edinburgh International Festival.

Comedy

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STAND-UP CLUBS

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault at Remington's features local stand-up comedians. •Thursdays: Dick Doherty's Comedy Pro Tour •Fri. and Sat.: Boston's Best Standup •Sundays: Open Mike Night.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •June 23, 8 pm: Harrison Stebbins, $12. •June 24, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •June 25, 8 and 10:15 pm: Bob Marley, from the movie *Boondock Saints*, $20. •June 26, 8 and 10:15 pm: Bob Marley, $20. •June 7, 12 pm: DNC Auditions, Free.•June 28, 8 pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $12. •June 29, pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $12. •June 3 8 pm: Harrison Stebbins, $12. •July 1, 8:30 pm Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15.

Comedy Studio
Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-66 6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Li to Harvard. Tue.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch com edy troupes and local comedians perform. •June 2 The Tony V Experiment: Kelly MacFarland, Da Sally, E.J. Murphy and more. •June 24: Benefit f Bread and Jams, featuring Peter Dunton. •June 2 Bob Carney, Alison Block, Kevin Carson, Jesse Ge sten and more. •June 26: Sam Walters, Rob Reute Malissa Hunt, Rebecca Anderson and more. •Jun 27: Sam Walters, Michael Fontana, Carolynn Plu mer, Sandy Asai and more. •June 30: Kelly MacFa land, Alvin David, Paul D. Day, Ester Ku and mor •July 1: Mike Morrell, Dave Wiggins, Pat Boccu Dave Grabiner and more. •July 2: Mike Dorva Max Silvestri, Evan O'Television, larry Murphy a the Walsh Brothers. •July 3: Mike Dorval C recording with guests J.J. Leslie and Max Silvestri.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). ww nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Bo ston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. $1 $22. •June 24-26, 8:45 pm: Mike Donovan, Da Russo and Tim Kalin.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). ww improvasylum.com. MBTA:Green or Orange Line Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government C ter. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. •Ju 16, 9:45 pm, $5: *DINX*, a fully improvised one- play. •Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 and pm: *Big Dig...The End of an Error*, a revue of imp visational and sketch comedy. •Wed., 7 pm: *Pa Wednesdays* provides a pasta dinner to all audier members in the tradition of Prince Spaghetti a the North End. •Thu., 9:45 pm: NXT Show. •S midnight, $10: *The Midnight Show.*

ImprovBoston
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-125 www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to C tral. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improv tional comedy troupe creates everything on spot: the characters, the stories, the settings—e the songs and dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: *The Hu* Series for experimental and improvisational ater. •Thu., 8 pm, $12: *Unnatural Selection* master of ceremonies randomly eliminates pla until only one is left. 10 pm, $5: *The Great and cret Comedy Show.* Brothers Chris and D Walsh perform stand-up and music, play short and do character sketches in a display of siblin valry. •Fri., 8 pm, $12: *Ay Diego!* Will Luera Zabeth Russell's sexy show includes improv scenes, witty sketches and video vignettes. 10 $12: *Theatre Sports.* Two teams of improvisers off. •Sat., 6 pm, $12 ($10. for children, chil eleven and under accompanied by an adult free.): *Improv Foundry.* A short-form impro tional show the entire family can enjoy. 8 an pm, $12: *ImprovBoston Mainstage.* Blending s telling, music and audience participation, a ca improvisers creates a show that changes with e performance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5: *Sgt. Culpepper's provisational Jamboree.* This evening com three shows into one. Watch performances by ing and local troupes.

Improv Foundry
327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red to South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. Through Jun group performs at the Improv Asylum's Wedn night series *The Hump.* (See Improv Asylum for info.)

The Tribe
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge 510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $5 before $10 after. Improv comedians poke fun at every including themselves.

COMEDY SHOWS

Kitsch in Sync BARCC Benefit
Puppet Showcase Theatre, 32 Station St., Bro (617-492-8306). www.barcc.org. MBTA: D Line to Brookline Village. June 25, 8 pm, $20: Jo improv comedy troupe Kitsch in Sync at a s benefit the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center.

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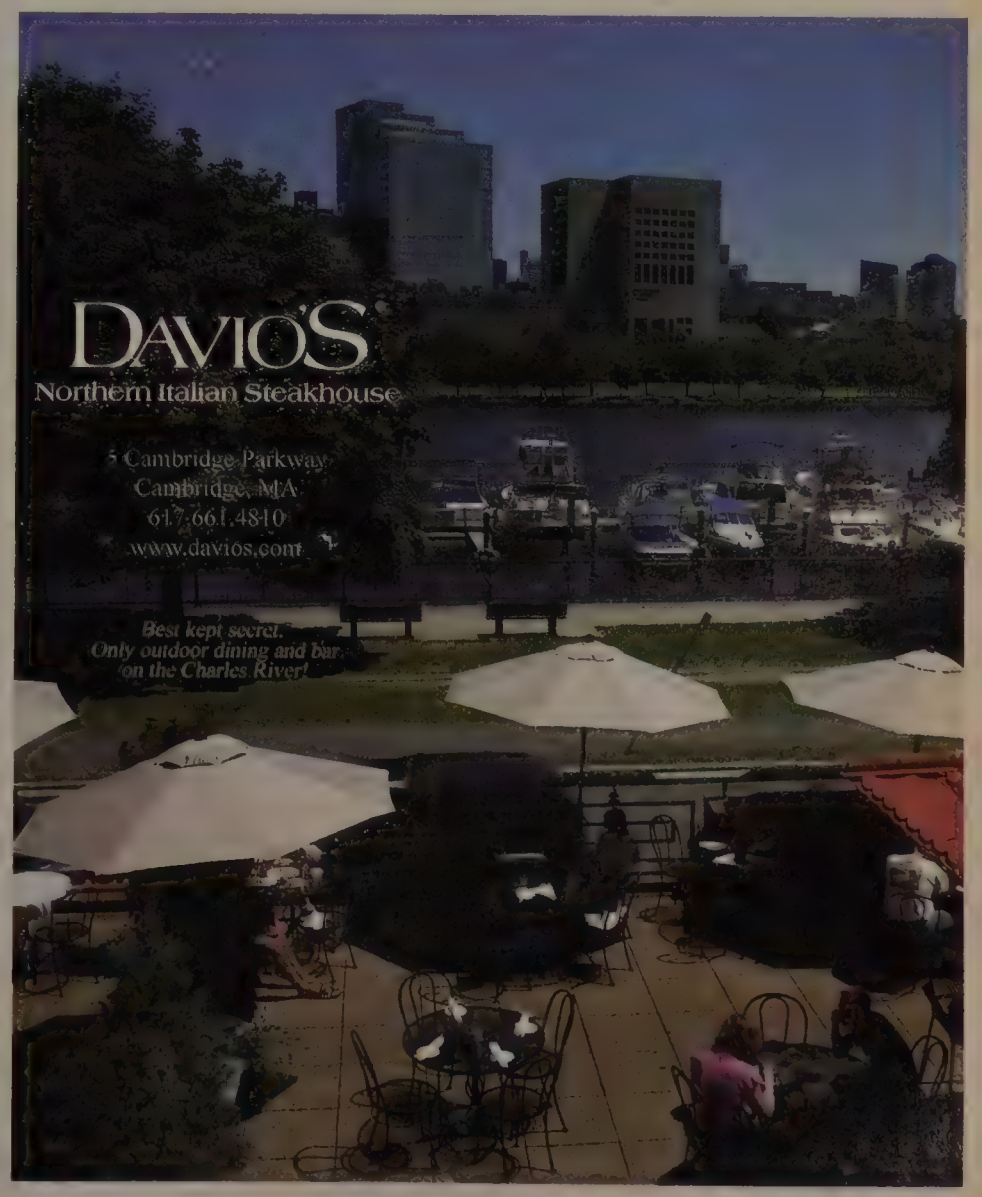
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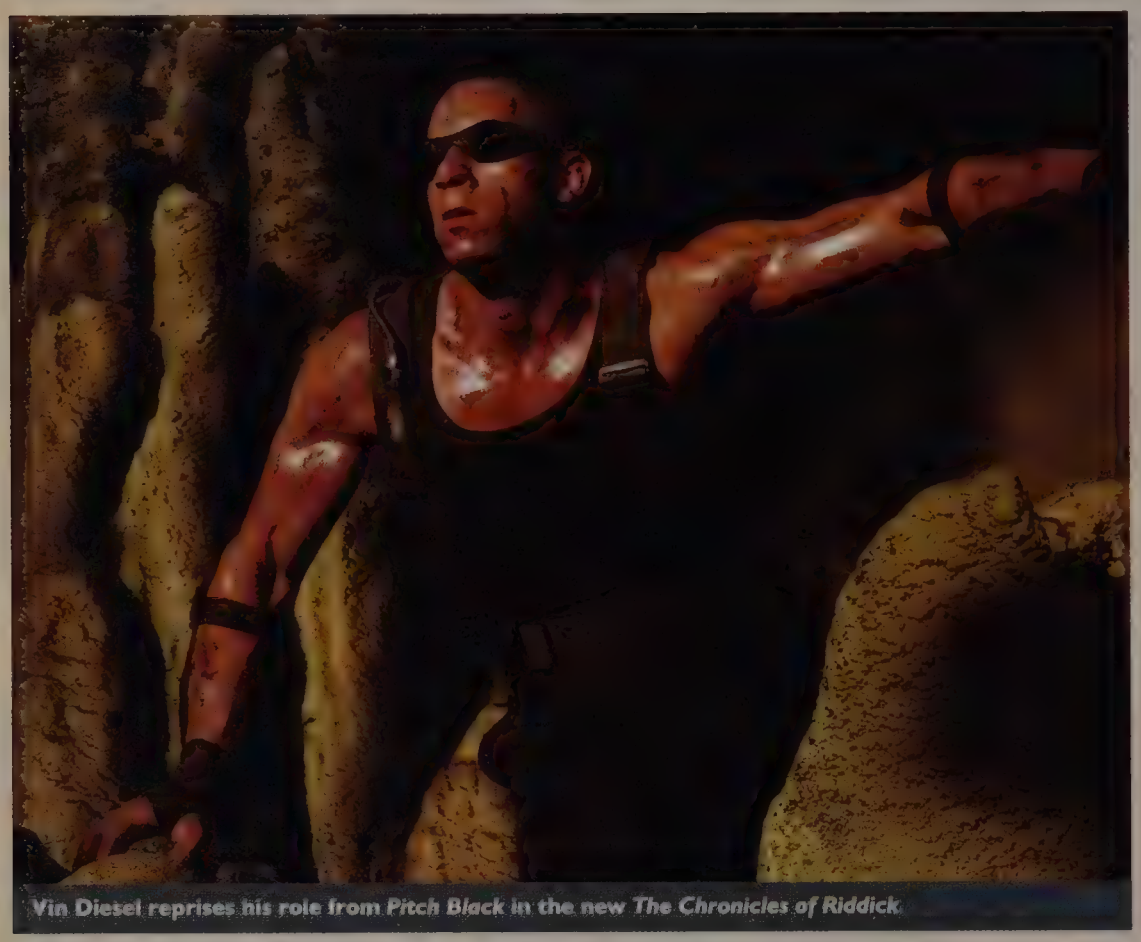


Bore of the Worlds

The Chronicles of Riddick is no *Pitch Black*.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Nothing like a bloated sequel to spoil a good thing. *The Chronicles of Riddick*, the sequel to 2000's spunky *Pitch Black*, takes just about everything that was likeable about that futuristic action-adventure and conveniently forgets it. *Pitch Black* was compact in setting, *Chronicles* is literally all over the map. *Pitch Black* was an ensemble, *Chronicles* is a vehicle for Vin Diesel, whose career got a big boost from the first. And *Pitch Black* was modest and resourceful, while *Chronicles* is over the top and conspicuously thin on the original's cleverness.



Vin Diesel reprises his role from *Pitch Black* in the new *The Chronicles of Riddick*

Diesel's Richard Riddick was just part of the mix in *Pitch Black*, a lone-wolf outlaw pushed toward heroism after the spaceship in which he's being brought into custody is pushed off course and crash lands on a strange planet. That planet happens to be having an eclipse, and also happens to be swarming with nocturnal beasts ready to feast on the ship's passengers in the darkness. Since Riddick's eyes have built-in night vision, he's enlisted by the ship's captain (Radha Mitchell) to help. The female captain got as much of the glory as Riddick did.

The two survivors that Riddick got off of *Pitch Black*'s planet figure in the plot of *Chronicles*, but Riddick (and co-producer Diesel) aren't sharing the glory here. It's the Islamic holy man (Keith David) he rescued who's responsible for Riddick's return to civilization after five years eluding mercenary bounty hunters (or "mercs," in the movie's parlance). He and a group of other leaders on the planet Helion Prime put out a bounty to have Riddick brought to them, so they can ask for his help fighting off Necromongers, a faith-based race of ruthless conquerors who convert or kill the inhabitants of every planet in their path.

Riddick declines but, in the ever-complicated plot, soon wants his own revenge against the Necromongers, who take him prisoner and try to do all sorts of nasty things to him (involving something called a "mind regression"). The Necromongers' Lord Marshal (Colm Feore)—who's part evil Pharaoh, part Hitler and part Donald Rumsfeld—takes an immediate dislike to Riddick, and the feeling's mutual. But writer-director David Twohy, who's been so good at milking drama from compact tales like *Pitch Black* and the more recent *Below*, helms *Chronicles* like an ADD patient. In the hyper plot, his hero soon escapes from the Necromongers but gets captured by the same sleazy merc (Nick Chinlund) who brought him in at the movie's start (the merc never got paid, thanks to Riddick). The merc returns him to the prison planet Crematoria for a hefty reward. It's there that Riddick meets up again with Jack, the boyish adolescent girl from *Pitch Black* who, despite becoming a killer thanks to her rage from being abandoned by her hero Riddick, now looks like a beach volleyball player and goes by the name Kyra (and is now played by (Alexa Davalos). Ultimately, everyone heads back to Helion Prime for a big showdown.

Are you getting all this? There's even more clutter in the cast of characters. Twohy has peppered his movie with British actors, as if that alone would give his script dramatic heft. Among them are the Necromongers' Dame Vaako (Thandie Newton), a Lady Macbeth wannabe plotting for her warrior husband (Karl Urban) to usurp the Lord Marshal, as well as Ariel (Judi Dench), an "elemental" (don't ask) whom the Lord Marshal keeps around because she knows something about a prophecy that he would be killed by a Furyan (which turns out to be Riddick's race).

In fact, clutter is the dominant feature of *The Chronicles of Riddick*: monstrously ugly sets, overripe dialog, scenery-chomping acting and overly elaborate costumes. The armored male Necromongers look like rejects of hood ornament designs for 1940s roadsters, and the Wonderbra budget here may have exceeded the entire outlay for *Pitch Black* (Newton wisely makes sure her pecs aren't overshadowed by Diesel's). Meanwhile, as has been the case since *Pitch Black* and *Saving Private Ryan*, the more you see of Diesel, the less effective he is. He's essentially doing tired, 1980s Arnold Schwarzenegger schtick here, making tough-guy quips and slaying dozens at a time. While the quips are occasionally effective, the fight scenes are an unimaginative drag, and the notion of Riddick as a "reluctant hero" loses value when he triumphs over long odds every 10 minutes. The idea of *Pitch Black* giving way to such an uninteresting sequel is hard to swallow too. iB

The Chronicles of Riddick ★½

Written and directed by David Twohy. With Vin Diesel, Colm Feore, Thandie Newton, Judi Dench, Karl Urban, Alexa Davalos and Linus Roach. Rated PG-13. At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Baadasssss! ★★
Mario Van Peebles has dad Melvin's cigar-chom ing bluster down pat, but what ensues in this sto of the making of Melvin's revolutionary *Swe Sweetback's Baadasssss Song* (1971) is a pretty sta dard story of indie-filmmaking hardship. Wh indie-film success story didn't struggle to make en meet, keep on schedule, find distribution and g noticed? Mario's script tries to add twists to t story—some psychedelic touches, a nay-saying alt ego for Melvin and a subplot about Melvin's rel tionship with young Mario (Khleo Thomas)—b *Baadasssss!* never really finds an interesting cin matic perspective on its events. *Sweetback* itself ar Melvin's later *Classified X* cover similar territo better. (At Kendall Square.)

Coffee and Cigarettes ★★★
The short films in Jim Jarmusch's amusing colle tion, made in dribs and drabs over the last 18 yea all involve characters sitting around indulging in namesake objects. The movie repeatedly celebrat pairs of things that go well together, whether i those characters, coffee and smokes, black ar white, twins, Abbott and Costello or, to referen one of the soundtrack's songs, crimson and clov There's Steven Wright and Roberto Benigni's a surd opener, Tom Waits and Iggy Pop trying to ou "outlaw" each other, Joie and Cinque Lee havi their ears bent by a Memphis waiter (Ste Buscemi) with an oddball Elvis theory, and heal nuts GZA and RZA (from Wu Tang Clan) comi upon caffeine nut Bill Murray, among others. T movie unfolds in cool surroundings and with co music, from the Pharaohs and the Stooges Funkadelic. Its world is a nice place to be and, u like most movies, it celebrates stripped-down rea ism and individual self-expression. (At Coolid Corner and Harvard Square.)

The Control Room ★★★
Startup.com co-director Jehane Noujaim's new doc mentary about Qatar-based Al-Jazeera, the Ar world's cable news channel, is fascinating—not ju for its behind-the-scenes glimpses into the netwo but because it will make you question any media ou let's objectivity. Looking at differences between A Jazeera's coverage of the war in Iraq and the Weste media's coverage, you'll gain respect for Al-Jazeer because it showed the horrors of the violent war th Western networks would not. In addition, much the analysis that its reporters relate to Noujain camera has turned out to be accurate. But, of cours Al-Jazeera is appealing to an audience, just as Wes ern networks are, and the movie is a reminder of ho all news coverage is shaped by cultural and politic perspectives that judge what's important enough report and what isn't. (At Kendall Square.)

The Day After Tomorrow ★½
Wait a second. Isn't this big-budget, fake-dang spectacle the sort of movie that was no longer ne essary and just too plain crass to produce followi Sept. 11? I guess not. This coldly efficient disast movie about global warming whittling at the pol ice caps, throwing the climate out of whack a launching a new ice age is full of cheesy subplot clunky dialogue and the supremely stupid plot scientist Dennis Quaid walking from Philly to Ma hattan in a 15-foot-of-snow, sub-sub-zero-temper ture, worst-in-10,000-years storm to rescue teen s Jake Gyllenhaal. (Will someone please let him pl an adult already?) (At Boston Common, Fenw and suburbs.)

De-Lovely ★½
I don't know why this tin-eared Cole Porter biogr phy acts so self-satisfied. It includes a dig at the hea ily fabricated 1940s Porter biopic that miscast Ca Grant as the songwriter, and it acts totally liberate because it deals with Porter's homosexuality, unli its predecessor. But this movie feels fabricated, co promised and just plain confused too. (Is castin Kevin Kline any less contrived than Grant?) A though Porter's gay romances are covered, the lovers are rather anonymous, while we're supposed think the "love of his life" is the chummy wife wi whom he had a marriage of convenience (a shr Ashley Judd). Meanwhile, director Irwin Winkl can't decide whether to go the postmodern *Moul Rouge* route for the many musical numbers, or to faithful to the song's time period—so we get half them done faithfully, and the other half with th "stunt casting" of Robbie Williams, Alanis Mor sette and Elvis Costello, among others, croonin The top? Hardly. (Opens July 2.)

Good Bye Lenin! ★★½
An East German woman goes into a coma just b fore the Berlin Wall falls, and when she has to le

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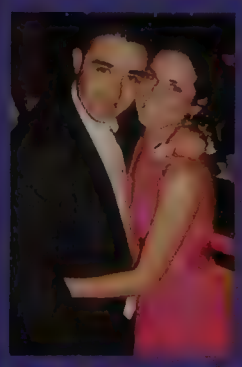


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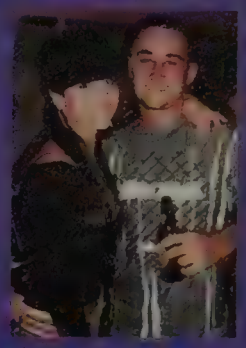




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life after she comes to, her son goes to [illegible] to make sure she never learns that her Communist country doesn't exist anymore. This [illegible] premise yields some amusing moments, but also some disappointing ones. Unlike in Billy Wilder's brilliant *One, Two, Three* (which covered similar territory after the wall went up), the comedy here never quite hits high gear because the story tempers the humor with shades of drama. But the characters' family drama never becomes as memorable as the premise. (At Kendall Square.)

Howard Zinn: You Can't Be Neutral on a Moving Train ★★★

The moviemaking is not nearly as interesting as the subject. But this portrait of the historian, activist and author (*A People's History of the United States*) gets by on Zinn's appeal. Tall, angular in the face and ready to stand up for the causes he believes in, Zinn is a real-life Atticus Finch. The movie chronicles Zinn's early years working in a shipyard and as a bomber during World War II, covers his years teaching at Spelman in Atlanta and at BU (where he led protests, respectively, for civil rights and against the Vietnam War) and follows him today, speaking out against the war in Iraq and talking to students about the American history their textbooks ignore. (At the Coolidge Corner.)

Mean Girls ★★

With a comic tone pitched somewhere between *Heathers* and *Clueless*, writer and co-star Tina (*Saturday Night Live*) Fey's comedy comes off like a watered-down version of both—not as savage as the former nor as stylized as the latter. Perhaps the problem was shoehorning the story to appeal to the preteen audience of star Lindsay Lohan. She plays a 16-year-old who's been living in Africa with her zoologist parents and is now entering a conventional high school for the first time. She gets taken under the wing of the school's popular girls and soon becomes consumed by the vain, territorial teen princesses' wicked ways. While respectable (and respectful of its audience), Fey's anti-gossip, pro-sisterhood tale is long-winded and not all that funny. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Saved! ★★

You'll find no argument from me about this comedy's message, as it pokes fun at the repression and hypocrisy of religious fundamentalism. And the cast, playing students at American Eagle Christian High School, includes Jena Malone, Patrick Fugit and even Macauley Culkin and Mandy Moore doing some of their best work (love the end-credits duet of the Beach Boys' "God Only Knows" by Moore and co-producer Michael Stipe). But director and co-writer Brian Dannelly has made such a simplistic and smug movie that it's really only preaching to the converted, and you get the feeling he thinks his movie is much more outrageous than it really is. The film is only slightly less self-righteous than those it mocks. Check out the documentary *Hell House*, about the scare tactics of a Dallas Pentecostal haunted house, for the real thing. (At Kendall Square.)

Still, We Believe: The Boston Red Sox Movie ★★★

It's good to see the Red Sox get some attention—you hardly hear anything about those guys these days. Surprisingly, this documentary about the Sox' 2003 season manages not to be redundant, because it focuses on eight different fans, most of whom are pretty colorful. My favorites are Brockton realist Jermaine, inseparable East Boston diehards Erin and Jessamy and, last but not least, Watertown pessimist "Angry Bill." His mood swings (over the course of a game, an inning or even an at-bat) are priceless, and something with which every Sox fan can commiserate. There's a lot of pain going on, especially come Game Seven against the Yankees, but this is a pleasure to watch. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Super Size Me ★★★

See Morgan. See Morgan eat only at McDonald's for 30 days. See Morgan's weight balloon, his cholesterol shoot up and his liver start to break down. Director Morgan Spurlock, sort of a lighter (and lighter-touch) Michael Moore, serves up his McBinge very amusingly, in order to expose the poison of American fast food. He plays the role of guinea pig with such a commitment and sense of humor that the rather depressing message of *Super Size Me* goes down easier. Whether Spurlock intended it or not, the larger picture of this country that his movie paints is a frightening one of total decadence, self-indulgence and slavishness to profit and instant gratification, at the expense of common sense and humanity. (At Coolidge Corner, Harvard Square and Waltham Embassy.)

Troy ★★½

Sword-and-sandals epics like this Trojan War movie are always a little cheesy, and this one is no different. The arch dialogue and "hey, look at these expensive sets!" feeling are to be expected, as are the CGI hordes of battlers. But not the fact that half the action with the star (Brad Pitt as warrior extraordinaire Achilles) is just plain goofy. Yet Wolfgang Petersen's movie can impress, especially in the showdown between Achilles and Eric Bana's Hector. That crucial scene is well shot and imaginatively scored, and unlike most fight scenes these days, it's *not* confusing. Meanwhile, Brian Cox brings some Yosemite Sam rootin'-tootin' fire to Agamemnon—the Greek king who finds a convenient excuse to stage an invasion (doesn't *that* sound familiar?)—and Peter O'Toole adds class as Trojan king Priam. But listless German actress Diane Kruger as Helen, the face that launched a thousand ships? Not likely. (At Loews Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL

Movies by Moonlight

Until Sept. 10, every Friday night at dusk, the Boston Harbor Hotel hosts a free movie screening.

•June 25, **To Kill a Mockingbird** *1962*. Gregory Peck plays Atticus Finch in Robert Mulligan's adaptation of Harper Lee's popular novel. •July 2, **Yankee Doodle Dandy** *1942*. The classic musical tells the life story of composer, singer, actor and playwright George M. Cohan. Hugh MacMullen and John Curtiz direct.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Ninth Annual IberoAmerican Film Festival

•June 24, 6 pm. **Ratas, Ratones y Rateros** *(Rodents) 1999*. Sebastian Cordero's film follows a petty thief who gets pulled deeper into Ecuador's crime world.

The Woman from Lowell: Bette Davis

•June 28, 6 pm. **All About Eve** *1950*. Joseph L. Mankiewicz' film stars Davis as a famous actress whose secretary, Eve, has aspirations to replace her.

BRATTLE THEATRE

Local Premiere

•June 23 and 24, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm. **This So-Called Disaster** *2003*. Director Michael Almereyda's film is a behind-the-scenes look at preparations for Sam Shepard's most recent play, *The Late Henry Moss*, which focuses on the playwright's relationship with his father.

Special Features

•June 25-July 8, 2:30, 5, 7:20 and 9:40 pm. **The Time of the Wolf** *2003*. A family tries to cope with the harsh conditions of a post-apocalyptic world in Michael Haneke's film.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Box Office Babies

•July 5, 1 pm. The Coolidge's new biweekly series provides an infant-friendly setting for viewing recent international, independent, and documentary films. Titles are announced the week prior to screening at www.coolidge.org.

Coolidge Selects

•Now playing. **Word Wars** *2004*. Eric Chaikin and Julian Petrillo's documentary explores the world of competitive Scrabble.

•Now playing. **The Story of the Weeping Camel** *2003*. Nomadic shepherds in South Mongolia work to save a newborn camel after its mother abandons it. Byambasuren Davaa and Luigi Falorni direct.

•Opens June 25. **Howard Zinn: You Can't Be Neutral on a Moving Train** *2004*. This documentary, directed by Deb Ellis and Denis Mueller, chronicles the life of historian and political activist Howard Zinn. Zinn appears in person for a special screening June 29.

•Opens July 2. **Before Sunset** *2004*. Ethan Hawke and Julie Delpy star as former lovers who reunite in Paris in Richard Linklater's sequel to his 1995 film, *Before Sunrise*.

Jazz in June Film Series

•June 28, 7:30 pm. **Oscar Aleman: A Swinging Life** *2002*. Hernán Gaffet's film tells the life story of Argentine jazz musician Oscar Aleman.

Midnight Movies—Kung Fu

•June 26, 12 am. **Dance of Death** *1976*. Angela Mao stars in Jeung-Wa Chan's comedy about a girl who tricks two kung fu masters into teaching her their skills.

•July 3, 12 am. **Royal Warriors** *1986*. Michelle Yeoh stars as a Hong Kong policewoman in David Chung's film.

Midnight Movies—Tarantino!

•June 25 and 26, 12 am. **Jackie Brown** *1997*. Pam Grier stars as the title character in Quentin Tarantino's film about a group of criminals trying to pull off a job.

•July 2 and 3, 12 am. **Kill Bill: Vol. 1 & 2** (double feature) *2003/2004*. Quentin Tarantino's latest film, shown in two parts, stars Uma Thurman as a former assassin who exacts revenge on her old gang after they murder her wedding party.

Summertime Blues

•July 5, 7:30 pm. **Nina Simone: Love Sorceress** *1998*. Rene Letzgus' film captures Simone live at a 1976 Paris concert that many consider to be her best performance. A live performance by Paul White precedes the screening.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Contemporary Hollywood Cinema

•June 30, 7 pm. **Easy Rider** *1969*. Dennis Hopper directed and co-wrote this film about two potheads on a cross-country motorcycle ride. Hoffman, co-writer Peter Fonda and Jack Nicholson star. •Also showing, 9 pm. **Shaft** *1971*. Richard Roundtree stars as John Shaft, a black detective in Harlem who is forced to mediate between the Mob, Harlem drug lords and the police. Gordon Parks directs.

Treasures from the Harvard Film Archive—A to Z: A Is for Aldrich Westerns

•June 26, 7 pm; June 28, 9 pm. **Vera Cruz** *1954*. A former Confederate army leader (Gary Cooper) becomes a frontier mercenary after losing his plantation. Robert Aldrich directs. •Also showing, June 26, 9 pm; June 27, 7 pm. **Ulzana's Raid** *1972*. Burt Lancaster stars as an army guide who joins a cavalry lieutenant in search of a dangerous Apache, Ulzana. Aldrich directs.

B is for Backstage

•June 28, 7 pm; June 29, 9:30 pm. **Sweethearts** *1938*. W.S. Van Dyke's operetta tells the story of a Broadway stage couple who have an opportunity to move to Hollywood. Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy star. •Also showing, June 28, 9 pm and June 29, 7 pm. **The Boy Friend** *1971*. Ken Russell's musical stars Twiggy as an aspiring actress who replaces the leading lady in a in a play.

C is for Chekhov

•July 1, 7 pm; July 2, 9 pm. **Dyadya Vanya** *(Uncle Vanya) 1970*. Andrei Konchalovsky directs this adaptation of Chekhov's famous play about a professor and his new wife who return to the estate of his deceased first wife. •Also showing, July 1, 9 pm; July 2, 7 pm. **Neokonchennaya Pyesa Dyla Mekhanicheskogo Pianino** *(An Unfinished Piece for a Player Piano) 1977*. In Nikita Mikhalkov's adaptation of Chekhov's play *Platanov*, two former lovers reunite at a country estate in early-20th-century Russia.

D is for Depardieu

•July 3, 7 pm; July 4, 9 pm. **Mon Oncle D'Amerique** *(My Uncle in America) 1980*. This film directed by Alain Resnais illustrates the theories of French behavioral scientist Henri Laborit (who appears in the film) through stories of three ordinary people, including Gerard Depardieu's factory manager. •Also showing, July 3, 9 pm; July 4, 7 pm. **Maitresse** *1973*. Depardieu plays a young thief who falls in love with a professional dominatrix after she catches him in her home. Barbet Schroeder directs.

E is for Ealing

•July 5, 7 pm; July 6, 8:45 pm. **The Man in the White Suit** *1951*. Alexander Mackendrick's British satire stars Alec Guinness as a textile mill worker who invents a type of fabric that never wears out or becomes dirty. •Also showing, July 5, 8:45 pm; July 6, 7 pm. **The Titfield Thunderbolt** *1953*. In Charles Crichton's film, the inhabitants of a small English village take over the local train line when British Railways threatens to shut it down.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Boston Jewish Film Festival

•June 24, 8 pm; June 27, 2 pm. **Divan** *2003*. This documentary follows filmmaker Pearl Gluck as she travels from New York to Hungary in search of a family heirloom. A screening of the short film *A Good Uplift (2003)*, about a lingerie shop run by a Jewish grandmother, precedes the film.

•July 1, 8 pm. **Welcome to the Waks Family** *2002*. Barbara Chobocky's documentary follows the lives of the 17 children and two parents that make up the Orthodox Australian Waks family. The film is preceded by a screening of **My Brother's Wedding** *2003*. Brookline resident Daniel Akiba documents his brother Jonah's wedding in Israel following Jonah's surprising shift to Orthodox Judaism.

Special Engagements

•June 24, 2:30 pm; June 25, 8:30 pm; June 26, 2:1 pm; June 27, 3:45 pm; July 1, 6 pm; July 2, 8 pm; Jul 3, 3:30 pm. **Depuis qu'Otar est Parti** *(Since Ota Left) 2003*. Julie Bertuccelli's film tells the story three generations of women who are affected by th absence of a family member.

•June 24, 6:15 pm; June 25, 6:30 pm; June 26, 4:1 pm; July 3, 2 pm. **Hukkle** *2002*. Gyorgy Palf's filn which takes its title from the Hungarian word f *hiccup*, is a humorous look at the antics of village in a small hamlet.

•June 24, 4:30 pm; June 26, 10:30 am; June 2 10:30 am; July 2, 6:15 pm; July 3, 12:15 pm. **Lo Boys of Sudan** *2003*. Megan Mylan and Jon Shenk documentary follows two Sudanese orphans as th adjust to life in suburban America.

•June 26, 12:15 pm. **Do It Your Damn Self!! N tional Youth Video and Film Festival**. This yout curated festival features 17 productions created e tirely by teens.

•June 26, 7 pm. **Thirst** *2004 (sneak preview)*. Al Snitow and Deborah Kaufman co-produced th documentary about the struggle between activi and corporations over the privatization of water.

•June 27, 12:15 pm. **Trouble in Paradise** *200* Laurel Greenberg's documentary follows Floridia who were inspired to become politically active f lowing the 2000 presidential election. The film preceded by a screening of **Today I Vote for**



Ashley Judd and Kevin Kline star as Linda and Cole Porter in the musical *De-Lovely*.



Mandy Moore (center) and Jena Malone (center right) star in the comedy *Saved!*

oey 2003. Aviva Kempner's film follows a group of 'alm Beach residents who are disturbed to find out hat votes they intended for the first Jewish vice residential candidate have actually been counted oward Pat Buchanan in the 2000 presidential lection.

1USEUM OF SCIENCE
1ugar Omni Theater
Through Sept. 4. **India: Kingdom of the Tiger.** Explore the kingdom of the Bengal tiger, from the Himalayas to Rajasthan. *Call for show times.*
Through Sept. 6. **Adrenaline Rush: The Science of isk.** Explore the inner workings of the body as one imps out of a plane or even asks someone out on a ate. *Call for show times.*
Through Oct. 1. **Forces of Nature.** Experience ie power of earthquakes, volcanoes, and storms as ientists attempt to forecast and understand them. *all for show times.*

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
Simons IMAX Theater
•Through Sept. 6. **Ghosts of the Abyss.** Director James Cameron takes audiences two miles beneath the sea's surface to explore the wreckage of the Titanic. *Call for show times.*
•Through Sept. 6. **Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban.** The third film to be adapted from J.K. Rowling's popular series about the adventures of a gifted young wizard. Alfonso Cuarón directs. *Call for show times.*
•Through Sept. 6. **Into The Deep.** This film explores a kelp forest off the coast of Southern California and its many inhabitants. *Call for show times.*
•Through Sept. 6. **NASCAR 3D.** Experience life in the fast lane with NASCAR pit crews and drivers clocking over 200 mph. *Call for show times.*
•Through Sept. 6. **Ocean Wonderland 3D.** This film explores the ocean floor of the Bahamas and Australia's Great Barrier Reef, with their sharks, sting rays and rainbows of tropical fish. *Call for show times.*
•Through Sept. 6. **Volcanoes of the Deep Sea.** Dive to the bottom of the sea with a team of scientists, as they explore hydrothermal vents, shipwrecked gardens, predators and bioluminescent creatures. *Call for show times.*

SPECIAL EVENTS
Boston International Film Festival
•June 24-27. The second annual BIFF features the work of independent filmmakers from around the world. Screenings are held at John Hancock Hall and the Hynes Convention Center and include feature-length, short, documentary, and student works. Films featuring Kathy Bates (*The Ingrate*), Steve Guttenberg (*The Stranger*), Rachel Bilson (*Unbroken*), and Ally Sheedy (*Noise*) also screen. *See www.bifilmfestival.com for show times.*

Cinema Venues

BELMONT
Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

BOSTON
Boston Harbor Hotel
70 Rowes Wharf. (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.
Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.
Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.
Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.
Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.
Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.
Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.
New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

BROOKLINE
Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Reservoir.
Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE
Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.
Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.
Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
MIT
77 Mass. Ave, Room 4-370. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.

NEWTON
Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.
West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE
Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.
Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.





Do the Evolution

Incubus takes an aggressive turn left of the political.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Few songs have detonated on rock radio recently with the impact of Incubus' "Megalomanic," fueled by Mike Einziger's dive-bombing guitar riffs and Brandon Boyd's agitated chorus: "You're no Jesus, you're no Elvis, you're no answer!" The song's video has also generated election-year controversy for the way it juxtaposes imagery of Jesus, Adolph Hitler and a George W. Bush look-alike.

"All of a sudden, the song took on this strong political meaning, which was fine by us, but that wasn't originally the intent of the lyrics or the song," says Einziger, who gives sole credit for the video's concept to director Floria Sigismondi. "Lyrically, the place that Brandon is coming from is that he's sort of a social observer."



Guitarist Mike Einziger (left) and Incubus play two area shows in July.

Not that the Incubus view of the White House is pretty. "Bush is awful," says Einziger, whose band plays July 2 at the Dunkin' Donuts Center in Providence, R.I., and July 3 at the Worcester Centrum Centre. "He needs to be out of office at all costs. But we're musicians. We're not trying to be politicians."

In any case, MTV has taken more kindly to the Sigismondi-directed video for the group's new single "Talk Shows on Mute." Building on the song's Orwellian references, that video depicts people as animals on a TV studio set. "It covers some scary, dark subject matters," says Einziger. "But the video's kinda humorous, so it's a nice contrast."

When it comes to contrast, there is a marked difference between *A Crow Left of the Murder*, the new Incubus CD that launched those singles, and the band's previous two albums.

On 1999's *Make Yourself* (with its breakthrough hits "Drive" and "Pardon Me") and 2001's *Morning View* (which gave rise to "Nice to Know You" and "Wish You Were Here"), Incubus got more in touch with female fans though layered acoustic guitars and frontman Boyd's sensitive charisma. "I like to indulge myself and say that it's all about the music," says Einziger. "I'll just keep my head in the clouds that way."

However, the Southern California quintet flies in a new direction on the more aggressive and up-tempo *A Crow Left of the Murder*. "Improvisation and spontaneity are very important, and there's much more of that on this record than any of the records we've made recently," the guitarist says from a London tour stop. "Our early recordings were a lot more immature and scatterbrained, but there were a lot of spontaneous things happening. It was fun to make those recordings. This record embodies the same spirit as that."

He adds that the CD was "the most natural and effortless record we've ever made"—and the fastest, taking only two weeks for the basic tracks, and less than that for mixing. "We were all in the same room playing together live, and that's what makes up the body of the record, having it be really raw and having all the mistakes in there."

Producer Brendan O'Brien, best known for his work with Pearl Jam, facilitated the process. "He loves to do things really quickly," Einziger says. "He doesn't like to sit around and think about things too hard."

O'Brien's extensive collection of guitars, including a pedal steel and the hammered dulcimer–like guitarophone, were also an attraction to Einziger. "He's just got all these strange instruments and we had a really great time."

The guitarist also credits new Incubus bassist Ben Kenney, formerly of hip-hop group the Roots, for his role on the record. "Ben's actually a much more skilled guitar player than I am," he says. "He's always got a million ideas for changing things around or switching rhythms or chords."

Incubus benefits as well from the atmospheric presence of DJ Kilmore (Chris Kilmore) on turntables. "He comes up with all these strange noises and ethereal soundscapes, then he puts them all down onto vinyl and integrates them into our songs, in the right places at the right times," Einziger says. "It adds another sonic element."

However, the group's core chemistry comes down to Einziger, Boyd and drummer Jose Pasillas, who have been friends since grade school in Calabasas, Calif. Along with original bassist Dirk Lance, they started the band during their sophomore year at Calabasas High, influenced by Primus and the Red Hot Chili Peppers, and graduated in 1994. Incubus released its first CD in 1995 and grew from there, playing clubs and festivals as diverse as Ozzfest, Lollapalooza and Moby's Area: One.

"I couldn't imagine what it would be like being in a band with people that I didn't have a personal relationship with," Einziger says. "It's a rare thing to find people you like on a personal level and want to spend your time and energy with anyway, to go on and travel the world and make music together. We feel very fortunate." iB

Incubus
plays the Dunkin' Donuts Center in Providence, R.I., July 2 and the Worcester Centrum Centre July 3.

Advice to Contributors
Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or by email to music@improper.com. Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers
Information for the Music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double-check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Aerosmith and Cheap Trick June 24, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Eric Clapton July 3 and 4, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Harry Connick Jr. June 30, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Earth, Wind & Fire and Chicago June 30, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000)
Emergenza Festival Finals June 26, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Keane June 23, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Angelique Kidjo and Femi Kuti June 25, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Madonna June 27, 28, 30 and July 1, Worcester Centrum (617-931-2000).
Aimee Mann with Julian Coryell June 29, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Dave Matthews Band, Nappy Roots July 6 and 7, Tweeter Center (617-831-2000).
Tim McGraw June 26, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
The Moody Blues June 25, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Gladys Knight June 26, Hatch Shell (617-727-1300).
Ozric Tentacles July 6, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Primus June 23, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Chris Robinson and the New Earth Mud June 26, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Sting and Annie Lennox June 28 and 29, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
The Streets and Dizzee Rascal June 28, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Vandermark 5 July 1, Zeitgeist Gallery (617-876-6060).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23

Abbey Lounge Distinguished Members, 9:30 pm; Bottlefight, 10:30 pm; Roma, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Asgard Tom Groleau, 9 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Sundays Well, 9:30 pm.
The Breezeway Zak Cruz Quartet, 7:30-10:30 pm.
The Burren Jenny Reynolds and Steve Saddler, pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues Jam, 9pm cover varies, 21+. Downstairs: Boston Poetry Slam 8pm, cover varies. 21+.
Club Passim Meg Hutchinson, 8pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20-12 am, no cover
The Fireplace Rick Costa, 9:30 pm-12 am, no cove
FleetBoston Pavilion Primus, 7:30 pm, $40.
Green Street Grill Alida Rohr & David Maxwel 10:30 pm, $8.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damdaard.
Harper's Ferry The Beantown Project's Wednesd Night Funky Ass Residency, $5, 21+.
Johnny D's Richard Buckner and Stephen Cla 8:30 pm, $10.
Middle East Tramps Like Us, Sunday Driv Gainer, Army of Me, $8, 18+. Downstairs: Chiv Regal presents: La Ley, $30, 18+.
Milky Way Momentum, 9pm, $3-5.
Paradise Keane, Matt Pond PA, Aveo, 9 pm, $2 18+.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30-12:45 a
Ryles Jazz Club The Gladstones & Jeffrey Simmo 8:30 pm, $6.
Scullers Mike Melvoin Trio, $14.
Toad Deb Pasternak, 7-9 pm; Bill McQuaid & Bar 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30-12:30 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Elgin James, 9:10 pm; Squ Five-O, 10:05 pm; Jesse Malin, 11 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Leo Blanco.

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Sunday, July 4th
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ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Bryan Adams Aug. 8, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Allman Brothers Band and Los Lonely Boys Aug. 21, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Arrested Development July 25, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Barenaked Ladies and Alanis Morissette Aug. 9, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Big Head Todd and the Monsters July 18, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Jimmy Buffet Sept. 10 and 12, Fenway Park (617-931-2000).
Johnny Clegg July 8, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).
Phil Collins Sept. 15, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
The Corrs Aug. 28, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Cowboy Junkies and Shawn Colvin July 7, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Crosby, Stills & Nash July 22, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Howie Day, Matt Nathanson and O.A.R. Aug. 5, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
The Dead and Warren Haynes July 30 and 31, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Ben Folds, Rufus Wainwright and Guster July 8 and 11, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Kenny G and Michael Bolton Sept. 20, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000)
Gipsy Kings July 21, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Josh Groban July 27, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Daryl Hall & John Oates and Michael McDonald July 17, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Hanson July 22, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Heart Sept. 11, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000)
Chris Isaak July 14, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Jack Johnson and G Love & Special Sauce Sept. 15, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000)
Norah Jones Aug. 31, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
B.B. King Blues Festival with Dr. John Sept. 2, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000)
Carole King July 25, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Kiss and Poison July 16, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
K.D. Lang July 9, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Huey Lewis and the News Aug. 21, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Linkin Park, Korn, Snoop Dogg, the Used and Less Than Jake July 29, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Lyle Lovett July 10, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
John Mayer, Maroon 5 and DJ Logic Aug. 20, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Ozzfest with Ozzy Osbourne, Judas Priest, Slayer and Slipknot July 12, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Papa Roach July 10, Axis (617-423-NEXT)
Rush Aug. 12, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Rod Stewart July 20, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Three Doors Down and Nickelback July 13, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
311, the Roots and Medeski, Martin & Wood July 23, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).

THURSDAY, JUNE 24

Abbey Lounge Furvis, 9 pm; Linus, 9:45 pm; Senor Happy, 10:30; The Spaceshots, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Asgard PM Blues, 9 pm, no cover.
The Atrium at the Mary Baker Eddy Library Harry Fix, 6-8 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Sundays Well, 9:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's ZMQ, 7 pm, no cover.
The Breezeway Serious Bizness Quartet
The Burren Swingin' Johnsons, 10pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: New Day, 9 pm, cover varies. 21+. Downstairs: The Posse Improv, 8 pm cover varies, 21+
Club Passim Sarah Lee Guthrie and Johnny Irion with the Mammals, 8pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Rumor Hazzet, 7:20-12 am, no cover.
The Fireplace Gwen Leathers, 9:30 pm-12 am, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Harper's Ferry Slate, $6, 18+.
Johnny D's Tony Sarno Band, 9 pm, 21+.
Kinsale Stretch
Kirkland Café Hyphens; Fitless; Honey Deluxe, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Victory at Sea, Lockgroove, the Paper Chase and Charlene, $9, 18+. Downstiars: Concerts for Kerry: Count Zero, the Damn Personals, Dear Leader, the Fly Seville, Freezepop and UV Protection, $20, 18+.
PA's Rosie Huntress 9 pm
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett & Friends.
Ryles Jazz Club Don Freidman Trio, 8:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Gato Barbieri, $28.
Sweetwater Cafe Me and This Kid.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Toad Electrolux, 7-9 pm; Carla Ryder and Her Band, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Waking Vision Trio, 9:15 pm; Iluminada, 10:15 pm; Seneca, 11:15 pm; Baby Boy H, 12:15 am, $7.
Tweeter Center Aerosmith and Cheap Trick, 7 pm, $35-$75.
Zeitgeist Gallery Jazz in Mind, 8-11 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown.

FRIDAY, JUNE 25

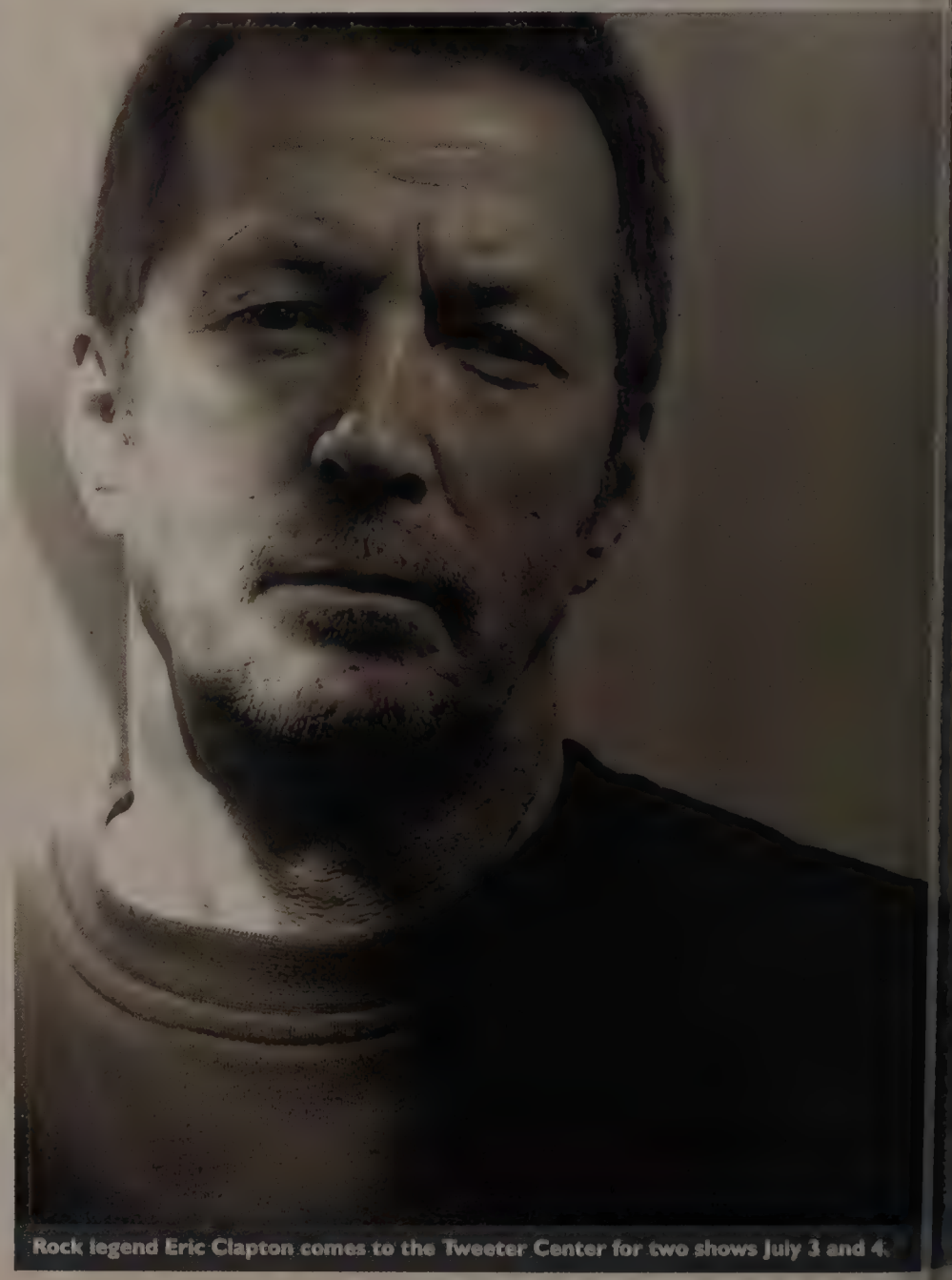
Abbey Lounge Gout 32, 10:30 pm; Triple Thick, $5-$7, 21+.
Asgard Ripchordz, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Atrium at the Mary Baker Eddy Library Theresa Perez, 6-8 pm, no cover.
The Attic Spooky Daly Pride.
Avalon Angelique Kidjo and Femi Kuti, 6:30 pm, $25.25, 18+.
The Black Rose Jim Coyle, 4:30 pm; Upstairs: Curraghs Fancy, 9:30 pm; Downstairs: Sundays Well, 9:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Jazz Quartet, 7:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren The Troubadours, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+. Downstairs: DJ du Jour, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Choppin Block Left to Prove
Club Passim Anne Heaton 7 pm, $14; Frank Marotta, Jr., 10pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm-1:30 am, no cover.
The Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the No Way Jose Band, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Weepin Willie, 7:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Pig Pen.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Hoochies.
The Harp Peatmoss. $10. 10 pm.
Harper's Ferry Sam Kinnger $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Felix Brown.
Johnny D's III Kings and JT & the Dirty Truth, 9:45 pm, 21+.
Kirkland Café Club Bohemia 11-Year Anniversary Party, no cover.
Lizard Lounge So and So's.
Middle East Upstairs: VUE, Black Cat Music, Evening, Hero Pattern, $8, 18+. Downstairs: Russian Boston Rock Club Presents: Chizh & Blues Co. w/ special guests Zheka Koshmar & Ku-Ku, $30 in advance, $40 day of show, 18+.
Midway Café The Jody Grind, Particle Zero.
Paradise Flynn with Laura Glyda Band, 9pm, $7, 21+.
Parris Speed, $5.
PA's Deep C, 10 pm; Henry, 11 pm.
Plough and Stars Ken Selcer & Friends, 6 pm; Steve Mardon, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Michigan Blacksnake CD-release party, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Gato Barbieri, $28.
Sweetwater Cafe Tom Groleau.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.
Toad Guitarzan! with Russell Chudnofsky, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm-1 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Headband, 9:15 pm; Emergency Music, 10:15 pm; Mittens CD Release, 11:15 pm; Runner & the Thermodynamics, 12:15 am, $8.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio.

SATURDAY, JUNE 26

Abbey Lounge The Deterrents, 10:30 pm; Downbeat 5, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+
Asgard El Gringo, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Attic Bill Deasy.
Avalon Emergenza Festival Finals, 4 pm, $18, 18+; Fluttr.
The Black Rose Jim Coyle, 4:30 pm; Upstairs: Curragh's Fancy, 9:30 pm; Downstairs: Sundays Well, 9:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's The BlackSole Network, 7:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren The Billy D Band, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9pm, cover varies. 21+.
Club Passim Kenny White, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Death by Marriage, 8:30-1:30 am, no cover.
The Good Life Cambridge Weepin Willie, 9:30 pm.
The Good Life Downtown Jim Porcella Trio with special guest, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Cape Fear.
The Green Dragon Tavern Random Axis.
The Harp Peatmoss, $10, 10 pm.
Harper's Ferry Adam Ezra Group and Patrick MacAloon Band, $8, 21+.
The Hatch Shell Gladys Knight, 7 pm, no cover.
Johnny D's Nicole Nelson, 9:45 pm, $10, 21+.
Kinsale Brick Park.
Kirkland Café Wide Iris, Garage Dogs, My Flash on You and Simon Ritt, $5.
Lizard Lounge So and So's.
Middle East Upstairs: What's Up 7th Anniversary Benefit Show: Anti-Love Project, Gabe Boyer and the Thousand Eyes, Nate Gibson and the Gashouse Gang, Miss Dominica K, Three Day Threshold and the Stairs, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Rubyhorse CD-release show and the Everyday Visuals, $12, 18+.
Midway Café The Instrumentals and Ricky Rocksteady.
Paradise Chris Robinson and the New Earth Mud, 9 pm, $20, 18+.
Parris Speed, $5.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 5 pm; Stàn Martin, 9:30 pm.
Purple Shamrock Brick Park.
Ryles Jazz Club Cuban Jazz Reunion, featuri Aruan Ortiz, Francisco Mela, John Lockwood a Antoine Roney. 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Gato Barbieri, $28. .
Sweetwater Cafe Todd Martin.
Tír na nÓg Los Diablos.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 7-9 pm; Dav Johnston, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm-1 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Paranoid, 9:15; the Mo Sons, 10:15 pm; Throttlerod, 11:15 pm; Quinta Americana, 12:15 am, $8.
Tweeter Center Tim McGraw, 7:30 pm. $80-$45
Les Zygomates Yoko Miwa.

SUNDAY, JUNE 27

The Black Rose Jim Coyle, 4:30 pm; Sundays W 9:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Sunday jazz brunch with Pa Danay Jazz Quartet, 10 am, no cover.
The Burren O'Malley's March Band, 9 pm.
The Breezeway Michael Shea Trio.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9pm, co varies, 21+.
Club Passim The Loomers, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Sunday brunch with Big Ti 10-3 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnso
Johnny D's Ridgley Snow, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Kenndy's Midtown Nina Vansuch and At Movies, 7 pm, $20.
Kinsale Houghie Purcell.
Middle East Downstairs: Iron & Wine, Cass M Combs, Lang Try, $14, 18+.
Midway Café Whilliker.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett, 8 pm.
Paradise Lounge: David Mead with Frank Bango pm, $8, 21+.
Plough and Stars Hatrack Gallagher & Ric Ma Trio, 5 pm; Coachmen, 9 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday jazz brunch with Bob (10 am, no cover.
Scullers Gato Barbieri, $28.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.



Rock legend Eric Clapton comes to the Tweeter Center for two shows July 3 and 4.

oad Jenny Reynolds, 7-9 pm; "Session Ameri-ana" with Ry Cavanaugh, Sean Staples, Dinty Child, Jimmy Fitting and Billy Beard, 10 pm, no over.
op of the Hub Bourbon Street Paraders, 12-2pm; aul Nagel Trio, 8 pm-12 am.
.T. the Bear's Place The Memory Effect CD-re-ase show, 10:15 pm, $5.
/orcester Centrum Madonna, 8 pm, $45-$300.
eitgeist Gallery 2120 South Michigan Avenue, 7-pm, $8; Andrew Kim Quintet, 9:30 pm, $7.

1ONDAY, JUNE 28

valon The Streets and Dizzee Rascal, 8 pm, $17.25, 3+.
ıe Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm.
antab Lounge Upstairs: Open mike, 8 pm; Brad eyer 9:30 pm, cover varies. 21+. Downstairs: omics-on-Edge, 8 pm, cover varies, 21+.
ick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20-12 am, no ver.
ıe Green Briar Irish Seisiun, no cover, 21+.
nsale Eamon Sheehan.
iddle East Upstairs: The Murder Junkies, the Jab-rs, Musclecah, $9, 18+.
idway Café Exemious Productions.
r. Dooley's Patsy and Tony Live.
radise Abdel Wright, Meika Pauley. Lounge: Cit-n Cope 8 pm, $8, 18+.
ough and Stars Jeremy Lyons, 9:30 pm.
· na nÓg Jimmy Ryan.
ad Shwang, featuring Anita Suhanin, 7-9 pm; ıe Tim Gearan Band, 10 pm, no cover.
p of the Hub Paul Nagel Trio, 8 pm-12 am.
eeter Center Sting and Annie Lennox, 7 pm, 2.50-$127.50.
orcester Centrum Madonna, 8 pm, $45-$300.
itgeist Gallery Dave Tronzo's Funkloric Trio, 0-9:30 pm, $10.

UESDAY, JUNE 29

alon Aimee Mann and Julian Coryell, 8 pm, 5.25, 18+.
e Black Rose Sundays Well, 9:30 pm.
ntab Lounge Upstairs: Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 ; Crooked Still, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+. Down-irs: Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 9pm.
nny D's Strawbs, 8:30 pm, 21+.
sale Tom Courtney.
ard Lounge Monique Ortiz, cover varies, 21+.
dway Café The Ticks.
Dooley's Patsy and Tony Live.
adise Donna De Lory, 9 pm, $15, 18+.
ugh and Stars Lloyd Thayer, 9:30 pm.
es Jazz Club New York Nights, Harry Miller and isfied Souls, 8:30 pm, $7.
illers The Ginamark Band, $12.
na nÓg David Johnston Band.
d Jabe Beyer, Jeremy Curtis, Billy Beard and a Colley, no cover.
of the Hub Tony Carelli Group, 8:30 pm-12:30

the Bear's Place The Knee-Hi's, 9:10 pm; the ts, 10 pm; the Paybacks, 11 pm, $8.
eter Center Sting and Annie Lennox, 7 pm, .50-$127.50.
tgeist Gallery The Anna Vogelzang Folk/Funk eriment, 7-9 pm, $8; New Music for Now, 9:30 12 am, $8.
Zygomates Todne Texeira.

EDNESDAY, JUNE 30

Black Rose Sundays Well, 9:30 pm.
ezeway Lenny Stalworth and the Funk Mob, pm.
tab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues Jam, 9pm, er varies, 21+. Downstairs: Boston Poetry Slam, , cover varies, 21+.
Passim Rushad Eggleston and His Wild Band nee, 8pm, $12.
's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20-12 am, no cover.
Fireplace Harry Fix, 9:30 pm-12 am, no cover.
per's Ferry The Beantown Project, $5, 21+
ny D's Mahavishnu Project, 8:30 pm, 21+.
dle East Upstiars: Washington Social Club, the sure Club and the Lincoln Conspiracy, $8, +18.
y Way Soul Splash, 9 pm, $5.
gh and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30 pm.
s Jazz Club Ben Blanchard and Kara Tondorff, pm, $6.
ers Andy Bey, $20.
Bill McQuaid, 10 pm, no cover.
of the Hub Tony Carelli Group, 8:30 pm.
the Bear's Place Clickers, 9 pm; Night Rally, pm; The Cignal, 10:40 pm; The Bon Savants, 0 pm, $7.
eter Center Earth, Wind & Fire and Chicago, pm, $25.25-$75.25.
cester Centrum Madonna, 8 pm, $45-$300.



The Dave Matthews Band is back this summer for another round of shows at the Tweeter Center, July 6 and 7.

Zeitgeist Gallery Ayn Inserto Jazz Orchestra, 7-9 pm, $8.
Les Zygomates Rusty Scott Quartet.

THURSDAY, JULY 1

Abbey Lounge Old Ragged Flag, 10:30 pm; Lenny and the Pisspoor Boys, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
The Black Rose Sundays Well, 9:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Chris Waller.
Club Passim Ellis Paul, 7 pm, $20.
The Fireplace Irie Roots, 9:30 pm-12 am, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Harper's Ferry Harper's Ferry's Annual Blues Challenge: Dan Lawson Band, 9:30 pm; Mike Crandall Band, 10:30 pm; D & the Heavyweights, 11:30 pm; Killer Kane and the Blue F.O.'s, 12:30 am, $6, 21+.
Hennessy's Me & Julio.
Johnny D's Andrew Grimm, 9 pm, 21+.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Kirkland Café The Din; Blacklisted, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: The Spoilers, Mercury Charm Offensive and the Drags, $8, 18+.
Tír na nÓg Ronan Quinn.
Top of the Hub Tony Carelli Group, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Uprock, End, Drop the Line, Shadetek, Stars as Eyes and Kid 606, 9:30 pm $10.
Worcester Centrum Madonna, 8 pm, $45-$300.
Zeitgeist Gallery Vandermark 5.
Les Zygomates Soul Factor.

FRIDAY, JULY 2

Abbey Lounge Pleasure Club, 11:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Bill's Bar Paranoid Social Club.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm; Downstairs: Sundays Well, 9:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers.
Club Passim Vance Gilbert, 7 pm, $20.
The Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos & the No Way Jose Band, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Weepin Willie, 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Stain Glass Eye.
The Harp Flavor.
Harper's Ferry Harper's Ferry's Annual Blues Challenge: Lisa Marie and All Shook Up, 9:30 pm; Sam Hooper Group, 10:30 pm; Tokyo Tramps, 11:30 pm; Ryan Hartt and the Blue Hearts, 12:30 am, $6, 21+.
Hennessy's Me & Julio, 5-7:30 pm; Felix Brown.
Johnny D's Next Tribe, 9:45 pm, 21+.
Kennedy's Midtown Springhill Rounders.
Kirkland Café The Ticks and the Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: The Fever, Death from Above, Circle and Square, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Dead Meadow, Icarus Line and 400 Blows, $10, 18+.
Milky Way Love Whip, Tru Mystic, 10 pm, $8.
Mr. Dooley's Inchicore.
Parris The Interns.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Club: Funk Soul Friday featuring Brian Walkley's Allnighters, 8 pm, $12. Dance Hall: Juanito Pasqual, 9 pm, $10.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Lateleies.
Top of the Hub Tony Carelli Group, 9 pm-1 am.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio.

SATURDAY, JULY 3

The Black Rose Tom O'Carroll, 4:30 pm; Upstairs: Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm; Downstairs: Sundays Well, 9:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers.
The Good Life Cambridge Weepin Willie, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Good Life Downtown Jim Porcella Trio, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Harp The Zoo.
Harper's Ferry Harper's Ferry's Annual Blues Challenge: Adam Connelly Band, 9:30 pm; Mr. Nick's Blues Mafia, 10:30 pm; Smokestack Lightnin', 11:30 pm; The J Place Band, 12:30 am, $6, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin.
Middle East Upstairs: Scamper, the Spaceshots, the Prids, the Faithfull, $9, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Inchicore.
Parris The Interns.
Top of the Hub Tony Carelli Group, 9 pm-1 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Major Stars, 9:30 pm; Sunburned Hand of the Man, 10:30 pm; Trad Gras och Stenar, 11:45 pm, $10.
Tweeter Center Eric Clapton, Robert Randolph and the Family Band, 7 pm, $45-$95.
Les Zygomates Marrianne Solivan.

SUNDAY, JULY 4

The Black Rose Tom O'Carroll, 4:30 pm; Sundays Well, 9:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
The Green Briar Irish Sessuin, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon The Swinging Johnsons.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Matt Dorko and Larry Kukers, 9-2:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Brunch with Gordon Michaels.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett, 8 pm.
Parris Flavor.
Purple Shamrock Syndicate.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12-2 pm.



Angelique Kidjo brings her tribal and pop rhythms to Avalon June 25, with Femi Kuti.

Tweeter Center Eric Clapton, Robert Randolph and the Family Band, 7 pm, $45-$95.

MONDAY, JULY 5

The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Middle East Upstairs: The Thungs, the Thrones, Sedan, $8, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard.
Tír na nÓg Night in Wyoming.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Heels, 8 pm; Jeff Suszcynksi, 8:50 pm; AJ Crowe and the Murder, 9:40 pm; Mike Murray, 10:40 pm, $3.

TUESDAY, JULY 6

The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
The Green Dragon Shoot the Moon.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Kennedy's Midtown Michael Larson.
Middle East Upstairs: The Nationale Blue, the Pilot Light, Tristan Da Cunha and Vaguely Starshaped, $8, 18+.
Paradise Ozric Tentacles, 8 pm, $16, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Syndicate.
Ryles Jazz Club New York Nights with Felipe Riveros, 8:30 pm, $7.
Tír na nÓg Dave Johnston Band.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm.
Tweeter Center Dave Matthews Band and Nappy Roots, 7 pm, $39.50-$57.
Les Zygomates The Jason Domnarski Trio.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Atrium at the Mary Baker Eddy Library *200 Mass Ave. Boston (617-450-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony or Hynes Convention Center.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Choppin' Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-734-4177). MBTA: Green Line to Brigham Circle.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Dunkin' Donuts Center *One Lasalle Square, Providence, R.I. (401-331-6700).*
The Fireplace *1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington St.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (617-728-1600). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
FleetCenter *One Fleet Center, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
The Good Life Cambridge *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
The Hatch Shell *On the Esplanade, Boston (617-727-1300).*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Paradise Rock Club and Lounge *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
P.A.'s Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Road, Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Sweetwater Café *5 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-2515).*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Tweeter Center *885 South Main St., Mansfield (508-339-2331).*
Worcester Centrum *50 Foster St., Worcester (508-755-6800).*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 33 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-58 1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. Free. The Po land Youth Philharmonic Orchestra and spec guests perform Mozart's *Sinfonia Concertante K. 29* and Tchaikovsky's *Sérénade Mélancolique* under t direction of Mei-Ann Chen.

Society for Historically Informed Performance
John Heard House, 54 South Main St., Ipswich (50 212-6038). www.sohip.org. 8 pm. $10-$15. Lit Knight Music plays a program titled *Baroque, Cla cal, and In-Between: The Music of Kleinknecht,* feat ing a recently reconstructed concerto plus trio a solo sonatas by the 18th-century composer.

THURSDAY, JUNE 24

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-2 1200). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Lin Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$69. Dance Night at the P features swing, mambo and more with guest cond tor Bruce Hangen.

Society for Historically Informed Performance
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (5 212-6038). www.sohip.org. MBTA: Green Lin Arlington. 8 pm. $10-$15. Same program as June

WCRB Classical Concerts at Copley
Copley Square, Boston (781-736-9577) www.w com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12 pm. F Pianist Lois Shapiro joins cellist Rhonda Rider an hour of classical music.

FRIDAY, JUNE 25

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-2 1200). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Lin Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$69. Harpist Catrin Fi joins the Pops and guest conductor Bruce Hange a program titled *Pops Around the World,* featu music from Mexico, Hungary and elsewhere.

SATURDAY, JUNE 26

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617- 1200). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Li Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$69. Harpist Catrin Finch calist Aoife Clancy and the Pops present a m traditional and modern Celtic melodies at C *Night.* Bruce Hangen conducts.

SUNDAY, JUNE 27

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617- 1200). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green L Symphony. 7:30 pm. $16-69. An evening of in tion with the Boston Pops Gospel Choir at C *Night.* Voices from many Boston churches unite conductors Keith Lockhart and Chelsea Tipton

TUESDAY, JUNE 29

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617 1200). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green L Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$69. The Pops' seasonal off, *Bon Voyage!* with Tony award winner Prince, features musical highlights from the se repertoire. Keith Lockhart conducts.

Masterworks Chorale Summer Si
National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Road, L ton (781-235-6210). www.masterworkschoral MBTA: Red Line to Alewife, Bus #62 or Museum. 8 pm. $8-9. The public is invited the chorale, professional soloists, and conc Allen Lammon in singing John Rutter's *Requi*

Society for Historically Informed Performance
St. Peter's Church, 320 Boston Post Road, W (508-212-6038). www.sohip.org. 8 pm. $1(The early-music ensemble Seven Times Sal psalms, ballads, folk songs, dance tunes and *Pilgrim's Progress.*

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (61 1200). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Gree

Symphony. 8 pm. $16-$69. Same program as ne 29.

ociety for Historically Informed erformance
n Heard House, 54 South Main St., Ipswich (508-2-6038). www.sohip.org. 8 pm. $10-$15. Same ogram as June 29

HURSDAY, JULY 1

oston Pops
nphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-226-00). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Line to nphony. 8 pm. $16-65. Keith Lockhart leads the ps and pianist David Deveau in *By George!*, a mu-al tribute to George Gershwin featuring some of composer's best-loved works.

ciety for Historically Informed rformance
manuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (508-?-6038). www.sohip.org. MBTA: Green Line to ington. 8 pm. $10-$15. Same program as June 29.

nglewood Vocal Fellows with the ark Morris Dance Group
i Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. i-65. This fully staged dance and orchestra per-nance, choreographed by Mark Morris and con-ted by Craig Smith, includes dances set to works Bach, Bartok and Vivaldi.

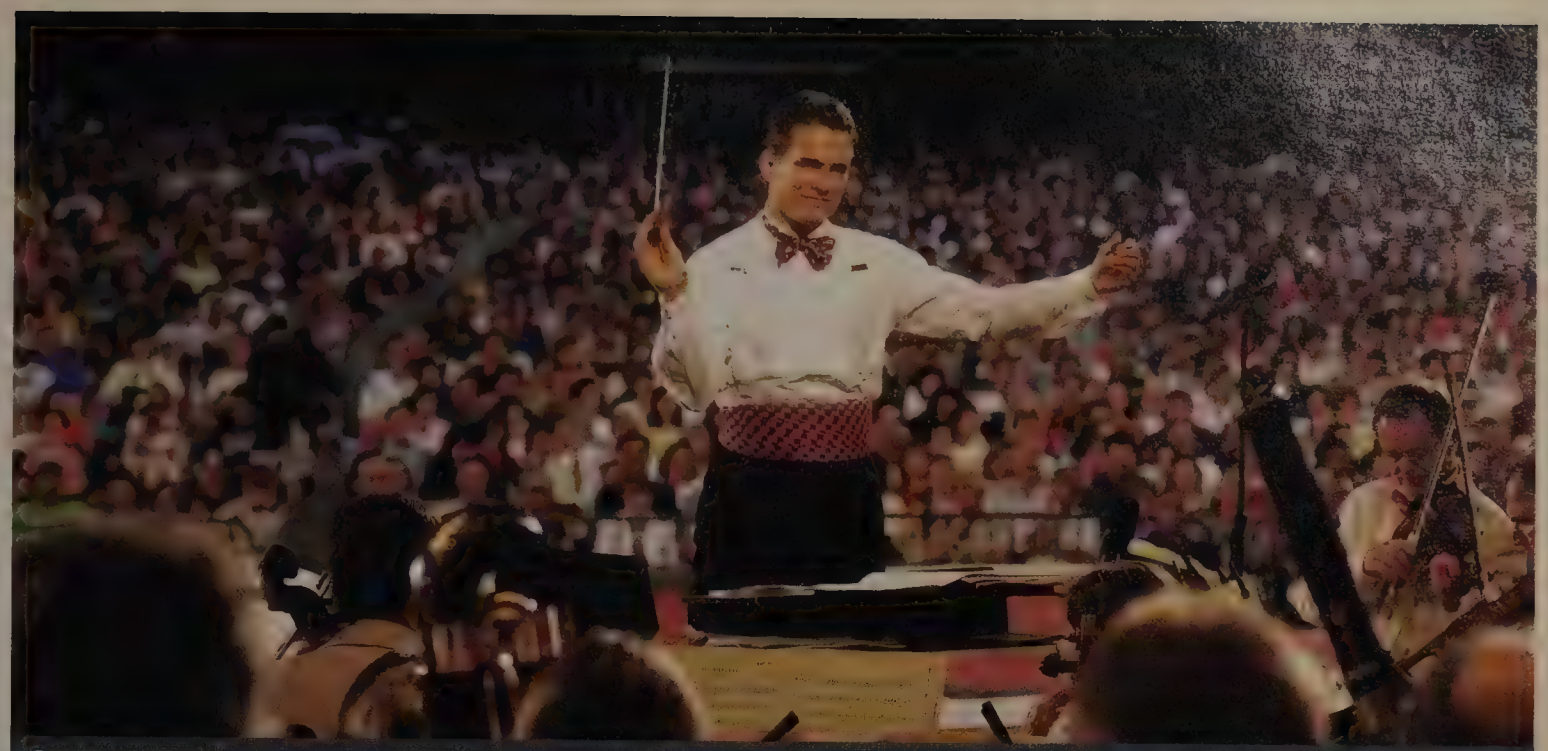
RIDAY, JULY 2

ston Pops
nphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617--1200). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green to Symphony. 8 pm. $16-69. Same program as 1.

nglewood Vocal Fellows with the rk Morris Dance Group
Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. -65. Same program as July 1.

TURDAY, JULY 3

rrison Keillor at Tanglewood
ssevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music Center, West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org.) pm. $16-50. Garrison Keillor of *A Prairie Home*



Conductor Keith Lockhart, celebrating his 10th season with the Boston Pops, leads the orchestra in its traditional Fourth of July concert.

Companion takes the Tanglewood audience back with tales of Lake Wobegon.

Boston Pops Fourth of July Preview
Hatch Shell on the Esplanade, Boston (617-266-1492). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Join conductor Keith Lockhart and the Pops, along with John Oliver and the Tanglewood Festival Chorus, for a preview of patriotic favorites.

SUNDAY, JULY 4

Boston Pops Fourth of July Concert
Hatch Shell on the Esplanade, Boston (617-638-9288). www.bostonpops.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. A free patriotic holiday celebration with Conductor Keith Lockhart and the Pops, along with John Oliver and the Tanglewood Festival Chorus. Live TV broadcast.

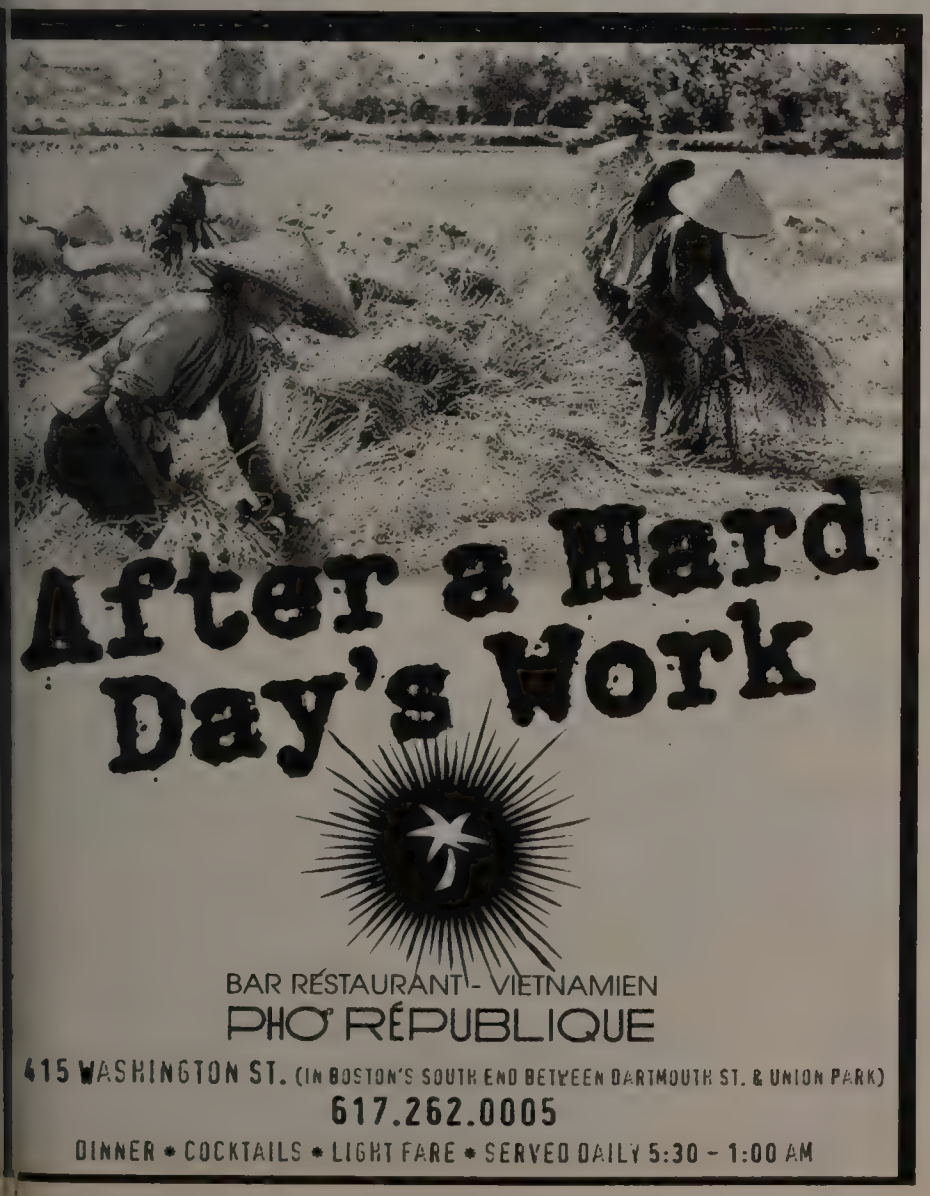
Chamber Music at Tanglewood
Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 10 am. $10. A morning chamber music concert kicks off an all-day celebration for the whole family.

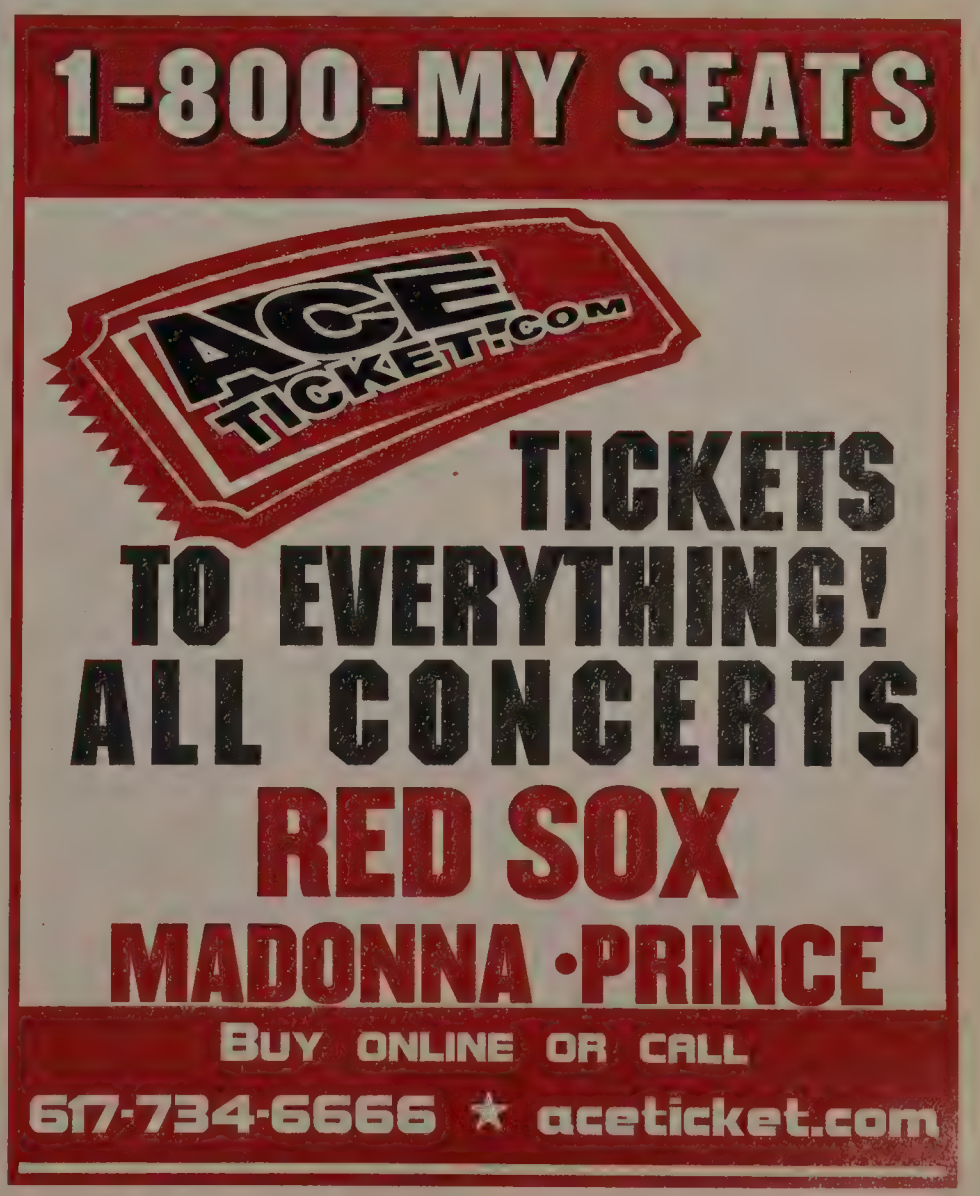
TUESDAY, JULY 6

Boston Baroque at Tanglewood Music Center
Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $15-$45. Martin Pearlman directs the ensemble Boston Baroque in Monteverdi's *Vespers of 1610*.

Masterworks Chorale Summer Sings
National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-235-6210). www.masterworkschorale.org. MBTA: Red Line to Alewife, Bus #62 or 76 to Museum. 8 pm. $8-9. The public is invited to join the chorale, professional soloists, and conductor Allen Lammon in singing Bach's Cantata 4.

Society for Historically Informed Performance
St. Peter's Church, 320 Boston Post Road, Weston (508-212-6038). www.sohip.org. 8 pm. $10-$15. The Beggar Boys explore sonatas, strathspeys, songs and dances in *From Rome to Edinburgh: Italian Currents in 18th-century Scottish Music*:





dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $3 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Jay Ine spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Monsta Mondays Kaptain Krunch spins the best old and new rock, $8, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJs spin R&B and hip-hop, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Dance party with DJ Marco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Bill's Bar
Phat Tuesday DJ D Sharp spins old-school and hip-hop, 19+, college ID required.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Orange DJs John Davis and Pat Fontes bring the house music, and weekly guest DJs spin, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Deep Tones DJ Brynmore spins a mix of reggae, soul, funk, trance and acid jazz, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Marco spins dance music, 6-10 pm. DJ, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Trio
Always Best Tuesday The night features all hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Phat Tuesdays DJ Ron Steele spins hip-hop, R&B reggae and international grooves, 10 pm, 21+. Proper dress required.

WEDNESDAYS

Aria
Lust DJ John Morris spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, $8, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.



Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins Greek and international tunes upstairs while a reggae life band placys downstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
British Accents Presents Starshape DJ Dave spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
DJs spin international house, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Rhythm Nights gets the dance party started upstairs, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up R&B, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mercury Lounge DJs Nomadik and Timmy Allen host a night of soul, funk and house, 9 pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin house and techno, 10 pm, $5 (19+), $3 (21+).

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
International Wednesdays DJ JC is in the Latin Lounge; DJs Alex and Felix spin in the back, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Wacky Wednesdays Magic with Peter Gross, 6-9 pm, DJ Masni all night, no cover, 21+.

Q
Violation Wednesdays Weekly guest DJs spin today's best music, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Cabin Stabbin' Wednesdays DJ Boogie Ba Do spins dub to start the party, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Jazz Wednesdays The Brian Walkley Band brings R&B and dance to the main lounge, 9-11 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B. Downstairs: Live music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Martinez spins salsa, cumbia and merengue on one floor while DJ Supreme spins a New York lounge set (hip-hop, R&B and rock covers) on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime - After Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Walt spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; DJ Roger M and DJ Thanos spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Boston College Hip-Hop Night DJs Caprice, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Mark Morris and Catunes play pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
Karaoke with DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 1 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
DJ Ghost spins international house and hip-hop, pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, M town, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursdays DJs Dubz and 40D spi reggae, R&B and hip-hop, no cover, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou spins, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

I/D
Square One Thursdays DJs Dres and Wagz host night of progressive dance music, 10 pm, $10, 19+

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Massi gets the dance party started upstairs, 8 p no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran sp dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Doc spins the latest tunes, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Milky Way
Club Thursdays Rotating DJ's spin dance music pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Parris
DJ Lou, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando pres drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5 (19 $3 (21+).

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no co 21+.

Pravda 116
DJs spin upbeat lounge music in the front, 10 pm, cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett performs live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Q
Hip Hop Thursdays DJ Craig Smooth spins hop all night long, 9 pm, $5, ladies free all ni 21+.

The Rack
Ibiza DJ Marco spins dance music, 6 pm-2 am, cover, 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali and Ross spin a mi electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cover,

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lou music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

711 Boylston
Play Thursdays DJ trio Groovefire spins house m with special guests Beat Khemistry, 6 pm-2 am.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Steve Sosong spins new dance R&B. Downstairs: Justin Beech, 9 pm-1 am, 21+

Sophia's
DJ Pegrem spins international, 10 pm, no c 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
DJ Jim spins mixed beats.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15,

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, sou rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm cover.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top- night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

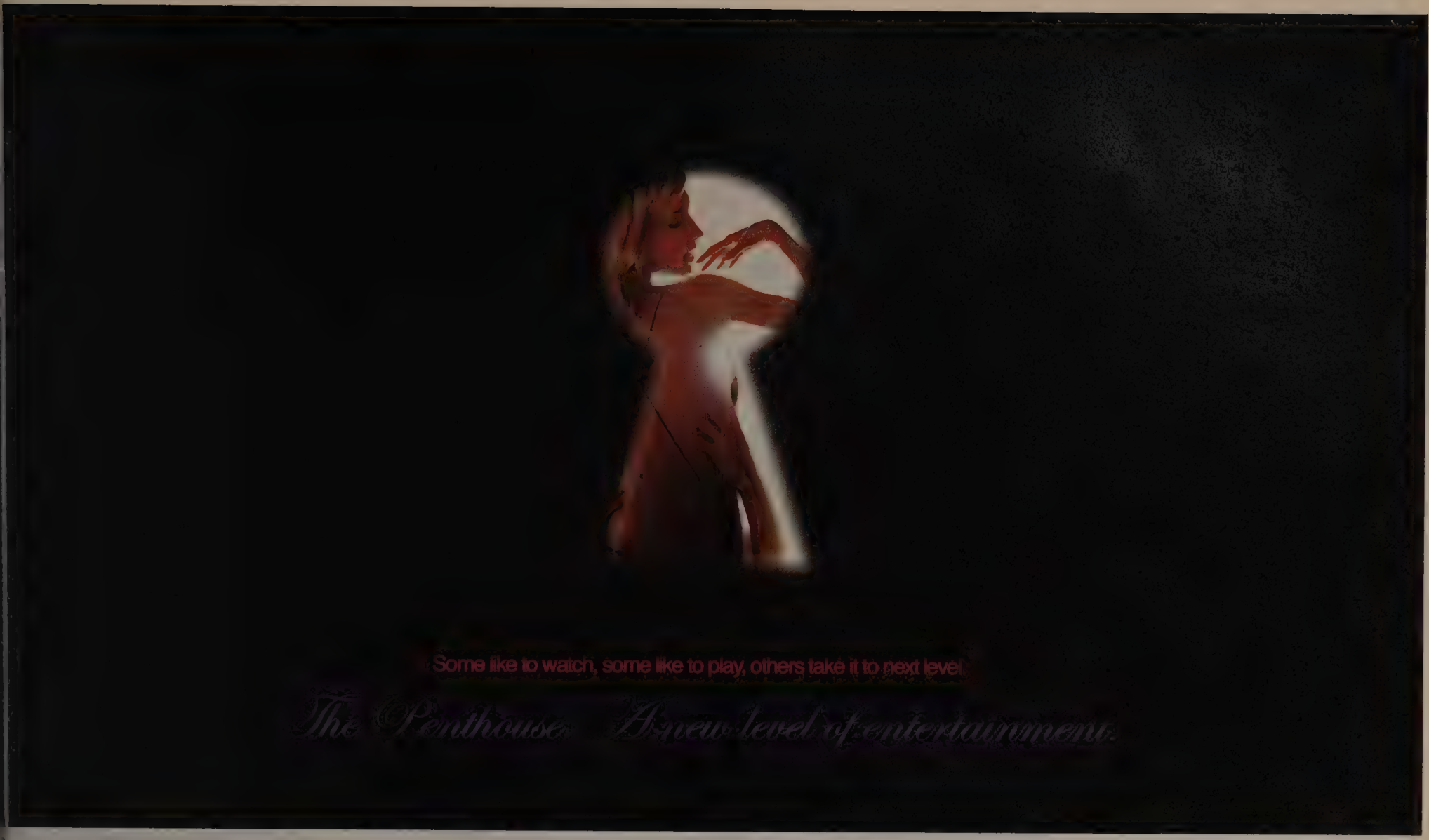
FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tec funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-4 the '70s, '80s and '90s, $5 after 10:30 pm, 21+.

Aria
Floss DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID

Avalon
Avaland International DJs spins house, 10 pm 19+.


Some like to watch, some like to play, others take it to next level
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WEDNESDAY NIGHTS
RUGGED
Underground Garage,
Dancehall, Hip-Hop & House
With DJs
GNotorious,
E-Heavy,
Jam-2, Senyo,
C-Nyce, Mas
Thursday
Next Generation Productions Presents
ALL STAR THURSDAYS
Classic & contemporary party jams:
You'll feel what we play
Friday
TOUCH
Shadowkings
jazz, funk, deep house
Sunday Dubby Sunday
Join DJ Brynmore & guests to hear infectious blends of roots & culture reggae, dub, lovers rock & dancehall
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www.harvardsquare.com - 617-491-9851
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The Avenue
DJ Mas spins hip-hop, funk and techno, 9pm-1am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
All Axis DJ Dru Nyce, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ Matt Phipps spining the hottest top-40, hip-hop and '80's faves, along with Boston's best cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
F Night WBCN's Bradley J spins '80s classics, and alternative rock and tribute bands perform live, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft VJ Johnny Walker Black spins top-40, dance and hip-hop tunes accompanied by interactive video shows, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal spins a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+, after 11 pm.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, and two guest DJs spin on the first floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
Persuassion DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Felt
After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs, spinning high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Angirsano spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •June 25, Peatmoss, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •July 2, Flavor, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs Big Daddy spins, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins house and old favorites, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before midnight, 21+.

La Boom
Fashion Fridays Firefly Promotions hosts this fashion night featuring DJ Rick Naples, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

Level
Greek Night DJ Hoff spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B on the fourth and fifth floors, and DJ Niko spins Greek and international tunes on the third floor, 11 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Adilson of Roxy Saturdays spins high-energy house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Palace
The Male Encounter New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Rockpile** WAAF's Steve Flagg broadcasts live, and guest bands perform, 9 pm, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•June 25, Speed, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Dance to the hottest top-40, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.



Pravda 116
DJ spins in the front and DJ Gabe spins vocal house in the back, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Craig Smooth spins the latest hits, 10 pm, $5. •June 25, Spike the Punch.

Q
DJ Fury plays hip hop and top-40, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Small Marco spins dance music, 6:30-9 pm. DJ Johnny C with KISS 108's Artie, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Lite Nite DJ Easy spins a mix that includes neo-soul and feel-good classics, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top 40 hits, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance. Downstairs: live music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover before 10 pm, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins Latin house and Latin dance on one floor while DJ Franklin spins international on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10pm, $5 after 9pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats all night.

Trio
Boston's Finest Friday Dance to hip-hop and R&B, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with Latin vibes. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJs Dunleop and Walt mix top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Guest DJs spin high-energy vocal house and hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Tease DJ Rick Naples and Manolo, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

The Avenue
DJ Kevin Munroe spins house and trance, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Next WFNX DJs spin alternative rock, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ Matt Phipps spining the hottest top-40, hip-hop and '80's faves, along with Boston's best cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
The Dorm—Bill's Dance Night DJ Bruno spins a mix of hip-hop, dance, reggae and rock, 10 pm, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. VJ Johnnie Walker presents top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Franklin creates a lounge atmosphere with his international, Latin and house sounds, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood It's women's night at Hollywood with two floors of hip-hop and house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
Essence DJs Ed and Sal, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop, house and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites, disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, $10, 21+. •June 26, Peatmoss, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •July 3, the Zoo, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

I/D
X Night WFNX presents a night of retro '80s and rock, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, while downstairs DJ Kieran plays top-40, 9 pm, $6, 21+.

La Boom
Wild on @ La Boom DJ Tim Collins and KISS 1 host a night of music and dancing, 10 pm, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 9 pm, 21+.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Massi from Star 93.7 spins top-40 hits, $5 guys, free for ladies, 21+.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio O spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10 p $10 (men) $5 (women), ladies admitted free bef 10:30 pm, 21+.

The Modern
Material DJ Dru Nyce plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $ 19+.

The Palace
•**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin da music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Wi D, ladies free, men $5 before 10:30 pm; $15, 1 $10, 21+ after 10:30 pm. •**The Male Encoun** New England's longest-running all-male da revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, $ 19+; no cover 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins top and hip-hop mixes, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop i Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 2 •**Underground** DJs spin hip-hop, top-40, dan techno and reggae for the under-21 crowd, 7-11 $14. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes up hits from '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•June 26, Speed, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit w ders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ spins in the front and DJ Gabe spins vocal h in the back, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom Hogan spins the groove, 10 pm, $5, •June 26, Brick Park.

Q
DJ Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi hosts the live broad and dance party, 8 pm, 21+, no cover.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins mo mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Adilson spins house and techno, 9 pm, $15,

711 Boylston
Fever DJ Yorgo spins a mix of ethnic and inte tional music, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Upstairs: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8 Downstairs: Kevin Kirrane, 9 pm, no cover b 10 pm.

Sophia's
Resident DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin, internat and dance, often joined by live bands and sp guest DJs, 10 pm, $10-$15, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance ir front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins reti vorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins classic old-school, top-40, and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats

Trio
Best Of Night DJs spin Eurohouse, hip-hop and classics, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

Aria
DJ Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+

Caprice
DJ spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hip-hop downstairs, karaoke upstairs, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance salsa, 10 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

The Kells
Brazilian Night, Boston's best Brazilian Bands play, 9 pm, no cover.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Satellite A lesbian night featuring DJ Dee, with dance music, amateur drag contests and films, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Malibu Beach Party DJ Thom spins everything from reggae to top 40 hits, with prizes all night, 4 pm-on, $5 men, free for ladies, 21+.

Q
Reggae with Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Reverie Boston DJ Shannon and weekly guest DJs spin goth, industrial and lounge, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
DJ Dave Jordan plays an array of top-40 tunes, 9 pm, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock, retro and hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins Brazilian beats, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Whiskey Park
Cherry DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock classics, hip-hop, house and R&B.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
The G Spot *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
La Boom *One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Light *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *(El Copa, Male Encounter, Officers' Club, Oxygen, Rio, Underground and Uptown) 1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
711 Boylston *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077)*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*





museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors
Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*The Continuous Stroke of Breath: Calligraphy from the Islamic World* features Arabic, Indian, Persian and Turkish calligraphy from the 9th through 20th centuries. Through July 18. •*Rocks, Mountains, Landscapes, and Gardens: The Essence of East Asian Painting*, an exhibition of rocks used in East Asian art, shows through Aug. 1.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm. •*There Is No Frigate Like a Book* features objects from the BPL's Charles J. Connick Studio collection. Through June 30. •*BPL Souvenirs and Library Publications* displays through July 30.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $6, $4 students and seniors. •*The 2004 DeCordova Annual Exhibition* highlights contemporary artists from New England. Through Sept. 5. •Three video installations by British filmmaker Steve McQueen show through June 29. •*Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Sense of Place, Part II* features paintings, photography, and sculptures by various artists. Through August.

Fogg Art Museum/ Busch-Reisinger Museum
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Process and Paradox: The Historical Pictures of John Singleton Copley* features two rarely seen works by one of America's first great artists. Through Aug. 29. •*Design~Recline: Modern Architecture and the Mid-Century Chaise Lounge* features chaise lounges designed by famous architects including Le Corbusier, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, Marcel Breuer, Alvar Aalto, and Charles and Ray Eames. Through July 11. •*Vastly More Than Brick and Mortar: Reinventing the Fogg Art Museum in the 1920s*, an exhibition of 47 objects including archival photographs, building plans and pieces from the Fogg's original collection, illustrates how the museum was created. Through Sept. 26. •*Extra Ordinary Every Day: The Bauhaus at the Busch-Reisinger* is an online exhibition that can be accessed at www.artmuseums.harvard.edu/sites/coed. Through 2005. •*Rococo Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* is a new long-term exhibition. •*To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* is an ongoing display of 19th-century art. •*Basic Research: A Selection of Postwar German Painting and Sculpture*, and *The Figure in French Sculpture, 1780-1900* are ongoing.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •*Arctic National Wildlife Refuge: Seasons of Life and Land* is an exhibition of 49 photographs from northeastern Alaska by Subhankar Banerjee. Through Sept. 6. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species, by glass artists Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7, $5 students and seniors. •Kai Althoff's works in watercolor, pencil drawing, collage, music and other media are on display in *Kai Kein Respekt (Kai No Respect)*. Through Sept. 6. •*Momentum 1* displays work by installation artist Carol Bove. Through Sept. 6. •*Re-Turning the Past: Cultural Icons Recast*, is a outdoor exhibit by Niho Kozuru in the garden and courtyard of the Paul Revere House (at 19 North Square). Through October 11.


Anne Gilley's untitled painting is on display at the Judi Rotenberg Gallery, July 1-31.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, free for members and those under 18. Gondola Days *exhibition, $3. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm.* •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. •*Gondola Days: Isabella Stewart Gardner & the Palazzo Barbaro Circle* explores the influence that Venice, Italy's Palazzo Barbaro has had on artists, writers and thinkers around the world. Through Aug. 15. •*TV Dinner* is an exhibition of Italian painter Maurizio Cannavacciuolo's contemporary wall drawings. Through Aug. 15. •*Whistler's Warning*, Joseph Kosuth's installation in neon of words taken from an 1885 speech by James McNeill Whistler, shows through August. •Elaine Reichek's embroideries, which depict Biblical images borrowed from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists, display online in the virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum
Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $8; seniors and students $6; children ages 13-17 $4; children 12 and under admitted free. •*Gifts from the World to the White House: Caroline Kennedy's Doll Collection* features 77 dolls from 30 countries that were given to JFK's daughter between 1961 and 1963. Through Nov. 5.•In honor of this election year, *Campaign!* is an exhibition following JFK's nomination, campaign and inauguration, from 1960-61. Through January 20, 2005.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, Devlin Hall, 140 Commonwealth Ave., 108, Chestnut Hill (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. MBTA: Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-3 pm., Sat., 12 pm-5 pm. Free. •*Refigured* features first-time works by six local artists, and *Sarah Westlake: Drawings <--> Sculpture* shows the artist's abstract works. Through Aug. 29.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. •The museum's permanent collection includes more than 1,500 contemporary art works including paintings, murals, sculptures, photography and prints. •*Artur Zmijewski: Selected Works, 1998-2003* features video installations by the Warsaw-based artist, and *Marjetica Potrc: Urgent Architecture* features sculpture and urban designs by Potrc. Through July 11.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5, $3 students and seniors, $1 children. •*Hub of the Universe: A Century of Flight in Massachusetts* displays artifacts and artwork from the first 100 years of manned flight. Through Sept. 5. •*Telling It Like It Is: Student Activism at MIT during the Vietnam War* displays posters from that era. Through fall 2004. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features works by the self-described cross between "a mechanical engineer and a choreographer." Ongoing.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. •*The Times We Had* is an exhibition spotlighting Boston's African-American community of the 19th century. Ongoing. •*Building on a Firm Foundation* is a 17-minute multimedia presentation that looks at 19th-century Beacon Hill through the eyes of an African-American teenager. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15 adults, $13 students and seniors, free for children 17 and under. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free (doesn't include special exhibitions). •*Tim Noble and Sue Webster* is an exhibition of creative light projects. Through Aug. 15. •More than 200 jades dating from the Neolithic period to the Qing Dynasty display in *Chinese Jades from the Hartman Collection*. Through August 22. •*Draped in Dragons: Chinese Court Costumes* features clothes worn by members of the Qing imperial court. Through Sept. 19. •*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13 adults, $11 seniors, $10 children. •*Risk!* is a hands-on exhibit in which visitors can test their sense of daring while seeing how they deal with the uncertainty that comes with a difficult decision. Through Sept. 6. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum
33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Lunch Box Memories* is an exhibition of lunch boxes from the early 1900s through the 1980s. Through July 18. •*The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'd* is an exhibition of 18th-century local history. Ongoing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household objects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. •*To Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community* is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. Adults $13, seniors $11, students $9, children 16 and under and residents of Salem free. •*Havana: Photographs by Robert Polidori* features 18 large-scale images. Through Jan. 9, 2005. •*Bringing Japan to Boston* features Japanese artifacts from the Edward S. Morse Collection. Through April 30, 2005.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology
11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50 adults, $6 seniors and students, $5 children •*Regarding the Kalahari: The Marshall Family and the Ju/'hoansi !Kung, 1950-1964* is an exhibition of photographs and stereographs from the Kalahari Desert expeditions of Laurence Marshall and his family. Through Aug. 30. •*Painted by a Distant Hand: Mimbres Pottery from the American Southwest* features artifacts from New Mexico's Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through September. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through December 2005. •*Encounters with the Americas* is an ongoing exhibition featuring original sculpture and plaster casts of Mesoamerican cultures. •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments* features the museum's large Mesoamerican cast collection. Ongoing. •*Hall of the North American Indian: Change and Continuity* features art depicting the response of Native Americans across the continent to the arrival of Europeans. Ongoing. •*Pacific Islands Hall*, another ongoing exhibition, displays artifacts from the Pacific Islands.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acfineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Maine Modern* includes oil paintings and watercolors by a group of Maine moderni... Through June 26. •*Summer Salon*, a group show, ... plays July 1-Aug. 21.

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). www.alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Tea ... Fantasy* is a teapot show running through Aug. 3...

Allston Skirt Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-4... 3652). www.allstonskirt.com. MBTA: Green Line ... Copley. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm.•Amy Ross sh... her work in the main gallery, and Joe Ward... shows his work in the Mini Skirt gallery. Thro... June 26.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). w... alphagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. T... Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm.•*New Talent* introduces yo... artists from local schools. Through July 2.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). w... ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Co... Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Jean ... son shows new works through June 29. •Tom S... shows new paintings through July 31.

Art Interactive
130 Bishop Allen Drive, Cambridge (617-498-01... MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat. and Sun., 12-6...
•*Participatory Democracy* is an improvisational ... teractive exhibition about voting, by five ... artists. Through July 29.

ArtSomerville at the Nave Gallery
55 Powderhouse Blvd., Somerville (617-625-4823). www.artsomerville.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sat., 1 pm-5 pm. Free. •1-10 features work by 0 artists living or working in Somerville. Ongoing.

Atlantic Works Gallery
30 Border St., East Boston (617-283-7113). http://tlanticworks.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. By ppointment. •Jeannette Lazarus shows paintings, nd Yoav Bergner shows sculpture. Through June 30.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
0 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). ww.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •A group how of works from the gallery's collection displays rough July 30.

Berenberg Gallery
Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.erenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back ay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. Casey McGlynn shows new mixed-media works. ne 23-July 31.

Bernard Toale Gallery
50 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.rnardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copy. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Sage Sohier ows new photographs in *Perfectable World*, and e Fig shows new sculpture and photographs in op. Through June 30. •*Upright Female*, a group ow of photography, displays June 30-Aug. 13.

Boston Center for the Arts
39 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). www.bcaline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Sun., Ved., Thu., 12-5 pm, Fri., Sat., 12 pm-10 pm. •*Somatic Scales* explores the relationship between scale nd the representation of the human body. Through ug. 1.

Brickbottom Gallery
Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.lickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •The Somerville Charter chool student exhibition, *Lost in Creation*, shows rough June 26.

Bromfield Art Gallery
9 Thayer St., Boston (617-451-3605). www.bromfieldtgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Ved.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •Boston Arts Academy stuents shows works inspired by Dante in *Living Inmo*. June 23-July 17.

Brookline Arts Center
5 Monmouth St., Brookline. (617-566-5715). www.ooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. ary's. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm. •*Paintings by Senior Citizen Class*. Judith Bell's senior-citizen stuents from the Brookline Housing Authority display eir work. Through July 23.

Chase Gallery
79 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.asegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. on.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •Melora Kuhn shows paintgs. Through June 26. •Bernd Haussmann and ark Chatterley show their work. July 1-31.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.ildsgallery.com. MBTA:Green Line to Copley. Tue.-i., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Three hibits—*Art Within Art*, *Figure Drawings: Draped Undraped* and *Henry Botkin: Abstracts and Colres*—show through July 1.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.bleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-t., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Copley Masters Show* and e *Copley Artists Show* display June 24-July 17.

Crump Gallery
112 East Broadway, Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: d Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •An hibition of works by Jeff Eldredge, Dan McCole d Norman Crump is ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
54 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: reen Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •Anto-a Hieronymus shows her black-and-white phographs in *The Human Landscape*. Through June . •Dorothy Andrews shows black-and-white phography in *Classical Musical*. June 29-July 31.

Equator Gallery
130 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-540-36). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.uatorgallery.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-m. •The gallery specializes in Latin American e art, including paintings, textiles and ceramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
0 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortintarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. on.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Virtual mocracy*, a group show of mixed-media works that lect American ideas in the 21st century. June 25-g. 7.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall. •Luc Leestemaker shows his mixed-media work. Through July 4.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu. and Sat.,12-5 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm. •Recent paintings by Chris Mesarch and Beverly Rippel are on display through June 26. •*Boston: Legends and Landmarks* features drawings and paintings by Dan Wasserman, Meg Black and James Leitch. July 8-July 31.

The Gallery at Black and White
295 Huntington Ave., Suite 205 (617-266-2641). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Mon.-Fri, 10 am-5 pm. •The gallery features rotating exhibitions of black-and-white photographs.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*The Second Annual Furniture Design Exhibition: Cubbies, Doors, and Drawers* shows through June 26.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Prints by Allan Rohan Crite show in *Selected Works 1934-1998*, and Masako Kamiya shows new work in *On Paper*. Through July 30.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
23 Thayer St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Natercia Caneria shows multimedia installations in *Limits of Softness*. Through June 30. •*Peter Coe: Paintings* shows through Oct. 2.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.haleysteele.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •The gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prints. Ongoing.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Matt McClune shows color paintings on aluminum, and Andrew Neumann shows panels. Through July 10.

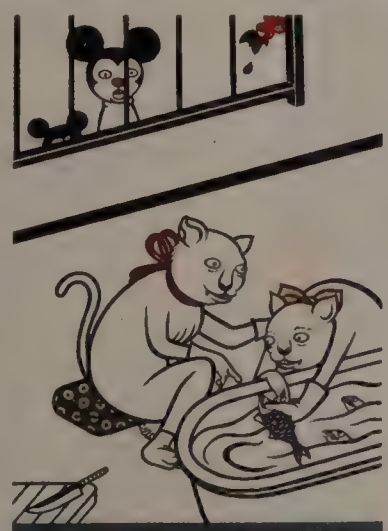
International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters. •*Decade's Best*, a show of the gallery's best posters, displays through Sept. 6.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Charles Movalli, Jennifer Liston Munson and Bebe Beard show new work in *Poetry of Place*. Through June 26. •*Four Feminist Views*, a group show of works by Ruth Cobb, Rochelle Kreiger, Anne Gilley and Suzanne Hodes, displays July 1-31.

Judy Ann Goldman Fine Art
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468) www.judygoldmanfineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. *June: Tue.-Sat., 11am-5pm; July: Tue.-Fri.,11am-5pm. The Hot Zone: Painting Abstraction* is an exhibition of works by by Alex Blau, John Guthrie and Santiago Hernandez. June 23-July 31.

Kathryn Schultz Gallery
25 Lowell St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www.cambridgeart.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm, Sun., 1-5 pm. •*The 7th Annual National Prize Show* displays through June 24.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Todd Brainard shows paintings. Through June 30. •Sherry Karver shows paintings. July 1-31.



Excellent Choice, My Dear, by Asuka Ohsawa, at NAO Gallery

Kingston Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •Jeanne Griffin shows mixed-media works. Through June 27. •Susan Alport shows her work through July.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •Roger Thomas presents his abstract and impressionist fused-glass paintings in *Fusion*. Through Aug. 4.

Mark Gallery
141 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6275). www.markartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm, and by appointment. •*Cuatro*, is a summer group show of works by from Yuko Adachi, Bert Antonio, Amy Eisenfeld Genser and Liette Marcil. Through July 24.

Martin Lawrence Gallery
77 Newbury St., Boston (617-369-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.martinlawrence.com. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-7 pm. •The gallery's ongoing exhibition includes works by Chagall, Erté, Hallam, Kondakova, Lichtenstein, Picasso and Warhol.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Second Floor, Boston (617-859-0054). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.mercurygallery.com. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Vehicles*, a group show of paintings of planes, cars and trains, displays through July 6.

Miller Block Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). www.millerblockgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30-5:30 pm. •Michael Harrington shows recent paintings, and Katherine Desjardins shows new work. Through July 7.

Mills Gallery
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed., Thu. and Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-10 pm. •*Somatic Scales*, a group show, displays through Aug. 1.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*Contact*, an exhibition of works by international jewelry artists, shows through June 30. •German jeweler Petra Class shows find gold and gemstone jewelry. July 31-Aug. 30.

NAO Project Gallery
535 Albany St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-451-2977). www.naoprojectgallery.info. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay or Green Line to Copley. Wed., Fri. and Sat., 11 am-4 pm and by appointment only July and Aug. •Asuka Ohsawa shows drawings. Through June 26.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •*Summer Invitational, A Group Exhibition* runs through June 26.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •A local-artists showcase is ongoing.

Paul Dietrich Gallery
1050 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7000). www.c7a.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm. •*Smoke, Light and Mirrors* features the photography of Sing Hanson. Through July 30.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergallery boston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •A group show of works by selected gallery artists displays July 1-Aug. 13.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Ken Matsuzaki shows new paintings. Through July 6.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Victor Schrager shows photography. Through Aug. 21.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*20th Century Master Graphics, the Spring Collection* features lithographs and etchings by Chagall, Matisse, Miro and Rouault. Through June 30. •Robert Sweeney displays old and new work in *The Boston Experience: Views of the City*. Through July 31.

Samson Projects
46 Waltham St., Suite 203, Boston (617-357-7177). www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •*An Accumulation of Convention: En Masse* is a group show of works by local artists.Through July 30.

The Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Grimm Fairy Tales Reinvented* is a group show of works inspired by Grimm stories. Through July 25.

Soprafina Gallery
99 Beacon St., Somerville (617-498-0999). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •An exhibition of works by gallery artists shows through July 24.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •Oil paintings by William St. George, Christina Keating, Sandra Mueller-Dick, Judy St. Peter and Anne Grandin display through June.

Studio Soto
63 Melcher St., Boston (617-426-7686). www.studiosoto.com. MBTA: Orange Line to South Station. Fri. and Sat., 2-5 pm. •*Feminine, Feminist, Female* is a group show of multimedia works. Through June 27.

Upstairs at Johnson's Art Gallery
353 Newbury St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-536-4065). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.- Fri., 10 am - 5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-1pm. •*Creative Vehicles* is a show of mixed-media work by Ali Kuzmickas, Jason Mathog and Cordula Peters. Through June 24. •0-9 A-Z shows mixed-media art through July 31.

Victoria Munroe Fine Art
59 Beacon St., Boston (617-523-0661). www.munroefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line or Red Line to Park Street. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm and by appointment. •Botanical paper mosaics by William Booth Gray show through July 31.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Realism Now: Traditions and Departures, Mentors and Proteges*, a group show of works by contemporary American realist artists, displays through July 17.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. •*Landscapes of the Civil War*, an exhibition of 92 rare photographs from the American Civil War, displays through June 25. •Karen A. Vournakis shows photographs of the sites of the original Pan Hellenic games in *Sacred Groves: Ancient Greek Athletic Sites*. Through Aug. 20.

New England School of Photography
Gallery One, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-437-1868). www.nesop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm. •Graduating NESOP students show their work. Through August.

Panopticon Gallery Kenmore
502-C Comm Ave., Boston (617-267-8929). www.panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-7 pm. •*Home Run*, a show of vintage baseball photographs, displays through September.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Commuter Rail to Waltham. www.panopt.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*Colossal*, an exhibition of photographs by Bradford Washburn, shows through Sept. 18.

Photographic Resource Center
832 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University West. www.bu.edu/prc. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. •The *Members Exhibition* shows through July 25

books & poetry

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to books@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Alex Garland** discusses his new novel, *The Coma*, a psychological drama about a man who emerges from a coma but wonders if he is really awake.

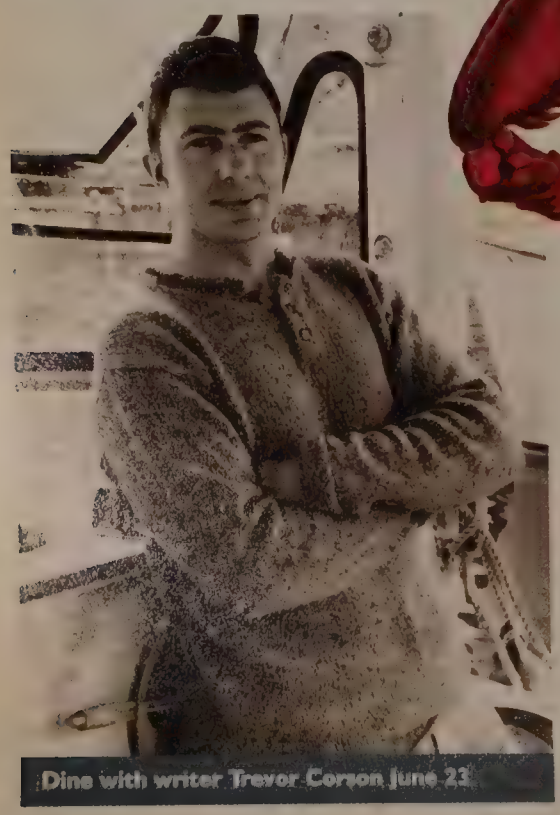
Harvard Book Store Author Event
Jasper White's Summer Shack, 149 Alewife Brook Pkwy., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $50. Harvard Book Store and Jasper White's Summer Shack host a reading by **Trevor Corson**, author of *The Secret Life of Lobsters: How Fishermen and Scientists Are Unraveling the Mysteries of Our Favorite Crustacean*, about the depletion of the lobster population off the coast of Maine. Admission includes a signed, hardcover copy of the book and a light dinner.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Los Angeles Times reporter **Ken Ellingwood** reads from his book *Hard Line: Life and Death on the U.S.-Mexico Border*, about the effects of Operation Gatekeeper, the 1994 U.S. plan to seal the border. Also, **Judith Mitchell** reads from her novel *The Last Day of the War*, a World War I–era story about a young Jewish woman who follows an Armenian-American soldier to Paris.

THURSDAY, JUNE 24

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 12:30 pm. Free. **Steven Ford** reads from his novel *First Do No Harm*, about a medical researcher who discovers a controversial cure for her daughter's illness.

Newtonville Books
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Phyllis Karas**, **Eddie MacKenzie** and **Ross Muscato** read from the book they co-wrote, *Street Soldier: My Life as an Enforcer for Whitey Bulger and the Irish Mob*, about MacKenzie's mob career.



FRIDAY, JUNE 25

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Orange or Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. **Joe Castiglione** and **Douglas B. Lyons** discuss the book they co-wrote, *Broadcast Rites and Sites: I Saw It on the Radio with the Boston Red Sox*, which looks at baseball from Castiglione's perspective as a veteran broadcaster.

Borders Cambridge
CambridgeSide Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Lechmere. 2 pm. Free. Boston Globe columnist **Tom Long** reads from *New England Nature Watch: A Month-by-Month Guide to the Natural World Around Us*, a collection of his observations as a nature lover.

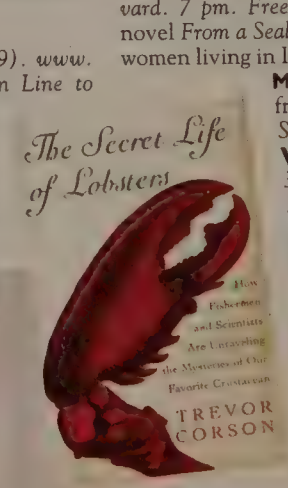
Lesley University
Marran Theater, 29 Mellen St., Cambridge (617-349-8369). www.lesley.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. Free. **Wayne Brown** reads selections from his works that include two short-story collections and two books of poetry. Also, **Janet Sylvester** reads selections of her poetry.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www. oldsouthmeeting house.org. MBTA: Red Line or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:15 pm. Free. **Marcus Rediker** reads from his new book, *Villains of All Nations: Atlantic Pirates in the Golden Age*, which details the myths and realities of piracy during the 18th century.

WordsWorth Books Author Event
The First Parish Church, 1 Church St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **David Foster Wallace** reads from his new book, *Oblivion: Stories*, a collection of short stories.

SATURDAY, JUNE 26

Lesley University
Marran Theater, 29 Mellen St., Cambridge (617-349-8369). www.lesley.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Rachel Kadish** reads from her novel *From a Sealed Room*, a story of three troubled women living in Israel after the first Gulf War. Also, **Michael Lowenthal** reads selections from his novels *Avoidance* and *The Same Embrace*.



WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5 pm. Free. **Barry Lopez** reads from *Resistance*, his collection of short stories that covers topics including globalization, culture and politics.

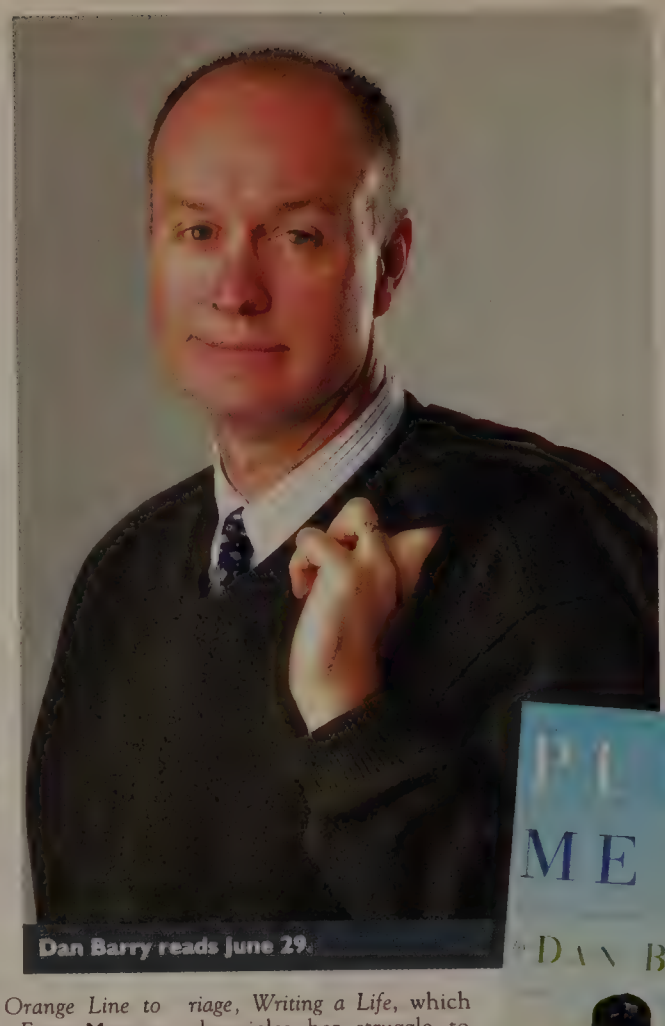
SUNDAY, JUNE 27

Lesley University
Marran Theater, 29 Mellen St., Cambridge (617-349-8369). www.lesley.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Rachel Manley** reads selections from her memoirs *Slipstream: A Daughter Remembers*—about her father, former prime minister of Jamaica Michael Manley—and *Drumblair: Memories of a Jamaican Childhood*. Also, **Susan Goodman** reads selections from her children's books *Skyscraper* and *The Truth About Poop*.

Newtonville Books
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 2 pm. Free. **Julianna Baggott** reads from her novel *The Anybodies*, which she wrote under the pseudonym N.E. Bode, about a girl switched at birth who is reunited with her parents.

MONDAY, JUNE 28

Boston Public Library
Conference Rooms 5 and 6, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30 pm. **Judith Strasser** discusses her book *Black Eye: Escaping a Marriage, Writing a Life*, which chronicles her struggle to leave her abusive husband.



Dan Barry reads June 29.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St, Brookline (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Kent Haruf** reads from and discusses his novel *Eventide*, about the residents of a small town in Colorado.

Lesley University
Marran Theater, 29 Mellen St., Cambridge (617-349-8369). www.lesley.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Alexandra Johnson** reads from her books, *Leaving a Trace: On Keeping a Journal* and *The Hidden Writer: Diaries and the Creative Life*. Also, **Christina Shea** reads from her novel *Moira's Crossing*, which recounts the lives of two Irish sisters with opposing personalities who leave their town to settle in New England.

TUESDAY, JUNE 29

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www. harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Donna Brazile**, Al Gore's 2000 campaign manager, reads from her memoir, *Cooking with Grease: Stirring the Pots in American Politics*, about her experiences as the first African-American woman to head a national presidential campaign.

Lesley University
Marran Theater, 29 Mellen St., Cambridge (617-349-8369). www.lesley.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Roland Merullo** reads selections from his novels, three of which are centered around Merullo's childhood home, Revere Beach. Also, **Lloyd Schwartz** reads from his three poetry collections.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. Sports nutritionist **Nancy Clark** discusses her book *Nancy Clark's Sports Nutrition Guidebook*, which describes diet plans for maintaining energy while losing weight.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. New York Times columnist **Dan Barry** reads from his memoir, *Pull Me Up*, about his Irish Catholic upbringing on Long Island and his struggle with cancer at 41.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www. wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Sarah Messer** reads from her book *Red House: Being a Mostly Accurate Account of New England's Oldest Continuously Lived-In House*, a history of her childhood home and its former inhabitants.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 12:30 pm. Free. **Cheryl Reed** reads from her book *Unveiled: The Hidden Lives of Nuns*, which looks at different cloisters of North American nuns.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St, Brookline (617-566-6660). www. brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Claire Cook** discusses her novel *Multiple Choice*, about a mother and daughter attending college at the same time.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **John Rowe** reads from his collection of short stories, *The Music of Your Life*.

THURSDAY, JULY 1

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012) http:// harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Movie reviewers **Tom Scalzo** and **Matt Farley** discuss the book they co-wrote with Charles Roxburgh, *Shockjuly*, a guide to horror films.

Kate's Mystery Books
2211 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-2660). www.katesmysterybooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 6 pm. Free. **Gerry Boyle** reads from *Home Body*, the eighth installation of his Jack McMorrow series. This time, the journalist attempts to help a runaway teen after the youth's mother is murdered.

Lesley University
Marran Theater, 29 Mellen St., Cambridge (617-349-8369). www.lesley.edu MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Rafael Campo**, a poet and physician, reads selections from his four poetry collections and two memoirs, which explore healing through both medicine and language. Also, South African writer **Tor Eprile**, reads from his novel *The Persistence of Memory* and his collection of short stories *Temporary Sojourner and Other South African Stories*.

FRIDAY, JULY 2

Lesley University
Marran Theater, 29 Mellen St., Cambridge (617-349-8369). www.lesley.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Richard Hoffman** reads from his memoir, *Half the House*, in which he recounts being sexually abused by a sports coach. He also reads from his poetry collection, *Without Paradise*. Also **Anita Riggio** discusses the children's books she wrote and illustrated, including *Smack Dab in the Middle*, *A Moon in My Teacup* and *Secret Signs*.

Toast Nightclub Friday Poetry Series
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211 www. lesley.edu. 8 pm. Free. Local poet **Debora Priestly**, author of *The Woman Has a Voice*, reads from her work.

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. 21+. $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge hosts this poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Harvard Coop (Sundays)
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000 www.bkstore.com/harvard. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. Hear what Boston-area poets are doing at the Harvard Coop's weekly poetry change on Level Two.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). www poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $5. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background music for the poetry slam team.

Out of the Blue Gallery (Saturdays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. $3-5. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have hosted these weekly readings.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
Borders 10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188 MBTA: Blue Line to Government Center. 8:30 pm. Free. The second Thursday of each month offers a selection of featured poets and an opportunity for others to take the open mike.

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23

Architectural Bus Tour of Boston
Museum of Fine Arts, West Wing, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum Stop. 10 am-12 pm. $20 for members, $25 for nonmembers. This tour through the city makes special note of buildings known for their architectural design and historical significance.

Identity Theft: How to Protect Yourself
Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (617-730-2700). www.brooklineadulted.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Hills. 6:30-8 pm. $26. **Cindy Matloff**, co-director of the Metro-West Consumer Assistance Office, explains what to look for when you get a credit card and what type of information you shouldn't give to telemarketers.

Managing a Successful Work-Life Change
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave, Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 5:30-7:30 pm. $23 members; $25 nonmembers. Meet with a professional counselor who helps you outline ways to find the job that suits you best.

THURSDAY, JUNE 24

Boston's South End by Foot
Back Bay Station, Boston (617-730-2700). www.brooklineadulted.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 6-7:30 pm. $20. Spend the evening walking through Boston's historic South End as guides discuss the urban issues, backgrounds, class conflicts, and multicultural history of this diverse neighborhood.

The Haitian Diaspora in Boston
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.fordhallforum.neu.edu. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 6:30 pm. Free. **Marc Prou**, director of Caribbean studies at UMass Boston, moderates a panel discussion examining the creation of Haitian social, political and economic organizations in Boston.

Mass Audubon Society Solstice Celebration
Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary, 280 Eliot St., Natick (508-655-2296). www.massaudubon.org. MBTA: Framingham Line to Natick. 8-9:30 pm. $15 members, $18 nonmembers. **Ed Jameson**, director of the Natick Planetarium, sets up his telescopes to view the constellations and discusses the stars' symbolism.

Movement into Being
Theosophical Society, 21 Maple St., Arlington (508-877-0792). www.tsboston.org. MBTA: Bus 67, 77 or 79 to Arlington Center. 7-9 pm. $20. Registration required. Teacher and holistic healing counselor **Neal Ader** explores different ways of dealing with some of life's questions and challenges.

FRIDAY, JUNE 25

Healing Aspects of Sound
Theosophical Society, 21 Maple St., Arlington (617-646-4155). www.tsboston.org. MBTA: Bus 67, 77 or 79 to Arlington Center. 7:30-9:30 pm. $5. Teacher and musician **Janet Kessenich** examines how cultures have used percussion and sound for healing throughout time.

SATURDAY, JUNE 26

Genealogical Resources
Bordy Auditorium, Emerson College, 216 Tremont St., Boston (888-286-3447). www.newengland ancestors.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 8:30 am-4:15 pm. $75. This seminar guides you through the technological resources that can facilitate genealogical research, including the Internet.

Surviving Divorce for Women
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 9 am-12 pm. $37. Instructor **Isabella Jancourtz** gives women tips on how to avoid being taken advantage of in a divorce.

Writing, Painting and Lunch on Kendall's Porch
Location in Lexington to be provided upon class registration. (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. 10 am-4:30 pm. $92. **Kendall Dudley**, who has been conducting writing workshops for more than 20 years, hosts this daylong event featuring an assortment of exercises and discussions aimed toward helping writers and painters better explore their creativity.

SUNDAY, JUNE 27

The Baby Decision: How to Make the Most Important Decision of Your Life
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 10 am-5 pm. $89. This workshop examines the factors one should take into consideration before deciding to have children.

Boston by Foot: Commonwealth Avenue
Public Garden at the corner of Comm. Ave. and Arlington Street, Boston (617-367-2345). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 2 pm, rain or shine. $12. Boston by Foot's guides take you on a walking tour of one of the city's most historic avenues.

Emerald Necklace Bike Tour
Boston Bike Tour Stand, Boston Common (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 am-3 pm. $20. This moderately difficult 17-mile tour takes you through some of the city's most aesthetically pleasing and historically significant sites.

Walking Tour of Forest Hills Cemetery
Forest Hills Cemetery, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-524-0218). www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 2 pm. $8. Tour guide **Al Maze** points out the cemetery's most famous headstones and explains the history behind them.

MONDAY, JUNE 28

Real Relationships: Finding and Keeping Romance and Friendship
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30 pm. Free. **Jacqueline Olds** and **Richard Schwartz** of the Boston Psychoanalytic Society and Institute discuss the keys to keeping romance and friendship.

TUESDAY, JUNE 29

Cambridge In 1775: A Historical Walking Tour
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6-8 pm. $36. This tour examines the rich history of Cambridge and includes visits to Revolutionary War sites in Harvard Square, Harvard Yard and Brattle Street.

Nutrition for Exercise: Eating for Life and Sports
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. Sports nutritionist and author **Nancy Clark** talks about topics including how to eat the right food at the right time and how to get the right balance of carbohydrates, protein and fat in your diet.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30

MFA Gallery Talk: Renaissance Italy
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum Stop. 6 pm. Free with museum admission. **Barbara Martin**, associate director of public learning, museum learning and public programs, speaks about life in Italy during the Renaissance.

THURSDAY, JULY 1

Curatorial Gallery Talk: Draped in Dragons—Chinese Court Costumes
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum Stop. 11 am. Free with museum admission. **Pam Parmal**, the MFA's David and Roberta Logie curator of textile and fashion arts, conducts this lecture about the symbolism of dragons in Chinese culture.

TUESDAY, JULY 6

Take the Test: What's Your Compatibility?
Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (617-730-2700). www.brooklineadulted.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Hills. 7-9:30 pm. $31. Personal coach **Suzanne Blake** takes you through an assortment of interactive exercises that teach the signs to look for in determining your compatibility with someone.

CALL FOR FICTION



As part of our fourth annual Literary Boston issue, we invite all local authors (residing in Massachusetts) to submit a short work of fiction, no more than **2,500 words, to us by Mon., Aug. 2.** Entries should be original works that have never been previously published.

Upon review by our panel of judges, the winning author's story will be published in our October 6 issue. Plus, the skilled scribe will be saddled with a slew of fun prizes.

Please send two copies of your story to us at:

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

Attn: Fiction Contest
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor, Boston, MA 02116

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gay & lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information, including telephone numbers and nearest T-stop, by fax (617-859-1446) or mail, or e-mail gaylesbian@improper.com.

Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am.; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's new leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $8 under 21. $5 for 21+. DJ John Morris spins progressive house for Lust, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $15, 21+. For 20 years, these folks have cranked out Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. Enjoy three separate dance floors plus drag acts. Resident DJ Ted Elison spins house.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show, and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—pool room and lounge keep the men busy until 2 am.

CityGirl Caffé (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-9 pm; Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-4 pm. This small, laid-back café in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated, draws a mixed gay/hetero crowd for lounging and sandwiches. Brunch is served every weekend. Now serves beer and wine.

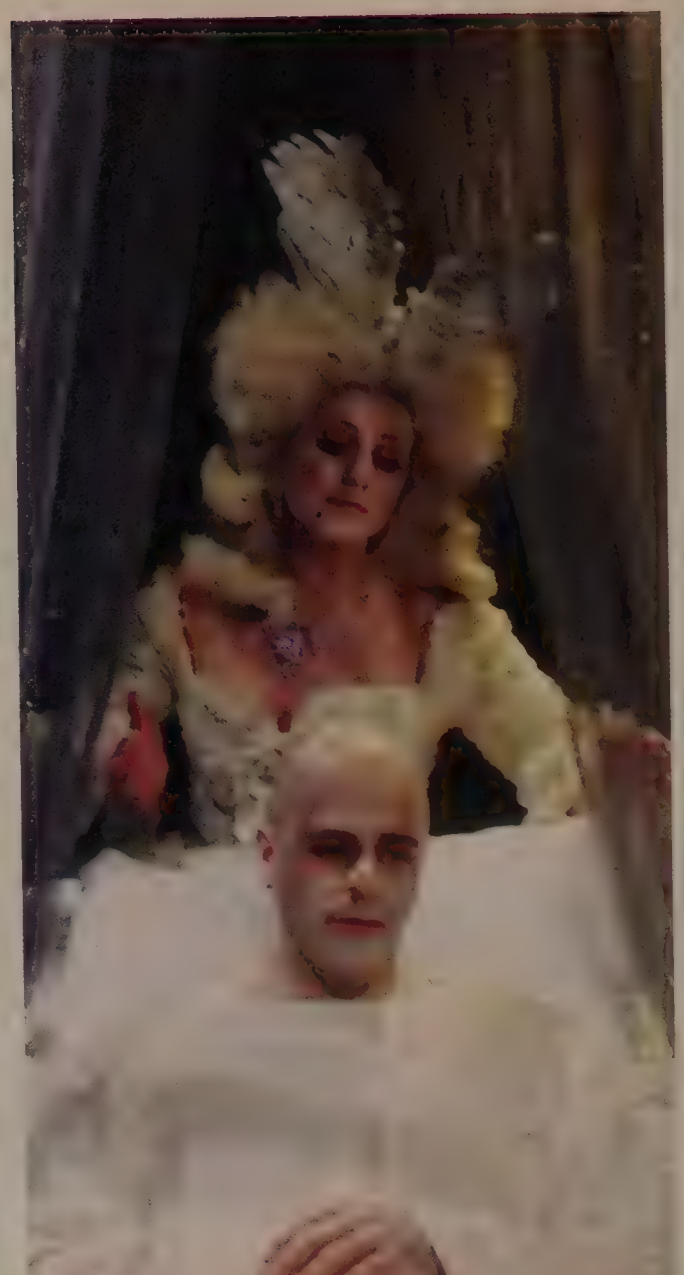
Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room and video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Wednesdays, Queer as Folk, 8:30 pm. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Scott Kennedy.

Club Europa (Fridays)
57 Stuart St., Boston (617-417-0186). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.twistboston.com. Fri., 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+ after 11 pm. DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s tunes at this women's night.

Diesel Café (Daily)
257 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-8717). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Mon.-Thu. 7 am-midnight, Fri., 7 am-1 am, Sat., 8 am-1 am, Sun., 8 am-12 am. All ages. Diesel is a gay-friendly Davis Square café that serves coffee and snacks.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3 pm-2 am; Sat., 1 pm-2 am; Sun., 12 pm-2 am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This quiet, friendly neighborhood bar starts hopping as it gets closer to 2 am.

Fritz Lounge (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 12 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. Four plasma TV sets show satellite sports broadcasts, and Fritz is home base to a softball league. Brunch is served until 3:30 pm on weekends.


The opera *Grace* plays at the Cambridge YMCA.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $8 weekends, 21+. Patrons relax with a friendly crowd and mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month is the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground. The typical lineup features singer Leah Callahan with guest musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Tuesdays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Big and Hot, Brazilian night, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Tue.: Service Industry Night with DJ Afrodite.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 19+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: New Wave Dance Party with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Milky Way Lounge (Sundays)
401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+. Sunday theme nights are geared toward gay men and women, transgendered people and their allies. Live entertainment varies from week to week and includes Fireballs Drag Bingo, spoken-word events and jazz. There is free bowling if you buy dinner, and a dance party hosted by resident DJ Jamila caps off the evening. On the last Sunday of every month, the Milky Way presents the all-women Amazon Poetry Slam, a lesbian event. 8 pm, 7:30 pm sign-up, $7.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Omar. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. Private, members-only club, predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

711 Boylston (Tuesdays)
711 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5502). www.hereboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 9 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. The Tuesday night gay dance party, Here, features disco and pop.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night, and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music pumps, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Vapor (Wednesdays–Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adilson. 19+. •Thu.: The Music Factory with DJ Pauli Paul and DJ Ron Steele spinning hip-hop, reggae and funk. $5 before 11, $2 after 11, 21+. •Fri.: Inner Circle. $10, 21+. •Sat.: Evolution with DJ Jay Ine. •Sun.: T-Dance party with DJ Danae grooving to local, tribal, and house while DJ Niterain spins classic oldies. 21+.

Books

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). www.calamusbooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-7 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. This store for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered people carries fiction, erotica and titles by gay and feminist activists.

Center for New Words
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to Central. www.centerfornewwords.com. Cambridge's center for women's writing and ideas hosts open mikes and author events.

Cuttyhunk and Provincetown Trading Company
540 Tremont St., Boston (617-574-5000). www.cuttyhunk.us. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. •*June 29, 6:30 pm. Free.* John Rowell reads from his first book, *The Music of Your Life*, a collection of funny and nostalgic stories about an awkward adolescent boy's search for sexual identity and adulthood.

Shows & Events

Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers
First Church of Jamaica Plain, corner of Centre and Eliot streets, Jamaica Plain (617-522-2216). www.lcfd.org/jp. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. June 26, 7:30-11 pm. $8. This evening of contra dance for all ages features music by Adam Broome and Jaige Trudel.

Casino Night at Club Café
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. June 27, 6-10 pm. $10 at the door, includes gambling chips. Place your bets for a good cause at this fund-raiser for the Beantown Softball League.

Come to the Music
Longy School of Music, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-524-9309). www.voicesrising.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. June 27, 3 pm. $18-$20. Voices Rising, Boston's newest women's chorus, performs alongwith Connecticut women's chorus Another Octave.

Grace
Durrell Hall, Cambridge Family YMCA Theater, 820 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-9622). www.ticketweb.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. June 24 and 26, 8 pm. $35. Roger Rudenstein adapted this opera from the play by Edouard Langlois and John Carmichael. The orchestra of Emmanuel Music, conducted by Timothy Steele, provides the music.

The Last Sunday in June
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through June 26. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $25-$35. In this play written by Jonathan Tolins and presented by SpeakEasy Stage Co., a group of gay men gathering in a Greenwich Village apartment watch New York's Gay Pride parade and discuss issues surrounding their sexuality.

Mad Maids
PA's Lounge, 345 Somerville Ave, Somerville (617-776-1557) www.paslounge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. June 26, 10 pm. $5. The Illegitimate Theater Company presents Leah Callahan's cabaret-style play about power, poverty and inner conflicts.

Out and About: Coming Out 101
Grand Opening! 318 Harvard St., Brookline (617-776-2626). www.grandopening.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. June 27, 6:30-8:30 pm. $20. Kwawer provides answers for some coming-out questions. Topics include where to meet friends, where to meet partners, different "scenes" and negotiating the gay and lesbian world as a bisexual person.

That Takes Ovaries! Benefit Play and Open Mike
Blacksmith House, Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (781-861-8737). www.thattakesovaries.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sat., June 26, 8 pm; Sun., June 27, 2:30 and 7:30 pm. $20. The real-life tales of wild women and girls from the book *That Takes Ovaries!: Bold Females and Their Brazen Acts* are translated to the stage at this theatre fund-raiser. An open-mike performance follows each show, and proceeds benefit arts organizations focused on racial, cultural and gender equality.

Ongoing

Atención Latina Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (800-834-3242). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. FCH collaborates with Elizabeth Stone House to provide this safe, confidential space to discuss healthy relationships, domestic violence and other issues.

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wednesdays, 7 pm. The Boston Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered and Questioning Youth h

weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi and Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6032). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 7 pm. This group meets the second Tuesday of every month for discussion with bisexual and bi-curious men.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wednesdays, 7 pm. Come share thoughts about books, videos and other topics of interest in a supportive environment. Open to all bisexual men and women.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tuesday of the month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

BOSS
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 6-8 pm. This group for gay and bisexual men of color meets the last Thursday of each month to discuss culture, lifestyle, creativity and health.

Boston Bay Blades
www.bayblades.org/boston. All are welcome to join this competitive, recreational group of rowers and scullers.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers
First Church of Jamaica Plain, corner of Centre and Eliot streets, Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.bglcd.org. Every Wed., 7:30 pm, $8. Square-dancing and English country dancing lessons are available for lesbians, gays, bisexuals and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). www.bgbl.com. The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year.

Boston Gay Skins
Armrod, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). www.bostongayskins.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 11 pm. Boston's nonracist gay skinhead collective meets the third Friday of the month.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri, 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people, ages 13-25.

Boston Ironsides Rugby Football Club
Oakley Field, South Boston (617-524-5814). MBTA: Red Line to JFK. Rugby players of any level, size, race and orientation are welcome to play.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. www.lesbianavengers.org. Thu., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wednesdays, 7 pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(978-831-3100). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
(617-417-0876). Third Saturday of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for interested parents and their partners. For info, e-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-1155). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm, free. An informal group for people who think they may be bisexual or attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning People
(617-256-8693). This group welcomes those who want to discuss the challenges and the joys of coming out. It meets Thursday nights, 7-8:30 pm, in Cambridge.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area support, information and social group for people assigned female at birth who feel that is not an accurate or complete description of their gender. Part of the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group meets monthly. Email CompassFTM@usa.com for details.

Controversy Thursday
Matrix (B Room), 275 Tremont St. (lower level of Roxyplex), Boston (617-542-4077). Certain Thursdays (call for details), $8, no sneakers. This gay and bi dance party features DJ John Morris at 10 pm.

The Down Low
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Last Friday of the month. 7-9 pm. This discussion group for gay and bisexual men of color addresses heritage, lifestyle, culture and health.

East Coast Wrestling Club
(401-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www.eastcoastwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay male wrestlers has more than 160 members.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional women 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophisticated to get together with like-minded women for conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Explore Gender in a Safe Place
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. An ongoing support group for people born into female bodies or who have grown up being viewed as biologically female.

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Saturday mornings. Join Boston's GLBT Flag Football League for a casual spring season, followed by a formal fall season. All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). Sat., 10 am. All are welcome to join this running club.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
(617-267-9001 or 888-340-4528). Mon.-Fri., 6-11 pm; Sat. and Sun., 5-10 pm. This toll-free hotline is confidential and provides support for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning callers.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church in Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Professionals Building Community
(617-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to join this networking organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered professionals. Monthly networking meetings.

Gaymes Group
(508-339-4250). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians. Members get together on a regular basis to play board, card and parlor games.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. $5-10. An open mike night open to new performers, this queer-positive, dyke-positive, bi-positive and trans-positive spoken-word event meets the second Thursday of each month, 7:30 pm.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Biological males meet on Monday evenings. The groups are moderated by psychologist Randi Kaufman.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

Girlz 2 Girlz
(781-893-6113). This mentoring program is for girls ages 13-19 who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered. Contact Marcela Aldez-Osorio.

GLBT Seniors
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6272). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mondays. Support group for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered seniors ages 60 and over. Men-only support group meets Monday afternoons.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Anonymous HIV testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Laffan
This social and networking group for women includes single women, couples and parents interested in art, cultural events, outdoor and sporting activities, intellectual and social pursuits, public service and travel. Members receive a weekly email calendar of events. For info, e-mail Laffan_Boston2004@yahoo.com.

LGBT Considering Parenting Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. A short-term (eight-week) group for LGBT persons who are considering becoming parents. Sliding fee scale available. Call for information.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue., Wed. and Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

The Network/La Red
(617-423-7233). The Network is a support group working to end abuse in lesbian, bisexual women's and transgender communities. Email info@thenetworklared.org for more information.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

Partners of People with HIV
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Meets first and third Tuesdays of each month. 7-9 pm. An ongoing support group that allows individuals with HIV-positive partners to discuss issues surrounding the virus in their lives.

Peer Listening Line
(800-399-7337). Trained GLBT volunteers provide confidential information, referrals and support.

The Rainbow Cafe
rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social group for activist, academic, intellectual or artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. Email somoslatinos lgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

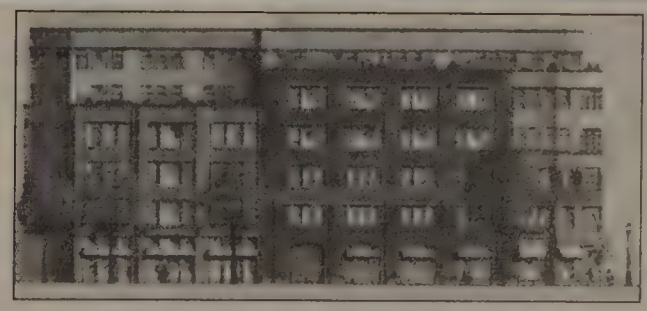
Support Group for HIV-Negative Gay and Bisexual Men
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-967-6231). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. First three Tuesdays of each month, 6-8 pm. Discuss safe-sex practices and strategies for managing risk and communicating with sexual partners.

Support Group for Lesbians with Cancer
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed. evenings, once a month. Free. For those who want to discuss the impact of this disease on their lives.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Road, Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Street. First Saturday of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing, $8. Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. WWB is a social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s. It meets the first Thursday of every month.

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Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Drum and Dance Saturday
Earth Drum Council, First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (978-371-2502). www.earthdrum.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. July 3, 8-11:30 pm. $6. Bring drums, spoons, tambourines and clapping hands for this day of dance and percussion.

Free Yoga Classes
The Yoga Studio, 74 Joy St, Boston (617-523-7138). www.yogastudio.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles or Green Line to Government Center. July 3, 9 am, 11 am and 1 pm. Try out a free class of either hatha yoga (physical and breath exercise) or vinyasa yoga (sequenced postures).

Mediums Day
Greater Boston Church of Spiritualism, Masonic Center, 32 Church St., Watertown (617-923-4334). www.greaterbostonchurchofspiritualism.com. June 26, 11 am-3 pm. Experience the skills of psychic mediums, including spiritual readings and healing.

Psychic John Holland and Guest Lynn Robinson
Wyndham Hotel, Andover (TicketWeb: 866-468-7619). www.ticketweb.com. June 24, 6:30-9:30 pm. Psychic John Holland is joined by best-selling author and professional intuitive Lynn Robinson at this event devoted to unlocking the power of your intuitive wisdom and communicating with the spirit world.

Workshops

Challenge: Barrier or Bridge? An Integrated Awareness Workshop
Cambridge Health Associates, 335 Broadway, Cambridge. (617-661-3414) www.mfourman.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. June 26, 1:30-5 pm. $35 or free for first-time attendants. This workshop teaches participants how to meet their challenges and grow and heal through guided meditation and intuitive information.

Gender Reconciliation: A Pathway to Peace-Building
Institute for Body, Mind and Spirituality, Lesley College, 29 Everett St., Cambridge (617-349-8129 or 800-999-1959 ext. 8129). www.lesley.edu/gsass/bodymind. June 25-28. $425. This four-day conference examines the topic of gender discrimination. Explore the spiritual and cosmological dimensions of gender, the dynamics of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities, as well as communication and observation skills.

Global Dance Fun
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlington (781-316-0282 or 928-300-6944). www.arlingtoncenter.org or www.yogameetsdance.com. June 25-27, 11 am-12:15 pm. $12, drop-in. Global Dance is an aerobic workout mixed with yoga, dance and meditation. The combination of healing arts and freeing dance movement is said to increase energy, dissolve stress and relax the body and mind. All levels welcome.

Metta: Loving Kindness Meditation
Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. July 24, 10 am-5 pm. $60. This day features meditation practice and discussion of the concept of *metta*, or loving kindness, which the Buddha taught as an antidote to fear and anger. The systematic practice of metta is believed to help develop concentration, tranquility and clarity.

Mind over Menopause
824 Boylston St., (Rte. 9 East), Chestnut Hill (617-991-0102 x232). June 26, 9:30 am-4 pm. $95, includes lunch and materials. Please preregister. This one-day workshop aims to help women learn mind/body skills, answer questions about midlife health and feel healthier. The event concludes with restorative stretching and yoga.

The Power of Breath
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 90 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circlesofwisdom.com. July 7, 7-9:30 pm. $35. This workshop takes participants through a guided meditation using the "circular breathing" and "full wave breathing" techniques associated with transformational breath. These techniques aim to increase blood circulation, relieve stress, increase mental clarity and promote the release of bodily toxins.

Power to Protect for Women
Improv Asylum, 216 Hanover St., North End, Boston (781-405-1248). www.powerboston.com. July 3, 4-6 pm. Free. This community workshop is designed to teach women what they can do with their body to defend themselves and their loved ones.


The Power to Protect Women workshop takes place July 3

Retreat

Couple's Vision Quest
Kripalu Center, Lenox, Mass. (800-741-7353). www.kripalu.org. July 2-5. $430 and up. This workshop is for couples who want to celebrate their love, expand their relationship on the spiritual path and consciously create a vision for the next phase of their lives.

Women's Meditation Retreat
Silver River Institute, 294 Pleasant St., Stoughton (781-344-9814). www.silverriverinst.com. June 27, 9:30 am-3 pm. $85, includes vegetarian lunch. Please preregister. Get together with women for a day of relaxation, stress relief and meditation practice using imagery and sound designed to assist with self-exploration and healing.

Ongoing

Aikido Basics
Shobu Aikido, 217 California St., Newton (617-332-9899). www.shobu.org. Mon., Wed., Thu., and Fri., 5:45 pm. Learn the basics of Aikido, a Japanese martial art and form of sword fighting. Visitors welcome.

Discover Your Self with Meditation
Maum Meditation Center, 20 Rustic St., Newton (617-935-1824). www.maum.org. Sat., 6:30-7:30 pm. $10. Maum Meditation is based on recalling and discarding accumulated past memories to rid oneself of inner anxiety. This day features instruction, discussion and refreshments.

Feldenkrais
CasaNia: A Home for Every Body, 46 Porter Road, Cambridge (617-491-5144). www.casania.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Mon., 7:45-9:15 pm. Thu., 12:15 pm. $15, drop-in. Feldenkrais is a movement awareness therapy designed to aid various physical problems such as repetitive stress syndrome or bad posture.

Morning Yoga by the Charles River
Carmela Cattuti, Charles River Between the Hatch Shell and the Boat House, Boston (617-970-5320). www.yogame.com. MBTA: Red Line to Charles. Wed., 6:30-7:15 am. $10. Begin your day with an energizing practice of sun salutations and standing and seated postures. Each class ends with deep relaxation. All levels welcome.

Restorative Yoga
Karma Yoga Studio, 1132 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-9642). www.karmayogastudio.com. Thu., 10:30-11:45 am. $12 per class. Appropriate for those recovering from injury, surgery or illness, this class focuses on restoring the body to a natural, healthy state through postures, stretching and gentle motion.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

Boston Red Sox
• Fenway Park, Boston
Tickets: 877-733-7699
June 23, 7:05 pm vs. Minnesota Twins
June 24, 1:05 pm vs. Minnesota Twins
June 25, 7:05 pm vs. Philadelphia Phillies
June 26, 1:20 pm vs. Philadelphia Phillies
June 27, 2:05 pm vs. Philadelphia Phillies
July 6, 7:05 pm vs. Oakland Athletics

Boston Cannons
• Nickerson Field, Boston University
Tickets: 888-847-9700
June 26, 7 pm vs. New Jersey Pride

Events

New Charles River Run
Start/finish at Daley Field, Nonantum Road, Boston (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org/BAEvents/charlesriverrun/index.html. June 27. $22. The Community Running Club and Somerville Striders Athletic Club host this 5K or 7-mile race/walk along the Charles. Parties take place before and after the race.

POW-MIA Race/Walk for Freedom
Start/finish at Boston Teacher's Union Parking Lot, Day Blvd., South Boston (781-961-2110). June 27, 10 am. $25. This 10K walk/road race raises money for the POW-MIA Awareness Committee.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club seeks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club (BSSC) Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

CHARITY

Team in Training
(800-688-6572). www.teamintraining.org. This organization provides fund-raising athletes with group training and support, personalized coaching and guaranteed race entry for events including the Timberman Triathlon, Monster Challenge, Maine Marathon, Dublin Marathon and more.

FENCING

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.


Connor Gill and the Cannons play June 26.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Saturday mornings. Women's teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

FLOOR HOCKEY

BSSC Coed Floor Hockey
Leagues are held in Newton, North Reading and Brighton (617-789-4070, ext. 238). www.bssc.com. All levels are welcome, individuals and teams.

KICKBALL

BSSC Kickball
Games are played Tuesdays in Charlestown or Newton (617-789-4070). Relive your playground days with 10-on-10 kickball (five men and five women per team).

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, then consider joining these self-proclaimed "serious drinkers with a running problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Run
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Thu., 7 pm. Weekly runs.

Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-6.2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thu., 7:30 pm. Weekly 2.6-mile runs.

SOCCER

BSSC Outdoor Soccer
(617-789-4070). Outdoor teams forming now. Games played in Charlestown, Lexington, Reading and Canton. Individuals and teams are welcome.

SOFTBALL

BSSC Softball
(617-789-4070). Coed softball games played in Brighton, Newton, North Reading and other areas.

ULTIMATE FRISBEE

BSSC Ultimate League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070). Co-ed games each week at Bunker Hill Community College in Charlestown.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070, ext. 2. Sun.-Thu. Coed teams forming for summer leagues in Cambridge, Watertown, Brookline and Newton.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-868-8379). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels. Weekly practices held year-round.

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children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Borders Books and Music
Cambridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Every Sat., 1 pm. Staff members read from new and classic storybooks.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Every Tuesday and Saturday, 11 am. Staff members read children's stories.

ImprovFoundry Family Show
ImprovBoston, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA Red Line to Central. $12. •June 26, 6 pm: This short, improvisational show is appropriate for the entire family.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50. Reservations recommended. •June 23 and 24; 10:30 am and 1 pm: Frequent PST performer Michael Graham delivers his version of the classic story *Jack and the Beanstalk.* •June 30 and July 1, 10:30 am and 1 pm: *Rumpelstiltskin* is a perennial favorite at the PST.

Things to Do

Boston by Little Feet
Fanueil Hall, Congress Street, Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Sun, 2 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am. $8. Explore Boston's history and architecture by taking a walking Freedom Trail tour designed specifically for kids.

Boston Duck Tours
Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston; Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-267-3825). www.bostonducktours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Science Park. Daily through November, 9 am-sunset, every 30-60 minutes. $24 ($21 seniors and students; $15 children 3-11; $3 children under 3). These amphibious vehicles tour Boston's most popular sights via city streets and the Charles River.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8, $7 children. •Fridays, 3-5 pm; Saturdays and Sundays, 2-4 pm. *In the Zoom Zone:* Take part in hands-on science challenges culled from the PBS TV show *Zoom.*

Franklin Park Zoo
One Franklin Park Road, Boston (617-541-5466). www.zoonewengland.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Forrest Hills, then #16 Bus to Zoo. April 1-Sept. 30: Weekdays, 10 am-5 pm; weekends and holidays, 10 am-6 pm; Oct. 1-March 31: Daily 10 am-4 pm. $9.50 adults, $5 children. •Through Sept. 6: Dinosaur Kingdom, $3. The zoo has transformed its World Flight bird cage into a Mesozoic Jungle where visitors can get up close and personal with 12 giant animatronic dinosaurs.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-496-8204). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. $7.50, $5 children. Every Sat., 9 am. $35. Saturday Scholar sessions give children the opportunity to learn about their world through hands-on activities.

Mary Baker Eddy Library
200 Mass. Ave., Boston (888-222-3711). www.marybakereddylibrary.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony . July 6-Aug. 10, Every Tue., 11 am-1 pm. Summer Soulstice 2004 is a free festival of activities geared toward children and families, including sidewalk painting and musical guests.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $5 adults, $2 ages 5-18, students and seniors, 5 and under free (free admission the third Sunday of every month). •*Holography, the Light Fantastic:* The museum displays the largest collection of holograms in the world. •*Robots and Beyond:* This exhibit offers a look at MIT's artificial intelligence research labs.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. $15, free for children 17 and under. •Sat., 11:30 am, 12:30 pm and 1:30 pm, Through June: Art Alive offers a range of cultural activities and events for children.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $10 children. •*Risk!* is a hands-on exhibit that lets you learn how math, science and probability can help you assess risk. Through Sept. 6. •*Making Models* is a hands-on exhibition that demonstrates how models help people understand complex ideas and phenomena. It includes a wave tank, a model of Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •Every Sat. and Sun., 11 am-12 pm: The museum's Science Theater Program features professional storytellers who combine folk tales and myths with visits from live animals. •*Theater of Electricity:* Daily, times vary. The Van de Graaff generator provides a risk-free lightning show. •Charles Hayden Planetarium, check www.mos.org for show times, $8.50, $6.50 children: The kids-oriented multimedia astronomy show *Gravity Rules* features Jack the Jester. •*Friday Night Stargazing:* Every Fri., 8:30-10 pm (weather permitting). Gilliland Observatory: Use the observatory's two telescopes to find the moon, stars, constellations and planets. Free. •Mugar Omni Theatre: *India: Kingdom of the Tiger,* through Sept. 6. Check www.mos.org for show times, $8.50, $6.50 children.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1, Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, $8.95 children. •West Wing: The Amazing Jellies exhibition features thousands of jellyfish •Exhibit Halls: The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank features sharks, sting rays and a 600-pound California sea lion. •Whale Watch: New England's most adventurous whale watch. Call 617-973-5206.

New England Wild Flower Society
Garden in the Woods, 180 Hemenway Road, Framingham (508-877-7630). www.newfs.org. MBTA: Framingham Line to Framingham. April 15-June 15: daily, 9 am-7 pm; June 16-Oct. 31: Tue.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. Tours daily at 10 am (except Sun. at 2 pm). •June 28, 10-11 am: Animal Adventures: As part of the Animal Ambassadors program, children can come face to face with giant reptiles like anacondas and monitor lizards, as well as many other animals like kinkajous and lemurs. Adult companion required.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. •June 24, 4:15 pm: Fun with Folktales: Children will hear variations of the story of *Cinderella.* •June 29, 4 pm: Science Tuesday: Bugworks. The Druker Auditorium hosts this evening for children to have fun learning about bugs. •Mondays, 11:15 am: Children ages 3-5 enjoy stories at the Nonantum branch. •Tuesdays, 1:30 pm: The Newton Corner branch has story hour for 2- to 5-year-olds.

Newton History Museum
527 Washington St., Newton (617-796-1450). www.ci.newton.ma.us/jackson. MBTA: Bus #57 to Newton Corner. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm; Sun., 2-5 pm. $3 (children) and $5 (adults). •The *Four-Legged* exhibition shows children the relationships between humans and animals throughout history. •Children can learn about the fight against slavery and look at artifacts from the Underground Railroad, part of the museum's permanent collection.

Old Sturbridge Village
1 Village Road, Sturbridge (800-733-1830). www.osv.org. Daily, 9:30 am-5 pm. $5 for ages 3-17, $20 adults, $18 seniors, 3 and under free. Kids can build a snake-rail fence, meet the piglets, trundle a hoop and talk to the town blacksmith at this historical New England village. •July 3-5: The Great American Picnic. Celebrate the 4th of July with three days of singing and great food. Events include a flag-raising, a musket-firing demonstration, plus chances to to put your signature on a giant reproduction of the Declaration of Independence and play baseball 1830s-style.

around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave.., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on clear nights), April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm; Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5pm; Fri., 10 am - 9 pm. Adults, $9, children and seniors $7.

Faneuil Hall
75 State St., Boston (617-338-2323). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9 am. Free.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50, students and seniors $6, children $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $8.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-739-1200). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Summer: daily, 10 am-4 pm; Labor Day through Memorial Day: Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13, $11 seniors and children.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5, $3 children.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1, Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, $8.95 children.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-5 pm. Free.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $5 (children $1).

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $7, (seniors $4).

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily, 8 am-6 pm. $4.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). May 1-Oct. 15: daily, 9 am-6 pm; Nov. 1-April 30: daily, 10 am-5 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster-care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-450-1235). Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay
(617-375-0700). Volunteer in the administrative department.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. Volunteers provide one-on-one friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-263-2273). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). Tutor Boston students (preschool through high school) in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers/tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support to children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000). Tutor students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
livmates@rcn.com. Spend your lunch hour reading a an elementary school in Cambridge or Somerville.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). Volunteers needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-online.com. Through phone conversations, counsel people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Play with homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). Share your time with an elderly individual, mentor children or teach an adult to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-926-4232). Read or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-536-3557). Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

Parental Stress Line
(617-528-5800). Telephone counselors needed.

Pine Street Inn
(617-521-7626). Serve breakfast to homeless guests.

Project Place
(617-262-3740). Become a mentor or tutor to homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111). Record textbooks in digital format.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteers needed at this battered women's agency.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room and groceries program at the homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-hour domestic violence program.

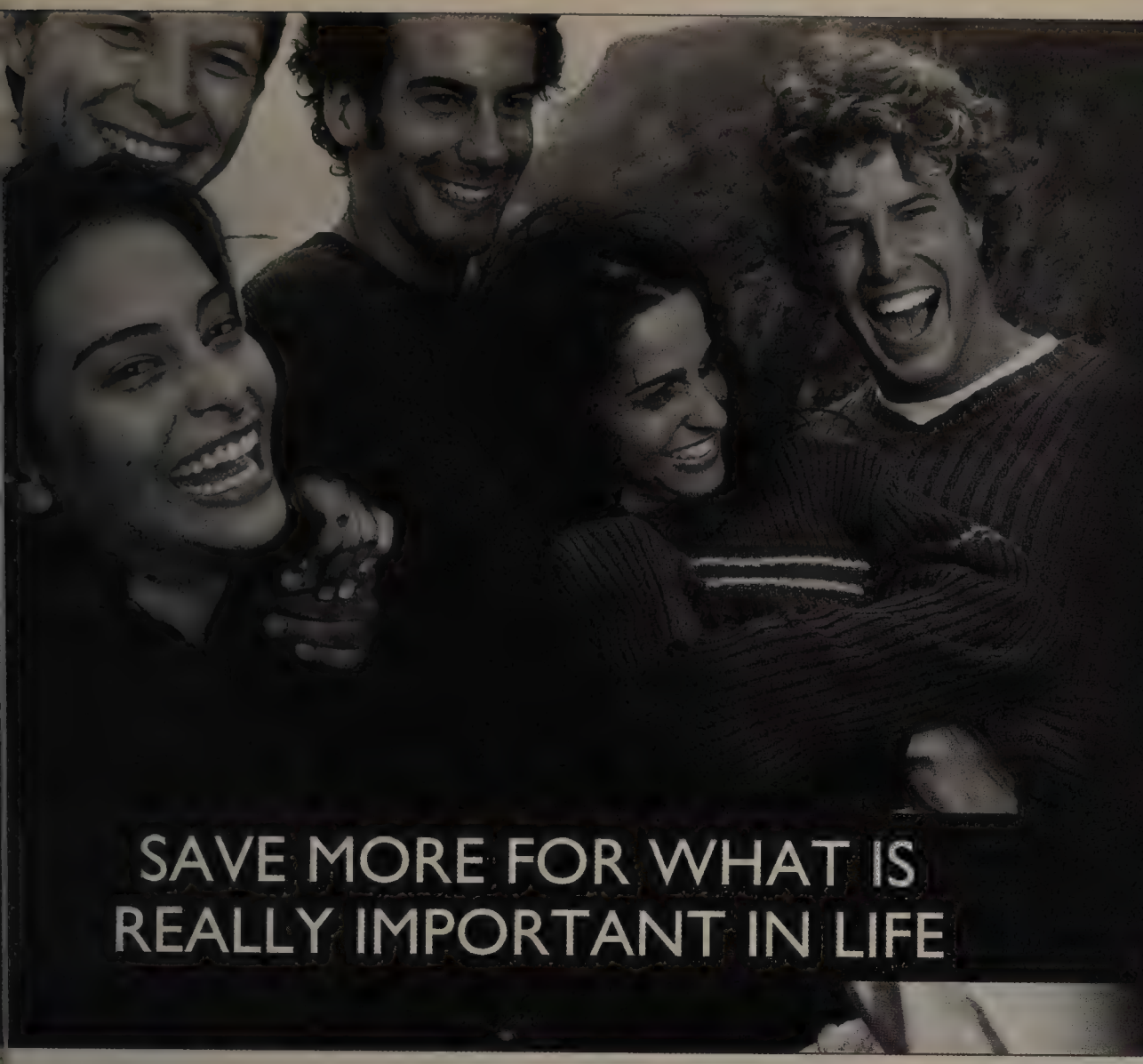
Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young professionals.

StandUp for Kids
(800-365-4543). Help rescue homeless children.

VNA Care Network
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.


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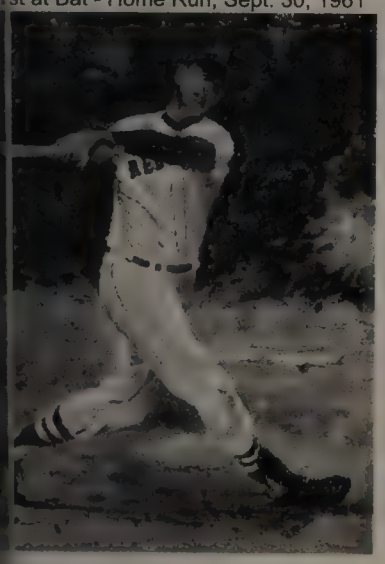
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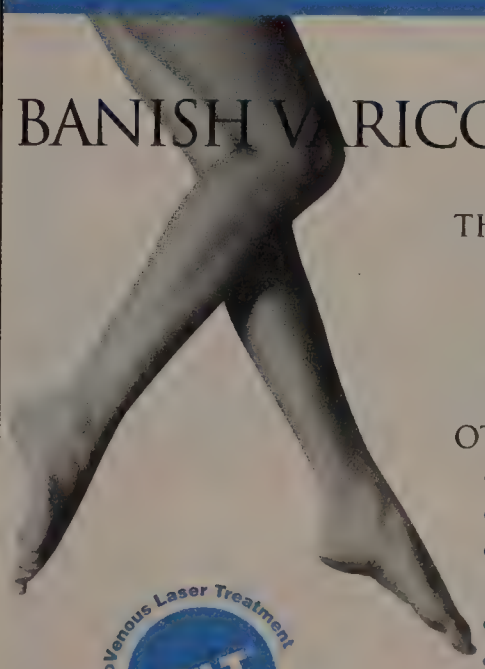
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RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

Jim F., Biking on Berkeley with Porn, Memorial Day

It's always great to see you, but I should have taken you up on your invite to watch your friend compete at Jacques. I don't want to be a Haitian stalker, but would love to talk over drinks. Or drink over movies. Or compare notes on your edgy reviews. Or talk more about happy endings. Nice to keep bumping into each other, but wish I had a way to reach you—I even tried Berlin boi, but he couldn't help. E-mail's much more reliable. Write to Scott and watch out for those late fees!

—jpiggish@aol.com

For Jen

I had a crush on you two years ago when you were a waitress at Our House. Then we ran into each other on the D Line one night about six months later. I didn't have the guts to ask you out either time. So I've been kicking myself since that recent Saturday afternoon when I walked right by you on the corner of Boylston and Exeter. I didn't recognize you until a minute later, by which time you had gone! Write me if you'd like to meet.

—Mike, mk2702@hotmail.com

Red Sox Player at Vox

This message is for the Red Sox player I met at Vox May 8. The Red Sox had beaten Kansas City 9–1 that night. Your married friend named Ian from Tampa introduced you to my friend and I and we all left Vox together and walked over to Saint. I gathered it was difficult for you to talk at Vox as you had a drunk groupie all over you who accidentally pushed me into a wall. When we finally made it to Saint, after a while you went to the bathroom. I took the opportunity to ask Ian what you were really like and if you (Mr. Red Sox) ever go on normal dates or meet normal girls. Your friend Ian vouched for you and said you were a "stand up guy" and do have a hard time meeting "normal" girls. Thinking I'd seized the moment to exchange e-mails or cell phone numbers with you, Ian said you had disappeared. That left me to rely on Ian to give my number to you, but I don't think he shared it with you. Maybe he did give you my number and you just took me for another groupie. I thought you were nice, very cute and I especially liked your shy demeanor. I had no idea who you were until Ian told me, but then again I am sure you are just a regular guy. I am really tired of Boston bars and immature guys and I am starting to think meeting a good man in this town is a lost cause.

If you remember me, Mr. Red Sox: I am petite with long, blonde hair, was wearing jeans and a white flowered tank top. By the way, Ian should still have my cell number programmed into his phone (not to be confused with my girlfriend's number he took as well). Here is my e-mail, and I remember your name. I am not a groupie: Take a chance.

—Fulofthedevil@aol.com

Risa

At first I thought you were a dream. A stunning, black-haired Asian beauty with a witty sense of humor, sharp fashion sense, sexy body and incredible smile. I was right. You are a dream—a real-life nightmare. Time spent with you was moments of pure ecstasy for me. You showed me what it was to truly love life—and in the blink of an eye you were gone. You stopped returning my calls, you refused to see me. Then recently, I saw you walking out of Whiskey Park in the arms of another man. I watched as he pinned you up against his Range Rover and kissed you. You looked at him in a way that broke my heart. If you would only give me a chance, I know you would one day look at me in the same way.

—Consumed by thoughts of you

Midnight Coffee Goddess

To the goddess in the white dress at Dunkin' Donuts on Harvard Street in Allston. It was near midnight, June 4. You were with two of your friends. I walked in before my shift to get my usual iced coffee. You have a nice tan and brown hair. I had the short hair and the silver tie. We exchanged glances, and if I weren't due back at the office so soon, maybe we could have exchanged numbers. Your posture as I was stepping into my car suggested that it was spring and that you have been holed up all winter in your apartment. You melted the ice in my coffee and believe me my straw was standing straight. Java on me!

—dunkindonutstieguy2000@yahoo.com

Kelly

Your name was Kelly, or at least that's what your name tag said while you were at an awards dinner at the Harvard Club June 3. You had on a metallic, light green shirt, black skirt, and had legs that went all the way up. Your eyes were dark as water at night, and I fell in. Only it was my stomach that fell. You resembled the young actress Rachel Leigh Cooke, only more beautiful, with short, black hair. I served you a gin and tonic, your only drink. When it was over, you and a friend took the elevator down, along with my hopes of meeting you. I'd say the odds of you reading this are one in a million.

—keeneye74@hotmail.com

Tight Pants at Mass. Ave.

This is to the curly-haired man who wa writing neatly in a very tiny notebook and most probably looking at me on a rainy June 6 at the Mass. Ave. T statio around 10 pm. I was fidgeting with my umbrella and pacing impatiently, but only because I knew you were looking me and I wanted to be interesting. My hair matched yours, but only because the weather. We waved to one another once I got on the train, which prompte me to burst out laughing till at least Stonybrook. I need to know: What wer you writing in that notebook?

—pacingwithumbrella@yahoo.com

Was That Your Green and White Umbrella...

...Or were you just happy to see me? On Friday, June 11 at around 5 pm, y and your friend were waiting for the Red Line train at South Station. You had dark hair and a great smile. I h blue-gray eyes, a blue pinstripe shir and caramel-colored skin. I carried red bag on my lap. As it happened y sat across from me while your frienc took the seat next to me on the trai As you and he conversed, our eyes k meeting. Coincidence? I hope not. Sadly, I had to get off at Park Street was hoping you would too, but you didn't. Can we find out what could have happened if you had?

—Rubita83@aol.com.

Lame-Ass Friend

We met at Davis Square when I was coming home from a work party wh it seemed I was the only one makin the trip from the couch to the fridg and back. I told you and your frienc that we'd missed the last train, and suggested that we split a cab. It tur out to be the funniest cab ride hom ever...that I've remembered, anywa Between the repeated questions an the cab driver's conversation with "wife," I almost pissed myself. You suggested hitting up the Foggy Gog for late night, but your friend said even a car full of Playboy Bunnies $500 wouldn't stop him from goin straight to bed, so we parted ways. hope your friend had a good sleep. Regardless, I thought you guys wer the most fun people I've met since moved here a year ago, and I'm al out for a good laugh, if nothing el let's split a cab again sometime. Thanks for the laughs.

—crazycab64@hotmail.com

rockie horoscope

JUNE 23–JULY 6, 2004

BY ROCKIE GARDINER

CANCER JUNE 21–JULY 22



Abrasive Mars leaves Cancer on the 23rd and takes a fair amount of the aggravation you've been subjected to since Mother's Day with it. It could also steal some of your assertiveness, so if your sharp edge seems dull, that's the reason. However, an increased dose of creativity from the life-sustaining sun should compensate for loss of Martian fire. Besides, you won't be as prone to accidents, fevers or temper tantrums. Achieving a happy medium between your purely personal agenda and other people's expectations might be the best birthday gift you get.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

Group activities and friendly socializing occupy center stage for a while longer. Then your sun ruler tends to make it more comfortable for you to hide out and let your unconscious or even cosmic consciousness take over. The weeks before your birthday often serve as basic training, a way to get into psychic shape for the program you intend to implement after the sun gets to Leo. This year, you may be experimenting much sooner than that, because as of the 23rd, courageous, impulsive Mars transits your sign for the first time in two years.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

Remember "inner and outer directed"? Well, with so many personal planets at the top of your solar chart and expansive Jupiter in Virgo, it'll be hard to come up with an excuse to stay home and contemplate your navel. Unless you're dragging a dead horse or a repressed memory out of a subterranean closet, introspection is simply not a part of the Virgo summer program. Fun in the sun with friends, career counseling, even an attraction to an off-the-wall romantic figure is more like it.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

Given your present circumstances, an optimistic and enthusiastic attitude may seem inappropriate. But while you're being urged to rise above the hardships caused by frustrating Saturn in your Cancer midheaven, why not go for whatever gusto you can muster? Lucky Jupiter will be sending positive, albeit occasionally over-the-top manic, energy your way for about another month. Consider this interlude as training for the beneficial opportunities you'll be offered once Jupiter enters Libra in September.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

The emphasis is not entirely on finances; still, most of the planetary activity is focused on what you desire, already possess and share with significant others. Although the bank could turn out to be the most significant of that lot. Refinancing? Not-very-subtle changes start to happen once your Mars co-ruler enters dramatic, stage-stealing Leo on the 23rd. If you need (we're way beyond want) to perform, now would be a very good time to strut your stuff. In another four weeks, when both your Mars and Pluto rulers align, you should be in top form.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

Triviality or transcendence? You could be heading down either path since the dualistic Gemini new moon drew its energy by opposing 28 Sagittarius, aka the Galactic Center and Great Attractor. Regenerative Pluto in your sign is calling for transformation; the various Gemini planets are pushing diversification. If you're looking for a clue, you're out of luck or else are relying too much on it. Since your Jupiter ruler is caught in the crosshairs, don't count on much more from him than promises and proselytizing.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

Whatever friction or heat you've been feeling from either business or your life partner should subside once irritating and irritable Mars leaves Cancer, your cosmic implement, on the 23rd. Happily or, if you've been getting laid a lot during the transit, unfortunately, it'll be two years before horny Mars comes around again. What to do in the meantime? Strengthen the obviously beneficial aspects of the relationship; appreciate its mundane, yet comforting and comfortable existence; and stop squawking.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

Fun in the sun, team sports, kidding around with the kids—'tis the other season to be jolly. For the next few weeks, your heart chakra, aka your solar fifth house, will be lit like a Christmas tree. How long you keep the bright lights and warm glow going depends on how soon you have to assume more responsibilities or get back to the daily grind. Try to postpone that day so that affectionate Venus will have enough time to attract even more admirers, wide smiles and advantageous social situations.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

Lose yourself in the art, make your friends' home your own and vice versa, prepare an exotic meal and share the recipe, coin another definition of "creature comfort." While there may be some minor provocations occurring in your daily life—except for the obvious career concerns that mid-March birthdays can't seem to resolve—Fish are finding favor, maybe even getting just rewards for their smarts and good taste. Enjoy this period of true relaxation and recreation so that you can regenerate, both physically and emotionally.

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

Celebrating the summer solstice along with Father's Day could present one too many reasons to be nostalgic about your fading youth. As the seasons turn, cardinal signs like yours respond to the potential of what's coming and the historical significance of what's passing much more than the rest of us do. But if you're feeling a bit apprehensive about the future or longing for what used to be, take heart. Starting on the 23rd, your fiery Mars ruler embarks on a joyride through creative, fun-loving Leo until August 10.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

I hate to harp on finances, but while there's action in your house of assets and values, it's hard to ignore the obvious. Besides, once your Venus ruler turns direct on the 29th, you could reverse your current stand or find a new approach to a recurring money matter. Now is also a good time to locate a precious item that'll increase the value of your collection. This desire to be good to yourself and please your loved ones won't last forever—maybe through July—so make the most of the opportunities that do arise. Take a gamble.

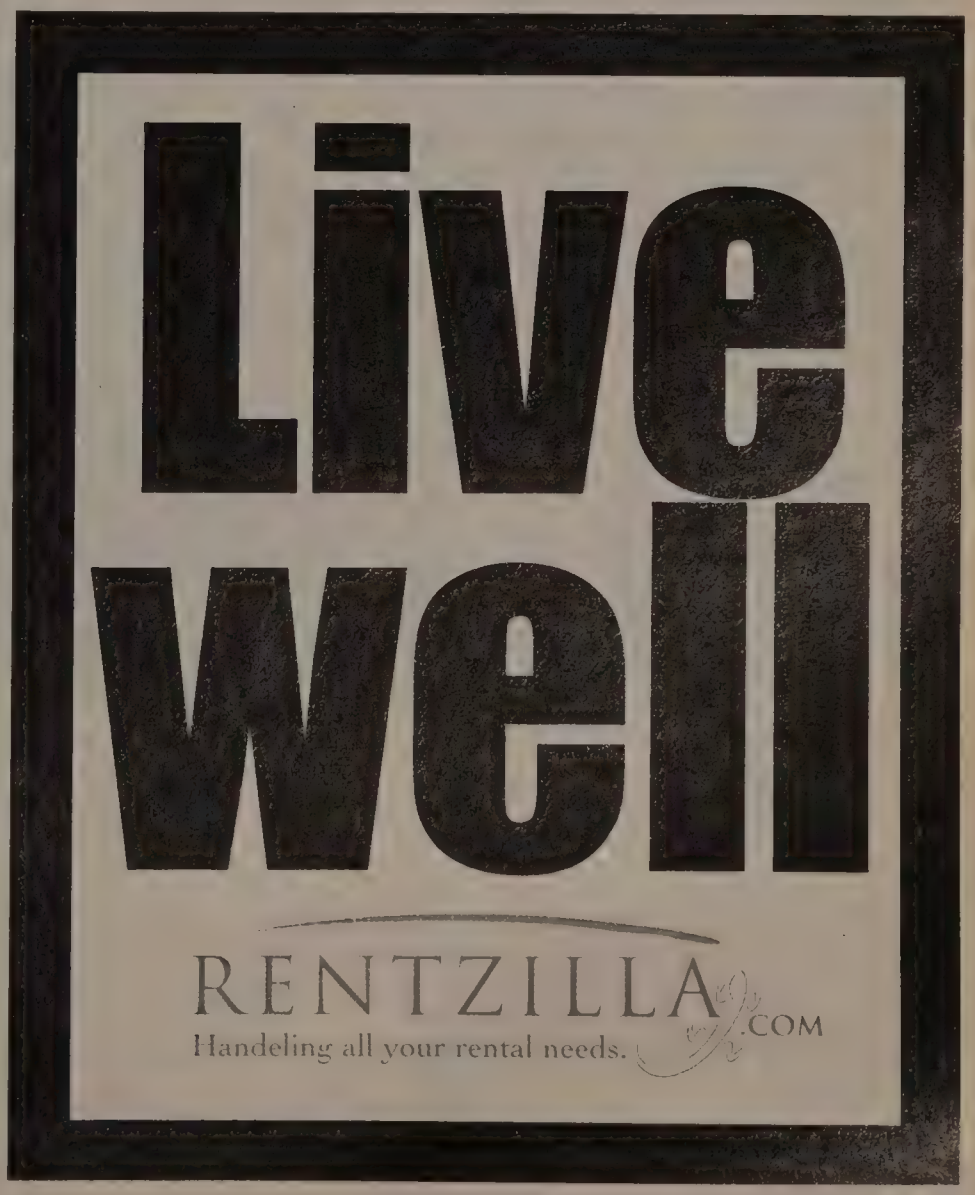
GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

This is a fine time to give yourself permission to indulge, be it by improving your own appearance or answering your house's cry for help. Family members may also make a pitch for more funds while it seems apparent that your generosity knows no bounds. Greater appreciation of the fundamentals follows from your Mercury ruler's travels through your Cancer house of acquisitions and values, so don't be concerned if you're not concerned with much beyond your own creature comfort and sense of well-being.

rious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise er the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE RDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

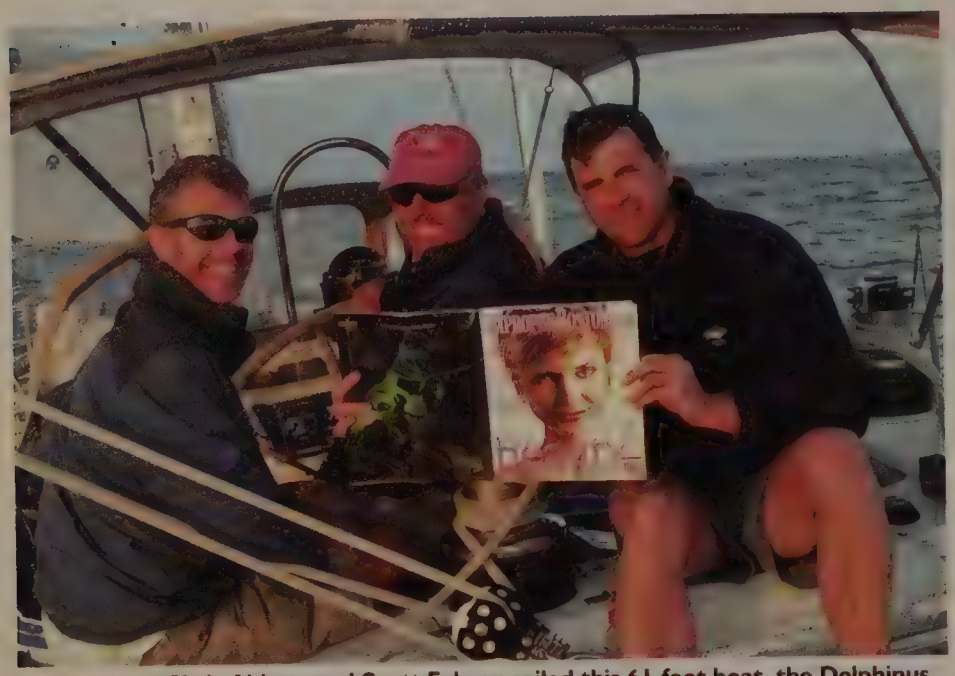




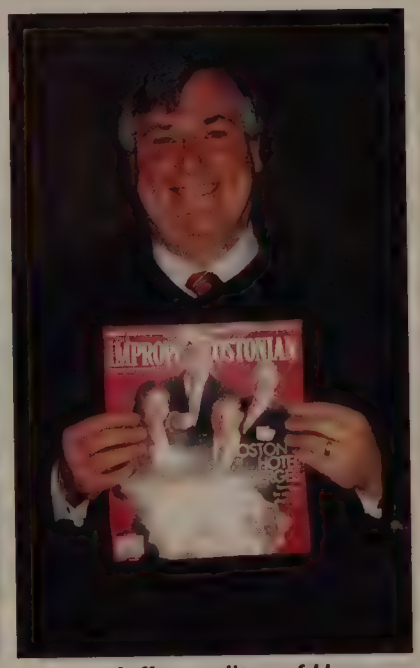
IMPROPER sightings

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Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you were. The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.



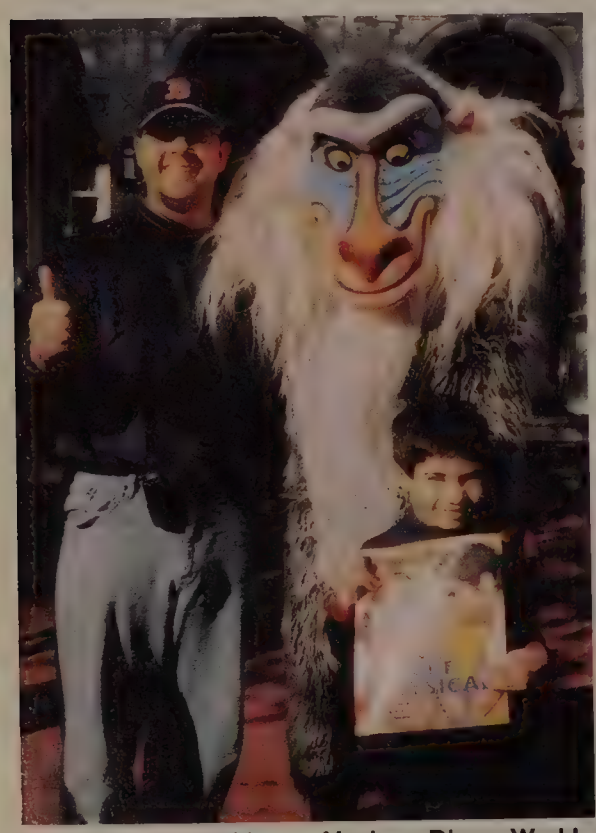
Pat Gardner, Chris Abbott and Scott Fabyan sailed this 61-foot boat, the Delphinus, across the Atlantic. This photo was taken in the middle of the crossing, which is the approximate point that they got Styx's "Come Sail Away" out of their heads.



Terence Jeffrey, editor of *Human Events* weekly, gets a bit IMPROPER.



Mark Sahagian and Mike Markarian prepare to pump a little iron at Muscle Beach in Venice, Calif. Remember to work your legs, too, guys: You can't shoot a shotgun out of a canoe



Hadi Mezher took his son, Noah, to Disney World in Florida, where they met Rafiki from *The Lion King*. Noah looks happy, so maybe we're the only ones who find Rafiki abjectly terrifying.



Winning the "Random Boston Connection" award for this issue, the guard standing behind Shane Malavenda and Anna Eriksson at Drottningholm Palace in Stockholm, Sweden, is Carl-Fredrik Axelsson, brother of Boston Bruin P.J. Axelsson.



Lisa and Chris Bogdan ride a water buffalo in Phuket, Thailand. The water buffalo is a cousin of the air buffalo, which has been hunted to near extinction for its delicious wings.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER: Earning a gold medal in the Hubcab Hurl, the Mud-Pit Belly Flop or the Dumpster Dive at the Summer Redneck Games, held July 3 in East Dublin, Georgia.

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Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned.

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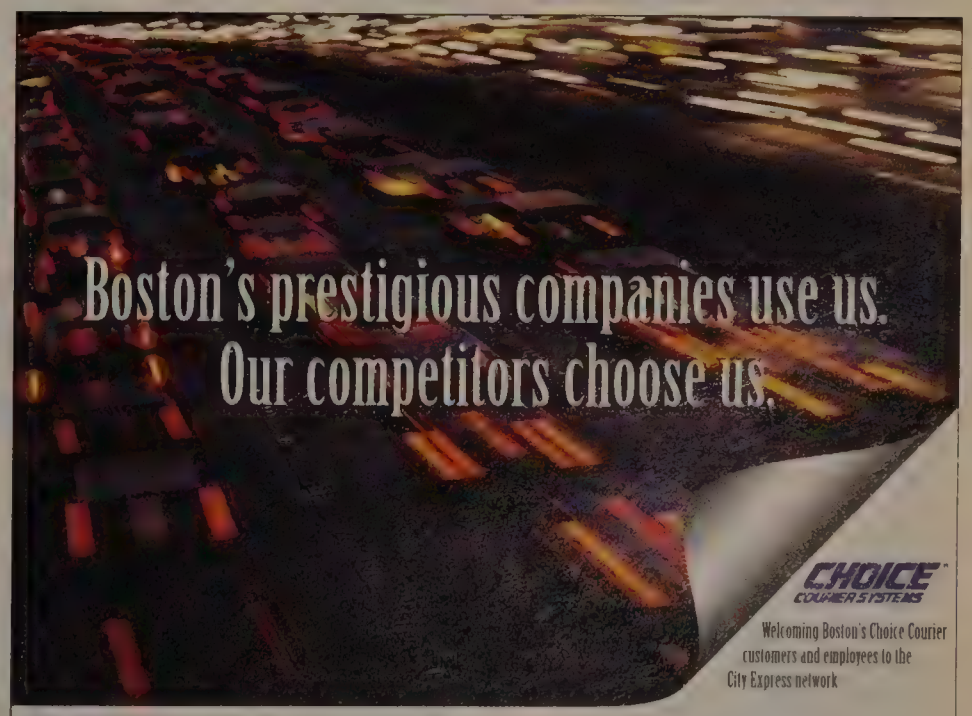
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IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Saturday, May 15, **Baak Gallery** Fine Arts and Fine Jewlery hosted a "Love and Marriage" bridal show.







1. **Jeong Eun Kim**, designer for Jeong Eun Kim Designs; **Aleta May Deyo**, designer for Daphe & Chloe; and **Martha Pratt**, designer for Martha Pratt Designs.
2. **Angela Petrotovic**, owner of Baak Gallery; **Azem Dervisevic**, owner of Sabur Restaurant; and **Leila Tomey**, head manager for Maksou Salon.
3. **Shari Ajayi**, student at Tufts University; **Marina Sun**, photographer; **Caterina Dervisevic**, manager for Baak Gallery; and **Branko Brankovich**, owner of Baak Gallery.

On Sunday, June 6, **Cactus Club** celebrated its "30 Margaritas in 30 Days" contest, which took place in May. Winners received Red Sox tickets.







1. **Kara Becker** and **Denise Conforti**, both dietitians from Boston.
2. **Jennifer McGivern**, manager at Cactus Club; **Glen Dickey** of Allied Domecq; and **Kaity Maloney**, server at Cactus Club.
3. **Mike Romei**, student at Northeastern University; **Elizabeth Beall**, bartender at Cactus Club; and **Stephanie Rocco**, law student at Quinnipiac.

On Monday, June 7, **Saint** hosted an Italian-themed Turn the Tables event headlined by Cesare Casella of New York's Beppe, along with exec chefs from **Sage**, **La Morra**, **Davio's** and **TraVigne**. Guests savored a sumptuous seven-course tasting in Saint's signature lounge dining format while mingling with the guest chefs.







1. **Diane Mantouvalos**, PR consultant for Andonia Public Relations, and **Stamatis Astras**, CEO of Petzetakis N.A.
2. **Dave Sardella**, Massachusetts state manager for the Sazerac Company; **Laura Marx**, bartender, and **Nino Trotta**, marketing director and lounge manager, both of Bricco.
3. Front row: **Cesare Casella**, chef at Beppe, and **Rene Michelena**, chef at Saint. Back row: **Josh Ziskin**, chef at La Morra; **Stephen Brown**, chef at Davio's; **Rodney Murillo**, chef de cuisine at Davio's; **Anthony Susi**, chef at Sage; and chef **Carmen Quagliatta** formerly of the Vault.

On Saturday, June 5, **The Improper Bostonian** was one of the sponsors of the **Life Is Good** Backyard Festival, held on the Esplanade. The all-day event featured Wiffle ball and Frisbee, live music and food. All proceeds benefit **Project Joy**.





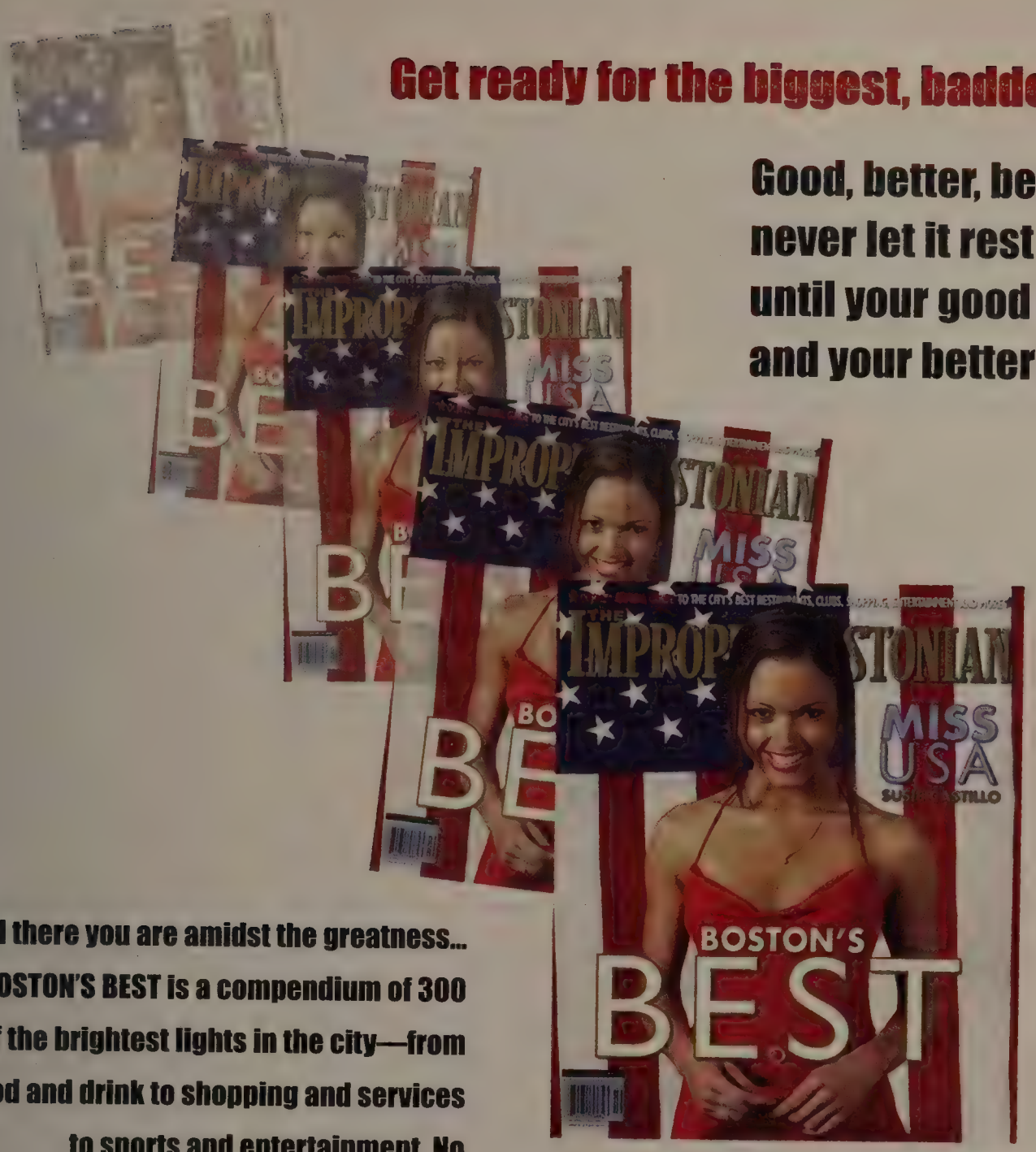


1. **Jill Buchan** and **Kerrie Gro**: both employees for Life Is Goo
2. **John Jacobs** and **Bert Jacobs**, co-founders of Life Is Good.
3. **Jenni Arndt** and **Roberta Robbins**, both employees for Life Is Good.

PHOTOS: BAAK GALLERY, JULIE KANE; CACTUS CLUB, KAREN DANA; LIFE IS GOOD, JIM TOMLINSON,MICHELLE MEJIA, MARK BEES; SAINT, CARRIE WALL

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN
MAGAZINE

Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch



RESTAURANTS

75 Chestnut *75 Chestnut St., Boston, 617-227-2175, www.75chestnut.com.* Providing regional American cuisine served in an intimate setting. Bar opens at 5pm. Dinner served from 5:30pm - 10pm.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston, 617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled Portabella Paninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1 am. AE, DC, MC, V.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2002. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.best-margaritas.com.

Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston 617-426-3333.* Open 11 am - 2am, 7 days a week. Kennedy's Midtown is a cultural experience far from the maddening crowd while set in heart of it. Kennedy's serves a lunch and dinner menu of international cuisine. In the evenings they play host to some of Boston's finest Pianists who entertain with a range of tunes from Broadway to Jazz and Blues. Kennedy's embraces all the finer qualities of regal Boston and throws in a dash of old fashioned Irish Hospitality for measure.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444, Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., South Boston, 617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11 am - 2am 7 days a week.

Ned Devine's *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere in the heart of downtown Boston. Open 11 am - 2am 7 days a week.

Science Street Café *Science Park, Boston, 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out Boston's newest nightspot - The Science Street Café at the Museum of Science. Try our out-of-this world signature martinis, gourmet appetizers and decadent desserts - all while listening to live music. Perfect with an Omni film. Open 6-10pm. Parking available.

Solas *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11 am - 2 am 7 days a week.

Strega *379 Hanover St., Boston 617-523-8481 www.stregaristorante.com.* A fine dining experience in Boston's historic North End. Enjoy our cozy, romantic atmosphere, splendid wine list and savory Italian dishes. Strega buzzes with a mix of casual tourists, local residents and love-struck couples. The menu offers something for everyone. Traditional dishes like the gnocchi are anything but simple, featuring flavor just as robust as that found in intricate dishes. Find yourself in the company of celebrities, including owner Nick Varano's pals from of the Sopranos. Available for corporate and private functions.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

Sydney's Grille *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why Bon Appétit magazine says, "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breakfast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus visit www.sidneysgrille.com.

BARS/CLUBS

Beer Specialty

Boston Beer Works *112 Canal St., near the Fleet Center, 617-896-BEER, 61 Brookline Ave., across from Fenway Park, 617-536-BEER and 278 Derby St., in Historic Salem, 978-745-BEER.* Boston's oldest and largest restaurant brewery with 3 locations! Bold American Food. Award Winning Beer. 15 microbrewed beers always on tap. 16 American wines by the glass. 15 championship billiards tables at our Canal Street location. Complete party planning capabilities. Private Rooms. Customizeable menus. Lunch. Dinner. Late Night. Always a good time. Check out the BIGGER and BOLDER menu.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exotic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

Big City - Pool Hall, Pizza Kitchen, Beer Bar *138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8pm, free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Clubs

Felt *533 Washington St., Boston, 617.350.5555* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, right next door to the Opera House; in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering sophisticated billiards, New York style Lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere of DJ's and dancing, combined with the delicious entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Contemporary cusine by Chef Ben Stevens.

Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston, 617-482-7799.* Located in Boston's trendy Theater District, Pravda 116 is a chic bar and club. DJs 5:30pm - 10:30pm keep the energy level high. Bar 5:30pm-2am and dance club 10:30pm - 2am Wednesday-Saturday. Credit cards accepted AE, CB, DC, MC, V.

Stadium – Clubhouse *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Stadium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale nightclub featuring two bars, a hardwood dance floor and parking. An exciting yet relaxed 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety of music and beautiful people crowding the dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights. An ideal place for your next bachelor, bachelorette or birthday party.

Club Q Boston *25 Union St., Boston, 617-742-2121.* Open 9pm - 2am Wednesday through Saturday. What nightlife in Boston has been waiting for, this state of the art Nightclub in the heart of Faneuil Hall attracts a stylish and eclectic crowd. Open Wednesday through Saturday Club Q hosts Boston's top DJs spinning Hip Hop, House and Top 40's. With two bars, three VIP areas and pool tables, Club Q is the place to see and be seen. Credit cards accepted.

Comedy

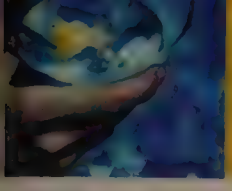
The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedy-connectionboston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some o Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The Wild man of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. O Thursday nights, Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hyp notist" mesmerizes the audience and on the week ends, this is the only place to see the biggest name in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Mar garet Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook an George Lopez.

Dance Bars

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-946* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great e cape in the financial district! Two floors, three bar open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live banc downstairs!

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-208 www. theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. Mi gle. Let your hair down; see and be seen on th big screen. Simply the hippest way to spend night of all-out fun in Boston's Financial Distri Come after work. Come to dance. Come to wild with your friends. There's always som thing exciting happening – and you never kno who you'll bump into. Join us and experien what the buzz is all about.

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Bosto*





617-227-2060. Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

Irish

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 617-742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston, 617-742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 617-523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11am - 1am 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

The Green Dragon *11 Marshall St., Boston, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-1400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Jr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 617-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

General

The Alley *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. www.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

Aqua *120 Water St., Boston, 617-720-4900.* Boston's newest place to be seen is now open in the heart of the Financial District. Whether relaxing with a martini in one of our cozy booths, sipping a margarita on our roof deck or watching your hometown favorites on our high definition plasma TV. Aqua has what you're looking for after work and late night with our resident and guest DJs spinning your favorite mixes through our state of the art sound system all night long.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For more info, please call or e-mail info@theblackrhino.com

Boston Rocks *245 Quincy Market Place Boston, 617-726-1110 www.boston-rocks.net.* 21+. Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 617- 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2003. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.best-margaritas.com.

Cheers *Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-227-0150, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Offering pub fare until 11:45pm. Live entertainment every Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Cheers *Beacon Hill 84 Beacon St., Boston, 617-227-9605, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Full menu available until 11:45pm. Watch your favorite team on DirecTV.

Downtown Lounge *138 Portland St., Boston 617-523-8383.* Tempting tapas, modern martinis and contemporary cocktails are just a few of the elements awaiting your arrival. A distinctive destination in the heart of North Station, located just one block from the Fleet Center. Share crab taquitos, shaved portobello mushrooms or grilled white pizza. Revive with a specialty martini while sinking into soft curvy seating. Spacious and sublime, Dowtown Lounge is an attractive meeting place for business, luncheons, social, after work cocktails and events.

The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010.* Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston 617-722-0161.* The newest edition to Boston's night scene. This New Orleans style bar is just steps away from the Fleet Center. Hurricane O'Reilly's serves up the best that Boston nightlife has to offer. Come dance the night away with the hottest music around. We will leave you yearning for Bourbon Street.

Jillian's Boston *145 Ipswich St., Boston, 617-437-0300.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring more than 200 high tech games, six full bars, 50 pool tables, racing simulators, Black Jack for Fun and much more. Atlas Bar and Grill on Jillian's first floor offers full service dining featuring innovative American cuisine, a giant screen video wall and dancing every Friday & Saturday night. www.jilliansboston.com.

The Junction – Your Neighborhood Bar & Grill. *110 Dorchester St., South Boston, 617-268-6429.* Delicious food, great atmosphere and friendly staff – and it all happens at the Junction - South Boston's Neighborhood Bar & Grill. Enjoy our half-priced appetizers on weekdays from 3 to 6 pm. Join us for live music & entertainment on the weekends and for our fun trivia nights on Tuesdays.

Murphy's Law *837 Summer St., South Boston 617-269-6667 www.murphyslawbar.com.* Leave your attitude at the door! Close to Downtown Boston, Murphy's Law is located one minute from the Ted Williams Tunnel and across from Boston Edison. Join us and bring your friends for Live Music April 15 & 17 with Sensual and April 22 & 30 with Off The Wall. Come play some darts or video games. We offer an inviting, fun and friendly atmosphere. Ten beers on tap. Available for private functions. Call for details.

Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Lounge. Cocktails. Dancing. Nightlife. Come see the lights of Parris. Sample the eclectic lounge menu featuring grilled pizza, oyster shooters ans steak tartar. Sip a Classic, Apple or French 75 martini, and then motion onto the huge dance floor featuring Live Music with the best bands and DJs Thursday through Saturday. Named for the original architect of the Greek-revival-style building, Alexander Parris, you're nightlife experience at Parris will be Boston and beyond. Open 5pm - 2am Wednesay - Saturday. Cover charge on Friday and Saturday.

Jazz

Regattabar *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Tuesday-Saturday nights and occasional Sunday afternoons. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square. Shows at 8:30pm Tues-Thurs, 7:30pm & 10:00pm Fri. & Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617.876.7777 for tickets and information, 800.881.1818 for hotel reservations and information.

Latin

Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston 617-351-7001.* A multistory Latin-themed restaurant and club, Sophia's treats guests to a tantalizing Tapas-style menu, live Salsa bands and hi-energy Latin dance. From a romantic dinner and salsa lessons to hi-energy dance and mingling on the roof deck over sangria and Salsa, an evening at Sophia's is always Hot! Hot! Hot

Sports Bar - Upscale

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www.theplaceboston.com.* Voted Boston's Best Sports Bar 3 years in a row by The Improper Bostonian! Mingle with your favorite sports celebrities: Brady, Thornton, Walker, Garciaparra. You never know who you'll run into. Enjoy the wildest party atmosphere in the heart of the Financial District. It's never the same experience twice – we've got exclusive sports video productions and game coverage on our state-of the-art flat screen TVs. So join us to see what the buzz is all about and find out why people in-the-know feel right at home.

Stadium *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* Boston's Best Damn Sports Bar, Period. A brand new, high-end sports bar featuring two floors, three bars, 30 flat screen TVs – including the one in the men's room, a dance floor and parking. Stadium menu offers an enticing selection of appetizers, salads, steak & burgers, fresh seafood and drinks

BRUNCH

Harvard Gardens *315 Cambridge St., Beacon Hill, Boston, 617-523-2727. www.harvardgardens.com.* Cozy up to the beautiful mahogany bar or slip into a comfy booth and enjoy Harvard Gardens' menu of cool cocktails and comfort food. Brunch serves up eggs and pastrami hash, thick-cut French toast with caramelized bananas, specialty pizzas and Boston's best Bloody Mary. Harvard Gardens serves brunch Saturday and Sunday, 11:00am - 3:00pm.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended 617-661-5005.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**, *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

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COSMETICS

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FACE DESIGNS- Flawless Fashion and Bridal Makeup! Let our professional focus & superior reputation work for you! TLC's "Makeover Story", Miss USA Pageant, Improper Bostonian & others have enjoyed the benefits of working with our licensed artists. You will too! 617-462-0720.

FASHION

CLOSET SMARTS

Wardrobe revamping, fashion turning, and personal shopping. 617-797-4079. Also featured before by Samantha House! For more information, please see display on page 85.

HEALING



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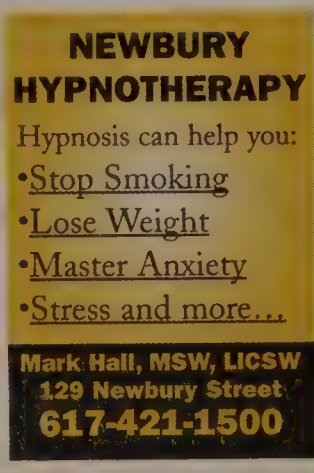
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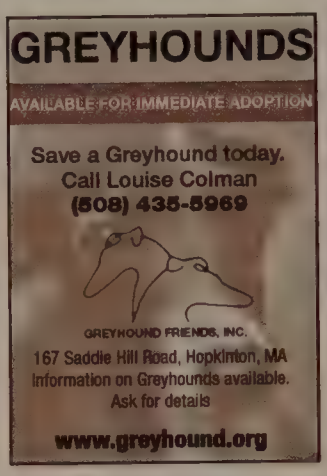


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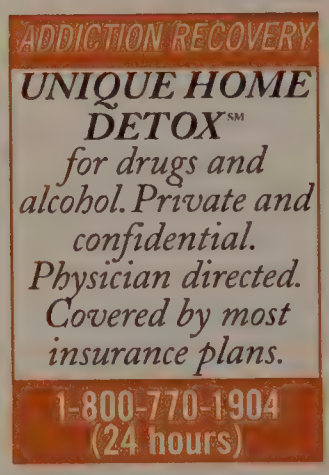
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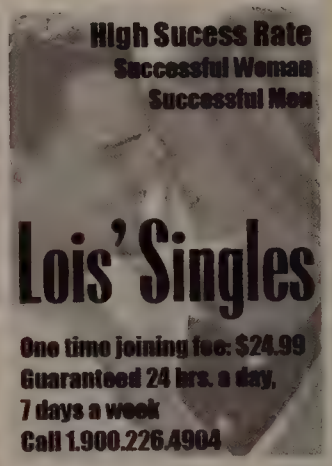
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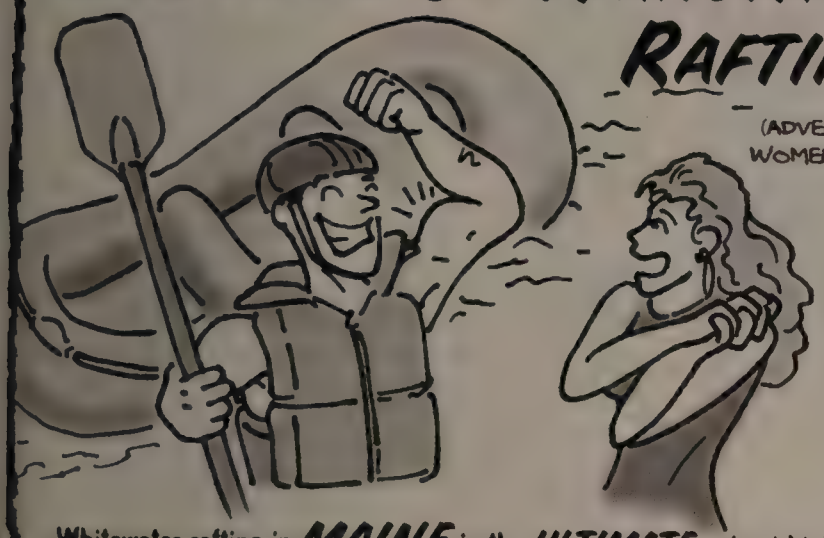
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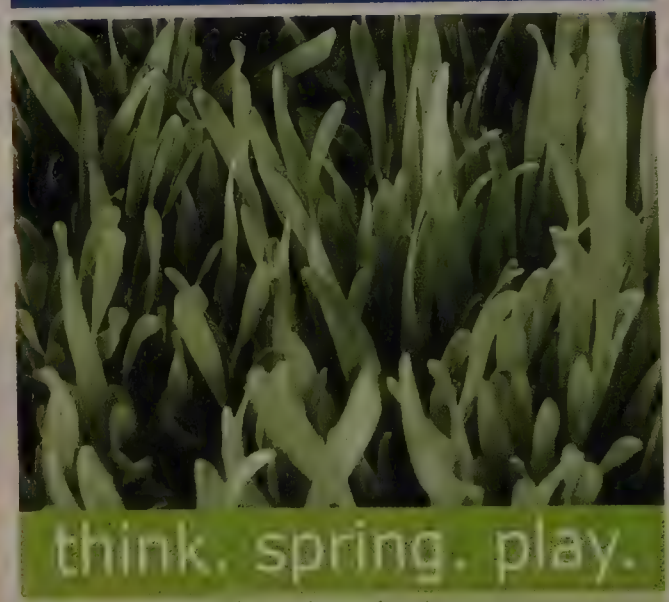
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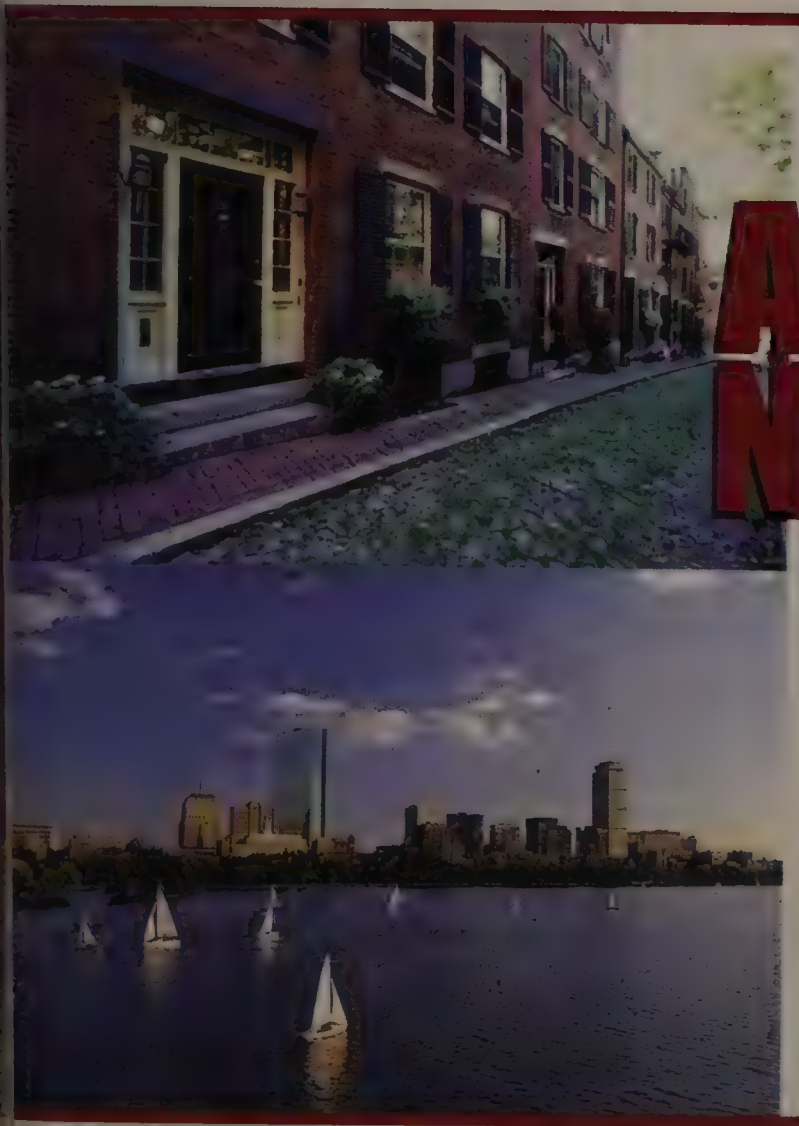
Event Details

When:	Wednesday evening, July 14th
Time:	7PM to 11PM
Cost:	$75/person. Includes: full dinner buffet, dessert, dancing, first drink, and an enjoyable evening
Dress:	Upscale casual
Location:	386 Market Street, Brighton, Massachusetts

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The Improper Bostonian Magazine

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LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF













At the Green and White Ball, top: Suzy and Jack Welch. Middle row: Emily and Peter Webster; Jim and Meg Gordon; Rich and Kate Doyle. Bottom: Santo Politi and Gray Baldwin; Charlie Gifford and David Murphy

IT'S NOT ALL SILVER BELLS AND COCKLE SHELLS AND PRETTY MAIDS IN A ROW...

On the *luxe et volupté* scale, the **Green and White Ball** to benefit the **Friends of the Public Garden** rated pretty high. Held at the **Ritz**, the cocktail hour featured an epic raw bar, piled high with shrimp, oysters and giant tins of caviar. The ballroom was decked out like an enchanted forest, with trees on the tables lit by candles hanging from the boughs. Dinner included Dungeness crab, foie gras and truffled tenderloin, each course paired with a magnificent wine, and the band was imported from New York for the evening.

The crowd, needless to say, included most of the city's gossip-column fodder and a majority of Boston's billionaires. Among the confirmed sightings: cable potentate **Amos Hostetter** and his wife, **Barbara**; Fidelity grand poobah **Ned Johnson** and his wife, **Lillie**; legendary captain of industry **Jack Welch** and his wife, **Suzy**; alternative-power visionary **Jim Gordon** and his wife, **Meg**; banking honcha **Anne Finucane** and her husband, columnist **Mike Barnicle**; telegenic anchor couple **Jonathan Hall** and **Karen Marinella**; Harpoon head **Rich Doyle** and the gorgeous **Kate**; artist **Pel Stockwell** and his stunning other half, **Kim**; Beacon Hillions **Santo Politi** and **Gray Baldwin**; mega-philathropists **Pam** and **John Humphrey**; the organization's founder, **Henry Lee**, and his wife, **Joan**; the evening's honoree, **Stella Trafford**; and one guest who said, "Your wife's dress is beautiful—where'd she get it?" to which the long-suffering husband responded, "I don't know, but I'll find out when the bill comes."

By the time everyone had licked their dessert plates clean, it was nearing midnight, but the crowd kept dancing until the band packed up, and the only possible complaint about the evening is that the food was too rich and delicious.

Then again, with friends like that, who counts calories?

SO THAT'S WHY THEY GIVE BOATS WOMEN'S NAMES...

It was like one of the party scenes from *The Great Gatsby* (minus all the hysterical and inappropriate behavior) when the **Ally Foundation** hosted **Celebrate for a Change** at **Beacon Rock**, the Newport mansion of inveterate party host Brian Cunha.

Named for Alexandra "Ally" Zapp, the sailing enthusiast and Newport resident who was murdered two summers ago, the foundation's fund-raiser was the first big blowout of the season for the preppy yachting crowd.

Through a set of wrought-iron gates and down a winding drive that crosses a stone bridge, guests arrived at the house—one of the prettiest in Newport, with lawns tumbling down to the water and a 180-degree view of the harbor.

The dress was "nautical cocktail," and everyone looked appropriately yacht-y as they wandered through wood-paneled rooms, bidding on silent auction items. Out on the terrace, a band cut loose, while a man shucked oysters by the swimming pool, and the bars went through gallon after gallon of gin and rum.

Present and accounted for: Zapp's mother and stepfather, **Andrea Casanova** and **Steve Stiles**; sailboat skipper **Steve Woolf** and his va-va-va-voomalicious girlfriend, **Lisa Rebello**; lunachick **Alex Gray**, her beyond-fabulous mother, **Winnie**, and her Bahamas-bred fiancé, **Eric Weiberg**; ubiquitous scamp **Richard Getz**; bachelor-about-town **Caesar Belbel**; upper-crust party guy **Lance Kussel**; can-do babe **Connie Brown** and one woman who accepted a compliment on her necklace by saying, "That's the nice thing about divorce. You get to reset your diamonds."

Other amusing comments overheard: "My cocktail is broken," "I've been meaning to quit drinking since Christmas...1993," and one guy who responded to a friend's question as to why he was still wearing his bracelet from Figawi (the booze-fueled Hyannis-to-Nantucket sailing race that took place the week before) by saying, "I just woke up."

However, the funniest exchange took place when one guest asked, "Where's your boat?" to which his friend replied, "She's inside."

"No," the first clarified, "I said your boat, not your girlfriend."

"Same thing," said his friend. "They're both expensive and high-maintenance."





Celebrate for a Change, clockwise from top: Brian Cunha and Connie Brown; the view from the terrace; Winnie Gray, Lisa Robello, Alex Gray and Andrea Casanova; the party





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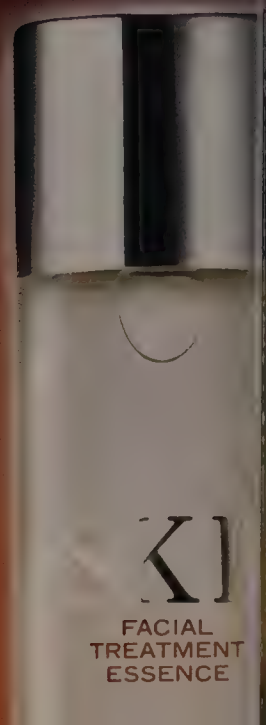


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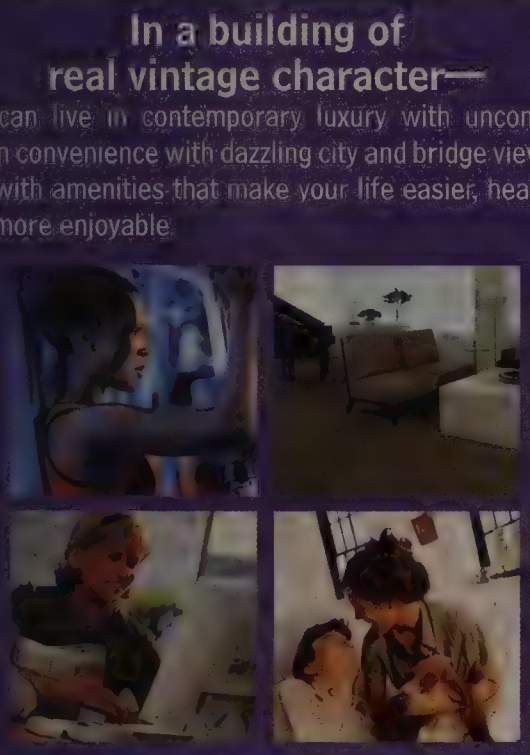
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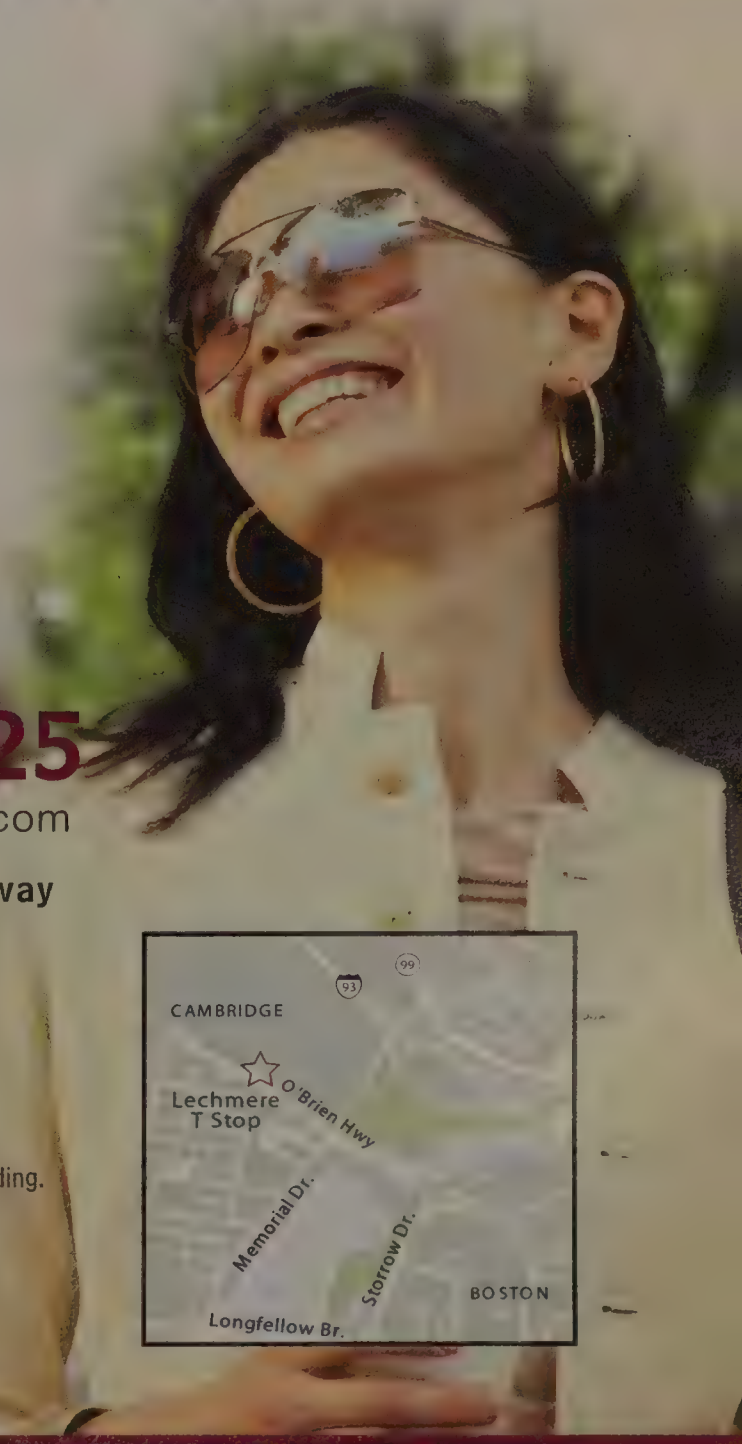
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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR



REALTY CHECK

The nesting urge has hit IMPROPER staffers hard recently, with more than a few among us in the market to buy a home this past year. To the dismay of the renters, talk around the water cooler has turned away from movies and restaurants and toward soft second mortgages and 5/1 ARMs. With so much personal interest in what's for sale in Boston, plenty of passion went into planning our real estate features this issue.

Thinking beyond the current open houses, writer Ezra Dyer went in search of some of the most interesting new developments on the horizon and came up with some winners—from condos above the Virgin Megastore on Newbury Street (a Frank Gehry–designed building) to massive projects that will transform parts of the South End (page 18).

We round out our issue with a practical look at the Democratic National Convention. You've heard the hype, but what do you really need to know to navigate the city when the conventioneers descend July 26–29? Turn to page 26 for the scoop.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

GETTIN' SCHOOLED

I always read Ezra's articles in the IMPROPER and always get a chuckle. But I was really in tears (the good kind) from reading the "Old School" article (June 23). As a fellow Colby grad (class of '97), I can totally relate to this experience. I remember Senior Week, right before graduation, when we were all kings and queens of campus. And the assessment of the new brand of Colby students is right on—hello, Nerdlinger. Anyway, thanks for the laugh and the memories.

—AMANDA BLIGH
Somerville

PLAYOFF BOUND?

In his June 9 column on the Red Sox making the playoffs, Chris Collins demonstrates that he, like many others just exiting the box office after seeing *Still, We Believe*, is riding last year's wave. This is a new season, and while one would think the names on our roster would be enough to back up his argument, this game is unfortunately not played on paper. The Sox have played .500 ball over the last two months, and I look at the product night in and night out and know a few pieces need to be changed. If this team as it stands makes the playoffs, drink one for me and feel free to throw me under the bus in the season review, but I just don't see it.

—MIKE GOOLTZ
Boston

THE LAST WORD. REALLY.

Let's end this back and forth on women's attitudes and men's expectations ("Beauty Bites Back Again," June 23 Letters). As a gay man whose friends are all straight, I think I can provide an impartial view. There is no doubt that women have a higher ratio of attitude to looks in Boston. I've lived around those Barbie-types in Texas and Georgia who are friendly beyond belief. And I've seen them give men who looked less than stellar more than a glance.

> WE HAVE SOME OF THE SMARTEST AND CUTEST STRAIGHT GUYS HERE. I KNOW MANY. THEY CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY EVERY GIRL WITH ATTITUDE WEARS THE SAME UNIFORM AS HER COUNTERPARTS.
> —BRIAN BRANDT, BOSTON

It's great to have confidence if you had a great day, but the "strut" I see in women here is appalling. And the idea that there are no good looking men here with brains is a farce. We have some of the smartest and cutest straight guys here. I know many. They can't understand why every girl with attitude wears the same uniform as her counterparts. Tiffany jewelry and Kate Spade bags hold no appeal when they crowd the subway. That's not confidence. It's Pied Piperdom. And I can't tell you how desperately sad it is to see these dolls die to get my attention, and then stick their chins to the wind when I look their way.

The quality men I know are looking for something real. This is why my very best looking and smartest guy friends are with less-than-pretty girls who are instead replete with substance. But as for hope, I know many good eggs on both sides for whom this whole argument is irrelevant.

—BRIAN BRANDT
Boston

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SCOTT LAJOIE



Scott Lajoie has been a journalist for the past 10 years, working as an editor at *Forbes* magazine and writing for publications including *The Boston Globe Magazine*, *Cape Cod Life*, *Baltimore Magazine*, *Washingtonian* and *Self*. Currently managing editor of *Cape Cod Magazine*, Lajoie looks at what kind of home seven figures buys these days in Boston in "Million-Dollar Reality Check," on page 22. Lajoie does not live in a million-dollar home, nor does he ever expect to.

BROOKE LEISTER

Brooke Leister writes for two weekly newspapers in the Boston suburbs and has worked on the features staff at the *MetroWest Daily News* in Framingham, writing about food, style and the arts. A Massachusetts resident for four years, she previously edited a weekly newspaper in Stow, Ohio. Her story on how to navigate the city during the Democratic National Convention, "Surviving the DNC," begins on page 27.



SCOTT LAJOIE; JAY ELLIOTT, INTERIORS COVER; SAM GRAY

Tell Us What You Think

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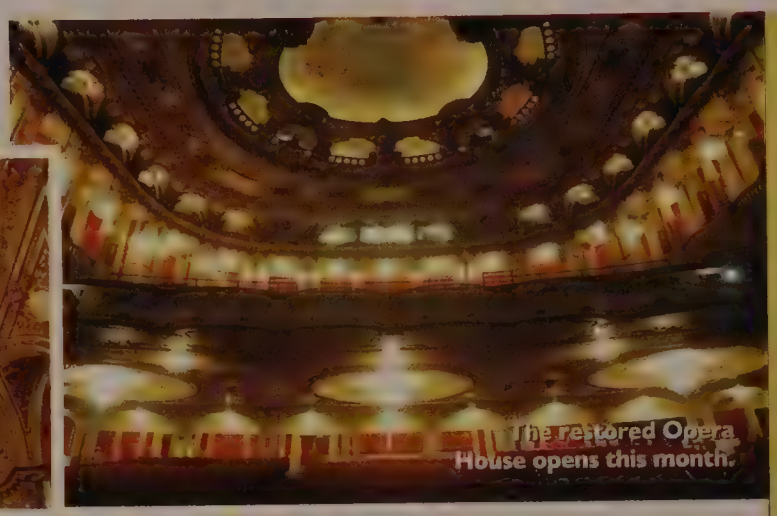
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new in town

SHOWSTOPPER

When Clear Channel Entertainment got the go-ahead to resurrect the Opera House, they had their work cut out for them. The theater had closed almost 15 years ago, and the resident opera company had left nearly everything behind—rooms were overflowing with costumes, props and pieces of the building itself, which was falling apart. But that wasn't the worst of it. The once-majestic murals that adorned the 100-foot ceilings were literally dripping paint, the seats were dilapidated, moldy water was flowing down walls, ruining the elaborate craftsmanship, and rodents roamed about freely.





The restored Opera House opens this month.



After a little more than a year of construction (which included expanding the stage to accommodate modern performances and bringing in 35 artisans to restore some of the murals), the theater is set to reopen this month with a six-month run of *The Lion King*. The results of the $38 million renovations are stunning. Designers have restored (or re-created when necessary) as much of architect Thomas W. Lamb's original 1928 vision as possible, down to matching the original carpet patterns and wall-hanging fabrics.

Lamb modeled his creation (named the B.F. Keith Memorial Theater) after the elegant, elaborate Opera Garnier in Paris. Originally a venue for vaudeville performances, the Keith Theater was extravagant for its day. Costing $5 million, it included a two-story lobby, dozens of sparkling chandeliers, grand marble pillars, gold leaf detail, several ballroom-like lounges with ornate marble fireplaces, and gleaming domed ceilings. Although these opulent touches have been resurrected (along with the original fire curtain that hangs down to the stage), the Opera House is missing one major feature that was quite a draw during the 1920s. During the theater's vaudeville days, there was an exit that led from the men's smoking room to a certain naughty apartment complex next door. These days, intermissions are a little less...exciting. *539 Washington St., Boston (617-880-2442).* —*E.H.*

this just in

GET SHAGGED

Last month, Newbury Street veteran Sandy Poirier opened a new salon, Shag, in a former industrial building on Summer Street. Why the departure from Newbury after 20 years? "I was looking for a place with a lot of space, high ceilings and free parking," Poirier says. "A cool place where you can get your hair cut and not be crowded in next to someone." Besides avoiding claustrophobia, the salon's large work stations (three for cutting, one for coloring) give customers privacy. "I'm not saying I'm a psychologist," Poirier says, "but I know some of my clients pretty well. And if they're talking about serious issues, they don't want the person next to them hearing it." In terms of atmosphere, Poirier is aiming for "a loft party that you don't want to leave," with music piped in via satellite radio and complimentary wine for customers—which ought to be a highlight to getting your highlights. *840 Summer St., Boston (617-268-2500).* —*Ezra Dyer*



Shag

inner view

WILL SHORTZ



The DNC isn't the only convention in town this month. Word-game enthusiasts from across the country converge on Cambridge for the National Puzzlers League's annual convention, July 8–11. For four days, some 150 puzzlers brain-tease each other with crossword matches and word pattern games. At the helm of it all is NPL convention organizer Will Shortz. *The New York Times* crossword puzzle editor and NPR Puzzlemaster, who created his own major, enigmatology (puzzle solving), at Indiana University, began organizing NPL "cons" in 1976. We caught up with Shortz before the three-day mind-game extravaganza.

IB: *How did you get into puzzles?*
WS: In eighth grade, when asked to write a paper on what I wanted to do with my life, I wrote a paper about being a professional puzzle maker. At Indiana University they have the independent major program in which, if you're accepted, you can major in anything you want. Originally my goal was to become a lawyer, and I did get a law degree from the University of Virginia. But I never took the bar or practiced. I went right into puzzles after graduation.

IB: *If you had to describe yourself with a cross hint, what would it be?*
WS: The first thing that jumps to mind is "Times square," because I'm not necessarily the coolest person in the world and I work for the *New York Times*.

IB: *What goes on at NPL conventions?*
WS: The people who attend the NPL conventions are such game fanatics, they'll play puzzles and games each evening and then most of them stay up most or half of the night, playing more puzzles and games. I'd say a lot of people who attend the convention are really sharp puzzle solvers. National crossword champions, people who bowl you over with their intelligence. But they're fun and playful too.

IB: *Have you ever been unable to complete a puzzle?*
WS: Well, sure. I'm a pretty good solver, but a puzzle can be so vague or so obscure that a reasonable person can't do it. I don't think there would ever be a *Times* crossword I couldn't do, but there are some that stretch me. The National Puzzler's League has a monthly magazine called *Enigma*, which publishes 80 to 100 puzzles, created by members, per issue. Some of them are so difficult, only a few solvers are able to complete them.

IB: *How long does it take to create the NYT crossword puzzle?*
WS: The daily *Times* crossword takes, on average, four to 10 hours, and I would say a Sunday puzzle takes 8 to 20 hours on average. It depends on whether the gods are smiling on you. If I have a gorgeous crossword, and there's some answer keeping me from finishing it, it's very frustrating.

IB: *Why do crosswords get harder as the week goes on?*
WS: Monday you're coming off the weekend. Maybe you've been to some parties and your mind isn't as sharp as it normally is, so it's nice to have an easy puzzle to ease into the week. Then your mind sharpens as the week progresses. On Saturdays, most people don't have a job or classes to go to, so they have more time to devote to the puzzle. That's why that one's so difficult.

IB: *Do puzzle whizzes have higher IQs?*
WS: They're smart. That goes without saying. They tend to have lively minds, they're flexible, they have good senses of humor, they tend to be well-read, go to movies. You have to know a little about everything, whether it's a classical subject like history or literature, or modern subjects like rock and roll, sports and TV. Any subject within the realm of human knowledge can show up in a crossword.

IB: *Do you get disgruntled NYT puzzle solvers writing to you?*
WS: I get letters from people who think I made errors in the puzzle. I do make some. There are about 15 errors in the *New York Times* crosswords every year. And out of 32,000 clues per year, I don't think that's such a bad average.

IB: *What do you find puzzling?*
WS: How the furnace works in my house, how something goes wrong with my computer. Practical problems like that.
—*Jessica Iredale*

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Aujourd'hui at the Four Seasons

Better Baking... There's no avoiding the carbs when you're snacking on bread, but Au Bon Pain has taken a healthful turn with its new Artisan Bread collection, which is made from entirely organic flour, free of fertilizers and pollutants. The new line is part of ABP's 25th-anniversary celebration, which has also brought a new name to Fid Kennedy Avenue, site of the company's South Boston headquarters. The city has renamed the street Au Bon Pain Way.

D'hui-lectable... On June 21, the Four Seasons unveiled the second of its two major renovation projects with the reopening of its esteemed restaurant Aujourd'hui, which already has a trophy case that would make Tom Hanks jealous (most recently adding Best New American Cuisine and Best Hotel Dining from the 2004 Zagat Survey). With $2 million worth of renovations, including a chocolate-brown and powder-blue interior by Babey Moulton Jue & Booth Designs and a bar overlooking the Public Garden, the restaurant, with new chef de cuisine Jérôme Legras, is poised to pick up just where it left off; atop the Boston dining heap. *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2037).*


Get a 10-cent cone at Steve's.

Dessert for a Dime... We've all heard our elders preach about the price of things in their day. But on July 18, Steve's Ice Cream in Quincy Market rolls back the inflation clock to 1904 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the ice cream cone. All cones are 10 cents from 6 to 7 pm.

Sweet Deal... Last year, romantic South End restaurant Icarus ran a prix-fixe special to celebrate its silver anniversary: three courses for $25 for the first 25 days of July. With the average meal there costing $55, it's no surprise that the deal resulted in Icarus' most successful July ever. So, lucky for us, they're bringing it back. This month, Icarus offers three courses for $26 through July 26. Menu items rotate, but dishes like native pea soup with bacon mint and sour cream, soft-shell crab with Sweet 100 tomatoes, chipotle aioli and garlic crostini sandwiches will appear on the three-course prix fixe, and many bottles of wine are reduced to $26. *3 Appleton St., Boston (617-426-1790).—E.H., J.I. and R.L.*

around town

THE DATING GAME

There's no avoiding politics in Boston once the DNC hits town this summer—even dating organizations have gone partisan. Set to launch on July 4, DemDates.com promises to bring together young liberals at a couple of parties during the DNC. If you lean more to the right, log on to www.singlerepublican.com, a site launched last November that's dedicated to "helping conservatives find their perfect soul mate." Creator and company president Tom Swanson says about 4,000 conservative singles (including Bostonians) are currently online. For nonpartisans, we found a couple of special-interest sites that could put you on the fast track to finding that special someone. Register at the *Lord of the Rings* dating site (http://lotr.screenromance.com), and you're a step closer to moving off your mom's couch and in with your very own Aragorn or Princess Arwen. If you're looking for love and also maybe a little money, check out www.millionairematch.com. You don't have to be rolling in it to join, but Champagne and caviar may be just a click away. *—Rich Levine*

sam says

PRETTY IN PERM



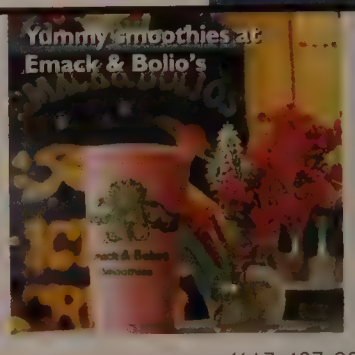


If you've flipped through a fashion magazine lately, you've probably noticed that curls are everywhere. It's enough to make a straight-haired girl consider getting a perm. A mere mention of the treatment is likely to trigger flashbacks to late-'80s spiral, frizzy, overprocessed atrocities. But believe it or not, the perm has evolved in the past 15 years. Marc Harris, owner of Ecocentrix, uses a new technique to create deep waves and curls that look relaxed and beachy rather than too tight. The solutions are gentle and won't damage your hair. So even if you color, you're still a candidate. And the curls fade away in five to six months, so you won't wait while your perm grows out. The treatment takes about two hours and costs $250. *30 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2222). —Samantha House*

improper reports

SMOOTH RIDE

Whether you want an immunity-boosting health shake or an icy, sweet drink, smoothies offer cool relief from the summer heat. Find your favorite flavor at these local smoothie bars.


Yummy smoothies at Emack & Bolio's

***Emack & Bolio's** *290 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-7127); 1663 Beacon St., Brookline (617-731-6256).* For nearly 30 years this chain has whipped up concoctions of live-cultured yogurt, sorbet, fruit and fresh-squeezed juices. Protein powder (vegetarian) and more than 20 vitamins and herbs add a healthful zap to your drink.

***The Wrap & Smoothie Bar** *Various Locations around Boston and Cambridge. www.thewrap.com.* A Boston institution since 1997, the Wrap's smoothies include the Jimmy Carter (packed with peanut butter) and the Cape Codder (blended with cranberry juice). Choose a free "enhancer" from a list that includes Fat Burner and Green Power, the latter a heaping spoonful of spirulina.

***Jamba Juice** *775 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2991).* The West Coast staple has found a home in BU's Student Union, where students and the masses can choose from smoothie flavors such as Strawberry Tsunami and Coldbuster. Smoothies include one complimentary nutritional boost, such as Femme and Energy.

***Dado Tea** *955 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-9061).* Apart from its assortment of loose teas, lassi and bubble teas, Dado has a small selection of smoothies that includes such flavors as Ginger Madness and Green Soy Dream.

***Ben & Jerry's** *174 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5456).* New England's favorite ice cream maker prepares fresh smoothies with its own sorbets. Choices include Raspberry Cream and Berry Nice—or you can create your own blend.

***SpringWell Market** *161 Charles St., Boston (617-723-9828).* Try the Berry Berry or the Don Juan, a mix of papaya, pineapple and mango, at the juice bar inside this organic market. Ginseng, echinacea and other supplements are free.

—Bailey Vatalaro

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Who's Laughing Now?... Although the many ridiculous Sox hairdos are amusing, Red Sox Nation needs something more to laugh about in this season of underachievement. This will help: NESN just introduced baseball-related comedy sketches in its hour-long pregame show. The Sox approached Boston's Improv Asylum last spring about spicing up the show, and the result is Off the Wall, a series of funny bits pretaped in front of a live studio audience. If you're interested in making a pregame cameo, admission to the tapings is free but reservations are required. Check www.improvasylum.com for a schedule. *Improv Asylum, 216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-1300).*

Curtain Call... After a quarter of a century on Newbury Street, the ladies of London Lace have drawn the curtain on their Back Bay premises. Seeking lower rent, store owner Diane Loesch Jones plucked her dainty vintage lace draperies shop from Newbury in mid June and reopened a few days later in the South End. The new, equally charming location still stocks lace patterns, vintage linens and antique glassware. *89 West. Concord St., Boston (617-267-3506). www.londonlace.com.*


London Lace

Singers and Zingers...*American Idol* meets *Last Comic Standing* in Chops & Chuckles, Boston's latest famous-making competition. Beginning July 8 at 9 pm, a panel of celebrity judges, including KISS 108's Billy Costa, searches for undiscovered singing and comedic talent at the Office Bar & Grill in the Financial District. The series continues every other Thursday through September, and after all is said, sung and done, winners (one comedian and one vocalist) will score prizes including a spot on stage at the Comedy Connection, a stay at the W Hotel in New York City and a makeover from Boston salon Shag (see "This Just In" on page 6). *5 Broad St., Boston (617-367-5806).*

Batty Barter... Craigslist.org is known as a great Web site for everything from finding apartments to selling tickets to the Sox game. But while visiting the site to check out how much we could make subletting our apartments during the DNC, we made another discovery. Bostonians love to barter and are willing to work for a lot more than food. Craigslist Boston's barter page boasts a list of potential offers that dwarfs that of almost every other city. One user will set up your satellite TV or even fix your computer in exchange for a tennis racket. Another will take care of some of your house chores if you let him store stuff in your garage. Weirdest request? One Bostonian looking to acquire a woman's bike is offering a 50 percent discount at a novelty pen store in exchange. *www.boston.craigslist.org/bar. —E.H., J.I. and R.L.*

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PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY











The **premiere party for *Juvies,*** a documentary on juvenile justice in the U.S., was held June 14 at Sanders Theatre in Cambridge. The 66-minute documentary is an indictment of the nation's juvenile justice system, directed by award winning filmmaker Leslie Neale, who teamed up with actor Mark Wahlberg, rocker John Densmore of the Doors and hip-hop star Mos Def. Proceeds from the evening benefited the Mark Wahlberg Youth Foundation.

1. **Dr. Stuart Ablon** (left), child psychologist at the CPS Institute at Mass General Hospital, and **Cam Neely**, former Boston Bruins forward.
2. **Leslie Neale**, *Juvies* director, and **Mark Wahlberg**, actor.
3. From left: **Susan Baranyi** and **Chris Langley**, senior account executive and brand promotions manager, respectively, at Kortenhaus Communications, and **Jennifer Thorn**, director of sales and marketing at 9 Zero Hotel.
4. From left: **Kim Kelly**, bartender at Mistral, **Ed Kane**, owner of Eat Well Inc., and **Tatum Longo**, bartender at Mistral.
5. From left: **Debra Mattaliano**, owner of Finishing Touch; **Barbara Mattaliano**, program coordinator for Discovering Justice for Children; **George Regan**, president of Regan Communications; and **Stacy Wilbur**, account manager for Regan Communications.

The Longy School of Music's Garden Party Gala took place June 21 at Symphony Hall. Highlights included a performance by the school's saxophone ensemble, joined on alto sax by New England Patriot Tedy Bruschi. Pianist Leon Fleisher received the Leonard Bernstein Lifetime Achievement Award for the Elevation of Music in Society at the event, which raised more than $100,000 for Longy School's scholarship and outreach programs.













6. From left: New England Patriot **Tedy Bruschi** and his wife, **Heidi**.
7. From left: **Anthony Oldcorn**, professor emeritus of Brown University; his wife, **Francoise**, sales manager for Air France; **Carol Unger**, artist; and her husband, **Anthony**, co-chair of the silent-auction committee.
8. **John Zabriskie**, director and founder of PureTech Ventures in Boston, and his wife, **Adelaide**, chairman of the board for Longy School of Music.
9. **James Dwinell**, retired chairman of the Cambridge Trust Co., and his wife, **Ellen**, co-chair of the evening.
10. **Kwang-Wu Kim** (left), president of the Longy School of Music, and pianist **Leon Fleisher**.
11. **Roseanne Kumins** and **Robin Lincoln**, investment banker.

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DON'T GET ME STRONG

I want to be a strongman so I can intimidate other writers.

You've probably seen a strongman competition on TV: Scandinavian guys with names like Thor Thorrgusson towing buses around and jumping hurdles with dinette sets tied to their backs. I'd love to be a strongman, but unfortunately I am neither Scandinavian nor strong, although I do sometimes grunt and scream while opening tough jars of spaghetti sauce. However, when C.J. Murphy, owner of Total Performance Sports in Everett, invites me to a training session for competitors preparing for the July 10 Mass. State Strongman Championship, I decide to get in touch with my stronger side. "I'll show you how to put a full keg on your shoulder and drink out of it. It's a neat party trick," says Murphy, who goes by "Murph." I have a feeling that after trying to put a 175-pound keg on my shoulder, my neat party trick would be showing people my hernia, but I'm game for anything. The events to be practiced are the log press and the medley, where a competitor flips a gigantic tire several times, carries a keg about 100 feet, drags an anchor chain, and then turns back into Bruce Banner.

Murph's facility is not your froufrou fitness center. You can't get a guava-mango smoothie or postworkout spa session here. What you can get is seriously strong. Murph possesses just about every strength-training certification yet devised. TPS's custom double-stack pulldown machine holds 600 pounds. The squat rack looks like it could do double duty as an engine hoist. A sign on the wall reads, "Leaving dumbbells on the bench = SEVERE beating by Murph." To say that Murph is physically imposing is like saying that J. Lo's a little fickle when it comes to love. Murph is 6 feet tall, weighs 290 pounds, and has a shaved head, a goatee, and a tattoo of a weightlifter on his forearm. The weightlifter has a bulldog head on a human body. If Murph ever has a daughter, I'd pay to watch a boyfriend come over to pick her up for a date.

When I arrive, I find an eclectic group getting warmed up: There are a few of the expected enormous dudes, a guy named John who competes in international fencing tournaments and Shang Chou, a mesomorph from MIT who picks up the heaviest logs without apparent stress. He looks to be about 6'2", 210. "Want to know his training diet?" asks Murph. "Skoal and Budweiser. I'm not joking. He's a mutant." So he's the male equivalent of the model-skinny girl who eats cake all day. I hate him.

Speaking of women, there are about five of them getting ready for the log lift. They all look like they're in good shape, and not in a Vera de Milo/Romanian Olympic Team way. The smallest woman there, Shawna, struggles with the 100-pound log but gets it with a spot. I later learn that she is the 2001 Mass. State Strongwoman champion. Another TPS member, Grace, is 53 years old, weighs 112 pounds and squats 225.

Then it's my turn. I'm afraid that I won't be able to lift the 100-pounder, which could easily fall and crush my ego. I do manage to get it, though not without a struggle—my elbows shake wussily and I strain my left wrist.

When we go outside to practice the medley, we discover that one of the women lost control of the 350-pound women's tire and rolled it into "Medium" Murph's parked car, breaking the headlight. Medium Murph, who's interning to be a trainer, is smaller than Murph, but that's all relative—he still looks as if he could be installed as a support pillar in the Zakim Bridge. Fortunately, he's not upset—he won the car in a card game anyway. I try to think of the most badass thing I've done lately. "Yeah, took a shower the other day. Didn't use the loofah. I don't give a crap."

I'M AFRAID I WON'T BE ABLE TO LIFT THE 100-POUNDER, WHICH COULD EASILY FALL AND CRUSH MY EGO.

I decide to try flipping the women's tire, which looks like it belongs on a large piece of earth-moving equipment. I get low, put my chin against the tire and push with all my might. Nothing happens. Perhaps they have a space-saver spare kicking around they could let me play with. "Get under it. Drive it up at a 45-degree angle!" Murph yells. I get my fingers under the edge and lift it up and over, grunting in glory—I'm as strong as a girl! I flip it a few more times just to show it who its daddy is, then, drunk with testosterone, I try to flip the men's tire. I push until I raise red welts on my shoulders, but I'm unable to budge it. I also fail to get the keg on my shoulder. I don't even mess with the anchor chain—I'm having pasta tonight and I've got to save a little strength for the Ragu. IB

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Soroff ON

LAUREN AMBROSE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Stunning redhead Lauren Ambrose, who plays Claire on the HBO series *Six Feet Under*, was born and raised in New Haven, Conn. A classically trained singer, she studied voice at Tanglewood. Her acting career began with stage and TV work in New York. After making her theater debut at age 14 in the Vineyard Theatre's production of *Soulful Scream of a Chosen Son*, she was involved with off-Broadway theater groups such as EST and Naked Angels throughout her adolescence. After moving to Los Angeles at age 18, she made her feature film debut opposite Kevin Kline in the gay comedy *In & Out* and followed that up with the teen comedy *Can't Hardly Wait*. Her other film credits include starring roles in *Swimming* and *Psycho Beach Party*, but her breakthrough role came when she was cast as the frequently strung-out kid sister on HBO's hugely popular series about a family in the funeral business. Ambrose owns a home in the Berkshires and lives with her husband in L.A.

Jonathan Soroff: *So do you see dead people?*

Lauren Ambrose: Not if I can help it.

JS: *Now that you're on* Six Feet Under, *do you think about death more than you used to?*

LA: No. It's cool that we deal with big issues like that, but I'm not thinking about them all the time. I'm young. It's hard for me to go there mentally.

JS: *Cremation or burial?*

LA: I don't know. I do know that I don't want to go through that whole process of being drained of fluid, or all the weird scientific stuff. I've also had enough good makeup artists to know that I don't want to be wearing salmon lipstick for all eternity.

JS: *You were trained as a singer. Do you still sing?*

LA: I haven't been using my singing as much as I thought I would, but I hope that my career and my life bring me, at some point, to a point where I do.

JS: *Did you go to a lot of funerals growing up?*

LA: Actually, yeah. I have all these memories of my grandmother taking me. There was always some funeral to go to, and she always took me with her. It was kind of strange. And when I was in high school, I sang at a lot of weddings and funerals.

JS: *Worst funeral you ever went to?*

LA: There are some that stick out. There was one, for a relative or distant cousin—we're Italian, so everyone's an uncle or aunt or cousin. Anyway, this one guy owned a slaughterhouse, so someone delivered this enormous flower arrangement in the shape of a cow's head. It was unbelievable.

JS: *I'm sorry to hear it. That sounds horrible.*

LA: No, it wasn't horrible. It was amazing. It was great. I think we should all be so lucky that someone would go to all the trouble of making a flower arrangement in the shape of whatever animal we were most associated with.

JS: *Scary thought. So how much are you like your character on the show? For instance, she likes to do drugs.*

LA: I don't do drugs. I like to be sharp and use my brain and be present. You need to be very clear to impersonate someone who's on drugs.

JS: *You said you came to L.A. to act, not to be a star…*

LA: Yeah, I read that somewhere too, but I can't imagine saying it. I think maybe what I meant was that I really like acting, and I didn't move to L.A. to become famous.

JS: *But now you're a big star.*

LA: I don't really see it that way.

JS: *Does everyone ask if your hair color is real?*

LA: It is my real hair color. You can't buy this. Well, actually, you probably can, but I didn't.

JS: *Does anyone call you Red?*

LA: No. I had an uncle called Red, though.

JS: *One role you'd kill for?*

LA: I'd like to sing on film, in some capacity. I don't know what that means, exactly, because I don't necessarily want to do a traditional musical. Maybe a story about a singer.

JS: *One role you're glad you passed on—maybe Annie in summer stock?*

LA: Oh God, there's a very long list, but I can't think of one in particular. I've gone through periods in my life when I was so tortured or depressed over not getting some job I was certain I was meant for, and then the thing came out, and it was pure garbage, and I was so grateful I didn't do it. Or something else came along that was better, and that was the reason, cosmically, I didn't get the other thing, and I realized I can't be my usual control freak about it. That's the thing about being an actor: It's hard for people who want any kind of control over their lives. It's a great exercise in faith.

"THAT'S THE THING ABOUT BEING AN ACTOR: IT'S HARD FOR PEOPLE WHO WANT ANY KIND OF CONTROL OVER THEIR LIVES. IT'S A GREAT EXERCISE IN FAITH."

JS: *Ever lied to get a part?*

LA: Well, some old actress told me never to admit I couldn't do something, so whatever they'd ask, I'd always say, "I'm taking lessons." "Can you ride a horse?" "I'm taking lessons." "Can you jump on a trampoline?" "No, but I'm taking lessons." That was my mantra, but I guess I just blew that one.

JS: *Biggest hidden talent?*

LA: I'm a pretty good baker. I'm learning.

JS: *Taking lessons?*

LA: [Laughs.] Yeah. I just made my mother-in-law (who lives in Needham) a birthday cake, and it turned out fabulously! I'm perfecting my genoise, which is the very basic French spongy cake. Boy, is this boring. Nobody wants to hear about this.

JS: *You'd be surprised.* Six Feet Under *is sort of morbid and has a cult following. Are the fans creepier than for most TV shows?*

LA: Well, all the misfits and malcontents love Claire, but the show has a pretty classy following. They seem pretty well educated and sophisticated. And nobody really thinks I'm Claire, except that sometimes older people will come up to me and tell me to watch my language, or behave myself.

JS: *What's more important to you: the fact that HBO's shows are thought-provoking, or that they're hugely popular?*

LA: Well, it's obviously great to be part of something that's really successful and at the same time not feel like I've sold my soul.

JS: *What would be a sellout for you?*

LA: I don't want to sound like a snob, because I want to work and I'd like to do things that I never thought I'd do, to stretch myself. Maybe a few years ago, I might have said, "I don't want to do big movies," but I don't want to be naive about it. It might be an interesting learning experience, or kind of amazing to be in a big, loud action movie.

JS: *So should we look for you in Vin Diesel's next project?*

LA: Well…um, no. Let's face it. I tend to like small movies that are about real people and everyday things.

JS: *What's the strangest thing you've read about yourself since becoming someone who has strange things written about them?*

LA: Well, someone got my birthday wrong; and then they announced it on the radio, and then people started calling me to wish me a happy birthday on the wrong day. Then there was an English magazine that said I loved going to awards shows because I wanted to see what Nicole Kidman would be wearing. I don't know if they got me mixed up with some girl on another page, but I just can't imagine that I ever would have said that.

JS: *Is it true that you're a Red Sox fan?*

LA: Huge. I'm really glad that Trot and Nomar are back. You know, I did the Nomar Bowl once. I don't think he had any idea who I was, or why I was there, but it was very exciting for me.

JS: *What did you eat the last time you were at Fenway?*

LA: It was in April, when we played the Yankees, and I had an Italian sausage from the guy outside, although I must say that as much of a ballpark purist as I am, I do love that they serve Legal Sea Foods chowder.

JS: *So how much do you hate doing interviews?*

LA: Ten, on a scale of one to 10. I don't know why, either. I just feel like I'm under a microscope. I guess I should develop some wacky persona and go into character.

JS: *Do you believe in life after death?*

LA: Oh, brother. I never should've signed on for a show about a funeral home. I believe in life.

JS: *Well, good. Now stop agonizing over what Nicole Kidman will be wearing to the next awards show.*

LA: Oh, great. That's just what I wanted you to print: I sit around obsessing about it, drawing sketches of her and her outfits. I guess I should seek professional help.





THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS



TIME FOR AINGE TO BLOW IT UP

The Celtics should truly start from scratch; Pokey proves it's not all about batting average.

It's time. Yes, sadly. It's time for the Celtics to send another star packing: Paul Pierce.

The Celtics' main trigger man, Danny Ainge, doesn't appear to have any type of plan other than going young and more athletic. Dealing Pierce would be in line with that strategy, right?

The rationale is simple: The team has been decimated by Ainge. So if rebuilding is truly the way back to glory, it's going to take time, maybe more time than Danny boy will have on the job. Definitely more time than Pierce has at playing at an All Star level. If things ever do turn around, Pierce's legs and shoulders will be shot from carrying 11 very large men for so many years. So why not jettison Pierce for young talent, talent that will mature with the rest of the green Green Team members?

Pierce has value. Use him to get another high schooler or two—maybe even future consideration on a middle-school guard. At this rate there are a couple that should be ready to play in the NBA by their sophomore year in high school.

It must be hard for Pierce to be a part of Ainge's antics after watching the Celtics struggle for the first part of his career, then coming within two wins of making the NBA Finals in 2002. He didn't sign up for another rebuilding project, not at age 27. He's in his prime and didn't expect to spend it playing the role of father, mother and/or baby-sitter to a young team that has no chance of winning in the next two to three seasons.

The situation has the potential to get ugly for Pierce, Ainge and the Celtics. Last year, the team was divided into two factions; guys who were concerned about the next opponent and guys who were concerned with dinner plans after the game. Unfortunately, there were a lot of the latter.

Danny, do everyone a favor: Avoid a potential Kansas meltdown and trade Pierce before it's too late. He'll understand—actually, he'll probably be overjoyed—but you'll have some (more) explaining to do to the season-ticket holders. Maybe then you can appease them by revealing the master scheme that's going to take this disjointed group to the top of the NBA. And while you're at it, could you show that plan to the rest of us too?

REESE'S PUZZLE PIECES

Who can forget how Red Sox second baseman Todd Walker became Mr. Clutch last fall? When the big bats were faltering, Walker was mashing his way into the hearts of Red Sox Nation.

Unfortunately for Walker, the Red Sox formula for winning doesn't necessarily include clutch-hitting, offensive-minded second baseman. That's fine. The Sox put an emphasis on second basemen who can play the position, turn double plays and cover ground like a hound dog.

Walker's ticket out of town came courtesy of a soft Jorge Posada blooper, which turned into a two-run double in Game 7 at Yankee Stadium. After a few months watching Pokey Reese, most New Englanders can agree with the sentiment sighted on bumper stickers around town: "Pokey would have had it."

Reese's tenure with the Sox has been electrifying, especially considering that he is a career .250 hitter. But Red Sox fans know their baseball and they know a good thing when they see it, which is why

> IF THINGS EVER DO TURN AROUND, PIERCE'S LEGS AND SHOULDERS WILL BE SHOT FROM CARRYING 11 VERY LARGE MEN FOR SO MANY YEARS

Pokey has become a fan favorite. He just might be the best glove man ever to grace the Red Sox infield—better than Cronin, Doerr, Pesky and yes, even Nomar.

In high school, Pokey was a quarterback throwing touchdown passes to current Patriots wideout David Patten. Now he makes the throws from second base. Fine with us. It doesn't matter where he's throwing it as long as it's for the Red Sox.

Pokey's supporters are falling in line pied-piper fashion, which is remarkable considering the way Mark Bellhorn has exceeded all expectations. Bellhorn's bat has created a minor dilemma for manager Terry Francona. But when it comes to solving the Pokey/Bellhorn conundrum, Francona, like the rest of us, will remember Game 7 in Yankee Stadium. Pokey has to play, no questions asked. IB

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

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BUILDING THE FUTURE

BY EZRA DYER

IN A HOT RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE MARKET, DEVELOPERS LOOK FOR UNIQUE ANGLES TO HELP DISTINGUISH THEIR NEW PROPERTIES.

Anyone who's gone condo shopping in past few years knows that Boston real estate commands top dollar, even for unremarkable properties. It might seem intuitive that with residential real estate in such high demand, developers would be putting up ho-hum buildings, slapping a gasp-inducing price tag on the units, and going home to watch TLC or *Extreme Home Makeover*. On the contrary, the robust housing market is driving some creative projects that feature unique calling cards to distinguish them from the Boston real estate crowd. Here's a look at several developments around town that are in various stages of completion, from a glimmer in the eye of an architect to almost ready for your favorite shade of paint.



Clockwise from top right: An artist's rendering of the lofts at 35 Channel Center, with the luxury condos of 25 Channel Center in the background; a model loft kitchen; a model bedroom at 25 Channel Center; an overhead view of a living area and outdoor patio at 25 Channel Center.





Above left: An exterior view of the Frank Gehry–designed 360 Newbury Street, future home of luxury condos built by Capital Properties.
Above right: The view east from a condo at 360 Newbury.

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

Boston is always expanding outward, but the neighborhoods that were the new frontiers of a few years ago—Jamaica Plain and South Boston, for instance—have officially been discovered by the home-shopping masses. However, there are pockets of land close to the city epicenter that, while far from cheap, are underdeveloped. East Boston and Fort Point, specifically, are poised to explode with new condos over the next few years.

"Residential's hot, and it's about the only thing that's moving at this point," says Jamie Fay, president of Fort Point Associates urban planning and environmental consultants. "Along the East Boston waterfront there are 1,500 housing units at various stages of development." Among the projects are Maverick Gardens, where the first units are scheduled to open by February of next year; Clippership Wharf, which will include 400 condos; Hodge Boiler Works, where construction begins next spring on 100 high-end condos on the site of a former steamship boiler factory; and Massport Piers, which breaks ground soon on 550 condos and rental units. "Massport Piers is a Roseland Properties project," says Fay, "and they've had a lot of success in northern New Jersey transforming industrial and into residential. That's their speciality, and that's what they're doing here."

So why is Eastie attracting all this investment capital? Fay points out a host of reasons the home of Santarpio's Pizza and Logan Airport is one of the Next Big Things. "The views from East Boston are stunning beyond belief, the Maverick T station is one stop away from the Financial District, and East Boston is next to the airport but not on the flight paths, so it's amazingly quiet. It's kind of a happening place."

Another happening place is the Fort Point Channel area, where new residential projects are going up next to the warehouses and industrial buildings that define the neighborhood's atmosphere (and are themselves often home to condos). One development that will likely be welcomed not only by potential buyers, but the general public as well, is 500 Atlantic Avenue. This 20-story hotel/condo tower will do the Boston skyline a favor by wrapping around and obscuring from view the 237-foot-tall cement Big Dig ventilation towers at the center of the site. When construction is completed, owners in the highest-priced units will also be unable to see, hear or smell the stacks, which certainly ought to be the case for condos that will cost $1.4 million and up.

Fort Point is also home to the Channel Center development. Consisting of new construction (25 Channel Center) and renovated lofts (35 Channel Center), and studio/living space for artists (15 Channel Center), the development encapsulates the area's mix of renovations and from-the-ground-up construction. Condos are on sale now, and prices are commensurate with the location (between South Station and the new convention center) and amenities. Lofts include standard-issue lux accessories like granite counters and stainless steel appliances, while some of the two-story homes in 25 Channel Center feature atriums with 17-foot-tall ceilings. One example: a 2,000-square-foot, two-bedroom in 25 Channel Center is listed for $895,000.

GUT IT

Charlestown and the Back Bay are both long established as desirable places to live, but two projects taking shape in those high-dollar enclaves aim to set themselves apart by mixing history with high-profile designers.

At the Charlestown Navy Yard, the former ship-building site (since 1980 home to a gaggle of apartments known as Constitution Quarters) is being comprehensively transformed by the London-based Philippe Starck and Yoo design team. "Yoo by Starck," as the company is known, is responsible for such cutting-edge projects as the Icon condos in Miami, and Downtown by Philippe Starck, in New York. Their new Charlestown development, Parris Landing, is slated for its grand opening this summer. Plans include a new health club and redesigned courtyard and atrium spaces that feature Starck sculpture, modern furniture and, in an illustration of Starck's minimalist-cool philosophy, concrete flooring with zinc borders. The renovation also addresses functional shortcomings of the property, such as the leaky garage. (The roofs on four out of the five buildings in the complex are also being replaced.)

Parris Landing is making the most of its affiliation with a well-known designer. Besides the aforementioned Starck influences on the common spaces, the furniture in the new business center will be designed by Starck, the community room will be "a Starck-designed environment" and the landscaping and pool area are described as "inspired by Philippe Starck." "Branding is very important, from an entry-level project to a multimillion-dollar project," says Kevin Ahearn of Otis & Ahearn, the sales and marketing agent for Parris Landing. "Starck is the ultimate in branding, because he's an icon. This concept that [Yoo by Starck] has—very clean, cutting-edge, minimalist—they've been doing it all over the world, from Buenos Aires to Tel Aviv. I think



An artist's rendering of 80 Broad Street, future site of Folio Boston apartments

it's part of a larger trend of international designers working on projects in Boston. The new ICA, the convention center, the Zakim Bridge—that's all being encouraged, to the credit of the city."

Down at the Mass. Ave. end of Newbury Street, another upcoming conversion will transform four floors of offices at the Frank Gehry–designed 360 Newbury Street into high-end condos. The bottom floors of the building are home to the Virgin Megastore, but floors four through eight will soon house some of the most chichi condos in the city. Built in the 1920s, and at one time headquarters of the organization that predated the MBTA, 360 Newbury got the Gehry treatment in the mid '80s, when it was turned into boutique offices. Attention-grabbing Gehry touches include a lobby and elevator trimmed in blue Brazilian granite. "This will be the only opportunity in Boston to live in a Frank Gehry–designed building," says James Elkus of Capital Properties, which owns the building. "He's really one of the premier architects in the world today. And you can't beat being on Newbury Street. From the penthouses, you'll be able to see into Fenway Park. The prices will be on the higher end for luxury condos, but who wouldn't want to live in this building, if you could afford it?"

HITTING THE ROAD

Two other major developing residential projects in the heart of the city tie their existence to Boston's major traffic arteries—the land along what used to be the elevated Central Artery (soon to be the Rose Kennedy Greenway park) and the gaping holes over the Mass. Pike in the South End.

Plans are floating about for a residential/retail/office development to anchor the southern end of the Greenway, as the Mass. Turnpike Authority has already put the 10-acre parcel up for bid for development. That site could eventually contain a 600-foot office tower and 1,500 housing units. But already, smaller buildings going up along the Greenway are taking advantage of their suddenly lucrative location.

"One of the big issues with new construction is lead time," says Spaulding and Slye Colliers vice chairman David Neskey. "Above 100-plus units, it's hard to get financing and it takes a long time to sell them." Smaller buildings like the 96-unit Folio Boston, at 80 Broad Street, can be completed with relatively little lead time—and risk—for the developers. The condos at Folio Boston, when completed in late 2005, will run from $350,000 up to $2 million.

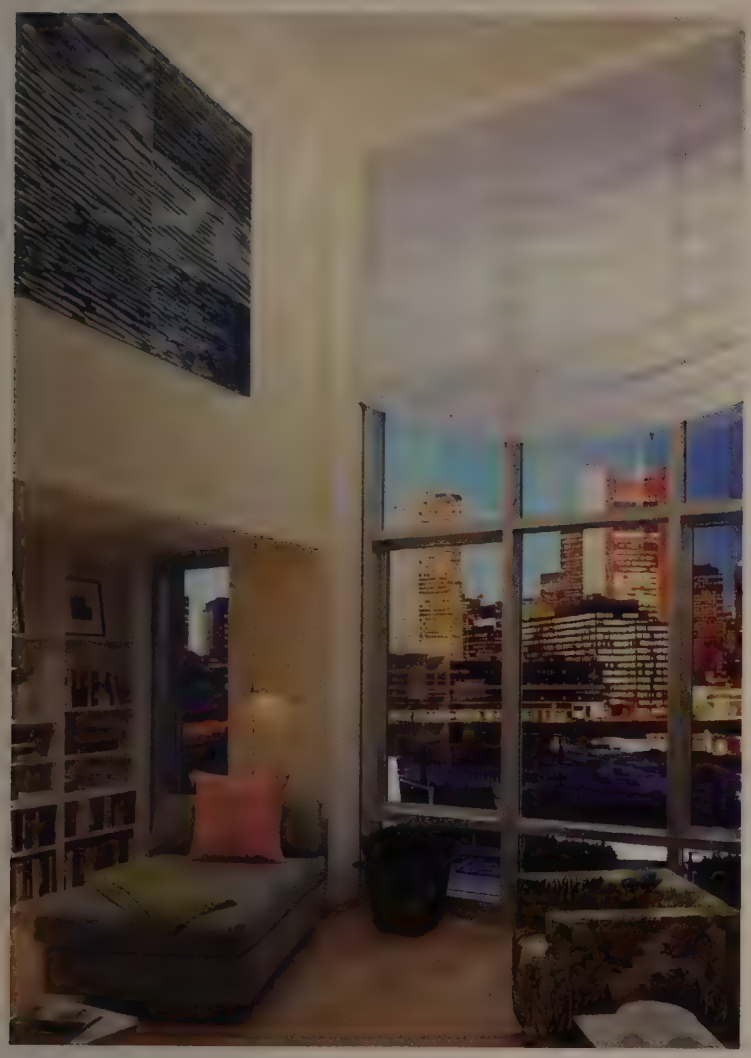
In the South End, ground has been broken on Columbus Center, a seven-acre concentration of lofts, tower condos, brownstones, parks and a hotel that will occupy the space over and adjacent to the Mass. Pike, from Clarendon Street east past Arlington Street. The most prominent feature of the development is the 35-story hotel and residential tower going up on the corner of Clarendon and Columbus Avenue, which will offer what project spokesman Will Woodruff describes as "sky living like Boston has never seen before." On the other side of Columbus, a series of four- to 11-story buildings will cater to a Four Seasons/Ritz-type clientele, who want concierge and spa service with their condo. That section of Columbus Center will also have a park behind it, one of a total of four in the development. Further up the Pike, lofts will face Berkeley Street where a bridge now crosses the highway, brownstones will line the currently barren side of Cortes Street, and more condos will face Arlington and a small park at the top of the development. And yes, there will be a parking garage (595 spaces), hidden behind the Cortes Street condos. Condo prices will range from $450 to $1,300 per square foot, with the skyscraper towers being the choicest addresses. In all, a total of 451 new residential units are being created, where right now there's a sunken, noisy traffic pit. Woodruff says the project's main selling point is location, which, as with the properties along the Greenway, is the result of playing a large-scale game of hide-a-highway.

MO' MONEY

One thing you may have noticed about all of the aforementioned developments: None of them are cheap. When the IMPROPER conducted a roundtable two years ago with some of the city's top real estate experts, we asked them whether they thought Boston was in a real estate bubble. After all, prices seemed too steep to maintain their climb for long. Two years later, prices are still climbing, and developers are still struggling to meet demand. If you're looking to buy, you can look beyond the open houses of next weekend by visiting the Boston Redevelopment Authority Web site (www.ci.boston.ma.us/bra) to find out what's in the pipeline—not only for the new properties themselves, but for the effect they could have on their surrounding neighborhoods. With that, we're going to go peruse listings along Cortes Street in Bay Village. IB



Left: A current photo of the intersection of Arlington and Columbus, over the Mass. Pike. Below: An artist's rendering of how that view will look upon the completion of Columbus Center, with a park and condos covering the highway.



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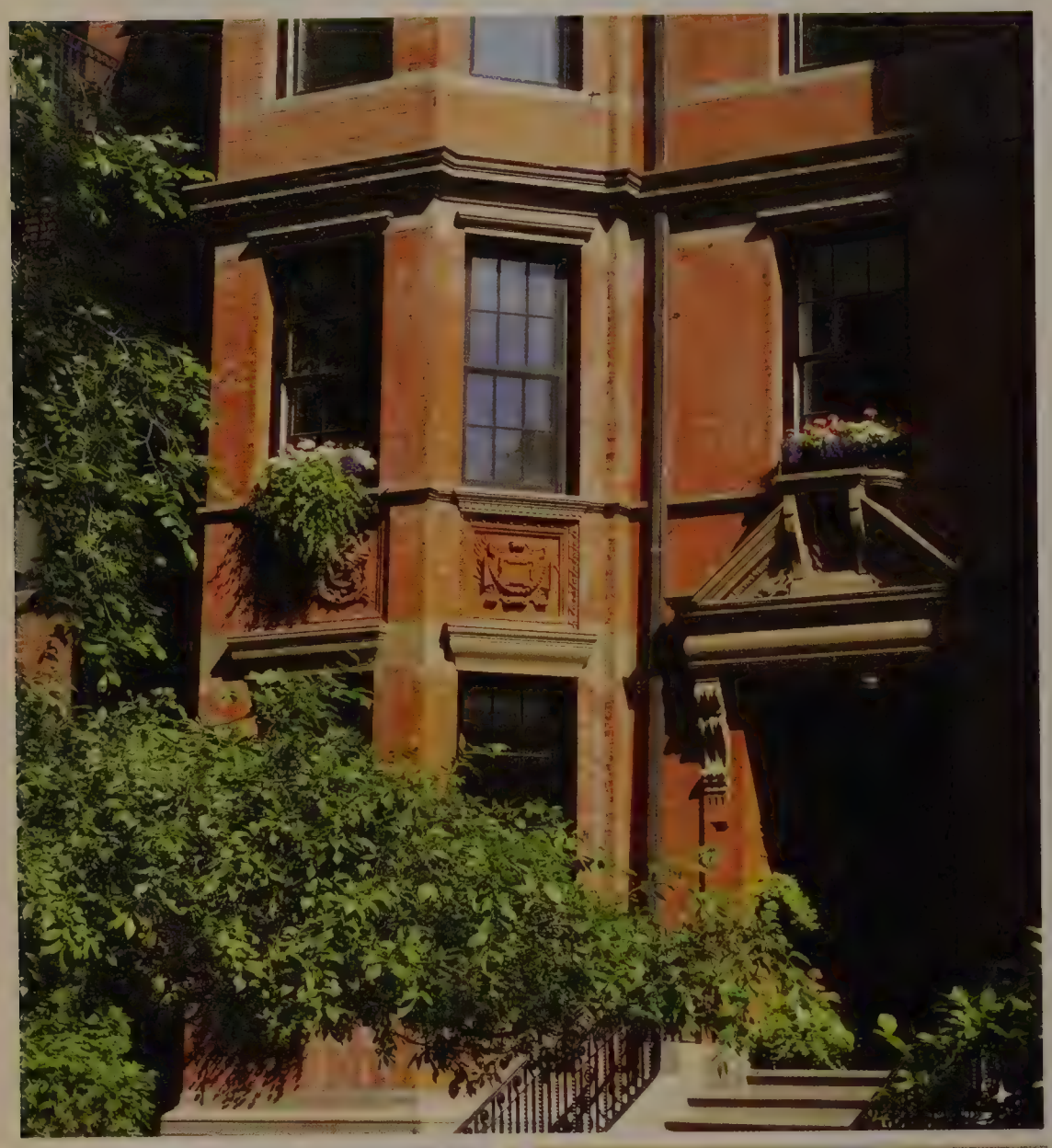
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MILLION-DOLLAR REALITY CHECK

ONCE UPON A TIME A $1 MILLION HOME MEANT A MANSION WITH ALL THE BELLS AND WHISTLES. BUT THAT'S NO LONGER THE CASE IN BOSTON. HERE'S A LOOK AT WHAT THAT SUM BUYS TODAY.











BY SCOTT LAJOIE
PHOTOGRAPHS BY RICHARD SMITH

"If I had a million dollars
I'd buy you a house."
—The Barenaked Ladies

Unfortunately, a million dollars no longer buys you as much house as you might expect—at least not in the city. With real estate prices in many Boston neighborhoods soaring beyond rational comprehension, the once-revered seven-figure milestone—previously reserved for those with oodles of old money who lived in unabashed luxury—is kind of, well, commonplace. "It just doesn't have the cachet it used to have," says Boston realtor Bruce McCue, of Atlantic Associates.

As recently as five years ago, $1 million would've put you in a sizable property in one of Boston's premier neighborhoods. That's no longer the case. In places like the Back Bay or Beacon Hill, you may even find yourself compromising a little at the $1 million price point—you might not, for example, get the kitchen of your dreams, a full range of amenities or even a parking space. "You can still get a property for $1.2 million," says Sally Brewster of Brewster & Berkowitz realtors, "but it's not going to be on Louisburg Square or Chestnut Street."

"Gone is the expectation that $1 million will buy you the fabulous-forever house," says Martyn Scott, an agent with Gibson Domain Domain. "You're going to have to come to terms with the fact that you aren't going to get this or that." Rene Bonner Oranburg of Prudential Edna Kranz simply tells people there is no perfect house anymore.

Even when buyers spend seven figures on a home, it's not uncommon that they then do hundreds of thousands of dollars of renovations. "Buy the diamond in the rough and make it fit your needs," Richard Golembeski of Baron Associates advises his clients.

Condos in downtown hot spots are some of the most sought-after properties; some have doubled in price in the last five years. Because some properties go for as high as $1,000 per square foot, it's not unheard of for a one-bedroom comprising around 1,000 square feet to top a cool million. Just as in Manhattan, desirable Boston addresses have always fetched relatively exorbitant prices. But it's only recently that so many places in the South End and communities like Brighton have topped the million-dollar mark.

Sure, expansive single-family homes might still be found in Dorchester or even Jamaica Plain for a million. But otherwise, you're going to have to go outside the city limits. Want a bona fide mansion? You're probably going to have to look in a second-tier suburb beyond Route 128 if you

Where: Back Bay (200 block of Marlborough Street)
What: Two-bedroom, two-bath condo with marble floors, high ceilings and three fireplaces
Square footage: 2,000
Asking price: $1.2 million
Selling price: $1.1 million

"Dated, very dated," is how the new owner describes this property. But she and her husband saw potential, and the empty-nest couple is planning to completely gut the apartment, transform it into a one-bedroom, and build a brand-new kitchen. They ruled out Beacon Hill early on, not because of its high prices, but because of its lack of parking. This one has deeded parking…and space for the couple's oversized dog!

have a budget of only a million bucks. (See the photos and sidebars that accompany this story for a sample of Boston-area homes in the $1 million price range.)

"It's very different from five or 10 years ago," says Chobee Hoy of Chobee Hoy Associates in Brookline. "But it's also true with the loaf of bread I buy." Even in the wake of one of the biggest real estate booms, the median price of a home in the United States was still only $171,600 in the fourth quarter of 2003. But million-dollar homes have increased in number. According to the Federal Reserve's Survey of Consumer Finances, the number of million-dollar homes in the U.S. nearly tripled between 1989 and 2001, from 300,000 to 850,000.

What's driving the surge? Empty-nest baby-boomers, who in many cases have reaped astronomical wealth from the sales of their suburban homes, are moving back into cities all across the nation, not just in Boston. Often, they downsize in space, but not necessarily in price—knowing full well it's smart to invest their capital back in high-end properties, which have increased the most not only in volume, but also in rate of appreciation.

What's more, young urban professionals are increasingly playing this game. "You don't need a particularly huge income to afford a million-dollar home anymore," says Avi Rome of Coldwell Banker. "I see a lot of thirty-somethings—physicians, lawyers, businesspeople—who can afford a million-dollar property." Other agents point out that with interest rates so low, it's in a buyer's best interest to borrow as much as a bank will lend them. What's more, with the threat of interest rates creeping up in the next few months, buyers may be rushing to take advantage of a good thing. How low interest rates affect high-end buyers is still unclear; a recent Coldwell Banker survey of its nationwide sales associates revealed that 31 percent of seven-figure home purchases were paid for in cash.

Another recent trend is buying a high-end home as a cooperative venture. Since more-expensive homes tend to appreciate at a higher rate, some buyers look to purchase a property outside their personal affordability range by renting out a portion, or living in a million-dollar multifamily with another buyer.

So what is the new milestone? Since one of the hottest price ranges, according to many agents, is the $500,000–$700,000 bracket, absorption rates have dropped for $1 million properties; realtors believe buyers, in some cases, are still affected psychologically by seven figures. But many realtors say they have no problems selling properties for well above a million. "The new milestone is now $1.8 or $2 million," says one realtor. Give it a few years. It's inevitable. We'll be saying how $2 million doesn't buy you much anymore. **IB**

Where: Newton Highlands (6 Brewster Road)
What: Five-bedroom (optional sixth), three-and-a-half-bath, three-floor 1930 colonial with oak floors, lots of light and a two-car garage. Within walking distance of the T
Square footage: 2,899 (not including the unfinished basement), on a 9,820-square-foot lot
Asking price: $985,000
Selling price: Presently under agreement

For those who want a little more bang for their buck but still want accessibility to the city, Newton is the perfect place. This particular property has been a favorite of university professors because of the colossal built-in bookshelves in the family room. Open houses for this property attracted dozens of potential buyers, and it was on the market only for a month.















Where: Waterfront (20 Rowes Wharf)
What: Two-bedroom, two-bath, fully renovated, 6th-floor condo with water views
Square footage: 1,463
Asking price: $1.25 million
Selling price: $1.15 million

"Five or six years ago, 2,600 square feet was going for around $1.1 million," says Premier Properties' Deborah Gordon. "Now you get a lot less square footage for that price." The noise factor along the waterfront is significantly decreased now, and the promise of beautiful parkland in place of the old Southeast Expressway has produced renewed interest. You can still get some properties at Rowes for around or under $1 million (Gordon also recently sold a 1,000-square-foot one-bedroom for $800,000 there), but buyers have to prioritize, deciding which amenities are most important. The premier units go for much higher.

MORE MILLION-DOLLAR BUYS

Where: Leather District (717 Atlantic Ave., 5th floor)
What: Three-bedroom, two-bath loft with a chef's kitchen, mahogany cabinets, Bosch dishwasher and Gaggenau stove. Converted to lofts in 1995.
Square footage: 2,655
Asking price: $995,000
Selling price: Not yet sold

"A lot of lofts downtown are $500,000 to $700,000," says Lawrence Shevick of Kimball Borgo realtors in Downtown Boston. "Designers and architects typically cannot afford a higher price range." Shevick says he had something priced at $1,050,000 and he broke it up into two units. Because of this fear of high pricing, not many lofts in Boston go above a million, but this property is a little special.

Where: Brookline (Griggs Road)
What: Six-bedroom, three-bath Victorian shingle-style townhouse. Built in 1923. One-car detached garage.
Square footage: 3,174
Asking price: $1.05 million
Selling price: $990,000

This part of Brookline is by no means an estate-laden area, but the neighborhoods are charming, with many older homes. "The owners bought it with the intention of doing quite a bit of work to it," says agent Chobee Hoy of Chobee Hoy Associates. They plan to put in a new kitchen but will not overhaul the interior. "You have the best of both worlds on Griggs."

Where: South End (Worcester Street, between Shawmut and Tremont)
What: Two-plus bedroom, two-and-a-half bathroom condo in a townhouse, with off-street parking
Square footage: 2,000
Asking price: $969,000
Selling price: $950,000

The South End has experienced an enormous rebirth in the past half decade. "I am getting all the people from Beacon Hill and Back Bay who are frustrated with their search," says realtor Martyn Scott. "But it's getting harder to find something like this in the South End." You may find some duplexes in the $900,000s, but the possibility of getting a single-family home here is diminishing.

Where: Beacon Hill (1 Garden St.)
What: Four-bedroom, two-bath, "brand new" penthouse in a 1930s building, with maple floors, Irish limestone counters, private L-shaped roof deck and four 10-foot windows
Square footage: 1,450
Asking price: $999,000
Selling price: Not yet sold

John Kerry's neighborhood is arguably the most desirable address in Boston. It's the city's oldest neighborhood and thus the most prestigious (followed closely by the Back Bay, where properties tend to be a bit more spacious). This penthouse, listed by Richard Drinkwater at Otis & Ahearn Real Estate, sits above an old cigar factory.

Where: Medfield (48 Ledgetree Road)
What: Single-family home with four bedrooms (two master bedrooms), three-and-a-half baths, a huge sunroom with cathedral ceilings, a three-car garage, security system and state-of-the-art irrigation system
Square footage: 3,600, on a 34,480-square-foot lot
Asking price: $999,000 (lowered from $1.1 million)
Selling price: Not yet sold

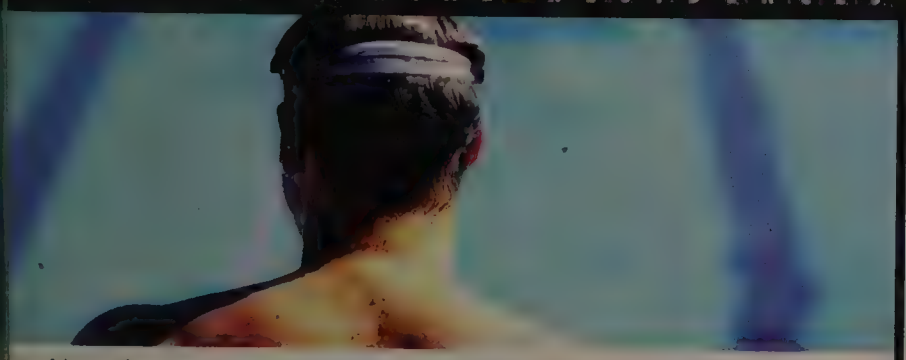
At this writing, 13 properties are available in Medfield for around or more than a million dollars. The town got some press recently from one of the most famous sports celebrity real estate transactions to date: Curt Schilling's fire-sale purchase of Drew Bledsoe's home. The former New England Patriots quarterback bought the 26 acres on which he built the multimillion-dollar home for a mere $275,000 in the early '90s. The more modest Cape house listed above, built in 1984, is available through Ginny Olsen of ReMax Executive Realty Medfield.

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GETTY IMAGES

surviving the DNC

CHAOS AND CONGESTION ARE IN THE FORECAST FOR CONVENTION WEEK—BUT HOW MUCH OF THAT IS REAL AND HOW MUCH IS HYPE? HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW IF YOU'RE STICKING AROUND THE CITY

BY BROOKE LEISTER

By now, you've heard the horror stories about the Democratic National Convention. North Station will be closed. I-93 will be closed near the FleetCenter. There will be restricted security zones.

As the July 26–29 convention nears, those living and working in the city are asking how all this will affect them. With the world spotlight poised to shine on Boston, convention organizers and city officials are working to ensure the city is ready to greet the expected 35,000 attendees (including 5,000 delegates), as well as help Bostonians navigate altered T routes and road closings.

It may take some extra planning—leaving a little earlier for work and taking a different route—as well as finding some alternate hangouts while the Dems commandeer popular bars and restaurants for private parties. But while there's no doubt convention week will cause its share of headaches, those in charge hope Bostonians will take pride in showing off their city to the rest of the country. "The convention is going to be a remarkable opportunity for Boston and its residents to show the world how great the city is," says Karen Grant, communications director for Boston 2004 Inc., host committee for the Democratic National Convention.

Whether you're looking forward to the excitement or dreading the hassle, here are some things you'll need to know to navigate the city during convention week.

GETTING AROUND

MBTA press secretary Joe Pesaturo has three pieces of advice for commuters: Check to see if your regular commute is affected, be aware of alternate routes and be patient.

From July 23-30, the MBTA Green Line will end at Haymarket, and the Orange Line will not stop at North Station. The Red and Blue lines will not be affected. Commuter rail trains from the north will terminate before reaching Boston, with shuttle buses and subway trains providing connecting service. Because of I-93's proximity to the FleetCenter, where the convention will take place, buses that travel on the highway will not allow packages larger than a briefcase or pocketbook onboard. The same goes for the Orange Line.

To get the word out about service disruptions, MBTA employees will hand out booklets detailing changes during the convention. "We have an obligation to our customers and people who will be new to the system that week," Pesaturo says. MBTA police are also developing a policy to randomly inspect passengers' bags.

For those driving into the city, I-93, Rte. 1 (and the Tobin Bridge inbound to Boston), the Sumner Tunnel, the Leverett Connector and portions of Storrow Drive and Memorial Drive will close afternoons and evenings during convention week. These road closure times could change daily during the convention. "It will be set the day of, by the Secret Service," says Jon Carlisle, spokesman for the state's Executive Office of Transportation and Construction. "They've told us they want wide latitude over those closures."

As Democratic presidential hopeful Sen. John Kerry (or any other dignitary, including former presidents Carter and Clinton) moves through the city, some roads may briefly close while the motorcade passes. Boston Police Department spokesman Lt. Kevin Foley says he can't say when or where this could happen, but says it should cause little inconvenience. (To get the most current information on traffic and mass-transit restrictions, check Boston 2004's Web site. See box.)

For those hoping to get an up close and personal look at the convention, don't expect to get anywhere near the FleetCenter itself. Foley says only those with convention credentials are allowed inside the fenced-in security zone. The security area stretches from the Charlestown Bridge down Causeway Street, past the FleetCenter and the Thomas P. O'Neill Federal Building, extending north to Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital and to the Charles River Basin area.

The triangle bordered by North Washington Street, New Chardon Street, Merrimac Street and Causeway will also be surrounded by a security fence, and open only to pedestrians. Delivery drivers with photo identification and proof of purchase orders can make deliveries before noon, Foley says.

While the daily schedule has not been finalized, traditionally convention activity takes place from about 4:30 pm to between 11 pm and midnight. Throughout the week, there will be delegation events inside the FleetCenter and throughout the city.

Stephen Sullivan, general manager of MetroCab Association, says convention week will cause its share of headaches, but his 410 cabbies will work around the difficulties. "We're more familiar with the streets than the average person," he says.

N THE DNC ZONE

Those who work around the FleetCenter are greeting the convention with a mixture of excitement and trepidation. Justin Moorehouse, chef at McGann's Pub on Portland Street, plans to stay with friends in the North End rather than commute from his Brookline home. "Everyone I've talked to has taken a negative stance on it. People are worried about getting into work. Everybody will be happy to see it done. It's a hassle," says Moorehouse.

At Hilton's Tent City on Friend Street, manager Jeremy Shugar is hoping for increased business from convention attendees and curiosity seekers. "As a business, given the fact that so many people are coming into the city and they're going to be here, we remain optimistic," says Shugar. "I'm confident there will be an increase in business where people will want to come down here and check it out. If anything, the convention will bring people [to the area]." While many are bemoaning the expected traffic snarls and tight security, Shugar plans to employ a wait-and-see attitude. "I think it's going to be hoppin'," he says. "It's going to be a party."

Nearby, at the Fours on Canal Street, owner Peter Colton says the Kentucky and Maryland delegations, as well as a local Teamsters union, have booked private parties during the week. Since the FleetCenter has been closed in preparation for the convention, Colton is looking forward to the crowds in the neighborhood.

'OLITICAL PARTYING

There's no doubt people will be partying down in Beantown. Between 750 and 1,000 events, both private and public, are planned throughout the week, according to Boston



2004's Grant. The festivities kick off Saturday night at the new Boston Convention and Exhibition Center with a private party for the expected 15,000 media members covering the convention. The following evening, more than 30 venues throughout the city, including the Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center, the State House and the Boston Public Library, host parties for private delegations.

For those looking to take part in the action but lacking convention credentials, there'll be other ways to feel like part of the festivities. Throughout July, Boston 2004 is sponsoring Celebrate Boston, which features events throughout the city, culminating with a public gala on City Hall Plaza on the eve of the convention. Or for $1,000, you can rub elbows with Ben Affleck, Joe Pantoliano and Christina Ricci at the 2004 Benefit Gala presented by the Creative Coalition and the Recording Industry Association of America. Tickets are still available for the July 28 event taking place at Louis Boston.

If you'd rather laugh at the candidates than schmooze, head to Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater in Somerville's Davis Square and check out political humorists and satirists like Lewis Black, Janeane Garofalo and Mort Sahl at the Un-Conventional Comedy Convention: A Celebration of Political Humor. "I wanted to do something special in the weeks leading up to the convention," Tingle says. For Tingle, the comedy convention, which takes place July 7–31, is an ideal way not only to highlight Davis Square, but also to help those who aren't attending the convention enjoy the politicized atmosphere.

While there are no plans to extend the operating hours of bars and restaurants or lift the smoking ban, according to the mayor's office, there's no doubt that conventioneers will be hitting the town once their work is done. "From what I hear, a lot of nightclubs and restaurants are booked. Your best bet is to find something outside the city," says Heather Walker, director of marketing for the Rack, which is booked for private parties every night the convention is in town. Non-politicos can celebrate Thursday, July 22, when the Rack hosts the DNC (Do Not Commute) Survival Party, with free pool, free admission for women and complimentary appetizers. "It's for everyone to have a big blowout bash. It's basically to enjoy your last night in Boston before we turn it over to the conventioneers," says Walker. Michael Carlisle, general manager of Parris and Ned Devine's (both owned by the Briar Group), predicts the convention won't have much effect on most Bostonians' social lives. "I don't think it'll affect the bar and club scene much because it's over by the weekend," he says. Carlisle adds that the after-work nightlife scene should remain the same, since the convention is expected to run until 11 each night.

Stuart Masure, general manager of Boston Beer Works Canal Street, says that while BBW's two Boston restaurants (the other is on Brookline Avenue) have booked some private parties, they'll be open for lunch and dinner during convention week. "From the restaurant's perspective, we're really excited for the energy that will be brought to the city," he says. "As far as we're concerned we're going to move forward with business as usual for our customers."

Diane Mantouvalos, spokeswoman for the nightclub Saint, says the hot spot expects to be busy: "We do expect to be inundated with visitors from the convention. We're considered the fun spot for older clientele. We're going to be very accessible because of our hours, format and our ability to take care of VIPs."

When the Dems come to town, the city is also going to look its best. Don't be surprised to see more street sweepers around town as the convention nears. In May, each city neighborhood participated in the second annual Boston Shines event. More than 6,700 volunteers planted flowers and saplings and removed 905 tons of trash from sites around the city. According to Michael Kineavy, director of the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services, as the convention nears, his office may contact neighborhood representatives to perform touch-ups on key spots.

Remember, plans are changing all the time, and as with anything else in life, nobody can truly predict what real impact the Democratic National Convention will have on Bostonians and their lives. Bottom line: Expect delays and inconvenience, and a whole lot of revelers dressed in red, white and blue. IB

Plans for the Democratic National Convention are subject to change. For the latest updates, check these Web sites:

* Boston 2004 (www.boston04.com) provides links to information on traffic and MBTA service changes.
* The Democratic National Convention Committee's site (www.dems2004.org) has info on the convention, including a link for people who wish to volunteer.



feeding the democrats

FROM RIALTO'S BALLOT BURGER TO THE KELLS' ROCK THE VOTE LOBSTER, BOSTON RESTAURANTS ARE GETTING CREATIVE WITH THEIR MENUS TO SERVE HUNGRY CONVENTIONEERS.

BY JUDITH GAINES ILLUSTRATION BY DEREK AYLWARD

On a late-spring day at the Kells in Allston, general manager Bob O'Guin and kitchen supervisor Steve Ngo are celebrating the completion of the restaurant/nightclub's extreme makeover and happily preparing for the arrival of the Democratic National Convention. The dark, heavy wood paneling in what had been a traditional Irish pub has been replaced by a hipper, more colorful ambience and decor intended to suggest a jungle with firecrackers. The new menu features a playful array of drinks, which the proprietors hope will lure conventioneers their way.

Among 10 new mixed beverages is the Goodbye, Bush, a potent and delicious blend of banana liqueur, cream and rum that O'Guin says he hopes will help Democrats give the nation's top banana "a good, swift kick" out of the White House. Other libations include the Rock the Vote Lobster, a reddish drink with grenadine, coconut rum and vodka; and the Beacon Hill Mama, a lively citrus blend with four rums, intended to honor Teresa Heinz Kerry. The showstopper may be Kerry's Bowl, a formidable, 45-ounce concoction that, O'Guin quips, "hopefully will encourage [John] Kerry to make a bold statement at the convention."

Kells execs hope that the club's exotic drinks and Asian-style appetizers, plus the energy of two disc jockeys playing their own platters on adjacent dance floors, will draw Democrats—and anyone else who wants to join in—to come in and let loose here when the convention comes to town.

Traffic will likely be horribly congested, security measures may leave everyone feeling exasperated and on edge, but throughout the Boston area, chefs and restaurateurs will do their best to feed and fete the Democrats during convention week, July 26–29. Many will offer special dishes or drinks, politically or patriotically themed menu items, or prix-fixe menus with a special touch. Most will be open more hours than normal. Some will reconfigure their eating areas to add more seats. And apart from some special VIP events, the general public is welcome in most cases to sample the convention fare.

At Rialto, in Harvard Square's Charles Hotel, chef Jody Adams aims to create a relaxing, casual atmosphere with several dishes she hasn't offered before. "This convention is about socializing and connecting," she says, so she will focus less on her trademark cutting-edge haute cuisine and more on "comforting food that people can enjoy without having to pay much attention to it."

The dishes will have Adams' signature touch, but with some differences. For example, she promises to put a hamburger on her menu for the first time: "I'm calling it a Ballot Burger, a classic with a surprise to be revealed. I know people love hamburgers, but I will not keep it on the menu forever. Just like the DNC, it will come to town for a few days and then it will leave."

Adams also will serve a Revolution Salad, incorporating whatever produce local farmers send her that week, a Liberty Lobster Club Sandwich featuring New England's celebrated crustacean, and a Red, White and Basil sandwich with tomato, basil and mozzarella, a combination that Adams says typifies the essence of summer.

L'Espalier chef and owner Frank McClelland is offering a first-time novelty to anyone who wants to come, conventioneer or not: lunch. The menu, he says, will include politically themed dishes inspired by local New England produce and his own sense of whimsy. He probably will offer a red, white and blue entrée, for example, such as striped bass with fried clams atop a velvety blue potato puree with watermelon fumé and white radish sprinkles.

> "In the spirit of true Democrats, we promise to increase portion size and cut prices, while moving the economy forward."
>
> –Spire Executive Chef Gabriel Frasca

Chef Philip Aviles of Masa, in the South End, says he intends to add a Chipotle Mini-Burger with Kerry Corn Salsa to his bar menu, as well as a drink named for Teresa Heinz Kerry, the Teresarita. With a nod to the Heinz ketchup in her background, it will be a V8-based drink with chipotle puree, onion, lime juice and tequila—a spicy blend for an often outspoken woman.

At Spire, in the Nine Zero hotel, executive chef Gabriel Frasca hopes his convention week menu will capture the essence of the Democratic Party. He isn't sure exactly what that is, "but in the spirit of true Democrats, we promise to increase portion size and cut prices, while moving the economy forward," he quips. He notes that the convention dates coincide with one of the best food weeks of the year, when many local fruits and vegetables, including Massachusetts strawberries and Maine blueberries, will be at their peak.

Chef Anthony Susi also intends to showcase local produce. The menu at his North End restaurant, Sage, will be "more New Englandy than normal," he says. Susi expects to cook dishes such as poached cod with potatoes and lemon zest, lobster chowder, a clambake dinner served in a terra-cotta pot, and cod fritters.

Additions to the menu at Bricco, in the North End, will be elegant but simple, according to chef Marisa Iocco. She plans to create a special *piatto unico*, a one-plate meal featuring two or three kinds of fish, some sautéed fresh vegetables and a little pasta. And in honor of presumptive Democratic nominee John Kerry, she will offer the K-Negrone, a drink made with Campari, sweet vermouth and gin. It's a perfect pairing with pizza, she says.

Conventioneers at the Langham Hotel (formerly Le Méridien) will find a special turndown treat on their pillow each night: a red, white and blue, donkey-shaped cookie. Julien, the hotel's main restaurant, will offer a White House dessert made with white chocolate petit fours, and a Boston Presidential Cocktail consisting of Stoli Razberi vodka, blue curacao and native cranberry juice. "It's all part of our 'Road to Washington' campaign," says spokesperson Kara Colaneri.

At Grotto Restaurant on Beacon Hill, chef-owner Scott Herritt hopes to accommodate people who decide to stay put after work rather than fight the traffic to get home. He's creating a special community table where locals can commiserate over a three-course meal priced at $29.04.

Even some restaurants that aren't offering new menu items will do business differently during convention week. Meritage, in the Boston Harbor Hotel, is already booked just about solid throughout that period, says chef Daniel Bruce. He's not adding anything unusual to the menu. Rather, he says, he's just trying to keep things "as normal as possible" during the onslaught. But like many chefs, he'll be catering several late-night parties and extending his hours of operation to include lunch.

And for those who want to enjoy restaurant fare without navigating convention traffic, the Office Bar & Grill is offering free delivery from 11 am to 2 am during convention week and the week before. Customers who stop in can get a free slice of pizza with a drink purchase.

With all the anticipated transportation difficulties, highway closings and the like, David James, pastry chef at Le Soir, isn't sure how many convention-goers will find their way to his restaurant in Newton. But he has a novel idea that just might catch on.

"I think I'll set up an ice cream stand at the point where the I-93 detour will be," he jokes. "With all the traffic congestion there, I bet I'll make a lot of money." iB

Floral dog scarf, $19; white "sexy" dog tee, $22. Both at Polka Dog Bakery.

fetch

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE

PHOTOGRAPHS BY BRIAN SILVERSTEIN



Pink dress with bow
$298; hot pink sat
heels with rhinestone
$235; both at Betse
Johnson. Denim pi
striped bag with flor
pin by Marie Galvi
$135 at www.galvinize
hats.com

Multicolored silk skirt by Rutzo, $185 at Stil. Metallic tan heels, $298 at DKNY. Pink and white polka-dot leash by Trish Hampton, $35; matching collar, $29 both at Polka Dog Bakery.

Betsey Johnson
201 Newbury St
617-236-7072

DKNY
37 Newbury St
617-236-0476

Cuoio
115 Newbury St
617-859-0636

Polka Dog Bakery
256 Shawmut Ave
617-338-5155

Pedicures: G Spa
35 Newbury St
617-267-4772

Model:
Robert Vanpickle

Leg models:
Nicole Benner
Jackie Falla
Sarah McManus

Dog Models:
Thea
Hobbes
Holly
Louie
Scrap

Brown silk skirt, $195
DKNY. Pink and gree
confetti shoes @ Beverl
Blue rhinestone leash
Lady Churchwell, $74
Polka Dog Bake
Swarovski flower bracel
by Alison Mondel, $20
www.midmantra.co

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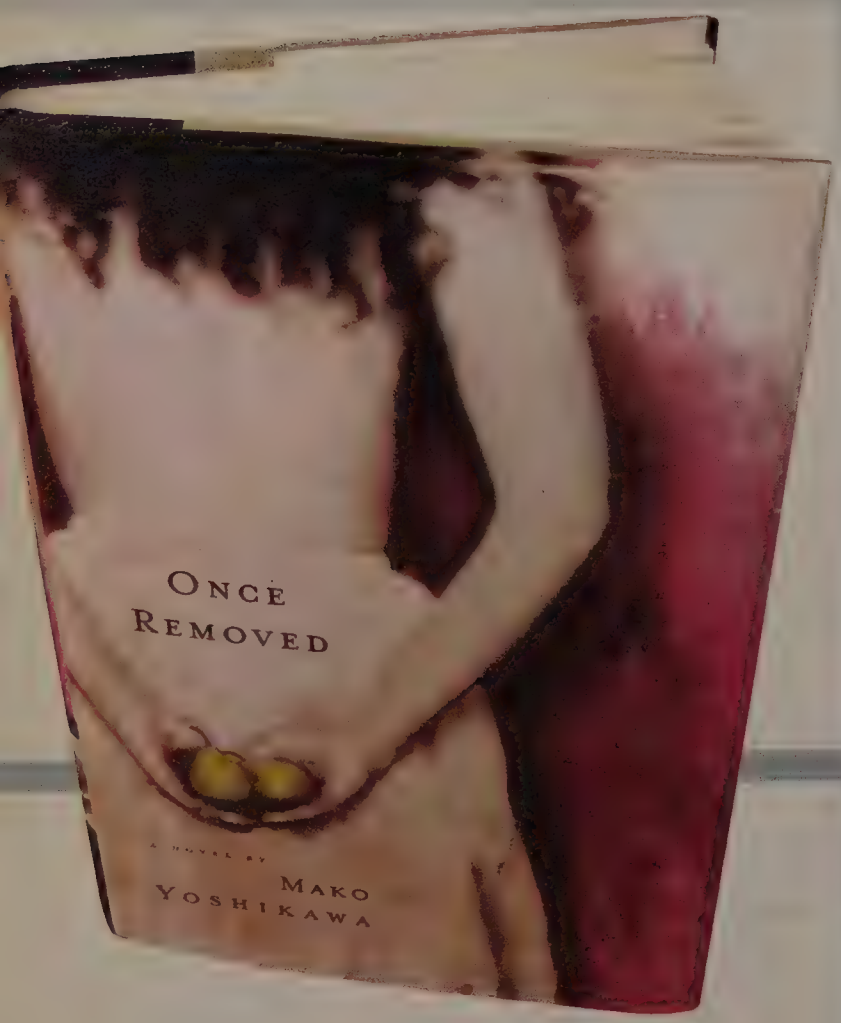
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MOPSY

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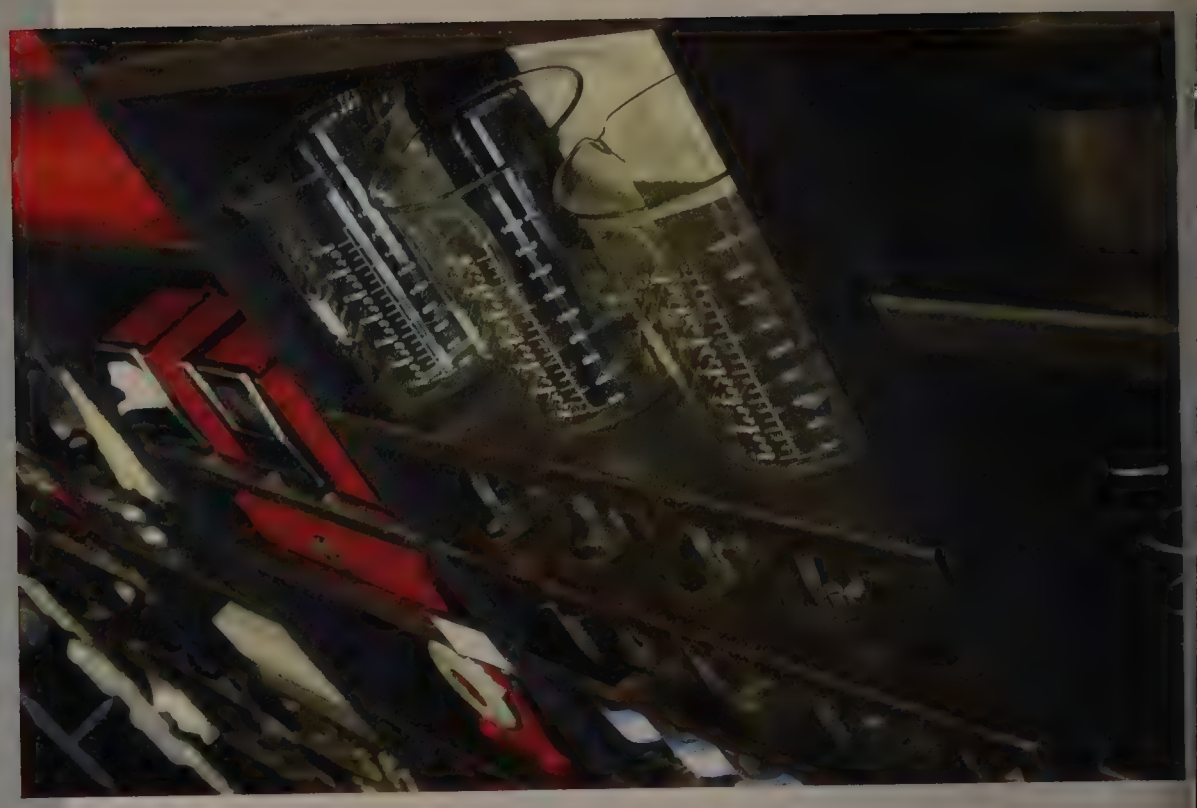
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



STEP-SISTERHOOD IS BEAUTIFUL

Cambridge novelist Mako Yoshikawa writes gracefully about a blended family in her new book, *Once Removed*. Yoshikawa has been a Fellow of Creative Writing at Harvard's Bunting Institute.

Divided into sections that focus on different characters, *Once Removed* tells the story of two families brought together after a death on one side and a divorce on the other. Japanese Hana, mother of Rei, meets Henry, father of the Jewish Claudia, while he's buying a wrench at the hardware store. Further wrenched is the blended family created after Henry leaves his wife and marries Hana. Though bearing the brunt of the pain caused by the divorce and family reshuffling, the ethnically and temperamentally different stepsisters Rei and Claudia see themselves as mirror reflections of each other. The women develop an intense friendship and are preoccupied with becoming the psychological biographers of their parents. Hana is a survivor of Hiroshima, and that experience resonates through her life and her children's lives, and even sideways onto her stepdaughter. Claudia, echoing her homewrecking stepmother, is having a lively, sexy affair with a married man. Rei develops cancer, and when she tells her mother about it, a roar of pain bursts out of Hana. Secrets are unburied, and the story of her life, indeed their collective life, takes on new meanings.



AESTHETIC NECESSITIES

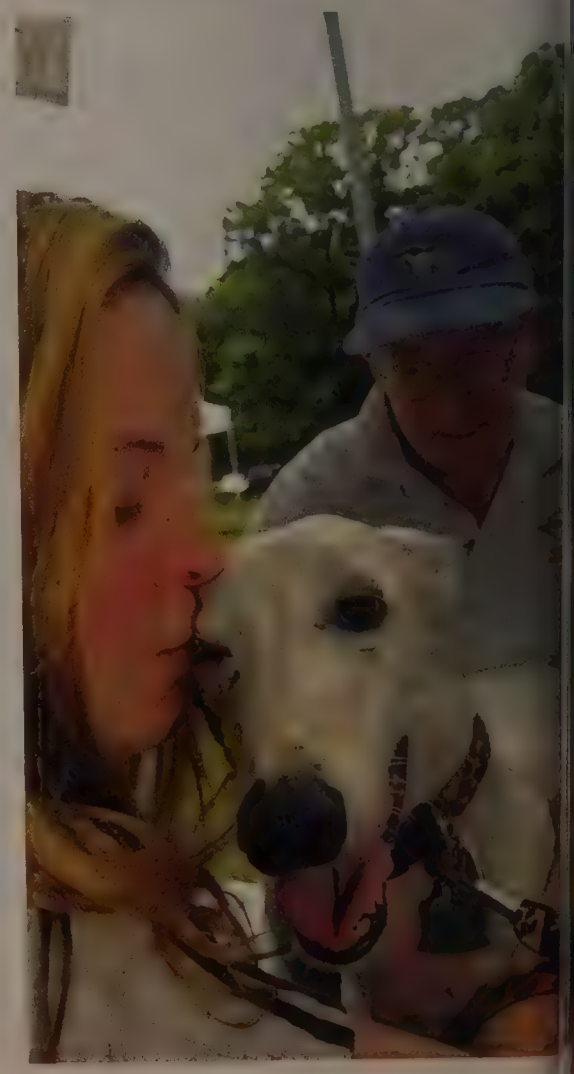
The Museum of Useful Things, the sister store to Black Ink specializing in unique, ingenious household objects, has migrated to 49B Brattle St., near Colonial Drugs. Call 617-576-3322.

The particular sparkle in eyes of the Museum of Useful Things founders Tim and Susan Corcoran is directed at the beauty and ingenuity of the pragmatic. Items that may have begun in the industrial or agricultural realm—and how gorgeous plain stainless steel looks when it lands on Brattle Street!—lend themselves to new uses. Deliciously thin beakers, the delicate teacups of science, become glasses, with pinky-raising handles. Fat, glass inkwells, parched of ink, make pretty pencil sharpeners (meanwhile, inky fountain pens come in disposable form). The ordinary lunch-counter napkin dispenser, with plain napkins, looks lovable off the job; the metal ice cream sundae container turns out to have a romantic lip; and the little doorstop, snug as a hedgehog, just happens to double as a liftable weight. The Museum title refers to the Corcorans' display of beautiful, old not-for-sale cash registers, first-aid kits and other trinkets that inspire the reverence for the "ordinary" we feel in seeing the beauty of, for instance, a (for sale) scoop for oats. Functional, fantastic.

SOOTHE THAT PET OF YOURS

Reiki for animals is offered by Aileen D'Angelo through Hoof, Paw & Claw. Reiki clinics are held at Especially for Pets stores in Sudbury, Westborough and Acton. House calls are available, as are Tupperware-style events and some animal-and-human sessions. Call 508-852-0364.

In the sweet language of communicating with animals, Aileen D'Angelo, a Reiki practitioner, does such things as "beaming" energy at and "issuing invitations" to her four-footed clients. These include rats, cats, horses, dogs, llamas, birds (little parakeets, big parrots) and ferrets. Reiki is the ancient art whereby the practitioner taps into energy and channels it out through the hands and into whoever one is treating. This rather magical action (or almost inaction, as the hands rest quietly rather than moving as in a massage) warms and calms, somehow emanating healing powers to people, so why not to animals? The allergic, the nervous, the arthritic, the rug-piddling, the broken-of-bones, the post-surgical, and also animals with that peculiarly human love-ache called "separation anxiety" receive this treatment. One horse, so treated, got droopy eyed and even yawned. Not busy with books and taxes, animals are perhaps more receptive to this energy. Some animals seem to carry their owner's emotional burdens, as if figuratively shedding their tears for them in shivers and barking, so Fido's calming may even ease the burden on his owner.




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REVIEW

WHEN IN ROMA...

Vecchia Roma offers a reason to take a trip off the beaten path in Newton.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

In my never-ending search for dining adventure, I often heed the recommendations of friends and acquaintances whose taste in food I've come to trust. Recently, such a spy tipped me off to Vecchia Roma ("Old Rome"), off the beaten path in the Nonantum section of Newton, just north of the Pike. The area is sometimes called "the Lake," but I've never succeeded in discovering the body of water to which this appellation refers. The neighborhood is Italian-American in ethnic flavor, and when its Italian-language parish, St. Jean, was merged into my own Our Lady's Church on Washington Street six or seven years ago, it added a wonderfully warm, Mediterranean ambiance to that already vibrant community. In Nonantum, one can hear Italian spoken, and when that happens my taste buds always perk up. Vecchia Roma rewarded my instincts and curiosity.

Housed in a small storefront on Watertown Street (Route 16), near the corner of Adams Street, the restaurant has just 20 seats. Dark green wood paneling below wainscoting and exposed brick on one wall and a trompe l'oeil arcade on the other; cobalt blue glass sconces; tiny, white light bulbs tracing fanciful constellations on the ceiling, a terra-cotta tile floor; sturdy wooden chairs and crisp, white tablecloths and napkins create a down-to-earth family atmosphere.



***Insalate Caprese*—sliced tomatoes and fresh mozzarella with basil and roasted red peppers, served on a bed of arugula and sprinkled with extra-virgin olive oil**

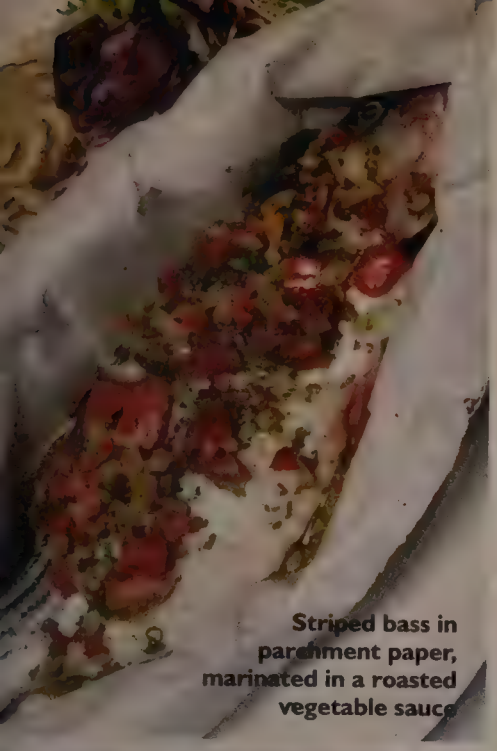
VECCHIA ROMA
398 Watertown St., Newton
HOURS Mon.–Thu., 5–9 pm; Fri.–Sat., 5–10 pm; closed Sun.
RESERVATIONS no
CREDIT CARDS MasterCard, Visa
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE no
PARKING on street
LIQUOR LICENSE beer and wine

Antipasti at Vecchia Roma included *melanzane ripiene* ($10.95), stuffed eggplant, consisting of thin slices rolled around ricotta, smoked mozzarella and fresh herbs, the most prominent of which was minty, aromatic basil. A plum tomato sauce dressed this toothsome analogue of manicotti, with the eggplant slices substituting for the pasta tubes. Vecchia Roma's pastas were spectacular. *Ravioli alla zi'Carmela* ($15.95) brought a mountain of porcini-filled ravioli, in which a delicious sauce of asparagus, white wine, and herbs complemented the tender, satiny pasta that enveloped earthy, savory mushrooms, resulting in a kaleidoscope of flavors, diverse yet wholly compatible. In the *festonate del convento* ($13.95), broad, luxuriously textured al dente noodles provided a superb vehicle for a robust sauce composed of eggplant, cherry tomatoes, mushrooms and chopped red peppers. The mouth-pleasing texture of both pastas alone would have made these dishes memorable; that they came dressed in imaginatively conceived, well rendered sauces made them all the more enjoyable.

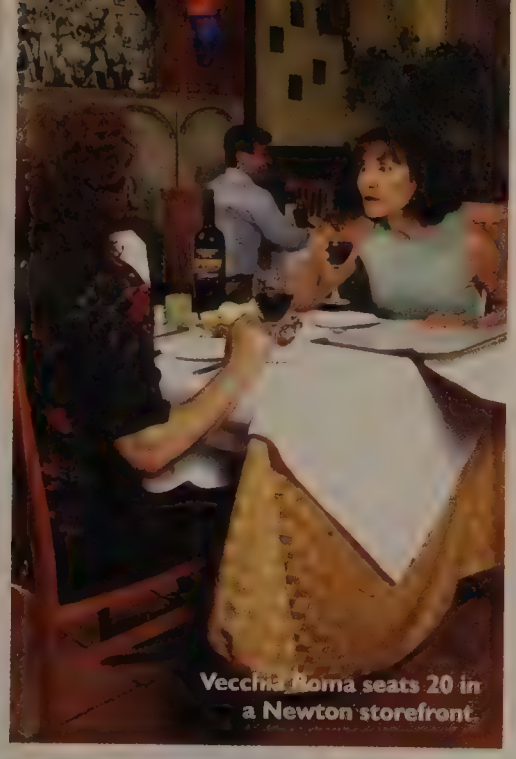
Main courses sustained the high standards set by the pastas. *Arrosto di maiale ripieno* ($16.95), roast pork stuffed with artichoke hearts, sausage and Asiago cheese, resembled a classic stuffed veal breast, with flavorful pork shoulder, roasted to a tender, succulent turn, replacing the veal. The multifaceted stuffing and rich, well-crafted demi-glaze gravy made this dish so rich, and the garnish of sautéed rice studded with asparagus and porcini mushrooms made it so filling, that I ended up bringing most of it home to enjoy for lunch the next day. Vecchia Roma offers saltimbocca made with either veal or chicken ($17.95 and $15.95 respectively). I chose the more traditional veal. These tender cutlets, layered with sweet-salty prosciutto and mushrooms, seasoned with aromatic sage and garlic, and sauced with a white wine reduction of the cooking juices, gave testimony to the linguistic derivation of the name saltimbocca ("leaps into the mouth"). The vegetables served with the veal, a colorful scoop of flavorful squash and a small bundle of firm, fresh, bright green beans whimsically wrapped in a thin cucumber slice, pleased both eye and palate.

Rack of lamb ($24.95), the third of the trio of meats we tried on successive visits, featured five hefty ribs, roasted to a rich brown on the outside and medium rare—pink verging on red—within, as ordered. A sauce of rosemary and extra-virgin olive oil, and a generous helping of cheesy scalloped potatoes made this a filling feast. Venturing from meat to seafood, the *salmone all' antica* ($18.95) showed that Zaza Nakaidze, Vecchia Roma's talented executive chef, has the versatility to handle fish with the same first-rate results he achieves with meat. This thick, moist filet of lovely pink salmon, served with an aromatic white wine sauce redolent of thyme and garnished with tangy-sweet red and white grapes, combined first-rate flavor, texture and color. As befitted the late spring season, spears of tender, fresh asparagus rounded out the bountiful plates of both salmon and lamb.

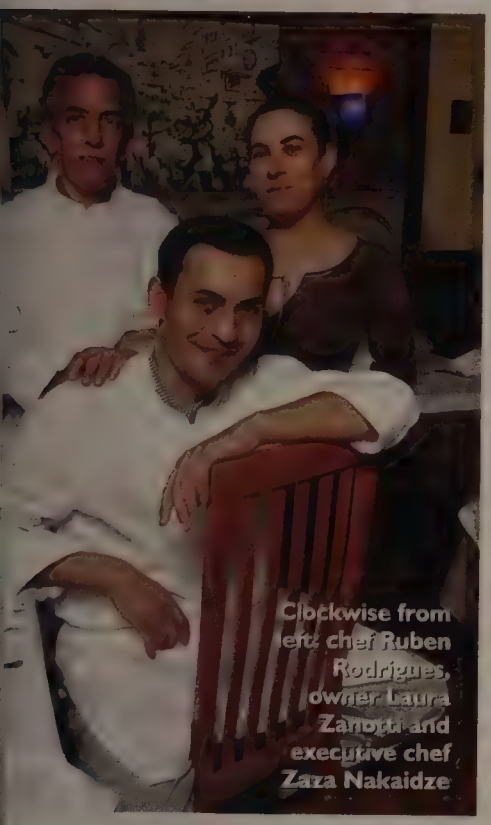
A small statue of an aproned chef in white toque stands guard before Vecchia Roma's quasi-open kitchen, flanked by large glass-front refrigerated case displaying extravagant-looking dessert treats, including the justly famous products from Milan's Bindi company. Passing on the impressive lineup of confections—flash-frozen in Italy and shipped to the U.S. where they are thawed to a state of perfect freshness—we opted for the restaurant's homemade desserts, each $7. The tiramisù served in a tall parfait glass, suffered from



Striped bass in parchment paper, marinated in a roasted vegetable sauce



Vecchia Roma seats 20 in a Newton storefront



Clockwise from left: chef Ruben Rodrigues, owner Laura Zanotti and executive chef Zaza Nakaidze



Homemade tiramisu

his presentation, dry near the top but be-oming moister and more flavorful as I dug ward the bottom. Better was the bread udding, liberally doused with rum that ffset the sweetness of the caramel sauce, nd finished with a generous dollop of ightly sweetened whipped cream.

Vecchia Roma maintains a decent wine st, with some customer-friendly choices the lower price ranges. A bottle of 2002 orante Montepulciano di Molise ($22), good table wine from an Adriatic ovince east of Rome, had decent struc-re and good acid, making it a suitable mpanion to the food. Wines by the ass included Montepulciano d'Abruzzi d Chianti, each $6, decent but unre-arkable. A request for water at Vecchia oma yielded a small bottle of mineral ater for $3—as is generally the case in aly, the management seemed loath to rve tap water.

The single exception to the uniformly gh quality of the food at Vecchia Roma s the hapless antipasto Italiano ($12.95), assortment of cured meats, vegetables d cheese. It arrived in a muddled heap on a small plate, making it soggy and uninteresting. The salami had a soft, somewhat mealy texture and was sliced far too thick. Prosciutto and mortadella were better, but together with the roasted red pepper strips and artichoke hearts, they too suffered from the ambient sogginess. Only the hunk of Crotonese cheese, a marvelously dry, sharp cheese that resembled provolone, escaped from this general shortcoming, standing out as the best thing on the plate by far. My disappointment at the quality of this dish would hardly merit mention but for its extreme departure from the standard set by the remainder of the restaurant's offerings. But then again, a subpar antipasto doesn't implicate the culinary talents of the chef.

Warm, inviting hospitality and generally attentive and efficient service prevailed on both of my visits. The only lapse occurred one evening when the waiter brought the antipasto and pasta simultaneously instead of successively, as we thought we had requested, but since we ordered both courses to share, the miscommunication was wholly understandable. IB







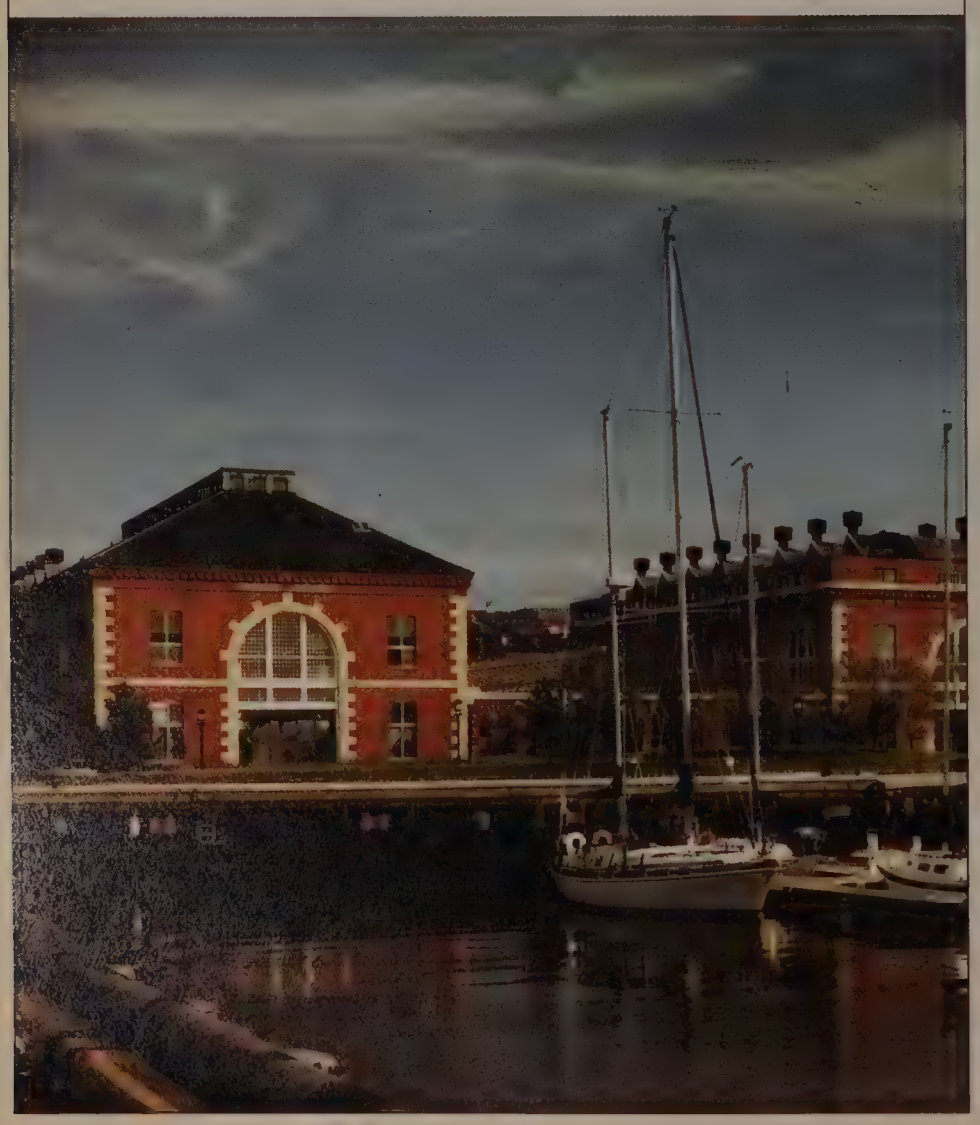
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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Billy's Last Supper at Rouge
Rogue, 480 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-867-0600). MBTA: Green Line to Prudential. July 12, 6:30 pm. $40. Rouge hosts this event in honor of its chef de cuisine, **Billy Barlow**, who is leaving the restaurant at the end of July. The night begins with a "cheap beer" reception with some of Barlow's favorite southern appetizers, followed by a four-course dinner, which Barlow prepares.

A Culinary Sojourn Through Kyoto
344 Walnut St., Newton (617-332-4653). www.ariadnerestaurant.com. MBTA: #59 bus to Newtonville. July 19, 6-8 pm. $50. Meet **Victoria Riccardi**, author of *Untangling My Chopsticks*, and sample an assortment of Asian dishes inspired by the book. The event includes a sake cocktail and a copy of the cookbook.

European Summer Cheese Series: British Invasion
L'Espalier, 39 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. July 13, 7 pm. $55. Chef **Frank McClelland** and fromager **Louis Risoli** present a four-course meal, each course paired with a different wine. The final course is a tasting of some of the top British cheeses.

Fantasy Tea Party
L'Espalier, 39 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Every Sat. and Sun., 2-4 pm. Prices vary. Chef **Frank McClelland** prepares snacks, like strawberry shortcakes and raspberry tartlets. Guests also sample tea.

The Flavors of France: Rialto's 9th Annual Wine Barbeque
Rialto Restaurant at the Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge (617-661-5050). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. July 14, 6:30 pm. $95 per class. Chef **Jody Adams** and wine director **Patrick Dubsky** celebrate Bastille Day in the Charles Hotel courtyard with a five-course dinner paired with wines from Rhone, Loire and other French regions.

Hot off the Vine at 33: Wednesday Wine Tasting Series
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25 a person. Join chef **Joshua Botsford** each Wednesday night for a sampling of four wines paired with complimentary foods. •July 7: Veneto, Italy. •July 14: Alsace, France.

Italian Wine Dinner
Monica's Restaurant, 143 Richmond St., Boston (617-227-0311). www.monicasfoods.com. MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. July 14, 7 pm. $59. Chef **Jorge Mendoza** prepares a four-course meal paired with wines from Veneto and Piedmont.

Italian Wine 101: Value in Italian Wines
UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. July 7, 6:30 pm. $29. Sommelier **Shane Lessard** explains how to find the best deal on Italian wines. The event also includes a sampling of four small plates prepared by chefs **Susan Regis** and **Amanda Lydon**.

Making Sushi
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. July 8, 14 or 15, 5:30-9:30 pm. $67 members, $71 nonmembers. Sushi expert **Walter Rhee** shows how to select, cut and prepare the key ingredients for making sushi.

Spanish Coast Wine Dinner
Café Fleuri, Langham Hotel, 250 Franklin St., Boston (617-956-8751). www.novusvinum.com. MBTA: Orange Line to State. July 8, 6 pm. $65. Café Fleuri hosts this three-course dinner highlighting Spanish wine and cuisine. A reception featuring tapas and sangria precedes the meal.

Tomato Night at Tremont 647
Tremont 647, 647 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-4600) www.tremont647.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. July 19, 6:30 pm. $40. Executive Chef **Jamie Bissonnette** celebrates the summer with an appetizer reception and four-course dinner made up of tomato-themed dishes like striped bass ceviche with tomato water, and tomato and shellfish salad.

Tuesday Night Wine Club at Ariadne
344 Walnut St., Newton (617-332-4653). www.ariadnerestaurant.com. MBTA: #59 bus to Newtonville. 6-8 pm. $25. Wine director **Kathleen Malloy** provides an assortment of some of her favorite wines while guests sample appetizers from chef **Christos Tsardounis**.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Every Tuesday, 6 and 8 pm. $25. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines while chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •July 13: Bordeaux. •July 20: Washington state.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Johnson** offers descriptions of the wines that complement the French–New England meal by chef **Frank McClelland**. •July 12: Alsace. •July 19: Bordeaux.


UpStairs on the Square offers Italian Wine 101 with (l to r) Shane Lessard, Susan Regis and Amanda Lydon.

DISH

Atkins, Schmatkins

Power to the pastry chefs… Pizza, chocolate, ice cream!

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

If you glanced at pastry chef **Rick Katz**'s career stops over the past several years—**Lumiere**, **Metro**, **Locke-Ober**—you might assume he's a launch 'em and leave 'em kind of guy. And you might question his long-term commitment to his forthcoming restaurant, a pizza and ice cream café tucked inside the elegant new Atelier 505 building. But you'd be overlooking his eight-year tenure at **Legal Sea Foods**, where he initially worked with **Jasper White** to establish an in-house bakery, assumed the role of executive pastry chef, and where he still consults part-time. And once you take into consideration his acknowledged "fussiness," his extensive experience, and his age—he's 50—it makes sense that he'd want to run his own show.



Rick Katz is preparing to open Picco in August.

But for Katz, the decision was a long time coming. "After I closed the **Fenton wood Bakery** in Newton years ago," he says, "I swore I'd never open another place [of my own] again." Things change, and now Katz is eagerly anticipating the late-August opening of **Picco**.

"It's an acronym for 'pizza and ice cream company,' and also in Italian it means summit, or peak," he explains. At Picco, lunch and dinner will be served seven days a week, prices will be reasonable and quality will be top-notch. Expect a slightly chewy, virtually soggy-proof artisanal pizza crust whose depth and flavor comes from long, slow fermentation—"a crust with a lot of character," says Katz. Also on the menu: soup, salad, sandwiches, and dessert pizzas topped with Scharffen Berger chocolate. Mmmmm.

SECOND COURSE

The multitalented **Lora Brody**—chocolate diva, prolific cookbook author and noted photographer (a Cape Cod photo of hers recently graced the cover of the *Boston Globe Magazine*)—is also a hands-on multitasker. In the midst of promoting her latest book, *Chocolate American Style*, Brody ventured to the tiny town of Monterey in western Mass. to help her sons **Max** and **Sam** launch a new restaurant, **The Night Kitchen**. "I worked on the line the first week," she says proudly.

Pastry chef **Lee Napoli**, who most recently has been dividing her time between **Sandrine's** in Harvard Square and **Dedo** in the Theater District, is spending one day every week on a new project: Dolci Napoli, her own line of chocolates. She's slipped a few onto the dessert menu at Dedo and relied on word-of-mouth to bring her sweets to the attention of potential customers before she devotes more time to the business in the fall.

Napoli knows her dark gems of hedonism, with fillings like chocolate poblano ganache, are not for everyone. "I want to keep it a little exclusive," she says. "I don't want them everywhere."

Schedule? What schedule? **Ed Doyle**, former executive chef at the Seaport Hotel's Aura, reports he's "crazy busy" with a slew of consulting projects while simultaneously grappling with the "limitless bureaucracy" involved in opening his dream restaurant in Charlestown. "It's amazing anything gets built in Boston," he says. "I have no idea when there will be a breakthrough." We'll keep you posted. IB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to dish@improper.com.



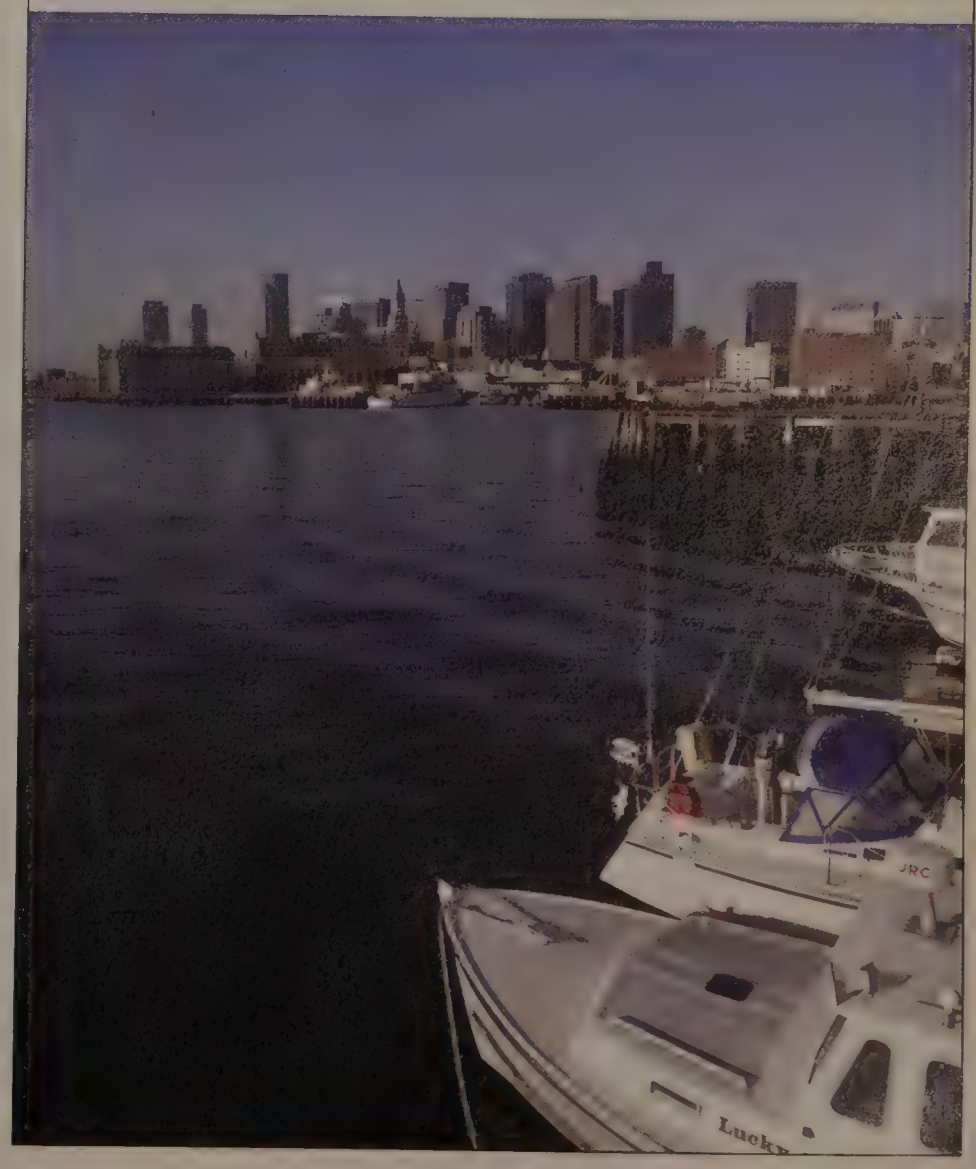
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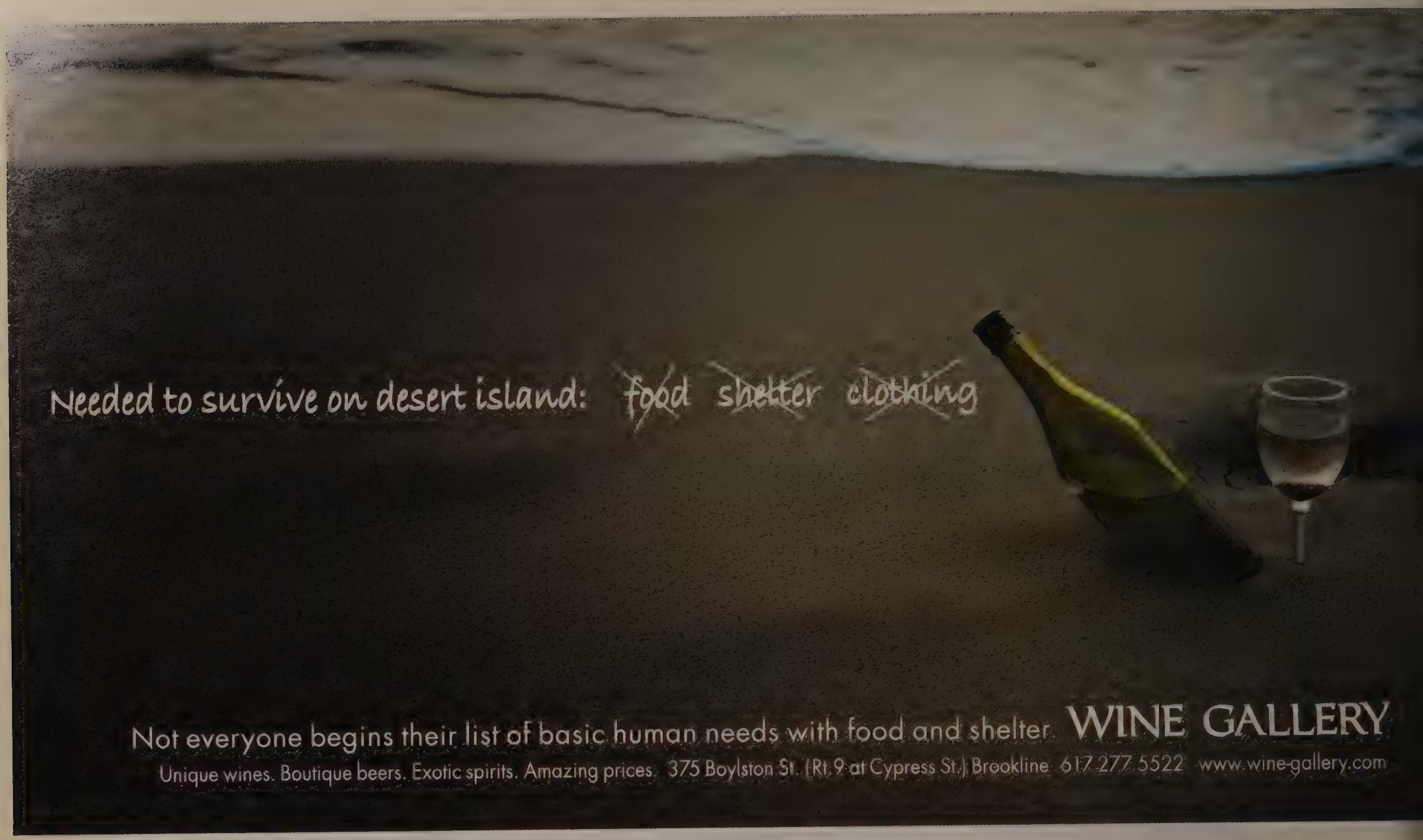
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agenda

IMPROPER PICKS

july 7 - 20

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			7 The **Cowboy Junkies** perform at the FleetBoston Pavilion. *See Music on page 54.*	8	9 The **Dresden Dolls** perform at the Paradise Rock Club. *See Music on page 56.*	10 **Jenna Blum** teaches singles how to write an online personal ad at Grub Street Inc. *See Education on page 69.*
11 Last chance to view *Design~Recline* at the **Fogg Art Museum.** *See Museums & Galleries on page 66.*	12	13	14 **Lewis Lapham,** editor of *Harper's* magazine, reads from his book *Gag Rule* at Brookline Booksmith. *See Books & Poetry on page 68.*	15 Pianist **Pierre-Laurent Aimard** performs works by Beethoven at Tanglewood. See Classical Music on page 60.	16 Relive the Big-Band Era at **Puttin' on the Ritz** on the Ritz-Carlton rooftop. *See CityScope on page 46.*	17 **Vanilla Ice** stars as a hip-hop biker in *Cool as Ice* at the Coolidge Corner Theatre. *See Movies on page 52.*
18 ***The Invasion of Pleasure Valley*** is at Boston Playwright's Theatre. *See Gay & Lesbian on page 70.*	19	20 Bluegrass band **King Wilkie** plays at the Cantab Lounge. *See Music on page 58.*				







THU.–SAT./JULY 8–10

Performing Arts: Turning Japanese

Not since Cirque du Soleil has there been a performance in town that's so much fun to pronounce. Kabuki—the traditional Japanese form of theater that involves dance, music, acrobatics, theater and lots of pantomime—comes to the Cutler Majestic Theatre for four performances over three days. It's the first time a Kabuki troupe has come to Boston, and the show is presented by the Japan Society of Boston as part of its centennial celebration. During the extravagantly costumed performance, Tokyo's 55-person Heisei Nakamura-za troupe enacts two Kabuki classics, with specially constructed sets that re-create the 17th-century atmosphere of the original Nakamura-za theater in Edo. Famous Kabuki actor Nakamura Kankuro stars in the show, which is made up two performances: One is a simple comedy in which servants outsmart their master, and the other is based on a lion dance. There's a little dialogue, which is in Japanese, but English supertitles are projected. *$25–$75. Cutler Majestic Theatre at Emerson College, 219 Tremont St., Boston (800-233-3123). www.maj.org.*

DRESDEN DOLLS: KYLE CASSIDY; DESIGN~RECLINE: VITRA

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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AGENDA EDITED BY
Erin Hagedorn & Jessica Iredale
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Jessica Iredale Around Town, Children, Education, Movies, Museums & Galleries, Performing Arts
Rich Levine CityScope, Dance Clubs, Gay & Lesbian, Music
ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
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Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules







Watch the Tour de France at Redbones.

JULY 16, 18 AND 23

CityScope and Tastings: French Fun

Throughout July, there are plenty of opportunities to act upon your Francophile inclinations, what with all of the Bastille Day–related food events. A handful of them stand out because they combine French culture and a certain amount of sport. The first is about as unlikely a venue for celebrating French culture as you can imagine—Davis Square barbeque joint Redbones. Here, on July 16 and 23, bikers can meet up for a Tour & Benefit Breakfast, in which cyclists do a two-hour, early-morning ride of 40 miles, followed by a power breakfast back at Redbones. While feasting on a buffet-style breakfast, riders watch live TV coverage of the Tour de France. In between the Redbones events, there's the Chefs Collaborative's annual Champagne Veuve Clicquot's Petanque Tournament, at L on July 18. You can watch restaurateurs compete against each other in a petanque tournament (think boccie, only French and with gravel) outside in the parking lot while you listen to live music and sip Champagne. *Redbones, 55 Chester St., Somerville (617-628-2200), www.redbones.com, July 16 and 23, 7-11 am; $10 for breakfast. L, 234 Berkeley St., Boston (617-266-4680), July 18, 12-6 pm; free.*


Shakespeare on the Common

THROUGH JULY AND AUGUST

Performing Arts: The Play's the Thing

Maybe it's a throwback to the open air of the Globe Theatre. Maybe iambic pentameter is best recited under a starry summer sky. We're not sure what it is, but around here there's enough outdoor Shakespeare going on to keep you buried in the Bard through August. Commonwealth Shakespeare Company puts on the biggest production with its ninth annual Shakespeare on the Common. This year, artistic director Steven Maler and his talented team perform *Much Ado About Nothing*. The comedy about jealousy, trickery and love plays on Boston Common July 10–Aug. 1 and is expected to draw more than 60,000 viewers. The CSC is also presenting *A Midsummer Night's Dream* on its Tour of the Parks program (July 15–21), which stops at neighborhood parks in South Boston, the North End and Dorchester. In Lenox, Shakespeare & Company's summer performances include *As You Like It* (through Aug. 29), *Romeo and Juliet* (July 8–Aug. 29) and the 45-minute tour-de-Bard, *Shakespeare and the Language That Shaped a World* (through Aug. 28). Last but not least, Hector, Paris, Agamemnon, Achilles and Ulysses are center-stage in the Publick Theatre's production of *Troilus and Cressida* (July 8–Sept. 12). *See Performing Arts on page 48 for more information.*


Left to right: Leo Allen, Eugene Mirman and Demetri Martin of the Underdog Comedy Tour

FRI./JULY 9

Comedy: Three Amigos

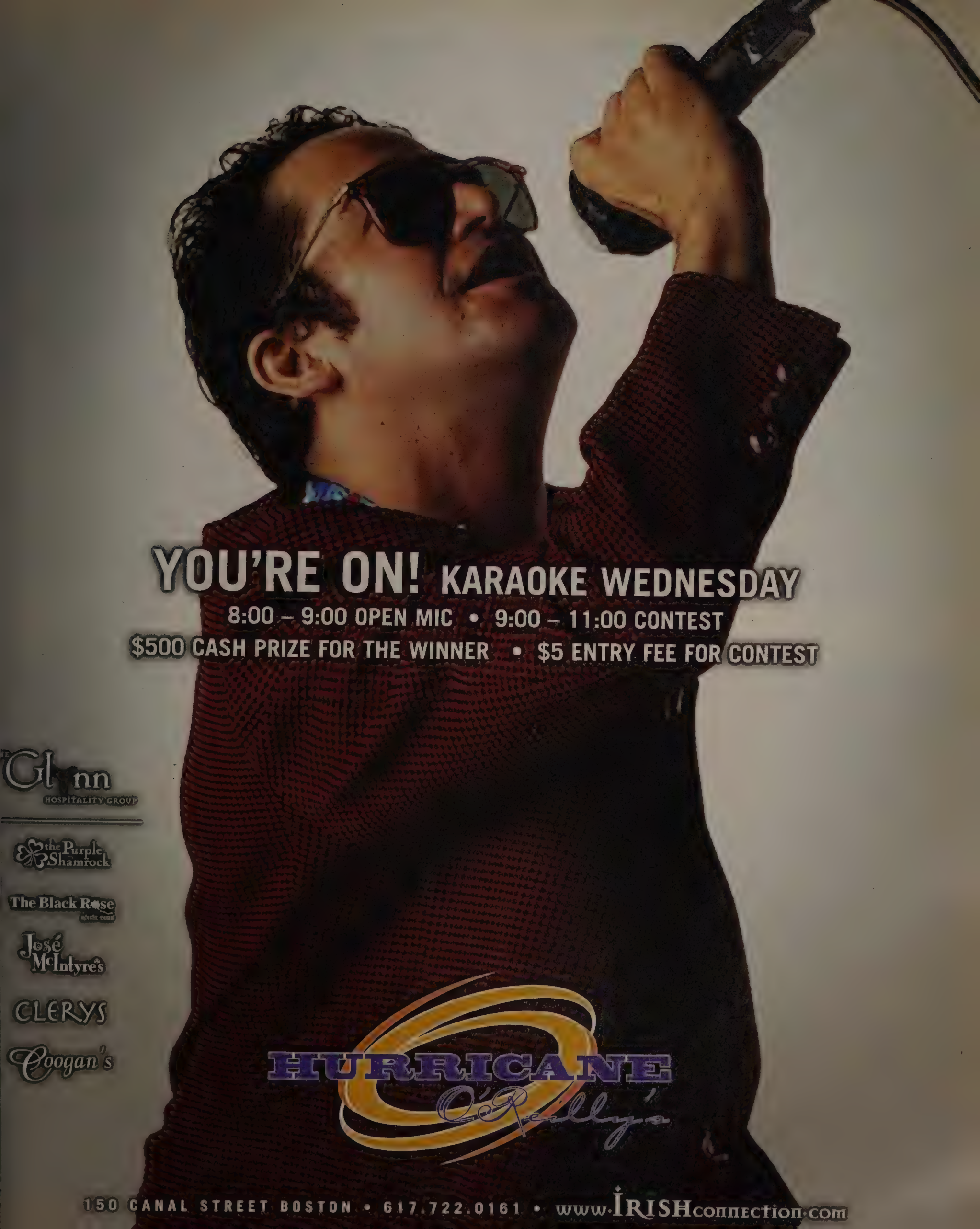
At this point, the three comedians who make up the Underdog Comedy Tour aren't exactly underdogs. Nor are they truly touring—it's hard to when the performers have full-time writing gigs for shows like *Saturday Night Live* and *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*. Leo Allen, Demetri Martin and Eugene Mirman are three New York comics who have arrived. Between them they boast awards from the Aspen, Montreal and Edinburgh comedy festivals, specials for Showtime and Comedy Central and numerous appearances on Conan, whose writing staff Martin recently joined. Misleading name aside, the so-called underdogs are straight-up funny, and they'll make a rare Boston appearance July 9 as part of the Regattabar's Summer Comedy Series. Instead of three separate acts, the audience sees all three comedians on stage together in a performance of stand-up and video. "We all joke around and chime into each other's acts," says Mirman, who got his start in the Boston comedy scene. "It's sort of conversational, very prepared but with some improvisation. There's no other show like it." *Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge (866-468-7619). 8 pm, $15.*


Electric Video Move is at ArtBeat

FRI. & SAT./JULY 16 & 17

CityScope: A Different Drummer

Spending a summer weekend mindlessly lounging on a beach is great. But we'll admit that too much remote R&R can leave us feeling understimulated and culturally deprived. Somerville ArtBeat offers just the shot of offbeat urban culture we need. Hundreds of artists, musicians and dancers take to the streets of Davis Square for one of the most innovative arts fairs around. Sponsored by the Somerville Arts Council, this year's festival is themed Play and aims to bring the community together to make merry a creative and interactive environment. So, instead of sitting in hours of Friday-night Cape-bound traffic, you can play in a traffic-island poker game, sample the sounds of local indie-rock outfit Pee Wee Fist or take in a performance by video artists Electric Video Move. On Saturday, hear local writers read from their work, or show off your local-trivia skills at the Jimmy Tingle Theater's Somerville-themed game show, Wicked Smaht. Throughout the day, a variety of musicians ranging from bluegrass (Bag Boys) to violinists (FiddleBeat) to indie rock (Furvis) give live performances, and you can shop till you drop at the Bazaar Bizarre. *Davis Square, Somerville (617-625-6600). www.somervilleartscouncil.org.*


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Honor a lost friend or loved one by lighting a lantern at the sixth annual Lantern Festival, at the Forest Hills Cemetery, July 15.

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings for festivals, events and benefits by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Benefits

MONDAY, JULY 12

Camp Bonfire
Bonfire at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 64 Arlington St., Boston (617-994-4708). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-9 pm. $125 for single ticket, $250 for a couple. Bonfire hosts "Camp Bonfire," a summer camp–themed night featuring appetizers and specialty drinks like S'mores and Mint Cookie Martinis. Proceeds benefit the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston.

THURSDAY, JULY 15

The Big Deal
The Big Easy, 1 Boylston Place, Boston (781-449-0100). www.bigeasyboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7 pm. $20 in advance, $25 at door. Enjoy the spirit of Bourbon Street and the Las Vegas Strip with festive drinks and casino-style gambling for prizes. Proceeds support the Ellie Fund and its fight against breast cancer.

The Jim Kane Sugar Bowl 5-Miler
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Boston (617-436-6188). www.lstreet.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK. 6:30 pm. $20. This road race takes runners along the flat, fast South Boston waterfront, and all proceeds support local charities, including homeless programs, Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston and the Children's Hospital.

Swim Across America Party
Parris, 250 Quincy Market Building, Boston (508-660-1720). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 6:30 pm. $25. Former Boston Bruin Gord Kluzak emcees this fund-raiser that benefits cancer research and treatment and kicks off a weekend of fund-raising swims.

FRIDAY, JULY 16

Redbones Tour & Benefit Breakfast
Redbones, 55 Chester St., Somerville (617-628-2200). www.redbones.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square. 7-11 am. Bike ride, free; breakfast, $10. A challenging 40-mile bike tour is followed by a benefit buffet-style breakfast and live viewing of the Tour de France. Half the proceeds from the breakfast go to the Tyler Hamilton Foundation. Participants can take part in either event or both.

SATURDAY, JULY 17

Portrait Day at the MSPCA
Metro South Animal Care & Adoption Center, 1300 West Elm St. Extension, Brockton (508-230-2471). www.mspca.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail, Middleborough Line to Brockton. 9 am-5 pm. $50. Your donation is good for a half-hour photo session for your pet, family or both with photographer Lance Bukoff. All proceeds go toward helping homeless and abused animals.

SUNDAY, JULY 18

Champagne Veuve Clicquot's Petanque Tournament
Restaurant L, 234 Berkeley St., Boston (617-266-4680). www.chefscollaborative.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 12- 6 pm. Free. Restaurant L plays host to Chefs Collaborative's annual petanque tournament in celebration of Bastille Day. Watch Boston restaurateurs compete against each other on the petanque court and enjoy some live music, prizes and Champagne. All proceeds benefit Chefs Collaborative.

Festivals

THURSDAY, JULY 15

Sixth Annual Lantern Festival
Forest Hills Cemetery, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-524-0218). www.foresthillstrust.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 6-9 pm. Admission free, requested $10 donation per lantern. Light a lantern in memory of a lost friend or family member, and float it across the pond of the Forest Hills Cemetery. The event also includes performances by the VariAsians and Japanese Tsuji Daiko drummers.

FRIDAY, JULY 16

ArtBeat!
Davis Square, Somerville (617-625-6600). www.somervilleartscouncil.org. MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square. Through July 17. Fri., 6 pm; Sat., 12 pm. $3 suggested donation. The Somerville Arts Council presents this street festival featuring an assortment of musical and theatrical performances at venues like the Jimmy Tingle Theater and the Somerville Theater.



The Jim Kane Sugar Bowl 5-miler, July 15.

Italia Unita Festival
Central Square, East Boston (617-561-3201). www.cityofboston.gov/arts. MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Through July 18. Fri., 6-11 pm; Sat. and Sun., 3-11 pm. Free. Sample authentic Italian cooking while enjoying cultural attractions and entertainment, including the Italian folk music group Terra di Calabria.

31st Annual Betances Festival
100 West Dedham St., Boston (617-927-1730). MBTA: Silver Line Bus to Union/Park Street. Through July 18. This Latino celebration, held each year in the South End, is named for the 19th-century Puerto Rican hero Ramon Emeterio Betances.

SATURDAY, JULY 17

Hip-Hop at City Hall Plaza
City Hall Plaza, Boston (617-635-3911). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 5-8 pm. Free. The City of Boston presents this festival featuring an assortment of local hip-hop artists.

Parties

THURSDAY, JULY 8

Summer Party Cruise and Swimsuit Contest
Cruise leaves from 290 Northern Ave.,Boston (781-444-7771). www.summerpartycruise.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station, #6 or 7 bus to Fish Pier. 8:30 pm-12 am; After-party 12-2 am. $30. An audience-judged swimsuit contest, in which the winner takes home $250, highlights a night of partying and dancing to top-40, hip-hop and reggae.

MONDAY, JULY 12

Bastille Day Celebration 2004
Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Dinner, 7-9:30 pm. $250; Dancing, 8 pm-12 am. $45. The French Library and Cultural Center and Alliance Francaise celebrate Bastille Day with dinner prepared by Meritage chef Daniel Bruce and dancing with musical accompaniment from the Euro Café Orchestra featuring Annie Royer.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14

Bastille Day at Sandrine's Bistro
Sandrine's Bistro, 8 Holyoke St., Cambridge (617-497-5300). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5-10 pm. Prix-fixe menu, $35. Sandrine's hosts a street party with live French music in honor of Bastille Day. Chef/owner Raymond Ost also prepares dinner.

The Flavors of France: Rialto's 9th Annual Wine Barbeque
Rialto Restaurant at the Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge (617-661-5050). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. $95. Chef Jody Adams and wine director Patrick Dubsky celebrate Bastille Day in the Charles Hotel courtyard with a five-course French dinner paired with wines from Rhone, Loire and other regions.

Summer BAHsh
DoubleTree Guest Suites, 400 Soldiers Field Road, Boston (617-876-4100). www.cambridgechamber.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5:30-7:30 pm. $10 for members, $40 for nonmembers. The Cambridge Chamber of Commerce's Women in Business Committee sponsors this night of social networking atop the DoubleTree's rooftop patio.

FRIDAY, JULY 16

Puttin' on the Ritz: Relive the Big-Band Era
The Ritz-Carlton, 15 Arlington St., Boston (617-912-3355). www.ritzcarlton.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm-12 am. $25. The Ritz turns back the clocks for a big-band-era dance party on the roof, with music provided by the eight-piece Ritz-Carlton Orchestra.

Singles

THURSDAY, JULY 8

Coupling
Saint, 90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8-10 pm. Free. Inspired by the British comedy *Coupling*, this singles night features festive cocktails, a DJ spinning music and games that encourage "coupling."

Course Dating
Lucy's, 242 Harvard St., Brookline (617-232-5829). www.lucysbrookline.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. $40. Executive chef Eric Bogardus prepares a meal, and singles' tables are rotated after every course to assure that each person gets a chance to meet everyone else. Men and women ages 30-40 are welcome.

Sugar and Spice Pajama Party
The Rack, 24 Clinton St., Boston (888-414-2899). www.bostonlocknkey.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 7 pm. $15. Boston Lock and Key sponsors this pajama party where women get locks, men get keys and all are encouraged to go out, socialize and find their match.

MONDAY, JULY 12

Eight Minute Dating
Blue Wave, 343 Congress St., Boston (617-797-0755). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 7:08 pm. $35. Complimentary appetizers such as quesadillas and chicken fingers are available as Blue Wave hosts this event for singles ages 22-30.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14

Hurry Date
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-57[illegible]-3311). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $35 for nonmembers. Embark on 20 five-minute dates and enjoy [illegible] drink specials from 33 Restaurant. For ages 30-45.

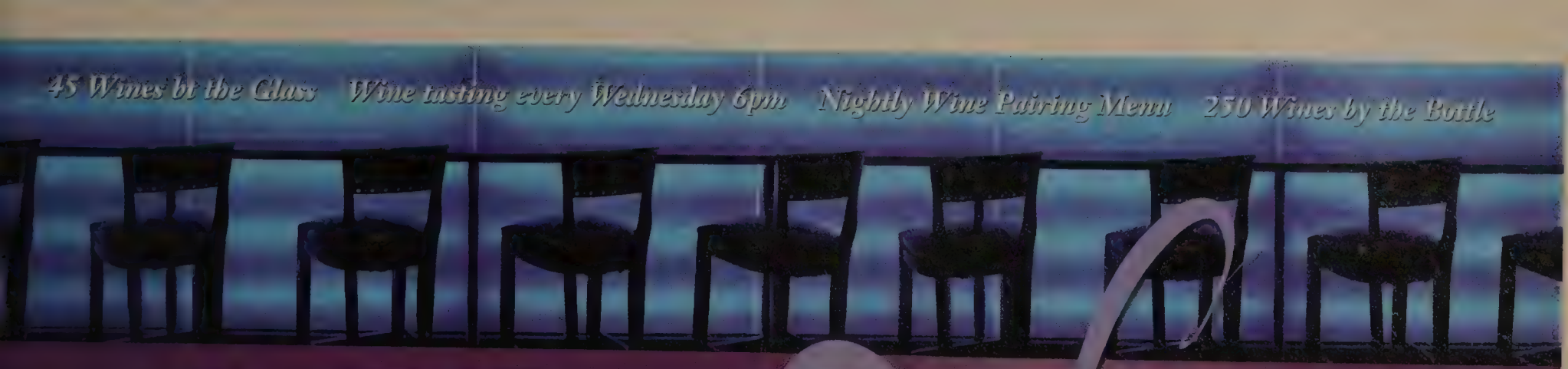
TUESDAY, JULY 20

Eight Minute Dating
Hard Rock Cafe, 131 Clarendon St., Boston (61[illegible]-424-7625). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 6:30 pm. $35. Singles between the ages of 28 and 38 are invited to the Hard Rock for eight eight-minute dates and a night of [illegible] and mingling.

Eight Minute Dating
Good Time Emporium, 30 Sturtevant St., Somerville (617-669-8754). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Bus #90 to Assembly Square and Foley Street. 7:[illegible] pm. $35. Go on eight different eight-minute dates over the course of one night, and then mingle and meet the people you didn't get a chance to share a date with. For ages 27-55.

Hurry Date
The Harp, 85 Causeway St., Boston (617-[illegible]-1010). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Orange Line to North Station. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $35 for nonmembers. Embark on 20 five-minute dates and enjoy drink specials. For ages 21-32.

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performing arts

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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater

JUST OPENED

The Capitol Steps
Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). www.berkleebpc.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center. July 15, 7:30 pm. $25-$35. This troupe of current and former Congressional staffers, both Republican and Democrat, performs 20 political parodies in a musical review.

Full Gallop
Shakespeare & Company, Spring Lawn Theater, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-1199). www.shakespeare.org. July 8-Sept. 5. July 8-10, 13-15, 17, 3 pm; July 11, 16, 18, 20, 8:30 pm. $30-47. Daniel Gidron directs Mark Hampton and Mary Louise Wilson's play about the outrageous former *Vogue* editor, Diana Vreeland, as she prepares to throw a dinner party.

Grease
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). www.turtle-lane.com. July 9-Aug. 15. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $24. Jennifer Condo directs the popular rock 'n' roll musical by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey.

Invasion of Pleasure Valley
Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-824-4297). www.queersoup.net. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St. July 9-31. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm. $20 adults, $15 students and seniors. Inspired by B-movies of the 1950s and '60s, Queer Soup's production follows a couple forced to reveal that their marriage is a sham when UFOs invade their town.

Kabuki in Boston
Cutler Majestic Theatre at Emerson College, 219 Tremont St., Boston (617-824-8000). www.maj.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. July 8-10. Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 7:30 pm. $25-$75. Nakamura Kankuro stars in the Heisei Nakamura-a Kabuki troupe's production of two Japanese theater classics. In *Bo-Shibari*, two servants play a prank on their lord; *Renjishi* is a variation on the Kabuki lion dance.

The Lion King
Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (800-347-0808). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. July 16-Dec. 26. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 1 pm and 6:30 pm $22-$132. Julie Taymor directs this stage adaptation of the popular Disney film about a young lion cub's struggle to become king.

Much Ado About Nothing
Parkman Bandstand, Boston Common. (617-532-1252). www.freeshakespeare.org. MBTA: Green Line to Park St. July 10-Aug. 1, Tue.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. Matinees: July 25, 1 pm; July 28 and 31, 2 pm. Free. Steven Maler directs the Commonwealth Shakespeare Company's production of the classic comedy for the ninth annual Shakespeare on the Common show.

Romeo and Juliet
Shakespeare & Company, Bankside, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-1199). www.shakespeare.org. July 8-August 29. Thu., 5:30 pm; Sun., 12:30 and 5:30 pm. Free. Shakespeare's most well-known tragedy is directed by Kevin Coleman.

Shakespeare and the Language That Shaped a World
Shakespeare & Company, Bankside, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-1199). www.shakespeare.org. July 7-August 28. Wed., 5:30 pm; Sat., 12:30 and 5:30 pm. Free. This fast-paced performance features 45 minutes of excerpts from a variety of plays.

Troilus and Cressida
Publick Theatre, Christian Herter Riverside Park, 1400 Soldiers Field Road, Brighton (617-782-5425). www.publicktheatre.com. MBTA: 86 bus to Everett St. July 8-25. Wed.-Thu. and Sun, 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm. $45-$50 season pass. Hector, Paris, Agamemnon, Achilles and Ulysses recall the tragedy of war in Shakespeare's play about the ancient city of Troy.

NOW RUNNING

As You Like It
Shakespeare & Company, Founders Theatre, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (412-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. Through Aug. 29. Wed.-Sun, 7:30 pm. $10-$49. Eleanor Holdridge directs Shakespeare's play about two lovers who battle obstacles facing their romance.

Beauty and the Beast
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Beverly (978-232-7200). www.nsmt.org. Through Aug. 1. Times vary. $30-60. The popular Disney musical features music by Alan Menken, Tim Rice and Howard Ashman.

Cat on a Hot Tin Roof
Actors Workshop, 327 Summer St., Boston (617-423-7313). www.actorsworkshopboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Through July 11. Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun.,3 pm. $18-20. Devanaughn Theatre, 791 Tremont St., Boston (617-247-9777). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass Ave. July 15-Aug. 1. Thu., Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $18-20. Tennessee Williams' Pulitzer Prize–winning drama celebrates its 50th anniversary under the direction of Joe Stanganelli.

Forever Plaid
200 Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.showofthemonth.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Through July 3. Tue., 7 pm; Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $35.70-$37.80. This revered musical tells the story of Forever Plaid, a 1960s musical quartet that is killed on its first performance but is then miraculously allowed to return to earth 40 years later to perform.

The Importance of Being Earnest
Loeb Experimental Theater at the Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge. (617-547-8300). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. Through July 10. Tue.-Thu., 7:30; Fri.,8 pm; Sat., 8 pm (additional 2 pm show July 10; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $14, $10 students and seniors. $7 on Tuesdays. Matinees $7-$10. Members of the Harvard/Radcliffe Summer Theater perform Oscar Wilde's classic, under the direction of Jeremy Blocker.

Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding
The Matrix Night Club, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. July 9, 10, 17, 24 and 31; Aug. 6, 7, 21 and 28. 7 pm. $49. The nation's longest-running comedy/theater show spoofs a traditional Italian wedding with audience participation and dinner.

Lettice and Lovage
Shakespeare & Company, Spring Lawn Theater, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-1199). www.shakespeare.org. Through Sept. 5. July 7-10, 14-15, 17, 8:30 pm; July 11, 16, 18, 20, 3 pm. $30-47. Peter Shaffer's play stars Tina Packer and Diane Prusha as unlikely friends who butt heads while working for a historical trust.

LifeX3
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4433). www.gloucesterstage.com. Through July 18. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm, Sat. and Sun., 5 and 8 pm. $30 adults; $20 students and seniors. This comedy by Yesmina Reza looks at a chaotic dinner party from the perspectives of three different people.

Mamma Mia!
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-426-9366). www.broadwayinboston.com MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Aug. 8. Tue. and Wed, 8 pm; Thu., 2 pm and 8 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun. 2 pm. $37.50-$87.50. This popular musical is based on the songs of ABBA.

Menopause—The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $32.50-$42.40. Jeanie Linders' parody, set to the music of the 1960s and '70s, explores the lives of four women in their 40s and offers a humorous take on the physical and mental changes they face.

A Midsummer Night's Dream
Independence Park, South Boston, July 15-16; Christopher Columbus Park, North End, July 17-18; Ronan Park, Dorchester, July 20-21. (617-247-0878). www.freeshakespeare.org. 2 pm. Free. Douglas Mercer directs this production of Shakespeare's comedy about the fairy king and queen and young lovers in the woods for the Commonwealth Shakespeare Company's third annual Tour of the Parks program.

The Miser
ART Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through July 18.Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat, 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. For its last production of the season, the ART teams up with Theatre de la Jeune Lune to present Molière's classic comedy. Directed by Dominique Serrand.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $34. This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

Dance

Art of Black Dance and Music
Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, 41 Second St. Cambridge (617-577-1400). www.cmacusa.org. July 9 7 pm. Free. De Ama Battle's performance combine drum rhythms and and dance.

Boston Conservatory Choreography Showcase
Boston Conservatory Theater, 31 Hemingway St. Boston (617-536-6340). www.bostonconservatory.edu July 9, 4:30-6 pm.Free. See the future as the Bosto Conservatory's Summer Dance Program student show off their skills.

CND2: Dances by Nacho Duato
Jacob's Pillow, 358 George Carter Road, Becket (413 243-0745). www.jacobspillow.org. July 7-11. Wed.-Fr 8 pm; Sat. 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $45-50. Compañi Nacional de Danza performs its unique style of cor temporary ballet combined with modern dance.

Cracked
Concord Academy, 166 Main St., Concord (978-40 2339). www.summerstagesdance.org. July 8, 8 pm. $1 20. David Parker and the Bang Group perfor *Cracked*, a suite of dances from the vaudeville sho *Nutcracked*.

Lar Lubovitch Dance Company
Jacob's Pillow, 358 George Carter Road, Becket (41 243-0745). www.jacobspillow.org. July 14-18. Wed Fri., 8 pm; Sat. 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $45-50. L Lubovitch, a veteran of American Ballet Theatr performs *Men's Stories* and other dances.

Low
Concord Academy, 166 Main St., Concord (978-40 2339). www.summerstagesdance.org. July 15. $1 20. Donna Uchizono Company performs "tan without rules" in this performance.

New Danish Dance Theatre
Jacob's Pillow, 358 George Carter Road, Becket (41 243-0745). www.jacobspillow.org. July 8-11. Thu.-Fr 8:15 pm; Sat. 2:15 and 8:15 pm; Sun., 5 pm. $18-
Twelve dancers from Europe's top ballet academ perform under the direction of choreographer T Rushton.



Disney's stage production of *The Lion King*, the inaugural show at the restored Opera House, opens July 16.

Paradigm
acob's Pillow, 358 George Carter Road, Becket (413-43-0745). www.jacobspillow.org. July 15-18. Thurs.-ri., 8:15 pm; Sat. 2:15 and 8:15 pm; Sun., 5 pm. $18-0. This special program includes world premieres by ichard Move and Kay Cummings and a solo by Vendy Perron.

The Savoir Faire Dancers
izard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-228). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. July 6 and 20, 9 n. $5. The Savoir Faire Dancers perform modern ioreography to music by vocalist Heloise.

Virgin
he Dance Complex, 536 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge 617-320-8538). www.zoedance.org/infovirgin. July 9-). Fri., 8 pm; Sat. 7 and 9 pm. $15 adults, $12 students id seniors. The Dance Renewal Project's first annual oduction incorporates live Latin music by Gian arlo Buscaglia and Glorivy Arroyo into perfor-ances of works by eight local choreographers.

Comedy

dvice to Contributors
bmit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calen-r: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. adline is four weeks prior to publication.

TAND-UP CLUBS

eantown Comedy Vault
mington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-55). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 . $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault at Rem-ton's features local stand-up comedians. •Thurs-s: Greg Howell and Friends •Fri. and Sat.: ston's Best Standup •Sundays: Open Mike Night.

omedy Connection
5 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-00). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: en or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or nge Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in ton draws nationally known comedians on week-ls and showcases up-and-coming local talent dur-the week. •July 8, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos, "The Rated Hypnotist," $15. •July 16, 8 and 10:15 pm: Gaffigan, from *That '70s Show* and *Ed*, $21. •July 17, 8 and 10:15 pm: Jim Gaffigan, $21. •July 20, 7 and 9:15 pm: Jim Breuer, from *Saturday Night Live* and *Half-Baked*, $35.

Comedy Studio
Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507). www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •July 7: The Tony V Experiment. •July 8: Kara Crowe, Daniella Capolino, Tim Kaelin and more. •July 9: Peter Dutton, Max Silvestri, Malissa Hunt, The Walsh Brothers, Larry Murphy. •July 10: Evan O'Television, Peter Dutton, Malissa Hunt, Max Sllvestri, JJ Leslie. •July 11: Mark McKay, Evan O'Television, Sean Lily and more. •July 14: The Tony V Experiment. •July 15: Max Silvestri, Jon Rineman, Lee Ann Price, Erin Judge and more. •July 16: Nicole Luparelli, Deb Farrar-Parkman, Erin Judge, the Circus Pigs and more. •July 17: The circus Pigs, Deb Farrar-Parkman, Erin Judge, JJ Leslie and more. •July 18: Tom Flynn, Mike Herman, Eric Cheung and more.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. $10-$22. •July 8, 8:30: Bob Sibel, Johnny Pizzi. •July 9 and 10, 8:45: Bob Sibel, Johnny Pizzi, John Joyce. •July 15, 8:30 pm: Jim Coliton, Johnny K. •July 16 and 17, 8:45: Paul D'Angelo, Rick Dilea, Larry Lee Lewis.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA:Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. •*Wed.* July 8 and 15, 9:45 pm, $5: *DCDC*, featuring Cathleen Carr and Daiva Deupree.

ImprovBoston
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: the characters, the stories, the settings—even the songs and dances. •*Wed.*, 8 pm, $5: *The Hump Fringe Show*. Series for experimental and improvisational theater. •*Thu.*, 8 pm, $10-12: *Unnatural Selection*. A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one is left. 10 pm, $5: *The Great and Secret Comedy Show*. Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and music, play short films and do character sketches in a display of sibling rivalry. •*Fri.*, 8 pm, $10-12: *Secret Socety* If you are looking for mysterious connections, the Secret Society will knock you out of this world and off your feet with laughter. 10 pm, $10-12: *Theatre Sports*. Two teams of improvisers face off. •*Sat.*, 6 pm, $10-12 (children eleven and under accompanied by an adult are free.): *Improv Boston Family Show*. A short-form improvisational show the entire family can enjoy. 8 and 10 pm, $10-12: *ImprovBoston Mainstage*. Blending storytelling, music and audience participation, a cast of improvisers creates a show that changes with every performance. •*Sun.*, 7 pm, $5: *Sgt. Culpepper/Open Jam*. This evening combines three shows into one. Watch performances by visiting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry
327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-308-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12.

The Tribe
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $5 before 8 pm, $10 after. Improv comedians poke fun at everything, including themselves. •*Sat.*, 8 pm, $5: The World's Best Variety Showdown.

COMEDY SHOWS

Todd Barry
Regattabar, Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge (617-661-5000). www.charleshotel.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. July 20, 8 pm. $20. Veteran comedian Todd Barry performs along with John Fisch as part of the Regattabar Summer Comedy Series. Patrick Borelli hosts.

The Un-Conventional Comedy Convention
Jimmy Tingle's Off-Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville. (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. For the month of July, Jimmy Tingle hosts this convention in celebration of political humor. •July 7-11: An evening with Mort Sahl and Jimmy Tingle. Wed.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm, $35-$40. •July 14 and 15: Bizarro's Politicomedy A-Go-Go. 7:30 pm, $20. •July 16: An Evening with Barry Crimmins. 7:30 pm, $20. •July 17 and 18: Barry Crimmins and Jimmy Tingle. Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 7 pm, $25.

Underdog Comedy Tour
Regattabar, Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge (617-661-5000). www.charleshotel.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. July 9, 8 pm. $15. Demitri Martin, Leo Allen and Eugene Mirman headline a group of up-and-coming New York comedians as part of the Regattabar Summer Comedy Series.



Shakespeare & Company presents Peter Shaffer's Lettice and Lovage



Mr. Moore Goes to Washington

Fahrenheit 9/11 puts the heat on Bush.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Michael Moore's *Fahrenheit 9/11*, the rabble-rouser's passionate deconstruction of Bush II, has no knockout revelations about this administration's controversial policies, so don't expect smoking guns. Its ultimate target is the war in Iraq, but the movie presents the war as just the latest in a pattern of self-serving, law-skirting behavior. *Fahrenheit 9/11* is a very effective rundown of much-debated Bush policies and conflicts of interest that comes up with inspired ways of getting its points across.



Michael Moore talks with Lila Lipscomb, the mother of a soldier killed in the Iraq war.

You'd have to have been marooned, in denial or never exposed to *The Daily Show* not to have heard much of the dirt Moore throws at Bush and his neo-conservative oil-business pals. But Moore doesn't overlook something if it might be common knowledge—though there's less here on prisoner-of-war abuses in Iraq than I expected—because he's not just preaching to the converted. He directs *Fahrenheit 9/11* as if he wants NASCAR dads and "red state" Wal-Mart shoppers to see it, and he wants them to see the whole story. So don't be surprised if *Fahrenheit 9/11* covers topics and techniques you might have seen in places like *The Daily Show* or the documentaries *Feed*, *Unprecedented: The 2000 Presidential Election* and *Control Room*, or read in Moore's books.

Moore's first major target is the Florida presidential election process. He continues with George W. Bush and his inner circle's ties to the Saudi Arabian power elite (including the Bin Laden family), interviewing Craig Unger, author of *House of Bush, House of Saud*, and moves on to Dubya's military record and prepolitics business career (very much intertwined, we learn), the administration's fear-mongering following Sept. 11, and the propaganda campaign to justify invading Iraq.

But Moore filters these issues through his own narration and strings them together like different chapters in one big story (or perhaps different operations by the same plotters). He's onscreen less than he was in *Roger & Me*, *The Big One* and *Bowling for Columbine*, yet he argues his points better than in *Columbine*. Moore hits his targets because, despite his political aims, he makes you feel like you're watching a movie, not a political rant, and his sense of humor shines throughout *Fahrenheit 9/11*.

For instance, when Moore mentions that Dubya spent 42 percent of his first eight months in office on vacation, he cranks up the Go-Go's "Vacation." When he details the cushy relationship between the Bushes (especially George H.W. Bush) and Saudi oil interests, he gives us a montage of lovey-dovey meetings set to R.E.M.'s dippy "Shiny Happy People." When he questions the wisdom of the Bush administration letting Saudi nationals (including many Bin Laden relatives) fly out of the country following Sept. 11 without being questioned, he flashes old clips of *Dragnet*'s Jack Webb doing police legwork as an example of meat-and-potatoes crime investigation. When he charges that our invasion of Afghanistan was, deep down, another oil-motivated war, he gives us hilariously doctored *Bonanza* credits with Dubya, Dick Cheney and Tony Blair's faces pasted over the Cartwrights'. And when, after hanging out with Marine recruiters sweet-talking working-class teens, he notes that only one member of Congress has a child serving in Iraq, he heads to the Capitol to hand out recruiting brochures to congressmen.

But *Fahrenheit 9/11* is hardly all fun. Its amusing tangents often have grim undercurrents, as when Moore visits the only trooper assigned to guard the coast of Oregon, a sequence that ably points out that there should be more to homeland security than John Ashcroft's Patriot Act. The movie's most wrenching action involves Lila Lipscomb, a resident of Flint, Mich. (Moore's hometown). Many in her extended family have served in the military, and she supported the war in Iraq until her son was sent there and wrote to her of the conditions and dangers that weren't being reported back home (the movie also includes footage of American and Iraqi casualties and of GIs voicing criticism that you won't see on TV news). Lipscomb's anguished search for meaning after her son's death is *Fahrenheit 9/11* at its most emotional.

As an elite that puts nothing ahead of its own power, the Bushes, Cheney, Rumsfeld, James Baker and their pals come off as the most heinous carpetbaggers—"chicken hawks" with no military service who send others into combat, war profiteers and manipulators who use the government to further their own business interests. Democrats come off as complicit in this system, for being pushovers cut from the same cloth. Whatever your perspective, *Fahrenheit 9/11* is a challenge to demand more from the politicians we elect. IB

Fahrenheit 9/11 ★★★½

Written and directed by Michael Moore. Not Rated. At Boston Common, Harvard Square, Coolidge Corner and suburbs.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Around the World in 80 Days ★★

It's odd to see Phileas Fogg, the globetrotting hero of Jules Verne's book and the fun 1950s film made from it, practically reduced to comic relief in the remake. More emphasis is given to Jackie Chan as Passepartout, Fogg's valet, whose role has been inflated to include martial-arts battles with Chinese henchmen. This movie is so aggressively kid-friendly and cartoonish, including an overactive musical score to obnoxiously cue every twinge of potential feeling, that it's hard to get swept up by anything in the journey. But Steve Coogan (*24 Hour Party People*) as Fogg, Cecile de France as the mischievous French love interest and, of course, Chan, add enough personality to almost make up for the movie's cheesy sensibility. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Before Sunset ★★★

They'll always have Vienna. Nearly a decade after Ethan Hawke's and Julie Delpy's characters met there and had a one-day fling in *Before Sunrise*, Richard Linklater's sequel brings them together again, older and perhaps wiser, in Paris. He's now a married author who's written a novel based on the fling, while she's had rather poor luck with men. The spark is still there when they reunite, and the big question this time is whether the American abroad and the Frenchwoman will act on it. Until that fateful question must be answered, they engage in the same sort of intriguing conversation they had in the first film. But there's also a great deal of stylistic rehash, and the second time around is definitely not as memorable. (At Copley Place and Coolidge Corner.)

The Chronicles of Riddick ★½

Nothing like a bloated sequel to spoil a good thing. This sequel to 2000's spunky *Pitch Black* takes just about everything that was likeable about that futuristic action-adventure and conveniently forgets it. *Pitch Black* was compact in setting, *Chronicles* is literally all over the map. *Pitch Black* was an ensemble, *Chronicles* is a vehicle for Vin Diesel. And *Pitch Black* was modest and resourceful, while *Chronicles* is over-the-top and conspicuously thin on the original's cleverness. Diesel is essentially doing tired, 1980s Arnold Schwarzenegger schtick here, making tough-guy quips and slaying dozens at a time. While the quips are occasionally effective, the fight scenes are an unimaginative drag, and the notion of Riddick as an "outlaw hero" loses value when he triumphs over long odds every 10 minutes. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Control Room ★★★

Startup.com co-director Jehane Noujaim's new documentary about Qatar-based Al-Jazeera, the Arab world's cable news channel, is fascinating not just for its behind-the-scenes glimpses into the network, but because it will make you question any media outlet's objectivity. Looking at differences between Al-Jazeera's coverage of the war in Iraq and the Western media's coverage, you'll gain respect for Al-Jazeera, because it showed the horrors of the violent war that Western networks would not. In addition, much of the analysis that its reporters tell Noujaim has turned out to be accurate. But, of course, Al-Jazeera is appealing to its audience, just as Western networks are, and the movie is a reminder of how all news coverage is shaped by cultural and political perspectives that judge what's important enough to report and what isn't. (At Copley Place and Kendall Square.)

The Day After Tomorrow ★½

Wait a second. Isn't this big-budget, fake-danger spectacle the sort of movie that was no longer necessary and too plain crass to produce following Sept. 11? I guess not. This coldly efficient disaster movie about global warming whittling away at the polar ice caps, throwing the climate out of whack and launching a new ice age is full of cheesy subplots and clunky dialogue. The supremely stupid plot has scientist Dennis Quaid walking from Philly to Manhattan in a 15-foot-of-snow, sub-zero-temperature, worst-in-10,000-years storm to rescue teen son Jake Gyllenhaal. (Will someone please let him play an adult already?) (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

De-Lovely ★½

I don't know why this tin-eared Cole Porter biography seems so self-satisfied. It includes a dig at the heavily fabricated 1940s Porter biopic that miscast Cary Grant as the songwriter, and uncovers its predecessor, it deals with Porter's homosexuality. But this movie feels fabricated, compromised and just plain confused. (Is casting Kevin K



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any less contrived than Grant?) Although Porter's gay romances are covered, his lovers are rather anonymous, while we're supposed to think the "love of his life" is the chummy wife with whom he had a marriage of convenience (a shrill Ashley Judd). Meanwhile, director Irwin Winkler can't decide whether to go the postmodern *Moulin Rouge* route for the many musical numbers or be faithful to the song's time period—so we get half of them done faithfully, and the other half with the "stunt casting" of Robbie Williams, Alanis Morissette and Elvis Costello, among others, crooning. The top? Hardly. (At Boston Common and Harvard Square.)

Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story ★★★

Forget about "event movies." There's more fun to be had in this smart "dumb comedy" about the dodgeball showdown between Vince Vaughn's down-to-earth good guys and Ben Stiller's preening bad guys. As the old coot coaching the heroes says, "If you can dodge a wrench, you can dodge a ball," and there's a whole lotta dodging and upside-the-head thwacking to laugh at here. With Stiller and Vaughn switching hero-villain roles from *Starsky & Hutch*, Christine Taylor as the rifle-armed love interest, Rip Torn as the wizened coot, strong performances from the character actors playing Vaughn's misfit squad (including Stephen Root and Justin Long) and Gary Cole and Jason Bateman as the goofballs announcing the action for "ESPN 8 (The Ocho)". (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Door in the Floor ★★

Why do movies keep asking us to care about messed-up, upper-middle-class people? In this adaptation of a section of John Irving's *A Widow for One Year*, a teen (Jon Foster) takes a summer job as an assistant to a successful writer (Jeff Bridges) and gets embroiled in the writer's messy relationship with his separated wife (Kim Basinger). The wife is still numb from the deaths of the couple's two sons years before, the husband is sleeping around and the teen has the hots for the wife—I think you can do the math. But because the film doesn't give the perspective of any of these three characters, they remain sketchy and remote. Thinks do perk up in the last half hour, though, when Bridges starts acting like a higher-tax-bracket version of the Dude, his *Big Lebowski* character. But I'd have rather just watched *that* again. (At Kendall Square.)

Hijacking Catastrophe: 9/11, Fear & the Selling of American Empire ★★½

This production of Northampton's Media Education Foundation has as much to say about the Bush administration as *Fahrenheit 9/11*. But its dry, academic approach makes it far less effective. The meatiest stuff here covers two areas: neo-conservatives' plans for post–Cold War "global domination by force" that were devised during Bush I and in conservative think tanks, well before Dubya took office; and the post-9/11 propaganda to make Americans link Saddam Hussein and Osama Bin Laden. There are interesting voices interviewed—including former U.N. weapons inspector Scott Ritter, former Air Force officer Karen Kwiatkowski and always-shrewd cultural observer Mark Crispin Miller—but all the talking heads and "experts" make the movie feel academic and strident after a while. (July 13 at the Coolidge Corner.)

Rivers and Tides ★★★

Last year's imaginative documentary returns yet again for more shows at the Museum of Fine Arts. Its subject, Scottish artist Andy Goldsworthy, is a master of "in nature" sculptures that use found materials and often get swept away by the elements. Over the course of the movie, we see him construct several pieces. But director Thomas Riedelsheimer doesn't merely show us Goldsworthy's finished works; he swoops up on them from ground level or swirls upon them from above, letting us see them in ways we would not normally experience. (At the Museum of Fine Arts, July 10, 11, 17 and 18.)

Saved! ★★

You'll find no argument from me about this comedy's message, as it pokes fun at the repression and hypocrisy of religious fundamentalism. And the cast, playing students at American Eagle Christian High School, includes Jena Malone, Patrick Fugit and even Macauley Culkin and Mandy Moore doing some of their best work (love the end-credits duet of the Beach Boys' "God Only Knows" by Moore and co-producer Michael Stipe). But director and co-writer Brian Dannelly has made such a simplistic and smug movie that it's really only preaching to the converted, and you get the feeling he thinks it's much more outrageous than it really is. The film is only slightly less self-righteous than those it mocks. Check out the documentary *Hell House*, about the scare tactics of a Dallas Pentecostal haunted house, for the real thing. (At Boston Common, Fenway, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

Super Size Me ★★★

See Morgan. See Morgan eat only at McDonald's for 30 days. See Morgan's weight balloon, his cholesterol shoot up and his liver start to break down. Director Morgan Spurlock, sort of a lighter (and lighter-touch) Michael Moore, serves up his McBinge very amusingly, in order to expose the poison of American fast food. He plays the role of guinea pig with such a commitment and sense of humor that the rather depressing message of *Super Size Me* goes down easier. Whether Spurlock intended it or not, the larger picture of this country that his movie paints is a frightening one of total decadence, self-indulgence and slavishness to profit and instant gratification, at the expense of common sense and humanity. (At Copley Place, Coolidge Corner, Harvard Square and suburbs.)

The Terminal ★★

The story of an Eastern European forced to live in JFK Airport's international terminal might have been a breezy little comedy, but it becomes an overblown, overextended tale in Steven Spielberg's hands. Tom Hanks plays the poor fellow who lands in diplomatic limbo after a coup topples his country while he's en route to New York. The U.S. won't recognize his passport, and will neither let him enter the country nor return home. The hero is needlessly cute and unthreatening, and the story's reach for big moments is usually unsuccessful. Meanwhile, the movie seems oddly comfortable that its presentation of a microcosm of America is, essentially, a mall. (At Boston Common, Fenway, Harvard Square and suburbs.)

White Chicks ★½

"Been there, done that" is the major reaction to this Wayans brothers comedy that threads together several gimmicky comic premises (men dressing as women, wacky undercover cops, blacks sneaking into white society) into one trying movie. Shawn and Marlon Wayans have only a handful of amusing moments as FBI agents who impersonate two blonde, white heiresses at a socialites' gathering in the Hamptons. Most of the few laughs come from Terry Crews, who is fearlessly ridiculous as a smitten pro basketball player who thinks he's found his ultimate woman in one of the pretend-blondes: a white woman with a black woman's butt. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL

Movies by Moonlight

•Through Sept. 10. Every Friday night at dusk, the Boston Harbor Hotel hosts a free movie screening.
•July 9, **To Have and Have Not** *1944*. Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall star in Howard Hawks' adaptation of Ernest Hemingway's WWII novel.
•July 16, **To Sir, with Love** *1967*. Sidney Poitier stars in this inspirational story about an engineer who accepts a job teaching an unruly class in London. James Clavell directs.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Locus/Focus: Experimental Films/ Videos by Boston Women Filmmakers

•July 10, 2 pm. Women in Film and Video New England presents a collection of short experimental films by Louise Bourque, Helena Schniewind, Chelsea Spear, Brittany Gravely and Asma Kazmi.

BRATTLE THEATRE

Special Features

•July 7 and 8, 2:30, 5, 7:20 and 9:40 pm. **The Time of the Wolf** *2003*. A family tries to cope in a postapocalyptic world in Michael Haneke's film.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Box Office Babies

•July 19, 1 pm. The Coolidge's new biweekly series provides an infant-friendly setting for viewing recent international, independent, and documentary films. Titles are announced the week before each screening at www.coolidge.org.

Coolidge Selects

•Now playing. **Word Wars** *2004*. Eric Chaikin and Julian Petrillo's documentary explores the world of competitive Scrabble.
•Now playing. **The Story of the Weeping Camel** *2003*. Nomadic shepherds in South Mongolia work to save a newborn camel after its mother abandons it. Byambasuren Davaa and Luigi Falorni direct.
•Now playing. **Howard Zinn: You Can't Be Neutral on a Moving Train** *2004*. Deb Ellis and Denis Mueller's documentary chronicles the life and career of historian and political activist Howard Zinn.
•Now playing. **Fahrenheit 9/11** *2004*. See review on page 50.
•Now playing. **Before Sunset** *2004*. Ethan Hawke and Julie Delpy star as former lovers who reunite in Paris in Richard Linklater's sequel to his 1995 film, *Before Sunrise*.
•July 13, 7 pm. **The Corporation** *2003*. Jennifer Abbott and Mark Achbar's documentary analyzes the dominance of the corporation in our society.

Director's Cut

•July 13, 7:30 pm. **Hijacking Catastrophe: 9/11, Fear, & the Selling of an Empire** *2004*. This documentary, produced by Jeremy Earp and Sut Jhally, criticizes the Bush administration's foreign policy following Sept. 11th. The film features interviews with Norman Mailer and Noam Chomsky, as well as many other critics.

Midnight Movies—Back in the Spotlight

•July 9 and 10, 12 am. **Purple Rain** *1984*. Prince, Apollonia Kotero and Morris Day star in Albert Magnoli's film about a young black Minneapolis musician who rises to stardom.
•July 16 and 17, 12 am. **Cool as Ice** *1991*. Vanilla Ice stars as a hip-hop biker trying to win over a suburban girl. David Kellogg directs.

Midnight Movies—Kung Fu

•July 10, 12 am. **Yes, Madam** *1985*. Michelle Yeoh and Cynthia Rothrock star as two Hong Kong police women investigating the murder of a British agent. Corey Yuen directs.
•July 17, 12 am. **Blonde Fury** *1989*. Cynthia Rothrock stars as an undercover FBI agent sent to Hong Kong to apprehend a group of counterfeiters. Mang Hoi directs.

Summertime Blues

•July 12, 7:30 pm. **You See Me Laughin'** *2002*. Mandy Stein's documentary journeys into the Mississippi backwoods and the lives of the Delta blues men who have kept their music thriving on back porches and in juke joints.
•July 19, 7:30 pm. **The Howlin' Wolf Story** *2003*. Don McGlynn's film about legendary blues artist Howlin' Wolf includes interviews and performance footage.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Contemporary Hollywood Cinema

•July 7, 7 pm. **The Godfather** *1972*. Francis Ford Coppola's classic mafia film features Marlon Brando, James Caan and Al Pacino.
•July 14, 7 pm. **Tootsie** *1982*. Dustin Hoffman stars as an out-of-work actor who disguises himself as a woman to land a starring role on a soap opera.

Treasures from the Harvard Film Archive: A to Z—F Is for Faulkner

•July 8, 7 pm; July 9, 9 pm. **The Tarnished Angels** *1958*. Douglas Sirk's film, adapted from William Faulkner's novel *Pylon*, stars Robert Stack as a former WWI pilot who now performs at carnivals.
•Also showing, July 8, 9 pm; July 9, 7 pm. **To Have and Have Not** *1944*. See Boston Harbor Hotel July 9 listing for a description.

G Is for Gray Day

•July 10, 7 pm. **Swimming to Cambodia** *1987*. Actor/writer Spalding Gray recounts his experiences filming *The Killing Fields* in Cambodia. Jonathan Demme directs. •Also showing, July 11, 8:45 pm. **Monster in a Box** *1992*. Spalding Gray discusses, AIDS, writing and aliens. Nick Broomfield directs.

H Is for Howard Hughes

•July 11, 7 pm; July 12, 9:30 pm. **Hell's Angels** *1930*. Howard Hughes' film is the story of two brothers at Oxford who join the RAF at the beginning of WWI and take on a dangerous two-man bombing mission. •Also showing, July 11, 8:45; July 12, 7 pm. **The Carpetbaggers** *1964*. George Peppard plays a tycoon modeled after Howard Hughes in Edward Dmytryk's film.

I Is for Institutionalized

•July 13, 7 pm; July 15, 9:15 pm. **Morgan!** *1966*. A young man tries to prevent his wife from remarrying. Karel Reisz directs. •Also showing, July 14, 9:30 pm; July 15, 7 pm. **A Few Days with Me** *1988*. A young man released from a psychiatric hospital becomes entangled in a love triangle. Claude Sautet directs.

J Is for Judy Judy Judy

•July 16, 6:30 pm. July 17, 4 pm. **For Me and My Gal** *1942*. Judy Garland and Gene Kelly (making his film debut) star in this musical about a performer who maims his own hand to avoid the World War I draft. Busby Berkeley directs. •Also showing, July 16, 8:30 pm; July 17, 8:30 pm. **A Star Is Born** *1954*. Garland plays a young singer girl who falls in love with an older alcoholic movie star in George Cukor's film.

K Is for Killer(s)

•July 18, 7 pm; July 19, 9 pm. **The Killers** *1946*. Burt Lancaster plays a man who refuses to run from two men hired to kill him in Robert Siodmak's film noir. •Also showing, July 18, 9 pm; July 19, 7 pm.**The Killer** *1989*. An assassin trying to go straight takes a temporary job to help a lounge singer whom he accidentally blinded. John Woo directs.



Ethan Hawke and Julie Delpy play lovers who meet again after nearly a decade in *Before Sunset*.



Jeff Bridges plays a writer in *The Door in the Floor*.

ls for Lost in Translation
ıly 20, 7 pm. **The Geisha Boy** *1958*. A magician, lyed by Jerry Lewis, joins a USO tour in Japan, ere a young orphan latches onto him as a father ure. •Also showing, July 20, 9 pm. **The Saga of Anatahan** *1954*. Josef von Sternberg's film, based on actual events, is about 12 men shipwrecked on an island during World War II.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
Boston Jewish Film Festival
•July 8, 2 pm. **Welcome to the Waks Family** *2002*. Barbara Chobocky's documentary follows the lives of the 17 children and two parents of the Orthodox Australian Waks family. The film is preceded by a screening of **My Brother's Wedding** *2003*. Brookline resident Daniel Akiba documents his brother Jonah's wedding in Israel following Jonah's surprising shift to Orthodox Judaism.

Special Engagements
•July 8, 4 pm. **Depuis qu'Otar est Parti** *(Since Otar Left) 2003*. Julie Bertucelli's film tells the story of three generations of women who are affected by the absence of a family member.
•July 8, 6 pm. **Hukkle** *2002*. Gyorgy Palf's film, which takes its title from the Hungarian word for *hiccup*, is a humorous look at the antics of villagers in a small hamlet.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Mugar Omni Theater
•Through Sept. 4. **India: Kingdom of the Tiger**. Explore the kingdom of the Bengal tiger, from the Himalayas to Rajasthan. *Call for show times.*
•Through Sept. 6. **Adrenaline Rush: The Science of Risk.** Explore the inner workings of the body as one jumps out of a plane or even asks someone out on a date. *Call for show times.*
•Through Oct. 1. **Forces of Nature.** Experience the power of earthquakes, volcanoes, and storms as scientists attempt to forecast and understand them. *Call for show times.*

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
Simons IMAX Theater
•Through Sept. 6. **Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban**. The third film adapted from J.K. Rowling's popular book series is about the adventures of a gifted young wizard. Alfonso Cuarón directs. *Call for show times.*
•Through Sept. 6. **Into the Deep.** This film explores a kelp forest off the coast of Southern California and its many inhabitants. *Call for show times.*
•Through Sept. 6. **NASCAR 3D.** Experience life in the fast lane with NASCAR pit crews and drivers clocking over 200 mph. *Call for show times.*
•Through Sept. 6. **Ocean Wonderland 3D.** This film explores the ocean floor of the Bahamas and Australia's Great Barrier Reef, with their sharks, sting rays and rainbows of tropical fish. *Call for show times.*
•Through Sept. 6. **Volcanoes of the Deep Sea.** Dive to the bottom of the sea with a team of scientists, as they explore hydrothermal vents, shipwrecked gardens, predators and bioluminescent creatures. *Call for show times.*

Cinema Venues

BELMONT
Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

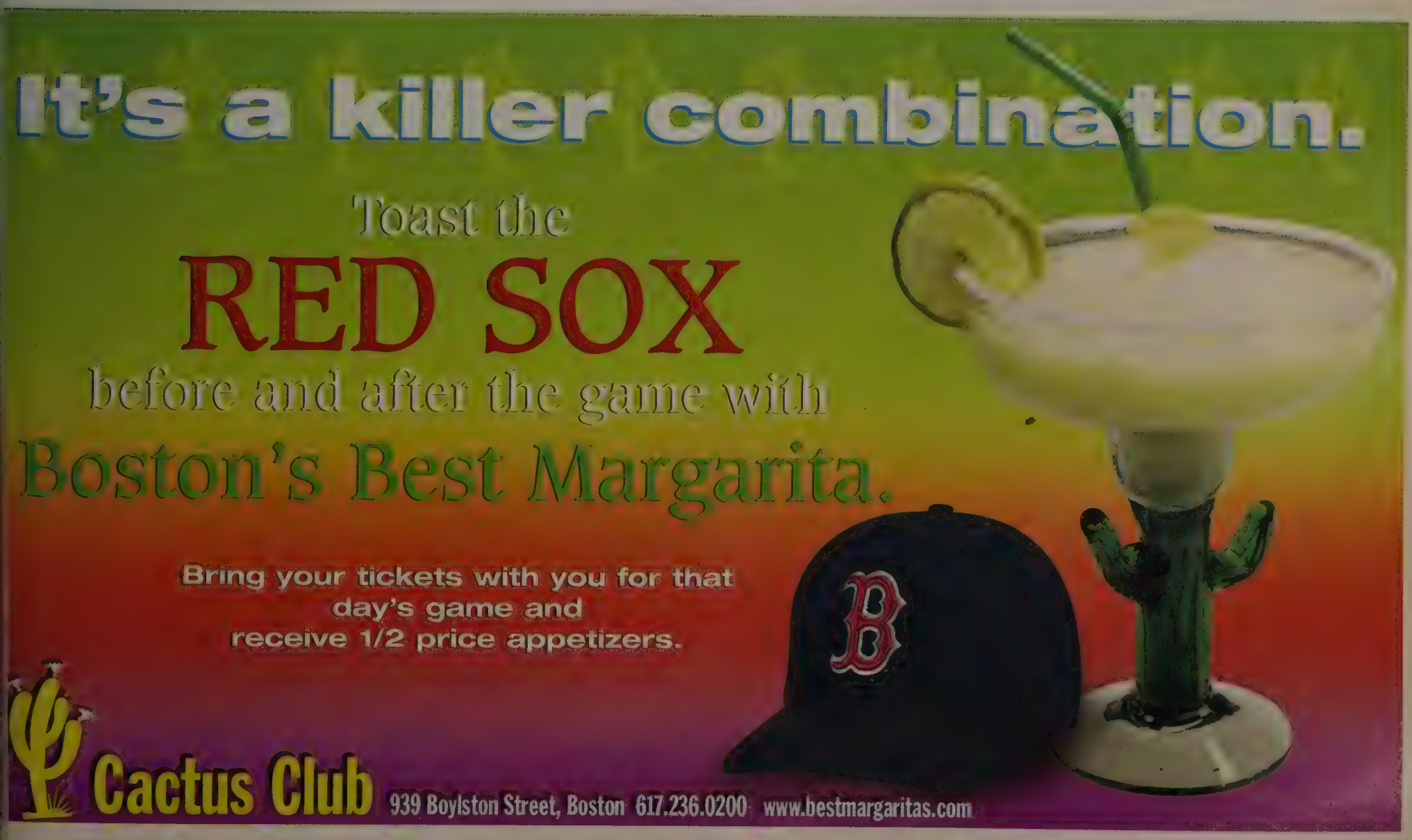
BOSTON
Boston Harbor Hotel
70 Rowes Wharf. (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.
Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.
Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.
Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.
Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.
Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.
Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.
New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

BROOKLINE
Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Reservoir.
Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE
Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.
Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.
Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
MIT
77 Mass. Ave, Room 4-370. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.

NEWTON
Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.
West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE
Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.
Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.



Deadshot

Guitar slinger Warren Haynes is grateful for his growing range of gigs.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Warren Haynes knows how to jam—when it comes to his schedule as well as his guitar playing.

He's now on the road as a member of the Dead, having been groomed in that band's repertoire with Phil Lesh & Friends, a side project of Dead bassist Lesh. Haynes also performs solo on that tour, which hits the Tweeter Center July 30-31, and he'll be back at the same venue Aug. 21 with the Allman Brothers Band. Then comes another CD and tour with his group Gov't Mule. And that doesn't count his cameos, among them a turn with the Dave Matthews Band in Central Park that's featured on a DMB DVD release.



Haynes tours with some of rock's biggest names this summer.

Haynes may work like a mule, but that's what happens when you're a popular figure on the jam-band scene and one of the 25 all-time greatest guitarists, as ranked by *Rolling Stone* magazine.

"The last few years have been the busiest years ever for me," says Haynes, 44, reached backstage at Denver's Red Rocks Amphitheater during a five-night Dead run. "But it was opportunities that I couldn't imagine turning down."

The attraction goes both ways. "He's going to beef up any ensemble he's playing with, and he knows enough that he doesn't overplay," says Dead singer-guitarist Bob Weir, one of four surviving Grateful Dead members (the others being Lesh and drummers Mickey Hart and Bill Kreutzmann) in the group.

The Grateful Dead had disbanded after the 1995 death of guitarist Jerry Garcia. The surviving members later reformed (without Kreutzmann) under the name the Other Ones and two years ago switched to the Dead moniker, shortly after the drummer returned. "It's a nod toward the material, the legacy," Weir says. "It's different enough now that we can't call it the Grateful Dead, but it's called something close so that people know what we're talking about. People want some familiarity."

"The band is pretty light on its feet," adds Weir. "It's done with all due respect to the tradition. But at the same time, we can't slavishly hold to the tradition. There has to be improvisation that's appropriate to the moment."

That's a given with Haynes and his respective guitar foils Jimmy Herring (in the Dead and Phil Lesh & Friends) and Derek Trucks (in the Allmans). "Jimmy and Derek and myself grew up improvising and being open-minded enough to walk onstage with no expectations and no parameters, and still having the confidence that it'll come off fine," Haynes says.

Ironically, Herring played with Trucks in the Allmans when Haynes left that band in 1997 after an eight-year turn to focus on Gov't Mule (he returned in 2000). "It's a very fertile time for the Allman Brothers now," Haynes says of a band that's also deftly balancing veterans and newcomers. "There's definitely a freshness, but everybody's attitude is in the right place, and there's a lot of new material."

As for serving in both the Dead and the Allmans, the two forerunners of today's jam-band scene, the North Carolina native says, "It was something you could never predict."

"Seeing anything from the inside is a whole different perspective," adds Haynes, who notes that each band has a distinct jamming style. "They're both a thing of beauty and something to behold, but very different from each other. The Dead has a more relaxed approach to jamming. The Allman Brothers is a little more intense on getting to the moment. The Dead is a little more about waiting for the moment to come around."

The husky-voiced Haynes is singing more in both groups as well, tackling Dead chestnuts such as "Terrapin Station" and "Dark Star" that were sung by Garcia. "He's got more range than Jerry used to have," Weir says.

While Haynes' fans are mostly familiar with his prowess on electric and slide guitar, they'll get the added treat of hearing him perform solo acoustic before the Dead. "It's getting easier, and it's actually invigorating," Haynes says of that format, heard on his new *Live at Bonnaroo* CD, which was recorded at that festival in 2003 and includes such bold covers as Radiohead's "Lucky" and U2's "One."

Next up this fall is a new Gov't Mule CD, the first with new bassist Andy Hess, who succeeds the late Allen Woody, Haynes' friend and comrade in the Allmans and the Mule.

"The Mule's where my heart's at, and the new record is the best one we've done yet," Haynes says of that power-blues unit, which first honored Woody by performing and recording with a roster of guest bassists including Deep Purple's Roger Glover, Primus' Les Claypool, Metallica's Jason Newsted, Phish's Mike Gordon and the Meters' George Porter Jr. "Now we're back to being a real band and forging our own path.

"I'm just blessed to be able to play music for a living, and to have these opportunities is amazing," Haynes says. "I'm thankful every day that I'm not digging a ditch." iB

Warren Haynes
plays the Tweeter Center, with the Dead, July 30 and 31.

Advice to Contributors
Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or by email to music@improper.com. Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers
Information for the Music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double-check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Big Head Todd and the Monsters July 18, Fleet-Boston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Johnny Clegg July 8, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).
Cowboy Junkies and Shawn Colvin July 7, Fleet-Boston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
The Dresden Dolls July 9, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Ben Folds, Rufus Wainwright and Guster July 8 and 11, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Daryl Hall & John Oates and Michael McDonald July 17, Fleet Boston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Chris Isaak July 14, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Kiss and Poison July 16, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
k.d. lang July 9, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Lyle Lovett July 10, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Dave Matthews Band July 7, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Ozzfest with Ozzy Osbourne, Judas Priest, Slayer and Slipknot July 12, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Papa Roach July 10, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
Rich Robinson July 8, 15 and 22, Brother Jimmy's Barbecue (800-594-8499).
Rod Stewart July 20, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Strangefolk July 8 and 9, Harper's Ferry (800-594-8499).
3 Doors Down and Nickelback July 13, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, JULY 7

Abbey Lounge The Collisions, 10:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Asgard Acoustic night, 9 pm, no cover.
Axis Hot Rod Circuit, Boys Night Out, Saves the Day.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
The Breezeway Lenny Stalworth.
Bob the Chef's Magic Box, 7 pm.
Boston Harbor Hotel Bo Winiker Big Band, 6-8 pm.
The Burren Hot Say at the 200.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Five Fab Fiddlers with Jake Armerding, Hanneke Cassel, Laura Cortese, Jeremy Kittel and Eric Merrill, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm.
Fireplace Irie Roots, 9:30 pm, no cover.
FleetBoston Pavilion Cowboy Junkies and Shawn Colvin, 7:30 pm, $32.50-$37.50.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Harper's Ferry Logan, $5, 21+.
Johnny D's Roots Nation, 8:30 pm, $7.
Kennedy's Midtown Michael Currie
Lizard Lounge Kristin Hoffman, 7:30 pm; Mu with special guests, 9:30 pm, $6, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Droogies, Brilliant Missta Thirdshift, Promize, $8, 18+.
O'Brien's Cash Flag, Blitzkriegbliss, James O'Br and the Church of the Kitchen Sink, 9 pm, co varies, 21+.
The Office Bar and Grill Ray Green Band, no co
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Americana Night w/Sundown S enty & the Modeles, 8:30 pm, $6.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Hyphens, 9 pm; C. Gil 9:50 pm; Sparrowhawk, 10:40 pm. $5.
Tweeter Center Dave Matthews Band, 7:30 $39.50-$57.
Zeitgeist Gallery Gypsy Schaeffer and Cha Kohlhase CK5, 7 pm, $10 suggested donation.
Zuzu Eileen Jewel Band, 10 pm, no cover.

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THURSDAY, JULY 8

Abbey Lounge All Mighty Senators, $5-$7. 21+.
Asgard Hurricane, 9 pm, no cover.
Berklee Performance Center Johnny Clegg, 8 pm, $28-$37.
Black Horse Tavern Matt Chase Band, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
Boston Harbor Hotel Michael Burks, 6-10 pm.
The Breezeway Serious Bizness
Brother Jimmy's Barbecue Rich Robinson, 9 pm, $12, 21+.
The Burren Swingin' Johnsons.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Live band, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Ramblin' Jack Elliott.
Dick's Last Resort Undercover, 7:20 pm..
Fireplace Sarah Good, 9:30 pm, no cover.
FleetBoston Pavilion Ben Folds, Rufus Wainwright and Guster, 7:30 pm, $37.50.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Harper's Ferry Stangefolk, Unbelievable Meltdown $15, 18+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
Johnny D's Mamadou, Lone Wolf James, 9 pm, $8.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Kirkland Café Homesteaders, 9 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Tom Glynn, 7:30 pm; Jon Nolan and Hokum with special guests Matt and Bob of the Ware River Club, 9:30 pm, $7, +21.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 9 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: Avoid One Thing, Eyes Like Knives, the Call Up, the Indecisives, $8, 18+.
The Office Bar and Grill D Street Band, no cover.
Paradise Rock Club: Blue October.
PA's Fitless, Fool Table, 9 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Plough and Stars Down Dog, 9:30 pm.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett & Friends,
Ryles Jazz Club Bruce Katz Band, 8:30 pm, $8.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn
T.T. the Bear's Place Rachael Cantu, 9 pm; Starr Faithfull, 9:30 pm; Starla Dear, 10:20 pm; Anti-Love Project, 11:15 pm; Caged Heat, 12:10 am. $8.
Zuzu Pants Yell!, 10 pm, free.

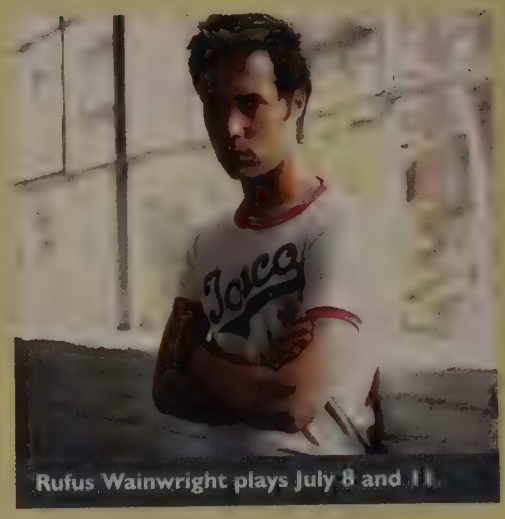
FRIDAY, JULY 9

Abbey Lounge Rattle Battle, 10:30 pm; Radar Eyes, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Asgard Ryan and Stu, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Attic Busker.
Black Horse Tavern Herman Johnson Band, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm. Upstairs: McTaggarts, 9:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Hakim Law, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Classic Trax.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Christopher Williams, Kathrin Shorr opens, 7 and 10 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm.
FleetBoston Pavilion K.D. Lang, 8 pm, $35-$62.50.
The Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the No Way Jose Band.
The Good Life Downtown Aaron Burnett Trio, 6:30 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern Say When.
The Harp Negative Space.
Harper's Ferry Strangefolk, Cardinal Direction, $15, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30 pm; Audio Underground.
Johnny D's Ryan Montbleau, Julian, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown Springbill Rounders.
Kirkland Café Tribute to the Fabulous Miss Helanie Saad, 9 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Jonny Pape, 7:30 pm; The New You, Certainly Sir, 9:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Middle East Lamont, Alabama Thunderpussy, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Alchemilla, Polyethylene, Teleopop.
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well.
Paradise The Dresden Dolls, 9 pm, $13, 18+.
Parris Dick and Jane.
PA's The Midnight Shakedown, 9:30 pm; Papermoon, 10:30 pm; Big Top Vertigo, 11:30 pm. $5-$7, 21+.
Plough and Stars Fishkin & Groves, 6 pm; Armadillos, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Funk Soul Friday with the Chicken Slacks Soul Revue, 9 pm, $10.
Sky Bar New Blood, Soulacious,
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.
T.T. the Bear's Place Circle in the Round, 9:30 pm; Thalia Zedek, 10:30 pm; the New Year, 11:45 pm. $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Autumn Rhythm, Elephant Micah, 9:30 pm, donation.
Zuzu Gian Carlo Buscaglia, 11 pm, free.

Preview

Want Wainwright?

Artsy crooner hopes to appeal to "everyman."


Rufus Wainwright plays July 8 and 11.

Rufus Wainwright feels sanest in the sound booth.

"After so many years in the studio, you get quite adept at recording," he says, yawning, tired from the previous night's show in Milwaukee. "Not to be morbid, but now that it's the post–Sept. 11 era, time is much more valuable."

The openly gay singer-songwriter, son of legendary folkies Kate McGarrigle and Loudon Wainwright III, was weaned on classical piano and cabaret. Currently, he's sharing a triple bill with Ben Folds and Guster and enjoying himself despite some butterflies. "I'm always worried that there will be some diva action on co-headlining tours," he admits. "But Ben is such a sweetheart, a real mensch."

Wainwright is promoting *Want One*—the first half of a double-album project, released in September 2003—and premiering some new material from *Want Two*, which he hopes to release before Christmas. And while *Want One* is filled with passionate, multilayered, theatrical rock, Wainwright maintains that the second installment is darker and more introspective—a self-conscious reaction to the Iraq war and President Bush.

"I've learned that music does not heal personal problems," Wainwright says. "But it's so important to be vocal no matter where you stand. Gone are the days when you can be a wallflower."

Wainwright is no wallflower. Since releasing his eponymous debut album in 1998, he's been a critic's darling and a poster boy for gay empowerment. Devotees cram his message boards with praise, lapping up each new Wainwright release (including four new songs he released online through iTunes in late June).

If only he could find a way to expand that audience. "My fans are a little more, how do I say, underground, leftish, polysexual," he laughs. "A Guster or Ben fan is mainstream, the everyman. It's great to play to a different forum and reach people who haven't necessarily heard my music" On the current tour, Wainwright relies on favorites from his first two albums, and his well-known movie songs ("Hallelujah" from *Shrek* and "Instant Pleasures" from *Big Daddy*, to name two), to carry the crowd during his one-hour set. He begins with a new song, though—the dramatic, apocalyptic "Lamb of God" from *Want Two*— "to really get the show started."

And if Wainwright ever tires of the rock stage, he can head to the silver screen. Director Martin Scorsese asked Wainwright to play a bit part as a lounge singer in his upcoming November release, *The Aviator*, which stars Cate Blanchett and Leonardo DiCaprio.

"The day of filming was actually my 30th birthday last July," he says. "And my mom came to the set with a cake. But no one could find me; I was sleeping in my trailer."

What about the cake?

"I'm not positive, but I think Leo [DiCaprio] wolfed down the entire thing."

Guster, Ben Folds and Rufus Wainwright play the FleetBoston Pavilion, July 8 and 11; 7:30 pm. $37.50 (617-931-2000) —Courtney Hollands

SATURDAY, JULY 10

Abbey Lounge The Rudds, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Asgard Nate Watkins and Brian Burrill, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Axis Papa Roach, 6:30 pm, $15.
Black Horse Tavern Blacksole, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Frank Ryan, 4:30 pm; Downstairs: Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm. Upstairs: McTaggarts, 9:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's The Mike MacAllister Group, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Edie Carey, Kate Klim opens, 7 and 10 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Big 80s, 8:30 pm.
FleetBoston Pavilion Lyle Lovett, 8 pm, $35-$55.
The Good Life Cambridge Weepin' Willie.
The Good Life Downtown Jim Porcella Trio.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
The Harp Negative Space
Harper's Ferry Paranoid Social Club CD release, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin.
Johnny D's Thomas Mapfumo, 9:45 pm, $16.
Kennedy's Midtown Reggae Nights with Bobbie Steelz & Moon.
Kinsale Sirsy.
Kirkland Café Eric Sommer, 9 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Andy Galdins, 7:30 pm; Dig Night featuring Dave Wildman, the Good North and others, 9:30 pm, $7 pm 21+.
Middle East Gravy Train, Vortech, 1 pm, $8, all ages.
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well.
Paradise Loveless, 8 pm, $8, 18+.
Parris Split Decision.
Plough and Stars Flexible Fliers Stringband, 5 pm; One Thin Dime, 9:30 pm.
Purple Shamrock American Made.
Ryles Jazz Club Lance Martin Band, 9 pm, $10.
Tír na nÓg Jabe.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Irreverends, 9:30 pm; Downbeat 5, 10:30 pm; Tarbox Ramblers, 11:45 pm. $10.
Zuzu Soul-le-la-jah, 11 pm, free.

SUNDAY, JULY 11

The Black Rose Frank Ryan, 4:30 pm; Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Jazz Brunch with Nat Simpkins Jazz Quartet, 10 am-2:30 pm.
The Burren Singer/Songwriter series with Danielle.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Freedy Johnston, Gregory Douglass opens, 8 pm, $17.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm..
FleetBoston Pavilion Ben Folds, Rufus Wainwright and Guster, 7:30 pm, $37.50.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, 9 am-1 pm.
Johnny D's Jazz Brunch with Ridgley Snow, 9 am-2:30 pm. Blues Jam, 4:30-8:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Brunch with Gordon Michaels, 12-8 pm.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio, 7 pm, $5, 21+.
Middle East Donnybrook, Bowlscraper, Sixty Cycle, Stoic, Screams of Erida, $9, 18+.
Paradise Stockholm Syndrome, 7 pm, 18+.
Plough and Stars Kind of Bluegrass, 5 pm; the Crankstones, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday Jazz Brunch with Steve Rochinski, 10 am, no cover; Ball in the House, 7 pm, $10.
T.T. the Bear's Place AJ Crowe and the Murder, 9:15 pm; the Heels, 10:15 pm; Mike Murray, 11:15 pm. $5.
Zuzu Rock-a-billy Night, 10 pm, free.

MONDAY, JULY 12

The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm.
Breezeway El Mafia Band, 9pm, $10, 21+.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: JK Denhert, 9:30 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Passim School of Music Showcase, 8 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Lizard Lounge Putnam Murdoch, 7:30 pm; The Freelance Bishops, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Middle East Infinity, Ritual, ESO, Onebigmess, $8, 18+.
Plough and Stars Eric Sommer, 9:30 pm.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard.
Tír na nÓg Night In Wyoming.
T.T. the Bear's Place Pleaseasaur, 9:30 pm; Neil Hamburger, 10:15 pm. $8.
Tweeter Center Ozzfest with Ozzy Osbourne, Judas Priest, Slayer and Slipknot, 9 am, $39.50-$75.50.
Zuzu Eleni Mandell and Milo Jones, 10 pm, free.

TUESDAY, JULY 13

The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Fiction Brothers, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Karaugh Brown, 7 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Pat Funk, 7:20 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern Shoot the Moon.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Danny Barnes, 8:30 pm, $8.
Kennedy's Midtown Michael Larson.
Lizard Lounge A Benefit for the Kerry Campaign 9:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Middle East Kinnar, Sunset Is a Battle, IIJ, $8, $18..
Plough and Stars Jesse Ciamataro, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club New York Nights with Ginetta's Vendetta, 8:30 pm, $7.
Scullers Victor Mendoza, 8 and 10 pm, $12.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
T.T. the Bear's Place On Fire, 9:10 pm; the Movies 10:05 pm; the Album Leaf, 11 pm. $10.
Tweeter Center 3 Doors Down, Nickelback, 6:3 pm, $25-$60.
Zuzu Ziaf, an Edith Piaf Tribute, 10 pm, free.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14

Asgard Jude Nemo, 9 pm, no cover.
Axis Big D and the Kids Table, Streetlight Manifesto.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Boston Harbor Hotel Bo Winiker Big Band, 6-10 pm
The Breezeway Jeff Felder.
The Burren Row Story Benefit.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Leslie Helpert, Libby Kirkpatrick, pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort P-3PO, 7:20 pm.
Fireplace Lance Martin, 9:30 pm, no cover.
FleetBoston Pavilion Chris Isaak, 7:30 pm, $30.50-$4
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Harper's Ferry Logan, $5, 21+.
Johnny D's Boston Blues Challenge, 8:30 pm, $5.
Kennedy's Midtown Michael Currie.
Lizard Lounge Greta Gertler, 7:30 pm; Noam Weinstein, Woodpile, 9:30, $7, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Steel Poniez, Sonic Bonne Juniper's Daughter, Din, $8, 18+.
The Office Bar and Grill Ray Green Band, no cov
Paradise Return to Kilsyth Manor, featuring Red Teddy, with Willie Alexander, 7 pm, $15, 18+.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Americana Night with Plan Z, fe turing Greg Dean, 8:30 pm, $6.
Scullers Leni Stern, 8 and 10 pm, $18.

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JULY 9-11



Host of BET's "Comin' To The Stage" and star of "Hangin' With Mr. Cooper"

MARK CURRY



JULY 16-17

From FOX-TV's "That 70s Show," NBC's "ED," Comedy Central and CBS' "Late Show with David Letterman"

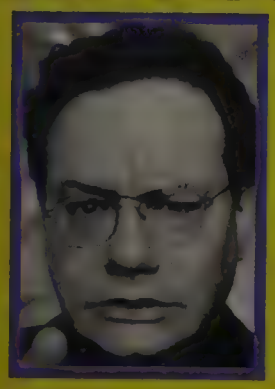
JIM GAFFIGAN

JULY 20-22



'Goat Boy' from "Saturday Night Live" and co-star in "Half Baked"

JIM BREUER



JULY 27TH

Star of the HBO special "Lewis Black: Black on Broadway"!

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Logan brings its rhythm & blues and classic rock stylings to Harper's Ferry every Wednesday in July.

T.T. the Bear's Place Paula Kelley, 10 pm; Delays, 10:50 pm. $8.
Zuzu Eileen Jewel Band, 10 pm, free.

THURSDAY, JULY 15

Abbey Lounge The Ethan Mentzer Project, 9:30 pm; the Charms, 10:30 pm; the Howl, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Asgard TBA, 9 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Pat Loomis, 7 pm.
The Breezeway Serious Bizness.
Brother Jimmy's Barbecue Rich Robinson, 9 pm, $12, 21+.
The Burren Swingin' Johnsons.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Live band, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Antje Duvekot, Shane Nicholson, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm.
Fireplace Lenny Solomon, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Harper's Ferry Leftover Salmon, $15, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
Johnny D's Los Mocosos, 9 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Lizard Lounge Tom Glynn, 7:30 pm; Winterpills, Cliff Hillis, Brilliant Mistakes, 9:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Pee Wee Fist, Eugene Mirman, Joy, Like Moving Insects, 18+.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band, 9 pm.
O'Brien's Boroughs, Spoiler, Rule 56, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
The Office Bar and Grill D Street Band, no cover.
Porters Bar and Grill Larry Flint & the Road Scholars, 9:30 pm.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett & Friends
Ryles Jazz Club Daniel Ian Smith and the Collective Directive, 8:30 pm, $8.
Scullers The Fifth Dimension, 8 and 10 pm, $35.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
T.T. the Bear's Place Self-Righteous Brothers, 11 pm; the Lot Six, 12 am. $8.
The Western Front Eclectic Collective, 9 pm, $7.
Zuzu The Sway Machinery, 10 pm, free.

FRIDAY, JULY 16

Asgard Ryan and Stu, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Black Horse Tavern Part-Time Lovers, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 4:30 pm; Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Sonny Watson Jazz Quartet, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Swingin' Johnsons.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Laurie Geltman and Daniel Kellar, Sarah Borges opens, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm.
The Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the No Way Jose Band.
The Good Life Downtown Aaron Burnett Trio, 6:30 pm.
The Harp Jumper.
Harper's Ferry Pigmy Love Circus, $12 in advance, $15 at door, 18+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30 pm.
Johnny D's Dwight Ritcher Band, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kennedy's Midtown Springbill Rounders.
Lizard Lounge Shiner Jones, 7:30 pm; Baby Ray, with Francine and Kevin MacDonald, 9:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Brett Rosenberg Problem, the Wax Wings, $9, 18+.
Milky Way Slim Jim and the Mad Cows, Creepy Jones, Steel Pier Sinners.
Mr. Dooley's Tommy and Allan.
O'Brien's Travel for Days, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Parris Derick and the Funbags.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 6 pm; Los Diablos, 9:30 pm.
The Roof at Ritz-Carlton Puttin' on the Ritz, $25.
Ryles Jazz Club Funk Soul Friday with the Boston Horns, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Fifth Dimension, 8 and 10:30 pm, $38.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.
T.T. the Bear's Place Señor Happy, 11:15 pm; the Gentlemen, 12:15 am. $10.
Tweeter Center Kiss and Poison, 7 pm, $25-$75.
The Western Front Savin Ill, 9 pm, $10
Zeitgeist Gallery Phillip Greenlief , Matt Maneri Trio, 9:30 pm-12 am, $10.
Zuzu Gian Carlo Buscaglia, 11 pm, free.

SATURDAY, JULY 17

Abbey Lounge The Details, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Asgard Monatomic, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Black Horse Tavern Matt Stubbs Band, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Frank Ryan, 4:30 pm; Downstairs: Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm. Upstairs: Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Darren Barrett & the Wrenaissance Band, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Open Bar Band.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Chevalier Theater Pink Voyd, 7:30 pm, $22-$25.
Club Passim Tony Bird, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Bohack, 8:30 pm.
FleetBoston Pavilion Daryl Hall & John Oates, Michael McDonald, Average White Band, 7 pm, $35.50-$55.50.
The Good Life Cambridge Weepin' Willie.
The Good Life Downtown Jim Porcella Trio.
The Green Dragon Tavern Bald Walter.
The Harp Jumper.
Harper's Ferry Fast Times, $5, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm.
Johnny D's Clarence Gatemouth Brown, 9:45 pm, $20.
Kennedy's Midtown Reggae Nights with Bobbie Steelz & Moon.
Lizard Lounge Shaun and Suzy's Annual Bastille Day Celebration, 9:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: The Beatings, Fivehead, Aloud, Dust Buffalo, $9, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Tommy and Allan.
O'Brien's Schedule 2, Ellis Ashbrook, Left Hand Does, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Paradise Soulive, 9 pm, $18, 18+, tickets for 6/5 will be honored.
Parris Derick and the Funbags.
Plough and Stars Hot Day at the Zoo, 5 pm; Eillen Jewel Band, 9:30 pm.
Purple Shamrock Brick Park.
Ryles Jazz Club Ken Clark Organ Trio, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers The Benoit-Freeman Project, 8 and 10:30 pm, $36.
Tír na nÓg Bow Thayer & Co.
T.T. the Bear's Place Dabrye, 11 pm; Matthew Dear, 12 am. $10.
The Western Front Cornerstone, 9 pm, $10.

SUNDAY, JULY 18

The Black Rose Frank Ryan, 4:30 pm; Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Jazz Brunch with Nick Goomis, 10 am-2:30 pm.
Boston Conservatory Ivana Bilic, 8 pm, $10.
The Burren Singer/Songwriter series with Danielle.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Mighty Purple, Aberdeen City, 7:30 pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm.
FleetBoston Pavilion Big Head Todd and the Monsters, Great Big Sea with the Pat McGee Band, 7 pm, $29.50.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, 9 am-1 pm.
Johnny D's Jazz Brunch with Matt Dorko and Larry Kukers, 9 am-2:30 pm. Blues jam, 4:30-8:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Brunch with Gordon Michaels, 12-8 pm.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio, 7 pm, $5, 21+.
Middle East Hooker Street Band, Amusia, Thousand Days, $9, 18+.
Plough and Stars Roseanne Rinari, 5 pm; the Coachmen, 9:30 pm.

MONDAY, JULY 19

The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm.
Boston Conservatory Fumito Nunoya, 8 pm, n charge.
Breezeway El Mafia Band, 9pm, $10, 21+.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Fragile Alex, 9:30 pn cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Arabesque, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Lizard Lounge The Freelance Bishops, 9:30 pm, $ 21+.
Middle East Clickers, Turkish Queen, PlumeraLa of Spain, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Live Jazz with the Central Artery Projec
Plough and Stars Beek, Rhodes & Jeffries, 9:30 pr
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard.
Tír na nÓg Night In Wyoming.
TT the Bear's Place Dan Rogers, 9:15 pm; t Good Life, 11 pm. $8.

TUESDAY, JULY 20

The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: King Wilkie, 10 pm, co varies, 21+.
Club Passim Jordan Caress, 7 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Pat Funk, 7:20 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern Shoot the Moon.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Paul Rishell and Annie Raines, 8:30 pm,
Kennedy's Midtown Michael Larson.
Lizard Lounge Heloise and the Savior Faire Danc with Big Digits, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Plough and Stars Lloyd Thayer, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club New York Nights with the Mich Tucker Quartet, 8:30 pm, $7.
Scullers Marion Meadows, 8 and 10 pm, $18.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
Tweeter Center Rod Stewart, 8 pm, $29. $95.25.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Bryan Adams Aug. 8, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Allman Brothers Band and Los Lonely Boys Aug. 21, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Arrested Development July 25, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Barenaked Ladies and Alanis Morissette Aug. 9, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Jimmy Buffet Sept. 10 and 12, Fenway Park (617-931-2000).
Phil Collins Sept. 15, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
The Corrs Aug. 28, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Crosby, Stills & Nash July 22, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Howie Day, Matt Nathanson and O.A.R. Aug. 5, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
The Dead and Warren Haynes July 30 and 31, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Kenny G and Michael Bolton September 20, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
General Public July 23, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Gipsy Kings July 21, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Josh Groban July 27, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Hanson July 22, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Heart Sept. 11, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Jack Johnson and G. Love & Special Sauce Sept. 15, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Norah Jones Aug. 31, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Carole King July 25, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Avril Lavigne Nov. 1, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Less Than Jake July 29, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Huey Lewis and the News Aug. 21, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Linkin Park, Korn, Snoop Dogg, the Used and John Mayer, Maroon 5 and DJ Logic Aug. 20, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Rush Aug. 12, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
311, the Roots and Medeski, Martin & Wood July 23, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441 9631).*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-4 1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684 MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424 MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplac Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green L to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Governmen Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617 743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
The Boston Conservatory *8 The Fenway, Bosto (617-536-6340) MBTA: Green D Line to Fenwa*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-54 5400).*
Brother Jimmy's Barbecue *96 Winthrop St., Bo (617-547-7427). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*



THURSDAY, July 8th

udweiser and WAAF present a
ve performance from
zzfest Band LACUNA COIL at 12 noon

SATURDAY, July 10TH

0pm Enter to win a trip to the
LAYBOY MANSION
ith live music by NEGATIVE SPACE



FRIDAY, July 9TH

JAM'N 94.5 BOSTON'S #1 FOR hip hop

10pm JAMN 94.5 HOT BODY CONTEST
with live music by NEGATIVE SPACE

FRIDAY, July 16TH

JAM'N 94.5 BOSTON'S #1 FOR hip hop

10 pm JAMN 94.5 HOT BODY CONTEST
with Live music by JUMPER

SATURDAY, July 17TH

Live music by JUMPER

FRIDAY, July 23RD & SATURDAY, July 24th

ancing with DJ LOU

FRIDAY, July 30TH

JAM'N 94.5 BOSTON'S #1 FOR hip hop

9pm JAMN 95.4 HOT BODY CONTEST FINALS
with a trip Giveaway to Las Vegas and live music by THE ZOO

SATURDAY, July 31ST

10pm Live music by THE ZOO



Harp

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Cantab Lounge 738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.
Chevalier Theater 30 Forest St., Medford (781-395-1732)
Club Passim 47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Dick's Last Resort 55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.
Fireplace Restaurant 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square.
FleetBoston Pavilion 290 Northern Ave., Boston (617-728-1600). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.
FleetCenter One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.
Gillette Stadium One Patriot Place, Foxborough (800-543-1776).
The Good Life Cambridge 720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.
The Good Life Downtown 28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.
The Green Briar 304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).
The Green Dragon Tavern 11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.
The Harp 85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.
Harper's Ferry 158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.
Hennessy's 25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.
The Independent 75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).
Johnny D's 17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.
Kennedy's Midtown 42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.
Kinsale 2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.
Kirkland Café 425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.
Lizard Lounge 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Lucky's Lounge 355 Congress St., Boston, (617-357-5825).
Middle East 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.
Midway Café 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.
Milky Way 403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.
Mr. Dooley's 77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.
O'Briens 3 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.
The Office Bar and Grill 5 Broad St., Boston (617-367-5806).
Orpheum Theatre Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.
Paradise Rock Club 967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.
Parris 250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.
P.A.'s Lounge 345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).
Plough and Stars 912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).
The Roof at Ritz-Carlton Ritz-Carlton, 15 Arlington St., Boston (617-536-5700). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.
Ryles Jazz Club 212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Sanders Theatre 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Scullers Jazz Club 400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.
Sky Bar 518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.
Somerville Theatre 55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).
Sophia's 1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.
Tir na nOg 366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).
Top of the Hub Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.
T.T. the Bear's Place 10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.
The Western Front 343 Western Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.
Zeitgeist Gallery 1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).
Zuzu 474 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. (617) 864-3278. MBTA: Red Line to Central.
Les Zygomates 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.

classical music

WEDNESDAY, JULY 7

Society for Historically Informed Performance

John Heard House, 54 South Main St., Ipswich (508-212-6038). www.sohip.org. 8 pm. $10-$15. The Beggar Boys explore eveything from sonatas and strathspeys to song and dance in a program titled From Rome to Edinburgh: Italian Currents in 18th-Century Scottish Music

WCRB Classical Concerts at the Hatch Shell

Charles River Esplanade, Boston (781-736-9577) www.wcrb.com. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. 7:30 pm. Free. Boston's Civic Symphony Orchestra provides an evening of music by the Charles during this WCRB sponsored concert.

THURSDAY, JULY 8

Juilliard String Quartet at Tanglewood

Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $15-$45. The Juilliard String Quartet plays music by Haydn, Bartok and Beethoven.

Society for Historically Informed Performance

Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (508-212-6038). www.sohip.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm. $10-$15. Same program as July 7.

FRIDAY, JULY 9

Boston Landmarks Orchestra

Boston Common, Boston (617-266-1200). www.landmarksorchestra.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Arlington, Red Line to Park Street. 8 pm. Free. The Boston Landmarks Orchestra opens the season with a perfromance of Beethoven's *Ode to Joy* featuring an 80-voice chorus .

Longy Summer Orchestra

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Jeffrey Rink, director of orchestral activites at the Longy School of Music, conducts works by Bizet and Mendelssohn.

New England Conservatory

Brown Hall, 33 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. $12. Horace Boyer leads the Mitchell-Ruff Duo and the Georgia Sea Island Singers in the Memory and Society Institute Concert, a show in collaboration with the NEC Intercultural Institute and the Kodaly Music Institute.

Opening Night at Tanglewood

Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $17-$92. Conductor Kurt Masur leads the Boston Symphony Orchestra on its 2004 opener at Tanglewood. Other guests include the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis and the Tanglewood Festival Chorus led by John Oliver.

SATURDAY, JULY 10

All-Ravel Program at Tanglewood

Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $16-$69. Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos conducts the Boston Symphony Orchestra, accompanied by pianist Leon Fleisher and the Tanglewood Festival Chorus, led by John Oliver.

Boston Landmarks Orchestra

Boston Common, Boston (617-266-1200). www.landmarksorchestra.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Arlington, Red Line to Park Street. 8 pm. Free. Same program as July 9.

Mozart and Shostakovich at Tanglewood (Open Rehearsal)

Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 10:30 am. $16. Ingo Metzmacher conducts the Boston Symphony Orchestra in this open rehearsal, with Emanuel Ax on piano.

SUNDAY, JULY 11

Mozart and Shostakovich at Tanglewood

Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 2:30 pm. $16-$82. See description for July 10.



July 9 marks the start of another summer of classical music at Tanglewood.

MONDAY, JULY 12

Mendelssohn, Kodály and Wagner at Tanglewood

Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $10-$25. Kurt Masur conducts the Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra in this performance of the works of Mendelssohn, Kodaly and Wagner. Soprano Annalena Persson also joins the orchestra.

TUESDAY, JULY 13

Boston Landmarks Orchestra

Great Hall, Codman Square, Dorchester (617-266-1200). www.landmarksorchestra.org. MBTA: Red Line to Ashmont, Bus #23 to Codman Square.10:30 am and 12 pm. Free. The orchestra plays Julian Wachner's *The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere* in a performance for children.

Masterworks Chorale Summer Sings

National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-235-6210). www.masterworkschorale.org. MBTA: Red Line to Alewife, Bus #62 or 76 to Museum. 8 pm. $8-$9. All are invited to join the chorale, professional soloists, and conductor Allen Lammon in singing Mendelssohn's *Elijah, Part 1.*

Society for Historically Informed Performance

St. Peter's Church, 320 Boston Post Road, Weston (508-212-6038). www.sohip.org. 8 pm. $10-$15. Pamela Dellal sings with the Brewster Village Consort in a program titled Getting out of Hand, which features hexachord-based compositions.

Bryn Terfel at Tanglewood

Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $16-$52. Baritone Bryn Terfel performs a wide array of songs with musical accompaniment by pianist Malcolm Martineau.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14

Marvin Hamlisch at Tanglewood

Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $17-$92. Marvin Hamlisch, composer, conductor and pianist, returns with the Boston Pops Orchestra for an evening of music and comedy. Hamlisch is joined by vocalist Dianne Reeves and the Jazz Ambassadors.

Society for Historically Informed Performance

John Heard House, 54 South Main St., Ipswich (508-212-6038). www.sohip.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm. $10-$15. Same program as July 13.

WCRB Classical Concerts at the Hatch Shell

Charles River Esplanade, Boston (781-736-9577) www.wcrb.com. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. 7:30 pm. Free. The Metro Wind Symphony provides an evening of music by the waterfront.

THURSDAY, JULY 15

Pierre-Laurent Aimard at Tanglewood

Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $15-$45. Pianist Pierre-Laurent Aimard performs works by Beethoven, Elliot Carter and Charles Ives.

Society for Historically Informed Performance

Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (508-212-6038). www.sohip.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm. $10-$15. Same program as July 13.

FRIDAY, JULY 16

Boston Landmarks Orchestra

Sanders Theater, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-266-1200). www.landmarksorchestra.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. 8 pm. Free. A program titled Landmarks of Freedom: Of the People, By the People, For the People celebrates the Democrat National Convention with songs of freedom and patriotism.

Glinka, Tchaikovsky and Dvorák at Tanglewood

Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $17-$92. Kurt Masur conducts the Boston Symphony Orchestra in works by Glinka, Tchaikovsky and Dvorak. Violinist Midori accompanies the orchestra.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 33 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. Free. A 40-member youth ensemble ends the NEC's summer session with an orchestral program. Aaron Kula directs the Festival Youth Orcehstra.

SATURDAY, JULY 17

Beethoven and Wagner at Tanglewood

Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 10:30 am (open rehearsal), 2:30 pm. $16-$82. Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos conducts the Boston Symphony Orchestra, which is joined by baritone Bryn Terfel and the Tanglewood Festival Chorus.

SUNDAY, JULY 18

Boston Landmarks Orchestra

Cambridge Common, Garden St., Cambridge (617-266-1200). www.landmarksorchestra.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 2 and 3:30 pm. Free. Same program as July 13.

Orchestra of St. Luke's at Tanglewood

Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $16-$82. Donald Runnicles conducts New York's Orchestra of St. Luke's in works by Ross, Brahms and Beethoven. Joshua Bell also performs on the violin.

MONDAY, JULY 19

Boston Landmarks Orchestra

Cambridge Common, Garden St., Cambridge (617-266-1200). www.landmarksorchestra.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 10:30 am and 12 pm. Free. Same program as July 13.

TUESDAY, JULY 20

Masterworks Chorale Summer Sings

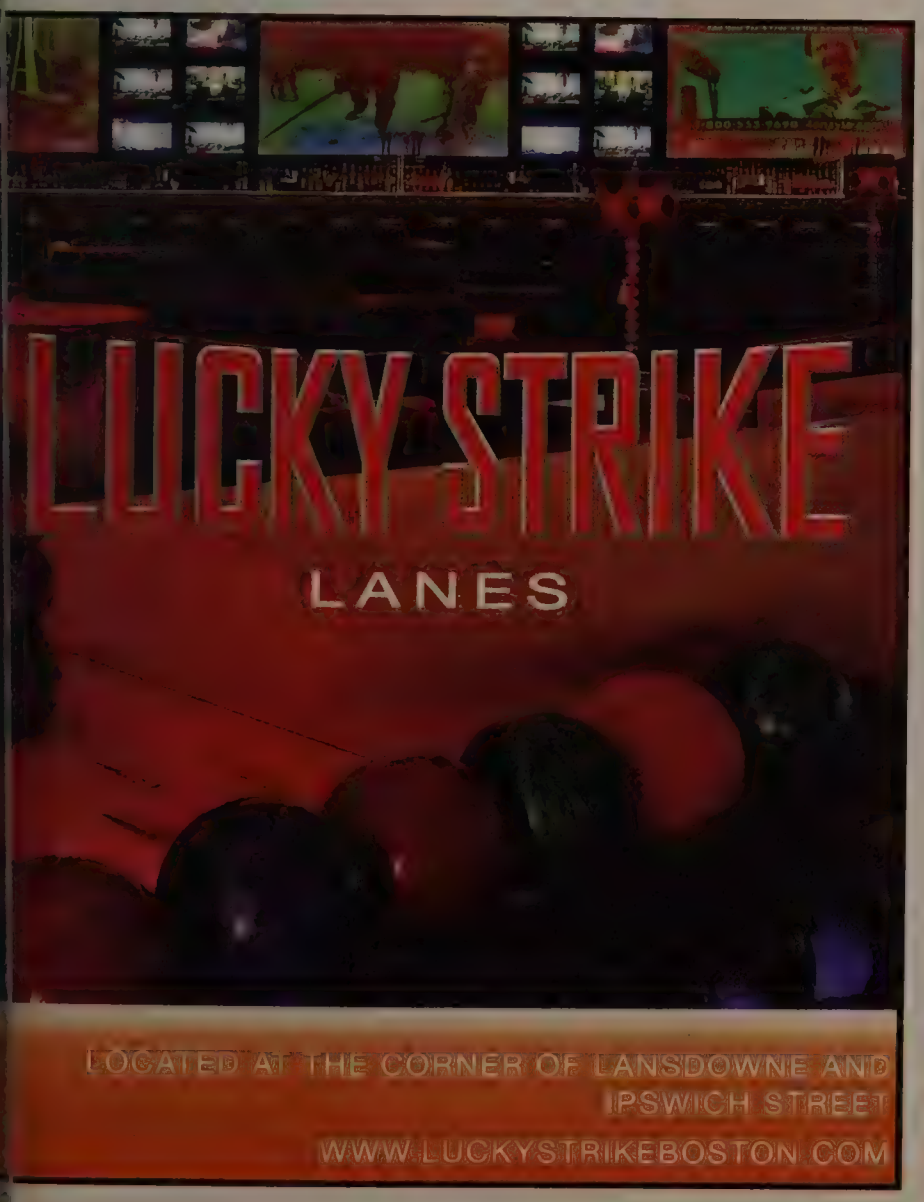
National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-235-6210). www.masterworkschorale.org. MBTA: Red Line to Alewife, Bus #62 or 76 to Museum. 8 pm. $8-$9. All are invited to join the chorale, professional soloists, and conductor Allen Lammon in singing Mendelssohn's *Elijah, Part 1.*

Society for Historically Informed Performance

St. Peter's Church, 320 Boston Post Road, Weston (508-212-6038). www.sohip.org. 8 pm. $10-$15. The ensemble Tres performs works by Francois Duval, Henry Purcell and others in Un Jour Gitant, a program of international songs and instrumental interludes celebrating fantasy and nature.


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Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $3 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Jay Ine spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJs spin R&B and hip-hop, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance salsa, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Scott Damgaard performs Mondays in July.

The Rack
Dj Mike Janedy spins, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aria
Industry Tuesday Dance to hip-hop and R&B.

Boston Rocks
Smooth Groove Tuesday Old-school jams, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Orange DJs John Davis, Pat Fontes and Randy Deshaies bring the house music, and weekly guest DJs spin, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Deep Tones DJ Brynmore spins a mix of reggae, soul, funk, trance and acid jazz, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Sensei spins hip-hop and R&B. Karaoke is also offered. 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

WEDNESDAYS

Aria
Lust DJ John Morris spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, $8, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins Greek and international tunes upstairs while a reggae life band placys downstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
British Accents Presents Starshape DJ Dave spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
Summer Solstice Live performances every Wednesday hosted by DJ/producer Joe Bermudez spinning house and dance beats. 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Rhythm Nights gets the dance party started upstairs, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up R&B, top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mercury Lounge DJs Nomadik and Timmy Allen host a night of soul, funk and house, 9 pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin house and techno, 10 pm, $5 (19+), $3 (21+).

The Place
Chad LaMarsh performs solo acoustic, 8:30-11 pm. Beach Party with DJs, 11 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
International Wednesdays DJ JC is in the Latin Lounge; DJs Alex and Felix spin in the back, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Wacky Wednesdays Magic with Peter Gross, 6-9 pm, DJ Massi all night, no cover, 21+.

Q
Violation Wednesdays Weekly guest DJs spin today's best music, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Cabin Stabbin' Wednesdays DJ Boogie Ba Do spins dub to start the party, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Jazz Wednesdays The Brian Walkley Band brings R&B and dance to the main lounge, 9-11 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Martinez spins salsa, cumbia and merengue on one floor while DJ Supreme spins a New York lounge set (hip-hop, R&B and rock covers) on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5..

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Walt spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; DJ Roger M and DJ Thanos spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Boston's Biggest College Hip-Hop Night DJs Caprice, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Mark Morris and Catunes play pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
Karaoke with DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
DJ Ghost spins international house and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursdays DJs Dubz and 40D spin reggae, R&B and hip-hop, no cover, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

I/D
Square One Thursdays DJs Dres and Wagz host a night of progressive dance music, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
Karaoke with DJ Massi, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran spin dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Doc spins the latest tunes, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Milky Way
Club Thursdays Rotating DJ's spin dance music, 9 pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Parris
DJ Lou, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5 (19+), $3 (21+).

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJs spin upbeat lounge music in the front, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Q
Hip Hop Thursdays DJ Craig Smooth spins hip-hop all night long, 9 pm, $5, ladies free all night, 21+.

The Rack
Girls on Top Party DJ B-Spin and DJ Massi spin top-40, vocal, house and hip-hop, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali and Ross spin a mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin loun music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

711 Boylston
Play Thursdays DJ trio Groovefire spins house mu with special guests Beat Khemistry, 6 pm-2 am.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Pegrem spins international, 10 pm, no cov 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest h hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Ladies Night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $ 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, cover.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-4 night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ Seano 5-9 pm; DJ David spins hip-h progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 f the '70s, '80s and '90s, $5 after 10:30 pm, 21+.

Aria
Floss DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Avaland International DJs spin house, 10 pm, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top-40, 9p am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
All Axis DJ Dru Nyce, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with Matt Phipps spining top-40, hip-hop and faves, along with Boston's best cover bands, 9 $8, 21+.

Preview

Bermudez Beats

DJ brings star power to Felt.

You may not recognize Joe Bermudez's name yet, but if you've been to a club or turned on the radio in the last few years, chances are you've heard his music.

The 27-year-old California native, now a Boston resident, started out as a board operator at a Maine radio station about eight years ago, but in recent years he's moved on from the likes of Portland and Bangor to working with stars like Pink and Britney and established himself as one of the country's top DJs. "All you can do is put together your stuff and throw it out there," says Bermudez, who spins every Wednesday night at Felt (10 pm, no cover), "and then you just have to hope people like it." Lately, finding an audience for his music hasn't been an issue.


Felt DJ Joe Bermudez

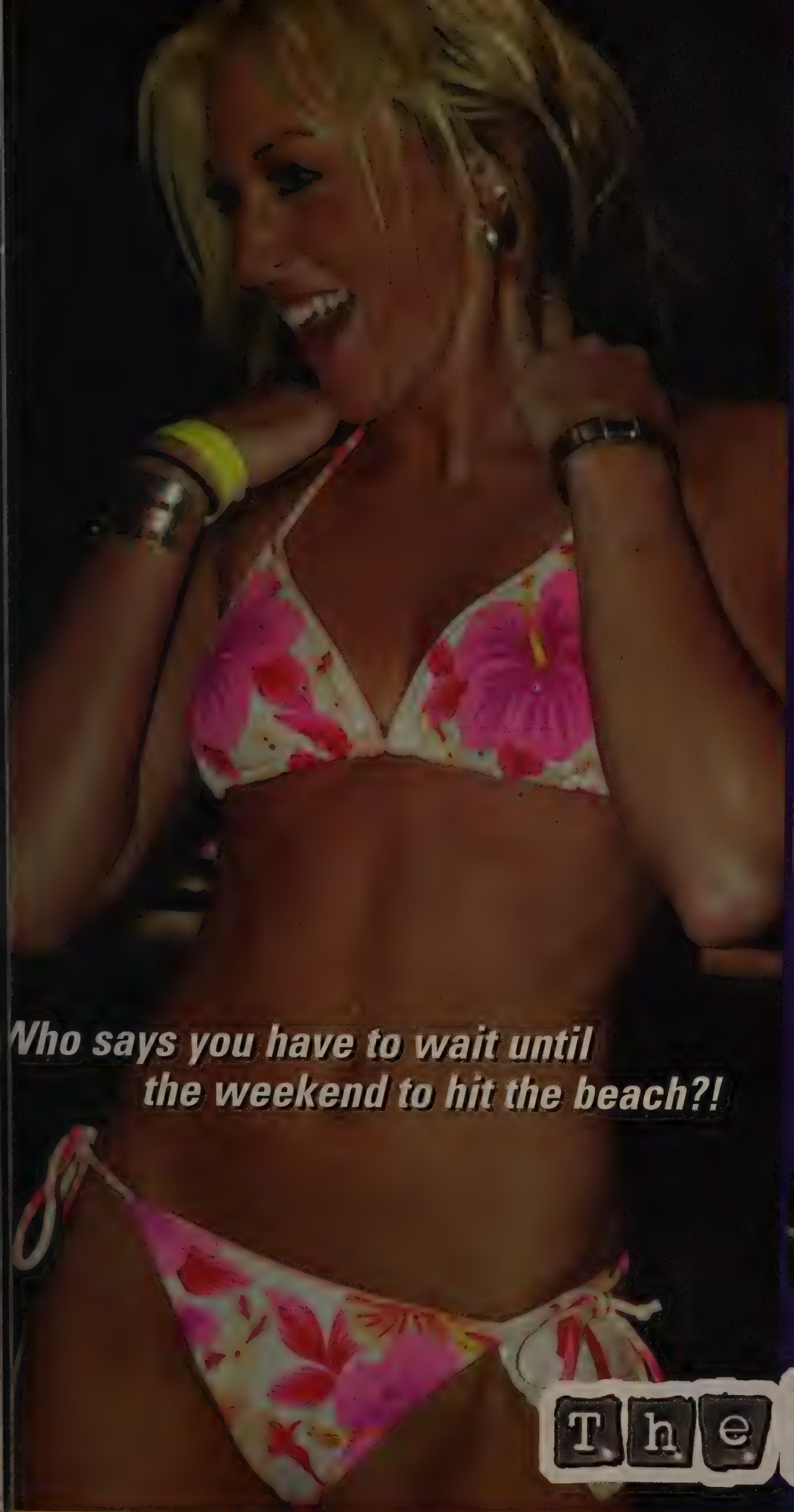
Since remixing three tracks on Pink's 2001 *Missundaztood* album, Bermudez's career has exploded with collaborations alongside some of music's top names. He had a hand in producing two current Billboard hits—Jessica Simpson's "Take My Breath Away" and Britney Spears' "Everytime"—and has mixed a song that will appear on Janet Jackson's forthcoming album, later this summer.

Those celebrity connections have translated into serious recognition for Bermudez's Summer Solstice series at Felt. "We've already had performers like Motorcycle, Mis-Teeq, and we're getting a bunch more to come in," he says. "It should be unbelievable."

Check it out while you can, because he's slated to be at Felt through September only, although that date isn't etched in stone. "If it keeps rockin'," Bermudez says, "there's no way we're gonna stop."

Felt, 533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555). Wednesdays, 10 pm. No cover.

—Rich Levine



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Rob Mariano and Brian Worth



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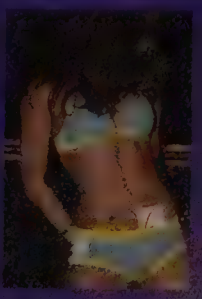


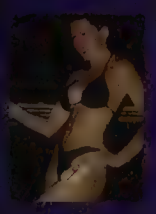




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The Place

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Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft VJ Johnny Walker Black spins top-40, dance and hip-hop tunes accompanied by interactive video shows, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal spins a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+, after 11 pm.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
Persuassion DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Felt
After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs, spinning high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Angirsano spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •July 9: Negative Space. • July 16: Jumper.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs Big Daddy spins, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins house and old favorites, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before midnight, 21+.

La Boom
Fashion Fridays Firefly Promotions hosts this fashion night featuring DJ Rick Naples, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

Level
110 Productions hosts a party with progressive house music, hip-hop and top-40. 11 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Adilson of Roxy Saturdays spins high-energy house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Rockpile** WAAF's Steve Flagg broadcasts live, and rotating bands perform, 9 pm, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•July 9, Dick and Jane, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm, $10 ($5 before 9 pm), 21+. •July 16, Derick and the Funbags, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm, $10 ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Dance to the hottest top-40 and classics from the disco era, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop as he spins top-40, dance, and hip-hop and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ spins in the front and DJ Gabe spins vocal house in the back, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Craig Smooth spins the latest hits, 10 pm, $5.

Q
DJ Massi plays hip hop and top-40, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Johnny C with KISS 108's Artie, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.



River Gods
Lite Nite DJ Easy spins a mix that includes neo-soul and feel-good classics, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top 40 hits, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins Latin house and Latin dance on one floor while DJ Franklin spins international on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10pm, $5 after 9pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats all night, 8 pm-1 am, $5..

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with Latin vibes. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJs Dunleop and Walt mix top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Guest DJs spin high-energy vocal house and hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Great local talent DJ Manolo, Chris Desimone, Icandy and Mario Lima, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Lush Life WFNX DJs spin alternative rock, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ Matt Phipps spining the hottest top-40, hip-hop and '80's faves, along with Boston's best cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. VJ Johnnie Walker presents top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Franklin creates a lounge atmosphere with his international, Latin and house sounds, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood It's women's night at Hollywood with two floors of hip-hop and house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
Essence DJs Ed and Sal, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop, house and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites, disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, $10, 21+. •July 10: Negative Space. •July 17: Jumper.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

I/D
X Night WFNX presents a night of retro '80s and rock, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, while downstairs DJ Kieran plays top-40, 9 pm, $6, 21+.

La Boom
Wild on @ La Boom DJ Tim Collins and KISS 108 host a night of music and dancing, 10 pm, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 9 pm, 21+.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Massi from Star 93.7 spins top-40 hits, $5 for guys, free for ladies, 21+.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10 pm, $10 (men) $5 (women), ladies admitted free before 10:30 pm, 21+.

The Modern
Material DJ Dru Nyce plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $1 19+.

The Palace
•**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dan music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Will D, ladies free, men $5 before 10:30 pm; $15, 18 $10, 21+ after 10:30 pm. •**The Male Encount** New England's longest-running all-male dan revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, $1 19+; no cover 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins top- and hip-hop mixes, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21 •**Underground** DJs spin hip-hop, top-40, dan techno and reggae for the under-21 crowd, 7-11 p $14. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes up hits from t '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•July 10, Split Decision, DJ at 8 pm, band at pm, $10 ($5 before 9 pm), 21+. •July 17, Deri and the Funbags, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm, $ ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit w ders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles Boston's best DJs come in and spin se

Pravda 116
DJ spins in the front and DJ Gabe spins vocal ho in the back, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom Hogan spins the groove, 10 pm, $5, 2 July 10: American Made. July 17: Brick Park.

Q
DJ Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Dance party with DJ Ricky, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins moc mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Adilson spins house and techno, 9 pm, $15,

711 Boylston
Fever DJ Yorgo spins a mix of ethnic and inte tional music, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
Resident DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin, internati and dance, often joined by live bands and sp guest DJs, 10 pm, $10-$15, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retr vorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm 21+.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins c old-school, top-40, and dance, 10 pm, no c 21+.

oast
rescription House music, 8 pm- 1 am, $5.

enu
ula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek ntabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 n, 19+.

ertigo
J Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 n, $15, 21+.

Vest Street Grille
ite Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all ght, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

UNDAYS

ria
Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

valon
y Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and hno, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

oston Rocks
s spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

uzz
zilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, 0, 19+

aprice
spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

co Lounge
p-hop downstairs, karaoke upstairs, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

reen Street Grill
rn to dance mamba, 10 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), .

e Kells
N. Service Industry Night DJs Doc & Kieran n house, top 40 and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no er, 21+.

vel
ating DJs spin Latin and international on the d floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, .

lky Way
ellite A lesbian night featuring DJ Dee, with ce music, amateur drag contests and films, 9 cover varies, 21+.

oenix Landing
hp This house-music night has a rotating roster cal and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Malibu Beach Party DJ Thom spins everything from reggae to top 40 hits, with prizes all night, 4-9 pm, DJ Massi spins, 9 pm, $5 men, free for ladies, 21+.

Q
Reggae with Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Reverie Boston DJ Shannon and weekly guest DJs spin goth, industrial and lounge, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Spice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night featuring Latin and International grooves, 10 pm-2 am, $13.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock, retro and hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Tiki Room
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins Brazilian beats, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

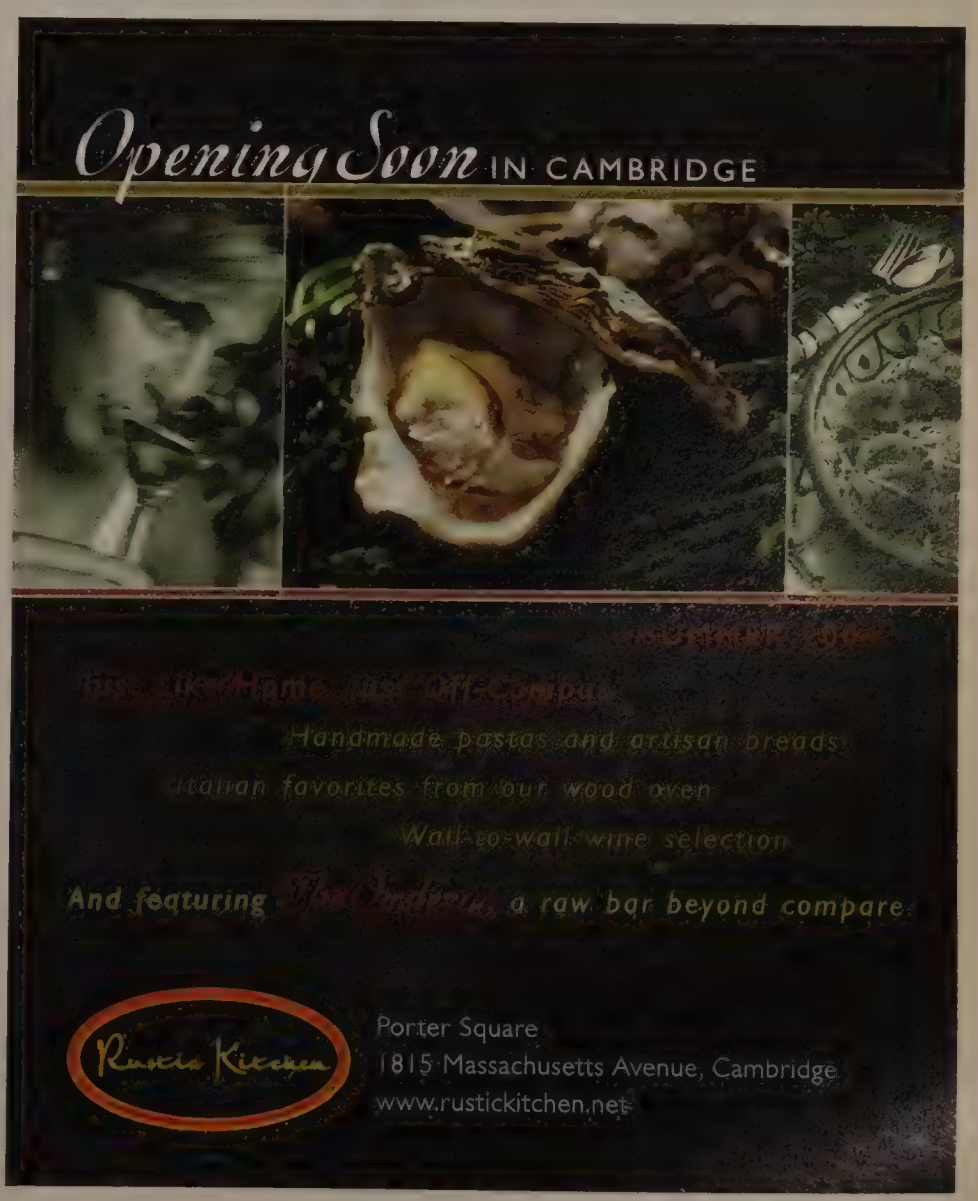
Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Whiskey Park
Cherry DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock classics, hip-hop, house and R&B.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
The G Spot *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
La Boom *One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Light *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *(El Copa, Male Encounter, Officers' Club, Oxygen, Rio, Underground and Uptown) 1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
711 Boylston *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Landsdowne St., Boston (617-351-2580).*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*





museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors
Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*The Continuous Stroke of Breath: Calligraphy from the Islamic World* features Arabic, Indian, Persian and Turkish calligraphy from the 9th through 20th centuries. Through July 18. •*Rocks, Mountains, Landscapes, and Gardens: The Essence of East Asian Painting*, an exhibition of rocks used in East Asian art, shows through Aug. 1.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm. •*BPL Souvenirs and Library Publications* is on display through July 30.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $6, $4 students and seniors. •*Henry Richardson: Sphere and Mortal Coil* is an ongoing exhibition that features the artist's large glass sculptures. •*Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Sense of Place, Part II* features paintings, photography, and sculptures by various artists. Through August. •*The 2004 DeCordova Annual Exhibition* highlights contemporary artistic talent from New England. Through Sept. 5.

Fogg Art Museum/ Busch-Reisinger Museum
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Design~Recline: Modern Architecture and the Mid-Century Chaise Lounge* features chaise lounges designed by famous architects including Le Corbusier, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, Marcel Breuer, Alvar Aalto, and Charles and Ray Eames. Through July 11. •*Process and Paradox: The Historical Pictures of John Singleton Copley* features two rarely seen works by one of America's first great artists. Through Aug. 29. •*Vastly More Than Brick and Mortar: Reinventing the Fogg Art Museum in the 1920s*, an exhibition of 47 objects including archival photographs, building plans and pieces from the Fogg's original collection, illustrates how the museum was created. Through Sept. 26. •*Extra Ordinary Every Day: The Bauhaus at the Busch-Reisinger* is an online exhibition that can be accessed at www.artmuseums.harvard.edu/sites/eoed. Through 2005. •*Rococo Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* is a new ongoing exhibition. •*To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* is an ongoing display of 19th-century art. •*Basic Research: A Selection of Postwar German Painting and Sculpture*, and *The Figure in French Sculpture, 1780-1900* are ongoing.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •*Arctic National Wildlife Refuge: Seasons of Life and Land* is an exhibition of 49 photographs from northeastern Alaska by Subhankar Banerjee. Through Sept. 6. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species, by glass artists Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7, $5 students and seniors. •Kai Althoff's works of watercolor, pencil drawing, collage, music and more are on display in *Kai Kein Respekt (Kai No Respect)*. Through Sept. 6. •*Momentum I* displays work by installation artist Carol Bove. Through Sept. 6. •*Re-Turning the Past: Cultural Icons Recast*, is a outdoor exhibit by Niho Kozuru in the garden and courtyard of the Paul Revere House (19 North Square). Through Oct. 11.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, free for members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. •*Gondola Days: Isabella Stewart Gardner & the Palazzo Barbaro Circle* explores the influence that Venice, Italy's Palazzo Barbaro has had on artists, writers and thinkers around the world. Through Aug. 15. *($3 museum members, $5 weekends; $13 general admission/adults, $18 weekends; $10 seniors, $12 weekends; $8 students; $3 children ages 5-17; children under 5 not admitted.)* •*TV Dinner* is an exhibition of Italian painter Maurizio Cannavacciuolo's contemporary wall drawings. Through Aug. 15. •*Whistler's Warning*, Joseph Kosuth's installation in neon of words taken from an 1885 speech by James McNeill Whistler, shows through August. •Elaine Reichek's embroideries, which depict Biblical images borrowed from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists, display online in the virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum
Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $8; seniors and students $6; children ages 13-17 $4; children 12 and under admitted free. •*Gifts from the World to the White House: Caroline Kennedy's Doll Collection* features 77 dolls from 30 countries that were given to JFK's daughter between 1961 and 1963. Through Nov. 5. •In honor of this election year, *Campaign!* is an exhibition following JFK's nomination, campaign and inauguration, from 1960-61. Through Jan. 20, 2005.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, 140 Comm. Ave., Devlin Hall 108, Chestnut Hill (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. MBTA: Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-3 pm., Sat., 12 pm-5 pm. Free. •*Refigured* features works by six local artists, and *Sarah Westlake: Drawings <—> Sculpture* shows the artist's abstract creations. Through Aug. 29.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. •The museum's permanent collection includes more than 1,500 pieces of contemporary art including paintings, murals, sculptures, photography and prints. •*Artur Zmijewski: Selected Works, 1998-2003* features video installations by the Warsaw-based artist, and *Marjetica Potrc: Urgent Architecture* features sculpture and urban designs by Potrc. Through July 11.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5, $3 students and seniors, $1 children. •*Hub of the Universe: A Century of Flight in Massachusetts* displays artifacts and artwork from the first 100 years of manned flight. Through Sept. 5. •*Telling It Like It Is: Student Activism at MIT During the Vietnam War* displays posters from that era. Through fall 2004. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features works by the self-described cross between "a mechanical engineer and a choreographer." Ongoing.


The Wine Taster by Alexandra Nechita is at Wentworth Gallery July 15.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. •*The Times We Had* is an exhibition spotlighting Boston's African-American community of the 19th century. Ongoing. •*Building on a Firm Foundation* is a 17-minute multimedia presentation that looks at 19th century Beacon Hill through the eyes of an African-American teenager. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15 adults, $13 students and seniors, free for children 17 and under. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free (doesn't include special exhibitions). •*Tim Noble and Sue Webster* exhibits the duo's creative light projects. Through Aug. 15. •More than 200 jades dating from the Neolithic period to the Qing Dynasty display in *Chinese Jades from the Hartman Collection*. Through Aug. 22. •*Draped in Dragons: Chinese Court Costumes* features clothes worn by members of the Qing imperial court. Through Sept. 19. •*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13 adults, $11 seniors, $10 children. •*Risk!* is a hands-on exhibit where visitors can test their sense of daring, while seeing how they deal with the uncertainty that comes with a difficult decision. Through Sept. 6. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum
33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Lunch Box Memories* is an exhibition of lunch boxes from the early 1900s through the 1980s. Through July 18. •*The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'd* is an exhibition of 18th-century local history. Ongoing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household objects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. •*Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community* is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. Adults $13, seniors $11, students $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem free. •*Peonies on Paper: Chinese Export Botanical Painting* features more than 60 paintings of peonies, chrysanthemums, magnolias and hibiscus. Through July 18. •*Havana: Photographs by Robert Polidori* features 18 large-scale photographs. Through Jan. 9, 2005. •*Bringing Japan to Boston* features Japanese artifacts from the Edward S. Morse Collection. Through April 30, 2005.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology
11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50 adults, seniors and students, $5 children. •*Regarding the Kalahari: The Marshall Family and the Ju/'hoansi !Kung, 1950-1964* is an exhibition of photographs and stereographs from the Kalahari Desert expeditions of Laurence Marshall and his family. Through Aug. 30. •*Pair by a Distant Hand: Mimbres Pots from the American Southwest* features artifacts from New Mexico's Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through September. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through December 2005. •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments* features the museum's large Mesoamerican cast collection. Ongoing. •*Hall of the North American Indian: Change and Continuity* features artifacts depicting the response of Native Americans across the continent to the arrival of Europeans. Ongoing. •*Encounters with the Americas* is an ongoing exhibition featuring original sculpture and plaster casts of Mesoamerican cultures. •*Pacific Islands Hall*, another ongoing exhibition, displays artifacts from the Pacific Islands.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Summer Salon*, a group show, displays through Aug. 21.

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). www.alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Tea Fantasy—Whimsical and Sculptural Teapots* shows through Aug. 31.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •A summer group show featuring works by various artists displays through August.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. Seghi shows new paintings through July 31.

Art Interactive
130 Bishop Allen Drive, Cambridge (617-498-0[illegible]. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat. and Sun., 12-
•*Participatory Democracy* is an improvisational interactive exhibition about voting, by five artists. Through July 29.

ArtSomerville
55 Powderhouse Blvd., Somerville. www.artsomerville.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sat., 1 pm-5 pm. Free. •1-10 features work by 10 artists living or working in Somerville. Ongoing.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
0 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •A group show of works by 14 artists, including Richard Artschwager, Louise Bourgeois, Sophie Calle, John Chamberlain and Robert Gober, displays through July 30.

Berenberg Gallery
Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. Casey McGlynn shows new mixed-media works. through July 31.

Bernard Toale Gallery
10 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Upright Female, a group show of photography, displays through Aug. 12.

Brickbottom Gallery
Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •What Is Big? is a show of oversized works. July 9-Aug. 21.

Bromfield Art Gallery
Thayer St., Boston (617-451-3605). www.bromfieldgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •Boston Arts Academy students shows works inspired by Dante in *Living Inferno*. Through July 17.

Brookline Arts Center
Monmouth St., Brookline. (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm. •Anh Dao Kibbe shows photographs through July 16. •Watercolor paintings by ArtReach students show through July 23.

Chase Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •Bernd Haussmann and Mark Chatterley show their work through July 31.

Childs Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA:Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Three exhibitions, *A Century of Seascapes*, *Architectural Images in Prints and Drawings* and *Prints of the North-ern Renaissance*, show July 12-Sept. 4.

Copley Society of Art
Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Copley Masters Show* and *Copley Artists Show* display through July 17.

Crump Gallery
East Broadway, Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •An exhibition of works by Jeff Eldredge, Dan McCole and Norman Crump is ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •Classic Musical features black-and-white photographs. Through July 31.

Equator Gallery
Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-540-1246). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.equatorgallery.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-4 pm. •The gallery specializes in Latin American fine art, including paintings, textiles and ceramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Virtual Democracy* displays through Aug. 7.

Galerie d'Orsay
Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall.

Gallery AA/B
Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu. and Sat.,12-5 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm. *Boston: Legends and Landmarks* features drawings and paintings by Dan Wasserman, Meg Black and Boris Leitch. July 8-31.

Gallery at Black and White
Huntington Ave., Suite 205 (617-266-2641). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Mon.-Fri, 10 am-5 pm. •The gallery features rotating exhibitions of black-and-white photographs.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Prints by Allan Rohan Crite show in *Selected Works 1934-1998*, and Masako Kamiya shows new work in *On Paper*. Through July 30.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
23 Thayer St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Peter Coe: Paintings* shows through Oct. 2.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.haleysteele.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •The gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prints. Ongoing.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Matt McClune shows color paintings on aluminum, and Andrew Neumann shows panels. Through July 10. •*Some of Their Parts* is a group show of photography painting and sculpture. July 15-Sept. 7.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters. •*Decade's Best*, a show of the gallery's best posters, displays through Sept. 6.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Four Feminist Views*, a group show of works by Ruth Cobb, Rochelle Kreiger, Anne Gilley and Suzanne Hodes, as well as the paintings of Harold Rotenberg display through July 31.

Kathryn Schultz Gallery
25 Lowell St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www.cambridgeart.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm, Sun., 1-5 pm. •The *New Members Exhibition* displays July 8-28.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*These Are the Good Old Days* features mixed-media paintings inspired by photographs of people on amusement park rides. Through July 31.

Kingston Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •Susan Alport shows her work through July.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •Roger Thomas presents his abstract and impressionist fused glass paintings in *Fusion*. Through Aug. 4.

Mark Gallery
141 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6275). www.markartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm, and by appointment. •*Cuatro* is a summer group show of works by from Yuko Adachi, Bert Antonio, Amy Eisenfeld Genser and Liette Marcil. Through July 24.

Martin Lawrence Gallery
77 Newbury St., Boston (617-369-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.martinlawrence.com. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-7 pm. •The gallery's ongoing exhibition includes works by Chagall, Erté, Hallam, Kondakova, Lichtenstein, Picasso and Warhol.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Second Floor, Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. Closed July 12-August. •*Vehicles* shows through July 12.

Miller Block Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). www.millerblockgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30-5:30 pm. •Michael Harrington shows recent paintings, and Katherine Desjardins shows new work. Through July 7. •*Summer Distillation* shows through August.

Mills Gallery
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed., Thu. and Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-10 pm. •*Somatic Scales*, a group show, displays through Aug. 1.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •David Chatt shows his beaded sculptures through July 30. •Petra Class shows her jewelry through August.

NAO Project Gallery
535 Albany St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-451-2977). www.naoprojectgallery.info. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay or Green Line to Copley. Wed., Fri. and Sat., 11 am-4 pm and by appointment. •*Nao Sound* is a show of sound installations by six artists. July 9 and 10, 8 pm.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. • *Summer Invitational, A Group Exhibition* shows through August.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •A local-artists showcase is ongoing.

The Paul Dietrich Gallery
1050 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7000). www.c7a.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central Square. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm. •*Smoke, Light and Mirrors* features the photography of Sing Hanson. Through July 30.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Summer Salon: Group Show* displays through Aug. 13.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*New Artists, New Work* shows July 10-Sept. 7.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (617-482-9988). www.qingping.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to New England Medical. Daily, 1 pm-12 am and by appointment. •Beijing artist Lu Peng shows his work. Through Aug. 31.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Victor Schrager shows photography. Through Aug. 21.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*20th Century Master Graphics, the Spring Collection* features lithographs and etchings by Chagall, Matisse, Miro and Rouault. Through June 30. •Robert Sweeney displays old and new work in *The Boston Experience: Views of the City*. Through July 31.

Samson Projects
46 Waltham St., Suite 203, Boston (617-357-7177). www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •*An Accumulation of Convention: En Masse* is a group show of works by local artists. Through July 30.

The Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Grimm Fairy Tales Reinvented* is a group show of works inspired by Grimm stories. Through July 25.

Soprafina Gallery
99 Beacon St.. Somerville (617-498-0999). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •An exhibition of works by gallery artists shows through July 24.

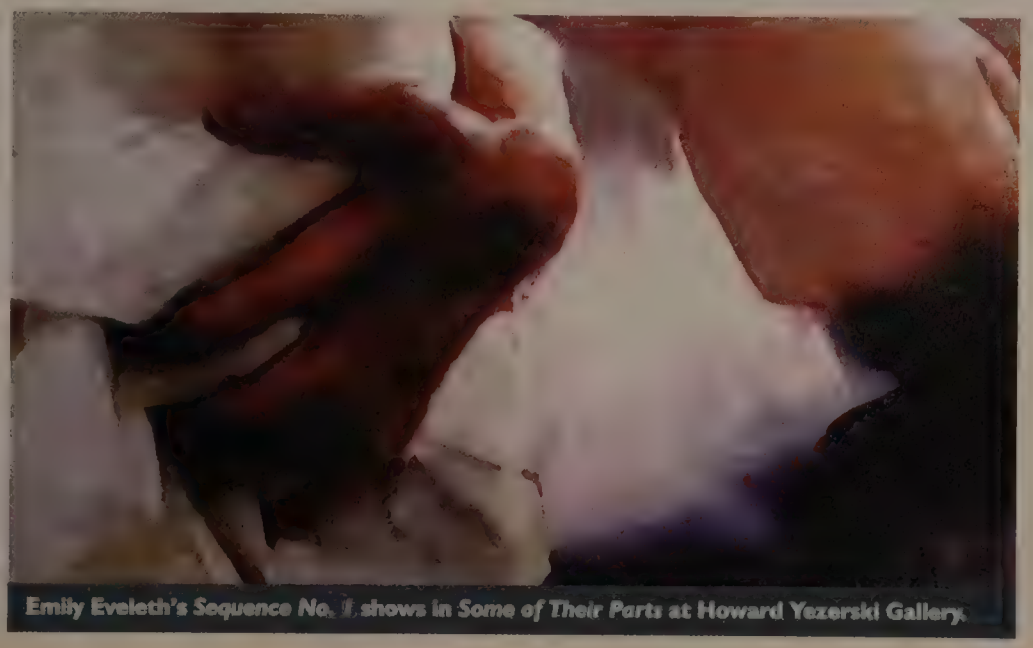
St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Four and One* is a group show of paintings by Christina Keating, Judy St. Peter, Sandra Mueller-Dick, Anne Grandin and William St. George.

Upstairs at Johnson's Art Gallery
353 Newbury St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-536-4065). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.- Fri., 10 am - 5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-1pm. •0-9, A-Z, a group show of mixed-media works by Mary W. Hart, Carolyn Sirois and Dianne Pappas, shows through July 31.

Victoria Munroe Fine Art
59 Beacon St., Boston (617-523-0661). www.munroefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line or Red Line to Park Street. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm and by appointment. •Botanical paper mosaics by William Booth Gray show through July 31.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Realism Now: Traditions and Departures, Mentors and Proteges*, a group show of works by contemporary American realist artists, displays through July 17.

Wentworth Gallery
73 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-8770). www.wentworthgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat. 10 am-6 pm; Sun. 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection features works by Dali, Chagall and Miro. •Alexandra Nechita shows her work. July 15, 6-9 pm.



Emily Eveleth's *Sequence No. 1* shows in *Some of Their Parts* at Howard Yezerski Gallery.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. •Karen A. Vournakis shows photographs of the sites of the original Pan Hellenic games in *Sacred Groves: Ancient Greek Athletic Sites*. Through Aug. 20.

New England School of Photography
Gallery One, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-437-1868). www.nesop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm. •Graduating NESOP students show their work through August.

Panopticon Gallery Kenmore
502-C Comm Ave., Boston (617-267-8929). www.panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-7 pm. •*Home Run*, a show of vintage baseball photographs, displays through September.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Commuter Rail to Waltham. www.panopt.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*Colossal*, an exhibition of photographs by Bradford Washburn, shows through Sept. 18.

Photographic Resource Center
832 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University West. www.bu.edu/prc. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. •The *Members Exhibition* shows through July 25.

books & poetry

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to books @improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, JULY 7

Brookline Booksmith
Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 6 pm. $2. **Penn Jillette** of the comedy-magic duo Penn & Teller reads from his novel, *Sock*, a dark murder mystery told from the perspective of a sock puppet.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Sterling Delano** reads from his book *Brook Farm: The Dark Side of Utopia*, about the utopian community founded in West Roxbury in 1841 that eventually dissolved.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Nature writer **David Gessner** reads from his new book, *Sick of Nature*, a collection of essays about his frustration with the genre of nature writing and its conventions.

THURSDAY, JULY 8

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Robert Meeropol**, the son of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg, who were executed as spies by the U.S. government in the 1950s, discusses his memoir, *An Execution in the Family*.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Pulitzer Prize–winning author **Dale Maharidge** discusses the book he produced with photographer **Michael Williamson**, *Homeland*, a collection of images of American society pre- and post-Sept. 11.

FRIDAY, JULY 9

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 6 pm. $5. **Baratunde Thurston** and Pulitzer Prize–nominated poet **Richard Moore** read from their works at the Dire BBQ, which includes a cookout and an open mike. The readings begin at 8 pm.

TUESDAY, JULY 13

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Judith Mitchell** reads from her novel *The Last Day of the War*, a World War I–era story about a young Jewish woman who follows an Armenian-American soldier to Paris.

Harvard Book Store Author Event
Boston Public Library, Mezzanine Conference Room, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Larry Tye** reads from his new book, *Rising From the Rails: Pullman Porters and the Making of the Black Middle Class*, about the role of Pullman porters in creating the black American middle class.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. **Anthony Weller** reads from his new novel, *The Siege of Salt Cove*, about the inhabitants of a small New England town whose effort to save a historic wooden bridge leads them to decide to secede from the United States.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 1 pm. Free. **Dan Piraro**, the author and illustrator of the syndicated comic *Bizarro*, discusses his book *The Three Little Pigs Buy the White House*, a political satire.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Lewis Lapham**, editor of *Harper's* magazine, discusses his book *Gag Rule: On the Suppression of Dissent and Stifling of Democracy*, which criticizes the current administration.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7 pm. Free. **Jeff May**, co-author of *The Mold Survival Guide*, discusses air quality and ways people can protect themselves from allergens and pollutants.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Anthony Weller** reads from and signs his new novel, *The Siege of Salt Cove*. See July 13 WordsWorth listing for a description. Also, **Carolyn Parkhurst** reads from and signs her novel *The Dogs of Babel*, about a linguistics professor who tries to teach his dog to speak so that he can uncover the truth about his wife's death.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. **Joan Anderson** reads from her new book, *Walk on the Beach: Tales of Wisdom from an Unconventional Woman*, about her friendship with Joan Erikson, the wife of famous psychoanalyst Erik Erikson.

THURSDAY, JULY 15

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 12:30 pm. Free. **Maria Flook** discusses her book *Invisible Eden: A Story of Love and Murder on Cape Cod*, which investigates the unsolved murder of fashion writer and Cape Cod native Crista Worthington.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **George Hagen** discusses his novel *The Laments*, about a family that constantly moves and the effect their rootlessness has on the family members.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http:/harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard 7 pm. Free. **Anne Barnet** discusses her new book *Extravaganza King*, about her great-grandfathe Robert Barnet, a sugar merchant who doubled an actor, director and producer and put Boston o the musical theater map in the late 19th century.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). ww wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm **Tim Riley** reads from his new book, *Fever: How Ro 'N' Roll Transformed Gender in America*, about ro music's influence on men and women's sexual b haviors and identities.

SATURDAY, JULY 17

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). ww wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5 p Poets **Tina Barr** and **Sarah Hannah** read their wor

SUNDAY, JULY 18

Longfellow House
105 Brattle St., Cambridge (781-643-0029). ww nepoetryclub.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 p Free. The New England Poetry Club hosts a reading poets **Maxine Kumin**, **Dick Allen** and **X.J. Kennedy**.

MONDAY, JULY 19

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.bord stores.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Governm Center. 12:30 pm. Free. NBC News medical cor spondent **Ian Smith** discusses his book *The Blackb Papers*, about an FBI agent who investigates brother's murder.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). ww wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 p Free. Drummer **Jake Slichter** of the band Semiso reads from his new book, *So You Wanna Be a Rock Roll Star: Dispatches from the Belly of the Beast.* Preview (left) for a description.

TUESDAY, JULY 20

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.bor stores.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Governm Center. 12:30 pm. Free. **Walter Mosley** reads fr the latest book in his Easy Rawlins mystery ser *Little Scarlet*, in which Rawlins investigates the m der of a young black woman during the Watts in Los Angeles in 1965.

Brookline Booksmith
Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Bro line (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.c MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 6 pm. **Walter Mosley** reads from *Little Scarlet*. See toc Borders Boston listing for a description.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). w wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 **Allison Lynn** reads from her novel *Now You Se* about the disappearance of a privileged, 30-someth woman whose marriage to her sophisticated husb was unraveling due to their inability to have child

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lo hosts this poetry slam downstairs in the Third R

Harvard Coop (Sundays)
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-20 http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to vard. 3 pm. Free. Hear what Boston-area poet doing at the Harvard Coop's weekly poetry change on Level Two.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. $5. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background for the poetry slam team.

Out of the Blue Gallery (Saturday
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cam (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. $3-5. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have these weekly readings.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thurs
Borders 10 School St., Boston (617-557-7 MBTA: Blue Line to Government Center. 8:3 Free. The second Thursday of each month o selection of featured poets and an opportuni others to take the open mike.

Preview

Slichter Goes Semisolo

Semisonic drummer Jake Slichter's new book takes him from drum kit to rock lit.





Jake Slichter reads from *So You Wanna Be A Rock & Roll Star* at WordsWorth Books July 19.

Model/actress, actor/painter...in terms of the model's acting and the actor's painting, that slash almost never bodes well.

Semisonic drummer (and Harvard graduate) Jake Slichter is a rare exception. This musician-turned-author may be a hyphenate, but his new book, *So You Wanna Be a Rock & Roll Star*, is far from a self-indulgent celebrity vanity project. A chronicle of Slichter's experiences on the road and in the biz with bandmates Dan Wilson and John Munson, it's egoless, insightful and funny.

In his book's pages, the self-deprecating Slichter pulls off a balancing act that's rare in behind-the-music memoirs, discussing his band's commercial decline (following their number-one 1998 single, "Closing Time") without coming across as whiny or bitter toward his record label.

"As far as what happened to us in terms of business, it wasn't anything terribly different from what a lot of people experience in their jobs," says Slichter of Semisonic's label, MCA, which lost interest in promoting the band and eventually dropped them. (The group, though still together, is taking a break while Wilson records a solo album.) "It's just that in the context of being a rock musician, the ideas you have about what 'success' is going to be are grander."

In addition to its lack of blame-throwing, *Rock & Roll Star* is devoid of *True Hollywood Story*–style tales of band member clashes. "We're a very close-knit band," Slichter says of his relationship with Wilson and Munson. "We'd be on the road for months, and we'd get back home [Minneapolis], and the first thing I'd wanna do is go out and have a drink with those guys."

In fact, Slichter, who now lives in New York, says the biggest difference between touring behind an album and touring behind his book is not that he'll "be getting to bed earlier" or that his ears won't be subject to the "crushing" volume levels. Rather, it's the solo nature of the venture: "It's gonna be me in the spotlight, instead of me in the edge of the spotlight."

***If Rock & Roll Star* is any indication, it's about time.**

WordsWorth Books, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-2501). July 19, 7 pm. Free.

— Patrice Taddonio

education

dvice to Contributors
bmit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calen-r: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. adline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

EDNESDAY, JULY 7

dult ADD Talk
wton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton 17-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us/library. BTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7 pm. e. ADD specialist **Carol Gignoux** speaks out adult attention deficit disorder and strate-s for coping with it.

e Natural History of Dragonflies
admoor Wildlife Sanctuary, 280 Eliot St., Natick 08-655-2296). www.massaudubon.org. July 7-. Wed., 7-8:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-2 pm. $45 mem-s, $50 nonmembers. Naturalist **Bob Bowker** tures on the life cycle, habitat and behavior of gonflies. This three-week beginner course also ludes field trips and hands-on activities.

HURSDAY, JULY 8

ook Farm: The Dark Side of opia
South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston 7-373-5800). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. TA: Blue or Orange Line to State; Red Line to ntown Crossing. 12:15-1 pm. Free with museum ission ($5). **Sterling Delano**, author of *Brook m: The Dark Side of Utopia*, discusses the blems that led to the demise of the 19th-tury utopian community in West Roxbury.

i Althoff and the Resistance of rle Among Postwar German tists
itute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., ton (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. TA: Green Line to Boylston. 6:30 pm. Free. **ida Norden**, associate curator of contemporary at the Harvard University Art Museums, es her ideas about Kai Althoff's *Kai Kein Re-t (Kai No Respect)* exhibition.

IDAY, JULY 9

e Shellfish Savant
bridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., bridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Line to Harvard. 6 pm-9:30 pm. $72. Learn the ets of preparing crab, lobster, shrimp, clams, sels, oysters and scallops, along with proper stor-how to judge seafood quality and how to recog-and treat seafood poisoning.

TURDAY, JULY 10

azing Jellies Guided Tour
England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston 973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line quarium. 9:30 am. $10 members; $12 nonmem-s. Tour the aquarium's newest exhibition of sands of jellyfish and learn why the population owing worldwide.

: Perfect Personal: How to Make Online Profile that Works
Street Inc., 561 Windsor St., Somerville (617-3100). www.grubstreet.org. MBTA: Green Line hmere. 10 am-12 pm. $3 members, $5 nonmem-s. Internet dating expert **Jenna Bloom** gives ers on how to stand out in the world of online g by writing the perfect profile.

aking Up, Speaking Well
n Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm Ave., n (617-495-3045). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Line to Arlington. 9 am-5 pm. $93 members; nonmembers. Overcome public-speaking fears rning to organize your thoughts and perfect rticulation and pronunciation.

king Tour of Newton Centre
on History Museum at the Jackson Homestead, at corner of Langley Road and Centre Street, on (617-796-1450). www.ci.newton.ma.us. A: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 10 am. Tour the historic sites of Newton Centre, in-ng the meeting house and colonial-era militia ing grounds.

NDAY, JULY 11

Reader Pause and Wonder e!—A Walking Tour of Boston's y Cemeteries
ridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., ridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA:



Anh Dao Kolbe is at the BAC July 16.

Red Line to Harvard. 1-4 pm. $49. Tour the King's Chapel Burial Ground, Old Granary and Central Burial Grounds and learn how their architecture and landscape reflect the religious beliefs, national identity and urban planning of the time.

Twilight Victorian Sculpture Tour
Forest Hills, 95 Forest Hills Ave, Jamaica Plain (617-542-0128). www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 5:30 pm, $8. Tour Forest Hills' 19th- and 20th-century memorial sculptures.

MONDAY, JULY 12

The Acoustic World of Whales
New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 7 pm. Free. Dr. **Marsha Green** of the Ocean Mammal Institute presents video and sound recordings of humpback whales communicating with one another off Hawaii's coast.

The Kantele: Finland's National Instrument
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum or Orange Line to Ruggles. 11 am. Free with museum admission. Musician and teacher **Sarah Cummings Ridge** discusses the history of the kantele, a string instrument that's considered a national symbol of Finland. A short musical performance follows.

THURSDAY, JULY 15

A Taste of Sailing: An Evening on the Boston Harbor
Piers Park Sailing Center, 95 Marginal St., East Boston (617-495-3045). www.bcae.org. 6 pm-9 pm. $30. Learn the fundamentals of sailing on Boston Harbor and enjoy a light dockside dinner.

FRIDAY, JULY 16

Photography Salon and Discussion Group
Brookline Arts Center, 86 Monmouth St., Brookline (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. 6:30 pm. $5 donation suggested. Join photographer **Anh Dao Kolbe** for a discussion of her exhibition *Misplaced Baggage*, currently on view at the BAC. Bring some of your own work for critiquing and discussion.

SATURDAY, JULY 17

Civil War Encampment
Boston Harbor Islands, Georges Island, Boston (617-233-8666). www.nps.gov/boha. Ferry leaves from Long Wharf. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 10 am-3 pm. Free. The New England Brigade and Liberty Greys lead military drill demonstrations and history walks at Fort Warren.

The History of the National Negro Conventions 1830-1972
Rabb Lecture Hall, Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 9-11:30 am. Free. UMass Boston history professor **Julie Winch**, Massachusetts State Senator **Bill Owens** and others discuss the history of national conventions from the 1830s to the height of the Civil Rights movement.

Managing Your Investment Portfolio Over Your Lifetime
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm Ave., Boston (617-495-3045). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 am-12 pm. $25 members; $27 nonmembers. **Dennis Butler**, founder and president of Centre Street Cambridge Corp., gives tips on making sound financial decisions and examines different types of investments.

TUESDAY, JULY 20

Lowell Lecture
National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. 10:30 am. Free. **Keith Radner**, professor of geography at Salem State College, examines how early maps of North America shaped perceptions of unknown land and reflected social concerns.



CALL FOR FICTION



As part of our fourth annual Literary Boston issue, we invite all local authors (residing in Massachusetts) to submit a short work of fiction, no more than **2,500 words, to us by Mon., Aug. 2.** Entries should be original works that have never been previously published.

Upon review by our panel of judges, the winning author's story will be published in our October 6 issue. Plus, the skilled scribe will be saddled with a slew of fun prizes.

Please send two copies of your story to us at:

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

Attn: Fiction Contest
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor, Boston, MA 02116

gay & lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information, including telephone numbers and nearest T-stop, by fax (617-859-1446) or mail, or e-mail gaylesbian@improper.com.

Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am.; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's new leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $8 under 21. $5 for 21+. DJ John Morris spins progressive house for Lust, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $15, 21+. For 20 years, these folks have cranked out Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. Enjoy three separate dance floors plus drag acts. Resident DJ Ted Elison spins house.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show, and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Blue Wave Cafe (Sundays)
343 Congress St., Boston (617-790-0720). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 9 pm-1 am. $5 before 11 pm, $10 after 11 pm, 21+. Every Sunday night, PussiKat Entertainment and TopKat Entertainment present HerShe Sundays, an ethnic/Latina/white lesbian party with DJ Elyte of Next Generation Productions spinning R&B, hip-hop and reggae.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—pool room and lounge keep the men busy until 2 am.

CityGirl Caffé (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-9 pm; Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-4 pm. This small, laid-back café in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated, draws a mixed gay/hetero crowd for lounging and sandwiches. Brunch is served every weekend. Now serves beer and wine.

Club Europa (Fridays)
57 Stuart St., Boston (617-417-0186). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.twistboston.com. Fri., 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+ after 11 pm. DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s tunes at this women's night.

Diesel Café (Daily)
257 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-8717). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Mon.-Thu. 7 am-12 am, Fri., 7 am-1 am, Sat., 8 am-1 am, Sun., 8 am-12 am. All ages. Diesel is a gay-friendly Davis Square café that serves coffee and snacks.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3 pm-2 am; Sat., 1 pm-2 am; Sun., 12 pm-2 am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This quiet, friendly neighborhood bar starts hopping as it gets closer to 2 am.

Fritz Lounge (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 12 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. Four plasma TV sets show satellite sports broadcasts, and Fritz is home base to a softball league. Brunch is served until 3:30 pm on weekends.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $8 weekends, 21+. Patrons relax with a friendly crowd and mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month is the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground. The typical lineup features singer Leah Callahan with guest musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Tuesdays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Big and Hot, Brazilian night, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Tue.: Service Industry Night with DJ Afrodite.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 19+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: New Wave Dance Party with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Matrix (Thursdays)
Matrix (B Room), 275 Tremont St. (lower level of Roxyplex), Boston (617-542-4077). Certain Thursdays (call for details), 10 pm, $8, no sneakers. Controversy, a gay and bi dance party, features DJ John Morris.

Milky Way Lounge (Sundays)
401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+. Every Sunday the Milky Way Lounge presents Satellite, a queer night for ladies. Live entertainment varies from week to week and includes Fireballs Drag Bingo, spoken-word events and jazz.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Omar. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. Private, members-only club, predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

711 Boylston (Tuesdays)
711 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5502). www.hereboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 9 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. The Tuesday night gay dance party, Here, features disco and pop.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night, and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing.

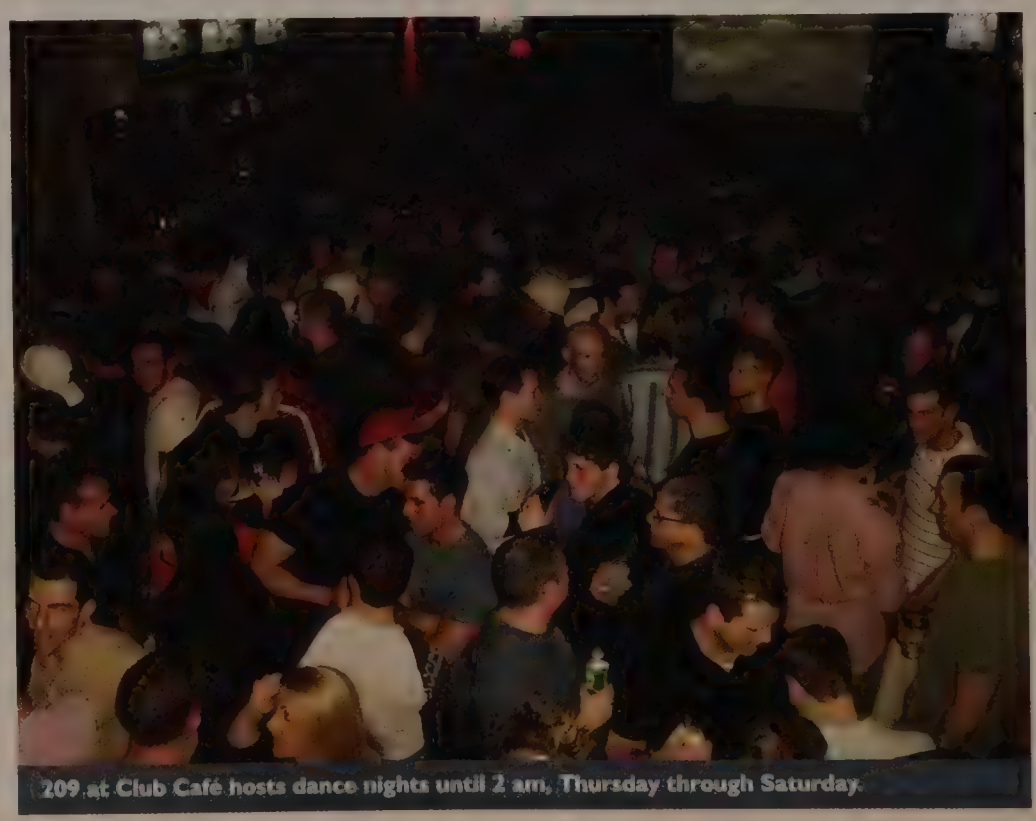
209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room and video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music pumps, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Vapor (Wednesdays–Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adilson. 19+. •Thu.: The Music Factory with DJ Pauli Paul and DJ Ron Steele spinning hip-hop, reggae and funk. $5 before 11, $2 after 11, 21+. •Fri.: Inner Circle. $10, 21+. •Sat.: Evolution with DJ Jay Ine. •Sun.: T-Dance party with DJ Danae grooving to local, tribal, and house while DJ Niterain spins classic oldies. 21+.

Books

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). www.calamusbooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-7 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. This store for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered people carries fiction, erotica and titles by gay and feminist activists.



209 at Club Café hosts dance nights until 2 am, Thursday through Saturday.

Center for New Words
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310 www.centerfornewwords.com. MBTA: Red Line Central. Cambridge's center for women's writing a ideas hosts open mikes and author events.

Cuttyhunk and Provincetown Trading Company
540 Tremont St., Boston (617-574-5000). ww cuttyhunk.us. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Ba This community-centered gay and lesbian boo store, formerly called We Think the World of Y stocks literature, art books, DVDs and videos.

Shows & Events

Beyond Binary
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland S Boston (617-267-0900). www.fenwayhealth.o MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. July 20, 7-9 pm. Fr Join in on a discussion for those who view the selves as being outside the binary gender system.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jama Plain. (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com/b gc. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. July 8, 7:3 am. $5-$10. Express yourself at this open-mike nig

The Identity Ball—JRI Health and Youth of Color Coalition
Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center, Villa Victoria, West Newton St., Boston (617-262-1342). MBT Orange Line to Mass. Ave. July 10, 8 pm. $20. T event, part of Unity Pride Boston 2004, celebr self-expression in the gay, lesbian, bisexual transgendered community.

Invasion of Pleasure Valley
Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Bo (617-824-4297). www.queersoup.net. MBTA: Green Line to Pleasant Street. July 9-31, Thu.-Su pm. $15-$20, (pay what you can, July 9-10). Q Soup's new production, which focuses on a town vaded by aliens, incorporates the kitschy fu 1950s B-movies.

Massachusetts Transgender Politica Coalition Meeting
Justice Resource Institute Health, 132 Boylston Boston (617-983-0219). www.masstpc.org. MB Green Line to Boylston. July 12, 7 pm. Free. statewide activist organization is committed to ing discrimination on the basis of gender identit

Ongoing

Atención Latina Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Bo (800-834-3242). www.fenwayhealth.org. MB Green Line to Hynes. FCH collaborates with Elizabeth Stone House to provide this safe, c dential space to discuss healthy relationships mestic violence and other issues.

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., B (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MBTA: Gre Red Line to Park Street. Wednesdays, 6-9 pm. Boston Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, T gendered and Questioning Youth hosts weekly r ings and social events for young people seeking munity, support and a place to discuss relevant i

Beantown South G/L Bowling Lea
Boston Bowl, 820 Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester 889-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gay lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi and Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., B (617-927-6032). www.fenwayhealth.org. M Green Line to Hynes. 7 pm. This group mee second Tuesday of every month for discussion bisexual and bi-curious men.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arli Wednesdays, 7 pm. Come share thoughts about videos and other topics of interest in a supporti vironment. Open to all bisexual men and wom

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., bridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tuesday month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

BOSS
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. M Green Line to Hynes. 6-8 pm. This group for g bisexual men of color meets the last Thurs each month to discuss culture, lifestyle, cre and health.

Boston Bay Blades
www.bayblades.org/boston. All are welcome to jo competitive, recreational group of rowers and s



Invasion of Pleasure Valley premieres July 9.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers
First Church of Jamaica Plain, corner of Centre and Eliot streets, Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org. Every Wed., 7:30 pm, $8. Square-dancing and English country dancing lessons are available for lesbians, gays, bisexuals and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). *www.bgbl.com.* The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year.

Boston Gay Skins
Ramrod, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). www.bostongayskins.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 11 pm. Boston's nonracist gay skinhead collective meets the third Friday of the month.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri, 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people, ages 13-25.

Boston Ironsides Rugby Football Club
Moakley Field, South Boston (617-524-5814). MBTA: Red Line to JFK. Rugby players of any level, age, race and orientation are welcome to play.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. www.lesbianavengers.org. Thu., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wednesdays, 7 pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
(617-417-0876). Third Saturday of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for interested parents and their partners. For info, e-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-7095). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm, free. An informal group for people who think they may be bisexual or attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning People
(617-256-8693). This group welcomes those who want to discuss the challenges and the joys of coming out. It meets Thursday nights, 7-8:30 pm, in Cambridge.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area support, information and social group for people assigned female at birth who feel that is not an accurate or complete description of their gender. Part of the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group meets monthly. Email CompassFTM@usa.com for details.

The Down Low
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Last Friday of the month. 7-9 pm. This discussion group for gay and bisexual men of color addresses heritage, lifestyle, culture and health.

East Coast Wrestling Club
(401-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www.eastcoastwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay male wrestlers has more than 160 members.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional women 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophisticated to get together with like-minded women for conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Explore Gender in a Safe Place
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. An ongoing support group for people born into female bodies or who have grown up being viewed as biologically female.

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Saturday mornings. Join Boston's GLBT Flag Football League for a casual spring season, followed by a formal fall season. All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). Sat., 10 am. All are welcome to join this running club.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
(617-267-9001 or 888-340-4528). Mon.-Fri., 6-11 pm; Sat. and Sun., 5-10 pm. This toll-free hotline is confidential and provides support for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning callers.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church in Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Professionals Building Community
(617-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to join this networking organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered professionals. Monthly networking meetings.

Gaymes Group
(508-339-4250). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians. Members get together on a regular basis to play board, card and parlor games.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. $5-10. An open-mike night open to new performers, this queer-positive, dyke-positive, bi-positive and trans-positive spoken-word event meets the second Thursday of each month, 7:30 pm.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Biological males meet on Monday evenings. The groups are moderated by psychologist Randi Kaufman.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

Girlz 2 Girlz
(781-893-6113). This mentoring program is for girls ages 13-19 who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered. Contact Marcela Aldez-Osorio.

GLBT Seniors
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6272). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mondays. Support group for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered seniors ages 60 and over. Men-only support group meets Monday afternoons.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Anonymous HIV testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Laffan
This social and networking group for women includes single women, couples and parents interested in art, cultural events, outdoor and sporting activities, intellectual and social pursuits, public service and travel. Members receive a weekly email calendar of events. For info, e-mail Laffan_Boston2004@yahoo.com.

LGBT Considering Parenting Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. A short-term (eight-week) group for LGBT persons who are considering becoming parents. Sliding fee scale available. Call for information.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue., Wed. and Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

The Network/La Red
(617-423-7233). The Network is a support group working to end abuse in lesbian, bisexual women's and transgender communities. Email info@thenetworklared.org for more information.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

Partners of People with HIV
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Meets first and third Tuesdays of each month. 7-9 pm. An ongoing support group that allows individuals with HIV-positive partners to discuss issues surrounding the virus in their lives.

Peer Listening Line
(800-399-7337). Trained GLBT volunteers provide confidential information, referrals and support.

The Rainbow Cafe
rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social group for activist, academic, intellectual or artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

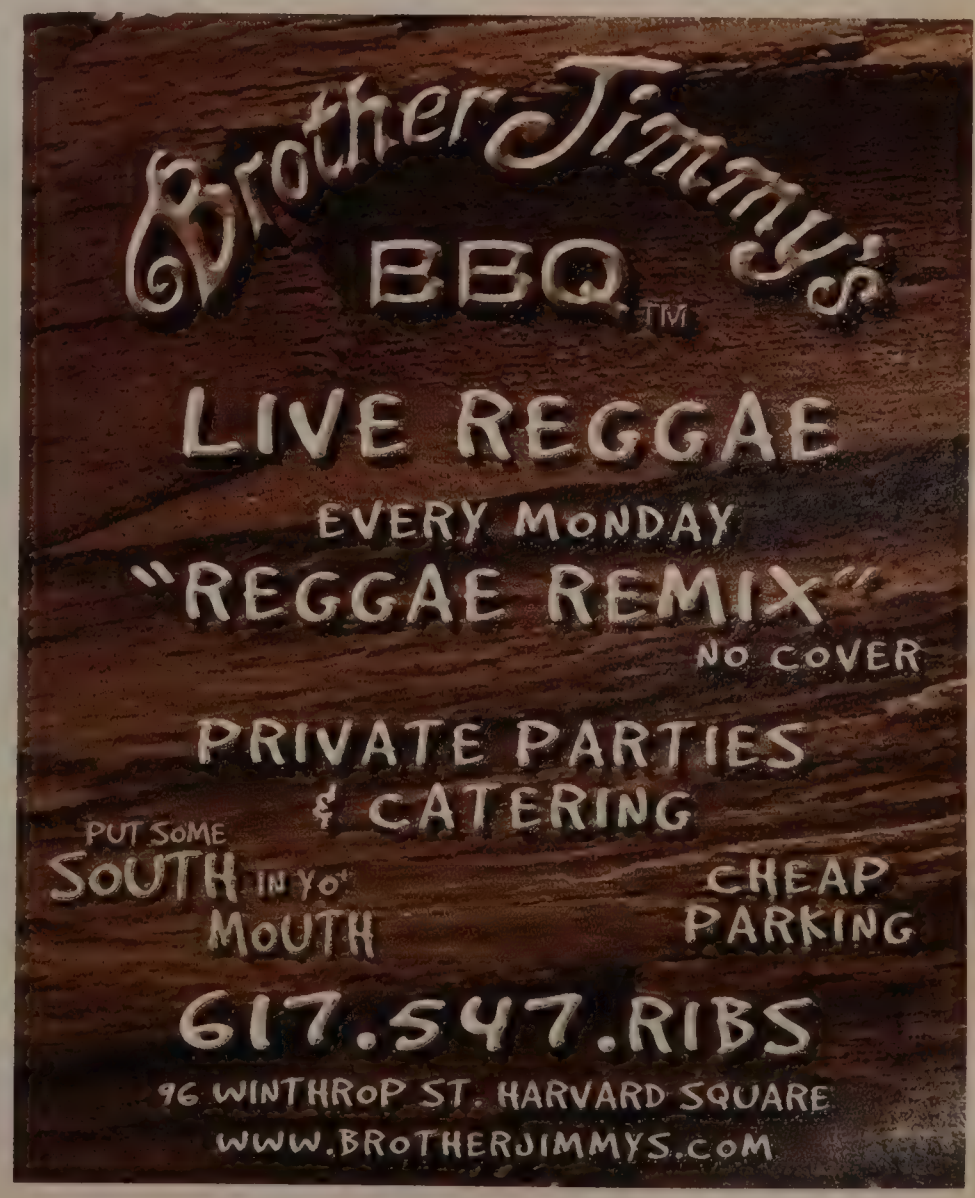
Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. Email somoslatinos lgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Support Group for HIV-Negative Gay and Bisexual Men
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-967-6231). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. First three Tuesdays of each month, 6-8 pm. Discuss safe-sex practices and strategies for managing risk and communicating with sexual partners.

Support Group for Lesbians with Cancer
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed. evenings, once a month. Free. For those who want to discuss the impact of this disease on their lives.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Road, Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Street. First Saturday of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing, $8. Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. WWB is a social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s. It meets the first Thursday of every month.



body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Celebrating the Dharma
Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. July 16, 7-9 pm. Join the CIMC teachers at this community gathering and get to know other meditation practitioners in a celebratory setting. Partners, friends and children are welcome, but please bring a dessert to share.

Mystical Art and Talent Show
Swedenborg Chapel, 50 Quincy St. Cambridge (617-864-4552). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. www.soulstirring.org. July 19, 7-9:30 pm. $5-10, sliding scale. This show presents a variety of original paintings, readings, stories and songs by local artists who gather their inspiration from dreams, meditations, religion, nature and more.

Whole Body and Spirit Expo
Radisson Hotel Plymouth Harbor, 180 Water St., Plymouth (508-398-7473). www.chironexpos.com. July 11, 9:30 am-8 pm. Spend the day sampling new products and treatments and discovering a variety of healing and personal growth techniques.

Lecture

Dharma Talk by Sayadaw U. Janaka
Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. July 11, 5 pm. Burmese Buddhist scholar, meditation master and international teacher Sayadaw U. Janaka talks about meditation practice and the Buddha's teachings.

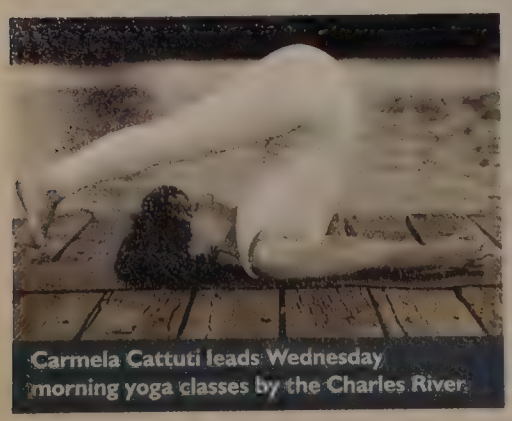
Workshops

The Art of a Little Lift
17 Spring St, Watertown (978-857-5513). MBTA: #71 bus. July 10-11, 13 hours. Sliding scale: $95-175. Australian Pen Dale teaches this contact improvisation workshop, which focuses on the act of lifting fluidly with stability. Participants also learn how to suspend the mind to better listen to the body.

Attracting Abundance
The Women's Center for Wellness, 291 Main St., Milford (508-473-4244). July 15, 7-9 pm. Learn the universal laws of attraction and participate in a group hypnosis session designed to help you change your attitude about finances.

Intro to the Tarot
Open Doors, 360 Washington St., Brighton (617-202-6333). www.opendoors7.com. MBTA: B Green Line to Washington St. July 19, 6:30-9:30 pm. $35. In this workshop, participants learn about the basic structure of the tarot deck, its ancient history, and how its symbolism and imagery are used for divination and meditation.

Love, Sex and Intimacy
Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, 318 Harvard St., Suite 32, Arcade Bldg., Brookline (617-731-2626). www.grandopening.com or www.healingheartpower.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. July 13, 7:30-9:30 pm. $25. This workshop incorporates meditation, partnered exercises and group discussion to explore intimate relating, building self-love, and developing emotional, sexual and spiritual safety.


Carmela Cattuti leads Wednesday morning yoga classes by the Charles River.

Many Paths to Center
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 90 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circlesofwisdom.com or www.balancewithgrace.com. July 14, 7:15-9:15 pm. $25. Come learn many different meditation techniques and find the one that brings you peace of mind. Try yoga, breathing exercises, mantras, music, mindfulness, visualization and more.

Master Wang Haijun: Chen Straight-Sword Form
MacDuffie School, 1 Ames Hill Dr., Springfield (860-836-1068). www.wanghaijun.com. $125 for one day, $195 for both. July 10 and 11, 10 am-4:30 pm. Master Wang, expert in tai chi and martial arts theory, teaches a workshop on Straight Sword, an essential aspect of Chen style tai chi.

Opening the Heart: Yoga Backbends
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. July 17, 3-5 pm. $25. Iyengar yoga teacher Annie Hoffman leads a class on yoga backbends, which are designed to open the heart and breath and enable a strong and balanced posture.

Restorative Yoga
Art and Soul, 91 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-661-7376). www.artsoulyoga.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. July 16, 6-8:30 pm. This workshop is designed for anyone experiencing stress, fatigue, sickness or problems with sleep.

Retreat

Rest and Rejuvenation Yoga Retreat
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. July 10, 12:30-5:30 pm. $81. Escape to a peaceful retreat at a Tudor home in Cambridge equipped with a garden, hot tub and swimming pool. Guests meditate, luxuriate and practice water yoga, and also learn ways to improve breathing, posture, weight loss, and general well-being.

Ongoing

Chakra Yoga and Meditation
YWCA, 7 Temple St., Cambridge (617-320-9125). www.genabean.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue., 7:30-8:30 pm. $12. Walk-ins are welcome at this yoga class, which features an in-depth study of the chakra system. The first part of class teaches yoga poses, the second part explores meditation.

Inner Workout Yoga
Living Yoga Center, 613 Mt. Auburn St., Watertown (617-924-6085). www.livingyogactr.org. Thu., 7-8:30 am. Fri., 5:30-6:30 pm. Donation appreciated. Increase your energy while relaxing the mind and body at this drop-in Kundalini yoga and meditation class.

Morning Yoga by the Charles River
Carmela Cattuti, the Charles River, between the Hatch Shell and the Boat House, Boston (617-970-5320). www.yogame.com. MBTA: Red Line to Charles. Wed., 6:30-7:15 am. $10. Begin your day with an energizing practice of sun salutations, standing and seated postures. Each class ends with deep relaxation. All levels welcome.

Philosophical Open House
The Philosophy Foundation, Worcester House, 28 Worcester Lane, Waltham (781-647-0020). www.philosophyfoundation.org. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. $5 suggested donation. Hear words of the wise, both ancient and modern, enjoy some conversation and spend time in silent meditation at this open-house gathering.

Power to Protect
Brookline Community Center for the Arts, 14 Green St., Brookline (781-405-1248). www.powerboston.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Sun., 1:00 pm. Free. This personalized defense training class is for women and men who want an intense, unique workout that incorporates nontraditional defense training.

Yoga Essentials
Blissful Monkey Yoga Studio, 663 Centre St. Jamaica Plain (617-522-4411). www.blissfulmonkey.com. MBTA: #39 bus. Tue. and Thu., 5:45-7:15 pm. $15, drop-in. Learn classic yoga postures (asanas), breathing and relaxation techniques. This class is aimed at beginners or those interested in grounding their current practice.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

Boston Red Sox
•Fenway Park, Boston
Tickets: 877-733-7699
July 7, 7:05 pm vs. Oakland Athletics
July 8, 7:05 pm vs. Oakland Athletics
July 9, 7:05 pm vs. Texas Rangers
July 10, 7:05 pm vs. Texas Rangers
July 11, 2:05 pm vs. Texas Rangers

Boston Cannons
•Nickerson Field, Boston University
Tickets: 888-847-9700
July 10, 7 pm vs. Philadelphia Barrage

Events

Khoury's Summer Steamer
Khoury's State Spa, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (617-524-1121). www.srr.org. July 11, registration 8-9:30 am. $18. The Somerville Road Runners host this annual four-mile race through Somerville. Proceeds benefit St. benedict's Little Flower School in East Somerville.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club seeks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club (BSSC) Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

CHARITY

Team in Training
(800-688-6572). www.teamintraining.org. This organization provides fund-raising athletes with group training and support, personalized coaching and guaranteed race entry for events including the Timberman Triathlon, Monster Challenge, Maine Marathon, Dublin Marathon and more.

FENCING

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Saturday mornings. Women's teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

FLOOR HOCKEY

BSSC Coed Floor Hockey
Leagues are held in Newton, North Reading and Brighton (617-789-4070, ext. 238). www.bssc.com. All levels are welcome, individuals and teams.


Kick it at BSSC outdoor soccer.

KICKBALL

BSSC Kickball
Games are played Tuesdays in Charlestown or Newton (617-789-4070). Relive your playground days with 10-on-10 kickball (five men and five women per team).

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.com. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, then consider joining these self-proclaimed "serious drinkers with a running problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St. Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Run
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Thu., 7 pm. Weekly runs.

Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thu., 7:30 pm. Weekly 2.6-mile runs.

SOCCER

BSSC Outdoor Soccer
(617-789-4070). Outdoor teams forming now. Games played in Charlestown, Lexington, Reading and Canton. Individuals and teams are welcome.

SOFTBALL

BSSC Softball
(617-789-4070). Coed softball games played in Brighton, Newton, North Reading and other areas.

ULTIMATE FRISBEE

BSSC Ultimate League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070). Coed games each week at Bunker Hill Community College in Charlestown.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed teams forming for summer league in Cambridge, Watertown, Brookline and Newton.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-868-8379). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels. Weekly practices held year-round.

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until your good is better
and your better is Boston's Best!



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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN
MAGAZINE

children

Advice to Contributors

Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Borders Books and Music

Cambridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Every Sat., 1 pm. Staff members read from new and classic storybooks.

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Every Tuesday and Saturday, 11 am. Staff members read children's stories. Craft activities and refreshments follow.

ImprovFoundry Family Show

ImprovBoston, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA Red Line to Central. Saturdays, 6 pm. $10-$12. This short, improvisational show is fun for the whole family.

Puppet Showplace Theatre

32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. 10:30 am and 1 pm. $8.50. Reservations recommended. •July 7 and 8: The Poobley Greegy Puppet Theatre presents *Going, Going, Gone Whaling*, an under-the-sea tale of an unsuccessful whale hunter aboard a 19th century whaling ship. •July 14 and 15: Join Lenny Gerwick of the Gerwick Puppets for *The Case of the Missing Woodpile*, a musical mystery in which kids can play detective.

Things to Do

Arlington Center for the Arts

41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). www.acarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to Alewife, transfer to Arlington Heights bus to Foster Street. Through Sept. 3. $230-$250 per week. Ages 5-11. Explore history, science, the environment, sports, pop culture and more through the Summer Creative Arts Vacation Program.

Boston by Little Feet

Faneuil Hall, Congress Street, Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Sun, 2 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am. $8. Explore Boston's history and architecture by taking a walking Freedom Trail tour designed specifically for kids.

Boston Children's Theatre

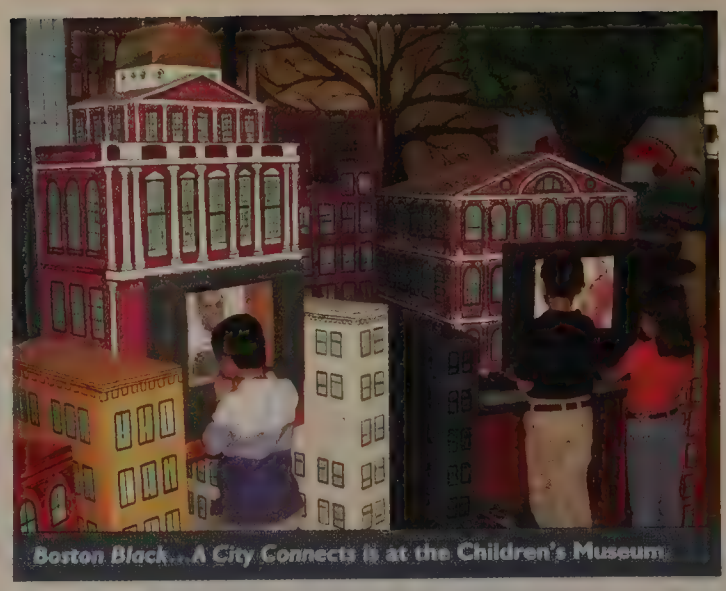
C. Walsh Theater, Suffolk University, 55 Temple St., Boston (617-424-6634). www.bostonchildrenstheatre.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. July 12-16, $300. Grades 2-7. The Summer Creative Arts program provides professional training in dance, vocal and theatrical performance, as well as the chance to write and perform plays.

Boston Duck Tours

Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston; Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-267-3825). www.bostonducktours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Science Park. Daily through November, 9 am-sunset, every 30-60 minutes. $24, $21 seniors and students, $15 children 3-11, $3 children under 3. These amphibious vehicles tour Boston's most popular sights via city streets and the Charles River.

Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary

280 Eliot St., Natick (508-655-2296). www.massaudubon.org. Tue.-Sun and Mon. holidays, dawn-dusk. Members free; nonmembers $4 (adults), $3 (children and seniors). •July 8, 7:30-9 pm. *Ice Cream and Fireflies.* Adults, $12 ($10 nonmembers); children $6 ($7 nonmembers). View the planets and stars, learn about fireflies, sing summertime songs and gobble up dessert. •July 15, 7-8:30 pm. *Bullfrog Wrestling at Paramecium Pond.* Per adult/child pair: $24 members, $28 nonmembers. Watch male bullfrogs call for their mates, light up and fight for their territory. Preregistration required. •July 18, 3-5 pm. *Streaming.* Per adult/child pair: $24 members, $28 nonmembers. Search for insects and study the soil and water of Indian Brook.



Boston Black...A City Connects is at the Children's Museum

Children's Museum

Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8, $7 children. •*Boston Black...A City Connects* is an interactive exhibition celebrating Boston's diversity. Opens July 8. •*access/ABILITY* is an interactive exhibition promoting disability awareness. •Fridays, 3-5 pm; Saturdays and Sundays, 2-4 pm. *In the Zoom Zone:* Take part in hands-on science challenges culled from the PBS TV show *Zoom*. •Wednesdays, 12-1 pm. The *Summer Outdoor Music Series* features live musical performances. Through Sept. 8.

Franklin Park Zoo

One Franklin Park Road, Boston (617-541-5466). www.zoonewengland.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forrest Hills, then #16 Bus to Zoo. Through Sept. 30: Weekdays, 10 am-5 pm; weekends and holidays, 10 am-6 pm. $9.50 adults, $5 children. •July 11, 2 pm: Paleontologist David Krauss leads *DinoMite*, a family program. •July 14, 3:30 pm: *Butterfly Flights of Fancy*, for 2-4-year-olds; *Fossil Finder: the Quest for Dinosaurs*, for 5-10-year-olds. •July 15, 10:30 am: *Hiss, Quack, and Moo!* explores animal acoustics, for 2-4-year-olds. •July 15, 3:30 pm: *Adventure on the Outback Trail*, for 5-10 year-olds. •Through Sept. 6: Dinosaur Kingdom, $3. The zoo has transformed its World Flight bird cage into a Mesozoic jungle where visitors can get up close and personal with 12 giant animatronic dinosaurs. •Through Sept. 6: It's butterflies galore at the Butterfly Landing gardens.

Gore Place

Gore Place, 52 Gore St., Waltham (781-894-2798). www.goreplace.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-3 pm, Sun., 1-3 pm. Children ages 3-9 are invited to explore 45 acres of open spaces, brook and gardens and see farm animals. Activity packs are available for $5.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-496-8204). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. $7.50, $5 children. •Every Sat., 9 am. $35. Saturday Scholar sessions give children the opportunity to learn about their world through hands-on activities. •Through Aug. 6, $99-$110. Museum Explorers is a summer science day camp where kids can explore ancient civilizations, archaeology, the ocean and the animal world.

Mary Baker Eddy Library

200 Mass. Ave., Boston (888-222-3711). www.marybakereddylibrary.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Every Tue., 11 am-1 pm. •Summer Soulstice 2004 is a free festival of activities geared toward children and families, including sidewalk painting and musical guests. Through Aug. 10.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $5 adults, $2 ages 5-18, students and seniors, 5 and under free (free admission the third Sunday of every month). •*Hub of the Air Universe: A Century of Flight in Massachusetts:* Take a backward glance at the evolution of aviation through one-of-a-kind artifacts, images and artwork. Through Sept. 5. •*Holography, the Light Fantastic:* The museum displays the largest collection of holograms in the world. Ongoing. •*Robots and Beyond:* This exhibit offers a look at MIT's artificial intelligence research labs. Ongoing. •*Ship Models: The Evolution of Ship Design* Forty ship models, from warships to clippers, are on display at this ongoing exhibit.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. $15, free for children 16 and under. •Mon.-Thurs., 3:30 pm: Children's Room combines arts and crafts with a variety of cultural themes. •Wed. 5:30 pm: Family Night Out is an interactive evening of creative activities for children and families.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500 www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., am-9 pm. $13, $10 children. •The *Mission to Saturn* planetarium show takes you on a special-effects journey to Saturn, its rings and moons, and the Cassini spacecraft. Through Sept. 6. •*Risk!* is a hands-on exhibit that explores how math, science and probability can help you assess risk. Through Sept. 6. •Pounding hearts and speedy pulses are demystified in the *Adrenaline Rush: The Science of Risk*. Through Sept. 6. •*Forces of Nature*: Experience tornadoes, hurricanes, and volcanoes and learn what science is doing to counteract the forces of nature. Through Oct. 1 •*Making Models* is a hands-on exhibition that demonstrates how models help people understand complex ideas and phenomena. It includes a wave tank, a model of Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •*Animals and Stories Alive!* Every Sat. and Sun., 11 am-12 pm: The museum's Science Theater Program features professional storytellers who combine folk tales and myths with visits from live animals. •*Theater of Electricity:* Daily, times vary. The Van de Graaff generator provides a risk-free lightning show. •Charles Hayden Planetarium, check www.mos.org for show times, $8.50, $6.50 children: The kids-oriented multimedia astronomy show *Gravity Rules* features Jack the Jester. •*Friday Night Stargazing:* Every Fri., 8:30-10 pm (weather permitting). Gilliland Observatory: Use the observatory's two telescopes to find the moon, stars, constellations and planets. Free. •Mugar Omni Theatre: *India: Kingdom of the Tiger*, through Sept. 6. Check www.mos.org for show times, $8.50, $6.50 children.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Through Sept. 1: Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, $13.95 seniors, $8.95 children. •*Amazing Jellies* exhibition features thousands of jellyfish. Through 2005. •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank features sharks, sting rays and a 600-pound California sea lion. Ongoing. •Get hands-on playtime with sea stars, hermit crabs, and more at the ongoing *Edge of the Sea* exhibit. •Whale Watch: New England's most adventurous whale watch. Call 617-973-5206.

New England Flower Society

180 Hemenway Road, Framingham (508-877-7630 www.newfs.org. Thurs.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7, $5 seniors and students, $3 under 18. Explore the gardens, trails, and take part in ongoing programs and events. •*Big Bugs*: David Rogers' large-scale wooden bug sculptures, including a 17-foot dragonfly, will play in the garden. Opens July 17.

Newton Free Library

330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. •Drop-in story hour runs through Aug. Tue., 9:45 am, ages 3-5; Wed., 11 am, ages 3-4; Thu., 3:30 pm, ages 5 and up; 7 pm, pajama storytimes, all 4 and up. •July 12 and 19, 7 pm. The Summer Program gives kids a chance to share their poetry. •July 14, 7 pm. Children ages 9 and up can snack and share their favorite summer books. •*Explore Other Worlds* is a hands-on story hour. Call for schedule and registration.

Newton History Museum

527 Washington St., Newton (617-796-14 www.ci.newton.ma.us/jackson. MBTA: Bus #5 Newton Corner. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm; Sun. pm. $3 children, $5 adults. • *Four-Legged* is an exhibition that shows children the relationship between humans and animals throughout history.

ParkARTS Crafts Workshops

Various Boston parks (617-635-4505 ext. 30 Through Aug. 20, 9 am-12 pm. Free. Children ag 10 work with artists to make arts and crafts. Call list of park locations and dates.

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around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
Coit Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave.., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on clear nights), April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm; Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-3855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5pm; Fri., 10 am - 9 pm. Adults, $9, children and seniors $7. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.

Faneuil Hall
75 State St., Boston (617-338-2323). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 am. Free.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.mnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50, students and seniors 6, children $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10, $8 seniors and students, 12 and under, free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroamuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH, or Green Line to Park St. Summer: daily, 10 am-4 pm; Labor Day through Memorial Day: Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm. Free.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Summer hours, through Sept. 6: Mon.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14, $12 seniors, $11 children.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5, $3 children.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1, Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, $13.95 seniors, $10.95 children.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-5 pm. Free.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $5, $4 seniors and students, $1 children.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $, $4 seniors and children 10 and under.

Trinity Church
35 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily, 7 am-6 pm. $4, 12 and under free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). www.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. May 1-Oct. 15: daily, 9 am-6 pm; Nov. 1-April 30: daily, 10 am-5 pm. Free.

Volunteer

BBC Mentoring Program
(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster-care child.

BEDS Action Committee
(617-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay
(617-375-0700). www.bostonredcross.org. Volunteer in the administrative department.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. Volunteers provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-563-4441). www.bostoncares.org. More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor young Boston students in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). www.ccaa.org. Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers/tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000). Tutor students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
(617-995-3250). www.everybodywinsmetroboston.org. Spend your lunch hour reading with elementary school children.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hospice.org. Volunteers needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-online.com. Over-the-phone counsel for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time with an elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-738-5110). www.mablind.org. Read or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelders.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

Parental Stress Line
(617-927-0621). Counsel parents and caregivers.

Pine Street Inn
(617-482-4944). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve breakfast to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for Boston's homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111). www.rfbd.org. Record textbooks in digital formats.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room and groceries program at this homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young, local professionals.

StandUp for Kids
(800-365-4543). Help rescue homeless children.

VNA Care Network
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.





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RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

An Improper Thought

Griggs Street on the B Line: I was returning from a furniture hunt, waiting for the train to come, and standing next to me was the most striking man I had come across since I moved to Boston. We exchanged glances and boarded the train. After a few pleasantries we fell into conversation. I learned that you hailed from Texas, played in a band and worked in insurance. Intrigued when you tried to give me a copy of your band's CD, I gave you my number instead. Like a proper Southern gentleman, you waited three days to call me. Our attempts to meet again failed and it's been nearly a year. Sometimes I lie awake at night in the bed I bought that day, thinking about all the horrible men I've run across since, and I wonder what would have happened if our schedules hadn't conflicted. I'd love nothing more than to get a chance to know you better.

—Redheaded New Yorker, oloph1915@yahoo.com

Sunny Walk in Allston

OK, it's June 10 in Allston. I'm walking around after getting a cup of coffee around 2 pm. I walk by Diskovery (used record and book shop) when you walk out. We headed down Brighton Ave., walking for the most part next to each other. We kept looking over at each other but didn't say a word. I stopped to take a turn down a street and you stopped as well. We looked at each other but said nothing. I wish I did say something. If you read this, drop me a line. I'd really like to actually say hello.

—captnkevolea@hotmail

Cutie at Stadium June 12

You were wearing a striped shirt, a baseball cap and had dimples. I was wearing a black dress and have dark curly hair. We chatted and had a nice time. Would you like to leave your TiVo at home and meet me for a drink before I go to Ireland for vacation?

—pinktigerlily212@yahoo.com

Two Reds

The first time I saw you was at a New Year's Eve party in Geneseo, N.Y. Your short, yet feminine, red hair, runner's build and outgoing personality were the hit of the party for me. We passed each other on the dance floor, but it wasn't meant to be that night. I saw you more recently, in Boston, at the romantic Cuchi Cuchi, possibly your favorite restaurant? Your long, red hair fell on your shoulders and framed your beautiful face. You had on jeans, pointy black boots and a leather jacket. I was dining there as well, the skinny guy with slightly long, poofy red hair and a goatee wearing jeans, black shoes and a retro light-blue dress shirt. I looked directly into your striking green eyes more than once and saw a world of amazing beauty and love. You returned my glance, which shows there's something special between us. Somehow I know that we'll get a chance to finish the incredible thing that we started. E-mail me.

—rocket_matthews@hotmail.com.

Tim at Sanctuary June 12

Hey, I just wanted to apologize for the rude comments made by my younger brother under his breath while we were talking pleasantries. I'm the gal that compared your looks to a young Richard Gere. Anyway, younger brother was in a fight with his girlfriend and decided to take it out on me.

—nicketammaro@yahoo.com

June 22

A vision of loveliness on the Green Line: brown hair and eyes, a green teardrop of glass at your delicate collarbone and an oversized brown satchel that looked to topple you over. Someone dropped a ream of paper, and you lit up the train with your brilliant smile and wit as you glided over to help, a vision of grace and kindness. The casual warmth you showed to a complete stranger and the way you threw your hair over your shoulder as you bent to offer your help left me breathless, and all I could do was offer a lame smile and stare pathetically after you as you stepped off at Hynes. If there is a god, you will see this and e-mail me back, otherwise you'll haunt my dreams for years.

—greenteardrop@hotmail.com

Hey Gypsy Boy

Where have you been? Did you get married? Are you hanging in Wellesley again? Poet girl has tried to get in touch. I miss the cats and the Black Mazda. Do you want me to try sky-writing? Get in touch. You know how.

—Poet Girl

You Freakin' Idiot!

Are you out of your mind? During the weekend of April 16, during the Red Sox vs. Yankees series, you stole my Red Sox tire cover. Are you crazy? Do you know how much bad karma that is going to bring you as well as the team you think you are honoring by taking it? Just know that every dropped ball, any hair in Johnny Damon's eyes, every Ramirez pop-up, any Ortiz strikeouts, you are personally responsible for. Until that tire cover makes its way back to its rightful owner, you must know that you have brought a dark cloud over an amazing team. Your friends must know that you took it, and they will hang their heads in shame knowing that it is you who has cursed their team. The only way to reverse this curse it to return my tire cover. Contact me here to prove that you are a true fan.

—sllv@comcast.net

Desperately Seeking Watertown Suzy

We talked about a myriad of things. Likes, dislikes, dreams, desires and realities. We almost had a lunch date. What happened? We are intellectual and emotional matches. We should see each other again. Please respond.

—Nick, gsbost@yahoo.com

Deadbeat Landlord

Tenants unite! My landlord is raising the rent with no justification. My apartment looks like it was hit by a sh*tstorm. Half of the apartment is held up by duct tape. Is the raising of our rent to include the removal of the duct tape? Who knows how many of my beers you have drank? The real kick to the nuts is when I come home and you are sleeping on my couch or watching cable in between pseudo house repairs. Hire a repairman, 'cause your work is suspect!

—tenantsnightmare@yahoo.com

Brandon Hall Beauty

So many mornings I see you waiting for the C train. I stay on the subway longer than you do, and I've often wondered where you go when you exit at Hynes. No matter where the destination, there is no doubt that it is a better place when you arrive. Good weather or bad, warm or cold, happy or sad, any morning is better having seen you. A day does not go by that you don't look nice. This time of year it's often capri pants and a sleevele sweater. Or maybe a midlength skirt and silky top. Often you are standing there and gracefully shifting your weight back and forth between your feet. It is a peaceful and somewhat child-like motion that is pretty irresistible. And when you tip your head to one side and run your fingers through your shoulder-length blond hair, it's simply awesome. I'm not leaving an e-mail address and asking you to do a response. I'm not asking you to seek me out for a date. I just want you to smile today. For even though many people have probably told you the same things before, today I am telling you that I think you're beautiful and that you're special. Thank you for being you.

—Your Beacon Street Admirer

rockie horoscope

JULY 7 – 20, 2004

BY ROCKIE GARDINER

CANCER JUNE 21–JULY 22



The last of the dire predictions issued for Crabs and the country is scheduled for the 8th, when the sun and dues-paying Saturn meet. If another reason to feel anxious or depressed is the worst thing that results from their merger, consider your dues paid. If not exactly off the hook, July birthdays aren't due for a gut-wrenching challenge until the Libra sun squares Saturn two weeks before the election. On the upside, opportunity knocks when the sun and prosperity-minded Jupiter align this week. Happy birthday!

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

You're getting a preview now of what'll come to fruition after the sun enters Leo on the 22nd. With both Mercury and Mars traveling through your sign, you might have noticed that your perceptions are sharper, that you're communicating more effectively, more colorfully too. You should have more energy and even your libido may be on the rise. However, you're also inclined to fantasize about an elusive partnership and willingly buy into whatever pretty picture a somewhat significant other is painting. Stop in the name of love!

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

Let's hope your social life reflects the abundance of planetary activity in your Cancerian house of friends, hopes and wishes. This is also the area where socio-political issues resonate and alliances are forged. A major one can emerge when the family-oriented Cancer sun meets Saturn, the general, on the 8th. And while you might not want to assume more responsibilities, this conjunction could affect the abundance you picture yourself enjoying in the future. What follows may not qualify as a challenge, more like a sidebar.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

The family's good name, your performance at work, even your employer's reputation can be the issues you'll be dealing with while so much planetary power is concentrated at the top of your solar chart, in your midheaven. A lot of people, some of them government officials, could be paying attention, both to the situations that have frustrated you as well as to those that have made you more respectable. If you were running for parent of the year, you'd be a shoo-in. Imagine that, and without having to buy anyone's vote!

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

Get out of town; the farther you can go, the better off you'll be. And if you can get away for "business purposes," that's even better. While your Mars co-ruler travels through Leo, you'll have more opportunities to show off, no matter what your talent may be. Although the more creative Scorpios will prefer to hide their light under a bushel basket, there are some who'll relish being in the spotlight. Meanwhile, should your guru beckon, heed the call. Now is also a good time to get serious about your studies and honor your mentor.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

A relationship that seemed to be going nowhere could be upgraded for a mutually satisfactory resolution. Now that accommodating Venus in your Gemini house of allies and antagonists is inching forward, you might think you're simply retracing steps you took when taxes were due. Uh-uh. There's a chance there's another destination that won't be revealed until Venus reaches out to your ever-hopeful Jupiter ruler for the third and final time around the 20th. Until then, pay the bills and maintain the status quo.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

The follow-up to an important conversation or the transference of crucial information may occur when the sun meets your problem-solving Saturn ruler on the 8th. This is their second conjunction in your Cancer marriage house, so consider what happens now a blueprint for building a stronger relationship over the next 12 months. Burdensome, difficult, frustrating, enervating, anxious, bored—these are some of the feelings you may harbor about the partnership. But Saturn will eventually move on and the weight will be lifted.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

This would be a fine time to check into alternative, effective health practices. While the nurturing Cancer sun meets paternal Saturn, your ancient ruling planet, a bell inside your head may ring loud and clear. It could be a warning signal or an invitation to celebrate. Either way, make sure that the small stuff is being attended to, that all contingencies are covered. Same thing applies to your gig. No matter how much faith you may have in the system that's in place, now is not the time to let things slide.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

Fish who crave a bit of stability could get more than they bargained for while the supportive Cancer sun joins forces with tradition-minded Saturn. This merger is about parenting with a big, fat "P." What happens this week can set the tone for relations with children, older students and younger lovers for the next 12 months. Who thought that teaching would be the answer to "How I spent my summer vacation"? So whether your area of expertise is academic, artistic or athletic, prepare to spend quality time pursuing consistency and success.

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

Right now, Rams can benefit or, depending on the latest phone call, feel overwhelmed by parental obligations and family traditions. Bear with those burdens and enjoy the rewards because this is a relatively rare occurrence. It's only during the Independence Day and Christmas holidays that you're caught in the crunch between the maternal concerns of Cancer and those of proprietary, paternal Capricorn. After you satisfy the folks, you can go back to hanging with your creative Leo and adventurous Sagittarius playmates.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

Relax. Progress may seem slow because your Venus ruler is moving slowly. So what! Summer is here and you deserve a break from your routine. Actually, now would be a good time to take a few short trips, visit relatives and former classmates, attend a festival or pretend you're back in school. Any type of recreation could be the revitalizing tonic that'll get you in shape, physically and mentally, for the huge burst of creativity coming in the fall. Meanwhile, try to avoid the fanatic in the family and accidents in the kitchen.

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

Dressing up and stepping out? While your Mercury ruler travels through theatrical Leo (until the 25th), you can come up with new ways to display your creativity, especially a dramatic way with words. You could also learn a valuable lesson from the sun's merger with constructive Saturn in your money house: how to put some other assets to work and how to do more with less. However, at the same time, Venus in your sign, by aligning with expansive, enthusiastic Jupiter, urges you to spend more on yourself and your surroundings. Another typically Gemini contradiction!

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Brian Conaghan conquered the Grand Canyon in this kayak. Then Shaq showed up and demanded his loafer back.



Simon Schwartz conquered the Matterhorn in Switzerland. "Matterhorn" is Swiss for "horn that is made out of matter."



Rhonda Martin conquered the Ngozumpa Glacier near the Mount Everest base camp in Nepal. Did you know that if Mount Everest were a skyscraper, it would be the tallest building in the world?



Sgt. Sharon Gay conquered Iraq, in Iraq. This photo was taken just before Xzibit showed up and pimped her ride with a fly "up armor" package and underbody neon.



Darcy Wills, Candace Chapman, Danielle Schlesier, Eileen Schlesier and Holly Robbins conquered the Preakness at Pimlico Racetrack in Baltimore. Did you know that racehorses run so fast because they're afraid of ladies' hats? It's true.



Washington governor Gary Locke conquered the IMPROPER. Hey, can we talk about Freddy Garcia?

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Going toe to toe with a competitor, literally, at the World Toe Wrestling Championships, held July 24 in Fenny Bentley, England

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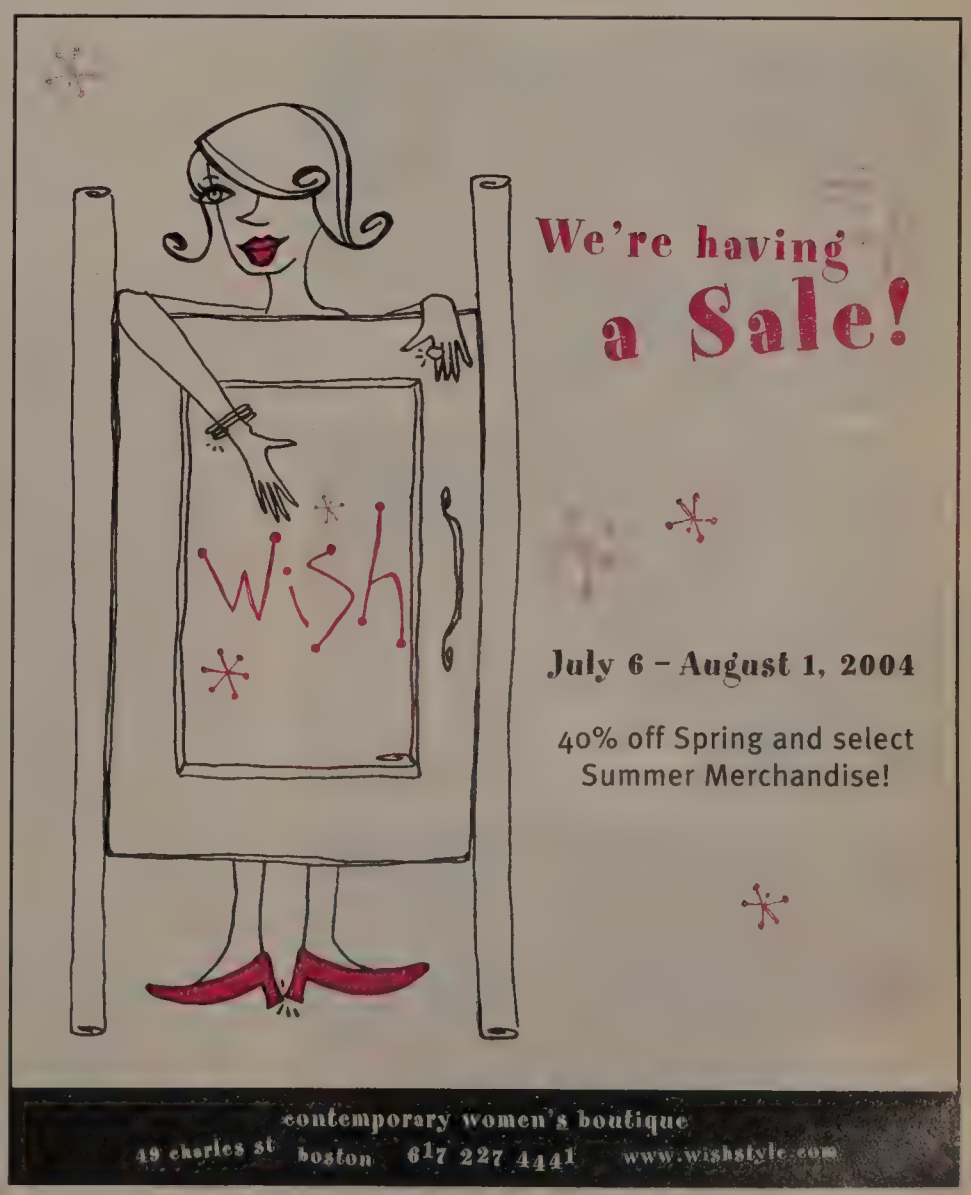
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IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Tuesday, June 8, **Tangierino** celebrated the grand opening of its new Hookah Lounge.







1. **Chris Graul**, scientist at Microbia Inc., and **Tim Hayes**, analyst for Sage Systems.
2. **Sarah Hearn**, public relations representative for Ming East West, and **Allison Bannister-Zenaida**, public relations representative for Tangierino.
3. **Jackie Falla**, marketing director for Tappé and Associates, and **Jessica Burns**, nurse practitioner at Children's Hospital.

On Thursday, June 3, **Stil** boutique on Newbury Street celebrated its opening. Guests enjoyed a lively party with delicacies by **Mantra**, entertainment by DJ Dan Karp and modeling by Maggie Inc. A raffle benefited young designers at the **Massachusetts College of Art**.







1. **Salma Ganchi** of South Africa; **Ali Riaz**, chief operating officer of Fast Search & Transfer; **Betty Riaz**, owner of Stil; **Milé Tang**, president of Milé Tang Jewelry and Gifts; and **Michael Lin**, director of Fast Search & Transfer.
2. **Vanessa Lawrence**, model for Maggie Inc.; **Alejandro Quiroga**, marketing & sales representative for DST International; and **Heather MacDowell**, model for Maggie Inc.
3. **Alexis Swan** of Newton; **Gabrielle Hazard**, office manager for Giangrasso Dental Associates; and **Marisa Fiumara**, vice president of RealMont Inc.



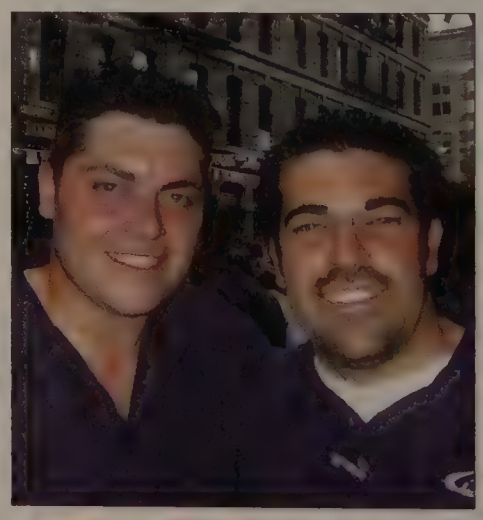




On Tuesday, June 8, **The Place** hosted the USO New England's "Operation Lean-On-Me" benefit for the troops.

1. Front row: **Alice Harkins**, executive director for USO New England; **Artemis Ghanen**, senior marketing manager for Columbia Managment Group; **Jesse Wong**, vice president of Sovereign Bank and USO volunteer; **Norm Laviolette**, co-owner of the Improv Asylum; **Stephanie Stoeberl**, special event coordinator for USO New England. Back row: **Phil Eckelkamp**, graphic designer for Columbia Management Group; **Lt. William Marks**, executive officer of the US Navy; and **Michael Kalil**, marketing and event manager for The Place.
2. A group of USO supporters from Sovereign Bank.
3. **Julie Wile**, promotional representative for Schieffelin & Somerset; **"Crazy Dan" Bacigalupo**, bartender for The Place; **Shannon Wilbur**, USO volunteer; **Alaina Gianci**, promotional representative for Schieffelin & Somerset.

On Thursday, June 17, the **Glynn Hospitality Group** held the 11th Annual **José McIntyre's Block Party** to benefit the **Cystic Fibrosis Foundation**. Entertainment was provided by Me & Julio, the Adam Ezra Group and DJ Dan McCarthy. **Bud Light**, **Star 93.7** and **WEEI Sports Radio** sponsored the event.







1. **John Labanara**, manager of José McIntyre's, and **Gianni Urso**, sales representative for Budweiser.
2. **Scott Martin**, account executive at Ricoh Business Systems; **Maggie Sadowski**, portfolio accountant at State Street Bank; **Rebecca Dorunda** retail sales rep at Jasmine Sola; and **David Smirles**, manager at Citizens Bank.
3. **Lauren Radochia**, assistant at Willia Ghalleger Associates; **Julie Delorey**, portfolio administrator at State Street Bank; and **Andrea Finiello**, insuranc broker at William Ghalleger Associates

PHOTOS: TANGIERINO, MICHAEL BURNS; STIL, HOWIE HECHT; THE PLACE, KAREN DANA; JOSÉ MCINTYRE'S, ALISON MOR

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Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch



RESTAURANTS

75 Chestnut *75 Chestnut St., Boston, 617-227-2175, www.75chestnut.com.* Providing regional American cuisine served in an intimate setting. Bar opens at 5pm. Dinner served from 5:30pm - 10pm.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston, 617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled Portabella Paninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1 am. AE, DC, MC, V.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2002. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston 617-426-3333.* Open 11 am - 2am, 7 days a week. Kennedy's Midtown is a cultural experience far from the maddening crowd while set in heart of it. Kennedy's serves a lunch and dinner menu of international cuisine. In the evenings they play host to some of Boston's finest Pianists who entertain with a range of tunes from Broadway to Jazz and Blues. Kennedy's embraces all the finer qualities of regal Boston and throws in a dash of old fashioned Irish Hospitality for measure.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444, Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., South Boston, 617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11 am - 2am 7 days a week.

Ned Devine's *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere in the heart of downtown Boston. Open 11 am - 2am 7 days a week.

Solas *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11 am - 2 am 7 days a week.

Strega *379 Hanover St., Boston 617-523-8481 www.stregaristorante.com.* A fine dining experience in Boston's historic North End. Enjoy our cozy, romantic atmosphere, splendid wine list and savory Italian dishes. Strega buzzes with a mix of casual tourists, local residents and love-struck couples. The menu offers something for everyone. Traditional dishes like the gnocchi are anything but simple, featuring flavor just as robust as that found in intricate dishes. Find yourself in the company of celebrities, including owner Nick Varano's pals from of the Sopranos. Available for corporate and private functions.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

Sydney's Grille *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why Bon Appétit magazine says, "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breakfast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus visit www.sidneysgrille.com.

BARS/CLUBS

Beer Specialty

Boston Beer Works *112 Canal St., near the Fleet Center, 617-896-BEER, 61 Brookline Ave., across from Fenway Park, 617-536-BEER and 278 Derby St., in Historic Salem, 978-745-BEER.* Boston's oldest and largest restaurant brewery with 3 locations! Bold American Food. Award Winning Beer. 15 microbrewed beers always on tap. 16 American wines by the glass. 15 championship billiards tables at our Canal Street location. Complete party planning capabilities. Private Rooms. Customizeable menus. Lunch. Dinner. Late Night. Always a good time. Check out the BIGGER and BOLDER menu.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exotic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1 am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

Big City - Pool Hall, Pizza Kitchen, Beer Bar *138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8pm, free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Clubs

Felt *533 Washington St., Boston, 617.350.5555* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, right next door to the Opera House; in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering sophisticated billiards, New York style Lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere of DJ's and dancing, combined with the delicious entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Contemporary cusine by Chef Ben Stevens.

Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston, 617-482-7799.* Located in Boston's trendy Theater District, Pravda 116 is a chic bar and club. DJs 5:30pm - 10:30pm keep the energy level high. Bar 5:30pm-2am and dance club 10:30pm - 2am Wednesday-Saturday. Credit cards accepted AE, CB, DC, MC, V.

Stadium – Clubhouse *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Stadium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale nightclub featuring two bars, a hardwood dance floor and parking. An exciting yet relaxed 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety of music and beautiful people crowding the dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights. An ideal place for your next bachelor, bachelorette or birthday party.

Club Q Boston *25 Union St., Boston, 617-742-2121.* Open 9pm - 2am Wednesday through Saturday. What nightlife in Boston has been waiting for, this state of the art Nightclub in the heart of Faneuil Hall attracts a stylish and eclectic crowd. Open Wednesday through Saturday Club Q hosts Boston's top DJs spinning Hip Hop, House and Top 40's. With two bars, three VIP areas and pool tables, Club Q is the place to see and be seen. Credit cards accepted.

Comedy

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www. theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. Mingle. Let your hair down; see and be seen on the big screen. Simply the hippest way to spend a night of all-out fun in Boston's Financial District. Come after work. Come to dance. Come to go wild with your friends. There's always something exciting happening – and you never know who you'll bump into. Join us and experience what the buzz is all about.

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston 617-227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

Irish

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 617-742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates it 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs i



America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston, 617-742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 617-523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11am - 1am 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

The Green Dragon *11 Marshall St., Boston, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-1400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 617-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "a great place for a pint and a chat."

General

The Alley *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-1900. www.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the feel of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

Aqua *120 Water St., Boston, 617-720-4900.* Boston's newest place to be seen is now open in the heart of the Financial District. Whether relaxing with a martini in one of our cozy booths, sipping a margarita on our roof deck or watching your hometown favorites on our high definition plasma TV. Aqua has what you're looking for after work and late night with our resident and guest DJs spinning your favorite mixes through our state of the art sound system all night long.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For more info, please call or e-mail info@theblackrhino.com

Boston Rocks *245 Quincy Market Place Boston, 617-726-1110 www.boston-rocks.net. 21+.* Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2003. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Cheers *Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-227-0150, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Offering pub fare until 11:45pm. Live entertainment every Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Cheers *Beacon Hill 84 Beacon St., Boston, 617-227-9605, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Full menu available until 11:45pm. Watch your favorite team on DirecTV.

Downtown Lounge *138 Portland St., Boston 617-523-8383.* Tempting tapas, modern martinis and contemporary cocktails are just a few of the elements awaiting your arrival. A distinctive destination in the heart of North Station, located just one block from the Fleet Center. Share crab taquitos, shaved portobello mushrooms or grilled white pizza. Revive with a specialty martini while sinking into soft curvy seating. Spacious and sublime, Dowtown Lounge is an attractive meeting place for business, luncheons, social, after work cocktails and events.

The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010.* Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston 617-722-0161.* The newest edition to Boston's night scene. This New Orleans style bar is just steps away from the Fleet Center. Hurricane O'Reilly's serves up the best that Boston nightlife has to offer. Come dance the night away with the hottest music around. We will leave you yearning for Bourbon Street.

Jillian's Boston *145 Ipswich St., Boston, 617-437-0300.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring more than 200 high tech games, six full bars, 50 pool tables, racing simulators, Black Jack for Fun and much more. Atlas Bar and Grill on Jillian's first floor offers full service dining featuring innovative American cuisine, a giant screen video wall and dancing every Friday & Saturday night. www.jilliansboston.com.

The Junction – Your Neighborhood Bar & Grill. *110 Dorchester St., South Boston, 617-268-6429.* Delicious food, great atmosphere and friendly staff – and it all happens at the Junction - South Boston's Neighborhood Bar & Grill. Enjoy our half-priced appetizers on weekdays from 3 to 6 pm. Join us for live music & entertainment on the weekends and for our fun trivia nights on Tuesdays.

Murphy's Law *837 Summer St., South Boston 617-269-6667 www.murphyslawbar.com.* Leave your attitude at the door! Close to Downtown Boston, Murphy's Law is located one minute from the Ted Williams Tunnel and across from Boston Edison. Join us and bring your friends for Live Music April 15 & 17 with Sensual and April 22 & 30 with Off The Wall. Come play some darts or video games. We offer an inviting, fun and friendly atmosphere. Ten beers on tap. Available for private functions. Call for details.

Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Lounge. Cocktails. Dancing. Nightlife. Come see the lights of Parris. Sample the eclectic lounge menu featuring grilled pizza, oyster shooters ans steak tartar. Sip a Classic, Apple or French 75 martini, and then motion onto the huge dance floor featuring Live Music with the best bands and DJs Thursday through Saturday. Named for the original architect of the Greek-revival-style building, Alexander Parris, you're nightlife experience at Parris will be Boston and beyond. Open 5pm - 2am Wednesay - Saturday. Cover charge on Friday and Saturday.

Jazz

Regattabar *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Tuesday-Saturday nights and occasional Sunday afternoons. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square. Shows at 8:30pm Tues-Thurs, 7:30pm & 10:00pm Fri. & Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617.876.7777 for tickets and information, 800.881.1818 for hotel reservations and information.

Latin

Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston 617-351-7001.* A multistory Latin-themed restaurant and club, Sophia's treats guests to a tantalizing Tapas-style menu, live Salsa bands and hi-energy Latin dance. From a romantic dinner and salsa lessons to hi-energy dance and mingling on the roof deck over sangria and Salsa, an evening at Sophia's is always Hot! Hot! Hot

Sports Bar - Upscale

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www.theplaceboston.com.* Voted Boston's Best Sports Bar 3 years in a row by The Improper Bostonian! Mingle with your favorite sports celebrities: Brady, Thornton, Walker, Garciaparra. You never know who you'll run into. Enjoy the wildest party atmosphere in the heart of the Financial District. It's never the same experience twice – we've got exclusive sports video productions and game coverage on our state-of the-art flat screen TVs. So join us to see what the buzz is all about and find out why people in-the-know feel right at home.

Stadium *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* Boston's Best Damn Sports Bar, Period. A brand new, high-end sports bar featuring two floors, three bars, 30 flat screen TVs – including the one in the men's room, a dance floor and parking. Stadium menu offers an enticing selection of appetizers, salads, steak & burgers, fresh seafood and drinks

BRUNCH

Harvard Gardens *315 Cambridge St., Beacon Hill, Boston, 617-523-2727. www.harvardgardens.com.* Cozy up to the beautiful mahogany bar or slip into a comfy booth and enjoy Harvard Gardens' menu of cool cocktails and comfort food. Brunch serves up eggs and pastrami hash, thick-cut French toast with caramelized bananas, specialty pizzas and Boston's best Bloody Mary. Harvard Gardens serves brunch Saturday and Sunday, 11:00am - 3:00pm.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended 617-661-5005.

Museum of Science – Skyline Room *Science Park, Boston, Ma, 02114.* Enjoy Sunday Brunch in the beautiful Skyline Room overlooking the Charles River at 12p.m., then check out the latest Omni film or visit our exhibit halls. Combination tickets start at $32 and include on-site parking when available. Brunch only, $24. Reservations recommended. For more information call (617) 723-2500 or visit mos.org.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**, *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

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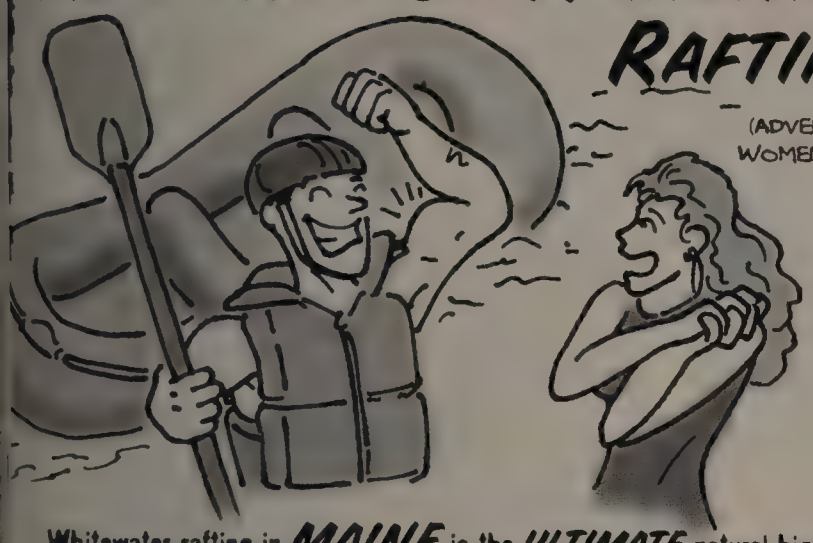
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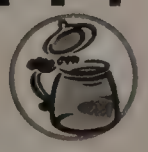
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LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF









At the Dana Bisbee Award party, top: Dana Bisbee and honoree Cathryn Keith. Middle row: Joan Jolley and Kathy Taylor; Karyn Lamb and Nathalie Kaplan; Anja Kola and Kier McDonough. Bottom: Nina Fialkow and Trevania Henderson



A GRANDE DAME GETS HER DUE...

It's about time. One of Boston's greatest living treasures, **Cathryn Keith**, was honored at a reception hosted by the **Boston Harbor Hotel**, where she received the **Dana Bisbee Award** (named for the *Herald* columnist and dean of the Boston social scene) to acknowledge her four decades of volunteerism with **Boston Ballet**, **New England Medical Center** and numerous other institutions.

Seen schmoozing, sipping champagne and scrawling brief love letters to Keith on a large caricature of her drawn for the occasion were many of the city's top movers and shakers, among them Brahmin do-gooder **Sylvia Pope**; Boston Ballet jefe **Mikko Nissinen**; hotelier **Robin Brown** and his luscious wife, **Marcia**; Chestnut Hill powerhouse **Kathy Taylor**; expectant mother **Karyn Lamb** and her New York socialite sister, **Nathalie Kaplan**; force of nature **Spring Sirkin**; design avatar **Denise Korn**; notorious gadfly **Martin Slobodkin**; the stunning **Dena Hamilburg**; blonde cutie **Jill Goldweitz**; dowager empress **Smoki Bacon** and her royal consort, **Dick Concannon**; and so on and so forth down the list of who's got serious juice in this town.

Inevitably, several conversations involved Keith's trademark coiffure, an elegant, elaborate-looking twist that engulfs a black velvet headband and never has a single strand out of place.

"I don't know how she has time to volunteer anywhere," said one guest. "It must take all day to look that perfect."

OPEN MOUTH, INSERT FOOD...

In a propitious marriage of philanthropy and self-indulgence, the multitaskers who attended the **Celebrity Chef Soiree** were able to make the world a better place by grazing on tasty morsels prepared by some of the city's top chefs.

Held in the swanky Charlestown offices of **Vitale, Caturano & Co.** (an accounting firm, no less!), the event benefited the numerous non-profits supported by the firm's charitable foundation. Guests could not only eat and drink to their hearts' content, but they could buy a cookbook and get it signed by the celebrity chefs on hand, who included **Barbara Lynch** of No. 9 Park and B&G Oysters; **Jody Adams** of Rialto; **Dante deMagistris** of Blu; **Jeremy Sewell** of Great Bay; **Marc Orfaly** of Pigalle; **Ken Oringer** of Clio; **Tony Susi** of Sage; and **Anthony Caturano** of Prezza (whom we're guessing had more than a little to do with organizing the whole thing, since his father is a partner in the accounting firm).

Guests included the eccentrically elegant **Cecile Lemley** (who just had the Ladies Room at the new Provincetown Theater named in her honor) with her husband, **Frasier**; parking mogul **Andrew Tuchler** and his gorgeous blonde wife, **Christine**; interior design duo **Suzanne Logan** and **Gigi Gowdy** with clients **Joe** and **Robin Falzone**; Boys & Girls Clubs honcha **Linda Whitlock**; antiques dealer **Irina Weatherly**; mutual fund executive **Janice Morris-Hatch** and her husband, **Michael Hatch**; fashion designer and tireless party-goer **Paula Jaq'lyn**; talented shutterbug **Christina Caturano**; promotions babe **Meghan McSheffrey**; debonair hotelier **Tim Kirwan** of the Hotel Commonwealth, and one young woman who was there to hunt for a husband and said, "I did see one cute guy who's not dressed great, so it's safe to assume that he either doesn't have a girlfriend or needs a new one."









At the Boston Landmarks Orchestra party, clockwise from upper left: Stuart Sojcher and Diane Gilbert; Bert and Rosalie Cohen; Beatrice Roy and Charles Ansbacher; Stephanie Warburg

LISTEN, MY CHILDREN, AND YOU SHALL HEAR...

If Congreve was right that "music has charms to soothe a savage breast," imagine what it can do for a bunch of rambunctious, unruly 8-year-olds?

That seems to be the idea behind **Boston Landmarks Orchestra**, which presents a season of free classical music concerts geared toward a younger audience and performed in architecturally or historically significant places like the Boston Common and the Charlestown Navy Yard.

Headed by conductor **Charles Ansbacher**, the group hosted a piss-elegant fund-raiser at the **Ritz** that included a silent auction, dinner and the premiere performance of *The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere*, an original work commissioned from composer **Julian Wachner**.

Unfortunately, Ansbacher's wife—Texas oil heiress, Harvard dignitary and former U.S. ambassador Swanee Hunt—was stuck in Washington, D.C., that evening, but blessedly present were co-chairs **Suzanne Bloomberg** and **Stephanie Warburg** and their respective husbands, Tweeter director **Jeffrey** and banking family scion **Jonathan**; former senatorial spouse **Joan Kennedy**; arts patron **Linda Cabot Black**; patrician author **Muffie Cabot**; Cambridge grande dame **Beatrice Roy**; attorney-about-town **Stuart Sojcher** and his stunning spouse, **Diane Gilbert**; the impeccably dressed and improbably tall **Bill Nigreen**; social stalwarts **Sally Fay** and **Bill Cottingham**; Back Bay philanthropists **Bert** and **Rosalie Cohen**; uber-publicist **Harron Ellenson**; and one woman in a pair of yellow pumps who said, "I have a broken ankle, but I'll be damned if I wasn't going to wear shoes that match my dress."

Classical radio personality **Ray Brown** of WCRB-FM 102.5 served as narrator, reading the classic poem by Longfellow while the musicians played and the crowd of normally reserved adults carried on like a group of rowdy kids, imitating the noise of a horse's galloping hooves.

The auction, meanwhile, netted some serious dough for the orchestra while offering some incredible bargains to the winning bidders, like the lucky guy who got a five-day stay at the magnificent Hunt-Ansbacher ranch in Colorado.

"What a deal," said another guest. "The place sleeps eight, and for what he paid, he couldn't put that many people up in a roach motel." IB









At the Celebrity Chef Soiree, clockwise from upper left: Marc Orfaly; Joanne Chang; Ken Oringer and Cecile Lemley; Gigi Gowdy, Joe Falzone, Suzanne Logan, Robin Falzone

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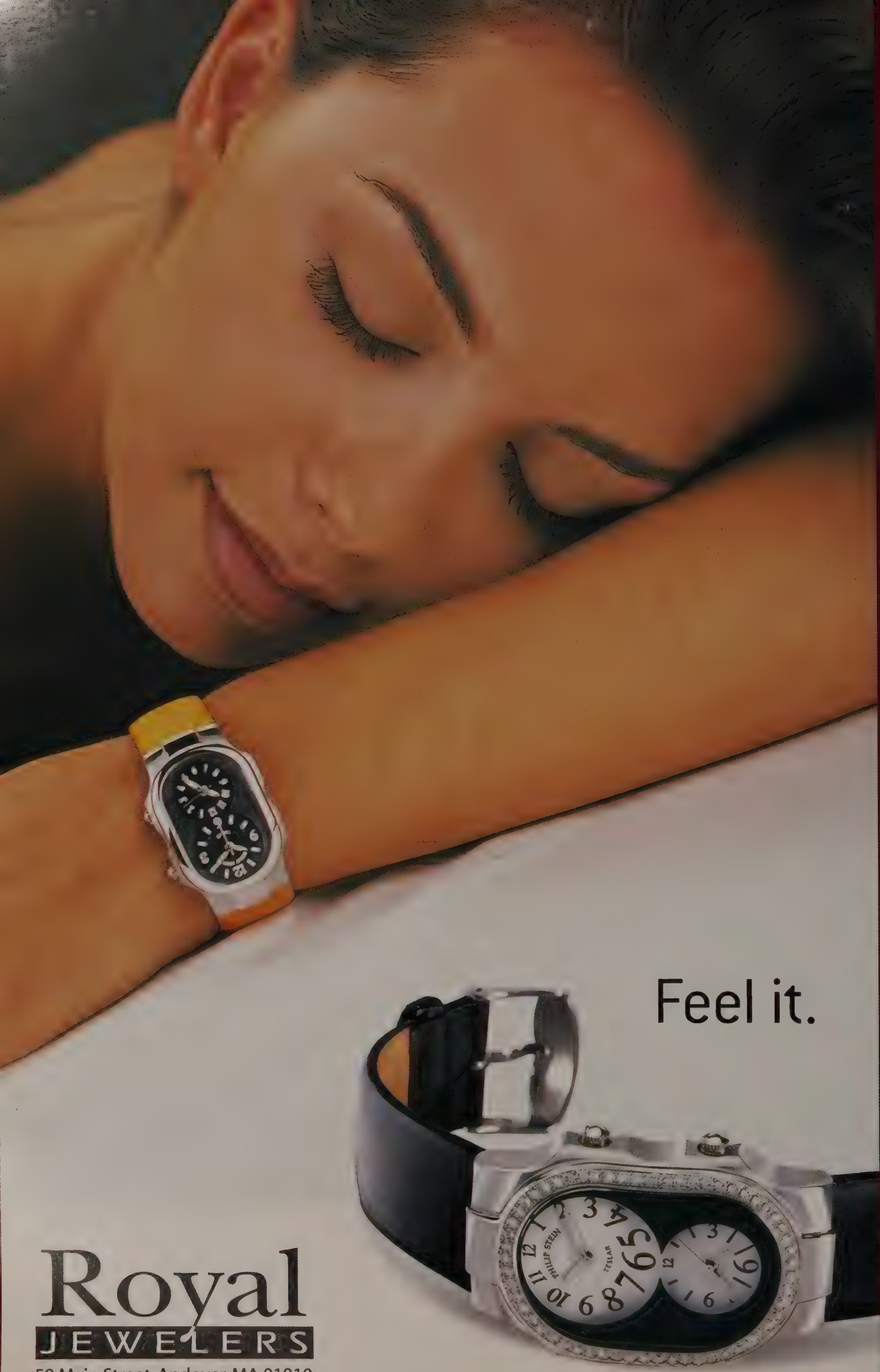
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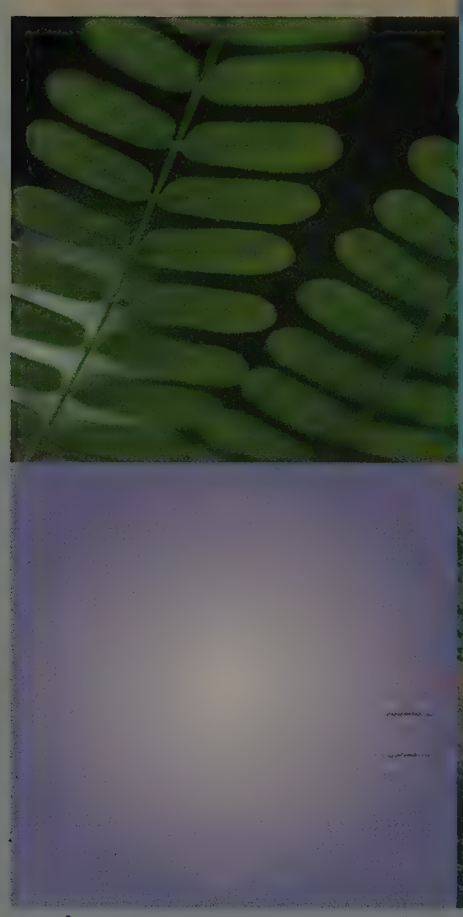
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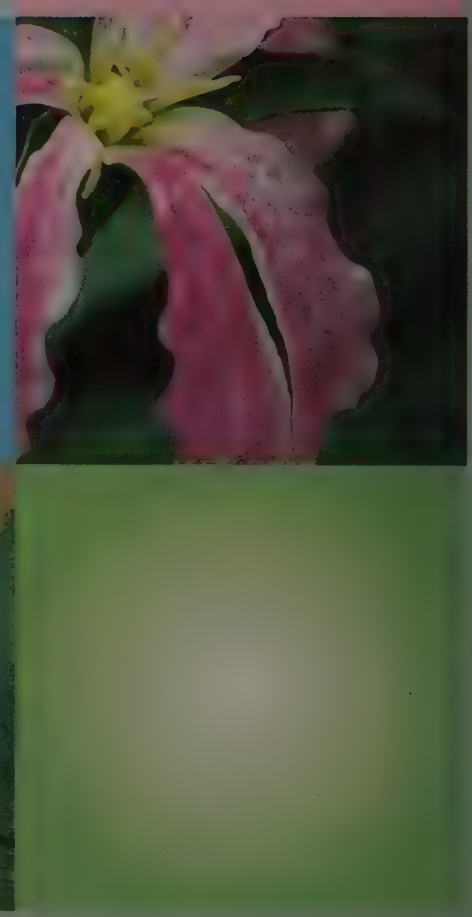
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Photographed for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by
Greg Henry/LaMoine Photo Group

Photographer's assistant: **Art Grey;** hair: **Campbell McCauley/Solo Artists;** makeup: **Francine Valdivia/*Entertainment Tonight*;** stylist: **Lindsay Albanese/*Entertainment Tonight*;** stylist's assistant: **Anna Orosco;** dress: **Anja Flint;** jewelry: **Jennifer Kaufman**

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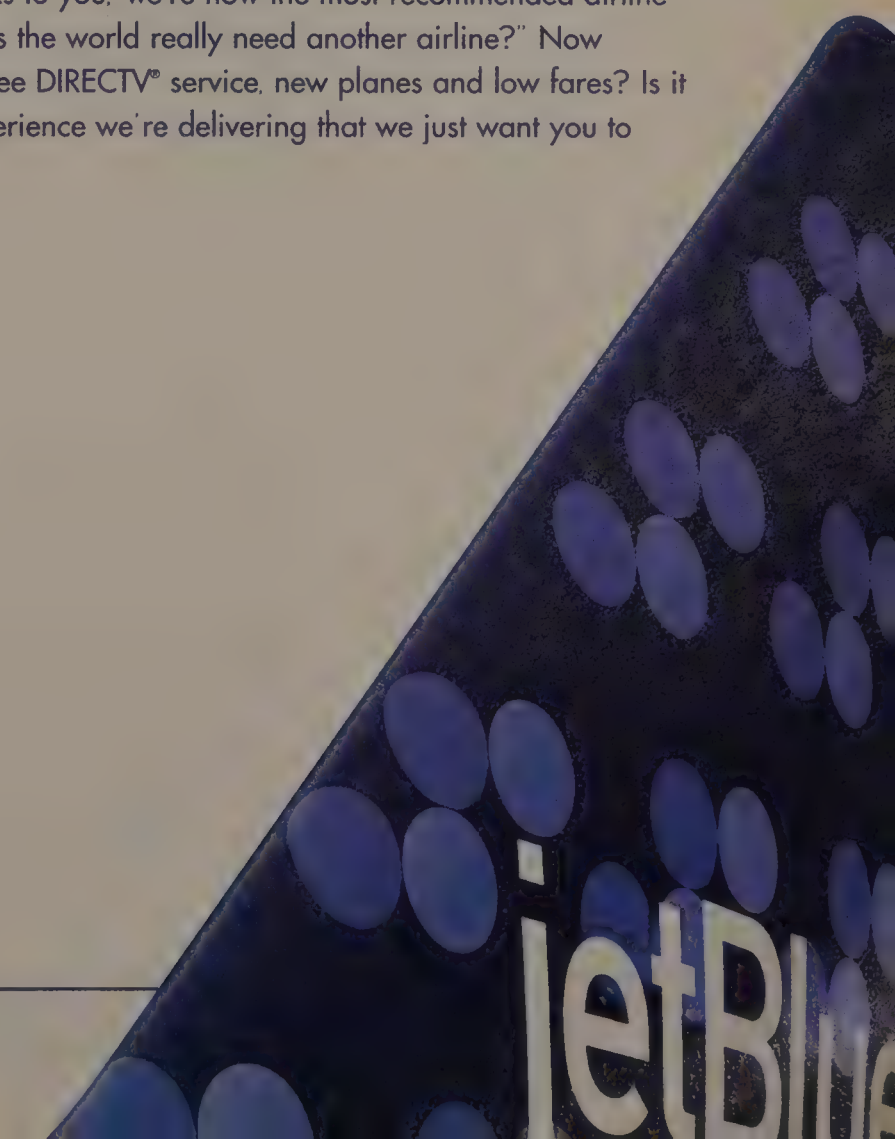
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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR



CREAM OF THE CROP

Want to know what's the best Irish bar in the city? The most underrated restaurant? Or where you can get the best haircut? In this issue we're proud to present the 313 winners of our 2004 Boston's Best awards—our picks for the best this city has to offer in food, drink, nightlife, arts, fashion and more. These are the places and people that we think stand out from the crowd, that do at least one thing like no one else does, and help give our city character.

Months of research went into our selections. We recruited a team of accomplished Bostonians to serve as judges, and we followed up their recommendations with loads of undercover field trips to local establishments. The result is our largest Best issue ever—in fact, the biggest issue we've ever published.

This year's Boston's Best issue is especially timely, since it coincides with the arrival of the DNC's 35,000 visitors, who might like to know where to find the Best Place for a Civilized Nightcap (page 56)—or perhaps the Best Place to Relive Spring Break (page 60)—after a hard day of politicking. But whether you're in town for a week, a fresh transplant from afar, or a lifelong Bostonian, we hope you'll find this issue an entertaining read and a valuable tool to help you make the most of life in our city.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

PUMPED UP

"Don't Get Me Strong" (Ezra, July 7) was a great story. Show me a man who doesn't dream of looking like Lou Ferrigno and I'll show you sour grapes. Over the course of 25 years of slinging barbells, I have managed to stay slim and sinewy, but have never achieved a Herculean image requiring that I turn sideways to fit through doors. But have you ever read statistics on how few men are capable of putting on massive muscle without drugs? It's around 10 percent. That's my reliable back-pocket excuse, anyway.

—DAN SANFORD
Cambridge



MISTAKE BY THE LAKE

Author Mokriski is mistaken (Dining, July 7). St. Jean's Church was a French-language parish—not Italian—to "The Lake" community. St. Jean translates to St. John in English. To answer his question of what happened to the body of water for which the community is named, the original lake was filled many years ago. The Newton Public Library has a very good history of the villages of Newton.

—C.D. MURRAY
Watertown

DIY FYI

The pillows you made are charming ("D.I.Y.," June 23), but you don't have to stuff them. Buy a 12-inch pillow form or an 8-inch one and slip it in. For the bolster or neck pillow, you can buy preformed ones as well.

—BARBARA PAPISH
Beverly

CORRECTION

While the historic Warren Tavern doesn't have water views ("Let's Do Brunch... Again," June 9), it was reportedly visited by George Washington and Paul Revere.

CONTRIBUTORS

ANDY LEVINSKY



Andy Levinsky, three-time author of the Boston's Best Media section, has a unique perspective since he's done duty on both sides of the Boston media scene. He's worked as a producer for WBZ-TV, WNEV-TV, WHDH-TV and several radio stations, and he now works in PR as director of external relations for the North Bennet Street School in the North End. Turn to page 84 for this year's Boston's Best Media awards.

KEITH REGAN



Keith Regan, the writer behind the Boston's Best Business & Technology section, specializes in business and technology and writes regularly for the *Boston Business Journal*, *e-Commerce Times*, *Information Security* magazine and several other publications. Boston's Best Biz & Tech begins on page 88.

RUTH TOBIAS



IMPROPER contributor and confirmed foodie Ruth Tobias lent a hand with the Food & Drink section. Tobias has contributed to the *Boston Globe*, *Slammed* magazine and the *Oxford Encyclopedia of American Food and Drink*, and she's studied at the Cambridge School of Culinary Arts. Boston's Best Food & Drink begins on page 34.

LAUREN AMBROSE COVER: SAM GRAY

Tell Us What You Think

SEND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR TO: The Improper Bostonian, 142 Berkeley St., Third Floor, Boston, MA 02116. E-mail: letters@improper.com. Fax: 617-859-1446. Letters must be signed; please include your town and phone number. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

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new in town

RUSTIC REDUX

It's not always bad things that come in threes: we've got three-day weekends, the *LOTR* trilogy, Neapolitan ice cream...and pretty soon, the Boston area will have three Rustic Kitchens. The second location of the Mediterra- nean-Italian bistro owned by Jim Cafarelli and headed up by chef Bill Bradley (formerly of Bricco and Carmen in the North End) opened in Cambridge's Porter Square in July (a third location, in Hingham, is set to open this fall).


The new Rustic Kitchen

Fashioned after the original in Faneuil Hall, the Porter Kitchen is dimly lit, spacious-yet-cozy and bustling. There are plenty of favorites from the Faneuil Hall location on the menu—appetizers like cod fritter and hearty main courses including lavender and honey–basted duck breast with rhubarb. The Cambridge location also has the same fresh, crusty breads (served with an addictively tasty white-bean dipping sauce), homemade pastas, wood-oven-roasted thin-crust pizzas and lots of wines by the glass.

Bradley has made some changes with the new Cambridge menu, however. He's introduced his version of an Italian raw bar, called the Oysteria (with selections like tuna with saba, mint and chilies) and he's added more *cicchetti* (tapas) offerings, like baked polenta with gorgonzola.

Dessert specialties include homemade gelato and sorbet (try the Rustic ice cream Sunday—hazelnut semifreddo, a chocolate gelato pastry shell, with warm caramel sauce and cocoa hazelnuts topped with whipped cream). A close second is the peach crème brûlée—some of the very best we've tasted. *Open daily for lunch and dinner. 1815 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-7766), www.rustickitchen.biz. —E.H.*

this just in

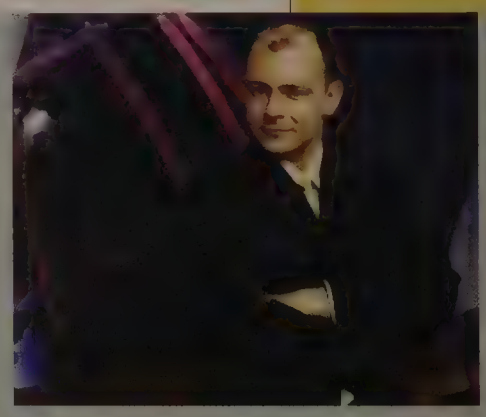
PRIMP YOUR PROFILE



You can hype up your personals profile till there's no tomorrow, but when it comes to online dating, your picture really is worth a thousand words. AttractOne.com and Boston's Linear Aveda Lifestyle Salon & Spa are teaming up to give singles a leg up on the competition. The new Web cam–based dating site (users can see and talk to potential matches via live Internet chat) is giving 100 of Aveda's female customers a free Web cam and a six-month AttractOne membership. Here's the idea: Instead of flipping through a fashion mag, single gals use their time spent under Aveda's hair dryer to log on to AttractOne.com and set up their profile (laptops are supplied at the salon). Once the info is uploaded, the women make their chatting debut looking perfectly primped. If all goes well, the lovely lady walks out of the salon with a dashing fella lined up—love, marriage and happily-ever-after follow. If not, at the very least, she walks out with a free Web cam. *669 Boylston St., Boston (617-267-3080), www.attractone.com. —Jessica Iredale*

inner view

ROB CORDDRY



Fans know Rob Corddry as the intense correspondent on Comedy Central's impossibly smart, albeit "fake," news program, *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart*. What many don't know is that Corddry hails from Weymouth. And before he started providing his deadpan reporting of hardhitting stories like gay tourism and nursery crimes, the actor/comedian cut his show-biz teeth on *Upright Citizens Brigade* and *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*, scored a part in *Old School*, and fancied himself "a pretty important actor." When the Democratic National Convention rolls into town, so will Corddry and his ballbusting compatriots, to do their dubious reporting on Kerry, Edwards and the like. Here, he talks about doing the DNC, *Daily Show*–style.

IB: *Where will* The Daily Show *stay during the DNC? Is a whole floor of the Four Seasons booked?*

RC: Yeah right. We're staying at BU in the dorms. I mean the classy dorms. The ones that have the nicer, newer bathrooms, and, um, you know, some suites. We're staying in the party dorms.

IB: *Are you insanely jealous of Stephen Colbert's Mr. Goodwrench bucks?*

RC: Well, I don't mean to drop names, but I did a commercial with Carrot Top, and, while that was only one little spot, I was able to make about $1,200 off it. Actually, I'm really jealous of Stephen Colbert's bobble-head doll. It stares at you no matter where you go in the room.

IB: *How do you maintain your impartiality as a reporter?*

RC: I don't have to because I take no responsibility for any of this shit.

IB: *What do you think will be the most compelling story of the DNC?*

RC: John Edwards: Should he campaign topless?

IB: *Are you worried that unprecedented security will prevent you from doing your job properly? For example, they're supposedly allowing no packages larger than a loaf of bread on the T.*

RC: That's OK, because that's all I'm carrying around Boston: my signature loaf of bread. [Security] shouldn't be a problem, because when I'm not doing something for the show I'm probably going to be drunk.

IB: *What will you do for kicks while you're in Boston?*

RC: I'm sure there will be a family dinner or two. Play with my nephews. Nap. Check out the Boston Tea Party.

IB: *Do you plan on crashing any of the delegation's parties?*

RC: By crashing do you mean trying to sneak my loaf of bread in? I just don't want to do anything that means getting stuck in traffic.

IB: *Who would win in a poetry slam John Kerry or George Bush?*

RC: Bush. Hands down. It'd be a very Beat, disjointed, sort of experimental type. I think we've taken a lot of what George Bush says for malapropisms, but his misspeakings are actually poetry. If Kerry were to write a poem it'd be like *Ulysses*. No paragraphs. No room for breathing. We'd all pass out.

IB: *What word or phrase will Kerry use most often in his nomination acceptance speech?*

RC: Some combination of "I" "and" and "a."

IB: *Who has better hair—John Kerry or Johnny Damon?*

RC: Damon. Are you kidding me? My wife has the biggest crush on Johnny Damon, and I only support that.

IB: *What are the chances of John Kerry and Teresa Heinz Kerry French-kissing on stage?*

RC: I guess there's more of a chance of John Kerry and John Edwards French kissing. Those guys are all over each other, always patting each other and finishing each other's sentences. They're like the overly affectionate couple. I'm just embarrassed for them. I mean, we get it, you guys are best friends.

IB: *Any last words?*

RC: Go Red Sox.

—J.I.

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tasty tidbits

WHAT'S OLD IS NEW

Instant Replay... When Allston institution the Sports Depot chucked its game-time theme and became Captain Fishbones last year, the result was more *The Old Man and the Sea* than thriving seafood eatery. General manager Sheldon Cohen admits the decision was a bad one. "We realized the error of our ways and we're prepared to serve crow as a special for the next six months and eat it." The team returned to its original game plan a few weeks ago and resurrected the Sports Depot. They polished up the interior, replaced the nautical decor with hi-def and plasma TVs—60 in total—and the new menu has more pub grub and less seafood. Even the scoreboard mural on the outside wall is back. *353 Cambridge St., Allston (617-783-2300).*

Boston Globetrotters... Businessmen Joe Dunne and Declan Mehigan already own a stable of great watering holes around the city (Lir, McGann's Pub and Coyote Ugly). In late June they opened up their latest venture, called Globe, at 565 Boylston St., the former home of White Star Tavern. Many of White Star's menu items remain, but a redone patio, a new music system and three brand spanking new 47-inch plasmas look like the ingredients for a new summer hot spot. *565 Boylston St., Boston (617-778-6993).*



Lobstah Dogs... Jasper White, chef and owner of the aptly named Summer Shack in Cambridge and the Back Bay, hit a home run 25 years ago when he unleashed his "lobster sausage" at the Bostonian Hotel. In early July, White resurrected the dish at the Summer Shack, but this time with a little deep-fried twist. Lobster corn dogs—sausage made with lobster, shrimp and seasoning and then deep-fried with corn dog batter—are now available. They cost $10 and come with a plate of fries and mustard sauce for dog-dipping. *149 Alewife Brook Pkwy., Cambridge (617-520-9500); 10 Scotia St. / 50 Dalton St., Boston (617-867-9955).*

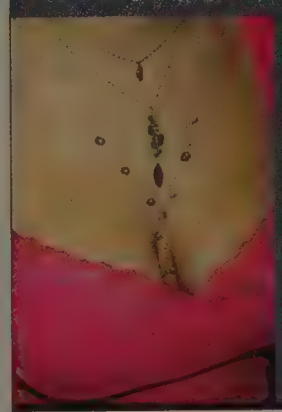
Cambridge Curry... Fresh and authentic are words to cook by at Tamarind Bay, Harvard Square's new Indian eatery. Instead of the dictionary-sized menus typical of its nearby rivals, co-owner Vikas Kapoor decided to pare down the offerings to ensure that everything is made-to-order. Food is prepared without artificial colors or flavors, and even though the number of dishes is limited, the variety isn't. Tamarind Bay features some rarely seen Indian fare, like *faldhari kofta*, raw banana dumplings in onion sauce, and *macchi anarkali*, mahi mahi flavored with carom seed and silky yellow gravy. The decor matches the food—simple but authentic, with serving dishes imported from India and a replica of a 14th-century buddha standing guard at the entranceway. *75 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-491-4552).*



—E.H., J.I. and Rich Levine

sam says

DAINTY DESIGNS

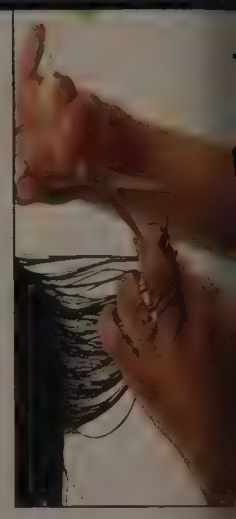


It seems jewelry designers have grown tired of the big bling and chunky baubles that have dominated the past few seasons. The loud, in-your-face look (think Dior's large lucite cuffs and J. Lo's infamous pink diamond ring) is taking a backseat to dainty, demure pieces. Classic pearls are hotter than ever, and gems on delicate gold strands are on their way in. Celebs like Cameron Diaz and Drew Barrymore have been spotted in one of my favorite new looks: funky, fresh versions of 1920s-era stacked necklaces with three strands—choker-length, mid-length and decolletage-skimming. Whether it's three strands that clasp together in the back or individual pieces worn together, this style is invading stores everywhere and it's one I'm excited to create on your own. *—Samantha House*

improper reports

GLITZ, GLAMOUR AND GUILT-FREE SPLURGING

If your sense of style is overpowering your wallet, or you're aching to trade in your discount barber for a sleek Newbury Street beautician, get ready to breathe—and brush—easy. Many of the nicest salons offer free or discounted styling sessions throughout the week. Don't forget to call ahead for an appointment.



* **Avanti Salon** *11 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-4027).* Treat your tresses to some quality TLC and start the week off right. Monday and Tuesday evenings at around 6 pm, you can get free cuts and $20 color treatments with stylists in training.
* **DeKwa** *132 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-8082). www.dekwa.com.* Elements of Hair makes it easy (and free) to get that short summer style you've always wanted to try. If you have 10 inches to shed, do it for a good cause and donate it to "Locks of Love," Tuesdays at 12 and 1:30 pm.
* **Jerel Roberts Hair Salon** *138 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4443). www.jerelroberts.com.* Assistants provide free cuts and colors as part of their training Tuesdays at 5:30 pm. Show off your sleek new style at an outdoor Newbury café with the money you save.
* **Safar Coiffures** *235 Newbury St. (617-247-3933).* Anything being taught to the training beauticians this upscale salon each week is completely free on Wednesdays at 9 am. This means cuts, color highlights and more.
* **Umi Salon** *75 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0770), www.umisite.com.* This Newbury Street salon offers free cuts and $20 colorings by stylists in training, Tuesdays at 5:30 pm.
* **Vidal Sassoon** *14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5496).* Rejuvenate your tired tresses on Fridays at 5:45 pm with a free consultation from one of the most illustrious names in hair care. Return the next week for a $16 cut or discounted coloring. *—Laura Kenyon*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTIO

Oh, Give Me a Home... Boston banker Corey Gorman got a surprise recently when Country Music Television called and told him he'd won the CMT Ultimate Home 2 in Nashville, the dream house inspired by celebrities like NASCAR driver Jimmie Johnson and *Baywatch*'s Gena Lee Nolin. Gorman thought it was a scam, since he wasn't sure he'd even entered the contest. "I vaguely recollect doing it," he told CMT. After two days of convincing, Gorman decided the offer was for real and began celebrating. "I come from a small apartment in Boston," he told his Southern-fried benefactors. "I think it's 500 square feet...And this one's 5,000 square feet." As for the obvious question, Gorman hasn't yet decided whether he'll keep the house, since he isn't keen on moving to Nashville. But he's not ruling out having a vacation pad in Tennessee. After all, maybe Gena Lee will stop by now and then to visit her handiwork.

Fashion Fix... Women who mourned the loss of E6 Apothecary's cosmetic frippery when it closed last spring can fill their closets with goodies from the store's fashionable successor, Obsessions. The boutique, which stepped into E6's former Newbury Street spot in May, stocks dresses, jeans and tops by Trina Turk, Tocca, Easel and Custo, and owner Holly Halloran plans to introduce new lines every season. Lingerie, jewelry and purses are among the trendy trappings, and prices don't have to break the bank—you can buy a $37 T-shirt or an $800 dress. 167 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-0007).



Great Plates... Dr. Seuss' most well-known character may soon be emblazoned on a special set of Cat in the Hat Mass. license plates. By early July, there were only 260 preorders (the state requires 1,500 orders to begin a production run), but the push was on, and we're sure the cat will eventually join the Cape and the Islands, the right whale and all the rest. Here are a few of our suggestions for special-edition tags, so if you like one, round up 1,499 friends and let's get this started:

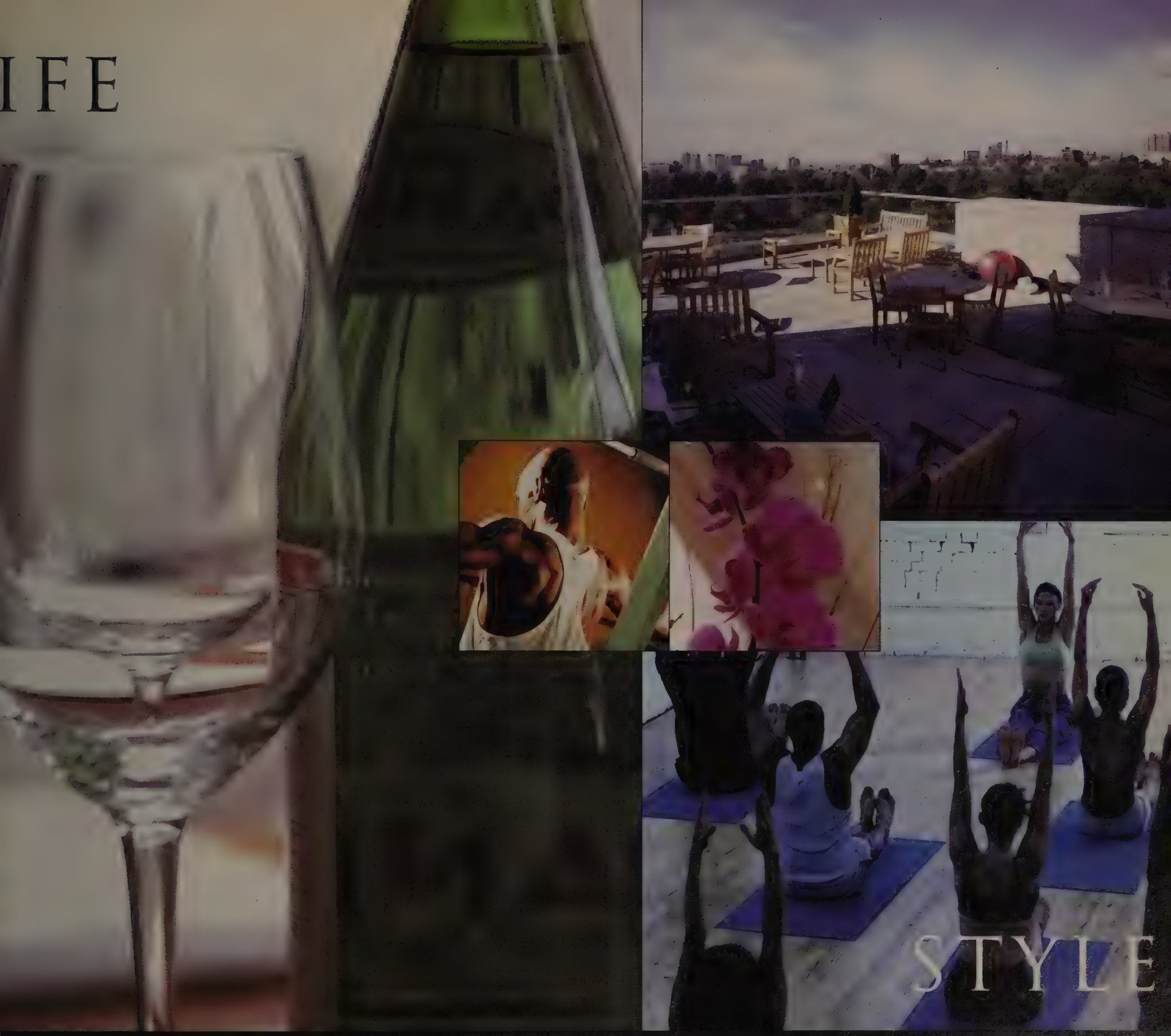
* Yield to No One
* We're Here. We're Queer. We're Married.
* Cambridge: We're Smarter Than You
* Eat Nothing but Chowder
* 300 Years of Prudishness

That Sounds Vantastic... On July 3 Chrysler hosted the Minivan Summer Games on Boston Common. Families vied to win the regional competition by stuffing as much crap as they could into a minivan in the shortest amount of time. The winning team, the Wunder family, goes to New York July 31 for the national finals, where they'll have a chance to win the grand prize, a van and a trip around the world. We'd encourage them to represent for Boston, but the Wunders hail from Rochester, N.Y. We Wunder how they were eligible.

—E.D., E.H., J.I. and R.L.

Got scoop?

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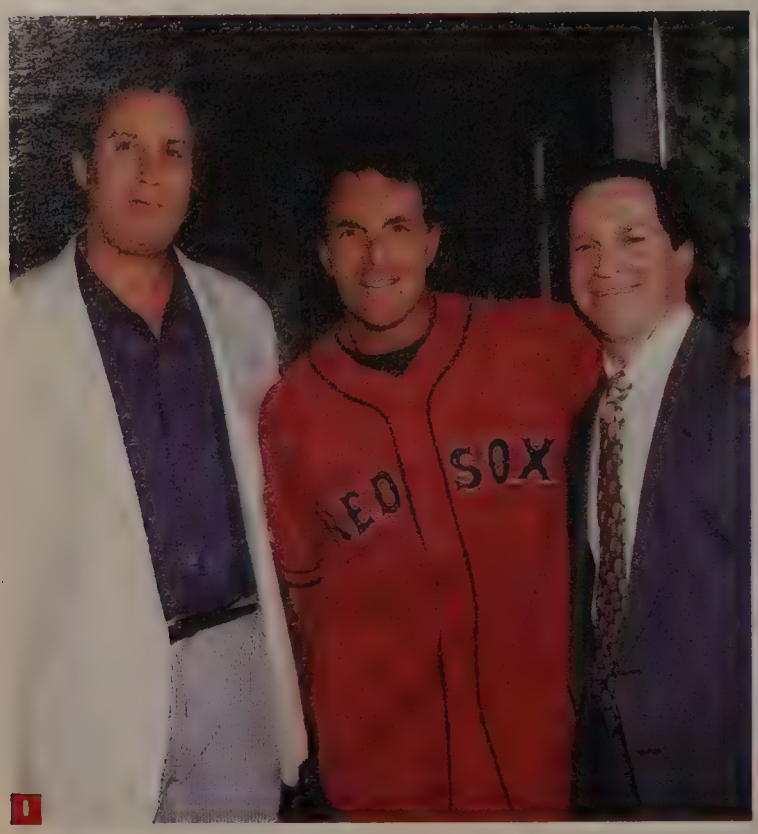
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BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY









The fifth annual **Doug Flutie Jr. Celebrity Golf Classic Pre-Tournament Party** was held June 28 at the DoubleTree Guest Suites. More than 350 friends of the Flutie Foundation gathered for a dinner and auction benefiting the Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for Autism. The evening included a performance by the Flutie Gang Band, featuring San Diego Chargers quarterback Doug Flutie on drums. The event raised $100,000.

1. **Eric Pfaff**, owner of the Switch, in New York; **Doug Flutie**; and **Ed Stoner**, associate athletic director at UMass Lowell.
2. **Kristen Kuliga**, Doug Flutie's agent, and **Mike Blazitz**, former Detroit Lions football player.
3. **Laura Bartlett**, assistant manager for Rockport Shoe; and her sister, **Lisa**, marketing specialist at the Greg Norman Collection in Canton.
4. **Sean Hunter**, motivational reader; **Tim Callahan**, owner of JTC & Co.; his wife, **Regina**; and **Paul Stewart**, NHL referee and director of development at the Boston Bruins Foundation.

The Arts & Business Council of Greater Boston presented its fifth annual **Top of the Arts Awards** at the Skywalk Observatory June 29. More than 200 party-goers attended the event, which was initiated in 2000 by the Top of the Hub restaurant. WBZ4 Arts and Entertainment Anchor Joyce Kulhawik served as master of ceremonies. All proceeds benefit the Arts & Business Council of Greater Boston.



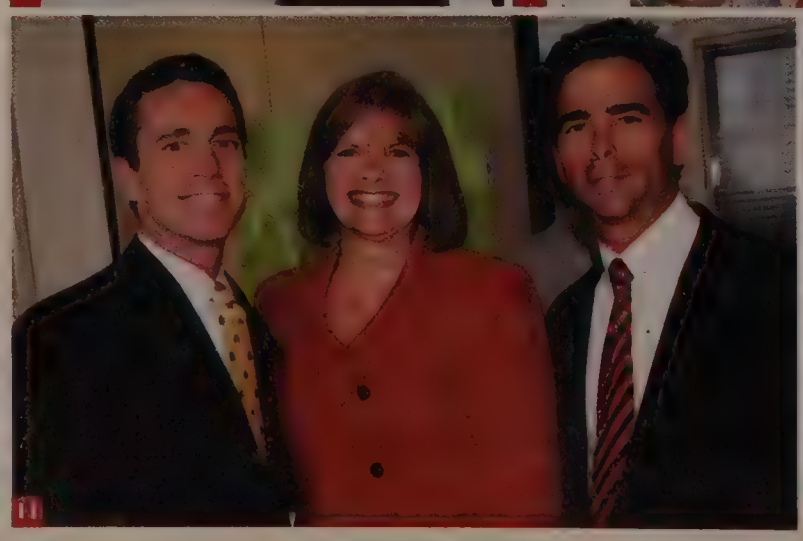


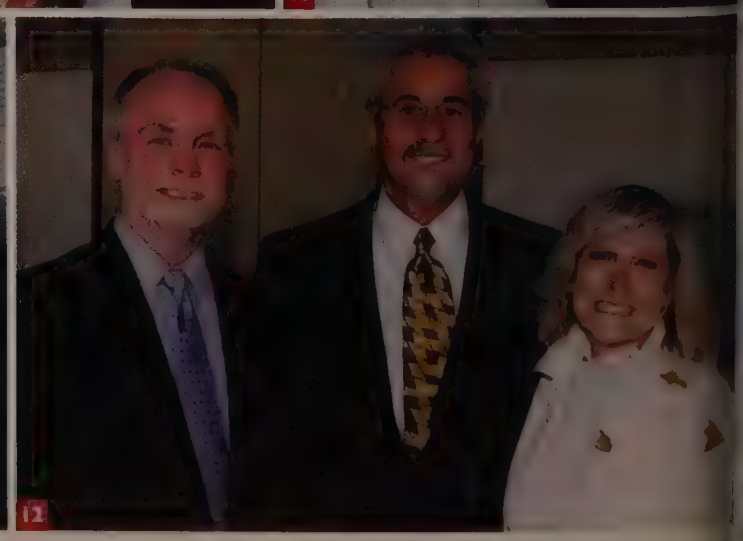












5. **Sarah Leaf Herrmann**, independent public relations consultant; **Tom Witkowski**, reporter for the *Boston Business Journal*; and **Paige Montgomery**, circulation and marketing director for the *Boston Business Journal*.
6. **Dick Concannon** and **Smoki Bacon**, co-producers of *Literati Scene*, on BNN-TV.
7. **Paul Grogan**, president of the Boston Foundation, and **Joyce Kulhawik**.
8. **Bob Mitchell**, director of communications at Harvard University, and **Caron Le Brun**, area director of public relations at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel.
9. **Harry Pratt**, vice chair of the board of trustees for the New England Conservatory, and **Barbara Cassidy**, general manager of the Dinosaur Annex Music Ensemble.
10. **Bill Nigreen**, member of the board of directors for the Arts & Business Council, and **Jeanne Courtemanche**, assistant director of communications at Boston College.
11. **Tony McLean**, president of Broadway in Boston; **Celeste Wilson**, executive director of the Arts & Business Council; and **Larry Post**, group vice president for American Express.
12. **Bob Donovan**, senior consultant for Mercer Public Relations; **Raphael Oliver**, general manager of the Top of the Hub; and **Rosanne Mercer**, president of Mercer Public Relations.

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BY EZRA DYER



CHIPS AHOY

Meet the newest player on the world poker scene.

I love fads. Sometimes I go too far, like when I went anti-carb and replaced my car's carburetor with a piece of bacon. But fad-following is the reason I'm writing the pilot for a home-makeover show where three gay guys go into your house and steal all your pasta. It's going to make me rich. Which is fortunate, because I'm also into another fad that requires major capital: poker.

There was a story on Fox news the other night about how people around the city are playing poker tournaments in their houses, and how that's illegal or something. I didn't watch all of it because I was too busy practicing how I'd bet an off-suit Q-6 if I was in the small blind at my friends' weekly home poker tournament. I don't see how it's illegal to run your own game anyway—you see the Sopranos playing poker in the back room of the Bada Bing all the time, and HBO wouldn't show people doing things that are against the law. But with that in mind, I guess I shouldn't reveal where I played my first poker tournament last week, because the next thing you know the cops will be knocking on the door wanting to stop our harmless fun, just like that guy we killed did.

I'm joking—or am I? If you're a little unsure, it's because I'm a poker player now. I'm inherently sketchy and possibly dangerous. I use a toothpick instead of dental floss. Like the script to an episode of *North Shore*, I'm unreadable. Before I played poker, I was the kind of guy who smiled. In other words, easy prey, a can of Alpo for the big dogs. An open can of Alpo, because otherwise that metaphor would be all wrong.

So you probably want to know how I did. Well, I won. I won it all in my first tourney. I had so many chips at the end, I was in danger of winning Erik Estrada. My strategy was to act like I completely didn't know what I was doing. This was easy, because I completely didn't know what I was doing. I was unsure of when to bet, how much to bet, or what my hand meant. I didn't understand any of the terminology, and when other players would say things like, "I can't believe you beat me with a nut flush on the river," I'd hear "Blah blah blah you beat me blah blah." But to get back to the point: I won, so obviously all these people selling poker how-to books are leading you in the wrong direction. Ignorance is the way to go.

With this approach, I hope to emulate top players like Chris Moneymaker and have a very implausible name. I'm thinking that if a guy named Ezra Winsallyourmoney sits down at the table, right away you're scared and will probably play right into my hands. In another innovation, I plan to one-up the Unabomber, who wears a hooded sweatshirt and sunglasses to psych out his opposition and hide his facial expressions. I'm going to wear a burka under a football helmet. Like my name, this will make everyone very uneasy. When I want to be dramatic, I will slowly remove the football helmet, then suddenly tear off the burka and pretend I'm looking at my competitors through a periscope. When I fold up my imaginary periscope and order the torpedo tubes flooded, that will be my signature move that lets the other players know they're about to lose some serious chips. Poker purists will say I'm one of the new breed of hot-doggers who is ruining the once-proud game with my outrageous antics, like when I run around the table between hands yelling "Duck! Duck! Goose!" or refer to my chips as "my Priz-ningles." Ben Affleck will demand I be banned from

I'M A POKER PLAYER NOW. I USE A TOOTHPICK INSTEAD OF DENTAL FLOSS. LIKE THE SCRIPT TO AN EPISODE OF *NORTH SHORE*, I'M UNREADABLE

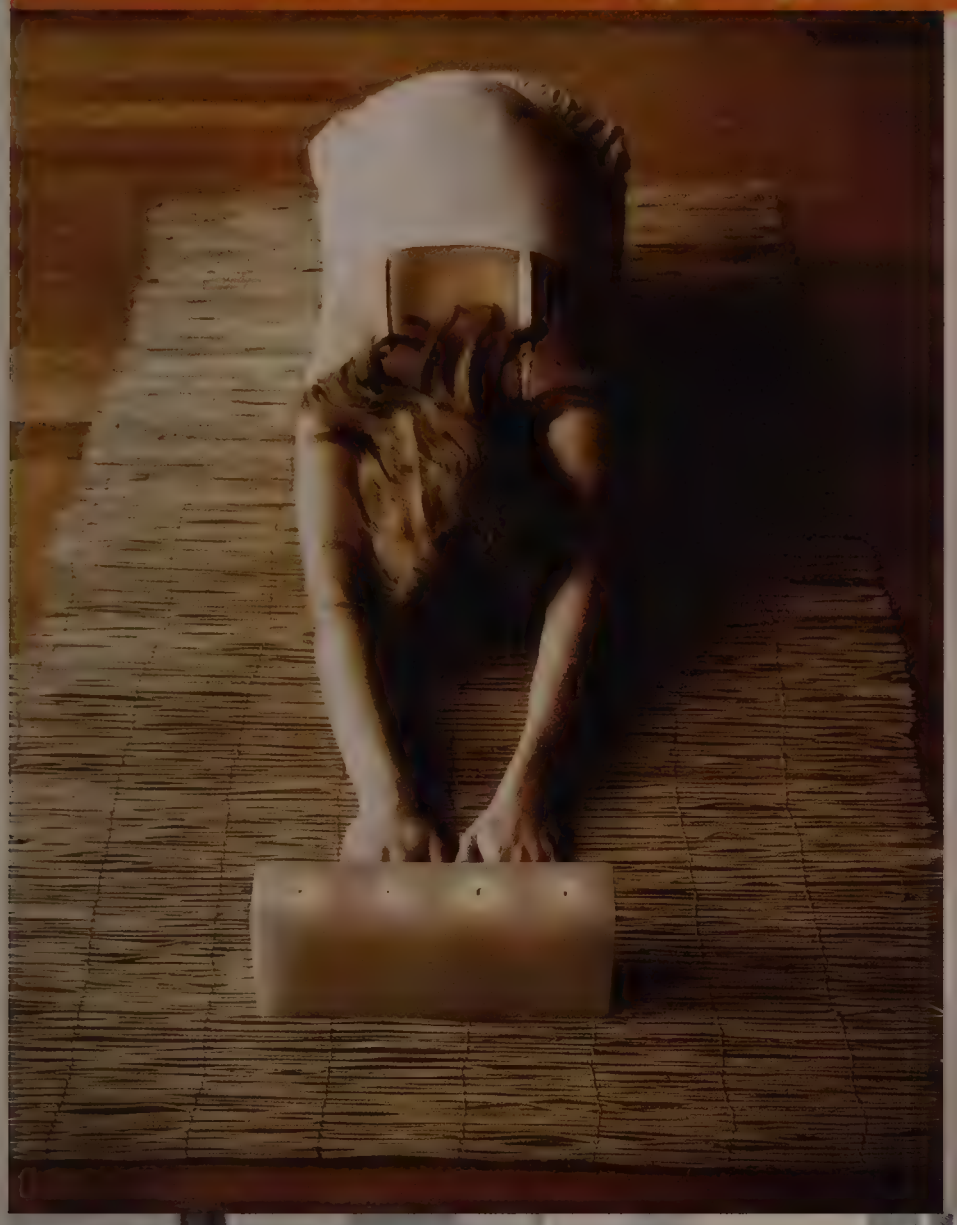
the World Series of Poker after I eliminate him while dressed as Daredevil.

So why is poker so hot right now, you ask? As an experienced player, let me try to explain. Part of it is because of the emergence of Texas Hold'Em, which is much more exciting than any other kind of poker for some reason. And part of it is because people are burned out on other games—we all knew the Go Fish explosion of the late '90s had to end sooner or later, and it did when Rummy 500 burst onto the scene. But this poker thing is here to stay. It's got all the elements of a winner: drama, suspense, skill, the vagaries of chance, a Kenny Rogers song about it. Kenny Rogers doesn't get inspired by just any game, Oh. It's not, "You've gotta know when to connect four, know when to neglect four."

Now let's order some bacon, crack Coke C2 and get this game started. IB

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THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLIN



JOHNNY D. GOOD

A shaggy leader emerges for the Red Sox; Manny finds his place—and some chemistry.

I have some advice for Johnny Damon's barber: Get lost. His mane's fine the way it is. In fact, it still has some growing to do, so your services won't be needed.

Hair aside, Johnny Damon is showing Boston that he's not just a barber's nightmare. He's also become the kind of player—and especially the kind of leadoff hitter—that the Red Sox have craved for years.

Damon has been an interesting player in the three seasons since former Red Sox GM Dan Duquette signed him to a four-year, $32 million contract. Despite some flashes of brilliance—he was a late vote-in for the 2002 All-Star game—he hasn't been everything a lot of people expected. He's been good at times, scoring runs and fighting off pitches, but overall, something was missing. Until now.

Let's talk about his leadership skills. When the Red Sox went 1-5 on their pre–All Star break road trip, there were a lot of grim faces in the Sox clubhouse. Guys were running for cover. Not Johnny Damon. He stood there in front of tape recorders, cameras and microphones and challenged everybody on the team to "look into the mirror." Damon himself might see something that resembles Cousin It staring back at him, but his words may have helped rouse a sleeping giant.

Not only did he give his teammates an indirect slap, he took his game to a level most of us had never seen before at the leadoff position. Damon's 16-game hitting streak to end the first half was inspirational. He hit .436 during that span, including—get this—six home runs, 11 RBIs and 23 runs scored. Call the boys over at Engine Eight: Johnny D is on fire. Leadoff legends like Rickey Henderson and Lou Brock often changed games with their presence on the basepaths, but it would be hard to find any stretch in their careers where they went on a tear like Damon's.

Let's not be fooled. If there's any chance of the Red Sox going places they haven't been in the past 86 years, then Manny Ramirez and David Ortiz will need to be MVP contenders, and Curt Schilling and Pedro Martinez will need to be Cy Young Award candidates.

But it all starts with the man in the mirror, Johnny Damon.

Speaking of Manny and Ortiz, if you're looking for a midseason MVP for the American League, we probably have the two favorites right here in this Red Sox tandem.

Manny is on target for 49 home runs an 145 RBIs, the kind of numbers he used t produce in Cleveland, and Big Poppy Or is right on his tail, on pace for 43 hom runs and 147 RBIs. Talk about the Bas Brothers.

What's the key to the Sox keeping up th level of production? How about happines Don't laugh. After three seasons, Manu has finally grown comfortable in his su roundings and has settled in as one of "us. And who wouldn't want to play on th same team as the perpetually jovial Ortiz?

But I'd point to another key player du ing this recent Sox resurgence, and it' probably surprise you: Kevin Millar. On of the great Red Sox stories to watch th season has been the relationship betwee Manny Ramirez and Millar. Ramirez, native of the Dominican Republic wh grew up in New York City, and Millar, Texan, have become tight friends on an off the field.

> DAMON STOOD THERE IN FRONT OF THE CAMERAS AND MICROPHONES AND CHALLENGED EVERYBODY ON THE TEAM TO "LOOK INTO THE MIRROR"

When Manny obtained his U.S. citize ship recently, it was Millar who sa "You're just like me now. You're a redneck Manny apparently replied that Millar w now eligible to join his "Players Club."

It's a joy to see and unusual because the most part, American players usua hang with the American players and Lat players tend to hang with their Latin tea mates. We have to credit Millar for ste ping out of the box and embracing Man when a lot of us, including Red Sox ma agement, were looking to lose him in son nearby dump.

We should add Ortiz to the mix, too and Millar bring more than their bats the ballpark every day. They bring th smiles. And for years, smiles were aplenty in Red Sox clubhouses. IB

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New Engla Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.



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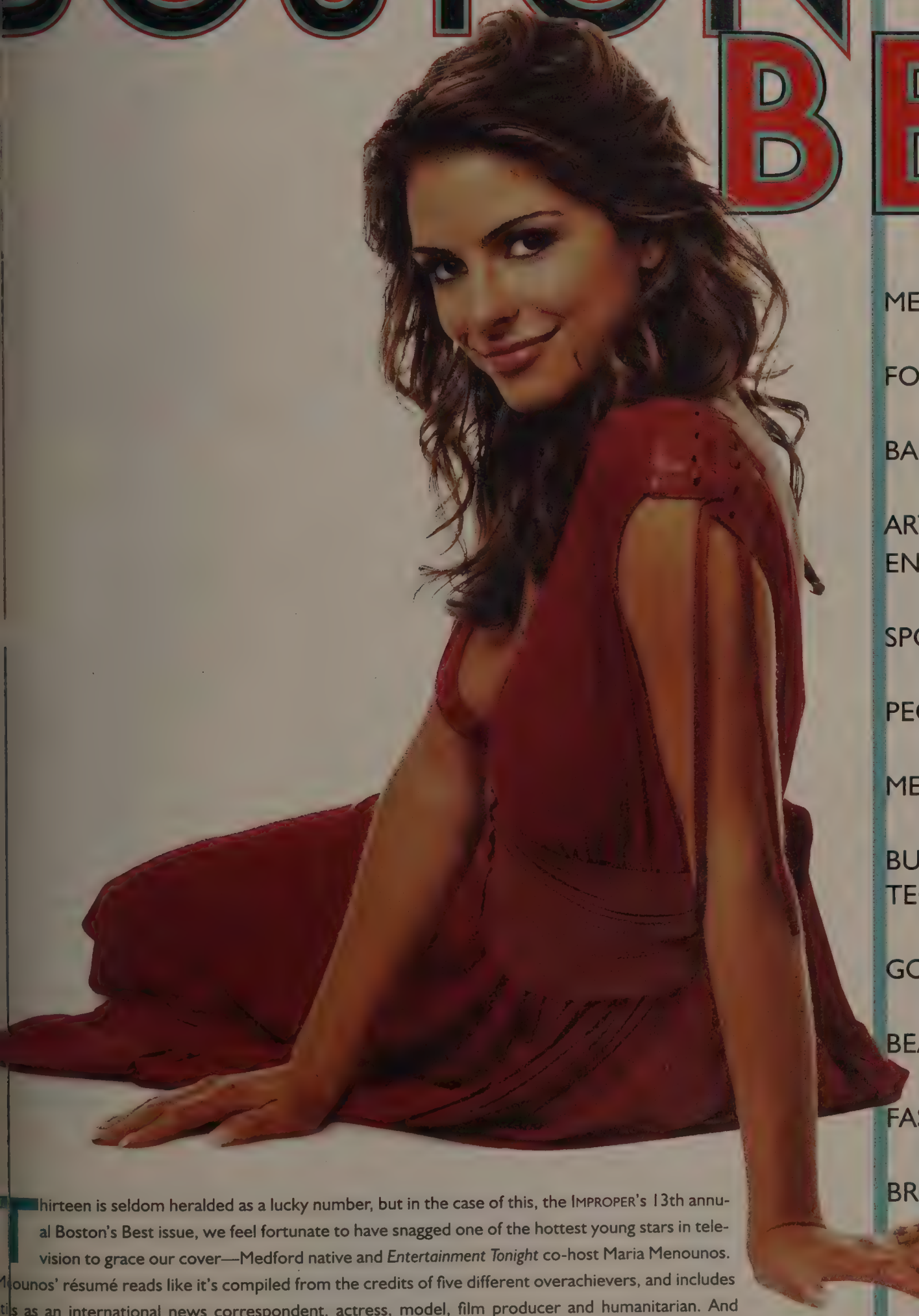
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Thirteen is seldom heralded as a lucky number, but in the case of this, the IMPROPER's 13th annual Boston's Best issue, we feel fortunate to have snagged one of the hottest young stars in television to grace our cover—Medford native and *Entertainment Tonight* co-host Maria Menounos. Menounos' résumé reads like it's compiled from the credits of five different overachievers, and includes tits as an international news correspondent, actress, model, film producer and humanitarian. And she's only in her 20s. We'd like to think the Boston's Best issue mirrors Menounos' ambitious M.O., as we've endeavored to single out the finest our city has to offer in more than 300 categories, spanning genres from Food & Drink to Bars & Clubs, Fashion to Media. We don't have a section for Boston's Most Beautiful People, but if we did, Menounos would be at the top of the list.

Soroff ON

MARIA MENOUNOS

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Medford native Maria Menounos, although still in her 20s, has enjoyed success as an entertainment reporter, journalist, actress, filmmaker and humanitarian. A former model and Miss Massachusetts Teen USA, she studied broadcast journalism and film at Emerson College, where she was the first freshman in the school's history to win one of its Evvy awards for achievement in performing arts and media. She also hosted a Greek-American talk show on WNRB-AM, and during her sophomore year, became involved in a film project, *In the Land of Merry Misfits* (which she recently rescued, providing the financing to complete it). After her junior year at Emerson, she was hired as an international correspondent/anchor for the Channel One Network, which beams a satellite newscast to 8 million students daily during the school year. Her assignments included interviewing President Bush and covering the AIDS epidemic in South Africa—a trip that inspired her to found Take Action Hollywood!, a nonprofit that uses the power of the entertainment industry to effect social change. The group has produced a commercial on AIDS awareness and promoted pet adoption. As a journalist, Menounos is the host of both *ET on MTV* and *ET on VH1* and appears nightly as a co-host and journalist for *Entertainment Tonight* and *ET Weekend*. As an actress, she recently landed a recurring role on the CBS series *Without a Trace*. She is also working on a joint venture with Miramax Films, promoting *Paper Clips*, a Holocaust documentary. A Los Angeles resident, Menounos volunteers at dog shelters and has four adopted dogs.

Jonathan Soroff: *You're an actress, journalist, humanitarian, producer. What's left?*

Maria Menounos: There's a lot I want to do. Like direct.

JS: *Ahh, the old cliché. If you had to give up one thing, what would it be, and why?*

MM: I wouldn't give up anything. I can do it all.

JS: *So where do you get the energy? Coffee? Red Bull? Cocaine?*

MM: I don't really drink coffee. I never wanted to be one of those people who can't get up without coffee in the morning. I'd rather use that extra 15 minutes to sleep.

JS: *Most awkward celebrity moment? Ever call someone the wrong name, or something like that?*

MM: Sometimes when you're on the red carpet, a publicist will push their client in front of you, and you have no idea who they are, what they're about or why they're there. So you have to do that little dance of, "So…what brings you out tonight?"

JS: *Most embarrassing question you've ever had to ask?*

MM: I won't ask anything I wouldn't want to be asked. Even if I'm told by my bosses that they want me to ask something, if it doesn't seem right at that moment, I'm not going to go there.

JS: *So "How much do you weigh?" is probably somewhere you wouldn't go?*

MM: Yeah, something totally personal, like Brittany Murphy breaking off her engagement and seeming really upset and really uncomfortable about it—I'm not gonna go there.

JS: *Hollywood story you covered that you just couldn't get enough of?*

MM: Oh God, it's the opposite, because we live and breathe it. I'd get calls from my mother, "How many times can we see J. Lo, Maria? Every day, J. Lo."

JS: *So you get sick of it?*

MM: During that moment of madness, yeah. You're like, "Enough." And J. Lo was probably saying the same thing.

JS: *Are you a busybody?*

MM: As far as caring about that stuff? No. I have no interest in it. I'm not trying to find out the scoop. If I hear something juicy, it usually goes in one ear and out the other, because if I'm hearing it, so is someone else and it'll come out eventually. I'm friends with so many of these celebrities; I'd never want to be the one who brought something like that out.

JS: *As an actor yourself, do you think you can relate better to the celebrities you cover?*

MM: I think I have sensitivity because I was acting before I got into journalism. *ET* was kind of a fluke. I studied journalism in college, but I studied filmmaking as well, and I wanted to pursue that. I think my father willed the journalism thing to happen, because that's what he wanted me to do. Don't get me wrong. I enjoy it. I love my job, but I was more diehard about going on stories as an international correspondent. Interviewing the president, or going on assignment to South Africa, that was more interesting to me than whose marriage is on the rocks. Their lives are so overexposed as it is.

JS: *Speaking of interviewing George W., did he make a pass at you?*

MM: No. [Laughs.] I do think he took a liking to me, though. It was so last-minute, and I was so excited to get the nod to be the one who interviewed him. They said, "He's only going to give you two questions. That's it." OK, fine. I got to ask my two questions, but I think he felt comfortable, because he stayed for like 25 minutes and I got to ask him everything else I wanted to ask.

JS: *Most appalling trend in the entertainment industry today?*

MM: I used to think it was wearing Uggs, but then I got a pair.

JS: *Ever looked at your MTV and VH1 wardrobe and wondered, "Why?"*

MM: No. Have you?

JS: *Truthfully, yes. I've wondered why they make you wear such skimpy outfits.*

MM: When we have ratings that are climbing every day, and a million and a half viewers per episode, I think it's workin'.

JS: *First thought when you were named one of 2004's 50 Most Beautiful People by* People *magazine?*

MM: I was completely shocked. It was all these A-list movie stars and pro athletes, and then a few random people like me, so it was pretty ridiculous.

JS: *When do you think you'll make the cover of* Vanity Fair*?*

MM: I've got a little time. I'm workin' on it. I don't like to put time limits on things because then you're watching the sand go through the hourglass instead of paying attention to what you're supposed to be doing.

JS: *When you were Miss Massachusetts Teen USA, what was your talent?*

MM: There was no talent involved. [Laughs.] But I used to joke that if there was a talent competition, I would burp, because I'm really good at it. I can out-burp anyone on this planet. But at some point you have to start acting like a lady. So only on rare occasions, I'll let one out.

JS: *Your charity, Take Action Hollywood!, is supposed to make people in the entertainment industry more socially aware. Does that mean you'll be convincing Russell Crowe not to act like an asshole in public?*

MM: Ah, no. What it means is that we the media to effect social change. We got behind a documentary called *Paper Clips*, which is about the Holocaust, a once I got people there to see it, I ha theater full of the highest-level executi in this industry bawling their brains o It's an amazing film in that truly speaks all races, religions and ethnicities.

JS: *Child star whose career is most due for comeback?*

MM: Natalie from *The Facts of Life*.

JS: *Good answer. Hollywood star you thin is most likely to move to Massachusetts an take advantage of gay marriage?*

MM: Matt and Ben someday, only beca they joke about it all the time.

JS: *Isn't it really sad about Lindsay Lohan*

MM: What about her?

JS: *I don't know. I was just trying to get so dirt out of you. Think there's any truth to rumor about Brad Pitt and Tom Cruise?*

MM: What rumor?

JS: *You just won't fall into my traps, will you? What do you like to do when you co town?*

MM: Depending on the season, I go to Patriots, Red Sox, Celtics or Bruins gar I get *all* their games on DirecTV, but nothing like seeing them play live. I need to get back to my uncle Nick's li restaurant on the water and see the tr Other than that, it's as much Dun Donuts, Brigham's, Papa Gino's or B that I can consume—we don't have stuff in L.A.

JS: *OK, three things you miss most about Medford?*

MM: I miss B-Boys, which are these ridiculous breakfast sandwiches you ge Jim's Market in North Medford, up in Heights, and you have no idea…and Bob's on Main Street has the meanest steak and cheese subs. And I miss Kell in Revere.

JS: *Favorite childhood memory?*

MM: Singing in church choir and perf ing in plays.

JS: *Dream role?*

MM: Probably in a musical.

JS: *So you sing too? Name one thing you can't do.*

MM: I don't know how to fight a fire. I rosurgery…

JS: *You're just that annoying, I-can-do-everything person, aren't you?*

I WAS MORE DIEHARD ABOUT GOING ON STORIES AS AN INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENT INTERVIEWING THE PRESIDENT, OR GOING ON ASSIGNMENT TO SOUTH AFRICA, THAT WAS MORE INTERESTING TO ME THAN WHOSE MARRIAGE IS ON THE ROCKS

It's not because I could, but because I
ln't. I fought for those things. Until I
n second grade, I didn't speak English,
I was the little freak, always two to
years behind everybody else in read-
nd comprehension, so I always had to
for things.

ccomplishment you're most proud of?

The movie I produced, *In the Land of*
y Misfits. I got involved in it my
omore year in college. The writer/di-
r came back to Boston from L.A. to
this film—he'd been at MTV—and I
ed out as a production assistant and
tually kind of took over. It was a real
mare to get it made. The original pro-
stole the negative, held it hostage.
e were death threats. Our cars were
alized. The writer/director went bank-
making it, and he was someone who
d me a lot in my career. So as soon as
to *Entertainment Tonight*, I called him
aid, "Get the film out. We're finishing
io we did, and now, six years later,
be distributing it ourselves at the end
s year, beginning of next.

Vhat are you most looking forward to?

Getting back to producing and di-
ng. The acting, singing and reporting
izing, and I'm very blessed to be able
it all, but my major in college was
and I miss it. There's a fun national
mercial campaign coming up that my
ger has me up to direct. But time, at
oint, is always the problem.

ast question: By the time you're 30,
like to be able to say Maria
unos _____.

Well, I'd say president of the United
s, because I always said I would be
day, but the Constitution says you
to be 35. So I'll say an accomplished
aker/actress. IB

MEAL CRUSTED TROUT • BONE IN CENTER-CUT PORK CHOP • ANDOUILLE STUFFED CHICKEN • GRILLED FILET MIGNON • NEW ENGLAND LOBSTER BAKE • SEARED YELLOW FIN TUNA WITH CORN PUREE • CORN

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MEET THE JUDGES



Front row, left to right: Todd English, Jim Koch, Richard L. Friedman, Sandy Block, Jessica Iredale, Samantha House, Erin Hagedorn, Doris Yaffe, Maggie Trichon, Bryan Rafanelli, Veronica Chao and Abi Ross Goodman. **Middle row, left to right:** Ezra Dyer, John Tobin, Steven Maler, Wendy Semonian, Kerry Brett Hurley, Lisa Roach, Ida Faber and Donna Morrissey. **Back row, left to right:** Dennis Quilty, Matt Siegel, Bob Neumeier, Frank Guidara, Leon Semonian, Mikko Nissinen, John "Sib" Hashian and Jonathan Soroff.

"The best things in life are free."

"The best is yet to come."

"You're the best thing that ever happened to me."

For some reason, we humans feel an undeniable ed to quantify and compare, to decide not only at's good but what's better than that. It's human ture—determining the sine qua non, the ne plus ra—which is why we bust our humps to bring you r annual Boston's Best issue.

The drudgery of deciding the superlatives among e food, drink, arts, entertainment, fashion, goods, vices, media, business and personalities that ston has to offer is a painstaking task, but some- dy's got to do it. And thankfully, it's not just us.

Here's how it works: In early spring, we organize a ner party to which we invite some of the city's st prominent and opinionated people.

This year, our panel of judges included: Todd English, chef/owner of Olives and the Olive oup; Richard L. Friedman, real estate developer d president and CEO, Carpenter & Co. Inc.; kko Nissinen, artistic director of the Boston Ballet; ven Maler, artistic director of the Commonwealth akespeare Company and vice president of artistic ogramming at the Wang Center for the Performing ts; Frank Guidara, president and CEO of Au Bon Pain; Jim Koch, CEO of Boston Beer Co.; Donna M. Morrissey, director of corporate affairs for American Red Cross Blood Services–New England Region; Bryan Rafanelli, event planner and owner of Rafanelli Events; Ida Faber, CEO of Salon Mario Russo; Maggie Trichon, owner of modeling agency Maggie Inc.; John Tobin, Boston city councillor; Dennis Quilty, lawyer and partner at McDermott, Quilty & Miller; Matt Siegel, host of *Matty in the Morning* on KISS 108 FM; Lisa Roach, producer and on-air personality for *Matty in the Morning* on KISS 108 FM; John "Sib" Hashian, former drummer of the rock band Boston; Abi Ross Goodman, art dealer and director/curator/co-owner of the Judi Rotenberg Gallery; Doris Yaffe, project consultant for the nonprofit and international community; Bob Neumeier, sports anchor and host of the *Dale & Neumy Show* on WEEI 850 AM; Julie Kahn, general manager of WEEI 850 AM (not pictured); and Glenn Jones, reporter for *FOX25 News* (not pictured).

Also on hand were key members of our editorial staff, and given the impressive guest list, you'll forgive us for bragging that it was the best dinner party we went to all year. This year, it was graciously hosted by Todd English in a private room at Olives, and after plying our guests with food and drink (and more food, and more drink), we got down to the dirty business of voting for the winner in each of our categories. Judges who had a vested interest in a specific category recused themselves.

Next came the tedious part: tallying the votes, reviewing and approving the winners, and researching and writing about them. For this, we relied on our crack team of interns: Abby Bielagus, Megan Grant and Patrice Taddonio, who did all the heavy lifting and together compiled almost everything you're about to read.

The result is our annual list of the best Boston has to offer in every category we thought might be of interest to our readers.

We hope you find this issue useful and keep it around for reference throughout the coming year, to help you navigate the tricky waters of where to eat, shop, etc. Of course, you undoubtedly have favorites of your own in each category, and it's our sincere hope that you enjoy comparing our choices with yours. Should you disagree with anything we've written, please don't hesitate to contact us to express your dissent and help us come up with a better selection for next year.

So enjoy, and keep one other thing in mind: The best things in life are not only free; they're completely subjective.

—*Jonathan Soroff*

BAGELS

Finagle a Bagel

Multiple locations,
www.finagleabagel.com

Lo, as David slew Goliath, so did one Beantown baker bring down the faithless giants of Gotham in a bagel-making battle that proveth the waters of Boston were like unto wine…or so the story of this bagel shop goes (sort of). Beginning with the old-fashioned process of kettle-boiling and ending in the rise of a local chain that showers the works on bagel lovers, Finagle offers roughly 18 standard and seasonal flavors—like apple-caramel, triple chocolate chip and jalapeño-cheddar—along with about nine regular and rotating spreads, including salmon, apple-streusel and olive (some come in light versions too). But there's more. Some 30 bagel sandwiches and pizzas adorn the menu—downright fancy creations like the smoky avocado flatbread pizza with herbed cream cheese, mozzarella and corn, or the smoked-turkey melt with black bean spread and Monterey Jack. Behold that, New York philistines!

BARBECUE

Blue Ribbon Bar-B-Q

908 Mass. Ave., Arlington, 781-648-7427;
1375 Washington St., West Newton, 617-332-2583;
www.blueribbonbbq.com

Blue Ribbon is a real trip. We mean that neither literally—both locations are in nearby suburbs—nor slangily; no hookah dens or LED panels to confound your senses at these downscale joints. No, we mean it in a culinary sense, as the menu takes you on a virtual nationwide barbecue tour: to Tennessee with its dry-rubbed pork ribs; North Carolina via vinegar-spiked pulled pork; Texas, where beef brisket awaits; Kansas City for saucy burnt ends; and even off the mainland to Jamaica, for jerked chicken and burritos stuffed with the meat of your choice. What's more, they're all spot-on renditions that, when accompanied by just-so baked beans and cornbread, take you to a new level of fulfillment. And you won't even have to use vacation time to get there.

BEST-KEPT SECRET

Pino Maffeo at Restaurant L

Louis Boston, 234 Berkeley St., Boston, 617-266-4680,
www.louisboston.com

Back at AZ in New York, Pino Maffeo was earning three stars with Patricia Yeo; here in Boston, he's sprinkling those stars in the eyes of his customers at Louis Boston's restaurant, L. Arriving by a circuitous route that included a childhood spent in London and East Boston and cooking stints on both coasts, Maffeo brings with him a modern culinary sensibility that values cross-cultural experience over ethnic inheritance. Italian by birth, he also brought with him chef de cuisine Soulayphet Schwader of Laos, with whom he works to create a repertoire that isn't about a type of cuisine, but about technique. Maffeo's approach—extending to all parts of the world and drawing on those things that influence him—leads to discoveries that ricochet with flavor, like fried oysters wrapped in watermelon with mint salad, or soft-shell crab tempura with avocado and caramelized grapefruit. When Bostonians discover Maffeo, they'll thank their lucky stars.

BETWEEN MEALS

Brasserie Jo

The Colonnade Hotel, 120 Huntington Ave., Boston,
617-425-3240, www.brasseriejoboston.com

Whether we're taking a shopping break or ducking in from a downpour, there's something so warm and inviting about the back-lit zinc bar at Brasserie Jo, with its retro fluorescent clock and hard-boiled-egg racks; something so civilized about the hushed between-meal lull; something oh-so-Euro about unwinding over a midafternoon Lillet Blanc or Stella Artois that we invariably head here whenever our very American itineraries allow. And we're irresistibly drawn to a bar menu that lets us graze like the suave sophisticates we are: on escargot with garlic butter and superbly zesty steak tartare; on meltingly rich *croques monsieurs* and house-made pâté. Sometimes we forget to return to our regular schedules altogether.

BREAKFAST

Soundbites

708 Broadway, Somerville, 617-623-8338

At this tiny nosh nook, our favorite meal is served (and served well) any time of the day. The pancakes and French toast are worthy of hymns, and what Soundbites does with eggs—whether you order them over easy, in a whites-only omelette or à la Benedict—is enough to make a grown man cry. Whatever you order, skipping the mashed home fries is not an option. The well-seasoned mix of whipped, mashed, baked potatoes is heaven sent. A word to the wise: If you decide to eat breakfast at a normal hour (any time before noon on a weekend), be prepared to wait for a table, and make the wait more bearable with some self-serve coffee.

BRUNCH

Henrietta's Table

Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge, 617-661-5005,
www.charleshotel.com

West of New England, any eatery this decked out in rustic Americana would be saddled with a name like Kountry Kitchen. Instead, this Charles Hotel fixture owes its moniker to the memory of the hotel proprietor's pet hog. Yet somehow it aces the sophistication test that is the urbane brunch. On Saturdays, the à la carte menu (three courses for $24) satisfies savant sleepyheads with dishes created and whipped up weekly. (Recent palate-pleasers include BBQ pulled pork over polenta and deliciously thick banana bread French toast.) On Sundays, the copious brunch buffet includes a raw bar, omelette station and carving block as well as numerous entrée specials and dessert choices, for $39 per person. Talk about going hog wild.

BURGER

Mr. Bartley's Burger Cottage

1246 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 617-354-6559,
www.mrbartleys.com

For more than 40 years, this Harvard Square landmark has been serving up outstanding hamburgers with a side of humor. Posters with jokes political to pop cultural plaster the walls, and the wit carries over



HIDDEN GEM

Zon's

[illegible] Perkins St., Jamaica Plain, 617-524-9667
www.zonsjp.com

Not just another hip and trendy Jamaica Plain hat that attracts attention for no other reason than th on the red-painted walls. The food is good, an prices aren't from fantasyland. A seemingly straig ward menu offers a few pleasant curveballs: a chips dip appetizer, for instance, consists of per browned, hand-cut potato slices, and the dip i with caramelized onion and garlic. Otherwise, or dishes are similarly tweaked. The sirloin meat served with seasonally changing sides including ha verts, ratatouille, and sour cream and chive m potatoes with a roasted-shallot gravy. Just whe thought a turkey burger could never match th thing, Zon's serves up one with gruyere and roaste tobello. The drink selection is equally delightful: C from an impressive beer list or two flavors of Zon white, made with orange juice and ginger beer, o with orange juice and pear nectar. Proof that a gre ner doesn't have to be a major production.



he menu. All the burgers, and many other food items, aptly named for a celebrity or politician, like the Dick eney—a hefty bacon cheeseburger that's only "a heart- t away"—or the Ted Kennedy—"a plump, liberal ount of burger with cheddar cheese and mushrooms." e menu boasts 27 burgers, each featuring imaginative pings, cooked perfectly to your specifications. And t's a burger without fries or onion rings, followed by a pe for dessert? All these are done brilliantly by Mr. B., gnore your inner cardiologist and indulge. You can get ioplasty later.

BURRITOS

Anna's Taqueria

1412 Beacon St., Brookline, 617-739-7300;
446 Harvard St., Brookline, 617-277-7111;
822 Somerville Ave., Cambridge, 617-661-8500;
236A Elm St., Somerville, 617-666-3900

ou don't think Bostonians have a flair for fanati- m, we guess you've never been to Fenway—or to this fast-food franchise, where avid regulars brave endless lines to get their fix of tacos, quesadillas and, above all, burritos. Super burritos, that is, since for a measly few pesetas more than you'd pay for the regular size, you might as well get the whole, um, enchilada: a grande tortilla stuffed with black or pinto beans, rice, cheese and your mainstay of choice—steak, chicken, carnitas (Mexican roast pork), *chili verde* (spicy pork) or chunky, grilled mixed vegetables—plus salsa and hot sauce, all rolled up before your eyes in an atmosphere of brisk good cheer. The resulting addiction is far more satisfying, and undoubtedly healthier, than any Red Sox mania.

BUZZ

Union Bar & Grille

1357 Washington St., Boston, 617-423-0555,
www.unionrestaurant.com

The name connotes more than the South End location at the corner of Union Park and Washington Street: Three veteran restaurateurs—Jeff Gates, Matt Burns and executive chef Seth Woods—have teamed up to create a dining hot spot that exceeds all expectations and deserves all the hype it's been generating since it opened in October. The menu is contemporary American, ranging from a sweet pea and ricotta ravioli in an herb broth to a good old-fashioned Reuben. The bar scene is as sizzling as it gets, and the dining room is one of the sexiest in Boston, with shiny, black leather banquettes, an eye-level band of mirrors, and wrought-iron chandeliers that create a minimalist yet elegant backdrop for the dining experience. Don't miss the calamari (so popular it's become a permanent menu item) or the 10K Tuna (so named because the recipe won a $10,000 prize for its secret blend of seasonings). The well-trained staff at Union is attentive without being overbearing, and the stylish crowd will make you feel like you've come to the right place. Everyone from Mitt Romney to John Kerry to the producers of *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy* has been spotted here.



UP-AND-COMING CHEF
Jeremy Sewall, Great Bay
500 Comm. Ave., Boston, 617-532-5300, www.hotelcommonwealth.com

The man in the chef's chapeau at the newest restaurant from the team that brought you Radius and Via Matta is Jeremy Sewall, whose deceptively boyish demeanor belies a wealth of experience at restaurants in Europe as well as at L'Espalier. Sewall places such an emphasis on freshness that he is often awakened at 4 am by fishermen at the dock, calling to tell him about their catch. He's also been known to drive all the way to Maine to buy lobsters off the boat from a cousin who's a lobsterman. The result is a seafood restaurant worthy of the word "great." In fact, people we know who don't generally like fish have waxed rhapsodic about how great Great Bay is. It's an odd blend of new American cuisine presented in high style with a focus on freshness – for instance, we can easily imagine Sewall striding through the stunning, contemporary two-story dining room with a fishing rod over his shoulder if someone told him the striped bass were biting in Boston Harbor.

CAESAR SALAD
Sonsie
327 Newbury St., Boston, 617-351-2500, www.sonsieboston.com

It's become a staple of our diet, so it's amazing how many restaurants do it badly, but Newbury Street's eternally chic hangout has the Caesar down pat. Sonsie's version has fresh, crispy chunks of romaine, homemade croutons with real zip and a dressing that perfectly balances the flavors of lemon, anchovy paste and Parmesan cheese. One thing that's notably absent? Eggs, which is good news for those who like their Caesar topped with chicken (there's something undeniably creepy about eating eggs and chicken together). For a seafood twist, there's the Caesar with rock shrimp. However you order it, this is what a Caesar salad is supposed to taste like.

CAPPUCCINO
Caffé Vittoria
290-296 Hanover St., Boston, 617-227-7606, www.vittoriacaffe.com

There's a subtle and distinctly Italian art to making a cappuccino (or even a simple espresso, for that matter), and the assembly-line version served by monolithic coffee chains doesn't begin to do it justice. Fortunately for Bostonians, there's this Hanover Street institution where the rich and complex espresso is topped off with a generous dollop of perfectly steamed milk and sprinkled with your choice of cocoa, cinnamon or nothing at all. The pressed-tin ceiling and old-world ambience will make you feel like you've been transported to a great little *negozio di caffé* near the Piazza di Spagna. In Italy, good coffee is a religion, and in Boston's traditionally Italian neighborhood, this place is the mother church.

CASUAL DINING
Claremont Café
535 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-247-9001, www.claremontcafe.com

For all of Boston's excellent dining options, it's difficult to find a place where you don't have to care what your hair looks like or put much thought into what you're wearing, which makes us especially grateful for the Claremont Café. The eatery is laid-back and unfussy to an almost Californian extreme: A pair of jeans and flip-flops is totally acceptable dinner attire. There's brunch on the weekend, and Tuesday through Friday breakfast, lunch and dinner (which is also available Saturday) are served. The food is a satisfying mix of seasonally shifting Mediterranean and American dishes. For dinner, try the popular beef ravioli or an assortment of tapas, like crispy duck dumplings in a red curry sauce. Lunch options include creative salads like the Sicilian, with olives, cucumbers, orange, mint and a creamy feta dressing. Eggs are found in tasty scrambles, frittatas and omelettes. Best of all, the prices are shockingly reasonable by South End standards, and despite the café's small size, you'll never feel rushed.

CHINESE FOOD
Bernard's
The Mall at Chestnut Hill, 199 Boylston St., Newton, 617-969-3388

A revelation for anyone used to the kind of Sino-American dragon palace fare that's heavy on sticky sauces and MSG, this is gourmet Chinese food, prepared in traditional style, from the finest ingredients. The pleasant yet understated dining room is merely a backdrop for the magnificent delicacies that come out of the kitchen, from family favorites like salt and pepper shrimp, spareribs and Peking duck to such exquisite specialties as cold sesame noodles, garlic lobster and crispy sea bass. Old standbys like won


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955 Boylston Street
617.421.1818



INDIAN

Gourmet India

The Shops at Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston, 617-247-9500; 1335 Beacon St., Brookline, 617-734-3971; www.gourmet-india.com

Good and cheap, end of story. The menu features all your Indian favorites, including numerous vegetarian options. The service is fast and efficient, so it's a quick, easy Indian fix whether you're overworked and too tired to cook or you want a quick bite before going out for the evening. The heady aroma of exotic spices will have your mouth watering before you get your food home. Major bang for your dining buck, with no dishes to wash afterward.

CHINESE

Chang's House

1583 Comm. Ave., Brighton, 617-787-5030

There's something so gratifying about holding that cardboard box in one hand and a pair of chopsticks in the other and shoveling yummy Chinese food down your gullet. When that urge hits, the voice on the other end of the line should be someone at Chang's House. Not only is the food delicious (we recommend their to-die-for tofu dishes and the stellar chicken in black bean sauce), it's extraordinarily affordable. Everyone who works there is super-friendly. Plus, they deliver. All that, and a fortune cookie.

MEXICAN

Andalé

125 Summer St., Boston, 617-737-2820, www.andaleboston.com

When you want fast and tasty Mexican food, this satellite of Olé Mexican Grill is muy rapido y muy bueno. Besides traditional tacos, burritos and enchiladas bursting with the best ingredients, it offers a create-your-own-quesadilla menu with everything from mashed potatoes to portobello mushrooms. Hands down, the best call-it-a-wrap food around. When you're in a hurry, just remember what Speedy Gonzalez says: "Andalé!"

or hot and sour soup receive star treatment, and spa selections offer healthy options for diners watching their waistlines. Our advice is to go with a group of friends so that you can sample a variety of dishes, and to wear pants with an elastic waistband, because even if you order light, everything is so delicious you'll end up stuffing yourself.

CLAM CHOWDER

Legal Sea Foods

Copley Place, 100 Huntington Ave., Boston, 617-266-7775; 26 Park Square, Boston, 617-426-4444; The Shops at Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston, 617-266-6800; other locations; www.legalseafoods.com

Unfortunately, when many restaurants attempt to make this classic New England dish, it winds up looking like the viscous paste we used in third-grade art class to make papier-mâche. Not at Legal, where the deservedly famous chowder is consistently creamy, with the ideal balance of perfectly cooked potatoes and clams. For anyone worried about their waistline, Legal even has a low-fat version made without cream, and although the broth is almost clear, it won't leave you resenting your diet. When we want an art project, we go to an art supplies store. When we want chowder, we head to Legal.

COMFORT FOOD

Silvertone

69 Bromfield St., Boston, 617-338-7887

Lasting appeal—it isn't easy to create, articulate or duplicate, but when a joint's got it, everyone knows it. And this downtown bar and grill, with its cozy, retro ambiance, has still got it. Of course, you can chalk a huge chunk of its popularity up to one simple dish—macaroni and cheese, itself chunky, cheddar-hunky and topped with buttered crumbs. But the whole menu abounds with people's choices, from the surprisingly light, crispy two-pepper-and-cheese quesadilla to a burger that boasts connoisseur cred, to the meatloaf with mashed potatoes and the gravy-smothered grilled pork chops. Well-prepared and downright cheap, it's all genuine comfort food at a time when any old greasy thing aims for the name. For that alone, may Silvertone never tarnish.

CUISINE YOU'VE YET TO DISCOVER

Restaurante Cesaria

266 Bowdoin St., Dorchester, 617-282-1998, www.restaurantecesaria.com

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, there are just over 20,000 Cape Verdeans living in the metro Boston area. All you have to do to experience a taste of their diverse cuisine is grab a table at the warm, sophisticated Restaurante Cesaria. The food, like the culture, is influenced by Portugal, Spain and Africa. Traditional dishes such as fried yucca and *canja*, a Cape Verdean rice and chicken soup, are served alongside American fare. Be adventurous and try their version of the national dish, *katchupada*, a slow-simmered stew of hominy, beans, pork and kale. For less adventurous taste buds, there's an extensive selection of seafood entrées, sandwiches, salads and vegetarian options. All dishes are reasonably priced, and on weekends



FOOD TREND

Mini burgers at Spire

Nine Zero Hotel, 90 Tremont St., Boston, 617-772-2020; www.spirerestaurant.com

When the White Castle chain originated the bite-size burger all those years ago, no one ever would have guessed that the snack would reemerge decades later on the menu at chic restaurants like Spire. Diners at the sleek bar inside the boutique hotel can enjoy them as an appetizer or the main event. A set of three mini burgers is served open-faced with a selection of gourmet toppings like morel and green garlic relish, scotch bonnet ketchup and sweet pea pancetta mignonette. The accompaniments change seasonally (executive chef Gabriel Frasca says future toppings may include corn relish and heirloom tomato), but the burgers themselves are perfect for snacking any time of the year.

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93	**Jim Beam® Black**
91	Maker's Mark®
89	Wild Turkey® 101®
82	Gentleman Jack®
81	Crown Royal®
81	Jack Daniel's®





live Cape Verdean music mingles with the assortment of languages being spoken at the neighboring tables. As soon as you step through the door, you'll forget what country you're in, and with each bite you'll travel to a more exotic locale.

DELI
Sam LaGrassa's

44 Province St., Boston, 617-357-6861, www.samlagrassas.com

How long does it take to make a perfect sandwich? Thirty-five years and counting, according to the crew at this Downtown Crossing lunch spot, where the art is learned and relearned six days a week. Be they wraps or old-fashioned stacks, classics like tuna salad or creations like grilled portobello and Monterey Jack, Sam's sandwiches garner gasps for their heft and groans of pleasure for their craft. But the goldest of gold medals goes to the Pastrami Traveler, which features Romanian pastrami and cheddar piled on grilled dark rye with tomatoes, onions and a spicy mustard-mayo spread. The "fresh from the pot" corned beef (meats are shipped in from New York and prepared in-house) is another contender. Finish one and you could win a prize for perseverance too.

DESSERT
Finale

1 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-423-3184;
30 Dunster St., Cambridge, 617-441-9797;
www.finaledesserts.com

Six years after the flagship's debut, there's still no place like Finale, the pair of posh, full-service "desserteries" that put sweets in their rightful place: front and center. And what a front, and what a center: From frosting to filling, crust to contents, executive pastry chef Nicole Coady's creations are lovely to look at and divine to dive into. The clear-cut favorite is the molten chocolate cake, its deliquescent warmth and sweetness offset both by pleasantly bitter coffee ice cream and chocolate-almond crunch. But the peanut butter mousse cake, layered with ganache, is also a marvel, rich yet not cloying. Meanwhile, seasonal options abound: delicate sorbets, profiteroles big as biscuits, sampler platters so whimsical they look like little fruit-and-chocolate circuses. Still not satisfied? Hit the bakery for cheesecake or cookies on your way out. You say Finale, we say Encore!

DINNER WITH LIVE MUSIC
Les Zygomates

129 South St., Boston, 617-542-5108, www.winebar.com

From the cheeky name (it refers to the facial muscles engaged in smiling) to the suave bistro decor—think banquettes and pillars, split levels and vintage posters in primary hues—this Leather District wine bar is as debonair as debonair gets. And all that style only enhances its substance: a thoughtful, polished menu backed by a smart and friendly wine list, in turn backed by jazz ensembles who do the background thing with verve. Just picture it: you and your honey sharing a bottle of Viognier or Gigondas, trading bites of the house pâté or an ever-sure poisson du jour (followed, if possible, by the intriguing green apple-Camembert galette), all to the smoky-smooth sounds of some seasoned trio. Are you smiling yet?

FRENCH RESTAURANT
L'Espalier

30 Gloucester St., Boston, 617-262-3023, www.lespalier.com

Along with Todd, Lydia, Gordon and one or two oth chefs with whom we imagine ourselves on a first-nam basis, owner Frank (as in McClelland) has proven linchpin in the local dining scene, which would look whole lot different without his Back Bay townhouse turned–exclusive French–New England restaurant. N only have beaucoup local chefs gotten their start in i kitchen over the years (including McClelland himse under original owner Moncef Meddeb), but even now, the wake of its silver anniversary, L'Espalier continues top the short list of special-occasion hot spots. In contra with the quietly elegant decor, calm mood and proper se vice, the food is ever-extravagant and bold (that t menu descriptions require semicolons says it all); t

MOST UNDERRATED RESTAURANT
Taranta

2 D Hanover St., Boston, 7-720-0052
www.tarantarist.com

Named after the tarantella, an Italian dance, this litt known North End gem produces food worthy of its o street festival. Unlike the surfeit of calamari-and-Chia places catering to tourists, Taranta combines Italian cuis with a hint of Peruvian influence, and the results are bo delicious and surprising. The decor a standard trattoria exposed brick walls, ceramic tiles—but the tables spaced far enough apart that you won't be privy to the c mas of your fellow diners. The menu takes its cues fr the coast, but revs up the creativity with exotic ingredie like *huacatay* (Peruvian black mint)—which finds a home ravioli—or a novel approach to a classic, like an espres crusted filet mignon. The Italian and South American flav may strike some as an unlikely pairing, but much like French and Italian immigrants who imported the tango Argentina, they turn out to be fabulous dance partners.





CHEESE SHOP

Formaggio Kitchen

244 Huron Ave., Cambridge, 617-354-4750;
268 Shawmut Ave., Boston, 617-350-6996;
www.formaggiokitchen.com

All the food shops that make Beantown chowhounds cram with pride (not to mention swoon with hunger), Ivan Gurdal's gourmet temple tops the list. As you enter the Cambridge store to feast your eyes on hundreds of cheeses of all shapes, sizes, origins and ages—the place is nationally known for both its underground ripening cave and its dedication to international artisanal producers—you can almost fathom a world without convenience stores, free of Velveeta. Samples are everywhere—savor a chunk of Shropshire blue or a schmear of Piedmontese robiola as you peruse not only the dairy cases but a stunning selection of imported meats, pantry staples, condiments and sweets from all over the states and Europe; a full greengrocery sits on the premises as well. One caveat: It's not humanly possible—even at the smaller South End outlet—to exit without blowing your diet or your budget or both.

ne list is duly impressive; and the exquisite details add to more than just a meal. A taste of Boston's culinary olution—and revolution.

FRIED CLAMS

Kelly's Roast Beef

410 Revere Beach Blvd., Revere, 781-284-9129,
www.kellysroastbeef.com

his singular, family-owned restaurant, best known for ast beef, has also been cranking out exceptional fried ams at Boston's equivalent of Coney Island for more an 50 years. The clams are delivered fresh daily from e Chesapeake Bay and fried in pure vegetable oil (which changed each morning). The crispy, chewy result is worth all the calories. Open 363 days a year and offering a quintessential taste of summer year-round, Kelly's is the only reason most people we know ever venture all the way to Revere.

FROZEN YOGURT

Café Podima

168 Cambridge St., Boston, 617-227-4959,
www.cafepodima.com

Thanks to the recent '80s revival, not only is everything old new again, but apparently everything cold is cool again too. This sandwich shop at the edge of Beacon Hill reminds us why we loved frozen yogurt in its heyday, back when Prince was king—and why we still love it now. Because for all the wild flavors today's gourmet ice cream companies come up with, they can't possibly deliver the satisfaction we derive from our own creations, building on a base of soft-serve vanilla or chocolate yogurt with any of 65 mix-ins that range far beyond the usual choice of toppings offered in other stores. Besides M&Ms, there are Skor and Caramello; besides granola, there are Grape Nuts and Cracklin' Oat Bran; instead of artificial flavorings, there are real ingredients like ground coffee, cinnamon, and chunks of cheesecake and carrot cake. Why not celebrate Prince's comeback with a cone?

GREASY SPOON

Charlie's Sandwich Shoppe

429 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-536-7669

Better yet, it's a shiny, happy spoon, wedged into its tight little drawer of a space in the South End, all Formica, vinyl and chrome. Along one wall, photos of customers span the decades (Charlie's opened in 1927); along the other runs the lunch counter and behind it the grill, where waitresses and fry cooks straight out of Mel's Diner maneuver with cast-iron pans and plates spilling over with American grub at its most authentic. Besides the celebrated turkey hash and eggs, there are goody-filled omelettes—as puffy as if they feel pride sitting alongside fat, golden home fries—and real griddle cakes (including the huge, scrumptious banana-pecan). Even lunchtime's mother lode of fried fare—from clams and chicken to onions and chips—is prepared with such care that a more positive epithet seems only fair: Let's call it a glistening spoon.

GREEK RESTAURANT

Mezé Estiatorio

100 City Square, Charlestown, 617-242-6393,
www.mezeboston.com

This upscale Greek eatery made a big splash when it plunged into Charlestown last August—naturally, since everything about the place is big. The interior is big—seating 250 in the dining room and taverna, it boasts a bold, earthy palette punctuated by mosaics and murals. The crowd is big, as is the noise it generates. And the menu is big in every way: a lengthy list of enormous dishes (even the eponymous small plates are sizable) with plenty of zest. Think garlic and grape leaves, lemon and lamb, oregano and eggplant; think mint, honey and figs. Think wine from varietals cultivated since antiquity, and stone-ground coffee prepared in a sand-filled *briki*. And when you're done thinking, take your big appetite and head to Mezé.

GUARANTEED GREAT MEAL

Mistral

223 Columbus Ave., Boston 617-867-9300,
www.mistralbistro.com

Long-term success is a double-edged sword in the restaurant business: How can you continue to take the kinds of creative chances that got you where you are without alienating the loyal customers who made you a success? Mistral's Jamie Mammano is the rare restaurateur who manages to strike a balance between freshness and familiarity. Then again, his French-Mediterranean restaurant has always tempered drama with comfort, employing humble materials like terra-cotta and burlap to soften an architecturally imposing space; it has always separated sophistication from intimidation via menu mainstays such as musky portobello carpaccio with roasted peppers and black mussels with smoked tomatoes. Changes, then, are seasonal rather than permanent, with a softshell crab peeking through here, a dish of truffle macaroni there. In short, Mammano knows how to fix what ain't broke: very, very carefully.

GUILT-FREE DINING

Lo Fat Know Fat Lo Carb Hi Protein Grill

222 Arsenal St., Watertown, 617-923-7676;
340 Cummings Park, Woburn, 781-932-6260;
www.knowfat.com

"We all scream for dairyless soy-based alternative" just doesn't have the right ring. But what about a Red Rampage or a Tropic Tornado? This health-oriented café makes not only smoothies worth shouting about but also salads, sandwiches and entrées that warrant a hoot. Now you can get your day under way with an egg-white, turkey-bacon, and two-cheese breakfast wrap, munch on a chicken-meatball grinder for lunch, feast come dinnertime on honey-basted turkey tips with signature oven-baked "air fries"—and start all over again with a clear conscience tomorrow. A Woburn location just opened in June, and there's an outpost on Route 9 in Shrewsbury if you're driving west.

HOTEL DINING

Meritage

Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston, 617-439-3995,
www.meritagetherestaurant.com

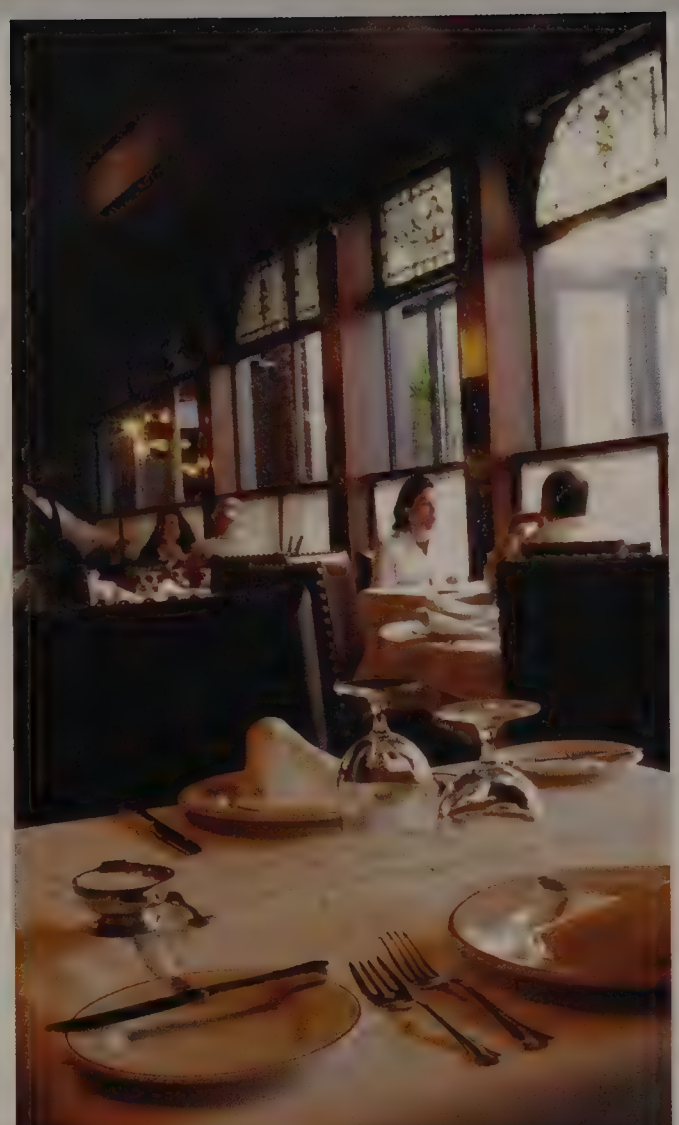
Overlooked and underappreciated, this sophisticated hotel dining room serves serious, expertly crafted food by chef Daniel Bruce. The name comes from a superior, limited-production American wine made from a blend of Bordeaux grape varieties—fitting, since Bruce catered the Boston Wine Festival for 15 years, and the restaurant's impressive list runs 32 pages. The interior design radiates urban elegance with spectacular views of Boston Harbor. However, Meritage earns our highest praise for the superb menu, which pairs a selection of 24 tasting plates with an array of appropriate wines. A sparkling white with pan-roasted soft-shelled crab on corn salsa, for example, or an assertive and spicy red to go along with truffled guinea-hen sausage. The elegance and complexity of Bruce's cooking are beyond compare, and the off-the-beaten-path ambience makes this eatery feel like a true find.

ICE CREAM

Cold Stone Creamery

8 Park Plaza, Boston, 617-523-1020; 100 City Square,
Charlestown, 617-242-0100; www.coldstonecreamery.com

Statistically, Bostonians are among the nation's top per capita ice cream consumers, and we've got plenty of excellent local places to choose from. But when this national chain opened in Charlestown this past February (and in Park Square in May), we discovered what the rest of the country was raving about. First, you choose a flavor of ice cream (made in-store daily) from a long list of unusual options like cheesecake and white chocolate. Next come the mix-ins. The first one is free, which shouldn't stop you from picking several more from the astonishing array of candies, sauces, fruits, nuts, etc. Your ingredients are then blended on a refrigerated granite stone—a method credited to the original Steve's in Somerville. The result: sublime creations along the lines of Apple Pie à la Cold Stone—sweet cream ice cream, cinnamon, graham cracker pie crust, apple pie filling and caramel. Cold Stone's smiling servers even make paying for your treat sweet: They've been known to break into song when you tip them.



OLD BOSTON

Locke-Ober

1 Winter Place, Boston, 617-542-1340,
www.locke-ober.com

Blood-red furnishings, chandeliers, dapper and discreet bartenders—we sympathize if your first glimpse into this clubby Continental establishment causes flashbacks to the hotel in *The Shining*. But as you settle in, other details—exquisite carved mahogany, art nouveau glass, gold and silver flourishes, the lush portrait of the nude they call "Yvonne"—will orient you. You're on Boston Brahmin turf. Throughout its 125-plus-year history, and despite several changes in ownership, Locke-Ober has remained a blue-blood bastion. Thanks to current partner Lydia Shire's admirable respect for the institution and its customs, today's VIPs dine much as their predecessors did, on oysters, caviar, lobster and pheasant. But even we commoners can have a taste of the tony life by heading to the bar for, say, a glass of port and a plate of the stellar signature macaroons. After all, all work and no play . . .

INDIAN FOOD

Diva

246 Elm St., Somerville, 617-629-4963, www.divabistro.com

The name refers not to a generic, stuck-up female singer but to a festival light used in India to represent celebration and enlightenment, both of which you'll experience with your first taste of this restaurant's delicious food. Standbys like tandoori, curry and vindaloo are beautifully rendered, and the vegetarian options are legion, while specialties like chicken *jalfrezi* (made with vegetables, fresh herbs and exotic spices) or lamb *tikka saagwala* (made with spinach, freshly ground ginger and garlic) are beyond mouthwatering. A bright, beautiful interior with comfy booths and intimate tables overlooks the hipster parade of Davis Square, and both the staff and the presentation are the epitome of subcontinental elegance. Thankfully, the prices are affordable too, because after one meal here, you're likely to become an addict.

INDULGENCE

Dessert in the courtyard at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum's Gardner Café

280 The Fenway, Boston, 617-566-1088, www.isgm.org

If you're going to ingest unnecessary calories, you might as well make it a completely sensory experience and do it in a truly sybaritic setting. The courtyard café at the Gardner Museum offers delicious food in general, but the gorgeous surroundings seem especially appropriate for the decadence of dessert. The bread pudding earns audible moans of ecstasy, with flavors that change seasonally. (In the past year, they've included pumpkin, white chocolate, blueberry and banana, each more sinfully delicious than the last.) Chocoholics will plotz over the chocolate mousse torte (rich chocolate mousse on a dense chocolate base), and coffee cravers will cotton to the mocha cannolis. An additional benefit to the setting: You can walk off some of your indiscretion with a stroll through the museum's magnificent galleries afterward.

IRISH RESTAURANT

James's Gate

5-11 McBride St., Jamaica Plain, 617-983-2000,
www.jamessgate.com

We'll refrain from joking that inauthenticity was our foremost criterion. That said, the menu at this Jamaica Plain restaurant and pub, named for Dublin's olde brewery, doesn't exactly linger lovingly upon the Emerald Isle; you can pretty much count the traditional Irish items on your hands, with a couple of fingers left over. Which you can then use to wipe up every last drop of gravy or curry on your plate—because, as it turns out, the bangers and mash, shepherd's pie, and hand-cut chips are exemplary. The word "hearty" comes to mind, without the word "coronary" following right behind it. Meanwhile, the best dishes don't fly flags so much as flavors—try the robust smoked-fish platter, and seasonal offerings like chilled avocado soup. Enjoy them guilt-free: As long as you're also pounding Guinness by the pint, you're in the Irish clear.

ITALIAN

Prezza

24 Fleet St., Boston, 617-227-1577, www.prezza.com

Due to its mountainous locale, the peasants in the small Italian town of Prezza subsisted for centuries almost solely on permutations of pork, polenta and vegetables, and while chef/owner Anthony Caturano's menu isn't nearly that limited, he takes inspiration from the creative-by-necessity culinary sensibility of his ancestors. In fact, his polenta is so primo that even his great-grandma, a Prezza native, would approve. Delicio

CAPRICE

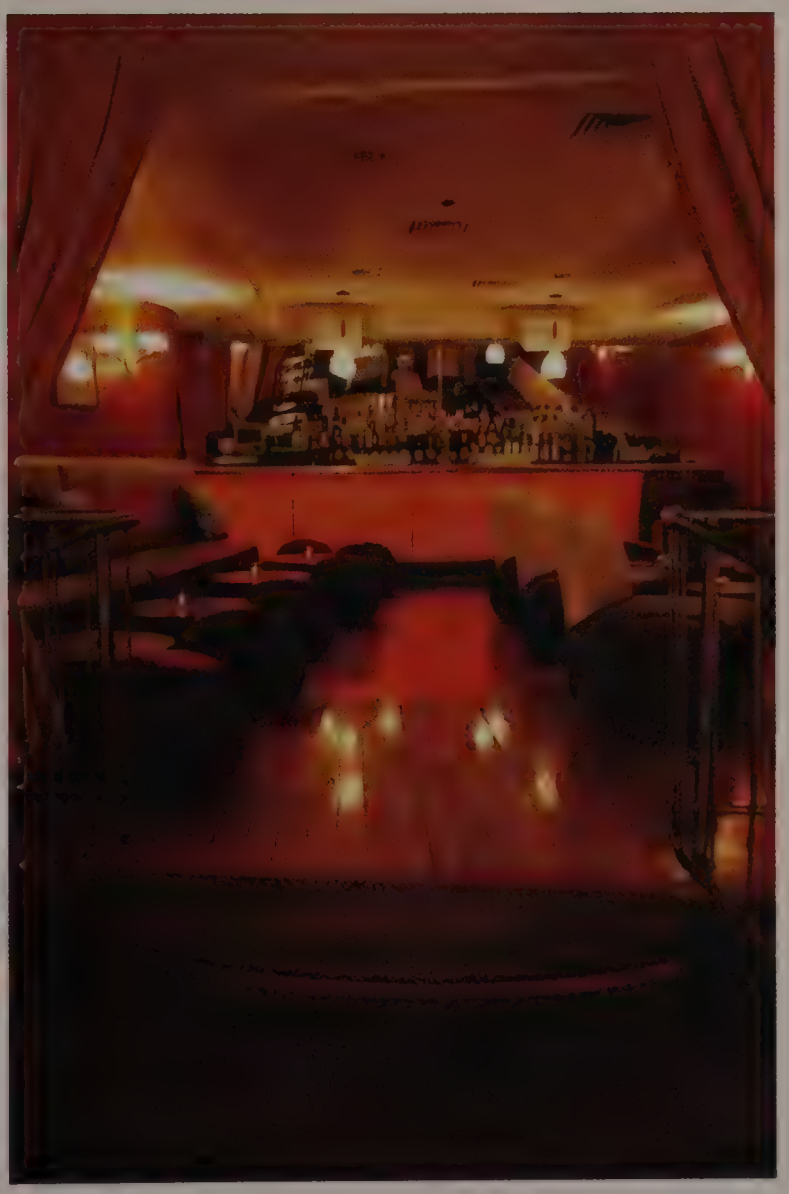
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HANGOVER CURE

Breakfast Sandwiches at Johnny's Luncheonette

30 Langley Road, Newton Center, 617-527-3223; 1106 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 617-495-0055

After a night of serious drinking, you can pop a couple of aspirin and chug several glasses of water—or you can wake up the next morning and immediately head to Johnny's Luncheonette. Luckily, there are two convenient locations, offering relief to over-imbibers on both sides of the river. Once you're seated (it may take some time), order one of the divine breakfast sandwiches, safe in the knowledge that relief is on the way. The delicate balance of fats and starch from the tasty medley of bread, eggs, cheese and meat is the antidote to last night's poison. Despite its popularity with families, the atmosphere is conducive to the morning after: neither too loud nor too bright. Plus there's excellent coffee and orange juice to rehydrate and recharge your batteries.

dishes like lobster fra diavolo (savory, saffron-infused tagliatelle with shucked lobster, zesty tomato and rosemary) or sweet corn raviolini (with plump rock shrimp, nutty parmigiana, pancetta and white wine) can be ordered either as appetizers or entrées. The pastas are all handmade and perfectly cooked, and specialties like the wood-grilled double-thick pork loin with almond romesco and Tuscan bean salad will have you agonizing over what to order as a *secondi*. Only the dessert menu, which includes choices like chocolate flourless cake with crème Anglaise and raspberry puree; honey chestnut flan; and a butterscotch crème brulee, isn't authentically Italian. But it's dessert, for God's sake, so who gives a damn?

LATE-NIGHT FOOD

News Restaurant/Lounge

150 Kneeland St., Boston, 617-426-6397,
www.newsboston.com

Now going on two years old, News is still news for a few good reasons. One: In a city that takes "late-night" to mean 12 am, it remains a rarity, unaccompanied in its hours (5 pm–4 am weekdays; 5 pm–5 am weekends) except by a handful of Chinatown haunts. Two: It serves a wide range of good old American fare, from steak tips to sandwiches to pancakes—which, after a wild night of boozing and dancing, might sound rather more soothing than fried eel and cold tea. Three: Comfy couches and booths let you lean back and digest in relative peace. Just don't lean too far back, or the next thing you know, late night will be early morning.

LOBSTER

Jasper White's Summer Shack

149 Alewife Brook Pkwy., Cambridge, 617-520-9500;
50 Dalton St., Boston, 617-867-9955;
www.summershackrestaurant.com

Renowned chef Jasper White is the acknowledged authority on lobster. His eponymous fine-dining restaurant in the North End was famous for its signature lobster preparation (which involved cognac), and he authored the definitive cookbook/manifesto on the subject, entitled *Lobster at Home*. It's even been said that young crustaceans consider it an honor to be steamed in his pot. Now that he operates these two casual, family-friendly and reasonably priced restaurants (and a third at Connecticut's Mohegan Sun resort), you can enjoy his expertise while wearing jeans and flip-flops. All of his lobster knowledge is reflected in the menu. We actually know several devotees who have tried desperately to bargain for the secret to his outstanding lobster salad. However, our favorite way to enjoy his particular genius is also the simplest: steamed, with drawn butter. We give Jasper White's Summer Shack two enthusiastic claws up.

MARGARITA

Cactus Club

939 Boylston St., Boston, 617-236-0200,
www.bestmargaritas.com

We give up. We hereby forfeit the search for worthy challengers to the supremacy of this Southwestern mainstay in the Back Bay. But wait—before we crown it all-time champ, we'd better head over there and have one more margarita just to make sure. What'll it be: the 1843 Mar that splashes Tequila 1800 with the Spanish vanilla liqueu known as Licor 43? The Sauza Hornitos–based Platinun Marg, tarted up with lemonade? The Tupelo Honey Mar which is indeed drizzled with bee juice? Or a frozen concoc tion in any of 11 wild flavors—kiwi, green apple, black berry, passion fruit? We're dizzy just thinking about the arra of tequilas combined with a secret-recipe sour mix. We' never get them straight unless we carefully try them al Hey, otherwise, what kind of judging panel would we be?

MARTINI

Oak Bar

The Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 St. James Ave., Boston, 617-267-5300

More than a drink, the martini is a way of life. Doing it jus tice isn't merely a question of mixology; the service and th setting are also key. Which is why this Copley Plaza inst tution simply mustn't be denied. Just settle back in wha may be the city's most breathtakingly rococo interior, wit its high ceilings, dramatic drapery and gold trim, and trea yourself to a classic martini experience. Purists will prefe the Traditionalist, made with Tanqueray, Noilly Pratt ve mouth and a drop of bitters, while vodka buffs will go fo the clean-tasting Presidential or the Chopin. But all wi appreciate the presentation, as the drink is poured table side from an individual glass carafe which is then left be hind in a glass ice bucket so you can polish off the remain der at your leisure. Now that's what we call living.

MEXICAN

Olé Mexican Grill

203-A Broadway, Arlington, 781-643-2299,
www.olearlington.com

Sadly, Mexican food is the redheaded stepchild Boston's ethnic culinary scene, which makes us all th more grateful for and excited about this superb suburba option. Owners Ricardo Ramos and Armida Amor don dumb the food down to suit a timid gringo palate; ever thing is authentic and prepared the traditional way. The molé sauce (a blend of 26 spices and chocolate) is mad from scratch every morning, and dishes like a fabulo chicken enchilada have just the right amount of kic The daily specials really are something special: Olé's or of the only places around Boston to offer authentic *chil rellenos* (stuffed peppers). You can extinguish the fire wi a refreshing glass of white or red sangria. Be careful not fill up on the made-from-scratch guacamole, which is th best we've had north of Nuevo Laredo. The festive-bu not-kitschy atmosphere is perfect for lunch with frien and a cozy spot for an out-of-the-way date.

MIDDLE EASTERN

Byblos Restaurant

678 Washington St., Norwood, 781-278-0000,
www.byblosrestaurant.com

Convenience is a major factor in choosing a restaurant, it takes some damn good food to get us to trek to No wood. Aficionados of Byblos clearly think the cuisine worth the trip—owner Maurice Daaboul estimates that percent of his customers come in from Boston. Daabou wife and sister are in charge of the kitchen, making mean moussaka and producing hummus we'd crawl acr the Sahara for. The lengthy menu makes decisions dif cult, so why not go for a combination plate featuring cl sics like falafel, tabouli, baba ghanoush, kebabs, stuff vine leaves or kibbe. The fattoush is a signature salad wi toasted bread, radish, tomatoes, mint, cucumber and sc lions, and it's impossible to imagine a more refreshing satisfying use of those ingredients. The liberal use of gar makes bringing breath mints advisable, but then aga

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NACHOS

The Fours Restaurant and Sports Bar

166 Canal St., Boston, 617-720-4455, www.thefours.com

Truth be told, we never met a nacho we didn't like, but the ones at this North Station pre- and postgame hangout deserve special praise. The Nachos el Grande cover all the basic food groups. Fresh crispy tortilla chips are smothered in melted cheddar cheese, chili, tomatoes, jalapenos, guacamole, sour cream and the restaurant's homemade salsa (we're not sure, but we think it might contain crack). Anyone craving more protein can order the buffalo chicken nachos, which make all of the above beg for mercy under a layer of spicy chicken, scallions, mozzarella and buffalo sauce. We're sure the poor chips have no idea what they're getting themselves into. If you're anything like us, nachos are one of the main reasons to watch football, which makes this one of our favorite places on game day.

NEW CONCEPT

The Butcher Shop

552 Tremont St., Boston, 617-423-4800, www.thebutchershopboston.com

Granted, to the French, the idea may not be so new. But we Bay Staters are enchanted by Barbara Lynch's latest project, a South End butcher shop boasting a built-in wine bar. From the stencilled windows that announce "Foie Gras—Marrow—Lard" to the Twain and Brillat-Savarin quotations chalked on the slate backboard to the lengthy wine list that replaces page numbers with the word "yes," the warmth, good humor and intelligence of the place shine through. No wonder it's been a neighborhood favorite from the moment it opened last fall, with crowds lining the bar or gathered round the butcher block to sip Provençal rosés and Piedmontese reds, nibble all kinds of weekly-changing housemade charcuterie (terrines, cold cuts, you name it) and simply while the evenings away.

NEW RESTAURANT

Restaurant L

Louis Boston, 234 Berkeley St., Boston, 617-266-4680, www.louisboston.com

The reverse snob in you resists. The boutique setting is so exclusive, the minimalist decor so sleek, the clientele so designer-chic, that you want to stomp your feet—preferably in scuffed motorcycle boots—and cry, "You can't fool me!" Only this Asian-influenced, New World eatery isn't fooling around one bit. It's ultimately a gorgeous forum for executive chef Pino Maffeo to air his vision of cuisine as an art, one that overlaps with sculpture, with architecture, with theater—comedy as well as drama. For Maffeo, bamboo steamers make good bread baskets, and test tubes become serving implements—a metaphor duly noted, as the menu disseminates new elements while combining volatile ones: smoked trout with grains of paradise glass, for instance, or ravioli stuffed with ricotta and dandelion greens. Take the experience to another level with an exotic elixir—the Sardinian myrtle liqueur is a knockout.

OENOPHILE'S TREASURE

Troquet

140 Boylston St., Boston, 617-695-9463

On the edge of the Theater District, Troquet surprises quietly with an outstanding menu and a wine selection worthy of the best cellar. Ordering an appetizer and an entrée with appropriate wines can be intimidating for the novice, but Troquet eliminates the confusion from the equation by pairing each item on its menu with a complementary vintage. To make matters even easier, the layout places appetizers on the left and entrées on the right, with wines in the middle. Start with spring pea soup garnished with Pekeytoe crab, and go on to East Coast halibut garnished with baby artichokes, with a fruity, white tasting trip to Spain and France in between. If you order a flight, each course arrives with three to five 2-ounce sips, grouped by country or varietal. The newly renovated downstairs has a wine bar that also serves savory snack food to quell pretheater stomach grumbling. After the show, pick up where you left off: The bar menu is available until midnight. With 600 wines by the bottle and 47 by the glass, it's a wine lover's wet dream.

OLD FAITHFUL

Tremont 647

647 Tremont St., Boston, 617-266-4600, www.tremont647.com

Thriving on buzz as the industry does, eight years is like a century in the life of a restaurant. In the trendy South End, it may well be an eternity. This "Adventurous American" café owes its survival to husband-and-wife owners Andy and Gretchen Husbands and their young-blood crew, who keep the energy high and the edge keen. From the beloved Momos (pork dumplings with soy-sake sauce) to the infamous Tremont Tang (papaya-infused vodka, pineapple juice and 7-Up in a glass rimmed with the astronaut's drink), from the popular pajama brunch to closing-time cocktails al fresco, the idiosyncratic yet laid-back vibe of the place makes instant regulars of newcomers—and makes regulars feel like new. Here's to the next eight years.

OLD-WORLD ITALIAN CAFÉ

Caffe dello Sport

308 Hanover St., Boston, 617-523-5063

Zip the English-speaking lips, and you'd never know this Hanover hangout wasn't in the heart of some crumbling piazza in Rome. It's all there: the tiny, wobbly tables, the spot-on cups of espresso and mugs of cappuccino, the half-attentive but affable staff, the shelves of liquor behind the bar for elderly *signori* in need of a *caffè corretto*—"coffee the right way," with a shot of Sambuca or grappa—as well as the late-hour limoncello hounds. And this has long been the place to catch an international soccer match, as hordes of neighborhood fans gather around the big screen in back to cheer on the home team. But in the end, it's simply an ideal spot to sit and watch *il mondo* go by.

OVERALL VALUE

Dêdo Lounge & Bistro

69 Church St., Boston, 617-338-9999, www.dedo.biz

It's named for the unusually benign gargoyle that serves as an unofficial mascot for Paris' Ile de la Cité—a fitting symbol for this fledgling neighborhood fixture. On the border between the Theater District and the South End, Dêdo aims to offer the best of all worlds—efficiency for showgoers, laid-back leisure for regulars, bar bites for grazers, creative cuisine for gourmets—all in a space that's just attractive enough: inviting, but not distractingly bedecked. And darned if it doesn't succeed. Fried clams and a pancetta-and-pea-speckled mac and cheese prove every bit as luxuriant as ricotta gnocchi with Sweet 100 tomatoes and homemade chocolate assortments. Yet the prices are modest beyond expectation: Even the wine list is a bargain, with selections by the glass about half what you'd anticipate. Seems this Dêdo really is looking out for its patrons.

PANCAKES

Stephanie's on Newbury

190 Newbury St., Boston, 617-236-0990, www.stephaniesonnewbury.com

On Sunday mornings, which are normally reserved for communing with your pillow and comforter, we can't think of a more compelling reason to toss the sheets aside



and go have brunch. You'll never look at this breakf basic the same way again after a taste of Stephani gourmet griddle cakes. Three flapjacks the size of dinn plates arrive with a scoop of cinnamon-scented but seeping into the fluffy warmth, topped by maple syr that tastes like it was just tapped from the tree, an shake of powdered sugar. If fruit's your weakness, or the blueberry or banana version. In a restaurant that la in the day caters to Newbury Street shoppers refueli between boutiques, breakfast is the most relaxing time revel in Stephanie's cushy ambience. Let Aunt Jemi and Mrs. Butterworth sleep in, and come here instead.

PIZZA

The Upper Crust

20 Charles St., Boston, 617-723-9600; 286 Harvard St., Brookline, 617-734-4900; www.theuppercrustpizzeria.com

So you too harbor doubts about thin crusts; you too t one listless, seemingly yeastless bite and cry out, "Sir when was pizza the stuff of desert nomads? Let my p dough!" This pair of gourmet pizzerias answers y prayers with a crust that's crispy but not brittle; gol



olive-oily rather than bone dry. And it holds up re- kably well under specialty toppings that are actually ptial. The cheese is no generic salty glue but a rich zarella garnished with asiago; the pesto packs a nutty- icky punch; and departures from the pedestrian norm arugula, jalapeños, portobellos, sun-dried tomatoes sweet baby clams and shrimp keep your taste buds on r, um, toes. The resulting pie is an urbanite's manna.

PLACE TO RUN INTO A SOPRANO

Strega Ristorante

379 Hanover St., Boston, 617-523-8481, www.stregaristorante.com

at's better than watching *The Sopranos* on a Sunday ht? Eating dinner with the cast. If you hang around ga long enough, that just might happen. James Gan- ini and associates attended the restaurant's grand ning in May of last year, and apparently, they were ressed: Cast member Vincent Pastore (Big Pussy) es there once a month. (His favorite dishes? Veal ne and shrimp scampi.) Not that you have to be a guy to eat here. Regular civilians love the fettucine ga (perfectly cooked pasta with scallops, shrimp, baby spinach and a touch of saffron and liquor). Just don't rat us out by tellin' 'em who sent you.

PLEASANT SURPRISE

Rustic Kitchen

200 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston, 617-523-6334; Porter Exchange, 1815 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 617-354-7766; www.rustickitchen.net

It was when current owner Jim Caffarelli partnered with an overcommitted Todd English and opened this Faneuil Hall trattoria that critics first began to say "basta," and their hopes for the place were hardly lifted when English backed out of the venture. Enter Bill Bradley. If anyone could turn the restaurant's prospects from gloomy to golden, it would be the easygoing ex-Bricco chef. And turn them he has. Always an attractive spot despite the Disneyesque environs—the glassed-in space, with its stone-worked pizza oven, pasta-drying racks and overhead fans, evokes a Tuscan villa—Rustic Kitchen now turns out its own special brand of Italian comfort cuisine rather than warmed-over Figs fare. Handmade agnolotti and trofie, spiedini, and gourmet pizza (like the portobello mushroom with goat cheese and caramelized onions) all demonstrate Bradley's North Coun-

SPECIALTY FOODS

Savenor's

160 Charles St., Boston 617-723-6328

Ever wonder where restaurants like Radius, Aquitaine and UpStairs on the Square get their hands on exotic ingredients like quail eggs or buffalo meat? Since 1939 this retail resource for gourmands and gastronomes has stocked its shelves with items that leave hardcore foodies whimpering with excitement. (It's been at the Charles Street location for 12 years.) Following in the footsteps of his late father, Jack Savenor (the shop's founder), owner Ron Savenor relies on strong relationships with suppliers of rare and hard-to-find foods, from fresh produce to Indian chutneys to organic ketchup. The meat case is a lesson in acquired tastes from alligator to zebra, including ostrich fillets, ground yak patties, wild boar, baby back ribs, ground kangaroo, rattlesnake and mountain lion. If you're passionate about pate, there are more than 25 kinds to choose from. In short, if you can cook it and eat it, you can probably find it here.



OUTDOOR DINING

Oleana

134 Hampshire St., Cambridge, 617-661-0505, www.oleanarestaurant.com

In Boston, there are patios, and then there are patios. Regarding the former, well, all you can say is they're definitely outdoors; whether that's actually a plus depends on street traffic, foot traffic, pollution, noise pollution, etc. To judge the latter, though, you'll have to leave the city proper and wander over to, oh, how about Oleana? OK, you caught us—we led you here deliberately. We know full well that the Eastern-Mediterranean eatery boasts no mere terrace but a whole backyard; we know it's shaded by trees and vines, perfumed by herbs from the kitchen garden and heated by lamps on cooler evenings. Above all, we know it's the ideal setting for Ana Sortun's intriguingly spiced, ever-refreshing repertoire—which we would, admittedly, lick off the sidewalk on a sleety winter's night if we had to. So perhaps we're not the best folks to ask about al fresco luxury.

try know-how. Finally, foodies are daring to show their faces in Faneuil Hall, as well as in Cambridge's Porter Exchange, where a similarly modeled and menued Rustic Kitchen opened in July (a Hingham location opens in the fall).

POWER BREAKFAST

The Bristol Lounge

The Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., Boston, 617-351-2053, www.fourseasons.com

In business, all the important stuff happens before 10 am, and in Boston, a lot of it goes down at the Four Seasons. The recently refurbished Bristol is one of the swankiest dining rooms in the city, with comfy sofas and well-spaced tables giving it a level of privacy and luxury that makes it a favorite spot for the city's high and mighty. Breakfasting on lavish choices like lemon-ricotta hotcakes and rum-glazed banana French toast makes tough mergers go down easier, and alternative "power breakfasts" (like the cholesterol-free egg frittata and the multigrain pancakes) deliver great taste and less waist. The exquisite view of the Public Garden offers a welcome distraction during contentious negotiations, and enjoying it in the morning instead of cocktails means there's less chance of blurting out something job—or deal—endangering.

POWER LUNCH

Abe and Louie's

793 Boylston St., Boston, 617-536-6300, www.abeandlouies.com

Shake hands over Caesar salads and seal the deal with swordfish or sirloin au poivre. The gracious waitstaff inconspicuously looks after your every need, refilling water glasses or wine goblets and delivering your meal without interrupting the creative brainstorm taking place at your table. From Atkins-friendly entrées to signature salads for the calorie counters, there's something to appeal to every appetite, and the sedate surroundings offer a perfect place to debrief or destress after that marathon conference call. If you're flexing your expense account, there's Champagne, and if you're trying to save your client some money, there's a turkey club. Floor-to-ceiling windows flood the room with light and provide a cool breeze in fair weather. No wonder it's so in with the French-cuff crowd.

PRETHEATER DINING

Teatro

177 Tremont St., Boston, 617-778-6841, www.teatroboston.com

Drama. It defines the dining experience at this Theater District ristorante. First, there's that dreamy setting: a gold-etched, arched ceiling; soft blue lights; marble walls and the bright, open kitchen standing like a stage at the end of the narrow room. There's the cast: scads of fabulous, fashion-forward folk making the most of the echo chamber-like acoustics. There's the plot twist: It turns out this place was once a synagogue! And then there's the climax: a superb Italian menu featuring gorgeous antipasti, luscious homemade pastas (like the rich rigatoni classic ragout bolognese), tender lamb and veal and a reasonably priced wine list. But in this culinary theater, guess who stays behind the scenes, for once? Why, it's the waitstaff, whose pleasant efficiency even during the dinner rush gets our kudos whether we're holding show tickets or not. Bravo!

PRIX FIXE DINING

Craigie Street Bistrot

5 Craigie Circle, Cambridge, 617-497-5511, www.craigiestreetbistrot.com

Sure, there are more ostentatious options out there—what you want most is to impress your moneyed p with caviar degustations. But if you crave creativi craft and value as much as indulgence, this *vrai-bi* bistro outside Harvard Square is the go-to spot for spired multicourse menus. Take the "Curtain for C tain" prix fixe aimed at ART ticketholders, which off three courses from the daily à la carte menu, thoug fully chosen by the chef for maximum expediency; the "Neighborhood Menu," which, at $30, does same for bargain-hunters. Or the Sunday night "Ch Choice," a four-course feast created on the spot by c Tony Maws. We're talking delectable dishes like coq lage of shellfish with paprika oil, red-chile hangar st with "forked" potatoes, and beignets with crème-frâi ice cream. So leave the Joneses at home—save this s for your food-savvy friends.

RAW BAR

B&G Oysters Ltd.

550 Tremont St., Boston, 617-423-0550, www.bandgoysters.com

If slurping down bivalves in a stylish setting is your i of a good time, this is your place. Along with Gari Harker (the titular "G"), co-owner Barbara Lynch—James Beard award–winning executive chef of N Park, and the Butcher Shop across the street fr B&G—is the genius behind this hip and super-



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eatery. A native of Southie, Lynch has a down-to-earth sensibility that's evident in the eye-catching but laid-back decor. One of our favorite aspects is the long bar that dominates the room and serves as a place for solo diners to enjoy the lively scene. The large, open kitchen offers both a cooking lesson and entertainment as you eat, and the straightforward oyster list changes twice daily, for lunch and dinner. (Recent faves are Katamas from Martha's Vineyard and Bras d'Ors from Nova Scotia.) Delicious cooked options on the seasonally changing regular menu abound for those not fond of the raw stuff. But for those who are, it doesn't get any better than this.

RESTAURANT REINCARNATION

Blackfin Chop House & Raw Bar

116 Huntington Ave., Boston, 617-247-2400;
1217 Main St., Hingham, 781-740-4000;
www.blackfinchophouse.com

A decade has passed since Ambrosia on Huntington opened to kudos fueled by controversy; in a town still clinging to culinary provincialism, Anthony Ambrose's flair for flamboyant fusion set tongues a-wagging in more ways than one. Since then, Bostonians' tastes have matured enough to allow carte blanche for the avant-garde, so Ambrose has gone and turned Ambrosia into…a surf 'n' turf joint? Indeed, Blackfin may prove his most radical move yet—precisely because it embraces a retrograde trend already established in the Back Bay. The once uncompromisingly posh interior now makes room for sparkling fresh-fish displays; the once dauntingly new-fangled menu now hinges on the simple elegance of beef and seafood, from carpaccio and sashimi to lobster and filet mignon. Would Ambrose really risk his reputation on the value of nuance over novelty? Now that is innovative.

ROMANTIC RESTAURANT

Icarus

3 Appleton St., Boston, 617-426-1790,
www.icarusrestaurant.com

Hushed, softly lit and intimate, this legendary South End dining room is located below street level and decorated with thick carpeting, lushly upholstered chairs, and tables set for two. A small bar area is perfect for sharing a plate of seared foie gras and a glass of wine, but the handful of comfortable bar stools imply a temporary layover before moving on to the dining room. Here, the glow from small sconces sets the appropriate mood. Icarus has a padded ceiling that absorbs hushed conversations meant for only two sets of ears, and a beautiful statue of the restaurant's mythological and romantic namesake surveys diners as they savor truly exquisite food (and, on Friday nights, live jazz). The menu is brief but dazzling: Wild king salmon arrives bathed in maltaise sauce, and soft-shell crabs tussle with garlic crostini on a bed of arugula with chipotle aioli. Grilled shrimp with mango and jalapeño sorbet offers a sensual bit of sweet and spice, and a molten chocolate soufflé cake for two delivers the coup de grâce. If we had to rename this place, we'd call it Love Potion No. 9.

SALADS

blu

The Sports Club/LA, 4 Avery St., Boston, 617-375-8550,
www.blurestaurant.com

Many members of the city's toniest gym have been known to rely on its upscale restaurant (or the casual café) for all three meals of the day, and it's easy to see why. The healthful but satisfying salads, in particular, earn our unequivocal praise. In the dining room, the best Cobb salad we've ever tasted is served in a rectilinear presentation that emphasizes each of its unbelievably fresh, delicious ingredients. Out in the café, a spinach salad is piled high with baby greens, accented with grilled red onions, crumbled bacon and candied walnuts, and drizzled with a warm bacon vinaigrette. The formal dining room's cremini and zucchini salad is another favorite. In this simple, refreshing dish, shaved cremini mushrooms and zucchini are mixed with arugula, capers and Parmigiano Reggiano in a light olive oil and lemon dressing. Eating smart doesn't have to mean eating bland, and the well-balanced and beautifully executed options at blu make it easy to get your daily allowance of green.



DIM SUM

Chau Chow City

88 Essex St., Boston, 617-338-8158

Every few weeks, the desire for something exotic overtakes us at breakfast or brunch time and we head to Chinatown for a dim sum fix. This spacious, three-story restaurant (it seats more than 600) rarely, if ever, has a wait for a table, and the number of Chinese families enjoying themselves is a good sign that the food is both authentic and delicious. The dim sum selection available from the passing carts is so big that it would take numerous visits to sample them all, and while a few items (like boiled beef tripe) are best suited for more adventurous palates, the majority are appetizing even to the most finicky eaters. They're healthful, too—many dishes are steamed and feature fresh seafood and fragrant rice. Those overpriced brunch buffets with chafing dishes of questionable casseroles can't hold a Chinese lantern to the Asian equivalent of tapas, and you can probably cover the cost if you collect the change hiding in your sofa cushions.

SANDWICHES

Parish Cafe

361 Boylston St., Boston, 617-247-4777,
www.parishcafe.com

It's not hard to make a sandwich, but it's something else entirely to make a take-your-breath-away, drool-inducing, never-want-anything-else-for-lunch sandwich. The Parish knows just how to do that. The menu features inspired creations from some of Boston's best chefs. One example is the Benny, designed by Ken Oringer of Clio: Vietnamese grilled chicken breast on a crusty baguette with assorted vegetables and a mint-and-coriander mayonnaise. A spicy purple cabbage slaw tossed with tomatoes, fresh mint, Thai basil and cracked peanuts comes on the side. Other favorites include the Blue Ginger, created by Ming Tsai—a rare tuna steak with teriyaki glaze and wasabi aioli. Lydia Shire's Steak and Blue (tenderloin on blue cheese bread) is equally enticing. This is the sandwich as an art form, and the relaxed but upscale atmosphere and lively but unpretentious bar scene offer an excellent place to indulge your inner Dagwood.

STEAKHOUSE

Grill 23 & Bar

161 Berkeley St., Boston, 617-542-2255, www.grill23.com

In the pantheon of Boston steakhouses (and we can boast an extensive one), Grill 23 deserves to be thought of as Zeus or Apollo. It's not just the superior beef and the superb service (and it's even despite the dull roar of the loud dining room); in our countless visits, we've never had a bad meal there, whether we were indulging our carnivorous side with Kobe Bel del Monaco or the finest lamb chops in town, or toning it down a bit with the smoked organic Scottish salmon or the herb-crusted rare tuna. Appetizers like glimmering oysters and shrimp as big as the Ritz are mere foreplay for by-the-book classics consistently and flawlessly prepared. We're always up for trying a new hot spot, but we inevitably end up back here. It's one of the few restaurants where we can always say the meal was worth the hefty price tag.

STEAK TIPS

The Paramount

44 Charles St., Boston, 617-720-1152,
www.paramountboston.com

If these are just the tips, we'd sure love to see the whole iceberg! This long-lived Beacon Hill café has taken a down-home cookout classic and injected it with big-city cheekiness. It's above all a matter of size. More like mini-sirloins than the typical two-bite odds-and-ends, the Paramount's tips are plenty thick and juicy, with a clean, understated barbecue tang. But it's also about the big picture, as they're topped with glistening browned onions and strewn around a mound of mashed spuds—red bliss, which have a homey, fluffy texture—to create a plate worthy of any roadside diner or old-school chophouse.

STEAMERS

The Barking Crab Restaurant

Fort Point Pier, 88 Sleeper St., Boston, 617-426-2722;
www.barkingcrab.com

Steamed clams might seem like a simple enough dish, so why are they always either gritty or rubbery? Short of digging them up yourself and giving each one a thorough scouring, the solution is to go to this traditional New England clamshack incongruously located amid the downtown skyscrapers. Outside it may be the Financial

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District, but the inside is like that place you remember from childhood along Route 6, and if you order the steamers, what arrives is a bucket of tender, nutty, salty goodness. (The rest of the seafood, including the lobster, is just as delicious.) As for the sand, there might be a tiny bit. Just swirl the clam in broth to clean it, dip it in drawn butter and enjoy the essence of a New England summer. Sunburn not included.

SUBURBAN RESTAURANT

Blue Ginger

583 Washington St., Wellesley, 781-283-5790, www.ming.com

Far from the downtown crowds, amid the genteel tweeness of Wellesley Center, is the restaurant that played a key role in Ming Tsai's ascent into national culinary superstardom. Unlike the case with many celebrity chefs, though, you actually stand as much chance of seeing Tsai's smiling mug in his restaurant as in the pages of *Food and Wine*, *Gourmet* or *Bon Appétit*. He's still the consummate restaurateur, overseeing every detail in the kitchen and greeting and charming patrons in the dining room. His restaurant's simple and sensible union of American and Asian cuisine is also the key to the success of his WGBH-TV show, *Simply Ming*. The foie gras–shiitake shumai, for example, is the tastiest little bundle of flavor this side of the Yangtze. The sake-miso marinated butterfish with wasabi oil, soy syrup and vegetarian soba noodle sushi is equally mouthwatering. The trip out to Wellesley may be a bit of a schlep, and the prices might be on the extravagant side, but a meal by Ming the Magnificent is worth it.

SUSHI

Oishii Sushi Bar/Oishii Too

612 Hammond St., Chestnut Hill, 617-277-7888;
Mill Village, 365 Boston Post Road, Sudbury, 978-440-8300

Occasionally, in the course of a discussion about sushi in the Boston area, you'll hear someone bring up some other place—Oga's Japanese Cuisine, perhaps, or Uni. But only as a devil's advocate; only for the sake of argument. Because when you come right down to it, no other sushi bar comes close to matching the quality, generosity and creativity of this tiny suburban establishment and its equally tiny, even more suburban sibling. If sushi-grade fish actually received grades, Oishii's would graduate summa cum laude—it's that fresh and flavorful. The cuts are laudably large. The spicy scallop maki is literally lip-smacking. The red clam nigiri is impossibly tender. And as for the fatty tuna maki: mmmmmmmooooohhhhhhhhhhishii. Enough said.

BAKERY, BREADS

Hi-Rise Bread Co.

56 Brattle St., Cambridge, 617-492-3003;
208 Concord Ave., Cambridge, 617-876-8766

We'll see your display of raw, bloody cuts of meat and raise you a row of bread loaves, warm and fresh from the oven. We're that willing to wager that a wholesome diet begins at the baker's, not the butcher's. Especially if said baker is Rene Becker, whose Harvard Square outpost has indeed risen over the years to the top of many a local best list, be it for sandwiches, pastries or, of course, bread itself. From the many shades of wheat (the signature seeded whole-grain, the Huron, with wheatberries, the rye-enhanced Polka) and the rich, eggy, loaves (challah brioche) to the fruit-studded sweet varieties (raisin-pecan, Polish babka) and the fun surprises (rosemary-flecked, focaccia-like fougasse, and dense, moist, traditionally prepared brown bread), these carbs beat your average protein slab hands-down. No wonder another word for riches is "dough."

TAPAS

Dali Restaurant & Tapas Bar

415 Washington St., Somerville, 617-661-3254,
www.dalirestaurant.com

Despite the proliferation of mom-and-pop eateries specializing in small bites and the misguided trend of calling everything from a hamburger to cotton candy "tapas," there remains one stunningly authentic and consistent Spanish restaurant that knows what the word actually means. Each dish is small in size but enormous in flavor, and choices range from baby lamb chops to baked goat cheese, with unusual items like braised rabbit and stuffed squid in between. The genius of eating smaller portions is the flexibility: You can enjoy a satisfying meal whether you're as hungry as a field hand or just in the mood for a light, late-night nosh. Sangria is the unofficial house beverage, but the beer menu is worth a glance, as is the wine list, which includes only Spanish vintages. The prices are well within the reality range, and because there's nothing sexier than nibbling off the same plate, it's also one of our top spots for a date that you hope will last until morning.

THAI

Khao Sarn Cuisine

250 Harvard St., Brookline, 617-566-7200, www.khaosarn.com

It's a far cry the from the numerous look-alike, sound-alike, taste-alike storefront Thai restaurants in town. For one thing, this Coolidge Corner eatery actually boas some ambience, with mood lighting, tablecloths and bar that makes a mean cocktail to boot. For another, i contrast to the questionable name (it translates as "r rice"), the menu has wide-ranging appeal, offering migh fine versions of all the usual suspects, like pad Thai an *choo chee*, while really going to town with such unusu northern Thailand specialties as *miang kum*—a crunch salty-sweet mixture of dried shrimp and coconut, roaste peanuts, lime, and more atop fresh spinach leaves—an *moo pa lo* (rich braised pork stew). And rest assured—th rice here really is cooked.

TRIP TO PARIS FOR UNDER $100

Aquitaine

569 Tremont St., Boston, 617-424-8577,
www.aquitaineboston.com

People spew so much nonsense about French food whe the best of it is actually quite simple. Owner and exec tive chef Seth Woods cuts through all the malarkey b offering a limited menu of expertly executed signatu dishes. The frisée and lardon salade, with aged chevr sherry vinaigrette, poached egg and croutons; and *sou à l'oignon*, traditional onion soup, epitomize the uncon plicated genius of French bistro fare. Entrées inclu scallop vol-au-vent (a chicken pot pie–style dish) and melt-in-your-mouth lemon sole meuniére. Make su someone at your table orders the steak frites—so del cious you'll think twice about using ketchup. With a ne Saturday prix fixe brunch menu ($9.95 for thr courses), you can savor the flavor of Paris for less than costs to park at the Prudential and still get home in tim for an afternoon nap.

VEGETARIAN-FRIENDLY RESTAURANT

Harvest

44 Brattle St., Cambridge, 617-868-2255,
www.harvestcambridge.com

Home to myriad tree-hugging macrobiotic devotees a all manner of dietary kooks, Cambridge has more than fair share of meat-free dining options, but we chose th upscale Harvard Square institution because the veget ian choices aren't just an afterthought, they're inspir And the surroundings are far more elegant than the her placemats, hand-hewn wood furniture and animal rig propaganda found in most vegetarian restaurants. Ch Eric Brennan skillfully obliges herbivores with a da vegetarian entrée using fresh seasonal ingredients, a the results—like a maple-vinegar beet salad with La Chanel chevre tempura, or the seedless watermelon sal and chevre with upland cress and orange mint—are tempting as any burger on his menu. If there were m restaurants like Harvest, we might even consider givi up red meat.

WINGS

Buff's Pub

317 Washington St., Newton, 617-332-9134

Just because you look like a Neanderthal while eati them doesn't mean they can't be delicious, and this o erwise unremarkable Newton Corner pub produ wings that exceed the highest expectations. The sa is a secret, but one regular we know swears it's delive daily from heaven, which explains why some peo drive all the way from downtown to Exit 17 off Mass. Pike for a heaping platter of iridescent orange grub. Even if they won't tell us how they make th they could at least explain to Jessica Simpson why, if stuffed buffalo head on the wall is so big, the anim wings are so small. We usually only stop eating them cause it's too embarrassing to ask for more.



ies. Chang's training, at New York's famous Payard and locally at Rialto and Mistral, could only yield treats like these—even the simplest, most rustic items demonstrate exquisite craft born of superior ingredients. So if you do skip dessert, at least get, say, an ooey-gooey caramel-nut tart to go, and learn your lesson come dinnertime.

BROWNIES

Rosie's Bakery

243 Hampshire St., Cambridge, 617-491-9488;
Chestnut Hill Shopping Center, 9 Boylston St.,
Chestnut Hill, 617-277-5629;
2 South Station, Boston, 617-439-4684;
32 Waltham St., Lexington, 781-862-1991;
www.rosiesbakery.com

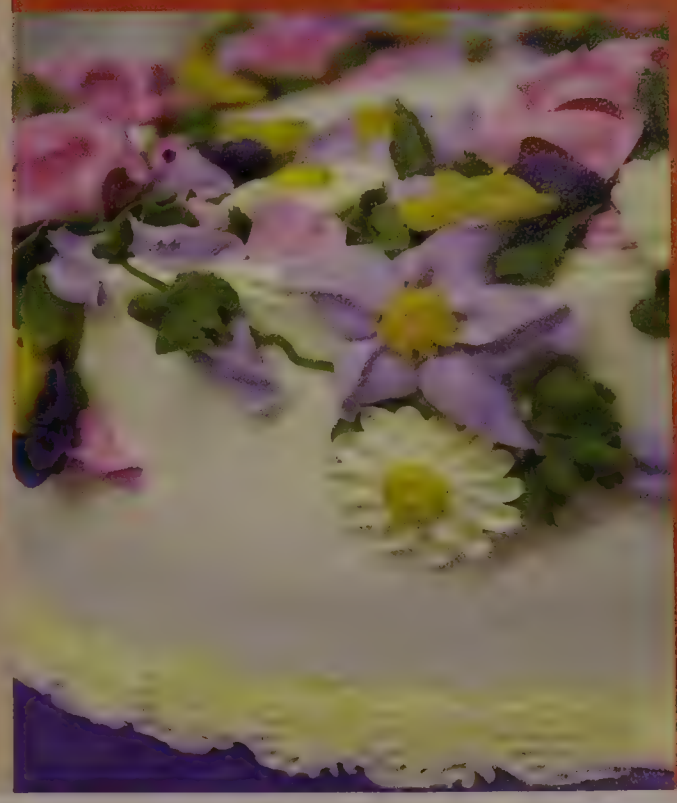
Owner Judy Rosenberg went to the Museum School to study color and design, but her true art lies in making the most guilt-inducing and addictive brownies known to mankind. In addition to classics like brownies with chocolate chips or walnuts, you can choose between Boom Booms (chewy chocolate–cream cheese swirl brownies), Congo bars (butterscotch brownies with walnuts and chocolate chips) and the naughtily decadent Chocolate Orgasms (chocolate brownies with dark fudge frosting). Choco-phobes can steer toward Rosie's delicious blondies—butterscotch brownies with the chewy consistency of fudge ones. Your thighs won't thank you, but your taste buds will. ⊷

BIRTHDAY CAKES

Party Favors

856 Beacon St., Brookline, 617-566-3330
www.partyfavorsbrookline.com

We know people who drive all the way from New Hampshire to buy birthday cakes at Party Favors, and one taste is all it takes to see why. Made on the premises by expert bakers (they assure us no elves are involved), the confections range from colorful individual cupcakes to giant masterpieces that can feed the masses. As you vie with the crowd to get a glimpse of the display cases, browse through the staggering selection of party favors, decorations, wrapping paper, cards and confetti. The cakes and trappings at Party Favors would make even the Mad Hatter wish every day were his birthday.



PASTRIES

Mike's Pastry

300 Hanover St., Boston, 617-742-3050, www.mikespastry.com

The line outside this North End purveyor of all things sweet doesn't pique your interest, the sight and smell of the pastries inside will. Every bit of scrumptiousness on display is baked fresh daily on the premises from recipes that owner and namesake Mike Mercogliano has honed over the past 60 years. Here's hoping that he keeps baking for another 60. We're not sure life is worth living without his handiwork.

BAKERY, SWEETS

Flour Bakery + Café

1595 Washington St., Boston, 617-267-4300,
www.flourbakery.com

"Make life sweeter…eat dessert first!" It's the golden rule at this South End bakery, and woe to the customer who disobeys. No, you won't get grounded like you did when you fed mom's meatloaf to the dog—it's just that if you've filled up on chef/owner Joanne Chang's (admittedly delicious) savory goods, you won't have much room for her sticky buns, tender banana bread, spice cake, raspberry crumb bars or our favorite: cheeky homemade, Oreo-style sandwich cook-

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AFTER-WORK COCKTAILS

Peking Tom's Longtang Lounge

25 Kingston St., Boston, 617-482-6282,
www.pekingtom.com

Looking for a place to tie one on once the tie comes off? Look no further than this super-hip downtown hangout, where the straight-laced can order a martini while the more adventurous can self-medicate with such pseudo-Sino concoctions as a Zombie or Mai Tai. After 5, the pin-striped crowd snacks on wasabi peas and delicious crab Rangoon, often opting to stay for dinner (the reasonably priced, delicious food is a cut above your typical dragon palace fare). Between the location and the faraway vibe (e.g., an endless audio loop of "Learn to Speak Chinese" playing in the bathrooms), it's the ideal spot to recover from a bad day at work. As soon as you walk through the door, you can go from being a suffering bastard to sipping one.

AL FRESCO COCKTAILS

Tia's

200 Atlantic Ave., Boston, 617-227-0828,
www.tiaswaterfront.com

A sure sign of summer in Boston is when the giant red claws appear on the red brick wall of Tia's, clutching a banner advertising an $18.95 lobster dinner, but the real deal is the tropical cocktails and cold Coronas that flow freely once the patio opens. Newly acquired tans and sweating glasses mark the dog days of summer at this prime waterfront watering hole. On sultry nights, a line forms early, so come directly from the office for an after-work nip or wedge yourself into the crowd after dinner in the outdoor dining area. With only four months of warm weather, Bostonians take full advantage of the opportunity to show some skin, making Tia's a great place for eye candy. A little slice of Margaritaville, right here in Beantown.

AUDIBLE/EDIBLE COMBO

Matt Murphy's

14 Harvard St., Brookline, 617-232-0188,
www.mattmurphyspub.com

It's not often that you hear someone raving about pub grub, but regulars at this suburban standout swear the food's as good as at restaurants twice as pricey. Like the hearty regular menu, the seasonal items are stellar (think braised lamb when winter is rattling your bones, or delicately grilled seafood on a sweltering August night). The music, meanwhile, is slamming. Live acts run the gamut from soulful troubadours to earthy jazz bands and out-and-out rockers. If music be the food of love and the way to a man's heart is through his stomach, every day is Valentine's Day at Matt Murphy's.

BEER BAR

Sunset Grill & Tap

130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331

Even if you downed a different type of beer there every day for a year, you'd still have a ways to go to get through Sunset's staggering selection of about 400 microbrews and 100 taps. The bar, open 365 days a year, boasts vintage and cask ales, meads, lagers and lambics—enough beers to boggle the brain of even the biggest brewski aficionado. Now Sunset's glassware selection is almost as varied as its beer menu: In a move to optimize the flavor and nuances of different beers, Sunset serves up its stuff in glasses specially recommended by brewers. (FYI: Belgian ales go best in a snifter or tulip.) How to decide which beer to drink? Try a few 2-ounce "pours" before committing to a full glass. And there's one more way to make the most of Sunset's near-infinite alcohol array: Go back, again and again.

BEGINNING OF A NEW ERA

Brother Jimmy's Barbecue

96 Winthrop St., Cambridge, 617-547-7427,
www.brotherjimmys.com

The House of Blues is gone. In its place is this southern-food haven, where the bar scene's as sizzling as the St. Louis–style ribs. Since opening in mid November, this satellite of a successful New York hot spot has been full nearly every night with a casual Harvard Square crowd that comes to mix, mingle and tie on the feedbag. The ideal place to go when some of your group want to eat and some don't but no one wants to spend a bundle. It's low-key and upbeat, and if anything can fill the shoes of the dearly departed music club, we're willing to bet it's this place.

BEST-KEPT SECRET

Cornwall's

654 Beacon St., Boston, 617-262-3749

It's been there forever, and yet nobody seems to know about it or remember to go there. In a city overrun by Irish pubs, this English equivalent (in feeling, if not decor) offers a chummy, simpatico spot to meet up with friends who haven't moved to the South End or Beacon Hill and are happily holding out in the outskirts of Boston. Board games, pool tables and five TVs offer ample entertainment. Affordable drinks and a Kenmore Square location add to its oddball charm. The sort of place where you could while away a Sunday afternoon without feeling like a total degenerate.

CHEAP-BEER BAR

Beacon Hill Pub

149 Charles St., Boston, 617-523-1895

Not-quite-clean floors, crowds of sweaty twenty- and thirtysomethings fresh from the State House, Pabst for $2: not exactly what you'd expect to find in an establishment on elegant, upscale Charles Street. But luckily for those whose wallets are as thin as their tolerance for pretense, there sits the Beacon Hill Pub. Alcohol aficionados lacking the funds to match their fervor frequent the bar, lured like moths to a flame by its inventory of everything from $3 Michelob Ultra to $3.75 Sam Adams. The atmosphere is an aberration amid the pub's ritzy environs, but fans of beer and bargains don't care. Neither does the bar's management: According to them, the Beacon Hill Pub is a dive—and proud of it.

CIVILIZED NIGHTCAP

Bar 10

The Westin Hotel, 10 Huntington Ave., Boston,
617-424-7446

Despite the revival of martinis and tiki lounges, one aspect of cocktail culture that's largely gone by the wayside is the civilized goodnight pop. Thankfully, this hotel bar (in the Westin, no less!) still remembers how it's done. The Bar 10-ders (sorry) mix cr ative cocktails, including a mojito martini, f canoodling couples. You and your squeeze can eve order Cocktails for Two: a pitcher of your favorite l bation and two glasses for gazing into each other eyes. For anyone looking to escape the rowdiness other bar scenes, this place is an oasis. Both the se ting and the crowd maintain a level of sophisticatio that's hard to find after midnight.

DANCE CLUB, FRIDAY

Avalon

15 Lansdowne St., Boston, 617-262-2424,
www.avalonboston.com

If Andy, Bianca, Halston and the rest of the old St dio 54 crowd were looking to boogie in Boston, this where they'd go. The hottest DJs come to spin, t slammin'est touring musical acts come to play and t beautiful people come to dance. There are cages ar stages, and pages of little black books get furious filled. Despite many changes over the years, this ca ernous disco inferno continues to crank, and if a nig out dancing is what you crave, it never disappoints.

DANCE CLUB, SATURDAY

The Roxy

279 Tremont St., Boston, 617-338-7699,
www.roxyboston.com.

With this decked-out, multilevel dance club in the pi ture, Bostonians have no excuse to stay in on a Satu day night. The Roxy is the young-exec crowd's Satu day hot spot for shedding suits and ties, letting off sor steam and breaking a sweat on the 1,200-square-fo dance floor. DJs spin nonstop house and top-40, en gizing clubgoers and encouraging them to leave t workweek (and their inhibitions) behind. Aside fr the staple of hot bodies gyrating to DJ Adilson's bea Saturday night is known for its rotating themes. In t past, the Roxy party-planners have transformed t club into Times Square, a wrestling ring, and this y every Saturday night through the summer, a bea party. Break out your bikini (summer attire is enco aged through Labor Day), slurp a Sex on the Bea from the bar and party on.

DIVE BAR

The Tam

222 Tremont St., Boston

If you find yourself all dressed up with no place to don't go here. Despite its location in the heart of t Theater District, the Tam is a bar with no frills, pretenses—and certainly no tuxedos and eveni gowns. T-shirt-and-jeans-clad regulars love this dov and-dirty bar for its pretension-free atmosphere, cheap brewskis and its surprisingly eclectic jukeb (which spins everything from the Doors and Dylan Pink and Moby). There are also three TVs and a sm arcade, but everyone knows the real entertainm comes from conversing with the gruff but amiable b tender and the other grizzled patrons. Whether it's noon or 12 midnight, it's guaranteed a few Tam ve ans will be warming the scuffed-up bar stools or sta ing by the penny-covered tabletops, nursing a $2 dr Adding to the sketch factor is the fact that the T won't give out its phone number—and it's unlisted



EMBODIMENT OF A SCENE FROM SEX AND THE CITY

Excelsior

272 Boylston St., Boston, 617-426-7878

www.excelsiorrestaurant.com

Perhaps it's not coincidental that "excel" is in its name, since this seriously gorgeous bar and restaurant exceeds all expectations. A magnet for visiting celebrities (recent confirmed sightings have included Christina Aguilera and Mark Wahlberg), it was designed by visionary architect Adam Tihany, who used Jerusalem limestone floors and a three-story glass wine tower with a 7,000-bottle capacity to create the memorable interior. Co-owner, celebrity chef and local treasure Lydia Shire contributed some decorative glass pieces from her personal collection to display behind the bar, and the drinks themselves are no less inspired. Signature cocktails include the Executive Blues—a vodka martini with a blueberry puree—and the Bajito—which combines basil and mint for a refreshing update of an old favorite. Needless to say, the food is flawless too, but if you're just out to tipple, a swankier setting is impossible to imagine.

GAY MEN'S ALTERNATIVE NIGHT OUT

Home Depot

Multiple locations, www.homedepot.com

e club scene can seem so tired, especially now that gay ples have the legal right to get hitched, and what bet- place to meet Mr. Right than cruising the aisles of this ne improvement mecca? Not only is all that hardware er-butch, but if you pay close attention, you'll know ether or not you like his taste in decor.

GAY MEN'S NIGHT OUT

ManRay

21 Brookline St., Cambridge, 617-864-0400, www.manrayclub.com

the very best gay night out at the clubs, head to the ntral Square landmark that has been attracting a young, ky crowd of gay eye candy since the days when same-sex riage was an idea out of science fiction. Thursday hts, geared towards gays, are packed with Adonises in scle shirts who look like they stepped out of the Aber- mbie & Fitch catalog. The crowd fills two dance floors, no matter what your type (goth and fetish included), is where the boys are. Be forewarned, though: The nRay crowd skews young, and anyone over 35 might like a fossil among all the gyrating twinkies.

HIPSTER HANGOUT

All Asia Bar

334 Mass. Ave, Cambridge, 617-497-1544, www.allasiabar.com

Three dead giveaways that someone is a hipster: piercings in body parts other than ears, at least one accessory decorated with grommets, and a low-slung waistline gyrating to live music. All three are in evidence at this Cambridge hangout, where eclectic music is the draw and the neighborhood feel is pure Central Square boho. Someone's on stage seven nights a week, and depending on which night you stroll in, you'll hear reggae, indie rock, jazz, blues, soul or even a cappella (which, in this setting, somehow acquires an unironic hipness). The drinks are as cheap as they get inside Route 128. Cover charges vary and are usually very reasonable—a small price to pay for stepping in and instantly upping your cool quotient.

HOTEL BAR

City Bar in the Lenox Hotel

710 Boylston St., Boston, 617-536-5300

Understated elegance meets contemporary glamour in this dimly lit alcove tucked into the traditional chintz decor of the Lenox's lobby. The back-lit bar provides the room's focal point, while seating at low-slung tables and mahogany leather sofas offers an out-of-the-way nook to meet a blind date or a comfortable place to lounge with the regular suspects. The clientele ranges from busy downtown worker bees to Waspy women clutching Saks Fifth Avenue shopping bags, and the sophisticated cocktail menu goes way beyond the tired Stoli Doli to include such specialties as a selection of infused rums and bourbons. A light, tantalizing bar menu is perfect for suggestive nibbling, but the renowned Azure is only a few feet away once your appetite is whetted.

IRISH BAR

Hennessy's of Boston

25 Union St., Boston, 617-742-2121, www.somerspubs.com

In a city where Irish pubs outnumber public parking spaces (a statistic we can all be proud of), singling one out as the



POLYNESIAN POWWOW
Tiki Room

1 Lansdowne St., Boston, 617-351-2580,
www.tikiroomboston.com

Gilligan's Island in bar form, this proudly tacky, Polynesian-themed oasis offers a place to go when you're feeling bored and want a bit of Bora-Bora. The drink list features all your favorite fruity rum concoctions—Zombies, Mai Tais and the like—as well as the monstrously tangy 60-ounce Scorpion Bowl, while heaping pu-pu platters stave off hunger pangs. Complete with flaming torches and goofy idols like the one Greg found in Hawaii on *The Brady Bunch*, it's a postmodern, comical take on Trader Vic's. A great place to get lei'd.

best is like taking our lives into our own hands—people feel strongly about the subject. This shaggy dog of a place has worn wood and comfortable seating: red leather booths and ladder-back chairs in which to sip a Guinness or sample such old-country fare as shepherd's pie. Only the stoutest of heart could polish off the Traditional Irish Mixed Grill: an artery-clogging combination of marinated Guinness steak tips, Irish sausages, Irish bacon, baked beans and French fries (after all, what's an Irish meal without potatoes?). Once the atmospheric whining of fiddles and bagpipes over the sound system fades, live bands take over. All the while, the smiling Irishmen in the black-and-white photos on the walls seem to be beaming their approval.

LESBIAN NIGHT OUT
Toast

70 Union Square, Somerville, 617-623-9211,
www.toastlounge.com

It's easy to figure out where the boys are, but for some unknown reason, sisters of Sappho have fewer nightlife options in Boston. Toast helps to alleviate this sad state of affairs with its Lesbian Thursdays. Grrls in their twenties and thirties flirt, dance and drink in an intimate yet sophisticated atmosphere suitable for lounging around elegantly or getting down-and-dirty on the dance floor. Men are completely extraneous at this ladies-only night, and the vibe is somewhere between an episode of *The L Word* and an all-girls weekend in P-Town. For giving Boston's lesbians a groovy place to hang out, we'd like to propose a toast to Toast.

MARTINIS AND POOL
Felt

533 Washington St., Boston, 617-350-5555,
www.feltboston.com

What's sexier than some young hottie with a pool cue challenging you to a game, and then sauntering off to the bar for a martini after beating the pants off you? That's a scene that's played out again and again in this sexiest of billiard clubs. Abundant tables are flanked by plush, red velvet banquettes. Oval-shaped, metal lamps with circular cut-outs hang from the ceiling, and the walls are exposed brick, metal and wood. Think *The Jetsons* meets Sinatra. The futuristic decor is incentive enough to hang out here, hence the regulars who have little interest in playing pool and instead prefer to hang out looking decidedly fabulous. This summer, the fourth floor is open for dancing and private parties, offering yet another draw.

MOST IMPROVED
Paradise Lounge

969 Comm. Ave., Boston, 617-562-8814, www.thedise.com

For a while, Comm. Ave.'s landmark Paradise Rock Club was on life support, occasionally drawing a decent crowd for a live show but not really offering much else in the way of enticement. We're pleased to report, however, that the patient has made a complete recovery, and the bar adjoining the legendary music venue now offers a new reason to check the place out. Manager Becky Nolan, formerly of the House of Blues, has unloaded a whole bag of tricks, including incredibly cheap and tasty food. Thur day nights are devoted to reggae, with top-flight local ac performing music as authentically Jamaican as Jasc Hart, the chef reigning in the kitchen. From 10 pm to am, the bar gets a second wind with pitchers of beer ar pizza for $8.95, but if you're the only one who wants eat, snag a $1 burger when you buy a beer or mixed drin More than a half-assed redesign or a lame refurb, it's whole new club and well worth a visit.

NO-FRILLS ADDITION TO THE BACK BAY
Dillon's

955 Boylston St., Boston, 617-421-1818

This place has been a bar since Hector was a pup, but b fore that it was the Boston Police Department's Divisi 16 headquarters (hence the dearly departed Division bar and restaurant). A few misfires in reinventing it ha finally been ironed out in the current incarnation, a what's left is a casual, comfortable spot with a relax vibe and zero attitude. Big, cushy booths line the wal and plush seating has been added to give the two level lounge feel. Young professionals come to entert clients, rubbing elbows with everyone from college st dents to veterans of the bar scene. The menu includ burgers, tapas and specialty pizzas, all well executed a affordable. In other words, it's a bar that feels like you come home from the office and changed into your vorite pair of jeans.

ONE-STOP PARTYING
The Alley

1 Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000,
www.alleyboston.com

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water Café serves as a launching pad—a place to meet and share American-style bar snacks while hoisting a frosty, fresh-squeezed margarita. The Big Easy and the Sugar Shack, both nightclubs, cater to anyone interested in getting their groove on with a shot of whatever the bartender's making and some hard time on the dance floor: cover bands, DJs and top 40 at the Big Easy, and DJs, top-40 and hip-hop at the Sugar Shack. One of the few places in Boston where doing a body shot isn't completely inappropriate.

PERENNIAL PARTY

The Place

2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081,
www.theplaceboston.com

The generic name belies the craziness that awaits inside this downtown hot spot catering to a hardcore party crowd. For the past three years the owners have been serving up a combination of live music, televised sports, dancing, flirting, games, contests and celebrity sightings. (A favorite among the pro sports crowd, the Place is ground zero on game day.) This summer, Wednesday nights have a beach-party theme, with the staff serving in bikinis. And anyone who's seen the hotties who work here will understand what an added incentive that is.

PLACE TO FIND A RELATIONSHIP OF LIMITED DURATION

Vox Populi

755 Boylston St., Boston, 617-424-8300,
www.voxboston.com

Face it: Sometimes, an evening's success isn't measured in good food or good conversation but in the number of digits collected—or better yet, whether or not you're grabbing a cab for two people and one destination by the time last call rolls around. For flirting or hooking up, Vox is happy hunting grounds. More cards get passed around than at a Japanese business convention, and the air is thick with the scent of perfume and cologne mixed with pheromones. The prowling begins at the first-floor bar, and, if that goes well, progresses to a banquette upstairs, where couples huddle while deciding whether the fish on the hook is a keeper or strictly catch-and-release. On any given night, there's more scoring here than at Fenway and the FleetCenter combined.

PLACE TO LAND AN INTERNATIONAL PLAYBOY (OR PLAYGIRL)

Fridays at Mantra

52 Temple Place, Boston, 617-542-8111,
www.mantrarestaurant.com

What used to be a nondescript downtown bank is now a little slice of India-cum-Paris as seen through the eyes of Lewis Carroll. The entrance is easy to miss; tall and narrow, it leads into a lounge and a long bar where thirsty Euros wet their whistles and stand around looking gorgeous. On one side of the high-concept dining room—which features Italian marble, a stretch of leather floor and curtains made of chain-metal and silk—is a 30-foot woven wooden structure: a hookah den. You'll half expect to find a smoking caterpillar inside, lounging on one of the red suede settees (though the smoking ban would put that insect in violation of the law). The place to take out-of-towners to show them that Boston is truly cosmopolitan.

PLACE TO LIVE LA VIDA LOCA

Sophia's

1270 Boylston St., Boston, 617-351-7001,
www.sophiasboston.com

Short of jetting off to Miami for the weekend, it's difficult for Bostonians to get a dose of Latin nightlife, unless they know about this smokin' Fenway hot spot. Blessedly free o kitschy theme-park touches (there are no plastic palm tre or piñatas hanging from the ceiling), Sophia's creates a vib with music, food and atmosphere, all of which will lea you and your date feeling like J.Lo and Marc Anthony. Th menu of Latin-inspired small plates is the equal of any i Boston, and Wednesday, Thursday and Friday night sals classes will turn even the biggest clod into a twinkle-toe One-on-one instruction is available, but the group lesson are a fun and easy way to meet new people. Before yo know what hit you, you'll be shaking your bon-bon lik you've been attending *pachanga* parties all your life. If Rick Martin lived in Boston, this is where he'd party.

PLACE TO RELIVE SPRING BREAK

Saturday at Tequila Rain

3 Lansdowne St., Boston, 617-859-0030,
www.tequilarainboston.com

Mix equal parts Cuervo Gold and Disney World kitsch an you've got Lansdowne Street's newest nighttime destin

PUSHING THE ENVELOPE

Milky Way Lounge and Lanes

403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain, 617-524-3740
www.milkywayjp.com

Quirky and unconventional are two adjectives that com to mind when we think of this funky outpost in JP. Long be fore bowling's current renaissance, this subterranean hide out was offering terrific tenpin, and it continues to lead th way in offbeat entertainment by hosting karaoke, Lati dancing, underground DJs, comedians and spoken-wor happenings. (Tuesday night Rock-Star Karaoke is so coo that actual rock stars, like the Breeders, have been know to stop by.) In the past year, the bar acquired a full liquor l cense and began renting out its kooky space for wedding rehearsal dinners and private functions. The brainchild Carol Downs and Katherine Mainzer, it's the hip litt nightlife venue that could, and does. And it continues t defy our expectations.





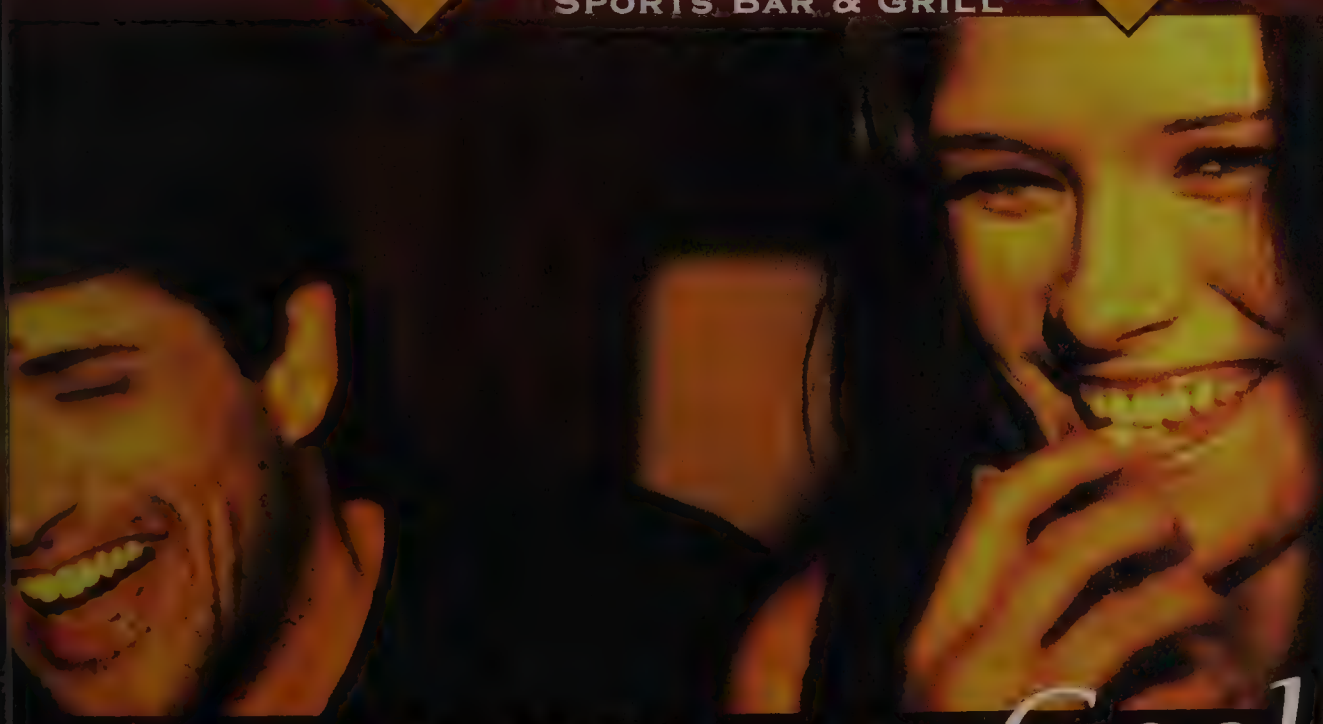
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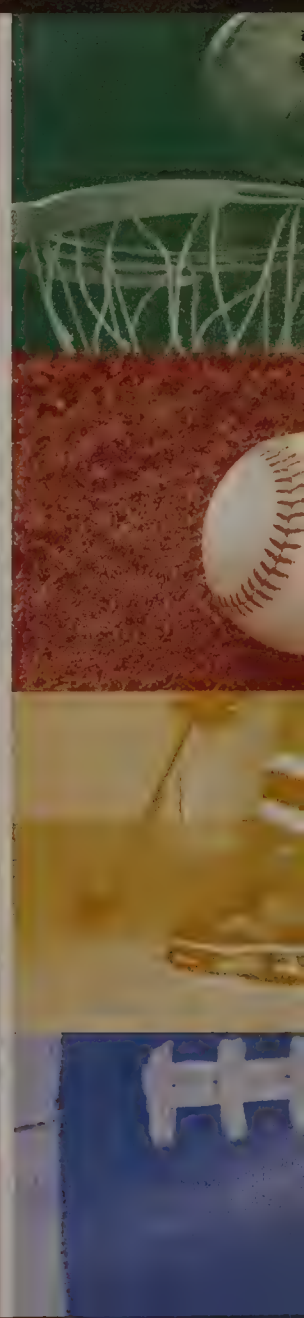
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NEW HOT SPOT

Sanctuary

189 State St., Boston, 617-573-9333, www.sanctuaryboston.com

Who knew the next cool place to chill would turn out to be hard by that stomping grounds for the 508/978 crowd, Faneuil Hall? This swanky nightspot is anything but middlebrow, and since opening in December it has consistently drawn an attractive crowd of urbane nightcrawlers. Two huge Buddha statues guard the entrance to the first floor, where you can spend the evening sipping Sanctuary Martinis (Ciroc and white grape juice, served in a glass with a grape-sugared rim). Alternately, you can head upstairs to the main dining room and choose from an extensive and tasty tapas menu. Nine plasma-screen TVs offer additional entertainment, and the bar boasts a new outdoor patio. At last, a place in the Financial District that caters to a clientele other than office drones.

tion, an annex to the fantasyland that is Jillian's. If you thought wet T-shirt contests and bodacious shot girls were a thing of the past, think again. All that and more are here to indulge your latent frat boy or secret sorority girl. Buff bodies wearing the tightest T-shirts and skimpiest halter tops jiggle and shake to the thumping beat. Slamming shots and behaving like you're 19 again are perfectly acceptable. The sort of place that Nelly was talking about when he sang, "It's gettin' hot in herre," this place is a reasonable facsimile of Cancun during that week in April when undergrads flee the books for the beach. In fact, the only thing missing is those guys who film the *Girls Gone Wild* videos.

PLACE TO SEE AND BE SEEN

Saint

90 Exeter St., Boston, 617-236-1134, www.saintnitery.com

The word "nightclub" is grossly inadequate for this den of distraction, which is why the owners coined the term "nitery." An evening here may leave you dizzy from surveying the scenery. Beyond the velvet ropes and down a flight of stairs, you'll find three distinct scenes: the Threshold Room, with its vodka infusion bar; the Bordello, with red fabric walls, plush banquettes and private nooks for snuggling; and the main room, with its long bar, long sofas, a communal table, a performance area for live music and a DJ booth. On any given night, all three are packed with a good-looking, well-dressed, well-heeled crowd. The place to go if your ego requires the stroke of being spotted among the city's biggest VIPs or you enjoy watching the terminally trendy in their natural habitat.

PRE-FENWAY

The Baseball Tavern

1306 Boylston St., Boston, 617-247-8152

The hours before a home game at Fenway are Darwinism at work; it's survival of the fittest to find a place to have a cold beer and practice chanting "Yankees suck." For rabid fans (the ones who keep the boys in their prayers every night before turning out the light), a stop at this watering hole is as much a part of going to a game as wondering how much Wally the Green Monster gets paid. Walls filled with Sox memorabilia suggest that someone with a serious case of OCD logged some long hours on eBay, and you're taking your life into your own hands if you wear any other team's logo. The burgers will tide you over till you get to that Fenway frank, and the oversized beers will calm your game-day jitters.

POST-FENWAY

Boston Beer Works

61 Brookline Ave., Boston, 617-536-2337, www.beerworks.net

It's not a bad idea to slip away during the seventh-inning stretch and beat the stampede to this microbrewery a stone's throw from Fenway. When the well at the ballpark runs dry, there are 16 homemade brews on tap here. Success at BBW's flagship establishment has led to the opening of two new locations, on Canal Street near North Station, and in Salem. As for the original, it might not actually overlook the Green Monster, but then again, you can't get air-crisp calamari in the bleacher seats, either. A pint of Bambino Ale is one way to scare away the curse. Whatever the outcome of the game, the beer here is always a winner.

PRE-FLEETCENTER

Hurricane O'Reilly's

150 Canal St., Boston, 617-722-0161, www.irishconnection.com

With a name like that, it's bound to be party central, an for getting your game on before the game at the Flee Center, it can't be beat. Join the diehard fans (and the od yahoo or two) at the bar as they get sufficiently lubricate before heading over to the game. And if your seats are i the nosebleed section, you might as well stay put. The ba tenders here are friendly, and the unique menu of Iris and Creole food beats anything served at the FleetCente

POST-FLEET CENTER

The Harp

85 Causeway St., Boston, 617-742-1010, www.harpboston.com

After yelling yourself hoarse at a Celtics or Bruins gam you can soothe your throat (and hopefully celebrate th win) at this deservedly popular Irish pub in the shadow of North Station. Neither the food nor the decor is any thing to brag about, but the draw is the bar, and two floo on which to rehash the game, play by play, with anyon within earshot. They pour a great pint of Guinness, an the selection of other beers on tap is excellent. Whethe you're toasting a win or drowning your sorrows, it's th spot to have a few brews as soon as the game lets out.

PRELUDE TO A PAINFUL FRIDAY MORNING

Harvard Gardens

316 Cambridge St., Boston, 617-523-2727, www.harvardgardens.com

It's an age-old story: One drink after work turns into tw which calls for some apps, and before you know it, you'v ordered dinner and another drink. That's a regular ph



SPORTS BAR

Stadium

232 Old Colony Ave., Boston, 617-269-5700, www.stadiumbars.com

One of the few sports bars where women can feel comfo able, Stadium is a cut above the average big-screen-TV-an draft-beer testosterone-fest. But manly men won't be down either. With 31 plasma screens broadcasting the gam there's no bad seat in the house, which explains why loc from Southie, sports fans and sophisticated singles of a p suasions have flocked here since it opened in January. Lun and dinner are served seven days a week, with a hea brunch on Saturdays and Sundays, and the full-service ba open until 2 am. The reason to go, though, is the conge staff, who've been known to approach a customer at the and hand over Sox tickets for that night's game. Proof t the expression "great sports bar" isn't an oxymoron.

It's Finally Here.

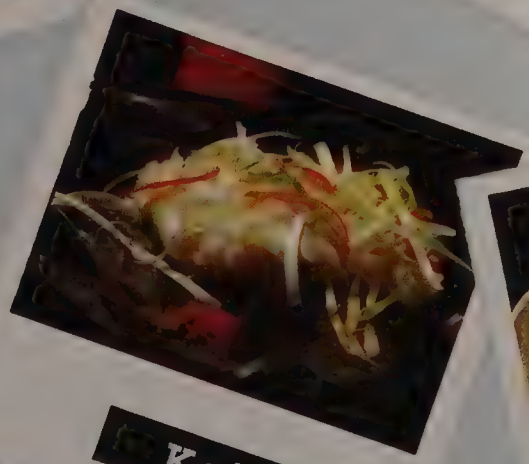
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nomenon in this popular pub on the back side of Beacon Hill, the equivalent of a highway rest stop for city dwellers on their way home from the glass and marble canyons of the Financial District. Locals stop in solo, guaranteed to see people they know. Groups gather there automatically, since it's convenient and comfortable. By the time you look at your watch, the bartender's offering last call, and that meeting the next morning is looking like a bear. Oh, well. At least you enjoyed yourself.

PRO ATHLETE PLAYGROUND

The Rack

24 Clinton St., Boston, 617-725-1051,
www.therackboston.com

This high-toned billiard club on the edge of Faneuil Hall maintains its lock on the hearts of players from the Red Sox, Patriots, Celtics and Bruins, not to mention visiting rock stars, celebrities, tourists, and financial types fresh from toiling in the nearby office towers. The pool tables are plentiful. Live music and talented DJs, an outdoor patio and a happening bar scene offer alternative distractions. An all-night menu of uncomplicated but tasty food quells the predinner hunger pangs or midnight munchies. But while the place itself attracts professional jocks, the dress code is decidedly not locker room: no shorts, T-shirts, baseball caps, sneakers or sandals. A laid-back scene for high-profile millionaires enjoying their down time.

RESURRECTION

Rise

306 Stuart St., Boston, 617-423-7473, www.riseclub.us

A city as hip as Boston needs an all-night dance club, where nocturnal groovers can bump and grind until the wee hours. After closing two years ago due to a fire in the space downstairs, this loftlike club rose from the ashes last November, completely revamped and cooler than ever. The club is open Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays beginning at 1:30 am, and the only way past Doug the doorman is to be a member, or the guest of one (membership is on a referral basis). Despite the lack of alcohol, local and nationally known DJs bring a party-hearty vibe, serving up progressive trance tracks and hard house music. A new interior and lighting and sound systems create an ambient environment for nocturnal club-crawlers. Fridays are geared toward a hetero scene, while Saturdays draw a gay crowd. For those who start to get their groove on after midnight, it's the only place to dance until dawn.

SADDEST FAREWELL

Kendall Café

If you're a sucker for singer-songwriters, you may have found yourself aimlessly wandering the streets since the Cambridge's Kendall Café closed last November. In fact, something's so obviously missing that the square now feels more like a triangle. On any given night, Kendall patrons could order from an affordable and imaginative menu, down a cheap draft from the list of beer specials and hear talented, up-and-coming musicians. A last-ditch effort to keep its doors open by offering free music throughout October apparently wasn't enough, and a venue that hosted performers ranging from Elvis Costello to Jewel is now silent. Yet another great live music venue bites the dust. Makes us think it won't be long before the only place to catch an acoustic set is in a subway station.

360

Rattlesnake Bar & Grill

384 Boylston St., Boston, 617-859-8555,
www.therattlesnakebarandgrill.com

After a brief (and some might say misguided) reinvention as George—an American Tavern, the Rattlesnake Bar & Grill is back, and so is the crowd who made it such a hap pening spot. Inspired by Boston's patron saint of barbecu Chris Schlesinger, the chefs are back at the grill, creatin such yummy pan-Latin dishes as Puerto Rican pork *toston* and pepita-crusted salmon. The rooftop deck will welcom you with one of Boston's few above-street-level, open-a bar scenes. We didn't realize how much we missed the Ra tlesnake until it was gone, and we can't overstate ho happy we are that it's back.

WATERING HOLE FOR THE WELL-HEELED

Radius

8 High St., Boston, 617-426-1234,
www.radiusrestaurant.com

Fittingly, one of the city's most gorgeous restaurants also home to one of its poshest bars. On any give evening, well-dressed patrons perch on the cushy chai and sleek stools that flank the bar's mix of high and lo tables, relishing Radius' cool-but-not-cold ambience. Yo won't find a more stylish drinks list in Boston—amon the options are Joe's Brown Sugar Margarita, a swe makeover of the cocktail classic; the strawberry-bas cooler, a chilly combo of fresh berries, Thai basil and Ci ron; the Radius Royale, Champagne swirled with pom granate juice; and a sour-apple martini made with fres squeezed Granny Smiths. If those celestial nectars lea you yearning for more substantial ambrosia, flit over the restaurant and let chef de cuisine Brian Reimer tran port you to yet another level of heaven.

WILD NIGHT OUTSIDE THE CITY

The Palace

1500 Broadway, Saugus, 781-233-7400,
www.thepalaceboston.com

Anyone who thinks nothing happens in the suburbs ne only drive to Saugus to learn how wrong they are. Th legendary nightlife complex boasts 12 rooms on tw floors where the people-watching is beyond yo wildest expectations. The Male Encounter offe carved-out-of-granite guys stripping down to their strings, while Rio boasts young hard-bodies grindi suggestively beneath barely-clad dancers in cag hanging from the ceiling and on stages at eye lev Like Rio, Oxygen tends toward hip-hop and top-4 while Copa plays Latin tunes. At 22 years and coun ing, the Palace is older than some of its patrons, b it's still the most sizzling scene outside the city.

WINE BAR

Vinalia

34 Summer St., Boston, 617-737-1777,
www.vinaliaboston.com

Wine worshippers, rejoice! Other cities are craw ing with wine bars—in fact, you can't walk down street in London without passing several—but some reason, Boston lags in this respect. Sin opening in October near Downtown Crossi Vinalia has helped to fill the void. Specializing the fruit of the vine, this swank hot spot's na means "festival of wine" in Latin. At regular w dinners, delicious food is paired with selecti from a specific vineyard, and a vintner on hand swers questions. Vinalia's wine flights are t notch, and its list is wide-ranging in terms of b style and price, with roughly 250 bottles and wines available by the glass. Whether you're a s soned oenophile or a plonk-swilling philisti there's something to appeal to every palate. In f the only wine-related thing the folks at Vin can't help you with is the humiliation of asking a white zinfandel.



AFTER-DRINK DRINKS

Boston Sail Loft

80 Atlantic Ave., Boston, 617-227-7280

Like many waterfront bars, this North End landmark boasts nautical decor that errs on the side of retired fishing nets, buoys and lobster traps. But the hearty food and air of congeniality give it genuine character. Breezy in the summer and cozy in the winter, it's the ideal place to extend an evening that began with drinks. Its views of the harbor remind you that Boston, at heart, is a seafaring town—and so does its food. Satisfy your hunger by chowing down on a bowl of chowder or sharing a plate of mussels. A place for good conversation and good times, without all the hoopla and folderol.

NEIGHBORHOOD BARS

ALLSTON

White Horse Tavern

116 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-6633

nobs would have you believe that the only place ou can eat out for under $10 these days is Mc-onald's, but they've never been to this neighbor-ood nexus in Allston, where everything is deli-ous, familiar and cheap. At the White Horse, ou can get a superior burger and fries, Sunday rough Tuesday, for a mere $4, and anyone who esn't eat red meat can enjoy a grilled chicken ndwich or a pound of wings for the same price. you're willing to splurge and spend a whopping bucks on a Wednesday or Thursday night, you d your buddies can pound back a pound of their perb steak tips. On Fridays and Saturdays, try e delicious London broil with garlic mashed tatoes or Cobb salad for the same price. Supple-ent your meal with a glass of Harpoon IPA 3.75) or a bottle of Bud Light ($3.25). Who says u can't afford to go out every night?

BACK BAY

Clerys

113 Dartmouth St., Boston, 617-262-9874, www.irishconnection.com

you want to party like you're still in college ongside a few kids who *are* still in college), this efree neighborhood spot is the watering hole to ad to. Unlike the more upscale, self-consciously bars in the Back Bay, this Irish bar has the d-back atmosphere of a keg party, with loud pop sic on the sound system and plenty of people h two left feet on the dance floor. One indica-n of its popularity is the line that begins to tch down the street by 11 pm. The first Thurs-y of each month is a real gut-buster, with local comedi-s from places like Nick's Comedy Stop performing. eck the responsible-adult act at the door, relax and oy yourself.

BEACON HILL

The Sevens Alehouse

77 Charles St., Boston, 617-523-9074

re are seven reasons to go to the Sevens: 1: The ale-use, around since 1933, hasn't changed a bit for as g as anyone can remember. 2: If you've been there ore, you'll probably recognize the staff, since one man has worked there for over 20 years and another s been there since 1985. 3: If you've been there be-e, chances are good that the bartender will remember at you drink. 4: If you go in alone, the bartender will ually talk to you. 5: If you go in with friends, no one l shoot you dirty looks when your table erupts in ghter. 6: The odds are good that you'll meet some l people from the neighborhood. 7: If those reasons n't good enough for you, then you need a drink badly l should go there as soon as possible.

BRIGHTON

The Last Drop

596 Washington St., Brighton, 617-787-1111

spite its name, the Last Drop shouldn't be your last p during a night out in Brighton. In fact, it's not a bad a to arrive at noon when it opens and be entertained the staff until last call. A friendly, funny crew engages in take-no-prisoners goofiness, while a diverse crowd of regulars enjoys the laid-back atmosphere and down-to-earth drink prices. Be sure to ask for a Sexual Alligator, the signature drink of Derek, a former IMPROPER BOSTONIAN Most Beloved Bartender.



HARVARD SQUARE

Redline

59 JFK St., Cambridge, 617-491-9851, www.redlinecambridge.com

There's a fine line between cool and cold, hip and pretentious, and in Harvard Square, that line is red. Amid all the pseudo pubs and faux dives, this bar stands out for its DJs, dancing, sophisticated cocktails, appealing crowd and welcoming ambience. During daylight hours, the business-lunch crowd holds court, and early evening brings an upscale dining crowd. But after 10 pm, the tables are cleared to make room for dancing and a DJ booth. A sunken brick patio offers a place to cool off in warm weather. A bit of the Back Bay in the heart of Harvard Square.

BROOKLINE

Washington Square Tavern

714 Washington St., Brookline, 617-232-8989, www.washingtonsquaretavern.com

A cozy little hole-in-the-wall with better-than-average food, it's a good place to jump-start the evening or settle in for the duration. A consistently appealing crowd includes not only locals but people who actually travel to get there—a testament to the fact that it's a truly great neighborhood bar. The raspberry gimlets are to-die-for, and the warm wood tones make the interior a great place to hunker down during lousy weather. Bonus points for not trying to be anything other than what it is: a comfortable, gimmick-free joint.

CAMBRIDGE—CENTRAL SQUARE

Cantab Lounge

738 Mass Ave., Cambridge, 617-354-2685, www.cantablounge.com

A beloved landmark in a neighborhood studded with great places to drink, the Cantab earns this award mostly for one reason: Little Joe Cook. Leader of the in-house band on Fridays and Saturdays, this legendary blues musician is best known for his 1950s hit song "Peanuts," which is cool enough that the Frankie Valli & the Four Seasons version of it was played in the background of a *Sopranos* episode. On Mondays, the stage hosts a folk jam; Tuesdays, there's bluegrass pickin'; Wednesdays and Sundays, blues fiends channel Muddy Waters; and Thursdays, comedy and music share the spotlight. Every night, meanwhile, there's a complete cross-section of society—from CEOs to starving artists—hanging out and enjoying themselves.

CAMBRIDGE—KENDALL SQUARE

Flat Top Johnny's

1 Kendall Square, Building 200, Cambridge, 617-494-9565, www.flattopjohnnys.com

Its proximity to MIT, the Kendall Square Cinema and the high-tech companies that occupy the nearby office towers means that Flat Top's is always lively, with an interesting and eclectic crowd. Aside from eating and drinking, diversions include pool, darts, pinball and the ever-popular Golden Tee, but perhaps best of all is the fact that you'll never hear top-40 on the sound system. Instead, it's indie rock, funk and old soul. A recent renovation did nothing to lessen its quirky charm. We never pass by without stopping in for a quaff.

CAMBRIDGE—PORTER SQUARE

Toad

1920 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 617-497-4950

Like the endearingly plain amphibian it's named for, this charming little bar puts on no airs. It's worth a visit just to see how much goes on in such a small space—just a bar along the left wall, seats along the right, and in back, a stage that showcases some of the city's best bands seven nights a week. Amazingly, it never feels cramped or claustrophobic. Instead, it's like shrugging into that old college sweatshirt: a bit snug perhaps, but completely comfortable.

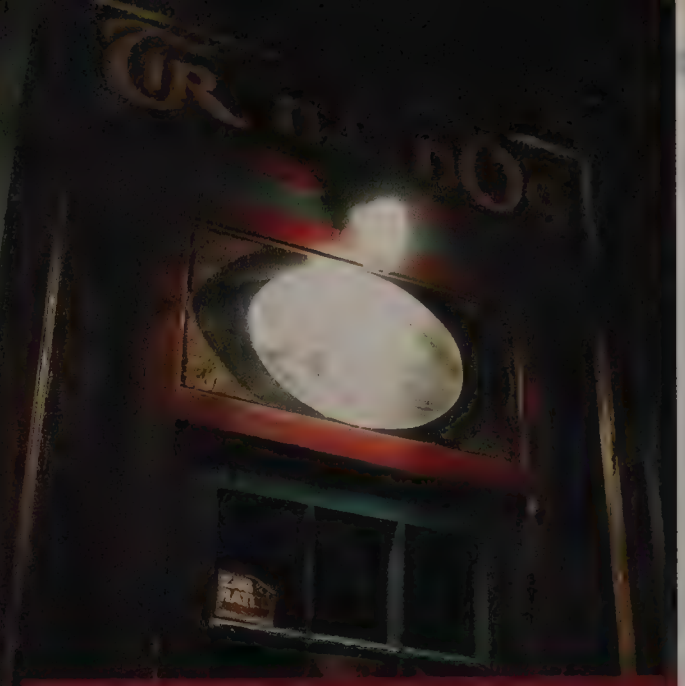
CHARLESTOWN

The Warren Tavern

2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 617-241-8142, www.warrentavern.com

It's amazing when a bar or restaurant stays in business for a few decades. It's downright unbelievable when one thrives





for centuries. Since the days of George Washington and Paul Revere (both of whom, rumor has it, actually hoisted a few frosties here), the Warren Tavern has been serving superior vittles and grog. The low ceilings and uneven floor attest to its colonial origins, but a convivial crowd of regulars prevents it from feeling like a museum or a set piece. The award-winning chowder deserves fulsome praise, and live entertainment on Wednesday and Thursday nights is almost as diverting as listening to the regulars crack wise at the bar. A picture of this place should appear in the dictionary next to the word "quaint."

DORCHESTER

The Blarney Stone

1505 Dorchester Ave., Dorchester, 617-436-8223,
www.blarneystoneboston.com

Evolving right along with the neighborhood, which has begun to attract a young, diverse and upwardly mobile crowd, this neighborhood haunt has kept pace. Although it retains its Irish name and a predominantly Irish staff, nothing about the place says Irish pub. Instead, there are DJs, pool tables and an extensive cocktail list that goes way beyond Guinness and whiskey to include Mojitos, Mai Tais and the wildly popular Pink Surf (the contents of which remain a mystery). Whether you're a Dorchester native or a fresh import, check out the Blarney Stone, where anything goes and everyone's welcome.

DOWNTOWN CROSSING

J.J. Foley's

21 Kingston St, Boston, 617-338-7713

If you're a suit seeking to get somewhat (or supremely) sloshed, this Financial District destination is the place to hit. After a long day of crunching numbers, switch to crunching pub grub: Foley's bar menu offers snacks, sandwiches and mean chicken quesadillas until 9 pm. Professionals can also decompress by browsing the selection of 130,000 songs on the Internet jukebox. But the main draw is the drinks, including Pabst Blue Ribbon for $2.25 and Guinness for $4. Mixed drinks are also moderately priced—a fact that makes adding up the tab less than taxing, even if the market's a bear.

JAMAICA PLAIN

Brendan Behan

378 Centre St., Jamaica Plain, 617-522-5386

Straddling that delicate line between trendy hangout and authentic Irish pub is this Jamaica Plain landmark, which

SOMERVILLE—UNION SQUARE

Tir na nÓg

366A Somerville Ave., Somerville, 617-628-4300
www.thenog.com

Translated from Gaelic, Tir na nÓg means "land of eternal youth," but the over-30 crowd needn't worry. It's a youthful attitude that counts here. On any given night, the bar is populated by folks so chummy you'd think they knew each other in a previous lifetime, and after one drink, the inclusive vibe will apply to you too. Live music nightly and lip-smacking pub-grub add to the appeal. Everything a neighborhood bar should be, without any of the parochial snobbery and exclusionist attitude of some other local pubs.

draws cognoscenti from all over the city for its blend of trendiness and old-world charm. When packed to the rafters, it holds only about 90 people, and the lights and music are kept low to accommodate conversation. Many aficionados would claim the Behan pours the best Guinness in town, and we're not about to argue. Irish comfort and hospitality with a slightly artsy edge, it's like the coolest, most bohemian pub in ar. unselfconsciously hip part of Dublin.

NEWTON

Union Street Restaurant

107-R Union St., Newton Centre, 617-964-6684,
www.unionst.com

Yes, there's nightlife west of Boston, and you can find it in this surprisingly happening watering hole tucked away in Newton Center, which attracts an appealing combination of college students, young professionals and others who want a night on the town without driving into town. The vibe is like that of an après-ski bar in Killington: laid-back yet raucous, with none of the sniffy pretentiousness of many in-town clubs. In warm weather, the outdoor patio is a fantastic place to hang, and the restaurant is used to handling large crowds, so you can descend with 40 of your closest friends and still get decent service. Who knew such grooviness existed way out in the burbs?

NORTH END

Waterfront Café

450 Commercial St., Boston, 617-523-4055

Most people visit the North End for the Italian restaurants, but this bar warrants a trip on its own. A recent expansion has added more space and ratcheted the number of taps up to 12. Plus, there are three plasma-screen and five regular TVs. No wonder this is where locals in the know hang out. A new menu features brick-oven pizzas, and the boisterous crowd is friendly without being obnox-

ious. It's also the best place to meet a guy or gal in un form, thanks to the Coast Guard station across the stree

SOMERVILLE—DAVIS SQUARE

Johnny D's

17 Holland St., Somerville, 617-776-2004,
www.johnnyds.com

One of the few survivors from the days when Cambrid and Somerville were packed with live music venues, th 35-year-old landmark anchors über-groovy Davis Squar Run by a mother-daughter team who treat everyone lik family, it books the hottest in local and national talen but the music is only one reason Johnny D's is consi tently packed. Another is the surprisingly good food, well as a super-friendly staff and prices more in keepi with old-time Somerville than the wallet-burning mix drinks found elsewhere. The honeycomb hideout for u regenerate hipsters, it's a guaranteed good time.

SOMERVILLE—INMAN SQUARE

The Abbey Lounge

3 Beacon St., Somerville, 617-441-9631,
www.schnockered.com

The type of mid-20th-century place that's disappearin all too quickly: a bar without a theme or a concept, whe people can gather to relax and socialize without parti with a week's paycheck or worrying what they look lik With outstanding live music Wednesdays through Satu days, the Abbey serves Pabst Blue Ribbon for two buck and a mixed drink will only set you back twice tha Owner J. Grimaldi describes it as old-fashioned, which exactly what we love about this place.

SOUTH BOSTON

The Playwright Bar and Cafe

658 East Broadway, South Boston, 617-269-2537,
www.theplaywrightbar.com

The curtain rises to reveal a neighborhood in Sou Boston. Center stage is a local pub, the Playwright. man enters, stage left, and approaches the door. Anoth man enters stage right. Sully: "Hey, Fitzy, comin' in to out the new menu?" Fitzy: "Maybe, but what I really wa is one or two of the 10 beers on tap." Sully: "It's Mond We could split a pitcher and a pizza for $14." Fit "Sounds good. Or we could get one of those new Tal Tappers." Sully: "What the…?" Fitzy: "They're cylinde about 3 feet tall, filled with beer or a frozen drink. T bartender brings it to your table, and at the bott there's a little tap so you can pour your own drink Sully: "Yeah, let's get one, 'cause the Sox game is on an don't wanna keep getting up for drinks." Fitzy: "Hey the Sox are on, then we could win tickets to the ne game at Fenway if we predict the score." The two hig five, open the door and disappear into the Playwrig Fade to black.

SOUTH END

Delux

100 Chandler St., Boston, 617-338-5258

A bundle of contradictions, it's a funky dive with gr food and a sophisticated clientele. Graffiti and kitsc album covers decorate the walls. And while Delux ste fastly refuses to become part of the gentrified South E it remains at the hub of the chichi neighborhood's soc scene. The pine paneling and lack of natural light part of the charm, as is the continuous soundtrack co tesy of one of a hundred mix tapes lovingly made by owner. The reasonable prices make it possible to stay night, and the place feels so comfortable (much like rumpus room of your parents' house) that one regular cided to stay and become the bartender. ⟶

THURSDAYS

@

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COMEDY ACT

DJ Hazard

www.djhazard.com

He wowed 'em at this year's Boston International Comedy and Film Festival with his hilarious blend of wry observations, edgy bluster and original music. During the 1980s, he cut his teeth at dives like the Ding Ho Club in Inman Square, alongside such comics as Bobcat Goldthwait, Paula Poundstone, Lenny Clarke, Jimmy Tingle and Denis Leary. Now it's Hazard's turn to go big-time. In addition to touring locally and nationally, he stars with *The Daily Show*'s Rob Corddry in *Blackballed*, a film that won the audience award at this year's South by Southwest Film Festival in Texas. He has another movie with the same producers on the way, and it's only a matter of time before a larger audience takes to Hazard's uniquely Boston brand of side-splitting comedy. No need to fear him going all Hollywood, though. As down-to-earth as they come, he still takes the T everywhere.

DEAL

The Coolidge Corner Theatre's Coolidge Club Membership

290 Harvard St., Brookline, 617-734-2500, www.coolidge.org

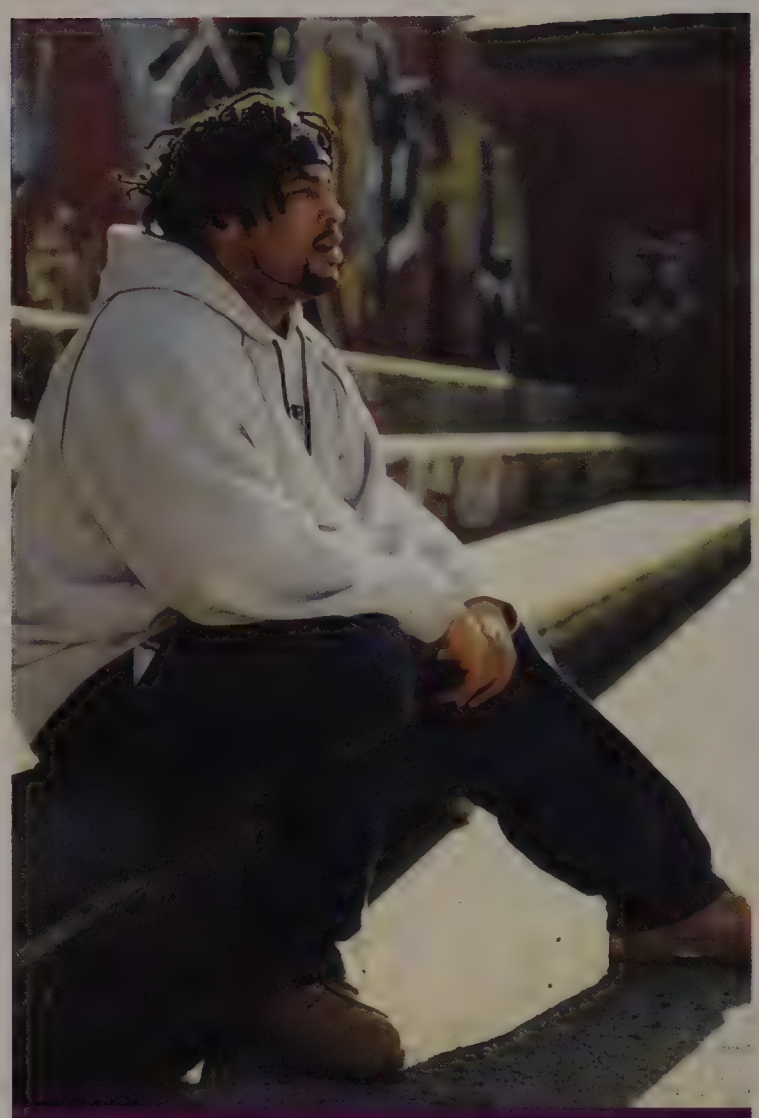
One of the area's most innovative and exciting cinemas is also one of its best bargains, thanks to a program that saves serious cinéastes beaucoup bucks. Becoming a member of the Coolidge Club makes both sense and cents: For $50 each, a group of four friends can get a one-year "Cast Card" membership entitling them to $3 off the ticket price for regular films (midnight films and some special series are excluded) and eight small popcorns. If you don't like sharing popcorn, or you go to the movies more often than all your friends, the $60 "Actor" card gives you $3 off regular movies for a year, plus two small popcorns. If you're a serious film enthusiast, become a "Director" for $150 (free admission to regular movies on Mondays and Tuesdays, $3 off through the rest of the week and free popcorn anytime) or a "Producer" for $350 (the same perks, except admission's free from Sunday through Thursday). You can also give Harvey Weinstein a run for his money by becoming a "Movie Mogul." For $1,000, you can see an unlimited number of regular movies (admission's free for both you *and* a friend), eat unlimited amounts of popcorn, bask in the glow of your own engraved seat plaque, and get a free one-night rental of the Coolidge's Screening Room. An additional benefit to any level of membership: Because the Coolidge is a not-for-profit organization, a portion of the club cost is tax deductible.

FRINGE THEATER

SpeakEasy Stage Company

539 Tremont St., Boston, 617-482-3279, www.speakeasystage.com

If the point of going to the theater is to make you think, then this Boston company is doing its job brilliantly. Rather than mounting endless revivals of Arthur Miller or Tennessee Williams, the SpeakEasy spotlights fresh local talent. During its 2003–2004 MainStage season (its 13th), the company presented the New England premieres of three musicals—including *The Last 5 Years* by Tony winner Jason Robert Brown and *A Man of No Importance* by Tony and Pulitzer Prize winner Terrence McNally—and two plays. In addition to entertaining its audience, the SpeakEasy engages them, hosting frequent feedback sessions with playwrights and directors. (Nationally acclaimed playwright Wendy Wasserstein is an honorary board member.) Strong support from local institutions (SpeakEasy is among the Boston Center for the Arts' four theater-groups-in-residence) and rigorously thought-provoking programming (this season's final production, *The Last Sunday in June*, was about a group of gay men watching New York's ann Gay Pride parade) make the SpeakEasy on the city's most vital and exciting arts groups. Theater District may be where *The Lion K* roars, or the wind comes sweeping down plain, but the South End is where the new exciting takes center stage.



HIP-HOP ACT

Akrobatik

www.akrobatik.com

Local legend Akrobatik has been bubbling up on the hip-hop horizon for a Boston minute. Last year, with a fistful of excellent 12" singles and an EP under his belt, he released his first full-length album, *Balance*, a powerhouse of positivity. It's a collection of songs that evoke the essential spirit of hip-hop's golden age, with an updated sound. Akrobatik's music is a refreshing and charismatic reminder of hip-hop's immense potential for uplifting social change and progress—plus, you can bump Ak's tracks while you cruise, and heads will turn like, "What was that hotness?" Keep an ear out for Akrobatik's next release: a collaborative album with fellow Bostonian-gone-big-timer Mr. Lif, under the name the Perceptionists.

JAZZ BAND

Fully Celebrated Orchestra

www.xape.net/fco

With opening gigs at venues like the Mic East, this self-described "hardcore freedom ensemble" has earned a following among ton's underground rock crowd. But the q tet—Jim Hobbs (alto sax), Taylor Ho Byr (cornet), Timo Shanko (bass) and Django ranza (drums)—is a pack of serious players claimed in national jazz magazines like *Cade* In concert, they can range from heady, avant cursions to Latin- and Middle Eastern–flav grooves to the kind of driving excitement has won the group its rock audience. But the tinctive voices of the two horns and the str groove of the rhythm section put the un FCO stamp on everything they play.

JAZZ CLUB

Regattabar

The Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge, 6 661-5000, www.regattabarjazz.com

A jazz club so cool that an artist would choo play there instead of accepting a Grammy? might sound like hyperbole, but it happene February, when Best Latin Jazz Album nom the Michele Camillo Trio chose to perfor Regattabar instead of attending the awards mony. (Their award was announced in the dle of their set, to thunderous applause.) A club with two-story windows overlooking vard Square, the atmosphere is sophisti-ca and the sightlines and acoustics are excel which is probably why artists like Brar Marsalis and Joshua Redman return again again. It's been Boston's top jazz venue for n 20 years, and we have our fingers crossed Regattabar's new booking agency, Blue (which runs seven jazz clubs internationa will uphold the standards set by longtime promoter Fenton Hollander, who left in May. flight talent in a swanky club setting on the ed Harvard Square? Short of Django Reinhardt co back from the dead, we can't think of anything b

LATE-NIGHT ENTERTAINMENT

The Great and Secret Comedy Show at ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge, 617-576-1253, www.improvboston.com

That this show's ever-evolving bouillabaisse of in visational, scripted and standup comedy is co tently "great" is no "secret." Hosted by brothers and David Walsh at 10 pm, the weekly ble music, ensemble sketches and solo stand-up sel almost every Thursday night (especially in the

he Walshes' status as darlings of the Boston comedy ene means that the show's revolving lineup of perform- s is always top-notch. The price is impressive, too. De- ite the obvious effort that goes into creating a fresh and nny show each week, tickets are only $5.

MOST IMPROVED

The Cutler Majestic Theatre at Emerson College

219 Tremont St., Boston, 800-233-3123, www.maj.org

nce opening 101 years ago, this jewel box of a theater .s gone from state-of-the-art (it was the first theater in ɔston with cantilevered balconies) to trendy (in the '60s, it had aluminum siding and was decorated with astic flowers) to down-at-the-heels (the aluminum ısn't removed until the late 1980s). Along came Emer- n alum and trustee Ted Cutler and his wife, Joan. ıanks to a renovation they paid for—which closed the eater from April 2002 to its official reopening in Octo- r 2003 and involved a large-scale overhaul of the cor, lighting and seating—the theater's circa 1903 endor is again on display. There's also more room than fore for people to enjoy it. The balcony—swelter-free anks to brand-new air-conditioning—is open for the st time in 30 years, increasing the theater's capacity m 976 to 1,186 seats, from which audience members ı take in extravagantly staged shows like Jacques Of- ıbach's operetta *La Vie Parisienne* (coming this Octo- r). Ted Cutler, Boston's theater-lovers owe you a gi- ıtic debt of gratitude.

OFF-THE-RADAR EVENT, DANCE

Raw Dance

Boston Center for the Arts

) Tremont St., Boston, 617-426-5000, www.bostonballet.org.

common knowledge that Boston Ballet boasts some remely talented dancers. What's not so well known is t many of those dancers, in addition to their full-time ies for the Ballet, also come together to learn and pro- e each others' original contemporary choreography in annual series called Raw Dance. The dancers are as pt at other aspects of stagecraft as they are at besques: They handle everything from costuming to igning and building sets and choosing music and musi- ns. Response to their efforts has been staggering, and ry installment of Raw Dance has sold out. Even with a house, however, Raw Dance at the BCA takes place a more intimate and personal scale than Boston Bal- s performances, most of which occur at the Wang nter. The next Raw Dance series takes place in Febru- but we suggest you plan ahead, since word is getting among those in the know.

OFF-THE-RADAR EVENT, THEATER

American Voices: Drama, Dialogue, Downtown

Shubert Theater, 270 Tremont St., Boston, 617-482-9393, www.wangcenter.org

this annual event at the Shubert, classic American ys are read by actors so compelling they could make a ding of the phone book interesting. The first install- nt took place on Monday nights last winter, giving the blic a glimpse into the way plays take shape and at- cting performers ranging from local favorites to stage screen actors (like Paul Rudd of *Friends*, who has also ded the cast of Neil LaBute's *The Shape of Things* in ndon and New York) and Tony-winning Broadway spians (like *Take Me Out*'s Dennis O'Hare). The series es low-key readings of works by playwrights like Ed- d Albee, Sam Shepard and David Mamet, and it's a e-bones, intense and interactive experience, with h reading being followed by a Q&A session. For any-



COMEDY CLUB

The Comedy Connection

245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston

617-248-9700, www.comedyconnectionboston.com

No other Boston venue offers the quality of acts or immediacy that you'll find at the Comedy Connection, which features local and national talent seven nights a week in an up-close-and-personal setting. Regardless of your seats, you're guaranteed an excellent view of Margaret Cho's every grimace or Jon Stewart's slightest smirk. Familiar stomping ground for headliners like Chris Rock (who has tried out new material there twice in the past year) and local favorite Dane Cook (who appears there three or four times annually), the wet-your-pants hilarity never stops. In years past, summer has served as the club's time to test emerging and unknown local talent, but this year, some major names (like Lewis Black and Jim Breuer) are booked along with the up-and-comers. Take it from us: It's not a bad idea to come equipped with a box of Depends.



one interested in how words go from the page to the stage, it's a fascinating insider's glimpse at the process.

ORIGINAL PROGRAMMING
Boston Theater Marathon
www.bu.edu/btm

This Boston marathon is measured not in miles but in drama, with a whopping 45 original plays, each produced by a different New England theater company and staged during a 10-hour period. The odds are good that even the most finicky audience member will find something to his liking, with a thematic diversity that ranges from lighthearted vignettes to dark mood pieces to acerbic satire. The participating actors are an equally varied bunch, comprising relative unknowns and veteran stage names. The sets and costumes are understandably sparse, but effectively so, while proceeds from the event go to charities like the Theatre Community Benevolent Fund. Though next year's marathon (which takes place in May, and accepts submissions from wannabe playwrights from September through November 15) is jumping ship from its traditional digs at the Boston Playwrights' Theatre to the larger Virginia Wimberley Theatre on Tremont Street, it's still perhaps the world's only marathon geared toward those with short attention spans: Each play lasts 10 minutes or less.

READING SERIES
Newtonville Books' "Books & Brews"
296 Walnut St., Newton, 617-244-6619,
www.newtonvillebooks.com

This weekly series' innovative format is anything but standard: Instead of hightailing it out of the room as soon as decorum will allow, the authors involved in Books & Brews follow their readings by kicking back, mingling and, yes, drinking with their fans at local restaurant Ariadne. According to Newtonville Books owner and literary man-about-town Tim Huggins, the participating writers—who, in the past year, have included Matthew Pearl and Donna Morrissey ("a real hoot," Huggins says)—are just as enthusiastic as their sometimes rabid fans, and instead of a one-sided performance, a reading becomes a fully interactive party. And authors like National Book Award finalist Brad Watson (*The Heaven of Mercury*) want to keep the party going strong: "Tim Huggins and Newtonville Books are to Boston what Sylvia Beech and Shakespeare & Co. must have been to Paris in the '20s," Watson says.

RESURRECTION
The Opera House
539 Washington St., Boston, 617-880-2442

Prior to July 16th, when Broadway in Boston presented *The Lion King* to a sold-out crowd, the last show to open at the Opera House was *Black Nativity* in 1990. Thanks to a $38 million restoration, the venue (now owned by Clear Channel Entertainment) reclaims its rightful place among Boston's performance venues, and the South Washington Street neighborhood where it's located is out of the woods. In fact, it's downright sizzling: *The Lion King* is generating so much buzz—and such ferocious ticket sales—that its run was extended from 14 to 26 weeks, and the restaurants and retailers in the area stand to profit handsomely from all the activity. Not bad for a building that in 1995 was declared one of America's 11 most endangered historical sites by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

ROCK BAND
The Lot Six
www.thelotsix.com

Not many bands with a general punk aesthetic would feel comfortable busting out some hammy '70s-style guitar noodling, but Lot Six can pull it off. As a result of its unique, genre-bending sound, the band's fan base ranges from long-haired, Led Zeppelin–loving metalheads to n tiply pierced, Mohawk-sporting punks and everyone in tween. "I like to think that our fans are more honest ab their musical tastes and less concerned about how 'coo is to be there," bass player Dano Burke says. The band's est release, *Major Fables*, was recorded in just a few day Boston's New Alliance Studios and came out to o whelmingly positive reviews. But Boston isn't the c town listening: The Lot Six just completed a national with the Distillers and the Icarus Line. The band's plan the coming year? "Simple," says Burke. "Tour—anywh and everywhere we can." Which is great news for all of

MOST FUN YOU'LL HAVE LOOKING AT ART
Zeitgeist Gallery
1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge, 617-876-6060
www.zeitgeist-gallery.org

Few things in life can't be improved by the addition o a 15-piece marching band, and art appreciation is no exception. One of the few remaining places in Cam bridge that lives up to the city's reputation as an edgy experimental bohemia, the never-boring Zeitgeis Gallery in Inman Square hosts 60 shows each month displaying the work of avant-garde painters, sculptors graphic and digital-media artists, photographers an more—often accompanied by the aforementione parade-style brass band. (If you prefer improv jazz a an accompaniment, resident ensemble the Fringe one of the many wildly inventive music groups tha plays there.) In addition to highlighting the visual arts the Zeitgeist hosts film screenings, poetry reading and performance art pieces guaranteed to coax a r action out of even the most jaded and world-wear art snob. The anything-goes creative spirit of Green wich Village in the 1950s is alive and well and living i Inman Square.

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ART HOUSE MOVIE THEATER
Brattle Theatre

40 Brattle St., Cambridge, 617-876-6837, www.brattlefilm.org

For 50 years, this theater has fulfilled its mission to celebrate film as art. During the past year alone, the Brattle has hosted premieres of award-winning documentaries like *The Weather Underground* and independent features like *Lilya 4-Ever*. In addition to being a major force on the contemporary film scene—both the Boston Independent Film Festival and the annual Chlotrudis awards call the Brattle home—its programming leaves plenty of room for reissued classics or neglected and obscure gems from cinematic history. Seeing Bogey and Bacall on the Brattle's big screen is nothing short of breathtaking, while generations of film buffs have discovered the oeuvres of directors like Bergman, Fellini and Almodovar. The theater's commitment to making film accessible to everyone includes free weekly screenings for new parents—Rattle at the Brattle—and it frequently hosts bold-faced names like Quincy Jones and Colm Meaney to talk about their experiences in film. The quintessential art house, the Brattle is committed to showcasing films that provoke thought and conversation, rather than just the latest dreck from Hollywood.

ROCK CLUB
The Middle East

472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 617-864-3278, www.mideastclub.com

What more can we say about this Central Square institution, one of the last vestiges of the days when Boston was chockablock with live-music venues? Its primary charm is its eclecticism; you never know what you'll find when you walk through the door. Rock stars in leather tuxedos and blue-shellacked mohawks mingle with nouveau hippie folksingers. It's got four stages, two of which are in the club's restaurants, Zuzu and the Corner—meaning nearly endless nightly choices for both moshers and noshers. A proving ground for local and national bands, the club presents three or four shows (by the likes of Cake, Suicide Girls and even Hanson) every night of the week. And the Middle East's already-extensive reach may soon stretch even further: In April, owners Joseph and Nabil Sater purchased the abandoned Somerville Armory. They're planning to work their Middle Eastern magic on the property by transforming the castlelike structure into a cultural center, complete with gallery space and a performance area.

SUITE RELIEF
Boston Ballet's *Nutcracker* Finding a New Home

The Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston, 617-880-2442, www.broadwayinboston.com

When the Wang Center announced that it was replacing the Boston Ballet's annual production of *The Nutcracker* with *The Radio City Christmas Spectacular* starting in 2004, you'd think they'd announced their intention to shoot Santa and poison all his reindeer. The ensuing tempest in a teapot had cranks on both sides of the equation writing impassioned letters to the editor, until what everyone knew would happen happened: *The Nutcracker* got a new home. The newly refurbished Opera House will host Clara and Co. from 2005 through 2008 (with the Colonial hosting it this year, in the interim), and the opulent renovation means Drosselmeier's got fancy new digs. Now what was all that invective about?

SUMMER EVENING ACTIVITY
FleetBoston Pavilion

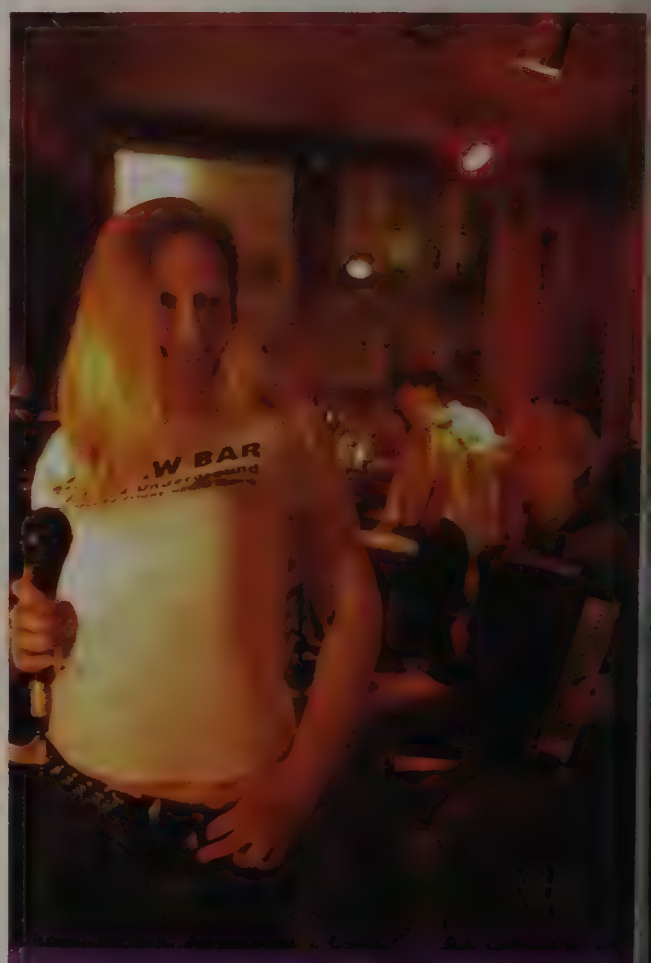
290 Northern Ave., Boston, 617-728-1600, www.fleetbostonpavilion.com

Sydney may have its famous Opera House, but Boston's waterfront boasts this tentlike open-air concert venue that attracts top-notch entertainers—from Bjork to Beck—without a bad seat in the house. There are no obstructed views, and in addition to great sightlines toward the stage, there's a panoramic view of the city's skyline and harbor. The Harborwalk supplements the view with tables and gorgeous stretches of green perfect for picnicking and watching the sunset on nonshow days. Meanwhile, Big Dig–related improvements, water taxi service, a free shuttle from South Station, and the Silver Line T stop that will open half a block from the front gates in 2005 make the pavilion more accessible than ever. Say what you will about the evils of corporate America: We have the local financial behemoth (recently merged with Bank of America) to thank for this jewel.

SWANKIEST CINEMATIC EXPERIENCE
The Wang Center's Classic Film Series

270 Tremont St., Boston, 617-482-9393, www.wangcenter.org

Back in 1925, when the phrase "movie palace" wasn't ridiculous hyperbole, the opulent, gilded, marble and rococo theater we now call the Wang was built as a place to see films. Now primarily a live performance venue, the Wang Theatre returns to its roots with screenings of popular classic films on Monday nights (traditionally "dark nights in the theater world). During the past year, audiences have watched such favorites as *Breakfast at Tiffany's*, *Miracle on 34th St.* and *The Wizard of Oz* amid the splendor of velvet seats and all those plaster grapes and putti. Not only that, but they viewed them on a 46-by-60-foot screen that ranks as New England's largest. On this trip back to the golden age of Hollywood, the most amazing (and perhaps our favorite) thing is that admission is free. ⊷



REVIVAL
Cabaret

Whether you prefer your singers in full drag regalia in a raucous revue, demurely crooning "Over the Rainbow" in a dimly lit room, or somewhere in between, Boston is enjoying a cabaret renaissance that means there's a show for every sensibility, from saucy chanteuse to melancholy baby. Just witness the national success of the punk rock–meets–Weimar Republic duo the Dresden Dolls, or the standing-room-only crowds squealing for the female impersonators strutting their stuff at Jacques. Kennedy's Midtown recently opened a less flamboyant but no less entertaining piano bar in its back room and will host cabaret nights on Sundays this fall. Meanwhile, at P.A.'s Lounge on the last Saturday of each month, you can catch surrealist-themed evenings called Le Cabaret des Enfants Terribles. Loyal patrons aren't the only ones enjoying the ambience at the more traditional Encore Cabaret Lounge in the Theater District. Actors performing in nearby theaters frequently drop in and sometimes even perform. If life is a cabaret, Boston these days offers a lot of lifestyle options.

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BILL MUELLER PLEASANT SURPRISE AWARD

Pokey Reese

At the beginning of the Red Sox season, conventional wisdom held that Pokey Reese was no Todd Walker at the plate but would be helpful on defense and provide speed on the basepaths—a role player, in other words. Then Nomar went down, and Pokey stepped up in a big way. His hitting has been about what we expected, but his defense has been better than anyone imagined, propelling him to second place in the American League All-Star voting at second base, behind only Alfonso Soriano. On June 13 against the Dodgers, Pokey made a play that qualifies as one of the best in the majors thus far this season, leaping high in the air at second base and snaring a line drive out of the sky. Whether at shortstop or second base, there's no wrong way to play a Pokey Reese.

BRIDGE-BURNING...AND REBUILDING

Ty Law

Ty Law hated the Patriots, hated Belichick, called the organization a bunch of liars. Then he abruptly changed his tune, and said he wants to finish his career as a Patriot. What happened? Who knows. But since Law has two more years on his contract, we're glad he's happy. Unless he's not, again.

CHOKE

Bruins First-Round Playoff Exit, Red Sox ALCS (tie)

It's hard to say which is worse: getting within five outs of reaching the final stage of an 85-year quest, and failing in the most heart-wrenching way possible, or losing in the first round of the playoffs when your team should've been good enough to make a legitimate bid for the title? The Red Sox were more stingingly disappointing, like bringing a winning Powerball ticket to the counter only to be told that you actually had the Megabucks numbers. The Bruins were a letdown in a different way, like Jennifer Grey's post–*Dirty Dancing* career. They seemed destined for such great things, but then the Habs gave them the metaphorical four-game nose job that screwed it all up. How about those Patriots, though?

CONTROVERSY

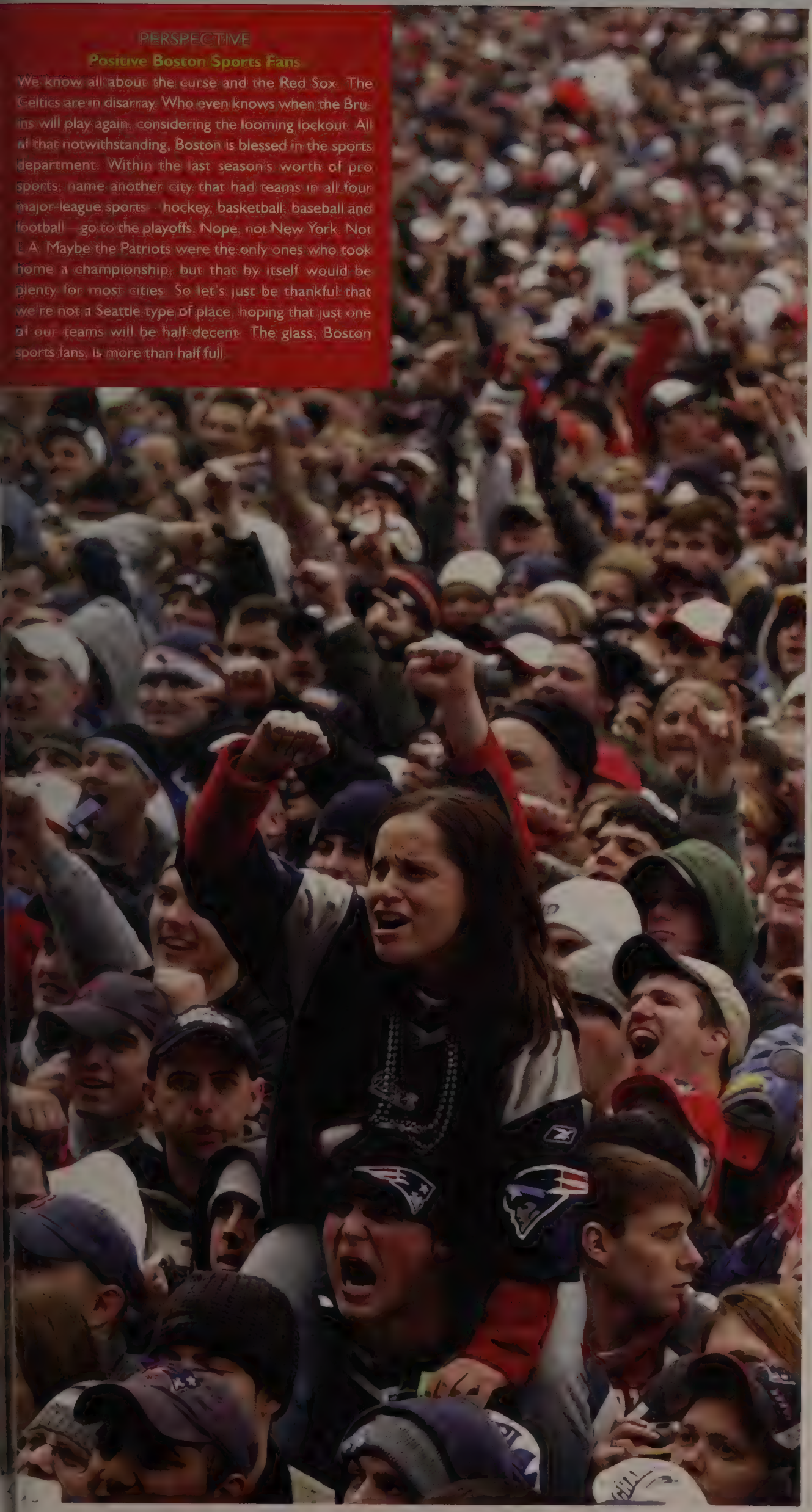
Any Danny Ainge Move

First Antoine Walker, the Celtics' second-best player, was shipped to Dallas. We didn't entirely agree with that move, but we could see the logic: spread out the offense among more players who take fewer shots apiece. Then, before we knew what was happening, Celtics executive director of basketball operations Danny Ainge basically traded the whc team for the 2002–2003 Cleveland Cavaliers, group of players that defined bad chemistry—ar bad play. OK, we understand that the team as it w could never win a title. But we have to think the pr Ainge Celtics were a hell of a lot closer to that g than the ragtag group we've got now. Coach Ji O'Brien's gone. Even the most logical (though st controversial) Ainge strategy—miss the playoffs a get a lottery pick—backfired, as the team made t playoffs despite their losing record and got smoked the first round, none of the players even looking li they wanted to be there.

INSPIRATIONAL ATHLETE

David Ortiz

David Ortiz gets the nod in this category not because he overcame any type of dramatic, life-threatening obstacle, but simply because he made the most of his opportunity when he finally got a chance to play every day. Before Shea Hillenbrand got shipped to Arizona at the end of May 2003, Ortiz had played in only 31 of the first 54 games of the season, batting .272 with two homers. Once he became part of the everyday lineup, however, he raised his average to .293 and hit 24 more homers the rest of the way. His clutch hits were too numerous to count (OK, he had 16 game-winning RBIs, only one behind league leaders Eric Chavez and Hideki Matsui), and he finished fifth in the American League Most Valuable Player voting. This season, he's on pace to have another stellar year, and he's signed a contract through 2006 (with a team option for 2007). There are a lot of contracts up in the air this year, but it's nice to know Poppy's grin will be lighting up the Sox dugout for years to come.



PERSPECTIVE

Positive Boston Sports Fans

We know all about the curse and the Red Sox. The Celtics are in disarray. Who even knows when the Bruins will play again, considering the looming lockout. All of that notwithstanding, Boston is blessed in the sports department. Within the last season's worth of pro sports, name another city that had teams in all four major-league sports — hockey, basketball, baseball and football — go to the playoffs. Nope, not New York. Not L.A. Maybe the Patriots were the only ones who took home a championship, but that by itself would be plenty for most cities. So let's just be thankful that we're not a Seattle type of place, hoping that just one of our teams will be half-decent. The glass, Boston sports fans, is more than half full.



ROOKIE

Andrew Raycroft

The Bruins' 24-year-old rookie goaltender stormed into the National Hockey League last year and immediately established himself as one of the game's top shot-stoppers. Among goalies who played in more than half of their team's games, Raycroft was third in the league in save percentage, at .926, and fourth in goals-against average, at 2.05. At the end of the season, Raycroft collected the Calder Memorial Trophy for NHL Rookie of the Year, beating out Montreal forward Michael Ryder. Now that he's secured a spot in the league, we just hope Raycroft has a league to play in after the Collective Bargaining Agreement expires in September.

MVP

Tom Brady and Rodney Harrison

Which one of these guys was more central to the Patriots' second Super Bowl title? That could be argued until snow is falling on Gillette Stadium tailgaters once again. So in the spirit of the Patriots' team-oriented philosophy, we're giving this award to the two leaders of the offense and defense. Both players faced skepticism at the beginning of the season. Was Brady capable of regaining his 2001–2002 championship form? Could Harrison possibly fill the void left by Lawyer Milloy? The answer was a resounding yes on both counts. By the end of the season, as the team's 15-win streak ran through the Super Bowl, Brady was being seriously compared with Joe Montana, and Harrison and company had made it clear that rumors of the death of the Pats D were greatly exaggerated.

NEW ADDITION

Curt Schilling

In a Red Sox season defined by new players who've had a fantastic impact (Pokey Reese and Keith Foulke, to name two), Schilling has been the marquee off-season pickup. Considering Pedro's inconsistency and D-Lowe's horrid start, we don't want to think about where the Sox might be if the Sheriff hadn't come to town. Besides his obvious skills on the mound, Schilling provides veteran leadership in the clubhouse and makes himself available to fans in a way that's almost unprecedented amongst Sox players (talking shop in the Sons of Sam Horn chat room, for instance). Plus, if we're going to watch a TV ad 100



FEMALE ATHLETE
Jessalyn Deveny

The Boston College women's basketball star led the Eagles to the 2004 Big East championship, with the team beating Syracuse, Miami and Connecticut in the process. A home-grown high-school standout (she was the 2001 *USA Today* Massachusetts Player of the Year), the junior guard has steadily refined her game over her college career, following up a 2003 award for Most Improved Player in the Big East with 2004 Most Outstanding Performer accolades for her play in the Big East tourney—where she averaged 18 points per game and shot 60.5 percent from the field. A consistently dangerous scorer, Deveny is also capable of busting out and taking over a game, as she did in January of last year when she dropped 36 points on Providence. What's in the future? There might be a WNBA team or two in need of just such a player.

MASTERMIND
Bill Belichick

Hindsight is 20/20, so let's say we were totally behind the Lawyer Milloy thing right from the start. And we thought dealing Tebucky Jones for draft picks was a grand idea that would work out perfectly. OK, we're lying. On both counts, we wondered if Belichick was a saboteur (possibly sent from the Bills) on a mission to undermine the New England defense. Now we see, however, that he was but mad north-north-west: when the wind is southerly he knows a linebacker from a lateral. Rodney Harrison, Ty Law and talented younger players like Eugene Wilson anchored one of the most effective secondaries in football, while the huge salaries of Jones and Milloy got the broom. Meanwhile, one of those draft picks was subsequently traded to bring Corey Dillon—former owner of the NFL single-game rushing record—to New England, addressing the 2003–2004 team's biggest weakness: its running game. ESPN analyst Sean Salisbury called the deal "an absolutely unbelievable trade for the Patriots." With two Super Bowl rings, Belichick could trade Tom Brady for a tackle dummy and we'd say, "We can't wait to see where he's going with this."



times—as NESN viewers inevitably do—it might as well feature Schilling trying to master a Boston accent or getting ragged on by his kids.

SECRET WEAPON
Jason Varitek

OK, Red Sox Nation knows how good this guy is, but what about the rest of the baseball public? While Yankee counterpart Jorge Posada finished third in the 2003 American League MVP voting, 'Tek quietly put together his best season ever, hitting .273 with 25 home runs—mostly from the ninth spot of the most lethal offense ever assembled. Varitek also has a knack for delivering when the game's on the line, and his eight homers in the late innings of close games ranked third in the majors last season. Behind the plate, he's a calming influence on the often-emotional pitching staff, and he knows how to call a game—the over-under on how many times he gets shaken off during a game is probably around three. Hopefully the Sox will manage to sign him when his contract runs out at the end of the season, because there's nobody smarter when it comes to wearing the tools of ignorance.

TIME-WILL-TELL DEAL
Not Trading Nomar

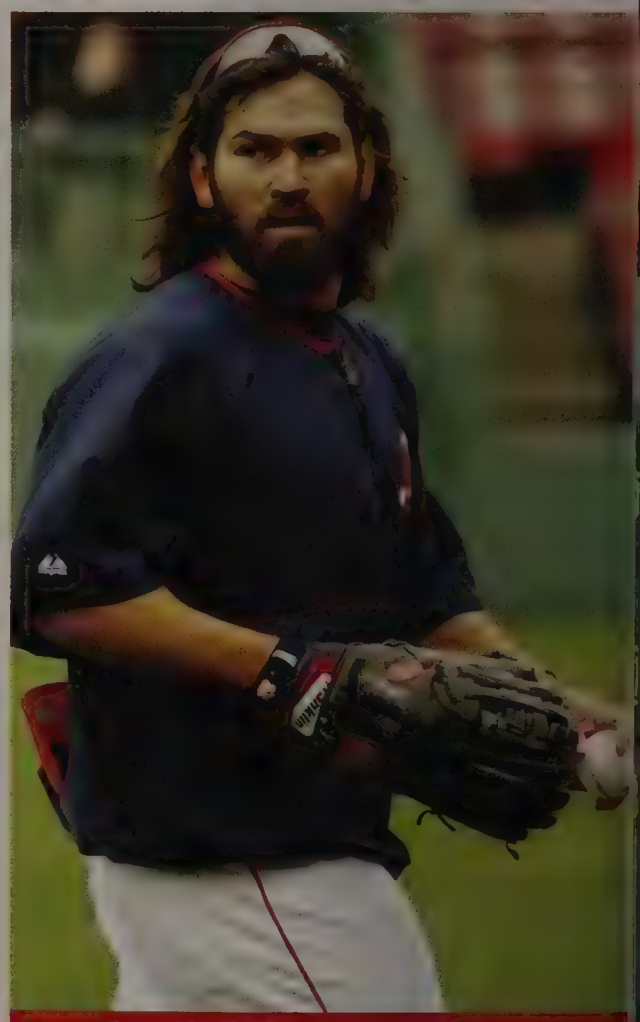
We feel a little guilty now about how ready—OK, completely pumped—we were to trade the beloved Nomah in on a hot little number named Alex. We admit, we got a bad case of wandering eye, along with everyone else in Boston. But when the A-Rod deal fell through, Red Sox fans were left with Manny Ramirez and Nomar, still two of the best players in the game. If the Sox go all the way this year (which is as possible now as it's ever been) we'll be much happier to see Nomar spraying the Champagne than some mercenary. If they don't pull it off, get comfy and prepare for another winter of second-guessing.

TRADE
Vin Baker for Nobody

It could've been the NBA comeback story of the decade if Vin Baker stayed the course with his alcohol rehab program. A lean, quick and sober Baker showed up last fall and began the season looking like the All-Star player he once was. But midway through the season, Vin fell off the wagon, and by the end of the year he'd been dumped by the Celtics and claimed by the Knicks. We suppose that the only upside to this is that the Celtics were actually able to get rid of him, and now they can perhaps fill his spot in the lineup with a player who contributes to the team's success. Sorry it didn't work out, Vin, and good luck to you.

VILLAIN TWICE OVER
Aaron Boone

Aaron Boone, what to say about you? First, you hit the home run that cements your place amongst famous Red Sox scalawags, right alongside two guys with the word "Buck" in their names. Why, Aaron Boone, why did you have to choose that moment last October to stop being mediocre? Then, you blew out your knee playing basketball in the off-season, thus creating a job opening in the Yankees infield, which was subsequently filled with…you know who. God forbid you become a TV announcer—you'd probably fall out of the booth and land on Manny during the World Series. Red Sox fans, please join us and mail Aaron Boone a dollar, and maybe we can raise enough money to send him to live on the space station. There, his powers might not reach Yawkey Way. ⟷



MOST DIVINE DO
Johnny Damon

Damon's always gone his own way on the grooming front, electing not to "cowboy up" and shave his head last year when it seemed everyone from Grady Little to the Sausage Guy was sporting the rally-skull look. This year's early-homo sapiens/Jesus look has served him well, spawning a sect of Damon Disciple fans in the bleachers. Maybe he's just trying to increase the padding around his cranium in case he has another head-on collision with a second baseman, but if his resemblance to a certain 2,000-year-old carpenter results in a little divine intervention come October, Sox fans might start referring to the years after 2004 as AD—After Damon.

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15 HOURS OF FAME

Bostonians on Reality TV

Why? Because they just don't seem to go away. At any given time you can find some Bostonian on some reality show; that's not surprising given the sheer number of programs these days. Some recent examples: Brian Worth from *Average Joe 2*, Randy from *The Real World San Diego* and Lawson Clarke, the Brookline copywriter who was the original straight guy to get Queer-Eyed in the pilot episode of Bravo's Big Gay Hit. What's unusual is that several Boston-bred reality show contestants haven't immediately faded into obscurity. Elisabeth Filarski (now Elisabeth Hasselbeck) graduated from *Survivor: The Australian Outback* to co-host *The View*. C.T. from *The Real World Paris* and Charlestown pal David Burns from *The Real World Seattle* continued having a pissah time in Acapulco in the *The Real World/Road Rules Challenge: The Inferno*. And let's not forg "Boston Rob" Mariano from *Survivor: All-Stars*, w showed the world that love is the greatest real show of all by proposing to winner Amber Brkich air. Yeah, our boy Rob is wicked smaaaht.



EXTERIOR DECORATOR

Jill Hunter and The Flamingo Wonder

West Newton artist Jill Hunter garnered plenty of press after festooning her lawn with plastic pink flamingos in the middle of a snowstorm last winter. Some neighbors proved anti-flamingo, but others supported her cause (whatever that may be) by borrowing birds for their own lawns. Soon, staid Newton had a touch of trailer-park glamour, with the random ersatz birds leavening the atmosphere over a miserable winter. The question now is, how will Hunter follow up the success of her flamingo fling? Shiny lawn globes? Fake wishing wells? Forget flamingos—we'd be most impressed if she put a few El Caminos up on blocks. Now that would be art.

LEAST LIKELY TO GET A MAKEOVER BY THE FAB FIVE

Speaker of the House Tom Finneran

Poster boy for the opposition to gay marria Finneran attempted to thwart the legalization same-sex marriage all the way through the proce including after the fact, when he doggedly suppor a law from 1913 that prohibited couples from out state from getting married in Massachusetts (which he received bipartisan support from Gover Romney). In the end, gays—including Finnera cousin, Maryellen O'Neil, and her partner, Lisa-A nette DiStefano—won the right to marry, and world remained on its axis. But don't hold y breath for an episode of *Queer Eye for the Speake the House Guy*.

LOCAL AUTHOR

Dennis Lehane

The Dorchester-bred author had five novels under belt before scoring his first smash with *Mystic Ri* which was subsequently turned into one of the m acclaimed films of 2003. Now that Lehane's a f time author, we hope we can expect more of the w textured characters and neighborhoods that ca pulted him to stardom. Meanwhile, we can all det which part of town Buckingham is really supposed represent.

MOST MISSED

Michael Tye

The United Liquors CEO died last year of cance age 49, but managed to do a lot of good before his mature passing. In 1990, he helped found Com nity Servings, a meal delivery service for people w AIDS. He co-founded the Harbor to the Bay A bike ride and was a member of the board at Fen Community Health. And anyone who knew could talk your ear off about what a great guy he personally—funny, possessed of boundless energy loved by his family. The Greater Boston Busi Council posthumously honored Tye with a Lifet Achievement Award, a testament to a man who complished so much on behalf of others and pack century's worth of living into 49 years.

MOST UNDERUTILIZED RESOURCE

The Boston Public Library Courtyard and Novel Restaurant

Sure, you know all about the books—more th million of them—but did you know that the B courtyard, which was originally designed to like the courtyard of the Palazzo della Cancel at the Vatican, underwent a thorough restorati few years ago to repair a century's worth of wear tear? No? Well, that wouldn't make you uniqu the BPL's courtyard and its new restaurant, N (which overlooks the courtyard), are decid below the radar screen for the majority of the

esidents. Why? Beats us. But if you're looking for a nique place to have lunch, there aren't too many ther spots in town where you can grab a sandwich hile gazing at a Bacchante statue and fountain.

NEW FRONTIER
The Waterfront

nce upon a time, say, three or four years ago, revelers alking from South Station to one of Harpoon Brew-y's frequent beer bashes would've found themselves aversing a wasteland of empty lots and vast parking eas. These days, the area around the World Trade enter is filling up, with a building or a piece of infra-ructure seeming to appear just about every time we ok. The Boston Convention & Exhibition Center is e largest and most obvious new resident, but there's so a new hotel, a Silver Line stop, office buildings, a otel/condo complex that will wrap around the ugly g Dig ventilation system, and a new home for the In-tute of Contemporary Art. And once it's all done, u'll still be able to get some of the freshest beer in wn a little further down Northern Avenue.

PARTY YOU WEREN'T INVITED TO
The Storybook Ball

ston has plenty of high-falutin' black-tie charity par-s throughout the year, but this one was hands-down e most glamorous and creative event in recent memory. tent on the Common turned the one-time pasture into Dr. Seuss–themed dreamscape complete with bars that rresponded to different books. Among a raft of other lebrities, Her Highness, Princess Inaara the Begum Aga an was scheduled to attend but took ill at the last nute. She did, however, send her $150,000 Cartier dia-nd necklace and $50,800 bracelet to be auctioned ey went for $130,000). And regardless of the Story-k Ball's other successes, it raised more than $1 million the Massachusetts General Hospital for Children, ich is, we think, the best thing to tout about a bout of d and drink.

PLACE TO BREAK UP
Park Street Station

u need to do the deed and you need to do it clean. May suggest the MBTA's finest nexus of confusion as your tination? Here's a potential line: "This is my stop. I'm ry it's not yours." Once you figure that part out, Park eet offers constant crowds to minimize public drama pefully), lots of background noise, and escape routes the Green Line, the Red Line, or, via the subterranean nector to the Downtown Crossing station, the Or-e Line. Alternately, you could just walk on up those rs and out the door, you stone cold dumper.

SHAKEUP
Kathleen O'Toole's Moves at the Boston Police Department

'Toole took over as commissioner of the Boston Police partment in the wake of the Super Bowl riots, and ng her brief tenure she's already made plenty of reas-ments aimed at refashioning the command struc-. O'Toole also instituted some minor policy changes gned to improve morale, such as allowing AM-FM os in cruisers and removing the ban on turtlenecks ich means you may soon be pulled over by a guy who wants to bum a French cigarette and talk about de-struction). But as the police picket lines at the tCenter demonstrated, O'Toole has serious prob-s on her hands, including a group of employees who en't had a raise since 1999. How O'Toole deals with big-picture challenges of her high-pressure job is



PLACE TO GET ROMANTIC

If you're eschewing the dinner-and-movie date template and want to take a walk, throw a frisbee or have a picnic, you'll seem quite the in-the-know urbanite if you make the 60-acre Larz Anderson Park your destination. The top of the park's towering hill, off Newton Street in Brookline, gives a clear view of the Boston skyline, and the grassy slope tumbles down to a picturesque pond. The grounds also host an imposing mansion filled with antique cars, the Larz Anderson Auto Museum. But, to paraphrase a certain drug ad, don't get carried away. If quiet time at Larz Anderson turns into lovin' time, A pair of lovebirds once found out the hard way that the grounds' bushes also contain plenty of poison ivy.

one of the major questions facing a Boston public official in the coming year.

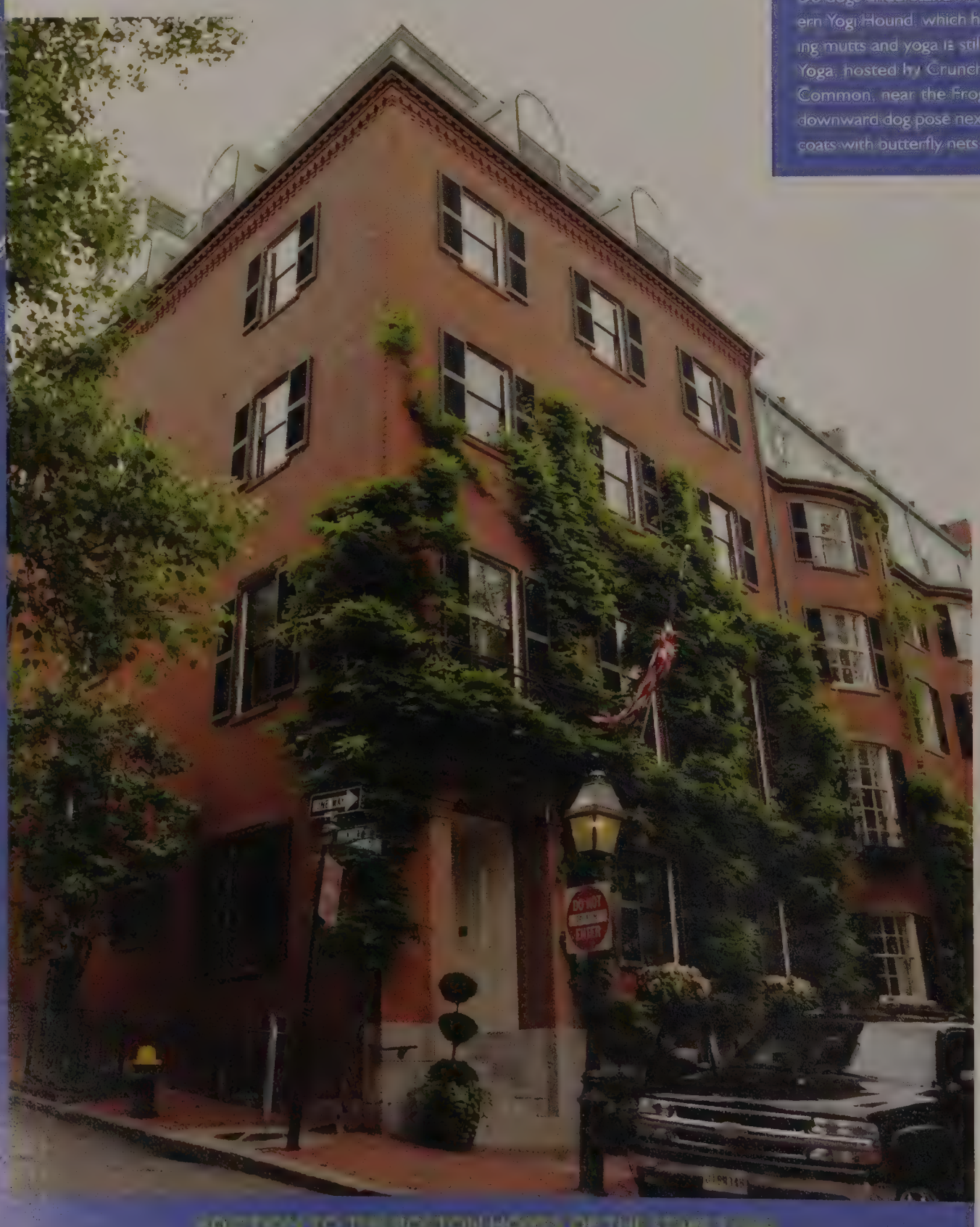
SOAP OPERA SCRIPT

The Jack and Suzy Welch Story

He's one of the most powerful businessmen in the world. She's the editor of *Harvard Business Review*, interviewing him for a story. He's married. She's 24 years younger. They fall in love, and things heat up... Fast-forward to last April, and Jack Welch and Suzy Wetlaufer are tying the knot at Park Street Church. Their story is one of those truth-is-stranger-than-fiction situations, and now that they've made it official (boring!), we need something else



Do dogs understand the concept of yoga? Probably not (with the exception of the E ern Yogi Hound, which has been selectively bred for its ohming for generations). But ing mutts and yoga is still a wacky idea, and a break from the old play-fetch routine Yoga, hosted by Crunch gym, offers a free class once a month in the summer on Common, near the Frog Pond. So if you walk by and see a bunch of people doing downward dog pose next to actual dogs, don't call animal control or the guys in the w coats with butterfly nets. Hey, it's no sillier than reading to plants.



There's plenty of hot property in Beacon Hill, but 19 Louisburg Square has a bit of extra intrigue this year, as that particular address is home to Democratic presidential hopeful John Kerry and his wife, Teresa Heinz Kerry. The five-story manse includes its own private elevator and roof deck, five bedrooms and six fireplaces. In case you're keeping score against your own urban palace. But you might want to think twice before snapping a few souvenir photos—those guys in suits with the earpieces aren't listening to the Red Sox game, and they don't have much of a sense of humor.

salacious to read about besides Ben Affleck's Excell Adventures. Hey Meg Whitman, billionaire CEC eBay—we've got a reporter who'd like to interview yo

STUDENT HOUSING

Boston College's $99.4 Million Purchase of 43 Acres (including the Lake Street mansion) from the Archdiocese of Boston

In what will hopefully be one of the closing chapter the never-ending church abuse scandal, Boston Col snapped up a huge swath of land this spring for amount slightly higher than what the Archdiocese o in court settlements. So the church pays its tab, the tims get the money they have coming, BC can expan campus, and alumni will know that their donations to school do more than just secure a spot to tailgate du football games.

VIEW

The Financial District, from the North End

We know, we know—there are better views in the The panorama from the Top of the Hub, the waterf from East Boston, and on and on. But the fact there is even a view here at all is worth celebrat Now that the Central Artery has pumped its choked trickle of traffic between the Financial Dis and the North End, the Rose Kennedy Greenway soon reconnect Boston's Italian enclave with the re the city. (Its expected completion date is 2006.) F this vantage point, it's not what you see, but what don't see that matters.

X-TREME ATHLETE

Mitt Romney

Coming up right after the Motocross Backflip com tion here on ESPN 5, we have the Nighttime Jet Drowning-Person Rescue Challenge! Highly favore win is defending champion and Massachusetts Gove Mitt "Stormin' Mormon" Romney, who took the go the 2003 games after getting a perfect score at Lake W nipesaukee. Recall that Romney, aided by two teamm (his offspring), saved six people from watery doom their boat sunk in front of his summer home. Yes, t right Jim, he also scored bonus points and temporar munity from the Media Inferno by rescuing the ha boaters' Scottish terrier before it became trout food can all agree, Racin' Rom's Jet-Ski adventure was the strangest thing that happened to any state gove last year... What? Gray who? ⟶

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSPAPER

The Dorchester Reporter

After last year's Boston's Best issue, we were chided by the *Dorchester Reporter* for a "bias" against the restaurants of the city's largest neighborhood. The evidence admittedly was compelling. "In its food and drink section there are 65 categories, with Dorchester going zero for 65," the paper's Aug. 21, 2003, editorial read. If we dissed Dorchester's dining scene, we don't want to make the same mistake about its community newspaper, which, as its slogan accurately claims, reflects "the News and Values Around the Neighborhood." Led by the crack father-son team of publisher Ed Forry and managing editor Bill Forry (in photo above) and young news editor Jim O'Sullivan, the *Reporter*—founded in 1983 by Ed and his wife, Mary—combines thorough coverage of neighborhood news, diverse voices on its op-ed page, and compelling reporting. Recent features have included a thoughtful profile of State Representative Martin Walsh and a moving tribute to 22-year-old Army Sgt. Danny Londono, a Dorchester resident who died in Iraq in March. Dorchester may not be the first neighborhood we consider for fine dining, but it's our first choice for fine local reporting.

ARTS COLUMNIST

Renee Graham, *Boston Globe*

Whether defending Bill Cosby from the fallout over his controversial remarks on race ("harsh" but "right on target") or defining the phenomenon of Madonna ("[for] 20 years a gaudy triumph of spectacle over talent"), the *Globe*'s Renee Graham is as street-savvy and eloquent as anyone writing about pop culture in America today. Graham looks at the big picture, suggesting hypocrisy in a public that allows the career of R. Kelly to flourish following child pornography charges while rejecting George Michael over a "restroom mishap" that is "akin to a parking ticket." Of this year's KISS 108 concert, Graham wrote that teen star Avril Lavigne's posing made her look "bored" and "old," and praised the "vigor" and "enthusiasm" of '80s icon Cyndi Lauper. Schooled in music from Morrissey to Missy Elliott, and equally comfortable commenting on a new release by the Cure and a recent festival of Celtic music, Graham brushes aside labels and focuses the only thing that really matters: the art.

BURY-THE-HATCHET JOB

Monica Collins and Emily Rooney Kiss and Make Up

We know time heals all wounds, but was that re *Boston Herald* columnist (and former Emily Roo target) Monica Collins we saw on Rooney's "Beat Press" panel on WGBH-TV's *Greater Boston*? It after all, just seven years ago that Rooney, in th very pages, responded to a negative review of show by describing Collins as "jealous of people are more attractive and slimmer than she is." B then, Rooney's personal attack was the talk of town. Now, it seems, she's decided, if you can't b 'em, co-opt 'em.

BUSINESS COLUMNIST

Steve Bailey, *Boston Globe*

Steve Bailey's column, Downtown, would be as m at home in the *Globe*'s Living section as it is in Business section—a testament to its readability e for those who wouldn't know a bottom line fro bustline. In fact, Bailey's flip, take-no-prisoners s has made him something of a business page book to Living/Arts enfant terrible Alex Beam. An eq opportunity antagonist to management (Veri Bank of America) and labor (Service Employees ternational Union), Bailey maintains an indepen stance that has made his column unpredictable, c ible, required reading.

COLLEGE RADIO STATION

WERS (88.9 FM), Emerson College

With all the recent upheaval at Emerson Colleg from President Jacqueline Liebergott's controve union-busting effort to the ongoing campus rel tion—it's a relief that the jewel in the sch crown remains intact. WERS, one of the best most eclectic college radio stations in the cou sounds unaffected by all the internal turmoil programming—featuring everything from w music and folk to indie-rock and reggae—is unp leled in its variety and quality. And unlike some leges' student-free stations (such as Boston Uni sity's WBUR and UMass Boston's WUMB), W remains a real college radio station, though it sounds professional. Somehow, it remains be than ever.

GOSSIP COLUMNISTS

Gayle Fee and Laura Raposa, *Boston Hera*

Inquiring minds know that new (old) *Herald* ed ial director Ken Chandler's fondness for celeb gossip and tabloid journalism has meant a surg prominence for Gayle Fee and Laura Raposa. A nature piece in the old (new) *Herald*, The In Track took a back seat during the reign of the drews (see Revolving Door). Thankfully, that p is over. Now that Matt and Ben sightings at Fen are the real news, we can get back to the reaso read the *Herald* in the first place: the gals' go It's good to see the entertainment mavens on fast track.

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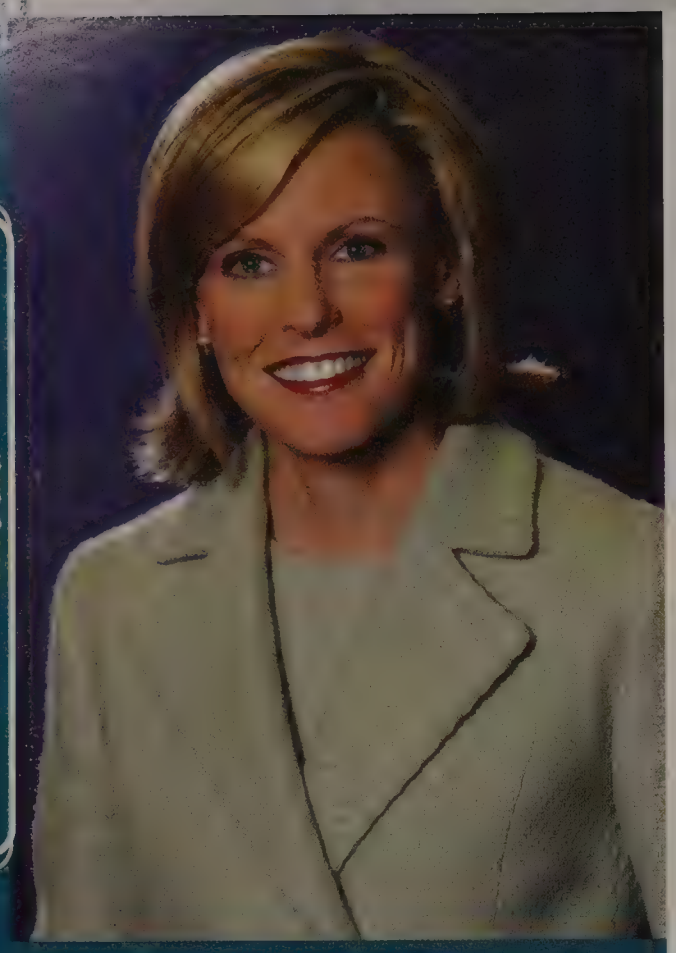
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TV NEWS ANCHOR

Lisa Hughes, WBZ-4

If our selection of Lisa Hughes for this category seemed premature back in 2001—she came to WBZ in 2000—today, it can only be seen as forward-thinking. Though viewership for most of WBZ's newscasts remains lodged in last place, the 11 pm weekday edition, which Hughes co-anchors along with the 4 and 6 pm newscasts, often climbs ahead of rival WCVB-5 in the all-important 25–54 age bracket. Amiable but substantial, Hughes is fast becoming a fixture of Boston television.

MEDIA MEA CULPA

The *Boston Globe*'s Iraqi Sex Photo Scandal

Your paper of record wants you to know it is sorry—very, very sorry. "It is an understatement to say that the *Globe* erred when it ran a photo that, if you look closely, showed images of men dressed as soldiers having sex with unidentified women," wrote Ombudsman Christine Chinlund following an earlier act of contrition from editor Martin Baron. "It is also an understatement to say the paper regrets the error." On the plus side, nobody—not Chinlund, Baron or any of the other staffers quoted—sounded the least bit defensive. On the other hand, it would be difficult to imagine a positive spin for this debacle, from the lack of simple authentication to the complete failure of the chain of command to notice it was publishing a sexually explicit photograph. "There should have been a lot of checks and balances," Photography Director Catie Aldrich acknowledged, "and for whatever reason, there weren't." Something tells us the next front-page-bound photograph that depicts a scene more worthy of *Penthouse* will receive a bit more scrutiny.

RADIO SHOW

***Matty in the Morning*, KISS 108**

How often do you listen to a music station and find the songs distracting? We can get more than our fix of Britney and matchbox twenty anywhere, but the chemistry between Matt Siegel and company—especially news and entertainment director/human Rolodex Billy Costa—is what makes the KISS 108 morning crew Boston's best substitute for a crowing-at-the-crack-of-dawn rooster. The lively interviews are another draw: Within the past year, Matty's bantered with entertainers like *Sex and the City*'s Cynthia Nixon, the Sox' Nomar Garciaparra and even political heavyweights like John Kerry. For a morning wake-up, it works just as well as a java jolt.

RADIO TALK SHOW HOST

David Brudnoy, WBZ-AM

It's unlikely that David Brudnoy would feel he deserves recognition for the simple act of showing up for work. Yet the treatment for his latest medical malady, a rare form of skin cancer, made the simple into the heroic. (An ironic side effect was the disappearance of Brudnoy's voice—a loss which, thankfully, turned out to be temporary.) On his nightly WBZ show, Brudnoy engages his guests in civil but spirited discussion of issues cultural and political, local and national, and he refuses to condescend to his audience. In the loud, rude, crude medium that commercial talk radio has become, Brudnoy continues to offer an intelligent eloquence that we could ill afford to see permanently silenced.

REVOLVING DOOR

Comings and Goings (and Comings) at the *Boston Herald*

Former managing editor Andrew Gully and former editor Andy Costello are out. Past executive editor Ken Chandler is back in, now as editorial director. Outlaw columnist Mike Barnicle, long ago banished from the *Globe*, emerges at the very paper that once hastened his journalistic downfall. TV columnist Monica Collins and political reporter Wayne Woodlief are shown the door, then promptly rehired in freelance roles. These days, we need a program to track the cast of characters at One Herald Square. Perhaps the ghost of dearly departed theater critic Elliott Norton is waiting in the wings…

TV NEWS METEOROLOGIST

Harvey Leonard, WCVB-5

We haven't done a thorough analysis to determine if Harvey Leonard's forecasts are more accurate than other meteorologists'. We doubt WCVB did either before poaching Leonard from rival WHDH-7 two years ago. No matter. In a business where perception often supercedes reality, Leonard's relative lack of histrionics (with the exception of the occasional breathless tease) gives him an image of credibility that he deserves. Apparently, the New England Emmy Awards Association agrees that Leonard's top-of-the-line: It has made him a two-time winner for outstanding achievement in television weathercasting.

TV SPORTS ANCHOR

Bob Lobel

When Paula Lyons was dismissed from her long-time role as consumer reporter at WBZ-4, one had to wonder if the days were numbered for fellow station veterans like Bob Lobel. Yet Lobel's stature only seems to increase with time. In addition to serving as WBZ's sports anchor Sunday through Thursday evenings and anchoring WSBK-38's *Nightcast* sports desk, Lobel hosts NESN's *Boston Globe: Sportsplus* (a panel discussion with players, sportswriters and broadcasters) and WBZ's Sunday night week-in-review roundup, *Sports Final*. With his breadth of knowledge, grasp of athletic history and unfailing pa sion, Lobel is simply the New England sports televisio world's MVP.

VIEW OF BOSTON FROM HOLLYWOOD

The Practice

Many sitcoms and dramas have been set in Boston ov the years, from *Cheers* and *St. Elsewhere* to *Boston Pu lic* and *Crossing Jordan*. Most may as well be set Cleveland, for all the local flavor they offer. Only o casionally does Boston play a major role. The first I PROPER award for a Hollywood series with a genui Boston accent goes to Belmont boy David E. Kelle law drama. Sure, *Ally McBeal* and *Boston Public* a pretty generic, but *The Practice* is as real as it ge chock-full of specific local settings and references. F a key story arc of the series' eighth and final seaso Dedham took center stage. *The Practice* is such Boston booster that we'd lament the loss of face ti were it not for next fall's *Boston Legal*, a *Practice* spin set at One Fleet Street that could do for the North E what *The Sopranos* did for New Jersey. ⟶



FACE FOR RADIO ON TELEVISION

Doug "VB" Goudie

It's little surprise that the main claim to fame of Fox 25's Dou "VB" Goudie prior to his current gig as morning news commen tator was as host of *The Pit*, a nightly talk show on WRKO-AM Goudie is, how you say, "radio-genic," not just in his appearanc but in his presentation. If the idea was to provide a rough-around the-edges alternative to the network morning shows, Fox 25 ha found its answer to Matt Lauer.

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JULY 22 · 7:30PM

An Evening with
Carole King
JULY 25 · 7:30PM

The Finn Brothers
Martin Sexton
with special guest
Angela McCluskey
SATURDAY, JULY 31 · 7:30PM

O.A.R.
Howie Day
with special guest
Matt Nathanson
AUGUST 5 · 7PM

Bryan Adams
with special guest MrNorth
AUGUST 8 · 7:30PM

Roots Rock Reggae Festival
featuring The Marley Brothers
(Ziggy Marley, Stephen Marley,
Julian Marley, Damian Jr. Gong Marley)
plus very special guests Common,
Toots and the Maytals, Slightly Stoopid
AUGUST 12 · 6PM

Deep Purple
Joe Satriani
with special guest Thin Lizzy
SATURDAY, AUGUST 14 · 7PM

Emmylou Harris,
Gillian Welch, Patty Griffin
Buddy & Julie Miller
FRIDAY, AUGUST 20 · 7:30PM

Patti LaBelle
AUGUST 18 · 7:30PM

Huey Lewis & The News
with special guest G. B. Leighton
SATURDAY, AUGUST 21 · 8PM

Buddy Guy
Robert Cray Band
AUGUST 26 · 7:30PM

The Corrs
SATURDAY, AUGUST 28 · 8PM

Don Henley
SEPTEMBER 1 · 7:30PM

B.B. King Blues Festival
featuring B.B. King
Dr. John, Shemekia Copeland,
Elvin Bishop & more
SEPTEMBER 2 · 6:30PM

Heart
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 · 7:30PM

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How many angels can dance on the head of a pin? Pose that philosophical riddle to the new owners of the Boston Red Sox — they'll be new for a few more years yet — and they'd probably get their architect to work on an answer straight away. The triumvirate of owners has managed to squeeze hundreds of extra seats into — and extra dollars out of — the lyric little bandbox off Lansdowne Street. The 274 Green Monster–capping seats added last year (including 100 standing-room slots) were followed by the right field rooftop experiment that opened this season, which added another 191 seats plus standing-room space for 100. Both developments have been well received, which probably means that before long the Sox will be selling tickets to sit on the Citgo sign — and that they'll still be calling Fenway home when the park's 100th birthday rolls around in 2012.

BIGGEST CRASH

Putnam Investments

For a few weeks last fall, investors were yanking money out of Putnam Investments fast enough to bring to mind the bank run on George Bailey's building and loan in *It's a Wonderful Life*. In the last quarter of 2003, word got out that Putnam's traders were basically using investors' mutual funds to play markets around the world, and investors large and small pulled $54 billion from the firm's highly regarded funds. Putnam finally managed to stop the bleeding by striking a settlement agreement with regulators to stop the after-hours shenanigans and pay $110 million—half of it to investors and half to regulators. Other fund managers have since paid larger fines, and all told, the mutual fund industry has doled out more than $2 billion in fines and restitution, but Putnam gets credit for breaking the ice.

MOST ANTICIPATED LOCAL EXPANSION

Ikea

Ikea is coming! Heard that before, you say? Believe it when you see it? Well, if you had all but given up hope on being able to buy snap-together home furnishings from Sweden in Greater Boston during your lifetime, cheer up. The company announced plans in April to build a store in Stoughton that will generate more than 400 jobs and over a million dollars in tax revenue. It also agreed to foot the bill for constructing a new access road to ease traffic congestion. So it's full steam ahead for Stoughton and dead in the water for Somerville, where the furniture chain was set to open in 2002 as the linchpin of a plan to revitalize the Assembly Square Mall. Despite the fact that the company offered to build a waterfront park for the community in addition to the spanking new retail operation, the development-phobic (pronounced progress-averse) Mystic View Task Force nixed the idea, and the legal wrangling isn't scheduled to be resolved until 2006. And people wonder why Somerville's the butt of so many jokes.

MOST CONTROVERSIAL NEW BUSINESS

Gay Wedding Planners

For all the ground they've broken, gay marriages have so far been utilitarian affairs. Marriages on the steps of Cambridge City Hall pack plenty of symbolic wallop, but the business of gay weddings has only just begun. Many Boston-area wedding planners have made it known they can handle "nontraditional" wedding ceremonies and receptions, but some, like It's About Time Weddings, are going further and specializing in organizing gay, lesbian and transgender unions. Its packages range from the last-minute (the Oscar Wilde) to the lavish (the Alexander the Great). The Roslindale-based firm promises "carefully screened, gay-owned and gay-friendly" vendors, and on each client couple's one-year anniversary, It's About Time makes a donation in their names to G & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders (GLAD). Th can't promise that the big day won't be crashed protesters, but they could probably think of a way work them into the festivities.

MOST PROMISING START-UP (PRACTICAL CATEGORY)

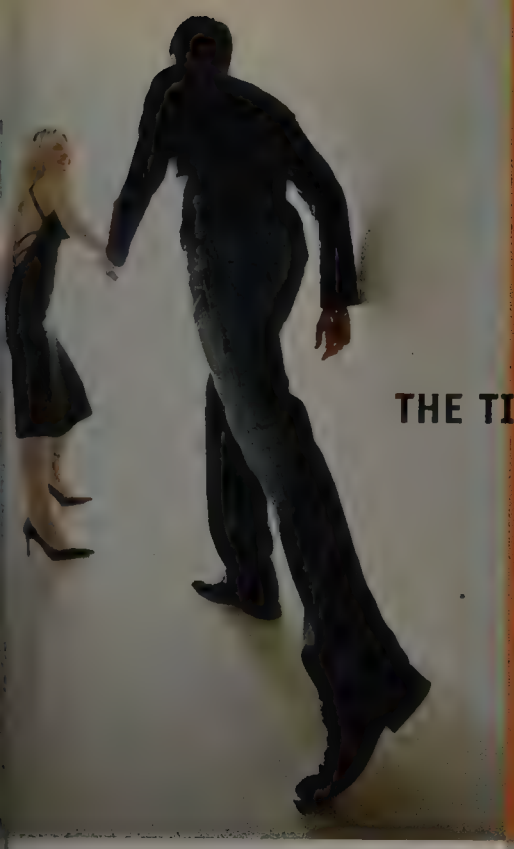
Peppercoin

Move aside microbrews, it's time for micropaymer Waltham-based Peppercoin thinks it has a better v for people to buy music downloads, magazine artic and other Web content with prices too small to w rant whipping out the credit card for each separ purchase. Normally, transaction fees make offer such low-priced content to customers via credit c unprofitable. Peppercoin's payment-processing pl form aggregates small transactions across multi companies, customers and payment providers to duce transaction costs. Of course, many others h tried similar systems, but Peppercoin has a str pedigree (Ron Rivest—the "R" in highly regar RSA Security—is a co-founder), a freshly refil bank account thanks to a $4.25 million initial rou of venture capital, and a growing list of brand-na clients, including the Smithsonian Institution. P percoin is also getting plenty of press—*Red Her* magazine recently named the company one of private firms developing the next wave of big te nology advances.

MOST PUBLIC INTERNAL DISPUTE

Boston University President Selection

They say there's no such thing as bad public Boston University's board of trustees must be h ing that's true. The school's disastrous courtship



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president was very public indeed and must have made thousands of alumni a little squeamish about dropping their annual donation in the mail. In the end, BU was left at the altar by former NASA director Daniel Goldin, who was deemed best of the best and agreed to be the university president, and then abruptly changed his mind a day before taking office. The reason for Goldin's costly pirouette (BU doled him out a whopping $1.8 million in severance pay), to the surprise of virtually no one, can be boiled down to two words: John Silber. Apparently the prospect of squaring off with the acerbic chancellor was more frightening even than sending men and women into space. The final frontier indeed.

SCHMOOZE JOB
Massport–Virgin Airlines

File this one under: To schmooze and lose is better than to never schmooze at all. The Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport) rolled out the red carpet in the hope of landing Virgin Airlines' new U.S. headquarters and the 1,400 jobs that come with it. The agency lined up some $1.5 million in economic incentives and cobbled together an array of office space for the company in Southie and East Boston. And Virgin's location scouts were given a tour of the town's hot spots. But after months of waiting on pins and needles, Beantown had its bubble rudely popped in early June when Richard Branson, the airline's flamboyant founder, revealed that New York—New York!—and San Francisco were finalists to land the offices.

TECH TURNAROUND
EMC Corp.

Two years ago, Hopkinton-based data storage firm EMC was a poster child for the tech bust. It posted a near billion-dollar quarterly loss in October 2001 and grabbed a spot on the couch at the dot-com pity party, handing out pink slips by the fistful. A massive, campus-style headquarters long in the planning stages looked like it would become an I-495 ghost town before construction even began. But what a difference a few years makes. Data concerns—disaster fears and regulation among the reasons—have put EMC back in vogue. The company threw enough stock and cash around to buy three large software firms in the second half of last year, shaking off its image as a maker only of big, boxy hardware. The profits are flowing again, the headquarters is back on track, and EMC is hiring again, growing its workforce by 15 percent in 2003.



Holosonics founder Dr. F. Joseph Pompei is one of thos people who relishes the idea of being told that somethin is impossible. That's exactly what happened when he em barked on a self-designed, physics-based program while graduate school at MIT. Most of the professors though Pompei's idea — to develop technology that would allow "beams" of sound to be heard by listeners in one part of room but not others — would fail. But Pompei persiste and MIT relented. A couple of years of around-the-cloc work in the MIT Media Lab later, Pompei had not only technology but a business. Now, his Watertown firm makes sound systems for concerts, museums and trad shows. And in a development that could revolutionize th long car trek, in-car systems that enable multiple passen gers to listen to their own music selections — without headphones — are on the way (one's on display at Disney Epcot Center).

WELCOME HOME
Macworld

Headline: Boston beats New York. It's true. OK, maybe no in the way we'd hoped, but a victory is a victory. The Ea Coast version of Macworld, born in Boston in the 1980 moved to the Big Apple in 1998. The news that the exp of geeks with attitude would return to Boston starting th summer was a major coup for convention-starved local off cials and a shot in the arm for the new convention cente But the victory came with a hitch: Apple Computer itse arguably the raison d'etre for the convention, said it wou stay away. Macworld will help ease Beantown into hos with-the-most mode—less than two weeks after th techies leave, the Democrats sidle into town. ⟶

BIGGEST EXECUTIVE WINDFALL
Chad Gifford, Fleet

They say it's good to be king. But if you aren't born into royalty, being CEO is a good fallback position. Recession or not, 2003 was a good time to be chief in Massachusetts, especially if your company happened to be sold. Several Fleet executives got golden parachutes when the merger with Bank of America hit, but none glittered more brightly than CEO Chad Gifford's. Gifford scored a windfall of nearly $11 million in salary, bonuses and stock options. Not bad considering that the year before, Gifford's modest $992,000 salary was augmented with a $6 million cash bonus and $3.8 million worth of stock and options. Mergers have been very, very good to Gifford, who was rewarded with $11.1 million worth of stock when Fleet bought BankBoston. Other Bay State CEOs made more in 2003—including Staples boss Ron Sargent, who had a total compensation package of $16.9 million—but Gifford's bonus gave him bragging rights in this category.

BIGGEST FALL
FleetBoston to Bank of America

Just when we were getting used to calling the building where the Bruins and Celtics play the FleetCenter, another bank merger threatens to throw yet another monkey wrench in the local lexicon. This time it's Fleet—buyer of BankBoston in the last local financial mega-merger back in 1999—being scooped up by Bank of America in a deal worth $47 billion. Nationwide, around 12,500 Fleet workers will get axed as a result, but only time will tell exactly what it means to have a North Carolina bank running one of the Hub's biggest institutions. As for the FleetCenter, what's wrong with doing the retro thing and calling it the Garden again? After all, neither of the teams that play there has had even a sniff at a championship since the old one was torn down.



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GOODS&SERVICES

ANTIQUE STORE

Cambridge Antique Market

201 Msgr. O'Brien Highway, Cambridge, 617-868-9655, www.marketantique.com

This five-story shop proves that antiquing isn't just for grannies. Boasting a dizzying array of items, from high-end 18th-century French armoires to 1930s art deco glassware, Cambridge Antiques is a mecca for treasure hunters of any generation. More than 150 dealers display their wares, which are replenished frequently. Forget the stereotype of the dusty, cramped antiques store—the shop's five spacious and well-organized floors make browsing through the vintage furniture, tchotchkes, clothing and jewelry enjoyable even for allergic claustrophobes. And regardless of whether your aesthetic is Shaker minimalism or rococo splendor, or whether you have $5 or $5,000 to spend, you'll find something that strikes your fancy. That's why, on any given day, the clientele ranges from hip, blue-haired college students to blue-haired old ladies with hip replacements. Luckily for legs of all ages, the shop itself isn't too antique to have an elevator.

ART SUPPLIES

Pearl Arts & Crafts

579 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 617-547-6600, www.pearlpaint.com.

A multimedia wonderland that sells everything from glitter and popsicle sticks to sable brushes and gold leaf supplies. All the supplies the creative soul might need can be found on its three colorful floors, or else the staff knows where to locate it. Accordingly, the aisles are always crowded with all manner of artistic types, from spattered painters and clay-smudged sculptors to multiply pierced graffiti artists and morose-looking art students. Most of the employees are artists themselves and therefore know what they're talking about. Even if your last artistic endeavor was making a gimp keychain at summer camp, you'll walk out of Pearl ready to unleash your inner Picasso.

AUDIO/VIDEO STORE

Tweeter

350 Boylston St., Boston, 617-262-2299;
880 Comm. Ave., Boston, 617-738-4411;
104 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge, 617-492-4411;
14 Needham St., Newton, 617-964-4411;
other locations; www.tweeter.com

Since opening its first store in Harvard Square in 1972, Tweeter's come a long way. The now-nationwide chain (with 15 Massachusetts locations) stocks whatever you might need in the way of home and car entertainment—and extensively trains its salespeople before they set foot on the floor. Looking to amp up your car's audio system or upgrade to a plasma-screen TV? Want to start a career as a documentarian with a new camcorder or surprise your significant other with a new DVD player? Tweeter's employees will hook you up with the technology you need. Though their prices are competitive, the quality of their merchandise is incomparable. Unlike other large chains that carry low-end to mid-priced items, Tweeter stocks only mid- to high-end goods. Brands include Sony, Bose, Panasonic, Sharp and Samsung, and the shelves are stacked with enough equipment to make your home worthy of *MTV Cribs* and your car the equal of anything on *Pimp My Ride*.

BOOKSTORE, LOCAL

Newtonville Books

296 Walnut St., Newton, 617-244-6619, www.newtonvillebooks.com

This tiny shop is a Bermuda Triangle for Boston's bibliophiles: We've known people who've entered and never been heard from again. Well, not quite, but Newtonville Books' extensive stacks do offer a wonderful place to lose yourself for an afternoon, and the dedicated staff loves to chat with customers, offering candid reviews and insightful suggestions. In fact, the atmosphere is more like a much-loved home library than a retail operation, and owner Tim Huggins tailors the inventory to appeal to an erudite clientele with wide-ranging tastes. Self-published works share shelf space with bestsellers and signed first editions. Unlike most booksellers, Huggins says he doesn't offer discounts on bestsellers because doing so encourages consumers to base their picks on price rather than content—a boon to emerging authors and the readers who might not otherwise discover them. Huggins keeps his smaller customers in mind too: This summer, he's turning the space next door into the Lizard's Tale, a bookstore that stocks only kid lit.

BOOKSTORE, USED

Brattle Book Shop

9 West St., Boston, 617-542-0210, www.brattlebookshop.com

If you prefer your books dog-eared and previously loved, the three-story Brattle is the bookstore for you. The inventory ranges from back issues of *Life* magazine to forgotten pulp novels to leather-bound, collectible first-editions, and the bookworms browsing the aisles look like kids in a candy store. Every week, staffers appraise and purchase thousands of books, many of which find their way onto the charming outdoor shelves and stands in the vacant lot next door (where all books are $5 or less). At the extreme other end of the spectrum are rare and understandably more costly items, like a three-page handwritten letter by J.R.R. Tolkien explaining his reasons for writing *The Lord of the Rings*, or a first edition of Thoreau's *Walden*. There's more than enough middle ground, however, and the helpful and enthusiastic staff will point you in the right direction whether you want to replace your lost copy of *Valley of the Dolls* or find a signed edition by Hemingway.

CATERING

Max Ultimate Food

100 Magazine St., Boston, 617-427-9799, www.maxultimatefood.com.

Many of the most memorable parties in Boston owe a good deal of their charm to this catering company's fantastic and wildly creative food. If you want swanky, they can do a six-course feast worthy of Escoffier. Or if you want fun, they can provide deliciously decadent carnival fare. Themes from a traditional New England clambake to an Asian luau are no problem—and every detail will be spot-on. At one recent fund-raiser, the dessert offerings ranged fro South Beach Diet—fruit, berries and healthy stuff- to Revere Beach Diet—Twinkies, Ring Dings a Devil Dogs. The presentation is always imaginativ from waitresses in outrageous outfits to a martini b where the flavors correspond with jellybeans, and t super-friendly, upbeat staff seem to have as much f as the invited guests. Imagine if the Cat in the H had exquisite taste and were a superb chef.

CAR WASH

Allston Car Wash

434 Cambridge St., Allston, 617-254-3200, www.allstoncarwash.com

Not all car washes are created equal, as this 28-ye old "spa for your cah" has proven. Renowned for speedy service and competitive prices (as well as c ative advertising), this combination car wash, gas s tion and convenience store is also eco-friendly. D ing his just-finished two-year tenure as president the New England Car Wash Association, own Chuck Delaney focused on educating consume about the environmental benefits of professional c washing, and in 2001, he installed a water-recla system that reduced the facility's use of fresh water 80 percent. Equally involved in the community, t company has also raised over $28,000 for Allsto Franciscan Children's Hospital. Perhaps its great public service, however, is that—in addition to reg lar washes and interior and exterior detailing—it fers time-release air freshening treatments ($2) th eliminate the need for those tacky scented trees da gling from the rearview mirror. For that alone, A ston Car Wash deserves our undying gratitude.

COOKING STORE

Williams-Sonoma

Copley Place, 100 Huntington Ave., Boston, 617-262-30
The Atrium, 300 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill, 617-928-01
other locations; www.williams-sonoma.com

Say what you will about the malling of America. T ubiquitous, albeit high-end, chain of cooking sto can provide everything you need to emulate Bob Flay or Mario Batali. Everything except the tale that is. But with the soup-to-nuts equipment ava able for making soufflés, crepes and other culinary lights, talent may not even be necessary. For the s ous chef, Williams-Sonoma stocks specialty foods a spices as well as highly specialized gadgets, top- the-line cookware and an encyclopedic collection cookbooks. For those more focused on presentati there's also a wealth of table settings, linens, crock and glassware. The store's exhaustive inventory v remind everyone from dilettantes to Cordon B graduates of the joy of cooking.

COURIER

City Express

201 South St., Boston, 617-350-4000, www.cityexp.co
Customers aren't the only ones raving about City press' on-the-ball, 365-days-a-year service; the C of Choice Couriers paid this 15-year-old compan compliment by selling his Massachusetts grou transportation business to City Express last Janu Because City Express owner Aaron Driben unc

FflorIst

Ilex Designs

78 Berkeley St., Boston, 617-422-0300, www.ilexflowers.com

Boston is blessed with numerous outstanding florists, but the only rea- not to give this new kid on the block a try is if you're scared of aying from the traditional. Since opening Ilex this past Valentine's y, co-owners Carol Sharp and Andrew Anderson have made a name themselves by thinking outside the box, or vase. For example, for upcoming wedding in a room with contemporary architecture and o-story windows, they eschewed the romantic pedestals-and-urns mat and created striking, minimalist floral designs within 8-foot xiglass containers. Ilex's one-of-a-kind studio (a salon-like room hin the store has a 60-inch table and a digital projector) facilitates kind of communication between florist and client that's necessary ull off such individualized designs. Sharp and Anderson also work l with caterers, event planners and other party professionals, inte- ing flowers into an event's overall aesthetic, and they offer their nts the chance to try out different designs before committing to . In other words, while Ilex pursues its own unique muse, cus- er satisfaction remains the top priority.

stands that couriers are often entrusted with valuable materials, he worked with Mayor Menino to implement the city's policy requiring that couriers be licensed. His emphasis on customer service, meanwhile, makes his company the courier of choice for everyone from businessmen to baseball stars: Two summers ago, when Toronto Blue Jay Joe Lawrence left his suitcase in Boston, a City Express messenger brought it to the team's hotel in New York, before the players even arrived. Quicker than a Blue Jay? Now that's what we call fast.

ENTERTAINMENT STORE

Virgin Megastore

360 Newbury St., Boston, 617-896-0950, www.virginmega.com

One glimpse of this three-floor, 40,000-square-foot superstore packed with music, movies, books, games and clothing, and it's obvious that Virgin Group founder and CEO Richard Branson sees entertainment as serious business. In the past year, Virgin has added electronic accessories, and in-store appearances by big-name and up-and-coming artists add sizzle to the experience of shopping there, while monthly sales make it palatable even to tightwads. Stop by on a Thursday and experience the store's new partnership with the dance club Rise, which highlights the retailer's extensive dance music and vinyl selection by bringing in a DJ to spin during lunch hour. If you're hungry, head to the café on the third floor. In fact, the only thing that prevents us from moving all of our personal belongings in and calling the Virgin Megastore home is that the salespeople might freak out when we change into our pajamas.

FURNITURE, HIGH-END

Montage

75 Arlington St., Boston, 617-451-9400,
www.montageweb.com

At the end of last year, co-owners Liz and Chris Bates decided to close their 20-year-old showroom at the Boston Design Center to focus their expertise and energy on this elegant (and at 10,500 square feet, much roomier) space. If customer satisfaction and corporate interest are any indication, they made the right choice: 90 percent of their clientele are repeat customers, and the gallery has been used as a backdrop for a photo shoot by Bose. The showroom's sophisticated yet comfortable designs are mostly European (this fall, look for new designs from the Milan Furniture Fair), but they do make room for particularly innovative American designers like Antoine Proulx. Employees well versed in architecture and design work with clients and decorators to create interiors that are equally livable and breathtaking. The showroom hosts frequent talks by designers like Jeffrey Bilhuber, and the owners are eager to share their high-style design concepts with the general public, even those who might be intimidated by their high prices.

GIFT BOUTIQUE

Aunt Sadie's

18 Union Park St., Boston, 617-357-7117,
www.auntsadiesonline.com

At most stores, you wouldn't expect to find martini glasses and baby gifts sharing shelf space, but incongruity and quirkiness are part of the charm at this laid-back South End boutique. In addition to an ever-changing inventory of witty cards, soaps, beauty products, unique decorative items, and cheeky gifts for men, women, children and pets, Sadie's offers its own line of scented candles in flavors like chocolate, lemonade and suntan lotion. (These popular Candles-in-a-Can come in tins decorated with everything from vintage postcards to tongue-in-cheek interpretations of astrological signs.) The shop's atmosphere and staff are just as inviting and delightful as the products—as you browse, the store's layout and distinctive merchandise will make you feel like you're rummaging through the attic of an eccentric and whimsical great aunt with oddball but flawless taste.

GIFTS FOR GIRLS

The Flat of the Hill

60 Charles St., Boston, 617-619-9977

If there's a girly-girl on your gift list, grab your credit cards and get yourself to this adorable Beacon Hill shop. Owner Katherine Morse stocks it with delightful and distinctive jewelry, unique bath and body products and all manner of froufrou frippery. There are cute handbags for any occasion, a selection of sassy and sweet gift books, and stationery so beautiful that you'll gladly sacrifice the convenience of e-mailing. The store also carries small-scale home decor items, belts and accessories—in fact, among the most popular items are locally made flower pins, used by some of Boston's best-dressed women to accent clothing, hairdos and purses. Even if your pur strings are tight, you're bound to find something you lik Prices range from $1.50 to $450. A word to the wis though: Since winning Best Gift Boutique from us la year, the owners say they've gotten 10 times busier, so during the week instead of on Saturday or Sunday.

GOLF STORE

Wayland Golf

890 Comm Ave., Boston, 617-277-3999;
other locations; www.waylandgolf.com

Whether you're a weekend duffer or an old hand at S Andrews, this is the place to shop for all things links-r lated. The employees—many of them scratch golfers teaching pros—will set you up with the exact equipme you need and offer pointers on ways to improve yo game. (Their product knowledge puts other golf retail to shame.) A family-owned business with the kind amiable service that implies, Wayland Golf carries clu by makers like Callaway, Mizuno and TaylorMade, alo

WINE SHOP

Brix Wine Shop

1284 Washington St., Boston, 617-542-2749, www.brixwineshop.com

When was the last time someone rushed to open the door for you as you entered a wine shop and then invited you to p take of some pinot noir from crystal stemware, as opposed to a plastic cup? If your answer is "never," then you haven't be to this service-oriented South End wine emporium. Staffers offer expert but unpretentious wine advice and tailor an eclec inventory to patrons'—as opposed to their own—tastes, with the understanding that for every person who loves Cha pagne there's someone who prefers prosecco. Owners Carri Wroblewski and Klaudia Mally are best friends whose relatio ship was born from the fruit of the vine: They met when Wroblewski was working at a local wine store and Mally was h customer. Since opening in December, their stylish shop, which hosts weekly tastings at its 10-foot granite tasting table a has a natural cork floor, has impressed demanding oenophiles with its varied array of unusual and hard-to-find wines. On lect Mondays, the owners host bartenders and chefs, who pair their mixological and culinary creations with selections fr the store's impressive cellars. Finally, a shop that elevates the act of selecting a wine into as much of an art form as making





HOME BOUTIQUE

Bliss Home

121 Newbury St., Boston, 617-421-5544, www.blisshome.com

e inventory includes Angela Adams rugs and the largest Alessi collection on the East Coast—and those are just the A's. In decidedly un-cookie-cutter boutique, owner Panamai Manadee showcases unique housewares, accessories and tex- s from near (Boston-based ceramicist Jill Rosenwald) and far (Limoges china, Viennese glass, Danish furniture). The var- wares are especially good for couples seeking a funky but functional alternative to blah, boilerplate wedding registries. t that you need to be altar-bound to shop here. The anything-but-bland products include things for kids and even pets, the staff couldn't be more helpful.

h footwear and apparel to complement your swing. rough its buy-back program, golfers can turn in their clubs in exchange for store credit. The range of mer- ndise and the staff's dedication to matching products h a customer's specific needs and skill level make it the ter of all golf shops.

MOVING COMPANY

Gentle Giant Moving Co.

29 Harding St., Somerville, 617-661-3333, www.gentlegiant.com

The winner in this category for six years and counting, Gentle Giant is aces in terms of efficiency, muscle and taking care with customers' belongings. The employees tend to be current or former college athletes (owner Larry O'Toole is a master rower and trains his staffers by having them run the steps at Harvard Stadium), and their physical prowess means they can haul a grand piano up several flights of stairs or delicately maneuver a Duncan Phyfe chiffonier into a tricky corner. They know it all when it comes to packing and transporting securely, and their prices are reasonable. Few things are as potentially stressful as moving. Using Gentle Giant to do the job is like taking a valium.

MUSIC STORE

Newbury Comics

332 Newbury St., Boston, 617-236-4930;
1 Washington Mall, Boston, 617-248-9992;
211 Alewife Brook Pkwy., Cambridge, 617-491-7711;
36 JFK St., Cambridge, 617-491-0337;
130 Needham St., Newton, 617-965-5054;
other locations; www.newburycomics.com

Temper some of your embarrassment at buying the latest *American Idol* winner's CD by getting it at this indie music-and-more store, which sells mainstream and underground releases side by side, and at the same low prices. The chain's flagship store on Newbury Street hosts frequent meet-and-greets and performances by recording artists, and all of its stores boast a virtually unbeatable selection of used and new CDs and movies. It also sells top-notch novelties, a revolving inventory of quirky and profane curiosities that include unconventional board games (Gayopoly), conversation-provoking decor (strings of Simpsons lights) and the full spectrum of Manic Panic hair dyes. Best of all, everything's inexpensive enough that, if you really wanted to, you could buy all of the above and still have some cash left over for that *Goonies* lunchbox you're ironically (OK, not so ironically) eyeing.

QUIRKY GIFTS

Black Ink

101 Charles St., Boston, 617-723-3883;
5 Brattle St., Cambridge, 617-497-1221

Offbeat shops with playful and quirky merchandise are a dime a dozen. What sets Black Ink apart is that owner Susan Corcoran is constantly introducing new products you don't see everywhere else—even repeat customers will find something new and irresistible on each visit. The antidote to mass-market monotony, it's a store packed with the kind of stuff you'd be thrilled to find in your Christmas stocking, from the whimsically functional (stationery, refrigerator magnets, drink coasters) to the out-and-out kooky (retro toys, rubber stamps, Totoro plush characters and faux cupcakes and doughnuts). The one constant is the quality of design, as even the kitschiest item is a shining example of its kind. You'd have to be a sourpuss not to smile as you peruse the sushi-shaped wind-up toys or a peanut-shaped eraser. Expect the unexpected.

SHOE REPAIR

Santacross Distinctive Shoe Service

151 Tremont St., Boston, 617-426-6978

You don't need a Harvard Business School diploma to know that good work leads to good word-of-mouth, which means a thriving small business. For Santacross owner John Anglin, who learned his trade from actual shoemakers, advertising is unnecessary. His workmanship speaks for itself, and pretty much every first-time customer becomes a loyal one. Though most of his customers are everyday civilians seeking to maintain their favorite shoes, he's the footwear-fixer of choice for Broadway shows on tour in Boston, and you can just imagine the wear and tear a chorus boy's loafers get. He

FURNITURE, MODERATELY PRICED

Boston Interiors

31 Boylston St., Brookline, 617-731-6038; other locations;
www.bostoninteriors.com

Every first-time condo owner or apartment renter knows that quickly and tastefully furnishing a home can be a financially crippling, logistical nightmare. This chain relieves some of the sting with affordable pricing and design associates who will work with you at no extra cost to put together an aesthetically pleasing new room. (They will also deliver your new furniture almost anywhere in eastern Massachusetts for a reasonable 5 percent fee, and anywhere else nationwide for a pinch more.) If you want to stick to a budget without compromising on style, there's no better place to outfit your living, dining and bedrooms—Boston Interiors boasts a gigantic inventory of everything from sofas and side tables to desks and credenzas in styles ranging from country to classic to contemporary. Proof that blowing a bundle on an interior designer and decor from pricey showrooms isn't the only way to make your place look like it belongs in the pages of *Metropolitan Home*.



does 80 percent of the shop's work himself and treats each pair of shoes as if it were his own. They say you can't judge a man until you've walked a mile in his moccasins. Well, you can judge Anglin after walking in moccasins he's fixed.

SPORTING GOODS

City Sports

1035 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, 617-782-5121;
480 Boylston St., Boston, 617-267-3900;
11 Bromfield St., Boston, 617-423-2015;
44 Brattle St., Cambridge, 617-492-6000;
1815 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 617-661-1666;
37 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill, 617-566-0220;
www.citysports.com

This chain's six area locations stock apparel and accessories for practically every sport under the sun. From softball and field hockey to snowboarding or water polo, not only have they got the gear, but there's a good chance that someone who works there knows the game firsthand. The uniformly athletic and helpful sales staff gladly shares its knowledge and enthusiasm. In addition to equipment from brands like Puma, Adidas, Nike and Asics, City Sports carries ancillary gear like sunglasses, bandannas and water bottles. Even if your preferred sport is tailgating, they've got the essentials: hibachis and official Boston team gear. And because it's a large chain, their prices are competitive and there's bound to be a location convenient to where you live or work. Fanatics and weekend warriors alike swear by City Sports, and so do we.

SUPERMARKET

Whole Foods

15 Westland Ave., Boston, 617-375-1010;
15 Washington St., Brighton, 617-738-8187;
115 Prospect St., Cambridge, 617-492-0070;
200 Alewife Brook Pkwy., Cambridge, 617-491-0040;
340 River St., Cambridge, 617-876-6990;
916 Walnut St., Newton, 617-969-1141;
other locations; www.wholefoodsmarket.com

This all-natural, environmentally and socially conscious grocery chain makes food shopping feel like a luxury rather than a chore. Its own line of food, household goods and body products (none of which contain anything genetically modified) raises the concept of generic to unprecedented heights, and Whole Foods also stocks most well-known national brands, with the exception of those whose ingredient list reads more like a chemistry experiment than something you'd eat. Each store has a bakery that makes pastries and European-style breads, as well as a flower department with the dewiest seasonal blooms you'll see outside of a florist's shop. The butcher stations are a carnivore's dream, while the seafood section features the freshest daily catch (Whole Foods even operates its own seafood facility, Pigeon Cove, in Gloucester). Best of all is the fact that all of your purchases contribute to a variety of good causes: Whole Foods donates 5 percent of its after-tax profits to not-for-profit organizations.

TAILOR

Rizzo

66 Church St., Cambridge, 617-547-5052

Everyone has a tailor they swear by, but few inspire the kind of breathless praise that you'll hear from patrons of this Harvard Square institution. Owner Joe Calautti apprenticed in his native Italy and for years has made custom suits, jackets and outerwear for a discerning clientele that includes some of the best-dressed faculty members and administrators at Harvard, as well as a certain presidential candidate (Senator John Kerry is one of Calautti's clients). Because he knows how to create garments from whole cloth, alterations are a snap, and his understanding of how clothing is constructed is shared by his wife Olga, who runs the business with him. It's not unusual to meet someone in Rizzo who has been a loyal customer for 20 years, and it's not unusual to see something Calautti made for that customer 20 years ago still looking as good as the day it was first worn.

WAY TO GET YOUR HOME INTO *ELLE DECOR*

Koo de Kir

65 Chestnut St., Boston, 617-723-8111, www.koodekir.com

Chock-full of arrestingly gorgeous furniture, lamps and decorative items with a distinctive urban aesthetic, this Beacon Hill treasure has a cool-yet-casual, blissed-out atmosphere that reflects the sensibility of owner Kristine Irving. The designer of such feel-good spaces as Peking Tom's and the Paramount restaurant, Irving has also had her handiwork featured in *In Style* and *Lucky*, among other publications. The store offers free design services (including help with color scheme, furniture layout, and fabric selection) with a minimum purchase, but a minimum purchase means maximum style. Just ask *Trading Spaces* designers Laurie Hickson-Smith and Doug Wilson, who shopped at Koo de Kir for the show's "100 Grand" special last summer. Irving also hosts trunk shows of hip artists through its Young Collectors series. It's the domestic equivalent of that up-and-coming clothing boutique where everything is cutting-edge but still affordable. ➳



BIKE SHOP

International Bicycle Centers

89 Brighton Ave., Boston, 617-783-5804; 71 Needham St
Newton, 617-527-0967; www.internationalbike.com

It doesn't matter whether you're training for the Tour d
France or planning a leisurely cruise along the Esplanad
Boston's two International Bicycle Centers have all th
gear, from bikes of every type (road, mountain, tandem
to parts and accessories (helmets, reflectors, basket
and more) and garb (Lycra shorts, cycling shoes an
moisture-wicking shirts). With a combined 38,00
square feet of retail space, they cater to every level
enthusiast, from tricyclist to triathlete. An experience
and knowledgeable staff can help you find the rig
equipment for your skill level and budget.


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Best Salon Interior
Best Hair Colorist
BOSTON'S BEST 2002
IMPROPER BOSTONIAN
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Andrea Fischman

BOSTON'S BEST 2004

BEAUTY&HEALTH

beauty&health

BEAUTY BOUTIQUE

Beauty and Main

30 Brattle St., Cambridge, 617-868-7171;
95 Union St., Newton, 617-243-0036;
66 South St., Hingham, 781-741-8501;
79 Central St., Wellesley, 781-237-1685;
www.beautyandmain.com

If you're like us, you can't resist the temptation to try new beauty products, which is why Beauty and Main has become a regular part of our shopping regimen. The epitome of customer service, each store is manned (or, more likely, wo-manned) by professionally trained makeup artists and skin care professionals who are prepared to answer questions and offer the inside dope. The inventory, meanwhile, is meticulously chosen, ranging from the standards to products that are normally available only through professional channels or forays to foreign cities. Browsing is encouraged; testing is expected. Shopping at Beauty and Main is like sneaking into your big sister's bathroom to try out all her cool new stuff, except that here, they'll actually help you.

BEAUTY LEGEND

Mario Russo

9 Newbury St., Boston, 617-424-6676;
Mario Russo at Louis Boston,
234 Berkeley St., Boston, 617-266-4485;
www.mariorusso.com

He came. He cut. He conquered. The man who began as a mere hairstylist has grown into an international phenomenon, relied upon by beauties on both coasts and constantly quoted in fashion magazines. He's expanded beyond his original salon with an outpost at Louis Boston, and his products (ranging from shampoos and conditioners to nail polish) can be found in the rooms at the Nine Zero (where guests are treated to our man's body bars) and as far away as Henri Bendel in New York and high-end boutiques in Texas. On top of all those creative genes, he's a shrewd businessman and a brilliant marketer, and our hats go off to him (in hopes that he'll offer us a haircut).

BEST-KEPT SECRET

Leon de Magistris of Leon and Co.

84 Leonard St., Belmont, 617-484-4777,
www.leonandco.com

Far from the madding crowds of Newbury Street (and in Belmont Center, no less!), this princely Italian does portrait-worthy cuts. If your roots have you in a rut or your style is sadly reminiscent of the '70s, he can resurrect your lackluster locks with the skill of a surgeon and the charm of Casanova. Internationally acclaimed, he's worked with labels such as Escada, Ferragamo and Oscar de la Renta, tended to the tresses of models and celebrities and even has his own line of outstanding hair care products. His staff is a group of equally talented Newbury Street ex-pats, and his establishment has all the pizzazz of a downtown salon. Best of all, the suburban location means you won't have to run outside with your head wrapped in tinfoil to feed quarters into the parking meter. Worth a trip to Belmont even if you live in the city.

COSMETICS DEPARTMENT

Filene's

Downtown Crossing, 426 Washington St., Boston, 617-357-2100;
CambridgeSide Galleria, Cambridge, 617-621-3800;
75 Leonard St., Belmont, 617-484-3800;
The Mall at Chestnut Hill, 225 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill, 617-965-3800; www.filenes.com

A visit to a department store cosmetics counter can be like a scene from a nature show. You (the prey) quietly try to do your thing at the watering hole, while all manner of predators (the salespeople) try to sell you anything tubed or tubbed in the name of "you'll love it," and herds of other grazers push and jostle you. Not at Filene's, though. At its spacious, well-laid-out cosmetics departments, shoppers can peruse the wares at a languid pace. The lines offered at each store vary, but what you can't find at one (no Stila, Shiseido or Clarins at Belmont) you can find at another (Downtown Crossing has all of those in ample qualities). Unobtrusive reps for lines like Clinique, Chanel, Lancôme and Shiseido maintain a poised, "I'm here if you need me" demeanor. The selection is staggering, the lighting is flattering and the overall experience is pleasant, making it more likely that the lipstick color you leave with will be one you stick with for a long time.

CREATIVE STYLING

Patrick McGinley at Vidal Sassoon

14 Newbury St., Boston, 617-536-5496,
www.vidalsassoon.com

Remember those old TV ads in which Vidal Sassoon breathlessly enthused about "a maaaahvelous cut"? The Boston salon that bears Sassoon's name is still true to his word, especially in the person of 17-year veteran Patrick McGinley, the salon's creative director. Like an encounter with Warren Beatty in *Shampoo*, each appointment with him is an exercise in seduction, except that rather than coaxing his clients into bed, he coaxes the most imaginative and flattering look from their hair. Frequent forays to London keep him ahead of the stylistic curve, and his knack for eliminating excess helps him straddle that fine line between an outstanding cut and an outrageous one.

DAY SPA

Giuliano

338 Newbury St., Boston, 617-262-2220,
www.giulianodayspa.com

These days, it seems like every salon that offers anything more than haircuts slaps the word "spa" on the end of its name. Pretenders, take note: Giuliano is the genuine article. From tanning to mudwraps, facials to massage, it offers a smorgasbord of pampering treatments to soothe even the most tightly wound soul, with packages designed for bridal parties, couples or anyone who wants to feel fussed over like a human poodle. The able hands of 60 professionals help clients shed layer after layer of stress. You can choose a soft-pack treatment and be cocooned in warm towels on a pressure-free cushion pumped full of heated water while your tight muscles are kneaded into submission, or go for a Vichy treatment and feel the penetrating power of six shower heads washing away your cares while a masseur works his magic. Couples can rejuvenate together in the Rasul Room, a private Mediterranean-style suite (complete with a steam cham and a ceiling that replicates a starlit night sky) wh they are slathered with six different types of mud. may feel grumpy and frumpy walking in the door, you'll leave feeling blissed-out and beautiful.

ETHNIC HAIR CARE

Olive's Salon and Day Spa

1198 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill, 617-734-3944,
www.olivestextures.com

When women of color want to look fabulous, th head west on Route 9 to visit the fairy godmothe ethnic hairstylists, Olive Lee Benson. When it co to cosseting the tightest curls or softening the co est coiffure, this salon is tops, and it's the best sou in Boston for hair relaxation and conditioning. most salons, getting your hair relaxed is anything a relaxing experience. Here, though, it verges on sublime. Olive's expertise is so well-known that salon offers in-store training on techniques and pr ucts (like those in Olive's recently launched li Universal Textures), as well as seminars on subje like texture analysis. The gurus at Olive's are also perb stylists, crafting gorgeous, elegant updos that sure to stop any show. Sisters tired of having th hair treated like a white chick's should hightail i Chestnut Hill and check out Olive's.

EYEBROW SHAPING

Renee Christopher for Maksou Salon and Sp

125 Broad St., Boston, 617-443-8633, www.maksou.co

If the eyes are the window to the soul, the brows the window treatment. And like the curtains i well-decorated room, they require occasional c and upkeep. Renee Christopher, who heads up spa at this renowned downtown salon, has attai the highest level of certification for makeup art and is a master at shaping and refining eyebrow that they flatter the face. Impervious to trends (n people look silly with pencil-thin brows), she ex at determining the correct arch for each individu facial structure. The rest of you doesn't look exa like everyone else. Why should your eyebrows?

HAIR COLORIST

Seth Selman at James Joseph Salon

30 Newbury St., Boston, 617-266-7222,
www.jamesjosephsalon.com

Last year we named him best colorist, and then *Al* magazine named him Boston's best new hairsty Looks like this kid is going to have to build himse trophy room. He's been asked to style hair for local shows like PAX's *The Industry* as well as national sh like TLC's *A Makeover Story*. He's also the mane r for countless fashion shows, including Oscar d Renta's Boston runway presentation and Cathe Malandrino's New York City Fashion Week show Bumble & Bumble–trained expert at giving his cli either a natural or a daring look, he can match y hair to your skin tone so perfectly that your mother wouldn't know it wasn't natural, or he can your mop a garish green without making it look you used Kool-Aid. Puckish and perfectly charm Selman's already at the top of his game.



BLONDE-MAKER

Jennifer Fontana at Salon Fontana

Sports Club L.A., 4 Avery St., Boston, 617-375-8510, www.salonfontana.com

here are those who believe that there's no such ing as too blonde, and others who opt for a more btle, someone-in-my-family-was-from-Norway ok. Whether you want to resemble Jean Harlow or ene Tierney, Jennifer Fontana (who runs the salon side the Sports Club L.A. with her husband, Scott, d brother-in-law Richard) has just the right touch. ffering everything from full color to a light gloss, she n rescue brunettes from the boredom of brown, nish brassy streaks from platinum tresses, douse rkening roots with a kiss of honeyed gold, or cor- ct the frosty fakes of a badly highlighted do. If ondes really do have more fun, a lot of them have r to thank for it.

LEG AND BIKINI WAX

Karen Golden at Salon Pepe Leyva

957 Comm. Ave, Boston, 617-254-7577, www.salonpepe.com

Besides root canal, cleaning the toilet, and paying taxes, we can think of few more odious activities than having unwanted hair ripped from your skin, but the medieval torture that is a leg and bikini wax is mitigated by the tenderness and expertise of Karen Golden at this clean, serene salon. Her years of experience and innate skill, combined with the bedside manner of Florence Nightingale, make the experience not just relatively painless but—dare we say it?—almost pleasant. Even better, her rates are competitive ($18–$25 for bikini; $60 and up for the full leg). If you're going to suffer for vanity, you might as well minimize the pain and expense.

MAKEUP ARTIST

Jenny Brown for Stila at Filene's

426 Washington St., Boston, 617-357-2100, www.filenes.com

Some people are naturals at their profession, and Jenny Brown is one of them. In fact, it's easy to imagine her as a little girl, playing with lipstick and blush and instinctively fixing up her face flawlessly. A graduate of Massachusetts College of Art, which explains her subtle and unerring feel for color, balance and composition, Brown has worked as a makeup artist at salons and for several product lines, and her handiwork has appeared in numerous photo shoots, music videos, TV shows and films. She brings all that expertise to bear with each of her clients, and any woman who wants a fresh new look will leave her chair looking natural yet radiant. Whether you want to tweak your existing regime or are looking

for a whole new you, she knows how to do it gracefully and tastefully.

MANICURE

Donna Charloff for Beaucage Salon

71 Newbury St., Boston, 617-437-7171, www.beaucage.com

There's a huge waiting list to see her, but while most women (and men) don't plan too far ahead for a manicure, it's worth the effort for the attention of this 10-plus year veteran with a long list of high-profile and demi-celebrity clients. A Caravaggio for your claws, she's a serious artist who never rushes a job. Her loyal following includes both men and women who praise her unfailingly sweet personality in addition to her skill. Her specialty is shaping natural nails, but she does the occasional silk nail wrap. Book well in advance, and prepare to feel like a hand model after you see her.

MASSAGE

The staff at Étant

524 Tremont St., Boston, 617-423-5040, www.etant.com

Everyone has a favorite Beatle or cast member from *Sex in the City*, but you can still recognize the brilliance of the whole ensemble, which is what this award is about. Each member of the staff at this South End day spa is utterly devoted to your well-being, and together they represent the full range of massage options. For sore, tight bodies there's deep tissue and sports massage, focusing on specific muscle groups. Clients wanting a total mind and body experience have the option of integrative massage (which heightens body awareness), massage for energy balance, Swedish aromatherapy, and stretching for body alignment. For extra attention, choose the four-handed massage and get two masseurs to work out your kinks. Reiki, acupuncture and reflexology are also available. A sanctuary for those in need of some laying on of hands.

MIRACLE WORKER

Dean Boudreau at Beaucage Salon

71 Newbury St., Boston, 617-437-7171, www.beaucage.com

Relationships can become predictable, and the new, flashy hair salon down the street is sometimes too tempting. Even those of us who would never be unfaithful to a lover have made the unforgivable mistake of cheating on our hair stylist, often with tragic results. For those times when the new cut or color is so atrocious you can't even bear to go slinking back to your stylist, there's one man to turn to: Beaucage owner Dean Boudreau. Operating on the optimistic principle that even the worst cut can become something beautiful, Dean's never seen a disaster he couldn't fix. With the soothing manner of a pediatrician and the tact of a diplomat, he'll have you looking fabulous again in no time. Just don't ask him to participate as you verbally dismember the stylist who inflicted the damage. He's too much of a class act to diss the competition.

ONE-STOP SPORTS CLUB

Boston Athletic Club

653 Summer St., Boston, 617-269-4300,
www.bostonathleticclub.com

If you've sworn to improve your physical shape, join the Boston Athletic Club and your promise stands a chance of becoming a reality. Originally founded in 1973 as a tennis club, today it offers basketball, racquetball, handball and squash as well as tennis. In addition, there's a pool and a cardio center equipped with exercise machines, weights, and areas with mats for stretching. Every day, group exercise classes are offered, from the classic to the cutting-edge. Like working up a sweat while getting limber? Try Baptiste power yoga. Looking for a way to spice up that same-old



MEN'S HAIRCUT

Michael Rossi for Avanti Salon

11 Newbury St., Boston, 617-267-4027, www.avantiboston.com

Clothes may make the man, but a bad haircut can undo even the best outfit. If you doubt this, just look at George Cloone now, as opposed to when he had a recurring role on *The Facts of Life*. A visit to one of Newbury Street's most gifted sty ists is just what the doctor ordered for any guy. Rather than fobbing off the newest haircut trend on every client, Ros knows what length and style will suit each individual's face and hair type. Whether you're trying to grow out an ill-advise buzz cut or contemplating chopping off your Samson-like locks, Rossi can ease the process with interim trims. His sk with the scissors is surpassed only by his winning personality, and between all the jokes and flattery, you'll leave feeling great as you look.



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136 Nahatan Street, Norwood
1921 Centre Street, West Roxbury
647 VFW Parkway, West Roxbury
27-43 Main Street, Watertown
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8 Washington Street, North Attleboro
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197 Boston Turnpike, Shrewsbury
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weights workout? Take the class combining free weights and jumping rope. The only thing the club lacks is a pretentious attitude. Any person who joins will feel comfortable and accepted whatever their athletic ability. The staff is friendly and the atmosphere is surprisingly laid-back. The experience at this gym is hassle-free, so no excuses are needed to avoid it. Joining may turn you into one of those people who swear they enjoy running.

PEDICURE

My Nail Salon

261 West Newton St., Boston, 617-236-1440;
669 Tremont St., Boston, 617-424-6261

It's always a good idea to go to the nail salon that other manicurists use. Whether you dinged your polish during last night's Frisbee game or you need a killer new pink for that big wedding on Nantucket, we recommend these little shops, one of which is conveniently located behind the Prudential Center across Huntington Avenue (the perfect place to soothe your soles after a shopping marathon). They accept walk-ins, and the wait is never discouraging. The pedicurists are fast and efficient and their handiwork flawless and long-lasting. There's no need to shudder at the sight of your feet after sliding into a cute new pair of sandals or open-toed shoes. There's also no reason to pay an arm and a leg to have the job done right. My Nails Salon is the answer to both problems.

QUICKIE HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights Salon

286 Newbury St., Boston, 617-247-8200,
www.highlightssalon.com

Summer in New England whizzes by way too fast, and with all those weekends on the Vineyard and rooftop barbeques, it's easy to put hair appointments aside and let the sun do the work. Bad idea. After a few weeks of this negligent hair care, you'll notice things looking a bit tatty. If you're desperate for a bit of color but can't get an appointment with your stylist or don't trust a coloring kit from the pharmacy, your best bet is this salon, which accepts walk-ins for touch-ups and partial and full foils. Any of the colorists will see you on short notice, and all of them are reliable. Being proud of your roots is one thing. Making everyone else look at them is another.

SALON CHAIN

Lord's and Lady's Salons

One Lord's and Lady's Way, Boston, 877-323-4700;
CambridgeSide Galleria, Cambridge, 617-577-0022;
other locations; www.lordsandladys.com

In the salon world, cloning can be the kiss of death; most attempts to franchise a good thing lead to cookie-cutter outposts wreaking havoc on the exacting standards and high quality of the original. Lord's and Lady's is the rare exception. Operating like a well-oiled machine, the chain demands that all branches meet its sky-high expectations. Another perk is price control, due to economies of scale. With locations throughout eastern Massachusetts, there's one nearby no matter where you experience your hair emergency, but the flagship shop right here in Boston is the equal of any snooty Newbury Street salon.



FACIAL

Daniela Browning at G Spa

35 Newbury St., Boston, 617-267-4772, www.grettastyle.com

Browning is a skilled aesthetician who serves as director of this swanky and supremely soothing day spa. All of G Spa's services are exceptional, but we've singled out Browning's facial because we've yet to find her equal in Boston. Her secret is a delicate balance of thorough cleaning, exfoliation and appropriate moisturizing, which she expertly gauges by analyzing each client's skin. Unlike many of her peers, she's not pushing a product line, although some of her favorites include Peter Thomas Roth's Oxygen Mist, Sonya Dakar's Cellular Path Crème, and June Jacobs' Papaya Enzyme. But perhaps our favorite thing about her is that her clients don't leave looking like raw hamburger meat. She's so skilled, they look fresh and visibly improved, without all the puffiness and irritation.

STYLIST TO MAKE YOU LOOK LIKE A SUPERMODEL

Mitch Derosa at Mitchell John Salon

67 Broad St., Boston, 617-951-0122, www.mjsalon.com

Plenty of people know that Mitch Derosa is one of Boston's most skilled and experienced stylists. What they probably don't know is that he's traveled to work at New York fashion shows, that he did the hair for 15 runway presentations this past season (including Betsey Johnson and Heatherette), or that he's done hair for magazines like *Bazaar*, Italian *Vogue* and German *Elle*. But what might surprise them the most is that someone this talented and plugged in to the fashion industry could also be modest. Well, now we've let the cat out of the bag. Whether you have a special event where it's imperative that you resemble Amber or Giselle, or you're simply in the mood to look super-glamorous, make an appointment to see him. He'll give you that cutting-edge style that will have your friends wondering who the new man in your life is, and asking whether you've lost weight or that outfit is new.

TEETH WHITENING

Brite Smile

75 Newbury St., Boston, 617-867-9500,
www.britesmile.com

Anyone who's tried those over-the counter tooth whitening gels or strip knows how idiotic they make you fee and no one wants to give up coffee for brilliant smile. The best solution is th clean and clinical Newbury Street tooth whitening salon. For $600, after 90 min utes of awkwardness you'll be flashing grin to rival any game-show host, excep that yours won't look like a mouthful Chiclets. Your teeth will look dazzling ye natural, and you'll have reason to smile even on the most exasperating days.

WELLNESS WITH STYLE

The Sports Club/LA

4 Avery St., Boston, 617-375-8200,
www.thesportsclubla.com

While most gyms resemble nothing s much as coal mines—dark, dank, smell and full of straining, red-faced peopl making unflattering faces—the Sport Club/LA is a marble, glass and meta monument to looking good and feelin good. The facilities are top-flight—from Junior Olympic–size swimming pool, bas ketball and squash courts, Pilates, Re (Sports Club/LA's version of spinning and boxing studios to outstanding grou exercise programs and an exercise floo that combines all the latest and be equipment for both weight training an cardio. Then there are the amenities— plush locker rooms staffed by friendly an helpful concierges, validated parking, dry-cleaner—not to mention the anci lary perks. Salon Fontana and Splash, day spa, offer the full gamut of pamperin and beauty treatments, while Blu, the su perb restaurant perched 100 feet abov street level with a panoramic view Downtown Crossing, is worth a trip by i self. Everyone who joins agrees on thre things: This place becomes a major drain on their tim but they look better and love every minute of it.

WOMEN'S HAIRCUT

Charles Maksou at Maksou Salon and Day Spa

125 Broad St., Boston, 617-443-8633,
www.maksou.com

We wonder when this guy sleeps. The owner of one of th city's busiest salons, Maksou recently launched his ow eponymous product line, and he's continuously involve in runway shows and photo shoots. Amazingly, he sti finds time to keep his clients looking fantastic with th dry-cut technique he learned from legendary New Yo stylist John Sahag. Once you go dry, you'll never go bac Individual hair strands are trimmed, instead of large w clumps, so you'll see your haircut taking shape befo your eyes, rather than waiting anxiously for the blow-d to be finished. The result is a cut that works with yo hair's natural shape and movement and requires very li tle styling. It blends, with no crazy angles or rigid layer and grows out flawlessly. Many stylists try to emulate th dry cut, but in Boston, there's only one master. And tha Charles Maksou. ⊶



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AFFORDABLE HANDBAGS

Banana Republic

Multiple Boston locations, www.bananarepublic.com

A purveyor of fad safari T-shirts in the '80s, Banana Republic has grown into a well-respected high-end fashion outlet, combining quality clothes with moderate pricing. Its contemporary take on the classics is on the safe edge of fashion but unmistakably stylish, making Banana Republic a good place to fill in those gaps in your wardrobe. And handbags are one of its special strengths. While fashion victims put themselves on waiting lists for the latest by some Japanese cartoonist, or shell out mad moolah for a replica of Princess Grace's favorite purse, at Banana Republic the savvy woman can find a flirty, flowered shoulder bag to accent that cute little sundress, or a clutch to go with her couture evening gown. The store carries handbags in every size and shape, from satchels fit for toting files to the office to clutches just big enough for a cell phone and lipstick. It's comforting to know you don't always have to invest a month's rent for the perfect purse to complement an already gorgeous outfit.

DEPARTMENT STORE

Neiman Marcus

Copley Place, 100 Huntington Ave., Boston, 617-536-3660, www.neimanmarcus.com

A synonym for luxury retailing, Neiman Marcus is a monument to Texas-style consumerism, which states that it's not worth owning unless it's the very best. Obviously, the goods are top-notch—from the makeup counter to the men's department to the fur salon—but the act of shopping here is equally sumptuous, with its marble floors, spacious dressing rooms and staff that's as helpful and unobtrusive as a trusted butler. Mothers can head to the St. John suits while daughters try on Juicy jeans and dads have their Brioni suits tailored. Seasonal sales put Neiman's wares within reach for every income bracket, and a separate entrance from Copley Place's tempting distractions makes one-stop shopping speedy and efficient. From a housewarming gift for your most discerning friend to a compact umbrella for that weekend trip to London, Neiman Marcus has everything you need to live high on the hog.

HIDDEN GEM

Christina DeFalco

383 Hanover St., Boston, 617-523-8870, www.christinadefalco.com

Nestled among the doors of the busy cafés on Hanover Street is the nondescript entrance to Christina DeFalco's North End boutique. Hardwood floors and exposed brick walls provide the setting for whimsical, unusual designs. Baby T-shirts emblazoned with retro divas like Jackie O and Marilyn Monroe are spiced with tiny Swarovski crystal detailing. This season's trendy tiered skirt is amped up with embroidery and shocking hues of pink and green, while pearlized leather slickers put the boring beige trench coat to shame. Unusual artisanal jewelry that DeFalco scouts from Italian designers like Angela Caputi shares space with original items by Tarina Tarantino. And all of it would look fabulous with one of DeFalco's ruched slip dresses. Any woman interested in not looking like a clone owes it to herself to visit. Just don't say we didn't warn you when you find yourself spending your whole paycheck and then celebrating with a cannoli next door.

HIGH-END CLOTHING

Louis Boston

234 Berkeley St., Boston, 617-262-6100, www.louisboston.com

The ne plus ultra of Boston's luxury department stores, Louis doesn't merely sell stuff; it dispenses taste. The store's high-fashion but no-B.S. sensibility combines an eye for the new with a knowledge of the old, making it Boston's answer to such legendary retailers as London's Harvey Nichols and L.A.'s Fred Segal. Men's fashion (also found on the second floor) shares the third floor with Salon Mario Russo, a satellite salon of Newbury Street's hairstylist-to-the-stars (Duchess of York Sarah Ferguson and James Taylor are clients). The first floor features home goods including art, antiques and assorted knick-knackery and houses the restaurant L, which has become one of the hottest spots in the northeast since it reopened last fall under chef Pino Maffeo. Off-the-charts hipness in a Beaux Arts building that originally housed the New England Museum of Natural History, it's a slice of pure fabulous.

INTIMATE APPAREL

La Perla

250 Boylston St., Boston, 617-423-5709, www.laperla.com

There are several reasons a woman would spend north of $300 for a single item of underwear: 1. She's trying to seduce someone. 2. It's her wedding night. 3. She's addicted to the fine Italian undergarments this lingerie boutique sells. Since 1954, La Perla has spun diaphanous fantasies out of the highest-quality lace, silks and tulles. Unlike its crasser cousins (think Frederick's of Hollywood), the designs manage to be both perfectly ladylike and sizzlingly sexy. Exquisite details from La Perla, like 3-D embroidery and lace inlays, are handcrafted and qualify as wearable works of art. Yes, it's expensive, but it also brings new meaning to the phrase, "Let me slip into something more comfortable."

MEN'S DRESS SHIRTS

Thomas Pink

Copley Place, 100 Huntington Ave., Boston, 617-267-0447; 280 Washington St., Boston, 617-426-7859; www.thomaspink.com

A shirt by Thomas Pink is like a well-constructed bridge or a vintage Bordeaux: Math, science, precision and time all contribute to the final result. Sumptuous cottons in eye-popping hues fill the shelves of the bright and welcoming store, recalling the scene in *The Great Gatsby* when Jay creates a blizzard of multicolored shirts to impress Daisy. Shoppers don't need a Gatsby-size bank account, though. The goods are reasonably priced, and with designs appropriate for all body types and suitable for a professional, casual or slimmer look, a guy ca revitalize his entire wardrobe in one visit.

MEN'S MODERATELY PRICED CLOTHING

Sean

154 Newbury St., Boston, 617-399-3993, www.seanstore.com

Not to be confused with the similarly named '70 teen idol and *Tiger Beat* cover boy, Sean Cassidy re cently opened an outlet of his eponymous boutiqu on Boston's boulevard of style, following success i New York and California. The goods can best be de scribed as European fabrics fashioned with a classi French sensibility, meaning they'll withstand th fickle winds of passing trends. Better yet, the price are in the reasonable range, offering style-conscious Bostonians an excellent compromise between set tling for cookie-cutter fashions and blowing a bundl on a smart new wardrobe.

OUTLET SHOPPING

Wrentham Village Premium Outlets

1 Premium Outlets Blvd., Wrentham, 508-384-0600, www.premiumoutlets.com/wrentham

You love the bargains to be had at outlets, but yo hate the outlet-shopping experience: hordes of boor ish suburbanites wearing fanny-packs and grazing lik sheep along the aisles of messy, understaffed and dis organized stores. The answer is to drag your butt t the tiny hamlet of Wrentham. Adidas, Barney' BCBG, Brooks Brothers, Burberry, Calvin Klein, Et enne Aigner, IZOD, J. Crew, Kenneth Cole, Levi' Off 5th Saks Fifth Avenue Outlet, Puma, Theor Versace, Lacoste, Williams-Sonoma...whew! The li goes on and on. Shops stay open until 9 pm Monda through Saturday, so you'll have plenty of time to g there and give your credit cards a workout. A recer addition is a Journeys store selling funky footwea and a Coach store is due to open at the end of Jul The money you save will be well worth the cost of g and a 45-minute drive.

PLACE TO SPEND YOUR FORTUNE

Tiffany & Co.

Copley Place, 100 Huntington Ave., Boston, 617-353-022 Atrium Mall, 300 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill, 617-527-188 www.tiffany.com

Before the white satin ribbon is untied, any recipien of the signature Tiffany blue box knows that what inside is thoughtfully designed, beautifully crafte and made from the finest materials. Whether it's sterling silver picture frame, a ruby-and-diamon necklace or a guest book for the beach house in Nan tucket, everything from Tiffany's whispers good tast In fact, one woman we know claims she got marrie only so she could register at Tiffany's for china ar crystal stemwear. Generations of upper-crust babi have been welcomed with a monogrammed ratt from Tiffany's, while many a marital rough spot h been smoothed over with a pair of Tiffany's cuff lin or platinum and diamond earrings. Not that one ne spend a fortune—like any good luxury retailer, it se affordable little whatnots, which, when packaged that unmistakable robin's-egg blue, somehow acqui an air of rarity.



INDULGENCE

Wolford

Copley Place, 100 Huntington Ave., Boston, 617-875-4550; the Mall at Chestnut Hill, 99 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill, 617-527-0638; www.wolford.com

Known for pricey (but worth it) stockings in every color and texture, this upscale boutique carries a carefully edited collection of items—from halter tops to leggings—that rely on materials like Lycra and spandex for their killer fit. Body-conscious tops in geometric prints and sexy styles are versatile enough for a day in the boardroom or an evening in the ballroom. The slimming silhouettes will add a dash of sex appeal to any woman's wardrobe, and men will be pleasantly surprised to find socks fit for a king. Yes, it's expensive. But aren't you worth it?

SHOES

Saks Fifth Avenue

The Shops at Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston, 617-262-8500, www.saksfifthavenue.com

Amid life's dramas, nothing can soothe the savage soul (or soles) like a new pair of shoes, and no place does it with quite the style of the shoe salon at Saks Fifth Avenue. After Carrie Bradshaw waxed philosophical about their mystical ability to make magic on *Sex and the City*, "Manolos" became every woman's addiction, and Saks is one of the few places in town to supply the fix. Every well-dressed man needs a classic pair of Gucci loafers to go with a cashmere crewneck or shorts and a Polo shirt. From Burberry plaid espadrilles to Ferragamo flats, Jimmy Choo stiletto pumps to Bruno Magli slip-on drivers, Saks carries the very best. And while many of the brands are stratospherically expensive, Saks also stocks less-costly designers like Cole Haan and Anne Klein. For anyone with a shoe fetish, this place is pure porn.

THRIFT STORE

Absolutely Fabulous

1309 Cambridge St., Cambridge, 617-864-0656, www.fabulousinc.com

The temptation with a good thrift store is to keep it a secret, so that all those great finds don't get found out by others. Not to worry with Absolutely Fabulous. Owner Mara Kustra Loeber is a genius at offering a consistently excellent collection of the unique and funky. Racks of vintage clothing, kitschy home furnishings, fun jewelry and quirky handbags, not to mention handcrafts by local artists, cram the store. An array of lighters, ashtrays and cigarette holders recalls the time when smoking wasn't such a frowned-upon habit. The place to go when you need something off the beaten fashion path or a one-of-a-kind gift. But let's keep it between us, shall we?

TRENDY AFFORDABLE

H&M

350 Washington St., Boston, 617-482-7001, www.hm.com

Since the Swedish retailer opened a branch here two years ago, style-savvy Bostonians have been unable to imagine life without H&M, which offers a healthy dose of retail therapy without serious side effects for the bank account. With stores in 20 countries (and a new store opening in Cambridge this fall), it's also become the default stop among globe-trotters who have left some crucial wardrobe item at home and don't want to drop a bundle on a temporary replacement. Each season brings a new and extensive collection of clothing that successfully knocks off the latest trends from pricier designer labels. A godsend for expectant mothers and growing children who want to stay fashionable but won't be staying the same size for long, it's an excellent place to outfit an entire family with up-to-the-minute fashions you won't feel guilty giving to Goodwill after a single season.

WATCH SELECTION

Alpha Omega Jewelers

1380 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 617-864-1227; The Shops at Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston, 617-424-9030; additional suburban locations; www.alphaomegajewelers.com

The flagship Harvard Square Alpha Omega store is worth a day's excursion, so staggering is the array of timepieces. Since 1978, the family-owned business has dealt in fine jewelry and watches, and today the flagship store's 6,000-plus square feet of showrooms verges on sensory overload. While the selection is dizzying, the helpful, knowledgeable sales staff is there to guide customers, offering a crash course in everything from the watch's inner workings to the wristband. Alpha Omega's hope is that your purchase will last a lifetime, although once you've shopped there, you'll be drawn back again and again. Whether you're in the market for a Rolex or a Swatch, they have exactly what you need.



FINE JEWELRY

Shreve, Crump & Low

330 Boylston St., Boston, 617-267-9100, www.shrevecrumpandlow.com

Established in 1796, Shreve, Crump & Low is an integral part of the city's landscape and an icon synonymous with rarit quality and taste. Long before "bling" became a part of our vocabulary, Shreve's was adorning the hands, wrists, nec and ears of the city's elite. After more than two centuries, the only thing that hasn't changed is the jeweler's high sta dards. Constantly updating its image to avoid being perceived as passé, the company recently completed a major inte nal overhaul of the flagship store on the corner of Boylston and Arlington, and it continually introduces hot new desig ers like Baccarat and Laura Gibson. Whether you're purchasing a ruby cocktail ring to fit in with the country club set a daring mesh necklace to decorate your décolletage, the fact that it's from Shreve's is all the proof you need that i the very finest.

WOMEN'S EUROPEAN STYLES

Gipore

176 Newbury St., Boston, 617-424-1500, www.gipore.com

Italian clothing, with its slim cuts and beautiful fabrics, is ever more popular in this country. That explains the inspiration behind Gipore. Iranian-born ov Homeira Carroll envisioned an ultra-chic boutique like anything Boston has ever seen, specializing in Italian designers who are well known in Milan throughout Europe but elicit a "Who?" in these p No matter. The clothing is beyond fabulous and wa the beaten fashion path, and Carroll's desire to cat customers (whom she invariably calls "baby" or " ling") means she'll even overhaul an item fre charge—removing or relocating pockets, altering houette—until it's exactly right for the wearer.

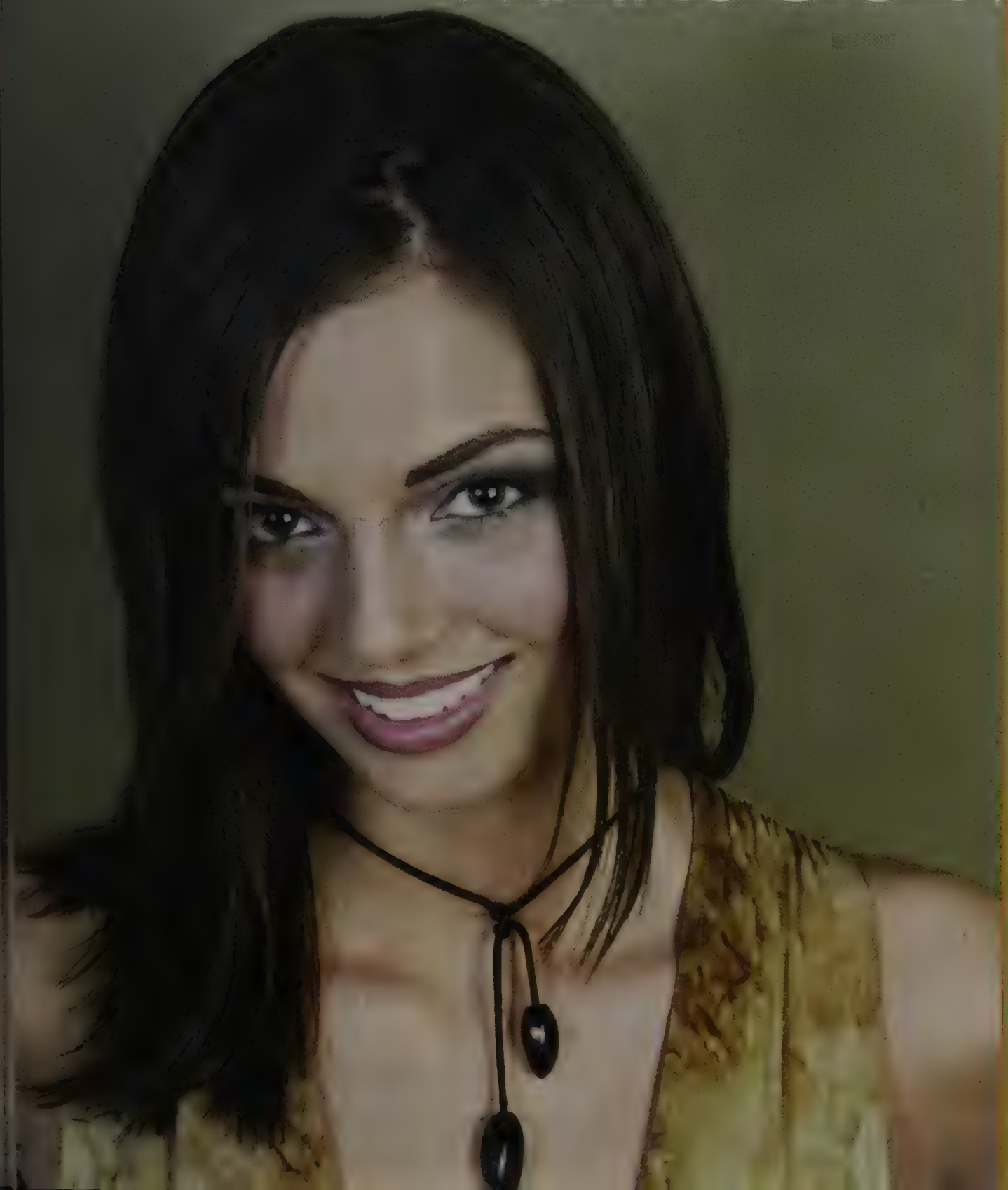
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over $300).

125 Broad Street
Boston, MA 02110
617.443.8633

fashion philosophy includes a large dose of pampering—a staffer brings shoppers an espresso or sparkling water, and Carroll herself schedules personal consultations. Simply walking through the door can make anyone feel like a fashion insider.

WOMEN'S MODERATELY PRICED CLOTHING

DKNY

37 Newbury St., Boston, 617-236-0476, www.dkny.com

Few designers tread that delicate line between au courant and slavishly trendy with the panache and affordability of Donna Karan, and the DKNY boutique on the east end of Newbury Street is a must for the fashion-savvy but budget-constrained. The first two floors are devoted to women's clothing—from jackets to miniskirts and everything in between, including handbags and shoes. The evolving selection sometimes means items sometimes go on the sale racks in the back while they're still in season, so the careful shopper can assemble an entire season's wardrobe without breaking the bank.

WOMEN'S PLUS-SIZE CLOTHING

Marina Rinaldi

296 Boylston St., Boston, 617-423-1221

Maybe your dryer really did shrink that load of clothes again, or maybe your figure has become a bit more, shall we say, robust. In the latter case, Marina Rinaldi has a vast selection of stylish clothing in flattering cuts and gorgeous fabrics. Proof that being somewhat Rubenesque doesn't mean you have to wear a muumuu, Marina Rinaldi specializes in comme il faut fashions and can outfit women from head-to-toe: The store also carries a limited selection of shoes for larger feet and accessories to complement a more substantial frame. Among full-figured fashion plates the world over, Marina Rinaldi has come to mean "queen-size chic."

WOMEN'S PREPPY ATTIRE

In the Pink

133 Newbury St., Boston, 617-536-6423

Pink and green. Balmy blue. Sunshine yellow. The colors and prints in this Newbury Street boutique whisk you to a Hobe Sound sunset or a clambake on the coast of Maine the moment you're lured through the d Filled from floor to ceiling with flirty sundresses flowered sandals that you'll drool over, the shop cializes in the smart but sassy look epitomized by l Pulitzer (of whom In the Pink is a signature store). broidered capris are perfect for tailgating with M Buffy and Biff, while terrycloth shorts and tops to c a wet bathing suit will outfit you for lazy days by country club pool. Accessories are a key componer the Waspy look, and In the Pink has a complete in tory of shoes, belts and jewelry to accompany the colors and busy fabrics. A bright grosgrain belt straw tote for sunglasses and sunscreen makes the fect hostess gift for the friend whose beach house y visiting. Linens and an extensive children's line preppies-in-training complete the picture. In shor the Pink is straight from the top drawer. ⊷



MEN'S SUITS

Ermenegildo Zegna

[illegible]

Most men would prefer to see a woman wearing nothing. Most women, on the other hand, would like nothing better than to see their man in a well-made suit. (OK, so they might rather see Brad Pitt in a well-made suit, but you get the point.) Since 1910, this Italian company has been creating the finest fabrics for men's clothing, and it's now run by the third generation of the Zegna family. The label carefully treads the fine line between fashion and classic tailoring and takes great care with the quality of its fabrics—the company monitors the pastures and livestock that supply their raw materials and has even devised a contest for all major wool-producing countries to provide the finest fleece. Zegna's newest collection, Z Zegna, is geared toward a younger customer with a more modest bank account, but the superb craftsmanship remains. While fashion victims and trend followers chase the latest silhouette, the truly well-dressed man shops at Zegna. (For the record, the correct pronunciation is "Er-men-a-JILL-doe Zenya.")



FASHION COMEBACK

Lacoste

The Shops at Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston

617-437-1081, www.lacoste-usa.com

In seventh grade, that little crocodile on your chest wa the only status symbol to sport, but by 10th grade it was sure sign of geekdom. After a dismal decline in popularit in the early '90s, Lacoste has emphatically regained fas ion credibility among the setters and followers of trend A preppy staple, the trademark shirt was popularized b tennis star René Lacoste, known as Le Croc, in th 1930s, and for decades it was a de rigueur part of ar gentleman's wardrobe. Today, the company is redefinir its look with a nod to a younger, urban audience. New stretch fabric in lollipop colors updates the classic Pol and you can leave the collar and buttons behind with ta tops and other casual sportswear, men's and women watches, outerwear and fragrance. The sleek new bou tique, which opened in March, means Bostonians can g crocodile hunting in the safety of the Prudential Cente and the newfound chic of this long-dormant brand mea you can proudly sport that faded old alligator shirt ys haven't worn since prep school.

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BRIDAL

BRIDAL FLORIST

Winston Flowers

569 Boylston St., Boston (and other locations),
617-541-1100, www.winstonflowers.com

If Winston Flowers shops were a movie star, they'd be Audrey Hepburn—exquisitely beautiful and flawlessly chic, even as she peddled daisies in *My Fair Lady*. Since 1944, Winston has excelled at combining classic design with the latest trends in floral arrangements. At any of its shops, cut flowers and decorative plants spill out onto the sidewalk, beckoning visitors into rustically elegant interiors that look like the sylvan setting for a fairy tale. A bride can browse the shops to gather ideas and then meet with one of Winston's master designers, who is guaranteed to infuse her wedding with a dose of magic. Yes, they're expensive. They're also worth it.

BRIDAL GOWNS

The Altered Bride

376 Boylston St., 2nd Floor, Boston, 617-859-8289,
www.alteredbride.com

The hunt for the dress you've always dreamed of is a once-in-a-lifetime proposition, and possibly even a matter of life and death. Thankfully, the quest is painless at the Altered Bride, which offers a unique line of exclusive styles to suit every taste. Its custom-design service lets you turn your fantasy into reality, whether you want beads or pearls, poofy or straight, a long train or fishtail. Accessories are given equal billing, and the wide range of tiaras, veils, hats, headpieces, gloves, shoes and purses is all-encompassing. Having relocated from Newbury Street to larger digs on Boylston, the shop offers more space for you and your bridal party and carries dresses for the mother of the bride, so the second most important woman won't feel left out. Appointments are preferable, and the store is open until 8 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays for women who want to avoid the Saturday crowds. Refreshingly honest and eager to please, owner Roseanna Martino and her assistants are like Cinderella's magical mice, fussing until the reflection in the mirror is the you-on-your-wedding-day that you always pictured. Reasonable prices and an in-house seamstress are the icing on the cake.

BRIDESMAIDS' GOWNS

Aria Bridesmaids

45 Newbury St., Suite 224, Boston, 617-425-0555,
www.ariadress.com

Terror, humiliation and discomfort are the three emotions most women feel when confronted with the prospect of selecting a bridesmaid's dress. Even when the array of styles is dizzying, they all seem to be a size 8, and if you're not a Stepford bride with Barbie bridesmaids, finding one dress to fit several distinctly shaped women presents a challenge…unless you shop at Aria. Here, where savvy brides and their attendants shop by appointment, the staff takes into account all the relevant factors—the women's figures and their budgets, not to mention the bride's vision. All dresses are custom-made, and the floor samples are available in a wide range of sizes. If Aria dresses your bridesmaids, you can rest assured there'll be no backstage bitching and moaning on the blessed day.

ENGAGEMENT RINGS

Barmakian Jewelers

333 Washington St., Jewelers Exchange, Boston,
617-227-3724;
496 Cochituate Road, Framingham, 508-872-5454;
www.barmakian.com

As Marilyn Monroe pointed out: "Square-cut or pear-shaped, those rocks don't lose their shape." So choosing the right ring is no laughing matter. So many facets to consider: cut, carats, clarity. Leave the idiot's guide to engagement rings at home and head to Barmakian. With 25,000 square feet of showrooms in three locations (the third is in Nashua, N.H.), you'll need the patience of Elizabeth Taylor to plow through their thousands of diamonds, but the helpful staff will guide yo
Barmakian has been one of New England's largest je
elers since 1910, a testament to the quality of its ston
and its unequaled customer service. Whether your bu
get allows for bling on the scale of the pink sparkler B
gave J.Lo or a more modest gem, Barmakian offe
unique settings and original designs along with hon
pricing and value that won't leave you paying the ri
off until your tykes are heading to college.

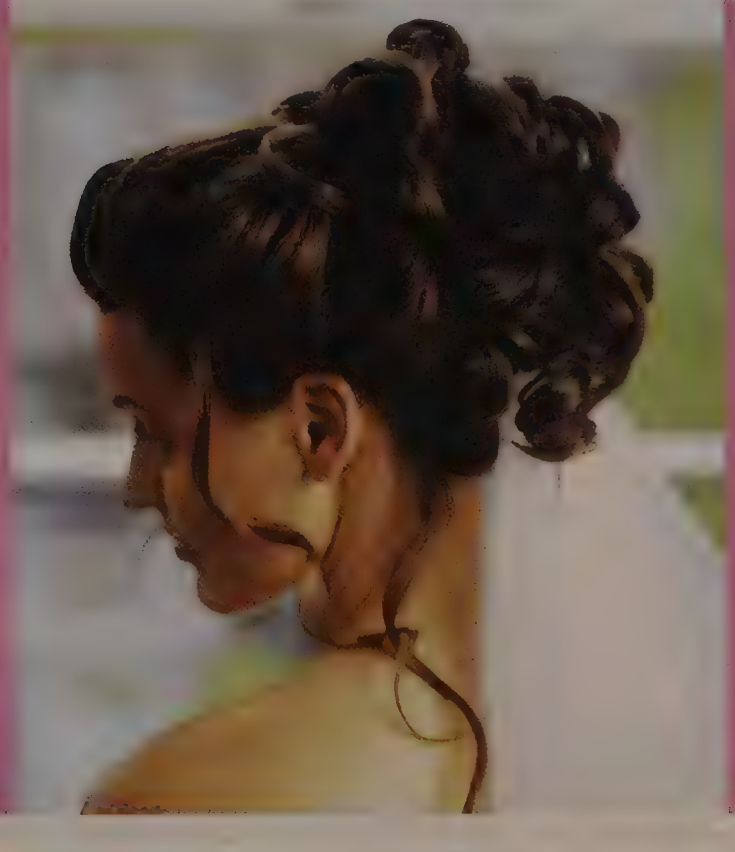


WEDDING CAKES

The Icing on the Cake

230 Adams St., Newton, 617-969-1830,
www.theicingonthecake.com

The months-long process of planning a wedding can be tedious, with all the niggling little details to iron out. Arguments over the guest list and where to go on the honeymoon are enough to send some couples to a drive-through chapel in Vegas. But at least one major decision—namely, dessert—is an easy one, thanks to the bakers at the Icing on the Cake. Compared with the time and effort these folks lavish on each of their specialized cakes, planning the wedding itself will seem like…well, a piece of cake. In one year, the Icing hand-cracks approximately 42,000 eggs and hand-shapes roughly 31,000 frosting roses. They do traditional flawlessly but stay up-to-date on current trends, and the time they take to meet with each couple results in exactly the ideal cake. An added incentive: Icing offers gift certificates for first-anniversary cakes.



UP DO

Janet Warner for Ecocentrix Salon

30 Newbury St., Boston, 617-262-2222,
www.ecocentrix.com

You'll be looking at the pictures for the rest of your life, so make sure you're not sporting a look that belongs on *I Love the '80s*. For such a singular occasion, in-the-know women leave their hair in the capable hands of Janet Warner. With more than 20 years' experience at the city's top salons, and training from Wella International and Sebastian, she's a genius at creating a sophisticated look that will highlight your natural beauty, so your wedding guests will remember you and not your hair. A consultation and trial appointment lessen the likelihood of being a damsel in distress on your wedding day, and while the spacious salon is conveniently located on Newbury Street, Warner will do location work for bridal parties of any size (for an additional fee). Be forewarned, though: She's one of Boston's Most Wanted, so schedule her services well in advance.

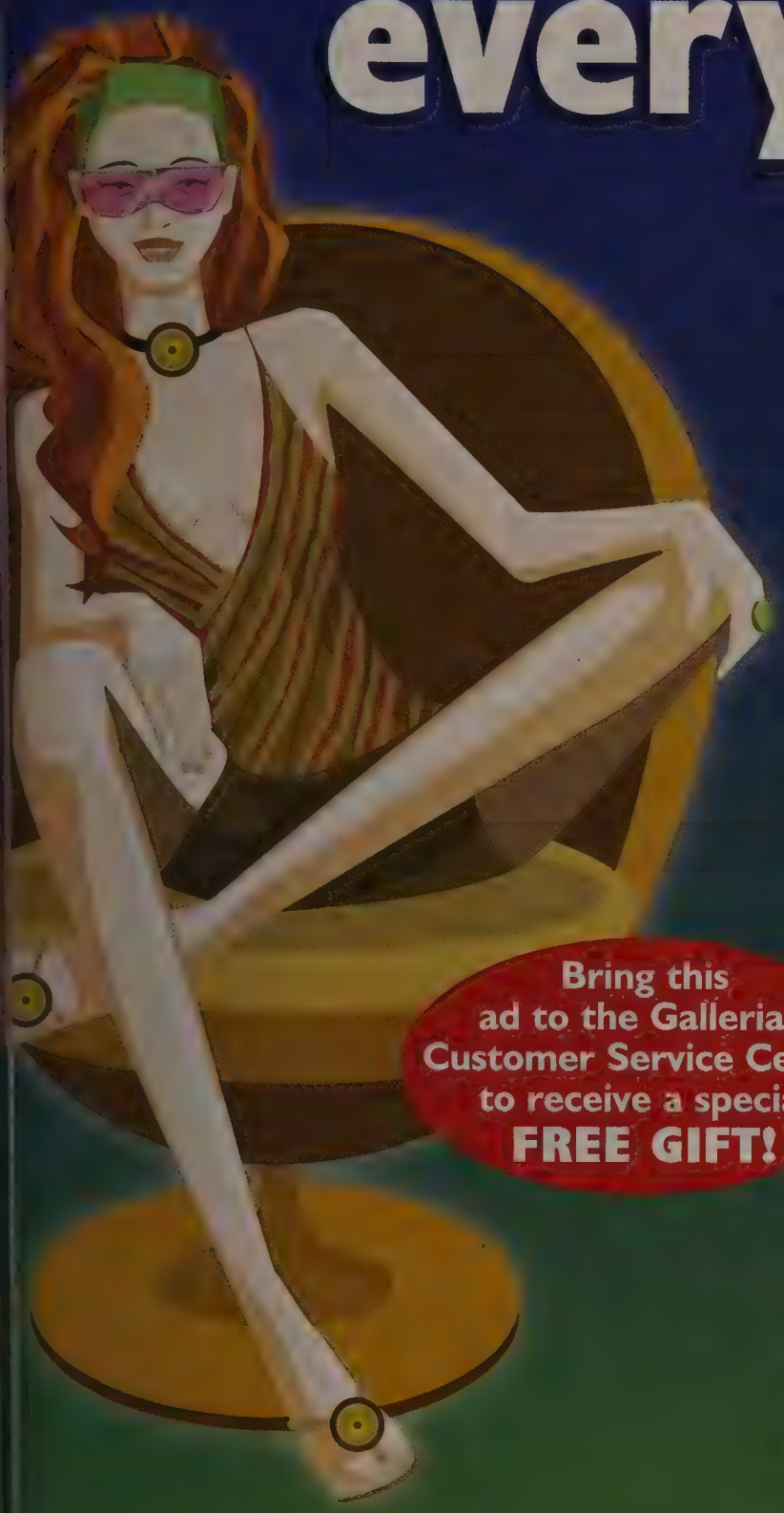
PLACE TO GET ENGAGED

Tangierino

83 Main St., Charlestown, 617-242-6009,
www.tangierino.com

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of your life should match the importance of the oc
sion, and the played-out, overpriced French pla
won't win you points for creativity. Instead, wh
your intended to Charlestown's charming cobbl
streets and an exotic evening at this Morocc
restaurant. Glimmering jewels dangling from sh
drapes separate the two dining rooms and the n
hookah lounge, while tiny votives cast an intima
glow over rich silks and private tents in the deep c
ors of North Africa. The exotic, heady aromas wa
ing from the kitchen add another dimension of sen
ality, and the delicious aphrodisiac of authen
Moroccan cuisine will ensure that the spice wo
end when the meal is over. Chef Samad Naam
makes an appetizer he calls "Casanova's foie gra
You get the picture. The staff and owner will gla
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whether or not she'll say "yes." IB

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Benetton
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Borders Books • Music • Café
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The Cheesecake Factory
EB Games
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Gap
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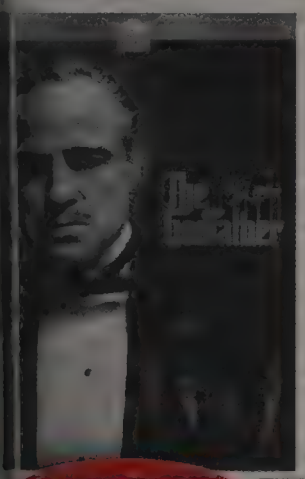
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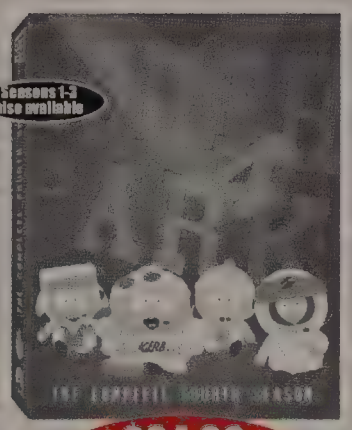


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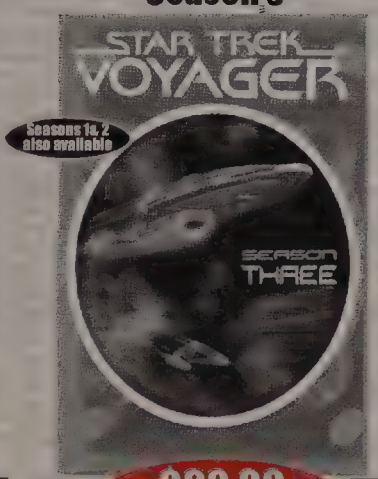


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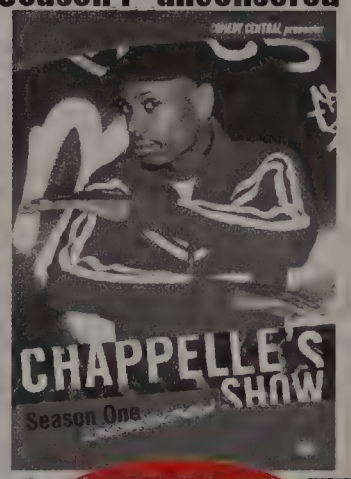
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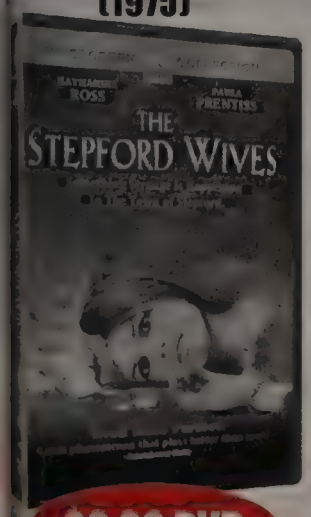


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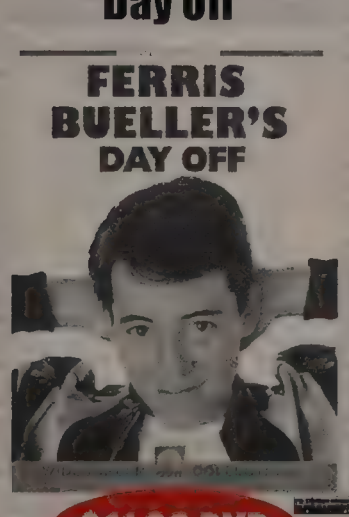
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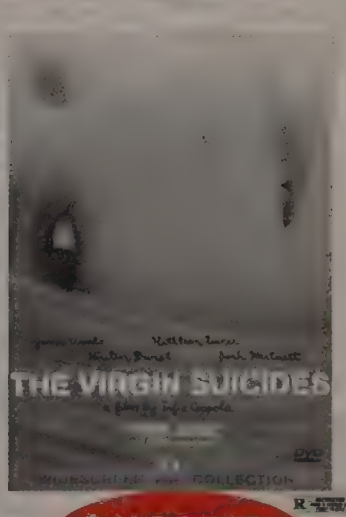
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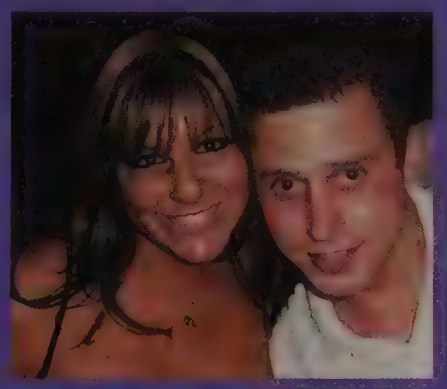
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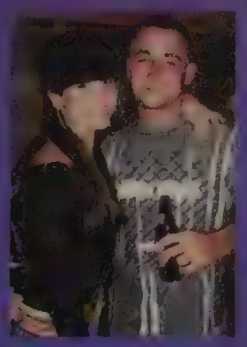




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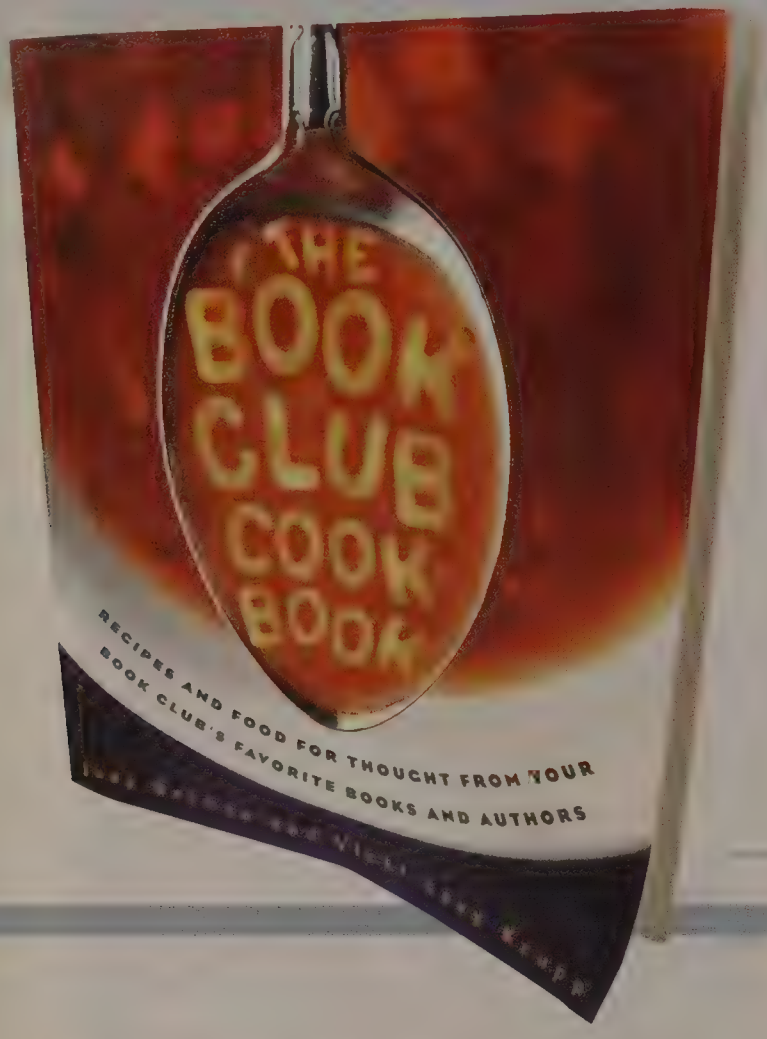


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BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



THE FRUIT AND MEAT OF THEIR LITERARY LABORS

***The Book Club Cookbook,* by Judy Gelman and Vicky Levy Krupp, includes more than 50 recipes and reviews inspired by books.**

The practice of bringing together culture and chat of all kinds in book clubs has become something of a phenomenon. These Oprah-offsprings rival cocktail parties for ubiquity—and you can drive home safely afterwards too. About 50 such clubs, in Boston and elsewhere, have contributed to this inspired volume. Each club contributes a description of their group and its particular spirit, a review of one book it has read, and a recipe inspired by the book. The Cambridge club the Daughters of Abraham, which was conceived after 9/11, brings together women of three faiths—Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Of the book *Reading Lolita in Tehran* and its associated food, *kolucheh yazdi* cake, club member Edie Howe writes, "I think the food stimulated people's taste buds and their spirits and brought us into the mood of going to the Middle East." The clubs range from the deeply brainy classics-reading kind to one called We Just Wanna Have Fun, and the recipes tend toward the exotic and aromatic. The book includes Indian foods (*Interpreter of Maladies* author Jhumpa Lahiri contributes a recipe for curried hard-boiled eggs); Greek (*tzatziki*, a cucumber and yogurt dip, is referenced in *Middlesex* by Jeffrey Eugenides), and Southern gooeys like peanut-butter pie from James McBride's *The Color of Water*. This book equally inspires you to read, cook, and chew over books and food.

PUFF THE MAGIC BUILDING

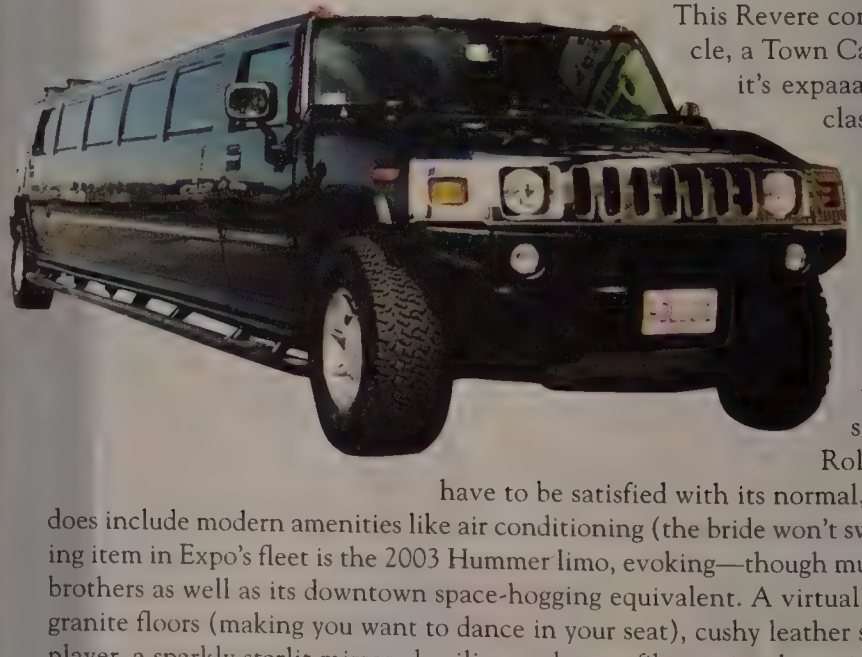
MIT's Ray and Maria Stata Center, at the corner of Vassar and Main streets in Cambridge, was designed by Frank Gehry and is the trippiest, most inventive building you'll see anywhere in the Boston area. Lobby open to the public weekdays only.



This is a building you won't want to skip—rather, you'll want to skip around it like a happy child. MIT's new Stata Center, designed by Frank Gehry, is a wobbly looking marvel; it could be the most crooked house in a children's book, playfully off-kilter. But no! Scientific geniuses toil within. Though you can't go to officeland, the vast downstairs area is open and surprisingly depopulated, leaving you free to roam. Each curving section of the lobby presents crazy new angles, and in some spots, sections of what look like parts of an upper floor seem to hang partway down. You look up through a glassy indoor roof to see the underside of a big, fat silvery structure, a pavilion nicknamed the Helmet that resembles an enormous, f wrapped sandwich. When you see it outside, its crazy-quilt shininess reflects the nearby brick bu ings, "askewing" them even more. As if the front (or the many tilting fronts) of the building wer amazing enough, there are more realms in the back. A curving, four-story amphitheater is dotted w comically supine people, their legs angled like the building. One visitor was heard to say, "I make l to this building."

PARTY ON WHEELS—LOTS OF THEM

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This Revere company started with one v cle, a Town Car, and like limos themsel it's expaaaanded. Now Expo offers classiest stretchies imaginab 2003 Mercedez-Benz ML with that familiar, regal horizontally enhanced tween the front and doors; a Jaguar S-Typ 2003 BMW X5; and of cc the good old Cadillac De' that always wanted to stru swank. If you rent the Rolls-Royce Silver Cloud, y have to be satisfied with its normal, unstretched size, althou does include modern amenities like air conditioning (the bride won't sweat). Perhaps the most ar ing item in Expo's fleet is the 2003 Hummer limo, evoking—though much more happily—its mil brothers as well as its downtown space-hogging equivalent. A virtual disco on wheels, this on granite floors (making you want to dance in your seat), cushy leather seating, flat-screen TVs, a player, a sparkly starlit mirrored ceiling and neon fiberoptics that mimic the party flavor of a ball. A Statue of Liberty holds your Champagne, and glass decanters await your BYO bourbon. eye-turner seats up to 24. Clubgoers can often get whisked past the line if they arrive, Expo-deliv in a gang. Chauffeurs are trained and uniformed, and the limodisiacs include VIP packages with grades. Sure beats driving and parking.

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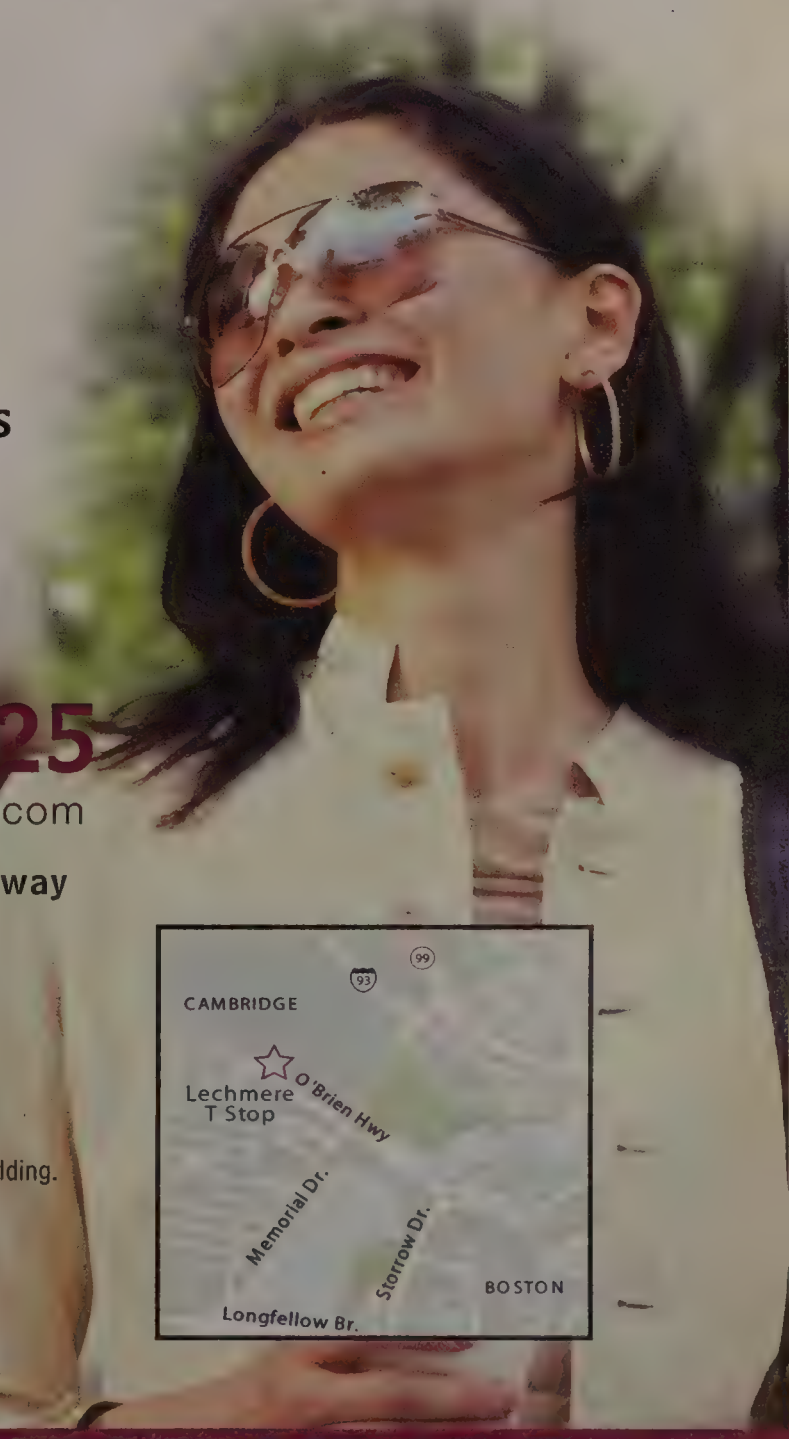
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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

BYPA Couples Dinner
Dillon's. 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-591-1400). www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Aug. 4, 6:30-9 pm. $100 per couple. The Boston Young Professionals Association hosts a three-course meal for young couples (ages 21-40).

Casual, Intimate Summer Cooking with Jody Adams
Rialto Restaurant at the Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge (617-661-5050). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. July 21, 6 pm. $40 per class. Chef **Jody Adams** prepares a seafood dish with ingredients from a local farmer's market. Guests sample the meal with wine and can take the recipe home.

European Summer Cheese Series: Spain and Portugal
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Aug. 3, 7 pm. $55. Chef **Frank McClelland** and fromager **Louis Risoli** present a four-course meal, pairing each course with a different wine. The final course is a tasting of cheeses from Spain and Portugal.

Fantasy Tea Party
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Every Sat. 2-4 pm. Prices vary. Chef **Frank McClelland** prepares snacks, like strawberry shortcakes and raspberry tartlets. Guests also sample tea.

The Fine Art of Cheese Tasting
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Aug. 9. 6-9 pm. $54 members, $58 nonmembers. Sample cheeses from around the world, like Montgomery cheddar, Emmi cave-ripened Gruyére and Jacquin chévre. Red and white wines accompany the samples.

Harvest Honey Review
Harvest, 44 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-868-2255). www.harvestcambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. July 28, 6 pm. $39. Chef **Eric Brennan**, pastry chef **Molly Hanson** and her father **Mark Hanson**, a part-time bee keeper, collaborate on a five-course, honey-themed dinner. Dishes include wild salmon in honey-poblano baste, and summer peach shortcake with a honey butter biscuit.

Hot off the Vine at 33: Wednesday Wine Tasting Series
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25 a person. Join chef **Joshua Botsford** each Wednesday night for a sampling of four wines paired with a complimentary food sampling. •July 21: Toscana, Italy.

An Italian Affair
UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. Aug. 4, 6:30 pm. $85. Enjoy Chianti and a classic Italian meal prepared by chefs **Susan Regis** and **Amanda Lydon** in the restaurant's Soirée Room.

Summer Cocktail Sampler
UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., C bridge (617-864-1933). MBTA: Red Line to vard Square. July 21, 6:30 pm. $35. Local tender **Lolly Mason** showcases some of favorite summer cocktails. The event also cludes a sampling of four small plates prep by chefs **Susan Regis** and **Amanda Lydon**.

Summer Cooking School at the Langham Hotel
The Langham Hotel, 250 Franklin St., Bo (617-451-1900). MBTA: Orange Line to S July 21, 6-8 pm. $100. Throughout the sum the Langham Hotel hosts a series of classe preparing favorite summer dishes. •July 21: Naughty North End.

Summertime Specialties from Legal Sea Foods
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Co Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. July 21, 6 9:30 pm. $61 members, $65 nonmemb **Richard Vellante**, Legal's executive chef, s what goes into the creation of Legal Sea Fo cuisine. Enjoy, among other things, Cape clams and Baltimore-style crab cakes.

Taste of Cambridge
Technology Square, corner of Main and Al streets, Cambridge (617-349-4339) www.ta cambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 21, 5-8 pm. $25 in advance, $35 at the door. celebrate Cambridge's diverse array of res rants at this annual event. Chefs from 50 C bridge restaurants—including **Jasper Whit** Jasper White's Summer Shack, **Eric Brenna** Harvest and **Jody Adams** of Rialto—pro the food.

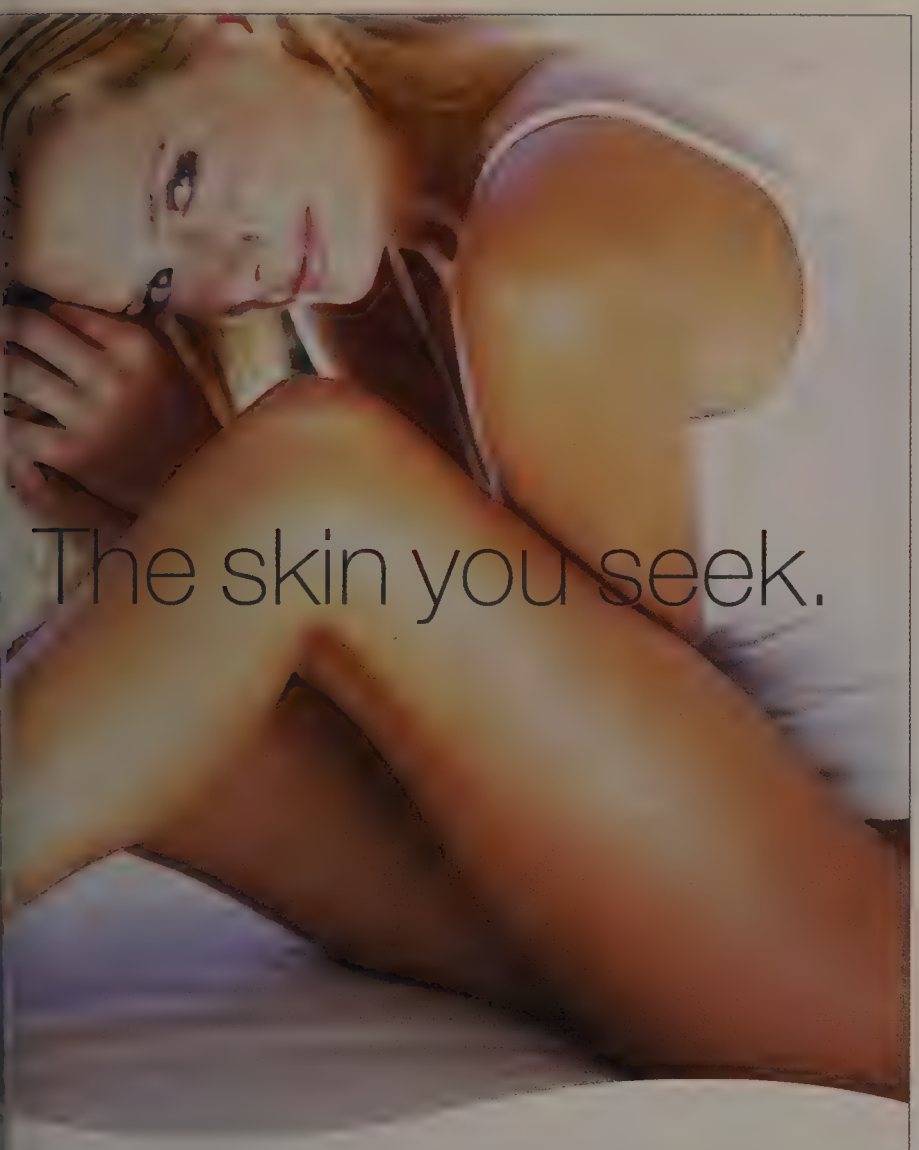
Tuesday Night Wine Club at Ariadn
344 Walnut St., Newton (617-332-46 www.ariadnerestaurant.com. MBTA: #59 b Newtonville. 6-8 pm. $25. Wine director **K leen Malloy** provides an assortment of son her favorite wines while guests sample appet from chef **Christos Tsardounis**.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617- 5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 pm. $25. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** disc various wines, while chef **Ian Just** pairs wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief c ing demonstrations. •July 27: Spanish wh •Aug. 3: Merlot. •Aug. 10: Australian whit

Wednesday Wine Tastings at Vina
Vinalia Restaurant, 34 Summer St., Boston (737-1777). MBTA: Orange Line to Down Crossing. Every Wednesday, 6 pm. $15. Join lia's wine professionals every Wednesday sampling of three different wines and an as ment of hors d'oeuvres.

Wine Departures Wine Tasting
Lingo Restaurant, 1 Education St., Cambridge (334-5678). www.winedepartures.com. ME Green Line to Science Park. July 21, 6-8 pm. The Wine Enthusiast, a source for wine t and events, presents this free, wine tasting w you can learn about the company's new catal tours through Napa, Sonoma and Europe.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617- 3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green L Hynes. 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Johnso** fers descriptions of the wines that comple the French–New England meal by chef **F McClelland**. •July 26: Rhone. •Aug. 2: tralia/New Zealand. •Aug. 9: Southern Fra



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DISH

Savona in Suburbia

Lorenzo's toil…Saying cheese… August eats

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX



Chefs Amanda Lydon of UpStairs on the Square, Pino Maffeo of Restaurant L, Jenny Cates of Bonfire and Gabriel Frasca of Spire are a few of the participants in Boston Restaurant Week.

If Clue were a restaurant board game, the winning answer would be **Lorenzo Savona**, in a suburban strip mall, with a deep-pocketed software entrepreneur. The popular wine guy, formerly opening partner of **Les Zygomates**, more recently wine director at **UpStairs on the Square**, and currently consulting all over the place, plans to open **Tomasso Trattoria/Enoteca** in Southboro in October.

"Finally, an Italian restaurant," Savona laughs. "I'm the project manager for the build-out, general manager and wine director when we open." But a strip mall in Southboro? "You've got to see it," he says. "It's a really well-done plaza [across from the town reservoir]." Although Savona originally wanted to open his own place in Boston, he found it was far easier to do business in the burbs. "Everybody is so excited here," he says. "In town, I was just another schmo. And the economy is better for a restaurant in the suburbs."

Speaking of economy, Tomasso's owner is **Tom Prince**, a retired forty-something restaurant enthusiast who invested in **Tony Ambrose**'s Blackfin with the stipulation that he be allowed to work both the front and back of the house in the Boston restaurant. "Tom will be on the floor with me," says Savona, working as part of the team.

Also on the team is "phenomenal" chef **Tony Bettencourt**, currently wrapping up a stint as executive sous chef at **UpStairs on the Square**. "He just *gets* what cooking is all about," enthuses Savona. "He cooks from his heart, he treats the staff well, he knows how to work." Most important, he knows how to realize the potential in the Tuscan-inspired six-course menu that includes "simple, straightforward" dishes such as homemade pastas and roast duck, features local produce and artisanal cheeses, and concludes with "very classic desserts—crostada, house-made panna cotta." Savona's wine program will be "carafe-based," with over 20 Italian wines available by the glass, and bottles from "all over the map." Savona promises a wine tasting every week, a wine dinner every six weeks or so, and a very reasonable price point: It will be possible, he says, to order a full six courses for under $50 per person.

Designed by architect **Sandra Fairbank**, the 120-seat Tomasso will serve lunch and dinner on weekdays, and dinn on weekend evenings. Savona is especial thrilled by a specifically suburban benef "I'm very excited about not worrying abo parking tickets," he says.

SECOND COURSE

Churn, churn, churn: At first, **Matt Ru biner**, formerly cheese buyer for **Fo maggio Kitchen**, thought he'd come u with the perfect name for a café he ar his wife, **Julie**, planned to open insi their cheese shop in Great Barringto But he changed his mind at the uniform negative response to "Curd." Now, th little eatery that will serve breakfast ar lunch in the back of **Rubiner's Chees mongers and Grocery** is called **Rubi'** Rubiner is excited about using the ca "as a showcase for the products in o store" and for local organic eggs, mea and produce. But he's wistful about th original nomenclature. "We still call Curd in the home," he says. Which on goes to prove, where there's a cur there's a whey.

Closer to home for most of us, it's time make your reservations for the fourth annu Boston Restaurant Week (call 888-73 2678 for information). From Aug. 23–2 more than 80 restaurants will offer thre course prix fixe lunches for $20.04 and di ners for $30.04. It's traditionally a slow tir of the year, but given the caliber of partic pating restaurants and the delightful barga price, it's a good idea to book early (a often), before the choice tables are gone. ■

Serving Dish

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			21 Sample gourmet fare from 50 local chefs at **Taste of Cambridge**. *See Tastings on page 120.*	**22** **Robert Pinsky** and **Jamaica Kincaid** read at Harvard Book Store. *See Books & Poetry on page 182.*	**23** 	**24** **Janeane Garofalo** is at Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 136.*
25  Former secretary of state **Madeline Albright** speaks at the JFK Library. *See Education on page 184.*	**26**	**27** **Josh Groban** gives a performance at the Tweeter Center. *See Music on page 152.* 	**28**	**29** 	**30** Funny man **Kevin Nealon** is at the Comedy Connection. *See Performing Arts on page 136.*	**31** **The Merchant of Venice** plays at the Publick Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 132.*
1 **Insight and Time Machine** peform at the Middle East. *See Music on page 156.*	**2**	**3** **The Muppets Take Manhattan** shows at the Brattle. *See Movies on page 142.*	**4** 	**5**	**6** 	**7** **Bill Cosby** performs at the South Shore Music Circus. *See Performing Arts on page 136.*
8 	**9** The Coolidge pays tribute to Marlon Brando with **The Wild One.** *See Movies on page 142.*	**10**	**11**			



WED.–SUN./THROUGH NOV. 28.

Museums & Galleries: Gods and Athletes

More than 2,700 years after the first Olympics, athleticism, guts and glory are still at the core of the games—like their ancient predecessors, modern-day Olympians compete in boxing, wrestling and, of course, track and field events. Lycra and Coolmax, however, have replaced full frontal nudity as standard athlete attire. While Greece gears up to bring the games back to their native land for the the first time in more than a century, the Museum of Fine Arts celebrates Olympic history old and new with its exhibition *Games for the Gods: The Greek Athlete and the Olympic Spirit*. Opening July 21, the show features Greek and Roman artifacts, including cups, bowls and coins (circa 500 B.C.) that depict Olympians and the games, as well as photographs by Herb Ritts and John Huet of modern athletes like Jackie Joyner-Kersee and Michael Johnson. *Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3448). www.mfa.org. $15, $13 students and seniors.*

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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SAT./JULY 24

Sports: Running with the Big Dogs

Imagine a race where beefy men lumber along a course, stopping at aid stations to guzzle beer and chow down on hot dogs. Sounds like something you'd see on Spike TV, but the Big Man Run is an annual tradition born in the streets of Somerville. Now in its ninth year, the Somerville Striders–sponsored event attracts close to 200 big-and-tall participants willing to relive their fraternity hazing days. In addition to enduring a 4.8-mile race, BMR runners are subjected to physical challenges that include consuming an eight-ounce beer and a hot dog (bun included, condiments optional) at three "aid" stations. A sometimes bikini-clad, always all-female volunteer crew conducts the prerace weigh-in (which divides the men into four weight classes, from 190 to 250-plus pounds) and briefs the runners on the BMR Creed: no puking, no cheating, and tipping is mandatory ($1 per runner per aid station). Curiously, the race begins promptly at 4:19 pm (hmmm, what extracurricular activity could that be a reference to?), and once they cross the finish line, all runners are invited to don a Hawaiian shirt and retire to Khoury's State Spa for food, booze and the tranquil sounds of Jimmy Buffett cover band the Electric Parrots. *Registration, 2–4:15 pm. $30. Khoury's State Spa, 118 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org.*



Company One presents *A Clockwork Orange* at the BCA.

JULY 22–AUG. 14

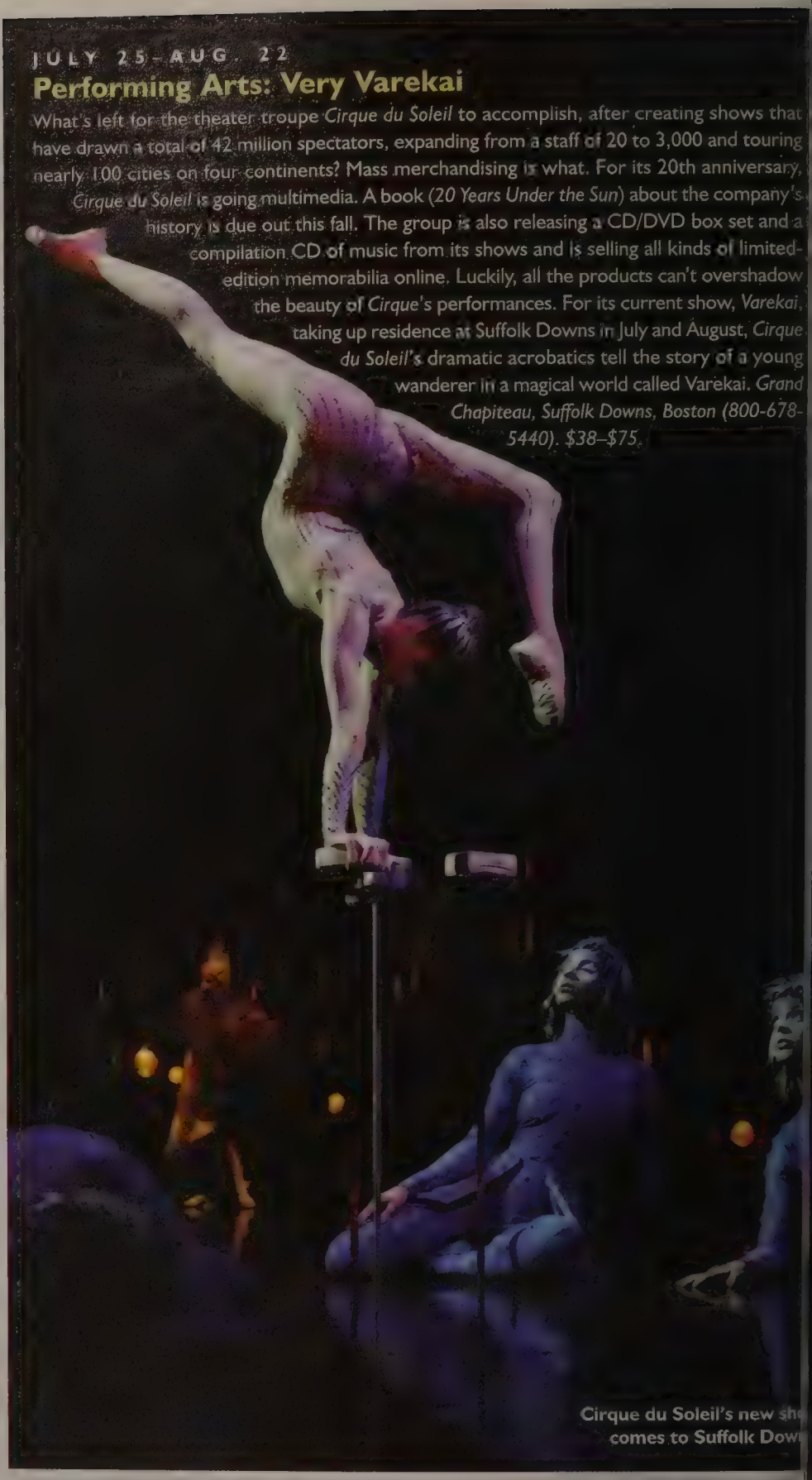
Performing Arts: Disturbing Drama

If you've seen Stanley Kubrick's 1971 film *A Clockwork Orange*, you probably can't imagine a more intense viewing experience. But Company One, one of Boston Center for the Arts' theater companies, is staging this ultra-violent story, making the tale of social depravity even more immediate for audiences. The theatrical production was adapted by Anthony Burgess (who wrote the futuristic 1962 novel on which Kubrick's movie was based) for London's Royal Shakespeare Company in 1990, and it's a combination of theater, film and rock and roll. (Company One's production has a new score written and performed by local punk-cabaret duo the Dresden Dolls.) For those who haven't seen the movie or read the book, the plot focuses on a disturbed young man and his gang who go on violent rampages. The play also includes the controversial ending that was cut from the original American edition of Burgess' book. *539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). $25, $15 students.*

JULY 25–AUG. 22

Performing Arts: Very Varekai

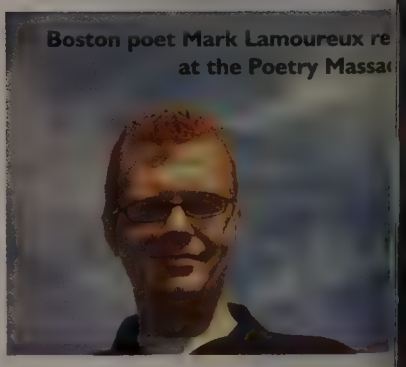
What's left for the theater troupe *Cirque du Soleil* to accomplish, after creating shows that have drawn a total of 42 million spectators, expanding from a staff of 20 to 3,000 and touring nearly 100 cities on four continents? Mass merchandising is what. For its 20th anniversary, *Cirque du Soleil* is going multimedia. A book (*20 Years Under the Sun*) about the company's history is due out this fall. The group is also releasing a CD/DVD box set and a compilation CD of music from its shows and is selling all kinds of limited-edition memorabilia online. Luckily, all the products can't overshadow the beauty of *Cirque*'s performances. For its current show, *Varekai*, taking up residence at Suffolk Downs in July and August, *Cirque du Soleil*'s dramatic acrobatics tell the story of a young wanderer in a magical world called Varekai. *Grand Chapiteau, Suffolk Downs, Boston (800-678-5440). $38–$75.*



Cirque du Soleil's new sh
comes to Suffolk Dow

FRI./JULY 30–AUG. 1

Books & Poetry: War of the Words



Boston poet Mark Lamoureux re
at the Poetry Massa

Massacres and poetry festivals are ideas that seem diametrically opposed. But WordsWorth Books combines the two in its three-day Boston Poetry Massacre, an offshoot of the Boston Summer Poetry Marathons of old that were started by poet Aaron Kiely and carried on by local writers and poets throughout the years. WordsWorth Books events coordinator Jim Behrle, who is hosting the Massacre in Harvard Square for the second time, says, "P marathons, at their best, are brutal events in the best sense. The chance to hear so m poets over such a short period of time can be ecstatic, horrifying, gratifying and ultim inspiring." The edgy festival features local scribes as well as poets from New York Philadelphia, Cincinnati and Milwaulkee, each of whom gets a 12 minute slot to their work. Breaks are scheduled throughout the festival, so poetry fanatics have a ch to chitchat. Behrle says, "Events like this can inspire collaborations, discussions and affairs between poets and participants." All of which are recommended. *WordsW Books, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201).*

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cityscope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings for festivals, events and benefits by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Benefits

MONDAY, JULY 26

Aerosmith's Mount Blue Summer Fund-Raiser
Mount Blue, 707 Main St., Norwell (781-659-0500). www.mountblue.com. 6-9 pm. $50. Aerosmith's Steven Tyler and Joe Perry co-own Mount Blue with Jayne Bowes, and the trio hosts an evening that features food, cocktails, music and more than 100 items up for auction. All proceeds benefit the Talking Information Center, a nonprofit reading service for the visually impaired.

FRIDAY, JULY 30

Drum Beat Around the Bush
Milky Way Lounge, 403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 8 pm-12 am. $12. The Milky Way hosts this night of music featuring performances by Twinemen, Johnette Napolitano and others. Proceeds go to MoveOn.org, a group dedicated to promoting civic action.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 5

5th Annual Boston Harbor Cruise
Departs from World Trade Center Pier, Seacoast Blvd., Boston (978-851-6470). www.fssgboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 8:20 pm, $15-$20. This cruise features two floors of music from DJ Mike Flanagan and the band Audio Underground. Proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society and the American Diabetes Association.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6

Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless Benefit Concert
The Living Room, 101 Atlantic Ave., Boston (781-595-7570, ext. 12). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. 7-9 pm. $45. Steve Smi Grammy– winning artist and lead singer of t group Dirty Vegas, performs an acoustic set. proceeds go towards helping homeless families Boston.

Festivals

FRIDAY, JULY 23

Lowell Folk Festival
Downtown Lowell (978-970-5000). www.lowell festival.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Lo Through July 25. Fri., 7-10 pm; Sat., 12-10 pm; S 12-7 pm. Free. The largest free folk festival in country, this three-day celebration features tr tional music, dancing, parades, craft demonstrati and ethnic foods.

SATURDAY, JULY 24

Freedom Day CultureFest
City Hall Plaza, Boston (617-725-0022). w afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Green Line to Gov ment Center. 1-7 pm. Free. CultureFest celebr African-American history and culture with a da gospel music, jazz, African drums and dance, as as historical reenactments.

Kite Festival
Georges Island (ferries depart from Long Wharf, o site Faneuil Hall Marketplace), Boston (617-2 8631). www.harborislands.com. MBTA: Blue Li Aquarium. 10 am-3 pm. Free. This daylong even the Boston Harbor Islands includes kite-making flying clinics and demonstrations, as well as and solar energy experiments.

SUNDAY, JULY 25

Citywide Music Festival
Central Square, Cambridge (617-876-1655). MB Red Line to Central Square. 12-6 pm. Free. In junction with the Central Square World's Fair mittee, the city of Cambridge hosts this festival, turing nine stages of all kinds of music and da including Latin, Caribbean, Irish and Gospel.

THURSDAY, JULY 29

Jerry Garcia Memorial River Run-Walk & Music Fest
American Legion Marsh Post, 5 Greenough B Cambridge (617-576-2646). www.clydesdale BAEvents/harpoon. MBTA: Red Line to Har 7:30 pm. $18. After a 4.2-mile run or a 2.6- walk, kick back with some barbecue, beer an cream while listening to Electric Hummus, a G ful Dead cover band.


The Lowell Folk Festival, the largest free folk festival in the country, runs from July 23-

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The Downtown Crossing Summer Sports Festival takes over Summer Street August 5.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 1

Chinatown Festival
Chinatown Gates, Beach St., Boston (617-594-9230). MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 12-6 pm. Free. This cultural gathering features food, games and an assortment of traditional Chinese festivities, like lion dancing.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 5

Downtown Crossing Summer Sports Festival
Along Summer Street, Boston (617-482-2139). www.downtowncrossing.com. MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 5:30-7:30 pm. Free. Participate in sports like pitching and putting contests and basketball shoot-outs, along the streets of Downtown Boston.

Parties

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21

2nd Annual Summer Swing
Boston Harbor Hotel, Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). www.bhh.com. Every Wed. through Sept. 8, 6 pm. Free. This weekly summer outdoor swing-dancing series features demonstrations, dance instruction and big-band music.

Taste of Cambridge
Technology Square, corner of Main and Albany streets, Cambridge (617-349-4339) www.tasteofcambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. July 21, 5-8 pm. $25 in advance, $35 at the door. Enjoy Cambridge's wide array of restaurants at this annual event. Chefs from 50 restaurants—including Jasper White of Jasper White's Summer Shack, Eric Brennan of Harvest and Jody Adams of Rialto—provide the food.

THURSDAY, JULY 22

Summer Booze Cruise
Mass Bay Lines, 60 Rowes Wharf, Boston, www.bostonunlisted.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 7-9:30 pm. $40 through July 22 at 12 pm; $45 at door. Boston Unlisted, a social-events network, hosts this cruise that includes hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar and a DJ.

FRIDAY, JULY 23

Citywide Dance Party
Cambridge City Hall, 731 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-349-4313). www.cambridgema.gov. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7-11 pm. The city of Cambridge closes off traffic between Inman and Bigelow streets for its yearly dance celebration. Music is provided by DJ Joey Demers.

SUNDAY, JULY 25

Citywide Parade
Cambridge Common, Cambridge (617-349-4313). www.cambridgema.gov. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 1-2 pm. Free. Cambridge showcases its diversity with a parade that travels from Cambridge Common to Central Square.

Youth Symposium and Party with Ben Affleck and MTV
Central Square, Cambridge (617-349-4325). www.cambridgema.gov. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 2-3 pm. Free. Ben Affleck joins in this conference that looks at policy issues pertaining to Cambridge and the nation on the whole.

Singles

WEDNESDAY JULY 21

Hurry Date
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-3311). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Green Li Arlington. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $35 for members. Embark on 20 five-minute dates enjoy drink specials from 33 Restaurant. For 30-45.

MONDAY, JULY 26

Eight Minute Dating
Blue Wave, 343 Congress St., Boston (617-0191). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Red to South Station. 7:08 pm. $35. Complimentar petizers such as quesadillas and chicken finge available as Blue Wave hosts this event for si ages 30-40.

TUESDAY, JULY 27

Eight Minute Dating
Soho, 386 Market St., Brighton (617-983-0 www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: #57 B Chestnut Hill Avenue. 7:08 pm. $35. Go on eigh ferent eight-minute dates over the course o night. Then mingle and meet the people you get a chance to share a date with. For ages 24-3

MONDAY, AUGUST 2

Eight Minute Dating
Tom Doyle's Irish Pub, 1 Kendall Square, Cam (617-983-0191).www.eightminutedating.com. M Red Line to Kendall. 7:08 pm. $35. Have a p Guinness and sample appetizers during eight dif eight-minute dates and then mingle and me people you didn't get a chance to share a date For ages 40-54.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4

Eight Minute Dating
Tonic, 1316 Commonwealth Ave., Brighton (1 983-0191). www.eightminutedating.com. M Green B Line to Long Ave. 7:08 pm. $35. H martini or two at Tonic's downstairs Met L while going on eight different eight-minute da one night. For ages 23-32

Hurry Date
The Harp, 85 Causeway St., Boston (617 1010). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Orange L North Station. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $. nonmembers. Embark on 20 five-minute date enjoy drink specials. For ages 30-45.

MONDAY, AUGUST 9

Eight Minute Dating
Blue Wave, 343 Congress St., Boston (617 0191). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Re to South Station. 7:08 pm. $35. Compliment petizers such as quesadillas and chicken finge available as Blue Wave hosts this event for J singles ages 23-35.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10

Eight Minute Dating
Clarke's at Faneuil Hall, 21 Merchants Row, (617-227-7800).www.eightminutedating.com. M Green Line to Haymarket. 6:30 pm. $35. Enjo plimentary appetizers and $1.50 Miller Lite d this event for singles ages 30-40.

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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater

JUST OPENED

Cirque du Soleil's Varekai
Grand Chapiteau, Suffolk Downs, Boston (800-678-5440). www.cirquedusoleil.com. July 25-Aug. 22. Tue.-Thu., 8 pm; Fri. and Sat., 4 and 8 pm (July 30, 8 pm only); Sun., 1 and 5 pm. $38-75. Schedule changes during DNC. Call for dates and times. Cirque du Soleil uses its signature dramatics and acrobatics to tell the story of a young wanderer's adventure in the magical world of Varekai.

A Clockwork Orange
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.companyone.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. July 22-Aug. 14. Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $25, $15 students. Company One's stage adaptation of A thony Burgess' novel features original music by Dresden Dolls.

The Comedy of Errors
Shakespeare & Company, Founders Theatre, 70 K ble St., Lenox (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare. Aug. 4-Sept. 2. Tue. and Thu.-Sat., 7:30 pm; W. 2 pm. $10-$49. Cecil MacKinnon directs Sha speare's comedy about two sets of twins separate birth and reunited decades later.

Compromise
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main Gloucester (978-281-4433). www.gloucesterst com. July 21-Aug. 8. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm, Sat. Sun., 5 and 8 pm. $30 adults; $20 students and niors. A scientist and his cleaning lady gra with a moral dilemma in Israel Horovitz's dram comedy.

Life: A Guide for the Perplexed (Convention Edition)
American Repertory Theatre, Loeb Drama Center Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.am org. July 21-Aug. 8. Tue.-Sat., 7:30 pm, Sun., 2 7:30 pm. $25-45. The Flying Karamazov Brot present a series of parables parodying modern lif

Maria's Bachelorette Party
Matrix Nightclub, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617- 1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. July 23, 7 $36. Tickets include dinner, show, and entrance to trix. Maria's bridesmaids throw the bride-to- bachelorette party that includes singing, ex dancing and audience participation.

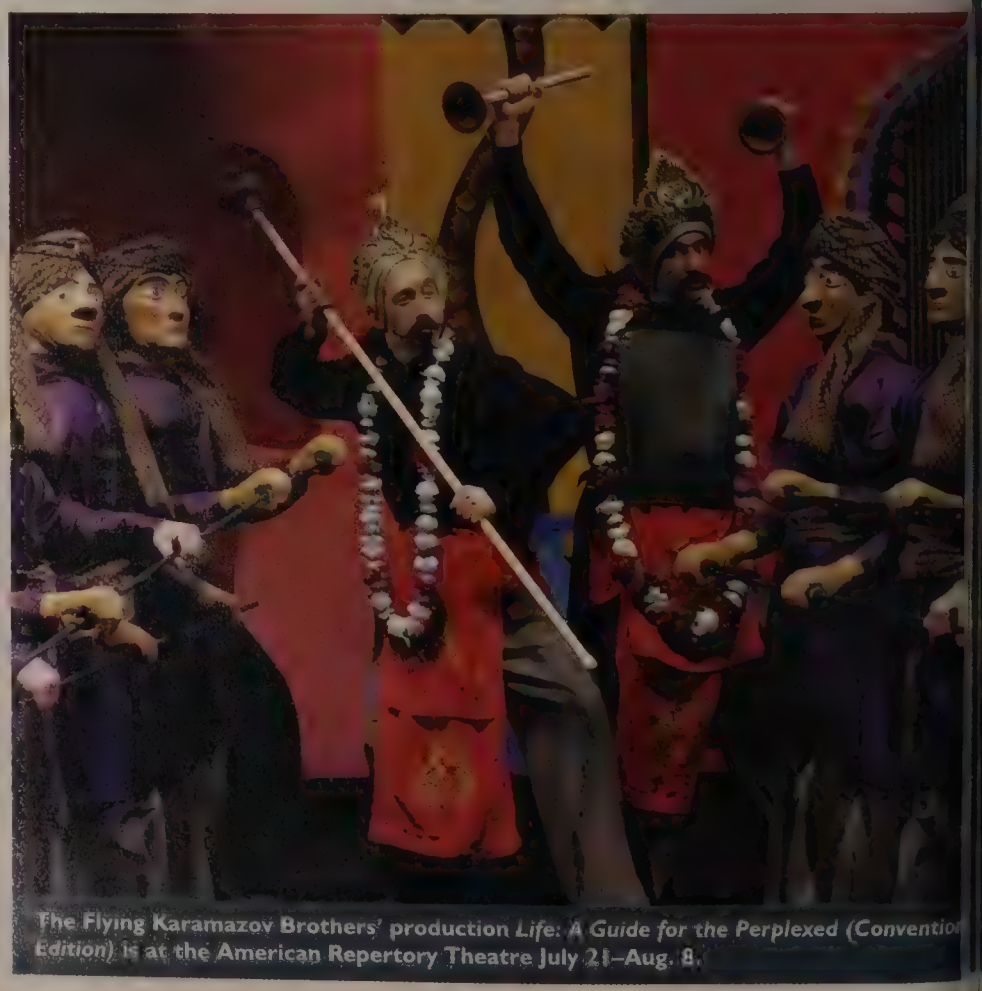
The Merchant of Venice
Publick Theatre, Christian Herter Riverside Park, Soldiers Field Road, Brighton (617-782-54 www.publicktheatre.com. MBTA: 86 bus to Ev St. July 25-Sept. 12. Wed.-Thu. and Sun, 7:30 Fri.-Sat., 8 pm. $45-$50 season pass. Shakespe classic tale explores love, deception and poli morality. Diego Arciniegas directs.

The Sopranos' Last Supper
Matrix Nightclub, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617- 1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. July 30, 7 $49. Tickets include dinner, show, and entrance to trix. This interactive dinner-theater reenacts H hit series.

The Worst Musical Never Made
Durrell Hall, 820 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. (661-9622). www.theworstmusical.com. MBTA Line to Central Square. July 21-25, Wed.-Fri., Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $17-$23. The T style Theatre Project presents a "mockumen about a group of actors trying to put together a sical revue.

NOW RUNNING

Always...Patsy Cline
Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham (781- 2200). www.stonehamtheatre.org. Through Au



The Flying Karamazov Brothers' production *Life: A Guide for the Perplexed (Convention Edition)* is at the American Repertory Theatre July 21–Aug. 8.

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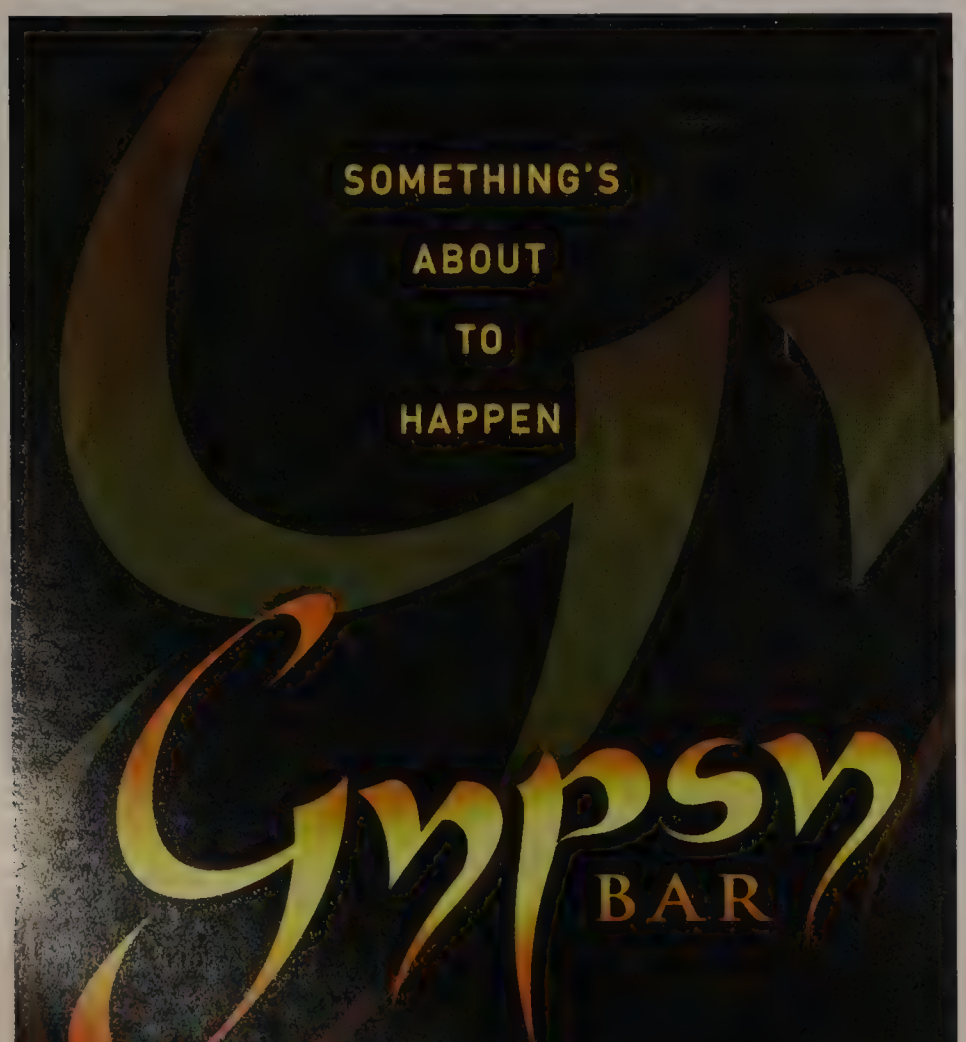
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Wed. and Thu., 7:30pm; Fri.,8pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun., 2pm. $32, $27 seniors, $16 students. Becky Barta stars as country music legend Pasty Cline in Ted Swindley's tribute to the singer.

As You Like It
Shakespeare & Company, Founders Theatre, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (412-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. Through Aug. 29. Wed.-Sun, 7:30 pm. $10-$49. Eleanor Holdridge directs Shakespeare's comedy about two young lovers who battle obstacles facing their romance.

Beauty and the Beast
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Beverly (978-232-7200). www.nsmt.org. Through Aug. 1. Times vary. $30-60. The popular Disney musical features music by Alan Menken, Tim Rice and Howard Ashman.

Cat on a Hot Tin Roof
Devanaughn Theatre, 791 Tremont St., Boston (617-247-9777). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass Ave. Through Aug. 1. Thu., Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $18-20. Tennessee Williams' Pulitzer Prize–winning drama celebrates its 50th anniversary under the direction of Joe Stanganelli.

Forever Plaid
Stuart Street Playhouse/2nd Stage, 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400) www.showofthemonth.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Ongoing. Tue., 7 pm; Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $35.70-$37.80. This revered musical tells the story of Forever Plaid, a 1960s musical quartet that is killed on its first performance but is subsequently and miraculously allowed to return to earth 40 years later to perform.

Full Gallop
Shakespeare & Company, Spring Lawn Theater, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-1199). www.shakespeare.org. Through Sept. 5. Check for showtimes. $30-$47. Daniel Gidron directs Mark Hampton and Mary Louise Wilson's play about the outrageous former *Vogue* editor, Diana Vreeland, as she prepares to throw a dinner party.

Grease
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). www.turtle-lane.com. Through Aug. 15. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $24. Jennifer Condo directs the popular rock 'n' roll musical by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey.

Invasion of Pleasure Valley
Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-824-4297). www.queersoup.net. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St. Through July 31. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm. $20 adults, $15 students and seniors. Inspired by B-movies of the 1950s and '60s, Queer Soup's production follows a couple forced to reveal that their marriage is a sham when aliens invade their town.

Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding
Matrix Nightclub, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. July 24 and 31, Aug. 6, 7, 21 and 28. 7 pm. $49. The nation's longest-running comedy/theater show spoofs a traditional Italian wedding with audience participation and dinner.

Lettice and Lovage
Shakespeare & Company, Spring Lawn Theater, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-1199). www.shakespeare.org. Through Sept. 5. July 21, 23-25, 27-28, 30-Aug.1, 4, 6-7, 8:30 pm; July 22, 29, Aug. 3, 5, 8, 10, 3 pm. $30-47. Peter Shaffer's play stars Tina Packer and Diane Prusha as unlikely friends who butt heads while working for a historical trust.

The Lion King
Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (800-347-0808). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. 26. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 1 pm and 6:30 pm. $22-$132. Julie Taymor directs this stage adaptation of the popular Disney film about a young lion cub's struggle to become king.

Mamma Mia!
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-426-9366). www.broadwayinboston.com MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Aug. 8. Tue. and Wed, 8 pm; Thu., 2 pm and 8 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun. 2 pm. $37.50-$87.50. This popular musical is based on the songs of ABBA.


Always...Patsy Cline stars Becky Barta as the country music legend, at the Stoneham Theatre through Aug.

A Midsummer Night's Dream
Ronan Park, Dorchester, July 21; Blackstone Square, South End, July 22-23; Kelleher Rose Garden, Back Bay, July 27; Boston Nature Center, Mattapan, July 29; Parkman Bandstand, Boston Common, Aug. (617-247-1299). www.freeshakespeare.org. 2 p Free. Douglas Mercer directs the Commonwea Shakespeare Company in Shakespeare's com about a fairy king and queen and young lover the woods for the CSC's third annual Tour of Parks program.

Much Ado About Nothing
Parkman Bandstand, Boston Common. (617-5 1252). www.freeshakespeare.org. MBTA: Green l to Park St. Through Aug. 1, Tue.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun pm. Matinees: July 25, 1 pm; July 28 and 31, 2 Free. Steven Maler directs the Commonwe Shakespeare Company's production of the Ba classic comedy for the ninth annual Shakespeare the Common show.

Romeo and Juliet
Shakespeare & Company, Bankside, 70 Kemble Lenox (413-637-1199). www.shakespeare.org. Thr Aug. 29. Thu., 5:30 pm; Sun., 12:30 and 5:30 Free. Kevin Coleman directs Shakespea tragedy.

Shakespeare and the Language Th Shaped a World
Shakespeare & Company, Bankside, 70 Kemble Lenox (413-637-1199). www.shakespeare.org. Thr Aug. 28. Wed., 5:30 pm; Sat., 12:30 and 5:30 Free. This fast-paced performance features 45 m utes of excerpts from a variety of plays.

The Shape of Things
Loeb Experimental Theater at the Drama Center Brattle St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). www. harvard.edu/~tickets. MBTA: Red Line to Harv Through July 31. Tue.-Thu. and Sun., 7:30 pm; 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm. $10-14. Shy, hapless A can't say no to his seductive lover, Evelyn, in LaBute's play about love, art and manipulation.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (4 426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MB Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair s holds the record as Boston's longest-running pla







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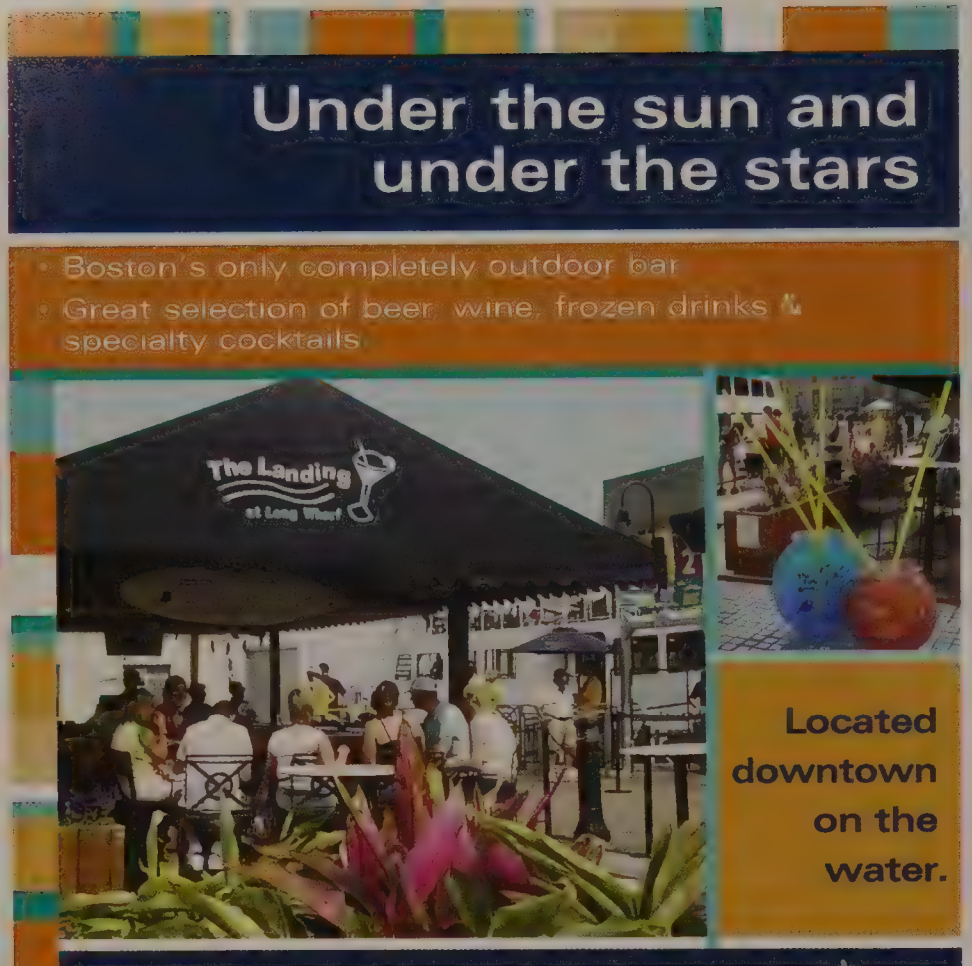
bring this pass in to **activate three days of full club access*** and bring a friend to receive the same

Expires August 25, 2004

* Restrictions may apply. Must be local resident, age 18 and over with a valid photo ID. First time guest only. One pass per person.
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*Amenities vary by club







Troilus and Cressida
Publick Theatre, Christian Herter Riverside Park, 1400 Soldiers Field Road, Brighton (617-782-5425). www.publictheatre.com. MBTA: 86 bus to Everett St. Through July 25. Wed.-Thu. and Sun, 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm. $45-$50 season pass. Hector, Paris, Agamemnon, Achilles and Ulysses recall the tragedy of war in Shakespeare's play about the ancient city of Troy.

Dance

Bennett Dance Company
The Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-9363). Aug. 7, 8 pm. $10-20. The company presents a performance by students of its summer workshop for preprofessional dancers.

Choreographer's Project Showcase
Concord Academy, 166 Main St., Concord (978-402-2339) www.summerstagesdance.org. July 31, 8 pm. $10-20. This program showcases the work of up-and-coming choreographers from the academy's summer fellows and faculty.

Girlz of Imani
Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, 41 Second St., East Cambridge (617-577-1400). July 30, 7 pm. Free. The energy-charged, all-female hip-hop dance troupe performs in the CMAC's Summer Concert Series.

Lawn
Concord Academy, 166 Main St., Concord (978-402-2339) www.summerstagesdance.org. July 22, 8 pm. $10-$20. Tere O'Connor Dance, the New York choreographer's company, performs *Lawn*, a multimedia piece inspired by environmental issues.

Three Women Solo
Concord Academy, 166 Main St., Concord (978-402-2339) www.summerstagesdance.org. July 29, 8 pm. $10-20. Sarah Rudner, Martine Van Hamel and Carmen de Lavallade perform.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

STAND-UP CLUBS

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault at Remington's features local stand-up comedians. •Thursdays: Greg Howell and Friends •Fri. and Sat.: Boston's Best Standup •Sundays: Open Mike Night.

Cantab Lounge
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.cantablounge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Thursdays, 8 pm: Chris Waller performs improv downstairs.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •July 21, 7 and 9:15 pm: Jim Breuer, from *Saturday Night Live* and *Half-Baked*, $35. •July 22: 7:30 pm, Jim Breuer, $35; 9:30 pm, Frank Santos, $15. •July 23-25: TBA. •July 26: Amateur Showcase with Kevin Knox. •July 27, 7 pm: Lewis Black, of HBO's *Lewis Black: Black on Broadway*, $44. •July 28, 8 pm: The Democratic National Convention Variety Show, a novelty act of stand-up, impersonators, and politician look-alikes. •July 29, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist, $15. •July 30, 8 and 10:15 pm: Kevin Nealon, from *Saturday Night Live* and Comedy Central's *Crank Yankers*, $25. •July 31, 6, 8 and 10:15 pm: Kevin Nealon, $21-25.

Comedy Studio
Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •July 21: The Tony V Experiment. •July 22: Kelly MacFarland's "Girls Going Wild". •July 23: Tim McIntire, Tony Moschetto, Chris Coxen and more. •July 24: Tim McIntire, Evan O'Television, Tony Moschetto and more. •July 25: Abe Smith, Derek Gerry, Toby Muresianu, Steve Calechman and more. •July 28: The Tony V Experiment. •July 29: Sean Sullivan, Max Silvestri. •July 30: DJ Hazard, The Walsh Bros., Max Silvestri, Joshua Salkind. •July 31: Heidi Foss, Max Silvestri, Rob Reuter, Alison Block, JJ Leslie. •Aug. 1: He Foss, Abe Smith, Baratunde Thurston and m •Aug. 4: The Tony V Experiment. •Aug. Michael Fontana, Patrice Vinci, Ben Murray more. •Aug. 6: Abe Smith, Baratunde. •Aug Abe Smith, Sean Crespo, Baratunde, Sean Su van. •Aug. 8: Erin Judge, Peter Dutton, Kaelin and more.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). w nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to B ston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. $ $22. •July 29, 8:30: Mike Moto, Benny K. •July and 31, 8:45: Mike Moto, Benny K.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). w improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Lin Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government C ter. $15-$20. Dinner packages also availa •Through August: *Big Dig...the End of an Erro* hilarious look at living in Boston. Wed. and Thu 8 pm; Fri., 9 pm; Sat., 8 and 10 pm. •July 24 *Burlesque Exposes Bush, or How Dubya Got Ker Away*, a musical extravaganza, 8 pm. *Run DN* DNC tribute show taking on Democrats, George Bush, the church, and more. 10 pm; July 27-2 pm. •Ongoing: The Midnight Show, Saturday midnight, $10.

ImprovBoston
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-12 www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to C tral. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improv tional comedy troupe creates everything on spot: the characters, the stories, the settings—e the songs and dances. •Wed., 8 pm, $5: *The H Fringe Show.* Series for experimental and impr sational theater. •Thu., 8 pm, $10-12: *Unnat Selection.* A master of ceremonies randomly el nates players until only one is left. 10 pm, $5: *Great and Secret Comedy Show.* Brothers Chris David Walsh perform stand-up and music, short films and do character sketches in a displa sibling rivalry. •Fri., 8 pm, $10-12: *Secret Soc* Through July 30. 10 pm, $10-12: *Theatre Sp* Two teams of improvisers face off. •Sat., 6 $10-12 (children 11 and under accompanied b adult are free.): *Improv Boston Family Shou* short-form improvisational show the entire fa can enjoy. 8 and 10 pm, $10-12: *ImprovBo Mainstage.* Blending storytelling, music and a ence participation, a cast of improvisers creat show that changes with every performance. •S 7 pm, $5: *Sgt. Culpepper/Open Jam.* This even combines three shows into one. Watch pe mances by visiting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry
327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617- 6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red to South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. Boston's pre short-form improv group.

The Tribe
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $5 before 8 $10 after. 21+. Improv comedians poke fun at e thing, including themselves. •Thurs., 8 pm: ship Imagination, with the Sosnys and more. • 8 pm, $5: The World's Best Variety Showd featuring the Tribe, Summer Help and the Sos

COMEDY SHOWS

Bill Cosby
South Shore Music Circus, 130 Sohier St., Coh (781-383-1400). www.musiccircus.com. Aug. and 7 pm. $39-50. An evening of laughs with eran comedian Bill Cosby.

Surviving American Idol: The Mur Mystery
Mystery Café Dinner Theater, Three Cheers Re rant, 290 Congress Street, Boston (781-383-14 www.mysterycafe.com. MBTA: Red Line to Soutl tion. Fri. and Sat. through Sept. 11, 7:30 pm. Have your dinner with a generous helping of hi in this spoof of the nationwide pop talent se served with a murderous twist.

The Un-Conventional Comedy Convention
Jimmy Tingle's Off-Broadway Theater, 255 Elm Somerville. (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway MBTA: Red Line to Davis. For the month of Jimmy Tingle hosts this convention in celebrati political humor. •July 22-23, 7:30 pm: Will Durs Morris and A. Whitney Brown. $25. •July 2 Janeane Garofalo with Sam Seder, a benefit fo Boston Children's Theater. Sat., 7:30 pm, and Si pm. $25. •July 26-31: All Politics are Loco! Jimmy Tingle. 7:30 pm, $25.



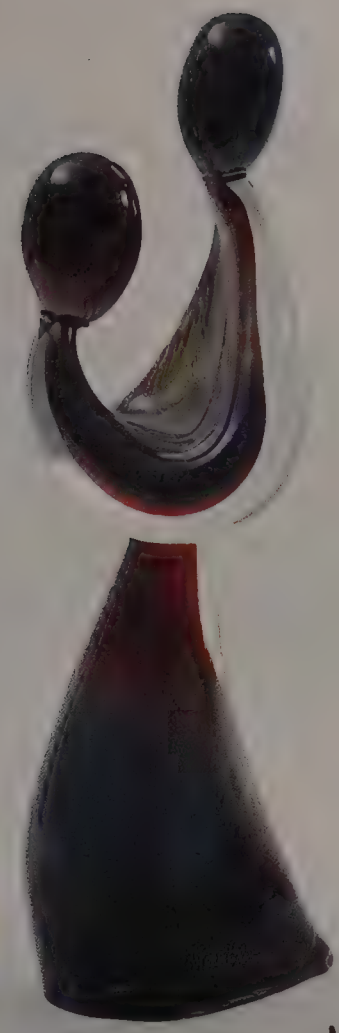
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For the Birds

These *Thunderbirds* aren't go.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

If you're going to make a *Thunderbirds* movie, why not make a *Thunderbirds* movie? Why make a square-jawed, heavily Americanized *Spy Kids* knockoff out of the kitschy 1960s English TV series?

With its shaky electronic marionettes and its Swinging London visual style, the original *Thunderbirds* was an instantly cheesy slice of post–James Bond, post–Beatles pop culture. There's a certain charm to its low-tech, save-the-world premise, though I can't ever remember being thrilled enough to sit through an entire rerun of the 1966 show or its movie spin-offs, *Thunderbirds Are Go* and *Thunderbird Six*. But in updating the futuristic original into a contemporary, live-action movie, the creators have pushed to the side whatever charm the original Gerry Anderson production had.

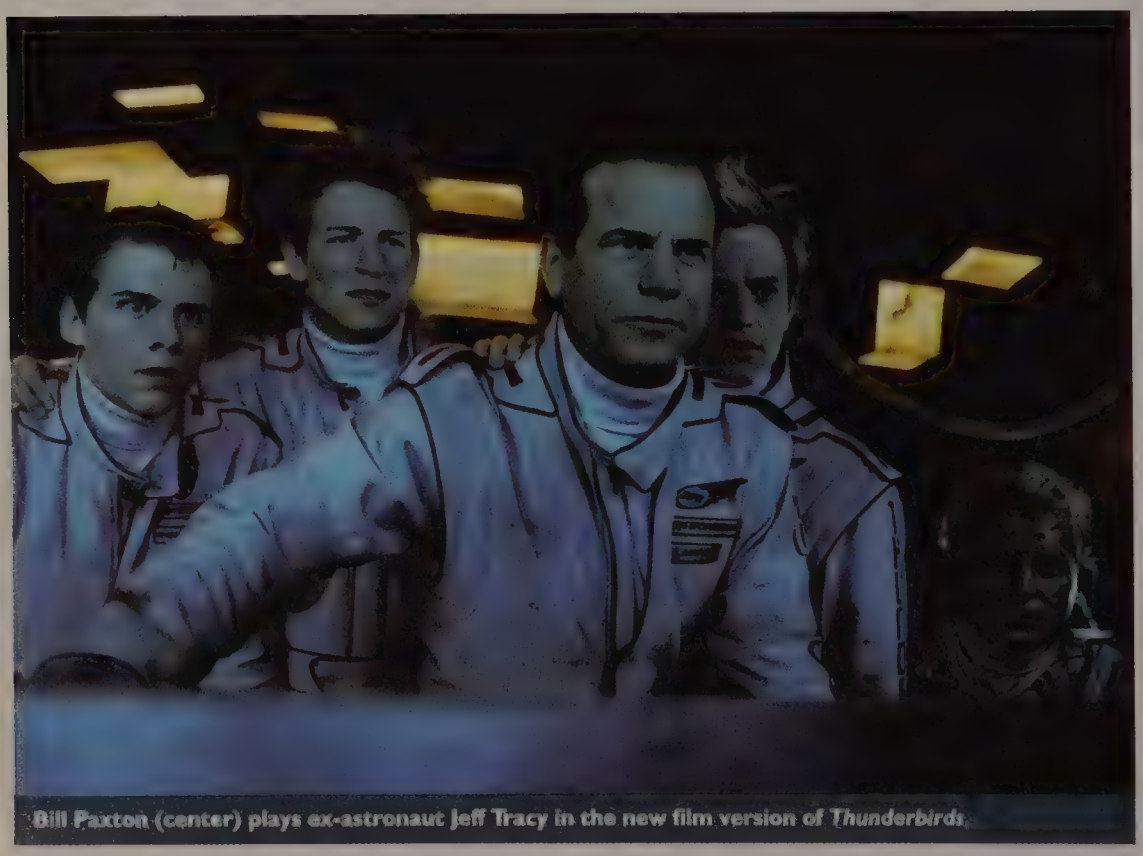
Actually, that charm hasn't been so much pushed aside as it's been body-checked. Now, the family behind International Rescue—who are unfazed johnnies-on-the-spot whenever people are in danger on land, sea or air—are Americans, which makes about as much sense as casting Tom Arnold as James Bond. "Billionaire ex-astronaut" widower Jeff Tracy (Bill Paxton) and his bevy of sons come off like the male equivalent of prefab, interchangeable Stepford wives. The whole group offers such an obnoxious, high-fiving caricature of American can-do that you half-expect a shower scene with them all snapping towels at each other. You want to start throwing Ritalin tablets at the screen whenever the whole bunch appears together.

The sons and their bland dad might have been more distinctive were they not just the backdrop for a fluffy coming-of-age story involving the youngest Tracy son. Alan (Brady Corbet) is still stuck in prep school, dying to join the IR squad but sheltered by his protective dad. When the generic villain (Ben Kingsley), who for no apparent reason wants to be known as the Hood, lures the IR team off their secret South Pacific island compound and then invades it when Alan's home on school vacation, the teen and two friends—nerdy schoolmate Fermat (Soren Fulton) and family servant's daughter Tintin (Vanessa Anne Hudgens)—must save the day.

The kids attempt to thwart the Hood's plan to kill the Tracys and use IR's spaceships to rob banks, starting with the Bank of London, where the action soon switches. The 13-year-olds repeatedly elude the bad guy's henchmen—all *two* of them—and repair sabotaged communication and transportation systems. But there's none of the pizzazz and energy of the *Spy Kids* movies here. The film even uses absurd cartoon sound effects during its hand-to-hand showdowns, and there's a totally generic puppy love subplot with Alan and Tintin. In the genre of movies made from old TV series, this means *Thunderbirds* is the rare entry that caters only to those unfamiliar with the original, while offering precious little to those who *are* familiar with it. In other words, if you're over 12, you won't get much from this.

Despite being filled with characters nominally from the old series, one of the few instances where *Thunderbirds* references the original is the Tracy's nattily attired comrade Lady Penelope (Sophia Myles), who at least adds a little spice (though her wardrobe here is more aristocratic and less Carnaby Street than on the original show). More of the sparse fun comes from her game Cockney chauffeur, Parker (Ron Cook). And the Tracys' tech man, Brains (Anthony Edwards), a stutterer who's always changing words until one makes it out of his mouth, is rather endearing (and the affectionate father of Fermat).

But what a waste. Why couldn't Jonathan Frakes (who directs this as if it were an Olsen Twins movie) and the writers (whose past credits include the more stylish *Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me* and *The Scorpion King*) have come up with something a little more inclusive and ambitious than the kids' stuff they settled for? What's most surprising is that this Americanized, oatmeal version of *Thunderbirds* comes from the English production company Working Title (*Four Weddings and a Funeral*, *Love Actually*), which isn't a prolific assembly line and usually avoids homogenized projects like this. As souped-up as some of the movies made from TV series are these days, the successful ones still capture some essence of the original, even if it's just cheesiness to spoof. *Thunderbirds* doesn't even have that. IB



Bill Paxton (center) plays ex-astronaut Jeff Tracy in the new film version of *Thunderbirds*.

Thunderbirds ★½

Directed by Jonathan Frakes. Written by William Osborne and Michael McCullers. With Bill Paxton, Ben Kingsley, Sophia Myles and Brady Corbet. Rated PG. Opens July 30 at Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Anchorman ★★★

It's obvious early on that the script here is just loosest peg for hanging gags on, that the charac are one-dimensional and that the story is more terested in heading off on absurd tangents t building much structure or internal logic. It's obvious that those absurd tangents are where movie's real laughs lie, as when Will Ferrell's character and his 1970s San Diego TV news t (Paul Rudd, Steve Carell, David Koechner) ar upon by news teams from other channels who to rumble like *West Side Story* gangs. Much of the cuse for a story involves the arrival of a female porter (Christina Applegate) who crashes the boys club, and Applegate is as funny as anyone This movie can make *Dodgeball* look like fi crafted comedy, but plain and simple, it makes laugh. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburb

Before Sunset ★★★

They'll always have Vienna. Nearly a decade Ethan Hawke's and Julie Delpy's characters there and had a one-day fling in *Before Sun* Richard Linklater's sequel brings them toge again, older and perhaps wiser, in Paris. He's n married author who's written a novel based on fling, while she's had rather poor luck with The spark is still there when they reunite, and big question this time is whether the Amer abroad and the Frenchwoman will act on it. that fateful question must be answered, they en in the same sort of intriguing conversations they in the first film, so this is interesting to sit tho But there's also a great deal of stylistic rehash, the second time around is definitely not as me rable. (At Copley Place and Coolidge Corner.)

The Corporation ★★★

This lengthy but chilling documentary chron how the corporation has gone from an entity w very existence was tightly controlled by governm to one that now often influences governments. of the interview subjects are critics of corp power—including Noam Chomsky, Howard and Michael Moore—but pro-corporate inte also have their say, though the moviemakers g ally give the latter enough rope to hang thems (which they often do). Much of the movie inv large corporations' habit of putting the bottom over public safety, and a good public image over behavior, the sort of thing previously detailed in books as *Trust Us We're Experts!* and *Toxic Slu Good for You!* The star of this show, though, is manufacturing tycoon Ray Anderson, who st making his company more environmentally re sible a decade ago and refers to his old way those of most companies as plundering. He hope to this cautionary tale. (At Kendall Squan the Waltham Embassy; starts July 23 at Coo Corner.)

De-Lovely ★½

I don't know why this tin-eared Cole Porter bi phy acts so self-satisfied. It includes a dig a heavily fabricated 1940s Porter biopic that m Cary Grant as the songwriter, and it acts totall erated because, unlike its predecessor, it deals Porter's homosexuality. But this movie feels cated, compromised and just plain confused t casting Kevin Kline any less contrived Grant?). Although Porter's gay romances are ered, his lovers are rather anonymous, while supposed to think the "love of his life" chummy wife (a shrill Ashley Judd) with wh had a marriage of convenience. Meanwhile, di Irwin Winkler can't decide whether to go the modern *Moulin Rouge* route for the many m numbers, or to be faithful to the song's tim riod—so we get half of them done faithfully, a other half with the "stunt casting" of R Williams, Alanis Morissette and Elvis Co among others, crooning. The top? Hardly Boston Common and Harvard Square.)

Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story ★★★

Forget about "event movies." There's more fun had in this smart "dumb comedy" about a dod showdown between Vince Vaughn's down-to good guys and Ben Stiller's preening bad guys. old coot coaching the heroes says, "If you can a wrench, you can dodge a ball," and there's a lotta dodging and upside-the-head thwack laugh at here. With Stiller and Vaughn swit hero-villain roles from *Starsky & Hutch*, Ch Taylor as the rifle-armed love interest, Rip T the wizened coot, strong performances fro character actors playing Vaughn's misfit squa cluding Stephen Root and Justin Long) and

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Cole and Jason Bateman as the goofballs announcing the action for "ESPN 8 (The Ocho)." (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Door in the Floor ★★

Why do movies keep asking me to care about messed-up upper-middle-class people? In this adaptation of a section of John Irving's *A Widow for One Year*, a teen (Jon Foster) takes a summer job as an assistant to a successful writer (Jeff Bridges) and gets embroiled in the writer's messy relationship with his separated wife (Kim Basinger). The wife is still numb from the death of the couple's two sons years before, the husband is sleeping around and the teen has the hots for the wife—I think you can do the math. But because the story is told from none of these three characters' perspective, they remain sketchy and remote. Things do perk up in the last half-hour, though, when Bridges starts acting like a higher-tax-bracket version of the Dude, his *Big Lebowski* character. But I'd rather have just watched *that* again. (At Kendall Square.)

Fahrenheit 9/11 ★★★1/2

Rabble-rouser Michael Moore's passionate deconstruction of the second Bush administration has no knockout revelations about its controversial policies, so don't expect smoking guns. Its ultimate target is the war in Iraq, but the movie presents the war as just the latest in a pattern of self-serving, law-skirting behavior. Moore comes up with inspired ways of getting his points across about much-debated Bush policies and conflicts of interest. He's onscreen less than he was in *Roger & Me*, *The Big One* and *Bowling for Columbine*, yet he argues such points better than in *Columbine*. Moore hits his targets because, despite his political aims, he makes you feel like you're watching a movie, not a political rant, and his sense of humor really shines through. (At Boston Common, Harvard Square, Coolidge Corner and suburbs.)

Garden State ★★1/2

The first film by actor-director Zach Braff (TV's *Scrubs*) has its moments of daffy humor, as Braff plays a struggling L.A. actor who returns to his New Jersey hometown for the first time in nine years. It recaptures the mixed emotions of such a visit, especially of seeing old high school friends, but it treads on very familiar territory. It feels like it wants to be a version of *The Graduate* directed by Wes Anderson (*Rushmore*), and it struggles to find any voice of its own. Plus, the story of a guy returning to his hometown who develops a quick bond with a Natalie Portman character has already been done, in 1996's *Beautiful Girls*. Braff and Portman have a pleasing chemistry, and Braff is to be commended for trying to make something quirky and personal. But it's hard not to feel this movie is redundant. (Opens Aug. 6 at Kendall Square.)



Zach Braff, formerly of TV's *Scrubs*, directs and stars in *Garden State*

Metallica: Some Kind of Monster ★★★

It's interesting enough to keep nonfans of heavy metal involved, though this 145-minute documentary about the making of Metallica's *St. Anger* album is longer than it needs to be. What's interesting is that the latest by directors Joe Berlinger and Bruce Sinofsky (*Paradise Lost*) is the most psychological of rock movies. Literally. Reeling from the deterioration of their personal relationships, the band's three core members enter counseling with a "performance enhancement therapist" and strive to make the band a democracy, so their Dr. Phil–like shrink is there at all the recording sessions—sometimes easing tensions, sometimes adding to them. As drummer Lars Ulrich sums it up, those sessions are an attempt to make "aggressive music without negative energy," which isn't easy, especially when macho frontman James Hetfield (who enters rehab during the sessions) and more emotional Ulrich keep struggling for control of the band. They should've called this *12 Steps to Metal*. (At Kendall Square.)

She Hate Me ★

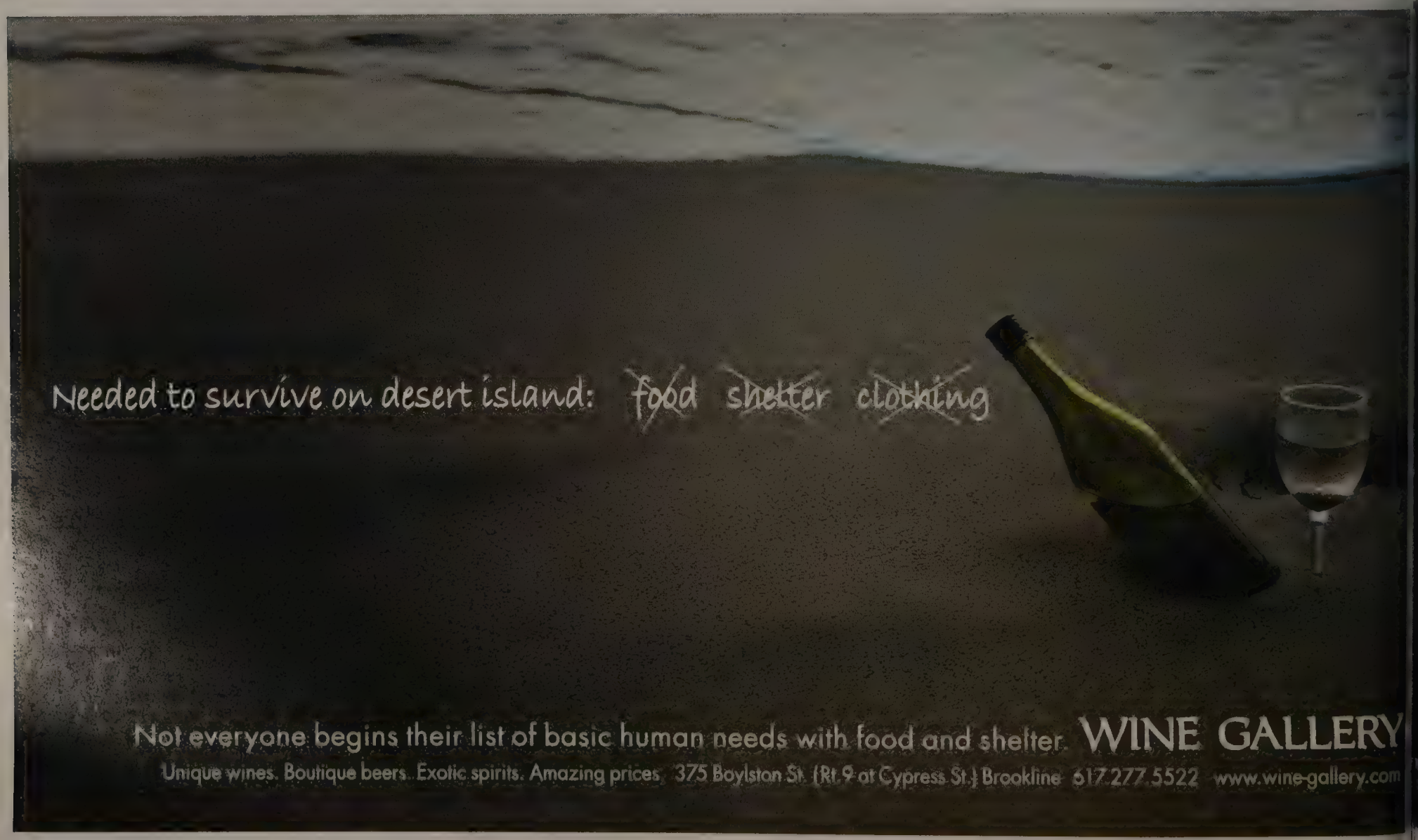
Spike Lee's latest—yes, its title takes inspiration from the XFL player who dubbed himself "He Hate Me"—starts out like an unsatisfying example of Lee's recent ragged storytelling. As with *Bamboozled* starts with an intriguing premise, this time ab young black exec (Anthony Mackie) at a comp where an Enron-like scandal is about to explode, then it drifts and drifts. After a half hour Lee lose terest in that corporate plot and switches to unir esting, poorly written character drama. Only time the poor drama stretches to utterly ted lengths, with periodic stops on a half dozen clu soapboxes. And the subplot involving lesbians be the single most bogus piece of male-penned "f ninity" in decades. A sure contender for the y worst. (Opens Aug. 6 at Kendall Square.)

Spider-Man 2 ★★★

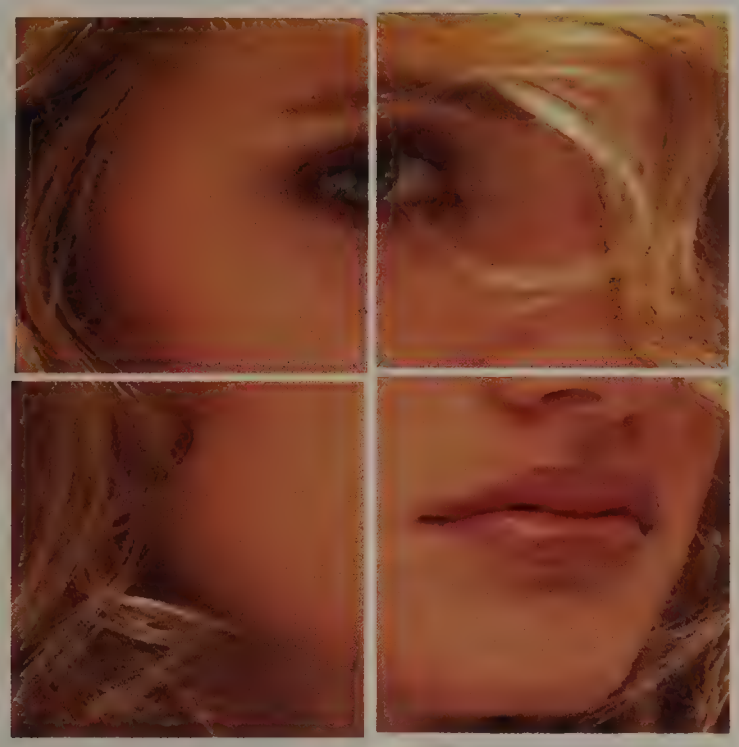
Remove the least effective element from Sp *Man*—Willem Dafoe's puzzling, uninteresting G Goblin—and it's no surprise Sam Raimi's sequ better. Of the several comic-book adaptation give us crime-fighters with troubled pasts and mi emotional baggage, like *Daredevil* and *The Hulk*, is clearly the best. That's for the same reasons best parts of the first movie clicked: the depth T Maguire, Kirsten Dunst and James Franco brir their characters, the fun physical release of th tion scenes, and the bold comic-book charge o zingy tabloid editor played by J.K. Simmons. movie is proof positive that not only can e movies be smart and emotionally complex, should be. Raimi has already made one fine se *Evil Dead 2*, and its inimitable star Bruce Cam has a very funny cameo here. Now Raimi's do again. (At Boston Common, Fenway and subur

The Terminal ★★

The story of an Eastern European forced to live i Airport's international terminal might have b breezy little comedy, but it becomes an overbl overextended tale in Steven Spielberg's latest. Hanks plays the poor fellow who lands in diplo limbo after a coup topples his country while h route to New York. The U.S. won't recognize his port and won't allow him to enter the country n turn home. The hero is needlessly cute and und ening, and the story's reach for big moments is u unsuccessful. Meanwhile, the movie seems comfortable that its presentation of a microco America is, essentially, a mall. (At Boston Com Fenway, Harvard Square and suburbs.)



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BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL

Movies by Moonlight

•July 23, **The Greatest Show on Earth** *1952*. Charlton Heston stars in Cecil B. DeMille's over-the-top dramatization of the antics that go on beneath a circus's big top.

•Aug. 6, **The Bridge on the River Kwai** *1957*. Alec Guinness and William Holden star in this story about British POWs who defy their Japanese captors during World War II. David Lean drects.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Pre-Code Hollywood Movies

•Aug. 4, 6:30 pm. **Baby Face** *1933*. Alfred E. Green's film is the story of a young woman who sleeps her way to the top. •Aug. 11, 6:30 pm. **The Sign of the Cross** *1932*. Roman emperor Nero crusades against the first Christians in Cecil B. DeMille's film.

BRATTLE THEATRE

Midnight Cult Classics

•July 23 and 24, 12 am. **Monty Python's The Meaning of Life** *1983*. In a series of comedic sketches, the Monty Python troupe analyzes the meaning of life. Terry Gilliam and Terry Jones direct.

•July 30 and 31, 12 am. **Ichi the Killer** *2001*. Takashi Miike's gory action film follows members of a gang as they search for their missing boss.

Mondays—Orson Welles: Rogue Genius

•July 26, 2:30, 5, 7:30 and 10 pm. **The Trial** *1963*. Welles' adaptation of Franz Kafka's novel tells the story of a man who is put on trial without knowing what crime he supposedly committed.

•Aug. 2, 3:30 and 7:30 pm. **F for Fake** *1976*. Welles analyzes the idea of art as fraud in this documentary about famous forger Elmyr de Hory and his biographer, Clifford Irving. •Also showing, 5:30 and 9:30 pm. **Mr. Arkadin** *1955*. A young man agrees to unearth the past for an elderly man with amnesia, but becomes disturbed when all the people he interviews wind up dead.

•Aug. 9, 2:45, 5, 7:15 and 9:30 pm. **Macbeth** *1948*. The Brattle screens the restored director's cut of Welles' adaptation of Shakespeare's play.

Tuesdays—Modern Musicals

•July 27, 5:30 and 7:45 pm. **Outfoxed: Rupert Murdoch's War on Journalism** *2004*. Robert Greenwald's documentary follows media mogul Rupert Murdoch and his empire, which includes FOX News.

•Aug. 3, 2:45 and 7:30 pm. **The Muppets Take Manhattan** *1984*. Jim Henson's puppets try to find a producer for their Broadway show. Frank Oz directs. •Also showing, 4:45 and 9:30 pm. **The Blues Brothers** *1980*. John Landis' film stars John Belushi and Dan Aykroyd as a pair of blues-singing brothers.

•Aug. 10, 3:15 and 7:45 pm. **Lagaan** *2001*. A small Indian village struggles against the British empire. Ashutosh Gowariker directs.

Wednesdays—Recent Raves

•July 21, 6:30 pm. **Peace, Propaganda and the Promised Land** *2004*. This documentary produced by Bathsheba Ratzkoff and Sut Jhally analyzes how political pressures influence media coverage of the Middle East conflict.

•July 28, 4:45, 7:15 and 9:45 pm. **Bukowski: Born Into This** *2003*. John Dullaghan's documentary follows the life of modern American poet Charles Bukowski, who died in 1994.

Thursdays—The Art of Samurai Cinema

•July 22, 3:30, 5:30 and 7:30 pm. **Zatoichi: The Fugitive** *1963*. Tokuzo Tanaka directs the fourth installment of the series about Zatoichi, the blind swordsman. •Also showing, 9:30 pm. **The Yes Men** *2003*. This documentary, produced by Dan Ollman and Sarah Price, follows a group of anti-globalization protesters as they travel around the U.S. impersonating World Trade Organization representatives at major industry conferences.

•July 29, 4:45, 7;15 and 9:45 pm. **Twilight Samurai** *2002*. A poor samurai widower struggles to balance his duties as a warrior with his responsibilities as a father. Yoji Yanada directs.

Special Engagements

•July 23-July 25, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm; Sat. and Sun., 1:30 pm. **Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb** *1964*. Stanley Kubrick's classic black comedy follows world political leaders as they try to prevent a nuclear holocaust planned by a U.S. Air Force colonel. •July 30-Aug. 1, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm; Sat. and Sun., 1:30 pm. **Kaena: The Prophecy** *2003*. Chris Delaporte and Pascal Pinon's film is an animated sci-fi adventure about a teen girl on an alien planet who is deserted by her tribe.

•Aug. 5, 9:30 pm. **Trailer Treats**. *$15*. The Brattle screens its favorite shorts and trailers and serves up barbecue. A live musical performance by the Hey Goods follows the screening .

•Aug. 6-8, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm; Fri., 12 am; Sat., 1:30 pm, 12 am; Sun., 1:30 pm. **Shaolin Soccer** *2001*. Hong Kong comedy star Stephen Chow wrote and stars in this combination of goofy CGI slapstick and inspired physical gags.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Box Office Babies

•Aug. 2, 1 pm. The Coolidge's new biweekly series provides an infant-friendly setting for viewing recent international, independent, and documentary films. Titles are available the week before the screening at www.coolidge.org.

Coolidge Selects

•Now playing. **Fahrenheit 9/11** *2004*. See New Releases for a description.

•Now playing. **Before Sunset** *2004*. See New Releases for a description.

•Opening July 23. **The Corporation** *2003*. See New Releases for a description.

•Opening July 23. **The Hunting of the President** *2004*. Harry Thomason and Nickolas Perry direct this documentary, which argues that the right engaged in a 10-year campaign to destroy Bill Clinton's presidency.

•Opening July 30. **Maria Full of Grace** *2004*. James Marston's film follows a 17-year-old Colombian girl who trafficks drugs by swallowing rubber pellets of heroin.

Midnight Movies

•July 23, 24, 30 and 31, 12 am. **Monty Python's ... of Brian** *1979*. Brian of Nazareth is born in a sta... on Christmas night in Bethlehem and mistaken ... the Messiah. Terry Jones directs.

•Aug. 6 and 7, 12 am. **Zoolander** *2001*. Ben Sti... directs and stars this film about a male model wh... brainwashed to kill the prime minister of Malays...

•Aug. 7, 12 am. **Dolemite** *1975*. D'Urville Mart... film stars Rudy Ray Moore as a badass club ow... whose archrival fingers him for a job.

Midnight Movies—Kung Fu Mania

•July 24, 12 am. **Inspectors Wear Skirts** *1988*... Kung Fu battle of the sexes ensues when an all-n... Hong Kong police team feels threatened by the ... female squad. Qian Shengwei directs.

•July 31, 12 am. **Scorching Sun, Fierce Winds, ... Fire** *1977*. Angela Mao plays a deadly revolutiona... the early days of the China Republic in Suen C... yuen's 1970s melodrama.

Summertime Blues

•July 26, 7:30 pm. **The Gospel According to ... Green** *1985*. Robert Mugge documents Al Gre... journey from a secular music sensation to a full-t... Pentecostal minister.

Tribute to Marlon Brando

•Aug. 2, 7:30 pm. **A Streetcar Named De...** *1951*. The recently deceased actor stars in ... Kazan's film adaptation of Tennessee Williams' ... about troubled young lovers in New Orleans.

•Aug. 9, 7:30 pm. **The Wild One** *1954*. Brando ... as a rebellious member of a motorcycle gang in L... Benedek's film.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Contemporary Hollywood Cinema

•July 28, 7 pm. **Boyz N the Hood** *1991*. John ... gleton's film about a group of boys growing u... inner-city L.A. stars Laurence Fishburne, Ice C... and Cuba Gooding Jr.

Treasures from the Harvard Film Archive—A to Z: L Is for Lost in Translation

•July 22, 7 pm. **The Saga of Anatahan** *1954*. Josef ... Sternberg's film, based on actual events, tells the ... of 12 men shipwrecked on an island during World ... II. •Also showing, 9 pm. **The Geisha Boy** *1958*. ...



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The Greatest: Homemade Burger Sauces
JOE SENT ME...
2388 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02140 (617) 492-1116
www.joe-sent-me.com
Joe Sent Me... pairs excellent pub grub with cool brews. The scene brightens with a wall of bottle caps and a spirited crowd. Phantom loves the sensational ten ounce burgers topped with homemade sauces like Honey Mustard or BBQ Ale. The Rio Grande sizzles with salsa and cheddar, while the North Ender packs on the onions, peppers, and mushrooms. Regulars can even join the Mug Club and keep an engraved beer stein at the bar.

The Greatest: No Frills Burger
TIM'S BAR AND GRILL
329 Columbus Ave., Boston, MA 02116 (617) 247-7894
Tim's Bar and Grill is a dank, dingy South End dive bar with one of the biggest burgers around. The half pound, two-handed artery poppers are chargrilled and heaped onto a bulky roll. The kitchen even grinds its own meat and hand shapes the patties. Forget fancy toppings! It's a basics-only burger situation that foregoes extravagance for quantity. Plus, they're ridiculously cheap, ranging from $4.75 to $7. This is THE reason to drop everything and head to Tim's.

The Greatest: Toppings
FUDDRUCKERS
Saugus, MA and North Andover, MA www.fuddruckersNE.com
At Fuddruckers, burgers come in four different sized patties that reach up to one gigantic pound. But, hey, size doesn't matter. It's the toppings that make these burgers special. There's a complimentary Produce Bar loaded with everything from lettuce, tomato, and onion to nacho cheese, salsa, and jalapenos. Smoked bacon, homemade chili, and guacamole are a little extra. After throwing back a Double Trouble Chocolate Shake and a human head sized burger, no one leaves Fuddruckers hungry.

The Greatest: Grilled Onions
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280 Memorial Ave., West Springfield, MA 01089 (413) 736-9390
www.whitehut.com
White Hut has sawdust-covered floors, twelve floor mounted stools along a Formica counter, and an open kitchen that cooks to order. Their outstanding cheeseburger starts as an ordinary griddle patty on a soft white bun, but then it's topped with a mass of luscious fried onions. These golde strings are slowly cooked on the back of the stove, where they caramelize into a heavenly sweet sensation.

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BARTLEY'S BURGER COTTAGE
1246 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02138 (617) 354-6559
www.mrbartleys.com
Bartley's Burger Cottage is nearly part of the Harvard curriculum, with fun dorm room décor and modest plastic patio seating. Their incredible hamburger selection expands with dozens of celebrity named creations. The Viagra rises to the occasion with blue cheese and bacon, while the up-to-par Tiger Woods stacks cheddar and guacamole. The creepy Stephen King is mysteriously delicious with Muenster cheese. Sweet Potato Fries and a Peppermint Patty Frappe are required, not elective.

The Greatest: Three Pound Burger
EAGLE'S DELI & RESTAURANT
1918 Beacon St., Brighton, MA 02135 (617) 731-3232
www.ezpress.com/eaglesdeli.htm
Eagle's Deli makes one heck of a mean burger that few dare attempt to conquer. Named after a regular with a mammoth appetite, the Reilly Burger is a serious stacking of six half pound patties topped with twelve slices of cheese, all held together by a wooden teriyaki stick. It comes with five pounds of fries and unlimited fountain soda. Ask the guys behind the greasy grill what you'll get for eating the whole thing, and they'll tell you. Indigestion!

The Greatest: Veggie Burger
COMMON GROUND BAR & GRILL
85 Harvard Ave., Allston, MA 02134 (617) 783-2071
The Common Ground is an Irish pub that jams out to local bands while tending a steady flow of brews. The baseball cap crowd comes for continual sports TV but sticks around for intriguing menu items like Boston's best Veggie Burger. Made from mashed lentils and lima beans, it's fattened with Asian bread crumbs, pan fried until crispy, and served on a roll with lettuce, tomato, pickle, and yummy pesto mayo. The mashed potato Irish Pizza is equally innovative.

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Will Ferrell (right) plays a San Diego news anchor in the 1970s-set *Anchorman*.

Lewis plays a magician on a USO tour in Japan, where he becomes a father figure to a young orphan.

M Is for Mack the Knife

•July 23, 7 pm; July 24, 9 pm. **The Threepenny Opera** *1931*. G.W. Pabst's musical about a womanizing London gangster is adapted from John Gay's *The Beggar's Opera*. •Also showing, 9 pm; July 24, 7 pm. **The Beggar's Opera** *1953*. Laurence Olivier stars as MacHeath in this screen adaptation of John Gay's 18th-century musical. Peter Brook directs.

N Is for Nasty Nazis

•July 25, 7 pm. **Why We Fight: Divide and Conquer** *1943*. This installment of Frank Capra's *Why We Fight* series was used as U.S. propaganda during World War II and addresses Germany's conquest of France. •Also showing, 8 pm. **Is Paris Burning?** *1966*. René Clément's film, based on actual events, illustrates France's struggle to expel Nazi factions at the end of World War II.

O Is for Olmi

•July 26, 7 pm; July 27, 8:45 pm. **Il Posto** *1961*. A young Italian man from a small village moves to Milan to work at a major corporation and gain financial stability, and winds up bored. Ermanno Olmi directs.

P Is for Painters Painting

•July 29 and 30, 7 pm. **Le Mystere Picasso** *(The Mystery of Picasso) 1956*. Henri-Georges Clouzot documents Pablo Picasso at work. Many of the paintings shown in the film were later destroyed. •Also showing, July 29 and 30, 8:30 pm. **Van Gogh** *1991*. Maurice Pialat's film recreates the final months of Van Gogh's life in a French village.

Q Is for Quincy Jones

•July 31, 7 pm; Aug. 1, 9:15pm. **The Pawnbroker** *1954*. In Sidney Lumet's film, with music by Jones, a New York pawnbroker is tortured by memories of his time in a concentration camp. •Also showing, July 31, 9 pm; Aug. 1, 7 pm. **The Getaway** *1972*. A corrupt sheriff releases a criminal from jail on the condition that he rob a bank. Sam Peckinpah directs.

R Is for Renoir Silents

•Aug. 2, 7 pm. **La Petite Marchande d'Allumettes** *(The Little Match Girl) 1928*. Jean Renoir and Jean Tedesco bring Hans Christian Andersen's classic story to the screen. •Also showing, 8 pm. **Nana** *1926*. Renoir's wife Catherine Hessling stars in her husband's film about an aspiring actress who seduces and discards men in pursuit of success.

S Is for Stamp

•Aug. 3, 7 pm; Aug. 5, 9 pm. **Billy Budd** *1962*. Terence Stamp stars as a naive young seaman tried for the murder of his evil master-at-arms. Peter Ustinov directs, produces and stars in this adaptation of Herman Melville's classic tale. •Also showing, 9:15 pm; Aug. 5, 7 pm. **The Hit** *1984*. Stamp stars as an informant who hides out in Spain for 10 years before he's found and brought to Paris for execution. Stephen Frears directs.

T Is for Trailers Trailers Trailers

•Aug. 6, 7 pm. A selection from the HFA's library of more than 1,500 trailers screens.

U Is for University Professors

•Aug. 7, 7 pm; Aug. 8, 9 pm. **Smultronstallet** *(Wild Strawberries) 1957*. Ingmar Bergman's film follows an aging professor whose return trip to his alma mater inspires memories of a lost love. •Also showing, Aug. 7, 9 pm; Aug. 8, 7 pm. **The Decline of the American Empire** *1986*. Four professors and their female guests discuss relationships, love and life over dinner at a country estate. Denys Arcand directs.

V Is for Vietnam Revisited

•Aug. 9, 7 pm. **Tou Bun no Hoi** *(Boat People)* Ann Hui's film, which was initially censore China for its anti-communist sentiment, is ab Japanese journalist who discovers the horrible conditions in postwar North Vietnam. •Also s ing, Aug. 9, 9 pm. **Who'll Stop the Rain** *197* Karel Reisz's adaptation of Robert Stone's nove *Soldiers*, two men traumatized by the Vietnam become involved in a dangerous plan to sm heroin into the United States.

W Is for World War I Silents

•Aug. 10, 7 pm. **The Big Parade** *1925*. King V antiwar drama follows an American soldier thr World War I. •Also showing, Aug. 10, 9 pm. **Price Glory** *1926*. In Raoul Walsh's graphic drama, two soldiers fight over a woman until War I ends their feud.

MAYOR MENINO'S MONDAY NIGHT MO

Through Aug. 23, Monday nights at dusk, Park presents a free movie screening at various loca around the city. For more information, call 635-4505.

•Aug. 2, McKinney Playground, Faneuil S Brighton. **Freaky Friday** *2003*. Jamie Lee Curti Lindsay Lohan star in this remake about a m and daughter who switch bodies. Mark S. W directs.

•Aug. 9, McConnell Park, Dorchester. **The** *2003*. Eric Bana stars as a scientist who is t formed into a monster whenever he becomes a in this adaptation of the Marvel comic. An directs.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

African Cinema

•July 29, 5:45 pm; July 30, 6:15 pm; July 31, pm; Aug. 1, 2:30 pm. **Abouna** *(Our Father)* When their father unexpectedly leaves home young brothers skip school to look for him their mother gets fed up and places them in a boarding school. Mahamat-Saleh Haroun direc

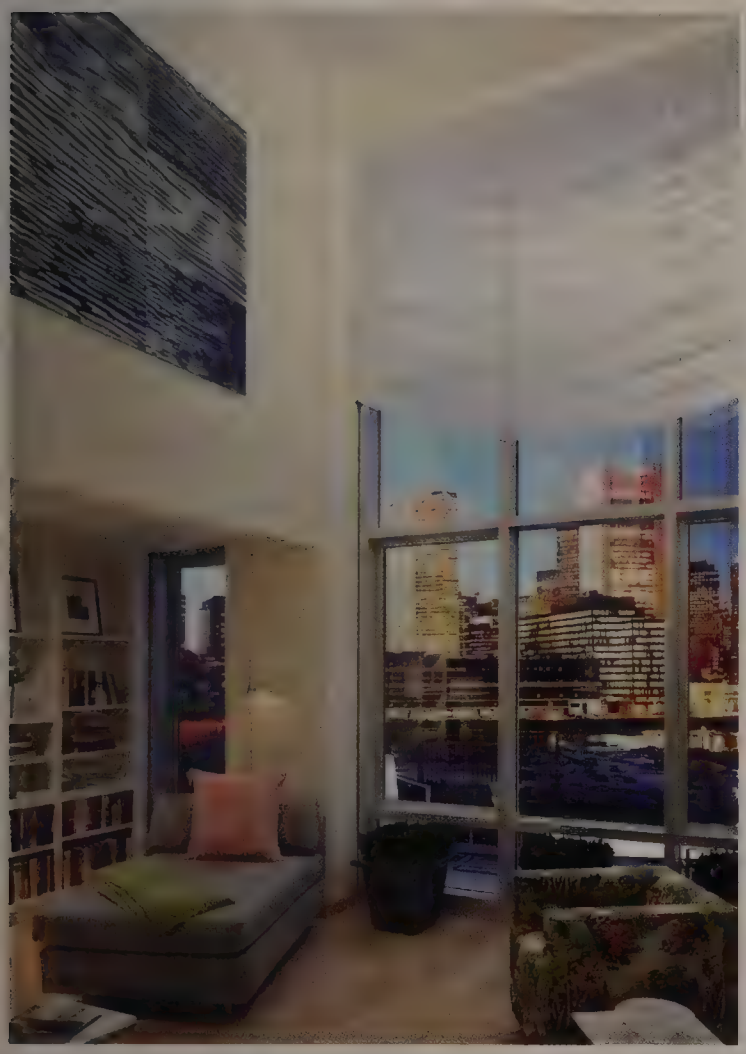
Art on Film

•July 24, 10:30 am; July 25, 11:30 am; July 31, am; Aug. 1, 12:45 pm; Aug. 5, 5 pm. **River Tides: Andy Goldsworthy Working with** *2001*. This documentary by Thomas Riedelsh follows artist Goldsworthy as he makes sculp from ice, driftwood, leaves, stones and dirt.

•July 31, 2 pm; Aug. 1, 10:30 am; Aug. 5, 2:4 Aug. 6, 5:30 pm; Aug. 8, 3:30 pm. **My Arch** *2003*. Nathaniel Kahn directs this docume about the life and work of his father, legenda chitect Louis Kahn, who died alone and ban in 1974.

Boston French Film Festival

•July 22, 12:30 pm. **Demi-Tarif** *(Half Price)* In Isild Le Besco's directing debut, three youn lings abandoned in a run-down Paris apart struggle to survive on their own. •Also show pm. **Moi, César** *2003*. Richard Berry's film pr the world from the eyes of 10-year-old César sets out to find his best friend's estranged f •Also showing, 4 pm. **Comme si de Rien n** *(As If Nothing Happened) 2004*. Pierre-Olivier nas directs and stars in this romantic film ab theater director who falls in love with an ailin seum guide. •Also showing, 6 pm; July 24, 3:3 **Toutes ces Belles Promesse** *(All Those Fine Pro 2003*. After her mother passes away, a woman



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down her father's mistress. Jean Paul Civeyrac directs this film based on a novel by Anne Wiazemsky. •Also showing July 22, 7:45 pm. **Grande Ecole** *2004*. Students at an elite institution explore homosexual and heterosexual relationships, as well as the boundaries imposed by class and race, in Robert Salis' film.

•July 23, 6 pm. **Violence des Échanges en Milieu Tempéré** *(Work Hard, Play Hard) 2003*. A young businessman struggles with the task of deciding who to fire at a company that must downsize. Jean-Marc Moutout directs. •Also showing, 8 pm. **Monsieur N** *2002*. Napoleon Bonaparte's exile on the island of Saint Helena is reevaluated through the eyes of the lieutenant in charge of him. Antoine de Caunes directs.

•July 24, 12:15 pm. **Le Monde Vivant** *(The Living World) 2003*. Eugene Green's mock-fairy tale follows the forest adventures of a young man. •Also showing, 1:45 pm. **Nos Enfants Cheris** *(Our Precious Children) 2003*. Two former lovers, now married with children, reunite and are tempted to rekindle their flame. Benoit Cohen directs. •Also showing, 5:15 pm. **Les Corps Impatients** *(Eager Bodies) 2002*. Xavier Giannoli's film is about a young woman with lung cancer, her devoted boyfriend, and the attractive cousin who comes between them. •Also showing, 7:10 pm. **Qui a Tué Bambi?** *(Who Killed Bambi?) 2004*. In this thriller from Gilles Marchand, a nurse suspects an emotionless older doctor of foul play.

•July 25, 1:15 pm. **Demain on Déménage** *(Tomorrow We Move) 2003*. In Chantal Akerman's comedy, a young woman allows her mother to move into her apartment, and then the two decide to move out. •Also showing July 25, 3:30 pm. **Confidence Trop Intimes** *(Intimate Strangers) 2004*. A distraught young woman mistakes a tax attorney for a psychiatrist, causing him to consult a real psychiatrist with whom he begins a relationship. Patrice Leconte directs.

Cinema Tropical

•July 30, 8 pm; Aug. 1, 4:10 pm. **Taxi Para Tres** *(A Cab for Three) 2001*. After a struggling taxi driver breaks down in a bad part of town, a pair of robbers force him to be their driver, but reward him with a significant percentage of their loot. Orlando Lubbert directs.

Friends of Film Sneak Preview

•Aug. 1, 7 pm. **Garden State** *2004*. Zach Braff directs and stars in this film about a young man who returns to New Jersey for his mother's funeral.

Korean Cinema

•Aug. 6, 7:45 pm; Aug. 8, 1 pm. **Oasis** *2002*. Lee Chang-Dong's drama is about a mentally impaired man who takes an interest in the disabled daughter of the man he killed in a drunk-driving accident.

New England Film Artists Present

•Aug. 5, 6:45 pm. **The Pursuit of Pleasure** *2004*. Maryanne Galvin takes an unconventional look at female sexuality, gender roles and relationships in this documentary about seven women discussing everything from intimacy to work to beauty.

Pre-Release Screenings

•July 29, 7:30 pm. **Metallica: Some Kind of Monster** *2002*. See New Releases for a description.

•Aug. 5, 8:15 pm. **Seeing Other People** *2004*. A young couple questions their upcoming marriage, sending everyone they know into a panic. Wallace Wolodarsky directs.

Russian Cinema

•July 31, 3:45 pm; Aug. 8, 11 am. **Vozvrashchenie** *(The Return) 2003*. The absentee father of two boys returns home and announces they are going on a fishing trip, but his motives are in question. Andrei Zvyagintsev directs.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater

•Through Sept. 4. **India: Kingdom of the Tiger**. Explore the kingdom of the Bengal tiger, from the Himalayas to Rajasthan.

•Through Sept. 6. **Adrenaline Rush: The Science of Risk**. Explore the inner workings of the body as one jumps out of a plane or asks someone out on a date.

•Through Oct. 1. **Forces of Nature.** Experience the power of earthquakes, volcanoes, and storms as scientists attempt to forecast and understand them.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater

•Through Sept. 6. **Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban**. The third film adapted from J.K. Rowling's popular book series is about the adventures of a gifted young wizard. Alfonso Cuarón directs.

•Through Sept. 6. **Into the Deep.** This film explores a kelp forest off the coast of Southern California and its many inhabitants.

•Through Sept. 6. **NASCAR 3D**. Experience life in the fast lane with NASCAR pit crews and dr clocking over 200 mph.

•Through Sept. 6. **Ocean Wonderland 3D**. Thi explores the ocean floor of the Bahamas and tralia's Great Barrier Reef, with their sharks, stin and rainbows of tropical fish.

•Through Sept. 6. **Volcanoes of the Deep Sea** to the bottom of the sea with a team of scienti they explore hydrothermal vents, shipwrecke dens, predators and bioluminescent creatures.

Special Events

BRATTLE FILM FOUNDATION AND THE CAMBRIDGE ARTS COUNCIL

•Aug. 4, 7 pm. **Whale Rider** *2002*. A young g New Zealand believes she is destined to be the chief of her tribe, but her grandfather refuses t point her because she is female. Niki Caro di Screens at Riverside Press Park (corner of Mem Drive and River Street), Cambridge.

Cinema Venues

BELMONT

Studio Cinema

376 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Harbor Hotel

70 Rowes Wharf. (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blu to Aquarium.

Boston Public Library

666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)

100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre

201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common

175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science

Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green l Science Park.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue l Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema

399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MB Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green l Reservoir.

Coolidge Corner Theatre

290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre

40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red l Harvard.

Fresh Pond

168 Alewife Brook Pkwy. (617-661-2900). M Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive

24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema

One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBT Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony

10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Harvard.

MIT

77 Mass. Ave., Room 4-370. MBTA: Red l Kendall.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema

27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema

1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony

35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre

55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: R to Davis.



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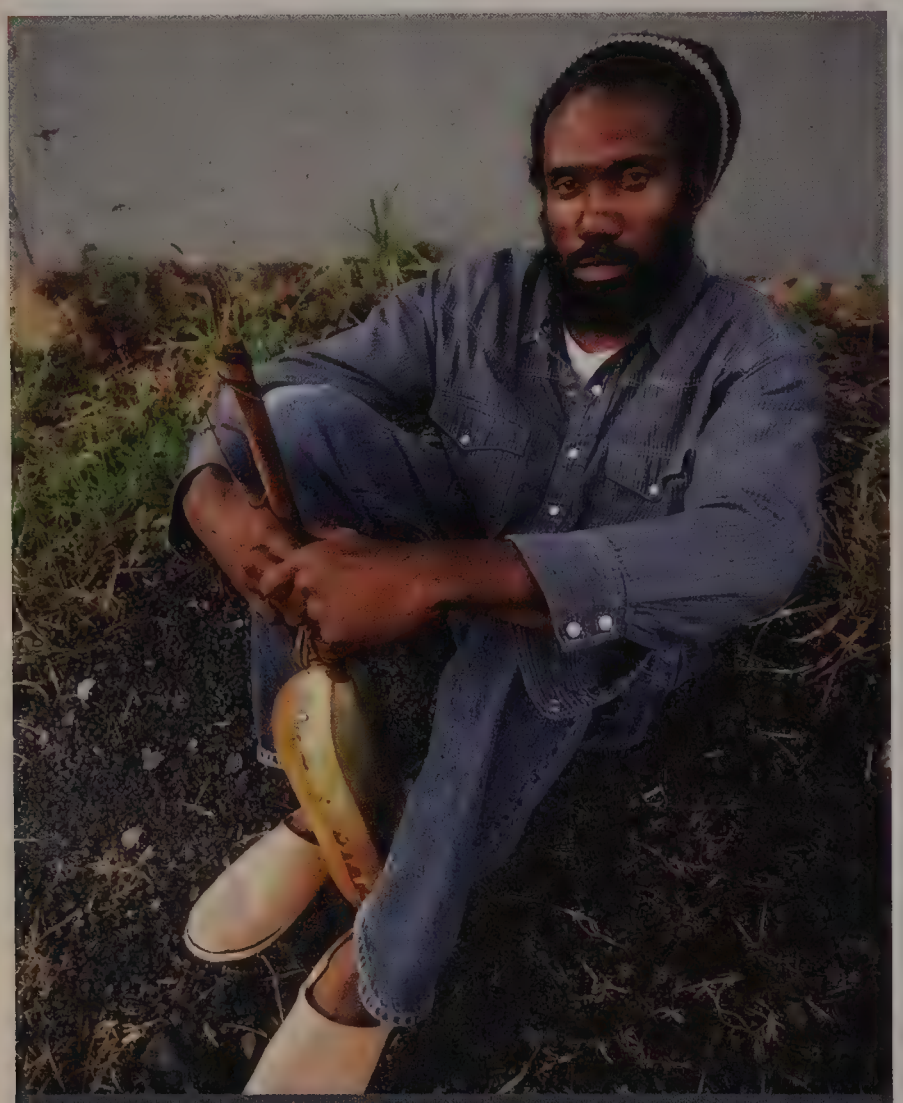
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Root of the Blues

Corey Harris builds connections between Africa and America

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Corey Harris charted his path as a modern bluesman through his anthropology studies at Bates College in Maine. "That helped mainly for me to first start thinking of other places on the map," says Harris, 35. "That's how I widened my perspective, and I was able to go to those places."



Harris and his 5x5 band play two New England shows in early Aug.

As a foreign-exchange student, the Denver native traveled to Cameroon in 1990, and returned to Africa a year later for a 10-month fellowship. "I was really studying how people use language in political campaigns," he says.

Today, Harris studies the language of the blues as an acclaimed singer, guitarist and songwriter versed in the traditional acoustic style as well as the funky, eclectic blues of his 5x5 band, which plays an Aug. 7 set at the Apple & Eve Newport Folk Festival. They'll warm up for that show with a free Aug. 5 performance on a barge outside the Boston Harbor Hotel.

The blues took him back to Africa a few more times, one as a host for Martin Scorsese's recent PBS series The Blues—specifically for the Scorsese-directed episode "Feel Like Going Home"—and for his latest CD, *Mississippi to Mali*.

"I was thinking of doing a separate record of me playing with musicians from Africa, and then I was thinking of doing a record with blues elders in the States," says Harris, "and I thought, why not do a record with both?"

So the CD features tracks in Mali with guitar great Ali Farka Toure and other African musicians, as well as songs with musicians in Mississippi, including the Rising Star Fife and Drum Band. The latter group was to feature fife and drum master Otha Thomas, who died a week before the sessions, prompting his 12-year-old granddaughter and protégé Sharde Thomas to step in on fife, an instrument that is a strong part of African traditions.

"I wanted to show other people how these things can go together and sound right," says Harris, who contributed a few of the disc's original songs, which complement reworked traditional tunes. "We don't have to force it."

"It's like branches of a tree, and these people are closer to the root," he says. "But don't get me wrong. The music that they're playing is modern music. They're not playing even their traditional songs the same way they were being played a hundred years ago. And with Ali Farka Toure, even though the music sounds very old, almost all of the tunes he wrote are about things happening today."

Much the way he recorded on a front porch in Mississippi, Harris traveled to Toure's house in remote Niafunke, Mali, to record with a simple rig that made the session more like a field recording. "In a technical sense, I guess it was, but it was a field recording of a different kind," Harris says. "We definitely talked on the real about issues that face us and things that we have in common as black people.

"You've got to keep it true and talk about what you know," he says from Virginia, his home since 1997, following five years in Louisiana. "That's all anyone else did in their modern times. If you look at someone like Robert Johnson, he wasn't an old man singing that stuff. There were no old men singing like him when he was a kid. When he was in his twenties, no men played like he did. He was a young lion. It's young people's music from a long time ago."

Harris was exposed to music from an early age. His family's listening habits ran from Dinah Washington and Ray Charles to Muddy Waters and the Ohio Players. "At my house, there wasn't really a difference between jazz, blues and R&B," he says, "and I'd listen to music in church.

"I just looked at it as my expression and where my people came from," says Harris, who related to folk-blues more than the guitar heroics of Stevie Ray Vaughan. "My family came from the South, and that was like down-home music."

"One of the big myths is that people make money—and some people make a whole lot of money—in music," says Harris, who compares the business to contract labor he has done over the years as a carpenter and stone mason. "I look at it as something like construction. There's a high overhead with a lot of costs. Your contract might seem large, but when you figure in all of your expenses—and the music-entertainment industry has some of the highest overheads of any industry with the plane tickets, the hotels and the food—your take-home pay is smaller. I don't do it for the money. If I was, I would be doing something else." iB

Corey Harris & the 5x5
play the Boston Harbor Hotel Aug. 5 and the Apple & Eve Newport Folk Festival Aug. 7.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, email to music@improper.com. Include dates, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to print accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double-check dates and times (see complete venues at the end of the section).

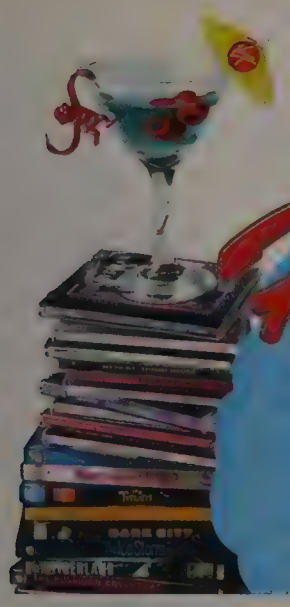
Top Billings

Bryan Adams Aug. 8, FleetBoston Pavilion 931-2000).
American Hi-Fi, Butch Walker July 30, (617-423-NEXT).
Arrested Development July 25, Paradise Club (617-423-NEXT).
Barenaked Ladies and Alanis Morissette A Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Boston Blues Challenge Finals July 22, Ha Ferry (617-254-9743).
The Clarks with Fastball Aug. 3, Paradise L (617-423-NEXT).
Crosby, Stills and Nash July 22, FleetB Pavilion (617-931-2000).
The Cure, Interpol, the Rapture, Mo Muse, Cooper Temple Clause, Melissa A Maur, Head Automatica Aug. 7, Tweeter C (617-931-2000).
The Dead, Warren Haynes July 30 an Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Dispatch July 29, Somerville Theatre (617 2000); July 31, Boston Hatch Shell (617-727-1
Everlast, Buddahead July 31, Paradise Rock (617-423-NEXT).
Adam Ezra Aug. 5, Paradise Rock Club (617 NEXT).
Fountains of Wayne July 22, Copley Square
Josh Groban July 27, Tweeter Center (617 2000).
The Gypsy Kings July 21, FleetBoston Pa (617-931-2000).
Carole King July 25, FleetBoston Pavilion 931-2000).
Linkin Park, Korn, Snoop Dogg, the Used Than Jake July 29, Tweeter Center (617-931-2
Modest Mouse Aug. 7, Avalon (617-423-NE
O.A.R., Howie Day Aug. 5, FleetBoston Pa (617-931-2000).
Phish Aug. 10, Tweeter Center (617-931-200
311, the Roots, Medeski Martin and Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21

Abbey Lounge Reverend Glass Eye and his W Legs, 9 pm; the Drags, 9:45 pm; Allen Devine pm; the Collisions, 11:45 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Asgard Asgard Acoustic Night.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm, no cov
Bristol Lounge Joe Morocco, 6-10 pm, no co
The Burren Spikes that in the Sunset Rise an burned Hand of the Man.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues Jam, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Andrew Kerr, 8 pm, $14.
Dick's Last Resort P-3 PO, 7:20 pm-12 a cover.
The Fireplace Eric Bindman, 9:30 pm-12 am, n
FleetBoston Pavilion The Gipsy Kings, 8 pm, $
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Harper's Ferry Logan, with the Laura Glyd and NBFB, $5, 21+.
Johnny D's D'Gary, 8:30 pm, $12, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Kristin Hoffman, 7:30-8:30 cover; Bourbon Princess and Shannon M 9:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Middle East Dillinger Escape Plan, the Bronx Ken Stringfellow, 9 pm.
Midway Café Mike Meanwhile, Gold Light Crabsounds.
PA's Clair De Lune, Crisis Bureau, Lock and
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30 pm
Ryles Jazz Club Americana Night with And 8:30 pm, $10, 18+.
T.T. the Bear's Place A Hero Next Door, 9 Quitters, 9:40 pm; Xtreme Badass, 10:20 pm Lie, 11 pm; Fluttr, 11:40 pm, $7.
ZuZu Eilen Jewel Band.



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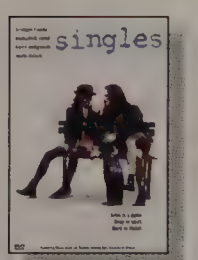
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TASTE THE ORIGINAL

THURSDAY, JULY 22

Abbey Lounge The Heatseekers, 11:30 pm, $5-7, 21+.
Asgard Kulica.
Atrium Lounge Alexei Tsiganov, 5:30-9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Avalon Hanson, Maria Mena, Ben Jelen, 6 pm, $25.25.
Black Horse Tavern Matt Chase Band, 8:30-11:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's Myanna, 7 pm, $3-7
Boston Harbor Hotel Renee Austin, 6 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Serious Bizness.
Bristol Lounge Alfreco Cardim, 6-10 pm, no cover.
Brother Jimmy's Rich Robinson, 9 pm, $12, 21+.
The Burren Swingin' Johnsons.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: New band showcase, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Billy Jonas, 8 pm, $10.
Copley Square Park Fountains of Wayne, 5 pm, free.
Dick's Last Resort Shock Treatment, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
The Fireplace Harry Fix, 9:30 pm-12 am, no cover.
FleetBoston Pavilion Crosby, Stills & Nash, 7:30 pm, $40-$48.50.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Splitting Vinnies.
Harper's Ferry 2004 Boston Blues Challenge Finals: Adam Connelly Band, 9:30 pm; D & the Heavyweights, 10:15 pm; Mr. Nick's Blues Mafia, 11 pm; Ryan Hartt & the Blue Hearts, 11:45 pm; J Place Band, 12:30 am.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
Johnny D's Brotherhood of Groove, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Kirkland Café The Twisted Rico All Acoustic Revue: Rachael Contu, Patrick McGugh, Lloyd Thayer, Naomi Sommers, $5.
Lizard Lounge Eric Sommer, 7:30-8:30 pm, no cover; Starhick with Jon Gorey and Charlie Chesterman & the Legendary Motorbikes. 9:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Middle East Dirtbombs, 8 pm; JJ Paradise Players Club, 9 pm.
Midway Café Dave Dugan.
Paradise Lounge: Blue October with Joe Pagetta, 7 pm, $10, 18+. Rock Club: Jake Brennan & the Confidence Men with Violet Nine, Apollo Sunshine, 8 pm, 18+.
PA's Model A, 9 pm; the Life of Boys, 10 pm.
Plough and Stars Tom Hagerty, 9:30 pm.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett & Friends.
Ryles Jazz Club Marcele Berger, 8:30 pm, $10, 18+
Scullers Bobby "Blue" Bland, 8 and 10 pm, $25.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place Mittens, 9:15 pm; Stephen Brodsky of Cave-In, 10:15 pm; Ben Kweller, 11:15 pm.
The Western Front The Mighty Fantastic, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
ZuZu The Double.

FRIDAY, JULY 23

Asgard Ryan & Stu.
Atrium Lounge Bert Seager-Masa Kamaguchi piano and bass duo, 9 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.
Avalon The Hives, Sahara Hotnights, Reigning Sound, 7 pm, $16.
Axis The Mooney Suzuki, the Sexy Magazines, 7 pm, $12, 18+.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Celtic Clan. Upstairs: Sundays Well, 9:30 pm, $5.
Bob the Chef's Part Time Lover's Band, 7:30 pm, $3-$7.
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 6 pm-12:30 am, no cover.
The Burren Scooby Snax.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim The Burns Sisters, 8 pm, $12.
Common Ground ReVibe, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Death by Marriage, 8:30 pm-1:30 am, no cover.
The Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos & the No Way Jose Band.
The Good Life Downtown Aaron Burnett Trio, 6:30 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern Stain Glass Eye.
Harper's Ferry Papa Grows Funk, $12, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 6-7:30 pm.
Johnny D's Chapter in Verse, 9:45 pm, $8, 21+.
Kirkland Café Mattatari, Polyethelene, Sparkle and Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lizard Lounge Joe Welsh of Fooled by April, 7:30-8:30 pm, no cover; the Bicycle Theives, Grey Star Morning, 9:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Middle East 71 & Esoteric with J Zone, Celph Titled, 8 pm; Audrey Ryan Band, Say When, 9 pm.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Allman Brothers Band and Los Lonely Boys Aug. 21, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Jimmy Buffet Sept. 10 and 12, Fenway Park (617-931-2000).
Phil Collins Sept. 15, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
The Corrs Aug. 28, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Deep Purple with Joe Satriani and Thin Lizzy Aug. 14, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Gloria Estefan Sept. 17, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Kenny G and Michael Bolton September 20, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Heart Sept. 11, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Don Henley Sept. 1, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Jack Johnson with G Love & Special Sauce Sept. 15, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Norah Jones Aug. 31, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Patti Labelle Aug. 18. FleetBoston Pavilion (6 931-2000).
Avril Lavigne Nov. 1, FleetCenter (617-9 2000).
Huey Lewis and the News Aug. 21, FleetBos Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Barry Manilow Oct. 1, FleetCenter (617-9 2000).
The Marley Brothers, Common, Toots and Maytals Aug. 12, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-9 2000).
John Mayer, Maroon 5 and DJ Logic Aug. Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Metallica Oct. 24 FleetCenter (617-931-2000)
The Perceptionists Aug. 20 Paradise Rock C (617-423-NEXT).
Prince Aug. 17-19, FleetCenter (617-9 2000).
Rush Aug. 12, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000)
Sonic Youth, White Magic, Magic Markers A 14, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).

Midway Café Spiritual Zed.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy and Tony.
Paradise Lounge: Finn Andrews of the Veils, 6 pm, $8, 21+. Rock Club: General Public, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
Parris The Zone.
PA's LABB, the Memory Effect
Plough and Stars Steve Hurl, 5-7:30 pm; Richie Lee & the Boston Wheels, 9:30 pm-12:45 am.
Ryles Jazz Club Funk Soul Friday with Mike and the Soul Twisters, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Scullers Kendrick Oliver & the New Life Orch featuring Kevin Mahogany and Cyrus Chestr and 10:30 pm, $26.
Somerville Theatre The Bad Plus, 8 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Star Hick, 9:15 pm; the Timin Three, 10:15 pm; Jittery Jack, 11:15 pm; Mencher Combo, 12:15 am, $10.



American Hi-Fi headlines a show at Axis on July 30.


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Tweeter Center 311, the Roots, Medeski Martin and Wood, 7 pm, $35.
The Western Front Rising Lion, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

SATURDAY, JULY 24

Abbey Lounge The Stumbleweeds, 11:30 pm, $5-7, 21+.
All Asia Cafe Ya Salam Elvis with Scott Anderson, 7-10 pm, $6.
Atrium Lounge Alfredo Cardim, 5:15-8:45 pm, no cover, 21+; Bert Seager-Masa Kamaguchi piano & bass duo, 9 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.
Berklee Performance Center Con Funk Shun, the Dazz Band and Midnight Star, 7:30 pm.
Black Horse Tavern Sweet Willie D. Band, 9:30 pm-12:30 am, no cover.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Celtic Clan. Upstairs: Sundays Well, 9:30 pm, $5.
Bob the Chef's Brandon Sanders Quartet, 7:30 pm, $3-$7.
Boston Hatch Shell Three Dog Night, 7-9:30 pm.
Bristol Lounge Debbie Sullivan, 6 pm-12:30 am, no cover.
The Burren The Troubadores.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Kevin So, 8 pm, $15.
Common Ground Moon Boot Lover, 10 pm, $6 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Classic Trax, 8:30 pm-1:30 am, no cover.
The Good Life Cambridge Weepin' Willie.
The Good Life Downtown Jim Porcella Trio.
The Green Dragon Tavern Random Axis.
Harper's Ferry Badfish, a tribute to Sublime with Meet the Day, $10, 18+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm.
Johnny D's Superhoney, 9:45 pm, $10, 21+.
Kirkland Café Polski Fiat, Teleopop, Once Over and Alison Block, $5.
Lizard Lounge Dan Boyne Trio, 7:30-8:30 pm, no cover; Kulika, Reed Foehl, 9:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Midway Café Dan Russo.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy and Tony.
Paradise Lounge: Suspect Device with Blatent Finger, 9 pm, $7, 21+. Rock club: Buckethead's Giant Robot featuring Brian and House, 8 pm, 18+.
Parris The Zone.
Plough and Stars Beek, Rhodes & Jefferies, 5-7:30 pm; Kevin Connelly Band, 9:30 pm-12:45 am.
Purple Shamrock Pig Pen.
Ryles Jazz Club Bruce Gertz Qunitet, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
Scullers Kendrick Oliver & the New Life Orchestra, 8 and 10:30 pm, $26.
Tír na nÓg Jabe.
T.T. the Bear's Place Another World is Possible Benefit for Boston Social Forum, 8:30 pm.
The Western Front Rising Lion, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

SUNDAY, JULY 25

The Black Rose Tom O'Carroll, 4:30 pm; Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Sonny Watson Jazz Quartet, 10 am-2:30 pm, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan Jazz Duo, 11 am-2 pm, no cover; Joe Barbato, 6-9 pm, no cover.
The Burren Singer Songwriter Series with Danielle, 8 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Jez Lowe, 7:30 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Sunday Brunch, 10 am-3 pm, no cover; Big Time, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
FleetBoston Pavilion Carole King, 7:30 pm, $35-$75.
Grafton Street The Beantown Project, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, 9 am-1 pm.
Johnny D's Jazz Brunch with Ridgley Snow, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Middle East The Slackers, 8 pm; the Spits, Weirdos, 9 pm.
Midway Café Stump the Undertakers Organ.
Milky Way All the King's Men, 8 pm, $10.
Paradise Rock Club: Arrested Development, Spooky Daly Pride, 7 pm, $16, 18+.
Plough and Stars North Shore Musicians hosted by Neptune Bay, 5-7:30 pm; the Cranktones, 9:30 pm-12:45 am.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Brunch with Bob Gay, 10 am-3 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Dave Wildman, 9:15 pm; Stephan Smith, 10:15 pm; Dusky Silo, 11:15 pm.
ZuZu Wheelers and Dealers.

MONDAY, JULY 26

The Attic The Samples with Missing Joe.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 6-10 pm, no cover.
The Burren Set Dancing Lesson with Ger Cooney, 8 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Singer-Songwriter Open Mike, 8 pm; David Francis, 9:30 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Songwriter Tribute Night: Billy Bragg, 7 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Death by Marriage, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
Harper's Ferry Best Bands Showcase, free, 21+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Lizard Lounge Putnam Murdoch, 7:30-8:30 pm, no cover; the Freelance Bishops, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Middle East Camera Obscura, 8 pm.
Plough and Stars Hatrack Gallagher & Ric Maure, 9:30 pm.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard.
Tír na nÓg Night in Wyoming

TUESDAY, JULY 27

The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 6-10 pm, no cover.
The Burren Open Mike with Hugh McGowan, 7 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm; Boston City Limits, 10 pm, cover varies, 21+. Downstairs: Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Open Mike with Greg Klyma, 7 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Jennerators, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Shoot the Moon.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Lizard Lounge Lisa Bastoni, 7:30-8:30 pm, no cover, 9:30, $5, 21+.
Middle East Ted Leo/Pharmacists, Radio 4, 8 pm.
Paradise Lounge: Bleu, Mike Viola with John Powhida and the Candy Butchers, 8 pm, $8, 18+.
Plough and Stars Josh Lederman, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club New York Nights with Double Bill of Patrick Wroge and the Dig Trio, 8:30 pm, $7, 18+.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
T.T. the Bear's Place Saving Alcatraz, 9 pm; 10:40 pm; The Hidden, 11:35 pm, $7.
Tweeter Center Josh Groban, 7:30 pm, $25-7
ZuZu Ziaf, an Edith Piaf Tribute Band.
Les Zygomates The Jason Domnarski Trio, 8 p

WEDNESDAY, JULY 28

Abbey Lounge Raymond, 9 pm; The Emerg 9:45 pm; Karmella's Game, 10:45 pm; The sions, 11:45 pm, $5-7, 21+.
Asgard Jude Nemo, 9 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm, no co
Breezeway Jeff Felder.
Bristol Lounge Alfreco Cardim, 6-10 pm, no c
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues Jam, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Aoife O'Donovan and Crooked 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Classic Trax, 7:20 pm-12 a cover.
The Fireplace Edward, 9:30 pm-12 am.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Harper's Ferry Logan, with Wounded B Theory and Sparticle, featuring Royston Lang Spacehog, $5, 21+.
Johnny D's Brave Combo, 8:30 pm, $15, 21+
Lizard Lounge Kristin Hoffman, 7:30-8:30 p cover; Skills of Ortega, 9:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Paradise Lounge: The AKA's and the Start, $3 over 21, $5 under 21, 18+.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30 pm
Ryles Jazz Club Americana Night with Pass 8:30 pm, 18+.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Bigger Lovers, 9:(Pernice Brothers, 10:45 pm, $10.
ZuZu Eilen Jewel Band
Les Zygomates Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm.

THURSDAY, JULY 29

Abbey Lounge Carlisle, 9 pm; Kahoots, 11: $5-7, 21+.
Atrium Lounge Bert Seager, 5:30-9 pm, no cove
The Black Rose Downstairs: Eugene Byrn stairs: Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's Pat Loomis, 7:00 pm, $3-7.
Breezeway Serious Bizness.
Bristol Lounge Bill Duffy, 6-10 pm, no cover.





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The Burren Swingin' Johnsons.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: New band showcase, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim The Nields, 7 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm-12 am, no cover.
The Fireplace Gwen Leathers, 9:30 pm-12 am, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Splitting Vinnies
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
Johnny D's Garaj Mahal, Akashik Record, 9 pm, $10.
Kirkland Café Indigirrlopolooza All Girl Revue: Teresa Storch, 8 pm; Stargazer Lily, 8:30 pm; Allison Tartalia, 9:30 pm; Showin' Tell, 10:30 pm; Emiko, 11:30 pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Gabrielle Riley, 7:30-8:30 pm, no cover; the Fever Monument, Kinnar, Audrey Can't Die, 9:30 pm, $7.
Midway Café Choo Choo LaRouge.
PA's The Nein.
Plough and Stars RPM's, 9:30 pm.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett & Friends.
Ryles Jazz Club Brandon Patton, Dead Cat Bounce, 8:30 pm, $10, 18+.
Somerville Theatre Dispatch, 8 pm.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
T.T. the Bear's Place Drew O'Doherty, 10:30; David Grubbs, 11:30, $8.
Tweeter Center Linkin Park, Korn, Snoop Dogg, the Used, Less Than Jake, 2 pm, $38-$53.
The Western Front The Fair Enough, 9 pm, $6, 21+.
ZuZu The Hot Tarts.
Les Zygomates Soul Phactor, 8 pm.

FRIDAY, JULY 30

Abbey Lounge Downbeat 5, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Asgard Ryan and Stu, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Bert Seager-Peter Kontrimas piano & bass duo, 9 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.
Axis American Hi-Fi, Butch Walker, 7 pm.
Black Horse Tavern Groove Authority, 9:30 pm-12:30 am, no cover.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Eugene Byrne. Upstairs: Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Paulo Danay Jazz Quartet, 7:30 pm, $3-7.


The Hives, fresh off the release of their latest album, perform at Avalon on July 23.

Bristol Lounge Debbie Sullivan, 6 pm-12:30 am, no cover.
The Burren Swingin' Johnsons.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Tom Paxton, 8 pm, $35.
Common Ground Freight Train, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm-1:30 am, no cover.
The Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos & the No Way Jose Band.
The Good Life Downtown Aaron Burnett Trio, 6:30pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern Freeze Pop.
The Harp The Zoo.
Harper's Ferry Revival – A tribute to the Allman Brothers, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 6-7:30 pm; Felix Brown.
Johnny D's Eddie "The Chief" Clearwater, 9:45 pm, $10.
Kirkland Café The Funk You Revue: Max Funch Instituit, Groove of the Day, The Mighty Fantastic, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lizard Lounge Phillip Aiken, 7:30-8:30 pm, no cover. Pure Fiction, The Billy Nayer Show, 9:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Middle East Onslaught Birthday Bash with Throe, September Twilight, 8 pm; Cracktorch, Cougars, 9 pm.
Midway Café Pelvic Circus, Syndicate.
Mr. Dooley's McTaggarts.
Paradise Lounge: Mum's Cowboy, 9 pm, $6, 21+. Rock Club: Los Straightjackets, Dave Alvin & the Guilty Men, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
Parris Catunes.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 5-7:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Funk Soul Friday with Thadd Hogarth, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Bravery, 9:15; Bunk 10:15; Vic Thrill, 11:15 pm; AdFrank & the F Easy Women, 12:15 am, $8.
Tweeter Center The Dead, Warren Haynes, 6 p $50.
The Western Front New Youth, 10 pm, $8, 21+.
Les Zygomates Ronny Ron Trio, 7 pm.

SATURDAY, JULY 31

Abbey Lounge Chroma, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Asgard Ripchordz, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Axis Fear Factory, Mastodon, Sworn Enemy, 5:30 pm, $18.
The Black Rose Frank Ryan, 4:30. Downstairs: I gene Byrne. Upstairs: Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm, $5.
Bob the Chef's Nat Simpkins Jazz Quartet, 7:30 p $3-$7.
Boston Hatch Shell Dispatch DVD taping, aft noon.
Bristol Lounge Debbie Sullivan, 6 pm-12:30 am, cover.
The Burren Random Axis.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook & Thrillers, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
City Hall Plaza Gin Blossoms, 7 pm, no cover.
Club Passim Brooks Williams, 8 pm, $15.
Common Ground Trumystic, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Big 80's, 8:30 pm-1:30 am, cover.
FleetBoston Pavilion The Finn Brothers with M tin Sexton and Angela McCluskey, 7:30 pm, $30
The Good Life Cambridge Weepin' Willie.
The Good Life Downtown Jim Porcella Trio.
The Green Dragon Tavern Velvet Johns.
The Harp The Zoo.
Harper's Ferry The Lost Trailers & Friends, $ 18+; $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm.
Johnny D's Melvin Sparks, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kirkland Café Jack T & the Kings, Green Cr ing, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low performer, 7:30-8:30 no cover; the Goodbyes and Dave Aaronoff & Details, 9:30 pm, $6, 21+.

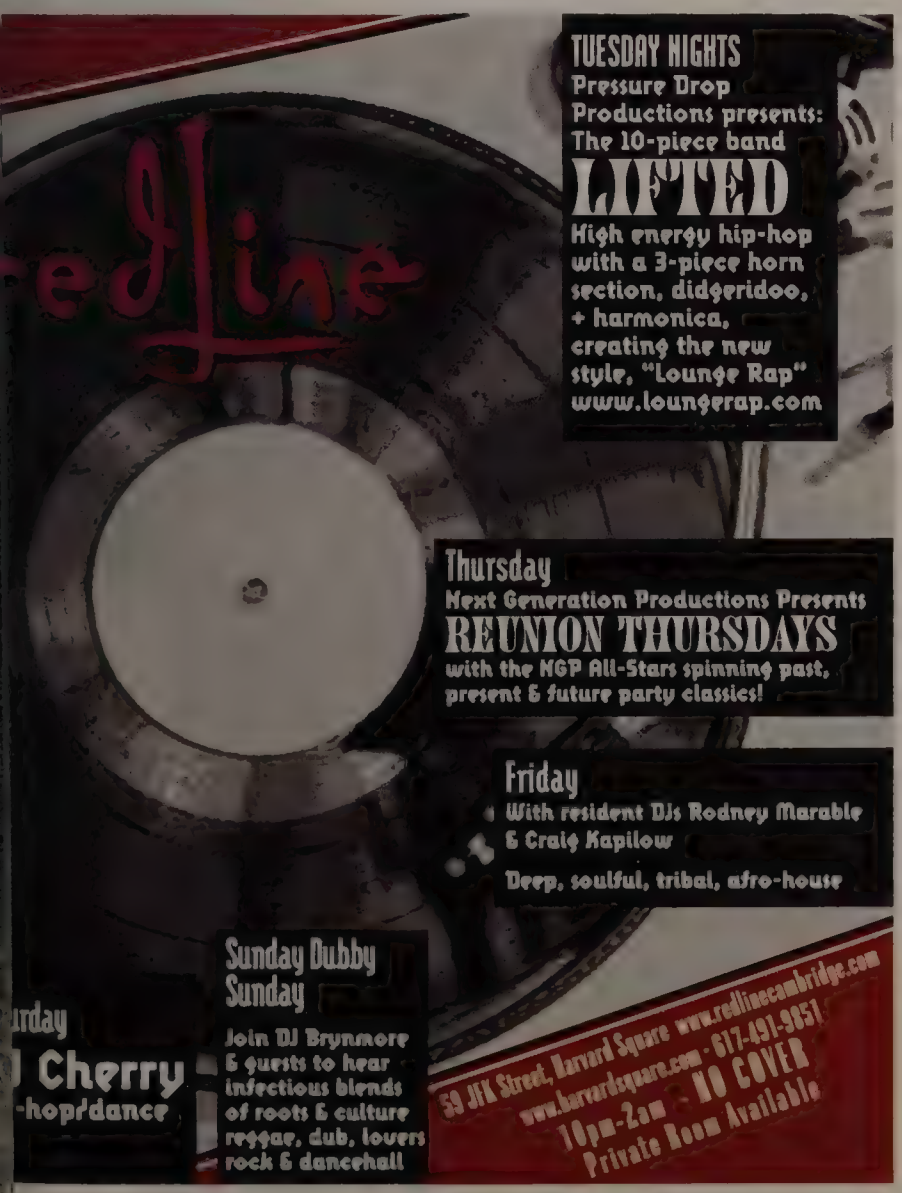


Summer is back!

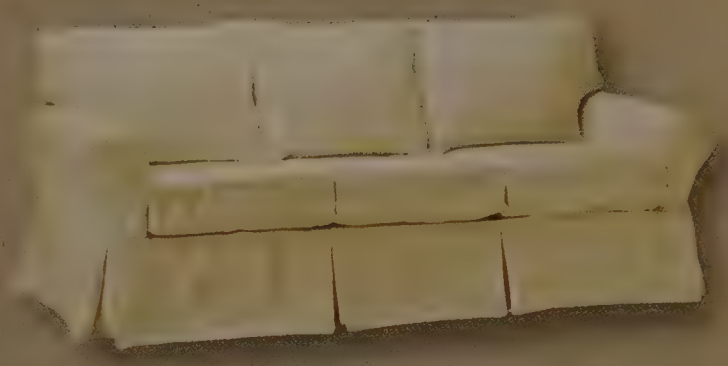


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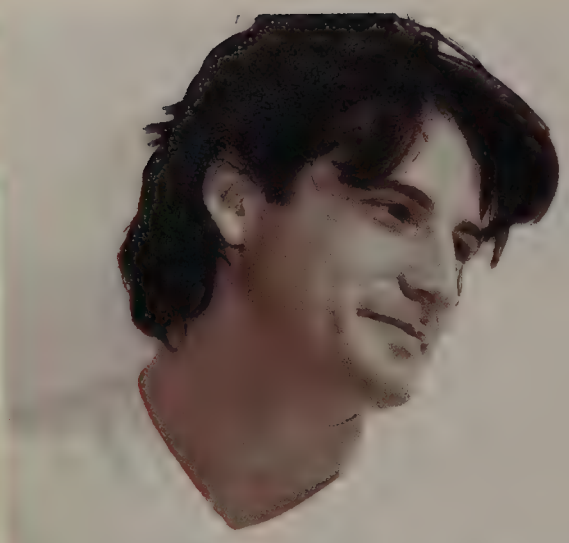
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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN sponsors a show by the Adam Ezra Group on Aug. 5 at the Paradise.

Middle East Cex, Make Believe, 2 pm; Shootyz Groove, Second Audio Program, 8 pm; Mr. Airplane Man, Cheaterslicks, 9 pm.
Midway Café Slow Motion Driver
Mr. Dooley's McTaggarts.
Paradise Rock Club: Everlast, Buddahead, 8 pm, $16.50, 21+.
Parris Central Basement.
Plough and Stars Alan Kaufman & Friends, 5-7:30 pm; Sta Martin, 9:30 pm-12:45 am.
Purple Shamrock Souljah.
Ryles Jazz Club Boston T Party with T Lavitz, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
T.T. the Bear's Place Rod Picott, 11 pm; Eric Ambel & The Roscoe Trio, 12 am, $8 advance, $10 day of.
Tweeter Center The Dead, Warren Haynes, 6 pm, $50.
The Western Front Hot Like Fire, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
ZuZu Soul le lu jah.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 7 pm.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 1

The Attic Cold Boilers, 9 pm, $5-$14, 21+.
Axis Pepper, 8 pm.
The Black Rose Frank Ryan, 4 pm, no cover .
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Nat Simpkins Jazz Quartet, 10 am-2:30 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, cover varies. 21+.
Club Passim Jon Pusette-Dart & John Hall, 7:30 pm, $17.
Grafton Street The Beantown Project, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Swinging Johnsons.
Johnny D's Jazz Brunch with Matt Dorko and Larry Kukers, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Lizard Lounge Jeff Ronbinson Trio, 7 pm, $5.
Middle East Insight, Time Machine, 8 pm; the Union Ares, Mercy Jar, 9 pm.
Plough and Stars Ken Selcer & Friends, 5-7:30 pm; the Coachmen, 9:30 pm-12:45 am.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz brunch with Steve Rochinski, 10 am-3 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Frank Morey, 9:50 pm; the Blazers, 10:40 pm, $8.

MONDAY, AUGUST 2

The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Open Mike, 8 pm, no cover. 21+.
Middle East Moth, Distinguished Members, 9 pm.
PA's Brian Bonz.
Plough and Stars Beek, Rhodes & Jefferies, 9:30 pm.
Restaurante Cesaria Maria De Barros, 8 pm.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 3

The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm, cover varies, 21+. Downstairs: Bluegrass Jam, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Open Mike with Eric Royer, 7 pm, $5.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Lieb.
Johnny D's Riot Act Open Mike , 7 pm.
Lizard Lounge The Lonesome Brothers, 9:30 pm, $5.
Middle East The Minders, the Shenzou 5, 9 pm.
Paradise Lounge: the Clarks with Fastball, 8 pm, $12, 18+.
Plough and Stars Roseanne Rinari, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club New York Nights with Deian McBride and the Pretty Girl Orchestra, 8:30 pm, $7, 18+.
Scullers Buster Williams Quartet, 8 pm and 10 pm, $20.
T.T. the Bear's Place Ketman, 9:15 pm; Frank Jordan, 10:15 pm, $6.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4

Abbey Lounge Smorgasbord, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+
Asgard Acoustic Showcase
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Candy Blues Jam, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Maeve, 8 pm, $12.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Lizard Lounge Jeffrey Simmons and the Symptoms, Daryll Blood, Kristina Johnson, 9:30 pm, $5.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club The Buckners, 8:30 pm, $6, 18+.
Scullers The Mack Avenue All-Stars, 8 pm and 10 pm, $18.
T.T. the Bear's Place Tober, 9:15 pm; Vinyl, 10:15 pm.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 5

Abbey Lounge Bad Saints, 11:30 pm; $5-$7, 21+
Asgard Jason Consolacion.
Black Horse Tavern Matt Chase Band, 8:30-11:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm, no cover .
Bob the Chef's Joe Barger & the Soul Providers, 7:00 pm, $3-$7.
Boston Harbor Hotel Corey Harris and the 5X5 Band, 6 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Chris Waller, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Old School Freight Train & Manhattan Handoff, 8 pm, $12.
Encore Lounge Beenie Man, 9 pm, cover varies.
FleetBoston Pavilion O.A.R., Howie Day, 7 pm, $30.
The Green Dragon Tavern Spitting Vinnies.
Kirkland Café Henry, Ellipsis, My Own W Enemy, Butterknife, $5.
Lizard Lounge Yoni Gordon and the Goods, 9 pm, $7.
Middle East Trebek, the Grift, 8 pm; Slater, Glow, 9 pm.
Paradise The Improper Bostonian sponsors Adam Ezra Group, Amusia, Flynn, 7:30, $10, 1
Plough and Stars Starhick & Zipper, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Scott Tarulli group with Jim bataille, 8:30 pm, $8, 18+.
Scullers La Timba Loca, 8 pm and 10 pm, $14.
T.T. the Bear's Place Aaron Perrino, 10:30 Matt Pond, 11:30 pm.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6

Abbey Lounge Coffin Lids, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+
Asgard Ryan McHugh and Stu Lee
The Attic Fivewise.
Black Horse Tavern Ken Clark Trio, 9:30 pm-12 am, no cover.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm; Sund Well, 10:30 pm, no cover .
Bob the Chef's Part Time Lovers Band, 7:00 $3-7
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thriller pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Punks Are Folks Too! II, 8pm, $12.
Common Ground The Navigators, 10 pm, 21+.
The Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos & the Way Jose Band.
The Good Life Downtown Aaron Burnett T 6:30pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern Say When.
The Harp Chorduroy.
Johnny D's Walter "Wolfman" Washington, pm, $10.
Kirkland Café Rollo Tomasi Quartet, Mickey Organ Combo, $5.
Lizard Lounge The Douglas Fir with Passenger Illumina, 9:30 pm, $7.
Middle East King Hippo Records Summer B Sudden Ease, the Dij, 8 pm; Kinski, 9 pm.
Mr. Dooley's Christy O'Connell.
Paradise Lounge: David Garza, 10 pm, $10, 21+
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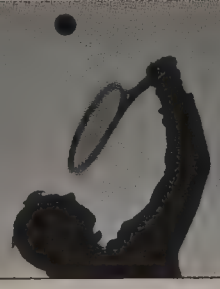
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Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 6-8:30 pm; the Armadillos, 9:30 pm-12:45 am.
Ryles Jazz Club Funk Soul Friday with the Love Dogs, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Scullers Regina Belle, 8 and 10:30 pm, $38.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Rudds, 9:30 pm; Mike Viola & the Candy Butchers, 10:30 pm; the Figgs, 11:45 pm, $10.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7

Abbey Lounge The Spitzz, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Avalon Modest Mouse, 7 pm.
The Black Rose Frank Ryan, 4 pm; Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm; Sunday's Well, 10:30 pm, no cover .
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Jazz Quartet, 7:30 pm, $3-7
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
City Hall Plaza Spin Doctors, 7 pm, no cover.
Club Passim Paul and Storm, 8 pm, $15.
Common Ground Boston Horns, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
The Good Life Cambridge Weepin' Willie.
The Good Life Downtown Jim Porcella Trio.
The Green Dragon Tavern Inchicore.
The Harp Chorduroy.
Johnny D's Pressure Cooker, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kinsale Clarias.
Lizard Lounge Pete Pidgeon, Arcoda, 9:30 pm, $7.
Middle East Andrea Echeverri, $20.
Mr. Dooley's Christy O'Connell.
PA's Presley, The Silver Lining.
Plough and Stars Steve Marden, 5-7:30 pm; Jumpin' Juba, 9:30 pm-12:45 am.
Ryles Jazz Club Mr. Nick's Blues Mafia, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Scullers Regina Belle, 8 and 10:30 pm, $38.
Somerville Theatre The 23 Love Songs Project, 8 pm.
Tweeter Center The Cure, Interpol, the Rapture, Mogwai, Muse, Cooper Temple Clause, Melissa Auf De Maur, Head Automatica, 5 pm, $35-$50.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

Axis Authority Zero, 7 pm.
The Black Rose Frank Ryan, 4 pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Brandon Sanders Quartet, 10 am-2:30 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy Blues Jam, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Otis Taylor, 8 pm, $15.
FleetBoston Pavilion Bryan Adams, 7:30 pm, $28-$47.50.
Grafton Street The Beantown Project, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Swinging Johnsons.
Johnny D's Jazz Brunch with Tom Pendergast, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Middle East The Sterns, Roxie, 9 pm.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett.
Plough and Stars Kind of Bluegrass, 5-7:30 pm; the Cranktones, 9:30 pm-12:45 am.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Brunch with Yoko Miwa, 10 am-3 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Model A, 10:15 pm, $5.

MONDAY, AUGUST 9

The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Singer-Songwriter Open Mike, 8 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Kevin Montgomery, 8 pm, $15.
Harper's Ferry Audible Mainframe, Eclectic Collective, Gavin Castleton, Gymclass Heroes, $10, 18+.
Middle East Lock and Key, Boxingwater, 9 pm.
Plough and Stars Hatrack Gallagher & Ric Maure, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Yoko Miwa & Trio, 10 am-3 pm.
Tweeter Center Barenaked Ladies, Alanis Morissette, 7 pm, $25-$50.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10

The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Bluegrass Pickin Party, cover varies, 21+. Downstairs: Bluegrass Jam, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Open Mike with Lloyd Thayer, 7 pm, $5.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Lieb.
Johnny D's Kerri Powers, 8:30 pm.
Middle East Starvations, Blues Bastard, 9 pm.
Paradise Rock Club: Jamie Cullen, 8 pm, $16, 18+.
Plough and Stars Larry Flint, 8:30 pm-12:45 am.
Ryles Jazz Club New York Night with Frank Picarazzi, 8:30 pm, $7, 18+.
Scullers Plena Libre, 8 and 10 pm, $18.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Neins, 9 pm; Rogue Wave, 9:50 pm; A.C. Newman, 10:50 pm.
Tweeter Center Phish, 7 pm, $42.50.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-447-9631).*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-910 MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
Atrium Lounge *Millenium Bostonian Hotel, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-523-3600). MBTA Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684 MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424) MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Bos (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Li to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Governmer Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617 743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541 5400).*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-33 4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Choppin' Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (61 734-4177). MBTA: E Green Line to Brigham Circ*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617 783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Av*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Pruden*
Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-33 7699). MBTA: B Green Line to Boylston.*
The Fireplace Restaurant *1634 Beacon St., Bro line (617-975-1900). MBTA:C Green Line to W ington Square.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Bosto (617-728-1600). MBTA: Red Line to South Sta*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
The Good Life Cambridge *720 Mass. Ave., Ca bridge (617-868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Cent*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Bost (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to P Street.*
Grafton Street *1688 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 497-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Bost (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line Haymarket.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-10 MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-2 9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
The Hatch Shell *On the Esplanade, Boston (617-7 1300)*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-212 MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Cente*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776 2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (6 482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-4 9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Pl (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Ston Brook.*
Milky Way Lounge & Lanes *403 Centre St., Jam Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to S Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-56 MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Cent*
Paradise Rock Club and Lounge *967 Comm. A Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8 MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Cen*
PA's Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (6 776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (441-3455).*

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Wed. 8/11	TAM	6:30-8:30	The News
Sat. 8/14	CHI	6:30-8:30	José McIntyre's
Fri. 8/20	CHI	7:30-9:30	TBD
Fri. 8/27	DET	6:30-8:30	Hurricane O'Reilly's
Fri. 9/03	TEX	6:30-8:30	Sanctuary
Wed. 9/15	TAM	6:30-8:30	The Office
Thurs. 9/16	TAM	6:30-8:30	The Harp
Thurs. 9/23	BAL	6:30-8:30	Bell in Hand
Sat. 9/25	NY	6:30-8:30	The Place



Check out wbcn.com's KUYA page for event times, updates and photos.

Preview

The Last Phish Fry

New England phenomenon says goodbye on its own terms.



L-R: Jon Fishman, Trey Anastasio, Page McConnell and Mike Gordon

Phish's "Golgi Apparatus" peaks with the chorus "I saw you, with a ticket stub in your hand!" And after Phish plays its last note Aug. 15 at a homestate festival in Coventry, Vt., that'll be all fans have left, along with cherished live downloads and *Undermind*, the band's new CD swan song.

Consider that Phish singer-guitarist Trey Anastasio wrote lyrics for "Golgi Apparatus" in the eighth grade, and you may understand why he wants to move on from Phish. It's been a 21-year-long, strange trip from loopy college band to multi-million-dollar touring phenomenon that redefined the course for a new generation of jambands.

"We don't want to become caricatures of ourselves, or worse yet, a nostalgia act," Anastasio wrote in a seismic post on phish.com that noted Coventry will be the final Phish show, capping a week of dates that begins at the Tweeter Center Aug. 10-11. So not to confuse the occasion with a hiatus for solo projects in 2001-2002, he added, "We're done."

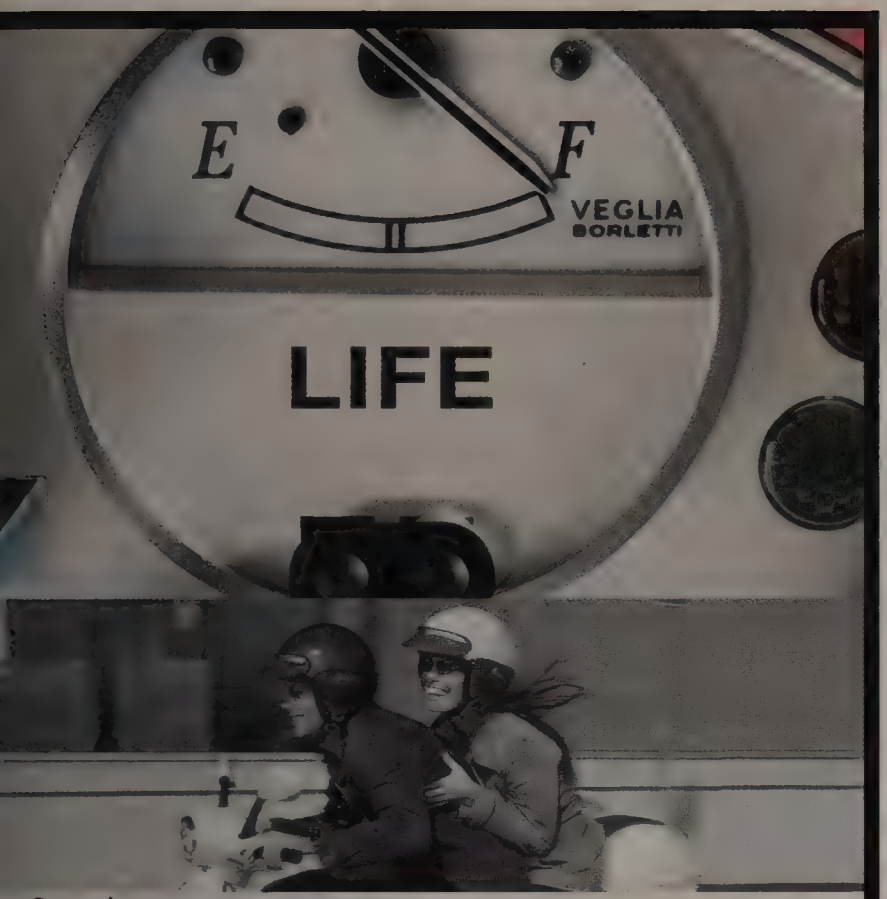
Try as Phish might, its newer songs had trouble standing up to early art-rock suites like "You Enjoy Myself" and "Harry Hood," which belied the fugue-loving Anastasio's grounding as a classically influenced composer. And while *Undermind* captures the quartet's fluid, organic feel as well as any studio release, thanks to producer Tchad Blake (Los Lobos, the Bad Plus), albums still fail to rival Phish's live alchemy—even if that alchemy became less dependable.

Phish set a high bar for itself through the '90s. Much of the magic was conceptual: The band covered entire albums (including the Beatles' *White Album* and Talking Heads' *Remain i Light*) as Halloween "costumes," and took its jams out of body and back again. But Phish's lasting legacy may be its campout festivals, the model in structure and vibe for events like Bonnaroo. Coventry can never match Big Cypress, where the quartet played a midnight-to-dawn Everglades set to greet the new millennium, but it's a fitting place for a finale.

Most bands aren't so brave as to kill the cash cow by choice. But after Jerry Garcia die in 1995, Phish drummer Jon Fishman told me, "If anyone in the band goes, then it's over." And no matter to what degree he, keyboardist Page McConnell and bassist Mike Gordon agree with Anastasio (and Gordon didn't want to disband), they know Phish is the sum o its parts. If even one member's heart is no longer in it, the result is the same—save one last raging week of Phishtory. *Tweeter Center Aug. 10-11 and Coventry Aug. 14-15.*

—Paul Robicheau

Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
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Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambrid (617-876-6060).*
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classical music

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21

Boston Landmarks Orchestra

Chatham Bandstand at Chatham Common, Main St., Chatham (617-520-2200). www.landmarksorchestra.org. 8 pm. Free. Landmarks of Freedom: Of the People, By the People, For the People celebrates the Democratic National Convention with songs of freedom and patriotism.

Emerson String Quartet at Tanglewood

Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $15-$45. The quartet performs pieces by Britten, Tower and Shostakovich.

Society for Historically Informed Performance

Ascension Church, 31 County St., Ipswich (508-212-6038). www.sohip.org. 8 pm. $10-$15. The ensemble Tres performs works by François Duval, Henry Purcell and others in Un Jour Charmant, a program of international songs and instrumental interludes celebrating fantasy and nature.

WCRB Classical Concerts at the Hatch Shell

Charles River Esplanade, Boston (781-736-9577). www.wcrb.com. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. 7:30 pm. Free. The Boston Bar Association Orchestra performs along the Charles.

Zeltsman Marimba Festival

Boston Conservatory, Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, 4th Floor, Boston (617-747-8420). www.zmf.us. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 8 pm. $7-$10. Jack Van Geem and Nancy Zeltsman perform marimba duets and Gershwin adaptations and present the Boston premiere of Michael Tilson Thomas' *Island Music*, on which the pair is accompanied by percussionists of the New World Symphony and Atlanta Symphony.

THURSDAY, JULY 22

Chamber Music at Tanglewood

Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $10. The Tanglewood Music Center Fellows' present a vocal recital.

Society for Historically Informed Performance

Lindsey Chapel, Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbur Boston (508-212-6038). www.sohip.org. MI Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm. $10-$15. Same gram as July 21.

FRIDAY, JULY 23

Boston Landmarks Orchestra

Beale Estate, Adams National Historical Park, Q (617-520-2200). www.landmarksorchestra.org. Same program as July 21.

BSO All-Dvórak Program

Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music Ce 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bsc 8:30 pm. $16-$82. Featured cellist Claudic horquez and the Boston Symphony Orch play the *Othello* overture, Cello Concerto minor and Symphony No. 7 in D minor. Graf conducts.

SATURDAY, JULY 24

Boston Landmarks Orchestra

USS Constitution, Charlestown Navy Yard, Ch town (617-520-2200). www.landmarksorchestr MBTA: Green Line or Orange Line to North St Shuttle to Navy Yard. 8 pm. Free. Same progr July 21.

BSO Open Rehearsal

Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music C 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bs 10:30 am. $16. Pianist Peter Serkin joins the B a performance of works by Stravinsky, Debussy, and Vaughan Williams. Conducted by Mark Elc

Renée Fleming

Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music C 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bs 8:30 pm. $17-$92. Conductor Patrick Sun leads the BSO and soprano Renée Fleming evening of arias and songs from Handel, Ma and Puccini.

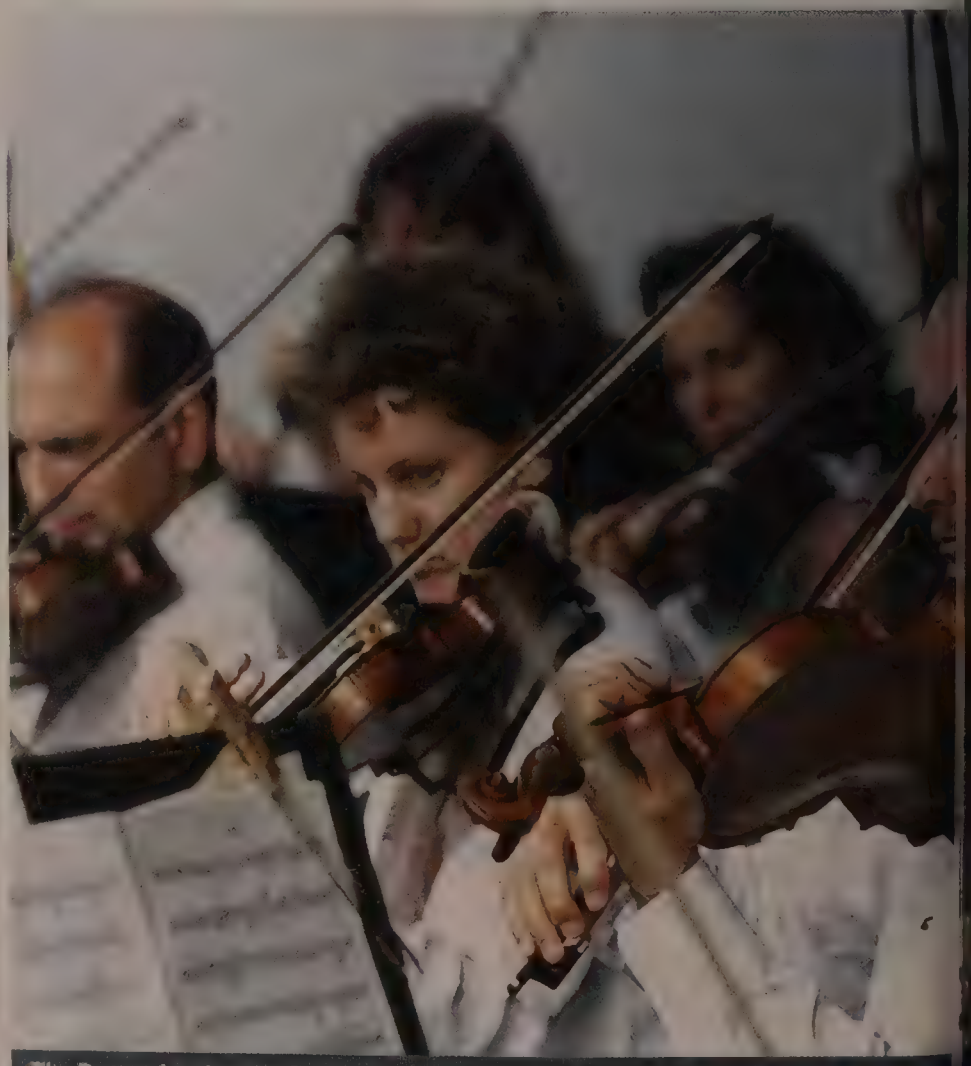
SUNDAY, JULY 25

Boston Symphony Orchestra at Tanglewood

Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music C 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bs 2:30 pm. $16-$82. See July 24 program.

Chamber Music at Tanglewood

Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, 29 St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 1 $10. Chamber music with the Tanglewood Center Fellows.



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SEPTEMBER 4 SATURDAY

1pm Theatre — Savion Glover and Jimmy Slyde; An all-jazz tap program with jazz quintet


SAVION GLOVER

3pm Ozawa Hall — Marian McPartland with guest Taylor Eigsti; Piano Jazz; Live Broadcast


HARRY CONNICK, JR.

8pm Shed — Harry Connick, Jr. and Orchestra; "Only You" Tour

SEPTEMBER 5 SUNDAY

2pm Ozawa Hall — Marsalis Music Presents: Branford Marsalis Quartet; Harry Connick, Jr. Quartet (no vocals); Doug Wamble Quartet; Miguel Zenón


BRANFORD MARSALIS

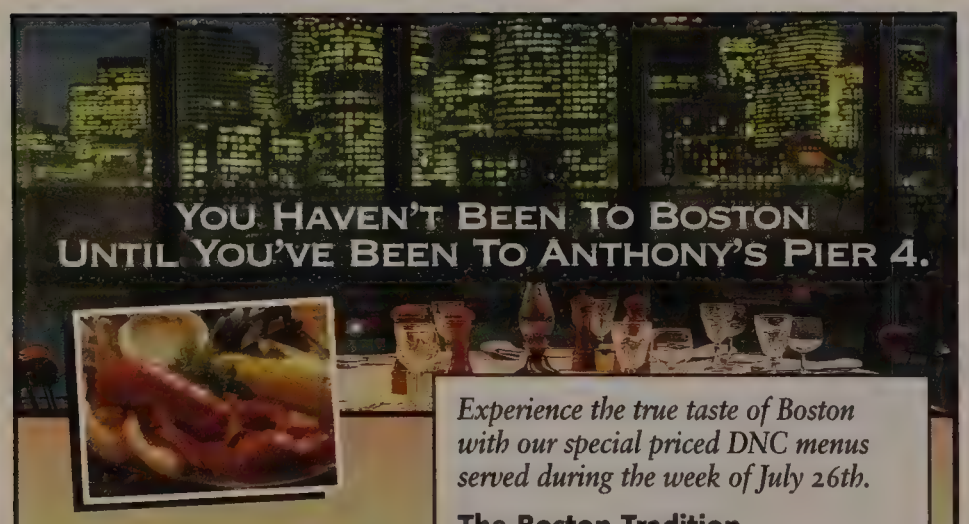
8pm Ozawa Hall — Dave Brubeck with Symphonette and Quartet


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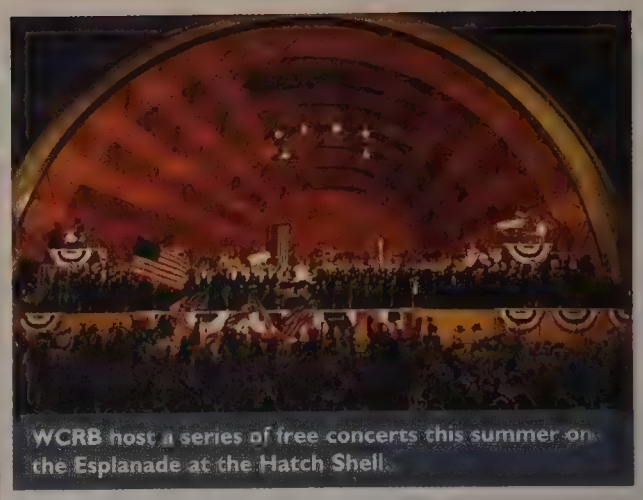
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International Baroque Institute at Longy
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $7-$12. The opening night of Longy's annual International Baroque Institute program features baroque master classes, orchestra sessions, coaching, lectures and performances.

MONDAY, JULY 26

International Baroque Institute at Longy
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $7-$12. The program L'Ecole d'Orphee features IBIL faculty performing baroque ensemble suites.

Steinway Series at Tanglewood
Chamber Music Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 1 pm. $10. Fellows of the Tanglewood Music Center play works by Schubert and Joshua Feltman.

TUESDAY, JULY 27

Masterworks Chorale Summer Sings
National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-235-6210). www.masterworkschorale.org. MBTA: Red Line to Alewife, the bus #62 or 76 to Museum. 8 pm. $9. All are invited to join the chorale, professional soloists and conductor Allen Lannom in singing Fauré's *Requiem*.

Richard Goode
Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org.8:30 pm. $16-$52. Pianist Richard Goode plays pieces by Beethoven, Schubert, Janácek and Chopin.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 28

The Hilliard Ensemble at Tanglewood
Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $15-$45. Donald Crockett conducts the ensemble in a selection of renaissance choral works and *Tituli*, a composition written especially for the group by American composer Stephen Hartke.

THURSDAY, JULY 29

International Baroque Institute at Longy
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. The program Il Vero Modo Di Diminuir features IBIL participants performing instrumental and vocal chamber music.

String Quartet Marathon
Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 10 am-5 pm. $16-$82. The Tanglewood Music Center Fellows play for three two-hour sessions.

A Midsummer Night's Dream
The Theater at Tanglewood, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8 pm. $40-$90. The Tanglewood Music Center Vocal Fellows and Orchestra presents its opening night of Britten's opera, led by conductor Stefan Asbury and director David Kneuss.

Zeltsman Marimba Festival Marathon Concert
Boston Conservatory, Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, 4th Floor, Boston (617-747-8420). www.zmf.us. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 12-5 pm. $2. Nearly 40 performers play a variety of classical and contemporary music at the festival's final celebation.

FRIDAY, JULY 30

Haydn and Mozart
Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $16-$
The Tanglewood Festival Ch
under conductor John Oliver, j
pianist Richard Goode and B
conductor Edo de Waart in a per
mance of works by Haydn
Mozart.

International Baroque Institute at Longy
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. •1 pm: The prog
Selva de Varii Passaggi features
and chamber music performed by
participants. Free. •8 pm: Compe
Musicale features chamber music
formed by faculty, students, and gu
$7-$12.

New England Conservato
*Jordan Hall, 33 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-
1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MB
E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. Free.* The
ends its summer session with a performance by
member youth ensemble. Aaron Kula directs
Festival Youth Orchestra.

Society for Historically Informed Performance
*First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., C
bridge (508-212-6038). www.sohip.org. MBTA:
Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $10-$15.* Boston's
Heron Renaissance Choir, under the directio
Scott Metcalfe, presents Marvelous Music by
Obscure and the Not Yet Famous, a program
bining old and new compositions.

SATURDAY, JULY 31

Boston Landmarks Orchestra
*Fort Warren, George's Island, Boston Harbor, leaves from Long Wharf across from Faneuil Hall (
520-2200). www.landmarksorchestra.org. ME
Blue Line to Aquarium. 8 pm. Free.* Same progra
July 21.

International Baroque Institute at Longy
*Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden
Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy. edu. MI
Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $10-$15.* Grande Fi
Arte de Taner Fantasia features vocal and instru
tal music and dance from students and faculty.

Copland and Williams
*Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (
266-1200). www.bso.org. 10:30 am. $16-$82.*
Williams conducts the Boston Symphony Orch
in an open rehearsal of pieces by Copland
Williams.

A Midsummer Night's Dream
*The Theatre at Tanglewood, 297 West St., L
(617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 2:30 pm. $40-*
The Tanglewood Music Center for Vocal Fe
and Orchestra presents Britten's opera, le
conductor Stefan Asbury and director D
Kneuss.

Schnittke, Mendelssohn and Brah
*Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox
266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $16-$82.*
sics by Schnittke, Mendelssohn and Brahms,
Renaud Capuçon on violin. Conducte
Christoph von Dohnányi.

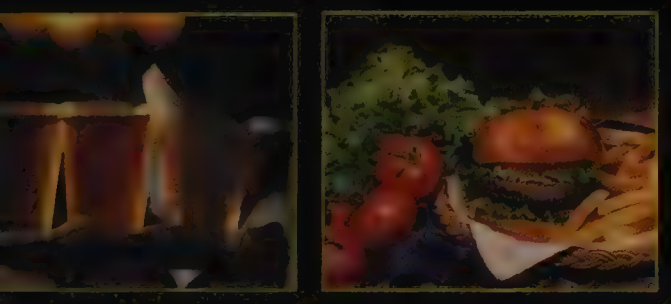
Zeltsman Marimba Festival Marathon Concert
*Boston Conservatory, Seully Hall, 8 The Fenwa
floor, Boston (617-747-8420). www.zmf.us. M
Green Line to Hynes. 12-5 pm. $2.* The ZMF
out with a continuous five-hour concert feat
nearly 40 performers.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 1

Boston Landmarks Orchestra
*Playstead, Franklin Park, Dorchester (617
2200). www.landmarksorchestra.org. MBTA
ange Line to Forest Hills. 4 pm. Free.* The B
Community Choir joins the orchestra for
marks of Freedom: Of the People, By the Pe
and For the People, a musical tribute to fre
and democracy.

Copland and Williams
*Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center
West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bs
2:30 pm. $16-$82.* John Williams conduc
Boston Symphony Orchestra in a performa
works by Copland and Williams. He is join
soprano Dawn Upshaw and James Sommery
the horn.

Ozawa Hall 10th Anniversary Celebration
*Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, 29
St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:3
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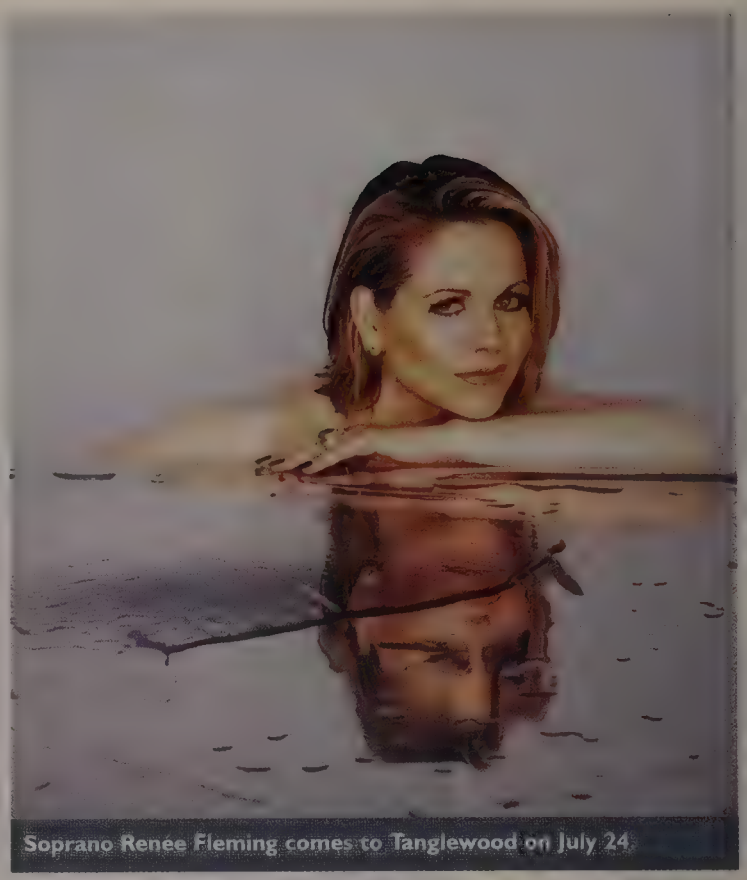
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BOSTON MEDICAL


Soprano Renée Fleming comes to Tanglewood on July 24.

Ozawa joins conductor John Williams and the BSO in a celebration of the music hall and its history. Mezzo-soprano and TMC alumnus Stephanie Blythe accompanies the orchestra.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 3

Masterworks Chorale Summer Sings
National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-235-6210). www.masterworkschorale.org. MBTA: Red Line to Alewife, then bus #62 or 76 to Museum. 8 pm. $9. All are invited to join the chorale, professional soloists and conductor Allen Lannom in singing Haydn's *Mass in D Minor*.

Society for Historically Informed Performance
St. Peter's Church, 320 Boston Post Road, Weston (508-212-6038). www.sohip.org. 8 pm. $10-$15. The Trinitas showcase their classical Spanish style in the program Convivencia: Music of the Three Worlds of Spain.

Tanglewood on Parade
Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. $19-$92. •2:30 pm: An afternoon of vocal and instrumental chamber music. •5 pm: An array of performances of British and American folksongs. •8:30 pm: The BSO, the Boston Pops and Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra play muic by Strauss, Bennett, Williams, Tchaikovsky and more. Christoph von Dohnanyi, Keith Lockhart and John Williams conduct. Fireworks to follow the late concert.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4

Boston Landmarks Orchestra
Paul Revere Mall (the Prado), North End, Boston (617-520-2200). www.landmarksorchestra.org. MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. 10:30 am & 12 pm. Free. Charles Ansbacher conducts his *Midnight Ride of Paul Revere* at the second annual Landmarks Concert for Children.

Society for Historically Informed Performance
Ascension Church, 31 County St., Ipswich (508-212-6038). www.sohip.org. 8 pm. $10-$15. Same program as Aug. 3.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $15-$45. Pieces by Bach and Telemann comprise the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment concert.

WCRB Classical Concerts at the Hatch Shell
Charles River Esplanade, Boston (781-736-9577) www.wcrb.com. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. 7:30 pm. Free. The North Shore Philharmonic performs alongside the Charles.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 5

Longy School of Music
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Soprano Carole Bajac gives a Faculty Artist Recital, accompanied by pianist Brian Moll.

Society for Historically Informed Performance
Lindsey Chapel, Emma Church, 15 Newbury Boston (508-212-60 www.sohip.org. 8 pm. $15. Same program as 3.

Boston Symphor Orchestra
Seiji Ozawa Hall, Ta wood Music Center, West St., Lenox (617- 1200). www.bso.org. pm. $15-$45. Same gram as Aug. 4.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6

Boston Landma Orchestra
Shirley Eustis H Roxbury (617-520-22 www.landmarksorche org. MBTA: Orange L Ruggles. 10:30 am an pm. Free. Same progra Aug. 4.

Schumann and Brahms
Koussevitzky Music Tanglewood Music Ce 297 West St., Lenox (266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $16-$82. Bronfman plays piano along with the BSO in by Schumann and Brahms. Christopher Dohnanyi conducts.

Janus 21 Summer Concert
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garde Cambridge (617-734-5174). www.janus21 MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $10- Jand Struss, Michael Calmes and Philip perform songs by Barber, Berlioz, Brahms Mozart at this year's summer concert, Songs for a Summer Night. Pianist William rill accompanies.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7

Boston Chamber Music Society at Longy
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garde Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $22-$25 Society presents its Hamel Summer Series turing works by Mozart, Shostakovich Dvorák.

All–Mozart Program
Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music C 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bs 10:30 am. $16-$82. Christof Perick conduc BSO, joined by pianist Christian Zacharias open rehearsal of works by Mozart.

Tan Dun
Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music C 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bs 8:30 pm. $17-$92. Tan Dun conducts the Silk Ensemble and cellist Yo-Yo Ma in Dun's con tion *The Map* and traditional works.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

TMC Chamber Concert
Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (617 1200). www.bso.org. 10 am. $16. The Tangle Music Center Fellows perform early morning ber music.

All–Mozart Program
Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music C 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bs 2:30 pm. $16-$82. Christof Perick conducts anist Christian Zacharias accompanies the o tra on Serenade No. 12, Symphony No. 4 more.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10

Tanglewood
Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, 29 St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:3 $10. The Tanglewood Music Center Fellow form a program of chamber music.

Masterworks Chorale Summer Si
National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Lexing-ton (781-235-6210). www.maste chorale.org. MBTA: Red Line to Alewife, #62 or 76 to Museum. 8 pm. $9. All are invi join the chorale, professional soloists conductor Allen Lannom in singing M *Requiem*.





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dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $3 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Jay Ine spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJs spin R&B and hip-hop, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance salsa, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Scott Damgaard performs Mondays in July.

The Rack
Dj Mike Janedy spins, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aria
Industry Tuesday Dance to hip-hop and R&B.

Boston Rocks
Smooth Groove Tuesday Old-school jams, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Orange DJs John Davis, Pat Fontes and Randy Deshaies bring the house music, and weekly guest DJs spin, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Deep Tones DJ Brynmore spins a mix of reggae, soul, funk, trance and acid jazz, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Sensei spins hip-hop and R&B. Karaoke is also offered. 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

WEDNESDAYS

Aria
Lust DJ John Morris spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, $8, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins Greek and international tunes upstairs while a reggae life band placys downstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.


Phoenix Landing

Common Ground
British Accents Presents Starshape DJ Dave spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
Summer Solstice Live performances every Wednesday hosted by DJ/producer Joe Bermudez spinning house and dance beats. 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Rhythm Nights gets the dance party started upstairs, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up R&B, top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mercury Lounge DJs Nomadik and Timmy Allen host a night of soul, funk and house, 9 pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin house and techno, 10 pm, $5 (19+), $3 (21+).

The Place
Chad LaMarsh performs solo acoustic, 8:30-11 pm. Beach Party with DJs, 11 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
International Wednesdays DJ JC is in the Latin Lounge; DJs Alex and Felix spin in the back, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Wacky Wednesdays Magic with Peter Gross, 6-9 pm, DJ Massi all night, no cover, 21+.

Q
Violation Wednesdays Weekly guest DJs spin today's best music, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays DJ Boogie Ba Do spins dub to start the party, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Jazz Wednesdays The Brian Walkley Band brings R&B and dance to the main lounge, 9-11 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Martinez spins salsa, cumbia and merengue on one floor while DJ Supreme spins a New York lounge set (hip-hop, R&B and rock covers) on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5..

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Walt spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; DJ Roger M and DJ Thanos spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Boston's Biggest College Hip-Hop Night DJs Caprice, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Djs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
Karaoke with DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
DJ Ghost spins international house and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursdays DJs Dubz and 40D spin reggae, R&B and hip-hop, no cover, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

I/D
Square One Thursdays DJs Dres and Wagz host a night of progressive dance music, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
Karaoke with DJ Massi, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran spin dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Doc spins the latest tunes, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+

Milky Way
Club Thursdays Rotating DJ's spin dance mu pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando p drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5 ($3 (21+).

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no 21+.

Pravda 116
DJs spin upbeat lounge music in the front, 10 p cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 p 21+.

Q
Hip Hop Thursdays DJ Craig Smooth spin hop all night long, 9 pm, $5, ladies free all 21+.

The Rack
Girls on Top Party DJ B-Spin and DJ Massi spi 40, vocal, house and hip-hop, 9 pm-2 am, $5,

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali and Ross spin a electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cove

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lesso dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

711 Boylston
Play Thursdays DJ trio Groovefire spins house with special guests Beat Khemistry, 6 pm-2 am

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ DonRico spins salsa, merengue and Lat and DJ Tegrem spins down-tempo retro in tional, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hotte hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID

Toast
Ladies Night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $1

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, s rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 p cover.

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Location.

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West Street Grille
Juicy Thursdays A rotating theme night based upon customer internet voting, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ Seano 5-9 pm; DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $5 after 10:30 pm, 21+.

Aria
Floss DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Avaland International DJs spin house, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top-40, 9pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
All Axis DJ Dru Nyce, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80's faves, along with Boston's best cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents a night of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and hip-hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal spins a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+, after 11 pm.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
Persuassion DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Felt
After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs, spinning high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Angirsano spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •July 30: The Zoo

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs Big Daddy spins, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins house and old favorites, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before midnight, 21+.

La Boom
Fashion Fridays Firefly Promotions hosts this fashion night featuring DJ Rick Naples, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

Level
110 Productions hosts a party with progressive house music, hip-hop and top-40. 11 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Adilson of Roxy Saturdays spins high-energy house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Rockpile** WAAF's Steve Flagg broadcasts live, and rotating bands perform, 9 pm, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•July 23: The Zone, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm, $10 ($5 before 9 pm), 21+. •July 30: The Catunes, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm, $10 ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Greg spins top-40 and 80's hits, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop as he spins top-40, dance, and hip-hop and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ spins in the front and DJ Gabe spins vocal house in the back, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Craig Smooth spins the latest hits, 10 pm, $5.

Q
DJ Massi plays hip hop and top-40, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Johnny C with KISS 108's Artie, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Red Line
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin quality house, 9 pm-2 am.

River Gods
Lite Nite DJ Easy spins a mix that includes neo-soul and feel-good classics, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top 40 hits, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins Latin house and Latin dance, one floor while DJ Franklin spins international another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10pm, $5 after 9p 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, pm, $5.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats all night, 8 pm-1 am, $5..

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international ho while DJ Roger M kicks things up with Latin vil Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R& Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+

An Tua Nua
DJs Dunleop and Walt mix top-40, hip-hop, ho and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

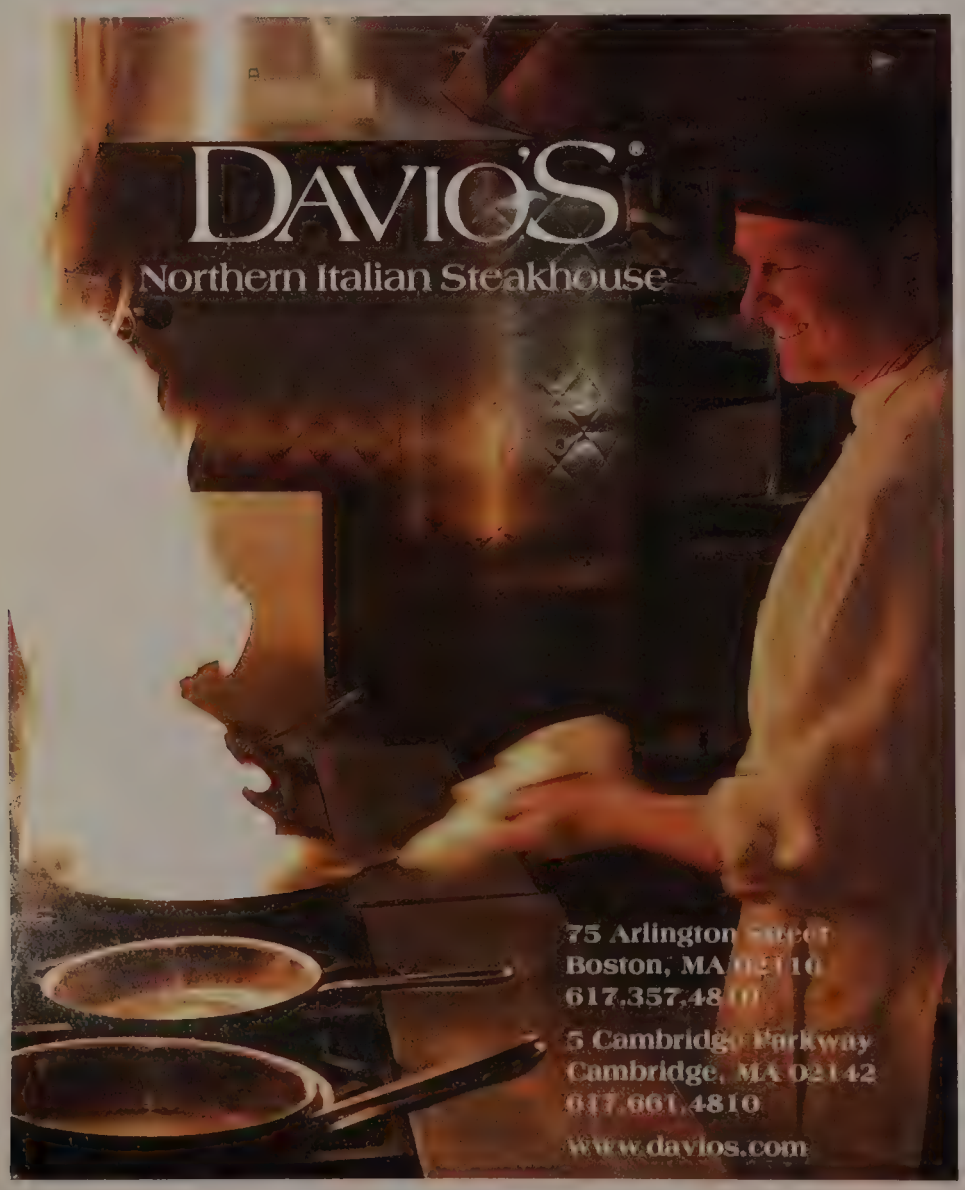
Aria
Guest DJs spin high-energy vocal house and hip-h 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college

Avalon
Great local talent DJ Manolo, Chris Desim Icandy and Mario Lima, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Lush Life WFNX DJs spin alternative rock, 10 $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ M Phipps spinning the hottest top-40, hip-hop '80's faves, along with Boston's best cover banc pm, $8, 21+.



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Best Sushi, **New England News Channel 7** - 2003
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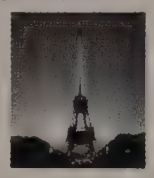
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Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. VJ Johnnie Walker presents top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Franklin creates a lounge atmosphere with his international, Latin and house sounds, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood It's women's night at Hollywood with two floors of hip-hop and house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
Essence DJs Ed and Sal, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop, house and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites, disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, $10, 21+. •July 31: The Zoo.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

I/D
X Night WFNX presents a night of retro '80s and rock, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, while downstairs DJ Kieran plays top-40, 9 pm, $6, 21+.

La Boom
Wild on @ La Boom DJ Tim Collins and KISS 108 host a night of music and dancing, 10 pm, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 9 pm, 21+.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Massi from Star 93.7 spins top-40 hits, $5 for guys, free for ladies, 21+.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10 pm, $10 (men) $5 (women), ladies admitted free before 10:30 pm, 21+.

The Modern
Material DJ Dru Nyce plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies free, men $5 before 10:30 pm; $15, 18+; $10, 21+ after 10:30 pm. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, $15, 19+; no cover 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins top-40 and hip-hop mixes, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Underground** DJs spin hip-hop, top-40, dance, techno and reggae for the under-21 crowd, 7-11 pm, $14. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes up hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•July 24: The Zone, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm, $10 ($5 before 9 pm), 21+. •July 31: Central Basement, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm, $10 ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wonders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles Boston's best DJs come in and spin sets.

Pravda 116
DJ spins in the front and DJ Gabe spins vocal house in the back, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom Hogan spins the groove, 10 pm, $5, 21+. July 24: Pig Pen. July 31: Souljah.

Q
DJ Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Dance party with DJ Ricky, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins modern mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Adilson spins house and techno, 9 pm, $15, 21+.

711 Boylston
Fever DJ Yorgo spins a mix of ethnic and international music, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
Resident DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin, international and dance, often joined by live bands and special guest DJs, 10 pm, $10-$15, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins classic old-school, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
Prescription House music, 8 pm- 1 am, $5.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs T. Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house pm, $15, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-4 night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

Aria
DJ Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance techno, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 $10, 19+

Caprice
DJ spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hip-hop downstairs, karaoke upstairs, 10 pm, $5,

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance mamba, 10 pm, $10 ($8 after less 21+.

The Kells
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJs Doc & Ki spin house, top 40 and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am cover, 21+.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and h on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

Milky Way
Satellite A lesbian night featuring DJ Dee, dance music, amateur drag contests and filn pm, cover varies, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating r of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5,

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+





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The Purple Shamrock
Malibu Beach Party DJ Thom spins everything from reggae to top 40 hits, with prizes all night, 4-9 pm, DJ Massi spins, 9 pm, $5 men, free for ladies, 21+.

Q
Reggae with Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Reverie Boston DJ Shannon and weekly guest DJs spin goth, industrial and lounge, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Spice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night featuring Latin and International grooves, 10 pm-2 am, $13.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock, retro and hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Tiki Room
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins Brazilian beats, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Whiskey Park
Cherry DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock classics, hip-hop, house and R&B.



Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
The G Spot *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
La Boom *One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Light *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (6 524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *(El Copa, Male Encounter, Officers' Club, Oxygen, Rio, Underground and Uptown) 1 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (61 227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051*
Red Line *59 JFK St., Cambridge(617-868-5900.*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambri (617-876-9300)*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
711 Boylston *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351 7000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437 0002).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077*
Tiki Room *1 Landsdowne St., Boston (617 2580).*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-92*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-806*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-428 0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-5 1483).*

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museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors

Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum

Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Rocks, Mountains, Landscapes, and Gardens: The Essence of East Asian Painting*, an exhibition of rocks used in East Asian art, shows through Aug. 1.•*Dutch and Flemish Drawings from the National Gallery of Canada*, an exhibition of rare drawings and landscapes by Rembrandt and his contemporaries, shows through Oct. 17. •*Closely Focused, Intensely Felt: Selections from the Norma Jean Calderwood Collection of Islamic Art* features Persian artwork from the last millenium. Aug. 7, 2004-Jan. 2, 2005.

Boston Public Library

666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm. •*BPL Souvenirs and Library Publications* displays through July 30.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park

51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $6; students and seniors, $4. •*Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Sense of Place, Part II* features paintings, photography, and sculptures by various artists. Through August. •*The 2004 DeCordova Annual Exhibition* highlights contemporary artists from New England. Through Sept. 5. •*Henry Richardson: Chiseled Orb and Mortal Coil* is an ongoing exhibition that features the artist's large glass sculptures.

Fogg Art Museum/ Busch-Reisinger Museum

32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Process and Paradox: The Historical Pictures of John Singleton Copley* features two rarely seen works by one of America's first great artists. Through Aug. 29. •*Vastly More Than Brick and Mortar: Reinventing the Fogg Art Museum in the 1920s*, an exhibition of 47 objects including archival photographs, building plans and pieces from the Fogg's original collection, illustrates how the museum was created. Through Sept. 26. •*Extra Ordinary Every Day: The Bauhaus at the Busch-Reisinger* is an online exhibition that can be accessed at www.artmuseums.harvard.edu/sites/ eoed. Through 2005. •*Rococo Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* is an ongoing exhibit. •*To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* is an ongoing display of 19th-century art. •*Basic Research: A Selection of Postwar German Painting and Sculpture*, and *The Figure in French Sculpture, 1780-1900* are ongoing.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

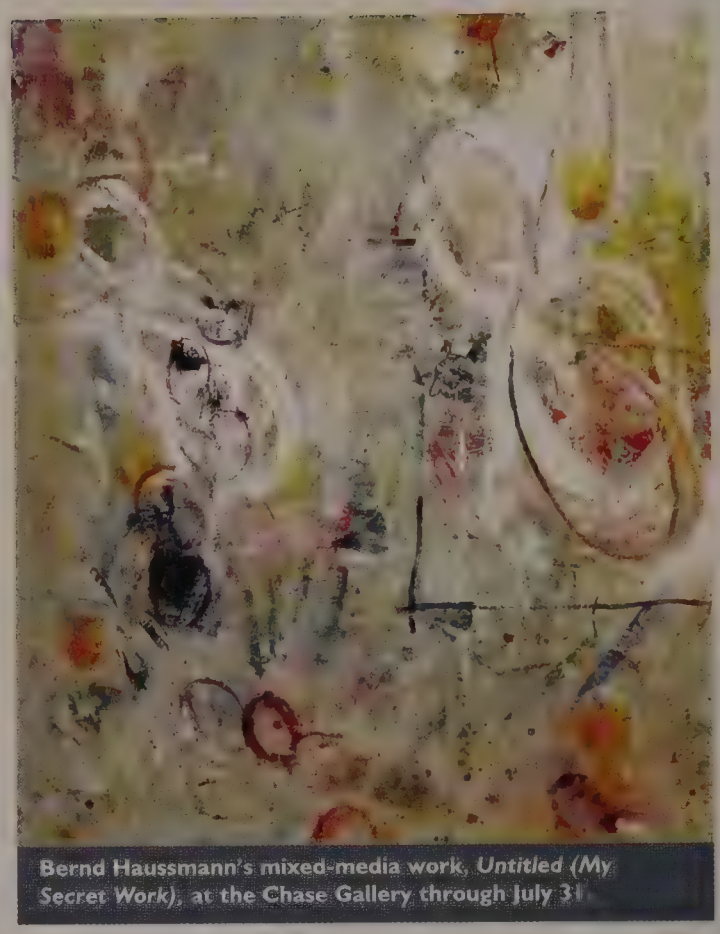
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •*Arctic National Wildlife Refuge: Seasons of Life and Land* is an exhibition of 49 photographs from northeastern Alaska by Subhankar Banerjee. Through Sept. 6. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species, by glass artists Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5. •Kai Althoff's works of watercolor, pencil drawing, collage, music and more are on display in *Kai Kein Respekt (Kai No Respect)*. Through Sept. 6. •*Momentum 1* displays work by installation artist Carol Bove. Through Sept. 6. •*Re-Turning the Past: Cultural Icons Recast*, is a outdoor exhibit by Niho Kozuru in the garden and courtyard of the Paul Revere House (19 North Square). Through Sept. 6.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; seniors, $7; students, $5. members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18 free. (Gondola Days exhibition: $3 museum members, $5 weekends; $13 general admission/adults, $18 weekends; $10 seniors, $12 weekends; $8 students; $3 children ages 5-17; children under 5 not admitted.) Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. •*Gondola Days: Isabella Stewart Gardner & the Palazzo Barbaro Circle* explores the influence that Venice, Italy's Palazzo Barbaro has had on artists, writers and thinkers around the world. Through Aug. 15. •*TV Dinner* is an exhibition of Italian painter Maurizio Cannavacciuolo's contemporary wall drawings. Through Aug. 15. •*Whistler's Warning*, Joseph Kosuth's installation in neon of words taken from an 1885 speech by James McNeill Whistler, shows through August. •Elaine Reichek's embroideries, which depict Biblical images borrowed from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists, display online in the virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing.



Bernd Haussmann's mixed-media work, *Untitled (My Secret Work)*, at the Chase Gallery through July 31.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum

Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $8; seniors and students $6; children ages 13-17 $4; children 12 and under admitted free. •*Declaration of Independence on Display*, one of the few surviving original prints, shows July 30-Aug. 1. •*Gifts from the World to the White House: Caroline Kennedy's Doll Collection* features 77 dolls from 30 countries that were given to JFK's daughter between 1961 and 1963. Through Nov. 5.•In honor of this election year, *Campaign!* is an exhibition following JFK's nomination, campaign and inauguration, from 1960-61. Through Jan. 20, 2005.

McMullen Museum of Art

Boston College, 140 Comm Ave., Devlin Hall 108, Chestnut Hill (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. MBTA: Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-3 pm., Sat., 12 pm-5 pm. Free. •*Refigured* features works by six local artists, through Aug. 29. •Abstract drawings, sculptures and folding screens by Sarah Westlake show through Aug. 29.

MIT List Visual Arts Center

20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. •The museum's permanent collection includes more than 1,500 pieces of contemporary art including paintings, murals, sculptures, photography and prints.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5; students and seniors, $3; children, $1. •*Hub of the Air Universe: A Century of Flight in Massachusetts* displays artifacts and artwork from the first 100 years of manned flight. Through Sept. 5. •*Telling It Like It Is: Student Activism at MIT During the Vietnam War* displays posters from that era. Through fall 2004. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features works by the self-described cross between "a mechanical engineer and a choreographer." Ongoing.

Museum of Afro-American History

46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. •*Portraits in Black: Gaining Ground, Holding Office* pays tribute to elected black leaders of New England. Through Oct. 23. •*The Times We Had* is an exhibition spotlighting Boston's African-American community of the 19th century. Ongoing. •*Building on a Firm Foundation* is a 17-minute multimedia presentation that looks at 19th century Beacon Hill through the eyes of an African-American teenager. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15; students and seniors, $13; children 17 and under, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free (doesn't include special exhibitions). •*Tim Noble and Sue Webster* exhibits the duo's creative light projects. Through Aug. 15. •More than 200 jades dating from the Neolithic period to the Qing Dynasty display in *Chinese Jades from the Hartman Collection*. Through Aug. 22. •*Draped in Dragons: Chinese Court Costumes* features clothes worn by members of the Qing imperial court. Through Sept. 19. •*Games for the Gods: The Greek Athlete and the Olympic Spirit* features vases, marbles, bronzes and coins from the ancient Greek games. July 21-Nov. 28. •*Josef Sudek: Poet with a Camera* is an exhibition of the Czech photographer's landscapes, still lifes and architectural photos. July 28-Jan. 17, 2005. •*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13; seniors, $11; children, $10. •*The Lord of the Rings Motion Picture Trilogy—The Exhibition* features memorabilia from the films, including costumes, props, and even the ring. Aug. 1-Oct. 24. •*Risk!* is a hands-on exhibit in which visitors can test their sense of daring, while seeing how they deal with the uncertainty that comes with a difficult decision. Through Sept. 6. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum

33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Allen Sisters Pictorial Photographs* is a collection of 25 platinum prints dating from 18 1920. Through Dec. 12. •*Western Pursuit of American Dream*, a compilation of artifacts a sculpture from the American West, shows July 2004-April. 24, 2005. •*The Enchanted Clocks George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'* an exhibition of 18th-century local history. On ing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household jects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. • *Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Comm nity* is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). ww pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; dents, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Sal free. •*Exuberance in the Arts, 1790-1840* showca over 200 pieces of early American decorative folk art. Through Oct. 24. •*Havana: Photograph Robert Polidori* features 18 large-scale photograp Through Jan. 9, 2005. •*Bringing Japan to Boston* tures Japanese artifacts from the Edward S. Mo Collection. Through April 30, 2005.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology a Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-102 www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and dents, $6; children, $5. •*Regarding the Kalah The Marshall Family and the Ju'hoansi !Kung, 19 1964* is an exhibition of photographs and ster graphs from the Kalahari Desert expedition Laurence Marshall and his family. Through A 30. •*Bringing Japan to Boston: the Edward S. M Collection* offers a rare display of Japanese artif collected from 1877-1879, through April, 20 •*Painted by a Distant Hand: Mimbres Pottery f the American Southwest* features artifacts from M Mexico's Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through Septem •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis Clark's Indian Collection* features Native Ameri artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through cember 2005. •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Monuments* features the museum's Mesoamerican cast collection. Ongoing. •*Ha the North American Indian: Change and Contin* features art depicting the response of Na Americans across the continent to the arriva Europeans. Ongoing. •*Encounters with the Am cas* is an ongoing exhibition featuring orig sculpture and plaster casts of Mesoamerican tures. •*Pacific Islands Hall*, another ongoing e bition, displays artifacts from the Pacific Islan

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art

38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www. fineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.- 11 am-5 pm. •*Summer Salon*, a group show, dis through Aug. 21.

Alianza Gallery

154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Co Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Tea Fantasy—Whimsical and Sculptural Teapots* sh through Aug. 31.

Alpha Gallery

14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). alphagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •A summer group show feat works by various artists displays through August

Arden Gallery

129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Co Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. • Seghi shows new paintings through July 31. R Jackson shows his work in *Narratives* Aug. 3-30

Art Interactive

130 Bishop Allen Drive, Cambridge (617-498-0 www.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Ce Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Participatory Democ* an improvisational, interactive exhibition a voting, by five local artists. Through July 29.

ArtSomerville at the Nave Gallery

155 Powderhouse Blvd., Somerville. ww somerville.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central Sat., 1 pm-5 pm. Free. •*1-10* features work artists living or working in Somerville. Ongoi

Barbara Krakow Gallery

10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262- www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Gree to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •A show of works by 14 artists, including Ri Artschwager, Louise Bourgeois, Sophie Call Chamberlain and Robert Gober, displays th July 30. •The gallery is closed through August

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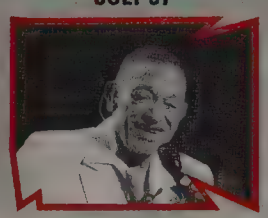
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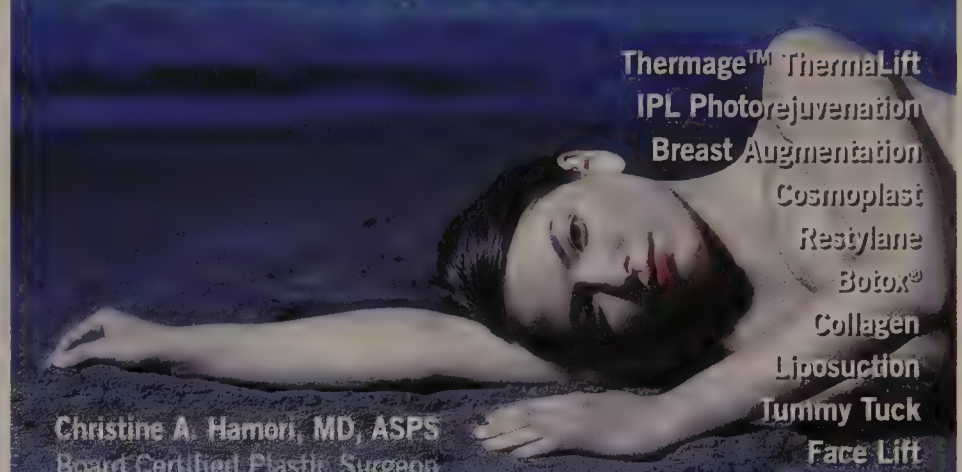
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South Boston Rooftops, by James Leitch, is on display at Gallery AA/B through July 31.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Casey McGlynn shows new mixed-media works. Through July 31. •Works by gallery artists show through August.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Upright Female*, a group show of photography, displays through Aug. 12.

Brickbottom Gallery
1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •*What Is Big?* is a show of oversized works. Through Aug. 21.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Monmouth St., Brookline. (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm. •Watercolor paintings by ArtReach students show through July 23. •*The Antarctica Project* features watercolors by Lisa Goren. Aug. 1-27.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •Bernd Haussmann and Mark Chatterley show their work through July 31. •A show of works by gallery artists displays Aug. 5-30.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA:Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Three exhibitions—*A Century of Seascapes, Architectural Images in Prints and Drawings* and *Prints of the Northern Renaissance*—show through Sept. 4.

Clifford-Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 300, Boston (617-695-0255). www.cliffordsmithgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5:30 pm. •The gallery is closed through July and August.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Small Works II* features over 1,000 pieces by local and national artists. July 22-Aug. 14. •Six artists present their interpretations of Boston's highway project in *The Big Dig Exhibition*. July 22-Aug. 14.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •An exhibition of works by Jeff Eldredge, Dan McCole and Norman Crump is ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •*Classical Musical* features black-and-white photography. Through July 31. •*Figures, Forms, and Fragments* is a show of black-and-white photography. Aug. 3-28.

Equator Gallery
450 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-540-9236). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.equatorgallery.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •The gallery specializes in Latin A can fine art, including paintings, textiles ceramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Galle
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). ww pointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South St Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*V Democracy* displays through Aug. 7.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arli Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An on exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine print the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrand sarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0 www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange L Back Bay. Thu. and Sat.,12-5 pm; Fri., 11 am-
•*Boston: Legends and Landmarks* features dra and paintings by Dan Wasserman, Meg Blac James Leitch. Through July 31. •The gall closed through August.

The Gallery at Black and White
295 Huntington Ave., Suite 205 (617-266-2 MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange l Mass. Ave. Mon.-Fri, 10 am-5 pm. •The g features rotating exhibitions of black-and- photographs.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www. naga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue 10 am-5:30 pm. •Prints by Allan Rohan Crite sl *Selected Works 1934-1998*, and Masako Kamiya new work in *On Paper*. Through July 30. •The is closed through August.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
23 Thayer St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-426-5 Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Peter Coe: Pa* shows through Oct. 2.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www steele.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appoin
•The gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century Ongoing.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green I Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Sc Their Parts* is a group show of photography ing and sculpture. Through Sept. 7.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line t ley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. gallery's permanent collection showcases a va vintage posters. •*Decade's Best*, a show gallery's best posters, displays through Sept. 6.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to C Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Fou nist Views*—a group show of works by Ruth Rochelle Kreiger, Anne Gilley and S Hodes—and the paintings of Harold Rotenb play through July 31. •*Summer Science f*

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paintings and drawings by Dan Golden, Sean Micka, and Nicole Deponte. Aug. 5-28.

Kaji Aso Studio
40 St. Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www.kajiasostudio.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Tue. and Thu., 4:30-6:30 pm; Sat., 3-5 pm, and by appointment. •*Star Festival*, a group show of ceramics and paintings, displays through Aug. 15.

Kathryn Schultz Gallery
25 Lowell St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www.cambridgeart.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm, Sun., 1-5 pm. •The *New Members Exhibition* displays through July 28.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*These Are the Good Old Days* features mixed-media paintings inspired by photographs of people on amusement park rides. Through July 31. •Greg Miller shows his paintings Aug. 4-28.

Kingston Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •Susan Alport shows her work through July. •*New Art 2004* shows through August.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •Roger Thomas presents his abstract and impressionist fused glass paintings in *Fusion*. Through Aug. 4. •*Kaleidoscope* features colorful glass and metal sculptures. July 23-Aug. 31.

Mark Gallery
141 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6275). www.markartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm, and by appointment. •*Cuatro* is a summer group show of works by Yuko Adachi, Bert Antonio, Amy Eisenfeld Genser and Liette Marcil. Through July 24. •The gallery is closed during August.

Martin Lawrence Gallery
77 Newbury St., Boston (617-369-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.martinlawrence.com. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-7 pm. •The gallery's ongoing exhibition includes works by Chagall, Erté, Hallam, Kondakova, Lichtenstein, Picasso and Warhol.

Miller Block Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). www.millerblockgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30-5:30 pm. •*Summer Distillation* shows through August.

Mills Gallery
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed., Thu. and Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-10 pm. •*Somatic Scales*, a group show, displays through Aug. 1.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •David Chatt shows his beaded sculptures through July 30. •Petra Class shows her jewelry through August.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. • *Summer Invitational, A Group Exhibition* shows through August.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •A local-artists showcase is ongoing.

Paul Dietrich Gallery
1050 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7000). www.c7a.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central Square. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm. •*Smoke, Light and Mirrors* features the photography of Sing Hanson. Through July 30.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Summer Salon: Group Show* displays through Aug. 13.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*New Artists, New Work* shows through Sept. 7.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (617-482-9988). www.qingping.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to New England Medical. Daily, 1 pm-12 am and by appointment. •Beijing artist Lu [illegible] shows his work. Through Aug. 31.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MB[illegible] Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing [illegible] bition of 19th- and 20th-century American and ropean paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). w[illegible] robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to A[illegible] ton. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 •Victor Schrager shows photography. Thr[illegible] Aug. 21.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-98[illegible] MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 11 4 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*20th Century M[illegible] Graphics, the Spring Collection* features lithogr[illegible] and etchings by Chagall, Matisse, Miro Rouault. Through June 30. •Robert Sweeney plays old and new work in *The Boston Experi[illegible] Views of the City*. Through July 31. •

Samson Projects
46 Waltham St., Suite 203, Boston (617-357-7[illegible] www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Bay. Wed.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •*An Accumulation of vention: En Masse* is a group show of works by artists. Through July 30. •The gallery is c[illegible] through August.

The Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). [illegible] societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to C[illegible] Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Grimm Tales Reinvented* is a group show of works inspir[illegible] Grimm stories. Through July 25. •*The Artists A[illegible] Show* honors New England craft and media a[illegible] Aug. 7-Oct. 31.

Soprafina Gallery
99 Beacon St., Somerville (617-498-0999). Mi[illegible] Red Line to Davis. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Sun. pm. •An exhibition of works by gallery a[illegible] shows through July 24.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). [illegible] stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to C[illegible] Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Fou[illegible] One* is a group show of paintings by Christina ing, Judy St. Peter, Sandra Mueller-Dick, Grandin and William St. George.

Upstairs at Johnson's Art Gallery
353 Newbury St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-536-4[illegible] MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.- Fri., 10 5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-1pm. •*0-9, A-Z*, a group of mixed-media works by Mary W. Hart, Ca[illegible] Sirois and Dianne Pappas, shows through July

Victoria Munroe Fine Art
59 Beacon St., Boston (617-523-0661). www.m[illegible] fineart.com. MBTA: Green Line or Red Line t[illegible] Street. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm and by appoint[illegible] •Botanical paper mosaics by William Booth show through Aug. 14.

Wentworth Gallery
73 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-8770). wentworthgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to A[illegible] ton. Mon.-Sat. 10 am-6 pm; Sun. 12-6 pm. gallery's permanent collection features wo[illegible] Dali, Chagall and Miro.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to W[illegible] ter Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. •Karen A. nakis shows photographs of the sites of the o[illegible] Pan Hellenic games in *Sacred Groves: Ancient Athletic Sites*. Through Aug. 20.

New England School of Photography
Gallery One, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (61[illegible] 1868). www.nesop.com. MBTA: Green Line t[illegible] more. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm. •Graduating N students show their work through August.

Panopticon Gallery Kenmore
502-C Comm Ave., Boston (617-267-8929). panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore Sat., 11 am-7 pm. •*Home Run*, a show of v baseball photographs, displays through Septe[illegible]

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Co[illegible] Rail to Waltham. www.panopt.com. Mon.-F[illegible] am-6 pm. •*Colossal*, an exhibition of photo[illegible] by Bradford Washburn, shows through Sept.

Photographic Resource Center
832 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). M[illegible] B Green Line to Boston University West. w[illegible] edu/prc. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Th[illegible] am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Members tion* shows through July 25.

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Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. Nature writer **David Gessner** reads from his new book, *Sick of Nature*, a collection of essays about his experiences with the genre of nature writing and its conventions. Also, musician **Jen Trynin** talks about her memoir-in-progress, *Everything I'm Cracked Up to Be*, about her experiences in the music business.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. **Mike Stanton** reads from his new book, *Prince of Providence: The Rise and Fall of Buddy Cianci, America's Most Notorious Mayor*, about the corrupt but charismatic Providence mayor.

THURSDAY, JULY 22

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 12:30 pm. Free. Newsday columnist **Jimmy Breslin** discusses his book *The Church That Forgot Christ*, in which he claims that Catholic higher-ups covered up instances of inappropriate behavior by priests rather than addressing the problem.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Tony Eprile** reads from his new novel, *The Persistence of Memory*, about a Jewish man who grows up in apartheid-era Johannesburg and is recruited by the army and later accused of war crimes.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Contributors **Robert Pinsky** and **Jamaica Kincaid** read selections from *The Paris Review Book for Planes, Trains, Elevators and Waiting Rooms*, the latest anthology produced by the literary magazine.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Jeffrey Deaver** reads from his new book, *Garden of Beasts: A Novel of Berlin 1936*, about a Mafia man hired by the U.S. government to assassinate one of Hitler's influential associates.

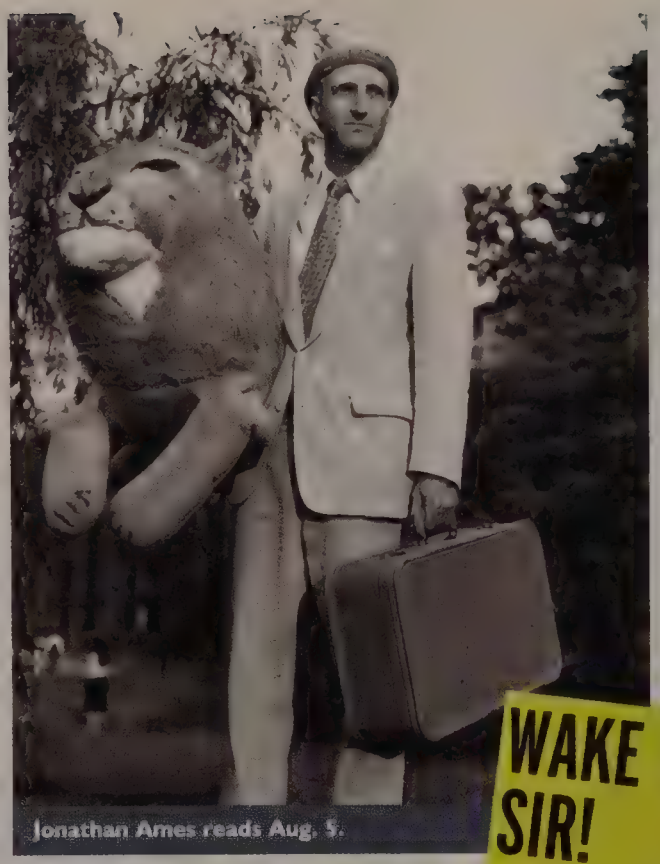
WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Pundit and reporter **Jack W. Germond** reads from his book *Fat Man Fed Up: How American Politics Went Bad*, in which he argues that politicians have lost touch with the ideals of the citizens they represent.

FRIDAY, JULY 23

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 12 pm. Free. Musician **Graham Nash** (of Crosby, Stills & Nash) reads from his new book, *Eye to Eye: Photographs by Graham Nash*, a collection of portraits, landscapes and other photographs that he took between 1969 and 2003.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 1 pm. Red Sox announcer and former second baseman **Jerry Remy** reads from the book he co-wrote with Corey Sandler, *Watching Baseball: Discovering the Game Within the Game*, a guide to appreciating the sport.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Local author **Don Lee** reads from his novel *Country of Origin*, about a half-Japanese, half-African-American young woman who disappears in 1980 while researching her dissertation in Japan.


Jonathan Ames reads Aug. 5.

SATURDAY, JULY 24

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5 pm. Poets **Phil Metres** and **Cris Mattison** read from their work.

MONDAY, JULY 26

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **David Gessner** reads from his book *Sick of Nature*. See July 21 Newtonville Books listing for a description.

Harvard Book Store Author Event
First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. $3. Tickets available at Harvard Book Store. In this panel discussion, *New York Observer* political writer **Joe Conason**, Clinton presidential aide **Sidney Blumenthal** and political humorist **Al Franken** discuss how books influence politics.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 1 pm. Free. **Bill Press** discusses his new book, *Bush Must Go: The Top Ten Reasons Why George Bush Doesn't Deserve a Second Term.*

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Radio commentator and political activist **Jim Hightower** reads from his new book, *Let's Stop Beating Around the Bush*, a humorous critique of the Bush administration.

TUESDAY, JULY 27

Harvard Book Store Author Event
First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 12:30 pm. $3. Tickets available for purchase at Harvard Book Store. After an introduction by Mass. senator **Edward M. Kennedy**, West Virginia senator **Robert C. Byrd** reads from his book, *Losing America: Confronting a Reckless and Arrogant Presidency*, a critique of the Bush administration that focuses on the president's alleged infringements on the power of Congress.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 28

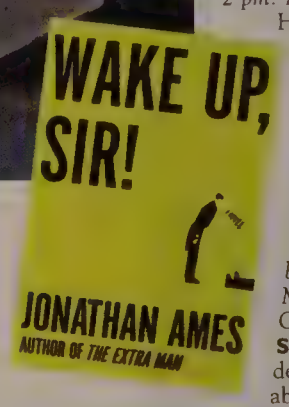
Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Adam Langer** reads from his novel, *Crossing California*, about three Chicago families in the early 1980s who live on either side of California Avenue, which separates the working-class Jewish families from the more wealthy Jewish families.

Harvard Book Store Author Event
Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 1 pm. Free tickets available at Harvard Book Store. **Paul Alexander** discusses his new book, *The Candidate: Behind John Kerry's Remarkable Run for the White House*, about the senator's presidential campaign. Afterward, Alexander and filmmaker **Iris Rossi** screen their 2003 documentary, *Brothers in Arms*, about Kerry's military service in Vietnam.

THURSDAY, JULY 29

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 12 pm. Free. Democracy Now! host **Amy Goodman** discusses the book she co-wrote with her brother, **David Goodman**, *The Exception to the Rulers: Exposing Oily Politicians, War Profiteers and the Media That Love Them*, which argues that politicians' corporate ties affect their integrity.

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 2 pm. Free. Suffolk University and Harvard Extension School teacher **Robert J. Allison** reads from his book *A Short History of Boston*, an illustrated chronicle of the city and some of its most notable citizens.



Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Sarah Dunn** reads from her debut novel, *The Big Love*, about a woman who tries to pull her life back together after her live-in boyfriend breaks up with her over the phone.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. U.S. ambassador **Joseph Wilson** reads from *The Politics of Truth: Inside the Lies That Led to War and Betrayed My Wife's CIA Identity—A Diplomat's Memoir*, in which he explains how he believes his wife's identity as a CIA operative was leaked.

FRIDAY, JULY 30

Boston Poetry Massacre
WordsWorth Books, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Aug. 1. Fri.: 7-10:15 pm; Sat.: 11 am-10:15 pm; Sun.: 11 am-4 pm. Free. At this three-day event, poets take turns reading selections from their works. Check the Web site for a complete schedule.

SATURDAY, JULY 31

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 4 pm. Free. Members of **MoveOn.org** read from the book *MoveOn's 50 Ways to Love Your Country*, which makes suggestions for getting involved in civic activism.

PA's Lounge
345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 9 pm. $5. Storyteller **A.J. Mungo** and poets **Paul Angelosanto** and **the Melting Poetry Collective** perform along with musicians and visual artists in a show called *Les Cabaret des Enfants Terribles.*

SUNDAY, AUG. 1

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 2 pm. Free. **Dave Rosi** discusses his romance novel *For Love, That's All*, about a cynical tabloid journalist who travels the world and eventually starts to believe in love.

Longfellow House
105 Brattle St., Cambridge (781-643-0029). www.nepoetryclub.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free. Poet **Sharon Olds** reads selections from her work.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5 pm. **Linda Greenlaw** reads from her new book, *All Fishermen Are Liars: True Tales from the Dry Dock Bar*, a collection of outlandish stories from Greenlaw her fishing comrades.

TUESDAY, AUG 3

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). w brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Li Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Daniel Kimmel** from his new book, *The Fourth Network: How Broke the Rules and Reinvented Television*, abou shady business tactics he believes that Fox empl to become a major television network.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to ton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Ann Hood** reads her new short-story collection, *The Ornithol Guide to Life*. Also, **Don Lee** reads from his novel, *Country of Origin*. See July 23 WordsW Books listing for a description of Lee's book.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. **Christopher Tilghman** reads from his new n *Alwin Expedition.*

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 4

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Li Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Alice Hoffman** from her book *Blackbird House*, a collection of connected short stories about the inhabitants o house on Cape Cod over 200 years.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to ton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Greg Williams** from his new novel, *Boomtown*, about the empl of an Internet company on the verge of bankr Also, **Lewis Robinson** reads from his collecti short stories, *Officer Friendly.*

THURSDAY, AUG. 5

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Li Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Jonathan Ames** from his novel *Wake Up, Sir!*, about an alco writer who wins a personal-injury suit and uses th tlement to hire a valet and travel around the cou

FRIDAY, AUG. 6

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5 MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. $5. Local **Tom Perrotta** reads from his latest novel, *Little dren*, **Jennifer Haigh** reads from her novel *Mrs. ble*, and **Will Leitch** reads from his memoir, *Li Loser.* The event also includes an open-mike se

MONDAY, AUG. 9

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green L Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. New Yorker writer **drik Hertzberg** reads from his new book, *P Observations and Arguments, 1966-2004,* looks at the American political scene over th 40 years.

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge 354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab L hosts this poetry slam downstairs in the Third

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. $5. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background for the poetry slam team.

Out of the Blue Gallery (Saturda
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Can (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to C •Mondays, 8 pm (7:30 pm signup): Jack I hosts Stone Soup, with poetry features and a mike. $4 donation suggested. •Saturdays, Come share or listen to poetry and prose. D Priestly hosts. $3-5 suggested donation.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thurs
Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557 MBTA: Blue Line to Government Center. 8: Free. The second Thursday of each month selection of featured poets and an opportun others to take the open mike.

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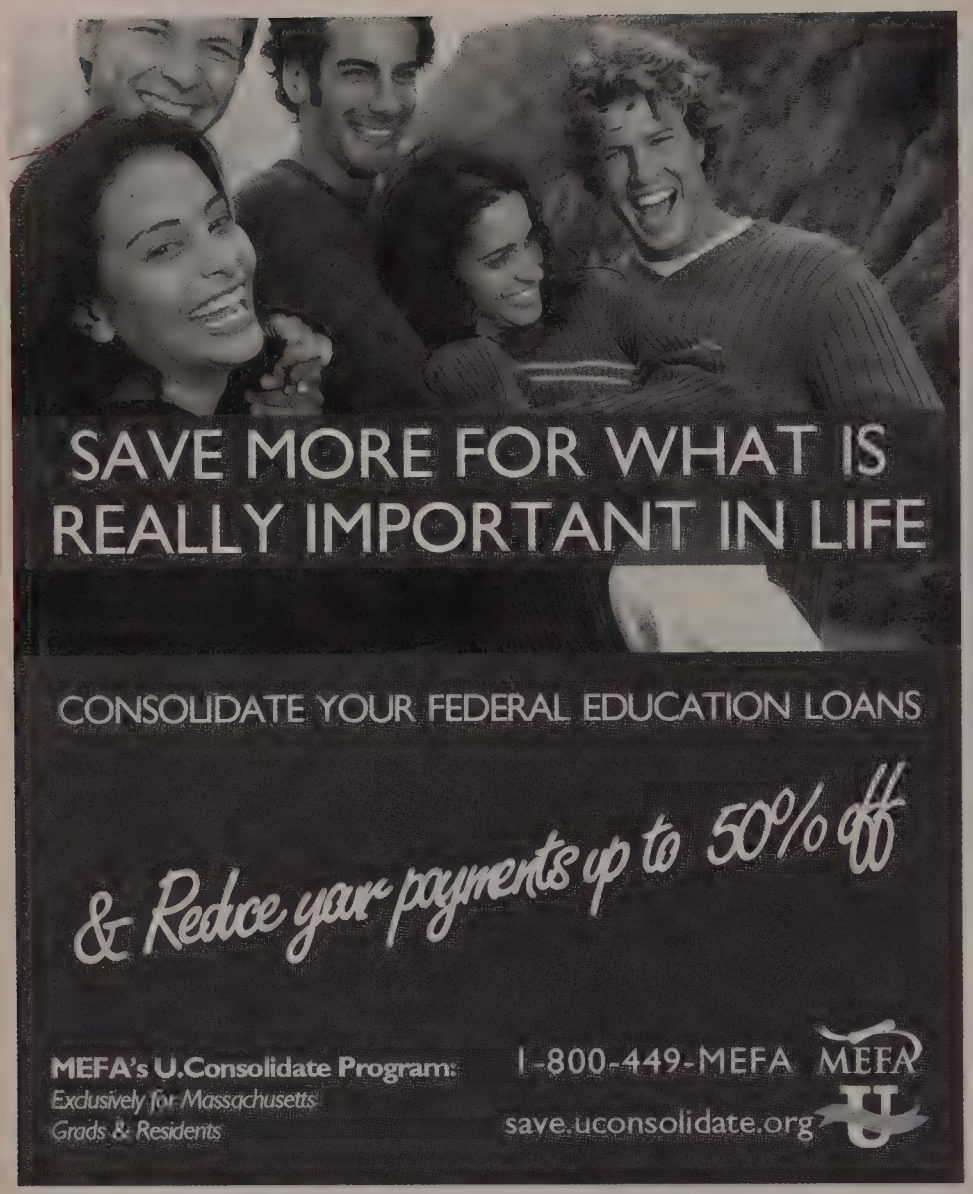
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CALL FOR FICTION



As part of our fourth annual Literary Boston issue, we invite all local authors (residing in Massachusetts) to submit a short work of fiction, no more than **2,500 words, to us by Mon., Aug. 2.** Entries should be original works that have never been previously published.

Upon review by our panel of judges, the winning author's story will be published in our October 6 issue. Plus, the skilled scribe will be saddled with a slew of fun prizes.

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education

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21

Behind-the-Scenes: Secrets of the Boston Real Estate Market

Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7:45-9:45 pm. $27 members; $30 nonmembers. Coldwell Banker realtor **Suzanne Robertson** shares her knowledge of the real estate market and provides tips on how to find the property that fits you best.

Summer Lowell Lecture Series

National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. 10:30 am. Free. **Marilynn Johnson**, an associate professor of history at Boston College, leads a lecture about the opening of the American West.

THURSDAY, JULY 22

Insights from the Campaign Trail: An Inside Look at the 2004 Presidential Race

Mary Baker Eddy Library, 200 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-450-7000). Green Line to Hynes Convention Center or Symphony Hall. 6:30-8 pm. $10. White House correspondent **Linda Feldmann** and political correspondent **Liz Marlantes**, both of *The Christian Science Monitor*, discuss the candidates and issues involved in the upcoming presidential election.

Summer Lowell Lecture Series

National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. 10:30 am. Free. **Karl Jacoby**, an associate professor of history at Brown University, discusses the settling of the American West and the historical consequences of the expansion.

SATURDAY, JULY 24

Deborah Sampson: Petticoat Patriot

The Paul Revere Memorial Association, 19 North Square, Boston (617-523-2338). www.paulrevere house.org. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 1, 1:45 and 2:30 pm. Free with museum admission. **Joan Gatturn** portrays Deborah Sampson, the only female soldier enlisted in the Revolutionary War, and recounts stories from her adventures.

Kite Festival

Boston Harbor Islands, (ferry leaves from Long Wharf), Boston (617-223-8631). www.nps.gov/boha. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 10 am-3 pm. Free. See demonstrations in kite-making and flying, as well as wind and solar energy experiments.

SUNDAY, JULY 25

Foreign Policy and the 2004 Campaign

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston. (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 4-5:30 pm. Free. Former secretary of state **Madeleine Albright** and other national foreign policy experts discuss the future of U.S. foreign policy as it relates to the upcoming presidential election.

Nuclear Power: Issues and Alternatives

Veggie Planet Restaurant at Club Passim, 47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-824-4225). http://boston.earthsave.org MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. **Deb Katz**, executive director of Citizens Awareness Network, discusses the dangers of nuclear power and safer alternatives. An optional dinner follows the talk.

Women of Forest Hills

Historic Forest Hills Cemetery, Jamaica Plain (617-542-0128). www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 2 pm. $8. Take this tour of the historic cemetery and learn about the women who helped build Boston.

TUESDAY, JULY 27

The Essential America: Our Liberal Tradition

Old South Meeting House, 310 washington St., Boston (617-373-5800). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State; Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:15-1:15 pm. Free. **Geo McGovern**, former Democratic presidential n nee and South Dakota senator, discusses his po cal views.

Post-Denominational Judaism: In a Age of Freedom, Affluence and Power

Shakespeare & Company, Founder's Theatre, 70 H ble St., Lenox (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare 8 pm. $8. Rabbi **Irwin Kula**, president of the tional Jewish Center for Learning and Leaders speaks about intermarriage and divisions in Je theology.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 28

Gallery Talk: Games for the Gods—The Greek Athlete and the Olymp Spirit

Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Bo (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E G Line to Museum or Orange Line to Ruggles. 6 pm. with museum admission. **Barbara Martin**, the seum's associate director of public learning, l this week's talk.

FRIDAY, JULY 30

A Conversation with Norman Lear

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Colu Point, Boston. (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 10-11:30 Free. U.S. representative **Barney Frank** (D-M moderates a discussion with TV and film proc **Norman Lear** about the prominent role civil r and free speech have played in Lear's work.

SATURDAY, JULY 31

Feng Shui: The Art of Harmonious Environments

Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Bratt Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. M Red Line to Harvard. 1-5 pm, $65. Wellspace l Pond co-sponsors this class about organizing life by improving your environment.

Mrs. John Hancock and the American Revolution

The Paul Revere Memorial Association, 19 N Square, Boston (617-523-2338). www.paulr house.org. MBTA: Green Line to Government ter. 1, 1:30, 2 and 2:30 pm. Free with museum a sion. **Belinda West** plays the role of a disgru Mrs. Hancock venting her discontent with British king.

MONDAY, AUGUST 2

Musical Instruments of Thailand

Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., B (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E G Line to Museum or Orange Line to Ruggles. 1, Free with museum admission. MFA research f **Mitchell Clark** introduces nearly 30 percus string and wind instruments recently donat the MFA and used in the classical mus Thailand.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7

The Art and Science of Reading People

Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. M Green Line to Arlington. 10 am-3 pm. $65 mer $70 nonmembers. **William Morrissette**, a f CIA agent, teaches a class on finding h information in communication.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

Coping with Difficult People

Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 65 Bratt Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. M Red Line to Harvard. 11 am-6 pm. $107. Inst **Mel Epstein** teaches this class on dealing seven types of difficult people (hostile-aggre complainer, silent unresponsive, super-agre negativist, know-it-all and indecisive), based book by Robert Bramson.

Paul Revere's (Bike) Ride

Lexington Visitor's Center, 1875 Mass. Ave., L ton (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. 10 am- $25. Brush up on your American history on a bike tour of Paul Revere's famous route.

MONDAY, AUGUST 9

The Power of Gender: Women's Voices, Women's Stories

Shakespeare & Company, Founder's Theatre, 70 ble St., Lenox (413-637-3353). www.shakes org. 8 pm. $8. Novelist **Alice Hoffman** speal signs copies of her new short-story colle *Blackbird House*, as part of the Brandeis Berkshires Summer Lecture Series.

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Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am.; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's new leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $8 under 21. $5 for 21+. DJ John Morris spins progressive house for Lust, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $15, 21+. For 20 years, these folks have cranked out Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. Enjoy three separate dance floors plus drag acts. Resident DJ Ted Elison spins house.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show, and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Blue Wave Cafe (Sundays)
343 Congress St., Boston (617-790-0720). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 9 pm-1 am. $5 before 11 pm, $10 after 11 pm, 21+. Every Sunday night, Pussi Kat Entertainment and TopKat Entertainment presents HerShe Sundays, an ethnic/Latina/white lesbian party with DJ Elyte of Next Generation Productions spinning R&B, hip-hop and reggae.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—pool room and lounge keep the men busy until 2 am.

CityGirl Caffé (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-9 pm; Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-4 pm. This small, laid-back café in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated, draws a mixed gay/hetero crowd for lounging and sandwiches. Brunch is served every weekend. Now serves beer and wine.

Club Europa (Fridays)
57 Stuart St., Boston (617-417-0186). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.twistboston.com. Fri., 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+ after 11 pm. DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s tunes at this women's night.

Diesel Café (Daily)
257 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-8717). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Mon.-Thu. 7 am-12 am, Fri., 7 am-1 am, Sat., 8 am-1 am, Sun., 8 am-12 am. All ages. Diesel is a gay-friendly Davis Square café that serves coffee and snacks.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3 pm-2 am; Sat., 1 pm-2 am; Sun., 12 pm-2 am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This quiet, friendly neighborhood bar starts hopping as it gets closer to 2 am.

Fritz Lounge (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 12 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. Four plasma TV sets show satellite sports broadcasts, and Fritz is home base to a softball league. Brunch is served until 3:30 pm on weekends.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.



Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $8 weekends, 21+. Patrons relax with a friendly crowd and mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month is the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground. The typical lineup features singer Leah Callahan with guest musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Tuesdays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Big and Hot, Brazilian night, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Tue.: Service Industry Night with DJ Afrodite.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 19+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: New Wave Dance Party with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Milky Way Lounge (Sundays)
401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+. Every Sunday the Milky Way Lounge presents Satellite, a queer night for ladies. Live entertainment varies from week to week and includes Fireballs Drag Bingo, spoken-word events and jazz.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Omar. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. Private, members-only club, predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

711 Boylston (Tuesdays)
711 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5502). www.hereboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 9 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. The Tuesday night gay dance party, Here, features disco and pop.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night, and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room and video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music pumps, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Vapor (Wednesdays–Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adilson. 19+. •Thu.: The Music Factory with DJ Pauli Paul and DJ Ron Steele spinning hip-hop, reggae and funk. $5 before 11, $2 after 11, 21+. •Fri.: Inner Circle. $10, 21+. •Sat.: Evolution with DJ Jay Ine. •Sun.: T-Dance party with DJ Danae grooving to local, tribal, and house while DJ Niterain spins classic oldies. 21+.

Books

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). www.calamusbooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-7 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. This store for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered people carries fiction, erotica and titles by gay and feminist activists.

Center for New Words
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Cambridge's center for women's writing and [illegible] hosts open mikes and author events.

Cuttyhunk and Provincetown Tradi[illegible] Company
540 Tremont St., Boston (617-574-5000). www.cuttyhunk.us. MBTA: Orange Line to Back This community-centered gay and lesbian b[illegible] store stocks literature, art books, DVDs and vi[illegible]

Shows & Events

BiCamp 2004
Northampton. (617-424-9595). www.biresource[illegible] July 29-Aug. 2. $15-$45. The 11th annual BiC[illegible] features five days of outdoor activities geare[illegible] wards the gay, lesbian and bi communities. Can[illegible] must be 18 years old and provide their own [illegible] food and transportation.

Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers
1st Church of Jamaica Plain, corner of Centre and [illegible] Streets, Boston (617-522-2216). www.lcfd.org/jp[illegible] 24, 7:30-11 pm. Adults $8,children under 12 free[illegible] less if you can't afford it. Chris Ricciotti calls[illegible] night of contra dancing with music by Grand[illegible] Cajun.

Family Week 2004
Provincetown (617-628-3251). www.familypride[illegible] July 31-Aug. 6. $175, plus additional fees for acti[illegible] The Family Pride Coalition and COLAGE ([illegible] dren of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) sponso[illegible] annual gathering that provides LGBT families [illegible] a safe and relaxing place to have fun. Activitie[illegible] clude sandcastle building, campfire sing-along[illegible] workshops.

Gay Outdoors Outing
Barton Cove Campground, Gill (603-726-7[illegible] www.gayoutdoors.org. July 30-Aug. 1. $25 mem[illegible] $30 nonmembers. Spend the weekend at Gay [illegible] doors' second annual outing. Enjoy camping, w[illegible] water rafting, swimming and potluck barbecues.

Get Out of Your Head and into the Fun!
Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., B[illegible] (617-824-4297). www.queersoup.net. MBTA [illegible] Green Line to Pleasant Street. July 25, 2-5 pm. $20. Karen "Mal" Malme conducts this impro[illegible] tional "physical theater" workshop to help perf[illegible] ers ignore their inner critic and relax on stage.

Invasion of Pleasure Valley
Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., B[illegible] (617-824-4297). www.queersoup.net. MBTA: B[illegible] Line to Pleasant Street. Through July 31, Thu.-S[illegible] pm. $15-$20. Queer Soup's new production, whic[illegible] cuses on a town invaded by aliens, incorporate[illegible] kitschy fun of 1950s B-movies.

It's Good to Be King: Drag King I[illegible]
Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, 318 Harvar[illegible] Suite 32, Brookline (617-731-2626). www.[illegible] opening.com. July 21, 7:30-9:30 pm. $25. Fra[illegible] Cocktail teaches the fine art of "kinging," com[illegible] with a brief history of drag kings and lessons on [illegible] language and binding.

King Me: Advanced Drag King Workshop
Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., B[illegible] (617-824-4297). www.queersoup.net. MBTA: B[illegible] Line to Pleasant Street. July 31, 10 am-1 pm. $15[illegible] Frankie Cocktail and Duke Malvis discuss drag[illegible] ture and teach you how to move like a man, ch[illegible] graph a number, and develop your own king na[illegible]

Ongoing

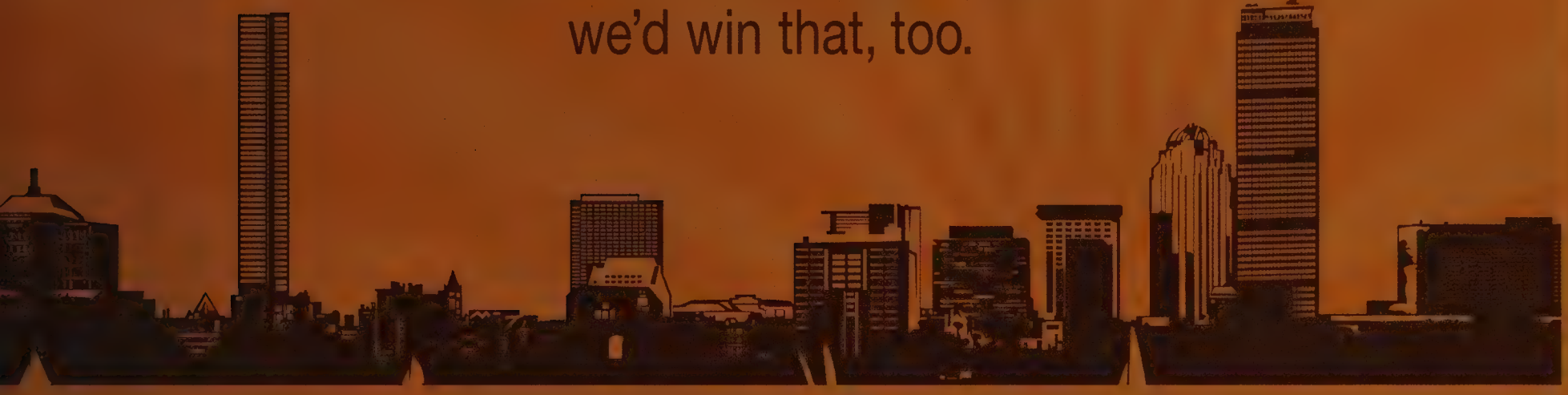
Atención Latina Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., B[illegible] (800-834-3242). www.fenwayhealth.org. M[illegible] Green Line to Hynes. FCH collaborates with [illegible] Elizabeth Stone House to provide this safe, c[illegible] dential space for discussing healthy relation[illegible] domestic violence and other issues.

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoi[illegible] Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. Mi[illegible] Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wednesday[illegible] pm. The Boston Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, [illegible] ual, Transgendered and Questioning Youth[illegible] weekly meetings and social events for young p[illegible] seeking community, support and a place to d[illegible] relevant issues.

Beantown South G/L Bowling Lea[illegible]
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617[illegible] 1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays an[illegible] bians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi and Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., E[illegible] (617-927-6032). www.fenwayhealth.org. M[illegible]

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Green Line to Hynes. 7 pm. This group meets the second Tuesday of every month for discussion with bisexual and bi-curious men.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wednesdays, 7 pm. Come share thoughts about books, videos and other topics of interest in a supportive environment. Open to all bisexual men and women.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tuesday of the month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

BOSS
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 6-8 pm. This group for gay and bisexual men of color meets the last Thursday of each month to discuss culture, lifestyle, creativity and health.

Boston Bay Blades
www.bayblades.org/boston. All are welcome to join this competitive, recreational group of rowers and scullers.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers
First Church of Jamaica Plain, corner of Centre and Eliot streets, Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org. Every Wed., 7:30 pm, $8. Square-dancing and English country dancing lessons are available for lesbians, gays, bisexuals and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). *www.bgbl.com.* The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year.

Boston Gay Skins
Ramrod, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). www.bostongayskins.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 11 pm. Boston's nonracist gay skinhead collective meets the third Friday of the month.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri, 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people, ages 13-25.

Boston Ironsides Rugby Football Club
Moakley Field, South Boston (617-524-5814). MBTA: Red Line to JFK. Rugby players of any level, age, race and orientation are welcome to play.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. www.lesbianavengers.org. Thu., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wednesdays, 7 pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
(617-417-0876). Third Saturday of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for interested parents and their partners. For info, e-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-9595). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, 7 pm, free. An informal group for people who think they may be bisexual or attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning People
(617-256-8693). This group welcomes those who want to discuss the challenges and the joys of coming out. It meets Thursday nights, 7-8:30 pm, in Cambridge.


Frankie Cocktail hosts two Drag King workshops in July.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area support, information and social group for people assigned female at birth who feel that is not an accurate or complete description of their gender. Part of the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group meets monthly. Email Compass-FTM@usa.com for details.

The Down Low
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Last Friday of the month. 7-9 pm. This discussion group for gay and bisexual men of color addresses heritage, lifestyle, culture and health.

East Coast Wrestling Club
(401-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www.eastcoastwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay male wrestlers has more than 160 members.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional women 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophisticated to get together with like-minded women for conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Explore Gender in a Safe Place
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. An ongoing support group for people born into female bodies or who have grown up being viewed as biologically female.

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Saturday mornings. Join Boston's GLBT Flag Football League for a casual spring season, followed by a formal fall season. All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). Sat., 10 am. All are welcome to join this running club.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
(617-267-9001 or 888-340-4528). Mon.-Fri., 6-11 pm; Sat. and Sun., 5-10 pm. This toll-free hotline is confidential and provides support for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning callers.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church in Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Professionals Building Community
(617-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to join this networking organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered professionals. Monthly networking meetings.

Gaymes Group
(508-339-4250). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians. Members get together on a regular basis to play board, card and parlor games.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. $5-10. An open-mike night open to new performers, this queer-positive, dyke-positive, bi-positive and trans-positive spoken-word event meets the second Thursday of each month, 7:30 pm.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Biological males meet on Monday evenings. The groups are moderated by psychologist Randi Kaufman.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

Girlz 2 Girlz
(781-893-6113). This mentoring program is for girls ages 13-19 who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered. Contact Marcela Aldez-Osorio.

GLBT Seniors
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Bos (617-927-6272). www.fenwayhealth.org. MB Green Line to Hynes. Mondays. A Support gr for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered sen ages 60 and over. Men-only support group m Monday afternoons.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Bos (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MB Green Line to Hynes. Anonymous HIV testing pre- and post-test counseling.

Laffan
This social and networking group for women cludes single women, couples and parents intere in art, cultural events, outdoor and sporting ac ties, intellectual and social pursuits, public ser and travel. Members receive a weekly email ca dar of events. For info, e-mail Laffan_Boston2 @yahoo.com.

LGBT Considering Parenting Grou
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Bo (617-927-6243). www.fenwayhealth.org. MB Green Line to Hynes. A short-term (eight-w group for LGBT persons who are considering coming parents. Sliding fee scale available. Cal information.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue., Wed. and Thu. even and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This predominantly and lesbian swim team is open to both compet and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

The Network/La Red
(617-423-7233). The Network is a support gr working to end abuse in lesbian, bisexual wom and transgender communities. Email info@ networklared.org for more information.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, L and ballroom dance classes and workshops are in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups This social and peer support group is for lesbians men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30

Partners of People with HIV
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Meets first and Tuesdays of each month. 7-9 pm. An ongoing port group that allows individuals with HIV-p tive partners to discuss issues surrounding virus in their lives.

Peer Listening Line
(800-399-7337). Trained GLBT volunteers pro confidential information, referrals and support.

The Rainbow Cafe
rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. Thi cial group for activist, academic, intellectua artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or friendly establishments.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617- 3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green to Hynes. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer A youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for G Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes ciales take place every month. Email somoslat lgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Support Group for HIV-Negative and Bisexual Men
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Bo (617-967-6231). www.fenwayhealth.org. MB Green Line to Hynes. First three Tuesdays of month, 6-8 pm. Discuss safe-sex practices and st gies for managing risk and communicating with ual partners.

Support Group for Lesbians with Cancer
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Bo (617-927-6243). MBTA: Green Line to Hy Wed. evenings, once a month. Free. For those want to discuss the impact of this disease on t lives.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Road, Br line (617-364-7207). MBTA: C Green Line to W ington Street. First Saturday of each month. 8-9 lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing, $8. Swing, Latin ballroom dancing classes are offered for the les gay, bisexual and transgendered community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_bo WWB is a social group for lesbian and bise women in their 20s and 30s. It meets the first Th day of every month.



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Submit information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Celebrate Lammas
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-646-3680). www.unicornbooks.org. July 31, 7-9 pm. Sliding scale: $15-$25. Lammas is an old pagan holiday that is still celebrated as a time for introspection, healing and expressing gratitude through ritual, singing and shamanic drumming.

Holistic Perspectives Colloquium
All That Matters, 315 Main St., Wakefield, R.I. (401-782-2126). http://allthatmatters.com. July 30-31. Join recognized leaders, authors and like-minded individuals for discussion that aims to inspire you to live more consciously and with purpose. Featured guests include Karl Berger, founder of the Integrative Medicine Alliance; Dr. Jack Childs, Catholic monk and holistic counselor; singer-songwriter Becky Williams and many others.

Mediums Day
Greater Boston Church of Spiritualism, Masonic Center, 32 Church St., Watertown (617-923-4334). www.greaterbostonchurchofspiritualism.com. July 24, 11 am-3 pm. Experience the skills of psychic mediums, including spiritual readings and healing.

Lecture

Basic Nutrition for Vegetarians
Harvest Co-op Market, 581 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1580). www.harvestcoop.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. July 27, 6-8 pm. Naturopath Dr. David Zeoli hosts this lecture on how to make vegetarian meals more nourishing and satisfying. Learn which vitamins and minerals can be deficient in vegetarian diets, and how to meet your nutritional needs.

Workshops

All Levels Yoga Class
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 90 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circlesofwisdom.com. Aug. 2, 7-8:15 pm. $15. This class teaches yoga fundamentals along with additional refinement to poses to challenge more advanced students in a noncompetitive atmosphere that helps participants truly relax.

Annual Summer Intensive with Barbara Benagh
The Yoga Studio, 74 Joy St., Boston (617-523-7138). www.yogastudio.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles or Green Line to Government Center. July 30-Aug. 1, 10 hours. $150. This workshop for experienced students and teachers explores yoga from within. Learn how metaphor, simile, poetry and stories can transform your practice.

Gender Balanced Therapy Group
Healing Heart Power, 3 Central Ave., Newton (617-965-7846). www.healingheartpower.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. July 23, 7-9 pm. $50. Integrating heart-centered meditation, body psychotherapy and discussion, this therapy group provides an opportunity for spiritual growth and healing. Explore the integration of sexuality and spirituality and what it means to be a man, a woman and a human being.

Feng Shui: The Art of Harmonious Environments
Wellspace, 1 New St., Fresh Pond Mall, Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.wellspace.com. MBTA: Red Line to Alewife. July 31, 1-5 pm. $65. Learn how to analyze your living space and use light, air, color, sound and plants to create harmonious energy flow.

Metta: Loving Kindness Meditation
Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. MBTA: Red Line to Central. July 24, 10 am-5 pm. $60. This workshop features meditation practice and discussion of the concept of Metta, which Buddha taught as an antidote to fear and anger. The systematic practice of Metta is believed to develop concentration and tranquillity, strengthen the mind and soften the heart.


Brieann Voeller teaches classical pilates at the Inner Space, in Brookline Village.

Moon Salutation Workshop
Art and Soul, 91 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-7376). www.artsoulyoga.com. MBTA: Red Li Kendall. July 30, 6-8 pm. $20. Moon salutation yoga poses designed to stir and stimulate the energy of the body. Promoting flexibility strength, these poses may relieve tension and manage stress.

Pushing Hands with Master Herman Kauz
Body Mind Integration Center, 118 Main St., Wate (781-648-7354). www.thenaturalwayhol.byregion Aug. 21-22, 10-4 pm. $180 for both days, $10 one. Master Kauz teaches the art of pushing h the skill of using your opponent's force against or her. Positioning, sensitivity, balance and pling are all addressed.

Winky and the Hoo Hoo: Oral Sex Tips for All
Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, 318 Harvar Suite 32, Arcade Building, Brookline (617-731-2 www.grandopening.com. MBTA: C Green Li Coolidge Corner. July 26, 7:30-9:30 pm. $34. Poli your lingual skills and dive into the newest ways t a woman or man oral pleasure. All levels of exper are welcome to come learn the basics, safe sex niques, advanced methods and even the use of sex

Ongoing

Beginner's Bikram Yoga
Bikram Yoga Boston, 108 Lincoln St., Loft 1A, B (617-556-9926). www.bikramyogaboston.com. and Thu., 12, 3:30, 5:30 and 7:30 pm. $16, dro This facility provides instruction in Bikram's H Yoga style. All classes are suitable for beginner focus on strength, flexibility and balance.

Breathwork
Back Bay Yoga Studio, 1112 Boylston St., 3rd Boston (617-375-0785). www.backbayyoga MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Ce Sun., 9-10 pm. $10 donation suggested. Renew relax at this workshop with David Vendetti, ex enced breathwork facilitator and yoga teacher.

Friday Night Chill Out
Blissful Monkey Yoga Studio, 663 Centre St. Jam Plain (617-522-4411). www.blissfulmonkey MBTA: #39 bus. Fri., 6:30-8 pm. $15, drop-in. off the burnout and ease into your weekend. class begins with Vinyasa sequenced posture loosening up muscles and sweating out tension ends with deep restorative yoga.

Pilates
The Inner Space, 17 Station St., Brookline (617 5757). www.yogainthevillage.com. MBTA: D Line to Brookline Village. Wed., 9-10 am and 7:30 pm. $15, drop-in. This mat class teaches classic lates and is designed to strengthen and tighten muscles and improve posture, flexibility and bala

Under 30 Meditation Night
Shambhala Meditation Center, 646 Brookline Brookline (617-734-1498). www.primordialdo MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. Tu 8:30 pm. Free. For young adults who already tice meditation or are just beginning, this nigh chance to join with peers to discuss the teachi Buddha and relax.



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sports

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Home Games

Boston Red Sox
• Fenway Park, Boston
Tickets: 877-733-7699
July 21, 7:05 pm vs. Baltimore Orioles
July 22, 1:05 pm vs. Baltimore Orioles
July 22, 7:05 pm vs. Baltimore Orioles
July 23, 7:05 pm vs. New York Yankees
July 24, 3:15 pm vs. New York Yankees
July 25, 8:05 pm vs. New York Yankees
Aug. 9, 7:05 pm vs. Tampa Bay Devil Rays
Aug. 10, 7:05 pm vs. Tampa Bay Devil Rays

Boston Cannons
• Nickerson Field, Boston University
Tickets: 888-847-9700
July 22, 7:30 pm vs. Philadelphia Barrage
Aug. 5, 7:30 pm vs. Baltimore Bayhawks

Events

Big Man Run IX
Khoury's State Spa, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org/BAEvents/BigManRun/index.html. July 24, registration 2-4:15 pm. Come run or cheer on the big men (190 pounds and up) as they strive to complete the 4.8-mile course while consuming three beers and hot dogs along the way. A postrace party features Harpoon beer and live music from the Electric Parrots.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club seeks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club (BSSC) Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

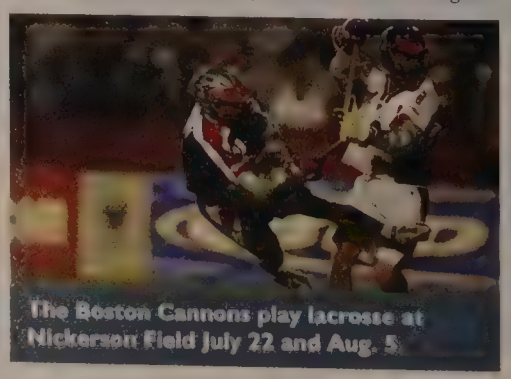
Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

CHARITY

Team in Training
(800-688-6572). www.teamintraining.org. This organization provides fund-raising athletes with group training and support, personalized coaching and guaranteed race entry for events including the Timberman Triathlon, Monster Challenge, Ma Marathon, Dublin Marathon and more.


The Boston Cannons play lacrosse at Nickerson Field July 22 and Aug. 5.

DODGEBALL

BSSC Dodgeball
(617-789-4070). The BSSC is recuiting now dodgeball teams to compete in a league this fal

FENCING

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-01 www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBA

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-40 www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four m teams compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor Leagu
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781- 8326). Saturday mornings. Women's teams eight-on-eight flag football each week.

FLOOR HOCKEY

BSSC Coed Floor Hockey
Leagues are held in Newton, North Reading Brighton (617-789-4070, ext. 238). www.bssc. All levels are welcome, individuals and teams.

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds. Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New and perienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is loo for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football C
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club s new players for games in Brookline and Cambri

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.m rugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club comes both new and experienced players who to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays. New experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonh com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-rou you enjoy running, drinking and singing b songs, then consider joining these self-proclai "serious drinkers with a running problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 Firs Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., Weekly runs.

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Run
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (275-1584). www.srr.org. Thu., 7 pm. Weekly r

Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617- 2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thu., 7:30 pm. W 2.6-mile runs.

SOCCER

BSSC Outdoor Soccer
(617-789-4070). Outdoor teams forming Games played in Charlestown, Lexington, Re and Canton. Individuals and teams are welcom

SOFTBALL

BSSC Softball
(617-789-4070). Coed softball games play Brighton, Newton, North Reading and other a

ULTIMATE FRISBEE

BSSC Ultimate League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070). games each week in Charlestown.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070, ext. Sun.-Thu. Coed teams forming for summer le in Cambridge, Watertown, Brookline and Ne

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-868-8379). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. teur folk-style wrestling group open to all skill Weekly practices held year-round.

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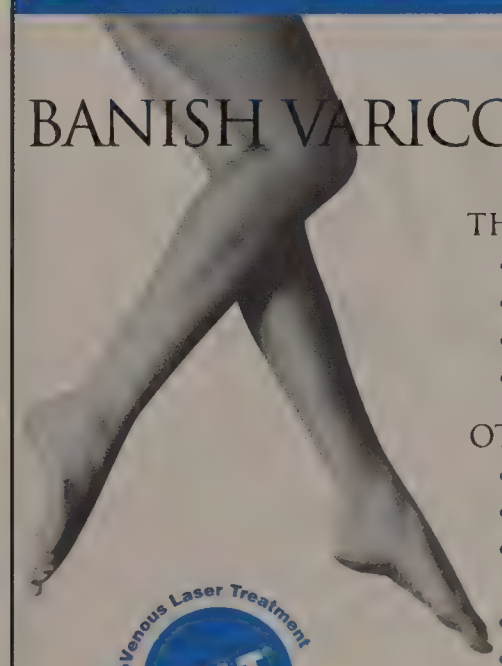
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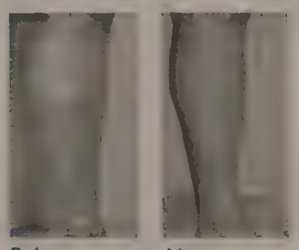
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children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Borders Books and Music
Cambridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Every Sat., 1 pm. Staff members read from new and classic storybooks.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Every Tuesday and Saturday, 11 am. Staff members read children's stories, followed by snacks and craft activities.

ImprovFoundry Family Show
ImprovBoston, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA Red Line to Central. Saturdays, 6 pm. $10-$12. This short, improvisational show is fun for the whole family.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. 10:30 am and 1 pm. $8.50; members, $7. Reservations recommended. •July 21 and 22: Heidi Rugg's Barefoot Puppets present *Galapagos George*, the tale of a giant tortoise. •July 26 and 27: Paul Vincent Davis performs the classic fairy tale *Rumpelstiltskin*. •July 28 and 29: *Everybody Loves Pirates* is the story of a boy who encounters pirates while on a treasure hunt. •Aug. 4 and 5: John McDonough's Pumpernickel Puppets perform *The Frog Prince*, the story of an irreverent prince who is turned into a frog.

Things to Do

Boston by Little Feet
Fanueil Hall, Congress Street, Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Sun, 2 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am. $8. Explore Boston's history and architecture by taking a walking tour of the Freedom Trail designed specifically for kids.

Boston Children's Theatre
C. Walsh Theater, Suffolk University, 55 Temple St., Boston (617-424-6634). www.bostonchildrenstheatre.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. July 26-30; Aug. 9-13, $300. BCT offers professional training in dance, vocal and theatrical performance for kids in grades 2-7.

Boston Duck Tours
Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston; Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-267-3825). www.bostonducktours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Science Park. Daily through November, 9 am-sunset, every 30-60 minutes. $24; seniors and students, $21; children 3-11, $15; children under 3, $3. These amphibious vehicles tour Boston's most popular sights via city streets and the Charles River.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8; children, $7. Special events: •July 23 and 30, dusk: *Movies at the Milk Bottle* is a free, outdoor short-film festival. •Aug. 10, 4 pm: *Food Project BLAST Nutrition Workshop* teaches kids the value of healthy eating. Weekly events: •Tue., 2-4 pm: *Boston Black...A City Connects* features activities that celebrate diversity. •Wed., 11 am-1 pm: Kids paint murals together on the boardwalk. 12-1 pm: The Summer Outdoor Music Series features local musicians performing various genres of music. •Fri., 3-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2-4 pm. *In the Zoom Zone* is a hands-on science challenge culled from the PBS TV show *Zoom*. •Mon.-Fri., 10 am-4 pm: The art studio is open for bookmaking, painting, finger puppets and more.

Franklin Park Zoo
One Franklin Park Road, Boston (617-541-5466). www.zoonewengland.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills, then #16 bus. Through Sept. 30: Weekdays, 10 am-5 pm; weekends and holidays, 10 am-6 pm. $9.50; children, $5. •Through Sept. 6: *Din Kingdom* features a Mesozoic Jungle with 12 giag imatronic dinosaurs. $3. •It's butterflies galore Butterfly Landing gardens. •Spend the night your favorite animals at a family sleepover. Ong

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-44 web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Ke Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $5 5-18, $2; students, seniors and kids 5 and under (free admission the third Sunday of every mo •*Hub of the Air Universe: A Century of Fli Massachusetts* is a backward glance at the evol of aviation through one-of-a-kind artifacts, in and artwork. Through Sept. 5. •*Holograph Light Fantastic* is a display of the largest colle of holograms in the world. Ongoing. •*Robot Beyond* offers a look at MIT's artificial intelli research labs. Ongoing. •*Ship Models: The E tion of Ship Design* features 40 ship models, warships to clippers. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. $15 dren 17 and under, free. •Mon.-Thu., 3:30 pm Children's Room combines arts and crafts with riety of cultural themes. •Wed., 5:30 pm: F Night Out is an interactive evening of creati tivities for children and families.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.- 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13; children, $10. Lord of the Rings Motion Picture Trilogy: The E tion is a journey through Middle Earth and the ing of the *LOTR* movies. Aug. 1-Oct. 24. •*Th sion to Saturn* planetarium show takes you journey to Saturn, its rings and moons, an Cassini spacecraft. Through Sept. 6. •*Risk* hands-on exhibit that shows how math, scienc probability can help you assess risk. Through 6. •Pounding hearts and speedy pulses are de fied in the *Adrenaline Rush: The Science of* showing through Sept. 6. •See *Forces of Nat* experience tornadoes, hurricanes and volc Through Oct. 1. •*Making Models* is a hands-on bition that demonstrates how models help p understand complex ideas and phenomena. cludes a wave tank, a model of Mount Everest giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •*Animals and Alive!* Every Sat. and Sun., 11 am-12 pm: Th seum's Science Theater Program features p sional storytellers who combine folk tales and with visits from live animals. •*Theater of Elec* Daily, times vary. The Van de Graaff generat vides a risk-free lightning show.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). ww englandaquarium.org. MBTA: Blue Line to A ium. Through Labor Day: Mon.-Thu., 9 am- Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95; seniors, $13.9 dren, $8.95. •West Wing: The *Amazing Jellie* bition features thousands of jellyfish. Th 2005. •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean contains sharks, stingrays and a 600-pound C nia sea lion. Ongoing. •Get hands-on pl with sea stars, hermit crabs and more at the o *Edge of the Sea* exhibit.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). w newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newto lands. •July 22, 7:30 pm: Enjoy a dramatic pla ing for kids. •Aug. 2 and 9, 7 pm: The Sumn etry Program gives kids a chance to shar poetry. •Aug. 11, 7 pm: Ages 9 and up. Sna share summer books and creative writing. •Tu am (age 2); Wed., 11 am (ages 3-4); Thu., 3:3 pm (ages 4 and up): Staff members read childre ries. •*Explore Other Worlds*, the summer 200 Craft Program, is a hands-on story hour.


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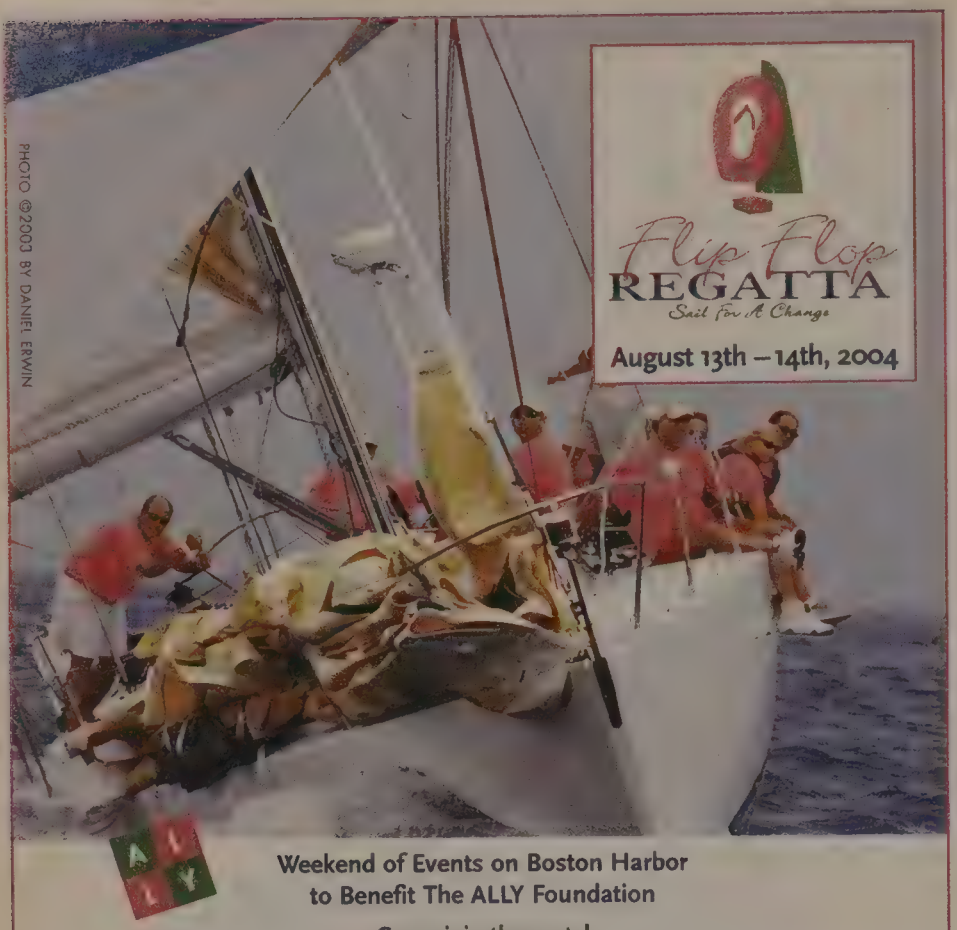
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Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
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Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5pm; Fri., 10 am - 9 pm. $9; children and seniors, $7. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.

Faneuil Hall
75 State St., Boston (617-338-2323). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 am. Free.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6, children, $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; seniors and students, $8; 12 and under, free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH, or Green Line to Park St. Summer: daily, 10 am-4 pm; Labor Day through Memorial Day: Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Summer hours, through Sept. 6: Mon.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14; seniors, $12; children, $11.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5; children, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1, Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, $13.95 seniors; children, $8.95.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-5 pm. Free.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $5, seniors and students, $4; children, $1.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $7; seniors and children 10 and under, $4.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily, 7 am-6 pm. $4; children 12 and under, free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). www.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. May 1-Oct. 15: daily, 9 am-6 pm; Nov. 1-April 30: daily, 10 am-5 pm. Free.


See Boston from the Prudential Center Skywalk

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster-care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay
(617-375-0700). www.bostonredcross.org. Volunteer in the administrative department.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Ba
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seek unteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-563-4441). www.bostoncares.org. than 70 volunteer opp nities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.b jaycees.org. A volunte ganization of people tween the ages of 21 an

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). www.b livingcenter.org. HIV/ organization needs v teers for kitchen, office special events.

Boston Partners Education
(617-451-6145). www.b partners.org. Tutor students from the city in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). www.ccaa.org. V teers are needed to educate the public about H

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Support fo dren and adults with developmental disabilitie

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Lite
(617-357-6000). Tutor students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
(617-995-3250). www.everybodywinsmetrob org. Spend your lunch hour reading with elem school children.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hospice.org. Volunteers to support terminally ill patients and their fami

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-onlin Over-the-phone counsel for people affected b holism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Mentor a

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Volunteer for homeless chil

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patier

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time v elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults t

Literacy Volunteers of Massachu
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-738-5110). www.mablind.org. Read c with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelders.org. Vol needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeles

Parental Stress Line
(617-927-0621). Counsel parents and caregi

Pine Street Inn
(617-482-4944). www.pinestreetinn.org. breakfast to homeless guests.

Project Place, Inc.
(617-262-3740). www.projectplace.org. Be mentor or tutor for homeless men and wome

Recording for the Blind and Dys
(617-577-1111). www.rfbd.org. Record textb digital formats.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteer at this agency tered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the room, clothing room and groceries program homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely over the phone.

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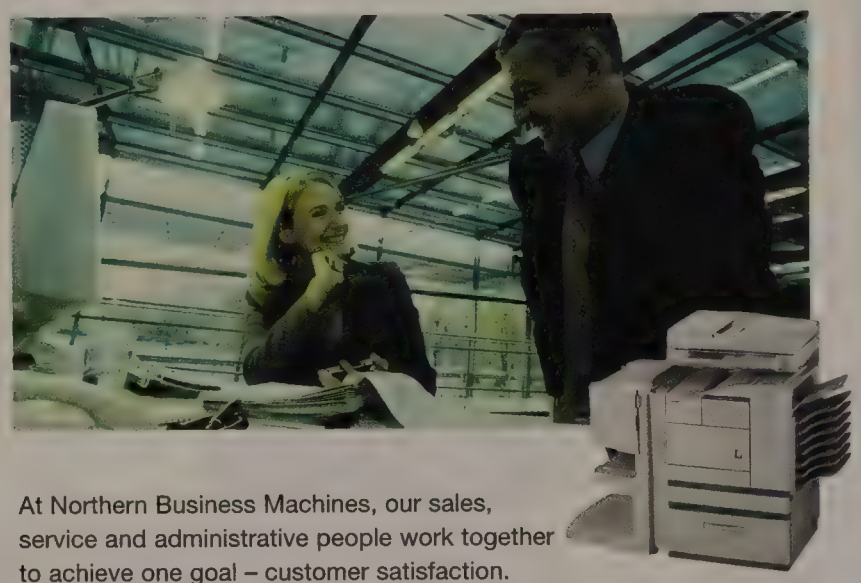
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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
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Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

Infinite Mementos

Approximately 125 days have transpired since our last conversation. I have endured constant internal strife during this period, fighting a war with no apparent, peaceful resolution. I need you to know that I hated what I had to do and wish with all my passion that I could figure out a way to mend our lacerated relationship. It's hard for me to walk through this city as I am incessantly haunted by past dreams and memories: those pennies lying on the ground that you would pounce on like a sleek, furtive cat; the inescapable Starbucks, and your tiny smirk as you proudly proclaimed our mutual addiction; the Thai restaurants and the aroma of curry wafting through the air as I watched you inhale a massive dish of food with an utter disregard for etiquette that can only be obtained around the most intimate of friends; and even this very magazine, to which I was totally oblivious until you came into my life. You always mentioned your love for this column and your desire to see yourself portrayed. As you read these words now, please forgive me and know that I want to be friends again. Even though things will never be the same, you're too much of a positive influence and a stunningly beautiful person to erase completely from my life.

—JamesRussLowell@aol.com

Waggling Eyebrows in Davis

It was Friday morning, June 25. We were walking in opposite directions in Davis Square. You waggled your eyebrows at me and I smiled. You asked me for the time and told me I had a nice smile. I was totally flustered, and you called me on it. I denied you a walk with me and I wish I hadn't. If you'd like, contact me. Welcome to town, I hope you don't miss D.C. too much.

—smileindavis@yahoo.com

Biker

To the cyclist who rode by the Longwood T stop the evening of June 25 and told the waiting commuters to "Have fun, assholes!": I'm so glad you are fortunate (and rich) enough to live within biking distance of work, but for the rest of us who are stuck daily waiting 25 minutes to begin our 40 minute commute packed into cattle cars, we were obviously not having fun. But rather than commending us on not driving dangerous, cyclist-hitting SUVs into work, you chose to laugh and insult our use of public transportation. Your words were cruel, but the advice was sound—next time, one of those "assholes" may have a little more "fun" watching you fly ass-over-handlebars when an umbrella is "accidentally" tossed into the spokes of your wheels.

—P'd on the T

Sorry

When we first spoke I thought we had a lot in common and then we met. I couldn't believe how beautiful you were, your smile, your eyes and your personality. I really thought we hit it off, but then you started ignoring me. When we finally spoke you started making up excuses about why you wouldn't talk to me. It hurt but I got over it. I possibly said some stupid things (I know I said some stupid things) but now I'm sorry. I'm sorry we couldn't talk more, I'm sorry I won't be able to see your beautiful eyes anymore and I'm sorry I can't at least be your friend. Whenever you're ready to speak with me again, I will always be there.

—devon3@comcast.net

You're an Angel

Thank you, to the sweet, genuine and caring young girl (wearing a green Tulane sweatshirt) who offered a kind word to me and comfort when I was frazzled outside of the Starbucks in Newtonville. I was all agitated and stressed out and you so kindly offered to help me in my time of need. I had just been through a horrible experience at a very stressful time, so you just being so sweet made me appreciate that there are some good peeps out there, especially when I think most people suck crap. Thank you again. You are a good soul and put some light in my dark day. You're an angel!

—MRM

Blue Eyes in the Sky

You were the tall dark guy in the grey ribbed pullover, standing in the lounge at Top of the Hub with the city lights behind you. I was the blond in the white linen jacket, having dinner with my best friend and her fiancé. He was a bore, but you and I seemed to click after I caught your eye, and we later made small talk by the elevator when I was waiting for my friend to come back from the restroom. You didn't seem to be with anyone. I wished you had asked me to join you for a glass of wine. I don't know how often you're at Top of the Hub, but I work near the Pru. Any chance we might meet again for the drink we should have had in the first place? I'd love to look into those blue eyes of yours over a Grey Goose martini sometime. This could be the start of someth nice, no?

—DayLilyDamsel@yahoo.com

7-Eleven, Summer Street

I saw you in 7-Eleven on June 30. and your friend were behind me i line when a guy cut in front of us. gave each other a look and I want to give you another look but you called to the next register. I was t girl with the pink sweater on my shoulders and a revealing white T shirt. I hope we can meet again sometime soon.

—Lucky 7

Improper?

It was the night of July 6. You w dressed in a pink shirt and sand sitting on the Red Line, heading toward Ashmont. I was sitting from you, wearing God-knows-w I think it was a light blue T-shir greenish-brown shorts. I can ne remember such trivialities abou myself. You were reading the IMPROPER. I was reading the IMPR Something in common, "soulma perhaps...or not. We exchanged several glances, and I considere saying to you, "Good choice in reading material," but you'd know that since it was never sa Besides, I've heard it's improp etiquette to bother people on t subway, not to mention the fact there were two other girls sittin there, inconsequential parties r to laugh if my attempt to woo y failed. At least that's what the overactive imagination says. I suppose that's why we have the foolish ads in free newspapers, only to alleviate the fear of bei laughed at. Anyway, I figured y might read this and perhaps remember me, or I'd at least be immortalized in print for all of Boston to see and be entertaine Never hurts to try.

—jmparisi21@yahoo.com

Stocking Feet on Congress Street, Jul

You were heading toward the p lots down by the World Trade C without a care in the world as carried your shoes and walked stocking feet. (Or perhaps thos shoes needed to be broken in you were given your aching fe break from them.) You were a for my tired eyes as I headed South Station. I wish I could m you again soon and give you a rub if those feet still need it. A can talk some more and see w leads.

—mass_appeal@hotmail.co

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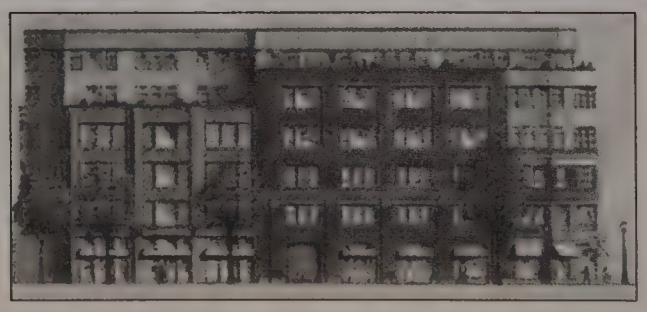
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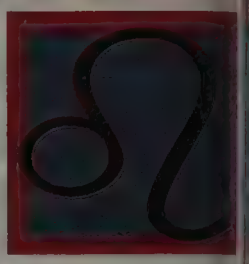
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LEO JULY 23–AUGUST 22

Lions, more than most signs, are aware that sometimes even royalty has to pay to play, and that you might as well have joy in your heart while you're running up a tab. Just a reminder because a lot of your time and energy could be devoted to making your loved ones happy over the next three weeks, while lucky Jupiter, indulgent Venus and passionate Pluto hook up. Even casual friends can benefit from the abundance of gifts and special treats being tossed around. Petty jealousies are to be expected, so try to play fair.

VIRGO
AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

Good friends or "just friends"? All summer long, colleagues and acquaintances could pop up, sometimes when it's convenient, more often when it's not. Even if you intend to spend time alone (especially once your Mercury ruler turns retrograde in your sign on August 9), trips down memory lane are likely to be shared with somewhat significant others from your past. Because generous, jolly Jupiter is in your sign, you can't help but extend yourself, and because affable Venus and manipulative Pluto are vying for your attention, you could wind up feeling used and abused.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

Don't let the Cancer new-moon energy slip by without directing some of it toward a career goal you can get behind come autumn. It's not that you're presently preoccupied with fun-in-the-sun activities or, more likely, inactivity. But there's a good chance that you'll be called out of town to attend to pleasurable business. If so, keep tabs on your expenses, because when there's tension between enthusiastic Jupiter and your amenable Venus ruler, the bills quickly pile up and it gets harder to say no to anything or anyone you fancy.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

No doubt the psychic Scorpio has seen it coming, and in your own quiet way, has prepared for its arrival. What? The rewarding trine between Mars and Pluto, your co-ruling planets. What will make this event on the 25th more memorable than others that have come before is the fiery, passionate nature of their liaison. There's also the possibility of cashing in big-time, simply because the planets are aligned in your second house of income and your tenth house of worldly success and the family's good name. Congratulations.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

The passion you were promised should hit like the proverbial "thunderbolt" when horny Mars in Leo favors passionate Pluto in your sign. Their connection could be a bit rough, so be prepared for high drama instead of warm hugs and civilized conversation. Once again, because your expansive Jupiter ruler is busy making plans for the next stage of your career, affectionate Venus in your house of partners can make those folks feel neglected. Trust that the goddess will demand that you pay dearly for any oversight.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

You seem unable to extricate yourself from the pervasiveness of "we" rather than "me" consciousness. Not to worry; after the sun moves out of your Cancer complement on the 22nd and before magnetic Venus moves in on August 7, you should be able to focus on what's unique about yourself and how you can make those qualities known to a wider audience. You'll have plenty of time to research the project because publicity-minded Mercury turns retrograde on August 9 in your house of other people's resources. Start your search for potential benefactors/investors soon.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

Take time to figure out where you want to be at the end of July when the second full moon of the month, the blue moon, is in Aquarius. These relatively rare lunar events are special occasions that deserve suitable, well-thought-out celebrations. Since it's your turn to "howl at the moon," make sure everyone who counts can hear you. Other people' expectations, their reactions and respect tend to have a stronger effect on you and a significant other during solar Leo than at other times of the year. Put on a good show.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

Caught in the crossfire again or is your current situation to much of a good thing? Either way, you're liable to be stressed out by too many promises as Venus and Jupiter, th two "benefics," attempt to outdo each other. Between bein the object of your family's best intentions and a partner's generosity, Fish can easily feel that the squeeze is on. Although a long, deep-sea dive would take you far away from the competitive vibe, realistically, you can't succumb to the temptation to hide out. Or can you?

ARIES
MARCH 20–APRIL 19

Check out Web sites offering low-cost, high-risk trips you can sign up for immediately. You may get a similar opportunity to direct the high-spirited energy of your Mars ruler toward another once-or-twice-in-a-lifetime adventur in 2006, but why wait? This is an excellent time to test the limits of your curiosity and love of a challenge. Plus you have the support of security-conscious Pluto to see you get back home in one piece. However, first make sure you don' get sidetracked by a dramatic plea for attention from a colleague, your boss, or worse, a parent.

TAURUS
APRIL 20–MAY 20

No matter where you go camping this summer, you're not out of the woods until your Venus ruler returns to the spot which it turned retrograde in mid May. That red-letter day arrives on August 2, right after the blue moon. Until then, keep track of the intelligence that keeps accruing, especiall your insights into a more flexible value system. While the family becomes more rigid in their demands as more plane gather in Leo, a fixed sign like your own, you may prefer to experiment with attractive alternatives. Conflict?

GEMINI
MAY 21–JUNE 20

A diplomatic Libra or Taurus can bring a relationship issue a head and help you discover what, up to now, you've refus to see. Or what has been systematically kept from you. Interesting action for the ever-curious Twins, no? Money might not figure prominently in the puzzle, but you should still pay attention to the pluses and minuses of each materi and emotional transaction, at least until your Mercury rule begins its next retrograde trip Aug. 9. Be aware that what happens from now until then will probably have to be revis

CANCER
JUNE 21–JULY 22

Like your birthday wish, the annual Cancer new moon offe another opportunity to focus purely on what you want for yourself. Not something that'll please others; no deal with the devil that'll guarantee the success of your latest projec nothing to enhance your reputation in the community or among your friends. Not high hopes for your financial futt either, although Mercury in your Leo money house is demanding that, no matter what else you do this summer, you pay attention to the small stuff or it'll come back to haunt you.

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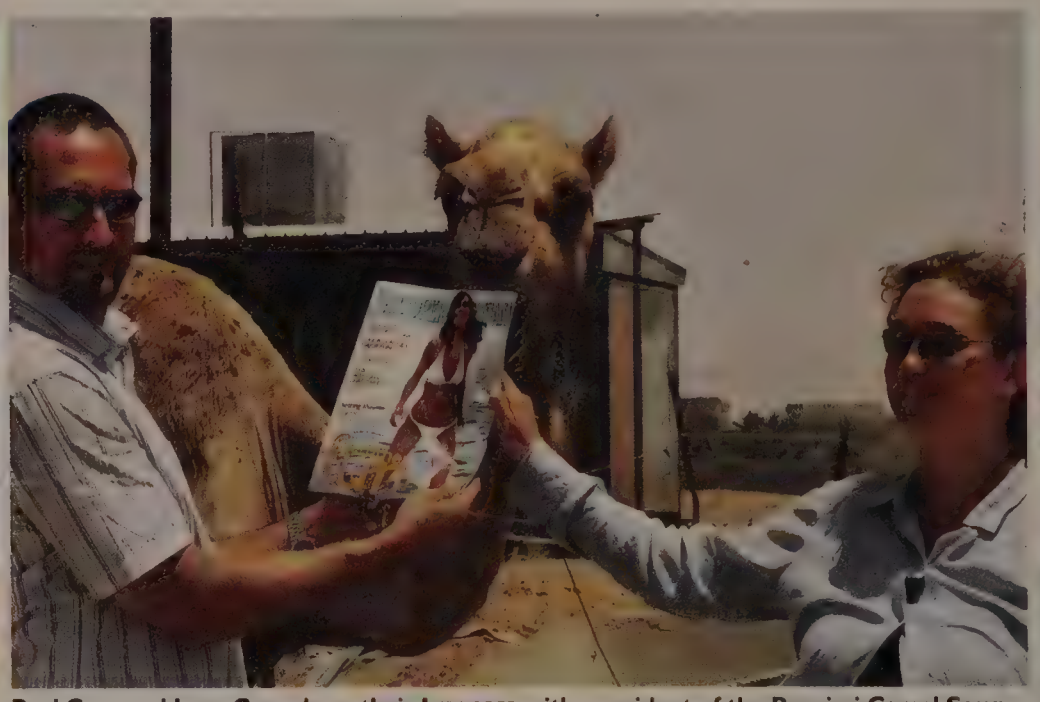
IMPROPER sightings

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Rachel Murphy-Banks and Diana Altmann visit the excavated city of Herculaneum in Ercolano, Italy. We thought an excavated Herculaneum was a personal problem.



Paul Case and Lynn Case share their IMPROPER with a resident of the Buraimi Camel Souq in Al Ain, United Arab Emirates. The camel souq is a ritzy rehab center for camels with substance abuse problems, and this guy leaked that he'd seen both Joe Camel and several of the stars of *Ishtar,* who definitely looked like they'd had hump work done.



Bena Tam toted an IMPROPER to Tokyo. In Tokyo, a hot fashion is pants that have a picture of a butt on the back, according t reliable e-mail forwards from our friends.



Consul General of Israel to New England Meir Shlomo brings some reading to Herzliya Beach, in Israel. Behind him is the annual Herzliya Beach Festival of People Who Aren't Sick of Adam Sandler's "Chanukah Song" Yet.



John and Kenia Smart traveled to Lassance, Brazil, to visit Kenia's family in her hometown. Pictured, from left, are Adan, Eustaquio, Victor, John and Kenia, Lucas and Geraldo. John says that *Simpsons* episode where they went to Rio was misleading, as people there really don't travel via conga line.



Vazgen Manukian, member of Parliamer and 1st Prime Minister of the Republic c Armenia, in front of the Armenian Genocide Memorial in Vienna, Austria.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Eating a peanut butter and pickle sandwich with a side of strawberry ice cream while singing "In the Ghetto" at Elvis Week, Aug. 7–16 in Memphis, Tenn.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned.

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IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Friday, June 25, **Miller Lite** helped welcome **Globe**, a new bar and restaurant on Boylston Street, to the neighborhood.







1. **Jamie Hale** and **Jen Cho**, promotional specialists for Team Enterprise.
2. **Susan Riskin** and **Jeanne Kehrberger**, teachers in Sudbury.
3. **Villy Voravong**, hostess; **Roxanne May**, waitress; **Con Coen**, bartender; and **Erin Duffy**, waitress; all of Globe.

On Monday, June 28, **The Fireplace** held its first annual "Washington Square Summer Block Party" to raise money for the **Brookline Fire Department**.







1. **Joe Canney** and **Joe Ward**, both of the Broo Fire Department
2. **Merrill Diamond**, real estate developer for Chestnut Hill Waterworks Property, with sister-law **Danuta Chotkowsky**.
3. **Chris Frothingham**, executive chef of Kingfi Hall in Faneuil Hall, with wife, **Allison**.

On Wednesday, June 23, **Felt** was host to the "Playboy Scramble Pre-Party."



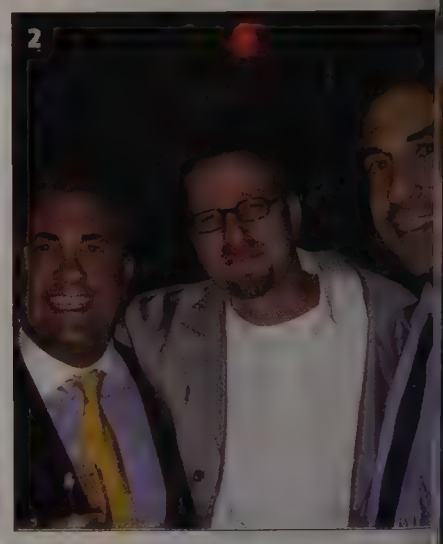




1. **Seth Meyers** of *Saturday Night Live*, with **Brian G.** and **Brian W.**, both of *Average Joe 2*.
2. **Randy Greenstein**, account executive for KISS 108; **Max Camponovo**, manager at Caprice; and **Paul Canavan**, VP & general sales manager for United Liquors.
3. **The Playboy Playmates**.

On Monday, June 28, **Bricco** celebrated their first anniversary under new management.







1. **Nino Trotta**, marketing director **Marisa Iocco**, executive chef; a **Rita D'Angelo**, general manag wine director, all of Bricco.
2. **Steven Carr Davis**, attorney; **Michael Albano**, COO of ERA Boston Real Estate; and **Josh Binswanger**, host for the Histo Channel.
3. **Michael Carucci**, president of Boston Real Estate; **Tanya Snyc** bartender at Margaritas; **Antho Sedrich**, president of Reos Syst **Pamela Burch**, IMTA coordina Barbizon Middle School; and **Dr Meola**, president of Dental Ass of New England.

PHOTOS: GLOBE, KAREN DANA; FIREPLACE, VANESSA GARDNER; FELT, JULIE KANE; BRICCO, MI

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The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Monday, June 14, **Smirnoff Vodka** hosted a Private Bartender Only Tastemaker Session Party, which kicked-off with an advanced screening of *Dodgeball* at **AMC Fenway 13 Theater**, and finished up with a post-screening party at **Tequila Rain** on Lansdowne Street.



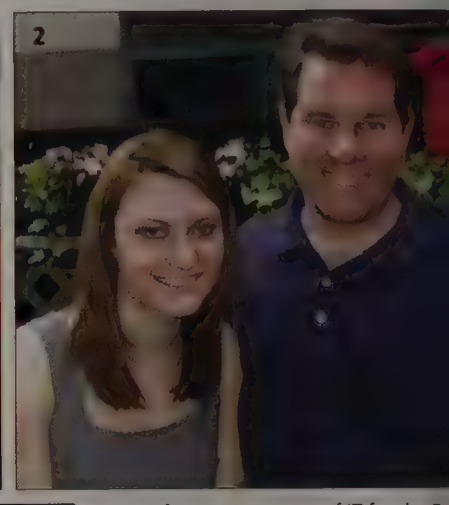




1. **Kate Forbes-Maguire**, spokesmodel, and **Lisa Belden**, on-site manager, both of US Concepts.
2. **Karen Richmond** and **Denise Murphy**, both bartenders at Hugh O'Neills.
3. **Mike Bruno**, district manager for Paterno Wines; **Joseph Assencoa** event manager for Diageo Brands US Concepts; and **Phil Hillman II**, sales specialist for United Liquors.

On Wednesday, June 9, **The Black Rhino** celebrated "Hot Summer Nights" hosted by **Bacardi Rum Flavors** and featuring the reggae band Hot Like Fir







1. **John Doty**, master of IT for the Bo Bar Association, and **Alison Galg** counsel portfolio assistant for Eato Vance Management.
2. **Rachel Desmond**, director, and **J McDonough**, senior vice presider both of Grubb & Ellis.
3. **Daisy Penney**, bartender for The Rhino, and **Erik Gustafson**, regio director, NBAS, Inc.

On Thursday, June 24, **The Improper Bostonian** hosted the Let's Go Crazy '80s Party at **Hurricane O'Reilly's**. Chris Shine from **KISS 108** hosted the festivities and gave away concert tickets from **Clear Channel**. Party-goers danced into the night to the sounds of '80s cover band Fast Times while sipping **Level Vodka** cocktails.







1. **Bethany MacDougall** and **Kerryn Gerety**, interns, and **Leanne DeOliveira**, account manager, all of Regan Communications.
2. **Alex Steppacher**, on-premise manager, Massachusetts, East Coast Division for Future Brands; **Paula Kent**, manager of the Black Rose; **Bob Hargraves**, account manager for WEEI; and **Tracy Saradnik**, marketing director for the Glynn Hospitality Group.
3. **Rose Bolduc**, Rubik's Cube contest winner and assignment desk editor with WCVB, and **Chris Shine**, DJ with Kiss 108 and emcee for the evening.

On Wednesday, June 30, **Vinalia** restaurant and wine bar held its weekly wi tasting event featuring wines from the North Coast of California.







1. **Kern Tyler**, Milt **Manousaridis** a **Danielle Versac** claims analysts fo Hancock.
2. **Adam Klimek**, a with Cushman & Wakefield; **Kirste Lantelme**, stude Lesley College; **Ni Horth**, counselor Therapy; and **Dav Nevins**, chef at N
3. **Doug Nevins**, s **Costa**, co-owner **Paul Lydon**, ma director, all of Vin

PHOTOS: TEQUILA RAIN, BLACK RHINO, MIKE BURNS; HURRICANE O'REILLY'S, ALISON MORANT; VINALIA, JULIE



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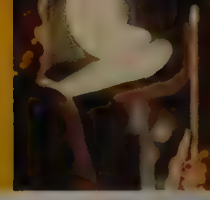
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Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch





RESTAURANTS

75 Chestnut *75 Chestnut St., Boston, 617-227-2175, www.75chestnut.com.* Providing regional American cuisine served in an intimate setting. Bar opens at 5pm. Dinner served from 5:30pm - 10pm.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston, 617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled Portabella Paninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1 am. AE, DC, MC, V.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2002. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Captain Fishbones *332 Victory Road, Marina Bay, Quincy, 617-471-3511, www.captainfishbones.com.* Captain Fishbones is a spectacular waterfront restaurant featuring Seafood, Steak and More. Enjoy lunch or dinner on our seasonal patio, dine inside, treat yourself to tropical cocktails in our lounge or savor the sunshine at our Boardwalk Café. We serve seafood so fresh it deserves a slap, succulent steaks, awesome burgers, healthy salads, a wide selection of sandwiches and pizza. Full menu is available from 11:30 until close. **Clerys** *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston 617-426-3333.* Open 11am - 2am, 7days a week. Kennedy's Midtown is a cultural experience far from the maddening crowd while set in heart of it. Kennedy's serves a lunch and dinner menu of international cuisine. In the evenings they play host to some of Boston's finest Pianists who entertain with a range of tunes from Broadway to Jazz and Blues. Kennedy's embraces all the finer qualities of regal Boston and throws in a dash of old fashioned Irish Hospitality for measure.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444, Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., South Boston, 617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Ned Devine's *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere in the heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Science Street Café *Science Park, Boston, 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out Boston's newest nightspot - The Science Street Café at the Museum of Science. Try our out-of-this world signature martinis, gourmet appetizers and decadent desserts - all while listening to live music. Perfect with an Omni film. Open 6-10pm. Parking available.

Solas *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am 7 days a week.

Strega *379 Hanover St., Boston 617-523-8481 www.stregaristorante.com.* A fine dining experience in Boston's historic North End. Enjoy our cozy, romantic atmosphere, splendid wine list and savory Italian dishes. Strega buzzes with a mix of casual tourists, local residents and love-struck couples. The menu offers something for everyone. Traditional dishes like the gnocchi are anything but simple, featuring flavor just as robust as that found in intricate dishes. Find yourself in the company of celebrities, including owner Nick Varano's pals from of the Sopranos. Available for corporate and private functions.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

Sydney's Grille *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why Bon Appétit magazine says, "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breakfast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus visit www. sidneysgrille.com.

BARS/CLUBS

Beer Specialty

Boston Beer Works *112 Canal St., near the Fleet Center, 617-896-BEER, 61 Brookline Ave., across from Fenway Park, 617-536-BEER and 278 Derby St., in Historic Salem, 978-745-BEER.* Boston's oldest and largest restaurant brewery with 3 locations! Bold American Food. Award Winning Beer. 15 microbrewed beers always on tap. 16 American wines by the glass. 15 championship billiards tables at our Canal Street location. Complete party planning capabilities. Private Rooms. Customizeable menus. Lunch. Dinner. Late Night. Always a good time. Check out the BIGGER and BOLDER menu.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exotic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

Big City - pool hall, pizza kitchen, Beer Bar *138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8pm, free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the City! Come experience it in a big way!

Clubs

Felt *533 Washington St., Boston, 617.350.5* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carl right next door to the Opera House; in the heart o buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue o ing sophisticated billiards, NewYork style Loun hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet ner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet bo while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere of DJ's dancing, combined with the delicious entrees is perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. Ameri Contemporary cusine by Chef Ben Stevens.

Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston, 617-4 7799.* Located in Boston's trendy Theater Dist Pravda 116 is a chic bar and club. DJs 5:30p 10:30pm keep the energy level high. Bar 5:30 2am and dance club 10:30pm - 2am Wednes Saturday. Credit cards accepted AE, CB, DC, MC,

Stadium – Clubhouse *232 Old Colony Ave., So Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Stadium Clubhou a brand new, upscale nightclub featuring two b a hardwood dance floor and parking. An exci yet relaxed 'loungey' atmosphere with wide va of music and beautiful people crowding the da floor on Friday & Saturday nights. An ideal plac your next bachelor, bachelorette or birthday pa

Club Q Boston *25 Union St., Boston, 617-7 2121.* Open 9pm - 2am Wednesday through Sa day. What nightlife in Boston has been waiting this state of the art Nightclub in the heart o neuil Hall attracts a stylish and eclectic cro Open Wednesday through Saturday Club Q h Boston's top DJs spinning Hip Hop, House and 40's. With two bars, three VIP areas and poo bles, Club Q is the place to see and be seen. C cards accepted.

Comedy

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Ma Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedy nectionboston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connec located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market B ing in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is seven nights a week and offers the best in loca national comedy. During the week, the natio renowned club offers some of Boston's best co like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerize audience and on the weekends, this is the only to see the biggest names in comedy such a Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Rega Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a grea cape in the financial district! Two floors, three open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live b downstairs!

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523- www. theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. Mi Let your hair down; see and be seen on the big sc Simply the hippest way to spend a night of all-o in Boston's Financial District. Come after work. to dance. Come to go wild with your friends. T always something exciting happening – an



er know who you'll bump into. Join us and experi-
e what the buzz is all about.
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 617-*
7-2060. Known for its great food, live enter-
nment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu in-
des American and Irish specialties. Live cover
ds nightly.

h
Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 617-742-*
36. Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its
h year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in
erica, the menu features American and Irish spe-
ties. Live Irish music nightly.
nessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston,617-*
2-2121. Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to
euil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials
d Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive
r and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best ap-
izer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a
ek with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hen-
sy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spir-
' are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 617-523-*
2. Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub em-
of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features
r fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full in-
national menu, and Boston's best appetizer
nu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best
ds," and features Boston's only 12 foot video
en playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox
nes. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."
en Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-*
9-4100. A little taste of Ireland with great tast-
affordable food. One of the most popular
ntspots in town, the Green Briar has become the
a's headquarters for international sports view-
and live entertainment. Live music five nights a
k, featuring local bands on weekends, a tradi-
al Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime
e Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmos-
re makes the Green Briar an excellent place to
luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gather-
s and small business meetings. Open 11 am -
7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday
Saturday nights and some sporting events on
days.
Green Dragon *11Marshall St., Boston, 617-*
-0055. Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolu-
," this favorite after work meeting place is fa-
s for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A
fortable place serving lunch and dinner and
ly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun.
11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers
ap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and im-
ed Irish brews. Live music and entertainment
y Thursday through Sunday night.
vara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.*
he Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hos-
ole, the food is great and everyone is treated as a
ular". It's the local gathering place with au-
tic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports
ing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurl-
Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on week-
s. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from
ed sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional
dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kin-
, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open
n - 2am 7 days a week.
Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston,*
-338-5656. Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of
Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite
ting place for young professionals. The authen-

tic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

General

The Alley *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. www.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

Aqua *120 Water St., Boston, 617-720-4900.* Boston's newest place to be seen is now open in the heart of the Financial District. Whether relaxing with a martini in one of our cozy booths, sipping a margarita on our roof deck or watching your hometown favorites on our high definition plasma TV. Aqua has what you're looking for after work and late night with our resident and guest DJs spinning your favorite mixes through our state of the art sound system all night long.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Boston Rocks *245 Quincy Market Place Boston,617-726-1110 www.boston-rocks.net. 21+.* Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St.,617- 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2003. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.best-margaritas.com.

Cheers *Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-227-0150, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Offering pub fare until 11:45pm. Live entertainment every Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Cheers *Beacon Hill 84 Beacon St., Boston, 617-227-9605, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Full menu available until 11:45pm. Watch your favorite team on DirecTV.

Downtown Lounge *138 Portland St., Boston 617-523-8383.* Tempting tapas, modern martinis and contemporary cocktails are just a few of the elements awaiting your arrival. A distinctive destination in the heart of North Station, located just one block from the Fleet Center. Share crab taquitos, shaved portobello mushrooms or grilled white pizza. Revive with a specialty martini while sinking into soft curvy seating. Spacious and sublime, Dowtown Lounge is an attractive meeting place for business, luncheons, social, after work cocktails and events.

The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010.* Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St.,Boston 617-722-0161.* The newest edition to Boston's night scene. This New Orleans style bar is just steps away from the Fleet Center. Hurricane O'Reilly's serves up the best that Boston nightlife has to offer. Come dance the night away with the hottest music around. We will leave you yearning for Bourbon Street.

Jillian's Boston *145 Ipswich St., Boston, 617-437-0300.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring more than 200 high tech games, six full bars, 50 pool tables, racing simulators, Black Jack for Fun and much more. Atlas Bar and Grill on Jillian's first floor offers full service dining featuring innovative American cuisine, a giant screen video wall and dancing every Friday & Saturday night. www.jilliansboston.com.

The Junction – Your Neighborhood Bar & Grill. *110 Dorchester St., South Boston, 617-268-6429.* Delicious food, great atmosphere and friendly staff –and it all happens at the Junction -South Boston's Neighborhood Bar & Grill. Enjoy our half -priced appetizers on weekdays from 3 to 6 pm. Join us for live music & entertainment on the weekends and for our fun trivia nights on Tuesdays.

Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Lounge. Cocktails. Dancing. Nightlife. Come see the lights of Parris. Sample the eclectic lounge menu featuring grilled pizza, oyster shooters ans steak tartar. Sip a Classic, Apple or French 75 martini, and then motion onto the huge dance floor featuring Live Music with the best bands and DJs Thursday through Saturday. Named for the original architect of the Greek-revival-style building, Alexander Parris, you're nightlife experience at Parris will be Boston and beyond. Open 5pm - 2am Wednesay - Saturday. Cover charge on Friday and Saturday.

Jazz

Regattabar *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Tuesday-Saturday nights and occasional Sunday afternoons. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square. Shows at 8:30pm Tues-Thurs, 7:30pm & 10:00pm Fri. & Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617.876.7777 for tickets and information, 800.881.1818 for hotel reservations and information.

Latin

Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston 617-351-7001.* A multistory Latin-themed restaurant and club, Sophia's treats guests to a tantalizing Tapas-style menu, live Salsa bands and hi-energy Latin dance. From a romantic dinner and salsa lessons to hi-energy dance and mingling on the roof deck over sangria and Salsa, an evening at Sophia's is always Hot! Hot! Hot

Sports Bar - Upscale

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www.theplaceboston.com.* Voted Boston's Best Sports Bar 3 years in a row by The Improper Bostonian! Mingle with your favorite sports celebrities: Brady, Thornton, Walker, Garciaparra. You never know who you'll run into. Enjoy the wildest party atmosphere in the heart of the Financial District. It's never the same experience twice – we've got exclusive sports video productions and game coverage on our state-of the-art flat screen TVs. So join us to see what the buzz is all about and find out why people in-the-know feel right at home.

Sports Depot *353 Cambridge Street, Allston, 617-783-2300,www.sportsdepotboston.com.* SPORTS DEPOT IS BACK! Original Location! Bigger and Better! Plenty of Plasma! Wifi! New Huge Menu! Bring your appetite and your laptop, meet your friends and watch all the games at once, no channel surfing necessary! Enjoy our exciting menu featuring the Original Sports Depot Wings, Pizza and Ribs that fall off the bone! A full menu available everyday from 11:30 to close and Sunday Brunch 10-2. Cool off on a summer day with a Tropical Temptation, Frozen Specialty Drink, Infusion or Martini! Enjoy the sunshine and sports on our Patio!

Stadium *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* Boston's Best Damn Sports Bar, Period. A brand new, high-end sports bar featuring two floors, three bars, 30 flat screen TVs – including the one in the men's room, a dance floor and parking. Stadium menu offers an enticing selection of appetizers, salads, steak & burgers, fresh seafood and drinks

BRUNCH

Harvard Gardens *315 Cambridge St., Beacon Hill, Boston, 617-523-2727. www.harvardgardens. com.* Cozy up to the beautiful mahogany bar or slip into a comfy booth and enjoy Harvard Gardens' menu of cool cocktails and comfort food. Brunch serves up eggs and pastrami hash, thick-cut French toast with caramelized bananas, specialty pizzas and Boston's best Bloody Mary. Harvard Gardens serves brunch Saturday and Sunday, 11:00am - 3:00pm.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended 617-661-5005.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**, *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

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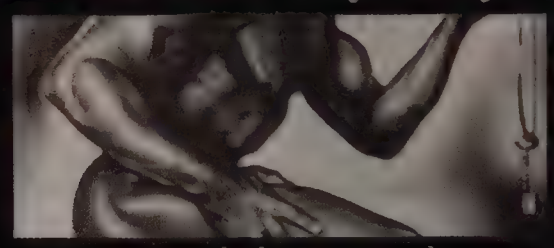
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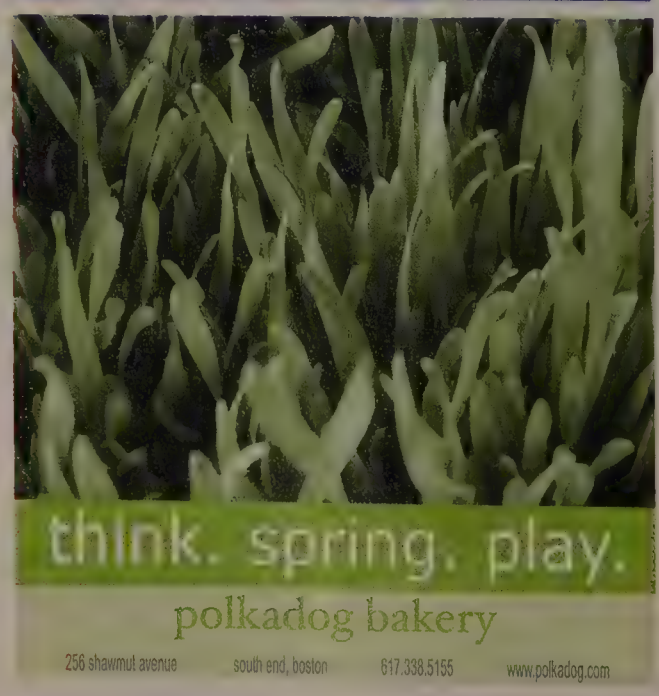
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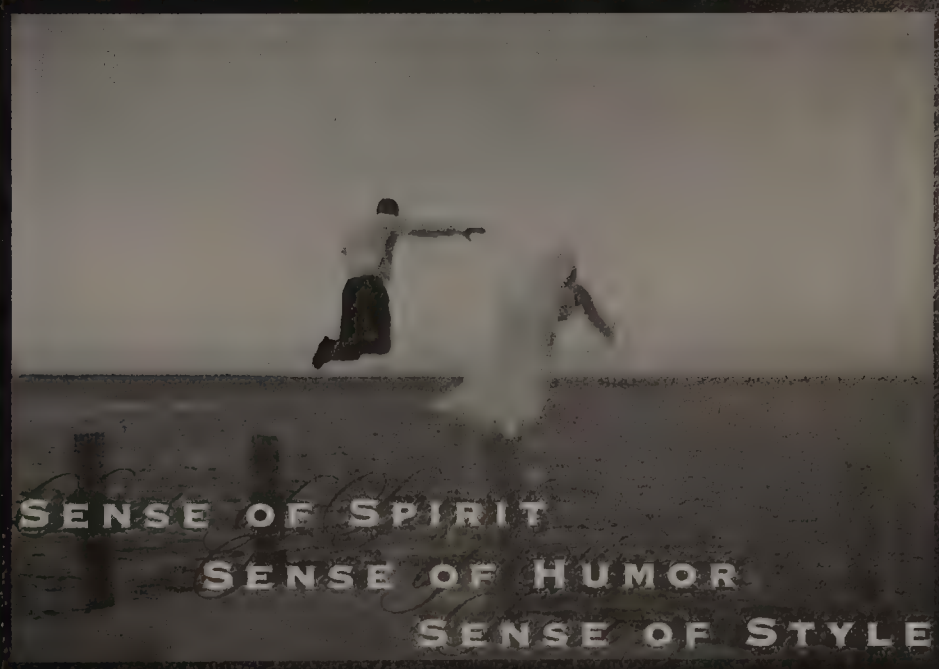
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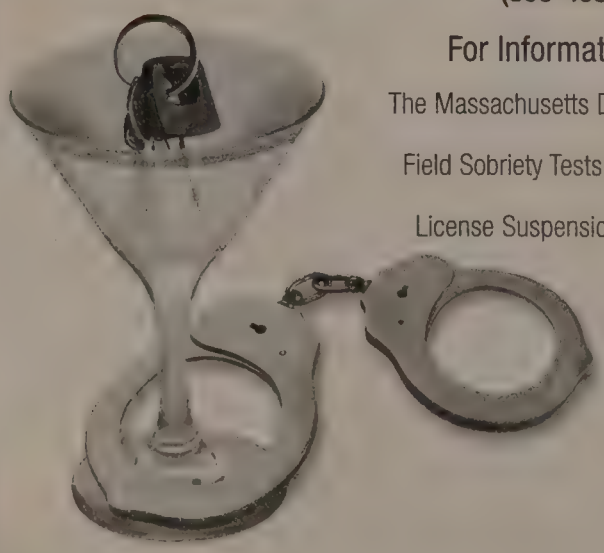
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At the Boston Cotillion, top: Farah Salie and Julie Hume Sprague. Middle row, from left: Barbie cakes; Vicky Whitney with daughters Emily, Blake and Tori. Bottom, from left: a girl making her debut; Cassandra and Hod Irvine

GIRLS FROM GOOD HOMES...

The Old Guard observed a time-honored tradition at the charmingly anachronistic evening known as the **Boston Cotillion**, a debutante ball held at the **Park Plaza**, where daughters of the city's first families are formally introduced to society.

This year's crop of dewy young things included **Caroline MacMillan Babcock**, **Carina Alexandra Berlin**, **Elizabeth Avery Caraboolad**, **Alexandra Catharine Ebling**, **Victoria Mullen Fillat**, **Louise Lovell Hill** and **Victoria Dumaresq Whitney**—all looking startlingly grown-up in strapless white gowns.

Before the ball, their families hosted private dinners at various locales around town; for instance, **Tom** and **Vicky Whitney** of Chestnut Hill (a.k.a. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H.P. Whitney—the H.P. stands for Handasyd Perkins, as in the 19th-century China trader) entertained a raft of their own and their daughters' friends at an intimate get-together at the **Chilton Club** (that bastion of Brahmin femininity on the corner of Comm. Ave. and Dartmouth Street). Lest it sound hopelessly stuffy, the party was leavened by lots of witty toasts and amusing touches like the Barbie doll cakes with edible, pink-frosted hoopskirts.

Then it was on to the main event, where blue-blooded éminence grise **Michael Robbins** introduced the Receiving Committee (a group of prominent women with whom each debutante shakes hands), followed by the girls themselves. They were accompanied by two socially acceptable young men and escorted by their beaming fathers, who walked them under an arch of white flowers, down a flight of steps, and onto the dance floor, where they waltzed to "Thank Heaven for Little Girls."

Taking all this in were such Social Register types as **Mary Kay** and **Nicholas Holder**; **Gale Minot** and her daughter, **Amory**; **Cokie** and **Lee Perry** with Cokie's sister, **Anne Ireland**; the ravishingly, fall-at-her-feet gorgeous **Cassandra Irvine** and her adoring other half, **Hod**; flawless Southern belle **Winston Jenkins**; statuesque brunette **Julie Hume Sprague**; incorrigible scamp **Richard Babson**; eminent M.D. **Gardner Jackson**; assorted presidential relatives—including escort **Walker Bush Ellis** and committee member **Candace Roosevelt**; the evening's honoree, **Jan Schifen** of the Vincent Memorial Hospital at MGH; a young man wearing a tuxedo and flip-flops, and a resourceful woman whose air-conditioning had been broken all week but who finally got a repairman to come to her house by saying, "Just don't get here between 12 and 5, because that's when the girls will be sunbathing topless by the pool."

Among the evening's memorable comments: "You're just lucky your daughter isn't Paris Hilton," "This is a roomful of hormones pretending to be in control," and "We live in Cambridge, so we have to be careful when we say, 'Our daughter's coming out.'"

All in all, a lovely evening, and it can safely be said that there's never been a group of young ladies so lovely or poised...until next year, that is.

KEEPING THE WORLD SAFE FOR YELLOW LABS AND FRISBEE PLAYERS...

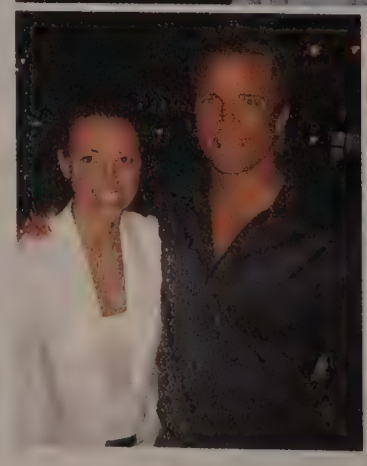
They look so picturesque patrolling the city's green spaces on horseback that it's only fitting the **Boston Park Rangers** were feted at a **Spring Soiree** hosted by **Mayor Menino** and parks commissioner **Toni Pollak** at the super-swank eatery **Excelsior**.

On hand for the summery reception were the likes of Back Bay glamazon **Beth Dickerson**; real estate titan **Jed Raymond** and his son, **Jared**; developer **Tony Pangaro**; lawyer-at-large **Larry DiCara**; mayoral right-hand man **Harry Collings**; Republican publican **Tom Kershaw** of Cheers; preppy do-gooder **Peggy Dray**; and celebrity chef **Lydia Shire**, who went outside with a bunch of gourmet baby carrots that she hand-fed to the horses stationed at the restaurant's entrance.

"Can't the horses come inside?" asked one guest, to which someone else replied, "No, but a few horses' asses already have."

However, the evening's wittiest remark came from a woman who was asked if she knew someone, to which she replied, "Yes, we're related by marriage...I'm his wife."

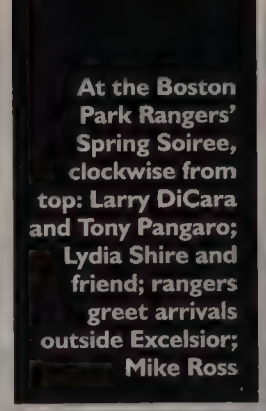






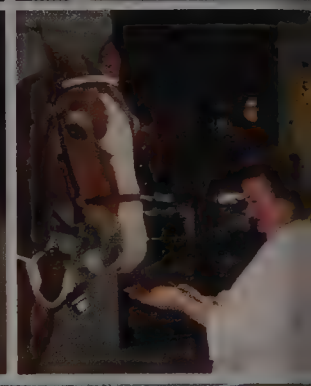
At Anthony's Pier 4, top: Josh Meyers and Bobby Wahlberg. Bottom, from left: Susan Brubaker and David Chokachi; Steve Burton

At the Boston Park Rangers' Spring Soiree, clockwise from top: Larry DiCara and Tony Pangaro; Lydia Shire and friend; rangers greet arrivals outside Excelsior; Mike Ross











EAT, DRINK AND MAKE MERRY...

It was a surprisingly glitzy crowd that turne out at **Anthony's Pier 4** for a silent auctio and dinner dance to support **Parents fo Residential Reform** and the **Federatio for Children with Special Needs**.

Seen milling about before sitting dow for dinner were the evening's honoree state auditor **Joe DeNucci**, sports ancho **Steve Burton** and his wife, **Ginny**; fo mer governor **Michael Dukakis**; his fo mer right-hand woman, **Marjorie Cla prood**; Newton mayor **David Cohe** Boston's own **Bobby Wahlberg** (who w greeted at the door by a woman who h flown all the way from Canada just catch a glimpse of him); *Baywatch* hun **David Chokachi** and his gorgeous ancée, Gucci executive **Susan Brubake** *Mad TV*'s **Josh Meyers**; radio personali **JJ Wright** (the evening's emcee); stand comic and hairstylist **Patrice Vinci**; a force of nature **Andrea Watson**, who ganized the event and was repeatedly ferred to throughout the evening as woman you just can't say no to."

Drinks and dinner were followed by a f more drinks and plenty of dancing, and the time everyone went home, it was cl that although many of them spend th days helping disadvantaged kids, these pe ple know how to cut loose and have a go time once the sun goes down. IB

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OLIVIA GATTI

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Improper Impersonals
Rockie Horoscope
Improper Sightings

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

Dear Ketel One Drinker
Here is the recipe for our signature cocktail:
Take one part Ketel One
Add nothing
Drink.

LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR



ON THE TOWN

While every issue of the IMPROPER is stocked with tips and information designed to boost your social life, this is the first issue we've devoted exclusively to nightlife. And since we already publish issues that focus on dining, dating, music and the arts, we're using these pages to home in on the establishments at the center of the nightlife scene: bars and clubs.

Throughout the year, we get calls and e-mails from readers looking for advice on where to go dancing, celebrate a special occasion with friends, or hang with a crowd that's outgrown sports bars and flaming shots, and we kept those FAQs in mind as we planned our feature stories. Our lineup includes a look at the newest theme nights at local clubs (for the dance-phobic, there are even some nights just for lounging), a guide to bars with a thriving scene for the 35-and-over set, and suggestions for alternative ways to spend an evening—from campy drag shows to wholesome piano sing-alongs. Finally, our "field guide" to Boston barflies takes a tongue-in-cheek (and shamelessly stereotypical) look at some of the characters you might encounter out on the town.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

A BOSTON'S-BEST FEST

I thought your Boston's Best issue was one of your best yet! I have a couple of suggestions for next year: Wouldn't it be neat if the IMPROPER put out two separate covers—one with a beautiful girl and another with a beautiful guy? There seem to be many more covers featuring women than men—equality would be nice.

Also, Mr. Bartley's does make a good hamburger, and I can't fault the interesting selection. But in my humble opinion, the absolute best burger in Boston is on the Abe & Louie's lunch menu. Unlike just about every other burger joint in town, Abe & Louie's burgers are made from the same dry-aged sirloin as their steaks—the difference in taste is phenomenal! Not only that, the burger must be at least 12 ounces, with a top quality melted cheddar cheese topping. (It also comes with caramelized onions, but I have them on the side). With fries, coleslaw and breadbasket (their own homemade), it's only $10.95. I've been there twice for the burger and twice for their prime dry-aged sirloin—the best!

Of course, the IMPROPER has already rated Abe & Louie's the Best Steakhouse, but what's wrong with dominating? Maybe next year you need a category called "Lance Armstrong of Steakhouses."

—MARTIN KESSLER
Lynn

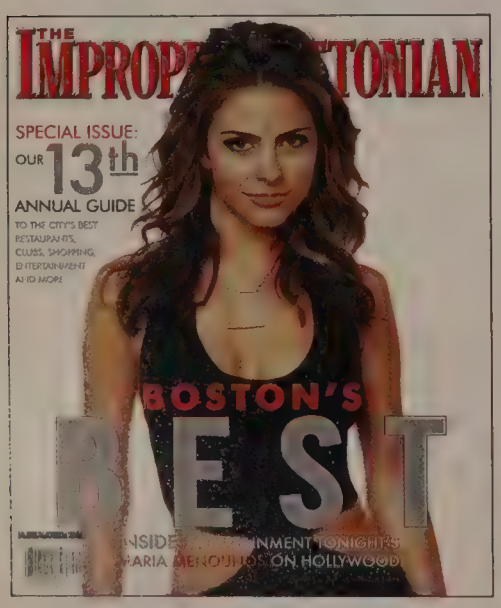
Why did you choose an out-of-state chain grocery store for your "Best Supermarket" category in the Boston's Best issue (July 21)? Whole Foods is based in Texas, which should have driven you, as a magazine trying to focus on *Boston's* best, to seek a local supermarket to hold that title. Did you overlook Roche Bros., located on Centre Street in West Roxbury, which boasts lower prices than Whole Foods? The quality of the produce, meat and fish is outstanding, as is the customer service and cleanliness of the store. Roche Bros. has many stores, but its banner store is in West Roxbury.

On a similar tangent, thanks for listing the banner location of Lord's and Lady's as "Boston." It, too, is in West Roxbury—a neighborhood you obviously neglected in your issue. I hope you at least save a spot for us in your next real estate issue.

—ADINA ZIDON
West Roxbury

When selecting "Boston's Best" winners, perhaps the IMPROPER should consider overall customer service as well. After all, isn't a positive and welcoming atmosphere just as important as being "the best" at what these establishments/individuals do? I've received some extremely poor and rude service at some of the places listed as the best, and without naming names, let's just say that my recommendations for department store, entertainment store, sporting goods store and up-do specialist wouldn't be the same as yours.

—SUSAN JEUNE
Boston



MR. BARTLEY'S DOES MAKE A GOOD HAMBURGER, AND I CAN'T FAULT YOUR SELECTION. BUT IN MY HUMBLE OPINION, THE BEST BURGER IN BOSTON IS AT ABE & LOUIE'S.

—MARTIN KESSLER.
LYNN

CORRECTIONS

The picture accompanying the award for Most Unusual Use of the Common on page 84 of our Boston's Best issue was of the Pawsitive Dog. Like Crunch, Pawsitive Dog does offer yoga for dogs, though not on the Common.

In the July 21 Last Scene Here, Jed Raymond was incorrectly identified. He is a project manager at Raymond Real Estate, and he does not have children.

MARIA MENOUNOS COVER. GREG HENRY

Tell Us What You Think

SEND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR TO: The Improper Bostonian, 142 Berkeley St., Third Floor, Boston, MA 02116. E-mail: letters@improper.com. Fax: 617-859-1446. Letters must be signed; please include your town and phone number. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

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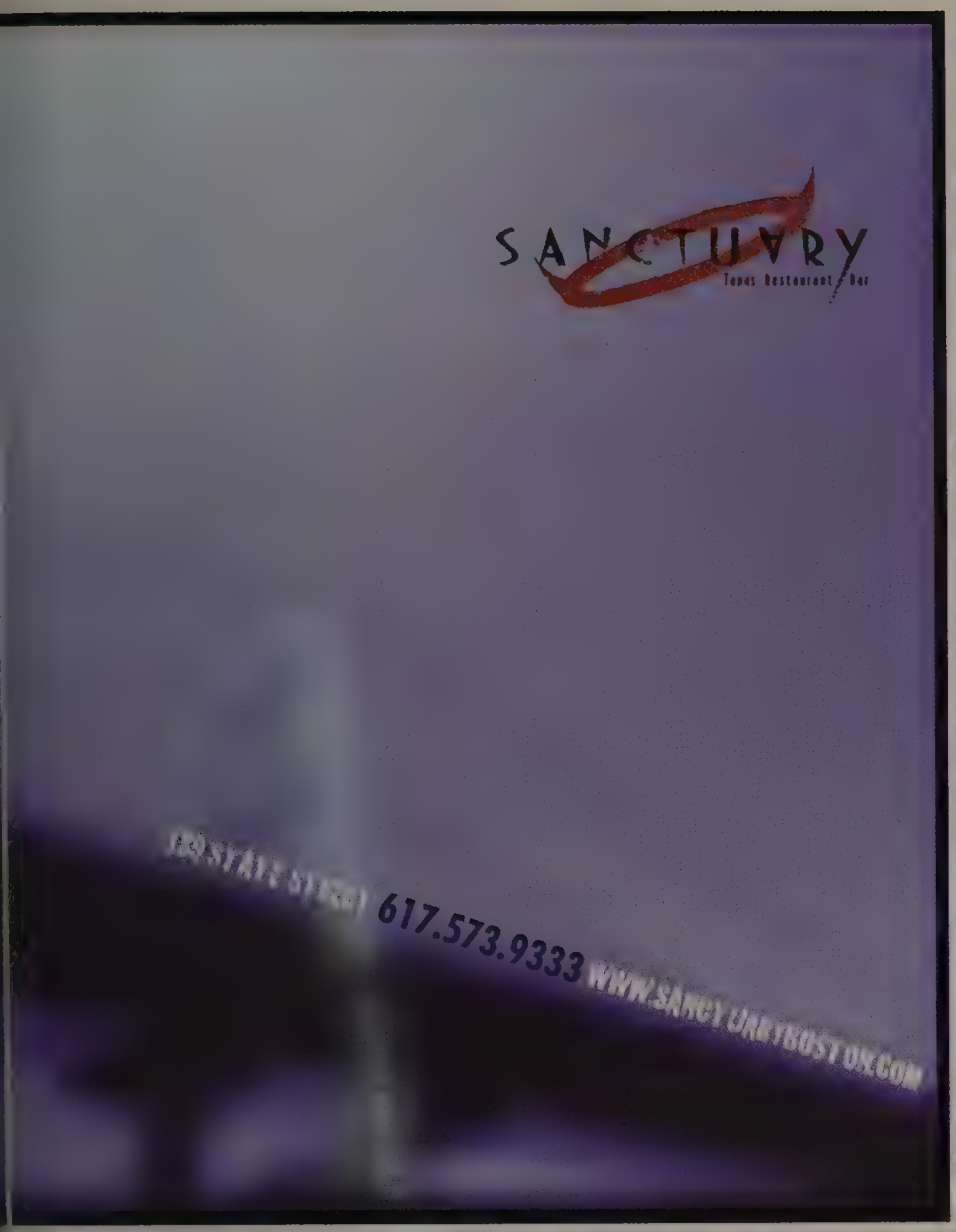
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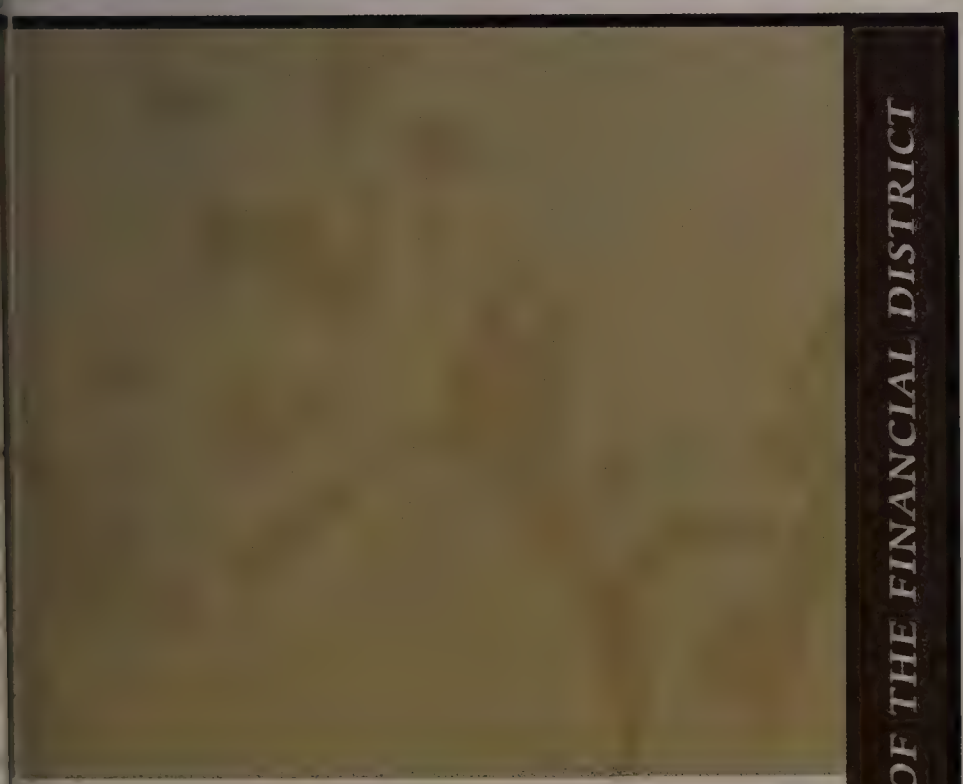
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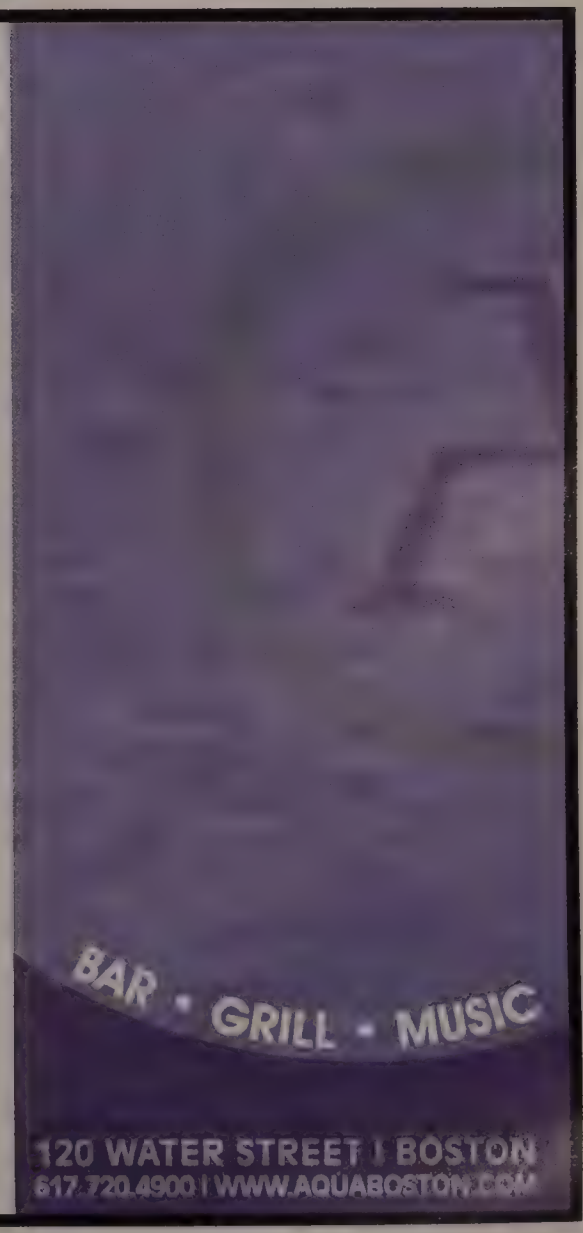


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the word

EDITED BY ERIN HAGEDORN

new in town

FUN, FUN, FUN



If you live by the adage that you can never have too much stuff, Funusual (which opened in Faneuil Hall last month) will make you wish you hadn't already bought so many geegaws at places like Target or Bed Bath & Beyond. Funusual sells quirky, colorful home wares, gifts and gadgets—more than 4,000 objects in total—that are far from ordinary. There are feather dusters and toothbrush holders that suction onto mirrors (both in the shapes of cartoonish animals). Steel wine and plant holders are twisted into shapes of people and animals. There's also an array of Urban Outfitters–style wares, like funkadelic lightswitch fixtures, retro lights, martini shakers, kitschy books and nifty looking clocks and ashtrays.



"Our whole concept is to offer everyday objects with a twist," says Kay Coomes, the store's enthusiastic owner. Coomes comes from England, where she used to perform as a professional magician. (She had her own TV show and performed privately for celebs including the Rolling Stones and Prince Charles.) After she came to Boston, she opened up the Magic Hat, a store in Faneuil Hall that sold gag gadgets and magic supplies.

The idea for Funusual was born when Coomes' husband suggested that she open a store with all the unusual objects she collected and kept around their house. "When I'm searching the corners of the world for these objects, I'm looking for the things that will make customers go around giggling," she says. "That's when we know we've done our job."

Funusual also carries a bit of furniture—none of which is typical. A chaise lounge transforms into a chair with an ottoman; one table's top is a clockface; other tables' bases light up like lava lamps. Keep your eye out for more Funusuals—Coomes hopes to open one store a year. *8 North Market, Faneuil Hall Marketplace (617-439-8840). Mon.–Sat., 10 am–9 pm; Sun., 11 am–6 pm.* —*E.H.*

around town

WE'LL TRY ANYTHING...

Everyone knows about the Curse of the Bambino, but another, more obscure Red Sox superstition is being resurrected this year: the tradition of Tessie. Back when Boston used to win the World Series on a regular basis (both the Sox and the Boston Braves), a fan club called the Royal Rooters traveled to the games and sang a ditty called "Tessie" meant to annoy and psyche out the opposing teams. When the Rooters sang "Tessie," Boston teams were 20-4 in postseason play. Sans the song, they were 2-4. With an eye toward reviving the "Tessie" advantage, the Dropkick Murphys recently recorded an updated version of the tune, and they performed it live before the Sox' July 24 game against the Yankees—which the Sox won in the bottom of the ninth on a Bill Mueller home run. Coincidence...or something more? —*Ezra Dyer*



inner view

ALMOST FAMOUS—TOM DICESARE



Could've sworn you saw John Kerry walking around MIT sans Secret Service stiffs? Chances are you were gawking at Tom DiCesare, a local Kerry look-alike. The scientific illustrator for MIT's Whitehead Institute has parlayed his uncanny resemblance to Boston's most famous Beacon Hiller into a part-time impersonator's gig. Since April, his card's been filling up with stints including *Today*, *Crossfire*, *Live with Regis and Kelly* and a gig leading "Voter-obics" at the Boston Sports Club. We caught up with Dicesare to find out what it's like to (kind of) walk in Kerry's shoes.

IB: *When did you realize your looks were a marketable asset?*

TD: I contacted Brent Mendenhall, who is a Bush look-alike, and sent him a picture of Kerry and myself side by side. He had a commercial he was going to shoot in L.A, and they didn't have a Kerry. So I sent them my picture and they flew me out there, and that was it.

IB: *How often do people mistake you for Kerry in Boston?*

TD: Well, I don't have gray hair, and I'm younger than he is, but people will stop and think about it.

IB: *People tell other people they look like such and such a celebrity all the time. What made you actually become an impersonator?*

TD: People have been saying, "You oughta do something with it" for years. But when I contacted the Bush look-alike, that's when things started to happen.

IB: *Have you met John Kerry?*

TD: I saw him twice. I used to be a photographer for the [Wayland] *Town Crier*, and I went to a function and he was there. That was back in '89, but we didn't look quite as similar then. And I saw him at the Boston Marathon in 2002. People say I should meet him.

IB: *Would you ever consider being on MTV's* I Want a Famous Face *to further authenticate your look?*

TD: I've been doing so much stuff [during the DNC] to authenticate my look, like listening to MP3 sound clips and speeches and videos downloaded from his Web site, watching him and following his movements, and also looking at what traits other impersonators and cartoonists are picking up. I'm a cartoonist too, so I tend to pick up small things and be able to exaggerate them. But I wouldn't consider doing something like [*I Want a Famous Face*].

IB: *Is it tempting to pass yourself off as the real deal to unassuming people on the street?*

TD: I've been doing a lot of that for TV stations and networks [during the DNC]. I did a little walk around for *Today* and MSNBC, but I wouldn't do it on my own.

IB: *Do you ever get heckled with anti-Kerry sentiments when you're not in character?*

TD: I have a couple times while in character, but I think it's all in good humor.

IB: *How much can you expect to pocket per appearance if Kerry wins?*

TD: Depending on the amount of speaking, etc., anywhere from $1,000 to $5,000.

IB: *What's the most sought-after gig for impersonators?*

TD: I was talking to *The Tonight Show*. I have to send them something, but I actually had a Japanese film crew follow me around, and the Bush look-alike actually did a bunch of Japanese commercials, where they flew him out there. I think that's been and would be the most fun.

IB: *What's your favorite Kerry parody or line you use?*

TD: I think "My Vietnam service sets me apart. While I was fighting in 'Nam, my opponent was at Cheers drinking with Nahm." And my closing line: "In closing, I have a message for George Dubya. Watch out. Here comes John Effya."

IB: *What are your plans if Kerry wins?*

TD: To stay here, working at the Whitehead Institute and use my vacation time to choose jobs that I would want, and do as much of it as possible.

IB: *If he loses?*

TD: I'll stay here at the Whitehead Institute and use my vacation time for vacation.

—*Jessica Iredale*

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tasty tidbits

GOOFY FOR GUAC



Welcome to Qdoba Country... In late April, Qdoba Mexican Grill, a Colorado-based chain, hit it big after debuting in the Prudential Center food court—the first of 20 planned Bay State locations. In July, store number two opened in the Financial District and proved that Qdoba's success in the Pru was no fluke—lines extended well onto the street. Next stop in Qdoba's quest to conquer the city? A site at Northeastern University set to open by the end of the summer. *62 Summer St., Boston (617-859-9233). www.qdoba.com.*

Goodbye, for Now... After 12 years of service, Il Panino, Frank de Pasquale's five-level Italian restaurant and Financial District nightlife hot spot, shut its doors on Aug. 1. But don't worry, it won't be gone for long. "Frank and the Il Panino patrons were just getting a little bored," spokeswoman Chris Lyons says. "They are only going to be closed until about October and will then re-open with a brand new concept." They're keeping the new theme a secret, but with two full months until the re-opening, we're expecting big things. In the meantime, you can still get your fix at the North End's Il Panino Express (264–266 Hanover Street), which remains open. *www.ilpanino.com.*

Go West, Young Man... Restaurateurs Joe Green and Michael Conlon, who already have a stake in a foursome of formidable local eateries (the Paramount, the Blarney Stone, the 21st Amendment and Peking Tom's), added a fifth, with the opening of West on Centre in West Roxbury this summer. The former site of Buck Mulligan's pub has been transformed into an 80-seat eatery with two plasma TVs and a diverse menu that covers everything from baked mac and cheese to roasted swordfish. *1732 Centre St., West Roxbury (617-323-4199). —J.I. and R.L.*



sam says

NATURAL BEAUTY

Remedix, which opened in June, is more than just a store filled with beauty products. It has everything from facial cleansers to body washes, along with things you never knew you needed, like tooth polish and dry shampoo. But the best thing about Remedix is that almost all the products are natural and handmade. Owner Claudia Starkey grew up in Eastern Europe, where from an early age she made all her own beauty products. She's perfected her science and is now a master at formulating. Though it's been open only a month, Remedix already has a significant following. Prices range from around $9 to $30. *279 Newbury St. Boston (617-437-1155). www.remedix.com. —Samantha House*

improper reports

GO FLY A KITE

Why not make the most of the late summer breezes and the waning weeks of sunshine with the ultimate in old-fashioned fun? Pack a picnic, grab a date, coerce your friends or bring the kids, and set sail.



BUY A KITE:

Zoinks! This self-proclaimed "wicked cool toy store" carries the childhood classic Red Baron kite, and you don't have to break the bank to fly it. A variety of styles are available from around $11–$23. *Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-227-6266). www.zoinkstoys.com.*

Stellabella Toys Make sure your kite measures up at this Inman Square favorite: Grab a grown-up-size kite for yourself, and a mini for the kids ($6–$19). Oh, and play awhile while you're there. *1360 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-491-6290).*

MAKE YOUR OWN:

Museum of Science "Kites, Kites and More Kites" Kids design and build their own kites, while learning about kite history, aerodynamics and expert flying techniques during a week-long course at the museum. *Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). $185–$205. Aug. 16–20.*

Kite Festival on George's Island Make a family fun day of it on the Boston Harbor Islands. At this festival, flying novices learn from the experts, with kite-making demonstrations and flying clinics all day, and plenty of wind and solar energy experiments. *Long Wharf, Boston (617-223-8666). Free. Aug. 14. —Anna Vodicka*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Northern Exposure... Shopping the North Face's spankin' new Newbury Street store will leave even the slickest of city slickers pining for that Outward Bound expedition they never took. The 4,500-square-foot wilderness emporium, which opened in Quiksilver's old space in late July, is stocked with hiking, climbing and general man-against-the-elements gear. According to the staff of certified outdoorsmen and -women, NASA-quality research and technology is behind all the merchandise. So you can rest assured that your $500 parka won't leave you high and dry (or frostbitten for that matter) when you scale K2. And in the rare case that something does go wrong with your North Face gear, they'll fix or replace it free of charge—everything is guaranteed for life. *326 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-8060).*

In the Bag... Fashion plates are forever in pursuit of the hottest new purses. Sadly, despite the fact that the handbag industry has spawned its own language (totes, clutches, carryalls, weekenders), lots of ladies succumb to the yawn-worthy likes of Burberry, Coach and LV logo bags. Sarah Johnson, Newbury's newest bag lady, is poised to overthrow this stale style sense with her bag/accessories shop, Luna. Open since May, Luna stocks high-end labels like Kooba, Buzz by Jane Fox and Lorelei. "They're more emerging and harder-to-find designers," says Johnson. "I chose labels that are really stylish but aren't the Louis Vuitton or Kate Spade that you see on everybody's arm." *286 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-3900). www.lunaboston.com.*


Luna bag

Pimp My Cab... Starting last month, the TVinMOTION company began outfitting more than 100 Boston taxis with flatscreen TVs mounted in the partition wall. The TV begins running a video loop when a fare is picked up, and passengers are treated to some original programming and clips from A&E Biography. But mostly, the rider is subjected to ads, and TVinMOTION's raison d'etre, according to their literature, is to "influence target audiences in a comfortable and captive environment." If, as we suspect, people generally don't like being held captive and forced to watch ads, the taxi TV trend could start another, as yet unheard-of movement: calling shotgun in cabs.

Super-Skinny Me... With lawsuits still popping up and the damning documentary *Super Size Me* playing in movie theaters around the country, McDonald's is certainly feeling the heat. So it's not surprising that Micky D's is trying to generate some positive press with its new "balanced lifestyle initiative." At 10:20 am (registration starts at 9) on Aug. 18, Bob Greene, Oprah Winfrey's personal trainer, leads a McDonald's-sponsored walk through Boston Common. Walkers can watch fitness demonstrations along the way and can also get a signed copy of Greene's book. Just think, if he got Oprah in shape (kinda), imagine how many Quarter Pounders he can inspire you to work off *(617-573-0076, ext. 7777).*

Within Reach... The prospect of an Ikea has been dangling in front of Bostonians for years now, and our appetite for inexpensive furniture won't be satiated until next summer, when a store will at last open in Stoughton. There is some good news, though. Devotees of the Swedish furniture chain can take a quick trip to New Haven, Conn., where Ikea opened its latest megastore July 28. In addition to 311,000 square feet filled with more than 9,000 furnishings and 50 room settings, the New Haven location has more than 1,200 parking spaces. And while it's not exactly in the neighborhood, our next best option is Elizabeth, N.J. So until next summer, a two-and-a-half-hour drive doesn't seem so bad. *450 Sargent Drive., New Haven, Conn. (203-865-4532). www.ikea.com. —E.H., J.I. and R.L.*

Got scoop?

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PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY





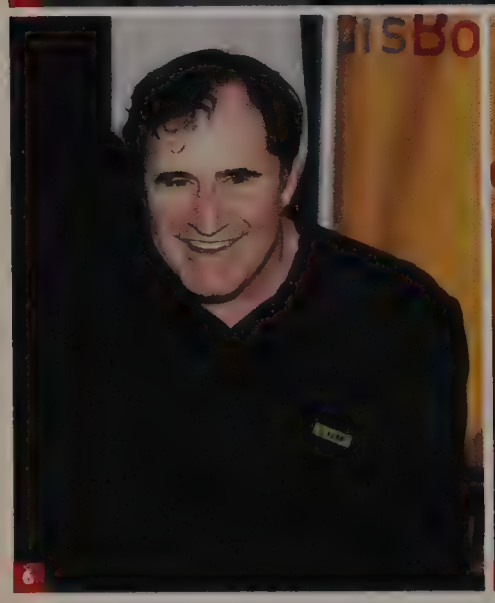
Louis Boston hosted the **Creative Coalition Benefit Gala** July 28. Close to 1,000 partygoers paid $1,000 per ticket to enjoy the hottest party of the Democratic National Convention week. The Red Hot Chili Peppers, who traveled all the way from Japan, performed for a crowd packed with celebrities from Jerry Stiller to Alyssa Milano.

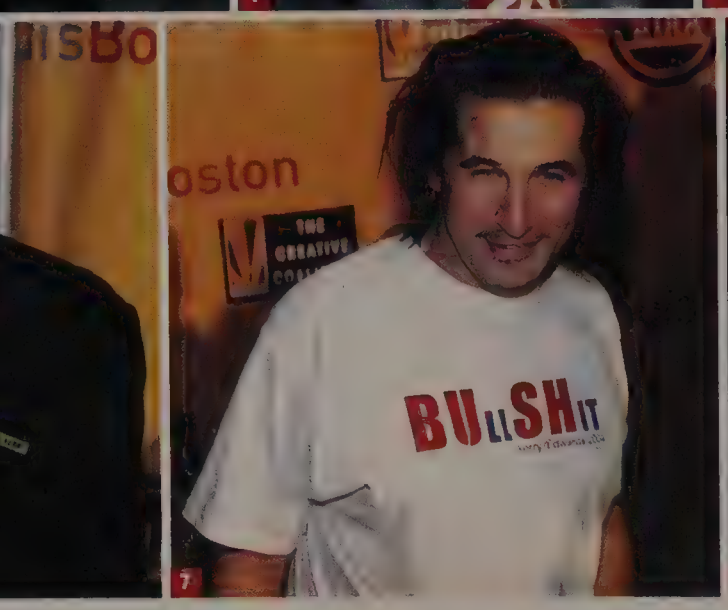
1. Actors **Alan Cumming** and **Ellen Burstyn**
2. **Bianca Jagger**, former wife of Mick Jagger; **Jerry Stiller**, actor/comedian and star of *The King of Queens*; and **Kathleen Kennedy Townsend**, former lieutenant governor of Maryland
3. Actor **Richard Schiff**, star of *The West Wing*
4. **Wendie Malick**, former star of *Just Shoot Me*
5. Actor **Marianne Leone** and her husband, actor **Chris Cooper**
6. **Richard Kind**, former star of *Spin City*
7. Actor **William Baldwin**
8. Actor **Jason Bateman**, star of *Arrested Development*
9. Actor **Alyssa Milano**, star of *Charmed*

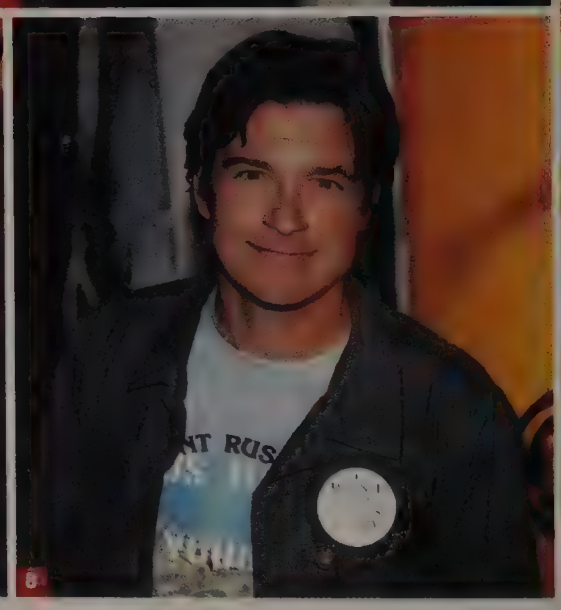










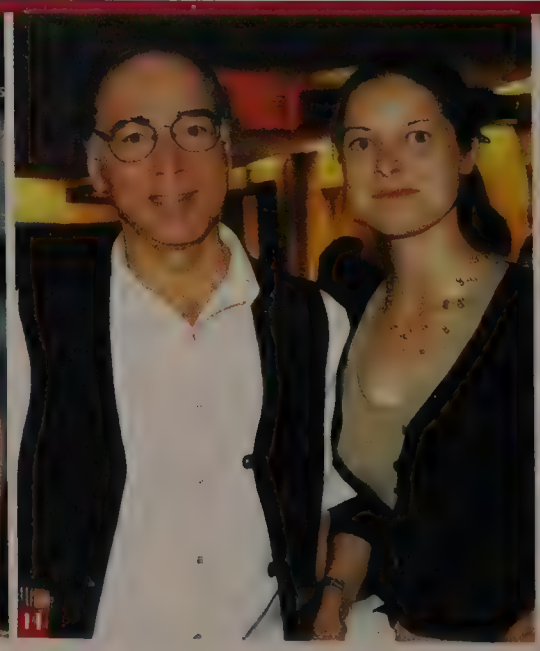


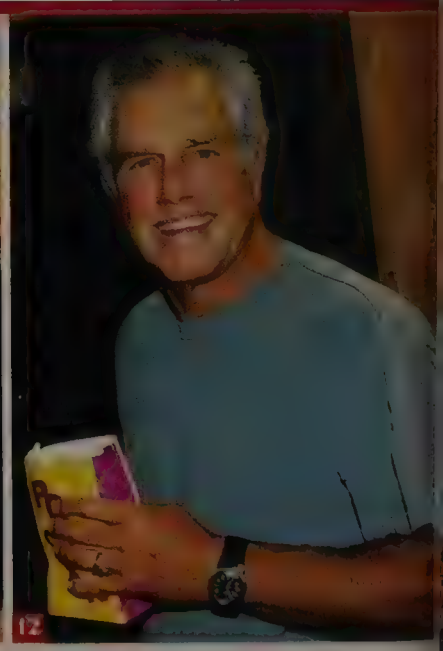


A **private screening of *The Bourne Supremacy***, to raise money for International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, took place at the Loews Theatre Boston Common July 7.

10. **Matt Damon**, star of *The Bourne Supremacy*, with his mother, **Nancy Carlsson-Paige**
11. **John Loretz**, program director for IPPNW, and **Caecilie Buhmann**, IPPNW volunteer
12. **Kent Damon**, Matt Damon's father







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BY EZRA DYER



CALL OF THE WILD

Find shelter and lock your doors because girls are going wild out there.

I don't know if you're aware of this, but girls are going wild everywhere. It's become something of an epidemic. Go to any of the world's hot spots, and you'll likely witness the ravaging effects of the GGW scourge, as real girls go out of control. Symptoms include a Tourette's-like compulsion to expose one's breasts, pull up one's skirt, and, in severe cases, make out with other girls who are themselves going wild. Boston should be especially concerned about the spread of GGW due to the large student population, as college girls are especially prone to doing things they never taught you in school. Fortunately, cultural anthropologists of the future will be able to study this phenomenon thanks to the diligent documentary work of the Girls Gone Wild company, which travels around the country in a big bus making sure that every bit of wild behavior is carefully recorded by digital video camera.

Until recently, I'd only ever witnessed girls going wild once or twice, the most notable time being a spring break trip to the Bahamas my senior year in college. Just when I thought it was safe to go to the beach, there they were. I alerted a lifeguard that girls were going wild, but he told me there was nothing he could do—the sound of whistles only drives them wilder. For a guy like me, who considers the green Tabasco sauce quite hot enough, thanks, it was a horrifying week, I assure you.

But ignoring a problem won't make it go away, so I decided to see for myself how far GGW has spread when the famous documentary crew visited Avalon in July. To try to help my friends recognize and understand the GGW symptoms, I also brought along my friend Wilson and 30 or so other males on the Mighty Bustonian—our own research vessel, if you will. Wilson was a great sport. Despite it being his bachelor party that night, he was willing to devote several hours of the evening to science. All the other guys were surprisingly enthusiastic as well—yet another confirmation of the wisdom of Aristotle, who said, "All men by nature desire knowledge."

Early in the night, we stopped the bus at Blanchard's to buy roughly 300 beers, to help us cope with the anguish of encountering girls afflicted with such a debilitating neurological condition. As we were waiting for several of our shoppers to come out of the store, two girls on Rollerblades skated past. Predictably, someone yelled at them to stop skating, change up and get on the bus. Unpredictably, they actually did so.

Let's call our friends Paris and Nicole. They looked mild-mannered enough, but, I wondered, why would two girls get on a bus with 30 guys, especially a bus that's equipped with a stripper pole? Might they be wild? I was anxious to find out.

For a while Paris hung out and chatted with the chuds, but as night fell, a change came over her. Soon she was gyrating around the pole and removing her clothing as our group of amateur researchers eagerly snapped pictures. Imagine! A specimen going wild right in our midst! I wondered what triggered the attack. Was it the flashing neon lights of the Bustonian, the shiny gold stripper pole, or the subject's consumption of three Bud Lights? I wished I could isolate the variables and find out. From the looks on the other males' faces, it seemed that they, too, were thinking about isolating some variables. Nicole, for her part, danced a bit but mostly just watched. She'd probably seen Paris turn into a weregirl before.

> I ALERTED A LIFEGUARD THAT GIRLS WERE GOING WILD, BUT HE TOLD ME THERE WAS NOTHING HE COULD DO—THE SOUND OF WHISTLES ONLY DRIVES THEM WILDER

Eventually, we arrived at Avalon and proceeded inside en masse. Paris, no shrinking violet, was onstage in roughly 2 seconds. But she didn't flash her boobs. Neither did any of the other girls. A couple of them may have made out with one another, but if that really did it for me I'd watch the Britney and Madonna video clip on my computer 300 more times.

Overall, the Girls Gone Wild party was kind of anticlimactic after the spontaneous scene on the bus. Which makes sense. Girls who go wild according to schedule are called strippers. Real girls can no more go wild on command than Tom Siragusa can touch his toes. Of course, I could've missed something while I was buying drinks. I'll have to order the tape to be sure.

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Soroff ON

DAMIEN FAHEY

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

MTV it-boy Damien Fahey, host of the network's wildly popular *Total Request Live* and its hot new show *Video Clash*, was born and raised in Longmeadow and went to Longmeadow High School. Even as a child, he was obsessed with music; according to his parents, before he could even walk, Damien climbed onto a stereo to turn up the volume on a Rolling Stones song. At age 12, he spent his savings on recording gear and outfitted his bedroom as an ersatz radio studio. At 14, he assembled lists of radio and TV stations and asked his parents to take him to visit. His first job was at WMAS-FM in West Springfield, where he took an internship that grew into on-air gigs, including co-hosting the nationally syndicated *Neil's On Wheels Car Care Show* while he was still in high school. While preparing to study communications at Northeastern, he was invited to join the staff at KISS 108. Juggling studies with a job as a weekend DJ, he earned his degree in three years. By February 2002, he'd been hired by MTV as Beach House correspondent for *TRL*'s *Shore Thing* remotes, and since then, his profile has continued to grow. Today, he is both a writer and the host of *TRL*. He lives in New York.

Jonathan Soroff: *Lots of nookie goin' on at the MTV Beach House?*

Damien Fahey: Ummmmm, for some people. A lot of other people are enjoying it, but for me, not so much.

JS: *So "they're singing songs of love, but not for you." How sad. In high school, were you the A/V geek?*

DF: Yeah, to an extent. My first three years I was just really focused on radio, so I was completely antisocial. Then I realized that I wasted about two years of my life wiring electronics in my room, and looking around, I was like, "Whoa! Girls have boobies!" So I kinda went through puberty and wanted to be cool.

JS: *At that point, you were producing* Neil's On Wheels Car Care Show? *How did that compare with* Car Talk*?*

DF: Basically, the same kinda deal. It was me and this guy Neil, an auto mechanic and a really bright guy who knew everything about cars. I was there just to add my two cents. Most of the tapes are really embarrassing. They should be buried in the backyard somewhere.

JS: *So were you Click or Clack?*

DF: I was more like Clunk.

JS: *First thing that popped into your head when MTV hired you?*

DF: I thought I'd won some sort of contest. I was like, "Am I the ninth caller?"

I REALIZED I WANTED TO BE A YOUNGER CARSON DALY, BUT IT WAS JUST A LAP DANCE AND A DREAM. NOW IT'S COME TRUE, WHICH IS PRETTY AMAZING.

JS: *Was it a big adjustment becoming an it-boy?*

DF: Well, I started out in radio, and then realized I wanted to be a younger Carson Daly, but it was just a lap dance and a dream. Now it's come true, which is pretty amazing.

JS: *So are you insinuating that Carson's old?*

DF: Yeah. He's up there.

JS: *First album you ever bought?*

DF: Tears for Fears' *Songs from the Big Chair*. It's still one of my favorites, too, but I remember buying it and feeling really ashamed about it. I don't know why.

JS: *Favorite band of all time?*

DF: The Police.

JS: *What do you listen to away from work?*

DF: Oh, geez. Everything. It depends on where I am. I like my music to suit the occasion. Like at the beach, I always listen to Bob Marley. If I'm driving around, I'll put on Velvet Revolver. If I'm just hangin' out, the Dave Matthews Band.

JS: *So what's the seduction soundtrack?*

DF: What gets me is Neil Sedaka. Just kidding. I think it's trite to try and seduce a woman with music. So what I did was I bought this six-dollar DVD called "The Fireplace." It's video of a log burning, and when I put that baby on, the ladies just melt like putty in my hands.

JS: *[Laughs.] Smartass. Pop song you're most sick of?*

DF: Great question. I really shouldn't say this, because I really like her, but that Beyonce song, "Naughty Girl." I can't take it. I also can't take the Sean Paul "Get Busy" song anymore.

JS: *Doesn't that suck, when an otherwise OK song hits the saturation point and you never want to hear it again? I'm like that with Outkast.*

DF: I know. I can recognize it in one-tenth of a second.

JS: *Any appearances in magazines like* Tiger Beat, Teen Beat, YM, Sassy*?*

DF: I've done photo shoots for them.

JS: *So how does it feel knowing teenage girls and boys have you pinned up on their walls and are probably masturbating looking at you?*

DF: I just hope they don't get a rash. [Laughs.]

JS: *Best free stuff you get?*

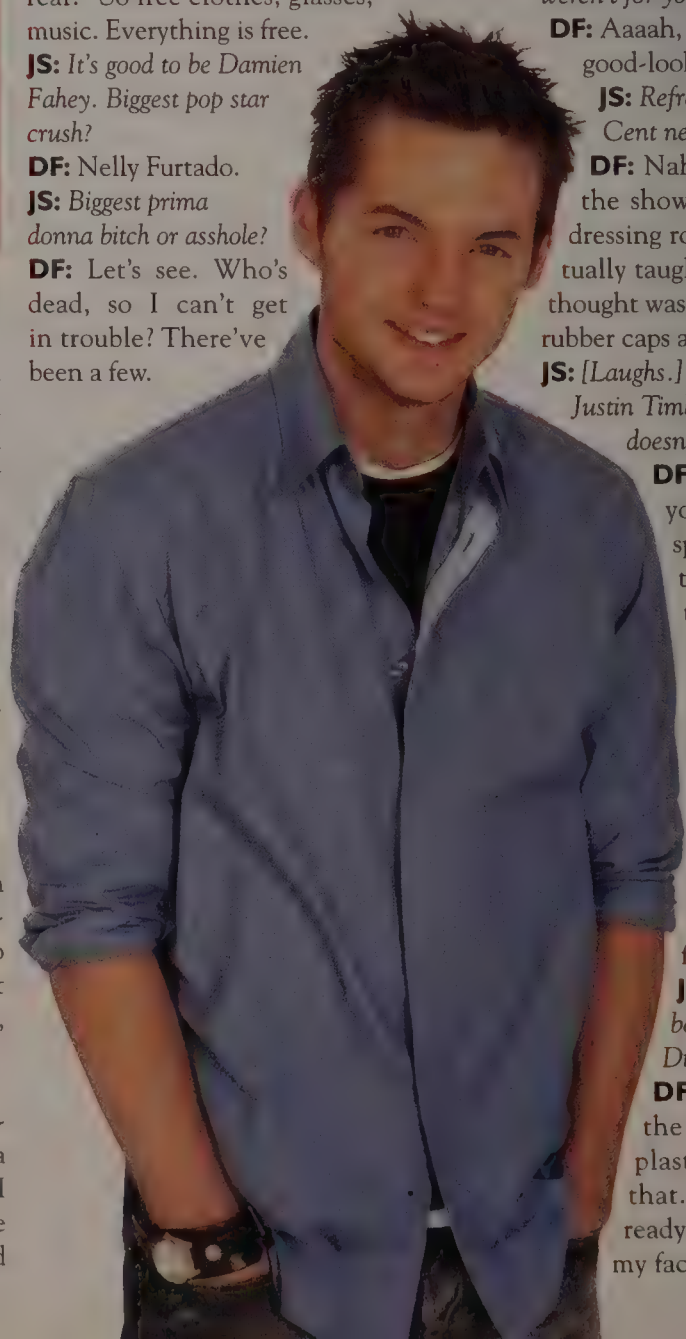
DF: CDs. Concert tickets. As far as swag, the *Punk'd* Jelly Tote I'm very proud of. The other day, we were at the beach house and New Found Glory came on. They all had the same sunglasses, and they were really cool, so I asked where they got them. They told me, and I told the lady in wardrobe, and she comes back and says, "They're on the way. They're driving a pair up from the factory." I was like, "Is this for real?" So free clothes, glasses, music. Everything is free.

JS: *It's good to be Damien Fahey. Biggest pop star crush?*

DF: Nelly Furtado.

JS: *Biggest prima donna bitch or asshole?*

DF: Let's see. Who's dead, so I can't get in trouble? There've been a few.



JS: *OK, no names. Just give me an example of difficult behavior.*

DF: Oh, the guy who gave one-word answers during an interview, then walked offstage, threw his microphone on the floor and said, "I'm outta here." Then there was another guy who's famous for enjoying the Playboy mansion, who was standing right next to me when he said, "Boy, this show was so much better when Carson was on it."

JS: *Bikini mud-wrestling match you'd most like to see: Beyonce vs. Jessica Simpson, Shakira vs. Christina Aguilera, or Avril Levine vs. Alicia Keys?*

DF: I think we've all already seen Christina Aguilera mud-wrestle in a bikini in one of her videos, and God bless her for that. I'd have to say Avril Lavigne vs. Alicia Keys. She's very sexy.

JS: *Ever watch* 106 & Park *on BET?*

DF: Sure.

JS: *Don't you think Free should just bitch-slap A.J.?*

DF: I'm betting she probably has.

JS: *OK, let's go back to your KISS 108 days. Tell me a dirty secret about Matt Siegel.*

DF: He's very particular about the studio temperature, and if it's off by even half a degree, there are e-mails that get sent out. He's one of those guys who are just naturals on the radio.

JS: *Not that you're not qualified to do what you do, but would you be on MTV if it weren't for your looks?*

DF: Aaaah, I'm pretty sure you have to be good-looking to be on television.

JS: *Refreshingly honest. So does 50 Cent need anger management classes?*

DF: Nah. You know, he comes to do the show, and he's crocheting in the dressing room, he's got Enya on. He actually taught me water aerobics, which I thought was nice. So we'll put on our little rubber caps and dive into the pool…

JS: *[Laughs.] Other end of the spectrum: Justin Timberlake. He needs a spanking, doesn't he?*

DF: I suppose it depends on who you are and why you want to spank him. I really wanted not to like him. I had disdain for the boy bands. Then you meet him, and he's super cool and maybe the nicest guy you'll ever meet.

JS: *Last question. Your press kit says that you are "at the vortex of youth culture"…*

DF: Well, I'm not sure it's the vortex. The naked cowboy is about 100 feet away from me…

JS: *What happens when you become too old to date Cameron Diaz or Demi Moore?*

DF: I'm gonna keep going with the botox injections and the plastic surgery. Seriously, I feel that. I just turned 24 and I'm already starting to have little lines in my face. IB



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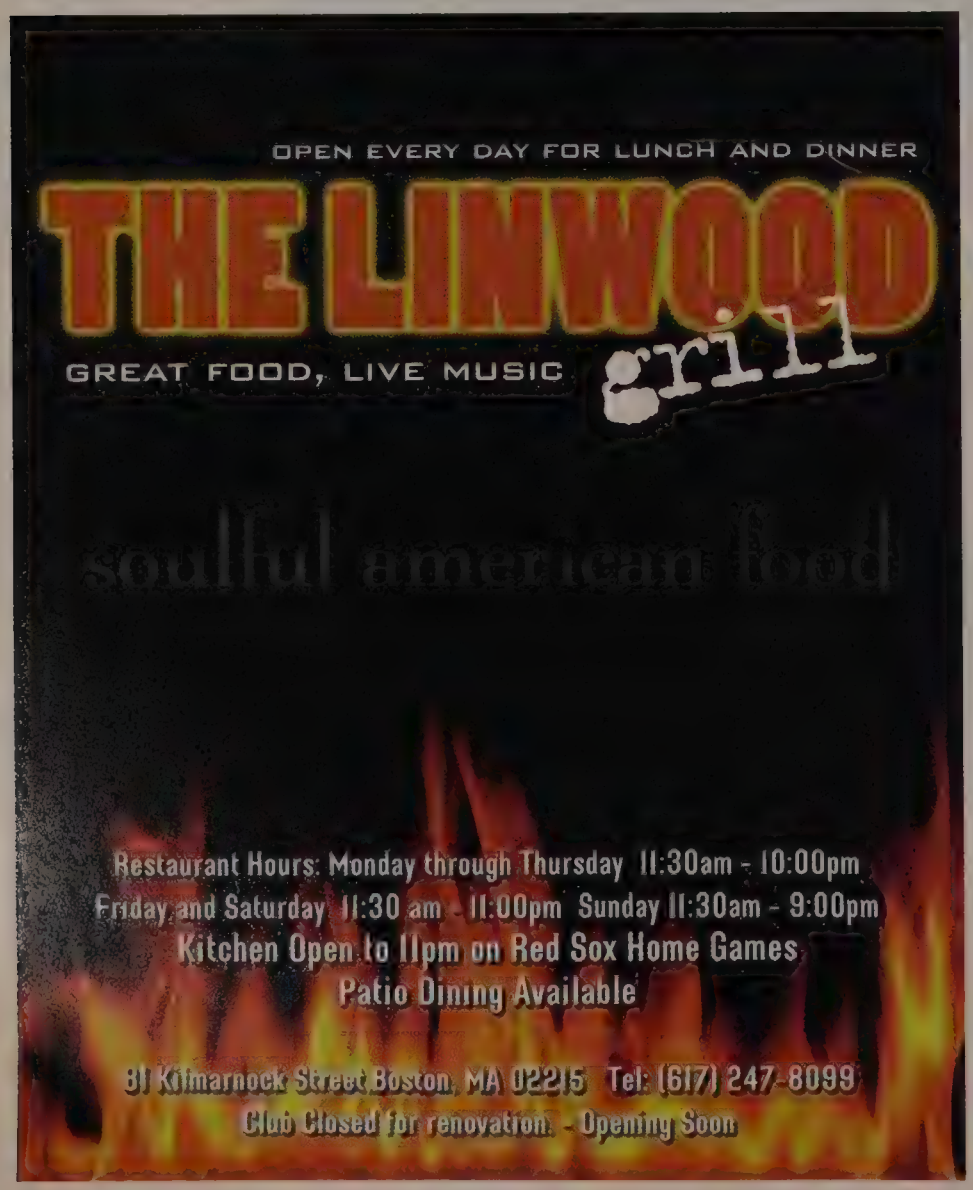


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THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS



SAY IT AIN'T SO, JOE

If you thought the Bruins were a letdown last season, imagine them without Joe Thornton.

Word has it that Joe Thornton wants out of Boston—specifically, out of the Boston Bruins uniform. Thornton is on record as saying that's not entirely true. That he's not happy with the way the playoffs ended and his treatment by the Bruins organization, but there is some fence-mending ahead. But let's be honest: Could anybody blame Thornton for wanting out?

Look at what just happened at the FleetCenter. The place rocked. True, the Democratic National Convention was basically a giant infomercial for our own John Kerry, but it was awesome seeing the home court so electrified. The irony here is that it might be a long time before it feels like that again on Causeway Street, particularly if the ice surface remains down. Assuming a lockout doesn't freeze out fans altogether, the Bruins faithful could be tested in another way.

Thornton really represents Boston Bruins fans everywhere. Everyone has had enough mediocrity, enough bickering, enough contract squabbles and enough blaming of everyone but the janitors for the Bs' troubles over the last decade. The problem begins and ends at general manager Mike O'Connell's desk, and making good with Thornton should be his top priority.

People have to understand there's a history here. The problems stem back to Thornton's rookie year. After the Bruins made him first the overall draft pick, then-coach Pat Burns' plan was to bring Thornton along slowly. It wasn't easy watching the 18-year-old man-child plod along with six goals that year, but it was part of a plan.

At the completion of his rookie year, O'Connell flew to Thornton's family home in Canada and the pair spoke. But instead of talking about the difficulty of transitioning into the NHL, O'Connell apparently focused on Thornton's hair length. He told the Bruins captain in not so many words that if he cut his hair, his game would improve. Short hair equals 40 goals? Thornton was insulted. Since the grooming speech, their relationship has never been great. But hair length isn't Thornton's only issue with his GM. Apparently Thornton has questioned O'Connell's "lukewarm" commitment to winning. One by one, Thornton watched his friends, from Jason Allison to Billy Guerin, some of the best players in black-and-gold, flee. And now it appears his right-hand man in the slot, Glen Murray, a 40-goal scorer, is out too.

If you were a superstar, among the top five players in your sport, would you want to remain somewhere (and Thornton love Boston) if there is no star-quality talent o your flanks?

This past season looked different Thornton finally felt like he had a tean that was good enough to compete for th Stanley Cup. Well, it never happened And a source close to the team says no body took the upset loss to the Canadien harder than Thornton. The fact that he la bored through the playoffs with torn carti lage in his rib cage (ask anybody who's ha that injury how painful it is) in an effort t help the team added physical pain t Thornton's mental anguish.

The real aches, though, set in a few day later, when O'Connell went public o Thornton's alleged role in the collaps against Montreal. O'Connell knew hov hurt Thornton was, that he probabl shouldn't have played at all, but it didn'

THORNTON HAS REPORTEDLY QUESTIONED BRUINS GM MIKE O'CONNELL'S COMMITMENT TO WINNING.

matter. The Bruins management needed scapegoat and Thornton was it.

While Thornton's rib cage has healed the sting of O'Connell's words still linger And it doesn't look like the situation wi be improving anytime soon. A source tol me definitively that Big Joe has though about offering up an ultimatum to owne Jeremy Jacobs: Me or OC. Take your pick

While O'Connell is coming off probab his best "regular" season in his job, acqui ing Sergei Gonchar and Michael Nyland for the stretch run, in the end, again, wasn't enough. A good effort doesn't ne essarily result in a Stanley Cup.

Thornton recently signed with a profe sional team in the Switzerland league so h can play hockey if there is a work stoppag But there was a message in that signin which the Bruins didn't appreciate.

He's not happy in Boston because of o guy. And I can't say I blame him. IB

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New Englai Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

It's Finally Here.

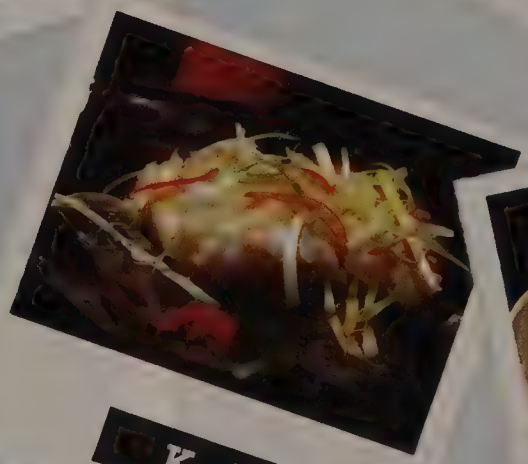
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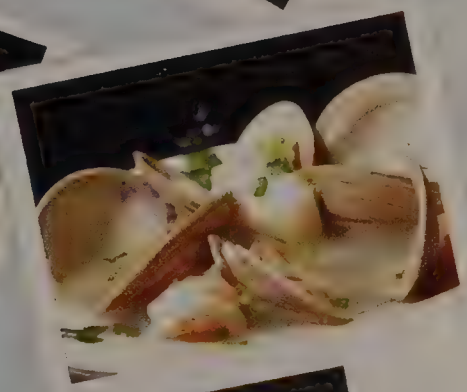

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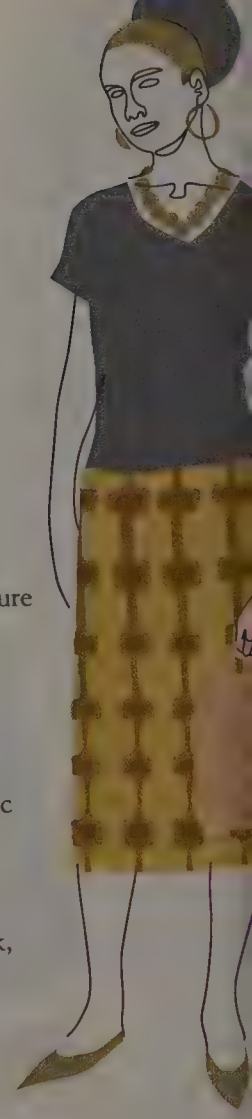
creatures of the night

A FIELD GUIDE TO BOSTON'S BARFLIES AND LOUNGE LIZARDS

BY EZRA DYER AND JESSICA IREDALE
ILLUSTRATIONS BY DEREK AYLWARD

It's not politically correct to make generalizations about broad groups of people, but let's face it: A lot of the characters in this city fit into particular categories. When you see a guy sitting at a table at a Cambridge Starbucks wearing thick-rimmed glasses and silently networking his cell phone with his Bluetooth-enabled Powerbook G4, you don't think "I wonder if he reads *Maxim* and hangs out at the Beacon Hill Pub?" No. You're looking at a specimen of the Cambridge Intellectual in his native habitat. If you wanted to see more Cambridge Intellectuals, you wouldn't go to Aria, and if you were looking for a Prepster, you wouldn't visit the Milky Way. That's just the way it is. With an eye toward helping you better understand some of the creatures of the Boston night, we've put together this handy rundown of the major types and their defining traits. Maybe you fit into one of the categories, or possibly several of them. Or maybe you're just too cool for classification.

creative



FEMALE

Name: Zoe, Phoebe, Chloe, Joey
Occupation: Graphic designer, art director, gallery director, photojournalist, advertising, copywriter, successful freelance artist
Age: 23–40
Typical evening wear: Chunky jewelry from travel abroad, funky vintage skirt, slim-fitting shirt, pointy-toed flats, large handbag—all put together with a deft sense of color and texture that eludes the average gal.
Transportation: T or bike. If she owns a car it's a 10-year-old foreign model, like an inherited Saab or BMW.
Residence: South End condo or loft; Somerville
Drinks: Mojito; vodka, ordered by brand
Music/radio station: WERS, Iron and Wine, the Polyphonic Spree
Looking for: A long-term relationship, but not necessarily marriage
Impressed by: A great portfolio (art is preferred, but if stock, it's not discussed), travel and appreciation of other cultures
Favorite bars: Pho Republique, the Milky Way
Favorite restaurants: Cuchi Cuchi, Delux Cafe
Reading material: Literary journals like *Ploughshares* and *Tin House; The New Yorker; Self; Meditations from the Mat: Daily Reflections on the Path of Yoga*
Non-bar-related recreational activities: Biking, travel, yoga, going to museums and galleries
In 10 years, she'll be: Living comfortably in a converted loft with her SO, working on a documentary about Hillary Clinton's campaign for the presidency
Line-cutting strategy: Doesn't go to places that have lines.
Pick-up line: "Join me for a tofu scramble?"
After-hours destination: Home for some QT with her cat
Most compatible with: The type O of the nightlife personalities, the female Creative type is the universal donor: compatible with virtually everyone, as long as they're genuine and interested.
Least compatible with: Anyone who, underneath it all, is just a poseur (e.g., the mainstreamer who suddenly shows up at the All Asia Bar with a faux-hawk and his pinky nail painted black)

MALE

Name: Drew, Leo, Braxton, Isaac
Occupation: Works in publishing, graphic design, the music or film industry, advertising
Age: 23–40
Typical evening wear: Jeans, funky leather sneakers, baggy T-shirt
Transportation: Low-rider bicycle for short trips, 1974 BMW 2002tii for longer ones
Residence: Jamaica Plain, Southie
Drinks: Miller High Life, tequila
Favorite music: Underground mix tapes, Thievery Corporation, old Fatboy Slim from before everyone knew about Fatboy Slim
Looking for: A girl who reads a lot and gets a lot of questions right when watching *Jeopardy*, but also looks good in low-rider jeans.
Impressed by: Signed, framed photo of Hemingway, titanium Apple PowerBook, a good vocabulary
Favorite bars: Bukowski's (for the mac and cheese, not the atmosphere), Sophia's (because he's considering learning how to salsa dance)
Favorite restaurants: Pho Republique, the Barking Crab, Zaftigs, Flux
Reading material: David Sedaris, *Wired*, *The New Yorker*, Salon.com
Non-bar-related recreational activities: Drinking (but not in a bar), playing petanque, mountain biking
In 10 years, he'll be: Rich and famous or a waiter in a ski town in Colorado
Line-cutting strategy: Pleads with bouncer, to no avail
Pick-up line: Does not speak unless spoken to.
After-hours destination: The closest pizza place that's still open. He's got the munchies.
Most compatible with: Creative female
Least compatible with: Fashion Sla



FEMALE

Name: Catherine, Liz, Paige, Mandy
Occupation: Public relations, accountant, investment banker, nanny
Age: 23–29
Typical evening wear: Pink and green Lilly Pulitzer shift dress and Jack Rogers sandals; Longchamp bag; pearl necklace and earrings; David Yurman bracelets
Transportation: BMW, Volvo, Saab
Residence: Back Bay, Beacon Hill, North End
Drinks: Cosmopolitan, Amstel Light
Music/radio station: Dave Matthews, Ben Harper, Dispatch
Looking for: A three-carat diamond ring (or a hockey player)
Impressed by: Good job, good genes
Favorite bars: Boston Sail Loft, Beacon Hill Pub, Harvard Gardens, Houston's
Favorite restaurants: Fugakyu, Stephanie's on Newbury
Reading material: *Vogue*, *Bergdorf Blondes*, *Us Weekly*, J. Crew catalog
Non-bar-related recreational activities: Shopping, working out
In 10 years, she'll be: Married with 1.5 kids.
Line-cutting strategy: Prettiest friend flirts the group's way in.
Pick-up line: N/A, but if she's not wearing a rock, she's available.
After-hours destination: Home with a cute preppy boy or VamPire for a PG make out.
Most compatible with: Prepster guy, VamPire
Least compatible with: Hipster/ Alternative, Creative

prepster

MALE

Name: Tucker, Zack, Chad, Trip
Occupation: Politician-in-the-making, venture capitalist, commercial real estate, investment banking
Age: 23–29
Typical evening wear: Lacoste polo, collar up; seersucker or madras shorts, or Nantucket Reds; belt with whales or sail boats on it; topsiders or loafers
Transportation: Graduates from Jeep Cherokee Sport to a Land Rover or Chevy Tahoe
Residence: Back Bay, Beacon Hill or North End bachelor pad, with large flat-screen TV, PlayStation 2, DVD player, stereo system and full bar
Drinks: Goose, rocks, lime; Heineken
Music/radio station: Musical taste was cultivated in prep school, so: Phish, Toots and the Maytals, Phil Collins.
Looking for: A one-night-stand with a really hot chick; long-term relationship with a girl with plenty of Lilly Pulitzer in her closet and trophy-wife potential
Impressed by: Money, golf handicap
Favorite bars: Boston Sail Loft, Beacon Hill Pub, Harvard Gardens, Houston's
Favorite restaurants: Capital Grille, or his family's clubhouse in the burbs
Reading material: *Golf Digest*, *Playboy*, *American Psycho*, *The Catcher in the Rye*, *The Great Gatsby*, *Bringing Down the House*
Non-bar-related recreational activities: Golf, sailing, tennis
In 10 years, he'll be: Making a killing at his family business and rendering his trophy wife a golf widow six months out of the year.
Line-cutting strategy: Green handshake, or the bouncer was formerly a caddy at his club.
Pick-up line: "My yacht sleeps 10."
After-hours destination: His apartment for a late-night beer pong tourney
Most compatible with: Prepster girl; possibly Mainstream Molly if she's extra hot or he's extra drunk
Least compatible with: Hipster/ Alternative (his upturned collar triggers her gag reflex)

VP (aka VamPire)



MALE

Names: Bill, Ted or any name followed by Jr. or III
Occupation: Stockbroker, consultant, business owner
Age: 35–50
Typical evening wear: Jeans with loafers, fun shirt that looks like it should be worn by someone a little younger and unbuttoned a little less.
Transportation: Cadillac Escalade, Lincoln Navigator, Mercedes E500
Residence: Wellesley, Marina Bay
Drinks: Scotch, low-carb beer
Favorite music: Whatever his 15-years-younger girlfriend listens to
Looking for: See above. Younger is key.
Impressed by: Canny stock picks, breast implants, Cubans
Favorite bars: Abe and Louie's, the Rack, Saint
Favorite restaurants: Grill 23 & Bar, L'Espalier, Blue Ginger
Reading material: Autobiographies by successful executives, *The Wall Street Journal*
Non-bar-related recreational activities: Golfing, getting divorced
In 10 years, he'll be: Retired but still raging with the youngsters.
Line-cutting strategy: Bribe
Pick-up line: "Can I buy you absolutely anything you want?"
After-hours destination: Chinatown (not always for food)
Most compatible with: Mainstream Molly (much younger)
Least compatible with: Female VamPire

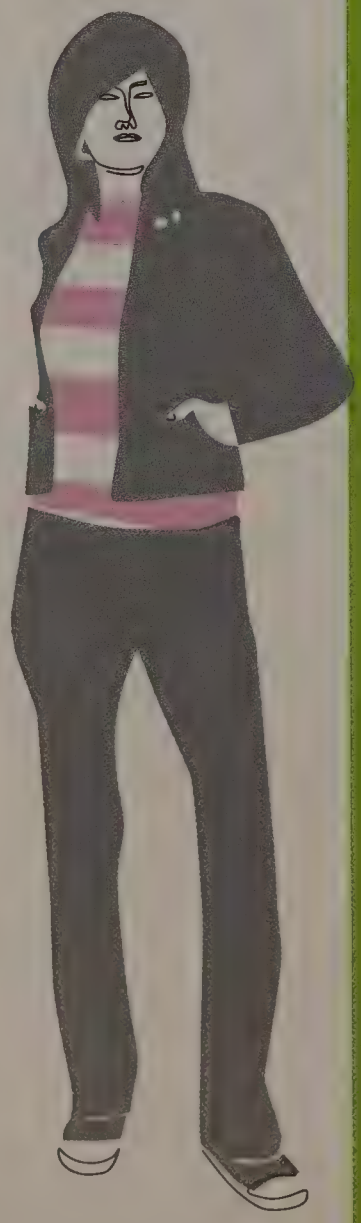
FEMALE

Name: Carol, Janice, Donna, Beth
Occupation: VP of something or other, executive director of stuff
Age: 35–50
Typical evening wear: Short pinstriped skirt, blouse showing some cleavage, heels, gold jewelry
Transportation: BMW 5 series, Executive Coach
Residence: Weston, Back Bay
Drinks: Flirtini, Fuzzy Navel
Favorite music: Fleetwood Mac
Looking for: A man who's mature, successful and ready for a committed, long-term relationship. Or a cabana boy.
Impressed by: Ruthlessness, foreign-language skills
Favorite bars: Bristol Lounge, the Federalist, Excelsior, Via Matta
Favorite restaurants: Great Bay, Mama Maria's, Radius
Reading material: Harlequin romance novels (privately), *The Economist* (in public)
Non-bar-related recreational activities: Working out, going to St. Bart's with the girls
In 10 years, she'll be: Raising an adopted Chinese baby and making artisanal cheeses on a farm in Vermont.
Line-cutting strategy: If there's a line, doesn't bother—finds a place with no damn line.
Pick-up line: "Send me your resume."
After-hours destination: The hotel room of the mysterious Ronaldo she met at 1:45 am
Most compatible with: Prepster under the age of 25
Least compatible with: Cambridge Intellectual

hipster/ alternative

FEMALE

Names: Liza, Gwen, Viv, Nikki, Keiko
Occupation: Barista, life coach, photographer, singer/songwriter
Age: 23–30
Typical evening wear: Cuffed jeans, tight T-shirt, Fluevogs or cowboy boots, spiked belt
Transportation: Vespa, old-school Schwinn, T
Residence: Jamaica Plain, Allston/Brighton, Mission Hill
Drinks: Bourbon, PBR
Music/radio station: WMBR, the Yeah Yeah Yeahs, Elefant, Desperate Bicycles
Looking for: A rad guy who refuses to give in to the man and dresses like Wes Anderson
Impressed by: A rare European import of her favorite band's new album; knowing how to silkscreen
Favorite bars: The Milky Way, the Enormous Room, Zuzu, the Model Café
Favorite restaurants: B-Side Lounge, Someday Café, Diesel Café
Reading material: *Vice Magazine*, Gabriel Garcia Marquez, *Adbusters*
Non-bar-related recreational activities: Writing haiku, thrifting, learning
In 10 years, she'll be: Finding creative ways to cover up her tattoos, and going to law school.
Line-cutting strategy: Claims to know a band member
Pick-up line: N/A. Her stoic/too-cool look is as unbreachable as the guards at Buckingham Palace. Use your best judgment.
After-hours destination: Back to a friend's house to watch guys play Halo on Xbox, or home to listen to Elliott Smith and cry
Most compatible with: Hipster/ Alternative or Cambridge Intellectual
Least compatible with: Everyone else



MALE

Name: TJ, CJ, RJ, Zeke
Occupation: Courier, musician, waiter; graphic designer or computer programmer if he's a 9-to-5-er
Age: 23–30
Typical evening wear: Baggy jeans or worn-out corduroys; long-sleeve, button-down shirt over short-sleeve T-shirt with an ironic saying across the front; spiked belt; Chuck Taylors
Transportation: One-speed track bike, skateboard, T
Residence: Jamaica Plain, Allston/Brighton, Somerville
Drinks: Schlitz, PBR
Music/radio station: WERS, Godspeed You Black Emperor!, Mogwai, My Morning Jacket, Fugazi
Looking for: A cool punky girlfriend
Impressed by: Finding rare vinyl records, the perfect used T-shirt, knowledge of comic books
Favorite bars: Bukowski's, the Other Side Cosmic Café
Favorite restaurants: El Pelon Taqueria, Grasshopper
Reading material: Chuck Klosterman, Pitchfork.com, Kafka, Milan Kundera, *The Onion*
Non-bar-related recreational activities: Amateur DJing, rehearsing with his band, going thrifting
In 10 years, he'll be: Finally finishing his degree, and most likely giving in to the man
Line-cutting strategy: His buddy, the bus boy/line cook, lets him in the back door.
Pick-up line: "Want to help defeat George Bush?"
After-hours destination: Going to a friend's place to play Halo on Xbox
Most compatible with: Hipster/Alternative female, natch
Least compatible with: Mainstream Molly (being mainstream is, like, so lame)

cambridge intellectual

MALE

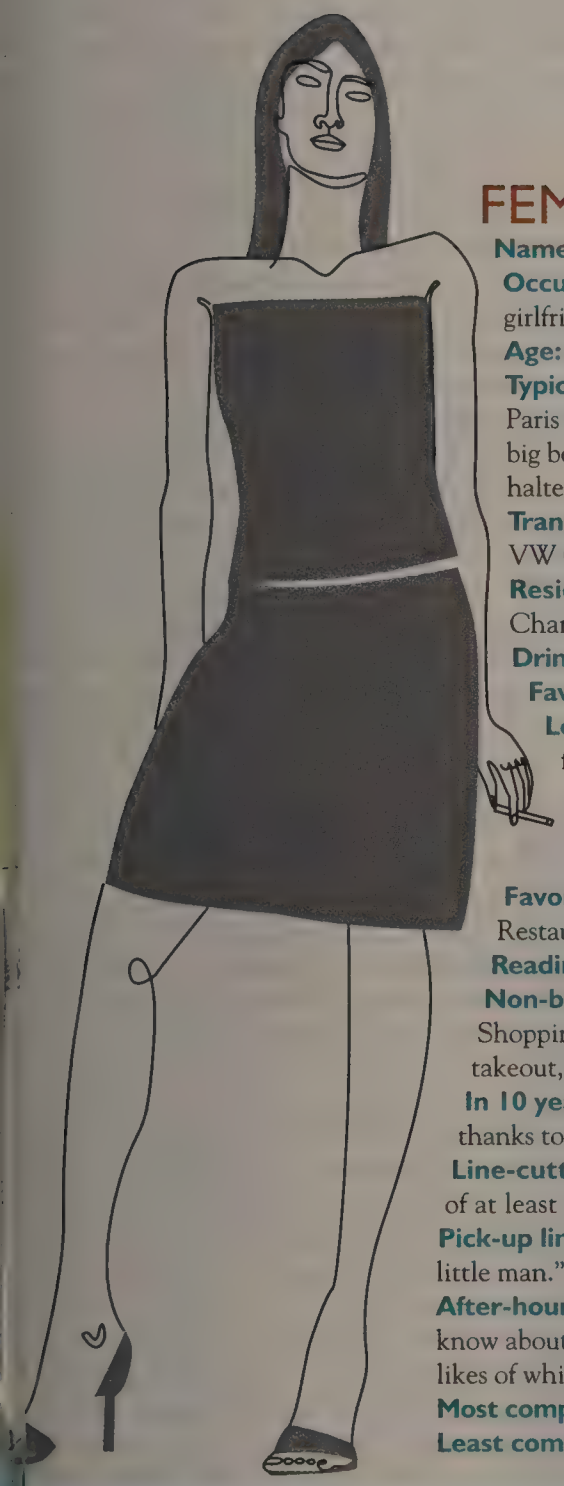
Name: Ned, Steven, Stuart, Lars
Occupation: Physicist, chemist, nanotechnologist, computer techie, grad student
Age: 26+
Typical evening wear: Short-sleeve, button-down shirt or polo shirt with company logo; plain, slightly dated slacks; running shoes (even though he doesn't run)
Transportation: T, bike, on foot
Residence: Davis, Kendall, Inman or Central Square
Drinks: Microbrew, brandy, or water
Music/radio station: NPR
Looking for: A soulmate, one to share ideas and ideologies with
Impressed by: Multiple Ph.D.s, a published dissertation, a beautiful mind
Favorite bars: Sligo, the Thirsty Scholar, the Plough and Stars
Favorite restaurants: Miracle of Science, Falafel King, Darwin's
Reading material: *Scientific American*, *The Economist*
Non-bar-related recreational activities: Blogging, masturbating
In 10 years, he'll be: Prepping for a massive cash cow once his biotech company goes public.
Line-cutting strategy: Attention is focused on not getting cut in line.
Pick-up line: "If you think I've got a big hard drive, you should see my RAM."
After-hours destination: Home for more masturbation
Most compatible with: Cambridge Intellectual or Creative
Least compatible with: Prepster or Fashion Slave, but will likely end up with one or the other in 10 years



FEMALE

Roberta, Frankie, Margo, Agnes
Grad student, professor, nonprofit director, literary journal editor
26+
Same as Cambridge Intellectual male, but with clogs
T, bike, Prius
Somerville, Cambridge or university housing
Wine, cranberry juice
NPR
Someone who understands her need for intellectual stimulation.
Multiple doctorates, Rhodes scholarship, tenure
The Thirsty Scholar, the People's Republik
1369 Coffee House, Veggie Planet
The New Yorker, *McSweeney's*, *Anna Karenina* (a pre–Oprah's Book Club edition), *Remembrance of Things Past*
Yoga, throwing pottery, the *New York Times* Sunday crossword
A tenured professor at Harvard or MIT and single mom who makes her own organic baby food.
Waiting in line is for lemmings.
"Your name is Tim and you go to MIT? That's so palindromic."
Late-night poetry slam
Cambridge Intellectual, or Creative guy if he exhibits moderate intelligence and is unusually successful
Fashion Slave Prepster

fashion slave



FEMALE

Name: Ariana, Nadia, Apple, Marie-Claire
Occupation: Independently wealthy, trophy girlfriend, model, student
Age: 18–35
Typical evening wear: Anything worn by Paris Hilton—scandalously short ruffled skirt, big belt, stilettos with calf straps, jaunty cap, halter top
Transportation: Mercedes CLK, Audi A4, VW Cabrio
Residence: Somewhere on the waterfront—Charlestown, North End, Rowes Wharf
Drinks: Cosmopolitan, still, believe it or not
Favorite music: XM radio's techno stations
Looking for: A guy with a very square jaw, for one night, a week, or long-term
Impressed by: Villas, access, pecs
Favorite bars: Whiskey Park, Caprice, Sanctuary, the Modern
Favorite restaurants: Mantra, Restaurant L at Louis Boston
Reading material: *Ocean Drive* magazine
Non-bar-related recreational activities: Shopping, sending bodyguard to go get takeout, binging and purging
In 10 years, she'll be: As hot as she is now, thanks to science.
Line-cutting strategy: Arriving in a posse of at least three, striding past while bouncer stares
Pick-up line: "Say something that does not bore me, little man."
After-hours destination: A party you don't even know about in an apartment you didn't know the likes of which existed in Boston
Most compatible with: Fashion Slave
Least compatible with: Mainstream Moe

MALE

Name: Hans, Shezad, Christopher, Sasha, Maxwell
Occupation: Independently wealthy, often 28-year-old undergrad at BU
Age: 18–35
Typical evening wear: Black Armani pants, Ferragamo belt, Tods loafers, D&G shirt with logo prominently displayed, sunglasses (even though it's night)
Transportation: 2005 BMW M3, Porsche Cayenne
Residence: Back Bay or South End loft
Drinks: Grey Goose, Tanqueray mixed drinks. Frequently bemoans lack of bottle service in Boston.
Favorite music: Any compilation with the word "Ibiza" in the title; anything that's been remixed at least three times
Looking for: A supermodel
Impressed by: Labels, VIP friends, pedigree
Favorite bars: Aria, Avalon, Embassy
Favorite restaurants: Mistral, Armani Café, Mantra
Reading material: Menus at the above restaurants
Non-bar-related recreational activities: Smoking, flying to Monaco for the weekend, pitting Mercedes dealers against one another to knock $500 off the price of that S600
In 10 years, he'll be: Living abroad.
Line-cutting strategy: Making eye contact with the bouncer, shaking hands and walking right in
Pick-up line: "Is that from the fall collection?"
After-hours destination: Rise, News
Most compatible with: Fashion Slave
Least compatible with: Hipster/Alternative

mainstream molly/moe

FEMALE

Name: Courtney, Kelly, Jen, Julie
Occupation: Marketing. You're not sure exactly what she does; neither is she.
Age: 23–30
Typical evening wear: Capri pants or Express jeans, tube top, Tiffany bean necklace or heart bracelet, platform flip-flops
Transportation: 2001 Honda Accord
Residence: Brookline
Drinks: Beer, vodka-and-soda
Favorite music: John Mayer, Britney Spears (secretly/semi-ironically), Jack Johnson
Looking for: Someone to marry
Impressed by: Shared obscure hobbies—"I love making ships in bottles, too!"
Favorite bars: West Street Grille, Tia's, Pravda (oddly enough)
Favorite restaurants: P.F. Chang's, Vinny T's of Boston
Reading material: *InStyle*, Candace Bushnell novels, *The South Beach Diet*
Non-bar-related recreational activities: Visiting friends in New York, watching makeover shows, running
In 10 years, she'll be: a mother of two in the suburbs
Line-cutting strategy: Flirting with the bouncer or guys near the front of the line
Pick-up line: Signals interest by making eye contact and whispering to her friends. (Unfortunately, uses same signals when noticing what a dork you are.)
After-hours destination: A house party in Brookline/Somerville/Brighton
Most compatible with: Mainstream Moe
Least compatible with: Hipster/Alternative

MALE

Name: Mike, Dave, Mike, Dave
Occupation: Works in a bank or financial institution, but nothing flashy like investment banking. Regularly talks about finding a job he likes better.
Age: 23–30
Typical evening wear: Khakis or jeans, polo shirt. Sometimes isn't allowed into bars because he's wearing Reefs. When not wearing Reefs, wears Docs or Doc look-alikes.
Transportation: 1996 Jeep Grand Cherokee wi a Killington sticker on the back
Residence: Beacon Hill, with two roommates, i a 500-square-foot apartment
Drinks: Bud Light, Miller Lite, sometimes Michelob Light
Favorite music: Recently decided Dave Matthews is too popular; now into the Strokes, the Hives and the Vines
Looking for: A one-night stand with a smokin' hottie. Or a long-term relationship, although th would probably be with a less smokin' hottie.
Impressed by: High scores on Golden Tee, successful fantasy football team, friends who pic up girls in bars
Favorite bars: Anywhere in Faneuil Hall
Favorite restaurants: TGI Friday's, the Cheesecake Factory, Papa Razzi
Reading material: *Maxim*, *ESPN.com*, *The Da Vinci Code*
Non-bar-related recreational activities: Skiing, participating in fantasy sports leagues
In 10 years, he'll be: Married and in middle management
Line-cutting strategy: Doesn't even try unless extremely drunk, then claims has friends inside
Pick-up line: N/A. Prefers to meet through friends
After-hours destination: Home to watch *The Matrix* before passing out on the couch
Most compatible with: Mainstream Molly
Least compatible with: Fashion Slave



mix it up



Mel Stiller (right) leads a sing-along at Jacob Wirth.

Ready for a break from your tried-and-true nightlife routine? Check this stuff out.

BY JUDITH FORMAN PHOTOGRAPHS BY OLIVIA GATTI

Going out? You know the drill: Start with after-work drinks at the pub near the office. Then, meet up with friends in the Back Bay for expensive martinis and cheap pickup lines. Some nights, especially if you have a date, you'll do dinner, maybe a movie.

Let's face it—everyone has a few favorite bars or clubs, and it's easy to fall into a comfortable nightlife routine. But sometimes, you just want to shake things up. Lucky for you, there are plenty of other diversions in Boston—you just have to know where to look.

From dancing with drag queens to sampling sauvignon blanc, read on to see what the city has to offer.

SINGIN' ALONG

If you pull up a chair near Mel Stiller's piano, you'd bette be ready to sing.

For the past 15 years, Stiller has been the main attrac tion Friday nights at Jacob Wirth Restaurant, which has been dishing out European eats and steins of beer since 1868. From 8 pm until midnight, he commands the piano for a giant sing-along.

Don't worry if you don't know the words—Stiller passes out songbooks with the lyrics to more than 500 tunes. Most are rock and pop songs from the 1950s, '60s and '70s. Classics range from "Hey Jude" to "Leaving on a Jet Plane" to "Margaritaville."

"A lot of people really enjoy singing," says Stiller. Be cause it's a group effort, unlike karaoke, he says, people fee more free. "It's a very friendly, festive, happy atmosphere."

To general manager Jonny Blass, the piano bar is the ultimate in unpretentious entertainment.

"You don't need to worry about what you're wearing," says Blass, a native of Scotland, where piano bars are popular. "You can shout and scream and no one will tell you to keep quiet."

If show tunes are more your speed, head a bit deeper into the Theater District to Encore Lounge, located in the Tremont Boston Hotel. Some time after 9 pm most nights, a pianist takes the stage for a cabaret-style show that often features solo singers from the audience. The lights are low, and votive candles and red neon give the room a warm glow.

There are no songbooks here, says Carol O'Shaughnessy, who performs on Saturday nights. "People have to know their music when they walk in the door."

***Jacob Wirth Restaurant**, 31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586); **Encore Lounge**, Tremont Boston Hotel, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-728-2162)*

WAIT, WAIT, DON'T TELL US...

Although they're in Allston, most of the people at the Common Ground bar on Monday nights have Springfield on their mind. Starting at 7, hardcore fans of Homer and company gather for a trivia competition based entirely on *The Simpsons*.

"People like to show off their super-niche trivia," say Erin Scott of Brighton, who's run the weekly event for about three years. "The questions that I ask are really, really difficult, and nine times out of 10, someone knows the answer."

Scott asks three rounds of nine questions. To answer, contestants hold up paddles with laminated headshots of the show's characters. At the end of the night, the top three contenders enter a speed round to vie for *Simpsons* toys and comic books. (Scott, who manages the New England Comics store in Allston, provides the prizes.) In between rounds, the bar shows an episode of the cartoon series.

Kristine Barker is a regular and a frequent winner. The 29-year-old Brighton resident usually comes with friends but doesn't feel shy about going solo. "It's not like any other cheesy bar event," she says. "You can just come and sit alone. Most bars, you can't do that and feel comfortable."

A few blocks down Harvard Avenue, in Brookline, the crowd is louder and the trivia questions more diverse at the Coolidge Corner Clubhouse. For the past 16 years, Morgan White Jr. and his photographic memory have been challenging diners every Monday night at the restaurant. Wearing a cowboy hat and dark sunglasses, White, aka "the Man from Trivia," circulates around the room with a microphone, asking customers for topics and then firing off related questions. On a recent evening, subjects ranged from ice hockey to U.S. geography to th

Beatles. Come up with the right answer, and he may throw a T-shirt or a baseball hat your way.

To White, trivia helps build camaraderie and allows detail-oriented people like himself connect over obscure subjects. "It's cheap, easy fun," he says.

***Common Ground**, 85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071); **Coolidge Corner Clubhouse**, 307 Harvard Ave., Brookline (617-566-4948)*

ROLLIN', ROLLIN', ROLLIN'

Tucked away on the third floor of Jillian's entertainment megaplex, you'll find the newest game in town. In April, retro-style bowling alley Lucky Strike Lanes opened its doors just around the corner from Lansdowne Street.

With club music throbbing in the background (a DJ spins on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights) and vintage Hollywood cartoons playing on a video wall, Lucky Strike is a fun space. For $5.95 a person, you can bowl a game on one of 16 tenpin lanes lined with brightly colored flashing lights (shoe rental is an additional $3.50 a person).

The action, says general manager Chris Bruno, draws everyone from college students to young professionals to Red Sox fans. That's because bowling together is more social than just drinking together, says Heidi Finn, a 28-year-old business owner from Boston. "You've got the game, you've got action," she says, over a Smirnoff Ice. "It's not so loud that you can't talk to anybody. It's more relaxed."

When you need a break, you can grab a seat on one of the sleek couches that dot Lucky Strike's lounge area. Or cozy up to the long bar and catch a game on one of three massive high-definition screens. (There are also 18 smaller televisions and a ticker, so you won't miss a score.)

Before you go, take note: Bruno says the wait list for a lane can run up to two hours on a weekend night. But lucky for you, Lucky Strike's not the only game in town—Kings in the Back Bay has 16 tenpin lanes. Or for a late-night bowling binge, you can head to the 24-hour Boston Bowl on Morrissey Boulevard in Dorchester, where tenpin and candlepin lanes are available.

***Lucky Strike Lanes**, 145 Ipswich St., Boston (617-437-0300); **Kings**, 10 Scotia St., Boston (617-266-2695); **Boston Bowl**, 820 Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-825-3800)*

SLURPING LIKE A PRO

You've made it through the midweek slump and want a drink to celebrate. Instead of unwinding over the same old beer, head over to 33 Restaurant & Lounge for Hot off the Vine Wednesdays and add a little learning to your imbibing.

From 5 to 7 pm, wine director Jonas Atwood offers samples of four wines from the same region of France or Italy, plus literature on the wines (a recent tasting focused on Burgundy). For $20, you'll get four generous tastes and a platter of nibbles to complement the wine. If the weather cooperates, you can snag a seat outside at one of 33's wrought iron patio tables.

"We want to bring people in after work," says Atwood. "[Wine] is kind of intimidating. Hopefully, I can expose them to something new."

Sisters Alison and Amanda Bradstreet have been Wednesday regulars since the tastings began in April. "We're big into wines and we're trying to learn a lot about them," says Alison, a 25-year-old Back Bay resident.

"It's something different than sitting at a regular happy hour," adds Amanda, 22, of the North End. "It's a more relaxing atmosphere."

If you can't wait until Wednesday, Les Zygomates in the Leather District offers $25 "Tuesday Night Flights." Join sommelier Geoffrey Fallon for a humorous lesson on proper tasting etiquette; he'll have you sniffing and slurping like a pro in no time. After the lesson, you'll try four or five wines and enjoy savory bites to match. Tastings are held at 6 and 8 pm, and reservations are recommended.

Back Bay accountant Nancy Gogan comes often to the Les Zygomates tastings. Over two years, she's brought everyone from a date to her bosses to a gourmet-cooking aunt with her.

"It's fun, it's lighthearted, but by the same token, you walk away having been exposed to culture," she says. "It's not like going to a museum for four hours."

***33 Restaurant & Lounge**, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311); **Les Zygomates Wine Bar & Bistro**, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108)*

Clockwise from top: Kris Knievil performs at Jacques; 33 Restaurant lounge manager and wine director Jonas Atwood; boardwalk-style fun at Good Time Emporium







QUEENS FOR A DAY

Just a few blocks from ritzy Park Plaza, in Bay Village (tucked between the South End and the Theater District), you can enter another cultural universe. Since 1938, crowds of all kinds have flocked to Jacques Cabaret for live shows featuring female impersonators.

"Jacques is for everybody," says manager Donald Richard, who's worked at the club since 1960. "We've got everything here—guys, girls, drag queens, girls who want to be guys, guys who want to be girls. That's the mystique about Jacques. You're always guessing."

Each night, as many as five drag queens—clad in over-the-top evening wear and makeup—lip-synch, dance and flirt with audience members in hopes of scoring dollar bills. Don't worry—all clothes stay on! If you're in the mood, you can dance a little with the queens or invite one of them to sit on your lap. Or you can sit back and just watch the show. The club is especially popular for bachelorette parties. The performers always spotlight the brides-to-be during their acts, asking about wedding dresses, engagement rings and the like.

"The show is suggestive but not raunchy," says longtime performer Norell Gardner. "I know people bring their mothers and their grandmothers. I want people to laugh with us."

Get ready to stay out late. Shows, which run seven nights a week, don't start until 10:30 pm. Admission is $6 Sunday through Thursday and $10 Friday and Saturday. Jacques has a full bar (drinks are served in plastic cups) but no food service, although you can get a pizza delivered.

***Jacques Cabaret**, 79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902)*

KIDDING AROUND

A quick trip north over the Zakim Bridge will land you in Somerville—home of the head-spinning Good Time Emporium.

You'll feel like a teenager at the boardwalk as you enter the 100,000-square-foot indoor amusement park filled with go-karts, laser tag, bumper cars, Skee-Ball, darts, batting cages, 60 pool tables and more than 200 arcade games. The emporium also has a private function room that doubles as a 21-and-older nightclub on weekends, and five separate bars, where you can get a 60-oz. pitcher of beer for $7.50.

Good Time draws everyone from teens to gruff guys covered in tattoos. "We have something for everyone," says manager Suzanne Rinfret. "There's a lot of fun and there's a lot of action."

There's no cover charge to enter the 12-year-old facility, which is open from 10 am to 1 am, 365 days a year. (There is, however, a charge to enter the nightclub.) Attractions are individually priced, and rides run between $2 and $6. Load up on tokens for the games, which spit out tickets that can be redeemed for prizes at a giant counter. And be prepared for sensory overload—you don't want the flashing neon lights, the buzz of the arcade games, and the 34 giant TVs to get in the way of your good time. IB

***Good Time Emporium**, 30 Assembly Square Drive, Somerville (617-628-5559)*

YOU'VE OUTGROWN THE TWENTYSOMETHING BAR SCENE. SO WHERE DO YOU GO WHEN YOU WANT A TOUCH OF CLASS?

FOR MATURE AUDIENCES

BY CAITLIN O'NEIL PHOTOGRAPHS BY MATT TUETON

In Boston, no matter how old you are, college is never really in the past. Every which way you turn in the local bar scene, you'll find coeds clad in flip-flops, low-slung jeans and baseball caps, ordering draft beers and chicken wings. But what if your college days are long behind you and you're looking for lively nightlife options that don't involve peanuts or plastic cups? To help you escape the ghosts of semesters past, we gathered a list of distinctly uncollegiate restaurants and bars where you can go out with friends and mingle with peers your own age. What's more, these spots all have thriving social scenes, which means that singles can take advantage of the bustling bar crowd and meet new people. One rule of thumb? Go where the good food is. Davio's owner Steve di Fillippo sums it up best: "Prices keep the college kids away."

ABE & LOUIE'S

793 Boylston St., 617-536-6300

Something about a steakhouse says splurge and celebrate. That feeling epitomizes the scene at Abe & Louie's, the popular old-school steakhouse on Boylston Street, where the bar hums with conversation most nights of the week. "It's hard to put a handle on why it's so popular," says bar manager Joe Howe, who worked at Joe's American Bar and Grill on Newbury for 20 years. "I've been at this a long time. I feel like my customers have migrated with me as they got older." Thursday is the big night here. Customers jockey for position and hoist drinks protectively as the crowd ebbs and flows. Beer and wine are available, but most folks have their hand around a cocktail.

While the restaurant is oversized in the manner of a classic New York steakhouse, the bar is a circumscribed space, hemmed in by a polished wood partition that provides extra seating and also makes it nearly impossible not to meet your neighbors. "I make lots of



DAVIO'S

75 Arlington St., 617-357-4810

A fixture on Newbury Street for 17 years, Davio's has occupied a 9,000-square-foot space at 75 Arlington, a former showroom on the first floor of the legendary Paine Furniture Building in Park Square, since 2002. The airy, urbane eatery is one of the city's most popular destinations among the over-30 set, and many regulars are veterans of the original Davio's.

"We thought of having a bigger bar with the renovation," says owner Steve di Fillippo, "but I wasn't necessarily thinking of creating a bar scene." Nonetheless, he's created one. The large oval bar dominates the entrance to the sleek eatery, balancing the room's towering columns. Groups also lounge in armchairs and couches that look out the 18-foot windows to the Park Plaza Hotel.

"What's great about the area is that it's a dining neighborhood," says di Fillippo. "Via Matta, Excelsior, Mistral, Grill 23—all the restaurants in the area are friendly with each other. Each one has its own niche; different, but still comfortable.

"People come here to eat. A lot of single people come in to eat at the chef's table overlooking the open kitchen. You can eat and not be bothered, or strike up a conversation with your neighbor. It's different from the regular bar scene, because there are no crowds around you jockeying for position. It's more low-key and civilized."

MISTRAL

223 Columbus Ave., 617-867-9300

Why do people flock to see Old Faithful? Because it delivers. The same is true of Mistral, which after seven years on the scene still draws crowds of sophisticated diners for its mod Provençal cuisine. "Over the years, we've gone through popularity with different age groups," says general manager Mark D'Alessandro, "but the 35–60 age range is definitely our most faithful clientele."

A stand of potted trees separates the bar from the dining room, creating a more relaxed area for mingling. Patrons sip martinis while they peruse the bar menu and munch on warm, buttered bread.

"A year ago I would have said that Thursday was our big night," says D'Alessandro, "but Thursdays in Boston have mellowed out." While reservations are still recommended for the restaurant, the lounge's bar is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Toward the end of the night, the room grows louder and gets more lively. More importantly, "there are no college kids," says D'Alessandro. "When you get older, you'd rather hang around with people your own age."



SAINT

90 Exeter St., 617-236-1134

Many nights during the week, Saint demonstrates the truth of the adage that life begins at 40. Well-dressed urbanites lounge in the club's chic underground space well into the night. The music is hip, but not off-putting. Drinks include exotic choices like key lime martinis and pear and cardamom sidecars, and Executive Chef Rene Michelena's bar menu matches the swank atmosphere: lobster spring rolls, salmon tartar Napoleon and Peking duck potstickers.

The retro lounge is divided into chummy nooks: the Bordello, a red den of low tables and dark alcoves; the Threshold, a cave of white leather with a vodka infusion bar; and the main room, a sprawling bar with luminescent blue columns and back-lit paneled walls. At first glance, all the tables seem to be reserved for the 75 founding "members" who paid $10,000 for that privilege. But there are a few low stools and small tables, plus ample room at the bar. While Saint caters to the powerful—businessmen and -women, politicians and celebrities who entertain friends and clients—there's room enough for everyone to rub elbows.

Bartender David Gracey recommends Wednesday and Thursday nights for the over-35 crowd. On Wednesdays, a live band plays soul, R&B and jazz. And a DJ on Thursdays plays retro '80s music. Publicist Diane Mantouvalos says, "Someone who's 22 is not as interested in that kind of music. It's the perfect place when you want to do more than just dinner."

troductions across the bar," says Howe. "Word of mouth gets people here. Someone in wn from New Jersey comes in, and I can tell them, Peter over there is from Jersey, but e's lived here for two years."

THE FEDERALIST

15 Beacon St., 617-670-1500

We discourage the noisy, crowded bar scene and cater to single diners and drinking connoisseurs who want a quality single-malt scotch or an Armagnac," says Nicholas Levielle, staurant manager of the Federalist in the XV Beacon hotel. Oenophiles appreciate the extensive wine list, which has won *Wine Spectator*'s Grand Award for the past four years. Local esigner Celeste Cooper created a decor that feels stately but funky, with thick curtains, acked columns and white busts peppering a sleek room full of red fabrics and dark wood.

Friday and Saturday are the busiest nights but attract a younger crowd; the more mature minglers come on weeknights. If you're looking to meet someone, sit at the mahogany bar, where it's easy to strike up a conversation with State House folks, Beacon Hill residents and out-of-towners. Service is attentive and personal. By the end of the night, you'll feel like you've become a member of a hip, private club. IB



NO. 9 PARK

9 Park St., 617-742-9991

Beacon Hill's No. 9 Park is best known as a destination restaurant (chef Barbara Lynch is at the helm), but it also has the welcoming, intimate feel of a neighborhood bar. A crowd, six or seven at first, begins to arrive from the State House at about 4:30 pm, and then the regulars trickle in for a drink and a chat with their friendly neighborhood bartender. On a Wednesday night, a group of professionals settles in at the bar for Palmyras and orders up steak tartare. Other patrons chat and sip cocktails—the summer drinks menu includes pear or watermelon martinis as well as a full selection of pastis—while a businessman works through dinner amid the lively, though not boisterous, crowd.

The café and bar area, less formal than the restaurant, boasts about a dozen cottage white barstools and a scattering of marble tabletops where patrons can sip and sample from a scaled-down bar menu. Evenings, the day's fading light cuts through the front window, which looks out on the Common, to impart a cozy glow.

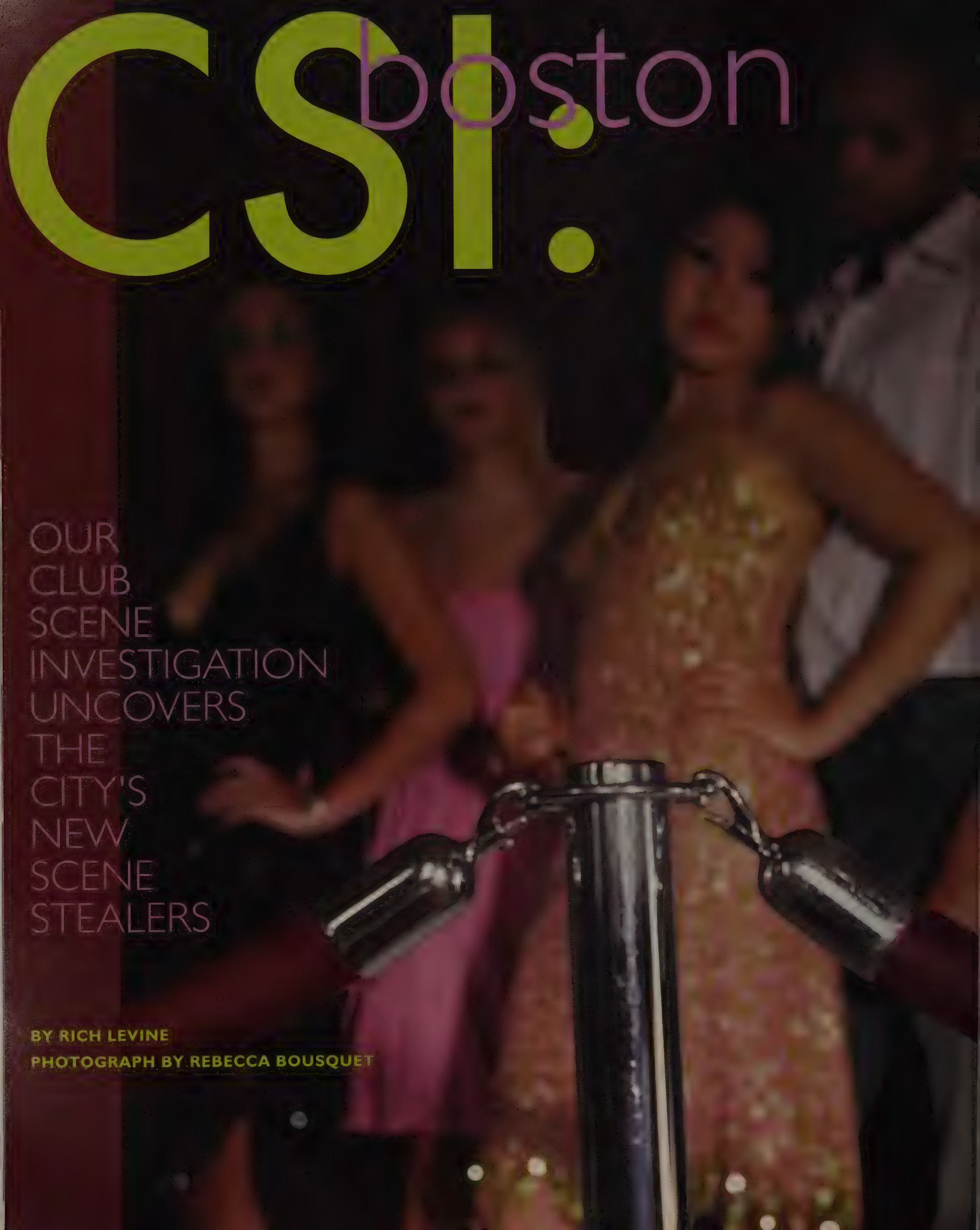
"We cater to a savvy crowd who has traveled, is influenced by what they see on the Food Network," says general manager Garrett Harker. "The younger crowd is more into stimulation and sensation, the older crowd is interested in learning something new, more concerned with quality. Our normal crowd is savvy about cocktails. They're drinking less, but drinking better."

CSI: boston

OUR CLUB SCENE INVESTIGATION UNCOVERS THE CITY'S NEW SCENE STEALERS

BY RICH LEVINE

PHOTOGRAPH BY REBECCA BOUSQUET



The average Bostonian likely doesn't see much diversity in the local club scene. For many, a night of clubbing conjures up images of a merry-go-round of muscle-bound guys trying to chat up unapproachable women and then retreating to the bar until they're drunk enough to try again. Sure, the chance for romance is part of the reason that singles head out any night of the week, but local clubs are seeking to inject some variety into the scene by launching new nights with distinctive personalities of their own. From live funk and pop bands to old-school hip-hop, from packed dance floors to a sophisticated lounge scene, these new nights offer a variety of ways to party.

EXCELSIOR'S FLIRT

Thursday, 10 pm; no cover;
272 Boylston St., 617-426-7878

Already known as one of the city's top spots for elegant dining, Excelsior jumped into the clubbing game this summer with its new Thursday night venture, Flirt. We walked into the first-floor bar around 11:15 pm and found an already packed house of partygoers ranging from trendy twentysomethings to professionals in suits. A mobbed club is usually about as cool as a swift kick in the shins, especially when its time to make the arduous journey to the bar for another drink. But lucky for the Flirt crowd, there seemed to be a waitress at hand whenever the time was right. The music is current hip-hop and club beats, but Flirt isn't aiming to be a dance party. Instead, patrons can watch the Red Sox game on the large flat-screen TV mounted behind the bar and indulge in some good old-fashioned people-watching (and there are plenty worth watching at this high-class joint). The tunes and Excelsior's signature cocktails make for a festive evening, but not an absurdly late one. Around 1:30 am, after sipping one last round, we looked up from our martini glasses to find that most of the patrons had turned in for the night—a sure sign that Flirt's devotees have important jobs to wake up for.

FELT'S SUMMER SOLSTICE

Wednesday, 10 pm; no cover;
533 Washington St., 617-350-5555

Since early June, resident DJ Joe Bermudez has turned Felt's first-floor into a Wednesday night hotbed for up-and-coming music stars, like Ryan Cabrera and Mysteeq. We arrived one night just in time to catch the end of a performance by Skye Sweetnam, who opened for Britney Spears' most recent tour. Shortly after Sweetnam finished her set, Bermudez jumped behind the wheels of steel and got the crowd back into the dance-club vibe with the type of progressive music he's become known for. The crowd at Felt is young and active, but the club's multiple floors (and bars) make it easy to escape the first-floor madness and take a break with some pool or TV. An added incentive to check out Summer Solstice is the chance to make your own television debut. XY.TV, an all-music station carried by UPN Cable, tapes the weekly performances and also shoots interviews with the audience. I took a step toward my dream of TV stardom when I interviewed with XY host Jasmine for the station's—apparently not very selective—model search. I thought I killed, but my friends said my schtick was nothing but poorly recycled *Seinfeld* references. Still, the party went on, and it was 1:30 by the time I hailed a cab—the bright, young crowd means the action goes late at Felt.

RUMOR'S LOUNGE 54

Tuesday, Friday, 9:30 pm; $15;
100 Warrenton St., 617-943-0656

To celebrate its name change, this Theater District hangout (formerly called Vapor) has launched two new nights. The new name has also brought a step up in style. Rumor bouncers must adhere to a relatively strict dress code, which creates an air of sophistication that you don't find in a club where football jerseys and jeans are the fashion. When you walk in, it's clear this is truly a clubbers' club. Two large, all-white rooms with floor-to-ceiling pillars provide the setting for a clientele who come dressed to kill. There's plenty of bar space, and the floor is a perfect place for rhythmless saps to alienate any attractive woman within a 10-foot radius. (Take it from me.) If you want an evening of late-night dancing and pure partying, Rumor is worth the $15 cover charge.

SAINT'S LIVE MUSIC WEDNESDAYS

Wednesday, 9 pm; no cover;
90 Exeter St., 617-236-1134

In mid spring, Saint management replaced the club's Wednesday Jazz Night with a new theme, centered around jazz/funk cover group the Brian Walkley Band, in the bar's swanky downstairs lounge. We arrived at 9:30 pm to a packed house, but before we had the chance to ponder the grim prospect of spending the whole night on our feet, a waiter made his way over and kindly set us up with a table in a spot next to the dance floor, which is lined with comfortable lounge-type tables and seating. (This was no special treatment—we were incognito.) The band kicked off its set with Chaka Khan's "Ain't Nobody," and the crowd was instantly sold, filling the dance floor until it was time to head home. Wednesday at Saint proved to be a relaxed, comfortable partying experience that welcomed a wide array of people, from the dressed-up, after-work crowd to a bunch of guys wearing bowling jerseys.

33 RESTAURANT'S STYLE THURSDAYS

Thursday, 10 pm; no cover;
33 Stanhope St., 617-572-3311

On the little street that houses Bomboa and the Hard Rock Café, in between Berkeley and Clarendon streets, 33 Restaurant is the venue for Style Thursdays. We showed up early and opted to start in the downstairs lounge, equipped with a circular bar and cushy seating along the perimeter, and work our way up. At 11 pm, we followed the LED-lit stairs and bellied up to the first-floor bar, which at this point was more thickly settled with a diverse group ranging from sharp-dressed post-collegians to middle-aged professionals. A series of old- and new-school hip-hop tunes fueled an East Coast/West Coast rap debate among our group that luckily ended peacefully, and just in time for our last mass exodus of the night—to 33's outdoor patio, where the scene is far mellower than inside. There, you can chat with friends or get to know someone new without having to resort to shouting or sign language. The restaurant's first late-night enterprise, Style Thursdays is still gaining steam with its comfortable, laid-back, lounge atmosphere, but early success has already spawned a second night, coming to 33 Tuesdays this fall.

WEST STREET GRILLE'S OLD-SCHOOL THURSDAYS

Thursday, 10 pm; no cover;
15 West St., 617-423-0300

Old-school provides the musical theme for West Street Grille's new Thursdays, but the party theme varies depending on what clubbers ask for. Every week, West Street's customers can vote for and/or nominate different Thursday themes (think pajama parties and luaus) via e-mail, and management selects the winning theme. We showed up early enough to grab the lone table set up alongside the bar's open floor-to-ceiling windows and instantly took a liking to the music, a powerful set of old-school rap. The club was already brimming with regulars—some in their office clothes, some dressed for a long night of partying—and with only one downstairs bar, getting a drink could have been a problem. The lone bartender, however, was masterful, sliding full drinks along the bar to customers like an old-time sarsaparilla slinger. As the crowd grew, we held onto our prime real estate at the window while enjoying free drinks from Kuya Rum, the sponsor of that Thursday's party. (If the booze moves you to boogie, head up to the second floor later in the evening.) With a far more friendly, down-to-home atmosphere that you might expect from a club night, Old-School Thursdays did not disappoint, and West Street Grille is planning a huge party for August 19 with a sponsor, giveaways and live music. IB

MORE SUMMER CLUBBIN'

Not enough choices? Try these other nights with interesting new twists.

CLUB Q'S FRIDAY THROWDOWN

Friday, 9 pm; $5;
25 Union St., 617-778-8038

What happens when you combine an already popular local venue with one of the city's most recognizable DJs? We found out this spring when Club Q and DJ Massi began collaborating on Fridays. Want to see for yourself? Call ahead and get on the VIP list.

EMBASSY TUESDAYS

Tuesday, 10 pm; cover varies; 19+
36 Landsdowne St., 617-536-2100

Boston-based Anthem Events has taken charge of Embassy Tuesdays, the longest-running service industry night in the city. Anthem's influence will be felt in the diversity of the Tuesday themes, whether it's a charity benefit (currently in the works) or just a good old-fashioned party.

THE OFFICE'S UTOPIA SUNDAYS

Sunday, 9 pm; no cover;
3 Broad St., 617-367-5806

If you don't want to stop partying just because it's Sunday, head to the Office's Utopia Sundays, which launched in mid July. Coordinators are hoping the new night will develop into a Sunday night staple. "No one is playing meaningful music anymore," says resident DJ Bruno, "but we are gonna play solid stuff like James Brown and a lot of other deep, soulful music."

White silk viscose jersey one-sleeve dress with gold dragon brooch, $3,290 at Gucci

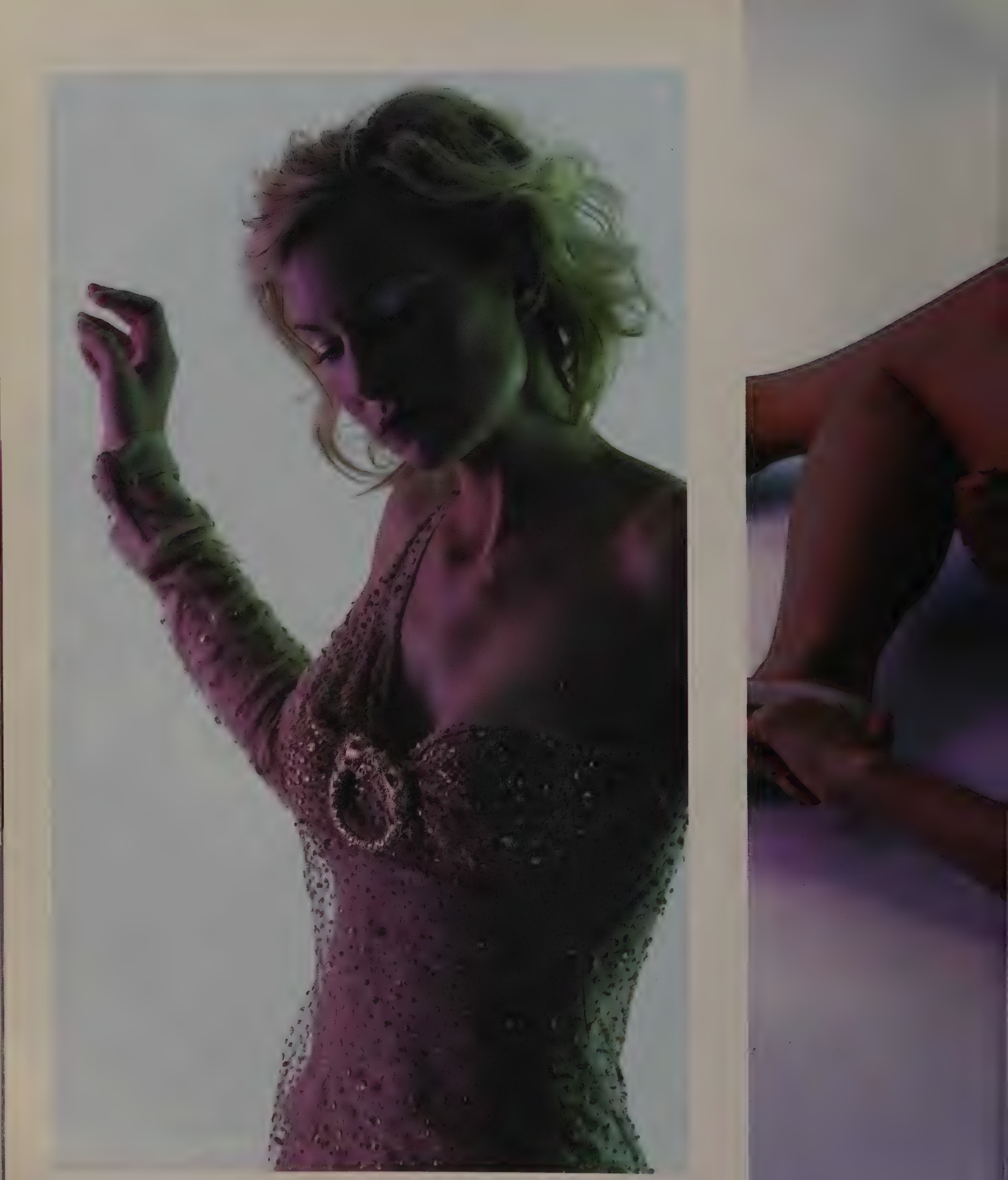
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PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHS BY ERIC STRIFFLER



Camellia print mousseline lace dress, $6,280 at Chanel Boutique



Nude one-sleeve dress with topaz stones and gold dragon brooch, $11,645 at Gucci

Gold cocktail dress by Derek Lam, $1,795 at Louis Boston

Chanel Boutiqu
5 Newbury S
617-859-005

DKN
37 Newbury S
617-236-047

Guc
Copley Plac
617-247-300

Louis Bosto
234 Berkeley S
617-262-610

Model: Cammy fo
the Reinhard Agenc

Hair: Michael Ros
for Avanti Salo
11 Newbury S
617-267-402

Makeup: Jenny Brow
for Sti

Navy wrap dress, $325 at DKNY

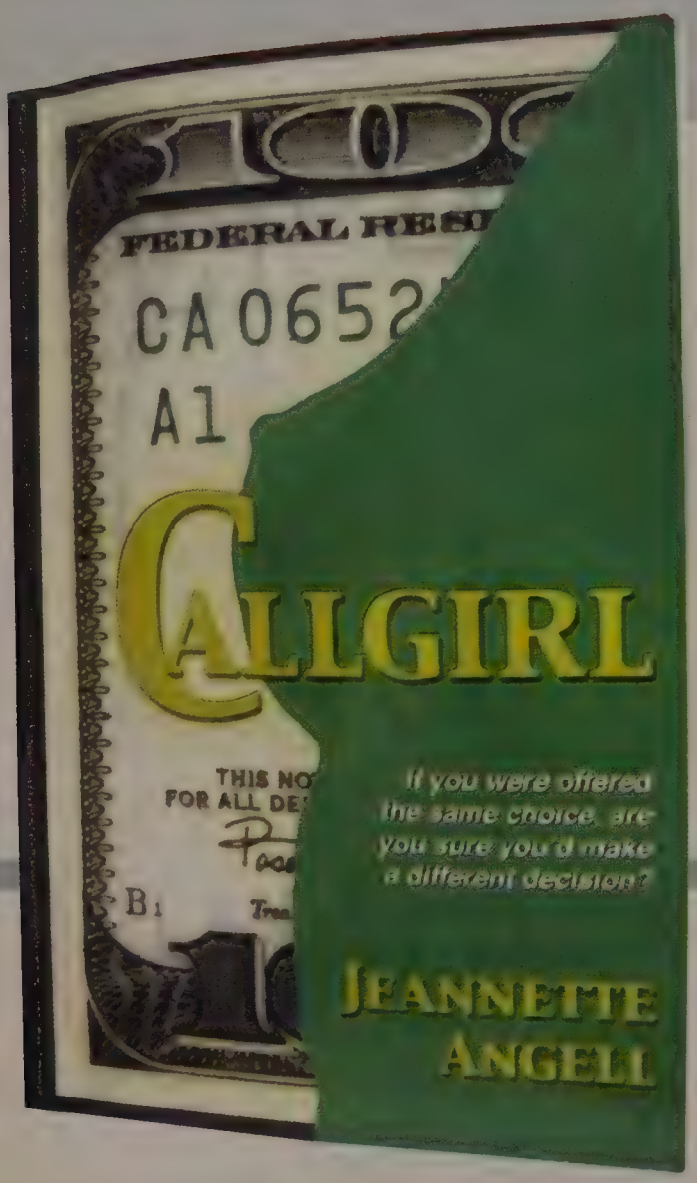
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MOPSY

SERENDIPITOUS SHOPPING: OUR UNFETTERED CORRESPONDENT SEEKS OUT THE SALUBRIOUS AND THE CEREBRAL.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



SMART CALL

Jeannette Angell, Ph.D. and prostitute, tells her tale of sex work in Boston in *Callgirl*.

Armed with a doctorate in anthropology, Jeannette Angell found herself needing more income than adjunct college teaching provided. So she answered an ad for call girls placed by one "Peach." While teaching a course called "On Death and Dying" at a local university, Angell was going around Boston on sex calls. Her position, as it were, on the sex industry is one of brisk, feminist professionalism. Like a practical, strategic geisha, she caters to her clients without much engagement, providing a service, neither degraded nor very engaged—with a few more sizzling and occasionally emotionally connected exceptions. While sometimes halfway scornful of the men's loneliness or need for control, she prides herself on winning them over. (Calling them "baby" seems to do a lot for the fictional intimacy.) Meanwhile, she's treating prostitution as an academic subject, noting her students' complex negative attitudes toward it and smiling secretly to herself. Her tone is often smart and businesslike, and the writing, like her work, is neither steamy nor entirely cynical. But the emotional and physical perils of call girl work, and Angell's allegedly "OK" drug use do leave the reader wondering.



HOTFOOT IT DOWN HERE

Zapato's, at 90 Wareham St. (corner of Albany) in Boston, sells tons of shoes and sports attire for men, women and children at 30 to 70 percent off the list price. Open daily except Sundays. Call 617-423-2442.

In this exuberantly enormous warehouse lies a world of discounted shoes and clothing. How inexpen sive? Most merchandise is about a half to a third of normal retail prices. (And the two-pairs-for-$9 shoe are, well, a steal.) Scads of brand name shoes—women's pretty, delicate shoes; bolder, wilder ones; an some sweetly toylike sneakers and sandals for kids—await a try-on. Such known entities as Joan & David, Sam & Libby and Anne Klein are sprinkled about. Women and girls—look for outrageous, co orful club-strutters or sexy, strappy shoes and sandals for summer. Men's rugged shoes, especially sneak ers, cross-trainers and impressively large, solid waterproof work boots, look just right for nearby Big Dig gers. Find here Skechers, Kangaroos with little pocket and Velcro foldover, Reeboks, Nunn Bush an Franco Sarto. Pro team sports jerseys hang from the racks alongside Dickies guys' jeans. A game-lik code (based on letters in the word Timberland) reveals the price, giving a frisson of surprise when th shoes turn out to cost only…$25? Ahhh! $10.

GO TO CURVES, HAVE A BALL

Curves, the phenomenally successful gym for women, gives clients a workout in 30 minutes. A new Curves is at 614 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. Call 617-576-3000 or visit www.curvesinternational.com for other Boston locations.



Though of course the antithesis of McDonald Curves—the quickity-quick gym for women—h one location worldwide for every three of tho burger joints. Curves pitches itself to the Avera Josephine who, during a 30-minute session, wor out at 26 exercise stations for a mere 30 secon apiece, and then it's around again for another la Diabetes risks, high blood pressure, or just t threat—yea the current epidemic—of chron couch-potatohood, motivates many. This gym e chews the glinting, punishing eye of the mirror, a there are no showers either, because this exercise not sweat-producing. The equipment works on h draulic resistance that involves pushing and pulli not lifting and lowering; there's no fiddling with t clunky coinage of weights. Curves offers strengt training—which protects and increases lean tissu and kicks up the metabolism—alternating wi speedy aerobic exercise. Many members, self-co scious about their weight, come to exercise in t friendly, gal-pal-y atmosphere and lose lots of weig flying around these fun machines. Some also opt Curves' line of shakes and vitamins. The gym's ma azine, full of peppy you-can-do-it spirit, sho plump "before" ladies next to their smiling, ba gowned, healthy "after" selves.

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SHAG

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SHAG is at 840 Summer St. in Boston. Call 617-268-2500 to schedule an appointment

REVIEW

LATIN UP

Sophia's brings its groove to the table with a bold new menu.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

When Michael Schlow and Chris Myers opened Great Bay in Kenmore Square's Commonwealth Hotel, with accomplished chef Jeremy Sewall behind the stove, I was skeptical as to whether a restaurant with substantial culinary aspirations could crack the neighborhood's demographics, displacing the Fenway Frank and beer as the sustenance of choice. With the arrival of Jeffrey P. Fournier in the kitchen at Sophia's, on the opposite side of the park from Kenmore Square, serious, sophisticated dining now surrounds Boston's beloved ballpark. Fenway, you're covered.

Lovers of Latin music and dancing have made Sophia's a magnet for revelers for more than five years, but since my own interests run to the dining scene rather than the salsa scene, it had escaped my notice. With the arrival of Fournier, whose long and fruitful apprenticeship under culinary prophet Lydia Shire (Pignoli, Locke-Ober, Excelsior) has made him a food force to be reckoned with, there are imaginatively conceived and professionally executed palate pleasers to be had at this address.

Sophia's is a multilevel establishment. A dark space below grade has a long bar with 12 stools, and white-clothed tables arrayed around the periphery of the room. Salsa dancing takes place on the second floor, and above that there's an open roof deck (appropriately named Cielo) for dancing under the stars. Serious dining holds center stage in the dining room and the Fedora bar on the first floor, up a half dozen steps from the entrance. Here, diners sit at an imposing, dark wooden chef's table for 10 in high backed, bright yellow chairs, or on cushioned banquettes that line walls of old, exposed brick fitted with custom-designed wine storage space. Random rays from track lighting near the high ceiling penetrate the semi-darkness of this cavernous room, picking up splashes of color from abstract acrylic paintings created by chef Fournier himself, whose artistry obviously extends beyond the kitchen. Heavy, dark blue draperies hide the view of the neighboring parking lot and fast-food joint.

Sophia's menu format includes "small plates," "mini-plates" and "food and liquor pairings," all giving expression to the varied palate of Central and South American cuisine. While small plate dining has gained an increasing number of devotees over the last year or so, Fournier has added a new twist with his creatively designed liquor-food combinations. While I found this approach interesting—and at least one or two of its embodiments exquisite—I found much greater value and satisfaction in Fournier's small plates and mini-plates.



Aguardiente with cured snapper, orange segments and cilantro oil

SOPHIA'S
1270 Boylston St., Boston
(617-351-7001)
HOURS Tue.-Sat. 6–11 pm
RESERVATIONS recommended
CREDIT CARDS all major
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE no
PARKING valet
LIQUOR LICENSE full bar

Two mini-plates arrived gratis as *amuses bouche*: a crunchy shrimp poached with saffron in court bouillon and a morsel of crispy snapper over Peruvian blue potato. Both deserved to be promoted to the menu full time, especially the impeccably textured shrimp, which came with a dollop of provocative paprika cocktail sauce further spiced with warm, aromatic cumin. The first dish I ordered, a mini-plate of chorizo with roasted garlic ($4), was a tapas-size treat—one generous bite of crispy Spanish sausage—combining salty, well-spiced, heartily flavored pork and mellow, slightly sweet garlic puree, a fine use of this pungent perennial. Another mini-plate, the *arepas con queso* with mango butter ($3), seemed starchy and uninteresting when I first bit into it, so I put it aside and ultimately took it home in a doggie bag. When I rewarmed this layered cornmeal and cheese combination the next day, it became much more inte esting, with the moist richness of the co and creamy goodness of the cheese stan ing out. A third mini-plate, roast ma nated tomato with white anchovy fille ($3)—a small cylinder of roast toma mousse with three tiny slivers of white chovy crisscrossed on top—made t strongest impression. The combination fruity olive oil, sweet-tart tomatoes m lowed by roasting, and pleasantly fish salty anchovies made this mini-plate mini-symphony of flavors.

Sophia's small plates, about three tim the size of its minis, were roughly equiv lent to substantial appetizers in m restaurants, with two to three of the equaling a main course. The 16 sm plates ranged across a broad spectrum ingredients and preparations. Caramelize sea scallop with mango, arepas and *chicha ron* ($8) brought a single, gargantuan sc lop carefully seared to preserve its delica sweet, nutlike flavor and satiny textu The garnishes—a small triangle of t arepas con queso, a slice of sweet, ri mango and a small rectangle of rich po belly—made the dish not only exciting the range of taste and textures presente but also surprisingly filling considering modest size. Palomilla steak with saffr rice, pickled egg and grilled ramps ($13) hearty hunk of top round steak, flavor and resilient but reasonably tender, arriv rare as ordered. The rice and ramp species of scallion) accompaniments ma little impression, lost amid a busy presen tion, but a garnish of caramelized onio not mentioned on the menu, comp mented the steak superbly. Chicken *san cho* ($7) brought a small casserole chicken stew populated with large cubes potatoes, strips of chicken breast, lots garlic, and slivers of chili peppers, a hea robust brew. Finally among the sm plates, the beer- and brown sugar–brais taco with crème Mexicana ($7) resembl a Mayan *panucho*, with an open, warm t tilla—soft as opposed to toasted—cove with semi-sweetened pork and a cilant accented sauce.

On a second visit I decided to sam the food and liquor pairings, orderi black cherry and vanilla vodka, mu rooms and cheese ($10); the dark spic



Executive Chef Jeffrey P. Fournier



Pan-seared tilapia with Peruvian *skordalia* and mango salsa



The upper half of the first-floor dining room

ım with sugar cane–skewered shrimp 512) and the hibiscus liqueur with hand- ıred braciola and beet aioli ($11), in that ·der, as suggested by my waiter. With ıese dishes, Fournier has tried to choose kotic alcoholic concoctions whose fla- ors, when sipped between bites of the od, create harmonies, counterpoints and elodies on the palate. With a couple of ıem he succeeded. The earthy, exotic fla- or of the mushrooms, saltiness of the neese and fruity-herbal sweetness of the queur in the mushroom combination ade it the best of these offerings. The pair skewered shrimp had first-rate flavor and xture, and their accompaniment of thin ices of toasted coconut and a drizzle of cely balanced sugar cane vinaigrette hit e spot, but the spiced rum seemed rather side the point. Finally, but not least, the ıy portion of austerely dry, salty beef bra- ola was pleasantly offset by a mildly eet beet aioli drizzled on the top, with le cinnamon-laced hibiscus liqueur lding interesting nuances.

With its menu offerings, Sophia's pro- ded a basket of thick toasts of marvelous hole-grained bread from Iggy's, accom- nied by a pesto puree lively in its fresh sil, pignoli nuts and garlic. Sophia's ne list is small but serviceable, and vir- ally all the wines on the list are offered by the bottle or glass. But while the bottle prices range from $24 to $40, the per glass prices are almost all $8. Pours are generous, so that one can enjoy the equivalent of nearly a full bottle of the higher-priced wines for only $24. Most noteworthy among the wines I tried were the 2002 Alamos Bonarda from Argentina, full bodied and well structured; the 1999 Sierra Cantabria Rioja and the 2002 Lily pinot noir from the Sonoma Coast.

Sophia's desserts, all $6, included mango flan with eucalyptus honey and lavender cream, a smooth, creamy, slightly sweet custard that tasted more of honey than mango but was a cooling, refreshing counterpoint to many of the provocatively spiced dishes that preceded it. Moving to the chocolate side of the spectrum, we devoured the warm chocolate soufflé cake, dark and bittersweet, served in a pool of coffee-flavored crème anglaise and garnished with mint leaves, candied pignoli and fresh whipped cream.

Service at Sophia's, even on a busy Saturday night, was efficient, attentive and reasonably well informed. The lively, upbeat atmosphere of this multifaceted establishment and the creative, inspired performance of Fournier and his staff in the kitchen will make this a popular venue for some time to come. iB



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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

California Wine Dinner
Monica's Restaurant, 143 Richmond St., Boston (617-227-0311). www.monicasfoods.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Aug. 18, 7 pm. $59. A four-course summer-themed dinner prepared by chef Jorge Mendoza is paired with wines from Sonoma County's Rodney Strong Vineyards.

Casual, Intimate Summer Cooking
Rialto Restaurant at the Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge (617-661-5050). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Aug. 18, 6 pm. $40 per class. Chef **Jody Adams** prepares a seafood dish with ingredients from a local farmer's market. Guests sample the meal with wine and can take the recipe home.

Cromatini Tuesdays
Croma, 269 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-3200). www.cromaboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Every Tue. in Aug. 5:30-7:30 pm. Each Tuesday in August, Croma features two new specialty martinis called Cromatinis ($8 each) as well as complimentary Pizzatinis (specialty pizzas).

Grilling Social at Tremont 647
Tremont 647, 647 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-4600). www.tremont647.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Aug. 23, 6-9 pm. $30. Tremont 647's chef/owner **Andy Husbands** and chefs **Tony Susi** of Sage and **Rene Michelena** of Saint prepare barbecue on three different grills, and guests are invited to sample Harpoon beer.

High Summer in France by Way of Boston
Craigie Street Bistrot, 5 Craigie Circle, Cambridge (617-497-5511). www.slowfoodboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Aug. 24, 6 pm. $75, $90 with wine pairings. Chef Tony Maws prepares a four-course French meal using only locally sourced ingredients. Guests receive a shopping list for each dish. Wine is available à la carte.

Hot off the Vine at 33: Wednesday Wine Tasting Series
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25 a person. Join chef **Anthony Dawo** each Wednesday for a sampling of four wi paired with a complimentary food samplin •Aug. 11: Piedmont, Italy. •Aug. 18: Bou gogne, France.

Meritage Wine School
Meritage at the Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rou Wharf, Boston (617- 439-3995). www.merita therestaurant.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aqua ium. Aug. 17, 6 pm. $90. Sommelier **Jam Moore** discusses creative options for red wi in warm weather. The class is accompanied b five-course meal prepared by chef **Daniel Bru**

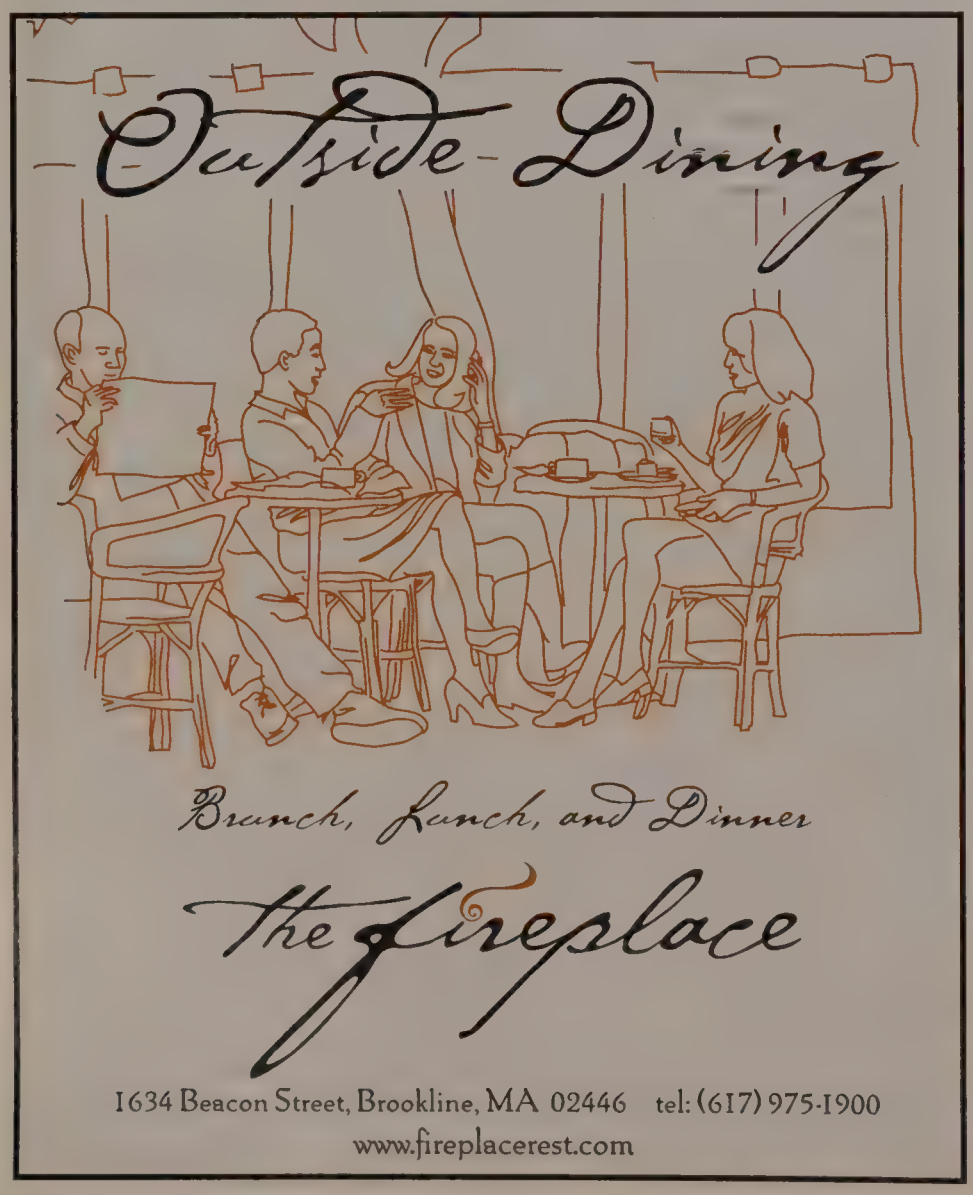
Summer Cooking School at the Langham Hotel
Langham Hotel, 250 Franklin St., Boston (61 451-1900). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to Sta 6-8 pm. $100. The Langham Hotel hosts a s ries of classes this summer on preparing class summer dishes. •Aug. 11: The Dark Side Mushrooms.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-54 5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 an pm. $25. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discuss various wines, while chef **Ian Just** pairs t wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief coo ing demonstrations. •Aug. 17: Tuscany. •Au 24: Bordeaux whites.

Wednesday Wine Series
UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Ca bridge (617-864-1933). MBTA: Red Line to H vard. Every Wed., 6:30 pm. Prices vary. Ea Wednesday, Sommelier **Shane Lessard** host wine tasting that includes a sampling of fo small plates prepared by chefs **Susan Regis** a **Amanda Lydon**. •Aug. 11: Chianti and Tu cany, $40. •Aug. 18: Barolo and Piedmont, $4

Wednesday Wine Tastings at Vinali
Vinalia Restaurant, 34 Summer St., Boston (61 737-1777). MBTA: Orange Line to Downto Crossing. Every Wednesday, 6 pm. $15. Jo Vinalia's wine professionals every Wednesd for a sampling of hors d'oeuvres and three diff ent wines.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-26 3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line Hynes. 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Johnson** fers descriptions of the wines that compleme the French–New England meal by chef **Fra McClelland**. •Aug. 16: Erik's Favorites. •A 23: Italy.



TASTY TIDBIT

RESTAURANT WEEK



Participating chefs (l to r): Gabriel Frasca, Spire; Amanda Lydon, UpStairs on the Square; and Jenny Catsis, Bonfire

If you're a fan of eating out (and who isn't), you can indulge in some of the best dining the Boston restaurant scene has to offer during the fourth annual Boston Restaurant Week. From Aug. 23-27, more than 80 eateries offer three-course prix fixe lunches for $20.04 and dinners for $30.04. Many local restaurants are making special accommodations for the event, including 33 Restaurant, which opens for special Monday hours; UpStairs on the Square, which serves a three-course dinner in its Soiree dining room for $40.04; and Bambara, which offers glasses of beer for $1.0 For more information and a list of participating restaurants, visit www.opentable.com. —*R.L.*

DISH

Season of the Switch

New cookbook title a Suspenser for Shire…How's Howell's beans?

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

On the surface, summer is a quiet time in the restaurant business. But behind the scenes, there's plenty of action, as industry notables respond with ambition, creativity and humor to ill-fated business decisions, the trajectory of culinary career demands, even a surplus crop of cabbage.

First up: **Lydia Shire**. Fifteen months after launching **Excelsior** firmly into the top level of Boston dining, she's leaving to write a cookbook. But not really leaving, she insists. "It's still my restaurant," she says, and she will oversee menu development "totally" when **Eric Brennan** officially takes over the kitchen in September. Degrees of separation: Brennan's position as executive chef at **Harvest** will be filled by his former sous chef, **Keith Pooler**, who himself was the opening sous chef at Excelsior.



Lydia Shire is scaling back her involvement with Excelsior to write a cookbook.

"I could not be happier with Excelsior," says Shire. "I've accomplished each and every goal." But she says it's "impossible" to develop and oversee the restaurant's complex menus and create a cookbook simultaneously, at least the kind of cookbook Shire envisions. She describes it as a "legacy" for her four children, particularly her youngest, 14-year-old Alex, an aspiring chef who's been wielding a sharp knife in the kitchen for 10 years and hasn't cut himself even once, a source of great pride to his mother.

"It will be a heartfelt book with unapologetic food," says Shire, who hints at surprises to come. "I want to combine my love of color and some of my crazy ideas in a book. At one point, I wanted to write a pop-up cookbook." How about scratch-'n'-sniff? Seriously, Shire is exploring some cool graphic ideas while she collaborates with a writer on a proposal, and her working title is perfect (sorry, can't tell). If she should change her mind, here's a suggestion: *Getting in Touch with Your Innard Chef: No Guts, No Glory.*

Meanwhile in Arlington, **Bob Sargent**, chef/owner of **Flora**, is content to stay right where he is. "I'm not super ambitious," he says. But he's ever alert to new marketing opportunities. Flora's Web site promotes its homemade ice cream, "hot" T-shirts, retro refrigerator magnets and kimchi. Why kimchi, the Korean fermented-cabbage condiment? Farmer **Steve Parker**, whose Lunenburg farm grows produce for Flora, had asked Sargent to create and bottle a dressing that Parker could sell at his farmstand to encourage purchases of an excessive crop of bok choy and napa cabbage. Next, Sargent made up a big batch of kimchi, "just doing it for kicks," and sold it at local farmers markets. And now? "Now he doesn't have any more cabbage!" laughs Sargent.

Sargent's latest menu addition is what he calls "the best coffee experience you can have." Flora is the first restaurant to offer GHH Select Terroir Coffee, the latest venture from **George Howell**. Howell, whose **Coffee Connection** was the original catalyst for coffee culture, fared poorly with the now-closed **Copa Café** in Lexington, which featured Terroir coffees. Howell says he's "relieved" that the Copa misstep is over and enthusiastic about every aspect of his new company, from his on-site storage of green coffee beans at temperatures of 40 below zero to his travels to South America to source rare "single-origin" coffees. Call it the Second Cupping of George Howell. IB

Serving Dish

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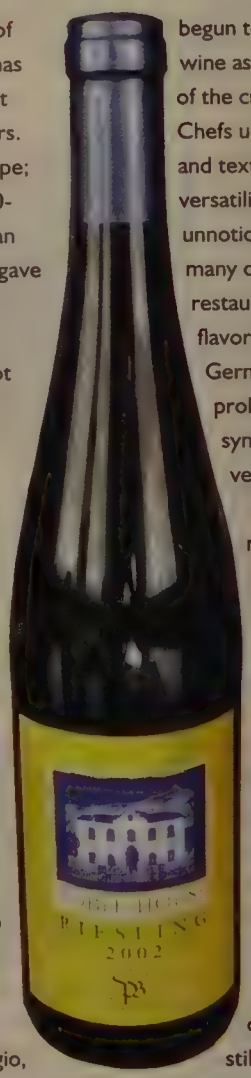
WINE

Riesling on the Rise

BY SANDY BLOCK, M.W.

It's finally happened. After years of being ignored, German Riesling has come out of the woodwork. I got tired of talking about it over the years. Yes, Riesling is my favorite white grape; yes, my top choice with lobster is 10-year-old Mosel kabinett; yes, they can age; yes, yes, yes! After I eventually gave up preaching, it seems, the Riesling Renaissance happened. Suddenly everyone (well not everyone) has got Riesling on their palate.

Let's start with some facts: Americans have been slowly and steadily drinking more German wine over the past several years. During 2003, sales jumped 19 percent to almost 2 million cases—still far behind Italy, Australia, France, Chile and Spain, but good enough for sixth place. The kind of wine we're importing from Germany today, however, is not what your parents or grandparents drank. That's because most of what's on the market now is predominantly made with Riesling, which is a far cry from how it used to be in the days of Liebfraumilch. That blended, often cloying wine once enjoyed great popularity before we discovered chardonnay and pinot grigio, but even in its best days it never had the invigorating zip of a good Riesling.



The biggest obstacle Germany has had to overcome is a long-standing equation of sweet wine with low quality. The truth is, if you're making a relatively blah white wine, the quickest, cheapest and easiest way to cover up its flaws is by making it a little bit sweet. And many German wines we used to see—the brands that dominated retail shelves in the 1970s, when Germany was a much bigger factor in the U.S. than it's ever been since—tasted cheap and sweet. At the same time, Germany's finest Riesling-based wines have traditionally been sweet too, but for different reasons. The prime Mosel and Rhine growing districts in the country's southwest are hilly and relatively cold. The Riesling grapes grown there develop brilliantly complex fruit and mineral aromas but also retain strong natural acidity as a result of the marginal weather and rocky soil. Most of the top winemakers in these areas use natural methods of producing sweetness in the wines to balance off the abundance of tart, appetizingly acidic flavors that develop over the course of a growing season. That's why they make sweet wines: because a little sugar enhances the wine's flavor.

So some of us may have gotten this and overcome our fear of sugar, and maybe even begun to look upon some sweetness in a wine as chic and sophisticated. If so, a lot of the credit originates in the culinary field. Chefs understand how to balance flavors and textures, and Riesling's extraordinary versatility with food has not gone unnoticed by many of them. Then again, so many of the dishes we see at cutting-edge restaurants today feature sweet and fruity flavors that partner effortlessly with German Rieslings. The brilliant acids prolong the wine's flavor and encourage synergy with seafood, Asian and vegetarian dishes.

Another reason for their newfound popularity is that German Rieslings tend to be low in alcohol, quite often under 10 percent. My favorite district, the middle Mosel, frequently produces Riesling that tips the scales at only 7.5 to 8.5 percent. Which means you can have a few glasses and experience clarity of thinking almost as great as if you had finished one glass of a 14.5 percent Australian or Californian chardonnay. The wines are also great in summertime because you can chill them to an extreme and still taste quite a bit of flavor.

Probably the worst rap German wine gets is that the labels are confusing. If you know how to decode the information they provide, German wines are very easy to buy because you can predict the exact style of the flavors, but not everyone wants to invest the time to learn the terminology. Recently though, the labels have become cleaner and easier to read, the terms less, well, Teutonic. In the past, I would have said that your best bet would be to find a Riesling kabinett or spatlese (these are ripeness designations, with the latter generally producing a richer, lusher wine than the former) from a top producer in the Mosel-Saar-Ruwer. (Ask your retailer, there are several dozen reputable names.) But today, more variety is available. A new classification for Rieslings that are basically dry, Classic, will simplify your buying process if you prefer wines without much residual sugar. I personally prefer the slightly sweeter style, but many people are drinking drier Rieslings today, and Classic is made for them. All the label indicates is the name of the producer, the region, the grape and the word Classic. What could be simpler? It's almost as easy as buying Chardonnay. IB

One of only 18 Americans certified as a master of wine, Sandy Block is assistant vice president of wine for Horizon Beverage.

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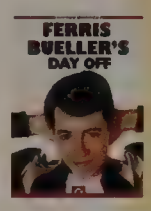
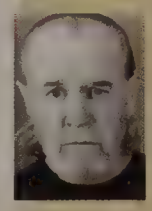
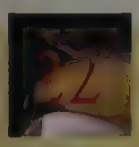
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agenda

MPROPER PICKS

august 11 - 24

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			11	12	13	14
				Play hooky with ***Ferris Bueller's Day Off*** at the Coolidge Corner Theatre. *See Movies on page 54.*	Laughmaster **George Carlin** is at the South Shore Music Circus. *See Comedy on page 50.*	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Shop outdoors at the **South End Open Market** on Harrison Avenue. *See CityScope on page 48.*		Put on your blue suede shoes for Dick's Last Resort's **Elvis Memorial Tribute.** *See CityScope on page 48.*				
	23	24				
Art Deco: 1910–1939 opens at the Museum of Fine Arts. *See Museums and Galleries on page 74.*	Sample Harpoon beer and gourmet barbecue at **Tremont 647's Grilling Social.** *See Tastings on page 40.*		Toni Lynn Washington plays the Boston Harbor Hotel's Blues Barge August 19.			

ONGOING

Movies and Music: Entertainment Tonight

This summer, the Boston Harbor Hotel is teeming with twilight activities. The hotel's outdoor movies, music and dance programs are free and are open to the public as well as hotel guests. All the events take place on the outdoor patio, where you can sit at the Intrigue Café's tables along the water and order dinner (or just drinks) while the sun sets over the water. Friday nights are Movies by Moonlight, where you can catch a classic film in the gloaming. On August 13, Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall star in Howard Hawks' 1946 detective movie *The Big Sleep*; Aug. 20 brings *12 Angry Men*, Sidney Lumet's 1957 courtroom drama starring Henry Fonda. Wednesday nights get lively with the Summer Swing series—dance demos, instruction and then a free-for-all with big-band music. Every Tuesday night (6-10 pm) is comedy night, which features improv troupes from the Improv Asylum. Finally, the Blues Barge series takes place on the floating stage Thursday evenings (also at 6 pm). Next up on the barge: Aug. 12 is E.C. Scott & Smoke, and Aug. 19 is Toni Lynn Washington. *Boston Harbor Hotel, Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000).*

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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AGENDA EDITED BY
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Jessica Iredale Around Town, Children, Education, Movies, Museums & Galleries, Performing Arts
Rich Levine CityScope, Dance Clubs, Gay & Lesbian, Music

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
Ezra Dyer Sports
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules







THU./AUG. 12

Music: The Mack-Dada Is Back

It's been a good year so far for Kool Keith. *Critical Beatdown*, the debut album by his first crew, Ultramagnetic MCs, was re-released with the full-blown "classic" treatment: bonus tracks, interviews and all the bells and whistles that accompany an album that has been accepted into the hip-hop canon. Keith also has two new CDs out: *Thee Undertakerz* (released in May) showcases his Reverand Tom alias, and *Diesel Truckers* (out this week) reunites him with longtime buddy Kutmasta Kurt. Keith's lyrics have always featured the raunchy braggadocio so customary in hip-hop, but his absurdist, left-field rhyming style sets him apart. Boston's Porn Theater Ushers share the stage with the legendary Keith and will have to work pretty hard to measure up. Fortunately, based on the advance word on their new album, *Taxachusetts*, it sounds like they're up to the task. *Middle East Downstairs, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). 8 pm. $17.*

THU./AUG. 12

CityScope: It's a Nice Day for a White Wedding

Everyone has a few skeletons in their closet. If one of yours involves five yards of seafoam green taffetta or mauve chiffon and lace applique, it's time to air your dirty laundry. Former bridesmaids are invited to don the worst "you'll never wear this again" monstrosity and recoup the dignity lost on their bridezilla friend's sartorial snafu at THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN's third annual Bridesmaids' Ball at Hurricane O'Reilly's. The girl in the most frightful frock stands to walk away with a bachelorette night on the Bustonian, a booty of unmentionables from Kiss Me Lingerie, or a free makeup application. If you want to out-do the competition, head to Beaucage, Guiliano Day Spa, Lord's and Lady's or Maksou Salon for a potentially prize-winning, (and discounted!) gravity defying up-do. You don't have to show up looking like a satin-blend circus tent—the prettiest and sexiest bridesmaids take home prizes, and, as always, we're looking for a few good groomsmen too. The grab-happy partygoer who catches the bouquet wins the grand prize: an all-expenses paid weekend getaway for her and her friends to Mohegan Sun. Tickets are $5, and proceeds benefit the Boston Komen Race for the Cure. *Hurricane O'Reilly's, 150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161). 7 pm.*



Jeff Robinson portrays Charlie "Bird" Parker in the one-man show *Live Bird*.

FRI./AUG. 20

Dance: It Takes Two

In addition to offering a mean mixed grill, Argentina is also the source of the sultry, sexy tango. Unfortunately, tickets to Buenos Aires don't come cheap. And while watching impossibly tan couples on TV dip and spin with paper numbers safety-pinned to their backs is a cheap fix, it lacks a certain *je ne sais quoi*. Those who seek the real deal can head to Ryles Jazz Club August 20 for a dance performance to live music. Mass Tango, led by musician and vocalist Bernardo Monk and his wife, performer Fernanda Cajide, brought their talents stateside, direct from Argentina, in 2001. Their performance at Ryles is a rare opportunity for enthusiasts to experience a tango performance the way Argentineans do—in a club with food, wine and friends. Monk leads the music with jazz-inspired vocals and sax, while Cajide tears up the floor with her seductive yet elegant three-step. Call it the anti-lambada. *Ryles Jazz Club, 212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). www.rylesjazz.com. 9 pm. $10.*



Mass Tango's Bernardo Monk and Fernanda Cajide

FRIDAY/AUG. 20

Performing Arts: Bebopping with Bird

Jeff Robinson is best known in town for his band's residency at the Lizard Lounge. The Jeff Robinson Trio has been accompanying poets and spoken-word artists for the club's poetry performance night for years. But Robinson is also a writer-actor-director who's performed all over the country in *Live Bird: An Intimate Portrait of Charlie "Bird" Parker*, a show he created about the legendary jazz saxophonist. During the play, a one-man, song-filled performance set in a Harlem bar in the summer of 1947, Robinson talks with imaginary characters about Bird's life, imitates sax great Lester Young and, of course, performs some of Bird's songs. *Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). 8 pm. $10.*

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cityscope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings for festivals, events and benefits by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Benefits

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12
Third Annual Bridesmaids' Ball
Hurricane O'Reilly's, 150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to North Station. 7 pm. $5. The IMPROPER BOSTONIAN presents this chance for local ladies to put on their favorite bridesmaid dress. Prizes for creativity include a Mohegan Sun getaway, bachelorette nights and lingerie packages. The party is hosted by KISS 108's Chris Shine, with music from DJ Dan McCarthy. Proceeds benefit the Boston Komen Race for the Cure.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13
2004 Flip Flop Regatta
Courageous Sailing Center, Pier 4, Charlestown, www.flipflopregatta.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to North Station. Through Aug. 14. Spectator party boat, 12:15-4 pm, $25; gala, 5:30-10:30 pm, $100. This two-day event, in memory of accomplished sailor and philanthropist Alexandra Nicole Zapp, features a regatta, followed by a gala event with Mount Gay Rum tents, an awards ceremony and a silent auction. Proceeds benefit the Ally Foundation.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14
Second Annual Mayflower Foundation Summer Gala
Boston Children's Museum, 380 Congress St., Boston www.mayflowerfoundation.org/boston_8.14.04.htm. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 8 pm-12 am. $45. The Mayflower Foundation hosts this party featuring live music and complimentary beer, wine, hors d'oeuvres and dessert. Proceeds benefit Envision Leadership—a group that provides in leadership education programs for local youths.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 17
Third Annual BARCC Blues Cruise
Boat departs from Long Wharf, Boston (617-492-8306, ext. 12). www.barcc.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 7 pm. $30. The Boston Area Rape Crisis Center presents a cruise with proceeds supporting local organizations committed to ending domestic violence and sexual assault. The event includes free hors d'oeuvres, live music and a cash bar.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20
August Moon Harbor Cruise
Boat departs from Gate C at Rowes Wharf, next to Boston Harbor Hotel, Boston (617-357-0052). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 6-9 pm. $50, (children under 16, $35). This cruise helps celebrate one of the most popular Chinese holidays with a dim sum dinner, musical performances, dancing and a silent auction. Proceeds benefit the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center's campaign to build a new community center.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21
Malden YMCA Outdoor Benefit
Dockside Restaurant, 229 Centre St., Malden (781-321-3000). www.docksiderestaurant.com. 11 am-11 pm. $3, Free for children under 12. This daylong outdoor event features face painting, games, a dunk tank, live entertainment, food and refreshments. All proceeds support the YMCA's Capital Campaign.

Festivals

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12
Sorrento Cheese Fisherman's Feast
North, Fleet and Lewis Streets, North End (617-248-0343). www.fishermansfeast.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Through Aug. 15. Thu. and Fri., 7 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm. Free. Based on a tradition that goes back to 16th century Sciacca, Sicily, the Fisherman's Feast is Boston's oldest continuous Italian festival. The 94th annual feast includes four days' worth of traditional food, live entertainment and the annual procession of the Madonna through the streets. 1960s heartthrob Bobby Rydell performs Friday at 9 pm as the festival's headliner.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14
A Celebration of the Sea
North and Lewis streets, North End. www.fishermansfeast.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Through Aug. 15. 12-4 pm. Free. As part of the Fisherman's Feast (see Aug. 12), Boston's Bob Guillemin, better known as Sidewalk Sam, outlines a whale and a school of fish on North Street, and children can choose a fish to color and autograph.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 15
India Day 2004
Charles River Esplanade, Boston (888-836-2727). www.iagb.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. 4-9 pm. Free. The India Association of Greater Boston celebrates the 57th anniversary of India's independence with traditional Indian dancing, music and food, as well as crafts and activities from the Museum of Science.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19
South Boston Italian Pride Festival
East 3rd St., between K and I, South Boston (617-635-3911). www.cityofboston.gov/calendar. MBTA: #9 bus to K Street. 6-8 pm. Free. The city of Boston sponsors this Italian themed night featuring food, drinks, music from groups including Prima Vera, and a children's show from the Tanglewood Marionettes.

Parties

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11
2nd Annual Summer Swing
Boston Harbor Hotel, Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). www.bhh.com. Every Wed. through Sept. 8, 6 pm. Free. This weekly summer outdoor swing-dancing series features demonstrations, dance instruction and big-band music.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13
Summertime BBQ & Clambake
Hamersley's Bistro, 553 Tremont St., Boston (617-423-2700). www.hamersleysbistro.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Aug. 13-15. Fri., 6-10 pm; Sat., 5:30-10:30 pm; Sun., 5:30-9:30 pm. A la carte prices. Chef Gordon Hamersley transforms his dining room and patio into a picnic area with a special menu featuring ribs, lobster, brisket and freshly shucked oysters. Hamersley will also sign copies of his book, *Bistro Cooking at Home*.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 17
2004 Elvis Memorial Tribute
Dick's Last Resort, 55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). www.dickslastresort.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7 pm. Free. Stephen Connolly, one of Las Vegas' most acclaimed Elvis impersonators, leads a tribute to the King on the 27-year (and a day) anniversary of his death. Events include a sing-along, jelly doughnut–eating contest and karaoke.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18
Boston Society of Young Professionals Party
Felt, 533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-555[illegible] www.bostonyoungpro.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 9 pm-12 am. Free. The Boston Society of Young Professionals, a local networking and socializing organization, throws a free party to celebrate its fast-growing membership over the last two months. Enjoy free appetizers and a complimentary beverage.

Singles

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11
Hurry Date
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-5[illegible] 3311). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $35 for non-members. Embark on 20 five-minute dates and enjoy drink specials from 33 Restaurant. For ages 25-35.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 17
Eight Minute Dating
Hard Rock Cafe, 131 Clarendon St., Boston (617-424-7625). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 6:30 pm. $35. Singles between the ages of 25 and 35 are invited to the Hard Rock for eight eight-minute dates and a night of mingling.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18
Hurry Date
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-5[illegible] 3311). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $35 for non-members. Embark on 20 five-minute dates and enjoy drink specials from 33 Restaurant. For ages 25-35.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 22
Eight Minute Dating
Orleans, 65 Holland St., Somerville (617-669-875[illegible] www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square. 6 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get a chance to share a date with. For ages 27-40.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 24
Eight Minute Dating
Soho, 386 Market St., Brighton (617-983-019[illegible] www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: #57 Bus to Chestnut Hill Avenue. 7:08 pm. $35. Go on eight different eight-minute dates over the course of one night. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get a chance to share a date with. For ages 22-30.


Bobby Rydell performs August 13 at the Fisherman's Feast in the North End.

Preview

Big-Hearted BoSox

Sox stars pitch in for kids at special event.


From left: Tim Wakefield, NESN anchor Jayme Parker and Johnny Damon at last year's All-Star Charity Classic

Much—often too much—is made in this city about the on-field performance of our pro athletes. So every once in a while it's nice to highlight some of the positive things these guys do with their time off the field. On August 12, just days after the Red Sox return from a 13-day road trip (the season's longest), Johnny Damon and Tim Wakefield host the Pitching in for Kids All-Star Charity Golf Classic Kick-Off Party at the Comedy Connection.

"Those guys are so charitable and totally support everything we do," says Pitching in for Kids founder Carol Troxell of the Sox stars, who are hosting for a second straight year. "It's just so much fun when they come down to help us out."

The festivities begin at 7 pm with a reception led by Damon and Wakefield (along with WBZ-TV sports anchor Steve Burton). Following that, silent and live auctions featuring items like a knuckleball lesson from Wake or a batting lesson from everyone's favorite Unfrozen Caveman Outfielder. Other items up for bid include signed team jerseys, a trip to Mardi Gras and tickets to see Celine Dion in Las Vegas.

The night finishes up with a comedy show featuring some of Boston's top comics, like Kevin Knox, Paul Nardizzi and Mark Donovan. Admission includes light fare from Flemings Steak House and cocktails from Grey Goose Vodka and Sam Adams. Proceeds benefit Pitching in for Kids, the Franciscan Hospital for Children and the Ron Burton Training Village.

Comedy Connection, 245 Quincy Market, Boston (617-367-3322). Aug. 12, 7 pm. $100. www.pitchinginforkids.org. —Rich Levine



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performing arts

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Performing Arts. Or e-mail to performing@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater

JUST OPENED

Gods and Goddesses
West End Theater, 2 Main St., Gloucester (978-281-0680). Aug. 12-15 and 19-22, 8 pm. $15. Local writer Eliza Wyatt's comedy follows the wild antics of the citizens of Alternative Town.

Live Bird: An Intimate Portrait of Charlie "Bird" Parker
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.cambridge-usa.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Aug. 20. 8 pm. $10. Jeff Robinson's one-man show celebrates the life of jazz saxophone icon Charlie Parker.

Maria's Bachelorette Party
Matrix Nightclub, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123). www.comedywedding.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Aug. 20, 7 pm. $36. Tickets include dinner, show and entry to Matrix. Bridesmaids, exotic male dancers and the mother of the bride go head to head in this comedic audience participation show.

Murder in Maui: Joey and Maria's Hawaiian Honeymoon
Matrix Nightclub, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123). www.comedywedding.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Aug. 13, 7:30 pm. $33. Tickets include dinner, show and entry to Matrix. Murder, mayhem and meatballs follow Joey and Maria on their honeymoon in Hawaii in this comedy/theater show with audience participation.

Once on This Island
Boston Center for the Arts Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Aug. 19-21, 8 pm. $10, $8 students. The How About Some F.U.D.G.E. theater company's summer production is a musical fairy tale, set on a Caribbean island, about a young girl who saves a rich boy's life.

Spinning into Butter
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4433). www.gloucesterstage.com. Aug. 11-29. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 5 pm. $20-$30. A racist incident at a small Vermont college leads to unexpected discoveries and painful revelations in Rebecca Gilman's drama. Eric Engel directs.

NOW RUNNING

As You Like It
Shakespeare & Company, Founders Theatre, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (412-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. Through Aug. 29. Wed.-Sun, 7:30 pm. $10-$49. Eleanor Holdridge directs Shakespeare's play about two young lovers who battle obstacles facing their romance.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. Ongoing. $46-$56. This newly revamped, dialogue-free production features tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Cirque du Soleil's Varekai
Grand Chapiteau, Suffolk Downs, East Boston (800-678-5440). www.cirquedusoleil.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Suffolk Downs. Through Sept. 5. Tue. and Wed., 8 pm; Thu.-Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 1 and 5 pm. $38-$75. Cirque du Soleil uses its signature dramatics and acrobatics to tell the story of a young wanderer's adventure in the magical world of Varekai.

A Clockwork Orange
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.companyone.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Aug. 14. Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $25, $15 students. Company One's stage adaptation of Anthony Burgess' novel features original music by the Dresden Dolls.

The Comedy of Errors
Shakespeare & Company, Founders Theatre, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. Through Sept. 2. Tue. and Thu.-Sat., 7:30 pm; Wed., 2 pm. $10-$49. Cecil MacKinnon directs Shakespeare's comedy about two sets of twins separated at birth and reunited decades later.

Forever Plaid
Stuart Street Playhouse/2nd Stage, 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.showofthemonth.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Ongoing. Tue., 7 pm; Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $35.70-$37.80. This musical tells the story of Forever Plaid, a 1960s musical quartet that is killed on its first performance but is miraculously allowed to return to earth 40 years later to perform.

Full Gallop
Shakespeare & Company, Spring Lawn Theater, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-1199). www.shakespeare.org. Through Sept. 5. Check for showtimes. $30-$47. Daniel Gidron directs Mark Hampton and Mary Louise Wilson's play about the outrageous former *Vogue* editor Diana Vreeland as she prepares to throw a dinner party.

Garbage Boy
Gallery at 38 Cameron, 38 Cameron Ave., Cambridge (617-492-4091). www.38cameron.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Aug. 13 and 14, 8 pm. $18. Christopher Millis performs his one-man show about a family secret.

Grease
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). www.turtle-lane.com. Through Aug. 15. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $24. Jennifer Condo directs the popular rock 'n' roll musical by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey.

Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding
Matrix Nightclub, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123). www.comedywedding.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. 18. Aug. 14 and 21, 7:30 pm. $49. Tickets include dinner, show and entry to Matrix. The nation's longest-running comedy/dinner-theater show spoofs a traditional Italian wedding with audience participation and dinner.

Lettice and Lovage
Shakespeare & Company, Spring Lawn Theater, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-1199). www.shakespeare.org. Through Sept. 5. Aug. 11, 14, 17, 20-22, 24, 8:30 pm; Aug. 12, 15, 18, 3 pm. $30-$47. Peter Shaffer's play stars Tina Packer and Diane Prusha as unlikely friends who butt heads while working for a historical trust.

The Lion King
Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (800-347-0808). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. 26. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 1 pm and 6:30 pm. $22-$132. Julie Taymor directs this stage adaptation of the popular Disney film about a young lion cub's struggle to become king.

Mamma Mia!
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-426-9366). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Aug. 29. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $37.50-$87.50. The popular musical based on the music of ABBA stays in Boston for an extended run.

Measure for Measure
277 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-1300 ext. 1). www.theatrecoop.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square. Through Aug. 15, Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $15. The Theatre Cooperative's recasts many of the male roles as female in its production of Shakespeare's play about a conservative Viennese duke.

Menopause—The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617-426-4499). www.stuartstreet playhouse.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 pm and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $42.50. A quartet of aging baby boomers meet at a lingerie sale, and singing and dancing ensues.

The Merchant of Venice
Publick Theatre, Christian Herter Riverside Park, 1400 Soldiers Field Road, Brighton (617-782-5425). www.publick theatre.com. MBTA: 86 bus to Everett St. Through Sept. 12. Wed.-Thu. and Sun, 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm. $45-$50 season pass. Shakespeare's classic tale explores love, deception and political morality. Diego Arciniegas directs.

Romeo and Juliet
Shakespeare & Company, Bankside, 70 Kemble Lenox (413-637-1199). www.shakespeare. Through Aug. 29. Thu., 5:30 pm; Sun., 12:30 5:30 pm. Free. Kevin Coleman directs Shakespea famous tragedy.

Rope
The Actors Workshop Proscenium Theatre, 327 S mer St., 4th Floor, Boston (617-608-3206). w bakerstreetusa.com. MBTA: Red Line to South tion. Aug. 12-22. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. Baker Street Productions revamps Patrick Hamilt play *Rope's End*, which inspired the Alfred Hitchc movie *Rope*.

Shakespeare and the Language That Shaped a World
Shakespeare & Company, Bankside, 70 Kemble Lenox (413-637-1199). www.shakespeare.org. Thr Aug. 28. Wed., 5:30 pm; Sat., 12:30 and 5:30 Free. This fast-paced performance features exce from several of Shakespeare's plays.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (6 426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MB Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair sa holds the record as Boston's longest-running play

Xingu
Ventfort Hall, Museum of the Gilded Age, 104 W St., Lenox (413-637-3206). Through Aug. 27. W Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 4 pm; Sun., 10 am. $20. A Undeland stars in this adapatation of Edith Whart short story about about a ladies' cultural club wh members are bewildered by a mysterious object.

Dance

Anadimioupyia
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Bo (617-426-2787). www.bcaonline.org. Aug. 20-2 pm. $35. Prometheus Dance and Remember Ro feller Jazz Orchestra collaborate for this ballet spired by Tourette's syndrome.

Black Grace
Jacob's Pillow, 358 George Carter Road, Becket (243-0745). www.jacobspillow.org. Aug. 11, 6:30 Free. In its American debut, New Zealand da troupe Black Grace performs contemporary da influenced by traditional Pacific and Maori dance

Mark Morris Dance Group
Jacob's Pillow, 358 George Carter Road, Becket (243-0745). www.jacobspillow.org. Through Aug. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 $49.50-$55. The dance group combines classical let and folk choreography in performances se works by Haydn, Schumann and Jean Francaix.

MassTango
Ryles Jazz Club, 212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Aug. 2 pm. $10. Fernanda Cajide performs traditional gentine tango to Bernardo Monk's music and voc

Shen Wei Dance Arts
Jacob's Pillow, 358 George Carter Road, Becket (243-0745). www.jacobspillow.org. Aug. 18-22; W Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $40 $45. Painter Shen Wei combines visual art, da and Chinese opera in his company's performanc *The Rite of Spring* and *Behind Resonance*.

33 Fainting Spells
Jacob's Pillow, 358 George Carter Road, Becket (243-0745). www.jacobspillow.org. Aug. 19-22; T Fri., 8:15 pm; Sat., 2:15 and 8:15 pm; Sun., 2 $18-$20. Gaelen Hanson and Dayna Hanson dance, music, spoken word and set design to pres series of vignettes.


The Mark Morris Dance Group performs at Jacob's Pillow through August 15

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to C dar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

STAND-UP CLUBS

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Su pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault at H ington's features local stand-up comedians. •Th days: Greg Howell and Friends •Fri. and Boston's Best Standup •Sundays: Open Mike N

Cantab Lounge
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-44 www.cantablounge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Ce •Thursdays, 8 pm: Chris Waller performs im comedy downstairs, Free, 21+.



...e Theatre Cooperative's production of *Measure for Measure* runs through August 15

...medy Connection

...Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-...0). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: ...en or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or ...nge Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club ...Boston draws nationally known comedians on ...kends and showcases up-and-coming local talent ...ng the week. •Aug. 11, 8 pm: Harrison Steb..., $12. •Aug. 12: Tim Wakefield Benefit. •Aug. ...8 and 10:15 pm: Sue Costello, of FOX-TV's *...ello*, $21. •Aug. 14, 8 and 10:15 pm: Sue ...tello, NBC's *Last Comic Standing 2* semifinals, ... •Aug. 15, 7 pm: Tony V, $12. •Aug. 16, 8 pm: ...ateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, "The ...dman of Comedy," $12. •Aug. 17, 8 pm: Paul ...dizzi and Robbie Printz, $12. •Aug. 19, 8:30 pm: ...k Santos, the "R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •Aug. ...9 and 10:15 pm: Adam Ferrara from Comedy Central, $20. •Aug. 21, 8 and 10:15 pm: Adam Ferrara, $22. •Aug. 22, 7 pm: Joe Yannetty, $12. •Aug. 23, 8 pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," $12. •Aug. 24, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi, $12.

Comedy Studio

Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Aug. 11: Robby Roadsteamer, Sean Lily, Joe Wong, Baratunde, Cyndi Stiles, Patrick Bulger, Jimmy Bowes. •Aug. 12: Baratunde, E.J. Murphy, Michael Della Penna. •Aug. 13: Shane Webb, Steve Calechman, Baratunde, Dave Grabiner, Tissa Hami. •Aug. 14: Tissa Hami, Baratunde, Joshua Salkind, Steve Calechman. •Aug. 15: Deb Farrar-Parkamn, Andy O'Fish, Baratunde, Jon Rineman, Dave Thompson. •Aug. 18: Constantine von Hoffman, Mike Stauffis, Eric Cheung, Janet Cormier, Eric Riley Moore. •Aug. 19: Mike Morrell, Derek Gerry, E.J. Murphy, Arielle Goldman, Matt Wininger, Baratunde. •Aug. 20: Josh Iverson, Baratunde, Ken Reid, Adam Pearlman. •Aug. 21: Mike Whitman, Mark McKay, Ken Reid.•Aug. 22: Sacrificing Virgins: 10 first-time comics perform.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. $10-$22. •Aug. 12, 8:30: Larry Norton, Paul Keenan. •Aug. 13 and 14, 8:45: Frank Santorelli, Larry Norton, Paul Keenan. •Aug. 19, 8:30: Robbie Printz, Todd Parker. •Aug. 20 and 21, 8:45: Robbie Printz, Todd Parker, Mark Riley.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA:Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. •Through August: *Big Dig...the End of an Error!*, a hilarious look at living in Boston. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 9 pm; Sat., 8 and 10 pm. •Aug. 12, 9:45 pm: *Somebody's in the Doghouse*, a two-woman improv show based on an audience suggestion, $5 (or free with purchase of a main-show ticket). •Ongoing: The Midnight Show, Saturdays at midnight, $10.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: the characters, the stories, the settings—even the songs and dances. •Thu., 8 pm, $10-12: *Unnatural Selection*. A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one is left. 10 pm, $5: *The Great and Secret Comedy Show*. Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and music, play short films and do character sketches in a display of sibling rivalry. •Fri., 8 pm, $10-12: *Boston Creem*. Boston's first all-woman Improv troupe perform. •Sat., 6 pm, $10-12 (children 11 and under accompanied by an adult are free.): *Improv Boston Family Show*. A short-form improvisational show the entire family can enjoy. 8 and 10 pm, $10-12: *ImprovBoston Mainstage*. Blending storytelling, music and audience participation, a cast of improvisers creates a show that changes with every performance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5: *Sgt. Culpepper/Open Jam*. This evening combines three shows into one. Watch performances by visiting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-308-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. Boston's premier short-form improv group.

The Tribe

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $5 before 8 pm, $10 after. 21+. Improv comedians poke fun at everything, including themselves. •Aug. 12, 8 pm: The Sosnys in "Uncanny Valley," Villalobos, and more. •Aug. 19, 8 pm: Summer Help, Villalobos, Starship Imagination, Two in Change.

COMEDY SHOWS

George Carlin

South Shore Music Circus, 130 Sohurst, Cohasset (781-383-1400). www.musiccircus.com. Aug. 13, 8 pm. $40.25-$51.25. Veteran comedian George Carlin (*Outrageous Fortune, Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure)* performs.

Surviving American Idol: The Murder Mystery

Mystery Cafe Dinner Theatre, Three Cheers Restaurant, 290 Congress St., Boston (781-383-1400). www.mysterycafe.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Fri. and Sat. through Sept. 11, 7:30 pm. $45. Have your dinner with a generous helping of hilarity in this spoof of the nationwide pop talent search, served with a murderous twist.

Tony V

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square. Aug. 13 and 14. 8 pm. $15. Comedian Tony V, known for appearances on *Seinfeld, Late Night with Conan O'Brien* and *Tough Crowd with Colin Quinn* returns home. The Walsh Brothers open Friday, and Joe Wong opens Saturday.



Beach Party

Doc looks at big waves and the folks who ride them.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Stacy Peralta goes from sidewalk surfing to the watery kind in *Riding Giants*. The skateboarder turned moviemaker focused on the 1970s skate innovations that he was a part of in 2002's dynamite documentary *Dogtown & Z-Boys*. Now he offers a documentary whose title has a double meaning: The surfers profiled in *Riding Giants* are indeed larger-than-life pioneers, while riding giants is exactly what they do. Peralta's movie concentrates on big-wave surfing—finding monster waves and challenging them on a board.



Riding Giants looks at big-wave surfing, from the 1950s to the present

If you saw *Dogtown*, which is currently being adapted into a fictionalized Hollywood movie, you know Peralta has as many moves in the editing room as he had on the skateboard. *Riding Giants* unfurls in a similar flurry of well-chosen images, crackerjack editing and cool music (this time including Link Wray, the Ruts, David Bowie and the Stray Cats). After the amusing opening section called "1,000 Years of Surfing in Less Than Two Minutes"—a mock-documentary sequence with deadly-earnest narration about Polynesian surfers, Calvinist missionaries banning the sport in Hawaii, and folks like Duke Kahanamoku reviving it early in the 20th century—*Riding Giants* hits the water in post–World War II southern California, where a surfing subculture was emerging.

The 1950s soon brought not only lighter, fiberglass-covered boards, but also the beckoning waves of Hawaii, thanks to a 1953 Associated Press photo of big-wave surfers at Oahu's Makaha Point that landed on many front pages. Soon, California's best surfers were heading to Oahu. *Riding Giants* interviews many of that generation's surfers, including Greg Noll, the charismatic Californian who was usually first on his board at the biggest waves. Peralta also includes great vintage footage of Noll and his contemporaries on the water. Noll dabbled in 1960s surf films, so the footage is presumably from his movies, and the sight of Noll's hot-dogging, set to Link Wray's ultra-grungy instrumental "Rumble," is the movie's defining image.

This section is clearly *Riding Giants*' best. The 20 or so late-1950s surfers who stayed at Waimea lived together in a Quonset hut on the beach, existing on as little money as possible and leading a truly alternative lifestyle. This group comes across like *The Right Stuff*'s elite crew of test pilots—guys who were competitively pushing each other, but bound together like a surrogate family. Peralta smartly films some of his interviews in black-and-white, and having the old footage in vivid color and the new in B&W liberates the old from any potential mustiness.

It's funny to learn that the original wave of big-wave surfers divides surf chronology into pre-*Gidget* and post-*Gidget* eras, and to learn that the Sandra Dee movie about a surf-mad teenybopper led to an explosion in surfing, from about 5,000 U.S. surfers in 1959 to 2 million in 1963. It also led to the explosion of surf music, beach party movies and surf films (like *The Endless Summer*) that we immediately think of as surf culture (of course, Noll has choice words for that surf boom).

Two of *Riding Giants*' three parts look at the post-*Gidget* era. The first of these heads to northern California, where in 1975 Jeff Clark discovered the Bay area's answer to Waimea—the remote Mavericks area—and surfed its big waves alone for 15 years because no one else dared traverse the rocky area with him. Peralta includes an interesting sequence in which some Mavericks surfers discuss the nuts and bolts of big-wave surfing: strategies on catching waves, recovery tactics after wiping out and so on.

The final third of *Riding Giants* has its moments but lacks the personality of the first or the insight of the second. It's entirely about Laird Hamilton, who nicely bridges the gap between the pioneering surfers and today's surfers, since he's the stepson of the first group's Billy Hamilton. The younger Hamilton accelerated the pursuit of big waves by developing "tow-in surfing," in which the surfer is towed into the biggest, fastest offshore waves by a Jet-Ski, eliminating the slower paddling that previously made it impossible to catch such waves.

Noll himself declares Laird Hamilton the best big-wave surfer ever, but Hamilton comes off as too slick (there's mention of a GQ photo shoot), and the screen time devoted to him feels out of whack. One wonders why Laird's wife, volleyballer Gabrielle Reece, is interviewed, and it turns out *Riding Giants* is a merger of early-stage film projects that Peralta and Hamilton were working on, and that one of its producers, Jane Kachmer, is both Hamilton and Reece's agent. This artistic compromise sends the otherwise strong *Riding Giants* out on a weak note. iB

Riding Giants ★★★

Directed by Stacy Peralta. With Greg Noll, Jeff Clark and Laird Hamilton. Rated PG-13. At Kendall Square and Waltham Embassy.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Before Sunset ★★★

They'll always have Vienna. Nearly a decade af
Ethan Hawke's and Julie Delpy's characters met th
and had a one-day fling in *Before Sunrise*, Richa
Linklater's sequel brings them together again, ol
and perhaps wiser, in Paris. He's now a married
thor who's written a novel based on the fling, wh
she's had rather poor luck with men. The spark is s
there when they reunite, and the big question
time is whether the American abroad and
Frenchwoman will act on it. Until that fateful qu
tion must be answered, they engage in the same s
of intriguing conversations they had in the first fi
so this is interesting to sit though. But there's als
great deal of stylistic rehash, and the second ti
around is definitely not as memorable. (At Cop
Place, Harvard Square and suburbs.)

The Bourne Supremacy ★★★

Like the original *Bourne Identity*, the sequel
smart popcorn movie with taut action, grey
oddly exotic Eurolocations and a distaste for
usual showiness of the Hollywood action-thril
Matt Damon's Jason Bourne is still trying to fig
out who he is, and exactly what functions he p
formed for the CIA, who suddenly wanted him v
dead first time around. When another attemp
made on his life, he suspects the CIA is target
him again, so he goes on the offensive against C
investigator Joan Allen and higher-up Brian C
There's a bit of typecasting in the movie's villa
and I was expecting more character developm
this time, but Damon pulls off the role of unlik
hero again. Action with a conscience—what a c
cept. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.

Catwoman ★½

Sure, save-the-world movies are silly, but a superh
movie about the fight to save a cosmetic see
downright pathetic. Ironically, this movie full
ultra-cheesy fakery contains a plot in which
heroine (Halle Berry) goes up against a ruthless co
pany manufacturing an unnatural anti-aging cre
that turns out to be toxic. Neither the fakery (w
especially goofy computer effects) nor the plot c
vinces. Although Berry and her cat suit make a g
team, this is the most generic entry in the rec
spate of comic book adaptations about troubled
roes. There's even a bland love interest (Benjat
Bratt) to remind you of how painfully ordinary
film is. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburb

Fahrenheit 9/11 ★★★½

Rabble-rouser Michael Moore's passionate dec
struction of the second Bush administration has
knockout revelations about its controversial polic
so don't expect smoking guns. Its ultimate targe
the war in Iraq, but the movie presents the war as
the latest in a pattern of self-serving, law-skirting
havior. Moore comes up with inspired ways of get
his points across about much-debated Bush poli
and conflicts of interest. He's onscreen less than
was in *Roger & Me*, *The Big One* and *Bowling
Columbine*, yet he argues such points better tha
Columbine. Moore hits his targets because, despite
political aims, he makes you feel like you're watch
a movie, not a political rant, and his sense of hu
really shines through. (At Boston Common, Har
Square, Coolidge Corner and suburbs.)

Garden State ★★½

The first film by actor-director Zach Braff (
Scrubs) has its moments of daffy humor, as B
plays a struggling L.A. actor who returns to his
Jersey hometown for the first time in nine years.
movie recaptures the mixed emotions of such a v
especially of seeing old high school friends, bu
treads on very familiar territory. It feels like it w
to be a version of *The Graduate* directed by Wes
derson (*Rushmore*), and it struggles to find any v
of its own. Plus, the story of a guy returning to
hometown who develops a quick bond with a
talie Portman character has already been done
1996's *Beautiful Girls*. Braff and Portman ha
pleasing chemistry, and Braff is to be commende
trying to make something quirky and personal.
it's hard not to feel this movie is redundant.
Kendall Square.)

The Hunting of the President ★★★

If you wanted to assemble a triple feature of
made documentaries that take on the machine
the far right, this would be first on the timeline,
lowed by *Unprecedented: The 2000 Presidential
tion* and *Fahrenheit 9/11*. Its tone is akin to a thr
that's connecting dots, and the dots here run a
the people in Washington, Arkansas and point
yond who sought to undermine the Clinton p
dency. Among those interviewed are reformed ri
wing attack dog David Brock and Whitew



Because every drop is precious.

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defendant Susan McDougal, who served time after she wouldn't play ball with special prosecutor Ken Starr. As has usually been the case with these recent exposés, the mainstream media are also taken to task for swallowing the bait without exploring the truths behind it. (At Kendall Square, Coolidge Corner and suburbs.)

Metallica: Some Kind of Monster ★★★

It's interesting enough to keep nonfans of heavy metal involved, though this 145-minute documentary about the making of Metallica's *St. Anger* album is longer than it needs to be. What's interesting is that the latest by directors Joe Berlinger and Bruce Sinofsky (*Paradise Lost*) is the most psychological of rock movies. Literally. Reeling from the deterioration of their personal relationships, the band's three core members enter counseling with a "performance enhancement therapist" and strive to make the band a democracy, so their Dr. Phil–like shrink is there at all the recording sessions—sometimes easing tensions, sometimes adding to them. As drummer Lars Ulrich sums it up, those sessions are an attempt to make "aggressive music without negative energy," which isn't easy, especially when macho frontman James Hetfield (who enters rehab during the sessions) and the more emotional Ulrich keep struggling for control of the band. They should've called this *12 Steps to Metal*. (At Copley Place and Kendall Square.)

My Architect ★★★

Much like Mark Moskowitz's *The Stone Reader*, Nathaniel Kahn's movie is documentary as compelling quest. Kahn's quest is to learn more about his father, architect Louis Kahn, who died in 1974 when the filmmaker was a boy. It turns out the elder Kahn juggled three families. (He remained married to the same woman while fathering children with two others.) The movie's drama is in its depiction of someone who was world-class in his field, yet whose personal life was a farce. The director struggles to understand how his mother and Louis Kahn's other families could tolerate such a situation, as he, like them, expresses his love for the man. With no easy answers, Kahn is left to look for answers in his father's work, which takes him from Philadelphia to Bangladesh. (At the Museum of Fine Arts, Aug. 12, 15 and 21.)

Rivers and Tides ★★★

Last year's imaginative documentary returns yet again for more shows at the Museum of Fine Arts. Its subject, Scottish artist Andy Goldsworthy, is a master of "in nature" sculptures that use found materials and often get swept away by the elements. Over the course of the movie, we see him construct several, but director Thomas Riedelsheimer doesn't merely show us Goldsworthy's finished works, he swoops up on them from ground level or swirls upon them from above, letting us see them in ways we would not normally experience. (At the Museum of Fine Arts, Aug. 14, 15 and 22.)

She Hate Me ★

Spike Lee's latest—yes, its title takes inspiration from the XFL player who dubbed himself "He Hate Me"—starts out like an unsatisfying example of Lee's recent ragged storytelling. As with *Bamboozled*, he begins with an intriguing premise, this time about a young black exec (Anthony Mackie) at a company where an Enron-like scandal is about to explode. But then the film drifts and drifts. After a half hour Lee loses interest in that corporate plot and switches to uninteresting, poorly written character drama. Only this time the poor drama stretches to utterly tedious lengths, with periodic stops on a half dozen clumsy soapboxes. And the subplot involving lesbians may be the single most bogus piece of male-penned "femininity" in decades. A sure contender for the year's worst. (At Kendall Square.)

Spider-Man 2 ★★★

Remove the least effective element from *Spider-Man*—Willem Dafoe's puzzling, uninteresting Green Goblin—and it's no surprise Sam Raimi's sequel is better. Of the several comic-book adaptations to give us crime-fighters with troubled pasts and mucho emotional baggage, like *Daredevil* and *The Hulk*, this is clearly the best, for the same reasons the best parts of the first movie clicked: the depth Tobey Maguire, Kirsten Dunst and James Franco bring to their characters, the fun physical release of the action scenes, and the bold comic-book charge of the zingy tabloid editor played by J.K. Simmons. This movie is proof positive that not only can event movies be smart and emotionally complex, they should be. Raimi has already made one fine sequel, *Evil Dead 2*, and its inimitable star Bruce Campbell has a very funny cameo here. Now Raimi's done it again. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Thunderbirds ★½

As souped-up as some of the movies made from TV series are these days, the successful ones still capture some essence of the original, even if it's just cheesiness



Halle Berry (right) stars with Sharon Stone in *Catwoman*.

to spoof. *Thunderbirds* doesn't even have that. With its shaky electronic marionettes and its Swinging London visual style, the original *Thunderbirds* was an instantly cheesy slice of post-James Bond, post-Beatles pop culture. But in updating the futuristic original into a very Americanized contemporary live-action movie, whatever charm the original Gerry Anderson production had has been pushed to the side. The dominant plotline here is a dull *Spy Kids* knock-off, while Ben Kingsley's villain is as bland as the heroes. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

BEHRAKIS CENTER

Roxbury Film Festival

- Aug. 20, 5 pm. **Sports on Screen.** This program of films about sports includes *Getting to Fenway*, *El-Tiante: A Red Sox Story* and *Day of Independence*.
- Aug. 20, 7 pm. **Africans in the Diaspora Part I.** This set of short films includes *Sisters of the Screen: African Women in Cinema*, *Etu & Nago: The Yoruba Connection* and *African Dance: Sand, Drum & Shostakovich*.
- Aug. 21, 11 am. **Short Films: Part I** includes *How to Make It in Hollywood Before You Make It*, *Visa de Cuatro Puertos (Four-Door Visa)* and *Blue Moon*.
- Aug. 21, 3 pm. **Young Voices.** This program of films produced by teenagers includes *The Haiti Project*, *Table Manners*, *Grandma to the Tummy Rescue* and *What's the Point? The Hope of a Growing Community*.
- Aug. 21, 5 pm. **Animation Nation** is a selection of short animated films, including *Hey Monie: Episode 201*, *Ravishing Raspberry*, *Wesley Gunn Shorts*, *Adopted by Aliens* and *Minotaur*.
- Aug. 21, 8 pm. **Africans in the Diaspora Part II.** *African American* and *A Panther in Africa* screen.
- Aug. 22, 11 am. **Outside the Box: Unconventional Shorts.** A series of short film screens, including *En Los Ojos (In the Eyes)*, *Ricky's Palm & Ribs*, *Get Yours*, *Red Eye* and *Ravishing Raspberry*.

BLACKMAN THEATRE

Roxbury Film Festival

- Aug. 20, 6:30 pm. **Everything's Jake** *2000*. Ernie Hudson stars as a homeless man who teaches another homeless man how to survive on the streets. Matthew Miele directs. A Q&A session with Hudson, Miele and writer Christopher Fetchko follows.
- Aug. 20, 9 pm. **The Killing Zone** *2003*. A man who survived war and brutality in Ghana seeks to avenge the murder of his mentor in New York City. Joe Brewster directs. A Q&A session with Brewster follows.
- Aug. 21, 5 pm. **Urban Drama.** *The Imposters* and *Street Life*, two films on urban life, screen.
- Aug. 21, 7 pm. **One Love.** *2003*. Rick Elgood and Don Letts direct this film about the forbidden love that develops between a rastafarian musician and the daughter of a pentacostal minister. (Also screens Aug. 22, 2 pm.)
- Aug. 21, 9 pm. **Love, Sex and Eating the Bones** *2003*. A man's addiction to porn videos hurts his relationship with a woman. Sudz Sutherland directs this romantic comedy.
- Aug. 22. 12 pm. **Brother to Brother**, *2004*. Rodney Evans' film tells the story of an elderly man who teaches a gay homeless teen about the Harlem Renaissance.

BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL

Movies by Moonlight

- Aug. 13, **The Big Sleep** *1946*. Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall star in Howard Hawks' film about a private detective hired to investigate a string of murders surrounding a wealthy general.
- Aug. 20, **12 Angry Men** *1957*. Sidney Lumet's film tells the story of a single dissenting juror, played by Henry Fonda, who slowly convinces his fellow jurors that there is reasonable doubt about the defendant's guilt.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

- Aug. 12, 6:30 pm. **Trouble in Paradise** *2004*. Laurel Greenberg's documentary follows Floridians who were inspired to become politically active following the 2000 presidential election.

Home Movie Day 2004

- Aug. 14, 12-4 pm. The Boston Public Library invites you to share your home movies with other local residents at this second annual showcase.

Pre-Code Hollywood Movies

- Aug. 18, 6:30 pm. **Gabriel over the White House** *1933*. A weak president is inspired to take charge and handle the Great Depression after he has a near-death experience. Gregory La Cava directs.
- Aug. 19, 6:30 pm. **Heroes for Sale** *1933*. William A. Wellman directs this film about a WWI veteran and morphine addict who struggles through highs and lows during the Great Depression.

BRATTLE THEATRE

Tuesdays—Modern Musicals

- Aug. 17, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, and 9:45 pm. **Moulin Rouge!** *2001*. Baz Luhrmann's extravagant musical tells the story of a young writer (Ewan McGregor) who falls in love with a courtesan (Nicole Kidman) from the Moulin Rouge.

Wednesdays—Recent Raves

- Aug. 11, 3:15, 5:15, 7:30, and 9:45 pm. **The Saddest Music in the World** *2003*. During Prohibition, a beer baroness in western Canada holds a contest to find the saddest music in the world because she believes the winning tune will inspire her patrons to drink more. Guy Maddin directs.

Thursdays—The Art of Samurai Cinema

- Aug. 12, 3 and 7:15 pm. **Yojimbo** *1961*. Akira Kurosawa's film stars Toshiō Mifune as a wandering samurai who manipulates the rivalry between a small town's two crime gangs for his own benefit.
- Also showing, 5:15 and 9:30 pm. **A Fistful of Dollars** *1964*. Sergio Leone's remake of *Yojimbo* stars Clint Eastwood as the lone traveler, here a rogue gunfighter instead of a samurai.

Friday and Saturday Midnights

- Aug. 13 and 14, 12 am. **The Apple** *1980*. Menahem Golan directs this campy musical about two young Canadians who come to the United States to enter the music industry but are sucked into the drug underworld instead.
- Aug. 20 and 21, 12 am. **Repo Man** *1984*. Emilio Estevez stars as a repo man who chases a 1964 Chevy Malibu that has top-secret cargo in its trunk. Alex Cox directs.

Orson Welles: Rogue Genius

- Aug. 13-16, 3:30 and 7:30 pm. **The Third M** *1949*. A man tires to solve the mystery of his frie death in Vienna. Carol Reed directs. • Also sh ing, Aug. 13, 5:30 and 9:30 pm; Aug. 14, 1:30, 5 and 9:30 pm. **The Stranger** *1946*. A war cri commissioner tracks down a Nazi mastermind w is trying to start a new life in Connecticut. Or Welles directs and stars.
- Aug. 15 and 16, 5:30 and 9:30 pm. **The Lady fr Shanghai** *1947*. Orson Welles directs and star this film about an Irish seaman who falls in l with a rich married woman and is accused of mur

Rattle at the Brattle

- Aug. 11 and 18. This weekly series features af noon screenings for new parents and their infa The film schedule is available by e-mail and at Brattle box office.

Special Engagements

- Aug. 18 and 19, 2:30 and 7:30 pm (*Vol. 2* scre ings start at 4:45 and 9:45 pm). **Kill Bill, Volume and 2** *2003/2004*. Quentin Tarantino's two-p film, which stars Uma Thurman as a retired assa seeking revenge on her former partners, screens double feature.
- Aug. 20-24, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, and 9:45 pm. **L Life in the Universe** *2003*. Pen-Ek Ratanarua film tells the story of two people who build a r tionship despite secrets in their pasts.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Box Office Babies

- Aug. 16 and 23, 1 pm. The Coolidge's new weekly series provides an infant-friendly setting viewing recent international, independent, and d umentary films. Titles are announced a week be the screening at www.coolidge.org.

Coolidge Selects

- Now playing. **Fahrenheit 9/11** *2004*. Mich Moore's documentary focuses on the faults of current Bush administration, particularly in reg to the war in Iraq.
- Now playing. **The Hunting of the President** *20* This documentary makes the case that the Repu can party engaged in a 10-year campaign to des Bill Clinton's presidency. Harry Thomason Nickolas Perry direct.
- Now playing. **Maria Full of Grace** *2004*. Ja Marston's film follows a 17-year old Colombian who traffics drugs by swallowing rubber pellet heroin.
- Now playing, **Zatoichi** *2003*. Takeshi Kitano rects and stars in this film about Zatoichi the b swordsman, a legendary figure who aids the inh tants of a town terrorized by a gang leader.
- Opens Aug. 13, **Tom Dowd & the Languag Music** *2003*. Mark Moormann's documentary counts the life of Tom Dowd, an innovative rec ing engineer and producer. Dowd worked with m famous recording artists including Aretha Fran Lynyrd Skynyrd, John Coltrane and Eric Clapto

Farewell, Godfather: A Tribute to Marlon Brando

- Aug. 16, 7:30 pm. **Last Tango in Paris** *1972*. Ma Brando and Maria Schneider star in Bern Bertolucci's film about a couple who engage in an mous, passionate sex in an attempt to ease the and loneliness of their lives outside the bedroom.
- Aug. 23, 7 pm. **The Godfather** *1972*. Brando as mafia head Don Corleone in the classic filr Francis Ford Coppola.

Midnight Movies: The Best of Ben Stiller

- Aug. 13 and 14, 12 am. **The Cable Guy** *1996*. accepting free cable TV, a lovelorn average (Matthew Broderick) can't get rid of his clingy, noxious cable guy (Jim Carrey). Ben Stiller direc
- Aug. 20 and 21, 12 am. **Reality Bites** *1994*. Stiller's directorial debut stars Winona Ryder as a re college grad dealing with the daily grind of a career

Teens on Screen

- Aug. 11, 11 am. **Dogtown & Zboys** *2001*. S Peralta's documentary traces the evolution of sk boarding as a professional sport.
- Aug. 12, 11 am. **Ferris Bueller's Day Off** *1* John Hughes' comedy follows the title chara played by Matthew Broderick, as he skips schoo lives it up in downtown Chicago
- Aug. 16, 11 am. **Splendor in the Grass** *1961* talie Wood plays a young girl whose unrequited leads her to a mental institution. Elia Kazan di and Warren Beatty stars opposite Wood.
- Aug. 17, 11 am. **Harold and Maude** *1971*. pressed 20-year-old falls in love with a 79-yea woman he meets at a funeral. Hal Ashby direct
- Aug. 18, 11 am. **Say Anything** *1989*. An asp professional kickboxer (John Cusack) falls in with the high school valedictorian (Ione S Cameron Crowe directs.

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•Aug. 19, 11 am. **Rushmore** *1998*. A 10th grade student and a middle-aged philanthropist battle over a woman in Wes Anderson's comedy. Jason Schwartzman and Bill Murray star.
•Aug. 23, 11 am. **Les Quatre Cent Coups** *(400 Blows) 1959*. Francois Truffaut's film follows a preteen boy as he struggles with an unpleasant home life and is ignored by the social institutions that surround him.
•Aug. 24, 11 am. **The Outsiders** *1983*. Francis Ford Coppola directs this film about the rivalry between the poor "Greasers" and the wealthy "Socs" with a cast of then up-and-coming young actors that includes Tom Cruise, Patrick Swayze, Rob Lowe and Matt Dillon.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Treasures from the Harvard Film Archive: A to Z

X Is for Xenophobia

•Aug. 11, 7 pm. **Nosferatu: Phantom der Nacht** *(Nosferatu the Vampyre) 1979*. Werner Herzog's gothic horror film is an interpretation of the Dracula legend. •Also showing, Aug. 11, 9 pm. **Matewan** *1987*. John Sayles' film about the 1920-21 West Virginia mine wars examines the failure of the American Dream through the story of a mining community threatened by immigrant workers and large companies.

Y Is for Yellow Journalism

•Aug. 12, 7 pm; Aug. 13, 9 pm. **The Front Page** *1931*. Lewis Milestone directs this adaptation of Ben Hecht and Charles MacArthur's comedic Broadway play about a reporter who harbors an escaped convict while hunting for the real story. •Also showing, Aug. 12, 9:15 pm; Aug. 13, 7 pm. **Sweet Smell of Success** *1957*. A powerful newspaper columnist hires a press agent to sabotage his sister's relationship with a jazz musician. Alexander Mackendrick directs.

Z Is for Zealots

•Aug. 14, 7 pm; Aug. 15, 9:15 pm. **La Voie Lactée** *(The Milky Way) 1968*. Two tramps on a pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela travel back in time and meet many nonbelievers in Luis Bunuel's critique of Catholic doctrine. •Also showing, Aug. 14, 9:25 pm; Aug. 15, 7 pm. **Ordet** *1955*. Two families must reconcile their religious differences when their children fall in love. Carl Theodor Dreyer directs.

MAYOR MENINO'S MONDAY NIGHT MOVIES

Through Aug. 23, every Monday night at dusk, ParkARTS presents a free movie screening at various locations around the city. For more information, call 617-635-4505.
•Aug. 16, Independence Park, 12 M St., South Boston. **The Lizzie McGuire Movie** *2003*. Lizzie (Hilary Duff) goes to Italy on a class trip, is mistaken for a famous popstar and falls in love. Jim Fall directs.
•Aug. 23, Orchard Park, Roxbury. **Sinbad: Legend of the Seven Seas** *2003*. An all-star cast provides the voices for this animated high seas adventure in which Sinbad the sailor must rescue his best friend from death. John Logan directs.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Art on Film

•Aug. 14 and 22, 10:30 am; Aug. 15, 11 am. **Rivers and Tides: Andy Goldsworthy Working With Time** *2001*. See New Releases for a description.
•Aug. 12, 3:30 pm; Aug. 15, 3:15 pm; Aug. 21, 10:30 am. **My Architect** *2003*. See New Releases for a description.

Cinema Tropical

•Aug. 13, 6:10 pm; Aug. 14, 3:45 pm. **Un Dia de Suerte** *(A Lucky Day) 2002*. Elsa leaves her destitute life in volatile Argentina in search of a former love in Rome and Sicily. Sandra Gugliotta directs.

The Extraordinary Mr. Barnet

•Aug. 20, 6 pm. **Neobychainye Priklyucheniya Mistera Vesta v Strane Bolshevikov** *(The Extraordinary Adventure of Mr. West in the Land of the Bolsheviks) 1924*. Boris Barnet plays the bodyguard of an American visiting Russia in Lev Kuleshov's silent slapstick comedy.
•Aug. 20, 8 pm; Aug. 21, 2:15 pm. **Devushka a korobkoi** *(The Girl with the Hat Box) 1927*. Barnet directs this silent romantic comedy about a busy woman whose life changes when she meets a handsome young man with nowhere to stay.
•Aug. 21, 3:45 pm. **Dom na Trubnoj** *(The House on Trubnaya Square) 1928*. Barnet directs this silent comedy about class tensions and emerging social problems in urban Moscow.
•Aug. 22, 12:15 pm. **Okraina** *1932*. Barnet's first talking film follows the unlikely friendship between a Russian sniper and a German POW in World War II.

New England Film Artists Present

•Aug. 12, 6 pm; Aug. 14, 2:15 pm; Aug. 21, 12:45 pm. **The Pursuit of Pleasure** *2004*. Maryanne Galvin takes an unconventional look at female sexuality, gender roles and relationships in this documentary featuring seven women who discuss everything from work to intimacy to beauty.

Premiere Engagements

•Aug. 12, 7:30 pm. **Oasis** *2002*. A mentally impaired man takes an interest in the disabled daughter of the man he killed in a drunk driving accident. Lee Chang-Dong directs.
•Aug. 13, 8 pm; Aug. 14, 12:15 pm; Aug. 15, 1 pm; Aug. 19, 5:45 pm. **Mávahlátur** *(The Seagull's Laughter) 2001*. A young woman who moved to America as a plain young officer's bride returns to Iceland as a beautiful, independent woman and changes the dynamic of a small fishing town. Ágúst Gudmundsson directs.

Roxbury Film Festival

•Aug. 19, 8 pm. **Love, Sex and Eating the Bones** *2003*. A man's addiction to porn videos hurts his relationship with a woman. Sudz Sutherland directs this romantic comedy. A Q&A session with Sutherland and actor Hill Harper follows the screening.
•Aug. 22, 2:15 pm. **We Don't Die, We Multiply: The Robin Harris Story** *2004*. Topper Carew's documentary celebrating comedian Robin Harris includes never-before-seen performances and praise from Harris' peers.
•Aug., 22, 4 pm. **The Fine Art of Frying Chicken** *2004*. Topper Carew directs this documentary about Maurice Prince, who moved from segregated Texas to segregated Los Angeles in 1939 and eventually became owner of a restaurant frequented by celebrities. A Q&A discussion with Carew follows.

Russian Cinema

•Aug. 12, 1:30 pm. **Vozvrashchenie** *(The Return) 2003*. The absentee father of two boys returns home and announces they are going on a fishing trip, but his motives are suspect. Andrei Zvyagintsev directs.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater

•Through Sept. 4. **India: Kingdom of the Tiger**. Explore the kingdom of the Bengal tiger, from the Himalayas to Rajasthan.
•Through Sept. 6. **Adrenaline Rush: The Science of Risk**. Explore the inner workings of the body as one jumps out of a plane or asks someone out on a date.
•Through Oct. 1. **Forces of Nature**. Experience the power of earthquakes, volcanoes, and storms as scientists attempt to forecast and understand them.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater

•Aug. 11 and 12, 7:30 am, 7:45 pm and 10:10 pm. **Spiderman 2: The IMAX Experience**. Peter Parker, aka Spiderman, struggles with his destiny in this sequel directed by Sam Raimi.
•Through Sept. 6. **Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban**. The third film adapted from J.K. Rowling's popular book series about the adventures of a gifted young wizard. Alfonso Cuarón directs.
•Through Sept. 6. **Into the Deep.** This film explores a kelp forest off the coast of Southern California, and its many inhabitants.
•Through Sept. 6. **NASCAR 3D**. Experience life in the fast lane with NASCAR pit crews and drivers clocking over 200 mph.
•Through Sept. 6. **Ocean Wonderland 3D**. This film explores the ocean floor of the Bahamas and Australia's Great Barrier Reef, with their sharks, sting rays and rainbows of tropical fish.
•Through Sept. 6. **Volcanoes of the Deep Sea**. Dive to the bottom of the sea with a team of scientists, as they explore hydrothermal vents, shipwrecked gardens, predators and bioluminescent creatures.

TOWER AUDITORIUM

Roxbury Film Festival

•Aug. 18, 8 pm. **The Spook Who Sat by the Door** *1973*. An quiet black man uses his CIA training to create an army of African-American revolutionaries in Ivan Dixon's controversial film. A Q&A session with Greenlee and actress Daphne Maxwell Reid follows.
•Aug. 20, 5 pm and 7:30 pm. **Dating, Love & Marriage Parts I & II**. This program of short films includes *Across the Hall, Hey Monie: Episode 204, Maybe, Til' Death Do Us Part?* and *Out of Body Experience* screen.
•Aug. 21, 3 pm. **Culture and Identity**. A series of short films screens, including *And the Rice Cakes Mama Makes, A Place of Our Own* and *We're Still Here*.
•Aug. 21, 6 pm. **Got Race: A Pigment of the Imagination** *2003*. Teja Arboleda directs this satire about the concept of race and its boundaries.
•Aug. 21, 8 pm. **Brother to Brother** *2004*. Rodney Evans' film tells the story of an elderly man who teaches a gay homeless teen about the Harlem Renaissance.

Preview

Reel World: Roxbury

The Roxbury Film Festival calls local talent to action.


Ky-Mani Marley, son of reggae legend Bob Marley, in *One Love*

The sixth annual Roxbury Film Festival unreels August 18th through 22nd, showcasing a bumper crop of local film talent, as well as some respected veterans. Since its inception, the RFF has been a forum for local filmmakers and industry professionals of color to screen their art and present a view often neglected in mainstream cinema. This year's festival, which is co-sponsored by ACT Roxbury and the Color of Film Collaborative, is themed Celebrating the Vision and the Voice of New England Filmmakers of Color.

In addition to screening feature films, shorts and documentaries by local filmmakers, the RFF offers inspiration for amateur actors, directors and producers. Seasoned industry professionals participate in panel discussions, acting workshops and Q&A sessions after most films—all tools to help future stars navigate the biz. Actor Ernie Hudson offers a workshop called Tips for Sustaining an Acting Career, and author Sam Greenlee takes part in a Q&A session on the festival's opening night, following a screening of the 1973 film he co-wrote, *The Spook Who Sat by the Door*. Others speaking at the RFF include actors Enrie Hudson and Hill Harper and directors Tim Reid, Charles Barnett and Topper Carew.

For local producer/director Carew, who screens his new documentary, *We Don't Die, We Multiply: The Robin Harris Story*, the festival is a career milestone. "Growing up in Roxbury and having your films shown at the MFA is kind of mind-blowing," says Carew. "There is an energy that I get from Boston and a connection that I get that is like no other place."

Aug. 18-22. Call 617-541-3900, ext. 223, or visit www.actroxbury.org or www.roxburyfilmfestival.org for locations, a schedule and additional information.

—Alex Dretler

•Aug. 22, 11 am. Documentaries by local filmmakers screen. Films include *That's Where I'm At, The Mason School: An Exemplary Public School, Bus to the Burbs and Understanding Violence*.
•Also showing, Aug. 22, 1 pm. **Short Films Part II**, which includes *Chavez Ravine: A Los Angeles Story, Day of Independence, Howard Thurman: In Search of Common Ground, All Our Sons* and *Alma's Jazz Marriage* screens.

Cinema Venues

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Behrakis Center
30 Leon St., Boston (617-541-3900). MBTA: Green Line to Northeastern.

Blackman Theatre
346 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-536-241 MBTA: E Green Line to Northeastern.

Boston Harbor Hotel
70 Rowes Wharf. (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue L to Aquarium.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Gre Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Gr Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Gre Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Lin Science Park.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Lin Aquarium.

Tower Auditorium
621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-541-390 MBTA: E Green Line to Longwood.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Lin Reservoir.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Gr Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Lin Harvard.

Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBT Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Lin Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Lin Harvard.

MIT
77 Mass. Ave, Room 4-370. MBTA: Red Lin Kendall.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Gr Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Or Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red to Davis.

WALTHAM

Waltham Embassy
16 Pine St., Waltham (781-893-2500).

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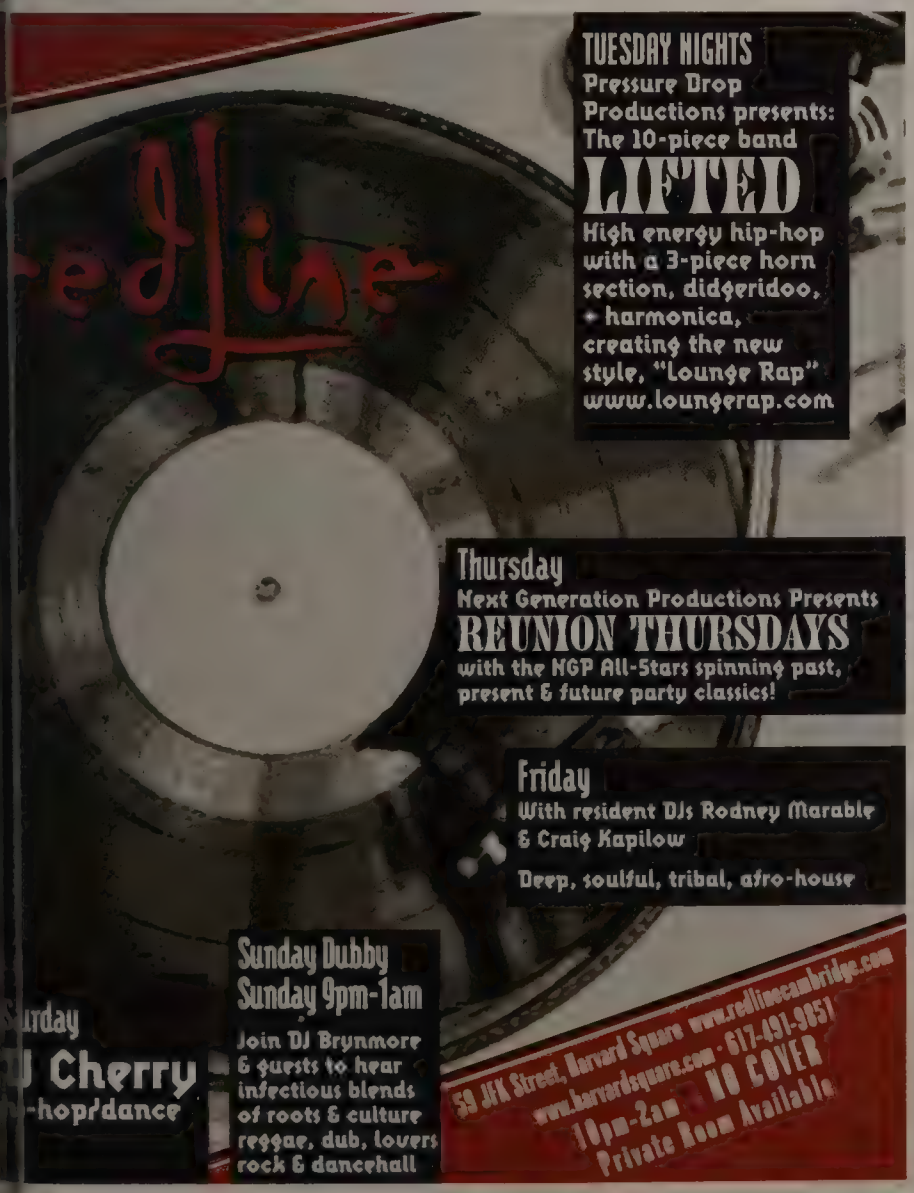


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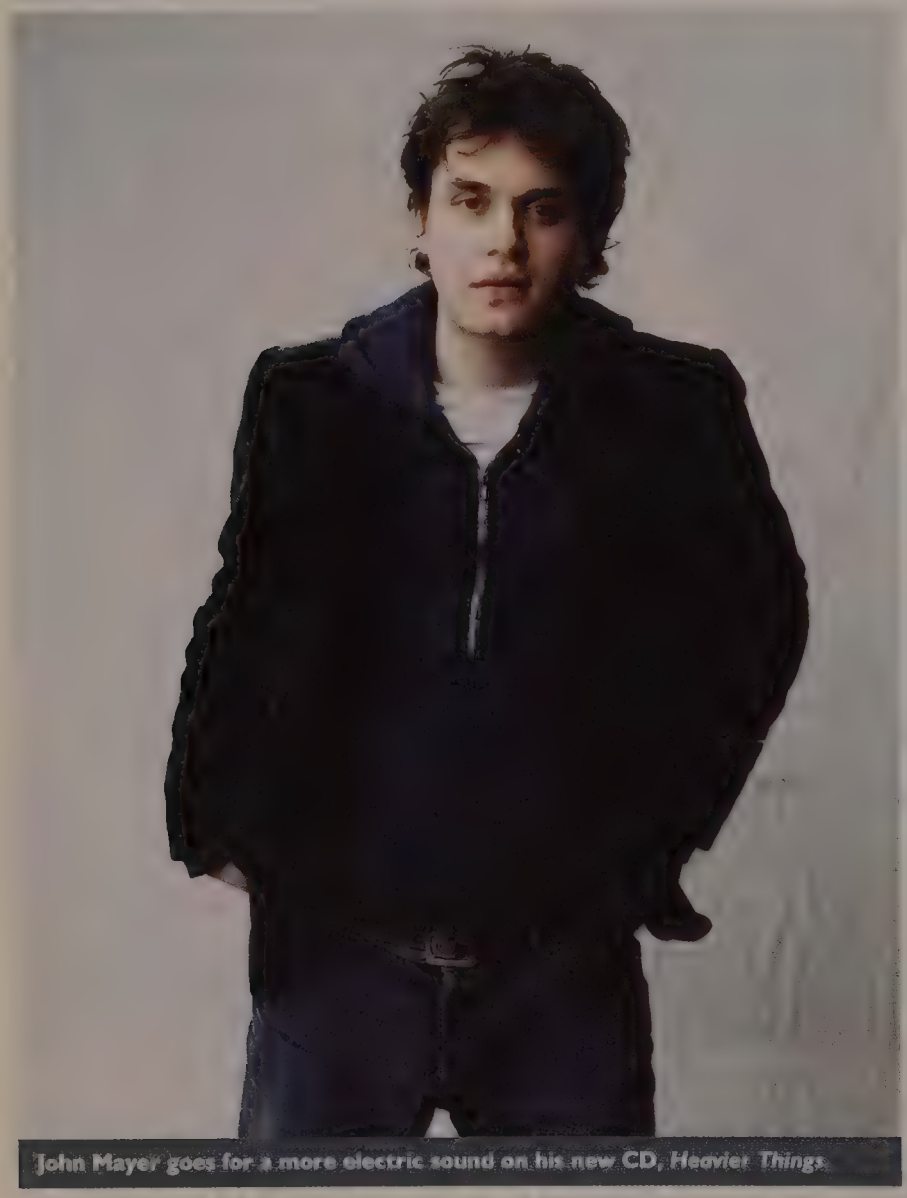


Shifting the Weight

John Mayer replaces nervous energy with broadened songcraft.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

John Mayer remembers walking down Newbury Street to eat at Friday's twice a week on a frequent diner's card. It's part of what Mayer calls his "emotional connection" with Boston. The year was 1997, and he was an aspiring guitarist from Connecticut who had enrolled at Berklee College of Music when he realized that pumping gas after graduation from Fairfield High wasn't helping to fuel his music career.



John Mayer goes for a more electric sound on his new CD, *Heavier Things*.

"Everybody kind of turns into a butterfly when they leave their hometown," says Mayer, 26. "I just remember the new experiences of walking around Boston—really for the first time—and going, 'Wow, these three or four people here really want to include me in whatever is going on.'"

These days, a lot of people want to include Mayer in their social plans for another reason: He's a pop star with over 5 million CDs sold thanks to songs like "No Such Thing," "Clarity" and the Grammy-winning prom favorite "Your Body Is a Wonderland."

It's quite a stretch from Berklee, where Mayer's idol was blues hotshot Stevie Ray Vaughan. "I wanted to be a guitar virtuoso and went to Berklee to be one," he says. "I might catch flack for saying this, but the guitar is a relatively easy instrument to play. It's easy to control and begin mastering in your own way. And I didn't know that. Once I got there, I went, 'Oh wow, this guy's doing it and that guy's doing it and that guy's doing it.' I said, 'Well, I've got to change my plan.'

"I figured out that I don't just want to be a great guitar player," Mayer says from a Nevada tour stop. "I want to be able to devise the melodies that make people think the guitar playing is great on top of it anyway."

"I wanted to be listenable," adds Mayer, who left Berklee after a year and moved to Atlanta, where he honed his skills as a solo singer-songwriter. "I couldn't find a band, and I didn't want to wait," he explains. "I learned so much about songwriting at that point. And if it doesn't work on an acoustic guitar, it ain't gonna work."

When he did get a band together, Mayer was still identified mainly for his acoustic guitar playing, especially on his breakthrough hit, "No Such Thing." With its refrain "I wanna run through the halls of my high school, I wanna scream at the top of my lungs" capped by his rising falsetto, that opening track to his 2001 CD *Room for Squares* introduced Mayer to an expanding fan base of teenage girls. But he discounts the idea that fans see him as a heartthrob.

"There's nobody who would pay 40 or 50 bucks to stand and watch me play for two hours and cheer for the parts that you're supposed to," says Mayer, who plays the Tweeter Center Aug. 20. "The little girls do understand, because if they're watching me play and they're not bored—and at least they don't seem to be, they're there for the right reason.

"Hopefully these kids are growing up on good music, and I don't mean that to sound arrogant," he continues. "I'm not even talking about the way it gets pulled off. I'm talking about the components: of soloing, of an improv, of a groove, of a 6/8 beat. If I can help bring that music across to somebody who wouldn't normally have discovered it, it's beautiful."

Mayer has broadened those components on his follow-up studio album, *Heavier Things*, playing more electric guitar on tunes that lean toward the richly atmospheric and melancholic while retaining a sleek pop sensibility. "When it's simpler, it's just heavier for me," says Mayer, who injects three guitar solos on the CD, a modest number for someone who recently faced off with blues hero Buddy Guy. "I don't want to put out records that are self-indulgent. You want to find the right combination of things that interest people."

Of the current tour, he says, "There's not as much nervous energy, which is good, and a more mature feeling." Mayer promises more guitar playing and "a few more covers that I feel like I've been able to put my own stamp on"—as he has previously with songs by the Police and Vaughan.

"I still listen to Stevie Ray and Sting all the time, but with Dave Matthews, I've kind of tapered off," says Mayer, making reference to a comparison that dogged him early on. "But there are people who listened to my first record and tapered off. And maybe they'll come back at record three, four or five. I'll build a little house here, we'll play music, and anyone's invited. People will check in and out as time goes on. That's the best part. That's a career." iB

John Mayer
plays at the Tweeter Center Aug. 20.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by f (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or email to music@improper.com. Include dates, time prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not a cepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from d ferent sources. Although we make every effort to prov accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahe to double-check dates and times (see complete list venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Allman Brothers Band Aug. 21, Tweeter Cen (617-931-2000).
Beach Boys Aug. 20, South Shore Music Circ Aug. 21, Cape Cod Melody Tent (617-931-2000).
Tony Bennett Aug. 21, South Shore Music Circ Aug. 22, Cape Cod Melody Tent (617-931-2000).
Bob Marley Roots Reggae Festival Aug. 12, Fle Boston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Bodeans, Bob Schneider Aug.14, Somerville Th atre (617-931-2000).
Deep Purple, Joe Satriani, Thin Lizzy Aug. FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Bruce Hornsby Aug. 13, Cape Cod Melody Te (617-931-2000).
Patti LaBelle Aug. 18, FleetBoston Pavilion (6 931-2000).
Cyndi Lauper Aug. 17, South Shore Music Circ Aug. 18, Cape Cod Melody Tent (617-931-2000).
Huey Lewis and the News Aug. 21, FleetBost Pavilion (617-931-2000).
John Mayer, Maroon 5 Aug. 20, Tweeter Cen (617-931-2000).
The Perceptionists Aug. 20, Paradise Rock Cl (617-423-NEXT).
Phish Aug. 11, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Prince Aug. 17-19, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Rush Aug. 12, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Sonic Youth Aug. 14, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Sweet Harmony Traveling Revue, with Emmyl Harris, Gillian Welch and more Aug. 20, Fle Boston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Travis Tritt Aug. 15, South Shore Music Circ (617-931-2000).
Usher, Kanye West Aug. 22, FleetCenter (617-93 2000).
Vans Warped Tour Aug. 19-20, Gillette Stadi Parking Lot (617-931-2000).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11

Abbey Lounge Smorgasborg, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
The Burren Teada, 9 pm, $12-$15.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues Jams 9 p 21+.
Club Passim Meghan Toohey, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Songstreet Productions 11th Anniv sary Show, 8:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie.
Lizard Lounge Shaun "Wolf" Wortis and the G Malo Orchestra, 7:30 pm; Kevin Griffin with spe guest Laurie McClain, 9:30 pm, $6, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Gone Baby Gone, Superl the Perfectionists, Hero Next Door, 9 pm, $8, 18
Milky Way Mercury: Elevate
Paradise Lounge: The Zutons, 9 pm, $5, 18+. R Club: Tanya Donelly, 8 pm, $20, 18+.
PA's Escape Grace, Crisis Bureau, Shang Valentine.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Americana Night with Fra Alex, 8:30 pm, $6.
Scullers Kim Waters, $18.
South Shore Music Circus Kenny Loggins, 8 $32.75-$43.75.
Tír na nÓg Cold River.
Toad Colleen Sexton, 7 pm, no cover; the Clark Organ Trio, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Wet Bandits, 9:50 pm; Minus Scale, 10:40 pm. $5.
Tweeter Center Phish, 7 pm, $42.50.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12

The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+
Bob the Chef's Pat Loomis, 7 pm.

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Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, free.
The Burren Swingin' Johnsons, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Kassie Buckley Band, 9 pm, 21+.
Cape Cod Melody Tent The Saw Doctors, 8 pm, $25.
Club Passim The Rowan Brothers CD-release party, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Classic Trax, 7:20 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Hennessy's Death by Marriage.
FleetBoston Pavilion Bob Marley Roots Reggae Festival, 6 pm, $32.50.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Kinsale Evan Goodrow Band.
Kirkland Café Bettersweet, Parkway South, Jason Myles Goff, Honey Deluxe, $5.
Lizard Lounge Monique Ortiz, 7:30 pm; the Boston Pop Underground: Act VI, with Mic Harrison, the Unbusted, Andrea Gillis, 9:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Medina Sod, PCR, New Blood, Sarah Blacker, 9 pm, $8, 18+. Downstairs: Kool Keith & Kutmasta Kurt, Slaine, Porn Theatre Ushers, Irepress, Rhetoric, Bomshot, 8 pm, $20, 18+.
Milky Way Disconuevo.
Paradise Lounge: Rub a Dubwise reggae night, 9 pm, $5, 18+. Rock Club: Mutual Admiration Society featuring Glen Phillips, Chris Thile, Sara Watkins and Sean Watkins with John Paul Jones and Pete Thomas, 9 pm, $25, 18+.
Plough and Stars Tom Hagerty, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Dominique Eade, 8:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Diane Schuur, $22.
Tír na nÓg Ronan Quinn
Toad The Deb Pasternak Band, 7 pm, no cover; the Mercy Brothers, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Bison Bison, 9:30 pm; Dead Ellington, 10:20 pm; Mavis Beacon, 11:10 pm; Sgt. Peterson & the Chicago Police, 12 am, $7.
Tweeter Center Rush, 7:30 pm, $30.50-$75.50.
The Western Front Open mike, 9 pm, $5.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13

Abbey Lounge The Rivera Playboys, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Asgard The Navigators, 10 pm, $4.
Axis Lostprophets, 6:30 pm, $15.
The Attic Funkatronic.
Black Horse Tavern Herman Johnson Band, 9:30 pm-12:30 am, no cover.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm; Maxi, 10:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Wanetta Jackson, 7:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Damon Carter, 5:30 pm, free.
The Burren Open Bar Band, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+. Downstairs: Shirley Lewis Party, 9 pm, 21+
Cape Cod Melody Tent Bruce Hornsby, 8 pm, $28.75-$39.75.
Club Passim The Bluehouse, 8 pm. $12.
Dick's Last Resort Rock Fish, 8:30 pm.
The Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos & the No Way Jose Band.
The Good Life Downtown Aaron Burnett Trio, 6:30 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scooby Snax.
The Harp The Loop, 10 pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry John Eddie, Roger Klein & the Peacemakers, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30 pm; Audio Underground.
Johnny D's James Mongomery Band, 9:45 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton, 5-7 pm.
Kinsale Sirsy.
Kirkland Café Those Dirty Swedes, Kong, Patrons, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lizard Lounge Jess Mcdonough, 7:30 pm; Great America, with Turtlebone, 9:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Gustavos' Birthday Fest, featuring Deluxe, Bohemia Lounge, Dedos, 9 pm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Leviticus, Hexerei, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
Milky Way The Spurs, the Stumbleweeds.
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well.
Paradise Lounge: Brian Webb with Rod Picott, 10 pm, $10, 21+. Rock Club: Bond, 9 pm, $17, 18+
Parris Catunes, 10 pm, $5 before 9 pm, $10 after 9 pm.
PA's Ryan Brown.
Plough and Stars Irish Sessiun, 6-8:30 pm; RPMs, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Brian Walkley's Flipside, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Diane Schuur, $22.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.
Toad Mic Harrison.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Five to the Face, 9:15 pm; OK Panic, 10:15 pm; Brilliant Mistake, 11:15 pm; Almost Speechless, 12:15 am. $7.

ADVANCE SEATING

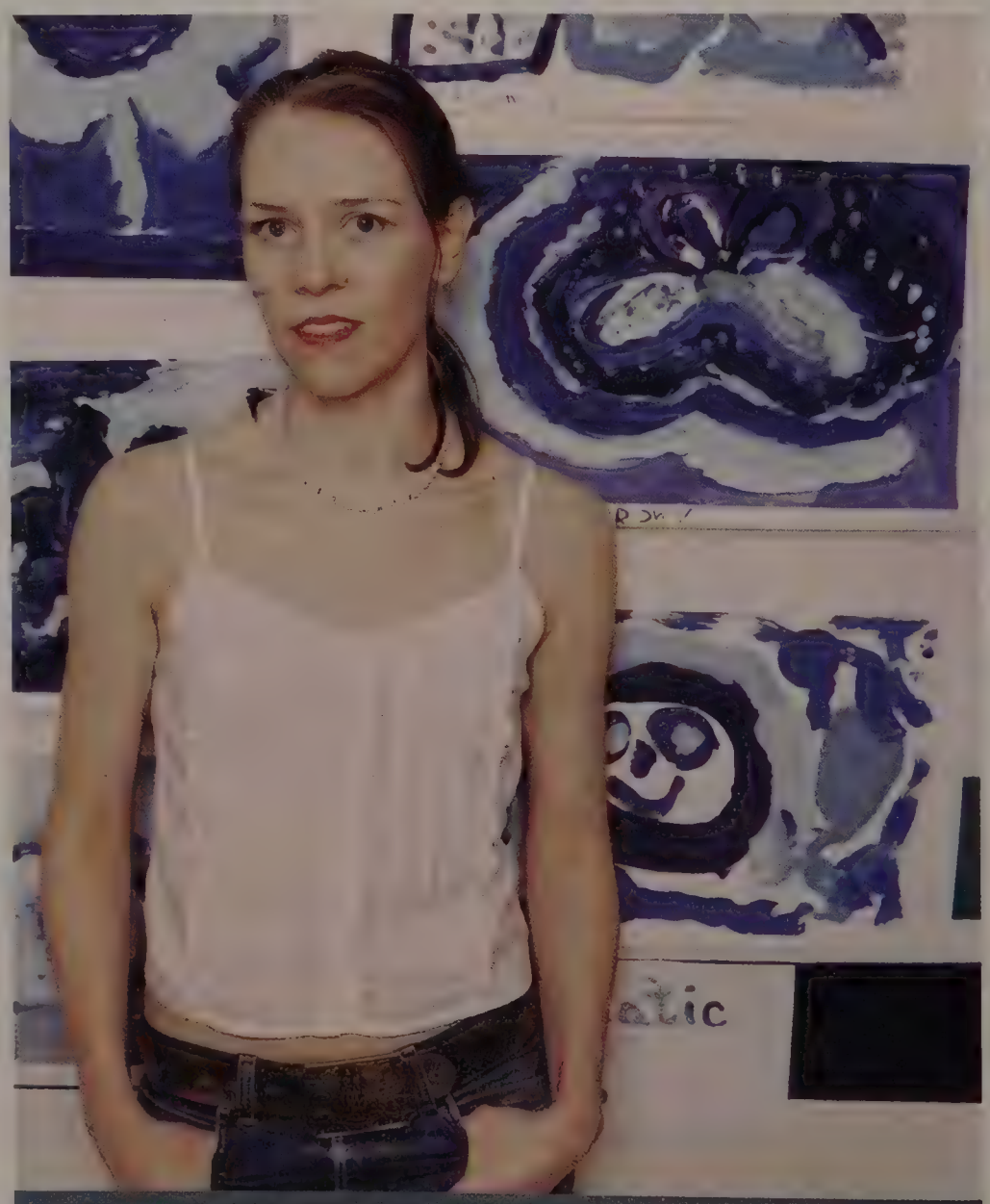
UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Jimmy Buffet Sept. 10 and 12, Fenway Park (617-931-2000).
Phil Collins Sept. 15, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
The Corrs Aug. 28, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Gloria Estefan Sept. 17, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Heart Sept. 11, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Don Henley Sept. 1, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Percy Hill Nov. 13, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Jack Johnson with G Love & Special Sauce Sept. 15, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Norah Jones Aug. 31, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
B.B King Blues Festival Sept. 2, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Avril Lavigne Nov. 1, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Lynyrd Skynyrd Aug. 27, South Shore Music Circus (617-931-2000)
Barry Manilow Oct. 1, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Edwin McCain Sept. 28, Paradise Club (617-423-NEXT).
Metallica Oct. 24, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
The Samples Oct. 3, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).

The Western Front Savin III, 9 pm, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Borah Borgman, Daniel Levin, 9:30-11:30 pm, $10.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14

Abbey Lounge The Marvels, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
All Asia Café Piano Man Doga, 4-7 pm, $3-$5.
Avalon Sonic Youth, White Magic, Magic Markers, 7 pm, $22.75.
Black Horse Tavern Typhoon Ferri, 9:30 pm-12:30 am, no cover.
The Black Rose Bobby Folkes, 4 pm; Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm; Maxi, 10:30 pm. $5, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Sonny Watson Jazz Quartet, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Six Shot Brody, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Samoa Wilson Band, 8 pm. $12.
Dick's Last Resort Big '80s, 8:30 pm.
FleetBoston Pavilion Deep Purple, Joe Satriani, Thin Lizzy, 7 pm, $35-$42.50.
The Good Life Cambridge Weepin' Willie.
The Good Life Downtown Jim Porcella Trio.
The Green Dragon Tavern Five to the Face.
The Harp Joshua Tree, 10 pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry Kashmir, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm.
Johnny D's Sleepy LaBeef, 9:45 pm.
Kinsale Christy O'Connell.
Kirkland Café Phantom Creeps, 9th Wave, They're Gonna Get You, SPF-4, $5.
Lizard Lounge Pete Weiss, 7:30 pm; the Collisions, with the Brett Rosenberg Problem, the Clean and Fuzzys, Engine, 9:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Blue Letter Days, the Bocks, X-Ray Actress, Cabiria, 9 pm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Greesome, Drop, 8 pm, $9, 18+.
Milky Way Mango's Latin Dance Club.
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well.
Paradise Rock Club: Ari Hest with Mieka Pauley, Fooling April, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
Parris None Other, 10 pm, $5 before 9 pm, $10 after 9 pm.



Gillian Welch performs as part of the Sweet Harmony Traveling Revue, at the FleetBoston Pavilion August 20

PA's The Marmalade, the Count Me Outs, the Fit
Erich Luening.
Plough and Stars Flexible Flyers Stringband, 5-7:3
pm; One Thin Dime, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Gilson Schachnik, 9 pm, $9.
Somerville Theatre Bodeans, Bob Schneider, 8 pm
$25.
South Shore Music Circus Kenny Rogers, 8 pm
$45.25-$56.25.
Tír na nÓg Jordan Carp.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 7 pm, no cover
Fancy Trash, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm.
The Western Front Rezarection, 9 pm, $10.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

Bill's Bar Dub Station.
The Black Rose Bobby Folkes, 4 pm; Eugene Byrne
9:30 pm. $5, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Sonny Watson Jazz Quartet, 10 am
2:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz Brunch with Ronnie Ro
Duo, 11:30 am, free.
The Burren Singer/Songwriter Night, with Daniell
8 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm
21+.
Cape Cod Melody Tent Kenny Rogers, 8 pm
$45.25-$56.25.
Club Passim Michelle Shocked, 7 pm, $20.
Dick's Last Resort Sunday Brunch, 10 am-3 pm; B
Time, 7:20 pm.
Grafton Street The Beantown Project, 9 pm-1 am
no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnson
Harper's Ferry Sunday Night Bumpin', $2, 21+.
Hennessy's Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe,
am-1 pm.
Johnny D's Jazz Brunch with Matt Dorko and Lar
Kukers, 9 am-2:30 pm; Blues Jam, 4:30-8:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Irish Jazz Trio, 12-3 pm.
Lizard Lounge Jeff Robinson Trio, 7 pm, $5, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: The Velvet Teen, Stereo So
Future, Gladiola, the Americas, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Milky Way Babes in Dragland.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett.
Paradise Rock Club: Elefant with Ambulance LTD
Elkland, 8 pm, $10, 18+
Plough and Stars Josh Lederman of Los Diablo
5-7:30 pm; the Coachmen, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Afro-Cuban Jazz Brunch, 10 am
3 pm, no cover.
South Shore Music Circus Travis Tritt, 7:30 pm
$39.50-$50.50.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.
Toad Two Steps from the Blues, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12-2 pm; Pa
Nagel Trio, 8 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Meat Depressed, 9 pm; th
Gamits, 9:50 pm; Ten Foot Pole, 10:45 pm; th
Queers, 11:45 pm. $10.

MONDAY, AUGUST 16

Axis Copeland, 6:30 pm, $10.
Berklee Performance Center Vernon Reid, 7 pm.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+
The Burren Traditional Irish Session, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Geoff Bartley's Ope
Mike, 8 pm; Laura Regan, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Arabesque, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm.
Harper's Ferry Chimp Simple, $3, 21+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Lizard Lounge The Samoa Wilson Band, 9:30 pm
$5, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Black Cat Music, 9 pm, $
18+.
Milky Way Laughing Gas with Peter Dutton, Li
Jazz with CNM Jukebox.
Paradise Lounge: The Click with Guests, 7 pm, $
18+.
Plough and Stars Beek, Rhodes & Jefferies, 9:
pm.
Ryles Jazz Club BC High Jazz Night featuring P
Donaher Quintet with BC High Jazz Ensemble, 8:
pm, $7.
Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 7 pm, t
cover; The Tim Gearan Band, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Paul Nagel Trio, 8 pm.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 17

Avalon Bebel Gilberto, 8 pm, $25.25.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
The Burren Open Mike with Hugh McGowen
pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Bluegrass Pickin' Party
pm; Gold Mine Pickers, 9 pm; Hot Buttered Ru
String Band, 10 pm, 21+. Downstairs: Bluegra
Pickin' Party, 9 pm, 21+.

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN's Fall Fashion Issue will take a look at all the hottest trends. This is the biggest shopping season of the year and our resident fashion expert, Samantha House, will coolly guide you through all that autumn has to offer. We'll have the latest looks for men, an interview with beauty guru Bobbi Brown, our picks for new colorful watches, a guide to hats for day and night, and more.

Don't miss a chance to advertise before this Fashion Issue for Fall leaves!!

Autumn á la Mode

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Issue Date: August 25

Advertising Deadline: August 11

Club Passim Open Mike with Mare Wakefield, 7 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Elvis impersonator Stephen Connolly, 7 pm.
FleetCenter Prince, 7:30 pm, $49.50-$75.
The Green Dragon Tavern Shoot the Moon.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Peter Ostroushko, 8:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Michael Larson.
Kinsale Tom Courtney.
Lizard Lounge The Lonesome Brothers, the Ware River Club, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Furvis, Jupiter Sunrise, Harris, Tober, Making It Right, 8:30 pm, $9, 18+.
Paradise Lounge: The Fever, DIN, the Naked Sams, 8 pm, $7, 18+. Rock Club: Gomez, 8 pm, $20, 18+.
Plough and Stars Lloyd Thayer, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Americana Night with Sun Face, 8:30 pm, $6.
Scullers Joe Bonamassa, $15.
South Shore Music Circus Cyndi Lauper, Jennifer Marks, 8 pm, $37.75-$48.75.
Tír na nÓg David Johnson.
Toad The Resophonics.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Vietnam Le, 9 pm; Mike Park, 9:50 pm; Sanawon, 10:40 pm. $7.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18

Abbey Lounge Smorgasborg, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Axis Blindside, Me Without You, the Kick, 8 pm, $12.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
The Burren Isaac Aldorson and Band, 9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Cape Cod Melody Tent Cyndi Lauper, Jennifer Marks, 8 pm, $37.75-$48.75.
Club Passim Rachael David and Friends, 8 pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort C-3P0, 7:20 pm.
FleetBoston Pavilion Patti LaBelle, 7:30 pm, $36-$56.
FleetCenter Prince, 7:30 pm, $49.50-$75.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Tin Hat Trio, 8:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie.
Lizard Lounge Kristin Hoffman, 7:30 pm; Bowman, Elco Drive, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Pinocchio Syndrome, Faces on Film, Soft Caustic, Red Letter Agent, 9 pm, $8, 18+. Downstairs: Darkbuster, Kings of Nuthin', the Blue Bloods, the Alrighters, 8 pm, $12, 18+.
Milky Way Mercury.
Paradise Lounge: V-Libertines Listening Party, 9 pm, $5, 18+. Rock Club: Polyphonic Spree, 8 pm, $17, 18+.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Americana Night with Sun Five, 8:30 pm, $6.
Scullers Los Hombres Calientes, featuring Irvin Mayfield and Bill Summers, $22.
Tír na nÓg Cold River.
Toad The Black Eggs, 7 pm, no cover; the Cranktones, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Night Rally, 9:15 pm; Lady of Spain, 10:15 pm; Radar Eyes, 11:15 pm. $6.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19

Black Horse Tavern Matt Chase Band, 8:30-11:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.



Kanye West opens for Usher at the FleetCenter August 22.



Elefant is at the Paradise Rock Club August 15

Bob the Chef's Paulo Danay Jazz Quartet, 7 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, free.
The Burren Swingin' Johnsons, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: the Reaganomics, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Pulling Off the Covers: A Summer Night of Songs with Lori McKenna, Jake Armerding and Mark Erelli, 7 and 10 pm, $17.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm.
FleetCenter Prince, 7:30 pm, $49.50-$75.
Gillette Stadium Parking lot: Vans Warped Tour, 11 am, $25.50.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spirting Vinnies.
Hennessy's Death by Marriage.
Johnny D's Ryan Montbleau, 9 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Kinsale Sirsy.
Kirkland Café Swivel, Once Over, Rebecca Loebe, $5.
Lizard Lounge Monique Ortiz, 7:30 pm; Paper Thin Stages, Appomatux, 9:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Q and Not U, the Apes, Food for Animals, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Paradise Lounge: Bubble Up: Rub a Dubwise Reggae night, 9 pm, $5, 18+.
PA's Chillmark.
Plough and Stars Stan Martin, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Carmen Marsico and the Bjorn Wennas Quintet, 8:30 pm, $8.
Scullers Los Hombres Calientes, featuring Irvin Mayfield and Bill Summers, $22.
South Shore Music Circus John McDermott, 8 pm, $25.25-$36.25.
Tír na nÓg Ronan Quinn.
Toad Curtis Eller, 7 pm, no cover; the Mayone Band, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Arrangement, 9:30 pm; the Douglas Fir, 10:30 pm; the Everyones, 11:30 pm. $8.
The Western Front Whistle Jacket, 9 pm, $5.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20

Asgard Tons of Chill, 10 pm, $4.
The Attic Lake Boone.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm; Celtic Clan, 10:30 pm. $5, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Wanetta Jackson, 7:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Rusty Scott, 5:30 pm, free.
The Burren Scooby Snax, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Cape Cod Melody Tent Robert Schimmel and Artie Lange, $35-$46.
Club Passim Rose Polenzani, 8 pm, $14.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm.
FleetBoston Pavilion Sweet Harmony Traveling Revue, with Emmylou Harris and Gillian Welch, 7:30 pm, $35-$45.50.
Gillette Stadium Parking lot: Vans Warped Tour 10th Anniversary Show, 11 am, $25.50.
The Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos & the No Way Jose Band.
The Good Life Downtown Aaron Burnett Trio, 6:30 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
The Harp Peatmoss, 10 pm, $10.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30 pm; Felix Brown.
Johnny D's Chris Duarte and Jody Grind, 9:45 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton.
Kinsale Los Rios Band.
Kirkland Café Ballast, Jeff Johannes, Chris Perry, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lizard Lounge John Nolan, 7:30 pm; Bow Thayer and the Euphorians, 9:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Sand Machine, Grubstake, Caged Heat, the Pickups, 9 pm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Grey Star Morning, Audrey Can't Die, Morning Theft, 8 pm, $9, 18+.
Milky Way Orchestra Morphine with Grace Potter.
Mr. Dooley's Paul Duffy.
Paradise Lounge: These Thieves with guests, 7 pm, $7, 21+. Rock Club: Perceptionists with Skitzofreniks / D-Tension & Guests, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
Parris Candiflyp, 10 pm, $5 before 9 pm, $10 after 9 pm.
PA's Road to Ruin, Meat Depressed, Ultravixen, Rachel Cantu.
Plough and Stars Eric Sommer, 6-8:30 pm; Eilen Jewell Band, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club The Boston Horns, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Chris Botti, $25.
South Shore Music Circus Beach Boys, 8 pm, $41.75-$52.75.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.
Toad Asa Brebner.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Specimen 37, 9:15 pm; Groovehounds, 11:15 pm. $7.
Tweeter Center John Mayer, Maroon 5 7 pm, $33-$49.
The Western Front Radix CD-release party, with special guests, 9 pm, $10.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21

Asgard Kabir, 10 pm, $5.
Black Horse Tavern Blacksole, 9:30 pm-12:30 am, no cover.
The Black Rose Frank Ryan, 4 pm; Sunday's We 9:30 pm; Celtic Clan, 10:30 pm. $5, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Nat Simpkins Jazz Quartet, 7:30 p
The Burren The Troubadores, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook and t Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Cape Cod Melody Tent Beach Boys, 8 pm, $39.7 $50.75.
Club Passim Kate Campbell, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Big '80s, 8:30 pm.
FleetBoston Pavilion Huey Lewis and the News pm, $35-$50.
The Good Life Cambridge Weepin' Willie.
The Good Life Downtown Jim Porcella Trio.
The Green Dragon Tavern Random Axis.
The Harp Peatmoss, 10 pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry The Knot, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm.
Kinsale The Mercy Brothers.
Kirkland Café Underdogs, Simon Ritt Band, Me Crossing, the Leon Rich Band, $5.
Lizard Lounge Time Hughes, 7:30 pm; Dwig Ritcher, the Tom Glynn Band, 9:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Crash and Burn, Defcon 4, R tle Battle, 9 pm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Burning Brid the Explosion, the Rolling Blackouts, 8 pm, $12, 18
Milky Way Mango's Latin Dance Club.
Mr. Dooley's Paul Duffy.
Paradise Lounge: Francine, Señor Happy, Janovitz, 9 pm, $7, 21+. Rock Club: Stiff Little F gers, Throw Rag, the God Awfuls, 9 pm, $16, 18+
Parris Central Basement, 10 pm, $5 before 9 p $10 after 9 pm.
PA's The Winter Blanket, Joy.
Plough and Stars Larry Flint & the Road Schol 5-7:30 pm; North Shore Musicians hosted by N tune Bay, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club deSoL, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Freddy Coke, $20.
South Shore Music Circus Tony Bennett, 8 p $63.25-$74.25.
Tír na nÓg Eileen Rose.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 7 pm, no cover; Splendid Nobodies, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place BBQ, 9:15 pm; the Myst Girls, 10:15 pm; Spitzz, 11:15 pm; the Konks, 12 am. $8.
Tweeter Center Allman Brothers Band, 7 p $29.50-45.
The Western Front True World Order Live Hop Reunion, featuring Radioactive, Shuman Delwin G., 9 pm, $10.

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Vol. I, No. I



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Toots Hibbert brings his band, the Maytals, to FleetBoston Pavilion August 12 for the Bob Marley Roots Reggae Festival

SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

Bill's Bar Dub Station.
The Black Rose Frank Ryan, 4 pm; Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm $5, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Bombay Jim and the Swingin' Sapphires, 10 am-2:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz brunch with Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30 pm, free.
The Burren Singer/Songwriter with Danielle, 8 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Cape Cod Melody Tent Tony Bennett, 8 pm, $63.25-$74.25.
Club Passim Uncle Earl, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Sunday brunch, 10 am-3 pm; Big Time, 7:20 pm.
FleetCenter Usher, Kanye West, 7:30 pm, $49.50-$69.50.
Grafton Street The Beantown Project, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Harper's Ferry Sunday Night Bumpin', $2, 21+.
Hennessy's Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe, 9 am-1 pm.
Johnny D's Blues jam, 4:30-8:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Irish Jazz Trio, 12-3 pm.
Lizard Lounge Marlon Carey, 7 pm, $5, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: The Fair Enough, Rune, Zagnutt, 9 pm, $8, 18+. Downstairs: Brand Nubian, Brother Ali, Jake the Snake and Lyrical, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett.
Plough and Stars Irish Sessiun, 5-7:30 pm; the Crankstones, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday jazz brunch with Bob Gay, 10 am.
Tír na nÓg Ronan Quinn.
Toad Adam Ezra, 7 pm, no cover; Two Steps from the Blues, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12-2 pm; Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm.

MONDAY, AUGUST 23

The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
The Burren Traditional Irish Session, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Singer-Songwriter Open Mike, 8 pm; J.P. Jones, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Lizard Lounge Clayton Scobule, 7:30 pm; the Samoa Wilson Band, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Random Acts of Violence, Phantom Limb, Raising Kubrick, Hirudinea, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Laughing Gas with Tim McIntire, Crime & Judy, the Slats, Sleepyhead and the Subject.
Paradise Lounge: Burzum, Darkthrone, Graveland, Celtic Frost, 9 pm, $3, 18+ .
Plough and Stars Eric Sommer, 9:30 pm.
Roxy Serious Times World Tour, with Luciano, Dean Fraser and Mikey General, 8 pm, $25.
Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 7 pm, no cover; the Tim Gearan Band, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 24

The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
The Burren Open Mike with Hugh McGowen, 8 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Bluegrass Pickin' Par pm; Whisky Friday, 9 pm; Adam Dewey & C Creek, 10 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open Mike with Theresa Storch, 7 $5.
Dick's Last Resort Pat Runk, 7:20 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern Shoot the Moon.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Ten-Speed Trip.
Kennedy's Midtown Michael Larson.
Kinsale Tom Courtney.
Lizard Lounge Jabe Beyer, 7:30 pm; the Lones Brothers with Dennis Brennan, 9:30 pm, $5.
Paradise Lounge: Mike Viola and Friends, 8 pm, 18+.
Plough and Stars Steve Hurl, 9:30 pm.
Roxy Luciano.
Ryles Jazz Club La Quartet, 8:30 pm, $7.
Scullers Joyce Cooling, $25.
Tír na nÓg David Johnson.
Toad The Resophonics.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-44 9631).*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617- 1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577- 9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-668 MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424 MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass Ave., Bo (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421- 9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketpla Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green L to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-22 MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Cente*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617 743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Bravo at the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3474). MBTA: E Green Line to Museu*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-54 5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776- 6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cape Cod Melody Tent *21 West Main St., Hyan (212-239-8384).*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617 354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492 7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (61 783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Av*
Cottonwood Café *222 Berkeley St., Boston (617 247-2225). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*

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Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (617-728-1600). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Gillette Stadium *One Patriot Place, Foxborough (800-543-1776).*
The Good Life Cambridge *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grafton Street *1688 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-497-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
P.A.'s Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-ROXY). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Road, Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
South Shore Music Circus *130 Sohier St., Cohasset (212-239-8384).*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Tweeter Center *885 South Main St., Mansfield (508-339-2331).*
The Western Front *343 Western Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central then #70 bus.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11

Boston Lyric Opera

Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-542-4912). www.blo.org. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 6:30, 7:15, and 8 pm. Free. Soprano Laura Choi Stuart performs opera favorites, accompanied by pianist Michelle Alexander.

Society for Historically Informed Performance

Ascension Church, 31 County St., Ipswich (508-212-6038). www.sohip.org. 8 pm. $10-$15. La Donna Musicale performs a program entitled Sweet Mercy: 17th-century Women Composers, featuring the music of Antonia Bembo, Chiara Margarita Cozzolani, Elisabeth Jacquet de la Guerre and Maria Xaviera Peruchona.

Jean-Yves Thibaudet

Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $15-$45. Pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet performs works by Debussy, Liszt, Wagner and Verdi.

WCRB Classical Concerts at the Hatch Shell

Charles River Esplanade, Boston (781-736-9577) www.wcrb.com. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. 7:30 pm. Free. The New Philharmonic Orchestra performs alongside the Charles.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12

Mendelssohn and Dvorak

Newton Free Library 330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. 7:30 pm. Free. Pianist Shuann Chai joins violinist Heidi Braun-Hill and cellist Rafael Popper-Keizer to perform Mendelssohn's Trio in D minor and Dvorak's Trio in E minor.

Meridian Arts Ensemble

Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $15-$45. Pianist Helen Bugallo and sound artist Elliott Sharp perform works by David Sanford, Stephen Barber, Elliott Carter and others.

Society for Historically Informed Performance

Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (508-212-6038). www.sohip.org. 8 pm. $10-$15. Same program as Aug. 11.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13

Tanglewood Music Center Fellows

Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 2:30 pm. $10-$25. TMC presents its five-day Festival of Contemporary Music, featuring the work of Bernard Rands, Amy Williams, Alvin Singleton and others.

Wagner and Prokofiev

Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $16-$82. Gianandrea Noseda conducts the Boston Symphony Orchestra, featuring soprano Deborah Voigt.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14

Classics from the Movies

Boston Common Parade Ground, Boston (617-520-2200). www.landmarksorchestra.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 8 pm. Free. The Boston Landmarks Orchestra performs music from film scores, including *The Godfather, 2001: A Space Odyssey* and others.

Film Night at Tanglewood

Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $17-$57. Conductor John Williams and The Boston University Tanglewood Institute Chorus honor the music of Bernard Herrmann and Henry Mancini.

Rands, MacDowell and Tchaikovsky—Open Rehearsal

Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 10:30 am. $16. See Aug. 15 listing for a program description.

TMC Fellows and New Fromm Players

Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 6 pm. Free—restricted to Film Night ticket holders. The program for this performance, part of the TMC Festival of Contemporary Music, is to be announced.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

Classics from the Movies

Jamaica Pond, Jamaica Plain. (617-520-2200). www.landmarksorchestra.org. MBTA: #39 bus to Lockstead 6 pm. Free. Same program as Aug. 14.

Rands, MacDowell and Tchaikovsky

Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 2:30 pm. $16-$82. In the Serge and Olga Koussevitzky Memorial Concert, the BSO performs works by Bernard Rands, Edward MacDowell and Tchaikovsky. Robert Spano conducts, with André Watts on piano.

TMC Fellows with Lucy Shelton

Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $10-$25. Soprano Lucy Shelton joins the TMC Fellows for the Festival of Contemporary Music.

TMC Fellows with Dawn Upshaw

Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 10 am. $10-$25. Soprano Dawn Upshaw joins the TMC Fellows for the Festival of Contemporary Music.

MONDAY, AUGUST 16

Gandolfi, Salonen and Berio at Tanglewood

Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $10-$25. Robert Spano conducts the TMC Vocal Fellows and Orchestra.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 17

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals

58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm. $3 suggested donation. Soprano Diana Brewer and a period ensemble perform Joseph Bodin de Boismortier's cantata *L'Hyver*.

Masterworks Chorale SummerSings

National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-235-6210). www.masterworkschorale.org. MBTA: Red Line to Alewife, then bus #62 or 76 to Museum. 8 pm. $9. All are invited to join the chorale, professional soloists and conductor Allen Lammon in singing Randall Thompson's *The Peaceable Kingdom*.

TMC Fellows—Chamber Music

Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $10-$25. The TMC Fellows present a night of chamber music by Francesco Geminiani, Alfredo Casella, Schubert and Bartók.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18

Boston Symphony Chamber Players and Dawn Upshaw

Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $15-$25. Vocalist Dawn Upshaw joins the BSO Chamber Players for a program of music by Rossini, Dvorak and Osvaldo Golijov.

WCRB Classical Concerts at the Hatch Shell

Charles River Esplanade, Boston (781-736-9577) www.wcrb.com. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. 7:30 pm. Free. The Longwood Symphony Orchestra performs on the Charles.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19

Christian Tetzlaff at Tanglewood

Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $15-$45. Violinist Christian Tetzlaff and pianist Lars Vogt perform a selection of sonatas by Brahms.

TMC Fellows—Chamber Music

Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 1:30 pm. $10-$25. The TMC Fellows perform music by Mozart, Eric Ewazen, Richard Cumming and others.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20

Mendelssohn, Beethoven and Schumann at Tanglewood

Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $16-$
Emmanuel Krivine conducts the Boston Symph Orchestra, with Lars Vogt on piano.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21

All-Brahms Program

Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music Cer 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso. 8:30 pm. $16-$82 (open rehearsal at 10:30 am, $
Emmanuel Krivine conducts violinist Christian zlaff and cellist Claudio Bohórquez in a progra Brahms' music.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

TMC Fellows—Chamber Music

Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 10 $10-$25. The Tanglewood Music Center Fell perform music by Britten and Shostakovich.

TMC Orchestra—Beethoven and Mahler

Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music Cer 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso. 2:30 pm. $16-$82. Pianist Garrick Ohlsson joins TMC Orchestra for the Leonard Bernstein Me ial Concert. James DePreist conducts.

MONDAY, AUGUST 23

Boston Pops at Tanglewood

Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music Cer 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso. 8:30 pm. $17-$57. Keith Lockhart conducts voc Kristin Chenoweth and the Boston Pops in a gram of Broadway and television hits.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 24

Calyx Piano Trio

Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. 7 pm. Free. group performs works by Dvorak, Haydn Schumann.

King's Chapel Tuesday Recital

58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.k chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park St 12:15 pm. $3 suggested donation. Gail Archer p the C.B. Fisk Organ.

Masterworks Chorale Summer Sings

National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Road, Lex ton (781-235-6210). www.masterworkschorale. MBTA: Red Line to Alewife, then bus #62 or 7 Museum. 8 pm. $9. All are invited to join chorale, professional soloists and conductor A Lannom in singing Verdi's *Requiem*.



Soprano Deborah Voigt performs with the Boston Symphony Orchestra at Tanglewood August 13

Ultimate BeachParty / HarborCruise



Join your **friends from The Place as we say good-bye to the Summer of 2004** with the **Ultimate Beach Party!**

When:
6;30 pm, Wednesday, August 25th!
(ship departs at 7:00pm)

Where:
The ship sails from **Long Wharf**



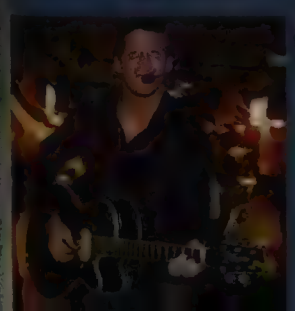
Come sail aboard the high seas on a Boston Harbor Cruise ship hosted by The Place's beautiful bikini-clad bar staff. Join Boston legend Chad LaMarsh as we rock one of the last parties of the summer.

The Place

Tickets are $15 per person -- but hurry space is limited and this party is sure to sell out fast! We'll be fully stocked with an appetizer buffet, a full cash bar, and a cocktail promotion sponsored by **"Level" vodka.** The ship sails from Long Wharf at 7 pm, returns to dock at 10 pm, and then you've got your ticket to The Place to finish the night off with more festivities, including jamming with VJ Laptop and your chance to judge the finals of The Place's summer-long bikini contest produced by Anthem Entertainment.

For more information go to www.theplaceboston.com or call Michael Kalil at 617.523.2081.

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Get your tickets to THE ULTIMATE BEACH PARTY today!



Now catch Chad LaMarsh at The Place on Sundays at 9pm

dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $3 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Jay Ine spinning house, 10 pm. $7, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJs spin R&B and hip-hop, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance salsa, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Scott Damgaard performs.

The Rack
Dj Mike Janedy spins, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aria
Industry Tuesday Dance to hip-hop and R&B.

Boston Rocks
Smooth Groove Tuesday Old-school jams, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Orange DJs John Davis, Pat Fontes and Randy Deshaies bring the house music, and weekly guest DJs spin, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Deep Tones DJ Brynmore spins a mix of reggae, soul, funk, trance and acid jazz, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Sensei spins hip-hop and R&B. Karaoke is also offered. 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

WEDNESDAYS

Aria
Lust DJ John Morris spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, $8, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins Greek and international tunes upstairs and a live reggae band plays downstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.



Common Ground
British Accents Presents Starshape DJ Dave spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
Summer Solstice Live performances every Wednesday hosted by DJ/producer Joe Bermudez spinning house and dance beats. 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Rhythm Nights gets the dance party started upstairs, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up R&B, top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mercury Lounge DJs Nomadik and Timmy Allen host a night of soul, funk and house, 9 pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin house and techno, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
Chad LaMarsh performs solo acoustic, 8:30-11 pm. Beach Party with DJs, 11 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
International Wednesdays DJ JC is in the Latin Lounge; DJs Alex and Felix spin in the back, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Wacky Wednesdays Magic with Peter Gross, 6-9 pm, DJ Massi all night, no cover, 21+.

Q
Violation Wednesdays Weekly guest DJs spin today's best music, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays DJ Boogie Ba Do spins dub to start the party, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band brings R&B and dance to the main lounge, 9-11 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Martinez spins salsa, cumbia and merengue on one floor while DJ Supreme spins a New York lounge set (hip-hop, R&B and rock covers) on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5..

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Walt spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; DJ Roger M and DJ Thanos spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Boston's Biggest College Hip-Hop Night DJs Caprice, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Djs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
Karaoke with DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
DJ Ghost spins international house and hip-hop, pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, M town, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursdays DJs Dubz and 40D spin re gae, R&B and hip-hop, no cover, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

I/D
Square One Thursdays DJs Dres and Wagz hos night of progressive dance music, 10 pm, $10, 19+

Jose McIntyre's
Karaoke with DJ Massi, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran sp dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+

Kinvara Pub
DJ Doc spins the latest tunes, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Milky Way
Club Thursdays Rotating DJ's spin dance music pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando prese drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5 (19+ $3 (21+).

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cov 21+.

Pravda 116
DJs spin upbeat lounge music in the front, 10 pm, cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $ 21+.

Q
Hip-Hop Thursdays DJ Craig Smooth spins hi hop all night long, 9 pm, $5, ladies free all nigh 21+.

The Rack
Girls on Top Party DJ B-Spin and DJ Massi spin to 40, vocal house and hip-hop, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali and Ross spin a mix electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cov 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons a dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin loun music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

711 Boylston
Play Thursdays DJ trio Groovefire spins house mu with special guests Beat Khemistry, 6 pm-2 am.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ DonRico spins salsa, merengue and Latin p and DJ Tegrem spins downtempo retro inter tional, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest h hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Ladies Night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 1

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul a rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, cover.

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays A rotating theme ni based upon customer internet voting, 10 pm-2 a no cover, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ Seano 5-9 pm; DJ David spins hip-h progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 fr the '70s, '80s and '90s, $5 after 10:30 pm, 21+.

Aria
Floss DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Avaland International DJs spin house, 10 pm, $ 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top-40, 9p am, no cover, 21+.

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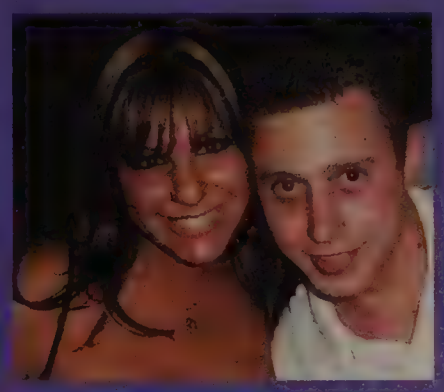
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Axis
All Axis DJ Dru Nyce, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80's faves, along with Boston's best cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents a night of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and hip-hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal spins a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+, after 11 pm.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
Persuassion DJ Sun One spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Felt
After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs, spinning high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Angirsano spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •Aug. 13: The Loop. •Aug. 20: Peatmoss.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs Big Daddy spins, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins house and old favorites, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before midnight, 21+.

La Boom
Fashion Fridays Firefly Promotions hosts this fashion night featuring DJ Rick Naples, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

Level
110 Productions hosts a party with progressive house music, hip-hop and top-40. 11 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Adilson of Roxy Saturdays spins high-energy house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Rockpile** WAAF's Steve Flagg broadcasts live, and rotating bands perform, 9 pm, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•Aug. 13: Catunes: DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm, $10 ($5 before 9 pm), 21+. •Aug. 20: Candiflyp: DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm, $10 ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Greg spins top-40 and 80's hits, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop as he spins top-40, dance, and hip-hop and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ spins in the front and DJ Gabe spins vocal house in the back, 10 pm, $10, 21+.



Stadiu

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Craig Smooth spins the latest hits, 10 pm, $5.

Q
DJ Massi plays hip hop and top-40, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Johnny C with KISS 108's Artie, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Red Line
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin quality house, 9 pm-2 am.

River Gods
Lite Nite DJ Easy spins a mix that includes neo-soul and feel-good classics, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top-40, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins Latin house and Latin dance on one floor while DJ Franklin spins international on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10pm, $5 after 9pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats all night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJs Dunleop and Walt mix top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Guest DJs spin high-energy vocal house and hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Tease Saturdays Resident DJ Rick Naples performs along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Lush Life WFNX DJs spin alternative rock, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ Matt Phipps spinning the hottest top-40, hip-hop and '80's faves, along with Boston's best cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. DJs presents top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Franklin creates a lounge atmosphere with his international, Latin and house sounds, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood It's women's night at Hollywood with two floors of hip-hop and house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
Essence DJs Ed and Sal, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop, house and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites, disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, $10, 21+. •Aug. 14: Joshua Tree. •Aug. 21: Peatmoss

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Massi spins top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 21+.

I/D
X Night WFNX presents a night of retro '80s and rock, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, while downstairs DJ Kieran plays top-40, 9 pm, $6, 21+.

La Boom
Wild on @ La Boom DJ Tim Collins and KISS 108 host a night of music and dancing, 10 pm, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 9 pm, 21+.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Shorty spins Latin music, 10 pm, $10, 21+, for ladies 18+.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio C spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10 $10, men; $5, women (women admitted free be 10:30 pm); 21+.

The Modern
Material DJ Dru Nyce plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, 19+.

The Palace
•**Venus Model Search** Aug. 14 and 21. The Pa hosts preliminary rounds for the nationwide sea •**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin da music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and W D, ladies, free; men, $5 before 10:30 pm; after 1 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** England's longest-running all-male dance re doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, $15, 19+ cover 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins top-40 and hop mixes, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Don Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian mosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Undergro** DJs spin hip-hop, top-40, dance, techno and re for the under-21 crowd, 7-11 pm, $14. •**Uptown** Freddy C mixes up hits from the '70s, '80s and $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•Aug. 21: Central Basement, DJ at 8 pm, ban 10 pm, $10 ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit w ders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles Boston's best DJs come in and spin se

Pravda 116
DJ spins in the front and DJ Gabe spins vocal h in the back, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom Hogan spins the groove, 10 pm, $5, •Aug. 14: Pig Pen. •Aug. 21: Brick Park.

Q
DJ Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Dance party with DJ Ricky, 8 pm, no cover, 21+

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins mo mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Adilson spins house and techno, 9 pm, $15,

711 Boylston
Fever DJ Yorgo spins a mix of ethnic and inte tional music, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
Resident DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin, internati and dance, often joined by live bands and sp guest DJs, 10 pm, $10-$15, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retr vorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

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The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins classic old-school, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
Prescription House music, 8 pm- 1 am, $5.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

Aria
DJ Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+

Caprice
DJ spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hip-hop downstairs, karaoke upstairs, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance mamba, 10 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

The Kells
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJs Doc & Kieran spin house, top-40 and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Satellite A lesbian night featuring DJ Dee, with dance music, amateur drag contests and films, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Malibu Beach Party DJ Thom spins everything from reggae to top-40, with prizes all night, 4-9 pm, DJ Massi spins, 9 pm, $5 men, free for ladies, 21+.

Q
Reggae with Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins hip-hop and top-40, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Wicked Wicked Sundays Experimental Reggae and Hip-Hop hosted by Wayne on Wax, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Spice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night featuring Latin and International grooves, 10 pm-2 am, $13.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock, retro and hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Tiki Room
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins Brazilian beats, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Whiskey Park
Cherry DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock classics, hip-hop, house and R&B.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-787-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
The G Spot *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
La Boom *One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Light *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *(El Copa, Male Encounter, Officers' Club, Oxygen, Rio, Underground and Uptown) 150 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Red Line *59 JFK St., Cambridge(617-868-5900)*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300)*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
711 Boylston *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-258*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-921*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*

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museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors

Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum

Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm.* •*Dutch and Flemish Drawings from the National Gallery of Canada*, an exhibition of rare drawings and landscapes by Rembrandt and his contemporaries, shows through Oct. 17. •*Closely Focused, Intensely Felt: Selections from the Norma Jean Calderwood Collection of Islamic Art* features Persian artwork from the last millennium. Through Jan. 2, 2005.

Boston Public Library

666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm.* •*Handfuls of Lilies: The Art of Sarah Whitman* features stained glass designs by the local artist. Through September.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park

51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $6; students and seniors, $4. •*Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Sense of Place, Part II* features paintings, photography and sculptures by various artists. Through August. •*The 2004 DeCordova Annual Exhibition* highlights contemporary artists from New England. Through Sept. 5. •*Henry Richardson: Chiseled Orb and Mortal Coil* is an ongoing exhibition featuring the artist's large glass sculptures.

Fogg Art Museum/ Busch-Reisinger Museum

32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm.* •*Process and Paradox: The Historical Pictures of John Singleton Copley* features two rarely seen works by one of America's first great artists. Through Aug. 29. •*Vastly More Than Brick and Mortar: Reinventing the Fogg Art Museum in the 1920s*, an exhibition of 47 objects including archival photographs, building plans and pieces from the Fogg's original collection, illustrates how the museum was created. Through Sept. 26. •*Extra Ordinary Every Day: The Bauhaus at the Busch-Reisinger* is an online exhibition that can be accessed at www.artmuseums.harvard.edu/sites/eoed. Through 2005. •*Rococo Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* is an ongoing exhibit. •*To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* is an ongoing display of 19th-century art. •*Basic Research: A Selection of Postwar German Painting and Sculpture* and *The Figure in French Sculpture, 1780-1900* are ongoing.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm.* •*Arctic National Wildlife Refuge: Seasons of Life and Land* is an exhibition of 49 photographs from northeastern Alaska by Subhankar Banerjee. Through Sept. 6. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species, by glass artists Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5.* •Kai Althoff's works of watercolor, pencil drawing, collage, music and more are on display in *Kai Kein Respekt (Kai No Respect)*. Through Sept. 6. •*Momentum 1* displays work by installation artist Carol Bove. Through Sept. 6. •*Re-Turning the Past: Cultural Icons Recast*, is a outdoor exhibit by Niho Kozuru in the garden and courtyard of the Paul Revere House (19 North Square). Through Oct. 11.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: *E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; seniors, $7; students, $5. members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18 free.* (Gondola Days *exhibition: $3 museum members, $5 weekends; $13 general admission/adults, $18 weekends; $10 seniors, $12 weekends; $8 students; $3 children ages 5-17; children under 5 not admitted.) Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm.* •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. •*Gondola Days: Isabella Stewart Gardner & the Palazzo Barbaro Circle* explores the influence that Venice, Italy's Palazzo Barbaro has had on artists, writers and thinkers around the world. Through Aug. 15. •*TV Dinner* is an exhibition of Italian painter Maurizio Cannavacciuolo's contemporary wall drawings. Through Aug. 15. •*Whistler's Warning*, Joseph Kosuth's installation in neon of words taken from an 1885 speech by James McNeill Whistler, shows through August. •Elaine Reichek's embroideries, which depict Biblical images borrowed from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists, display online in the virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum

Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: *Red Line to JFK/UMass. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $8; seniors and students $6; children ages 13-17 $4; children 12 and under admitted free.* •*Gifts from the World to the White House: Caroline Kennedy's Doll Collection* features 77 dolls from 30 countries that were given to JFK's daughter between 1961 and 1963. Through Nov. 5.•In honor of this election year, *Campaign!* is an exhibition following JFK's nomination, campaign and inauguration, from 1960-61. Through Jan. 20, 2005.

McMullen Museum of Art

Boston College, 140 Comm. Ave., Devlin Hall 108, Chestnut Hill (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. MBTA: *B Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-3 pm., Sat., 12 pm-5 pm. Free.* •*Refigured* features works by six local artists, through Aug. 29. •Abstract drawings, sculptures and folding screens by Sarah Westlake show through Aug. 29.

MIT List Visual Arts Center

20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: *Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm.* •The museum's permanent collection includes more than 1,500 pieces of contemporary art including paintings, murals, sculptures, photography and prints.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: *Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5; students and seniors, $3; children, $1.* •*Hub of the Air Universe: A Century of Flight in Massachusetts* displays artifacts and artwork from the first 100 years of manned flight. Through Sept. 5. •*Telling It Like It Is: Student Activism at MIT During the Vietnam War* displays posters from that era. Through fall 2004. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features works by the artist, who describes himself as a cross between "a mechanical engineer and a choreographer." Ongoing.

Museum of Afro-American History

46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: *Green or Red Line to Park. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm.* •*Portraits in Black: Gaining Ground, Holding Office* pays tribute to elected bla leaders of New England. Through Oct. 23. •*T Times We Had* is an exhibition spotlighting Bosto African-American community of the 19th centu Ongoing. •*Building on a Firm Foundation* is a 1 minute multimedia presentation that looks at 19 century Beacon Hill through the eyes of an Africa American teenager. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-930 www.mfa.org. MBTA: *E Green Line to Museu Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4: pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Win open. $15; students and seniors, $13; children 17 u under, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is duced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is f (doesn't include special exhibitions).* •*Tim Noble Sue Webster* exhibits the duo's creative light p jects. Through Aug. 15. •More than 200 jades d ing from the Neolithic period to the Qing Dyna display in *Chinese Jades from the Hartman Collecti* Through Aug. 22. •*Draped in Dragons: Chin Court Costumes* features clothes worn by memb of the Qing imperial court. Through Sept. •*Games for the Gods: The Greek Athlete and Olympic Spirit* features vases, marbles, bronzes coins from the ancient Greek games. Through N 28. •*Art Deco: 1910-1939* features more than pieces, including furniture, textiles, ceramics, fa ion and jewelry. Aug. 22-Jan. 9, 2005. •*Josef Sud Poet with a Camera* is an exhibition of the Cz photographer's landscapes, still lifes and archit tural photos. Through Jan. 17, 2005. •*18th Cent French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* tures the only complete set of 18th-century Fren royal furniture in the United States. Ongoi •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays histori American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). ww mos.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Science Park. Mo Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13; seniors, $ children, $10.* •*Risk!* is a hands-on exhibit in wh visitors can test their sense of daring, while see how they deal with the uncertainty that comes w a difficult decision. Through Sept. 6. •*The Lord o Rings Motion Picture Trilogy—The Exhibition* feat memorabilia from the films, including costu props, and even the ring. Through Oct. 24. •*A B World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces history of computers from the electronic giants of 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. • *nosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the seum's collection of dinosaur models, including giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an inte tive exhibition, features models of a wave t Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing

National Heritage Museum

33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). w monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 Free.•*A Changing World: New England in the tographs of Verner Reed, 1950-1972* displays Aug. Jan. 2, 2005. •*Allen Sisters Pictorial Photographs* collection of 25 platinum prints dating from 1 1920. Through Dec. 12. •*Western Pursuit of American Dream*, a collecion of artifacts and sc ture from the American West, shows through A 24, 2005. •*The Enchanted Clocks of George McFa* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'd* is an exhibitio 18th-century local history. Ongoing. •*Made in M achusetts* features household objects from the three centuries. Ongoing. •*To Build and Sus Freemasons in American Community* is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). w pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; dents, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Sa free. •*Treasures from Chatsworth, a British H House* is a look at centuries of English domestic through the Cavendish family's rare collectic drawings and paintings, books, and jewelry. Aug Nov. 7. •*Exuberance in the Arts, 1790-1840* sh cases more than 200 pieces of early American d rative and folk art. Through Oct. 24. •*Hav Photographs by Robert Polidori* features 18 large photographs. Through Jan. 9, 2005. •*Bringing J to Boston* features Japanese artifacts from the Ed S. Morse Collection. Through April 30, 2005.

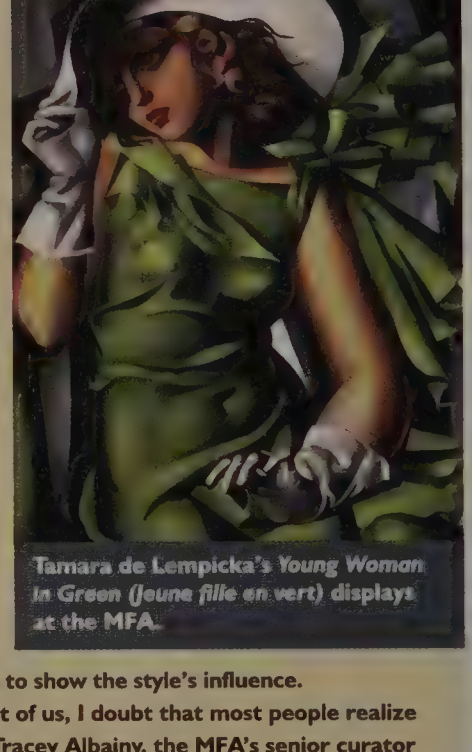
Peabody Museum of Archaeology Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1 www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: *Red Line to vard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students children, $5.* •*Regarding the Kalahari: The Ma Family and the Ju'hoansi !Kung, 1950-1964* is an bition of photographs and stereographs from the hari Desert expeditions of Laurence Marshall an family. Through Aug. 30. •*Bringing Japan to Bo*

Preview

Shaken, Not Stirred

Art deco comes to the MFA.



Tamara de Lempicka's *Young Woman in Green (Jeune fille en vert)* displays at the MFA.

Ever sipped a martini and let your mind wander back to an era when cocktail hour lasted until 9, swing music and saxophones were part of any "real" party, and the timeless little black dress first hit retail racks? *Art Deco: 1910-1939*, the latest large-scale exhibition to land at the Museum of Fine Arts, revisits the ultra-luxe style of the age of Gatsby.

Now in the last leg of an international tour, the exhibition, which opens August 22, features 240 works—paintings, sculpture, fashions, photography and jewelry—that showcase art deco's mixture of vibrant color and geometric simplicity. The movement influenced everything from photography to home interiors to everyday objects like hubcaps. As the line between domestic design and industrial innovation blurred, streamlined forms and new materials like plastics were incorporated into such objects as pitchers and cigarette lighters, and sleek skyscrapers like Rockefeller Center and the Chrysler and Empire State buildings rose to show the style's influence.

"Even though the style is very familiar to most of us, I doubt that most people realize how eclectic and complex [art deco] was," says Tracey Albainy, the MFA's senior curator of decorative arts and sculpture, Art of Europe. "The objects define modernity in the early 20th century and capture the chic of the age."

Highlights of the exhibition include exquisite Cartier art deco jewelry, a vanity case in the form of an Egyptian sarcophagus, and a lacquered wood and silver-leaf bed shaped like a canoe, as well as original evening gowns by legendary designers Jeanne Lanvin and Coco Chanel.

In addition to showcasing all this art, the MFA further evokes the spirit of the time with martini and sidecar cocktail hours and live jazz performances every Thursday night and Sunday afternoon at the MFA's restaurant, Bravo.

Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. Aug. 22–Jan. 9, 2005. $22; students and seniors, $20; children, $7.50. —Alissa Gordon

Edward S. Morse Collection offers a rare display of anese artifacts collected from 1877-1879. Through ril 2005. •*Painted by a Distant Hand: Mimbres Pot- from the American Southwest* features artifacts from w Mexico's Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through Septem- . •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and ark's Indian Collection* features Native American ar- acts from the explorers' journey. Through December 05. •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments* tures the museum's large Mesoamerican cast collec- n. Ongoing. •*Hall of the North American Indian: ange and Continuity* features art depicting the re- nse of Native Americans across the continent to e arrival of Europeans. Ongoing. •*Encounters with Americas* is an ongoing exhibition featuring origi- l sculpture and plaster casts of Mesoamerican cul- es. •*Pacific Islands Hall*, another ongoing exhibi- n, displays artifacts from the Pacific Islands.

Galleries

NE ART

cme Fine Art
Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acme eart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., am-5 pm. •*Summer Salon*, a group show, displays ough Aug. 21.

ianza Gallery
4 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). www. nzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. n.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Tea and ntasy—Whimsical and Sculptural Teapots* shows ough Aug. 31.

pha Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www. agallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.- , 10 am-5:30 pm. •A summer group show featuring rks by various artists displays through August.

rden Gallery
9 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www. engallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.- , 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Robert Jackson ws his work in *Narratives*. Through Aug. 30.

t Interactive
9 Bishop Allen Drive, Cambridge (617-498-0100). w.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Pattern Language: Clothing Communicator* is on display Aug. 20-Oct. 31.

tSomerville at the Nave Gallery
Powderhouse Blvd., Somerville. www.art erville.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.- , 1 pm-5 pm. Free. •*1-10* features work by 10 sts living or working in Somerville. Ongoing.

rbara Krakow Gallery
Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). w.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line rlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •The gallery osed through August.

renberg Gallery
Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www. nberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back . Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. orks by gallery artists shows through August.

rnard Toale Gallery
Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www. ardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Cop- Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Upright Female*, roup show of photography, displays through . 12.

ckbottom Gallery
tchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www. kbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lech- . Thu.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •*What Is Big?* is a show of sized works. Through Aug. 21.

ookline Arts Center
Monmouth St., Brookline. (617-566-5715). www. klineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. ly's. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm. •Lisa Goren ws watercolors in *The Antarctica Project*, and en Rudolph shows digital photography in *Cre- Abstraction*. Through Aug. 27.

ase Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www. gallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.- 10 am-6 pm. •Works by gallery artists display ugh Aug. 30.

lds Gallery
Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www. sgallery.com. MBTA:Green Line to Copley. Tue.- 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Three ibitions—*A Century of Seascapes, Architectural es in Prints and Drawings* and *Prints of the North- Renaissance*—display through Sept. 4.

ford-Smith Gallery
Harrison Ave., Suite 300, Boston (617-695-). www.cliffordsmithgallery.com. MBTA: Orange to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5:30 pm. •The ry is closed through August.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Small Works II* features more than 1,000 pieces by local and national artists. Through Aug. 14. •Six artists present their interpretations of Boston's highway project in *The Big Dig Exhibition*. Through Aug. 14.

Crump McCole Gallery
200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Painters of the New Boston* features works by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.

The Dean's Gallery
MIT Sloan School of Management, 50 Memorial Drive, Building E52, Room 466, Cambridge (617-253-9458). web.mit.edu/deansgallery. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm. Free. •*Selections from the Collection* features 17 pop art pieces from the MIT List Visual Arts Center's permanent collection. Through Nov. 19.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •*Figures, Forms, and Fragments* is a show of black-and-white photography. Through Aug. 28.

Equator Gallery
450 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-540-9236). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. *www.equatorgallery.com.* Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •The gallery specializes in Latin American fine art, including paintings, textiles and ceramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Objects/Artifacts* shows Aug. 20-Sept. 25.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu. and Sat.,12-5 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm. •The gallery is closed through August.

The Gallery at Black and White
295 Huntington Ave., Suite 205 (617-266-2641). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Mon.-Fri, 10 am-5 pm. •The gallery features rotating exhibitions of black-and-white photographs.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •The gallery is closed through August.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
23 Thayer St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Peter Coe: Paintings* shows through Oct. 2.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.haleysteele.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •The gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prints. Ongoing.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Some of Their Parts* is a group show of photography, painting and sculpture. Through Sept. 7.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters. •*Decade's Best*, a show of the gallery's best posters, displays through Sept. 6.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Summer Science* features paintings and drawings by Dan Golden, Sean Micka and Nicole Deponte. Through Aug. 28.

Kaji Aso Studio
40 St. Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www.kajiasostudio.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Tue. and Thu., 4:30-6:30 pm; Sat., 3-5 pm, and by appointment. •*Star Festival*, a group show of ceramics and paintings, displays through Aug. 15.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Greg Miller shows his paintings through Aug. 28.

Kingston Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •*New Art 2004*, a show of works by 20 American artists, displays through August.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Kaleidoscope* features colorful glass and metal sculptures. Through Aug. 31.

Mark Gallery
141 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6275). www.markartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm, and by appointment. •The gallery is closed during August.

Martin Lawrence Gallery
77 Newbury St., Boston (617-369-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. *www.martinlawrence.com.* Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-7 pm. •The gallery's ongoing exhibition includes works by Chagall, Erté, Hallam, Kondakova, Lichtenstein, Picasso and Warhol.

Miller Block Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). www.millerblockgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30-5:30 pm. •*Summer Distillation* shows through August.

Mills Gallery
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed., Thu. and Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-10 pm. •Contemporary works by emerging local, national and international artists.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Petra Class shows her jewelry through August.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •*Summer Invitational, A Group Exhibition* shows through August.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •A local-artists showcase is ongoing.

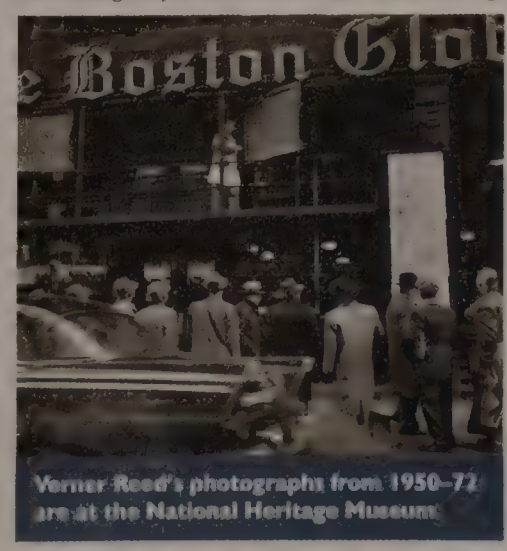
Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Summer Salon: Group Show* displays through Aug. 13. •The gallery is closed Aug. 17-Sept. 7.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*New Artists, New Work* features works by emerging artists. Through Sept. 7.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (617-482-9988). www.qingping.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to New England Medical. Daily, 1 pm-12 am and by appointment. •Beijing artist Lu Peng shows his work. Through Aug. 31.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Victor Schrager shows photography. Through Aug. 21.



Vernier Reed's photographs from 1950–72 are at the National Heritage Museum

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •A collection of works by such famed artists as Mattisse, Picasso, Miro and Rouault.

Samson Projects
46 Waltham St., Suite 203, Boston (617-357-7177). www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery is closed through August.

Sherman Gallery
Boston University College of Fine Arts, George Sherman Union, 775 Comm. Ave., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-353-3371). www.bu.edu/cfa. Mon.-Wed., by appointment. Thurs.-Fri., 11 am-5 pm. •*19 x 11* features recent works by 11 graduate painting students from the School of Visual Arts. Through Aug. 20.

The Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*The Artists Awards Show* honors New England craft and media artists. Through Oct. 31.

Soprafina Gallery
99 Beacon St., Somerville (617-498-0999). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Glass, pottery, ceramics and black-and-white photography are on sale in preparation for the gallery's move to the South End in September.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Four and One* is a group show of paintings by Christina Keating, Judy St. Peter, Sandra Mueller-Dick, Anne Grandin and William St. George. Through Aug. 31.

University Place Gallery
124 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). www. cambridgeart.org. Mon.-Fri., 9-6 am; Sat. 9 am-1 pm. •*Art Fair* features works by local artists. Through Sept. 3.

Upstairs at Johnson's Art Gallery
353 Newbury St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-536-4065). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.- Fri., 10 am - 5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-1pm. •*Piled, Layered and Stacked* features sculptures and paintings by Antony Dodds, Tammi Meehan and Siobhan Murphy. Through August 31.

Victoria Munroe Fine Art
59 Beacon St., Boston (617-523-0661). www.munroefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line or Red Line to Park Street. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm and by appointment. •Botanical paper mosaics by William Booth Gray show through Aug. 14.

Wentworth Gallery
73 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-8770). www.wentworthgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat. 10 am-6 pm; Sun. 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection features works by Dali, Chagall and Miro.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. •Karen A. Vournakis shows photographs of the sites of the original Pan Hellenic games in *Sacred Groves: Ancient Greek Athletic Sites*. Through Aug. 20. •*With the End of Polio, Sebastião Salgado Renews Hope in Humanity* shows through Oct. 31.

New England School of Photography
Gallery One, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-437-1868). www.nesop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm. •Graduating NESOP students show their work through August.

Panopticon Gallery Kenmore
502-C Comm Ave., Boston (617-267-8929). www.panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-7 pm. •*Home Run*, a show of vintage baseball photographs, displays through September.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Commuter Rail to Waltham. www.panopt.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*Colossal*, an exhibition of photographs by Bradford Washburn, shows through Sept. 18.

Photographic Resource Center
832 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University West. *www.bu.edu/prc.* Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. •The gallery is closed through August.

books & poetry

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to books@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11

Borders Framingham
85 Worcester Road, Framingham (508-875-2321). www.bordersstores.com. 7:30 pm. Free. **Darlene Arden** reads from her book *Unbelievably Good Deals and Great Adventures That You Absolutely Can't Get Unless You're a Dog*, a guide to dog products and places where dog owners can take their pet.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Ben Mezrich** reads from his book *Ugly Americans: The True Story of the Ivy League Cowboys Who Raided the Asian Markets for Millions*, about young college grads who lived a lavish life in Asia while exploiting its financial system.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Thisbe Nissen** reads from her new novel, *Osprey Island*, about the year-round inhabitants of a resort island. Also, local author **Karl Iagnemma** reads from *On the Nature of Human Romantic Interaction*, his collection of short stories with a scientific undertone.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. **Bradley P. Dean** reads from the book he edited, *Letters to a Spiritual Seeker*, a collection of **Henry David Thoreau**'s letters to his friend Harrison Blake about spirituality.

MONDAY, AUGUST 16

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Thisbe Nissen** reads from her novel *Osprey Island*. See Aug. 11 Newtonville Books and Brews listing for a description.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 17

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Psychologist **Susan Linn** reads from her book *Consuming Kids: The Hostile Takeover of Childhood*, a critique of corporate marketing practices that Linn claims exploit children.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7 pm. Free. **Rita Blattberg Blumstein** discusses her memoir, *Like Leaves in the Wind*, and her husband, **Alexandre Blumstein**, reads from his memoir, *A Little House on Mount Carmel*. Both books recount their authors' experiences in Poland during the Holocaust.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 12:30 pm. Free. **James P. McCarthy** discusses his new courtroom drama, *Fatal Flaws*, about a disenchanted young malpractice lawyer whose last case centers around a 13-year-old girl who is dying of kidney disease.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Jasper Fforde** reads from *Something Rotten: A Thursday Next Mystery*, the fourth book in his series about the literary detective.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Andrew Exum** reads from his book *This Man's Army: A Soldier's Story from the Front Lines of the War on Terrorism*, a detailed account of his experience serving in the war in Afghanistan.



Thisbe Nissen reads August 11 and 16.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Lan Samantha Chang** reads from her novel *Inheritance*, about two sisters whose bond is challenged by the Japanese invasion of China in the 1930s.

MONDAY, AUGUST 23

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Former MIT grad student **Eric Brende** reads from his book *Better Off: Pulling the Switch on Technology*, which recounts his move to a mixed Mennonite and Amish community and a simpler existence.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 24

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. NYU professor of media studies **Mark Crispin Miller** reads from his book *Cruel and Unusual: Bush/Cheney's New World Order*, a critique of the current administration.

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. 21+. $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge hosts this poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). www.poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $5. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background music for the poetry slam team.

Out of the Blue Gallery (Saturdays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Mondays, 8 pm (7:30 pm sign-up): Jack Powers hosts Stone Soup, with poetry features and an open mike. $4 donation suggested. •Saturdays, 8 pm: Come share or listen to poetry and prose. Deborah Priestly hosts. $3-$5 suggested donation.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
Borders 10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). MBTA: Blue Line to Government Center. 8:30 pm. Free. The second Thursday of each month offers a selection of featured poets and an opportunity for others to take the open mike.

education

Advice to Contributors
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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11

Gallery Talk: Draped in Dragons: Chinese Court Costumes
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 6 pm. Free with museum admission. **Pam Parmal**, the MFA's David and Roberta Logie curator of textile and fashion arts, discusses the museum's exhibition *Draped in Dragons: Chinese Court Costumes* and the significance of the dragon in Qing dynasty imperial clothing

Learn to Play Social Bridge
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton Centre (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us/library. 7 pm. Free. Instructor **Sam Seicol** leads this workshop and information session about the game of bridge.

Smart Women Finish Rich
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-495-3045). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 5:30-7:30 pm. $26 members; $28 nonmembers. **Matthew Tuttle**, owner of Tuttle Retirement Solutions, talks about investment management and financial planning for women.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12

Character Development Seminar
New England School of English, 36 John F. Kennedy St., Cambridge (617-623-8100). www.grubstreet.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7-10 pm. $40-$45. Author and Grub Street instructor **John Papernick** leads this writing workshop that focuses on character development.

Games for the Gods: The Greek Athlete and Olympic Spirit
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 11 am. Free with museum admission. **Christine Kondoleon**, the MFA's George and Margo Behrakis curator of Greek and Roman art, leads this gallery talk about the ancient Greek celebration of competition, recreation and the gods.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13

Navigating the Dating Scene at 35 Plus
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 6-9 pm. $33-$36. **Lynne Black**, founder of singles group the North Shore Players, shares tips and information on creative networking strategies, singles Web sites and local singles events for the 35-and-older crowd.

Photography Salon and Discussion Group
Brookline Arts Center, 86 Monmouth St., Brookline (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. 6:30 pm. $5 donation suggested. Join photographer **Steve Rudolph** for a discussion of his exhibition that is currently on display at the BAC. Participants may bring some of their own work for critiquing and discussion.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14

Newton Cemetery Walking Tour
Newton History Museum, 527 Washington St., Newton (617-796-1450). www.ci.newton.ma.us/jackson. 10 am. Free. Join museum director **David Olson** for a walking tour of historic Newton Cemetery, one of the first garden cemeteries.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

Finance for Non-Financial Managers
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 11 am-6 pm. $107. Freshen up your finance skills and learn how to prepare a business plan in this introductory course led by instructor **Mel Epstein**.

Twilight Contemporary Art
Forest Hills Cemetery, Jamaica Plain (617-542-0128). www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 5:30 pm. Free. Explore the cemetery's *ReVisited* exhibition during a twilight tour led by Forest Hills Trust director **Cecily Miller**.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18

Birding Broadmoor
Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary, 280 Eliot St., Nat (508-655-2296). www.massaudubon.org. 6:30-8 a $10 members, $12 nonmembers. Observe the BW birds on a morning walk led by sanctuary direct and ornithologist **Elissa Landre**.

The Macknight Room: A Portrait of Isabella Stewart Gardner
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenwa Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.or MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 12 pm. Free wi museum admission. Museum educator **Julie Middlet** leads this talk that focuses on Isabella Stewa Gardner's arrangement of the works in the small lesser known Macknight Room gallery.

Starting Your Own Import Business
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle S Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBT Red Line to Harvard. 6-10 pm. $60. **John Curr** teaches the basics of importing, from locating suppli to paying foreign suppliers to customs regulations.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19

Josef Sudek: Poet with a Camera
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Bost (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Gre Line to Museum. 11 am. Free with museum admissio
Anne Havinga, the MFA's curator of photograp leads this gallery talk about the work of Josef Sude

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21

Antique Baseball
Georges Island, Boston. Ferry departs from Lo Wharf. (617-223-8631). www.bostonislands.org. am-3 pm. Free. Through clinics and exhibitions, t Providence Grays demonstrate how the Americ pastime was played at the turn of the 19th centur

Boston Light Daytime Cruise
Little Brewster Island, Boston (617-223-8666). Fe departs from Fan Pier, 1 Courthouse Way. ww bostonislands.org. 12-5 pm. $30 adults, $27 senio students, $18 kids. Head to Little Brewster Islat the oldest lighthouse site in North America, brov the museum and learn about shipwrecks.

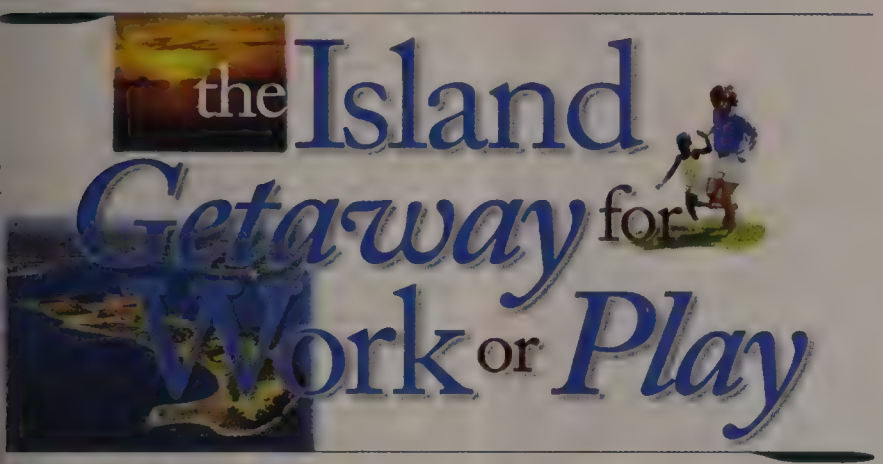
Meet Dr. Joseph Warren
Paul Revere Memorial Association, 19 North Squa Boston (617-523-2338). www.paulreverehouse.o MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 1, 1: and 2:30 pm. Free with museum admission. **Mich Lepage** portrays Sons of Liberty member Dr. Jose Warren and reenacts Warren's role in setting up intelligence network and protecting New Engl from British invasion.

MONDAY, AUGUST 23

National Architectural Trust
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (6 859-2371). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line Copley. 5 pm. Free. Owners of historical proper can learn about the National Architectural Trust participate in a free workshop about tax incentives


Photographer Steve Rudolph speaks at the Brookline Arts Center Aug. 13.

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Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am.; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's new leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $8 under 21. $5 for 21+. DJ John Morris spins progressive house for Lust, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $15, 21+. For 20 years, these folks have cranked out Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. Enjoy three separate dance floors plus drag acts. Resident DJ Ted Elison spins house.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show, and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Blue Wave Cafe (Sundays)
343 Congress St., Boston (617-790-0720). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 9 pm-1 am. $5 before 11 pm, $10 after 11 pm, 21+. Every Sunday night, Pussi Kat Entertainment and TopKat Entertainment presents HerShe Sundays, an ethnic/Latina/white lesbian party with DJ Elyte of Next Generation Productions spinning R&B, hip-hop and reggae.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

CityGirl Caffé (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-9 pm; Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-4 pm. This small, laid-back café in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated, draws a mixed gay/hetero crowd for lounging and sandwiches. Brunch is served every weekend. Now serves beer and wine.

Club Europa (Fridays)
57 Stuart St., Boston (617-417-0186). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.twistboston.com. Fri., 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+ after 11 pm. DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s tunes at this women's night.

Diesel Café (Daily)
257 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-8717). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Mon.-Thu. 7 am-12 am, Fri., 7 am-1 am, Sat., 8 am-1 am, Sun., 8 am-12 am. All ages. Diesel is a gay-friendly Davis Square café that serves coffee and snacks.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3 pm-2 am; Sat., 1 pm-2 am; Sun., 12 pm-2 am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This quiet, friendly neighborhood bar starts hopping as it gets closer to 2 am.

Fritz Lounge (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 12 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. Four plasma TV sets show satellite sports broadcasts, and Fritz is home base to a softball league. Brunch is served until 3:30 pm on weekends.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $8 weekends, 21+. Patrons relax with a friendly crowd and mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month is the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground. The typical lineup features musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Tuesdays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Big and Hot, Brazilian night, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Tue.: Service Industry Night with DJ Afrodite.

ManRay(Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 19+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: New Wave Dance Party with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Milky Way Lounge (Sundays)
401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+. Every Sunday the Milky Way Lounge presents Satellite, a queer night for ladies. Live entertainment varies from week to week and includes Fireballs Drag Bingo, spoken-word events and jazz.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Omar. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. Private, members-only club, predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

711 Boylston (Tuesdays)
711 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5502). www.hereboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 9 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. The Tuesday night gay dance party, Here, features disco and pop.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night, and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room and video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music pumps, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.


Drag king Heywood Wakefield hosts a show at the Ekco Lounge August 21

Vapor (Wednesdays–Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adilson. 19+. •Thu.: The Music Factory with DJ Pauli Paul and DJ Ron Steele spinning hip-hop, reggae and funk. $5 before 11, $2 after 11, 21+. •Fri.: Inner Circle. $10, 21+. •Sat.: Evolution with DJ Jay Ine. •Sun.: T-Dance party with DJ Danae grooving to local, tribal, and house while DJ Niterain spins classic oldies. 21+.

Books

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). www.calamusbooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-7 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. This store for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered people carries fiction, erotica and titles by gay and feminist activists.

Center for New Words
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Cambridge's center for women's writing and ideas hosts open mikes and author events.

Cuttyhunk and Provincetown Trading Company
540 Tremont St., Boston (617-574-5000). www.cuttyhunk.us. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This community-centered gay and lesbian bookstore stocks literature, art books, DVDs and videos.

Shows & Events

Gay Outdoors—Tanglewood Music Camping Weekend
Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (603-726-7558). www.gayoutdoors.org. Aug. 13-15. A weekend of camping, hiking, swimming and music from John Williams and the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

Glitter Switch Drag Karaoke
Ekco Lounge, Club Hollywood, 41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.truthserum.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. Aug. 21, 8-10:30 pm. $5. Drag King Heywood Wakefield hosts this interactive drag show with guest stars Tha Novice and His Orchestra and drag queen Rainbow Frite.

Provincetown Sunset Deck Party Weekend
The Crown & Anchor, 247 Commercial St., Provincetown. (202-393-5177 ext. 8742). www.ngltf.org. Aug. 21 and 22. The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force sponsors this weekend of events which honors leaders within the LGBT community. All proceeds benefit the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Foundation.

Ongoing

Atención Latina Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Bosto (800-834-3242). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBT Green Line to Hynes. Fenway Community Heal collaborates with the Elizabeth Stone House provide this safe, confidential space for discussi healthy relationships, domestic violence and oth issues. Call for information.

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin S Boston (617-227-4313). www.bagly.org. MBT Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wednesdays, 6 pm. The Boston Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, Bise ual, Transgendered and Questioning Youth ho weekly meetings and social events for young peop seeking community, support and a place to discu relevant issues.

Beantown South G/L Bowling Leagu
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-88 1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and l bians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Beyond Binary
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Bosto MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Meets the third Tuesd of every month, 7-9 pm. This group is for people w don't feel comfortable within any of the curre gender categories or labels. For information, cont genderqueer24@hotmail.com.

Bi and Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Bost (617-927-6032). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBT Green Line to Hynes. 7 pm. Free. This group me the second Tuesday of every month for discussi with bisexual and bi-curious men.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244). MBTA: Green Line to Arlingt Wednesdays, 7 pm. Come share thoughts abo books, videos and other topics of interest in a su portive environment. Open to all bisexual men a women.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Ca bridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tuesday each month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is op to all bisexual, bi-friendly and question women.

BOSS
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Bos (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBT Green Line to Hynes. 6-8 pm. This group for gay bisexual men of color meets the last Thursday each month to discuss culture, lifestyle, creativ and health.

Boston Bay Blades
www.bayblades.org/boston. All are welcome to j this competitive, recreational group of rowers scullers.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to S phony. The league comprises gay and lesbian pla and their friends.

Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers
First Church of Jamaica Plain, corner of Centre Eliot streets, Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). w lcfd.org. Every Wed., 7:30 pm, $8. Square-danc and English country dancing lessons are availa for lesbians, gays, bisexuals and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). *www.bgbl.com.* The league offe full regular season and playoff schedule each yea

Boston Gay Skins
Ramrod, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-29 www.bostongayskins.org. MBTA: Green Line to K more. 11 pm. Boston's nonracist gay skinhead col tive meets the third Friday of the month.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MB Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri, pm. The center provides social activities for q tioning young people, ages 13-25.

Boston Ironsides Rugby Football Cl
Moakley Field, South Boston (617-524-58 MBTA: Red Line to JFK. Rugby players of any l age, race and orientation are welcome to play.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston. MB Green Line to Hynes. www.lesbianavengers Thu., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly rect-action political group focuses on issues af ing lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave. maica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.or MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wednesda pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

ildbirth Class for Lesbians
way Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston 7-927-6243). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: en Line to Hynes. This class is taught by a certified ldbirth educator. Co-sponsored by Isis Maternity. one for details, or visit www.isismaternity.com.

iltern Mountain Club
88-831-3100). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-mber gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

OLAGE
7-417-0876). Third Saturday of each month, 10:30 -12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and ys Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and ivities and holds a concurrent meeting for inter-ed parents and their partners. For info, e-mail dfordcolage@hotmail.com.

oming Out as Bisexual
ston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Liv- Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-95). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to ck Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, pm, free. An informal group for people who nk they may be bisexual or attracted to more n one sex.

oming Out Group
way Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston 7-927-6202). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: en Line to Hynes. Mondays, 7-8:15 pm. Free. is 10-week group is geared toward individuals o wish to intergrate their sexual orientation into ir work and home life.

oming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, sexual, Transgender and uestioning People
7-256-8693). This group welcomes those who it to discuss the challenges and the joys of com- out. It meets Thursday nights, from 7-8:30 pm, Cambridge.

mpass
1-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area port, information and social group for people as-ed female at birth who feel that is not an accu- or complete description of their gender. Part of FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group ets monthly. Email CompassFTM@usa.com for ails.

mestic Violence Recovery Group LGBT Survivors
way Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. 0-834-3242). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: en Line to Hynes. Free. This confidential, 10-k support group is offered by Fenway's Violence overy program.

e Down Low
way Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. 7-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: en Line to Hynes. Last Friday of each month. 7-9 This discussion group for gay and bisexual men of r addresses heritage, lifestyle, culture and health.

t Coast Wrestling Club
-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www.east wrestlingclub.org. This club for gay male tlers has more than 160 members.

gant Outings
-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group omes gay and gay-friendly professional women nd older who are intelligent, chic and sophisti-d to get together with like-minded women for versations, dinners, theater and networking.

plore Gender in a Safe Place
way Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. 7-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: n Line to Hynes. An ongoing support group for le born into female bodies or who have grown eing viewed as biologically female. Call for information.

AG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Saturday mornings. Join on's LGBT Flag Football League for a casual g season, followed by a formal fall season. All elcome, regardless of skill level.

ntrunners Boston
opolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., m (617-937-5858). Sat., 10 am. All are wel-e to join this running club.

and Lesbian Helpline
-267-9001 or 888-340-4528). Mon.-Fri., pm; Sat. and Sun., 5-10 pm. This toll-free ne is confidential and provides support for lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and question-allers.

Fathers of Greater Boston
Parish Church in Waltham (617-742-7897). .gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bi-l fathers meets on the first and third Tuesdays e month 8-10 pm.

Lab
.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing hy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Professionals Building Community
(617-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to join this networking organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered professionals. Monthly networking meetings.

Gaymes Group
(508-339-4250). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians. Members get together on a regular basis to play board, card and parlor games.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. $5-10. An open-mike night open to new performers, this queer-positive, dyke-positive, bi-positive and trans-positive spoken-word event takes place the second Thursday of each month, at 7:30 pm.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Biological males meet on Monday evenings. The groups are moderated by psychologist Randi Kaufman.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

Girlz 2 Girlz
(781-893-6113). This mentoring program is for girls ages 13-19 who self-identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered. Contact Marcela Aldez-Osorio.

Groups for Gay Men with Compulsive Sexual Behavior
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6200). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. This group aims to reduce compulsive sexual behavior through the use of cognitive-behavioral techniques. Call for more information.

Hepatitis C Support and Education
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6202). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Meets the second Monday of each month. Individuals with hepatitis C, and their friends and family, are welcome at this drop-in support group.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Anonymous HIV testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Laffan
This social and networking group for women includes single women, couples and parents interested in art, cultural events, outdoor and sporting activities, intellectual and social pursuits, public service and travel. Members receive a weekly email calendar of events. For info, e-mail Laffan_Boston2004 @yahoo.com.

Lesbian Psychotherapy Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6283). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. A mental health professional leads this group for lesbians struggling with relationship and intimacy issues.

LGBT Considering Parenting Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. A short-term (eight-week) group for LGBT persons who are considering becoming parents. Sliding fee scale available. Call for information.

LGBT Parents Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6243). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. LGBT parents of preschoolers are invited to join this six-week group.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue., Wed. and Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

The Network/La Red
(617-423-7233). The Network is a support group working to end abuse in lesbian, bisexual women's and transgender communities. Email info@the networklared.org for more information.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

Partners of People with HIV
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Meets first and third Tuesdays of each month. 7-9 pm. An ongoing support group that allows individuals with HIV-positive partners to discuss issues surrounding the virus in their lives.

Peer Listening Line
(800-399-7337). Trained volunteers provide confidential information, referrals and support to their GLBP peers.

The Rainbow Cafe
rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social group for activist, academic, intellectual or artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Smoking Cessation Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6451). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Every Wed. for eight weeks, beginning Aug. 11. 5:30 pm. Free. This program provides a support group for LGBT smokers who are looking to quit, and at the same time studies the effectiveness of programs of this nature. Participants will receive a stipend. Call for information.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. Email somoslatinos lgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Substance Abuse Recovery Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6202). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Tuesdays. This support group is for LGBT individuals who've been off drugs and alcohol for three or more months. Call for information.

Support Group for HIV-Negative Gay and Bisexual Men
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-967-6231). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. First three Tuesdays of each month, 6-8 pm. Discuss safe-sex practices and strategies for managing risk and communicating with sexual partners.

Support Group for Partners of Lesbians with Cancer
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed. evenings, once a month. Free. For those who want to discuss the impact of this disease on their lives. Call for information.

Support Group for People Living with Cancer
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6283 or 617-927-6299). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Thursdays, 5:15-6:30 pm. This new support group is covered by most insurance companies.

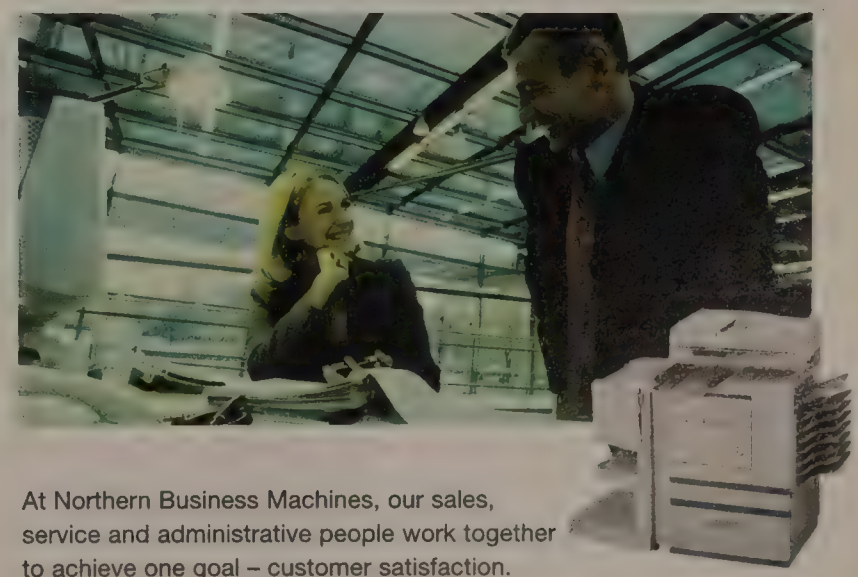
Survivors of Domestic Violence
(800-834-3242). This 12-week support group meets in a confidential location and seeks to help those currently or previously involved in an abusive relationship.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Road, Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Street. First Saturday of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing, $8. Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. WWB is a social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s. It meets the first Thursday of every month.

Workshop for Newly Diagnosed HIV-Positive Individuals
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6229). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. First three Mondays of the month, 7-9 pm. New groups start at the beginning of each month to provide information and support. Preregistration required.

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body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Open House
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 585 Mass. Ave, Cambridge (781-643-1545). www.charlesrivershiatsu.com. Aug 27, 6-8 pm. Meet teachers of Shiatsu, acupuncture, Chinese herbalism and Qi Gong, and even try a free session at this open house.

Vegan Potluck Picnic
Land's Sake Organic Farm, 99 School St., Weston (617-824-4225). www.landssake.org. Aug. 22. 12 pm until evening. Farm tour at 1 pm. $25. (Event will be cancelled in the event of heavy rain.) Bring some vegan edibles and your kids, if you have them, to a community picnic where you can pick your own organic produce and flowers.

Workshops

All-Levels Yoga Class
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 90 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circlesofwisdom.com. Aug. 16, 7-8:15 pm. $15. This class teaches basic yoga fundamentals, with additional refinements to poses to challenge more advanced students. The noncompetitive atmosphere helps participants relax.

Elemental Dance Series
Brookline Community Center for the Arts, 14 Green St., Brookline (617-738-2800). www.bccaonline.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Aug. 15 and 22, 1-3 pm. $13, drop-in. This dance class, taught by movement educator Malinda Allen, teaches the Elemental Dance Technique, which focuses on sensory perception and presence.

Gnosis: The Heart of Inner Christianity
Theosophical Society, 21 Maple St., Arlington (413-529-2492). www.tsboston.org. MBTA: Bus 67, 77 or 79 to Arlington. Aug. 13, 7:30-9 pm. $10. Author Richard Smoley discusses the ancient form of mysterious spiritual illumination known as gnosis, which is still practiced by small groups of seekers.

High-Frequency Yoga for Women
Carmela Cattuti, 151 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-970-5320). www.yogame.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Aug. 21, 10-12 pm. $45. This class focuses on working the abdominal muscles and demonstrates techniques for increasing stamina and transforming negative thought patterns. Beginners welcome.

Introduction to Longevity Breathing
Brookline Tai Chi, 1615 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-2975). www.brooklinetaichi.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Aug. 14, 1:45-4 pm. $30. Do you get short of breath or have breathing difficulties? This class provides an introduction to "Long Life" breathing, with the aim of helping individuals to breathe gently and deeply, soothing nerves, quieting the mind, and aiding overall health.

Intro to the Alexander Technique
Harvest Co-op Market, 581 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1580). www.harvestcoop.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Aug. 28, 6-8 pm. The Alexander Technique involves the practice of movement awareness during everyday activities, while learning to improve movements and posture. Certified Alexander Technique teacher Jay Hovenesian teaches four 30-minute sessions during the evening.

Living in Your Light: Accessing Your Higher Self to Transform Your Life
Theosophical Society, 21 Maple St., Arlington (508-457-0792). www.tsboston.org. MBTA: Bus 67, 77, or 79 to Arlington. Aug. 14, 10 am-5 pm. $70-$85. Learn to tap into your higher self through meditation, journaling, discussion and other intuitive exercises led by Carolyn Romano, J.D.

Meditation Seminar
Radisson Hotel, 200 Stuart St. (781-444-9013 or 860-487-3597). www.sos.org. Aug. 23, 7:30 pm. Free. Sant Rajinder Singh Ji Maharaj, who leads the organization Science of Spirituality, teaches meditation practice as a tool for personal transformation.

Meet the Guides
Theosophical Society, 21 Maple St., Arlington (617-484-1647). www.tsboston.org. MBTA: Bus 67, 77, or 79 to Arlington. Aug. 19, 7:30-9:30 pm. $20. Learn about the psychic process and participate in a channeling session led by Marjorie Harrison, a trance channel.

Reiki Energy Healing Clinic
Arlington Reiki Associates, 366 Mass Ave #304, Arlington (781-648-9334). www.arlingtonreiki.com. Aug. 20, 6:30-9:30 pm. $10. Come experience a relaxing reiki energy healing treatment.

Restorative Yoga
Art and Soul, 91 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-661-7376). www.artsoulyoga.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Aug. 15, 6-8:30 pm. $25. This workshop is designed for people experiencing stress, fatigue, sickness or problems with sleep.

Stretching Your Way to Good Health
Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates, 147 Milk St., Boston (617-399-0333). MBTA: Green line to Government Center. Aug. 23, 1 pm. Please preregister. This workshop, presented by the Doctor's Speakers Bureau, is directed at anyone who sits too much and wants to learn easy, helpful stretching exercises.

Three-Hour Yoga Class with Barbara Benagh
The Yoga Studio, 74 Joy St., Boston (617-523-7138). www.yogastudio.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles or Green Line to Government Center. Aug. 22, 11 am-2 pm. $30. This class gives continuing-level students time to indulge themselves in an extra-long class. Every class will be a combination of receptive and active asanas, as well as breathwork.

Writing the Color Rainbow
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 90 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circlesofwisdom.com. Aug. 14, 10 am-5 pm. $95, please preregister. Participants in this journaling workshop explore feelings and expand creativity through color-associated writing exercises, meditation and music, and also learn the history of color and how it relates to the chakras and emotions.

Yoga and Laughter
In the Moment Wellness Center, 106 Access Road, Norwood (781-762-9281). www.inthemoment.org. Aug. 18, 6:30-8:00 pm. $15. Laughing while stretching is said to enhance the flexibility of the body, allowing the practitioner to move more deeply into the posture. So come practice yoga, which focuses on flexibility, while enjoying comedians.

Retreats

Boot Camp for Goddesses
Kripalu Center, Lenox. (800-741-7353). www.kripalu.org or www.sierrayoga.com. Aug. 15-20. $868-$1,436. Led by Kripalu yoga teacher Sierra Bender, this five-day workshop aims to empower women. It features yoga, fitness, meditation, breathwork, aromatherapy, lessons on nutrition, belly dancing, a sweat lodge, energy healing, hiking and more.

Exploring Your Life Mission
Kripalu Center, Lenox. (800-741-7353). www.kripalu.org. Aug. 12-15. $432-$870. This workshop aims to help participants get past personal blocks and develop a mission statement, utilizing writing, meditation, yoga, group exercises, reflection and dialogue.

Moving Nature/ Movement Alchemy
Earthdance, 252 Prospect St, Plainfield (774-353-7175). www.earthdance.net, www.shintaido.org or www.trancedance.com. Aug 13-15. $275. Butoh is a Japanese performing art in which ego is lost and the body is constantly reshaping form. This retreat includes solo, partner and group exercises. Explore trance dance, blindfold partner work, visualization, animal/nature dances and improvisation.

Ongoing

Elemental Body Training
CasaNia Studio, 46 Porter Road, Cambridge (617-491-5144). www.casania.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. $15. Movement educator Malinda Allen teaches the essentials of movement and dance with a focus on physical awareness and emotional presence. This class aims to help students gain strength, flexibility, coordination and mental focus.

Power to Protect
Brookline Community Center for the Arts, 14 Green St., Brookline (781-405-1248). www.powerboston.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Sun., 1 pm. $25. This personalized defense-training class offers an intense, unique workout through a practical approach to hand-to-hand defense.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

Boston Red Sox
• Fenway Park, Boston
Tickets: 877-733-7699
Aug. 11, 7:05 pm vs. Tampa Bay Devil Rays
Aug. 12, 1:05 pm vs. Tampa Bay Devil Rays
Aug. 13, 7:05 pm vs. Chicago White Sox
Aug. 14, 7:05 pm vs. Chicago White Sox
Aug. 15, 2:05 pm vs. Chicago White Sox
Aug. 16, 7:05 pm vs. Toronto Blue Jays
Aug. 17, 7:05 pm vs. Toronto Blue Jays
Aug. 18, 7:05 pm vs. Toronto Blue Jays

Events

Oldtime Baseball Game
St. Peter's Field, Sherman Street, Cambridge (781-944-3080). Aug, 19, 7 pm. Watch high school and college players take the field in replica uniforms covering the era from the 1901 Baltimore Orioles to the 1969 Seattle Pilots. Period music enhances the old-fashioned atmosphere. Proceeds from the game benefit the cancer treatment center at Cambridge's Mount Auburn Hospital.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club seeks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club (BSSC) Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

CHARITY

Team in Training
(800-688-6572). www.teamintraining.org. This organization provides fund-raising athletes with group training and support, personalized coaching and guaranteed race entry for events including the Timberman Triathlon, Monster Challenge, Maine Marathon, Dublin Marathon and more.



The Oldtime Baseball Game brings retro action to St. Peter's Field in North Cambridge Aug. 19.

DODGEBALL

BSSC Dodgeball
(617-789-4070). The BSSC is recuiting for dodgeball teams to compete in a league this fall.

FENCING

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119 www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings a Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBAL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070 www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four me teams compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-39 8326). Saturday mornings. Women's teams pl eight-on-eight flag football each week.

FLOOR HOCKEY

BSSC Coed Floor Hockey
Leagues are held in Newton, North Reading a Brighton (617-789-4070, ext. 238). www.bssc.co
All levels are welcome, individuals and teams.

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.co Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home fi at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New and perienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looki for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Clu
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club se new players for games in Brookline and Cambrid

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.my rugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club w comes both new and experienced players who w to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays. New experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhc com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-roun
you enjoy running, drinking and singing bav songs, then consider joining these self-proclain "serious drinkers with a running problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 Weekly runs.

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Run
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (7 275-1584). www.srr.org. Thu., 7 pm. Weekly run

Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-6 2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thu., 7:30 pm. We 2.6-mile runs.

SOCCER

BSSC Outdoor Soccer
(617-789-4070). Outdoor teams forming Games played in Charlestown, Lexington, Reac and Canton. Individuals and teams are welcome

SOFTBALL

BSSC Softball
(617-789-4070). Coed softball games playe Brighton, Newton, North Reading and other are

ULTIMATE FRISBEE

BSSC Ultimate League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617- 4070). Coed games each week Charlestown.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4 ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed teams f ing for summer leagues in Cambri Watertown, Brookline and Newton.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Cl
(617-868-8379). bostonwrestling@y com. Amateur folk-style wrestling g open to all skill levels. Weekly prac held year-round.

HELP WANTED

ALES & MARKETING INTERNS

Our sales and marketing team is seeking interns for the Fall 2004 semester. If you are enthusiastic, dependable, hard-working and have a great sense of humor, read on! You should have good phone skills, ability to use MS Office, and a willingness to learn about our magazine and the magazine industry in general. You will be required to help out with special events that our magazine sponsors. Please send a resume and cover letter to Gretchen Bostrom, c/o IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE, 142 Berkeley Street, 3rd Floor, Boston, MA 02116. You can e-mail your resume and cover letter to gretchen@improper.com or fax to 617-859-1446. No phone calls please.

HELP WANTED

EDITORIAL INTERNS

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN magazine is now accepting applications for editorial interns for the fall semester.

Please submit cover letters and resumes via e-mail to jessica@improper.com. Only those candidates being considered for the positions will be contacted. No phone calls please.

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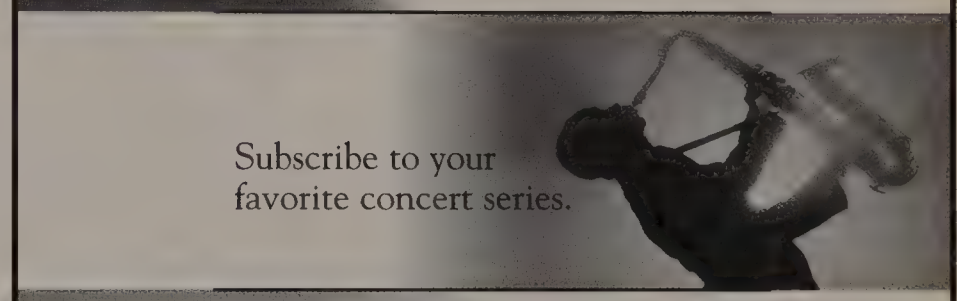
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Directions from Rte 93N: Exit 8 onto Furnace Brook Pkwy. At 2nd light turn right onto Quarry St. Highpoint is approx 1 mi. on the left.
Directions from Rte 93S: Exit 8 onto Furnace Brook Pkwy. Stay left at fork, travel 1/2 way around rotary and cont. on Furnace Brook Pkwy. Follow directions from 93N

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Borders Books and Music
Cambridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Every Sat., 1 pm. Staff members read from new and classic storybooks.

Cape Cod Melody Tent
21 W. Main St., Hyannis (800-347-0808). www.melodytent.org. 11 am. •Aug. 11, $13.50. Tanglewood Family Entertainment presents *The Magic School Bus*, a live performance based on the popular children's book series. •Aug. 18, $7.50. Kaleidoscope Children's Theatre performs the classic fairy tale *Sleeping Beauty*.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Every Tuesday and Saturday, 11 am. Staff members read children's stories, and afterward children can enjoy snacks and craft activities.

ImprovFoundry Family Show
ImprovBoston, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA Red Line to Central. Saturdays, 6 pm. $10-$12. This short, improvisational show is fun for the whole family.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. 10:30 am and 1 pm. $8.50; members, $7. Reservations recommended. •Aug. 11 and 12. Magic Moonshine Puppet Theatre presents *Fowl Play*, about a young duck who discovers what's at the end of the playground slide. •Aug. 18 and 19. *Bingo the Circus Dog* is the story of the kidnapping and eventual rescue of a circus' beloved dog. The show is preceded by two shorter pieces: *JoJo and the Orange Ball* and *A Fantastic Fandango*.

Things to Do

Boston Art Tours
Meets at the corner of Arlington and Newbury streets, Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tours for children: Tue.-Sat., 1-2 pm; tours for teens: Tue.-Sat., 2-3:30 pm. $30; teens, $15; children under 12, free. Take a walking tour of contemporary art exhibitions along Newbury Street.

Boston by Little Feet
Fanueil Hall, Congress Street, Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Sun, 2 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am. $8. Explore Boston's history and architecture by taking a walking tour of the Freedom Trail designed specifically for kids.

Boston Duck Tours
Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston; Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-267-3825). www.bostonducktours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Science Park. Daily through November, 9 am-sunset, every 30-60 minutes. $24; seniors and students, $21; children 3-11, $15; children under 3, $3. These amphibious vehicles tour Boston's most popular sights via city streets and the Charles River.

Boston Harbor Islands
408 Atlantic Ave., Boston (617-223-8666). www.bostonislands.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium or Red Line to South Station. Free for children 8-16. •Aug. 14. *Fishing 101*, part of Water Sports Day. Kids can learn how to use a rod and reel, a dip net and a crab trap. •Aug. 21. The Providence Greys demonstrate early 20th-century baseball at Family Fun Day.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8; children, $7. Special events: •Aug. 14, 4 pm. Sample organic food outdoors. Weekly events: •Tue., 2-4 pm. Boston Black...A City Connects features activities that celebrate diversity. •Wed., 11 am-1 pm. Kids paint murals together on the boardwalk. 12-1 pm. The Summer Outdoor Music Series features local musicians performing various genres of music. •Thu., 11:30 am. The Kids First! Film Festival features short films for children. •Fri., 3-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2-4 pm. In the *Zoom* Zone is a hands-on science challenge culled from the PBS TV show *Zoom*. •Mon.-Fri., 10 am-4 pm. The art studio is open for bookmaking, painting, finger puppets and more.

Franklin Park Zoo
One Franklin Park Road, Boston (617-541-5466). www.zoonewengland.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forrest Hills, then #16 bus. Through Sept. 30: Weekdays, 10 am-5 pm; weekends and holidays, 10 am-6 pm. $9.50; children, $5. •The Dinosaur Kingdom features a Mesozoic jungle with 12 giant animatronic dinosaurs. Through Sept. 6. $3. •It's butterflies galore at the Butterfly Landing gardens. Through Sept. 6. •Spend the night with your favorite animals at a family sleepover. Ongoing.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $5; ages 5-18, $2; students, seniors and kids 5 and under, free (free admission the third Sunday of every month). •*Hub of the Air Universe: A Century of Flight in Massachusetts* is a backward glance at the evolution of aviation through one-of-a-kind artifacts, images and artwork. Through Sept. 5. •*Holography, the Light Fantastic* is a display of the largest collection of holograms in the world. Ongoing. •*Robots and Beyond* offers a look at MIT's artificial intelligence research labs. Ongoing. •*Ship Models: The Evolution of Ship Design* features 40 ship models, from warships to clippers. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. $15; children 17 and under, free. •Mon.-Thu., 3:30 pm. The Children's Room combines arts and crafts with a variety of cultural themes. •Tue.-Thu., 3:30-4:30 pm. Books Bring Art Alive is a program for children and families. •Wed., 5:30 pm. Family Night Out is an interactive evening of creative activities for children and families.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.newenglandaquarium.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Through Labor Day: Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95; seniors, $13.95; children, $8.95. •*Amazing Jellies* features thousands of jelly fish. Through 2005. •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank contains sharks, stingrays and a 600-pound California sea lion. Ongoing. •*Edge of the Sea* is a hands-on exhibition that features sea stars, hermit crabs and more. Ongoing. •Take a whale watch on a high-speed catamaran. Through October.

New England Wildflower Society
180 Hemenway Road, Framingham (508-877-7630). www.newfs.org. Thu.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7, $5 students and seniors. Explore the gardens and trails, and take part in ongoing programs and events. •*Big Bugs* features David Rogers' large-scale wooden bug sculptures, on display in the garden. Through Oct. 17. •Aug. 21-22, 9 am-4 pm. Butterfly Festival.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us/library. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. •Aug. 11, 7 pm, ages 9 and up. During the Creative Writers program, kids snack while sharing summer books and their own creative writing. •Aug. 12, 7:30 pm, ages 8 and up. Children participate in a dramatic reading of a play. •Aug. 11, 11 am, ages 3-4; Aug. 12, 3:30 and 7 pm, ages 5 and up. Staff members read children's stories. •Aug. 12, 7 pm, ages 4 and up. Kids listen to bedtime stories at Pajama Storytime. •Aug. 13 and 20, 10:30 am. Films suited for preschoolers screen. •Explore Other Worlds is the summer 2004 Story Craft Program: Aug. 11, 2:30 pm, Let's Explore Oceans; Aug. 12, 4 pm, Food from the Sea: A Cooking Program.

ParkARTS
(617-635-4505). www.cityofboston.gov/parks/parkarts. Free. Local artists host arts and crafts for children ages 3-10 in local parks. •Tue.: Christopher Columbus Park, North End; Martin Playground, Dorchester. •Wed.: Mission Hill Playground, Mission Hill; Fallon Field, Roslindale; Hobart Street Play Area, Brighton. •Thu.: Buckley Playground, South Boston; Ringgold Park, South End; Ryan Playground, Dorchester. •Fri.: American Legion Playground, East Boston; Children's Play Area, Intervale Street, Roxbury; John Harvard Mall, Charlestown. •Aug. 14, 8 pm. Classic movies screen at the Parade Ground, Boston Common. •Aug. 15, 6 pm. Classic movies screen at Jamaica Pond, Jamaica Plain.

around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
Coit Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on clear nights), April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm; Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm. Free.


The Harvard Museum of Natural History

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5pm; Fri., 10 am - 9 pm. $9; children and seniors, $7. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.

Faneuil Hall
75 State St., Boston (617-338-2323). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 am. Free.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6, children, $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; seniors and students, $8; 12 and under, free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroamusem.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH, or Green Line to Park St. Summer: daily, 10 am-4 pm; Labor Day through Memorial Day: Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Summer hours, through Sept. 6: Mon.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14; seniors, $12; children, $11.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5; children, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1, Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, $13.95 seniors; children, $8.95.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-5 pm. Free.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. $5, seniors and students, $4; children, $1.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $9.50; seniors, $7; children 12 and under, $6.50; children under 3, free.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily, 7 am-6 pm. $4; children 12 and under, free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). www.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. May 1-Oct. 15: daily, 9 am-6 pm; Nov. 1-April 30: daily, 10 am-5 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster-care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay
(617-375-0700). www.bostonredcross.org. Volunteer in the administrative department.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.
BBMB seeks volunteers to prov
friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsis
org. Volunteers act as friends a
mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-563-4441). www.bos
cares.org. More than 70 vol
teer opportunities are available

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bos
jaycees.org. A volunteer orga
zation of people between
ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). www.bos
livingcenter.org. HIV/AIDS or
nization needs volunteers
kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). www.bostonpartners.org. Tu
young students from the city in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). www.ccaa.org. Vol
teers are needed to educate the public about HIV

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers/tut
needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Support for c
dren and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help ad
living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Litera
(617-357-6000). Tutor students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
(617-995-3250). www.everybodywinsmetroboston.
Read to schoolchildren during your lunch hour.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hospice.org. Volunteers nee
to support terminally ill patients and their families

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-online.c
Over-the-phone counsel for people affected by al
holism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Mentor a ch

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Volunteer for homeless childre

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time with
elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to re

Literacy Volunteers of Massachuse
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-738-5110). www.mablind.org. Read or s
with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelders.org. Volunt
needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium
(617-973-5235). Volunteer as an Aquarium gu
research assistant or work in animal husbandry.

Parental Stress Line
(617-927-0621). Counsel parents and caregiver

Pine Street Inn
(617-482-4944). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve br
fast to homeless guests.

Project Place, Inc.
(617-262-3740). www.projectplace.org. Becon
mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dysle
(617-577-1111). www.rfbd.org. Record textbool
digital formats.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteer at this agency for
tered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the di
room, clothing room and groceries program at
homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-
domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely pe
over the phone.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot oppor
ties to volunteer with other young professiona

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September 22, 2004
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Literary Boston

The Improper Bostonian Magazine

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If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see. (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity.) Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

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Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

Biking Moron

To the moron who almost ran me over on the sidewalk: Bicycles are moving vehicles and must be ridden on the street, not sidewalks. You even shouted an obscenity at me to get out of the way. You behaved like a real lady. I hope you fall into a pothole and get hit by a truck.

Secondly, to those who ride on the street: Rules of the road do apply to you; i.e., you must stop at red lights. I only wish I had had my German shepherd with me so I could have let him loose on you. Stay off the sidewalk!

—Boston Pedestrian

We Met Between Sox Games

We were at Jillian's July 22 between games of the Red Sox doubleheader. I'd been at the day game with some coworkers and you were trying to get rid of your ticket for the night game. You were reading the IMPROPER and I told you about how I liked to read the Impersonals because I thought it was funny that people actually tried to find that person from a random chance meeting. Well, now I'm one of those people! I had such a good time talking with you, even though it was brief, and I really wish I had given you my number so we could continue talking. So I'm taking a chance! Drop me a line—maybe we can go to a game together?

—missedmychance7222004@hotmail.com

Big Man Behind the Wheel

Route 128 North, Waltham stretch, 8 am, mid July: I was driving to work, minding my own business, stuck in the typical traffic that can erupt. This is to that guy who was in front of me. We were traveling at a snail's pace. You moved in front of me, I moved up slightly behind you, you stopped short, I stopped short. No harm, no foul. I did not mean it, and did not touch your car. Waved to say, "Sorry about that"—no obscene gesture—because I felt bad. Next thing I know, I am getting yelled at from your window and you flipped me off. No problem, I thought, I'll get out from behind you, and move into the "fast" lane. I passed on the left, afraid to look over when I saw you gesturing from the corner of my eye. I turned to look and what did you do? You spit on my car. I was stunned and shocked. So, I rolled my window down and said, "Do you feel like a big man now, Buddy?" You spit on my car again, spewed several expletives, and said, "Your problem is, you don't get laid." I laughed at that one—is that ALL you could come up with?—I'm married and believe me, on my end, it's all good, Hon.

I laughed because apparently, road-raged, frustrated, not-very-good-looking, small-minded-big-mouthed guys in old, unattractive cars have nothing better to do than rage at innocent people who are just trying to get to work. Next time you want to spit on someone's car because they dared come near your car, think about your mom, or wife or daughter...how would you feel if someone spit on their car?

—T.G.

ArtBeat, Davis Square

The evening of July 16: You were on your way home (from work?) with two bags of groceries. We spoke briefly at the entrance to the park and you said you were going to drop off your things and return. I'm sorry I didn't run into you again later that evening, or the next day. You're obviously bright, attractive and personable, and I'd like to find out more about you.

—ingplace@yahoo.com

Eddie Bauer, July 14

You: Young, petite Asian woman looking a little frustrated. Me: Young, full figured black woman, browsing the T-shirt section. I just want to say thank you. I do not know why you picked me out of the handful of other shoppers that evening, but you made my week. Sorry I looked at you so suspiciously, but "random acts of kindness" are not an everyday occurrence in my life, so I was skeptical and wondering what the catch was going to be. Thank you so very much for being so generous. I pray that good karma surrounds you for an eternity.

—Marci M.

Grateful Neighbor

To my quick-thinking and caring neighbors in Jamaica Plain, thank you. I am so grateful to all the wonderful strangers who ran to help me when my bike caught in a trolley track at the corner of South and Jamaica streets July 6. Bleeding and bruised in the middle of rush hour traffic, I was terrified and in a lot of pain. But thanks to you—especially the off-duty paramedic and the woman who called 911 on her cell phone—I'm still here, in one piece. I feel extremely fortunate to live in such an amazing community of people who look out for each other. From the bottom of my heart, thank you.

—Liat

Smile Again

On the Green Line our eyes met and we smiled. I tried to steal another look at you and caught you catching me. I couldn't help but blush and smile and feel a kind of rush. I know you somehow felt the same because just before you stepped off the T at Coolidge Corner you turned to smile at me and nod and then turned again to smile through the closed door. Let's smile again over something as simple as ice cream on a summer afternoon.

—smileagaingreenline@yahoo.com

Girl in the Green T-shir

I first saw you at Newbury Comics on the afternoon of July 25, but we didn talk until we were both at the T waiting for the train. I had on black shoes, a white bucket hat, blue jeans a blue jacket and a gray T-shirt. I go to sit next to you before you got off Boylston. I wished we got to talk more. I think you're attractive, and you want to talk, e-mail me.

—peace2021@aol.com

Subway Guy at the Purple Shamrock

You were tall, with light, brownish hair, blue eyes, an adorable boyish smile and a really nice body, out at t Purple Shamrock. You mentioned th you owned a couple of Subway sandwich stores, but I couldn't remember which ones or I would ha contacted you! I was the girl who wa born in Spain (but has lived here sin I was 6)—long, dark hair with the "most beautiful brown eyes you hav every seen" (your words, not mine). went to the bathroom with my frien and on the way we ran into her ex w his new girlfriend. Drama ensued an needless to say, I got dragged out without the chance to say goodbye give you my number. I would definit love some more of those soft, sexy kisses. I usually don't kiss strangers bars, but the chemistry was amazin If you would like to take me to that restaurant you were telling me abou e-mail me. Tell me your first and middle name so I know it's you.

—Girlfromspain1976@yahoo.com

Boat Cruise, July 31

Hey, big hunky guy: You thought were so macho coming off the boa yelling at the guy half your size behind you. And you must have thought you were Joe Cool telling him you were a "cop" and threatening to beat him up. Belie me, Sam, you have an anger management problem and you're lucky you weren't arrested. I doub that you read the IMPROPER, but if have any friends maybe one of th will read this to you.

—Jen

rockie horoscope

UGUST 11 – 24, 2004

BY ROCKIE GARDINER

EO JULY 23–AUGUST 22

sisting on "my way or the highway" tactics (no matter whether you're right or ultimately oven wrong) can pay off around the 11th, as the Leo sun aligns with obstinate Pluto in gittarius, a hopeful, high-spirited fire sign like your own. You'll be able to display greater thenticity and authority than you (or your partner) imagined because now you can tap o hidden sources of the kind of power that secretive Pluto provides. Some of it is purely tual, some of it your life-or-death instinct at work. Trying to get pregnant?

IRGO

UGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

ok for a chance to grow at the expense of someone from ur past when ethical, enthusiastic Jupiter in your sign is allenged by manipulative Pluto in your Sagittarius nadir. haps the situation won't be as dastardly or dramatic as that; maybe it'll simply be a problem with the plumbing something else at home that is not immediately parent. As long as you're in such an expansive frame of nd, you might as well go after the goodies you truly want. the research, but don't make any major expenditures ile your Mercury ruler is retrograde.

IBRA

PTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

rking women, domestic goddesses and artists in various dia can weave a magical spell over your career now. Be e to those who are in a position to make you feel more ure about your place in the world. While your Venus ruler ts your Cancer midheaven—until Labor Day—family, inism and the promise of fame can spur you on to greater ghts. If it's important that you achieve at least one of your ls, know that despite delays and Mercury retrograde, this ne month to try. Friends or an organization may play an iliary role, but don't count on them to grease your way.

CORPIO

TOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

patience to follow through, to pay attention to the llest detail, is available if you need it. And before mn begins you probably will. Thank your Mars co-ruler finally getting to Virgo, the sign that actually enjoys king things as good as they can get. And while perfection ot your usual cup of tea, achieving your goal, by any ns necessary, is. Because Mars teams up with Mercury Jupiter, the planets that govern publicity and the dia, you're likely to appear smarter or hipper than you ly are. Fun for some.

AGITTARIUS

OVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

the next 10 days, it should be easy to do something ficult. If you've been fearful about making a crucial nge, now, while the life-affirming sun favors anal- ntive Pluto in Sag, would be the time to start. Pluto is a erful energy; it represents the disease and the cure, e and recovery, and other heavy-duty things we'd er not think about. But while the force is with you, it ld be sheer folly (a Sagittarius trait, for sure) to ignore ther people's resources are available for the asking.

APRICORN

CEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

Idn't you know it? It's August—vacation time for the ks—and your unconscious is lit up like the sky during Perseids meteor showers. One revelation about the past another, plus a spiritual epiphany to blow your mind! pportunistic sextile between prescient Jupiter and your stic Saturn ruler next week favors good judgment and range planning for success. It's also the first supportive ment these giants have made since their conjunction in s in May 2000. Think back: what has changed?

QUARIUS

UARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

're feeling at all uncomfortable about a casual dship or your affiliation with an organization, now would good time to deal with it. Sunny Leo energy tends to emphasize the upside of relationships; it's also more forgiving than most signs. And while affectionate Venus trines your Uranus ruler midmonth, any change of heart would have a positive effect on you, personally. The Leo new moon on the 15th in your house of partners can inaugurate a new, more generous way of interacting with allies and antagonists alike.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

Mercury retrograde in your Virgo partnership house, from August 9 to September 2, suggests that you be very careful dealing with significant others. Don't overlook the smallest detail of any agreement you may be considering, and double-check all information you receive. This includes casual conversations with your mate. Misunderstandings galore! Also, not seeing the forest for the trees tends to happen while Mercury is busy critiquing the small stuff. Better to table discussions entirely and opt for fun and frolic instead.

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

Your approach to problems and pleasures alike may change dramatically after your Mars ruler leaves enthusiastic Leo on the 10th and settles into detail-oriented Virgo for the next seven weeks. Productivity becomes as desirable an end as creativity, and being accurate may prove just as satisfying as being praised. Rams born in mid April can have it all—the love, the learning and the luck—when the fiery Leo sun and powerful Pluto in Sag support your natal Aries planets. Meanwhile, slow down, because Mercury is backsliding through your house of romance and recreation.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

Finally, your Venus ruler leaves dualistic Gemini, where it's been flitting about since April 3, and enters down-home Cancer. Emotional security—and the other kind too—becomes more important, although you shouldn't be afraid to take a chance that could pop up as the week progresses. Although it might not be apparent, when it comes to romance and games of chance, you can be quite lucky right now. Don't let your reluctance to change keep you from capitalizing on Jupiter's expansive good fortune while you still can. Come fall, it'll be gone.

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

It's mainly mid-June Gemini natives who are caught in the middle of the power struggle between righteous Jupiter in your Virgo home base and suspicious Pluto in your Sagittarius house of partners. A philosophical tug-of-war can be confusing and exhausting, especially since your Mercury ruler, retrograde in cautious Virgo, is in no position to help you sort through the information you're receiving. Not until Mercury goes direct on September 2 will you begin to see the entire picture, so try to postpone important decisions until then.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

Flirt away. Having magnetic Venus in your sign (but only until Labor Day) will draw attention to how good you look and make you quite popular with both genders. Although some folks might be impressed by the savvy way you wheel and deal, you'll tend to favor the humanitarians, eccentrics and independent thinkers who want to introduce you to something new. Meanwhile financial matters might not go smoothly while Mercury is retrograde in your house of income and assets. Not the time to ask for a raise.

us about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE INER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

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IMPROPER sightings

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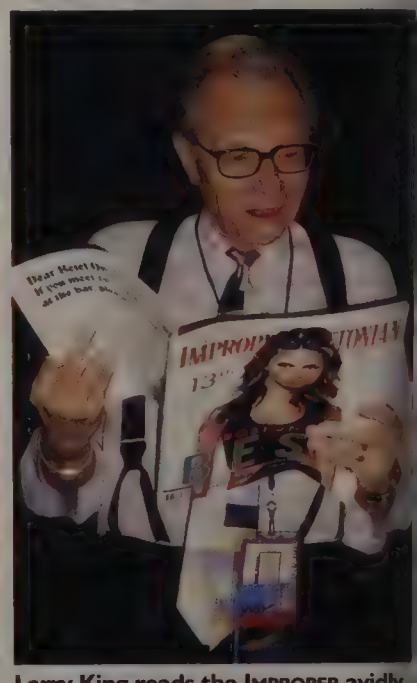
Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you were. The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.



Pete Lescoe, Dan Leonardo and Tom Maher ride the London Eye, which allows riders to see all of London and has proven much more popular than the conceptually similar London Nose.



Heidi Satz sent this picture of the Ottawa Hash House Harriers getting ready for their annual Red Dress Dun outside of the Rideau Curling Club in Ottawa, Ontario. You don't even want to know what was going on *inside* the curling club.



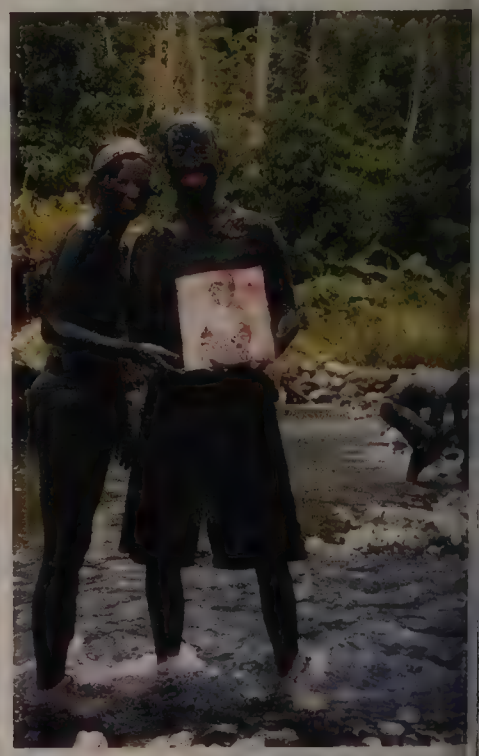
Larry King reads the IMPROPER avidly, because we're just so live. And we're big suspenders fans too.



Christine Anos, Emily Saperia, Renata Roskopf and Julia Finnegan are embarrassed for this naked statue man in Magog, Quebec. Because not only is he naked, he's really whittle.



Barbara and Jim Conen pose in front of a lava river left by the eruption of Mount Etna in Sicily. Mount Etna erupted in 1993 after pranksters filled it with baking soda and vinegar.



Kelli Strieby and Michael Ivins bathe in a spring in Costa Rica, which was a lucky fin after the crapper in their RV backed up.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Totally wailing on your totally imaginary guitar at the World Air Guitar Championships, held Aug. 25–27 in the most hardcore, rockingest place in the world, Oulu, Finland.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
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BACHELORS & BACHELORETTES

issue in January 2005

Please nominate your favorite local single guy or gal to be featured in this issue.

PLEASE INCLUDE:

Your name _____

Your phone number and e-mail address _____

_____

Your nominee's name, phone number, e-mail address

and the local city where he/she lives _____

_____

Tell us why he/she is a catch. Be specific. _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

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His/her occupation and age _____

(Please include a recent color photo, or high-res digital image, of your friend)

MAIL NOMINATIONS TO:
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e-mail to Bostonbach@improper.com

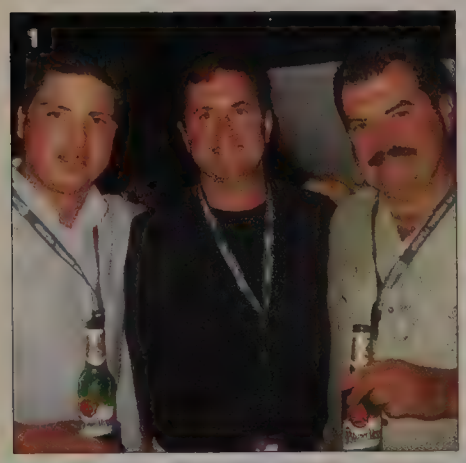
Please note that you can't nominate yourself and you must provide all of the above information in order to qualify.

Entries must be received no later than October 3, 2004

IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Friday, July 16, **Pilsner Urquell** presented the "Picture Yourself in Prague" event with Blues Traveler at the **Paradise Rock Club**. Guests enjoyed music, beer and a chance to win a trip to Prague.







1. **Marc Salsman**, Boston sales representative; **Brendan Dalton**, general manager, New England and **Rick Wetmore**, area manager, New England, all for Miller Brewing Company.
2. **Tim St. Laurent**, janitor; **Pat Johnson**, assistant to the district attorney and **Josh Spirn**, assistant district attorney, all of the District Attorney's Office with **Kirsten Malsnee**, M.D. at Beverly Hospital.
3. **Daniélle Legros**, **Lauren Smith** and **Trisha Raymond**, all teachers at Plowshares in Newton with **Tony DiPaolo**, event administrator, athletic operations for Boston College.

On Wednesday, July 28, **Felt** played host to Rock the Vote with a free concert by Frickin' A and Angel.







1. **Kevin Burke** of Boston; **Nicole Yarman**, sales rep for M.S. Walker; and **Matt Genatossio**, sales rep fo Tap.
2. **Steve McGarry**, sales manager fo United Liquors; **Virginia Depetris**, marketing & PR manager, and **Brian O'Donnell**, general manager, both Felt.
3. **Mike Moran**, co-owner of Felt and Caprice; **Steve Ballard**, regional sales manager for Ketel One eastern division; and **Jamie Schrader**, consultant for Fujisawa Health Care

On Thursday, July 22, the **Renaissance Room** hosted a launch party with wine, hors d'oeuvres and live saxophone music. Guests got a peek at garments by designers such as Giselle Shepatin and Pashya White.





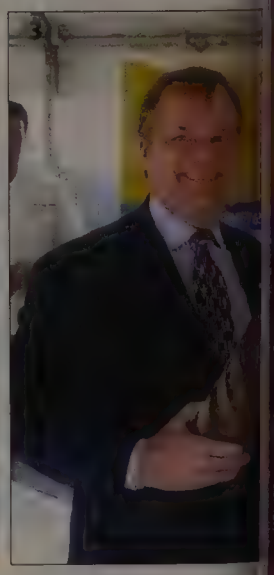


1. **Bill Perry**, marketing director; **Linda Marsella**, co-owner; **Jacquie Perry**, co-owner; and **Roberta Stummer**, general manager, all of Renaissance Room.
2. **Carlie Smith**, model.
3. **Lee Santer**, account executive for WBZ radio; **Cynthia Kellem** of Boston; **Amy Slotnick**, VP of Monument Mortgage; and **Nancy Jaye**, owner of the Frame Studio.

On Wednesday, June 30, **Au Bon Pain** continued its 25th anniversary celebration with the naming of the city's newest street Au Bon Pain Way, in Sou Boston, with guest speaker Mayor Thomas Menino.









1. **Mayor Thomas Meni**
2. **Frank Guidara**, presid and CEO of Au Bon Pai
3. **Jim Fisher**, vice preside marketing for Au Bon Pa
4. **Fred Matheson**, direc of purchasing; **Michae Raphaelson**, purchasi manager; **Steve Skua** director of marketing; **Mockler**, vice preside information systems; a **Ted Davis**, regional manager, all of Au Bon Pain.

PHOTOS: PARADISE ROCK CLUB, ALISON MORANT; FELT, AU BON PAIN, JULIE KANE; THE RENAISSANCE ROOM, HARINDER S

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MAGAZINE

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Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch



RESTAURANTS

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The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston, 617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled Portabella Paninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1 am. AE, DC, MC, V.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2002. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Captain Fishbones *332 Victory Road, Marina Bay, Quincy, 617-471-3511, www.captainfishbones.com.* Captain Fishbones is a spectacular waterfront restaurant featuring Seafood, Steak and More. Enjoy lunch or dinner on our seasonal patio, dine inside, treat yourself to tropical cocktails in our lounge or savor the sunshine at our Boardwalk Café. We serve seafood so fresh it deserves a slap, succulent steaks, awesome burgers, healthy salads, a wide selection of sandwiches and pizza. Full menu is available from 11:30 until close. **Clerys** *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston 617-426-3333.* Open 11am - 2am, 7days a week. Kennedy's Midtown is a cultural experience far from the maddening crowd while set in heart of it. Kennedy's serves a lunch and dinner menu of international cuisine. In the evenings they play host to some of Boston's finest Pianists who entertain with a range of tunes from Broadway to Jazz and Blues. Kennedy's embraces all the finer qualities of regal Boston and throws in a dash of old fashioned Irish Hospitality for measure.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444, Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., South Boston, 617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11 am - 2am 7 days a week.

Ned Devine's *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere in the heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Solas *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am 7 days a week.

Strega *379 Hanover St., Boston 617-523-8481 www.stregaristorante.com.* A fine dining experience in Boston's historic North End. Enjoy our cozy, romantic atmosphere, splendid wine list and savory Italian dishes. Strega buzzes with a mix of casual tourists, local residents and love-struck couples. The menu offers something for everyone. Traditional dishes like the gnocchi are anything but simple, featuring flavor just as robust as that found in intricate dishes. Find yourself in the company of celebrities, including owner Nick Varano's pals from of the Sopranos. Available for corporate and private functions.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina** *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

Sydney's Grille *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why Bon Appétit magazine says, "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breakfast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus visit www.sidneysgrille.com.

BARS/CLUBS

Beer Specialty

Boston Beer Works *112 Canal St., near the Fleet Center, 617-896-BEER, 61 Brookline Ave., across from Fenway Park, 617-536-BEER and 278 Derby St., in Historic Salem, 978-745-BEER.* Boston's oldest and largest restaurant brewery with 3 locations! Bold American Food. Award Winning Beer. 15 microbrewed beers always on tap. 16 American wines by the glass. 15 championship billiards tables at our Canal Street location. Complete party planning capabilities. Private Rooms. Customizeable menus. Lunch. Dinner. Late Night. Always a good time. Check out the BIGGER and BOLDER menu.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exotic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

Big City - pool hall, pizza kitchen, Beer Bar *138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8pm, free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Clubs

Felt *533 Washington St., Boston, 617.350.5555* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, right next door to the Opera House; in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering sophisticated billiards, New York style Lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere of DJ's and dancing, combined with the delicious entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Contemporary cusine by Chef Ben Stevens.

Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston, 617-482-7799.* Located in Boston's trendy Theater District, Pravda 116 is a chic bar and club. DJs 5:30pm - 10:30pm keep the energy level high. Bar 5:30pm-2am and dance club 10:30pm - 2am Wednesday-Saturday. Credit cards accepted AE, CB, DC, MC, V.

Stadium – Clubhouse *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Stadium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale nightclub featuring two bars, a hardwood dance floor and parking. An exciting yet relaxed 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety of music and beautiful people crowding the dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights. An ideal place for your next bachelor, bachelorette or birthday party.

Club Q Boston *25 Union St., Boston, 617-742-2121.* Open 9pm - 2am Wednesday through Saturday. What nightlife in Boston has been waiting for, this state of the art Nightclub in the heart of Faneuil Hall attracts a stylish and eclectic crowd. Open Wednesday through Saturday Club Q hosts Boston's top DJs spinning Hip Hop, House and Top 40's. With two bars, three VIP areas and pool tables, Club Q is the place to see and be seen. Credit cards accepted.

Comedy

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

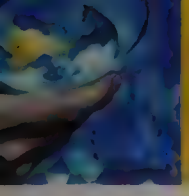
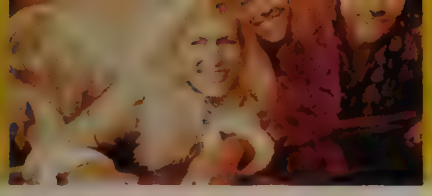
Dance Bars

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live band downstairs!

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-208 www.theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. Mingle. Let your hair down; see and be seen on the big screen. Simply the hippest way to spend a night of all-out fu in Boston's Financial District. Come after work. Com to dance. Come to go wild with your friends. There always something exciting happening – and yo never know who you'll bump into. Join us and exper ence what the buzz is all about.

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 617 227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu in cludes American and Irish specialties. Live cove bands nightly.

Irish


HE BLACK ROSE *160 State St., Boston, 617-742-286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 5th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in merica, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

ENNESSY'S OF BOSTON *25 Union St., Boston,617-42-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to neuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials nd Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive eer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best apetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a eek with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirs," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

HE GRAND CANAL *57 Canal St., Boston, 617-523-112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub emre of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features ver fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full inernational menu, and Boston's best appetizer enu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best ands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video reen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox ames. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

REEN BRIAR *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-89-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, ffordable food. One of the most popular nightspots town, the Green Briar has become the area's eadquarters for international sports viewing and ve entertainment. Live music five nights a week, aturing local bands on weekends, a traditional sh Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time ivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere akes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold ncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings nd small business meetings. Open 11am - 1am 7 ys a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

IE GREEN DRAGON *11Marshall St., Boston, 617-57-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolun," this favorite after work meeting place is faous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A mfortable place serving lunch and dinner and ghly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. m 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imrted Irish brews. Live music and entertainment ery Thursday through Sunday night.

NVARA *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hosable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a egular". It's the local gathering place with auentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports wing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurl. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekds. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from lled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional h dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinra, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open am - 2am 7 days a week.

R. DOOLEY'S BOSTON TAVERN *77 Broad St., Boston, 7-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of e Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite eting place for young professionals. The authenIrish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has en voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best eap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live nds every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place a pint and a chat."

neral

E ALLEY *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. w.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of urbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

AQUA *120 Water St., Boston, 617-720-4900.* Boston's newest place to be seen is now open in the heart of the Financial District. Whether relaxing with a martini in one of our cozy booths, sipping a margarita on our roof deck or watching your hometown favorites on our high definition plasma TV. Aqua has what you're looking for after work and late night with our resident and guest DJs spinning your favorite mixes through our state of the art sound system all night long.

THE BLACK RHINO *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

BOSTON ROCKS *245 Quincy Market Place Boston,617-726-1110 www.boston-rocks.net. 21+.* Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

CACTUS CLUB *939 Boylston St.,617- 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2003. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

CHEERS *Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-227-0150, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Offering pub fare until 11:45pm. Live entertainment every Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

CHEERS *Beacon Hill 84 Beacon St., Boston, 617-227-9605, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Full menu available until 11:45pm. Watch your favorite team on DirecTV.

DOWNTOWN LOUNGE *138 Portland St., Boston 617-523-8383.* Tempting tapas, modern martinis and contemporary cocktails are just a few of the elements awaiting your arrival. A distinctive destination in the heart of North Station, located just one block from the Fleet Center. Share crab taquitos, shaved portobello mushrooms or grilled white pizza. Revive with a specialty martini while sinking into soft curvy seating. Spacious and sublime, Dowtown Lounge is an attractive meeting place for business, luncheons, social, after work cocktails and events.

THE HARP *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010.* Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

HURRICANE O'REILLY'S *150 Canal St.,Boston 617-722-0161.* The newest edition to Boston's night scene. This New Orleans style bar is just steps away from the Fleet Center. Hurricane O'Reilly's serves up the best that Boston nightlife has to offer. Come dance the night away with the hottest music around. We will leave you yearning for Bourbon Street.

JILLIAN'S BOSTON *145 Ipswich St., Boston, 617-437-0300.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring more than 200 high tech games, six full bars, 50 pool tables, racing simulators, Black Jack for Fun and much more. Atlas Bar and Grill on Jillian's first floor offers full service dining featuring innovative American cuisine, a giant screen video wall and dancing every Friday & Saturday night. www.jilliansboston.com.

THE JUNCTION – YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD BAR & GRILL. *110 Dorchester St., South Boston, 617-268-6429.* Delicious food, great atmosphere and friendly staff –and it all happens at the Junction -South Boston's Neighborhood Bar & Grill. Enjoy our half -priced appetizers on weekdays from 3 to 6 pm. Join us for live music & entertainment on the weekends and for our fun trivia nights on Tuesdays.

PARRIS *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Lounge. Cocktails. Dancing. Nightlife. Come see the lights of Parris. Sample the eclectic lounge menu featuring grilled pizza, oyster shooters ans steak tartar. Sip a Classic, Apple or French 75 martini, and then motion onto the huge dance floor featuring Live Music with the best bands and DJs Thursday through Saturday. Named for the original architect of the Greek-revival-style building, Alexander Parris, you're nightlife experience at Parris will be Boston and beyond. Open 5pm - 2am Wednesay - Saturday. Cover charge on Friday and Saturday.

Jazz

REGATTABAR *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Tuesday-Saturday nights and occasional Sunday afternoons. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square. Shows at 8:30pm Tues-Thurs, 7:30pm & 10:00pm Fri. & Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617.876.7777 for tickets and information, 800.881.1818 for hotel reservations and information.

Latin

SOPHIA'S *1270 Boylston St., Boston 617-351-7001.* A multistory Latin-themed restaurant and club, Sophia's treats guests to a tantalizing Tapas-style menu, live Salsa bands and hi-energy Latin dance. From a romantic dinner and salsa lessons to hi-energy dance and mingling on the roof deck over sangria and Salsa, an evening at Sophia's is always Hot! Hot! Hot

Sports Bar - Upscale

THE PLACE *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www.theplaceboston.com.* Voted Boston's Best Sports Bar 3 years in a row by The Improper Bostonian! Mingle with your favorite sports celebrities: Brady, Thornton, Walker, Garciaparra. You never know who you'll run into. Enjoy the wildest party atmosphere in the heart of the Financial District. It's never the same experience twice – we've got exclusive sports video productions and game coverage on our state-of the-art flat screen TVs. So join us to see what the buzz is all about and find out why people in-the-know feel right at home.

SPORTS DEPOT *353 Cambridge Street, Allston, 617-783-2300,www.sportsdepotboston.com.* SPORTS DEPOT IS BACK! Original Location! Bigger and Better! Plenty of Plasma! Wifi! New Huge Menu! Bring your appetite and your laptop, meet your friends and watch all the games at once, no channel surfing necessary! Enjoy our exciting menu featuring the Original Sports Depot Wings, Pizza and Ribs that fall off the bone! A full menu available everyday from 11:30 to close and Sunday Brunch 10-2. Cool off on a summer day with a Tropical Temptation, Frozen Specialty Drink, Infusion or Martini! Enjoy the sunshine and sports on our Patio!

STADIUM *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* Boston's Best Damn Sports Bar, Period. A brand new, high-end sports bar featuring two floors, three bars, 30 flat screen TVs – including the one in the men's room, a dance floor and parking. Stadium menu offers an enticing selection of appetizers, salads, steak & burgers, fresh seafood and drinks

BRUNCH

HARVARD GARDENS *315 Cambridge St., Beacon Hill, Boston, 617-523-2727. www.harvardgardens. com.* Cozy up to the beautiful mahogany bar or slip into a comfy booth and enjoy Harvard Gardens' menu of cool cocktails and comfort food. Brunch serves up eggs and pastrami hash, thick-cut French toast with caramelized bananas, specialty pizzas and Boston's best Bloody Mary. Harvard Gardens serves brunch Saturday and Sunday, 11:00am - 3:00pm.

HENRIETTA'S TABLE *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended 617-661-5005.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE – SKYLINE ROOM *Science Park, Boston, Ma, 02114.* Enjoy Sunday Brunch in the beautiful Skyline Room overlooking the Charles River at 12p.m., then check out the latest Omni film or visit our new exhibit, *The Lord of the Rings Motion Picture Trilogy – The Exhibition.* Tickets start at $32 and include on-site parking when available. Brunch only, $24. Reservations recommended. For more information call (617) 723-2500 or visit mos.org.

SUNSET GRILL & TAP *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **SUNSET CANTINA**, *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

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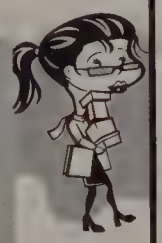
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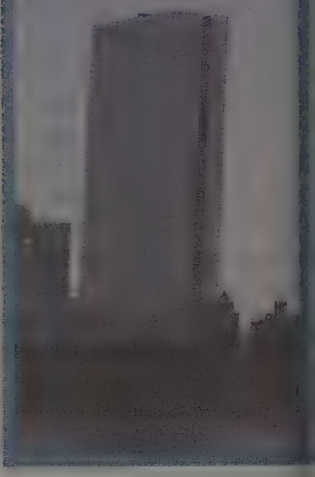
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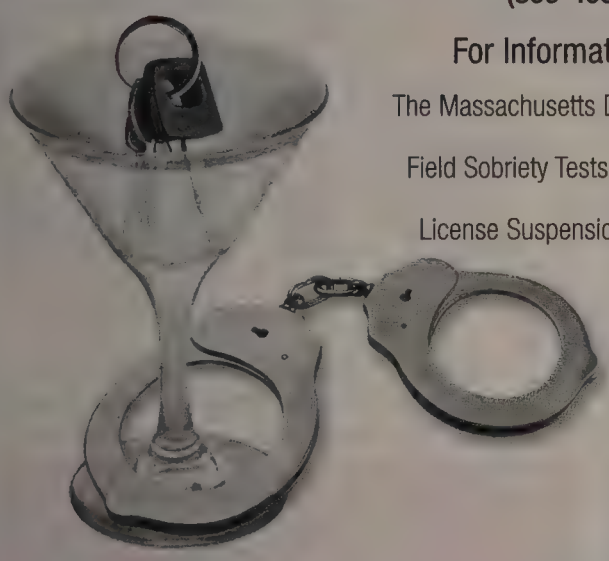
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LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF











On Nantucket, clockwise from top: Jason Griswold and A.J. Mleczko; Bob Lobel and Tom Kershaw; Greg and Jennifer Hill; John McCarthy and Carol Gray; Ernie Boch Jr. and George Albrecht

NOTES FROM A SMALL ISLAND...

It seems that throwing kick-ass parties has finally eclipsed whaling as **Nantucket**'s biggest industry, judging by the **A.J. Mleczko Charity on Ice Celebrity Hockey Game**, which took place July 17 and raised funds for the island's municipal skating rink.

Named for and hosted by the Olympic women's hockey gold medalist (and lifelong Nantucketer), the game was part of a three-day extravaganza that began with drinks the night the guests arrived, continued with hangovers nursed by the pool of the **Harbor House** the next morning, and also included a round of golf, a fishing trip on which one of the celebrities saved an unlucky duckling from certain death, an over-the-top clambake with a ring-toss for vintage wines, and a live auction in which megabucks were bandied about.

Somewhere in the middle of all this the hockey game took place, and it proved to be both wildly entertaining and highly surreal. Spectators sporting deep tans, whale pants and Lily Pulitzer outfits arrived at **Bovers Rink** on the first real beach day the island had seen in weeks, and promptly began shivering as they sat down to watch the game. On the ice were such bold-faced names as Mleczko and her teammates **Tricia Dunn** and **Colleen Coyne**; 1980 men's hockey gold medalist **Jim Craig**; gazillionaire hockey nut **George Gund**; sports anchor **Bob Lobel**; WAAF morning mouths **Greg Hill** and former Bruin **Lyndon Byers** (the good Samaritan who had stopped a runty duck from getting pecked to death by a group of crazed waterfowl that morning); fellow hockey gods **Rick Middleton**, **Ted Donato** and **Gord Kluzak**; former Patriots giant **Max Lane** and actor/filmmaker **John Shea**, to name a few. In fact, the only no-show was John Kerry, who arrived on the island only hours before the game began and realized he had forgotten to pack his hockey gear, eventually bowing out by pleading exhaustion from the presidential campaign.

It's irrelevant who won, but what was significant (aside from the sheer oddity of watching a hockey game on Nantucket in mid July) was how civilized it was. As one spectator, noting the lack of fistfights, observed: "If a brawl did break out, they'd probably just hit each other over the head with cashmere sweaters."

A celebration at the **Great Harbor Yacht Club** followed, with plentiful food and drink and a guest list that included the likes of banking mack daddy **Chad Gifford** and his lovely wife, **Anne**; Mleczko's mother, Nantucket Ice president **Bambi**; Republican publican **Tom Kershaw**; studly private-jet guy **John Jakes**; and auto tycoons **George Albrecht** and **Ernie Boch Jr.**, who bid so high and so often that one of the auctioneers actually said, "Take it easy, guys. You're upstaging me."

When the whole thing was over, the amount of money raised was so mind-boggling that a guest said, "That was excellent—there's nothing worse than doing an auction for a raffle crowd." Or, as someone else put it, "Now they can afford solid gold hockey sticks and Louis Vuitton gear bags for the players."

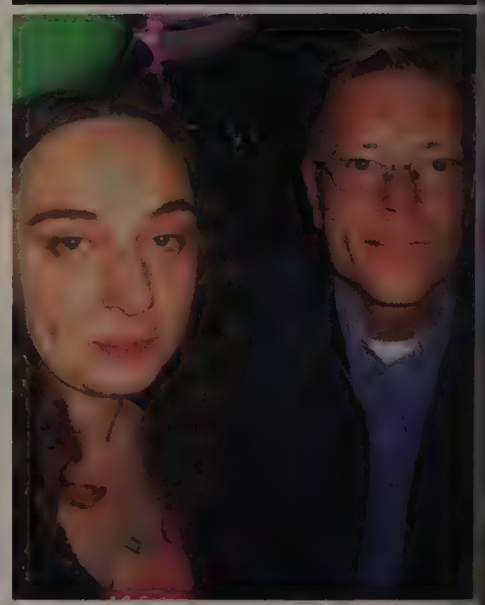
THERE'S SOMETHING TO BE SAID FOR HOLDING ONE'S TONGUE...

If the **Art of July** is any indication, a pool hall is the perfect place to throw a charity art auction. The annual fundraiser, held July 14 at **The Rack**, attracted an eclectic and interesting assortment of socialites and artists, hipsters, hippies, bigshots and bohemians, many of whom seemed flummoxed at finding themselves in a bar near Faneuil Hall.

Present and accounted for: painter and David Bowie look-alike **Brian Patrick Adams**; decorator and Dudley Do-Right doppelgänger **Duncan Hughes**; improbably tall graphic designer **Christopher Ellsworth**; dotcom dating mogul **Mike Stevens**; the stunningly sexy **Lisa Rebello**; yoga goddess **Bethany Cantin**; affordable housing developer **Jonathan Kaye**; lawyer-about-town **Caesar Belbel**; super-groover **Matthew Campbell**; uber-cutie **Jodi Wolin**; organizer and force-o nature **Randace Rauscher-Moore**; aspi ing politico **Kristine Glynn** and others of similarly stimulating ilk.

By the time the bidding was done, th evening had raised beaucoup dinero for th **Children's Trust Fund**, and everyon seemed to be having a thoroughly exce lent time, including one guest wh bumped into an old acquaintance and lat said to a friend, "I wanted to ask, 'Didn we have sex once?' but some people migh take that the wrong way." iB

At the Art of July party, from top: Rebecca Davidson and Brian Patrick Adams; Christopher Ellsworth, Jodi Wolin and Robert White; Brian Szela, Mike Stevens and Matthew Campbell







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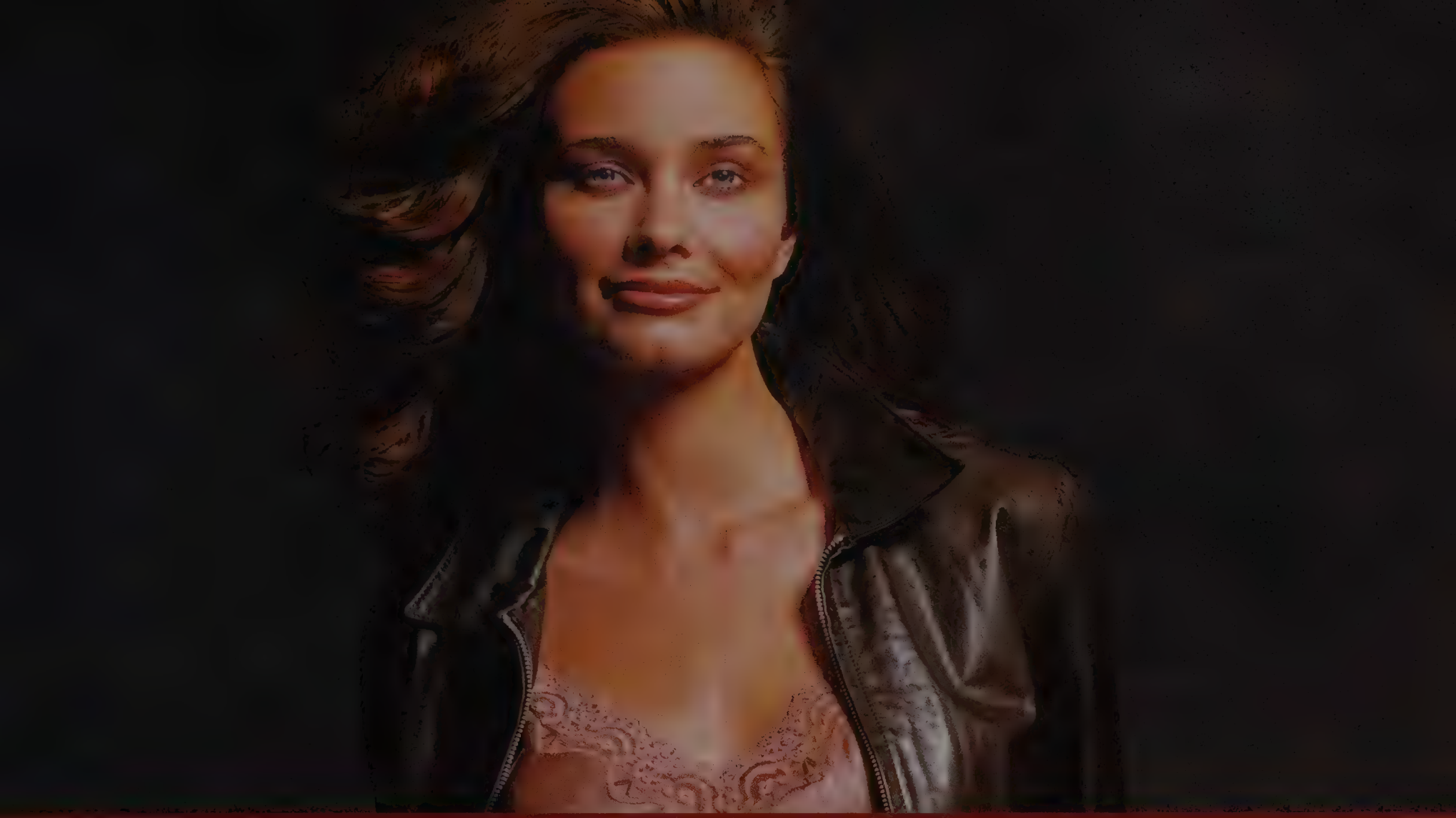
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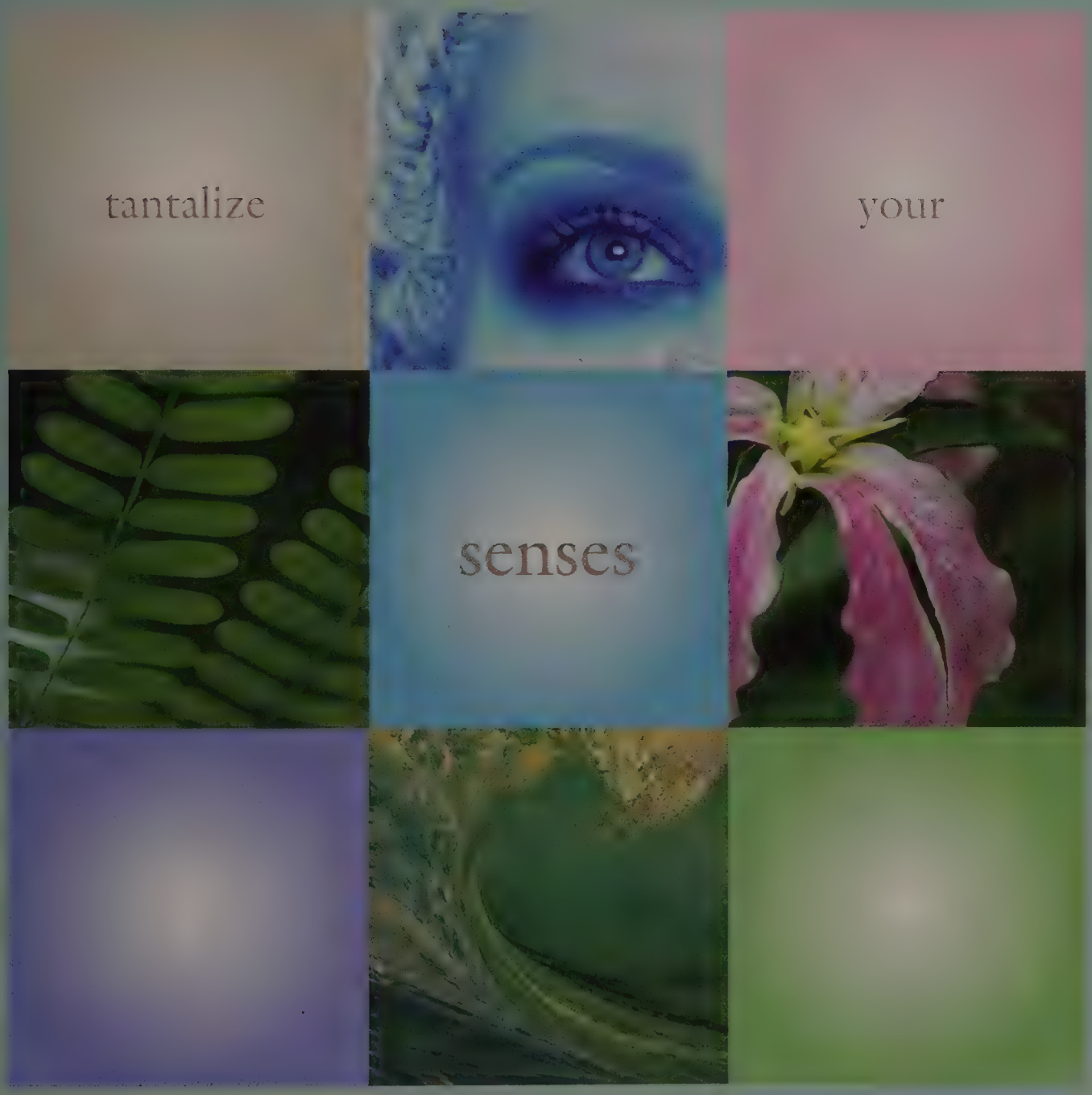








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Hair: **Mitch Derosa for Mitchell John Salon;** makeup: **Jenny Brown for Stila;**
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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR



FALL FORECAST

Back in February, the IMPROPER's fashion editor, Samantha House, took a trip to New York to preview the fall 2004 collections, and in this issue she finally gets the chance to show our readers what she saw on the runways.

With assistance from lovely Elisabeth Hasselbeck, a Boston College alum and the newest face on ABC's *The View*, House highlights some of the most exciting looks for women this fall—from long, glamorous gowns to retro tweed suits. Meanwhile, men can take some fashion cues from KISS 108's Chris Shine, who also does model duty in this issue (leather trench coats, tweed jackets and striped suits are all the rage for guys this season). We round out our fashion preview with a look at stylish accessories—colorful watches, the return of the hat, and, for women, makeup tips from Emerson grad and cosmetics queen Bobbi Brown.

Finally, sticking with the prepping-for-fall theme, Ezra Dyer reports on the cars and trucks perfect for that ever popular college-town pastime: tailgating.

Read on and when the cool weather arrives, you'll be ready.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

CREATURE COMFORTS

"Creatures of the Night" (Aug. 11) was a great piece. Brilliant perception. Funny and accurate. This is not the vague-eyebrows-and-hooded-sweatshirt caricature of a police sketch; this is the laser-accurate caption of countless nights spent in line for entry, drinks, glimpses, phone numbers. You've got Boston's personalities—and personality—wired, and you express what we all feel when we plan our nights, looking for specific types, hoping desperately to avoid specific others. Some of us seek barrooms where it looks like a 1998 Volkswagen ad has come to life and the crowd dresses as if the dot-com crash never happened. Some of us think nightlife begins and ends with an overmiked acoustic guitar and a Scorpion Bowl. We all know, by sight or by name, one living entry in each category. And though it may be caught-in-the-act, denial-laden disappointment to realize that our behavior places us in one of those categories, we also realize that while trends can be followed and fought, we in evening-time Boston have every opportunity to be "nightlife's type O." Great work.

—WHIT ALLEN
Jamaica Plain

THE DINER THINGS IN LIFE

I enjoyed the Boston's Best issue (July 21), as always. But I have one amendment to suggest, regarding late-night dining. Under "Best Late-Night Food" you wrote that News is "unaccompanied in its hours except by a handful of Chinatown haunts." As an avid lover of South Street Diner's 4–5 am fare, stretching on into the wee hours of 6 and 7 am, when the construction workers, firemen and police come stomping in, and my date and I invariably crawl out, sleepy-eyed, to catch an early T home, I have to put in a plug for this fantastic old-style diner. Whether it's officially in Chinatown or the South End, it deserves high praise in its own right for some of the best burgers, omelets, French toast, and jukebox repertoire around. And it's never closed.

—KATHLEEN HALEY
Somerville

C'EST LA VIE

Your Boston's Best issue was quite a delight to read and certainly a helpful source of information. I feel snotty pointing out the misuse of French words or expressions, though you might want to know that most of the time "so French" customs have nothing to do with France. I particularly enjoyed neologisms such as "décolletage," an amusing mixture of "décolleté" and "cleavage," although I am afraid that, as with "sautéed," it is now an official American-French word.

Please don't get me wrong, I did appreciate the Boston's Best issue, and I also agreed with most of your picks. Yes, Boston is definitely much fun and a thrill.

—CEDRIC HUBEAU
Brookline



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—WHIT ALLEN
JAMAICA PLAIN

CONTRIBUTOR

ERIC STRIFFLER



For more than 12 years, photographer Eric Striffler has been shooting everything from burnt-out factories to fashion models. Although he works with numerous subjects, Striffler's true loves are atmospheric fashion and lifestyle photography, and his images have appeared in publications including *Town & Country*, *BusinessWeek*, *Architectural Digest*, *Elle*, *Vogue* and others. Striffler photographed Elisabeth Hasselbeck for this issue's cover and women's fashion spread, which begins on page 18.

NIGHTLIFE COVER: ERIC STRIFFLER

Tell Us What You Think

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new in town

DIRECT MARC-ETING

For those who like to shop—specifically for designer clothing—Marc Jacobs needs no introduction. But if fashion is an afterthought for you, think of him this way: Marc Jacobs is to clothing what Cadillac is to cars. And while lucky shoppers in New York and San Francisco have long had the luxury of browsing the racks at Marc Jacobs showrooms, the rest of us have had to settle for his abridged collection at Saks, Neiman Marcus and Bloomingdale's. Until now.

On August 12, Jacobs opened his sixth U.S. showroom, on Newbury Street. The boutique is Jacobs' first comprehensive all-brand store in the country and includes clothes, accessories and fragrances in both of the designer's eponymous labels (Marc Jacobs and the slightly more affordable Marc by Marc Jacobs). The upper level, which combines the luxurious and the classic with its streamlined white leather couches and white walls, features ready-to-wear (read: high-end) items. Jacobs' fall women's collection features ladylike pieces inspired by the 1940s: round-toe crocodile pumps, sequined blouses cinched with a velvet bow-tie belt, and pencil skirts, none of which are cheap (the crocodile pumps alone go for $3,050). Equally pricey menswear is available, as are luxurious home accents like mink throw pillows and cashmere blankets.

Downstairs at Marc by Marc Jacobs the vibe is more downtown and youthful, with rock music on the stereo, light blue walls and cluttery displays. "The idea here is maximal visual intake," says MJ spokesperson Kate Waters. "We want all the stock out on the floor." And if your shopping companion gets carried away browsing the shearling moleskin coats, candy-colored handbags and sparkly moccasins, you can entertain yourself at the clay play station in the back. Or register to vote. Stacks of voter registration forms accompany the Downtown for Democracy t-shirt display. *81 Newbury St., Boston (617-423-0707). —Jessica Iredale*



around town

TAXICAB LEFTOVERS

If there's anything worse than waking up Saturday morning with a headache the size of the Western Hemisphere, it's realizing that the wallet you last remember pulling out in the cab on the way home is no longer in your possession. After a couple of us experienced this trauma firsthand, we got curious about what else people are leaving behind these days and also how they can get stuff back. "Every single day, we get back a real lot of cell phones," says Laron Downs, a dispatcher with Boston Cab, "but we also get a lot of sunglasses, jewelry and a surprising number of single shoes." Other commonly lost items include baby strollers, umbrellas and cash. So where can all our one-shoed friends go to retrieve their things? Cab drivers bring items to the lost-and-found at the Boston Police Department's Hackney Division, at 1199 Tremont St. But not all items can be recovered. "The other day this guy called up saying that he left some weed in a cab," says Downs. "I don't think he'll be getting that back."



—Rich Levine

inner view

GARY GULMAN

In the end, Gary Gulman wasn't the *Last Comic Standing*. The hunky, Boston-bred comedian finished third on the show's August 12th series finale. But winning isn't everything. After working the local comedy circuit in relative obscurity for years, Gulman beat out thousands of struggling comics and seven of his nine *LCS* housemates, and in the process got the kind of publicity money can't buy. Next up is some serious touring, and season three of *LCS* (debuting August 30), in which the casts of the first two seasons compete against each other. We caught up with Gulman before he hit the road.

IB: *What was your favorite part of the show?*

GG: Getting to perform in front of all those people in a really nice theater. I mean, the crowds were really tremendous and energetic. They stood up. Standing ovations. I haven't gotten any of those in my career.

IB: *Most painful or humiliating part?*

GG: Having to dress up like that clown to entertain those kids.

IB: *Who was the toughest audience?*

GG: The judges at the roast. They were brutal.

IB: *Who were you most happy to see get the boot?*

GG: Probably ANT because I beat him, but he was actually pretty entertaining.

IB: *Do you think you'll keep in touch with anyone from the show?*

GG: I'm also going to be part of *Last Comic Standing Three*. So I'll be working with them for the fall. I became friends with John Heffron and Todd Glass, and I was already friendly with Alonzo.

IB: *What's going on with* Last Comic Standing Three*?*

GG: It's House One vs. House Two. They don't really have that much of a plan for it, but we're all under contract and it's definitely happening.

IB: *What's your favorite comedy club or place to perform in Boston?*

GG: The Comedy Studio in Harvard Square. I work out all my new jokes there.

IB: *How did you get into comedy? Were you always a funny kid?*

GG: I've always appreciated comedians. I don't know that I was always that funny, but I guess I always wanted to be funny and worked really hard at it. I mean, I always appreciated the comedians on Johnny Carson and *Saturday Night Live* and was always in awe of comedy, so I wanted to at least try it.



IB: *What's your favorite bit?*

GG: Right now my favorite bit—and I didn't do it on the TV show—is how I love grapes but hate grapefruit, and the story behind how they have such similar names but different tastes. It's a real important piece, I feel, politically and philisophically.

IB: *Who are your favorite comedians, local and national?*

GG: Locally, I would say Don Gavin, Paul D'Angelo and Tony V. Dane Cook nationally, and David Brenner. And I've always been a big Paul Reiser fan.

IB: *Where do you go from here?*

GG: I'm gonna be on the road every weekend until they stop giving me offers. And I'll be at the Comedy Connection the last weekend in October. *—Jessica Iredale*

LUCIANO PAVAROTTI



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abby tidbits

SUPER STEAK



Where's the Beef?... Historical landmarks and 14-ounce sirloins don't traditionally go hand in hand, but that's about to change. In the coming months, two of Boston's oldest and most historic sites will become homes to popular steakhouse chains. On September 20, New York–based Smith & Wollensky opens its doors at the old Armory building in Back Bay. The four-floor, 22,000-square-foot space will seat up to 425 beef buffs. Meanwhile, in early August, Ruth's Chris Steakhouse announced it had signed a lease for the site of Boston's Old City Hall (the former home of Maison Robert). Ruth's expects to open by the beginning of next year. *www.smithandwollensky.com; www.ruthschris.com.*

Triple the Fun... Nothing beats a trip to Mike's Pastry when you're craving sweets, but battling the cannoli-craving crowd isn't easy. If all goes as planned, however, the lines will be a thing of the past. "We're in the beginning stages of being approved to build up two stories on top of the space we have now," says owner Annette Mercogliano. "That will give us a lot more seating upstairs and also allow us to move back the counter space on the first floor." Needless to say, we're all for easy access to the holy cannoli.



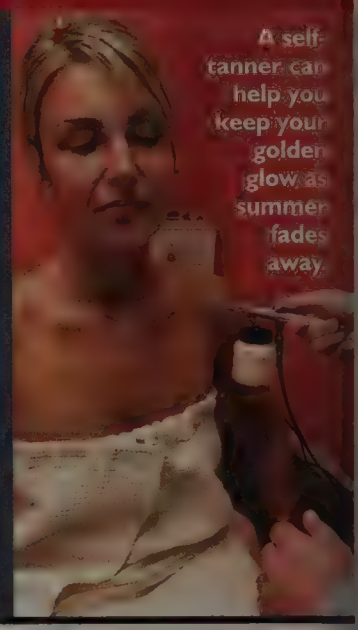
Tantrastic... For years, Indian-food lovers have made the trek to Norwood's Jaipur Café, the acclaimed eatery of Shubhro and Mary Sen. But the duo has brought their talents a little closer to home (or at least closer to our home) with the opening of Tantric on Stuart Street (in the former site of Pho Pasteur). The Sens (along with partners Poonam and Mohinder Ahluwalia) have created a menu based on the philosophy of Tantra (spiritual awareness through invocation of the senses), with a range of gourmet delicacies and libations to stimulate all six senses. Which means (watch out!) lots of spices. *123 Stuart St., Boston (617-367-8742). www.tantricgrill.com.*

International Square.... Davis Square's already diverse selection of dining options continues to expand with the opening of a Tibetan restaurant, Martsa on Elm, housed in the Savannah Grill's former digs. You'll find chef/owner Dechen Martsa, formerly of Harvard Square's Rising Moon, cooking lunch and dinner every day except Monday. *233-A Elm Street, Somerville (617-666-0660). —R.L. and Abby Bielagus*

sam says

ENDLESS SUMMER

Inevitably, as summer winds down, so does the golden glow of your tan. I skip the lecture on the harmful effects of tanning—wrinkles, sunspots, cancer—you've heard it all before. Self-tanner is clearly a safer choice, so I searched out the premier products on the market and tried them all. My conclusions: Neutrogena Build-a-Tan ($9.99 at CVS) is the best for light complexions. It starts out faint, and you can reapply to achieve a medium glow without fear of turning orange. For darker complexions, St. Tropez Tinted Self Tanning Lotion ($33 at Sephora) rocks. After one application you're golden brown, and the color fades naturally. If you're on a bigger budget, check out Maksou Salon's Bronzing Body Treatment ($70, $35 for a touchup), which includes a full-body scrub and self-tanner application. All these treatments are safe and practically foolproof, but in my opinion, the best is Avanti Salon's airbrush treatment ($30 per session or $75 for three). Tanning expert Robin Erb sprays you from head to toe, and the result is a tan so perfect you'll look like you summered in St. Barths. *www.sunless.com. —Samantha House*



improper reports

VEGETARIAN VARIETY

Whether you're a strict vegan or would simply like a scrumptuous, meat-free meal now and then, you can take advantage of the range of cuisine at local restaurants that offer vegan and vegetarian options.

Buddha's Delight

5 Beach St., Boston (617-451-2395); 404 Harvard St., Brookline (617-739-8830).

Buddha's is a vegan's paradise. Convincing meat substitutes are used in many dishes, such as vermicelli with "pork" ($8.35) and meatless "chicken fingers" ($5.80). Sister restaurant Buddha's Delight Too! in Brookline offers the same menu.

Sepal

17 Nichols Ave., Watertown (617-924-5753). www.sepalrestaurant.com.

Healthy-looking vegetarians flock to this Middle Eastern eatery known for its mouthwatering falafel and special sauce. Made with chick peas, eight fresh vegetables and herbs, the falafel sandwich costs $5.95.

Café Mosheh

499b Washington St., Dorchester (617-288-8813). www.cafemosheh.com.

Café Mosheh prides itself on its down-home "soul food" that's 100 percent vegan. Many a meat eater has been known to visit the café for the BBQ Tofu, the restaurant's meatless version of BBQ chicken ($6.50–$8.50). Vegans who miss mac and cheese will enjoy Mosheh's soy version of the treat. Check the Web site for a weekly menu.

Grasshopper

1 North Beacon St., Allston (617-254-8883).

Allston's all-vegan restaurant serves a range of Vietnamese, Chinese and Japanese cuisine. Begin a meal with spring rolls sprinkled with veggie fish sauce ($3), and continue with generously portioned entrées ranging in price from $6.50 to $9.50. Try the teacake, Grasshopper's nondairy cheesecake ($3.50), for dessert.

Veggie Planet at Club Passim

47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-661-1513). www.veggieplanet.net.

This café next to the famed folk club offers a unique spin on vegetarian pizza with creations like the Portobello Redhead (seared portobellos topped with red-roasted-pepper almond sauce, browned onions and feta, $5.95) and the Blonde on Blonde (mozzarella, tofu ricotta, asiago and fried garlic, $5.95). There's also a selection of meat-free meals, salads and soups plus desserts made on the premises.

—Nicole Wall

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION



Start Beachin'... The Palace, which renovates its clubs about as frequently as Britney Spears goes through fiancées, recently transformed its Uptown room into the Beach House. There may be only a limited number of beach days left this year, but in sunny Saugus you can find palm trees, lounge chairs, a tiki bar and other trappings of summer. We count this as further evidence that someone needs to build an artificial tropical beach inside a giant dome somewhere on the North Shore. Till then, bring sunblock—and your imagination—to the Palace.



Going for Gold... If you like the comfy, minimalist furniture at Pottery Barn, Crate & Barrel and Restoration Hardware, you'll like furniture impressario Mitchell Gold's designs. The famed retailer/manufacturer, who supplies many of the pieces carried by those stores, is poised to open his second showroom (a huge 5,500-square-foot space) on Berkeley Street in September. While Gold is known for his hip designs, he's also known for his politics. During the DNC, the North Carolina delegate was spotted around Boston lobbying not only for gay rights, but also for the right to redecorate—1600 Pennsylvania Ave. specifically—if Kerry is elected. Should Kerry and Co. be in the position to commission a new look for the White House, they can look to Al and Tipper Gore for a testimonial—Gold recently revamped their Arlington, Va., estate. *142 Berkeley St., Boston (617-266-0075). www.mitchellgold.com.*

Lights, Cameras, Action... With some of the biggest names in Tinseltown roaming around Boston during the Democratic National Convention, we all might have thought for a second that we were on a Hollywood set. Or at least in New York. But even with the stars having returned home, Boston's film scene is booming. *Freedom Park*, a movie shot in Central Mass. about two men attempting to pay off a gambling debt by wagering on Little League games, is set to open in theaters in Belmont, West Newton and Amesbury September 10. Local filmmakers also have a knack for suspense. Starting in late August, Arlington's Regent Theatre will screen the premiere of *The Killing Hand*, about a band of thieves who conspire to take over the streets of Lowell (where the film was shot). Finally, this fall, Road Rambler Films is set to begin shooting *Streets Players*, a story about a Boston man who wages a war of vengeance on the local mob.

—E.H., J.I. and R.L.

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PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY


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The **Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra,** led by conductor Keith Lockhart, made its debut South Shore performance July 31 at the South Shore Music Circus in Cohasset. The event, which celebrated the South Shore Art Center's 50th anniversary, raised more than $70,000 for the organization's education and exhibition programs.

1. **Jack McNamara**, retired investment manager for Fidelity Investments; his wife, **Sue**; **Renee Gordon** and her husband, **Barry**, attorney for Gordon, Mond & Ott LLPC in Quincy
2. **Keith Lockhart** (left), conductor of the Boston Pops; **Kelley Verrochi** and her husband, **Paul**, managing partner of Excel Holdings
3. **Frank Neer**, concert chair and board member of the South Shore Art Center, and his wife, **Judy**
4. **Eleanor Rogers** and her husband, **Tony Beadle**; manager of the Boston Pops Orchestra
5. **Paul McHugh**, founding partner of Minot Capital, and his wife, **Sue**
6. **Suzanne Kats**, real estate broker, and **Bill Earon**, managing director of UHY Advisors
7. **Ed Goff**, owner of Edward F. Goff & Co., and his wife, **Jane**, vice president of Coldwell Banker in Cohasset


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The **Bring Back the Gold** fund-raiser was held July 31 at the South Shore Country Club in Hingham. All proceeds from the benefit go to the World's Greatest Athlete Decathlon Club, which supports American decathlon athletes during the off years between Olympics.

8. **Dan O'Brien**, Olympic gold medal decathlete, and **Gary Goshgarian**, English professor at Northeastern University
9. **Dave Kimball**, membership director for the Canton Club, and **Alexis Parker**, membership director for the Weymouth Club
10. **Chris O'Neill**, owner of Net Tel One Communications in Braintree, and his wife, **Jane**
11. **Dr. Eric Diener** of Bay State Chiropractic in Weymouth, chiropractor for the U.S. decathletes; **Harry Marra**, national athletic director for the World's Greatest Athlete Decathlon Club; and **D. Mark Schlobohm**, chiropractor


8


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10


11

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BY EZRA DYER



BEGINNING OF THE LEGEND

All of this is true, because e-mail wouldn't lie.

I want to start my own urban legend e-mail service. People are always sending me bunk messages, and I used to take the time to write back and explain that President Bush didn't wave to Stevie Wonder to get his attention, or that the photo of North America during the blackout just might be Photoshopped. But I think it's time to go on the offensive, so if you could do me a favor, type up one of the following stories and send it to everyone you know. If you do, you'll get a $200 check in the mail from the IMPROPER's new e-mail tracking program. Really, it worked for a guy I know.

FWD: Urgent virus alert message

Guys, if someone sends you an e-mail with an attachment that says "MonkeysHaving Sex.qpgxhg," DON'T OPEN IT, no matter how intriguing that sounds. Opening this file will cause your hard drive to explode, sending shrapnel out through your monitor straight into your face. If you open that e-mail, Bill Gates will come right to your house and kick you in the nuts before setting fire to your computer. I have a friend who opened it, and her computer stole her identity and bought $3,000 worth of jewelry at Wal-Mart. Now her computer wears all these gaudy gold-plated chains with initials pendants spelling out "iMacDaddy," and when my friend tries to take them off to return them, her computer flashes a message threatening to e-mail her address book to Al Qaeda. Just because you haven't heard about this virus from anyone else, or seen anything about it on the news, doesn't mean it's not for real.

FWD: FWD: Don't flash your lights!

If you see a car driving at you with its lights off at night, don't flash your lights at them, as a sick trend is sweeping the nation. The first car that flashes its lights is followed home, where the unfortunate driver is made to listen to "Get Down on It," "Jungle Boogie" and even "Celebration" until they fall asleep with one of those songs stuck in their head. This is a Kool and the Gang initiation ritual.

FWD: FWD: KFC's disgusting secret

I have a friend who works for the government, and he told me that Kentucky Fried Chicken isn't allowed to use that name anymore and had to change its name to KFC because—get this—many of its locations aren't even in Kentucky. I'm not sure I even want to eat there anymore knowing that.

FWD: FWD: FWD: FWD: FWD: Disturbing new study

I have a cousin who does research at the University of Texas, and he told me to forward the results of a recent study to everybody I know who follows baseball, as it could help prevent a very serious medical condition. In a nutshell, 99 percent of the study's participants suffered serious ocular degeneration and acute palmar follicle stimulation (vision loss and hairy palms) from rooting for Roger Clemens.

FWD: FWD: FWD: FWD: Important info for bird lovers

Don't throw rice at your wedding, because birds might eat it and explode. Not literally, of course, but from all the carbs.

FWD: FWD: Little-known facts

If you drive through the FastLane in reverse, it actually credits the toll back into your account. Snapple Pink Lemonade originally had angel dust in the formula The Custom House is a spaceship that wil bring Mayor Menino to the moon in th event of a nuclear attack. Mike Tyson i Mikey from the Life cereal ads. Paul Re vere was really a woman named Paula, bu she had to pose as a man because bacl then women weren't allowed to go o midnight rides. Mentadent toothpaste i kept in separate sides of the container be cause the two flavors become explosive i not mixed with water within 30 seconds Roy's dry cleaner is going to be featured o *America's Most Wanted* because police dis covered that he sewed a piece of gazell meat into the ruffles of Roy's blouse. Ther was lots of traffic during the DNC. An this is The Year. iB

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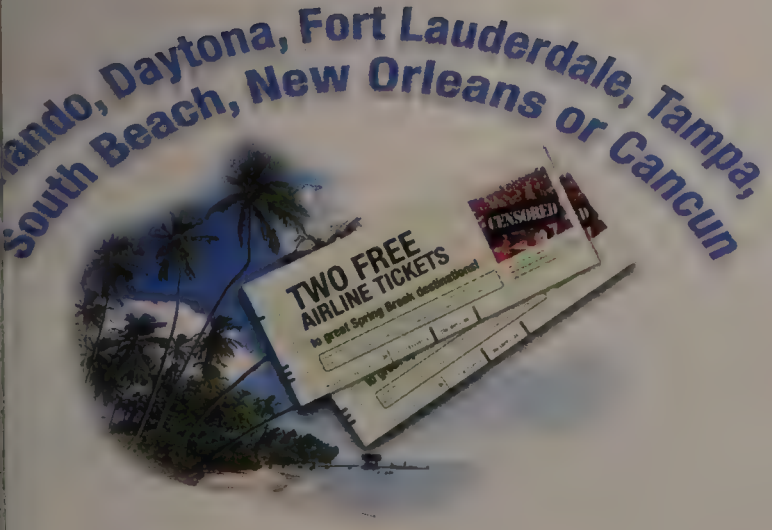
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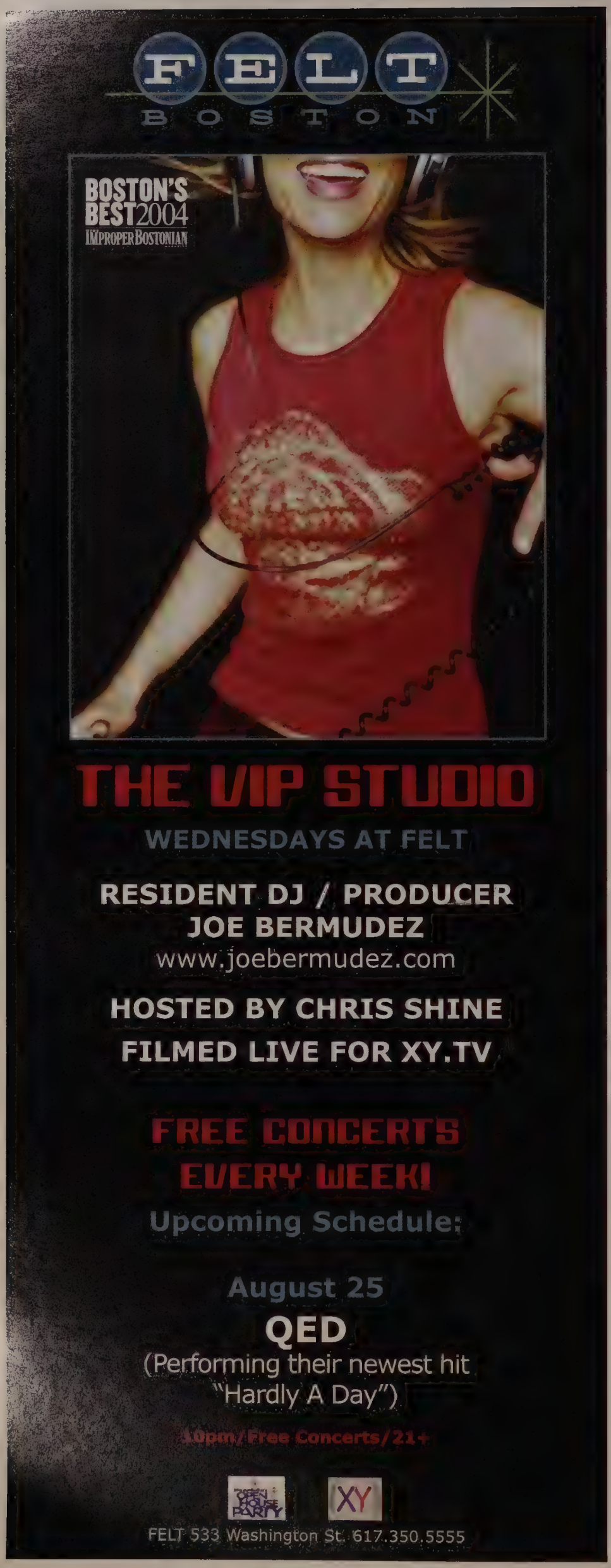
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THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS



JERRY SPRINGER COMES TO FENWAY?

Around Yawkey Way, baseball has taken a backseat to the off-field drama.

Let's face some facts. The Boston Red Sox were five outs from beating the New York Yankees and getting to the World Series. I don't know about you, but to me, that's close. So I ask you: Was it necessary to interrupt the Red Sox season for a month of *Jerry Springer* episodes?

Or maybe it's the latest edition of *Girls Gone Wild*. Only in the Red Sox version, it's the team's front office showing their collective behinds. And just like those *Girls* tapes, they don't appear to be the least bit embarrassed by the whole debacle.

The trading of an icon as big as Nomar Garciaparra is never an easy thing, but sometimes it just has to happen. We can all probably agree that Red Sox general manager Theo Epstein did what he had to do.

But where did it all go wrong? If you're looking to place blame with the young general manager, don't. I'd look over his head at the owners (and president). Or should we call them the bumblers and plotters?

Over the last six months there have been instances where the Red Sox have tried to make things right. They've been unsuccessful. But why were things so wrong in the first place? A source close to the ordeal tells me that a big moment in the breakup came upon Nomar's return from his honeymoon this past off-season.

He got off the plane in Los Angeles and immediately called Sox owner Tom Werner to ask about where the team was with the Alex Rodriguez negotiations. Werner invited Nomar over to his Southern California mansion the next day to assure him that the A-Rod thing was dead and all their time and energy would be focused on keeping Nomar with the Sox. Days later Garciaparra got a phone call telling him that Sox CEO and president Larry Lucchino and Epstein were on their way to Texas to meet with A-Rod.

Nomar and his agent, Arn Tellum, apparently called the duo as Lucchino and Epstein were on their way to do the Texas two-step and pursue the A-Rod deal again. That conversation reportedly ended with Lucchino saying "(Bleep) you Arn, (bleep) you!"

That's the way Lucchino does business. Nobody can question his intellect: He's become a rich man in baseball management. But let's be honest: His temper played a huge role in the Sox' failure to land Rodriguez, and his lack of candor played a significant role in Nomar's reluctance to stay in Boston.

Lucchino is the president and CEO, so he's certainly within his rights to do as he feels. But at what cost? Is Pedro Martinez's reputation next up on the chopping block? Will the Sox secretly start leaking information about his attitude, his punctuality, or the Bill James Pitch Count Reduction theory? And why doesn't principal owner John Henry get more involved?

Nomar told me that from the long, winter courtship of A-Rod until spring training, the number of conversations he had with John Henry was the same as Robert Parish's old jersey digits: double zero. So with that, a superstar walks to the Windy City. If you're a Red Sox fan, it feels worse than Nomar's Achilles tendinitis.

Nomar isn't without fault here and didn't always help his own cause. Quiet by nature, he didn't like dealing with the media. And everybody would have liked to see him pinch hit in that extra-innings affair with the Yankees. But he was still respected in the clubhouse and idolized in the stands.

It's times like these that make you wonder how another deposed Red Sox employee, Grady Little, would have handled this. Would he or could he have made a difference? Questionable on-field decisions aside, Little was a master at finding the chemistry in the clubhouse.

> IT'S POPULAR TO BASH THE GUY THAT EVERYBODY USED TO CHEER FOR, BUT OVERALL, NOMAR WASN'T THE PROBLEM

It's become popular to bash the guy that everybody used to cheer for as if he were paying their mortgage, but overall, Nomar wasn't the problem. He tried to fix his fractured relationship with management in the only manner he knew, by going out and playing the game hard. That's what he did for eight years in Boston. I think he would prefer you just say thank you and think ahead to the World Series, where Nomar, Theo, Larry, Henry and everybody involved with this mess would love to reunite.

If that were to happen sometime in late October, a year's worth of *Jerry Springer* episodes wouldn't be able to touch it. IB

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.



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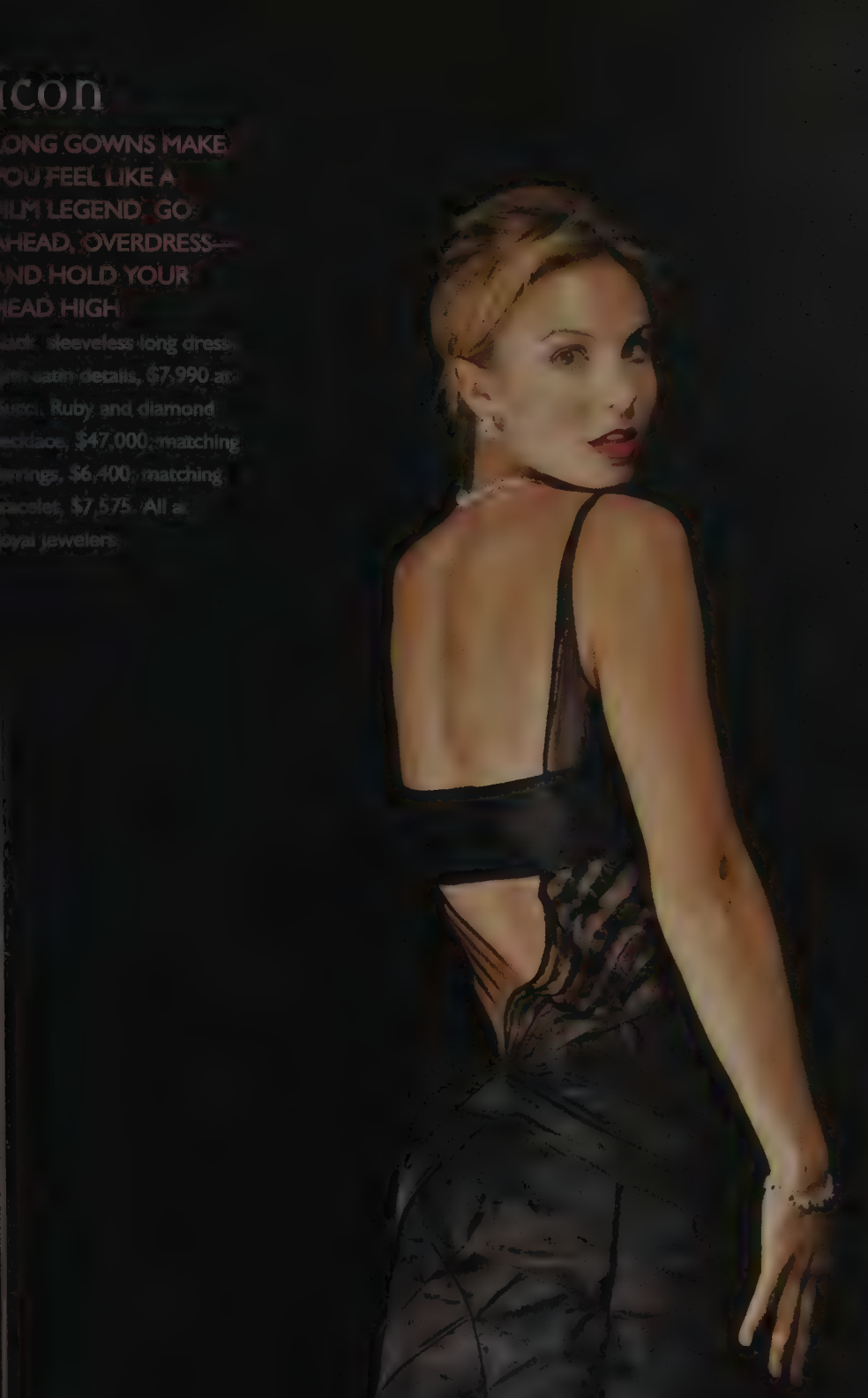
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INTERVIEW BY JONATHAN SOROFF
PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHS BY ERIC STRIFFLER

Elisabeth Filarski Hasselbeck is the youngest co-host of the popular daytime talk show *The View* and host of the Style Network's *The Look for Less*, which helps viewers find designer clothes on the cheap. She was born and raised in Providence, R.I., the daughter of an architect father and attorney mother. After graduating from St. Mary Academy-Bay View in East Providence, she studied fine art at Boston College, where she captained the Division I softball team to back-to-back Big East championships in 1997 and 1998. In 1997 she traveled to Belize to teach, and after receiving her degree in 1999, she designed shoes for Puma while living in Boston. Hasselbeck came to national prominence as a contestant on the second season of CBS's *Survivor* and has hosted programs on MTV and appeared as a guest on *Late Show with David Letterman*, *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*, *The Rosie O'Donnell Show* and *Rock & Roll Jeopardy*. A dedicated runner, she has completed the Boston Marathon and spends her spare time painting and developing her own line of accessories. She is also an active supporter of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, the Making Memories Foundation, Habitat for Humanity, the World Scholar-Athlete Games, and the organization Knowledge Now. A recent recipient of a Distinguished Alumni award from Boston College, she is married to Washington Redskins quarterback Tim Hasselbeck, her college sweetheart. The couple lives in New York City.

BETH HASSELBECK

classic with a twist

NOUVEAU SUITS OR DRESSES IN TWEEDS OR WOOL CELEBRATE AND UPDATE THE 1930s AND '40s WITH ASYMMETRIC DETAILS. Ruffled jacket, $448; red blouse, $324. Both by Y and Ker. Forever diamond chain with yellow and white diamond pendant, $26,360 at Royal Jewelers.



Jonathan Soroff: *As one of the first reality TV stars, aren't you just a little bit sick of the whole thing?*

Elisabeth Hasselbeck: You know, I'm actually kinda hooked. Everybody, if they're being honest, knows there's at least two reality shows they like. But I'll admit we're a little oversaturated.

JS: *You parlayed your 15 minutes of fame into a pretty good gig. Any advice for someone contemplating doing reality TV?*

EH: Just know what you're getting into.

JS: *Think they'll ever introduce cannibalism on* Survivor, *just to spice things up a bit?*

EH: I wouldn't doubt it. I think Mark Burnett actually likes the taste of human flesh.

JS: *Richard Hatch. Is he as much of an ass as he seems?*

EH: He was really nice to me the last time we had an encounter. Prior to that, we had our little tiffs. But I don't really know him.

JS: *Very diplomatic. So what would you have done with the million dollars?*

EH: Probably gone on a really long vacation with a lot of food.

JS: *Best thing about going to college in Newton?*

EH: Definitely J.P. Licks ice cream.

JS: *Who's the biggest diva on* The View?

EH: Probably me. I'm the new kid, asking all these questions, needing to know where things are…

JS: *So you're the little problem child? Remember what happened to Debbie Matenopoulos! How about your most embarrassing moment on the show?*

EH: That might've been yesterday, when I decided to bust out in the Chicken Dance.

JS: *Ouch.*

EH: Yeah. Especially since it was during a segment on erotic dance. It just didn't seem to fit.

JS: *There's an awful lot of estrogen on that show. Don't you ever crave a little male companionship?*

EH: All the time. That's why we have a lot of male guests. Haven't you noticed?

JS: *I have. What happens when you're all premenstrual at the same time?*

EH: It's probably happened, because we work together and we're on the same cycle, I would guess. That would make for a really bad day for the guests, I would assume.

JS: *Like General Tommy Franks. You guys lit into him like a stoner ripping into a bag of Doritos.*

EH: [Laughs.] Poor General Tommy Franks. I was on his side.

JS: *How about a guest you found really intimidating?*

EH: Probably Bill O'Reilly. Not that I was scared of him, but it was early on, and I was still getting my feet wet, and I'd seen him get really mad on his own show, so I was thinking, "Oooh. This might turn into *The O'Reilly Factor*." I knew he might get set off by something we'd say.

JS: *Best perk of the job?*

EH: Getting paid to blab.

JS: *Ever asked Barbara Walters to say "rascally rabbit?"*

EH: Uh…no.

JS: *Would you? On a dare?*

EH: No.

JS: *OK, tell me a secret about her.*

EH: One of the sweetest women I've ever met. She gave me a big hug today. She takes good care of everyone.

JS: *How about Joy Behar. Doesn't her voice ever get to you?*

EH: No, but she nearly has me wetting my pants every single morning.

JS: *Star Jones is scary, isn't she?*

EH: No. She's an incredible person, and she's always got my back.

JS: *You'd never cross her, though, would you?*

EH: [Laughs.] Star's totally in love.

JS: *Yeah, with herself.*

EH: No. She's madly in love with her fiancé, and she has a very endearing, soft side that you see when she has a guest on she likes, or she's talking about her weekend. But she's sharp and intelligent, and you can't pull the wool over her eyes.

JS: *OK, let's talk about Meredith Vieira for a second. She's not as sweet as she seems, is she?*

muse
BE COURAGEOUS AND REAP STYLE REWARDS BY PAIRING FLIRTY AND FUN PIECES LIKE CROPPED JACKETS AND SWING COATS IN VARYING TEXTURES.



EH: She's the coolest Mom in the whole world.

JS: *But she's got a dark side, right? She's running an S&M dungeon on the side, or something.*

EH: [Laughs.] She so is not.

JS: *I gather you're not gonna dish on your co-hosts. So name one fashion trend you're sick of.*

EH: Oh, God. There are so many. I can't take any more of that bohemian look. Too much '70s boho. I just can't take it. I feel like it should smell like hemp and weed every time I see it.

JS: *I'm wearing a hemp shirt as we speak.*

EH: Well, I'm glad I'm in New York and you're in Boston.

JS: *Touché. OK, finish this sentence: _____ is the new black.*

EH: Mocha.

JS: *I'll run right out and buy some. Best place to find a bargain?*

EH: Oooh, good question. Vintage. Or Filene's Basement, for sure, but you'd better be willing to fight for it.

JS: *Fashion faux pas you see most often?*

EH: Hmm…Let me try to narrow it down. Over-tucking. Sometimes people tuck in their shirt and they really shouldn't.

JS: *You're married to a big NFL star. Who gets asked for more autographs?*

EH: Tim, by far.

JS: *When you're alone together at home, do you ever have arguments over who's more famous?*

EH: [Laughs.] Umm…no.

JS: *You hesitated! I think you're lying! I bet you're like, "I'm more famous. Now, give me the remote control!"*

EH: [Laughs.] Oh, my gosh, that's so like…no way.

JS: *Speaking of which—creepiest fan encounter?*

EH: Haven't had one yet. Hope not to.

JS: *As the youngest host on* The View, *do you ever play the age card, like, "You wouldn't understand. It's a 20s thing," or "Aren't you a bit old to be wearing that?"*

EH: That wouldn't be wise.

JS: *So that's what happened to Debbie Matenopoulos and Lisa Ling?*

EH: I tend not to ask about the past.

JS: *One thing you'd never say on air?*

EH: I think I'd pretty much say anything.

JS: *One thing you'd never wear on air?*

EH: A miniskirt with ankle boots. [Laughs.]

JS: *One thing you'd never do on air?*

EH: Oh, lots of things. Like the Chicken Dance incident—the reason I did that is I didn't want to dirty-dance with another man. I was supposed to be doing a cowgirl twirl around some boy, and I decided that wasn't in my comfort zone, so I busted out with the Chicken Dance.

JS: *Biggest beauty secret?*

EH: Water.

JS: *Your hair color: real or bottled?*

EH: Oh, bottled, baby. I'm a brunette, through and through. It's all about the highlights.

JS: *Highlights?! You're completely blond!*

EH: That's right. Solid blond highlights.

JS: *One thing people would be shocked and scandalized to learn about you?*

EH: Oh, gosh. I have a serious addiction to chewing gum.

JS: *Where do you stick it when you go on air?*

EH: Usually in my prep notes or on Joy's seat.

JS: *She must enjoy that. Current favorite reality show?*

EH: *The Apprentice.*

JS: *I knew you'd say that. I'm psychic!*

EH: But I also really like *Newlyweds.*

JS: *Ugh! Jessica Simpson is just so insipid.*

EH: I think she's brighter than people think.

JS: *Oh, I don't think she's stupid. That's an act. She's just annoying.*

EH: We had her on the show today, and she's got a wit about her. She gets it. She's probably sharper than I am.

JS: *Think she's smarter than Anna Nicole Smith?*

EH: Well, I mean…I don't think you can compare the two.

JS: *OK, that little dog is smarter than Anna Nicole Smith. Let's say she and Paris Hilton got into a catfight. Who would win?*

EH: [Long pause.] I'm just envisioning it. [Laughs.] Paris Hilton, because she'd buy her way out of it.

JS: *It always comes down to money. Last question: If you had to do* Survivor *over again, what would you do differently?*

EH: I'd win.

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KISS 108's CHRIS SHINE MODELS FALL'S GREATEST HITS FOR MEN.

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHS BY JOE GREENE

Striped suit: $1,195; striped shirt: $195; checker belt: $135. All by Paul Smith; all at Neiman Marcus. White gold chain: $3,150; tank francaise ring: $1,450; bauble

THE TWEED JACKET

It pairs well with almost anything.

Tweed jacket, $$$; [illegible] turtleneck, $250; plaid umbrella, $170. All at Aquascutum. Stainless steel Santos 100 watch, $4,200; white gold love bracelet, $3,300. Both at Cartier.

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Neiman Marcus
Copley Place
617-585-6000

Hair: Michael Rossi for Avanti Salon



Striped suit, $895; button-down shirt, $225; tie, $135. All by Z Zegna at Ermenegildo Zegna. Roadster chronograph with white dial, $6,450 at Cartier.



Herringbone trench, $495; matching skirt, $175; cream and gold sweater, $222. All by Designer's Remix, all at Stil. Pearl Earrings, $49 at Stil. Hat with floral applique by Orit Parente, $240 at Toppers.

Model: Heidi Vance for Maggie Inc

Stil
170 Newbury St.
617-859-7845

Toppers
230 Newbury St.
617-859-1430

HEADS UP

BY SAMANTHA HOUSE PHOTOGRAPH BY TRACY POWELL

Hats are an essential wardrobe element for much of the year in blustery Boston. Until now, all you really needed was something stretchy and serviceable, but the trend this season is moving toward old-fashioned elegance. Think 1930s and '40s vintage looks instead of sporty. Hats are no longer just for keeping your top toasty; they're meant to become part of your ensemble, and you'll want to be seen in them. (There'll be no tossing your topper aside after you walk through the door.) To update your wardrobe and add new life to your winter coat, pick up a few in a variety of colors. Try Toppers for a beautiful selection at reasonable prices, or go to www.galvinizedhats.com for handmade originals by local designer Marie Galvin.


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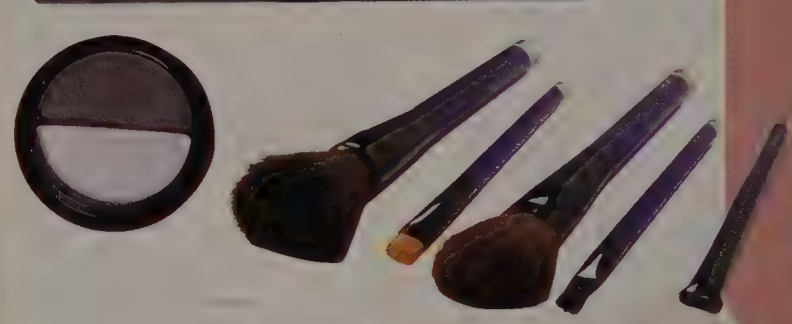
CREAM OF THE CROP

BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN





Left to right: Kiehl's Abyssine Lotion, $38; Kiehl's Abyssine Eye Cream, $30, both at Kiehl's. Zhen Beauty to Go Shimmer Brush, $15 at www.zheninc.com.



Clockwise from left: Stila Fiercely Feminine Collection Shadows in Fierce Auburn, $30 at Filene's; Clinique Color Surge Eyeshadow Supershimmer in Blue Lagoon, $13.50 at Filene's; Eyeshadow palette in Stage Door, $48 at Fresh; Estée Lauder makeup brushes, $15–$35 at Saks Fifth Avenue; Benefit Fate Made Me Do It Shadow, $18 at Sephora; Bobbi Brown Slopes Palette, $45 at Neiman Marcus

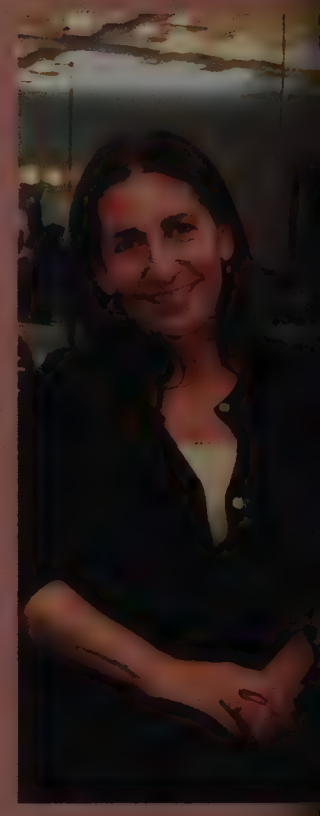


Clockwise from left: Mac Lipstick in La La Lady, $14 at Filene's; PersoNatalie Lipgloss in Letting Go, $15 at Sephora; Nars Lipstick in Leila, $22 at Sephora; Estée Lauder Pure Color Lip Tint, $20 at Neiman Marcus; Lancome Brush-on Lipshine in Celeb Star Gloss, $18.50 at Lord and Taylor

Filene's, 426 Washington St., 617-357-2100; Fresh, 121 Newbury St., 617-421-1212; Kiehl's, 112 Newbury St., 617-247-1777; Lord and Taylor, 760 Boylston St., 617-262-6000; Neiman Marcus, Copley Place, 617-585-6000; Saks Fifth Avenue, 750 Boylston St., 617-262-8500; Sephora, Prudential Center, 617-262-4200

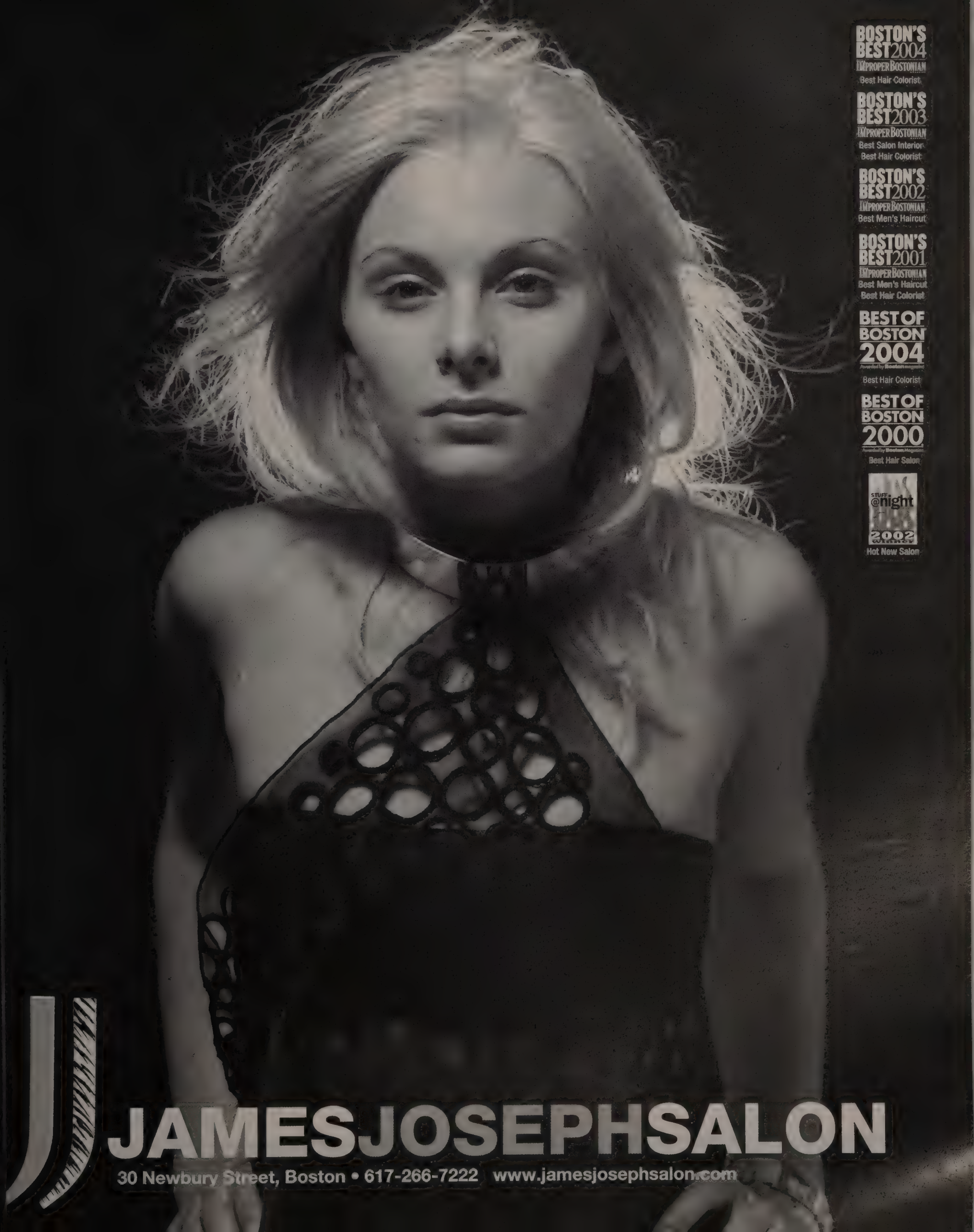
BEAUTY QUEEN

BY SAMANTHA HOU
PHOTOGRAPH BY OLIVIA GA



Makeup maven Bobbi Brown began her career in Boston, studying theatrical makeup at Emerson College. After graduating, she went on to create 10 brown-based lipsticks that sold out in record time at Bergdorf Goodman in New York City, and since then she's expanded her cosmetics line to include shadows, foundations and anything else women could possibly need for primping purposes. Now, a makeup artist to stars ranging from Faye Dunaway to Sandra Bullock to Alicia Silverstone, Brown has earned recognition as a beauty icon. We sat down with her to discuss trends for fall, her own makeup disasters, her favorite products and more.

Samantha House: *What's your favorite makeup look for yourself?*
Bobbi Brown: One that makes me look pretty, fresh and tan.
SH: *Have you ever had a makeup disaster?*
BB: It's happened to me many many times. I just shot somethin for *Architectural Digest*, and I realized that I had no makeup wi me. I found a blush and mascara, so I used the blush on m cheeks and lips and put some mascara on as well. I looked ve natural in the photograph.
SH: *What are two tricks that only makeup artists know?*
BB: Use the warmth of your fingers to apply foundation a concealer; blend your concealer with your finger and apply patting it—not rubbing it.
SH: *How should a woman's makeup routine change as she ages?*
BB: Every woman needs to be open to changing styles. I thi women need more makeup as they get older to keep the looking like they aren't wearing any.
SH: *What's the biggest makeup trend for this fall?*
BB: Stain-pressed lips, windburned-looking cheeks and natu but defined eyes.
SH: *What's your favorite item in your fall lineup?*
BB: We did a palette based on ski slopes. I was inspired whe went to Colorado. I saw how beautiful everyone looked w their flushed cheeks and burnt lips. So the Ski Slopes Co Pallette for the Face and my new fragrance, Baby.
SH: *What's your favorite product of all time?*
BB: The creamy concealer kit, which is a concealer and pow in one. It's great for touch-ups.
SH: *If you were trapped on a desert island, what one product would you want with you?*
BB: If there were no mirror, I'd bring a fragrance. If there w a mirror, I'd bring Extra SPF 25 Tinted Moisturizing Ba because it's a moisturizer, makeup and sunscreen in one.


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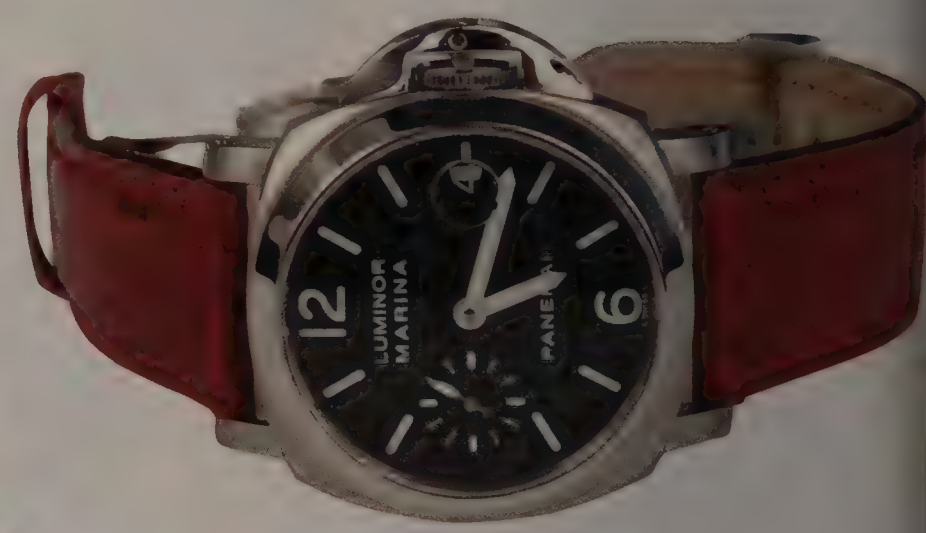
WATCH YOURSELF

BRIGHT TIMEPIECES ADD A FLASH OF COLOR TO YOUR FALL WARDROBE.

BY SAMANTHA HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHS BY OLIVIA GATTI



Hermes Stainless Steel,
$1,200 at Alpha Omega



Panerai 48, $3,850 at Royal Jewelers



Mark T-57 Round Quartz Chronograph,
$2,850 at Tiffany and Co.



Rolex Oyster Daytona
Cosmograph, $20,150 at Shreve,
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Tank Divan, $8,400 at Cartier



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$4,650 at Royal Jewelers

Alpha Omega, 1380 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 617-864-1227; Cartier, 40 Newbury St., 617-262-3300; Royal Jewelers, 58 Main St., Andover, 978-475-3330; Shreve, Crump & Low, 330 Boylston St., 617-267-9100; Tiffany and Co., 4 Copley Place, 617-353-0222

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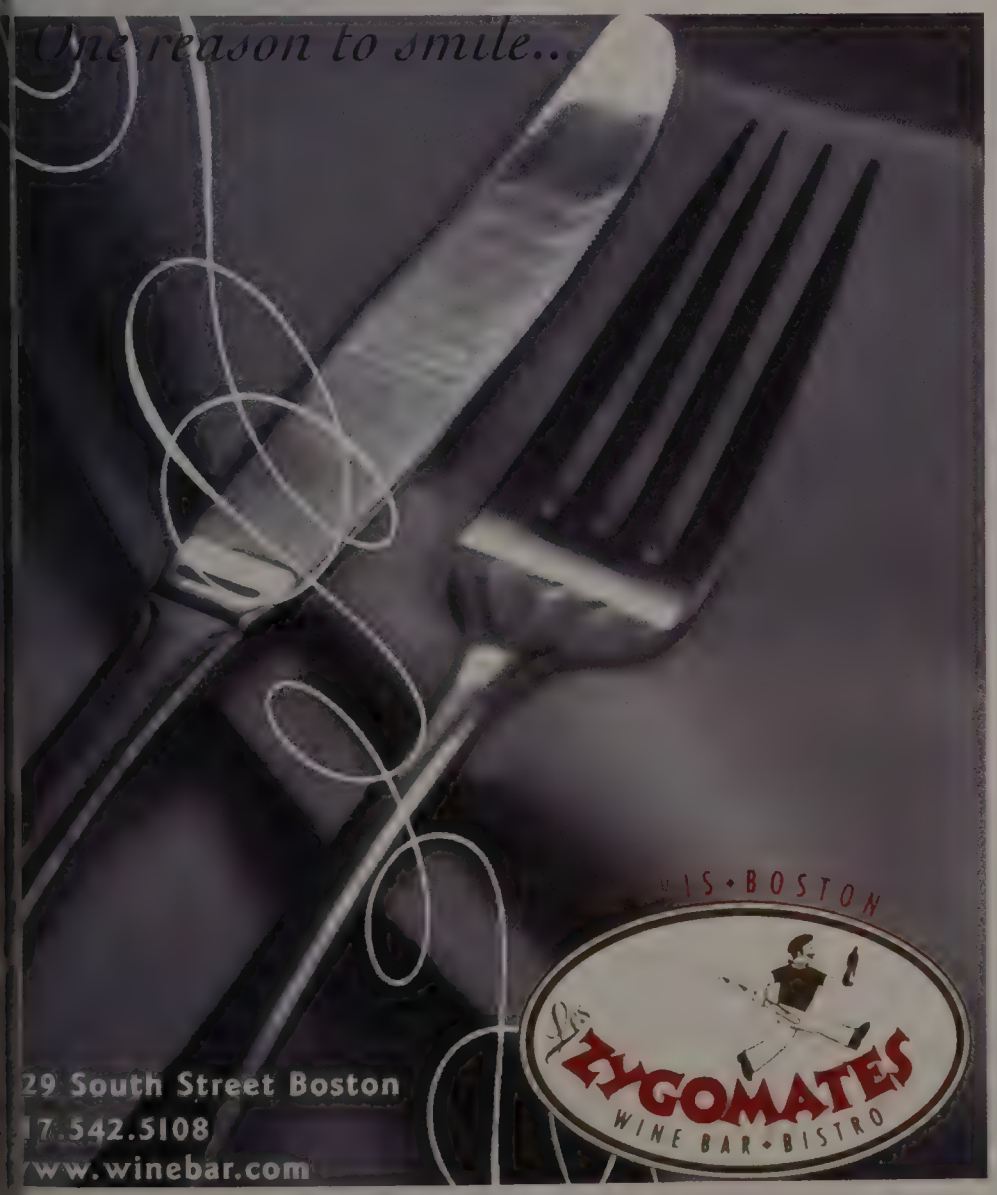
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open the GATES!

BY EZRA DYER

ootball season is upon us, and with it comes a tradition every bit as vital to the game as goalposts and early-retiring ganja-smoking running backs: tailgating. Since this is also the time of year when new car models hit the streets, here's a look at four of the hottest that pack a tailgate, and the places to take them for your pre-pigskin parking lot party. Fire up the grill!

HARVARD
Hummer H2 SUT

The Hummer H2 SUT, the pickup-truck version of the H2, was clearly designed with tailgating in mind, because that's about all you can do with its dinky, 35-inch-long bed. But what a tailgating platform it is: The SUT features not one, but two tailgates. The first is the traditional gate that folds down from the back and serves as a loading platform, seating surface or wet bar. The second, called the Midgate, folds forward from the front of the cargo box to expand the bed into the cabin. Open the cabin's rear doors and, voilà, you can tailgate out the sides. Like any good quasi-military vehicle, the H2 SUT protects its flanks.

So, where do you take this thing to get the party started? Anywhere you want. This is a Hummer. You could tailgate in the middle of a rushing river, in a jungle surrounded by tigers, or on top of a snow-covered mountain while playing volleyball with giant, bikini-clad women. (Wait a minute...we're confusing our unrealistic SUV marketing imagery with unrealistic light-beer marketing imagery.) But we recommend using the SUT to ambush a tailgating scene a little closer to home: Harvard.

We know what you're thinking: Won't Harvard kids protest the H2, with its petroleum-swilling 6-liter V-8 and styling clearly meant to evoke its big brother, the H1, which is frequently put to politically incorrect uses such as foreign invasions? No, because those kids don't go to football games. They'll be in their dorms writing manifestos while you enjoy the H2's commanding view of the field outside Harvard Stadium, where all the action happens. Other H2 attributes that'll improve your tailgating experience are optional XM satellite radio, heated front and rear seats, and the crowning touch, a 110-volt electrical outlet, so you can plug in a TV in case you're having so much fun that you miss the kickoff. Or the first half.



2006 LINCOLN MARK LT

Base price: $40,000+ (estimated)
Available: January 2005
Tailgating Touchdowns: Posh interior; 20-inch chrome wheels can be used as mirrors if you need to wipe mustard off your face; a tailgate lock (so nobody can steal your seat—literally).
Tailgating Fumbles: A 2006 model, it won't be available until the playoffs; Ford F150 owners might think you a dandy lad.

GILLETTE STADIUM

Lincoln Mark LT

Lincoln made a foray into the pickup market a few years back with the ill-conceived Blackwood, which featured a carpeted bed with fake African wenge wood adorning the side—it was ugly, but at least it wasn't very useful. The new Mark LT promises to add a dash of Lincoln bling to the pickup world while retaining real-truck practicality. It features a noncarpeted bed, available four-wheel-drive and the 300-horsepower, 5.4-liter V-8 from the Ford F-150, on which the LT is based.

You'll want to program Gillette Stadium into the Mark LT's navigation system, because the poshest of pickups needs to strut its stuff at the biggest parking lot bash in the state. The Mark LT's decked-out interior looks like it was lifted straight from the Navigator, and if you catch a chill before kickoff you can warm your buns on the heated leather seats. (Lincoln isn't confiming equipment yet, but we assume the LT will have the same swank options as Lincoln's other trucks.) You'll appreciate the comfy cabin even more when it's time to leave, since a stadium full of fans trying simultaneously to get out of Dodge creates hellacious gridlock around Foxboro. Get your seat adjusted and fire up the backseat DVD player—you're gonna be here a while. One other way in which the Mark LT jibes with Patriots tailgating is that it won't be available until January 2005, long before you'll reach the front of the waiting list for season tickets.



2005 MINI COOPER CONVERTIBLE

Base price: $22,000 (estimated)
Available: September
Tailgating Touchdowns: Tidy size means you can whip up a party just about anywhere; convertible top allows 'gaters to lounge up front without being antisocial; 176-pound tailgate capacity plenty for grilling.
Tailgating Fumbles: Backseat just about big enough for a bag or two of briquettes; potential to get stuck in soggy grass; 176-pound tailgate capacity not plenty for sitting.

NORTHEASTERN

Mini Cooper Convertible

Tailgates aren't just for trucks, mate. The new Mini Cooper convertible is the proud owner of what is likely the smallest tailgate in autodom, a by-product of its conversion from hatchback coupe to drop-top. Said tailgate may be small, but it's stout, supporting up to 176 pounds when it's flipped down—plenty enough for grilling. The roofless Mini offers the same engines as the coupe, which means a 115-horsepower four-cylinder, a supercharged 170-horse version of same, or a tricked out, 200-horsepower John Cooper Works version that will ensure you've got the speed (along with the diminutive size) to snatch up any parking space as soon as it opens.

Speaking of snatching up parking spaces, the Mini is just the thing for tailgating at Northeastern. Why? Because Northeastern doesn't have any room for proper tailgating. So you'll need to sneak in anywhere you can find a space—maybe there'll be a small patch of ground available on the lawn of the Phi Gamma Pi frat house, across the street from the Brookline High football field. (We hear they host a mean kegs 'n' eggs party.) If the weather's nice, you can either open the front section of the Mini's power-operated top to create a sort of gigantic sunroof, or peel the whole thing off to take the interior alfresco. The whole process takes only 15 seconds, which is handy given that autumn weather in New England can go from sun to downpour in roughly the same period. The Mini may not be the offensive lineman of tailgating vehicles, but sometimes the kicker is the most valuable guy on the team.

2005 LAND ROVER LR3

Base price: $44,995
Available: Fall 2004
Tailgating Touchdowns: Available 600-watt stereo to drown out annoying marching bands; seven-passenger seating to bring lots of friends; adjustable-height air suspension lets you get that tailgate level just right.
Tailgating Fumbles: Asymmetrical tailgate gives up crucial surface area in the name of style; much nicer than a Discovery, but Range Rover owners will still quietly mock you for being poor.



TUFTS

Land Rover LR3

The Land Rover Discovery, aka the Disco, has gone the way of disco itself for 2005, to be replaced by the slick new LR3. The LR3 aims to improve the Disco's on-road performance, which was even less of a hit than Rick Dees' "Dis-Gorilla." To that end, the LR3's air suspension, six-speed automatic transmission and 300-horsepower V-8 should be music to drivers' ears. Are you sick of our extended disco metaphor yet? Good, so are we. Let's talk about the tailgating goods.

We recommend you drive the LR3 to Tufts, where the mascot is Jumbo and so is the tailgating scene—relative to the size of the school, that is. The LR3 will fit right in, as Land Rovers go with expensive New England colleges like J. Crew roll-neck sweaters on pretty, liberal girls. Tufts allows tailgating (with or without a ticket to the game) in the parking lot next to the field, and booze is OK as long as you're not too blatant about it. As for the tailgate itself, the LR3 sports a stylish, asymmetrical little number that's best used as a grilling platform, since there's not much sitting room. However, there are skylights over the rear seat rows to shed a little light on your situation, and an optional 600-watt stereo system will drown out all those pesky people who actually came out to watch the game.

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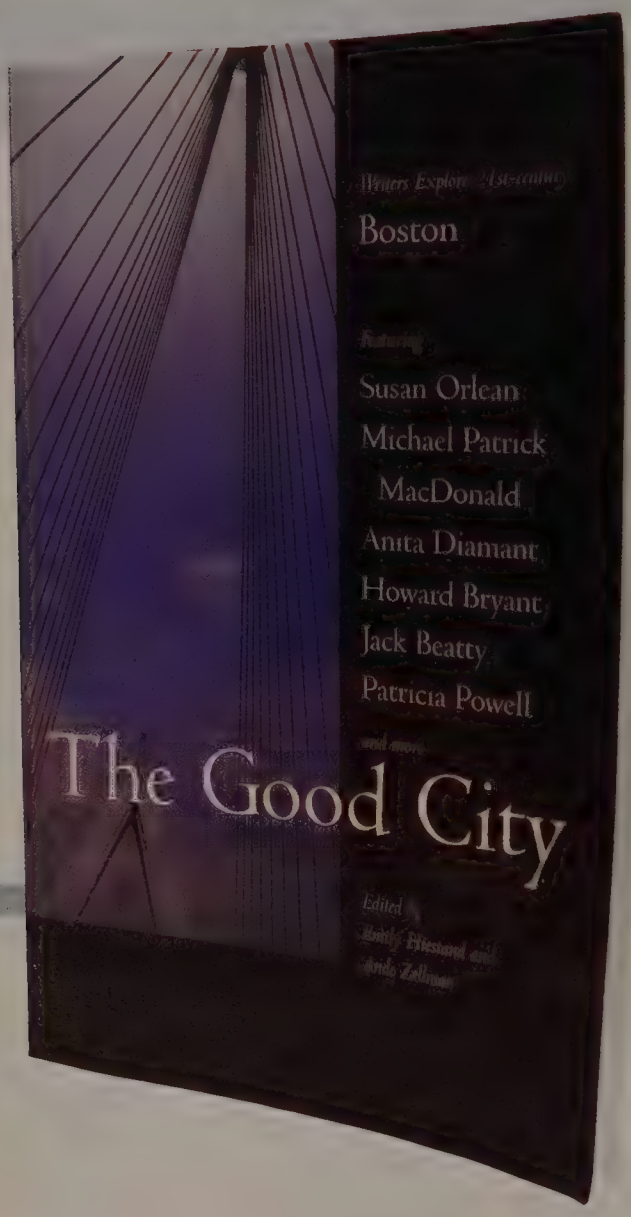
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MOPSY

SERENDIPITOUS SHOPPING: OUR UNFETTERED CORRESPONDENT SEEKS OUT THE SALUBRIOUS AND THE CEREBRAL.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



THE MANY TOWNS OF BOSTON

Notable local writers explore 21st-century Boston in *The Good City*.

By way of celebrating, describing, limning the particularities of various parts of Boston, this book contains essays, each with its own idiosyncratic tilt, by such local writers as Susan Orlean (*The Orchid Thief*; the movie *Adaptation*), architecture critic Robert Campbell, Michael Patrick MacDonald (*All Souls*) and the rollicking Jack Beatty, who chronicled the outrageous, outsized Boston mayor James Michael Curley in *The Rascal King*. The essays make you feel the vast, often salty varieties of life here—with jostling ethnic groups adding their spices to the melting pot, each providing distinct flavors to different neighborhoods. MacDonald, who grew up in the projects in Southie and lived there through the busing controversy of the 1970s, speaks for the valuable grit of community—loyalty, shared struggle, and support—even when the place is painted with the gray of poverty. He notes the irony of having become a yuppie in a neighborhood that has gentrified its own locals out of town. Beatty writes with comic vigor about the Irish influx of the 19th century and the friction between the immigrants and the seemingly frigid Protestants they found here. Anita Diamant describes the buzzing Jewish life—religious and cultural—that abounds in "goyish Boston."



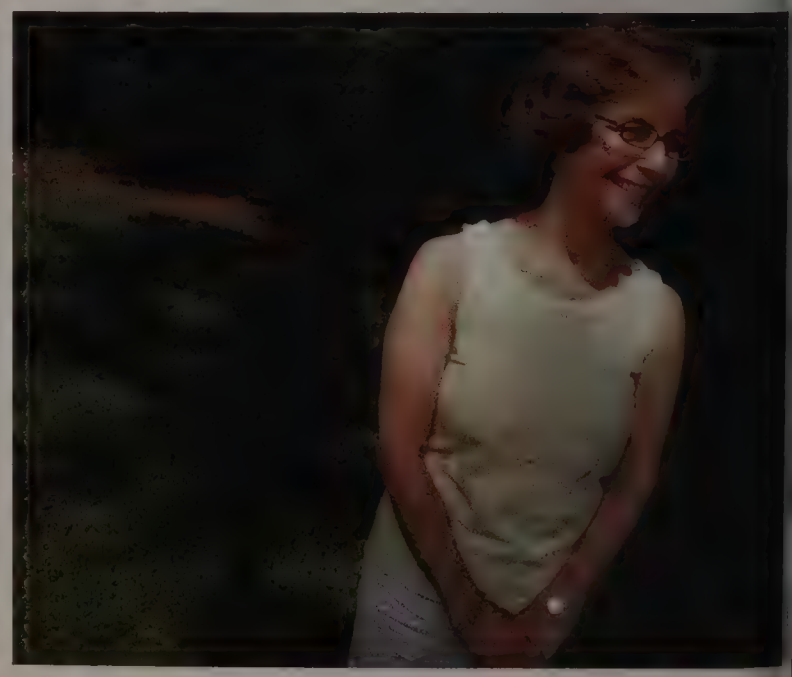
MAKE THAT GRAND EXOTIC ENTRANCE

The Renaissance Room opened recently at 215 Newbury St. A sister store to one in Peterborough, N.H., it offers glamorous clothes for women. Call 617-859-9700.

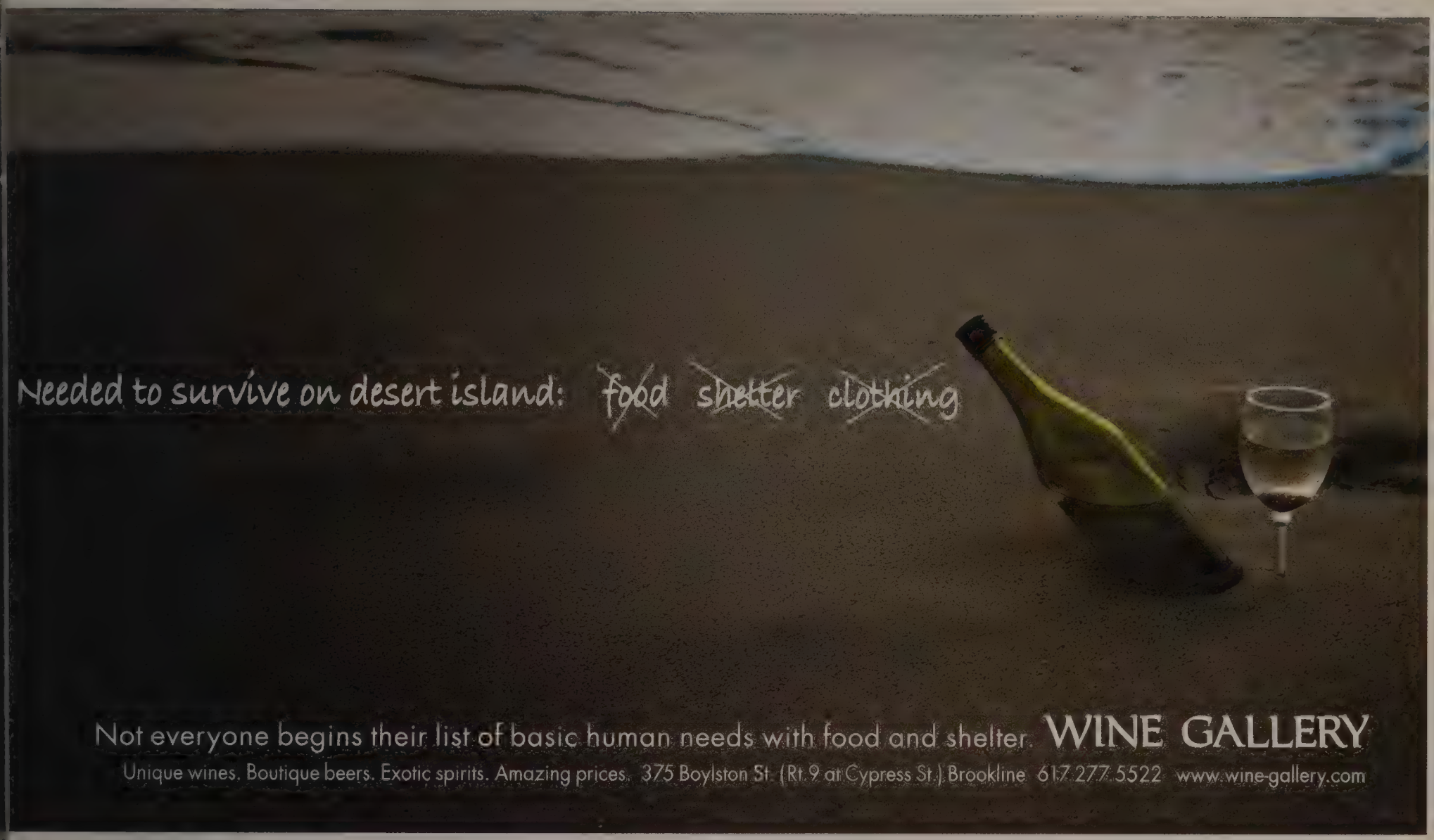
Jacquie Perry, the owner of Renaissance Room, describes her customers as "seriously into drama." What she has here, in golden Italianate surroundings, are clothes so spicy and original, they border on costumes. Specialty high-fashion designers offer exceedingly rarified—yet always fun—dresses, dramatic coats, and long, flowy sensational wraps that somehow exist in several realms at once. Irregularity of hemline and shape is a theme, inviting layering and mystery. All the fabrics here are fascinating—the red silk dress brightly printed with Japanese ladies; others crocheted, seemingly in heaven, from excruciatingly fine yarn; the pieces that frizzle with tiny "eyelash" yarn; and one of many textures, with scads of little fabric samples embedded in folded sections like secret treats. Irregular, almost torn-looking adornments zig-zag down the front of one sexy dress. Another fascinating vestlike piece is made from spongily woven black silk. Renaissance also has purses with a harlequin flavor, blending colorful leather and silk to make a merry pattern. One shopper, transforming herself actress-like, tried on a layered, multiply wrapped dress and achieved an almost Kabuki presence.

GET UP, STAND UP FOR YOUR RIGHTS

Assertiveness Training for Women and Men is a five-week class taught by Helene Goldberg at the Cambridge Center for Adult Education, beginning September 23. Call 617-547-6789. $121.



For various reasons—fear of getting fired, getting dissed, getting rejected, being seen as pushy—many people have trouble speaking up for themselves. The challenge is to find that bright blue slice called assertiveness that sits between the undesirable alternatives of aggressiveness and passivity. Teacher Helene Goldberg, a practicing therapist, helps class members (of both sexes and a wide range of ages) consider their beliefs about themselves that get in the way of speaking out: "I don't deserve it. I'm not smart enough. I don't count. I shouldn't have a voice." The role a person played in their family (discounted youngest, bratty whiner, etc.) may get re-created in grown-up situations. Goldberg—using discussion, role playing and journal writing—gets students to explore and experiment and to improve their skills of assertion. Though it is always chewy, miserable fun to complain about the mean boss or slouchy, uncooperative mate, Goldberg focuses more on strategizing, practicing and working from strength. Sometimes returning to the site of failed assertiveness with an "I've been thinking..." approach can be powerful. The desired outcome (say, a raise) may not come immediately, but the change in the asserter's stance is the significant thing.





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IN THIS SECTION: Review: Salts Dish: Mantra's Thomas John moves on
Preview: Honey Day

REVIEW

WORTH ITS SALT

With new owners, Salts brings upscale dining—and prices—to its corner of Cambridge.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS



Ballotine of free-range chicken with black summer truffles and creamless-cream corn

A number of ethnic eateries line Main Street in Cambridge between Kendall and Central squares. La Groceria and Bertucci's cover the Italian front, while Cuchi Cuchi, extravagantly trimmed in art deco style, touches most culinary corners of the globe in eclectically cosmopolitan fashion. The new owners of Salts, Analia Verolo and Gabriel Bremer, have cast their culinary lot with the French. While the restaurant's atmosphere can be described as "country French," its cuisine is refined and urbane. Such refinement comes at a price: Salts' menu prices exceed those of the old Salts by some 30 to 50 percent, placing it in a league with Back Bay and downtown restaurants rather than with its more down-to-earth neighbors. But the quality of Salts' food, with very few exceptions, delivers value for these prices.

SALTS
798 Main St., Cambridge
(617-876-8444)

HOURS Tue.–Sat., 6–10:30 pm
RESERVATIONS recommended
CREDIT CARDS all major
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE no
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LIQUOR LICENSE beer and wine

Hard-crusted, mildly sourdough French rolls, baked in Salts' own kitchen, started the dining experience on a positive note. Soft, sweet butter, studded with a few crystals of sea salt, arrived under elegant, silver minicloches. Soon after serving the bread, the waiters brought tiny, teasing tastes from the kitchen. One night, these treats consisted of tiny slices of veal tongue, its interesting taste and texture highlighted by a garnish of minigreens. A subsequent night brought a cube of fresh, sweet watermelon with a dollop of goat cheese on top and a dab of balsamic vinegar alongside. Both served their function of stimulating the appetite and heightening anticipation for what followed.

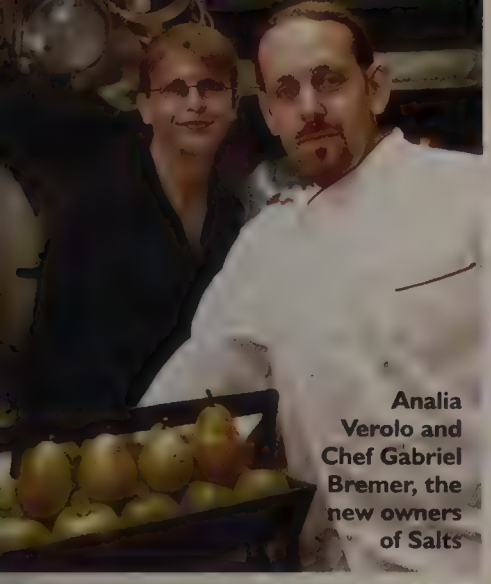
Of the appetizers, the hamachi with aromatic herbs and lemon-coriander vinaigrette ($13) took first prize. Three stunningly presented slices of sashimi-quality yellowtail, cured in salt and herbs, virtually melted in the mouth, leaving pleasant lingering aftertastes of the protein-rich fish and its provocative herbal enhancements. Roasted quail with Moroccan spices and couscous ($12) featured crispy, pleasantly salty skin and mildly gamy flesh. The couscous was richly flavored, with aromatic root vegetables and warm Mediterranean herbs. The priciest of the appetizers, the pan-roasted foie gras ($18), had a buttery richness and satiny texture that made me regret the portion was so meager. A garnish of pitted cherries and beet and cherry sorbet provided a refreshing contrast to the savory intensity of the liver.

The least expensive appetizers turned out to be a pair of salads. The lamb's lettuce with Anjou pear and local goat cheese ($8) presented an imaginative range of tastes and textures, with the sweet succulence of the pear enhanced by the sharp bite of the goat cheese. The second salad, described as baby greens with a brunoise of summer vegetables, poached quail eggs and black truffle vinaigrette ($8), turned out to be a wild thicket of coarse greens that obscured the remainder of the ingredients. Far better were the heirloom tomatoes ($12), at once sweet and tart in flavor and firm yet juicy in texture.

The main courses included one that disappointed and five that vied for superlatives. While I have usually found the flavor of Australian lamb too strong and gamy, Salts' rack of organic Australian lamb ($33) was actually bland, and its lack of flavor was paralleled by a disappointing texture. Also, in contrast to the ample portions of most of Salts' offerings—with the foie gras a noteworthy exception—this rack consisted of only three chops, reminding me of the old joke: "The food was not very good, and the portions were so small."

In contrast to the lamb, the fig-stuffed Niman Ranch pork tenderloin with arugula and hazelnut "polenta" ($29) turned out to be one of the finest dishes I've enjoyed in some time. Pork tenderloin is often problematic—when carelessly handled, it has a tendency to become dry and boring. Salts' pork tenderloin boasted impeccable texture, tender and juicy, and cooked rare as ordered. The mellow sweetness and grainy texture of the figs contributed a texture counterpoint. The promised "hazelnut polenta" was not true polenta (corn) at all, but rather a mild starch consisting probably of hazelnut flour, with a subtle, seductive flavor. Day-boat halibut with clams, fava beans, house-cured pancetta and lemon thyme ($27) brought an excellent piece of firm-fleshed, fresh-tasting fish. The canopy of littleneck clams on the half shell covering the halibut contributed the dominant flavor to the dish—so dominant, that the promised pancetta went undetected. Unlike the perfectly textured fish, the fava beans could have used a few more minutes of heat since they carried al dente to an extreme.

The ballotine of free-range chicken ($26) delighted the eye with another win some presentation. Consisting of white and dark meat boned and rolled around savory, herb-infused stuffing and then roasted to a golden turn, it was sliced into three moist, tender, flavorful cylinders topped with a dice of carrots and black summer truffles and mounted on a base of "creamless-cream corn"—tender, sweet corn with the texture of cream corn but without the liquid. Perhaps the most spectacular of Salts' presentations—and a performance that by itself was worth the price of admission—was the whole roasted duck for two ($60). Tableside service flourishes have all but disappeared, even in fancy restaurants, making the elegant tableside carving of Salts' roast duck all the more impressive. The magnificent creature was presented on a platter, surrounded by a cornucopia of turnips, carrots and onions. The crackling crisp skin encased rich, moist flesh of incomparable flavor. The formidable bird yielded enough meat to be savored by our entire table of six.



Analia Verolo and Chef Gabriel Bremer, the new owners of Salts



Lemon soufflé tart with frozen lemon curd and raspberry compote



Cured hamachi with aromatic herbs and lemon-coriander vinaigrette

Desserts included an apricot tart tatin ith lemon thyme pot de crème and cham-agne sorbet ($10). The resilient texture nd distinctive sweet flavor of the apricots ent well with the offbeat-sounding but rprisingly delicious creamy custard that ombined the herbal nuances of thyme ith the citrusy pucker of lemon. A tiny oop of sorbet added a refreshing, intrigu-gly flavored treat. Lemon soufflé tart ith frozen lemon curd and raspberry com-te ($9) married the tart sweetness of oked and frozen lemon with the vibrant avors of plump, juicy raspberries and lackberries—not really a compote, but ther fresh berries as nature made them. nally, the warm chocolate cake with Ju-or Mint ice cream and chocolate mint appe ($9) trod a familiar path but with awless perfection. Using a high-quality hocolate—I later learned it was South merican in origin—the chef's baking recision yielded a light confection with a olten bittersweet chocolate center.

Salts' wine list needs work. Despite a rfeit of decent table wines on the market at wholesale for under $80 a case (which e house could price affordably while still aking a respectable markup), Salts' list s few choices under $40. The least ex-nsive red, a serviceable but ordinary 00 Bordeaux Supérieur named Chateau ecougne ($35), had good structure, and dry, almost austere character made it a asonably good companion to the range of ods we ordered. On the other hand, the lsatian pinot blanc ($35) disappointed in flabby character, needing acid and struc-ture. Wine by the glass at Salts was even higher priced, but there was a selection of beers, including the palatable, medium-weight Brooklyn Brown Ale ($4).

Service at Salts verged on perfection, with a friendly, attentive, professionally skillful staff, particularly the waiter who carved our duck. On the other hand, when the dining room filled up, the pressure on Salts' small kitchen may have taken its toll—the wait between main courses and dessert one evening exceeded a reasonable interval, wholly inconsistent with the perfect pacing of the meal to that point. Salts' physical appointments provide an engaging dining environment. Track lighting along the high ceiling illuminates stucco-textured gray walls hung with huge, wood-framed mirrors and some artwork with vibrant colors. Crisp white tablecloths and absorbent white cotton napkins, heavy tableware, giant stemware, and large white plates and bowls of various shapes and sizes—square, round, oval—adorn the tables, and smart, comfortable, black Windsor chairs provide the seating.

Salts' reincarnation under the stewardship of Verolo and Bremer constitutes a substantial addition to Greater Boston's fine-dining resources. Its upscale aspirations, matched by its upscale prices in a downscale neighborhood, put pressure on its talented chef and congenial hostess to provide the quality and consistency that patrons from across the city who are willing to pay those prices will demand. So far, they appear to be succeeding. IB

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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

August Crab Festival
Magnolia's, 1193 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1971). www.magnoliacuisine.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central Square. Through Aug. 28. Tue.-Sat., 6-10 pm. A la carte. Throughout August, Magnolia's chef **John Silberman** continues his special Crab Festival menu with dishes like rainbow trout filled with creole crabmeat stuffing, and Maryland steamed Jonah Crab claws with drawn butter.

Cromatini Tuesdays
Croma, 269 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-3200). www.cromaboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Aug. 31. 5:30-7:30 pm. Each Tuesday in August, Croma features two new specialty martinis called Cromatinis ($8 each) as well as complimentary Pizzatinis (specialty pizzas).

Fantasy Tea Party
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Every Sat., 2-4 pm. Prices vary. Chef **Frank McClelland** prepares snacks like strawberry shortcakes and raspberry tartlets. Guests also sample tea.

Give Us the Dirt—Nesenkeag Farm Harvest Review
Harvest, 44 Brattle St. Cambridge (617-868-2255). www.the-harvest.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Aug. 25, 6 pm. $39. Executive chef Eric Brennan takes advantage of the late summer harvest as he prepares a five-course tasting menu featuring dishes like smoked confit of duck over hot and sour baby beet salad, and baked, stuffed Lebanese squash.

Hot off the Vine at 33: Wednesday Wine Tasting Series
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25 a person. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** each Wednesday for a sampling of four wines paired with a complimentary food sampling. •Sept. 1: Southern Italy.

Monthly Theme Dinners at Grotto
Grotto, 37 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-3434). www.grottorestaurant.com. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Daily, 5-7 pm. $34. Each month, Grotto chef/owner Scott Herritt offers a special three-course dinner inspired by a particular region of Italy. •August: Tuscany. •September: Campania.

Saint Anthony's Feast
Endicott, Thacher and North Margin streets, Boston (617-723-8669). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket or Government Center. Aug. 27-29, 12-11 pm. Free. This annual North End festival features an assortment of traditional Italian delicacies, like calamari, quahogs, pasta and cannoli, as well as interactive games and live entertainment.

Summer Cooking School at the Langham Hotel
Langham Hotel, 250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. 6-8 pm. $100. The Langham Hotel hosts a series of classes this summer on preparing classic summertime dishes. •Aug. 25: London Calling.

A Taste of Absolut
Vinalia Restaurant, 34 Summer St., Boston (617-737-1777). www.bostonunlisted.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Aug. 31, 6:30-8:30 pm. $40. Boston Unlisted hosts this sampling of the four latest Absolut vodka flavors. The evening also includes complimentary hors d'oeuvres and a demonstration by Absolut.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $25. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, while chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •Aug. 31: Alsace. •Sept. 7: Southern Italian reds.

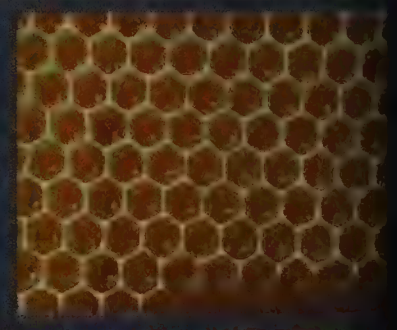
Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Johnson** offers descriptions of the wines that complement the French–New England meal by chef **Frank McClelland**.

Wine Tastings at Vinalia
Vinalia Restaurant, 34 Summer St., Boston (617-737-1777). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Every Wednesday, 6 pm. $15. Join Vinalia's wine professionals every Wednesday for a sampling of appetizers and three different wines.

Yale Electric Summer Chef Series
Yale Electric, 296 Freeport St., Boston (617-825-9253). www.yaleelectric.com. MBTA: Red Line to Fields Corner. Sat. and Sun. 12-3 pm. Free. Saturday and Sunday afternoons this summer Yale Electric and resident chef **Kurt von Kahle** host local chefs for a day of cooking with Yale Electric appliances. •Aug. 28: **Brian Houlihan** of Bia Bistro and **Peter McCarthy** of Evoo. •Aug. 29: Dynamic Cooking System cooking demonstration.

PREVIEW

HONEY DAY



It's not every day that honey lovers get to show their love for the condiment that gives an extra kick to their daily tea or yogurt, but chef/beekeeper Mike Graney provides an opportunity on Sunday, August 29, at the fourth annual Honey Day. From noon until 4 pm, at the Leland Street Community Garden in Jamaica Plain, guests can enjoy live music while sampling different types of honey and light refreshments, including mead, a honey wine. Graney, a chef at Pemberton Farms in Cambridge, donates all the day's proceeds from the sale of local honey (last year he sold 75 pounds' worth) toward helping to preserve and enhance urban beekeeping. *15 Leland St. Jamaica Plain (617-633-0235). MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. Aug. 29, 12–4 pm. Free.* —R.L.

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DISH

No Small Rolls

From Bombay to baguettes…Mariposa wings it…Il Panino to rise again

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

The announcement that chef **Thomas John** had left **Mantra** was no big surprise. After all, he'd made a well-deserved splash with his exotic and delicious Indian/French menus and had put in long hours to establish Mantra as an ongoing hot spot downtown. What came as a shock was his new position: executive chef at Boston-based café/bakery chain **Au Bon Pain**. Clearly, John was thinking way outside the hookah den.

Sometimes, though, pragmatism trumps glamour. John has two kids, and a corporate-chef job offers a more family-friendly schedule. And talent is transferable, so score one for Au Bon Pain. Meanwhile, heading up Mantra's kitchen will be **Phil Carolan** and **Ernie Quinones**. Quinones, originally Mantra's pastry chef, certainly has the energy and imagination (bleu cheese ice cream, anyone?) to qualify for the job. We'll keep you posted.



Pastry chef Ernie Quinones is now helping to head up Mantra's kitchen.

SECOND COURSE

D'ough!: Several weeks after opening **Mariposa**, owner **Suzanne Mermelstein** reports business is "going well" at her bakery café in Cambridge's Central Square...despite a lack of signage. "We still don't have our signs up," sighed Mermelstein, "but we get a lot of walk-by traffic." While the café counter is still awaiting its stools, the 30-plus table seats are open Monday through Friday from 7 am to 7 pm, and Saturday until 5 pm. Early birds favor the breakfast pizza, which involves roasted-tomato salsa, pesto and a scrambled egg baked on top, served with a sprinkle of parmesan. Pretzels—which, as Mermelstein points out, are prepared like bagels, boiled then baked—are available in small and large sizes, the latter used for sandwiches such as roast turkey with aged Gouda and aioli.

Il Panino on Franklin Street, recently closed after 12 years, won't be an empty space for long. Owner **Frank de Pasquale** is already gearing up to reopen his five-level eatery and nightspot in the fall with new decor, a new theme (still Italian-related, of course—that's his bread and butter) and, most likely, a big party.

Grill 23 & Bar has appointed **Alex DeWinter** as its new wine director DeWinter, who polished his skills under former wine director and Bordeaux native **Nathalie Vache**, plans to expand the restaurant's collection of Spanish and Italian wines. DeWinter will also work with executive chef **Jay Murray** on the Grill's upcoming "Second Saturdays at Grill 23," a program of wine-tasting and cooking classes. Vache, by the way, recently moved to Alaska with her fiancé, which makes one wonder: Which wine best complements roasted moose?

Speaking of red meat, expect **Smith & Wollensky** to open its doors September 7 with former Grill 23 private-dining manager **Paige Reed** assuming the same position at the castle...Congratulations to newlyweds **Tony Maws** and **Karoly Feeks**, owner/chef and general manager respectively, of **Craigie Street Bistro**. Fun fact: At the prenuptial barbecue festivities, dessert was a cake constructed of Krispy Kreme doughnuts. IB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to dish@improper.com.

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617.783.9400 www.kinvarapub.com

the Green Briar irish pub
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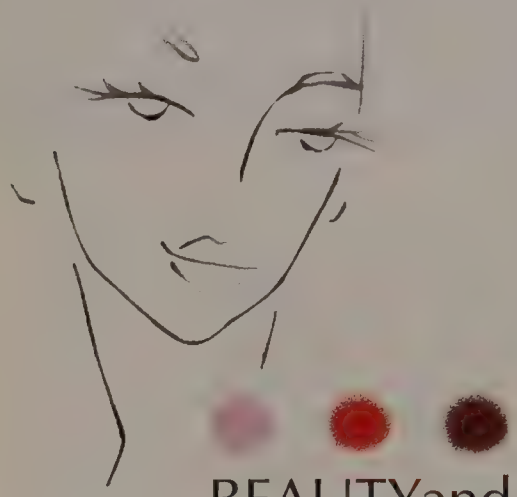
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MPROPER PICKS

august 25 - september 7

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			25 Scarlett Johansson stars in ***Manny & Lo***, at the Coolidge Corner Theatre. *See Movies on page 58.*	**26**	**27** Last chance for discount gourmet eats: **Restaurant Week** ends. *See CityScope on page 50.*	**28** Sample classic Italian fare at the annual **Saint Anthony's Feast**, in the North End. *See Tastings on page 42.*
29 Contributor **Dave Eggers** reads from the new *Best of McSweeney's* humor anthology at WordsWorth. *See Books & Poetry on page 82.*	**30**	**31** **Norah Jones** performs at the Tweeter Center. *See Music on page 66.*	**1**	**2** The **B.B. King Blues Festival** is at the FleetBoston Pavilion. *See Music on page 66.*	**3** **Shakespeare & Company**'s production of ***Othello*** opens at Founders' Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 52.*	**4**
5 *King of Queens* star **Kevin James** performs stand-up comedy at the South Shore Music Circus. *See Performing Arts on page 54.*	**6** Take in a drag show at Jacques Cabaret's **TrannyWreck 2**. *See Gay & Lesbian on page 84.*	**7**				



Tim Wakefield, Patrick White and Bob Neumeier at the Jimmy Fund Radiothon

FRI./AUG. 27

CityScope: Calling for a Cure

Even more inspiring than a 40–home run season, a breakaway goal or a Super Bowl ring is the way our local pro athletes come together for a good cause. On August 27, they come through again, as SportsRadio WEEI, NESN and the Red Sox team up for the Jimmy Fund Radiothon. A star-studded lineup of players from the Bruins, Celtics, Pats and Sox, plus Jimmy Fund doctors and patients, converge on Fenway for the third annual day-long event. You can tune-in from home (at WEEI-AM 850 or NESN) and catch interviews with Donald Trump, Michael J. Fox, Ben Affleck and Matt Damon, among others. But for those who'd rather be front and center for the action, there are a couple of fun special events: "How to Build a Champion," a breakfast Q&A session with Sox GM Theo Epstein, Patriots VP of player personnel Scott Pioli, Celtics executive director of basketball operations Danny Ainge and Bruins GM Mike O'Connell, takes place at Fenway's .406 Club from 8 to 9:30 am, and admission is $150. Later, from 12 to 2:30 pm, WEEI's Dale Arnold and Bob Neumeier host "A Bird's Eye View of Fenway," which features lunch with a panel of Red Sox players, plus an insider's tour of Fenway Park, for $200. Those with extra-large appetites (sports and otherwise) can purchase a Double Play ticket for $300 that includes both the breakfast and lunch events. WEEI director of programming and operations Jason Wolfe hopes to raise at least $1 million, but even if you can't make it to Fenway for the festivities, your money's just as green at home. Pledges are accepted over the phone and online between 6 am and midnight. *Call 617-632-3861 for tickets, or log on to www.jimmyfundradio.org. Pledges accepted at 877-738-1234.*

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

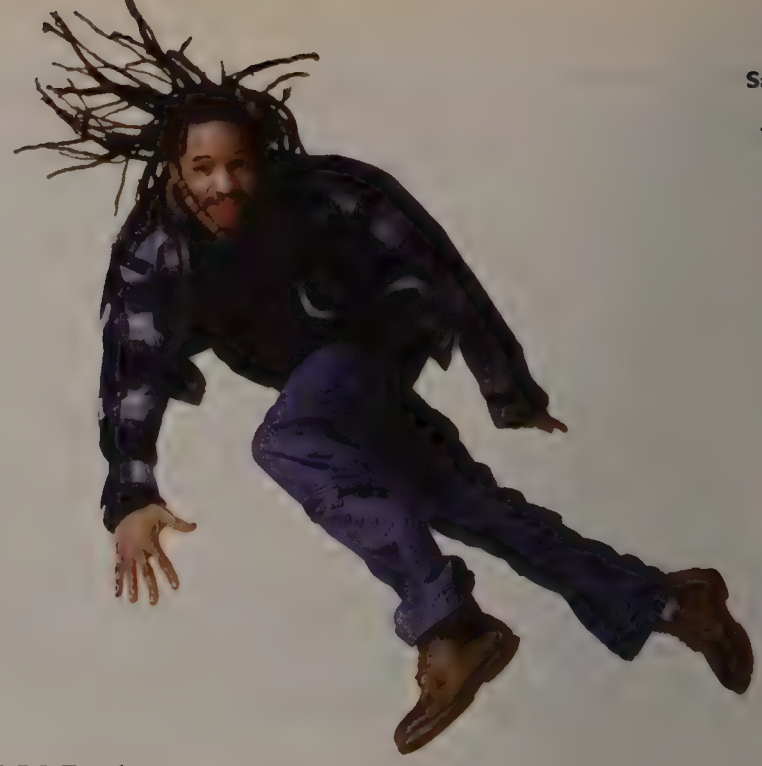
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Savion Glover performs at Tanglewood

SAT./SEPT. 4

Performing Arts: Tap Happy

One man's an octogenarian; the other's just over 30. Dancers Jimmy Slyde and Savion Glover have been wowing audiences for decades, and this year the two living legends bring their signature tap styles to the **Tanglewood Jazz Festival**. Slyde, born Jimmy Gotbolt, began tapping in the 1930s and '40s and became so well-known for floating and sliding across the stage that he changed his name. Glover, who was once called "the greatest tap dancer to ever lace up a pair of Capezios" by the late, great Gregory Hines, has showcased his improvisational moves on Broadway (*The Tap Dance Kid; Bring in 'Da Noise, Bring in 'Da Funk*), on the big screen (*Tap, Bamboozled*) and even on *Sesame Street*. The two artists first appeared on stage together 17 years ago at the Great Woods Jazz Festival. Now together again in an all-jazz program, they tap out to the music of John Coltrane, Miles Davis and George Gershwin performed by a live quintet. *Tanglewood Theatre, 297 West St., Lenox. (888-266-1200). www.bso.org. 1 pm, $45.*

MON./AUG. 30

Performing Arts: Time to Tango

Every full moon during the summer, the footbridge near Harvard Square fills up with people twirling, twisting and turning in the moonlight. At **Tango by Moonlight**, a free monthly event put on by the Tango Society of Boston, tango teachers show off their moves and offer lessons in the seductive Argentinean dance. A live DJ plays a range of tango-friendly music—in addition to the traditional tango tunes there's salsa, swing, rock and sometimes Turkish and folk music. The instructors tell us that it doesn't necessarily take two to tango, as only about 40 percent of the participants are couples (so there's good chance for singles to make a moonlit match). If you get into the swing of things, so to speak, the moonlight sessions continue through September. *8 pm. Weeks Memorial Footbridge (corner of DeWolfe Street and Memorial Drive), Cambridge (617-413-2981). www.bostontango.org. Rain date: Aug. 31. Free.*

FRI./AUG. 27

CityScope: Dancing on the Ceiling



For lots of us over the ripe old age of 25, finding a place to go dancing in Boston isn't an easy task—at least if you want to leave at the end of the night with your hearing intact. But on a handful of upcoming nights, the Ritz-Carlton Boston is opening its rooftop to its dining room guests for **Puttin' on the Ritz**, a swing-dance night where jump-jiving guys and gals groove to the sounds of the eight piece Ritz-Carlton Orchestra playing covers of big-band greats. It makes for a nice dose of nostalgia—you can almost imagine yourself in a zoot suit or saddle shoes back in the 1930s and '40s, when the Ritz's rooftop was abuzz with summer activity and drew big name musical acts like Benny Goodman, the Dorseys and Glenn Miller. If you can't make this date, you've still got a few more opportunities—additional Puttin' on the Ritz events are scheduled for September 10, 24 and October 8. *15 Arlington St., Boston (800-241-3333). www.ritzcarlton.com. 8 pm–12 am. $25 (in addition to the price of a meal).*

Paul Clement is featured in the documentary *Plagues & Pleasures of the Salton Sea.*



FRI./AUG. 27–SUN./AUG. 29

Movies: Faneuil Films

As far as we know, the first annual **Zoinks! Film Festival** is the only movie fest that's dubbed itself "wicked cool." Sponsored by local toy store Zoinks!, it's also the only indie film fest to host indoor and outdoor screenings at one of the nation's most-visited tourist attractions, Faneuil Hall Marketplace. Animated shorts, features, documentaries and children's films by local, national and international filmmakers screen during the weekend, and highlights include *Juvies*, a documentary about youth prisons narrated by Mos Def and Mark Wahlberg; *Rutland, USA*, a *Naked Gun*–style detective comedy; and *Plagues & Pleasure on the Salton Sea*, a documentary about a polluted California lake and the people who choose to live around it. Screenings take place at the Comedy Connection, Cheers and a tented screening area in the West Market. *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-6266). www.zoinksfilmfestival.com. 10 am–10 pm. Free. ($20 all-access pass includes admission to all films, priority seating and admission to three after parties with filmmakers.)*

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Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings for benefits, festivals, activities and events by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Benefits

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25

Restaurant Week
Various restaurants around the city (888-733-2678). www.opentable.com. Through Aug. 27. $20.04 lunches, $30.04 dinners. Take advantage of what the local restaurant scene has to offer, and at the same time support a good cause. More than 80 local eateries offer deals on prix fixe meals, and proceeds benefit the Anthony Spinazzola Foundation, which provides culinary education to students with limited resources.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27

Sports Radio WEEI Jimmy Fund Radiothon
The .406 Club, Fenway Park, 4 Yawkey Way, Boston (617-632-3861). www.jimmyfundradio.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Breakfast: 8-9:30 am, $150; lunch: 12-2:30 pm, $200; both: $300. As part of the third annual WEEI Jimmy Fund Radiothon, Fenway Park's .406 Club hosts two events: a breakfast featuring a Q&A session with local sports executives Danny Ainge (Celtics), Scott Pioli (Patriots), Theo Epstein (Red Sox) and Mike O'Connell (Bruins), and a lunch featuring a tour of the park and a panel discussion with current Red Sox players. Proceeds benefit the Jimmy Fund.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

Cut-a-Thon
Joli Salon, 185 Grove St., Putterham Circle, Brookline (617-327-0900). 8 am-6 pm. Suggested minimum donation: adult haircuts, $50; children, $20; manicures, $12. Joli Salon offers a day of haircuts and styling, manicures and L'Oreal hair treatments, plus face painting and other activities for kids. Proceeds benefit the Center for Grieving Children and Teenagers.

The Monster Challenge: Tri-Boston Triathlon
Begins at World Trade Center, 200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (978-258-8226). www.monsterchallenge.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 7 am. $85 individuals, $150 relay teams. Help raise money for the AIDS Action Committee of Massachusetts at this annual triathlon. Amateur competitors swim a half mile, bike 12.4 miles and run 3.1 miles (professionals double those distances). Relay teams of two or three people can also team up for the events.

Festivals & Parties

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25

2nd Annual Summer Swing
Boston Harbor Hotel, Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). www.bhh.com. Every Wed. through Sept. 8, 6 pm. Free. This weekly summer outdoor swing-dancing series features demonstrations, dance instruction and big-band music.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 26

Boston Society of Young Professionals Thirsty Thursday
Tonic, 1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699). www.bostonyoungpro.com. MBTA: Green B Line to Long Ave. 7-8:30 pm. $5 online, $10 at door. Take advantage of complimentary appetizers and an open bar serving Ketel One martinis while watching the Red Sox on Tonic's plasma TVs or relaxing in the downstairs Met Lounge.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27

Boston Antique & Classic Boat Festival
Hawthorne Cove Marina, 10 White St., Salem (617-422-1703). www.by-the-sea.com/bacbfestival. Through Aug. 29. Sat., 12-5 pm; Sun. 11 am-3 pm. $5; children under 12, free. More than 40 vintage yachts dating as far back as the 1920s are on display, and guest can tour the ships, meet the skippers and vote for their favorite vessel.

Puttin' on the Ritz: Relive the Big-Band Era
The Ritz-Carlton, 15 Arlington St., Boston (617-912-3355). www.ritzcarlton.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm-12 am. $25. The Ritz turns back the clock for a big-band party on the roof, with music provided by the eight-piece Ritz-Carlton Orchestra.

Saint Anthony's Feast
Endicott, Thacher and North Margin streets, Boston (617-723-8669). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket or Government Center. Aug. 27-29, 12-11 pm. Free. This annual North End festival features an assortment of interactive games, live entertainment and religious and cultural ceremonies as well as traditional Italian delicacies like calamari, quahogs, pasta and cannoli.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28

Massbike's 2nd Annual Bike Festival
The Fenn School, 516 Monument St., Concord (617-542-2453). www.massbike.org. 9 am-4 pm. $25 for individuals, $40 for families. Massbike celebrates the end of summer with an assortment of bike rides (from five miles to 100K) for the whole family. Participants can choose from, among others, a ride to a local ice cream shop, a "swimming ride" to nearby Walden Pond or a more arduous 9.75-mile competitive time trial. Food and drink are provided courtesy of Redbones, Verrill Farms, Blue Frog Bakery and Rockstar Energy Drinks.


A 1967 Ford Mustang is just one of the classic rides on display at Vintage Ford Day, at the Larz Anderson Auto Museum Aug. 29.

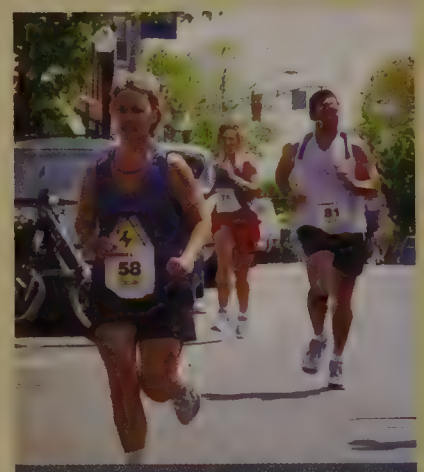
Preview

Summer of the Striders

Local running club finishes up summer race series with fun-filled event.

For most of us, a brisk 4.2-mile run isn't the first choice for an after-work get-together with friends. But this summer, the Somerville Striders Athletic Club has taken the dreaded art of exercise and turned it into a party.

On Thursday, August 26, the Striders host the Brie Burger in Paradise Run & Tailgate Party, the final installment of their 2004 "Let's Run, Have Fun and Be Fit" summer race series. Striders events are more than mere gallops along the Charles, though. After each race, runners kick off their cross-trainers and get ready to party, as sponsor Harpoon Brewery headlines a postrun celebration that includes great food, beverages and musical performances. The finale party features the Electric Parrots, a Jimmy Buffett cover band.


The Brie Burger in Paradise Run takes off along the Charles Aug. 26

"We're trying to do something a little different than a lot of the other clubs," says Striders founder Paulie Collyer. "We mix health and fitness with fun and relaxation, and there's just an incredible amount of energy."

Runs are open to participants of all ages and abilities (you can even walk the course if running proves too strenuous) but runners must register before race night. So be sure to get online early and get a spot. Need a little more time to get in condition? Check the club's Web site for info on fall races, including the Blues Run & Big Pig BBQ and the Boogie Woogie 5K, both part of the City Sports' Twin Cities Fall Race Series.

Race begins and ends at 5 Greenough Blvd. (Eliot Bridge), Cambridge (617-625-2140). www.baevents.com. Aug. 26, 6:30 pm. $18. —Rich Levine

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Jamaican Joy Ride
Aboard the Nolan, Long Wharf, Boston (617-778-8035). www.dtvibetribe.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 8-11 pm. $25 in advance, $30 at door. This cruise features live music from Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe and includes an an open bar from 8-9 pm and an appetizer buffet. Hold onto your ticket for admission to the after-party at Club Q.

Singles

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25

Hurry Date
The Harp, 85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010) www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Orange Line to North Station. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $35 for nonmembers. Embark on 20 five-minute dates and enjoy drink specials. For ages 25-35.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 26

Lock & Key Party
Felt, 533 Washington St., Boston (978-697-7692) www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 7 pm. $15 in advance, $20 at door. The Boston Young Professionals Association hosts this event for singles ages 25-35 where women get locks, men get keys and all are encouraged to get out, socialize and find their match.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 31

Fresh Dozen Dating
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.freshdozendates.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7 pm. $40. Enjoy a complimentary Champagne toast and 12 five-minute dates with singles between the ages of 25-40.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

Hurry Date
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $35 for nonmembers. Embark on 20 five-minute dates and enjoy drink specials from 33 Restaurant. For ages 21-32.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Labor Day Weekend at Eastover
Eastover Resort, 430 East St., Lenox (617-599-1400). www.bostonypa.com. Through Sept. 6. $30
The Boston Young Professionals Association hosts this all-inclusive Labor Day weekend getaway for singles over 21 to Lenox's Eastover Resort. Activities include nightly entertainment, volleyball, softball, dating games and much more.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Whale Watch Cruise
Boat leaves from 60 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-599-1400). www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 9 am-1 pm. $10. The Boston Young Professionals Association hosts this four-hour cruise through areas inhabited by humpback and Minke whales, as well as white-sided dolphins and bluefin tuna.

Summer Activities

THURSDAY, AUGUST 26

NeighborWalks: Fort Point Channel
Begins at the Hood Milk Bottle at Children's Museum, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-482-1722). www.bostonharborwalk.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 5:30-6:30 pm. Free. The Boston Harbor Association leads a walk along the Fort Point Channel designed to educate participants about the waterfront and encourage physical activity.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

Vintage Ford Day
Larz Anderson Auto Museum, 15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). www.mot.org. 10 am-2 pm. $7 adults, $5 seniors and kids under 6. As part of the museum's 65th anniversary celebration, vintage Fords are entered in six concours (antique, classic, hot rod, custom, racer and antique truck) on the lawn.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 31

NeighborWalks: Fan Pier to Fish Pier
Begins at the Fan Pier on the South Boston waterfront (617-482-1722). www.bostonharborwalk.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 5:30-6:30 pm. Free. Boston Harbor Association leads a walk from the Fan Pier to the Fish Pier designed to educate participants about the waterfront and encourage physical activity.

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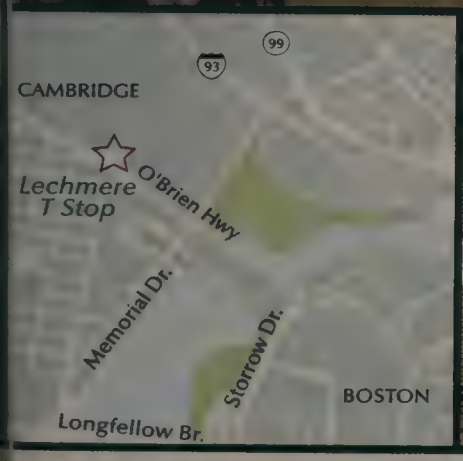
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performing arts

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Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Performing Arts. Or e-mail to performing@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.


Boston Ballet presents a special 40th-anniversary program at the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival August 25-29.

Theater

JUST OPENED

Loman Family Picnic
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4433) www.gloucesterstage.com. Sept. 1-19. Wed-Fri., 8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 5 and 8 pm. $15-30. Donald Margulies' comedy about life in middle-class America centers around a family living near Coney Island in the 1960s.

Othello
Shakespeare & Company, Founders' Theatre, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. Sept. 3-5, 2 and 7:30 pm. $20. Shakespeare & Company's production of the Bard's famous tragedy focuses on the text, with minimal production elements.

Route 1
Sherman Café, 257 Washington St., Somerville (617-623-8100). MBTA: Red Line to Union Square. Aug. 27, 7 pm. Free. Local filmmakers P.H. O'Brien and Deb Girdwood give a staged reading of their screenplay about an ex-hockey player trying to get his life together.

Summer Shorts Festival
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). www.hoveyplayers.com. Aug.26-Sept. 4. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. $15. The Hovey Players present their eighth annual Summer Shorts Festival. Each evening features six 10-minute plays, four original songs and a 20-minute musical, all by local playwrights and composers.

NOW RUNNING

As You Like It
Shakespeare & Company, Founders Theatre, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (412-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. Aug. 25 and 29, 7:30 pm; Aug. 28, 2 pm. Wed.-Sun, 7:30 pm. $10-$49. Eleanor Holdridge directs Shakespeare's play about two young lovers who battle obstacles facing their romance.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. Ongoing. $46-$56. This dialogue-free production features tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Cirque du Soleil's Varekai
Grand Chapiteau, Suffolk Downs, Boston (800-678-5440). www.cirquedusoleil.com. Through Sept. 5. Tue. and Wed., 8 pm; Thu.-Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 1 and 5 pm. No performance Aug. 31. $38-75. Cirque du Soleil uses its signature acrobatics and dramatics to tell the story of a young wanderer's adventure in the magical world of Varekai.

The Comedy of Errors
Shakespeare & Company, Founders Theatre, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. Through Sept. 2. Tue., Thu.-Sat., 7:30 pm; Wed., 2 and 7:30 pm. $10-$49. Cecil MacKinnon directs Shakespeare's comedy about two sets of twins separated at birth and reunited decades later.

Forever Plaid
Stuart Street Playhouse/2nd Stage, 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Through Aug. 22. Tue-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $42. This musical tells the story of Forever Plaid, a 1960s musical quartet that is killed on its first performance but returns to earth 40 years later to perform.

Full Gallop
Shakespeare & Company, Spring Lawn Theater, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-1199). www.shakespeare.org. Through Sept. 5. Check for showtimes. $30-$47. Daniel Gidron directs Mark Hampton and Mary Louise Wilson's play about the outrageous former *Vogue* editor Diana Vreeland, as she prepares to throw a dinner party.

Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding
Matrix Nightclub, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123) www.comedywedding.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Aug. 28 and Sept. 4, 7:30 pm. $49. Tickets include dinner, show and entry to Matrix. The nation's longest-running comedy/dinner-theater show spoofs a traditional Italian wedding with audience participation and dinner.

Lettice and Lovage
Shakespeare & Company, Spring Lawn Theater, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-1199). www.shakespeare.org. Aug. 26-29, 31 and Sept. 2, 8:30 pm; Sept.1 and 5, 3 pm. $30-47. Peter Shaffer's play stars Tina Packer and Diane Prusha as unlikely friends who butt heads while working for a historical trust.

The Lion King
Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (800-347-0808). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. 26. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 1 pm and 6:30 pm. $22-$132. Julie Taymor directs this stage adaptation of the popular Disney film about a young lion cub's struggle to become king.

Mamma Mia!
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-426-9366). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Aug. 29. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $37.50-$87.50. The popular musical based on the music of ABBA stays in Boston for an extended run.

Maria's Bachelorette Party
Kowloon Restaurant, Saugus (781-233-0077) www.comedywedding.com. Aug. 28, 8:00 pm. $36. Bridesmaids, exotic male dancers, and the mother-of-the-bride go head to head in this comedic audience participation show.

Menopause: The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617-426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 pm and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $42.50. A quartet of aging baby boomers meet at a lingerie sale, and singing and dancing ensues.

The Merchant of Venice
Publick Theatre, Christian Herter Riverside Park, 1400 Soldiers Field Road, Brighton (617-782-5425). www.publicktheatre.com. MBTA: 86 bus to Everett St. Sept. 1, 2, and 5, 7:30 pm; Sept. 3 and 4, 8 pm. $25-$30. Shakespeare's classic tale explores love, deception and political morality. Diego Arciniegas directs.

Nine
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Durham Road, Beverly (617-232-7200). www.nsmt.org. Through Sept. 12. Tue.-Sat., 8 pm (except Aug. 31, 7 pm); Wed., Sat., Sun., 2 pm. $30-63. Adapted from Federico Fellini's film *8 1/2*, this musical follows a failing film director as he tries to get his life together, particularly his relationships with women. Barry Ivan directs.

Romeo and Juliet
Shakespeare & Company, Bankside, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-1199). www.shakespeare.org. Through Aug. 29. Thu., 5:30 pm; Sun., 12:30 and 5:30 pm. Free. Kevin Coleman directs Shakespeare's tragedy about forbidden young love.

Say You Love Satan
Black Box Theater, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787) www.zeitgeist stage.com. Through Sept. 11. Thu., Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 5 and 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $25. After Andrew begins an intense relationship with hunky dreamboat Jack, he starts to fear his boyfriend is literally from hell. Written by Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa.

Shakespeare and the Language That Shaped a World
Shakespeare & Company, Bankside, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-1199). www.shakespeare.org. Through Aug. 28. Wed., 5:30 pm; Sat., 12:30 and 5:30 pm. Free. This fast-paced performance features 45 minutes of excerpts from several of Shakespeare's plays.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $34. This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

The Sopranos Last Supper
Matrix Nightclub, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123) www.comedywedding.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. Aug. 27, 7:30 p $49. Tickets include dinner, show and entry to Mat This interactive dinner theatre is based on t HBO series.

Spinning into Butter
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main S Gloucester (978-281-4433) www.gloucesterstage.co Through Aug. 29. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm; Sat. and Sun. pm. $20-30. In this play by Rebecca Gilman, a rac incident at a small Vermont college leads to un pected discoveries and painful revelations. Eric En directs.

Trolius and Cressida
Publick Theatre, Christian Herter Riverside Park, 14 Soldiers Field Road, Brighton (617-782-542 www.publicktheatre.com. MBTA: 86 bus to Eve St. Through Sept. 12. Check for showtimes. $25-$ Hector, Paris, Agamemnon, Achilles and Ulysse call the tragedy of war in Shakespeare's play about ancient city of Troy.

Xingu
Ventfort Hall, Museum of the Gilded Age, 104 Wal St., Lenox (413-637-3206). Through Aug. 27. We Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 4 pm; Sun., 10 am. $20. An Undeland stars in this adaptation of Edith Wh ton's short story about a ladies' cultural club wh members are bewildered by a mysterious object

Dance

Boston Ballet
Jacob's Pillow, 358 George Carter Road, Bec (413-243-0745). www.jacobspillow.org. Aug 29, Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat, 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 $10. Jacob's Pillow celebrates Boston Ballet's 4 anniversary with a program that includes Geo Balanchine's *Duo Concertant* (Stravinsky) *Who Cares?* (Gershwin), Mark Morris' *Drink to Only with Thine Eyes*, Jorma Elo's *Plan to B*, an selection from Val Caniparoli's *Lady of Camelia.*

Seán Curran Company
Jacob's Pillow, 358 George Carter Road, Becket (4 243-0745). www.jacobspillow.org. Aug. 26- Thu.-Sat., 8:15 pm; Sat., 2:15; Sun., 5 $49.50-$55. The company presents a varied gram that reflects director Curran's experie with Irish step dance, Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane the show *Stomp.*

Savion Glover and Jimmy Slyde
Tanglewood Music Center Theatre, 297 West Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. Sept. 4, $45. The Tony-nominated dancers perform an jazz/tap program featuring music from a live quintet.



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Tango by Moonlight
Weeks Memorial Footbridge, Cambridge (617-413-2981). www.bostontango.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Aug. 30, 8-11:30 pm. Rain date: Aug.31. Free. Observe demonstrations of Argentinean tango and receive lessons under the stars along the Charles River.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. Deadline for listings is four weeks prior to publication.

STAND-UP CLUBS

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault at Remington's features local stand-up comedians. •Thu.: Greg Howell and friends •Fri. and Sat.: Boston's Best Standup •Sun.: Open Mike Night.

Cantab Lounge
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.cantablounge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Thursdays, 8 pm: Chris Waller performs improv downstairs, no cover, 21+.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Aug. 25, 8 pm: Harrison Stebbins, $12. •Aug. 26, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •Aug. 29, 7 pm: DJ Hazard, $12. •Aug. 30, 8 pm: Amateur Showcase with host Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," $12. •Aug. 31, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $12. •Sept. 1, 8 pm: Harrison Stebbins, $12. •Sept. 2, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •Sept. 3, 8 and 10:15 pm: Dane Cook, $35. •Sept. 4, 8 and 10:15 pm, 12 am: Dane Cook, $35. •Sept. 5, 7 and 9:15 pm: Dane Cook, $32. • Sept. 6, 8 pm: Amateur Showcase with host Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," $12.

Comedy Studio
Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Aug. 25: Tony V with Kelly McFarland, Tom Flynn, Erin Judge, and more. •Aug. 26: Elisha Yaffe, Baratunde, Ben Boime, Steve Calechman, Timm Fenn, Bryan Ames, Shaun Robbins. •Aug. 27: Michael Fontana, Peter Dutton, Mike Morrell, Baratunde, Joe Wong, Tommy Morello, the Walsh Bros. •Aug. 28: Peter Dutton, Baratunde, Tommy Morello, Robby Roadsteamer, Corey Manning. •Aug. 29: Rebecca Anderson, Dave Thompson, Amanda White, Baratunde, Anthony Spencer, Mike Herman, Jay Montepare. •Sept. 1: Tony V Experiment, with Kelly MacFarland and others. •Sept. 2: Pete Gray, Eric Riley Moore, Peter Bowers, Seth Early, Doug Cagnon, Frank Rockett. •Sept. 3: Randy Winn, The Walsh Bros. •Sept. 4: Rick Jenkins, JJ Leslie. •Sept. 5: Alison Block, Ben Murray, Dan Hirshon, Phil Yebba.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. $10-$22. •Aug. 26, 8:30: Teddy Bergeron, Johnny K. •Aug. 27 and 28, 8:45 pm: Teddy Bergeron, Artie Januario, Johnny K. •Sept. 2, 8:30 pm: Kevin Knox, Al Klemick. •Sept. 3, 8:45 pm: Kevin Knox, Al Klemick, Pete Costello. •Sept. 4, 8:45 pm: Kevin Knox, Al Klemick, Pete Costello.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA:Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. •Through Aug.: *Big Dig...the End of an Error!*, a hilarious look at living in Boston. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 9 pm; Sat., 8 and 10 pm. •Ongoing: The Midnight Show, Saturdays at midnight, $10.

ImprovBoston
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: the characters, the stories, the settings—even the songs and dances. •Thu., 8 pm, $10-12: *Unnatural Selection*. A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one is left. 10 pm, $5: *The Great and Secret Comedy Show*. Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and music, play short films and do character sketches in a display of sibling rivalry. •Fri., 8 pm, $10-12: *Boston Creem*. Boston's first all-woman improv troupe performs. •Sat., 6 pm $10-12 (children 11 and under accompanied by an adult admitted free): *Improv Boston Family Show*. A short-form improvisational show the entire family can enjoy. 8 and 10 pm, $10-12: *ImprovBoston Main stage*. Blending storytelling, music and audience participation, a cast of improvisers creates a show that changes with every performance. •Sun., 7 pm, $5 *Sgt. Culpepper/Open Jam*. This evening combines three shows into one. Watch performances by visiting and local troupes.


Shakespeare & Company presents *As You Like It* at Founders' Theatre

Improv Foundry
327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-308-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat., 6 pm. $12. Boston's premier short-form improv group.

The Tribe
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Every Thu., 8 pm. $5 before 8 pm, $10 after. 21+. Improv comedians poke fun at everything, including themselves. •Aug. 26, 8 pm: Starship Imagination, Sister Brother, Summer Help.

COMEDY SHOWS

Election
ImprovBoston, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sept. 3-24. Fri., 8 pm. $1. Witness the electoral process like you've never seen it before as ImprovBoston nominates candidates, holds primaries, throws the press into the mix and finishes at the voting booth.

Kevin James
South Shore Music Circus, 130 Sohier St., Cohasset (617-931-2787). www.themusiccircus.org. Sept. 1, 7:30 pm. $48-59. The star of *The King of Queens* headlines at a show rescheduled from July.

LLL Comedy Blues Jam
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-771-2668) MBTA: Orange Line to NE Medical Center. Aug. 26, 10:30 pm. $5. Some of Boston's top comedians perform onstage alongside the LLL Band.

Surviving American Idol: The Murder Mystery
Mystery Café Dinner Theater, Three Cheers Restaurant, 290 Congress Street, Boston (781-383-1400) www.mysterycafe.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Fri. and Sat. through Sept. 11, 7:30 pm. $4
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Donnie Longo

Donnie Darko returns, but why the tweaking?

BY PAUL SHERMAN



The new "director's cut" of *Donnie Darko*, starring Jena Malone and Jake Gyllenhaal, adds 20 minutes to the 2001 original.

Donnie Darko is one of the last great American movies. There hasn't been an American fictional film as creative or interesting as this debut from writer-director Richard Kelly in the nearly three years since it trickled into theaters. But as the old saying goes, if it ain't broke, don't fix it.

And *Donnie* wasn't broke. In fact, it did pretty well, considering the circumstances surrounding its release. Its distributor orphaned it in late 2001, after opening it in a handful of cities and failing to draw much of an audience. The layered story and the fact that it was a post-9/11 release in which an airplane mishap figures in the plot made it a tough sell, for sure, but *Donnie* was no mere nonstarter.

Late that year, when I tried to track down tapes of it for the Boston Society of Film Critics to check out before our annual awards voting, the distributors and production companies I spoke with weren't just unable to help, they practically disavowed any knowledge of the movie, as if it were the troubled movie no one speaks of. We finally got tapes, but they arrived with a vague return address, as if someone sent them on the sly.

Despite the meager theatrical exposure and lack of a marketing push, however, *Donnie Darko*'s blend of 1988-set suburban teen comedy, time-travel eeriness and social satire developed a following at midnight shows in big cities, and on DVD, even though the disc's misleading packaging touts it as a teen horror picture. Then, Michael Andrews and Gary Jules' haunting version of Tears for Fears' "Mad World," which plays at the film's climax, became a number one hit in England in 2003 and a radio hit in the U.S.

There are plenty of reasons *Donnie Darko* beat the odds to become an independent sleeper hit. Its title character (played with charisma by Jake Gyllenhaal) is a smart, troubled teen who's much more genuine than most movies' phony adolescents. Its satiric attack on suburban insecurity (manifested in reactionary politics and self-help cure-alls) is hilarious, and Donnie's emotional journey is an unusual one involving time travel, first love and a 6-foot tall rabbit named Frank. The movie's a heady stew that's not fully digestible, but very tasty.

So why screw with it? The return of *Donnie Darko* comes not in the version that struck an emotional chord in so many, but in *Donnie Darko: The Director's Cut*, a new version running 20 minutes longer. Except this isn't a true "director's cut"—the 133-minute version never existed before now.

To be blunt, if you haven't seen *Donnie Darko*, the shorter version is a better introduction; if you have, you've probably seen the added stuff already. Most of the restored footage comes from deleted scenes on the *Donnie Darko* DVD; Kelly also inserted graphics from the *Philosophy of Time Travel* book that Donnie reads, which were also among the DVD extras (and on the movie's Web site). But the book's pages, meant to add insight into the time travel element of the story, appear on screen so briefly they add nothing. In fact, they make *Donnie Darko* less comprehensible, by making the viewer think they *should* understand more.

But expecting *Donnie Darko* to be totally coherent is to miss the point. For one thing, it surely isn't a vision of a coherent world (what's the name of that Tears for Fears song that gets covered at the end?). For another, isn't this movie supposed to be an antidote to studio movies that get test-screened to death and edited according to the dictates of focus groups? And isn't its hero's struggle about trusting your intuition and remaining true to yourself, not about going back and second-guessing things?

The 2001 version was a little shorter than the one that premiered at the Sundance Film Festival, but that's often the case with movies that premiere at Sundance and later get a national release. In an October 2001 interview with Indiewire.com, writer-director Kelly said, "I'm really grateful to have had the time to really finish the film." But now he's even gone back to change some of the music to what he originally wanted but couldn't afford on the film's budget, including replacing Echo & the Bunnymen's "The Killing Moon," a great opening scene-setter, with an INXS song (the Bunnymen song is heard briefly in a party scene in the new cut).

But wait a minute. Kelly originally wanted U2's "MLK" at the climax, not "Mad World." So why didn't he replace that too? I wish Kelly put more faith in the old adage about most good art being a happy accident. Sure, more people should see *Donnie Darko*. But I don't know if messing with a good thing is a philosophy this movie, or anything else, should indulge in. This director's cut is so un–*Donnie Darko*. **iB**

Donnie Darko: The Director's Cut ★★½

Written and directed by Richard Kelly. With Jake Gyllenhaal, Jena Malone, Mary McDonnell, Holmes Osborne, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Drew Barrymore, Beth Grant, Katharine Ross, Noah Wyle, Daveigh Chase and Patrick Swayze. Rated R. At the Brattle Theater, Aug. 27–Sept. 9.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

The Bourne Supremacy ★★★
Like the original *Bourne Identity*, the sequel is smart popcorn movie with taut action, gray y oddly exotic Eurolocations and a distaste for th usual showiness of the Hollywood action-thrille Matt Damon's Jason Bourne is still trying to figu out who he is, and exactly what functions he pe formed for the CIA, who suddenly wanted him ve dead the first time around. When another attempt made on his life, he suspects the agency is targeti him again, so he goes on the offensive against Cl investigator Joan Allen and higher-up Brian Co There's a bit of typecasting in the movie's villair and I was expecting more character developme this time, but Damon pulls off the role of unlike hero again. Action with a conscience—what a co cept. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Collateral ★★★
Michael Mann knows how to make good, styli thrillers, and the director of *Thief* and *Manhunt* (and creator of TV's *Miami Vice* and *Crime Stor* shows it again in his latest. It's the story of a Los A geles cab driver (Jamie Foxx) whose fare (To Cruise) turns out to be a ruthless hit man who forc the cabbie to shuttle him to a series of murder a signments. Foxx is the real star here, and his live performance provides the movie's moral center, a though—like Vin Diesel—Cruise proves to be mo convincing as an insensitive creep than he has be as a hero. The second half's action sequences can overblown, particularly a dustup in a Korean-Am ican nightclub, but by then the plot has enou going on to keep you hooked. (At Boston Commc Fenway and suburbs.)

Fahrenheit 9/11 ★★★½
Rabble-rouser Michael Moore's passionate deco struction of the second Bush administration has knockout revelations about its controversial polici so don't expect smoking guns. Its ultimate target the war in Iraq, but the movie presents the war as j the latest in a pattern of self-serving, law-skirting l havior. Moore comes up with inspired ways of getti his points across about much-debated Bush polic and conflicts of interest. He's onscreen less than was in *Roger & Me*, *The Big One* and *Bowling Columbine*, yet he argues his points better than *Columbine*. Moore hits his targets because, despite political aims, he makes you feel like you're watch a movie, not a political rant, and his sense of hun really shines through. (At Boston Common, Harv Square, Coolidge Corner and suburbs.)

Garden State ★★½
The first film by actor-director Zach Braff (T *Scrubs*) has its moments of daffy humor, as B plays a struggling L.A. actor who returns to his N Jersey hometown for the first time in nine years. T movie recaptures the mixed emotions of such a vi especially of seeing old high school friends, bu treads on very familiar territory. It feels like it wa to be a version of *The Graduate* directed by Wes A derson (*Rushmore*), and it struggles to find any vo of its own. Plus, the story of a guy returning to hometown who develops a quick bond with a talie Portman character has already been done 1996's *Beautiful Girls*. Braff and Portman hav pleasing chemistry, and Braff is to be commended trying to make something quirky and personal. it's hard not to feel this movie is redundant. Loews, Boston Common and Kendall Square.)

Metallica: Some Kind of Monster ★★★
It's interesting enough to keep nonfans of he metal involved, though this 145-minute docum tary about the making of Metallica's *St. Anger* all is longer than it needs to be. What's interesting is the latest by directors Joe Berlinger and Bruce Si sky (*Paradise Lost*) is the most psychological of t movies. Literally. Reeling from the deterioratio their personal relationships, the band's three members enter counseling with a "performance hancement therapist" and strive to make the ba democracy, so their Dr. Phil–like shrink is there a the recording sessions—sometimes easing tensi sometimes adding to them. As drummer Lars Ul sums it up, those sessions are an attempt to make gressive music without negative energy," which easy, especially when macho frontman James Het (who enters rehab during the sessions) and the r emotional Ulrich keep struggling for control of band. They should've called this *12 Steps to M* (At Copley Place.)

Open Water ★★★
No stars, no special effects—no problem. Wr director Chris Kentis builds old-fashioned tensi his tale of a stressed-out L.A. couple who take

st matches include::
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cation in the tropics and go on a scuba tour, only to be left behind in shark-infested waters by the tour boat. Yikes. The shooting style and the actors (Daniel Travis and Blanchard Ryan play the couple) are raw enough that the movie almost feels like a home video (it was shot on digital video). And when the trip turns into a life-threatening ordeal and shark fins start slicing through the nearby waters, the action has a frightening intimacy. A much needed boost of low-tech moviemaking at the multiplex. (At Boston Common, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

Riding Giants ★★★

Stacy Peralta goes from sidewalk surfing to the watery kind here. The skateboarder-turned-moviemaker focused on the 1970s skate innovations that he was a part of in 2002's dynamite *Dogtown & Z-Boys*. Now he offers a documentary whose title has a double meaning: The surfers he profiles are indeed larger-than-life figures, while riding giants is exactly what they do. The movie splits into three sections: one on 1950s pioneers, the second on 1970s Bay Area surfers and the last on today's Laird Hamilton. The first section is clearly the best. The 20 or so late-'50s surfers who headed to Hawaii to surf come across like *The Right Stuff*'s elite test pilots—guys who were competitively pushing each other but were bound together like a surrogate family. (At Boston Common.)

Suspect Zero ★½

Has Hollywood decreed that Aaron Eckhart—who's made solid supporting contributions to good movies like *Erin Brockovich* and *The Pledge*—will only be allowed to star in sucky movies like *The Core* and this dull *Seven* wannabe? This is one of those killer-sending-messages-to-the-detective thrillers that can't manage an interesting hero or villain, so all that's left is just the gore. The murderer playing cat and mouse with Eckhart's FBI agent is a one-time FBI-employed psychic who should've been interesting, but Ben Kingsley plays him too hard and lets little humanity seep through. It's the date movie of the year—if you're in the Manson family. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Village ★★★

Like a lot of the movies by M. Night Shyamalan (*Sixth Sense*), his latest includes a major plot twist that may turn you off. But most of what comes before the twist is so interesting and intriguing that the grimly fiendish, *Twilight Zone*–esque tale of a late-19th century rural enclave survives the sudden onslaught of plot complications. The enclave's inhabitants live by the superstition that the woods surrounding them are filled with predatory creatures ("those we don't speak of" in the village's parlance) and that any contact with the outer world will be detrimental to the village. While big twists are a crutch on which Shyamalan often relies, it's refreshing to see a movie that builds and slowly avoids the instant gratification and spoon-feeding of most Hollywood releases. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

We Don't Live Here Anymore ★★

But, then again, who'd want to live where this cold drama takes place? This story of the indiscretion-filled love lives of best-friend professors (Mark Ruffalo and Peter Krause) and their wives (Laura Dern and Naomi Watts) is one big neurotic twitch given a stuffy air by its academic setting and director John Curran's use of classical music. The story examines what happens when one of the pals has an affair with the other's wife, but it never really gets inside the heads of its characters, and Ruffalo and Watts are given little chance to exude much sexual chemistry together. *Bob & Carol & Ted & Alice* it ain't. (At Copley Place and Embassy Waltham.)

Zhou Yu's Train ★½

It's been far too long since soulful Chinese beauty Gong Li (*Raise the Red Lantern*) has graced local screens. But her talent can't overcome the unconvincing, overwrought romantic drama in director Zhou Sun's tale of ceramics painter Zhou Yu's relationship with a self-conscious poet (Tony Leung Ka Fai). His poetry is the thing that makes her fall for him but, as is almost always the case, poetry just seems silly in a movie. The ineffective, nonchronological storytelling doesn't help. Nor does the movie's overuse of the train Zhou Yu rides as a symbolic tool. The movie even uses the old cliché of a surging train during a sex scene—ouch. (At Kendall Square.)



Gong Li plays a ceramics artist in the Chinese drama *Zhou Yu's Train*.

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL

Movies by Moonlight

•Aug. 27, **The Great Escape** *1963*. In John Sturges' film, based on a true story, allied POWs in World War II plan a mass escape.

•Sept. 3, **The Quiet Man** *1952*. John Wayne stars as an American former boxer who retires to his family's village in Ireland only to fall in love with one of its inhabitants (Maureen O'Hara). John Ford directs.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Second Annual Summer Film Fest

•Aug. 28, 1-4 pm. In conjunction with Women in Film & Video/New England, the Boston Public Library presents this showcase of women's films, which includes postscreening discussions with the directors.

BRATTLE THEATRE

Friday and Saturday Midnights

•Aug. 27 and 28, 12 am. **Pink Flamingos** *1972*. John Waters' film stars Divine as the Queen of Filth, who is struggling to maintain her title despite feisty competition.

Rattle at the Brattle

•Aug. 25 and Sept. 1. This weekly series features afternoon screenings for new parents and their infants. The updated schedule is available by e-mail and at the Brattle box office.

Special Engagements

•Aug. 25, 4:45, 7:15 and 9:45 pm. Aug. 26, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15 and 9:45 pm. **Last Life in the Universe** *2003*. Pen-Ek Ratanaruang's film tells the story of two people who build a relationship despite secrets in their pasts.

•Opening Aug. 27. **Donnie Darko: The Director's Cut** *2004*. See review on page 56.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Box Office Babies

•Aug. 30, 1 pm. The Coolidge's new biweekly series provides an infant-friendly setting for viewing recent international, independent and documentary films. Titles are announced a week before the screening at www.coolidge.org.

Coolidge Selects

•Now playing. **Fahrenheit 9/11** *2004*. Michael Moore's documentary takes a critical look at the current administration and the war in Iraq.

•Now playing. **Maria Full of Grace** *2004*. James Marston's film is the story of a 17-year-old Colombian girl who traffics drugs by swallowing rubber pellets of heroin.

•Now playing, **Zatoichi** *2003*. Takeshi Kitano directs and stars in this film about Zatoichi the blind swordsman, a legendary figure who aids the inhabitants of a town terrorized by a gang leader.

•Now playing, **Tom Dowd & the Language of Music** *2003*. Mark Moormann's documentary recounts the life of Tom Dowd, an innovative recording engineer and producer who worked with many famous recording artists including Aretha Franklin, Lynyrd Skynyrd, John Coltrane and Eric Clapton.

•Opening Aug. 27, **Ying Xiong** *(Hero) 2002*. One magistrate recounts his triumphs against the emperor of Qin's three main adversaries in Zhang Yimou's epic martial arts film.

•Opening Sept. 1, **Vanity Fair** *2004*. Reese Witherspoon stars in Mira Nair's film about a poor young woman who works her way up the social ladder in 19th-century London.

•Opening Sept. 4, **Nina Simone: Love Sorceress** *1998*. Rene Letzgus' film captures Simone live at a 1976 Paris concert that many consider to be her best performance.

Kids First! Film Club

Sept. 4, 11 am, ages 2-8. **Chicka Chicka Boom Boom**. The Coolidge screens this collection of animated shorts based on popular children's books.

Midnight Movies: The Best of Ben Stiller

•Aug. 27 and 28, 12 am. **The Royal Tenenbaums** *2001*. Wes Anderson's offbeat comedy follows the dysfunctional Tenenbaum family as they struggle to come to terms with each other's failings.

Mondays—Classic Summer Movies

•Aug. 30, 7 pm. **Lawrence of Arabia** *1962*. Peter O'Toole stars as T.E. Lawrence, a young British lieutenant who aids a group of Arabs in a revolt against their Turkish leaders during World War I. David Lean directs.

•Sept. 6, 7:30 pm. **Jaws** *1975*. The police chief and a team of shark hunters track down a great white shark that threatens the waters of an Atlantic coastal town. Steven Spielberg directs.

Saturdays—Classic Exploitation Cinema

•Aug. 28, 12 am. **Le Evase—Storie di Sesso e di Violenze** *(Escape from Women's Prison) 1978*. Conrad Brueghel's film is the story of four women who escape from prison and hijack a bus of naive teenage tennis players.

•Sept. 4, 12 am. **Black Voltage**. The Coolidge screens this lost Swedish psychedelic drug film as the finale of the Classic Exploitation series.

Teens on Screen

•Aug. 25, 11 am. **Manny & Lo** *1996*. Runaway sisters decide to kidnap a baby-supply store clerk when the older sister finds out she is pregnant. Lisa Krueger directs.

•Aug. 26, 11 am. **Where the Day Takes You** *1992*. Marc Rocco's film follows a group of teen runaways as they navigate the streets of Los Angeles.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Art on Film

•Aug. 28, 10:30 am. **My Architect** *2003*. In 1974, legendary architect Louis Kahn died broke and alone in New York's Pennsylvania Station. His son, Nathaniel Kahn, directs this documentary about elder Kahn's life and work.

•Aug. 29, 10:30 am. **Rivers and Tides: A Goldsworthy Working with Time** *2001*. Thor Riedelsheimer's documentary follows artist Go worthy as he sculpts ice, driftwood, leaves, sto and dirt.

The Extraordinary Mr. Barnet

•Aug. 26, 2;30 pm. **Okraina** *1932*. Boris Barn first talking film follows the unlikely friendship tween a Russian sniper and a German POW World War I.

•Also showing, Aug. 26, 4:30 pm; Aug. 28, 1 pm. **U Samovo Sinyego Moray** *(By the Blue Seas) 1936*. This romantic comedy follows two ermen shipwrecked on an island in the Caspian who fall in love with the same woman.

•Aug. 27, 6:15 pm; Aug. 28, 2:15 pm. **Alenka** *19* In this comedy directed by Barnet, a group of R ian immigrants travels across the steppe to K khstan, recounting tales from their past as they

•Aug. 29, 2:15 pm. **Dom na Trubnoj** *(The Hou Trubnaya Square) 1928*. Barnet directs this silent c edy about class tensions and emerging social p lems in urban Moscow. •Also showing, Aug. 3:45 pm. **Neobychainye Priklyucheniya Mis Vesta v Strane Bolshevikov** *(The Extraordinar venture of Mr. West in the Land of the Bolsheviks) 1* Barnet plays the bodyguard of an American visi Russia in Lev Kuleshov's silent slapstick comedy

Premiere Engagements

•Aug. 26, 6 pm; Aug. 27, 8 pm; Aug. 28, 4 pm; 29, 12:15 pm; Sept. 1, 6 pm; Sept. 2, 8:15 pm; 3, 6 pm; Sept. 4, 2:15 pm; Sept. 5, 11:30 am. **G fish Memory** *2003*. Liz Gill's film follows Dubl who fall in and out of love and make the same takes over and over again.

•Sept. 1 and 3, 8 pm; Sept. 2, 3 pm; Sept. 4, 4 Sept. 5, 1:15 pm. **A Mi Madre le Gustan las Muj** *(My Mother Likes Women) 2002*. Three siste shocked by their mother's announcement tha has fallen in love with a woman. Daniela Fejet and Inés París direct.

Pre-Release Screenings

•Aug. 26, 8 pm. **Ha'Kohavim Shel Shlomi** *(Boy Monsieur Shlomi) 2003*. Shemi Zarhin directs th raeli drama about a teenage genius whose resp bilities at home overshadow his gifts. Co-pres by the Boston Jewish Film Festival.

Russian Cinema—Past and Presen Tribute to Lenfilm Studios

•Sept. 2, 4:45 pm. **Novyi Vavilon** *(The New lon) 1929*. Grigori Kozintsev and Leonid Trau silent film, loosely based on two novels by Zola, follows a young girl employed at a depar store in the 1871 Paris Commune. •Also sho Sept. 2, 6:15 pm. **Dvadstat Dnei Bez Voiny** *(T Days Without the War) 1976*. A novelist and wa respondent returns home on leave after the Ba Stalingrad to discover that the image of war th

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Joaquin Phoenix and Bryce Dallas Howard ponder dark forces in *The Village*

home cling to is far different than reality. Alexei Gherman directs.

•Sept. 4, 10:30 am. **Dolgaya Schastlivaya Zhizn'** *(A Long Happy Life) 1966*. In Gennady Shpalikov's film, a man and woman who spent the night together awake in the morning and face the difficult question of what has changed overnight. •Also showing, Sept. 4, 12:30 pm. **V Toj Stranje** *(In That Land) 1997*. Lidia Bobrova's film follows the inhabitants of a small rural village as they face cultural and political changes.

•Sept. 5, 3:15 pm. **Korol Lir** *(King Lear) 1970*. Grigori Kozintsev wrote and directed this adaptation of Shakespeare's play.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater

•Through Sept. 4. **India: Kingdom of the Tiger**. Explore the kingdom of the Bengal tiger, from the Himalayas to Rajasthan.

•Through Sept. 6. **Adrenaline Rush: The Science of Risk**. Explore the inner workings of the body as one jumps out of a plane or asks someone out on a date.

•Through Oct. 1. **Forces of Nature**. Experience the power of earthquakes, volcanoes, and storms as scientists attempt to forecast and understand them.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater

•Through Sept. 6. **Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban**. The third film adapted from J.K. Rowling's popular book series about the adventures of a gifted young wizard. Alfonso Cuarón directs.

•Through Sept. 6. **Into the Deep**. This film explores a kelp forest off the coast of Southern California, and its many inhabitants.

•Through Sept. 6. **NASCAR 3D**. Experience life in the fast lane with NASCAR pit crews and drivers clocking over 200 mph.

•Through Sept. 6. **Ocean Wonderland 3D**. This film explores the ocean floor of the Bahamas and Australia's Great Barrier Reef, with their sharks, sting rays and rainbows of tropical fish.

•Through Sept. 6. **Volcanoes of the Deep Sea**. Dive to the bottom of the sea with a team of scientists, as they explore hydrothermal vents, shipwrecked gardens, predators and bioluminescent creatures.

•Through Sept. 26. **Spiderman 2: The IMAX Experience**. Peter Parker, aka Spiderman, struggles with his destiny in this sequel directed by Sam Raimi.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Zoinks! Film Festival

•Aug. 27-29. Zoinks! toy store presents its first annual independent film festival. Seventy features, shorts, animated and children's films by local, national and international filmmakers screen at various locations in Faneuil Hall Marketplace. Check www.zoinksfilmfestival.com for a schedule and festival details.

Cinema Venues

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Harbor Hotel
70 Rowes Wharf. (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue L to Aquarium.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Gr Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Gr Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Gr Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Gr Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Lir Science Park.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Lir Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Lir Reservoir.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C G Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Li Harvard.

Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). ME Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Li Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Li Harvard.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D G Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: O Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red to Davis.

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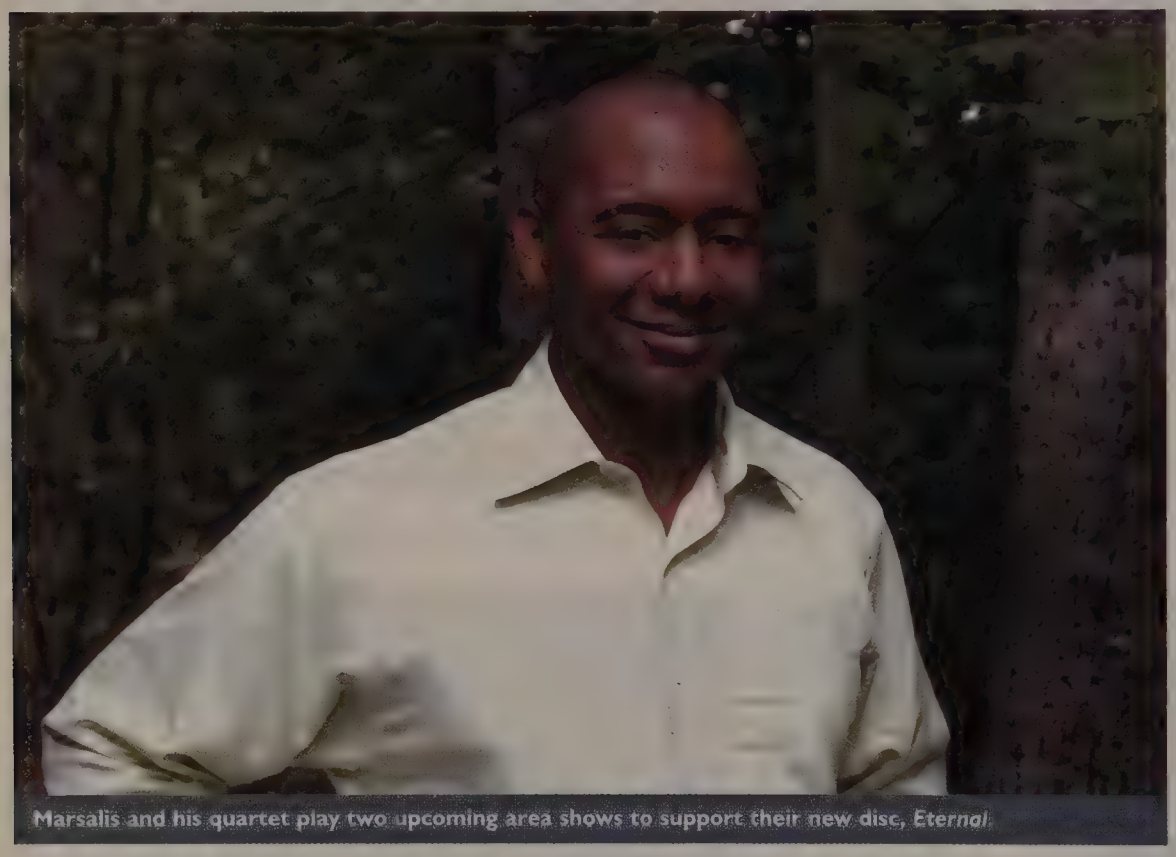
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Eternal Values

Branford Marsalis pursues a different form of intensity.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

When the Branford Marsalis Quartet tackled John Coltrane's immortal "A Love Supreme" for its 2002 disc *Footsteps of Our Fathers*, reaction was mixed. "It's the only piece of religious music I've ever encountered where people feel it shouldn't be played," Marsalis says. "I guess it's superior to Bach's masses and Mozart's *Requiem* and Handel's *Messiah*? That's basically a copout, 'cause if you don't have to play it, you don't have to deal with how effective you are."



Marsalis and his quartet play two upcoming area shows to support their new disc, *Eternal*

Beyond an effective performance, the move marked a turning point for his longtime quartet. "It's the main reason we sound as good together as we do now," says the saxophonist, who improved his technique, for starters. "I had to get more sound on the instrument, because to play with that kind of sustained intensity for 35 minutes is something, man." But he also sought to uncover the emotional focus in the music, pursue a better understanding of the blues behind that jazz classic and cultivate a different form of intensity.

That more subtle intensity was developed on the quartet's last CD, *Romare Bearden Revealed* (inspired by the work of visual artist Bearden), and blossoms on *Eternal*, a ballads collection arriving September 14 on the Marsalis Music label.

"You want to have that kind of intensity even as a ballad," he says. "If loud and intense were the same, you wouldn't need two words. You can play loud and not be intense, and you can play loud and intense, and play soft and intense."

"We all grow up with the idea of playing fast," Marsalis, 43, says from his North Carolina home. "We wanted to get away from the idea of using songs as vehicles to solo, and actually try to get to some sort of emotional understanding of a song.

"Unlike a lot of people, jazz to me is significantly more than improvisatory music," says Marsalis, who plays September 5 at the Tanglewood Jazz Festival and October 3 at Sanders Theatre with co-composers Jeff "Tain" Watts (drums), Eric Revis (bass) and Joey Calderazzo (piano). "What makes these guys special is they're conceptualists. I try to be one myself. And *Eternal* is probably the most difficult record we've ever played."

"We're not trying to bring back the old style, but you can use that as a foundation to do what it is that we do," he says, and bringing in each musician's personal perspective is part of that. "As opposed to jazz in the '50s and '60s, when all the musicians had a lot of personality, we're just a bunch of nerds, and that's one of the reasons why jazz is so unpopular," he says. "There has been an overwhelming focus on the intellectual aspects of the music.

"Popular music, when it's done well, has a certain kind of emotional immediacy that you can't find in jazz anymore," says Marsalis, who has worked with Sting and the Grateful Dead and led the jazz/hip-hop collective Buckshot LeFonque in addition to his jazz and classical projects. In fact, the job with Sting was educational for the Berklee graduate.

"In my second year of college, I decided that I wanted to play jazz and got so involved in the intricacies of the music that it was very difficult for me to play solos," he says. "I'd go on and on but could never find my way out of them. In Sting's band, I'd get 30 seconds, period. You have to get while the getting's good. A year and a half of that really helped me. I came back with this intensity."

By that point, he already had a reputation in jazz circles as a prominent member of a well-known New Orleans musical family. In 2003, he teamed with his father Ellis (piano) and his brothers Wynton (trumpet), Delfeayo (trombone) and Jason (drums) for a PBS special that led to a CD and tour.

"It wasn't done sooner because it was expected," he says. "We just happened to grow up in a town where people love playing music. There was no special magic trick [my dad] did. We were exposed to instruments and we played them."

The Marsalis Family: A Jazz Celebration became another landmark for Cambridge-based Marsalis Music, which also boasts recent CDs by country-jazz guitarist Doug Wamble, pianist Harry Connick Jr. (without vocals), and alto saxophonist Miguel Zenon. Those leaders' quartets will join Marsalis' at Tanglewood for a 2 pm program at Seiji Ozawa Hall.

"It's based on a belief," Marsalis says of the label. "It's going to be a long time before we see a return on our investment. But I'm the perfect guy for it. I don't worry much about money. I'll be dead one day and I won't be able to take any of this shit with me. But those records will endure, and that's good enough for me." iB

The Brandford Marsalis Quartet
plays Tanglewood September 5 and the Sanders Theatre October 3.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or email to music@improper.com. Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double-check dates and times (see complete listing venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Kenny Chesney Aug. 27, Tweeter Center (617-9 2000)
The Corrs Aug. 28, FleetBoston Pavilion (6 931-2000).
Kay Hanley Aug. 26, Paradise Rock Club (617-4 NEXT).
Don Henley Sept. 1, FleetBoston Pavilion (6 931-2000).
Hootie & the Blowfish Aug. 26, City Hall Plaza.
Norah Jones Aug. 31, Tweeter Center (617-9 2000).
B.B King Blues Festival Sept. 2, FleetBoston Pa ion (617-931-2000).
Lynyrd Skynyrd Aug. 27, South Shore Music Ci (617-931-2000).
Ours Aug. 27, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NE
The Revolutionary Snake Ensemble with T "Trombone Shorty" Edwards Aug. 25, Museum Fine Arts (617-267-9300).
Tanglewood Jazz Festival, with Harry Connick Branford Marsalis and more Sept. 3-5, Tanglew Music Center (617-931-2000).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25

Abbey Lounge Emily Grogan, 9:15 pm; Smorgasb 9:50 pm; the Depth Quartet, 10:50 pm. $5-$7, 21+
The Black Rose Celtic Clan.
The Burren Alan Kaufmann and Friends, 9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues Jam, 9 21+.
Club Passim David "Honeyboy" Edwards, 8 $20, all ages.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Harper's Ferry Voodoo Screw Machine and W All Gonna Die, $5, 21+.
Johnny D's Ryan Hood, 8:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie, 7 pm, cover.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low featuring Rick Berlin 8:30 pm; Orchestra Morphine, 9:30 pm, $5, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Brant Bjork, Antler, M 9 pm, $9, 18+; Downstairs: Los Prisioneros, 8 $35, 18+.
Midway Café Crystal Cock over Canada, 21+.
Milky Way Mercury: Elevate.
Museum of Fine Arts The Revolutionary Snake semble with Troy "Trombone Shorty" Andrews, pm, $20-$24.
O'Brien's The Memory Effect, Vintage Radio, Ferns, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Paradise Lounge: Blue Bastards, 9pm, $3-$5, 18
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30pm.
Remington's of Boston Al Vega Trio and Joh Souza, 8:30 pm-12:30 am, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Americana Night with On Cancer Conspiracy and Constants in Breaking, pm, $6, 18+.
Saint Boutique Nitery The Brian Walkley B 9:30 pm-1:30 am, no cover, 21+.
Scullers Joyce Cooling, $25.
Tír na nÓg Jabe, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Basin Alders, 9 pm; Tristan Cunha, 9:50 pm; Shortfilm, 10:40 pm; Mad Films, 11:30 pm., $5.
Toad Kevin Griffin, 7-9 pm; Armadillos, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30
Wally's Jazz Cafe Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm-2 no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar Joe McMahon Duo.
ZuZu Dana Kletter, 10 pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 26

Abbey Lounge Brunswick, 9:30 pm; Fight the N ing, 9:30 pm; A Loss for Words, 11:30 pm. $5-$7.



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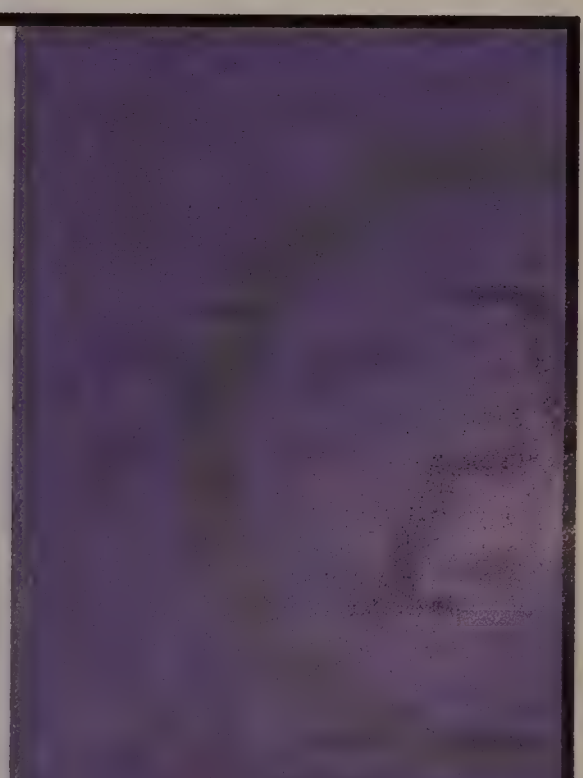


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Asgard Tom Glynn.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Myanna, 7 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster.
The Burren Swingin' Johnsons, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Kassie Buckley Band, 9 pm, 21+.
City Hall Plaza Hootie & the Blowfish, 7 pm, free.
Club Passim Darden Smith and Michael Troy, 8 pm, $12, all ages.
FleetBoston Pavilion Buddy Guy and the Robert Cray Band, 7:30 pm, $25-$35.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Harper's Ferry Buffalo, the Volume, Onside, $6, 21+.
Hennessy's Death by Marriage.
The Independent Toussaint, 10 pm.
Johnny D's Mamar Kassey, 9 pm, $12.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield, 7 pm, no cover.
Kinsale Black Soul.
Kirkland Café Thungs, Hyphens, Blacklisted and deFault Outfit, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low featuring Monique Ortiz of Bourbon Princess, 7:30-8:30 pm; Club D'Elf, 9:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Pub Round Midnight, 10 pm; Jam session, 12 am, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Amun Ra, Gaffney, Red Letter, Bunk 9, 9 pm, $8, 18+; Downstairs: Baba Reef, Chubby, Sucka Brown, Sad Marvin, 8 pm, $9, 18+.
Midway Café Cocked and Loaded, 21+.
Paradise Lounge: Rub a Dubwise Reggae Night, 9 pm, $3-$5, 18+; Rock Club: Kay Hanley, 9 pm, $13, 18+.
PA's Brian Donnelley, Deep C. and Ciemi, 21+.
Plough and Stars Down Dog, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Ellen O'Brien, 8:30 pm, $10, 18+.
Sam's Cafe The Brian Walkley Band, 8 pm-12 am, $5, all ages.
Scullers Keiko Matsui.
The Skellig Primary Colors, 10 pm.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Toad The Deb Pasternak Band, 7-9 pm; the Freelance Bishops, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Biopop, 9:15 pm; Coffin Lids, 10:15 pm; Crimewave, 11:15 pm; the Curses, 12:15 am, $8, 21+.
The Western Front Open mike, 9 pm, $5.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Latin jazz, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Trio.
ZuZu Eilen Jewell Band, 10 pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27

Abbey Lounge Royer's One Man Band, 9:30 pm; the Coachmen, 10:30 pm; the Stumbleweeds, 11:30 pm. $5-$7, 21+.
Asgard Ryan McHugh and Stu Lee.
The Attic Jiggle.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Tony O'Riordan. Downstairs: Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Paulo Danay Jazz Quartet, 7:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Damon Carter.
The Burren Random Axis, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim David Mallett, 8 pm, $20, all ages.
The Green Dragon Tavern Stain Glass Eye.
The Harp Joe Rockstar, 10 pm, $10.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30 pm; Ransom.
Johnny D's Duke Robillard, 9:45 pm, $12.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton, 6 pm, no cover; Peter Rice, 9 pm, no cover.
Kinsale Groove Authority.
Kirkland Café Max Funch Instituit, Elephant House, Groove of the Day and Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low featuring Peter Montgomery, 7:30-9:30 pm; Sparkola, Rocketscience, 9:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Elevation 74, Frani Lugo, 9 pm, $10, 18+; Downstairs: Jonas Complex, Sudden Monk, Tragic Youth, 8 pm, $9, 18+.
Midway Café Special Dyke Night Event, 21+.
Milky Way Dynasty.
Mr. Dooley's Inchicore.
O'Brien's The Slaves, Awakening Stick CD release, American Puverizer, Land Ho, 9 pm, $6, 21+.
Paradise Lounge: Audible Mainframe with Lifted, 9 pm, $3-$5, 18+; Rock Club: Ours, Dead Friends, Rockstars, 9 pm, $10, 18 +.
Parris Darik & the Funbags, 10 pm, $5 before 9 pm, $10 after.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisium, 6 pm; Handsome Frank, 9:30 pm.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Michael Bolton Sept. 25, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Phil Collins Sept. 15, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
The Cramps Oct. 16, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Gloria Estefan Sept. 17, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Gov't Mule Oct. 15, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000)
Heart Sept. 11, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Percy Hill Nov. 13, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Jack Johnson, G Love & Special Sauce Sept. 15, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
Keane Oct. 2, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Lenny Kravitz Sept. 22, Tweeter Center (617-931-2000).
Avril Lavigne Nov. 1, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Barry Manilow Oct. 1, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Edwin McCain Sept. 28, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Metallica Oct. 24, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
One Love Reggae Harborfest Sept. 18, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
The Samples Oct. 3, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Wilco Oct. 1, Wang Theatre (617-482-9393).

Porters Bar and Grill Bloozmonkey.
Purple Shamrock Spike the Punch.
The Real Deal Jazz Club David Maxwell's Maximum Blues with special guests Nicole Nelson and Greg Piccolo, 7:30 and 10 pm, $16.
Ryles Jazz Club Funk Soul Friday with Ken Clark Trio, 9 pm, $10, 18+. Upstairs: Brazilnut, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Scullers Keiko Matsui, 8 pm, $24.
The Skellig Jet City, 10 pm.
South Shore Music Circus Lynyrd Skynyrd, 8 pm, $51.25.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Toad The Chris Canty Band.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm-1 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Bars, 9:15 pm; Ragged Old Flag, 10:15 pm; Lenny & the Piss Poor Boys, 11:15 pm; Ducky Boys, 12:15 am, $10, 21+.
The Western Front Cornerstone, 9 pm, $10.
Tweeter Center Kenny Chesney, 7:30 pm, $27.75-$59.75.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Jazz, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar Harold Layne Trio.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 7 pm.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28

Abbey Lounge The Details, 10:30 pm; Heavy Stud, 11:30 pm. $5-$7, 21+.
Asgard Natalie Flanagan.
The Black Rose Happy Hour: Tom O'Carroll. Upstairs: Tony O'Riordan. Downstairs: Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Sonny Watson Jazz Quartet, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Classic Trax, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Northern Lights, 8 pm, $17, all ages.
FleetBoston Pavilion The Corrs, 8 pm, $35-$42.50.
The Green Dragon Tavern Bald Walter.
The Harp Joe Rockstar, 10 pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry Gaelic Storm with Ryan Jones, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm.
The Independent Uncle Shaker Folk, 10 pm.
Johnny D's Lunar Girl and 5 Helena, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kirkland Café Octopotamus, Selling Venus, Rollo Tomasi Quartet and Fragile Alex, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low featuring Laurie Sargent, 7:30-8:30 pm; Orchestra Morphine, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Rock Bottom, Ad Frank and the Fast Easy Women, the Weisstronauts, Bedroom Walls, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Midway Café Senator Whatley and My Life Crisis, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Inchicore.
O'Brien's Not Common Records, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club: III Kings, Fear Nuttin Band, On the Drop, 8 pm, 18+.
Parris Darik & the Funbags, 10 pm, $5 before 9 pm, $10 after.
Plough and Stars Richie Lee & the Boston Wheels, 5 pm; the Ray Corvair Trio, 9:30 pm.
Purple Shamrock Scooby Snax Band.
The Real Deal Jazz Club The Juanito Pascual Flamenco Quartet, 7:30 and 10 pm, $16.
Ryles Jazz Club Turkish Jazz Project, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Scullers Kenny Rankin, $24.
Tír na nÓg Jodi Erind, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 8-9 pm; Shiner Jones, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm-1 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Tramps Like Us, 9:15 pm; Confront, 10:15 pm; the Wretched Ones, 11:15 pm; Sinners & Saints, 12:15 am, $10, 21+.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Jazz, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
The Western Front Hot Like Fire, 9 pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Trio.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 7 pm.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

The Black Rose Happy Hour: Tom O'Carroll. Downstairs: Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Jazz Brunch with Hakim Law, 10 am-2:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz Brunch with Ronnie Ron Duo.
The Burren Singer-Songwriter Series with Danielle, 8 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Grafton Street The Beantown Project, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon The Swinging Johnsons.
Hennessy's Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe, 9 am-1 pm.
Johnny D's Jazz Brunch with Matt Dorko and Larry Kukers, 9 am-2:30 pm; Blues jam, then salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9 pm.


Clarias plays the MTV Rock the Vote party at the Big Easy September 2

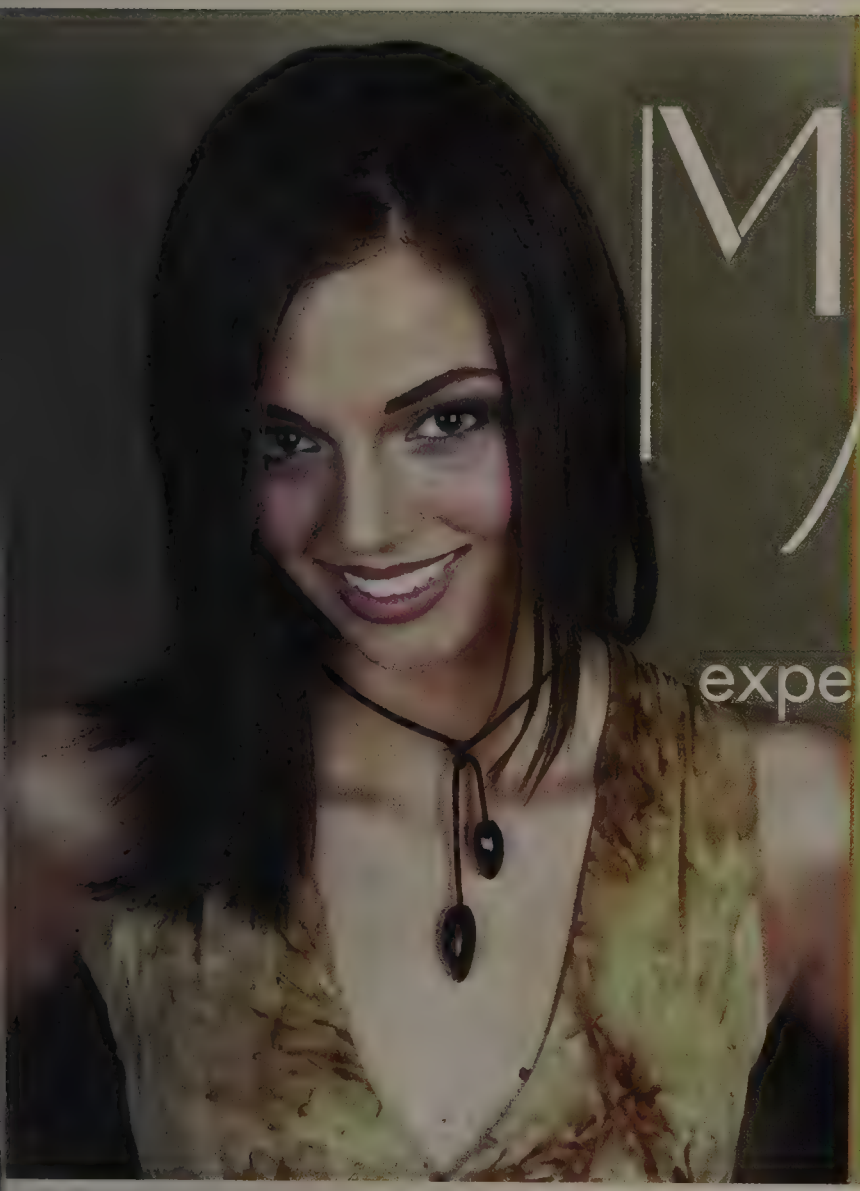
Kennedy's Midtown Julie Lloyd, 1-3 pm, no cover
Lizard Lounge Lizard Lounge Poetry Jam featuri the Jeff Robinson Trio and poet Mwalim Allahm pm, $5, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Pub Bud E Green, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: The Life of Boys, Rule Gutta, Dough, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett, 8 pm, $5, 21+.
PA's Le Cabaret Des Enfants Terribles, 21+.
Plough and Stars Flexible Flyers String Band, 5p The Coachmen, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Brunch with Steve Rochins 10 am, no cover.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 9:30 pm, cover, 21+.
Toad Rachel McCartney, 7-9 pm; Two Steps fr the Blues, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12-2 pm; Ma Ballou Trio, 8 pm-12 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Corin Ashley, 9:15 pm; Hi Dials, 10:15 pm, $6, 21+; the Halogens, 11:15 pm
Wally's Jazz Cafe Traditional sit-in jam session, pm; Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm-2 am, no cov 21+.

MONDAY, AUGUST 30

The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
The Burren Traditional Irish Session, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Geoff Bartley's Op Mike, 8 pm, 21+; Emaline Delapaix, 9:30 p 21+.
Club Passim Songwriter Tribute Night: The Beat 7 pm, $12, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
The Independent Jabe and Jimmy Ryan, 10 pm.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low featuring Brett Rosenb 7:30-8:30 pm; the Samoa Wilson Band, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Pub Fully Celebrated Orchestra pm, no cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Effi, Pickax, Corey Heas the Concentration, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Midway Cafe Midway Groove Thang, 21+.
O'Brien's Pi Theta Pi, Hartford's Grey, 9 pm, 21+.
Paradise Lounge: Marvelous Music Mondays w guests Professor Shuman, Drivem and African Ra bow, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Plough and Stars Beek & Jefferies, 9:30 pm.
Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 7-9 pm; Tim Gearan Band, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm-12 am
T.T. the Bear's Mittens, 9:30 pm; Emergency Mu 10:15 pm.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Blues, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21

TUESDAY, AUGUST 31

The Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
The Burren Open Mike with Hugh McGowa pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Bluegrass Pickin' Par pm, 21+; James King Band, 10 pm, 21+. Downs Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open Mike featuring Terence Heg $5, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Pat Funk.
The Green Dragon Tavern Shoot the Moon.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
The Independent Joy, 10 pm.
Johnny D's Flynn Cohen, 8:30 pm, $8.
Kennedy's Midtown Michael Larson, 7 pm cover.
Kinsale Tom Courtney.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low featuring Cliff Murph Say Zuzu, 7:30-8:30 pm; the Lonesome Bro with guests Jimmy Ryan and Hayride, 9:30 pm 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Parker Hill, the Clicks, tricity, Way of the Wicked, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
O'Brien's Ghoul's Night Out, Chaos Junkies, Bombs and Apple Pie, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Paradise Lounge: Christie Leigh with Say Jesse, 8 pm, $7, 18+.
Plough and Stars Josh Lederman, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club NY Nights with Tim Collins tet, 8:30 pm, $7, 18+.
Scullers Midlife Crisis Jazz Band, 8 and 10 pm
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band, 9:30 pm cover, 21+.
Toad The Resophonics.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8 pm-12:30
T.T. the Bear's Thylacine, 9 pm; The Sweet 9:50 pm; Turkish Queen, 10:40 pm, $5.
Tweeter Center Norah Jones, 7:30 pm, $29.50
Wally's Jazz Cafe Swing, 9 pm-2 am, no 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Trio.
Les Zygomates Todne Texeira, 8 pm.



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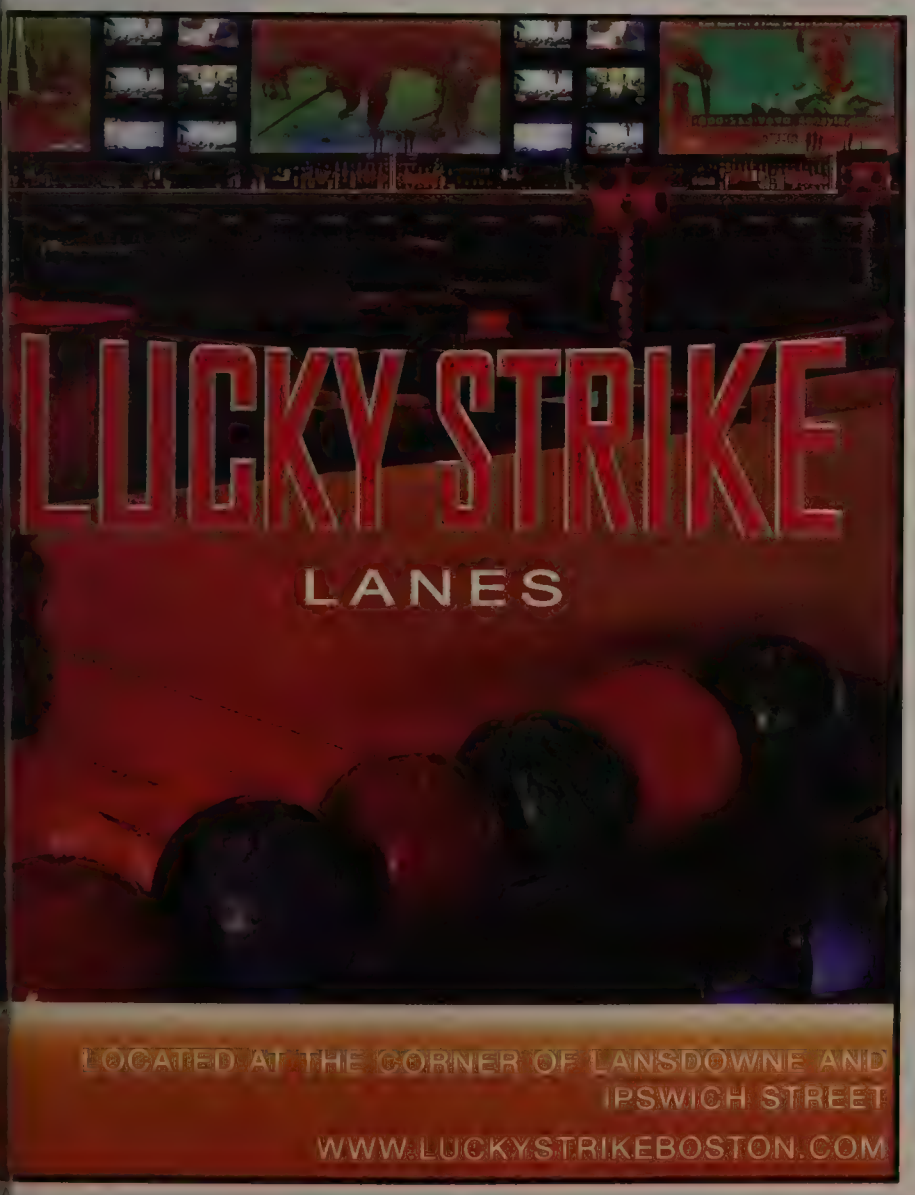
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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

Abbey Lounge Radar Eyes, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30-9 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Bar & Grill Lenny Stalworth and the funk mob, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim All About Buford, Zoe Lewis CD Release, 8 pm, $12, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort C3PO, 7:20 pm-12 am.
FleetBoston Pavilion Don Henley, 7:30 pm, $41-$76.
Harper's Ferry The Akashic Sessions, with Mems of Uncle Sammy, Soulwork, and more, $3, 21+.
Johnny D's Rachel Cantu, 8:30 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie, 7 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Helms, Just a Fire, Common Cold, Roh Delikat, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Milky Way Soulsplash, 9 pm, $3-$5.
Remington's of Boston Al Vega Trio and Johnny Souza, 8:30 pm-12:30 am, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Americana Night with Carla Ryder, 8:30 pm, $6, 18+.
Saint Boutique Nitery The Brian Walkley Band, 9:30 pm-1:30 am, no cover, 21+.
Scullers Jane Bunnett and the Spirits of Havana, $16.
T.T. the Bear's James the Viking, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar Joe McMahon Duo.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

The Big Easy MTV "Rock the Vote" show, with Clarias
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Paulo Danay Jazz Quartet, 7 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30-9 pm, no cover.
Breezeway Bar & Grill Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm.
Dick's Last Resort Death by Marriage, 7:20 pm-1:30 am.
FleetBoston Pavilion B.B. King Blues Festival, 5:30 pm, $35-$55.
Johnny D's Naftule's Dream and Rashanim, 9 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield, 7 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café 4H Fair, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low featuring Asa Brebner and Chilly Kurtz, 7:30-8:30 pm; Amelia White with guest Cold River, 9:30 pm, $7.
Matt Murphy's Pub Round Midnight, 10 pm; Jam session, 12 am. No cover, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Jacob Fred Jazz Odyssey, T.E.R.A., 9 pm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Electrelane, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
O'Brien's Sarah Blacker, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
PA's Snoozer, 9 pm; State of Samuel, 10 pm; Pants Yell, 11 pm; Shumai, 12 am.
Ryles Jazz Club Johnny Souza and the Ray Santisi Trio with Greg Abate, 8:30 pm, $10, 18+.
Sam's Cafe The Brian Walkley Band, 8 pm-12 am, $5, all ages.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Latin Jazz, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Trio.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Bill's Bar American Made, 10 pm, 21+.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm; McTaggarts, 10:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Jazz Quartet, 7:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Damon Carter, 5:30-9 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+
Club Passim Cutting Edge of the Campfire, 12 pm, $12, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm-1:30 am..
The Harp Flavor.
Harper's Ferry Scamper, Will Dailey, Lincoln Conspiracy and Tommy Dempsey, $7, 21+.
Johnny D's Rosie Flores Band, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton, 6 pm, no cover; Peter Rice, 9 pm, no cover.
Kirkland Café Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7:30-8:30 pm; Andrew Jones and Spirit House, 9:30 pm, $7, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: The Irreverends, the Marvels, Robby Roadsteamer and the Sweatpant Boners, Destruct-a-thon, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Milky Way Guacamole Aqui, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Parris Speed.
Ryles Jazz Club Evan Goodrow, 9 pm, $10. Upstairs: Juanito Pasqual, 9 pm, $10, 21+.
Tanglewood Music Center Tanglewood Jazz Festival: Eliane Elias, Eddie Palmieri and La Perfecta II, 8pm, $16-$44.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway with the Bob Nieske Group, 9 pm-1 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Angry Johnny & the Killbillies, 9:15 pm; Andrea Gillis Band, 10:15 pm; Mung, 11:15 pm; Beefy DC, 12:15 am, $7, 21+.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Jazz, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar Harold Layne Trio.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Axis RX Bandits, Big D and the Kids Table, 6 pm, $13-$15, all ages.
Bill's Bar Bill's Bar American Made, 10 pm, 21+.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm; McTaggarts, 10:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Groove Authority, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Cutting Edge of the Campfire, 12 pm, $12, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Rock Fish, 8:30 pm-1 am.
The Harp Flavor.
Harper's Ferry The Joshua Tree, $8, 18+.
Kirkland Café Garage Dogs and Teleopop, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Jon Frederik Band, Pete Kilpatrick Super Group, Six Day Slide, 9 pm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: the Wrens, Bon Savants, Choo Choo La Rouge, Grumble Grumble, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
O'Brien's Abazagorath, Anwyl, Open Grave, Hirudinea, Horn of Valere, 9 pm, $7, 21+.
Parris Speed.
PA's Colonel Mustard, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Herman Johnson, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Tanglewood Music Center Tanglewood Jazz Festival: Marian McPartland's Piano Jazz with Taylor Eigsti, 3 pm, $16-$44; Harry Connick Jr., 8:30 pm, $20-$80.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway with the Bob Nieske Group, 9 pm-1 am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Jesse Malin, 11:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Live jazz, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Trio.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

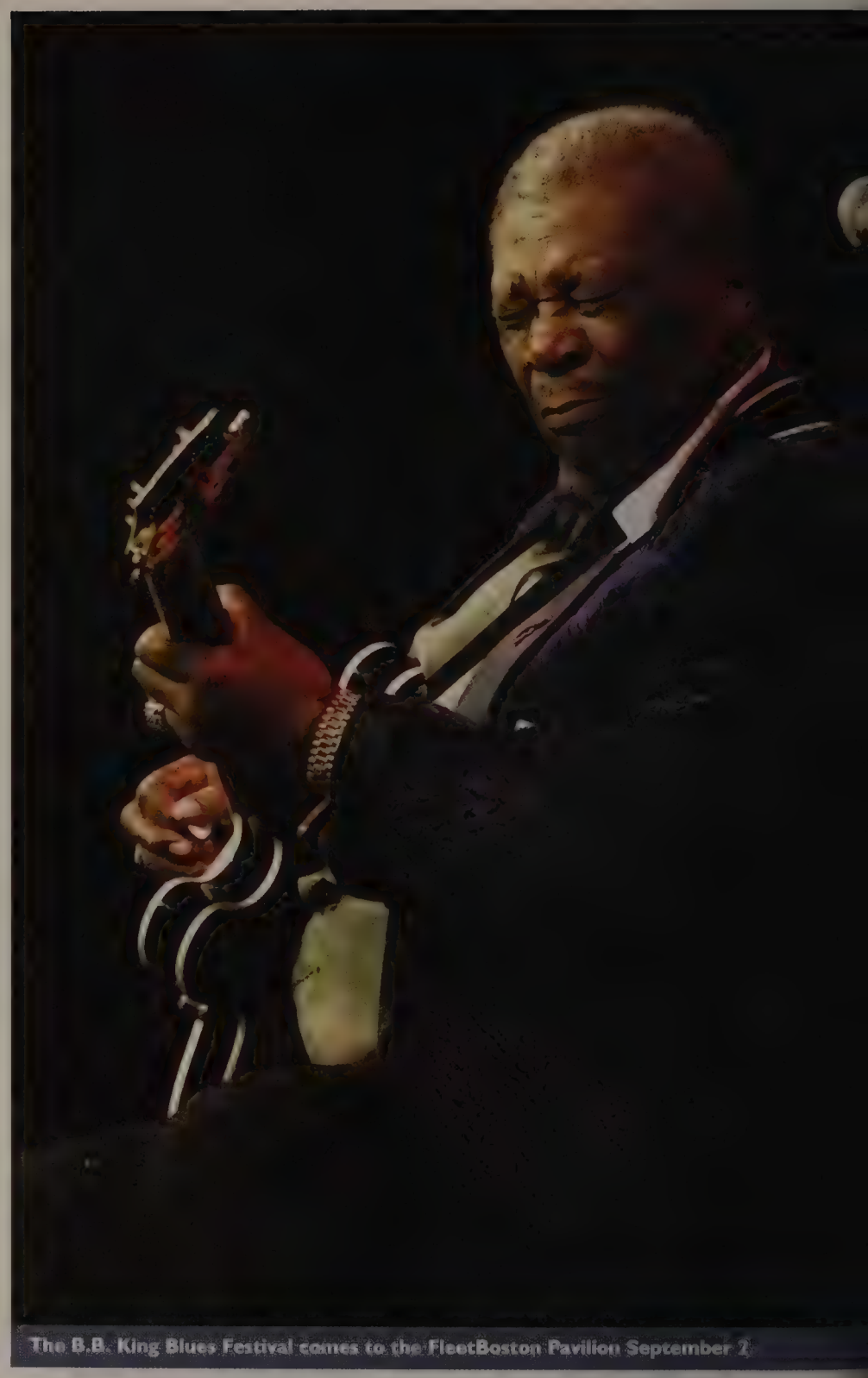
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm
Bob the Chef's Jazz Brunch with Hakim Law, 10 am-2:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz Brunch with the Rusty Scott Duo, 11:30 am-3 pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Cutting Edge of the Campfire, 12 pm, $12, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Sunday Brunch, 10 am-3 pm; Big Time, 7:20 pm-12 am.
Grafton Street The Beantown Project, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.
Johnny D's Jazz Brunch with Tom Pendergast, 9 am-2:30 pm; Blues jam, then salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Julie Lloyd, 1-3 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Maxtone, Butterknife, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett, 8 pm, $5, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Brunch with Yoko Miwa, 10 am, no cover.
Tanglewood Music Center Tanglewood Jazz Festival: the Branford Marsalis Quartet, the Harry Connick Jr. Quartet, the Doug Wamble Quartet, and saxophonist Miguel Zenón, 2 pm, $20-$65; Dave Brubeck Quartet and Symphonette, 8 pm, $20-$65.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Traditional sit-in jam session, 4-7 pm; Wally's Stepchildren, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Geoff Bartley's Open Mike, 8 pm.
Club Passim Cutting Edge of the Campfire, 12 pm, $12, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:30 pm-12 am.
Middle East Upstairs: 5ives' Continuum Research Project, Blacktail, Bury the Needle, Septic Youth Command, Invisible, 8:30 pm, $8, 18+.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Blues, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Upstairs: Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm, 21+. Downstairs: Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open Mike featuring Mark Simos, 7 pm, $5, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Pat Funk, 7:20 pm-12 am.
Johnny D's Songwriter Night featuring Ryan Fitzsimmons, 8:30 pm, $7.



The B.B. King Blues Festival comes to the FleetBoston Pavilion September 2

Middle East Downstairs: "Era of the Titans" CD release party, 8 pm, $10.
PA's Melismatics, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Asa Berbner, 9:30 pm; Pat Wallace, 10:30 pm. $6, 18+.
Scullers Jon Regen Trio, 8 and 10 pm, $16.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place Sonic Bonnet 10:40 pm, $5, 21+.
Wally's Jazz Cafe Swing, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Trio.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Boston (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
The Big Easy *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Park Street.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Bravo at the Museum of Fine Arts *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3474).*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Choppin' Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-734-4177). MBTA: Green Line to Brigham Circle.*
City Hall Plaza *1 City Hall Plaza, Boston (617-635-4000). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (617-728-1600). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*

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Boston native Kay Hanley plays the Paradise Rock Club August 26.

Gillette Stadium *One Patriot Place, Foxborough (800-543-1776).*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grafton Street *1688 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-497-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Murphy's Law *837 Summer St., South Boston (617-269-6667).*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant Street.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800) MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
P.A.'s Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Real Deal Jazz Club *Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, Cambridge (617-876-7777). MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Remington's of Boston *124 Boylston St., Boston (617-574-9676). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Saint Boutique Nitery *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Sam's Cafe *Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-227-7579) MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7007) MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Tanglewood Music Center *197 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200).*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wally's Jazz Cafe *472 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-424-1408). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Wang Theatre *270 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). MBTA: Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center.*
The Western Front *343 Western Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central or Harvard.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *474 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-5162) MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

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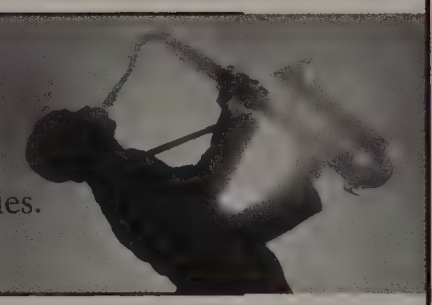
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classical music

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25

Martha Argerich and Alexander Gurning
Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $16-$52. Pianists Argerich and Gurning perform Prokofiev's Suite from *Cinderella*, Rachmaninoff's *Symphonic Dances*, and Economou's piano arrangement of Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker*.

WCRB Classical Concerts on the Esplanade
Hatch Shell, Charles River Esplanade, Boston (781-736-9577) www.wcrb.com. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. 7:30 pm. Free. The Hillyer Festival Orchestra performs for WCRB's final concert of the summer.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27

Boston Symphony Orchestra with Martha Argerich and Alexander Gurning
Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $16-$82. Pianists Argerich and Gurning join the BSO for a performance of works by Mozart, Poulenc, Ravel and Stravinsky. Charles Dutoit conducts.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28

Beethoven, Stravinsky and Ravel
Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 8:30 pm. $17-$92. Violinist Itzhak Perlman accompanies the BSO. Charles Dutoit conducts.

Boston Chamber Music Society: Handel Summer Series
Pickman Concert Hall, Longy School of Music, Garden Street, Cambridge (617-349-0086) www.bostonchambermusic.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $22-$25. The BCMS performs Beethoven's String Trio in C Major, Op. 9 No. 3; Dvorak's String Sextet in A Major, Op. 48; and Walter Piston's Duo for Viola and Cello.

Boston Symphony Orchestra Open Rehearsal
Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 10:30 am. $16. John Oliver and the Tanglewood Festival Chorus join the Boston Symphony Orchestra for Beethoven's Symphony No. 9. Hans Graf conducts.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Koussevitzky Music Shed, Tanglewood Music Center, 297 West St., Lenox (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. 2:30 pm. $17-$92. See Aug. 28 Boston Symphony Orchestra Open Rehearsal listing for a program description.

Classics from the Cinema
Piers Park, 95 Marginal St., East Boston (617-520-2200). www.landmarksorchestra.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. 6 pm. Free. The Boston Landmarks Orchestra's tribute to cinematic masterpieces features works from composers including Mozart, Ravel, Johann Strauss and John Williams that have been used in such films as *2001: A Space Odyssey*, *Schindler's List*, *A Clockwork Orange*, *Amadeus* and others. Charles Ansbacher conducts.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 31

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals
King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm. $3 suggested donation. Harpist Anna Solovieva and violist Oleg Solovieva perform music by Hindemith, Handel, Corelli, Vivaldi and Debussy.

Peter Krasinski
Old West Church, 131 Cambridge St., Boston. (617-739-1340) www.oldwestchurch.org. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. 8 pm. Free. Krasinski closes the Old West Organ Society's 2004 summer organ concert series.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

WCRB Classical Concerts at Copley
Copley Square, Boston (781-736-9577) www.wcrb.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12 pm. Free. The Charness Family Ensemble provides an hour of free classical music. In the event of rain, the concert will be held in Boston Public Library's Rabb Hall.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Ralph Meulenbroeks
St. Peter's Church, 320 Boston Post Road, Weston (857-998-0219). 7:30 pm. $10-$15. Dutch violinist de gambist Ralph Meulenbroeks makes his North American concert debut. Selections include music by Marais, Caix d'Hervelois, Hume, Abel and Telemann.



Charles Ansbacher leads the Boston Landmarks Orchestra at Piers Park August 29.

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dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $3, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Jay Ine spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJs spin R&B and hip-hop, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance salsa, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Scott Damgaard performs.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aria
Industry Tuesday Dance to hip-hop and R&B.

Boston Rocks
Smooth Groove Tuesday Old-school jams, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Orange DJs John Davis, Pat Fontes and Randy Deshaies bring the house music, and weekly guest DJs spin, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Deep Tones DJ Brynmore spins a mix of reggae, soul, funk, trance and acid jazz, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Havana Club Latin Dance Night A Latin dance night features an assortment of local DJs, 10 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Sensei spins hip-hop and R&B. Karaoke is also offered. 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

WEDNESDAYS

Aria
Lust DJ John Morris spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, $8, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.


An Tua Nua

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins Greek and international tunes upstairs and a live reggae band plays downstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
British Accents Presents Starshape DJ Dave spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
Summer Solstice Live performances every Wednesday hosted by DJ/producer Joe Bermudez spinning house and dance beats. 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up R&B, top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mercury Lounge DJs Nomadik and Timmy Allen host a night of soul, funk and house, 9 pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin house and techno, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
Chad LaMarsh performs solo acoustic, 8:30-11 pm. Beach Party with DJs, 11 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
International Wednesdays DJ JC is in the Latin Lounge; DJs Alex and Felix spin in the back, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Wacky Wednesdays Magic with Peter Gross, 6-9 pm, DJ Massi all night, no cover, 21+.

Q
Violation Wednesdays Weekly guest DJs spin today's best music, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm- 2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays DJ Boogie Ba Do spins dub to start the party, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band brings R&B and dance to the main lounge, 9-11 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Martinez spins salsa, cumbia and merengue on one floor while DJ Supreme spins a New York lounge set (hip-hop, R&B and rock covers) on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5..

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Walt spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; DJ Roger M and DJ Thanos spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Boston's Biggest College Hip-Hop Night DJs Caprice, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Djs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
Karaoke with DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
DJ Ghost spins international house and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursdays DJs Dubz and 40D spin reggae, R&B and hip-hop, no cover, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

I/D
Square One Thursdays DJs Dres and Wagz host a night of progressive dance music, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
Live band 6 pm; DJ Massi, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran spin dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Doc spins the latest tunes, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Milky Way
Club Thursdays Rotating DJs spin dance music, 10 pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5 (19+), $3 (21+).

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJs spin upbeat lounge music in the front, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Q
Hip-Hop Thursdays DJ Craig Smooth spins hip-hop all night long, 9 pm, $5, ladies free all night, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Brian Roche Dance Party, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali and Ross spin a mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons and dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

711 Boylston
Play Thursdays DJ trio Groovefire spins house music with special guests Beat Khemistry, 6 pm-2 am.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ DonRico spins salsa, merengue and Latin pop and DJ Tegrem spins downtempo retro international, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip-hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Ladies Night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, $5 cover.

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays The rotating theme night based upon customer Internet voting, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.



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FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ Seano 5-9 pm; DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $5 after 10:30 pm, 21+.

Aria
Floss DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Avaland International DJs spin house, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top-40, 9pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
All Axis DJ Dru Nyce, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80s faves, along with Boston's best cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents a night of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and hip-hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal spins a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+, after 11 pm.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
Persuassion DJ Sun One spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Felt
After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs spin high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Angirsano spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •Aug. 27: Joe Rockstar.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs Big Daddy spins, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins house and old favorites, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before midnight, 21+.

La Boom
Fashion Fridays Firefly Promotions hosts this fashion night featuring DJ Rick Naples, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

Level
110 Productions hosts a party with progressive house music, hip-hop and top-40. 11 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Adilson of Roxy Saturdays spins high-energy house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Rockpile** WAAF's Steve Flagg broadcasts live, and rotating bands perform, 9 pm, $15, 18+; $5, 21+. •**Uptown** DJ Freddy C mixes hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•Aug. 27: Darik & the Funbags, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm, $10 ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.



Phoenix Landing
DJ Greg spins top-40 and '80s hits, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop as he spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ spins in the front and DJ Gabe spins vocal house in the back, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Craig Smooth spins the latest hits, 10 pm, $5. Aug. 27: Spike the Punch.

Q
DJ Massi plays hip hop and top-40, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Johnny C, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin quality house, 9 pm-2 am.

River Gods
Lite Nite DJ Easy spins a mix that includes neo-soul and feel-good classics, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top-40, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins Latin house and Latin dance on one floor while DJ Franklin spins international on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10pm, $5 after 9pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats all night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJs Dunleop and Walt mix top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Guest DJs spin high-energy vocal house and hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Tease Saturdays Resident DJ Rick Naples performs along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Lush Life WFNX DJs spin alternative rock, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ Matt Phipps spinning the hottest top-40, hip-hop and '80s faves, along with Boston's best cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. DJs presents top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Franklin creates a lounge atmosphere with his international, Latin and house sounds, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood It's women's night at Hollywood with two floors of hip-hop and house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
Essence DJs Ed and Sal, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop, house and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites, disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, $10, 21+. •Aug. 28: Joe Rockstar.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Ryan Bis spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, 9 p $5, 21+.

I//D
X Night WFNX presents a night of retro '80s a rock, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hi hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, wh downstairs DJ Kieran plays top-40, 9 pm, $6, 21+.

La Boom
Wild on @ La Boom DJ Tim Collins and KISS 1 host a night of music and dancing, 10 pm, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spi Russian and international music on the third flo 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, voc house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fi floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 9 pm, 21+.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Shorty spins Latin music, 10 pm, $10, 21+, $ for ladies 18+.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spi merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10 pm, $10, me $5, women (women admitted free before 10:30 pm 21+.

The Modern
Material DJ Dru Nyce plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $1 19+.

The Palace
•**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dan music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Wil D, ladies, free; men, $5 before 10:30 pm; after 10 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** N England's longest-running all-male dance revu doors at 8 pm, show runs 9 pm-1 am, $15, 19+; cover 21+. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins top-40 and h hop mixes, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Don Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian mosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**Undergrou** DJs spin hip-hop, top-40, dance, techno and reg for the under-21 crowd, 7-11 pm, $14. •**Uptown** Freddy C mixes up hits from the '70s, '80s and '9 $15, 18+; no cover, 21+.

Parris
•Aug. 28: Darik & the Funbags, DJ at 8 pm, ba at 10 pm, $10 ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wo ders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles Boston's best DJs come in and spin s

Pravda 116
DJ spins in the front and DJ Gabe spins vocal ho in the back, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom Hogan spins the groove, 10 pm, $5, 2 Aug. 28: Scooby Snax Band.

Q
DJ Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Ro spins, 9 pm- 2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins mod mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Adilson spins house and techno, 9 pm, $15, 2

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancin pm-1 am, $8-$12.

711 Boylston
Fever DJ Yorgo spins a mix of ethnic and inte tional music, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
Resident DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin, internati and dance, often joined by live bands and spe guest DJs, 10 pm, $10-$15, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retr vorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm 21+.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins sic old-school, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no c 21+.

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Location.

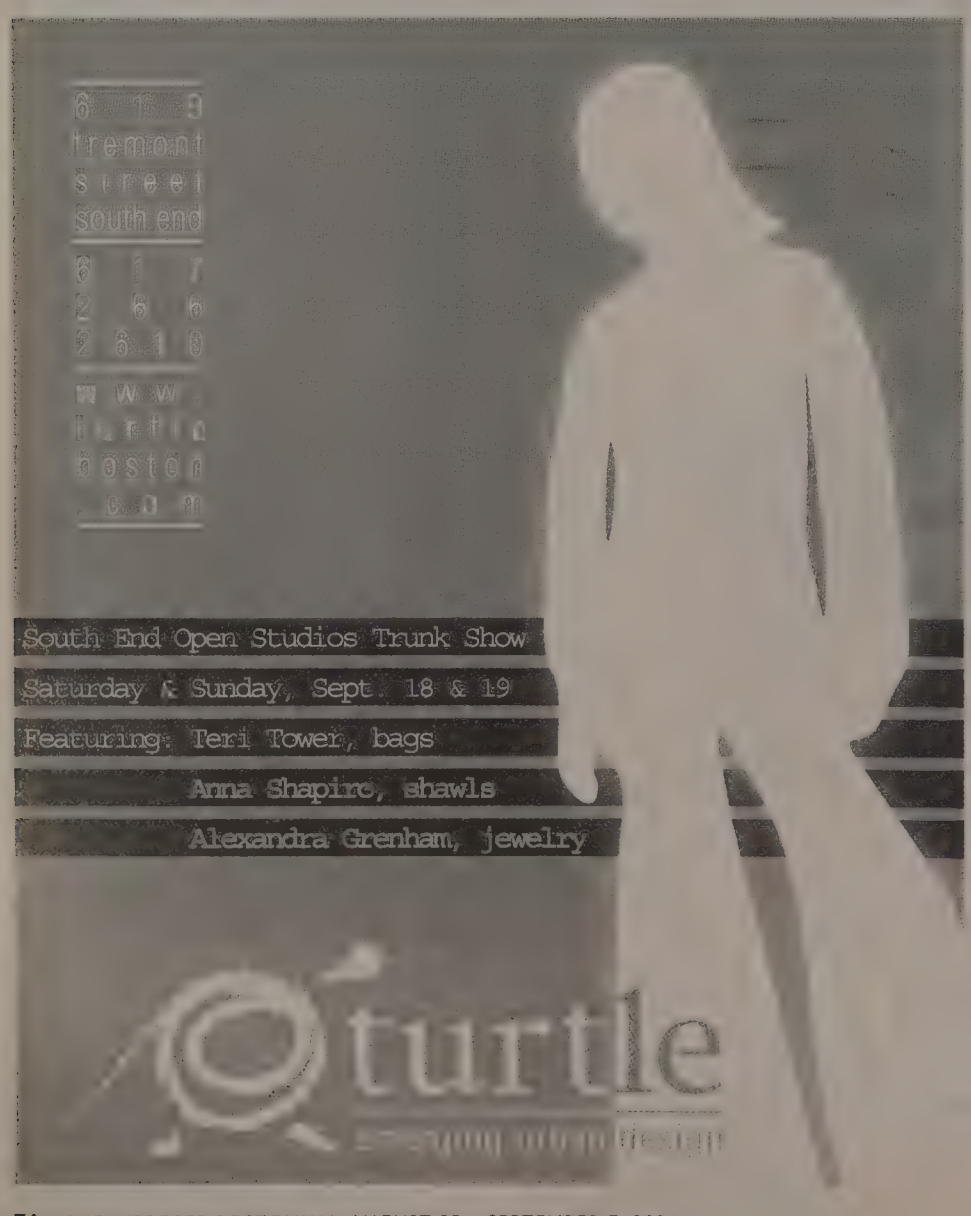
Coors LIGHT

Down cold.

THE TAP

19 Union St., Boston
617-367-0033





Toast
Prescription House music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

Aria
DJ Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+

Caprice
DJ spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hip-hop downstairs, karaoke upstairs, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance mamba, 10 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

The Kells
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJs Doc & Kieran spin house, top-40 and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Satellite A lesbian night featuring DJ Dee, with dance music, amateur drag contests and films, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Malibu Beach Party DJ Thom spins everything from reggae to top-40, with prizes all night, 4-9 pm, DJ Massi spins, 9 pm, $5 men, free for ladies, 21+.

Q
Reggae with Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins dance and top-40, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Wicked Wicked Sundays Experimental reggae and hip-hop hosted by Wayne on Wax, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Wepa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sunday of each month, DJ Nik and DJ Hernan play salsa music, 6-10 pm, $12.

Saint
Spice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night featuring Latin and International grooves, 10 pm-2 am, $13.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew. 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock, retro and hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Tiki Room
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins Brazilian beats, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Whiskey Park
Cherry DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock classics, hip-hop, house and R&B.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-783-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
The G Spot *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
La Boom *One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Light *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *(El Copa, Male Encounter, Officers' Club, Oxygen, Rio, Underground and Uptown) 150 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-868-5900).*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300)*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
711 Boylston *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-258*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-92*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*





tonic

THE MET LOUNGE



Dinner served till 10:30

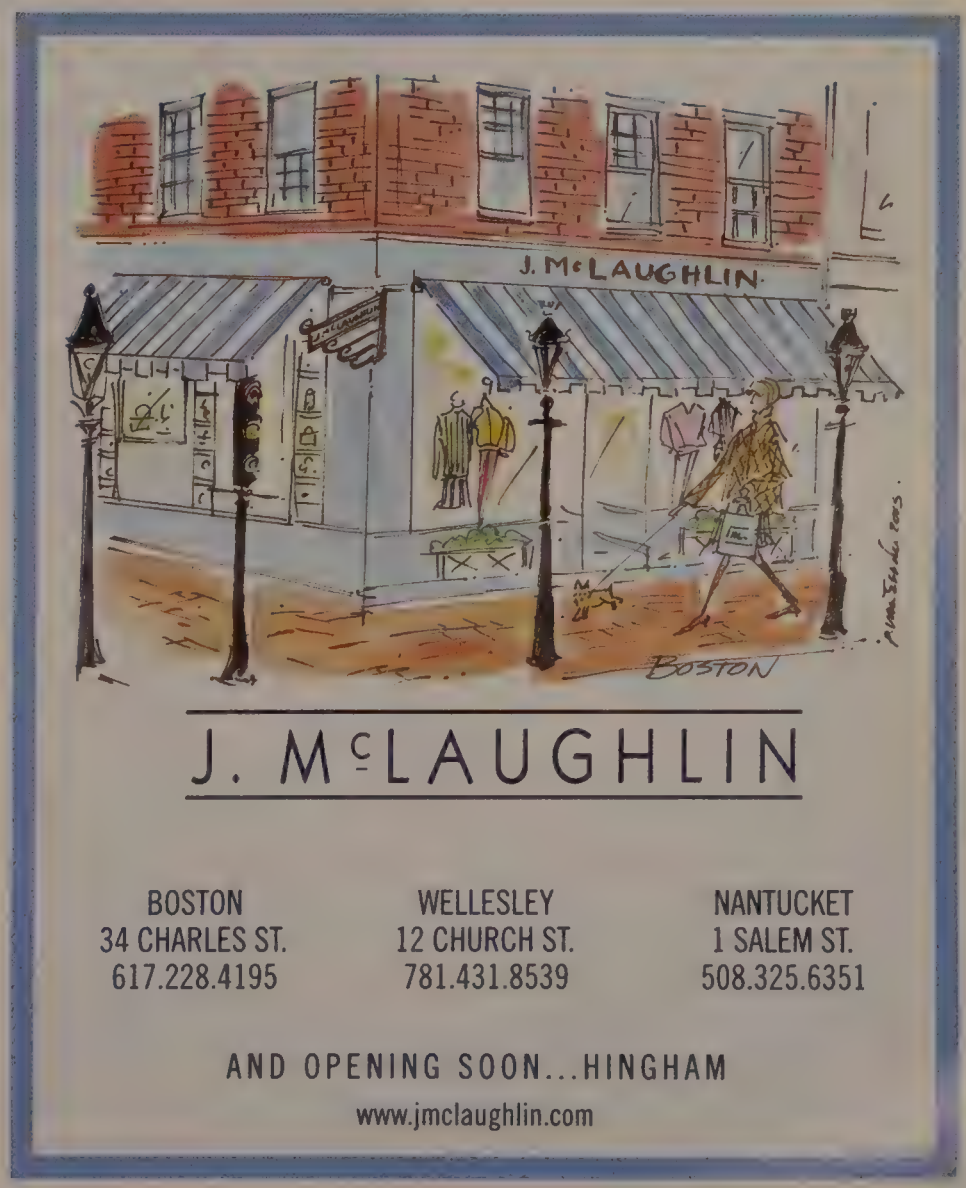
Late night menu till 12

Gourmet brunch buffet

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museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors

Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum

Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Dutch and Flemish Drawings from the National Gallery of Canada*, an exhibition of rare drawings and landscapes by Rembrandt and his contemporaries, shows through Oct. 17. •*Closely Focused, Intensely Felt: Selections from the Norma Jean Calderwood Collection of Islamic Art* features Persian artwork from the last millennium. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Masterworks of East Asian Painting* features works on paper and silk from China, Korea, and Japan. Aug. 28-April 13, 2005.

Boston Public Library

666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm. •In honor of the Democratic National Convention, politically-inspired exhibitions display through Aug. 31. •*Handfuls of Lilies: The Art of Sarah Whitman* features stained-glass designs by the local artist. Through Sept.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park

51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $6; students and seniors, $4. •*Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Sense of Place, Part II* features paintings, photographs and sculptures by various artists. Through Aug. 29. •*The 2004 DeCordova Annual Exhibition* highlights contemporary artists from New England. Through Sept. 5. •*Henry Richardson: Chiseled Orb and Mortal Coil* is an ongoing exhibition featuring the artist's large glass sculptures.

Fogg Art Museum/ Busch-Reisinger Museum

32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Process and Paradox: The Historical Pictures of John Singleton Copley* features two rarely seen works by one of America's first great artists. Through Aug. 29. •*Vastly More Than Brick and Mortar: Reinventing the Fogg Art Museum in the 1920s*, an exhibition of 47 objects including archival photographs, building plans and pieces from the Fogg's original collection, illustrates how the museum was created. Through Sept. 26. •*Extra Ordinary Every Day: The Bauhaus at the Busch-Reisinger* is an online exhibition that can be accessed at www.artmuseums.harvard.edu/sites/eoed. Through 2005. •*Rococo Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* is an ongoing exhibit. •*To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* is an ongoing display of 19th-century art. •*Basic Research: A Selection of Postwar German Painting and Sculpture*, and *The Figure in French Sculpture 1780-1900* are ongoing.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •*Arctic National Wildlife Refuge: Seasons of Life and Land* is an exhibition of 49 photographs from northeastern Alaska by Subhankar Banerjee. Through Sept. 5. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species, by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5. •Kai Althoff's works of watercolor, pencil drawing, collage, music and more are on display in *Kai Kein Respekt (Kai No Respect)*. Through Sept. 6. •*Momentum 1* displays work by installation artist Carol Bove. Through Sept. 6. •*Re-Turning the Past: Cultural Icons Recast*, is an outdoor exhibit by Niho Kozuru in the garden and courtyard of the Paul Revere House (19 North Square). Through Oct. 11.



Aqa Riza's *Youth Dressed as Dervish* shows in *Closely Focused, Intensely Felt* at the Sackler Museum through Jan. 2, 2005

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; seniors, $7; students, $5. members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18 free. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. •Elaine Reichek's embroideries, which depict Biblical images borrowed from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists, display online in the virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum

Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $8; seniors and students $6; children ages 13-17 $4; children 12 and under admitted free. •*Gifts from the World to the White House: Caroline Kennedy's Doll Collection* features 77 dolls from 30 countries that were given to JFK's daughter between 1961 and 1963. Through Nov. 5.•In honor of this election year, *Campaign!* is an exhibition following JFK's nomination, campaign and inauguration, from 1960-61. Through Jan. 20, 2005.

McMullen Museum of Art

Boston College, 140 Comm. Ave., Devlin Hall 108, Chestnut Hill (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. MBTA: Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-3 pm., Sat., 12 pm-5 pm. Free. •*Refigured* features works by six local artists. Through Aug. 29. •Abstract drawings, sculptures and folding screens by Sarah Westlake show through Aug. 29.

MIT List Visual Arts Center

20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. •The museum's permanent collection includes more than 1,500 pieces of contemporary art including paintings, murals, sculptures, photography and prints. •The annual Student Loan Art Program Exhibition and Lottery runs Sept. 3-13. •*Classroom* by Anthony Goicolea plays on the Media Test Wall through Sept. 19. •*Selections from the Collection* spotlights the work of 17 renowned artists. Through Nov. 19.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5; students and seniors, $3; children, $1. •*Hub of the Air Universe: A Century of Flight in Massachusetts* displays artifacts and artwork from the first 100 years of manned flight. Through Sept. 5. •*Telling It Like It Is: Student Activism at MIT During the Vietnam War* displays posters from that era. Through fall 2004. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features works by the self-described cross between "a mechanical engineer and a choreographer." Ongoing.

Museum of Afro-American History

46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. •*Portraits in Black: Gaining Ground, Holding Office* pays tribute to elected black leaders of New England. Through Oct. 23. •*The Times We Had* is an ongoing exhibition spotlighting Boston's African-American community of the 19th century. •*Building on a Firm Foundation* is a 17-minute multimedia presentation that looks at 19th century Beacon Hill through the eyes of an African-American teenager. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15; students and seniors, $13; children 17 and under, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free (doesn't include special exhibitions). •*Draped in Dragons: Chinese Court Costumes* features clothes worn by members of the Qing imperial court. Through Sept. 19. •*Games for the Gods: The Greek Athlete and the Olympic Spirit* features vases, marbles, bronzes and coins from the ancient Greek games. Through Nov. 28. •*Art Deco: 1910-1939* features more then 240 works, including furniture, textiles, ceramics, fashion and jewelry. Through Jan. 9, 2005. •*Josef Sudek: Poet with a Camera* is an exhibition of the Czech photographer's landscapes, still lifes and architectural photos. Through Jan. 17, 2005. •*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13; seniors, $11; children, $10. •*Risk!* is a hands-on exhibit in which visitors can test their sense of daring while seeing how they deal with the uncertainty that comes with a difficult decision. Through Sept. 6. •*The Lord of the Rings Motion Picture Trilogy—The Exhibition* features memorabilia from the films, including costumes, props and the ring itself. Through Oct. 24. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum

33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Allen Sisters Pictorial Photographs* is a collection of 25 platinum prints dating from 1885-1920. Through Dec. 12. •*A Changing World: New England in the Photographs of Verner Reed, 1950-1972* displays through Jan. 2, 2005. •Learn how mail-order catalogs revolutionized American shopping in *Satisfaction Guaranteed*. Through Feb. 6, 2005. •*Western Pursuit of the American Dream*, a compilation of artifacts and sculpture from the American West, shows through April. 24, 2005. •*The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'd* is an exhibition of 18th-century local history. Ongoing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household objects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. •*Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community* is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; students, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem free. •*American Fancy: Exuberance in the Arts, 1790-1840* showcases over 200 pieces of early American decorative and folk art. Through Oct. 24. •*Treasures from Chatsworth, a British Noble House*, is a look at centuries of English domestic life through the Cavendish family's rare collection of Old Master drawings and paintings, books, and jewelry. Through Nov. 7. •*Havana: Photographs by Robert Polidori* features 18 large-scale photographs. Through Jan. 9, 2005. •*Bringing Japan to Boston* features Japanese artifacts from the Edward S. Morse Collection. Through April 30, 2005. •*Carved in Nature* puts ancient Chinese wood carvings on display through June 2005. •The only installation of its kind in North America, *Yin Yu Tang* is a Chinese merchant's home from the late Qing Dynasty, relocated and reconstructed. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students, children, $5. •*Regarding the Kalahari: The Marshall Family and the Ju'hoansi !Kung, 1950-1964* is an exhibition of photographs and stereographs from the Kalahari Desert expeditions of Laurence Marshall and family. Through Aug. 30. •*Painted by a Distant Hand: Mimbres Pottery from the American Southwest* features artifacts from New Mexico's Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through Sept. •*Bringing Japan to Boston: the Edward S. Morse Collection* offers a rare display of Japanese artifacts collected from 1877-1879, through April 20. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through December 20. •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments* features the museum's large Mesoamerican cast collection. Ongoing. •*Hall of the North American Indian: Change and Continuity* features art depicting the response of Native Americans across the continent to the arrival of Europeans. Ongoing. •*Encounters with the Ancestors* is an ongoing exhibition featuring original sculpture and plaster casts of Mesoamerican cultures. •*Pacific Islands Hall*, another ongoing exhibition, displays artifacts from the Pacific Islands.

Galleries

FINE ART

Alianza Gallery

154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). www.alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Tea Fantasy—Whimsical and Sculptural Teapots* shows through Aug. 31.

Alpha Gallery

14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Thurs., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Summer Selections* is a group show on view through Sept. 7.

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Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Robert Jackson shows his work in *Narratives* through Aug. 30. •*New Paintings* features work by Anthony James. Sept. 2-29.

Art Interactive
130 Bishop Allen Drive, Cambridge (617-498-0100). www.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •Jeff Talman's *Sonalumina-13* explores acoustic resonance with aluminum plates. Sept. 4-Oct. 31.

ARTSomerville at the Nave Gallery
155 Powderhouse Blvd., Somerville. www.artsomerville.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sat., 1 pm-5 pm. •*Play* is a local-artists showcase. Through Aug. 28.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •The gallery reopens Aug. 31 with Rachel Perry Wealthy's *Daily Bread.*

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Works by gallery artists show through Aug.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •The gallery reopens Sept. 1 with works by Robert and Shana Parker Harrison. Through Oct. 31.

Boston Sculptors Gallery
486 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-7781). www.bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •Michelle Lougee shows environmental sculptures in *Pomus Ingenium*, and Kitty Wales shows animal sculptures in *Broken Sleep.* Aug. 31-Sept. 25.

Brickbottom Gallery
1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Trial Runs* displays Sept. 1-October.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Monmouth St., Brookline. (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm. •Lisa Goren shows watercolors in *The Antarctica Project*, and Steven Rudolph shows digital photography in *Creative Abstraction*. Through Aug. 27.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 2nd St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). www.cmacusa.org. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center, to EZRide Science Park shuttle. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •Ruth Abrams shows collage and assemblage in *The Fabric of Life*. Through Oct. 8.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-2255). www.chappellgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to . Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •The gallery is closed through Aug.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •Works by gallery artists display through Aug. 30. •Tezh Modarressi shows his work in *Spyglass*. Sept. 1-27.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA:Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Three exhibitions—*A Century of Seascapes, Architectural Images in Prints and Drawings* and *Prints of the Northern Renaissance*—show through Sept. 4.

Clifford-Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 300, Boston (617-695-0255). www.cliffordsmithgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5:30 pm. •The gallery is open by appointment only through Aug.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •The gallery is closed through Sept. 9.

Crump McCole Gallery
200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Painters of the New Boston* features works by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.

Cyclorama
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Mon.-Fri., 9-5 pm. •*Yankee Remix, Remix*, a selection of works from Mass MoCA's *Yankee Remix: Artists Take On New England* exhibition, shows through Aug. 30. •*Sleeper's Dream* features Martin Kersel's giant boot house. Through Aug. 30.

The Dean's Gallery
MIT Sloan School of Management, 50 Memorial Drive, Building E52, Room 466, Cambridge (617-253-9458). web.mit.edu/deansgallery. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm. Free. •*Selections from the Collection* features 17 pop art pieces from the MIT List Visual Arts Center's permanent collection. Through Nov. 19.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •*Figures, Forms, and Fragments* is a show of black-and-white photography. Through Aug. 28. •*Arbortage: Boughs and Branches* features new paintings by Mary Mattei. Aug. 31-Sept. 25.

Equator Gallery
450 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-540-9236). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.equatorgallery.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •The gallery specializes in Latin American fine art, including paintings, textiles and ceramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Objects/Artifacts* by Marilyn Ranker and Rebecca Seeman shows Aug. 20-Sept. 25.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu. and Sat.,12-5 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm. •The gallery is closed through Aug.

The Gallery at Black and White
295 Huntington Ave., Suite 205 (617-266-2641). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Mon.-Fri, 10 am-5 pm. •The gallery features rotating exhibitions of black-and-white photographs. •Laird Van Riper Elting and Eva Hidvegi Demjen show black-and-white gelatin silver photographs. Through Aug. 31.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •The gallery is open by appointment only through Sept. 6.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
23 Thayer St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Peter Coe: Paintings* shows through Oct. 2.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.haleysteele.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •The gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prints. Ongoing.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Some of Their Parts* is a group show of photography, painting and sculpture. Through Sept. 4.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters. •*Decade's Best*, a show of the gallery's best posters, displays through Sept. 6.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Summer Science* features paintings and drawings by Dan Golden, Sean Micka and Nicole Deponte. Through Aug. 28.

Kaji Aso Studio
40 St. Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www.kajiasostudio.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Tue. and Thu., 4:30-6:30 pm; Sat., 3-5 pm, and by appointment. •The gallery reopens in Sept.


Su Xinping's lithograph *Zuopin IV*, at the Qingping Gallery Sept. 2-Oct 31

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Greg Miller shows his paintings through Aug. 28. •David Williams shows new paintings in *Pick Your Poison*. Sept. 1-Oct. 2.

Kingston Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •*New Art 2004*, a show of works by 20 American artists, displays through Aug. 28. •The annual members show displays Sept. 7-25.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Kaleidoscope* features colorful glass and metal sculptures. Through Aug. 31. •*Intrigue*, a show of glass sculpture by Sheyl Ellinwood and Mark Hursty, displays Sept. 2-Oct. 15.

Mark Gallery
141 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6275). www.markartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm, and by appointment. •Brian Adgate shows landscapes in *New Paintings*. Through Aug. 28.

Martin Lawrence Gallery
77 Newbury St., Boston (617-369-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.martinlawrence.com. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-7 pm. •The gallery's ongoing exhibition includes works by Chagall, Erté, Hallam, Kondakova, Lichtenstein, Picasso and Warhol.

The Mayor's Office Gallery
Boston City Hall, 5th floor, 1 City Hall Plaza, Boston (617-635-3911). www.cityofboston.gov/arts/galleries. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 9am-5 pm. •Works by Jill Solomon display through Aug. 30. •Tom Wojciechowski shows his work in *Facts of Light*. Through Sept. 15.

Miller Block Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). www.millerblockgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30-5:30 pm. •*Summer Distillation* shows through Aug.

Mills Gallery
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed., Thu. and Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-10 pm. •Contemporary works by emerging local, national, and international artists display through Aug.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Petra Class shows her jewelry through Aug.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •*Summer Invitational, A Group Exhibition* shows through Aug.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •A local-artists showcase is ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery is closed through Sept. 8.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*New Artists, New Works* features pieces by emerging artists. Through Sept. 7.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (617-482-9988). www.qingping.org. Daily, 1 pm-12 am and by appointment. •Beijing artist Lu Peng shows his work. Through Aug. 31. •*Those Who Wait*, a group show of works by Beijing avant garde artists Su Xinping, Lui Qinghe, Zhou Jirong, and Lu Peng, displays Sept. 2-Oct. 31.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBT Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; S 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing ex bition of 19th- and 20th-century American and ropean paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). ww robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arl ton. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 •The gallery is closed through Sept. 9.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-989 MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 11 4 pm; Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Robert Swee shows his work in *The Boston Experience...View the City*. Through Aug. 28. •*Fine Lithographs Etchings* features works by Marc Chagall, Joan M Georges Rouault and others.

Scollay Square Gallery
Boston City Hall, 3rd floor, 1 City hall Plaza, Bos (617-635-3911). www.cityofboston.gov/arts/galle MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Cen Mon.-Fri., 9am-5 pm. •Paintings by the M Artists Group display through Aug. 27.

Sherman Gallery
George Sherman Union, 775 Comm. Ave., 2nd Fl Boston (617-353-3371). www.bu.edu/cfa. Mo Wed., by appointment. Thurs.-Fri., 11 am-5 pm. • *Australia Paintings* by Nicole D'Agata shows Sept Oct. 22.

The Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). ww societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Cop Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*The Ar Awards Show* honors New England craft and me artists. Through Oct. 31.

Soprafina Gallery
99 Beacon St., Somerville (617-498-0999). MBT Red Line to Davis. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Sun., pm. •Glass, pottery, ceramics, and black-and-wh photography are on sale in preparation for gallery's move to the South End in Sept.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). ww stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Cop Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Four One* is a group show of paintings by Christ Keating, Judy St. Peter, Sandra Mueller-Di Anne Grandin and William St. George. Throu Aug. 31.

Upstairs at Johnson's Art Gallery
353 Newbury St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-536-406 MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.- Fri., 10 a 5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-1pm. •*Piled, Layered Stacked* features sculptures and paintings by Ant Dodds, Tammi Meehan and Siobhan Murp Through Aug. 31.

Wentworth Gallery
73 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-8770). ww wentworthgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arl ton. Mon.-Sat. 10 am-6 pm; Sun. 12-6 pm. • gallery's permanent collection features works Dali, Chagall and Miro.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). ww griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to W chester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. •*The En Polio* features work by Sebastião Selgado. Thro Oct. 31.

New England School of Photography
Gallery One, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-4 1868). www.nesop.com. MBTA: Green Line to K more. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm. •Work by gradua NESOP students is on display through Aug.

Panopticon Gallery Kenmore
502-C Comm Ave., Boston (617-267-89 www.panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenm Tue.-Sat., 11 am-7 pm. •*Colossal*, an exhibitio aerial photographs by Bradford Washburn, through Sept. 18. •*Home Run*, a show of vintage b ball photographs, displays through Sept.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). ww panopt.com. Commuter Rail to Waltham. Mon.-I 10 am-6 pm. •*Colossal*, an exhibition of p tographs by Bradford Washburn, shows thro Sept. 18.

Photographic Resource Center
832 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-06 www.bu.edu/prc. MBTA: B Green Line to Bo University West. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. • center's off-site summer exhibition, My First P features photos by local artists and displays a Paradise Lounge Gallery through Sept. 7.



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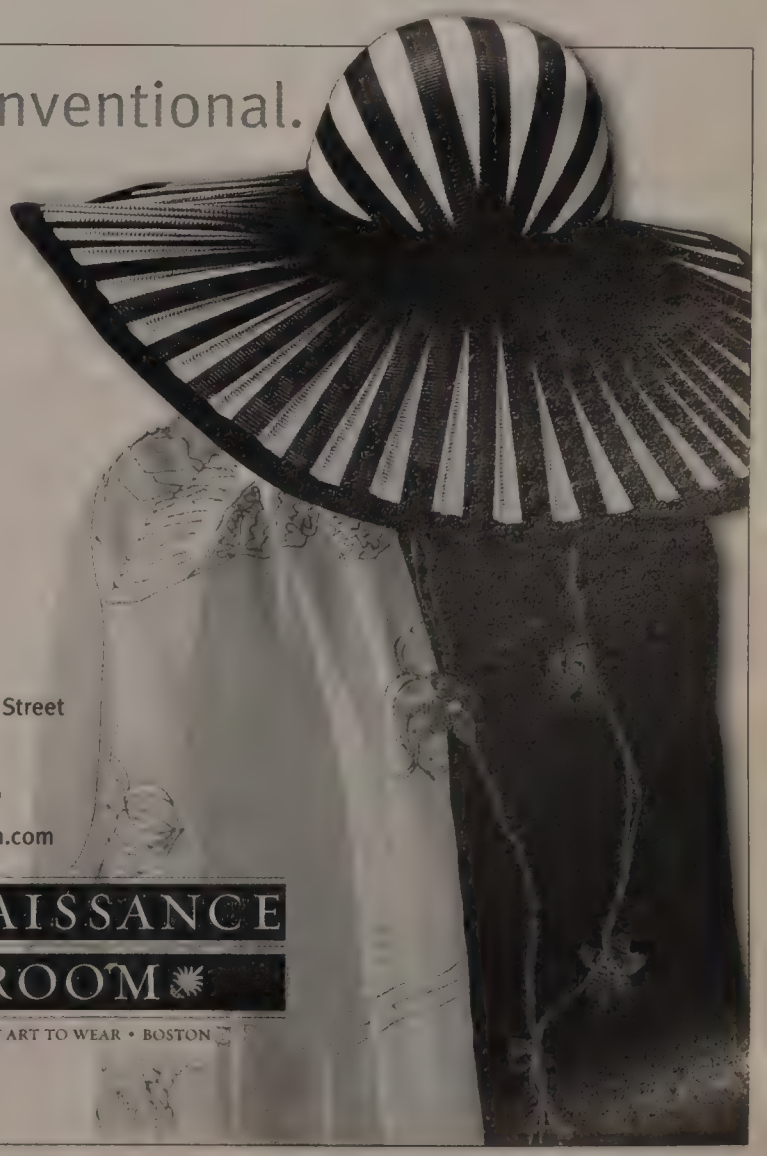
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Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25

Borders Chestnut Hill
Atrium Mall, 300 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (508-845-8720). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Bus 60 to Boylston Street. 7:30 pm. Free. **Vinnie Carolan** and **Ed Symkus** discuss their book, *Wrestle Radio U.S.A: Grapplers Speak*, a collection of interviews with members of the pro wrestling world from the authors' radio show.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **S.A. Abakwue** reads from his new novel, *The Beast, 666*, a story about struggles for power.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Sabina Murray** reads from her thriller *A Carnivore's Inquiry*, about a deranged young woman's obsessions. Also **Norman G. Gautreau** reads from his new novel, *Island of First Light*, about three inhabitants of an island off the coast of Maine who are struggling with transitions in life.

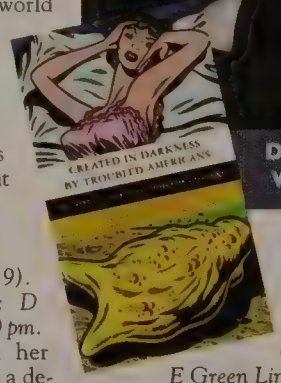
SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

WordsWorth Books Author Event
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. **Dave Eggers** and other contributors discuss the collection *Created in Darkness by Troubled Americans: The Best of McSweeney's—Humor Category: 1998-2003.*

MONDAY, AUGUST 30

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Traci Maynigo** discusses her book *A Girl's Guide to College: Making the Most of the Best Four Years of Your Life*, which imparts advice on what to do (and not to do) in college.


Dave Eggers reads at WordsWorth August 29.



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Barnes and Noble at the Prudential Center
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-247-6959). www.barnesandnoble.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential. 7 pm. Free. **Sarah Erdman** reads from her memoir, *Nine Hills to Nambonkaha: Two Years in the Heart of an African Village*, about her experience working with the Peace Corps in West Africa.

Harvard Book Store Author Event
Arthur M. Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-661-1515). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Robert Pinsky** and **Maggie Dietz** discuss the poetry anthology they edited, *An Invitation to Poetry: A New Favorite Poem Project Anthology*, which includes classic and contemporary American poetry.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. NYU professor of media studies **Mark Crispin Miller** reads from his book *Cruel and Unusual: Bush/Cheney's New World Order*, a critique of the current administration.

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. 21+. $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge hosts this poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). www.poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $5. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background music for the poetry slam team.

Out of the Blue Gallery (Saturdays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Mondays, 8 pm (7:30 pm sign-up): Jack Powers hosts Stone Soup, with poetry features and an open mike. $4 donation suggested. •Saturdays, 8 pm: Come share or listen to poetry and prose. Deborah Priestly hosts. $3-$5 suggested donation.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). MBTA: Blue Line to Government Center. 6:30 pm. Free. The second Thursday of each month offers a selection of featured poets and an opportunity for others to take the open mike.



Sarah Erdman reads at Barnes & Noble September 7.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 26

NeighborWalk
Children's Museum, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-482-1722) www.tbha.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 5:30-6:30 pm. Free. The Boston Harbor Association leads a tour of Fort Point Channel. Call ahead to reserve a spot.

Preparing an Effective Business Plan
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 1-4 pm. $27, members; $30 nonmembers. Learn how to prepare a successful business plan, with instructor **Anh-Dai Lui**.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27

Overcoming Age Barriers in the Job Search
The Work Place, 99 Chauncy St., Boston, (617-737-0093). www.theworkplace.org. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 1-2:30 pm. Professionals in the midst of a midcareer job search can learn how to effectively market themselves as "older workers."

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28

A Contemporary Collection: A Private Back Bay Tour
Location in Back Bay to be provided upon class registration (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. $49. A Boston art collector leads this tour through her Back Bay home, which houses works by Pablo Picasso, Roy Lichtenstein and Robert Rauschenberg, among others.

Island Explorer
Boston Harbor Islands. Ferry departs from Long Wharf. (617-223-8631). www.bostonislands.org. 10 am-3 pm. Free. Witness the world under the sea with the underwater video crew and divers of the catamaran the 9th Wave.

Time Management
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 11 am-6 pm. $107. Instructor **Mel Epstein** leads this seminar on using organizational tricks and tools to maximize your time.

Twilight Canoe
Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary, 280 Eliot St., Natick (508-655-2296). www.massaudubon.org. 6-9 pm. $22 members, $26 nonmembers. Canoe down the Charles River as the sun sets, and learn about the natural habitat of the wildlife sanctuary. Bring a picnic dinner for the trip.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

Freedom Trail Bike Tour
Boston Bike Tour Stand, Boston Common (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 11 am-3 pm. $20. Enjoy a leisurely bike ride along the Freedom Trail while learning about Boston's history.

Gallery Talk: Photographs from the Meiji Era
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 2 pm. Free with museum admission. **Gilian Shallcross**, the museum's manager of adult learning resources, discusses this museum collection.

Starting and Succeeding in Your Own Consulting Business
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 11 am-6 pm. $107. Learn how to begin and maintain a successful consulting business in this class led by instructor **Mel Epstein**.

2004 Tanglewood Outing; Beethoven's Symphony No. 9
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 9 am-8 pm. $79. Take a walking tour of the Tanglewood grounds followed by an afternoon concert by the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Price includes motor coach transportation and general lawn admission to the concert and grounds.

Walking Tour: Stories Behind the Stones
Forest Hills Cemetery, Jamaica Plain (617-542-0128) www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 2 pm. Free. Learn the history of the Forest Hills Cemetery as guide **Al Maze** recounts the lives of the people who are buried there.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 31

NeighborWalk
Meet outside the Daily Catch restaurant at the Moakley Courthouse, 1 Courthouse Way, Suite 3120, Boston (617-482-1722) www.tbha.org. 5:30-6:30 pm. Free. The Boston Harbor Association leads a tour of South Boston, from Fan Pier to the Fish Pier. Call ahead to reserve a spot.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

Inline Skating
Location in Boston to be provided upon class registration (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6-8 pm. $36. Learn how to in-line skate with instructor **Duane Lucia**.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Colonial Remedies
Paul Revere Memorial Association, 19 North Square, Boston (617-523-2338). www.paulreverehouse.org. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 1-4 pm. Free with museum admission. **Dan** and **Judith Grilli** discuss their collection of colonial medical tools and describe the techniques that herbalists and surgeons used to treat disease.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

Kayaking the Westport River
Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary, 280 Eliot St., Natick (508-655-2296). www.massaudubon.org. 1-5 pm. $38 members, $49 nonmembers. A professional kayak guide from Osprey Sea Kayak Adventures leads the river tour, and Mass Audubon staff members discuss ospreys and other shorebirds, and their ecosystem, their natural habitat.

Sunday Encounters
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 2:30 pm. Free with museum admission. ICA docents and staff lead an informal tour of the exhibitions.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

National Architectural Trust
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-2371). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 5 pm. Free. The Trust presents a workshop on tax incentives available to owners of historical properties. Meets in Conference Rooms 5 and 6.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

StreetTech: Mobile Technology and Political Activism
Redline, 59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851) MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. New Scientist magazine sponsors Café Scientifique, a friendly topical debate. This week, technologist and artist Tad Hirsch leads the discussion.



Tour the Freedom Trail by bike on August 29.



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Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am.; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's new leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $8 under 21. $5 for 21+. DJ John Morris spins progressive house for Lust, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $15, 21+. For 20 years, these folks have cranked out Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. Enjoy three separate dance floors plus drag acts. Resident DJ Ted Elison spins house.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show, and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Blue Wave Cafe (Sundays)
343 Congress St., Boston (617-790-0720). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 9 pm-1 am. $5 before 11 pm, $10 after 11 pm, 21+. Every Sunday night, Pussi Kat Entertainment and TopKat Entertainment present HerShe Sundays, an ethnic/Latina/white lesbian party with DJ Elyte of Next Generation Productions spinning R&B, hip-hop and reggae.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

CityGirl Caffé (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-9 pm; Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-4 pm. This small, laid-back café in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated, draws a mixed gay/hetero crowd for lounging and sandwiches. Brunch is served every weekend. Now serves beer and wine.

Club Europa (Fridays)
57 Stuart St., Boston (617-417-0186). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.twistboston.com. Fri., 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+ after 11 pm. DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s tunes at this women's night.

Diesel Café (Daily)
257 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-8717). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Mon.-Thu. 7 am-12 am, Fri., 7 am-1 am, Sat., 8 am-1 am, Sun., 8 am-12 am. All ages. Diesel is a gay-friendly Davis Square café that serves coffee and snacks.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3 pm-2 am; Sat., 1 pm-2 am; Sun., 12 pm-2 am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This quiet, friendly neighborhood bar starts hopping as it gets closer to 2 am.

Fritz Lounge (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 12 pm-2 am; Sat. and Sun., 10:30 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. Four plasma TV sets show satellite sports broadcasts, and Fritz is home base to a softball league. Brunch is served until 3:30 pm on weekends.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $8 weekends, 21+. Patrons relax with a friendly crowd and mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month is the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground. The typical lineup features musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Tuesdays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Big and Hot, Brazilian night, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Tue.: Service Industry Night, with DJ Afrodite.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 19+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: New Wave Dance Party with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Milky Way Lounge (Sundays)
401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+. Every Sunday the Milky Way Lounge presents Satellite, a queer night for ladies. Live entertainment varies from week to week and includes Fireballs Drag Bingo, spoken-word events and jazz.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Omar. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. Private, members-only club, predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

711 Boylston (Tuesdays)
711 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5502). www.hereboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 9 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. The Tuesday night gay dance party, Here, features disco and pop.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night, and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room and video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music pumps, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Books

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). www.calamusbooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9 am-7 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. This store for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered readers carries fiction, erotica and titles by gay and feminist activists.

Center for New Words
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Cambridge's center for women's writing and ideas hosts open mikes and author events.

Cuttyhunk and Provincetown Trading Company
540 Tremont St., Boston (617-574-5000). www.cuttyhunk.us. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This community-centered gay and lesbian bookstore stocks literature, art books, DVDs and videos.

Shows & Events

LGBTI Health Summit
Royal Sonesta Hotel, 5 Cambridge Pkwy., Cambridge. www.healthsummit2004.org. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Aug. 25-29. $175. Join health care professionals, researchers and community members and activists for workshops and other activites that focus on LGBTI health and wellness.

Say You Love Satan
Zeitgeist Stage Company, Black Box Theater, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787) www.zeitgeiststage.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through Sept. 11. Thu.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 5 and 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $25. After Andrew begins an intense relationship with hunky dreamboat Jack he starts to fear his boyfriend is from hell, literally. Written by Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa.

TrannyWreck 2
Jacques Cabaret, 79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). www.jacquescabaret.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Sept. 6, 10:30 pm. $6. Truth Serum and drag king Heywood Wakefield present this showcase of Boston's best tranny, drag and high-femme talent.



Zeitgeist Stage presents *Say You Love Satan* at the Black Box Theater through September 11.

Ongoing

Atención Latina Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (800-834-3242). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Fenway Community Health collaborates with the Elizabeth Stone House to provide this safe, confidential space for discussing healthy relationships, domestic violence and other issues. Call for information.

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 6-9 pm. The Boston Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered and Questioning Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Beyond Binary
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Meets the third Tue. of every month, 7-9 pm. This group is for people expanding the gender binary, those who don't feel comfortable within any of the current categories labels. For more information contact ge derqueer24@hotmail.com.

Bi and Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Bos (617-927-6032). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBT Green Line to Hynes. 7 pm. Free. This group me the second Tuesday of every month for discussi with bisexual and bi-curious men.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlingt Wed., 7 pm. Come share thoughts about boo videos and other topics of interest in a support environment. Open to all bisexual men and wom

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tue. of month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

BOSS
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Bos (617-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MB Green Line to Hynes. 6-8 pm. This group for gay bisexual men of color meets the last Thursda each month to discuss culture, lifestyle, creati and health.

Boston Bay Blades
www.bayblades.org/boston. All are welcome to this competitive, recreational group of rowers scullers.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to S phony. The league comprises gay and lesbian pla and their friends.

Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers
First Church of Jamaica Plain, corner of Centre Eliot streets, Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). w lcfd.org. Every Wed., 7:30 pm, $8. Square-dan and English country dancing lessons are availabl lesbians, gays, bisexuals and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). *www.bgbl.com.* The league off full regular season and playoff schedule each yea

Boston Gay Skins
Ramrod, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-29 www.bostongayskins.org. MBTA: Green Line to more. 11 pm. Boston's nonracist gay skinhead co tive meets the third Friday of the month.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). ME Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri pm. The center provides social activities for tioning young people, ages 13-25.

Boston Ironsides Rugby Football Club
Moakley Field, South Boston (617-524-58 MBTA: Red Line to JFK. Rugby players of any age, race and orientation are welcome to play.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
oston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston. MBTA: Green ine to Hynes. www.lesbianavengers.org. Thu., 7-8 pm. his bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action politi- l group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
entral Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., maica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. BTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm. A y and lesbian square-dancing group.

Childbirth Class for Lesbians
enway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston 17-927-6243). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: reen Line to Hynes. This class is taught by a certified ildbirth educator. Co-sponsored by Isis Maternity. none for details, or visit www.isismaternity.com.

Chiltern Mountain Club
88-831-3100). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400- ember gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
17-417-0876). Third Sat. of each month, 10:30 am- pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays verywhere) meets in Medford for support and ac- vities and holds a concurrent meeting for inter- ted parents and their partners. For info, e-mail edfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
oston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Liv- g Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424- 95). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to ck Bay. First Wed. and third Thu. of each month, pm, free. An informal group for people who ink they may be bisexual or attracted to more an one sex.

Coming Out Group
nway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston 17-927-6202). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: reen Line to Hynes. Mon., 7-8:15 pm. Free. This -week group is geared toward individuals who sh to intergrate their sexual orientation into eir work and home life.

Coming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning People
17-256-8693). This group welcomes those who nt to discuss the challenges and the joys of coming t. It meets Thu. nights, from 7-8:30 pm, in Cam- dge.

Compass
31-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area pport, information and social group for people igned female at birth who feel that is not an ac- ate or complete description of their gender. Part the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group ets monthly. Email CompassFTM@usa.com for ails.

Domestic Violence Recovery Group for LGBT Survivors
way Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. 00-834-3242). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: en Line to Hynes. Free. This confidential 10-week port group is offered by Fenway's Violence Recov- program.

The Down Low
way Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. 7-927-6235). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: en Line to Hynes. Last Fri. of the month. 7-9 pm. is discussion group for gay and bisexual men of or addresses heritage, lifestyle, culture and health.

East Coast Wrestling Club
1-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www.east stwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay male wrestlers more than 160 members.

Elegant Outings
6-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group comes gay and gay-friendly professional women 40 older who are intelligent, chic and sophisticated et together with like-minded women for conver- ons, dinners, theater and networking.

Explore Gender in a Safe Place
way Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. 7-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: en Line to Hynes. An ongoing support group for ple born into female bodies or who have grown being viewed as biologically female. Call for re information.

FAG Flag Football
w.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Join Boston's BT Flag Football League for a casual spring sea- , followed by a formal fall season. All are wel- e, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
ropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., ton (617-937-5858). Sat., 10 am. All are wel- e to join this running club.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
7-267-9001 or 888-340-4528). Mon.-Fri., pm; Sat. and Sun., 5-10 pm. This toll-free hot- is confidential and provides support for gay, les- bian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning callers.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church in Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bi- sexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, sin- gles mixers and a date-matching system.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Professionals Building Community
(617-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to join this networking organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered professionals. Monthly networking meetings.

Gaymes Group
(508-339-4250). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians. Members get together on a regular basis to play board, card and parlor games.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. $5-$10. An open-mike night open to new performers, this queer-positive, dyke-positive, bi-positive and trans- positive spoken-word event meets the second Thursday of each month, 7:30 pm.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Biological males meet on Monday evenings. The groups are moderated by psychologist Randi Kaufman.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

Girlz 2 Girlz
(781-893-6113). This mentoring program is for girls ages 13-19 who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered. Contact Marcela Aldez-Osorio.

Group for Gay Men with Compulsive Sexual Behavior
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6200). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. This group aims to reduce compulsive sexual behavior through the use of cognitive-behavioral techniques. Call for more in- formation.

Hepatitis C Support and Education
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6202). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Meets the second Mon. of each month. People with hepatitis C, and their friends and family, are welcome at this drop-in support group.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Anonymous HIV testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Laffan
This social and networking group for women in- cludes single women, couples and parents interested in art, cultural events, outdoor and sporting activi- ties, intellectual and social pursuits, public service and travel. Members receive a weekly email calen- dar of events. For info, e-mail Laffan_Boston2004 @yahoo.com.

Lesbian Psychotherapy Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6283). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. A mental health professional leads this group for lesbians struggling with relation- ship and intimacy issues.

LGBT Considering Parenting Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. A short-term (eight-week) group for LGBT persons who are considering be- coming parents. Sliding fee scale available. Call for information.

LGBT Parents Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6243). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. LGBT parents of preschoolers are invited to join this six-week group.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue.-Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This predominantly gay and les- bian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

The Network/La Red
(617-423-7233). The Network is a support group working to end abuse in lesbian, bisexual women's and transgender communities. Email info@the networklared.org for more information.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

Partners of People with HIV
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-267-0159). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Meets first and third Tue. of each month. 7-9 pm. An ongoing support group that allows individuals with HIV-positive partners to discuss issues surrounding the virus in their lives.

Peer Listening Line
(800-399-7337). Trained volunteers provide confi- dential information, referrals and support to their LGBT peers.

The Rainbow Café
rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. This so- cial group for activist, academic, intellectual or artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay- friendly establishments.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266- 3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes So- ciales take place every month. Email somoslatinos lgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Substance Abuse Recovery Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6202). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Tuesdays. This support group is for LGBT individuals who've been off drugs and alco- hol for three or more months. Call for information.

Support Group for HIV-Negative Gay and Bisexual Men
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-967-6231). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. First three Tue. of each month, 6- 8 pm. Discuss safe-sex practices and strategies for managing risk and communicating with sexual part- ners.

Support Group for Lesbians with Cancer
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed. evenings, once a month. Free. For those who want to discuss the impact of this disease on their lives. Call for information.

Support Group for People Living with Cancer
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6283 or 617-927-6299). www.fenway health.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Thu., 5:15- 6:30 pm. This new support group is covered by most insurance companies.

Survivors of Domestic Violence
(800-834-3242). This 12-week support group meets in a confidential location and seeks to help those currently or previously involved in an abusive rela- tionship.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Road, Brook- line (617-364-7207). MBTA: C Green Line to Wash- ington Street. First Sat. of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing. $8. Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the lesbian, gay, bisex- ual and transgendered community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. WWB is a social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s. It meets the first Thurs- day of every month.

Workshop for Newly Diagnosed HIV-Positive Individuals
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston. (617-927-6229). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. First three Mondays of the month, 7-9 pm. New groups start at the beginning of each month to provide information and support. Preregis- tration required.



body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Summer Dance Vision Festival
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 840 Sandwich Rd., Falmouth. 508-495-3311. http://pages.prodigy.net/stevenmalkus1/fifth.htm. Aug. 27-29. $40. This festival is dedicated to dance and community gathering as spiritual practice. Everyone is invited to experience the joy of life through dancing (one of the oldest forms of celebration), revelation and prayer.

Mediums Day
Greater Boston Church of Spiritualism, Masonic Center, 32 Church St., Watertown (617-923-4334). www.greaterbostonchurchofspiritualism.com. Aug. 28, 11 am-3 pm. Free. Visit the book sale and experience the skills of psychic mediums, including spiritual readers and healers.

Tai Chi Open House
Brookline Tai Chi, 1615 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-2975). www.brooklinetaichi.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Sept. 6, 7:30 pm. Free. Instructors informally discuss and demonstrate the qi gong and tai chi arts taught at the center.

Workshops

All-Levels Yoga Class
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 90 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circlesofwisdom.com. Aug. 30, 7-8:15 pm. $15. This class teaches basic yoga fundamentals, with additional refinement to poses to challenge more advanced students. The noncompetitive atmosphere is designed to help participants truly relax.

Annual Summer Yoga Intensive with Barbara Benagh
The Yoga Studio, 74 Joy St, Boston (617-523-7138). www.yogastudio.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles or Green Line to Government Center. Aug. 27-29, 10 hours. $150. This intensive workshop for experienced students and teachers teaches Benagh's slow style and explores yoga from within. Learn how metaphor, poetry, and stories can transform one's yoga practice.

Breathwork
Back Bay Yoga Studio, 1112 Boylston St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-375-0785). www.backbayyoga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Aug. 28, 7-8:30 pm. $10. Renew and relax at this workshop with experienced breathwork facilitator and yoga teacher David Vendetti.

Detoxification
Learning Connection, 201 Wayland Ave., Providence, R.I. (401-274-9330 or 1-800-432-5520). www.learnconnect.com. Sept. 1, 7-9 pm. $35. Chemicals, including pesticides and metals, can be found in our environment and our homes and may affect our health. Learn how to reduce your toxic exposure and use simple methods for detoxifying yourself.

Intro to the Alexander Technique
Harvest Co-op Market, 581 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1580). www.harvestcoop.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Aug. 28, 6-8 pm. The Alexander Technique is a practice of movement awareness during everyday activities that's intended to improve posture and mobility. Certified Alexander Technique teacher Jay Hovenesian leads four 30-minute sessions.

Power Yoga Basics
Baptiste Power Yoga Institute, 2000 Mass Ave, Cambridge (617-661-6565). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Aug. 28, 1-4 pm. $40. Learn the seven master principles of alignment at this workshop, which features postures, props and breathwork. Participants receive a copy of Baron Baptiste's book, *Journey into Power.*

Retreats

27th Annual Growth Intensive and Rebirthers Retreat
One Sky International Growth Center, 3186 Acushnet Ave., New Bedford (508-995-7574). www.breathmastery.com. Sept. 4-6. $125 per day or $275 for entire program. This retreat addresses the initial birth trauma that humans experience. Birth trauma is said to create deep, unconscious anger and grief, and rebirthing is said to awaken one's original happiness and resolve birth trauma. Breathwork and psychological discussions are also featured.

A Woman's Inner Peace Retreat
Miramar Retreat Center, Duxbury (888-269-6831). Aug. 27-29. $250. This retreat is designed to help women explore their thought patterns and attitudes to help them center their heart and spirit and connect with their innate wisdom.

Ongoing

Beginner's Yoga/Allston
Beacon Light Yoga, 215 Brighton Ave. Allston (617-562-0717). www.beaconlightyoga.com. MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. or #57, 64, 66 and 501 bus lines. Wed., 6:30-8 pm. $15-$20, drop-in. Try beginner's yoga in Beacon Light's peaceful environment. Call ahead if you're dropping in for the first time. Parking available.

Elemental Body Training
CasaNia Studio, 46 Porter Road, Cambridge (617-491-5144). www.casania.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. $15. Movement educator Malinda Allen teaches the essentials of movement and dance with a focus on physical awareness and emotional presence. This class aims to help students gain strength, flexibility, coordination and mental focus.

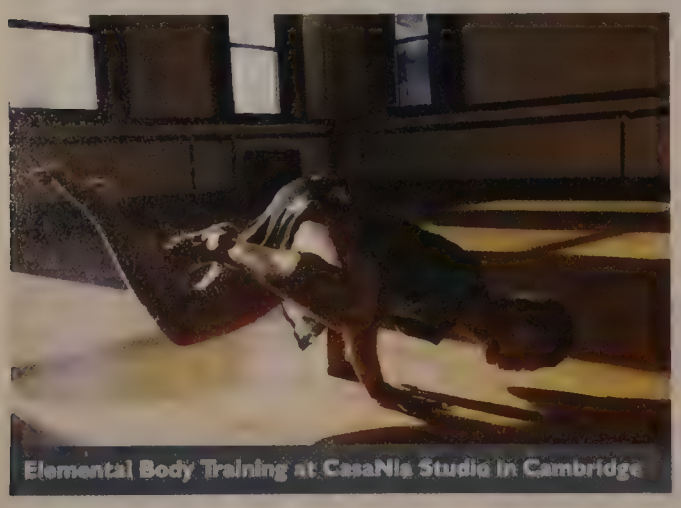
Friday Night Chill Out
Blissful Monkey Yoga Studio, 663 Centre St. Jamaica Plain (617-522-4411). www.blissfulmonkey.com. MBTA: #39 bus. Fri., 6:30-8 pm. $15, drop-in. Burn off the burnout and ease into your weekend. The class begins with postures for loosening up muscles and sweating out tension, and ends with deep restorative yoga.

Pilates
The Inner Space, 17 Station St., Brookline (617-730-5757). www.yogainthevillage.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. Wed., 9-10 am and 7:30-8:45 pm. $15, drop-in. This mat class teaches classical pilates, designed to strengthen and tighten core muscles and improve posture, flexibility and balance.

Yoga/Harvard Square
Portia Brockway. Cambridge (617-864-YOGA). www.yogainharvardsquare.com. MBTA Red Line to Harvard. Mon. 6-7:15 pm. $16, drop-in. To wind down, try a moderate, flowing yoga style after work. Beginners welcome.

Yoga/South End
South End House, 48 Rutland St., Boston (617-522-7199). www.angelfire.com/ma/patrice. MBTA: Orange line to Mass Ave or Back Bay. Mon. and Tue., 7 pm. $17, drop-in. These mixed-level yoga classes are taught by certified Kripalu yoga instructor Patrice Flesch. Beginners welcome.

Zen Insight
Cambridge Zen Center, 199 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-576-3229). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. www.cambridgezen.com. Thu., 6:45 pm. Free. Try this drop-in meditation session to get back to the center of your being.


Elemental Body Training at CasaNia Studio in Cambridge

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

Boston Red Sox
•Fenway Park, Boston
Tickets: 877-733-7699
Aug. 26, 7:05 pm vs. Detroit Tigers
Aug. 27, 7:05 pm vs. Detroit Tigers
Aug. 28, 7:05 pm vs. Detroit Tigers
Aug. 29, 2:05 pm vs. Detroit Tigers
Aug. 31, 7:05 pm vs. Anaheim Angels
Sept. 1, 7:05 pm vs. Anaheim Angels
Sept. 2, 7:05 pm vs. Anaheim Angels
Sept. 3, 7:05 pm vs. Texas Rangers
Sept. 4, 1:20 pm vs. Texas Rangers
Sept. 5, 2:05 pm vs. Texas Rangers

New England Patriots
•Gillette Stadium, Foxboro
Tickets: 800-543-1776
Preseason: Sept. 2, 6:45 pm vs. Jacksonville Jaguars

Events

Monster Challenge Triathlon
Start at World Trade Center, Seaport Blvd., Boston (978-258-8226). www.monsterchallenge.org. Sept. 5, 7 am. $85 individuals, $150 relay teams. Help raise money for the AIDS Action Committee of Massachusetts at this annual triathlon. Amateur competitors swim a half-mile, bike 12.4 miles and run 3.1 miles (professionals double those distances). Relay teams of two or three people can also compete in the events.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club seeks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club (BSSC) Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

DODGEBALL

BSSC Dodgeball
(617-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting now for dodgeball teams to compete in a fall league.

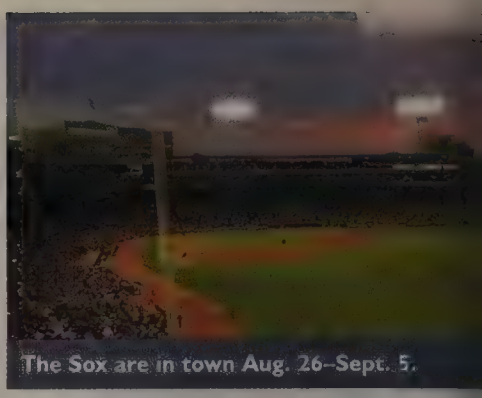
ENDURANCE TRAINING

Team in Training
(800-688-6572). www.teamintraining.org. This organization provides fund-raising athletes with group training and support, personalized coaching and guaranteed race entry for events.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
561 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville. (617-591-0101). www.baystatefencers.com. Fencing and stage combat programs offered in the fall.

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.


The Sox are in town Aug. 26–Sept. 5.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070) www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men teams compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-39 8326). Sat. mornings. Women's teams play eight-o eight flag football each week.

FLOOR HOCKEY

BSSC Coed Floor Hockey
Leagues are held in Newton, North Reading a Brighton (617-789-4070, ext. 238). www.bssc.co All levels are welcome (individuals and teams).

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.co Training Tue. and Thu. in Jamaica Plain. Home fi at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New and e perienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is lookit for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club see new players for games in Brookline and Cambridg

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mys rugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club we comes both new and experienced players who wa to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. a Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays. New a experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhh com. Weekly runs on either Wed. or Sun. year-round you enjoy running, drinking and singing baw songs, then consider joining these self-proclaim "serious drinkers with a running problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First S Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 p Weekly runs.

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Run
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (7 275-1584). www.srr.org. Thu., 7 pm. Weekly run

Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-8 2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thu., 7:30 pm. Wee 2.6-mile runs.

SOCCER

BSSC Outdoor Soccer
(617-789-4070). Outdoor teams forming n Games played in Charlestown, Lexington, Read and Canton. Individuals and teams are welcome

ULTIMATE FRISBEE

BSSC Ultimate League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070). C games each week in Charlestown.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed teams forming for sum leagues in Cambridge, Watertown, Brookline Newton.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-868-8379). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. A teur folk-style wrestling group open to all skill le Weekly practices held year-round.

ANISH VARICOSE VEINS FAST

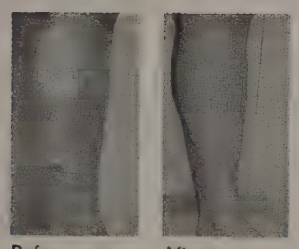
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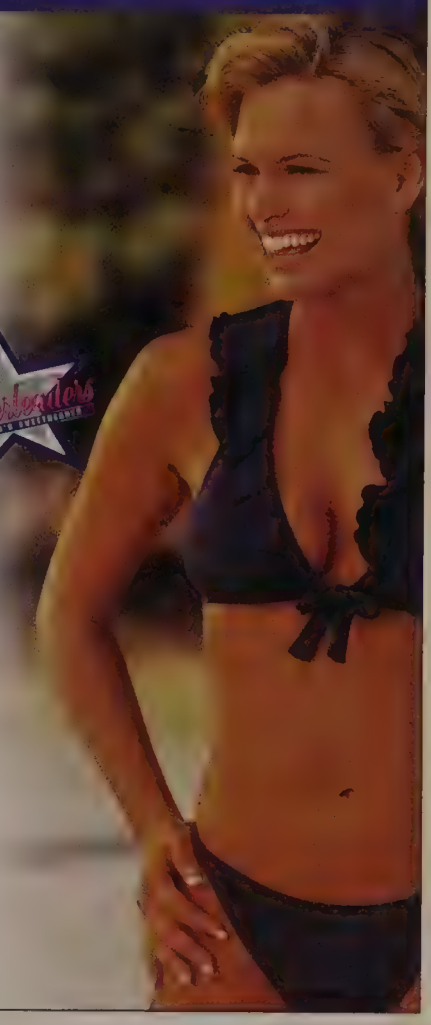


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children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Borders Books and Music
Cambridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Every Sat., 1 pm. Staff members read from new and classic storybooks.

Cape Cod Melody Tent
21 W. Main St. Hyannis (800-347-0808). www.melodytent.org. 11 am. $7.50. •Aug. 25. Kaleidoscope Children's Theatre presents the classic fairy tale *Snow White*.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Every Tuesday and Saturday, 11 am. Staff members read children's stories, followed by snacks and craft activities.

ImprovFoundry Family Show
ImprovBoston, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA Red Line to Central. Saturdays, 6 pm. $10-$12. This short, improvisational show is fun for the whole family.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. 10:30 am and 1 pm. $8.50; members, $7. Reservations recommended. •Aug. 25 and 26. Crabgrass Puppet Theatre presents *The Brementown Musicians*, a story about three farm animals who form a singing group after being thrown off the farm. •Sept. 1 and 2, 10:30 am. Tot Shows, for preschoolers. •Sept. 4 and 5, 1 and 3 pm. Weekend shows are suitable for the entire family.

Things to Do

Boston Art Tours
Meets at the corner of Arlington and Newbury streets, Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tours for children: Tue.-Sat., 1-2 pm; Tours for teens: Tue.-Sat., 2-3:30 pm. $30 adults, $15 teens, children under 12 free. Take a walking tour of contemporary art galleries along Newbury Street.

Boston by Little Feet
Faneuil Hall, Congress Street, Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Sun, 2 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am. $8. Explore Boston's history and architecture by taking a walking tour of the Freedom Trail designed specifically for kids.

Boston Duck Tours
Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston; Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-267-3825). www.bostonducktours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Science Park. Daily through Nov., 9 am-sunset, every 30-60 minutes. $24; seniors and students, $21; children 3-11, $15; children under 3, $3. These amphibious vehicles tour Boston's most popular sights via city streets and the Charles River.

Boston Harbor Islands
Ferry departs form Long Wharf, Boston (617-223-8666). www.bostonislands.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium or Red Line to South Station. Free for children 8-16. •Aug. 28. Join the crew of the Ninth Wave catamaran for a day of exploring the bottom of the ocean via a live video feed.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8; children, $7. Special events: •Aug. 26, dusk. Kids First! is a free, outdoor short-film festival. •Aug. 31, 2 pm. You Got Game is an activity that celebrates diversity in Boston. Weekly activities: •Wed., 11 am-1 pm: Kids paint murals together on the boardwalk; 12-1 pm: the Summer Outdoor Music Series features local musicians performing various genres. •Thu., 1-3 pm. Study Birds! invites visitors to observe our flying friends. •Fri., 3-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2-4 pm. In the Zoom Zone is a hands-on science challenge culled from the PBS TV show *Zoom*. •Mon.-Fri., 10 am-4 pm. The art studio is open for bookmaking, painting, finger puppets and more.

Franklin Park Zoo
One Franklin Park Road, Boston (617-541-5466). www.zoonewengland.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forrest Hills, then #16 bus. Through Sept. 30: Weekdays, 10 am-5 pm; weekends and holidays, 10 am-6 pm. $9.50; children, $5. •The *Dinosaur Kingdom* exhibit features a Mesozoic Jungle with 12 giant animatronic dinosaurs. Through Sept. 6. $3. •It's butterflies galore at the Butterfly Landing gardens. Through Sept. 6. •Spend the night with your favorite animals at a family sleepover. Call for information.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $5; ages 5-18, $2; students, seniors and kids 5 and under, free (free admission the third Sunday of every month). •*Hub of the Air Universe: A Century of Flight in Massachusetts* is a backward glance at the evolution of aviation through one-of-a-kind artifacts, images and artwork. Through Sept. 5. •*Holography, the Light Fantastic* is a display of the largest collection of holograms in the world. Ongoing. •*Robots and Beyond* offers a look at MIT's artificial intelligence research labs. Ongoing. •*Ship Models: The Evolution of Ship Design* features 40 ship models, from warships to clippers. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. $15; children 17 and under, free. •Mon.-Thu., 3:30 pm. The Children's Room combines arts and crafts with a variety of cultural themes. •Tue.-Thu., 3:30-4:30 pm. Books Bring Art Alive is a program for children and families. •Wed., 5:30 pm. Family Night Out is an interactive evening of creative activities for children and families.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13; seniors, $11; children, $10. •*Risk!* is a hands-on exhibit in which visitors can test their sense of daring, while seeing how they deal with the uncertainty that comes with a difficult decision. Through Sept. 6. •*The Lord of the Rings Motion Picture Trilogy—The Exhibition* features memorabilia from the films, including costumes, props and the ring itself. Through Oct. 24. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •Sat. and Sun., 11 am. Animals and Stories Alive is an interactive story hour featuring folk tales, myths and live animals.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.newenglandaquarium.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Through Labor Day: Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95; seniors, $13.95; children, $8.95. •*Amazing Jellies* features thousands of jellyfish. Through 2005. •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank contains sharks, stingrays and a 600-pound California sea lion. Ongoing. •*Edge of the Sea* is a hands-on exhibition that features sea stars, hermit crabs and more. Ongoing. •Take a high-speed catamaran on a whale watch. Through Oct. Call or visit the Web site for times. $29, adults; $26, seniors, college and military; $23, children 12-18; $20, children 3-11.

New England Wild Flower Society
180 Hemenway Road, Framingham (508-877-7630). www.newfs.org. Thu.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7, $5 students and seniors. Explore the gardens and trails, and take part in ongoing programs and events. •*Big Bugs* features David Rogers' large-scale wooden bug sculptures on display in the garden. Through Oct. 17. •Sept. 4 and 5, 12-3 pm. Celebrate Big Bugs Ladybug Weekend. Ride the Bug-mobile and learn about ladybugs.


Dinosaur Kingdom at Franklin Park Zoo

around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
Coit Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on clear nights), April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm; Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5pm; Fri., 10 am - 9 pm. $9; children and seniors, $7. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.

Faneuil Hall
75 State St., Boston (617-338-2323). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 am. Free.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6, children, $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; seniors and students, $8; 12 and under, free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH, or Green Line to Park St. Summer: daily, 10 am-4 pm; Labor Day through Memorial Day: Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Summer hours, through Sept. 6: Mon.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14; seniors, $12; children, $11.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5; children, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. July 1-Sept. 1, Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, $13.95 seniors; children, $8.95. Sept. 2-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-5 pm. Free.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. $5, seniors and students, $4; children, $1.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $9.50; seniors, $7; children 12 and under, $6.50; children under 3, free.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily, 7 am-6 pm. $4; children 12 and under, free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). www.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. May 1-Oct. 15: daily, 9 am-6 pm; Nov. 1-Apr. 30: daily, 10 am-5 pm. Free.

Volunteer

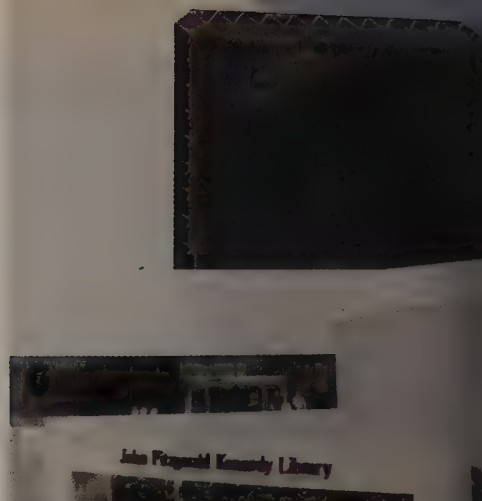
AFC Mentoring Program
(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster-care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay
(617-375-0700). www.bostonredcross.org. Volunteer in the administrative department.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.


John F. Kennedy Library & Museum

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-563-4441). www.bostoncares.org. More tha 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volu teer organization of people between the ages of and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and d veloping business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. HI AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, fice work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). www.bostonpartners.org. Tut young students from the city in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). www.ccaa.org. Volu teers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support children and adults with developmental disabiliti

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literac
(617-357-6000). Tutor students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
(617-995-3250). www.everybodywinsmetrobost org. Spend your lunch hour reading with element school children.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hospice.org. Volunteers need to support terminally ill patients and their families

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-online.co Volunteers provide over-the-phone counsel for p ple affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Mentor a chi

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Volunteer for homeless children

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time with elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to re

Literacy Volunteers of Massachuset
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-738-5110). www.mablind.org. Read or s with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelders.org. Volunte needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium
(617-973-5235). Volunteer as an Aquarium guid research assistant, or work in animal husbandry.

Pine Street Inn
(617-482-4944). www.pinestreetinn.org. Se breakfast to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740). www.projectplace.org. Becon mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslex
(617-577-1111). www.rfbd.org. Volunteers read books for recording.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the di room, clothing room and groceries program at homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-h domestic violence program.

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www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opport ties to volunteer with other young professiona

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142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

Great Chow Guy

You: tall, with a goatee, wearing a greenish (closer to olive) Titleist baseball hat. You were picking up food before walking home. I was the girl with the strawberry-blond hair and green eyes. I was there having dinner with my family and couldn't pull myself away to come over and talk to you before you were gone! Maybe we could meet up sometime over some fortune cookies.

—xrandomgirl@yahoo.com

9th-Floor Guy

Our encounters this year have been brief but memorable. The first time we engaged in pleasant conversation at the 57 bus stop in front of the White Dove cleaners in Allston. The second time was on the elevator of the building in which we both live. If I had known which apartment was yours, I would have stopped by on the 9th floor rather than continuing one floor up. I would like to continue the conversation we started. E-mail me if you're interested.

—unionsquaregirl@hotmail.com.

Eddie Bauer Explorer

It was nice to see a friendly smile on 93 North into Boston so early in the morning (about 6 am). Thanks for the smiles.

—Black Honda Civic Coupe

To the Girl Reading *Dressing the Man* at Au Bon Pain

We were in Harvard Square and you were wearing a blue summer dress. We talked briefly about *Dressing the Man* and Woody Allen, Cary Grant, and Pierce Brosnan. Why I foolishly didn't invite you to sit and chat I don't know—wait, I know why, it's because you looked like you were leaving. And besides, you were a bit dazzling and it made me more bashful than usual, and I smiled for a good half hour before writing in my journal, "Then why didn't you invite her to sit and join ya, ya pudd'n head?!" I do hope you'll write so I can be dazzled again.

—hizzonner@earthlink.net

You Got Me

Over a year ago I was at Hennessey's and you were standing next to my friends and I at the bar with two of your friends. We ended up talking and I thought you were really cute, funny and artistic. You said you lived in Connecticut, I think, but you come to Boston every now and then. We talked about the Roots and how different your name is. You even took a picture with your camera—hopefully you still have that picture of me, the 5' 2", brown-eyed, brown-haired girl. I never got to tell you that I wanted to see you again and possibly hang out. Your friends were drunk and you ended up leaving, so I didn't get to give you my number or even say goodbye. I've thought about you from time to time, especially whenever the Roots come around. I have since had a boyfriend and it recently ended. I figured I'd try this to see if you're out there. I'm giving fate a nudge and hoping you e-mail me.

—rootingforyoucrty@yahoo.com

Wish I Got Your Number

I met you July 17 at a party in Jamaica Plain. You said your name was Ben and you played rugby. I think you said you go to or graduated from Trinity. You were really cute (tall, shaved head—just my type!) and fun to talk to. I wish I'd asked you for your number, but the night came to an end pretty fast and I didn't. Anyway, I was the brunette in the striped green-and-white shirt. If you want to continue the conversation, send me an e-mail. Hope to talk to you soon.

—Wannadance8178@yahoo.com

Friday, August 6

We spent an impromptu night at the Green Dragon while our friends hit it off. They left and we chatted while you finished your Red Bull. After a long walk back to Charlestown in heels, your incessant torturing of a dog named Beaner or Beans and arguing over who's the best catcher in baseball while watching SportsCenter, you so nicely drove me home so that I wouldn't have to walk in heels again. My only regret is not asking for your phone number. If you'd like to continue our sports argument sometime or grab an iced coffee, send me an e-mail. Include your name and the law school you attended, so I'll know it's you. BTW, Pudge does play for Detroit...

—parisgirl23@hotmail.com

John Valby/Faneuil Hall

You: (male) beautiful eyes, great smile, sitting in front. Me: (female) blond hair, blue shirt, sitting to your right, a few tables away (behind the piano, facing you). You smiled at me and I forgot all about the show. Your smile still haunts me and I've thought of nothing since. I'm wishing to see you smile again.

—valbygirl01@hotmail.com

Island Queen

We were on the Island Queen August 1. You were distraught about the end of a relationship and we talked about life, love, relationships and more. We shared thoughts and I hope I comforted you somewhat. We talked about work—you, a therapist, and me, a lawyer. As darkness fell and we arrived in Falmouth, we agreed to meet for a glass of something at the Boathouse. But, for whatever reason, and it's not important, you didn't make it there. I'd like to continue the conversation.

—Island.king@comcast.net

Ciao Alec

I met you two years ago this August. I was with a friend at Mistral restaurant, sitting at the bar having an early dinner. You were with your friend Larry. We talked about New York, the south of France, Venice—all my favorite places. I've written this note once before, but now's the time to send it and hopefully you'll see it. It's been a long time, but I can't seem to forget the eye contact we had. Take care,

—Ms. Mistral

To Men

To all you men who cry to your girlfriends about how much you love them, yet continue calling other women to flirt and tell them how great they are, how they understand you so well: You are small, scared and insecure. Grow up and stop lying to yourself and everybody else. And to all you women who allow these men to call and who actually believe that their flirtations and "deep" conversations are a sign of true and meaningful affection, remember that while he's talking to you, he's living with her, including her in all aspects of his life (friends, family, holidays, vacations, etc.) and planning his future with her. You are delusional and insecure. Stop answering the phone and stop lying to yourselves! The truth is that eventually the beautiful, loving, good, honest yet naive girlfriend will get wise and leave the boyfriend. Then he'll call you women to release his grief via sex, all the while calling the now-ex girlfriend and begging her to come home.

—Honest Ann

Evite Losers

If I have the courtesy to invite you to a special event or gathering—something I am putting my own personal money, sweat, tears and energy into, then you, friends, could at least have the courtesy to reply yes or no. It's rude not to reply. I feel that in this day and age of technology, Evite replying should be as common sense as wiping front to back after you go poo so as to avoid UTIs.

—Aggravated birthday girl



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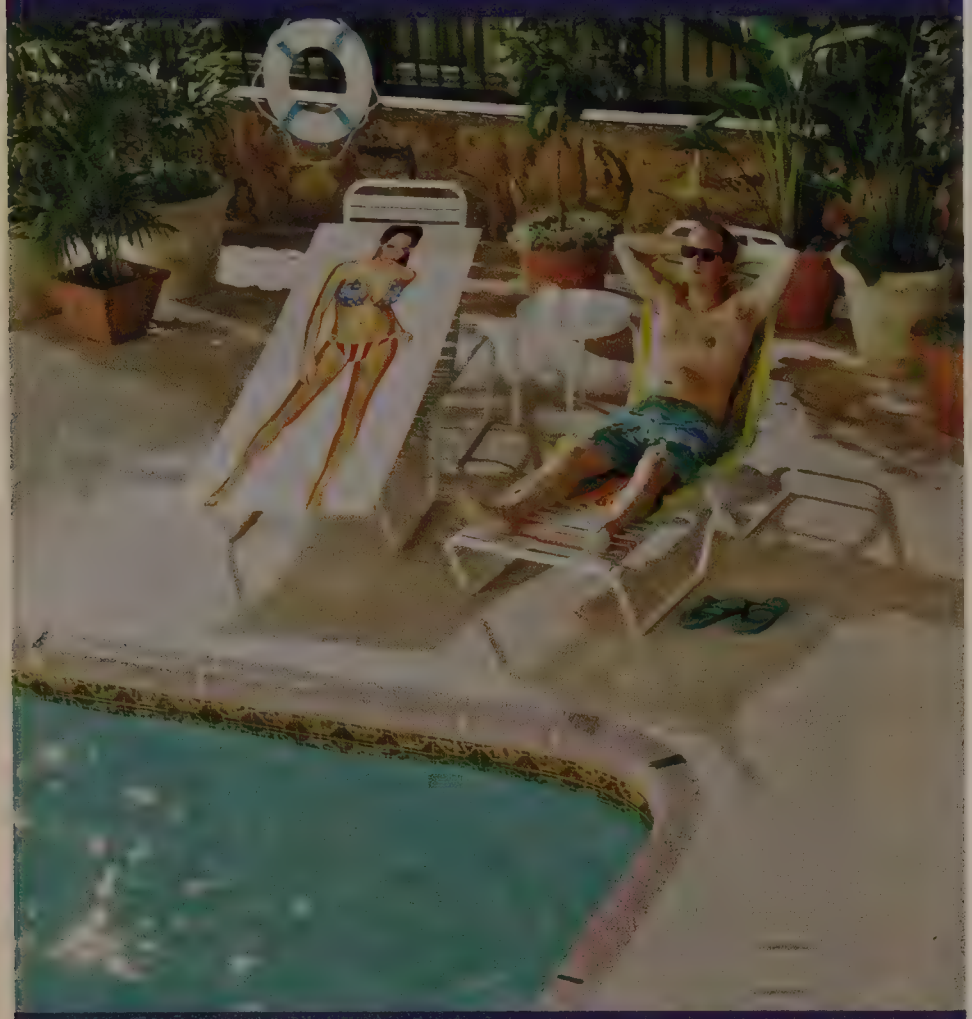
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rockie horoscope

AUGUST 25 – SEPTEMBER 7, 2004 BY ROCKIE GARDINER

VIRGO AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

You're in for a subtle, yet impressive gift from the gods. Whenever your Mercury ruler and the sun meet, helpful ideas tend to come to you like bolts from the blue. You might even experience more than one stunning "Eureka!" moment. Their merger on August 23 can be particularly telling, because retrograde Mercury is crossing the Virgo-Leo cusp, activating the doorway between how you currently see yourself and what has come before. Insights may bubble up from your unconscious that'll forever alter your perception of the past.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

Respect, recognition, perhaps even an award may come your way while your magnetic Venus ruler, in your Cancer midheaven, draws closer to Saturn, the man in charge of everything official. Maintaining the family's good name usually requires a traditional, socially acceptable response, so you could feel obliged to do what's expected of you instead of what you want. Taking the proper steps might not be nearly as difficult as keeping your mouth shut and your temper under control during the wild coaster ride of a full moon on the 29th.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

If there's a crisis building over work or a family issue, expect it to come to a head during the very emotional Pisces full moon. But if all you anticipate is another opportunity to prove your point about a money-making venture, rest assured you'll sail through the tumultuous end of the month without rocking the boat. You should, however, keep an eye on your career and how your boss and your parents view your current accomplishment (or the lack thereof). If they need to blow off steam, be a good boy or girl and let them. Don't answer back.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

Despite the fact that Mercury is retrograde in your house of foreign travel and higher knowledge until September 2, you might be making plans to take off as soon as possible. Throwing caution to the wind raises the odds of having a truly thrilling adventure, one in which everything that could possibly go wrong does. However, while your protective Jupiter ruler resides in your Virgo midheaven, trust that no matter what tests the gods on Mount Olympus put in your path, you'll wind up much wiser—and prosperous too.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

Trust your intuition, especially if it alerts you about an investment. An element in your financial picture could be subject to change, although whether it becomes more prominent or fades into the background is uncertain. But then, whenever future-oriented Uranus and the life-sustaining sun vie for supremacy, it's difficult to predict the outcome. Meanwhile, your love life tends to improve the closer affectionate Venus gets to your Saturn ruler. Their meet-cute date in your Cancer marriage house is set for the 31st.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

The kinder, gentler Water-Bearer is in for a surprise when the stickler of a Virgo sun opposes your Uranus ruler on the 27th. But because there's precious little that's predictable about Uranus, the epiphany could come at any moment. Like your Capricorn and Pisces neighbors, you're urged to trust your intuition along with whatever inside info you picked up from the sun-Mercury meeting on the 23rd. A supremely satisfying event may occur when loving Venus merges with stable Saturn as the month ends. Enjoy.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

The desire to do for yourself, to go it alone, is tested again while the willful sun, in your Virgo house of partners, opposes independent Uranus in your sign. You might not react as passionately or impulsively as before, but be aware that you can successfully defend your position with the most accurate information available. Also remind yourself that the Pisces full moon next weekend can be an exceptionally emotional time, and that, if offered a pleasurable outing, e.g., a day at a spa or a ball game, you should take it. A diversionary tactic.

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

Tempted to court danger just for the sheer hell of it? Headed for any port in the storm except the ones you're familiar with? Memories of what may have happened during the explosive opposition between rebellious Uranus and your impulsive Mars ruler last week can be just as disruptive when the critiquing Virgo sun faces off against Uranus this week. Your desire to cut and run could lead to less-unpredictable endings, but first listen to what the universe is telling you. If you hear the words, "home security system," "family loyalty" or "kitchen update," stay put.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

Despite the restrictions you sense closing in on you, you're actually being pulled toward a happier and healthier lifestyle. All the positive planetary activity presently in service-oriented Virgo can broaden your vision and help you find wisdom and joy in places you've neglected to look. This summer could be your most expansive period in over a decade, so even if you have to wait until autumn (after generous Jupiter finishes rewarding all the earth signs) to see any results, table your fear. Keep active, try new things, consult the experts.

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

Now would be a good time to deal with an argumentative relative or that annoying neighbor. If you put it off much longer, a simple difference of opinion could escalate into a full-blown battle. So even if you can't make peace, the sooner you say your piece, the better. Besides, because your retrograde Mercury ruler goes back into open-hearted Leo, you might not be as critical of the other guy's point of view. This is also a good time to acquire something that'll make you feel more comfortable at home.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

Forget the beach; the Crab should focus on financial matters—both your personal assets and how you're dealing with other people's money—while that area is being highlighted. Although an innovative, humanitarian approach may have greater appeal, because popular Venus is bonding with tradition-minded Saturn in your sign, taking the tried-and-true route could provide more emotional security, even earn you name recognition. You're in an enviable position, so make the most of whatever unforeseen opportunity pops up as the month ends.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

Once solar Leo is over, the pressure to perform on cue, to be the star of the show, can diminish. However, while your sun ruler travels through exacting Virgo, you'd better know for sure what you're saying before you mouth off. These could be tricky times for Lions because, as new opportunities present themselves, having Mercury backpedaling through your sign will strengthen your reliance on familiar rationales. Try to postpone all official acts, such as signing papers or starting a new assignment, until Mercury goes direct on September 2, or better still, leaves Leo for good on the 10th.

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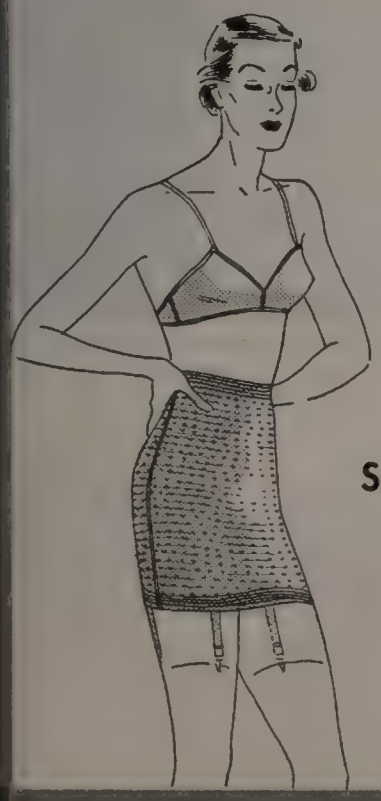
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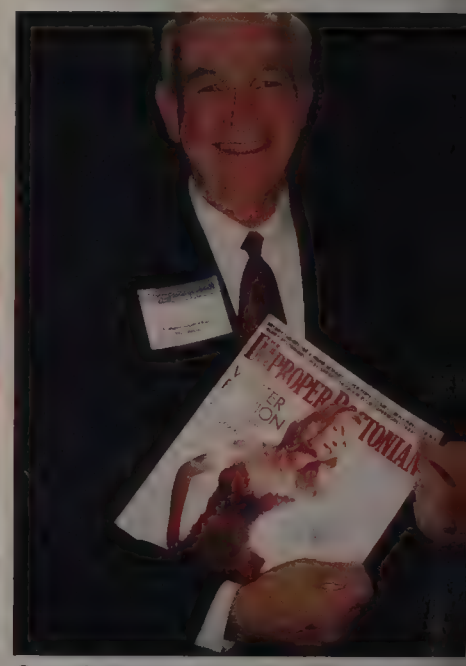
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Staurt McGarrity brought the Real Estate issue to quite a piece of real estate: Karnataka High Court in Bangalore, India. The chief justice of the Karnataka Court is known as the magenta magistrate.



Georgia congressman Max Burns gets his hands on the peachiest magazine north of the Mason-Dixon line.



Erin Smith sits on the Charles Bridge in Prague, Czech Republic. Smith says everything you've heard about the great exchange rate in Prague is true—she actually bought this bridge with a cash advance on her Diners Club card.



Steve Woods and Kate Bills take cover at Maho Beach, extremely close to Princess Juliana Airport in St. Martin.



Anne-Marie Kenney and Elizabeth Stevens visited the Parthenon in Athens, Greece. "Parthenon" is an ancient Greek word meaning "strong winds that mess the hair."

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER: Combing his lambchops and scoring extra for a caterpillar-like unibrow at the 16th Annual Beard and Mustache Festival, held Sept. 18–19 in hirsute Grottaglie, Italy.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned.



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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

will publish its annual

BACHELORS & BACHELORETTES

issue in January 2005

Please nominate your favorite local single guy or gal to be featured in this issue.

PLEASE INCLUDE:

Your name _____

Your phone number and e-mail address _____

_____

Your nominee's name, phone number, e-mail address

and the local city where he/she lives _____

_____

Tell us why he/she is a catch. Be specific. _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

His/her occupation and age _____

(Please include a recent color photo, or high-res digital image, of your friend)

MAIL NOMINATIONS TO:
The Improper Bostonian
Attn: Bachelor/Bachelorette Nomination
142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116
or
e-mail to Bostonbach@improper.com

Please note that you can't nominate yourself and you must provide all of the above information in order to qualify.

Entries must be received no later than October 3, 2004

IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Tuesday, August 10, **Jurys Hotel** celebrated a **Shakers Original American Vodka** Event.





1. **Billy Green**, **Tim Bianco**, and **Paula Messeder**, all sales representatives for Commonwealth Wine & Spirits; **John Ellsessar**, northeast regional manager for Infinite Spirits; and **Patrick Couteaux**, co-founder and vice president of product development for Infinite Spirits.
2. **Jamie Morway**, telecommunications associate for Transnational; **Greg McIntosh**, bar manager for Smith and Wollensky; **Michael Ray**, bartender at Smith and Wollensky; **Richard Kolack**, director of sales for Commonwealth Wine & Spirits; and **Michael Wolfson**, food and beverage manager for Jurys.

On Tuesday, August 3, nearly 1,000 people attended **Regan Communications Group**'s 20th-anniversary party at **Anthony's Pier 4**. Many leading politicians, businesspeople, lawyers and members of the media came to honor George Regan, the company's founder and president.





1. **Andy Wasynczuk**, chief operating officer at Gillette Stadium, and **George Regan**, president of Regan Communications.
2. **Mark Kastrud**, corporate sponsorship manager for the Boston Cannons; **Kristin Sullivan**, corporate communications associate for New Balance; **Dave Gross**, commissioner of Major League Lacrosse; **Courtney McIlhenny**, publicity manager for the FleetCenter; and **Amy Vreeland**, PR manager for New Balance.

On Friday, July 23, a sold-out crowd of 600 attended "Boogie on Low Beach," a fund-raiser at the home of George Cloutier on Nantucket Island. The event raised over $450,000 for the **Dana-Farber Cancer Institute** and the **Hospice Care of Nantucket Foundation**. Natalie Jacobson of **WCVB-TV** served as master of ceremonies for the event, and the New Rhythm and Blues Quartet performed.





1. **Cheryl Bartlett** of Nantucket; **Natalie Jacobson**, anchorwoman for WCVB-TV News; and **Angela Raynor**, owner of the Pearl and the Boarding House restaurants in Nantucket.
2. One of the evening's honorees, **Suzy Root** with host **George Cloutier**.

On Thursday, August 12, Red Sox Tim Wakefield and Johnny Damon hosted "Pitching for Kids" a silent auction fund-raiser at the **Comedy Connection**.





1. Red Sox pitcher **Keith Foulke** with **Rachel Backner** of Pitching for Kids.
2. New Red Sox pitcher **Mike Myers**.
3. **Stacy** and **Tim Wakefield**, with **Johnny Damon** and his fiancée, **Michelle Mangan**.



On Thursday, August 12, **The Improper Bostonian** held the 3rd Annual Bridesmaids' Ball at **Hurricane O'Reilly's**. The event was sponsored by **Mohegan Sun**, **KISS 108 FM** and **New Balance** to raise money for the **Boston Komen Race for the Cure**. Chris Shine from **KISS 108** hosted the evening's festivities.









1. **Charles Maksou** and **Leila Tomey**, owners of Maksou Salon and Day Spa, with the winner for "Best Classic Wedding Do," **Kerrie Weir**. (Hair was styled by **Charles Maksou**.)
2. **Allysha Paige**, winner of "Funkiest Up-do" (styled by **Charles Maksou**), with **Chris Shine**, overnight at KISS 108 FM, and **Tracy Saradnik**, marketing director of the Glynn Hospitality Group.
3. **Laura Schredni**; winner of "Most Creative Up-do" (styled by **Kristen Moshiek**, and **Kelli Congiano** Beaucage Salon.)
4. **Clara Tompkins**, owner of Kiss Me Lingerie; with **Bill Tompkins**, winner of the grand prize getaway to Mohegan Sun; and **Danielle Federico**, owner of Face Designs Makeup Artistry.

PHOTOS: JURYS, JULIE KANE; COMEDY CONNECTION, KATIE SCHMIDT; HURRICANE O'REILLY'S, ALISON MORANT; ANTHONY'S PIER 4, GARY GOODMAN; NANTUCKET (1) KINSLEY HANCOCK PHOTOGRAPHY (2) WILLIAM FERRALL OF THE NANTUCKET



featuring a
doggie-styled
fashion show

5th Annual

Thursday, September 9th, 6-9pm

They've said it for years, and it's finally happened, The Rack has gone to the dogs!

Dog Day Afternoon

PRESENTED BY THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

HOSTED BY FAST FREDDY OF STAR 93.7

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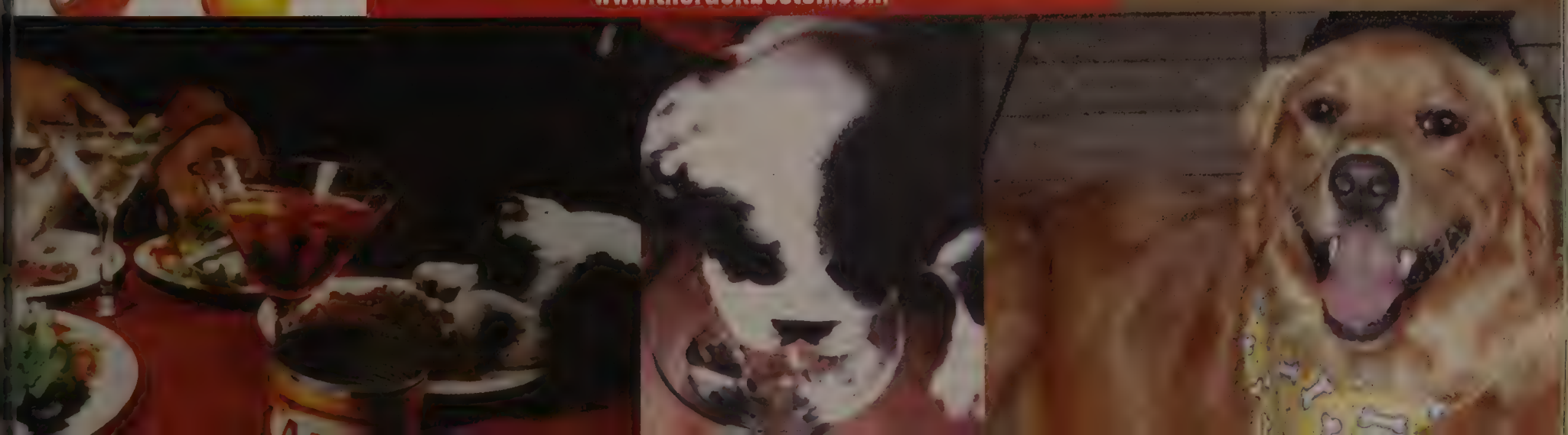
DJ Brian Roche spinning all night!
Amateur Dog Show!
Enter the pet look-alike contest!

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Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch



RESTAURANTS

75 Chestnut *75 Chestnut St., Boston, 617-227-2175, www.75chestnut.com.* Providing regional American cuisine served in an intimate setting. Bar opens at 5pm. Dinner served from 5:30pm - 10pm.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston, 617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled Portabella Paninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1 am. AE, DC, MC, V.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2002. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Captain Fishbones *332 Victory Road, Marina Bay, Quincy, 617-471-3511, www.captainfishbones.com.* Captain Fishbones is a spectacular waterfront restaurant featuring Seafood, Steak and More. Enjoy lunch or dinner on our seasonal patio, dine inside, treat yourself to tropical cocktails in our lounge or savor the sunshine at our Boardwalk Café. We serve seafood so fresh it deserves a slap, succulent steaks, awesome burgers, healthy salads, a wide selection of sandwiches and pizza. Full menu is available from 11:30 until close.

Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston 617-426-3333.* Open 11am - 2am, 7days a week. Kennedy's Midtown is a cultural experience far from the maddening crowd while set in heart of it. Kennedy's serves a lunch and dinner menu of international cuisine. In the evenings they play host to some of Boston's finest Pianists who entertain with a range of tunes from Broadway to Jazz and Blues. Kennedy's embraces all the finer qualities of regal Boston and throws in a dash of old fashioned Irish Hospitality for measure.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444, Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., South Boston, 617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Ned Devine's *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere in the heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Science Street Café *Science Park, Boston, 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out Boston's newest nightspot - The Science Street Café at the Museum of Science. And while you're there be sure to check out our new exhibit, *The Lord of the Rings Motion Picture Trilogy—The Exhibition.* Try our out-of-this world signature martinis, gourmet appetizers and decadent desserts. Open 6-10pm. Parking available.

Solas *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am 7 days a week.

Strega *379 Hanover St., Boston 617-523-8481 www.stregaristorante.com.* A fine dining experience in Boston's historic North End. Enjoy our cozy, romantic atmosphere, splendid wine list and savory Italian dishes. Strega buzzes with a mix of casual tourists, local residents and love-struck couples. The menu offers something for everyone. Traditional dishes like the gnocchi are anything but simple, featuring flavor just as robust as that found in intricate dishes. Find yourself in the company of celebrities, including owner Nick Varano's pals from of the Sopranos. Available for corporate and private functions.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

Sidney's Grille *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why Bon Appétit magazine says, "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breakfast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus visit www.sidneysgrille.com.

BARS/CLUBS

Beer Specialty

Boston Beer Works *112 Canal St., near the Fleet Center, 617-896-BEER, 61 Brookline Ave., across from Fenway Park, 617-536-BEER and 278 Derby St., in Historic Salem, 978-745-BEER.* Boston's oldest and largest restaurant brewery with 3 locations! Bold American Food. Award Winning Beer. 15 microbrewed beers always on tap. 16 American wines by the glass. 15 championship billiards tables at our Canal Street location. Complete party planning capabilities. Private Rooms. Customizeable menus. Lunch. Dinner. Late Night. Always a good time. Check out the BIGGER and BOLDER menu.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exotic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

Big City - pool hall, pizza kitchen, Beer Bar *138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8pm, free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Clubs

Felt *533 Washington St., Boston, 617.350.5555* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, right next door to the Opera House; in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering sophisticated billiards, New York style Lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere of DJ's and dancing, combined with the delicious entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Contemporary cusine by Chef Ben Stevens.

Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston, 617-482-7799.* Located in Boston's trendy Theater District, Pravda 116 is a chic bar and club. DJs 5:30pm - 10:30pm keep the energy level high. Bar 5:30pm-2am and dance club 10:30pm - 2am Wednesday-Saturday. Credit cards accepted AE, CB, DC, MC, V.

Stadium—Clubhouse *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Stadium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale nightclub featuring two bars, a hardwood dance floor and parking. An exciting yet relaxed 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety of music and beautiful people crowding the dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights. An ideal place for your next bachelor, bachelorette or birthday party.

Club Q Boston *25 Union St., Boston, 617-742-2121.* Open 9pm - 2am Wednesday through Saturday. What nightlife in Boston has been waiting for, this state of the art Nightclub in the heart of Faneuil Hall attracts a stylish and eclectic crowd. Open Wednesday through Saturday Club Q hosts Boston's top DJs spinning Hip Hop, House and Top 40's. With two bars, three VIP areas and pool tables, Club Q is the place to see and be seen. Credit cards accepted.

Comedy

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www.theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. Mingle Let your hair down; see and be seen on the big screen Simply the hippest way to spend a night of all-out fun in Boston's Financial District. Come after work. Come to dance. Come to go wild with your friends. There'



always something exciting happening – and you never know who you'll bump into. Join us and experience what the buzz is all about.

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 617-227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

Irish

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 617-742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston,617-742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 617-523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11am - 1am 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

The Green Dragon *11Marshall St., Boston, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 617-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

General

The Alley *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. www.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

Aqua *120 Water St., Boston, 617-720-4900.* Boston's newest place to be seen is now open in the heart of the Financial District. Whether relaxing with a martini in one of our cozy booths, sipping a margarita on our roof deck or watching your hometown favorites on our high definition plasma TV. Aqua has what you're looking for after work and late night with our resident and guest DJs spinning your favorite mixes through our state of the art sound system all night long.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Boston Rocks *245 Quincy Market Place Boston,617-726-1110 www.boston-rocks.net. 21+.* Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St.,617- 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2003. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Cheers *Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-227-0150, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Offering pub fare until 11:45pm. Live entertainment every Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Cheers *Beacon Hill 84 Beacon St., Boston, 617-227-9605, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Full menu available until 11:45pm. Watch your favorite team on DirecTV.

Downtown Lounge *138 Portland St., Boston 617-523-8383.* Tempting tapas, modern martinis and contemporary cocktails are just a few of the elements awaiting your arrival. A distinctive destination in the heart of North Station, located just one block from the Fleet Center. Share crab taquitos, shaved portobello mushrooms or grilled white pizza. Revive with a specialty martini while sinking into soft curvy seating. Spacious and sublime, Dowtown Lounge is an attractive meeting place for business, luncheons, social, after work cocktails and events.

The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010.* Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St.,Boston 617-722-0161.* The newest edition to Boston's night scene. This New Orleans style bar is just steps away from the Fleet Center. Hurricane O'Reilly's serves up the best that Boston nightlife has to offer. Come dance the night away with the hottest music around. We will leave you yearning for Bourbon Street.

Jillian's Boston *145 Ipswich St., Boston, 617-437-0300.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring more than 200 high tech games, six full bars, 50 pool tables, racing simulators, Black Jack for Fun and much more. Atlas Bar and Grill on Jillian's first floor offers full service dining featuring innovative American cuisine, a giant screen video wall and dancing every Friday & Saturday night. www.jilliansboston.com.

The Junction – Your Neighborhood Bar & Grill. *110 Dorchester St., South Boston, 617-268-6429.* Delicious food, great atmosphere and friendly staff –and it all happens at the Junction -South Boston's Neighborhood Bar & Grill. Enjoy our half -priced appetizers on weekdays from 3 to 6 pm. Join us for live music & entertainment on the weekends and for our fun trivia nights on Tuesdays.

Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Lounge. Cocktails. Dancing. Nightlife. Come see the lights of Parris. Sample the eclectic lounge menu featuring grilled pizza, oyster shooters ans steak tartar. Sip a Classic, Apple or French 75 martini, and then motion onto the huge dance floor featuring Live Music with the best bands and DJs Thursday through Saturday. Named for the original architect of the Greek-revival-style building, Alexander Parris, you're nightlife experience at Parris will be Boston and beyond. Open 5pm - 2am Wednesay - Saturday. Cover charge on Friday and Saturday.

Jazz

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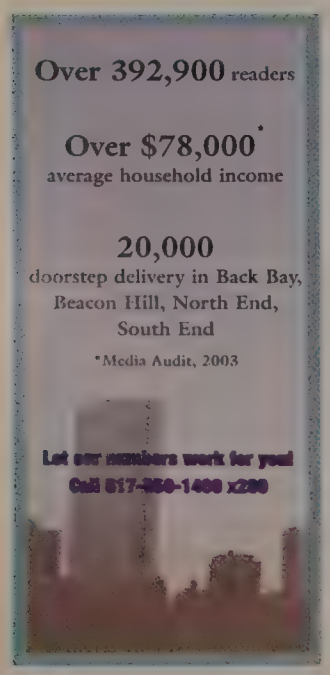
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LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF









At the Battleship Cove party, clockwise from top: Joanna Datillo and Dick Flavin; Alexander Haig and Jesse Ventura; John Mustin, Eddie Logan and Armando Correa; a shot of Battleship Cove

PERMISSION TO COME ABOARD...

It was like the set-up for a bad political joke: "So **Alexander Haig** and **Jesse Ventura** go to a party on a battleship..."

Yet there they were—the former secretary of state and retired general, and the ex–professional wrestler and Minnesota governor—at **Battleship Cove**, the naval museum in **Fall River** (which is well worth checking out if you've never been there).

Rather than offering fodder for Republican-bashing, the evening turned out to be a nonpartisan bash, and a good one at that, in celebration of **Victory at Sea**, a two-day yacht regatta.

Also gathered on the fantail for cocktails, dinner and dancing: the evening's co-chairs, Red Sox Hall of Famer **Dom DiMaggio** and his scintillating wife, **Emily**; political satirist (and the evening's emcee) **Dick Flavin** squiring the exquisitely lovely **Joanna Datillo**; Staples top cat **Tom Stemberg**; South End bright young things **Kim** and **John Mustin** (whose father, grandfather and great-grandfather were all admirals in the Navy and have a battleship named after them); Harte-Hanks hottie **Eddie Logan** (who wore a bow tie emblazoned with the Democratic party logo to balance things out a bit); the very dapper **David Squibb**; the dashing and debonair **Armando Correa**; the pulchritudinous triumvirate of **Tamara Belmonte**, **Gina Koprowski** and **Diane Murphy**; and **John Ford** (no known relation to the film director of the same name).

As one would expect from such an eclectic crowd, there were some memorable comments, among them:

Ventura: "I know why Schwarzenegger became governor of California. He copies everything I do. Now if Carl Weathers becomes the governor of a state, I'm gonna start wondering about the cast of *Predator*..."

Ventura to Haig: "So were you [the Watergate informant] Deep Throat?"

Haig's reply: "Woodward already came out publicly and said I wasn't. I think it must've been someone in the FBI."

Haig to me: "Don't misquote me."

Me to him: "General, there's only one quote I'll ever remember you for."

Him: "Well, I *was* in charge... until the vice president got there."

And then there was the guy who proposed that because Fall River is in Massachusetts, Battleship Cove might make a nice place for a gay wedding.

Perhaps. But the only thing more bizarre would be if Jesse Ventura officiated and Alexander Haig were the best man.

WHITE HOT...

You might've mistaken Boston for someplace a bit glitzier if you'd witnessed the Olympics-themed all-white party that fashion deity **Marc Jacobs** threw at **Union** in the South End to celebrate the opening of his Boston store. (FYI, fashion junkies, the store is at 81 Newbury St.)

Guests interpreted the dress code freely, wearing anything from a fencing costume (Jacobs) to a linen suit (natty *Phoenix* scribe **Matt Ashare**) to tae kwon do outfits and skimpy tennis whites, while a few pantingly hot models wore little more than the towels wrapped around their waists.

Most of the attendees were Jacobs' employees, whom he flew in from all over and who helped turn Boston's hippest restaurant into a party Andy Warhol would have been proud of. While some guests danced between tables during dinner, one corner of the bar had a guy who looked like a Bruce Weber model taking Polaroids of guests posing with the hotties of their choice.

Meanwhile, still-dreamy '80s heartthrobs **Simon LeBon** and **Nick Rhodes** of Duran Duran stopped in for some delicious food and some shameless flirting, while the locals on hand included bombshell beauty mogul **Gretchen Monahan** of Grettacole and GrettaLuxe; nightlife jefe **Javier Parra** of Sophia's; fashion doyenne **Julie Hatfield** and her journalistic colleagues **Alexandra Hall** (*Boston* magazine), **Tina Sutton** (the *Globe* magazine) and **Jill Radsken** (the *Herald*); succulent TV news producer **Michele Cotler**; ubiquitous hipster **Bill Emery**; Vidal Sassoon executive **Andrea Jean**; Investors Bank and Trust party pair **Michelle Locke** and **Joe Meahl**; hunky threads-peddler **Michael Gallant**; bubbly junior socialite **Jackie Falla**; and business-to-business salesman **Mike DeMarco**, with whom everyone seemed to want to do a little business. (Memo to him: the Cupid thing suits you.)

Overheard over the course of the evening:

A woman squeezing a man's pecs and squealing, "Do you work out?"

A man saying to his friend, "It's OK. You don't have to stay with me. Go talk to that model who looks like he wants to have you for dessert."

And one woman whose date pointed out that she had ignored the dress code: "Well," she said, "Diamonds are white." iB

At the Marc Jacobs party, top: Marc Jacobs. Middle row: Sue Krueger and Michael Gallant; Andrea Jean; Simon LeBon. Bottom row: Gretchen Monahan; Javier Parra; Mike DeMarco















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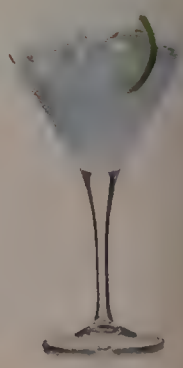


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Photographed for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by
Michael Indresano

Photographer's assistants: **Paul Saraceno and Ken Whitney;** wardrobe styling and grooming: **Rochelle Joseph;** clothing: blazer, **Hugo Boss;** pants, **Boss Hugo Boss;** shirt, **Calvin Klein;** chair, **Montage;** location: **Nine Zero Hotel, Boston**

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ET CETERA

Letters
Improper Impersonals
Rockie Horoscope
Improper Sightings

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR

AUTUMN ARTS



After such a chilly, even fall-like, summer (where were those few scorching weeks when you're glad you have air conditioning?), you might feel doubly reluctant to turn the calendar to September. But if the shorter days bring one consolation in Boston, it's the revival of the city's cultural scene.

This season promises plenty of exciting arts activity—from the blockbuster art deco show at the MFA to the arrival of James Levine at the BSO and the opening of brand new theater spaces. To help you decide where to spend your leisure time and your entertainment budget, we've compiled a list of some of fall's most interesting offerings in theater, dance, music and the visual arts.

In this issue we also pay attention to another fall tradition: the influx of newcomers who arrive here for new jobs or school. To get rid of that lost-tourist look (or confirm your superior knowledge of the city), take our quiz on the way things used to be, or study our eight steps to becoming a Bostonian.

As a goodbye to summer, two of our wittiest writers, Jonathan Soroff and Ezra Dyer, add to the laughs with their "what I did on my summer vacation" reports.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

FASHION PASSION

The fall fashion issue was amazing! Elisabeth Hasselbeck looks like a glamour queen on the cover. It was such a dramatic transformation from her *Survivor* days that I nearly didn't recognize her. The clothes and jewelry are exquisite and beautifully shot. You all have really outdone yourselves yet again.

—KATIE WILLIAMS
Boston

FWD: URBAN LEGENDS

Re: Ezra's column on e-mail forwards (Aug. 25): I have to admit that I think about all those deleted e-myths and e-legends, lost in trashbin cyberspace, on those times when luck's evil twin befalls me (i.e., I get a flat tire and have no spare, or I'm a quarter short of getting my coffee). Bill Gates does fit the profile of someone who would share his wealth. You know someone who got a check too, right? That's amazing because I also know this friend who is a cousin of this girl who married another friend's roommate of this guy who I sat next to in art history class. Wow...

Thank you for putting in print these myths that, while we have known all along they were fake, have rendered us desensitized to anything in our in-box marked "urgent." Much gratitude for giving us the ability to find humor in the Boston-twentysomething-dysfunctional existence. And thanks for making me look like an idiot laughing to myself at a local coffee shop while reading that article on Girls Gone Wild.

—CHARMAINE MADAMBA
Cambridge

ELISABETH HASSELBECK LOOKS LIKE A GLAMOUR QUEEN... IT WAS SUCH A DRAMATIC TRANSFORMATION FROM HER *SURVIVOR* DAYS THAT I NEARLY DIDN'T RECOGNIZE HER

—KATIE WILLIAMS
BOSTON



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MICHAEL INDRESANO



Michael Indresano's career started at the age of 15, when he won a photo contest sponsored by his hometown newspaper. Twenty years later, Indresano is still winning awards—but they're coming from the New York Art Directors Show, Communication Arts and other top competitions around the world.

A native of Wellesley, Indresano shoots for a diverse clientele: His subjects range from world-class athletes such as Nomar Garciaparra—whom he photographed for the IMPROPER's 1999 Boston's Best cover—to CEOs of Fortune 500 companies to cars and computers. Indresano shot Denis Leary for this issue's cover and Soroff/On interview on page 18.

ROBERT NESTI

Robert Nesti is the arts and entertainment editor for EdgeBoston.com, a Web site aimed at providing news and cultural information to Boston's gay and lesbian community. He is also a theater critic and interviewer for the *Boston Herald* and *In Newsweekly* and has worked for *Bay Windows* for the past 14 years. Nesti reports on the latest theater developments in our Fall Arts Preview, on page 21, and "Curtains Up" on page 26.

FALL FASHION COVER, ERIC STRIFFLER

Tell Us What You Think

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new in town

FASHION FORWARD


Stel's occupies a funky basement space on Newbury Street.



Soon after Tina Burgos started working with Jon Callahan at Zegna, the high-end men's clothing boutique, they realized they shared the same aesthetic sensibilities—and both dreamed of opening their own store. A year and a half later, the pair, along with Burgos' husband, Dave Nauyokas (whom she met while working at Louis Boston), have made that dream a reality with the opening of Stel's, named after Nauyokas' fashionable grandmother, Stella.

The industrial-chic store occupies a cavernous space on Newbury Street, below Newbury Comics. Clothes hang on exposed brick walls and fill small racks that stand on the cracked cement floors. The funky (but not too funky) decor matches much of the clothing's style. Callahan describes it as "classic with an urban edge," which translates to hip but not overly trendy. "I like to compare it to an old leather jacket that gets handed down," he says. "Cool pieces with an edge that won't go out of style in a few years."

Most of Stel's clothes have a shabby-chic vintage look à la Anthropologie—only a whole lot nicer (price tags average $300). A few items actually are vintage, like Levi's jackets and belts. The stores doesn't carry full lines by any particular designer, but rather a few pieces (pants, shirts, sweaters, jackets and dresses) from an array of mostly Italian and American names. "We choose items from lines that go with pieces from other lines," Callahan says. "We don't want to be a label." The brands that are here—Petro Zillia, Twinkle, Gary Graham, FrostFrench—aren't available at many stores in the city.

Friendly and helpful, Stel's owners are aiming to break the stereotype of the unwelcoming high-end clothing boutique. Works by local artists hang on the walls, and Callahan (a painter himself) is setting up art shows, performance art events and live music shows in the store. He also hopes to sell T-shirts made by local artists.

But what really helps make Stel's welcoming is Oonagh, the store's bouncy Staffordshire bull terrier puppy, who is sprawled out on the couch on the day I visit. "The lounge area was supposed to be for customers," says Callahan, "But now it's all hers." *334 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-3348). www.stelsinc.com.*
—Erin Hagedorn

this just in

BOSE BREAKS THE SOUND BARRIER



Bose has plenty of projects in the works inside its Framingham headquarters (aka "the Mountain"), ones that have nothing to do with Wave Radios. Dr. Amar Bose, company founder and still numero uno, admits that the company's secret work on cold fusion didn't pan out (no joke), but last month Bose finally went public on another project that's been in progress since 1980: an automotive suspension system unlike anything on the road today.

While conventional suspension passively absorbs bumps, the Bose system uses an electromagnetic strut at each wheel to actively smooth them out—if all four wheels simultaneously hit bumps of different heights, each corner retracts or extends itself to keep the body of the car level without the passengers feeling much of anything. The car also stays level while braking and cornering. Bose says the setup provides a better ride than any luxury car, with handling better than any sports car. (Auto manufacturers are getting a look at the system now, but it's several years away from showing up in a production model.)

Prior to the suspension system's public debut, Bose would only comment that its secret project "has to do with cars but has nothing to do with sound." When asked what other covert work is in progress, Dr. Bose says, "We have another project that's as revolutionary as the suspension. And it has to do with cars, has nothing to do with sound...and nothing to do with suspension." We're keeping our eyes peeled for a cold fusion–powered Lexus on the Mass. Pike. *—Ezra Dyer*

inner view

ART SPIEGELMAN



Art Spiegelman's 1992 Pulitzer Prize–winning graphic novel, *Maus*, a Holocaust story about Jewish mice exterminated by Nazi cats, pushed the boundaries of the comic book form to the extreme. As the third anniversary of the September 11 tragedies approaches, Spiegelman tackles that subject with the publication of *In the Shadow of No Towers*. The former *New Yorker* staff artist and writer's first book since *Maus* is an account of his experience as a lower Manhattan resident on that day, and his subsequent outrage at the American government's response. Spiegelman spoke with us about his new book during the Republican National Convention, before his national book tour lands at the Harvard Book Store September 20.

IB: *Are you protesting during the Republican National Convention?*
AS: I went to the Republican convention yesterday. Shudder. I [protested] over the weekend. Now I'm trying to know thine enemy. I don't know any Republicans. I live in the dark blue heart of the blue zone.
IB: *What's it like there now?*
AS: There's neighborhoods where you could totally not know anything is happening, and then there's places where protesters are very peacefully and seriously protesting, and other places where they're getting themselves busted. And then there's Republicans blithely out on shopping sprees being protected from visuals of all of that.
IB: *Is it cathartic for you to write about and illustrate tragic events?*
AS: I don't feel cathartic about it especially. It's just how I process things.
IB: *Will you be acknowledging the anniversary of September 11 in any particular way?*
AS: Well I've done it one way or another. Usually I try to do it by sort of wandering around my neighborhood and appreciating it.
IB: *You're obviously trying to reach people about September 11. If you could boil your book down to one message, what is it?*
AS: I guess ultimately the ways in which September 11 was hijacked. It wasn't originally made to be a definite history of September 11. It was a zeitgeist diary of what it felt like to be in my head in lower Manhattan for that year. I think it's not about reaching people about September 11 but talking about the fragility of civilization.
IB: *What do you like most about the comic book format?*
AS: I think when you get to plug part of your brain into the visual component and the other through the verbal component, you have a better chance of getting something that sticks—and will also stand still long enough for you to analyze.
IB: *What do you think about classic comic books being made into blockbuster movies?*
AS: It's in a way the death now of a certain kind of comic book. But even the ones that aren't officially based on comics, like *The Terminator*, are comic book movies. And eventually it seems like America is becoming a comic book movie. I get to go watch Arnold Schwarzenegger be another kind of terminator later today at the convention.
IB: *Has a movie version of* Maus *been proposed?*
AS: Oh, over and over again.
IB: *Are you considering it?*
AS: No. A long time ago I was able to blow somebody off. They asked how I would want to [make the movie] and I said I didn't want to do it. And they said how would you do it if you had final cut. I said I'd use real mice. Now it seems with computers it would be possible. But it took 13 years [to write] and to find its proper shape. I don't see why I would then find a much more compromised shape.
—Jessica Iredale



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A SUSHI SEQUEL

The Big O... When Tim Panagopoulos opened ultra-stylish Osushi in Copley Place in late 2002, it was the first restaurant in what he hoped would one day become a sushi chain. In late September, he'll take a step closer to his goal when the second Osushi opens, in the Financial District. The new location is twice the size of the first Osushi. Panagopolous has expanded the menu to include teryaki and noodle dishes, and he plans to increase the restaurant's take-out/delivery business. If it's anything like the original, we're pretty sure our Financial District friends are going to be loving lunch time. *101 Arch St., Boston (617-330-1777).*

Cambridge Kitchen... If you're a fan of local eateries Audubon Circle, Miracle of Science and Cambridge 1, here's a little something to whet your appetite. The owners are planning a fourth sibling venture, Middlesex, slated to open later this month two doors down from Miracle of Science. Bar manager Kit Paschal tells us that the new lounge/restaurant will have DJs, live music and a lunch and dinner menu offering appetizers and paninis. *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-6739).*


Pizza at Picco

Mamma Mia... At Picco, the newest restaurant to open in the South End, pizza is just the beginning of the housemade offerings. Owner Rick Katz, who was most recently pastry chef at Legal Sea Foods, created the menu: homemade soups ($3.25 a cup), salads (the warm spinach salad goes for $5.95), dessert pizzas (blueberry or chocolate) and, best of all, homemade ice cream, with specialty flavors like coconut chocolate chip and ginger. Picco also offers homemade sodas (ginger ale, passion fruit and raspberry) served on the rocks or in ice cream sodas, and wine ($5–$10 by the glass). Patio seating is available while the warm weather lasts. *513 Tremont St., Boston (617-927-0066).*

Kitchen Crossover... Changes are afoot in the kitchen at two-year-old 33 Restaurant in the Back Bay. Gone is longtime chef Joshua Botsford, and with him, the French-Italian menu. In early August, new chef Anthony Dawodu (formerly of Aujourd'hui) introduced a new contemporary American menu with dishes like tuna tartare ($10) and lobster risotto ($22) that he feels will have broader appeal. *33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). —E.H., J.I. and R.L.*

sam says

PARTYING & PAMPERING



Friends, cocktails, snacks and a massage. Chance are you won't find all four at your neighborhood bar, but you will find them at G Spa's new after-work Happy Hour. This spa treatment/cocktail hour, available weekdays between 6 and 8 pm, lets you combine friends (minimum four), drinks (Champagne and/or martinis), food (fruits, veggies and cheese) and massage for a relaxing experience to de-stress from the workday. Grab a group of friends, call up the spa and snag the cushy couch and chairs. Massage therapist Joshua Lucas gives each person a mini-massage and keeps the drinks topped off. At $200 for the first four and $50 for each additional person, it won't put much stress on your wallet either. *35 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-4772). —Samantha House*

improper reports

FLEA MARKETS

Whether you're hunting for a cute retro toaster or a one-of-a-kind brooch—or you simply want to enjoy open-air browsing—you'll find loads of interesting wares at local flea markets.


South End Open Market

ABC FLEA MART

1 General Way, Reading (603-929-6313). Every Sat. and Sun., 8 am–4 pm. Sat. free. Sun. 50 cents. ABC Flea Mart follows the mantra "we are not the biggest, just the best." Sift through book, antiques and collectibles. Vendors hawk everything from paperback novels to high-end and affordable jewelry.

EVERETT FLEA MARKET

151 Bow St., Everett (617-389-5880). Every Sat. and Sun., 9 am–5 pm. 50 cents. The former Peabody Flea Market has moved to a larger location in Everett with more parking. Browse new and old collectibles and antiques.

MIT SWAPFEST

Albany Street Garage, corner Albany and Main Streets, Cambridge (617-253-3776). Third Sunday of each month April–Oct., 9 am–2 pm. Buyers pay $5. Buy, sell and swap radio, electronic and computer equipment during MIT's Swapfest September 19 and again October 17.

REVERE SWAP & SHOP

565 Squire Road, Revere (781-289-7100). Sat. and Sun., 8 am–4 pm. Saturday, free; Sunday, $1. The Revere Swap & Shop averages an impressive 200 vendors selling clothes, appliances, blankets and more. The market is open from March through December and is located at the historic Revere Showcase Cinema parking lot.

SALEM FLEA MARKET

20 Hampshire Road, Salem, N.H. (603-893-8888). Sat. and Sun., 9 am–5 pm. New England's largest flea market boasts furniture, kitchenware, collectibles and memorabilia, as well as vintage clothing and arts and crafts.

SOUTH END OPEN MARKET

540 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-437-9210). Sun., 10 am–4 pm. www.southendopenmarket.com. This new flea market/farmer's market is modeled after New York's popular flea markets. Here, you can buy funky accessories and antiques as well as baked goods, fresh flowers, clothing, jewelry and art, from painting to photography and sculpture. *—Nicole Wall*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Bully for Them... Boston's Bulfinch Triangle, recently named as one of the city's next targets for redevelopment, takes its first step in a new direction in late September with the opening of the Bulfinch Hotel on Merrimac Street. The hotel, right down the road from the FleetCenter, has a modest 80 rooms (each with a flat-screen TV), a 24-hour fitness center and an Angus Beef Steakhouse. And for $149 a night, it's a pleasant treat for visitors who just paid out the wazoo to watch the Bruins or Celtics. *107 Merrimac St., Boston (617-624-0202). www.bulfinchhotel.com.*

Focus on the Burn... Two-time Olympian Peter Donohoe opened the city's newest chichi health club, Focus Fitness, last month on Congress Street, just across Fort Point Channel from the Financial District. Donohoe, who competed in the 1998 and 2002 Winter Games for the Irish bobsled team, says Focus "isn't meant to compete with the Fitcorps and Boston Sports Clubs of the city." You hear that, Sports Club/LA? Donohoe's facility has the degrigeur high-end equipment, like cardio machines equipped with individual flatscreen TVs and the Body Map computerized workout-design system (the only one in Boston), but Focus Fitness' hook is personal training by Olympic athletes—two of whom started work as soon as they got back from a bit of business in Athens. *303 Congress St., Boston (617-951-2900). www.focusfitnessboston.com.*


Focus Fitness

Singles Screening... First dates and movies go together like beer and pretzels, which is likely why matchmakers at Lavalife.com are pairing the two for their latest singles event, Click at Flick Night. Here's the deal: Every other Wednesday, single men and women can head to Loews Boston Common and buy a $9.75 ticket that includes a complimentary cocktail hour (featuring drinks by Svedka Vodka) with icebreaker activities like spin the bottle and tarot card readings. If all goes well, you watch the film (the first one was *Alien vs. Predator,* but hopefully the next one will be more bearable) sharing popcorn with the man or woman of your dreams. *www.lavalife.com/flick.*

Club Conversions... On the local club scene, Kevin Troy has the golden touch (see Jillian's, Tequila Rain and the Blue Cat Café). So when we heard of his plans to start up two new clubs this fall, we took notice. Gypsy Bar, set to open in mid-October, takes over the Boylston Street spot currently occupied by Pravda and will, according to Troy, have a "decor unmatched in the city" with an 11-foot-by-7-foot, saltwater jellyfish tank and three private party suites. On September 24, Troy and partner Steven Foster open up Liquor Store at the former home of La Boom, at Boylston Place. More casual than Gypsy, the Store will feature nightly contests and the city's first mechanical bull. Yee haw!
—E.D, E.H., J.I. and R.L.

Got scoop?

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PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY









The **Roxbury Film Festival Opening Night Reception** took place August 19 at Massachusetts College of Art. More than 200 moviegoers joined writers, directors and actors at this sixth annual showcase for films written and produced by filmmakers of color. Celebrity guests included Ernie Hudson, Daphne Maxwell Reid, Hill Harper, Topper Carew and Sam Greenlee.

1. **Pam Bailey**, coordinator of volunteers for the Roxbury Film Festival; **Sam Greenlee**, author of the novel and screenplay *The Spook Who Sat by the Door*; **Lisa Simmons**, president and founder of the Color of Film Collaborative; and **Ernie Hudson**, star of *Oz*
2. **Dave McLaughlin**, playwright
3. **Yvonne Wells**, professor of psychology at Suffolk University, and her daughter **Iemanja Wells**, filmmaker and producer of *Table Manners*
4. **Sonya Raye**, actress, and **Craig Bailey**, photographer

The second annual **Flip Flop Regatta "Sail for a Change" benefit** took place August 13 and 14 at Courageous Sailing Center in Charlestown. More than 700 people gathered to celebrate Alexandra Zapp's life and legacy. The regatta raised funds for the Ally Foundation, which works to change attitudes, laws and judicial practices regarding sexual offenders.















5. **Scott Junk**, marketing manager at Reebok; **Pam Russell**, director of policy for the state Executive Office of Transportation; **Tim Bradl**, Suffolk County assistant DA; and **Brian Mulley**, investment analyst for Pioneer Investments
6. **Suzanne Gratton**, consultant for Parson Consulting, and **Shemei Levi** of the Department of Homeland Security
7. **Lisa McKinnon** and **Heather Hoke**, marketing associate and accountant, respectively, at Liberty Mutual
8. **Robyn Earley**, speech pathologist for the Hebrew Rehabilitation Center in Roslindale; **Donna Gibson**, teacher at MGH Children's Center in Charlestown; and **Jennie Dubitsky**, assistant at Heritage Partners
9. **Lauren Constantino**, librarian at Lesley University, and **Mark Harty**, construction worker for M.P. Masonry in Braintree
10. **Scott Akerman**, professional sailor, and his wife, **Kathryn**, COO of Hurley Travel Experts in Portland, Maine
11. **Lisa Hayes**, media relations manager for Capstone Partners, and **Dave Nash**, owner of OEM Connects in Woburn

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HIT ME

A Vegas novice takes on Sin City.

Somehow I made it to my mid 20s without going to Las Vegas. I'd been invited several times, but I never saw the attraction. I don't love gambling. It's not on the water. It's 2,700 miles away. Celine Dion is there. But when two high-school friends, Jason and Elliot, proposed a trip last month, I finally got on board. I wanted to see why these guys keep going back, because as far as I know they're not huge Wayne Newton fans.

DAY 1

We rendezvous at our hotel, the MGM Grand, on a Saturday night. This is the biggest hotel I've seen in my life. Small planes could land on the front desk. If the lobby were a saltwater marine habitat, it would take whales months to migrate from one side to the other. And beyond the lobby lie more slot machines and tables than... than... anything I'd been programmed to comprehend. I've been to Mohegan Sun, but this is Mohegan Galaxy.

Jason, Elliot and I head to our room and await the arrival of our party's fourth member, Elliot's college buddy Leftwich, who's more high-strung than the cables of the Golden Gate Bridge. "It's good to have one crazy guy in your group," Elliot informs me.

Leftwich arrives and we march out to the Strip on our way to Tangerine. I hadn't seen the Strip on the way into the hotel, so when we walk outside, it explodes onto my retinas like a blow to the head. The word "gaudy" doesn't begin to do it justice. I expected all the casinos to be aglow with neon; what I didn't expect was that *everything* is aglow with neon. Even the CVS has its innocuous letters lit up with giant red chaser lights screaming around the building, as if to say, "Sure, I'm a CVS and I sell Odor Eaters and reading glasses, but we're in Vegas, bitch!"

We make it to Tangerine sometime around midnight, which is unfortunate because the club features regular burlesque shows, and the last one went on at 11:30. As consolation, many of the girls crowding the dance floor are basically naked, which makes for good people-watching (read: lecherous staring). I like to dance, but not when I'm with three dudes, so we follow a strict sit-and-drink agenda until about 3:30 am, when Leftwich bounces out onto the dance floor and disappears. We assure each other he can take care of himself and return to the MGM to gamble for a few more hours before seeking late-night food. The waitress mixes up my order with Elliot's, we eat each other's food without noticing, and finally head off to bed.





From left: Nothing like 100-degree heat to spice up a three-day hangover; evidence of a bad session of video poker, plus, skin cancer's gonna bust against SPF blackjack.

DAY 2

The next morning, Leftwich is still MIA. We're speculating on his whereabouts when I get a phone call from the front desk: "Do you know a Mr. Leftwich?" Moments later he stumbles into the room, raging drunk but still full of energy. It's 11:23 am. "I've been playing blackjack for the past six hours," he says hoarsely. "I couldn't remember our room number." This is a bad thing in a hotel that has more than 5,000 rooms. I expect Leftwich to pass out now and sleep it off for the rest of the day. But he's ready to hit the pool, his only nod toward hygiene coming when he grabs the bathroom disinfectant off the cleaning lady's cart and sprays a shot in each armpit.

After an hour at MGM's 6.6-acre pool complex, we leave Leftwich passed out under a palm tree and head to the sportsbook. Sports betting is Jason's specialty, and he wins me $20 on a Cardinals-Braves game. Jason has bets on everything, including $50 on Kerry to win the presidency. "I've never voted in a presidential election, but in this one I am because I want to win money," he says. In case you're wondering, Vegas has Bush as a 2-to-1 favorite.

Beginning in the sportsbook, I go on a modest winning streak: I win at video blackjack. I go up about $15 after playing at a $10 blackjack table for a half hour. Jason wins me $20 in the sportsbook. And, while looking for a sandwich shop, I come across a game called Lucky Larry's Lobster Mania. Any game represented by a cheerful gambling cartoon lobster must be lucky indeed, so I feed $6 into the machine and hit a button. Lucky Larry immediately goes nuts with the *bong-bong-bong-bong-bong-bong-bong* that signifies that I, a guy feeding money into a machine called Lucky Larry's Lobster Mania, am a winner. I cash out, $24 richer and now convinced of my invincibility.

After dinner at Nine Fine Irishmen at New York New York (where the fish and chips made up for the fact that earlier I'd had to call the front desk and say, "Could you connect me with Nine Fine Irishmen?"), the next evening is spent predominantly wandering around and gambling. We're down a man, as Leftwich has discovered that staying up till 11 am drinking and gambling has a downside when he's still retching at 8 pm.

Remember how I said I wasn't into gambling? Somewhere between Lucky Larry's Lobster Mania and the second night, that's changed. Suddenly, I no longer need to ask Jason if I should split eights when playing video blackjack. Instead of playing a quarter at a time and milking comp drinks, I'm hitting "max bet" and losing $20 in 30 seconds. Sometime in the wee hours, Jason and I sit down at a $25 blackjack table, something I never would've considered doing in the past, and I quickly lose $100. Then Jason convinces me to place $100 on a color at roulette. "You need to feel that sick feeling in your stomach," he says, "It'll make your article better." I put my lone $100 chip on red. The wheel spins, my eyes glued on the swirling ball, until it lands on... double-zero.

Licking my wounds, I retreat with Jason to a video poker bar, where a girl is chatting up Elliot. But Elliot's engaged and she's not hot enough to become unengaged over, so after I lose another $40, Jason and I pull a move that's normally reserved for women: We get up from our seats and start walking, saying "Nice to meet you" to the girl and beckoning Elliot to come with us. Eventually he says his goodbyes and we leave, making this possibly the first time in history that a cock-block has been executed on a girl.

DAY 3

I awaken hungover, overtired and financially smarting from my vicious losing streak. I drag myself out to the soda machine in the hall and deposit $1.50. I push the button for a bottle of water and get... nothing. You know you're unlucky when you lose to the soda machine.

Before 2:30 pm, I ride the New York New York roller coaster, drink a Bud Light while playing blackjack with a borrowed $20, and drink enough iced coffee to kill a chimp. One thing I forget to do is eat, and this suddenly catches up with me as we're wandering down the Strip. An appropriately apocalyptic thunderstorm drives us into the Paris casino, which in my broken condition seems like the open maw of hell itself. I'm so hungry I'm nauseated. I've slept only eight out of the last 57 hours. My losing streak is becoming a losing skid mark leading straight into the concrete wall of Gamblers Anonymous. But food will make things better, and deep within the complex, we find a crepe stand. Nobody ever says, "Boy, I could really go for a crepe right now!" but the first mouthful is heavenly. On the second mouthful, I bite a tine off my fork and hurt my mouth. "You don't look like a serial killer anymore, at least" Jason informs me. "Now you just look morbidly depressed."

That night I get my first real food of the day at Diego, a highbrow Mexican restaurant in the MGM that features a guy who comes to your table with a cart and makes guacamole. After I've stuffed my face with the best Mexican food I've ever had outside of Mexico, my trip comes to an ignominious end with a rush to the airport. Working on the naive assumption that I'd still feel human after three days in Vegas, I booked a red-eye flight home, and I have to be at work in 12 hours. But I'm ready. It's time.

A few days after I get home, the post-trip summary e-mails are flying. Elliot writes, "Ez, it's probably good you left when you did. The 40-year-old Asian man dressed up as Michael Jackson circa 1985 dealing blackjack was an amazing sight, but I don't know if it was worth the three-day hangover... The last night I really understood what insanity is, and it seems I almost crossed that fine line."

Well, Elliot is getting married next summer and I've got a roulette table that owes me money. I think I feel a bachelor party coming on... iB

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THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS



BELIEVE IN BELICHICK'S BLUEPRINT

Sox brass should adopt the shut-up-and-play strategy.

While the Boston Red Sox are doing what they do best—playing with our hearts—the New England Patriots are playing for a championship. As the Patriots get ready to defend their Super Bowl title, the most important elements appear to be in order—at least in order enough to focus on the only thing that really matters, the 2005 Super Bowl.

In an era of high-priced mega-egos, the Pats are as selfless as any pro sports team could be. Nobody is completely selfless in this era, but the Patriots are smart enough to understand what makes winning work. And if you suit up for Coach Belichick, winning is *the* priority.

Most people agree that Belichick has emerged as the top coach in the NFL, maybe in all pro sports. The Patriots are better prepared than the competition on a weekly basis. But what goes unnoticed is how Belichick handles the storms.

In the NFL, the next contract controversy is always right around the corner. Who caught the most touchdowns or made the most interceptions? Disputes are frequent, but it's how they're handled that determines whether or not the Super Bowl train gets derailed.

Belichick's strategy is simple: He ignores all fire. When the shrapnel starts flying in his general direction he doesn't duck, nor does he load up the howitzer and fire back. No chance.

The Ty Law incident was the perfect example. When Law was pleading his case publicly, Belichick was vacationing in Nantucket in search of his next piña colada. So Ty Law returned, because if he didn't he'd lose his million-dollar reporting bonus, and Belichick never said a word. Only two things make players unhappy: losing money and losing playing time. Law did what he had to do to avoid either outcome.

When offensive coordinator Charlie Weis was displeased with his pay, Belichick again kept a lid on public bickering. Instead, the bomb was defused, somehow, without an explosion in this mini-dynasty.

The only time Belichick misjudged his people was amid the turmoil following Lawyer Milloy's release five days before the start of the 2003 season. The Pats got whomped by the Buffalo Bills in the opener.

I remember talking to Belichick moments after the Pats beat the Panthers for their second Super Bowl championship in three years. His attitude wasn't, "I'm the man," as it well could have been given the team's unprecedented success. It was more like, "The guys did a great job and I'll see you next year when we try to do it again." Well, it's time to try to do it again.

So with all the answers so close by, why can't the Red Sox adopt the Belichick blueprint? If anyone could benefit from Belichick's M.O., it's Sox president Larry Lucchino. That would be a great class for Belichick to teach, one-on-one with Lucchino.

It would go like this: Lucchino would ask, "What do I do when Pedro Martinez asks for $60 million over the next four years? What do I do when they say I need to sign Jason Varitek? How do I handle Curt Schilling when he's popping off in the media about not starting the first game of the playoffs?"

"Larry," Belichick would answer, "this is how I'd handle it: Find a good book, something soothing, kick back, fill the tub up with suds, grab a glass of merlot, remind yourself how rich you are and call it a day.

WHILE LAW WAS PLEADING HIS CASE PUBLICLY, BELICHICK WAS VACATIONING IN NANTUCKET, IN SEARCH OF HIS NEXT PIÑA COLADA

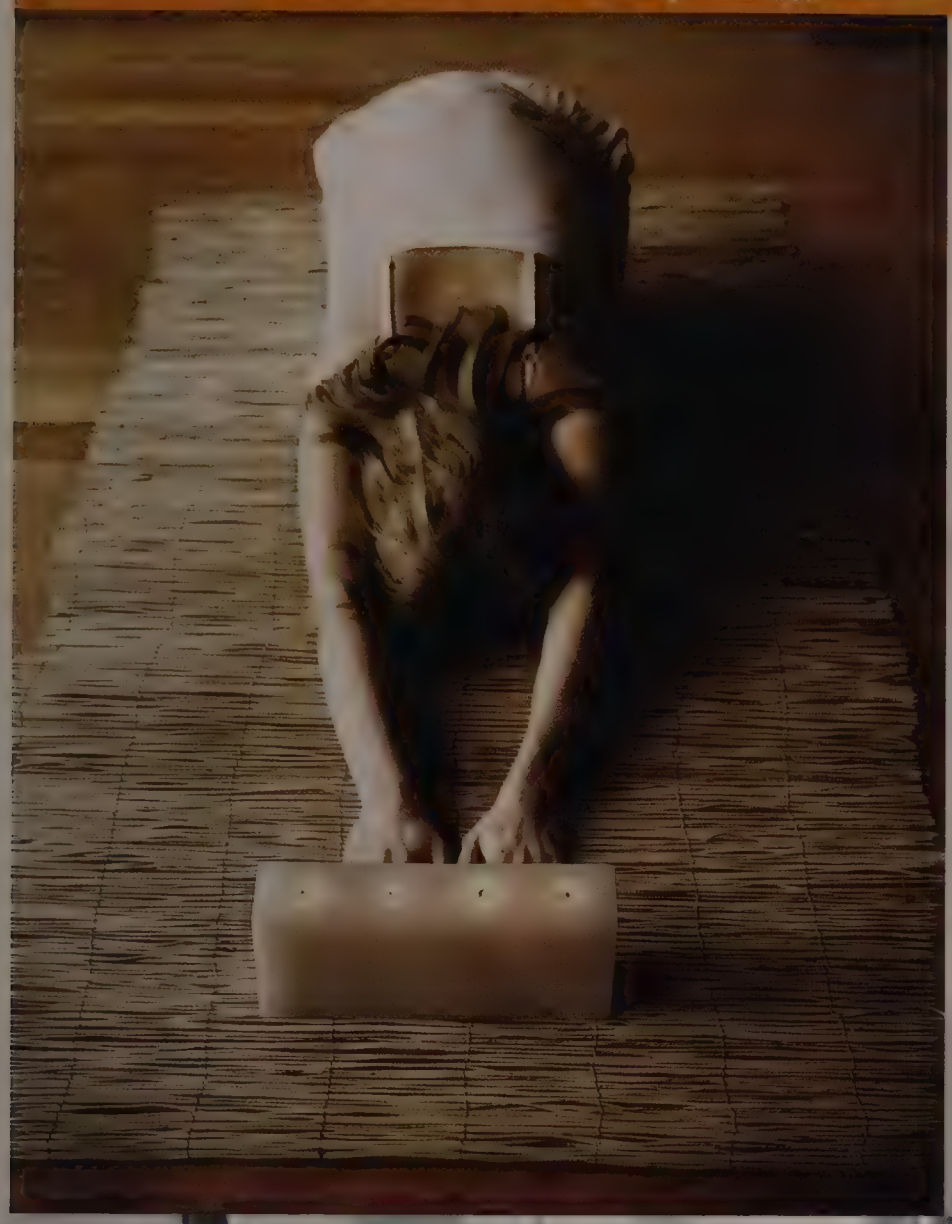
Just win. And George Steinbrenner and that ridiculous curse will go away."

Maybe that's wishful thinking, but considering the change Belichick has wrought with the Patriots, who knows? I just returned from my semiannual Las Vegas trip, and Patriots fans aren't the only ones impressed with the home team. A year ago the Pats made a lot of us some easy cash by winning more than 9½ games during the regular season—it seems hard to believe now that anyone thought they'd win fewer than 10 games. This year the number is 10½. I admit, I didn't put any money down. But the wise guys in Vegas are as convinced of the Belichick way as we in New England are.

The Pats are 2-to-1 favorites to win the AFC Championship and 3-to-1 to win the Super Bowl. Yes, they're that good. No matter what happens with the Red Sox, the Pats are odds-on favorites to bring another parade back to downtown Boston. ■

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

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Soroff ON

DENIS LEARY

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

A cerbic comedian and actor Denis Leary was born in Worcester and lived in Boston for almost 20 years. After graduating from—and briefly teaching at—Emerson College, he cut his teeth as a comedian on the local circuit and came to national prominence with his one-man shows, *No Cure for Cancer* and *Lock 'N Load*, along with frequent appearances on MTV. He has appeared in more than 25 motion pictures, including such critically acclaimed films as *The Ref*, *Wag the Dog*, *A Bug's Life*, *The Thomas Crown Affair*, *Jesus's Son*, *Monument Ave.*, *True Crime* and the Oscar-nominated *Ice Age*. In addition to his hit solo shows, his production company, Apostle, has produced many of the films he's appeared in (including Ted Demme's final film, *Blow*), as well as Leary's award-winning ABC sitcom, *The Job*, and several animated series for Comedy Central. His humorous essays have appeared in *New York* magazine, *Esquire*, *Playboy*, *GQ*, the *New York Post*, *Men's Journal*, the *London Times*, *Details*, *Context*, *Film Quarterly*, *Penthouse*, *Hockey News* and the IMPROPER. In the wake of the tragic Worcester warehouse fire of 1999, he formed The Leary Firefighter's Foundation, which has supported the departments and the families of fallen firemen in Worcester, and in New York following September 11th. On Oct. 3, comedian Lenny Clarke, actor Michael J. Fox and ex-Bruins legends including Cam Neely are scheduled to join Leary at the fifth annual Celebrity Hat Trick game at the FleetCenter. The game supports research for Parkinson's disease and services for the families of cancer patients, among numerous other charities. His new series, *Rescue Me*, began airing on FX this summer. Leary lives with his wife and children in Connecticut.

Jonathan Soroff: *OK, last night, while I was preparing for this interview, I asked a friend what she wanted to know about Denis Leary, and she said, "Who's Denis Leary?" Answer her.*

Denis Leary: [Laughs.] Well, I'm not Pauly Shore.

JS: *Current pet peeve?*

DL: The Red Sox pitching staff.

JS: *Hottest girl you never thought you'd get but did?*

DL: Oh, God. That's a tough one. I'd have to say my wife.

JS: *Do you do yoga?*

DL: No. It's not a workout. It doesn't count. If you've got a bad back or something, and you need to do it, fine. If you're one of those people who just tends to yap, yap, yap when you're at the gym, instead of working out, I'd prefer you do yoga and stay out of our way. Last week, Lenny Clarke and I were walking through Boston Common and we saw a hobo doing yoga, which we called hoga. It's really reached a point where yoga's outta control when you have homeless people doing it on the Boston Common. Lenny told him to go f--- a fence.

JS: *Ever consider anger management counseling?*

DL: No. I have a great form of anger management. It's called Jameson Irish Whiskey.

JS: *What does your shrink say about your act?*

DL: I don't have one. Again, that's what Jameson Irish Whiskey is for.

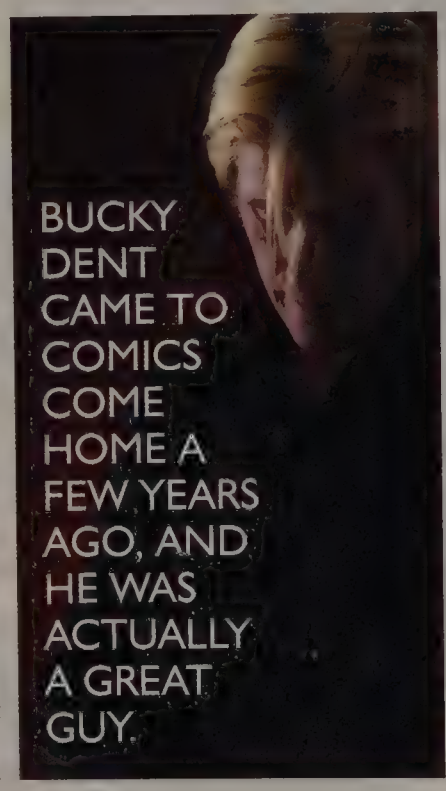
JS: *In your act, you had this famous rant about "f---in' Bucky Dent!" [Dent's homer for the Yankees cost the Red Sox the American League East title in 1978.] What would you do if you ever found yourself stuck in an elevator with him?*

DL: Y'know, Bucky Dent came to Comics Come Home [the annual comedy show Leary produces to benefit the Cam Neely Foundation] a few years ago, as a surprise. The set that year was the left field wall at Fenway, and he came out, and he was actually a great guy. He even came to the after-party, and he took boatloads of shit from the ex-Red Sox and Bruins who were there, and he did it all with a smile. He said, "Look, man, I know it drives you guys nuts, but that home run made me famous."

JS: *Favorite recreational activity?*

DL: Hockey.

JS: *At what point—after a particularly successful knock-knock joke in third grade, maybe—did you say, "I'm gonna become a comedian?"*



DL: Not until after I graduated from college. Stephen Wright, who went to college with me, was doing stand-up at a talent show Lenny Clarke's brother ran at the Ding Ho restaurant in Cambridge, and Steve Wright was the shyest guy I ever knew in my life, so I thought, "If he can do it, I can do it." It was kind of a f--- you to Steve Wright. So, of course I tried it and bombed, and gave up, but I went back to it a few years later because Jimmy Tingle, who was the bartender at the Ding Ho, was doing it, and it was sort of a f--- you to him. Then I just kinda stuck with it.

JS: *At what moment did you think, "OK, I'm a star." Or when did you finally feel like part of the Hollywood scene?*

DL: Twofold. The first was when I did *Wag the Dog* with Bob De Niro and Dustin Hoffman. The director didn't really want me for the role; he had a different idea of how the guy should look physically and everything. But De Niro was producing, and he said, "I want Denis." That was the point that it went beyond insanity as far as what I thought would happen in my life. Then, right after that, Clint Eastwood called me and asked me to do a part in a movie called *True Crime*. At that point, I was like, "Alright, I'm done. I've worked with Clint Eastwood, De Niro and Dustin Hoffman." Who's left?

JS: *Laurence Olivier?*

DL: He was dead by then.

JS: *You could've dug him up.*

DL: If I wanted to work with a dead guy, it'd be John Wayne.

JS: *Favorite cartoon of all time?*

DL: *The Simpsons*, hands down, and the fact that Homer has never been nominated for an Emmy is a crime.

JS: *Historical question: Why are there so many anvils in classic cartoons?*

DL: Because they're funny.

JS: *I've never actually seen one. Have you?*

DL: Yeah, there's one in my barn in Connecticut because I have horses, and my Dad was a mechanic and had one at work. I've never seen one dropped on someone's head, though, and I've got a long list of people I'd like to see that happen to.

JS: *Funniest person you know?*

DL: Hands down, Lenny Clarke. He's funny when he's sleeping. He's funny when he's takin' a bath…

JS: *Umm, Denis, what are you doing watching Lenny take a bath?*

DL: Well, it's not what you think. Lenny taking a bath is more like him grabbing a vase of flowers, chucking them, pouring the water over his head and drying himself with his shirt before putting his clothes back on.

JS: *Tell me a secret about Cam Neely.*

DL: He was actually one of the greatest basketball players in Canadian history, and he purposefully transferred—behind his parents' back—to a different high school, so that he could play hockey. The athletic director at his school told him he wasn't gonna play hockey the next year; he was gonna play center on the basketball team. About three months into the school year, his parents figured out he was going to a school not anywhere near his own neighborhood.

JS: *OK, a secret about Michael J. Fox?*

DL: When it comes to sarcasm, one of the quickest, wittiest guys on the planet. People see Michael for what he also is—a really great, dedicated guy—but there's no one in any room who can come up with a sarcastic comment about what just happened faster than him.

JS: *Do your kids think you're funny?*

DL: My son does. My daughter thinks everything about me is embarrassing. She's shy, and she's becoming a teenager, and anything that's in the papers, any rumors, everything's embarrassing.

JS: *Last question: Worst thing you ever said to a teacher?*

DL: "F--- off"….and nuns don't generally take well to that kind of language. IB


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fall arts preview

As the days grow shorter and the temperature drops, Boston's many arts venues come out of their summertime hibernation and reveal a wealth of fall enticements. The resurgence of arts offerings includes so many plays, operas, dance performances, art exhibitions and classical musical concerts that it's hard to know which ones to make time for. To help you out, we surveyed the fall lineup and created a shortlist of some of the season's most interesting shows.

Opera & CLASSICAL MUSIC

BY KEITH POWERS

beginning this fall, for the first time in more than 30 years someone other than Seiji Ozawa will hold down the single most important music job in Boston—leader of the Boston Symphony Orchestra. The much anticipated debut of James Levine as BSO music director comes on October 22, when he takes the podium to conduct Mahler's Symphony No. 8. Make no mistake: things will be different with Levine, who's stated his commitment to unearthing the roots of contemporary composition as well as performing new commissions. This season, Boston audiences will get premieres by Michael Gandolfi, John Harbison, Yehudi Wyner, Milton Babbitt and Charles Wuorinen. As a historical complement, Levine also programs plenty of Schoenberg, Stravinsky, Messaien, Ligeti, Hindemith and Bartok. So get used to some changes.

Of course, the BSO isn't the only game in town this fall for classical music aficionados. The Bank of America Celebrity Series presents the usual mix of top-shelf classical, dance and jazz programs on its fall schedule. Highlights include singers Renée Fleming, Ben Heppner and David Daniels; pianists Maurizio Pollini, Dubravka Tomsic and Lang Lang; and ensembles like the Emerson String Quartet and Yo-Yo Ma's Silk Road Project.

Opera gets its due this fall, as well. The Boston Lyric Opera offers Rossini's *L'Italiana in Algeri*, directed by Leon Major. "It's not performed nearly as much as it should be," says BLO general director Janice Mancini Del Sesto. "But our audiences love it. *L'Italiana* has that richness of coloratura singing that people just can't get enough of."

The BLO has competition these days. Brash newcomer Opera Boston made a splashy debut last year with its weeklong Opera Unlimited festival and a solid season of unusual works, including a well-received staging of John Adams' controversial *Nixon in China*. This season, Opera Boston is skipping the festival. "If we did it again this year we would all die," says music director Gil Rose. But the company is staging three operas, beginning with Offenbach's *La Vie Parisienne* in October. "We're trying to capitalize on last year's momentum," Rose says. "We're sticking with innovative and eclectic repertory—no warhorses from us. You won't see Opera Boston doing *Tosca* or *Cosi* or *Figaro* anytime soon. Someone else can do them. We want to produce highly visceral, impact works."

Early-music fans also get some opera this fall, as Boston Baroque presents Handel's *Julius Caesar*, with the scintillating Lisa Saffer singing Cleopatra.

Gardner Chamber Ensemble: Vivaldi in the Courtyard

Is there anything as pleasant as a Sunday afternoon in the Gardner's Tapestry Room, with music for the ears, art on the walls and Boston history in the air? Yet another season of concerts at the Gardner begins September 11 with a special evening presentation of Vivaldi in the Courtyard by the Gardner Chamber Ensemble, led by flutist Paula Robison. *Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (866-468-7619). www.ticketweb.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Sept. 11. $20, members; $35, nonmembers.*

Boston Symphony Orchestra: Mozart and Mahler

Daniele Gatti conducts opening-night Mozart and Mahler symphonies, but the real news this year at the famous shoebox on Mass. Ave. is the arrival of new music director James Levine. In his debut, Levine conducts Mahler's Symphony No. 8, with soprano Jane Eaglen leading a starry set of soloists. Levine's first season features 20th-century works prominently, in accordance with his stated mission to show Boston audiences the most immediate roots of contemporary music. *Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-7575). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Sept. 30. $27–$95.*

Handel and Haydn Society: Mozart's Great Mass

America's oldest performing arts organization marks its 190th year. So you think things would be a bit stale, no? Guess again. Opening night features Mozart's Mass in C Minor, but the adventurous season includes a guest appearance by jazz musicians Gary Burton (vibraphone) and Makota Ozone (piano), the 51st annual presentation of Handel's *Messiah*, and the composer's famous *Water Music*. Grant Llewellyn, in his fourth season as H&H music director, continues to build a reputation for getting results onstage. *Symphony Hall, 301 Mass.Ave., Boston (617-266-7575). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Oct. 15. $26–$60.*

Opera Boston: Offenbach's La Vie Parisienne

Boston's other opera company opens its second season with Offenbach's ensemble piece, filled with a cast of local studs, including Aaron Engebreth, Frank Kelley and Robert Honeysucker. Opera Boston's season also includes Gluck's *Alceste* and Robert Ward's *The Crucible*. *Cutler Majestic Theatre at Emerson College, 219 Tremont St., Boston (617-451-9944). www.operaboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Oct. 15 and 17. $30–$90.*

Boston Baroque: Handel's Julius Caesar

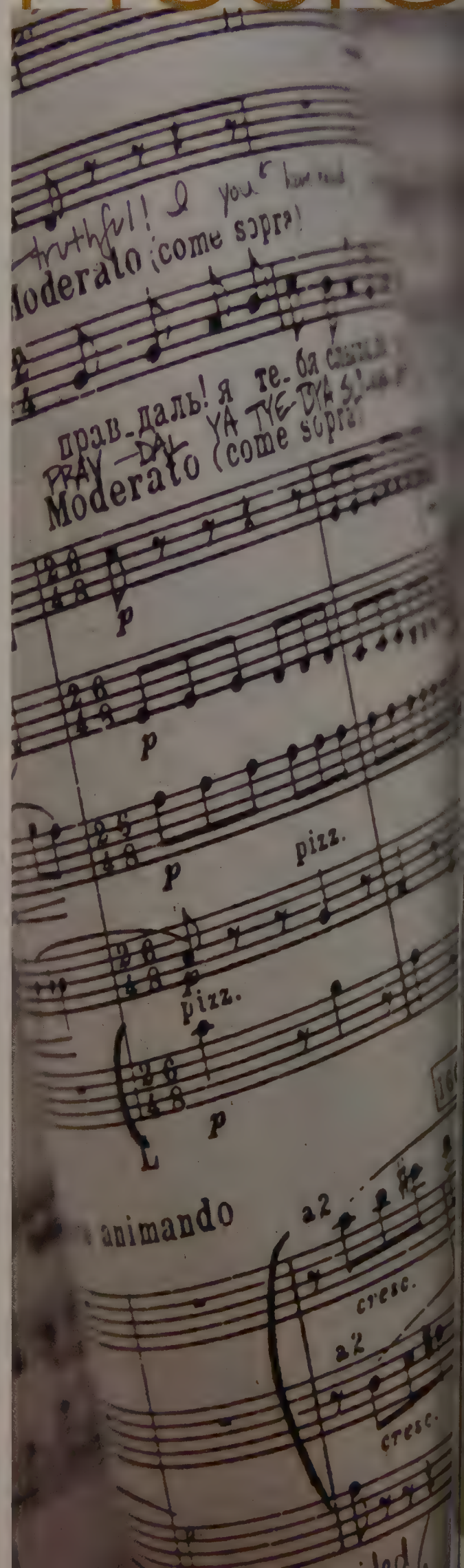
If there's one local music event of international scope this fall, it's Boston Baroque's production of Handel's great opera *Julius Caesar*, with Handel specialist Lisa Saffer singing Cleopatra. Longtime Boston opera lovers will remember Saffer's early years as a student at the New England Conservatory; her reputation as a Handelian now extends way beyond the 617 area code. She's joined in this production by the likes of David Walker (Caesar) and Stephen Salters. *Jordan Hall, 290 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-484-9200). www.bostonbaroque.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Oct. 22 and 23. $24–$85.*

Boston Lyric Opera: Rossini's L'Italiana in Algeri

The BLO takes flight with airborne operas this year, including two major East Coast premieres: Jonathan Dove's *Flight* and Rachel Portman's *Little Prince*. But first it opens the season with Rossini's neglected *L'Italiana in Algeri*, conducted by Dean Williamson and directed by Leon Major. *Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 3–16. $34–$159.*

Bank of America Celebrity Series

Boston Camerata presents *Johnny Johnson*, Kurt Weill's allegorical opera from 1936 about a young American who goes to war to bring democracy to foreign lands. Although the Camerata specializes primarily in early music, this production should prove that the ensemble and director Joel Cohen can create the same magic with more modern works. *Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-482-6661). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Nov. 7. $33–$48.*



Visual ARTS

BY JESSICA IREDALE

In September, the city's visual arts scene emerges from the summer doldrums. Galleries that closed their doors for July and August reopen, and the larger museums look to entice residents back for new fall shows. The season's visual feasts range from a blockbuster show of art deco works to experimental installations at small galleries to the first-ever exhibition of contemporary Inuit art from Canada's newest territory.

Museum of Fine Arts

Perhaps the most highly anticipated art show of the season, *Art Deco: 1910-1939*, opened last month at the MFA. Now on the final leg of an international tour, *Art Deco*, organized by London's Victoria & Albert Museum, is the first major exhibition to explore the popular 20th-century movement, from its origins in Paris to its interpretations around the world. Designed for mass appeal, art deco's strong lines and sleek, streamlined details are recognizable today in the structure of the Empire State and Chrysler buildings and the set designs of old Hollywood movies. From furniture and textiles to ceramics, sculpture and jewelry, more than 240 pieces are on display. Some of the most stunning works include evening gowns by Jeanne Lanvin and Coco Chanel, a canoe-shaped daybed made of black and gold lacquered wood, and a 1935 Auburn 851 Speedster automobile. To celebrate the exhibition, the MFA's restaurant, Bravo, is hosting weekly cocktail hours (the cocktail hour is said to have originated in the 1920s) and jazz concerts, highlighting art deco's roots in the Jazz Age. *Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Through Jan. 9, 2005. $7.*

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park

Contemporary photography is the focus in Lincoln, where the DeCordova hosts *The Architect's Brother*, an exhibition by Robert ParkeHarrison that opens September 18. The Great Barrington resident and Holy Cross faculty member uses collage techniques and combines elements of theater, sculpture and painting to create a dark, lonely and surreal backdrop for his large-scale, black-and-white photographs. ParkeHarrison inserts himself into his photos as a figure attempting some great task, like patching holes in the sky, chasing storms or making rain. From the first rough sketches and research through the design and construction of props—such as fantastical machinery made of found objects—the works take ParkeHarrison roughly five weeks to complete. *DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park, 51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Sept. 18, 2004–Jan. 2, 2005. Free with museum admission.*

Institute of Contemporary Art

Another photography exhibition, featuring Ukrainian Boris Mikhailov in his first American retrospective, opens September 22 at the ICA. More than 500 street scenes and portraits, drawn from 25 different series, are included in the exhibition, which covers the tumultuous decline of the Soviet Union in four sections. The first highlights the color red as seen in official Soviet symbols and other everyday objects in the 1970s. The second section captures the bleak circumstances of life

NEW KID ON THE BLOCK

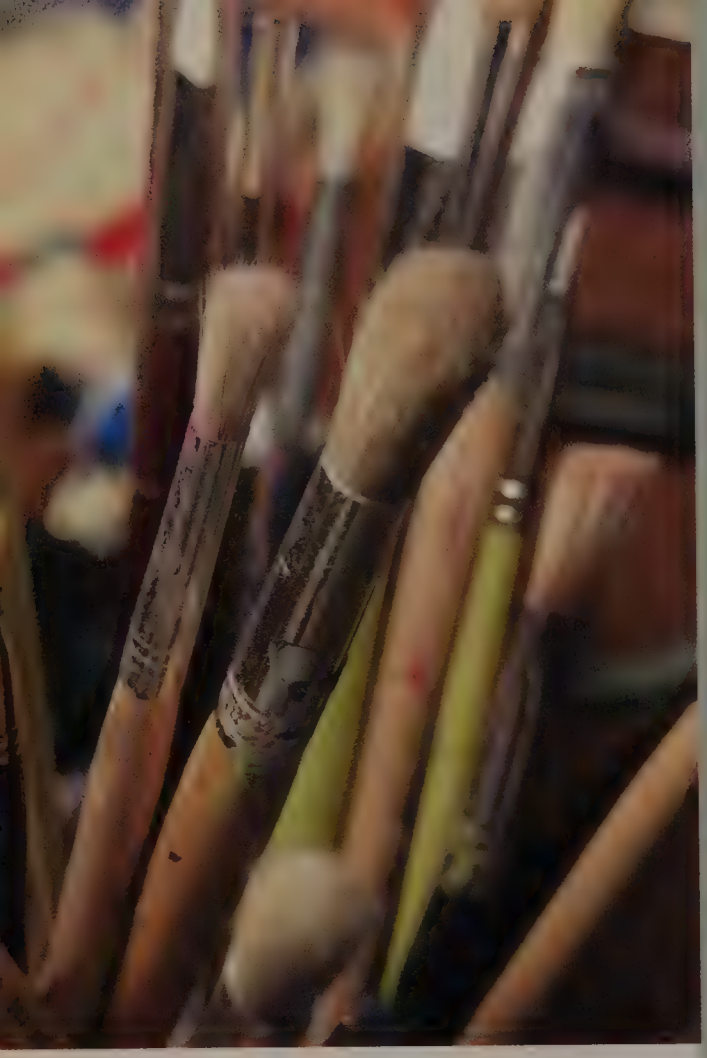
Camilo Alvarez shakes up the local art scene at Samson Projects.

Though museums garner most of the media attention devoted to art, some of Boston's smaller galleries have exciting plans for the 2004/05 exhibition season. Co-director Camilo Alvarez, a New York transplant, is prepping to reopen the Samson Projects gallery in a new space in the South End's SoWa building, which houses a group of galleries at 450 Harrison Ave. After cutting his teeth as curatorial assistant in European painting at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art and working at the Exit Art gallery, he moved to Boston to found Samson Projects, which opened in March in a temporary space on Waltham Street. Alvarez is introducing an unconventional model at Samson and raising a few eyebrows in the process. Most commercial galleries have a well of artists they represent and push, but Alvarez believes that practice is on its way out, and he's not representing any artists. To inaugurate its new SoWa gallery space, Samson Projects is presenting *Notorious Impropriety*, a show Alvarez co-created with Franklin Sirmans. The exhibition is a multimedia installation that draws on the political and sexual scandals that occupy so much of our public dialogue, yet fail to shock anyone. We talked with Alvarez recently about the Boston arts scene.

IB: *What are your favorite local museums?*
CA: I love the MFA. They have a really good program, but there's always room for improvement. The ICA is also getting much better too, and I'm looking forward to its move into a different space. Boston Center for the Arts does a really great job showing local artists, and with their public programming. I think public programming is really important—showing movies, video screenings—I want to incorporate that into Samson Projects as well. With diversity of mediums, the art becomes more accessible to the viewer. You don't want to alienate the viewer, where they have to approach you and talk about the art. That's part and parcel of what art is—for people to think and educate themselves. You walk into a commercial gallery, and you're left on your own.
IB: *What's in store at Samson Projects?*
CA: I'm putting together a lot of public programming. For *Notorious Impropriety,* there will also be a fashion show. I'm collaborating with Nine Months on Newbury Street. It's a maternity store, and we're going to be screening a video with artist Amy Jenkins of her daughter nursing from her breast. It's really important to get people talking.
IB: *What do you think defines the Boston arts community?*
CA: Boston is incredibly sophisticated and cosmopolitan. It's a really smart crowd, and that's part of the reason I moved here. In New York, people would go to the exhibition opening and it's more of a scene to be seen. [An opening] is an opportunity to meet the artist and for the artist to show their work, but it's also an opportunity to create a dialogue, and that's something I cherish about Boston.The dialogue is very much there. People are really curious.
IB: *Why did you want to launch a gallery here?*
CA: I decided to open a gallery because there's a niche for what I want to do, what can be done. I was talking to a well-known artist from the Boston area the other day and she was telling me how Boston is very ripe for what I want to do, but it's also very reticent because it has a provincial attitude. That's why I want to focus on diversity. There are a lot of local artists, but they need to be involved in the international scope. It's better for everybody if you show as much as you can of what's going on outside of Boston. So hopefully I can make a ripple.
IB: *What separates the Boston art scene from say, New York or the West Coast?*



CA: Right now, New York is considered the mecca of the art world, and I think that's waning. It's losing its foothold, and that's good because it means the art world is getting parceled out. Slowly but surely, all over the world, there's going to be great art exhibitions in different places. Like the MIT List Visual Art Center. They probably have the best contemporary art exhibition series in Boston, or Cambridge, right now. For the commercial galleries, Barbara Krakow does a really great job, and Allston Skirt. Newbury Street and the South End. That's where it's at.
IB: *Any insight into what's upcoming at the SoWa building?*
CA: It's a commercial venture. Other galleries are representing their artists and they want to push them. I try to show whatever the viewer needs to see. I'll be showing hardcore conceptual art. But I'm interested in collaborating.



in the 1980s in mundane black-and-white, while the third focuses on the period after the Soviet collapse. The final section begins in the 1990s and chronicles Mikhailov's move west. *Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Sept. 22, 2004–Jan. 2, 2005. Free with museum admission.*

Harvard University Art Museums

Harvard's major fall exhibition spotlights French artist Pierre Huyghe along with one of the university's buildings. *Huyghe + Corbusier: Harvard Project*, opening November 18 at the Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, is a multimedia installation inspired by Huyghe's longstanding fascination with the Carpenter Center itself—architect Le Corbusier's only North American building. Two years ago, Huyghe began working with students from the Harvard Design School and the university's Department of Visual and Environmental Studies to create the three components of the exhibition: a puppet opera, a temporary architectural extension of the Carpenter Center (where the opera will be performed) and a film based on the puppet opera. Corbusier's conception and construction of the Carpenter Center is the inspiration for all three components. *Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, 24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Nov. 18, 2004–April 17, 2005. Free with museum admission.*

Peabody Essex Museum

PEM breaks new ground in November with *Our Land: Contemporary Art from the Arctic*, the first-ever exhibition of contemporary Inuit art from eastern Canada's Nunavut territory. The show features more than 50 works including sculpture, prints, video art and sound installation. Officially designated a Canadian territory in 1999, Nunavut spans more than 770,000 square miles, and many of the pieces featured in the exhibition are inspired by the region's arctic peaks and fjords. *Peabody Essex Museum, East India Square, Salem (866-745-1876). www.pem.org. Nov. 26, 2004–Jan. 30, 2005. Free with museum admission.*

Theater & DANCE

BY ROBERT NESTI

All eyes may be on the presidential election the next few months, but the shows do go on, as evidenced by a busy fall season in theater and dance. Not only are new theaters coming on line, but such personalities as actresses Elaine Stritch and Phylicia Rashad are coming to town. The dance season features new works by choreographers Peter Martins, Bill T. Jones and an appearance by the renowned Bolshoi Ballet. And for those seeking more edgy fare, there's the Out on the Edge theater festival, and, for Halloween, the Gold Dust Orphans' irreverent take on *The Exorcist.*

Gem of the Ocean

Recent Tony Award winner Phylicia Rashad heads a cast that includes Lisa Gay Hamilton (*The Practice*) and Delroy Lindo (*Get Shorty*) in the latest installment of August Wilson's 10-part series chronicling African-American life in the 20th century. Set in 1904, the play centers on Aunt Esther, a Methuselah-like character played by Rashad who helps a drifter find spiritual redemption. After its Huntington engagement, the play moves to Broadway where it opens in November. *Huntington Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. Sept.10–Oct.17. $14–$69.*

Out on the Edge Festival

The 13th annual festival celebrating the best in GLBT theater brings the return of two renegade artists who have made their mark in past: Tim Miller and the Five Lesbian Brothers. Miller weaves a fantastic tale of show-tune liberation and gay oppression in *Us*, his latest one-person show, which runs from October 13–17. In *Oedipus at Palm Springs* (October 22 and 23), the Five Lesbian



Brothers take on the Greek classic and show that gay men aren't the only ones who can run wild in Palm Springs. *Boston Center for the Arts, Plaza Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Sept. 30–Oct. 24. $12–$29.*

The Exorsissy

Ryan Landry and his Gold Dust Orphans have previously taken on *Carrie*, *The Birds* and *Rosemary's Baby*. Now they turn their satiric eye to the horror classic *The Exorcist*, with their characteristic twist. In Landry's version, Regan's mom is a Hillary Clinton–like presidential candidate afraid that if word gets out that her daughter's been possessed by the Devil, her standing in the polls will fall. Look for Haylee Shrimpton, the child actress so memorable in the Orphans' production of *The Bad Seed*, to return to the company as Regan. *Machine, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Oct. 1–Nov. 13 (Fridays and Saturdays). $25.*

The Bolshoi Ballet and Orchestra

The acclaimed Russian troupe returns to Boston after a 15-year absence with two of its most famous full-length ballets: *Raymonda* (October 6 and 7) and *Don Quixote* (October 8–10). *Raymonda* is a romantic love story that features one of the most famous of all ballet duets, the Grand Pas Hongrois." *Don Quixote*, a comic ballet based on Cervantes' novel, features the original choreography created in 1859 by Marius Petipa, including the famous dream sequence. *Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Oct. 6 and 7* (Raymonda); *Oct. 8–10* (Don Quixote). *$45–$92.*

Sonia Flew

Actress/playwright Melinda Lopez's newest play examines the emotional conflicts of Cuban expatriates through the eyes of Sonia, a middle-aged woman looking back at her heritage and examining her status as a Cuban-American. Commissioned and produced by the Huntington Theatre Company, and directed by artistic director Nicholas Martin, *Sonia Flew* is the opening attraction of the BCA's new Virginia Wimberly Theatre. *Boston Center for the Arts, Virginia Wimberly Theatre, Calderwood Pavilion, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Oct. 8–Nov. 7. $14–$50.*

Elaine Stritch at Liberty

At age 78, theater legend Elaine Stritch is still wowing audiences. Her Tony Award–winning show chronicles her 50-year-plus show-business career and her battles with alcoholism and loneliness. En route she offers candid portraits of such personalities as Marlon Brando, Ben Gazzara, Noel Coward, Ethel Merman and Judy Garland, as well as such showstopping tunes as "The Ladies Who Lunch," "If Love Were All" and, of course, "I'm Still Here." *Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-423-4008). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Oct. 19–24. $27.50-$67.50.*

Balanchine Martins Balanchine

Boston Ballet opens its 41st season with a celebration of George Balanchine, one of the 20th century's most influential choreographers. The program features two of his classic short ballets, *Rubies* and *Divertimento No. 15*, and the world premiere of a new ballet by Peter Martins, Balanchine's protégé and successor at the New York City Ballet, set to a piece by Latvian composer Peteris Vasks. *Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.bostonballet.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Oct. 21–24. $39–$98.*

TASTING LIBERTY

Broadway star Elaine Stritch brings her one-woman show to Boston.



It's nearing midnight and Elaine Stritch is ready to talk.

"I always feel when I have these late-night interviews that I have some secret lover that calls me late at night, and we make elicit plans to meet," Stritch says, as her voice dissolves into a raspy laugh. "I have a great fantasy mind. To live the kind of life I do, I would have to."

Stritch has lived some kind of life. A professional performer for more than 50 years, she is one of the last surviving great stars of what's often called the golden age of Broadway. She dated Marlon Brando and Rock Hudson, understudied for Ethel Merman, inspired Noel Coward to write a Broadway show for her, and could drink Judy Garland under the table.

It was because of drinking, she points out in her Tony Award–winning, autobiographical show, *Elaine Stritch...at Liberty*, that she nearly missed her life entirely.

"It almost all happened without me," she explains. "I drank because I was scared, and when you're scared, you try to find an antidote. And boy, did I ever."

Sobriety came to the actress in her fifties, and with it the realization that she was far more than just a clown. When Stritch spoke at a tribute to Judy Garland a few years back, she so captivated the audience that a friend suggested she develop her life story into a show. Collaboration with critic John Lahr followed, and *Elaine Stritch...at Liberty* was the result. "Writing it was the most grueling work I have ever done in my life. I'm a talented actress. I'm not going argue with anybody about that. But to be responsible for every word you say up there, and every choice you make, that's another ballgame. But it's given me courage, more self-assurance, and great joy to have taken that risk."

The risk has paid off: *Elaine Stritch...at Liberty* sold out a four-month run at New York's Public Theater before moving to Broadway and winning Stritch the Tony Award that had long eluded her. HBO was so impressed that it hired a team of documentary filmmakers to follow Stritch around London during the show's engagement there last year. The resulting film, also titled *Elaine Stritch...at Liberty*, aired on the cable network this summer and has been nominated for an Emmy Award. "I would certainly love to win my Emmy, but I'm up against stiff competition," she says. As for the late Brando, Stritch says he never contacted her after their stormy relationship a half century ago. "I think he had a tragic life. He had a lot of secrets. You get fat having secrets. It's true. Say what's on your mind and you'll stay thin. Look at me."

The Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company

This cutting-edge company, under the direction of founder and leading choreographer Bill T. Jones, returns to the Shubert to celebrate its 20th anniversary with a program titled *The Phantom Project*, which includes new works along with seminal pieces that were first performed by Jones and Zane. The evening also includes the Boston premiere of *Reading, Mercy and the Artificial Nigger*, a provocative work based on one of Flannery O'Connor's most beguiling and troubling stories. *Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Oct. 22–24. $42–$60.*

Playboy of the Western World

Dublin's Abbey Theatre celebrates its 100th anniversary with a six-city U.S. tour of one of its landmark plays, John Millington Synge's comedy about a mysterious stranger who wreaks havoc in a small Irish village. The play, which sparked riots at its Dublin premiere in 1907 but is viewed today as a masterwork of Irish theater, should get a definitive reading from Ireland's leading company. Presented by Broadway in Boston in association with the Huntington Theatre Company. *Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-423-4008). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 2–28, $25.50–$67.50.*

The Provok'd Wife

The American Repertory Theatre kicks off its season with this little-seen Restoration-era comedy by Sir John Vanbrugh that created a scandal when it premiered some 300 years ago. How will the boorish, cross-dressing Lord Brute cope with being cuckolded when Lady Brute goes out on the town? The new production is directed by Mark Wing-Davey, best known in the UK for his portrayal of two-headed Zaphod Beeblebrox in the cult-favorite British television production of *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy. Loeb Drama Center, Harvard University, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Nov. 27–Dec. 26. $36–$72.* IB

curtains up

With the BCA opening two new venues next month, and other developments on the way, Boston theater companies are getting a little more of what they've been yearning for: performance space.

BY ROBERT NESTI



Above: Huntington Theater Company Managing Director Michael Maso
Below: An artist's rendering of the Huntington Theater Company's new Virginia Wimberly Theatre

Five years ago, when Huntington Theatre Company Managing Director Michael Maso was wooing Nicholas Martin to become the company's artistic director, Maso drove Martin to a vacant lot on Tremont Street in the South End.

"I told him I wanted to show him something," Maso recalls. "I parked the car and pointed out the empty lot and said that's where the theaters are going to be."

Cut to five years later. Maso is standing on the stage of Virginia Wimberly Theatre, one of the two new theaters that the Huntington runs next to the imposing Atelier 505 complex, at the corner of Tremont and Berkeley streets in the South End. Construction isn't quite complete; the place is littered with debris and the seats have yet to be installed. But the space, designed by Wilson Butler Architects, is impressive. A striking mix of classical and modern elements cohere in an intimate venue that seems perfect for the Huntington's mission of presenting new plays.

"It feels great," Maso acknowledges. "We've done something that people have been trying to do in Boston for such a long time. The fact that this is the first new theater to come on line, and to see it realized so beautifully, is thrilling. This is as good as it is going to get."

Boston theater professionals' biggest complaint during the past decade has been a lack of viable performance spaces. Companies worked with what was available. The Boston Center for the Arts made three small spaces available in its basement while some groups attempted to adapt church spaces, custodian closets and dance clubs into theaters. Even professional companies with more resources, such as the Huntington, which is affiliated with Boston University, and the American Repertory Theatre (ART), felt the pinch. The former made rehearsal spaces available to companies under its auspices for use as performance venues, while the latter has been mostly confined to its own Loeb Drama Center during the past two years, as the Hasty Pudding Theatre has undergone renovations.

That situation is changing though, and quickly. A number of new spaces are expected to open in Boston by the end of 2005, and of course, the resplendently refurbished Opera House, on Washington Street in the Ladder District, opened in July. This 1920s movie palace, which seats 2,600, is expected to be the centerpiece of a downtown theater revival. But the large space, owned by the media giant Clear Channel, will mostly host big Broadway shows, like its current hit *The Lion King*, for extended runs. Smaller companies will likely have to look elsewhere for space.

Some have already struck deals: New ton's New Repertory Theatre hopes t open the Arsenal Center for the Arts, or of two new theater spaces scheduled t open in Watertown's Arsenal Mall in ear 2005, with a production of James Lapir and Stephen Sondheim's *Into the Wood* And the long-orphaned Nora Theat Company plans to occupy a new theater Central Square in September 2005. (Th company will share the space with the U derground Railway Theater.) Meanwhil the ART has struck a deal with Greg Ca the impresario who ran Cambridge's Ma ket Theater for two seasons, to use a ne 300-seat space in Harvard Square that Ca is developing. Called the Theater at Ze Arrow Street, it's scheduled to open in Ja uary as a venue for a festival of plays fro South Africa that the ART is presentin In addition, a collaborative of artists fro Fort Point Channel is developing a 200-se theater at South Boston's Midway Studi that it plans to make available to emergi theater and dance companies. Origina scheduled to open this year, it has be pushed back to sometime in 2005.

But the attention this fall is on the Sta ford Calderwood Pavilion, a collaborative fort between the Huntington and the Bost Center for the Arts. Occupying three leve the 35,000 square foot space contains a 3(seat proscenium theater (the Virginia Wi berly), a 200-seat experimental venue (t Nancy and Edward Roberts Studio Theatr rehearsal rooms and offices. Now in the fi phase of construction, the theaters are

open next month. The Wimberly bows first, on October 8, with *Sonia Flew*, a Huntington commission by local playwright and actress Melinda Lopez. Then the Roberts opens October 15 with a new production of Stephen Sondheim's *Company* by the SpeakEasy Stage Company.

When the BCA struck a deal with the Druker Co., the high-rise's developer, to include two theaters in the building, its mission was to make more spaces available to its resident companies, such as SpeakEasy, as well as the city's newer, more youth-oriented theater groups, such as Company One. The Huntington joined in when its management saw that the project could help fulfill their wish for an alternative space for newer, edgier work. En route to development, the dynamic changed, with the Huntington taking over as fund-raiser, and subletting the space from the BCA, which is taking a more administrative role.

For the design, the Huntington invited seven firms to submit concepts and eventually chose the submission by Wilson Butler, a local firm that has done much work nationally (including many large-scale theaters for cruise ships) and smaller-scale renovation work in Boston.

"This wasn't their biggest [project]," Maso says, "but it was probably their most complicated because fitting this space in and coordinating it within the building was an enormous undertaking."

"Theaters by their nature are three-dimensional puzzles, and they are architectural machines," explains Scott Wilson, a founding partner of Wilson Butler whose 25-year career has been focused on design for the arts. "They have more level changes than an Escher drawing. And pieces of the theaters actually need to move. Set a restaurant underneath it and a condominium tower above it and the challenges are endless."

Wilson notes that while the theaters share a common goal, each needs a unique look and feel. "The Roberts is very utilitarian and functional—flexible, and free of an architectural voice," he says. "And the Wimberly is more traditional in its form, materials and its very spirit. At the same time, these unique venues live within the Machado and Silvetti–designed exterior sculptural composition." What links these divergent theater spaces is their shared lobby, where, Wilson says, "colors, materials—stone, metal, wood and sensuous red leather—and lighting combine with forms—curves, angular planes and a sculptural staircase—to create a social setting that celebrates the arts."

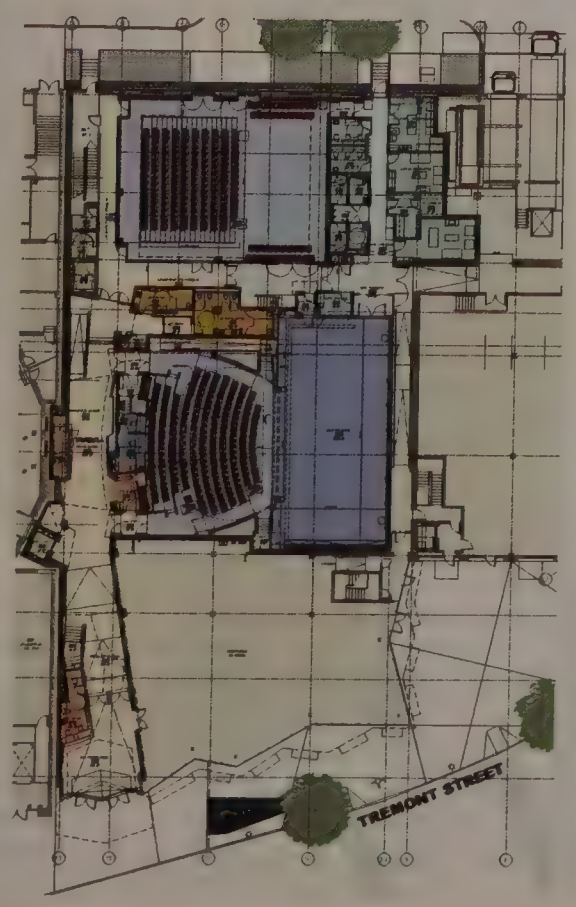
Once construction of the theaters was under way, the BCA and the Huntington decided to find the right administrative balance. In the end, they agreed that the Huntington would occupy the Wimberly 50 percent of the year, and the Roberts Studio 25 percent. The venues will be available for rental during unoccupied time between productions, at a cost considerably lower than the current rates for the theaters at the BCA.





Above: Artist's renderings of the Theater at Zero Arrow Street in Cambridge
Below: Artist's renderings of the BCA's new Stanford Calderwood Pavilion





"I'm sure [companies will] tell you that they'll have to stretch to pay the rent," says Maso, "but we're not charging them near the actual cost value. We know we have to subsidize the rent for them. Yes, I think it's a great deal, and I think they'll see that in a year; but they'll also say that they're stretching to do it. But just the fact that SpeakEasy keeps coming back and renting makes me think we've found the right balance."

"It is considerably more expensive," says SpeakEasy artistic director Paul Daigneault, who has booked the Roberts for four of SpeakEasy's five productions for its upcoming season, "more than twice what we're paying at the BCA. We've had to increase our ticket prices—not significantly, only by a few dollars—to help make up the difference. But this is where we want to be. It's a risk, but one that's worth it. And the Huntington includes some extras, like the lighting, that help mitigate the costs."

The final cost for the new theaters was roughly $24.5 million, about half of which was raised by the Huntington under the guidance of Maso and artistic director Martin. "I think the fact that we're a well-functioning team is the reason people are so willing to invest," Maso says. "People love the work that we're doing, and they trust that we know what we're doing.

"One of [Martin's] goals in coming here was to have the space for new plays," he continues. "But you don't get any revenue from developing new plays. Even our most conservative, straight-laced board members said we needed to do new plays. We had to find a way to do that. We were lucky. We went to our donor base and found people to make that happen."

Recently Maso booked *Trumbo*, an off-Broadway hit that in Boston will star Brian Dennehy as blacklisted screenwriter Dalton Trumbo. Rumor had it that Clear Channel–owned Broadway in Boston was looking to book the play in the Wilbur for a week, but the producers opted for four weeks at the smaller Wimberly instead. Do deals like this mean the Huntington is competing with Broadway in Boston for more commercial fare?

"No," says Maso. "We're not based on the same economic model, so I don't feel competitive at all. Trumbo is a show that should never be in a 1,400-seat house, but it's a case where we had to deal with a commercial producer to bring the show here. The final decision as to venue was really up to the producers. I don't think we're competing with Clear Channel. If a producer wants a 1,000-seat theater, they'll go someplace else. But at this scale, nobody is making money. Not in the way the commercial theater thinks about it."

As we finish a tour of the new BCA spaces, Maso stands by a triangular window in one of the upstairs rehearsal halls that looks down on Tremont Street.

"Look at this space," he says, pointing out the spacious room, with its sand-colored walls and royal blue ceiling. "I took Ron Druker [who developed the adjoining condominiums] through this building and he said, 'I can't believe I let you have these spaces. There should be a restaurant in here.'"

"It's not," Maso says, smiling. "This space is for the theater." iB

the longer view

Downtown visitors who make their way down Washington Street to the newly restored Opera House get an added visual treat when they see the marquee of the Paramount Theatre. Recently restored to its original art deco glory, the Paramount marquee was relit earlier this summer.

Many people assume there's a theater behind the Paramount's façade, but currently there's nothing but the interior shell of one of Boston's former movie palaces. That's likely to change in the next year, however, according to Harry Collings, executive director of the Boston Redevelopment Authority.

"The interior is in absolutely good shape," he says. "We're in the final phase of a feasibility study to see how it can be renovated into a theater space."

Collings says that preliminary plans by architect Graham Gund are in place to transform the Paramount into a 600-seat auditorium that could be reconfigured into a smaller, "black box" space. The cost would be close to $11 million.

"The feasibility study will be ready in 60–90 days," Collings says. "The next step is for us to figure out who will manage the project and how it will be implemented."

The Modern Theatre, also on Washington Street, is another story entirely. The good news, according to Collings, is that the building was saved from demolition and the façade was cleaned. The bad news is that interior is beyond repair for use as a theater. "There's nothing inside that's salvageable," he says. "There has been such serious water damage over the years."

Instead, hopes are that the space can be turned into a mixed-usage building, with condominiums bringing in money to defray the cost of the renovations, and the theater space transformed into a cultural center under the guidance of developer Bobby Sager. "We're working with Sager Family Foundation to develop the space," says Collings. "They'd like to see it as an incubator space for artists to share and develop ideas."

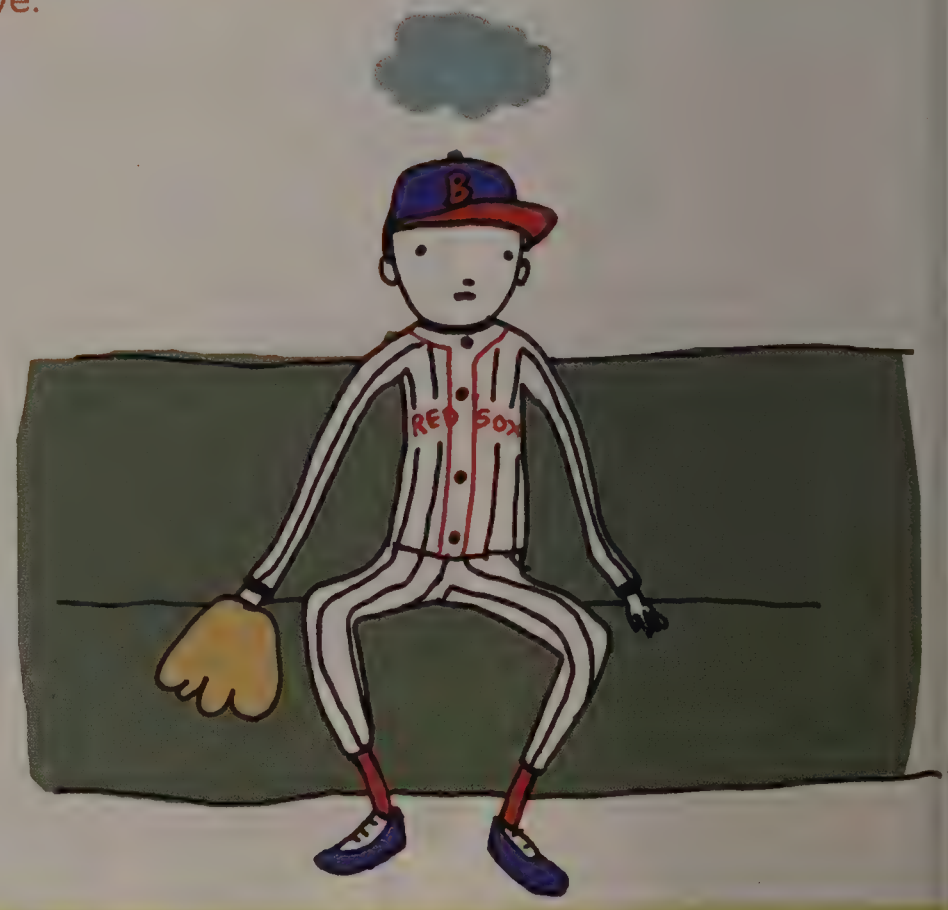
eight simple steps to becoming a bostonian

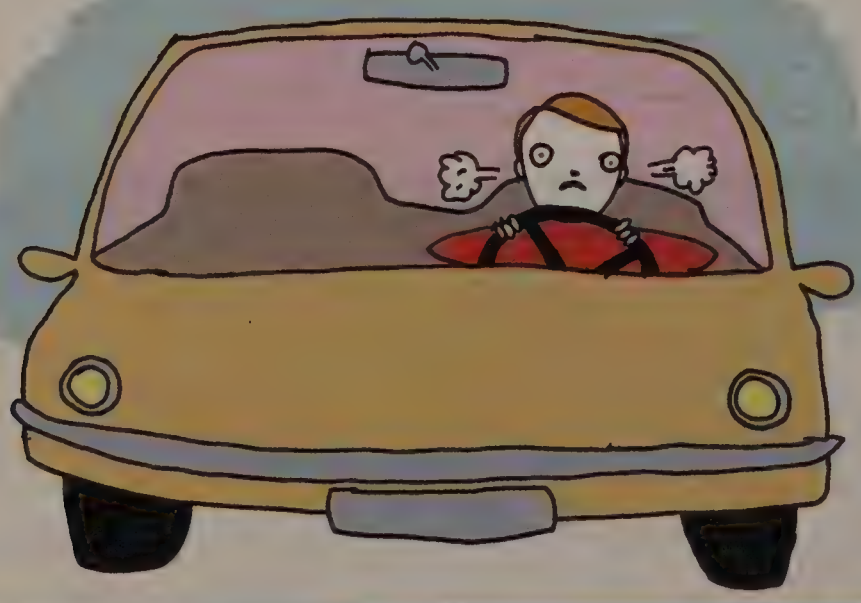
Newly arrived in Beantown and mystified by the locals, with their quirky behaviors and unintelligible accents? Follow our quick guide, and you'll soon be passing for a native.

BY ANDREW GRAHAM

ILLUSTRATIONS BY ALLI ARNOLD

You've recently moved to Boston, and you desperately want to fit in—or at least not to look and sound like a tourist. You've seen *Good Will Hunting* 40 times, you love Aerosmith, and you drink so much Sam Adams that your liver's wicked pickled, guy! You weren't born here, but you want to be a real, authentic Bostonian more than anything. So how does a new arrival get closer to the fiercely protected heart of Boston? Well, we're here to help. Master the following steps, and you'll pass for a Kennedy compound insider or a Southie lifer in no time.





Drive like no one's watching.

Remember how Superman's planet was super-powered, and when he came to Earth he was faster and stronger than everyone else? You need to drive like Superman. Able to go from zero to 60 in a 25 mph zone! With the power to leap small imported hatchbacks in a single bound! For Boston drivers, there's no passing lane, just the driving lane. Signaling is for the weak and speed limits are for geeks. Faster than a speeding ticket! We breed our drivers like we breed our rock frontmen: leathery, long-lasting and as indestructible as Steven Tyler. If you can't bring yourself to accelerate into a yellow that just turned red, you're never going to be Boston legit, grandma.

Become accustomed to despair.

Bostonians know pain like no other. Our citizens share a unique, double-edged pain that they live with season after season. You can't be a real Bostonian without knowing this pain as well as you know the route to Fenway Park from Kenmore Square. It's the pain of having your hopes raised and crushed every year, for as long as you can remember. Every spring, hope surges to life again, and in the heart of every real Bostonian, there is an undeniable knowledge that this will be The Year. The pain that Bostonians know only too well, though, is caused by an equally powerful certainty that, in fact, this will not be The Year. We can't tell you exactly how to get to this point, but trust us: If you ever do become a genuine Bostonian, you'll know. Because it'll hurt.

Learn the lingo.

OK, so we've all heard the jokes. There's no R in the Boston alphabet. Ha, ha. Very funny. But to become a Bostonian, you'll have to develop a sophisticated "eah" for that elusive R. When your waitress asks you if you're done with your salad fox, she's not telling you that that chicken in your Caesar's salad wasn't chicken. You heard "fox." She said "forks." Got it? As a Bostonian, you must learn not only to deciphah these local incongruities, but also to use them yourself. So remember, when you want to visit one of the fine beaches north of the city, ask for directions to the Noth Shaw.



Hate NYC like it's going out of style.

This step is easy. Just learn to hate New York City. Once you've put down roots in Boston, you can start knocking New Yorkers' funny accents, rudeness behind the wheel and obsession with civic pride. Not to mention their lousy public transportation system and the fact that the place is overrun with college students—and who can even afford to live there?! You'll know you're a real Bostonian when you can say all this with a straight face, even when someone asks, "Wait, what city were you talking about?" Experts are divided on the reasons NYC inspires such antipathy in Bostonians. Some suspect a connection to the local sports franchises, specifically the baseball teams. However, since these teams are primarily made up of millionaires who are rarely, if ever, native to the towns whose teams they play for, that explanation seems unlikely. Nevertheless, the animosity exists, as proved by a recent conversation we overheard in the Hamptons. Connecticut was whispering to New York, "You know, darling, Boston says you suck." "Oh, dear, isn't that dreadful," New York replied. "Boston who??"





Develop selective amnesia.

To become a Bostonian, you'll have to be able to complain convincingly— and know whom to complain to. For example, when the thermometer drops to 59.9 in mid September, you'll want to start griping about "this fricking freezing weather." But only to neighbors and co-workers. To out-of-towners, you'll just chortle gleefully about "owwah chilly New England winters! Hope yez can stand it!" Another step to complaining like a Bostonian is commiserating with your fellow citizens about the Big Dig. "Will they ever get it done?" "My route is so screwed up now!" "Jeez, I think I spend more time on 93 than at work or at home!" But if visitors want to know how it's going, well, "it's fine." "I practically don't even notice it." "Yeah, it's kind of a hassle, but it's going to be great when they finish it!"

If you went to a local college, deny, deny, deny.

From Newbury Street hair stylists to the people who sell snug black T-shirts and heavy makeup, Bostonians appreciate the jobs created by the education industry. Not to mention all the jobs at the colleges themselves! Bostonians love everything about college kids—the extra parking spaces in the summertime, and the cheerful chatter of cell-phone users everywhere. But the fact remains: No matter how many fires they set or how many cars they turn over after a Pats victory, these kids just came here for school. True Bostonians know that unless your birthplace is within spitting distance of Boston Harbor, you're an immigrant, plain and simple. So keep that alumni sweatshirt in the back of your dresser drawer.

Recognize that the Cape is the best place in the world in summer.

Where do true Bostonians go when they want to go to get away from all the other Bostonians? Where all the other Bostonians go: the Cape. They never, ever admit that they could go to an equally nice beach in Rhode Island for less money and with less hassle. For the true Bostonian, the way to get away from the annoying crowds and traffic of the city is to go where you'll be surrounded by hordes of people who feel the same way. For advanced students: You'll know you're a real Bostonian when your "secret shortcut" involves a service road littered with stop signs and a speed limit of 30 mph, and you pass the time en route chuckling at all the suckers taking the main road.

Pick a newspaper.

Your next step involves making a choice and then sticking with it for life. In Boston, you're either a *Globe* reader or a *Herald* reader. There's no middle ground. It never depends on the headline," and it doesn't matter if "my mail box was empty." You just don't buy the Other Paper. What about the *New York Times*?" you ask? Hmmm. Are you really trying to become a Bostonian?

Hmmm. Well, maybe you weren't cut out to be a Bostonian after all. Cheer up, though: Spooky World will still let you in, and your money's always good here. So pull up a stool next to Norm and tell us a story about where you come from. Bostonians always love a good laugh.

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what's old IS NEW



BY EZRA DYER

THERE'S NO BETTER WAY TO SEEM LIKE AN OLD-TIME TOWNIE THAN BY REFERENCING LONG-GONE BUSINESSES AND LANDMARKS. TAKE OUR QUIZ TO TEST YOUR LOCAL KNOWLEDGE—AND LEARN HOW TO PASS AS A BOSTONIAN EVEN IF YOU JUST MOVED HERE YESTERDAY.

If someone tells you to go to the cab stand in front of where the Duck Boats used to depart, you:

A. Whistle loudly to get a cab—cab stands are for the weak.
B. Wonder what duck boots have to do with anything.
C. Put on scuba gear, go to the harbor and duck some boats.
D. Say "Oh, you mean the cab stand up the street a little bit from where Dad's Diner used to be?"

The Rattlesnake Bar and Grill used to be called:

A. The Rattlesnake Bar and Grill
B. George
C. Both of the above
D. Captain Fishbone's

You're getting a group together to go to a concert in the amphitheater in Mansfield. You propose this as a trip to:

A. The Shawmut Center
B. Great Woods
C. CMGI Field
D. Harborlights

A longtime Boston resident is recounting adventures in the Combat Zone. He asks, "You know wheah that is, right?" You reply:

A. "That's where Sully picked up that hookah who tuhned out to be an undahcovah cop back in '75."
B. "Did you mean to say 'Danger Zone,' the rockin' Kenny Loggins hit from the *Top Gun* soundtrack?"
C. "Kind of around Chinatown somewhere?"
D. [With a far-off, nostalgic look in your eyes] "Well, at least the Slipper's still around."

You've been invited to a BU kegger. The directions say to bear right just past the Ellis the Rim Man building. Where the hell is that?

A. You're afraid of attending any party that involves the phrase "Ellis the Rim Man."
B. That's the former automotive accessories store on Comm. Ave. that's now home to the Media and Technology Charter High School.
C. It's right before the curve in Comm. Ave. where you have a 50 percent chance of getting hit by a trolley any time you cross the street.
D. All of the above

6. There's a couch you love in an old Paine's Furniture catalog. You go to the store to buy it, but leave emptyhanded because the space is now occupied by:

A. Hoboes
B. Ellis the Rim Man
C. Davio's Restaurant
D. House of Spatulas

7. The structure at 100 Summer Street used to be called the Lollipop Building because:

A. It's where the munchkins from *The Wizard of Oz* once shared an apartment.
B. It was coated with a tough candy shell that was eventually eaten by birds.
C. It had a lollipop sculpture out front.
D. It was owned by burlesque dancer Lolly Pop.

8. Tower Records is now:

A. The Guinness Book of World Records
B. The Mass. Office of Public Records
C. Roc-A-Fella Records
D. Virgin Records

9. Jordan Marsh became:

A. The Back Bay, once it was filled in
B. Jordan Knight, a founding member of boy-band supergroup New Kids on the Block
C. Macy's
D. A woman named Marsha, thanks to a team of Swedish doctors

10. What type of career was often launched at the Ding Ho?

A. Chinese mall Santa
B. Ding hostess
C. Long-shelf-life pastry creator
D. Comedian

11. The building that houses Jasper White's Summer Shack and Kings on Dalton Street used to be:

A. The Cheri movie theater
B. A nuclear bunker where Bill Buckner hid for several months after the '86 World Series
C. A warehouse for Aerosmith's Toxic Twins–era drugs
D. An ill-conceived water park that is still mired in legal trouble after the wave pool ruptured in '93, sending scores of boogie-boarders surfing into a dentistry conference taking place across the street at the Sheraton

12. This local landmark was bought out and destroyed by Mass. General Hospital to make room for an expansion in March 2002:

A. Paul Revere's house
B. The U.S.S. Constitution
C. Samuel Adams' grave
D. Buzzy's Fabulous Roast Beef

13. When Bostonians reminisce about the Garden, they're referring to:

A. The arena that preceded the FleetCenter
B. A great place to get in a fistfight with Philadelphia Flyers fans
C. The only major sporting venue in the country where 90 percent of the seating was obstructed-view
D. All of the above

14. They may have changed the sign out front, but everybody still calls the Beacon Street Irish bar/club An Tua Nua by its old name:

A. Hiya Howdoya Dua
B. Ri Ra's
C. The Leek and Badger
D. Harry O'Dingle's

15. If you found a pirate map showing treasure buried at the Auditorium T stop, you'd want to go to:

A. Your friend Chunk's house to get some help finding this treasure
B. The Suffolk Downs stop on the Blue Line, where a veritable treasure awaits if you bet on the right horse
C. The Hynes Convention Center stop on the Green Line
D. The Boylston Street stop, because you can't get enough of those old trains parked there

16. Bank of America bought Fleet Bank, which bought BankBoston, which was a merger of:

A. Bank of Boston and BayBank
B. David Boston and Tyra Banks
C. Bank of Boston and the contents of some guy's wallet they found on the ground
D. Deutsche Bank and a Weimaraner

17. The land that's slated to become the Rose Kennedy Greenway used to be the site of a raised highway called:

A. The Central Artery
B. The Main Vein
C. The Vast Ventricle
D. The North End Ostracizer

18. Lying In and Floating was a:

A. Public pool
B. Hospital
C. Waterbed manufacturer
D. Law firm

19. Both Jurys Hotel, on Berkeley Street, and Dillon's, on Boylston, are housed in a renovated:

A. Monastery
B. Kozmo.com bike-courier mansion
C. Police station
D. Double-wide trailer

20. Your friend coming in from out of town is a tea enthusiast who wants to visit the old Tetley Tea building. Where would he tell the cabbie to take him?

A. Tea is very nice sometimes, but a tea enthusiast? You have some strange friends.
B. He'd ask to go to the Tetley Tea building and the cabbie, thinking this was code, would bring him to a local marijuana dealer.
C. Cabbies are wary of passengers dressed as 18th-century Native Americans and carrying crates stamped with the words "No taxation without representation!"
D. Grill 23

Let's add up your score!

Answers: 1. **D**; 2. **C**; 3. **B**; 4. **A, C** and **D** are acceptable; 5. **D**; 6. **C**; 7. **C**; 8. **D**; 9. **C**; 10. **D**; 11. **A**; 12. **D**; 13. **D**; 14. **B**; 15. **C**; 16. **A**; 17. **A**; 18. **B**; 19. **C**; 20. **D**

15–20 correct: Red Auerbach level. You're wicked awesome. Meet us at the corner in front of Smitty's old apartment and we'll go grab a beer at Atlantic 101.
10–14 correct: Manny Ramirez level. You can't really pass for a Bostonian yet, but you're getting the hang of it. You were probably around for both of FAO Schwarz's going-out-of-business sales.
Fewer than 10 correct: Gary Payton level. Welcome to Boston! Go pay $30 for parking at Fenway because you don't know where the free spots are.

Black-and-white coat
$210; Banana Republic
Black satin skirt
Theory
$230; black knit tube top
Robert Rodriguez
$215. Both
Intermix
Pink heels, $210
DKNY

FLIRTY *pretty* THINGS

feminine classics for fall

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHS BY BILL STREICHER

tterfly brooch, $1[illegible] at
ermix. Liz clutch, $58 at
Lill Studio.



Silk top with topstitch and bow detail by Odille, $78 at Anthropologie.
Pinstriped pants, $84 at Banana Republic.

Shrug with rhinestone neckline by Robert Rodriguez, $285; metal cuff, $248. Both at Intermix.

Anthropologie
799 Boylston
617-262-05

Banana Republic
Copley Plac
617-867-040

Intermi
186 Newbur
617-236-

1154 Lill Stu
220 Newbury
617-247-

Hair: Charles Maks
Maksou Sal

Makeup: Reese Inn

Model: Anna Lynn for Maj

Pink corduroy jacket by Elevenses, $110 at Anthropologie. Green skirt with applique by Mandalay, $369 at Obsessions. Small floral brooch, $24; large brooch with pearls, $48. Both at Banana Republic.

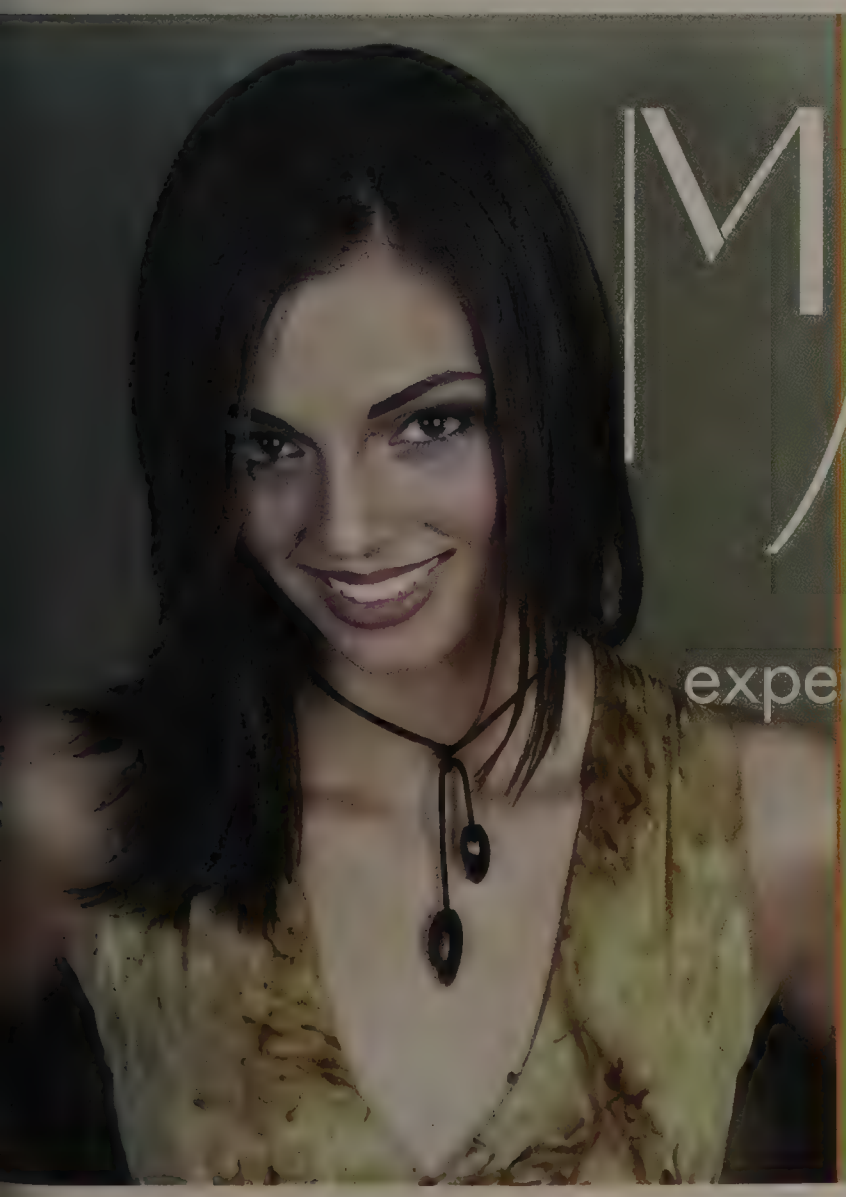







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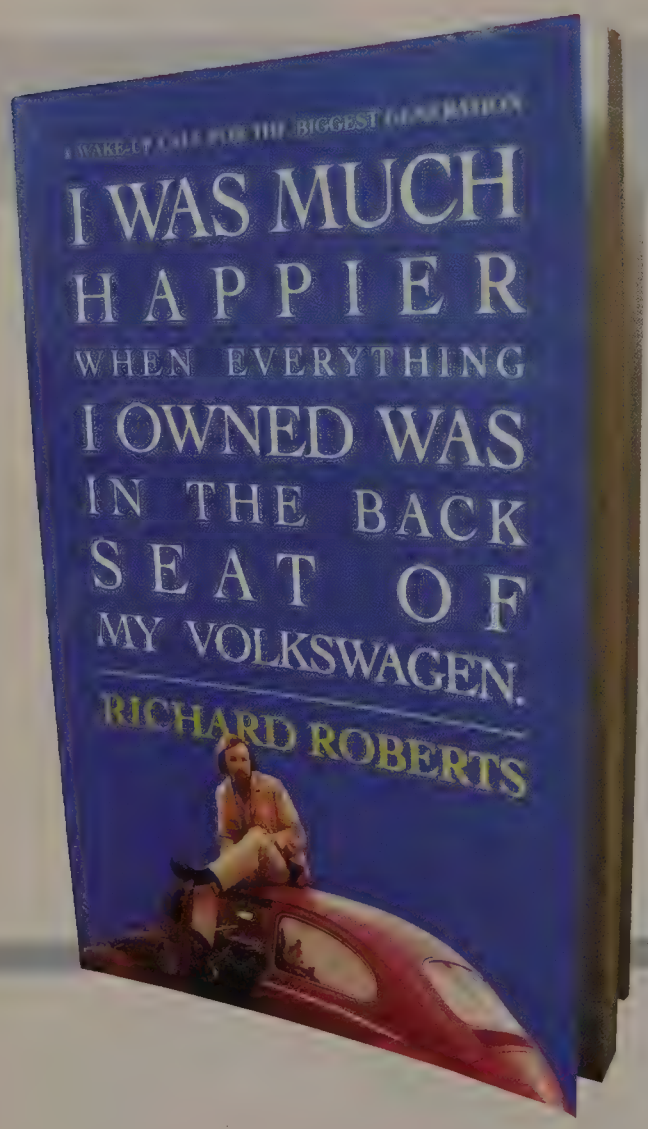
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BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



GOT TO GET OURSELVES BACK TO THE GARDEN

Richard Roberts, whose book *I Was Much Happier When Everything I Owned Was in the Back Seat of My Volkswagen,* saw the '60s firsthand, and would like some of it back.

I Was Much Happier When Everything I Owned Was in the Back Seat of My Volkswagen reads like a roaring, fulminating speech. Richard Roberts' itchy ire is directed at numerous present-day ills—influence peddling and surveillance of our daily lives by the government; politics; the over-medication of old and young; scummy fund-raising scams and insurance that doesn't always insure; the mall-addiction of the young; and more. Remembering the '60s, with its flower-powered, down-in-the-streets populism, spontaneity and effective action, Roberts laments the way the world has turned and wants baby-boomers—the "Biggest Generation"—to replant those flowers and provide a little sixties spirit to the currently young. "Take two nothing and call yourself in the morning," he says to Prozac addicts. Whatever is grass-roots (indeed, grass in all its meanings) appeals to this enlivening *ouch*-sayer. Roberts admires, and resembles, George Carlin, whose half-grouchy irony always bears common sense. Brisk in his curmudgeonliness, he balances the attacks with a list of suggestions to address each ill. Eliminate credit cards, lawyers and SUVs. Vote! And: "If you want to hear the truth, listen to blacks. Or comedians. Or even better, black comedians. Or comedian, Lewis Black."



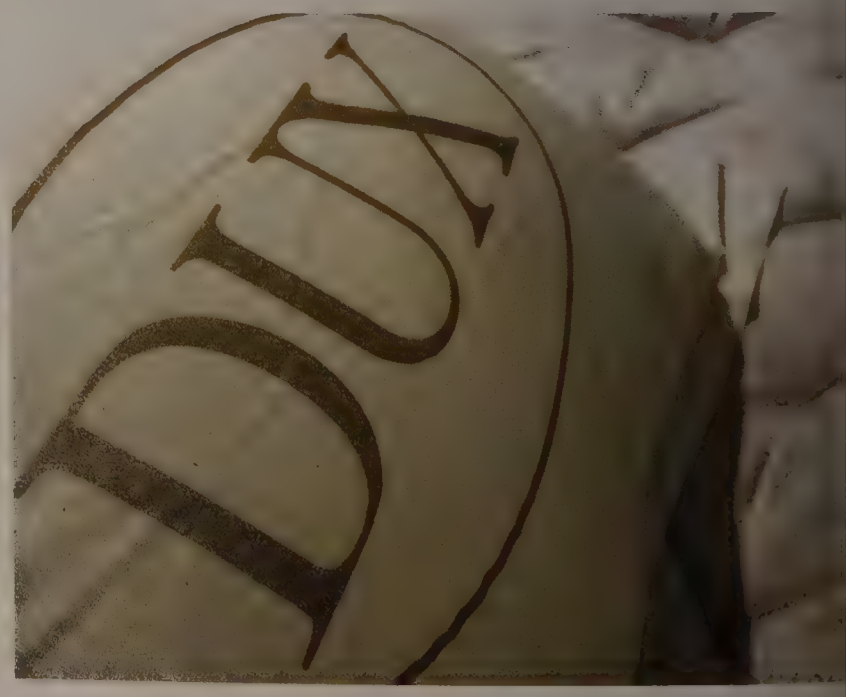
PORTRAIT OF MY LOVE (CAT)

Photographer Gail Bryan captures images of cats and/or their owners. Call 781-383-0483. From $1,500.

As a former photographer for the *Christian Science Monitor,* Gail Bryan has captured images from al over the world—of people in China; vast misty landscapes in Peru, Mexico and Nepal; and the up-clos curly trunk of an elephant. Now, Bryan has circled back to another specialty—the more intimate, grace ful world of cats. Often, she captures that connection between a cat and its owner that can only b called a relationship, doing so in a rather dreamy visual style. She likes to do serial portraits, followin the cat (or other animals) as they lounge—unposed—in their easy habitat of home. A low-key "consul tation" precedes the actual shooting, and Gail's own grace and affinity sets the unstaged stage for subse quent clicking. In one menagerie-household, Bryan shot a woman nuzzling her horse and donkey, an schmoozing on a sofa with her cat and dog. Bryan also has a book in progress that cozily follows a beau tiful 13-year-old girl and her cat. This girl has typed an ongoing diary of self and cats, and Gail ha chronicled it all in black-and-white with her Leica, the cats photogenically arrayed against gauzy cu tains, the girl leaning affectionately against them in natural light.

THE HIGH END OF SNOOZING

Duxiana, at 31 St. James St. (the Park Square Building), carries Swedish Dux beds. Call 617-426-3441.



The Dux bed makes one think of psychotherapist Carl Rogers, who invented "unconditional positive regard," an approach that involves gentle, highly sensitive reflection of the patient's thoughts and words. Dux's sophisticated mattress solves the problem of soft and saggy beds—and of hard and unyielding ones. The Dux bed contains up to 3,600 springs—compared with a stingy 900 in some other queen size mattresses—arranged in layers. The lower layer of springs provides strong, resilient support; the upper, flexible layer molds to your natural curves, dispersing weight in an even way, so no one body pa is pressured into a dead end of inhibited circulation. The springs, like a swarm of gratifying yes-me take on the specific weight of each separate body part. Atop this base rests a lovely, classy and replac able pad with customized inserts that are responsive to the body's three support zones—shoulders, tor and legs—to further cushion you. Ingenious headboards are available with a pop-out piece that slants you can sit up in bed and read. Fine linens with stratospheric thread counts—300 to 1,000—add mo delicious luxury.


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REVIEW

WHOLE GROTTO LOVE

This Italian eatery's modest interior belies cuisine that compares with the best in the city.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

One of the most enduring clichés is "You can't tell a book by its cover." The über-basic appearance of Grotto, Scott Herritt's small restaurant on the back side of Beacon Hill, is a case in point. The word grotto has come over to English with its Italian meaning intact, and one does get the impression of a cave when descending the steps from Bowdoin Street into this eatery. The almost decrepit masonry of its ceiling wears a coat of dark red paint, as do the exposed conduits and pipes. A few charming artifacts provide some relief from the unfinished basement ambience, among them four antique mirrors of varying shapes and sizes, a scattering of unframed paintings, and a long, high oak-top counter along one wall covered with assorted tchotchkes, including two Victorian shaded lamps.

Once the servers began to bring the food, however, my attitude was transformed. One spectacular dish after another followed unrelentingly, transforming Grotto from subterranean speakeasy to a palate pleasing palace.

Grotto's cuisine represents the best in the northern Italian tradition, with vibrant tastes that showcase the natural goodness of the raw ingredients, and an overlay of art that highlights rather than obscures those elements. An example, served early in the summer, was the beer battered softshell crab. Served with pepperonata, wilted greens and corn ($10), it rose above the plate in whimsical, twisted form, like a briny pretzel. Despite my aversion to tall food, I could not help but acknowledge that this eye-catching presentation enhanced the attraction of the dish. With an ever so light and unobtrusive breading, the crab's melt-in-the-mouth texture and fresh flavor did not disappoint. The accompanying wilted chard, sautéed onions, and sweet, pleasantly starchy corn studded with chopped chili peppers, all surrounded by a mellow sauce based on a reduction of the cooking liquid, made this a filling dish (a characteristic that distinguished all of Grotto's appetizers). Softshell crab appears like clockwork on many restaurant menus in the early summer, and Grotto's established a benchmark that will be hard to equal. An even more substantial appetizer, the Piedmont-style fondue with steak tips and mushrooms ($11), provided four generous chunks of fork-tender, rare beef tenderloin and a large portobello mushroom cut into quarters for dipping—dietary laws be damned—into a small, silver-plated fondue dish of melted fontina cheese. A candle under the fondue dish kept the cheese warm as I dispatched the dish down to the last morsel of beef, mopping up the residue with a piece of Grotto's focaccia.



Crispy softshell crab with wilted greens, pepperonata and corn

GROTTO
37 Bowdoin St., Boston
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Grotto offers two pastas in both appe tizer and main-portion sizes. I found th cavatelli ($10 for the ample appetizer size simply superb. These partially hollow twisted al dente noodles did justice to th delectable sauce of chanterelle an porcini mushrooms, pancetta and sausag The symphony of flavors at work— woodsy, earthy mushrooms; sweet-salty smoky bacon; and robust, fennel-spike pork and veal sausage—left me euphoric.

Moving on to the main courses, th semolina-crusted golden trout ($20) cam in a large rectangular bowl with silky-tex tured gnocchi enlivened with nuggets pancetta, and more of the same wilte greens that accompanied the softshell cra The fish itself, two generous boneless fillet boasted impeccable freshness and perfec firm texture, preserved by the lightly applie semolina breading. A mild horseradis sauce enhanced its subtle flavor. Movin from surf to turf, I was almost blown away b the quality of Grotto's beef tenderloin. I sh away from beef at Italian restaurants, bot here and in Italy, since, with the exceptio of Tuscany's biftek fiorentina, beef is not meat that Italian restaurants typically well. With its tenderloin, Grotto cou compete against Boston's priciest stea houses. Butter tender, the fillet can wrapped in a thin slice of satiny, sweet-sal prosciutto and accompanied by cheesy- and not just any cheese, but the king cheeses, Reggiano Parmesan—risotto a five al dente spears of grilled asparag perched on top of the fillet. The tall fo presentation, which worked with the so shell crab, here seemed out of place. Th entire ensemble was surrounded by a savo red wine sauce redolent of shallots. So su stantial was the hefty tenderloin, and so fi ing the garnishes (in a steakhouse, t risotto and asparagus would have fetched à la carte supplement) that a doggie bag b came obligatory.

Finally among the main courses, t roast chicken ($20) proved a worthy pe to the trout and beef. It combined a Stat style (wing bone intact) breast with a su culent thigh stuffed with mushrooms a fontina cheese. Moist, flavorful flesh e cased in crispy, golden brown skin ma the chicken a standout by itself. But t dish did not stop there. A large pancake



Grotto's dining room



Banana bread pudding with caramel semifreddo



Sous chef Nicholas Terrafranca and chef/owner Scott Herritt

pasted polenta proved to be everything hat this starchy garnish often is not: fla- lorful, creamy and mildly sweet, moist- ined from the cooking juices of the hicken and enriched with Marsala wine. Aore of Grotto's ubiquitous, garlicky ilted greens hit the spot.

Grotto offers some reasonably priced ines with its first-rate food, including a alf-liter carafe of decent Chianti ($15), ell structured and dry, a great accompa- iment for the range of foods sampled. oft, slightly peppery focaccia and fruity, romatic extra-virgin olive oil, brought ith the menu and replenished when nec- ssary, made it impossible to leave the ble hungry.

Desserts ($7) included a round blueberry ini-pie, its sugared crust reasonably flaky, nd its fruit balanced between sweet and rt, and a large scoop of vanilla ice cream pping it off. Better was the melting hocolate cake, and although flourless hocolate cake has become something of a cliché on dessert menus, here it seemed magical and irresistible, with a soft, warm, intensely flavored bittersweet chocolate center.

Service at Grotto was prompt, efficient and informed. Friendly waitresses, wholly in sync with the tiny kitchen, brought the courses with appropriate pacing. Grotto offers a fixed-price, three-course menu for $34, which, depending on the choices, can save between $2 and $7 off the aggregate à la carte prices. Even without that savings, however, Grotto's prices—particularly when considered together with its good, value-priced wine by carafe—are extraordinary bargains by Boston standards. The *prix-qualité* index alone is enough to put this restaurant on everyone's short list, but its merit goes far beyond value. Grotto's sophisticated, professionally prepared and attractively presented food measures up well on an absolute scale as well, and when fork enters mouth, all thought of the venue's downscale appearance is banished. IB

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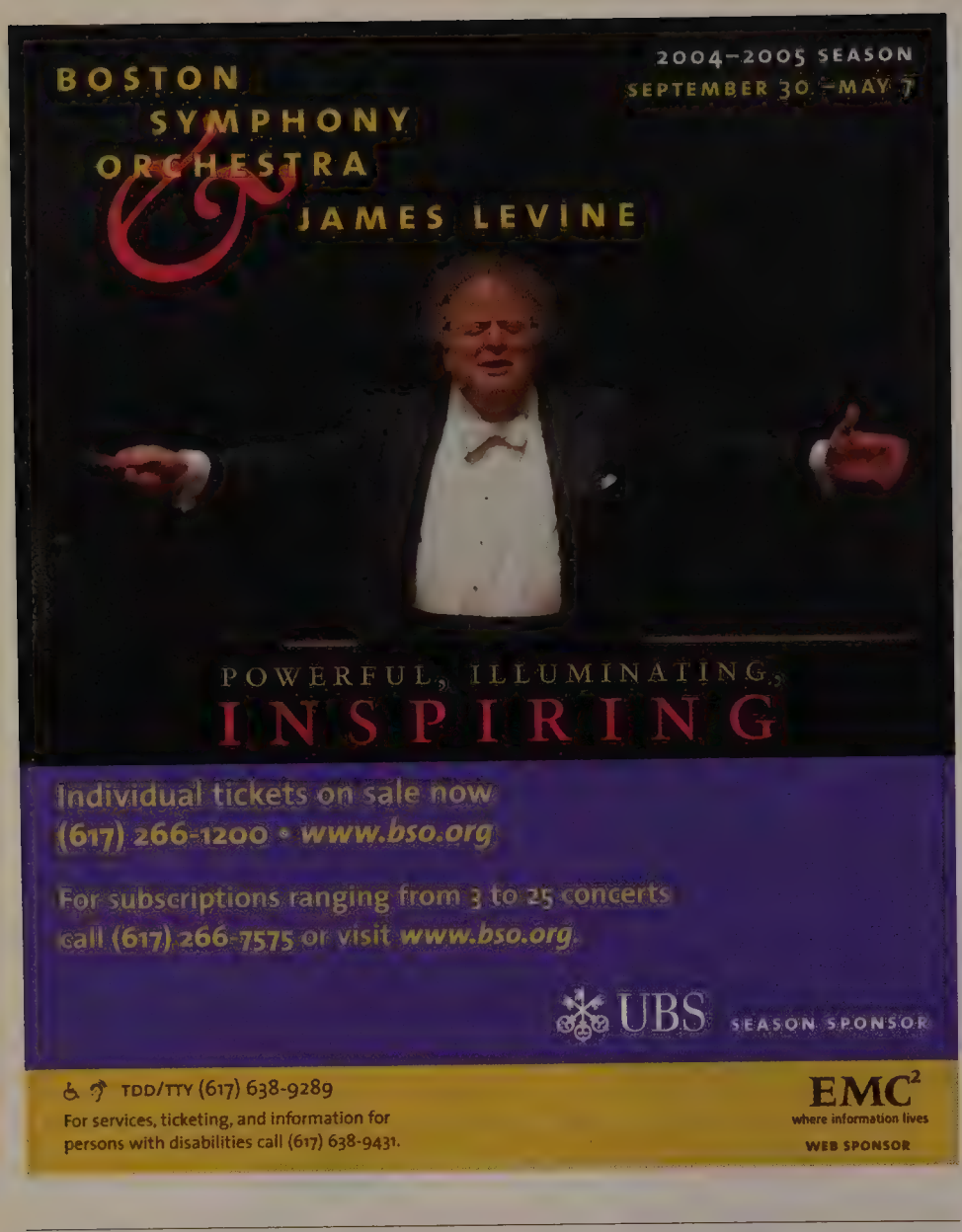
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TASTINGS BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

French Bounty
The French Library & Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www. frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Sept. 13, 6:30-8:30 pm. $55 for members, $70 nonmembers. Spire chef **Gabriel Frasca** hosts a cooking demonstration and tasting using ingredients from local farmers' market to make authentic French fare.

Fun with Food and Wine
Wall Street Café, 127 South St., Boston (617- 451-0600). www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept. 18, 1-3 pm. $35-$40. The Boston Young Professionals Association hosts a wine tasting and cooking class on creating dishes that complement fall wines. Tickets include four glasses of wine and three appetizers.

Hot off the Vine at 33: Wednesday Wine Tasting Series
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25 per person. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** each Wednesday for a sampling of four wines paired with a complimentary food tasting. •Sept. 8: Bordeaux, France. •Sept. 15: Central Italy.

Mariachi, Tequila and Salsa Dinner
Anthem, 138 Portland St., Boston (617-523-8383). www.anthemboston.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Sept. 14, 6:30 pm. $65. Anthem chef **Robert Fathman** celebrates Mexican Independence Day with a four-course Latin-inspired dinner and tequila tasting. The night also includes a cocktail reception with live mariachi music and salsa dancing and lessons.

Meritage Wine School
Meritage at the Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617- 439-3995). www.meritagetherestaurant.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 21, 6 pm. $90. Sommelier **Jamie Moore** discusses some of wine's less common aroma families. The class is accompanied by a five-course meal prepared by chef **Daniel Bruce**.

Rivera of Puglia, Italy
Monica's Restaurant, 143 Richmond St., Boston (617-227-0311). www.monicasfoods.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Sept. 15, 7 pm. $59. Chef **Jorge Mendoza** prepares a fall-inspired four-course dinner spotlighting Italy's Rivera winery.

Summer Cooking School at the Langham Hotel
Langham Hotel, 250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. 6-8 pm. $100. The Langham Hotel hosts a series of classes on preparing classic summertime dishes. •Sept. 8: The Far East Isn't So Far After All.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $25. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, while chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •Sept. 14: Portugal. •Sept 21: Sparkling wines.

Tuesday Tasting at Azure
Azure, 61 Exeter St., Boston (617-933-4800) www.tuesdaytasting.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Sept. 21, 6-8 pm. $19 in advance, $29 at the door. This installment of Boston Event Guide's bi-monthly series features chef **Robert Fathman**'s seafood-themed, contemporary American cuisine. A wine sampling accompanies the meal.

Verrill Farm BBQ Festival
Verrill Farm, 11 Wheeler Road, Concord (978-369-4494). www.verrillfarm.com. Sept. 16, 12-6 pm. Admission is free; BBQ contest, $25. A New England BBQ Society–sponsored grilling competition highlights a daylong celebration featuring live music, hayrides and BBQ.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mondays, 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Johnson** offers descriptions of the wines that complement a French–New England meal by chef **Frank McClelland**.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-720-1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Every Wednesday, 7 pm. $38. Chef **Geoff Gardner** pairs French cuisine with wines selected by Sommelier **Erik Johnson**. •Sept. 8: Bordeaux. •Sept. 15: South Africa, with winery owner **Anthony Hamilton Russell**.

PREVIEW

SMORGASBORD OF THE RINGS



The Museum of Science's new *Lord of the Rings* exhibition gives *LOTR* fans reason enough to get up from their computers. But on September 16, as an added bonus, Frodo's faithful can grab a taste of what Elijah, Viggo and Liv snacked on off-camera, when chef and native New Zealander Bruce deMustchine of the Kiwi Grille in Newburyport hosts the second of three New Zealand–inspired educational tastings in the museum's Skyline room. The four-course dinner gets under way at 6:30 pm and includes dishes like yellowfin tuna tartare and New Zealand rack of lamb. A red and white wine selection accompanies each course. *Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center shuttle. Sept. 16, 6:30–10 pm. $55 (includes parking).* —R.L.

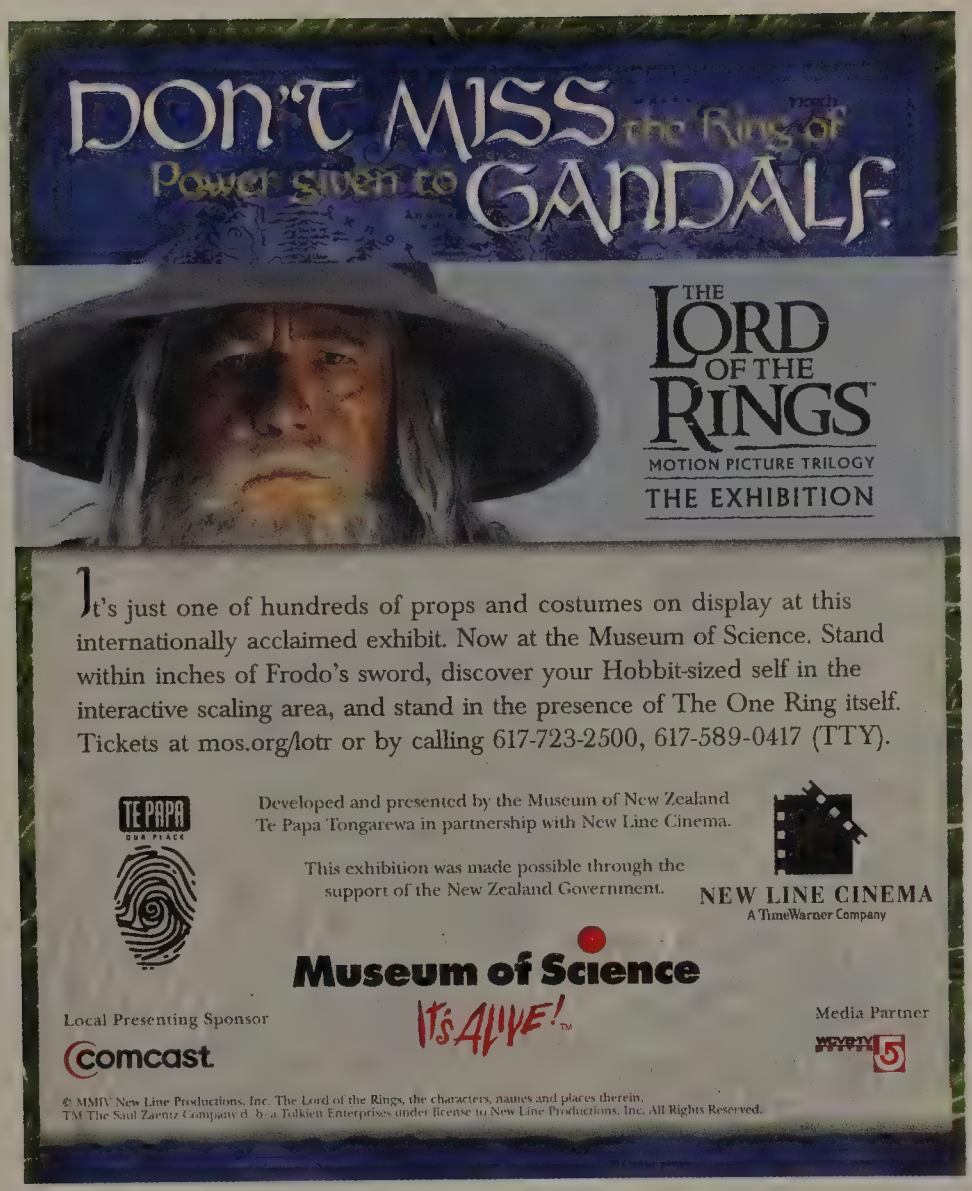
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DISH

Put Tryst on Your List

Plus...UpStairs on the Square benefit

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX


Olio owner Paul Turano is expanding his reach with the 100-seat Tryst in Arlington Center.

It may be a steamy sobriquet for a suburban spot, but **Paul Turano**, chef/owner of the forthcoming **Tryst** in Arlington Center, says it's straightforward, easy to remember, and appealing, much like the name of his first restaurant, **Olio** in Canton.

"It's sexy," he acknowledges. "I want a splash." Just 29 years old, Turano already has the skills and experience to dive in and go the distance. Formerly sous chef at **Harvest**, as well as executive chef at **Tanglewood**, Turano bought Olio from owner Paul Booras back in April of 2002 and consistently pleased a picky clientele.

"I have lots of great customers," says Turano, whose easygoing manner and lack of celebrity-chef ambition add up to a regular-guy persona. "I give them what they want."

What they want in Canton is more of a destination restaurant, and what they'll want in Arlington, Turano predicts, is a neighborhood eatery where they can choose a burger with hand-cut fries or turkey osso buco with cauliflower puree. "An everyday place with great service, reasonable prices, a great wine list," he says.

Turano still owns Olio (**Peter Keating**, formerly of the Patria Group, now runs the kitchen) and has hired **Chris Scanlon**, formerly of **Pommery** in Natick, as his chef de cuisine at Tryst, which, at 100 seats, is three times the size of his first restaurant.

Tryst features what Turano describes as "very seasonal, creative, American cuisine" as well as first-rate steakhouse fare. "That's what people like, a big fat pork chop," he says. Turano, who once weighed 300 pounds and lost close to a third of that by following an Atkins-type regimen, is eager to accommodate diners' requests. "I *am* the customer," he says. He's also jumping in with both feet, opening right away for lunch and dinner, with brunch following in a few weeks. "I'm a risk-taker, but hey, we know what we're doing," he says. "I've leveraged my soul, and this *will* be successful!"

SECOND COURSE

...ecret that restaurant kitchens de... Latin American immigrants, il... legal and otherwise, to work as dishwash... ers. What's less well-known is that man... of those workers' families—living in the... native countries—are dependent o... money they send home. Also under th... radar are the bonds of attachment and re... spect between many dishwashers, wh... gradually work their way up the rungs ... the kitchen staff, and the chefs who ac... mire the strength of their work ethic. S... when **Nicholas Valencia**, a dishwashe... at **UpStairs on the Square**, was kille... recently in a car crash on the way hom... from a second job, chefs **Amanda Lydo**... and **Susan Regis** immediately took ac... tion to help his family back in Colombi... On September 13, UpStairs will throw ... party featuring Latin American food ar... a short film about Valencia (written b... UpStairs on the Square waiter and Mas... Art student **Vincente Fernandez**), wit... 100 percent of the proceeds going to V... lencia's widow and the couple's five chi... dren. Tickets cost $25, for which you ca... enjoy some great food and contribute to... cause as basic and important as a clea... dish. iB

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WINE

Starting a French Frenzy

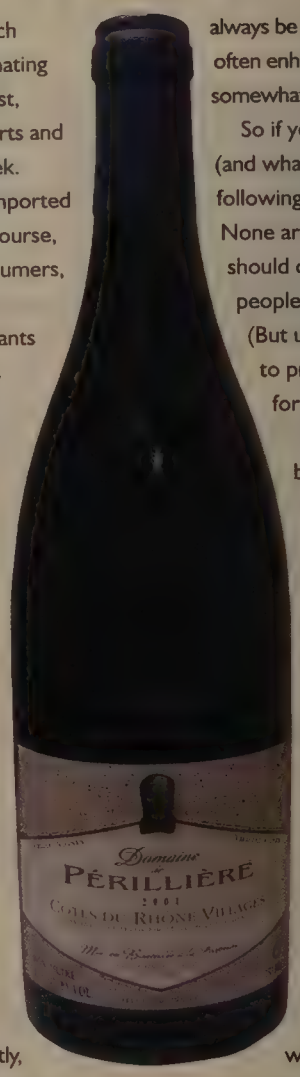
BY SANDY BLOCK, M.W.

It wasn't that long ago that French wines were everywhere, dominating every serious restaurant wine list, every good retail shop and the hearts and palates of every hardcore wine geek. France practically had the whole imported fine wine scene to itself. Now, of course, especially for a lot of younger consumers, French wines are virtually invisible. There are many respected restaurants that carry few, if any, French wines other than Champagne. Why? No one asks for them, restaurant owners say. It's not that many of you don't like the flavors, it's something far more insidious: You're just indifferent.

Imports have grown to make up over a quarter of all wines sold in the U.S., and most of our major trading partners experienced substantial growth in 2003, to the tune of 10 percent overall, but French wines were down 8 percent. This year the slide is worse: down over 30 percent for the first three months. Again, we ask why? And the answer has little to do with politics. First, there are very few French brand names with wide credibility, but more importantly, consumers feel the wines are too hard to buy and perceive them as expensive. If you don't speak French, you need an interpreter. What's Sancerre? What's the difference between Premier and grand cru? What's the difference between all those bottles of Bordeaux? A lot of people, even pros, don't want to have to work that hard.

Trust me on this though: French wine's worth a little effort. Whereas, in general, the wines we're drinking are more monochromatic—produced to a high standard but bright, easy-drinking and almost indistinguishable from one another—French wines are often very distinctive. The reason to choose French wine is the same reason you might buy certain cheese or other food that's unique based on its origins.

In a class I recently conducted for new members of the wine-selling business, we covered the basics in six sessions, tasting about 75 wines. Each attendee picked his or her two favorites, and 15 percent of the selections were French, the same percentage of wines from France that we tasted overall. It reaffirmed my belief that if given the chance, more Americans might be drinking French wines. What do we expect from them versus the more popular categories? In general, French wines will have lower alcohol, more acidity, understated fruit flavors, more earthiness [illegible] less obvious oak characteristics. They may not always be as agreeable for cocktails, but will often enhance food that's balanced and somewhat subtle in flavor.



So if you're interested in branching out (and what wine drinker isn't?), give the following French wine categories a try. None are obscure—every good shop should carry them, and you can ask the people who work there for suggestions. (But unless you know French, ask them to pronounce the names on the labels for you too.)

If you like pinot grigio, try pinot blanc from Alsace. Yes, pinot blanc, not pinot gris, (the same grape as pinot grigio); it's milder, softer in texture, less floral and lighter in body. This is one French wine you can drink casually before dinner or at a picnic.

If you like crisp New Zealand sauvignon blanc, try riesling from Alsace. OK, so what's the deal with Alsace? No, I haven't invested there. But Alsace is, or should be, a category as tart, appley and appetizing as most unoaked, cool-climate sauvignon blanc. It's dry, racy and oh so food-compatible. Perhaps a bit less overtly fruity and with just a shade more mineral nuance than you'll find in the sauvignons.

If you like shiraz, try Côtes du Rhone. While your average Aussie shiraz in the $10–$15 range is going to be very overt with raspberry and spice, and very smooth, the comparably priced Côtes du Rhone (generally a blend of grenache, syrah and other supporting players) will have these same elements—maybe a little more pepper—but will have a bit of a harder bite. Great with casseroles and stews.

If you like pinot noir, try cru Beaujolais. No, not the nouveau stuff, but one of the traditionally made wines from one of the 10 classified villages, especially Moulin-à-Vent, Morgon or Brouilly. You'll taste the same fruitiness, the same cherry-like flavor, but again with more of a rough edge. These are very satisfying wines with pâtés and duck, turkey or chicken, the more herbs on the bird the better.

If you like unoaked California or Australian chardonnay, try St. Veran or a chablis. Go for the St. Veran if you'd prefer the milder charms of chardonnay, and the chablis if you like a bit more acidic cut that will make your mouth water. Both are classic with raw shellfish.

One of only 18 Americans certified as a master of wine, Sandy Block is assistant vice president of wine for Horizon Beverage.



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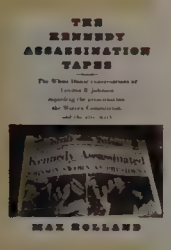
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MPROPER PICKS

september 8 - 21

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			8	9	10	11
					The week-long **Boston Film Festival** kicks off tonight. *See Movies on page 62.*	The Middle East hosts a farewell bash for rock maven **Lilli Dennison**. *See Music on page 66.*
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		**Max Holland** reads from his book *The Kennedy Assassination Tapes* at the Harvard Coop. *See Books & Poetry on page 84.*		***The Memory of Salt*** opens at the BCA's Plaza Theater. *See Performing Arts on page 54.*	***The Great Glass Pumpkin Patch*** is at the MIT List Visual Arts Center. *See Museums & Galleries on page 80.*	Drink beer and eat schnitzel at **Oktoberfest** at the Armory Castle. *See CityScope on page 52.*
19	20	21				
The sixth annual **Celebrity Chef** fund-raiser is at Radius. See CityScope on page 52.						



***In One Hundred Years* by Dan Robertson**

TUE./SEPT. 14 & TUE./SEPT. 21

CityScope: Fine Dining, Fine Art

Art galleries were on to something when they started enhancing show openings with canapés and glasses of bubbly. On the horizon are several art events that are taking it to the next level with interactive art shows that combine food, wine and art. First, there's the new artist series at **Grotto**. The Beacon Hill Italian eatery has teamed up with Cambridge's Out of the Blue Gallery to host monthly wine dinners spotlighting a local artist. At each dinner, the featured artist speaks about his or her work over a glass of wine, followed by a three-course dinner (all for $34). And the art remains on display until the next month's dinner. The series started last month with *Average Joe* contestant Tony Calandra's first art show. His work is on display (and for sale) through September 20. The next art dinner brings in Dan Robertson, who won the blue ribbon in the recent Beacon Hill Art Walk. On September 14, McCormick & Schmick's hosts another kind of interactive art show. The **Floating Gallery** is a project by local artists who bring art to venues as varied as historical homes, condos, chapels and restaurants, displaying the work for only a few hours. The intent is to reach viewers who wouldn't usually go to see artwork in a gallery. The McCormick & Schmick's event is a benefit supporting the North Shore Association for Retarded Citizens' art therapy projects and features work by the ARC members. *McCormick & Schmick's, 34 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-482-3999), Sept. 14, 6:30–9:30 pm; Grotto, 37 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-3434), Sept. 21, 7 pm.*

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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AGENDA EDITED BY
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ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
Ezra Dyer Sports
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SAT./SEPT. 18 AND SUN./SEPT. 19

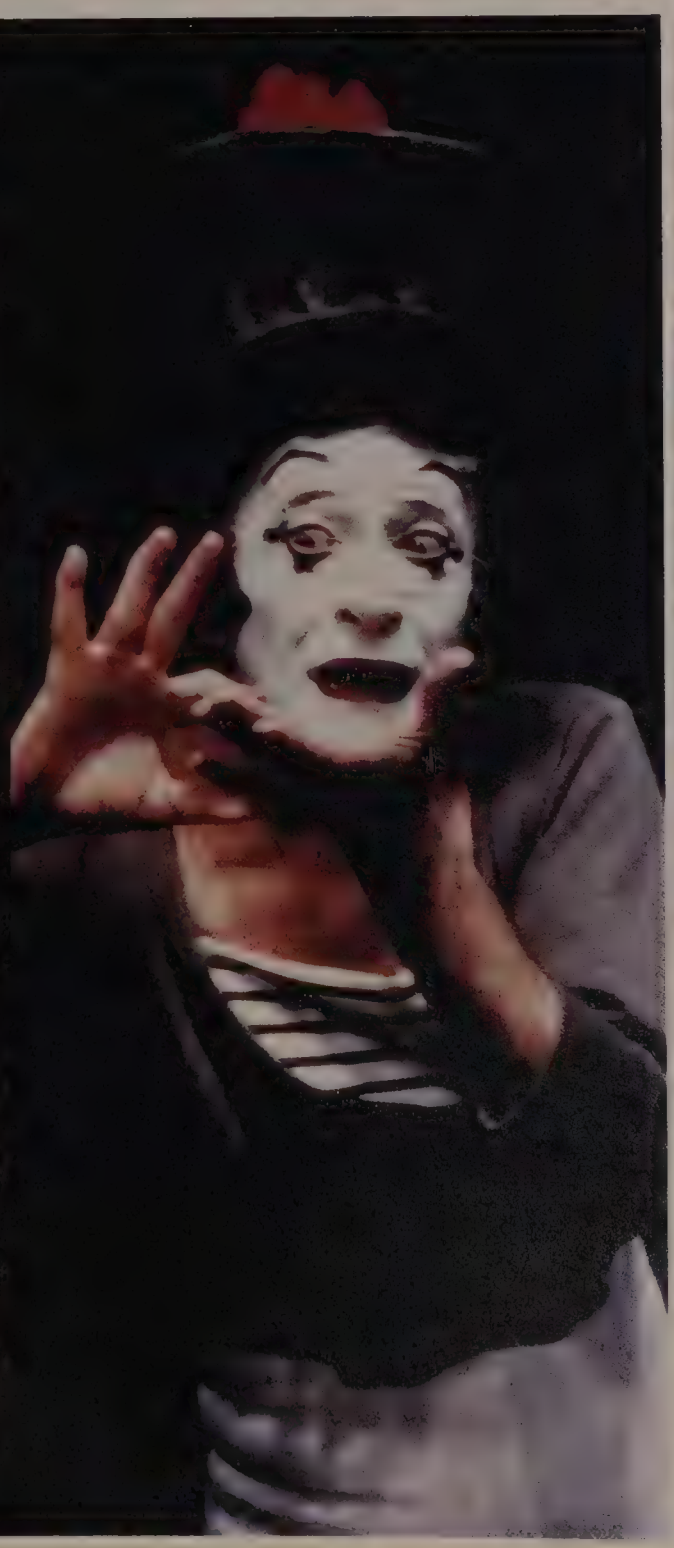
Tastings: Philanthropic Foodies


Tamyra Gray

For the past 21 years, the **Taste of Boston** has consistently delivered big names, music and, of course, tons of food to City Hall Plaza. If you attended last year, you saw Jessica Simpson, at the beginning of her *Newlyweds* glory, belt a few tunes out for the crowd. At this year's Taste event, September 18 and 19, you can hear *American Idol*'s Tamyra Gray, or get some pointers in the kitchen from Boston chefs including Gordon Hamersley of Hamersley's Bistro, Pino Maffeo of L, Marc Orfaly of Pigalle, Peter Davis of Henrietta's Table, Mark Allen of Le Soir, Gabriel Frasca of Spire and others, who reveal trade secrets under the WRKO Celebrity Chef tent. Beer drinkers and sports fans can sip suds and watch the Red Sox and Pats games at the Bass Ale Party and WEEI Ultimate Tailgate. And if you need a little more machismo, check out the WAAF Mantown tent, complete with big-screen TVs, recliners and girls from the 2005 Miss Mantown Calendar. While the entertainment's impressive, the prices are more so: Admission to Taste of Boston is free, and you can nosh on any of the gourmet goods for $1 a taste. A portion of the proceeds benefits the Greater Boston Food Bank and Community Servings. *Sept. 18, 11 am–6 pm; Sept. 19, 12–6 pm. Free. Boston City Hall Plaza (617-779-5800). www.tasteofboston.com.*

FRI./SEPT. 10 – SAT./OCT. 9

Performing Arts: The Sound of Silence



Masterful mime Marcel Marceau has been touring the world with his show for nearly 50 years, and he's always created the sort of buzz that isn't associated with any other mime act. This month, the famous French pantomimist (who's now in his eighties, though you'd never know it with all that white makeup) and his silent cohorts come to the ART in Cambridge for a run of his latest show, *Les Contes Fantastiques* ("Fantastic Fables"). The program features three "mimodramas" based on old fables from around the world. The first, "The Wandering Monk," is a tale from Japan's Edo period about a ghost haunting an empty small town. Another skit, "The Masquerade Ball," is based on a romantic 19th-century Italian story. The last act, "Tiger," is inspired by a Chinese fable. *American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). $45, $35 seniors and $12 students.*

FRI. & SUN./SEPT. 10 & 12

CityScope and Music: Fins to the Fenway

The mayor of Margaritaville is about to roll into town and with him comes an onslaught of Parrothead-friendly parties. As his leagues of fans know, Jimmy Buffett is playing two sold out shows with the Coral Reefer Band in front of the Green Monster at Fenway Park September 10 and 12. While tailgating around Fenway just doesn't happen (due to the lack of a central parking lot), the Unofficial Jimmy Buffett Tailgate Party at WaterWorks, Quincy's version of Margaritaville, offers a fair approximation. Buffett fans can dress up in their favorite tropical outfit and indulge in $1 drink specials and all-you-can-eat-BBQ before each concert. There's also round-trip bus transportation to and from Fenway. *WaterWorks at Marina Bay, 333 Victory Road, Quincy (617-689-0600). www.waterworks-boston.com. Sept. 10, 2–7 pm; Sept. 12, 12–5 pm. $80.*



WED.–SUN./SEPT. 8–12

CityScope: Horse and Hound

Here at the IMPROPER, we love animals. Bringing a dog into the office is like putting M den NFL 2005 in front of a frat boy. There's drool, and we're not talking about the pup Two IMPROPER-sponsored events this month are perfect for the animal lover in all of us First, the Rack hosts the fifth annual **Dog Day Afternoon** September 9. From 6–9 pm, man's best friends (and their owners) are invited to park it on the patio. Dogs can strut their stuff in a pooch fashion show or join their master in the pet look-alike contest—o just rest their dawgs and enjoy the spectacle. Meanwhile, Fidelity Investments' 15th an nual **Jumper Classic,** kicking off September 8, celebrates four-legged friends of another kind. In addition to watching equines strut their stuff in the show ring, spectators can enjoy pony rides, skydiving shows, drill team demos and musical entertainment by Bos Pops talent search winner Tracy Silva. The Classic's $50,000 grand prix, the only one the Boston area, closes the show September 12. If you want to watch it all in style, por up $135 per person (or $1,300 for a table for 10) for ringside seats, a four-course Champagne lunch and an open bar. *Fidelity Jumper Classic, South Hamilton (978-283-7708); www.jumperclassic.com, Sept. 8–12. Dog Day Afternoon, the Rack, 25 Clinton St., Bosto (617-725-1051). www.therackboston.com, Sept. 9, 6-9 pm.*

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cityscope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings for benefits, festivals, activities and events by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Benefits

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Andrew Raycroft Autograph Signing
Finagle a Bagel, 75 Spring St., West Roxbury (617-327-7896). www.finagleabagel.com. 3-5 pm. Free. Bruins goalie and reigning NHL Rookie of the Year Andrew Raycroft signs autographs for the first 100 people to arrive at this celebration of the release of his own sandwich. A portion of the proceeds from September sales of Raycroft's sandwich will be donated to the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Boston.

2004 Fidelity Investments Jumper Classic
Myopia Hunt Club, Route 1A, South Hamilton (978-283-7708). www.jumperclassic.com. Through Sept. 12. Tickets start at $15. THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN hosts the top equestrian event in New England which, among other things, features a Friday night party benefiting S.A.F.E. Studio, an organization that provides art therapy to abuse and trauma survivors.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Viva Las Vegas
The Rack, 24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). www.liverfoundation-ne.org. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. 7-11 pm. $35 in advance, $45 at the door. 21+. The American Liver Foundation hosts this Vegas-style night filled with casino games, pool, a silent auction, complimentary buffet and cash bar. Proceeds benefit the foundation's New England chapter.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Robin's Walk
Freedom Trail, Boston (781-449-0324, ext. 11). www.ccfa.org/chapters/ne. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Park Street. 9:45 am. $25. The New England Chapter of the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation hosts this walk, which follows the historic Freedom Trail and finishes in Boston Common. Proceeds go toward the group's continuing efforts to find a cure for crohn's and colitis.

Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure
UMass-Boston Campus, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-746-9292). www.komenmass.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK. 9 am. Online registration through Sept. 8, $20; packet pick-up registration (9/9, 9/10, 9/11), $25; race day, $30. This annual 5K run or walk through the UMass-Boston campus benefits the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

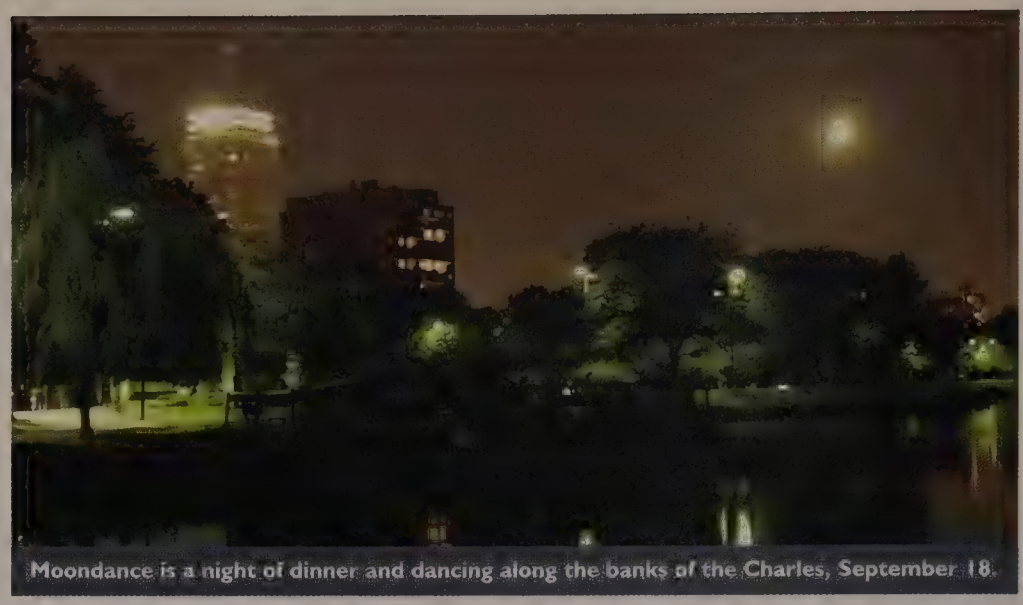
The Floating Gallery
McCormick & Schmick's, 34 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-482-3999). www.floatinggallery.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30-9:30 pm. Free. Members of the North Shore Association for Retarded Citizens (ARC) put their original photography on display. Guests can snack on complimentary appetizers, and a percentage of the proceeds from the cash bar benefits the North Shore ARC.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Fire & Ice Celebrity Chef Anniversary Benefit
Fire & Ice, 50 Church St., Cambridge (617-547-9007). www.fire-ice.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4-10 pm. $14.95 (includes unlimited trips to the grill). In honor of Fire & Ice's seven-year anniversary at its Cambridge location, Mayor Michael Sullivan mans the grill and cooks dinner for everyone. A portion of the proceeds benefits Agenda for Children, a group that supports childhood literacy development.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Boston Heart Walk
Lederman Field at the Esplanade, Boston (508-935-3921). www.heartwalk.kintera.org/bostonma. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Registration, 8:30 am; Race starts, 10 am. Free, although most walkers seek sponsorship for their efforts. This non-competitive 6.2-mile walk raises money for the American Heart Association. One- and 3-mile courses are also offered.


Moondance is a night of dinner and dancing along the banks of the Charles, September 18.

Chef's Harvest Dinners
Various local restaurants, Boston (617-945-0111). www.bostonpublicmarket.org. 7 pm. $200. Chefs from some of Boston's most acclaimed restaurants, including L'Espalier, Icarus, Caffe Umbra and Great Bay cook up special dinners with ingredients from the new fall harvest to raise support and interest for the creation of a Boston public market.

Cooking for a Cause
8 Park St., Boston (617-876-4444). www.eastendhouse.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 7-10 pm. $100. THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN sponsors this event celebrating the East End House, the country's oldest social service agency. Culinary Chair Luc Robert and Wine Chair Geoffrey Fallon are joined by top local chefs like Pigalle's Marc Orfaly and Grill 23's Jay Murray. Proceeds benefit the East End House.

Moondance
Charles River Esplanade, Boston (617-227-0365). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. 6:30-9 pm. $500. The proceeds from this night, the first dinner dance ever to be held on the banks of the Charles, support the Esplanade Association's efforts to restore and preserve the Esplanade. Call for information.

Lori Tatoulian
The Armenian Library and Museum of America, 65 Main St., Watertown (857-222-6513). www.amainc.org. 7 pm, $15. The Armenian Scholarship Foundation presents actress and comedian Lori Tatoulian and her one-woman show, *Autosapiens and other Species*, about Californians' intricate relationship with their cars. The ASF aims to bring equal opportunity to higher education.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk
Town Common, Hopkinton (866-539-4376). www.jimmyfundwalk.org. 7 am. Walkers must raise a minimum of $200. Walk a full or half marathon and help the Jimmy Fund reach its goal of raising $4.5 million for cancer research and care at the Dana-Farber Institute. A victory party at the walk's finishing point in Copley Plaza includes a band, speaking programs and refreshments.

Sixth Annual Celebrity Chef Fund-Raiser
Radius, 8 High St., Boston (617-4256-2526). www.bigsister.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6-9 pm. $125 per person ($200 for two). Radius' Michael Schlow, Chris Myers and Esti Parsons host some of the city's top culinary talent for an event benefiting the Big Sister Association of Greater Boston. Pigalle's Marc Orfaly, Great Bay's Jeremy Sewall and Via Matta's Louis Morales are just a few of the chefs donning their aprons and preparing special meals.

Festivals & Parties

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

5th Annual Dog Day Afternoon
The Rack, 24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. 6-9 pm. Free. THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN hosts this opportunity for dog owners to spend a night out with their pooches at the Rack's patio. Star 93.7 FM's Fast Freddy hosts, and DJ Brian Roche spins music all night.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Emerald Necklace Ball
Boston Common, at the corner of Beacon and Charles streets, Boston (617-635-4505 ext. 3039). www.cityofboston.gov/calendar. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Park Street. 7 pm. $225. Mayor Menino hosts this fifth annual night of dinner and dancing in celebration of the landscape architecture of Boston Common.

Fall Bash
Bell in Hand, 45 Union St. Boston (617-227-2098). www.bostonyoungpro.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 7 pm-2 am. $12 online, $15 at the door. The Boston Society of Young Professionals hosts this party celebrating the start of fall with drink specials, free appetizers and live music.

Italian Feast of Saints Cosmas and Damian
Gaeta Square (Warren, Porter and Cambridge streets), Cambridge and Somerville (617-661-1164). www.cosmas-and-damian.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Through Sept. 12. Fri., 5-11 pm; Sat., 5-11 pm; Sun., 12-10 pm. Free. This 78th annual feast features amusement rides, games, parades, Italian food and a live performance by doo-wop group the Capris.

Puttin' on the Ritz: Relive the Big-Band Era
The Ritz-Carlton, 15 Arlington St., Boston (617-912-3355). www.ritzcarlton.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm-12 am. $25. The Ritz turns back the clock for a big-band party on the roof, with music provided by the eight-piece Ritz-Carlton Orchestra.

The "Unofficial" Jimmy Buffett Tailgate Party
WaterWorks, 333 Victory Road, Quincy (617-423-6000). www.waterworks-boston.com. 2-7 pm (buses leave between 5:30 and 7:30 pm); also Sept. 12, 12-5 pm (buses leave between 3:30-5:30 pm). $80. Water Works hosts a party in honor of Jimmy Buffett's Fenway Park concerts with live music, $1 drink specials, all-you-can-eat BBQ and round-trip bus transportation to and from Fenway.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

(ähts): The Boston Arts Festival
Christopher Columbus Park, Boston (617-635-3911). www.cityofboston.gov/arts. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Through Sept. 12. 11 am-6 pm. Free. This two-day event kicks off the fall art season with a showcase of more than 60 juried artists, who exhibit and sell works ranging from sculpture and jewelry to glasswork and photography. The weekend also includes special performances by Boston Ballet and the Boston Lyric Opera.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Jamaica Plain World's Fair
Centre Street in Hyde Square, Jamaica Plain (617-522-3694). MBTA: Orange Line to Jackson Square. 12-6 pm. Free. Jamaica Plain's 16th Annual World's Fair boasts over 80 vendors, children's activities and a wide array of live entertainment. This year's performers include the Marta Gomez Trio, Omar Suazo and Roots Nation.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Dewar's Executive Happy Hour
Saint, 90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134). www.bostonypa.com. 6:30-9 pm. $5. The Boston Young Professionals Association hosts this networking event for those 21-40 years old. Guests sample and learn about scotch and Dewar's products with accompanying appetizers from Saint executive chef Rene Michelena.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

The Blues Run & Big Pig BBQ
Marsh Post, 5 Greenough Blvd., Cambridge (617-625-2140). www.baevents.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. $18. The first leg of the Somerville Striders' Twin Cities Fall Race Series features a 4.2-mile run along the Charles followed by a pig-roast f turing Harpoon beer and a performance by the Sass Blues Band.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Greek Fest '04
Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral Commun Center and Grounds, 162 Goddard Ave., Brookl (617-731-6633). MBTA: C Green Line to Brookl Village. Through Sept. 19. Fri., 4-9 pm; Sat., 11 a 11 pm; Sun., 12-10 pm. Free. This weekend celeb tion of Greek culture features authentic cuisine, l music and entertainment, as well as a raffle for a t for two to Greece.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Oktoberfest
The Castle at Park Plaza, 130 Columbus Ave., Bos (888-945-2337). www.beersummit.com. MBTA: Gr Line to Arlington. 12-10 pm. $10 (includes one pint beer). This annual daylong event celebrates Germ food, German music and, oh yeah...German beer.

Taste of Boston
Boston City Hall, Boston (617-779-5800). www.ta ofboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Governm Center. Through Sept. 19. Sat., 11 am-6 pm; Su 12-6 pm. Entercom Boston and Shaw's present t 21st annual outdoor festival of food, music, spo and entertain ment. Highlights include cooki demonstrations from chefs like Gordon Hamers and Pino Maffeo, a Disney breakfast for kids a musical performances from Tamyra Gray, Moni and Puddle of Mudd.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Art Series at Grotto
Grotto Restaurant, 37 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-22 3434). www.grottorestaurant.com. MBTA: Green Red Line to Park Street. 7 pm. $34. Grotto ch owner Scott Herritt hosts a special three-cou dinner highlighting the Campania region of Ita The night also showcases artwork by Dan Robe son, the blue-ribbon winner of the recent Beac Hill Art Walk.

Singles

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Jewish Single Professionals for the Arts Tour
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Bos (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBT E Green Line to MFA. 6-8:30 pm. $40. Tour the M seum of Fine Arts with other singles and min over post-tour coffee. Reservations required.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Single Professionals for the Arts To
Starbucks, at the corner of Boylston and Berkeley stre Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.co MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 4-6:30 pm. $40. T Boston-area galleries with other singles and min over post-tour cocktails at Mistral. Reservations quired.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Eight Minute Dating
Orleans, 65 Holland St., Somerville (617-669-875 www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line Davis Square. 7:08 pm. $35. Sample appetizers d ing eight different eight-minute dates. Then min and meet the people you didn't get the chance share a date with. For ages 25-35.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Eight Minute Dating
Clarke's at Faneuil Hall, 21 Merchants Row, Bos (617-227-7800). www.eightminutedating.com. MB Green Line to Government Center. 6:30 pm. $35. S ple appetizers during eight different eight-min dates. Then mingle and meet the people you di get the chance to share a date with. For ages 28-3

Hurry Date
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-5 3311). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Green Lin Arlington. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $35 for n members. Embark on 20 five-minute dates and er drink specials from 33 Restaurant. For ages 25-3

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

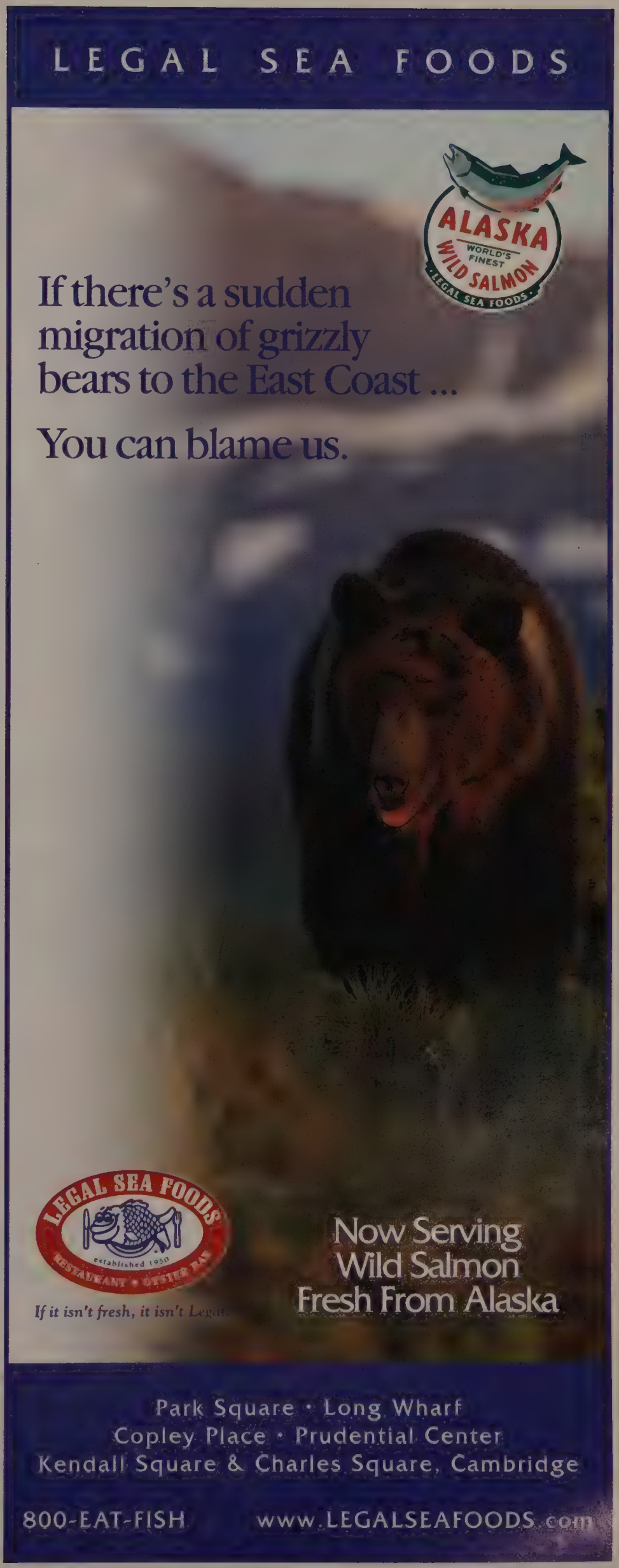
Eight Minute Dating
29 Newbury Street Restaurant, 29 Newbury Boston (617-536-0290). www.eightminutedating.c MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30 pm. Sample appetizers during eight different ei minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people didn't get the chance to share a date with. For 22-32.



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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater

JUST OPENED

A Little Night Music
Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Sept. 10-Oct. 16. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm; Sept. 15 and Oct. 6, 2 pm. $21-$45. Spiro Veloudos directs Stephen Sondheim's musical celebrating the intricacies of love.

All Night Strut
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). www.turtle-lane.com. Sept. 17-Oct. 10. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $24, $17 for seniors and students. This cabaret-style musical celebrates the 1930s and '40s with jazz, blues, bebop and soul tunes.

Antigone
Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-491-2026). www.bu.edu/bpt. MBTA: B Green Line to BU. Sept. 16-Oct. 3. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun. and Sept. 18, 3 pm; $28. Richard McElvain adapts Sophocles' story about the struggle between the state and the self.

Approaching Moomtaj
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands (617-332-1646). www.newrep.org. Sept. 15-Oct. 17. Wed., 7 pm; Thu.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $28-$48. Michael Weller's new play tells the story of one man's struggle to save his marriage and his career after September 11th.

Ballast
BCA Plaza Black Box, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Sept. 16-Oct. 2. Thu. 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $24. Centastage and Wellesley Summer Theatre present this dramatic story about two Irish immigrants in America dealing with the disappearance of their daughter.

Cyrano de Bergerac
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-1300). www.theatrecoop.org. MBTA: #89 or 101 bus. Sept. 17-Oct. 9. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $20. Cyrano, a gifted poet and courageous soldier, is forced to hide his love for Roxane because of his enormous nose. When the handsome Christian commissions him to write love letters to her on his behalf, things become complicated.

Gem of the Ocean
Boston University Theatre, 246 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Sept. 10-Oct. 17. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm and 7 pm. $14-$63. Set in 1904, August Wilson's newest play chronicles the African-American experience through Citizen Barlow and his 285-year-old Aunt Ester.

Preview

Freedom Trail

Phylicia Rashad is center stage in *Gem of the Ocean*

Life after *Cosby* hasn't been so bad for Phylicia Rashad. The actress, best known as TV's effervescent mom-with-it-all, Claire Huxtable, has found herself a bit of a Broadway darling, with starring roles in a series of successful plays and a Tony award (the first for an African-American actress in a leading role) for her portrayal of Lena "Mama" Younger in *A Raisin in the Sun*. Rashad's latest project, Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright August Wilson's *Gem of the Ocean*, brings her to Boston for a pre-Broadway run at the Huntington Theatre from Sept. 10–Oct. 17.

The latest in Wilson's cycle of 10 plays, *Gem* explores the black experience in 20th-century America, the early days of post-emancipation. Rashad stars as Aunt Ester, a 285-year-old soothsayer and healer who is called upon to lead a young man on a spiritual journey to the City of Bones, the gravesite of thousands of slaves.

Joining Rashad onstage is an all-star cast that includes Lisa Gay Hamilton formerly of *The Practice*, Olivier Award winner Anthony Chisholm and Tony Award winner Ruben Santiago Hudson.



Phylicia Rashad stars in Huntington Theatre's production of *Gem of the Ocean*.

"Audiences are going to be moved, entertained, amused, and have something really interesting to think about when they leave the theater," says Huntington Theatre spokesperson John Michael Kennedy.

Huntington Theatre Company, BU Mainstage, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. Sept. 10–Oct. 17. $14–$55. —Laura Kenyon

Hedwig and the Angry Inch
Cambridge Family YMCA, 820 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (877-238-5596). www.smarttix.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sept. 9-Oct. 3. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10. German rock 'n' roll goddess, Hedwig, searches for fame and love after a botched sex-change operation leaves her with just an "angry inch."

Jesus Christ Superstar
Kresge Little Theater, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-6294). http://web.mit.edu/mtg. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Sept. 9-11, 8 pm. $10. MIT's Musical Theatre Guild performs Andrew Lloyd Webber's notorious interpretation of the story of Jesus Christ and the man who betrayed him.

La Clemenza di Tito
Ellsworth Theatre, Pine Manor College, 400 Heath St., Chestnut Hill (617-931-2000). www.prismopera.org. Sept. 17, 8 pm; Sept. 19, 3 pm. $30 adults, $15 students/seniors. Thomas Stumpf presents a new English translation of Mozart's opera about murder, conspiracy and love.

Marcel Marceau: Les Contes Fantastiques (Fantastic Tales)
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-495-2668). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sept. 10-Oct. 9. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $25-$45. The famous mime performs "The Wandering Monk," "The Masquerade Ball," and "The Tiger."

The Memory of Salt
BCA Plaza Theatre, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Sept. 16-25. Thu.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $25. The Animus Ensemble presents the story of Hecuba and the fall of Troy, depicting the tragedy of war for both victor and victim through music, dance and dialogue.

Swing!
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Durham Road, Beverly (617-232-7200). www.nsmt.org. Sept. 21-Oct. 10. Tue.-Sat., 8 pm (except 7 pm on Sept. 28); Wed., Sat., Sun., 2 pm. $30-$63. This musical dance revue celebrates the explosion of swing music in the 1930s.

Tommy
Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). www.stonehamtheatre.org. Sept. 9-Oct. 3. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $16-$32. American pop singer Jake Simpson stars in the Who's rock opera about a deaf, dumb and blind pinball wizard.

NOW RUNNING

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. Ongoing. $46-$56. This dialogue-free production features tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding
Matrix Nightclub, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123) www.comedywedding.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Sept. 10-11 and 17-18, 7:30 pm. $49. Tickets include dinner, show and entry to Matrix. The nation's longest-running comedy/dinner-theater show spoofs a traditional Italian wedding with audience participation and dinner.

The Lion King
Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (800-347-0808). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. 26. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 1 pm and 6:30 pm. $22-$132. Julie Taymor directs this stage adaptation of the popular Disney film about a young lion cub's struggle to become king.

Loman Family Picnic
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4433) ww.gloucesterstage.com. Through Sept. 19. Wed-Fri., 8 pm; Sat. and Sun., and 8 pm. $15-$30. Donald Margulies' comedy about life in middle-class America centers around a family living near Coney Island in the 1960s.

Maria's Bachelorette Party
Matrix Nightclub, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123) www.comedywedding.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Sept. 17, 7 pm. $39. Tickets include dinner, show and entry to Matrix. Bridesmaids, exotic male dancers, and the mother-of-the-bride go head to head in this comedic audience participation show.

Menopause: The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617-426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 pm and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $42.50. A quartet of aging baby boomers meet at a lingerie sale, and singing and dancing ensues.

Nine
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Durham Road, Beverly (617-232-7200). www.nsmt.org. Through Sept. 11. Tue.-Sat., 8 pm; Wed., Sat., Sun., 2 pm. $30-$63. Adapted from Federico Fellini's film 8 1/2, this musical follows a failing film director as he tries to get his life together, particularly his relationships with women. Barry Ivan directs.

Say You Love Satan
Black Box Theater, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.zeitgeiststage.com. Through Sept. 11. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat., 5 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $25. After Andrew begins an intense relationship with hunky dreamboat Jason, he starts to fear his boyfriend is literally from hell. Written by Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225).www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $
This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

The Sopranos Last Supper
*Kowloon Restaurant, 948 Broadway, Saugus (781-233-0077) www.comedywedding.com. Sept. 17 pm. $45.*This interactive dinner theater show based on the HBO series.

Troilus and Cressida
Publick Theatre, Christian Herter Riverside Park, 1 Soldiers Field Road, Brighton (617-782-5425) www.publicktheatre.com. MBTA: 86 bus to Everett St. Through Sept. 12. Wed., Thurs., Sun., 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm. $25-$30. Hector, Paris, Agamemnon, Achilles and Ulysses recall the tragedy of war in Shakespeare's play about the ancient city of Troy.

Dance

Configuration: A Ballet Ensemble for the 21st Century
Sorenson Theater, Babson College, Forest St., Wellesley (508-945-4096). www.configurationdance.org. Sept. 18, 8 pm. $30. The ensemble Configuration presents two world premieres, by the New York City Ballet's Edward Liang and David Justice Holmes.

Ego Show V: Internationale!
Green Street Studios, 185 Green St., Cambridge (617-864-3191). www.egoartinc.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sept. 9-11, 8 pm. $17. EgoArt is a neo-vaudeville dance theater group, presenting performance of cabaret, vaudeville and modern dance infused with skits and video.

Neither Here nor There
The Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-9363). www.dancecomplex.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sept. 10-11. $9. One of the yearly Shared Choreographer's Concerts presented by the Dance Complex, "Neither Here nor There" features diverse works by local choreographers.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. Deadline for listings is four weeks prior to publication.

STAND-UP CLUBS

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-S

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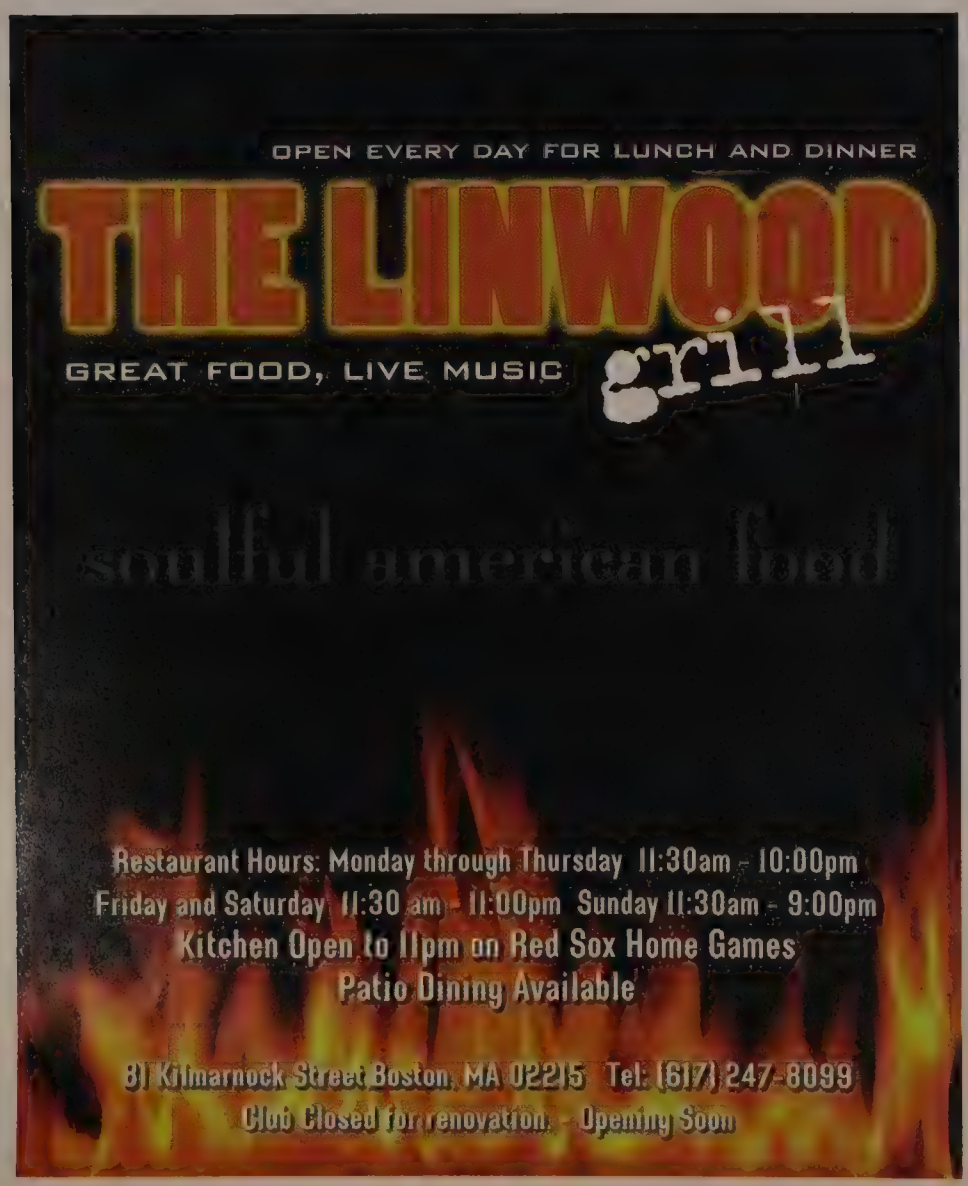
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9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault at Remington's features local stand-up comedians. •Thu.: Greg Howell and friends •Fri. and Sat.: Boston's Best Standup •Sun.: Open Mike Night.

Cantab Lounge

738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.cantablounge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Thursdays, 8 pm: Chris Waller performs improv downstairs, no cover, 21+.

Comedy Connection

245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Sept. 8, 8 pm: Harrison Stebbins, $12. •Sept. 9, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •Sept. 10, 8 and 10:15 pm: Bobby Slayton, $20. •Sept. 11, 8 and 10:15 pm: Bobby Slayton, $20. •Sept. 12, 7 pm: Mike Donovan, $12. •Sept. 16, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. Sept. 17, 8 and 10:15 pm: Carolinw Rhea, $25. •Sept. 18, 8 pm: Jim Lauletta and Jim McCue, $17. •Sept. 18, 10:30 pm: Caroline Rhea, $27. •Sept. 19, 7 pm: Boston Comedy Showcase, $12. •Sept. 20, 7 pm: Amateur Showcase with Kevin Knox, $12. •Sept. 21, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $12.

Comedy Studio

Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Sept. 8: Tony V Experiment, Tim Kaelin, EJ Murphy, Steve Calechman and more. •Sept. 9: Joshua Salkind, Brian Joyce, Kevin Neales, Tim Fenn and others. •Sept. 10: Andy Turco, Kris Earle, Rachel Isenberg, Tim Fenn, Mike Herman, the Walsh Bros. •Sept. 11: Tim Fenn, Nate Johnson, Joe Cronin, Rick Jenkins, Andy O'Fish. •Sept. 12: Ira Procter, Nate Johnson, Tissa Hami, Tim Fenn and others. •Sept. 15: Tony V Experiment, Deb Farrar-Parkamn, Tim Fenn, Dave Grabiner and others. •Sept. 16: Tommy Morello, Sean Lily, Tim Fenn, Mark McKay and others. •Sept. 17: Tony V Experiment, Jim Flaherty, Tim Fenn, Eric Cheung, Erin Judge and others. •Sept. 18: Rob O'Reilly, Steve Calechman, Joe Wong and others. •Sept. 19: Robby Roadsteamer, Matt Wininger, Peter Dutton, Ken Reid, Larry Starr and others.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. $10-$22. •Sept. 9, 8:30 pm: Brad Mastrangelo, Benny Karl. •Sept. 10, 8:45 pm: Brad Mastrangelo, Benny Karl, Stacey Yannetty. •Sept. 11, 8:45 pm: Brad Mastrangelo, Benny Karl, Stacey Yannetty. •Sept. 16, 8:30 pm: Jim McCue, Marc Scalia. •Sept. 17, 8:45 pm: Jim McCue, Marc Scalia, Joe Brady. •Sept. 18, 8:45 pm: Jim McCue, Marc Scalia, Joe Brady.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. •Ongoing: *The Midnight Show*, Saturdays at midnight, $10.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: the characters, the stories, the settings—even the songs and dances. •Thursdays, 8 pm, $10-12: *Unnatural Selection*. A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one is left. 10 pm, $5: *The Great and Secret Comedy Show*. Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and music, play short films and do character sketches in a display of sibling rivalry. •Fridays, 8 pm, $10-12: *Boston Creem*. Boston's first all-woma improv troupe performs. •Saturdays, 6 pm, $10-1 (children 11 and under accompanied by an ad admitted free): *Improv Boston Family Show*. short-form improvisational show the entire fami can enjoy. 8 and 10 pm, $10-12: *ImprovBosto Mainstage*. Blending storytelling, music and aud ence participation, a cast of improvisers creates show that changes with every performance. •Su days, 7 pm, $5: *Sgt. Culpepper/Open Jam*. Th evening combines three shows into one. Wato performances by visiting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-30 6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Li to South Station. Saturdays, 6 pm. $12. Boston newest short-form improv group performs skits th involve audience participation.

The Tribe

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: R Line to Central. Every Thursday, 8 pm. $5 before pm, $10 after. 21+. Improv comedians poke fun everything, including themselves.

COMEDY SHOWS

Election

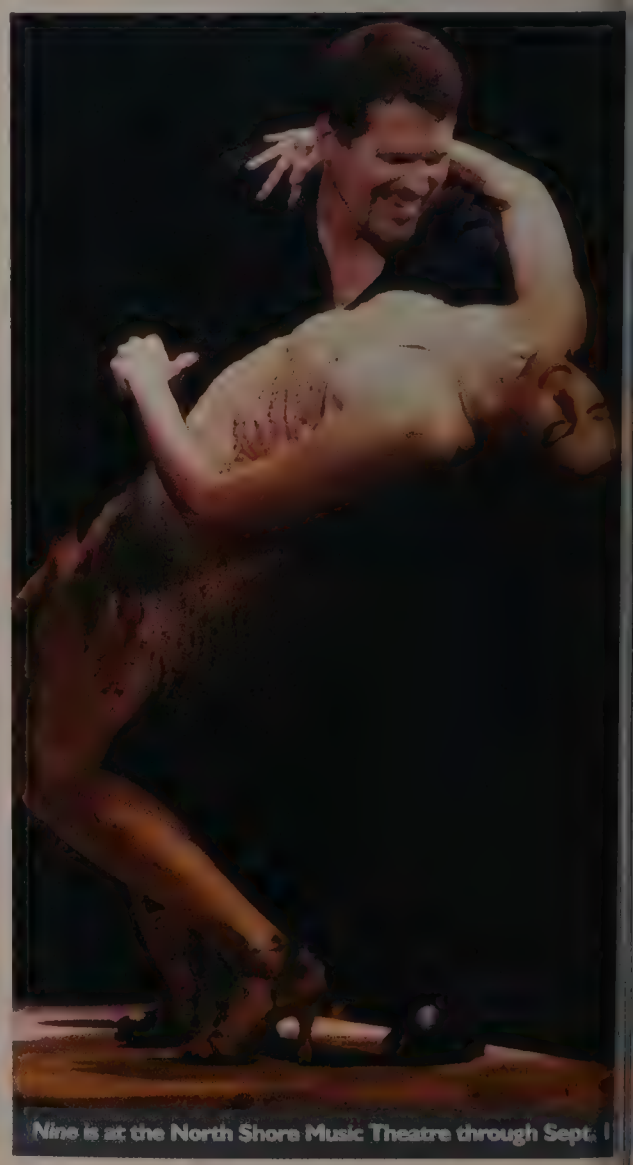
ImprovBoston, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambrid (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBT Red Line to Central. Through Sept. 24. Fri., 8 p $12. Witness the electoral process like you' never seen it before as ImprovBoston nominat candidates, holds primaries, throws the press in the mix and finishes at the voting booth.

Reno: Rebel Without a Pause

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm S Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadwa com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Sept. 14-18 a Sept. 24-25, 7:30 pm; (additional show Sept. 16 pm.) $25. Comedian Reno shares her experien as a witness of the events of September 11 a how they affected her life.

Surviving American Idol: The Murder Mystery

Mystery Café Dinner Theater, Three Cheers Resta rant, 290 Congress St., Boston (781-383-140 www.mysterycafe.com. MBTA: Red Line to So Station. Friday and Saturday, through Sept. 11, 7: pm. $45. Have your dinner with a generous he ing of hilarity in this spoof of the nationwide talent search, served with a murderous twist.



Nine is at the North Shore Music Theatre through Sept. 1

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CAROLINE RHEA

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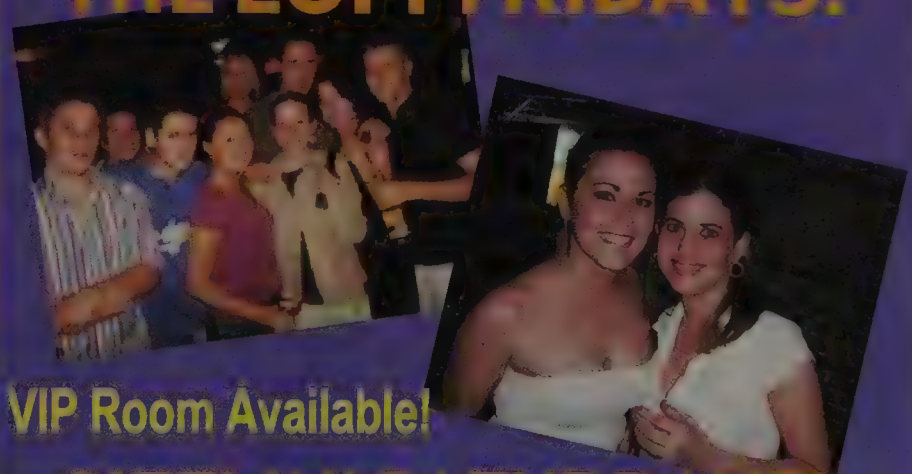
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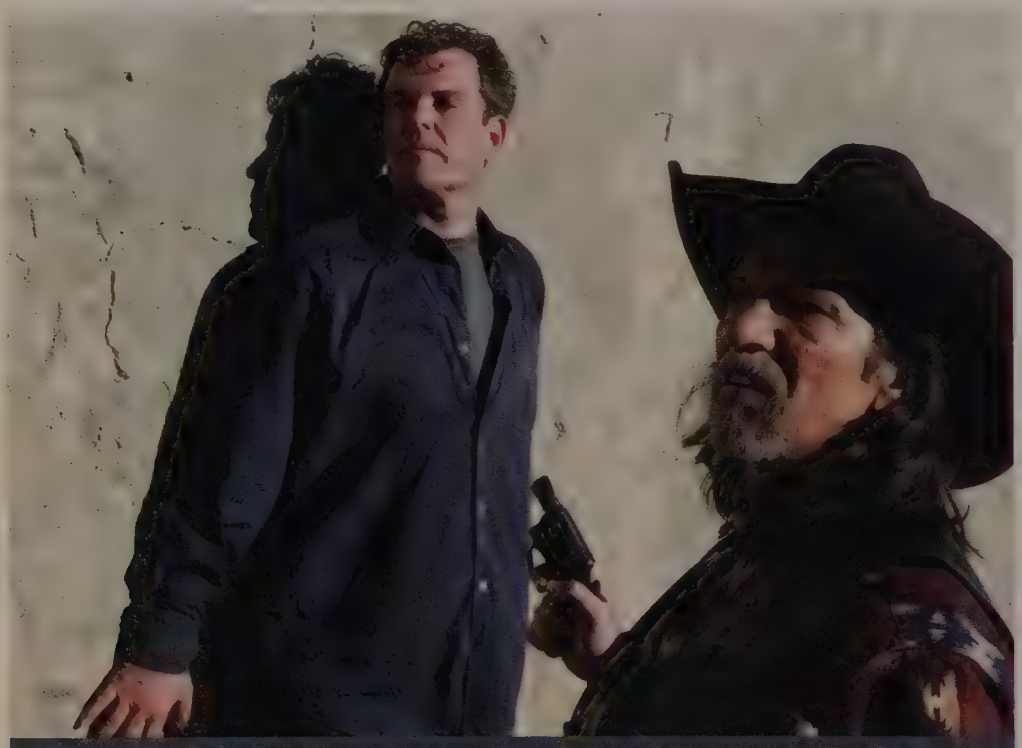
Tarnished Tale

A political thriller plot can't polish *Silver City*.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

The pump has certainly been primed for *Silver City*. Such recent films as *Control Room*, *Fahrenheit 9/11* and *The Hunting of the President* have effectively railed at neoconservatives' political tactics and the media's reluctance to challenge the "official story" supplied by the current administration. Now, in the wake of these well-received documentaries, *Silver City* taps the same sort of moral outrage in a fictional setting, and if anyone should be able to do that well, it's veteran writer-director John Sayles (*Lone Star*, *Sunshine State*).

But Sayles does a poor job of grafting real outrage onto fictional characters. Part political satire and part thriller, *Silver City* is unsatisfying on both levels, but it usually falls short because the cheesy satire gets in the way of the more interesting thriller.



Danny Huston (left) plays a private eye investigating political corruption in *Silver City*.

That satire casts Chris Cooper as Dubya-like Dickie Pilager (that's right, pronounced "pillager"), dim-witted scion of the Pilager political family. His father (Michael Murphy) is a senator from Colorado, and dad and his ruthless billionaire-industrialist backer (Kris Kristofferson) have handpicked Dickie to run for governor of the state. But when the candidate snags a "John Doe" corpse while he's pretending to fish during an "I care about the environment" campaign-commercial shoot, Dickie's handler (Richard Dreyfuss) freaks. He hires a detective agency to find out who the "John Doe" was and how he got there, to make sure no one is trying to sabotage the campaign and, when that is done, to keep everything quiet.

The agency assigns Danny O'Brien (Danny Huston), a former reporter with a mischievous streak and a sad-sack demeanor, to the case. Danny, a lapsed idealist who strove to expose political corruption while a reporter, hates the Pilagers, though he starts the job with the intention of merely doing as he's told. But when it turns out the dead man's demise has a lot to do with the political policies the Pilagers have pushed to help their billionaire buddy's mining business operate without regulation, Danny starts going where he's not wanted.

And he plays out a thriller plot that, essentially, retreads Chinatown in its tale of western political corruption for economic gain from natural resources. Danny doesn't get his nose sliced open like Jack Nicholson's J.J. Gittes in *Chinatown*, but ending up in the drink in one crucial scene, à la Gittes, and having a tumble with a tall, blonde relative (Daryl Hannah) of the "bad guy" is enough of a redux for me.

This is the best part of *Silver City*, though, and it's because of Huston. The son of late director John Huston (who, of course was the bad guy in *Chinatown*), he's played mainly smaller roles, and he acts with a total lack of ego that's refreshing, especially in a traditionally "heroic" role like a private eye. Although the mystery in *Silver City* might not always be riveting, the character doing the investigating is always involving—for his rekindled idealism, for his uneasy meetings with reporter and ex-girlfriend Nora (Maria Bello), for the fact that his latest girlfriend just left him and took the couch and microwave with her.

If private eye Danny had been given the whole movie to roam, *Silver City* would have been better. Watching Danny do his work is more interesting than watching Cooper do a mildly amusing, but ultimately dead-end take on George W. Bush. Dickie is, predictably, stuck for coherent words without a script and free of much conviction or conscience, and the comedy is about on the level of Matt Stone and Trey Parker's limp White House sit-com, *That's My Bush!* Its obvious, it's lazy, we've seen it before, and, as *Fahrenheit 9/11* showed, the real thing is more freakishly amusing.

Sayles' look at the political machinery is also less meaty than you might expect. The "machinery" consists of the handler and one assistant, while the casting of Murphy, who played the title character in Robert Altman's unprecedented political drama *Tanner '88*, suggests Sayles is trying to tap into the "story behind the story" as that cable series did. But there's no political insight here; the same goes for the media action involving Nora, who's futilely covering the gubernatorial campaign. (Interestingly enough, we never see Dickie's opponent for governor.)

The weakness of the overtly political material in *Silver City* is not all that surprising. In such movies as *Return of the Secaucus 7* and *Brother from Another Planet*, Sayles has always been better at small-p politics than the official kind. All the memorable moments in his latest have to do with more human things than government, whether it's Danny's attempts to reunite with Nora or his alliance with a Mexican-American chef (Sal Lopez) who ends up helping him out. This action has it all over the political storyline, in which characters sometimes talk in slogans and which sends the movie out in a very heavyhanded image. iB

Silver City ★★

Written and directed by John Sayles. With Danny Huston, Maria Bello, Chris Cooper, Richard Dreyfuss, Sal Lopez, Mary Kay Place, Kris Kristofferson, James Gammon, Billy Zane, Tim Roth and Thora Birch. Rated R. At the Boston Film Festival Sept. 12; opens Sept. 17 at Copley Place, Harvard Square and suburbs.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Before Sunset ★★★
They'll always have Vienna. Nearly a decade aft Ethan Hawke's and Julie Delpy's characters m there and had a one-day fling in *Before Sunris* Richard Linklater's sequel brings them togeth again, older and perhaps wiser, in Paris. He's now married author who's written a novel based on th fling, while she's had rather poor luck with me The spark is still there when they reunite, and th big question this time is whether the America abroad and the Frenchwoman will act on it. Unt that fateful question must be answered, they engag in the same sort of intriguing conversations they ha in the first film, so this is interesting to sit thoug But there's also a great deal of stylistic rehash, ar the second time around is definitely not as mem rable. (At Copley Place and suburbs.)

The Bourne Supremacy ★★★
Like the original *Bourne Identity*, the sequel is smart popcorn movie with taut action, gray y oddly exotic Eurolocations and a distaste for th usual showiness of the Hollywood action-thrill Matt Damon's Jason Bourne is still trying to figu out who he is, and exactly what functions he pe formed for the CIA, who suddenly wanted him ve dead the first time around. When another attempt made on his life, he suspects the agency is targeti him again, so he goes on the offensive against Cl investigator Joan Allen and higher-up Brian Co There's a bit of typecasting in the movie's villai and I was expecting more character developme this time, but Damon pulls off the role of unlike hero again. Action with a conscience—what a co cept. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Collateral ★★★
Michael Mann knows how to make good, styli thrillers, and the director of *Thief* and *Manhun* (and creator of TV's *Miami Vice* and *Crime Stor* shows it again in his latest. It's the story of a Los A geles cab driver (Jamie Foxx) whose fare (T Cruise) turns out to be a ruthless hit man who for the cabbie to shuttle him to a series of murder signments. Foxx is the real star here, and his liv performance provides the movie's moral center, though—like Vin Diesel—Cruise proves to be m convincing as an insensitive creep than he has b as a hero. The second half's action sequences can overblown, particularly a dustup in a Korean-Am ican nightclub, but by then the plot has enou going on to keep you hooked. (At Boston Comm Fenway and suburbs.)

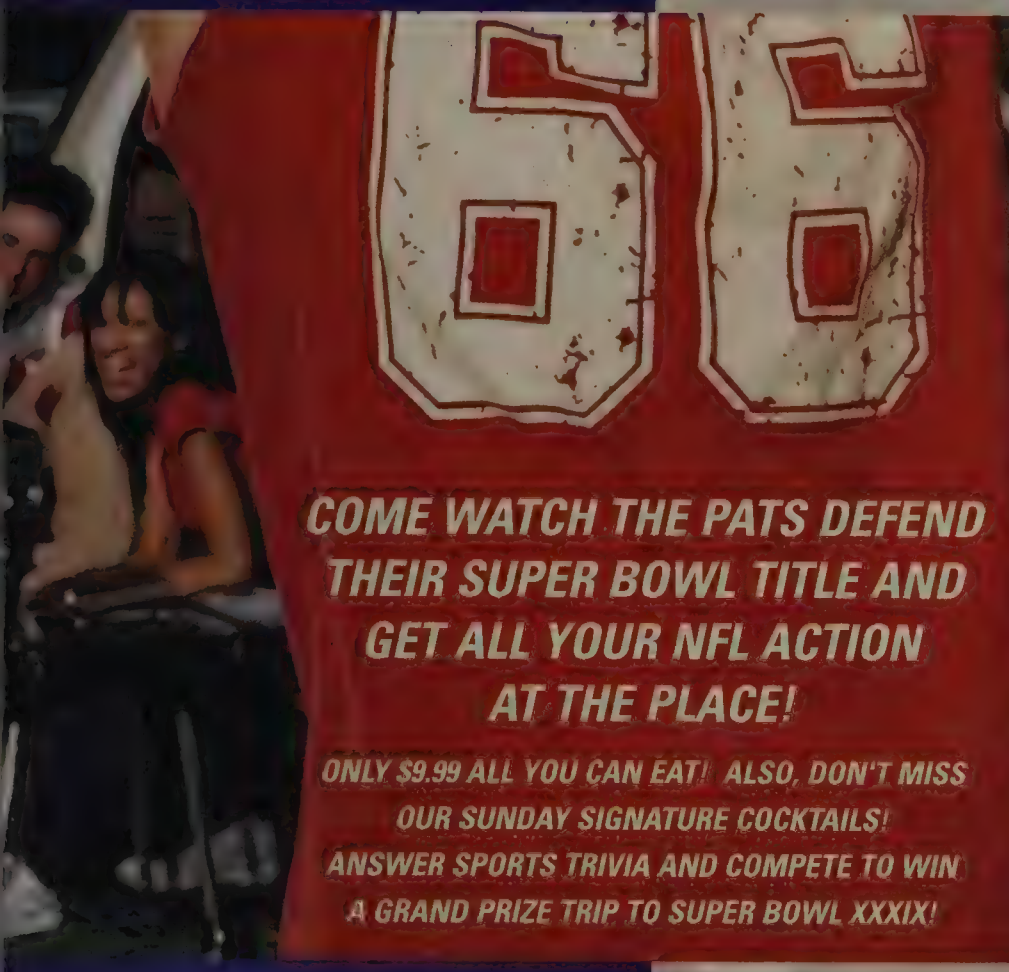
Danny Deckchair ★★★
Importing this Hollywood-style romantic com from Australia is a bit like shipping the coal to N castle. But this tale of a Sydney construction wor (Rhys Ifans) upgrading his life is a charmer. backyard prank—lashing helium balloons to a be chair to float over his neighborhood—works well, and he lands in a country town miles aw There, he meets a lonely woman (Miranda O and gets treated with more respect than he rece back home. There's predictable stuff about his pr (and his disappearance) making him a media i and his new love interest finding out about his cret," but Ifans and Otto (who appeared toget previously in *Human Nature*) make an amusing c ple, and this one earns plenty of smiles. (At Co Place.)

Donnie Darko: The Director's Cut ★★½
If it ain't broke, don't fix it. Writer-director Rich Kelly's brilliant *Donnie Darko* returns—not in version that struck an emotional chord in many, spite being barely marketed, in 2001, but in *Do Darko: The Director's Cut*, a new version runnin minutes longer. Except this isn't a true "direc cut"; this 133-minute version never existed be now. If you haven't seen *Donnie Darko*, the orig version is a better introduction; if you have, yo probably seen the added stuff already. Most of "restored" footage comes from deleted scenes on *Donnie Darko* DVD. Meanwhile, Kelly has also g back and changed some of the songs to what he inally wanted but couldn't afford in the budget. wait a minute. Kelly originally wanted U2's "M at the climax, not Michael Andrews and Gary J unforgettably haunting version of Tears for F "Mad World," which became a surprise hit. So didn't he replace that too? Kelly should hav mained satisfied with the *other* happy acciden his movie, too. (Midnight shows at the Cool Corner.)

Fahrenheit 9/11 ★★★½
Rabble-rouser Michael Moore's passionate de struction of the second Bush administration h

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knockout revelations about its controversial policies, so don't expect smoking guns. Its ultimate target is the war in Iraq, but the movie presents the war as just the latest in a pattern of self-serving, law-skirting behavior. Moore comes up with inspired ways of getting his points across about much-debated Bush policies and conflicts of interest. He's onscreen less than he was in *Roger & Me*, *The Big One* and *Bowling for Columbine*, yet he argues his points better than in *Columbine*. Moore hits his targets because, despite his political aims, he makes you feel like you're watching a movie, not a political rant, and his sense of humor really shines through. (At Boston Common, Harvard Square and suburbs.)

Garden State ★★½
The first film by actor-director Zach Braff (TV's *Scrubs*) has its moments of daffy humor, as Braff plays a struggling L.A. actor who returns to his New Jersey hometown for the first time in nine years. The movie recaptures the mixed emotions of such a visit, especially of seeing old high school friends, but it treads on very familiar territory. It feels like it wants to be a version of *The Graduate* directed by Wes Anderson (*Rushmore*), and it struggles to find any voice of its own. Plus, the story of a guy returning to his hometown who develops a quick bond with a Natalie Portman character has already been done, in 1996's *Beautiful Girls*. Braff and Portman have a pleasing chemistry, and Braff is to be commended for trying to make something quirky and personal. But it's hard not to feel this movie is redundant. (At Boston Common and Kendall Square.)

Open Water ★★★
No stars, no special effects—no problem. Writer-director Chris Kentis builds old-fashioned tension in his tale of a stressed-out L.A. couple who take a vacation in the tropics and go on a scuba tour, only to be left behind in shark-infested waters by the tour boat. Yikes. The shooting style and the actors (Daniel Travis and Blanchard Ryan play the couple) are raw enough that the movie almost feels like a home video (it was shot on digital video). And when the trip turns into a life-threatening ordeal and shark fins start slicing through the nearby waters, the action has a frightening intimacy. A much needed boost of low-tech moviemaking at the multiplex. (At Boston Common, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

Suspect Zero ★½
Has Hollywood decreed that Aaron Eckhart—who's made solid supporting contributions to good movies like *Erin Brockovich* and *The Pledge*—will only be allowed to star in sucky movies like *The Core* and this dull *Seven* wannabe? This is one of those killer-sending-messages-to-the-detective thrillers that can't manage an interesting hero or villain, so all that's left is just the gore. The murderer playing cat-and-mouse with Eckhart's FBI agent is a one-time FBI-employed psychic who should be interesting, but Ben Kingsley plays him too hard and lets little humanity seep through. It's the date movie of the year—if you're in the Manson family. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

We Don't Live Here Anymore ★★
But then again, who'd want to live where this cold drama takes place? This story of the indiscretion-filled love lives of best-friend professors (Mark Ruffalo and Peter Krause) and their wives (Laura Dern and Naomi Watts) is one big neurotic twitch given a stuffy air by its academic setting and director John Curran's use of classical music. The story examines what happens when one of the pals has an affair with the other's wife, but it never really gets inside the heads of its characters, and Ruffalo and Watts are given little chance to exude much sexual chemistry together. *Bob & Carol & Ted & Alice* it ain't. (At Copley Place and Embassy Waltham.)

Zhou Yu's Train ★½
It's been far too long since soulful Chinese beauty Gong Li (*Raise the Red Lantern*) has graced local screens. But her talent can't overcome the unconvincing, overwrought romantic drama in director Zhou Sun's tale of ceramics painter Zhou Yu's relationship with a self-conscious poet (Tony Leung Ka Fai). His poetry is the thing that makes her fall for him, but, as is almost always the case, poetry just seems silly in a movie. The ineffective, nonchronological storytelling doesn't help. Nor does the movie's overuse of the train Zhou Yu rides as a symbolic tool. The movie even uses the old cliché of a surging train during a sex scene—ouch. (At Kendall Square.)


Blanchard Ryan and Daniel Travis are not alone in the low-budget thriller *Open Water*.

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL

Movies by Moonlight
•Sept. 10. **Road to Singapore** *1939*. Two bachelors (Bing Crosby and Bob Hope) swear off women and responsibility and flee to Singapore, where they fall in love with the same woman .

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Marlon Brando Film Series
•Sept. 13, 6 pm. **On the Waterfront** *1954*. Brando stars as a washed-up boxer who gets caught between the police and the mob. Elia Kazan directs.
•Sept. 20, 6 pm. **Guys and Dolls** *1955*. Brando stars as a player in a high-stakes craps game in Joseph L. Mankiewicz's musical.

Second Annual Summer Film Fest
•Sept. 9. **Amazonia: Voices from the Rainforest** *1991*. This film reviews the ecology of the rainforest, the indigenous people's attitudes towards the land, and current conservation efforts to preserve it.

BRATTLE THEATRE

Jacques Tati Week
•Sept. 16-20. **Playtime** *1967*. Jacques Tati directs and stars as a Monsieur Hulot, a Parisian who ends up touring the city with a group of Americans.
•Sept. 19 and 20. **M. Hulot's Holiday** *1953*. Tati directs and as his bumbling alter ego, Monsieur Hulot, finds himself caught in comedic situations in a stuffy resort community.
•Sept. 20 and 21. **Mon Uncle** *1958*. An unemployed Monsieur Hulot spends his time baby-sitting his nephew and can't seem to adjust to his modern house. Tati directs.

John Waters: King of Cult
•Sept. 20. **Pink Flamingos** *1972*. John Waters' film stars Divine as the Queen of Filth, who is struggling to maintain her title despite feisty competition.
•Sept. 21. **Female Trouble** *1974*. After her parents refuse to buy her a pair of cha-cha shoes for Christmas, Dawn Davenport begins a downward spiral that eventually ends in murder and the electric chair. Waters directs.
•Sept. 22. **Polyester** *1981*. An upper-middle-class housewife in Baltimore butts heads with the neighbors because of her husband's porn business. Waters directs.

Special Engagements
•Through Sept. 9. **Donnie Darko: The Director's Cut** *2004*. See New Releases for a description.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Balagan: Experimental Film & Video
•Sept. 9, 7:30 pm. New England Beat presents a collection of recent works by local filmmakers, including Robert Todd, Alfred Guzzetti and Saul Levine.

Big Screen Summer Adventure:
•Sept. 13, 7 pm. **The Shining** *1980*. A novelist (Jack Nicholson) slowly goes insane in the haunted hotel where he serves as caretaker for the winter. Stanley Kubrick directs.
•Sept. 20, 7:30 pm. **Raiders of the Lost Ark** *1981*. Archaeologist Indiana Jones (Harrison Ford) searches for a chest bearing the Ten Commandments. Steven Spielberg directs. •Also showing, 10 pm. **Raiders Adaptation** *1982-1988*. Director Eric Zala speaks before the screening of his low-budget "fan remake" of Spielberg's film.

Box Office Babies
•Sept. 13, 1 pm. The Coolidge's new biweekly series provides an infant-friendly setting for viewing recent international, independent and documentary films. Titles are announced a week before the screening at www.coolidge.org.

Coolidge Selects
•Now playing. **Maria Full of Grace** *2004*. James Marston's film is the story of a 17-year-old Colombian girl who traffics drugs by swallowing rubber pellets of heroin.
•Now playing, **Zatoichi** *2003*. Takeshi Kitano directs and stars in this film about a blind swordsman who aids the inhabitants of a town terrorized by a gang leader.
•Now playing. **Tom Dowd & the Language of Music** *2003*. Mark Moormann's documentary recounts the life of Tom Dowd, an innovative recording engineer and producer who worked with famous recording artists including Aretha Franklin, Lynyrd Skynyrd, John Coltrane and Eric Clapton.
•Opening Sept. 10. **Jandek on Corwood** *2003*. Chad Friedrichs' documentary chronicles the career of Texas recording artist and songwriter Jandek, who has released 34 albums but has never given a live performance.
•Opening Sept. 17. **Outfoxed: Rupert Murdoch's War on Journalism** *2004*. Director Robert Greenwald interviews media critics and former Fox employees in this investigation of the network's journalistic ethics.

Director's Cut: Films and Discussion
•Sept. 14, 7:30 pm. **Playing House** *2003*. Jane Grey's documentary follows five young girls as they enter a new boarding school.

Kids First! Film Club
•Sept. 11, 11 am, ages 2-8. **Good Night, Gorilla** collection of animated tales narrated by Anthc Edwards.
•Sept. 18, 11 am, ages 4-9. **Hamrato** *2003*. Wh their owners are in school, a hamster and his frie gather to plan a day of mischief.

Midnight Movies
•Sept. 11, 12, 18 and 19, 12 am. **Donnie Darko: rector's Cut** *2004*. See New Releases for a descript
•Sept. 12, 12 am. **Dragon Fight** *1988*. Jet Li Stephen Chow take on San Francisco in S "Billy" Tang's kung fu movie.
•Sept. 19, 12 am. **Sex & Zen** *1993*. A newly scholar seeks education through other peop wives in Michael Mak's Hong Kong sex comedy.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Art on Film
•Sept. 16, 2:15 pm; Sept. 19, 11 am. **Ru Kovcheg** *(Russian Ark) 2002*. Alexander Soku looks at Russian history through St. Petersbu famed Hermitage museum.

Cinema Tropical
•Sept. 10, 8:15 pm; Sept. 11, 12:15 pm. **El Fotog** *(The Photographer) 2002*. In 1962 Chile, a photoj nalist and his friends embark on a search for art identity and love. Sebastián Alarcón directs.

The Films of Nuri Bilge Ceylan
•Sept. 15, 7:45 pm; Sept. 18, 3:30 pm; Sept. 3:45 pm. **Usak** *(Distant) 2003*. Ceylan looks at relationship between two lonely cousins when leaves his small town and arrives at the ot doorstep in Istanbul.
•Sept. 16, 5:45 pm; Sept. 18, 11 am. **Koza** *(Coc 1995*. A couple meets after a period of separat
•Also showing, **Kasaba** *(The Small Town) 1* This film about life in a Turkish village as through the children's eyes is based on Ceylan's
•Sept. 16, 7:45 pm; Sept. 18, 1:15 pm. **Mayis Si tisi** *(Clouds of May) 2000*. A young filmmake turns to his childhood village in an attempt to ture its charm on film, but his father has important things to worry about.

Irish Cinema
•Sept. 8, 8:15 pm; Sept. 9, 4:15 pm; Sept. 10, 5 Sept. 11, 10:30 am; Sept. 16, 4:15 pm. **Gol Memory** *2003*. Liz Gill's film follows Dubliners fall in and out of love and make the same mist over and over again.

New England Film Artists Present
•Sept. 9, 8 pm; Sept. 10, 6:45 pm; Sept. 11, pm; Sept. 12, 1:30 pm. **Monkey Dance** *2004*. T

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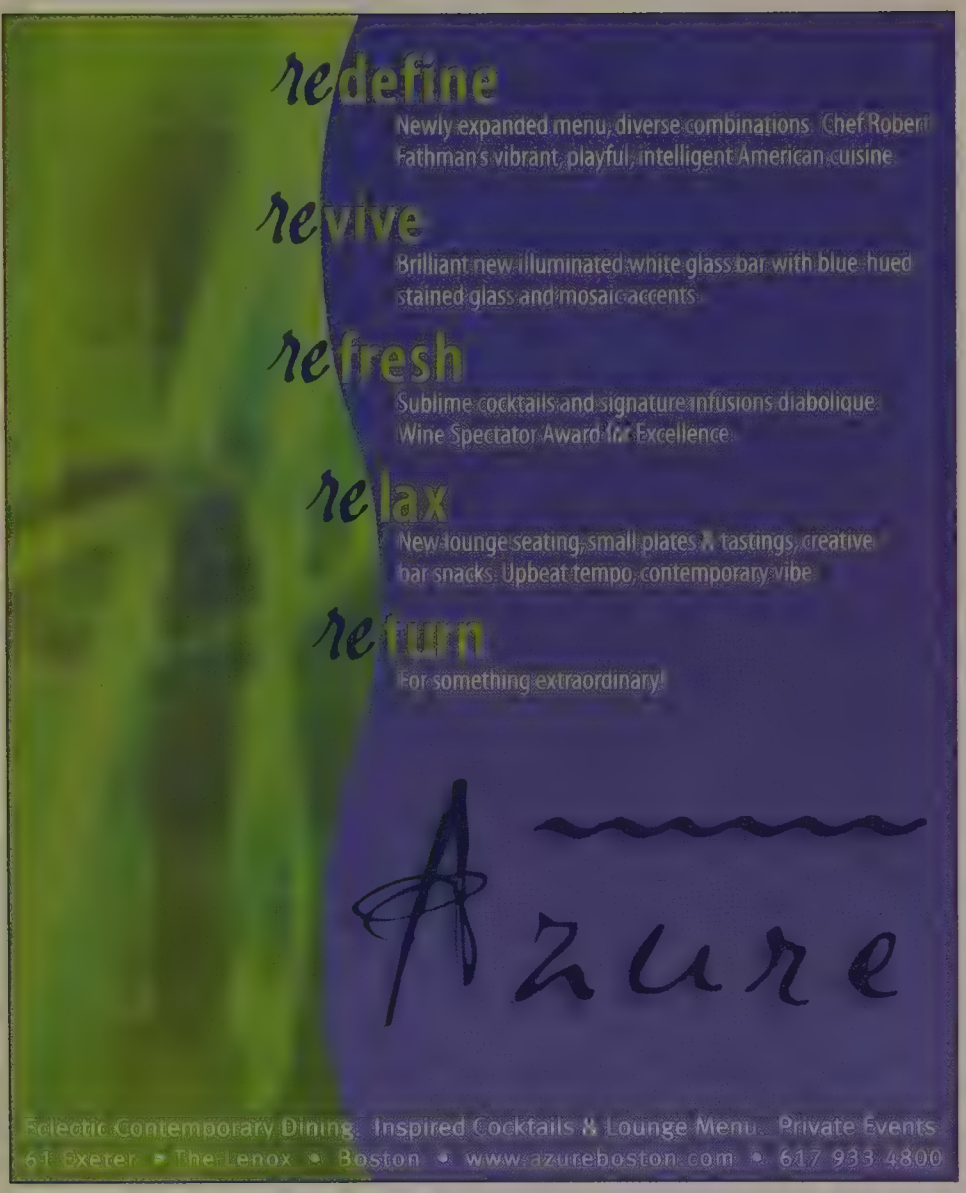
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teenage children of Cambodian refugees struggle with adolescence while trying to understand their parents' culture. Julie Mallozzi directs.

Russian Cinema: A Tribute to Lenfilm Studios

•Sept. 8, 4:30 pm; Sept. 9, 6 pm. **Krug Vtoroy** *(The Second Circle) 1990*. A young man travels to a Siberian village to arrange his father's funeral. The story soon morphs into a complex metaphor about the decay of Russia. Aleksandr Sokurov directs.

•Sept. 8, 6:30 pm. **Dolgaya Schastlivaya Zhizn'** *(A Long Happy Life) 1966*. Poet, lyricist and screenwriter Gennadi Shpalikov recounts the story of a one-night stand between two strangers in a small Russian province. Gennadi Shpalikov directs.

•Sept. 9, 1:30 pm. **Korol Lir** *(King Lear) 1970*. This black-and-white adaptation of Shakespeare's play features a cast of Eastern European actors. Grigori Kozintsev and Iosif Shapiro directs.

•Sept. 11, 3:40 pm. **Maskarada** *(Masquerade) 1941*. This Soviet-era film charts the devastating effects of a husband's jealousy after he discovers that his wife has fallen for another man.

•Sept. 15, 6 pm. **V toj Stranje** *(In That Land) 1997*.The inhabitants of a small rural community cope with political upheaval, alcoholism and despair. Lidiya Bobrova directs.


American Wake screens as part of the Boston Film Festival

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater

•Through Sept. 17. **India: Kingdom of the Tiger**. Explore the kingdom of the Bengal tiger, from the Himalayas to Rajasthan.

•Through Sept. 30. **Adrenaline Rush: The Science of Risk**. Explore the inner workings of the body as one jumps out of a plane or asks someone out on a date.

•Through Oct. 22. **Forces of Nature**. Experience the power of earthquakes, volcanoes, and storms as scientists attempt to forecast and understand them.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater

•Through Sept. 26. **Ghosts of the Abyss**. James Cameron journeys miles beneath the ocean surface to the ruins of Titanic.

•Through Sept. 26. **Into the Deep.** This film explores a kelp forest off the coast of Southern California, and its many inhabitants.

•Through Sept. 26. **NASCAR 3D**. Experience life in the fast lane with NASCAR pit crews and drivers clocking over 200 mph.

•Through Sept. 26. **Ocean Wonderland 3D**. Watch as eagle rays, sharks, dolphins and more create an underwater wonderland.

•Through Sept. 26. **Spiderman 2: The IMAX Experience**. Peter Parker, aka Spiderman, struggles with his destiny in this sequel directed by Sam Raimi.

•Through Sept. 26. **Volcanoes of the Deep Sea**. Dive to the bottom of the sea with a team of scientists, as they explore hydrothermal vents, shipwrecked gardens, predators and bioluminescent creatures.

Special Events

Boston Film Festival

Sept. 10-19. More than 50 feature-length films make their local premiere at the 20th annual Boston Film festival. Screenings take place at the Loews Boston Common and Loews Copley Place. Check www.bostonfilmfestival.org for a schedule.

Cinema Venues

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Harbor Hotel
70 Rowes Wharf. (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Gre Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Gre Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Gre Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Lin Science Park.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Lin Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Lin Reservoir.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Gr Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Lin Harvard.

Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MB Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Lin Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Lin Harvard.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Gr Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Or Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red to Davis.


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Soul of a Band

Ollabelle finds its voice in the spirit of tradition.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

It's quite a step to move from a weekly gospel jam session at an East Village bar to four months of full-bore touring with the likes of Alison Krauss and Diana Krall, especially for a band that reinterprets standards from the Folkways catalog.

But that's the fortune of the roots-music sextet Ollabelle, whose blend of originals and rearranged traditional tunes



Ollabelle relies on tight chemistry, with band members switching lead vocals from song to song.

prompted *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* producer T Bone Burnett to sign the group to his DMZ/Columbia imprint.

"It's really wild to be doing these songs in the way that this thing started, in that we weren't a band at all and never really intended to be a band," says singer Amy Helm, whose group plays the Iron Horse in Northampton September 10, the Narrows Center in Fall River on the 11th and the Boston Folk Festival at U-Mass/Boston on the 18th.

Keyboardist-singer Glenn Patscha adds, "It's an egalitarian kind of ensemble, and a lot of that is just because, at the end of the day, we all genuinely love each other, and it's cool to play music with people who you really care for."

Woodstock native Helm, who sang in a blues band with her father Levon (from the Band), met the Canadian-born, jazz-trained pianist Patscha in New Orleans. And when New York bartender Roger Davis started "Sunday School for Sinners," an open-mike gospel music night at the now closed Manhattan bar 9C, Helm and Patscha found kindred spirits in bassist Byron Isaacs, drummer Tony Leone (both versed in jazz and R&B), guitarist Jimi Zhivago and Australian singer-songwriter Fiona McBain.

Members of the group, named after Appalachian banjo player Ola Belle Reed, switch instruments and share lead vocal duties.

"We just did what we were in the mood for, and we still do that," Helm says. "We'll just pick some tune that strikes everybody and kind of fool around with it."

"It was completely effortless and continues to be," she says. "In some ways, being part of an ensemble gives you more room to explore your individual voice, whether it's singing or something that you want to write. You have to be more open to deconstructing what your first intention is."

On the group's eponymous debut, that openness is demonstrated in a shift from the a cappella gospel clap-along "Before This Time" to the bluesy Helm vehicle "Soul of a Man," or McBain's gentle acoustic take on the Carter Family gem "The Storms Are on the Ocean" going back-to-back with a tangled, atmospheric treatment of "John the Revelator." Patscha's pump organ and Wurlitzer quietly ripple under sweet harmonies with McBain and Helm on "All Is Well," while Zhivago's slide guitar and harmonica spice up Patscha's funky "Get Back Temptation."

"The idea was just to document and record what we were doing on these Sunday nights, and it didn't go much further than that," Helm says of the band's eponymous CD. The disc's producer, Steve Rosenthal, sent a copy to Burnett. "None of us even believed it when we first found out that T Bone was interested and wanted to sign the band."

"When we recorded that album, we had only been playing about six months of those Sunday nights, so I think a lot more original songs will be coming out of the band," she says. "We're so much at the beginning of a sound as a band that it's wide open as to where it could go sonically. I'm sure we'll continue to do traditional songs, because a lot of us just naturally like that stuff anyway. It's almost the same thing if you're into blues and jazz. You just learn the great old songs and make them your own."

"Things are always evolving," says Patscha, who wrote two songs on *Ollabelle* and expects an even selection of originals and traditional songs on the group's next CD. "If somebody loves a tune or wants to sing it, they bring it in, or someone will suggest it for them. If it resonates, we do it. Usually there's this point where an arrangement or song just breaks, and it's such an amazing moment."

"Everybody feels that," Helm says. "My dad once told me the Band would take a song and swap it around and let everybody sing it to see where it fits, and I always liked that idea. So we've tried to emulate that a little, and we've taken a few songs and switched singers."

"Some people write songs with someone's voice in mind, like Glenn is working on a song that he was hearing Fiona sing," she adds. "Everybody has a clear sense of everybody else's singing voice and so admires everybody's singing that it happens naturally."

"We just have good chemistry," Helm says. "It really is all about the music." iB

Ollabelle plays the Boston Folk Festival September 18.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fa (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or e email to music@improper.com. Include dates, time prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not ac cepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from di ferent sources. Although we make every effort to provi accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahe to double-check dates and times (see complete list venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Boston Folk Festival Sept. 17-19, UMass-Bosto (617-287-6911).
Jimmy Buffett & the Coral Reefer Band Sept. 1 and 12, Fenway Park (617-931-2000). Sold out.
Phil Collins Sept. 15, FleetCenter (617-931-2000)
Gloria Estefan Sept. 17, FleetCenter (617-93 2000).
Heart Sept. 11, FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000
Jack Johnson, G. Love & Special Sauce Sept. 1 FleetBoston Pavilion (617-931-2000). Sold out.
MixFest 2004 Sept. 18, FleetCenter (617-931-2000
New England Pop Festival Sept. 9-11, Abb Lounge (617-441-9631).
Old '97s Sept. 15, Avalon (617-931-2000).
One Love Reggae Harborfest, featuring Kevin Lyt tle Capleton, Cocoa Tea and more Sept. 18, Flee Boston Pavilion (617-931-2000).
PianoFest Sept. 11-12, Zeitgeist Gallery (617-87 6060).
Tim Reynolds Sept. 19, Harper's Ferry (800-59 TIXX).
RJD2 Sept. 17, Middle East Downstairs (617-93 2000).
Saw Doctors Sept. 21 & 22, Paradise Rock Cl (617-931-2000).
Patti Scialfa Sept. 17, Paradise Rock Club (61 931-2000). Sold out.
Supertones Sept. 19, Axis (617-931-2000).
They Might Be Giants Sept. 18, Avalon (617-93 2000).
The Thrills Sept. 17, Axis (617-931-2000).
The Tragically Hip Sept. 21, Avalon (617-93 2000).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

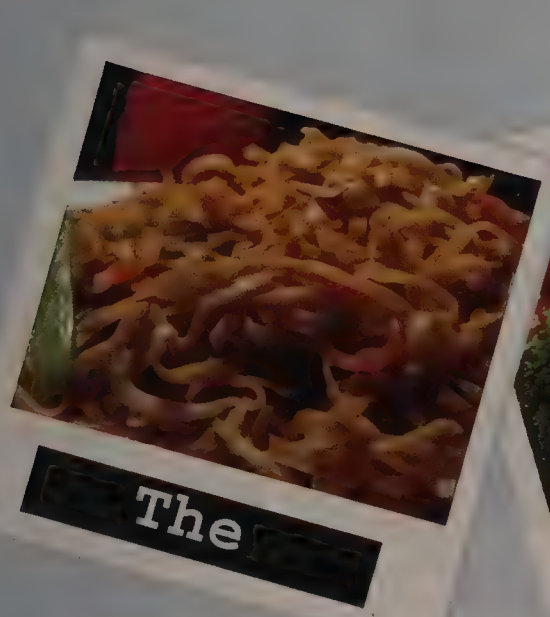
Abbey Lounge Radar Eyes, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
Asgard Tom Glynn
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm.
Breezeway The Frank Wilkins Trio, 7:30 pm.
Bravo @ the MFA Ron Poster.
The Burren Peter Molloy.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Jennie DeVoe and Ellis, 8 pm, $10..
Dick's Last Resort Howling Devils, 7:20 pm.
The Green Dragon Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Big Top Vertigo, 8:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie.
Lizard Lounge Katie Terrio, 7-9 pm; Sarah Rabd the Valhalla Kittens, 9:30 pm, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Verona Downs, Mend Line, Taxpater, Eric Gaffney, $8, 18+. Downsta Les Savy Fav, the Detachment Kit, Smoke a Smoke, $15, 18+.
PA's Heavy Stud, Melismatics.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Jean-Michel Pilc.
Ryles Jazz Club Asa Brebner, Pat Wallace, 8:30 $6.
Scullers Hiromi, 8 and 10 pm, $20.
Tír na nÓg Night in Wyoming.
Toad Deb Pasternak, 7-9 pm; Planet 3, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Spoilers, Heather H You, Tony Reeks of the Grave, $5.
Wonder Bar Joe McMahon Duo, 9:30 pm, no co 21+.
Zeitgeist Tom Dixon, 8 pm.
ZuZu Rich Gilbert and the Velvet Swingers, 10 21+.
Les Zygomates Sofia K.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Abbey Lounge New England Pop Festival: Re Lane, 6:45 pm; Girl on Top, 7:45 pm; Internati Pen Pal, 8:45 pm; Rosie Huntress, 9:45 pm; Mason Band, 10:45 pm; Arthur Ape's Leaky C 11:45.

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Asgard Tom & Stu
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Joe Bargar & the Soul Providers, 7 pm.
Bravo @ the MFA Ron Poster.
Breezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Helena Delaney, Peter Molloy & Shannon Aaron.
Cantab Lounge Stone Crazy, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Girlyman, Lis Harvey, $14, 8 pm..
The Green Dragon The Spitting Vinnies.
Hennessy's Me & Julio.
The High Street Grille Little Joe Cook, 9 pm.
Johnny D's Nine Men's Morris, 9 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Kinsale Evan Goodrow Band.
Lizard Lounge Ryan Lee, 7-9 pm; the Boston Pop Underground, with the So and So's, Stargazer Lilly, and Patti Rothberg, 9:30 pm, $10.
Matt Murphy's Pub Round Midnight.
Middle East Upstairs: Incus Dark World Cabaret & Body Painting Festival, Fluttr, $8, 18+. Downstairs: the Pietasters, the Toasters, Mass Hysteria, New Blood Revival, $10, 18+.
PA's The Eleventh Hour, Rookie, Ketchfraze.
Plough and Stars Ken Selcer & Friends, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Another Kind of Blue: the Latin Side of Miles Davis.
Ryles Jazz Club Jen Kearney and Lost Onion with Ryan Montbleu, 8:30 pm, $8.
Scullers The Four Freshmen, $20.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy"Quinn.
Toad Tim Mann, 7 pm; Michael Landgarten, 8 pm; King Memphis, 9 pm; John Cate and the Van Gough Brothers, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Scissor Sisters.
The Western Front Soulkore R&B Showcase, 9 pm, $5.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Trio, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist The Hidden Cameras, Pants Yell!, 7 pm; the Self-Righteous Bros., Silent Service, 9:30 pm.
ZuZu HO-AG, 10 pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Chris Brown.

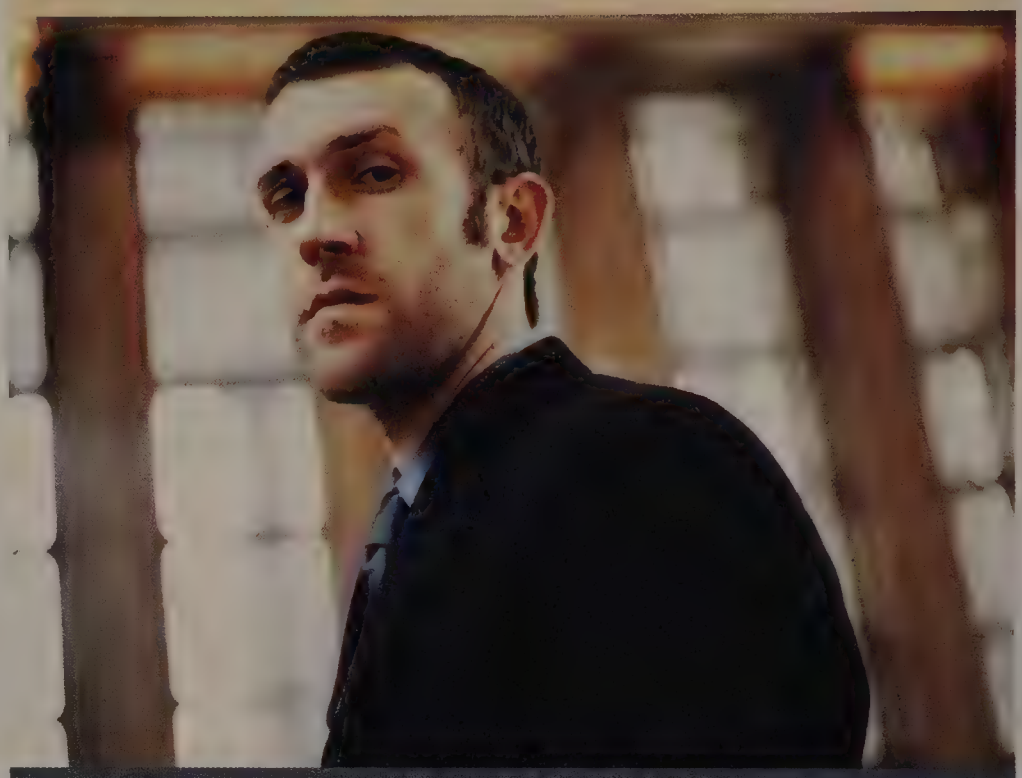
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Abbey Lounge New England Pop Festival: Auto Interiors, 6:45 pm; Dave Aaronoff & the Details, 7:45 pm; the StereoBirds, 8:45 pm; My Own Worst Enemy, 9:45 pm; the Marlowes, 10:45 pm; the Rudds, 11:45 pm
Asgard The Jude Nemo Band
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm; Tony O'Riordan, 10:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Darren Barrett & the Wrenaissance Band, 7:30 pm.
Bravo @ the MFA Rusty Scott.
The Burren Tina Lech,Ted Davis & Patrick Murray.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Choppin' Block Sarah Blacker, Word, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Club Passim Pat Humphries & Sandy O, 8 pm, $15.
Common Ground The Well, $4.
Dick's Last Resort Classic Trax, 8:30 pm.
Fenway Park Jimmy Buffett & the Coral Reefer Band, 8 pm (sold out).
The Green Dragon Tavern Accent.
The Harp The Zoo, 10 pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry Rebirth Brass Band Double Header.
Hennessy's Spike the Punch.
Johnny D's Moon Boot Lover, 9 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton.
Kinsale Les Rios Band.
Lizard Lounge Lisa Bastoni, 7-9 pm; Jeffrey Foucault, Meg Hutchinson Band, Paul Curreri, 9:30 pm, $8.
Matt Muphy's Pub Knockout.
Middle East Upstairs: The Breakfast (formerly Psychedelic Breakfast), NBFB, Otis Grove, $10, 18+. Downstairs: the Push Stars, Adam Ezra Group, Just Before August, $12, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Celtic Clan.
Paradise Rock Club: The Fiery Furnaces, White Magic, 10 pm, $12, 18+.
Parris Candiflyp, 10 pm, $5.
PA's Chris Keene 9:30 pm; The Bulletproof Plan 10:30; Moki 11:30.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 6 pm; Kevin Connolly Band, 9:30 pm.
The Real Deal Jazz Club The Rebecca Parris Quartet, 7:30 and 10 pm, $18.
Regattabar Another Kind of Blue: the Latin Side of Miles Davis.
Regent Theatre Nektar & Caravan, 7:30 pm, $28.50-$32.50.
Ryles Jazz Club Shelley Neill, 9 pm, $10. Upstairs: Brazilian Jungle Club, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Donal Fox, $20.

Preview

The Force Is with Them

Underground turntable stars bring cutting-edge hip-hop fusion to the Middle East.



RJD2 is impressing audiences with his new disc, *Since We Last Spoke*.

Straight out of Ohio, RJD2 has been making noise behind the boards as a producer for a Columbus minute. He burst onto the scene on a wave of critical acclaim in 2002 with his debut CD, *Deadringer*. This past May, he released *Since We Last Spoke*, an album that Definitive Jux label honcho El-P says will do "for rock what *Deadringer* did for soul."

The subtly layered *Since We Last Spoke* uses turntables and samples in a punchy, bombastic way to create rock music, and on that score, it's extraordinarily successful. To put it in local terms, fans of the Cars or Boston (the band, that is) will love the songs on this record. Live, RJ's DJ skills are rock candy—jagged and sweet. Not one for guitar hero–inspired turntable pyrotechnics, he instead focuses more on the artistry of creating sonic environments, using vinyl as the sole ingredient.

Rob Sonic, who joins RJD2 on his current tour, including a stop at the Middle East September 17, has been doing hip-hop for years. He and his cohorts in Sonic Sum made a name for themselves in the late-1990s New York City scene, where they made music with other new-school legends like Mike Ladd, Mos Def and El-P. Since that time, Sonic has continued as a solo artist, releasing numerous songs on singles as well as various compilations. But while 12" singles are the backbone of hip-hop, Sonic is excited at the chance to release a full-length album.

"I miss people putting together a *One for All* [Brand Nubian] or a *Step in the Arena* [Gang Starr]," Sonic says." Whether or not they were recorded at the same time, they sound like they were recorded with the same thought—the same ideas were very evident throughout the record. And I purposefully did try to get back to that."

Sonic handled all the production on the album and slotted in only a couple of guest MCs, a rarity in rap these days. He says the disc's title, *Telecatessen*, is meant to evoke the concept of "television as a delicatessen. You know, you can get your satellites in there with mayonnaise, or your guns with butter." Get some more details on that at the Middle East.

472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). $17, 18+. —Andrew Graham

Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy"Quinn.
Toad The Coots.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway with the Bob Nieske Group, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Damone, the Charms, Roxie, Cheater Pint, $10.
The Western Front King Dubious, 9 pm, $5.
Wonder Bar Harold Layne Trio, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Jeff Platz Quartet, 7 pm, Angelica Sanchez Band, 9:30 pm.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Abbey Lounge New England Pop Festival: Din, 6:45 pm; Allen Devine Group, 7:45 pm; the Shellye Valauskas Experience, 8:45 pm; the Crybabies, 9:45 pm; Much and the Mires, 10:45 pm.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 4:30 pm; Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm; Tony O'Riordan, 10:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Pat Loomis, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Tommy, Louise, Helena Delaney & Fabian Joyce.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Alix Olson, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Big '80s, 8:30 pm.
FleetBoston Pavilion Heart, 7:30 pm, $25-$40.
The Green Dragon Tavern Bald Walter.
The Harp The Zoo, 10 pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry Rebirth Brass Band Double Header.
Johnny D's Nicole Nelson, 9:45 pm.
Kinsale The Tenaments.
Lizard Lounge Amelia White, 7-9 pm; Ziaf, with Ad Frank, Chris Mascara, Leah Callahan, 9:30 pm, $10.
Matt Murphy's Pub Amelia White.
Middle East Upstairs: Meet the Day, Sudden E Driftwood, $9, 18+. Downstairs: the Upper C Lyres, Beefy DC, the Count Me Outs, Unnat Axe, Downbeat 5, Rock Bottom and more, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Celtic Clan.
The Nameless Coffeehouse Terry Kitchen, 8 $8.
Paradise Mac McAnally, 9pm, $20, 21+.
Parris Candiflyp, 10 pm, $5.
PA's Iraqyourworld, 9 pm; the Lilac Ambush, pm; the Gulf, 10:20 and 11:30 pm.
Plough and Stars Larry Flint & the Road Scho 5 pm; the Ray Corvair Trio, 9:30 pm.
Purple Shamrock American Made.
Regattabar Another Kind of Blue: the Latin Sid Miles Davis.
Regent Theatre Vanilla Fudge, 8 pm, $25.
Ryles Jazz Club Megawatt Blues Crushers, 9 $10.
Tír na nÓg Los Diablos.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 7-9 pm; Sam bee, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway with the Nieske Group, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Divine Comedy, P Paulusma, Paula Kelley, $14.
The Western Front ReZarection, 9 pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Trio, 9:30 pm, no co 21+.
Zeitgeist PianoFest, 12 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Marianne Sullivan.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

The Attic The Coal Boilers.
Bill's Bar Dub Statiion
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 4:30 pm; Sund Well, 9:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Jazz Brunch with Candida Rose am-2:30 pm.
Bravo @ the MFA Jazz Brunch with Ronni Ron Duo.
Breezeway Michael Shea Trio, 11 am-3 pm.
The Burren The Gannon Family, 3-6 pm; American Session Band, 6-9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jams, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Andy Stochansky, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:30 pm.
Fenway Park Jimmy Buffett & the Coral Re Band, 8 pm (sold out).
The Green Dragon The Swinging Vinnies.
Hennessy's Danny Tucker and the Vibe Trib am-1 pm.
Johnny D's Jazz Brunch with Matt Dorko & L Kukers, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio with Delisil Godeffroy-Taylor, 7 pm, $5.
Kennedy's Midtown Irish jazz trio, 12-3 pm.
Matt Murphy's Pub Bud E Green.
Middle East Upstairs: The Dead Von Erichs, W Ass Egyptians, $8, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett.
Paradise Julia Fordham with Kristin Hoffman, 7 $20, 18+.
PA's Kimono Draggin, the Thungs, Appomattox
Plough and Stars Kind of Bluegrass, 5 pm; Coachmen, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Fly, featuring Mark Turner, L Grenadier and Jeff Ballard.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz brunch with Patricia Adam am-3 pm, no cover.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Toad Jenny Reynolds, 7-9 pm; "Session Ameri 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12 pm; Mars Wood Trio, 8 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Country Doctors, Peel, Fallen Stars, $5.
Zeitgeist PianoFest, 12 pm, $10.
ZuZu Johnny Carlevale & the Broken Rhy Boys, 10 pm, 21+.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm.
The Burren Johnny O'Leary & Vinny Cosn Tommy Peoples.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Johnny D's Grub St. presents Riot Act Open M 7 pm.
Lizard Lounge Rachel Cantu, 7-9 pm; the Freel Bishops, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Pub Blast Off.
Middle East Sushirobo, $8, 18+.
Paradise Joseph Arthur, 7 pm, $12, 18+. Rock Snow Patrol, Eisley, 8 pm, $15.
Plough and Stars Beek, Rhodes & Jefferies pm.

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Tír na nÓg Christian McNeil & Co.
Toad Shwang, 7-9 pm; the Tim Gearan, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Marshall Wood Trio, 8 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Other Side of the Bear, Dan Rogers, Alan Wong, $3.
Zeitgeist The Fringe, 10 pm.
ZuZu Chris Warren, 10 pm, 21+.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
The Burren Tommy, Louise, Peter Molloy & Matt Glover.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm; True Life Bluegrass, 10 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open Mike with feature John Gerard, 7 pm, $5..
Dick's Last Resort Pat Funk, 7:20 pm.
The Green Dragon Shoot the Moon.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Teada, 8:30 pm, $8.
Kennedy's Midtown Michael Larson.
Kinsale Tom Courtney.
Lizard Lounge Winterboy, 7-9 pm; Boston Undercover, 9:30, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Macha, the Arrangement, Mahjongg, $9, 18+.
Paradise Rock Club: Drive-by Truckers, 8 pm, $13, 18+.
PA's Arbouretum, Shore Leave, the Carlisle Sound.
Plough and Stars Steve Hurl, 9:30 pm.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
Toad The Steve Mayone Band.
Top of the Hub Tony Carelli Group, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Tommy Stinson, Alien Crime Syndicate, AM Stereo, $10-$12.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Duo, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
ZuZu Madman Films, 10 pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Nicole Hajj and Matt Fog Quartet.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Abbey Lounge Radar Eyes, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
Avalon Old '97s, Chuck Prophet, 8 pm, $16.25 in advance, $18.25 day of show, 18+.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Bravo @ the MFA Ron Poster.
Breezeway Lenny Stalworth & the Funk Mob, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Peter Molloy.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Stephanie Winters and Kristen Mille, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort C3P0, 7:20 pm.
FleetBoston Pavilion Jack Johnson, G. Love & Special Sauce, 6:30 pm (sold out).
FleetCenter Phil Collins, 8 pm, $45-$95.
The Green Dragon Scott Damgaard.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie.
Lizard Lounge Sarah Borges, 7-9 pm; Dennis Brennan Band, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Downstairs: The Melvins, Trevor Dunn's Trio Convulsant, Vaz, $14 in advance; /$16 day of show.
PA's Journey to the Center of Your Colon.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Mike Clark Quartet.
Ryles Jazz Club Band Showcase Night, 8:30 pm, $5.
Scullers Joey Calderazzo Trio, $18.
Tír na nÓg Night in Wyoming.
Toad Kristin Cifelli, 7-9 pm; the Ken Clark Organ Trio, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Tony Carelli Group, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Fly Pan Am, Mono, Union Ares, $10.
Wonder Bar Joe McMahon Duo, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
ZuZu Rich Gilbert and the Velvet Swingers, 10 pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Leo Blanco.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Abbey Lounge Ragged Old Flag, 11:30 pm, $5-$.
All-Asia Cafe Nancy Mroczek, PhD, 10pm.
Asgard Annette Farrington.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Part Time Lovers Band, 7 pm.
Bravo @ the MFA Ron Poster.
Breezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Helena Delaney, Peter Molloy & Shannon Aaron.
Cantab Lounge The Kassie Buckley Band, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Chris Whitley, Brian Webb, 7 pm, $20..
Dick's Last Resort Classic Trax, 7:20 pm.
The Green Dragon The Spitting Vinnies.
Hennessy's Me & Julio.
High Street Grille Little Joe Cook, 9 pm.
Johnny D's Abdeli, 9 pm. $12.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Kinsale Black Soul.
Lizard Lounge Computo, 7-9 pm; Club D'Elf, 9 pm, $7.
Matt Murphy's Pub Round Midnight.
Middle East Upstairs: Dennis Brennan, Ca Heat, the Real Kids, Christian McNeill, Jim Ryan, Scissormen, Starr Faithfull, $9, 18+. Do stairs: Kirsten Malone Benefit Show with Neptu Gold, Mahi Mahi, Fat Day, U.V. Protecti Plunge into Death, Cathy Cathodic, Shore Le $12, 18+.
PA's New Blood, the Wooden Floors, My Last M night.
Plough and Stars Armadillos, 9:30 pm.
The Real Deal Jazz Club The Danilo Perez with Ben Street & Adam Cruz, 7:30 and 10 $16.
Regattabar Jon Scofield Trio featuring Steve Sw low, Bill Stewart.
Regent Theatre Taj Mahal, 7 pm and 10 pm, $3
Ryles Jazz Club Fernando Huergo Quintet, 8:30 $10.
Scullers Ottmar Liebert, $35.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Toad Blast Off! 7-9 pm; Porterdavis, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Tony Carelli Group, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Ocean Blue, the Ha gens, Jeffrey Simmons & the Symptoms, $10.
The Western Front Pressure Drop, Back to Sch 9 pm, $5.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Trio, 9:30 pm, cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist The Dig Trio, 7 pm; Chris Welcom Shayna Dulberger Duo, 9:30 pm.
ZuZu Thee Monkey Butlers, 10 pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Chris Brown.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Abbey Lounge Chezwick, 9:30 pm; Methadones, 10:30 pm; the Dents, 11:30 pm.
Asgard Ryan & Stu.
Axis The Thrills, the Zutons, 7 pm, $15, 18+.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm; Curra Fancy, 10:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Paulo Danay Jazz Quartet, 7:30 p
Bravo @ the MFA Bill Duffy.
The Burren Tina Lech, Ted Davis & Patrick Mur
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Triller pm, 21+.
Club Passim Grey Eye Glances, We're About pm, $20..
Common Ground The Joint Chiefs, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Hit Squad, 8:30 pm.
FleetCenter Gloria Estefan, 7:30 pm, $39.50-$9
The Green Dragon Tavern Freeze Pop.
The Harp Negative Space, 10 pm, $10.
Hennessy's Scooby Snax.
Johnny D's Boston Horns, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kinsale Groove Authority.
Kirkland Café The Mikey Dee Memorial Birth Party, $5.
Lizard Lounge The Montgomery's, 7-9 pm; Buckners, 9:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton.
Middle East Upstairs: The Blue Bloods, Suspect vice (CD Rel), the Pug Uglies, Famous in V $10, 18+. Downstairs: RJD2, Diplo, Rob Sonic, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy and Tony.
Paradise Hayden & the Elk-Lake Serenaders Cuff the Duke, 9 pm, $12, 21+. Rock Club: Scialfa, 9 pm (sold out).
Parris Catunes, 10 pm, $5.
PA's Akushna Pop, the Mercy James Gang, Nonfamous.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 6 pm; Twil Ranchers, 9:30 pm.
The Real Deal Jazz Club The Danilo Perez with Ben Street & Adam Cruz, 7:30 and 10 $18.
Regattabar Jon Scofield Trio featuring Steve S low, Bill Stewart.
Regent Theatre Bruce Katz and Dave Maxwe pm, $20.
Ryles Jazz Club Toni Lynn Washington, 9 pm,
Scullers The Manhattans, $30.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.
Toad Georgia Overdrive.
Top of the Hub Tony Carelli Group, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Dear Leader, the Informa the Bravery, Aberdeen City, $10.
UMass-Boston Boston Folk Festival: Tom Pa Jack Hardy, Rod MacDonald, 7-10 pm, $10.
The Western Front Libra Project, 9 pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Harold Layne, 9:30 pm, no cover,
Zeitgeist Jazz for Peace, 7 pm; Dimitris Tsakas tet, 9:30 pm.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio.

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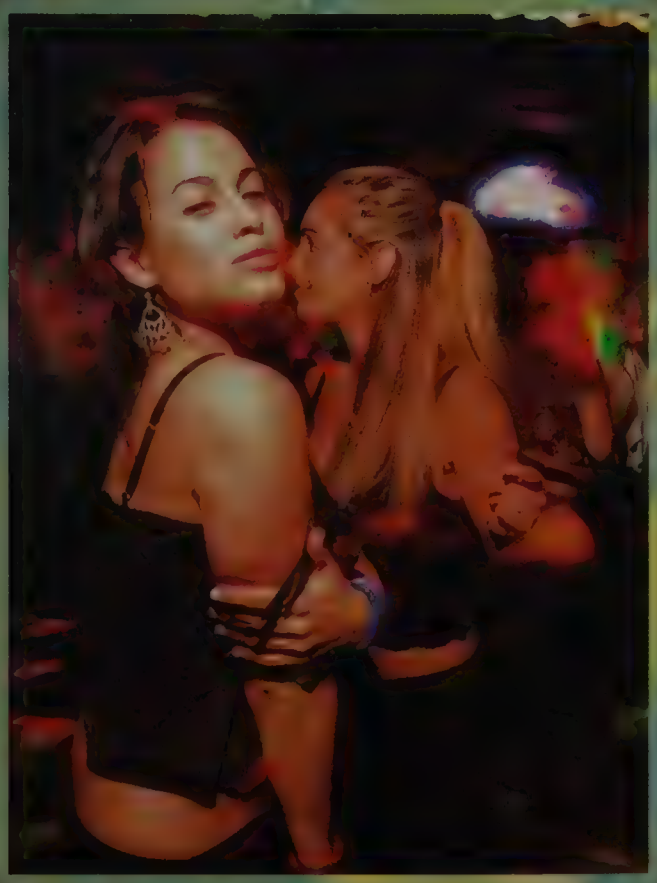
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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Abbey Lounge Coffee and Smokes.
Asgard El Gringo.
Avalon They Might Be Giants, 7 pm, $18.75, 18+.
The Black Rose Tom O'Carroll, 4 pm; Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm; Curraghs Fancy, 10:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Wanetta Jackson, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Tommy, Louise, Helena Delaney & Fabian Joyce.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Trillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Charlie Farren, 8 pm, $15..
Dick's Last Resort Central Basement, 8:30 pm.
FleetBoston Pavilion One Love Reggae Harborfest, featuring Kevin Lyttle, Capleton, Cocoa Tea and more, 3 pm, $32,50-$45.
FleetCenter MixFest 2004, 4:30 pm, $38.50-$87.50.
The Green Dragon Tavern Say When.
The Harp Negative Space, 10 pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry Entrain.
Johnny D's Junior Brown, 9:45 pm, $20.
Kinsale Brick Park.
Lizard Lounge Jason Hatfield and the Marmalade, Heidi Saperstein, Lady of Spain, 9:30 pm, $7.
Matt Murphy's Pub Vanessa Morris.
Middle East Downstairs: Wargasm, Triphammer, Bad Karma, Loose Monkey, Random Acts of Violence , $15, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy and Tony.
Paradise Rock Club: Jen Durkin and the Bomb Squad, Eight Deep, Scarecrow Collection, 9 pm, $10.
Parris Catunes, 10 pm, $5.
PA's Saturday's Saints, the Pilot Light, Mass Radius, Satellite 7.
Plough and Stars The Flexible Flyers String Band, 5 pm; Richie Lee & the Boston Wheels, 9:30 pm.
Purple Shamrock Syndicate.
Regattabar Jon Scofield Trio featuring Steve Swallow, Bill Stewart.
Regent Theatre Shankar & Gingger, 8 pm, $50-$100.
Ryles Jazz Club Matthias Lupri Quintet, with Chris Potter, 9 pm, $14.
Scullers The Manhattans, $30.
Tír na nÓg Kevin Connelly.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 7-9 pm; Lucky 57, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Tony Carelli Group, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Emergency Music CD Rel, Mittens, the Good North, the Cignal, $8.
UMass-Boston Boston Folk Festival: Dar Williams, Rani Arbo and Daisy Mayhem, Erin McKeown and Band, Deb Pasternak and others, 11 am-7 pm, $30.
The Western Front King Django & the Jammyland Allstars, 9 pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Trio, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Zeitgeist Skull Session, 7 pm.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

The Attic The Coal Boilers.
Axis Supertones, 7 pm, $20 in advance, $25 day of show.
Bill's Bar Dub Station.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 4:30 pm; Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Jazz Brunch with Tracey Rose, 10 am-2:30 pm.
Bravo @ the MFA Jazz Brunch with Ronnie Ron Duo.
Breezeway Bobby Ward Trio, 11 am-3 pm.
The Burren The Gannon Family, 3-6 pm; the American Session Band, 6-9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Alasdair Fraser, 7:30 pm, $12..
Dick's Last Resort C3P0, 7:20 pm.
Harper's Ferry Tim Reynolds 7 pm, $18, 18+.
Hennessy's Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe, 9 am-1 pm.
Johnny D's Jazz Brunch with Tom Pendergast, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Irish Jazz Trio, 12-3 pm.
Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam, 7 pm; Poetry Jam with the Jeff Robinson Trio with poet Eve Stern, 7 pm, $5.
Matt Murphy's Pub Zion Blood.
Middle East Upstairs: Karyshma, $10, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett.
Plough and Stars Down Dog, 5 pm; The Cranktones, 9:30 pm.
Regent Theatre Shankar & Gingger, 7:30 pm, $50-$100.
Ryles Jazz Club Anita O'Day, 7 pm, $20.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.
Toad "Session Americana," 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12 pm; Bobby Keyes Trio 8 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Windmill, Madison Falls, Swivel Chair, $5.
UMass-Boston Boston Folk Festival: Natalie MacMaster, Dave Bromberg, Sam Bush Band, Cephas and Wiggins and others, 11 am-7 pm, $30.
Zeitgeist Audrey Ryan, 7 pm; Full Metal Revolutionary Jazz Ensemble, 9:30 pm.
ZuZu The Stumbleweeds, 10 pm, 21+.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm.
The Burren Johnny O'Leary & Vinny Costello.
Club Passim Arabesque, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm.
Harper's Ferry Sarah Blacker, Word, $4, 21+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Lizard Lounge Jay Feinstein, 7-9 pm; Starhick, 9:30 pm, $5.
Matt Murphy's Pub Brian Thomas.
Middle East Upstairs: Despistado, the Faithfull, the Call Up, $8, 18+.
Paradise Rock Club: Trashcan Sinatras, Roddy Hart, 8 pm, $14, 18+.
Plough and Stars Neptune Bay, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Sex Mob.
Tír na nÓg Christian McNeil & Co..
Toad Shwang, 7-9 pm; the Time Gearan Band, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Bobby Keyes Trio 8:30 pm.
Zeitgeist 3Play, 7 pm; the Fringe, 9:30 pm.
ZuZu Steve Westfield and the Slow Band, 10 pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Yoko Miwa.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Avalon Tragically Hip, 8 pm, $28.25, 18+.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
The Burren Tommy, Louise, Peter Molloy & Matt Glover.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm; the Bagboys, 10 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open Mike with Gooselove, 7 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Pat Funk, 7:20 pm.
The Green Dragon Shoot the Moon.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's John Payne Saxophone Orchestra, 9:45 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Michael Larson.
Kinsale Tom Courtney
Lizard Lounge Sitar Tabla Power, 7-9 pm; Boston Undercover, 9:30 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: Trainwreck (Kyle Gass of Tenacious D), Three Day Threshold, $12.50, 18+; Downstairs: Engine Down, These Arms Are Snakes, Channel, $10, 18+.
Paradise Rock Club: Saw Doctors 8 pm, $25, 18+.
Plough and Stars Larry Flint & the Road Scholars, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Sex Mob.
Ryles Jazz Club NY Nights with Jay Collins, 8:30 pm, $7.
Scullers Dena DeRose, $15.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
Toad The Steve Mayone Band.
Top of the Hub Bobby Keyes Trio 8:30 pm.
ZuZu Madman Films, 10 pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Rusty Scott Quartet.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Bad Religion Oct. 29, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Lloyd Banks Sept. 24, Avalon (617-931-2000).
The Cramps Oct. 16, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Dresden Dolls Oct. 30, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Flogging Molly Sept. 24, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Gov't Mule Oct. 15, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Percy Hill Nov. 13, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Keane Oct. 2, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Avril Lavigne Nov. 1, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Nick Lowe Sept. 25, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Barry Manilow Oct. 1, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Edwin McCain Sept. 28, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Metallica Oct. 24, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Pearl Jam Sept. 28-29, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
The Samples Oct. 3, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Wilco Oct. 1, Wang Theatre (617-482-9393).

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684) MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424) MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Bost (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplac Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Li to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-228 MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Cente*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (6 369-3474). MBTA: Green Line to Museum.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-33 4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617 743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541 5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Choppin' Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (61 734-4177). MBTA: Green Line to Brigham Circle*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617 783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Av*
Cottonwood Café *222 Berkeley St., Boston (617 247-2225). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Pruden*
Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Boston (617-350-9977). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-33 7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
First and Second Church *66 Marborough St., Bo (617-267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Bost (617-728-1600). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (6 624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Forsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetary, 95 Forest Ave., Boston (617-524-3354)*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Bost (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to P Street.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Bos (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (6 876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1(MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-2 9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-212 MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Cente*
High Street Grille *200 High St., Boston (617-52 4000). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Cross*



Scottish group the Trashcan Sinatras, touring to support their new CD, *Weightlifting*, play the Paradise Rock Club September 20.

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Sept. 18 THE MOLSON MELTDOWN
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at Hurricane O'Reilly's 10pm

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Sept. 23 DONAHUE'S
Bigelow Ave., Watertown 9pm

Sept. 24 CITYSIDE
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The Drive-By Truckers, who've just released their sixth album, *The Dirty South*, play the Paradise Rock Club September 14.

The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (617-267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Murphy's Law *837 Summer St., South Boston (617-269-6667).*
The Nameless Coffeehouse *First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-864-1630).*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
ParadiseLounge and Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Real Deal Jazz Club *Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, 41 Second St., Cambridge (617-876-7777). MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regent Theatre *7 Medford St., Arlington (781-646-4849).*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
UMass-Boston *100 Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-287-6911). MBTA: Red Line to JFK.*
Washington Square Tavern *714 Washington St., Brookline (617-232-8989). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington.*
The Western Front *343 Western Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7772).*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *474 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-5162). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Artist Behind the Desk Concert

Killian Hall, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 160 Memorial Drive, Cambridge (617-253-9821). http://.web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 12-1 pm. Free. Lyric soprano Krista Wilhelmsen, an administrative assistant at MIT's Department of Economics, performs.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Ralph Meulenbroeks

First Lutheran Church of Boston, 299 Berkeley St., Boston (617-536-8851). www.flc-boston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8 pm. $15. Dutch viola da gambist Ralph Meulenbroeks performs in his North American concert debut.

Music at the Immaculate

Immaculate Conception Church (The Jesuit Urban Center), 775 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-536-8440). www.jucboston.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm. $5-$10. Organist Providence Jee Yoon Choi performs works by Bach, Buxtehude, Reger, Mendelssohn and Franck.

Regina

College of Fine Arts Concert Hall, BU, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. 8 pm. Free. Conductor Michelle Alexander leads the Boston University Faculty Opera and a group of performers including Ja-nae Duane, Jodi Frisbee and Emily Jaworski.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Ralph Meulenbroeks

Lindsay Chapel, First Church in Cambridge, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (617-547-2724). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $15. Same program as Sept. 10.

Regina

College of Fine Arts Concert Hall, BU, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-3349). www.bu.edu/cfa. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. 8 pm. Free. Same program as Sept. 10.

Vivaldi in the Courtyard

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-278-5107). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 7:30 pm. $20-$35. The Gardner Chamber Ensemble, featuring flutist Paula Robinson, performs Vivaldi.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Ralph Meulenbroeks

Lindsay Chapel, First Church in Cambridge, 11 Garden St., Cambridge. (617-547-2724). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $15. Same program as Sept. 10.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-424-0900) www.newengland conservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Soprano Carole Haber performs.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Ralph Meulenbroeks

Lindsay Chapel, First Church in Cambridge, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (617-547-2724). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $15. Same program as Sept. 10.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals

King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm. $3 suggested donation. Soprano Maria Georgakarakou and lutist Richard Maloney perform songs and solos from Tudor England and Stuart Scotland.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Music of Hollywood

FleetCenter, One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station. 7:30 pm. $29-$125. The London Symphony Orchestra plays a collection of classic songs from the big screen.



Harpsichordist Christa Rakich comes to Boston September 21.

WCRB Classical Concerts at Copley

Copley Square, Boston (781-736-9577) www.wcom. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12 pm. Free. Boston Classical Orchestra performs.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Boston Classical Orchestra

Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-423-3883). www.bosclassicalorchestra.org. MBTA: Green or Orange to Haymarket. 8 pm. $25-$49. Muir String Qua violinist Peter Zazofsky is featured in this sh case of works by Mendelssohn and Dvorak.

SeptemberFEST Opening Night

Edward M. Pickman Hall, 27 Gardner St., Cambr (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. The Radnofsky Qua kicks off the Longy School of Music's Septem FEST with a program of works by Glazunov, Pi and Saint-Saens.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Turns and Returns: A Celebration Three Cultures

Edward M. Pickman Hall, 27 Gardner St., C bridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MB Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. As par Longy's SeptemberFEST, an assortment of formers play works by Prokofiev, Glinka Tchaikovsky. Contralto Elizabeth Anker also forms music and poetry.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Boston Bel Canto Opera

Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gborough St., Boston (617-424-0900) www.opera.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 3 $20-$40. Thomas Bo conducts Verdi's *Messa Doquiem* with the Masterworks Chorale, featurin prano Joanna Parockova, mezzo-soprano Ang Theoharis, tenor Alan Schneider and bass Ge Cordes.

Boston Classical Orchestra

Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-423-3883). www.bclassicalorchestra.org. MBTA: Green or Orange to Haymarket. 8 pm. $25-$49. Same prograt Sept. 17.

Fantaisie d'aprés-midi

Edward M. Pickman, 27 Gardner St., Camb (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. In this program, pa Longy's SeptemberFEST, the ensemble Hour performs works by Milhaud and Schumann.

Third Sunday Series

The New School of Music, 25 Lowell St., Camb (617-492-8105). www.cambridgemusic.org. ME #73 Waverly bus to Mount Auburn Hospital. 5 Free. Faculty members of the New School of M put their skills on display in this free concert.

Young Artist Showcase

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fen Boston (617-278-5107). www.gardnermuseum MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 1:30 pm. $5- Gilles Vonsattel, first-prize winner at the Naumburg International Piano Competition, forms works by Dallapiccola, Schubert, Liszt Bartók.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

New England Conservatory Intercultural Institute

Brown Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-1260). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBT Green Line to Symphony. 4 pm. Free. Singer Redzepova, performs Romani and Macedo music with her group, the Ensemble Teodosievs

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

King's Chapel Tuesda Recitals

King's Chapel, 58 Tremont Boston (617-227-2155). kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Gre Red Line to Park Street. 12:1 $3 suggested donation. Owens plays works by Bridge, Mathias and Ower the C.B. Fisk organ.

Tuesday with Sebast The Bach Keyboard Project

First Lutheran Church, 299 E ley St., Boston (617-661-0 www.tuesdayswithsebastian MBTA: Green Line to Cop pm. $10 suggested donation. H chordist Christa Rakich an ganist Peter Sykes continue attempt to complete the keyboard repertoire of J.S. B

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dance clubs


Caprice

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music,
9 pm, $3, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Jay Ine spinning house,
10 pm, $7, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJs spin R&B and hip-hop, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance salsa, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Scott Damgaard performs.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aria
Industry Tuesday Dance to hip-hop and R&B.

Boston Rocks
Smooth Groove Tuesday Old-school jams, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Orange DJs John Davis, Pat Fontes and Randy Deshaies bring the house music, and weekly guest DJs spin, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Deep Tones DJ Brynmore spins a mix of reggae, soul, funk, trance and acid jazz, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Havana Club Latin Dance Night A Latin dance night features an assortment of local DJs, 10 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Sensei spins hip-hop and R&B. Karaoke is also offered. 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

WEDNESDAYS

Aria
Lust DJ John Morris spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, $8, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins Greek and international tunes upstairs and a live reggae band plays downstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
British Accents Presents Starshape DJ Dave spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
Summer Solstice Live performances every Wednesday hosted by DJ/producer Joe Bermudez spinning house and dance beats. 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up R&B, top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mercury Lounge DJs Nomadik and Timmy Allen host a night of soul, funk and house, 9 pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin house and techno, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
Chad LaMarsh performs solo acoustic, 8:30-11 pm. Beach Party with DJs, 11 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
International Wednesdays DJ JC is in the Latin Lounge; DJs Alex and Felix spin in the back, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Wacky Wednesdays Magic with Peter Gross, 6-9 pm, DJ Massi all night, no cover, 21+.

Q
Violation Wednesdays Weekly guest DJs spin today's best music, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm- 2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of dance and hip-hop, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays DJ Boogie Ba Do spins dub to start the party, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band brings R&B and dance to the main lounge, 9-11 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Martinez spins salsa, cumbia and merengue on one floor, while DJ Supreme spins a New York lounge set (hip-hop, R&B and rock covers) on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5..

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Walt spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; DJ Roger M and DJ Thanos spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Boston's Biggest College Hip-Hop Night DJs Caprice, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Djs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
Karaoke with DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
DJ Ghost spins international house and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursdays DJs Dubz and 40D spin reggae, R&B and hip-hop, no cover, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

I/D
Square One Thursdays DJs Dres and Wagz host a night of progressive dance music, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
Live band 6 pm; DJ Massi, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran spin dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Doc spins the latest tunes, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Milky Way
Club Thursdays Rotating DJs spin dance music, 9 pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5 (19+), $3 (21+).

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJs spin upbeat lounge music in the front, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Q
Hip-Hop Thursdays DJ Craig Smooth spins hip-hop all night long, 9 pm, $5, ladies free all night, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Brian Roche Dance Party, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
Reunion Thursdays NGP All-Stars spin past, present and future party classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali and Ross spin a mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons and dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

711 Boylston
Play Thursdays DJ trio Groovefire spins house music with special guests Beat Khemistry, 6 pm-2 am.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ DonRico spins salsa, merengue and Latin pop and DJ Tegrem spins downtempo retro international, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip-hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Ladies Night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cover.

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old-school hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ Seano 5-9 pm; DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $5 after 10:30 pm, 21+.

Aria
Floss DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Avaland International DJs spin house, 10 pm, $1 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top-40, 9pm am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
All Axis DJ Dru Nyce, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ M Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80s fav along with Boston's best cover bands, 9 pm, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents night of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and hip-hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

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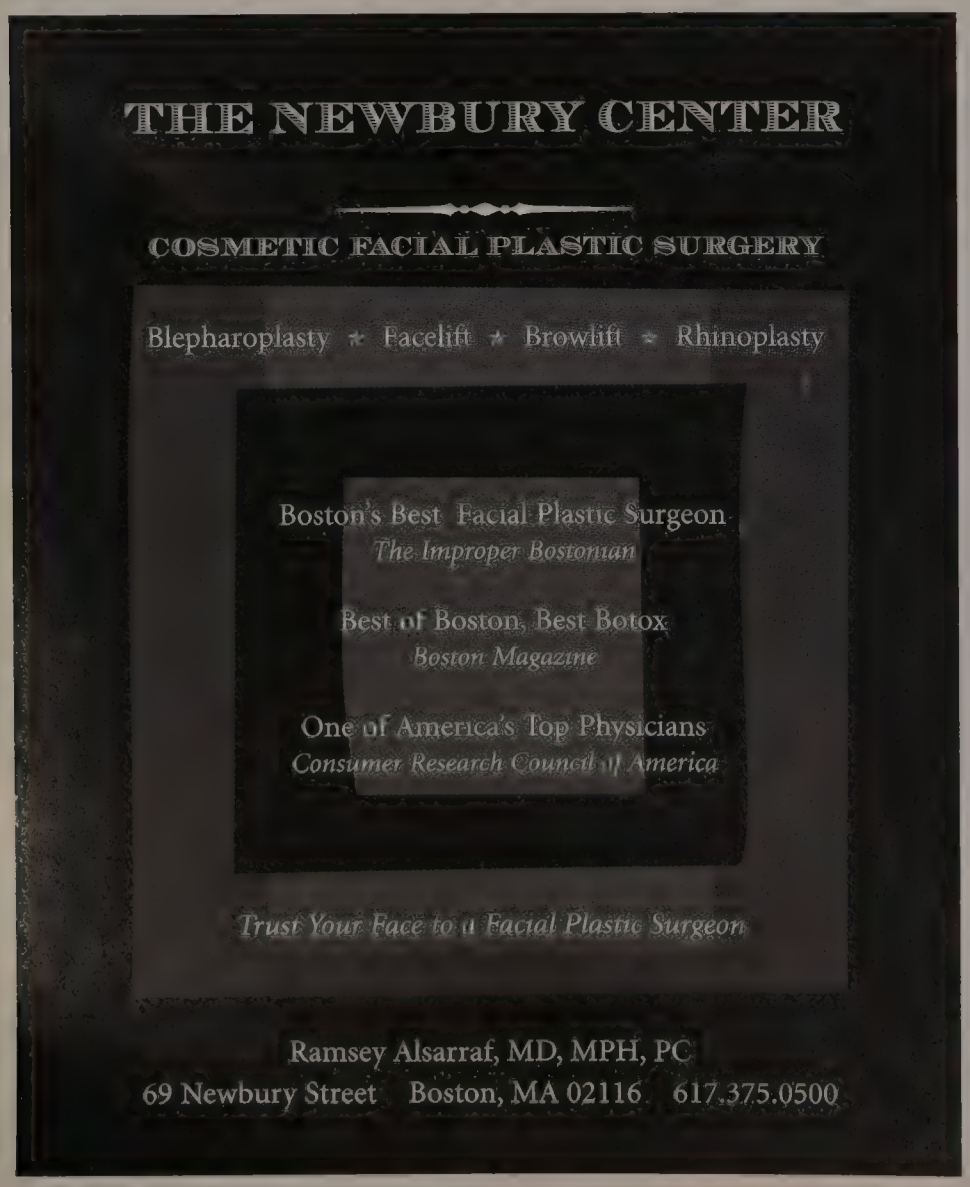
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Caprice
DJ Kamal spins a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+, after 11 pm.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
Persuassion DJ Sun One spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Felt
After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs spin high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Angirsano spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •Sept. 10: The Zoo. •Sept. 17: Negative Space.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs Big Daddy spins, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins house and old favorites, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before midnight, 21+.

La Boom
Fashion Fridays Firefly Promotions hosts this fashion night featuring DJ Rick Naples, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

Level
110 Productions hosts a party with progressive house music, hip-hop and top-40. 11 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Adilson of Roxy Saturdays spins high-energy house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

McGann's
DJ Eireann spins dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Palace
•**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies, free; men, $5 before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.•**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $10, 21+; $15, 18+.. •**Rockpile** Rotating bands perform, 9 pm, Ladies free before 11:30 pm; $12, 18+; $8, 21+. •**The Beach House** Reggaeton: Spanish reggae music, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
•Sept. 10: Candiflyp, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm, $10 ($5 before 9 pm), 21+. •Sept. 17: Catunes, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm, $10 ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Greg spins top-40 and '80s hits, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop as he spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ spins in the front and DJ Gabe spins vocal house in the back, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Craig Smooth spins the latest hits, 10 pm, $5. Aug. 27: Spike the Punch.

Q
DJ Massi plays hip hop and top-40, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Johnny C, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin quality house, 8 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Lite Nite DJ Easy spins a mix that includes neo-soul and feel-good classics, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top-40, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins Latin house and Latin dance on one floor while DJ Franklin spins international on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10pm, $5 after 9pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats all night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJs Dunleop and Walt mix top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Guest DJs spin high-energy vocal house and hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Tease Saturdays Resident DJ Rick Naples performs along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Lush Life WFNX DJs spin alternative rock, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ Mz Phipps spinning the hottest top-40, hip-hop and '80s faves, along with Boston's best cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-? pm. DJs presents top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Frankie creates a lounge atmosphere with his international, Latin and house sounds, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 2

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 2

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood It's women's night at Hollywood with two floors of hip-hop and house music. MixMistress spins upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
Essence DJs Ed and Sal, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop, house and dance, pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorite disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 $5, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house pm, 21+.

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The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, $10, 21+. •Sept. 11: The Zoo. •Sept. 18: Negative Space.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Ryan Bis spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

I//D
X Night WFNX presents a night of retro '80s and rock, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, while downstairs DJ Kieran plays top-40, 9 pm, $6, 21+.

La Boom
Wild on @ La Boom DJ Tim Collins and KISS 108 host a night of music and dancing, 10 pm, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 9 pm, 21+.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Shorty spins Latin music, 10 pm, $10, 21+, $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJ Eireann spins dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10 pm, $10, men; $5, women (women admitted free before 10:30 pm); 21+.

The Modern
Material DJ Dru Nyce plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies, free; men, $5 before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**The Beach House** Classic party music and top-40, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
•Sept. 11: Candiflyp, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm, $10 ($5 before 9 pm), 21+. •Sept. 18: Catunes, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm, $10 ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wonders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles Boston's best DJs come in and spin sets.

Pravda 116
DJ spins in the front and DJ Gabe spins vocal house in the back, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom Hogan spins the groove, 10 pm, $5, 21+. •Sept. 11: American Made. •Sept. 18: Syndicate.

Q
DJ Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Roche spins, 9 pm- 2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins modern mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Adilson spins house and techno, 9 pm, $15, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancing, 9 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

711 Boylston
Fever DJ Yorgo spins a mix of ethnic and international music, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
Resident DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin, international and dance, often joined by live bands and special guest DJs, 10 pm, $10-$15, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins classic old-school, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
Curses Wretched Design presents an evening of gothic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

Aria
DJ Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+

Caprice
DJ spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hip-hop downstairs, karaoke upstairs, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance mamba, 10 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

The Kells
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJs Doc & Kieran spin house, top-40 and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Satellite A lesbian night featuring DJ Dee, with dance music, amateur drag contests and films, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Malibu Beach Party DJ Thom spins everything from reggae to top-40, with prizes all night, 4-9 pm, DJ Massi spins, 9 pm, $5 men, free for ladies, 21+.

Q
Reggae with Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins dance and top-40, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
Sunday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and guests spin reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
Wicked Wicked Sundays Experimental reggae and hip-hop hosted by Wayne on Wax, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Wepa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sunday of each month, DJ Nik and DJ Hernan play salsa music, 6-10 pm, $12.

Saint
Spice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night featuring Latin and International grooves, 10 pm-2 am, $13.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock, retro and hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

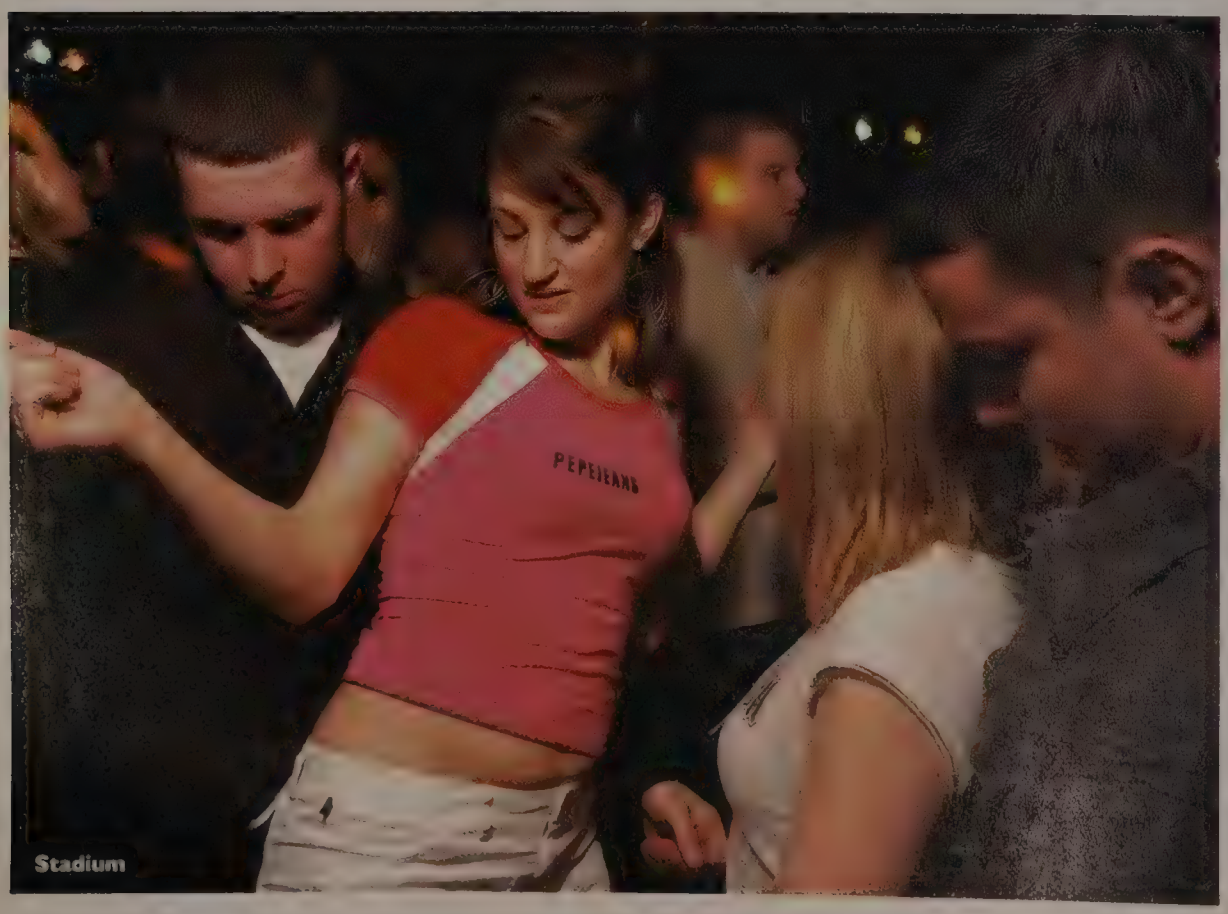
Tiki Room
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins Brazilian beats, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Whiskey Park
Cherry DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock classics, hip-hop, house and R&B.



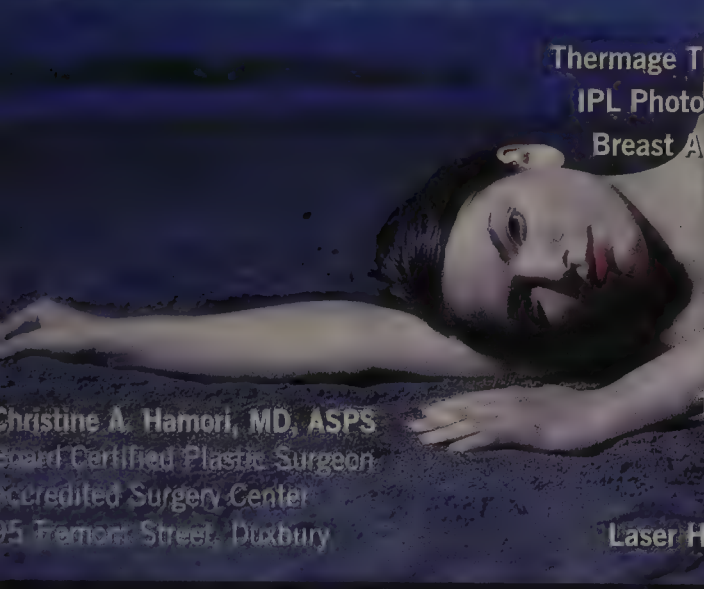
Stadium

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
The G Spot *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
La Boom *One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Light *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *(El Copa, Male Encounter, Officers' Club, Oxygen, Rio, Underground and Uptown) 1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-868-5900).*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300)*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
711 Boylston *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2580).*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*

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museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors

Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum

Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Dutch and Flemish Drawings from the National Gallery of Canada*, an exhibition of rare drawings and landscapes by Rembrandt and his contemporaries, shows through Oct. 17. •*Closely Focused, Intensely Felt: Selections from the Norma Jean Calderwood Collection of Islamic Art* features Persian artwork from the last millennium. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Masterworks of East Asian Painting* features works on paper and silk from China, Korea, and Japan. Through April 13, 2005.

Boston Public Library

666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm. •*Handfuls of Lilies: The Art of Sarah Whitman* features stained-glass designs by the local artist. Through September.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park

51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $6; students and seniors, $4. •Robert ParkeHarrison's *The Architect's Brother* is a five-part exhibition that contemplates the fate of the Earth. Sept. 18-Jan. 2, 2005. •*Luminous Forms: Abstractions in Color Photography* features photographs that focus on color, form and light as subjects. Sept. 18-Jan. 2, 2005. •*Abstract Elements: The Dr. Beatrice H. Barrett Collection of Art* is a selection of abstract works by regional and international 20th-century artists. Sept. 18-July 31, 2005. •*Henry Richardson: Chiseled Orb and Mortal Coil* is an ongoing exhibition featuring the artist's large glass sculptures.

Fogg Art Museum/ Busch-Reisinger Museum

32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Dependent Objects* displays multidimensional works by German artists that both defy and embrace the concept of object and sculpture in art. Runs Sept.18-Jan. 2, 2005. •*Vastly More Than Brick and Mortar: Reinventing the Fogg Art Museum in the 1920s*, an exhibition of 47 objects including archival photographs, building plans and pieces from the Fogg's original collection, illustrates how the museum was created. Through Sept. 26. •*Extra Ordinary Every Day: The Bauhaus at the Busch-Reisinger* is an online exhibition that can be accessed at www.artmuseums.harvard.edu/sites/eoed. Through 2005. •*Rococo Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* is an ongoing exhibit. •*To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* is an ongoing display of 19th-century art. •*Basic Research: A Selection of Postwar German Painting and Sculpture*, and *The Figure in French Sculpture 1780-1900* are ongoing.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species, by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5. •*Re-Turning the Past: Cultural Icons Recast*, is an outdoor exhibit by Niho Kozuru in the garden and courtyard of the Paul Revere House (19 North Square). Through Oct. 11.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; seniors, $7; students, $5. members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18 free. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. •Elaine Reichek's embroideries, which depict Biblical images borrowed from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists, display online in the virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum

Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $8; seniors and students $6; children ages 13-17 $4; children 12 and under admitted free. •*Gifts from the World to the White House: Caroline Kennedy's Doll Collection* features 77 dolls from 30 countries that were given to JFK's daughter between 1961 and 1963. Through Nov. 5. •In honor of this election year, *Campaign!* is an exhibition following JFK's nomination, campaign and inauguration, from 1960-61. Through Jan. 20, 2005.

McMullen Museum of Art

Boston College, 140 Commonwealth Ave., Chestnut Hill, (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-3 pm.; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Fernand Khnopff: Inner Visions and Landscapes* includes more than 80 paintings representing the European Symbolist movement. Sept. 19-Dec. 5.

MIT List Visual Arts Center

20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. The museum's permanent collection includes more than 1,500 pieces of contemporary art including paintings, murals, sculptures, photography and prints. •The annual Student Loan Art Program Exhibition and Lottery runs through Sept. 13. •*The Great Glass Pumpkin Patch* features 1,000 handblown glass pumpkins by MIT artist, for perusal and purchase at the Kresge Oval, 48 Mass. Ave. Reception; Sept. 17, 5-7 pm; sale: Sept. 18, 10 am-5 pm. •*Classroom* by Anthony Goicolea plays on the Media Test Wall through Sept. 19. •*Selections from the Collection* spotlights the work of 17 renowned artists. Through Nov. 19.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5; students and seniors, $3; children, $1. •*Telling It Like It Is: Student Activism at MIT During the Vietnam War* displays posters from that era. Through fall 2004. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features works by the self-described cross between "a mechanical engineer and a choreographer." Ongoing.

Museum of Afro-American History

46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. •*Portraits in Black: Gaining Ground, Holding Office* pays tribute to elected black leaders of New England. Through Oct. 23. •*The Times We Had* is an ongoing exhibition spotlighting Boston's African-American community of the 19th-century. •*Building on a Firm Foundation* is a 17-minute multimedia presentation that looks at 19th-century Beacon Hill through the eyes of an African-American teenager. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300 www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:4 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing open. $15; students and seniors, $13; children 17 a under, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is r duced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is fr (doesn't include special exhibitions). •*Draped in Dra ons: Chinese Court Costumes* features clothes wor by members of the Qing imperial court. Throug Sept. 19. •*Games for the Gods: The Greek Athle and the Olympic Spirit* features vases, marble bronzes and coins from the ancient Greek game Through Nov. 28. •*Art Deco: 1910-1939* feature more then 240 works, including furniture, textile ceramics, fashion and jewelry. Through Jan. 2005. •*Josef Sudek: Poet with a Camera* is an exhib tion of the Czech photographer's landscapes, sti lifes and architectural photos. Through Jan. 1 2005. •*18th Century French Royal Furniture from t Swan Collection* features the only complete set 18th-century French royal furniture in the Unite States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* di plays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13; seniors, $1 children, $10. •*The Lord of the Rings Motion Pictu Trilogy—The Exhibition* features memorabilia fro the films, including costumes, props and the ring i self. Through Oct. 24. •*A Bird's World* explores th behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoin •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of com puters from the electronic giants of the 1940s t today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Mo eling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collectio of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ong ing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, fe tures models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and giant grasshopper. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum

33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm Free. •*Allen Sisters Pictorial Photographs* is a colle tion of 25 platinum prints dating from 1885-192 Through Dec. 12. •*A Changing World: New Englan in the Photographs of Verner Reed, 1950-1972* displa through Jan. 2, 2005. •Learn how mail-order cat logs revolutionized American shopping in *Satisfa tion Guaranteed*. Through Feb. 6, 2005. •*Weste Pursuit of the American Dream*, a compilation of art facts and sculpture from the American West, show through April. 24, 2005. •*The Enchanted Clocks George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'd* an exhibition of 18th-century local history. Ongo ing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household o jects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. •*T Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Commu nity* is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; st dents, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem free. •*American Fancy: Exuberance in the Arts, 179 1840* showcases more than 200 pieces of ear American decorative and folk art. Through Oct. 2 •*Treasures from Chatsworth, a British Noble House,* a look at centuries of English domestic life throug the Cavendish family's rare collection of old mast drawings and paintings, books, and jewelr Through Nov. 7. •*Havana: Photographs by Robe Polidori* features 18 large-scale photograph Through Jan. 9, 2005. •*Bringing Japan to Boston* te tures Japanese artifacts from the Edward S. Mor Collection. Through April 30, 2005. •*Carved L Nature* puts ancient Chinese wood carvings on di play through June 2005. •The only installation its kind in North America, *Yin Yu Tang* is a Chine merchant's home from the late Qing Dynasty, rel cated and reconstructed. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology an Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027 www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Ha vard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students children, $5. •*Bringing Japan to Boston: the Edward Morse Collection* is a rare display of Japanese artifac collected from 1877-1879, through April 200 •*Painted by a Distant Hand: Mimbres Pottery from t American Southwest* features artifacts from New Me ico's Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through June 2005. •*Fro Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indi Collection* features Native American artifacts from t explorers' journey. Through December 2005. •*Dis guished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments* features

Preview

Art in the Open

Local neighborhoods embrace the arts.



Steven Sternbach's *Gorge Series* can be seen at Gallery AA/B during the South End Open Studios.

If you're among the throngs of Bostonians who picked up and moved on September 1, and your new space needs an artistic flourish—a painting, maybe some sculpture—now is the season to shop, and support local artists to boot. With 12 neighborhoods holding separate events between now and December, and several hundred local artists participating, Boston hosts one of the largest annual open-studio events in the country, a creative free-for-all for the art buff and novice alike.

Now in its 18th year, the South End Open Studios takes place September 18 and 19, and this year showcases original works by more than 250 local talents. "The mix of artists and types of art is always changing, so there's an exciting influx of new people," says producer Chris Farris. Galleries and studios will feature work from emerging newcomers and established local artists alike, and the artists will be on site, mingling and selling artwork in a full array of media. Browsers can expect to see contemporary and traditional works in sculpture, painting and photography, as well as fabric and fiber arts, clothing, jewelry, home decor and everything in between.

It's easier to get there too. The United South End Artists have arranged for free parking, and periodic shuttle buses will run every 15 minutes from the corner of Clarendon Street and Columbus Avenue.

Even if you can't tell Picasso from *Peanuts*, have no fear—the Open Studios are anything but elitist. "*Open* is the operative word here," says Farris of the creative community atmosphere. "It's really a celebratory event."

Sept. 18 and 19, 11 am–6 pm. Free. (617-267-8862). www.useaboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. —Anna Vodicka and Jessica Iredale

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museum's large Mesoamerican cast collection. Ongoing. •*Hall of the North American Indian: Change and Continuity* features art depicting the response of Native Americans across the continent to the arrival of Europeans. Ongoing. •*Encounters with the Americas* is an ongoing exhibition featuring original sculpture and plaster casts of Mesoamerican cultures. •*Pacific Islands Hall*, another ongoing exhibition, displays artifacts from the Pacific Islands.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9552). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue-Sat 11 am-5 pm.* •*Nanno De Groot: The New York Years* is a show of paintings by the New York School abstract expressionist. Through Oct. 9.

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). www.alianzagallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm.* •*Images in Glass*, scenic impressions and images of the human form, shows Sept. 10-Nov. 5.

Allston Skirt Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-3652). www.allstonskirt.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •*Heather Hobler-Keene: Somewhere Over* and *Josh Aster: New Work* show Sept. 10-25.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Thurs., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •Haley Hasler shows self-portraits that deal with motherhood and domestic life. Sept. 10-Oct. 6.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm.* •*New Paintings* is a show of work by Anthony James. Through Sept. 29.

Art Interactive
130 Bishop Allen Drive, Cambridge (617-498-0100). www.artinteractive.org. MBTA: *Red Line to Central. Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm.* •Jeff Talman's *Sonalumina-13* explores acoustic resonance with aluminum plates. Through Oct. 31.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •Rachel Perry Welty's *Daily Bread* shows Sept. 11-Oct. 19.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.berenberggallery.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •*Re-Visions*, contemporary art by Nancy Sutherland, shows Sept. 18-Oct. 23.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm.* •Works by Robert and Shana Parker Harrison show through Oct. 31.

Boston Sculptors Gallery
486 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-7781). www.bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm.* •Michelle Lougee shows environmental sculptures in *Pomus Ingenium*, and Kitty Wales shows animal sculptures in *Broken Sleep*. Through Sept. 25.

Brickbottom Gallery
1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5 pm.* •*Trial Runs* displays through October.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Monmouth St., Brookline. (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: *C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm.* •*Street Scenes: Candid Photography by Scott Dicks* shows through Oct. 22.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 2nd St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). www.cmacusa.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Government Center, to EZRide Science Park shuttle. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm.* •Ruth Abrams shows collage and assemblage in *The Fabric of Life*. Through Oct. 8.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm.* •Tezh Modarressi shows his work in *Spyglass*. Through Sept. 27.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm.* •Works by Fritz Eichenberg and Bernard Brussel-Smith, and the *Painting Annual* exhibit are on display Sept. 13-Nov. 6.

Clifford-Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 300, Boston (617-695-0255). www.cliffordsmithgallery.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5:30 pm.* •Sheila Gallagher shows paintings in *Chase*. Through Oct. 2.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm.* • *Gretchen Huber Warren: Urban Legends* is a series of oil paintings inspired by the artist's travels across the U.S. Sept. 9-Oct. 2.

Crump McCole Gallery
200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: *Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm.* •*Painters of the New Boston* features works by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm.* •*Arbortage: Boughs and Branches* features new paintings by Mary Mattei. Through Sept. 25.

Equator Gallery
450 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-540-9236). MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. www.equatorgallery.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm.* •The gallery specializes in Latin American fine art, including paintings, textiles and ceramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: *Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm.* •*Objects/Artifacts*, by Marilyn Ranker and Rebecca Seeman, shows through Sept. 25.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm.* •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu. and Sat.,12-5 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm.* •*Recent Photographs and Paintings*, by Steven Sternbach and Renia Platt, shows Sept. 9-Oct 23.

The Gallery at Black and White
295 Huntington Ave., Suite 205 (617-266-2641). MBTA: *E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Mon.-Fri, 10 am-5 pm.* •The gallery features rotating exhibitions of black-and-white photographs.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave #305, Boston (617-423-6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •*Supply and Demand*, a show of works by Shepard Fairey, displays Sept. 10-Oct. 16. .

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •Ken Beck shows *Palette Scrapings*, and Morgan Cohen shows *New Work*. Through Oct. 2.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
23 Thayer St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Peter Coe: Paintings* shows through Oct. 2.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.haleysteele.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment.* •The gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prints. Ongoing.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •*Emily Eveleth: Recent Paintings*, and *In Between: New Photographs by Oscar Palacio* display Sept. 9-Oct. 19.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm.* •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters. •*Art Deco Poster Masterpieces, 1921-1939* shows Sept. 17-Nov. 22.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm.* •*New Words* by Anne Beresford shows Sept. 9-Oct 2.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm.* •David Williams shows new paintings in *Pick Your Poison*. Through Oct. 2.

Kingston Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 12-5 pm.* •The annual members show displays through Sept. 25.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm.* •*Intrigue*, a show of glass sculpture by Sheyl Ellinwood and Mark Hursty, displays through Oct. 15.

Mark Gallery
141 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6275). www.markartgallery.com. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm, and by appointment.* •*Pogany & Pilato: Paintings and Prints* shows Sept. 10-Oct. 15.

Martin Lawrence Gallery
77 Newbury St., Boston (617-369-4800). www.martinlawrence.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-7 pm.* •The gallery's ongoing exhibition includes works by Chagall, Erté, Hallam, Kondakova, Lichtenstein, Picasso and Warhol.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •*Joseph Solman: Seventy Years of Painting* shows Sept. 18-Oct. 12.

Mills Gallery
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Boylston. Wed., Thu. and Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-10 pm.* •*Exposing Scarlet: A Visual Response to The Scarlet Letter* celebrates the bicentennial of Nathaniel Hawthorne's life with 14 artists addressing issues raised in the author's famous novel. Sept. 10-Oct. 31.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*Connections* is a group show of jewelry. Sept. 18-Oct. 30.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment.* •Sam Messer's *Why I'm Not Where You Are* features paintings of the artist's daughter and wife. Sept. 18-Oct. 23.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: *Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm.* •A local-artists showcase is ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •Andrew Nixon shows oil-on-canvas and oil-on-paper landscapes. Sept. 9-Oct. 9.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm.* •*Mingei* is a group show of Japanese pottery by Shoji Hamada, Tatsuzo Shimaoka, Noriyasu Tsuchiya and Ken Matsuzaki. Sept. 11-Oct. 12.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (617-482-9988). www.qingping.org. Daily, 1 pm-12 am and by appointment. •*Those Who Wait*, a group show of works by Beijing avant garde artists Su Xinping, Lui Qinghe, Zhou Jirong and Lu Peng, displays through Oct. 31.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings.



Nanno de Groot's *Figure Fantasy*, at Acme Fine Art through October 9.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •Work by Marie Cosindas shows Sept.9-Oct. 9.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat., 11 am-5:00 pm.* •*Fine Lithographs & Etchings* features works by Marc Chagall, Joan Miró, Georges Rouault and others. Through Dec. 31.

Samson Projects
450 Harrison Ave., Boston, (617-357-7177). www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 12-6 pm.* •*Notorious Impropriety* group show of paintings, video and drawings. Sept. through October.

The Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm.* •*The Art Awards Show* honors New England craft and media artists. Through Oct. 31.

Soprafina Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-498-0999). MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Thurs, Frid.Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm.* •Catherine Kernan and Kazuhiro Nanuma show new work. Through Sept. 28.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm.* •A show of works by William St. George, Christina Keating, Sandra Mueller-Dick, Judy St. Peter and Art Grandin is ongoing.

Studio Soto
63 Melcher St., Boston (617-426-7686). www.studiosoto.org. MBTA: *Orange Line to South Station. Fri. and Sat., 2-5 pm. Somatech*, a group show of paintings and paper welds of the human body, shows Sept. 10-Oct. 2.

Upstairs at Johnson's Art Gallery
355 Newbury St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-536-4064). MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm.* •*The Found Objects*, a group show of works made from recycled materials by Frank Domec, Marylou Clark and Anna Johansson, displays Sept. 9-30.

Wentworth Gallery
73 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-8770). www.wentworthgallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat. 10 am-6 pm; Sun. 12-6 pm.* •The gallery's permanent collection features works by Dali, Chagall and Miro.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: *Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5.* •*The Last of Polio* features work by Sebastião Selgado. Through Oct. 31. •*Armenia and Karabagh: The Aftermath* is a show of photographs by Paul Mellon. Through Nov. 26.

New England School of Photography
Gallery One, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-424-1868). www.nesop.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Kenmore. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm.* •*NESOP Open House* features tours and demos, with faculty and staff on hand. Sept. 12, 11 am-3 pm.

Panopticon Gallery Kenmore
502-C Comm Ave., Boston (617-267-8921). www.panopt.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Kenmore. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-7 pm.* •*Home Run*, a show of vintage baseball photographs, displays through September.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www.panopt.com. Commuter Rail to Waltham. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*Colossal*, an exhibition of photographs by Bradford Washburn, shows through Sept. 18.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Jamaica Plain Open Studios
(617-524-3816). www.jamaicaplainopenstudios.org. MBTA: *Orange Line to Forest Hills. Sept. 11, 12, 11:30 am-6 pm.* •Local artists showcase their work in more than 50 studios throughout the neighborhood.

South End Open Studios
(877-589-5329). www.bostonopenstudios.org. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Sept. 18 and 19, 11 am-6 pm.* •United South End Artists present the 18th annual South End Open Studios. More than 200 artists show paintings, sculpture, jewelry, photography and more in studios throughout the neighborhood.

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Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to books@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 12:30 pm. Free. **Elaine Hagopian** discusses the essay anthology she edited, *Civil Rights in Peril: The Targeting of Arabs and Muslims*. Contributing writer **Nancy Murray** also speaks.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Photographer **Abelardo Morrel** leads a slide show and discussion about his book *Camera Obscura*, a tribute to the world's most photographed cities.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Eileen Gunn** reads from *Stable Strategies and Others*, her collection of short stories that explore politics, class and gender.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Alan Furst** reads from his novel *Dark Voyage*, an espionage story set in 1937.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Dani Shapiro** reads from her novel *Family History*, about a family that begins to fall apart when the teenage daughter moves from normal rebellion to more destructive behavior.

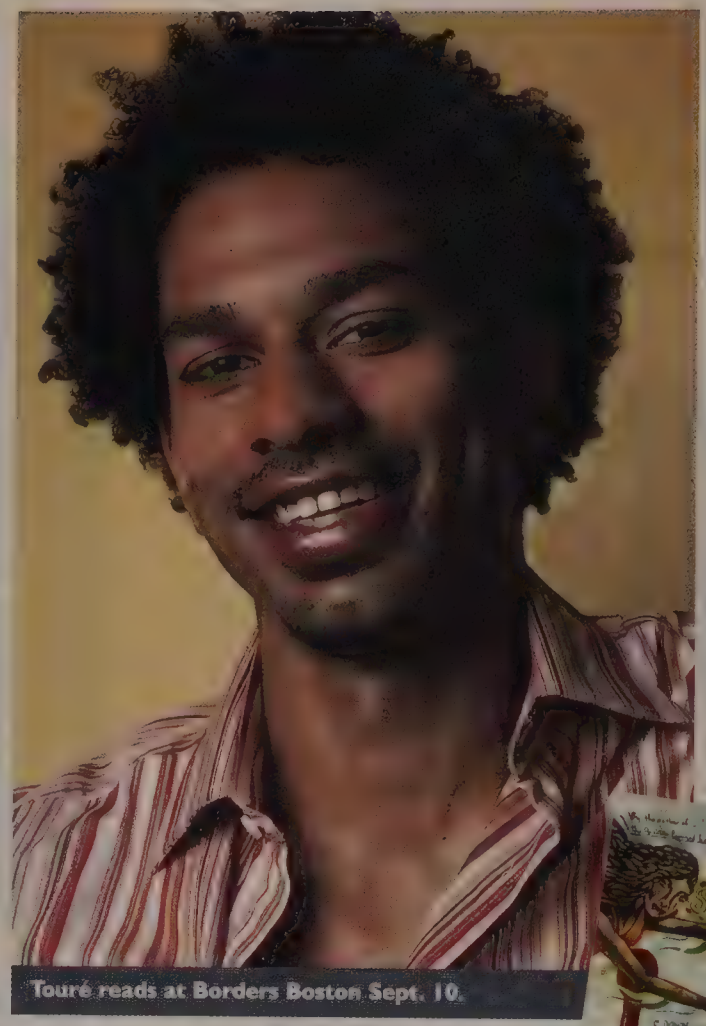
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 12:30 pm. Free. Chef **Andy Husbands** signs copies of *The Fearless Chef: Innovative Recipes from the Edge of American Cuisine*, a cookbook that he's co-written.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Brendan Halpin** discusses his novel *Donorboy*, about a teenager who reunites with her biological father after her lesbian parents pass away.

Center for New Words
Simmons College, 3rd Floor Conference Center, 300 The Fenway, Boston (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 7 pm. Free. **Marjane Satrapi** discusses the second installment in her autobiographical graphic novel series, *Persepolis 2: The Story of a Return*, about her travels abroad and her eventual return home.

Newtonville Books
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonville books.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Sharon Pywell** reads from her novel *What Happened to Henry*, about a family struggling to understand the son's disturbed mental state. Also, **Michael Keith** reads from *The Next Better Place: Memories of My Misspent Youth*, a memoir about a cross-country trip the author took with his alcoholic father in 1959.


Touré reads at Borders Boston Sept. 10.

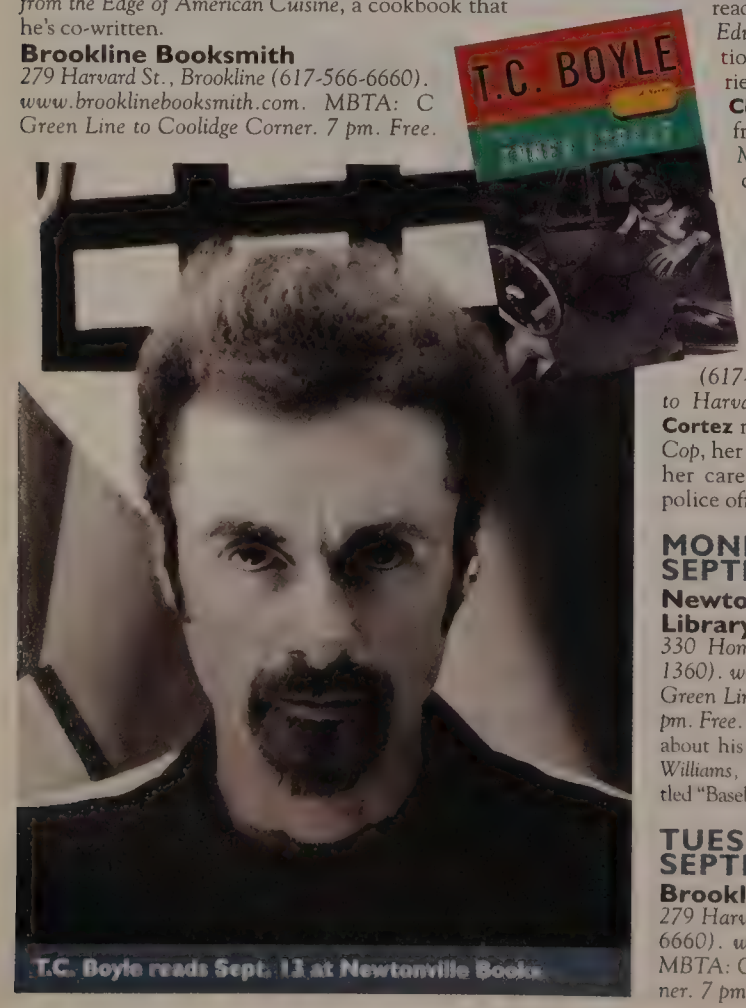
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borderstores.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 12:30 pm. Free. **Touré** reads from his utopian novel, *Soul City*.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm Free. **Marjane Santrapi** reads from her graphic novel *Persepolis 2: The Story of a Return*. See Sept. 9 Center for New Words listing for a description.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-0372). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Harvard graduate and Cambridge resident **Sage Stossel** reads from her children's book *We're off to Harvard Square*.

Out of the Blue Art Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. $5. **Carlo Rotella** reads from his book *Cut Time: An Education at the Fights*, a collection of his essays about the glories of boxing. Also, local writer **Christopher Castellani** reads from his novel *A Kiss from Maddalena*. The event also includes an open-mike session.



T.C. Boyle reads Sept. 13 at Newtonville Books.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Grolier Poetry Series
Grolier Poetry Book Shop, 6 Plympton St., Cambridge (617-547-4648). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5:30 pm. Free. **Sarah Cortez** reads from *How to Undress a Cop*, her poetry collection inspired by her career as a Mexican-American police officer.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Brookline (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Howard Frank Mosher** speaks about his latest book, *Waiting for Teddy Williams*, at a slide show presentation titled "Baseball and the Writing Life."

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Steve Brodner** signs copies of *Freedom Fries*, a collection of his political cartoons that critique American politics.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Max Holland** discusses the book he edited, *The Kennedy Assassination Tapes*, which collects transcripts detailing Lyndon B. Johnson's phone conversations in the aftermath of John F. Kennedy's assassination.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Brookline (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: Green Line to Newton Highlands. 2 pm. Free. The library's fall poetry reading series opens with readings by poets **Marc Widershien**, **Dorian Brooks** and **Fred Frankel**.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. Contributors **Dick Lourie** and **Mark Pawlak** read from *Present/Tense: Poets in the World*, a collection of political poetry.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7 pm. Free. **Emma Donoghue** reads from *Life Mask*, her historical novel about three late-18th-century London social figures.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 12:30 pm. Free. **Aliza Valdes-Rodriguez** discusses and signs copies of her new novel, *Playing with Boys*, about a group of Latina friends in their late 20s living in Los Angeles.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Found magazine creator **Davy Rothbart** discusses his book *Found: The Best Lost, Tossed and Forgotten Items from Around the World*, which reproduces notes, posters, tests and other discarded objects.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 12 pm. Free. **Aliza Valdes-Rodriguez** signs copies of her book *Playing with Boys*. See Sept. 16 Borders Boston for a description.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **T.C. Boyle** reads from his novel *The Inner Circle*, about the life of assistant to the famed 1950s sex researcher Alfred Kinsey.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Barnes & Noble at BU
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 3 pm. **Harvey Fromm** signs copies of his book *Red Sox vs. Yankees: The Great Rivalry*. Also, at 7 pm, *New York Times* columnist and former Harvard economics professor **Daniel Altman** discusses his book *Neoconomy: George Bush's Revolutionary Gamble with America's Future*.

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-661-0372). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. **Art Speigelman** reads from his graphic novel *In The Shadow of No Towers*, which focuses on the events of 9/11.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Barnes & Noble at BU
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. British historian **Antony Beevor** reads from his new book, *The Mystery of Olga Chekhova*, which looks at the life of the Russian actress.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Sarah Shun-Lien Bynum** discusses her novel *Madeleine Is Sleeping*, her fairy-tale inspired book about a girl who falls into a deep sleep.

Center for New Words
Durrell Hall, Cambridge Family YMCA, 820 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. National Public Radio foreign correspondent **Anne Garrels** reads from her eyewitness account of the Iraqi war, *Naked in Baghdad*.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-0372). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. **Juliet Schor** reads from her book *Born to Buy: The Commercialized Child and the New Consumer Culture*, which examines the effects that advertising has on youth.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Frances Praver** discusses her self-help book *Crossroads at Midlife: Your Aging Parents, Your Emotions and Yourself*, which offers advice on how to care for aging parents.

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. 21+. $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge hosts this poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). www.poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $5. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background music for the poetry slam team.

New Voices Open Mike (Third Friday)
Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $5. The Center hosts the open mike for women and their allies, with five- and 10-minute slots available.

Out of the Blue Gallery (Saturdays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Mondays, 8 pm (7:30 pm sign-up): Jack Powers hosts Stone Soup, with poetry features and an open mike. $4 donation suggested. •Saturdays, 8 pm: Share or listen to poetry and prose. Deborah Priest hosts. $5.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). MBTA: Blue Line to Government Center. 6:30 pm. Free. The second Thursday of each month offers a selection of featured poets and an opportunity for others to take the open mike.

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education

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Gallery Talk: Visual Footnotes in Italian Renaissance Painting
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 6 pm. Free with museum admission. **Frederick Ilchman**, assistant curator of paintings in the museum's Art of Europe department, explores the intricacies of various Italian Renaissance works.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Preventing the Ultimate Catastrophe: Nuclear Terrorism
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Orange Line to State. 6:30 pm. Free. **Graham Allison**, founding dean of Harvard's JFK School of Government, discusses strategies for eliminating the threat of nuclear terrorist attacks.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

England's Finest Private Treasure House: Chatsworth and the Devonshire Inheritance
Peabody Essex Museum, East India Square, Salem (978-745 9500). www.pem.org. MBTA: 2:30 pm. $30. Simon Seligman education and promotions manager of Britain's historic Chatsworth house, discuss the origins of one of Britain's most impressive private collections. Tea and sandwiches follow.

Food Allergies and Sensitivities
Veggie Planet Restaurant at Club Passim, 47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-824-4225). http://boston.earthsave.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. Registered dietitian and nutritionist **Dina Aronson** leads a free talk followed by a social dinner.

Jane Austen Society Lecture
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Brookline (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: Green Line to Newton Highlands. 2 pm. Free. **Joan Klingel Ray**, president of the Jane Austen Society of North America, leads a lecture titled "The Amiable Prejudices of a New Novelist's Mind: The Problems with *Sense and Sensibility*."

Victorian Sculpture Tour
Forest Hills Educational Trust, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-524-0128). www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 2 pm. $8. Art historian **Elise Ciregna** leads a walking tour of 19th-century sculptures by Daniel Chester French, Martin Milmore, Thomas Ball and others.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Architecture Lecture
MIT, Room 10-250, 77 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-253-7791). http://web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. 6:30 pm. Free. Tokyo architect **Koichi Nagashima** gives a lecture titled "Sustainable Community and Architecture."

Dezell @ Devine's
Ned Devine's, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-8800). www.eiresociety.org. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 6:30 pm. Free. The Eire Society of Boston's second annual Tiomáineann Comhaltaí meeting features a discussion on Irish-American culture with **Maureen Dezell**, author of *Irish America, Coming into Clover*. A cocktail reception follows.

The Legacy of the Coconut Grove Fire
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. 6:30 pm. Free. **Stephanie Schorow**, author of *Boston on Fire: A History of Fires and Firefighting in Boston*, discusses the legendary Coconut Grove fire of 1942.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Birding Broadmoor
Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary, 280 Eliot St., Natick (508-655-2296). www.massaudubon.org. 7-8:30 am. $10 members, $12 nonmembers. Sanctuary director and ornithologist **Elissa Landre** leads a morning walk and discussion about the lives of birds as the seasons change.

Creative Sparks: Artists Working at the Gardner
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-5643). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 12 pm. Free w museum admission. **Tiffany York**, contemporary a public programs director, discusses the Gardn artists-in-residence program and its relationship the collections.

Gallery Talk: Posture and Gesture in Buddhist Art
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Bost (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Gre Line to Museum. 6 pm. Free with museum admissio **Martha Wright**, a museum educator in the learni and public programs department, speaks abo Buddhist art from the Asia, Oceania, and Afri collections.

International Adoption Information Meeting
The Home for Little Wanderers, 271 Huntingt Ave., Boston (617-927-0642). www.thehome.o MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 7 pm. Free. T Home for Little Wanderers co-hosts this inform tion meeting for families and individuals interest in international adoption.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

The Art of Structural Design—A Swiss Legacy
MIT Room 10-250, 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 253-7791). http://web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Li to Kendall/MIT. 6:30 pm. Free. Princeton Universi professor of engineering **David Billington** spea about Swiss influences on architecture.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Historical Connections Symposium
Massachusetts College of Art, Tower Auditorium, 6 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-876-2109). 9 am-5 p $65, $34 students. $15 extra for breakfast, lunch a tea. Explore the ways in which contemporary jewel artists are influenced by the arts and crafts of oth cultures with speakers **Jamie Bennett, Merry Ren Suzan Rezac, Kiff Slemmons** and **Janet Zapata**.

How to Write and Sell Movie Treatments
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBT Green Line to Boylston. 10 am-4 pm. $140 membe $155 nonmembers. **Janice Pieroni**, a former exec tive with Universal Studios, offers advice for begi ning and advanced writers on developing and fina izing movie treatments.

Novel Writing Weekend
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Gre Line to Boylston. Sept. 18-19. 10 am-5 pm. $1 members, $138 nonmembers. Author **Lisa Borde** conducts this two-day workshop on completing novel, with tips on characterization, plot, settir and dialogue.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Flower Arranging
Location in Watertown to be provided upon class registr tion (617-267-4430). www.ccae.org. 7-8:30 pm. $7 Learn both Japanese and Western techniques in fl ral design, using synthetic and natural materials.

Welfare Reform: Is It Working?
John F. Kennedy Library, Columbia Point, Bost (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. 5:30-7 pm Free. **David T. Ellwood**, co-author of *Welfare Rea ties: From Rhetoric to Reality*, and **Jason De Parl** author of *American Dream: Three Women, Ten Ki and a Nation's Drive to End Welfare*, discuss welfa reform.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Damrell: Hero at the Great Boston Fire of 1872
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St Boston (617-617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetin house.org. MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to Stat 6:30 pm. Free. **Bruce Twickler**, writer and direct of the film *Damrell's Fire*, discusses how the effor of Boston fire chief John Damrell saved the city 1872.

Landscape as Spirit: Creating a Contemplative Sculpture Garden
Forest Hills Educational Trust, 95 Forest Hills Ave Jamaica Plain (617-524-0128). www.foresthillstrus org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 6:30-8: pm. $22, $18 members. Landscape designers **Mar Mosko** and **Alex Noden** teach how to create tranquil garden, even if you're limited to a roof de or a small yard, or by a slim wallet.

Multifaceted Aspects in Architectur
MIT Room 10-250, 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 253-7791). http://web.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Li to Kendall/MIT. 6:30 pm. Free. Architect **Stefa Behnisch** lectures in this event co-sponsored by th Goethe Institut-Boston.











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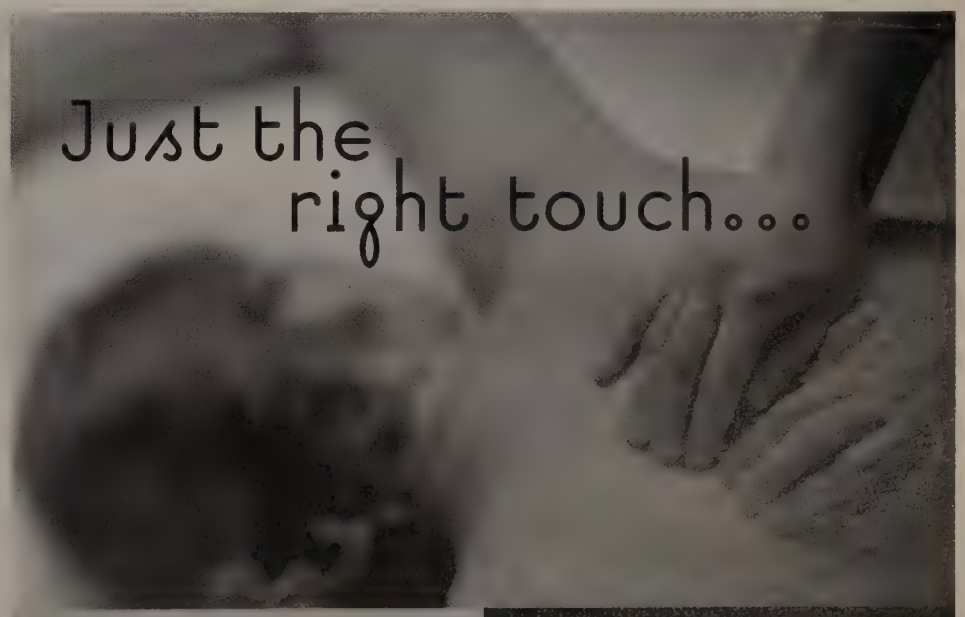
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Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am.; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's new leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $8 under 21. $5 for 21+. DJ John Morris spins progressive house for Lust, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $15, 21+. For 20 years, these folks have cranked out Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. Enjoy three separate dance floors plus drag acts. Resident DJ Ted Elison spins house.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show, and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Blue Wave Cafe (Sundays)
343 Congress St., Boston (617-790-0720). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 9 pm-1 am. $5 before 11 pm, $10 after 11 pm, 21+. Pussi Kat Entertainment and TopKat Entertainment present HerShe Sundays, an ethnic/Latina/white lesbian party with DJ Elyte of Next Generation Productions spinning R&B, hip-hop and reggae.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Club Europa (Fridays)
57 Stuart St., Boston (617-417-0186). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.twistboston.com. Fri., 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+ after 11 pm. DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s tunes at this women's night.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $8 weekends, 21+. Patrons relax with a friendly crowd and mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month is the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground. The typical lineup features musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Tuesdays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Big and Hot, Brazilian night, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Tue.: Service Industry Night, with DJ Afrodite.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www. manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 19+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: New Wave Dance Party with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Milky Way Lounge (Sundays)
401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+. Every Sunday the Milky Way Lounge presents Satellite, a queer night for ladies. Live entertainment varies from week to week and includes Fireballs Drag Bingo, spoken-word events and jazz.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.


Bishop V. Gene Robinson headlines the panel discussio
Gays and G-d at the JFK School of Government.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Omar. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. Private, members-only club, predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

711 Boylston (Tuesdays)
711 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5502). www.hereboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 9 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. The Tuesday night gay dance party, Here, features disco and pop.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night, and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room and video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music pumps, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

Shows & Events

Gays and G-d
John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, 79 JFK St., Cambridge. www.hrc.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sept. 21, 7-8:30 pm. F
Bishop V. Gene Robinson, the first openly gay
son to be appointed a bishop of the Episcopa
Church; Rabbi Steven Greenberg, the first op
gay orthodox rabbi; and Rev. Zina Jacque, a fer
Baptist minister, participate in a moderated Q
forum.

Out in the Park
*Six Flags New England, Springfield, (860-7
0011). www.outinthepark.com. Sept. 19. 10 a
pm. $28-$35.* Join other members of the Gl
community at the eighth annual Out in the l
celebration. This year's event includes a festiv
the River's Edge Picnic Grove from 3-8 pm.

Say You Love Satan
*Zeitgeist Stage Company, Black Box Theater, Bo
Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (
426-2787). www.zeitgeiststage.com. MBTA:
ange Line to Back Bay. Through Sept. 11. T
Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 5 and 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $*
After Andrew begins an intense relationship
hunky dreamboat Jack, he starts to fear
boyfriend is from hell, literally. Written
Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa.

Single Gay and Lesbian Professiona for the Arts Tour
*Starbucks, at the corner of Boylston and Berk
streets, Boston (617-732-3920). www.bosto
tours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Sept. 1
6:30 pm. $40.* Tour Boston-area galleries with o
singles and mingle over post-tour cocktails at A
tane. Reservations required.

Ongoing

BAGLY
*St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin
Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MB
Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 6-9*
The Boston Alliance for Gay Lesbian Bisexual
Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and
cial events for young people seeking commur
support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown South G/L Bowling Leag
*Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-
1552). 7 pm.* This bowling league for gays and
bians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi Focus
*(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arling
Wed., 7 pm.* Come share thoughts about bo
videos and other topics of interest in a suppor
environment. Open to all bisexual men
women.

Bi Rap
*Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., C
bridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tuesday o
month, 7:30 pm.* This discussion group is ope
all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women

COOKING FOR A CAUSE
An evening of food and wine to benefit East End House
Saturday, September 18 • 7:00-10:00pm
8 Park Street • Beacon Hill

FEATURING

Aura — Chef Frank Toohey
Beacon Hill Hotel & Bistro — Chef Benjamin Knack
Brasserie Jo — Executive Chef
Chez Henri — Chef Bob Cina
Fireplace — Chef Jim Solomon
Grill 23 & Bar — Chef Jay Murray
Harvest Restaurant — Chef Bill Fogarty
Henrietta's Table — Chef Peter Davis
Icarus — Chef Chris Douglass
Jer-ne at The Ritz-Carlton — Chef Ulrich Koberstein
Julien — Chef Mark Sapienza
Sage — Chef Anthony Susi
Pigalle — Chef Marc Orfaly
Rouge and Tremont 647 — Chef Andy Husbands
Ruby Room at the Onyx Hotel — Chef Jonnatan Leiva
Sweet Basil — Chef Dave Becker

Featuring Wine & Liquor by:
AIDIL Wine & Liquors
Banfi
Chateau Ste. Michelle
Edison Light Beer
Frederick Wildman Imports
Louis Jadot
Masciarelli Wine Co.
Rutz Cellars
Sakonnet Vineyards
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Vias Imports
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With Special Treats and Coffees by:
Dancing Deer Baking Co.
Armeno Coffee Roasters
Christina's Homemade Ice Cream

Taste the best all in one night! Enjoy the swinging sounds of the Winiker Orchestra...Bid on unique items in the Silent Auction...Win a Trip for Two to San Francisco and Napa!

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East End House has been making a difference in the lives of children, families and individuals in the Greater Boston area since 1875. Come and celebrate their continued success!

Tickets: call 617-876-4444 or visit www.eastendhouse.org

Boston Bay Blades
www.bayblades.org/boston. All are welcome to join his competitive, recreational group of rowers and scullers.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). www.bgbl.com. The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year.

Boston Gay Skins
Camrod, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). www.bostongayskins.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 11 pm. Boston's nonracist gay skinhead collective meets the third Friday of the month.

Boston GLASS Community Center
3 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri, 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people, ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. www.lesbianavengers.org. Thu., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
(617-417-0876). Third Sat. of each month, 10:30 am-2 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for interested parents and their partners. For info, e-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-5595). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. First Wednesday and third Thursday of each month, 7 pm, free. An informal group for people who think they may be bisexual or attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning People
(617-256-8693). This group welcomes those who want to discuss the challenges and the joys of coming out. It meets Thursday nights, from 7-8:30 pm, in Cambridge.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area support, information and social group for people assigned female at birth who feel that is not an accurate or complete description of their gender. Part of the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group meets monthly. E-mail CompassFTM@usa.com for details.

East Coast Wrestling Club
(201-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www.eastcoastwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay male wrestlers has more than 160 members.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional women 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophisticated to get together with like-minded women for conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Fenway Community Health
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Fenway Community Health offers a wide array of programs and services for the GLBT community ranging from discussions about parenting and safe-sex practices to domestic violence and substance abuse. Call for more information

GLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Join Boston's GLBT Flag Football League for a casual spring season, followed by a formal fall season. All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). Sat., 10 am. All are welcome to join this running club.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
(617-267-9001 or 888-340-4528). Mon.-Fri., 9 pm-1 pm; Sat. and Sun., 5-10 pm. This confidential, toll-free hotline provides support for GLBT and questioning callers.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Professionals Building Community
(617-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to join this networking organization for GLBT professionals. Monthly networking meetings.

Gaymes Group
(508-339-4250). Members of this social group for gay men and lesbians get together on a regular basis to play board, card and parlor games.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. $5-$10. An open-mike night open to new performers, this queer-positive, dyke-positive, bi-positive and trans-positive spoken-word event meets the second Thursday of each month, 7:30 pm.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

Girlz 2 Girlz
(781-893-6113). This mentoring program is for girls ages 13-19 who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered. Contact Marcela Aldez-Osorio.

Laffan
This social and networking group for women includes single women, couples and parents interested in art, cultural events, outdoor and sporting activities, intellectual and social pursuits, public service and travel. Members receive a weekly email calendar of events. For info, e-mail Laffan_Boston2004@yahoo.com.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue., Wed. and Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

The Network/La Red
(617-423-7233). The Network is a support group working to end abuse in lesbian and bisexual women's and transgender communities. E-mail info@thenetworklared.org for more information.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

Peer Listening Line
(800-399-7337). Trained volunteers provide confidential information, referrals and support to their GLBT peers.

The Rainbow Café
rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social group for activist, academic, intellectual or artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatinos lgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Road, Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Street. First Sat. of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing. $8. Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the GLBT community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the first Thursday of every month.

www.chilliduck.com

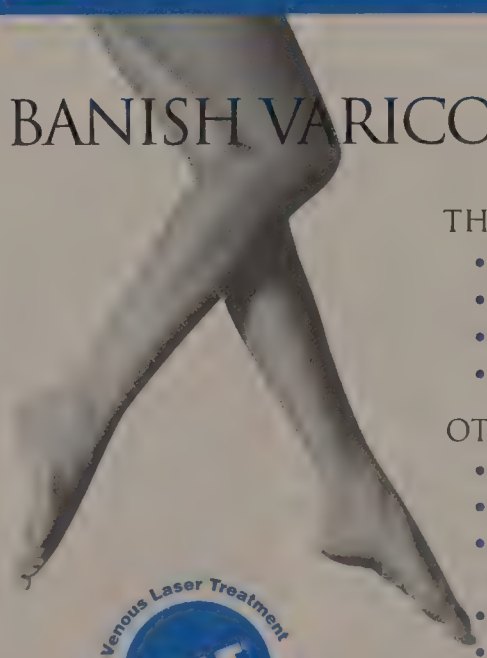
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BANISH VARICOSE VEINS FAST

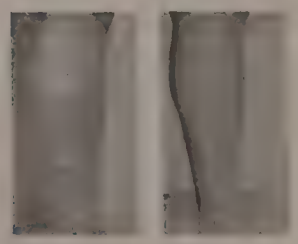


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Before After

body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Food Allergies and Sensitivities
Veggie Planet Restaurant at Club Passim, 47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-824-4225 or 617-492-5300). http://boston.earthsave.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sept. 12, 3 pm. Free, $10 for dinner. Dina Aronson, a dietitian and nutritionist whose specialties include chronic-disease prevention as well as vegetarian and vegan nutrition, discusses how to identify and handle food incompatibilities.

Free Yoga Classes
The Yoga Studio, 74 Joy St, Boston (617-523-7138). www.yogastudio.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles or Green Line to Government Center. Sept. 18, 9:30 am, 11 am and 1 pm. Free. Try out a class in either hatha yoga (physical and breath exercise) or vinyasa yoga (sequenced postures).

Guitarist Peter Janson
Healing Arts Center, 1348 Main St. Tewksbury (978-851-9911). www.easternwoodsmusic.com. Sept. 18, 7:30 pm. Free. Hear the new-age/world music of this acoustic guitarist. Hosted by Yoga with Robin.

Holistic Center Open House
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. Sept. 12, 11 am-6 pm. Free. Enjoy free classes in yoga, meditation, pilates, tai chi, dance and more at this open house. Visitors can also meet wellness providers and learn about acupuncture, ayurveda, feldenkrais, psychotherapy, homeopathy, personal coaching, yoga therapy, massage and shiatsu.

Spiritualist Ram Dass
Royal Sonesta Hotel, Five Cambridge Pkwy., Cambridge (617-573-2900). Sept. 8, 7-9 pm. Free. Ram Dass, spiritualist, former psychologist and the author of *Be Here Now*, comes to Boston to discuss the nature of consciousness and how service to others can be a spiritual path.

Yogi Amrit Desai
Crowne Plaza, Route 9 East, Natick (508-620-9642). www.centerforyoga.us. Sept. 21, 6:30-9 pm. $45. Yogi Desai returns to the Boston area to share his in-depth knowledge and yoga experience. Explore the spiritual depth of yoga, discover deep stillness and peace and enhance your practice at this evening workshop.

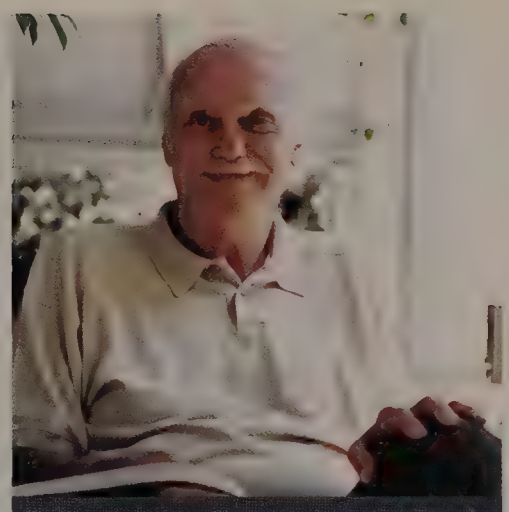
Lectures

Bronx Ecology: Blueprint for a New Environmentalism
Thoreau Institute, 44 Baker Farm Road, Concord (781-259-4750). www.walden.org/society. MBTA: Fitchburg Commuter Rail Line to Concord Center. Sept. 14, 7 pm. Free. Dr. Allen Hershkowitz, senior scientist at the Natural Resources Defense Council and a principal author of the Clinton administration's Greening the Government report, recently published a new book, *Bronx Ecology: Blueprint for a New Environmentalism*. Come hear what Hershkowitz has to say about saving the world.

Workshops

The Artist's Way
Wellspace, 1 New St., Fresh Pond Mall, Cambridge (617-876-2660). www.wellspace.com or www.kimchilds.com. MBTA: Red Line to Alewife. Sept. 24, 7-9 pm. Free. This workshop, based on the book *The Artist's Way* by Julia Cameron, is meant to help participants connect with their creative, passionate, imaginative and individualistic inner self. Some yoga and journal writing are included.

Healing 9/11: Messages from Loved Ones
Theosophical Society in Boston, 21 Maple Street, Arlington (781-648-0101 or 617-489-7717). www.ts


Spiritualist Ram Dass speaks at the Royal Sonesta Hotel in Cambridge September 8.

boston.org or www.gaylekirk.com. Sept. 11, 10:30-11:45 am. $20. Gayle Kirk gives a presentation on psychic mediumship that includes a Q&A session and psychic guidance.

Inner Peace Workshop
Greater Boston Church of Spiritualism, Masonic Center, 32 Church St., Watertown (617-923-4334). www.greaterbostonchurchofspiritualism.com. Sept. 11, 2-6 pm. Free. Honor the spirit of loved ones lost on 9/11 and work toward peace within. Hosted by pastor Mary DiGiovanni.

Intro to Guided Self Healing.
Sheraton Lexington Hotel, 727 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-274-6633). Sept. 13, 6:30-9:30 pm. www.guidedselfhealing.org. $30. This technique may help with identifying obstacles, resolving trauma and learning how to gather meaning from life's complexities.

Reiki Healing
Reiki Clinic, Arlington Reiki Associates, 366 Mass Ave., #304, Arlington (781-648-9334). www.arlingtonreiki.com. Sept. 10, 6:30-9:30pm. $10. Experience a Reiki energy-healing treatment.

Sacred and Erotic Touch
Boston Area Sexuality and Spirituality Network, Newton (617-965-7846). http://boston.sexspirit.net. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. Sept. 11, 2-5 pm. $10. In this experiential workshop, participants explore how to use touch to nonverbally express themselves and connect with sacred and erotic energies with both hands and heart.

Retreats

Soul Survival: Exploring the Evidence for Life After Death
Omega Institute , 150 Lake Dr., Rhinebeck, N.Y. (800-944-1001). www.eomega.org. Sept. 10-12. $290, not including accommodations. Leaders in the study of past-life therapy, reincarnation, communication with the deceased and the afterlife come together to explore the evidence of life after death. Learn to better understand the immortality of the soul through lecture, discussion, guided meditation and other experiential exercises with hosts including John Holland, Brian Weiss, Raymond Moody and Suzane Northrop.

Ongoing

Elemental Body Training
CasaNia Studio, 46 Porter Road, Cambridge (617-491-5144). www.casania.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Thursdays, 7:30-9 pm. $15. Movement educator Malinda Allen teaches the essentials of movement and dance with a focus on physical awareness and emotional presence. This class aims to help students gain strength, flexibility, coordination and mental focus.

Friday Night Chill Out
Blissful Monkey Yoga Studio, 663 Centre St. Jamaica Plain (617-522-4411). www.blissfulmonkey.com. MBTA: #39 bus. Fridays, 6:30-8 pm. $15. Burn off the burnout and ease into your weekend. The class begins with postures for loosening up muscles and sweating out tension, and ends with deep restorative yoga.

Yoga/Newton, Watertown
Yoga Room, 22 Mount Auburn St., Watertown (617-527-7071 or 617-320-9792). www.geocities.com/contactimprovboston/Patrick.htm. Tuesdays, 7:30-8:45 am. $16. Or at Myrtle Church, 21 Curve St, West Newton (617-320-9792). Wednesdays, 5:45-7 pm. $12. This yoga class is designed to help participants develop movement awareness to improve balance, strength and flexibility.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

Boston Red Sox
•Fenway Park, Boston
Tickets: 877-733-7699
Sept. 14, 7:05 pm vs. Tampa Bay Devil Rays
Sept. 15, 7:05 pm vs. Tampa Bay Devil Rays
Sept. 16, 7:05 pm vs. Tampa Bay Devil Rays
Sept. 20, 7:05 pm vs. Baltimore Orioles
Sept. 21, 7:05 pm vs. Baltimore Orioles

New England Patriots
•Gillette Stadium, Foxboro
Tickets: 800-543-1776
Sept. 9, 9 pm vs. Indianapolis Colts

Events

The Blues Run and Big Pig BBQ
5 Greenough Blvd. (Eliot Bridge), Cambridge (617-625-2140). www.baevents.com. Sept. 16, 6:30 pm. $18. Preregistration required. This 4.2-mile run is followed by a pig-roast, music from the Cat Sass Blues Band and a Blues Brothers costume contest.

Komen Race for the Cure
UMass Boston Campus (617-746-9292). www.komenmass.org. Sept. 12, 9 am. $30. Help raise money for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation at this annual 5K road race.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club seeks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club (BSSC) Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

DODGEBALL

BSSC Dodgeball
(617-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting now for dodgeball teams to compete in a fall league.

ENDURANCE TRAINING

Team in Training
(800-688-6572). www.teamintraining.org. This organization provides fund-raising athletes with group training and support, personalized coaching and guaranteed race entry for events.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
561 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville. (617-591-0101). www.baystatefencers.com. Fencing and stage combat programs offered in the fall.

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-407(www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four me teams compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-39 8326). Saturday mornings. Women's teams pl eight-on-eight flag football each week.

FLOOR HOCKEY

BSSC Coed Floor Hockey
Leagues are held in Newton, North Reading a Brighton (617-789-4070, ext. 238). www.bssc.co All levels are welcome (individuals and teams).

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.co Training Tuesdays and Thursdays in Jamaica Pla Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canto New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looki for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club see new players for games in Brookline and Cambridg

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mys rugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club w comes both new and experienced players who wa to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. a Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays. New a experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonha com. Weekly runs on either Wednesday or Sunday ye round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singi bawdy songs, then consider joining these self-pr claimed "serious drinkers with a running problem.

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First S Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 p Weekly runs.

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Run
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (781-27 1584). www.srr.org. Thursdays, 7 pm. Weekly runs.

Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-62 2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thursdays, 7:30 p Weekly 2.6-mile runs.

SOCCER

BSSC Outdoor Soccer
(617-789-4070). Outdoor teams forming no Games played in Charlestown, Lexington, Readi and Canton. Individuals and teams are welcome.

ULTIMATE FRISBEE

BSSC Ultimate League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070). Co games each week in Charlestown.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070, ext. 222 Sun.-Thu. Coed teams forming for summer leagu in Cambridge, Watertown, Brookline and Newto

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-868-8379). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Am teur folk-style wrestling group open to all skill leve Weekly practices held year-round.


Get dodgin' at the BSSC's fall dodgeball league.

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children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Borders Books and Music
Cambridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Every Sat., 1 pm. Staff members read from new and classic storybooks.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Every Tuesday and Saturday, 11 am. Staff members read children's stories, followed by snacks and craft activities.

ImprovFoundry Family Show
ImprovBoston, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA Red Line to Central. Saturdays, 6 pm. $10-$12. This short, improvisational show is suitable for the whole family.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50; members, $7. Reservations recommended. Closed until Sept. 18. •Sept. 18 and 19, 1 and 3 pm, ages 3-7. Magpie Puppets presents *Eyeore's Birthday*, inspired by A.A. Milne's classic Winnie-the-Pooh tales.

Things to Do

Boston Art Tours
Meets at the corner of Arlington and Newbury streets, Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tours for children: Tue.-Sat., 1-2 pm; tours for teens: Tue.-Sat., 2-3:30 pm. $30 adults, $15 teens, children under 12 free. Take a walking tour of contemporary art galleries along Newbury Street.

Boston by Little Feet
Faneuil Hall, Congress Street, Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Through October, Sun, 2 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am. $8. Explore Boston's history and architecture by taking a walking tour of the Freedom Trail designed specifically for kids.

Boston Duck Tours
Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston; Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-267-3825). www.bostonducktours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Science Park. Daily through Nov., 9 am-sunset, every 30-60 minutes. $24; seniors and students, $21; children 3-11, $15; children under 3, $3. These amphibious vehicles tour Boston's most popular sights via city streets and the Charles River.

Boston Harbor Islands
Ferry departs from Long Wharf, Boston (617-223-8666). www.bostonislands.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium or Red Line to South Station. $17-$27, free for children under 6. •Thu.-Sun., 10 am; Fri.-Sun., 2 pm. Boston Light Tours: Guided tours of Little Brewster Island and the nation's oldest lighthouse.

Boston Public Library 374th Birthday Party
BPL Courtyard, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-223-8666). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Sept. 11, 1-3 pm. Free. Celebrate this historic Boston birthday with cake and ice cream, and a variety of activities for kids and families.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8; children, $7. Special events: • Sept. 8, 12-1 pm. The Summer Outdoor Music Series season wraps with folk harmonies by the Nields. An informal workshop with the musicians follows. •Sept. 18, 12-2 pm. Critter Day: Bug Works! is an up-close introduction to the insect world. •Weekly activities: Wed., 11 am-1 pm. Kids paint murals together on the boardwalk. •Thu., 1-3 pm. Study Birds! invites visitors to birdwatch. •Fri., 3-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2-4 pm. In the Zoom Zone is a hands-on science challenge culled from the PBS TV show *Zoom*. •Mon.-Fri., 10 am-4 pm. The art studio is open for bookmaking, painting, finger-puppet making and more.

Franklin Park Zoo
One Franklin Park Road, Boston (617-541-5466). www.zoonewengland.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forrest Hills, then #16 bus. Through Sept. 30: Weekdays, 10 am-5 pm; weekends and holidays, 10 am-6 pm. $9.50; children, $5. •Sept. 8, 10:30-11:30 am, ages 3-5. Lizards, Scales and Gecko Tails; 3:30-4:30 pm, ages 5-8. Red Panda Pandemonium. •Sept. 9, 10:30-11:30 am, ages 3-5. Seeing Spots: Ocelots and Leopards; 3:30-4:30 pm, ages 5-8. Big Birds: the Ostrich, Emu and Rhea. •Spend the night with your favorite animals at a family sleepover. Call for information.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $5; ages 5-18, $2; students, seniors and kids 5 and under, free (free admission the third Sunday of every month). •*Holography, the Light Fantastic* is a display of the largest collection of holograms in the world. Ongoing. •*Robots and Beyond* offers a look at MIT's artificial intelligence research labs. Ongoing. •*Ship Models: The Evolution of Ship Design* features 40 ship models, from warships to clippers. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. $15; children 17 and under, free. •Mon.-Thu., 3:30 pm. The Children's Room combines arts and crafts with a variety of cultural themes. •Tue.-Thu., 3:30-4:30 pm. Books Bring Art Alive is a program for children and families. •Wed., 5:30 pm. Family Night Out is an interactive evening of creative activities for children and families.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13; seniors, $11; children, $10. •*The Lord of the Rings Motion Picture Trilogy—The Exhibition* features memorabilia from the films, including costumes, props and the ring itself. Through Oct. 24. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •*Science in the Park* is a permanent playground with a scientific spin. •Sat. and Sun., 11 am. Animals and Stories Alive is an interactive story hour featuring folk tales, myths and live animals.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Through Labor Day: Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95; seniors, $13.95; children, $8.95. •Sept. 14, 15, and 21, 10 am. *Toddler Explorers* workshops focus on toddler motor skill development through aquatic exploration. •Sept. 15, 2 pm. *Preschool Explorers* activities and topics help kids ages 2-4 develop observation and exploration skills. •*Amazing Jellies* features thousands of jellyfish. Through 2005. •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank contains sharks, stingrays and a 600-pound California sea lion. Ongoing. •*Edge of the Sea* is a hands-on exhibition that features sea stars, hermit crabs and more. Ongoing. •Take a high-speed catamaran on a whale watch. Through October. Call or visit the Web site for times. $29, adults; $26, seniors, college and military; $23, children 12-18; $20, children 3-11.

New England Wild Flower Society
180 Hemenway Road, Framingham (508-877-7630). www.newfs.org. Thu.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7, $5 students and seniors. Explore the gardens and trails, and take part in ongoing programs and events. •*Big Bugs* features David Rogers' large-scale wooden bug sculptures on display in the garden. Through Oct. 17. •Sept. 11 and 12, 12-3 pm. Celebrate Big Bugs Praying Mantis Weekend: Ride the Bug-mobile, and meet the carnivorous mantis. •Sept. 18 and 19, 12-3 pm. Learn about some of the world's tiniest predators at Assassin Bug Weekend.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us/library. •Sept. 10 and 17, 10:30 am. Films for preschoolers screen. •Sept. 21, 10:30 am. Staff members lead a preschoolers sing-along; 4 pm. Carolyn Curtis reads from her picture storybook *I Took the Moon for a Walk*.

around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
Coit Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on clear nights), April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm; Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5pm; Fri., 10 am - 9 pm. $9; children and seniors, $7. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.

Faneuil Hall
75 State St., Boston (617-338-2323). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 am. Free.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6, children, $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; seniors and students, $8; 12 and under, free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH, or Green Line to Park Street. Summer: daily, 10 am-4 pm; Labor Day through Memorial Day: Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Summer hours, through Sept. 6: Mon.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $14; seniors, $12; children, $11.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5; children, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1, Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, $13.95 seniors; children, $8.95.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-5 pm. Free.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. $5, seniors and students, $4; children, $1.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $9.50; seniors, $7; children 12 and under, $6.50; children under 3, free.


Mount Auburn Cemetery

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily, 7 am-6 pm. $4; children 12 and under, free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671) www.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. May 1-Oct. 15: daily 9 am-6 pm; Nov. 1-Apr. 30: daily, 10 am-5 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster-care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay
(617-375-0700). www.bostonredcross.org. Volunteer in the administrative department.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-563-4441). www.bostoncares.org. More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 2 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor young students from the city in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). www.ccaa.org. Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers/tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000). Tutor students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
(617-995-3250). www.everybodywinsmetroboston.org. Spend your lunch hour reading with elementary school children.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hospice.org. Volunteers needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-online.com. Volunteers provide over-the-phone counsel for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelders.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

Pine Street Inn
(617-482-4944). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve breakfast to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room and groceries program at the homeless shelter.

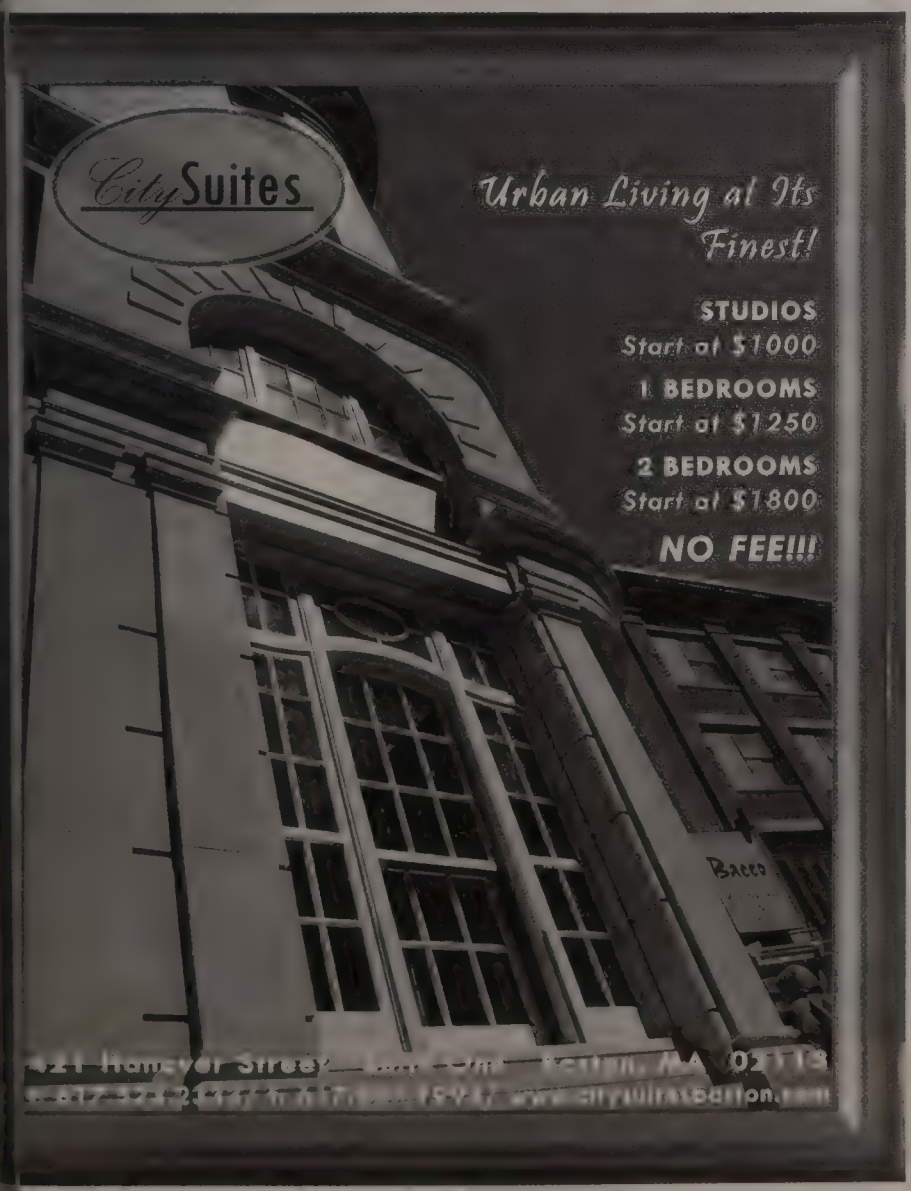
Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young professionals.

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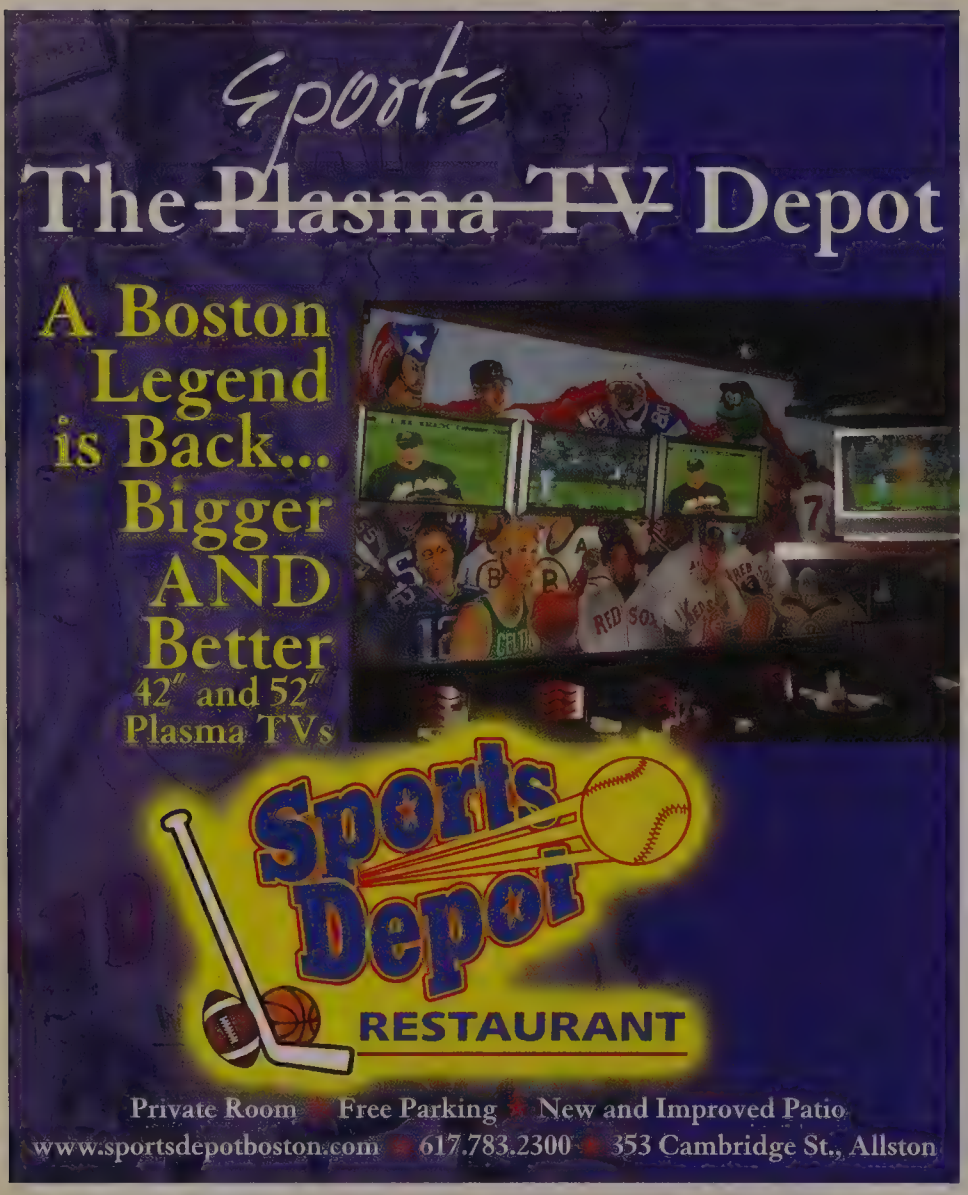
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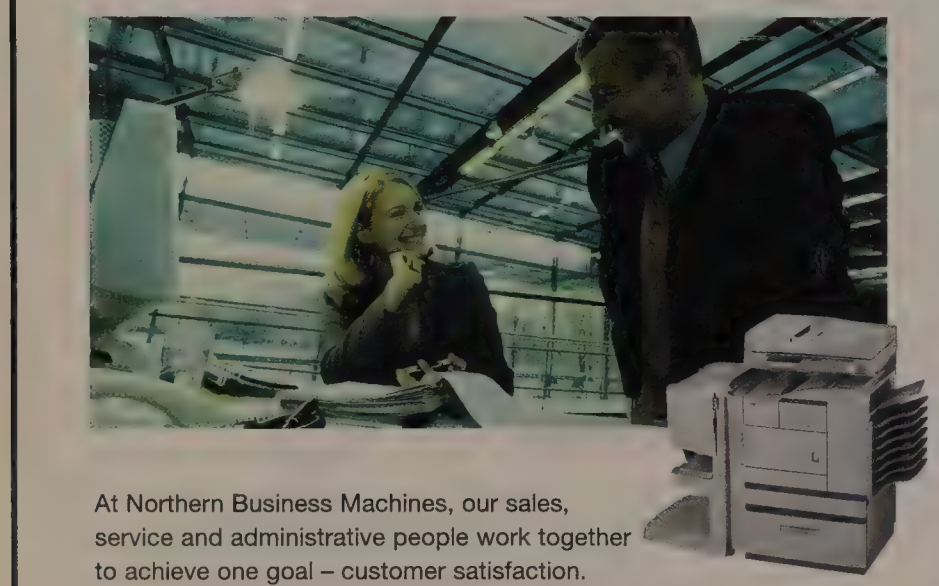
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If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see. (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity.) Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

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FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

What Went Wrong?

You've been my best friend for years. We met in school, wide-eyed innocents, so many years ago. Remember losing hours of homework due to blackouts? The accidental zeroes due to "computer error"? Pokemon. Sun FYIs. Pink bouncies. Years of laughter, memories and delight. And one fateful day, when my apartment burned down, you helped, unsolicited, unexpectedly, and I promised then, that I would be there whenever, wherever you needed me. Graduation. We went our separate ways, both of us moving out of state, yet through the years we always, always kept in touch. Tens of thousands of hours on the phone. Nine-hour talkathons. So much drama over boyfriends, girlfriends, roommates, co-workers, jobs, life! You told me that you got the feeling that we'd be having conversations like this for the rest of our lives. A year ago, after the end of the most heartbreaking relationship of my life, you asked me to move to Boston, promising me that a life in Beantown would never be empty. I said I'd think about it. Ten months ago, I wrote you a letter, saying I wish you weren't so frightened of intimacy. You haven't spoken to me since, and I've never been sure why, leaving a hole in my heart that remains ever unfilled. It was weeks before I realized you had decided to stop talking to me, my confidant, my bestest friend, the one for whom I've always, to use your words, "charged to the rescue." I love you, from the bottom of my soul, you know. I always have. Let's have at least one more soulful conversation, as we did in years past. No matter what happens, both of our lives will be better for it. I promise.

—Your friend

Prince Concert

It was Aug. 18 at the FleetCenter. You were in Loge 4, it looked like Row 12 or 13, approximately, seat 5. You're a gorgeous, blonde, 30-something and were sitting to the right of two guys—it looked like they were just friends of yours. You had no ring, an off-white short-sleeve pullover and beautiful wavy hair. We said hi briefly as we were leaving. Can we have a longer discussion—maybe of diamonds, pearls and red Corvettes?

—ajminnp@yahoo.com

Sunday in the Park

I stopped by the Boston Common on Aug. 22 at about 6:30 pm to read for a few minutes before catching a movie. We spotted each other immediately. I was the blond girl on the bench with dark jeans and a teal T-shirt. You were the brunette stranger stretched out on the grass with a book in hand. We regarded one another from behind our respective reading material, but I didn't get a chance to say hello before I had to head for Loews. I'd love to complete the introduction over a coffee...or maybe another Loews selection.

—blondeinthepark@hotmail.com

To the Mystery Gifter

One bottle down, one left to share. Make yourself known before that's gone too. E-mail me.

—curiouscat186@hotmail.com.

To the Women of Boston...

I'm confused. I can't figure you ladies out. What is it you really want in a guy? I know what you say you want, but it seems so different than what I see. Help me out here, ladies. Why do you stay with a guy who is a total jerk and say "Oh, I just want to be friends" to a guy who would treat you so much better?

—bostonbill41@yahoo.com

Baggage Claim 2, Terminal E

I first noticed you when you were coming down the escalator in Terminal E. Then, as luck would have it, you were waiting for bags at baggage claim 2 in Terminal E at Logan Airport on Aug. 25, just after 8:30 pm. You had on a pink blouse, maroon skirt, black shoes and have reddish dyed hair. Gorgeous pale skin. You must have been coming back to town (maybe for school?) because you pulled two very large bags off of the conveyer belt. I'm kicking myself that I was standing too far away to help you when the first one fell... I should have helped you with that, not the other guy. I cannot get your image out of my mind. You are the most beautiful woman I have ever seen. Amazing.

—kayboy617@yahoo.com

Martha's Vineyard

It's a wine that reminds me of a person, and this person is one-of-a-kind. She's smart, beautiful and bold. Besides that, she's one of the coolest girls I know and I'm more impressed with her every time we get together. She came to a house party of mine this summer and left me a note that I found the next day saying thanks and that she had a great time. That's when I started to take notice of her, and it happened at a time when I was numb to the world. The thing is, I just got a divorce and I'm not my usual self. She makes me nervous because I'm not sure I'm ready for a relationship even though I know I would want one with her. If anything, at least I know now that not everyone I meet is a dime a dozen and that if you look hard enough, you will find that some people, like some wines, are rare.

—Vineyarder

Chinatown to Chinatown

You were sitting behind me on the 5 pm Chinatown bus from New York City to Boston Aug. 24. I only noticed you when the guy across from your row loudly asked you if you had the new iPod. I thought you looked nice and would have struck up a conversation but felt shy all of the sudden. I was the Asian girl with a green hooded jacket sitting in the row in front of you by the window. I was with an old high school friend at the time and thought it would be weird of me to just start a conversation when I was supposed to be hanging out with her. Yeah, I know it was a bus, what kind of entertainment is there? Who knows if this even works, but what the hell I gave it a shot. If you would like to get a cup of coffee to talk about the new iPod or the book you were reading, then that would be great!

—girl01945@yahoo.com

David Ortiz and the Green Line

You said he was your favorite player. We had brief conversation the night of Aug. 28 while squished on the Green Line after the Red Sox–Tigers game. Me: olive T-shirt, brown hair. I lost track of time and then you were gone with friends at Park Street. If you would like to continue our conversation, e-mail me.

—jrpenta@netzero.com

Looking for Jason

We met Aug. 24 at Daisy Buchanan's. You were in the Marines and now are a C.O.—corrections officer—with every Thursday and Friday off. Your only two younger siblings are twins. You drive a blue-green, Explorer-type SUV and you have to put your glasses on to drive. You used to wrestle. You have tattoos. And your birthday is Sept. 13. Could I be any more specific? Me I'm a nurse. My birthday is the day after yours, and I can't wait to hear from you. Get back to me. I don't know how we forgot to exchange phone numbers.

—daisy914meg@hotmail.com





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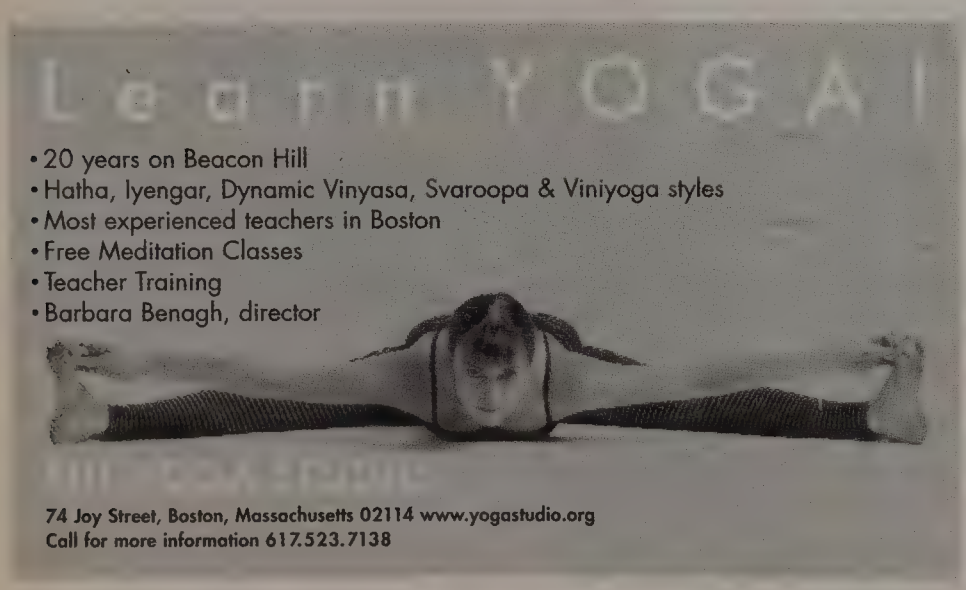
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rockie horoscope

SEPTEMBER 8 – 21, 2004 BY ROCKIE GARDINER

VIRGO AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

If ever you were entitled to toot your own horn or become truly obsessed with the image you're projecting, now would be the time. There's so much positive planetary energy emanating from your sign at the moment, it'll be hard, even for a self-effacing Virgin, to play shy-and-retiring. Instead, take that crucial first step out of your protective shell. Mars provides the nerve, Jupiter the vision, and Virgo the creative force and will. Mercury, back in Virgo on the 10th, restores the perspective you may have lost while it was retrograde last month.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

A weight lifted on Labor Day when your Venus ruler moved out of domesticated, duty-bound Cancer into playful Leo. And while you're not completely free of the Crab's claws—restrictive, responsible Saturn hangs on until next summer—you will probably want to spend more time and money on art, little luxuries and entertainment. Venus' trip through youthful Leo until October 3 can offer more pure pleasure than any other time of the year. Get your priorities straight, eschew the continuing family drama and enjoy the farces and frivolous behavior of your friends.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

Maybe the challenging square on the 9th between impulsive Mars and anal-retentive Pluto, your two ruling planets, will come down to a choice between friendship and finances. More likely it'll point out the contradiction between what you personally find valuable and your position on various socio-political matters. The trick in surviving a situation like this is one you've managed to pull off before. Protect your source of income, because while you might go off half-cocked on one crusade or another, you'll invariably return to where the money is.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

It may feel like a conglomerate has taken over your career midheaven and that all you can do is wait impatiently to see if your gig has changed. Maybe the work will become more interesting because expansive, far-sighted Jupiter and the exacting Virgo sun are setting higher goals? Maybe the new boss will be more of a martinet—militant Mars is also in Virgo—than the last one. And maybe there'll be a lot more paperwork, but hopefully only until Mercury finishes its transit of detail-driven Virgo. Any way you look at the situation, four very vocal planets are demanding your attention.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

Now is a good time to expand your vision, embrace a higher spiritual power or go back to school so that you can better achieve a long-standing life goal. One that has little to do with your ability to direct other people's resources toward a common—but far from ordinary—end. Because affectionate Venus left your Cancer complement on Labor Day, you might not find as much comfort and pleasure in a domestic relationship as you've been getting. So much for the summer romance and your romantic summer vacation.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

Just when everyone's thoughts turn to the fall season, you may get hooked on the prospect of a late-summer romance. Since affectionate Venus moved into in your Leo marriage on Labor Day, the pursuit of romance, luxury and effortless entertainment can easily take precedence over more productive pastimes. No need to worry about paying for your pleasure. All those highly motivated Virgo planets in your house of other people's resources should ensure that you're not stuck with the bill. An investment opportunity is about to knock.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

Rely on a close ally. Although his or her command of an issue may annoy you, the sheer amount of accuracy, acumen and native intelligence embedded in your Virgo house of partners right now is reason enough to follow someone else's lead. You might want to strike a blow for independence for the sheer hell of it, but if you need to be reassured or advised on any matter, turn to your mate, agent or attorney. Until the month ends and the sun, Jupiter and Mars move on to Libra, they are your guardian angels.

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

Your focus becomes sharper, your method of achieving your objectives more direct while your Mars ruler picks up on the intensity powerful Pluto provides. Their motivating square on the 9th ensures that, after the initial challenge is met, a lot of good can be accomplished. Try not to slack off when sociable Venus in your Leo house of romance and recreation offers pleasurable distractions. As tempting as they may be, concentrate on finishing what's been started. You might not have this much physical energy and sheer determination again until the end of January.

.TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

Even if you're making noticeable progress—what with all that constructive earth-sign energy emanating from the planets in Virgo—you can still enjoy the perks, the easy loving and little luxuries your Venus ruler provides whenever it visits cheery Leo. This month would be a good time to fix up the house and entertain folks who share your appreciation for the finer things, or to treat yourself and a loved one to a special gift, like jewelry or theater tickets. Although a sensuou Taurus hardly needs a reason to indulge, I'm doing it anyway.

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

The message all those planets in your Virgo home base is sending may simply be, move. Shake things loose, get out of your rut, change your environment and you'll change your life. Whether or not this tack will work is debatable (as are most rationales Virgo presents), but one thing is fairly certain. Your questioning attitude and the ensuing argument will put more pressure on your partner. Push might actually come to shove when Pluto in your marriage house is challenged on and by 9/11. Also know that you're in a semi-transitory phase that should end with the autumn equinox.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

A new fall semester can ring the school bells lodged in fond, and probably false, memories of childhood. This time of year your Virgo house of lore and learning is lit like a day-glo marker, calling your attention to the sense of security you enjoyed when you had a routine to follow. Moon children born in the '60s could take on a special assignment as growth-oriented Jupiter and courageous Mars energize the placement in your natal chart of Uranus and Pluto in health-conscious Virgo. This could be a generational thing coming to fruition.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

After waiting more than a year for your annual infusion of goodness and mercy, harmonious Venus finally entered your sign on Labor Day. If your sun ruler wasn't reflecting selective and discreet Virgo vibes, your desire to please and be pleased in return might get totally out of hand. But on 9/11, as the sun and passionate Pluto toss fire bolts at each other, you're liable to succumb to the Lord of the Underworld's dark compelling charms. Then what? Have patience, the light at the end of the tunnel appears on the equinox.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.





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The Improper Bostonian MAGAZINE

will publish its annual

BACHELORS & BACHELORETTES

issue in January 2005

Please nominate your favorite local single guy or gal to be featured in this issue.

PLEASE INCLUDE:

Your name _____

Your phone number and e-mail address _____

_____

Your nominee's name, phone number, e-mail address

and the local city where he/she lives _____

_____

Tell us why he/she is a catch. Be specific. _____

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His/her occupation and age _____

(Please include a recent color photo, or high-res digital image, of your friend)

MAIL NOMINATIONS TO:
The Improper Bostonian
Attn: Bachelor/Bachelorette Nomination
142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116
or
e-mail to Bostonbach@improper.com

Please note that you can't nominate yourself and you must provide all of the above information in order to qualify.

Entries must be received no later than October 3, 2004

IMPROPER sightings

UNLIKE THE REST OF YOUR FRIENDS, WE WANT TO SEE THE PHOTOS FROM YOUR NEXT TRIP.

Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you were. The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.



Alan Spatrick gets fired up for Stage 19 of the Tour de France in Besancon, France. Alan, you'd go faster if you didn't jam the magazine in your spokes to make a Harley sound.



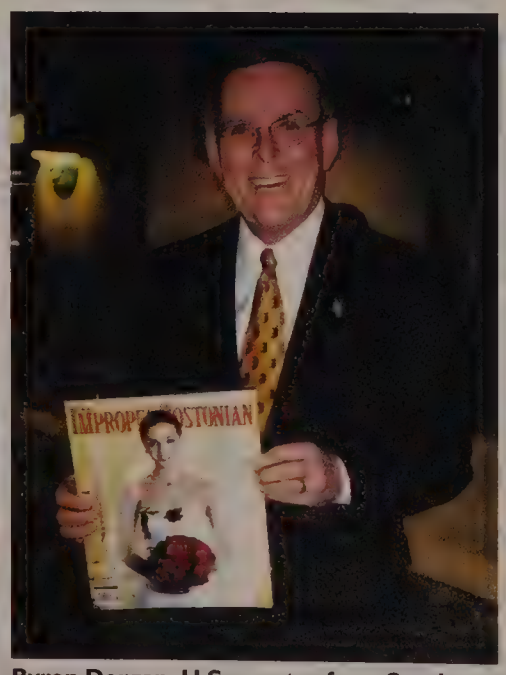
Ed Chandler, Bob Shea, Sue Murphy, Bruce Hounsell, Peter Kashanek, Kathleen Krenzer, Chris Gleason, Tom Polanski and John Duquette found sick summer freshies in Las Leñas, Argentina.



Caroline Lefebvre, in Avignon, France, ponders why Grape Nuts are neither grapes nor nuts.



Christina Castagnozzi, Nicole Jensen, Sarah Geden and Tony Castagnozzi attempt to get "It's a Small World" out of their heads at Disney World's Blizzard Beach.



Byron Dorgan, U.S. senator from South Dakota, liked the IMPROPER so much he had to rush to get more... rush... more. Ha.



Anna Yergat, John Yergat, Jason Ahronian, Ani Gosdanian, Kristy Melikian, Jeff Ahronian and Jason Sobaje check out the Giant Dipper—which is a roller coaster, not a tobacco-chewing sumo wrestler—in Santa Cruz, Calif.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Chowing down on some Montana tenderloin at the Mission Mountain Testicle Festival, held Sept. 16-20 in Clinton, Mont.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned.



BOSTON HAS MUSIC FOR THOSE WHO WILL LISTEN.

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN'S ANNUAL MUSIC ISSUE WILL SOOTHE THE SAVAGE BEAST AS WE TAKE A LOOK AT THE BEST OF THE LOCAL MELODY MAKERS, A FEW FAMOUS COMEBACK KIDS, SOME HOMETOWN INDIE LABELS, AND THE APPEAL OF THE MUCH BELOVED TRIBUTE BAND.

THIS ISSUE ROCKS!

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IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Tuesday, August 17, **Allied Domecq Spirits** hosted a party at **Saint** to celebrate the milestone of the millionth case sold of Stoli Razberi .







1. **Gina Caycedo**, sales manager for Horizon Beverage Company, and **Mark Spence**, general manager of Saint.
2. **Norm Hodson**, assistant general manager of Saint; **Tom Tesauro**, on premise sales manager for Allied Domecq Spirits; and **Glenn Lawler** on premise sales manager for Horizon Beverage Company.
3. **Sterling Dunn**, stealth manager for Horizon Beverage Company; **Brandy Toth** communications manager for Allied Domecq Spirits; and **Glenn Dickey**, 1st choice marketing rep for Relay Sponsorship and Event Marketing.

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery.

So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see!

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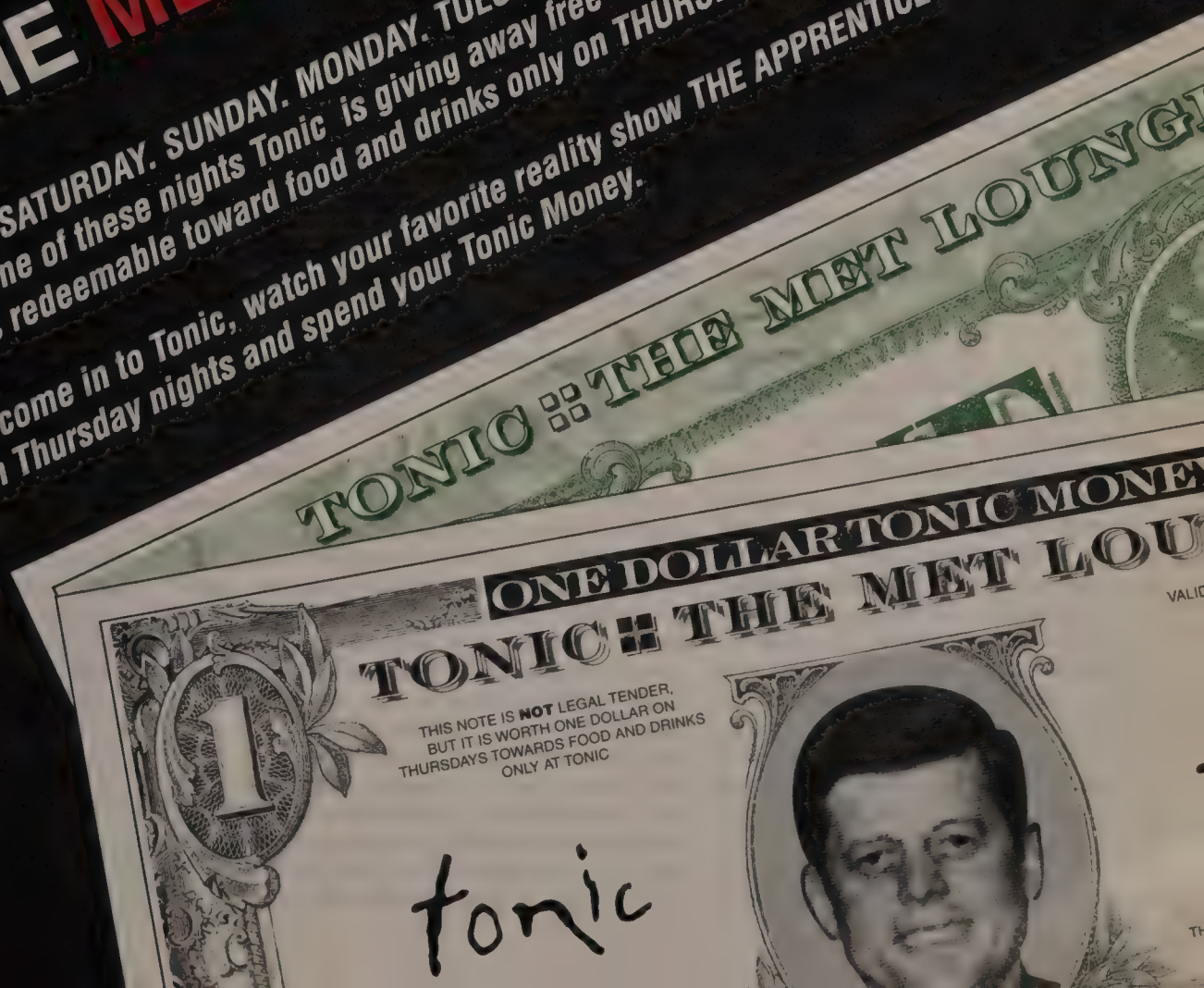
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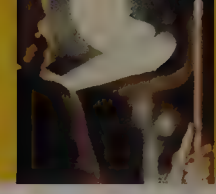
THE MET LOUNGE

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on Thursday nights and spend your Tonic Money.



Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch





RESTAURANTS

75 Chestnut *75 Chestnut St., Boston, 617-227-2175, www.75chestnut.com.* Providing regional American cuisine served in an intimate setting. Bar opens at 5pm. Dinner served from 5:30pm - 10pm.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston, 617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled Portabella Paninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1 am. AE, DC, MC, V.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2002. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Captain Fishbones *332 Victory Road, Marina Bay, Quincy, 617-471-3511, www.captainfishbones.com.* Captain Fishbones is a spectacular waterfront restaurant featuring Seafood, Steak and More. Enjoy lunch or dinner on our seasonal patio, dine inside, treat yourself to tropical cocktails in our lounge or savor the sunshine at our Boardwalk Café. We serve seafood so fresh it deserves a slap, succulent steaks, awesome burgers, healthy salads, a wide selection of sandwiches and pizza. Full menu is available from 11:30 until close.

Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston 617-426-3333.* Open 11am - 2am, 7days a week. Kennedy's Midtown is a cultural experience far from the maddening crowd while set in heart of it. Kennedy's serves a lunch and dinner menu of international cuisine. In the evenings they play host to some of Boston's finest Pianists who entertain with a range of tunes from Broadway to Jazz and Blues. Kennedy's embraces all the finer qualities of regal Boston and throws in a dash of old fashioned Irish Hospitality for measure.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444, Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., South Boston, 617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Ned Devine's *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere in the heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Sidney's Grille *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why Bon Appétit magazine says, "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breakfast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus visit www.sidneysgrille.com.

Solas *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am 7 days a week.

Strega *379 Hanover St., Boston 617-523-8481 www.stregaristorante.com.* A fine dining experience in Boston's historic North End. Enjoy our cozy, romantic atmosphere, splendid wine list and savory Italian dishes. Strega buzzes with a mix of casual tourists, local residents and love-struck couples. The menu offers something for everyone. Traditional dishes like the gnocchi are anything but simple, featuring flavor just as robust as that found in intricate dishes. Find yourself in the company of celebrities, including owner Nick Varano's pals from of the Sopranos. Available for corporate and private functions.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

BARS/CLUBS

Beer Specialty

Boston Beer Works *112 Canal St., near the Fleet Center, 617-896-BEER, 61 Brookline Ave., across from Fenway Park, 617-536-BEER and 278 Derby St., in Historic Salem, 978-745-BEER.* Boston's oldest and largest restaurant brewery with 3 locations! Bold American Food. Award Winning Beer. 15 microbrewed beers always on tap. 16 American wines by the glass. 15 championship billiards tables at our Canal Street location. Complete party planning capabilities. Private Rooms. Customizeable menus. Lunch. Dinner. Late Night. Always a good time. Check out the BIGGER and BOLDER menu.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exotic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

Big City - pool hall, pizza kitchen, Beer Bar *138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8pm, free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Clubs

Felt *533 Washington St., Boston, 617.350.5555* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, right next door to the Opera House; in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering sophisticated billiards, New York style Lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere of DJ's and dancing, combined with the delicious entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Contemporary cusine by Chef Ben Stevens.

Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston, 617-482-7799.* Located in Boston's trendy Theater District, Pravda 116 is a chic bar and club. DJs 5:30pm - 10:30pm keep the energy level high. Bar 5:30pm-2am and dance club 10:30pm - 2am Wednesday-Saturday. Credit cards accepted AE, CB, DC, MC, V.

Stadium – Clubhouse *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Stadium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale nightclub featuring two bars, a hardwood dance floor and parking. An exciting yet relaxed 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety of music and beautiful people crowding the dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights. An ideal place for your next bachelor, bachelorette or birthday party.

Club Q Boston *25 Union St., Boston, 617-742-2121.* Open 9pm - 2am Wednesday through Saturday. What nightlife in Boston has been waiting for, this state of the art Nightclub in the heart of Faneuil Hall attracts a stylish and eclectic crowd. Open Wednesday through Saturday Club Q hosts Boston's top DJs spinning Hip Hop, House and Top 40's. With two bars, three VIP areas and pool tables, Club Q is the place to see and be seen. Credit cards accepted.

Comedy

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www.theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. Mingle. Let your hair down; see and be seen on the big screen. Simply the hippest way to spend a night of all-out fun in Boston's Financial District. Come after work. Come to dance. Come to go wild with your friends. There's always something exciting happening – and you never know who you'll bump into. Join us and experience what the buzz is all about.

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 617-227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

Irish

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 617-742-*



2286. Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston,617-742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 617-523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11am - 1am 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

The Green Dragon *11Marshall St., Boston, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 617-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

General

The Alley *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. www.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

Aqua *120 Water St., Boston, 617-720-4900.* Boston's newest place to be seen is now open in the heart of the Financial District. Whether relaxing with a martini in one of our cozy booths, sipping a margarita on our roof deck or watching your hometown favorites on our high definition plasma TV. Aqua has what you're looking for after work and late night with our resident and guest DJs spinning your favorite mixes through our state of the art sound system all night long.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Boston Rocks *245 Quincy Market Place Boston,617-726-1110 www.boston-rocks.net. 21+.* Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

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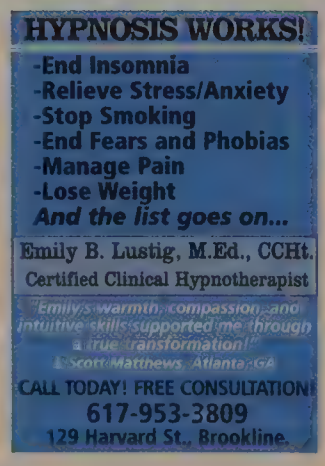




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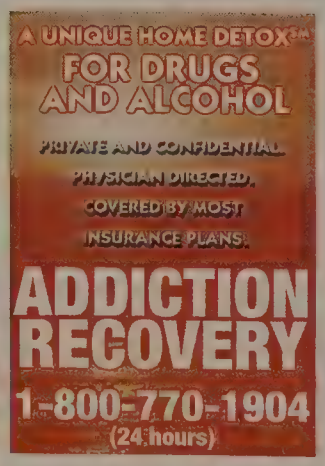


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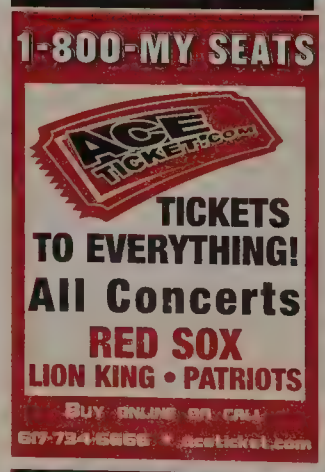
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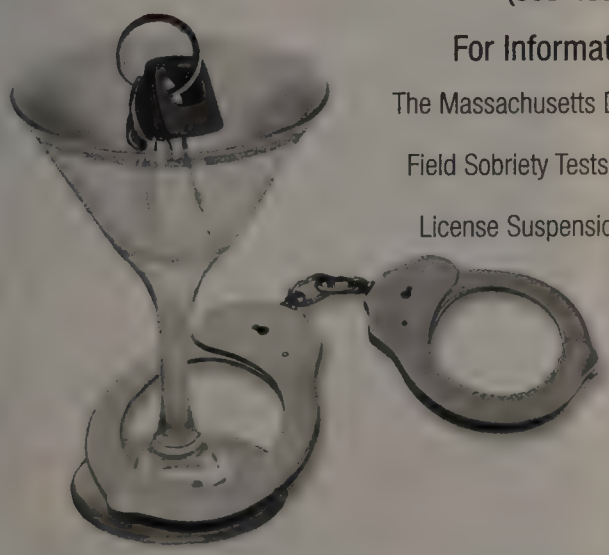
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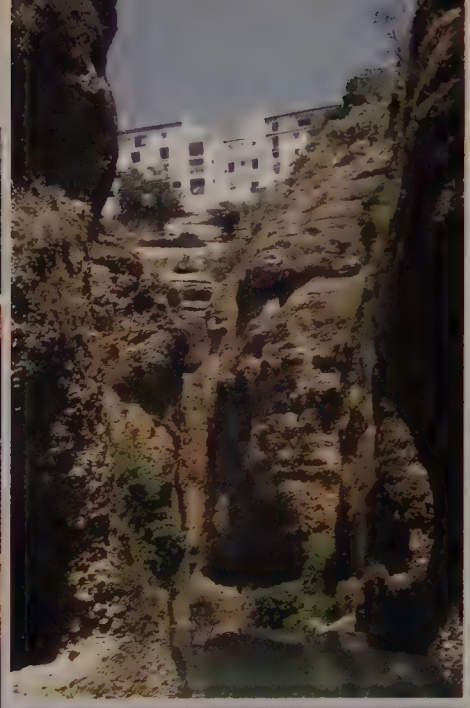
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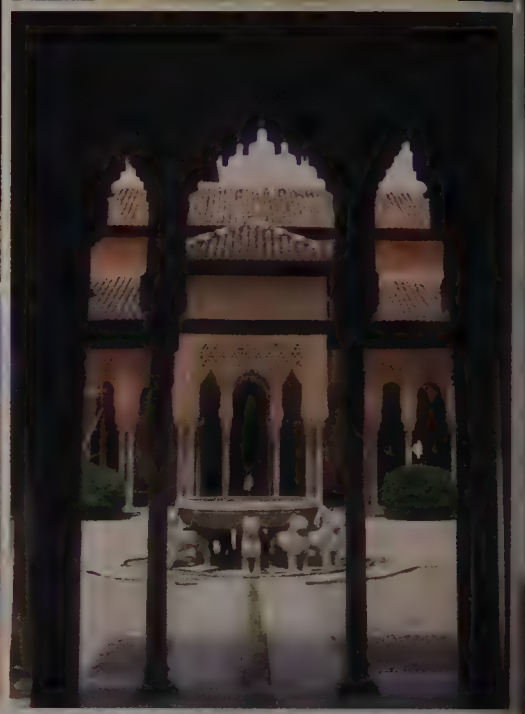












Clockwise from upper left: the Alhambra at sunset; the gorge in Ronda; Duncan and Paul demonstrate proper bullfighting technique; the courtyard of the lions in the Alhambra; a pool with a view; the Moorish courtyard at Ronda; packing the Peugeot.

WHAT I DID ON MY SUMMER VACATION....

Countless poets have been inspired by Spain's southernmost region, Andalusia, but the one I found myself quoting again and again was the immortal Grover from *Sesame Street*: "Granada, Cordoba, Sevilla, where butter is called *mantequilla*..."

At least, that's the way the friend who dropped me off at the airport remembered it, and that's how I repeated it, incessantly, for the next 12 days, until my traveling companions were ready to kill me. But I'll get to that.

Our trip got off to a rocky start. Upon landing in Malaga, we went to pick up the convertible we'd reserved. We waited an hour, in a fume-filled underground garage, until I was ready to go back inside and do some whup-ass on the Hertz guy, but thankfully, Duncan stopped me.

"I just realized—the black car we've been standing in front of for 45 minutes is ours. The hard-top folds into the trunk."

Trying to open the trunk took another 45 minutes, until someone showed us that you press the middle of the 0 in the car's model number: 303.

"That's like expecting us to know you open it by slapping your ass, spinning around three times and doing a genie blink," said Duncan.

"Ask them where the gas tank is," said Paul.

Finally under way, we drove along winding two-lane highways to Ronda—a Moorish hill-town built on a limestone outcropping. The two halves of Ronda are connected by a pair of ancient bridges that span a 400-foot gorge with a river running through it, while the edges of town drop off into cliffs commanding spectacular views of the surrounding countryside.

"This place is a suicidal maniac's wet dream," said Duncan, peering over the edge.

We watched a full moon rise over the hills that night, and spent the next several days seeing the sights: the Mondragon Palace, the Arab Baths, and the famous bullring, where the sport took its modern form. One morning, I walked 400-and-something steps down a shaft beneath the House of the Moorish King and stood looking up at the town from the bottom of the gorge, enjoying myself enormously until it dawned on me that I had to climb all the way back up.

We said goodbye reluctantly to Ronda and drove through vast undulating fields of sunflowers to the legendary city of Granada—the last capital of Moorish Spain, where, despite blast-furnace heat, you can see snow on the mountaintops. Our hotel was a converted 15th-century convent. As expected, my room was barely big enough to turn around in. Less expected was the squirting room freshener (the kind you see in gas station bathrooms). By morning, I smelled like I should've been dangling from someone's rearview mirror.

Granada's biggest attraction is the Alhambra, a complex that houses the administrative and pleasure palaces of the Sultan, along with some of the world's most beautiful gardens and a fortress that once garrisoned thousands of troops.

"Wow," marveled Duncan. "It's like Allah-palooza."

Perhaps the only thing more breathtaking than walking through the Alhambra is watching the sun set over it from the Albaicin, the old Arab quarter. Granada's cathedral, meanwhile, is certainly memorable, not only because Ferdinand and Isabella are buried there (along with their daughter, Juana the Mad), but also because the candles are automated: Drop in a coin and a bulb lights up.

I ate one of the best dinners of my life in Granada, at a restaurant called the Puerta del Carmen, and indeed, one of Spain's principal charms is the food, like the serrano ham served at breakfast, lunch and dinner. (As someone pointed out, the national motto could be "A pig at every meal.") We did encounter some daunting menu items (beef served in "a reduction sauce of Pedro Ximenex"), but overall, our only food complaint was that the bread was dry. At lunch one day, Duncan finally broke down and, amazingly enough, asked, "How do you say butter in Spanish?"

For the ten-trillionth time, I sang the Grover song.

"I hate you," said Paul.

"No butter. Only olive oil," said the waiter.

After paying for lunch, we crossed the street and saw a toy store with stuffed animals in the window. Front and center was Grover.

Of course, we bought him and brought him with us to a charming country hotel called Almunia del Valle, which translates roughly as "If you made it up the twisting, pitted donkey path to get here, you're welcome to stay the night."

A few days of R&R followed, as we sat by the pool, playing backgammon and picking fresh figs off the trees. Unfortunately, I never got around to reading any of the books in my room, like the tantalizingly titled *Asesinatos por Amor* ("Murders by Love"). The jacket promised "Una cronica negra de la España erotica."

Overall, I learned a lot about Spain on this trip. For one thing, it's a very dusty country. For another, it has some of the slipperiest cobblestones in Europe, especially after a few drinks. But it also has a lot going for it. Gorgeous scenery. Rich history. The fact that no one there has ever even heard of the Olsen twins. Oh, and one other thing: They might call butter mantequilla, but good luck getting any at a restaurant.

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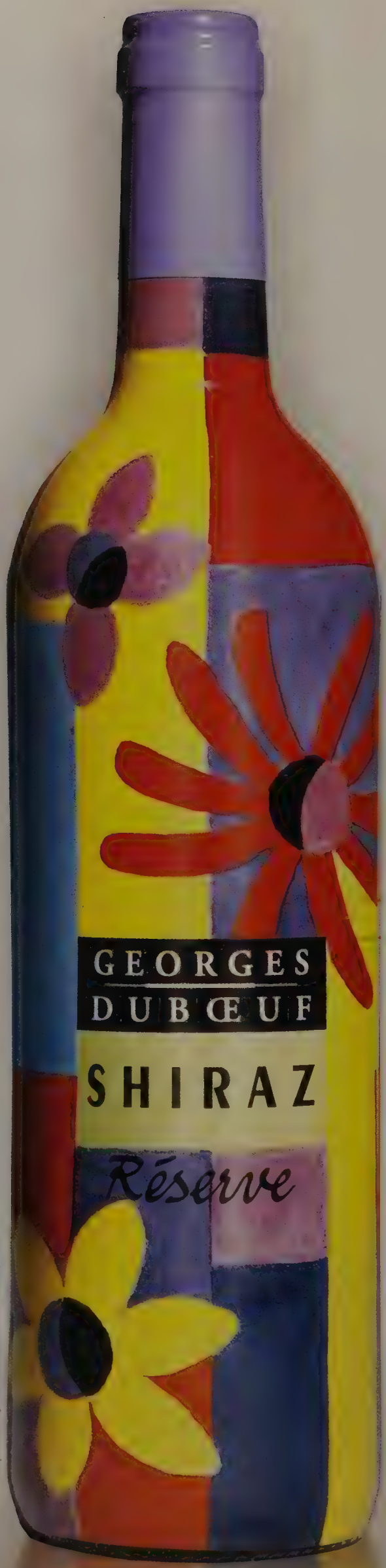


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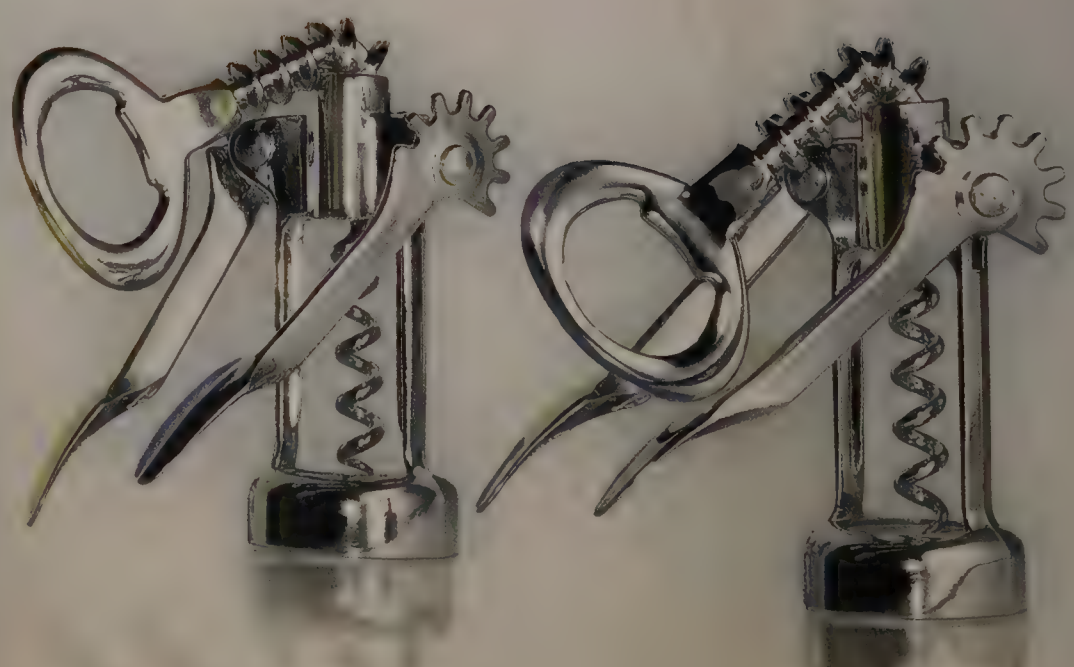
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Photographed for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by
Melissa Mahoney

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR



HEAR HERE

In all things rock and roll, our dedicated music editor, Paul Robicheau, guides us, offering previews in each issue of some of the most interesting acts to tour Boston. In this issue, he turns his attention to the many talented musicians who call Boston home, presenting his annual list of 10 buzzworthy local bands. Topping the list are our cover models, the art-punk quartet Read Yellow, currently on tour in Europe. You can catch them, and most of the groups in our top 10, at Boston-area clubs this fall. (Someday, you might say you saw them when.)

The exploration of Boston-born music continues in Robicheau's story about two major band comebacks—the Pixies and Mission of Burma—and in J. Bennett's feature on local labels that are achieving national success. Finally, Ezra Dyer looks at the tribute bands who make a living imitating the superstars—from Beefy DC's take on Angus Young et al to Draw the Line's near-perfect impersonation of Boston's beloved rock outfit, Aerosmith.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com



A HOSTILE MERGER

The final exam for people trying to become Bostonians ("Eight Simple Steps to Becoming a Bostonian," Sept. 8): Make the merge onto 93 North from the South Shore Plaza (Route 37, Exit 6). You have about 1/16th of a mile to accelerate to 65 mph and cross three lanes of cars that aren't going to move because they're trying to get onto Route 3 South. Bonus points awarded for people who can do it while drinking a cup of Dunkin' Donuts coffee.

—DERRICK CAMPBELL
Brighton

ON VACATION

In reference to Jonathan Soroff's article "What I Did on my Summer Vacation" (Sept. 8), as an Andalusian Spanish couple living in Boston, we would like to point out a few things.

First of all, we don't really understand the difficulty Soroff had opening the trunk of a European car, but 45 minutes ought to be more than enough. He was traveling around places that were built and inhabited more than 20 centuries ago, and even though we don't expect him to understand this, I'm pretty sure there's more there to talk about than "a suicidal maniac's wet dream." Soroff is just another typical *guiri* if he asked for "mantequilla" in a Spanish restaurant. He may not see the difference, but it's as rude as leaving a Boston restaurant without giving a proper tip. And we really feel sorry for him if he doesn't enjoy Spanish olive oil and bread and finds Spanish bread too dry.

Apart from its being a dusty country (in Soroff's words), we thank him for considering Spain worthwhile to visit. There you can find a wonderful mixture of unbelievable Phoenician, Greek, Roman, Arabic, Celtic, neoclassic and modernist art; mountains, beaches and wonderful weather; nice people, great gastronomy and a lot of fun. And with all due respect, we don't care about the Olsen twins, even though we do know who they are.

—MONICA GARCIA ALLOZA and
ANGEL MARTIN-ROMO CAMACHO
Boston

I just read Soroff's article on his summer trip to Spain and laughed out loud at the Grover quotation. However, PBS child of the '70s that I am, I have to correct him. The three cities he sings about to the poor, blue, mustachioed schlub in the restaurant are: Granada, *Cádiz* and Sevilla. Am I a dork or what? Stamp your feet and join me in a chorus of *olé olé olé!*

—MEREDITH G. ROSOFF
Milton

FLIRTY, PRETTY, YOUNG

Re: "Flirty, Pretty Things" (Sept. 8). While the piece was beautifully photographed, what I saw was a lovely young teenage girl dressed in her big sister's or her mother's clothes. Your fashion producers should balance the images with the intended audience.

—MARY COONEY
South Boston

CORRECTION

The Celebrity Hat Trick event mentioned in the Sept. 8 Soroff/On column supports the Leary Firefighters Foundation and its mission of providing resources to fire departments and to the families of firefighters who have perished or been injured in the line of duty.

A FEW GOOD MEN AND WOMEN

The deadline to nominate single guys and gals for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN's 2005 Bachelors & Bachelorettes issue is approaching! Please turn to page 107 for a nomination form, or print one out at www.improper.com. Entries must be received by October 3, 2004. Questions? Send an e-mail to jessica@improper.com.

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J. BENNETT

J. Bennett is a writer and photographer whose work has appeared in publications including *Alternative Press, Rock Sound UK, Decibel, Revolver, the Fader, the Stranger,* and the *Weekly Dig*. His first article for the IMPROPER, "Cradle of Independents," begins on page 30.



LEARY COVER: MICHAEL INDRESANO

Tell Us What You Think

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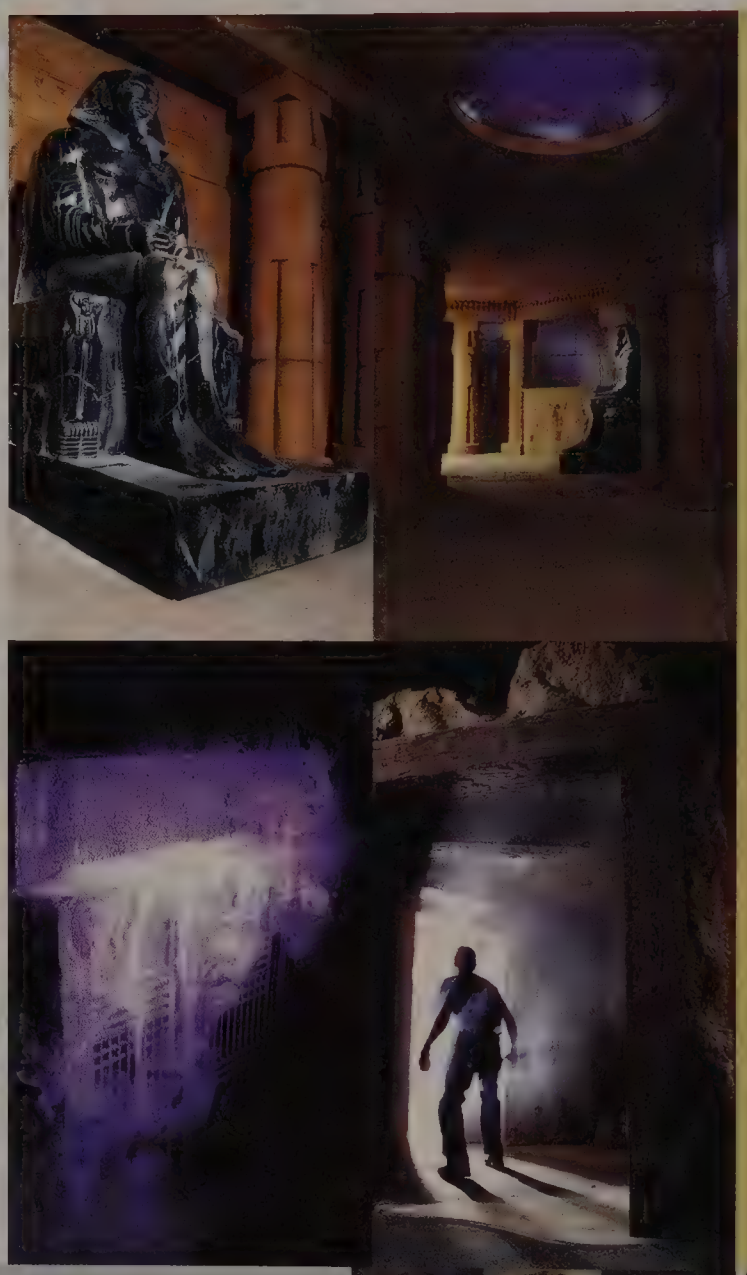
new in town

MUMMY DEAREST

"If you can figure out how to describe this in two sentences, I'll be impressed," says Matthew DuPlessie, president and CEO of 5W!TS (say "five wits"), the company that produces the live-action game Tomb, set to open September 23 across from the Landmark Center on Brookline Avenue. Well, allow us to try: Tomb is a bit like stepping into an Indiana Jones movie, with teams of five to 15 explorers entering a stone crypt armed with flashlights and a mission. Depending on how you fare at the challenges of the Pharaoh, you either get to see a spectacular finale or experience a walk toward the white light, i.e., death (a successful quest takes about 45 minutes to complete).

There are three rooms in the Tomb, and the challenges include both feats of strength—such as moving the Pharaoh's statue (pictured above left)—and mental puzzles, the latter of which are complicated by the unseen Pharaoh's booming admonitions and a few other special-effects surprises that reflect DuPlessie's experience working for Universal Studios. The challenges can be set for different difficulty levels, but be forewarned: Matching hieroglyphics tiles on the floor with a pattern on the wall is never easy, particularly when the ones on the wall begin to spin.

If you make it past the second room, you'll attempt to free the Pharaoh's soul, but death earns you an early exit to the gift shop and coffee bar, which is at least preferable to getting smooshed by a giant boulder. Adult tickets cost $15 weekdays, $20 weekends; children's tickets are a few bucks cheaper. *5W!TS, 186 Brookline Ave., Boston (617-375-9487). www.5-wits.com. —Ezra Dyer*



around town

BATTLE OF THE MASCOTS

Brigham's Ice Cream and J.P. Licks maintained a peaceful coexistence on Jamaica Plain's Centre Street for 20 some years. And no one expected anything different when Emack & Bolio's replaced Brigham's in late June. Nothing wrong with a little friendly competition. After all, it's ice cream—there' s always room for more. So now the big question is, Will everything stay as peace-loving as a Ben & Jerry's tag line now that Emack has unveiled its 16-foot mosaic moose? Stoney, as the moose is called, seems to bear a resemblance to J.P. Licks' longtime cow mascot Clementine, which has been standing tall in Licks' flagship shop for decades. Could the moose be Emack's attempt to steal a slice of Jamaica Plain's ice cream pie and create a rockier road in the process? Emack owner Adam Goldberg insists everything's cool in ice cream land. "There's no competition whatsoever," he says. "Were just trying to come up with something cool and give that area of the store its own little life." Licks owner and founder Vincent Petryk is equally mellow about the mascot situation. "There's always been two ice cream shops in J.P. I was the new kid for 20 years and now [Emack's] is." Petryk even gives Stoney his stamp of approval. "I've been using shattered glass sculpture in my store since '93, so I really do like it." His only jab: "I'm just glad we remain the only *homemade* ice cream shop in J.P." *—Jessica Iredale*



inner view

COUCH CRITICS

For couch potatoes, the fall TV season is almost like a fantasy football draft. It takes a delicate balance of new and the tried-and-true to create a winning lineup. Well-bred rookies, like *Joey,* show promise. But what they can actually deliver remains to be seen. With a few good reviews, underdogs like *Father of the Pride* can lead the team. And it never hurts to have a few hot shots (*The O.C.*) and seasoned MVPs (*Law & Order, Everybody Loves Raymond*) on the roster. We asked four local entertainment experts—KISS 108's Matt Siegel, *Globe* TV critic Matthew Gilbert and the *Herald*'s Inside Track gals, Gayle Fee and Laura Raposa—what's hot and what's not in TV land this season.



Improper Bostonian: *What are your picks for the best new shows from the fall lineup?*

Track Gals: *Lost* looks cool, because they're promising cannibalism! Also *CSI: NY,* 'cause Gary Sinise is hot. *Desperate Housewives* looks to be the new *Melrose Place* (yipee!) and we're excited about *Boston Legal* for the William Shatner factor.

Matt Siegel: *Boston Legal*—James Spader is fabulous; William Shatner is great camp. Cool choice.

Matthew Gilbert: If John Waters had produced *Knots Landing,* he might have come up with something like *Desperate Housewives.* This soap opera turns cheery suburban America into a blackly comic spectacle. Other pluses: the great Felicity Huffman and Marcia Cross, who could exceed her campy work as the scarred villain of *Melrose Place. Lost* also looks good. I mean, it really looks good, with lots of slick, island cinematography. The action-adventure series follows plane-crash survivors on an uncharted desert isle, with no Jeff Probst to direct their anger at. It's from J.J. Abrams, the innovative maker of *Alias.*

IB: *Predictions for the biggest letdown?*

TG: Biggest letdown will be Jason Alexander's new show, *Listen Up,* because he'll never be as funny as George Costanza, and *Jack & Bobby* because it's from the same insufferable blowhards who brought you *The West Wing.*

MS: *LAX,* biggest letdown.

MG: *Center of the Universe* isn't just a disappointing ripoff of *Everybody Loves Raymond.* It's a disturbing realization that TV can demean even John Goodman, Jean Smart and Olympia Dukakis. Ed Asner as a sex-crazed dad? Grant me a pass.

IB: *What show are you most happy to see return?*

TG: *Arrested Development, Scrubs, CSI.*

MS: *The Shield* on FX. It's the best show on TV.

MG: It's a tie. I fell for *Arrested Development* last season and not just because I'm a critic and am required to do so by law. The instant I saw Portia de Rossi visit a prison wearing a "Slut" T-shirt, I knew I was in love truly, madly and deeply. *The O.C.* is also beckoning. Seth, see you soon.

IB: *Favorite sitcom starring an overweight man and his improbably hot wife?*

TG: *The Simpsons.* (Marge is so hot....)

MG: *Dr. Vegas* starring Joe Pantoliano and Rob Lowe. OK, so it's not a sitcom.

IB: *Will* Joey *be the next* Frasier *or the next* Joanie Loves Chachi*?*

TG: Thumbs up for *Joey.*

MS: Although I haven't seen it, I think it'll be another *Joanie Loves Chachi* simply because on *Friends,* Joey was the neighbor that popped in. He wasn't the central character. It's going to be a tough role for him. But they do have the best writers on it, so who knows.

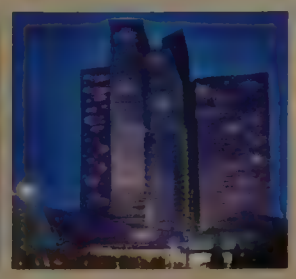
MG: It'll be the next *Rhoda. —J.I.*



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tasty tidbits

SMALL PLATES IN A BIGGER SPACE

A Prospering Piattini... After three years of appeasing passersby on Newbury Street with its selection of Italian small plates and wine flights, Piattini Wine Café is set to open its second location, on Columbus Avenue, next to the Castle, by the end of the month. The plates are still small, but everything at the new Piattini is bigger, including the menu, which allows Piattini to explore more culinary options. But expect most of the focus to remain on the small dishes and the 100-bottle wine list. We certainly plan to take one down and pass it around. *162 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-423-2021).*

Vintage Victoria's... For 55 years, Victoria Dining served as a staple of quick and easy eating on Mass. Ave. before temporarily shutting down for renovations late this spring. But on July 15, owner Jay Hajj (proprietor of Mike's City Diner in the South End) reopened the spot and renamed it Victoria's Diner. "At one point, this was the top diner in the city, and hopefully it will be again," Hajj says. Victoria's serves breakfast, lunch and dinner every day (with many of the same menu items that have helped make Mike's a hit) while boasting a full bar and vintage '50s and '60s dining decor. July also brought a little excitement to the Hajj family's world in the form of a brand new baby daughter. Her name? Victoria, of course. *1024 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-442-5965).*


Victoria's Diner

Sam I Am... Sam Adams recently revamped its Web site, and while the fancy Flash graphics are nice, we're most impressed by the "Best Job in the World" page, where founder Jim Koch calculates how many beers he's drunk at work. "I started the company in 1984," he writes on www.samuel adams.com, "and I've probably averaged two Samuel Adams beers per day since then. That means I've had approximately 15,000 beers on the job. Work, work, work." We're sure Jim's liver is thankful he didn't start a vodka company.

—E.D. and R.L.

sam says

IM-PRU-VED



You may have noticed if you've walked through the Prudential Center lately that cosmetics store Sephora has changed significantly, doubling its size. Interestingly, Sephora remained open during its two months of renovations, doing all the work overnight. Expanding on its already impressive list of products, the store has added dozens of new brands including Pixi, Pinkie Swear and Diane von Furstenberg. It has also added several new skin care lines and the popular GoSmile teeth-whitening system that's a hit with celebs. *Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston (617-262-4200).*

—Samantha House

improper reports

BIRTHDAY DISCOUNTS



There's no better time than your birthday to cash in on the generosity of local businesses. So when your big day rolls around, stop by one of these spots and rake in the birthday perks.

Ben & Jerry's

Multiple Locations

No birthday would be complete without a stop at one of these famous ice cream shops, because lucky for you, they'll give you a small cone or cup for free.

Firenze

9 Babcock St., Brookline (617-738-7707).

The folks at Firenze will treat the birthday boy or girl to a free Italian meal. But drinks are still full price, so just drink the price of your meal and you'll come out even.

Jake Ivory's

9 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-247-1222).

Jake Ivory's rolls out the red carpet for birthday par ties, offering line privileges, a cake, Champagn toast, on-stage participation and special song re quests. Birthday boys and girls get in for free—oth ers pay $13.

Tapeo

266 Newbury St., Boston, 617-267-4799.

Go in for a couple of plates of tapas and ge showered with bubbles by the Tapeo staff whil they sing "Happy Birthday."

33 Restaurant and Lounge

33 Stanhope St., Boston, 617-572-3311.

You can have a glass of Champagne on the house a this Back Bay hot spot. Dessert will cost you, bu that's not to say there isn't an incentive for orderin sweets: Birthday desserts are topped with a liv sparkler.

—R.L. and Anna Vodicka

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Double Trouble...A school that actually encourages alcohol consumption? It's true. Dublin Down, a new bar set to open on September 23 in Packard's Corner in Allston, will not only serve as a place to relax and watch the Pats or Sox, but will also double as Dublin University, Boston's newest bartending school. Students at Dublin U are given free job placement assistance at local joints like the Foggy Goggle while earning their degree in boozenomics. Best of all, they won't have to travel far for that all-important after-class thirst quencher. *1098 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-424-0200).*

Mamma's Boy... It sounds like a character from *Dynasty* or *Dallas*. but Blair Delmonico is actually a new store in the Prudential Center. After 15 years designing jewelry for upscale retail giants


Mint Julep

like Bloomingdales and Harrods, David Salvatore decided to open his own shop. Three years later he's on his third boutique, which opened this past summer. Named for Salvatore's fashionista mom, Blair Delmonico carries a line of high-end knits, suits, handbags and scarves, as well as the designer's signature Swarovski crystal necklaces and bracelets, which are a huge hit with brides. *800 Boylston St., Boston (617-424-6777).*

Minty Fresh... For 12 years, native Vermonters and now Brookline residents Brooke Garber and Stephanie Nist have dreamed of opening their own clothing store. On July 23, their dream became reality when the two 25-year-olds opened Mint Julep in Coolidge Corner. "We have clothes ranging from $20 t-shirts to $300 dresses, as well as jewelry, scarves and handbags," says Garber, a 2001 graduate of BU. The girls carry labels like Helen Wang, Joe's Jeans and Splendid and have set up an innovative "boyfriend couch" with piles of magazines to keep the other half occupied. Julep also sells merchandise from Brookline jeweler Hillary Olk, vintage headbands, scarves and handbags, as well as Mor, an Australian line that specializes in bath and body products. It's your one-stop shop for everything girly. *1302 Beacon St., Brookline (617-232-3600).*

Somers Time... Chances are you've spent a tipsy night or two inside one of John J. Somers' watering holes. The Somers Pub empire, which already includes Henessy's, the Green Dragon, Kennedy's Mid-Town and Club Q, brought a new child into the family September 14. In the former space of Grand Canal, Marquee offers an international-themed lunch and dinner menu and boasts a marbletop bar, leather seating and large, plasma TVs. We'll see if it fares as well as New York "it" club Marquee. *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112).*

Dude Looks Like a Tour Guide... Talking Street, which already offers walking cell-phone tours in New York, has kicked it up a notch for its Beantown debut. The Boston tour, narrated by Aerosmith's Steven Tyler, includes 17 stops from the Public Garden to the North End, plus a bonus stop at Fenway Park, if you're so inclined. Besides giving walkers insight into Boston's history, the tour offers the added value of listening to one of rock's most famous voices read lines like, "This park is quite an oasis, eh?" The tour costs $5.95, but make sure you've got lots of anytime minutes. *(617-262-8687). www.talkingstreet.com.*

—E.H., E.D., J.I. and R.L.


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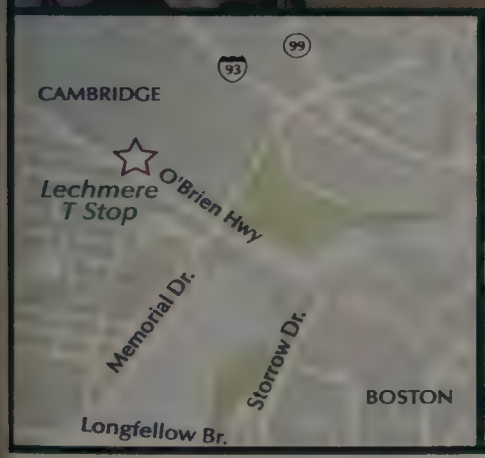
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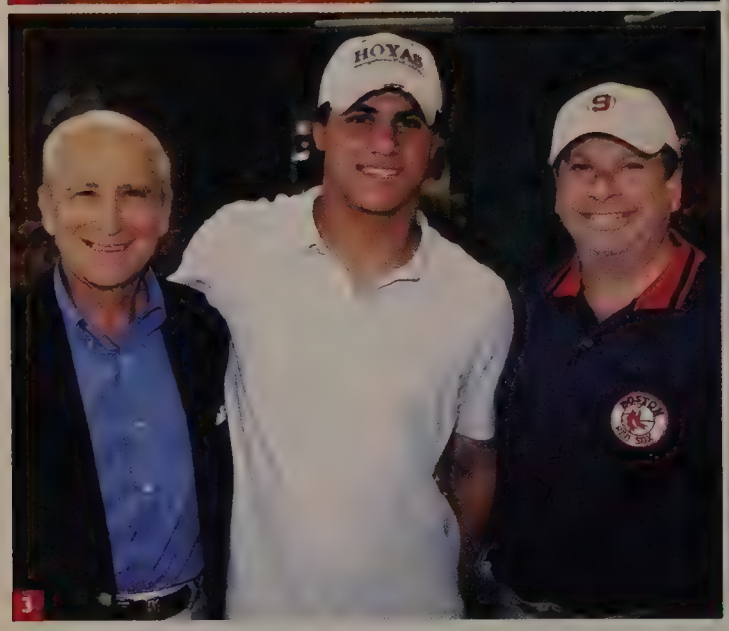
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PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

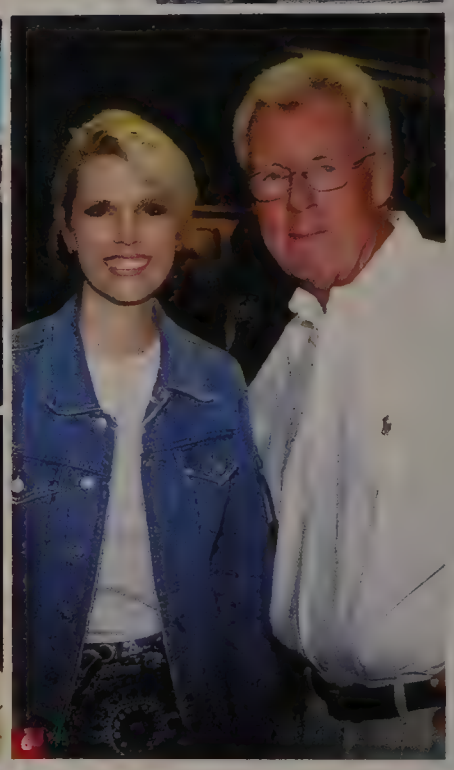












The 3rd Annual **WEEI Jimmy Fund Heavy Hitters Cocktail Party** was held August 27 at the Fenway Park Players Club. More than 200 partygoers gathered at the star-studded live auction to raise money for the Jimmy Fund. The auction was emceed by Mike O'Malley, star of CBS-TV's *Yes Dear*. Other celebrity guests included Wyc Grousbeck, John Henry, Jeremy Jacobs, Theo Epstein, Ray Bourque, Michael Badalucco and Peter Gammons.

1. Actors **Michael Badalucco** and **Mike O'Malley**
2. **Wyc Grousbeck**, co-owner of the Boston Celtics; **Jo Jo White** former Boston Celtics guard; and **Ray Bourque**, former Boston Bruins defenseman
3. **Roger Saunders**, managing partner of the Saunders Hotel Group; **Alex Saunders**, student at the Rivers School in Weston; and **Gary Smith**, former vice president of Houghton Mifflin
4. **Joe Castiglione**, Red Sox announcer, and **Tom O'Brien**, owner of Tom O'Brien Hyundai in Quincy and Danvers
5. **Charles Jacobs**, executive vice president of the Boston Bruins, and his wife, **Kim**
6. **Shonda Schilling**, wife of Red Sox pitcher Curt Schilling, and **Peter Gammons**, baseball analyst for ESPN

Saks Fifth Avenue and the Boston Celtics' Paul Pierce hosted the **Runway 34 Preview Cocktail Party** September 9 at Runway 34 Ultra Lounge at Saks Fifth Avenue in the Prudential Center. More than 100 guests enjoyed an informal modeling of the Roberto Cavalli Fall/Winter Collection 2004/05. Proceeds will benefit Pierce's charity organization, the Truth Fund.











7. **Christine DiCarlo**, event producer for Front Row Associates; **Paul Pierce**, Boston Celtics forward/guard; and **Beth Dickerson**, principal of Dickerson Real Estate
8. **Beth Kurtin**; **George Spowart**, vice president of marketing at Allen & Gerritsen; and **Soosie Lazenby**, vice president of brand strategy at Jack Morton Worldwide
9. **Ashley Davis-Ranelli**, and **Cheryl Yung**, executive career counselor at Lee Hecht Harrison
10. **Jaymee Messler**, director of marketing for Excel Sports Management; and **Richard DeAgazio**, president of Boston Capital
11. **David Woodman**, general manager of Fox Sports Network; and **Jennifer Khoury**, vice president of public relations for Comcast

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ezra

BY EZRA DYER



PITY THE FOOL

As if I didn't have enough time-management problems, along comes fantasy football.

This year it finally happened: I joined a fantasy football league. I never really got the attraction of fantasy football, but since nearly all of my friends participate in fantasy leagues, I was tired of being left out of the conversations. I'd be watching a game with someone, and he'd say "Keyshawn Johnson killed me last week on my fantasy team," and I'd reply "Yeah, he's a really good…basketball player?" I was as lost in a conversation about fantasy football as I'd be if I were in a room where everyone was speaking Swahili and I only spoke Maa. Also, if you don't know the names of lots of football players, you're totally gay.

I actually do have a little fantasy football experience. Back in the eighth grade, all the boys played football at recess. My friend Rod and I were the captains. Every recess my team got killed. So one day, Rod and I stayed inside and planned a competitive adjustment of the teams. We each had an imaginary $2,000 with which to purchase our teams (this seemed a properly lofty sum at the time), and we bid until we had new, equitable rosters. Right away, Rod paid roughly $1,995 for the a 16-year-old kid who outran everyone, and he subsequently kept winning every game. I learned a few valuable fantasy football lessons: A star player can make or break a team, and you can't win at schoolyard football when the other team has a kid who can drive to school.

But setting up an NFL fantasy team is a lot more complicated than buying your junior-high classmates. For one thing, you need to name your team and make a logo. I gave far more thought to this than I did to other aspects of the process, like selecting players. Regardless of how my team, the Sucka Fools, performs, I think everyone in my league ought to agree that Mr. T flexing his biceps and wearing a football helmet with his mohawk coming out the top is the funniest logo. When it comes to fantasy football-team logo design, it helps to have co-workers who are, say, magazine art directors.

Next came draft day. Our league has 12 teams, and since I'm the newest owner I had to pick last. Originally I figured that since I don't know what I'm doing and my team would finish last anyway, I'd select my players based on who has the best names, and I designated Deon Dyer for an early round. Eventually, though, I settled on a mix of players with funny names and players who are actually good.

Luck of the fantasy football draw was on my side, and I ended up with a respectable team. I feel the Sucka Fools match up well against any team in the league, including the Sin City Steamers, the Shockers, the Upper Tankers and even the mighty Blumps. Everyone seemed confident in their choices, though. "Is there a place on this site where I can certify that my team is going to dominate?" asked Upper Tankers owner Whitmore on the draft message board in the final round. "The only thing you dominate is your toilet," replied Jesse, owner of the Steamers, adding, "Nothing left now but a bunch of Whitmores." More such highbrow discourse was directed at Krishan, who participated via a dial-up connection in India and suffered chronic computer problems. When his connection went down, the computer inexplicably picked seven quarterbacks. There's a joke about outsourcing in there somewhere.

You'll be happy to know that after the first week of the season, the Suckas are 1-0, having triumphed over the Steamers. I'm now totally obsessed with fantasy football. I'm keeping track of players I don't have in case I want to pick them up. I'm rooting for bad things to happen to real-life players on opposing teams. I find myself watching a Jets game and thinking, "Wouldn't it be great if Curtis Martin got picked up on drug charges and suspended for the rest of the season?" I now pay close attention to Arizona's depth chart, whereas last year I thought depth charts were used exclusively by sea captains.

I NOW PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO ARIZONA'S DEPTH CHART, WHEREAS LAST YEAR I THOUGHT DEPTH CHARTS WERE USED EXCLUSIVELY BY SEA CAPTAINS.

I'm totally on board with fantasy football. It gives me a reason to care about games other than the Patriots', as I check out how my players around the league are faring each week. Fantasy football helps me stay in touch with my friends. And if my quarterback, Tom Brady, stinks the place up, I can act like I'm mad at him for a reason other than insane jealousy. iB

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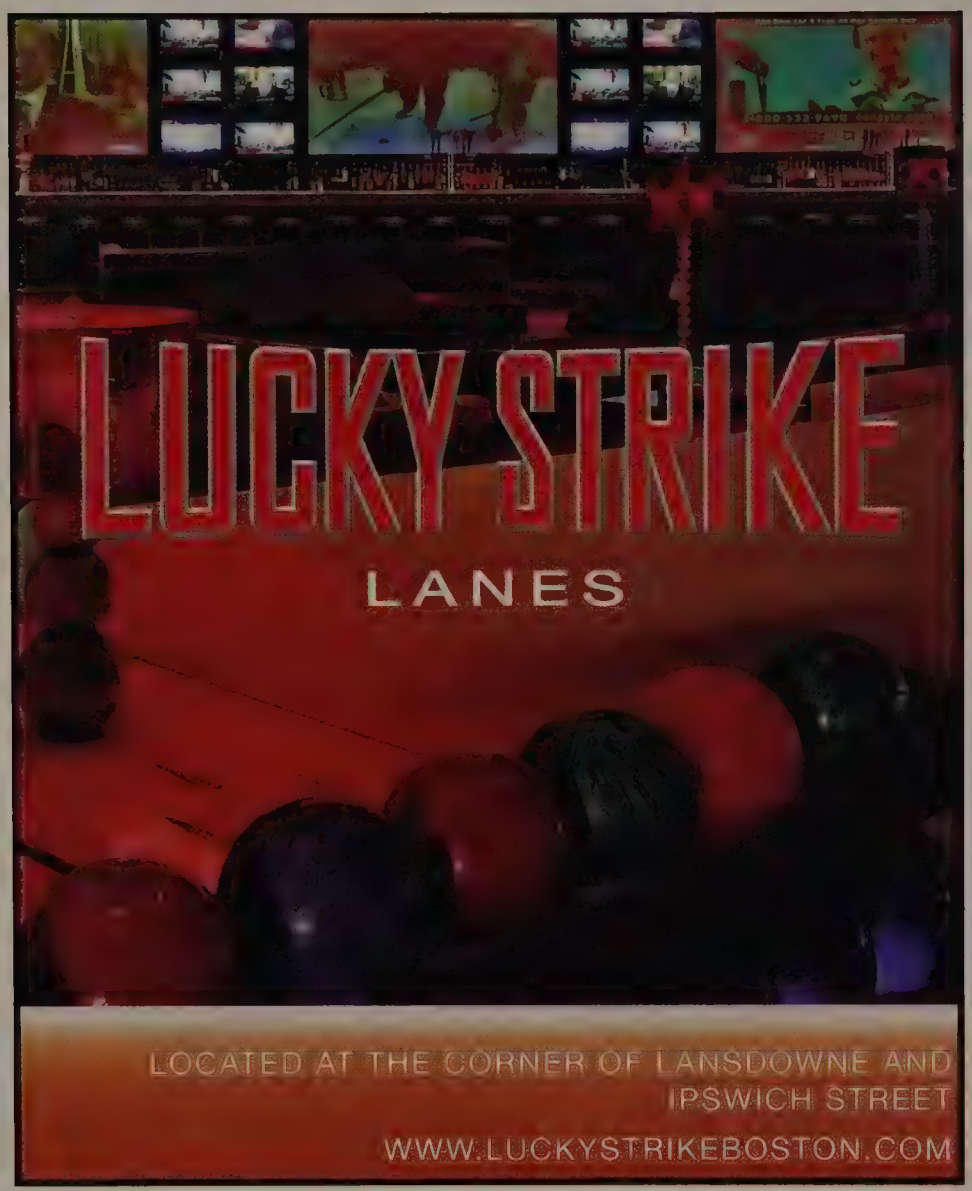
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THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS



WILL FRANCONA UNDERMINE THE CURSE KILLERS?

Let's hope that come October, the Sox skipper vanquishes the ghosts of his predecessor.

The Boston Red Sox finally look like the team we thought they were back in April. Last spring, the curse-killing crusaders, with the addition of Curt Schilling and Keith Foulke, looked like the team to beat. You could say the same thing now.

But it's time to be honest with our reservations, or more accurately, reservation: Despite the turnaround, I am not a believer in manager Terry Francona. Not yet, anyway.

I remember when the Red Sox interviewed him for the gig in Boston. Much was made of the fact that Francona arrived with his laptop and talked about the importance of playing the percentages. Basically he was supposed to be the anti–Grady Little, bringing the new numbers-crunching approach to Yawkey Way.

During my college days, I had an internship at a TV station in Philadelphia. And last winter my mentor from the station warned me about Francona. "You don't want Terry Francona as your manager," said my former boss. "Who's the youngest manager in baseball?" he asked. I said it was Eric Wedge of the Indians.

"No," he said. "Curt Schilling."

The inference is that Schilling is in charge, especially when he's on the mound. That's what happened in Philadelphia and it appears to have happened in Boston, too.

The Red Sox are so talented, man-to-man, that regardless of the leadership, or lack thereof, they're going to have a shot at the end of the game more times than not. This is a $130 million lineup. The Red Sox have spent more money on noncontributors B.K. Kim ($5.5 million), Trot Nixon ($7 million) and Ramiro Mendoza ($3 million) than most teams spend on their superstars. But because of the team's depth, their lack of production is no problem.

Which brings me back to Francona. He is needed now, more than ever. I can't tell you how many times I've looked into the dugout and there's Terry, realizing that his starting pitcher is nearing the end of his day. But instead of nestling up to his pitching coach for some words of wisdom, readying the team for a change on the mound, Terry stares and does nothing.

Too many times, Sox relievers seem to be caught by surprise and aren't fully warmed up when they're needed. It doesn't take a phone call from Theo to understand that if your pitcher is coming up on 100 pitches, you have your options ready in the bullpen.

And I don't want to play Joan Rivers and become a fashion critic, but even the red sweatshirt Francona wears doesn't lool the part. It looks more like the garb for th day's batting-practice pitcher, which fit with his demeanor.

The line was drawn in the sand early i Francona's tenure, when Pedro skipped ou of the season opener well before the fina out. It continued with Schilling's tempe tantrums when Francona pleaded with hin to give up the ball. We'll skip over Manny peccadillos because Manny stuff coul happen under anyone's watch. But hov about Kevin Millar throwing Francon under the bus over his playing time?

Right now, though, most fans have for gotten Francona's brain cramps. He's in th running for Manager of the Year, believe i or not. So when the playoffs come aroun and the chill of October air smacks yo freshly in the face the way a high and tigh Pedro Martinez fastball smacks agains Jason Varitek's mitt, ask yourself: "Is Terr Francona ready for prime time?"

> THE RED SOX HAVE THE PITCHING, THE HITTING AND THE DEPTH. THEY ALSO HAVE WHAT THESE EYES SEE AS MEDIOCRE MANAGING.

The games are about to get serious. Ulti mately they'll turn into one-run, nail-bit ing affairs. How will this team respond Will the guys in the Red Sox clubhouse sa that their skipper is more prepared than th other guy? Will the Sox finally brea through and accomplish what a lot of u thought they would before the seaso started—winning the World Series?

They have the pitching, the hitting an the depth. They also have what these eye see as mediocre managing. I hope I'm wrong. I hope Francona's imitation of for mer Patriots coach Pete Carroll (nice gu in the wrong place) is just that, an imita tion. I hope he's learned that being th manager means you're in charge, no ques tions asked. Because while the Red So may have made the month of August lool easy, October is anything but. IB

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New Englan Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

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Soroff ON

TONY MCLEAN

BY JONATHAN SOROFF



Theater producer Tony McLean is the president of Broadway in Boston and Clear Channel Entertainment's Boston theater division. The Dorchester native attended St. Peter's School and graduated from the Boston Archdiocesan Choir School and Boston College High School before receiving a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Boston University's School of Theater Arts in 1979. Since then, McLean has done stints as theater manager for the Parker Playhouse in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., the Royal Poinciana Playhouse in Palm Beach, and the Saenger Theatre in New Orleans, and has acted as company manager and/or general manager for at least 35 major productions. In addition to producing *Beauty and the Beast* on Broadway, he served as vice president of domestic touring for Disney Theatrical Productions, where his responsibilities included directing domestic tours of *Beauty and the Beast*, Elton John and Tim Rice's *Aida*, and *The Lion King*. A member of the Association of Theatrical Press Agents and Managers, the American Theatre Wing and the League of American Theatres and Producers, McLean serves on the board of directors for StageSource and Arts/Boston. He lives in the South End.

Jonathan Soroff: *Is it more important to you personally to put on a show that's a commercial or an artistic success?*

Tony McLean: Either or?

JS: *Yup. Your next show can either be a complete work of genius, one for the ages, but nobody is going to buy tickets, or it's a box-office bonanza. Which would it be?*

TM: Well, if by artistic you mean a critical success, I don't pay attention to critics, so I don't care. You always have to go with the artistic. It has longer-ranging consequences. There are plenty of shows that make money and five years later no one remembers them. But if it's really well done artistically, it's bound to be popular. I think anything that's a commercial success in the theater has some artistry to it.

JS: *What's your response to people who think a huge conglomerate like Clear Channel puts the screws on smaller arts organizations?*

TM: Where's the proof? I'd say they're uninformed.

JS: *But you control the lion's share of stages in this city, along with access to billboards, radio, a lot of money for advertising. It's a huge corporation, and a lot of people say it's muscling out the smaller theater groups.*

TM: I think we work well together, and I'd argue we support each other. The more theater there is, the more demand for theater there will be.

> I TELL YOUNG DIRECTORS, "IF YOU REALLY WANT TO KNOW WHAT THEATER'S ABOUT, GO TO A BASEBALL GAME." THE TENSION, THE PLAY, THE CROWD'S REACTION, THE DYNAMICS OF IT ARE AMAZING.

JS: *How about the people who own Clear Channel—are they the right-wing, reactionary zealots I've read about in the press?*

TM: [Laughs.] Well, they're people who live in Texas. I don't really know them outside of business.

JS: *Overall state of the American theater?*

TM: Very healthy in most cities and small towns, but Broadway's become much more specific in the last 20 years, as in not as many new works. What's happening around the country is much more exciting. In any major city, there's something interesting happening, which wasn't the case 25 years ago.

JS: *How much in theater is determined by money?*

TM: A lot, and the economics have changed so much that people don't want to take risks. Also, the public doesn't go to the theater the way they did. There's so much good drama on television. But what's filled that gap, which people fail to look at, is the regional theaters. When I was growing up here, there was no ART or Huntington or Súgán or Gloucester. There were only the Broadway shows that came through Boston. So my point is that we're getting it, but we're getting it from different places.

JS: *How much did it cost to put on* The Lion King*?*

TM: I can't tell you that, but I will tell you that it costs about a million dollars just to put in a show—for the trucks to pull up, to load it in, set it up and tech it—in a Broadway theater. So if it's $8 million to produce a musical, one-eighth is just to get it through the door. You also have to advertise the heck out of it. So it's very expensive to do what we do in Boston, because this is one of the most expensive cities in America for labor and for advertising.

JS: *Is Stephen Sondheim the second coming?*

TM: [He is] to people who think that Stephen Sondheim is the second coming. I'm a long-time fan.

JS: *What circle of hell does Andrew Lloyd Webber belong in?*

TM: He doesn't.

JS: *C'mon, Andrew Lloyd Root-Canal?*

TM: You're talking about someone I've met and know. I think he was a more interesting composer before he became a producer. I remember how fresh *Joseph* seemed and how we all hung around listening to *Jesus Christ Superstar* for the first time. It was a revelation. I'd say he hasn't strayed too much from the way he writes, which is why people criticize him for repeating himself, but he's great.

JS: *You have a huge collection of theater memorabilia. Strangest or most interesting item?*

TM: Oh, God. I have an angel that goes on top of my Christmas tree that was crocheted for me by Glynnis Johns. I have a piece of the Berlin Wall given to me by Tandy Cronin when she went with her mother, Jessica Tandy, to the premiere of *Driving Miss Daisy* in Germany, and the Wall came down. Stuff like that.

JS: *Show tune you find yourself whistling whe you walk down the street or are stuck in traffi*

TM: These days, it's "Defying Gravit from *Wicked*.

JS: *Do you listen to show tunes constantly?*

TM: Almost exclusively.

JS: *Do you prefer musicals to straight theate*

TM: No. Actually, I prefer going to se nonmusicals, particularly in Boston. I de with musicals so much that I prefer to se plays. And I like not to read about or kno anything about what I'm going to see b fore I see it.

JS: *Do critics affect the box office?*

TM: If you let them. It depends on your a budget. Unfortunately, too many local th ater companies have to rely on the criti to sell their shows, which is a sham They're at the mercy of the critics, and the critics don't like it, their sales stop.

JS: *What do you think of Boston critics?*

TM: I'm indifferent to them. I don't giv them the power to control what we do. B some of them are my friends and I lik them as people.

JS: *Favorite form of everyday theater—people on a subway platform, or in the park?*

TM: Sporting events. I always tell youn directors, "If you really want to know wha theater's about, go to a baseball game The tension, the play, the crowd's reactio the players' reactions. The dynamics of are amazing.

JS: *Sexiest thing you've ever seen on the stage*

TM: The most sensual was two performe in Cirque du Soleil who did the livi statue. It was incredible.

JS: *So if all the world's a stage, who deserve top billing?*

TM: God. Or whatever your equivalent is

JS: *Last question: Is life really a cabaret?*

TM: No. More like musical comedy: brig and fun, with a little conflict in the midd but a happy ending…I hope. iB

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OUR ANNUAL ROUNDUP OF LOCAL ROCKERS ON A ROLL

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

PHOTOGRAPHS BY MELISSA MAHONEY

10 BANDS THAT rock

The '80s are back. Not the bad hair and cheesy keyboards, but from the Pixies-influenced squall of Read Yellow and the taut power-pop of Brett Rosenberg to the synth-iced crunch of the Information and the stylish pop of Ad Frank, echoes of the '80s have hit Boston's clubs. Not that every act fits that mold. The only common ground these 10 rock outfits share is that they're currently among Boston's most distinctive acts.



READ YELLOW

Read Yellow builds creative tension by cranking things up a few notches and letting go of the handle along the way. "Things almost fall apart," says guitarist Jesse Vuona, "but then they work their way back together. Even though there's total chaos, we know exactly where we are."

The art-punk quartet found its sound on its full-length debut *Radios Burn Faster*, which marked a quantum leap beyond a 2003 EP. Some of the credit goes to producer Paul Kolderie, who has previously worked with the Pixies, a band that once blazed the same UMass-to-Boston trail as Read Yellow and serves as a primary influence on the band, along with Sonic Youth and Fugazi.

"If you're into something, it's going to show," Vuona says, although he adds, "Our influences shed away when we're onstage." Indeed, Read Yellow (pronounced *red yellow*) burns brightest onstage, where Vuona, drummer Paul Koelle, bassist-singer Michelle Kay Freivald and singer-guitarist Evan Kenney (who also takes an occasional stab at trumpet) collide with uncanny musical and physical abandon, igniting like a solar flare.

"If you're going to see a band, you want to see something striking, and we're really passionate about our music," says Vuona, whose band just got to play England's Reading Festival. "I'd much rather hear someone say they like the live show better than the record. If your live show sucks, you have a problem, 'cause that's when you're actually creating."

Read Yellow plays Great Scott October 10.



Insight (left) and Edan

INSIGHT AND EDAN

Insight and Edan are two of Boston's most respected hip-hop Renaissance men, working as producers, MCs and DJs. But while they make records separately, the real treat comes when the duo rock the stage as a tag-team. "There's a lot you can do with two people that you can't do with one," says Insight.

Edan adds, "It's a blessing to be able to work with somebody where their motivation is the art. When you join forces, the art will benefit."

Club audiences certainly benefit when Insight and Edan go head-to-head with edgy tradeoffs, Insight's buzzing precision and flow contrasting sharply with Edan's more blunt bravado. And to top it off, each takes a cut at the turntables.

"The fact that he does beats, rhymes and cuts too is a good thing," says Insight, whose CD *The Blast Radius* features a collaboration with Edan. "We don't have to explain things. We just know. When we put the set together, some of the lyrics are his and some are mine, and we flip back and forth."

Born in St. Thomas and weaned on his musician father's calypso, Insight (Andre Todman) lived in New York and California, digging hip-hop from the Sugarhill Gang to A Tribe Called Quest. Edan (Portnoy) hails from Maryland, where his parents emigrated from Israel. He learned to play piano and guitar early on, inspired by the Beatles and Jimi Hendrix.

"I still incorporate all that into my records," Edan says. "People think so separately when they get into categories. We're really just children from the same beast."

THE BRETT ROSENBERG PROBLEM

A strong showing in the WBCN Rock & Roll Rumble usually helps a band. For the Brett Rosenberg Problem, which made the 2004 final as a wild card playing power-pop in the vein of early Elvis Costello or Graham Parker, it nearly broke up the band.

"The Rumble is all about pacing and professionalism and trying to appear relevant to the crowd, to psych people up, and that's not really my thing," explains Rosenberg, who says his music doesn't really fit with the sounds he hears nowadays. "The strange thing was realizing how irrelevant the music I make is. Maybe five years ago, we'd have been a cool throwback.

"Once it was over, we didn't know what direction the band was going in, and we had a rehearsal for what was touted as the last Problem show." Fortunately, Rosenberg reignited the spark with some new songs. "It was like a great weight had lifted," he says.

Rosenberg already modified his sound on *Shocktwins*, his fourth CD, made up of lo-fi demos. And his wham-bang follow-up with fellow upstate–New York transplants Jason Sloan (drums) and Geoff Van Duyne (bass) is shaping up as another departure.

"It's like a cross between Crazy Horse and the Knack," he says. "The lyrics are raw and personal, like on *Shocktwins*, but the sound is very rock and roll and dangerous."

The Brett Rosenberg Problem plays T.T. the Bear's September 23 and Harpers Ferry October 22.

THE LOT SIX

The Lot Six's sound explodes with a volatility and restlessness that extends beyond the band's roots in hardcore punk. "We're just evolving and changing a lot," says singer Dave Vicini, "from record to record, and even from show to show."

What hasn't changed over five years is a dedication to raw, sprawling rock. It's evident on the group's last CD, *Major Fables* (despite the Stones-like ballad "My Baby's Gone"), and in its live shows, where Vicini leans into his harangues with a pretty-vacant stare and literally falls about the stage.

"That's like a release," he says. "Some shows are crazier than others, but that's the time to express yourself, to get a lot of shit out through the music."

The Lot Six barely even lost a step in 2002 when Vicini underwent heart surgery for a congenital condition before recording the raw-sounding *Major Fables*. "I was out not even three months," he says. "I pretty much dove back into it."

The hard-touring band just recorded an EP, and recent shows have focused on the quintet's biting two-guitar attack. "Our keyboard broke and we can't afford a new one," says Vicini.

"We're all poor, broke and don't really have any homes, but it's really like there's n other way," he says. "We don't have a backup plan."

The Lot Six plays T.T. the Bear's September 24.

THE BENDERS

Singer-guitarist Jabe Beyer travels in multiple directions. His roots-rock band Jabe mac the semifinals of the 2004 WBCN Rock & Roll Rumble, and lately he's been performir solo and with Cold River, a combo that includes saxman Dana Colley and drumm Billy Beard. But Beyer's most striking outlet is the Benders, a bluegrass-styled quintet h co-leads with Vermont banjo player Bow Thayer.

"I tend to write for whom I'm playing with, so if I hear [a place for] a banjo, it's got be a Benders song," says Beyer, who joins mandolinist Sean Staples and dobro play Tim Kelly in maintaining Boston residency (new bassist Jay Aucella lives in Maine).

The group has kept busy in Vermont and hasn't played Boston for months, but it's ju finishing a Wednesday residency at the Burren in Somerville's Davis Square and plans t self-record its fourth CD this fall.

Although the Benders deliver the pure acoustic sound of a string band, its members started out in rock groups. Beyer says he doesn't really listen to bluegrass.

"In the early bluegrass I've heard," he says, "guys are playing a mile a minute as hard as they can. It's like punk music. We're taking traditional elements like simple songs and three-part harmonies that people associate with bluegrass, but we really try to take it somewhere else."

The Benders play the Burren September 29.

AD FRANK AND THE FAST EASY WOMEN

"The best way to get me to write a song about you is not to return my phone calls," says Ad Frank, the stylish king of the breakup song. "Sadder songs are better, and most of the sadder ones are the ones that needed to be written."

In that sense, Frank wasn't thrilled with *In Girl Trouble*, his most recent disc with the Fast Easy Women. "I'd like to think you don't have to be screwed up to write a good record," he says, "but I was pretty comfortable when I wrote *In Girl Trouble*, and I think the record suffered."

So he'll pursue a slightly darker sound on his next CD, which is still likely to reflect influences that include John Cale, David Bowie and the '80s new romantic movement.

"I was in high school when the new romantic thing happened, so it was pretty hard to miss," says Frank, who performs in a suit jacket and shirt sans necktie, "especially since that's what the girls I liked were into."

Through the early '90s, Frank played in the harder pop band Miles Dethmuffen. Now he's built a buzz not only for his group, but also for his cabaret-style solo act on piano and guitar.

"A stopped clock is exactly right twice a day, whereas one that keeps going is never quite exactly right," Frank says. "So I feel like it's finally come back around. After being nerdy and unhip for 15 years, I'm finally sort of with it."

Ad Frank and the Fast Easy Women play Great Scott October 22.

THE INFORMATION

Yes, there's a synthesizer churning within the Information's heavy, aggressive rock. Just don't call their music "synth-rock."

"I think of that as a really lazy way to describe anything," says singer Max Fresen. He describes his band as "New Order meets the Stooges" and claims he's influenced by "proto-punk, like late-'70s New York stuff, more than anything else."

The sextet seems to share influences with popular current New York bands like Interpol, but Fresen says, "We had an opportunity to move to New York earlier this year and chose to stay. The Boston music scene is much more varied."

The Boston scene is also more supportive, says the Florida-bred singer, who is an avid booster of fellow bands, even if his stage presence comes off as brooding.

People shouldn't take his stage act personally, Fresen says, as performing is a catharsis for him: "When I psych myself into getting onstage and screaming my diary into a microphone, I'm not consciously thinking of the audience."

And even though guitarists Zack Wells and Deb Grant wield more weight onstage than keyboardist Ashley Moody, Fresen says the band is spending more time on keyboard sections and triggered drums for an upcoming debut album. "We want to make the record sound more lush than our live sound," he says. "I want an additional reason for people to see us."

The Information plays "in disguise" as Depeche Mode in a special Halloween performance at the Middle East Downstairs October 31.

SPOOKIE DALY PRIDE

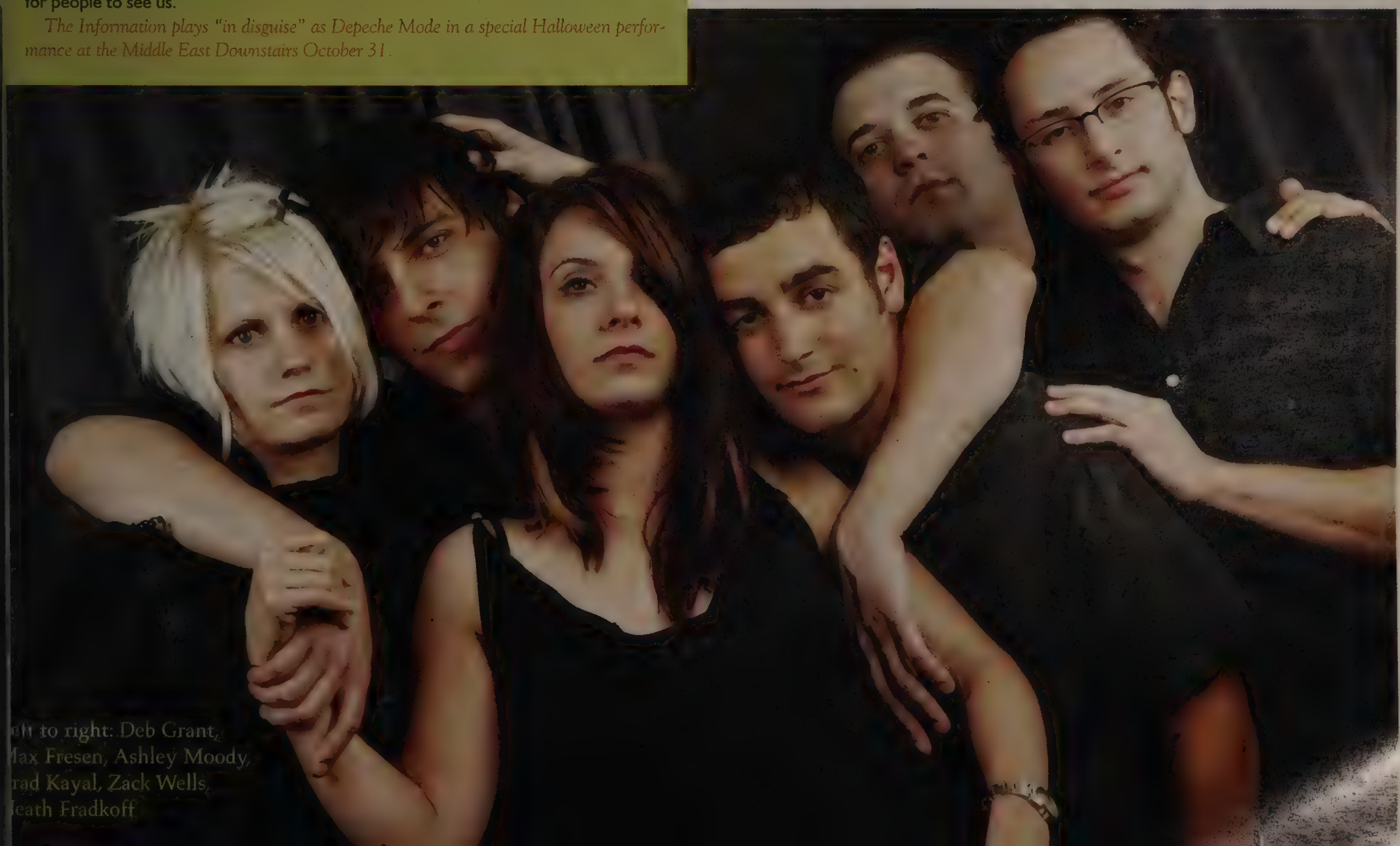
Spookie Daly Pride's party-hearty cross of funk jam, reggae glide and Dixieland stomp isn't your usual rock club fare.

"The shows are very loose," says keyboardist Terence "Spookie" Daly, whose three-year-old band is popular on the college circuit and with the jam-band crowd, playing 150 to 170 shows per year. "We don't use a set list. I call out songs, so it keeps things [loose], and we definitely stretch sections out."

Daly's raspy vocals evoke Dr. John, Tom Waits and Randy Newman, although he cites jazz singer Louis Prima as his main influence. "We're really trying to find something unique that people haven't heard before, but at the same time that's not so esoteric that people can't grasp it," he says. "We want people to have a joyful experience."

That's a given with the playful kick of the band's studio CD, *Marshmallow Pie*, as well as gigs that find Daly bouncing at his piano like a crazy man, backed by guitarist Pete Witham, drummer Tommy Diehl and new bassist Floyd Kellogg. "We get compared to the Muppets more than any other band when we play live," says the Billerica native, who grew up listening to Run-DMC, the Beatles and AM radio and landed the nickname Spookie because he held a job in a funeral home. "Maybe I watched too much of the Muppets when I was a little kid."

Spookie Daly Pride plays Harpers Ferry November 6.



ft to right: Deb Grant, Max Fresen, Ashley Moody, rad Kayal, Zack Wells, eath Fradkoff



Left to right:
Jay Barclay
Meghan Toohey
Rodrigo Monterrey
Chris Hobbick

THE SO AND SO'S

Meghan Toohey remembers her first attempt to cross into rock, when she was known on the folk circuit as a singer-songwriter who played guitar with Lori McKenna and Deb Talen. "It kind of went over like a fart in church," she says. "It was really hard to get out of that mold."

Things took a turn for the better when she put aside her solo career for a musical partnership as frontwoman of the So and So's, a quartet whose dark, atmospheric rock displays the influence of Chrissie Hynde and PJ Harvey.

"I'm digging into different styles," says Toohey. "But it's very easy to write about tumultuous relationships. It's a never-ending source of material."

Not that the move was easy for old fans. "A lot of people didn't want me to be playing with loud guitars in smoky rock clubs," she says, "but suddenly something switched, and they came back around."

The turning point was the release of *Give Me Drama*, a disc that proved Toohey's change of identity had paid off. She still wrote about relationship troubles, but guitarist Jay Barclay, bassist Rodrigo Monterrey and drummer Chris Hobbick put new colors and drive behind her songs.

Compared with performing solo, Toohey says, "you're more vulnerable as a band. If you're up there with your acoustic guitar, people are listening intently. With a band, you really have to capture people's attention because there's so much going on. For starters, there's a bar."

The So and So's play T.T. the Bear's October 1.

new rock city

BOSTON VENUES REVITALIZE THEIR LIVE OFFERINGS.

Rock fans who follow Boston's live-music scene know that the ground is always shifting. Although in recent years, Cambridge's Central Square has been the stronghold for independent music and up-and-coming local bands, some Boston venues are making efforts to rekindle the excitement of the storied days of the Rat and the Channel.

Perhaps the most radical change has taken place at **Great Scott.** This Allston spot, long a favorite of the collegiate baseball-capped crowd, has recently begun booking nightly rock shows. For a more-than-fair $7 cover, fans can check out local favorites as well as some touring bands. Upcoming big shows include the noise-pop duo New Radiant Storm King October 1, Minneapolis' Magnolia Electric Co. on the 5th, and Read Yellow on the 10th.

Just a bit down Harvard Avenue from Great Scott, **O'Brien's,** a longtime Allston rock mainstay, has revitalized its music programming. Shred, local music director of WBCN, recently took over the booking and plans to bring the buzz back to the club, which has had a lower profile in recent years after being a center for rock in the neighborhood for much of the 1990s. Upcoming shows there include an October 30 Halloween-themed show with tribute bands Lucifuge (playing Danzig) and the Whoors (the Doors), and a December 5 show with Adolf Satan, featuring ex-members of infamous Boston noise-core legends A.C.

For the past six years, the **Milky Way** has been an outpost for underground rock in Jamaica Plain with live music on weekends. This fall, it introduced "Live Band Karaoke" on the first and third (and fifth) Tuesday of each month. Rather than singing along with a backing track, audience members can get on stage and belt out a tune with the Nickel & Dime Band. The group's ever-growing repertoire (currently about 120 songs) includes a range of good-time tunes from R&B classics (Al Green, Prince) to new wave–era favorites (Dexys Midnight Runners, Devo) and contemporary hits by the Darkness and Outkast.

As always, new things are happening across the Charles, in Cambridge and Somerville. The **All Asia Café,** on Mass. Ave. near MIT, is hoping to draw a crowd looking for quieter, though still edgy, live music. Booker Marc Shulman says the crowds and the volume generated by the punk, metal and rap shows the club previously hosted were too much for the small room. Now, All Asia presents an acoustic showcase on Sunday nights. On Saturday nights, live bands play "neo-soul." Weeknights include a noise/ambient night (Shulman describes the music as "offstream") on Mondays, a comedy-music showcase Tuesdays and a singer-songwriter night on Wednesdays.

Somerville's **P.A.'s Lounge,** a Union Square club with a vintage VFW-hall look, has been a bit of a "buzz" spot since it began booking live music about two years ago. Early efforts were half-hearted, with bands essentially renting the space and running their own shows. But Tony Confalone, who took over booking in February, is trying to forge a stronger identity. Musical styles will vary, but he says he wants to book experimental rock and more melodic, "English-flavored" bands. A new night, Number 6, is booked by Dan Shea, who ran the recently closed, unlicensed venue House of Suffering Succotash in Brighton. It takes place the first Saturday of every month and will feature live bands as well as DJs. Some of P.A.'s bigger upcoming shows include U.K. singer-songwriter Mat Wilson September 30 and Washington, D.C., art-punks Measles Mumps Rubella October 29.

—David Plunkett

RUNNER AND THE THERMODYNAMICS

A great drummer can truly set a band apart, or, in the case of Runner and the Thermodynamics, break it apart as well—whether you're talking about straight time-keeping and song structure, or the drum kit itself. "We just get carried away," says singer-guitarist Matt Pinansky of his dynamic foil Roger Knight, whose manic flailing evokes the Who's Keith Moon. "Drums aren't made for the way he plays drums."

Indeed, drums slide and cymbal stands topple, yet Knight maintains control. "He can be following any part of the music at any moment," says Pinansky. "I can't see him because I'm facing the crowd, but I can tell he's doing something crazy by people's reaction."

Reaction to the band in general has been heated since Pinansky and Knight joined forces in 2000, unafraid to embrace classic rock. "That's what I grew up with anyway, so I use those songs as inspiration," says Pinansky, who puts early-'70s Grand Funk as high on his list as the Who and Led Zeppelin. "When I write, I focus on melody, energy and a good riff that will stick in your head."

The power trio didn't lose a step when bassist Mike Orr left to focus on guitar. Jim Zavadoski from the Damn Personals jumped in with a more grounded bass approach. "It's a different but logical progression," Pinansky says. "The songs feel a lot more natural."

As for the band's moniker, Runner was Pinansky's name for a solo project, and he added the Thermodynamics when it grew into a band. "There's a lot of heat and energy," he says. "So it made sense."

Runner and the Thermodynamics play the Middle East Upstairs September 24. iB

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HERE COMES YOUR BAND

TWO LEGENDARY BOSTON GROUPS RETURN ON THEIR OWN TERMS



THE PIXIES

From left: David Lovering, Joey Santiago, Kim Deal and Frank Black

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

few years ago, no one could have expected either the Pixies or Mission of Burma—two of the most innovative, influential rock bands to emerge from Boston in the 1980s, or in any decade for that matter—to perform again.

The Pixies imploded in 1992 after personalities clashed as hard as the quartet's schizoid collage of punk, pop, metal and surf rock (which Kurt Cobain credited for influencing his group Nirvana's own loud-soft dynamics). Mission of Burma disbanded in 1983 because of guitarist Roger Miller's ringing ears, but its chaotic avant-punk inspired rockers from the Pixies to Morphine (who had a minor hit with a cover of Burma's "That's When I Reach for My Revolver"). Members of Burma and the Pixies moved on to other projects, families and jobs, and there were no signs either group would ever get back together.

But that's what has happened. And both bands are receiving a much bigger response than during their heyday, in part due to mythical reputations that grew in absentia.

First came Burma's reformation, which kicked off with a few 2002 club shows (for which audiences had grown tenfold over those of the early '80s) and has led to the critically acclaimed new album *ONoffON*. "It's quite unbelievable on a lot of levels for us," says bassist Clint Conley, 48. "It's one thing to be coasting on what you did 20 years ago, but to step up to the line and put it down again was a big gamble."

Then, this past spring, the Pixies regrouped to tour sold-out theaters and arenas throughout Europe and North America, practically upstaging Radiohead at California's Coachella Festival along the way.

"We knew there would be some reaction, obviously," says Pixies frontman Frank Black, whose band finally launches its New England homecoming with shows November 30 at the Mullins Center in Amherst (on the campus of Black's U-Mass alma mater) and December 1 and 2 at Tsongas Arena in Lowell, all with Mission of Burma opening. "It probably does exceed expectations.

"I'm real bad with the envisioning thing," says Black, 39. "I found out a couple years ago that my sign in the Chinese zodiac is the snake. The snake kind of feels his way. He doesn't look too far down the path."

Twelve years ago, his bandmates might have envisioned him as a bit of a snake when he broke up the Pixies by fax. "I was grouchy," says Black, who



From left: Roger Miller, Clint Conley and Peter Prescott

previously used the moniker Black Francis and whose real name is Charles Thompson. "It had nothing to do with the music. It was all personal."

A new path opened last year when the singer-guitarist was doing a radio interview in London and playfully dropped the untrue bombshell that the Pixies had been jamming together. "It got out of hand, and suddenly everyone thought we were reuniting," says Black, "and it was OK, maybe." He called Joey Santiago, the Pixies' lead guitarist, and Santiago broached the concept with bassist-singer Kim Deal and drummer David Lovering.

The four musicians (or magician in the case of career-changer Lovering) met for the first time since 1992 at an industrial rehearsal space outside Los Angeles. "They're dank cement places, and there was a lot of that in Boston," Black says. "It was humble and replicated our original rehearsals.

"It was pleasantly uneventful and felt like only two years had passed, not 12," adds Black, who hadn't spoken with Deal for even longer. "People are more mature. When you're 23 years old, you're kind of an arrogant shithead."

In the late '80s, it didn't take long for the Pixies to get beyond dank rehearsal spaces and early gigs at now-defunct Boston-area clubs like Jack's and the Rat. Signed to the English label 4AD, the band quickly became cult stars in Britain. And while the Pixies never rose above the "college rock" circuit in America, songs like "Monkey Gone to Heaven," "Debaser" and "Here Comes Your Man" received some airplay. Among the band's famous fans (whose praise is documented on an extensive new Pixies DVD) were U2, David Bowie, Radiohead and PJ Harvey. U2 even invited the quartet to open part of its "Zoo TV" tour in 1992.

The first two of the Pixies' four albums, *Surfer Rosa* (1988) and *Doolittle* (1989), were landmarks for alternative rock, juxtaposing Black's speaking-in-tongues babble and screamed choruses with Deal's pulsing bass and airy backup vocals, Lovering's booming beats and Santiago's skittering notes.

"It's kind of surrealist, cut up so it doesn't even matter if you speak English," Black says of his splattering of biblical and sci-fi imagery and even Spanish vocals. "You don't have to be coming from a particular subculture. You don't have to be a punk, a nerd, an arty person or a hard-rock person. You can be any of those. But [the music] is easy to latch onto."

The next step for the Pixies may be a new studio disc (the band sold live soundboard recordings at its shows earlier this year and hopes to do the same on its upcoming tour). Primary songwriter Black says he plans to write new tunes, and Deal already provided one in "Bam Thwok," which the band recorded for *Shrek 2*. But that song turned into an iTunes download after it was rejected for the movie in favor of a Counting Crows track.

"It was classic, like being right back in 1989," Black says, mimicking the producers' reaction: "Oh, the mix is a little bit adventurous for us. Could you tone it down? Oh, actually we're going to use this really bland band anyway."

Mission of Burma had better luck placing a snatch of vintage track "Trem Two" in *The Manchurian Candidate*. "It's during a shock therapy session," Miller says. "'Trem Two' is a very subconscious song." Even more exciting for the band, though, were glowing reviews for *ONoffON*, and a first tour of Europe.

"I couldn't believe people in Paris and Amsterdam would come to see Mission of Burma," Conley says. "In out-of-the-way places like Birmingham, England, where 50 people showed up, it was a relatively small crowd, but it blew my mind."

In America, the band has filled ballrooms like Avalon, New York's Irving Plaza and San Francisco's Fillmore, although, Conley says, "there has been a falloff in attendance at our shows the second time around the track, now that this once-in-a-lifetime occurrence shows no sign of going away."

From the get-go, however, members threw new songs into the ring. ("Like a tortoise or tree, once it stops growing, it dies," Miller says.) And the resultant *ONoffON* has fueled the buzz, garnering the same kind of praise awarded the Pixies reunion, with rave reviews in *Rolling Stone*, *Blender* and *Spin* and a prominent feature in the Sunday *New York Times*.

The tunefully discordant mash of Conley's melodic bass, Miller's knotty guitar, and drummer Peter Prescott's riptide rhythms (with Bob Weston replacing Martin Swope on tape loops) has only tightened in contrast to Burma's sole previous studio album, *Vs.* (1982). All three principals trade incisive writing and vocals on *ONoffON*, and the band even breaks the mold with Conley's contemplative "Prepared" and cow-punky "Nicotine Bomb."

"On *Vs.*," Miller says, "three-part harmony was three people yelling at the same time, and on *ONoffON*, there's three-part harmony and we're singing three different specific pitches, which is a huge difference. To me, that's amazing."

No matter how it's cut, Burma retains an individual sound, with roots in the Ramones, Wire, Brian Eno, Syd Barrett–era Pink Floyd, the Velvet Underground and free jazz. "Whatever the avant-garde tendencies, at the core of all the songs, we rock like the Stooges," says Miller, 52, who tempers the damage to his ears with headphones and earplugs. "Then you can put anything else on top of it, which makes it unusual, but it's also problematic. That's why we'll never be big."

Not that limitations concern them. "I don't think any of us want to run away to join the circus and become a full-time rock band again," says Conley, who now works as a producer for WCVB-TV's *Chronicle*. "I imagine we'll fall back into playing out less and picking our spots." iB

Cradle of Independents

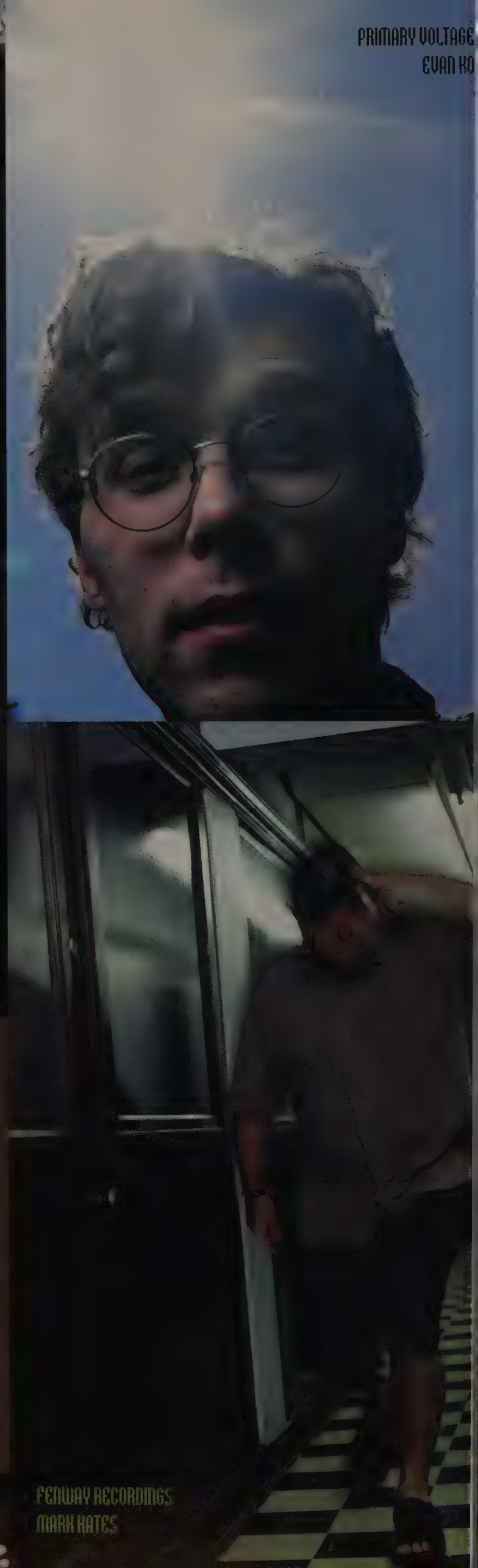
BOSTON LABELS GO NATIONWIDE

BY J. BENNETT

There was a time, maybe 20 or so years ago, when a Boston band looking to "make it" on a national level might find themselves in New York or Los Angeles sitting across from a stuffed shirt who would spell out the band's limited options for them in no uncertain terms. And that's assuming the band in question was good — or fortunate — enough to get a meeting in the first place. The idea of that same band (let's call them Tom Scholz's Space-Age Fantasy) putting out a record on an independent, Boston-area label, touring nationally and overseas, garnering national and international press recognition, and actually seeing their records in the stores along the way was pretty much unthinkable.

That's not the case in 2004. Despite a mass exodus of Boston independents a few years ago (Big Wheel Recreation, Hydra Head Records and Tortuga Recordings all pulled up stakes for Los Angeles in 2001–02), the city's record labels are thriving, and the bands on those labels — no longer exclusively from New England, by the way — are right there with them. Today, even if Tom Scholz's Space-Age Fantasy happened to be from Australia, they just might send their demos to Boston before having a go at the stuffed shirts.

Just ask Mark Kates, founder of Fenway Recordings (the offices of which are located just outside Porter Square in Cambridge). A Lexington native who moved to Los Angeles to work in the music industry, Kates was an A&R executive at Geffen before becoming president of the Beastie Boys' Grand Royal Records in 1998. When Grand Royal shut down in 2001, Kates moved back to Boston and started his own label. After releasing an EP from NYC critics' darlings Longwave (who went on to sign a deal with RCA), Kates put out records by IMPROPER cover stars Read Yellow, indie supergroup Consonant (featuring Mission of Burma bassist/vocalist Clint Conley) and recent Australian imports Gerling.



"I'm really not interested in being about Boston artists," Kates says. "I just wanna live here. I could never do all the great stuff that there is in Boston, anyway." For Kates, it's about bringing a trained ear to the city he loves. "The eyes of the music business are on everything that goes on in L.A., and it still doesn't really matter. There's never been enough of that [attention] here, and that's one of the reasons I wanted to do this."

In many ways, Read Yellow embodies the label's success. Says Kates, "It's pretty amazing to have gone from seeing them at O'Brien's to playing Reading [a massive annual outdoor festival] in England, going on tour with TV on the Radio and Mooney Suzuki, going to Europe. That's substantial stuff that not everyone in their world has the opportunity to do."

The artists on Fenway's roster benefit from Kates' invaluable industry experience, as well as his vast network of connections. For Read Yellow, that meant working with producer Paul Kolderie (Warren Zevon, Radiohead) and making, as Kates says, "a real record in a real studio, whereas a lot of bands like them wouldn't necessarily [have the chance to] do that."

As a member of a Boston punk icons Mission of Burma, Clint Conley had various potential labels at his disposal when his new band, Consonant, was ready to record. "Clint definitely had options," Kates confirms, "and bigger ones than us." For Conley, Fenway's appeal stemmed from a long personal relationship with Kates, whose first job in the music business was with Ace of Hearts Records, Burma's label in the early '80s. "Mark is very capable and accomplished, so I had the utmost confidence in him." Conley says. "I also know where Fenway is, so I can go in and bang my shoe on his desk—which, needless to say, has never happened." Of course, the contacts Kates has accumulated since his Ace of Hearts days don't hurt, either. "Mark is hooked into all the top people in the business," Conley points out, "whether it's on the distribution end, the promotion end. The publicists are the same people who do the Strokes and Wilco; the distributor is ADA, one of the biggest. They take Mark's phone calls and extend their services to his small label because of who he is. And they might not do that for Joe Blow from Somerville Records."

That's not to say that Joe Blow from Somerville Records can't figure it out for himself.

Evan Koch, founder of Primary Voltage Records, runs what's essentially a one-man operation out of his living room, about a mile from Davis Square. A former financial consultant to electric and utility clients (hence his label's moniker), Koch started Primary Voltage in 2002 and has released albums from a stable of local hipsters like the Good North, Baby Strange and the Charms.

Running a label is a hands-on, do-it-yourself experience for Koch. "Say you've gotta get the CDs out to radio or get articles in the newspaper," he posits. "Here's a phone; here's a computer—make it happen. Don't worry about the technical aspects of how you're supposed to do it. Just make the phone calls and get people interested. There's nothing too complicated about that." And Koch has done nothing if not generate interest in the PV roster: the Charms were recently featured on MTV's *Underground a-Go-Go* documentary, and the Good North and the Information (who've recorded an upcoming CD for Primary Voltage) have both played in WBCN's Rock & Roll Rumble.

For a guy with limited resources and no previous music industry experience, Koch is running a remarkably tight ship. "I think the reason major labels had such an important place in the market 20 years ago is because the advantages they had were huge," he says. "A lot of them were purely economic—in terms of cost and production—but that's almost completely disappeared. They also had a lot of muscle in terms of getting product on the shelves. In the age of the Internet, when you can point and click your way to any CD you want, there's really no reason why a bedroom operation can't sell a million CDs a year if you play your cards right."

To facilitate that goal, Primary Voltage's artists actually make it out of New England once in a while, unlike many Boston bands that have no aspirations beyond the occasional gig in Portland. "It's important to show that the popularity they've got going here in Boston is for real," Koch explains. "Playing the Middle East Upstairs to 150 people is great, but you've got to show that it's more than a Boston thing—that it can work anywhere."

Says Good North vocalist Luke O'Neil, "When you think of a local label, you think of your friends who wanna pretend like they're a label so they can get chicks. But Evan is a straight-up business dude who happens to love music and knows his shit. We're the first band he signed, and none of us really knew what we were doing at the time, but now all his bands end up on the CMJ [*College Music Journal*] charts, and he's awesome with press and promo stuff. Whenever we play out of town, there's always an article in the local paper. He's definitely got his eye on the prize, which is cool, because we do too."

At Tarantulas Records, there's a prize in every package. In addition to having a unique (for an indie, anyway), bicoastal business model, they like to give away free stuff. Buy a Tarantulas release at a show and you get a handful of stickers, buttons and other schwag emblazoned with the names on the label's impressive roster. The Boston-based, L.A.-run label was founded by the members of Boston punk cadre (and Virgin Records artists) the Explosion—and besides being a vehicle for two Explosion EPs, Tarantulas has released music by L.A. youngbloods the Bronx (who went on to sign with Island/Def Jam), the Distillers (the vinyl edition of the band's Warner Brothers CD, *Coral Fang*), and local superstars the Lot Six and the Faux.

Tarantulas' decidedly art- and artist-friendly take on label aesthetics is influenced by the Tarantulas bands themselves, and the fact that the label is run by one of them. As Explosion bassist and Tarantulas creative director Damian Genuardi explains, "One of the advantages [is that] we know what it's like to be a band and want certain things. So the bands we sign become part of a collective—we can turn to the Distillers, introduce them to the Lot Six, and then they go on tour together, and now they're really tight."

Big Wheel Recreation founder/Explosion manager/ex-Boston resident Rama Mayo helps guide Tarantulas' day-to-day operations from his office in Los Angeles. "Tarantulas is very much a collaborative effort," Mayo explains. "Every member of the Explosion is an A&R guy for Tarantulas. I guess 'art and commerce' is what we do—we work with bands that are artists, not just guitarists and bass players and drummers. So we do whatever they need us to do."

"I've lived in Boston for eight years," Genuardi says. "But when you're touring, your world becomes smaller; you have friends everywhere. In our world, our lifestyle, [working] with people from all over the place is a pretty natural thing for someone in a band."

BOSTON YOU'RE MY HOME

The following are some other Boston-area labels making noise

Brick Records

Brick's first seven-inch, released in 1996, was financed with student-loan money by the label's co-founder Josh Gagne, who goes by the name Truth Elemental. Since that time, Brick has become one of the most respected underground hip-hop labels in the nation. Its current roster includes MCs and crews such as Main Flow, Beyonder, D-Tension and Insight, and Brick's back catalog contains 12-inch singles and full-lengths from such Boston luminaries as Mr. Lif, 7L & Esoteric and Skitzofreniks.

Bridge Nine

Founded in 1996 by Connecticut transplant Chris Wrenn, Bridge Nine has released discs by hardcore heavyweights like Sick of It All, No Warning, Slapshot and the now-defunct Give Up the Ghost (formerly American Nightmare). Originally part of the Initech conglomerate—sharing office space with ex-Boston labels Hydra Head, Tortuga, Big Wheel Recreation and Doghouse—the label, now based in Salem, may or may not be subsidized in part by one of Wrenn's many sidelines, among the most popular of which is a line of "Yankees Suck" T-shirts and bumper stickers. (One of Bridge Nine's early releases was funded in part by a $500 prize Wrenn received for winning a fistfight in a Mission Hill parking lot.)

Deathwish Inc.

Established in 2001 by Tre McCarthy and Jake Bannon, Deathwish focuses mostly on the metallic hardcore strain—most notably NYC veterans Most Precious Blood, hardcore dream-team Some Girls (featuring members of San Diego art-grinders the Locust and Boston's Give Up the Ghost), and singer Bannon's own outfit, Converge. McCarthy and Bannon recently started a sister label, Icarus, to release music by artists that don't quite fit the Deathwish aesthetic, like Swedish dirge architects Switchblade and gothic country troupe Halfacre Gunroom. Both labels share office space in Salem with Bridge Nine.

Espo Records

Owned and operated by WBCN local-music DJ and Middle East Club booking agent Shred, Espo specializes in local indie rock. The Allston label's catalog includes releases by Garrison, Moment and Reach the Sky, and its current roster includes the Lot Six, the Warren Commission, and Rose of Sharon.

Lonesome Recordings

Run by Ten Pin Management guru/Blackout Bar DJ/scene-fixture Mark Vieira, Favorite Atomic Hero bassist Xavier Birkenhead, and Josh Smith, Lonesome Recordings release its first album, Favorite Atomic Hero's *Who Will Save You Now?*, in 2002. Since then, the label has branched out to release music by local faves Elgin James, Quick Fix and Frank Smith (Lot Six drummer Aaron Sinclair's solo project)—not to mention a split-label venture with Fenway Recordings in 2003 on Read Yellow's self-titled debut EP.

Rounder Records

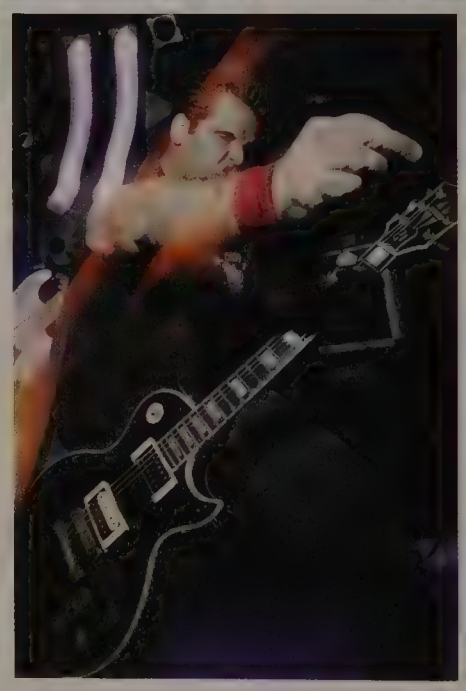
Founded in 1970 by Ken Irwin, Bill Nowlin and Marian Leighton-Levy, Cambridge-based Rounder Records is the granddaddy of local independents—the ultimate exception to the long-standing rule of musically xenophobic local labels. A veritable empire in its own right, Rounder boasts a catalog of more than 3,000 titles in genres ranging from bluegrass and country to Celtic and Cajun. Their world-class roster and catalog includes such internationally renowned artists as Juliana Hatfield, Jelly Roll Morton and Cowboy Junkies.

COVERING THEIR TRACKS

THEY MAY LACK STREET CRED, BUT TRIBUTE BANDS PACK CLUBS AND GIVE FANS AN UP-CLOSE EXPERIENCE THEY CAN'T GET FROM THE SUPERSTARS

Beefy DC offers a heavy take on AC/DC's power-chord rock. Below: Beefy DC guitarist Milk 'Em Young shoots to thrill.

BY EZRA DYER



Unless you live in a hut high in the mountains of Bhutan, you've likely seen an Elvis impersonator at one time or another. And while the King has spawned legions of devoted imitators, many less iconic musical acts have inspired their own tributes. New England is home to scores of musical doppelgängers who ape acts from Sade to Sublime and give fans a taste of the original when it's either financially imprudent or impossible to see the real thing.

"It's a dirty little secret among promoters—tributes draw crowds," says Dan Millen, booking agent for Harper's Ferry in Allston. "I think they're definitely becoming more popular, and you see them popping into the A-list clubs more frequently. I think it's mostly because the avenues for exposure for new, developing bands are being more and more corporatized. Radio playlists are very tight, and people are sick of overpaying for the real thing."

Besides the financial advantage of paying $8 to see a tribute band when the real thing can cost $100 or more, sometimes a tribute is the only way to get a live taste of a band that no longer exists. "Sublime is one of those bands that nobody ever got to see live," says Joel Hanks, bassist for Rhode Island–based Sublime tribute Badfish. "And that gives us a big advantage over other tribute bands. The people who actually saw Sublime play are a pretty select group, especially on the East Coast."

"We'll play at a club and have both young college kids and older people who grew up with the music," says Muzz, drummer for the Beatles tribute Beatlejuice. "We think of it like we're hosting a party every weekend. It's a very communal thing with the audience."

Beatlejuice, which is fronted by Brad Delp, lead singer of Boston (a band that itself has spawned tributes), hews closely to the Beatles musically, while avoiding any attempt to resemble the Fab Four visually. "We're there to re-create this music as best as we possibly can," says Muzz. "People want to hear the music they grew up with, not our version of it."

Beefy DC, an AC/DC tribute led by the none-too-slim Ray Neades, takes the same approach at its shows. "One time, Clear Channel called and offered us an obscene amount of money to play a club in Laconia [N.H.]," Neades says. "So we did it, but it was a drag because people expected us to look like them and act like them. We stay true to the original music [though]. I would never in a million years think I could improve on what they've done."

"If you're going to be in a tribute band, you should give people the music as close as you can get it to the real thing—or kitsch it up a bit," says Millen of Harper's Ferry. "Either you have to have one hell of a weird take on the music"—like the band Hair Supply, which plays heavy metal versions of Air Supply songs—"or you play it as close as you can get it."

In the latter camp is Sandra Aran, who convincingly evokes singer Helen Folasade Adu—better known as Sade. Aran is the lead singer of the Sade tribute band Diamond Life, which plays regularly aboard the Odyssey and has appeared in several local jazz festivals. Aran originally auditioned to play keyboards for the band, but guitar player and founder Rino Benenati selected her over 28 other would-be Sades because of her physical and vocal resemblance to the original smooth operator.

"We try to sound exactly like Sade, because that's what people want," says Aran. "I've studied her DVDs, studied her moves for hours. She's very stately. I try to use a little bit of a British accent when I'm singing." Benenati even bought the same guitars Sade's band uses, and Aran's wardrobe is also a faithful re-creation of the singer's.

Neil Byrnes, lead singer of Aerosmith tribute Draw the Line, looks enough like Steven Tyler to draw double takes. "I used to get razzed about it in high school and college," he says. "It got worse as I got older. You get used to it." In 1991, Byrnes decided to take advantage of his famous features by joining an Aerosmith cover band, which became Draw the Line. In the ensuing years, Byrnes and the band have attended too many Aerosmith concerts to count, watched bootleg footage of shows and perfected their performance down to the tiniest mannerism. They know all of Aerosmith's albums by heart and even play material from the days when Aerosmith itself was covering other bands—one of the songs in Draw the Line's repertoire is Fleetwood Mac's "Rattlesnake Shake,"

r, more accurately, early Aerosmith's version of "Rat-lesnake Shake." The band plays about 200 shows per ear and recently returned from a tour of Puerto Rico nd Mexico.

Draw the Line was never intended to become a per-nanent vacation. "I was looking at it as a stepping-tone," Byrnes says. "I figured I was getting experience, etting to travel, meeting people in the industry. The riginal plan was to do this for a couple years, then have ne band come out with an original album. What we idn't realize is how many people are so passionate bout Aerosmith's music." It turns out that's a common neme among tribute bands—the members form the and on a lark and then find it so successful that it su-ercedes other musical endeavors.

"None of us saw ourselves playing in a tribute band," ays Badfish's Hanks. "We were playing in ska and punk ands, and one day we were sitting at a bar and started alking to the owner about doing a Sublime show. He id do it, and over 300 people showed up. Now we do bout 200 shows per year, and there's no time for out-de projects. That itch is always there, but we made the ecision to make original music a completely different roject."

By most accounts, that's a smart move. "I kinda laugh hen I hear guys from tribute bands say, 'Yeah we're just oing this to fund our original stuff, and we'll work that ,'" says Millen. "I've seen a Dave Matthews tribute try at and fail miserably, and a few others as well. Not to esmirch tributes at all, but if you play in a tribute, ou're playing someone else's tunes, and you have to un-erstand that people are not there to hear your stuff, and our fans are not likely to embrace your original stuff. hey're there because they want to howl along to their vorite tunes."

Even if tributes stick to their chosen band's material shows, members often have personal projects on the side. Beefy DC's Neades, who's working on a solo album, says, "We make more money doing this than we do in our original bands. It can feel kind of slimy. One of my friends said, 'Don't worry about it, you're playing music, people like it, you're having fun.' Well, not to get all deep, but sometimes I think this takes away from trying to connect with people with your own music. I'd hate that this would ever become more important to me than writing songs. That would be sad."

Byrnes, on the other hand, argues that playing in a tribute is as viable a way of connecting with music fans as playing one's own material. "When bands get bigger and go national, there's an air of untouchability. They become so disconnected. I have personal relationships with people all over the country. I've had people come up to me after shows and say, 'I was in a real bad funk, and your music helped get me out of that.' That's kept me doing this all these years. That's fulfilling to me. If I wanted to do original music, what am I looking for? More money? More fans? I feel like I'd be taking this for granted."

Byrnes' wife, Tricia, who manages Draw the Line, acknowledges that tribute bands are generally down there with Hanson in terms of public respect. "Even an original band that totally blows and is out of their garage gets more respect than a tribute band, and that makes no sense to me," she says. "The BSO isn't playing original songs, and no one thinks the worse of them."

Then again, Byrnes also notes that anyone making money playing an instrument should consider themselves lucky, something both the casual bands and the constant tourers seem to appreciate.

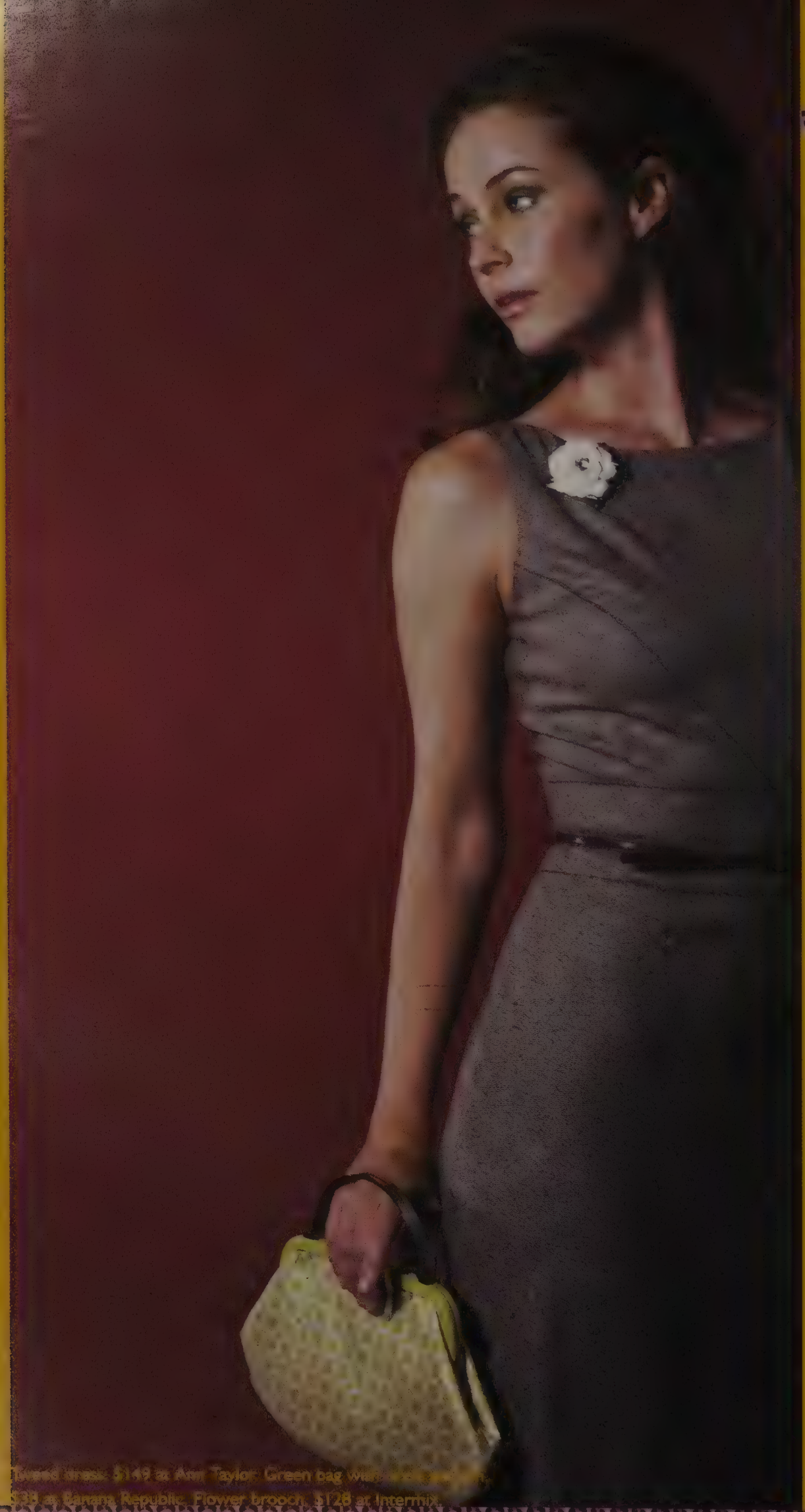
"In what other life can a bunch of adults get together and do something they love in front of a crowd of people who enjoy it?" says Beatlejuice's Muzz. "There's so much more that we want to get to. It's been 10 or 11 years so far, but we're just getting started." iB





Top: Sandra Aran and Diamond Life play the music of Sade. Below: Aerosmith tribute band Draw the Line on stage, and preparing a promo shot.





Tweed dress: $149 at Ann Taylor. Green bag with [illegible]
$38 at Banana Republic. Flower brooch: $128 at Intermix.


Black tweed pom pom jacket, $1,350; chiffon pleated tweed skirt, $600; black pumps, $440. At Saks Fifth Avenue.
how tweed
it is
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with fall's favorite trend
PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHED BY PHILIP FRIEDMAN

Yellow silk top, $125 at DKNY. Tweed blazer by Alyx, $285; chocolate brown pants by Theory, $250; tweed stilettos by Stella McCartney, $440. All at Intermix.



Tweed blazer, $345; pink embroidered shell, $245. Both at DKNY.
Socialite jeans by Joe's Jeans, $158 at Jasmine Sola.

Ann Tayl
11 Newbury S
617-262-07

Banana Repub
28 Newbury S
617-267-39

DKN
37 Newbury S
617-236-04

Esca
308 Boylston S
617-437-12

Interm
186 Newbury S
617-236-51

Jasmine So
The Prudential Cent
617-578-05

Mod
Cammy for Wilhelm

Hair by Rebe
Anastasia
Highlights Sa
286 Newbury S
617-247-82

Ivory wool tweed jacket, $950; matching skirt, $500. Both at Escada.

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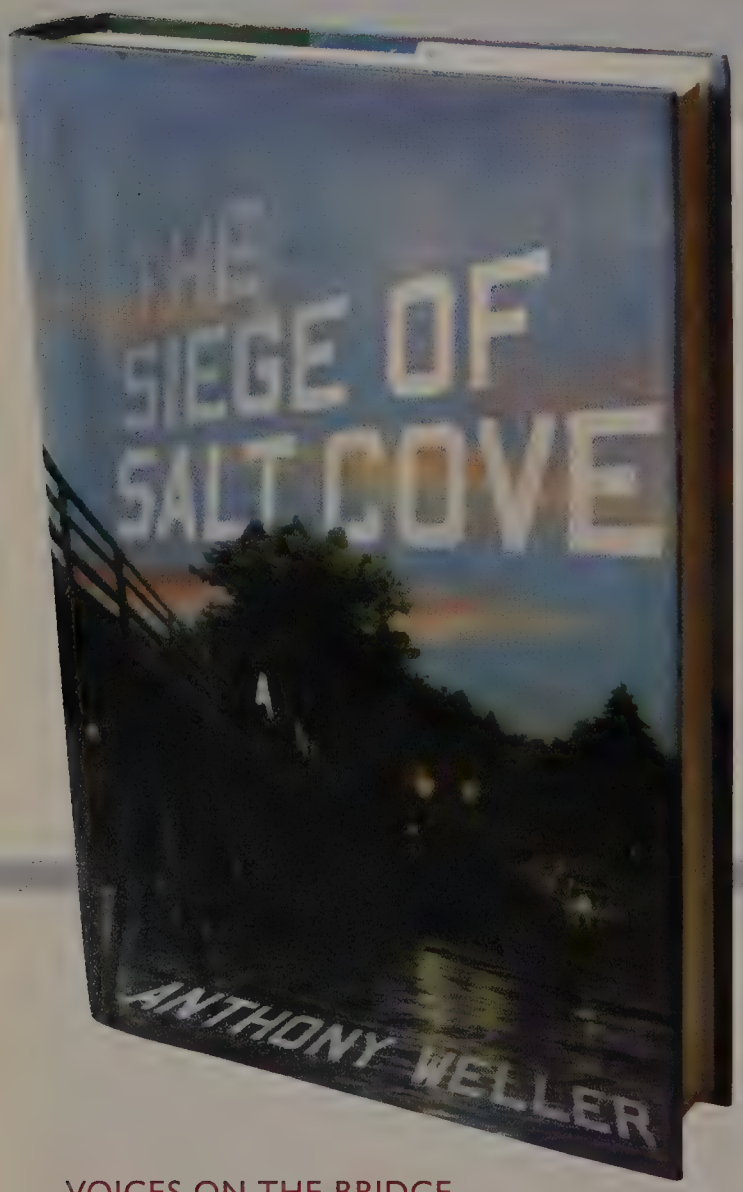
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MOPSY

SERENDIPITOUS SHOPPING: OUR UNFETTERED CORRESPONDENT SEEKS OUT THE SALUBRIOUS AND THE CEREBRAL.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



VOICES ON THE BRIDGE

North Shore musician and author Anthony Weller has a new novel, *The Siege of Salt Cove*.

In Cape Sarah, a thinly disguised variation on the North Shore's Cape Ann, a historical and picturesque wooden bridge is about to be replaced by a concrete monstrosity. Though this might abet the nefarious interests of some politicians, the townspeople in Anthony Weller's rambunctious novel *The Siege of Salt Cove* don't dig the plan one bit and gather mightily to fight it, even puffing themselves up and threatening secession. Voice after colorful voice tells us the tale of the government's ludicrous Goliath tanks arrayed against the local Davids, and Weller manages to give each of them distinctive colorations, with their own flavors of New England social class. A guy calling himself the Wily Scativo, all impetuous narcissism, plunges headlong into the siege, alas tragically. Two characters, Jessica and Toby, find a bracing affinity. Toby, an ex-lawyer who's half Jessica's age, lives in a lighthouse and works on an arcane cosmology related to pinball machines. Jessica is a spirited, high-toned, literary spinster. Their similarly circuitous and witty way of seeing the world, almost as if they were refugees from the 18th century, and their rumbling, exhilarating way of talking, makes their briefly focused romance both plausible and actually hot.



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The cayak, a kayak/canoe hybrid, comes in three styles and sizes, with prices ranging from $995 to $1,295. Call Little Compton, R.I.–based Compass Canoe Company at 888-642-9929, or visit www.compasscanoe.com.

Canoes and kayaks are charming, brotherly rivals of the waterways. But which to choose? The long canoe, stabbing forward into the water is beautiful, but can feel outsized. The tidy kayak, conversely, can feel cramped and claustrophobic. Ah! The compromise boat: the cayak. Though designed for solo paddling like the hermit's cozy kayak, it's longer, in the canoe tradition, which means you can stretch out and bring some stuff, like a fishing rod or binoculars. Forward motivation is accomplished kayak-style, with a double-bladed paddle. Made of fiberglass, with a Kevlar inner skin in some models, a cayak feels as light as the shell of a boat-sized pistachio, and it moves through the water with a grace, ease and speed that will amaze you if you've operated any other boat. The seat is cozily containing, and your feet are pressed with stretchy solidity against foot guards, so the whole kaboodle—back, legs, feet, paddling arms—is enveloped in a wonderful snugness. Cayak inventor Joel Flather, explaining why two people can't fit in a cayak, says, "We are trying to save marriages." The boats weigh only 18 pounds, so that burdensome part of boating—transport—is made lighter and easier.

VOULEZ-VOUS SPRECHEN MOLTE LINGUE?

Hippo Family Club is the playful name for a language immersion learning adventure. Clubs meet in Belmont, Brookline, and Cambridge. Call 617-489-5800 or go to www.lexlrf.org.



The Hippo Family Club approaches languag in a wild, fun way. As if you were in son chattering Statue of Liberty crossroads many languages—English, Spanish, Frenc German, Korean, Chinese, Japanese and others—a Hippo meeting operates immersio style, through games, songs, and multilingu interactions of all kinds. The group intera tively talks in many languages at once; there light teaching and a kind of call-and-respon with polyglot answers to the question "Wh time is it, Mr. Fox?" Singing, dancing a counting games playfully bring out words a phrases. "Students," acting more like natur learners plunged into another country, beg with books and CDs, but it's at the meetin that *les bonnes temps roulent*. Teachers call "fellows" facilitate uninhibited talking, as w as the elaboration of stories that hop inve tively from this tongue to that, through t games. Some involve mimicking words, nu bers or phrases in patterned formats to inv one language after another. Local groups me in Brookline, Belmont and Cambridge. Y can attend regularly, visit on a trial basis, inspired by it all, even sign on for Hipp Transnational Exchange Program.


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REVIEW

HIGH ASPIRATIONS

You don't have to check into the Nine Zero hotel to check out its excellent restaurant, Spire.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS



Heirloom tomato salad with pine nuts and ricotta

When Spire appeared on the Boston scene more than two years ago, it immediately established itself as a restaurant of distinction. Its chic, high-style decor and refined, creative cuisine attracted patrons despite the unfortunate confluence of its aggressive prices with a struggling Boston economy. Original chef Jeffrey Everts departed Spire earlier this year, but his replacement, Gabriel Frasca, formerly of Aquitaine Bis and Radius, has brought further imagination, flair, and professionalism to this address.

Getting a table at Spire in the last half of August proved to be a challenge and an opportunity: a challenge because the bargain menus of Restaurant Week made reservations difficult to come by, and an opportunity because it led me to explore Spire's elegant and sophisticated bar as a dining venue. The area around the bar is furnished with a few bar-height tables with comfortable, heavy black leather upholstered bar stools. On one evening, the bartender even set dining places at the bar itself, with oversized white napkins as place mats flanked by a full complement of Spire's luxurious, substantial tableware and graceful stemware. The only thing missing was Spire's excellent bread, hard-crusted French rolls from Iggy's, and this omission was quickly remedied on request. At one of my two meals in the bar, I was served an *amuse gueule* of roast duck, cracked olives, almonds and fennel—just two mouthfuls attractively presented on a tiny, square white dish. While I was not similarly favored on my second dinner in the bar, on my third visit, when I was seated in the dining room, another of these gratis treats, a dollop of halibut puree with a piquant sauce of smoked ham, nuts and a touch of tomato, hit the spot.

Restaurant Week seemed a splendid opportunity to sample Spire's cuisine under its new regime in the kitchen, enabling one to enjoy multiple courses at a savings of about a third off the regular menu prices (which offer appetizers averaging over $12 and main courses averaging over $30). When Frasca's creations began to arrive, however, all thought of bargains disappeared, for the quality of the ingredients and level of artistry with which they were transformed did not reflect the reduced prices. Frasca's heirloom tomato tasting (part of the $30 three-course dinner menu) brought a handsome array of yellow, red, orange, purple and green tomatoes, their superb, herbaceous flavors nicely balanced between sweet and tart, with a few small spoonfuls of fresh ricotta cheese providing a mellow foil. An accompanying salad of baby greens, minty basil leaf, pine nuts, ham and a brioche crouton dressed in a simple vinaigrette constituted a substantial dividend that could have stood on its own as a salad appetizer. But that was not all. A crowning glory of this well-conceived dish was a small cup of clear, cold tomato consommé, an ambrosial nectar ethereal in body but intense in intriguingly perfumed flavor. After this tour de force, the lunchtime heirloom tomato salad appetizer made less of an impression—four slices of multihued tomatoes under a generous mound of pleasantly bitter arugula and more of the ricotta cheese—but in any fair comparison, and on an absolute scale, it was first-class.

Other appetizers included a corn soup with chanterelle mushrooms, smoked bacon, pureed leeks, and parsley, filling but not heavy, sweet but not cloying, with vibrant flavor and creamy texture. Even its manner of service impressed: The server poured it at table from a French carafe over the bacon and mushrooms. Finally among the appetizers, the tempura of shrimp, asparagus and oyster mushrooms ($11 at lunch; $12 in the evening on the bar menu) brought three gigantic shrimp, lightly battered and quick fried, along with three tempura-fried spears of asparagus and oyster mushrooms. First-rate textures, clean, fresh flavors and a mild, nuanced ginger dipping sauce made this a winner as appetizer or bar food.

Spire's main courses included brined pork tenderloin—six or seven generous slices of pink, moist, melt-in-the-mouth-tender pork. Needing no sauce or herbal enhancement other than salt and pepper, the pork's delicate flavor was sufficient unto itself, an example of the chef getting out of the way of the food. Seared duck leg confit ($14 on the lunch menu) was classic: a moist, tender, robustly flavored thigh and drumstick with crispy, salty skin. The accompaniment of prunes, some of them stuffed with foie gras, lent a fruity sweetness that complemented the flavor of the duck while warm, wilted greens, dressed with a heady 15-year-old balsamic vinegar served as the perfect accompaniment.

Not as successful, the organic chicken "confit" ($23) was tough, with skin less than crisp and flavors bland and flat. When I asked the server why it was called confit, which usually describes meat cooked and preserved in its own fat, he admitted that it was something of a misnomer, explaining that this chicken had been brined to tenderize it (apparently unsuccessfully) and then cooked briefly in fat before broiling or roasting. Whatever the explanation, the chicken dish was the only discordant note in my three visits to Spire, with even its garnishes—tough unchewable fennel and pitifully tiny cubes of cantaloupe—failing to measure up. In contrast to the disappointing chicken, a wild American snapper garnished with a "gazpacho" of cucumber, zucchini, tomat

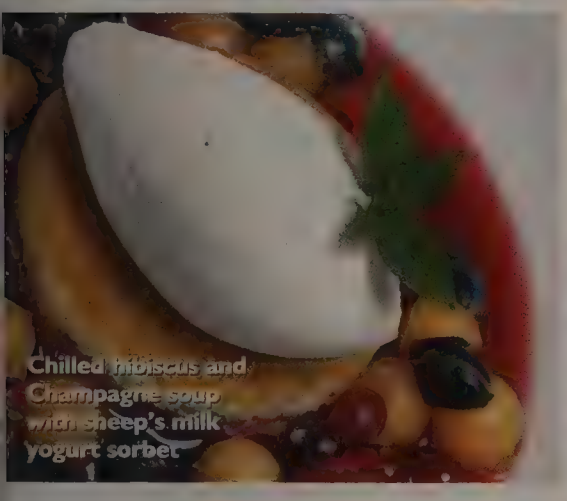
SPIRE

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RESERVATIONS recommended
CREDIT CARDS all major
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes
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Maine diver scallops with sweet pea puree, porcini mushrooms, grilled red pickled onions and wild arugula


Chilled hibiscus and Champagne soup with sheep's milk yogurt sorbet


Spire's dining room

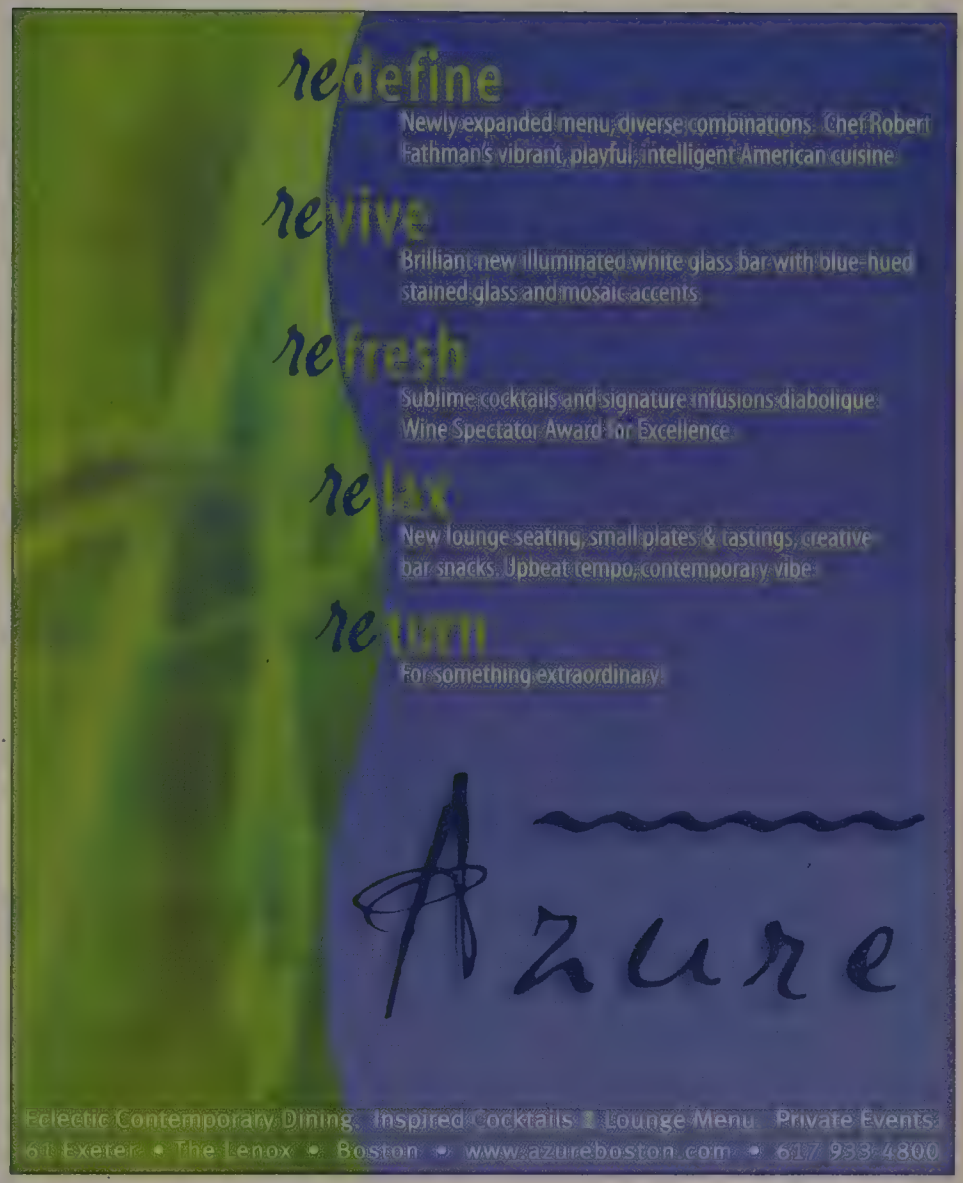
reen onion and avocado highlighted rasca's flair for imaginative combinations nd his ability to coax vibrant flavors out f fresh summer vegetables, as well as his kill in preserving the firm texture of a delicate fish.

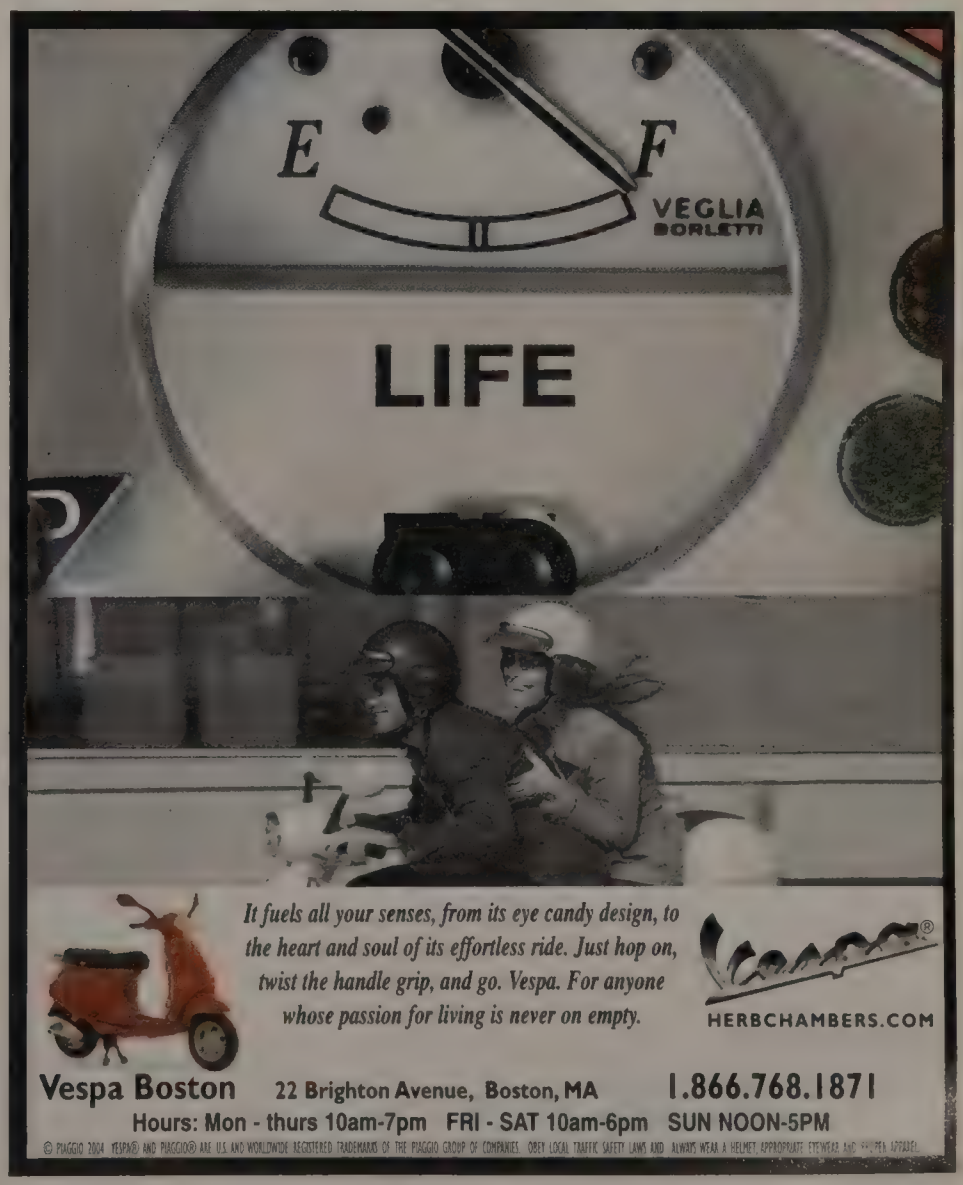
Fruity summer desserts delivered delightful punctuation marks at each meal's onclusion. Heirloom stone fruit cobler—heirlooms of various species have aken over restaurant menus these days—as constructed around a rich, buttery hortcake one day and a moist cornbread iscuit on another, both times with lusious peaches, firm but flavorful nectarines nd juicy plums. A scoop of lemon-thyme e cream lent a perfumed enchantment to ne ensemble. The idea of seasoning ice ream with thyme seemed offbeat, but it orked. Another dessert, also served as art of the prix fixe Restaurant Week enu, was the hibiscus and Champagne oup," a refreshing mélange of blueberries, spberries, tiny melon balls and a scoop of mony sheep's milk yogurt sorbet, around hich the server poured a scarlet stream of ngy raspberry coulis.

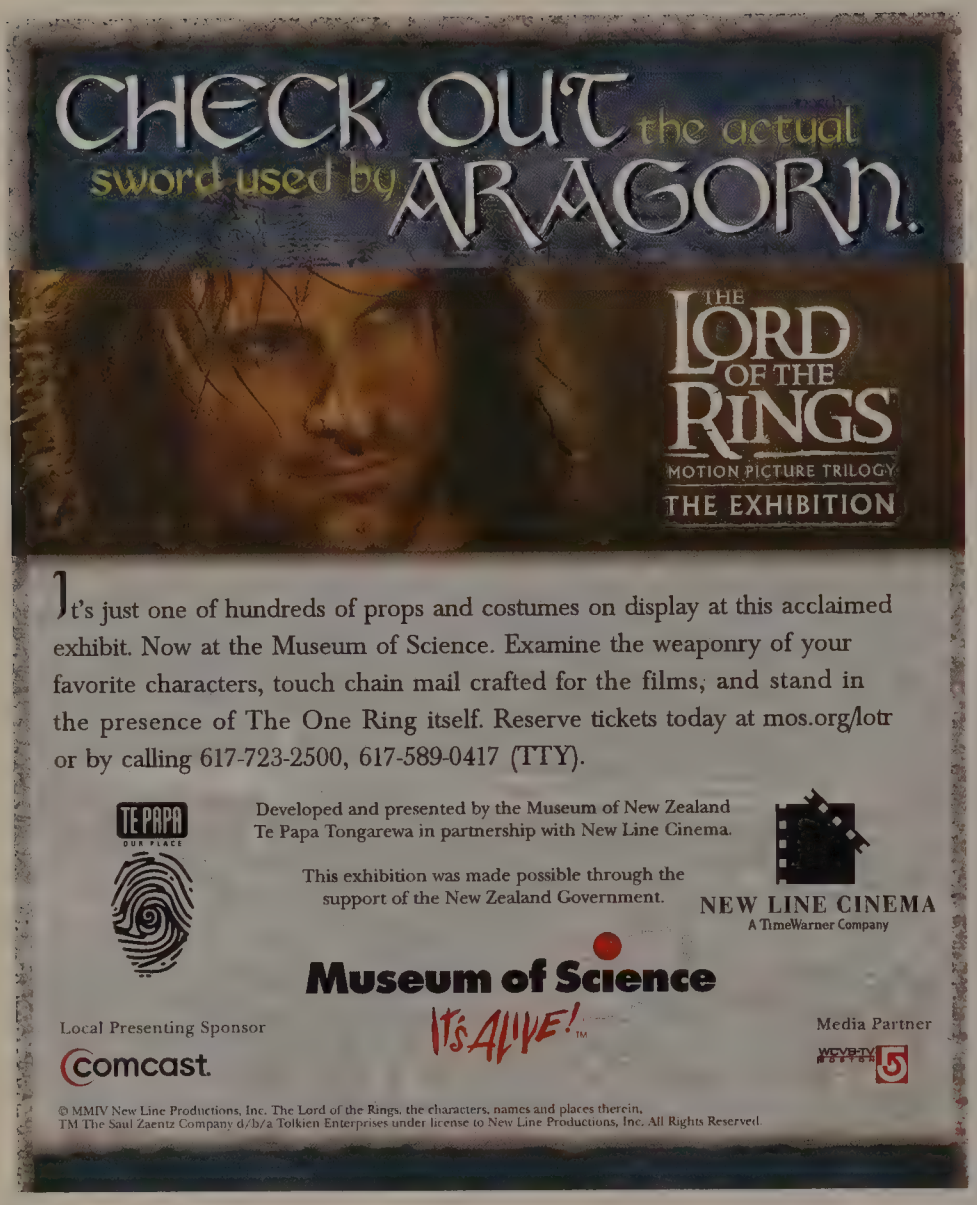
Spire's lengthy wine list bottoms at $30 bottle with few choices under $40, but by oston standards, it delivers value for its ices. At the lower end, I enjoyed a glass house cabernet sauvignon ($9), full bodd with a primitive grapiness but having ecent backbone and good acid. A bottle Brut d'Argent ($30), a sparkler from the ench countryside, did double duty as an beritif and a versatile dinner wine.

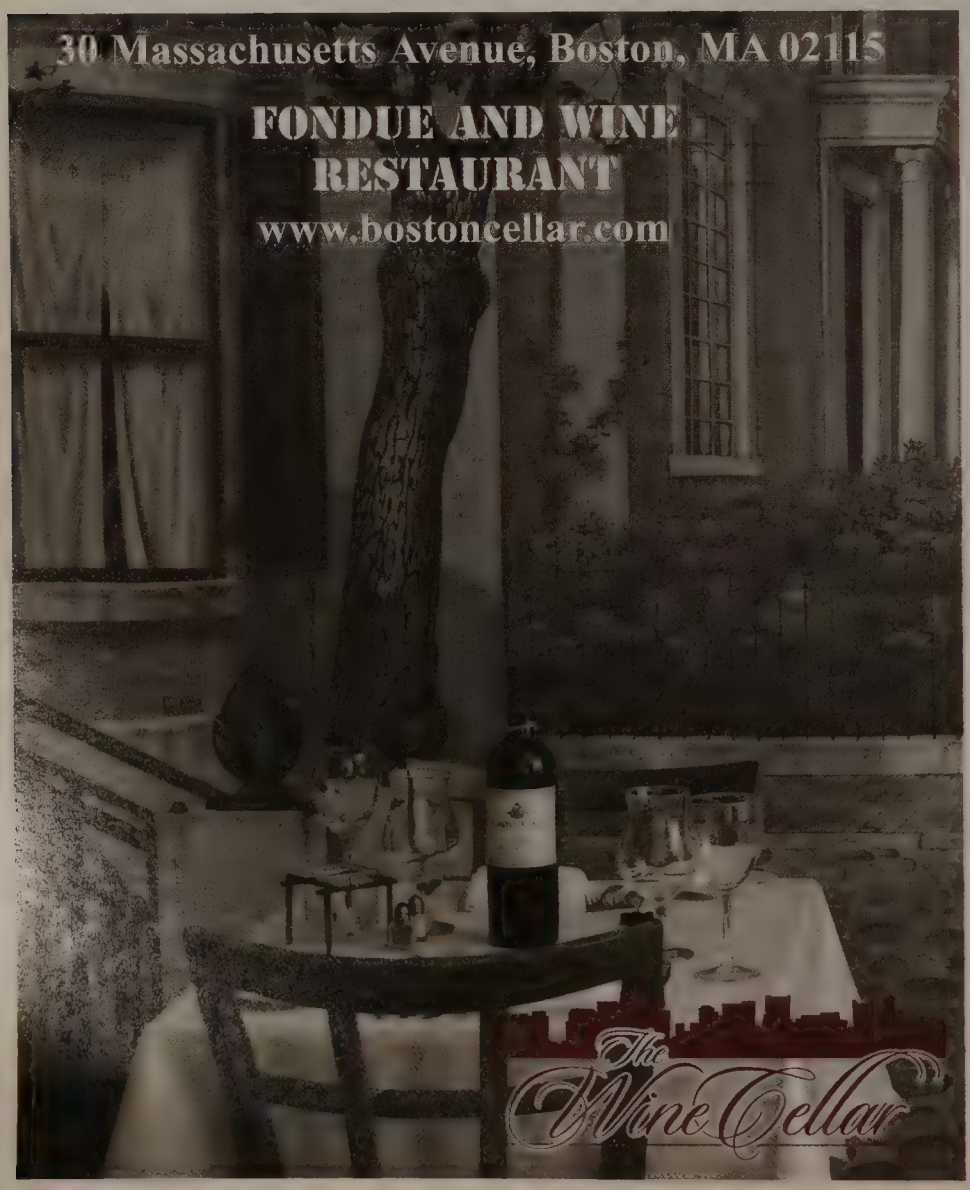
Service at Spire ranged from very good to excellent, even during the hectic rush of Restaurant Week. Things started on a dubious note at my second dinner in the bar, when, spoiled by the bartender's conscientious attention a few days earlier, I was surprised that the server had to be asked to set up a place setting at one of the cocktail tables, and disappointed when the amuse gueule was omitted. Still, aside from these minor lapses, the staff (particularly a very observant and hospitable maître d') gave the place an aura of refinement and professionalism. Finally, the look and feel of Spire continues to distinguish it as one of Boston's most attractive dining environments. Eating in the bar gave me the opportunity to appreciate the venue's sleek, 21st-century lines, from the small, uncluttered array of well-chosen bottles of distinguished potables (standard bar brands were presumably in the well) to the smart, plasma-screen television against one wall.

Spire's location, on the second floor of the small boutique hotel Nine Zero on Tremont Street between the Omni Parker House and the Beantown Pub, may well keep it below the public radar. I was surprised that one of my colleagues had never heard of it, let alone dined there. She is now a convert and will inevitably return. Since Spire's participation in the Restaurant Week pricing promotion was the proximate cause of our visit, one of the rationales of the program—to encourage patrons to sample places they might not visit—was well served. iB









eat.drink.

TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors

Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

The Art of Garnish

UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933). www.upstairsonthesquare.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sept. 29, 6:30 pm. $35. Local bartender **Lolly Mason** gives tips for making your cocktail creations look as good as they taste.

Fireside Chats

The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Every other Saturday, 3 pm. $25. Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** hosts experts who share knowledge on everything from American wines to seasonal New England food and microbrews. •Oct. 2: Organic and biodynamic wines.

French Wine Primer

UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933). www.upstairsonthesquare.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sept. 22, 6:30 pm. $29. Sample French wines selected by wine director **Shane Lessard**, and small plates prepared by chefs **Susan Regis** and **Amanda Lydon**.

Harpoon Octoberfest

Harpoon Brewery, 306 Northern Ave., Boston (888-427-7666, ext. 3). www.harpoonbrewery.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Oct. 1, 5:30-11 pm; Oct. 2, 3:30-9 pm. $12. 21+. Sample a wide selection of Harpoon beers and enjoy live German music from groups like the Jolly Kopperschmidts and the Oberleandler Hobrau Band and rock from Rippopotamus.

Hot off the Vine at 33: Wednesday Wine Tasting Series

33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** each Wednesday for a sampling of four wines paired with a complimentary food tasting. •Sept. 22: Chile. •Sept. 29: Central Italy.

Italian Wine Dinner

Café Fleuri, Langham Hotel, 250 Franklin St., Boston (617-956-8751). www.langhamhotels.com. MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. Sept. 30, 6 pm. $65. Chef de cuisine **John Lambiase** hosts this dinner paired with wines from Italy's Piedmont region. The event begins with a buffet-style reception, followed by a three-course meal.

Park Square Stroll

Boston Park Plaza Hotel & Towers, 64 Arlington St., Boston (617-355-6890). www.parksquarestroll.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Sept. 26, 4-7 pm. $50 in advance; $60 at the door. Take a walk through the Park Plaza Hotel and indulge in offerings from some of the city's top eateries, like Via Matta, Bonfire, Pigalle and Davio's. Complimentary wine, beer and cocktails are available, and proceeds benefit Children's Hospital Boston.

The Phantom Gourmet Food Festival

Lansdowne Street, Boston (617-423-6000). www.phantomgourmet.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Oct. 3, 12-6 pm. $15; $5 children. The Phantom Gourmet, Patrick Lyons and UPN-38 present this showcase of some of the city's top restaurants, including Jasper White's Summer Shack, Legal Sea Foods and Rouge. The day also offers live music and a kids' pavilion.

Summer Cooking School at the Langham Hotel

Langham Hotel, 250 Franklin St., Boston (617 451-1900). www.langhamhotels.com. MBTA Orange or Blue Line to State. 6-8 pm. $100. The Langham Hotel hosts a series of classes on preparing classic summertime dishes. •Sept 22: Fall, More Than Just Turning Leaves.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting

Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542 5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $25. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, and chef **Ian Just** pairs the wine with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •Sept. 28: Piedmont. •Oct. 5 Burgundy whites.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier

L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262 3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mondays, 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Johnson** offers descriptions of the wines that complement a French–New England meal by chef **Frank McClelland**.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre

Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-720 1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Every Wednesday, 7 pm. $38. Chef **Geoff Gardner** pairs French cuisine with wine selected by Sommelier **Erik Johnson**. •Sept. 22 An evening of wine and chocolate. •Sept. 29 Erik's Favorites.

PREVIEW

BOSTON TEA PARTIES

December 16 marks the 231st anniversary of the Boston Tea Party, but for local tea aficionados September is shaping up as the month to really get out and celebrate. That's because author and world-renowned tea specialist James Norwood Pratt is making three area appearances. On September 22, Pratt is at Cambridge's Harvest Restaurant to introduce a special five-course tea-themed menu, answer questions and sign copies of his book *The New Tea Lover's Treasury*. On the 23rd, Pratt moves to the Park Plaza Hotel for a fund-raising talk entitled "Enjoying Tea Is Enjoying Life." Finally, on the 24th, he ends his Boston tour with a complimentary tea tasting, discussion and book signing at Newbury Street's Trident Cafe. *Harvest, 44 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-868-2255), 7 pm, $39; Park Plaza Hotel, 64 Arlington St., Boston (617-426-2000), 7 pm, $35 (supports Community Servings); Trident Booksellers and Cafe, 338 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-8688), 7 pm, free.* —R.L.



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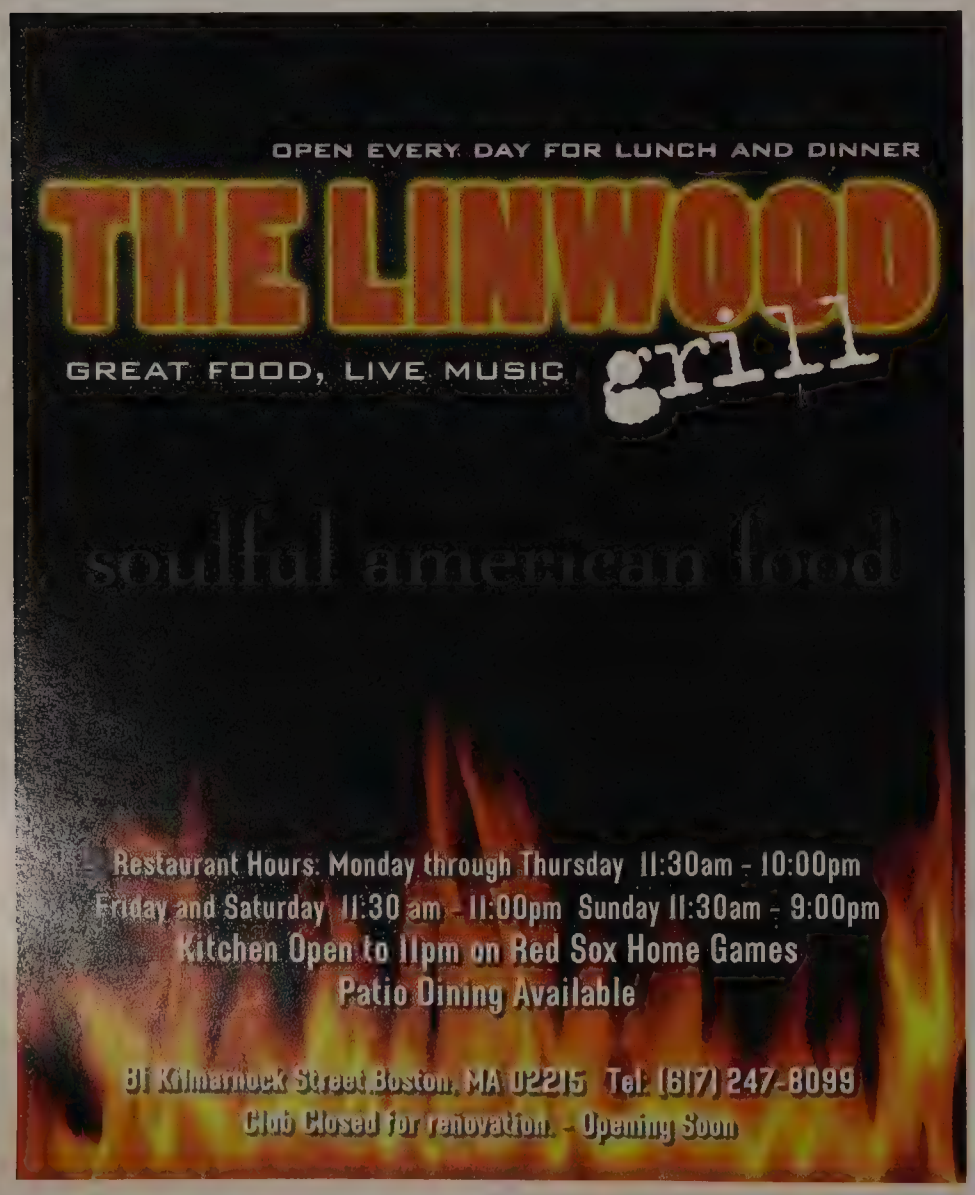
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BEGINNING OCTOBER 4th



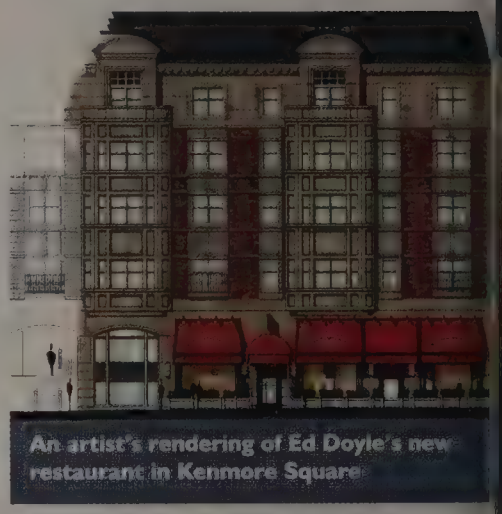


DISH

Go Right to the Source with Mr. Ed

Plus, Restaurant Week rundown

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX


An artist's rendering of Ed Doyle's new restaurant in Kenmore Square

When we heard that **Ed Doyle**, formerly of **Aura at the Seaport Hotel** and more recently a consultant on projects all over New England, was opening a restaurant inside the **Hotel Commonwealth** in Kenmore Square, we were…surprised. After all, hadn't he been working toward opening his very own restaurant, dubbed **Haven**, in a spot he'd already selected? Well, sort of yes and sort of no. Doyle says he's "doing development and consulting" while his personal project is "in limbo," encumbered by the intricacies of Boston development policies. So, will Doyle be the chef at the Commonwealth's as-yet-unnamed, 6,000-square-foot brasserie?

"Right now, we're focusing on getting everything up and going," he says, declining to provide a direct answer. "This thing is moving ahead; it's not a cocktail-napkin project." Much bigger than a cocktail napkin, with 170 seats inside and 70 seats planned for an outside patio, the project is being designed by **Peter Niemitz** and is slated to open by the end of the year. Meanwhile, Doyle has been inundated by suggestions for restaurant names. "Some pretty funny ones in here," he says. "Brasserie Rat, in honor of the old Kenmore Square Rathskeller. And BU professors send in a lot of literary references. Nothing like shooting over your consumer's head!"

SECOND COURSE

What's the true meaning of Restaurant Week? It depends on who you ask. For some restaurateurs, it's a foolproof way to fill tables during the slow days of August. "We did phenomenal business," says **Michael Leviton**, chef/owner of **Lumiere** in West Newton. "We had a waiting list," reports **Jody Adams**, chef/owner of **Rialto**, one of more than 20 restaurants that sold out every seat. More than 30 restaurants extended their RW menus an extra week, including **Spire** at the Nine Zero hotel. "We're not doing it to make money, or to thank regular diners," says chef **Gabriel Frasca**, but to attract new diners who make a point of asking for a business card before they leave. "We happily give out our digits," he adds.

If you asked one couple (who will remain nameless), Restaurant Week meant the opportunity to claim a table and brazenly inquire if they could share one $30.04 dinner (the answer was a polite but firm "no"). Fo a female diner at **Mantra**, it meant an ap parent temporary loss of social inhibition as she literally licked a plate, to the aston ishment of management. For a party of si at Rialto, it was the inspiration to suggest "we think you ought to use these prices or your regular menu." For most diners, how ever, it was a terrific chance to sample the menu at upscale spots without upscal prices. And most were appreciative: "On table was so enthralled they tipped $80 or a $200 tab, though that's the exception," says Michael Leviton.

After extensive renovation and redecora tion, **Umbria** will open in early October i the space formerly occupied by **Trattoria i Panino**. Now open: **Picco**, **Rick Katz**'s pizz and ice cream emporium, in the posh Ate lier 505 building in the South End. Nov serving barbecue all the time: **Rouge [Red]** Chef/owner **Andy Husbands**' Southern-in spired menu is still available, but there's n holding back on the BBQ sauce after Hus bands' recent stellar achievements: He an teammate **Chris Hart** (who've dubbed thei Harpoon-sponsored crew the UFO Socia Club) claimed the title of Grand Champi ons at this year's New England Regiona BBQ Championships, in Windsor, Vt. Th team, which also won the 2004 New Hamp shire State Championship, will go on t compete at the Jack Daniel's World Cham pionship Invitational BBQ Competition fo the third consecutive year. Congratulation also to overachiever Husbands on the publi cation of his first book, *The Fearless Che* That's fearless, not beerless. IB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to dish@improper.com.



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RESULTS MATTER



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RUNWAY

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agenda

IMPROPER PICKS

september 22 - october 5

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			22	23	24	25
			**Gish Jen** reads from her novel *The Love Wife* at the Brattle Theatre. *See Books & Poetry on page 84.*		**Colin Quinn** performs at the Comedy Connection. *See Performing Arts on page 54.*	
 26	27	28	29	30	1	2
Architect **I.M. Pei** speaks at the JFK Library and Museum. *See Education on page 86.*			The New Repertory Theatre presents Michael Weller's play **Approaching Moomtaj**. *See Performing Arts on page 54.*	The **Out on the Edge Festival of LGBT Theater** opens at the Boston Center for the Arts. *See Gay & Lesbian on page 88.*		**Origins: Life's First Three Billion Years** opens at the Harvard Museum of Natural History. *See Museums & Galleries on page 80.*
3	4	5				
	Humphrey Bogart stars in **The Maltese Falcon**, screening at the Brattle Theatre. *See Movies on page 60.*	**All About Eve** screens at the Harvard Film Archive. *See Movies on page 60.*				



SAT./ SEPT. 25

Music: Dynamic Duo

Fans of indie-rock, jazz, jam bands and instrumental quasi-goth post-rock will be milling about T.T. the Bear's Place September 25 when Canadian ensemble Do Make Say Think returns to our fair city, this time pairing up with labelmates and Massachusetts trio the Mobius Band (pictured, right). When the Mobius Band plays, it's a veritable indie rockapalooza—the masters of electronic rock have recently finished recording with noted producer Peter Katis and have performed with a who's-who of elite indie-rockers, including Mouse on Mars, Yo La Tengo and the Raveonettes. Do Make Say Think is an offshoot of the infamous Godspeed You Black Emperor! and provides a counterpoint to that group's dramatic sway between joy and misery, hovering between the two extremes while creating droning, hypnotic grooves that pull the listener along. *T.T. the Bear's Place, 10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-2327). 9 pm. 18+. $8.*

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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Jessica Iredale Around Town, Children, Education, Movies, Museums & Galleries, Performing Arts
Rich Levine CityScope, Dance Clubs, Gay & Lesbian, Music
ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
Ezra Dyer Sports
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules





SUN./OCT. 3

Tastings: Phantom Foodies

While it's definitely a nightlife hot spot, Lansdowne Street isn't much of a daytime destination. Stop by on a Sunday, say between 12 and 6 pm, and the only evidence of a party you're likely to find is a half-eaten sausage and maybe a couple of fluorescent plastic wristbands blowing down the street like tumbleweeds. But on Sunday, October 3, Lansdowne will be a ghost town in a different way. Boston's famous food critic in disguise, the Phantom Gourmet, teams with nightlife titan Patrick Lyons and UPN-38 to present a smorgasbord of good eats at the first-ever Phantom Gourmet Food Festival. The feeding frenzy includes 18 local restaurants and food vendors—including Legal Sea Foods, Kelly's Roast Beef, the Sausage Guy, Fuddruckers, Geoff & Drew's cookies and others—showcasing their signature dishes in categories like barbecue, ballpark food, desserts and even a mini North End and Chinatown. So diners can expect to sample Firefly's pulled pork and Fuddruckers' burgers, among other treats. Once they've had their fill, patrons can watch the Sox and Pats games at Avalon, enjoy drinks in the beer and wine garden or entertain the crowd themselves at the karaoke stand. *Lansdowne Street, Boston (617-423-6000). www.phantomgourmet.com. 12-6 pm. $15, $5 children.*



MON./OCT. 4

Books & Poetry: Literary Luminaries

Each year, an army of authors responds to local literary maven Alice Hoffman's call to raise money for her foundation, the Hoffman Breast Cancer Center at Mount Auburn Hospital. Hoffman (*Here on Earth, Practical Magic, Blue Diary*) hosts the annual event, An Evening with Your Favorite Authors, at the Charles Hotel, and for $250, attendees can meet and hear readings from authors. This year's line-up includes Judy Blume (*Wifey*), Chris Bohjalian (*Midwives*), Susan Cheever (author of five novels and four memoirs), Andre Dubus III (*House of Sand and Fog*), Arthur Golden (*Memoirs of a Geisha*), Wally Lamb (*I Know This Much Is True*), Jill McCorkle (*Creatures of Habit*) and Amy Tan (*The Joy Luck Club, The Bonesetter's Daughter*). While sipping cocktails and munching on hors d'oeuvres, guests can bid on auction items and enter raffles for prizes including a Mini Cooper; a trip to NYC to attend a *Saturday Night Live* broadcast and a party with the cast; dinner with Hoffman and nine guests at Harvest; cocktails for 20 at Robert Parker's home; their name as a character in a Jill McCorkle novel and more. *Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge (617-499-5098). 6 pm. $250.*



SAT./SEPT. 25

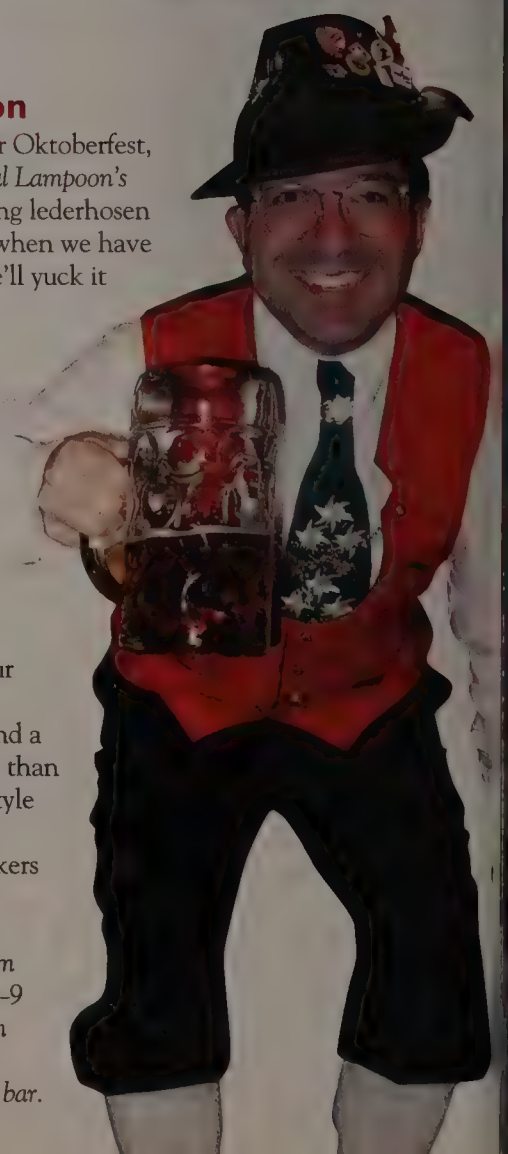
Music: All That Jazz

If you missed out on this summer's concerts at FleetBoston Pavilion, the Tweeter Center, Esplanade or even Fenway, and still crave a little music alfresco, you'd better hurry up. The season's outdoor concert days are numbered, but it's not too late to get your fresh air musical fix at one of the city's most unique outdoor music events: the Beantown Jazz Fest. Now in its fourth year, the festival boasts its best billing to date. Grammy Award–nominated saxophonist Najee, who's toured with jazz and R&B greats like Quincy Jones, Patti LaBelle and Prince, headlines this year's festival, which also features local jazz outfits La Timba Loca, Paul White, Myanna, Patrice Williamson, Wannetta Jackson and others. BJF founder and producer Darryl Settles expects more than 40,000 visitors to take to the South End streets for music and dancing on the 25th. And music isn't the only draw. Patrons can chow down on Southern-inspired cuisine like Creole jambalaya, glorified fried chicken, mustard-fried catfish, and samosas from Bob the Chef's and Tremont 647. Proceeds from the day benefit prostate cancer awareness. *Columbus Avenue, between Mass. Ave. and Burke Street, Boston (866-442-7995). www.beantownjazz.org. Sept. 25, 12-6 pm. $5 suggested donation.*

FRI. & SAT./OCT. 1 & 2

CityScope: Bavarian Nation

We haven't actually been to Germany for Oktoberfest, but we laughed our keisters off at *National Lampoon's European Vacation*, and anything involving lederhosen sounds like a swell time to us. Someday, when we have roughly $2,800 for a flight to Munich, we'll yuck it up Clark Griswold style with the real Bavarians. Until then, you can find us in Southie washing down schnitzel and sauerkraut with a frosty one at Harpoon Brewery's 15th annual Octoberfest. More than 12,000 beer drinkers are expected to converge on the brewery for the two-day shindig with its menu of knockwurst, bratwurst, Harpoon IPA and Octoberfest beer, and Vermont Draft soda. You can indulge your appetite and your competitive side in a German chocolate cake eating contest and a chicken-dance contest. And with no less than five bands, including German-oompah-style bands the Kopperschmidts and the Mad Bavarian Brass Band plus local party-funkers Rippopotamus providing live musical entertainment, we suspect there'll be Hosenträgers to spare. *Oct. 1, 5:30–11 pm (entrance closes at 9:30 pm); Oct. 2, 3:30–9 pm (entrance closes at 7 pm). 306 Northern Ave., Boston (1-888-427-7666). www.harpoonbrewery.com. $12 door, cash bar.*











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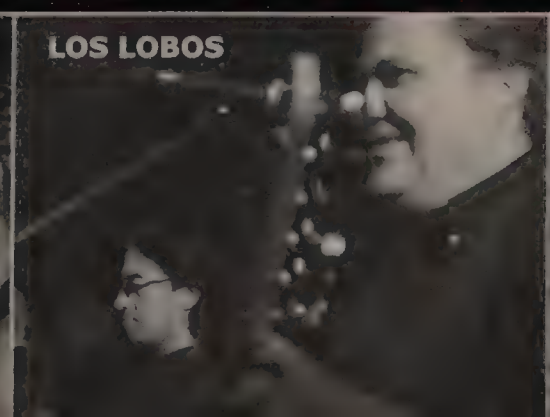
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Submit updated listings for benefits, festivals, activities and events by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Benefits

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Dinner and a Movie
Jimmy Tingle's Off-Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (781-322-7397). www.theknocks.org. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 5:30-9 pm. $60. In honor of National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Month, Opportunity Knocks hosts a fund-raising dinner and screening of *Trainspotting* at Jimmy Tingle's Off-Broadway. Opportunity Knocks is a group that aims to heighten awareness of the need for sober housing for recovering addicts.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Kurth and Taylor Tour for Kids
Dick's Last Resort, 55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-727-8957, ext. 305). www.kurthandtaylor.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 1 pm. Concert, $35; VIP tickets, $100. Actor Wally Kurth, who plays Ned Ashton on *General Hospital*, comes to Dick's Last Resort with his band as part of a charity concert and auction benefiting the Massachusetts Children's Trust fund. A VIP reception, where guests can meet and take pictures with the band, follows the show.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

2004 ROSE Awards Celebration
Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, Boston (617-482-5400). www.rosefund.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 5:30 pm. $250. The 2004 ROSE (Regaining One's Self-Esteem) Awards honor Clarissa Hershey James and Kelly White, two survivors of domestic violence. The night also includes a cocktail reception, auction and dinner, as well as appearances by members of the New England Patriots.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Art House
Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-876-6838). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. www.brattlefilm.org. 6:30-9 pm. $10. More than 50 local and national artists donate their works for the Brattle Film Foundation's first-ever silent art-auction fundraiser. Bidding for items ranging from paintings and sculptures to woodcuts and lithographs starts at between $50 and $165.

Horizons for Homeless Children's Breakfast with Gloria Steinem
Sheraton Boston Hotel, 39 Dalton St., Boston (617-287-1900, ext. 125). www.horizonsforhomelesschildren.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7:30-9:30 am. $50. Writer, editor and feminist activist Gloria Steinem is the guest speaker at this sixth annual women's breakfast celebrating the achievements of Horizons for Homeless Children.

Runway 34
Modern, Avalon and Embassy, Lansdowne Street, Boston (617-585-7121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. www.paulpierce.net. 6 pm. $100 (includes open bar). THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN sponsors Boston Celtics' star Paul Pierce's second annual fund-raising event that includes dining, live entertainment and a runway fashion show featuring the work of European designers like Dolce & Gabbana and Jean Paul Gaultier. Proceeds benefit the Truth Fund, Junior Achievement and the Mark Wahlberg Youth Foundation.

The "Shooze" Cruise
Boat Leaves from World Trade Center Dock in the Seaport District, Boston (781-883-6126). www.thejonesfoundation.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 7-10 pm. $20. The Jones Foundations sponsors this cruise around Boston Harbor that features a DJ and a cash bar and benefits Boston's St. Francis House Homeless Shelter. Each guest must bring a new pair of sneakers, shoes or boots on board. Men's sizes 9-12 are preferred.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1

Celebrity Chef Tour
Boston College Club, BankBoston Center, 36th Floor, 100 Federal St., Boston (617-946-2828). www.clubcorp.com/celebchef. 7 pm. $150. Chefs Billy Della Ventura of the Boston College Club and Marc Murphy from Landmark in New York City prepare a special meal for this night benefiting the James Beard Foundation, a group that works to improve the culinary arts.

Spirit of Kindness
38 Cameron, 38 Cameron Ave., Cambridge (617-541-5083). www.mspca.org. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 7 pm. $45. A silent auction that offers a chance to bid on jewelry, fine wines and hotel getaways highlights this night benefiting the MSPCA Boston Animal Care and Adoption Center. The event also features wine and food tastings.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2

The Samaritans of Boston 5K Run/Walk
Race begins at Artesani Park, Soldiers Field Road, Brighton (617-536-1357). www.samaritansofboston.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard, then shuttle to park. 10 am. $15 in advance; $20 day of race. Participate in this 5K run or walk along the Charles and help raise money for the Samaritans, a group dedicated to reducing the incidence of suicide. Post-race festivities include live music, games and a kid's race.

Tend Your Own Garden Gala Fundraiser
Westin Copley Place, 10 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-983-7906). www.faulknerhospital.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. $250. This gala benefit features dinner, a live auction and a fashion show coordinated by Serenella of Newbury Street. The guest of honor is WCVB-TV's Susan Wornick, and proceeds will sponsor mammography access programs for underinsured and uninsured women.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3

Memory Walk '04
Canal Park at the CambridgeSide Galleria, Cambridge (617-868-6718). www.memorywalkma.org. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. 9 am, registration; 10 am, race begins. Free, but walkers must be sponsored. Take part in a 2- or 3.5-mile walk along the Charles River to raise money for the fight against Alzheimer's. Call for information on gaining sponsors.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 4

An Evening with Your Favorite Authors
Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge (617-499-5098). www.mountauburnhospital.org/authors_evening.asp. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. $250. Local best-selling author Alice Hoffman hosts this gathering of some of the country's most notable writers, including Amy Tan, Wally Lamb, Susan Cheever, Andre Dubus III and others, as they each read excerpts from recent works.

2004 Extreme Esteem Community Awards
Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Ave., Boston (617-983-1111). www.ticketweb.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7-10 pm. $125-$175. This ceremony honoring those dedicated to helping at-risk women is highlighted by a a silent auction, a dessert buffet and a performance by Grammy-winning singer Thelma Houston.

Festivals & Parties

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Singin' the Blues at Redbones
Redbones, 55 Chester St., Somerville (617-628-2200). www.bluestrust.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 8 pm. $25. Redbones BBQ kicks off Boston Blues Week with a party that includes a BBQ dinner and live acoustic blues and folk music by Bill McQuaid and Paul Geremia.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

A Convergence of Women, Art and Fashion
Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center, 85 West Newton St., Boston (617-697-7405). www.thehonahlee.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7-10 pm. $5. T biannual event is a showcase/fashion show of c ations by Boston-area designers.

The Green Briar 15th Anniversary
The Green Briar, 304 Washington St., Bright (617-789-4100). www.greenbriarpub.com. MBT #57 Bus to Brighton Center. 5 pm. Free. The Gre Briar celebrates its 15th anniversary and its n fall menu with a party featuring Irish bagpip and step dancers, as well as live Celtic and f music.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Beantown Jazz Fest
Columbus Avenue, between Burke and Mass. avenu Boston (866-442-7995). www.beantownjazz.o MBTA: Orange Line to Mass Ave. 12-6 pm. Fr Three stages are set up along Columbus Avenue the South End for this fourth annual festival feat ing some of the country's top jazz and R&B tale including Grammy-nominated saxophonist Naj and the salsa group La Timba Loca.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Tour of Gymnastics Champions
FleetCenter, One FleetCenter Place, Boston (61 931-2000). www.fleetcenter.com. MBTA: Ora Line to North Station. 6 pm. $18-$85. Members the U.S. men's and women's gymnastic teams, cluding all-around gold-medalist Carly Patters come to Boston as part of their post-Olympic tou

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Hospitality Industry Networking Night at the Hampshire House
Hampshire House, 3rd floor, 84 Beacon St., Bos (617-591-1400). www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: or Green Line to Park Street. 6:30-8:30 pm. $ Mark Komine, VP of sales and marketing for Seaport Hotel, is the keynote speaker at this n working event for hospitality professionals that cludes complimentary hors d'oeuvres and a cash

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Moonstruck: The Harvest Moon Ball
Whiskey Park, 64 Arlington St., Boston (617-5 1483). www.jetsetevents.com. MBTA: Green Lin Copley. 8 pm-12 am. $20. The Boston Ski a Sports Club and Jet Set Events present this pa featuring a performance by the Japanese Swing C Jazz Ensemble, hors d'oeuvres and an open bar f 8-10 pm.

Singles

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Eight Minute Dating
Tommy Doyle's Irish Pub, 1 Kendall Square, C bridge (617-319-4678). www.eightminutedating.c MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 7:08 pm. $35. Sam appetizers during eight different eight-minute da Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get chance to share a date with. For ages 25-35.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

Eight Minute Dating
Tonic, 1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-669 www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: B Green Lin Long Ave. 7:08 pm. $35. Sample appetizers dur eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle meet the people you didn't get the chance to sha date with. For ages 22-32.

Hurry Date
The Green Briar, 304 Washington St., Brighton (6 789-4100). www.greenbriarpub.com. MBTA: #57 to Brighton Center. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $35 nonmembers. Embark on 20 five-minute dates enjoy drink specials from the Green Briar. For a 30-45.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 4

Eight Minute Dating
Cambridge Common, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambr (617-547-1228). www.eightminutedating.com. MB Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. $35. Sample appetizers ing eight different eight-minute dates. Then mi and meet the people you didn't get the chanc share a date with. For ages 21-29.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5

Eight Minute Dating
Clarke's at Faneuil Hall, 21 Merchants Row, Bo (617-227-7800). www.eightminutedating.com. MB Green Line to Haymarket. 6:30 pm. $35. San appetizers during eight different eight-min dates. Then mingle and meet the people you n't get the chance to share a date with. For 28-38.

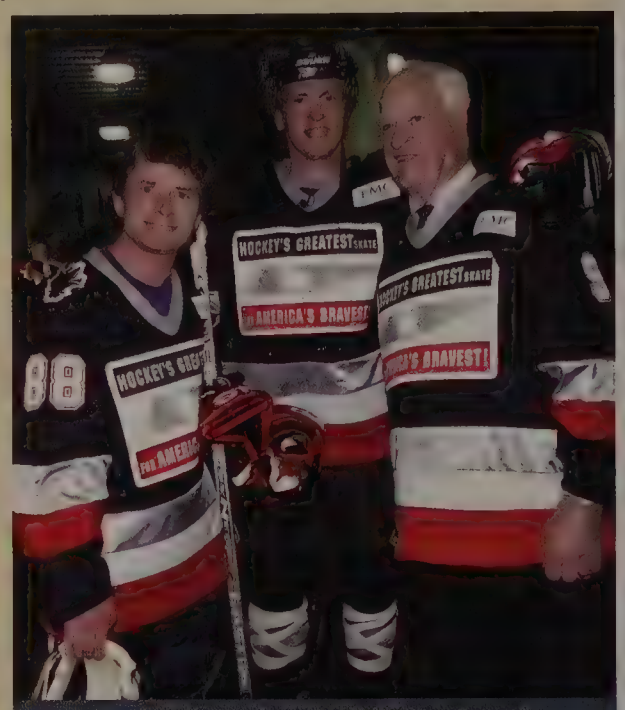
Preview

Celebrities on Ice

Some of the biggest names in Hollywood and hockey take the ice for charity.

With the current NHL labor dispute between players and owners jeopardizing the 2004 season, the FleetCenter won't exactly be a hockey hotbed this fall and winter. But on October 3, puckheads can get their fix at Denis Leary's fifth annual "Hockey's Greatest Skate for America's Bravest" charity game.

As always, the game features a collection of NHL greats as well as some of Hollywood's biggest names. This year's roster includes hockey stars Cam Neely, Pat LaFontaine and Ken Hodge, plus actors Tim Robbins, Kiefer Sutherland, Michael J. Fox and Steve Buscemi, among others.



Michael J. Fox, Denis Leary and hockey legend Gordie Howe at last year's benefit

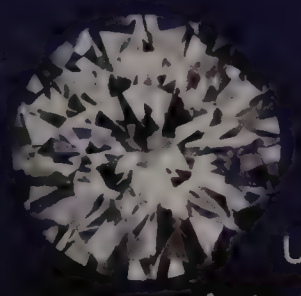
"I am so proud that this event has been around for five years," Leary says. "The support we have received from firefighters, Hollywood and fans of hockey has been amazing."

All proceeds from the game, co-sponsored by THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN, benefit the Leary Firefighters Foundation, which provides funding for fire departments to improve their equipment, technology and training as well as resources to families of firefighters who've been injured or killed in the line of duty. Tickets run from $25–$100 which is on a par with the cost of a B's game, but this time your money goes to a worthy cause, as opposed to Jeremy Jacobs' petty-cash fund.

FleetCenter, One FleetCenter Place, Boston (617-931-2000). www.fleetcenter.com. MBTA: Orange or Green Line to North Station. Oct. 3, 3 pm. $25–$100. —Rich Levine

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performing arts

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Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Performing Arts. Or e-mail to performing@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater

JUST OPENED

Collected Stories
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4433). www.gloucesterstage.org. Sept. 22-Oct. 10. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 5 and 8 pm. $30, $20 students and seniors. Donald Margulies' play follows the friendship between an established writer and her young protegée.

The Complete History of America (abridged)
Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 E. Merrimack St., Lowell (978-454-2926). www.merrimackrep.org. Sept. 23-Oct. 30. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. $27. Adam Long; Reed Martin and Austin Tichenor take a comedic look at American history.

Gem of the Ocean
Boston University Theatre, 246 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Sept. 24-Oct. 30. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm and 7 pm. $14-$63. Set in 1904, August Wilson's newest play chronicles the African-American experience through Citizen Barlow and his 285-year-old Aunt Ester.

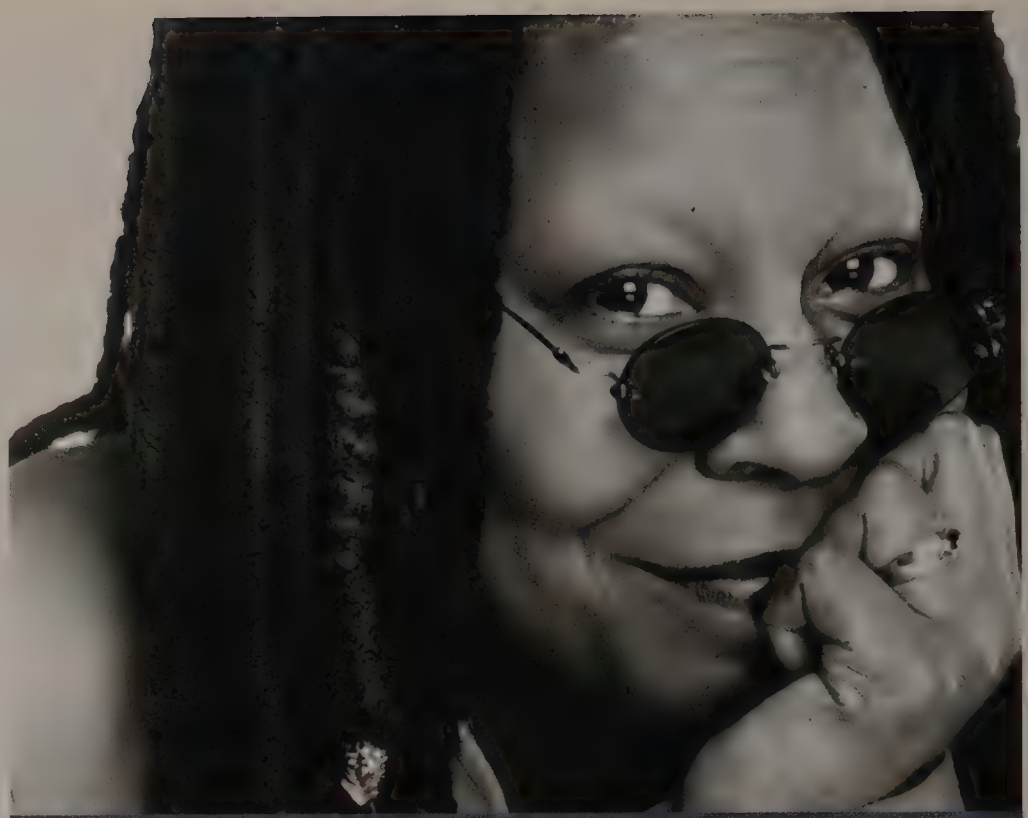
Out on the Edge
Boston Center for the Arts, BCA Plaza Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.thetheateroffensive.org. Sept. 30-Oct. 24. The Theater Offensive presents its 13th annual festival of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender theater. Highlights include performances by Hanifah Walidah, the Oops Guys, Tim Miller and True Colors Out Youth Theater, and staged readings by Ayisha Knight, Melissa Li and Letta Neely.

Translations
Devanaughn Theatre at the Piano Factory, 791 Tremont St., Boston (617-247-9777). www.southcitytheatre.org. Sept. 23-Oct. 9. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $17-$19. Dani Duggin directs Brian Friel's play about a mid-19rh-century Irish Hedge School being surveyed by British troops.

Vita & Virginia
Spring Lawn Theatre, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. Sept. 24-Oct. 24. Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat. and Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $38. Dan McCleary directs Eileen Atkins' play about Virginia Woolf and her emotional relationship with fellow writer Vita Sackville-West.

NOW RUNNING

All Night Strut
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). www.turtle-lane.com. Through Oct. 10. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $24, $17 for seniors and students. This cabaret-style musical celebrates the 1930s and '40s with jazz, blues, bebop and soul tunes.


Whoopi Goldberg performs her one-woman show at the Wang Theatre Sept. 24.

Antigone
Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-491-2026). www.bu.edu/bpt. MBTA: B Green Line to BU. Through Oct. 3. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun. and Sept. 18, 3 pm; $28. Richard McElvain adapts Sophocles' story about the struggle between the state and the self.

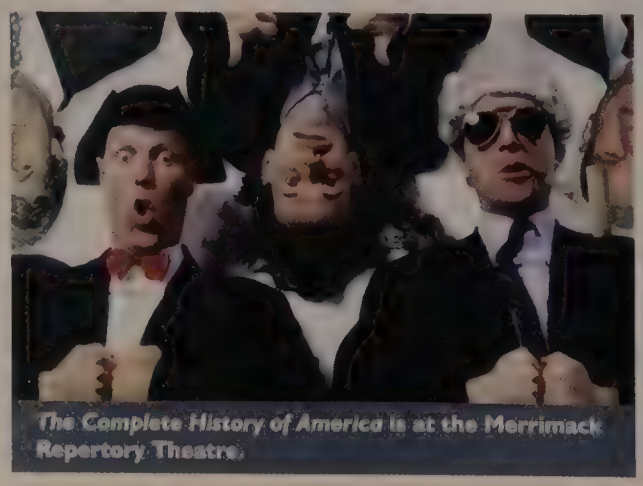
Approaching Moomtaj
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands (617-332-1646). www.newrep.org. Through Oct. 17. Wed., 7 pm; Thu.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $28-$48. Michael Weller's new play tells the story of one man's struggle to save his marriage and his career after September 11th.

Ballast
BCA Plaza Black Box, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Oct. 2. Thu. 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $24. Centastage and Wellesley Summer Theatre present Kathleen Rogers' story about an Irish immigrant couple dealing with the disappearance of their daughter.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. Ongoing. $46-$56. This dialogue-free production features tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Cyrano de Bergerac
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-1300). www.theatrecoop.org. MBTA: #89 or 101 bus. Through Oct. 9. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $20. Cyrano, a gifted poet and courageous soldier, is forced to hide his love for Roxanne because of his enormous nose. When the handsome Christian commissions him to write love letters to her on his behalf, things become complicated.

Hedwig and the Angry Inch
Cambridge Family YMCA, 820 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (877-238-5596). www.smarttix.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Through Oct. 3. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10. German rock-and-roll goddess Hedwig searches for fame and love after a botched sex-change operation leaves her with just an "angry inch."


The Complete History of America is at the Merrimack Repertory Theatre.

Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding
Matrix Nightclub, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123) www.comedywedding.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. 18. Sat. and Sun., 7:30 pm. $49. Tickets include dinner, show and entry to Matrix. The nation's longest-running comedy/dinner-theater show spoofs a traditional Italian wedding with audience participation and dinner.

The Lion King
Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (800-347-0808). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. 26. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri.. 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 1 pm and 6:30 pm. $22-$132. Julie Taymor directs this stage adaptation of the popular Disney film about a young lion cub's struggle to become king.

A Little Night Music
Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through Oct. 16. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm; Oct. 6, 2 pm. $21-$45. Spiro Veloudos directs Stephen Sondheim's musical celebrating the intricacies of love.

Marcel Marceau: Les Contes Fantastiques (Fantastic Tales)
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-495-2668). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Oct. 9. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $25-$45. The famous mime performs "The Wandering Monk," "The Masquerade Ball," and "The Tiger."

The Memory of Salt
BCA Plaza Theatre, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Sept. 25. Thu.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $25. The Animus Ensemble presents Lisa Maurizio's adaptation of the story of Hecuba and the fall of Troy, which depicts the tragedy of war for both victor and victim through music, dance and dialogue.

Menopause: The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617-426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 pm and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $42.50. A quartet of aging baby boomers meet at a lingerie sale, and singing and dancing ensues.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225).www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $34. This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair salon holds th record as Boston's longest-running play.

Swing!
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Durham Road, Bever (617-232-7200). www.nsmt.org. Through Oct. 1 Tue.-Sat., 8 pm (except 7 pm on Sept. 28); Wed Sat., Sun., 2 pm. $30-$63. This musical danc revue celebrates the explosion of swing music i the 1930s.

Tommy
Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham (781 279-2200). www.stonehamtheatre.org. Through Oc 3. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm Sun., 2 pm. $16-$32. Singer Jake Simpson stars i the Who's rock opera about a deaf, dumb an blind pinball wizard.

Dance

Boston University Dance Showcase
Sargent Dance Studio, 1 University Road, Boston (617-353-1597). www.bu.edu. MBTA: B Green Line to BU. Oct. 1 and 2, 8 pm. $15, $10 students. Alumni, faculty and guests of Boston University, in cluding Tye Gillespie, Jossie Coleman and Marg Parsons, perform a diverse program for this annu dance showcase.

Las Hijas del Trueno
Knights of Columbus Hall, 75 West School St Charlestown (617-216-1458). www.fridaysalsafeve com. MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square. Oc 1, 8 pm. $15. Griselle Ponce and Taima perfor salsa dances.

Small Shifts
Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (781 321-6188). http://web.mit.edu. MBTA: Red Line Central. Oct. 1 and 2, 8 pm. $15, $12 students. Kelley Donovan and Dancers present a program contemporary dance.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Ca endar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy improper.com. Deadline for listings is four weeks prior publication.

STAND-UP CLUBS

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-72 2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault Remington's features local stand-up comedian •Thu.: Greg Howell and friends •Fri. and Sa Boston's Best Standup •Sun.: Open Mike Night

Cantab Lounge
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447 www.cantablounge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Centra •Thursdays, 8 pm: Chris Waller performs impro downstairs, no cover, 21+.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-24 9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBT Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Green Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy cl in Boston draws nationally known comedians weekends and showcases up-and-coming local ta ent during the week. •Sept. 23, 8:30 pm: Fra Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •Sept. 2 8 and 10:15 pm: Colin Quinn, Host of Comed Central's *Tough Crowd*, $25. •Sept. 25, 8 a 10:15 pm: Colin Quinn, $25.•Sept. 26, 8 p Tony V., $12. •Sept. 27, 8 pm: Amateur Showc hosted by Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Co edy" $12. •Sept. 28, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi, $1 •Sept. 29, 8 pm: Jim Dunn and Harrison Stebbi $12. •Sept. 30, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos, "The Rated Hypnotist, $15. •Oct. 1, 8 and 10;15 p Dom Irrera, $25. •Oct. 2, 8 and 10:15 pm: Dom rera, $25.

Comedy Studio
Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-66 6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red L to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch co edy troupes and local comedians perform. •Sep 22: Tony V Experiment, Ira Proctor, Lee A Price, and more. •Sept. 23: Korte Yeo, Erin Jud Tim Fenn, Thomas Mitchell and others. •Sept. Myq Kaplan, Dave Thompson, Joe Cronin, T Fenn, Max Silvestri, Morgan Gold, The Wal Bros. •Sept. 25: Myq Kaplan, Alex The Jes Dave Grabiner, Tim Fenn, Dave Thompson, An O'Fish. •Sept. 26: Eric Riley Moore, Corey Ma ning, Tim Fenn and others. •Sept. 28: Ma Lounge: magic, mind-reading and manipulati •Sept. 29: Tony V Experiment, Jessica Suitch, A

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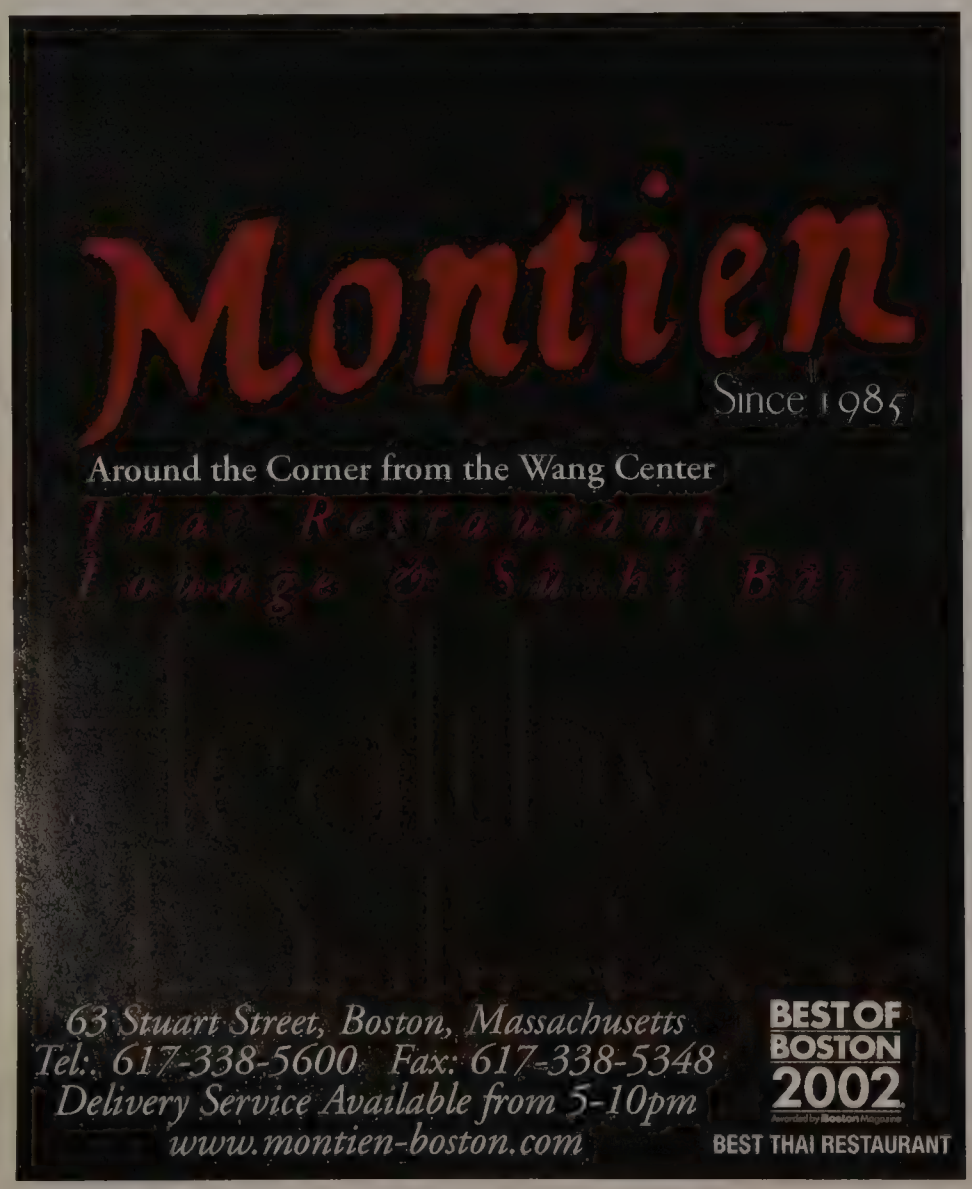
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thony Spencer and others. •Sept. 30: Ben Murray, Jeff Clarke, Dave Burdick, Steve Guilmette •Oct. 1: Greg Thibideau, Peter Bowers, Dan Hirshon, Randy Winn, Joe Mande, The Walsh Bros. •Oct. 2: Greg Thibideau, Dot Dwyer, Andy O'Fish. •Oct. 3: Luvs-2-Laf: Steve Calechman's comedy show about singlehood. •Oct. 5: Magic Lounge! Five professional magicians.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. $10-$22. •Sept. 30, 8:30 pm: Bill Tobin, Jim Colition. •Oct. 1, 8:45 pm: Bill Tobin, Pete Costello, Mary Beth Cowan. •Oct. 2, 8:45 pm: Bill Tobin, Pete Costello, Mary Beth Cowan

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. •Ongoing: The Midnight Show, Saturdays at midnight, $10.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: the characters, the stories, the settings—even the songs and dances. •Thursdays, 8 pm, $10-12: Unnatural Selection. A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one is left. 10 pm, $5: The Great and Secret Comedy Show. Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and music, play short films and do character sketches in a display of sibling rivalry. •Fridays, 8 pm, $10-12: Boston Creem. Boston's first all-woman improv troupe performs. •Saturdays, 6 pm, $10-12 (children 11 and under accompanied by an adult admitted free): Improv Boston Family Show. A short-form improvisational show the entire family can enjoy. 8 and 10 pm, $1[0]-12: ImprovBoston Mainstage. Blending storytellin[g], music and audience participation, a cast of impr[o]visers creates a show that changes with every perfo[r]mance. •Sundays, 7 pm, $5: Sgt. Culpepper/Op[en] Jam. This evening combines three shows into on[e]. Watch performances by visiting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-30[1]-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Li[ne] to South Station. Saturdays, 6 pm. $12. Boston['s] newest short-form improv group performs skits th[at] involve audience participation.

The Tribe

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61[7]-510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: R[ed] Line to Central. Every Thursday, 8 pm. $5 before [9] pm, $10 after. 21+. Improv comedians poke fun [at] everything, including themselves.

COMEDY SHOWS

Election

ImprovBoston, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambrid[ge] (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBT[A:] Red Line to Central. Through Sept. 24. Fri., 8 p[m] $12. Witness the electoral process like you've nev[er] seen it before as ImprovBoston nominates cand[i]dates, holds primaries, throws the press into the m[ix] and finishes at the voting booth.

An Evening with Whoopi Goldberg

Wang Theatre, 260 Tremont St., Boston (1-800-44[7]-7400). www.wangcenter.com. MBTA: Green Li[ne] to Boylston. Sept. 24. Fri., 7 pm. $35-$75. Whoo[pi] Goldberg performs an evening of comedy befo[re] bringing the show to Broadway in November.

Reno: Rebel Without a Pause

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater, 255 Elm S[t.,] Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.co[m] MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Sept. 24-25, 7:30 p[m] $25. Comedian Reno describes her experiences a[s] witness of the events of September 11 and how th[at] affected her life.



Comedian Reno's one-woman show, *Rebel Without a Pause*, is at Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway.

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Dead Funny

Shaun of the Dead is a scream.

BY PAUL SHERMAN



Simon Pegg (right) stars as the slightly clueless title character in the carnivorous English zombie comedy *Shaun of the Dead*

Like the zombies that slowly surround him and his circle of friends, the title character of the very funny English comedy *Shaun of the Dead* springs back to life over the course of the movie. Shaun (co-writer Simon Pegg) is an affable bloke whose lack of ambition finds him stuck at a job requiring a name tag, and whose lack of romantic inspiration finds him dumped by his girlfriend, Liz (Kate Ashfield), because all he ever wants to do is hang out at his local pub.

You might also say Shaun is a tad self-involved. As *Shaun of the Dead* sets up its comedy and conflicts—which also involve Shaun's slovenly roommate, Ed (Nick Frost)—its hero is oblivious to the disaster that's struck every corner he walks by and to the footage on every TV he passes, heavy with crime scene tape and the hushed tones of oh-so-serious news anchors.

After a crazed woman tries to attack Shaun and Ed in their back garden, even Shaun is forced to look past his own nose and notice the carnage around him. He also notices the command to "sort out your life!" (uttered by Liz as she dumped him) that he drunkenly scrawled on his refrigerator's message board the night before. Shaun the slacker decides to become Shaun the man of action.

One of the movie's funnier sequences then follows, as Shaun imagines several scenarios (with matching visuals) in which, with the help of Ed, he can rescue his mom (Penelope Wilton) and Liz. In each, he finishes the day at the pub, a pint in one hand and a satisfied grin on his kisser. Easier said than done. When Shaun and Ed try to implement one of these plans, they first have to dodge the cluster of meat-eating zombies on their street, and when they get to Shaun's mom's, they have to deal with his stepdad (Bill Nighy of *Love Actually*), who was bitten in the street and, unbeknownst to mom, is riding a one-way train to Zombieville.

More complications arise when, in order to get Liz to come along, Shaun also has to convince her roommates—Dianne (Lucy Davis of *The Office*) and her stick-in-the-mud boyfriend David, who seems to prefer Liz to Di— to join them. Then it's off to the pub—eluding zombie hordes on the way—where the familiar horror premise of a group of people confined in a small space and besieged from the outside gets a clever comic twist.

Those comic twists work sc well because the comedy in *Shaun of the Dead* scores right from the start. This isn't just a horror spoof à la *Scream*, it's a movie about funny characters. Director and cowriter Edgar Wright knows how to set up gags and put them across (he, Pegg and much of the cast have mostly English TV comedies in their past credits). Whether it's characters' habit of saying "What's that supposed to mean?" to glaringly obvious accusations or the "bizarro" *Seinfeld* moment in which Shaun, his slovenly roommate, mom, ex-girlfriend and her roommates run into Shaun's friend Yvonne (Jessica Stevenson), her slovenly roommate, mom, ex-boyfriend and his roommates, *Shaun of the Dead* is more unpredictable than a mere spoof.

Once Shaun and his band of would-be survivors make it to the Winchester, his favorite pub, the horror and the physical comedy intensify, thanks to the behind-the-bar rifle that gives the pub its name, as well as the tangled web of romantic feelings running among the group and the heated argument over what to do when one of them reveals a zombie bite suffered on the trek to the pub.

Shots are fired, flesh is ripped, friends are mourned and, somewhere along the way, Liz is perhaps convinced that Shaun has left his feckless ways behind him. In other words, for a movie with more deaths than an armed revolution, *Shaun of the Dead* also has an effectively sweet side. And it's a horror-comedy worthy of standing alongside those 1980s greats, *Return of the Living Dead* and *Evil Dead 2*. **iB**

Shaun of the Dead ★★★

Directed by Edgar Wright. Written by Simon Pegg and Wright. With Pegg, Kate Ashfield, Nick Frost, Dylan Moran, Lucy Davis, Penelope Wilton and Bill Nighy. Rated R. At Kendall Square.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Bright Leaves ★★½
As always, the latest nonfiction movie from loca based filmmaker Ross (*Sherman's March*) attemp to blend an outer and an inner pursuit. This tim the outer pursuit is an examination of the mix blessing of North Carolina's tobacco indust which McElwee's great-grandfather helped to pi neer and which still has a grip on his home sta despite the health havoc it has wreaked. McElwe inner pursuit, as has often been the case in his filn is an investigation of the relationship betwe memory and reality. Memory is often represent here by film, as a cousin shows McElwee a Ga Cooper movie (*Bright Leaf*) in which the star play character based on their great-grandfather, and McElwee tries to figure out why he's compulsiv filmed his son's childhood. The movie is a fishi expedition that doesn't always come back with i triguing catches (for instance, McElwee asked t "why do I film?" question more interestingly in I *Time Indefinite*), though those who've followed l movies over the years will find more to dig in than first-timers will. (At Kendall Square.)

Bush's Brain ★★★
The moviemaking never gets beyond the basic sta but Joseph Mealey and Michael Shoob's document (based on the book by James C. Moore and Way Slater) offers an effectively appalled look at Wh House senior adviser Karl Rove. *Bush's Brain* chro cles a succession of Nixon-worthy tactics by Ro from Texas state politics shenanigans to the smear of John McCain during the 2000 South Caroli presidential primary. There are no smoking guns, l the circumstantial evidence detailed by the auth and other veteran Texas journalists is harrowing. (Kendall Square.)

A Dirty Shame ★★
It's been a long time since *Multiple Maniacs*, Jo Waters' 1970 comedy in which the heroes p formed in a rebellious traveling "Cavalcade of P version." If his new movie, in which Baltimore b collar sex addicts are the heroes, had been ma then, it might have worked. But nowadays, wh sex is used to sell everything and is everywhere the media (from Stern to Springer to Spears) seems awfully passé. That's part of the reason w the laughs are sparse, and why only a few charact are consistently amusing (mainly Suzanne Sheph as the crusty leader of the "decency" forces fight the sex addicts and Jackie Hoffman as one of t more creative sexaholics). Too much of the mo just seems sophomoric. (At Coolidge Corner a Kendall Square.)

Donnie Darko: The Director's Cut ★★½
If it ain't broke, don't fix it. Writer-director Rich Kelly's brilliant *Donnie Darko* returns—not in version that struck an emotional chord in so ma despite being barely marketed in 2001, but in D nie Darko: The Director's Cut, a new version r ning 20 minutes longer. Except this isn't a true rector's cut"; this 133-minute version never exis before now. If you haven't seen *Donnie Darko*, original version is a better introduction; if have, you've probably seen the added stuff alrea Most of the "restored" footage comes from dele scenes on the *Donnie Darko* DVD. Meanwh Kelly has also gone back and changed some of songs to what he originally wanted, but couldn ford in the budget. But wait a minute. Kelly or nally wanted U2's "MLK" at the climax. Michael Andrews and Gary Jules' unforgetta haunting version of Tears for Fears' "Mad Wor which became a surprise hit. So why didn't he place that too? Kelly should have remained satis with the *other* happy accidents in his movie as w (Midnight shows at Coolidge Corner.)

Fahrenheit 9/11 ★★★½
Rabble-rouser Michael Moore's passionate dec struction of the second Bush administration has knockout revelations about its controversial po cies, so don't expect smoking guns. Its ultimate get is the war in Iraq, but the movie presents war as just the latest in a pattern of self-servi law-skirting behavior. Moore comes up with spired ways of getting his points across ab much-debated Bush policies and conflicts of in est. He's onscreen less than he was in *Roger & M The Big One* and *Bowling for Columbine*, yet he gues such points better than in *Columbine*. Mo hits his targets because, despite his political ai he makes you feel like you're watching a mo not a political rant, and his sense of humor re shines through. (At Boston Common, Harv Square and suburbs.)

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Garden State ★★½
The first film by actor-director Zach Braff (TV's *Scrubs*) has its moments of daffy humor, as Braff plays a struggling L.A. actor who returns to his New Jersey hometown for the first time in nine years. It recaptures the mixed emotions of such a visit, especially of seeing old high school friends, but it treads on very familiar territory. It feels like it wants to be a version of *The Graduate* directed by Wes Anderson (*Rushmore*), and it struggles to find any voice of its own. Plus, the story of a guy returning to his hometown who develops a quick bond with a Natalie Portman character has already been done, in 1996's *Beautiful Girls*. Braff and Portman have a pleasing chemistry, and Braff is to be commended for trying to make something quirky and personal. But it's hard not to feel this movie is redundant. (At Boston Common and Kendall Square.)

Hero ★★★
Zhang Yimou's drama is the dreamiest martial arts movie since Wong Kar Wai's *Ashes of Time*, with which it shares stars Tony Leung Chiu Wai and Maggie Cheung. This period piece about feudal China soars during its creative fight scenes, though the production design regularly gets out of hand (some scenes are so superficially "pretty" they look like perfume commercials). The title character played by Jet Li can also be as inexpressive as a compulsive Botox patient. But this is ambitious stuff, and the fight scenes and larger-than-life drama, fueled mostly by Cheung's performance, often pay off handsomely. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Open Water ★★★
No stars, no special effects—no problem. Writer-director Chris Kentis builds old-fashioned tension in his tale of a stressed-out L.A. couple who take a vacation in the tropics and go on a scuba tour, only to be left behind in shark-infested waters by the tour boat. Yikes. The shooting style and the actors (Daniel Travis and Blanchard Ryan) are raw enough that the movie almost feels like a home video (it was shot on digital video). And when the couple's trip turns into a life-threatening ordeal and the shark fins start slicing through the nearby waters, the action has a frightening intimacy. A well-needed boost of low-tech moviemaking at the multiplex. (At Boston Common, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

Reconstruction ★★★
This stylish Danish romantic drama takes place at least partially within the head of one of its characters. Is it the photographer (Nikolaj Lie Kaas) who's unsure of his love for his girlfriend (Maria Bonnevie)? The neglected married woman (Bonnevie, as well) he meets and starts a fling with? Or the woman's novelist husband (Krister Kenriksson)? The story certainly gets balled up in such questions by the time it's over, but its adulterous central relationship also gives off such a palpable charge of physical attraction and is such an intriguing experience that *Reconstruction* never becomes as pretentious as it might have. (At Kendall Square.)

Resident Evil 2: Apocalypse ★½
The first one was an obnoxious mish-mash of *Aliens* and *Night of the Living Dead*, starring stiff Milla Jovovich. The sequel borrows elements from yet more sci-fi/horror films, but unlike the superior *28 Days Later* or *Shaun of the Dead*, it adds no new twists. Even more unnecessary than most sequels. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Silver City ★★
Part political satire and part thriller, John Sayles' latest is unsatisfying on both levels. It usually falls short because the cheesy satire gets in the way of the more interesting thriller. That satire casts Chris Cooper as Dubya-like Dickie Pilager (that's right, pronounced "pillager"), dim-witted scion of the Pilager political family. It's obvious, it's lazy, we've seen it before and, as *Fahrenheit 9/11* showed, the real thing is more freakishly amusing. The thriller essentially retreads *Chinatown* in its tale of Western political corruption for economic gain from natural resources. Although Danny O'Brien (Danny Huston), the private eye and lapsed idealist at the heart of the thriller, is an interesting character to watch as his idealism is rekindled, a half movie doesn't leave him much room to grow. (At Copley Place, Harvard Square and suburbs.)

We Don't Live Here Anymore ★★
But, then again, who'd want to live where this cold drama takes place? This story of the indiscretion-filled love lives of best-friend professors Mark Ruffalo and Peter Krause and wives Laura Dern and Naomi Watts is one big neurotic twitch, given a stuffy air by its academic setting and director John Curran's use of classical music. The story examines what happens when one of the pals has an affair with the other's wife, but it never really gets inside the heads of its characters, and Ruffalo and Watts are given little chance to exude much sexual chemistry together. *Bob & Carol & Ted & Alice* it ain't. (At Harvard Square and suburbs.)


Mike Bonanno (left) and Andy Bichlbaum, the pranksters profiled in *The Yes Men*

The Yes Men ★★★
When pranksters Mike Bonanno and Andy Bichlbaum set up a spoof Web site of the World Trade Organization's page, some groups mistook the spoof for the real thing and asked for a WTO rep to come speak at their conferences. This documentary follows the pair as they prepare for and carry out what they call "public spectacles," in which they espouse absurd profit-first policies and see if anyone reacts, and see how much media coverage they can get for their pranks. During one speech, they tout the value of cheap, remote labor (better than slavery because there are no one-way transportation charges to be recouped!); in another, they make a presentation for the "Re-Burger," in which human waste from fast food is treated and made into new burgers for third world residents to enjoy. You don't learn much about these guys in the movie, but their deeds are a kick in the pants. (Opening Oct. 1.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Marlon Brando Film Series
•Sept. 27, 6 pm. **The Ugly American** *1963*. In George Englund's film, Marlon Brando plays an ambassador to a Southeast Asian country in the midst of political unrest.

BRATTLE THEATRE

Film Noir 101
•Oct. 4, 5, 7:15 and 9:45 pm. **The Maltese Falcon** *1941*. Humphrey Bogart stars as a San Francisco detective on a murderous hunt for a valuable statuette. John Huston directs.
•Oct. 5, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:45 pm. **Laura** *1944*. When a New York City socialite is murdered, her high profile friends are suspected. Otto Preminger directs.

John Waters: King of Cult
•Sept. 22, 7:45 and 9:45 pm. **Polyester** *1981*. An upper-middle-class housewife in Baltimore butts heads with the neighbors because of her husband's porn business. Waters directs.
•Sept. 23, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm. **Hairspray** *1988*. Ricki Lake stars as an overweight teen who scores a spot on a TV dance show during the early 1960s. Waters directs.

Midnight Madness
•Sept. 24 and 25, 12 am. **Big Time** *1988*. Chris Blum's portrait of musician Tom Waits includes performance footage from concerts in San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Special Engagements and Premieres
•Sept. 24-29, 4:30 and 8 pm, Sat. and Sun., 1 pm; Oct. 1-3, 2 pm. **The Leopard** *1963*. Burt Lancaster stars as the Prince of Salina in Luchino Visconti's film adaptation of Giuseppe di Lampedusa's novel about war in 1850s Sicily.
•Oct. 1-3, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm; Fri. and Sat., 11:30 pm. **Anatomy of Hell** *2004*. Catherine Breillat's sexually explicit film, adapted from her novel Pornocratie, explores the intimate relationship between a gay man and a suicidal woman after they spend four days together in a motel.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Box Office Babies
•Sept. 27, 1 pm. The Coolidge's new biweekly series provides an infant-friendly setting for viewing recent international, independent and documentary films. Titles are announced a week before the screening at www.coolidge.org.

Classic Summer Movies
•Sept. 27, 7:30 pm. **Blue Velvet** *1986*. in David Lynch's surreal mystery film, a man and a woman investigate a strange murder in their small town involving a severed ear and a beautiful woman.

Coolidge Selects
•Now playing. **Outfoxed: Rupert Murdoch's War on Journalism** *2004*. Director Robert Greenwald interviews media critics and former Fox employees in this investigation of the network's journalistic ethics.
•Opening Sept. 24. **A Dirty Shame** *2004*. See New Releases for a description.
•Opening Oct. 1. **The Motorcycle Diaries** *2004*. Two students in 1950s Buenos Aires take a road trip across Argentina and discover the cultural differences between the city and the country. Walter Salles directs.
•Opening Oct. 1. **The Inheritance** *2003*. A modest restaurateur finds himself compromising his morals when he's persuaded to take over his father's steel business. Peter Fly directs.

Director's Cut: Films and Discussion
•Sept. 22, 8 pm. **Crashing the Parties 2004**. The filmmakers appear in person for the screening of this compilation documentary on the independent candidates of the 2004 presidential election.
•Sept. 28, 7:30 pm. **The World Stopped Watching** *2003*. In his follow up to his 1988 documentary *The World Is Watching*, director Peter Raymont looks at life in Nicaragua 15 years after the revolution.
•Oct. 4, 7 pm. **One in Eight: Janice's Journey** *2004*. Cynthia McKeown's documentary charts one woman's struggle with breast cancer and examines the disease.

Kids First! Film Club
•Sept. 25, 11 am, ages 6-12. **Beethoven Lives Upstairs**. A young boy befriends composer Ludwig van Beethoven as he works on his Ninth Symphony.

Midnight Movies
•Sept. 24, 12 am. **Donnie Darko: Director's Cut** *2004*. See New Releases for a description.

•Oct. 1 and 2, 12 am. **Iki-jigoku** *(Living Hell) 200* After a horrendous crime wipes out their entire fa ily, an old woman and her granddaughter move with their wheelchair-bound distant relative a make his life a living hell. Shugo Fujii directs.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Cinéma Français
•Sept. 27, 9 pm. **Pola X** *1999*. In Leos Carax' fil based on Herman Melville's novel *Pierre*, a you writer's relationship with his mother is disrupt when a stranger convinces him to finish his aut biography.
•Oct. 4, 9 pm. **Zéro de Conduite** *(Zero for Conduc 1933*. Four boys organize a revolt against the admi istrators at their Parisian boarding school. Jean Vi directs. •Also showing, 9 pm. **Beau Travail** *199* Clair Denis' film follows the relationship between commanding officer and a new recruit in the Fren Foreign Legion.

Cold War Chronicles: The Films of Emile de Antonio
•Sept. 24, 7 pm; Sept. 26, 9 pm. **Millhouse: A Whi Comedy** *1971*. De Antonio's critique of Richa Nixon consists of archival footage beginning with h election to Congress in 1948 through his rise to t presidency in 1969. •Also showing, Sept. 24, 9 p Sept. 26, 9:30 pm. **America Is Hard to See** *196* This documentary chronicles Senator Eugene M Carthy's 1968 bid for the presidency.
•Sept. 26, 7 pm; Sept. 29, 9 pm. **Painters Painti** *1972*. De Antonio mixes black-and-white intervie footage with color shots of artwork to create a po trait of New York School artists Willem de Kooni Andy Warhol, Jasper Johns and others.
•Sept. 28, 9 pm. **In the King of Prussia** *1982*. Em de Antonio reconstructs a 1980 break-in by Catho activists at a General Electric weapons plant.

Contemporary Hollywood Cinema
•Sept. 27, 7 pm. **Easy Rider** *1969*. Dennis Hoppe classic film follows motorcycle-riding drifters Ca tain America (Peter Fonda) and Billy the Kid (Ho per) on a cross-country trip through 1960s Ameri •Oct. 4, 7 pm. **Shaft** *1971*. Richard Roundtree st as "the black private dick who's a sex machine to the chicks" in Gordon Parks' film.

Haunted Visions: The Films of F.W. Murnau
•Oct. 1, 7 pm. **Der Gang in die Nacht** *(Journey i the Night) 1921*. A doctor leaves his wife when he seduced by a young dancer in this silent film. Li piano music by Yakov Gubanov accompanies screening. •Also showing, 9 pm. **Schloß Vogel** *(The Haunted Castle) 1921*. Pianist Yakov Guban performs live musical accompaniment to this sile film about visitors to the Castle Vogelöd.
•Oct. 2, 7 pm. **Der Brennende Acker** *(The Burni Soil) 1922*. A young man attempts to woo a weal count's daughter and wife in order to gain access an oil field. Pianist Peter Freisinger provides live m sical accompaniment. •Also showing, 9 pm. **Die nanzen des Großherzogs** *(The Grand Duke's nances) 1924*. Pianist Peter Freisinger provides musical accompaniment to Murnau's silent f about an arranged marriage that goes awry.

Movie Love: Almodóvar and His Inspirations
•Sept. 22, 7 pm. **Tacones Lejanos** *(High Heels) 19* The mother/daughter relationship is strained wh the daughter's boyfriend, who is also one of mother's ex-boyfriends, turns up dead. Pedro Almo var directs. •Also showing, 9 pm. **Mildred Pie** *1945*. Joan Crawford stars as a melodramatic mot recounting the sacrifices she's made for her child while she's questioned in her husband's murd Michael Curtiz directs.
•Oct. 3, 7 pm. **Mujeres al Borde de un Ataque Nervios** *(Women on the Verge of a Nervous Bre down) 1988*. Almodóvar's screwball comedy volves a soap opera star, her soon-to-be- boyfriend, his gun-toting wife, their son, and Valium-drugged fiancée. •Also showing, 9 **Johnny Guitar** *(1954)*. Nicholas Ray's Western Joan Crawford as a saloon owner feuding wit ruthless landowner.
•Oct. 5, 7 pm. **Todo Sobre Mi Madre** *(All Ab My Mother) 1999*. A single mother reencount figures from her past while grieving her only s death. •Also showing, 9 pm. **All About Eve** *19* A seemingly naive aspiring actress works her wa the top by latching onto a Broadway star and circle of friends. Joseph L. Mankiewicz directs.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

The Films of F.W. Murnau
•Sept. 30, 8 pm; Oct. 1, 6 pm, Oct. 2, 2 pm. **Nos atu** *1922*. Live music by the Allied Orchestra companies Murnau's classic Dracula flick, base Bram Stoker's tale. A screening of Jane Gillou

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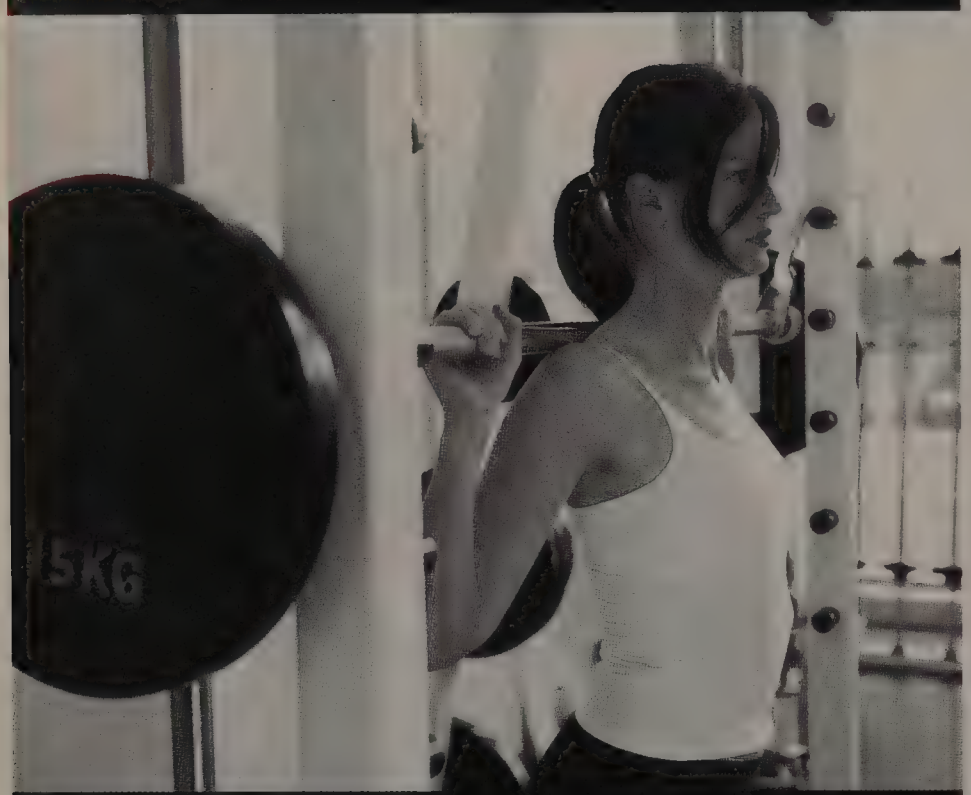


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short film *Dragonflies, the Baby Cries (2000)* precedes the film.
•Oct. 2, 12 pm. **Der Letzte Mann** *(The Last Laugh) 1924.* Boston Pops pianist Bob Winter provides live musical accompaniment to Murnau's film about a hotel porter demoted to bathroom attendant.

The Films of Nuri Bilge Ceylan

•Sept. 24, 7:45 pm; Sept. 25, 3:45 pm. **Usak** *(Distant) 2003.* Ceylan looks at the relationship between two lonely cousins when one leaves his small town and arrives at the other's doorstep in Istanbul.

Irish Cinema

•Sept. 23, 6:15 pm. **Goldfish Memory** *2003.* Liz Gill's film follows Dubliners who fall in and out of love and make the same mistakes over and over again.

New England Film Artists Present

•Sept. 23 8 pm; Sept. 24, 6 pm; Sept. 25, 11 am; Sept. 27, 10:30 pm. **Smoke and Mirrors: A Geisha Story** *2004.* Artemis Willis' documentary captures her relationship with an 88-year-old former geisha living in Queens.

Premiere Engagements

•Sept. 26, 7 pm. **Tarnation** *2004.* Director Jonathan Caouette began documenting his life at age 11. The finished product, a compilation of Super-8 home videos and reenactments, captures Caouette's relationship with his mentally ill mother.

Russian Cinema: A Tribute to Lenfilm Studios

•Sept. 23, 12:30 pm. **Dvadstat Dnei bez Voiny** *(Twenty Days Without the War) 1976.* After the Battle of Stalingrad, a war correspondent returns home on leave and finds that people's illusions of the war clash with his experience. Alexei Gherman directs. •Also showing, 2:30 pm. **Maskarada** *(Masquerade) 1941.* This Soviet-era film charts the devastating effects of a husband's jealousy after he discovers that his wife has fallen for another man.
•Sept. 25, 12:45 pm. **Katka-bumazhny Ranyet** *(Katka's Reinette Apples) 1926.* A young woman falls under the influence of some shady characters in Leningrad during the Soviet New Economic Policy era. Friedrich Ermler and Edouard Ioganson's silent film screens with live accompaniment by Pops pianist Bob Winter.
•Also showing, 2:15 pm. **Dom v Sugrobakh** *(House in the Snow Drifts) 1927.* Pops pianist Bob Winter provides live musical accompaniment to Friedrich Ermler's silent film about a young musician trying to rise above the civil war in 1919 Russia.

Sounds for Silence

•Sept. 30, 6 pm; Oct. 1, 8 pm; Oct. 2 4 pm. **Metropolis** *1926.* Live music by the Alloy Orchestra accompanies Fritz Lang's silent film about a futuristic city divided between workers and planners.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

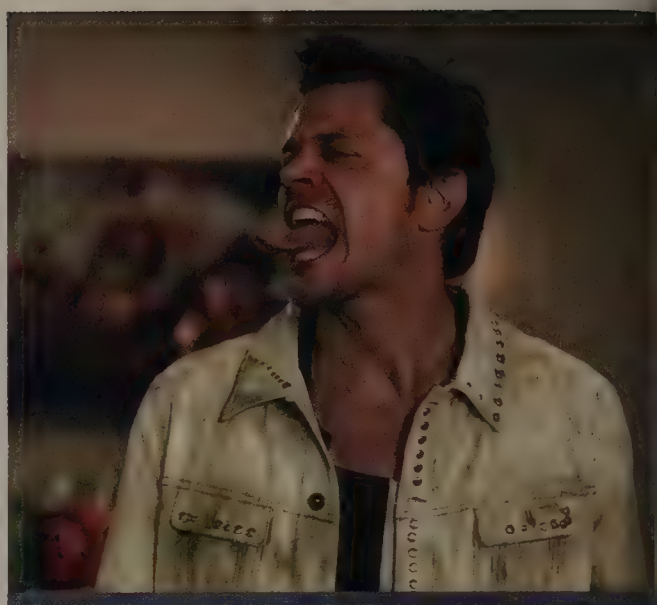
Mugar Omni Theater

•Through Oct. 31. **Adrenaline Rush: The Science of Risk**. Explore the inner workings of the body as one jumps out of a plane or asks someone out on a date.
•Through May 26, 2005. **Forces of Nature**. Experience the power of earthquakes, volcanoes and storms as scientists attempt to forecast and understand them.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater

•Opening Sept. 30. **Galapagos**. Marine biologist Carole Baldwin leads a scientific expedition through the coral reefs of the Galapagos Islands.
•Through Nov. 9. **Ghosts of the Abyss**. James Cameron journeys miles beneath the ocean surface to the ruins of Titanic.
•Through Nov. 9. **NASCAR 3D**. Experience life in the fast lane with NASCAR pit crews and drivers clocking over 200 mph.
•Through Nov. 9. **Ocean Wonderland 3D**. Watch as eagle rays, sharks, dolphins and more create an underwater wonderland.
•Through Nov. 9. **Spiderman 2: The IMAX Experience**. Peter Parker, aka Spiderman, struggles with his destiny in this sequel directed by Sam Raimi.
•Through Nov. 9. **Volcanoes of the Deep Sea**. Dive to the bottom of the sea with a team of scientists, as they explore hydrothermal vents, shipwrecked gardens, predators and bioluminescent creatures.



Johnny Knoxville in John Waters' *A Dirty Shame*

Cinema Venues

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Harbor Hotel
70 Rowes Wharf. (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue L to Aquarium.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Gr Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Gr Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Gr Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Lin Science Park.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Lin Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Lin Reservoir.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Gr Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Lin Harvard.

Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBT Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Lin Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Lin Harvard.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Gr Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Or Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red L to Davis.

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Shake and Bake

Cake mixes synthetic ingredients into its idiosyncratic pop.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Cake has the icing of an art-pop group, cleverly wrapping sardonic lyrics in quirky, minimalist orchestrations. Yet the core of the Sacramento quintet's music is succinct and accessible enough that it's secured radio airplay for such singles as "The Distance," "Never There" and new entry "No Phone." Talk about being able to have your Cake and eat it too.

"We try not to be indulgent," trumpeter Vincent Di Fiore says. "We like to play a song and get the hell out before we take someone on a musical journey they may or may not appreciate. We've never wanted to seem like we're avant-garde or anything like that, because that's sort of shaky ground. We wanted to have solid craftsmanship and good songs."



Vincent Di Fiore (left) and Cake release their fifth CD, *Pressure Chief*, October 5.

That's what Cake has offered for 12 years, while steadily flirting with the mainstream. "We kind of got through by not being very popular, but being under the radar a little bit," says Di Fiore, who has been aboard from the start with singer-songwriter John McCrea.

"We didn't make a big push to bring a lot of attention to ourselves, so that we'd prop ourselves up for people to knock us down," he adds. "We just had a combination of people in the band who were able to get along together, and didn't have a shortage of songs, and had some success with singles on the radio. And mostly, it's just a strong base of people who are willing to listen to our music and come out to our shows."

Those fans will get another chance to see Cake on a tour that rolls into the Orpheum Theatre October 7, two days after the release of the group's fifth CD, *Pressure Chief*.

"We have a set list now that we look at every song and say people are going to know almost every one," Di Fiore says. "The most obscure songs we play now are the new songs."

That may change. *Pressure Chief* has a batch of catchy tunes, recorded to hard disk in a home studio where Cake handled production itself. "It's nice to touch the knobs without feeling like you're not following the protocol of the studio, and getting in someone's way," Di Fiore says. "The band sort of started as Luddites. We're not really anti-technology, but there was something we liked about old amplifiers and small, cheap, acoustic instruments. Now we're embracing this technology and finding that it's a lot of fun, and that it doesn't hurt the music."

Di Fiore, McCrea, bassist Gabe Nelson and guitarist Xan McCurdy all supplemented their usual instruments with turns at a variety of synthesizers. "We tried to use them as well as we could and in as many places as possible without making the record sound cold," Di Fiore says of the synthetic touches, which extended to programmed rhythms, though drummer Paulo Baldi is back in action on the tour.

"We wanted to try something different," Di Fiore says of the recording, which also took advantage of the computer editing system Pro Tools. "You can move things around so easily, without splicing magnetic tape from reel to reel. You can copy and paste like you do on MacIntosh programs, or word-processing programs and e-mail. It's the same thing, but applied to music."

Nonetheless, *Pressure Chief* is still laced with the familiar taste of Cake. First, there's McCrea's wry and dry lyrical terrain, from the woeful relationship cycle of "Wheels" and communication overload of "No Phone" to the anti-pollution "Carbon Monoxide," in which he cries, "Where's the air?"

"That saying 'The personal is the political' is a really good way to describe the way John will write a song," Di Fiore says. "The songs are written in a crafty enough way that they're really about personal issues, but there's some sort of political worldview that's implied."

Then there are Di Fiore's sly trumpet lines. "Somebody said that [they're] oddly cinematic, which is a good description," says Di Fiore, who embraces such disparate influences as War, Sly & the Family Stone, the Beatles and Motown, as well as Mexican *norteña*, mariachi and *ranchera* music.

"People say, 'I don't know how to describe your music—it's eclectic and you have so many influences.' But if you look at the bands in the '70s, that's true about those bands, all of those songs that are lasting."

From a band that once covered Gloria Gaynor's disco anthem "I Will Survive," the new CD offers a sober take on another '70s tune, "Guitar Man," by soft-rock staple Bread.

"We're doing it maybe a bit tongue-in-cheek, but we were very serious about doing that song justice," Di Fiore says. "It's kind of a funny song for us to do because it's about the delusional life of a rock guitarist." iB

Cake
plays the Orpheum Theatre October 7.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by f (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or email to music@improper.com. Include dates, tim prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not a cepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from d ferent sources. Although we make every effort to prov accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahe to double-check dates and times (see complete list venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Lloyd Banks Sept. 24, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Beantown Jazz Festival with Najee, La Tim Loca, the Brass Force, Wannetta Jackson a more Sept. 25, Columbus Avenue (617-471-1990
Blackalicious Sept. 27, Paradise Rock Club (61 423-NEXT).
Gavin DeGraw Oct. 3, Roxy (617-931-2000).
Drunken Tiger, BSK, Mirae "T" Yoon, Gabrie Goodman Sept. 25, Berklee Performance Cent (617-931-2000).
Flogging Molly Oct. 1, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Keane Oct. 2, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Kurth & Taylor Concert for Kids Sept. 26, Dic Last Resort (617-267-8080).
Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra Sept. 26, Sympho Hall, (617-266-1200).
Barry Manilow Oct. 1, FleetCenter (617-93 2000).
The Branford Marsalis Quartet Oct. 3, Sand Theatre, (617-496-2222).
Edwin McCain Sept. 28, Paradise Rock Club (61 423-NEXT).
Morrissey Oct. 4, Orpheum Theatre (800-27 4444).
Pearl Jam Sept. 28 and 29, FleetCenter, (617-93 2000) Sold out.
The Samples Oct. 3, Paradise Rock Club (617-4 NEXT).
The Saw Doctors Sept. 22, Paradise Rock C (617-423-NEXT).
The Von Bondies Oct. 1, Axis (617-931-2000).
Wilco, the Fiery Furnaces Oct. 1, Wang Thea (617-482-9393).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

Abbey Lounge Radar Eyes, 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm.
Breezeway Jeff Felder, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Rachael Davis, 8 pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Harper's Ferry The Akashic Sessions, $3, 21+.
Johnny D's Willem Breuker Kollektiev
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie.
Lizard Lounge David Johnston, 7 pm; Dennis Ba nan Band, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: The Husbands, Turpent Brothers, The Konks and The Butcher Boys, 18+. Downstairs: Ghost, Major Stars, $12, 18+.
Milky Way Lyrical & Lifted.
O'Brien's Redshift, Melodeego and Bettersweet.
Paradise Saw Doctors, 8 pm, $25, 18+.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Bob Belden and ICE, 7:30 and 10 p $15.
Ryles Jazz Club Matthew Stubbs Band, 8:30 pm,
Tír na nÓg Night in Wyoming.
Toad Rosie Huntress, 7 pm; Union Label, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Sixtoo and Blockhead, $8.
Weeks Foot Bridge RiverSing: Bridging the Cha with Voice and Light, 6:30 pm, no cover.
Wonder Bar Joe McMahon Duo.
Les Zygomates Sofia Koutsovitis, no cover.
ZuZu The Gulf, no cover, 21+.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Abbey Lounge Thee Shams, 10:30 pm; Pick U 11:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Asgard Tom Glynn.
The Attic Fred Eaglesmith, $15.
Avenue One Nando Michelin Brazilian Projec
Black Horse Tavern Matt Chase, 8:30 pm, no co
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Pat Loomis, 7 pm.

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Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm.
Breezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Swingin' Johnsons, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Kassie Buckley Band, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Kreg Viesselman with Jonathan Byrd and Dromedary, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Blue Soul, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Harper's Ferry Carbon Leaf, $12-$15, 18+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
High Street Grille Little Joe Cook, 9 pm, no cover.
Johnny D's Blackie and the Rodeo Kings.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Kirkland Café AM, Finger, Rollo Tomasi Quartet, Russell Wolff, $5.
Lizard Lounge Vykki Vox Band and Jennifer Truesdale, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: PCR, Joint Custody, the Midnight Collective and Focusin', $8, 18+. Downstairs: Rye Coalition, Division of Laura Lee, Your Enemies Friends and the Kinison, $12, 18+. Corner: Night in Wyoming.
Midway Café Corisano & Glarmety & Wright.
O'Brien's Food Wall, the Climax Golden Twins, Cerberus Shoal.
Paradise Rachael Yamagata and Tom McRae, 9 pm, $14, 18+.
Plough and Stars Stan Martin, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Greg Osby Four, 7:30 and 10 pm, $20.
Ryles Jazz Club Shimon Ben-Shir Group, 8:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Abbey Lincoln, $28.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Toad Blast Off!, 7 pm; Todd Thibaud, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Bon Savants, the Comas, Brett Rosenberg Problem, Furvis, $8.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Trio.
ZuZu Matters and Dunaway, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Abbey Lounge Royer's One Man Band, 9:30 pm; the Spitzz, 10:30 pm; the Curses, 11:30 pm; $5-$7, 21+.
Asgard Tom and Stu.
The Attic Marie's Children.


Flogging Molly brings its Celtic-inspired punk rock to Avalon October 1

Avalon Lloyd Banks, 7 pm, $35.25, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Groove Authority, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm; Maxi 10:30 pm.
Bob the Chef's Wanetta Jackson, no cover.
Boston Harbor Hotel Johnny Souza and the Ray Santisi Trio.
Bravo at the MFA Rusty Scott, 5:30 pm.
The Burren Random Axis, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim John Stewart, 8 pm, $20.
Dick's Last Resort Death by Marriage, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Five to the Face.
The Harp Lifespeed.
Harper's Ferry The Damnwells, Kotter & the Navigators, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5 pm; Say When, 9 pm.
Johnny D's The Swingin Johnsons.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton.
Kirkland Café Metro Crossing, Maxxtones, Line of Girls, Gary Rand, $5.
Lizard Lounge Spakola, Rocket Science and Is It Jazz, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Icaros.
Middle East Upstairs: Jake Brennan and the Confidence Men, Runner and the Thermodynamics, the Rudds and the Heygoods, 7 pm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Dada and Labb, $15, 18+. Corner: Funk with Megalodon.
Midway Café Trahy Femmes.
Milky Way Save Yourself, Chloroform Kids and M
lion Dollar Marxists.
Mr. Dooley's Inchicore.
O'Brien's Distinguished Members, Mad Man Fil
and Shortfilm.
Paradise Assembly of Dust, 9 pm, $16.50, 18+.
Parris Kristen and the Noise.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 6 pm; Eilen Jew
9:30 pm.
Regattabar Terence Blanchard, 7:30 and 10 p
$25.
Ryles Jazz Club Black Sea Salsa, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Abbey Lincoln, $30.
Tír na nÓg Molly Coddle.
Toad Bourbon Princess.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway with the E
Nieske Group, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Gibby Haynes & His Proble
the Lot Six, the Fakers $10-$12.
Wonder Bar Harold Layne Trio.
ZuZu Latin Night with Gian Carlo Buscaglia,
cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Abbey Lounge The Von Gouls, 9:30 pm; Th
Minks, 10:30 pm; Downbeat 5, 11:30 pm.
Asgard Soap Box Preachers.
The Attic Toussaint & the China Band.
Avenue One Emiliano Loconsolo Duo.
Berklee Performance Center Drunken Tig
BSK, Mirae "T" Yoon and Gabrielle Goodman
pm, $49-$65.
Bill's Bar Supagroup.
Black Horse Tavern Roadside Prophet, 9:30 pm,
cover.
The Black Rose Jim Coyle, 4 pm; Celtic Clan, 9
pm; Maxi, 10:30 pm.
The Burren Open Bar Band, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thriller
pm, 21+.
Club Passim The Weepies and Rose Cousins, 7 a
10 pm, $15.
Columbus Avenue Beantown Jazz Festival, 12-6 p
$5 suggested donation.
Common Ground Toussaint, 10 pm.

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9/25 Teresa Ines Group
10/1 Bellevue Cadillac
10/2 Melvin Sparks Band
10/6 Moutin Reunion Quartet
10/8 & 10/9 James Williams Tribute
10/14 Natraj
10/22 Kenny Werner Trio
10/29 & 10/30 Mose Allison
11/18 Willie and Lobo
12/11 Steve Smith & Vital Information

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Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4 pm.
Johnny D's Boy with a Fish.
Kennedy's Midtown Reggae Nights with Bobbie Steelz and Moon.
Lizard Lounge Dave Aaronoff, 7 pm, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Andy Voelker.
Middle East Upstairs: Pilot to Gunner, the Stairs, Harris and Eyes Like Knives, $10, 18+. Downstairs: Superhoney, Drop and Kweejeebo, $9, 18+. Corner: Driftwood Citizens.
Mr. Dooley's Inchicore.
O'Brien's Fast Actin' Fuses, Karinations, the Erotics and the Drags.
Paradise Rock Club: Nick Lowe and Geraint Watkins, 9 pm, $20, 18+.
Parris Kristen & the Noise.
P.A.'s Chillmark, King Junk.
Plough and Stars Tom Hagerty, 5 pm; One Thin Dime, 9:30 pm.
Purple Shamrock Brick Park.
Regattabar Terence Blanchard, 7:30 and 10 pm, $25.
Ryles Jazz Club Teresa Ines Group, 9 pm, $12.
Scullers Jazz Club Abbey Lincoln, $30.
Somerville Theatre Boban Markovic & the Serbian Orkestar, 8 pm, $22-$28.
Tír na nÓg Mayberry 315.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 7 pm; Sam Bisbee, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway with the Bob Nieske Group, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Do Make Say Think, Inouk, Seneca, Mobius Band, $8-$10.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Trio.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

The Attic The Coalboilers.
The Black Rose Jim Coyle, 4 pm; Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz brunch with the Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30 am, no cover.
Breezeway Tony Vaughn Trio, 11 am-3 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim The Weepies, Rose Cousins, 7 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Kurth and Taylor, 1 pm; Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Hennessy's Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe.
Hynes Convention Center Ordinary Peoples.
Matt Murphy's Bud E Green.
Middle East Upstairs: Of the Hour, By Divine Right, Swimteam and Moonshot, $8, 18+. Corner: Open mike with Roger Nicholson, 10 pm, no cover.
Midway Café Steve Murphy Blooze.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett.
O'Brien's Lenny and the Piss Poor Boys, the Alrighters, Larkin Brigade and Bloodshot Bill.
Paradise Rock Club: Metric, Death from Above, 1979, 8 pm, $12, 18+.
Plough and Stars Hatrack Gallagher and the Ric Maure Trio, 5:30 pm; the Coachmen, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday jazz brunch with Steve Rochinski, 10 am, no cover.
Toad Adam Ezra, 7 pm; Session Americana, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12 pm; Paul Schmeling Trio, 8 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Muffs, Visqueen and the Randies, $10-$12.
ZuZu Rockabilly.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Axis Lucky Boys Confusion and Plain White T's.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm.
The Burren Traditional Irish Session, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Dani Linnetz, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Lizard Lounge The Cello Chix, 7 pm; Lexi Kahn, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: The Big Screen and Shindig, $9, 18+. Corner: Open mike with Roger Nicholson, 10 pm, no cover.
Midway Café Groove Thang.
O'Brien's TV Eye, These Lies, Stray Bullets, the Justice League.
Paradise Blackalicious, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
Plough and Stars Beek, Rhodes and Jefferies, 9:30 pm.
Tír na nÓg Christian McNeil and Co.
Toad Schwand, 7 pm; the Tim Gearan Band, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Paul Schmeling Trio, 8 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Dollyrots and Bang Sugar Bang, $7.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Addison Groove Project Oct. 16, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Bad Religion Oct. 29, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Beastie Boys Oct. 12, Worcester Centrum (617-931-2000).
Cake Oct. 7, Orhpeum Theatre (617-931-2000).
The Cramps Oct. 16, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Howie Day and Nickel Creek Oct. 16, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
De La Soul Oct. 25, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Dresden Dolls Oct. 30, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Gov't Mule Oct. 15, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Al Green Oct. 19, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
PJ Harvey Oct. 9, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Percy Hill Nov. 13, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Avril Lavigne Nov. 1, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Metallica Oct. 24, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Presidents of the United States of America Oct. 8, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
R.E.M. Oct. 29, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Brian Wilson Oct. 14, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).

ZuZu Brett Rosenberg, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Steven Spungin.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

The Black Rose Sundays Well, 9:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Jake and Taylor Armerding, 10 pm.
Club Passim Open mike featuring Mark Dignam, 7 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Pat Funk, 7:20 pm, no cover.
FleetCenter Pearl Jam, 7:30 pm, $35-$45(sold out).
The Green Dragon Tavern Shoot the Moon.
Johnny D's Four Shillings Short.
Lizard Lounge Rachel Cantru, 9 pm; Boston Undercover, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Washington Social Club, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Kill Hannah and Seymour Glass, $12, 18+.
Midway Café Donna Parker.
O'Brien's Diamond Mines, BJ Snowden, the Thungs and Sic.
Paradise Edwin McCain, 8 pm, $17, 18+.
Plough and Stars Josh Lederman, 9:30 pm.
Redline Lifted, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Kaufman Gertz and Bergonzi Trio, 9 pm, $12.
Scullers Jazz Club Ann Hampton Calloway, $20.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
Toad The Steve Mayone Band, 7 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Trio.
ZuZu Madman Films, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Todne Texeira.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Abbey Lounge Radar Eyes, 10:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
Avalon 17th Annual Boston Music Awards with the Dropkick Murphys, Buffalo Tom and more, 7 pm.
The Black Rose Sundays Well, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren The Benders, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Jason Harrod, 8 pm, $14.
Dick's Last Resort C3PO, 7:20 pm, no cover.
FleetCenter Pearl Jam, 7:30 pm, $35-$45 (sold out).



Rock band Sirsy plays the Kinsale September 30

The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Harper's Ferry The Akashic Sessions, $3, 21+.
Johnny D's Boris McCutcheon Band.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie.
Lizard Lounge Catharine David, 7 pm; Den Brennan Band, 9:30 pm, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: These Thieves, Prettythebo the Quittersand Annie Clark, $8, 18+. Downsta The Receiving End of Sirens, Lucia Lie, Brilli Misstake and A Hero Next Door, $9.
Midway Café Dark Bloom and Viadox.
O'Brien's Random Acts of Violence, Magrud grind, Abhorred and Pillory.
Paradise Virginia Coalition, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
P.A.'s Ara Vora, Reigning Frog and Leon Rich Ba
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Ron Carter Trio featuring Russell M one and Mulgrew Miller, 7:30 and 10 pm, $25.
The Roxy Col. Claypool's Bucket of Bernie Brain
Ryles Jazz Club Bruno Raberg, 8:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Dave Samuels and the Caribbe Jazz Project, $18.
Tír na nÓg Night in Wyoming.
Toad Deb Pasternak, 7 pm; the Ken Clark Org Trio, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Cul de Sac, Elliott Sha Glenn Jones, $10-$12.
Wonder Bar Joe McMahon Duo.
Les Zygomates Leo Blanco.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Abbey Lounge Radar Eyes, 11:30 pm, $5-7, 21+.
Asgard Annette Farrington.
The Attic Veneer.
Avenue One Andy Baer Jazz Quartet.
Black Horse Tavern Matt Chase, 8:30 pm, no cov
The Black Rose Sundays Well, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm.
Breezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Swingin' Johnsons, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge The Reaganomics, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Peter Case, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies
Harper's Ferry Seeking Homer, Tar Beach and t Grift, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
High Street Grille Little Joe Cook, 9 pm, no cove
Johnny D's Effi and Cahill.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Kinsale Sirsy.
Kirkland Café Henry, Hyphens, Once Over a Michael Hirsch, $5.
Lizard Lounge Paul Kearnan, 7 pm; Gaffney, 9: pm, 21+.
Middle East Upstairs: Beat Circus, Reverend Glass and His Wooden Legs, Curtis Eller, the Sob Siste One Ring Zero and DJ Hazard, $8, 18+. Downsta the Weakerthans, Lucero and Murder by Death, $ 18+. Corner: Kenyan Night.
Midway Café Orange and Guests.
O'Brien's Dead Outlaws, Dementia 13, For t Worse, Defcon 4 and Concrete Facelift.
Paradise Supergrass, 9 pm, $16.50, 18+.
PAs Mat Gibson.
Plough and Stars The Tullamores and Electroli 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Ron Carter Trio, featuring Russell M one and Mulgrew Miller, 7:30 and 10 pm, $25.
Ryles Jazz Club All About Buford, 8:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Jon Lucien, $22.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Toad Blast Off!, 7 pm; Todd Thibaud, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Clandestino, $8.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Trio.
ZuZu B-Lite, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1

Abbey Lounge The Click, Unbusted, Señor Hap Bill Janovitz and Crown Victoria, 9:30 pm.
All Asia Cafe De Novo Dahl, 9:30 pm; Taxpa 10:15 pm; Aerovox, 11 pm; the Exit, 11:45 p Tober, 12:30 am.
Asgard Ryan and Stu.
The Attic Souljah.
Avalon Flogging Molly, Street Dogs and the Brig 7 pm, $17.75, 18+.
Axis The Von Bondies and Auf Der Maur, 6 p $13.
Bill's Bar Drowning Poet, 8:45 pm; Haloburn, 9 pm; Gaiah, 10:15 pm; Black Dahlia, 11 pm; Liv Syndication, 11:45 pm; Sonicult, 12:30 am.
Black Horse Tavern Lisa Marie & All Shook 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Sundays Well, 9:30 pm; Cel Clan, 10:30 pm.



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Boston Harbor Hotel Johnny Souza and the Ray Santisi Trio.
Bravo at the MFA Damon Carter, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren The Mouse, 9 pm; the Bleedin' Bleedin's, 10 pm; Saucy Monkey, 11 pm; Leya, 12 am.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim NEMO Showcase with Dean Fields, Jason Myles Goss, Noam Weinstein, Owen Plant, Sam Shaber Trio, Jess Tardy and Kristin Sweetland, $13-$15.
Common Ground Superhoney, 10 pm, $5.
FleetCenter Barry Manilow, 8 pm, $35-$125.
The Harp Peatmoss.
Harper's Ferry Syd, 9 pm; Parker House and Theory, 10 pm; John Butler Trio, 11 pm, Will Dailey, 12 am, $10.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5 pm; Freeze Pop, 9 pm.
Johnny D's Monster Mike Welch, 9 pm; Teemo Arthur, 10 pm; Racky Thomas, 11 pm; Moondance Band, 12 am.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton.
Kirkland Café AJ Crowe and the Air Conditioners; Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lizard Lounge Everyday Visuals, 9 pm; Remains of Brian Borcherdt, 10 pm; Oxford Collapse, 11 pm; Aberdeen City, 12 am; Johnny Society, 1 am, $8, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Toussaint.
Middle East Paper Thin Stages, 9 pm; Medina Sod, 10 pm; Default Outfit, 11 pm, Sudden Ease, 12 am, $9, 18+.
Milky Way Pressure Cooker and the Debonaires
Paradise Rock Club: The Black Keys, the Cuts, 9 pm, $15, 18+; Lounge: Pop, the Rudds, the Montgomerys, the Downbeat 5, the Trews and Muck and the Mires, $8.
P.A.'s The Weisstronauts.
Parris Negative Space.
Plough and Stars Nail James Holohan, Baby Jenks, Alphatide, Elcodrive, Big Buildings.
Regattabar Ron Carter Trio featuring Russell Malone & Mulgrew Miller, 7:30 and 10 pm, $25.
Ryles Jazz Club Bellevue Cadillac, Hey Rim Jeon, Zen Bastards, Philip Hamilton, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Jon Lucien, $25.
Somerville Theatre Dervish, 8 pm, $22-$28.
Toad NEMO Showcase, no cover..
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway with the Bob Nieske Group, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Damone, the Pink Slips, the Knee-Hi's, Stargazer Lily, the So & So's, $8.
Wonder Bar Harold Layne Trio.
Zeitgeist Gallery Ben Roseth Quartet, 9 pm-12:30 am, $8.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2

Abbey Lounge The Curses, 9:30 pm; the Spitzz, 10:30 pm, $5-$7, 21+.
All Asia Cafe Modena Vox, 5 pm; Luna Halo, 5:45 pm; Blue Van, 6:30 pm; Aberdeen City, 7:15 pm.
The Attic The Knot.
Avalon Keane and French Kicks, 7 pm, $14.25.
Axis Brandtson, Further Seems Forever, Moments In Grace, the Kicks, Cristina Branco, 6 pm, $13.
Bill's Bar Loretta, 9 pm; Miranda Sound, 9:45 pm; Hold Steady, 10:30 pm; Sam Bisbee, 11:15 pm; Sexy Magazines, 12 am.
The Black Rose Frank Ryan, 4 pm; Sundays Well, 9:30 pm; Celtic Clan, 10:30 pm.
The Burren Niall James Houlihan, 9 pm; Babyjenks, 10 pm; Stars of the City, 11 pm; Waiting Room, 12 am.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim NEMO Showcase with Jake Amerding, Otis Gibbs, David Berkley, Courtney Kaiser, Elgin James and Jess McDonough, $13-$15.
Common Ground Adam Ezra and the Patio Kings, 10 pm, $5.
The Harp Peatmoss.
Harper's Ferry Dwight Ritcher Band, 9 pm; Honestly, 10 pm; Toothpick, 11 pm; Marc Brussard, 12 am, $10.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4 pm.
Johnny D's J. Place Duo, 9 pm; Dave Maxwell, 10 pm; Sweet Willie D, 11 pm; Mr. Nick's Blues Mafia, 12 am.
Kennedy's Midtown Reggae Nights with Bobbie Steelz and Moon.
Kirkland Café Soft Caustic, Melodeego, $5.
Lizard Lounge Tony Roberts Band, 9 pm; Trouble Dolls, 10 pm; Fooled by April, 11 pm; Lincoln Conspiracy, 12 am; Brilliant Mistakes, 1 am, $8, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Nights in Wyoming.


British singer-songwriter Nick Lowe plays the Paradise Rock Club September 25.

Middle East Second Audio Program, 8:45 pm, OK Panic, 9:45 pm; Munk, 10:45 pm; White, 11:45 pm; Haloburn, 12:45 am, $9, 18+.
Paradise Rock Club: The Slip, 8 pm, $16, 18+; Lounge: Leslie Helpert, Grey Delisle, Paul Kelly, Nicole Nelson, Mieka Pauley and Kim Taylor, $8.
Parris Negative Space.
Plough and Stars Leya, Mouse, the Whiles, Great American and Logan.
Somerville Theatre Cristina Branco, 8 pm, $22-$28.
Toad NEMO Showcase, no cover.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway with the Bob Nieske Group, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Bleu, the Rock 4, Fort Ancient and Ad Frank, $8.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Trio.
Zeitgeist Gallery Eric Somers, 7-9 pm.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3

Bill's Bar Inner Visions, 10 pm.
The Black Rose Frank Ryan, 4 pm; Sundays Well, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz brunch with the Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30 am.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Ellen Schmidt and Wendy Santis, 7:30 pm, $12.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Hennessy's Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe.
Johnny D's Jazz Brunch with Tom Pendergast 9 am-2:30 pm
Kennedy's Midtown Irish Jazz Trio.
Middle East Upstairs: Officer May, Big Bear and Science Of Yabra, $8, 18+. Downstairs: Mates of State. Victory at Sea, Helms, Shenzou 5 amd the Firebird Band, $10, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett.
Paradise The Samples and Jay Quinn, 8 pm, $15, 18+.
Plough and Stars Larry Flint & the Road Scholars, 5:30 pm; the Cranktones, 9:30 pm.
The Roxy Gavin DeGraw, 7:30 pm, $20.
Ryles Jazz Club Ball in the House, 7 pm, $10.
Sanders Theatre The Branford Marsalis Quartet, 8pm, $22.50-$37.50.
Zeitgeist Gallery Red Hunter, the Shivers, 7-9 pm, $7; John Vecchiarelli presents solo songwriters showcase, 9:30 pm-12:30 am, $8.
ZuZu Rockabilly, no cover, 21+.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 4

The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm.
Club Passim Siucra, 7:30 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:30 pm.
Harper's Ferry Research Has Shown with Fojimoto, $4, 21+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Johnny D's Grub Street open mike.
Middle East Upstairs: Chinese Stars, Year Future and Go Go Go Airheart, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Mark Lanegan Band, Imaad Wasif and Ian Lo $12, 18+. Corner: Open mike with Roger Nich son, 10 pm, no cover.
Orpheum Theatre Morrissey, 7:30 pm, $46-$61.5
Plough and Stars Steve Mardon.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Other Side of the Be Liz Stahler, Kristin Cifelli, $3.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Fringe.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5

The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
Club Passim Xavier Rudd, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Pat Funk, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Shoot the Moon.
Middle East Upstairs: The Bleedin' Bleedins, Le Saucy Monky and the Mouse, $8, 18+. Downstai Rilo Kiley, Now It's Overhead, Tilly and the Wa $14, 18+.
Plough and Stars Steve Hurl, 8:30 pm.
Redline Lifted, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.
Regattabar Matt Dusk, 7:30 and 10 pm, $18.
Ryles Jazz Club Gian Carlo Buscaglia, 9 pm, $12.
Scullers Jazz Club Fairport Convention, $18.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Trio.
Zeitgeist Gallery Liberty Ellman Quartet, 9:30 p 12:30 am, $12.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-44 9631).*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-4 1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577- 9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684) MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424) MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (61 422-5579).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee Performance Center *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Go ernment Center.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421- 9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Lin to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-228 MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-33 4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (61 743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
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Wilco comes to the Wang Theatre for a show October 1.

Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Choppin' Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-734-4177). MBTA: Green Line to Brigham Circle.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Cottonwood Café *222 Berkeley St., Boston (617-247-2225). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
First and Second Church *66 Marborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
The Good Life Cambridge *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
High Street Grille *200 High St., Boston (617-266-9095). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Hynes Convention Center *900 Boylston St., Boston (617-954-2299). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Julien Bar *250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (617-267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Murphy's Law *837 Summer St., South Boston (617-269-6667).*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
P.A.'s Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Washington Square Tavern *714 Washington St., Brookline (617-232-8989). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278).*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

WCRB Classical Concerts at Copley
Copley Square, Boston (781-736-9577). www.wcrb.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12 pm. Free. The Art of Music Chamber Players perform.

Wind Ensemble Concert
Boston Conservatory Theater, 31 Hemenway St., Boston (617-912-9240). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8 pm. Free. William Drury conducts a program including works by Philip Sparke, Bonelli/Falcone, John Watson and Dana Wison.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Community Music Center
Allen Hall at the BCA, 34 Warren Ave., Boston (617-482-7494). www.cmcb.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Free (donations welcome). Clarinetist Katherine Matasy and pianist Stephen Yenger lead the Community Music Center's faculty concert.

Music at the Immaculate
Immaculate Conception Church, 775 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-536-8440). www.jucboston.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm. $5-$10. Organist Brian Harlow from St. Thomas Church in New York City performs.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Classical Indian Concert
Kresge Auditorium, MIT, 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-9821). www.aak2004.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 6:30 pm. $20-$50. This benefit concert features South Asian sarodist Amjad Ali Khan.

In the Company of Mars, Frazin and Prokofiev
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, Longy School of Music, 27 Gardner St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. In this program, part of Longy's SeptemberFEST, members of the Longy School perform original works of music.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Kalistos Chamber Orchestra
St. Paul's Church, 15 St. Paul St., Brookline (617-393-1960). MBTA: C Green Line to Brookline Village. 7 pm. $10-$15. Kalistos Chamber Orchestra opens its third season with the world premiere of David Carpenter's *Overture Apollo.*

Music of a Modern Era
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, Longy School of Music, 27 Gardner St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. Performers include faculty members Stan Strickland and Peter Cassino, and the Longy Modern American Music Ensemble.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-424-0900). www.newengland conservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. Free. Flutist Fenwick Smith performs.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

The Massachusetts Lafayette Society
The French Library and Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-626-1258). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6 pm. $30. Soloists from the French Symphony of Boston play pieces by Couperin, Grétry, Méhul, Gossec and Beethoven.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-424-0900). www.newengland conservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Violinist Eric Rosenblith performs.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals
King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm. $3 suggested donation. Soprano Mary Sullivan and organist Heinrich Christensen perform Holmés' *Vision of St. Theresa* and Conte's *Songs of Consolation.*

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-424-0900) www.newengland conservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Conductor Daniel Pinkham leads the NEC in its faculty recital.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (888-26 1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Sy phony. 8 pm. $29-$105. Italian conductor Danie Gatti leads the BSO in works by Mozart a Mahler.

New England Conservatory
Williams Hall, New England Conservatory, Gainsborough St., Boston (617-424-0900). ww newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line Symphony. 6 pm. Free. The Borromeo String Qua tet performs as part of the Early Evenings series.

WCRB Classical Concerts at Copley
Copley Square, Boston (781-736-9577). www.wc com MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12 pm. Free. T Biava String Quartet performs.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1

Boston Modern Orchestra Project
Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gain borough St., Boston (617-363-0396). www.bmo org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $1 $38. BMOP presents "Voices," a program of wor for orchestra and voice that features five gue soloists.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave., Boston (888-26 1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Sy phony. 1:30 pm. $29-$105. Same program as Sept.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave., Boston (888-26 1200) www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Sy phony. 8 pm. $29-$105. Same program as Sept. 30

Chameleon Arts Ensemble
First and Second Church, 66 Marlborough St., Bost (617-427-8200). www.chameleonarts.org. MBT Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm. $5-$34. In its fi concert of the season, entitled "Shhh...Whisperi trees, and now the music," the Chameleon Arts E semble plays works by Schumann, Schnittke a Shostakovich.

Festival of Women Composers
The Slosberg Recital Hall, Brandeis University, 4 South St., Waltham (781-736-3395). www.brande edu/arts/abc. 8 pm. $10-$20. Performers includi the Lydian String Quartet, soprano Nancy Armstro and the 23-voice ensemble Boston Secession p homage to music composed by women over the pa 10 centuries.

SUNDAY,OCTOBER 3

The Chamber Series
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (61 536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Gre Line to Arlington. 4 pm. $10-$60. Emmanuel Mu presents a program of piano, vocal and chamb works by Robert Schumann featuring the Lydi String Quartet and tenor William Hite.

Judith Gordon
Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsb ough St., Boston (617-266-1626). www.chamb orchestraofboston.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Sy phony. 7:30 pm. $15-$55. Pianist Judith Gord plays Bach's Concerto in F Minor and Henr Gorecki's Concerto, Op. 40.

Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra
Sanders Theatre, Harvard University, 45 Quincy S Cambridge (617-661-7067) www.proarte.org. MB Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. $9-$45. Conductor iah Jackson and pianist Ursula Oppens lead Arte's season opener, which features a world p miere by Amy Williams (for piano and chambe chestra) as well as works by Schubert, Beetho and Kodály.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 4

Percussion Ensemble
Boston Conservatory Theater, 31 Hemenway Boston (617-912-9240). www.bostonconserva edu. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8 pm. Fr Boston Conservatory students put on a percussi based performance.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave., Boston (888-26 1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Sy phony. 8 pm. $29-$105. Same program as Sept. 30

Piano Masters: Ursula Oppens & Jerome Lowenthal
Seully Hall, Boston Conservatory, 8 The Fenw Boston (617-912-9222). www.bostonconserva edu. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8 pm. Free. pianists perform Messiaen's *Visions de l'Amen* for pianos, plus solo works.

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dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $3, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Jay Ine spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJs spin R&B and hip-hop, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance salsa, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Scott Damgaard performs.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aria
Industry Tuesday Dance to hip-hop and R&B.

Boston Rocks
Smooth Groove Tuesday Old-school jams, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Orange DJs John Davis, Pat Fontes and Randy Deshaies bring the house music, and weekly guest DJs spin, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Deep Tones DJ Brynmore spins a mix of reggae, soul, funk, trance and acid jazz, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Havana Club Latin Dance Night A Latin dance night features an assortment of local DJs, 10 pm-1 am, $10.

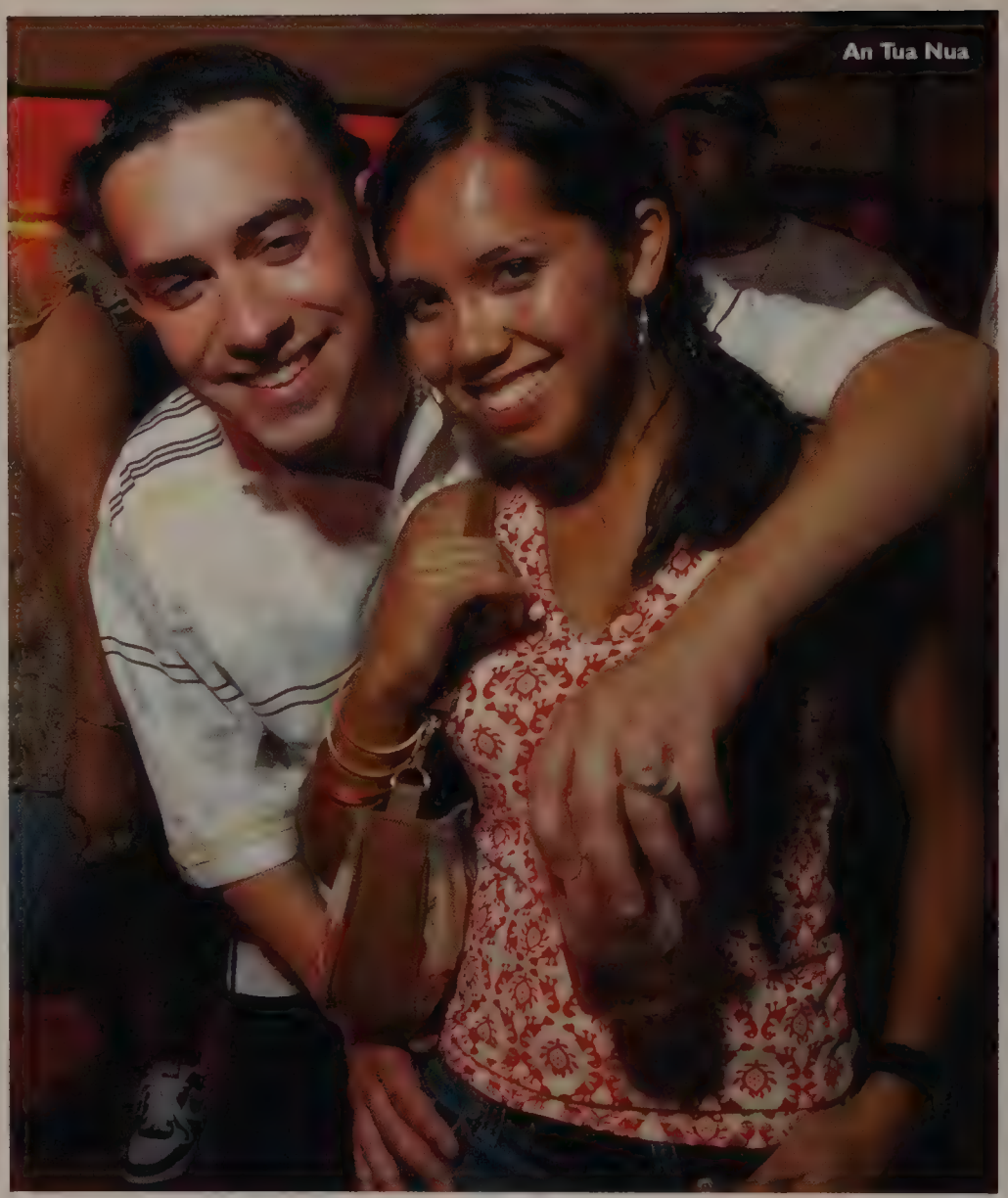
Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Sensei spins hip-hop and R&B. Karaoke is also offered. 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

WEDNESDAYS

Aria
Lust DJ John Morris spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, $8, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.


An Tua Nua

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins Greek and international tunes upstairs and a live reggae band plays downstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
British Accents Presents Starshape DJ Dave spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
Summer Solstice Live performances every Wednesday hosted by DJ/producer Joe Bermudez spinning house and dance beats. 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up R&B, top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mercury Lounge DJs Nomadik and Timmy Allen host a night of soul, funk and house, 9 pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin house and techno, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
Chad LaMarsh performs solo acoustic, 8:30-11 pm. Beach Party with DJs, 11 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
International Wednesdays DJ JC is in the Latin Lounge; DJs Alex and Felix spin in the back, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Wacky Wednesdays Magic with Peter Gross, 6-9 pm, DJ Massi all night, no cover, 21+.

Q
Violation Wednesdays Weekly guest DJs spin today's best music, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of dance and hip-hop, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays DJ Boogie Ba Do spins dub to start the party, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band brings R&B and dance to the main lounge, 9-11 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Martinez spins salsa, cumbia and merengue on one floor, while DJ Supreme spins a New York lounge set (hip-hop, R&B and rock covers) on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5..

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Walt spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; DJ Roger M and DJ Thanos spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men); 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Boston's Biggest College Hip-Hop Night DJs Caprice, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School College Night Old-school rap, funk and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Djs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
Karaoke with DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
DJ Ghost spins international house and hip-hop, pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, M town, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursdays DJs Dubz and 40D spin re gae, R&B and hip-hop, no cover, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

I/D
Square One Thursdays DJs Dres and Wagz host night of progressive dance music, 10 pm, $1 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
Live band, 6 pm; DJ Massi, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran sp dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Doc spins the latest tunes, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Milky Way
Club Thursdays Rotating DJs spin dance music pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando prese drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $ 21+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cov 21+.

Pravda 116
DJs spin upbeat lounge music in the front, 10 pm, cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $ 21+.

Q
Hip-Hop Thursdays DJ Craig Smooth spins hi hop all night long, 9 pm, $5 (ladies free), 21+.

The Rack
DJ Brian Roche Dance Party, 9 pm-2 am, no cov 21+.

Red Line
Reunion Thursdays NGP All-Stars spin past, p sent and future party classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cov 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali and Ross spin a mix electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cov 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons a dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lou music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

711 Boylston
Play Thursdays DJ trio Groovefire spins house mu with special guests Beat Khemistry, 6 pm-2 am.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ DonRico spins salsa, merengue and Latin p and DJ Tegrem spins downtempo retro intern tional, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest h hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Ladies Night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 1

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul a rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, cover.

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old-sch hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ Seano 5-9 pm; DJ David spins hip-h progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 fr the '70s, '80s and '90s, $5 after 10:30 pm, 21+.

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Aria
Floss DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men); 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Avaland International DJs spin house, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top-40, 9pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
All Axis DJ Dru Nyce, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80s faves, along with Boston's best cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents a night of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and hip-hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal spins a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+, after 11 pm.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
Persuassion DJ Sun One spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Felt
After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs spin high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Angirsano spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •Sept. 24: Lifespeed.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs Big Daddy spins, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins house and old favorites, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before midnight, 21+.

La Boom
Fashion Fridays Firefly Promotions hosts this fashion night featuring DJ Rick Naples, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

Level
110 Productions hosts a party with progressive house music, hip-hop and top-40. 11 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Adilson of Roxy Saturdays spins high-energy house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

McGann's
DJ Eireann spins dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Palace
•**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies, free; men, $5 before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $10, 21+; $15, 18+.. •**Rockpile** Rotating bands perform, 9 pm, Ladies free before 11:30 pm; $12, 18+; $8, 21+. •**The Beach House** Reggaeton: Spanish reggae music, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.



Parris
•Sept. 24: Kristen & the Noise, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm, $10 ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Greg spins top-40 and '80s hits, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop as he spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ spins in the front and DJ Gabe spins vocal house in the back, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Hip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

Q
DJ Massi plays hip-hop and top-40, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Johnny C, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin quality house, 8 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Lite Nite DJ Easy spins a mix that includes neo-soul and feel-good classics, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top-40, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins Latin house and Latin dance on one floor while DJ Franklin spins international on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats all night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJs Dunleop and Walt mix top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Guest DJs spin high-energy vocal house and hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Tease Saturdays Resident DJ Rick Naples performs along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Lush Life WFNX DJs spin alternative rock, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ Matt Phipps spinning the hottest top-40, hip-hop and '80s faves, along with Boston's best cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. DJs presents top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Franklin creates a lounge atmosphere with his international, Latin and house sounds, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood Women's night, with two floors of hip-hop and house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
Essence DJs Ed and Sal, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop, house and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites, disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, $10, 21+. •Sept. 25: Lifespeed.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Ryan Bis spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

I//D
X Night WFNX presents a night of retro '80s and rock, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, while downstairs DJ Kieran plays top-40, 9 pm, $6, 21+.

La Boom
Wild on @ La Boom DJ Tim Collins and KISS 1 host a night of music and dancing, 10 pm, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spi Russian and international music on the third flo 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, voc house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fi floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 9 pm, 21+.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Shorty spins Latin music, 10 pm, $10, 21+, $ for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJ Eireann spins dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spi merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10 pm, $10, me $5, women (women admitted free before 10:30 pm 21+.

The Modern
Material DJ Dru Nyce plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $1 19+.

The Palace
•**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dan music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Wil D, ladies, free; men, $5 before 10:30 pm; after 10: pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** N England's longest-running all-male dance revu doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $2 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Oxygen** DJ Cha spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21 •**The Beach House** Classic party music and top- $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
•Sept. 25: Kristen & the Noise, DJ at 8 pm, ba at 10 pm, $10 ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wo ders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles Boston's best DJs come in and spin sets

Pravda 116
DJ spins in the front and DJ Gabe spins vocal hou in the back, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom Hogan spins the groove, 10 pm, $ 21+. •Sept. 25: Brick Park.

Q
DJ Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Roc spins, 9 pm- 2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 a no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins mode mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Adilson spins house and techno, 9 pm, $15, 2

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancing pm-1 am, $8-$12.

711 Boylston
Fever DJ Yorgo spins a mix of ethnic and inter tional music, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
Resident DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin, internatio and dance, often joined by live bands and spe guest DJs, 10 pm, $10-$15, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro vorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, 21+.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins cla old-school, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 2

Toast
Curses Wretched Design presents an evening of gothic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Ta Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house pm, $15, 21+.



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West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

Aria
DJ Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+

Caprice
DJ spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hip-hop downstairs, karaoke upstairs, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance mamba, 10 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

The Kells
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJs Doc & Kieran spin house, top-40 and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Satellite A lesbian night featuring DJ Dee, with dance music, amateur drag contests and films, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Malibu Beach Party DJ Thom spins music from reggae to top-40, with prizes all night, 4-9 pm, DJ Massi spins, 9 pm, $5 men, free for ladies, 21+.

Q
Reggae with Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins dance and top-40, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
Sunday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and guests spin reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
Wicked Wicked Sundays Experimental reggae and hip-hop hosted by Wayne on Wax, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Wepa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sunday of each month, DJ Nik and DJ Hernan play salsa music, 6-10 pm, $12.

Saint
Spice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night featuring Latin and International grooves, 10 pm-2 am, $13.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock, retro and hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Tiki Room
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins Brazilian beats, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Whiskey Park
Cherry DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock classics, hip-hop, house and R&B.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-78[illegible] 4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617 876-1655).*
The G Spot *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
La Boom *One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Light *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617 524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *(El Copa, Male Encounter, Officers' Club, Oxygen, Rio, Underground and Uptown) 150 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617 576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-868-5900)*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300)*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
711 Boylston *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-651[illegible]*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-000[illegible]*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-030[illegible]*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-[illegible] 2580).*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-92[illegible]*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-[illegible] 6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-[illegible] 1483).*

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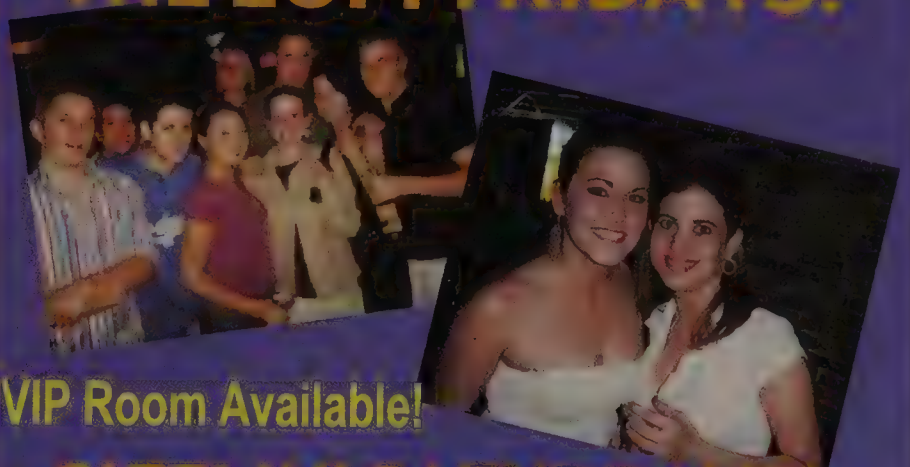
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museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors

Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum

Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Dutch and Flemish Drawings from the National Gallery of Canada*, an exhibition of rare drawings and landscapes by Rembrandt and his contemporaries, shows through Oct. 17. •*Closely Focused, Intensely Felt: Selections from the Norma Jean Calderwood Collection of Islamic Art* features Persian artwork from the last millennium. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Masterworks of East Asian Painting* features works on paper and silk from China, Korea and Japan. Through April 13, 2005.

Boston Public Library

666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm. •*Handfuls of Lilies: The Art of Sarah Whitman* features stained-glass designs by the local artist. Through September. •James Joyce is an exhibition of text and photographs celebrating the life and works of the Irish author. Through Oct. 15.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park

51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $6; students and seniors, $4. •Robert ParkeHarrison's *The Architect's Brother* is a five-part exhibition that contemplates the fate of the planet. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Luminous Forms: Abstractions in Color Photography* features photographs that focus on color, form and light as their subjects. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Abstract Elements: The Dr. Beatrice H. Barrett Collection of Art* is a selection of abstract works by regional and international 20th-century artists. Through July 31, 2005. •*Henry Richardson: Chiséled Orb and Mortal Coil* is an ongoing exhibition featuring the artist's large glass sculptures.

Fogg Art Museum/ Busch-Reisinger Museum

32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Vastly More Than Brick and Mortar: Reinventing the Fogg Art Museum in the 1920s*, an exhibition of 47 objects including archival photographs, building plans and pieces from the Fogg's original collection, illustrates how the museum was created. Through Sept. 26. •*Dependent Objects* displays multidimensional works by German artists that both defy and embrace the concept of object and sculpture in art. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Extra Ordinary Every Day: The Bauhaus at the Busch-Reisinger* is an online exhibition that can be accessed at www.artmuseums.harvard.edu/sites/eoed. Through 2005. •*Rococo Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* is an ongoing exhibit. •*To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* is an ongoing display of 19th-century art. •The exhibits *Basic Research: A Selection of Postwar German Painting and Sculpture*, and *The Figure in French Sculpture 1780-1900* are ongoing.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •*Origins: Life's First Three Billion Years* explores the evolution of life on Earth through paleontological, molecular-biological and geochemical research. Oct. 2-April 2005. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species, by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.



Switzerland's Ganter Bridge, designed by Christian Menn, is featured in *The Art of Structural Design: A Swiss Legacy* at the MIT Museum through December 30.

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5. •*Re-Turning the Past: Cultural Icons Recast*, is an outdoor exhibit by Niho Kozuru in the garden and courtyard of the Paul Revere House (19 North Square). Through Oct. 11. •*Boris Mikhailov: A Retrospective* features more than 500 photographs by the Russian photographer. Sept. 22, 2004-Jan. 2, 2005. •*Momentum 2/Lucy McKenzie* is an exhibition of new, pop culture-inspired works. Through Jan. 2, 2005.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; seniors, $7; students, $5. members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18 free. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. •Elaine Reichek's embroideries depicting Biblical images borrowed from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists display online in the virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum

Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $8; seniors and students $6; children ages 13-17 $4; children 12 and under admitted free. •*Gifts from the World to the White House: Caroline Kennedy's Doll Collection* features 77 dolls from 30 countries that were given to JFK's daughter between 1961 and 1963. Through Nov. 5. •In honor of this election year, *Campaign!* is an exhibition following JFK's nomination, campaign and inauguration, from 1960-61. Through Jan. 20, 2005.

McMullen Museum of Art

Boston College, 140 Commonwealth Ave., Chestnut Hill, (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-3 pm.; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Fernand Khnopff: Inner Visions and Landscapes* includes more than 80 paintings representing the European Symbolist movement.Through Dec. 5.

MIT List Visual Arts Center

20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. The museum's permanent collection includes more than 1,500 pieces of contemporary art including paintings, murals, sculptures, photography and prints. •*Selections from the Collection* spotlights the work of 17 renowned artists. Through Nov. 19.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5; students and seniors, $3; children, $1. •*Telling It Like It Is: Student Activism at MIT During the Vietnam War* displays posters from that era. Through fall 2004. •*The Art of Structural Design: A Swiss Legacy* features highlights from Swiss influences in 20th-century architecture. Through Dec. 30. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features works by the self-described cross between "a mechanical engineer and a choreographer." Ongoing.

Museum of Afro-American History

46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. •*Portraits in Black: Gaining Ground, Holding Office* pays tribute to elected black leaders of New England. Through Oct. 23. •*The Times We Had* is an ongoing exhibition spotlighting Boston's African-American community of the 19th-century. •*Building on a Firm Foundation* is a 17-minute multimedia presentation that looks at 19th-century Beacon Hill through the eyes of an African-American teenager. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15; students and seniors, $13; children 17 and under, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free (doesn't include special exhibitions). •*Games for the Gods: The Greek Athlete and the Olympic Spirit* features vases, marbles, bronzes and coins from the ancient Greek games. Through Nov. 28. •*Art Deco: 1910-1939* features more then 240 works, including furniture, textiles, ceramics, fashion and jewelry. Through Jan. 9, 2005. •*Josef Sudek: Poet with a Camera* is an exhibition of the Czech photographer's landscapes, still lifes and architectural photos. Through Jan. 17, 2005. •*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13; seniors, $11; children, $10. •*The Lord of the Rings Motion Picture Trilogy—The Exhibition* features memorabilia from the films, including costumes, props and the ring itself. Through Oct. 24. •*Strange Matter* features 10 "experience pods" that explore the use of everyday materials in cardiac surgery, space exploration and more-common events. Oct. 2, 2004-Jan. 2, 2005. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur mod including the giant T. rex. Ongoi •*Making Models*, an interactive ex bition, features models of a w tank, Mount Everest and a gi grasshopper. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum

33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-8 6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*A Sisters Pictorial Photographs* is a coll tion of 25 platinum prints dat from 1885-1920. Through Dec. •*A Changing World: New Englan the Photographs of Verner Reed, 19 1972* displays through Jan. 2, 20 •Learn how mail-order catalogs olutionized American shopping *Satisfaction Guaranteed.* Thro Feb. 6, 2005. •*Western Pursuit of American Dream*, a compilation of tifacts and sculpture from the Am can West, shows through April 2005. •*The Enchanted Clocks George McFadden* is ongoing. •*I ington Alarm'd*, an exhibition 18th-century local history, is or ing. •*Made in Massachusetts* featu household objects from the three centuries. Ongoing. •*To B and Sustain: Freemasons in Amer Community* is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, Salem (978-7 1876). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; niors, $11; students, $9; children 16 and under and idents of Salem, free. •*American Fancy: Exuberan the Arts, 1790-1840* showcases more than 200 pi of early American decorative and folk art. Thro Oct. 24. •*Treasures from Chatsworth, a British N House*, is a look at centuries of English domestic through the Cavendish family's rare collectio old master drawings and paintings, books, and elry. Through Nov. 7. •*Havana: Photograph Robert Polidori* features 18 large-scale photogra Through Jan. 9, 2005. •*Bringing Japan to Boston* tures Japanese artifacts from the Edward S. M Collection. Through April 30, 2005. •*Carve Nature* puts ancient Chinese wood carvings on play through June 2005. •The only installatio its kind in North America, *Yin Yu Tang* is a Chi merchant's home from the late Qing Dynasty, cated and reconstructed. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Har Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students, children, $5. •*Bringing Japan to Boston: the Edwa Morse Collection* is a rare display of Japanese arti collected from 1877-1879, through April 2 •*Painted by a Distant Hand: Mimbres Pottery fro American Southwest* features artifacts from Mexico's Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through June 2 •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Cl Indian Collection* features Native American arti from the explorers' journey. Through Dece 2005. •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monum* features the museum's large Mesoamerican cast lection. Ongoing. •*Hall of the North America dian: Change and Continuity* features art depic the response of Native Americans across the c nent to the arrival of Europeans. Ongoing. *counters with the Americas* is an ongoing exhib featuring original sculpture and plaster cas Mesoamerican cultures. •*Pacific Islands Hall* other ongoing exhibition, displays artifacts fro Pacific Islands.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art

38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9552). acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlin Tue-Sat 11 am-5 pm. •*Nanno De Groot: The York Years* is a show of paintings by the New School abstract expressionist. Through Oct. 9.

Alianza Gallery

154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Co Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Ima Glass*, scenic impressions and images of the h form, shows through Nov. 5.

Allston Skirt Gallery

450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-3652). allstonskirt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley.

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Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Heather Hobler-Keene: Somewhere Over* and *Josh Aster: New Work* show through Sept. 25.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Thu., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Haley Hasler shows self-portraits that deal with motherhood and domestic life. Through Oct. 6.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Anthony James shows new paintings. Through Sept. 29. •*New Figurative Works in Tempera* features works by Fred Wessel. Oct. 4-30.

Art Interactive
130 Bishop Allen Drive, Cambridge (617-498-0100). www.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •Jeff Talman's *Sonalumina-13* explores acoustic resonance with aluminum plates. Through Oct. 31.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Rachel Perry Welty's *Daily Bread* shows through Oct. 19.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Re-Visions*, contemporary art by Nancy Sutherland, shows through Oct. 23.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Works by Robert and Shana ParkeHarrison show through Oct. 31.

Boston Sculptors Gallery
486 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-7781). www.bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •Michelle Lougee shows environmental sculptures in *Pomus Ingenium*, and Kitty Wales shows animal sculptures in *Broken Sleep*. Through Sept. 25. •Bill Wainwright and Joseph Wheelwright show their work. Sept. 28-Oct. 23.

Brickbottom Gallery
1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Trial Runs* displays through October. •*Process to Print*, a group show of progressive proofs and finished proofs, displays through Oct. 23.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Monmouth St., Brookline. (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm. •*Street Scenes: Candid Photography by Scott Dicks* shows through Oct. 22.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 2nd St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). www.cmacusa.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •Ruth Abrams shows collages and assemblages in *The Fabric of Life*. Through Oct. 8.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •Tezh Modarressi shows his work in *Spyglass*. Through Sept. 27. •Stephen Coyle shows paintings of traffic scenes in *Urban Living*. Sept. 29-Oct. 30.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Works by Fritz Eichenberg and Bernard Brussel-Smith, and the *Painting Annual* exhibit are on display through Nov. 6.

Clifford-Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 300, Boston (617-695-0255). www.cliffordsmithgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Sheila Gallagher shows paintings in *Chase*. Through Oct. 2.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. • *Gretchen Huber Warren: Urban Legends* is a series of oil paintings inspired by the artist's travels across the U.S. Through Oct. 2. •Mikel Wintermantel shows paintings in *Real Atmosphere*. Through Oct. 2.

Crump McCole Gallery
200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Painters of the New Boston* features works by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •*Arbortage: Boughs and Branches* features new paintings by Mary Mattei. Through Sept. 25. •Peter Clemons shows new paintings. Sept. 28-Oct. 30.

Equator Gallery
450 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-540-9236). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.equatorgallery.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •The gallery specializes in Latin American fine art, including paintings, textiles and ceramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Objects/Artifacts*, by Marilyn Ranker and Rebecca Seeman, shows through Sept. 25. •*Open Studios Group Show 2004* features works by more than 90 Fort Point artists. Oct. 1-30.


Sheryl Ellinwood's glass sculptures show at L'Attitude

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu. and Sat.,12-5 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm. •*Recent Photographs and Paintings*, by Steven Sternbach and Renia Platt, shows through Oct. 23.

The Gallery at Black and White
295 Huntington Ave., Suite 205 (617-266-2641). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Mon.-Fri, 10 am-5 pm. •Antonia Hieronymus shows black-and-white gelatin photographs in *The Human Landscape and Me*. Through Oct. 8.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave #305, Boston (617-423-6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Supply and Demand*, a show of works by Shepard Fairey, displays through Oct. 16.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Ken Beck shows *Palette Scrapings*, and Morgan Cohen shows *New Work*. Through Oct. 2.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
23 Thayer St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •*Peter Coe: Paintings* shows through Oct. 2. •A group show of work by gallery artists displays through Oct. 5.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.haleysteele.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •The gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prints. Ongoing.

HallSpace
31 Norfolk Ave., Boston (617-989-9985). www.hallspace.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu. by appointment; Fri. and Sat., 12-5 pm. •Skip Milson shows his work in *No Tourism Allowed*. Through Oct. 2.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Emily Eveleth: Recent Paintings* and *In Between: New Photographs by Oscar Palacio* display through Oct. 19.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters. •*Art Deco Poster Masterpieces, 1921-1939* shows through Nov. 22.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*New Words* by Anne Beresford shows through Oct. 2. •A video installation by Bruce Bemis shows Oct. 5-11.

Kaji Aso Studio
40 St. Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www.kajiasostudio.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Tue. and Thu., 4:30-6:30 pm; Sat., 3-5 pm, and by appointment. •*Open Studios 2004* is a group exhibition of paintings and ceramic works. Through Oct. 7.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •David Williams shows new paintings in *Pick Your Poison*. Through Oct. 2.

Kingston Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Down & In*, the gallery's annual members show, displays through Sept. 25.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Intrigue*, a show of glass sculpture by Sheryl Ellinwood and Mark Hursty, displays through Oct. 15. •*Stone and Ceramic, Abstracted* is a show of new works by Paul Braun and Michael Gustavson. Oct. 2-Nov. 18.

Mark Gallery
141 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6275). www.markartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm, and by appointment. •*Pogany & Pilato: Paintings and Prints* shows through Oct. 15.

Martin Lawrence Gallery
77 Newbury St., Boston (617-369-4800). www.martinlawrence.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 11 am-7 pm. •The gallery's ongoing exhibition includes works by Chagall, Erté, Hallam, Kondakova, Lichtenstein, Picasso and Warhol.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Joseph Solman: Seventy Years of Painting* shows through Oct. 12.

Mills Gallery
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed., Thu. and Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-10 pm. •*Exposing Scarlet: A Visual Response to The Scarlet Letter* celebrates the bicentennial of Nathaniel Hawthorne's life with works by 14 artists that address issues raised in the author's famous novel. Through Oct. 31.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*Connections* is a group show of jewelry. Through Oct. 30.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •Sam Messer's *Why I'm Not Where You Are* features paintings of the artist's daughter and wife. Through Oct. 23.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •A local-artists showcase is ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Andrew Nixon shows oil-on-canvas and oil-on-paper landscapes. Through Oct. 9.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Mingei* is a group show of Japanese pottery by Shoji Hamada, Tatsuzo Shimaoka, Noriyasu Tsuchiya and Ken Matsuzaki. Through Oct. 15.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (617-482-9988). www.qingping.org. Daily, 1 pm-12 am and by appointment. •*Those Who Wait*, a group show of works by Beijing avant-garde artists Su Xinping, Lui Qinghe, Zhou Jirong and Lu Peng, displays through Oct. 31.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Work by Marie Cosindas shows thorugh Oct. 9.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat., 11 am-5:00 pm. •*Fine Lithographs and Etchings* features works by Marc Chagall, Joan Miro, Georges Rouault and others. Through Dec. 31.

Samson Projects
450 Harrison Ave., Boston, (617-357-7177). www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Notorious Impropriety* group show of paintings, video and drawing. Through Oct. 29.

The Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*The Annual Awards Show* honors New England craft and media artists. Through Oct. 31.

Soprafina Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-728-0770). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 11-6 pm; Sun. 1-6 pm. •Catherine Kernan shows prints and Kazuhito Naganuma shows paintings. Through Sept. 28. •Elizabeth Awalt shows contemporary paintings. Oct. 1-28

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •A show of works by William St. George, Christina Keating, Sandra Mueller-Dick, Judy St. Peter and Ann Grandin is ongoing.

Studio Soto
63 Melcher St., Boston (617-426-7686). www.studiosoto.org. MBTA: Orange Line to South Station. Fri. and Sat., 2-5 pm. Somatech, a group show of paintings and paper welds of the human body, shows through Oct. 2.

Upstairs at Johnson's Art Gallery
355 Newbury St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-536-406[illegible] MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*The Found Objects*, a group show of works made from recycled materials by Frank Domec, Marylou Clark and Anna Johansson, displays Through Sept. 30.

Victoria Munroe Fine Art
59 Beacon St., Boston (617-523-0661). www.munroefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line or Red Line to Park Street. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm and by appointment. •*Todd McKie: French Stones & Drawings* shows through Oct. 16.

Wentworth Gallery
73 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-8770). www.wentworthgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat. 10 am-6 pm; Sun. 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection features works by Dali, Chagall and Miro.

Zeitgeist Gallery
1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-60[illegible] www.zeitgeist-gallery.org. Tue.-Sun., 1-7 pm. •Caleo shows his abstract paintings in *Urban Dei* Sept. 28-Oct. 10.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. •*The [illegible] of Polio* features work by Sebastião Salgado. Through Oct. 31. •*Armenia and Karabagh: The Aftermath* is a show of photographs by Paul Mel[illegible] Through Nov. 26.

Panopticon Gallery Kenmore
502-C Comm Ave., Boston (617-267-892[illegible] www.panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-7 pm. •*Home Run*, a show of vintage baseball photographs, displays through Octo[illegible] •*American Politics*, a collection of historical political photographs, shows through Nov. 13.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www.panopt.com. Commuter Rail to Waltham. Mon.-Fri. 10 am-6 pm. •*American Politics*, a collection of historical political photographs, shows Sept. 28-Nov. 13.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Roxbury Open Studios
(617-541-3900 ext. 222). www.actroxbury.[illegible] MBTA: Orange Line to Roxbury Crossing. Oct. 2 and 3, 11 am-6 pm. •More than 150 artists, including members of the Mission Hill Artists Collective, open their studios and participate in group shows throughout Roxbury.

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Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Barnes & Noble at BU
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-236-7448). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. Boston University journalism professor **Robert Zelnick** reads from his book *Swing Dance: Justice O'Connor and the Michigan Muddle*, which looks at Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor's role in a controversial 2003 affirmative action case involving the University of Michigan.

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.12:30 pm. Free. **Jennifer Weiner** discusses her new novel, *Little Earthquakes*, about a young woman's experience with marriage and motherhood.

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St., Cambridge (800-542-7323). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. Local author **Gish Jen** discusses her new novel, *The Love Wife*, about a Chinese-American family's cultural assimilation.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Chitra Divakaruni** reads from her novel *Queen of Dreams*, about a young divorced artist struggling to come to grips with personal change in the aftermath of Sept. 11.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Eli Jaxon-Bear** discusses *Sudden Awakening: Into Direct Realization*, his guide to spriritual self-discovery based on Buddhist teachings.

Newtonville Books
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Sarah Shun-Lien Bynum** discusses her novel *Madeleine Is Sleeping*, a story about a girl who falls into a deep, mysterious sleep, and her fantastical self-discovery.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.beacon.org. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 6:30 pm. Free. **Paul Grogan** moderates a panel discussion of *The Good City: Writers Explore 21st-Century Boston*, featuring local authors and contributors **Howard Bryant**, **Susan Orlean** and **Anita Diamant**.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Glenn Solomon** discusses *You Could Be Fired for Reading This Book*, his guide on how to protect your employment rights.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Barnes & Noble at BU
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-236-7448). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. **Anne Alison Barnet** reads from *Extravaganza King: Robert Barnet and Boston Musical Theater*, her book about her great-grandfather's influence on Boston's theatrical history.

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 12:30 pm. Free. **Alan Schwarz**, a columnist for *Baseball America* magazine and ESPN.com, discusses his book *The Numbers Game*, a study of the science of baseball statistics.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Evan Cornog**, associate dean at Columbia University School of Journalism, signs copies of his book *The Power and the Story*, which argues that the Bush administration has not been truthful about events that have taken place after Sept. 11.



Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Colby College professor **Jennifer Finney Boylan** discusses her memoir, *She's Not There: A Life in Two Genders*, about her lifelong emotional (and eventually physical) transformation from male to female.

Newtonville Books
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. Boston Herald editor **Clara Silverstein** reads from her memoir, *White Girl: A Story of School Desegregation*, which focuses on her experience as one of 10 white students in an otherwise all-black junior high school in the early 1970s.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Documentary filmmaker and poet **Roya Hakakian** talks about her memoir, *Journey from the Land of No*, about growing up during a revolution in Iran.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Brandeis University
Shapiro Campus Center, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-4205). www.brandeis.edu. 12 pm. Free. Brandeis University professor **Ibrahim Sundiata** reads from his book *Brothers and Strangers: Black Zion, Black Slavery, 1914-1940*, a historical account of the myths and realities surrounding the African-American emigrationist movement of the era.

Grolier Poetry Bookshop Event
Adams House Pool Theatre, 26 Plympton St., Cambridge (617-547-4648). www. grolierpoetrybookshop.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $4. **Philip Levine** reads poetry from his collection, *Breath*.

Havard Book Store
1256 Mass Ave., Cambridge (800-542-7323). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. Harvard University Press editor **Lindsay Waters** reads from her book *Enemies of Promise: Publishing, Perishing and the Eclipse of Scholarship*, which takes a critical look at the politics of academia.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Pulitzer Prize–winning journalist **Lorraine Adams** signs copies of her debut novel, *Harbor*, about illegal Algerian immigrants and the lives of Muslims living in America.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 2 pm. Free. **Jon Oliver** discusses his self-help book, *Lesson One: The ABCs of Life*, which aims to help parents raise "society-ready" kids.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Jane Brox** discusses her book *Clearing Land*, about the history of American farmers and her family's own experience farming.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Barnes & Noble at BU
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-236-7448). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. Boston University professor **Christopher Ricks** reads from *Dylan's Visions of Sin*, his study of singer-songwriter Bob Dylan's lyrics.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Francisco Goldman** reads from his new novel, *The Divine Husband*, a story of a 19th-century nun's connection with a famous Cuban writer.

Havard Book Store
1256 Mass Ave., Cambridge (800-542-7323). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. **Arthur Phillips** reads from his novel *The Egyptologist*, about a man searching for treasure in ancient Egyptian tombs in the 1920s.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Harvard professor **Doris Sommer** signs copies of her latest book, *Bilingual Aesthetics: A New Sentimental Education*, about overcoming the obstacles to learning a second language.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7 pm. Free. Former poet laureate **Robert Pinsky** and Favorite Poems Project director **Maggie Dietz** read from *An Invitation to Poetry*, a poetry anthology they co-edited.

Newtonville Books
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Lisa Dierbeck** reads from her novel *One Pill Makes You Smaller*, an adaptation of Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland* set in the 1970s. Also, local writer **Pagan Kennedy** reads from her 1997 book, *Pagan Kennedy's Living: A Handbook for Maturing Hipsters*.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Boston College graduate **Jill Winters** reads from her latest novel *Raspberry Crush*, about a woman torn between her steady boyfriend and her ex.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Havard Book Store
1256 Mass Ave., Cambridge (800-542-7323). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **David Mitchell** reads from his novel *Cloud Atlas*, which is made up of six separate narratives that eventually converge.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Husband and wife team **Dennis** and **Michelle Reina** discuss their new book, *Trust and Betrayal in the Workplace*, about the importance of trust as the basis for successful workplace relationships.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). www.wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Esquire editor **A.J. Jacobs** reads from his memoir, *Know-It-All: One Man's Humble Quest to Become the Smartest Person in the World*, about the year he spent reading all 32 volumes of the *Encyclopedia Britannica*.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Barnes & Noble at BU
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-236-7448). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. Harvard grad **Ben Mezrich** discusses his book *Ugly Americans*, which recounts the true story of a group of American college graduates who made millions manipulating the Japanese stock market.

Center for New Words
Durrell Hall, Cambridge Family YMCA, 820 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfor newwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Jessica Hagedorn** reads from her novel *Dream Jungle*, which centers on America's presence in the Phillipines.

Havard Book Store
First Parish Church Parlor Room, 3 Church St., Cambridge (800-542-7323). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Boston Globe columnist **James Carroll** reads from his book *Crusade: Chronicles of an Unjust War*, a compilation of his *Globe* columns critiquing the Bush administration's foreign policies.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Former army nurse **Susan O'Neill** discusses *Don't Mean Nothing: Short Stories of Vietnam*, her collection of short stories inspired by her experiences in the Vietnam War.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). ww ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: Green Line to New Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. Boston Globe sports col nist **Dan Shaughnessy** reads from the updated sion of his book *The Curse of the Bambino*, which cludes new anecdotes and facts about the Red So

Newtonville Books
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www. tonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to New Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Karen Shepard** discus her novel *Bad Boy's Wife*, a story about marital cord. Also, **Cathy Day** reads from *The Circus in W ter*, a collection of linked stories about Indiana's G Porter Circus in the early 1900s.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 4

Charles Hotel
One Bennett St., Cambridge (617-499-5098). 6 $250 including cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. **Al Hoffman** hosts an Evening with Your Favorite thors, which benefits the Hoffman Breast Can Center at Mount Auburn Hospital. Authors cluding **Judy Blume**, **Arthur Golden, Amy T Wally Lamb** and **Andre Dubus III** read from th works.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5

Boston Public Library Event
685 Tremont St., Boston (617-536-8241). ww bpl.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 6:30 Free. **Anne Alison Barnet** reads from her book travaganza King: Robert Barnet and Boston Mus Theater. See Sept. 23 Barnes and Noble at BU ing for a description.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). ww brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: C Green Line Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Cintra Wilson** re from her debut novel, *Colors Insulting to Nat* about a young woman trying to make it in the en tainment industry.

Grolier Poetry Bookshop Event
Adams House LCR, 26 Plympton St., Cambri (617-547-4648). www.grolierpoetrybookshop.c MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. **Nao Chase** reads from her book-length poem *Git The Would-Be Messiah*. Also, **Kathleen Spiv** reads selections of her poetry.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-201 www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to H vard. 7 pm. Free. Psychologist **Frances Praver** cusses her new book, *Crossroads at Midlife: Your A Parents, Your Emotions and Yourself*, which offers vice on how to take care of elderly parents.

WordsWorth Books
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). ww wordsworth.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 Free. **Amy Sohn** reads from her novel *My Old M* about a Brooklyn rabbinical school dropout and ensuing life crisis.

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. 2 $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lou hosts this poetry slam downstairs in the Third Ra

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). ww poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 $5. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background mu for the poetry slam team.

New Voices Open Mike (Third Friday)
Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St., Cambri (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBT Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $5. The Center hosts open mike for women and their allies with five 10-minute slots avaiable.

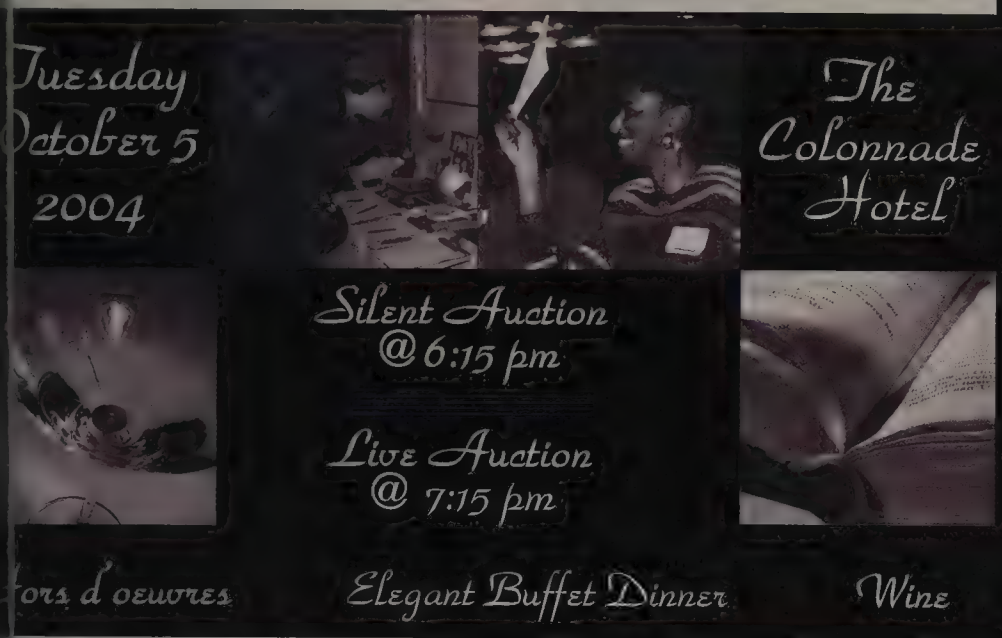
Out of the Blue Gallery (Saturdays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambri (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Cent •Mondays, 8 pm (7:30 pm sign-up): Jack Pow hosts Stone Soup, with poetry features and an o mike. $4 donation suggested. •Saturdays, 8 Come share or listen to poetry and prose. Debo Priestly hosts. $3-$5 suggested donation.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-718 MBTA: Blue Line to Government Center. 6:30 Free. The second Thursday of each month ofte selection of featured poets and an opportunity others to take the open mike.

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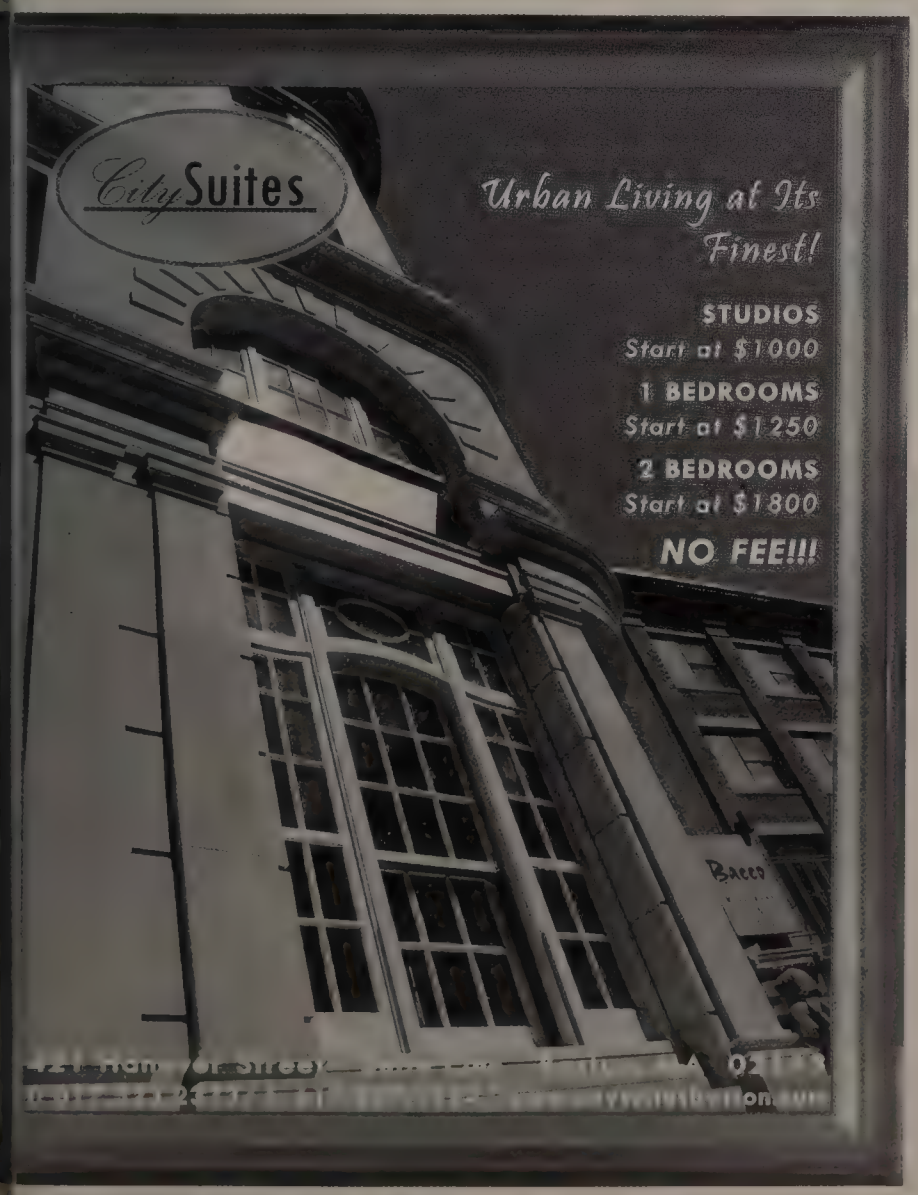
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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

The Good City: Writers Explore 21st-Century Boston

Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-373-6800). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 6:30 pm. Free. *Boston Herald* columnist **Howard Bryant** discusses the city's obsession with sports and **Anita Diamant**, author of *The Red Tent*, and **Susan Orlean**, author of *The Orchid Thief*, speak about why they choose to make their homes in Boston.

The Nuts and Bolts of Drawing Animals

Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary, 280 Eliot St., Natick (508-655-2296). www.massaudubon.org. 6-8:30 pm. Members, $150; nonmembers, $170. Professional artist **Clare Walker Leslie** shares tips on drawing fur, feathers and other animal characteristics, for amateur and experienced artists.

Women and Networking: An Oxymoron?

Radisson Cambridge, 777 Memorial Drive, Cambridge (617-661-9422). www.wibconnection.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 11:45 am-1:30 pm. Members, $28; nonmembers, $40. **Marjorie O'Neill Clapprood**, radio personality and CEO of Teen Action, discusses networking for women.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

A Deaf Artist in Early America: The Worlds of John Brewster Jr.

Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 12:15-1 pm. Free. Psychologist and historian **Harlan Lane** discusses the life of the portrait artist.

Viewpoints: Boris Mikhailov

Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. www.icaboston.org. 6:30 pm. Free. Russian photographer **Boris Mikhailov** discusses his work with **Helen Petrovsky**, senior research associate at the Russian Academy of Sciences in Moscow.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

A Conversation with I.M. Pei

JFK Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 3-4:30 pm. Free. Architect **I.M. Pei** discusses his vision for the JFK Library and Museum with Pulitzer Prize–winning architecture critic **Robert Campbell**.

Inventors & Industrialists of Boston's Past

Forest Hills Educational Trust, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3354.). www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 2 pm. $8. **Al Maze** leads a walking tour of historic Forest Hills Cemetery, the burial site of some of Boston's noted inventors, including Francis Cabot Lowell.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Conflict Resolution

Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 4:30-7:30 pm. $36 members, $39 nonmembers. Develop strategies for coping with difficult personalities and conflict in the workplace and learn how to channel negative behavior into productive outlets.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Cambridge Forum

3 Church St., Cambridge (617-222-3200). www.cambridgeforum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $5. Economist and *New York Times* columnist **Paul Krugman** discusses the long-term impact of current fiscal and economic policies and his book *The Great Unraveling: Losing Our Way in the 21st Century*. **Paul Solman**, business and economics correspondent for *The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer*, moderates.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Heritage of Misery: The Boston Irish and the Famine

Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30 pm. Free. **Dr. Dennis P. Ryan** discusses how the Irish famine of the 19th century affected Boston's Irish population.

Ikebana, Japanese Flower Arranging

Peabody Essex Museum, East India Square, Salem (978-745 9500). www.pem.org. MBTA: Newburyport/Rockport Commuter Rail to Salem Station. 10-11:30 am. Members, $15; nonmembers, $18. Master Ikebana artist **Keiko Thayer** leads a hands-on workshop on how to create floral arrangements.

Masquerade: The Life and Times of Deborah Sampson, Continental Soldier

Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-373-6800). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7 pm. Free. Pulitzer Prize–winning historian **Laurel Thatcher Ulrich** discusses Sampson's experience as a woman fighting as a man in the American Revolution.

Policing Baghdad

Raytheon Amphitheater, Northeastern University, Boston (617-373-5800). www.fordhallforum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Northeastern. 6:30 pm. Free. **Jerry Burke**, former Massachusetts State Police officer and adviser in Iraq, discusses his recent experience recruiting and training police officers in Baghdad.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Was Mars Ever a Biological Planet?

Harvard Museum of Natural History Geological Lecture Hall, 24 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Andrew H. Knoll**, a member of NASA's Mars Exploration Rover team, discusses findings from the planet's surface.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1

Birds and Birders

Peabody Essex Museum, East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www.pem.org. 7:45 pm. Free with museum admission. **David Spector**, professor of biology at Central Connecticut State University, discusses ornithological figures in literary works by Mary Shelley, Ralph Waldo Emers and others.

The Sky in Mesoamerican Literature

Peabody Museum, 11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (6 495-2269). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Line to Harvard. 5:30 pm. Free. **Anthony Ave** professor of astronomy and anthropology at Colg University, discusses the theories of ancient Me can and Central American astronomers.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3

African American Art: Shades of Afro Deco

Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Bos (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Gr Line to Museum. 3-4 pm. Free with museum adm sion. **Leslie King-Hammond**, curator and dean graduate studies at Maryland Institute College Art, lectures on African-American art.

An Introduction to Macrobiotics

Veggie Planet, 47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-8 4225). www.clubpassim.org/veggieplanet. MBTA: Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. Macrobiotic chef a counselor **David Snieckus** shares tips on prepar vegan food.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 4

Cambridge Forum

3 Church St., Cambridge (617-222-3200). wu cambridgeforum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard pm. Free. **Paul Rogat Loeb** discusses the essay c lection he edited, *Hope in a Time of Fear*, which cludes pieces by Howard Zinn, Jonathan Koz Marian Wright Edelman, Nelson Mandela, Vac Havel, Tony Kushner, Arundhati Roy a Desmond Tutu.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5

Art in Education Panel: Thinking Through Art

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenw Boston (617-566-5643). www.gardnermuseum.o MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 4-6 pm. Free u museum admission. **Abigail Housen**, cognitive p chologist, and **Philip Yenawine**, author and n seum educator, share how critical thinking skills developed in art museums and in art classes.

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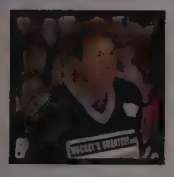
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Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am.; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's new leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $8 under 21. $5 for 21+. DJ John Morris spins progressive house for Lust, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $15, 21+. For 20 years, these folks have cranked out Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. Enjoy three separate dance floors plus drag acts. Resident DJ Ted Elison spins house.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show, and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Club Europa (Fridays)
57 Stuart St., Boston (617-417-0186). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.twistboston.com. Fri., 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+ after 11 pm. DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s tunes at this women's night.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $8 weekends, 21+. Patrons relax with a friendly crowd and mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month is the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground. The typical lineup features musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Tuesdays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Big and Hot, Brazilian night, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Tue.: Service Industry Night, with DJ Afrodite.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 19+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: New Wave Dance Party with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Milky Way Lounge (Sundays)
401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+. Every Sunday the Milky Way Lounge presents Satellite, a queer night for ladies. Live entertainment varies from week to week and includes Fireballs Drag Bingo, spoken-word events and jazz.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). - www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Omar. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. Private, members-only club, predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

711 Boylston (Tuesdays)
711 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5502). www.hereboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 9 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. The Tuesday night gay dance party, Here, features disco and pop.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night, and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room and video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music pumps, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.



Hanifah Walidah is one of the headliners at this year's Out on the Edge Festival at the BCA.

Shows & Events

Gay Fathers' Weekend
Gifford House Inn, 9 Carver St., Provincetown (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. Sept. 24-26. Gay Fathers of Greater Boston hosts its annual fall outing to Provincetown. The Connecticut Gay Men's Chorus performs Saturday night.

Mount Monadnock Hike
Jaffrey, N.H. (781-891-5966). Oct. 2, 10 am. this fund-raiser for the Safe Schools and Commu ties Project, hikers who have $100 or more pledges receive a free T-shirt. Call for registrati forms.

Out on the Edge: Festival of LGBT Theater
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Bos (617-933-8600). www.thetheateroffensive.org. Se 30-Oct. 24. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $21-$. The Theater Offensive presents its 13th ann festival, featuring performances by Tim Mil Hanifah Walidah, Five Lesbian Brothers, the O Guys and others.

Queering the Other: Anima/Anim and the Paradigm of Emergence
C.G. Jung Institute, 36 Newbury St., Boston (6 267-5984). www.cgjungboston.com. MBTA: Gr Line to Arlington. Oct. 2, 9 am-4 pm. $70. This d long workshop looks into the roles of gender a sexuality in culture.

Trash & Ready: The Wordwhore To
Midway Café, 3496 Washington St., Boston (6 524-908). www.dykenight.com. MBTA: Orange L to Green Street. Sept. 24, 9 pm. $8. Toronto's Tr & Ready perform their latest word-based multi dia performance project. The show is followed b dance party that goes until 2 am.

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MB Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 6-9 p The Boston Alliance for Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and cial events for young people seeking commun support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-8 1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and bians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlingt Wed., 7 pm. Come share thoughts about boo videos and other topics of interest in a suppor environment. Open to all bisexual men women.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., C bridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tuesda the month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is o to all bisexual, bi-friendly and question women.

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oston Bay Blades
ww.bayblades.org/boston. All are welcome to join is competitive, recreational group of rowers and llers.

oston Boasts Squash
17-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 ; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: *E Green Line to Sym-ony.* The league comprises gay and lesbian players d their friends.

oston Gay Basketball League
17-937-5858). www.bgbl.com. The league offers a ll regular season and playoff schedule each year.

oston Gay Skins
mrod, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). ww.bostongayskins.org. MBTA: Green Line to Ken-bre. 11 pm. Boston's nonracist gay skinhead collec-e meets the third Friday of the month.

oston GLASS Community enter
Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: *reen Line to Hynes. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri, 3-5 .* The center provides social activities for ques-ning young people, ages 13-25.

oston Lesbian Avengers
ston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston. MBTA: *Green ne to Hynes. www.lesbianavengers.org. Thu., 7-8 pm.* his bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action politi-l group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

oston Uncommons
entral Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., maica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. BTA: *Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm.* A y and lesbian square-dancing group.

hiltern Mountain Club
88-831-3100). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-ember gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

OLAGE
17-417-0876). Third Sat. of each month, 10:30 am-2 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays verywhere) meets in Medford for support and ac-vities and holds a concurrent meeting for inter-ted parents and their partners. For info, e-mail edfordcolage@hotmail.com.

oming Out as Bisexual
oston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Liv-g Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-595). www.biresource.org. MBTA: *Orange Line to ack Bay. First Wednesday and third Thursday of ch month, 7 pm, free.* An informal group for peo-le who think they may be bisexual or attracted to ore than one sex.

oming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, isexual, Transgender and uestioning People
617-256-8693). This group welcomes those who ant to discuss the challenges and the joys of coming ut. It meets Thursday nights, from 7-8:30 pm, in ambridge.

ompass
781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area pport, information and social group for people ssigned female at birth who feel that is not an ac-urate or complete description of their gender. Part f the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group eets monthly. E-mail CompassFTM@usa.com for etails.

ast Coast Wrestling Club
401-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www.east oastwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay male wrestlers as more than 160 members.

legant Outings
866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group elcomes gay and gay-friendly professional women 0 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophisti-ated to get together with like-minded women for onversations, dinners, theater and networking.

enway Community Health
Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fenway ealth.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes.* Fenway ommunity Health offers a wide array of programs nd services for the GLBT community ranging from iscussions about parenting and safe-sex practices to omestic violence and substance abuse. Call for nore information

LAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Join Boston's LBT Flag Football League for a casual spring sea-on, followed by a formal fall season. All are wel-ome, regardless of skill level.

rontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring.com/~fron-runners. Sat., 10 am. All are welcome to join this running club.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
(617-267-9001 or 888-340-4528). Mon.-Fri., 6-11 pm; Sat. and Sun., 5-10 pm. This confidential, toll-free hotline provides support for GLBT and questioning callers.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Professionals Building Community
(617-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to join this networking organization for GLBT professionals. Monthly networking meetings.

Gaymes Group
(508-339-4250). Members of this social group for gay men and lesbians get together on a regular basis to play board, card and parlor games.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Stony Brook. $5-$10.* An open-mike night open to new performers, this queer-positive, dyke-positive, bi-positive and trans-positive spoken-word event meets the second Thursday of each month, 7:30 pm.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: *Red Line to Central.* This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

Girlz 2 Girlz
(781-893-6113). This mentoring program is for girls ages 13-19 who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered. For information, contact Marcela Aldez-Osorio.

Laffan
This social and networking group for women includes single women, couples and parents interested in art, cultural events, outdoor and sporting activities, intellectual and social pursuits, public service and travel. Members receive a weekly email calendar of events. For info, e-mail Laffan_Boston2004@yahoo.com.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue., Wed. and Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

The Network/La Red
(617-423-7233). The Network is a support group working to end abuse in lesbian and bisexual women's and transgender communities. E-mail info@thenetworklared.org for more information.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

Peer Listening Line
(800-399-7337). Trained volunteers provide confidential information, referrals and support to their GLBT peers.

The Rainbow Café
rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social group for activist, academic, intellectual or artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments.

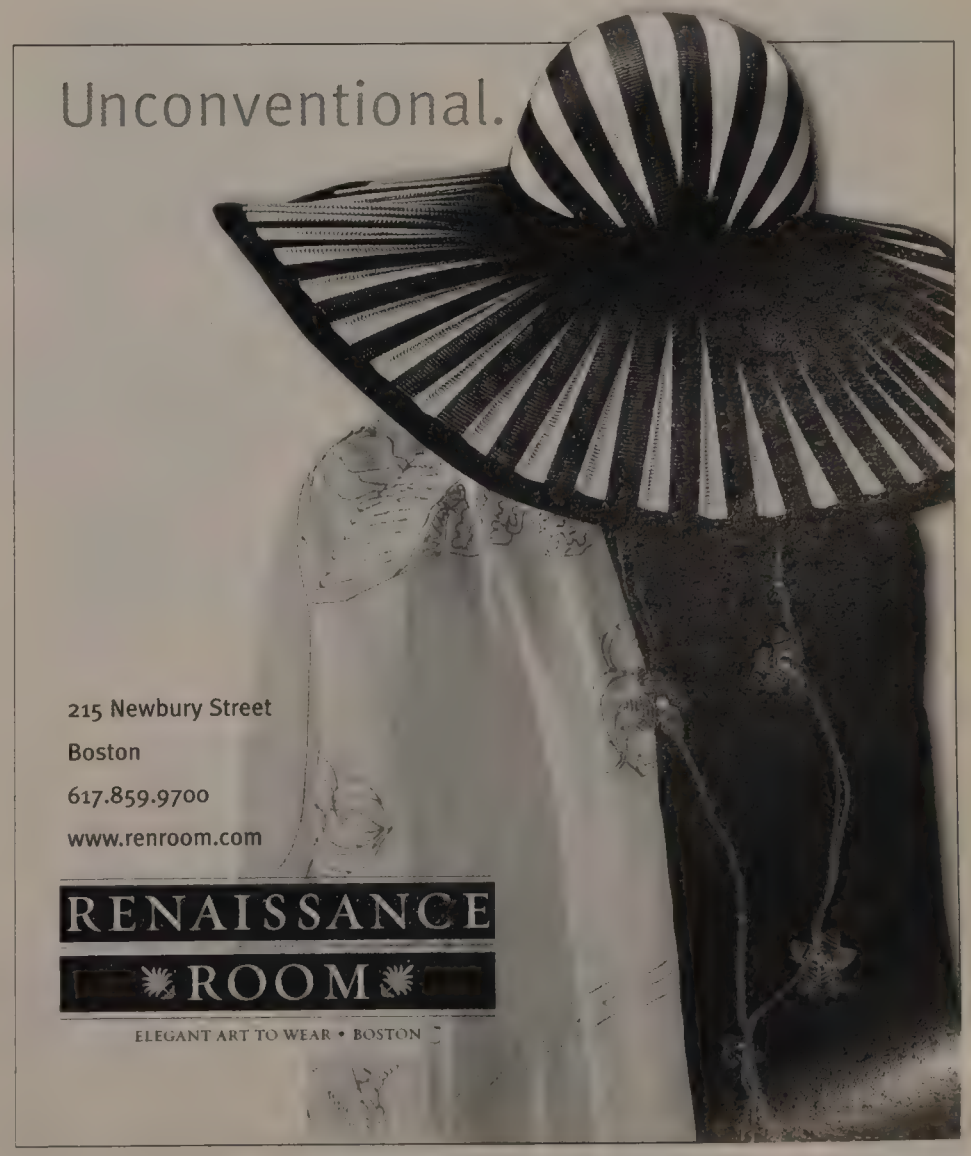
Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes. Wed., 6-7 pm.* This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatinoslgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Road, Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: *C Green Line to Washington Street. First Sat. of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing. $8.* Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the GLBT community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the first Thursday of every month.





body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Intro to Macrobiotics
Veggie Planet Restaurant at Club Passim, 47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-824-4225 or 617-492-5300). http://boston.earthsave.org or www.davidsnieckus.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. Oct. 3, 3 pm. Free, $10 for dinner. Macrobiotic chef and counselor David Snieckus discusses the macrobiotic vegan diet, which aims to maintain harmony within the body, along with the environment and the seasons.

Mediums Day
Greater Boston Church of Spiritualism, Masonic Center, 32 Church St., Watertown (617-923-4334). www.greaterbostonchurchofspiritualism.com. Sept. 25, 10 am-4 pm. Free. Check out the book sale and visit psychic mediums, who perform spiritual readings and healing rituals.

Mystical Art and Talent Show
Swedenborg Chapel, 50 Quincy St. Cambridge (617-864-4552). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. www.soulstirring.org. Oct. 2,, 7-9:30 pm. $5-10 (sliding scale). This show and community gathering presents a variety of original paintings, readings, stories and music by local artists who gather their inspiration from dreams, meditations, religion, nature and more.

Sex-Positive Education Series Lifestyles Panel
Lifestyles, 269 Moody St., Waltham (781-891-6060). Sept. 29, 7:30-9:30 pm. $10. Handicapped-accessible. To kick off this sexuality boutique's six-week education series, the Lifestyles Panel provides an opportunity to learn about lifestyle options from leaders in GLBT, polyamory, BDSM, crossdressing and leather/fetish communities. Speakers include *Bay Windows* editor Andrew Rapp and New England Leather Alliance president Vivienne Kramer.

Sweat Your Prayers Dance Jam
Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-9363). www.dancingoutloud.com or www.dancecomplex.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Oct. 4, 8-9:30 pm. Sliding scale, $9-11. This freestyle dance workshop features deep listening, improvisation and other exercises designed to stimulate creativity and raise your spirit. All levels welcome.

Theology on Tap
Rattlesnake Bar and Grill, 384 Boylston St., Back Bay, Boston (617-523-2377 ext. 32). www.friendsatheadvent.org. Oct. 5, 7 pm. Free. If you're in your 20s or 30s and are interested in learning about and discussing issues involving Christian faith in a casual atmosphere, check out this bar night. Each week features different topics and speakers.

Lectures

Intro to Flower Essence Healing
Theosophical Society in Boston, 21 Maple Street, Arlington (781-648-0101 or 978-821-1134). www.tsboston.org. Sept. 24, 7:30-9 pm. Suggested donation, $5. Francesca Giacchino, certified flower essence practitioner, leads a lecture on flower essences and their healing properties.

Yoga Breathing's Neurophysiology and Health Benefits
MIT, 77 Mass. Ave., Room 6-120, Cambridge (617-846-4020). Sept. 30, 7 pm. Free. Dr. Richard Brown, associate professor of clinical psychiatry at Columbia University and author of *Stop Depression Now*, talks about the benefits of yogic breathing. The practice is said to alleviate stress and related problems, such as anxiety, depression and anger.


Dr. Richard Brown discusses yogic breathing at MIT September 30.

You Go, Girl! Sex Tips for Gals
Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, 318 Harvard St., Suite 32, Arcade Bldg., Brookline (617-731-2626). www.grandopening.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Sept. 22, 7:30-9 pm. $34. Grand Opening owner Kim Airs shares tricks to try on your man to increase pleasure and fun in the bedroom.

Workshops

Anusara Yoga: Flowing with Grace
Back Bay Yoga Studio, 1112 Boylston St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-375-0785). www.backbayyoga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Oct. 2, 1:45-3:45 pm. $40. Anusara means "flowing with grace," and anusara yoga can be transformative, spiritually uplifting, holistic and celebratory. The workshop is led by dietitian and certified yoga instructor Diana Cullum-Dugan. All levels welcome.

Goddesses at Odds: Harmony and Conflict in Aspects of the Feminine
C.G. Jung Institute, 116 Saint Botolph St., Boston. (617-267-5984). www.cgjungboston.com. Sept. 26, 11 am-4 pm. $70. The struggle to be a powerful modern woman is reflected in the old stories of the goddesses. This workshop explores alliances and enmity among the Olympians in order to address the archetypal nature of the tension between aspiration and limitation.

Intro to the Alexander Technique
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430 or 617-527-7373). www.bcae.org or www.alexandertechniqueinstruction.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Oct. 2, 10 am-1 pm. $44. This practice focuses on movement awareness to help you improve posture, move more easily, sit straighter and reduce strain and tension.

Leg and Hip Stretching for Athletes
Star Tech Healing and Learning Center, 14 Nason St., Maynard (978-897-0110). www.startechhealing.com. Sept. 26, 2-4:30 pm. $35. Learn a specialized healing technique that may help improve your running and flexibility and reduce muscle soreness. All levels welcome.

Living with Vision
Doris Roach, 279 Mass. Ave., Arlington (617-734-9479). Sept. 25-26, 10 am-5 pm. $200. This weekend intensive is designed to help you explore the question, What do I want? Identify your values and the visions you have for yourself, and then develop strategies for creating a more ideal future.

Pushing Hands with Master Herman Kauz
Arlington Center for the Arts, Tufts Street entrance, Arlington (781-648-7554). www.acarts.org. Oct. 2-3, 10-4 pm. $180 for both days, $100 for one. Master Kauz works with new and seasoned practitioners of martial arts to teach the art of pushing hands, the skill of using your opponent's force against them. Positioning, sensitivity, balance and grappling are featured.

Thai Massage
Earthsong Yoga, 186 Main St., Marlboro (508-480-8884 or 508-259-2847). www.earthsongyoga.com. Sept. 24, 7-9 pm. $20 per person. Bring a friend or loved one and learn the two-person exercise practice of Thai massage, which features a series of postures and simple massage techniques designed to increase flexibility and decrease stress. All levels welcome.

Ongoing

Power to Protect
Brookline Community Center for the Arts, 14 Green St., Brookline (781-405-1248). www.powerboston.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Sun., 1 pm. $25. This personalized defense-training class offers an intense workout through a direct approach to hand-to-hand defense.

Spiritualism
Canton Spiritualist Church, 1 Blue Hill River Road & Rte. 138, Canton (617-469-2568). Sun., 4 pm. Free. Spiritualism focuses on finding well-being by working through the obstacles of fear and death and healing the mind, emotion and spirit simultaneously. Participants discuss spiritualism and spirit communications at this weekly gathering.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

Boston Red Sox
• Fenway Park, Boston
Tickets: 877-733-7699
Sept. 22, 7:05 pm vs. Baltimore Orioles
Sept. 23, 7:05 pm vs. Baltimore Orioles
Sept. 24, 7:05 pm vs. New York Yankees
Sept. 25, 7:05 pm vs. New York Yankees
Sept. 26, 2:05 pm vs. New York Yankees

Events

Denis Leary's Fifth Annual Celebrity Hat Trick
FleetCenter, Boston (617-931-2000). www.learyfirefighters.org. Oct. 3, 3 pm. Tickets start at $25. Cam Neely, Bobby Orr and other hockey greats hit the ice with celebrities including Michael J. Fox and Steve Buscemi to raise money for the Leary Firefighters Foundation.

Patriots vs. Bills Road Trip
Boston to Buffalo, N.Y. (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Oct. 1-3. Take a road trip with the Boston Ski & Sports Club to watch the Patriots take on Drew Bledsoe's Bills in Buffalo. Trip includes two nights' lodging in downtown Niagara Falls.

TJ Maxx Tour of Gymnastics Champions
FleetCenter, Boston. (617-931-2000). www.fleetcenter.com. Sept. 26, 6 pm. Tickets start at $18. Olympic gold medalist Carly Patterson is joined by Mohini Bhardwaj, Brett McClure, Courtney Kupets and other top gymnasts at this exhibition.


Carly Patterson and other Olympians perform at the FleetCenter September 2

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club seeks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club (BSSC) Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

DODGEBALL

BSSC Dodgeball
(617-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting now for dodgeball teams to compete in a fall league.

ENDURANCE TRAINING

Team in Training
(800-688-6572). www.teamintraining.org. This organization provides fund-raising athletes with group training and support, personalized coaching and guaranteed race entry for events.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
561 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville. (617-591-0101). www.baystatefencers.com. Fencing and stage combat programs offered in the fall.

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBA

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-407 www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four m teams compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-3 8326). Saturday mornings. Women's teams p eight-on-eight flag football each week.

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.c Training Tuesdays and Thursdays in Jamaica Pl Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Cant New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is look for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club se new players for games in Brookline and Cambrid

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.my rugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club w comes both new and experienced players who w to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays. New experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonha com. Weekly runs on either Wednesday or Sunday ye round. If you enjoy running, drinking and sing bawdy songs, then consider joining these self-p claimed "serious drinkers with a running problem

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First S Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 p Weekly runs.

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Run
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (781-2 1584). www.srr.org. Thursdays, 7 pm. Weekly runs.

Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-6 2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thursdays, 7:30 p Weekly 2.6-mile runs.

SOCCER

BSSC Outdoor Soccer
(617-789-4070). Outdoor teams forming n Games played in Charlestown, Lexington, Read and Canton. Individuals and teams are welcome.

ULTIMATE FRISBEE

BSSC Ultimate League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070). C games each week in Charlestown.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070, ext. 22 Sun.-Thu. Coed teams forming for summer leag in Cambridge, Watertown, Brookline and Newt

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-868-8379). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. A teur folk-style wrestling group open to all skill lev

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children

Advice to Contributors

Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Borders Books and Music
Cambridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Every Sat., 1 pm. Staff members read from new and classic storybooks.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Every Tue. and Sat., 11 am. Staff members read children's stories, followed by snacks and craft activities.

ImprovFoundry Family Show
ImprovBoston, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA Red Line to Central. Sat., 6 pm. $10-$12. This short, improvisational show is suitable for the whole family.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50; members, $7. Reservations recommended. Closed until Sept. 18. •Sept. 25 and 26, 1 and 3 pm, ages 4-8. Paul Vincent Davis presents three humorous stories inspired by tales from the Seneca tribe: *How the Fox and Raccoon Trick Each Other, Why the Blue Jay Is Blue and the Gray Wolf Isn't* and *Why the Bear Has a Stumpy Tail.*

Things to Do

Boston Art Tours
Meets at the corner of Arlington and Newbury streets, Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tours for children: Tue.-Sat., 1-2 pm; tours for teens: Tue.-Sat., 2-3:30 pm. Adults, $30; teens, $15; children under 12, free. Take a walking tour of contemporary art galleries along Newbury Street.

Boston by Little Feet
Faneuil Hall, Congress Street, Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Through October, Sun, 2 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am. $8. Explore Boston's history and architecture by taking a walking tour of the Freedom Trail designed specifically for kids.

Boston Duck Tours
Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston; Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-267-3825). www.bostonducktours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Science Park. Daily through Nov., 9 am-sunset, every 30-60 minutes. $24; seniors and students, $21; children 3-11, $15; children under 3, $3. These amphibious vehicles tour Boston's most popular sights via city streets and the Charles River.

Boston Harbor Islands
Ferry departs from Long Wharf, Boston (617-223-8666). www.bostonislands.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium or Red Line to South Station. $17-$27, free for children under 6. •Thu.-Sun., 10 am; Fri.-Sun., 2 pm. Boston Light Tours: Guided tours of Little Brewster Island and the nation's oldest lighthouse.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8; children, $7. Weekly activities: •Daily, KidsStage is an interactive theater featuring professional actors and museum staff. •Wed., 11 am-1 pm, kids paint murals together on the boardwalk. •Fri., 3-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2-4 pm. In the Zoom Zone is a hands-on science challenge culled from the PBS TV show Zoom. •Mon.-Fri., 10 am-4 pm. The art studio is open for bookmaking, painting, finger-puppet making and more.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •Oct. 2, 9-11 am. Things That Go Bump in the Night explores nocturnal animals and their habitats. •Oct. 2, 9 am-12 pm. Children explore the habitats, animals, tools, clothing and folk tales of Africa in African Safari.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $5; ages 5-18, $2; students, seniors and kids under 5, free (free admission the third Sunday of every month). •*Holography, the Light Fantastic* is a display featuring the world's largest collection of holograms. Ongoing. •*Robots and Beyond* offers a look at MIT's artificial intelligence research labs. Ongoing. •*Ship Models: The Evolution of Ship Design* features 40 ship models, from warships to clippers. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. $15; children 17 and under, free. •Mon.-Thu., 3:30 pm. The Children's Room combines arts and crafts with a variety of cultural themes. •Tue.-Thu., 3:30-4:30 pm. Books Bring Art Alive is a program for children and families. •Wed., 5:30 pm. Family Night Out is an interactive evening of creative activities for children and families.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13; seniors, $11; children, $10. •*The Lord of the Rings Motion Picture Trilogy—The Exhibition* features memorabilia from the films, including costumes, props and the ring itself. Through Oct. 24. •*Strange Matter* explores the use of everyday materials in cardiac surgery, space exploration and more-common events. Oct. 2, 2004-Jan. 2, 2005. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •*Science in the Park* is a permanent playground with a scientific spin. •Sat. and Sun.. 11 am. Animals and Stories Alive is an interactive story hour featuring folk tales, myths and live animals.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat. & Sun., 9 am-6 pm. $15.95; seniors, $13.95; children, $6.95. •Sept. 22, 28 and 29, 10 am. *Toddler Explorers* workshops focus on toddler motor skill development through aquatic exploration. •Sept. 22 and 29, 2 pm. *Preschool Explorers* activities and topics help kids ages 2-4 develop observation and exploration skills. •*Amazing Jellies* features thousands of jellyfish. Through 2005. •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank contains sharks, stingrays and a 600-pound California sea lion. Ongoing. •*Edge of the Sea* is a hands-on exhibition that features sea stars, hermit crabs and more. Ongoing. •Take a high-speed catamaran on a whale watch. Through October. Call or visit the Web site for times. Adults, $29; seniors, college students and military, $26; children 12-18, $23; children 3-11, $20.

New England Wild Flower Society
180 Hemenway Road, Framingham (508-877-7630). www.newfs.org. Thu.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7, $5 students and seniors. Explore the gardens and trails, and take part in ongoing programs and events. •*Big Bugs* features David Rogers' large-scale wooden bug sculptures on display in the garden. Through Oct. 17. •Sept. 25, 10 am-2 pm, $30. Spendid Fall Gardens is a foliage tour of Dover, Westwood and Needham gardens. •Sept. 26, 12-4 pm. Childrens from grades K-12 can exhibit their plant and insect-themed art works at the Big Bugs Student Art Show. •Oct. 2 and 3, 9 am-5 pm. The Halloween-themed Spider Weekend features a 15-foot spider-web, a Jack-in-the-Pulpit flower demonstration and a costume parade.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us/library. •Sept. 23, 4:15 pm, ages 7 and up. Children listen to folk tales with a tree theme. Craft-making and snacks follow. •Sept. 28, 4 pm, ages 6 and up. Mad Science illustrates the principles of air pressure with a hot-air balloon, a hovercraft and an exploding bottle.

around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
Coit Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on clear nights), April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm; Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5pm; Fri., 10 am - 9 pm. $9; children and seniors, $7. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.

Faneuil Hall
75 State St., Boston (617-338-2323). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 am. Free.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6, children, $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; seniors and students, $8; 12 and under, free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH, or Green Line to Park Street. Summer: daily, 10 am-4 pm; Labor Day through Memorial Day: Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Daily, 9 am-5 pm (Fri., 9 am-9 pm). $14; seniors, $12; children, $11.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5; children, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2–June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1: Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, $13.95 seniors; children, $8.95.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-5 pm. Free.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. $5, seniors and students, $4; children, $1.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $9.50; seniors, $7; children 12 and under, $6.50; children under 3, free.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily, 7 am-6 pm. $4; children 12 and under, free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). www.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. May 1-Oct. 15: daily, 9 am-6 pm; Nov. 1-Apr. 30: daily, 10 am-5 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster-care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay
(617-375-0700). www.bostonredcross.org. Volunteer in the administrative department.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.



The Old North Church

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-563-4441). www.bostoncares.org. More th 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volu teer organization of people between the ages of and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and veloping business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. Hl AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, fice work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). www.bostonpartners.org. Tu young students from the city in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). www.ccaa.org. Volu teers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers/tut needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support children and adults with developmental disabiliti

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help ad living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Litera
(617-357-6000). Tutor students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
(617-995-3250). www.everybodywinsmetroboston. Spend your lunch hour reading with element school children.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hospice.org. Volunteers nee to support terminally ill patients and their families

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-online.c Volunteers provide over-the-phone counsel for p ple affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Mentor a chi

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Volunteer for homeless childrer

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachuset
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelders.org. Volunte needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

Pine Street Inn
(617-482-4944). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve bre fast to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740). www.projectplace.org. Becom mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteer at this agency for b tered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the din room, clothing room and groceries program at homeless shelter.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opport ties to volunteer with other young professionals

READ ME

Bostonians are extraordinarily passionate about books. The Improper Bostonian's Literary Issue will reach out to the heart of every bookworm. First, we will feature a round-up of major new books by Boston authors. Next, the Improper goes undercover: many mystery writers live in the Hub and base their stories here; we investigate this phenomenon to see what makes Boston such a mystery epicenter.

The Improper will also announce the winner of our annual fiction contest. More than 200 readers submitted original works to be judged by author and *New Yorker* writer Susan Orlean. The winning story will be published in the Literary Issue, and the winning writer will receive a slew of fun prizes!

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If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see. (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity.) Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

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RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

To the Innocent Male Pedestrian

You were climbing the ramp from the Charles River Esplanade to the Mass. Ave. bridge. Please accept my apology for smacking into you and your briefcase as I ran by. I get so annoyed by all the inconsiderate people who don't pay attention to others around them, and my last straw was the group loitering at the top of the ramp there. I didn't mean to take my frustrations out on you and I apologize. Sincerely,
—The female runner in the green shirt

Corners Frame Shop Encounter

You were picking up your custom frame from Corners in Porter Square September 4. You are amazingly cute with blond hair and you caught my attention. I think you drive a blue Ford Escort. I was by the counter—tall, auburn hair, blue eyes—and was wearing a visor and Ironman T-shirt. We exchanged glances, but my shy nature kept me from introducing myself to you. I'd like a second chance to make a first impression. Please get in touch with me if you'd like to meet.
—roadlesstraveled1@hotmail.com

Construction Workers, Broad Street

It's amazing and a total treat to keep an eye on all you constructions workers while I am trying to work. One man in particular catches my fancy—shaved head—what's your story? I'm an attractive 43-year-old divorced white female working in Boston. I live alone just west of the city and have no children. Want to meet for a cocktail after your shift sometime? I would love to hear from you
—daral0077@yahoo.com

Shared Smiles

We were stranded together on a T transfer bus between Park Street and Kendall Square September 5 at 6 pm. We were about to instigate a revolt and we shared some smiles. We got separated offloading at the station. I made a big mistake and headed for my car without catching your name. I turned around to see you obviously waiting (for me?). I should have at least asked for your number or offered a ride, for a few steps later you were gone and I felt like I let the woman of lifetime slip away. If fate finds you reading this, your tall dark stranger can be found. E-mail me.
—peterinboston@yahoo.com.

Jeannie!

Biracial beauty and hair extension specialist, where are you? We worked together at the original and infamous John Dellaria on Newbury Street so many years ago. I've been searching for you for so long. Margaret told me you had left the country and moved to Poland. (I still don't trust her.) You were working downtown for awhile and I called "that place" and they said you'd left. I need to talk to you! Contact me.
—Cornelus@comcast.net.

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery.

So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see!

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Dellaria Salons, South Shore Plaza - Nov. 6th
Finals: FELT - Nov. 21st

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- Wardrobe from Tello's
- One-year membership to Gold's Gym

Tello's Kiss

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rockie horoscope

SEPTEMBER 22–OCTOBER 5, 2004 BY ROCKIE GARDINER



LIBRA SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

It's almost like being in love—but not exactly. While your romantic Venus ruler confronts delusional Neptune, you could be handed the biggest bunch of bull you've encountered all year. The opposition brings a matter that began around Valentine's Day to a head and insists that it be resolved one way or another. You can rely on Scorpio and Sag friends to support your position, but more importantly, by the 26th, you'll have the aggregate power of the sun, Mars and Jupiter in your own sign. Unstoppable, unflappable.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

Power to the people, especially like-minded colleagues. The shift of the sun, Jupiter and Mars from critical Virgo to judicious Libra can dramatically affect your own viewpoint. Your incisive Mars co-ruler will no longer dwell on the specifics of a situation, but may campaign for a greater measure of fairness, at least until the election is history. Come Veterans Day, Mars will be in Scorpio and you'll have more determination and physical energy than you've had the past two years. But for the moment, opt for pleasure.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

This year the transition from summer to fall can be much more memorable because your beneficial Jupiter ruler is joined by the Virgo sun in your career midheaven. Although their conjunction occurs every year, this particular placement, this extraordinary example of empowerment, occurs once every 12 years. Let's hope your ducks are lined up and that you're prepared to score big-time. After the sky show shifts into sociable Libra, the pressure to excel eases up.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

In the course of the year, as generous Jupiter navigates through your Libra midheaven, you'll be offered easy access to important people and big, fat juicy rewards for the jobs you do take on. Having the planet of prosperity overseeing your career and reputation is relatively rare, so look at each opportunity that arises over the next 13 months as a better than average chance to hit the jackpot. No matter how simple or complicated, don't dismiss any offer out of hand. You never know when or where Lady Luck will drop by.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

You could play the magician while mystical, musical Neptune in your sign reaches out to loving Venus in your Leo house of partners. The attraction between you and a significant other may be strong, but it's not unbreakable. As two planets face off, push often comes to shove, but this particular polarity is a lot more subtle. Threats are usually veiled. Nonetheless, prosperous Jupiter's entrance into Libra should benefit a variety of joint financial matters.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

Read for Aquarius because it's your impressionable Neptune ruler that's receiving undivided attention from artistic, romantic Venus. Fish tend to bank on the odds of achieving "happily ever after" under ordinary circumstances. However, during this annual but far from ordinary opposition, you're likely to let your imagination run away with you. Since there's precious little rooting you to reality after the sun, Jupiter and Mars leave earthbound Virgo, why not enjoy the flight?

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

Hard work never killed anyone. Repeat your Mama's mantra each time you feel stressed to the breaking point. One more task on your "to-do" list might not be the straw that breaks the camel's back, but Virgo exactitude can ensure that your anxiety, perhaps a fear of failure, is real enough. Until your Mars ruler enters harmonious and relatively laid-back Libra on the 26th, doing the right thing, and doing it to the best of your ability, could become your main objective. That, plus a few words of endearment.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

Bulls tend to respond to the delicious vibe sent out during the annual Venus-Neptune opposition with a passion usually reserved for imaginative Pisces. Hook a Fish and wallow in the illusions the two signs can create, and the delusions that'll disappoint you. Even if this turns out to be the most romantic month of the year, being lucky in love won't preclude your winning the lottery. On the 21st, magnanimous Jupiter and the sun merge in your house of risk and romance. Go ahead, take that chance.

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

You started to make real progress once your Mercury ruler stepped out of the shadow it cast while it was retrograde last month. Also, with the advent of airy Libra, a psychological load was lifted, plus those picayune demands on your time and energy will soon be gone. After generous Jupiter enters Libra on the 24th, Twins are in for a full year of rewards and recognition. Make the most of the opportunities you're offered between now and Thanksgiving, before Mercury turns retrograde again and slows you down.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

With the arrival of the autumn equinox, your focus turns to home base and family history. This is usually a comfortable and a comforting place for the Crab, but not without its fair share of problems, particularly while Mars is marching through until Veterans Day. Fortunately, for the next 13 months you'll be protected by Jupiter making its once-every-12 years transit of Libra. The giant planet tends to see the bigger, more expensive picture, so don't be surprised if you envision yourself movin' on up.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

Lions rule. No doubt, but the mighty jungle can become a more hospitable domain while Venus travels through your sign until October 3. Being this popular and attractive may do wonders for your social life too. Sudden urges to dress up and bling out could be justified by the presence of Venus, ruler of taste, treats and trends, but also by Jupiter's exit from prudent Virgo. Watch how your spending habits change and your income expands after Mr. Moneybags settles into Libra.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

This is possibly the best, most advantageous time in the past 12 years. Wise and protective Jupiter at the tail end Virgo merges with the creative, life-affirming sun to complete the cycle of personal growth and maturity that began last summer. Make your presentation, advance you theory, send in your résumé. And graciously accept whatever opportunities and accolades are offered in return. They can lead to a much larger income and a prestigious success story when lucky Jupiter takes over your Libra money house.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

Thank You!

TO EVERYONE WHO TOOK PART IN
THE SECOND ANNUAL MICHAEL A. TYE MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT ON SEPTEMBER 22.

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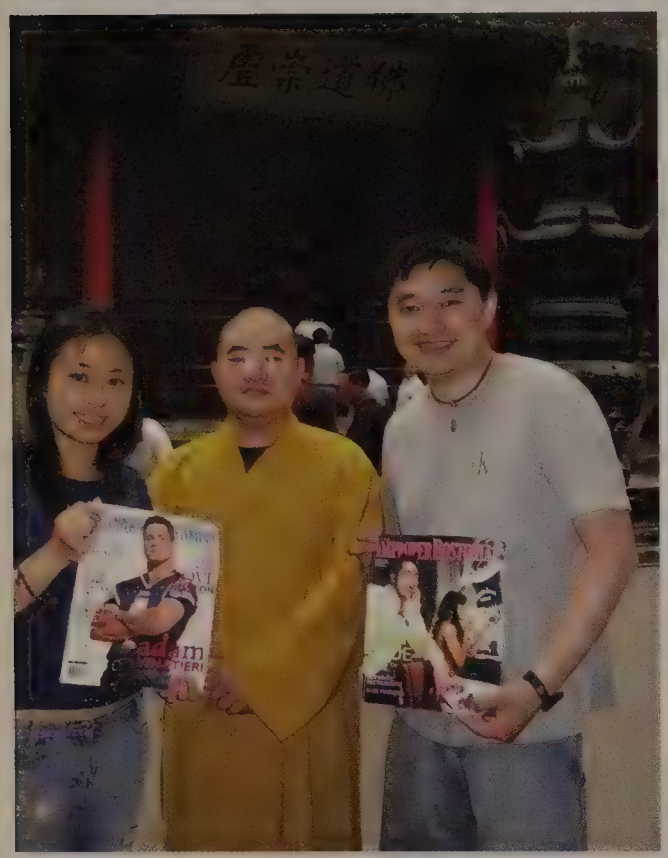
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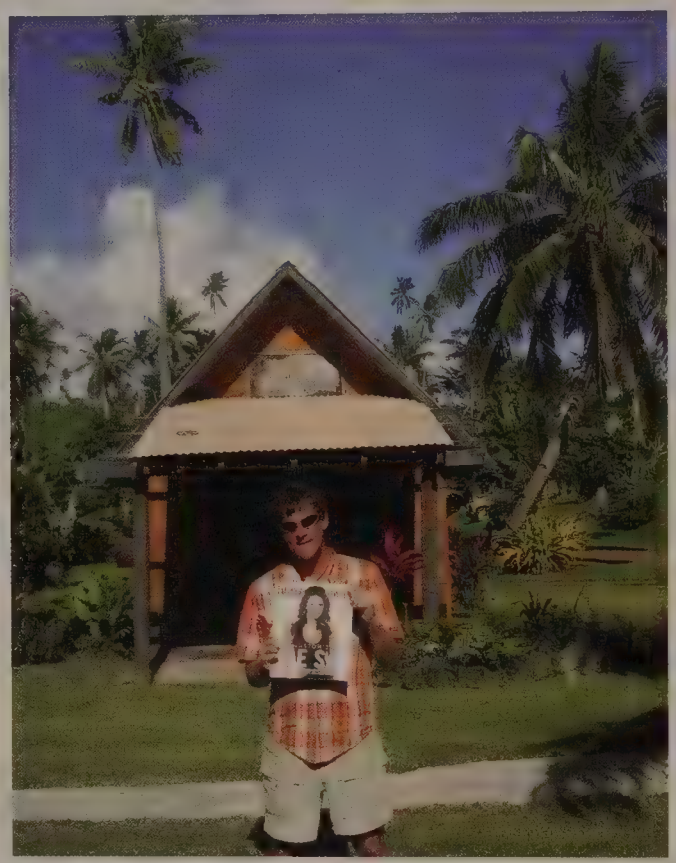
IMPROPER sightings

UNLIKE THE REST OF YOUR FRIENDS, WE WANT TO SEE THE PHOTOS FROM YOUR NEXT TRIP.

Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you were. The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.



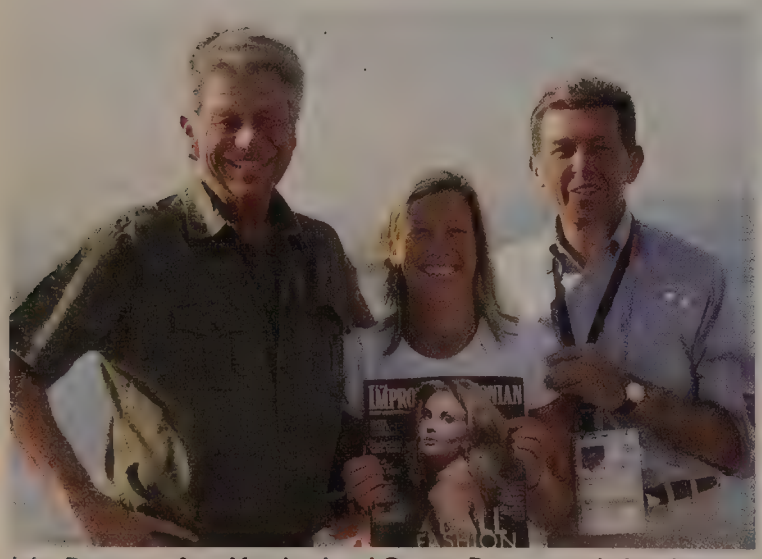
Sara Xi, Monk Huize and Zhen Lu monk-ey around at the Jade Buddha Temple in Shanghai, China. "Huize" means "kind wiseman." Another translation is, "not Steinbrenner."



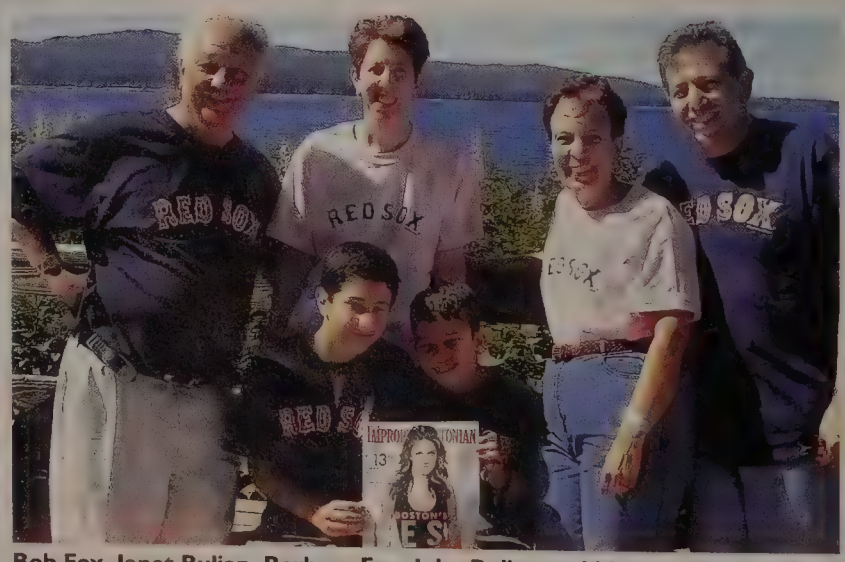
Greg Henry chilled out in Taveuni, Fiji. Next time you're talking about Rickey Williams being crazy, remember that he's probably somewhere like this right now and you're not.



Paul Karger, Arjun Viswanathan and Wes Karger get crazy-psyched up to run with the bulls in Pamplona, Spain, by reading the IMPROPER Interiors issue.



John Donovan, Amy Vreeland and George Regan traveled to Athens, Greece, where they executed a 1½ somersault vault and stuck the landing for a 9.825, upsetting Kim Dae-eun of South Korea.



Bob Fox, Janet Bulian, Barbara Fox, John Bulian and Max and Jake Bulian leave no doubt about where they're from in Ketchikan, Alaska. Ketchikan is an optimistic little town, as opposed to its dour neighbor, Ketchikan't.



John Wood, New Zealand ambassador to the U.S., enjoys the always kiwi-flavored IMPROPER.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Eating a spider roll at the Tarantula Festival and Fall Barbecue, October 2 in Santa Clara, Calif.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned.

EAT IT UP, WASH IT DOWN



THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN's Fall Dining Issue will take you on a culinary tour of autumn's finest cuisine. First, we will cover some delicious North End haunts that don't get all the attention they so richly deserve. Next, we'll dip into fondue. This hot 'n' gooey trend is a hit at many local restaurants. We'll also look at life as a waitress: How do they sling the hash when the dogs are barking?

THIS ISSUE IS GOOD TO THE LAST DROP!

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN reaches over 392,900 readers every two weeks.
92% of our readers dine out on a regular basis.
Our readers consume an average of 16 meals per month in restaurants.
59% of our readers order drinks by brand names.

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

ISSUE DATE: OCTOBER 20
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IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Friday, September 10, **Jake Ivory's**, **Bill's Bar** and **Tiki Room** hosted their own brand of tailgating for the throngs of Jimmy Buffett diehards before his concert at **Fenway Park**.






1. **Sharon Cohen**, accountant for Hill Holliday, and **Kevin Richardson**, ad representative for the Verizon Super Pages.
2. **Fred Trabucchi** from Hartford, Conn. and **Rick Tosh** from San Francisco, Calif., both account managers for Birkenstock.
3. **Diamandia Lingos** creative director and marketing specialist for the Lyons Group, and **Greg Porter**, bartender for Jake Ivory's.
4. **Nicki** and **Joe Trilling** of Mansfield, Mass.

On Thursday, September 9, **The Improper Bostonian** Sponsored Dog Day Afternoon at **The Rack**. Owners enjoyed drinks on the patio while their dogs enjoyed appetizers from **Polka Dog Bakery**. Fast Freddy from **Star 93.7** hosted the Doggie Fashion Show. Proceeds will benefit the **WSPA**.







1. **Fast Freddy** from Star 93.7, and **Melissa Doherty**, dog sitter for Paws Club, with Australian shepherd **Lucky**.
2. **Rob Van Sickle** and **Deborah Gregg**, co-owners of **Polka Dog Bakery** on Shawmut Avenue.
3. **Ed Miller** of Somerville with beagle **Holly** during the Doggie Fashion Show
4. Bernese mountain dog **Brea** with owners **Karrie** and **Eric Korbett** of Arlington.

On Thursday, September 2, guests turned out in white for the "It's Almost Labor Day" party at **Dillon's**. The event was sponsored by **Wyborowa Single Estate Vodka**






1. **Amy Blanco**, on-premise district manager for Pernod Ricard USA; **Paul Bruno**, general manager for Dillon's; and **Tracy Saradnik**, marketing director for the Glynn Hospitality Group.
2. **Tawny Schaeffer**, student at Northeastern University, and **Shawn McManus**, industrial designer at Ideation Design.
3. **Monique Maillet** and **Suzanne Edmondson**, registered nurses at Children's Hospital.
4. **Gagandeep Nirh**, assistant director of dining services for the Ritz-Carlton Boston Common, with **Mary Jordan**, chief of staff for representative James Murphy.

PHOTOS: TIKI ROOM, KAREN DANA; THE RACK, VANESSA GARDNER; DILLON'S, ALISON MORAN

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75 Chestnut *75 Chestnut St., Boston, 617-227-2175, www.75chestnut.com.* Providing regional American cuisine served in an intimate setting. Bar opens at 5pm. Dinner served from 5:30pm - 10pm.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled PortabellaPaninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1 am. AE, DC, MC,V.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2002. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Captain Fishbones *332 Victory Road, Marina Bay, Quincy, 617-471-3511, www.captainfishbones.com.* Captain Fishbones is a spectacular waterfront restaurant featuring Seafood, Steak and More. Enjoy lunch or dinner on our seasonal patio, dine inside, treat yourself to tropical cocktails in our lounge or savor the sunshine at our Boardwalk Café. We serve seafood so fresh it deserves a slap, succulent steaks, awesome burgers, healthy salads, a wide selection of sandwiches and pizza. Full menu is available from 11:30 until close.

Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

Devlin's Bar & Bistro *332 Washington St., Brighton Centre 617-779-8822 www.edevlins.com.* This casual chic Brighton bistro combines great food, exciting cocktails with the best deep house music and down tempo lounge Wed - Sun. Executive Chef Gary O'Hanlon presents a Four Course meal paired with complimentary wines from the vineyards of New Zealand. Monday, October 4th 6pm-10pm. $44.95.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston 617-426-3333.* Open 11am - 2am, 7days a week. Kennedy's Midtown is a cultural experience far from the maddening crowd while set in heart of it. Kennedy's serves a lunch and dinner menu of international cuisine. In the evenings they play host to some of Boston's finest Pianists who entertain with a range of tunes from Broadway to Jazz and Blues. Kennedy's embraces all the finer qualities of regal Boston and throws in a dash of old fashioned Irish Hospitality for measure.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., South Boston,617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11 am - 2am 7 days a week.

Ned Devine's *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere in the heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Science Street Café *Science Park, Boston, 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out Boston's newest nightspot - The Science Street Café at the Museum of Science. And while you're there be sure to checkout our new exhibit, The Lord of the Rings Motion Picture Trilogy – The Exhibition. Try our out-of-this world signature martinis, gourmet appetizers and decadent desserts. Open 6-10pm. Parking available.

Sidney's Grille *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why Bon Appétit magazine says, "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breakfast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus visit www.sidneysgrille.com.

Solas *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11 am - 2 am 7 days a week.

Strega *379 Hanover St., Boston 617-523-8481 www.stregaristorante.com.* A fine dining experience in Boston's historic North End. Enjoy our cozy, romantic atmosphere, splendid wine list and savory Italian dishes. Strega buzzes with a mix of casual tourists, local residents and love-struck couples. The menu offers something for everyone. Traditional dishes like the gnocchi are anything but simple, featuring flavor just as robust as that found in intricate dishes. Find yourself in the company of celebrities, including owner Nick Varano's pals from of the Sopranos. Available for corporate and private functions.

Sunset Grill & Tap *:130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina** *: 916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

BARS/CLUBS

Beer Specialty

Boston Beer Works *112 Canal St., near the Fleet Center, 617-896-BEER, 61 Brookline Ave., across from Fenway Park, 617-536-BEER and 278 Derby St., in Historic Salem, 978-745-BEER.* Boston's oldest and largest restaurant brewery with 3 locations! Bold American Food. Award Winning Beer. 15 microbrewed beers always on tap. 16 American wines by the glass. 15 championship billiards tables at our Canal Street location. Complete party planning capabilities. Private Rooms. Customizeable menus. Lunch. Dinner. Late Night. Always a good time. Check out the BIGGER and BOLDER menu.

Sunset Grill & Tap *: 130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina** *: 916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exotic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

Big City - pool hall, pizza kitchen, Beer Bar *138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8pm, free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Clubs

Devlin's *332 Washington Street Brighton Centre 617-779 -8822. www.edevlins.com.* Thursdays we have DJs spin up-beat house and dance 9pm-1am. Never a cover. 21+. Fridays DJ Steve plays funky house and old skool classics 21+. Saturdays d.Js Dan Spurling and Chris Orio spin Dance floor Anthems & Vocal House 21+. Sunday Industry Night DJ Steve plays funky house and old school classics 21+.

Felt *533 Washington St., Boston, 617.350.5555* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, right next door to the Opera House; in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering sophisticated billiards, NewYork style Lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere of DJ's and dancing, combined with the delicious entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Contemporary cusine by Chef Ben Stevens.

Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston, 617-482-7799.* Located in Boston's trendy Theater District, Pravda 116 is a chic bar and club. DJs 5:30pm - 10:30pm keep the energy level high. Bar 5:30pm-2am and dance club 10:30pm - 2am Wednesday-Saturday. Credit cards accepted AE, CB, DC, MC, V.

Stadium – Clubhouse *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Stadium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale nightclub featuring two bars, a hardwood dance floor and parking. An exciting yet relaxed 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety of music and beautiful people crowding the dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights. An ideal place for your next bachelor, bachelorette or birthday party.

Club Q Boston *25 Union St., Boston, 617-742-2121.* Open 9pm - 2am Wednesday through Saturday. What nightlife in Boston has been waiting for, this state of the art Nightclub in the heart of Faneuil Hall attracts a stylish and eclectic crowd. Open Wednesday through Saturday Club Q hosts Boston's top DJs spinning Hip Hop, House and Top 40's. With two bars, three VIP areas and pool tables, Club Q is the place to see and be seen. Credit cards accepted.

Comedy

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.*



Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www. theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. Mingle. Let your hair down; see and be seen on the big screen. Simply the hippest way to spend a night of all-out fun in Boston's Financial District. Come after work. Come to dance. Come to go wild with your friends. There's always something exciting happening – and you never know who you'll bump into. Join us and experience what the buzz is all about.

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 617-227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

Irish

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 617-742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston,617-742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 617-523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11 am - 1am 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

The Green Dragon *11Marshall St., Boston, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11 am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11 am - 2am 7 days a week.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 617-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

General

The Alley *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. www.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

Aqua *120 Water St., Boston, 617-720-4900.* Boston's newest place to be seen is now open in the heart of the Financial District. Whether relaxing with a martini in one of our cozy booths, sipping a margarita on our roof deck or watching your hometown favorites on our high definition plasma TV. Aqua has what you're looking for after work and late night with our resident and guest DJs spinning your favorite mixes through our state of the art sound system all night long.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Boston Rocks *245 Quincy Market Place Boston,617-726-1110 www.boston-rocks.net. 21+.* Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St.,617- 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2003. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Cheers *Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 617-227-0150, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Offering pub fare until 11:45pm. Live entertainment every Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Cheers *Beacon Hill 84 Beacon St., Boston, 617-227-9605, www.cheersboston.com.* Open daily from 11-2am. Full menu available until 11:45pm. Watch your favorite team on DirecTV.

Downtown Lounge *138 Portland St., Boston 617-523-8383.* Tempting tapas, modern martinis and contemporary cocktails are just a few of the elements awaiting your arrival. A distinctive destination in the heart of North Station, located just one block from the Fleet Center. Share crab taquitos, shaved portobello mushrooms or grilled white pizza. Revive with a specialty martini while sinking into soft curvy seating. Spacious and sublime, Downtown Lounge is an attractive meeting place for business, luncheons, social, after work cocktails and events.

The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010.* Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St.,Boston 617-722-0161.* The newest edition to Boston's night scene. This New Orleans style bar is just steps away from the Fleet Center. Hurricane O'Reilly's serves up the best that Boston nightlife has to offer. Come dance the night away with the hottest music around. We will leave you yearning for Bourbon Street.

Jillian's Boston *145 Ipswich St., Boston, 617-437-0300.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring more than 200 high tech games, six full bars, 50 pool tables, racing simulators, Black Jack for Fun and much more. Atlas Bar and Grill on Jillian's first floor offers full service dining featuring innovative American cuisine, a giant screen video wall and dancing every Friday & Saturday night. www.jilliansboston.com.

The Junction – Your Neighborhood Bar & Grill. *110 Dorchester St., South Boston, 617-268-6429.* Delicious food, great atmosphere and friendly staff –and it all happens at the Junction - South Boston's Neighborhood Bar & Grill. Enjoy our half-priced appetizers on weekdays from 3 to 6 pm. Join us for live music & entertainment on the weekends and for our fun trivia nights on Tuesdays.

Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Lounge. Cocktails. Dancing. Nightlife. Come see the lights of Parris. Sample the eclectic lounge menu featuring grilled pizza, oyster shooters ans steak tartar. Sip a Classic, Apple or French 75 martini, and then motion onto the huge dance floor featuring Live Music with the best bands and DJs Thursday through Saturday. Named for the original architect of the Greek-revival-style building, Alexander Parris, you're nightlife experience at Parris will be Boston and beyond. Open 5pm - 2am Wednesay - Saturday. Cover charge on Friday and Saturday.

Jazz

Regattabar *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Tuesday-Saturday nights and occasional Sunday afternoons. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square. Shows at 8:30pm Tues-Thurs, 7:30pm & 10:00pm Fri. & Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617.876.7777 for tickets and information, 800.881.1818 for hotel reservations and information.

Latin

Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston 617-351-7001.* A multistory Latin-themed restaurant and club, Sophia's treats guests to a tantalizing Tapas-style menu, live Salsa bands and hi-energy Latin dance. From a romantic dinner and salsa lessons to hi-energy dance and mingling on the roof deck over sangria and Salsa, an evening at Sophia's is always Hot! Hot! Hot!

Sports Bar - Upscale

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www.theplaceboston.com.* Voted Boston's Best Sports Bar 3 years in a row by The Improper Bostonian! Mingle with your favorite sports celebrities: Brady, Thornton, Walker, Garciaparra. You never know who you'll run into. Enjoy the wildest party atmosphere in the heart of the Financial District. It's never the same experience twice – we've got exclusive sports video productions and game coverage on our state-of the-art flat screen TVs. So join us to see what the buzz is all about and find out why people in-the-know feel right at home.

Sports Depot *353 Cambridge Street, Allston, 617-783-2300,www.sportsdepotboston.com.* SPORTS DEPOT IS BACK! Original Location! Bigger and Better! Plenty of Plasma! Wifi! New Huge Menu! Bring your appetite and your laptop, meet your friends and watch all the games at once, no channel surfing necessary! Enjoy our exciting menu featuring the Original Sports Depot Wings, Pizza and Ribs that fall off the bone! A full menu available everyday from 11:30 to close and Sunday Brunch 10-2. Cool off on a summer day with a Tropical Temptation, Frozen Specialty Drink, Infusion or Martini! Enjoy the sunshine and sports on our Patio!

Stadium *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* Boston's Best Damn Sports Bar, Period. A brand new, high-end sports bar featuring two floors, three bars, 30 flat screen TVs – including the one in the men's room, a dance floor and parking. Stadium menu offers an enticing selection of appetizers, salads, steak & burgers, fresh seafood and drinks

BRUNCH

Harvard Gardens *315 Cambridge St., Beacon Hill, Boston, 617-523-2727. www.harvardgardens. com.* Cozy up to the beautiful mahogany bar or slip into a comfy booth and enjoy Harvard Gardens' menu of cool cocktails and comfort food. Brunch serves up eggs and pastrami hash, thick-cut French toast with caramelized bananas, specialty pizzas and Boston's best Bloody Mary. Harvard Gardens serves brunch Saturday and Sunday, 11:00am - 3:00pm.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended 617-661-5005.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**, *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 tap, 380 microbrews.

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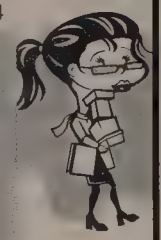
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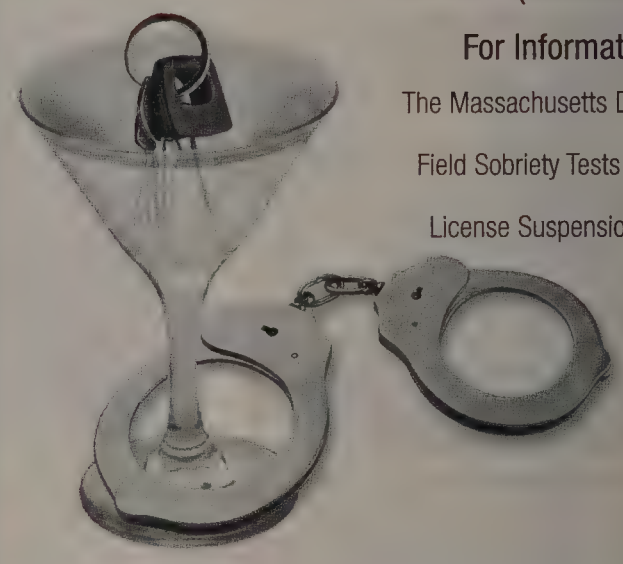
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LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF











At the Emerald Necklace Ball, top row: Mike Ross and Colleen Reilly. Middle row: Carol Fulp, Joe and Ginny Viola; Sean Ford. Bottom row: Liz Brunner and Anthony Everett; Bette Novicki, Peggy Dray, Bill Rouvalis and Simone Dodge.

ALL THAT WAS MISSING WAS A CHOPPED LIVER BUST OF FREDERICK LAW OLMSTED...

The first big black-tie blowout of the season took place under a tent that resembled Bozo's Big Top, erected on the **Boston Common** and packed to the proverbial rafters with tanned and relaxed–looking socialites fresh from their summer haunts.

The **Emerald Necklace Ball**, which raises money for the city's parks, was hosted by Hizzonah **Tom** and the delightful **Angela Menino**, and it attracted the likes of banking bigwigs **Carol** and **Bernie Fulp**; the toothsome WCVB-TV anchor duo of **Liz Brunner** and **Anthony Everett** (the evening's emcees); their boss, Channel 5 poobah **Paul LaCamera** with the lovely **Mimi**; Brahmin do-gooder **Henry Lee**; peripatetic party pair **Natalie Gardiner** and **John Hambright**; MassArt heartthrob **Richard MacMillan**; the incomparable **Peggy** and **Dick Dray**; florist to the rich and famous **Bill Rouvalis**; Back Bay fashion plate **Simone Dodge**; super-suave city councilor **Mike Ross**, squiring Red Sox back-office babe **Colleen Reilly**; tourist trolley magnate **Sean Ford**; über mover and shaker **Wendy Shattuck**; Parks Commissioner **Antonia Pollak** and others of an equally impressive ilk.

Following cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, dinner and dancing took place on the same spot where our colonial forebears grazed their livestock—a historical observation that prompted one guest to gesture at the tuxedo-clad crowd and crack, "From sheep to penguins in just 300 years."

However, the evening's most amusing comment came from a couple passing by outside, who were overheard speculating on the reason for the tent.

"Maybe a wedding," said the woman.

"Or a bar mitzvah," said the man. "I hear they're getting really elaborate these days."

TALLY HO!...

It was like a Ralph Lauren ad come to life when **Fidelity Investments** hosted the **Jumper Classic Grand Prix** on **Schooling Field** in South Hamilton.

The predominantly blond North Shore horsey set gathered on a gorgeous Sunday afternoon to sip Laurent Perrier and nibble finger food while watching top riders from all over the world compete in the $50,000 event.

Prominent among the throng were such dazzling and delightful types as the event's organizer, **Melissa Lovasco**; ubiquitous fun couple **Mike** and **Carolyn Rodeno**; gorgeous blonde equestrian **Stacy Arani** and her equally stunning pal, **Amy Carroll**; Bahama-bred hottie **Eric Wiberg**; North Shore playboy **Cameron Clark**; former mistress of the Norfolk Hunt **Cary Glass**; the naturally carbonated **Doreen Corkin** with her ruggedly handsome main squeeze, **Chris Mitchum** (son of Hollywood legend Robert); private-jet guy **Reid Oslin**; WBCN's babe-alicious redhead **Liza Meneades**; the hale and hearty **Rodney O'Connor** (sporting a red hunting jacket); tall, dark and handsome **Brian Renaud**; a guy in green go-to-hell pants, lots of women wearing elaborate hats, and one plastic surgeon who couldn't resist telling a pretty, blond twentysomething that she might benefit from Botox, effectively ruining her afternoon.

Everyone else seemed to enjoy themselves immensely, though. Especially those who turned their attention from the horses and riders to the more competitive sport of fashion criticism.

"Isn't no white after Labor Day still a rule?" asked one woman archly.

"I can't believe anyone who owns a mirror would wear that hat," said another.

A third, meanwhile, took one look at man wearing blindingly yellow pants an muttered, "All I can say is, thank God fo Champagne." **iB**









At the Jumper Classic, top: an unidentified rider. Second from top: Mike and Carolyn Rodeno, Stacy Arani and Amy Carroll. Third row from top: Brian Renaud; Liza Meneades. Bottom row: Rodney O'Connor and Tara Sandford; Chris Mitchum and Doreen Corkin.





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on the Writing Life

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BOB PERACHIO

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makeup: **Sue Kohnle for Stila;** shirt: **Escada**

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR



READING AND WRITING

Pretty much every IMPROPER staffer who met or talked to this issue's cover model, *New Yorker* writer Susan Orlean, came away raving about how cool she is—candid, down-to-earth and kind. Forming our own unofficial Orlean fan club, we're now reading her new book (and other books she likes) and feeling puffed up about having the writer *The Washington Post* called a national treasure appear on our Literary Issue's cover. You can learn about Orlean and how she came to Boston in her interview with Jonathan Soroff (page 18).

Orlean served as the judge for our annual fiction contest too, reading the semifinalists and selecting the winner. William Orem's very funny story, "Dark Reckoning," begins on page 24.

Three feature stories delve further into Boston's exceptional literary community, looking at the city's flourishing mystery-writing scene; four local writers with highly anticipated new books; and eight recent books on Boston itself. We hope you find a few to add to your fall reading list.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

IRONIC ART

It was amusing, in a rather pathetic way, to read Art Spiegelman's confession to Jessica Iredale (Inner View, Sept. 22): "I don't know any Republicans." Rather like the country-club hostess of half a century ago who didn't know any Jews…or so she thought.

I'll bet Spiegelman knows quite a few Republicans, but they're rightly afraid to come out of the closet in "the dark blue heart of the blue zone," as he calls Manhattan. Not that I needed confirmation, but it's obvious the Isle of Idiotarians hasn't changed much since the days of Pauline "But nobody I know voted for Nixon!" Kael.

On the other hand, it's truly sad to see Spiegelman squander all the moral capital he built with the masterpiece called *Maus* on yet another piece of detritus frothing with hatred of Bush, the GOP, economic responsibility and all things military. As if the market weren't already glutted with them. And as if Spiegelman's talents didn't exponentially outweigh those of Michael Moore.

But, finally, it's ironic. Had the "peace activists" of the 1930s and '40s had their way, the U.S. wouldn't have stood up to Hitler, but striven to appease him, as did every European country he rolled through. And Spiegelman's parents never would have emerged from the death chambers alive... nor gone on to have their son.

—MS. ROBIN B. SHORE
Everett

AN EXCELLENT DRIVER

…ks very much for your guide to …ding in ("Eight Simple Steps to … a Bostonian," Sept. 8). I just …ed to Boston from Arizona and I …ven't enjoyed that feeling of being in unfamiliar surroundings. Why the hell can't I buy beer with my groceries on Sunday? Or why is it that Red Sox fans waste so much energy hating the Yankees when they could shower their team with more affection? But the one tip that really made me feel like I'm starting to "belong" was the one about driving.

The other night, my wife and I were having dinner with family friends who've lived here for decades. They asked us what we'd visited, what we'd seen and if we had any questions about settling in. Finally, the wife of the pair asked: "What real Boston things have you done today?"

After a brief pause for thought, I said, "Well, I honked at someone."

—FRANK FIELD
Newton

CROSSING OUR TEAS

I really enjoyed the newcomers' quiz. ("What's Old Is New," Sept. 8), but for question 20, isn't Grill 23 in the Salada, not Tetley Tea, building?

—MAUREEN DUFFY
Tewksbury

Editor's response: *We just wanted to see who's really from around here. You pass.*

CONTRIBUTORS

WILLIAM OREM



Fiction contest winner William Orem won the Great Lakes Colleges Association's New Writer's Award—previously given to Louise Erdrich, Alice Munro, Richard Ford and Sherman Alexie—for his first collection of stories, *Zombi, You My Love*. His poetry and fiction have appeared in more than 50 publications, including the *Alaska Quarterly Review*, *Sou'wester* and the *Princeton Arts Review*, and he's twice been nominated for the Pushcart Prize.

His story, "Dark Reckoning," is from a collection of comedies that he's currently working on. It was selected by cover star Susan Orlean from among a host of entries. For taking the prize, Orem receives two tickets to *The Taming of the Shrew* from Boston Ballet; a weekend stay in a Charles Hotel suite, with breakfast for two at Henrietta's Table; a $30 gift certificate from Unicorn Books; two tickets to R.E.M. from Tea Party Concerts; two tickets from the Comedy Connection to see Tommy Davidson; three new best sellers from Barnes & Noble Booksellers in the Prudential Center; and a Chocolate Madness gift basket from Beacon Hill Baskets. Orem lives in Waltham and wishes he had an agent. "Dark Reckoning" begins on page 24.

JAN BROGAN



Jan Brogan, a freelance journalist and former newspaper reporter, is the author of *Final Copy*, a Boston-based mystery that won the Editor's Choice Award from the *Drood Review of Mystery*.

A member of both Sisters in Crime/New England and Mystery Writers of America, Brogan is a frequent speaker on the local mystery circuit and will moderate a panel on true crime at the upcoming New England Crime Bake mystery conference in Tewksbury.

Brogan's new novel, *A Confidential Source*, explores murder and corruption in Rhode Island. Published by Mysterious Press (Warner Books), it hits shelves in April 2005. Her article on Boston mystery writers, "Crime Scene," begins on page 20.

Tell Us What You Think

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Everything about Smith & Wollensky, the swank new steakhouse in the medieval Armory building on Arlington Street, is grandiose. Sure, steakhouses are known for their country club–like atmosphere and bold portions, but S&W has taken it all to a new level—or four, for that matter. The New York–based chain opened its 11th restaurant—a palatial four floor, 20,000 square foot space—September 20 in what was once the Boston headquarters for the Armory of the First Corps of Cadets.



The restaurant is sort of a castle-within-a-castle, as the many dining rooms are walled off from the part of the castle that the Park Plaza still operates. The main dining room is on the first floor, which used to house the social hall, and there are a smattering of smaller, cozier dining rooms, most with their own fireplaces. Each room still has the trimmings of the original 1891 armory—complete with soaring ceilings, intricate woodwork and cabinets and wrought iron ornamentation.



Happily, the luxurious premises don't necessarily mean luxury prices. But they do mean fantastic portions. S&W's signature split pea soup goes for $6; a side of creamed spinach for two (dished onto your plate from its own little pot by multiple waiters) is $8; the side of creamy (and very garlicky) truffled macaroni and cheese ($10) is delectable, and the whole free-range lemon pepper chicken ($19), moist and juicy, is big enough for three meals. Seafood lovers will delight in the range of surf options, including angry shrimp ($28) and lobsters of three to 13 pounds.

Of course, the specialty is steak, from sirloin ($34 for 14 oz.) to prime rib ($37) to filet mignon ($33 for 10 oz). Smith & Wollensky is one of the only steakhouses that dry-ages prime beef in-house—a process that takes at least 21 days and involves strict regulation of temperature, humidity and air movement. To accompany the tender, flavorful steaks, S&W's "Great American Wine List" consists of 650 wines, all produced in the U.S. You likely won't be able to eat dessert, but you should consider takeout. Slices of carrot cake and chocolate cake are nearly as big as a newborn. *110 Arlington St., Boston (617-423-1112). —E.H.*

around town

QUOTERBACKS

Just when we thought "Cowboy Up" was on its last legs, Kevin Millar brought back the motto of a season we'd all rather forget when he unveiled Sox T-shirts last month reading "Tell 'em we're coming, and hell is coming with us… Cowboy Up." The quote, taken in part from a scene in *Tombstone*, got us thinking about some movie quotes to sum up the state of our other professional franchises. Here's what we got:

Patriots–*Kill Bill Vol. 2*

Black Mamba: "I've killed a hell of a lot of people to get to this point, but I have only one more. The last one. And when I arrive at my destination, I am gonna kill Bill"

Figuratively speaking, which NFL team out there doesn't want to be the first to take down Bill Belichick and his troops? But unlike the movie, we're not sure our Bill will ever fall. Well, at least not until he's got a ring for every finger.

Bruins–*There's Something About Mary*

Cop: "What...the hell...were you thinking! How the hell d'ya get the zipper all the way to the top?"

Just when we thought that the NHL had done everything to turn people away from hockey, they did the unimaginable and locked out their players, all but ending the season and alienating any fans they had left. Much like Ben Stiller's character, they'll be feeling this one for a while.

Celtics–*Forrest Gump*

Forrest: "Stupid is as stupid does."

Tom Hanks may have won an Oscar for his portrayal of Forrest Gump, but we think that if given the opportunity, Danny Ainge could at least have taken home a Golden Globe. He may have landed us a decent coach, but we still think it's about time for Danny to load up the old shrimpin' boat and head for warmer climes. *—Rich Levine*

inner view

SUSIE ESSMAN



Via her deadpan delivery of four-letter invectives, Susie Essman has created one of cable's most entertaining characters in *Curb Your Enthusiasm*'s hotheaded housewife Susie Greene. When she's not cursing out her husband and his four-eyed friend Larry David on *Curb*, the New York native returns to her roots in stand-up comedy. She'll appear at the Comedy Connection October 8 and 9.

IB: *How did you get into comedy?*

SE: I was waitressing and in order to make the job bearable to myself, I used to go in the kitchen and just imitate all the customers and make everybody laugh, and basically entertain myself. It was my fellow waiters who forced me to get up on stage.

IB: *How did you get cast on* Curb Your Enthusiasm*?*

SE: Larry saw me on the Friars Club roast of Jerry Stiller on Comedy Central. He had a scene in mind for the first season where Jeff brings a Fresh Air Fund kid home and the kid robs us blind, completely destroys our house, and I'm just verbally abusing Jeff. And when he saw me do the Friars Roast, he thought, in his words, "Boy, what a mouth on this girl." So he called me and asked me if I wanted the job.

IB: *Is Larry the same off camera as he is on?*

SE: No. My impression is that kind of jerky character that he is on camera is stuff that he thinks but in real life doesn't act on. And also you have to kind of of consider, if he actually behaved like that character, would he have been able to be the executive producer for the most successful show in the history of television for all those years? Probably not.

IB: *What's your favorite* Curb Your Enthusiasm *episode?*

SE: The Doll. I think it's one of the most perfect half hours of comedy ever conceived.

IB: *Susie is one of the show's most popular characters. What do you think makes her so endearing?*

SE: That she so completely embraces her anger and doesn't question it at all. It gives them permission. I can't tell you how many married women come up to me and tell me that Susie Greene is their idol because they wish they could speak to their husbands the way she speaks to hers, which is kind of a sad commentary on marriage. But Susie Greene yelling and screaming at Jeff and Larry somehow is liberating for a lot of women out there.

IB: *Are people afraid of pissing you off now that they've seen how angry you can get on the show?*

SE: It actually works very well for me because people are definitely afraid of me, and it comes in handy.

IB: *Do Larry and Jeff ever get upset when you call them fat, four-eyed f---s?*

SE: I don't do it off camera. If I was yelling and screaming at them and treating them that way off camera, I'm sure I'd get upset and I'm not sure I'd have a job. They laugh. They ruin half my takes whenever I yell at them. Especially Larry. He just breaks up.

IB: *Will we see Susie Greene in your stand-up act?*

SE: She rears her ugly head now and then, but my stand-up act is actually similar to *Curb* in the content. It's not a PG rated show. Leave the kids at home. One of my favorite subjects is sex.

—Jessica Iredale


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tidbits and morsels

IL PANINO REINCARNATION



Umbria-lievable... When restaurant and Financial District late-night hot spot Il Panino closed its doors in August, there was a lot of buzz around what owner Frank de Pasquale had up his sleeve. On October 7, we'll all find out, when the space at 295 Franklin Street reopens as Umbria. The five-floor establishment will become New England's first restaurant to build its entire menu around ingredients from Italy's Umbria region. It features a mezzanine for private functions, a third-floor lounge with bottle service and a two-level nightclub (that will serve more than 150 brands of vodka) where you can dance off that Italian fare and then go back for round two. *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*

Sibling Ventures... If yours is one of the many mouths made happy by Hanover Street's upscale eatery Trattoria a Scalinatella, you'll likely join Via Valverde's fan club too. Scalinatella owner Paolo Diecidue opened Valverde two doors down from his original joint in late July. In addition to chef Dan DeCarpis' authentic Italian menu and the largest half-bottle Italian wine selection in the city, Diecidue's newest venture features a romantic, candlelit wine bar/lounge with elegant settees, a formal dining room upstairs and a state-of-the-art wine cellar/cave with private seating for six. *233 Hanover St., Boston (617-742-8240).*

Rustic Rumblings... It's been a pretty eventful year for the gang over at the Rustic Kitchen. Aside from the recent opening of two new locations, the Kitchen has announced the launch of a private wine label. Last January, chef Bill Bradley made a trip to Napa to meet with old friend Jim Allen, owner of the Sequoia Grove Vineyards. The two created about a dozen blends that were tested by the Rustic crew, and the unanimous choice was an 85 percent cabernet, 9 percent merlot and 6 percent syrah blend that will run about $40 a bottle. What could be next for the Rustic Kitchen crew? A lunch box? A Pez dispenser? Stay tuned. *—E.H., J.I and R.L.*

sam says

YUM YUM

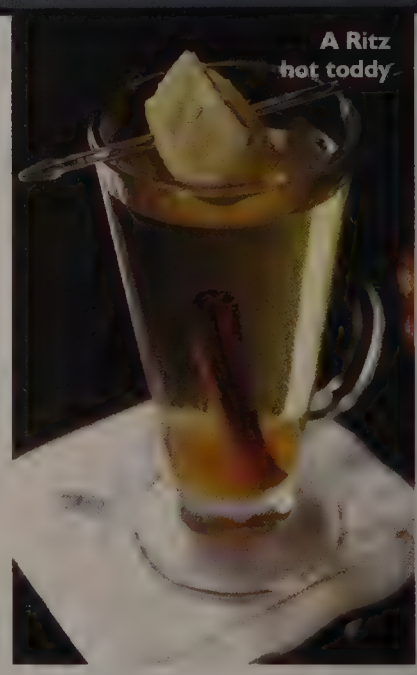


A year and a half ago, when 22-year-old Hull native Johnny Earle was working at Newbury Comics as well as a silk-screen company, his friends gave him the nickname Johnny Cupcakes. It turned out to be more than a nickname. Earle silkscreened a cupcake onto a T-shirt, wore it to work and found that people loved the sweet design. He started selling them out of the trunk of his car, and since then, he's taken his T's to outlets like Harvard Square's Hootenanny, and Stil on Newbury Street, and they've gained a following all over the country. Steve-O from *Jackass* was seen on Howard Stern's E! Network show wearing a Johnny Cupcakes shirt, and Britney Spears wore one during a show in Europe. You can meet Earle by booking a "cup perwear" party, in which he comes to your house and sets up shirts for you and your friends to buy. The host, of course, gets a couple of free shirts. *www.johnnycupcakes.com. $18–$38. —Samantha House*

improper reports

FALL DRINKS

The days of lemonade and iced tea are over. Hello, hot toddies. Here are some fall drink specials to keep you toasty.


A Ritz hot toddy

Cottonwood Café: **Kokopelli's Coffee**
222 Berkeley St., Boston (617-247-2225).
This mixture of Frangelico, Irish crème, and butterscotch and cinnamon schnapps ($6.95) will put a hop in your step without putting the hurt on your wallet.

The Littlest Bar: **Hot Whiskey**
47 Province St., Boston (617-523-9766).
Escape the cold (and maybe a little bit of reality) with authentic hot whiskey (a few shots of booze mixed with boiling water, sugar, cloves and lemon slices) at this downtown Irish bar. The Littlest also offers a hot port drink, which is a rich mixture of sugar, water and port. Ahhh, alcohol, nature's space heater. (Both $5.95 for an 8 oz. drink.)

Grendel's Restaurant and Bar: **Hot Cider**
89 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-491-1160).
Simmered daily by the staff, Grendel's cider ($2.95) includes cloves that give your boiling hot drink a little extra warmth. Bartenders will also add a touch of dark rum ($4.75) and a cinnamon stick.

Burdick Chocolate Café: **Hot Chocolate**
52-D Brattle St., Cambridge (617-491-4340).
No powder or syrup here. To make this one-of-a-kind libation, Burdick uses the highest-quality chocolate melted into boiling hot milk. The resulting concoction is hands-down the best hot chocolate in town ($4).

The Bar at the Ritz-Carlton Boston: **Hot Toddy**
15 Arlington St., Boston (617-536-5700).
They don't come cheap, but the Ritz's warm winter drinks are worth the indulgence. The hot toddy ($12) blends brandy, honey, fresh lemon and boiling water. Another favorite is the raspberry truffle ($13), a hot blend of Chambord and homemade hot cocoa with whipped cream. *—R.L.*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Opal Opening... Planning a night on the town in Boston can drive you mad. Lounge or club? Live music or DJ? Dress up or keep it cas? In an attempt to satisfy all options, Bryan Huck and Tyrone Croom have opened up the Opal Lounge. The two-floor Downtown Crossing bar, which opened September 17, combines the laid-back atmosphere of a lounge (plush furniture, live bands and exotic drinks) with the liveliness of a club (DJs spinning nightly). "Boston is such a great, diverse city and our goal is to spread that diversity into the nightlife scene," Croom says. *48 Winter St., Boston (617-482-6725). www.opalboston.com.*

Open Studios... If you've dominated the karaoke circuit and are looking to further indulge your exhibitionist side, Limelight Stage and Studios is equipped to bring your singing dreams closer to reality. The new entertainment venue, which opened near Emerson in mid-October, rents out studio and stage space by the hour to those who want to record their own CD or rock video of songs from its library of 5,000 karaoke-style backing tracks. Limelight offers aspiring performers vocal lessons and the chance to meet those with the same musical interests, and the six studios and mainstage are available for group parties. *204 Tremont St., Boston (617-423-0785). www.limelightboston.com.*

Book Ends... In September, Wordsworth Books shocked many a Cambridge bibliophile by filing for Chapter 11 bankruptcy. The store is still up and running, but its future is uncertain. "Unless we find some sort of angel donation, we'll probably be closed by the end of October," says owner Hillel Stavis. While Cambridge bids a sad farewell to the literary landmark, a group of intrepid bookworms starts a new venture. Last January, Dale Szczeblowski, Jane Dawson and Carol Stoltz departed the Concord Bookshop, and by the next week they were making plans to open their own store. They're set to launch Porter Square Books in the Porter Square Shopping Center this month. The store is about 4,500 square feet and will house a diverse array of books.

A Moving Story... To put it bluntly, moving stinks. The worst part about it is accidentally turning your prized possessions into chipped pieces of crap. Now, moving whizzes Gentle Giant Moving Co. have assembled the Gentle Giant Restoration and Conservation team. This new branch, led by master conservator Tara Deegan Parmenter, will do everything from repairing and refurbishing furniture, stone, plaster and marble to rebuilding frames and conserving paintings. We'd say they'll do everything but the kitchen sink, but they'd do that too. *(617-661-3333). www.gentlegiant.com.*


Heidi Klum

Mall Madness... Most would agree that waiting in a mile-long line at a mall is up there with waiting for a root canal. But put Heidi Klum at the beginning of that line—or behind the drill—and it's like a remake of *Hands on Hard Body*. At least that's what Victoria's Secret hopes. VS recently declared Boston one of the sexiest cities, and to celebrate (and no doubt promote the recent redesign of 16 local stores) the lingerie powerhouse brings in the leggy supermodel to sign autographs at Copley Place October 18 from 12–2 pm. Be advised, if you want to say hi to Heidi, you'd better get there early—the line may start forming around 6 am. *—E.H., J.I. and R.L.*

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PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

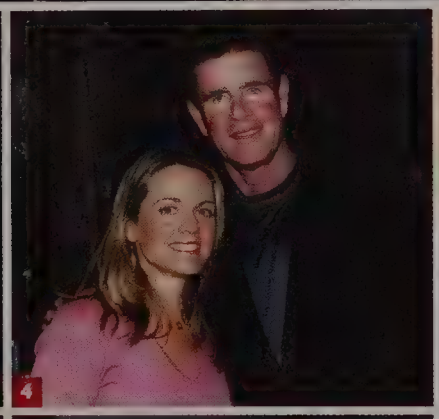




The Samuel Adams Celebrity Draw Party & Auction, benefiting the Sean McDonough Charitable Foundation, took place September 19 at the Boston Harbor Hotel. More than 350 athletes, actors and friends of the foundation joined forces at the third annual event, which raised more than $300,000 for children's charities in Massachusetts.

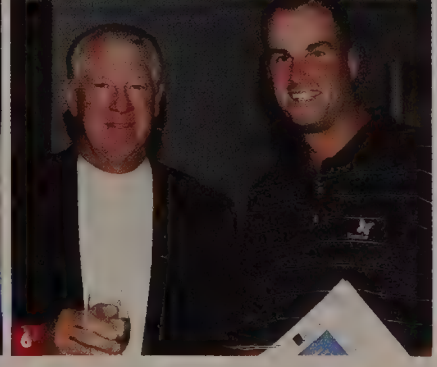
1. **Sean McDonough**, sports broadcaster; **Erin McDonough**, vice president of public affairs at the New England Baptist Hospital; **Luciana Barroso** and **Matt Damon**, actor
2. **Joseph Abboud**, fashion designer, and **Mike O'Malley**, actor/star of *Yes, Dear* on CBS
3. **Kathy** and **Joe O'Donnell**, CEO of the Boston Culinary Group in Cambridge
4. **Jim Palmer**, baseball Hall of Famer and former Baltimore Orioles pitcher, and his daughter, **Jamie**
5. **Cynthia Fisher**, founder and CEO of BioMed 20/20 Technologies in Auburndale, and her husband, **Jim Koch**, founder and chairman of the Boston Beer Co.
6. **John Havlicek**, Boston Celtics legend and **Jay Bilas**, college basketball analyst for ESPN
7. **Mike Kendall**, partner at Goodwin Procter; his wife, **Alida Coo-Kendall**; **Francesca Sibble** and her husband, **Mat Sibble**, partner at Goodwin Procter











The Big Sister Association of Greater Boston's 6th annual Celebrity Chef Event took place September 19 at Radius. More than 200 party-goers attended the live and silent auctions, which raised close to $70,000. The highlight of the evening was the pairing up of big and little sisters, who helped put the finishing touches on the food prepared by celebrity chefs. Chefs included Michael Schlow, chef/owner of Radius; Joanne Chang, chef/owner of Flour; Gabriel Frasca of Spire, Luis Morales of Via Matta, Anthony Susi, chef/owner of Sage, Jeremy Sewall of Great Bay and Marc Orfaly, chef/owner of Pigalle.

8. Co-chairs of the event **Amye Kurson**, owner of Ame and Lulu Boston in Brookline; **Kenn Gray**, owner of Kenn Gray Interiors; and **Sally Beach**, owner of SB Promotions in Wayland
9. **Suzanne Logan**, owner of Logan Gowdy Interiors, and **Jessica Krane**, nutritionist
10. **Christopher Myers**, co-owner of Radius, Via Matta and Great Bay, and **Esti Parsons**, co-owner of Radius
11. **Tiffany Ciccarelli**, executive assistant at Medford Cooperative Bank; **Gabriel Frasca**, executive chef at Spire; and **Tersillia Valentini**, little sister










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I'VE GOT ISSUES

A few things to consider as you head to the voting booth next month.

President-electin' day is fast approaching and I think now is the time to talk about the topics the candidates need to address to get my vote. I'm an educated voter, and I'm not going to punch one ticket or the other just because I like one of their neckties. Ohhh! Kerry's wearing a red tie today! That looks really presidential! I'm voting for him! Unless... Bush squints and says something really tough. You see, I'm what's known as a swing voter, which means that my girlfriend and I like to get together and have sex with other people who can't make up their minds. But here are the issues that could sway me one way or the other.

Health Care

I demand a bill that will prevent people from coming into work sick and saying "It's OK—I'm not contagious. I was contagious, like, two weeks ago." What, you're a lab technician? Before you left the house this morning, you took a throat culture, put it in a petri dish and determined that the festival of microscopic organisms surfing out on your every breath is not attacking my immune system this very instant? This is how the plague spread in Europe—everyone going around saying "Oh, I was a bit bubonicky last week, but you can't catch it now."

Male violators convicted of claiming noncontagious status will be made to grow facial hair like Kevin Federline (a.k.a. Mr. Britney Spears) and wear it that way for a period of six months. They will also have to wear a Yankees cap askew on their heads to complete the pubic humiliation inherent in trying to look like Kevin Federline. Female violators will either walk three miles in heels over cobblestones or give John Madden a sponge bath. Who's with me on this, besides John Madden?

Assault Rifles

Assault rifles are certainly dangerous, but I think the antigun people are taking things a little too far with the 150-foot-long one mounted next to the Mass Pike outside of Fenway. The sign next to it says "Coming to a home near you." That's just ridiculous—that thing wouldn't even come close to fitting in my apartment. Maybe if you took out the banana clip and folded the stock it would fit sort of diagonally, with the barrel sticking out into the hallway, but I really feel like I have better things to worry about than gangs getting their hands on giant AK-47s. In fact, perhaps the answer is to allow assault weapons, but only if they're 150 feet long, which would make them extremely difficult to conceal. I'll also mention that the assault rifle ban has been hard on rappers named after assault rifles, notably Mack 10, who hasn't come out with anything noteworthy since the *Friday* soundtrack. So you know somebody's losing Mack 10's vote, assuming he's allowed to vote.

The Economy

Frankly, I'm nervous about both candidates' position on the economy. While I think Kerry's plan to have the U.S. Treasury marry a rich heiress sounds intriguing, I'm not sure it will work. I mean, what if she secretly changes her will and leaves everything to the cabana boy? It happened to Argentina. On the other hand, Bush's plan to cut taxes, run up a huge national deficit and keep transferring the balance to lower-interest cards sounds like it could work. And the U.S. hasn't even tapped into its home equity line of credit yet, which must be pretty solid given that the Louisiana Purchase and Yellowstone and stuff like that was paid off a long time ago.

I'M A SWING VOTER WHICH MEANS THAT MY GIRLFRIEND AND I LIKE TO GET TOGETHER AND HAVE SEX WITH OTHER PEOPLE WHO CAN'T MAKE UP THEIR MINDS.

Cloning

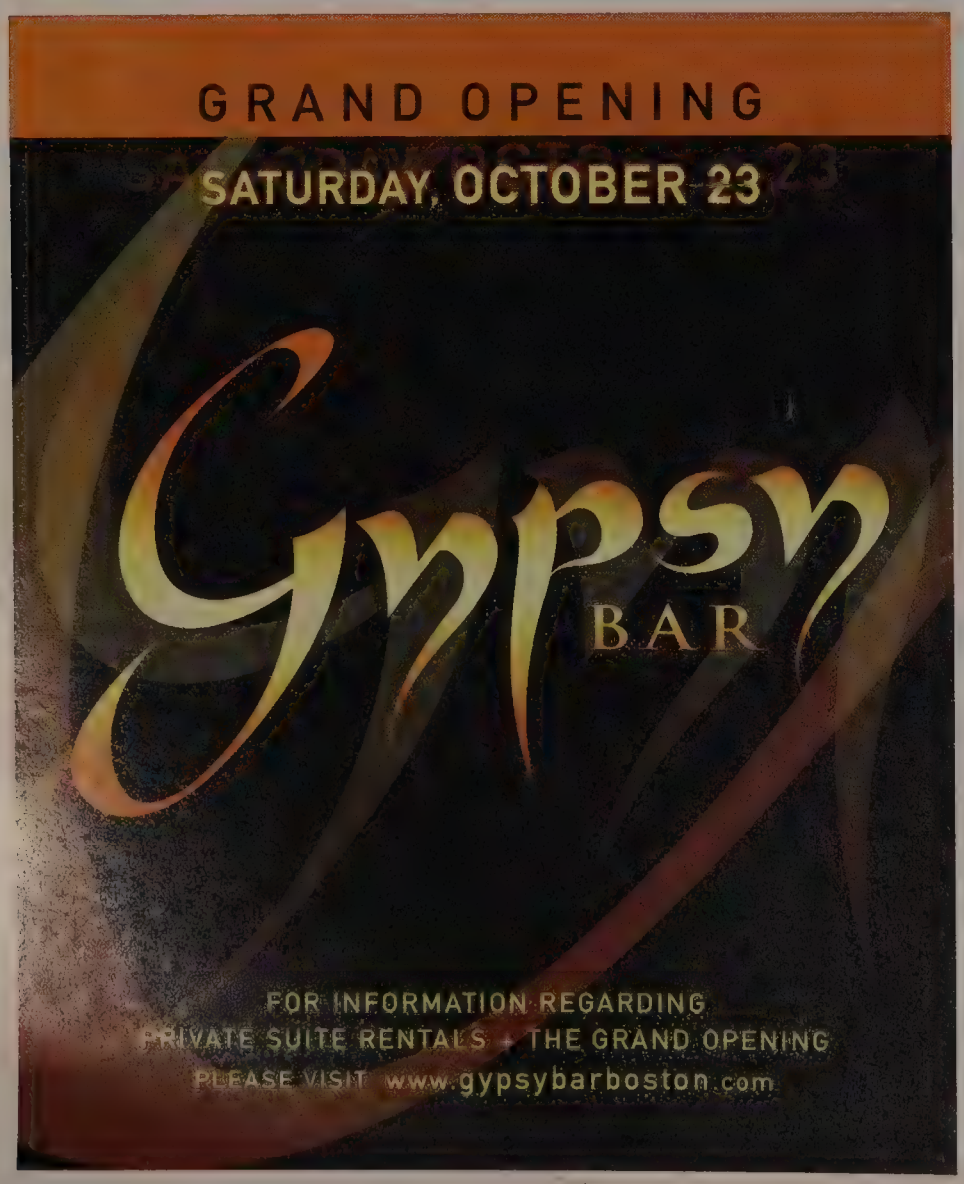
I believe cloning is wrong, an opinion that was formed after watching *Multiplicity*, the *Farenheit 9/11* of cloning. This film chronicles what happened when Michael Keaton made a clone of himself to help out with his hectic schedule. First it went smoothly, but then the clone cloned himself, and the second clone came out retarded because copies of copies aren't as sharp as the original. Then the retarded clone slept with Andie MacDowell, Keaton's wife, and he was much better in the sack than Keaton was. You can see how this is a Pandora's box fraught with moral dilemmas and hilarious hijinks. So I'm with whoever bans cloning—provided, that is, they leave the Bundchen Clause intact.

YOU THINK THAT'S FUNNY?

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THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS



RED, BLUE AND GREEN

Football can't compete with fall baseball in Boston... Brady still underrated...Celtics still a project team

I was tailgating at the Boston College-UConn football game September 17, the night of the Red Sox comeback win over the Yankees. And like thousands of others in Chestnut Hill that evening, I never made it into the football game, preferring to tailgate with the baseball game on. I found it interesting that BC's all-time leading rusher Derek Knight was feeling the Red Sox' energy as well. He never went into the football game either. Lets face it; following the Red Sox is an addiction.

There are reasons every year why the Sox will finally win, or at least we like to make believe there are. But something feels different this time. (Yes, I've said that before too). This year the Sox enter October with more pitching than they've ever had. They really are as good, if not better, than the Yankees, at least on paper. When's the last time you've been able to munch on your Fenway Frank and say that? But even if the Sox disappoint us again, we'll be back on the ticket hunt next spring, because that's what we do in New England. Win or lose, we love the Red Sox.

Stop the debate. Need we discuss which quarterback—Peyton Manning, Steve McNair, Donovan McNabb or Tom Brady—is the best in the NFL? Folks, it's Tom Brady, hands down.

As for following the Patriots, it's not quite an addiction—it's actually very relaxing. Nothing seems to go wrong anymore. We can credit Brady and his calming influence for that. He's guided the Patriots to two Super Bowl titles while copping two Super Bowl MVP trips to Disney World, yet we still have to debate how good he really is.

We're wasting our carbon-dioxide. Brady is the best, with win after win after win to prove it. This isn't rotisserie football we're talking about, where Brady's statistics don't cut it. This is a win-loss business. If you win, you have a job. If you lose, your job is in jeopardy.

I talk to Brady about once or twice a week, and despite the endorsements, the dates with actresses, and most importantly defending a Super Bowl championship, he's avoided becoming self-absorbed, never neglecting to ask how I'm doing. The guy who literally has to change his cell phone number monthly because so many people want so many different things from him remains just one of the boys. It's still hard to believe this guy was the 199th player chosen in the 2000 NFL Draft. He'll go down as the biggest steal in Patriots—and maybe NFL—history.

I ran into Celtics co-owner Wyc Grousbeck at a Boston restaurant recently, and he couldn't wait to tell me how impressed he was when he walked into the team's training facility a month before the start of training camp. What he witnessed was 12 players under contract, already back and working hard to prepare for the upcoming season.

Sadly enough, the Green Team's early commitment may be the highlight of the season. Danny Ainge's plan is still a long way from achieving anything more than mediocrity. From my perspective, the only turn for the good this off-season was the signing of big man Mark Blount. It's easily the best move Ainge has made, especially considering that Blount, along with Celtic swingman Walter McCarty, is one of the two classiest guys in the NBA.

It appeared Blount and Ainge were headed for a bitter divorce after the team was abruptly dismantled and Blount's mentor, Jim O'Brien, was let go as coach. But Ainge made nice with Blount, offering him $41 million over six years. Blount, who was one of the NBA's most improved players last season, was second in the league in field goal percentage. And in the second half of the season he was an automatic double-digits in points and rebounds. Absolutely driven to succeed, he's one of the most committed athletes I've met in any sport. With that said, however, Paul Pierce and Mark Blount don't make a basketball team. It's a good start but hardly the end all.

> IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE BRADY WAS THE 199TH PICK IN THE 2000 NFL DRAFT. HE'LL GO DOWN AS THE BIGGEST STEAL IN PATRIOTS—AND MAYBE NFL—HISTORY

The Dan Plan remains incomplete and is still potentially a disaster-in-waiting, but for one signing, Ainge definitely made like Spike Lee and did the right thing. iB

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

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VINEBOW

LEONARDO LOCASCIO SELECTIONS

SUSAN ORLEAN

BY JONATHAN SOROFF PHOTOGRAPH BY PETER URBAN

Best-selling author and *New Yorker* staff writer Susan Orlean, 48, was born and raised outside Cleveland, Ohio, and received her B.A. wit honors from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor in 1976. After living in Oregon for several years, she moved to Boston in 1982 an worked as a columnist, first for the *Boston Phoenix*, then at the *Boston Globe Magazine*. In 1986, she moved to New York and began writing fo

such publications as the *New York Times Magazine*, *Spy*, *Esquire* and *Outside*, and she worked as a contributing editor at *Rolling Stone* and *Vogue*. After penning articles and Talk of the Town pieces for the *New Yorker*, she became a staff writer in 1992, covering popular culture and writing profiles and "Reporter at Large" pieces. Her books include the best-seller *The Orchid Thief*, which was made into the Oscar-winning movie *Adaptation*, as well as *The Bullfighter Checks Her Makeup: My Encounters with Extraordinary People*, *Red Sox and Blue Fish* and *Saturday Night*. Her new book, My *Kind of Place: Travel Stories from a Woman Who's Been Everywhere*, will be published next month. She and her husband, an investment banker, divide their time between Boston and New York and are expecting their first child.

Jonathan Soroff: *So do you consider yourself a New Yorker or a Bostonian?*
Susan Orlean: Well, my feeling is you live wherever your shoes are, and the bulk of my shoes are in Boston.
JS: *Is* The New Yorker *the greatest magazine in the English language?*
SO: Except for the few really prime years of *Mad* magazine, yes. I do believe that. There are lots of good magazines, but *The New Yorker* is in a class by itself.
JS: *So which was more fun to work for—*Vogue *or* Rolling Stone*?*
SO: Well, the clothes that you get to borrow when you work for *Vogue* are far superior, but working for *Rolling Stone* is like the ultimate backstage pass. I so enjoyed my years as a Bon Jovi groupie. Being able to casually toss off that I traveled with this band or was backstage with that band, you get great music industry bragging rights.
JS: *You wrote* The Orchid Thief *originally as a piece in* The New Yorker, *then expanded it into a book. Did you ever expect it to be as huge as it became?*
SO: Never. To begin with, I wasn't even sure *The New Yorker* would let me do it. How can you truly argue that a story about a toothless orchid poacher was news that needed to be told?
JS: *How'd you come across his story?*
SO: A complete accident. I was flying home from Mexico and I'd run out of things to read, and I did the daring and ill-advised thing of reaching into the seat pocket in front of me. Someone had left a *Miami Herald*, and I came across this little story about the arrest of this crackpot and his crew of Seminoles, and I thought, "That's such a weird story." But the leap of being in seat 15-D with someone's leftover *Miami Herald* to where it went—a book, a movie—was inconceivable. And all along the way I had to preface everything by saying, "I know this sounds weird, but…"
JS: *Strangest assignment of your career as a reporter?*
SO: Oh, God, it's hard to choose. But one of my claims to fame, and the thing that made me a hero among the secretaries at *The New Yorker* was that I had a one-day role on *All My Children*. I played a nurse, and I had one line: "Visiting hours are over." I recently got a paycheck for about $2.19 in residuals because apparently that episode aired in Uruguay or something.
JS: *You're the master of capturing subcultures. What's the strangest one you've encountered?*
SO: The taxidermy convention would certainly be in the running. That was one where I did feel I'd entered an alternate universe. It was completely surreal. The most bizarre part was a coyote that looked completely normal until you got to the middle of its back, where the skin was sort of flayed open, and there was a little bronze model of the World Trade Center collapsing, with firemen and rubble. It was inexpressibly strange.
JS: *How about a story you started but couldn't finish?*
SO: It hasn't happened that often. What does happen is I come up with a million ideas and then become disenchanted with them before I even begin, so the ones that make it through my commitment problem I'm usually determined to do, regardless of how impossible they seem.

"I HAVE A LITTLE BIT OF A MISSIONARY IMPULSE, LIKE, 'I WILL MAKE YOU CARE ABOUT SOMETHING YOU NEVER THOUGHT YOU COULD CARE ABOUT.' I THINK I HAVE A LITTLE BIT OF THE PREACHER IN ME."

JS: *Like?*
SO: When I was doing *The Bullfighter Checks Her Makeup*, I arrived in Spain to interview Cristina Sanchez only to discover that the guy who had been representing himself to me as her agent was essentially an imposter, and she had never heard of me and had no willingness to do it. The photographer turned around and left, but I stuck it out. I thought, "Goddammit, I'm gonna do this story if it kills me."
JS: *If you could have written one thing in history, what would it be and why?*
SO: The *Rand McNally Road Atlas*, because I'd be really rich. Second to that? Probably *The Odyssey*, because it forms the basis for so much that came after.
JS: *And because Brad Pitt's ass would have had a starring role in the movie version?*
SO: Well, that's between you and me.
JS: *Greatest accolade you've ever received?*
SO: My husband telling me that I looked good first thing in the morning. Besides that? As far as my work goes, and I get teased for it all the time, *The Washington Post* called me a national treasure.
JS: *If you were on a deserted island and could only bring three books, what would they be?*
SO: Faulkner's *The Sound and the Fury* and James Joyce's *Ulysses*, because I think you can read them both again and again and again. For the third, it'd be a toss-up between my favorite book as a child, which was a collection of jokes called *A Barrel Full of Monkeys*, and the *Rand McNally Road Atlas*.
JS: *Word you use most often?*
SO: I must confess, I'll often develop a fetish for somehow crowbarring a certain word into my writing. For a long time, was sort of a challenge to see if I could g the word "underpants" into a story. The once I achieved that, it became "tub socks," which was actually harder. B someone told me recently that I use th word *weird* a lot.
JS: *One quality of a great writer?*
SO: Empathy…and really good typing.
JS: *One adjective to describe seeing Meryl Streep portray you in* Adaptation*?*
SO: Weird. [Laughs.] Completely unrea The idea that they'd have real actors wi SAG cards seemed inconceivable, so wh they said Meryl Streep, I thought, "Tha the most absurd thing I've ever heard." took a while to register.
JS: *Did you feel that movie was more about Hollywood than about your book?*
SO: I think it was an interesting teete totter between the two. It was certain very much about creativity within t strange bell jar of Hollywood, balanc against the idea of trying to write a bo and that whole process.
JS: *It wasn't the most obvious thing to turn into a movie.*
SO: I thought they were insane all alon It was so eccentric and the form and to were not what you'd think would mak good story for a movie.
JS: *Favorite thing about being a writer?*
SO: I'm curious, and I'm a good explor and I love language. I have a little bit o missionary impulse, like, "I will make y care about something you never thoug you could care about." I think I have a l tle bit of the preacher in me.
JS: *Least favorite?*
SO: The loneliness. In many ways, picked the wrong profession, because I li collaborating, I love the feeling of being a team. What irony that I've chosen so thing that has none of that.
JS: *Which do you enjoy more: the footwor of researching a story or sitting down to write it?*
SO: Well, it's like I have two totally diff ent jobs that have nothing to do with ea other. It's sort of like the difference b tween going out to a quarry and findin piece of raw stone, then taking it back your studio to sculpt it.
JS: *Ever get writer's block?*

): No, thank God. It doesn't always flow e honey, but I've never completely lled.

: Do you have any writing rituals or erstitions?

): I'm not a fetishist. I don't need to be ting in the northeast corner of the room aring my grandfather's hunting shirt. n pretty flexible. I've written in lots of ferent environments, and in fact, I ote a lot of *The Orchid Thief* while I was veling.

If you weren't a writer, what would you do?

): [Laughs.] Well, given the skills that I ve, I'd probably be a typist. I narrowly dged the curse of law school, and had I t had the gumption to pursue writing, at's probably what I'd be doing, and I'm e I'd be miserable.

Anything you'd never write about?

): I'm not crazy about writing about my-f. The whole memoir thing. I kinda nge at that, and when I've been asked to that kind of thing, I suddenly get hard of aring.

So I guess the world won't be reading ut what it's like to be pregnant at 48?

): I hardly think so. I don't like writing it, I don't really like reading it. I don't e that confessional streak. I've already n asked to write about motherhood, and hought it was quite funny, because I ote back, "I'm only seven months preg-nt. I'm not exactly an expert."

*Any guilty pleasures when it comes to ding—*Star *magazine, or books by Barbara tland or Barbara Taylor Bradford?*

): When I fly is when I indulge in esy reading, like *People* and gossipy k or fashion magazines. I also regularly chase the *Weekly World News*, to keep on current events like the world's fat-cat giving birth to the world's fattest tens. And then there are the foreign gazines, like *Hello!*, with these in-depth tures on the tragic divorce of some rd-rank aristocrat or some washed-up time presenter on BBC Two. There's hing more hilarious than trash pop re-tage on people you've never heard of. I read two issues of that in one sitting, I just want more.

Last question: One aspect of popular ure that absolutely mystifies or eludes you?

): Britney Spears. And reality TV. I'm a nd consumer of pop culture, and I love a of things that a lot of so-called intellec-ls would find irritating or mysterious. those two things I just don't get. IB

On a summer Thursday evening, the patio at the Union Street restaurant in Newton is a pick-up scene, filled with twenty-somethings dining alfresco. But in a gathering upstairs in the Attic bar, the atmosphere is just a little darker. The topic of conversation is murder, violence and twisted ideas. Mostly, this dinner crowd of about 35 mystery fans wants to know where the ideas for the books come from.

"Logan Airport," answers author Lynne Heitman, who uses her experience as a former American Airlines general manager at Logan for her aviation mysteries.

Hallie Ephron, who has co-written a series of mystery novels featuring a forensic psychologist sleuth, offers an anecdote about her co-author's real-life patient, who suffered brain damage during an assault that made her memory and testimony questionable. This was the basis for their first novel, *Amnesia*.

And Chris Mooney, author of *Deviant Ways* and *World Without End*, simply shakes his head. "The honest answer is that I don't know."

Seven mystery authors are here at this dinner party co-hosted by Newtonville Books—writers Linda Barnes, Al Blanchard, Dana Cameron and Gary Braver are also in attendance. The conversation with fans begins at cocktail hour at the bar, proceeds through three courses and ends with coffee, dessert and book signings.

WITH SOME 40 PUBLISHED AUTHORS IN THE REGION, BOSTON'S MYSTERY WRITING SCENE IS BOOMING. TAKE IT FROM AN INSIDER.

CRIME SCENE

BY JAN BROGAN PHOTOGRAPHS BY BOB PERACHIO

Sitting at a table with fans during the salad course, Barnes mentions that she's working on a chapter that will transport her protagonist, Carlotta Carlyle, to South America. One reader, Carol Lumm of Waltham, is so familiar with Barnes' work that she can instantly guess the reason. "Oh, to search for the family of her ward?"

Later, Lumm explains that she writes reviews on an AOL mystery message board and is in contact with other fans across the county. "People in other cities are jealous because I get to go to so many events that authors come to," she says. "A lot of authors do events in obvious hubs, like Houston and Chicago, but not everywhere. There are a lot of places where people read mysteries that authors just don't go."

HALLIE EPHRON

President of the local chapter of Sisters in Crime, Ephron co authors mysteries with Don Davidoff, a forensic psychologist.

PLAZA

MOTEL

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NDITIONING
ABLE T.V.
LEPHONES



WILLIAM TAPPLY

Tapply was an early member of the local writers' group the Cadavers, so named by mystery grande dame P.D. James.

The restaurant venue is unique, but these kind of multiauthor events take place regularly all over the metropolitan Boston area. Even as a relatively new and unknown mystery author, I've done at least two dozen of them, appearing at bookstores, libraries and the occasional barroom.

The mystery writing community in Boston is strong, both in numbers and in organization. Ephron, president of the New England chapter of Sisters in Crime and a mystery reviewer for *The Boston Globe*, estimates there are about 40 local mystery authors who've published books. Through organizations like the Mystery Writers of America and Sisters in Crime, these authors sign up to appear at fan events hoping, if not for increased book sales, at least for some exposure.

"It's really important for an author to have personal experience with fans," says Ephron (whose sisters are the writers Nora, Delia and Amy Ephron). "It adds a dimension to the experience if the readers know the author, can hear the voice of someone they already know. And for the author, nothing is more satisfying than meeting a reader face-to-face."

Of course, all authors have their war stories: of driving an hour and a half to a bookstore where only three fans show up; of being mistaken for another, better-known author, etc. But mystery writers are, if nothing else, a practical lot. Many of us get into writing mysteries because we like the structure and concrete research the genre requires. So we soldier on. If the last book didn't exactly take off, maybe the next one will do better. And despite our jealousies—and make no mistake, we envy any author who has a better advance, a better promotional budget or a breakout book—we still band together.

It's this banding together, along with the intense market competition, that makes the mystery scene in Boston so vibrant.

In the early 1980s, the mystery community in Boston was still small and relatively inactive. Barnes, who was launching her career then, says that authors weren't expected to go out and promote themselves by organizing and making personal appearances. "You wrote the book, and the publisher handled everything else," she says.

At the time, Barnes and some other local authors, including Charlotte MacLeod, Bill Tapply, Jane Langton and Jeremiah Healy, formed an informal group that met each month. They brought potluck, offered support and exchanged information about agents and editors. Once, they even co-wrote an installment mystery series for the *Boston He ald*. The group had no name until British mystery author P.D. James, visiting the are anointed them the Cadavers.

The authors often hung around Kate's Mystery Books, which had recently opened in converted Victorian house on Mass. Ave. in Cambridge. Owner Kate Mattes was st renovating, and *Spenser* author Robert Parker—already an award-winning writer thou not yet a household name—helped out by installing the corner shelves where she nc stocks trade paperbacks. "They're a little uneven and wobbly," jokes Mattes. "It's goc he can earn a living writing."

The quality of the shelving wouldn't be crucial for Kate's. Good timing was in effe Kate's Mystery Books opened on Friday the 13th in May 1983, around the same tin that Sara Paretsky and Sue Grafton published their first mysteries. Nationally, these ne authors with their popular female private eye protagonists would transform the genre attracting an avalanche of female readers to what was once largely a male bastion. My tery sales and mystery writing began to take off.

Earlier, New York, L.A. and Miami were what Mattes calls the "crime hot spots," t incubators for popular mystery fiction. But by the mid 1980s, "Boston rapidly joined th crowd and put its own unique stamp on it," she says, adding that the many tourists wl visit New England for its revolutionary history provide a ready audience for crime set Boston. The Cadavers authors began making their marks.

By the end of the decade, Bill Tapply, author of 21 mysteries in the Brady Coyne s ries as well as the new *Bitch Creek*, recalls going to mystery conferences where everyo began to refer to the era as a golden age of mystery. "Mysteries became popular," he sa "Publishers published a lot of them, and a lot more people started writing them."

Kate's became the hub of Boston's mystery universe. Mattes befriended authors, ga them marketing advice and hooked them up with bookstores in other states to schedu signings. The store's central location made it convenient, and its haunted-house mo bestowed mystique. "It developed a certain aura," says Tapply.

As the market boomed nationally and the number of mystery novels published soar to more than 1,000 per year, the competition to break out from the pack increased. A thors realized the need for publicity and organization.

Frustrated by the tiny fraction of reviews and national press they were receiving proportional to their numbers, women in the field began to organize. In 1986, Mattes, who had become a national figure in the mystery world, helped found Sisters in Crime, an organization dedicated to fighting the perceived discrimination against women mystery writers.

A New England chapter formed in the early 1990s and quickly became one of the largest and most active in the country. Focused on promoting female authors, providing networking opportunities and helping aspiring mystery writers, the group would have a huge impact on the Boston scene.

The organization, which also admits men, holds meetings that address practical issues like how to handle dialogue or find an agent or Web designer, and conducts frequent mini-seminars that feature experts in popular topics such as forensics and understanding the criminal mind. But perhaps the most obvious impact has come from the speakers bureau that Kate Flora, author of the Thea Kozak mystery series, developed and runs.

After years of community outreach, Flora now fields almost 40 requests a year for local mystery authors to speak on such topics as "The Modern Heroine," and "Using What You Know to Write a Mystery." The speakers bureau has helped bring published mystery authors to local libraries, state library conferences, bookstores, luncheons, dinner meetings, college clubs, senior citizens' homes, book groups and women's organizations in all six New England states.

Similarly, the local Mystery Writers of America chapter, which is geared more exclusively toward published authors, has become increasingly active in promotion during the last decade. Current president Al Blanchard, who authors the Steve Asher series, plans about 20 author events a year, including the recent Union Street event in the Attic as well as earlier events with Newtonville Books.

It's a testament to just how cooperative mystery authors are that these two organizations, which technically compete in the same market for membership, often work together to co-host events or special projects. These projects include the annual New England Crime Bake, which was the first-ever mystery conference in the region. Now in its third year, it's a two-day affair that draws about 200 authors, would-be authors, agents, editors and fans for panel discussions on topics like forensics, the psychology of crime and how to create a memorable bad guy. Robert Parker keynotes this year's Crime Bake, which takes place November 13 and 14 in Tewksbury.

These organizations have changed the nature of the Boston mystery scene, says Jeremiah Healy, one of the original members of the Cadavers club and author of the John Francis Cuddy series and a separate series of legal thrillers. A guest of honor this year at the mystery world's biggest bash, Bouchercon 2004, Healy is a member of Sisters in Crime, the Mystery Writers of America and numerous other professional writers' organizations.

He explains the transformation this way: "[The scene] morphed from about 30 of us who used to get together for purely social events, with maybe a little discussion about agents, to a more professionally oriented world, where we get together at MWA meetings at Kate's to hear about arson-sniffing dogs who can sniff out a propellant or to hear tax advisers tell us about the business of writing. We still socialize, but are a bit more professional in the event that triggers the socialization."

Mysteries are booming. After a lull in the late 1990s, the genre is once again on the upswing, according to David Jastrow of Simba Information, a market research firm in Connecticut that tracks the publishing industry. He projects mystery book sales of $396 million for 2004, an 11 percent increase since the beginning of the decade.

Jastrow attributes the growth of the genre to the success of television shows like *CSI* and *Law & Order*, as well as the enormous success of Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code*. At Newtonville Books, owner Tim Huggins also sees the increased interest in mysteries sparked by popular crossover books like *The Da Vinci Code* and Dennis Lehane's *Mystic River*. "A popular film or big book can pull people into the genre," he says. "It moves in waves, stimulates the market."

The genre's renewed popularity has also spawned two recent local forays into publishing. Susan Oleksiw, author of the Mellingham mystery series and former editor and co-founder of the now defunct Larcom Press in Beverly, has teamed up with Kate Flora to create Level Best Books. This company publishes a yearly anthology of short stories by New England mystery authors and hopes to expand into full-length mysteries.

Meanwhile, Mattes has partnered with a new Boston publisher, Justin, Charles & Co., to form the Kate's Mystery Books imprint, which is scheduled to have 12 titles out by the end of this year, including the paperback of *First Light*, co-written by Philip Craig and William Tapply, and *Boyos*, a first mystery novel by former Massachusetts state trooper and ex-con Richard Marinick that has recently received media attention.

In some ways publishing "is an extension of bookselling," says Mattes. The big houses in New York don't have a chance to ask readers what kind of mysteries they like, but she can. "I get the feedback from customers all the time."

Sitting behind the register inside the small, homey bookstore, with its well-worn wooden floors and ubiquitous black china cats, Mattes meets everyone in the mystery world, from the published authors to the sales reps to the fans. Dropping by the bookstore in early August, I've just missed a man who pretended to be searching for a character-driven mystery, but really was trying to get up the courage to ask Mattes for a recommendation on an agent.

She doesn't mind. "I just wish he'd gotten to the point a little sooner." Mattes seems to enjoy would-be authors as much as the big names who have become her friends over the years, and she always has time for the mystery fans, a number of whom travel from faraway states like New York and Pennsylvania for her annual holiday party.

Mattes held her first holiday get-together 20 years ago in response to customers who wanted signed author copies to give away as gifts. It began with a handful of writers, including Parker and the Cadavers authors, and has grown each year, so that now, Mattes no longer issues personal invitations to authors, for fear that she'll insult one by inadvertently leaving them out. She instead e-mails and advertises for authors through the Sisters in Crime and Mystery Writers of America newsletters.

This year, Mattes expects at least 50 authors. " Seems like nobody ever moves out of New England, they just move into it. So we just keep getting more good writers," she says. After consulting a few of her longtime friends—the star power like Barnes, Parker and Tapply—she fixes the date of the event, which this year takes place December 3. The event is so popular that a team of regular volunteers comes to help, spending two days moving books and making space for the hordes of attendees who'll pack the long, narrow rooms.

Generally, the lines form around the big names. New and lesser-known authors like myself huddle together catching up on gossip, buying each other's latest books and making plans for where we'll have dinner afterward.

We know each other from our meetings, from our gigs at libraries, bookstores or restaurants, from our shared frustrations of trying to break out of a crowded literary market. And despite our jealousy, we are an egalitarian lot. No one, no matter how many weeks on the best sellers list, brandishes success. I've yet to meet a snob.

Some attribute this camaraderie to the market itself, which supports more successes than any other genre and allows more hope and less despair. Others think it's because we so badly need a support network to face the daily discouragement of selling our stories. But I like Kate Flora's explanation: "Maybe one of the reasons mystery writers are so nice is that we get everything out of our system by killing people on the pages." iB



LINDA BARNES

BU grad Linda Barnes has written nine novels since 1987 featuring her Boston private eye Carlotta Carlyle.


AMBULANCE
art by ADRIANO, THE PITILESS

Batmaking

BY WILLIAM OREM

ILLUSTRATION BY ADRIANO THE PITILESS

So it's the grand opening and I'm there in my cape. The belt fits a little bit tighter this year; I have to admit I actually broke down and drilled an extra hole in the machine shop before coming over, but still I'm looking pretty damn good and I wear the bat with the big yellow circle around it with pride. The way they draw me on the advertisements you'd think it was easy to be dramatically fit, but it isn't so. Staying in shape takes dedication.

Which is what Batman is all about: dedication, training, and doing what is required. That's why I'm proud to wear the costume—to me it's more than just some stunt. It's like putting on a military uniform for someone who's been in the Nam, or something, I guess. You see their faces as they look at you getting out of your car and walking into the store, standing between the *Fangoria* rack and the ImpQuest rack and the "For Tobacco Use Only" sign, and you know it's no joke. These kids are serious, their lives matter, and they look at you with expectation. They need you to be something more than a loser in a getup, making money on the side. And I never disappoint.

I know a guy who does Green Lantern—every morning for a week when he has a gig he gets up at dawn and runs seven miles and recites the pledge: "In brightest day, by darkest night..." I don't know the whole thing. "Let all who worship evil's might, beware my power, Green Lantern's light." He really does.

And the kids who come to these things; first of all they aren't all kids. And the ones who are kids, you'd think they'd be role-playing Normans or something, but they aren't. People who read graphic novels are some of the most moral, upstanding thinkers in the country. Comics aren't *Ka-bram-m-m-m!* and *Spanggg!* anymore. They're about wrongness and rightness; the eternal conflicts; the question, asked by every society ever formed on Earth, of whether justice will prevail.

Is that a question we can afford to ignore? Especially now, with our world vaulting blindly toward its ethical Armageddon? People don't have Jesus anymore, not really. They don't fear the Wrath of Jehovah or the Return of Arthur. But the verdict on us is coming, nonetheless. Can we—as citizens of a superpower, fast becoming a super-duper power—can we afford *not* to read graphic novels?

No. The answer is no.

We need guidance. *They* need it. And I know where to get it.

Batman is the greatest of them all. He always was, and until some genius starts penciling an Ayn Rand novel there won't even be any contenders. Why? Because Batman *doesn't have any powers*. He wasn't hit by a ray (Hulk, Doc Samson, Abomination, the entire Fantastic Four) or born on another planet (Hawkman, Hawkgirl, Martian Manhunter) or given a magic ring (Flash). He can't *do* magic (Doctor Doom, Doctor Strange, Doctor Spectrum) or throw fire (original Human Torch, Toro, new Human Torch) or blast-rays (Iron Man, Sunfire, Yellow Claw) or change his density (The Vision) or anything like that. He's just a guy. *He's just a rich guy*. And that's why he's so important. That's why people look up to Batman, and respect him. He shows the capability of the human spirit. He shows the perfectibility of the individual within a single lifetime. It's Marxist in that respect.

I know what you're thinking: Captain America. But you're wrong. He had the Super Soldier Serum.

So I pull up in my car—don't I wish it were! It's just a Hyundai, but I painted it black anyway. I pull up in my car and get out and grab one end of the cape so it catches the breeze made by the door as I throw it open. I make an entrance. The Dark Knight has returned.

Cameras go off and the kids, the little ones, are there wanting an autograph, with some older boys in the back with their hands in their belt loops not sure yet if this is cool. I smile just for a second, but make no mistake—there's action in the air. The table I choose has some Magic: the Gathering figures set up on it, but to hell with 'em. The cape flies, the metal legs make this booming noise and I strike a pose when I land on top. It's great. It's really great.

"Picture this," I say, giving it my best *basso profundo*. (That means *deep voice*.) "Gotham is hit by an earthquake. Arkham crumbles, its residents pouring like an evil tide. Killer Croc. Two-face. *Bane*. There I was..."

One of the preteen crowd makes a farting noise using his armpit under his sleeve. It gets some laughs. I want to tell him with his enormous T-shirt and his enormous jeans and his underwear showing and his hat twisted around sideways that he's wearing a costume—he doesn't realize it but *he's wearing a costume*, and if he'd listen to me I could tell him something about a costume he could be proud of. But I let it go.

"The government blows the bridges: The city itself must be isolated. The people left behind find villainy around every corner. Waiting for them. Hungry for their allegiance."

But something's definitely wrong. The little faces are all still caught up with me but the preteens are looking somewhere else, around by the back of the store behind the rack of not-quite-dirty magazines. It's not the magazines, either; something else is back there, and they're kind of smiling back and forth, not sure which way to go. It throws me a little, but I compensate. Batman would have.

"Penguin!" I say loudly.

But that's a mistake. It always was kind of a lame idea.

"Kobra, I mean. Catwoman. Gangs forming in the streets, led by evil minds. No direction. No order. Black Mask..."

But it's no good. Someone else is standing behind the magazines, taking half the attention. It's like the time I tried to teach a cartoon drawing class and this 10-year-old who thought he was Todd McFarlane kept talking while I was talking. If you've ever been there, it makes you see red.

"Look, is there someone back there?" I ask. It's meant to be a surprise; I admit my delivery has been thrown a little, but it's not a total surrender. It's meant to shake them up.

But the surprise is mine. He comes out from behind the cleavage-and-lizards posters and flicks a hanging rubber Godzilla with one finger, making it bounce. I see who he is. The crowd makes this sound: *Oooooooooooooooh*.

Now here's the problem with Superman. He isn't as tough as you think. Sure, he was born on Krypton. So there's the other-planet thing. He can lift battleships and whatnot. The yellow sun of Earth gives him amazing powers, or whatever; and he can fly. But here's his secret. He's a wuss.

It's true. Superman sucks. Want to know why? It's because he can do *anything*. His strength is exactly his weakness. He can do anything—Siegel and Schuster just kind of threw him together as a character, a guy who can do anything. A train is bearing down on him. Block it with one hand? Sure. Direct hit with a volley of torpedoes. Does he stop reading the *Good Housekeeping* article he was in the middle of? Not until he comes to the end of the paragraph. A cobalt bomb is stuffed down the back of his shorts. Burn marks on his ass? Not even a singe.

And how much fun is that? I mean, even for a kid? None: the answer is none. It's no fun at all. Who the hell cares if Mr. Mix-pickle-dick has a hard name to pronounce? If Brainiac has a brain? Like that's a conflict? Please. Nobody learns anything from Superman except how

to be some kind of Kennedy-compound, everything-you-want-comes-to-you-free whiner. He's the comics equivalent of an Ivy League education. And besides, Doomsday kicked his ass.

"Sorry, Dan," he says, kind of pretending to be looking at the Godzilla for a second. "They didn't think you were going to make it."

Now I'm pissed. It comes over me fast, like a gamma-ray burst. *One*, he's called me by my outside-of-costume name, and that's so fragging unforgivable it's hard to know what to say. *Two*, the owners very fragging well knew I was going to be here, I was *getting into character*, all right? When I get a call it's not like I leap up and say, "Oh yes please give me a gig, I'm desperate and have been feeding my cat Cheerios for a week." No. I hear the phone ring, I hear the voice on the answering machine, and *shoom*: I'm in character. I go around turning off all the lights in the house. Then I sit in the darkness and play the call again. Because if you call me, you're the red phone. You *are* Commissioner Gordon, your daughter was Batgirl until she was crippled by Joker and now she's Oracle and you'd better *believe* I'm going to show. Batman would have.

"That's bull," I say, and it hurts. Batman wouldn't have said "that's bull." It's going to be hard to get the momentum back.

"Yeah, well," he kind of grins, and then he really grins at the preteens like they're all in on a secret. And I know what the secret is. It isn't that they love him and they don't love me. It isn't that. It isn't even the eternal conflict between Superman and Batman. It's worse than that. The secret is that they're too old for this. That's the unforgivable sin. He gives them a spit-curl smile that says, "Look, I'm just a performer in a Superdude suit, these muscles are collagen bags sewn right into the fabric, see here? And we're all a little grown up for this now, aren't we? We're not really *into* superheroes, we're into reefer and thrash metal and crushproof Camels you can wrap in your sleeve. We come here to check out the poster of Xena in a hot spring and *Freak Brothers* and the Alex Ross paintings of Wonder Woman because he uses real models and you have to wonder if the steel parts of her breastplate get cold and make her you-know-whats do you-know-what."

And some of them listen. I see three or four faces grow 10 years older when they see that smile, only it's not a good growing. He's killing them all, killing the life that's in them. He's worse than Darkseid.

A couple of the preteens in back start poking around the trading cards now. The one with the giant T-shirt pretends to be sticking something up his nose, which I now see is pierced on both sides so that he looks like he has metal mucus. And the younger ones, their faces are just kind of lost. They're looking for a hero. They don't deserve this.

What would Bruce Wayne have done? I feel like I should be wearing one of those Jesus bracelets, only mine says WWBWHD?

And the answer comes: He would have given up, right then and there. He would have walked out of that crappy little incense-isn't-covering-the-dope five-and-dime and heard the little Balrog-shaped bell jingle and been glad he had a mask on to cover his face as he walked back to his Hyundai where the black paint was peeling away to show the fascia underneath and picked up the ticket under the windshield and driven away playing the radio loud. He would have. He really would have. Everyone has limits.

But I'm not like that. I'm not a loser. I don't quit. Ever.

Then Superman is up and swinging and I can't get out of the way fast enough. I take a hard one in the eye.

The ceiling lamp is old and it almost holds all of my weight. At the last minute it comes about six inches out of its socket in a shower of plaster and my kick falls low, connecting more with Superman's crotch than anything else. But it has the intended effect: the big blue bastard makes a huge *W-O-O-O-O* sound and doubles over into a pile of back issues. He bounces a little when he lands, and then the wood shelves give way and he's covered in all those dusty pages like he's tumbling in a leaf pile.

For about four seconds I get to stand there with my fists at my sides and stare every one of them in the face. The storeowner looks like he just swallowed all the anti-Breathalyzer mints at one go.

"Who's with me?" I say.

Then Superman is up and swinging and I can't get out of the way fast enough. I take a hard one in the eye. Two punches to his gut later I have him down again but he comes back up and slips on some sports photographs and starts to topple but doesn't. I move in low and start hammering at his torso, and he swings and misses but gets me with the elbow, and then I'm starting to say something but I just keep getting punched. In the stories everyone talks while they fight, but it doesn't really happen that way. Mostly you just swing and swing and get madder and madder. Also you wind up pulling at each other's clothes a lot.

And Superman is pissed. He's bleeding a little out of one nostril and his cheeks are about as red as the Dread Dormammu. He starts to say something himself and I land a good one in his teeth, feeling the front molar bend. His eyes go wide and he picks up a long, flat stick that had been bracing a lifesize picture of Data and he's definitely going to bludgeon me with it.

"Get him!" someone cries, and next thing I can see there are about six kids on him, kicking fast and doing some damage. He can't hit kids—for Christ's sake, he's Superman—and even though they're small they have the effect that Flash goes for when he gets in 50 blows before Gorilla Grood can send back one. I make the leap back up on the table and out the front door and people are cheering now, the parents of the little ones I think it is—they're shouting things at me that I can't quite make out but it sounds good.

I'm up on top of a car when Superman makes it out of the store and comes charging at me. I swear just for a second, just for a second he really looks like he's about to start flying, but whether he does or not he comes at me like a baby-blue scud missile and after a few punches I have to jump back, stumbling over someone else's roof. Now we're fighting in moving traffic and people are leaning out their windows and calling us "*madfrickinggoddamiz*" and I'm jumping one, two, three car roofs at a time, and then I turn around in a surprise move and smash the candy-ass right in the chin, right in that squarer-than-justice jaw with a fist that has Kryptonite written all over it. Payback is sweet.

Then it happens. Superman spits and wipes his mouth as if to rub off the shame and he's looking up at me and he's steamed, he's very much steamed, and the car he's standing on roars forward just for a second and this time he really does go flying. He's in the air and then he's on the pavement, the driver shouts something and is gone, and the last son of Krypton is lying there and not getting up, looking like he twisted something in the fall, and there's traffic coming.

It doesn't take a second to decide. I jump down and lean into the window of the car I had been standing on.

"Citizen," I say. "Call an ambulance. I'll handle this."

The guy just kind of stares at me and then his bald head nods a little bit, and I smile at him and race away. Two bounds and I'm crouched over Superman where he lies. There is traffic coming from both directions and I hold my hand up to it.

"Halt!" I shout.

Of course it doesn't work. One guy skids crazily to the side and hits another, nobody is hurt but there's glass, and the cars coming from the other direction can't see anything yet. They're still moving at full speed. And the one in front is huge, it's a truck carrying those purified water bottles you can buy.

"Use your X-Ray vision," I say. "Melt the tires."

"You're a goddamned lunatic," Superman says, but he's delirious. There's nothing else to do, I stand up and place myself in front of the oncoming truck, arms out as if I were going to catch it in my hands. The truck slows and then *screeeeees* and then skids left, and it stops a foot or two in front of me, but I haven't moved.

"My j—, my j—," I say. I want to say "my job here is done," but my heart is beating so hard all I'm doing is opening and closing my mouth. I can feel the bruises starting to come up underneath my cowl. The guy in the driver's cab leans forward to stare at me until his forehead is touching the windshield.

"OK. Great," I say.

I turn around and Superman is standing again. He wasn't hurt as badly as it looked. The yellow sun gives him strength.

I raise my fists. They shake a little bit. But he doesn't reciprocate.

"You just saved my life, Dan," he says instead. I say nothing and he wipes gingerly at his nose and spits and looks at me for a minute and something in his expression changes. "You just saved my life, Batman," he says. He seems to think about it for a second. "Thank you."

There's a crowd around us and they start clapping. The kids love it. I mean, they love it. They really do. An ambulance has arrived from somewhere and the orderlies are looking at us and looking at each other and I wave to them that it's all right. *We* turn and wave to them. I wave and he waves too, he's kind of laughing and shaking his head and waving, and he has that smile you've seen a million times since you were a kid until you think maybe there really is such a place as Kansas where the wheat grows tall and healthy and the Kents raised their son to use his extraordinary power only for good. I can see why he got the job. I start to go a little misty.

Then I spot it. The preteen with the pierced boogers has a carton of cigarettes stuck under that enormous T-shirt and is making off while everyone is distracted by us. They look both ways and then two of his friends lift the cashier money. Something knots up inside me. Something righteous.

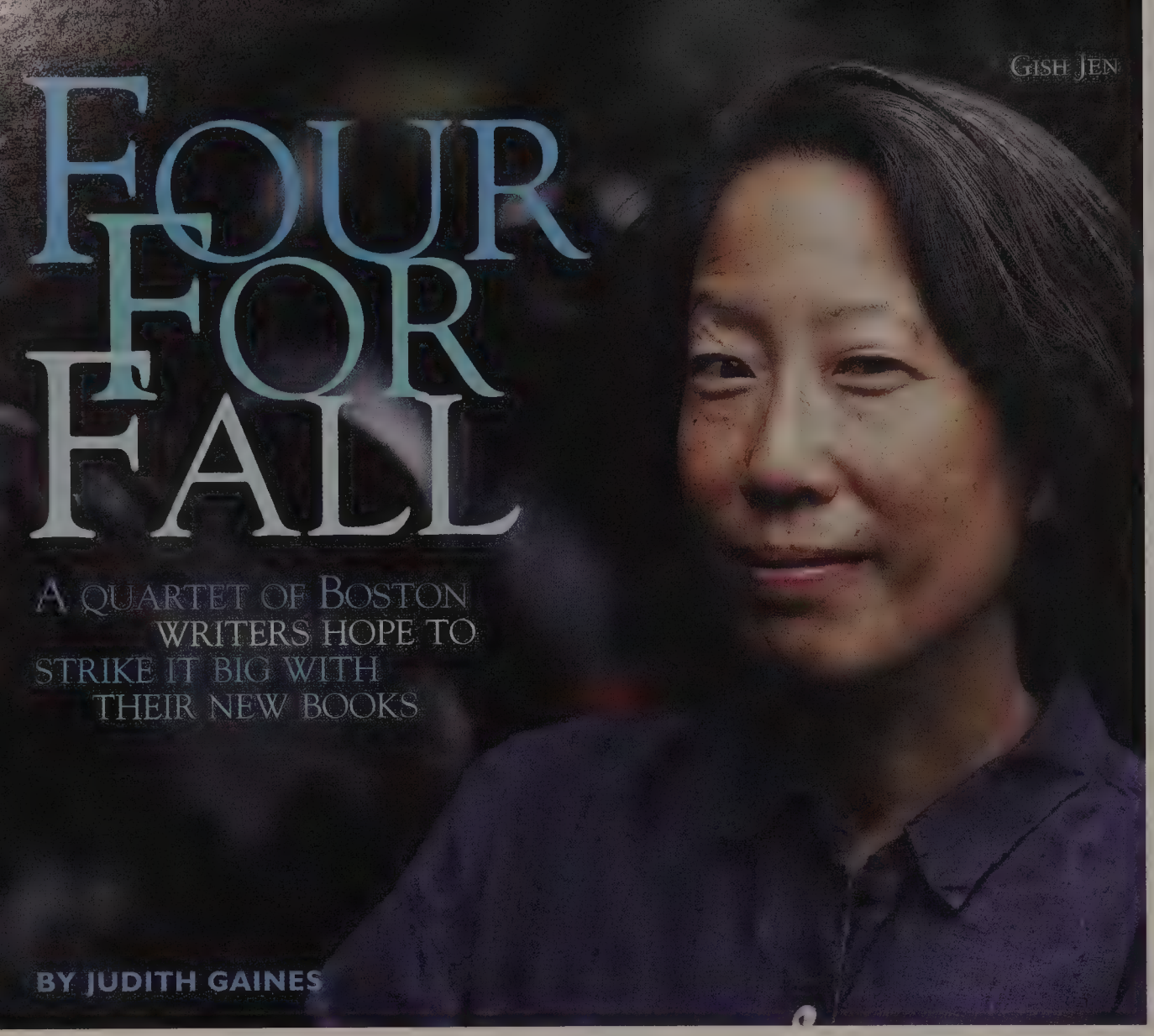
I look over at him and he's seen it too.

"Let's kick some Legion of Doom ass," he says.

"Holy team-up," I answer, and we're on them like judgment day. iB



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FOUR FOR FALL

A QUARTET OF BOSTON WRITERS HOPE TO STRIKE IT BIG WITH THEIR NEW BOOKS

BY JUDITH GAINES

Fall is the busy season in book publishing, and every year, a few of the scores of new releases rise to the top of reviewers' lists and generate buzz from industry insiders. This year, a bevy of Boston-based authors are releasing highly anticipated books. Among the potential blockbusters are Gish Jen's *The Love Wife*, Margot Livesey's *Banishing Verona* (due in November), Ha Jin's *War Trash* and Maria Tatar's *The Annotated Brothers Grimm*. The books differ dramatically in style, tone, format and intent. But, coincidentally, they deal with related themes: the importance of home and family, the responsibilities these entail, and the dangers that can come from romantic and familial attachments. They're all terrific reads, full of intriguing twists and turns. As it happens, all the authors are either first- or second-generation immigrants for whom "home" is a complicated concept, and their books all grew out of their personal experiences. The bad news is, you can't go home again. The good news is, you may not want to. Or maybe home can be redefined.

Gish Jen's novel *The Love Wife* centers on the Wong family: Mama Wong, the domineering Chinese matriarch, as strong in death as in life; son Carnegie, 39, a smart, funny, high-tech type who manages documents for a living in a city that could be Boston; his big, WASP-ish 45-year-old wife, a former farm girl whom he calls Blondie; their adopted daughters Lizzie, 14, an in-your-face sort of teenager, and shy Wendy, 9; their biological baby, 13-month-old Bailey; and the mysterious Lanlan, 46, a relative from China.

In her will, Mama Wong decrees that Lanlan should come to live with her son's family as a nanny, presumably to help the girls understand their Chinese ancestry. But her arrival causes the whole family to question their allegiance not just to American ways but to each other. Blondie especially is jealous of her daughters' attraction to Lanlan, and of her husband's warm feelings for the nanny. Whether the marriage and the family bond can survive Lanlan's intrusion into their lives is the question on which the novel turns, with several surprising twists at the end.

It's a lively, insightful book full of entertaining cultural clashes and enhanced by an imaginative format in which the characters take turns narrating the story, giving the reader their own take on what has happened. Each narrates as if speaking to a documentary filmmaker, or perhaps, Jen quips, a therapist, a device that helps to make their personalities more clear, if not more credible.

Jen, a second-generation Chinese-American, lives in Cambridge with two biracial children and a husband who, like Carnegie, has a high-tech job. She says she began the novel "after we got an au pair, who was German and fair. I had a fair daughter. People would ask, was I the real mother of this child, or was I the au pair? It was food for thought. I starting thinking, what is a family? Can we construct these things, or is it all a matter of blood?"

Jen lets the reader draw his or her own conclusions. But the stunning, bittersweet ending makes clear that finding the answer can be painful, and even the most carefully improvised families may find that the ties that bind can be alarmingly fragile.

Banishing Verona, Margot Livesey's suspenseful new romantic novel, also explores the obligations of family and the difficulties of being different. But what sets apart Livesey's central character, Zeke, is that the handsome, 29-year-old housepainter living in London has Asperger's syndrome, something like a mild and quirky form of autism. Zeke is kind and well meaning but also compulsive and socially awkward. He has trouble deciphering other people's expressions and coping with anything new.

But when he meets Verona, 37 and very pregnant, his attraction to her shakes up his life. A beguiling romance is kindled in the first chapter, only to be thwarted for most of the rest of the book by the demands of Verona's corrupt but charming brother, Henry, who has no qualms about asking her to fly to Boston and then to New York on his behalf, and by Zeke's parents, who want him tending their produce shop instead of chasing after Verona. Plus, the couple have their own problems: his illness, which causes him to be combative and insular, and her infidelity, which eventually leads to a marital breakup.

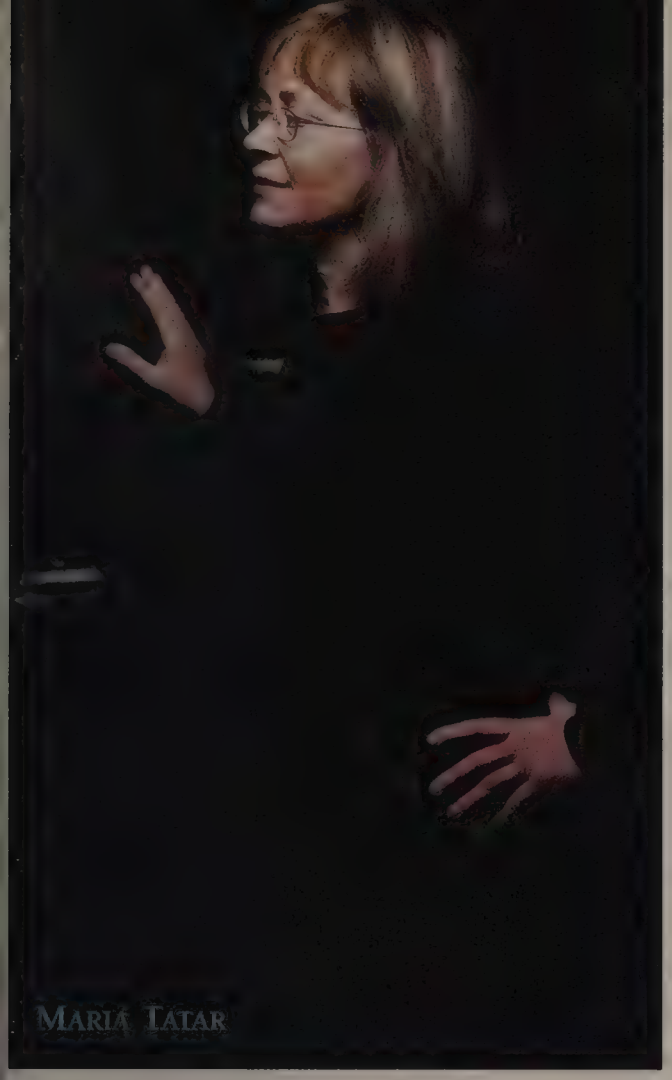
Interestingly, it's just when Zeke makes the most Herculean efforts for Verona that she is most inconsiderate of him and the most doggedly devoted to Henry, despite how badly he behaves. "That's my view of how the world works," says Livesey over tea at her North Cambridge home. "It's not unusual to give a million second chances to someone in your family, the way Verona does for Henry. Love becomes a kind of vanity. You think you have enormous influence over someone you love, but they treat you just like everyone else—or worse. And great charm often conceals deceit."

Born in Scotland, Livesey came to Boston in 1983 to teach at Tufts and is currently a writer in residence at Emerson. An only child of parents who were also only children, her mother died when she was two years old, so she says she "adopted" a neighboring family with four children. The experience made her aware of the difficulties of empathy—a theme of her book—and the different ways that families can be cobbled together.

Livesey says she started thinking about Asperger's syndrome when a friend's young son was diagnosed with the condition about 10 years ago, and she watched how it complicated his life as he grew up. But her book doesn't try to be clinical or to treat Zeke as disabled. "Characters like him hold up a mirror to the rest of us," she says, explaining her view of Zeke. "They show us something we recognize, but in unfamiliar ways."

War Trash by Ha Jin is a completely different sort of novel. Written as if it were a memoir, it's the inti-





mate and immediately gripping story of Yu Yuan, a young Chinese officer sent to fight for the Communists in Korea in 1951. After just a few months in action deep in South Korean territory, he's injured, captured and sent to a POW camp.

Although Americans are nominally in charge, they only guard the prison gates and rarely set foot in the actual compound. Everything there is left in the hands of the prisoners, and the bulk of *War Trash* explores what that life is like for them—a hell, it often seems, of their own making. Because Yu is more educated than most and speaks good English, he becomes an unofficial interpreter and observes the behavior of both the leaders and the led in several different prison camps—some controlled by Communists and others by pro-Nationalist forces who had been loyal to Chiang Kai-shek.

Neither a dedicated Communist nor a die-hard Nationalist, Yu just wants to get home to see his aging mother and his fiancée, Julan, in China. He suffers innumerable miseries for their sakes—only to find, when he finally is released, that his mother has died and Julan won't respond to his letters, presumably because he was a prisoner of war. In the Communists' view, Yu learns, it would have been better if he had died in battle; those who survive are considered nothing more than "war trash."

Ha Jin, currently a professor of creative writing at Boston University, notes that although his book's main characters are fictional, most of the events and details in it are based in fact, including many graphic descriptions of army and prison life. He should know. Born in Manchuria, in central China, Jin served six years in the Chinese army beginning in 1969, when he was 14. He was afraid of death, he says, but more afraid of being captured "because I saw how the POWs were abused." His father also was a veteran of the Korean War, so Jin often heard him and his friends discussing their experiences.

Over the years, Jin has made a hobby of collecting books, diaries, prison records and other documents about the Korean War, which he says has been largely forgotten, not only by Americans but even by the Chinese. "I wanted to tell a good story," he says, discussing why he picked that topic for his book. "But I also hope it fills a gap."

MEET THESE AUTHORS

GISH JEN
Monday, October 25, 6 pm. Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston. Sponsored by the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center and Asian Sisters in Action.

MARGOT LIVESEY
Friday, November 12, 7 pm. Harvard Book Store, 1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge.
Wednesday, December 1, 7:30 pm: Newtonville Books, 296 Walnut St., Newton.

HA JIN
Thursday, October 7, 7 pm. Barnes & Noble at Boston University, 660 Beacon St., Boston.
Wednesday, October 27, 7 pm. Framingham Public Library, 49 Lexington St., Framingham.
Thursday, November 4, 6:30 pm. Harvard Book Store, 1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge.

MARIA TATAR
Friday, October 15, 3 pm. Harvard Book Store, 1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge.

The Annotated Brothers Grimm, by Maria Tatar, is a collection of 46 of the Grimms' fairy tales, selected and translated by Tatar, with explanatory footnotes and accompanying essays discussing the origins and significance of the stories, as well as a short biography of the Grimm brothers. Numerous illustrations from earlier editions of the tales and a beautiful cover make the book sumptuous to behold, a great coffee table tome.

Readers will be familiar with the broad outlines of many of the tales presented here. But they may be surprised to see how deeply grim the stories were in the brothers' original versions. Whereas Ha Jin's book recounts the horrors of a foreign and forgotten war, Tatar's collection reveals that other terrors lurk at home, where dangers lie around every corner. Stepmothers get a particularly bad rap.

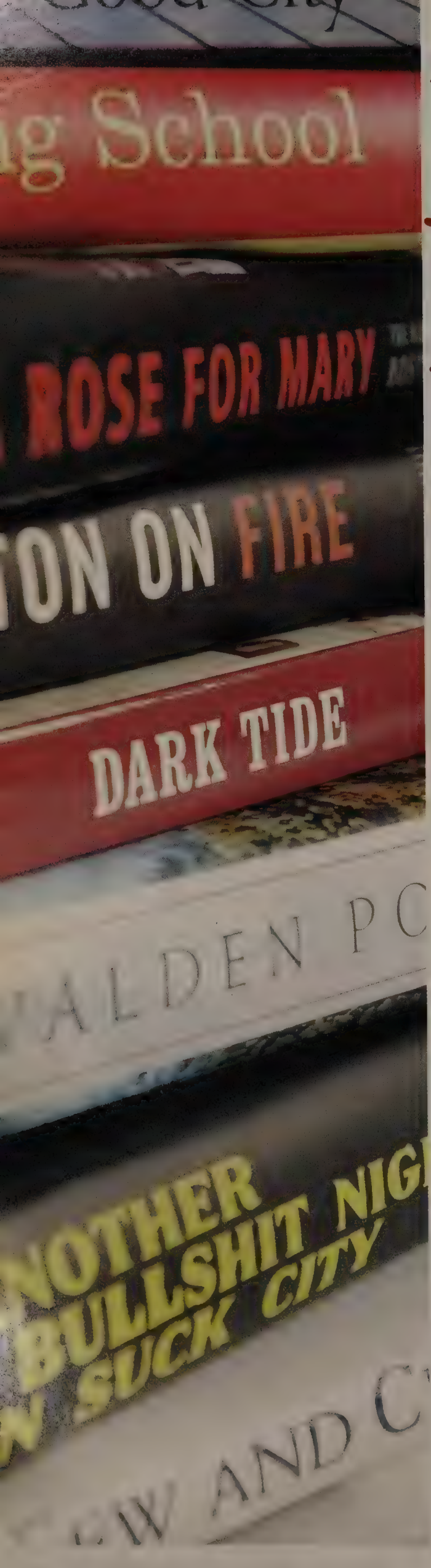
Tatar, a second-generation Hungarian, is dean for the humanities at Harvard and an authority on Germanic literature and culture. She describes the Grimms as serious scholars dedicated to preserving the German folk heritage as authentically as they could, although in later editions of their classic *Children's Stories and Household Tales* they removed the most racy and sexual details to make the stories more appropriate for children. Still, even the edited versions seem stunningly violent and brutal. Evildoers are likely to be boiled in a vat full of snakes and toads or to have their eyes pecked out, and even innocent children get cooked and eaten or swallowed alive. Cannibalism is rife.

This sadism is particularly striking because, according to Tatar, the Grimms' classic is the third best-selling book of all time, topped only by the Bible and Shakespeare's works. The stories also are constantly being revised and recycled. "They greet us at the movies as *Pretty Woman* or *Working Girl*," Tatar explains, "at the opera as *Hansel and Gretel* or *La Cenerentola*, in advertisements for everything from Chanel to chocolate."

Asked how something so full of atrocities could be so popular and deeply ingrained in our culture, Tatar says the tales have therapeutic value. Children worry about being abandoned, lost, engulfed or swallowed up, and death in any form is hard for them to discuss, she explains. By encountering some of these primal anxieties in the safe "once upon a time" fantasy of a fairy tale, they can begin to process and deal with their fears.

And in most of the stories, the good characters live happily ever after. "The tales show that children can survive, if they use their wits," Tatar said. "Even in the darkest situations, there is hope." iB





BOSTON BOUND

RECENT RELEASES CAPTURE REAL LIFE IN THE HUB

BY ERIN HAGEDORN

t's only fair that a city that's home to so many accomplished authors would get its due in those writers' works. This year, scores of authors have combined their literary prowess with their passion for Boston. Some have written historical books, like W. Barksdale Maynard's look at Walden Pond and Casey Sherman's account of his search for the real Boston Strangler. Others offer personal accounts of life in the city—the good and the bad—in a book of essays and a memoir. All the books (too many to be included here) shed light on various aspects of Boston's history and culture, offering new ways to look at the city we live in. As Deborah Meier writes in the book she's co-written about running a local school, "Book lovers have learned one special skill: to enjoy the adventures of other people, other times, and even other species, to thus add many lifetimes to their own."

Dark Tide: The Great Boston Molasses Flood of 1919

BY STEPHEN PULEO, BEACON PRESS, 2003, $23



Sure, it might sound kind of funny at first. But when you think about it, drowning in a wave of molasses has got to be a horrifying way to die. If you grew up around here, chances are you've heard about the day that a tank holding 2.3 million gallons of molasses ruptured, sending a 25-foot-high wave of the liquid through the North End. A half mile of Commercial Street was destroyed in minutes; 150 people were injured and 21 people died that day. The clean-up alone took months.

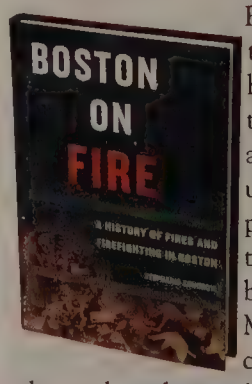
Historian Stephen Puleo describes the events surrounding the Great Molasses Flood, beginning with the tank's rushed construction in 1915 and concluding with the lawsuits and drawn-out courtroom dramas that lasted years after the disaster. Puleo makes the story personal, describing the people who worked on the tank and then telling the stories of those who were there when it fell. It's not until page 96 that the tank breaks; by then, the reader has come to know many of the people involved quite well.

The giant steel tank, which stored molasses for distillation into industrial alcohol, began "crying long thick tears of brown molasses" shortly after construction was completed. The trial that followed the 1919 disaster was politically charged: The company that built the tank blamed it on antiwar, anticapitalist Italian anarchists who operated in the North End. Others argued that the construction itself was faulty, done without proper precautions in a congested neighborhood whose poor, immigrant residents had little political voice.

But *Dark Tide* isn't all about finger-pointing and tragedy. Puleo gives credit to the heroes too, and discusses the significant role molasses played in New England's history. It's all told in colorful, descriptive, dramatic prose that reads at times like a novel, evincing Puleo's passion for this most unusual historical event.

Boston on Fire: A History of Fires and Firefighting in Boston

BY STEPHANIE SCHOROW, COMMONWEALTH EDITIONS, 2003, $24.95



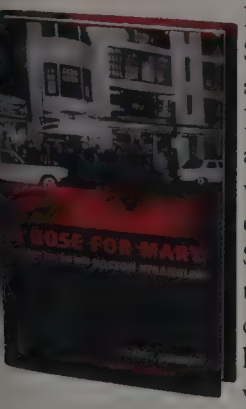
Reading about disasters can be as disturbingly intriguing as watching one happen. Often even more so, since the immediate effects of fires, bombs and floods are felt in a matter of minutes, while the full details can be explored in much greater depth after the fact. *Boston on Fire*, the debut book by *Boston Herald* reporter and Medford resident Stephanie Schorow, covers a lot of scorched ground in chronicling the area's history of fires and firefighting, from how fires have changed city regulations and even Boston's geography, to details about the time period of each conflagration—and the repercussions and possible causes of each. While covering the evolution of firefighting itself, Schorow describes how Boston has been a site of firefighting firsts. The city had the nation's first paid fire department, and it founded an unprecedentedly elaborate—and effective—citywide alarm system.

To tell the stories of the city's biggest blazes, Schorow uses firsthand accounts from people involved, describing conflagrations like the Great Fire of 1872 (which destroyed 60 acres of downtown Boston) and the Cocoanut Grove nightclub disaster in 1942 (in which nearly 500 people were killed or injured in under 15 minutes). She

also sheds light on lesser-known infernos such as the incredible 200-plus fires set by "Mr. Flare" and his pyromaniac comrades in the early '80s—some were later arrested. Reading Schorow's book is also a great way to learn some history of the city while being intrigued by the vivid details of the fires.

A Rose for Mary: The Hunt for the Real Boston Strangler

BY CASEY SHERMAN, NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2003, $24.95



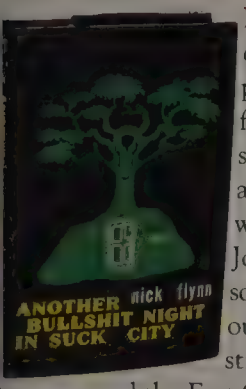
For years, the story of the Boston Strangler has fascinated, captivated and horrified Bostonians and non-Bostonians alike. Just over a year after the body of the strangler's final victim, Mary Sullivan, was discovered, a convict named Albert DeSalvo made a startling confession to the crimes. The city breathed a sigh of relief; the killer was already behind bars for a sexual assault conviction, never to strike again.

And yet, questions still linger. Was DeSalvo's confession genuine? Or was he simply looking for the spotlight? In *A Rose for Mary*, WBZ-TV producer Casey Sherman goes to great lengths to question DeSalvo's guilt. Bringing more than journalistic curiosity to this endeavor, Sherman has a personal motive as well: Sullivan was his mother's sister.

The author makes a compelling argument for reopening the case of the Sullivan murder, despite opposition from the Massachusetts attorney general's office, and the emotional turmoil that his efforts stirred in his family. He points out, for example, that DeSalvo's description of Sullivan's murder differed substantially from what investigators knew. He also shows that there were other likely suspects who were dismissed or went uninvestigated by police, in the Sullivan murder as well as many of the strangler's other supposed attacks. Though the Boston Strangler murders stopped 10 months before DeSalvo went to prison, he was never charged with any of the crimes—nor was anyone else.

Another Bullshit Night in Suck City

BY NICK FLYNN, W.W. NORTON & CO., 2004, $23.95



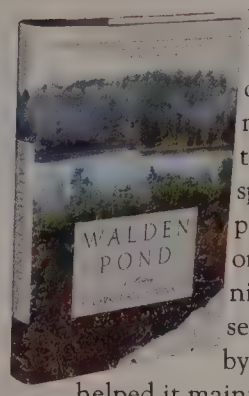
Nick Flynn's memoir isn't as down on Boston as its title suggests. The phrase itself originated with Flynn's father, Jonathan, who used it to describe the homeless life in Boston and who shares the focus of the book with the author. Beginning with Jonathan's desertion of his wife and son, Flynn chronicles his father's various attempts to become a writer, his stints in jail, and time spent drifting around the East Coast camped out on park benches, in ATM booths and on the streets. Alongside this biographical account, the author interweaves the story of his own shaky adolescence and adulthood, discussing his work with the mob and drug and alcohol problems.

Interesting as the above subject matter may seem, the book would probably never have been written had the long-lost father and son not ended up in the same place later in life. When Nick was in his late 20s and trying to get his own life together, he took a job at the South End's Pine Street Inn. There he met his father, a total stranger who began spending nights in the shelter.

With all the evident melodrama, the Flynns' story could easily have been overwhelmed by melancholy. But instead of lapsing into self-pity or maudlin sincerity, Nick's narrative voice is modest, understated and often funny. He touches gracefully upon devastating subjects and lets the reader feel their effects, rather than relying on shock value or overwrought prose. Flynn's book could easily have become a sort of *Chicken Soup-Kitchen for the Soul*, but instead, he's created a gutsy and very human work that's as gritty as the streets of Suck City itself.

Walden Pond: A History

BY W. BARKSDALE MAYNARD, OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2004, $35.

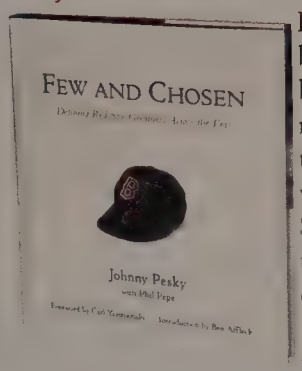


Maynard's book commemorates the 150th anniversary of the publication of Henry Thoreau's *Walden*, which made the Concord pond famous as a transcendental place of creative and spiritual importance. While Maynard points out that the pond is distinctly ordinary in appearance, its original significance and its place at the center of several environmental battles (fought by such celebs as Don Henley) have helped it maintain its prominence as one of America's most beloved literary landmarks.

With roughly 700,000 visitors per year, Walden these days is far from the picture of solitude and tranquility that Thoreau painted. Maynard sheds light on the surprisingly complex history of the site, from the early 19th century to the present day. The book's first half is dedicated to Thoreau, Ralph Waldo Emerson and the Concord literary crowd and its influence on the area. The scholarly research is there (there are 50 pages of endnotes and bibliography), but Maynard draws the reader in with his charmingly readable prose, relating the pond's appeal to the throngs—from nature-lovers and intellectuals, to tourists and nighttime mischief makers—who still flock to it.

Few and Chosen: Defining Red Sox Greatness Across the Eras

BY JOHNNY PESKY WITH PHIL PEPE, TRIUMPH BOOKS, 2004, $27.95



How would you like to pick the best Red Sox players ever, assembling a dream team from the ranks of every player in the team's history? Sounds like a fun way to pass an evening at the bar. Sox legend Johnny Pesky has taken that task seriously, however. Assisted by sportswriter Phil Pepe, who has 39 books under his belt, Pesky presents his Sox dream team picks in this 170-page book.

Pesky began his major league career in 1942 as a Sox shortstop, and over the years logged bench time with notables like Ted Williams and Dom DiMaggio. Since then, he's been a coach, manager and broadcaster for the team. At 84, he's become something of a Red Sox lifer, still working with the team as an instructor. He ranks the all-time top five Sox players for each position, as well as the team's top five managers. Almost like a century-long scouting report, the book breaks down all of Pesky's picks—assets and shortcomings—and includes a detailed analysis of each player's career, along with Pesky's personal reminiscences. The entries read like short stories about players rather than a dry list of batting averages and stats.

As an added bonus, Sox left-field legend Carl Yastrzemski writes the foreword and Boston homeboy Ben Affleck chimes in with an introduction. Sports fiends will learn lots about players of the past, and die-hard fans will have fun arguing over Pesky's choices—it's telling that there are a handful of 2004 Sox on the list.

The Good City: Writers Explore 21st-Century Boston

EDITED BY EMILY HIESTAND AND ANDE ZELLMAN, BEACON PRESS, 2004, $14

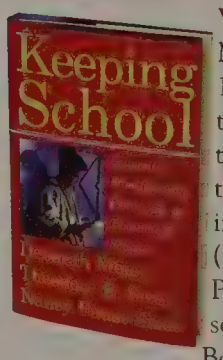


For this new anthology, 15 Boston writers contribute brief essays to paint a contemporary picture of the city. The stories touch on a hodgepodge of topics, ranging from the city's kid-friendly parks to gentrification; from architecture to desegregation to the Red Sox. Each captures the writer's particular relationship to Boston. Some write about defining moments in the city's history, others relate first-person accounts of their impressions of Boston. *Globe* columnist Derrick Z. Jackson and *All Souls: A Family Story from Southie* author Michael Patrick MacDonald write about race and class issues; *Atlantic Monthly* senior editor Jack Beatty describes Boston's political state of affairs in the late 1940s. Personal essays about what it's like to live in the city and what makes it unique come from novelist Anita Diamant and author Lynda Morgenroth. *Orchid Thief* author Susan Orlean writes about how falling in love brought her back to Boston, and how she rediscovered the city.

In aiming to answer the question, What makes Boston a good city? the writers don't collectively sing the Hub's praises but rather point out its offerings—cultural, physical, economic and scholarly—while sometimes tempering their appreciation with acknowledgements of the city's peculiarities. Perhaps the title of John Hanson Mitchell's contribution, in which he describes the physical evolution of parts of the city, sums it up best: "An Eden of Sorts."

Keeping School: Letters to Families from Principals of Two Small Schools

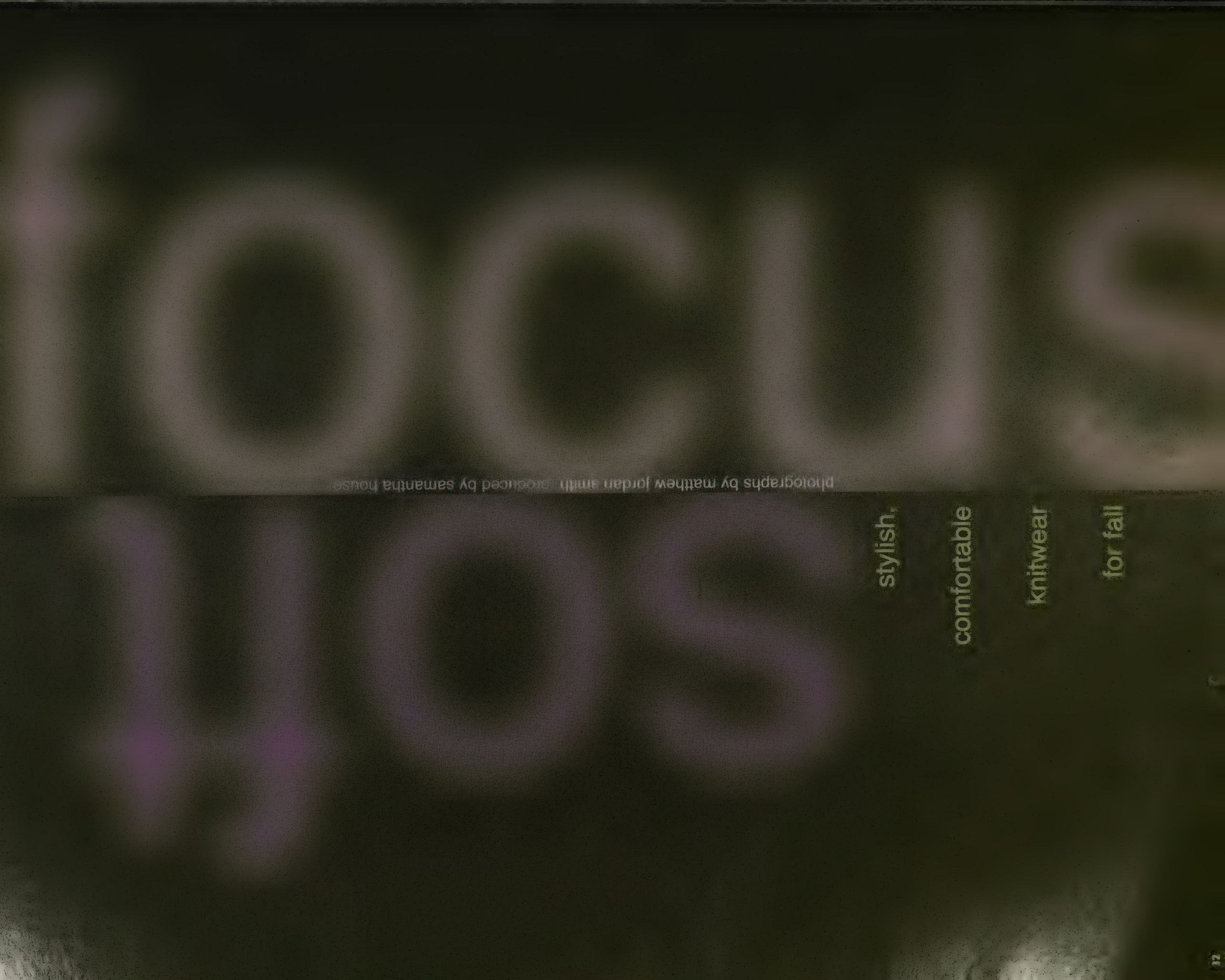
BY DEBORAH MEIER, THEODORE R. SIZER AND NANCY FAUST SIZER, BEACON PRESS, 2004, $23



When Deborah Meier founded the Mission Hill School in Roxbury in 1997, she began writing a weekly letter to the school's teachers, students and their families. Theodore Sizer is a nationally known education reformer who in 1998 and '99 served as co-principal (with his wife, Nancy) of the Francis W. Parker Charter Essential School, a small secondary school in Devens, west of Boston. Every week, the Sizers wrote a letter to keep Parker faculty, students and parents "on the same page" about school developments and goings-on.

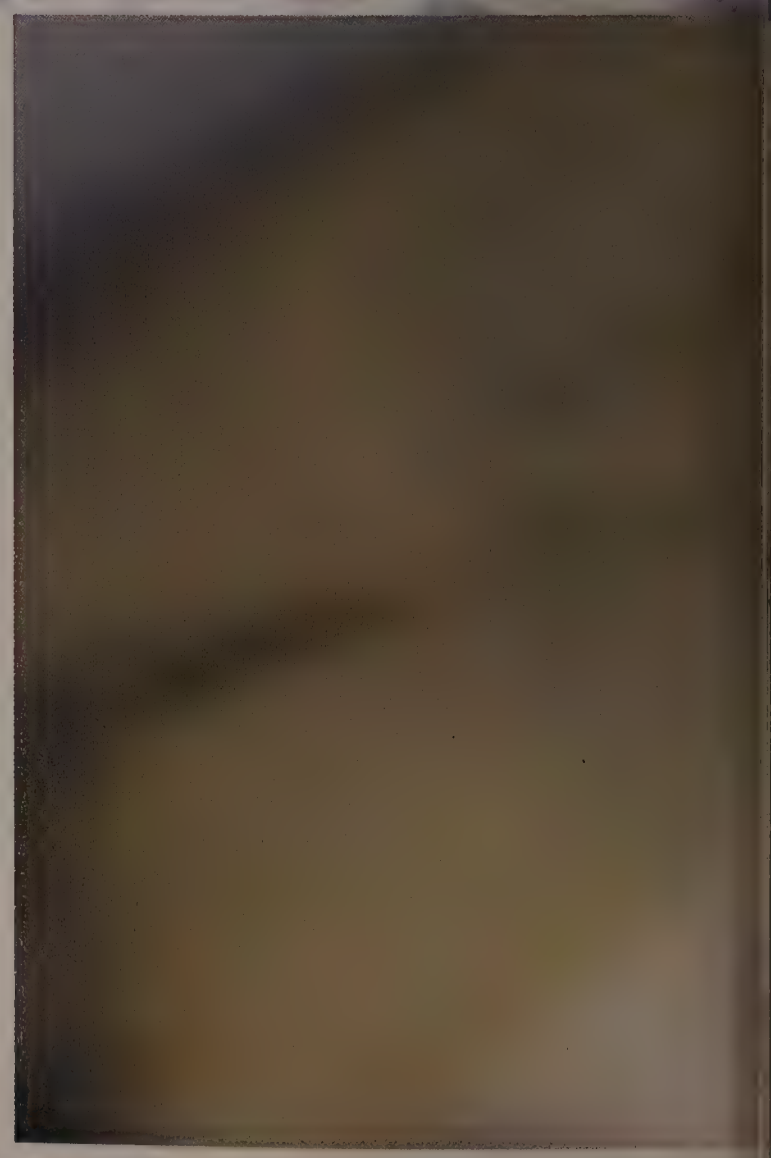
Keeping School collects dozens of Meier's and the Sizers' letters, grouped into four major topics in alternative schooling: Learning, Authority, Standards and Community. Each section starts with a short introduction by one of the three writers and covers topics ranging from grading and homework to parent/teacher accountability and drugs. So what could these letters contain that's interesting to those outside their schools' communities? Well, many of their "less is more" ideas apply to innumerable situations that have nothing to do with school—focusing as they do on issues of responsibility, relationship-building and individuality. Also enlightening are the letters that try to explain the unorthodox methods of these "essential schools"—public schools that use nontraditional approaches such as open classrooms, pacing learning to each student's knowledge level, and so on.

Even for those who aren't educators or parents, *Keeping School* makes for fascinating reading about progressive schools and their emphasis on community, nonstandardized tests, small class sizes and personalized teaching. The letters aren't preachy, but they provide a wealth of lessons that can be applied outside of classrooms, to students of all ages. iB


photographs by matthew jordan smith · produced by samantha hodge
stylish,
comfortable
knitwear
for fall

Chunky sweater By Twinkle, $475; skirt by Gary Graham, $325. Both at Opening

Pink sweater by Marc Jacobs, $238 at Saks Fifth Avenue. Fox fur stole, $900 at the Altered Bride.
Gold Swarovski crystal bracelets, $75 each at Blair Delmonico.



Orange tie-front sweater by Juicy Couture, $114 at Saks Fifth Avenue. Green crop pants by Petro Zillia, $345 at Stel's. Swarovski crystal bracelets, $70 each; plum necklace (worn as bracelet), $95. Both at Blair Delmonico



Green knit blazer by lisli, $348 at Saks Fifth Avenue. Gold and Swarovski crystal necklace with pe… $125 at Blair Delmonico.

The Altered Bride, 376 Boylston St., 617-859-8289. Hair: Mitch Derosa for Mitchell John Salon; Makeup: Jenny Bowe.









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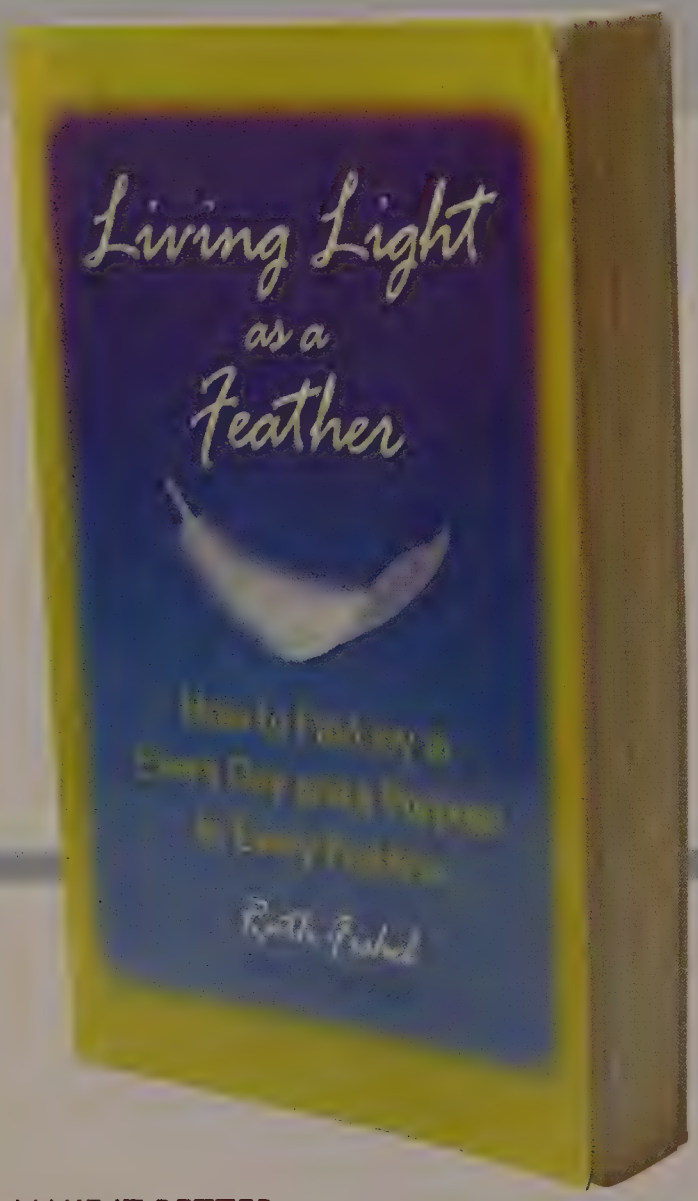
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MOPSY

SERENDIPITOUS SHOPPING: OUR UNFETTERED CORRESPONDENT SEEKS OUT THE SALUBRIOUS AND THE CEREBRAL.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



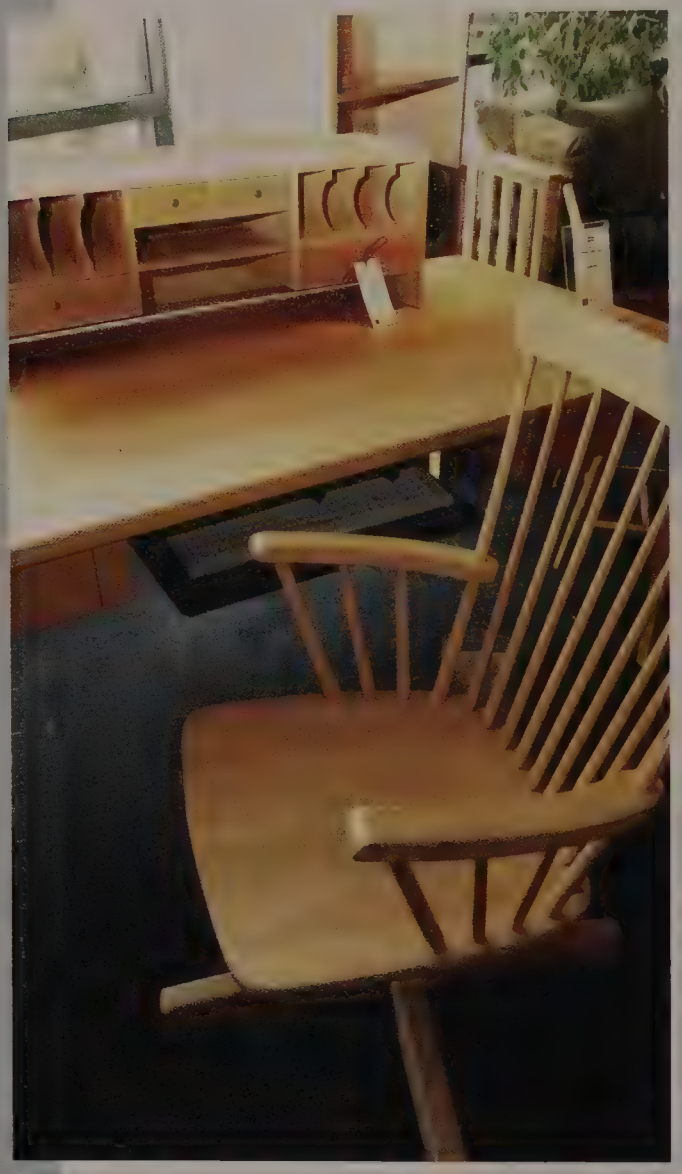
MAKE IT BETTER

***Living Light as a Feather*, by Ruth Fishel of Cape Cod, is subtitled "How to Find Joy in Every Day and a Purpose in Every Problem."**

Four years after she wrote a book promoting joy, teacher and writer Ruth Fishel was struck with the ultimate blow: the suicide of her beloved son. The grief this brought could have destroyed any mother, but in fact it strengthened Fishel's determination to develop attitudes, practices, and ways of feeling that would not only lighten her burden, but make it floatingly easy to bear. Her book proposes "heart-lightening steps" that derive from Buddhism, twelve-step programs and other sources of wisdom: living in the moment, cultivating acceptance, being spiritual and intentional. Rituals are another helpful route: On her son's birthday, the family eats fried clams, his favorite food. Fishel lets us know—through stories of people's various life crises, including her own alcoholism, now in recovery—the ways in which darkening, negative forces can beckon. It's even more crucial, then, to "seek alternate routes"—to focus on helping other people exactly when you feel too needy or depleted; to be aware of the mote in your own eye when criticizing others; to notice the stones of negativity one is hugging. On letting go, the Talmud says: "If not now, when?"

WOODN'T IT BE LOVELY

Pompanoosuc Mills, at One Kendall Square, Building 300, Cambridge, sells clean-lined, hardwood furniture. Pieces are special-ordered with à la carte features. Ask about special sales. Call 617-494-0406.



As if surrounded by its own invisible Vermont, the furniture at Pompanoosuc Mills has a prevailing look of honest purity. Hailing from that state, the furniture comes in six different North American hardwoods: birch, cherry, walnut, oak, maple and bird's eye maple. The style is "transitional"—somewhere between traditional and contemporary. Pompanoosuc's massive line of possibilities becomes even more expansive through its made-to-order build process. Customers special-order everything: the size of the piece, the wood, edge treatments, and any other desired stylistic tweakings. Much in evidence is the spindle-backed or slat-sided look that lets the air of freedom waft through the wood. And because this furniture mostly brandishes its clean, good-wooden beauty through foursquare simplicity, the elements of sway and bend—gracefully bowed or subtly skewed legs, laid-back sofa sides, bureau fronts that swim slightly toward you, or the roundness of a dining room table's edge—really have an effect. Some more ornate touches, such as the almost star-shaped design located in the middle of the airy spacing of a chair back, are equally effective. The range of pieces includes beds with storage drawers incorporated underneath, beautiful blanket boxes and tall, skinny "lingerie chests" demanding face-front placement, say in an entrance hall.

PLANT YOURSELF IN THE EARTH OF HEALTH

The Boston School of Herbal Studies offers an apprenticeship program and other courses in Western, ayurvedic and Chinese herbalism. Call 781-646-6319 or go to www.bostonherbalstudies.com



These plants, herbs and apparent weeds lolloping over our yards and hiding their light under shaggy leaves, contain a fascinating world of medicinal usefulness in their roots, flowers, bark and seeds. People turn to herbal medicine when other treatments have failed, are too expensive or have nasty side effects. But beyond that, herbalism makes a claim to the spiritual and shamanistic. "Plants have something to teach us," says Madelon Hope, of the Boston School of Herbal Studies. And living unassumingly alongside us, they're fortifying themselves against the same conditions we are. Classes taught by Tommy Priester include herbal first aid as well as one in "shamanic plant journeying" that involves calling the spirits and drumming. Other classes involve plant walks and identification, lectures, demonstrations and herbal "cooking" (which continues at home in lengthy soakings and infusings). The magical language of herbalism's teeming universe—tinctures, decoctions, poultices, salves—sounds enticingly Shakespearean. The varied talents of a given plant are impressive: Medicinal plants have up to 120 different chemical constituents. This complexity explains why one plant—whether it's trillium, dandelion, plantain (an "herbal bandaid that can draw out infection) or one of many others—can address body systems including the digestive, the immune and even the emotions. It's rich lore for study and experimentation.





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REVIEW

HOOKED ON ONYX

Hotel's Ruby Room restaurant serves up some gems.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

The Kimpton organization has added another gem to its coast to coast diadem of boutique hotels. The Onyx Hotel, on Portland Street, a stone's throw from the old Boston Garden, is the second Kimpton hotel in Greater Boston, joining the Marlowe, which opened two years ago in Cambridge. Unlike the Marlowe's Bambara, a larger and more ambitious restaurant, the Onyx's Ruby Room combines bar, eatery and lounge in a compact yet comfortable space bathed in the glow of red light emanating from its flamboyant chandelier. While a recent visit to Boston by Britney Spears provided the Onyx Hotel with some publicity, it would be a mistake to dismiss this engaging new establishment as a teeny bopper venue or to look for a pop-tart (to use the tabloids' sobriquet for Spears) on its menu.

After launching the Ruby Room with 13 food offerings set forth under the undifferentiated heading "eats," the Onyx reconfigured its menu into the three categories: eight "fun sharables," two sandwiches, and five "tapa-size tasting plates," along with a handful of desserts. Ruby Room chef Jonnatan Leiva (who hails from San Francisco, home to 12 Kimpton hotels including one that boasts Wolfgang Puck's Postrio) evidences a flair for tastes and textures.

Among the menu's "sharables"—a superfluous term to my mind since all courses are sharable at my table—the orecchiette pasta with sautéed broccoli rabe, peas and sweet peppers ($9.50) vied with the steamed Prince Edward Island mussels ($9.50) for bragging rights. The delicate "little ears" of pasta, coated with the garlicky olive oil in which the broccoli was sautéed, and delicious in themselves, were rendered outstanding by the complementary sweet summer treats of fresh al dente green peas and roasted red peppers with first-rate flavor and velvety texture. The generous bowl of mussels, steamed in white wine, olive oil, shallots and thyme—the most prominent of its herbs—boasted a hearty, roasted flavor that the chef later explained came from cooking the bivalves over a high heat. The broth that remained after the mussels had been dispatched moved me to request a spoon, since bread was not served. The third sharable, roasted chicken wings with honey lemon barbeque sauce ($8.50), and the one sandwich sampled, a "big fat cheeseburger with skinny fries" ($10) brought us back to the reality of more ordinary bar food. The wings were moist but lacked crisp skin, and the barbeque sauce was almost cloying in its sweetness—too much honey and not enough lemon. The provision of a finger bowl, however, added a note of sophistication not often encountered in a bar. The burger, which the waitress had described as the "best burger ever," turned out to be dry and overcooked, despite my ordering it medium-rare. The "skinny fries" that accompanied it, on the other hand, rivaled fries served in the best classic French and Belgian bistros.



Steamed Prince Edward Island mussels with pickled shallots and fresh herbs in a garlic and white wine broth

THE RUBY ROOM
155 Portland St., Boston
(617-556-9955)

HOURS Daily, 4 pm–1 am
RESERVATIONS accepted
CREDIT CARDS all major
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes
PARKING valet
LIQUOR LICENSE full bar

Moving to the tapa-size plates, we en countered one superb dish after anothe The pan-seared local hake, with celery roo and green squash succotash ($11.50), con tained several bites—clearly not tapa-size— of firm-textured fish bathed in a lively, pleas antly salty sage sauce. Argentine-style grille skirt steak ($13) arrived rare as ordered, wit hearty beef flavor, and remarkably tender fo this cut of steak, probably the result of a lon bath in a marinade. Roasted fingerling pota toes and caramelized red onions made this substantial and filling dish, again, a far cr from a classic two-bite tapa. Braised shor ribs ($13.50), rich, and fall-off-the-bon tender, came with a toothsome garnish sautéed broccoli rabe and baby red beet The earthy sweetness of the latter stood u well to this robustly flavored beef. Finall mini crab cakes with basil aioli ($12.5C brought three silver-dollar-size crab cake heavy on sweet, delicate crab and mercifull light on the filler, with a piquant basil aio that suggested ingredients, intriguingl agreeable, not identified on the menu.

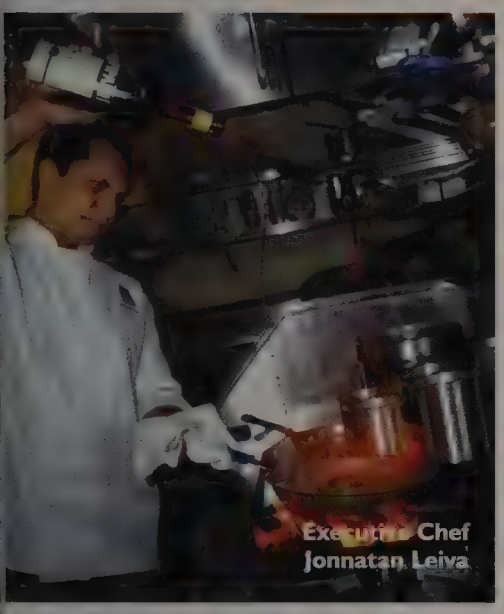
On an earlier visit, when the origin menu was still in force, I had the good fo tune to order the fritto misto ($10), a r markably good tempura of whole clam rock shrimp, calamari, onions and lemo slices accompanied by a well-turned parsl aioli. Unlike many fritto misto, where th calamari, the least expensive of the seafood ingredients, is often over-repr sented, this dish consisted predominant of clams and shrimp. The lemon slice coated in the same light batter and tempu fried, added an unusual, lively note that h the spot. Unfortunately, the Ruby Roo has since replaced this delightful dish wi a fritto misto containing calamari as th only shellfish (and reduced the price $9.50). Oy vey. But at least they kept th tempura-fried preserved lemon slices.

Chef Leiva does not ignore his dine sweet tooth. Desserts included espres crème brûlée ($6.50), with rich coffee fl vor and creamy texture underlying i thin, crunchy caramelized top; and roast Hawaiian pineapple and sweet banan cake ($6.50), a tropical sensation dom nated by the vibrant flavor of fresh, lu cious pineapple.

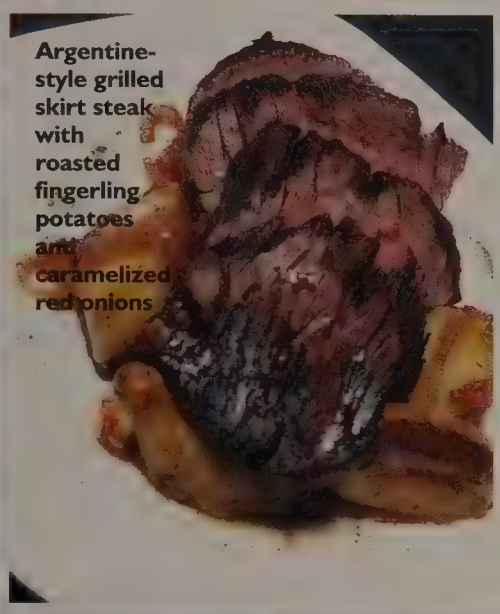
To accompany its food, the Ruby Roo offers a wine list with almost 40 selectio



Tuna and avocado tartare with crisp wontons and a mango chili puree



Executive Chef Jonnatan Leiva



Argentine-style grilled skirt steak with roasted fingerling potatoes and caramelized red onions



Pan-seared local hake with celery root, green squash and red grape succotash and a brown butter sage sauce

45 of them by the glass. The Borgoforte Super Tuscan, by Villa Pillo ($38), which virtually exploded in the mouth with flavor, had a pleasant bouquet, good structure and a fine finish. Unfortunately, two less expensive wines did not measure up. I thought the Morande Merlot Reserve from the Maipo Valley in Chile ($31) lacking in structure, almost flabby, and the Rosé of Pinot by Westport Rivers ($27) equally undistinguished, wanting acidity (although it did display an engaging effervescence that tickled the tongue and, well chilled, provided a decent aperitif).

The Ruby Room's setting, a lounge bifurcated by large buttresses off to the side of the hotel lobby, is reasonably comfortable. For sports fans, there's a plasma-screen TV on one wall. The lounge accommodates 48 patrons at 12 bar stools, red upholstered chairs and a red banquette scattered with large pillows. A red and black tiger-striped carpet reinforces the ruby color scheme. Small round tables accommodate at most two diners, and our party of four one night required two tables to be pushed together, a request graciously obliged by our energetic waitress, who provided good service despite little assistance and a significant number of other patrons.

While obviously dedicated to serving hotel patrons, the Ruby Room's fine cuisine should attract a significant following in its own right. Surprisingly, given the informality of its surroundings, the kitchen sends forth food of reasonably consistent, high quality. The delicious sauces that Chef Leiva turned out made the restaurant's failure to serve fresh bread puzzling and disappointing. Whether dictated by Atkins principles or the fact that the small tables will not accommodate bread baskets, that deficit should be remedied. Man may not live by bread alone, but it's a good start. IB







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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Bonny Doon Wine Dinner
UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933). www.upstairsonthesquare.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Oct. 13, 6:30 pm. $85. Chefs **Susan Regis** and **Amanda Lydon** highlight wines from California's Bonny Doon Vineyards.

Cuban Night at Tremont 647
Tremont 647, 647 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-4600). www.tremont647.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Oct. 19, 6 pm. $40. Chef/owner **Andy Husbands** and executive chef **Jamie Bissonnette** host Tremont 647's celebration of all things Cuban. Latin cocktails like Mango Mojitos accompany a Cuban four-course dinner.

Fall Wine Dinner
Seasons at the Millennium Boston Hotel, 26 North St., Boston (617-859-7170). www.wine-experiences.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Oct. 13, 7 pm. $80. Wine educator **Dellie Rex** matches six wines to a four-course dinner from Seasons executive chef **Brian Poe**.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). www.fireplacerest.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Every other Saturday, 3 pm. $25. Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** hosts experts who share knowledge on everything from American wines to seasonal New England food and microbrews. •Oct. 16: Sauvignon Blanc.

Hot off the Vine at 33: Wednesday Wine Tasting Series
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wednesday, 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** each Wednesday for a sampling of four wines paired with a complementary food tasting. •Oct. 6: Germany and Austria. •Oct. 13: Argentina.

How to Taste Wine
UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933). www.upstairsonthesquare.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Oct. 6, 6:30 pm. $35. Wine director **Shane Lessard** discusses French wines while guests enjoy small plates prepared by chefs **Susan Regis** and **Amanda Lydon**.

Meritage Wine School
Meritage at the Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-3995). www.meritagetherestaurant.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Oct. 19, 6 pm. $90. Sommelier **Jamie Moore** discusses the popularity of Portuguese wines. The class is accompanied by a five-course meal prepared by chef **Daniel Bruce**.

New Zealand Wine & Food Tastings
Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www,mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Oct. 14. 6:30-10 pm, $55. Chef and New Zealand native **Bruce deMustchine** hosts a four-course, New Zealand-themed dinner. A red and a white wine accompany each course.

Season's Sweetest Pastry Classes
Rialto Restaurant at the Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge (617-661-5050). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. $40. This fall, Rialto pastry chef **Lynn Moulton** leads classes on how to make some of her favorite desserts. •Oct. 15: Caramel-baked lady apples with spiced beignets.

Second Saturdays at Grill 23 & Bar
Grill 23 & Bar, 161 Berkeley St., Boston (617-542-2255). www.grill23.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Second Saturday of each month, 12-2 pm. $55. Executive chef **Jay Murray** and wine director **Alex deWinter** lead monthly cooking and tasting demonstrations. Oct. 9: Navigating the Wine List.

Taste of Quincy Market
The Colonnade, Quincy Market, Boston (617-523-1300). www.faneuilhallmarketplace.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Oct. 6, 5-7 pm. Free. Quincy Market merchants including Baja Fresh, Bangkok Express and Bombay Club line the Colonnade and offer free samples.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $25. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, and chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •Oct. 12: Amarone. •Oct. 19: Burgundy reds.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-720-1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Every Wednesday, 7 pm. $38. Chef **Geoff Gardner** pairs French cuisine with wines selected by Sommelier **Erik Johnson**. •Oct. 6: Groovy Grapes. •Oct. 13: Rhone Sweet Rhone.



PREVIEW

SWEET SIXTEEN

By now, we've used just about every excuse in the book to justify gorging on chocolate, but on October 7, the Langham Hotel's Café Fleuri needs no excuse as it celebrates the 16th season of its chocolate bar buffet. During the event, which benefits the Women's Refugee Network, participating chefs prepare a specialty dessert as well as a chocolate "showpiece" reflective of a specific region like the Asian Pacific or the United Kingdom. Guests can avoid a stomach ache by diverting their attention to the international fashion show or entering a raffle for a chance to win a trip to Cape Cod, New York or London. Sure, not everyone will win, but when there's an exorbitant amount of chocolate to eat, is anyone really a loser? *Café Fleuri, Langham Hotel, 250 Franklin St., Boston (617-956-8751). www.langhamhotels.com. MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. Oct. 7, 6-8 pm. $55.* —R.L.

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Newton 617-332-4653

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Four Seasons Hotel
200 Boylston Street
Boston 617-351-2071

Blu
4 Avery Street
Boston 617-375-8550

Caffe Umbra
1395 Washington Street
Boston 617-867-0707

Coriander Bistro
5 Post Office Square
Sharon 781-784-5450

Claremont Café
535 Columbus Avenue
Boston 617-247-9001

Flora
190 Massachusetts Ave.
Arlington 781-641-1664

Julien
Langham Hotel
250 Franklin Street
Boston 617-956-8752

L'Espalier
30 Gloucester Street
Boston 617-262-3023

Le Soir
51 Lincoln Street
Newton Highlands
617-965-3100

Meritage, The Restaurant
70 Rowes Wharf
Boston 617-439-3995

Perdix Restaurant
560 Tremont Street
Boston 617-338-8070

Pho République
1415 Washington Street
Boston 617-262-0005

Pigalle
75 Charles Street South
Boston 617-423-4944

Sel de la Terre Restaurant
255 State Street
Boston 617-720-1300

Tangierino
83 Main Street
Charlestown
617-242-6009

Tremont 647
647 Tremont Street
Boston 617-266-4600

Troquet
140 Boylston Street
Boston 617-695-9463

Vinalia Restaurant, Lounge & Wine Bar
101 Arch Street
Boston 617-737-1777

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DISH

Change Is Good

Guild fulfilled…Carbo lode… Enter to win!!!

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX


Gourmet magazine executive chef Sara Moulton

Long, long ago, in the days before celebrity chefs and cable television cooking shows, seven food professionals incorporated the country's first networking group in the U.S. made up of women from every side of the culinary profession: journalists, historians, restaurateurs and writers. In 1979, the same year that the Happy Meal was introduced, the Women's Culinary Guild was founded as, "a community for women in the food industry to find jobs, education and network," recalls **Sara Moulton,** one of the original incorporators back when she was the chef at the former Cybele's Faneuil Hall. Today, as executive chef for *Gourmet* magazine and a fixture on cable TV's Food Network, Moulton is amazed by the changes in the Boston restaurant scene…and the fact that the group, now called the **Culinary Guild of New England**, includes men as members.

"I didn't realize that until today!" she laughed, at the guild's 25th anniversary party at UpStairs on the Square, which took place September 19. The New York Women's Culinary Alliance, designed after the blueprint of the Boston group, still doesn't let men in, according to Moulton. Maybe because Boston is, in her words, "so much friendlier for female chefs than New York".

SECOND COURSE

The Place to Jo…If we didn't tell you, you would never guess that there's a new chef de cuisine at **Brasserie Jo.** That's partly because **Olivier Rigaud** has been quietly cooking in the Brasserie Jo kitchen since long before his recent promotion, and partly because, well, the food is the same. And we mean that in the best possible sense; although Brasserie Jo isn't the first restaurant to come to mind as a destination venue, every dish on the menu is a reminder of the virtue of consistency. It's not just the marinated carrots and skinny warm baguette that set the scene. It's the sheer fresh deliciousness of the salade niçoise; the richly satisfying ham and cheese crepes, great with an Alsatian beer in chilly weather; and of course, profiteroles, presented by a waiter who pours chocolate sauce from a yellow pitcher until you say "stop."

Attention, carnivores and carbo-vores: **Smith & Wollensky** has opened its monument in the Castle at Park Square…**Umbria**, not to be confused with Caffè Umbra, is just about opened in the former Trattoria Il Panino in the Financial District. Expect simply "Umbrian" cuisine, featuring dishes such as strangozzi Umbria (homemade Umbria fusilli with mushrooms, olives, truffle cream and pecorino cheese); Kobe pork ribs braised with sofrito and chickpeas, in peppery wine sauce; rotisserie-roasted meats; and a focus on exclusive organic imported products such as honey, cheese and olive oil. Also, lots of truffles (hooray!) The executive chef is **Marisa Iocco**, who will retain her position at Bricco while overseeing Umbria chef de cuisine **Michael Scelfo**, two sous chefs, six line cooks and a pastry chef.

Finally, Name That Restaurant! **Ed Doyle**, the chef-about-town who's consulting with the **Hotel Commonwealth** folks as they develop a new brasserie-type hotel eatery, tells us the team is "back on the hunt" for a name after the latest contender, "Fens," was shot down by the partners. What, they didn't want to name their restaurant after a swampy-boggy marsh?

If you can come up with something better—and we know you can—send it to newrestaurant@hotelcommonwealth.com. If your name is the winner, says Doyle, you'll win a weekend stay at the hotel plus dinner at the new restaurant. iB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to dish@improper.com.



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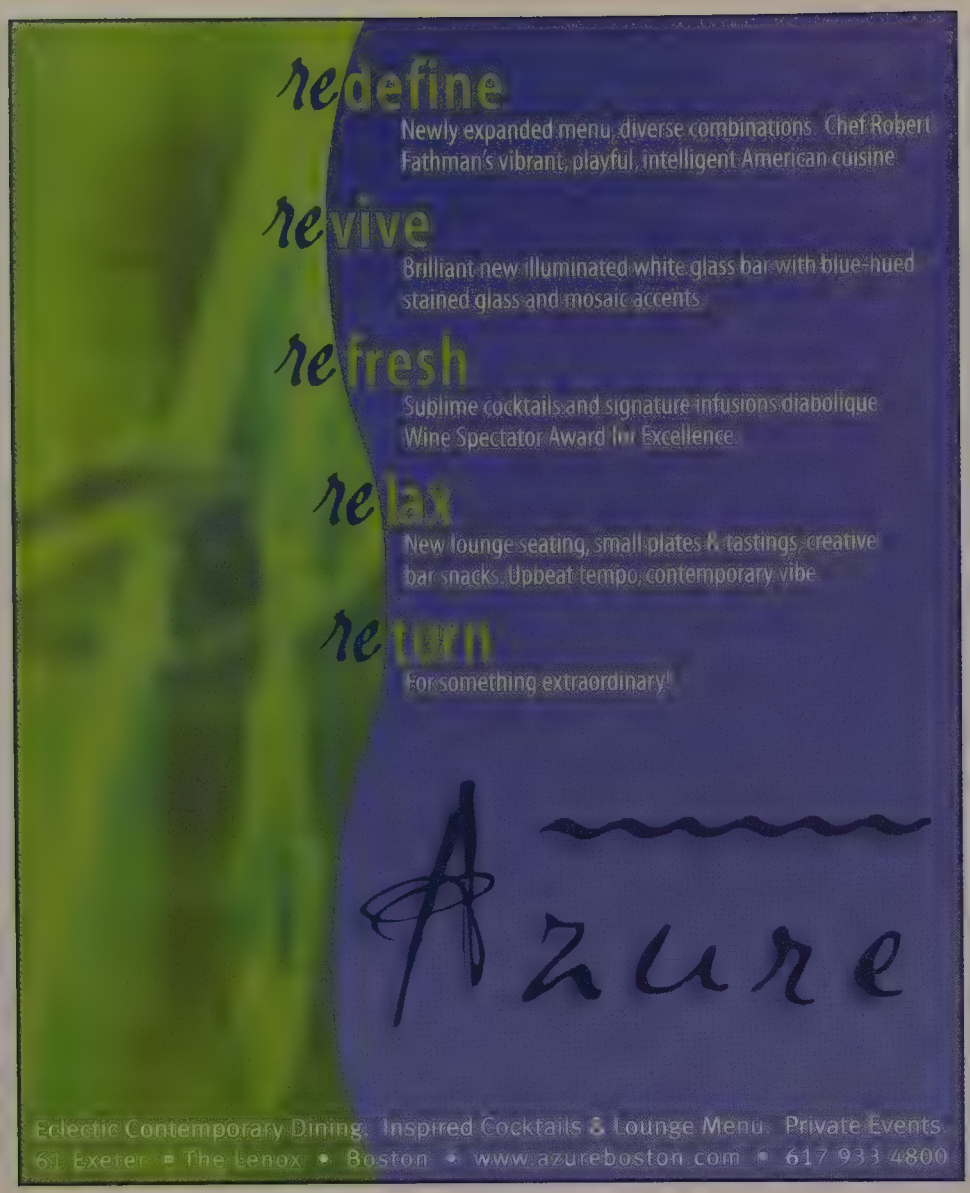
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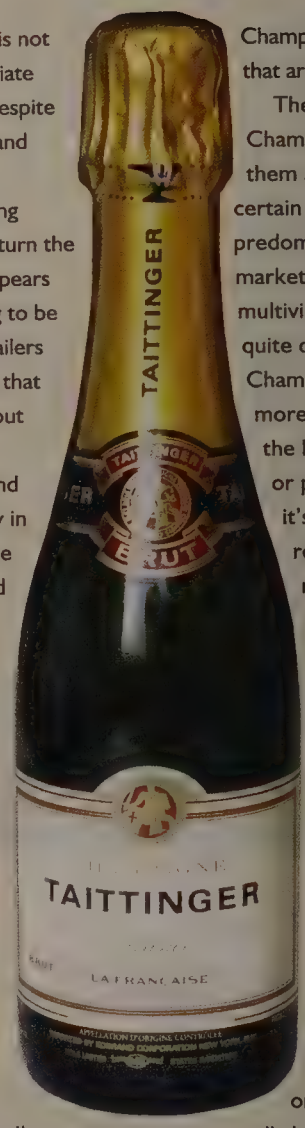
WINE

Champagne Supernova

BY SANDY BLOCK, M.W.

The sound of corks popping is not something we usually associate with a year like 2004. Yet despite the sluggish economy, weak dollar and political uncertainties at home and abroad, we are drinking an increasing amount of Champagne. And as we turn the corner into the holiday season it appears that more and more of us are going to be reaching for the "real thing," as retailers sometimes call it. It's worth noting that French Champagne constitutes about one out of every five bottles of sparkling wine drunk in the U.S., and it's by far the most expensive entry in the whole bubbly category, with the average retail bottle costing around $30. Yet sales of Champagne continue to grow.

That's all the more impressive given the continuing downtrend in our consumption of other French wines and the "overproduction" or glut of wine that has forced producers from all over to lower their prices. Furthermore, we appear to be drinking less sparkling wine overall, but more Champagne. Champagne has been able to buck these trends because of its unique image and the quality associated with it. The wines are almost always very good, but after all, Champagne's unchallenged market position reflects the fact that it remains the beverage with which to celebrate. Of all wine categories, Champagne is probably the most brand-oriented, and in the past year all the major Champagne companies selling in the U.S. have continued to experience growth.



In restaurants, however, Champagne sales have dwindled. Part of this may have to do with the markups restaurants apply to sparkling wine in general; $65 to $80 is beyond the bounds of what many consumers will spend on a wine they consider essentially a predinner aperitif. But Champagnes are great with food. Although we rarely experience it, the wine can certainly be consumed throughout dinner, if the food complements it well. The French, who a know a thing or two about gastronomy, drink Champagne throughout the year and throughout the course of a meal.

What kind of dishes do I enjoy with Champagne? Because the predominant style of wine is acidic, somewhat toasty in aroma and ranges from citric to apple to vanilla in flavor, I find it ideal with salty-flavored dishes, smoked fish or meat, richly textured sauces, and some spicy fare. I've especially liked matching Champagnes with scallop preparations that are understated in flavor.

There are many different types of Champagne though, and some of them are more compatible with certain dishes than others. The predominant Champagne on the market is brut non-vintage, a multivintage, multigrape blend that's quite dry. Depending on whether the Champagne company incorporates more white grapes (chardonnay) in the blend or red grapes (pinot noir or pinot meunier), the brut NV, as it's known, can range from relatively light and elegant to much fuller. In general, however, these Champagnes complement lighter fish dishes beautifully.

If the wine is designated as a blanc de blancs (meaning that it's made with only white grapes), the style will be very delicate, somewhat creamy and mild. These subtle Champagnes are ideal with raw shellfish and many grain-based vegetarian dishes. If the Champagne says "blanc de noirs" on the label (meaning that it's made with only red grapes), the body will generally be heavier and the flavors more in the cherry range. I have enjoyed these fuller Champagnes with roast chicken or even roast duck preparations, as long as there are no sweet, fruity flavors on the plate.

Rosé Champagne is a real treat that remains less well known locally than it deserves to be. Most of these wines are consumed during Valentine's Day celebrations. But a top pink bubbly can work wonders paired with meatier, fleshier preparations, such as roasted monkfish, grilled swordfish or even lobster. Its tart, berry-like flavors also make a charming match with cured meats. The one combination that I've generally avoided over the years, because it's usually been disappointing, is Champagne with dessert. In general, you'll find that the best wines with sweet dishes are non-traditional-method sparkling wines that are vinified to retain their direct fruitiness and also some residual sugar. Champagnes are usually too subtle, and too dry, to match up. But if you find a rare Champagne category called "Cremant," you might try pairing it with some fruit-based desserts. IB

One of only 18 Americans certified as a master of wine, Sandy Block is assistant vice president of wine for Horizon Beverage.



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agenda

IMPROPER PICKS

October 6 - 19

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			6	7	8	9
			At **A Taste of Quincy Market**, Faneuil Hall restaurants offer samples. *See Tastings on page 42.*			Funnyguy **Augusten Burroughs** reads from his essays at Brookline Booksmith. *See Books & Poetry on page 76.*
10	11		13	14	15	16
The **Mountain Goats** and **John Vanderslice** take the stage downstairs at the Middle East. *See Music on page 64.*		It's opening night for Rodgers and Hammerstein's musical ***The King and I*** at the Wang Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 54.*	Designer **Michael Kors** introduces his new line as part of a runway fashion show at Filene's. *See CityScope on page 52.* 	The **Museum of Science** hosts a four-course New Zealand dinner, paired with wines. *See Tastings on page 42.*	The **Boston Fantastic Film Festival** brings horror, science fiction, fantasy and cult films to the Brattle. *See Movies on page 58.*	
17	18	19				
Irving Singer discusses Hitchock, Welles and Renoir at the BPL. *See Education on page 77.*		Broadway legend **Elaine Stritch**'s one-woman show opens tonight at the Wilbur Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 54.*				



THU./OCT. 14

CityScope: Bras for a Cause

For the second year in a row, there has been a generous outpouring of support (so to speak) from celebrities for **Bras for a Cause**, a benefit that raises money to fight breast cancer. Several celebs have donated the unmentionables they've designed for the cause—glitterati including Heidi Klum (designer of the bra in photo, right), Whitney Houston, Kristen Davis, Lenny Clarke and Samuel L. Jackson. At the fete, sponsored by WROR-FM 105.7, partygoers can bid on the celebrity brassieres, watch a fashion show and participate in a silent auction. Tickets are $35 in advance and $45 at the door, and proceeds support the Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition and other organizations. *Roxy, 279 Tremont St., Boston (617-376-6222). www.mbcc.org. 6-10 pm.*

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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Erin Hagedorn & Jessica Iredale

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Jessica Iredale Around Town, Children, Education, Movies, Museums & Galleries, Performing Arts
Rich Levine CityScope, Dance Clubs, Gay & Lesbian, Music

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Ezra Dyer Sports
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules







WED.–SUN./OCT. 6–10

Performing Arts: Pas de Deux

It's been 14 years since a Boston stage has hosted the Bolshoi Ballet, which has been producing extravagant shows under various names since 1776. But this month, the famous Russian troupe brings its cadre of dancers and musicians (220 people in total) to the Wang Theatre for two back-to-back productions of ballets choreographed by Marius Petipa, the "father of classical ballet." First, there's the love story, *Raymonda*, set in medieval Hungary. Following is Petipa's comedic interpretation of Miguel de Cervantes' *Don Quixote*, which he choreographed for the Bolshoi in 1869. The full-length ballets come to the States under the direction of the Bolshoi's new artistic director, Alexei Ratmansky. *Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.celebrityseries.org. $45–$92.*

THU./OCT. 14–SUN./OCT.

Movies: Political Pictures

Right, left, red or deep blue, in just over four weeks, all of us (18 and older) will be called upon to do our civic duty and elect the next president of the United States. Whether your choice is a snap or a tough call, voting Americans can take comfort in the fact that similar decisions have been made 54 times in U.S. history. The Harvard Film Archive salutes the democratic process and the media frenzy it inspires with a series of films—documentary and fiction—that examine the modern election. Direct Democracy: The Presidential Election on Film screens nine films that consider the candidates, campaigns, conventions and election returns from the 1960s to the '90s. *Primary*, a documentary by Robert Drew, captures JFK and Hubert Humphrey's retail politic at the 1960 Wisconsin Democratic Primary. Kevin Rafferty and James Ridgeway's *Feed* compiles "down" moments featuring Bill Clinton, George H.W. Bush and Pat Buchanan taken from live satellite feeds during the 1992 election season. On the fictional side, Franklin J. Schaffner's *The Best Man* conveys the behind-the-scenes wheeling, dealing and backstabbing of a political convention with five characters, based loosely on real-life politicos including Richard Nixon and Barry Goldwater, vying for their party's nomination. *Harvard Film Archive, 24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-4700). www.harvardfilmarchive.org.*

FRI.–SUN./OCT. 8–17

Performing Arts: Lords of the Rings

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus has been around the block, 132 times to be exact. And despite PETA protests and fallout from last year's Siegfried and Roy disaster, the Greatest Show on Earth is on the road for the 133rd time—live tigers and all—and stopping for 10 days at the FleetCenter beginning October 8. If the idea of a day at the big-top seems as stale as a circus peanut, fear not: Ringling Bros. keeps things fresh. In addition to circus staples like flying trapeze artists and the clown alley, the current edition features the debut of human boomerangs the Survivors, who hurl themselves more than five stories above the arena floor. Speaking of survival, the "maestro of the menagerie," Mark Oliver Gebel performs with 10 Bengal tigers and three rings of elephants in his spankin' new act. If Maestro Mark and his (hopefully well-fed) tigers don't keep you on the edge of your seat, the promise of the mysterious Bailey's Comet might. Described as the "ultimate circus phenomenon—never before seen and never to be seen again outside of the three rings," it's hard to know what to expect, but it sounds like they've found a new way to shoot a clown out of a cannon. *FleetCenter, One FleetCenter Way, Boston (617-931-2000). www.fleetcenter.com. $10-$70.*





OCT. 6, 2004–JAN. 30, 2005

Museums & Galleries: Higher Concepts

While we enjoy an afternoon at the art gallery as much as the next gal, we're ready to admit that some artists' work is simply beyond us. But even if we don't operate on the same plane as certain conceptual artists, we can still appreciate those who make you wonder "How did they come up with that?" Cerith Wyn Evans is one of those guys. The British artist draws on historical figures, events and literature to create multimedia installations using objects like mirrors, neon lights, fireworks, and orchids watered with his own urine (a good example of something that makes you ask "huh?"). His first American solo show, simply titled *Cerith Wyn Evans*, opens at the Museum of Fine Arts on October 6 and features some of his recent works. At the exhibition entrance is *Inverse, Reverse, Perverse*, a large concave mirror that distorts the viewer's body. Once they've had a taste of the funhouse, visitors continue on to the main installation: seven crystal chandeliers that periodically flash Morse code messages—Evans' own selections from literature—which are translated and displayed on computer screens embedded in the gallery walls. *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. Free with museum admission.*








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Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings for benefits, festivals, activities and events by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Benefits

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6

Walk About the Boston Design District
Boston Design District, Park Square and upper Boylston St., Boston (617-927-6611). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Walk, 5:30-7 pm; cocktail reception, 7-8:30 pm. $25 (minimum donation). Home furnishing showrooms including Adesso, Arclinea and Montage open their doors and display their new fall collections. Participants can tour the stores and take part in a raffle and post-tour cocktail reception. Proceeds benefit the Institute of Contemporary Art.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8

An Evening with Champions
Bright Hockey Center, Harvard University, Cambridge (617-493-8172). www.aneveningwithchampions.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Oct. 9. 8 pm. $10-$30. Some of the biggest names in figure skating, including Johnny Weir, Jenny Kirk, Tenith Belbin and Ben Agosto, perform to raise money to support pediatric cancer aid and research through the Jimmy Fund.

South Africa Partners Benefit Gala
Sheraton Boston, 39 Dalton St., Boston (617-482-1317). www.sapartners.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 5:30 pm. $175. An appearance by Desmond Tutu and a performance by the Milton Academy Jazz Band highlight this night benefiting the South Africa Partners' efforts to build partnership opportunities between South Africa and the U.S. Actor Danny Glover is honored with the Desmond Tutu Award for his longtime support of South Africa.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13

FashionPlates 2004
Filene's Downtown Crossing, 426 Washington St., Boston (617-445-7777). www.servings.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 6-9:30 pm. $100. Designer Michael Kors introduces his line as part as a runway fashion show benefiting Community Servings, a program that provides meals for people with AIDS.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14

Bras for a Cause
Roxy, 279 Tremont St., Boston (617-376-6222). www.mbcc.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 6-10 pm. $35-$45. WROR-FM 105.7 hosts this second annual auction of one-of-a-kind bras designed by celebrities like Heidi Klum, Whitney Houston, Pam Anderson and Goldie Hawn. The night also includes a live fashion show, and proceeds benefit the Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition.

Partnership for Success Gala
Plaza Ballroom at the Seaport Hotel, 1 Seaport Lane, Boston (781-925-3459). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 5:30- 9 pm. $1,000. This year's Adopt-a-Student Foundation Partnership for Success Gala benefits Cathedral High School, Boston's last remaining inner-city Catholic High School. The evening, hosted by WCVB-TV anchor Liz Brunner, features a performance from the Cathedral High School Choir and a live auction.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15

A Park for All Seasons
Marriott Long Wharf Ballroom, 296 State St., Boston (866-875-3738). MBTA: Blue Line to the Aquarium. 7-11 pm. $65. The Friends of Christopher Columbus Park host this benefit gala featuring a dinner buffet, dancing to Stardust, as well as both live and silent auctions. Proceeds benefit the Friends' efforts to maintain and improve Christopher Columbus Park.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16

America's Walk for Diabetes
Hatch Shell, Charles River Esplanade, Boston (888-342-2383, ext. 3464). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. 8:30 am, registration; 10:30 am, race begins. Free, but walkers must raise money. Participate in a 1-, 3- or 6-mile walk along the Charles to benefit the American Diabetes Association. A post walk festival at the Hatch Shell follows with activities for the entire family.

The 4th Annual Pink Ribbon Gala
Park Plaza Hotel, 64 Arlington St., Boston (781-756-2156). www.winchesterhospital.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7 pm. $175. This fourth annual gala to benefit Winchester Hospital's Breast Care Center features a dinner, a silent auction and a fashion show by Boston designer David Josef.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17

Minuteman Walk and Family Fun Day to Fight Child Poverty
Hastings Park, Mass. Ave., Lexington (617-933-8236). http://icare.ipswich.com. 1 pm. Suggested donation of $100 per family. Support local organizations like Horizons for Homeless Children and the Greater Boston Food Bank by participating in this 3-mile walk, which is followed by a family event featuring live entertainment, games, prizes and food.

24th Annual MSPCA-Angell Walk for Animals
Boston Common, Boston (617-522-9255). www.mspcawalk.org. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 8:30 am, registration; 10 am, race begins. Free, but walkers are expected to collect sponsors. This benefit walk around the perimeter of Boston Common is open to people and their canine friends and raises funds to support the MSPCA's programs and services. A party at the Rack, for both animal and human participants, follows the walk.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 18

Benefit for Massachusetts Agriculture
Lumière, 1293 Washington St., West Newton (781-893-8222). www.massfarmersmarkets.org. 6:30 pm. $125. Lumière chef Michael Leviton hosts "Savor the Seasonings," a five-course benefit dinner for the Federation of Massachusetts Farmers' Markets. The menu will consist entirely of locally produced food and wine, with dishes like butter-poached lobster and chive fondue.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19

House Speaker Tom Finneran Roast
Florian Hall, 55 Hallet St., Dorchester (617-825-3846). www.smams.org. 6 pm. $60. A group of politicians, public servants and community figures get together for a roast of Massachusetts House Speaker Tom Finneran. The night, which also includes a dinner and a silent auction, benefits the St. Mark's Area Main Street Program, a nonprofit corporation that serves neighborhoods in Dorchester.

Festivals & Parties

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6

2nd Annual Fall Bash
Felt, 533 Washington St., Boston (617-591-1400). www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 8 pm-2 am. $10. The Boston Young Professionals Association hosts this party at Felt that includes a DJ, pool, appetizers and an open bar from 8-9 pm.

Taste of Quincy Market
The Colonnade, Quincy Market, Boston (617-523-1300). www.faneuilhallmarketplace.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 5-7 pm. Free. Quincy Market merchants like Baja Fresh, Bangkok Express and Bombay Club line the Colonnade and offer free samples.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8

Burton Snowboarders World Tour Party
Axis, 13 Lansdowne St., Boston (800-881-3138). www.burton.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7-9 pm. Free. Burton's world snowboarding tour stops in Boston and premieres a new promo video with a party at Axis. Burton riders like Romain DeMarchi, J.P. Solberg and Keir Dillon are expected to attend.

Puttin' on the Ritz: Relive the Big-Band Era
The Ritz-Carlton, 15 Arlington St., Boston (617-912-3355). www.ritzcarlton.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm-12 am. $25. The Ritz turns back the clock for a big-band party on the roof, with music provided by the eight-piece Ritz-Carlton Orchestra.

Preview

Rallying for Rosie's Place

Sex and the City star returns to Boston.

It's been about six months since *Sex and the City* went off the air, but Bostonian Mario Cantone's career has continued to blossom. Cantone, who played Anthony Marentino on SATC, just finished up a stint with the Broadway hit *Assassins*, and he's about to go back out on Broadway with his one-man show *Laugh Whore*. In between, he returns to his hometown to headline at the annual fall benefit for Rosie's Place, "Funny Women... Serious Business," on October 14.



Sex and the City star and Boston native Mario Cantone appears at the benefit luncheon for Rosie's Place.

Cantone performs standup comedy at the luncheon at the Copley Marriott Hotel, and organizers are hoping to schedule a meet-and-greet with guests. He's subbing for fellow *SATC* star Cynthia Nixon, who won't appear in person, as originally planned, but will take part via video conferencing in a panel discussion along with WBZ-4's Lisa Hughes and Sarah Underwood, and other women in Boston media about some of the funny and not so funny aspects of being a woman.

The goal of this year's luncheon is to raise $300,000 for Rosie's Place, the nation's first drop-in shelter for women and an organization dedicated to helping poor and homeless women maintain their pride and strive for success. Don your favorite Manolo Blahniks and go spend your lunchtime showing support for a good cause.

Marriott Copley Hotel, 110 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-318-0223). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. www.rosies.org. Oct. 14, 12-2 pm. $125. —Rich Levine

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9

King Richard's Faire
Route 58, S. Carver (508-866-5391). www.kingrichardsfaire.net. Weekends through Oct. 24. 10:[illegible] am-6 pm. $12-$24. This annual fair takes guests back to the 16th century with medieval-style magicians, musicians, fire-eaters and jugglers.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 11

The Fenway Alliance's Opening Our Doors Festival
Various venues throughout the city, Boston (617-697405). www.fenwayculture.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 10:30 am-4 pm. Free. A performance by folk artist Livingston Taylor kicks off the daylong cultural festival of free concerts, performances, galleries, tour and much more. See Web site for full schedule.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15

St. James Armenian Church Bazaar and Food Festival
St. James Armenian Church, 465 Mount Auburn St., Watertown (617-923-8860). www.sthagop.com. Through Oct. 16. 10 am-10 pm. Admission, food, à la carte. This 57th annual festival celebrates Armenian cooking and traditions. Food is served all day and the festival features a silent auction and games and activities for all ages.

Singles

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6

Eight Minute Dating
Hard Rock Café, 131 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437625). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 22-32.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9

Single Executives Club Dance Party
High Street Grill, 200 High St., Boston (617-574000). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Every Sat., 8:30 pm-1 am. $10. Singles 35 years and older are invited to this party with free hors d'oeuvres and door prizes and music by DJ Brian Milligan.

Single Professionals for the Arts Tour
Starbucks, 443 Boylston St., Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 4-6:30 pm. $40. Tour Boston-area galleries with other singles and mingle over post-tour cocktails at Hamersley's Bistro. Reservations required.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 11

Eight Minute Dating
Cityside Bar and Grill, 1960 Beacon St., Brookline (617-566-1002). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Green Line C to Cleveland Circle. 7:08 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 25-35.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13

Eight Minute Dating
Tonic, 1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566699). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Green Line B to Long Ave. 7:08 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For graduate students ages 23-30.

Jewish Single Professionals for the Arts Tour
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 6-8:30 pm. $40. Tour the Museum of Fine Arts with other singles and mingle over post-tour coffee. Reservations required.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 18

Eight Minute Dating
Blue Wave, 343 Congress St., Boston (617-720). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 25-35.

Eight Minute Dating
Tommy Doyle's Irish Pub, 1 Kendall Square, Cambridge (617-319-4678). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 7:08 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 25-35.



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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater

JUST OPENED

Company
Roberts Studio Theatre, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.speakeasystage.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Oct. 15-Nov. 13. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun. 3 pm. $35. Paul Daigneault directs Stephen Sondheim's musical about a bachelor discussing his romantic status with his married friends.

Dracula: The Journal of Jonathan Harker
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4433). www.gloucesterstage.org. Oct. 13-31. Wed.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 5 pm. $20. Michael Carleton directs Jim Helsinger's adaptation of Bram Stoker's classic tale of one man's encounter with a vampire.

Elaine Stritch at Liberty
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Oct. 19-24. Tue.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $27.50-$67.50. In her one-woman show, Broadway legend Elaine Stritch shares intimate stories about her 40-plus-year career and sings several classic Broadway songs.

Jasper Lake
Boston Playwright's Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-358-7529). www.bu.edu/bpt. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St. Oct. 7-17. Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $15, $10 students and seniors. Dark secrets emerge when a couple and their son host a neighborhood party in their quiet, gated community in John Kuntz's play. Doug Mercer directs.

Joe Turner's Come and Gone
Tower Auditorium, Massachusetts College of Art, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-427-9417). www.uymr.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Longwood. Oct. 14-31. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 and 7 pm. $25, $20 students and seniors. A mysterious stranger and his daughter serve as a connection to the Middle Passage and African tradition in an early-20th-century Pittsburgh community in August Wilson's play.

The King and I
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Oct. 12-17. Tue., Thu. and Fri., 8 pm; Wed., 7 pm; Sat. 2 and 8 pm; Sun. 1 and 7 pm. $28-$75. Sandy Duncan stars as Anna, the determined governess who falls in love with the stubborn king of Siam, in Rodgers and Hammerstein's musical. Baayork Lee directs.

The Play About the Baby
Devanaughn Theatre at the Piano Factory, 791 Tremont St., Boston (866-811-4111). www.theatermania.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Oct. 15-30. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm (additional performance Oct. 24, 3 pm). $20. Jeremy Johnson directs Mill 6 Theatre Collaborative and Boston Director's Lab production of Edward Albee's play about an older couple who subject a younger couple to mind games after stealing their baby...or not.

Richard the Third
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (866-811-4111). www.theatermania.com. MBTA: Orange Line to State. Oct. 14-Nov. 7. Thu., Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Wed. and Sun., 7:30 pm. $25-$35. John Kuntz plays the title role in the Actors Shakespeare Project's production of the Bard's political drama.

Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus
FleetCenter, One FleetCenter Place, Boston (617-931-1111). www.ringling.com. MBTA: Green Line to North Station. Oct. 8-17. Mon., 11 am and 3 pm; Wed.-Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 11 am, 3 and 5 pm; Sun., 1 and 5 pm$10-$25. The 133rd edition of the "Greatest Show on Earth" features three rings of highwire acts, Bengal tigers and more.

Sonia Flew
Virginia Wemberly Theatre, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Oct. 8-Nov. 28. Thu. and Fri., 7:30 pm; Wed., Sat. and Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $14-$42. A Cuban family sends its only daughter to the United States for a better life. Now a mother of two in the Midwest, Sonia must reconcile her past with her present.

La Vie Parisienne
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Trmont St., Boston (617-451-9944). www.operaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Oct. 15, 7:30 pm; Oct. 17, 3 pm. $30-$90. Rick Lombardo directs Jacques Offenbach's opera about two Parisian rogues trying to seduce upper-class women.

NOW RUNNING

All Night Strut
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). www.turtle-lane.com. Through Oct. 10. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $24, $17 for seniors and students. This cabaret-style musical celebrates the 1930s and '40s with jazz, blues, bebop and soul tunes.

Another American: Asking and Telling
Boston Center for the Arts, Black Box Theatre, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatreworks.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through Oct. 23. Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $27- $30. Marc Wolf explores the military's "dont ask, don't tell" policy through 20 different characters in his one-man show.

Approaching Moomtaj
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands (617-332-1646). www.newrep.org. Through Oct. 17. Wed., 7 pm; Thu.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $28-$48. Michael Weller's new play tells the story of one man's struggle to save his marriage and his career after September 11th.



Emmy winner Elaine Stritch opens her one-woman show *Elaine Stritch at Liberty* at the Wilbur Theatre October 19.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. Ongoing. $46-$56. This dialogue-free production features tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Collected Stories
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4433). www.gloucesterstage.org. Through Oct. 10. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 5 and 8 pm. $30, $20 students and seniors. Donald Margulies' play follows the friendship between an established writer and her young protegée.

The Complete History of America (abridged)
Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 E. Merrimack St., Lowell (978-454-2926). www.merrimackrep.org. Through Oct. 30. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. $27. Adam Long, Reed Martin and Austin Tichenor take a comedic look at American history.

Cyrano de Bergerac
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-1300). www.theatrecoop.org. MBTA: #89 or 101 bus. Through Oct. 9. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $20. Cyrano, a gifted poet and courageous soldier, is forced to hide his love for Roxanne because of his enormous nose. When the handsome Christian commissions him to write love letters to her on his behalf, things become complicated.

Gem of the Ocean
Boston University Theatre, 246 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Through Oct. 30. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm and 7 pm. $14-$63. Set in 1904, August Wilson's newest play chronicles the African-American experience through Citizen Barlow and his 285-year-old Aunt Ester (Phylicia Rashad).

Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding
Matrix Nightclub, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123) www.comedywedding.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. 18. Sat. and Sun., 7:30 pm. $49. Tickets include dinner, show and entry to Matrix. The nation's longest-running comedy/dinner-theater show spoofs a traditional Italian wedding with audience participation and dinner.

The Lion King
Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (800-347-0808). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. 26. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 1 pm and 6:30 pm. $22-$132. Julie Taymor directs this stage adaptation of the popular Disney film about a young lion cub's struggle to become king.

A Little Night Music
Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through Oct. 16. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm; Oct. 6, 2 pm. $21-$45. Spiro Veloudos directs Stephen Sondheim's musical celebrating the intricacies of love.

Marcel Marceau: Les Contes Fantastiques (Fantastic Tales)
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617 495-2668). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Oct. 9. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; F Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $25-$45. The famous mime performs "The Wandering Monk," "The M querade Ball" and "The Tiger."

Menopause: The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (6 426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MB Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 Sat., 4 pm and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $42.50. A qua of aging baby boomers meet at a lingerie sale, singing and dancing ensues.

Out on the Edge
Boston Center for the Arts, BCA Plaza Theater, Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.thethe offensive.org. Through Oct. 24. The Theater Offen presents its 13th annual festival of gay, lesbian, bise and transgender theater. Highlights include per mances by Hanifah Walidah, the Oops Guys, Miller and True Colors Out Youth Theater, and st readings by Ayisha Knight, Melissa Li and Letta N

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (6 426-5225).www.shearmadness.com/boston. MB Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair s holds the record as Boston's longest-running pl

Swing!
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Durham Road, Be (617-232-7200). www.nsmt.org. Through Oct. Tue.-Sat., 8 pm (except 7 pm on Sept. 28); Wed., Sun., 2 pm. $30-$63. This musical dance revue ebrates the explosion of swing music in the 193

Translations
Devanaughn Theatre at the Piano Factory, 791 Tre St., Boston (617-247-9777). www.southcitythe org. Through Oct. 9. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 $17-$19. Dani Duggin directs Brian Friel's play a a mid-19th-century Irish Hedge School being veyed by British troops.

Vita & Virginia
Spring Lawn Theatre, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413- 3353). www.shakespeare.org. Through Oct. 24. 7:30 pm; Sat. and Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $38. McCleary directs Eileen Atkins' play about Virg Woolf and her emotional relationship with fe writer Vita Sackville-West.

University Theater

Far Away
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-3800). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Oct. 9 7:30 pm (additional 9:30 pm performance Oct. 9 and 16). Free. Aoife Spillane-Hinks directs C

urchill's play about a woman coming to terms
h atrocities she's witnessed in her life.

ne Me Nobody Knows

e Greene Theatre, 10 Boylston Place, Boston (617-4-8369). www.emerson.edu. Oct. 14-16. Fri. and ., 8 pm; Sun. 2 and 8 pm. $5. Robbie McCauley ects this musical about young people living in the ner city.

ne Secret Lives of the Sexists

urie Theater, Brandeis University, Waltham (781-6-3400). www.brandeis.edu/theater. Oct. 7-17. u. and Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. 6-$20. Oliver Butler directs Charles Ludlam's y about two brothers striving for a peaceful coex-ence with their equality-crusading wives.

Dance

on Quixote

e Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-7-7400). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: Green e to Boylston. Oct. 8 and 9, 7:30 pm: Oct. 10, 3 . $45-$92. The Bolshoi Ballet and Orchestra pre-its a full-length production of their ballet based Cervantes' tale.

ll and Recover

e Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge 17-547-9363). www.dancecomplex.org. MBTA: d Line to Central. Oct. 15 and 16, 8 pm; Oct. 17, m. $15. The Danny Swain Dance Company forms a series of choreographed pieces to live sic by Birdsongs of the Mesozoic.

ymonda

e Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-7-7400). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: Green e to Boylston. Oct. 6 and 7, 7:30 pm. $45-$92. e Bolshoi Ballet and Orchestra presents the nedic ballet *Raymonda*.

Comedy

dvice to Contributors

mit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calen-Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. adline for listings is four weeks prior to publication.

STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café

All Asia Café, 334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). www.stashcomedyjam.com MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue. 7-10 pm. $5. The All Asia Café hosts local comedy shows on Tuesday nights. •Oct. 12: Cormier's Comedy Madness host Janet Cormier performs comedy and music. •Oct. 19: Hi Carb Comedy Blowout with host Mike Stauffis.

Beantown Comedy Vault

Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault at Remington's features local stand-up comedians. •Thu.: Greg Howell and friends •Fri. and Sat.: Boston's Best Standup •Sun.: Open Mike Night.

Cantab Lounge

738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.cantablounge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Thursdays, 8 pm: Chris Waller performs improv downstairs, no cover, 21+.

Comedy Connection

245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Oct. 7, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •Oct. 8, 8 and 10:15 pm: Susie Essman, from HBO's *Curb Your Enthusiasm*, $25. •Oct. 9, 8 and 10:15 pm: Susie Essman, $25.•Oct. 10, 7 pm: Joe Yannetty, $12. •Oct. 12, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi & Robbie Printz, $12. •Oct. 13, 8 pm: Harrison Stebbins, $12. •Oct. 14, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •Oct. 15, 8 and 10:15 pm: Tommy Davidson, from *In Living Color*, $20. •Oct. 16, 8 pm: Jim Dunn and Brian Kiley, $17. •Oct. 16, 10:15 pm: Tommy Davidson, $20. •Oct. 19, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi, $12.

Comedy Studio

Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Oct. 6: Best Buddies Benefit featuring Tim McIntire, Tony V, Ira Proctor, Erin Judge and Tommy Morello. •Oct. 7: Sean Lily, Joe Cronin, Kris Earle, Nick Lettic and others. •Oct. 8: Josh Iverson, Rob O'Reilly, Tammy Two-Tone, the Walsh Bros. and others •Oct. 9: Rick Jenkins, Mike Morrell, Tommy Morello and Andy O'Fish. •Oct. 10: Rachel Isenberg, Paul Day, Seth Early and others. •Oct. 12: Magic Lounge: magic, mind-reading and manipulation. •Oct. 13: Tony V, Tissa Hami, Mike Del Ilano, Esther Ku and others. •Oct. 14: Eric Cheung, Joe Wong, Ken Reid, Sandy Asai and more. •Oct. 15: Rebecca Anderson, Amy Tee, Ellen Moschetto, the Walsh Bros. and others •Oct. 16: Noah Garfinkle, Alex the Jester, EJ Murphy and others. •Oct. 17: David Grabiner, Arielle Goldman, Adam Pearlman, Mike Whitman and others. •Oct. 19: Magic Lounge: Five professional magicians.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. $10-$22. •Oct. 7, 8:30 pm: Mike McCarthy, Todd Verkonk. •Oct. 8, 8:45 pm: Chance Langton, John Turco, Todd Verkonk. •Oct. 9, 8:45 pm: Chance Langton, John Turco, Todd Verkonk. •Oct. 14, 8:30 pm: John David, Joe Carroll. •Oct. 15, 8:45 pm: John David, Joe Carroll, PJ Walsh. •Oct. 16, 8:45 pm: John David, Joe Carroll, PJ Walsh.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. •Oct. 14, 9:45 pm: NXT Cast (up-and-coming performers), $5. •Oct. 15, 8 pm: Burlesque Exposes Bush or: How Dubya Got Kerry'd Away, $20.•Ongoing: The Midnight Show, Saturdays at midnight, $10; Lies, Half Truths and the American Way, Wed., and Thu., 8 pm; Sat., and Sun., 8 and 10 pm, $15.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: the characters, the stories, the settings—even the songs and dances. •Thursdays, 8 pm, $10-12: Unnatural Selection. A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one is left. 10 pm, $5: The Great and Secret Comedy Show. Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and music, play short films and do character sketches in a display of sibling rivalry. •Fridays, 8 pm, $10-12: Boston Creem. Boston's first all-women improv troupe performs. •Saturdays, 6 pm, $10-12 (children 11 and under accompanied by an adult admitted free): Improv Boston Family Show. A short-form improvisational show appropriate for all ages. 8 and 10 pm, $10-12: ImprovBoston Mainstage. Blending storytelling, music and audience participation, a cast of improvisers creates a show that changes with every performance. •Sundays, 7 pm, $5: Sgt. Culpepper/Open Jam. This evening combines three shows into one. Watch performances by visiting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-308-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Saturdays, 6 pm. $12. Boston's newest short-form improv group performs skits that involve audience participation.

The Tribe

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Every Thursday, 8 pm. $5 before 8 pm, $10 after. 21+. Improv comedians poke fun at everything, including themselves.

COMEDY SHOWS

Election

ImprovBoston, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Through Oct. 22. Fri., 8 pm. $12. Witness the electoral process like you've never seen it before as ImprovBoston nominates candidates, holds primaries, throws the press into the mix and finishes at the voting booth.

Workin' Progress

ImprovBoston, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Oct. 6 and 13. 8 pm. $5. Comic Sue Brody presents her one-woman show about dating, single life, and iced tea.



Wild at Heart

I [Heart] Huckabees pumps out the laughs.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Is there any way to wring something meaningful out of this frantic, chaotic life? That's the question driving Albert Markovski (Jason Schwartzman), the troubled hero at the center of David O. Russell's wild-eyed comedy *I [Heart] Huckabees*. Albert is so puzzled by his three coincidental run-ins with a tall African doorman (Ger Duany) that he hires "existential detectives" Vivian (Lily Tomlin) and Bernard Jaffe (Dustin Hoffman) to examine his life and tell him what it all means.



Jason Schwartzman (left) is the troubled environmentalist who hires existential detectives.

Of course, Albert's quest for purpose is the same sort of itch that's motivated characters in frenzied, funny Russell films including *Flirting with Disaster*, in which Ben Stiller's adopted character tries to find his birth parents, and *Three Kings*, in which four U.S. soldiers try to come out of the first Gulf War with something more positive than damaged worldviews. Russell's world is a chaotic one in which characters are forced to face up to their place in it, sometimes willingly, sometimes not. In the case of Albert and *I [Heart] Huckabees*, our hero is somewhat willing, but he's not prepared to be pulled into the rabbit hole by the existential detectives.

To the Jaffes, who believe that, as Bernard puts it, "everything is connected, everything matters," looking into someone's life is a no-holds-barred proposition. So the married couple starts conspicuously spying on Albert, even at his work at the Open Spaces Coalition, which he asked them to steer clear of. Open Spaces is an anti-sprawl environmentalist group that Albert leads, but to which he's desperately clinging, since Brad Stand (Jude Law), a charismatic junior executive at the rapidly expanding chainstore Huckabees, has elbowed his way in as part of a scheme to undermine the group's protests against the chain. Brad has started to co-opt the organization's rank-and-file with dubious sales pitches about the store's dedication to the environment.

In Albert's tussle with Brad, the Jaffes find the real source of Albert's discontent, and Albert's case spills over into several others. For moral support, the Jaffes buddy him up with another client, Tommy (a very funny Mark Wahlberg), a firefighter obsessed with rampant petroleum use. They also sign up Brad as a client (albeit a half-hearted one) and get involved in the life of his initially bubbly girlfriend Dawn (Naomi Watts), Huckabees' blonde bombshell poster girl, and soon the spiffy façade of Brad and Dawn's model life together starts to crack. There's also Catherine Vauban (Isabelle Huppert), a French rival to the Jaffes who believes *nothing* is connected and gets Albert to rebel against them. She sends him on poisonous encounters with both his parents (Bob Gunton and Talia Shire, Schwartzman's real mom) and the adoptive family of the African doorman (including pricelessly acidic Richard Jenkins of *Six Feet Under*).

In other words, *I [Heart] Huckabees* ricochets around like a pinball, and just about every direction it heads in is hilarious. It doesn't have the power or the in-your-face ambition of *Three Kings* (few movies do), but it's undeniably a David O. Russell film. This time, the emphasis is on absurdity, and the movie provides plenty of absurd moments to remember: Albert and Tommy whacking each other in the head with a small Hoppity-Hop to numb themselves, as instructed by Catherine; a muddy bit of romantic foreplay; and a cockeyed cameo by Shania Twain, the middle-of-the-road celebrity whose approval Brad and Huckabees repeatedly crave.

Amongst all its turmoil, *I [Heart] Huckabees* also lets its cast collide in off-kilter performances. Schwartzman, last seen headlining the TV sitcom *Cracking Up*, again does well as the earnest, bemused guy at the center of the turmoil, while the interplay between Tomlin and Hoffman as the obsessive husband and wife who don't think twice about invading your life (and your garbage and your home and anything else you call yours) is worth the price of admission. And as the "successful" lookers whose insecurities start seeping through, Law and Watts show comic talent they've never tapped before.

Beneath the lively comedy, *I [Heart] Huckabees* also does something unusual for a current film: It asks you to think. In this case, about whether the Jaffes' theories about our psychic, physical and emotional connections make sense, or whether anyone else's theories make sense either. *I [Heart] Huckabees* never stops to get preachy or to push any particular point of view—its message is ultimately to explore theories and then find your own path—but its blend of entertainment and self-examination is certainly distinctive. Frankly, the title doesn't make a whole lot of sense, but there's a lot to love in the movie. iB

I [Heart] Huckabees ★★★

Directed by David O. Russell. Written by Jeff Baena and Russell. With Jason Schwartzman, Lily Tomlin, Dustin Hoffman, Jude Law, Mark Wahlberg, Naomi Watts and Isabelle Huppert. Rated R. Opens Oct. 8.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

A Dirty Shame ★★

It's been a long time since *Multiple Maniacs*, Joh Waters' 1970 comedy in which the heroes pe formed in a rebellious traveling "Cavalcade of Pe version." If his new movie, in which Baltimore blu collar sex addicts are the heroes, had been mad then, it might have worked. But nowadays, whe sex is used to sell everything and is everywhere i the media (from Stern to Springer to Spears), seems awfully passé. That's part of the reason th laughs are sparse and only a few characters are cor sistently amusing (mainly Suzanne Shepherd as th crusty leader of the "decency" forces fighting the se addicts and Jackie Hoffman as one of the more cr ative sexaholics). Too much of the movie just seem sophomoric. (At Coolidge Corner and Kenda Square.)

Donnie Darko: The Director's Cut ★★½

If it ain't broke, don't fix it. Writer-director Richar Kelly's brilliant *Donnie Darko* returns—not in th version that struck an emotional chord in so man despite being barely marketed in 2001, but in *Do nie Darko: The Director's Cut*, a new version ru ning 20 minutes longer. Except this isn't a true "d rector's cut"; this 133-minute version never existe before now. If you haven't seen *Donnie Darko*, th original version is a better introduction; if yo have, you've probably seen the added stuff alread Most of the "restored" footage comes from delete scenes on the *Donnie Darko* DVD. Meanwhil Kelly has also gone back and changed some of th songs to what he originally wanted, but couldn't a ford in the budget. But wait a minute. Kelly orig nally wanted U2's "MLK" at the climax, n Michael Andrews and Gary Jules' unforgettab haunting version of Tears for Fears' "Mad World which became a surprise hit. So why didn't he p place that too? Kelly should have remained satisfi with the *other* happy accidents in his movie as we (Midnight shows at Coolidge Corner.)

Fahrenheit 9/11 ★★★½

Rabble-rouser Michael Moore's passionate deco struction of the second Bush administration has r knockout revelations about its controversial pol cies, so don't expect smoking guns. Its ultimate ta get is the war in Iraq, but the movie presents th war as just the latest in a pattern of self-servin law-skirting behavior. Moore comes up with i spired ways of getting his points across abo much-debated Bush policies and conflicts of inte est. He's onscreen less than he was in *Roger & M The Big One* and *Bowling for Columbine*, yet he a gues such points better than in *Columbine*. Moo hits his targets because, despite his political aim he makes you feel like you're watching a movi not a political rant, and his sense of humor real shines through. (At Boston Common, Harva Square and suburbs.)

Garden State ★★½

The first film by actor-director Zach Braff (TV *Scrubs*) has its moments of daffy humor, as Bra plays a struggling L.A. actor who returns to his Ne Jersey hometown for the first time in nine years. recaptures the mixed emotions of such a visit, esp cially of seeing old high school friends, but it trea on very familiar territory. It feels like it wants to be version of *The Graduate* directed by Wes Anders (*Rushmore*), and it struggles to find any voice of i own. Plus, the story of a guy returning to his hom town who develops a quick bond with a Natal Portman character has already been done, in 199 *Beautiful Girls*. Braff and Portman have a pleasi chemistry, and Braff is to be commended for tryi to make something quirky and personal. But it's ha not to feel this movie is redundant. (At Bost Common, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

Hero ★★★

Zhang Yimou's drama is the dreamiest martial ar movie since Wong Kar Wai's *Ashes of Time*, wi which it shares stars Tony Leung Chiu Wai and Ma gie Cheung. This period piece about feudal Chi soars during its creative fight scenes, though the pr duction design regularly gets out of hand (son scenes are so superficially "pretty" they look like pe fume commercials). The title character played by J Li can also be as inexpressive as a compulsive Bost patient. But this is ambitious stuff, and the figh scenes and larger-than-life drama, fueled mostly Cheung's performance, often pay off handsome (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

The Last Shot ★★★½

This 1980s-set comedy is based on a true story which the FBI conducted a sting on Rhode Islan mobsters by pretending to produce a movie (the R

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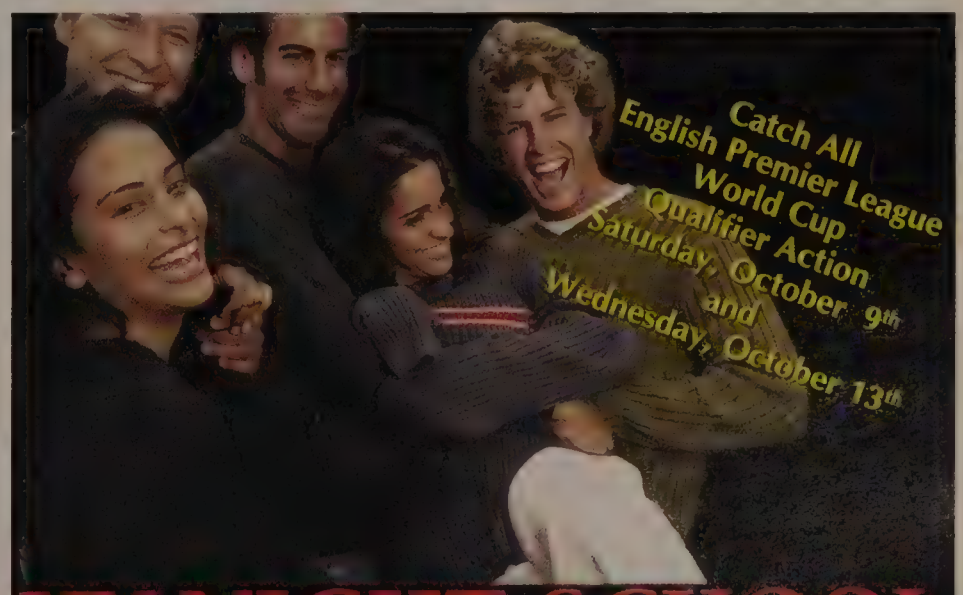
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mob had been extorting money from film productions). In this fictionalized account, Alec Baldwin is very funny as the FBI agent who pretends to be a producer in order to nab a Providence mafioso (Tony Shalhoub), while Matthew Broderick is the unsuspecting aspiring writer whose script goes into preproduction but never gets out of it. Writer-director Jeff Nathanson cleverly spoofs Hollywood, in the form of the FBI's Hollywood etiquette "tutor" (Joan Cusack) and the movie-within-a-movie's self-involved star (Toni Collette). But this is also a very affectionate tribute to the seductive charms of movies, as both the agent and the writer, who's charmed into making dozens of compromises (like filming Arizona action in Little Rhody), have their movie dreams grow too large to be stopped by the enormous complications that arise. (At Boston Common, Harvard Square and suburbs.)

Late Risers Club ★★★

College radio is one of the best things about Boston, and WMBR's *Late Risers Club* has been one of the most influential college radio shows, especially during the late 1970s and early '80s, when it played punk bands that commercial radio totally ignored. The show pioneered the idea—which is now a given—of college radio championing music from the fringe. Local filmmaker Marissa Acosta's documentary, which gets a work-in-progress screening, covers those early years, and it colorfully captures the way the show really was an indispensable part of the local music scene in the days of La Peste, the Neighborhoods and pre-reunion, pre-breakup Mission of Burma. Stay tuned. (At the Boston Public Library, Oct. 18.)

Resident Evil 2: Apocalypse ★½

The first one was an obnoxious mish-mash of *Aliens* and *Night of the Living Dead* starring stiff Milla Jovovich. The second lifts from yet more sci-fi/horror sources, but unlike *28 Days Later* or *Shaun of the Dead*, adds little to its borrowed elements. Even more unnecessary than most sequels. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Rick ★★

This underachieving indie comedy transposes the opera *Rigoletto* to present-day Wall Street, and its brutal take on office behavior (with no one showing their true emotions) hits home more than its story, a long-winded affair about murder, mistaken identity, lust and envy with frustrated Rick O'Lette (Bill Pullman) at its center. By the time the plot takes all of its twists and turns, most of the comic momentum of the early action has long since fizzled away. (At the Brattle Theatre, Oct. 8-10.)

Shaun of the Dead ★★★

This zombie comedy isn't just a horror spoof à la *Scream*, it's a movie about funny characters. Director and cowriter Edgar Wright knows how to set up gags and put them across, and horror has nothing to do with his characters' amusing habits, like saying "What's that supposed to mean?" to glaringly obvious accusations. Like the zombies that slowly surround him and his circle of friends, the title character of this very funny English comedy springs back to life over the course of the movie. Shaun (co-writer Simon Pegg) is an affable bloke whose lack of ambition finds him stuck at a job requiring a name tag, and whose lack of romantic inspiration finds him dumped by girlfriend Liz (Kate Ashfield). But when zombies walk the streets of London, Shaun leads the survivors (to the pub, of course). Shots are fired, flesh is ripped, friends are mourned and, somewhere along the way, Liz is perhaps convinced that Shaun has left his feckless ways behind him. (At Boston Common, Fenway, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

Silver City ★★

Part political satire and part thriller, John Sayles' latest is unsatisfying on both levels. It usually falls short because the cheesy satire gets in the way of the more interesting thriller. That satire casts Chris Cooper as Dubya-like Dickie Pilager (that's right, pronounced "pillager"), dim-witted scion of the Pilager political family. It's obvious, it's lazy, we've seen it before and, as *Fahrenheit 9/11* showed, the real thing is more freakishly amusing. The thriller essentially retreads *Chinatown* in its tale of Western political corruption for economic gain from natural resources. Although Danny O'Brien (Danny Huston), the private eye and lapsed idealist at the heart of the thriller, is an interesting character to watch as his idealism is rekindled, a half movie doesn't leave him much room to grow. (At Copley Place, Harvard Square and suburbs.)

Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow ★★

This retro-futuristic action-adventure—using computer-generated special effects to re-create a late-1930s concept of science fiction—is the PT Cruiser of movies. It seems kinda neat at first, but you steadily realize it's just another mediocre new product. The trouble with this story about a reporter



Angelina Jolie, Jude Law and Gwyneth Paltrow fight the bad guys in *Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow*.

(Gwyneth Paltrow) and aviator (Jude Law) who thwart a doomsday scheme is that however straight-faced and authentic it promises to be, it's too much like the many other movies that have taken inspiration from the same place (this is especially true of Edward Shearmur's music, which sounds cringingly like John Williams' scores, and the revival of Angelina Jolie's dreadful Lara Croft English accent). Paltrow and Law have little zing together (maybe George Clooney might have pulled off the hardness and humor of the dashing title role), and ultimately this comes off like a disappointing attempt at *Raiders of the Lost Ark*–style homage. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

What the Bleep Do We Know? ★★

It's different, all right, but that's not always a good thing in this new-agey blend of documentary and drama. The documentary has some generally interesting scientific theorizing about the way the body perceives the world and about the effects of emotion on cells. But the interesting stuff is married to goofy animation and, even worse and even goofier, dramatic sequences starring Marlee Matlin as a two-timed photographer who undergoes an attitude adjustment. These scenes are as clunky as an airline safety video. (At Boston Common, Harvard Square and suburbs.)

The Yes Men ★★★

When pranksters Mike Bonanno and Andy Bichlbaum set up a spoof Web site of the World Trade Organization's page, some groups mistook the spoof for the real thing and asked for a WTO rep to come speak at their conferences. This documentary follows the pair as they prepare for and carry out what they call "public spectacles," in which they espouse absurd profit-first policies and see how much media coverage they can get for their pranks. During one speech, they tout the value of cheap, remote labor (better than slavery because there are no one-way transportation charges to be recouped!); in another, they make a presentation for the "ReBurger," in which human waste from fast food is treated and made into new burgers for third world residents to enjoy. You don't learn much about these guys in the movie, but their deeds are a kick in the pants. (At Copley and Harvard Square.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Boston Underground Music Documentaries

•Oct. 18, 6 pm. **Boston Beats and Rhymes** and **Late Risers Club**, two documentaries about the Boston underground music scene, screen. (See New Releases for a review of *Late Risers Club*.)

BRATTLE THEATRE

Film Noir 101

•Oct. 6, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:45 pm. **Murder My Sweet** *1944*. Private detective Phillip Marlowe, a femme fatale and a naive woman are on the hunt for a jade necklace in the seedy streets of Los Angeles. Edward Dmytryk directs.

•Oct. 7, 5:15 and 9:45 pm. **Phantom Lady** *1944*. An adulterer is convicted of his wife's murder when his mistress goes missing. Robert Siodmak directs.

•Also showing, 7:15 pm. **Double Indemnity** *1944*. Billy Wilder's film noir stars Barbara Stanwyck as a dissatisfied housewife who persuades an insurance salesman to kill her husband for the insurance money.

•Oct. 11, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:45 pm. **Crack-Up** *1946*. A museum worker is fired when he misses a shift, and paranoia sets in when police deny that the train accident he was in ever happened. Irving Reis directs.

•Oct. 12, 5, 7:15 and 9:45 pm. **The Killers** *1946*. A private investigator finds himself in over his head after two assassins kill an ex-boxer. Robert Siodmak directs.

•Oct. 13, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:45 pm. **Out of the Past** *1947*. Robert Mitchum stars as a small-town guy drawn back to his days as a private detective working for the mob. Jacques Tourneur directs.

•Oct. 19, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:45 pm. **Murder at Harvard** *1950*. A detective and a forensic scientist team up to solve the murder of a girl on Cape Cod.

Midnight Madness

•Oct. 8 and 9, 12 am. **Gozu** *2003*. After he kills his boss, a Yakuza trainee must travel to a bizarre Japanese suburb to recover the missing body in Takashi Miike's film.

Special Engagements and Premieres

•Oct. 8-10, 5:15, 7:30 and 9:45 pm. **Rick** *2003*. See New Releases for a description.

•Oct. 14-18. **Boston Fantastic Film Festival**. The Brattle and horror cinema expert Steven Schneider team up for a program of horror, science fiction, fantasy and cult films from across the country. Check www.fantasticfilmfest.com for schedule.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Coolidge Selects

•Now playing. **The Motorcycle Diaries** *2004*. Gael García Bernal stars as a young Che Guevara on a road trip across Argentina during the 1950s. Walter Salles directs.

•Now playing. **The Inheritance** *2003*. A modest restaurateur finds himself compromising his morals when he's persuaded to take over his father's steel business. Peter Fly directs.

•Opening Oct. 8. **I [Heart] Huckabees** *2004*. See review on page 56.

•Opening Oct. 15. **Virgin** *2004*. A wild teenager in a small Baptist town blacks out and is raped and impregnated. Thinking she's still a virgin, she assumes she's carrying the child of god. Deborah Kampmeier directs.

Duplex Planet 25th Anniversary Celebration

•Oct. 18, 7:30 pm. **Your Own True Self** *1994*. *Duplex Planet* founder David Greenberger and filmmakers Paul Athanas and Jay Rooney appear in person for the screening of Athanas and Rooney's documentary about 12 residents at Jamaica Plain's Duplex Nursing home.

Midnight Movies

•Oct. 8, 9 and 15. **Donnie Darko: Director's Cut** *2004*. See New Releases for a description.

•Oct. 8, 12 am. **Gypsy 83** *2001*. Two young misfits head for New York City to celebrate their idol and muse, Stevie Nicks, at the Night of 1,000 Stevies. Todd Stephens directs.

•Oct. 9, 12 am. **Thrilling Bloody Sword** *1986*. Leung Cheung's kung fu film features a baby from outer space, goofy dwarves, evil wizards, golden warriors, a genie, a refugee from the black lagoon, fairies and flesh monsters.

•Oct. 15, 12 am. **Wizard People Dear Readers** *2004*. Brad Neely's dubbed-over version of *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* adds bizarre, pop-culture twists to the original story.

•Oct. 16, 12 am. **Punk Rock Holocaust** *200*
Filmed during the 2003 Warped Tour, Doug Sak
man's zombie comedy follows Warped Tour found
Kevin Lyman as he tries to maintain the tour whi
keeping the evil record executive Belial (Trom
Films' Lloyd Kaufman) at bay.

•Oct. 16, 12 am. **Mr. Vampire 3** *1987*. Ricky Lau
kung fu flick stars Lam Ching Ying as a fighting, one
eyebrowed priest.

New England Film and Video Festival

•Oct. 7-11. The 29th New England Film and Vide
Festival screens recent features, shorts and docu
mentaries from the New England area. This year
lineup includes Laura Colella's *Stay Until Tomorrow*
Nicholas M. Robbins' *Anathema* and Tony Pic
ciotti's *Talking to the Wall*. Check www.coolidge.or
for schedule.

Relatively Speaking

•Oct. 18, 7:30 pm. **Pi** *1998*. Sculptor Pat Keck an
her father, MIT professor and engineer Jim Kec
present Darren Aronofsky's film about a math wh
who accidentally discovers the mathematical equi
alent of the name of God.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Cinéma Français

•Oct. 18, 9:15 pm. **Trouble Every Day** *2001*. Clai
Denis' film follows two couples dealing with sexuali
and cannibalism in Paris.

Direct Democracy: The Presidential Election on Screen

•Oct. 14, 7 pm. **Primary** *1960*. Robert Drew's doc
mentary captures John F. Kennedy and Hube
Humphrey's debate during the 1960 Wisconsin D
mocratic Primary. •Immediately following. **Chisho
'72—Unbought and Unbossed** *2004*. Shola Lynch
documentary chronicles then-Congresswoma
Shirley Chisholm's campaign to become the Dem
cratic Party's 1972 presidential nominee.

•Oct. 15, 7 pm. **Feed** *1992*. Kevin Rafferty an
James Ridgeway's compilation of rarely-seen foota
from the 1992 presidential primary includes B
Clinton, George H.W. Bush, and Pat Buchana
•Also showing, 8:30 pm. **The War Room** *199*
D.A. Pennebaker and Chris Hegedus' film follo
James Carville and George Stephanopoulos on th
1992 Clinton campaign. •Immediately followin
Campaign Manager *1964*. Richard Leacock an
Richard E. Parmentel, Jr's documentary covers Joh
Grenier, the 28-year-old executive director of t
1964 Republican National Convention.

•Oct. 16, 7 pm. **Medium Cool** *1969*. Set in Chica
during the 1968 Democratic National Conventio
Haskell Wexler's film focuses on a television cam
eraman who becomes personally involved with th
people and stories he covers. •Also showing, 9 pm
The Best Men *1964*. Five politicos vie for the
party's presidential nomination in Franklin
Schaffner's film.

•Oct. 17, 7 pm. **Trouble in Paradise** *2004*. Lau
Greenberg's documentary follows five Floridians wh
become politically active after the 2000 presidenti
election. A screening of the short film *Behind t
Freedom Curtain* follows.

Film Architectures

•Oct. 12, 6:30 pm. **High Treason** *1928*. A group of
male peace workers thwarts the advent of the secon
world war in Maurice Elvey's film.

•Oct. 19, 7 pm. **Bu San** *(Goodbye Dragon Inn) 200*
As King Hu's *Dragon Gate Inn* (1966) plays on th
night of a Taipei theater's closing, a series of encou
ters plays out among the audience. Director Ts
Ming-liang appears in person for the screening.

Haunted Visions: The Films of F.W. Murnau

•Oct. 8, 7 pm. **Faust** *1926*. Pianist Martin Mar
and soprano Ellen Harris provide live musical a
companiment to Murnau's silent film based on J
hann Wolfgang Von Goethe's book. •Immediate
following, **Murnau's Five Fausts** *1995*. While resto
ing Murnau's original *Faust*, director Luciano Ber
utúa uncovered four different versions of the fil
All five are screened and compared.

•Oct. 9, 7 pm; Oct. 10, 9 pm. **Der Letzte Ma
*(The Last Laugh) 1924***. Pianist Yakov Guban
provides live musical accompaniment to Murna
film about a hotel porter demoted to bathroom a
tendant. •Also showing, Oct. 9, 9 pm; Oct. 10
pm. **Nosferatu** *1922*. Pianist Yakov Gubanov pr
vides live musical accompaniment to Murna
classic Dracula flick, which is based on Bra
Stoker's tale.

•Oct. 11, 7 pm; Oct. 13, 9 pm. **Tabu** *1931*. A you
fisherman pursues a forbidden relationship wit
holy maid on the island of Bora Bora. Murnau
rects. •Oct. 11, 9 pm; Oct. 13, 7 pm. **Sunrise
Song of Two Humans** *1927*. An estranged cou
travels around the world and back.



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Movie Love: Almodóvar and His Inspirations

•Oct. 6, 7 pm. **Hable con Ella** *(Talk to Her) 2002*. Two men become friends while caring for their comatose girlfriends in Pedro Almodóvar's film. •Also showing, 9 pm. **The Incredible Shrinking Man** *1957*. After being contaminated by a mysterious cloud, a man shrinks to the size of an insect and finds his position of head of his household is threatened. Jack Arnold directs.

Selected Films of Roy Andersson

•Oct. 17, 9:15 pm. **Sånger från Andra Våningen** *(Songs from the Second Floor) 2000*. Andersson's film is a series of 45 vignettes depicting individual personal tragedies.

MIT

Chicks Make Flicks

•Oct. 12, 7 pm. **Playing House** *2003*. Jane Gray's documentary follows five seventh- and eighth-grade girls during their first year at boarding school. Gray is present for the screening.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Art on Film

•Oct. 10, 10:30 am, Oct. 14, 2:40 pm; Oct. 17, 10:30 am. **Russki Kovcheg** *(Russian Ark) 2002*. The Marquis de Custine wanders through St. Petersburg's Hermitage Museum musing on art, Russian culture and history in Alexander Sokurov's film.

Cinema Tropical

•Oct. 15, 8:30 pm, Oct. 16, 2 pm. **Los Archivos Privados de Pablo Escobar** *(The Private Archives of Pablo Escobar) 2002*. Marc de Beaufort's documentary features never-before-seen footage of the life of Pablo Escobar, one of the world's most feared drug lords, who died 10 years ago.

The Films of F.W. Murnau

•Oct. 7, 2:15 pm; Oct. 9, 10:30 am. **Phantom** *1922*. Murnau's silent film follows an aspiring poet relentlessly pursing a mysterious woman in white. •Also showing, Oct. 7, 4:40 pm; Oct. 8, 8 pm; Oct. 10, 4 pm. **Sunrise: A Song of Two Humans** *1927*. An estranged couple travels around the world and back. Murnau directs. •Also showing, Oct. 7, 6:30 pm. **Tartüff** *(Tartuffe) 1926*. Murnau's adaptation of Molière's 17th-century satire follows a religious hypocrite who makes a living by granting sinners divine absolution. •Also showing, Oct. 7, 8:15 pm. **City Girl** *1930*. Murnau's final Hollywood studio film is the story of a young man who brings his new wife home to his father, who's convinced she's a gold digger.

•Oct. 8, 6:15 pm. **Tabu** *1931*. A young fisherman pursues a forbidden relationship with a holy maid on the island of Bora Bora.

•Oct. 10, 2 pm. **Faust** *1926*. Boston Pops pianist Bob Winter provides live musical accompaniment to Murnau's silent film based on Johann Wolfgang von Goethe's book.

New England Film Artists Present

•Oct. 10, 12:15 pm. **Smoke and Mirrors: A Geisha Story** *2004*. Artemis Willis' documentary captures her relationship with an 88-year-old former geisha living in Queens.

•Oct. 14, 6:30 pm; Oct. 17, 4 pm. **The Political Dr. Seuss** *2004*. Ron Lamothe's documentary chronicle's the life and work of Theodor Geisel, a.k.a. Dr. Seuss, and his strong political views.

Premiere Engagements

•Oct. 13, 6:20 pm; Oct. 14, 8:30 pm. **A Letter to True** *2003*. Bruce Weber's tribute to his dog True features some of the filmmaker's interest, such as music of the '50s and '60s, conversations with fellow dog-lover Elizabeth Taylor and recollections of past friendships.

•Oct. 13, 8 pm; Oct. 14, 4:30 pm; Oct. 15, 5:15 pm; Oct. 16, 12 pm. **British Advertising Films of 2003**. This annual compilation of the previous year's award-winning British television ads is one of the MFA's most popular offerings.

Russian Cinema: A Tribute to Lenfilm Studios

•Oct. 9, 4 pm; Oct. 14, 1 pm. **Pisma Myortvogo Cheloveka** *(Letters from a Dead Man) 1986*. A Nobel Prize–winning scientist who believes he is responsible for a nuclear war drafts letters to his dead son. Konstantin Lopushansky directs.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater

•Through Oct. 31. **Adrenaline Rush: The Science of Risk**. Explore the inner workings of the body as one jumps out of a plane or asks someone out on a date.

•Through May 26, 2005. **Forces of Nature**. Experience the power of earthquakes, volcanoes and storms as scientists attempt to forecast and understand them.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater

•Opening Sept. 30. **Galapagos**. Marine biologi Carole Baldwin leads a scientific expedition throu the coral reefs of the Galapagos Islands.

•Through Nov. 9. **Ghosts of the Abyss.** Jam Cameron journeys miles beneath the ocean surfa to the ruins of Titanic.

•Through Nov. 9. **NASCAR 3D**. Experience life the fast lane with NASCAR pit crews and drive clocking over 200 mph.

•Through Nov. 9. **Ocean Wonderland 3D**. Wat as eagle rays, sharks, dolphins and more create underwater wonderland.

•Through Nov. 9. **Spiderman 2: The IMAX Expe ence**. Peter Parker, aka Spiderman, struggles wi his destiny in this sequel directed by Sam Raimi.

•Through Nov. 9. **Volcanoes of the Deep Se** Dive to the bottom of the sea with a team of scie tists, as they explore hydrothermal vents, shi wrecked gardens, predators and bioluminesce creatures.

Cinema Venues

BELMONT

Studio Cinema

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BOSTON

Boston Harbor Hotel

70 Rowes Wharf. (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Li to Aquarium.

Boston Public Library

666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Gre Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)

100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Gre Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre

201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common

175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Gre Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science

Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line Science Park.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema

399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line Reservoir.

Coolidge Corner Theatre

290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Gre Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre

40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.

Fresh Pond

168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBT Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive

24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema

One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: R Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony

10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.

MIT

77 Mass. Ave., Room 6-120 (617-612-009 MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema

27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Gre Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema

1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony

35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Oran Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre

55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red L to Davis.



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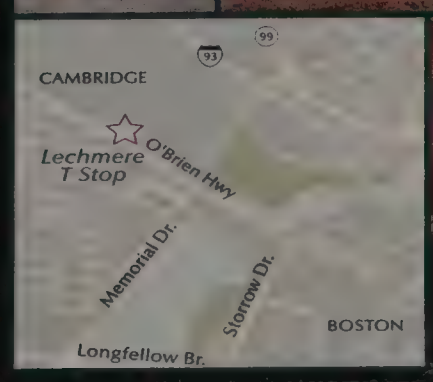
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Camper Van Beethoven builds on its eclectic legacy with an ambitious return.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Camper Van Beethoven always had a reputation for playfully railing against the times, in terms of both musical style and subject matter. Through the late '80s, the California-born band turned the "college rock" landscape topsy-turvy with such oddities as the jaunty "Take the Skinheads Bowling" and a cover of Status Quo's '60s hit "Pictures of Matchstick Men," mixing violin into its warped pop vision.

The group splintered in the wake of its more streamlined 1989 album, *Key Lime Pie*. But members still crossed paths in a wide and weird post-Camper world that included projects with Sparklehorse, Eugene Chadbourne and Monks of Doom, as well as the still-active Cracker, the country-edged rock band that brought singer-guitarist David Lowery broader exposure with the early-'90s radio hits "Euro-Trash Girl," "Low" and "Teen Angst (What the World Needs Now)."



Camper Van Beethoven's world tour brings them to Boston October 16.

Not that all this background prepares a listener for the eclectic *New Roman Times*, Camper Van Beethoven's first new album in 15 years. On the 67-minute CD, which hits stores Oct. 12 (four days before a show at the Middle East), the classic CVB lineup of Lowery, violinist Jonathan Segel, bassist Victor Krummenacher, guitarist Greg Lisher and drummer Chris Pederson veers from syncopated jazz-rock reminiscent of the Dixie Dregs to twisted arena rock, country psychedelia and Balkanized reggae, as well as diversions into snappy klezmer and Tex-Mex flavors.

"We hoped to do something that was kind of outrageous," says Lowery, "like, 'Wow, look what Camper did! Can you believe that's what they came back and did?' It's sort of a prog-rock opera concept record. But it's clearly not just that. It's a little bit of the post-punk, ska, hillbilly psychedelia stuff that we have dealt with. We stitched it together in this admittedly loose narrative. You can't really follow the story the way you could [the Who's] *Tommy*. It's probably closer to Frank Zappa than to the Who."

In other words, the story line is all over the map at least as much as the music. Fictional, but with a clear target in the Bush administration, *New Roman Times* traces the story of a juvenile delinquent–turned–soldier from the Fundamentalist Christian Republic of Texas who fights for a foreign legion, only to return home with loss of limb and personal direction. "But the whole thing involves drugs and space aliens," adds Lowery, "because it's a Camper Van Beethoven record. It can't be that serious."

"Bringing new meaning to the term 'alt-country,' it's an alternate version of our country," he says from his home in Richmond, Va. "There's a loose alignment between liberal California and Christian Fundamentalist Texas, a sort of conflict between those states, which is our way of talking about the gulf between the red [Republican] and the blue [Democratic] parts of the country—and not just the states. Richmond is in Virginia, which is a red state, but Richmond is a blue town full of Kerry and Dean stickers."

As for the title *New Roman Times*, he says, "Every 20 to 40 years, the United States goes through some experiment with imperialism that ends badly, and you could say that we're in a period like that. But I would point out that the experiment in Iraq has gone so badly, I doubt this sort of adventurism would happen again, so you could say that this period of imperialism is already over with. But maybe not."

Some conservatives have even misjudged Camper Van Beethoven to be Libertarians, says Lowery, referencing the band's roots in California. "That was kind of a big thing in Santa Cruz when we were growing up there. So a lot of people from the right have been a little surprised by our clearly anti-war stance. But it's told through the eyes of a soldier, so it's complex. My father was in the military. I grew up on military bases. So it's a complex view of myself.

"I hope it all sounds coherent," he says, "that what we've done is just exaggerate what we were doing before, because Camper was always more of a methodology than a specific sound. The sound came out of the mix of our personalities. The methodology was that we'd take a little of this and this and that and try to mix it together, and if it came out wrong, our personality was inserted into the process."

There's certainly a load of personality in *New Roman Times*, but devoted Camper fans shouldn't be let down by the band's marathon live playlist. "We play the old and the new," says Lowery, whose quintet reunited in 2000 and rediscovered its chemistry on the road, including a previous stop at the Middle East. "We do have to pay attention to our legacy." iB

Camper Van Beethoven plays the Middle East Downstairs October 16.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or by email to music@improper.com. Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double-check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Addison Groove Project, Matisyahu the Hasidic Reggae Superstar Oct. 16, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Alter Bridge, Cross Fade, Submersed Oct. 8, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Bartley's Choice Benefit Oct. 7 and 8, Middle East (617-931-2000).
Cake Oct. 7, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
The Cramps, Gore Gore Girls, Jake Brennan & the Confidence Men Oct. 16, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Jamie Cullum Oct. 18, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Howie Day Oct. 16, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Galactic Oct. 19, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Gov't Mule Oct. 15, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Al Green, Mavis Staples Oct. 19, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
PJ Harvey, Knife & Fork Oct. 9, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Sophie B. Hawkins Oct. 11, Regattabar (617-395-7757).
Marillion, John Wesley Oct. 11, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Panthers, the Lot Six, Darker My Love Oct. 6, Middle East Upstairs (617-931-2000).
Presidents of the United States of America Oct. 8, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Steel Pulse Oct. 6, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
James Williams Tribute Oct. 8 and 9, Ryles Jazz Club (617- 876-9330).
Brian Wilson Oct. 14 Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6

The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster.
The Burren Nights in Wyoming, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Lissa Schneckenburger, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Harper's Ferry The Akashic Sessions featuring members of Uncle Sammy, Soulwork, 8 pm, $3, 21+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson Band.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie.
Lizard Lounge Jimmy Ryan, 7:30 pm, no cover; the Dennis Brennan Band, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Downstairs: Q and Not U, Joan of Arc, La Mi Vida Violenta. 7 pm, $10. Upstairs: Panthers, the Lot Six, Darker My Love, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
O'Brien's The Vershok, Tomorrow's Remedy, Pennyred, $5.
Paradise Rock Club: Steel Pulse, 8 pm, $20, 18+. Lounge: Halfacre Gunroom, 9 pm, $3, 21+; $5 under 21.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble.
Regattabar New Jazz Composers Octet, 7:30 and 10 pm, $15.
Ryles Jazz Club Moutin Reunion Quartet, 8:30 pm, $8.
Scullers Jazz Club Brad Mehldau, 8 and 10 pm, $22.
Toad Deb Pasternak, 7 pm; Jed Parish, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Selfonix, Kevin MacDonald, $5.
Wonder Bar Joe McMahon Duo.
Zeitgeist Gallery Ed Broms Organ Trio, 7-9 pm, $5; the Wednesday Night Jam, 10 pm-1 am.
ZuZu Frankenixon, Ad Frank, 10 pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7

Axis Kings of Leon, Simple Kid, 7 pm, $15.
Berklee Performance Center Paquito D'Rivera Quintet, 8 pm, $15.50-$150.

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Black Horse Tavern Matt Chase, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster.
The Burren Swingin Johnsons, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge The Reaganomics, 9 pm.
Club Passim Sarah Lee Guthrie & Johnny Irion, 8 pm, $14.
Dick's Last Resort The Nerve, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
High Street Grille Little Joe Cook, 9 pm, no cover.
Johnny D's Kim Richey, Kerri Powers, 9 pm, $12.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Kinsale Sirsy.
Kirkland Café Junk Funkies, Kloroform Kidz, Supervain, Gavin House, $5.
Lizard Lounge Dave Tronzo, 7:30 pm, no cover; Club D'Elf, 9:30 pm, $10.
Middle East Downstairs: Explosions in the Sky, Adem, 8 pm, $12, 18+. Upstairs: Bartley's Choice Benefit: Green Magnet School, Slughog, Luca Brasi, Donna Parker, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
O'Brien's El Gringo, Reckless Daughter, Rich Girl Method, $6.
Orpheum Cake, Northern State, 7:30 pm, $28.50-$35.
P.A.'s Sarah Blacker, Word, $5-$7.
Paradise Rock Club: Hot House Flowers, the Subdudes, 9 pm, $18, 18+. Lounge: Butterfly Boucher, Griffin House, 6 pm, $10, 18+.
Plough and Stars Beek, Rhodes & Jeffries.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett.
Regattabar Jazz tribute to Frank Sinatra, 7:30 and 10 pm, $25.
Roxy Ambulance Ltd., Surfarosa, the Killers.
Ryles Jazz Club Myanna Quartet, 8:30 pm, $8.
Scullers Jazz Club Keely Smith and Vegas 58, 8 and 10 pm, $35.
Toad Todd, Thibaud, 7 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Hope of the States, Inouk, On Fire $8-$10.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Trio.
ZuZu Frank Morey, 10 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8

Avalon Alter Bridge, Cross Fade, Submersed, 6:30 pm, $20.75.
Black Horse Tavern Herman Johanson, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Downstairs: Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm. Upstairs: McTaggarts, 10:30 pm.
Boston Harbor Hotel Johnny Souza, the Ray Santisi Trio, 7-11 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Rusty Scott.
The Burren Cover Up, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Nerissa & Katryna Nields, 8 pm, $15.
Common Ground The Reaganomincs, 10 pm, $4.
Dick's Last Resort Rockfish, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Complaints.
The Harp Burnt Sienna, 10 pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry The Young Dubliners, 8 pm, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, Incadence.
Johnny D's Milo Z, 9:45 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton.
Kirkland Café Din, Butterknife, My Own Worst Enemy, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lizard Lounge Munk, 7:30 pm, no cover; Nikulydin, Count Zero, Specimen 37, IIJ, $10.
Middle East Downstairs: Fu Manchu, Cougars, the Rolling Blackouts, 8 pm, $12, 18+. Downstairs: Bartley's Choice Benefit: Kudgel, Red Bliss, the Beatings, St. Bastard, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well.
O'Brien's Automatic, Blacklisted, Dennis Most and the Instigators, the Uncomfortables, $6.
Paradise Rock Club: Presidents of the United States of America, 9 pm, $15, 18+. Lounge: Dan Bern, Garrin Bednfield, 9 pm, $18, 21+.
Parris The Zone, 10 pm, $5-$10.
P.A.'s Joe Mazzari Band, Crash Alchemist, $5-$7.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 6 pm; Los Diablos, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Jazz tribute to Frank Sinatra, 7:30 and 10 pm, $25.
Ryles Jazz Club James Williams Tribute, 9 pm, $30.
Scullers Jazz Club Keely Smith and Vegas 58, 8 and 10:30 pm, $45.
Toad Starhick, 7 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place CD release for Lockgroove, Singapore Sling, Hopewell, the Subject, $8.
The Western Front Mighty Fantastic, 9 pm, $5.
Wonder Bar Harold Layne Trio.
Zeitgeist Gallery Kevin Harris Project, 7-9 pm, $10.
ZuZu Latin night with Gian Carlo Buscaglia, 11 pm, no cover.



Rock group The Faint comes to the Roxy on October 12.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9

Avalon PJ Harvey, Knife & Fork, 7 pm, $35.
Berklee Performance Center George Winston.
Black Horse Tavern Sweet Willie D., 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Tom O'Carroll, 4:30 pm. Downstiars: Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm. Upstairs: McTaggarts, 10:30 pm.
The Burren Dave Foley, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Don White, Sandi Hammond, 8 pm, $13.
Common Ground DJ Guy, 10 pm, $3.
Dick's Last Resort Death by Marriage, 8 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Random Axis.
The Harp Burnt Sienna, 10 pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry Max Creek, 8 pm, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin.
Johnny D's III Kings, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kennedy's Midtown Reggae night with Bobbie Steelz & Moon.
Kirkland Café Time Beings, Lady Kenningston, Crybabies, Classic Ruins, $5.
Lizard Lounge The Ray Corvair Trio, 9:30 pm, $6.
Middle East Downstairs: Throe, Rubikon, Stoic, Drinkfist, Adenokrome, 8 pm, $10, 18+. Upstairs: Lamont, Bible of the Devil, Bury the Needle, Chroma, 9pm, $9, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well.
O'Brien's Captain Cutthroat, Voodoo Screw Machine, Robby Roadsteamer, Gene Dante & the Future Starlets, $6.
Paradise Rock Club: Critters Buggin', Benevento Russo Duo, 9 pm, $12, 18+. Lounge: Teitur, Tina Dico, 9 pm, $12, 21+.
Parris The Zone, 10 pm, $5-$10.
P.A.'s Triple Thick, Andrea Gillis Band, $5-$7.
Plough and Stars Tom Hagerty & Friends, 5 pm; Zipper, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club James Williams Tribute, 9 pm, $30.
Scullers Jazz Club Keely Smith and Vegas 58, 8 and 10:30 pm, $45.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 7-9 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Solex, On!Air!Library!, Worm Is Green, Ovian, $10.
The Western Front Shuman, the Wiz, Mumraw, 9 pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Trio.
Zeitgeist Gallery Skull Session, 7-9 pm, $8.
ZuZu Soul le lu jah, 11 pm, no cover.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10

All-Asia Café Sunday night songwriter series with Christie Leigh, 5 pm, $5.
Bill's Bar Dub Station.
The Black Rose Tom O'Carroll, 4:30 pm; Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz Brunch with the Ronnie Ron Duo.
The Burren Singer/songwriter series with Danielle, 8 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Mary Gauthier, Carl Cacho, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Harper's Ferry Badfish, 8 pm, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe.
Johnny D's Jazz Brunch with Matt Dorko & Larry Kukers, 9 am- 2:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Julia Lloyd, Irish Jazz Trio.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio, 7 pm, $5.
Middle East Downstairs: The Mountain Goats, John Vanderslice, 8 pm, $12, 18+. Upstairs: The Bon Savants, Lady of Spain, Shore Leave, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Milky Way John Wilkes Booze.
O'Brien's Lilac Ambush, New Remorse, Xtatika, $6.
Paradise Rock Club: Kings X, Seemless, 8 pm, $15, 18+. Lounge: Fresh Start!, 8 pm, $3-$5, 18+.
Plough and Stars Kind of Bluegrass, 5 pm; Coachmen, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Jazz tribute to Frank Sinatra, 5:30 and 8 pm, $25.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday jazz brunch with Patricia Adams, 10 am, no cover.
Toad The David "Goody" Goodrich Trio, 7 pm; Session Americana, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12-2 pm; Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Bloodthirsty Lovers, Radio Nationals, $7.
Zeitgeist Gallery Ilona Kudina & Friends Jazz Quartet, 7-9 pm $10.
ZuZu Rockabilly, 10 pm, no cover.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 11

Avalon Interpol, Secret Machines, 8 pm, $24.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Cantab Lounge Geff Bartley's open mike, 8 pm Sam Bayer, 9:30 pm.
Club Passim Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Harper's Ferry Soulfege with Moneyshot, 8 pm, $ 21+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Lizard Lounge Plan Nine's Ninth Anniversa Show, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Mr. Airplane Man, the D cember Sound, Big Digits, the Secret Hearts, 9 pm $8, 18+.
O'Brien's Lonas, onetwothreefour, Birdblobs, n cover.
Paradise Rock Club: Marillion, John Wesley, 8 pm $30, 18+.
Plough and Stars Joe Scurio.
Regattabar Sophie B. Hawkins, 7:30 and 10 pm, $2
Toad Shwang, 7-9 pm; the Tim Gearan Band, pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm.
Zeitgeist Gallery 3Play, 7-9 pm, $8; the Fringe, pm-1 am. $10.
ZuZu Whistle Jacket, 10 pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12

Berklee Performance Center Jetro Da Silva.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
The Burren Open Mike with Hugh McGowan pm.
Cantab Lounge Boston City Limits, 10 pm.
Club Passim Open mike with Sandman, 7 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Pat Funk, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Matt Duane Griffin, 8:30 pm, $8.
Lizard Lounge Sitar Tabla Power, 7:30 pm, free; th Black Eggs, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Downstairs: Flickerstick, Brilliant Mi stake, 8 pm, $12, 18+. Upstairs: Damien Jurad Richard Buckner, Dolrean, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
O'Brien's The Dimwits, Morgan Knockers, the I sertion, $5.
Plough and Stars Jesse Ciarmataro.
Redline Lifted, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.
Regattabar Mike Stern Band, Richard Bona, De nis Chambers, Bob Franceschini, 7:30 and 10 p $22.50.

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Roxy Beep Beep, TV on the Radio, the Faint, 8pm, $15.
Ryles Jazz Club Fernando Holz, 8:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Annie Raines & Paul Rishell, 8 and 10 pm, $14.
Toad Christian McNeill, 7 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Dears, Mollycoddle, $6.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Duo.
ZuZu Matters and Dunaway, 10 pm, no cover.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13

The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster.
The Burren Nights in Wyoming, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm..
Club Passim Chris Chandler, Sandman, Pete Cassani, 8 pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Music Schmusic, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Harper's Ferry The Akashic Sessions featuring members of Uncle Sammy, Soulwork, 8 pm, $3, 21+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson Band.
Johnny D's Matt Ostrower Band, 8:30 pm, $6.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie.
Lizard Lounge Joe Pesci, 7:30 pm, no cover; the Dennis Brennan Band, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Will Champlain, Francis Kim, Kevin So, Keren Ann, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
O'Brien's Parker Hill Radio Vago, Viva K, Kim Fowley Disease, $6.
Paradise Lounge: Crash & Burn, 9 pm, $5, 18+; $3, 21+.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble.
Regattabar Mike Stern Band, Richard Bona, Dennis Chambers, Bob Franceschini, 7:30, 10 pm, $22.50.
Ryles Jazz Club Mestre Deraldo Ferreira & Samba Tremeterra Band, 7:30 pm, $10.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Concretes, $8.
Wonder Bar Joe McMahon Duo.
Zeitgeist Gallery Sophomore, 7-9:30 pm, $7; the Wednesday night jam, 10 pm- 1 am.
ZuZu Laco$te, Gemini, 10 pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14

Black Horse Tavern Matt Chase, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Boston University Gavin DeGraw.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster.
The Burren Swingin Johnsons, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Aftermath, 9 pm.
Club Passim Pete & Maura Kennedy, Chris & Meredith Thompson, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Fast Times, 7:20 pm, no cover..
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
High Street Grille Little Joe Cook, 9 pm, no cover.
The Independent The Frank Morey Band, 10 pm, no cover.
Johnny D's Mark Erelli, Jason Ringenberg, 9 pm $10.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Kirkland Café Kore, Victims of Circumstance, David Harold, $5.
Lizard Lounge Amy Miles, 7:30 pm, no cover; Eugene Edwards, Cliff Hillis, Willie Wisely, 9:30 pm, $7.
Middle East Downstairs: Masta Ace, Vast Aire, Virtuoso, Lyrical, Rhetoric, Bomshot, 8 pm, $16, 18+. Upstairs: Up the Irons, the Slaves, Coffin Lids, the Pikups, Gutta, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
O'Brien's Allston Village Mainstreets Benefit, $6.
Orpheum Brian Wilson, 7:30 pm, $35-$75.
Paradise Rock Club: North Mississippi All-Stars, the Dirty Dozen Brass Band, Rising Star Fife & Drum Band, 8 pm, $18.50, 18+. Lounge: Brendan Thomas, the Scott Tarulli Group, 7 pm, $8, 18+.
Plough and Stars Brass Roots.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett.
Regattabar Al Di Meola, 7:30 and 10 pm, $30.
Ryles Jazz Club Natraj, 8:30 pm, $12.
Scullers Jazz Club Regina Carter, 8 and 10 pm, $24.
Toad 2 Timin' Three, 7 pm; Twilight Ranchers, 8 pm; Jon Nolan & Hokum, 9 pm; John Cate & the Van Gogh Brothers, 10 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Taxpayer, the Fever Monument, Morning Theft, Red Door Exchange, $4.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Trio.
Zeitgeist Gallery Estrojam, 7-9 pm, $8; Danny McNamara, 9:30 pm-12 am, $8.
ZuZu Seekonk, 10 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15

Avalon Coheed & Cambria, Underoath, 6:45 pm, $19.25.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Bad Religion Oct. 29, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Lloyd Banks Oct. 31, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Vanessa Carlton Oct. 29, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
De la Soul Oct. 25, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Dresden Dolls Oct. 30, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Percy Hill Nov. 13, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Bruce Hornsby Nov. 5, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Jimmy Eat World Nov. 6, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Jump, Little Children Oct. 21, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
K's Choice Oct. 30, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Avril Lavigne Nov. 1, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Megadeth Nov. 13, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Metallica Oct. 24, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
R.E.M. Oct. 29, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Story of the Year Oct. 27, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Tears for Fears Oct. 30, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).

Berklee Performance Center Mindy Smith, 7:30 pm, $17-$20.50.
Black Horse Tavern Soul Shine, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Sunday's Well, 10:30 pm. Downstairs: Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Boston Harbor Hotel Johnny Souza, the Ray Santisi Trio, 7-11 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Damon Carter.
The Burren Classic Trax, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Cliff Eberhardt, 8 pm, $15.
Common Ground Jason Liebman and the Uprising, 10 pm.
Dick's Last Resort Death by Marriage, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Incadence.
The Harp The Zoo, 10 pm, $10.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, Spike the Punch.
Johnny D's Beatle Juice, 9:30 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton.
Kirkland Café Homesteaders, the Mighty Fantastic, Micky Bliss Organ Trio, $5.
Lizard Lounge Smnmnmnm, 9:30 pm, $7.
Middle East Downstairs: Twilight Singers, Dios Malos, 8 pm, $14, 18+. Upstairs: IIJ, Bay Boy H, Aberdeen City, Codetta, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Midway Café West Memphis Three Benefit Show: Stray Bullets, Three Electric Bastards, Zillionaire, 9 pm, $7.
Mr. Dooley's Celtic Clan.
O'Brien's We're All Gonna Die, Ichabod, Heretic's Fork, Mantooth, $6.
Orpheum Gov't Mule, 8 pm, $25-$30.
Paradise Lounge: Anne Heaton with the Animators, Rich Price, 9 pm, $12, 21+.
Parris Mr. Greengenes, 10 pm, $5-$10.
P.A.'s Nothing Yet, $5-$7.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 6 pm; Richie Lee & the Boston Wheels, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Al DiMeola, 7:30 and 10 pm, $30.
Ryles Jazz Club World Rhythms Ensemble featuring Massamba Diop, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Regina Carter, 8 and 10:30 pm, $24.
Somerville Theatre Rokia Traore, 8 pm, $21.50-$27.50.
Toad The Freelance Bishops.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Ben Lee, Mittens, Pony Up, Brendan Little, $10.
The Western Front Bennett Miller Band, 9 pm, $5.
Wonder Bar Harold Layne Trio.
Zeitgeist Gallery Joe Keenan & Michael J. Sullivan, 9:30-12 am, $8.
ZuZu Latin night with Gian Carlo Buscaglia, 11 pm, no cover.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16

Avalon The Cramps, Gore Gore Girls, Jake Brennan & the Confidence Men, 6 pm, $17.75, 18+.
Berklee Performance Center Eva Ayllon, 8 pm, $28-$37.
Black Horse Tavern Blacksole, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Bobby Folkes, 4:30 pm. Downstairs: Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm. Upstairs: Sunday's Well, 10:30 pm.
The Burren Random Axis, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Valerie & Walter Crockett, 8 pm, $12.
Common Ground Mountain of Venus, 10 pm, $4.
Dick's Last Resort Dick 'n' Jane, 8:30 pm, no cover.
First Parish Church Peter Mayer, 7:30 pm, $15.
The Green Dragon Tavern Bald Walter.
The Harp The Zoo, 10 pm, $10.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm.
KenneJy's Midtown Reggae nights with Bobbie Steelz & Moon.
Kirkland Café 9th Wave, Clams, $5
Lizard Lounge Stephanie Todd, 7:30 pm, no cover; the Bill Deasy Trio, the Samoa Wilson Band, 9:30 pm, $7.
Middle East Downstairs: Camper Van Beethoven, Stereo 360, 8 pm, $20, 18+. Upstairs: The Dwarves, Bars, the Hidden, Cocked 'n' loaded, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Celtic Clan.
O'Brien's 48 Rooms, Superpower, Ratchaburi, Tung, $6.
Orpheum Howie Day, Nickel Creek, 7:30 pm, $27.50.
Paradise Rock Club: Addison Groove Project, Matisyahu the Hasidic Reggae Superstar, 9 pm, $15, 18+. Lounge: Adrianne, Chris Pureka, 9 pm, $8, 21+.
Parris Mr. Greengenes, 10 pm, $5-$10.
Plough and Stars The Gilmans, 5 pm; Hot Day at the Zoo, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar James Moody Quartet, 7:30 and 10 pm, $25.
Ryles Jazz Club Sonya Kitchell, 9 pm, $12.
Sanders Theatre Melissa Ferrick, 8 pm, $22-$26.
Somerville Theatre Ashley MacIsaac, 8 pm, $21.50-$27.50.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 7 pm; Say Hey, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place VHS or Beta, the Fever, the Bravery, $8.
The Western Front Awkward Entertainment Show case, 9 pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Trio.
Zeitgeist Gallery Ghost of Lester Bangs, Paris A enue, Mike and Gisonda Band, 9:30 pm-12 a $7.
ZuZu Soul le lu jah, 11 pm, no cover.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17

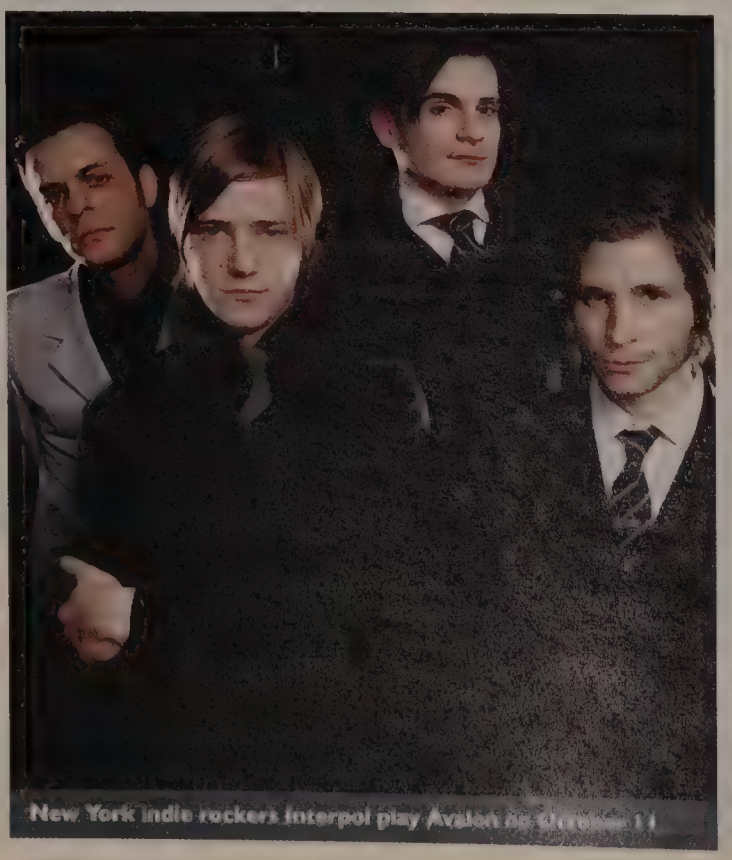
All-Asia Café Sunday night songwriter series wi Christie Leigh, 5 pm, $5.
Avalon Public Enemy, 7 pm, $25.25, 18+.
Axis Northstar, Say Anything, Straylight Run, H Rod Circuit.
Bill's Bar Dub Station.
The Black Rose Bobby Folkes, 4:30 pm. Downsta Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz Brunch with the Ronnie R Duo.
The Burren Singer/songwriter series with Daniel 8 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Lucie Blue Tremblay, 7:30 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnso
Hennessy's Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Tom Pendergast, 9 a 2:30 pm
Kennedy's Midtown Julia Lloyd, Irish Jazz Trio.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio, 7 pm, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Illunina, Faces on Fil Malvern, Tides, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
O'Brien's Orne, the Mighty Fantastic, Maxxto $6.
Orpheum The Australian Pink Floyd Show, 7: pm, $25-$35.
Paradise Rock Club: Pinback, the Good Life, Ne Dinova, 8 pm, $14, 18+. Lounge: Fresh Start!, 8 p $3-$5, 18+.
Plough and Stars Ken Selcer & Friends, 5 pm; t Cranktones, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar James Moody Quartet, 7:30 and 10 p $25.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday jazz brunch with Bob G 10 am, no cover; Vision, 7 pm, $7.
Toad The David "Goody" Goodrich Trio, 7 pm; S sion Americana, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group. 12-2 pm; Bob Keys Trio, 8 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Tara Jane O'Neil, Mirah, Ti Saw, $8.
Zeitgeist Gallery Singer/songwriter night w Laura Breton, Andreea Pauta, Adam White, C lene Barous, Audrey Ryan, 7-9 pm, $5; Jack Ro Glenn Jones, 9:30 pm-12 am, $8.
ZuZu Rockabilly, 10 pm, no cover.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 18

Avalon Jamie Cullum, 7 pm, $20.25.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Singer/songwriter open mike, 8 p Fishken & Groves, 9:30 pm.
Club Passim Arabesque, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, cover.
Harper's Ferry Eleven Eleven, Just Before Augu 8 pm, $3, 21+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Johnny D's Gary Chaffee's Amazing Time Machi 8 pm.
Lizard Lounge Plan Nine's Ninth Anniversa Show, 7 pm, no cover.
Middle East Downstairs: Chang Cheng-Yue, Free pm, $25, 18+. Upstairs: Walking Concert, Faithfull Blue Letter Days, 9 pm, $3, 18+; no co 21+.
Paradise Rock Club: The Libertines, Radio 4, 8 pm, $12, 18+. Lounge: Burzum, Darkthrone, Gra land, Celtic Frost, 9 pm, $3, 18+; no cover, 21+.
Plough and Stars Lloyd Thayer.
Regattabar Drew Emmitt of Leftover Salmon, 7 and 10 pm, $20.
Toad Shwang, 7 pm; the Tim Gearan Band, 10 p no cover.
Top of the Hub Bobby Keys Trio, 8 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place McLusky, Night Rally $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Fringe, 10 pm-1 am, $10
ZuZu Ray Mason Band, 10 pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19

Avalon Death Cab for Cutie, Pretty Girls Ma Graves, 8 pm, $17.25.
Axis Chinese Stars, Moving Units.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm.
The Burren Open Mike with Hugh McGowan pm.
Cantab Lounge The New England Bluegrass Ba 10 pm.



New York indie rockers Interpol play Avalon [illegible]

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Club Passim Cris Williamson, 8 pm, $22.50.
Dick's Last Resort Pat Funk, 7:20 pm, no cover..
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Tony Furtado, 8:30 pm, $10.
Lizard Lounge The Dots (U2 cover band), 9:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: The Reputation, Bunk 9, Sonic Bonnet, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
O'Brien's Slater, Capital Tadio, the Call Up, Dead Like Death, $6.
Orpheum Al Green, Mavis Staples.
Paradise Rock Club: Galactic, 8 pm. $22.50, 18 +. Lounge: Kevin Hearn & Thin Buckle with the Cousins, Mike Cummings, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
Plough and Stars Larry Flint, 8:30 pm.
Redline Lifted, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Alejandro Cimadoro Quintet, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Susan Werner, 8 and 10 pm, $16.
Toad Christian McNeil.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Matt Sharp of Weezer, Goldenboy, $8.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Duo.
Zeitgeist Gallery Burnetticism, 7-9 pm, $8.
ZuZu Matters and Dunaway, 10 pm, no cover.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-422-5579).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Boston (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Choppin' Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-734-4177). MBTA: Green Line to Brigham Circle.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Cottonwood Café *222 Berkeley St., Boston (617-247-2225). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
First Parish Church *3 Church St., Cambridge (781-266-7228). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (617-728-1600). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Forsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetary, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston (617-524-3354)*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*



Northern State opens for Cake at the Orpheum on October 7.

Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
High Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-266-9095). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Julien Bar *250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (617-267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Murphy's Law *837 Summer St., South Boston (617-269-6667).*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paradise Rock Club and Lounge *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
P.A.'s Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Washington Square Tavern *714 Washington St., Brookline (617-232-8989). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278).*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (888-26 1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Sy phony. 8 pm. $29-$105. Conductor Charles Dut leads the BSO in a program of works by Ravel, Li and Rachmaninoff.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8

Bank of America Celebrity Series: Pianist Dubravka Tomsic
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-26 1200). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Green Li to Symphony. 8 pm. $33-$57. The Slovenian pian performs works by Mozart and Chopin.

Boston Artists Ensemble
Phillips Library Auditorium, Peabody Essex Museu 132 Essex St., Salem (617-964-6553). www.bost artistsensemble.org. 8 pm. $10-$24. The Ensemb presents a program of works by Dvorak and Fauré.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (888-26 1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Sy phony. 1:30 pm. $29-$105. Same program as Oct.

Longy Chamber Orchestra
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, Longy School Music, 1 Follen St., Cambridge (617-876-095 www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 p Free. Jeffrey Rink conducts the Longy Ensemble works by Debussy, Mozart and Beethoven.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (888-26 1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Sy phony. 8 pm. $29-$105. Same program as Oct. 7.

Lydian String Quartet
Slosberg Recital Hall, Brandeis University, Walth (781-736-3369). www.brandeis.edu/music. 8 pm. $ $20. The quartet performs works by Mozart, Ives a Schumann.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10

Boston Artists Ensemble
Trinity Church, Newton Center, 85 Hillside Ave., Ne ton (617-964-6553). www.bostonartistsensemble.o MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Center. 2:30 p $10-$24. Same program as Oct. 8.

Boston Conservatory Orchestra
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-4 2222). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: H Line to Harvard. 2 pm. $5-$12. Bruce Hangen c ducts the Boston Conservatory Orchestra in wo by Holst, Rachmaninoff and Beethoven. The Bost Conservatory Women's Chorus also performs.

Boston Symphony Chamber Player
Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsb ough St. (617-266-2378). www.bso.org. MBTA Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $17-$30. The Cha ber Players' 41st season opens with a program cluding Dvorak's *Bagatelles.*

Emmanuel Music: Bach Cantata Series
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (6 536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Gr Line to Arlington. 10 am. Free. Emmanuel Music forms Bach's Cantata BWV 78.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). ww ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: Green Line to New Highlands. 2 pm. Free. The Aurora Duo, compris harpist Kate Smith and flutist Dawn Miller, perfo Spanish and American music.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (888-2 1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to S phony. 8 pm. $29-$105. Same program as Oct. 7.

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals
King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-2 2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm. $3 suggested do tion. Mezzo-soprano Thea Lobo and guita Daniel Acsadi perform Spanish songs by Vasq and Marín.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsb ough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newengl conservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to S

…ony. 8 pm. Free. NEC students and faculty mem-…ers celebrate the legacy of jazz saxophonist/com-…oser Steve Lacy.

…EDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13

…oston Conservatory

…ully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-9222). …ww.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to …ynes/ICA. 8 pm. Free. Conservatory students per-…rm a series of staged arias from major operatic works.

…lew England Conservatory

…rdan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsbor…igh St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newengland …nservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. …pm. Free. Donald Palma coaches the conductorless …EC Chamber Orchestra in works by Handel, …'itald Lutoslawski and Josef Suk.

…HURSDAY, OCTOBER 14

…oston Conservatory

…ully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-9222). …ww.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to …ynes/ICA. 8 pm. Free. Same program as Oct. 13.

…oston Philharmonic

…nders Theatre, Harvard University, 45 Quincy St., …mbridge (617-496-2222). www.bostonphil.org. …BTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $15-$59. …njamin Zander conducts the first program of the …w season, which highlights works by Mahler.

…om Classics to Broadway

…ward M. Pickman Concert Hall, Longy School of …usic, 1 Follen St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). …ww.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. …ee. Soprano Nancy Peery performs with David …apman on piano.

…ew England Conservatory

…dan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsbor…gh St., Boston (617-424-0900). www.newengland …nservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Sym-…ony. 8 pm. Free. Charles Peltz leads the NEC …nd Ensemble.

…RIDAY, OCTOBER 15

…oston Chamber Music Society

…dan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 …insborough St., Boston (617-349-0086). www. …tonchambermusic.org. MBTA: E Green Line to



Opera Boston presents *La Vie Parisienne* beginning October 15.

Symphony. 3 pm. $17-$46. Members of the society perform works by Beethoven.

Boston Classical Orchestra

Faneuil Hall, State St., Boston (617-423-3883). www.bostonclassicalorchestra.org. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 8 pm. $25-$49. Grammy award–winning guitarist Sharon Isbin makes her BCO debut performing Joaquin Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez* and a Vivaldi concerto.

An Evening of Opera Scenes and Arias

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, Longy School of Music, 1 Follen St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Students of the Longy Opera Department perform.

Handel and Haydn Society

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3605). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $26-$30. Grant Llewellyn conducts Mozart's Mass in C Minor, featuring British soprano Sally Matthews.

Opera Boston: La Vie Parisienne

Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St.,Boston (800-233-3123). www.operaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7:30 pm. $30-$90. Gil Rose, music director for Opera Boston, conducts Offenbach's comedic operetta set in 19th-century Paris.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16

Boston Early Music Festival

Paine Hall, Harvard University, Oxford St., Cambridge (617-424-7232). www.bemf.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $23-$59. The viol consort Fretwork and soprano Emma Kirkby perform.

Boston Philharmonic

Sanders Theatre, Harvard University, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.bostonphil.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $26-$69. Same program as Oct. 14.

An Evening of Opera Scenes and Arias

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, Longy School of Music, 1 Follen St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Same program as Oct. 15.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17

Boston Chamber Music Society

Sander's Theater, 60 Gore St., Cambridge. (617-349-0086). www.bostonchambermusic.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $17-$46. Same program as Oct. 15.

Boston Classical Orchestra

Faneuil Hall, State St., Boston (617-423-3883). www.bostonclassicalorchestra.org. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 3 pm. $25-$49. Same program as Oct. 15.

Boston Conservatory

Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-9222). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 8 pm. Free. Lawrence Isaacson conducts the Brass Ensemble in works that include Bliss' *Fanfare for the Lord Mayor of London* and Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*.

Boston Philharmonic

Sanders Theatre, Harvard University, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.bostonphil.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. $26-$69. Same program as Oct. 14.

Emmanuel Music: Bach Cantata Series

Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 am. Free. Emmanuel Music presents Bach's Cantata BWV 38.

Handel and Haydn Society

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3605). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $26-$30. Same program as Oct. 15.

Music for Piano Trio

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, Longy School of Music. 1 Follen St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Faculty artists perform in recital.

Newton Free Library

330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: Green Line to Newton Highlands. 2 pm. Free. Pianist Sarah Tocco performs.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-424-0900). www.newengland conservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Pianist Veronica Jochum performs works by local composers including John McDonald and Osvaldo Golijov.

Opera Boston: La Vie Parisienne

Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St.,Boston (800-233-3123). www.operaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7:30 pm. $30-$90. Same program as Oct. 15.

Vocal Coffee Concert

Wolfinsohn Recital Room, Longy School of Music, 1 Follen St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free. Longy School of Music voice students perform.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19

Bach Keyboard Project: Tuesdays with Sebastian

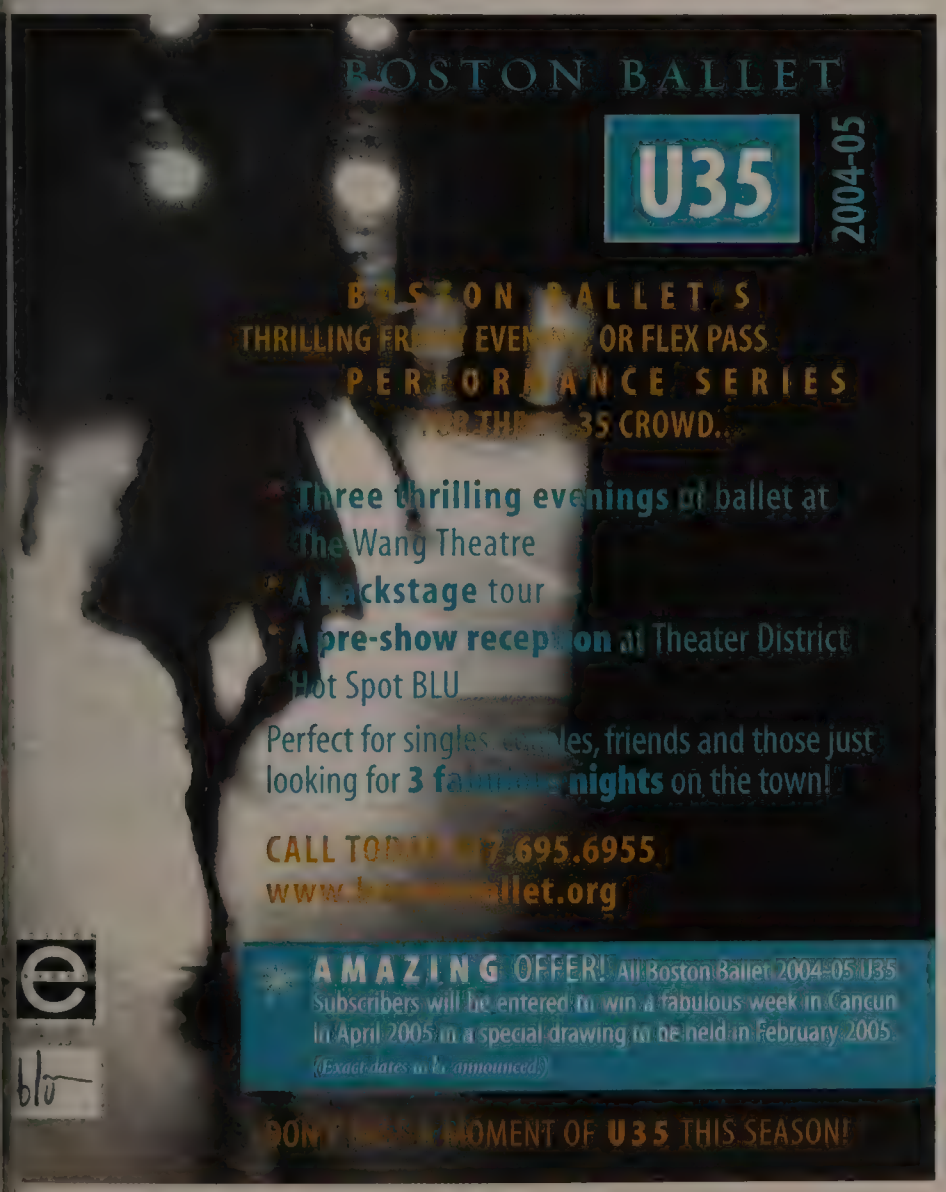
St. Paul's Church, 15 St. Paul St., Brookline (617-661-0570). www.tuesdayswithsebastian.info. 7:30 pm. $10 suggested donation. Peter Sykes performs Bach's *Well Tempered Clavier, Book II* on harpsichord.

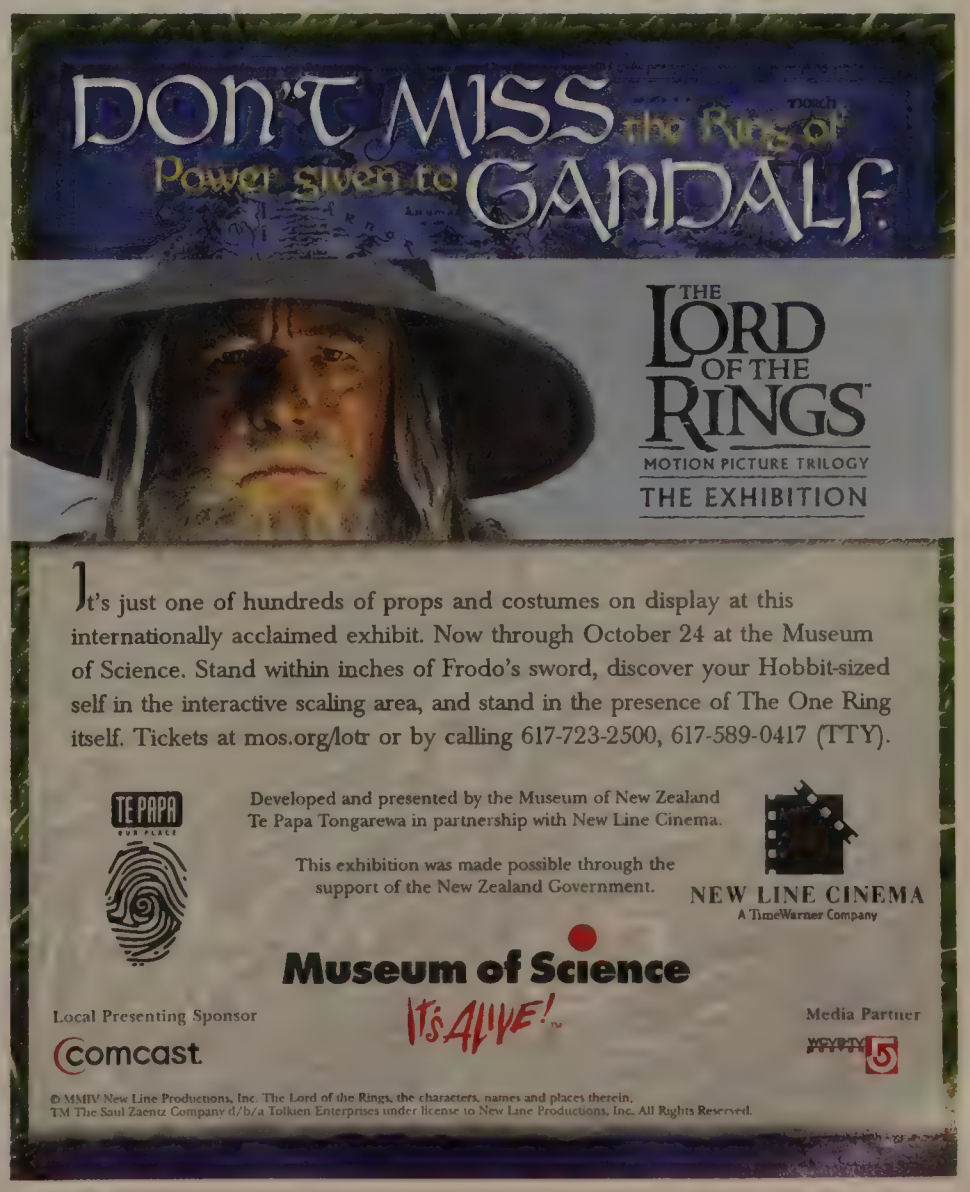
King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals

King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm. $3 suggested donation. Cellist Jan Muller Szerwas performs Britten's Suite No. 3.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.newengland conservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. President Emeritus Laurence Lesser celebrates his 30th anniversary at NEC with a performance of works for violoncello by Beethoven, Debussy, Richard Strauss and Henri Dutilleux.





dance clubs



Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $3, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Jay Ine spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJs spin R&B and hip-hop, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance salsa, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Scott Damgaard performs.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aria
Industry Tuesday Dance to hip-hop and R&B.

Boston Rocks
Smooth Groove Tuesday Old-school jams, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Orange DJs John Davis, Pat Fontes and Randy Deshaies bring the house music, and weekly guest DJs spin, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Deep Tones DJ Brynmore spins a mix of reggae, soul, funk, trance and acid jazz, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Havana Club Latin Dance Night A Latin dance night features an assortment of local DJs, 10 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Sensei spins hip-hop and R&B. Karaoke is also offered. 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

WEDNESDAYS

Aria
Lust DJ John Morris spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, $8, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins Greek and international tunes upstairs and a live reggae band plays downstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
British Accents Presents Starshape DJ Dave spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
Summer Solstice Live performances every Wednesday hosted by DJ/producer Joe Bermudez spinning house and dance beats. 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up R&B, top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mercury Lounge DJs Nomadik and Timmy Allen host a night of soul, funk and house, 9 pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin house and techno, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
Chad LaMarsh performs solo acoustic, 8:30-11 pm. Beach Party with DJs, 11 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
International Wednesdays DJ JC is in the Latin Lounge; DJs Alex and Felix spin in the back, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Wacky Wednesdays Magic with Peter Gross, 6-9 pm, DJ Massi all night, no cover, 21+.

Q
Violation Wednesdays Weekly guest DJs spin today's best music, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of dance and hip-hop, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays DJ Boogie Ba Do spins dub to start the party, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band brings R&B and dance to the main lounge, 9-11 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Martinez spins salsa, cumbia and merengue on one floor, while DJ Supreme spins a New York lounge set (hip-hop, R&B and rock covers) on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5..

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Walt spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; DJ Roger M and DJ Thanos spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men); 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Boston's Biggest College Hip-Hop Night DJs Caprice, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School College Night Old-school rap, funk and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Djs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
Karaoke with DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs spin up-beat house and dance, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Felt
DJ Ghost spins international house and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursdays DJs Dubz and 40D spin reggae, R&B and hip-hop, no cover, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

I/D
Square One Thursdays DJs Dres and Wagz hos night of progressive dance music, 10 pm, $10, 19+

Jose McIntyre's
Live band, 6 pm; DJ Massi, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran sp dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Doc spins the latest tunes, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Milky Way
Club Thursdays Rotating DJs spin dance music pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando prese drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+; 21+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cov 21+.

Pravda 116
DJs spin upbeat lounge music in the front, 10 pm, cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, 21+.

Q
Hip-Hop Thursdays DJ Craig Smooth spins hip-h all night long, 9 pm, $5 (ladies free), 21+.

The Rack
DJ Brian Roche Dance Party, 9 pm-2 am, no cov 21+.

Red Line
Reunion Thursdays NGP All-Stars spin party cl sics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali and Ross spin a mix electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cov 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons a dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin loun music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ DonRico spins salsa, merengue and Latin p and DJ Tegrem spins downtempo retro interna tional, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Ladies Night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cover.

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old-school hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ Seano 5-9 pm; DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $5 after 10:30 pm, 21+.

Aria
Floss DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men); 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Avaland International DJs spin house, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top-40, 9pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
All Axis DJ Dru Nyce, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80s faves, along with Boston's best cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents a night of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and hip-hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal spins a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+, after 11 pm.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
DJ Steve plays house and old-school music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
Persuassion DJ Sun One spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Felt
After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs spin high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Angirsano spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 10 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •Oct. 8: Burnt Sienna. •Oct. 15: The Zoo.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs Big Daddy spins, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins house and old favorites, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before midnight, 21+.

La Boom
Fashion Fridays Firefly Promotions hosts this fashion night featuring DJ Rick Naples, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

Level
10 Productions hosts a party with progressive house music, hip-hop and top-40. 11 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Adilson of Roxy Saturdays spins high-energy house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

McGann's
DJ Eireann spins dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Palace
•**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies, free; men, $5 before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $10, 21+; $15, 18+. •**Rockpile** Rotating bands perform, 9 pm, Ladies free before 11:30 pm; $12, 18+; $8, 21+. •**The Beach House** Reggaeton: Spanish reggae music, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
•Oct. 8: The Zone, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm, $10 ($5 before 9 pm), 21+. •Oct. 15: Mr. Greengenes, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm, $10 ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Greg spins top-40 and '80s hits, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop as he spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ spins in the front and DJ Gabe spins vocal house in the back, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Hip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

Q
DJ Massi plays hip-hop and top-40, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Johnny C, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin quality house, 8 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Lite Nite DJ Easy spins a mix that includes neo-soul and feel-good classics, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top-40, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins Latin house and Latin dance on one floor while DJ Franklin spins international on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats all night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJs Dunleop and Walt mix top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Guest DJs spin high-energy vocal house and hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Tease Saturdays Resident DJ Rick Naples performs along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

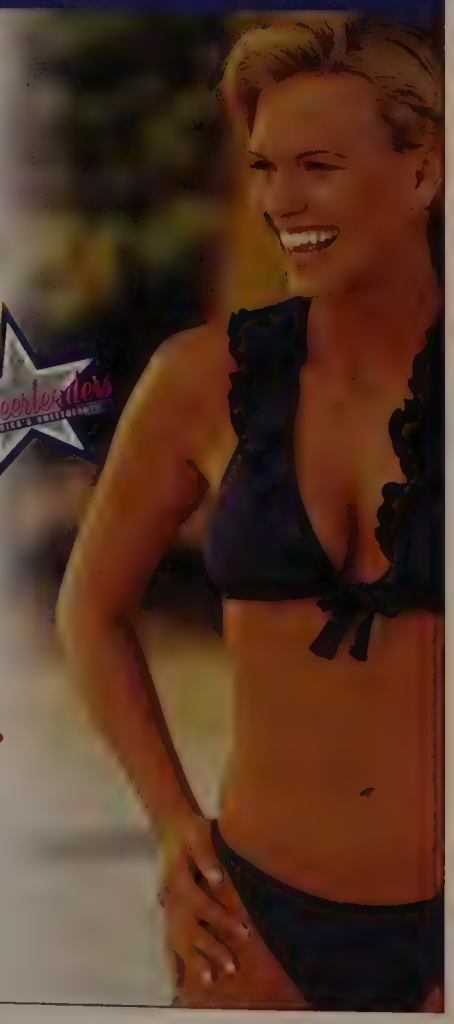
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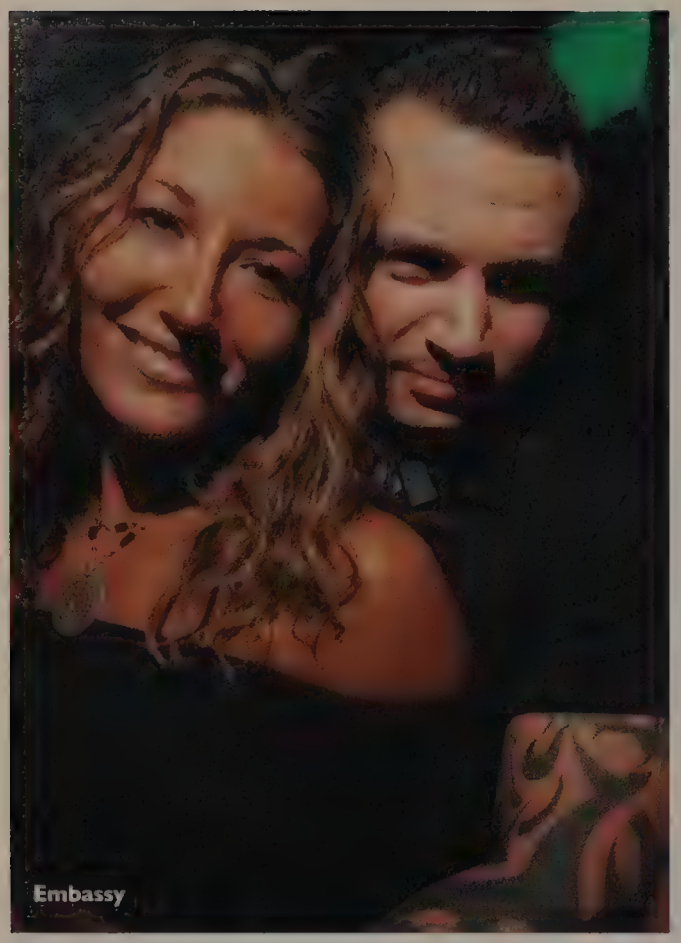
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Embassy

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Lush Life WFNX DJs spin alternative rock, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ Matt Phipps spinning the hottest top-40, hip-hop and '80s faves, along with Boston's best cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. DJs presents top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Franklin creates a lounge atmosphere with his international, Latin and house sounds, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs Dan Spurling amd Chris Orio spin dance and house, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood Women's night, with two floors of hip-hop and house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
Essence DJs Ed and Sal, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop, house and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites, disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, $10, 21+. •Oct. 9: Burnt Sienna. •Oct. 16: The Zoo.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Ryan Bis spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

I//D
X Night WFNX presents a night of retro '80s and rock, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, while downstairs DJ Kieran plays top-40, 9 pm, $6, 21+.

La Boom
Wild on @ La Boom DJ Tim Collins and KISS 108 host a night of music and dancing, 10 pm, 21+.

Level
•Red Square Russian Lounge DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. **•Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 9 pm, 21+.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Shorty spins Latin music, 10 pm, $10, 21+, $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJ Eireann spins dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10 pm, $10, men; $5, women (women admitted free before 10:30 pm); 21+.

The Modern
Material DJ Dru Nyce plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•Club Copa Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies, free; men, $5 before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. **•The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. **•Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. **•Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. **•The Beach House** Classic party music and top-40, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
•Oct. 9: The Zone, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm, $10 ($5 before 9 pm), 21+. •Oct. 16: Mr. Greengenes, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm, $10 ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wonders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles Boston's best DJs spin.

Pravda 116
DJ spins in the front and DJ Gabe spins vocal house in the back, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom Hogan spins the groove, 10 pm, $5, 21+. •Sept. 25: Brick Park.

Q
DJ Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Roche spins, 9 pm- 2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins modern mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Adilson spins house and techno, 9 pm, $15, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancing, 9 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
Resident DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin, international and dance, often joined by live bands and special guest DJs, 10 pm, $10-$15, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins classic old-school, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
Curses Wretched Design presents an evening of gothic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

Aria
DJ Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+

Caprice
DJ spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Devlin's
Industry Night DJ Steve plays house and old-school music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hip-hop downstairs, karaoke upstairs, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance mamba, 10 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

The Kells
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJs Doc & Kieran spin house, top-40 and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Satellite A lesbian night featuring DJ Dee, with dance music, amateur drag contests and films, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Malibu Beach Party DJ Thom spins music from reggae to top-40, with prizes all night, 4-9 pm, DJ Massi spins, 9 pm, $5 men, free for ladies, 21+.

Q
Reggae with Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins dance and top-40, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
Sunday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and guests spin reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
Wicked Wicked Sundays Experimental reggae and hip-hop hosted by Wayne on Wax, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Wepa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sunday of each month, DJ Nik and DJ Hernan play salsa music, 6-10 pm, $12.

Saint
Spice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night featuring Latin and International grooves, 10 pm-2 am, $13.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock, retro and hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Tiki Room
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins Brazilian beats, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Whiskey Park
Cherry DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock classics, hip-hop house and R&B.

Club Venues

An Tain 35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
The G Spot *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
La Boom *One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Light *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *(El Copa, Male Encounter, Officers' Club, Oxygen, Rio, Underground and Uptown) 1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-868-5900).*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300).*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2580).*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9210).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*

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OCTOBER 8-9

'Susie Greene' on HBO's "Curb Your Enthusiasm"

SUSIE ESSMAN

OCTOBER 15-17

From "In Living Color" and the movies "Juwanna Mann", "Booty Call" and "Bamboozled"

TOMMY DAVIDSON





OCTOBER 22-23

Star of HBO's "A Good Catholic Boy" and Showtime's "Richard Jeni: The Boy from New York"

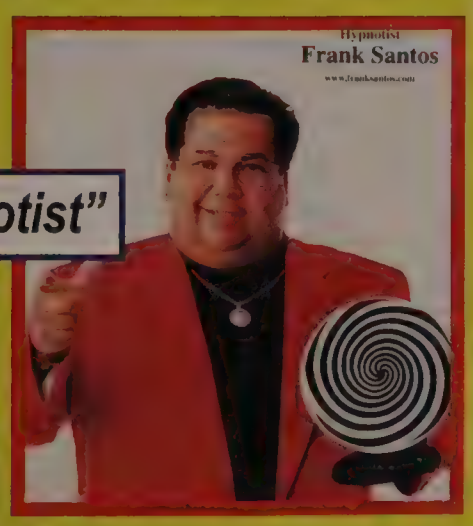
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museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors
Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Dutch and Flemish Drawings from the National Gallery of Canada*, an exhibition of rare drawings and landscapes by Rembrandt and his contemporaries, shows through Oct. 17. •*Closely Focused, Intensely Felt: Selections from the Norma Jean Calderwood Collection of Islamic Art* features Persian artwork from the last millennium. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Masterworks of East Asian Painting* features works on paper and silk from China, Korea and Japan. Through April 13, 2005.

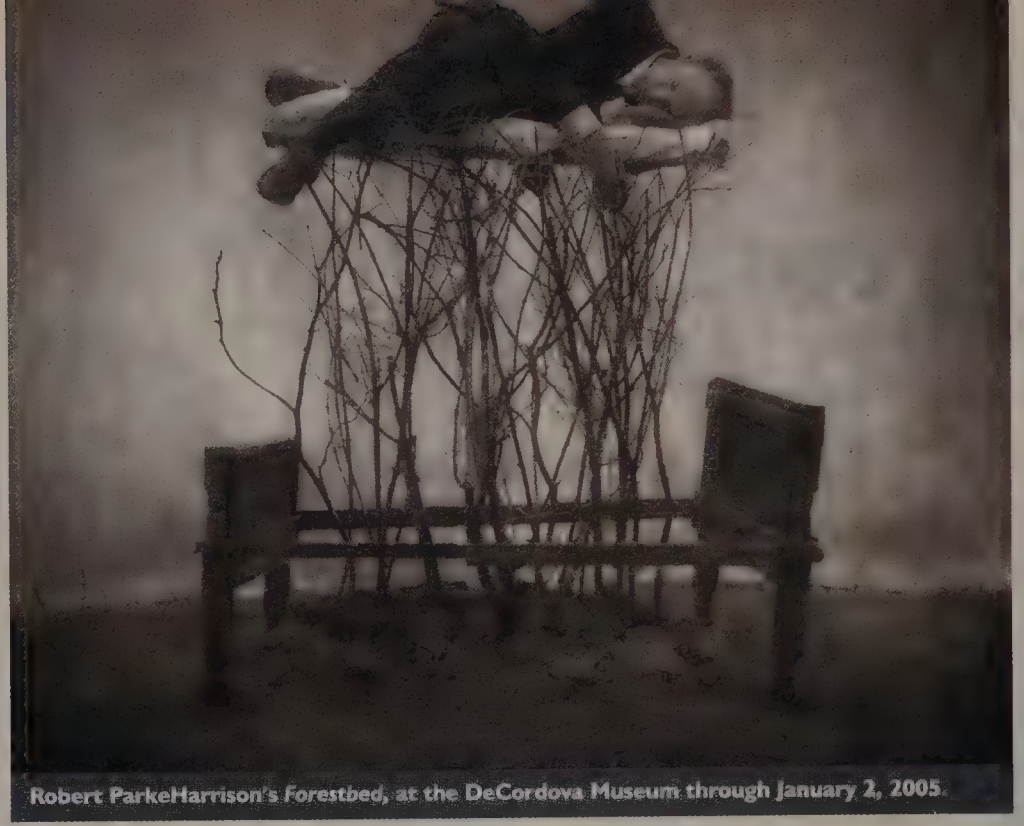
Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm. •*James Joyce* is an exhibition of text and photographs celebrating the life and works of the Irish author. Through Oct. 15.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $6; students and seniors, $4. •Robert ParkeHarrison's *The Architect's Brother* is a five-part exhibition that contemplates the fate of the planet. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Luminous Forms: Abstractions in Color Photography* features photographs that focus on color, form and light as their subjects. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Abstract Elements: The Dr. Beatrice H. Barrett Collection of Art* is a selection of abstract works by regional and international 20th-century artists. Through July 31, 2005. •*Henry Richardson: Chiseled Orb and Mortal Coil* is an ongoing exhibition featuring the artist's large glass sculptures.

Fogg Art Museum/ Busch-Reisinger Museum
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Prints: System, Style and Subject* is a history of printmaking and graphic systems. Oct. 9-Jan. 30, 2005. •*Dependent Objects* displays multidimensional works by German artists that both defy and embrace the concept of object and sculpture in art. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Extra Ordinary Every Day: The Bauhaus at the Busch-Reisinger* is an online exhibition that can be accessed at www.artmuseums.harvard.edu/sites/eoed. Through 2005. •*Rococo Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* is an ongoing exhibit. •*To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* is an ongoing display of 19th-century art. •The exhibits *Basic Research: A Selection of Postwar German Painting and Sculpture*, and *The Figure in French Sculpture 1780-1900* are ongoing.

French Library and Cultural Center
53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Fri. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. Free. • *Following Proust* is an exhibition featuring oil paintings inspired by the life, works and travels of Marcel Proust by Susan Baker. Through Oct. 30.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •*Origins: Life's First Three Billion Years* explores the evolution of life on Earth through paleontological, molecular-biological and geochemical research. Through April 2005. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species, by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.


Robert ParkeHarrison's *Forestbed*, at the DeCordova Museum through January 2, 2005.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5. •*Re-Turning the Past: Cultural Icons Recast*, is an outdoor exhibit by Niho Kozuru in the garden and courtyard of the Paul Revere House (19 North Square). Through Oct. 11. •*Boris Mikhailov: A Retrospective* features more than 500 photographs by the Russian photographer. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Momentum 2/Lucy McKenzie* is an exhibition of new pop-culture-inspired works. Through Jan. 2, 2005.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; seniors, $7; students, $5. members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18 free. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •*Off the Wall: New Perspectives on Early Italian Art at the Gardner Museum* is an exhibition of works by Giotto, Giuliano da Rimini, and Fra Angelico. Oct. 6-Jan. 9, 2005. •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. •Elaine Reichek's embroideries depicting Biblical images borrowed from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists display online in the virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum
Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $8; seniors and students $6; children ages 13-17 $4; children 12 and under admitted free. •*Gifts from the World to the White House: Caroline Kennedy's Doll Collection* features 77 dolls from 30 countries that were given to JFK's daughter between 1961 and 1963. Through Nov. 5. •In honor of this election year, *Campaign!* is an exhibition following JFK's nomination, campaign and inauguration, from 1960-61. Through Jan. 20, 2005.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill, (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-3 pm.; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Fernand Khnopff: Inner Visions and Landscapes* includes more than 80 paintings representing the European Symbolist movement. Through Dec. 5.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. The museum's permanent collection includes more than 1,500 pieces of contemporary art including paintings, murals, sculptures, photography and prints. •*Selections from the Collection* spotlights the work of 17 renowned artists. Through Nov. 19. • *Body Parts: A Self-Portrait by John Coplans* includes black-and-white images of Coplans' aging body and a series of large photographs completed before the artist's death. Oct. 7-Dec. 31. •*Cerith Wyn Evans: Thoughts unsaid, now forgotten...* is an installation by the Welsh artist. Oct. 7-Dec. 31.•*Yael Bartana: Three Works* is an exhibition of three short works focusing on everyday life in Israel. Oct. 7-Dec. 31.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5; students and seniors, $3; children, $1. •*Telling It Like It Is: Student Activism at MIT During the Vietnam War* displays posters from that era. Through fall 2004. •*The Art of Structural Design: A Swiss Legacy* highlights Swiss influences in 20th-century architecture. Through Dec. 30. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features works by the self-described cross between "a mechanical engineer and a choreographer." Ongoing.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. •*Portraits in Black: Gaining Ground, Holding Office* pays tribute to elected black leaders of New England. Through Oct. 23. •*The Times We Had* is an ongoing exhibition spotlighting Boston's African-American community of the 19th-century. •*Building on a Firm Foundation* is a 17-minute multimedia presentation that looks at 19th-century Beacon Hill through the eyes of an African-American teenager. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15; students and seniors, $13; children 17 and under, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free (doesn't include special exhibitions). •*Games for the Gods: The Greek Athlete and the Olympic Spirit* features vases, marbles, bronzes and coins illustrating the ancient Greek games. Through Nov. 28. •*Art Deco: 1910-1939* features more then 240 works, including furniture, textiles, ceramics, fashion and jewelry. Through Jan. 9, 2005. •*Josef Sudek: Poet with a Camera* is an exhibition of the Czech photographer's landscapes, still-lifes and architectural photos. Through Jan. 17, 2005. •*Cerith Wyn Evans* is an installation of seven chandeliers flashing Morse code. Oct. 6-Jan. 30, 2005. •*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13; seniors, $11; children, $10. •*The Lord of the Rings Motion Picture Trilogy—The Exhibition* features memorabilia from the films, including costumes, props and the ring itself. Through Oct. 24. •*Strange Matter* features 10 "experience pods" that explore the use of everyday materials in cardiac surgery, space exploration and more-common events. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum
33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Allen Sisters Pictorial Photographs* is a collection of 25 platinum prints dating from 1885-1920. Through Dec. 12. •*A Changing World: New England in the Photographs of Verner Reed, 1950-1972* displays through Jan. 2, 2005. •Learn how mail-order catalogs revolutionized American shopping in *Satisfaction Guaranteed*. Through Feb. 6, 2005. •*Western Pursuit of the American Dream*, a compilation of artifacts and sculpture from the American West, shows through April 24, 2005. •*The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'd*, an exhibition of 18th-century local history, is ongoing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household objects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. •*To Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community* is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; students, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem, free. •*In Nature's Company* is an exhibition of nature-inspired works by 20 Massachusetts artists. Oct. 8-Sept. 18, 2005. •*American Fancy: Exuberance in the Arts, 1790-1840* showcases more than 200 pieces of early American decorative and folk art. Through Oct. 24. •*Treasures from Chatsworth, a British Noble House*, is a look at centuries of English domestic life through the Cavendish family's rare collection of old master drawings and paintings, books, and jewelry. Through Nov. 7. •*Havana: Photographs by Robert Polidori* features 18 large-scale photographs. Through Jan. 9, 2005. •*Bringing Japan to Boston* features Japanese artifacts from the Edward S. Morse Collection. Through April 30, 2005. •*Carved by Nature* displays ancient Chinese wood carvings. Through June 2005. •The only installation of its kind in North America, *Yin Yu Tang* is a Chinese merchant's home from the late Qing Dynasty, relocated and reconstructed. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology
11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students, $6; children, $5. •*Bringing Japan to Boston: the Edward S. Morse Collection* is a rare display of Japanese artifacts collected from 1877-1879. Through April 2005. •*Painted by a Distant Hand: Mimbres Pottery from the American Southwest* features artifacts from New Mexico's Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through June 2005. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through December 2005. •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments* features the museum's large Mesoamerican cast collection. Ongoing. •*Hall of the North American Indian: Change and Continuity* features art depicting the response of Native Americans across the continent to the arrival of Europeans. Ongoing. •*Encounters with the Americas* is an ongoing exhibition featuring original sculpture and plaster casts of Mesoamerican cultures. •*Pacific Islands Hall*, another ongoing exhibition, displays artifacts from the Pacific Islands.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue-Sat 11 am-5 pm. •*Nanno De Groot: The New York Years* is a show of paintings by the New York School abstract expressionist. Through Oct. 9. •*Early Works*, a collection of paintings by Herman Maril dating from 1929-1956, shows Oct. 14-Nov.13.

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). www.alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Images in Glass*, scenic impressions and images of the human form, shows through Nov. 5.

Allston Skirt Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-3652). www.allstonskirt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. • New works by Michelle Graber and Randal Thurston show through Oct. 30.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Thu., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Landscape and still-life paintings by Bernard Chaet show through Nov. 3.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*New Figurative Works in Tempera* features works by Fred Wessel. Through Oct. 30.

Artana
1378 Beacon St. Suite B, Brookline (617-879-3111) www.artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Tue.- Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am-7 pm. •Bangalore artist Raghava shows watercolors of human figures. Through Oct. 30.

Art Interactive
130 Bishop Allen Drive, Cambridge (617-498-0100). www.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •Jeff Talman's *Sonalumina-13* explores acoustic resonance with aluminum plates. Through Oct. 24.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Rachel Perry Welty's *Daily Bread* shows through Oct. 19.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Re-Visions*, contemporary art by Nancy Sutherland, shows through Oct. 23.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Works by Robert and Shana ParkeHarrison show through Oct. 31.

Boston Sculptors Gallery
486 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-7781). www.bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •Bill Wainwright and Joseph Wheelwright show their work through Oct. 23.

Brickbottom Gallery
1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Trial Runs* displays through October. •*Process to Print*, a group show of progressive and finished proofs, displays through Oct. 23.

Brookline Arts Center
136 Monmouth St., Brookline. (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm. •*Street Scenes: Candid Photography by Scott Dicks* shows through Oct. 22.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 2nd St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). www.cmacusa.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •Ruth Abrams shows collages and assemblages in *The Fabric of Life*. Through Oct. 8.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •Stephen Coyle shows paintings of traffic scenes in *Urban Living*. Through Oct. 30.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Works by Fritz Eichenberg and Bernard Brussel-Smith, and the *Painting Annual* are on display through Nov. 6.

Clifford-Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 300, Boston (617-695-1255). www.cliffordsmithgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5:30 pm. • Photographs by Josh Winer are on display Oct.8-30.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. • *Fall Members' Show: A Juried Exhibition* and Suzanne Crocker's *Red Room* display Oct.7-30.

Crump McCole Gallery
300 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Painters of the New Boston* features works by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •Peter Clemons shows new paintings. Through Oct. 30.

Equator Gallery
450 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-540-9236). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.equatorgallery.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •The gallery specializes in Latin American fine art, including paintings, textiles and ceramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Open Studios Group Show 2004* features works by more than 90 Fort Point artists. Through Oct. 30.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu. and Sat.,12-5 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm. •*Recent Photographs and Paintings*, by Steven Sternbach and Renia Platt, shows through Oct. 23.

The Gallery at Black and White
295 Huntington Ave., Suite 205 (617-266-2641). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Mon.-Fri, 10 am-5 pm. •Antonia Hieronymus shows black-and-white gelatin photographs in *The Human Landscape and Me*. Through Oct. 8. •Susan Wilson's *Monument and Memory*, a show of black-and-white photographs of Paris and the Pere Lachaise Cemetery, displays Oct. 14-Nov. 8.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave #305, Boston (617-423-6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Supply and Demand*, a show of works by Shepard Fairey, displays through Oct. 16.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*John Eric Byers: New Work* displays Oct. 8-Nov. 6.

Gateway Gallery
62 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-1577). MBTA: Green Line to Brookline Village. Mon.-Fri., 9am-4:30pm; Sat., 12am-5pm. • *Magnificent Obsessions*, a group show of abstract works by Yasmin Arshad, John Colby, Maria Covino, John Herzog, Joe Howe and others, shows through Nov. 6.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. David Sullivan displays drawings and paintings Oct. 8-30.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.haleysteele.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •The gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prints. Ongoing.

HallSpace
31 Norfolk Ave., Boston (617-989-9985). www.hallspace.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu. by appointment; Fri. and Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Doug Bell: Nail to Nail* shows Oct. 9-Nov. 6.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Emily Eveleth: Recent Paintings* and *In Between: New Photographs by Oscar Palacio* display through Oct. 19.

Hurst Gallery
53 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-491-6888). www.hurstgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Thu., 12-7 pm. •*The Kepes Collection: Antiquities, Asian and Ethnographic Art* features Indian miniatures, pre-Columbian art, Chinese paintings and Japanese folk art from the Kepes family collection. Through Nov. 20.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters. •*Art Deco Poster Masterpieces, 1921-1939* shows through Nov. 22.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •A video installation by Bruce Bemis shows through Oct.11. •Judi Rotenberg shows new work in *Evolution*. Oct. 14-30.

Kaji Aso Studio
40 St. Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www.kajiasostudio.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Tue. and Thu., 4:30-6:30 pm; Sat., 3-5 pm, and by appointment. •*Open Studios 2004* is a group exhibition of paintings and ceramic works. Through Oct. 7.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. • Jimi Gleason shows his paintings in *New Work*. Through Oct. 30.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Intrigue*, a show of glass sculpture by Sheryl Ellinwood and Mark Hursty, displays through Oct. 15. •*Stone and Ceramic Abstracted* is a show of new works by Paul Braun and Michael Gustavson. Through Nov. 18.

Mark Gallery
141 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6275). www.markartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm, and by appointment. •*Pogany & Pilato: Paintings and Prints* shows through Oct. 15. •*Aura*, an exhibition of paintings, sculptures and drawings by Juan Jose Barboza Gubo, Marie Coppola and Jean Sbarra, shows Oct. 16-Nov. 12.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Joseph Solman: Seventy Years of Painting* shows through Oct. 12. •*Louis Schanker: A Retrospective of Works from 1924-1981* shows Oct. 23-Nov. 16.

Mills Gallery
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed., Thu. and Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-10 pm. •*Exposing Scarlet: A Visual Response to The Scarlet Letter* celebrates the bicentennial of Nathaniel Hawthorne's life with works by 14 artists that address issues raised in the author's famous novel. Through Oct. 31.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*Connections* is a group show of jewelry. Through Oct. 30.

NAO Project Gallery
535 Albany St., Boston (617-451-2977). www.naoprojectgallery.info. Thu.-Sat., 12am-5pm and by appointment. •*Janine Al-Bayati: Mixed Media Works & Necessary Dimensions* shows through Oct. 23.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •Sam Messer's *Why I'm Not Where You Are* features paintings of the artist's daughter and wife. Through Oct. 23.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •A local-artists showcase is ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Andrew Nixon shows oil-on-canvas and oil-on-paper landscapes. Through Oct. 9. • Michael David displays his paintings in *Works from Provincetown*. Oct.14-Nov.13.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Mingei* is a group show of Japanese pottery by Shoji Hamada, Tatsuzo Shimaoka, Noriyasu Tsuchiya and Ken Matsuzaki. Through Oct. 15.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (617-482-9988). www.qingping.org. Daily, 1 pm-12 am and by appointment. •*Those Who Wait*, a group show of works by Beijing avant-garde artists Su Xinping, Lui Qinghe, Zhou Jirong and Lu Peng, displays through Oct. 31.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Work by Marie Cosindas shows through Oct. 9. •Chris Hooper's photographs of the Pacific Ocean display Oct. 14-Nov. 13.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat., 11 am-5:00 pm. •*Fine Lithographs and Etchings* features works by Marc Chagall, Joan Miro, Georges Rouault and others. Through Dec. 31.

Samson Projects
450 Harrison Ave., Bost on, (617-357-7177). www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Notorious Impropriety* is a group show of paintings, video and drawings. Through Oct. 29.

The Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*The Artists Awards Show* honors New England craft and media artists. Through Oct. 31.

Somerville City Hall
93 Highland Ave., Somerville (617-625-6600 x 2985). www.somervilleartscouncil.org. Mon.-Wed., 8:30 am-4:30 pm; Thu., 8:30 am-7:30 pm; Fri., 8:30 am-12:30 pm. •*Second Nature* is a group show of paintings, drawings and sculpture by local artists. Through Nov. 1.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •A show of works by William St. George, Christina Keating, Sandra Mueller-Dick, Judy St. Peter and Anne Grandin is ongoing.

Victoria Munroe Fine Art
59 Beacon St., Boston (617-523-0661). www.munroefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line or Red Line to Park Street. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm and by appointment. •*Todd McKie: French Stones & Drawings* shows through Oct. 16.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8:30am-5:30pm; Sat., 10am-5:30pm. •*The Eqoquent Line: Preparatory Sketches for Israel and the Law* by John Singer Sargent displays through Oct. 16.

Wentworth Gallery
The Mall at Chestnut Hill, 199 Boylston St. (Route 9), Chesnut Hill (617-262-8770). www.wentworthgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri. 10 am-9:30 pm; Sat. 10am-8 pm; Sun. 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection features works by Dali, Chagall and Miro.

Zeitgeist Gallery
1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060). www.zeitgeist-gallery.org. Tue.-Sun., 1-7 pm. •Chris Caleo shows his abstract paintings in *Urban Deities*. Through Oct. 10. •Barry Bent displays figurative paintings Oct. 19-24.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. •*The End of Polio* features work by Sebastião Salgado. Through Oct. 31. •*Armenia and Karabagh: The Aftermath* is a show of photographs by Paul Mellor. Through Nov. 26.

Panopticon Gallery Kenmore
502-C Comm Ave., Boston (617-267-8929). www.panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-7 pm. •*Home Run*, a show of vintage baseball photographs, displays through October. •*American Politics*, a collection of historical political photographs, shows through Nov. 13.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www.panopt.com. Commuter Rail to Waltham. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*American Politics*, a collection of historical political photographs, shows through Nov. 13.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Arlington Open Studios
Arlington Center for the Arts, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781- 648-6220). www.acarts.org. Oct. 16 and 17, 12-5pm. More than 60 artists from Arlington and surroundings communities open their studios to the public and allow visitors to gain an insider view of their original art and their work spaces.

Fort Point Arts Community Open Studios
(617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Oct. 15, 4-7:30 pm; Oct. 16 and 17, 12-6 pm. More than 200 Fort Point artists showcase their work to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Boston's longest running open studios.

Windows Art Project
Union Square, Somerville (617-625-6600 x 2985). www.somervilleartscouncil.org. Daily through Oct. 15. •Twenty-five local artists display their work in public spaces and businesses throughout Union Square.

books & poetry

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to books@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner 7 pm. Free. Astronomer **Neil deGrasse Tyson** reads from his book *Origins*, an exploration of the development of the cosmos and the companion book for the PBS-*Nova* miniseries.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Software company founder **Frans Johansson** discusses his book *The Medici Effect: Breakthrough Insights at the Intersection of Ideas, Concepts, and Cultures*, which argues that innovations occur when knowledge from one field is brought into new territory.

Hotel Marlowe
25 Edwin Land Blvd., Cambridge (617-395-2523). www.pen-ne.org. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. 6:15 pm. Free. The Pen New England Author Series features Brookline resident **Eve LaPlante** who reads from her books *American Jezebel: The Uncommon Life of Anne Hutchinson, the Woman Who Defied the Puritans* and *Seized Temporal Lobe Epilepsy as a Medical, Historical and Artistic Phenomenon.*

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. New York sex columnist **Amy Sohn** reads from her novel *My Old Man*, about a 26-year-old Brooklyn woman suffering a quarterlife crisis, and her dysfunctional family.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7

Boston Public Library
Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-2270). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 2 pm. Free. NPR music critic and *Boston Globe* writer **Scott Alarik** discusses his book *Deep Community: Adventures in the Modern Folk Underground*, about the current folk music scene.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). events@brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner 7 pm. Free. *New Yorker* contributor **Jon Lee Anderson** presents his book, *The Fall of Baghdad*, an account of the ways in which war impacts soldiers, civilians and journalists in Baghdad.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-0372). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Adam Braver** discusses his novel *Divine Sarah*, a fictionalized account of a week in the life of renowned stage actress Sarah Bernhardt. Also, **Damon Krukowski** reads his poetry.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Thalassa Ali** reads from her novel *A Beggar at the Gate*, set in 19th-century British India.

Kate's Mystery Books
2211 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-2660). www.katesmysterybooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 6 pm. Free. Crime writer **Dana Stabenow** signs copies of her book *A Taint in the Blood: A Kate Shugak Novel*, about an investigation into an old murder conviction in Alaska.

Newtonville Books
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Barbara Sutton** reads from *The Send-Away Girl*, her collection of short stories about characters trying to find or maintain relationships.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **S.E. Hinton** discusses her novel *Hawkes Harbor*, a horror story about a young man who faces life-threatening adventures in a small town on the Delaware coast.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner 7 pm. Free. **Augusten Burroughs** reads from his new collection of humorous essays, *Magical Thinking.*

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Cardiologist **Svetlana Broz** discusses her book *Good People in an Evil Time: Portraits of Complicity and Resistance in the Bosnian War*, in which she presents narratives of regular people affected by the breakup of Yugoslavia.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 2 pm. Free. Harvard residential adviser **Douglas Stone** and Harvard graduate **Elizabeth Tippett** discuss the book they co-wrote, *Real College: The Essential Guide to Student Lifes*, a guide for helping students cope with college life.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 11

Barnes and Noble at BU
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-236-7448). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. Boston University professor **Bruce J. Schulman** discusses his book *The Seventies: The Great Shift in American Culture, Society and Politics*, which examines the 1970s as one of the most dynamic post-World War II decades.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Social critic **Carol Brightman** discusses her book *Total Insecurity: The Myth of American Omnipotence* which examines the possible effects of the Iraq war.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Samantha Ettus** discusses her book *The Experts' Guide to 100 Things Everyone Should Know How to Do*, which includes 100 brief how-to essays.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Brookline (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7 pm. Free. **Wendy Drexler**, **Faye George** and **David Slavitt** read their poetry.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **David Gilbert** reads from his novel *The Normals*, which tackles issues like medical ethics, the search for grace and the meaning of love.

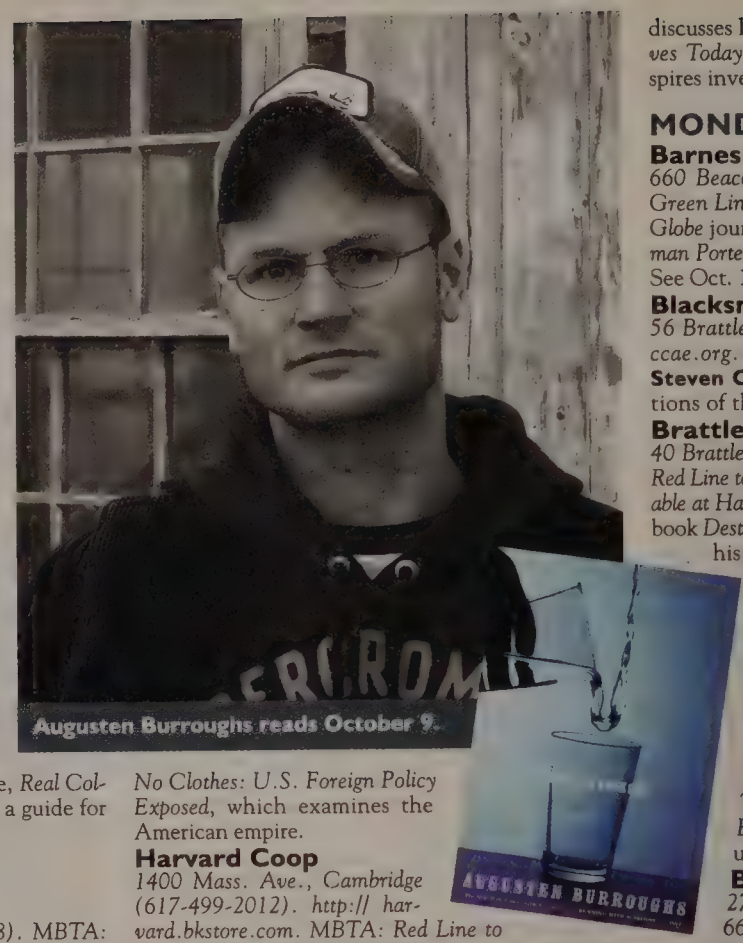
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13

Borders Boston
Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. 12:30 pm. Free. Former associate commissioner of the MDC **Neil Savage** reads from *Extraordinary Tenure: Massachusetts and the Making of a Nation* his book about the presidents, governors, senators and congressmen who came out of Massachusetts.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard Street, Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner 7 pm. Free. **Natalie Goldberg** discusses her memoir, *The Great Failure*, about pivotal figures in her life and how they influenced her.

French Library and Cultural Center
53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30 pm. $35; FLCC members, $25. Reservations recommended. Canadian journalists **Jean-Benoit Nadeau** and **Julie Barlow** sign copies of the book they co-wrote, *Sixty Million Frenchmen Can't Be Wrong*, about the cultural differences that create misunderstandings between Americans and the French.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4:30 pm. Free. Consultant and Antiwar.com columnist **Ivan Eland** discusses his book *The Empire Has No Clothes: U.S. Foreign Policy Exposed*, which examines the American empire.



Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Yale University graduate **Ralph Lopez** reads from his second novel, *American Dreams*, about the U.S. after September 11.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14

Boston Public Library
Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-661-0372). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30 pm. Free. Johns Hopkins University professor of psychiatry **Kay Redfield Jamison** reads from her new book, *Exuberance: The Passion for Life*, about how exuberance can drive creative and scientific achievements.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Dom Capossela** talks about his cookbook *Cooking in Real Life.*

Harvard University Lamont Library
Harvard Yard, Cambridge (617-495-2454). http://hul.harvard.edu/calendar. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5:30 pm. Free. Harvard graduate **Tracy K. Smith** reads her poetry.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Brookline (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7 pm. Free. Former *Boston Globe* journalist **Larry Tye** discusses his book *Rising from the Rails: Pullman Porters and the Making of the Black Middle Class*, which examines the role of Pullman porters in the evolution of race relations in America.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. Boston College professor **Juliet Schor** reads from her book *Born to Buy: The Commercialized and the New Consumer Culture*, which examines how commercialism affects children.

Somerville Public Library
40 College Ave., Somerville (617-623-5000). www.somervillepubliclibrary.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. Somerville Arts Council fiction fellows **Lenore Myka**, **Karen Propp** and **Jennifer Rappaport** read from their works in progress.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15

Grolier Poetry Series
Grolier Poetry Book Shop, 6 Plympton St., Cambridge (617-661-0372). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. **Jean Valentine** reads from her latest volume of poetry, *Door in the Mountain, New and Collected Poems.*

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-0372). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. Harvard professor **Maria Tatar** discusses her book *The Annotated Brothers Grimm*, a collection of newly translated and previously unpublished stories.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Former *BusinessWeek* editor **Evan Schwartz** discusses his book *Juice: The Creative Fuel That D ves Today's World-Class Inventors*, about what i spires inventors.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 18

Barnes and Noble at BU
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-236-7448). MBT Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. Former Bost *Globe* journalist **Larry Tye** reads from his book *Pi man Porters and the Making of the Black Middle Cl* See Oct. 14 Newton Free Library for a description

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). ww ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $ **Steven Cramer** and **Christina Pugh** read sel tions of their poetry.

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-661-0372). MBT Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free; tickets required, av able at Harvard Book Store. **James Ellroy** discusses book *Destination: Morgue!: L.A. Tales*, a collectior his articles, including many published dur his stint as a writer for GQ.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-6 0372). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard pm. Free; tickets are available at Harv Book Store. Local author **Susan Orle** discusses her new book, *My Kind of Pla Travel Stories from a Woman Who's B Everywhere*, a collection of essays about usual locales and events.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard Street, Brookline (617-5 6660). MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Cor 7 pm. Free. **Nancy Reisman** reads from debut novel, *The First Desire*, about a Jewish fan in Buffalo, N.Y.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-201 http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to H vard. 7 pm. Free. **Dan Gordon** and **Gary Jose** read from the book they've co-written, *Cape counters: Contemporary Cape Cod Ghost Stor* which includes 40 Cape Cod-based ghost stories.

Grolier Poetry Series
Grolier Book Shop, 6 Plympton St., Cambridge (6 661-0372). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. F **Lisa Beskin** and **Kevin Goodan** read their poetry.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Brookline (617-796-1360). w ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: Green Line to New Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. Rabbi **Harold Kush** discusses his book *The Lord Is My Shepherd: H ing Wisdom of the Twenty-third Psalm*, a guid living with religious faith.

Newtonville Books and Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). w newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Lin Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **David Me** reads from his new short-story collection, *The cret Goldfish.*

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (6 354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. 2 $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lou hosts this poetry slam downstairs in the Third F

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). w poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 $5. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background m for the poetry slam team.

New Voices Open Mike (Third Frid
Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St., Camb (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MB Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $5. The Center hosts open mike for women and their allies with five- 10-minute slots available.

Out of the Blue Gallery (Saturdays
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Camb (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Cen •Mondays, 8 pm (7:30 pm sign-up): Jack Po hosts Stone Soup, with poetry features an open mike. $4 donation suggested. •Saturda pm: Come share or listen to poetry and pr Deborah Priestly hosts. $3-$5 suggested donati

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursd
Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-71 MBTA: Blue Line to Government Center. 6:30 Free. The second Thursday of each month off selection of featured poets and an opportunit others to take the open mike.

education

dvice to Contributors
ubmit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Cal-ndar: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to ublication.

VEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6
he Power of Randomness in omputation
idcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, 34 Concord ve., Cambridge (617-496-0614). www.radcliffe.u.events. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free. idcliffe Institute fellow **David Zuckerman** dis-sses the concept of randomness in mathematics.

HURSDAY, OCTOBER 7
awthorne's Friends in Salem: The on-Literary Companions He Chose
ouse of Seven Gables, 54 Turner St., Salem (978-4-0991). www.7gables.org. 7 pm. Free. Professor **homas Woodson** of Ohio State University dis-sses author Nathaniel Hawthorne and his com-nions in 19th-century Salem.

vest in Your Debt
ston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., ston (617-495-3045). www.bcae.org. MBTA: een line to Arlington. 6:30-9:30 pm. $38 members, 2 nonmembers. Financier **Dave Ireland** leads this urse for those who would like to attain financial bility by eliminating their debts.

he Legendary Lions of Tsavo: Manes id Man-eating Revisited
rvard Museum of Natural History Geological Lec-e Hall, 24 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). w.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Har-d. 6 pm. Free. **Dr. Bruce Patterson,** the Mac-thur curator of mammals at Chicago's Field Mu-im, identifies and dispels myths surrounding the amous "man-eaters of Tsavo" and African lions in neral.

ree Years After 9/11: A Civil berties Health Check
erson College Library, 120 Boylston St., Boston 7-824-8670). www.emerson.edu/library. MBTA: en Line to Boylston. 12 pm. Free. **Nancy Murray,** ector of the ACLU of Massachusetts' Bill of ghts Education Project, discusses the effects the riot Act has had.

UNDAY, OCTOBER 10
ade in Cuba: Children of Paradise
l South Meeting House, 310 Washington Street, ston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeeting use.org. MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. 0 pm. Free. This hour-long educational docu-ntary tells the story of children born and raised Cuba after the Castro Revolution of 1959. A el discussion follows.

UESDAY, OCTOBER 12
Conversation with Robert C. Byrd
K Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston 7-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red e to South Station. 5:30 pm. Free. NPR's Dick rdon leads a discussion with West Virginia Sen-r **Robert Byrd** about his book *Losing America: nfronting A Reckless and Arrogant Presidency* and vote against President Bush's attack on Iraq.

bbalah: Myth, Metaphor or Fact?
ndeis University, Epstein Building, 515 South et, Waltham (781-736-8100). www.brandeis./centers/wsrc. 12:30 pm. Free. **Rosie Rosen-g,** a Women's Studies Research Center scholar Brandeis University, leads a discussion on Kab-ah, a facet of Jewish mysticism.

EDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13
mbridge Forum
hurch St., Cambridge (617-495-2727). www.bridgeforum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 0 pm. Free. Pulitzer Prize-winning writer **Dale haridge** and photographer **Michael Williamson** uss post-Sept. 11 America and their book, neland.

shion Arts in the Age of Fancy
body Essex Museum, East India Square, Salem 8-745-9500). www.pem.org. 1:30 pm. Free museum admission. **Paula Richter**, curator of iles and costumes, discusses the exuberant and ginative styles known as "Fancy" along with er American fashions dating from 1790-1840.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14
From Patent to Market: How to Make Your Invention a Reality
Boston Public Library, 800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-2226). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30 pm. Free. **David Rardin** of the Inventors' Association of New England discusses patenting an invention without an attorney, and **Doris Chu** of the Service Corps of Retired Executives discusses strategies for manufacturing a product.

Love for Love's Sake: Devotion and Decadent Style
Devlin Hall, Boston College, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-552-3705). www.bc.edu/lowell. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. 7:30 pm. Free. Associate English professor at Cornell and author of *Decadence and Catholicism* **Ellis Hanson** discusses influence of art and sexuality in late-19th-century European Catholic rituals.

The Origins of Life on Earth: Did It All Begin in a Warm Little Pond?
Harvard Museum of Natural History Geological Lecture Hall, 24 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. Astrobiologist **Antonio Lazcano** discusses the absence of a geological record of Earth's original environment.

Reproductive Health in the 21st Century
Radcliffe Institute, 34 Concord Ave.,Cambridge (617-495-8600).www.radcliffe.edu/events. MBTA: Red line to Harvard. 4 pm-6 pm. Free. This annual conference focuses on women, gender and society while examining ideas surrounding reproductive health.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15
The Bacchanalian Tradition in British Isles Songs, 1600-1900
The Commander's Mansion, 440 Talcott Ave., Watertown (617-972-8300 ext. 22). www.revels.org. 7:30 pm. $20. **David Ingle,** co-creator of *Drinking: The Musical—The Social History of Taverns and Temperance*, hosts the first Revels Salon of the season, about the cultural history of drinking. A sing-along of Irish, English and Scottish pub songs follows.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16
Landscaping with Nature
Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary, 280 Eliot St.,Natick (508-655-2296). www.massaudubon.org. 10 am-12 pm. $15 members, $18 nonmembers. Award-winning architect and author **Tom Wirth** leads a workshop about leaf color, bark texture, fruit and flower trees for all four seasons.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17
Three Philosophical Filmmakers: Hitchcock, Welles, Renoir
Boston Public Library, 800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-2226). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 2 pm. Free. MIT philosophy professor and author of *Three Philosophical Filmmakers* **Irving Singer** discusses how the three directors presented different perceptions of reality in their films.

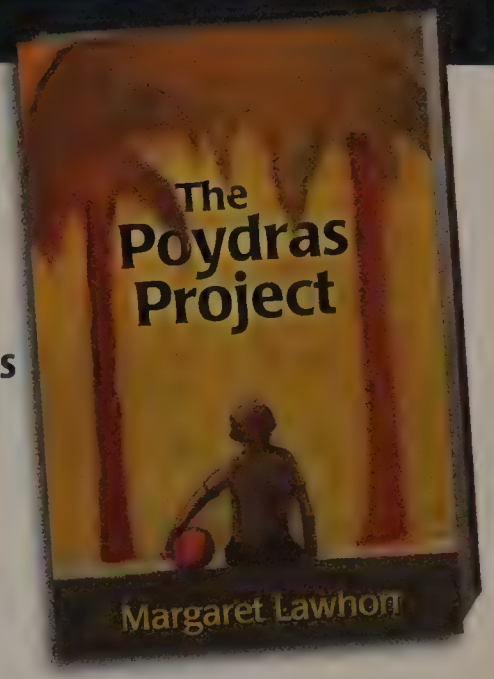
Women in Espionage
National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. 2 pm. Free. Former CIA head of disguise **Jonna Mendez** discusses women in the field of intelligence, from the Revolutionary War to today.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19
Changing Concepts of Grief
Brandeis University, Epstein Building, 515 South Street, Waltham (781-736-8100). www.brandeis.edu/centers/wsrc. 12:30pm. Free. **Phyllis Silverman**, a Women's Studies Research Center scholar at Brandeis University and bereavement expert lectures on ways to cope with the death of a spouse.

Hip-Hop Politics
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. 6 pm. **Derrick Ashong** of Harvard University, hip-hop activist **Kiki Breevlit** and others discuss rap music and hip-hop culture's political impact.

Passing Time: What Do We Know About Now?
McIntyre & Moore Booksellers, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-4840). www.mcintyreandmoore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 7:30 pm. Free. **Tom Clark**, director of Boston's Center for Naturalism, leads a discussion of the physics of time.

The Poydras Project
Margaret Lawhon



A compelling fictional account of how a bioterrorist plot could become one of America's worst nightmares

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Friday, October 22 7PM
CHRIS BOHJALIAN *Before You Know Kindness*
The author of *Midwives, The Law of Similars,* and *Trans-Sister Radio,* presents his novel of "ordinary people in heartbreaking circumstances behaving with grace and dignity" (The San Francisco Chronicle).



Monday, October 25 6PM
COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE Tickets $2
RUSSELL BANKS *The Darling*
With his newest, *The Darling,* Russell Banks captures the turmoil of the '60s and '70s with the story of a member of the radical Weather Underground who flees to West Africa, where life is no less turbulent.



Thursday, October 28 7PM
Award-winning Story Collection Extravaganza:
MERRILL FEITELL *Here Beneath Low Flying Planes*
DAVID MEANS *The Secret Goldfish*
BARBARA SUTTON *The Send-Away Girl*
Three authors, slathered with literary acclaim, unite their short story powers for one exciting night.

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Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am.; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's new leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $8 under 21. $5 for 21+. DJ John Morris spins progressive house for Lust, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $15, 21+. For 20 years, these folks have cranked out Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. Enjoy three separate dance floors plus drag acts. Resident DJ Ted Elison spins house.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show, and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Club Europa (Fridays)
57 Stuart St., Boston (617-417-0186). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.twistboston.com. Fri., 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+ after 11 pm. DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s tunes at this women's night.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $8 weekends, 21+. Patrons relax with a friendly crowd and mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month is the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground. The typical lineup features musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Tuesdays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Latin night with resident DJ Amador, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Tue.: Service Industry Night, with DJ Afrodite.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 19+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: New Wave Dance Party with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Milky Way Lounge (Sundays)
401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+. Every Sunday the Milky Way Lounge presents Satellite, a queer night for ladies. Live entertainment varies from week to week and includes Fireballs Drag Bingo, spoken-word events and jazz.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Omar. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. Private, members-only club, predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room and video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music pumps, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.


Tim Miller performs his latest show, *Us*, at this year's Out on the Edge theater festival.

Shows & Events

Building Bridges Conference
Crowne Plaza, 1360 Worcester St., Natick (888-303-1746). www.lovethatworks.org. Oct 15-17. Hotel room rates vary. The fourth annual Building Bridges conference, "Building Bridges: Share Our Similarities, Celebrate Our Differences," brings Bostonians together for discussion of issues such as ignorance and intolerance.

Gay & Lesbian Single Professionals for the Arts
Starbucks, 443 Boylston St., Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Oct. 16, 4-6:30pm. $40. Tour Boston-area galleries with other singles and mingle over post-tour cocktails at Hamersley's Bistro. Reservations required.

A Little Klez
Holiday Inn, 1200 Beacon St., Brookline (617-232-5543). www.amtikva.org. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Oct. 16. 8 pm. $25. Temple A Tikva, Boston's congregation of GLBT Jews, ce brates the addition of its first Torah with a nigh dancing to the music of A Little Klez.

Out on the Edge: Festival of LGBT Theater
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Bos (617-933-8600). www.thetheateroffensive.c Through Oct. 24. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 p $21-$29. The Theater Offensive presents its 1 annual festival, featuring performances by T Miller, Hanifah Walidah, Five Lesbian Broth the Oops Guys and others.

Rainbow Festival
Machine, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-195 MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Oct. 9, 7 pm-2 $15-$20. The Massachusetts Area South As Lambda Association celebrates its 10th annivers with this celebration of South Asian queer cult The night includes music from DJ Ajay as wel South Asian–themed drinks and fare.

The Tiffany Club Fall Fling
Provincetown Inn, 1 Commercial St., Provincet (781-891-9325). www.tcne.org. Oct. 8-10. $75. members of Tiffany Club, a group for transgende people, at the 24th annual Columbus Day week Fall Fling fund-raiser in Provincetown. The we end kicks off with a Friday night meet-and-g dinner and live music by DJ Brenda R.

Women's Week at Provincetown
Various Provincetown hotels, (508-487-2666). w womeninnkeepers.com. Oct. 8-17. Prices vary f event to event. The 20th annual Women's Wee Provincetown features festivals, golf tournamen prom, a fun run and much more.

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MB Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 6-9 The Boston Alliance for Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and cial events for young people seeking commur support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and bians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arling Wed., 7 pm. Come share thoughts about bo videos and other topics of interest in a supportive vironment. Open to all bisexual men and wome

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., C bridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tuesday o month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is ope all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning wome

Boston Bay Blades
www.bayblades.org/boston. All are welcome to this competitive, recreational group of rowers scullers.

COOKING FOR A CAUSE
An evening of food and wine to benefit East End House

East End House's COOKING FOR A CAUSE on September 18 was a spectacular success! This event could not have been possible without the support and commitment of so many people.

Thank you to all the chefs, wineries and specialty vendors who provided their expertise, time and fine donations.

Thank you to our Chefs, Restaurants, Wineries and Specialty Vendors
Aura, *Chef Frank Toohey*
Beacon Hill & Bistro, *Chef Benjamin Knack*
Brasserie Jo, *Chef Olivier Rigaud*
Chez Henri, *Chef Bob Cina*
Fireplace, *Chef Jim Solomon*
Grill 23 & Bar, *Chef Jay Murray*
Harvest Restaurant, *Chef Bill Fogarty*
Henrietta's Table *Chef Peter Davis*
Icarus, *Chef Chris Douglass*
Jer-ne at The Ritz Carlton, *Chef Ulrich Koberstein*
Julien, Chef Mark Sapienza
Sage, *Chef Anthony Susi*
Pigalle, *Chef Marc Orfaly*
Rouge and Tremont 647, *Chef Andy Husbands*
Ruby Room at the Onyx Hotel, *Chef Jonnatan Leiva*
Sweet Basil, *Chef Dave Becker*
AIDIL Wine & Liquors
Boston Wine Company
Edison Light Beer
Dewar's
Frederick Wildman Imports
Horizon Beverage
Masciarelli Wine Company
Sakonnet Vineyards
Vias Imports
Westport Rivers Winery
William Grant Imports
Dancing Deer Baking Company
Armeno Coffee Roasters
Christina's Homemade Ice Cream
Pepsi
Luc Robert, Executive Chef, Event Culinary Chair, The Union Club
Geoffrey Fallon, Sommelier, Event Wine Chair, Les Zygomates

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Thank you also to the countless other individuals, businesses, and volunteers who provided time, commitment and support!

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 m; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symhony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players nd their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). www.bgbl.com. The league offers full regular season and playoff schedule each ear.

Boston Gay Skins
amrod, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). ww.bostongayskins.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenore. 11 pm. Boston's nonracist gay skinhead collecve meets the third Friday of the month.

Boston GLASS Community Center
3 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: reen Line to Hynes. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri, 3-5 n. The center provides social activities for questoning young people, ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
oston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston. MBTA: Green ne to Hynes. www.lesbianavengers.org. Thu., 7-8 pm. his bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action politil group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
entral Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., maica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. BTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm. A y and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400ember gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
(617-417-0876). Third Sat. of each month, 10:30 am- pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays erywhere) meets in Medford for support and acvities and holds a concurrent meeting for interted parents and their partners. For info, e-mail edfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
oston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Liv Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-95). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to ck Bay. First Wednesday and third Thursday of ch month, 7 pm, free. An informal group for peoe who think they may be bisexual or attracted to re than one sex.

Coming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning People
(617-256-8693). This group welcomes those who nt to discuss the challenges and the joys of coming t. It meets Thursday nights, from 7-8:30 pm, in mbridge.

Compass
(831-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area pport, information and social group for people signed female at birth who feel that is not an acurate or complete description of their gender. Part the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group ets monthly. E-mail CompassFTM@usa.com for ails.

East Coast Wrestling Club
(201-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www.east stwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay male wrestlers more than 160 members.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group elcomes gay and gay-friendly professional women and older who are intelligent, chic and sophistiged to get together with like-minded women for versations, dinners, theater and networking.

Fenway Community Health
Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fenway ealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Fenway Community Health offers a wide array of programs al services for the GLBT community ranging from cussions about parenting and safe-sex practices to mestic violence and substance abuse. Call for re information

GLAG Flag Football
ww.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Join Boston's GLBT Flag Football League for a casual spring sea-, followed by a formal fall season. All are welne, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., ston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring.com/ rontrunners. Sat., 10 am. All are welcome to join running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Group
Address available upon request, Boston. Learn more out photography, socialize and meet new people at se monthly meetings. For more information e-ail amateurgphoto@yahoo.com.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
(617-267-9001 or 888-340-4528). Mon.-Fri., 6-11 P Sat. and Sun., 5-10 pm. This confidential, toll-free hotline provides support for GLBT and questioning callers.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Professionals Building Community
(617-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to join this networking organization for GLBT professionals. Monthly networking meetings.

Gaymes Group
(508-339-4250). Members of this social group for gay men and lesbians get together on a regular basis to play board, card and parlor games.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. $5-$10. An open-mike night open to new performers, this queer-positive, dyke-positive, bi-positive and transpositive spoken-word event meets the second Thursday of each month, 7:30 pm.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

Girlz 2 Girlz
(781-893-6113). This mentoring program is for girls ages 13-19 who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered. For information, contact Marcela Aldez-Osorio.

Laffan
This social and networking group for women includes single women, couples and parents interested in art, cultural events, outdoor and sporting activities, intellectual and social pursuits, public service and travel. Members receive a weekly email calendar of events. For info, e-mail Laffan_Boston2004 @yahoo.com.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue., Wed. and Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

The Network/La Red
(617-423-7233). The Network is a support group working to end abuse in lesbian and bisexual women's and transgender communities. E-mail info@thenetworklared.org for more information.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

Peer Listening Line
(800-399-7337). Trained volunteers provide confidential information, referrals and support to their GLBT peers.

The Rainbow Café
rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social group for activist, academic, intellectual or artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatinos lgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Road, Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Street. First Sat. of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing. $8. Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the GLBT community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the first Thursday of every month.



body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.



Aziza Scott leads Sufi meditation October 16.

Events

Alternative Connections Expo
Sheraton Colonial Hotel, Wakefield (413-258-0228). www.angelconnections.com. Oct. 17, 9 am-5 pm. $5 for expo only or $25 for expo and all workshops. Check out a wide variety of vendors and workshops dealing with alternative health, healing and esoteric studies. Professional psychic readings are also available.

New England Kundalini Yoga Fall Festival
Millis (508-376-4525). Oct. 16. Stimulate your energy while relaxing mind and body at the eighth annual Kundalini Yoga Fall Festival. Teachers include Gurucharan Singh Khalsa, Gurmukh Kaur Khalsa and Snatam Kaur.

Theology on Tap
Rattlesnake Bar and Grill, 384 Boylston St., Boston (617-523-2377 ext. 32). www.friendsattheadvent.org. Oct. 12 and 19, 7 pm. Free. Men and women in their twenties and thirties discuss issues involving Christian faith in a casual atmosphere. Each week features different topics and speakers.

Whole Body and Spirit Expo
Radisson Hotel Plymouth Harbor, 180 Water St., Plymouth (508-398-7473). www.chironexpos.com. Oct. 9, 9:30 am-8 pm; Oct. 10, 9:30 am-5 pm. $8 for one day, $15 for two days. Spend the day sampling new products and treatments and discovering a variety of healing and personal growth techniques. Speakers include authors Ruth Fishel and Ilana Marks as well as kabbalist and author Moshe Daniel Block.

Lectures

Doctors and Healers and Gurus...Oh, My!
Wellspace, 1 New St., Fresh Pond Mall, Cambridge (617-876-2660). www.wellspace.com. MBTA: Red Line to Alewife. Oct. 15, 7-9 pm. $10. Participants learn how to select the healing approaches—from both Western medicine and alternative therapies—best suited to their specific needs and health goals, as well as how to locate caregivers. Karl Berger, founder and coordinator of the Integrative Medical Alliance, hosts.

Reincarnation and Soul Learning
New Acropolis Organization, First Parish Unitarian Church, 2000 Mass. Ave., #1. Cambridge (617-864-5720). www.newacropolis.org. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Oct. 8, 7:30 pm. $10. This cultural association offers lectures on philosophical principles that can help add meaning and purpose to one's life. This lecture explores reincarnation, memory and the growth of the soul.

Sex-Positive Education: Bisexuality
Lifestyles, 269 Moody St., Waltham, (781-891-6060)..Oct. 6, 7:30-9:30 pm. $10. Handicapped accessible. Certified sexuality educator and co-writer of *Our Bodies, Ourselves for the New Century* Lynn Rosenbaum answers the question, What is bisexuality?

Sex-Positive Education: Tantra
Lifestyles, 269 Moody St., Waltham, (781-891-6060). Oct. 13, 7:30-9:30 pm. $10. Handicapped accessible. Learn about sacred sexuality and Tantra—a practice combining music, meditation, yoga and sensuality—with tantrika Dr. Juliana Dahl.

Spiritual Stories of Ecuador
31 Kidder Ave., Somerville (617-628-9297). www.allianceexchange.org. Oct. 13 and 14, 6:30 pm, $10. Please preregister. Travelers who visited the Ecuadorian Andes and Amazon rainforest on a cultural exchange mission offer their insights on cosmovision—the worldview of the indigenous peoples—which focuses on the sacred connection between the earth and its people.

Western Mysteries Study Group
Theosophical Society in Boston, 21 Maple Street, Arlington (781-648-0101 or 978-525-2259). www.tsboston.org or www.lvx.org. Oct. 7, 7 pm. Please call ahead. Suggested donation, $5. Investigate yoga, Kabbalah, tarot, astrology, alchemy, ritual magic and esoteric healing practices within the context of the Western world.

Workshops

Andean and Amazonian Shamanism
31 Kidder Ave., Somerville (617-628-9297). www.alliancexchange.org. Oct. 16, 10 am-4 pm. $99. Please preregister. Learn sacred ritual and transformational techniques practiced by Andean and Amazonian healers, and learn about the importance of integrating male and female energies as well as sacred plant wisdom. All levels welcome.

Feng Shui and the Psychology of Living Spaces
Reading Public Library, 64 Middlesex Ave., Reading (781-643-8697). Oct. 18, 7-9 pm. $5. This presentation, sponsored by International Feng Shui Guild, demonstrates how to combine feng shui and environmental psychology to make the most of a given space.

High Frequency Yoga for Women
Carmela Cattuti, 151 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-970-5320). www.yogame.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Oct 16, 10 am-12 pm. $45. This class focuses on developing the abdominal muscles and features techniques for increasing stamina and transforming negative thought patterns. Beginners welcome.

Intro to Reiki: Empowerment through Natural Healing
Concord-Carlisle Adult Education, Concord-Carlisle High School, 500 Walden St., Concord (978-318-1540 or 781-648-9334). www.arlingtonreiki.com. Oct. 14, 6:30-8 pm. Learn about Reiki, an ancient hands-on healing technique for reducing stress, relieving pain and facilitating personal growth.

Sexuality and Spirituality Network
Newton (617-965-7846). http://boston.sexspirit.net. MBTA: Commuter rail to Newtonville. Oct. 9, 2-5 pm. $10 suggested donation. The Boston Area Sexuality and Spirituality Network gathers regularly to discuss topics related to the holistic exploration of sex. This month's workshop focuses on over- coming sexual and spiritual challenges, including disability, impotence and STDs, as well as finding partners and finding time for a sexual-spiritual practice.

SoulSong
Earthsong Yoga, 186 Main St., Marlborough (508-480-8884 or 508-259-2847). www.earthsongyoga.com. Oct. 17, 10:30 am-12:30 pm. $18, drop-in. Experience the freedom, power and pleasure of your own voice, and rediscover singing as a creative tool for self-discovery. No singing experience required.

Sufi Heart Meditation
Friends Meeting House, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767). Oct. 16, 10 am-5 pm. $45-$90. Aziza Scott, senior meditation teacher of the Sufi Order International, guides a Sufi meditation practice.

Ongoing

Dynamic Slow Flow Vinyasa Yoga
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 585 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-4585). www.charlesriver shiatsu.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central Square. Sat., 10:30 am-12 pm. $15, drop-in. Instructor Bo Forbes, a clinical psychologist and yoga teacher, brings her unique perspective to this class. Participants work on long-hold yoga poses designed to exercise the mental and emotional body as well as provide a physical challenge.

Kripalu Yoga
Work Out World, 200 Boston St., Medford (781-648-0722 or 781-393-1805). www.innerfocusyoga.com. Mon., 4:30-5:30 pm. Wed., 12-1 pm. $10, drop-in. This class with instructor Dee Greenberg features a gentle approach to learning yoga while paying attention to one's physical limitations. Weight loss, body image, self-esteem and personal transformation are also addressed.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

New England Patriots
•Gillette Stadium, Foxboro
Tickets: 800-543-1776
Oct. 10, 1 pm vs. Miami Dolphins
Oct. 17, 1 pm vs, Seattle Seahawks

Events

BSSC Bike the Vineyard Trip
Group meets in Falmouth. (617-789-4070, ext. 231). www.bssc.com. Oct. 15-17. $172, $202 nonmembers. Join the BSSC for a bike trip to the Cape and the Vineyard. The group bikes the Vineyard on Saturday and the Cape on Sunday. Fee includes ferry and bike transfers, two nights' lodging at the Falmouth Inn and two breakfasts. Bike and helmet required.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club seeks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club (BSSC) Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

DODGEBALL

BSSC Dodgeball
(617-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting now for dodgeball teams to compete in a fall league.

ENDURANCE TRAINING

Team in Training
(800-688-6572). www.teamintraining.org. This organization provides fund-raising athletes with group training and support, personalized coaching and guaranteed race entry for events.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
561 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville. (617-591-0101). www.baystatefencers.com. Fencing and stage combat programs offered in the fall.

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-39[illegible] 8326). Saturday mornings. Women's teams pl[illegible] eight-on-eight flag football each week.

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.com Training Tuesdays and Thursdays in Jamaica Plai[illegible] Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canto[illegible] New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is lookir[illegible] for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seel[illegible] new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge[illegible]

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.myst[illegible] rugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club we[illegible] comes both new and experienced players who wa[illegible] to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. [illegible] Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays. New a[illegible] experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhas[illegible] com. Weekly runs on either Wednesday or Sunday yea[illegible] round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singi[illegible] bawdy songs, then consider joining these self-pr[illegible] claimed "serious drinkers with a running problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First S[illegible] Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Run
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (781-27[illegible] 1584). www.srr.org. Thursdays, 7 pm. Weekly runs.

Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-62[illegible] 2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thursdays, 7:30 pm. Weekly 2.6-mile runs.

SOCCER

BSSC Outdoor Soccer
(617-789-4070). Outdoor teams forming no[illegible] Games played in Charlestown, Lexington, Readi[illegible] and Canton. Individuals and teams are welcome.

ULTIMATE FRISBEE

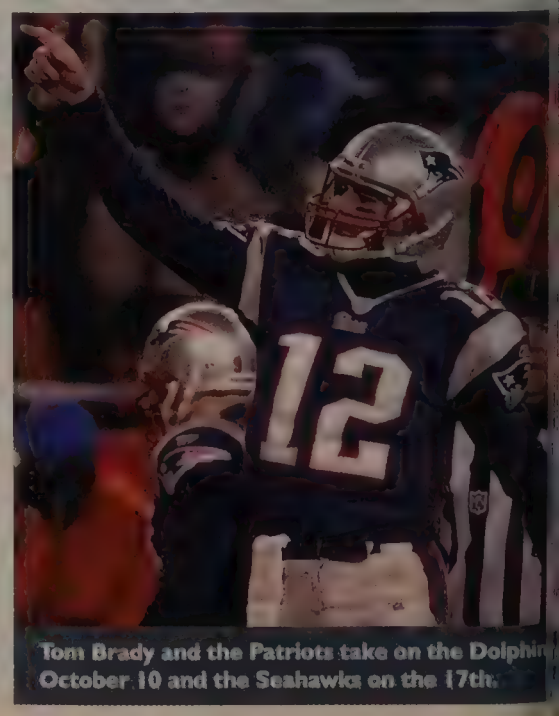
BSSC Ultimate League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070). Co[illegible] games each week in Charlestown.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070, ext. 22[illegible] Sun.-Thu. Coed teams forming for summer leagu[illegible] in Cambridge, Watertown, Brookline and Newto[illegible]

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-868-8379). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. An[illegible] teur folk-style wrestling group open to all skill leve[illegible]



Tom Brady and the Patriots take on the Dolphin[illegible] October 10 and the Seahawks on the 17th.

ANNUAL PAN MASS PARTY



A great event for a great cause.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8th, 6-10PM

The Rack, 24 Clinton St.

Free appetizers • Free pool tables

Music by Adam Ezra Group, 7pm

Guest Sponsors: Kiss Me Lingerie and your favorite Kiss Me Lingerie Girls.

Open invitation but space is limited, sign up early.

$25 donation for ticket at the door. 100% of money contributed goes to the Pan Mass Challenge and is tax deductable.

Contact Kirk Chisholm @ 781-608-7290 for more information.

The PMC bike ride is from Sturbridge to Provincetown, about 193 miles, done over 2 days and benefits Dana Farber Cancer Research.

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Ticketmaster Tickets available at Ski Market, Ticketmaster, the Berklee Performance Center box office and the Somerville Theatre box office.

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ednesday, November 3rd 7:00 pm
hursday, November 4th 7:00 & 10:00 pm

BERKLEE PERFORMANCE CENTER
136 MASS AVE
Friday, November 5th 6:30 & 9:30 pm
Saturday, November 6th 6:00 & 9:00 pm

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children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Borders Books and Music
Cambridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Every Sat., 1 pm. Staff members read from new and classic storybooks.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Every Tue. and Sat., 11 am. Staff members read children's stories, followed by snacks and craft activities.

ImprovFoundry Family Show
ImprovBoston, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA Red Line to Central. Sat., 6 pm. $10-$12. This short improvisational show is suitable for the whole family.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; seniors and students, $8; 12 and under, free. •Oct. 11, 10:30 am. The Enchanted Circle Theater presents a performance of traditional and contemporary dances and songs from Puerto Rico, Cuba and Haiti in *Roots, Rhythm and Rapture.*

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50; members, $7. Reservations recommended. •Oct. 6 and 7, 10:30 am, ages 3-6. Paul Vincent Davis presents three humorous stories inspired by Japanese folklore: *The Singing Turtle, The Village Lion Dance* and *The Dance of the Happy Dragon.* •Oct. 13 and 14, 10:30 am, ages 3-6. Nikki Tilroe presents *Clowning Around*, about a theater custodian who meets new friends after a show.

Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus
FleetCenter, One FleetCenter Place, Boston (617-931-1111). www.ringling.com. MBTA: Green Line to North Station. Oct. 8-17. Mon., 11 am and 3 pm; Wed.-Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 11 am, 3 and 5 pm; Sun., 1 and 5 pm$10-$25. The 133rd edition of the "Greatest Show on Earth" features three rings' worth of highwire acts, Bengal tigers and more.

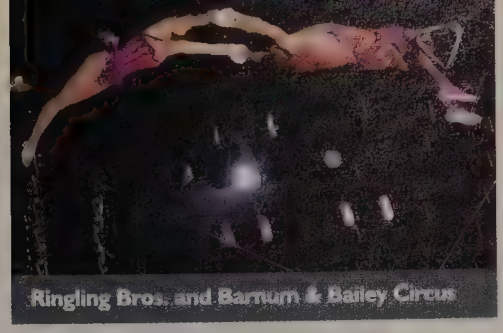
Things to Do

Boston Art Tours
Meets at the corner of Boylston and Berkeley streets, Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tours for children: Tue.-Sat., 1-2 pm; tours for teens: Tue.-Sat., 2-3:30 pm. Adults, $30; teens, $15; children under 12, free. Take a walking tour of contemporary art galleries along Newbury Street.

Boston by Little Feet
Faneuil Hall, Congress Street, Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Through October, Sun, 2 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am. $8. Explore Boston's history and architecture by taking a walking tour of the Freedom Trail designed specifically for kids.

Boston Duck Tours
Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston; Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-267-3825). www.bostonducktours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Science Park. Daily through Nov., 9 am-sunset, every 30-60 minutes. $24; seniors and students, $21; children 3-11, $15; children under 3, $3. These amphibious vehicles tour Boston's most popular sights via city streets and the Charles River.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8; children, $7. Weekly activities: •Daily, KidsStage is an interactive theater featuring professional actors and museum staff. •Wed., 11 am-1 pm. Kids paint murals together on the boardwalk.



•Fri., 3-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2-4 pm. In the Zoom Zone is a hands-on science challenge culled from the PBS TV show *Zoom.* •Mon.-Fri., 10 am-4 pm. The art studio is open for bookmaking, painting, finger-puppet making and more.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •Oct. 9, 9 am-12 pm. Mineral Madness explores minerals commonly found in household goods.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $5; ages 5-18, $2; students, seniors and kids under 5, free (free admission the third Sunday of every month). •*Holography, the Light Fantastic* is a display featuring the world's largest collection of holograms. Ongoing. •*Robots and Beyond* offers a look at MIT's artificial intelligence research labs. Ongoing. •*Ship Models: The Evolution of Ship Design* features 40 ship models, from warships to clippers. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. $15; children 17 and under, free. •Mon.-Thu., 3:30 pm. The Children's Room combines arts and crafts with a variety of cultural themes. •Tue.-Thu., 3:30-4:30 pm. Books Bring Art Alive is a program for children and families. •Wed., 5:30 pm. Family Night Out is an interactive evening of creative activities for children and families.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13; seniors, $11; children, $10. •*The Lord of the Rings Motion Picture Trilogy—The Exhibition* features memorabilia from the films, including costumes, props and the ring itself. Through Oct. 24. •*Strange Matter* explores the use of everyday materials in cardiac surgery, space exploration and more-common events. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •Science in the Park is a permanent playground with a scientific spin. •Sat. and Sun., 11 am. Animals and Stories Alive is an interactive story hour featuring folk tales, myths and live animals.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat. & Sun., 9 am-6 pm. $15.95; seniors, $13.95; children, $8.95. •*Amazing Jellies* features thousands of jellyfish. Through 2005. •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank contains sharks, stingrays and a 600-pound California sea lion. Ongoing. •*Edge of the Sea* is a hands-on exhibition that features sea stars, hermit crabs and more. Ongoing. •Take a high-speed catamaran on a whale watch. Through October. Call or visit the Web site for times. Adults, $29; seniors, college students and military, $26; children 12-18, $23; children 3-11, $20.

New England Wild Flower Society
180 Hemenway Road, Framingham (508-877-7630). www.newfs.org. Thu.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7, $5 students and seniors. Explore the gardens and trails and take part in ongoing programs and events. •*Big Bugs* features David Rogers' large-scale wooden bug sculptures on display in the garden. Through Oct. 17.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us/library. •Thursdays, 7 pm. Staff members read to children ages 4 and up at Pajama Storytime. •Fridays, 10:30 am. Films for preschoolers screen. •Oct. 7, 4:15 pm, ages 5 and up. World Cultures: Mexico features stories, crafts and food from Mexico. •Oct. 14, 4:15 pm. ages 10 and up. Mitali Perks reads from her young-adult novel *Monsoon Summer.*

around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
Coit Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5pm; Fri., 10 am - 9 pm. $9; children and seniors, $7. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.

Faneuil Hall
75 State St., Boston (617-338-2323). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 am. Free.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6, children, $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; seniors and students, $8; 12 and under, free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH, or Green Line to Park Street. Labor Day through Memorial Day: Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm; summer: daily, 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Daily, 9 am-5 pm (Fri., 9 am-9 pm). $14; seniors, $12; children, $11.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5; children, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2–June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1: Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, $13.95 seniors; children, $8.95.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-5 pm. Free.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. $5, seniors and students, $4; children, $1.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $9.50; seniors, $7; children 12 and under, $6.50; children under 3, free.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily, 7 am-6 pm. $4; children 12 and under, free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). www.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. May 1-Oct. 15: daily, 9 am-6 pm; Nov. 1-Apr. 30: daily, 10 am-5 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster-care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay
(617-375-0700). www.bostonredcross.org. Volunteer in the administrative department.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-563-4441). www.bostoncares.org. More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor young students from the city in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). www.ccaa.org. Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000). Tutor adult students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
(617-995-3250). www.everybodywinsmetroboston.org. Spend your lunch hour reading with elementary school children.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hospice.org. Volunteers needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-online.com. Volunteers provide over-the-phone counsel for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelders.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

Pine Street Inn
(617-482-4944). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve breakfast to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room and groceries program at the homeless shelter.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young professionals.





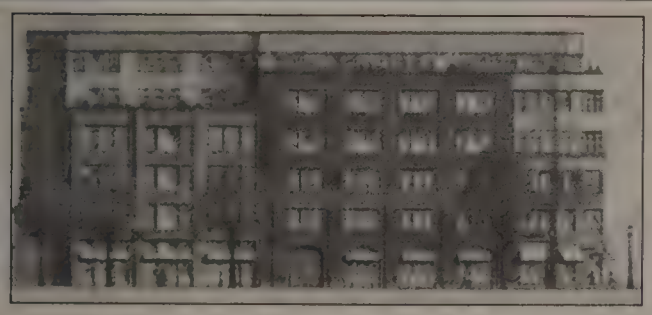
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RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

Vegas Hottie

To the hottie on the flight to Vegas September 3, we sat next to each other on the flight. You live in Newton and do pharmaceutical sales. It was your first trip to Vegas. I hope you had fun. I would've liked to chat on the way home, but couldn't for obvious reasons (the GF).

—pcmass19@yahoo.com

Thanks for Nothing

For so long I tried to be the bigger person but when I saw you last month, my anger came flooding back. I couldn't help myself. My PG-13 diss to you should never have been censored because you suck as a person. Get a dictionary. You need to look up several words: "Tact," because you have none. "Empathy," because someday you'll need it extended to you. And finally, "selfish"—and if your picture isn't already posted there, please feel free to do so.

Who knows if your new clique has unraveled your game of winning sympathy through your harrowing stories about your persecuted life. True, you had a lot to deal with, but you act as though life's struggles are solely yours to bear.

Some advice: Whatever guy jaded you so long ago—let it go! Move on, because he did. If you're tired of your family using you, then stand up to them. If you want guys to stop treating you like a one-night stand, stop acting like a two-trick pony. Finally, your constant negativity is so oppressing. You make people walk on eggshells while juggling.

As far as talking shit about me, you don't know me. You never did. I was merely an opportunity—a sounding board for yourself. You were never my friend. F.Y.I., I have a really good job and some real friends. And of course you know nothing of my boyfriend because the only pertinent personal information was your own. Remember?

Still, I want to thank you. Thank you for your absence—it's been a blessing.

—AI

To the Girls in the Parking Lot in Watertown

You opened your car door into Blanche, my beloved pepper-white 2003 Mini Cooper, leaving a painfully obvious dent in the driver's side door. My husband (who was driving my car that day) saw you from his office window. He didn't think twice about how you two were looking at the car; he thought you were admiring it. Only after he went to retrieve his cell phone an hour later did he realize what you were really looking at. FYI, leaving a note would have been the right thing to do, ladies (and I use that term loosely). Maybe one day you'll be mature enough to take responsibility for your mistakes. In the meantime, we know what you look like, we'll be looking for you—and we will find you.

—Blanche's Mama

A Poet Who Knows It No. 1

Time is running out, and you and I are not on the same route. How can you let me slip away from you when all I want to do is devote my life to you? Why do I love you? Why do I care? For you, a man without whom I have no air. My patience is wearing thin; do I stay or do I go? It is up to you my darling; hurry up and put me in the know!

—makeupyourmind23@yahoo.com

To the Teen at the Orange Line State Street Stop

It was 1:30 pm on Sept. 21. Your good will, spirit and outstanding outlook on life will take you far. I watched you, you who are physically challenged, give up your seat for a blind rider while others—at their physical best—just looked on. Giving up your seat is something we should all do for those who need and deserve it, but additional well wishes to you as you clearly didn't see yourself as someone needing the reserved seat!

—Blown away by your kindness

Beacon Hill Babies

Last Friday night I attended a party in Beacon Hill (I know, it sounds crazy so far) with some of my friends who are all professionals and have been out of college for some time now. Including the person having the party, we totaled a whopping five people. Some of us stepped outside to have a smoke when we heard yelling and screaming of obscenities from across the street. Whoever it was (we don't know the identity of the person or persons since they didn't have the class to come down and speak with us face-to-face) wanted the music turned down and other requests that I can't repeat. Here are my problems with this request: 1. It's Friday—normal people tend to have drinks and get together with friends and have a good time on Friday. 2. It was around 9:30 in the evening. 3. The music wasn't even loud. 4. You live in the city in Beacon Hill, where such a thing as city noise comes with the neighborhood. If you can't afford a house in Maine to get away from the hustle and bustle of the city, close your windows, otherwise stop your whining. Finally, if only they would have walked outside to speak with us, I'm sure we could have worked something out that would have made everyone happy. Who knows, they could have even had some drinks and made some new friends, but I guess if I had no life and was home alone on a Friday night at 9:30 and no one had invited me to a party, I could see where one might become bitter. I can only hope that the person or persons make some friends soon. Until the next Friday night party, work hard and play even harder. Sincerely,

—Someone with a pacifier

Sunday, September 5

I met you at the Nashua Beach Bar in Laconia, N.H. Your name is Shawn and you have a brother named JJ. We chatted a bit and you had me sniff your cologne. You said you were from Brighton, I think. I gave you my cell-phone number. You called the next day saying you were heading back to Boston and asked if we could get together for dinner. You asked me to call you back but I couldn't, because you used a restricted phone line and didn't leave a number. If you read this and are still interested, please try calling again and leave a number. If you've tossed my number, which I'm sure you have, please call the Nashua and ask for my friend Cynthia with the long, black hair (the one who introduced us). She'll put us in touch.

—Nashua Beach Girl

Poet Who Knows It No. 2

A gorgeous redhead came into sight; all night we danced and drank. When I left without getting your number my heart sank. From this day forward I will be a hunter. For my red-headed dancer at Punters. Amber my sweet, I hope we once more meet. With my fingers crossed tight I hope that you write. Your Irish Fred Astaire,

—hunterfrompunters@comcast.net

Silver Convertible Blonde

You were in your silver Mercedes CLK320 convertible with New York plates. I was in my black SUV. We followed each other on the Mass. Pike for over an hour, the reflection of your beautiful eyes in your review mirror the only thing keeping me sane in the ridiculous Sunday traffic. I can't get the picture of your long blond hair out of my mind. We waved and smiled to each other as we went through the tolls, but I would love to thank you in person for being my guide and sanity saver. Next time I'll lead!

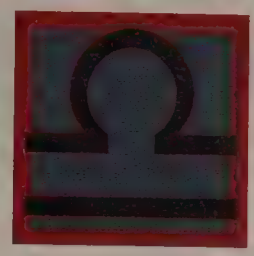
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rockie horoscope

OCTOBER 6–19, 2003

BY ROCKIE GARDINER

LIBRA SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22



You're bewitched, bothered and bewildered once again—and probably on a much grander scale than the last time! Illusion-filled Neptune is busily strewing magical fairy dust in your direction, so although you can successfully handle the ensuing confusion and avoid the hype, you know enough not to bank on fulfilling anybody's overblown expectations. However, nobody says you can't have faith and hope or perform acts of charity during these fascinating periods of high idealism and creativity.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

Something that seems suspicious or not quite aboveboard about the scene at home or among other family members could come to light this week. That means the funny smell in the kitchen can be traced back to its source, or your sister's strange behavior might be explained, maybe even justified. The reasons that are revealed won't impact on you personally; still, it wouldn't hurt to know that you're more impressionable, more locked into group-think right now than your cynical self usually permits. And your team is…?

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

You could be a bit nervous about your permanent address; better get used to it. The question marks put there by unpredictable Uranus won't be erased anytime soon. Anyway, you may find a quasi-romantic reason to visit someplace new or to check out a potential relocation destination. Meanwhile, your career seems to be developing along less stressful lines. Still, you should be somewhat wary because nebulous Neptune in your house of income earned is presently lit. Something fishy could be brewing.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

No guarantee, but you might have a huge hit on your hands if you give the more glamorous aspects of your gig free rein as well as an appropriate, acceptable spin. Although there may be a whiff of scam attached to the chosen project, it's just as likely to be hailed as an inspiring act of faith. Obviously delusional Neptune is the planet calling the shots this week, so don't venture too far into never-never land or take yourself too seriously. You may have to answer for any transgressions midmonth when your Saturn ruler and you are challenged.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

You could turn into a figurehead, the personification of an ideal or the perpetrator of a scam when mystical Neptune in your sign gets the full treatment this week. It won't help your reputation to play "oblivious" or claim to be confused by what is going down. In light of this miasma, try to stay on track and true to your personal point of view. On the other hand, the image created by those with whom you share a financial interest could work to your advantage, especially if you're an actor or musician feeding off fantasies.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

Starring roles can come to those Fish who are genuinely unprepared. While it's your Neptune ruler that's drawing so much attention from the amenable Libra planets, the element of surprise, the shocker in this scenario is unpredictable Uranus in your sign. Between two powerful planetary energies, you're bound to find a place, a position that suits you. Just be aware that a lot of people are counting on your abilities to satisfy their expectations. As regards a romantic interest, flip a coin.

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

Go ahead and let your enthusiasm run away with you. It'll be another 12 years until your Mars ruler merges with expansive Jupiter in your Libra house of partners again. How many opportunities can you pass on before the potential for profit and growth generated by the dynamic duo is gone? This month it's a glamorous, artistic or charitable project that'll have the strongest appeal, but keep an eye out for the bullshit factor. The best of intentions can be misinterpreted when illusionary Neptune makes the pitch.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

Less accepting, more demanding: Watch how your attitude can change when your Venus ruler switches signs from open-hearted Leo to picky, practical Virgo. Nothing slips past your critical gaze, especially stuff around the house. During the next three weeks it'll be a pleasure to replace the old or malfunctioning with the new and improved. Even formerly beloved items may have to go. Your social life—the fun-and-games part, anyway—could actually improve while four high-energy planets cavort through romantic Libra.

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

Is air-sign-friendly Libra the one time of the year the family doesn't present a problem, or do you also get a break around Valentine's Day? Is your astute Mercury ruler too busy evaluating the offerings of the new season to argue with them? Nonetheless, Twins born in May might be distracted by a sudden change of heart when Venus confronts erratic Uranus on the 6th. The others are relatively safe, albeit quite impressionable, because they're being unduly influenced by nebulous Neptune. Hopeful, yes; accurate, maybe.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

Scoot out of your shell and discover another pleasure in your neighborhood. The domesticated Crab is currently under the influence of a charming, civilized Libra vibe that's drawing you closer to an important growth experience. Of course, you'll wind up all the wiser for the interaction, but you could also become invigorated (both physically and psychologically) by what you'll discover about yourself and your neighbors. You might not turn into one big happy family, but you will forge a valuable connection.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

No matter what you currently think of them, whether they're being helpful, hopeful or misguided, your present and past business and life partners can be intrinsically tied into your own financial well-being. Ultimately everything should turn out fine because generous Jupiter is protecting your assets; however, you may have to lay out a small fortune now to ensure a bigger return. Pay close attention to the money coming in and going out, and follow your intuition while Mercury and your sun ruler meet midweek.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

Since both signs are tuned into the same wavelength this week, chances are you'll find yourself bonding with a Lion. Whenever the sun, Leo's ruler, and Mercury, your ruling planet, conjunct, the natives hear the same drum beating and get the same message. While you might not experience a gut reaction in the true physical sense, you know there's an intuitive force guiding you toward making one decision over another or, just as likely, advising you to bide your time until you come across more information.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.



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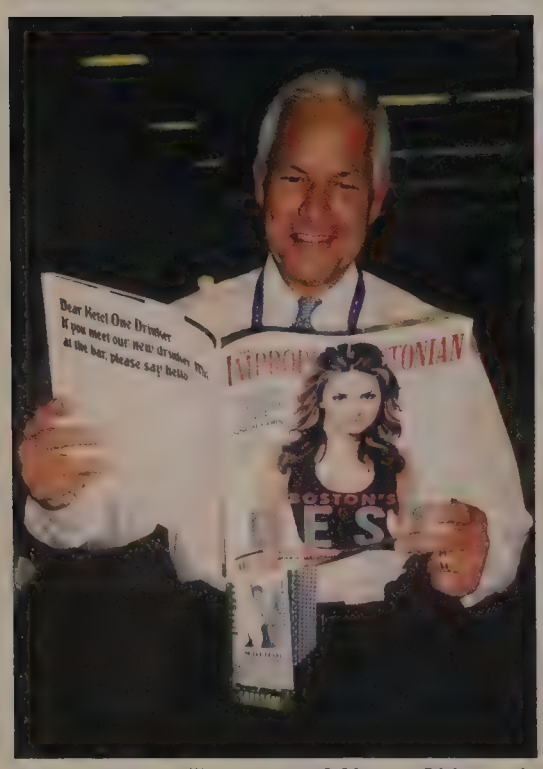
Juozas Parutis, Jonas Stundzia and Zilvinas Didziapetris visited the Frank Zappa memorial statue in Vilnius, Lithuania. That's a pretty normal statue for a guy who named his kids Dweezil and Moon Unit.



Kate Hagstrom and Pat Kelly model the season's hottest new arctic wear aboard the USCGC Healy in the Chukchi Sea, Arctic Ocean.



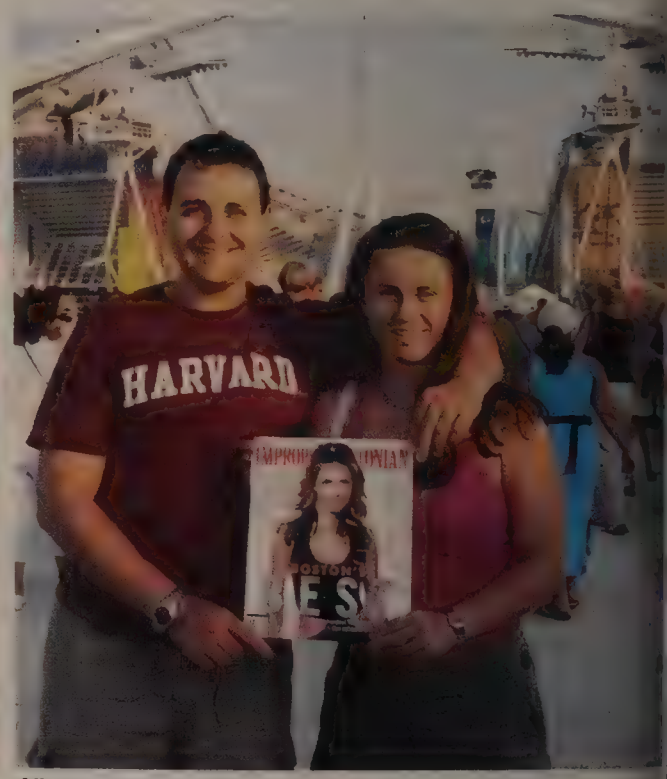
Katie Moser and Jennifer Morreale pose before a startling rock formation in Keystone, S.D. Notice the cliff directly above bears a remarkable resemblance to Jeremy Piven.



Donald Plusquellic, mayor of Akron, Ohio, and president of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, catches up on the best stuff in Tommy M's city.



Kevin McKenna says that the scene that he caused at the phone booths in Kingston upon Thames, England, is nothing compared to what happened when he visited the Porta-Johns.



Alberto Costa and Maria I. Psatha toted an IMPROPER to the Olympics in Athens, Greece. Now that the Olympics are over, the building behind them is being used as a dog track.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Reloading the red ammo at the 48th annual Tomato War, October 9 at Number Nine Hill, Fayston, Vt.

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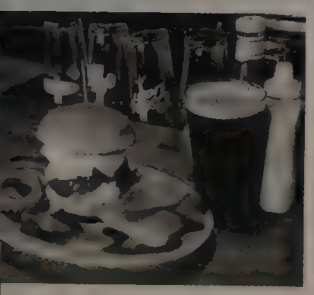
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IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Friday, September 24, notorious DJs Opie and Anthony kicked off their XM Satellite Radio show at **The Big Easy**'s Mardi Gras in the Fall party.

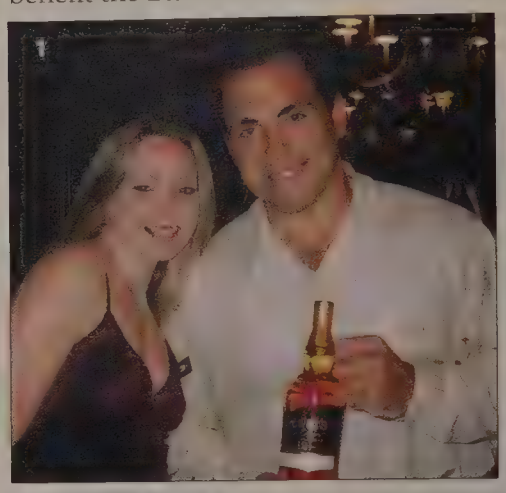






1. **Jackie Robbins**, bartender at the Big Easy, with **Marc Karaoglan**, director of creative services for XM Radio.
2. **Aliz Csaki**, marketing manager for Preston Marketing; **Mark Driscoll**, assistant general manager for the Big Easy; **Jessica Sparks**, marketing manager for Preston Marketing; and **Natalie Stein** of Armani NYC.
3. **Wes Schifone**, manager of the Big Easy, **Jaimie Sparks**, events and PR manager for the Big Easy; **Steve Carlesi**, producer; **Jim Norton**; **Ben Sparks**, executive producer, **Opie and Anthony**, hosts of the Opie and Anthony show.

On Saturday, September18, **The Improper Bostonian** proudly sponsored Cooking for a Cause. The food and wine event featured Boston's best chefs and the swinging sounds of the Winiker Orchestra. Proceeds from the event will benefit the **East End House**.







1. **Rachel Zwetchkenbaum**, promotional model for Dewar's, and **David Tretola**, Dewar's specialist.
2. **Jackson Cannan**, chef's assistant and **Andy Husbands**, owner of Rouge and Tremont 647.
3. **Matt Hultengren**, cook; **Olivier Rigaud**, chef de cuisine; and **Hugo Biasizzo**, maitre'd, all of Brasserie Jo Boston.

On Tuesday, September 14, the **Somers Pubs** celebrated the launch of their latest reinvention, **Marqueé**, which occupies the the space previously known as the **Grand Canal**. Guests enjoyed a Champagne reception and hors d'oeuvres.







1. **Ann** and **John Somers**, owners of the Somers Pubs.
2. **Andrew Wancheck**, student; **Kamilla Kissell**, marketing manager, and **Chelsie Arnold**, sales coordinator, both of the Greater Boston Convention and Visitors Bureau.
3. **Kelly Bingham**, district sales manager; **Carol Francolini**, development manager; **Rich Grabowski**, district sales manager; **Sarah Craighead**, draught development manager; and **Melissa Cole**, sales specialist, all of Inbev USA.

On Tuesday, September 14, Vogue and **Cointreau** held a night of Cointreauversial Style at **Whiskey Park** with a runway fashion show and special guests from the hottest reality shows.







1. **Brooke Ensign** of New York with **Heidi Bressler** and **Erica Betrini** of *The Apprentice*.
2. **Robert Bumpstead**, Massachusetts state manager and wine educator; **Danielle McAuliffe**, on-premise specialist; and **John Ryan**, Massachusetts state manager, all of Remy Amerique, with **Roger Peace**, manager of Whiskey Park.
3. **Georgia Lawrence** of Boston; **Kai Livvamento**, student at Boston University School of Public Health; and **Indus Johnson**, hostess at Top of the Hub.

PHOTOS: BIG EASY, KAREN DANA; COOKING FOR A CAUSE, VANESSA GARDNER; MARQUEÉ, CARRIE WALLACE; WHISKEY PARK, ALISON MOR

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The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled PortabellaPaninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1 am. AE, DC, MC, V.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2002. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston 617-426-3333.* Open 11am - 2am, 7days a week. Kennedy's Midtown is a cultural experience far from the maddening crowd while set in heart of it. Kennedy's serves a lunch and dinner menu of international cuisine. In the evenings they play host to some of Boston's finest Pianists who entertain with a range of tunes from Broadway to Jazz and Blues. Kennedy's embraces all the finer qualities of regal Boston and throws in a dash of old fashioned Irish Hospitality for measure.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the Motor-Mart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., South Boston,617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11 am - 2am 7 days a week.

Ned Devine's *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere inthe heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Sidney's Grille *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why Bon Appétit magazine says, "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breakfast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus visit www.sidneysgrille.com.

Solas *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11 am - 2 am 7 days a week.

Strega *379 Hanover St., Boston 617-523-8481 www.stregaristorante.com.* A fine dining experience in Boston's historic North End. Enjoy our cozy, romantic atmosphere, splendid wine list and savory Italian dishes. Strega buzzes with a mix of casual tourists, local residents and love-struck couples. The menu offers something for everyone. Traditional dishes like the gnocchi are anything but simple, featuring flavor just as robust as that found in intricate dishes. Find yourself in the company of celebrities, including owner Nick Varano's pals from of the Sopranos. Available for corporate and private functions.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

BARS/CLUBS

Beer Specialty

Boston Beer Works *112 Canal St., near the Fleet Center, 617-896-BEER, 61 Brookline Ave., across from Fenway Park, 617-536-BEER and 278 Derby St., in Historic Salem, 978-745-BEER.* Boston's oldest and largest restaurant brewery with 3 locations! Bold American Food. Award Winning Beer. 15 microbrewed beers always on tap. 16 American wines by the glass. 15 championship billiards tables at our Canal Street location. Complete party planning capabilities. Private Rooms. Customizeable menus. Lunch. Dinner. Late Night. Always a good time. Check out the BIGGER and BOLDER menu.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exotic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

Big City - pool hall, pizza kitchen, Beer Bar *138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8pm, free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good i the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Clubs

Felt *533 Washington St., Boston 617.350.5555* Felt is located in the shadow o the new Ritz Carlton, right next door to th Opera House; in the heart of the buzzed abou Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering so phisticated billiards, NewYork style Lounge, hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourme dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velve booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied b live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romant dinner for two or a big birthday bash. The hip a mosphere of DJ's and dancing, combined wit the delicious entrees is the perfect blend to sa isfy all your cravings. American Contempora cusine by Chef Ben Stevens.

Stadium – Clubhouse *232 Old Colony Ave South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Stadiu Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale nightclu featuring two bars, a hardwood dance floor ar parking. An exciting yet relaxed 'loungey' a mosphere with wide variety of music and bea tiful people crowding the dance floor on Frida & Saturday nights. An ideal place for your ne bachelor, bachelorette or birthday party.

Club Q Boston *25 Union St., Boston, 61 742-2121.* Open 9pm - 2am Wednesda through Saturday. What nightlife in Boston h been waiting for, this state of the art Nightclu in the heart of Faneuil Hall attracts a stylish ar eclectic crowd. Open Wednesday through Sa urday Club Q hosts Boston's top DJs spinnin Hip Hop, House and Top 40's. With two bar three VIP areas and pool tables, Club Q is th place to see and be seen. Credit cards accepte

Comedy

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Mark Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comed connectionboston.com. 18+.* The Come Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of t Quincy Market Building in the heart of Histo cal Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a we and offers the best in local and national co edy. During the week, the nationally renown club offers some of Boston's best comics li Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," Pa Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nigh Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" me merizes the audience and on the weekends, th is the only place to see the biggest names comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, M garet Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Co and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 45 9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina i great escape in the financial district! Two floo three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upsta and live bands downstairs!

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-20 www. theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. M gle. Let your hair down; see and be seen on big screen. Simply the hippest way to spen night of all-out fun in Boston's Financial D trict. Come after work. Come to dance. Come go wild with your friends. There's always sor thing exciting happening – and you never kn who you'll bump into. Join us and experie



what the buzz is all about.

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 617-227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

Irish

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 617-742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston,617-742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with top bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11am - 1am 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

The Green Dragon *11Marshall St., Boston, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9900.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 617-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

General

The Alley *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. www.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

Aqua *120 Water St., Boston, 617-720-4900.* Boston's newest place to be seen is now open in the heart of the Financial District. Whether relaxing with a martini in one of our cozy booths, sipping a margarita on our roof deck or watching your hometown favorites on our high definition plasma TV. Aqua has what you're looking for after work and late night with our resident and guest DJs spinning your favorite mixes through our state of the art sound system all night long.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Boston Rocks *245 Quincy Market Place Boston,617-726-1110 www.boston-rocks.net. 21+.* Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St.,617- 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2003. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Downtown Lounge *138 Portland St., Boston 617-523-8383.* Tempting tapas, modern martinis and contemporary cocktails are just a few of the elements awaiting your arrival. A distinctive destination in the heart of North Station, located just one block from the Fleet Center. Share crab taquitos, shaved portobello mushrooms or grilled white pizza. Revive with a specialty martini while sinking into soft curvy seating. Spacious and sublime, Dowtown Lounge is an attractive meeting place for business, luncheons, social, after work cocktails and events.

The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010.* Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St.,Boston 617-722-0161.* The newest edition to Boston's night scene. This New Orleans style bar is just steps away from the Fleet Center. Hurricane O'Reilly's serves up the best that Boston nightlife has to offer. Come dance the night away with the hottest music around. We will leave you yearning for Bourbon Street.

Jillian's Boston *145 Ipswich St., Boston, 617-437-0300.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring more than 200 high tech games, six full bars, 50 pool tables, racing simulators, Black Jack for Fun and much more. Atlas Bar and Grill on Jillian's first floor offers full service dining featuring innovative American cuisine, a giant screen video wall and dancing every Friday & Saturday night. www.jilliansboston.com.

The Junction – Your Neighborhood Bar & Grill. *110 Dorchester St., South Boston, 617-268-6429.* Delicious food, great atmosphere and friendly staff –and it all happens at the Junction -South Boston's Neighborhood Bar & Grill. Enjoy our half-priced appetizers on weekdays from 3 to 6 pm. Join us for live music & entertainment on the weekends and for our fun trivia nights on Tuesdays.

Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Lounge. Cocktails. Dancing. Nightlife. Come see the lights of Parris. Sample the eclectic lounge menu featuring grilled pizza, oyster shooters ans steak tartar. Sip a Classic, Apple or French 75 martini, and then motion onto the huge dance floor featuring Live Music with the best bands and DJs Thursday through Saturday. Named for the original architect of the Greek-revival-style building, Alexander Parris, you're nightlife experience at Parris will be Boston and beyond. Open 5pm - 2am Wednesay - Saturday. Cover charge on Friday and Saturday.

Jazz

Regattabar *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Tuesday-Saturday nights and occasional Sunday afternoons. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square. Shows at 8:30pm Tues-Thurs, 7:30pm & 10:00pm Fri. & Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617.876.7777 for tickets and information, 800.881.1818 for hotel reservations and information.

Latin

Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston 617-351-7001.* A multistory Latin-themed restaurant and club, Sophia's treats guests to a tantalizing Tapas-style menu, live Salsa bands and hi-energy Latin dance. From a romantic dinner and salsa lessons to hi-energy dance and mingling on the roof deck over sangria and Salsa, an evening at Sophia's is always Hot! Hot! Hot!

Sports Bar - Upscale

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www.theplaceboston.com.* Voted Boston's Best Sports Bar 3 years in a row by The Improper Bostonian! Mingle with your favorite sports celebrities: Brady, Thornton, Walker, Garciaparra. You never know who you'll run into. Enjoy the wildest party atmosphere in the heart of the Financial District. It's never the same experience twice – we've got exclusive sports video productions and game coverage on our state-of the-art flat screen TVs. So join us to see what the buzz is all about and find out why people in-the-know feel right at home.

Stadium *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* Boston's Best Damn Sports Bar, Period. A brand new, high-end sports bar featuring two floors, three bars, 30 flat screen TVs – including the one in the men's room, a dance floor and parking. Stadium menu offers an enticing selection of appetizers, salads, steak & burgers, fresh seafood and drinks

BRUNCH

Harvard Gardens *315 Cambridge St., Beacon Hill, Boston, 617-523-2727. www.harvardgardens. com.* Cozy up to the beautiful mahogany bar or slip into a comfy booth and enjoy Harvard Gardens' menu of cool cocktails and comfort food. Brunch serves up eggs and pastrami hash, thick-cut French toast with caramelized bananas, specialty pizzas and Boston's best Bloody Mary. Harvard Gardens serves brunch Saturday and Sunday, 11:00am - 3:00pm.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended 617-661-5005.

Museum of Science – Skyline Room *Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston, Ma, 02114.* Enjoy Sunday Brunch in the beautiful Skyline Room overlooking the Charles River at 11 a.m. & 1 p.m., then check out the latest Omni film or visit our new exhibit, The Lord of the Rings Motion Picture Trilogy – The Exhibition. Tickets start at $32 and include on-site parking when available. Brunch only, $24. Reservations recommended. For more information call (617) 723-2500 or visit mos.org.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**, *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

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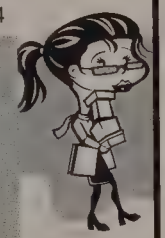
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THE BOOMER GANG

For Boston's 40-60-somethings. www.boomergang.com. See display on pg 93.

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN's Fall Dining Issue will take you on a culinary tour of autumn's finest cuisine. First, we will cover some delicious North End haunts that don't get all the attention they so richly deserve. Next, we'll dip into fondue. This hot 'n' gooey trend is a hit at many local restaurants. We'll also look at life as a waitress: How do they sling the hash when the dogs are barking?

THIS ISSUE IS GOOD TO THE LAST DROP!

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LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF











At From Fenway to the Runway, top: Sara Underwood and her daughter, Emma. Middle row: Manny Ramirez Sr. and Jr.; Chris Meyers, Esti Parsons and Michael Schlow. Bottom row: Peggy Henry and Stacey Lucchino; Smaiyra Million and Lisa Hughes.

FORGET PEANUTS AND CRACKER JACK; BUY ME SOME HAUTE COUTURE...

As if anyone needed further proof that behind every great man there's a great woman, the **Red Sox Wives** and the shops at **Heritage on the Garden** teamed up to host **From Fenway to the Runway**, a fashion show and luncheon to benefit the women's cancer center at **Dana-Farber**.

Held at **Via Matta**, the super-swanky event attracted the likes of stunning blonde owners' wives **Peggy Henry** and **Stacey Lucchino**; Channel 4 uber-babes **Lisa Hughes** and **Sara Underwood** (with infant daughter **Emma Felger**, making her first public appearance); restaurateurs **Chris Myers**, **Esti Parsons** and **Michael Schlow**; cancer researcher **Dr. Kornelia Polyak**; stunning brunette **Kim Druker Stockwell**; Bond girl (with the exotic name, to boot) **Smaiyra Million** of the Sports Club L.A.; Red Sox radio voice **Joe Castiglione**; Boston first lady **Angela Menino**; NESN's **Jayme Parker**; and the stars of the afternoon—such players' wives as **Juliana Ramirez**, **Karen Varitek**, **Tiffany Ortiz**, **Kathryn Nixon**, **Shonda Schilling** and **Aimee Arroyo**, to name only a few.

A handful of Red Sox players themselves (**Trot Nixon**, **Manny Ramirez**, **Jason Varitek** and **Johnny Damon** among them) put in a brief appearance, several toting their kids, and they received applause only slightly more enthusiastic than the fashions by such designers as Anne Fontaine, Escada, Marina Rinaldi, St. John, Sonia Rykiel and Hermes.

Following lunch, a live auction raised oodles of badly needed dinero for Dana-Farber. For a lucky few, however, the afternoon's highlight came when a basket of baseballs was passed around and those who chose one with the letters NYY written in red received tickets to a Red Sox–Yankees game.

This being a well-behaved (not to mention well-dressed) crowd, no one stooped to chanting "Yankees suck!"—even after chef Michael Schlow confessed to being a loyal New York fan.

"That's OK," said one guest. "You don't have to be smart to be a good cook."

SATURDAY IN THE PARK WITH GEORGE...

Anyone who runs, bikes, blades or simply lazes along the **Esplanade** was the unwitting beneficiary of **Moondance**, a black-tie fund-raiser hosted by the **Esplanade Association** to raise money for the park's preservation and enhancement.

Held beneath a giant white tent near the Arthur Fiedler statue, the evening began with drinks and mingling and continued with dinner, dessert and dancing, not to mention the throwing around of large sums of money.

Present and accounted for: event chairs **Jeryl** and **Steve Oristaglio**; **Shelly** and **Ofer Nemirovsky** and **Cynthia** and **Michael George**; ex-CIA director **George Tenet** and his wife, **Stephanie**; glamazon **Jennifer Winn**; Boston Ballet honcho **Mikko Nissinen**; patroness of the arts **Pamela Humphrey**; party pair **Randi** and **Joel Cutler**; the magnificent **Carolina Tress Balsbaugh**; travel titans **Alan** and **Harriet Lewis**; blonde bombshell **Anna Cheshire Levitan**; prominent Newtonians **Steve** and **Barbara Grossman**; the irresistible duo of **Wendy** and **Chip Pierce**; Back Bay social fixtures **Steve** and **Lois Kunian**; fashion plate **Erin Gilligan** and her husband, **Hoyle Kim**; bright young things **Jean Robert** and **Laird Elting**; and flower moguls **Simone** and **Ted Winston**. Then there was the woman whose advice for curing a broken heart consisted of "taking a hit of ecstasy and taking out your contact lenses," and a guy who claimed to have caught a 46-inch striped bass off the coast of Martha's Vineyard, prompting a nearby female to mutter, "He's a man. They always exaggerate about size."

The food was superb and the band kept everyone on their feet—as one prominent socialite put it, "You know the music's good when my husband is dancing...and with me, no less."

However, the undeniable highlight of the evening occurred during the live auction, when two big-spenders bid $45,000 each to have George Tenet come to their homes for dinner.

"Shouldn't he be on trial for war crimes in the Hague?!" wondered one guest.

"I bid $46,000 but nobody saw me," joked another.

"I wonder if it's open bar," said a third.

Meanwhile, with a completely straight face, another woman said, "45 grand? For that much, I'd expect him to bring Saddam Hussein with him." IB













At Moondance, top: Lisa and Alex Pierpont and Chip Pierce. Second row from top: Maggie and Jonathan Seelig; Carolina Tress Balsbaugh. Third row from top: Dan Mathieu and Randi and Joel Cutler; Michael and Courtney Forrester and Nicole and Jeff Bellows. Bottom: Hoyle Kim, Erin Gilligan and Laird Elting and Jean Robert.

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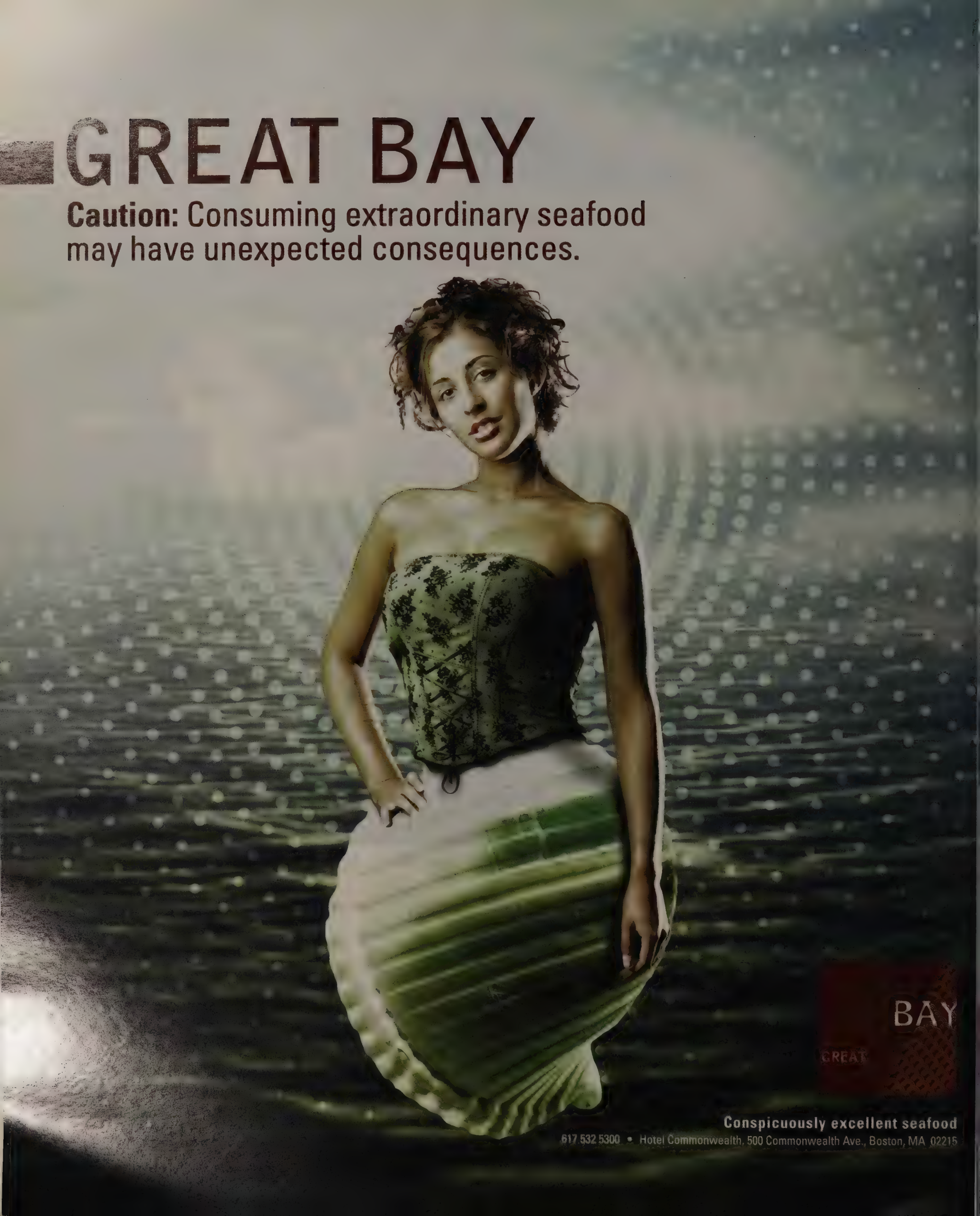
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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR



TASTE TESTING

For IMPROPER staffers, one of the best things about preparing our twice-yearly dining issues is the research. To gather info for her story on fondue's reemergence in Boston, managing editor Erin Hagedorn skewered and dunked her way through five local restaurants, regaling us with tales of creamy cheese and warm chocolate.

Meanwhile, our art staff made important expeditions to our cover model Joanne Chang's Flour Bakery + Café in the South End. Both art director and photo editor swiftly developed what we all recognized as a full-on addiction to Chang's roast beef sandwiches (made mighty by crispy onions and spicy horseradish) and homemade "Oreo" cookies. (They still talk of them in ardent tones and then disappear at lunchtime.)

For their stories on the North End's hidden gems and on local sommeliers, writers Ruth Tobias and Judith Gaines got into the act too, sipping and munching in the name of journalism.

Why do we go to these lengths? We do it for you, of course.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

WORST SUPERHERO FACTS...EVER

Kudos to William Orem on winning your fiction contest (Literary Issue, Oct. 6). But, alas, no kudos to Orem for badly fumbling his research. For instance, the Flash wasn't "given a magic ring," and Doctor Spectrum can't "do magic," and Yellow Claw can't "blast rays," and Superman would have to use his heat vision, not his X-ray vision, to melt a tire. All of which is super-geeky to point out, yes—unless the author's main character is supposed to be a super-geek who would never get any of this stuff wrong. So what—Orem wanted to write his story but was too cool to actually learn about his subject matter? Holy condescension, Batman!

—STEVE DONOGHUE
Jamaica Plain

CF-OH NO YOU DIDN'T

Like the staff at the IMPROPER, the editorial staff here at Boston-based CFO magazine thinks Susan Orlean is very cool. But so is her growing family—more so than suggested by the out-of-date reference to her husband as "an investment banker" (Soroff/On, Oct. 6).

For the past three years, Orlean's husband, John Gillespie, has been a chief financial officer (hence our interest here at CFO). His Boston-based company, the Mentor Network, provides care and lodging for the developmentally disabled, [illegible]-injured adults, and abused and [illegible]ed children. As we described in [illegible]t issue, he's also at the [illegible]d a movement to prove [illegible]n fulfill a humanitarian [illegible]s can still provide reasonable [illegible] for shareholders.

We bet their kid will turn out pretty cool too.

—TIM REASON
SENIOR WRITER, CFO MAGAZINE
Boston

WE HATE BEN MEZRICH?

So who does a guy have to kiss up to around here to get a little love from the IMPROPER? Once again I opened up your Literary Issue hoping that this time, my book would finally get a bit of notice from my hometown magazine. I mean, *Bringing Down the House, The True Story of Six MIT Kids Who Took Vegas for Millions* has spent the past 52 weeks on the *New York Times* Bestseller list; it was one of the biggest local bestsellers in the city's history and it's being turned into a movie starring Kevin Spacey. It also happens to be set in Boston, has been read by just about everyone in Boston, and actually has MIT in the title! But no! Once again, no mention! Okay, I'm not asking for the cover—although Susan Orlean? Yeah, she's a great writer, but she writes for THE NEW YORKER. Sure, she keeps her shoes here, but she is the epitome of the New York Writer. Maybe I should have written about six *New Yorker* writers who were into gardening and rigged a flower contest. Maybe then someone at your magazine would give me a little love.

By the way, I do like the magazine. In fact, the first interview I ever did was with the IMPROPER, I think in 1997. That was eight books, 2 million copies sold, 11 languages, and one year-long bestseller ago. Hmmm. Maybe you just hate me.

Hurt, but still a fan,

—BEN MEZRICH
Boston

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JUDITH GAINES



Judith Gaines has been writing about food and wine, among other topics, since 1981. A former staff writer for the *Boston Globe*, she developed "the offbeat beat," reporting on unconventional stories not normally considered news. Her writing has appeared in the *New York Times Magazine*, the *London Sunday Times* and about 30 other major publications. Gaines has two quirky cookbooks in the works, *Eating Their Words: Recipes, Anecdotes and Literary Morsels from Well-Known Authors* and *Celebrity Solutions: Famous Drunks and Their Drinks*. Her story on sommeliers, "Gurus of the Grape," begins on page 26.

MICHELLE JOYCE



Michelle Joyce is a commercial photographer who's worked in Boston for the past 10 years. She shoots an array of subjects for advertising and editorial clients locally and nationwide. In addition to photographing Joanne Chang for the cover, Joyce also shot this issue's fashion spread, which begins on page 32.

Tell Us What You Think

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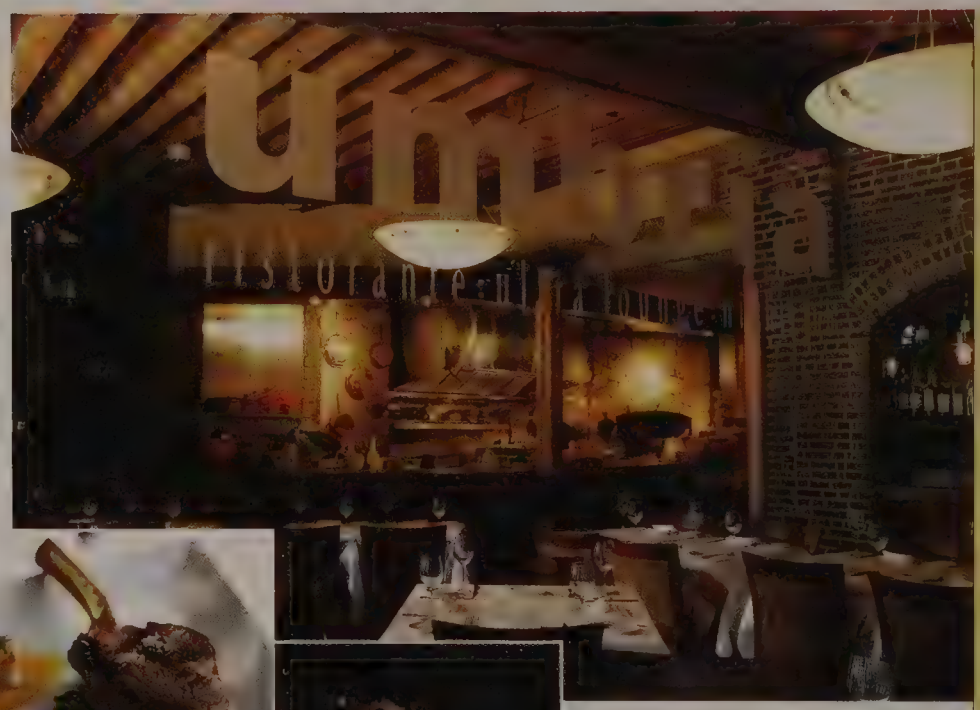


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DOWNTOWN RESURRECTION

When nightlife nabob Frank De Pasquale closed the doors of Financial District hot spot Il Panino last August, he told fans of the five-floor restaurant/nightclub not to worry—a completely new concept for the space was on the way. Two months later he's made good on his word with Umbria, which he opened October 7.







Like its predecessor, Umbria is a five-floor, restaurant/nightclub serving Italian cuisine. The difference is in the details, most notably in chef Marisa Iocco's new menu. Rich, meat-heavy cuisine from central Italy's Umbria region is the name of the game (hence the name of the complex), and Iocco, also chef at Bricco in the North End, imports many of the ingredients from a 400-acre Umbrian farm. Gone is the emphasis on pizza and pasta. Instead, the menu features dishes like braised meats, truffles, chops, and rabbit and lamb ragouts. "There's a great trend going on in Boston with all the new steakhouses," says DePasquale. "This is an Italian version of that. Not a steakhouse, but very earthy cuisine."

Whereas the first two floors are geared toward feasting on Italian cuisine, the top three floors are nightlife oriented. For these, DePasquale looked to other hot spots for inspiration. The third-floor "ultralounge," replete with plush leather couches, padded walls, LED lighting and bottle service, is modeled after trendy clubs in New York, Vegas and the Sunset Strip. The fourth and fifth floors are one giant nightclub, with a vodka bar offering more than 110 different varieties as well as other libations, which you can sip as you head to the dance floor. *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).* —*E.H. and Jessica Iredale*

around town

RIDING RICKSHAW

If you're tired of putting up with Boston taxicabs—their punctuality makes *Alice in Wonderland*'s white rabbit look good and their prices dwarf those in New York City—you're in luck. The pedal-cab trend has made it's way to the Hub. Boston's Jennelle Moore introduced Beanie Cabs, the city's first fleet of the man-powered bicycles with an attached cab seating two passengers, the week of the Democratic National Convention. Moore currently has a crew of two pedicabs (with more on order) and 10 drivers who can do everything from take you to a wedding or company event to provide a tour of your favorite Boston neighborhood. And yes, they can give you a bar-hopping lift down Boylston Street during the Friday or Saturday night Lush Rush. That is, if you don't mind a front row view of someone's backside while you're pedaled around town. Prices vary, so call for details. *(978-273-4758). www.beaniecabs.com.*

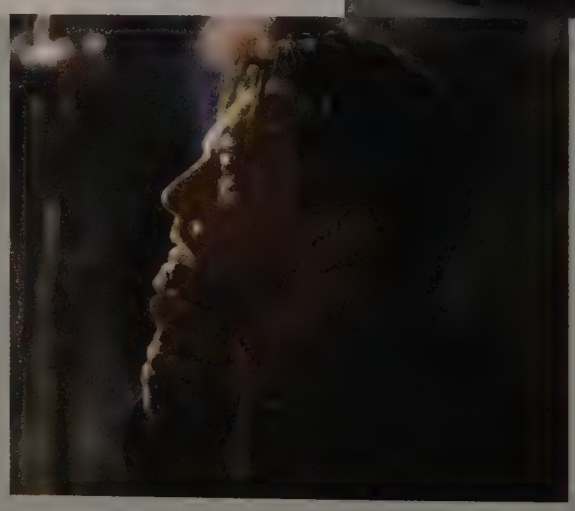
—*Rich Levine*



inner view

ANDREW MCCARTHY

Starring roles in teen cult films such as *St. Elmo's Fire*, *Pretty in Pink*, *Mannequin* and, of course, *Weekend at Bernie's*, made Andrew McCarthy an '80s icon. Since the early '90s, the former Brat Packer's pulled a pop culture Houdini, leaving fans wondering what he's been up to. In the 20 years since his first wave of fame, the actor's racked up tons of television credits, taken to the stage, and, most recently, directed. McCarthy comes to town for the Boston Irish Film Festival on October 22 to screen his debut film *News for the Church* at the Harvard Film Archive. The short feature is based on Frank O'Connor's story about faith and hypocrisy in 1950's rural Ireland.



IB: *What prompted you to direct?*

AM: I read the story a long time ago, 15 years ago, and I bought the rights to it then and did nothing with it. But I thought I understood the story and knew how to make it. And about a year ago, I said, you know, I'm going to do this. It was just something I wanted to do. To take control and create something from nothing as opposed to waiting for the phone to ring.

IB: *What's the most challenging part of being a new director?*

AM: As an actor you always want to be thinking, What am I doing now? Where as a director you have to always be thinking, What am I doing next? You have to be thinking this, plus four steps ahead. I also suppose a challenge would be that people have preconceived notions of who they think I am as an actor, so they might bring that baggage to the film when they see it.

IB: *You've been in plays and films and you've written and directed now. What's next? Are you writing a book?*

AM: Actually, I just came back from Ireland. I was writing an article for a travel magazine, which was quite fun. So it's not a book, no, but it was fun.

IB: *What do you think is your most underrated movie?*

AM: That people would have seen? *Heaven Help Us*. I did that when I was a kid. It was a lovely little movie. One of the first I ever did. Certainly the best movie I did from that early period in my career.

IB: *What about your most overrated movie?*

AM: [Laughs] Impossible. There's no such thing. What do you mean? What movie people liked that I didn't quite get? I'm certainly amazed at the intensity of people's passion for *Pretty in Pink*. I think it's a lovely movie, but I'm just amazed that people have taken that so into their lives as they have. It never moved me the way it moved others.

IB: *And for the requisite Brat Pack question: Do you keep in touch with anyone?*

AM: I don't have as much nostalgia about my past as others might. But I live in New York, and most of those people probably live in Los Angeles. I see them around. Most of my friends aren't actors. Actually, somebody just called me. They wanted to do a 20th-anniversary reunion photo for *Vanity Fair* for *St. Elmo's Fire*. I thought that was a great idea. So I said, yeah, sure. Count me in.

—*J.I.*



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tasty tidbits

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



The Not-So-Terrible Twos... As a general rule, we don't condone celebrating a two-year-old's birthday with alcohol. But in the case of Azure, the restaurant in Boston's Lenox Hotel, we'll make an exception. In late September, the restaurant celebrated its second anniversary with the unveiling of a new white and blue stained-glass bar and a new lounge area. The bar, surrounded by a new 20-seat lounge area with leather chairs, will continue to serve chef/owner Robert Fatham's signature "Infusions Diabolique" and also offers a wide array of bar snacks ($2.50 apiece) like Spiced Cracker Jacks and Home Made Chips with Kick Ass Scotch Bonnet Sauce. *61 Exeter St., Boston (617-933-4800).*

Double di Mio... When the owners of di Mio, a thin-crust pizza and sandwich shop in Porter Square, were ready to take their operation to the next level, they went to the neighborhood that's synonymous with Italian cuisine, the North End. On September 17, they opened a new di Mio at 261 North Street. Co-owner Daniel Adelson is more than optimistic that they'll avoid becoming just another fish in the North End's barrel. "No one here is really doing it like we are," he says. "We're going to capitalize on the lack of delivery in the North End. We make our own bread in house, and we're also a place where you can always come in for a slice of pizza." *261 North St., Boston (617-725-8880).*

Bring on the Brownies... Russ and Sherry Berger, owners of Laurel Grill & Bar, Prairie Star and Firefly, have always been blown away by the popularity of their restaurants' brownie desserts. In September, the pair decided to cash in with the opening of the online B & B Brownie Factory. Working out of a secondary kitchen at Laurel's Berkeley Street location, B & B offers five brownie options, including the Quadruple Threat (double chocolate brownies covered in ganache and drizzled with white chocolate), that are available for overnight delivery in a high-gloss red gift box with six brownies per box. Prices range from $15.95–$22.95. *www.bandbbrowniefactory.com.*

Red Bull Meets Red Dog... Rhonda Kallman, co-founder of the Boston Beer Co. and the woman behind Edison Light, has a new brew hitting bars in Boston and Atlanta. Moonshot, whose label art is inspired by 1940s-style airplane nose cone adornments, differentiates itself from other beers by adding a shot of caffeine. Each can packs the punch of a half cup of coffee—the most caffeine you can legally put in a 12-ounce alcoholic beverage. Beer as club beverage, extra-strength hair of the dog, or morning-coffee substitute—the possibilities are endless. *Go to www. moonshotbeer.com for more information.*

sam says

WESTON HO



The history of J.M. Weston, a high-end Paris shoemaker that just opened a store on Newbury Street, goes back to the late 1800s, when the town of Weston, Mass., was a mecca for the art of fine shoemaking. The company founder's son honed his cobbling skills in the tony suburb, and he brought a new trick of the trade back to Paris: a handcrafted, sewn shoe (most manufacturers used glue at the time). The resulting shoe, longer-lasting and more refined, sparked a cult-like following after the first boutique opened in 1891. More than a century, and 27 worldwide boutiques, later, not much has changed in the family-operated shoemaker. Prices range from $500 to $3,000, and shoes are available custom made in seven different widths. *129 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-8822).* —*Samantha House*

improper reports

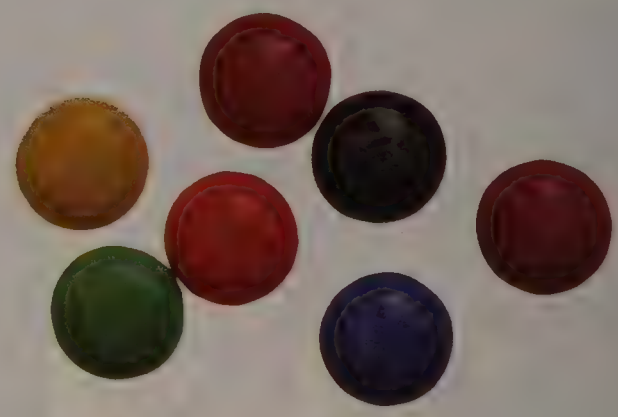
BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. You can support the cause at a number of venues throughout the city. It's as easy as shopping, getting a spa treatment, or simply picking up a bag of M&M's.

Avon Breast Cancer Crusade

Available at local retailers.
http://shop.avon.com/avonshop.

Do your Avon Lady proud. A percentage of the profits from Avon's new Pink Ribbon line, which includes a pink ribbon necklace, Celebrity Crusade nail polish, and more, benefits the Avon Breast Cancer Crusade.



M&M's Help Fight Breast Cancer

Available at local retailers.
800-IM-AWARE (800-462-9273).
http://shop.mms.com

If you need an excuse to indulge your sweet tooth, this one is as good as any. M&M's donates 50 cents to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation for each package of special pink and white M&M's sold through November.

A Better Place to Be Day Spa

336 Main St. Charlestown (617-241-8900).

Make your beauty treatment philanthropic at A Better Place to Be, which donates 10 percent of all proceeds from facials, waxing, brow and lip threading, spa pedicures and tanning services for the month of October to the Ellie Fund.

Lady Footlocker

330 Washington St. Boston. www.ladyfootlocker.com. 1-877-WALK-AVON.

If you're already participating in one of the breast cancer walks, take your advocacy a step further with a pair of Rykä sneakers, the official breast cancer awareness shoe from Lady Footlocker. Through the end of October, Lady Footlocker donates $2 to the Avon Foundation for each pair sold.

Save Lids to Save Lives

www.yoplait.com. 800-IM-AWARE (800-462-9273).

Think before you throw away that pink Yoplait Yogurt lid. Mail it into Save Lids to Save Lives, and 10 cents goes to breast cancer research. P.O. Box 72611, Greenfield, MN 55572-6011. Through December 31.

Target

Retail locations nationwide. www.target.com.

Through October, all profits from Target's Pink line, which includes the *Power of Pink* compilation CD, a pink cashmere scarf, a Breast Cancer Awareness pearl bracelet, a pink umbrella and a pink tote, benefit the Breast Cancer Research Foundation.

—*Christine Meade*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Know When to Fold 'Em... Catering to the poker craze, Mr. Dooley's is now holding Texas Hold 'Em Tuesdays, where patrons can face off against one another at poker from 8:30–9:30 pm. There's no buy-in (it's illegal to keep things legal), but the top player each night wins a prize. This is a relatively financially painless way to practice your poker face before you head to the casinos to take on the pros. *Mr. Dooley's, 7 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5556).*

Talkin' 'Bout My Renovation... People can't get enough of makeover shows—home, human and otherwise, and HGTV throws another one in the mix November 3 with the premiere of *Generation Renovation*. The show focuses on old homes that have been modernized, with several in the Boston area that showcase the rewards—and pitfalls—that await once you start gutting. One Cambridge couple lost their cat in the process of renovating what might be the smallest house in Cambridge, at 712 square feet. After spending two weeks trapped next to the motor of a refrigerator that had been pulled away from a wall, the hardy feline now has a custom litter box that's a miniature of the house itself. The show follows another Boston couple as they struggle to fit a 2,000-pound refrigerator in their kitchen, and we see the results of a Cape man's determination to bring a 100-pound cast-iron chandelier back from France as carryon luggage. And you thought the biggest reality-show lunatics were on *Fear Factor*.

Designer's Guild... If your design tastes are on the upscale mid-century to modern side, two new showrooms—one on each side of the Charles—are equipped to supply your interior needs. Design Within Reach opened its second New England showroom (the first opened a year ago in Cambridge) in mid August, adjacent to the swanky, new Atelier 505 building. The shop features pricey pieces by Le Corbusier, Eames, Prouve and Herman Miller, most of which are ready to ship within 24 hours. August also brought the first Massachusetts showroom for Bo Concept's custom line of minimalist modern furnishings, to Cambridge. *DWR, 519 Tremont St., Boston (617-451-7801), www.dwr.com. Bo Concept, 999 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-588-7777), www.boconcept.us.*

—*J.I. and R.L.*



Got scoop?

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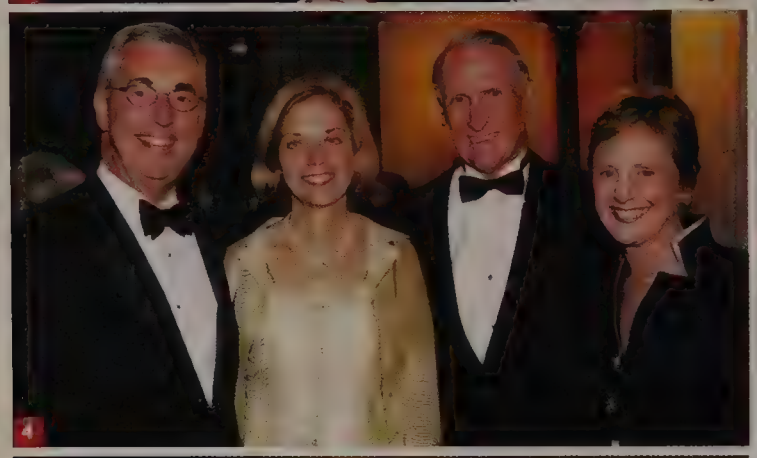
PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY















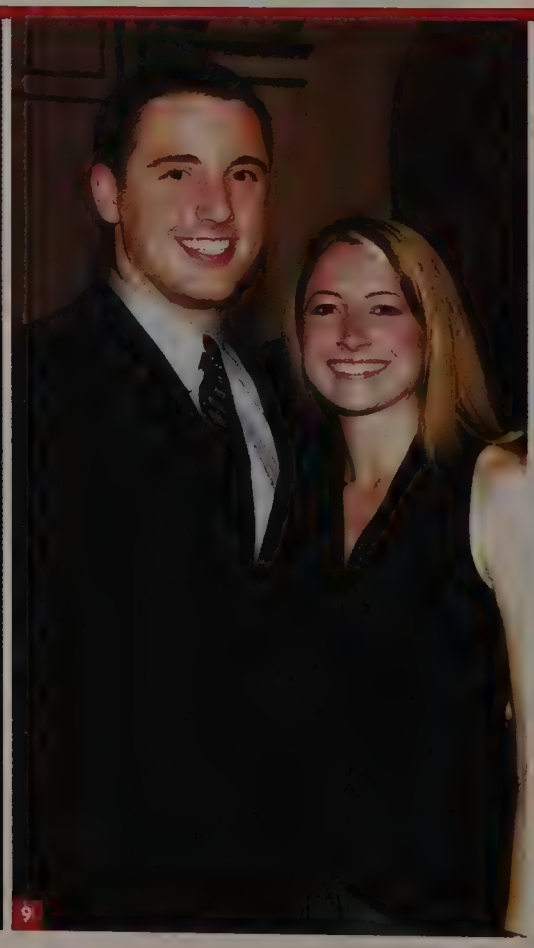
The **Boston Public Library Foundation** hosted its 10th annual gala in the historic McKim Building in Copley Square October 1. More than 500 guests of the foundation attended the black-tie event. The evening included cocktails, dinner, dancing and a private showing of the library's priceless treasures, including maps and original Red Sox photographs. More than $1 million was raised to benefit the final phase of the McKim Building restoration.

1. **Molly Dunne**, co-chair of the BPL Young Professionals; **Michael Partington**, partner at McKinsey & Co., and his wife, **Leslie**
2. **Ramsey Alsarraf**, cosmetic surgeon and director of the Newbury Center, and his wife, **Nicole**, co-chair of the BPL Young Professionals
3. **Liz Brunner**, WCVB-TV 5 news anchor, and her husband, **Craig Stockmal**
4. **George O'Toole**, federal judge, his wife, **Lucy**; **John Hamill**, chairman and CEO of Sovereign Bank New England, and his wife, **Kathryn**
5. **Bill Taylor**, former publisher of the *Boston Globe*, his wife, **Sally**; **Mary Daniels** and her husband, **Rick**, president of the *Boston Globe*
6. **John Judge**, principal of Judge Development LLC, and **Jennifer Khoury**, vice president of public relations for Comcast
7. **Julie Hatfield**, fashion writer, and **Tim Leland**, former *Boston Globe* executive

The **Arthritis Foundation**'s **Physician Achievement Award Dinner** was held October 1 at the Copley Plaza Hotel. More than 450 partygoers attended the dinner, which honored Drs. Thomas Thornhill and Robert Zurier for excellence in arthritis care and leadership. The event raised $200,000.

8. **Tom Minas**, orthopedic surgeon at Brigham and Women's Hospital, and his wife, **Dana Gvildys**, anesthesiologist at Newton-Wellesley Hospital
[illegible] **Burbank**, ASP developer for Burst [illegible] Burlington, and **Katie Nordstrom**, [illegible] scientist for IISI Corp. in Billerica
[illegible], president and CEO of the [illegible]ation, and **Richard Scott,** [illegible]rgeon at Baptist Hospital and [illegible] and Women's Hospital
[illegible]. D'Isola, partner at the Law Offices of James P. McCarthy, and his wife, **Jenny**, executive assistant to the chief orthopedic surgeon at Brigham and Women's Hospital



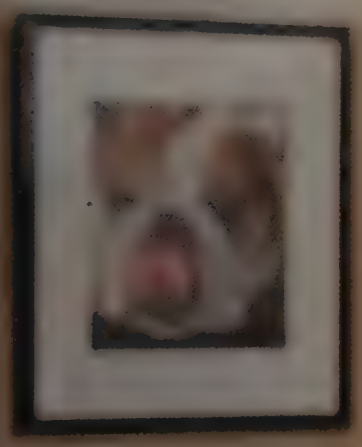






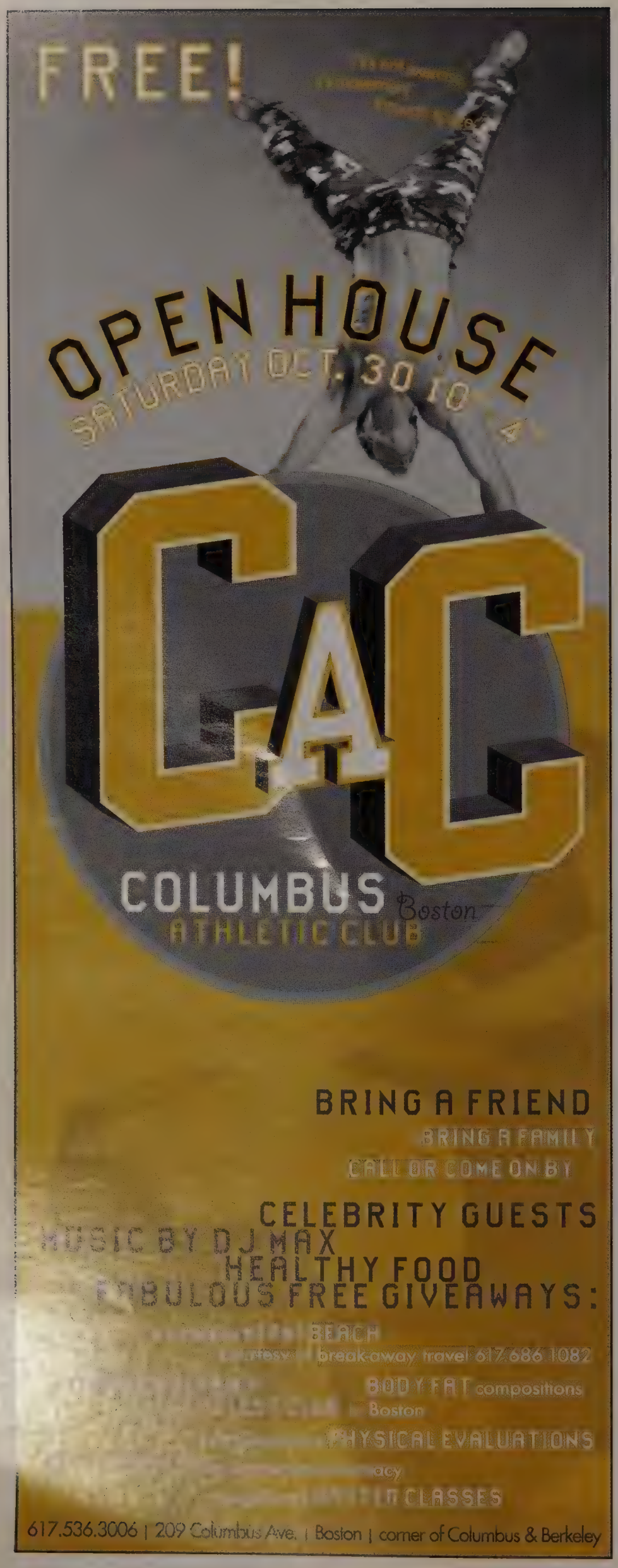
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A MEAN 'WEEN

Great Halloween costumes and how to make them.

Halloween is rapidly approaching and you're probably wondering once again what to cobble together for a costume. Here are some suggestions for fun, original costumes and how to make them.

MEN

Amalgam of Famous People Man

Oftentimes, costumes are misunderstood. One year I was a golfer getting struck by lightning and, because of the charcoal smeared on my face, roughly half the populace of Boston thought I was in blackface trying to look like Tiger Woods. Whoops! That's why you've got to be careful with your costume to make sure people don't get the wrong message. With this costume, you'll integrate signature looks from a variety of beloved icons and let other revelers guess which part belongs to whom. First, you'll want to grow a small mustache below your nose, a look made famous by Charlie Chaplin. Then put on a long, scraggly white beard and a turban, hallmarks, respectively, of two beloved fictional characters—Gandalf from *Lord of the Rings* and Aladdin. Finally, walk around with a jug of purple Kool-Aid and urge people to drink it, just like the Kool-Aid man! Since so many Halloween costumes have dark, negative connotations, I think this one is refreshingly cheerful and I encourage someone to try it and let me know how it goes.

WOMEN

Variation on the Female-as-Feline Theme

Let's face it, women dressing as cats is played out. Besides your stereotypical CVS ready-to-wear cat costume, you've got Catwoman, Puss-in-Boots, Eartha Kitt…the list goes on. This is why I want to see a hot chick dressed up as a Saint Bernard. A big, sexy dog running around spastically and slobbering all over everyone would make a party, in my opinion. Making this costume requires a good deal of advance planning, however, because the pelt-curing process takes three to five days.

TEAM COSTUMES

SpaceShipOne and White Knight

Burt Rutan's groundbreaking new passenger space vehicle would make for a killer team costume. One person could be White Knight, the big jet used to reach launch altitude, and one person could be the smaller, space vehicle. The SpaceShipOne person would be attached to the other's back (possibly with Velcro) but would periodically peel off and zoom away with a "Rrrrwwhoooshhh!" sound. If you and your girlfriend do this costume, you should probably let her be SpaceShipOne. I have no idea how to make this costume. Like space travel itself, it's a difficult challenge.

AN EXTREME MAKEOVER

This costume is great if you're particularly good-looking but have an ugly friend—and in every good-looking clique, there's at least one unsightly reality-check of an individual. Your unattractive friend should wear baggy gray underpants emblazoned with the word "Before" and refrain from showering for the week preceding Halloween. You should wear a gown and a beauty-pageant sash that reads "After," and pause in front of every mirror to squeal and weep. If you can't find a friend willing to participate in this costume, call Louie Anderson. He should be available.

YOUR UNATTRACTIVE FRIEND SHOULD WEAR BAGGY GRAY UNDERPANTS EMBLAZONED WITH THE WORD "BEFORE"

A POP-UP AD

My favorite Internet pop-ups are ones that feature a picture of Cameron Diaz, Oprah and Flipper and a challenge to "Click on the celebrity who lives in the ocean and win a prize!" If you haven't planned a costume and it's mere hours before the throwdown, here's how to execute the pop-up ad: Just wear your normal clothes, get really drunk, and when someone asks you a question, crouch on the floor and then jump up suddenly and yell, "Find your high-school classmates online! Seized drug-dealer vehicles for $100! Cheap diplomas! Woo woo woo!"

If you find this idea stupid, then wear a cow mask and an all-black bodysuit and say you're in the Moo Man Group. Shave all your body hair, get naked, cover yourself in oil and go as a newborn. Dress in a lumpy pink sweatsuit and be Bartolo Colon. Personally, I'm going as a nihilist and I really don't care what you do. IB

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BY CHRIS COLLINS



SILENCE OF THE FANS

With other teams vying for our attention, the sad state of the Bruins has been forgotten.

Amid all the hoopla related to the Red Sox' postseason and the Patriots' run at history, there's been a deafening silence on Causeway Street.

There was a day when the big, bad Bruins were part-owners of the city of Boston. Newbury Street was Bruins great Derek Sanderson's party zone. When he wasn't feeding Bobby Orr on the ice, he was feeding his thirst for a good party. The booze was, of course, on the house.

Talk about the toast of the town. From the early 1970s all the way through the late '80s, the Bruins were, to put it bluntly, exciting and awesome. Now the fabric of Boston sports has a huge hole in it. And the more I look at that gaping space, the harder it gets to remember what used to exist. What's even more amazing is that nobody seems to care.

Professional hockey is gone, with the owners and the players engaged in a work stoppage. And its return isn't exactly in the forecast. It's the same old boring story about the money grab. The problem, though, is the lingering effect: Will the NHL recover?

Hockey is such a regional game it seems silly to try to force it down the throats of sun-belt communities in Florida and Arizona. Isn't that like putting a beach volleyball franchise in the North Pole? But hockey has been a northeast passion for years. Growing up in Massachusetts I was never much of a guy to lace up the skates, but just about every other kid on the block was down at Devil's Ditch skating on the pond.

Now pro hockey is on life support. It's easy to see how it doesn't generate big bucks in places like Nashville and Columbus, but Boston Bruins president Harry Sinden has been crying poor-mouth for years and that's really an insulting joke. The B's are one of the more profitable franchises in hockey and always have been.

Bruins fans deserve better. While Sinden and owner Jeremy Jacobs may have been a little ahead of their time in understanding the way the other owners were draining their revenues in a money pit, they forgot about the little guy from Revere and East Boston along the way. While there are a lot of losers in this situation, probably none will suffer more than the local businesses surrounding the FleetCenter. The mom-and-pop businesses will end up paying the ultimate price when rational thinking can't end a potentially disastrous situation.

Hard as it might be to believe, New England's pro soccer franchise, the Revolution, may have a legitimate shot at becoming the fourth member of the Big Four. The Sox, Patriots, Celtics and the Revs? No longer will I buff my car with that red, white and blue Taylor Twellman jersey. I'll grab my Joe Thornton sweater to wipe away my car's grime.

The worst part for the Bruins is the outrage: There isn't any. Nobody cares. Nobody is complaining. Nobody is wondering when, if ever, the next puck will be dropped.

Ask yourself this: What are we going to do without hockey? Well, I already have it all planned out. First, the Red Sox make their run, which takes us through October. Then the Patriots and poster-boy quarterback Tom Brady take hold of the region while chasing history and a third Super Bowl title in four years, bringing us through to early February. Then you factor in the Celtics, who will serve as an occasional diversion while most of New England's sports passion is directed toward Foxboro.

> THE WORST PART FOR THE BRUINS IS THE OUTRAGE THERE ISN'T ANY NOBODY CARES NOBODY IS COMPLAINING

Then guess what happens in mid February? The equipment truck leaves Yawkey Way for Fort Myers, and pitchers start popping baseballs in catchers' mitts.

Oh yes, I forgot about hot-stove talk. Do the Red Sox re-sign Pedro Martinez? What about Jason Varitek? Is Brad Radke coming to Boston? And so on.

So even though it's been gone for a relatively short time, pro hockey and our Boston Bruins have already been forgotten. Maybe, just maybe, the owners and players could sign an agreement and save at least a 41-game season. But even if they do, it might be too late.

Which leads me to a question: If the Bruins play and nobody cares, is there really hockey in this town? IB

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.



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the DINING issue

If summer's the season to eat light, winter's the time to tuck in. So we've devoted this issue to chase-away-the-cold choices like hearty pastas, robust wines and rich cheeses and chocolates. Read on to find out about local restaurants that are getting creative with the fun-food classic, fondue; meet the expert sommeliers who manage some of Boston's best wine lists; and explore hidden Italian gems in the North End. We kick off with Jonathan Soroff's interview with applied mathematician–turned–dessert diva Joanne Chang, owner of Flour Bakery + Café.

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22 Italian Hideaways

26 Gurus of the Grape

28 Tour de Fondue

Soroff ON

JOANNE CHANG

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Baker and pastry chef Joanne Chang, owner of Flour Bakery + Café in the South End, was born in Houston and lived in Tulsa and Denver before her family settled permanently in Dallas. She came to Boston to attend Harvard, where she earned a degree, with honors, in applied mathematics and economics. After a short stint as a management consultant, she decided to become a professional cook and started as a garde-manger at Biba. She worked for a year as an assistant to the head baker at Bentonwood Bakery in Newton and in 1995 was hired as pastry chef at Rialto in Cambridge. She moved to New York in 1997 to oversee the cake department of Payard Patisserie and Bistro and returned to Boston a year later to serve as pastry chef at Mistral. In 2000, she realized her dream when she opened Flour, a bakery and café serving pastries, breads, cakes, cookies, tarts, sandwiches, soups, pizzas and salads. Located in the South End, Flour has been featured in *Gourmet*, *Food & Wine*, *The New York Times*, *Condé Nast Traveler*, and *Lucky*. Chang has written numerous articles and cookbook reviews and is currently working on a cookbook featuring the most popular items at Flour. She also teaches classes and advises pastry chefs in both the restaurant business and cooking schools. She lives in Boston with fellow foodie Christopher Myers, co-owner of Radius, Via Matta and Great Bay.

Jonathan Soroff: *So what hours do bakers keep?*

Joanne Chang: It depends. The opening baker comes in around 4:30 am. We open at 7 and it takes about two-and-a-half hours to get everything into the oven and out onto the counter.

JS: *Favorite dessert?*

JC: Ice cream. It's my favorite all-time everything.

JS: *Least favorite?*

JC: In general, when I'm at a restaurant, the one thing I tend not to order is chocolate. It's not that I don't like it. I love it. But I feel that it's such an easy flavor for a pastry chef, and it's simple to do a mediocre chocolate dessert that people will still be happy with. I'd rather focus on something fruity or creamy.

JS: *How much weight have you gained since opening Flour?*

JC: [Laughs.] I haven't.

JS: *You do realize everyone's going to hate you for that.*

JC: It's funny. This is a physically demanding job. You're loading 50-pound bags of flour and sugar, trays of scones that weigh more than that. You're going back and forth from the walk-in to the counter to the mixer. You've got a 60-quart mixing bowl that takes two people to lift onto the counter. It's a workout every day. The other thing is that when you're surrounded by pastries all day long, you don't want them anymore.

JS: *Can you get rich being a baker?*

JC: Hmm. I think it would be hard. You're selling $1.95 muffins and $1.50 scones and $3.00 tarts…

JS: *Who are you calling a three-dollar tart?!?*

JC: [Laughs.] I'm sure that whoever owns Au Bon Pain is very rich, but I don't think that person's a baker anymore.

JS: *So was Harvard a waste of time?*

JC: Absolutely not.

JS: *You studied economics and applied mathematics. What one thing that you learned there is most useful in your career?*

JC: I'd say my comfort with numbers. If we have a recipe we need to do two-thirds of because the pan size is 7 instead of 9 inches, it doesn't phase me. I doubt that's hard for most people…

JS: *So what's the most obnoxious thing an uppity Harvard alum has said about your career choice?*

JC: Three or four years ago, at a reunion, somebody said, "You must be so glad you don't have a real job." I understood what they meant. The intention wasn't bad. But I've been here since six this morning and this is the first time I've sat down all day. And this isn't even an all-out busy day. So I think this is a real job.

JS: *What's in your refrigerator at home—butter, eggs and sugar?*

JC: Well, yes, but also, for me there's fruit, miso paste, Chinese vegetables, yogurt, milk, a pastry or two from the bakery. Then, because Christopher's doing the low-carb thing, there's bacon, ham, eggs, butter, cottage cheese, tomatoes, pickles. We don't cook a lot at home. We do a lot of take-out.

JS: *Your best seduction recipe? You can get a man to do anything if you make him _____.*

I DON'T UNDERSTAND CHEESE PLATES. THEY BRING ME CHEESE WHEN IT'S DESSERT TIME? WHAT IS THAT? IF IT'S SAVORY VERSUS SWEET, I'LL ALWAYS GO FOR THE SWEET

JC: Well, Christopher loves my Chinese barbequed ribs.

JS: *Very romantic. One thing you hate to cook?*

JC: A flavor I hate working with is hazelnuts. I can't stand the way they taste and I have to force myself to put them into desserts because I know that a lot of people like hazelnuts. I also can't eat peanut butter. We make a peanut butter cookie and I have to have one of the bakers try it because it always tastes bad to me.

JS: *Ever feel guilty about contributing to the obesity of America?*

JC: Honestly, no. It's all about moderation.

JS: *How about the no-carb/low-carb thing?*

JC: It's my favorite subject. It drives me insane. I think any time you restrict your diet you're bound to lose weight. It's not that carbs are evil and cutting them out is some magic bullet. I don't want to sound snobby or unsympathetic. I was once quoted as saying something like, "If you don't want to eat pastries then don't come in here," which is awful. I know that many people struggle with their weight and I understand that. But I struggle when they want me to make a low carb bread or a low carb dessert—something that fits into their diet but tastes awful and is nothing like what we're trying to do here. I'd like to be responsive to those requests, but I just don't think anyone would like anything I could make out of Splenda and cornstarch, or whatever the acceptable wheat flour substitute is that I'm supposed to use. I don't want to sound like a pastry prima donna, but that's my honest opinion on the subject.

JS: *As a child, did you have an Easy-Bake Oven?*

JC: I think so.

JS: *Could you still cook something delicious using a lightbulb?*

JC: I think I probably could.

JS: *Cake mixes: pro or con?*

JC: Pro. We don't use them, of course, but they're great for someone cooking at home. Four years ago, when we were developing our devil's food cake recipe, I said, "I want Duncan Hines. Really moist, really chocolaty." That's what we were aiming for.

JS: *Is it true that the Pillsbury DoughBoy gives everyone a yeast infection?*

JC: [Laughs.] I think you're definitely onto something there.

JS: *You've run every Boston Marathon for 14 years? Do you carbo-load the night before?*

JC: Oh, yeah. Pasta and bread.

JS: *Would you rather date a butcher or a candlestick maker?*

JC: A butcher. Anybody who works with food. Don't they say that food and sex are next to each other in your brain? If you're passionate about one, you're probably passionate about the other.

JS: *Is fried dough its own food group?*

JC: [Laughs.] A lot of people would probably say yes. Same thing with doughnuts. I think we could close this place down and sell nothing but doughnuts and make as much money.

JS: *Twinkies or Devil Dogs?*

JC: Neither. I never really ate that stuff. I didn't grow up with junk food. We were Chinese. So I'm sure I had one once, but I don't really remember.

JS: *Any food quirks?*

JC: Besides loving leftover Chinese food? It's so much better the next day. I also like to eat the chocolate out of the chocolate chip cookies, the apples out of apple cake, the raisins out of oatmeal raisin cookies. Which I guess is weird.

JS: *Which would you rather have: a good cheese or an Oreo?*

JC: Oh, my gosh, an Oreo. I hate cheese. I don't understand cheese plates. They bring me cheese when it's dessert time? What is that? If it's savory versus sweet, I'll always go for the sweet. That's how I knew to go into sweets. I was working as a line cook at Biba, and I didn't want to eat anything. You're supposed to taste everything, and I was like, "Uchhh."

JS: *Does having a sweet tooth mean you have a sweet disposition?*

JC: I think so. I always look really suspiciously at people who say they don't like dessert. iB



iTALIAN HIDEAWAYS

IT'S NO SECRET THAT THE NORTH END IS A DINING MECCA, BUT LITTLE-KNOWN GEMS ABOUND IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

BY RUTH TOBIAS
PHOTOGRAPHS BY OLIVIA GATTI

Ah, the hidden gem. It's the X on every gastronome's treasure map—that intimate little hideaway where meals are made to remember for the lucky few who've made the discovery. Where said map depicts the North End, however, nary an X appears. That's because the culinary resources of Beantown's own Little Italy have been thoroughly mined—not depleted, mind you, but fully surveyed. And not only are the North End's flashy finds in high demand, but they fetch a fortune to boot—even the deeply flawed ones, of which there are plenty (not to mention the few downright impostors).

In lieu of any truly hidden jewel, even the haughtiest connoisseur can appreciate the next best thing: Let's [illegible] inconspicuous pearl. Such a place hardly shrouds itself in mystery, but neither does it trigger much hype. [illegible] though it may not be as coldly dazzling at first glance as a precious stone, it steadily radiates its own softer [illegible] glow. The analogy goes not only for restaurants but bars and markets too. Here, then, are a few choice [illegible] haunts.

There are several reasons our neighborhood faves tend to hover just under the radar. One of the simplest is that they simply aren't much to look at. Since a majority of folks come not merely to eat but to have themselves a quintessential North End experience, it's understandable that they gravitate toward trattorias with grapevine-strewn rafters and wicker-wrapped Chianti rather than, say, a seemingly run-of-the-mill pizzeria like **Ernesto's**: With neither the old-school charisma of more historic parlors nor the panache of their gourmet counterparts, this plain little joint on Salem Street barely warrants a glance from passersby on their mission for someone's mama's manicotti.

And yet, on closer inspection, they'd likely see Ernesto's regulars—young and old, and generally boisterous—congregating around the sidewalk tables, chomping on enormous slices. A closer look would reveal that each of these slices is actually two. (To ask why they don't just cut larger single slices is to risk a Spinal Tap–esque response about going to 11, or, in this case, two. So just relish the freebie.) Inside the shop are a handful of tables and a shelved counter lined, at any given time, with a dozen or so pies; the menu lists more than 30 varieties, of which nearly 20 are specialty combos. And one bite explains Ernesto's local legitimacy. Though both thin and thick crusts have their merits and drawbacks (tirelessly debated by their champions and detractors), this intermediate crust is positively Goldilocks-ian, nicely chewy but not doughy, and olive oil–tinged to boot. (Sicilian-style slices are thicker, of course, and on the whole less distinguished; they go for $3–$3.50, while regular slices are $2.75–$4.50.) As for toppings, truly quality ingredients in proper proportion make all the difference. From the more traditional, ultra-rich pairing of prosciutto and mascarpone to the funky blend of chunky bacon, juicy (read: not precooked) chicken, and diced tomatoes, plus a schmear of ranch dressing—they strike a neat balance between salty and sweet, unctuous and fresh. So while we wouldn't suggest you bring your in-laws here for their silver anniversary, we'd heartily applaud a weekly off-hour spree, ambience-free but flavor-filled. *69 Salem St., Boston (617-523-1373).*

Much the same can be said for **Galleria Umberto**—unless your in-laws are Sicilian, in which case they could be so grateful for a glimmer of authenticity that they'll overlook the drab digs. Though it's smack in the tourist crosshairs—on Hanover Street, between Cross and Prince—it's virtually unknown to most visitors, with good reason: It's an old-fashioned linoleum-and-chrome luncheonette that stays open only until the kitchen runs out of food. And you can bet area residents and workers would just as soon keep it a secret, since as it is, the noontime lines span the long, narrow, bare room, and it's pretty much a case of Murphy's Law—or maybe *la legge di Umberto*: By the time you reach the front, they'll be out of the very thing you were craving most. Never fear, however, because everything from this *rosticceria* satisfies. While the calzones ($3–$3.50) and the simple pan pizza ($1 per slice), with its snappy, fresh-tasting sauce, are the most palpable people-pleasers, more distinctive delights are the croquette-like arancini and panzarotti. Arancini ($2) are enormous, pea-studded balls of perfectly cooked rice with a molten center of beef *ragù* and mozzarella; both in texture and flavor, they hold together impressively within their thin, crisp, deep-fried crusts. Ditto the panzarotti ($1), though they're filled instead with herbed mashed potatoes and a plug of mozzarella. Umberto's panini ($1.50), meanwhile, aren't your average grill-pressed ham-and-cheese sammys; rather, they're lovely golden buns, delicately crunchy outside, soft inside, completely encasing fillings like prosciutto and mozzarella, which pack a sassy, salty punch. And as for those prices—

Ernesto's may look like an ordinary pizzeria, but the pies, with their perfect crusts and fresh toppings, are sublime. Just ask the locals.

Joseph Spanuolo (left) and Archangelo DiFronzo are generous with the samples at Fresh Cheese, which stocks everything from fresh ricotta to sausages and Italian tuna.

they really are unheard of around here. *289 Hanover St., Boston (617-227-5709).*

Another, less excusable reason for the relative obscurity of some worthwhile North End spots is that they lack either a Hanover Street or Salem Street address. It's as though both Fodor and Frommer gave express instructions to turn neither right nor left. That's just as well in the case of **Fresh Cheese**, since the tiny store on Endicott barely accommodates one customer, let alone three or four. From floor to ceiling, corner to corner, it's filled with oils and olives and pastas, cheese wheels and sausages and hams—and staffed by seeming gentle giants, husky young men proffering free samples at every turn. Naturally, a majority of the products are imports; so if you've never tried Italian tuna (it's usually jarred in oil, rarely tinned in water) or *vincotto* (a condiment similar to balsamic vinegar, but sweeter) or preserved eggplant, this is your place. If you've never plucked a pepperoni straight down from the rafters, or picked a provolone or pecorino from among seven or eight different varieties, or tasted a salt-packed anchovy, this is your place. Moreover, what isn't imported is often house-made, including the fresh ricotta and various stuffed peppers. The shop also makes subs whose heft indeed seems seaworthy—one-footers laden with mortadella, salami and Swiss cheese, plus chopped tomatoes, lettuce, pickles and peppers. Between the freebies and the hoagies, you'll leave Fresh Cheese purged indeed, namely of the need to eat for a week. *81 Endicott St., Boston (617-570-0007).*

If not, however, you could pop on over to North Street for a bite at the ever-pleasant surprise that is **Limoncello**. Go for lunch on a Sunday afternoon and you might end up witnessing a wedding ceremony, conducted right there in the dining room as you eat; arrive for dinner on a weeknight, and you may find yourself surrounded by couples



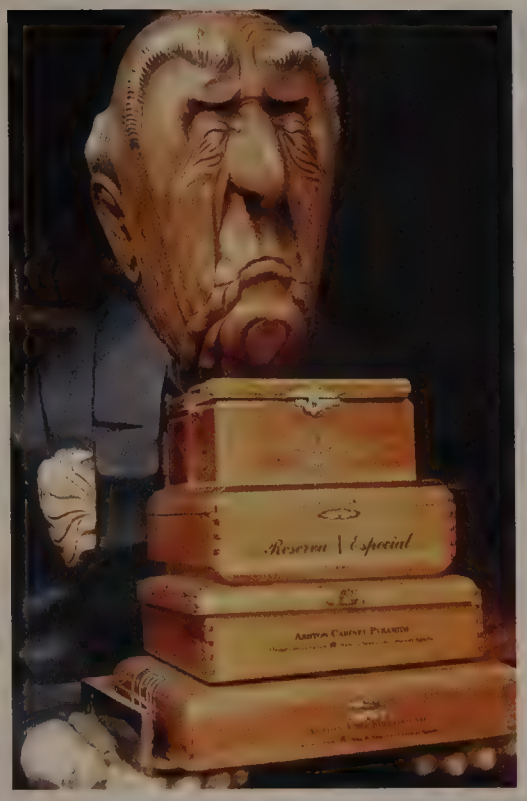
The charmers on Limoncello's menu include rosette pasta with mushrooms and prosciutto cotto in a bechamel sauce.



speaking anything and everything but English. In short, a strange kind of magic suffuses this trattoria—after all, its backstory, involving a hard-working waiter with a winning lottery ticket, is better-known than the place itself. Despite a few kitschy touches, like the mural of a sweeping landscape, Limoncello is a pretty place, all warm hues and white linens, with double magnums lining a central partition. And except for a few snoozers offered to placate the tame of tastebud, the menu is a compendium of charmers, appealingly conceived and for the most part well executed. This is especially true of the snazzy appetizers (which wear disproportionately high price tags to match). The choicest include braised baby octopus with chickpeas in tomato sauce ($13)—a trinity of textural contrasts unified by lightness in flavor—and the stuffed artichoke ($16), whose supremely rich filling, pungent with pecorino and salami, acts almost like a dip for the tender chips of the leaves. Pastas are another success story, particularly the *tagliolini al limoncello* ($19)—in which the perfectly done homemade noodles stand up to the intensely creamy sauce, punctuated by a few sweet jumbo shrimp (and an unnecessary garnish of arugula). *Fusilli con ragù all'Abruzzese* ($18) also rings true, its sauce's chunks of lamb rightly doing most of the heavy lifting flavorwise. Among the meat dishes, veal takes priority. A recent special showed why: The roast veal shank ($36) was done to a turn, bathed in a velvety mushroom sauce, mercifully marsala-free. *190 North St., Boston (617-523-4480).*

Not that marsala is an automatic stop signal. Indeed, right across North Street, at **Ricardo's**, you'll find plenty of green-light dishes on one of the more honest red-sauce menus around. Typically, Italian-American fare suffers from ham-handedness: too much coating on the outside, too much sugar on the inside, too much cheese on top. And the result is often a soggy mess. Here, however, they keep a light touch, although the piped-in *mangia-mangia* music and hilarious portrait of *la nonna* circa 1966 might initially lead you to suspect otherwise. Eggplant *rollatini* ($6.95), for instance, are thin slices of eggplant, properly—i.e., gently—breaded and fried, stuffed with plain ricotta and plated with the sort of fresh tomato sauce that gives marinara a good name. Similarly, *pollo exquisito* ($14.95), though battered, isn't broken; the chicken, with its salty overlay of prosciutto and mozzarella, remains juicy, and the marsala-laced pan juices, though rather sweet, don't cloy. Even the stuffed calamari over linguini ($15.95) fares well, the shellfish properly tender, the linguini properly toothsome (only the breadcrumb stuffing borders on flavorless). Clearly, unlike at some of the tourist haunts, there's someone in the kitchen who's more than just a can opener. *175 North St., Boston (617-720-3994).*

The last stop on our tour is an underground fave in every sense of the adjective. Located below Caffé Vittoria, **Stanza dei Sigari** is the ultimate den of iniquity; it not only boasts historical cred as a Prohibition-era speakeasy, but also, ironically enough, enjoys its current standing as one of the only bars left in town that can legally sell both smokes and spirits. Indeed, its menu comprises several pages, listing numerous cigars ($10–$35) from the cellar vault and a wide range of liquors to supplement the stogies—scotch and bourbon, cognac and port, grappa and tequila, to name a few, plus a smattering of martinis. What's more, you can enjoy it all in style. Not high style, exactly, but style nonetheless, as Stanza dei Sigari eschews country club luxury for a more wink-wink take on comfort. It's filled with smoking memorabilia to be perused at leisure, from souvenir ashtrays to risqué posters to intricately carved pipes. Of course, the recent introduction of oh-so-hip *huqqa* service ($20 per hour) may mean the end of Stanza's hideaway days, so use it, or lose it to the trendy set. *292 Hanover St., Boston (617-227-0295).* IB



GURUS OF THE GRAPE

From seasoned veterans to adventurous newcomers, Boston's sommeliers craft their wine lists with a dash of personality.

BY JUDITH GAINES

ILLUSTRATIONS BY PHILIP KERRIGAN

It's Wine Monday at L'Espalier, Frank McClelland's nouveau French–New England restaurant in Boston's Back Bay. On this evening, about 30 people have come for the special $50 dinner that's one of the city's best deals: four or five courses, each paired with a half glass of a wine specially selected to complement the dish. As he does at all these events, sommelier Erik Johnson is talking to the group. Or perhaps I should say he is effusing. When he talks about wine and winemakers, he bubbles, like the Champagne he loves. If he could levitate to express his pleasure with his wines and his job, he would.

Tonight the theme is California cabernets, and we start with a light cab, the 2000 Quintana from Laurel Glen, on California's North Coast. It's not a big or complex wine but it's fruity and fun, charmingly paired with smoky potato pancakes with tomatoes, chives, frog legs and a little caviar. The winemaker, Patrick Campbell, is a polio sufferer who gets around on crutches "but that doesn't slow him down at all," says Johnson, who loves telling the stories behind the wines.

Next comes a pot-au-feu of monkfish and monkfish liver, which Johnson calls "the foie gras of the sea." It's paired with a 2000 Michel Schlumberger, a subtle, elegant cabernet made by a Frenchman who lives in California's Dry Creek Valley. Johnson loves this wine and asked McClelland to prepare the monkfish medley to accompany it. Fish and red wine combos are hot this year, and the acid in the cab cuts the richness of the liver with just the right sort of spicy finesse. At my table, everyone is enchanted.

Johnson, who also works at Sel de la Terre, is one of the best in a city blessed with many terrific sommeliers (which is the fancy name for a wine steward or director of wines). The sommelier picks the restaurant's wines—buys them, organizes how they're stored and sold and teaches the staff about them. Some arrange special wine tastings, wine dinners or other wine-related events. All maintain their wine lists and work the floors at night, explaining their selections to restaurant patrons and suggesting how to match beverage and food while staying within the customer's budget.

With thousands of wines in the world—there are more than 1,000 grape varieties in Italy alone—nobody can know them all. Sommeliers are our guides. If the worst of them can ruin a meal by being impatient or snooty, the best share their passion without dictating cost or taste. They can make a great meal more memorable and, occasionally, even magical.

Unlike Johnson, who was raised in Wisconsin in a nondrinking family, Ted Davidson, sommelier at Aujourd'hui in the Four Seasons hotel, grew up around grapes. He was raised in Sonoma County, California, in a family that had its own vineyard and sold grapes to local wineries. Wine is in his blood. But he graduated from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music and sang opera as a tenor for five years before opting to pursue his interest in wine professionally. He's been a sommelier for 15 years, working at Mantra in Boston as well as restaurants in New York City and San Francisco before coming to the Four Seasons five months ago.

Before Davidson arrived, the hotel's restaurants didn't have a sommelier, and its wine list favored predictable suppliers who bottled at least a half million cases a year. Now, the newly renovated dining room at Aujourd'hui showcases 12 wine cabinets with individual temperature controls, a change in decor that signals a new interest in all sorts of wines, including those from small, boutique producers, Davidson says.

You might expect an opera singer working at the Four Seasons to have a big ego, but what's most striking about Davidson are his thoughtfulness and humility. As both singer and sommelier, he says, he's aware that the lifestyle of his patrons is more monied than his own. He's there to serve, and his wine choices are remarkable for their care and precision. When he matches a Trimbach 2001 Gewürztraminer to an appetizer of bruleed figs with gorgonzola and mâche at the Bristol Lounge, the result is a revelation: The fragrant, full-bodied Alsatian wine first complements the figs with the taste of lychee nuts and then finishes with a dry, spicy kick that offsets the sweetness of the fruit—a perfectly balanced combination.

To make his selections, Davidson often tastes 50 to 100 wines a week. What makes a great sommelier, he says, "is a great memory." He thinks Spanish wines from some lesser-known regions will be popular soon, as well as wines from Portugal, where the technology of winemaking is improving rapidly. He's also keen on Champagne. For the holiday season this year (after Thanksgiving), Aujourd'hui will offer 20 Champagnes by the glass and a degustation menu featuring Champagnes paired with every course.

Catherine Silirie, wine director at No. 9 Park Street, B&G Oysters and the Butcher Shop, offers the most eclectic wine menu in town. Where Davidson is cautious and correct, Silirie is willing to take a few more risks. Even at the Butcher Shop, a wine bar/eatery/retail butcher shop with a casual atmosphere, you won't find anything that might be considered a generic American wine. But you will find, for instance, a 2002 Côtes du Saint Mont Les Vignes Retrouvees, which is like a sauvignon blanc, and a 2001 Mazane Marzemino Costaripa, which resembles a merlot. Silirie favors wines that are more nuanced than powerful, and she travels extensively, especially in Europe, to find varieties that most Bostonians have never tasted, or even heard of.

This kind of wine list can be intriguing and wonderfully surprising, but it can also be intimidating to customers, since most of the wines are unfamiliar to them. To educate staff about her list, Silirie spends about an hour every day giving tastings and quizzing them about what they've sampled, training them to be helpful.

Silirie dresses in a funky, artsy style that I'd call Elegant Gypsy. On the day I interview her, she's wearing flounces and frills, and soft, winey pinks and purples. She says she was the first female sommelier in Boston when she was hired in 1989 by Grille 23, and in 1991, she moved on to Rocco's, a Theater District restaurant that's no longer in business, in 1991. Around this time, Barbara Lynch, the chef-owner of the three restaurants where Silirie now works, was a line cook at Olives. Silirie urged Rocco execs to hire her, and the two have been working together ever since.

You can't be a good sommelier at a bad restaurant, Silirie believes—the food-wine matchup is central to a great dining experience. She's especially proud of her relationship with Lynch. The two discuss menu items frequently and tinker with dishes to stay in sync as they explore new combinations of textures and tastes. Among their recent exotic collaborations was a meal for a fund-raiser at which all the dishes contained seafood and all the wines were reds.

Asked about sommeliers she admires, Silirie points to Jeannie Rogers of Il Capriccio, a Northern Italian restaurant in Waltham. Rogers' wine choices are so distinctive that she's really in a league all her own. Most sommeliers buy their wines from wholesalers who visit periodically, hawking samples of their wares. As Al Stankus, the well-respected sommelier at Davio's, puts it, "The mountain comes to Mohammed." Rogers goes another route.

Wine, she says, should provide "a total experience that's transporting." To make her selections, she wants to know what the winery looks and feels like. She wants to explore the history and geography of the community on the ground, meet the winemakers and their families, see how they grow grapes and make wine. And she prefers focused, handcrafted wines made as naturally as possible, with a depth of flavor and a sense that they have something interesting to say.

So three or four times a year since about 1989, Rogers has traveled to Northern Italy, getting to know the region's vintners. She favors small farmers who produce just a few thousand bottles a year—not the sort who typically sell outside their local areas. Serving their wines at Il Capriccio means helping the winemakers navigate international bureaucracies, explaining regulations that may be confusing to those who don't speak English well, finding an American distributor they can supply and from whom she can buy. It's a time-consuming process, but the results are remarkable, and well worth a trip to Waltham to experience them.

Catherine Silirie favors wines that are more nuanced than powerful, and she travels extensively to find varieties most Bostonians have never tasted.





To some Bostonians the dean of sommeliers is Al Stankus. A former social studies teacher, he's been writing and lecturing about food and wine since 1984

Rogers isn't much interested in wines that are hot, but she does say she expects the 2003 vintage of many Italian reds to be popular. After a sunny, dry year, the grapes were unusually ripe and juicy, she says, which will make for rounder, less acidic and more approachable wines than normal. Meanwhile, she offers an array of intriguing options, including a golden 2001 Sassaia, by Angiolino Maule, with a complex tangerine and mineral flavor unlike anything I've ever tasted, and an earthy, amber 2001 Damijan Ribolla Gialla that could pass for either a red or a white in a dark glass.

To some Bostonians, the dean of sommeliers is Al Stankus. Born in Chelsea and a former high school social studies teacher, Stankus has been writing and lecturing about food and wine since 1984; he co-edited the Zagat guide to Boston restaurants for seven years, worked at Martignetti's wine store for about a dozen years, and has been sommelier at Davio's since 2002. He never took a wine course, but like many sommeliers, educated himself by reading and tasting as much as he could and learning on the job.

Of all the stars in this article, Stankus has the most conservative wine list. He doesn't like many California wines—they're "too sunny and bright" and have too much alcohol, he says. And he disapprovingly notes the growing interest in Australian wines. "Why do I need them?" he asks. "They're too over-the-top." Stankus has many followers who appreciate his steady, reliable judgment—particularly for European wines like the Tuscans, including Chianti—and his friendly, unpretentious manner. He could be your Uncle Al.

If Boston has a Young Turk sommelier, someone with wild ideas and an amusingly zany approach, that would be Geoffrey Fallon, 33, of Les Zygomates. A former bartender who liked martinis and beer, he wasn't interested in wine and didn't drink it much at all until he took the job at Les Zyg five years ago. But he had a good palate, a willingness to learn about wine and a lively, articulate way of describing what he liked. Now he offers weekly Tuesday night wine tastings—four or five wines accompanied by appetizers for $25. His style is about equal parts schoolmarm and stand-up comic.

For those on a tight budget, Fallon has an eclectic list of bottles priced at less than $20, as well as an "id list" of $20 to $60 wines he describes as "hidden treasures, personal favorites, leftovers from wine tastings, bin ends and downright funky wines," by which he means, "something that doesn't taste like anything a normal person would expect to find in a wine, such as the flavor of mushrooms."

He'd like Les Zygomates to be the first restaurant in Boston to offer a $60 wine with a screw top—it's the future, he says. He thinks there's growing interest in "eclectic pairings," such as matching red wines "with anything you can put grill marks on, like mackerel or even sardines." And he's looking forward to a "Champagne shoot-out" on November 16, featuring six glasses of bubbly plus food in a blind tasting for $40. Wine tastings should be celebratory and fun, Fallon says, and the Champagne shoot-out "is the most festive event of them all." IB

TOUR DE fondue

BY ERIN HAGEDORN

CHEFS GET CREATIVE WITH THE ULTIMATE FALL INDULGENCE.

It's no secret that after decades on the back burner, fondue has made a comeback. The classic conversational centerpiece that doubles as a meal now appears on the menus of restaurants from the hip to the traditional—and those nifty space-age pots have been popping up at home-goods stores across the nation. In Boston, fondue's return has taken nearly every form imaginable. Instead of sticking with the traditional cheese variety, which originated in Switzerland, chefs are getting creative. "It's a basic dish that evolved into many variations, many of which have nothing to do with the original," explains Avenue One chef Brad Ozerdem. "To make our menus more interesting and to keep up with trends, we tend to add to the repertoire." It's clear that nothing is off-limits as chefs have embraced a "fundue" philosophy that's taking the delectable dish in exciting new directions. Dip in and see.

THE WINE CELLAR

30 Mass. Ave., Boston, 617-236-0080

Specializing in fondue and wine, the Wine Cellar is one of the most romantic new spots in town, and the atmosphere makes sharing such an intimate dish even more sensual. Tucked away from the hustle and bustle of Mass. Ave., the cozy, subterranean restaurant feels like a European bistro—it's small, casual and dimly lit, and diners are encouraged to linger over their meals.

Despite having a wider selection of fondues than Imelda Marcos had shoes, the raison d'etre of the Wine Cellar is, in fact, the wine. Its encyclopedic wine list includes an index of vintages, and an incredible 630 varieties are available, at prices ranging from $25 to $500 a bottle. Scores are served by the glass. So why the fondue? Owner Alex Gozman, a Russian immigrant and an avid wine collector, puts it simply: "The best food to accompany wine is cheese."

The Wine Cellar's 20-plus fondue options come in three categories: oil-based, cheese and chocolate. Exuberant general manager Thierry Charles says his favorite is the Back Bay (a decadent $54 cheese fondue, with crab meat, lobster and shallots). We opted to start with the Traditional Gorgonzola fondue ($42), which is plenty for two. Into the savory sauce—a blend of gorgonzola, Gruyère, Emmental and Appenzeller cheeses, flavored with pancetta, kirsch, white wine and roasted garlic—you dunk chunks of bread, potato pieces, and asparagus spears wrapped in prosciutto.

Although the cheese is fun, it's even more fun to cook your own sausage, chicken and beef in a vat of boiling oil called the Chef's Fondue ($23). This one is served with three sauces—Champagne vinaigrette, barbecue and a béarnaise—that you can mix and match. Timing your skewers on the six forks makes for an interactive dinner, and a conversation sparker.

Conversation is part of what makes fondue so popular, Charles tells us. "When you order a meal with friends, as soon as your dinner comes you eat it in order to keep it hot. And the conversation ends. With fondue, it's different. It comes to the table hot, it stays hot, and you're all sharing the same dish."

The Cellar's also a great place for dessert and a nightcap (beer and wine only) or coffee. The dessert fondue we tried, the velvety Chocolate Grand Marnier, comes with berries, grapes, pineapple, cantaloupe and vanilla Belgian pirouette wafers. Other options include dark chocolate, chocolate with nuts, and peppermint patty, and all are $8 or $9.

AVENUE ONE AT THE HYATT REGENCY

One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston, 617-912-1234

Avenue One chef Brad Ozerdem is a fondue expert who's hosted several cheesemaker events, where he recounts fondue's origins and history. "Fondue resulted from an abundance of cheese in areas of Switzerland and France during the winter," he says. "There was ample cheese, wine and bread, and the sheepherders sustained themselves on these things through the winter. As the sheepherders turned into domestic help for the wealthy, the peasant fondue piqued the palates of the wealthy, and the dish spread via nobles bringing the dish to other nobles."

Ozerdem's secret for tasty results is simple: "Use good cheese and you get good fondue." Gruyère and Emmentaler from Switzerland form the base of Avenue One's traditional fondue ($18 for one or two people; $32 for three of four), served with bread, cornichon pickles and tomatoes (onions too, but they're optional). For the Berkshire Bleu Fondue ($18 or $32), Ozerdem uses a smooth and mellow local blue cheese, paired with bread, apples and juicy red pear for dipping. Different types of fondue occasionally turn up on the restaurant's menu as well, because Ozerdem always keeps an eye out for seasonal cheeses and other variations.

All of Avenue One's fondues are served in big cast-iron pots, over a Sterno flame. As you chat and chew the evening away, the cheese gets harder on the bottom of the pot; you can scrape it up with bread at the end. To cap off your evening, there's the velvety Callebaut chocolate fondue ($14). Served in a smaller bowl over a tea light, it's accompanied by bananas, strawberries, pineapple, chocolate-covered mini biscotti, and marshmallows.

As we scrape the last drops from the pot, Ozerdem explains some traditions associated with fondue. For example, if a man drops his bread in the fondue, he's supposed to buy a drink for everyone. If a woman loses her bread, she has to kiss all the men at the table. And if you're unfortunate enough to have your bread sink twice, you have to host the next fondue party.

Fondue is especially popular in Avenue One's lounge—during the winter, it accounts for 40 to 50 percent of the lounge's food sales, says Ozerdem. "It's probably because of two factors: we have long, cold winters, and we're a foodie town."



Avenue One's cheese fondue options include a traditional Gruyère and Emmentaler, and a blue cheese.

DEVILLE LOUNGE AT KINGS

50 Dalton St., Boston, 617-266-2695

"I'd never had fondue before deciding to put it on the menu," says Deville Lounge chef Art Welch. Yet he decided it would be a good fit for the funky, '50s-style lounge and started serving it a year ago, six months after Kings opened. "It was definitely fun experimenting with all the cheeses," he says.

In the lounge, adjacent to the bowling alley, you can sit at funky red booths, individual or communal tables, and when you're feasting on fondue, it's a total retro experience.

Welch changes the fondue offerings regularly but usually sticks with a cheese option. Right now, he's serving a fontina fondue, which you can order with marinated chicken or beef ($13) or vegetables ($12). We recommend ordering both the grilled chicken and the beef, as both are delicious and shareable. The morsels are tender and richly seasoned and, when coated in the hot cheese, heavenly. Veggies are seasonal, and usually include portobello mushrooms, red onions, and butternut squash.

If you're possessive about your food, this is the place for you. Each diner gets his or her own pot, so you aren't forced to share. Fondues "aren't usually served in individual portions like ours," Welch says. "I'm not big on the communal thing." One exception at Kings is the dessert fondue—a single large pot of creamy, warm caramel sauce. Though we'd already feasted on meat fondues, once we tasted Welch's dessert version, we knew there wouldn't be a drop left. The caramel comes with a heaping plate of peanut butter–and–chocolate ice cream sandwiches—dark chocolate brownies filled with two kinds of ice cream—dipped in a chocolate ganache. Welch says he and his crew enjoy making the sandwiches as much as we loved devouring them: "We make them in sheet pans, and when we trim the ends off, everyone gathers around and snacks on them."

TEMPLE BAR

1688 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 617-547-5055

The fondues are the most popular items on Temple Bar's menu, accounting for at least a third of the restaurant's daily sales, according to chef Dan Pogue. It's easy to see why: the atmosphere, with cushioned, semicircular booths and dim lighting, is ideal for canoodling with your cutie over a warm pot.

For Temple's dinner fondue, Pogue uses a Great Hill blue cheese, served in an attractive copper pot with freshly made focaccia bread and vegetable crudité ($13). The veggies—a big plate with plentiful portions of zucchini, squash, carrots, mushrooms—are cut "batonnet style," in small sticks, and the fondue itself is made with white wine, cream cheese, half-and-half, heavy cream and blue cheese. "Blue cheese makes a great fondue because it's so creamy and addictive," Pogue says.

This version is Pogue's, but fondue has been on Temple Bar's menu for five years. "Fondue is hot right now because it's the perfect dish to share as a group," he says. Pogue plans on switching the blue cheese to Vermont sharp cheddar this fall, "to reflect the seasonal change in available foods from New England."

Meanwhile, for dessert, the Belgian chocolate fondue comes in the same cute copper pot, with a plate of white and chocolate sponge cake, homemade chocolate and walnut biscotti, kiwi, banana and strawberry. The chocolate is simply stellar, and the sponge cake tastes like it's fresh from the oven.

A warning: While the menu describes the blue cheese fondue as an appetizer for two, if you're also going to order the chocolate fondue, you may not need an entrée—especially a rich, creamy one like risotto. Although delicious, it turned out to be a bit too much food. A couple next to us ordered both fondues too, but without the middle course. They skipped off cuddling, while we rolled out groaning and carrying a doggie bag containing most of our entrée.



Temple Bar's Belgian chocolate fondue comes with a panoply of goodies.

TAKE A DIP

Anthem 138 Portland St., Boston (617-523-8383)
Four-cheese fondue (blue cheese, fontina, cheddar and parmesan) with toasted bread croutons; crab meat optional ($11 or $15).

B-Side Lounge 92 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-354-0766)
Chocolate and port fondue for two served with homemade pound cake, berries, bananas and candied fruits ($14).

Grendel's Den 89 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-491-1160)
Cheese fondue for two, made with Swiss, cheddar, raclette and Gruyere. It comes with bread and two small salads ($20).

Grotto 37 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-3434)
[illegible] fontina fondue with truffle oil. Served with tenderloin steak tips, [illegible] portobello mushrooms ($11).

[illegible] 93 Park St., Boston (617-742-9991)
[illegible] fondue with olive-marinated lamb and toasted [illegible] two ($17).

[illegible] 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5808)
[illegible] due for two with optional hazelnut or Grand Marnier flavoring, with strawberries, bananas, pineapple, homemade marshmallows and butter cookies ($15).

SHABU-ZEN

16 Tyler St., Boston, 617-292-8828

Shabu-shabu, the Japanese variant of European-style fondue, has been around for thousands of years. Instead of oil or cheese, shabu-shabu's fondue is a boiling broth, hot enough to cook the meats and veggies that you dip into it. Locally, shabu-shabu (which refers to the sound that the slices of meat make in the broth—sort of a "swish swish" noise) can be found at Shabu-Zen in Chinatown.

The bouillon-style shabu-shabu broth comes in many varieties. There's the simple, slightly salty house broth, a Thai style called Tom Yum, herbal Chinese, and a spicy Korean kimchee. But if you can't make up your mind (or don't like sharing) you can opt for two broths, served in a spiffy pot divided down the middle.

For the dunking items, you choose from an array of beef, pork, chicken, lamb (all $9.95); or seafood or vegetables ($11.95). You can also opt for the more high-end Kobe beef ($28), which melts in your mouth; or lobster (sold at market price); or for the more adventurous, beef tongue, tripe or squid ($3–$4 for a side order). The mushroom-heavy veggie plate is also loaded with frozen tofu chunks, corn, carrots, watercress and a few less familiar vegetables. (Be warned: while the meat cools off quickly, the veggies can be hot hot hot! Try a green tea smoothie or one of Shabu-Zen's signature sake bombs—a mixture of beer and sake—to cool the heat.)

The shabu-shabu sauces (for dipping after you've heated the morsel in the broth) allow you to tap your culinary creativity. You mix them yourself, starting with your own little tray of soy sauce. You can then add in a tangy Japanese sesame sauce, a Thai suki sauce, or Chinese seasonings: barbecue sauce, a red pepper concoction, scallions and minced garlic.

Unlike the Sterno-heated European fondue pots, Shabu-Zen uses an induction heater system that's built into the middle of each table. You control your broth's temperature with a switch on your table. Owner David Wong recommends heating your broth until it forms little bubbles—but not so hot that it boils away.

The natural question when faced with a plate of raw, thin slices of meat is, "How long do you cook it?" The answer, according to Wong, is as long as it takes to say "swish, swish." You skewer a slice, plunge it into the broth just long enough for two quick swishes, and it's ready! (He assures us that *E. coli* isn't a concern, even though your mother might disagree.) "You don't want to swish too long," he insists. "Any meat that's cooked too long becomes beef jerky." Finally, dunk it in the sauce and pop it in your mouth.

When you're done dunking, simply throw the rice or noodles that come with your meal into the remaining broth, heat them up and then pour the mixture into your soup bowl. "The kimchee broth is the best thing for a cold," says Wong. "When I have cold I eat it, and the next day I'm perfectly fine." IB



Shabu-Zen serves shabu-shabu, the Japanese version of fondue.



With shabu-shabu diners dip raw meat into a hot broth.

Black full-length corset dress, $2,800 at Escada.

Encore

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applause-worthy dresses for stealing the spotlight



Green silk dress with beaded sash by Patrizia Pepe, $395; hanging earrings by Emily, $130. Both at Gipore.

Burgundy dress, $895 at DKNY

950s-inspired dress, $178 at Ann Taylor. Copper heels, $198 at DKNY.

Shot on location at
the Opera House
539 Washington St
617-259-340

Ann Taylo
48 Newbury St
617-262-076

DKN
37 Newbury St
617-236-047

Escad
308 Boylston St
617-437-78

Gipo
176 Newbury St
617-424-50

Winston Flower
31 Newbury St
617-54

Hair: John McKenna
for Runway Salo

Makeup:
Reese Inman

Model: Robin
for Dynasty

Pink beaded gown, $5,500 at Escada. Bridal rose bouquet by Winston Flowers.

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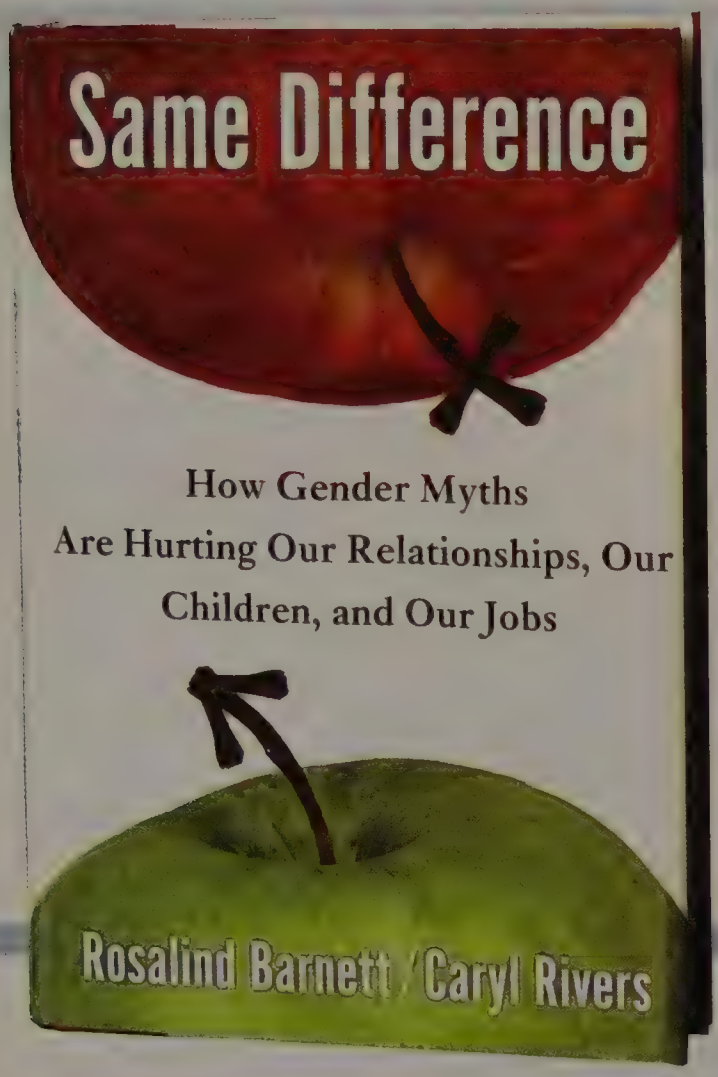
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MOPSY

SERENDIPITOUS SHOPPING: OUR UNFETTERED CORRESPONDENT SEEKS OUT THE SALUBRIOUS AND THE CEREBRAL.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



A DIFFERENT AGENDER

In their book, *Same Difference*, Rosalind Barnett, senior scientist at Brandeis' Women's Studies Research Center, and Caryl Rivers, professor of journalism at BU, challenge many beliefs about gender.

Gender has become a kind of commodity, with two main brands. The allegedly innate differences between men and women have been the basis for career-blazing claims by big-name theorists and therapists from Carol Gilligan, who staked a claim on the vulnerable adolescent "voice" of girls, ripe for laryngitis; to Mary Pipher, who worried about girls' languishing Ophelia-like self-esteem; to John Gay, who nabbed the planets for his gender metaphors. These and other "essentialist" notions have brought out a blazing refutation from therapist/scientist Barnett and journalist Rivers. The two have scanned scads of research studies to show that men—some from Mars, (or perhaps merely Malden)—may be linear, cerebral, directions-asking-averse; or alternatively, mild, poetic and homebodyish. And women—from Venus (or Medford)—may be nurturing and gentle, or ambitious, hard-headed and not even particularly maternal. The authors contrast large studies that strongly indicate more differences exist within the land of guys (ditto of girls) than between the two sexes with small-sampled, wobbly and equivocal research supposedly demonstrating that men are so X and women inevitably Y. Encouragement and permission to live and think outside these constraining boxes can help both men and women lead happier lives. But these strong women bracingly oppose buying the "hardwired" gender stereotypes.



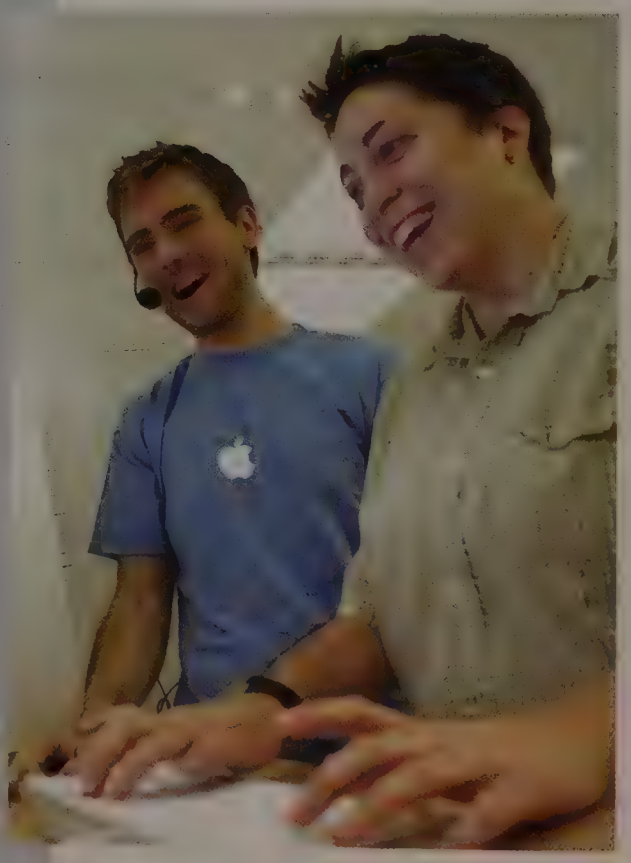
A FEW GOOD MENSWEAR PIECES

Drinkwater's, an elegant men's store full of clothes in loden, wool, cotton, alpaca and cashmere, is at 2067 Mass. Ave. in Cambridge, just past Porter Square. It's a dog-friendly store. Call 617-547-2067.

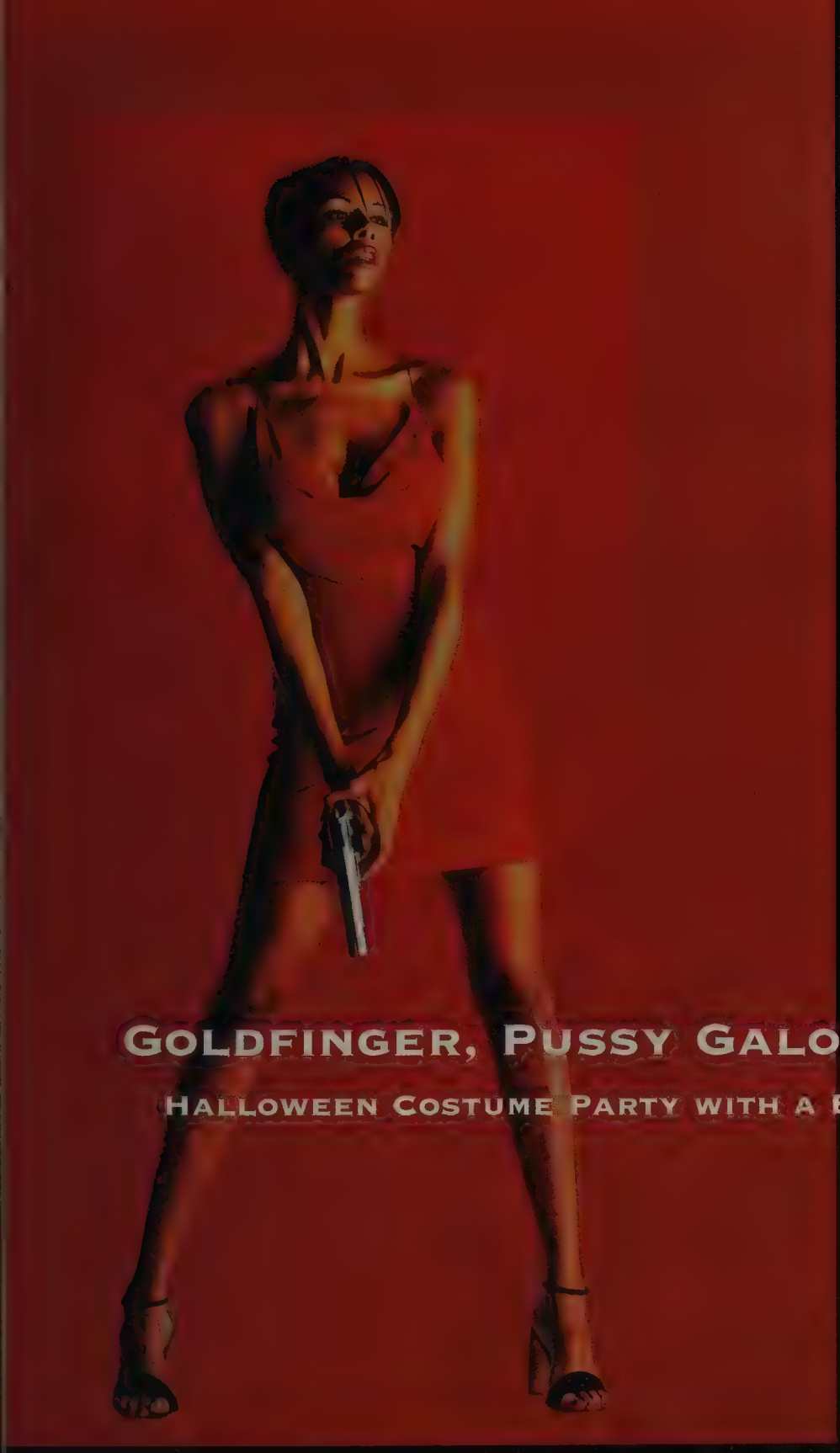
This new clothing store for men manages to combine chic style with a kind of friendly airiness. Partly it's the location, out beyond crowded Porter Square in the historic Henderson Carriage Building, with brick walls, cork floors and wooden beams. Gary Drinkwater, a veteran of Louis Boston and other upscale menswear shops, sharply highlights distinctive pieces made of beautiful fabrics. The Schneider's of Salzburg midlength raincoat, cotton with Teflon treatment, is lined to the waist in plaid wool, a friend for all seasons. Jackets—like the Glen Plaid Prince of Wales two-button sport coat that goes with various pants and can be dressed up or down, or the 100 percent bouclé jacket with a woolly nap—convey both solidity and lightness of being. Sweaters come in tenderest baby alpaca with a softer "saddle shoulder." Clothing by Japanese designer Daiki Suzuki has a wonderful crinkly, spacious feel; he likes button flies and patch pockets, and his yellow canvas barn coat combines interesting, slightly outsize fashion detail but looks like a man might wear it in a real barn (or in town.) Suzuki's gorgeous gray flannel "canoe bags," with their equestrian-style straps, are laptoppable or backpackable, looking both boyish and scholarly.

TAKE AN EASY GIGABYTE OF YOUR APPLE

The Apple Store in the Cambridgeside Galleria offers a free Mac class, lasting about 1½ hours, every Saturday at 9 am. No appointment required.



If you're PCing (parting company) with your PC or have just bought a new Mac, you can simply show up and learn about it at this class. One teacher, Jordan, a chipper techno hound wearing flip-flops, projects the computer screen onto the big screen. By click-walking the class through many of the Mac's doings, finding, dragging and dropping, attaching, minimizing, choosing varying modes of display, organizing music and pictures in this writ-large format, he makes it all seem easier. He demonstrates adornments and tricks your Mac can perform—retouching a photo, for instance, eliminating an unsightly cut, or arranging photo albums in varied formats. He gives some access to the ways that information may be buried "deep" and can be found under the various layers of your operating system. Jordan gently extols the virtues of the Mac over some perceived flaws in the competition—among them, susceptibility to crashes and viruses. Most students have at least one burning, highly particular question, which can either be answered then and there or referred to a "genius," as they call their technicians. And if you're used to dealing with computer helpers only when the roof leaks, it's nice to get a tour of the talents of the healthy machine.



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IN THIS SECTION: Review: Meze Estiatorio Dish: Laura Brennan wins the Tapas Challenge

REVIEW

THE ANTI-GYRO

From *kolokythokeftedes* to *galeos kavalas*, Meze Estiatorio takes Boston's Greek cuisine to a new level.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Greek Americans' energy and business savvy are evident in the many successful eateries they own across the country. They range from fine dining to low-key pizzerias and diners like the one hilariously caricatured on *Saturday Night Live* by John Belushi and Dan Aykroyd. Notwithstanding Greek-Americans' success as restaurateurs, establishments serving Greek cuisine, aside from the occasional moussaka, spanakopita or baklava, are relatively rare. Perhaps it's testimony to the relentlessness of American assimilation, or a too facile acceptance of the belief that "people want what they know and know what they want."

Not any longer, at least in Boston. Meze Estiatorio (the word *estiatorio* means *restaurant* in Greek) opened with a splash in Charlestown a year ago, and it's been playing to enthusiastic diners from the get-go. Its menu, uncompromisingly Greek, makes no concessions to American palates—although its oversized portions will appeal to many American appetites.

Meze occupies the ground floor of a new brick building at the northern end of the Charlestown Bridge, on one side of City Square. Just across the street is Charlestown's most famous restaurant, Todd English's Olives. Indeed, Meze's chef de cuisine, David Fitzgerald, worked at Olives, and some of the culinary instincts he picked up from chef English—particularly the multiplication of ingredients and aversion to empty space on a plate—are evident in his work.

Meze's airy, spacious interior, with beige walls and a high ceiling with teardrop chandeliers, seats more than 100 patrons in the dining room, another 40 in an alcove off the long bar that's visible from the dining room through an open arcade, and up to 50 more in a private dining room. Tables are dressed with beige linens, votive candles, high-stemmed wine glasses and elegant tableware. The beautiful Zakim–Bunker Hill Bridge, with its soaring steel suspension illuminated in the evening, makes a striking, almost awe-inspiring view from the curved wall of windows facing west. A large open kitchen at the back end of the dining room becomes a beehive of activity as the restaurant fills up later in the evening.



The *mithia ouzata* consists of black mussels steamed in lobster stock, with feta cheese, tomatoes, garlic and fresh herbs.

MEZE ESTIATORIO

100 City Square, Charlestown (617-242-6393)

HOURS Sun.–Wed., 5–10 pm; Thu.–Sat., 5–11 pm.

RESERVATIONS recommended

CREDIT CARDS all major

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes

PARKING valet

LIQUOR LICENSE full bar

Moist, garlicky puree of potatoes and beans, aromatic with olive oil and studded with luscious, jumbo Greek olives, accompanied coarse-grained bread as we perused the menu. The plethora of exciting-sounding dishes made choosing difficult, leading to over-ordering so shameless that my group ended up with multiple doggie bags. While the *kria mezethakia* (cold plates) and *zesta mezethakia* (hot plates) were described by an earlier reviewer as "tapas-like small plates," something must have been lost in the translation, because far from resembling typical one- or two-bite tapas, these well-put-together treats turned out to be larger than conventional appetizers and only slighter smaller than main courses. For example, the *dolmadakia yialandzi* ($9) brought a nicely presented stack of four hefty cylinders of rice, onion, carrot and tomato blended with minced parsley and dill and wrapped in moist, tender, brined grape leaves almost three inches long and over an inch wide. Redolent of fresh lemon—lemons, olives and garlic, with their lively, aromatic flavor, are recurring notes in Meze's cuisine—they made the perfect appetite perkers. Two of them would have made an ample starter for all but the most gargantuan of appetites.

Among the hot appetizers, a trio of spanakopita ($9)—phyllo pastry turnovers stuffed with spinach, leeks and feta cheese—were two or three times the size of spanakopita customarily served as hors d'oeuvres. Even though the phyllo dough was light and delicate, the butter between each of the ultrathin layers gave it a richness that belied this delicacy. The stuffing of spinach and leeks, two of my favorite vegetables, combined with creamy feta cheese, created a moist, savory, mouth-filling delight.

Among the most memorable of Meze's first courses were the *kolokythokeftedes* ($9), fritters of zucchini and cheese pan-fried in olive oil. The deliciously herbaceous flavor of fresh zucchini, melded with the mellow creaminess of the cheese spiked with an emphatic dose of mint, almost exploded in the mouth with flavor. A generous dollop of *tzatziki*—yogurt flavored with cucumber, muted garlic, lemon and more mint—was almost superfluous but very good in its own right.

Meze's vegetable-based hot plates would delight and satisfy the most committed of vegetarians, but the restaurant does not ignore its carnivorous patrons. *Youverlakia mytilinis* ($9) brought three large lamb and rice meatballs that had been simmered in an eggy, lemony sauce. Again, the prominent flavor of fresh mint, an herb with a special affinity to lamb (as those of us brought up in households where mint jelly inevitably accompanied leg of lamb know) added a lively, piquant note to these moist, meaty treasures. Finally, *loukaniko* ($9), homemade Greek sausages grilled over a wood fire in a fashion that sealed in their moist goodness, boasted an engaging combination of spices, a touch of heat and an intriguing aroma of fresh oranges. The two hefty sausages were halved and presented in inviting fashion on a plate of arugula alternating with segments of juicy orange.



Galeos kavalas



Meze Estiatorio's dining room seats more than 100.



Chef David Fitzgerald and Executive Chef/Owner Paul Delios



Baklava served with Attiki honey ice cream

Meze's main courses touched all the bases, from meat to poultry to seafood to *makaronia* (pasta). Lamb, perhaps the meat used most widely in Greek cooking, was represented in several of Meze's offerings. We enjoyed *paithakia stin skara* ($34), three thick, juicy rib chops dusted with herbs (particularly oregano), grilled over a hot flame, and leaned against a giant cylinder of mashed potatoes infused with feta cheese and tender green olives and topped with slices of tomato, eggplant and zucchini. The lamb was tender, juicy and flavorful, and the substantial potato-olive-feta-tomato-eggplant garnish superb, if a little overwrought. The *kotopoulo stin souvla*, roast chicken ($24), was similarly unrestrained in size and multiplicity of ingredients. This large half chicken, deboned except for the drumstick and wing, came perched on top of garlicky roasted baby potatoes and artichokes, caramelized onions, a sweet pepper jam and a portobello mushroom cap. Here, the variegated garnishes overwhelmed the somewhat bland but surprisingly moist chicken.

Greece is a seafaring nation, and I would have been remiss if I hadn't sampled one of Meze's six seafood offerings. Seeking out the most streamlined of these, I chose the *galeos kavalas* ($28), a filet of halibut. The kitchen rewarded my choice with an oversized slab of firm, moist, fresh halibut of impeccable texture combined with the most imaginative of Meze's accompaniments, a tamale of cornmeal encasing mild feta cheese and fresh, sweet kernels of corn. Again, the kitchen appeared to proceed from the conviction that more is more, serving two hefty cylinders of tamale, guaranteeing they'd either be shared or brought home.

After the size and quality of Meze's first and main courses, desserts seemed almost beside the point. The baklava, thick cylinders of phyllo dough stuffed with nuts and cinnamon and drizzled with warm honey, must have packed 1,500 calories, not counting the honey ice cream with which they were served. Less rich—and really less successful—the *dionysia*, slender chocolate-almond cake "cigars" wrapped in phyllo and served with crème anglaise, whipped cream and raspberry sauce, catered to the chocolate-tooth. Unfortunately, the phyllo dough in both of these desserts seemed dense and undistinguished, a far cry from the delicate phyllo of the spanakopita.

Besides favoring its patrons with authentic Greek cuisine, Meze offers an interesting and, for American wine lists, unusual array of Greek wines. *Agiorgitiko*, a red grape that's sometimes compared with merlot or grenache, appeared in two of my choices, one the 2001 Megapanos, a big wine with a full body and pleasant bouquet. Although its tannins were soft, the wine retained good structure that stood up to the food. A slightly drier, more austere wine was the agiorgitiko–cabernet sauvignon blend, also of the 2001 vintage, whose acidity also made it a good food accompaniment. Both of these wines were priced at $32 a bottle or $8 for a generous glass and were worth every penny. For some reason, they were listed only under the heading "wine by the glass," and were not part of the larger list of bottles, which started at a significantly higher price.

Meze's staff, smartly attired in all black, served us with energy, attentiveness and professionalism. It's easy to see how the restaurant's large expanse might adversely affect service on a busy night, but on the evenings of my visits, there appeared to be at least one head waiter, attired identically to the others, who roamed over the whole dining room and kept things moving at a good pace. iB

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DISH

Tapas Triumph

Brennan takes trophy… Jacky Robert back in town

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX


Laura Brennan took top honors at the James Beard House Tapas Challenge.

You've probably heard about the trouble at the **James Beard Foundation** in New York City—allegations of financial impropriety against a former executive director, an ongoing state investigation—but have you heard about the tapas? The third annual **Tapas Challenge** at the James Beard House took place on September 26 and it's much better news, with a local angle and happy ending. Three of Boston's finest chefs—defending champion **Barbara Lynch** of **No. 9 Park**, **the Butcher Shop**, and **B&G Oysters**; **Gabriel Frasca** of **Spire** at Nine Zero; and **Laura Brennan**, owner/chef of **Caffé Umbra**—competed for the coveted trophy.

Each presented three courses, paired with a wine, to a panel of Beard committee judges known as the Greens. (Because they're well dressed? Because they're mixed? No, because they're under 40 years old.) After the dishes were tasted, the wine sipped and the votes counted, the winner was declared to be Brennan's third course: warmed beef short rib terrine with celery root salad and a Venetian-inspired porcini peara sauce, matched with turkey flat grenache. The Tapas Trophy is Brennan's to cherish until next year, when she'll return to the Beard House to compete against two chefs of her choosing in the fourth Tapas Challenge.

Wishing you were there? Brennan plans to feature her winning entry, as well as other contest-worthy fare, sometime later this month at Caffé Umbra. And in case you're wondering, Brennan reports that none of the Greens breathed a word about the greenbacks scandal.

SECOND COURSE

Now for good news on top of good news: After a brief stint, mostly in management, at the **Chatham Bars Inn**, chef **Jacky Robert** is not only back in Boston, he's back in the kitchen, cooking. Although his long-term local plans are geared toward opening his own place ("a bistro, with touches of Asian, and downstairs a pastry bar"), right now you'll find him happily preparing such classic French fare as beef Burgundy and Normandy-style tripe in the freshly opened **Pierrot Bistrot**. A simple storefront setting warmed with persimmon-painted walls, dark woodwork and brick, Pierrot is located "on the unfashionable side of Beacon Hill," acknowledges co-owner Same Nedialkova—which is another way of saying it's on Cambridge Street across from Massachusetts General Hospital. Well, forget fashionable; Pierrot Bistrot is French! Not pretentious. Not fussy. Not (surprise!) expensive. The best-selling *boeuf bourguignon*, with its tender, aromatically winy beef and perfectly cooked vegetables, is a most reasonable $14.75 at dinner. And the prix fixe dinner, including a choice of three first courses, three main courses, and pastry or sorbet for dessert, is a bargain at $26.95.

Prices may be non–Maison Robert, but you hear French music; your waitress is French; your table's white cloth is brushed with an elegant silver French crumber (le crustbuster?); and your dining experience is overseen by the eagle eye of co-owner **Pierre Sosnitsky**. Before moving to Boston years ago to work with Robert at Maison Robert, and then at the new **Locke-Ober**, Sosnitsky owned a highly regarded restaurant in Virginia and was maître d' at the chichi **Sans Souci** in Washington, D.C. After more than 30 years in the industry, he has no patience for snobbery or sloppiness.

"You pay the same price, you get treated the same," he declaims. "If you do something, do it right or not at all." In general, he says, "success is the relationship between people. With Jacky here, I sleep very well at night."

Which begs the question: Is Jacky Robert the official chef at Pierrot Bistrot, at least for the time being? Robert smiles. "I am…consulting," he says. Could consulting lead to commitment under the right circumstances? Que sera, sera. We'll keep you posted. IB

Serving Dish

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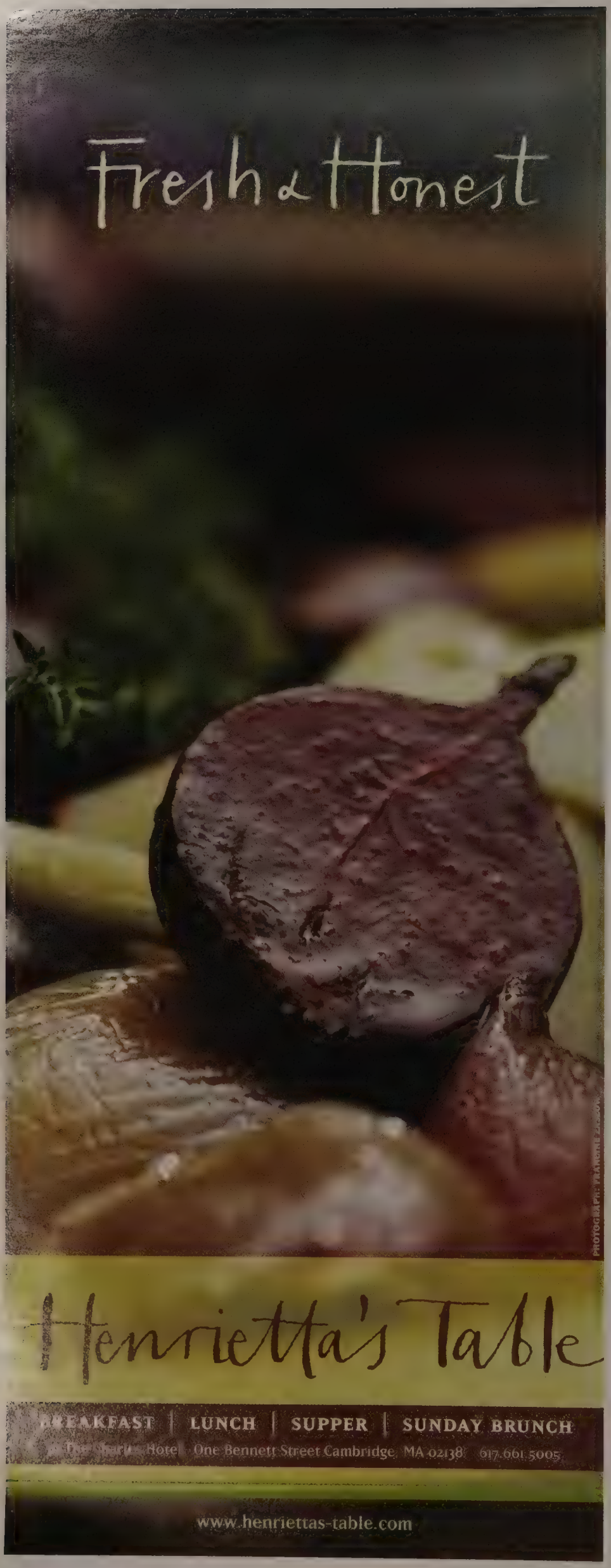
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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Burgundy Tasting
UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933). www.upstairsonthesquare.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Oct. 28, 6:30 pm. $45. Wine director **Shane Lessard** leads a Burgundy tasting while guests enjoy small plates prepared by chefs **Susan Regis** and **Amanda Lydon**.

California's Greatest Cabernets and Meritage Reds
Seasons at the Millennium Boston Hotel, 26 North St., Boston (617-859-7170). www.wine-experiences.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Oct. 27, 7 pm. $80. Wine Experiences Inc. hosts this comparative tasting of cabernets and meritage reds.

Douro and Port Wine Tasting
Hampshire House, 84 Beacon St., Boston (617-414-3651). www.bmc.kintera.org/wine. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Oct. 27. 6-8 pm. $30. Sample and learn about Portuguese wines from the Douro and Port Wine Institute. Proceeds benefit Boston Medical Center.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). www.fireplacerest.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Every other Saturday, 3 pm. $25. Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** hosts experts who share knowledge on everything from American wines to seasonal New England foods and microbrews. •Oct. 30: Fall Harvest.

First Growth Cabernet
UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933). www.upstairsonthesquare.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Oct. 20, 6:30 pm. $175. Taste six of the world's top-rated cabernets, including the 1997 Chateau Montelena, before sitting down for a dinner prepared by chefs **Susan Regis** and **Amanda Lydon**.

For Whatever Ales You
Harvest, 44 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-868-2255). www.the-harvest.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Oct. 20. 6 pm. $39. Harvest celebrates Oktoberfest with a five-course tasting prepared by chef **Keith Pooler** accompanied by beers from the Cambridge Brewing Co.

Halloween Themed Beer Tasting
Bauer Wine & Spirits, 330 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0363). www.bauerwines.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Oct. 29. 5-8 pm. Free. Bauer Wine & Spirits celebrates Halloween with a free tasting of a variety of pumpkin ales as well as other brews from England and Belgium.

Hot off the Vine at 33: Wednesday Wine Tasting Series
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** for a sampling of four wines paired with a complementary food tasting. •Oct. 20: Spain. •Oct. 27: Italy.

Italian Wine Dinner
Monica's Restaurant, 143 Richmond St., Boston (617-227-0311). www.monicasfoods.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Oct. 20. 7 pm. $65. Chef **Jorge Mendoza** prepares a four-course dinner paired with the Veneto region wines of Michele Castellani.

Jack Daniel's Dinner
Rouge, 480 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-867-0600). www.rougeboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Prudential. Oct. 25. 6 pm. $35. A Lynchburg Lemonade reception is followed by a three-course dinner featuring dishes like slow-smoked lamb rib, sugar and whiskey–crusted pork-chops as well as a series of Jack Daniel's–based cocktails.

Kosher Dining Extravaganza
Four Seasons Boston, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-232-2300). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Oct. 24. 5:30 pm. $250. Seven local chefs, including **Jeff Fournier** of Sophia's, **Pino Maffeo** of Restaurant L and **Eric Brennan** of Excelsior team up to create a 100 percent kosher dining experience.

Magnolias' Seafood Festival
Magnolias, 1193 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1971). www.magnoliascuisine.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Through Oct. 23. 6-10 pm. A la carte. Enjoy the final days of chef **John Silberman**'s special seafood menu, featuring dishes like scallops en brochette and baked oysters.

Martini Tasting at Vinalia
Vinalia, 101 Arch St., Boston (617-591-1400). www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Oct. 22. 7-9 pm. $65. Learn how to make 10 different martinis, including the Passion Cosmopolitan, the Dirty Martini and the Raspberry Truffle.

New England Chocolate Festival
The Showroom, 808 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-9853). www.bu.edu/lifelong. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. Oct. 24. 11 am-4 pm. $10. At Boston University's first chocolate festival, guests can sample treats from local chocolatiers, learn how chocolate is made and participate in chocolate-themed games and entertainment.

Opus One Dinner
Ritz-Carlton Boston, 15 Arlington St., Boston (617-536-5700). www.ritz-carlton.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Oct. 20. 6:30 pm. $195. The Ritz-Carlton hosts a five-course dinner, prepared by chef **Tony Ensault**, to celebrate the New England release of Opus One 2001.

A Rustic Wine Dinner
Rustic Kitchen, 1815 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-7766). www.rustickitchen.biz. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Oct. 26. 6:30 pm. $65. This five-course dinner features dishes from regions that chef **Bill Bradley** visited on a recent trip to Italy. **Don Allen** of Dufour Wines pairs wines with each dish.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $25. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, and chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •Oct. 26: Loire Valley. •Nov. 2: Chile.

Vegetarian Food Festival
Reggie Lewis Athletic Center, 1350 Tremont St., Boston (617-424-8846). www.bostonveg.org/foodfest. MBTA: Orange Line to Roxbury Crossing. Oct. 23. 10 am-6 pm. Free. Sample natural vegetarian foods, speak to food exhibitors from all over the world at this daylong festival.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-720-1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Every Wed., 7 pm. $38. Chef **Geoff Gardner** pairs French cuisine with wines selected by Sommelier **Erik Johnson**. •Oct. 20: Teutonic night: Austria and Germany. •Oct. 27: French ABCs: Alsace, Burgundy, Bordeaux and Champagne.



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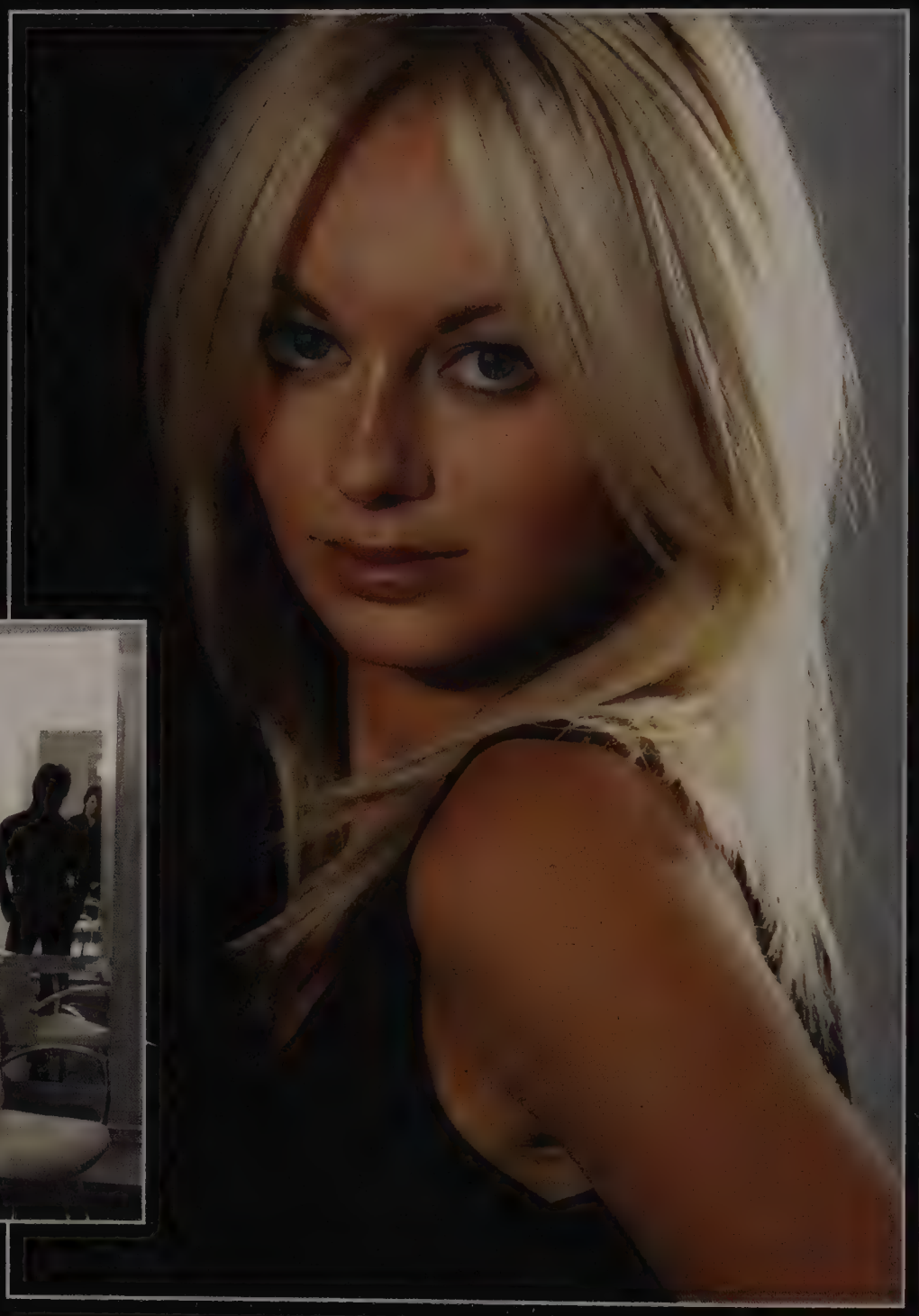
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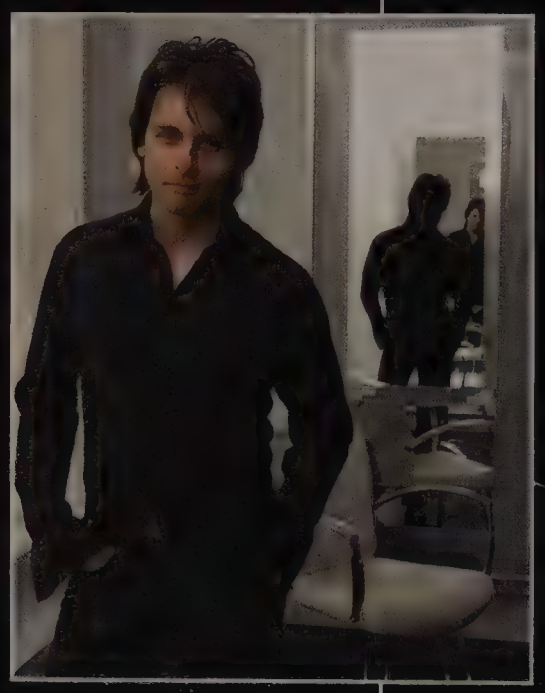
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agenda

MPROPER PICKS

october 20 - november 2

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			20	21	22	23
				**Halfpipe to Heaven** at Avalon raises money for the Charles River Skatepark. *See CityScope on page 50.*	**Michael Yoder**'s art is on display at Gallery Katz. *See Museums & Galleries on page 88.* 	Today is the start of the 40th **Head of Charles Regatta** along the Charles River. *See Sports on page 100.*
 24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Local poets celebrate **E.E. Cummings** at Forest Hills Cemetery. *See Books & Poetry on page 92.*	Drink to Jack at Rouge's **Jack Daniel's Dinner**. *See Tastings on page 44.* 			**Boston Ballet**'s production of **The Taming of the Shrew** opens at the Wang Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 53.*	**R.E.M.** performs at the FleetCenter. *See Music on page 62.* 	The **Coolidge Corner Theatre's Halloween Horror Marathon** brings 24 hours of creepy classics. *See Movies on page 58.*
31	1	2				



RON KEITH

TUE./NOV. 2

Music: A Southern Sound

Since way back in the mid 1980s, Southern Culture on the Skids has been churning out a crossbreed of hillbilly hoedown jamboree and old-fashioned rock and roll. Sound like a good post-voting activity? Even if it doesn't, check them out at the Middle East Downstairs and you'll find yourself craving hush-puppies and hankering for moonshine. Joining Southern Culture on the bill are Dana Stewart & the Old Howards and El Gringo. 18+. *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). 8 pm. $15.*

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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Erin Hagedorn & Jessica Iredale

CALENDAR EDITED BY
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Jessica Iredale Around Town, Children, Education, Movies, Museums & Galleries, Performing Arts
Rich Levine CityScope, Dance Clubs, Gay & Lesbian, Music

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
Ezra Dyer Sports
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules





MON./OCT. 21–OCT. 25

Movies: Gaelic Scene



These days, we're willing to bet that if asked what the words "Irish cinema" bring to mind, the majority of the American population would likely respond "Colin Farrell." Sure, the Hollywood heartthrob might be one of the most popular Irish exports (alcohol aside) in recent memory, but he's not the only reason to see an Irish film. Six years ago, Dublin native Peter Flynn decided to bring the full scope of Irish cinema and television to the Hub with the Boston Irish Film Festival. Tired of seeing Ireland portrayed as the cliched, romantic Emerald Isle in American-made films like *Far and Away*, Flynn organized the festival to screen films that aren't distributed in American theaters. The sixth annual festival, sponsored by Magner's Irish cider, screens at the Brattle Theatre and the Harvard Film Archive October 21-25 and boasts nearly 35 entries, including documentaries, features and shorts. Highlights include *Bloom*, Sean Walsh's 2003 adaptation of James Joyce's novel *Ulysses*, and the festival's best-feature winner, *Timbuktu*, Alan Gilsenan's film about a young Irish woman who crosses the Sahara in search of her missing brother. The film's producers and directors appear at many of the screenings. And while Colin Farrell will not be in attendance, you can cap off the festival by listening to the gentle brogue of BIFF's equally hunky guest of honor Gabriel Byrne, who receives the festival's 2004 Excellence Award in a ceremony at the Brattle on closing night. *Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-876-6837). Harvard Film Archive, 24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-4700). www.irishfilmfestival.com. $8–$10 per screening.*

MON./OCT. 25

Books & Poetry: Get Shorty

For the past 89 years, Houghton Mifflin Co. and a distinguished guest editor have performed what most literati consider the inconceivable: reading nearly all the short fiction published in the U.S. and selecting the very best for its *The Best American Short Stories*. The 2004 edition has arrived, and to celebrate, guest editor Lorrie Moore and PEN New England invite all who appreciate the art of the short story to gather at the American Repertory Theatre for an evening of literature as live theater. For the past six years, PEN's gala has honored the Best American series with a wine and cheese reception followed by selected readings by a noted actor. In the past Debra Winger, Hume Cronyn and Eli Wallach have done the honors, and this year Wallace Shawn, perhaps best known for his repeated comic delivery of the word "inconceivable" in Rob Reiner's *The Princess Bride*, brings the short stories to life. *American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St. Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.pen-ne.org. 7 pm. $35.*


The 2003 Life Is Good Pumpkin Festival

SAT./OCT. 23

CityScope: Pumpkin Party

Can our beloved burg muster up more pumpkin power than the folks in Keene, N.H., did when they set the Guinness World Record? That's the goal of The Life Is Good Pumpkin Festival, where organizers hope to decorate Boston Common with thousands of carved pumpkins and break the record for the most lit jack-o'-lanterns in one place. (Keene got 28,952 jack-o'-lanterns going at once in 2003.) In addition to the blazing gourds, there'll also be a slew of live bands (Entrain, Superhoney, Muck and the Mires and Apollo Sunshine), a pie-eating contest, a costume parade, a magic show, rock-climbing walls, cookie decorating and a hay maze. Better still, while the little 'uns are getting their faces painted, you can take a break in the massage tent. Halloween costumes and the costume parade are optional, and you'll need to bring your own pumpkin if you want to carve a jack-o'-lantern. (You can take it home if you get attached to it.) Proceeds from food sales benefit Camp Sunshine, a national retreat for children with life-threatening illnesses and their families. *11 am–9 pm (617-961-3051). www.lifeisgood.com.*


Eager young agent Daniel (Michael Kaye) and cynical veteran Howard (Steven Barkhimer) track John Lennon in *Ears on a Beatle*.

OCT. 22–NOV. 30

Performing Arts: Bugged, Off Broadway

If you were shocked when former folk crooner Cat Stevens was detained by U.S. officials for alleged terrorist activity a few weeks ago, let us remind you that he's not the first famous name to end up on a government "watch list." The Lyric Stage Company's production of Mark St. Germain's off-Broadway hit *Ears on a Beatle* recounts one of the most bizarre incidences of celebrity suspicion: the FBI's surveillance of former Beatle John Lennon in the early 1970s. Set against a backdrop of Nixon administration paranoia, two FBI agents (a veteran and a novice) form an unlikely friendship when they're assigned to keep tabs on Lennon because of his opposition to the Vietnam War. In addition to connecting the characters' personal lives to political and cultural events of the day, à la *Forrest Gump*, *Ears* also includes voiceovers by Dick Cavett, host of the popular TV talk show on which guest John Lennon famously claimed in 1972 that the FBI was tapping his phone line. *Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. $19–$43.*

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Benefits

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20

Sweet Harvest
The Parkman House, 33 Beacon St., Boston (617-427-5200). www.gbfb.org. MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. 6-9 pm. $75. The Kitchen Cabinet, a group working to end hunger in eastern Massachusetts, hosts this night of cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and live jazz from the Dave Jamrog Trio. Proceeds benefit the Greater Boston Food Bank.

The Ultimate Dinner Party
The Gamble Mansion, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430, ext. 708). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-11 pm. $250. After an opening cocktail party at the Gamble Mansion, guests break up for dinner parties at various private homes and venues in the Back Bay and Beacon Hill with special guests like Alex Beam, Andre Dubus III, Jill McCorkle and Liz Walker. Proceeds benefit the Boston Center for Adult Education's scholarship program.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21

Halfpipe to Heaven
Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-619-2854). www.charlesriverconservancy.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 6-9 pm. 39 and under, pay your age; over 39, pay twice your age. This night, which raises funds for the construction of Boston's new Charles River Skatepark, is highlighted by a dinner reception, skateboarding exhibition, a raffle and an appearance by Mayor Thomas Menino.

The Man Event
Filene's, 426 Washington St., Boston (781-444-7771). www.pitchinginforkids.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 6-8 pm. $10. Celebrate the 10th anniversary of FashionWeek Boston with a night of junk food and casino games, with male and female models acting as dealers. All proceeds benefit Pitching in for Kids.

The Spatula Monologues
West Newton Cinema, 1296 Washington St., Newton (617-559-6999). www.westnewtoncinema.com. 7-9 pm. $15. Local writers like Arthur Golden, Steve Almond, Charles Coe and Mopsy Strange Kennedy read mostly unpublished, humorous writing to benefit Newton Community Education, a program of the Newton Public Schools.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22

Barry L. Price Center Fundraiser
Holiday Inn, 1200 Beacon St., Brookline (781-239-1480). MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. $150. A performance by jazz vocalist Cleo Laine and saxophonist John Dankworth highlights this benefit, which also features a preconcert buffet accompanied by music from the G Clefs.

The 20th Annual Regatta Ball
Hyatt Regency Hotel, 575 Memorial Drive, Cambridge (617-492-1234). www.sudiko.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8:30 pm-2 am. $50. This 20th annual celebration of the Head of the Charles regatta features a cocktail reception with a live jazz band and ballroom dancing, followed by music from Souled Out and DJ Lance. Proceeds benefit the MS Cure Fund.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23

American Liver Foundation Party
13 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-262-9874). ...erteam.org/events. MBTA: Green Line to Cop... pm. $15. This party in Clerys' downstairs bar ... a costume contest and raffle prizes. All pro... support the American Liver Foundation.

...y Year Serve-A-Thon
...l Plaza, Boston (617-927-2300). www. ...iserveathon. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 8:30 am-3:30 pm. Participants must raise a minimum of $25. Raise money and participate in this daylong community event focusing on improving public schools, housing sites, parks and urban gardens.

Jamaica Plain Artists' Ball
Eliot Hall, 7A Eliot St., Jamaica Plain (617-522-0300). www.jpcentresouth.org. MBTA: #39 bus to South and Centre streets. 8 pm-12 am. $25-$35. Guests are encouraged to wear masks or costumes to this celebration of local artists. A silent art auction highlights the night, which also includes live entertainment, appetizers and desserts.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24

Sing to Cure MS Halloween Concert
Edward M. Pickman Recital Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-734-7820). www.bostoncure.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7-9 pm. $25. Local classical singers as well as former and current students at the New England Conservatory perform at this annual concert benefiting the Boston Cure Project's fight to cure MS. Guests are encouraged to wear a Halloween costume.

Spirit of Survival
Boat leaves from the World Trade Center, Boston (866-211-3807). www.spiritofboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 5:30-9 pm. $40-$50. This dinner cruise aboard the Spirit of Boston serves as both a wrap party for FashionWeek Boston and a fund-raiser benefiting Making Strides Against Breast Cancer and the Ellie Fund.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27

Beauty and the Bras
James Joseph Salon, 30 Newbury St., Boston (617-591-1400). www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7 pm. $40-$55. The Boston Young Professionals Association and the Ellie Fund co-host this benefit featuring desserts by Drew's Cookies & Cakes and Starbucks, complimentary cocktails and a fashion show from La Senza Lingerie. All proceeds benefit the Ellie Fund's efforts to fight breast cancer and support patients and their families.

Boston Goes Red
Bamboo Garden, Prudential Center, Huntington Ave., Boston (508-935-3903). www.heart.org. MBTA: Green Line to Prudential. 6:30-9 pm. $25. The American Heart Association hosts this benefit featuring hors d'oeuvres, cocktails and local designer Denise Hajjar's new fall/winter collection.

Preview

Get Spooked

Tips for a Halloweekend

Don't feel like dealing with the craziness of throwing your own Halloween bash? Satisfy your need to dress ridiculously in public at these local Halloween celebrations.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28

10th Annual Halloween Fun Run
The West End of Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (800-966-0444). www.improper.com. 6 pm, registration; 7 pm, race begins. $35. THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN sponsors this annual 5K race around Boston Common to benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Runners finish at the Rack for a post-race party that includes drink tickets and a buffet.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29

The Black Cat Bewitching Ball
Park Plaza Hotel, 64 Arlington St., Boston. www.jetsetevents.com. 8 pm-2 am. $20-$30. A costume contest, live music from Scooby Snacks and NYC-DJ, as well as a chance to win prizes like an overnight package at Mohegan Sun Casino highlight this Halloween party.

Bloodfeast 2004
Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center, 85 West Newton St., Boston (617-967-7561). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 9 pm-2 am. $20. The Society of Young Journalists hosts this benefit costume party featuring some of the East Coast's top DJs spinning on the altar at this Gothic-style former church building. The night also includes performances by Miss Gothic Massachusetts 2002 and a gory dance performance by Angeldustrial.

Halloween Ball
Dick's Last Resort, 55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). www.dickslastresort.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 9 pm. Admission, free; food, á la carte. Dick's ninth annual Halloween Ball, sponsored by WZLX-FM, is highlighted by a costume contest with a grand prize of $1,000. WZLX DJs Kenny Young and Chuck Nowlin are both scheduled to appear.

Monster's Ball
The Greatest Bar, 262 Friend St., Boston (617-367-0544). www.bostonyoungpro.com. MBTA: Orange Line to North Station. 8-11 pm. $20. This party features live '80s music from Fast Times, complimentary Budweiser and Kettel One and a costume contest. A portion of the proceeds benefits the Ronald McDonald House, which supports families of seriously ill children.



The Dresden Dolls headline this year's Halloween Costume Ball at Avalon.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30

Costume Ball at Avalon
Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-931-2000). www.avalonboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 5:30 pm, $15.25. Local rock group the Dresden Dolls headline this concert/costume party.

Halloween Family Day
Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-523-1300). www.faneuilhallmarketplace.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 12-2 pm. Free. Kids and parents parade and trick-or-treat through Faneuil Hall in their costumes and can also enjoy games, activities and prizes for the most creative costumes.

Second Annual Mayhem and Madness
The Harp, 85 Causeway St., Boston (617-591-1400, ext. 5). www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: Orange Line to North Station. 8 pm. $20. Awards for scariest, funniest, sexiest and most original costumes, as well as two hours of open bar highlight this second annual Halloween celebration at the Harp. Proceeds benefit the South Boston Neighborhood House.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29

Community Awards Dinner
Marriott Boston Copley Place, 110 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-348-6245). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. $200. This annual awards dinner in honor of local community volunteers includes dancing, a raffle and prize giveaways.

PRC Benefit Auction
808 Gallery, Boston University, 808 Comm. Ave., (617-975-0600). www.prcboston.org. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. 6:30 pm. $45. The Boston University Photographic Resource Center hosts both a live and silent auction of more than 200 photographs from notable artists like Rosamond Purcell, Barbara Norfleet and Lewis Hines. Proceeds benefit the PRC.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30

Berklee College of Music Encore Gala
Park Plaza Hotel, 64 Arlington St., Boston (617-747-8960). www.berklee.edu/gala. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. $250. Performances by more than 200 faculty and student musicians highlight this benefit that also features a candlelight dinner and silent auction. Proceeds benefit Berklee City Music, a program that introduces disadvantaged youth to music study.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31

Morning of Music
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). www.barcc.org. MBTA: Green Line D to Symphony. 10:30 am. $75. Enjoy a Sunday brunch followed by a concert by members of the BSO. Proceeds benefit the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center.

Festivals & Parties

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20

Dillon's Oktoberfest
Dillon's, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-421-1818). www.irishconnection.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 7 pm. Free admission. Dillon's honors this German tradition with bratwurst, Bavarian pretze... and kegs of Beck's Oktoberfest beer.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21

Girls' Night Out
The Cyclorama, 539 Tremont St., Boston, www.sty... fixx.com. MBTA: #9 bus to Herald Street and Harris... Avenue. 4 pm. $25-$35. THE IMPROPER BOSTONIA... sponsors this event, which transforms the Cycloram... into a shopping center featuring more than 60 fashio... and beauty designers. The night includes fr... makeovers, hair consultations and styling, as weil ... cocktails and goodie bags.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22

The Great Pumpkin Pageant
The Harborwalk at Children's Wharf, 300 Congre... St., (617-451-2860, ext. 109). MBTA: Blue Line ... the Aquarium. 12-7 pm. Free. This daylong pumpki... carving event culminates at 5 pm with the illumina... tion of the Congress Street Bridge by the jack-o... lanterns carved that afternoon.

True Heroes of Sports Awards Gala
Boston Convention & Exhibition Center, 415 Summ... St., Boston (617-373-4975). www.sportinsociety.or... MBTA: Red Line to South Station, #7 bus to Exhibitio... Center. 6:30-11:30 pm. $30. ESPN anchor Bob Le... hosts this awards ceremony honoring Richard ... Lapchick, founder of Northeastern University's Cen... ter for the study of Sport in Society. The night als... features dinner, dancing, live music and an auction.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23

Life Is Good Pumpkin Festival
Boston Common, Boston (617-961-3051). www.life... good.com/festivals. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Par... Street. 11 am-9 pm. Free. Carve up a pumpkin an... possibly become part of history at this festival attempt... ing to set the Guinness World Record for the most l... jack-o'-lanterns in one place at one time. The even... also features, live music, food and fall festivities.

Singles

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20

Hurry Date
The Harp, 85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010) www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Orange Line to North Sta... tion. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $35 for nonmembers Embark on 20 five-minute dates and enjoy drin... specials from the Harp. For ages 40+.

Singles 50+ for the Arts Tour
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 6-8:30 pm. $40. Tour th... Museum of Fine Arts with other singles and mingl... over post-tour coffee. Reservations required.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23

Twentysomethings for the Arts Tour
Starbucks, 443 Boylston St., Boston (617-732-3920) www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line t... Copley. 4-6:30 pm. $20. Tour Boston-area gallerie... with other singles and mingle over post-tour coffe... at the Garden of Eden. Reservations required.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 25

Eight Minute Dating
Johnny D's, 17 Holland St., Somerville (617-669-8754). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Red Lin... to Davis Square. 7 pm. $35. Sample appetizers durin... eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle an... meet the people you didn't get the chance to share ... date with. For ages 27-40.

Eight Minute Dating
Tommy Doyle's Irish Pub, 1 Kendall Square, Cambridg... (617-319-4678). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 7:08 pm. $35. Sample appetizer... during eight different eight-minute dates. Then min... gle and meet the people you didn't get the chance t... share a date with. For ages 40-50.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25

Eight Minute Dating
Vox Populi, 755 Boylston St, Boston (617-424-8300) www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Green Line t... Copley. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eigh... different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and mee... the people you didn't get the chance to share a dat... with. For ages 28-38.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2

Hurry Date
The Harp, 85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010) www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Orange Line to North Sta... tion. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $35 for nonmembers Embark on 20 five-minute dates and enjoy drin... specials from the Harp. For ages 25-35.





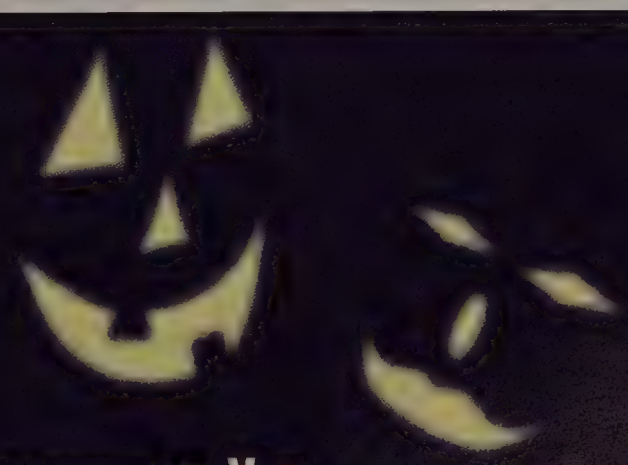






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THE SECOND ANNUAL HALLOWEEN PARTY AT VOX POPULI, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31

Bring your favorite costume and $5 for the door, and join us for our second annual Halloween Party.
We'll be serving haunting hors d'oeuvres, a monster buffet and you may even see Joe in a dress again.
Doors open at 6pm. RSVP by 10/29/04 at 617-424-8300 or 617-262-7798.

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Performing Arts

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Performing Arts. Or e-mail to performing@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater

JUST OPENED

Aida
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Durham Rd., Beverly (978-232-7200). www.nsmt.org. Oct. 26-Nov. 21. Tue.-Sat., 8pm; Wed., Sat.-Sun., 2pm. $30-$60. The North Shore Music Theatre presents Tim Rice and Elton John's adaptation of Verdi's opera, which follows a love triangle involving a Nubian princess.

Bat Boy: The Musical
Vokes Theater, Route 20, Wayland (508-358-4034). www.vokesplayers.org. Oct. 28-Nov.13. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Nov. 6 and 13, additional show, 2 pm. $18-$23. Nancy Curran Willis directs Keythe Farley and Brian Flemming's campy cult classic musical about a half-boy/half-bat's attempts to blend into society.

The Duchess of Malfi
Semel Theater, Tufte Performance & Production Center, Emerson College, 10 Boylston Place, Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Oct. 28-30. Thu.-Fri. 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm. $8-$14. Maureen Shea directs John Webster's drama about two jealous brothers' attempt to steal their wealthy sister's title and estate.

Ears on a Beatle
Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Oct. 22-Nov.20. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri. 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm; Oct. 27 and Nov. 17, 2 pm. $21-$45. Mark St. Germain's off-Broadway hit follows two FBI agents who turn their ears on former Beatle John Lennon during the paranoia of the Nixon adminstration.

Evita
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-426-9366). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 2-14. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $37.50-$77.50. Hal Prince directs Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's Tony Award-winning musical about Eva Peron, the charismatic wife of Argentine dictator, Juan Peron.

The Glider
Boston Playwright's Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-358-7529). www.bu.edu/bpt. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant Street. Oct. 28-Nov 14. Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $12-$22. Wesley Savick's play is the story of three sisters who relive old memories during a visit to their childhood home.

Groucho: A Life in Review
Majestic Theater, 219 Tremont St., Boston (800-233-3123). www.maj.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Oct. 20- Nov 24. Wed., 7 pm; Thu.-Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 3pm. $15-$65. Frank Ferrante directs and stars in the story of the comedic master's complex life.

Oedipus at Palm Springs
The Theater Offensive, BCA Plaza Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.thetheateroffensive.org. MBTA: Orange line to Back Bay. Oct. 22-23, 8 pm. $12-$18. The Five Lesbian Brothers turn the classic Greek tragedy inside out in this story of a lesbian couple's trip to Palm Springs.

The Playboy of the Western World
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-423-4008). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $25.50-$67.50. Ben Barnes directs the Abbey Theatre's production of J.M. Synge's play about a stranger who claims he murdered his father and becomes a hero in a small village in Ireland's County Mayo.

Professional Skepticism
Actors Workshop Proscenium Theatre, 327 Summer St., Boston (866-811-4111). www.theatremania.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Thu.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $25-$28. Chip Egan directs James Rasheed's comedy about four accountants who bluff their way through a critical audit.

The Rocky Horror Show
The Footlight Club, 7A Eliot St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3200). www.footlight.org. Oct 29-Nov. 13. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Oct. 31, 8 pm. $12-$20. Jimmy Girgenti directs the Footlight Club's production of the cult classic.

Spell #7
Boston Center for the Arts, BCA Plaza Black Box, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600).www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Oct. 28-Nov. 20. Thu.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 7pm. Call for ticket prices. Company One's production follows nine black performers struggling to make it in show business.

The Violet Hour
Stoneham Theatre, 295 Main St., Stoneham (718-279-2200). www.stonehamtheatre.org. Oct. 28-Nov. 14. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $16-$32. Wylin Symes directs Richard Greenberg's play about a young publisher whose life is about to change in unimaginable ways.

The Well of the Saints
BCA Plaza Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Oct. 29-Nov. 20. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $34-$38. Two blind beggars get a chance to see the world and each other when a holy man gives them sight in the Súgán Theatre Company's production of J.M. Synge's play.

NOW RUNNING

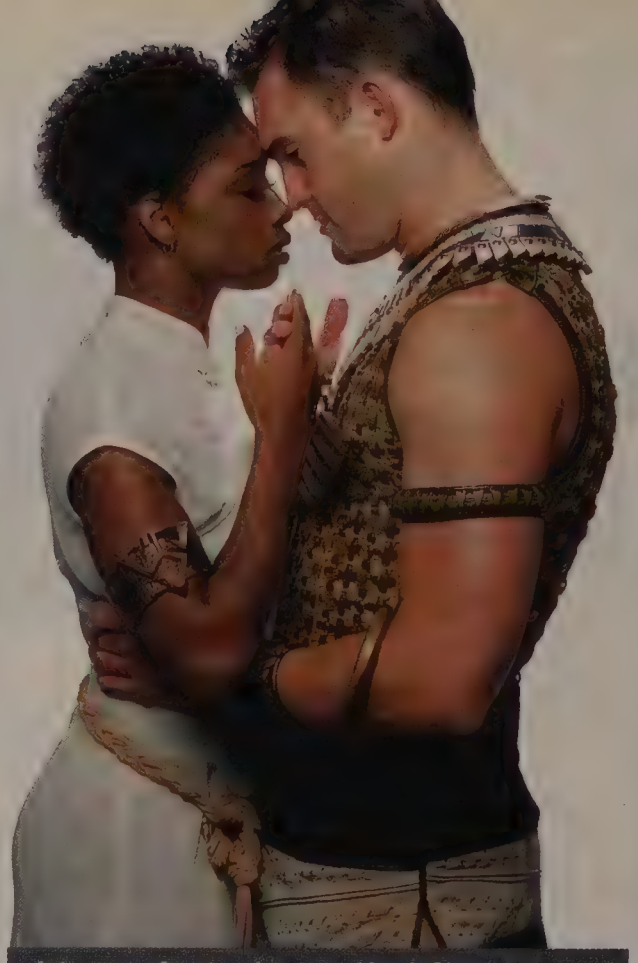
Another American: Asking and Telling
Boston Center for the Arts, Black Box Theatre, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bostontheatreworks.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through Oct. 23. Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $27- $30. Marc Wolf explores the military's "dont ask, don't tell" policy through 20 different characters in his one-man show.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. Ongoing. $46-$56. This dialogue-free production features tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Company
Roberts Studio Theatre, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.speakeasystage.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through Nov. 13. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun. 3 pm. $35. Paul Daigneault directs Stephen Sondheim's musical about a bachelor discussing his romantic status with his married friends.

The Complete History of America (abridged)
Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 E. Merrimack St., Lowell (978-454-2926). www.merrimackrep.org. Through Oct. 30. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. $27. Adam Long, Reed Martin and Austin Tichenor take a comedic look at American history.

Cooking with Elvis
Chelsea Theatre Works, 189 Winnisimmet St., Chelsea (617-887-2336).www.theatrezone.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Wellington. Through Nov. 6. Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 7 and 9:30 pm; $10-$18. In Lee Hall's dark comedy, the family of an Elvis impersonator must cope after he is paralyzed in a car crash.


Aida opens October 26 at the North Shore Music Theatre

Dracula: The Journal of Jonathan Harker
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4433). www.gloucesterstage.org. Through Oct. 31. Wed.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 5 pm. $20. Michael Carleton directs Jim Helsinger's adaptation of Bram Stoker's classic tale of one man's encounter with a vampire.

Elaine Stritch at Liberty
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Oct. 24. Tue.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $27.50-$67.50. In her one-woman show, Broadway legend Elaine Stritch shares intimate stories about her 40-plus-year career and sings several classic Broadway songs.

The Exorsissy
Machine, 1256 Boylston St., Boston (617-265-6222). www.golddustorphans.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Through Nov. 20, Thu.-Sat., 8 pm. $25. Ryan Landry directs and stars in the Gold Dust Orphans' production of his play about the Replubican presidential candidate's 12-year-old daughter who's gender is questioned after she's possessed by the devil.

Gem of the Ocean
Boston University Theatre, 246 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Through Oct. 30. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm and 7 pm. $14-$63. Set in 1904, August Wilson's newest play chronicles the African-American experience through Citizen Barlow and his 285-year-old Aunt Ester (Phylicia Rashad).

Joe Turner's Come and Gone
Tower Auditorium, Massachusetts College of Art, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-427-9417). www.uymr.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Longwood. Through Oct. 31. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 and 7 pm. $25, $20 students and seniors. A mysterious stranger and his daughter serve as a connection to the Middle Passage and African tradition in an early-20th-century Pittsburgh community in August Wilson's play.

Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding
Matrix Nightclub, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123) www.comedywedding.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. 18. Sat. and Sun., 7:30 pm. $49. Tickets include dinner, show and entry to Matrix. The nation's longest-running comedy/dinner-theater show spoofs a traditional Italian wedding with audience participation and dinner.

The Lion King
Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (800-347-0808). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. 26. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 1 pm and 6:3 pm. $22-$132. Julie Taymor directs this stage adapta tion of the popular Disney film about a young lio cub's struggle to become king.

Menopause: The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617 426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm Sat., 4 pm and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $42.50. A quarte of aging baby boomers meet at a lingerie sale, an singing and dancing ensues.

Out on the Edge
Boston Center for the Arts, BCA Plaza Theater, 53 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.thetheate offensive.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay Through Oct. 24. The Theater Offensive presents i 13th annual festival of gay, lesbian, bisexual and trans gender theater. Highlights include performances b Hanifah Walidah, the Oops Guys, Tim Miller and Tru Colors Out Youth Theater, and staged readings by Ay isha Knight, Melissa Li and Letta Neely.

The Play About the Baby
Devanaughn Theatre at the Piano Factory, 79 Tremont St., Boston (866-811-4111). www.theate mania.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay Through Oct. 30. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm (additional perfor mance Oct. 24, 3 pm). $20. Jeremy Johnson direct Mill 6 Theatre Collaborative and Boston Director Lab production of Edward Albee's play about a older couple who subject a younger couple to min games.

Richard the Third
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St. Boston (866-811-4111). www.theatermania.com MBTA: Orange Line to State. Through Nov. 7. Thu. Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Wed. and Sun., 7:30 pm. $25 $35. John Kuntz plays the title role in the Actor Shakespeare Project's production of the Bard's po litical drama.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617 426-5225).www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $34 This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair salo holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

Sonia Flew
Virginia Wemberly Theatre, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA Orange Line to Back Bay. Through Nov. 28. Thu. an Fri., 7:30 pm; Wed., Sat. and Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm $14-$42. A Cuban family sends its only daughter t the United States for a better life. Now a mother o two in the Midwest, Sonia must reconcile her pas with her present.

Vita & Virginia
Spring Lawn Theatre, 70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637 3353). www.shakespeare.org. Through Oct. 24. Fri. 7:30 pm; Sat. and Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $38. Dar McCleary directs Eileen Atkins' play about Virgini Woolf and her emotional relationship with fello writer Vita Sackville-West.

University Theater

The House of Yes
Robsham Theater Arts Center, Boston College, Chestnu Hill (617-552-4002). www.bc.edu/offices/robsham MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Oct. 21-23. pm. Call for ticket prices. The Boston College Dra matics Society presents Wendy McLeod's black com edy about an excentic family's wild escapades ove the Thanksgiving holiday.

Sylvia
Robsham Theater Arts Center, Boston College, Chestnu Hill (617-552-4002). www.bc.edu/offices/robsham MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Oct. 28-30. pm. Call for ticket prices. A couple deals with the re ality of middle age in this adult comedy performed b Boston College's theater department.

Therese Raquin
Boston University Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave. Boston (617-266-0800). www.bu.edu/but/seasons MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Through Nov. 6 Fri., 8 pm; Oct. 23 and Nov. 6., 8 pm; Oct. 28, 7:3 pm. $5. Jim Petosa directs Neal Bell's stage adaptatio of Emile Zola's novel about a repressed woman in 19t century Paris.

Dance

Balanchine Martins Balanchine
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447 7400). www.bostonballet.com. MBTA: Green Line t Boylston. Oct. 21-24, Thu., 7 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat. Sun., 2 pm and 8 pm.$18-$98. Boston Ballet cele brates choreographer George Balanchine with perfo

HAIL TO THE QUEEN. WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 27TH 7 - MIDNIGHT.

GAMBLING FOR A GOOD CAUSE WITH DEWAR'S 12. COME PLAY BLACK JACK AND ROULETTE.
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"MEN WITH HEART", A BREAST CANCER FUNDRAISING GROUP, SO LET IT RIDE.
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mances of *Rubies* and *Divertimento No. 15*, and choreographer Peter Martins presents the world premiere of his new ballet.

Janis Brenner Performance
Boston University Sargent Dance Studio, 1 University Road, Boston (617-353-1597). www.bu.edu/perd. MBTA: B Green Line to BU Central. Oct. 30, 8 pm. Free. Award-winning dancer and choreographer Brenner performs.

The Phantom Project
The Shubert Theater, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Oct. 22-24. Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $42-$60. Bill T. Jones and the Arnie Zane Dance Company present this collection of past and present movement memories to celebrate their 20th anniversary.

The Taming of the Shrew
Wang Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.bostonballet.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Oct. 28-31 and Nov. 4-7. Thu., 7 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $18-$98. John Cranko choreographs the Boston Ballet's production of this Shakespeare comedy.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. Deadline for listings is four weeks prior to publication.

STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café
All Asia Café, 334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). www.stashcomedyjam.com MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue. 7-10 pm. $5. The All Asia Café hosts local comedy shows on Tuesday nights. •Oct. 12: Cormier's Comedy Madness, with Janet Cormier performing comedy and music. •Oct. 19: Hi Carb Comedy Blowout with host Mike Stauffis.

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault features local stand-up comedians. •Thu.: Greg Howell and friends •Fri. and Sat.: Boston's Best Standup •Sun.: Open Mike Night.

Cantab Lounge
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.cantablounge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Thursdays, 8 pm: Chris Waller performs improv downstairs, no cover, 21+.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Oct. 20, 8 pm: Harrison Stebbins, $12. •Oct. 21, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •Oct. 22, 8 and 10:15 pm: Richard Jeni, $21.•Oct. 23, 8 and 10:15 pm: Richard Jeni, $26. •Oct. 24, 7 pm: Frank Santorelli, $12. •Oct. 25, 8 pm: World Cup Comedy Finals, $12. •Oct. 26, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $12. •Oct. 27, 8 pm: Harrison Stebbins, $12. •Oct. 28, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist," Election Night Show, $15.•Oct. 29, 6, 8 and 10:15 pm: I'm Still Standing Tour with Gary Gulman, $21. •Oct. 30, 8 pm: Boston Headliners, $17. •Oct. 30, 10:30 and 11:59 pm: I'm Still Standing Tour with Gary Gulman, $21. •Oct. 31, 7 and 9:15 pm: I'm Still Standing Tour with Gary Gulman, $25.

Comedy Studio
Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Oct. 20: Tony V Experiment, Jim Flaherty, Matt Wininger, Tommy Morello and others. •Oct. 21: Rob O'Reilly, Dave Thompson, Denise Robichau and others. •Oct. 22: Steve Calechman, Dan Sally, Noah Garfinkle and others •Oct. 23: Janet Cormier, Andy O'Fish, Tommy Morello and more. •Oct. 24: Erin Judge, Rebecca Anderson, Cyndi Stiles and others. •Oct. 26: Magic Lounge: magic, mind-reading and manipulation. •Oct. 27: The Tony V Experiment, Ben Boime, Corey Manning, Jesse Gersten and others. •Oct. 28: Korte Yeo, David Grabiner, Tom Liszanckie and more. •Oct. 29: Robby RoadSteamer, Tommy Morello, Joe Mande and others •Oct. 30: Ben Murray, Dave Burdick, Tommy Morello and Andy O'Fish. •Oct. 31: Peter Bowers, Mark McKay, Renata Tutko and others. •Nov. 2: Magic Lounge: Five professional magicians.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900 www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Cente $10-$22. •Oct. 21, 8:30 pm: Ira Proctor, Cra Boggis. •Oct. 22, 8:45 pm: Ira Proctor, Craig Bo gis, Larry Lee Lewis. •Oct. 23, 8:45 pm: Ira Pro tor, Craig Boggis, Larry Lee Lewis. •Oct. 28, 8: pm: John Pizzi, Pete Costello. •Oct. 29, 8:45 p John Pizzi, Pete Costello, Dan Miller. •Oct. 3 8:45 pm: John Pizzi, Pete Costello, Dan Miller.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). ww improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Governme Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also availabl •Oct. 29, 8 and 10 pm; Oct. 30, 7, 9 and 11 p Oct. 31, 8 pm: Gorefest II: Slaughter House on t Prairie, $15.•Through Oct. 30, Fri., 8 pm; Sat., pm: Burlesque Exposes Bush or How Dubya G Kerry'd Away, $20.•Ongoing: The Midnight Sho Saturdays at midnight, $10; Lies, Half Truths a the American Way, Wed., and Thu., 8 pm; Sa and Sun., 8 and 10 pm, $15.

ImprovBoston
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253 www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Centra $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisation comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: t characters, the stories, the settings—even the son and dances. •Thursdays, 8 pm, $10-12: Unnatur Selection. A master of ceremonies randomly elim nates players until only one is left. 10 pm, $5: Th Great and Secret Comedy Show. Brothers Chris a David Walsh perform stand-up and music, play sho films and do character sketches in a display of sibli rivalry. •Fridays, 8 pm, $10-12: Boston Creen Boston's first all-women improv troupe perform •Saturdays, 6 pm, $10-12 (children 11 and und accompanied by an adult admitted free): Impr Boston Family Show. A short-form improvisation show appropriate for all ages. 8 and 10 pm, $10-1 ImprovBoston Mainstage. Blending storytellin music and audience participation, a cast of impr visers creates a show that changes with every perfo mance. •Sundays, 7 pm, $5: Sgt. Culpepper/Op Jam. This evening combines three shows into on Watch performances by visiting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry
327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-30 6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Li to South Station. Saturdays, 6 pm. $12. Boston newest short-form improv group performs skits th involve audience participation.

The Tribe
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: R Line to Central. Every Thursday, 8 pm. $5 before pm, $10 after. 21+. Improv comedians poke fun everything, including themselves.

COMEDY SHOWS

Kate Clinton
Somerville Theatre, 55 Davis Square, Somervil (617-625-4088). www.multistage.org. MBTA: R Line to Davis. Oct. 30. 8 pm. $21.50-$25.50. P litical humorist Kate Clinton presents her on woman show.

Election
ImprovBoston, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambrid (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA Red Line to Central. Through Oct. 22. Fri., 8 pm $12. Witness the electoral process like you've nev seen it before as ImprovBoston nominates cand dates, holds primaries, throws the press into the mi and finishes at the voting booth.

I Didn't Vote for George W.
Jimmy Tingle's Off-Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square. Oct. 22 and 23. pm. $10. Political humorist and "non-motiv tional" speaker Brian Longwell presents his on man show.

Jimmy Tingle: Election Year Humor and Other Observations
Jimmy Tingle's Off-Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square. Oct. 22-24 and 2 31. Fri. and Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 7 pm. $20. Ting honors the election year with a show featuring son old and new political observations.

Workin' Progress
ImprovBoston, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambrid (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBT Red Line to Central. Oct. 20. 8 pm. $5. Comic S Brody presents her one-woman show about datin single life, and iced tea.

BOSTON BALLET

MIKKO NISSINEN *Artistic Director*



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Christine Temin, *The Boston Globe*

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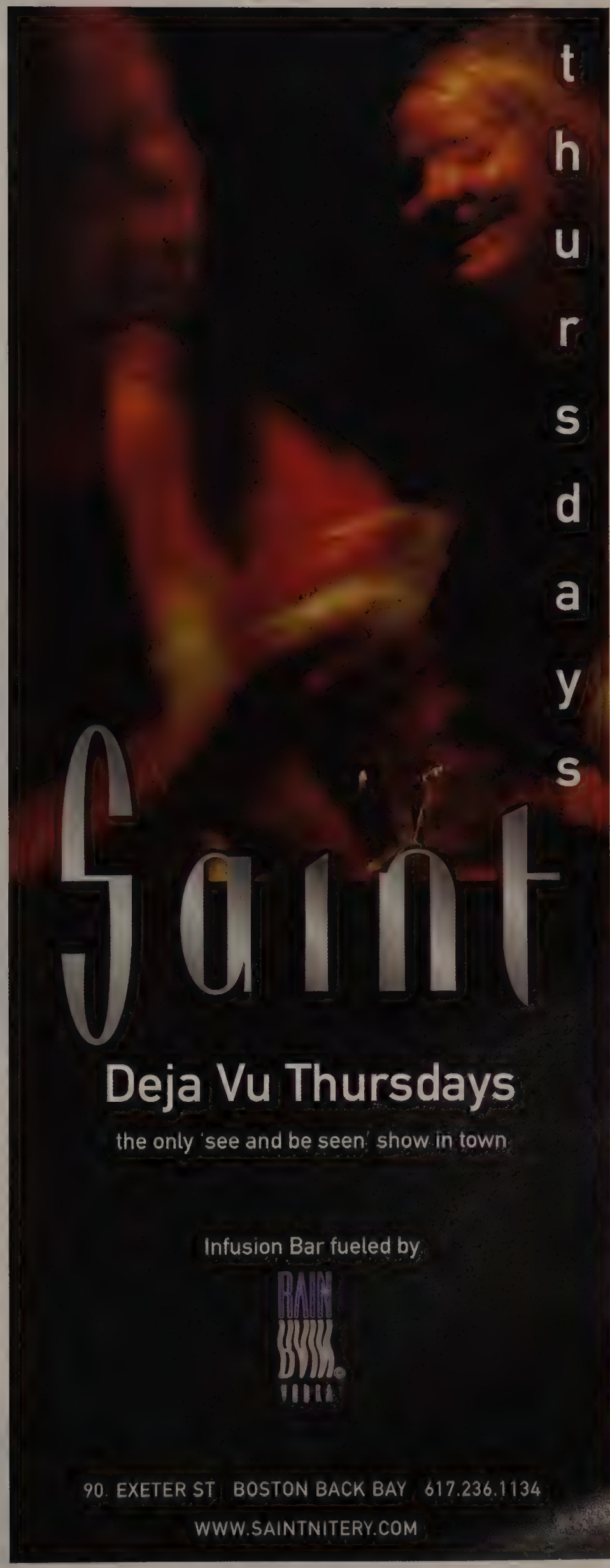
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My Left Feet

Shall We Dance? remake gets lost in translation.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

It's hard to think of an American remake of a foreign film that's as faithful to the original as *Shall We Dance?* Whole scenes are practically line-for-line reshoots of action in the 1996 Japanese hit about a "salaryman" whose drab life turns upbeat when he starts secretly taking ballroom dancing lessons.

But while the Japanese original was a charmer that won you over, the American remake struggles to do so, stumbling in its early going and its resolution, despite a strong midsection. It's not so much what this new *Shall We Dance?* does that's problematic, since it mostly just retraces the footsteps of the original. It's how it retraces those steps.



Jennifer Lopez and Richard Gere do an emotional two-step in the American remake of *Shall We Dance?*

This *Shall We Dance?* gets the proverbial Hollywood treatment, and all that the cliché suggests: It has stars that don't always have the everyday quality of their characters; its American gregariousness smothers the Japanese reserve that was a hallmark of the original; and it awkwardly reaches for big "Hollywood" moments.

Richard Gere is an awfully slick choice for the 9-to-5 commuter numbed by the rut that his life has become. Instead of a mere office drone, the hero is a Chicago estate lawyer in the remake, a move that's not so important as the many voice-overs in which he talks about his work, which are apparently supposed to metaphorically apply to his dance foray, but never do. Gere plays John Clark, who rides home on the El and regularly eyes a beautiful woman pensively staring out the window of a dance school.

She's Paulina (Jennifer Lopez), an instructor at the dance school where John impulsively signs up for classes, only to learn that sad-eyed Paulina, who's still mooning over the loss of her dance partner and of a big competition, teaches only expensive private lessons. He and two other male newcomers (Bobby Cannavale from *The Station Agent*, Omar Benson Miller) will get older Mitzi (Anita Gillette) for instruction. John doesn't tell wife Beverly (Susan Sarandon), who's as wrapped up in her department store job as he is in his work, about the classes.

Although *Shall We Dance?* is a bit hyper at first and lacks the quiet elegance of the original, it does hit its stride midway through and becomes an amusing ensemble comedy for a time. Adding comic relief during this stretch are Stanley Tucci as a co-worker who also has a secret life as a Latin dancer (featuring a wig and an alter ego), Lisa Ann Walter as a brassy, busty dancer who brazenly injects herself into the lives of the dance students, and Richard Jenkins and Nick Cannon as the philosophical private detectives Beverly hires when she fears John might be having an affair. Most of these characters get worked up about ballroom dancing, thanks to their connection to John.

The bolstered role of the wife is the remake's biggest trouble spot. The scenes of Beverly at work with her two overemotional underlings are cringe-worthy, while the casting of formidable Sarandon in a role that has to show vulnerability is tricky (she's fairly unconvincing in the scene when she hires the detectives to spy on John). Although it would clearly not work to have the American wife be as submissive as the Japanese one, the confrontation between Beverly and John, after she shows up at a dance contest he's competing in, is an overblown mess in which they block traffic in an underground garage.

Lopez, though, shows effective restraint, as Paulina fends off John's crush yet comes to respect and like him, finding a renewed taste for dancing from his love of it. In more dubious "Hollywood treatment," though, director Peter Chelsom (*Funnybones*) and writer Audrey Wells devalue the movie's climax, in which John and Paulina dance, by giving them a big dance scene two-thirds of the way through the story. Of course, the climax also suffers mightily from the use of Peter Gabriel's syrupy song "Book of Love," as it creakily provides an overkill of happy resolutions for everyone. It's that sort of "generosity" that derails *Shall We Dance?* You had to "lean in" to the modest Japanese original. That intimacy was part of its charm. This version hits you over the head sometimes, making you recoil. Where's the charm in that? iB

Shall We Dance? ★★

Directed by Peter Chelsom. Written by Audrey Wells. With Richard Gere, Jennifer Lopez, Susan Sarandon, Stanley Tucci, Anita Gillette, Lisa Ann Walter, Richard Jenkins, Bobby Cannavale and Nick Cannon. Rated PG-13. At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Dig ★★★
Ondi Timoner's documentary about the up-an down relationship between the bands the Dan Warhols and the Brian Jonestown Massacre is at most interesting when it touches upon the battle b tween creativity and commerce. Each band has decide how much it's willing to compromise to g its music heard, and for a time the bands are coho in fighting the system. As sensible Dandy Warh leader Courtney Taylor's and self-destructive Bri Jonestown Massacre leader Anton Newcombe's re tionship with each other becomes more co tentious, though, the bands actually become less i teresting, despite the supposed drama, and so do the movie. (At Kendall Square.)

A Dirty Shame ★★
It's been 34 years since *Multiple Maniacs*, John W ters' comedy in which the heroes performed in a bellious traveling "Cavalcade of Perversion." If h new movie, in which Baltimore blue-collar sex a dicts are the heroes, had been made then, it mig have worked. But nowadays, when sex is used to s everything and pervades the media (from Stern Springer to Spears), it seems awfully passé. Tha part of the reason the laughs are sparse and only a fe characters are consistently amusing (mainly Suzan Shepherd as the crusty leader of the "decency" forc fighting the sex addicts and Jackie Hoffman as one the more creative sexaholics). Too much of t movie just seems sophomoric. (At Kendall Squa and Waltham Embassy.)

Donnie Darko: The Director's Cut ★★½
If it ain't broke, don't fix it. Writer-director Richa Kelly's brilliant *Donnie Darko* returns—not in t version that struck an emotional chord in so ma despite being barely marketed in 2001, but in *Don Darko: The Director's Cut*, a new version running minutes longer. Except this isn't a true "directo cut"; this 133-minute version never existed bef now. If you haven't seen *Donnie Darko*, the origi version is a better introduction; if you have, you probably seen the added stuff already. Most of t "restored" footage comes from deleted scenes on t *Donnie Darko* DVD. Meanwhile, Kelly has also go back and changed some of the songs to what he or inally wanted, but couldn't afford in the budget. E wait a minute. Kelly originally wanted U2's "ML at the climax, not Michael Andrews and Gary Jul unforgettably haunting version of Tears for Fea "Mad World," which became a surprise hit. So w didn't he replace that too? Kelly should have mained satisfied with the *other* happy accidents his movie as well. (Midnight shows at Coolidge C ner, Oct. 22, 23 and 29.)

Garden State ★★½
The first film by actor-director Zach Braff (T *Scrubs*) has its moments of daffy humor, as Br plays a struggling L.A. actor who returns to his N Jersey hometown for the first time in nine years. recaptures the mixed emotions of such a visit, esp cially of seeing old high school friends, but it trea on very familiar territory. It feels like it wants to b version of *The Graduate* directed by Wes Anders (*Rushmore*), and it struggles to find any voice of own. Plus, the story of a guy returning to his hom town who develops a quick bond with a Nata Portman character has already been done, in 199 *Beautiful Girls*. Braff and Portman have a pleas chemistry, and Braff is to be commended for tryi to make something quirky and personal. But it's ha not to feel this movie is redundant. (At Bost Common, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

Gloomy Sunday ★★
After a quick run in the city, Rolf Schubel's roman drama has been playing a show a day at West Ne ton Cinema for over a year, but this cult hit is har an unusual movie. Although German, it's a Hol wood-style bon bon, and the movie it most resemb is *Titanic*. Like that mega-hit, this period piece gra extreme fiction onto well-known fact—in this ca about the classic song "Gloomy Sunday" (before B lie Holiday covered it), its European composer a World War II. The *Titanic*-style melodrama is prob bly the reason it's clicked with many people, alo with the pure allure of stunning leading lady Eri Marozsan. But despite the movie's overripe charm times, it's hard to see it as anything more than har somely crafted cheese. (At West Newton.)

Hero ★★★
Zhang Yimou's drama is the dreamiest martial a movie since Wong Kar Wai's *Ashes of Time*, wh which it shares stars Tony Leung, Chiu Wai a Maggie Cheung. This period piece about feu China soars during its creative fight scenes, thou

he production design regularly gets out of hand ome scenes are so superficially "pretty" they look ke perfume commercials). The title character ayed by Jet Li can also be as inexpressive as a mpulsive Botox patient. But this is ambitious uff, and the fight scenes and larger-than-life rama, fueled mostly by Cheung's performance, ften pay off handsomely. (At Copley Place, Harrd Square and suburbs.)

[heart] Huckabees ★★★

riter-director David O. Russell's world is a chaotic he in which he amusingly forces characters to face to their place in it, sometimes willingly, sometmes not. In Russell's latest film, troubled activist lbert (Jason Schwartzman) is somewhat willing, t he's not prepared to be pulled into the rabbit ole by the existential detectives (Lily Tomlin, ustin Hoffman) he hires to find meaning in his life. he duo drags Albert into the lives of his nemesis ude Law)—a junior executive trying to turn Alrt's environmental group into a P.R.-friendly front r his chainstore—and a fellow client (Mark ahlberg) obsessed with petroleum consumption. he movie ricochets around like a pinball, sometmes distractingly so, but just about every direction heads in is hilarious. (At Boston Common and arvard Square.)

he Last Shot ★★★½

his 1980s-set comedy is based on a true story about sting on Rhode Island mobsters conducted by FBI ents pretending to produce a movie (the R.I. mob d been extorting money from film productions). lec Baldwin is very funny as the FBI agent who etends to be a producer in order to nab a Province mafioso (Tony Shalhoub), while Matthew oderick is the unsuspecting aspiring writer whose ript goes into pre-production but never gets out of Writer-director Jeff Nathanson cleverly spoofs ollywood through such amusing characters as the I's crass Hollywood etiquette "tutor" (Joan Cuk) and the movie-within-a-movie's self-involved r (Toni Collette). But *The Last Shot* is also an afctionate tribute to the seductive charms of the silr screen, as the movie dreams of both the agent d the writer—who's talked into making dozens of mpromises, such as filming Arizona action in Lit- Rhody—grow too large to be stopped by the enorpus complications that arise. (At Copley Place d suburbs.)

he Machinist ★★½

rmer Bostonian Brad Anderson's latest isn't as pping as it might have been, but it's an intriguing, *ilight Zone*–style slab of genre story. Christian Bale ys the frazzled hero, an insomniac who's losing his nd and, literally, his body. Bale dropped a ton of ight for the part, but turns his meaty role into re than a freak. As the story progresses, we learn ere are concrete reasons why the guy has been ecking out from reality, and the movie's grimy vils perfectly reflect his state of mind. *The Machinist* more in the line of Anderson's creepy *Session 9* an his arthouse hit *Next Stop Wonderland*, which is e with me. (At Harvard Square.)

econstruction ★★★

iter-director Christoffer Boe's stylish Danish rontic drama takes place at least partially within head of one of its characters. But is it the head of photographer (Nikolaj Lie Kaas) who's unsure of love for his girlfriend (Maria Bonnevie)? The nected married woman he meets (Bonnevie, as ll) and starts a fling with? Or the woman's novel- husband (Krister Kenriksson)? The story cernly gets balled up in such questions by the time over, but its adulterous central relationship also es off a palpable charge of physical attraction, d it's such an intriguing experience that the film er becomes as pretentious as it might have. (At ndall Square.)

haun of the Dead ★★★

ector and cowriter Edgar Wright's zombie com- isn't just a horror spoof à la *Scream*, it's a movie ut funny characters. Wright knows how to set up s and put them across, and horror has nothing to with his characters' amusing habits, like saying ha's that supposed to mean?" to glaringly obvious usations. Like the zombies that slowly surround n and his circle of friends, the title character of s very funny English comedy springs back to life r the course of the movie. Shaun (co-writer ion Pegg) is an affable bloke whose lack of ambin finds him stuck at a job requiring a name tag, d whose lack of romantic inspiration finds him nped by girlfriend Liz (Kate Ashfield). But when mbies walk the streets of London, Shaun leads the vivors (to the pub, of course). Shots are fired, h is ripped, friends are mourned and, somewhere ng the way, Liz is perhaps convinced that Shaun left his feckless ways behind him. (At Boston mmon, Fenway, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow ★★

This retro-futuristic action-adventure—using computer-generated special effects to re-create a late-1930s concept of science fiction—is the PT Cruiser of movies. It seems kinda neat at first, but you steadily realize it's just another mediocre new product. The trouble with this story about a reporter (Gwyneth Paltrow) and an aviator (Jude Law) who thwart a doomsday scheme is that however straight-faced and authentic it promises to be, it's too much like the many other movies that have taken inspiration from the same place (this is especially true of Edward Shearmur's music, which sounds cringingly like John Williams' scores, and the revival of Angelina Jolie's dreadful Lara Croft English accent). Paltrow and Law have little zing together (maybe George Clooney could have pulled off the hardness and humor of the dashing title role), and ultimately the film comes off like a disappointing attempt at *Raiders of the Lost Ark*–style homage. (At Boston Common and suburbs.)

Tarnation ★★★½

In a year of too many remakes, sequels and "same old, same old" movies, Jonathan Caouette's distinctive documentary stands out. Culled from 20 years of the home movies he's shot since he was a boy, it tells the unforgettable, tragedy-laced story of his family, and of his relationship with his mother Renee, who was subjected to numerous sessions of questionable electro-shock therapy as a teenager. It's a cycle of madness that Jonathan's grandparents foisted on his mom, and that he has continued to try to fight off. Almost as remarkable as the family history is the way Caouette tells the personal story, in a fast-moving collage of home movies punctuated by deadpan, on-screen text. Few movies this year have been as compellingly involving. (At Kendall Square.)

Taxi ★

Tired, tedious action-comedy buddy movie from director Tim Story (*Barbershop*), with one credible star (Queen Latifah) and one who seems totally in over his head (Jimmy Fallon). She's a hot-rodding New York cabbie with NASCAR dreams, and he's an inept cop who pulls her into the task of chasing down a gang of gorgeous Brazilian bank robbers. The plot and the gags rarely rise above the utterly mediocre. (At Copley Place, Harvard Square and suburbs.)

What the Bleep Do We Know? ★★

It's different, all right, but that's not always a good thing in this new-agey blend of documentary and drama from three first-time directors. The documentary has some generally interesting scientific theorizing about the way the body perceives the world and about the effects of emotion on cells. But the interesting stuff is married to goofy animation and, even worse and even goofier, dramatic sequences starring Marlee Matlin as a two-timed photographer who undergoes an attitude adjustment. Her scenes are as clunky as an airline safety video. (At Boston Common, Harvard Square and suburbs.)

The Yes Men ★★★

When pranksters Mike Bonanno and Andy Bichlbaum set up a spoof Web site of the World Trade Organization's page, some groups mistook the spoof for the real thing and asked for a WTO rep to come speak at their conferences. This documentary follows the pair as they prepare for and carry out what they call "public spectacles," in which they espouse absurd profit-first policies and see how much media coverage they can get for their pranks. During one speech, they tout the value of cheap, remote labor (better than slavery because there are no transportation charges to be recouped!); in another, they make a presentation for the "ReBurger," in which human waste from fast food is treated and made into new burgers for third world residents to enjoy. You don't learn much about these guys in the movie, but their deeds are a kick in the pants. (At Copley and Harvard Square.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

•Oct. 24, 2 pm. **Women in Focus: Films by Women in Film & Video/New England's Founding Mothers.** WFV/NE members screen their recent films.

•Oct. 25, 6 pm. **Concepts, A Video Series by Doris Totten Chase.** Four films by Doris Totten Chase screen.







BRATTLE THEATRE

Film Noir 101

•Oct. 20, 4:45, 7:15 and 10 pm. **The Asphalt Jungle** *1950*. All goes as planned when a gang of crooks rips off a jewelry store, until the loot is in their hands. John Huston directs.

Midnight Madness

•Oct. 22 and 23, 12 am. **Animal House** *1978*. A fraternity in danger of being kicked off campus fights for their right to party in John Landis' classic film.

•Oct. 29 and 30, 12 am. **Army of Darkness** *1993*. The final installment of Sam Raimi's *Evil Dead* trilogy finds chainsaw-wielding Ash battling a group of undead skeletons.

Special Engagements and Premieres

•Oct. 29, 5 and 7 pm; Oct. 30-Nov. 2, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm; Sat. and Sun., additional shows, 1:30 and 3:30 pm. **Goodbye Dragon Inn** *2003*. An old-movie theater screens its final film, *Dragon Inn*. Tsai Ming-liang directs.

Special Events

•Oct. 21, 7:30 pm. **Bloom** *2003*. Sean Walsh's film adapation of James Joyce's classic novel *Ulysses* stars Stephen Rea as Leopold Bloom.

•Oct. 29, 9 pm. **Boston Cinema Census**. Central Productions presents a survey of recent locally produced films.

•Oct. 31, 9:30 pm. **Evil Dead 2** *1987*. Sam Raimi's follow-up to *Evil Dead* stars Bruce Campbell as heroic Ash, who's stuck in a cabin fighting the bloodthirsty undead.

A Tribute to Elmer Bernstein

•Oct. 22, 5:15, 7:30 and 9:45 pm. **Sudden Fear** *1953*. An actor seduces a playwright to win the leading role in her latest production, and her money. David Miller directs.

•Oct. 23, 3 and 7:30 pm. **Sweet Smell of Success** *1957*. Elmer Bernstein scores Alexander Mackendrick's film about a powerful New York newspaper columnist who is set on breaking up his sister's relationship with a jazz musician. •Also showing, 5 and 9:30 pm. **Walk on the Wild Side** *1962*. A lovelorn loner travels to New Orleans to find the girl that got away, only to find she's the main attraction at a bordello. Edward Dmytryk directs.

•Oct 24, 1:30 and 8 pm. **Far from Heaven** *2002*. Todd Haynes film, set in 1950s Connecticut, stars Julianne Moore and Dennis Quaid as a seemingly perfect couple whose marriage is disrupted when he's caught kissing another man. •Also showing, 4 and 6 pm. **Films of Charles and Ray Eames** *1950-70*. The Brattle screens short films by Charles and Ray Eames that were scored by Elmer Bernstein. Selections include *Powers of Ten*, *House: After Five Years of Living*, *Lounge Chair*, *S-73*, *SX-70*, *IBM Puppet Shows*, *Views from the People Wall*, *Toccoata for Toy Trains* and *Tops*.

•Oct. 25, 5 and 10 pm. **An American Werewolf in London** *1981*. Two Americans traveling abroad are attacked by a werewolf, leaving one dead and the other transformed into a werewolf. John Landis directs.

•Oct. 26, 5 and 9:45 pm. **Devil in a Blue Dress** *1995*. An unemployed Los Angeles detective (Denzel Washington) thinks he's getting a break when he's hired to find a missing woman who turns out to be the fiancée of a famous politican. Carlin Franklin directs. •Also showing, 7:15 pm. **Cape Fear** *1991*. In Martin Scorsese's remake of J. Lee Thompson's film, Robert De Niro stars as a psychotic ex-con who avenges his prison sentence by targeting his defense attorney's family.

•Oct. 27, 4:45, 7:15 and 9:45 pm. **The Magnificent Seven** *1960*. Seven gunfighters teach locals how to defend their Mexican village from terrorist bandits in John Sturges remake of Akira Kurosawa's *The Seven Samurai*.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Coolidge Selects

•Now playing. **The Motorcycle Diaries** *2004*. Gael García Bernal stars as a young Che Guevara on a road trip across Argentina during the 1950s. Walter Salles directs.

•Now playing. **I [Heart] Huckabees** *2004*. See New Releases for a description.

•Now playing. **Outfoxed: Rupert Murdoch's War on Journalism** *2004*. Robert Greenwald directs this in-depth, critical look at Fox News.

•Opening Oct. 29. **Sideways** *2004*. Alexander Payne directs this comedy about a man's road trip during his last week of bachelorhood.

•Now playing. **Virgin** *2004*. A wild teenager in a small Baptist town blacks out and is raped and impregnated. Thinking she's still a virgin, she assumes she's carrying the child of God. Deborah Kampmeier directs.

Films to See Before You Vote Festival

Oct. 22-Nov. 4. This festival presents documentaries that expose stories and issues that have not received wide exposure in the mainstream media. Films include *Bush's Brain*, *Liberty Bound*, *WMD:Weapons of Mass Destruction*, and several others. Check www.coolidge.org for complete schedule.

Midnight Movies

•Oct. 22, 23, and 29, 12 am. **Donnie Darko: Director's Cut** *2004*. See New Releases for a description

•Oct. 23, 12 am. **Mr. Vampire 4** *1988*. An evil vampire forces two Taoist priests to unite and fight him in Ricky Lau's kung fu flick.

•Oct. 30, 12 am. **Halloween Horror Movie Marathon.** This annual event starts at midnight and continues with 13 hours of horror movies including *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre*, *Blood Feast*, *Friday the 13th IV: A New Beginning*. Check www.coolidge.org for updates and a schedule.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Adventures in Surrealism

•Oct. 27, 9:30 pm. **Short Films.** Man Ray's **Etoile de Mer** (*The Star of the Sea*) *1928*, Hans Richter's **Vormittagsspuk** (*Ghosts Before Breakfast*) *1927*, René Clair's **Entr'acte France** *1924* and Luis Buñuel and Salvador Dali's **Un Chien Andalou** (*An Andalusian Dog*) *1928* screen.

•Nov. 2, 9 pm. **La Coquille et le Clergyman** (*The Seashell and the Clergyman*) *1926*. Germain Dulac's silent film is an interpretation of a text by Antonin Artaud. •Immediately following. **Blood of a Poet** *1930*. Jean Cocteau's first film is a portrait of "poet's inner self."

Boston Irish Film Festival

•Oct. 22, 7 pm. **News for the Church** *2003*. Andrew McCarthy (*Pretty in Pink*, *St. Elmo's Fire*) makes his directorial debut with a film adaptation of Frank O'Connor's short story about faith and hypocrisy in 1950s rural Ireland. McCarthy and producer Joe Scaccia appear in person for the screening. •Immediately following, **Timbuktu** *2004*. A young Irish woman and two friends travel across the Sahara in search of her missing brother. Director Alan Gilsenan and actor Liam O'Maonlai appear in person for the screening.

•Oct. 23, 2 pm. **Celtic Waves: The Flow of Irish Emigration** *2002*. Filmed in Ireland and Northern Ireland over the course of three years, John Michalczyk's film examines periods of flux for the Irish: the famine of the 1840s, the turn of the 20th century, the 1950s, the 1980s and 1990s. The director appears in person for the screening. •Immediately following, **Women of the Gold Rush** *2003*. Anne Roper's documentary looks at the lives of three women who took part in the Klondike gold rush of 1897. •Also showing, 2:30 pm. **Celtic Mai** **ens** *2003*. Nora Twomey's comedic animated short film celebrates Irish beauty contests. •Immediately following, **Mystics** *2002*. Two scam artists who claim they can communicate with the dead find themselves involved with the mob when the boss' widow asks them to help her find her husband's missing stash of diamonds. David Blair directs. •Also showing, 4:30 pm. **Shorts Showcase.** A collection of short films screens. Selections include *Two Fat Ladies* by John Hayes, *Luka* by Adrienne Michel-Long, *Broken Things* by Vincent Lambe, *Burning the Bed* by Denis McArdle, *Dublin 1* by Jason Tammemagi, *The Boy Who Had No Story* by Aidan Hickey, *Love Smoke* by Vinny Murphy and *Funeral Parlor* by David Hegarty. •Also showing, 4:30 pm. **Cinegael Paradiso: Once Upon a Time in Conemara** *2004*. Robert Quinn directs a documentary about his father's independent film studio, Cinegael, in Connemara, Ireland. •Also showing, 7 pm. **Full Circle.** Simon Fitzmaurice's short film captures two lonely people learning how to express their love for each other. •Immediately following, **Frank and Marie** *2003*. A delusional man finds out his wife is cheating on him and begins a downward spiral of self-destructive behavior. Director Matthew Causey appears in person for the screening. •Also showing, 7 pm. **Spin the Bottle** *2004*. An ex-con tries to win a boy-band competition to raise funds for his obese aunt's miracle-seeking pilgrammage to Lourdes. Director Ian Fitzgibbon and co-producer Paul Donovan appear in person for the screening. •Also showing, 8 pm. **The Twilight Hour: Visions of Ireland's Haunted Past** *2004*. Jason Figgis' documentary follows photographer Simon Marsden as he tours Ireland's haunted castles and ruins. •Also showing, 9 pm. **Scenes from a Tour: Hothouse Flowers** *2003*. Sherece Lamke's documentary follows the band the Hothouse Flowers as they tour the United States. Lamke and band member Liam O'Maonlai appear in person for the screening.

•Oct. 24, 2 pm. **Short Documentary Showcase** *Communion Kids* by Adrian McCarthy, *This Is the Story of Peter and the Wolf* by Barry Devlin and *Jimmy Keeney* by Moira Sheeney screen. •Also showing, 2:30 pm. **Beautiful Kid** *2004*. A young Irish-American

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chanic at a crossroads in his life chooses between the examples set by his older brothers, one a petty criminal and the other a New York City cop. Director Michael Carty and producer Patrick McCullough appear in person for the screening. •Also showing, 4:30 pm. **Wilde Stories: The Selfish Giant, The Devoted Friend** and **The Nightingale and the Rose**. Rachel Bevan Baker and Maurice Joyce's animated versions of Oscar Wilde's famous short stories screen. •Also showing, 5 pm. **Battle of the Bogside** *2004*. Vinny Cunningham's documentary looks at the 1969 riots between Catholics and Nationalists in Derry, Ireland.

Cinéma Français

•Oct. 25, 9:15 pm. **La Règle du Jeu** *(The Rules of the Game) 1939*. Jean Renoir depicts the lavish habits of the pre–World War I French upper class through a dinner party at a French chateau.

•Nov. 1, 9 pm. **Vendredi Soir** *(Friday Night) 2002*. While driving to her new Paris apartment, a woman get stuck in a traffic jam and meets a stranger who has a large impact on her life.

Contemporary Hollywood Cinema

•Oct 25, 7 pm. **Tootsie** *1982*. An out-of-work actor poses as a woman to land a part on a daytime soap opera. Sydney Pollack directs.

•Nov. 1, 7 pm. **Top Gun** *1986*. Tom Cruise stars as a Navy pilot competing for the number-one seat in flight school. Tony Scott directs.

Film Architectures

•Oct. 26, 7 pm. **La Notte** *1961*. Michelangelo Antonioni's film follows a couple from their visit with a dying friend to their separate nocturnal activities.

•Nov. 2, 7 pm. **The Naked City** *1948*. Jules Dassin's film tells an ordinary murder tale through the accumulation of procedural police details.

The Moving Image and Visual Representation

•Oct. 27, 7 pm. **L'Avventura** *1960*. A man and a woman have an affair while looking for their missing friend in Sicily.

Selected Films of Roy Andersson

•Oct. 20, 9 pm. **En Kärlekshistoria** *(A Swedish Love Story) 1970*. Andersson's first feature film follows two adolescents who meet and fall in love over the course of a summer.

•Oct. 26, 9:15 pm. **Giliap** *1975*. A love triangle develops between employees at a rundown hotel in Andersson's film.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Art on Film

•Oct. 24, 4 pm; Oct. 30, 10:30 am. **Russki Kovcheg** *(Russian Ark) 2002*. The Marquis de Custine wanders through St. Petersburg's Hermitage Museum musing on art, Russian culture and history in Alexander Sokurov's film.

Back by Popular Demand

•Oct. 28, 3:45 pm; Oct. 29, 8 pm; Oct. 30, 12:15 pm; Oct. 31, 11 am. **Depuis qu'Otar Est Parti** *(Since Otar Left) 2003*. Julie Bertuccelli's film follows three generations of women dealing with the loss of the same man.

Boston Greek Film Festival

•Oct. 21, 8:30 pm; Oct. 22, 6 and 8 pm; Oct. 23, 2 pm; Oct. 29, 6 pm; Oct. 30, 2:15 pm. Five new films from Greece screen.

Premiere Engagements

•Oct. 20, 6 pm; Oct. 21, 3 pm. **A Letter to True** *2003*. Bruce Weber's tribute to his dog focuses on some of the filmmaker's interests, such as music of the '50s and '60s, conversations with fellow dog-lover Elizabeth Taylor and recollections of past friendships.

•Oct. 20, 7:45 pm; Oct. 21, 4:30 pm; Oct. 23, 12 pm; Oct. 24, 11 am; Oct. 28, 5:45 pm. **S21: The Khmer Rouge Killing Machine** *2003*. Director Rithy Panh brings two survivors of the Khmer Rouge's Cambodian genocide to the notorious Tuol Sleng prison (code-named S21).

•Oct. 21, 1:15 pm; Oct. 23, 4:15 pm; Oct. 28, 2 pm; Oct. 30, 4 pm. **British Advertising Films of 2003**. This annual compilation of the previous year's award-winning British television ads is one of the MFA's most popular offerings.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater

•Through Oct. 31. **Adrenaline Rush: The Science of Risk**. Explore the inner workings of the body as one jumps out of a plane or asks someone out on a date.

•Through May 26, 2005. **Forces of Nature**. Experience the power of earthquakes, volcanoes and storms as scientists attempt to forecast and understand them.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater

•Through Nov. 9. **Galapagos**. Marine biologist Carole Baldwin leads a scientific expedition through the coral reefs of the Galapagos Islands.

•Through Nov. 9. **Ghosts of the Abyss**. Jam Cameron journeys miles beneath the ocean surfa to the ruins of Titanic.

•Through Nov. 9. **NASCAR 3D**. Experience life the fast lane with NASCAR pit crews and drive clocking over 200 mph.

•Through Nov. 9. **Ocean Wonderland 3D**. Wat as eagle rays, sharks, dolphins and more create underwater wonderland.

•Through Nov. 9. **Spiderman 2: The IMAX Expe ence**. Peter Parker, aka Spiderman, struggles wi his destiny in this sequel directed by Sam Raimi.

•Through Nov. 9. **Volcanoes of the Deep Se** Dive to the bottom of the sea with a team of scie tists, as they explore hydrothermal vents, shi wrecked gardens, predators and bioluminesce creatures.

STUDIO CINEMA BELMONT

•Oct. 31, 7:30 pm. **The Cabinet of Dr. Caliga** *1919*. The Devil Music Ensemble plays live mus to Robert Weine's silent horror flick.

Cinema Venues

BELMONT

Studio Cinema

376 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Harbor Hotel

70 Rowes Wharf. (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Li to Aquarium.

Boston Public Library

666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Gre Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)

100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Gre Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre

201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common

175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Gre Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science

Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line Science Park.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema

399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line Reservoir.

Coolidge Corner Theatre

290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Gre Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre

40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.

Fresh Pond

168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBT Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive

24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema

One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: R Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony

10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.

MIT

77 Mass. Ave., Room 6-120 (617-612-0091 MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema

27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Gre Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema

1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony

35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Oran Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre

55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Li to Davis.

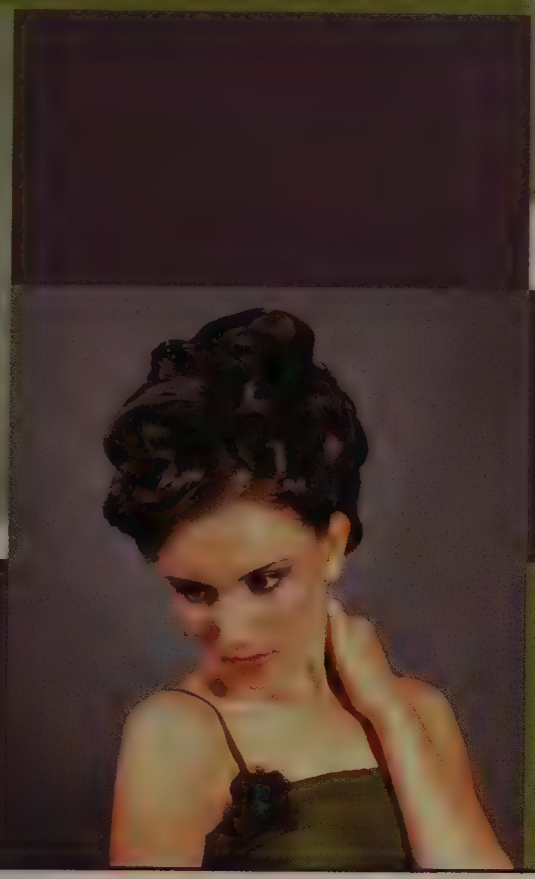
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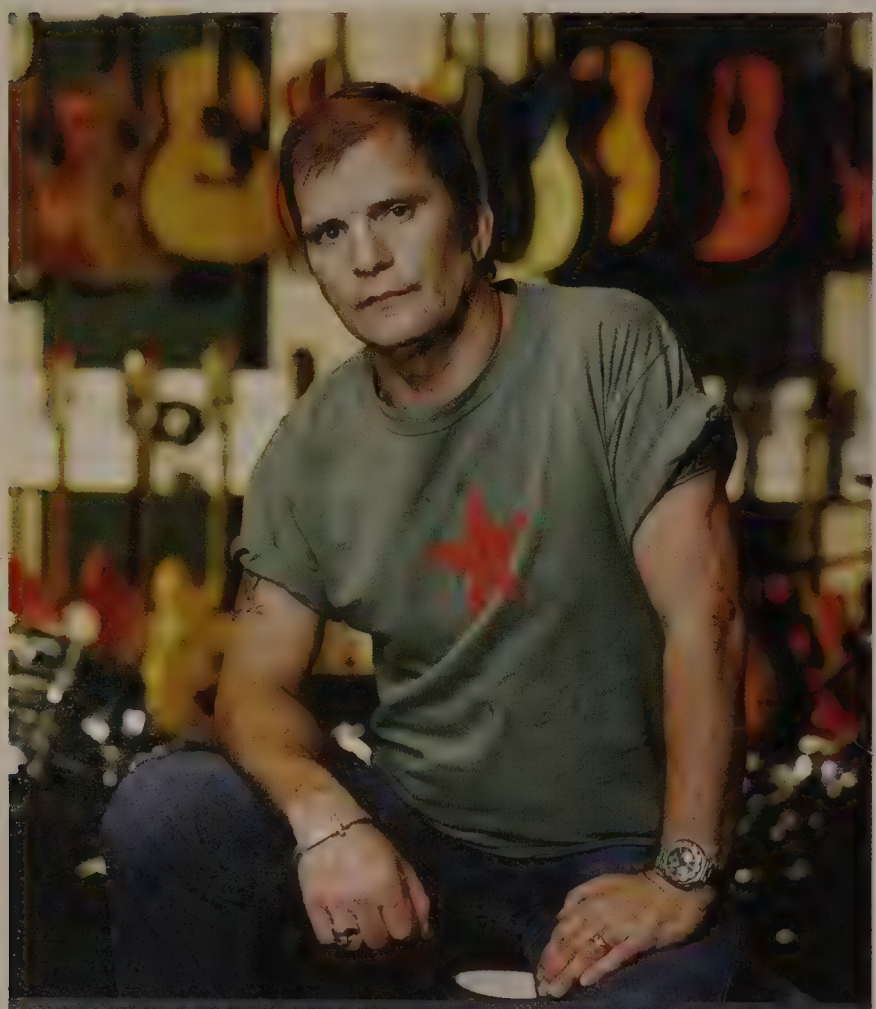
Revolutionary Times

Steve Earle charts an immediate course for political change.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

There's an extraordinary groundswell among musicians this election season to oust President Bush, from the Vote for Change caravan led by Bruce Springsteen, R.E.M., the Dixie Chicks and others to Green Day's punk opera, *American Idiot*.

"It's a whole different thing than it was," says roots-rocker Steve Earle, whose feisty new disc, *The Revolution Starts...Now*, certainly hasn't generated the controversy that "John Walker's Blues," a track from his 2002 CD *Jerusalem* that took the viewpoint of that American Taliban figure, inspired.



Steve Earle rushed to finish his new album, *The Revolution Starts...Now*, before the upcoming presidential election.

"When *Jerusalem* came out, the people I pissed off were the people I was trying to piss off," Earle says from his Nashville office. "What was more telling was the silence from the center and the left. People were genuinely scared, and that's starting to wear off. People have finally gotten scared enough to do something, and that's what it takes."

But is there a revolution brewing in the campaign? "The [illegible] is f---ed up because we went to sleep," says Earle, who [illegible] Avalon October 26. "For me, what the songs [on the new [illegible] are about is the fact that the revolution starts as soon as [illegible] wake up and realize that it goes on with or without us. I [illegible] advocate violent revolution, only because it has been proven not to work. If we're vigilant, this country can be much more progressive."

In his liner notes to *The Revolution Starts...Now*, Earle states, "The word 'immediate' best describes the atmosphere around the studio as this record was being made." That applies to both the message and the process. With only the title track and "Rich Man's War" completed, Earle shifted into 14-hour days to finish the CD in time for the presidential race.

"By four or five days into it, I was waking up with a blank sheet of paper and writing a song that morning, then going from there [into the studio to record]," Earle says.

He must work well under pressure, as *The Revolution Starts...Now* ranks among Earle's best work. It ranges from the honky-tonk "Home to Houston" (about a truck driver in Iraq praying for safe return) and the stomping "F the CC" (a kiss-off to the FCC, FBI and CIA) to the edgy, spoken-word "Warrior," which evokes Shakespeare in addition to the Doors and Patti Smith.

"The spoken-word piece ended up being one of the things that sorta saved my butt," Earle says. "I just woke up one morning and turned on my TV, and Kenneth Branagh's version of *Henry V* was on. I thought, 'Shit, that's what I can do,' and I got on the Internet and downloaded the prologue to *Henry V*. I divided it into three stanzas, used that as a template, and wrote 34 lines in iambic pentameter."

There are a few lighter tracks, including the folksy duet with Emmylou Harris, "Comin' Around," and the lusty reggae ditty "Condi, Condi," a bizarre ode to National Security Advisor Condalezza Rice. "I think she's kinda hot," Earle says. "She doesn't have the usual fashion challenges that the Republicans do. And that hair, damn!"

But while the president is never mentioned by name on the CD, Earle's main agenda is clear. "I find it increasingly hard to write chick songs in this political atmosphere," says the 49-year-old, who began his activism as a Texas teenager protesting the Vietnam War. He adds, "This [war in Iraq] has the potential to be a thousand times worse than Vietnam."

His biggest concern about four more years of Bush? "The end of civilization as we know it, and that's not a joke," he says. "Everything we are doing now makes it more dangerous to be an American, here or abroad. The rhetoric about a safer America coming from the Bush administration is the biggest lie I ever heard, and I'm in the music business!"

Earle has traveled a rocky road in the music business—and in life—since his 1986 debut, *Guitar Town*, introduced his New Traditionalist country influenced by Springsteen as well as Texan mentors Guy Clark and Townes Van Zandt. In the early '90s, after being fired by his record label, he became a drug addict and spent four months in prison. "It saved my life," says Earle, clean for 10 years and now 65 pounds lighter on the Atkins diet. "There comes a time when you just have to take care of yourself. Now I have to stop smoking cigarettes. I haven't gotten close to that yet."

In the meantime, he's on the road through October, playing mostly swing states. Will he be preaching to the converted in Boston? "I don't take anything for granted," says Earle. iB

Steve Earle & the Dukes play Avalon October 26.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fa (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or e email to music@improper.com. Include dates, time prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not ac cepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from di ferent sources. Although we make every effort to provi accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahe to double-check dates and times (see complete list venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Mose Allison Oct. 29 and 30, Ryles Jazz Club (61 876-9330).
Bad Religion Oct. 29, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Vanessa Carlton Oct. 29, Paradise Rock Club (61 423-NEXT).
De la Soul, Butta Verses Oct. 25, Paradise Roc Club (617-931-2000).
The Dresden Dolls Oct. 30, Avalon (617-93 2000).
Adam Ezra Group, Fooled by April Oct. 22, Pa adise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
GZA/Genius Oct. 20 Middle East Downstairs (61 931-2000).
JAM'N 94.5 Monster Jam '04 Oct. 31, FleetCent (617-931-2000).
Jedi Mind Tricks, Outerspace, 7L, Esoteric Oct. 2 Middle East Downstairs (617-931-2000).
Avril Lavigne Nov. 1, FleetCenter (617-931-2000)
Metallica, Godsmack Oct. 24 and 25, FleetCent (617-931-2000). (Oct. 24 sold out)
Nintendo Fusion Tour featuring Story of the Yea
My Chemical Romance, Letter Kills, Anberlin Oc 27, Avalon (617-931-2000).
R.E.M Oct. 29, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Karen Rives: A Benefit for Breast Cancer Oct. 2 Cambridge Center for Adult Education (617-54 6789, ext. 1).
Joe Sample Oct. 20, Scullers Jazz Club (617-78 0090).
Social Distortion, Tiger Army, the Explosion Oc 22, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Tears for Fears, Dirty Vegas Oct. 30, Orpheum The atre (617-931-2000).
Richard Thompson Oct. 28, Berklee Performanc Center (617-931-2000).
WBCN Stage Rage Oct. 21, Harpers Ferry (800-59 7499).
Yonder Mountain String Band, Darrell Scott Oc 21, The Roxy (617-931-2000).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20

Abbey Lounge Gato Malo, Girating Rag Bag, Cir cus, 9:30 pm, $5-$7.
Asgard $240 Worth a Puddin'.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Nights in Wyoming, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim James Keelaghan, Claudia Russell, pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Harpers Ferry The Akashic Sessions featuri members of Uncle Sammy, Soulwork, 9 pm, $3.
Hennessy's Joe Carson Band.
Johnny D's Benefit for Move On: Matt Glaser, San Hammond and more, 8:30 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie.
Lizard Lounge The Dennis Brennan Band, 9:30 p no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Cult of Point Break, Dar buster, Yoni Gordan and the Goods, Roddy Roa steamer, 9 pm, $10, 18+. Downstairs: GZA/Geni from Wu-Tang Clan with Amadeus, Chan, 8 p $24, 18+.
Midway Café The Leon Rich Band, the Less Lon some.
Mr. Dooley's Corporate Challenge.
O'Brien's The Residence, Yellow Brick Ed, t Mark, $6.
Paradise Sam Philips, 8 pm, $15.
PA's Madding Crowd, Scram.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Pierre Hurel Trio, 7:30 and 10 pm, $1
Ryles Jazz Club Alex Skolnick Trio, 7 pm, $12.
Scullers Jazz Club Joe Sample, 8 and 10 pm, $30
Tír na nÓg The Benders.

GRAND OPENING

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23

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Tiger Army opens for Social Distortion at Avalon October 22

Toad The Cranktones, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Howl, 9:05 pm; Johnny Carlevale & The Broken Rhythm Boys, 10 pm; Entrance, 11 pm, $8
Wonder Bar Joe McMahon Duo, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Raqib Hassan & Suntology, 7-9 pm, $10; Jazz Jam 10 pm-1 am, no cover
ZuZu Eleni Mandell, Milo Jones, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Sofia Koutsovitis, 8 pm.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21

Abbey Lounge The Two Timing 3, 10:30 pm; Texas Bob, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
Asgard Chezwick.
Black Horse Tavern Matt Chase, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Swingin' Johnsons, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge The Kassie Buckley Band, 9 pm.
Charles Playhouse Lounge The Works, 9:45 pm, $10.
Club Passim The Arrogant Worms, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Classic Trax, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, no cover.
Harpers Ferry WBCN Stage Rage featuring Meet the Day, NBFB, 9 pm, $5.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
High Street Grille Little Joe Cook, 9 pm.
Johnny D's Cast Iron Filter, Great American, 9 pm, $8.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Lizard Lounge Club D'Elf, 9:30 pm, $7.
Matt Murphy's Round Midnight, 10:30 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: The Humanoids, Fast Actin' Fuses, the Cringe, Schleicher, 9 pm, $8, 18+. Downstairs: ...And You Will Know Us by the Trail of Dead, IQU, Forget Cassavetts, 8 pm, $14, 18+. Corner: Sarah Blacker, Aria Decline.
Midway Café Seabucket.
O'Brien's Ghosts of Pasha, Selfonix, Kung Fu Grip, Polyethylene, $6.
PA's Fleshpetal, Ben Shippie Band, Ksenia Mack.
Paradise Jump Little Children, Rugby Horse, 9 pm, $18.50.
Plough and Stars Jumpin Juba, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Roomful of Blues, 7:30 and 10 pm, $20.
Roxy Yonder Mountain String Band, Darrell Scott, 7 pm, $20.
Ryles Jazz Club Greg Abate and Friends, 8:30 pm, $12.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Toad The Ken Clark Organ Trio, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Self-Righteous Brothers, 9:15 pm; BCCamplight, 10:15 pm; The Color Bars, 11:15 pm; Joey Sweeney of the Trouble with Sweeney, 12:15 am, $7.
The Western Front Frequency 7, 9 pm, $5.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Trio, 9:30-close, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Geoffrey Filbey presents Salon: Music and Poetry, 7 pm-12 am, $7;
ZuZu Anti-Love Project, 11 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22

Abbey Lounge Jennifer C
Connor, 9 pm; Choo Choo L
Rouge, 9:45 pm; the Anti
etam, 10:45 pm; the In Ou
11:45 pm, $5-$7.
Asgard Sunset with Ryal
McHugh.
The Attic Caroline Guldē
Parkview.
Avalon Social Distortion
Tiger Army, the Explosion,
pm, $25.25.
Axis Dogfight, September Tw
light, Haloburn, No December
6 pm, $10.
Bill's Bar American Made,
pm, $8
Black Horse Tavern Alan &
the Alligators, 9:30 pm, n
cover.
The Black Rose Tony O'Rior
dan, 10:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Rusy Scot
5:30 pm, no cover
The Burren Swingin' John
sons, 10 pm.
Cambridge Center for Adult
Education Breast Cancer Benefit: Karen Rives with
Jim Rice on piano, 8 pm, $15.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers,
pm.
Club Passim Teddy Goldstein, Jason Myles Goss, 8
pm, $14.
Common Ground Joint Chiefs, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Shock Treatment, 8:30 pm, n
cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Accent.
The Harp The Catunes, 10:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Cracktorch, the Spaceshots, Brett
Rosenberg Problem, Rocketscience, $10.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5 pm; Say When, 9 pm.
Johnny D's Mamadou, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton, 5-7 pm.
Kirkland Café Johnny Carlevale & the Broken
Rhythm Boys; the RPM's; the Undertows; Micky
Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lizard Lounge Amun Ra, Bourbon Princess, 9:30
pm.
Matt Murphy's D.J. Yamin, 10 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: SeepeopleS, Lemonstone, 9
pm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Revelation Theory, The
Underwater, Jonas Complex, Planeside, 8 pm, $9,
18+. Corner: Raisin Hill.
Midway Café Driftwood Citizen.
Milky Way Pretty the Boat, Jordan Carp, Annie
Clark, Quickrelease, 9 pm, $9.
Mr. Dooley's Inchicore.
O'Brien's Scuba, Ara Vora, Bodhi, Audrey Can't
Die, $6.
Paradise Adam Ezra Group, Fooled By April, Furvis,
8 pm, $12, 18+.
PA's The Skating Club, the Sanguine, the Honored
Guests, Boy in Static.
Parris Flavor, 10 pm, $5-$10.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 6-8 pm; Route 44,
9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Kenny Werner, 9 pm, $20.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, n
cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Exit Clov, 9:15 pm; Waking
Vision Trio, 10:15 pm; Seneca, 11:15 pm; Moon-
raker, 12:15 am, $10
The Western Front Typhoon Ferri, 9 pm, $5.
Wonder Bar Harold Layne Trio, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Henry, 7-9pm, $8; Rob Chaldeo,
9:30 pm-12:30 am, $10.
ZuZu Latin Night with Gian Carlo Buscaglia, 11
pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 7 pm.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23

Abbey Lounge The Dents, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
Asgard Named by Strangers.
Avalon Le Tigre, Gravy Train, Cannonball Jane, 7
pm, $15.25.
Bill's Bar Sugar Boot, 8 pm, $8.
Black Horse Tavern Typhoon Ferri, 9:30 pm, n
cover.
The Black Rose Jim Coyle, 4 pm; Tony O'Riordan,
10:30 pm.
The Burren Jim Ambrose Band, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers,
pm.
Club Passim Flynn, Stuart Ferguson, 8 pm, $14.
Common Ground Ten Mile Tide, $4.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm, no cover.



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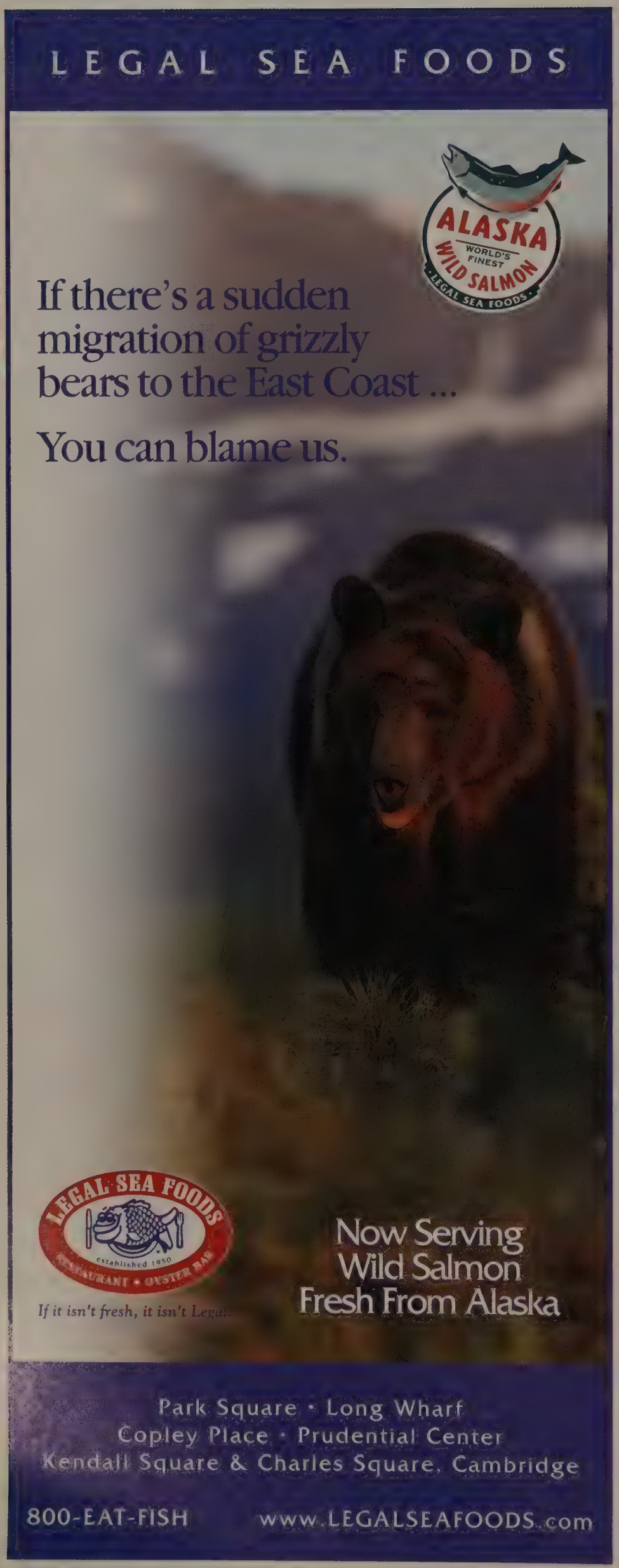
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ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Better Than Ezra, Pat McGee Band Dec. 5, Avalon (617-931-2000).
The Donnas, the Von Bondies Nov. 30, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Everclear Nov. 10, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
John Fogerty Nov. 16, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Percy Hill Nov. 13, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Bruce Hornsby Nov. 5, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Jimmy Eat World Nov. 6, Avalon (617-931-2000).
G. Love & Special Sauce Nov. 27, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Marilyn Manson Nov. 26, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Medeski, Martin & Wood Dec. 2, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Megadeth Nov. 13, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Lou Rawls Nov. 17, 19 and 20, Scullers Jazz Club (617-562-4111).
Johnny Winter Nov. 19, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Jay-Z, R. Kelly Nov. 14, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).

The Green Dragon Tavern Freeze Pop.
The Harp Darik and the Funbags, 10:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Harpers Ferry The Knot, 8 pm, $8.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm.
Johnny D's Corey Harris, 9:45 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown Reggae Nights with Bobbie Steelz & Moon.
Kinsale Brick Park.
Kirkland Café Tomorrow's Remedy, Bettersweet, Russell Wolff, Leon Rich Band, $5.
Lizard Lounge The Alienist Outfit, Constants in Breaking, Appomattox, Codetta, 9:30 pm, $8.
Matt Murphy's Andy Voelker, 10 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: The Lyres, Muck and the Mires, Triple Thick, Thee Monkey Butlers, 9 pm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Boston Rising 2.0 with Baby Strange, the Charms, Emergency Music, 8 pm, $9, 18+. Corner: Chris Wagner.
Midway Café The Coachmen.
Mr. Dooley's Inchicore.
O'Brien's 18 Wheels of Justice, Bipolarcoaster, Broadzilla, Bottlefight, $6.
Paradise Stephen Kellogg, Braddigan, 9 pm, $12, 18+.
Parris Flavor, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's Rock Bottom.
Plough and Stars Down Dog, 5 pm; One Thin Dime, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Yoron Israel and Higher Standard, 9 pm, $12.
Scullers Jazz Club Tuck and Patti, 8 and 10:30 pm, $22.
Somerville Theatre Richard Shindell, 7:30 pm, $22-$24.
Tír na nÓg Three Day Threshold.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 7 pm; Molly Coddle, Guitarzan, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Vitamin-D, 9 pm; Garvey J, 11 pm; Paula Kelley Orchestra Farewell to Boston Show, 12 am, $8
The Western Front Hot Like Fire, 9 pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Trio, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Nando Michelin Piano Trio, 7-9 pm, $10, The Galactic Underground Halloween Circus, 9:30 pm-12 am, $10
ZuZu Soul le lu jah, 11 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 7 pm.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24

All-Asia Café Songwriter series with Christie Leigh, 5 pm, $5.
The Attic The Coalboilers.
Bill's Bar Dub Station, 8 pm, $8
The Black Rose Jim Coyle, 4 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz Brunch with Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30 am, no cover
The Burren Singer/songwriter series with Danielle, 8 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Trina Hamlin, Chris O'Brien, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover.
FleetCenter Metallica, Godsmack, 7 pm, sold out.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Hennessy's Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe, 9 am-1 pm.
Johnny D's Jazz Brunch with Matt Dorko & Larry Kukers, 9 am-2:30 pm, no cover
Kennedy's Midtown Irish Jazz Trio, 12-3 pm; Julia Lloyd.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio, 7 pm, $5.
Matt Murphy's Bud E. Green, 10 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: The Briefs, NY Relix, Suspect Device, 9 pm, $10, 18+. Downstairs: Sunburned Hand of the Man, Cul De Sac, Keith Fullerton Whitman, Third Border, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
O'Brien's Jones, $5.
Paradise Sondre Lerche, the Golden Republic, 8 pm, $14, 18+.
Plough and Stars Cahill, 5 pm; the Coachmen, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday jazz brunch with Steve Rochinski, 10 am, no cover.
Scullers Jazz Club Tuck and Patti, 7 and 9 pm, $22.
Somerville Theatre Willy Claflin Live, 7 pm, $19.50.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.
Toad The David "Goody" Goodrich Trio, 7 pm, no cover; Ry Cavanaugh, Sean Staples, Dinty Child, Jimmy Fitting, Kimon Kirk, Billy Beard, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12-2 pm; the Marshall Wood Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Waterpistol, 9:15pm; VintageRadio, 10:15pm, $5
Zeitgeist Gallery Saxophonist Eliot Gattegno, 1:30-2:30pm, $5.
ZuZu The Revival Preachers, 10 pm, no cover 21+.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 25

The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's open mike, 8 pm; Liz Carlisle & Eric Merrill, 9:30 pm.
Dick's Last Resort Pat Funk, 7:20 pm, no cover.
FleetCenter Metallica, Godsmack, 7 pm, $55-$75.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Lizard Lounge Pan Nine's Ninth Anniversary, 9 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Maeve.
Middle East Upstairs: The Silver Lining, Leave the Body, Plan B for the Type A's, 9 pm, $8, 18+. Downstairs: Mouse on Mars, Ratatat, Junior Boys, 8 pm, $14, 18+. Corner: Roger Nicholson hosts open mike night, 10 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's Adam Ghory Band, Escuela, Silent Service, $6.
Paradise De la Soul, Butta Verses, 7 pm, $22. 18+.
PA's Tapes 'n' Tapes.
Plough and Stars Beek, Rhodes & Jefferies, 9:30 pm.
Tír na nÓg Mando Mania.
Toad Shwang, Anita Suhanin, 7 pm, no cover; the Tim Gearan Band, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub The Marshall Wood Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Tsongas Arena Keith Urban, Katrina Elam, 7:30 pm, $29.50-$35.
T.T. the Bear's Place Porsches on the Autoban, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Fringe, 10 pm-1 am, $10.
ZuZu Eleni Mandell, Milo Jones, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Stephen Spungin, 9 pm.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26

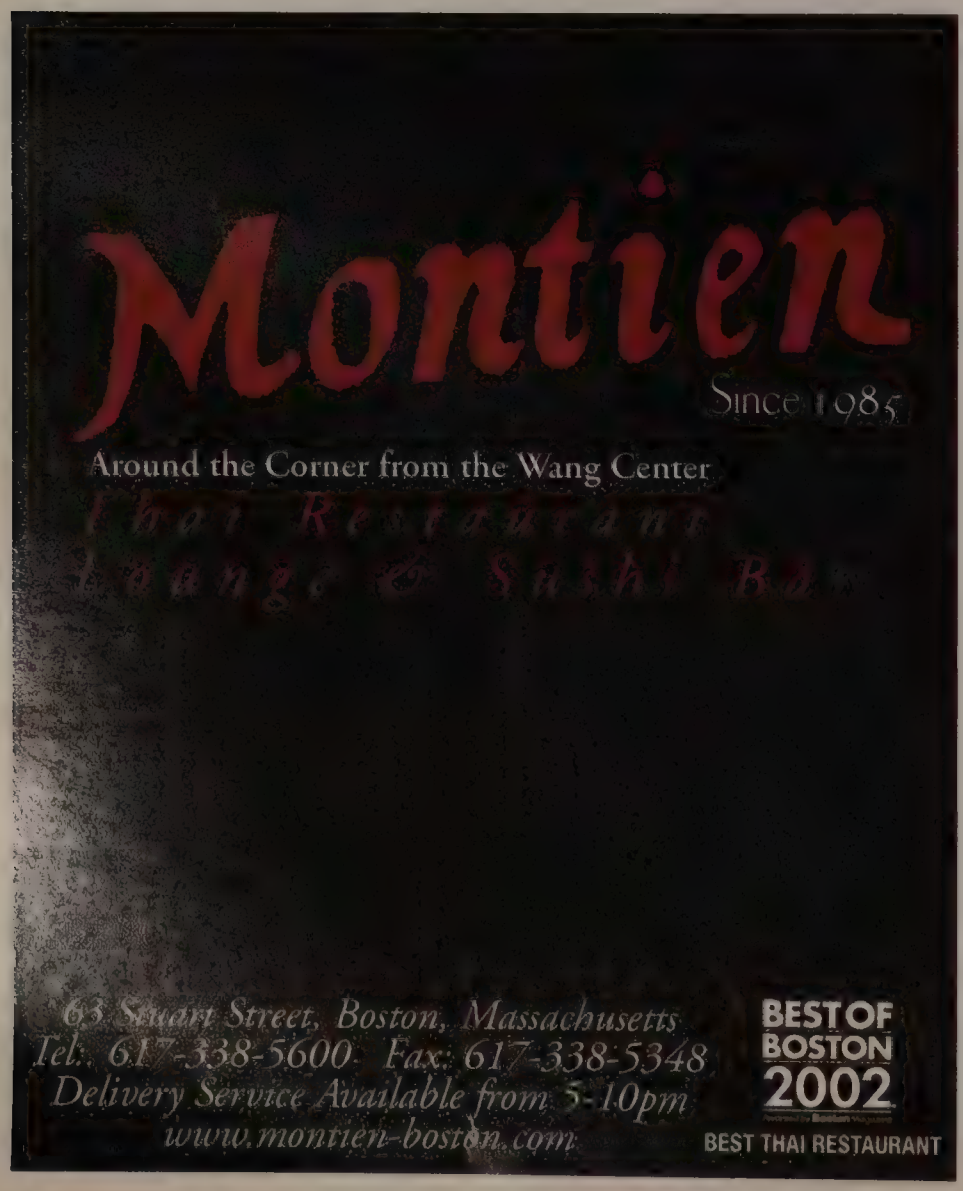
Avalon Steve Earle and the Dukes, Allison Moorer, 8 pm, $20.25. 18+.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30pm.
The Burren Open mike with Hugh McGowan, 8 pm.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm; The Crooked Jades, 10 pm.
Club Passim Open mike with Peter Kastner, 7 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Pat Funk, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Jess Tardy, Noam Weinstein, 8:30 pm, $8.
Kennedy's Midtown Michael Larson.
Kinsale Tom Courtney.
Lizard Lounge Shivaree, 7:30 pm, no cover; Jeffrey Simmons and the Symptoms, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's Public House led by Geoff Scott, 10 pm.


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Middle East Upstairs: Black Tape for a Blue Girl, Plumeral, Cabiria, 9 pm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: Mortician, Akercocke, Vehemence, Watchmaker, Dimentianon, Porphyria, 8 pm, $15, 18+. Corner: Noche Mexicana with Gustavo & Andres, 10 pm, $2.
O'Brien's Tristan Da Cunha, Guillermo Sexo, $6.
Paradise Third World, Keith Reggae Hurlock, 8 pm, $25, 18+; Lounge: One Ring Zero, Rachael Cantu, 8:30 pm, $10.
Plough and Stars Josh Lederman, 9:30 pm.
Redline Lifted, 9 pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Fernando Brandao Quartet, 8:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Matt Gordy Quintet, 8 and 10 pm, $12.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
Toad Christian McNeill, 7 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Gulf, 9 pm; the Pheromones, 9:50 pm; Soft Caustic, 10:40 pm; Jay McCarrol Band, 11:30 pm, $5
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Duo, 9:30-Close, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Harry & the Potters, 7-9 pm, $5; Vetiver, Viking Moses, and the Shrinking Islands, 9:30 pm-1 am, $9.
ZuZu Matters and Dunaway, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Todne Texeira, 8 pm.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27

Abbey Lounge Gato Malo, Girating Rag Bag, Circus, 9:30 pm, $5-$7.
Asgard $240 Worth a Puddin'.
Avalon Nintendo Fusion Tour featuring Story of the Year, My Chemical Romance, Letter Kills, Anberlin, 7 pm, $19.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover
The Burren Nights in Wyoming, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Rachael Davis & Friends, 8 pm, $12.
Common Ground Chad Perrone, 8 pm, $8.
Dick's Last Resort Music Schmusic, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Harpers Ferry RAQ, 8 pm, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson Band.
Johnny D's Leroy Thomas, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie.
Lizard Lounge The Dennis Brennan Band, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Dave Thomas and Two Pale Boys, the Yummy Cakes, Sparrowhawk, 89 pm, $12, 18+. Downstairs: Rasputina, Skeleton Key, 8 pm, $12, 18+.
Milky Way Lyrical and Lifted, 9 pm, $5.
Mr. Dooley's Corporate Challenge.
O'Brien's My First Handgun, the Underdogs, Sleepypisser, Thunderhole, Ex Infernus, the Push Rods, $5.
Paradise Toby Lightman, Louque, 8 pm, $10. 18+.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Dizzy Gillespie Alumni Allstars, 7:30 and 10 pm, $30.
Tír na nÓg The Benders.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Garagedogs, 9:10 pm; Count Me Outs, 10 pm; Mike Watt & the Secondmen, 10:55 pm, $12.
Wonder Bar Joe McMahon Duo, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Ayn Inserto Jazz Orchestra, 7-9 pm, $7; Jazz Jam, 10 pm-1 am, no cover.
ZuZu Leslie and the Lys, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Leo Blanco, 8 pm.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28

Asgard Annette Farrington.
The Attic Veneer.
Axis The Suicide Machines, 6:30 pm, $12.
Berklee Performing Arts Center Judith Owen, Richard Thompson, 7:30 pm, $30.50-$36.
Black Horse Tavern Matt Chase, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Euegen Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover
The Burren Swingin' Johnsons, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge The Reaganomics, 9 pm.
Club Passim Peter Mulvey, Eilen Jewell, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Pi Alley, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Harpers Ferry Matt Wertz, Suspect, Dave Barnes, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
High Street Grille Little Joe Cook, 9 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Kirkland Café Henry, Hyphens, Blacklisted, Kloroform Kidz, $5.
Lizard Lounge Amy Correia, 9:30 pm, $7.
Matt Murphy's Round Midnight Jam Session, 10:3 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: Brian Jonestown Massacre the Dears, Auto Interiors, 9 pm, $10, 18+. Downstairs: Yerba Buena, the Dana Fuchs Band, 8 pm $25, 18+.
O'Brien's High Rocktane, $5.
PA's The Stairs, Essen West.
Paradise Joseph Arthur, 9 pm, $10. 18+.
Plough and Stars The Armadillos, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Dizzy Gillespie Alumni Allstars, 7:3 and 10 pm, $30.
Ryles Jazz Club Bruce Gertz Quartet, Jerry Bergonzi 8:30 pm, $12.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Toad Todd Thibaud, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Western Front R&B Showcase, 9 pm, $6.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Trio, 9:30-Close, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Sofia Koutsovitis Quintet, 9:3 pm-12 am, $7.
ZuZu Shumai, the Metric Mile, 11 pm, no cover 21+.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29

Abbey Lounge The Drags, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
Asgard Sunset with Ryan McHugh.
The Attic The Gary Backstrom Band.
Avalon Bad Religion, Rise Against, From First to Last, 6:30 pm, $20.25.
Bill's Bar Michigan Blacksnake, 8 pm, $8
Black Horse Tavern Groove Authority, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Euegene Byrne, 9:30 pm; Curragh Fancy, 10:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Rusty Scott, 5:30pm, no cover
The Burren Classic Trax, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Peter Mulvey, David Goodrich, 7 pm, $15.
Common Ground Swingin' Johnsons, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Halloween Bash, 7 pm, no cover.
Fleet Center R.E.M., Angela McCluskey, 7:30 pm, $35-$65.
The Green Dragon Tavern Incadence.
The Harp The Benderz, 10:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Beatlejuice, 8 pm, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5 pm; Felix Brown. 9 pm.
Johnny D's Lovewhip, 9:45 pm, $8 .
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton, 5-7 pm.
Kirkland Café Max Funch Instituit; Girl on Top; Bathtub Saints; Micky Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lizard Lounge Vinyl Skyway, Lemonpeeler, 9:30 pm, $7.
Matt Murphy's Toussaint Live, 10 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: The Grift, Great American 9 pm, $10, 18+. Downstairs: Jedi Mind Tricks, 7L & Esoteric, Outerspace, 8 pm, $15, 18+. Corner: Jazz with Spectrums.
Milky Way Halloween Party with Incus, Ghandharva, Mirror Reveals, 9 pm, $8.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy and Tony.
O'Brien's The Walking Corpses, Shortfilm, Distinguished Members, Mad Man Films, $6.
Paradise Vanessa Carlton, 9 pm, $15, 18+.
Parris Split Decision, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's Measles Mumps Rubella, Psychic Ills, Shore Leave, SPF Alot.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 6-8 pm; Stan Martin, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Dizzy Gillespie Alumni Allstars, 7:30 and 10 pm, $30.
Ryles Jazz Club Mose Allison, 9 pm, $20.
Somerville Theatre Tinariwen, 8 pm, $21.50 $27.50.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Clickers, 9:15 pm; Circle & Square, 10:15pm; the Detachment Kit, 11:15 pm; Minus the Bear, 12:15 am, $10
The Western Front Lifted Halloween Bash, 9 pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Harold Layne Trio, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Jerry Vovcsko Jazz Journeymen, 6:30-8:30 pm, $8.
ZuZu Gian Carlo Buscaglia, 11 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 7 pm.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30

Abbey Lounge The Coffin Lids, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
Asgard The RPM's.
Avalon The Dresden Dolls, the Tiger Lilies, Count Zero, 5:30, $15.25.
Axis Subhumans, the Unseen, 5:30 pm, $10.



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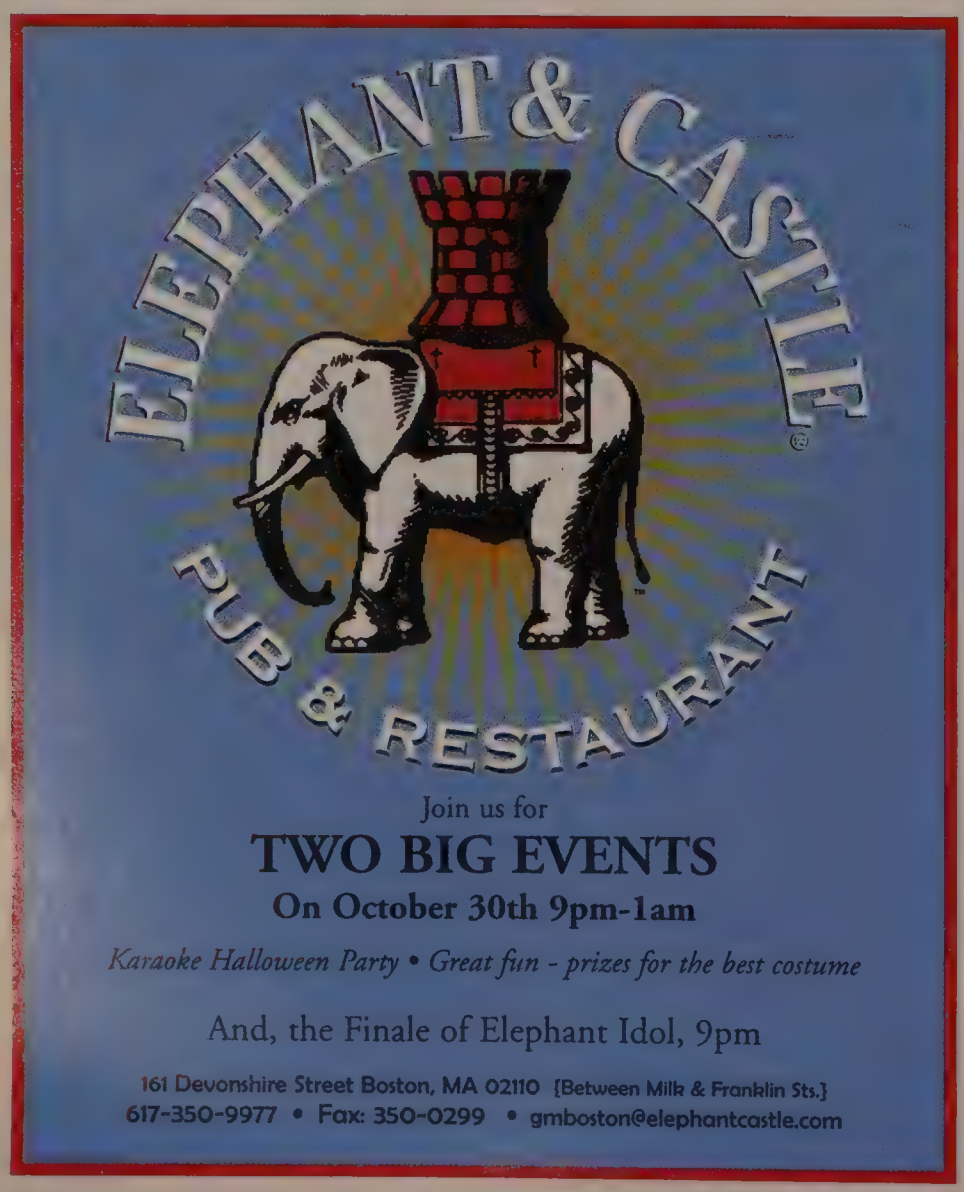




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Bill's Bar Moo Tycoon, 8 pm, $8.
Black Horse Tavern Blacksole, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Bobby Falls, 4 pm; Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm; Curragh Fancy, 10:30 pm.
The Burren The T Band, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Peter Calo & Stack, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Big '80s, 8:30 pm, no cover.
FleetCenter JAM'N 94.5 Monster Jam '04, 6 pm, $55-$94.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swingin Johnsons.
The Harp The Benderz, 10:30 pm, $10, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Mr. Brownstone, Hair Supply, 8 pm, $15, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm.
Johnny D's Superhoney, 9:45 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown Reggae Nights with Bobbie Steelz & Moon.
Kinsale Velvet Jones.
Lizard Lounge Shaun Wolf Wortis and the Gato Malo Orchestra, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Matt Murphy's TBC.
Middle East Upstairs: The Lost Trailers, Will Dailey, Golden West Motor Lodge, 9 pm, $10, 18+. Downstairs: The New Deal, 8 pm, $20, 18+. Corner: Iowa 80.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy and Tony.
O'Brien's Lucifuge, the Whoors, Ho-Ag, Malachi Constant, $6.
Orpheum Tears for Fears, Dirty Vegas, 8 pm, $29.50-$39.50.
Paradise The Yellow Umbrella Tour feat. K's Choice, Skills of Ortega, Jen Foster, 9 pm, $13. 18+.
Parris Split Decision, 10 pm, $5-$10.
Plough and Stars Tom Hagerty & Friends, 5 pm; Eilen Jewell Band, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Dizzy Gillespie Alumni Allstars, 7:30 and 10 pm, $30.
Ryles Jazz Club Mose Allison, 9 pm, $20.
Tír na nÓg Jodie Grind.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase 7 pm. no cover; David Johnston, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub The Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The So & So's, 10 pm; Bill Janovitz, 12 am, $10
The Western Front ReZarection, 9 pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Trio, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Kevin Corzette with Color & Talea and Bajuco, 7-9pm, $10; Mike Stavitz Organ Trio, 9:30 pm-12 am, $8.
ZuZu Soul le lu jah, 11 pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Theresa Inez, 7 pm.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31

All-Asia Café Songwriter series with Christie Leigh, 5 pm, $5.
The Attic The Coalboilers.
Axis Big D and the Kids Table, Kicked in Head, Lost City Angels, A Wilhelm Scream, the Call Up, 6 pm, $15.
Berklee Performance Center Marcel Khalife, 8 pm, $25-$55.
Bill's Bar Dub Station, 8pm, $8.
The Black Rose Bobby Folkes, 4pm; Eugene Byrne, 9:30pm.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz Bruch with the Ronnie Ron Duo, 11:30am, no cover
The Burren Singer/songwriter series with Danielle, 8 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Kate Klim, Bridget Matros, Chris O'Brien and Julie Rosenthal, 8 pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Hennessy's Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe, 9 am-1 pm.
Johnny D's Jazz Brunch with Tom Pendergast 9 am-2:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Irish Jazz Trio, 12-3 pm; Julia Lloyd.
Matt Murphy's Team Satan.
Middle East Upstairs: The Strangemen, Rock City Crimewave, Pelt, 9 pm, $9, 18+. Downstairs: the Information, the Cignal, the Bon Savants, Emergency Music, 8 pm, $10, 18+.
O'Brien's UWA, $6.
Paradise Rich Robinson, Antigone Rising, Elephant House, 8 pm, $14, 18+.
Plough and Stars Hatrack Gallagher & the Ric Maure Trio, 5 pm; the Cranktones, 9:30 pm.
Roxy Particle, Trick or Treat, 8 pm, $20.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday Jazz Brunch with Yoko Miwa, 10 am, no cover.
Sky Bar Amber Spyglass, Lucretia's Daggers, Lilac Ambush, RobotZen, $8, 8 pm.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Toad The David "Goody" Goodrich Trio, 7 pm, cover; Ry Cavanaugh, Sean Staples, Dinty Chi Jimmy Fitting, Kimon Kirk, Billy Beard, 10 pm, cover.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12-2 pm; Ch Flory Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Rock Stone, 9:05 pm; Val E mich, 10 pm; Buck 65, 11 pm, $10
Zeitgeist Gallery New Yiddish Music with Khev 7 pm-12 am, $7.
ZuZu Big Digits, Heloise and the Savoir Fa Dancers, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1

The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30pm.
Club Passim Open mike with Dave Dersham, 7 p $5.
Dick's Last Resort Brian Locher, 7:20 pm, no cov FleetCenter Avril Lavigne, 7:30 pm, $32-$37.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Johnny D's Riot Act open Mike, 7 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Turing Machine, 9 pm, $ 18+. Downstairs: KMFDM, 8 pm, $22, 18+. Corn Roger Nicholson hosts open mike night, 10 pm, cover.
Paradise Ray Lamontagne, Charlotte Martine, pm, $12, 18+.
PA's Wrangler Brutes, Fat Day, Transistor, Transist
Regattabar Dave Stryker, Steve Slagle Band, 7: and 10 pm, $15.
Top of the Hub Chris FloryTrio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Harry Gardner, 8:30 pm; Em Pilowa, 9:20 pm; Brendan Little, 10:10 pm, $3.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2

The Attic The Samples, 8 pm, $15.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm.
The Burren Open mike with Hugh McGowan, 8 p
Club Passim Rob Laurens, Lloyd Thayer, 8 pm, $1
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cov
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Kennedy's Midtown Michael Larson.
Middle East Upstairs: Roots of Creation, Prima Others, DL, 9 pm, $8, 18+. Downstairs: Southe Culture on the Skids, Dana Stewart & the O Howards, El Gringo, 8 pm, $13, 18+. Corner: Noc Mexicana with Gustavo & Andres, 10 pm, $3.
Paradise Pat Green, 8 pm, $16, 18+.
Redline Lifted, 9 pm, no cover.
Regattabar The Spirit of Django: Django Reinhar Festival, 7:30 and 10 pm, $22.50.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Artist Showcase, 7:30 pm, $
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cov
T.T. the Bear's Place Aloud, 9 pm; Tremulant, 9: pm, $5
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Duo, 9:30 pm, no cover.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
All-Asia Café *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-49 1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Bosto (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Lin to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286 MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Bravo at the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3474). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, *42 Bratt St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). MBTA: Red Line Harvard.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617- 354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*

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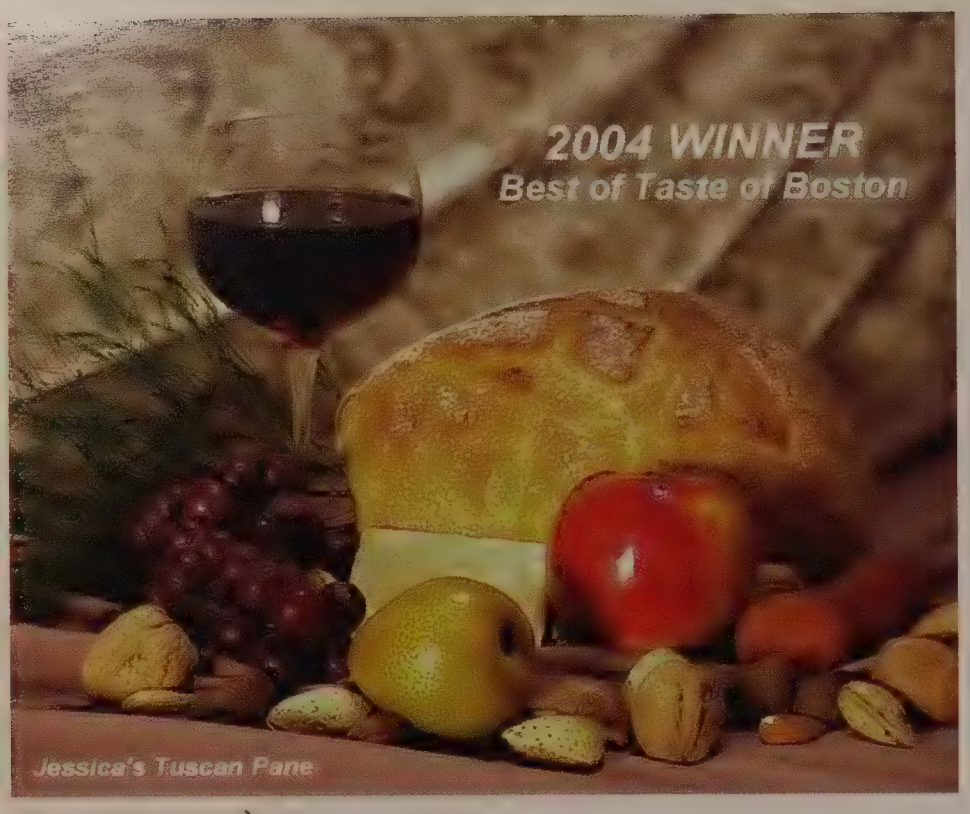
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Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
First and Second Church *66 Marborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Forsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetary, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston (617-524-3354).*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harpers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
High Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-266-9095). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (617-267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278).*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (781-424-0900). www. newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Guest conductor Ludovic Morlot leads the NEC Symphony Orchestra in works by Stravinsky, Haydn and Shostakovich.

World Music Series

Brandeis University, Slosberg Recital Hall, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3395). www.brandeis.edu/arts/abc/. 7 pm. $10-$20. The Orchid Ensemble performs works inspired by Persian, Indian and Jewish music.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21

Community Music Center of Boston

Allen Hall, Boston Center for the Arts, 34 Warren Ave., Boston. (617-482-7494). www.cmcb.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 7 pm. Free. At the New Gallery Concert, pianist Sarah Bob leads a program of music by Pozzi Escot, Arvo Part, Steve Reich, Philip Glass and others.

Gessner-Schocken Concert Series

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Gardner St., Cambridge. (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free, tickets required. Pianist and Longy president Kwang-Wei Kim performs works by Schumann and Schubert in the series' opening concert.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (781-424-0900). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. William Drury leads the NEC Jordan Winds in performances of works by Michael Tippett, Carl Reinecke and Peter Child.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$105. James Levine presents Mahler's Symphony No. 8 at the opening night gala for his inaugural season as the BSO's music director.

MIT Symphony Orchestra

Kresge Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-452-2394). www.mit.edu/arts. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. $5. Dante Anzolini directs works from Mozart and Lou Harrison.

Music at the Immaculate

Jesuit Urban Center, 775 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-536-8440). www.immaculateboston.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm. $10. Korean organist Tong-soon Kwan performs.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$105. Same program as Oct. 2.

Music for Viols & Friends

Lindsay Chapel, First Church Congregational, [illegible] Garden St., Cambridge (617-776-0692). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $14-$18. The El Dorado Ensemble performs 17th-century English dances and fantasias by William Brade, Robert Johnson, John Coperario and John Jenkins.

SARASA Chamber Ensemble

Friends Meeting House, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge. (617-492-4758). www.sarasamusic.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $12-$15. SARASA Chamber Ensemble performs works from Bach, Buxtehude, Telemann and Kuhnau.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24

Bank of America Celebrity Series

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $32-$67. Pianist Maurizio Pollini performs works by Beethoven and Chopin.

Community Music Center of Boston

Allen Hall, Boston Center for the Arts, 34 Warren Ave., Boston. (617-482-7494). www.cmcb.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 3 pm. Free. Faculty members perform a tribute to Linwood and Sarah Scrivener featuring music from Handel, Mozart and Bach.

Emmanuel Music

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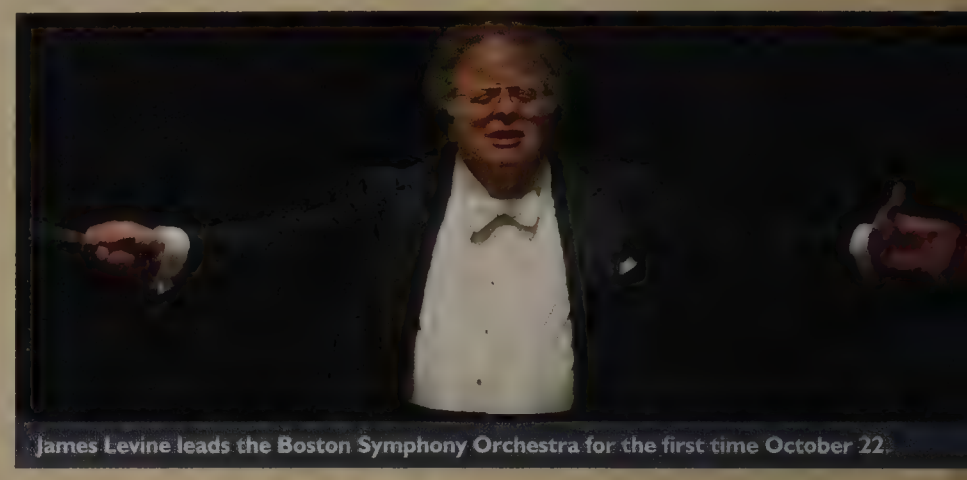
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Preview

A New Bigshot at the BSO

Conductor makes long-awaited Boston debut.



James Levine leads the Boston Symphony Orchestra for the first time October 22.

Finally, he's here. James Levine, The Boston Symphony Orchestra's new music director, takes the podium October 22 to open his first eight-week series of concerts as leader of the home band. The BSO has been without a permanent conductor since Seiji Ozawa's departure two years ago (Levine's prior conducting commitments necessitated the wait).

The shift from Ozawa to Levine means more than trading a shaggy mop-top for a stupendous afro. For one, the orchestra will sit differently onstage. Under Ozawa, all the lower strings—violas, cellos, and basses—sat together stage left, with the first and second violins stage right. Levine hates that arrangement: "You sit there and hear this huge low *waaaaah* coming from one side of the stage," he said in the press conference announcing his appointment.

Instead, Levine places the basses behind the firsts stage right, moves the violas and cellos to the inside, and places the seconds to his right on the outside of the stage. The sound is noticeably different; the bass lines play more of a supporting role, and the second violins don't have to fight their way through a wall of sound to be heard clearly.

Another noticeable change will be in the performance repertory. While Ozawa was committed to new compositions, Levine is fanatic about it. One concert in March features two world premieres, unheard of by any standard. And in addition to brand new works, Levine has also programmed lots of early-20th-century repertory, "to show people where contemporary music comes from," as he puts it. So get used to plenty of Hindemith, Stravinsky and Schoenberg—and not much Beethoven (only two works the entire season). Not that it's affected ticket sales: Levine's first week is sold out, and the rest of his opening run is nearly so.

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-638-9339). www.bso.org. —Keith Powers

Line to Arlington. 4 pm. $10-$60. Emmanuel Music, under the direction of Craig Smith, continues its five-year series featuring the chamber, vocal and piano music of Schumann.

Emmanuel Music: Bach Cantata Series
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 am. Free. Emmanuel Music presents Bach's Cantata BWV 135.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-278-5102). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 1:30 pm. $5-$20. The Sunday Concert Series presents a concert devoted to the music of American composer Charles Ives.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: Green Line to Newton Highlands. 3 pm. Free. Soprano and Celtic harpist Kathryn Mannyng and pianist William Merril perform.

Newton Symphony Orchestra
Rashi Auditorium, 15 Walnut Park, Newton Corner. (617-965-2555). www.newtonsymphony.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Center. 7:30 pm. $25-$30. The orchestra's 39th season opens with a program that includes Barber's *First Essay for Orchestra* and Dvorak's *Symphony No. 8.*

Somerville Museum
Somerville Museum, corner of Central Street and Westwood Road, Somerville (617-666-9810). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 3 pm. $10-$15. See Oct. 23 Music for Viols & Friends listing for a program description.

The Vox Consort
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 15 St. Paul St., Brookline. (617-281-8569). www.voxconsort.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 4 pm. $12-$2 The Vox Consort presents an all-female-soloi program of cantatas and concerti from the B roque era.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 25

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (781-4 0900). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The NEC Co cert Choir and Chamber Singers present a progr that includes Bartok's *Four Slovak Folk Songs* a Bach's *Jesu, Meine Freude.*

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26

Boston Conservatory
Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-922 www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line Hynes/ICA. 8 pm. Free. Czech pianist Radosl Kvapil performs works by Dvorak, Smetana, S and Janácek.

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals
King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-2 2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or B Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm. $3 suggested donati Riverside Brass performs music by Jeremiah Clar Paul Hindemith, Gabriel Faure, Giovanni Gabri and W.C. Handy.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (781-4 0900). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBT E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Guest co ductor Larry Rachleff directs the NEC Philharm nia in performances of Vaughan Williams' *Fanta on a Theme by Thomas Tallis*, Copland's *Appalach Spring* and Debussy's *La Mer.*

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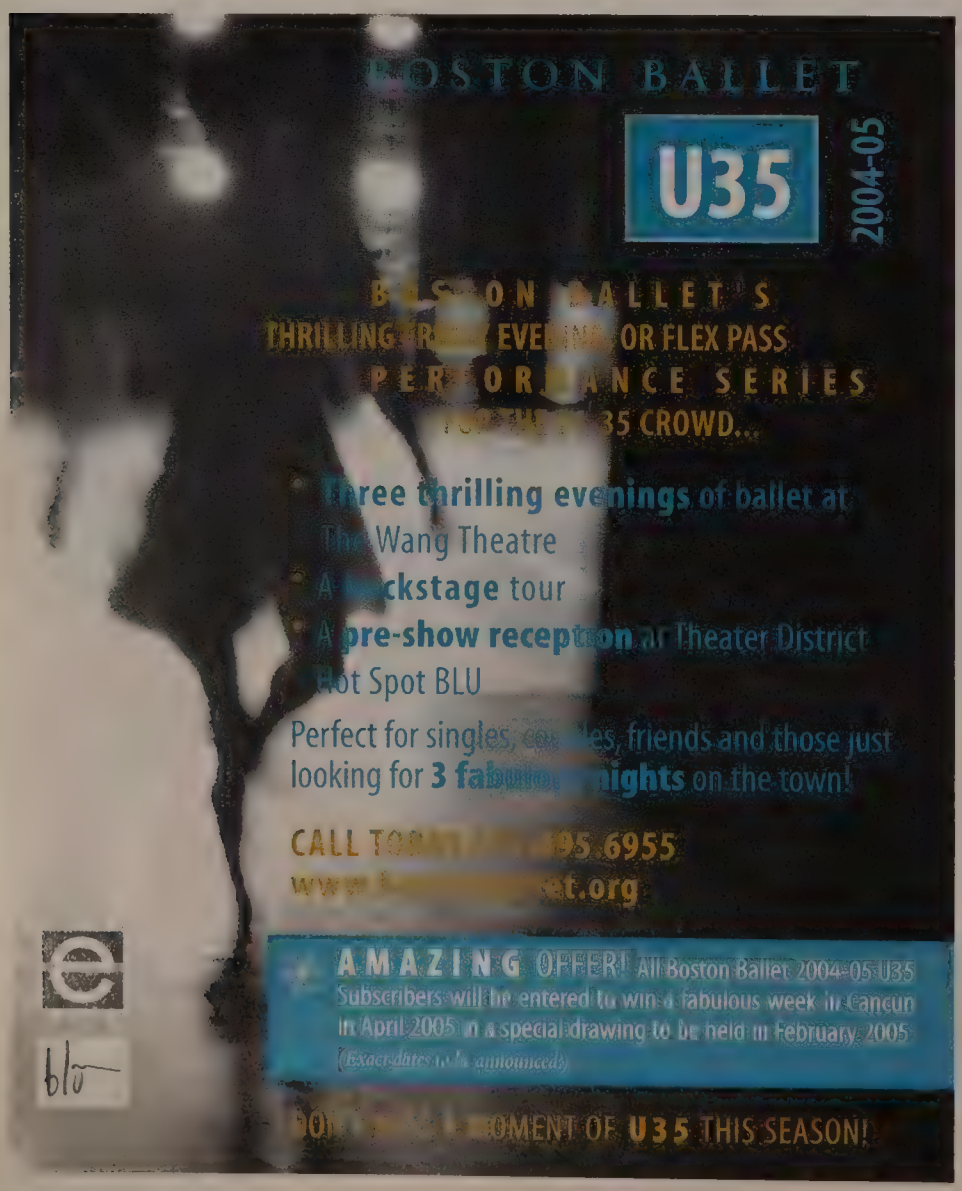
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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $27-$95. BSO Director James Levine presents this orchestra-only program featuring Stravinsky's ballet *The Rite of Spring*, Schoenberg's *Five Pieces for Orchestra*, Ligeti's *Lontano* and Mozart's Symphony No. 38 in D, K.504.

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (781-424-0900). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The NEC Jazz Orchestra performs Steve Lacy's *Precipitation Suite* and *Itinerary*.


Coro Alegro's Fall Concert takes place October 31 at Newbury Street's Church of the Convent.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29

Bank of America Celebrity Series

Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-482-6661). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $43-$53. The Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio presents a program of Beethoven, Shostakovich and Brahms.

Boston Modern Orchestra Project

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, Longy School of Music, 1 Follen St., Cambridge (617-363-0396). www.bmop.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $10-$25. The BMOP celebrates composer Bernard Rands' 70th birthday with a performace of his *Canti Trilogy* by soprano Janna Baty, tenor William Hite and bass Daniel Cole.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30 pm. $27-$95. Same program as Oct. 28.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30

Baroque Psalm Setting for Chorus and Strings

First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge. (617-349-1336) www.musicasacra.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $15-$40. Musica Sacra opens its 2004-2005 season with a concert of psalm texts set by Baroque composers.

Boston Conservatory Orchestra

Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-2222) www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 4 pm. Free. Bruce Hangen conducts the Boston Conservatory Orchestra in works by Barber and Bartok.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$105. Same program as Oct. 28.

The Dahlia Trio

The New School of Music, 25 Lowell St., Cambridge (617-492-8105) www.cambridgemusic.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Violinist Susanna Cortesio, cellist Katherine Kayaian and pianist Esther Ning Yau perform.

Longwood Symphony Orchestra

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.longwoodsymphony.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $15-$25. Jeffery Rink conducts a program that includes works from Elgar and Bizet.

Modern American Concert Series

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, Longy School of Music, 27 Gardner St., Cambridge. (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free, tickets required. Pianists Ludmila Lifson and Eda Shlyam perform works by Norman Dello Joio. Pianist Dave Bryant performs original works.

New England Philharmonic

Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-868-1222). www.nephilharmonic.org. MBTA: B Green Line to BU-East. 8 pm. $15-$25. This program includes works from Wagner, Berg and Tchaikovsky and features the first local performance of music from Nicholas Maw's 2002 opera based on the novel *Sophie's Choice*.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31

Coro Allegro Fall Concert

Church of the Convent, 67 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4011). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 3 pm. $15-$40. Coro Allegro performs Patricia Van Ness' *Requiem* with guest organist Michael Kleinschmid director of music at Trinity Church.

Emmanuel Music: Bach Cantata Series

Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (61 536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Gre Line to Arlington. 10 am. Free. Emmanuel Music pr sents Bach's Cantata BWV 29.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston (617-278-5102). www.gar nermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 1: pm. $5-$20. Same program as Oct. 24.

King's Chapel Concert Series

King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-22 2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or R Line to Park Street. 5 pm. $8-$12. Heinrich Chri tensen directs the King's Chapel Choir an Soloists in an a capella program titled Requie Aeternam.

Newton Free Library

330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.c newton.ma.us. MBTA: Green Line to Newton High lands. 2 pm. Free. Pianist Nathan Carterette perform

Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra

Sanders Theater, Harvard University, 45 Quincy St Cambridge (617-661-7067). www.proarte.or MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. $9-$45. Isaia Jackson conducts a program with works fro Haydn, Mozart, Britten and Ives, as well as Ha loween performances of James Stevenson's *The Le end of Sleepy Hollow* and PDQ Bach's *Eine Klei Nichtmusik*.

Vento Chiaro: Halloween Concert

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, Longy School Music, 27 Gardner St., Cambridge. (617-876-0956 www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pr $12, $6 w/costume. Vento Chiaro presents works Grieg, Bach, David Maslanka and Paquito D'Rive A reception follows.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1

New England Conservatory

Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsb ough St., Boston (781-424-0900). www.newengla conservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphon 8 pm. Free. Clarinetist Tod Palmer, cellist Paul Ka and members of the Borromeo String Quartet pe form Golijov's *Issac the Blind*.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2

All Souls' Requiem Mass

Church of the Advent, 30 Brimmer St., Boston (61 523-2377). www.theadvent.org. MBTA: Red Line Charles, Green Line to Arlington. 6:30 pm. Free. Edi Ho conducts the choir of the Church of the Adve in Pierre de Manchicourt's *Missa de Requiem*.

Bach Keyboard Project: Tuesdays with Sebastian

First Church Cambridge, 11 Garden St., Cambrid (617-661-0570). www.tuesdayswithsebastian.in MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $10 suggested d nation. Harpsichordist Christa Rakich and organi Peter Sykes continue their presentation of J. Bach's complete keyboard music.

King's Chapel Concert Series

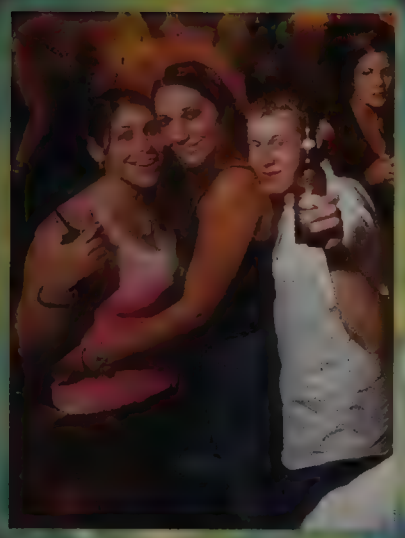
St. Mary's Chapel, Boston College (617-227-2155 www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green Line to BC pm. Donations accepted. Same program as Oct. 31

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals

King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-22 2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or R Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm. $3 suggested donatio Pentimento presents Orpheus Caledonius, a pr gram of music from 18th-century Scotland.

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Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $3, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Adilson spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJs spin R&B and hip-hop, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance salsa, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Scott Damgaard performs.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aria
Industry Tuesday Dance to hip-hop and R&B.

Big Easy
Temptation Tuesdays DJ B-Spin plays dance jams, 10 pm, 18+.

Boston Rocks
Smooth Groove Tuesday Old-school jams, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Soul'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spin hits from the 70s and 80s, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Orange DJs John Davis, Pat Fontes and Randy Deshaies bring the house music, and weekly guest DJs spin, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Deep Tones DJ Brynmore spins a mix of reggae, soul, funk, trance and acid jazz, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Night varies with an assortment of performances, dancers and themed events, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Havana Club Latin Dance Night A Latin dance night features an assortment of local DJs, 10 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Sensei spins hip-hop and R&B. Karaoke is also offered. 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Preview

You'll Find Him in Da Club

Boston DJ stays busy behind the tables.

It seems like most DJs these days can get by with, in the words of Beck, "two turntables and a microphone." But if that's the case, let's just hope that local spinner DJ Adilson's tables and mike are packed with the resiliency of the Energizer Bunny.



DJ Adilson can be seen each week at Axis, Rumor, Venue, Matrix and the Roxy.

The native Brazilian and 16-year Beantown resident has formed a strong hold on the local club scene, spinning on five nights at five different venues. Last month, he took over Static Mondays at Axis, one of the city's most popular gay nights.

"I always loved music growing up in Brazil," Adilson says, "but everyone always told me I had to do it with an instrument. I'm proving them wrong."

In addition to Axis, Adilson spins a Latino Alternative night at Rumor on Wednesdays and Brazilian Sundays at Venue and is the centerpiece of two of the city's most popular weekend hot spots, Fridays at Matrix and Saturdays at the Roxy. Both nights draw well over a 1,000 partiers each week.

"It's great," he says. "I never get bored because every night I'm playing to a different kind of crowd and spin a different style of music."

Of course he isn't bored going out every night and doing what he loves most, but don't hold your breath for night No. 6.

"Five is enough," Adilson laughs.

—Rich Levine

WEDNESDAYS

Aria
Lust DJ John Morris spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, $8, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins Greek and international tunes upstairs and a live reggae band plays downstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
British Accents Presents Starshape DJ Dave spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and funk, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
VIP Wednesdays Live performances every Wednesday hosted by DJ/producer Joe Bermudez spinning house and dance beats. 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up R&B, top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mercury Lounge DJs Nomadik and Timmy Allen host a night of soul, funk and house, 9 pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin house and techno, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
Chad LaMarsh performs solo acoustic, 8:30-11 pm. Beach Party with DJs, 11 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
International Wednesdays DJ JC is in the Latin Lounge; DJs Alex and Felix spin in the back, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Wacky Wednesdays Magic with Peter Gross, 6-9 pm, DJ Massi all night, no cover, 21+

Q
Violation Wednesdays Weekly guest DJs spin today's best music, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of dance and hip-hop, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays DJ Boogie Ba Do spins dub to start the party, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band brings R&B and dance to the main lounge, 9-11 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Martinez spins salsa, cumbia and merengue on one floor, while DJ Supreme spins a New York lounge set (hip-hop, R&B and rock covers) on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5..

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Walt spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; DJ Roger M and DJ Thanos spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men); 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Boston's Biggest College Hip-Hop Night DJs Caprice, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School College Night Old-school rap, funk and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Djs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
Karaoke with DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs spin upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Hip-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance and disco, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ghost spins international house and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursdays DJs Dubz and 40D spin reggae, R&B and hip-hop, no cover, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

I/D
Square One Thursdays DJs Dres and Wagz host a night of progressive dance music, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
Live band, 6 pm; DJ Massi, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran spin dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Doc spins the latest tunes, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Milky Way
Club Thursdays Rotating DJs spin dance music, 9 pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJs spin upbeat lounge music in the front, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Q
Hip-Hop Thursdays DJ Craig Smooth spins hip-hop all night long, 9 pm, $5 (ladies free), 21+.

The Rack
DJ Brian Roche Dance Party, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
Reunion Thursdays NGP All-Stars spin party classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali and Ross spin a mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
DJs Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons and dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ DonRico spins salsa, merengue and Latin pop and DJ Tegrem spins downtempo retro international, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip-hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Ladies Night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cover.

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old-school hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

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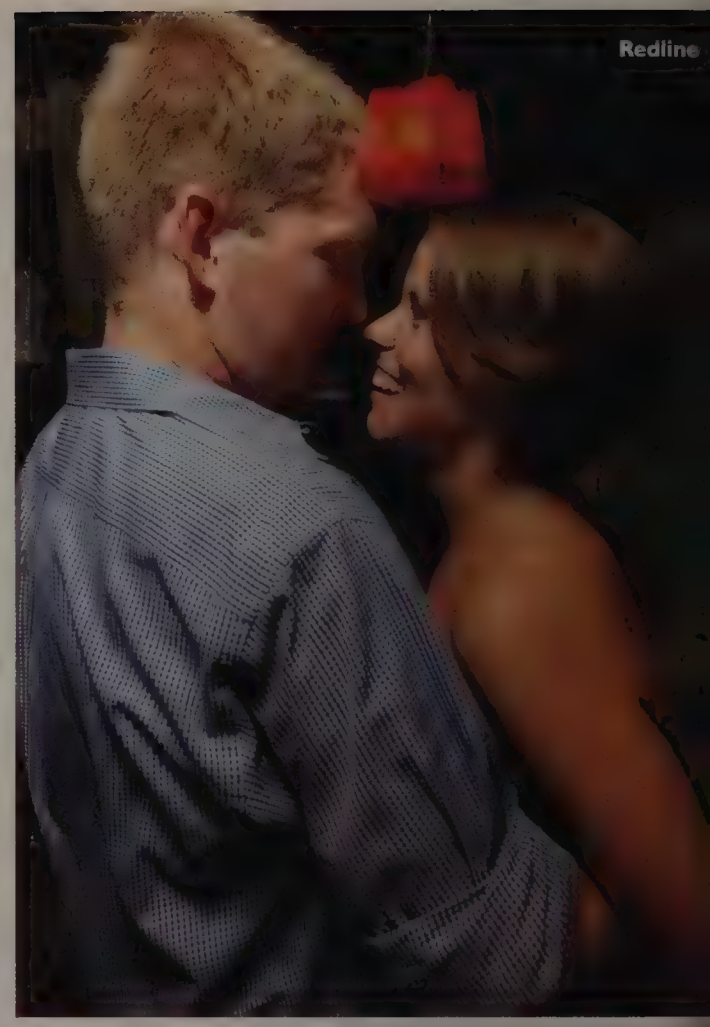
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FRIDAYS



An Tain
TGIF DJ Seano 5-9 pm; DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $5 after 10:30 pm, 21+.

Aria
Floss DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men); 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Avaland International DJs spin house, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top-40, 9pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
All Axis DJ Dru Nyce, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80s faves, along with Boston's best cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents a night of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and hip-hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal spins a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+, after 11 pm.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
DJ Steve plays house and old-school music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
Persuassion DJ Sun One spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Enormous Room
All-Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everything from hip-hop and house to funk and soul, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs spin high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Angirsano spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •Oct. 22: The Catunes. •Oct. 29: The Benderz.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs Big Daddy spins, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins house and old favorites, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before midnight, 21+.

La Boom
Fashion Fridays Firefly Promotions hosts this fashion night featuring DJ Rick Naples, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

Level
110 Productions hosts a party with progressive hous music, hip-hop and top-40. 11 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Adilson of Roxy Saturdays spins high-energ house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

McGann's
DJ Eireann spins dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Palace
•**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin danc music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willi D, ladies, free; men, $5 before 10:30 pm; after 10:3 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** Ne England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doo at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $2 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins main stream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, ladies fre before 11:30 pm; $10, 21+; $15, 18+. •**Rockpile** R tating bands perform, 9 pm, Ladies free before 11:3 pm; $12, 18+; $8, 21+. •**The Beach House** Reggae ton: Spanish reggae music, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
•Oct. 22: Flavor, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm, $1 ($5 before 9 pm), 21+. •Oct. 29: Split Decision, D at 8 pm, band at 10 pm, $10 ($5 before 9 pm), 21+

Phoenix Landing
DJ Greg spins top-40 and '80s hits, 10 pm, no cove 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop as he spins top-40, dan and hip-hop, and enjoy Boston sports video high lights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ spins in the front and DJ Gabe spins voca house in the back, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Hip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

Q
DJ Massi plays hip-hop and top-40, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Johnny C, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Lite Nite DJ Easy spins a mix that includes neo-so and feel-good classics, 7 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top-40, R&B and re gae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and ol school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+



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Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins Latin house and Latin dance on one floor while DJ Franklin spins international on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats all night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJs Dunleop and Walt mix top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
Guest DJs spin high-energy vocal house and hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Tease Saturdays Resident DJ Rick Naples performs along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Lush Life WFNX DJs spin alternative rock, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ Matt Phipps spinning the hottest top-40, hip-hop and '80s faves, along with cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. DJs presents top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Franklin creates a lounge atmosphere with his international, Latin and house sounds, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs Dan Spurling amd Chris Orio spin dance and house, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood Women's night, with two floors of hip-hop and house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
Essence DJs Ed and Sal, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Enormous Room
Reverberate Mark Estrada spins current and classic hip-hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins hip-hop, house and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites, disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, $10, 21+. •Oct. 23: Darik & the Funbags. •Oct. 30: The Benderz.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Ryan Bis spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

I//D
X Night WFNX presents a night of retro '80s and rock, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, while downstairs DJ Kieran plays top-40, 9 pm, $6, 21+.

La Boom
Wild on @ La Boom DJ Tim Collins and KISS 108 host a night of music and dancing, 10 pm, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 9 pm, 21+.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Shorty spins Latin music, 10 pm, $10, 21+, $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJ Eireann spins dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortiz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10 pm, $10, men; $5, women (women admitted free before 10:30 pm); 21+.

The Modern
Material DJ Dru Nyce plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies, free; men, $5 before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; no cover, 21+. •**The Beach House** Classic party music and top-40, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
•Oct. 23: Flavor, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm, $10 ($5 before 9 pm), 21+. •Oct. 30: Split Decision, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm, $10 ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wonders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles Boston's best DJs spin.

Pravda 116
DJ spins in the front and DJ Gabe spins vocal house in the back, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom Hogan spins the groove, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Q
DJ Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Rocha spins, 9 pm- 2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins modern mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Adilson spins house and techno, 9 pm, $15, 21+.

Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ J.C. plays house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancing, pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
Resident DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin, international and dance, often joined by live bands and special guest DJs, 10 pm, $10-$15, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

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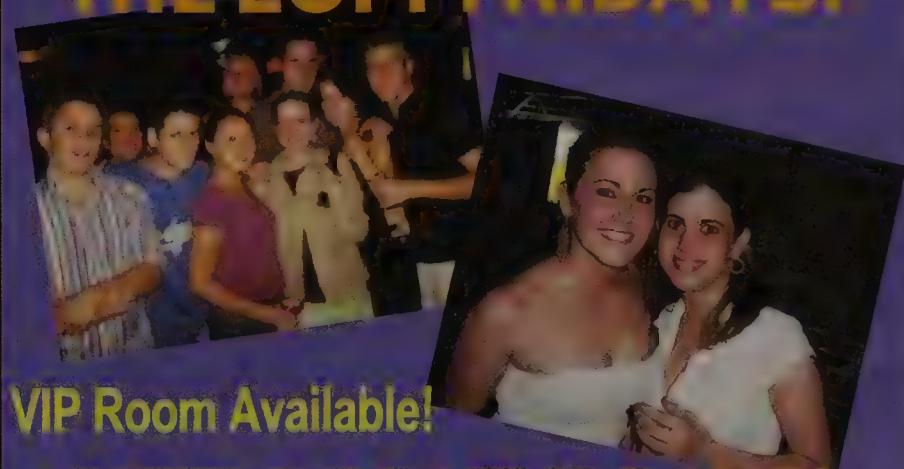
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Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins classic old-school, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
Curses Wretched Design presents an evening of gothic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

Aria
DJ Guy spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+

Caprice
DJ spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Devlin's
Industry Night DJ Steve plays house and old-school music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hip-hop downstairs, karaoke upstairs, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Revolutions A night of electronic music, $3, 11 pm-3 am.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance mamba, 10 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

The Kells
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJs Doc & Kieran spin house, top-40 and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Satellite A lesbian night featuring DJ Dee, with dance music, amateur drag contests and films, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Malibu Beach Party DJ Thom spins music from reggae to top-40, with prizes all night, 4-9 pm, DJ Massi spins, 9 pm, $5 men, free for ladies, 21+.

Q
Reggae with Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins dance and top-40, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
Sunday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and guests spin reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
Wicked Wicked Sundays Experimental reggae and hip-hop hosted by Wayne on Wax, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Wepa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sunday of each month, DJ Nik and DJ Hernan play salsa music, 6-10 pm, $12.

Saint
Spice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night featuring Latin and International grooves, 10 pm-2 am, $13.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock, retro and hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Tiki Room
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins Brazilian beats, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae an world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Whiskey Park
Cherry DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock classics, hip-ho house and R&B.

Club Venues

An Tain 35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121)*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424)*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000)*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678)*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110)*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874)*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939)*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822)*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186)*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
The G Spot *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010)*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460)*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082)*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400)*
La Boom *One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-6800)*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Light *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *(El Copa, Male Encounter, Officers' Club, Oxygen, Rio, Underground and Uptown) 1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-868-5900)*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656)*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300)*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511)*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001)*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000)*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002)*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300)*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2580)*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211)*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699)*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300)*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*

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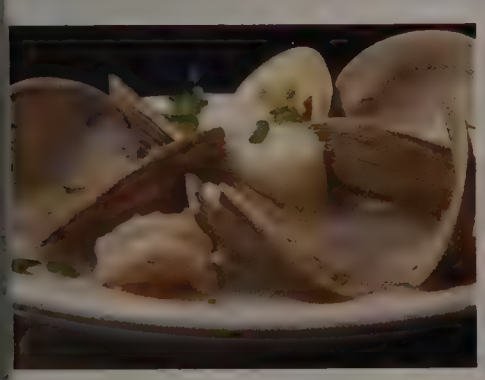
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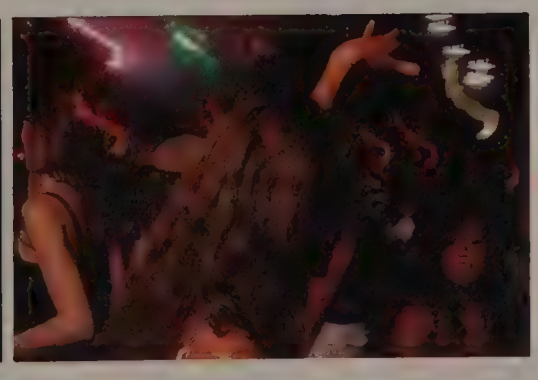
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museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors

Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum

Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Closely Focused, Intensely Felt: Selections from the Norma Jean Calderwood Collection of Islamic Art* features Persian artwork from the last millennium. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Masterworks of East Asian Painting* features works on paper and silk from China, Korea and Japan. Through April 13, 2005.

Boston Public Library

666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm. •*Handfuls of Lilies: The Art of Sarah Whitman* is an exhibition of book and stained glass designs of the Boston artist Sarah Wyman Whitman. Through December.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park

51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $6; students and seniors, $4. •Robert ParkeHarrison's *The Architect's Brother* is a five-part exhibition of photographs that contemplate the fate of the planet. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Luminous Forms: Abstractions in Color Photography* features photographs that focus on color, form and light as their subjects. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Henry Richardson: Chiseled Orb and Mortal Coil* is an exhibition featuring the artist's large glass sculptures. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Abstract Elements: The Dr. Beatrice H. Barrett Collection of Art* is a selection of abstract works by regional and international 20th-century artists. Through July 31, 2005.

Fogg Art Museum/ Busch-Reisinger Museum

32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Dependent Objects* displays multidimensional works by German artists that both defy and embrace the concepts of object and sculpture in art. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Prints: System, Style and Subject* is a history of printmaking and graphic systems.Through Jan. 30, 2005. •*Extra Ordinary Every Day: The Bauhaus at the Busch-Reisinger* is an online exhibition that can be accessed at www.artmuseums.harvard.edu/sites/eoed. Through 2005. •*Rococo Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* is an ongoing exhibit. •*To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* is an ongoing display of 19th-century art. •The exhibits *Basic Research: A Selection of Postwar German Painting and Sculpture* and *The Figure in French Sculpture 1780-1900* are ongoing.

French Library and Cultural Center

53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Fri. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. Free. • *Following Proust* is an exhibition featuring oil paintings by Susan Baker inspired by the life, works and travels of Marcel Proust. Through Oct. 30.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.[illegible].harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. [illegible]ily, 9 am-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •*Origins: Life's First Three Billion Years* explores the evolution of life on Earth through paleontological, molecular-biological and geochemical research. Through April 2005. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species, by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5. •*Boris Mikhailov: A Retrospective* features more than 500 photographs by the Russian photographer. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Momentum 2/Lucy McKenzie* is an exhibition of new pop culture–inspired works. Through Jan. 2, 2005.



Thinker, by Raghava, at the Artana Gallery

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; seniors, $7; students, $5. members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18 free. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •*Off the Wall: New Perspectives on Early Italian Art at the Gardner Museum* is an exhibition of works by Giotto, Giuliano da Rimini, and Fra Angelico. Through Jan. 9, 2005. •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. •Elaine Reichek's embroideries depicting Biblical images borrowed from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists display online in the virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum

Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $8; seniors and students $6; children ages 13-17 $4; children 12 and under admitted free. •*Gifts from the World to the White House: Caroline Kennedy's Doll Collection* features 77 dolls from 30 countries that were given to JFK's daughter between 1961 and 1963. Through Nov. 5. •In honor of this election year, *Campaign!* is an exhibition following JFK's nomination, campaign and inauguration, from 1960-61. Through Jan. 20, 2005.

McMullen Museum of Art

Boston College, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill, (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-3 pm.; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Fernand Khnopff: Inner Visions and Landscapes* includes more than 80 paintings by the European symbolist. Through Dec. 5.

MIT List Visual Arts Center

20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. The museum's permanent collection includes more than 1,500 pieces of contemporary art including paintings, murals, sculptures, photography and prints. •*Selections from the Collection* spotlights the work of 17 renowned artists. Through Nov. 19. • *Body Parts: A Self-Portrait by John Coplans* includes black-and-white images of Coplans' aging body and a series of large photographs completed before the artist's death. Through Dec. 31. •*Cerith Wyn Evans: Thoughts unsaid, now forgotten...* is an installation by the Welsh artist. Through Dec. 31.•*Yael Bartana: Three Works* is an exhibition of three short video works focusing on everyday life in Israel. Through Dec. 31.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5; students and seniors, $3; children, $1. •*Telling It Like It Is: Student Activism at MIT During the Vietnam War* displays posters from that era. Through fall 2004. •*The Art of Structural Design: A Swiss Legacy* highlights Swiss influences in 20th-century architecture. Through Dec. 30. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features works by the self-described cross between "a mechanical engineer and a choreographer." Ongoing.

Museum of Afro-American History

46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. •*Visual Stories: The Artwork of James Ransome* features paintings depicting important moments in black history. Nov. 1-Dec. 31. •*Portraits in Black: Gaining Ground, Holding Office* pays tribute to elected black leaders of New England. Through Oct. 23. •*The Times We Had* is an ongoing exhibition spotlighting Boston's African-American community of the 19th century. •*Building on a Firm Foundation* is a 17-minute multimedia presentation that looks at 19th-century Beacon Hill through the eyes of an African-American teenager. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15; students and seniors, $13; children 17 and under, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free (doesn't include special exhibitions). •*Games for the Gods: The Greek Athlete and the Olympic Spirit* features vases, marbles, bronzes and coins illustrating the ancient Greek games. Through Nov. 28. •*Art Deco: 1910-1939* features more then 240 works, including furniture, textiles, ceramics, fashion and jewelry. Through Jan. 9, 2005. •*Josef Sudek: Poet with a Camera* is an exhibition of the Czech photographer's landscapes, still-lifes and architectural photos. Through Jan. 17, 2005. •*Cerith Wyn Evans* is an installation of seven chandeliers flashing Morse code. Through Jan. 30, 2005. •*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13; seniors, $11; children, $10. •*The Lord of the Rings Motion Picture Trilogy—The Exhibition* features memorabilia from the films, including costumes, props and the ring itself. Through Oct. 24. •*Strange Matter* features 10 "experience pods" that explore the use of everyday materials in cardiac surgery, space exploration and more-common events. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Roar: Lions of the Kalahari* explores the vast and harsh African landscapes and day-to-day life and power struggles of the Kalahari lion. Through February 17. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum

33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Allen Sisters Pictorial Photographs* is a collection of 25 platinum prints dating from 1885-1920. Through Dec. 12. •*A Changing World: New England in the Photographs of Verner Reed, 1950-197*[illegible] displays through Jan. 2, 2005. •Learn how mail-order catalogs revolutionized American shopping in *Satisfaction Guaranteed*. Through Feb. 6, 2005. •*Western Pursuit of the American Dream*, a compilation of artifacts and sculpture from the American West, shows through April 24, 2005. •*The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'd*, an exhibition of 18th-century local history, is ongoing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household objects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. •*To Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community* is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; students, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem free. •*American Fancy: Exuberance in the Arts, 1790 to 1840* showcases more than 200 pieces of early American decorative and folk art. Through Oct. 24. •*Treasures from Chatsworth, a British Noble House*, a look at centuries of English domestic life through the Cavendish family's rare collection of old master drawings and paintings, books, and jewelry. Through Nov. 7. •*Havana: Photographs by Robert Polidori* features 18 large-scale photographs. Through Jan. 9, 2005. •*Bringing Japan to Boston* features Japanese artifacts from the Edward S. Morse Collection. Through April 30, 2005. •*Carved by Nature* displays ancient Chinese wood carvings. Through June 2005. •*In Nature's Company* is an exhibition of nature-inspired works. by 20 Massachusetts artists. Through Sept. 18, 2005. •The only installation of its kind in North America, *Yin Yu Tang* is a Chinese merchant's home from the late Qing Dynasty, relocated and reconstructed. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students, $6; children, $5. •*Field Photography, The Marsh Arabs of Iraq, 1934* features 34 prints of Arab tribes in the marshlands of southern Iraq. Oct. 21-Feb. 28, 2005. •*Bringing Japan to Boston: the Edward S. Morse Collection* is a rare display of Japanese artifacts collected from 1877-1879. Through April 2005. •*Painted by a Distant Hand: Mimbres Pottery from the American Southwest* features artifacts from New Mexico's Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through June 2005. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through December 2005. •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments* features the museum's large Mesoamerican cast collection. Ongoing. •*Hall of the North American Indian: Change and Continuity* features artifacts depicting the response of Native Americans across the continent to the arrival of Europeans. Ongoing. •*Encounters with the Americas* is an ongoing exhibition featuring original sculpture and plaster casts of Mesoamerican cultures. •*Pacific Islands Hall*, another ongoing exhibition, displays artifacts from the Pacific Islands.

Rose Art Museum

415 South St.,Waltham (781-736-3434). www.brandeis.edu/rose. MBTA: Commuter Rail Fitchburg/South Acton Line to Brandeis/Roberts Station. Tue.-Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Tandoori Satori and Commonplace*, a collection of paintings and watercolors by Italian painter Fransesco Clemente, displays through Dec. 12. •*The Empty City* features Yun-Fei Ji's sketches and paintings depicting the displaced inhabitants and environmental destruction of China's 200 Three Gorges Dam Project. Through Dec. 12. •*Tiao Table* is a short, hand-drawn animated film by artist William Kentridge. Through Dec. 12.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art

38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Early Works*, a collection of paintings by Herman Maril dating from 1929-195[illegible] shows through Nov. 13. • *Inner Visions and Landscapes*, a collection of paintings by Fernand Khnopff, shows through Dec. 5.

Alianza Gallery

154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). www.alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Images in Glass*, scenic impressions and images of the human form, shows through Nov. 5.

Allston Skirt Gallery

450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-3652). www.allstonskirt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.



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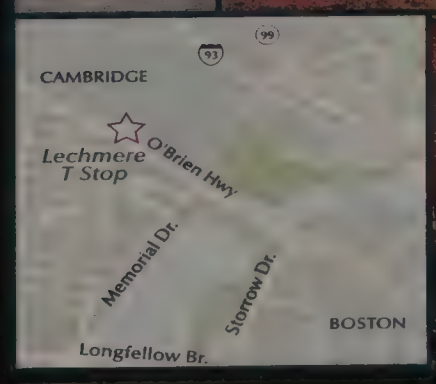
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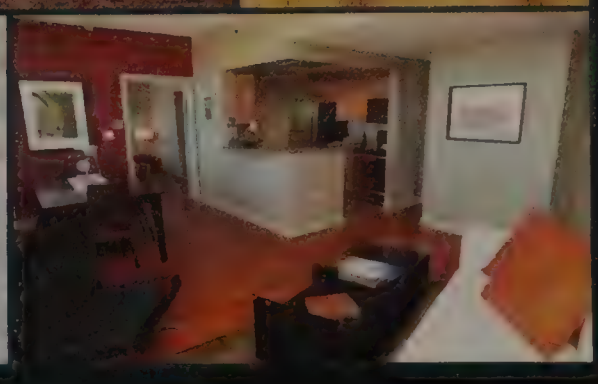
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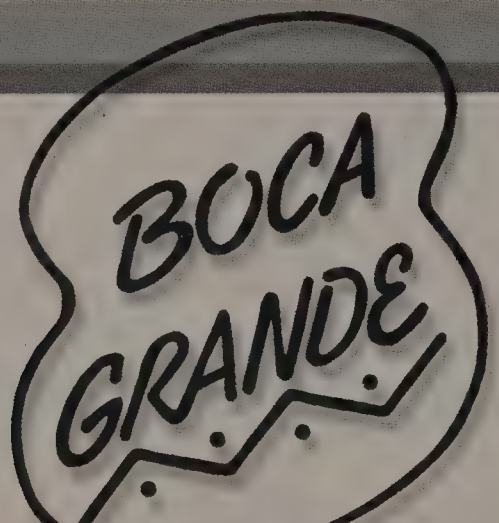




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Sat., 11 am-5 pm. • New works by Michelle Graber and Randal Thurston show through Oct. 30.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Thu., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Landscape and still-life paintings by Bernard Chaet show through Nov. 3.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*New Figurative Works in Tempera* features works by Fred Wessel. Through Oct. 30. • *Cityscapes* features abstract images of Boston and New York by Paul Balmer. Nov. 2-30.

Artana
1378 Beacon St. Suite B, Brookline (617-879-3111) www.artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Tue.- Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am-7 pm. •Bangalore artist Raghava shows watercolors of human figures. Through Oct. 30.

Art Interactive
130 Bishop Allen Drive, Cambridge (617-498-0100). www.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •Jeff Talman's *Sonalumina-13* explores acoustic resonance with aluminum plates. Through Oct. 24.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •An exhibition by Fred Sandback displays Oct. 23-Dec. 8.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Re-Visions*, a show of contemporary art by Nancy Sutherland, displays through Oct. 23.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Works by Robert and Shana ParkeHarrison show through Oct. 31.

Boston Sculptors Gallery
486 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-7781). www.bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •Bill Wainwright and Joseph Wheelwright show their work through Oct. 23. •Ellen Wetmore and Peter Lipsitt show their work. Oct. 26-Nov. 27.

Brickbottom Gallery
1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Trial Runs* displays through October. •*Process to Print*, a group show of progressive and finished proofs, displays through Oct. 23.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Monmouth St., Brookline. (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm. •*Street Scenes: Candid Photography by Scott Dicks* shows through Oct. 22.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 2nd St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). www.cmacusa.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*Domestic Threats* is an exhibition of Mexican dolls, masks and papier mâché by Barbara Rachko. Through Nov. 4.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •Stephen Coyle shows paintings of traffic scenes in *Urban Living*, and Noriko Sakanishi shows acrylic and mixed-media work in the back room. Through Oct. 30.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Works by Fritz Eichenberg and Bernard Brussel-Smith, and the *Painting Annual* are on display through Nov. 6.

Clifford-Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 300, Boston (617-695-0255). www.cliffordsmithgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5:30 pm. • Photographs by Josh Winer are on display through Oct. 30.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. • *Fall Members' Show: A Juried Exhibition* and Suzanne Crocker's *Red Room* display. Through Oct. 30.

Crump McCole Gallery
200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Painters of the New Boston* features works by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •Pete Clemons shows new paintings. Through Oct. 30 •Nancy C. Scull shows new photography. Nov. 2-27.

Equator Gallery
450 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-540-9236) MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.equatorgallery.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •The gallery specializes in Latin American fine art including paintings, textiles and ceramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Open Studios Group Show 2004* features works by more than 90 Fort Point artists. Through Oct. 30.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022) www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu. and Sat.,12-5 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm. •*Recent Photographs and Paintings*, by Steven Sternbach and Renia Platt, shows through Oct. 23.

The Gallery at Black and White
295 Huntington Ave., Suite 205 (617-266-2641) MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Mon.-Fri, 10 am-5 pm. •Antonia Heronymus shows black-and-white gelatin photographs in *The Human Landscape and M* Through Oct. 8. •Susan Wilson's *Monument and Memory*, a show of black-and-white photographs of Paris and the Pere Lachaise Cemetery, displays through Nov. 8.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave #305, Boston (617-423-6328) www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. • Michael Yoder displays abstract landscapes. Oct. 22-Nov. 27.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*John Eric Byers: New Work* displays through Nov. 6.

Gateway Gallery
62 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-1577). MBTA Green Line to Brookline Village. Mon.-Fri., 9am-4:30pm; Sat., 12am-5pm. • *Magnificent Obsessions*, a group show of abstract works by Yasmin Arshad, Jo Colby, Maria Covino, John Herzog, Joe Howe and others, shows through Nov. 6.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., St., Boston (617-426-9738) Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. David Sullivan displays drawings and paintings through Oct. 30.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.haleysteele.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment •The gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prints. Ongoing.

HallSpace
31 Norfolk Ave., Boston (617-989-9985). www.hallspace.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay Mon.-Thu., by appointment; Fri. and Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Doug Bell: Nail to Nail* shows through Nov. 6.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Robert Feintuch Paintings* and *James Tellin: New Wood Construction* display through Nov. 16.

Hurst Gallery
53 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-491-6888) www.hurstgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Thu., 12-7 pm. •*The Kepes Collection: Antiquities, Asian and Ethnographic Art* features Indian miniatures, pre-Columbian art, Chinese paintings and Japanese folk art from the Kepes family collection. Through Nov. 20.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters. •*Art Deco Poster Masterpieces 1921-1939* shows through Nov. 22.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.

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Zacapa Mojito
2 oz. Ron Zacapa Centenario
Juice of two limes
2 tbs. superfine granulated sugar
Splash club soda
5-10 mint leaves

Combine ingredients in a cocktail shaker with ice. Shake and strain into an ice-filled glass. Top with a splash of club soda and garnish with a sprig of mint.

Honey Martini
Created by Christopher (Stretch) Gerdon, China Grill, Miami
2 1/2 oz. Zacapa Centenario
1 oz. of diluted Honey
Squeeze 1/2 Lemon
Splash of Soda Water

Shake juice and ingredients together with ice, and strain into martini glass. Add splash of soda and garnish with lime wheel.

Tamarind Rum Punch
(Created by Chuck Simeone, Spice Market, NYC)
1 1/2 oz. Ron Zacapa Centenario
2 1/2 oz. tamarind nectar

Shake all ingredients with ice and strain into an ice-filled highball glass. Garnish with a cocktail straw.

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Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Judi Rotenberg shows new work in *Evolution*. Through Oct. 30.

Judy Ann Goldman Fine Art

14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). www.judygoldmanfineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11am-5pm. •*Hannah Burr: On, Around, Through*, an exhibition of drawings and paintings, shows through Oct. 30.

Kaji Aso Studio

40 St. Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www.kajiasostudio.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Tue. and Thu., 4:30-6:30 pm; Sat., 3-5 pm, and by appointment. •*The Annual Holiday Store* features ceramics, paintings, jewelry and prints. Through December.

Kidder Smith Gallery

131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. • Jimi Gleason shows his paintings in *New Work*. Through Oct. 30.

Kingston Gallery

37 Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay Station. Tue.-Sat., 12pm-5pm and by appointment. •*Ann Wessmann: What Remains* shows through Oct. 30.

L'Attitude Gallery

218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Stone and Ceramic Abstracted* is a show of new works by Paul Braun and Michael Gustavson. Through Nov. 18.

Mark Gallery

141 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6275). www.markartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm, and by appointment. •*Aura*, an exhibition of paintings, sculptures and drawings by Juan Jose Barboza Gubo, Marie Coppola and Jean Sbarra, shows through Nov. 12.

Mercury Gallery

8 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Louis Schanker: A Retrospective of Works from 1924-1981* shows through Nov. 16.

Mills Gallery

Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed., Thu. and Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-10 pm. •*Exposing Scarlet: A Visual Response to The Scarlet Letter* celebrates the bicentennial of Nathaniel Hawthorne's life with works by 14 artists that address issues raised in the author's famous novel. Through Oct. 31.

Mobilia Gallery

358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*Connections* is a group show of jewelry. Through Oct. 30.

NAO Project Gallery

535 Albany St., Boston (617-451-2977). www.naoprojectgallery.info. Thu.-Sat., 12am-5pm and by appointment. •*Janine Al-Bayati: Mixed Media Works & Necessary Dimensions* shows through Oct. 23.

Nielsen Gallery

179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •Sam Messer's *Why I'm Not Where You Are* features paintings of the artist's daughter and wife. Through Oct. 23. •John Walker displays new paintings. Oct. 30-Dec. 4.

OHT Gallery

450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-1677). www.ohtgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Gregory Gomez shows new paintings in *The Music of Spheres*. Through Oct. 30.

Out of the Blue Gallery

106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •A local-artists showcase is ongoing.

Pepper Gallery

38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Michael David displays his paintings in *Works from Provincetown*. Through Nov. 13.

Pucker Gallery

171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Samuel Bak: The Perception of Appearances* is on display through Nov. 30.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse

231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (617-482-9988). www.qingping.org. Daily, 1 pm-12 am and by appointment. •*Those Who Wait*, a group show of works by Beijing avant-garde artists Su Xinping, Lui Qinghe, Zhou Jirong and Lu Peng, displays through Oct. 31.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery

38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery

38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Chris Hooper's photographs of the Pacific Ocean display through Nov. 13.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries

290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat., 11 am-5:00 pm. •*Fine Lithographs and Etchings* features works by Marc Chagall, Joan Miro, Georges Rouault and others. Through Dec. 31.

Samson Projects

450 Harrison Ave., Boston, (617-357-7177). www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Notorious Impropriety* is a group show of paintings, video and drawings. Through Oct. 29.

The Society of Arts and Crafts

175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*The Artist Awards Show* honors New England craft and media artists. Through Oct. 31.

Somerville City Hall

93 Highland Ave., Somerville (617-625-6600 x 2985). www.somervilleartscouncil.org. Mon.-Wed. 8:30 am-4:30 pm; Thu., 8:30 am-7:30 pm; Fri., 8:30 am-12:30 pm. •*Second Nature* is a group show of paintings, drawings and sculpture by local artists. Through Nov. 1.

St. George Gallery

245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •A show of works by William St. George, Christina Keating, Sandra Mueller-Dick, Judy St. Peter and Anne Grandin is ongoing.

Vose Galleries

238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Wisdom and Wit: The Art of Virginia Precourt* shows through Oct. 30.

Wentworth Gallery

The Mall at Chestnut Hill, 199 Boylston St. (Route 9), Chesnut Hill (617-262-8770). www.wentworthgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri. 10 am-9:30 pm; Sat. 10 am-8 pm; Sun. 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection features works by Dali, Chagall and Miro.

Zeitgeist Gallery

1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060). www.zeitgeist-gallery.org. Tue.-Sun., 1-7 pm. •Barry Bent displays figurative paintings through Oct. 24.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography

67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. •*The End of Polio* features work by Sebastião Salgado. Through Oct. 31. •*Armenia and Karabagh: The Aftermath* is a show of photographs by Paul Mellon. Through Nov. 26.

Panopticon Gallery Kenmore

502-C Comm Ave., Boston (617-267-8929). www.panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-7 pm. •*Home Run*, a show of vintage baseball photographs, displays through October. •*American Politics*, a collection of historical political photographs, shows through Nov. 13.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham

435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www.panopt.com. Commuter Rail to Waltham. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*American Politics*, a collection of historical political photographs, shows through Nov. 13.

Photographic Resource Center

832 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). www.bu.edu/prc. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University West. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. •*The 2004 Preview Exhibition* displays through Oct. 24.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Dorchester Open Studios

(617-474-1442). www.dorchesteropenstudios.org. Oct. 30 and 31. 11 am-5 pm. More than 100 artists from Dorchester and surroundings communities open their studios to the public and allow visitors to gain an insider's view of their original art and their workspace.

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books & poetry

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Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to books @improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Pulitzer Prize–winning journalist **Ross Gelbspan** reads from his book *Boiling Point: How Politicians, Big Oil and Coal, Journalists and Activists Are Fueling the Climate Crisis—And What We Can Do to Avert Disaster*, which examines current environmental challenges.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-0372). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Politically Inspired editor **Stephen Elliot** discusses his book *Looking Forward To It: Or, How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the American Electoral Process*, in which he gives his views on the electoral process, from the campaign trail to the election.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Field Ruwe** reads from his novel, *Alluvial Reflection: Devastating Power of Diamonds*, a thriller about the illegal diamond trade in Africa.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21

Brandeis University
Hassenfeld Conference Center, Sherman Function Hall, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-4205). www.brandeis.edu. 3 pm. Free. Former U.S. envoy to the Middle East **Dennis Ross** discusses his book *The Missing Peace: The Inside Story of the Fight for Middle East Peace*, in which he looks at reasons why he thinks peace in the Middle East is so hard to achieve.

Center for New Words
Lesley University, Porter Exchange Building, Room 305, 1815 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. Emmanuel College professor **Mary Grimley Mason** discusses her book *Working Against Odds: Stories of Disabled Women's Work Lives.*

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-0372). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Stephen Mitchell** discusses *Gilgamesh: A New English Version*, his new translation of the epic story.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Harvard professor **Howard Gardner** reads from his book *Changing Minds: The Art and Science of Changing Our Own and Other People's Minds*, which identifies seven factors that can change people's opinions.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Chris Bohjalian** reads from his novel *Before You Know Kindness*, about a family coping with a tragedy.

Concord Festival of Authors
Various locations in Concord and Lowell (978-318-330). www.concord.net/library/CFA_04.html. Most events are free. Through Nov. 6. The 2004 Concord Festival of Authors brings more than 30 authors to the area to participate in readings, signings, panel discussions and parties. See the Web site for a complete schedule.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-0372). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. Harper's contributing editor **Mark Edmundson** discusses his book *Why Read?*, in which he describes how reading can change lives.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Harvard historian **Peter Galison** discusses and answers questions about his book *Einstein's Clocks, Poincare's Maps*, which describes how the two scientists engaged in a race toward the theory of relativity.

Newtonville Books
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands 9:30 am. Free. **Chris Bohjalian** reads from *Before You Know Kindness*. See today's Brookline Booksmith listing for a description.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23

Newtonville Books in the Attic
Union Street Bar, 107 R Union St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre 7:30 pm. Free. **Amanda Eyre Ward** reads from her new novel, *How to Be Lost*, about a young woman's search for her sister, and for herself.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24

Forest Hills Cemetary
95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3354). www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forrest Hills. 2 pm. $5. Local poets **Charles Coe**, **Len Germinara**, **Michael Hoerman** and **Robert K. Johnson** celebrate the anniversary of E.E. Cummings' birth by reading from his work and their own. A short walk to his burial site follows.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 2 pm. Free. **Meghan Oates** reads from her novel *Final Term*, a satirical story of a shamed president's attempt to become an immortal hero.

McIntyre & Moore Booksellers
255 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-4840). www.mcintyreandmoore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 7 pm. Free. **Lesley Bannatyne** reads from her book *A Halloween Reader: Poem, Stories and Plays from Halloweens Past.*

MONDAY, OCTOBER 25

American Repertory Theatre
64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-824-8820). www.pen-ne.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $35. PEN New England's annual *Best American Short Stories* benefit reading features guest editor **Lorrie Moore**, who introduces short-story readings by **Will LeBow**, **Karen MacDonald** and **Wallace Shawn**. There is a pre-reading reception at 7 pm.

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. Salamander editor **Jennifer Barber** and Irish poet **Mary O'Donoghue** read from their poetry.

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (617-357-0052). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. Free. Local writer **Gish Jen** reads from her novel *The Love Wife*, about a contemporary Asian-American family.

Brandeis University
Shapiro Campus Center, 415 South St., Waltham (617-736-4205). www.brandeis.edu. 12 pm. Free. Former Clinton administration labor secretary **Robert Reich** reads from his book *Reason: Why Liberals Will Win the Battle for America*, which argues that Americans are tired of the conservative ideology.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Russell Banks** reads from his novel *The Darling*, a story of personal and political turmoil in West Africa and the United States.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **David Boies** discusses his book *Courting Justice: A Lawyer's Casebook, from the Yankees vs. MLB to Gore vs. Bush*, in which he describes his role as a lawyer in some recent, prominent legal battles.

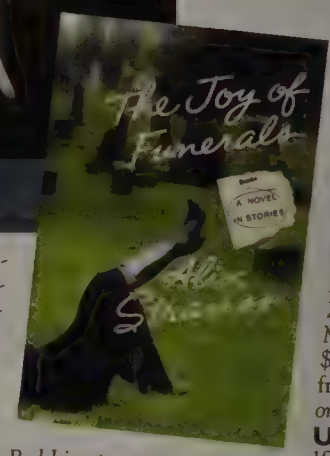
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188) .www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center 12:30 pm. Free. TV news anchor **Bob Schieffer** discusses his book, *Face the Nation: My Favorite Stories from Face the Nation's First 50 Years*, about his experiences on the CBS show.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Harvard business professor **Clayton M. Christensen** joins business consultants **Scott D. Anthony** and **Erik A. Roth** to discuss the book they cowrote, *Seeing What's Next: Using the Theories of Innovation to Predict Industry Change.*



Alix Strauss reads in Newton October 28.



Harvard University Lamont Library
Harvard Yard, Cambridge (617-495-2454). http://hcl.harvard.edu/houghton/events.html. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Beat poet **Tom Pickard** reads from his work.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27

Center for New Words
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. Free. Suffolk University professor **Amy Agigian** discusses her book *Baby Steps: How Lesbian Alternative Insemination Is Changing the World*, which looks at the growing number of lesbian couples using alternative insemination.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http:// harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Former Harvard Business School administrator **Jeffrey L. Cruikshank** reads from his debut novel, *Murder at the B-School*, a mystery set at Harvard.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **David Schickler** reads from his new novel, *Sweet and Vicious*, about young, rebellious, star-crossed lovers.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Short-story writers **Merrill Feitell** (*Here Beneath Low Flying Planes*), **David Means** (*The Secret Goldfish*) and **Barbara Sutton** (*The Send-Away Girl*) read from their respective collections.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-0372). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. The Graham Greene Centennial Celebration presents literary critics **James Wood** and **Michael Gorra**, who discuss Greene's works.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Amherst College professors **Alexander George** and **Lawrence Douglas** talk about the book they co-wrote, *Sense & Nonsensibility: Lampoons of Learning and Literature*, a satire of academia.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Alix Strauss** reads from her book *The Joy of Funerals*, a collection of nine stories about women going to extrem lengths to cope with longing and loneliness.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29

Barnes & Noble at BU
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-236-7448). www bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. pm. Free. Musician **Tommy Lee** signs copies of h new memoir, *Tommyland*, about what he feels are th most important things in his life.

Borders Boston
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188) .www.borde stores.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Governme Center. 12:30 pm. Free. **Terry Gross**, host of th NPR radio program *Fresh Air*, discusses her book *A I Did Was Ask*, an anthology of her interviews.

Grolier Poetry Bookshop Event
Adams House LCR/Conservatory, 26 Plympton St Cambridge (617-661-0372). www.grolierpoet bookshop.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm $3, $1.50 students. **Claudia Keelan** reads from *Th Devotion Field*, her latest collection of poetry of so cial and cultural critique. **Cole Swenson** reads fro her poetry collection, *Goest.*

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-0372). ww harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Ha vard. 3 pm. Free. New York Tim contributor **Corey Robin** discusse his book *Fear: The History of a Polit cal Idea*, which describes America growing fascination with politic danger.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30

Kate's Mystery Books
2211 Mass, Ave., Cambridge (617-49 2660). www.katesmysterybooks.com MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $ $1.50 students. **Jane Isenberg** rea from her latest Bel Barrett mystery, *H on the Trail.*

Unicorn Books
1971 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-87 4448). www.unicornbooks.org. MBTA: Red Line Porter Square. 4 pm. Free. **Fiona Horne** answe questions about the new book she edited, *Pop Go the Witch: A Disinformation Guide to 21st Centu Witchcraft*, a collection of articles about mode witchcraft.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). ww ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $ **Alice Mattison** reads from her latest novel, *T Wedding of the Two-Headed Woman*, about a woma torn between two lives. Also, **Elizabeth Cox** rea from her short-story collection, *Bargains in the Re World.*

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 p 21+. $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cant Lounge hosts this poetry slam downstairs in t Third Rail.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). ww poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 p $5. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background mus for the poetry slam team.

New Voices Open Mike (Third Friday)
Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St., Ca bridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.o MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $5. The Cent hosts this open mike for women and their all with five- and 10-minute slots available.

Out of the Blue Gallery (Saturdays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambrid (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Centra •Mondays, 8 pm (7:30 pm sign-up): Jack Powe hosts Stone Soup, with poetry features and open mike. $4 donation suggested. •Saturdays pm: Come share or listen to poetry and pros Deborah Priestly hosts. $3-$5 suggested donatio

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-718 MBTA: Blue Line to Government Center. 6:30 p Free. The second Thursday of each month offe selection of featured poets and an opportunity others to take the open mike.

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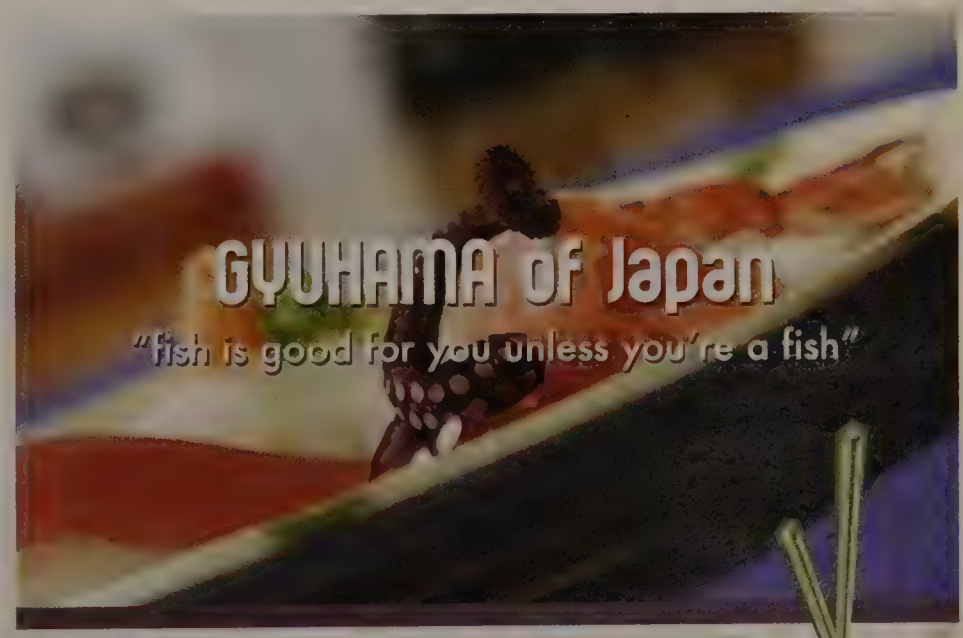
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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20

Many Children Left Behind
Cambridge Forum, First Parish, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-495-2727). www.cambridgeforum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Education experts **Deborah Meier, Monty Neill** and **Ted Sizer** discuss the book they've contributed to, *No Child Left Behind*, which examines the No Child Left Behind Act and how it affects children and schools.

When the Music Stops: Representation, Frontality, and the Maya Murals of Bonampak
Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Mary Miller**, an art history professor at Yale University, discusses ancient Maya murals at Bonampak in Mexico.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21

Experiments with Truth: The Life and Legacy of Mahatma Gandhi
Brookline Adult and Community Education, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (617-730-2700). www.brooklineadulted.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Hills. 7-8:30 pm. $5. Yoga instructor **Andre Gray** discusses Gandhi and the political legacy of *satyagraha*, nonviolent action for change.

The Politics of the Life Course: Aging in America
Boston Public Library, Mezzanine Conference Room, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley 6:30 pm. Free. **Margaret Morganroth Gullute** discusses her new book, *Aged by Culture*, which addresses the question of why Americans are afraid of aging.

Stories the Media Try to Suppress
Brandeis University, Epstein Building, 515 South St., Waltham (781-736-8100). www.brandeis.edu/centers/wsrc.org. 12:30 pm. Free. Former investigative reporter for the *Washington Post* **Florence George Graves** discusses the media's tendencies to avoid controversial stories that involve powerful individuals as well as the depletion of resources for investigative reporters.

What Is Democracy?: Possibilities, Challenges and Expansions
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 10:30 am. $2 ($1 seniors). Political activist **Paul Lachelier** discusses the meaning of democracy and explores common misconceptions of the term.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24

The Art of Political Cartoons
JFK Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 3 pm. Free. Cartoonists **Dan Wasserman** of the *Boston Globe*, **Mike Luckovitch** of the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* and **Mike Peters** of the *Dayton Daily News* present a show-and-tell about the art of creating political cartoons.

Chief Justice Margaret H. Marshall: A Living Constitution
Peabody Essex Museum, East India Square, Peabody (978-75-45-1876). www.pem.org. 6:30 pm. Members, $13; nonmembers, $15. **Margaret H. Marshall**, chief justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, discusses the origins and relevance of the United States Constitution

Justice, not Vengeance, for the Martyrs of Greensboro
Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-6710). www.commchurch.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10:45 am. Free. **Marty Nathan**, a survivor of a 1979 attack in Greensboro, South Carolina that killed five people planning an anti-Ku Klux Klan march, discusses the event's lasting impact.

Playful Parenting
Newtonville Books, 296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 2 pm. Free. Psychologist and author **Lawrence Cohen** discusses contemporary parenting and books that can help enhance a parent's role.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26

Body Parts—A Self-Portrait by John Coplans
Bartos Theatre, MIT Media Lab Building, 20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 6 pm. Free. *Newsweek* art critic **Peter Plagens** discusses Coplans' exhibition currently on display at the List Visual Arts Center.

From Object to Concept
Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. West German artists **Hans Haacke** and **Thomas Schütte** discuss their sculptures on display in the Sackler's *Dependent Objects* exhibition.

L'Italiana in Algeri
Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 800 Boylston St., Boston (617-542-4912). www.blo.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7-8 pm. Free. **Peter Fox Smith**, host of Vermont Public Radio's *Saturday Afternoon at the Opera*, leads a discussion about Rossini's opera *L'Italiana in Algeri*. Members of Boston Lyric Opera present a mini-performance following the discussion.

Stanley Steamer—America's Legendary Steam Car
Larz Anderson Auto Museum, 15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). www.mot.org. 7 pm. Free. **Kirk Foster**, a member of the Society of Automotive Historians, discusses the early steam car.

The Wounded Minotaur
Brandeis University, Epstein Building, 515 South St., Waltham (781-736-8100). www.brandeis.edu/centers/wsrc.org. 4 pm. Free. **Elinor Gadon**, a Women's Studies Research Center scholar at Brandeis University, discusses her new book, *The Wounded Minotaur: Reclaiming the Sacred Male*, about her studies in the mythology of masculinity in American culture.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27

Preventing Depression in Low-Income Racial/Ethnic Minorities
Radcliffe Institute, 34 Concord Ave., Cambridge (617-495-8600). www.radcliffe.edu/events. 12-1 pm. Free. As part of the Murray Research Center Brown Bag Lecture Series, **Esteban Cardemil**, assistant professor of psychology at Clark University, leads a lecture about depression among low-income racial and ethnic minorities.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28

Mona Hatoum: An Evening with the Artist
Harvard University Carpenter Center, 24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). www.ves.fas.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. Lebanese contemporary artist **Mona Hatoum** speaks about her large-scale installations.

What Jackie Taught Us: Lessons from the Remarkable Life of Jackie Kennedy Onassis
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-495-3045). www.bcae.org. 6:30-8 pm. Free. Author **Tina Santi Flaherty**, former vice president of three Fortune 500 companies, discusses Jackie Onassis, her life and thoughts on men, marriage, motherhood and motivation.

Vietnam: Mistakes, Misjudgments, Misperceptions
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. 10:30 am. $2 ($1 Seniors). Boston University School of Law graduate **Bernie Shuster** discusses the mistakes and misperceptions that led the U.S. into the Vietnam War.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31

Beacon Hill with a Boo!
Boston By Foot, Inc., 77 North Washington St., Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green Line to Park Street. 5:30pm. $15. Meet at the foot of the State House steps for a 90-minute guided tour that highlights Beacon Hill's history of mystery and suspense.

Stories Behind the Stones
Historic Forest Hills Cemetery, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-524-0128). www.foresthills-trust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 2 pm. $8. Enjoy a two-mile guided walking tour through the gravestones of men and women who shaped Boston and the nation.

What Spirits Haunt Our Elections?
Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-6710). www.commchurch.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10:45 am. Free. Rev. **David Carl Olson** of the Community Church of Boston, discusses some of the ghosts in the closet of U.S. democracy.



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gay & lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information, including telephone numbers and nearest T-stop, by fax (617-859-1446) or mail, or e-mail gaylesbian@improper.com.

Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am.; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $8 under 21. $5 for 21+. DJ John Morris spins progressive house for Lust, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $15, 21+. Sunday night parties include three separate dance floors and drag acts. Resident DJ Ted Elison spins house music.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show, and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Club Europa (Fridays)
57 Stuart St., Boston (617-417-0186). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.twistboston.com. Fri., 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+ after 11 pm. DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s tunes at this women's night.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $8 weekends, 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month is the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground features musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Tuesdays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Latin night with resident DJ Amador, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Tue.: Service Industry Night, with DJ Afrodite.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 19+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: New Wave Dance Party with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Milky Way Lounge (Sundays)
401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+. Every Sunday the Milky Way Lounge presents Satellite, a queer night for women. Live entertainment varies from week to week and includes Fireballs Drag Bingo, spoken-word events and jazz.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Omar. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This private, members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-587-0000). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am. $15. 21+. DJ Danae of Star 93.7 spins house music in the main room while DJ Mikey spins new wave, '80s funk and electro-clash in the side room. There are also occassional drag shows with Eileen Dover.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room and video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Scott Kennedy.


Some of My Best Friends Are Men plays at Ryles Jazz Club on October 20 and 27.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999 MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. predominantly gay crowd frequents the upsta lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano b and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Lat groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and co plimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House mus 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with hou music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Servi Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Clas movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen pm-1 am, no cover.

Shows & Events

Ron Nyswaner
We Think the World of You Bookstore, 540 Treme St., Boston (617-574-5000). www.cuttyhunk.n MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Oct. 28, 6:30 p Free. The award-winning screenwriter of *Philad phia*, *Mrs. Soffel* and *A Soldier's Girl* reads from h new memoir, *Blue Days, Black Nights*.

Out on the Edge: Festival of LGBT Theater
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Bost (617-933-8600). www.thetheateroffensive.o Through Oct. 24. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $2 $29. The Theater Offensive presents its 13th ann festival, featuring performances by Tim Miller, Ha ifah Walidah, Five Lesbian Brothers, The Oc Guys and others.

Some of My Best Friends Are Men
Ryles Jazz Club, 212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (6 876-9330). www.ryles.com. MBTA: Red Line to C tral. Oct. 20 and 27. 10 pm. $8. In this cabaret mu cal, Myron Breckenridge, a struggling gay actor a recent recipient of a sex-change operation, moves Boston from Los Angeles in an attempt to avoid cr itors and borrow money from his uncle, Buck Lone

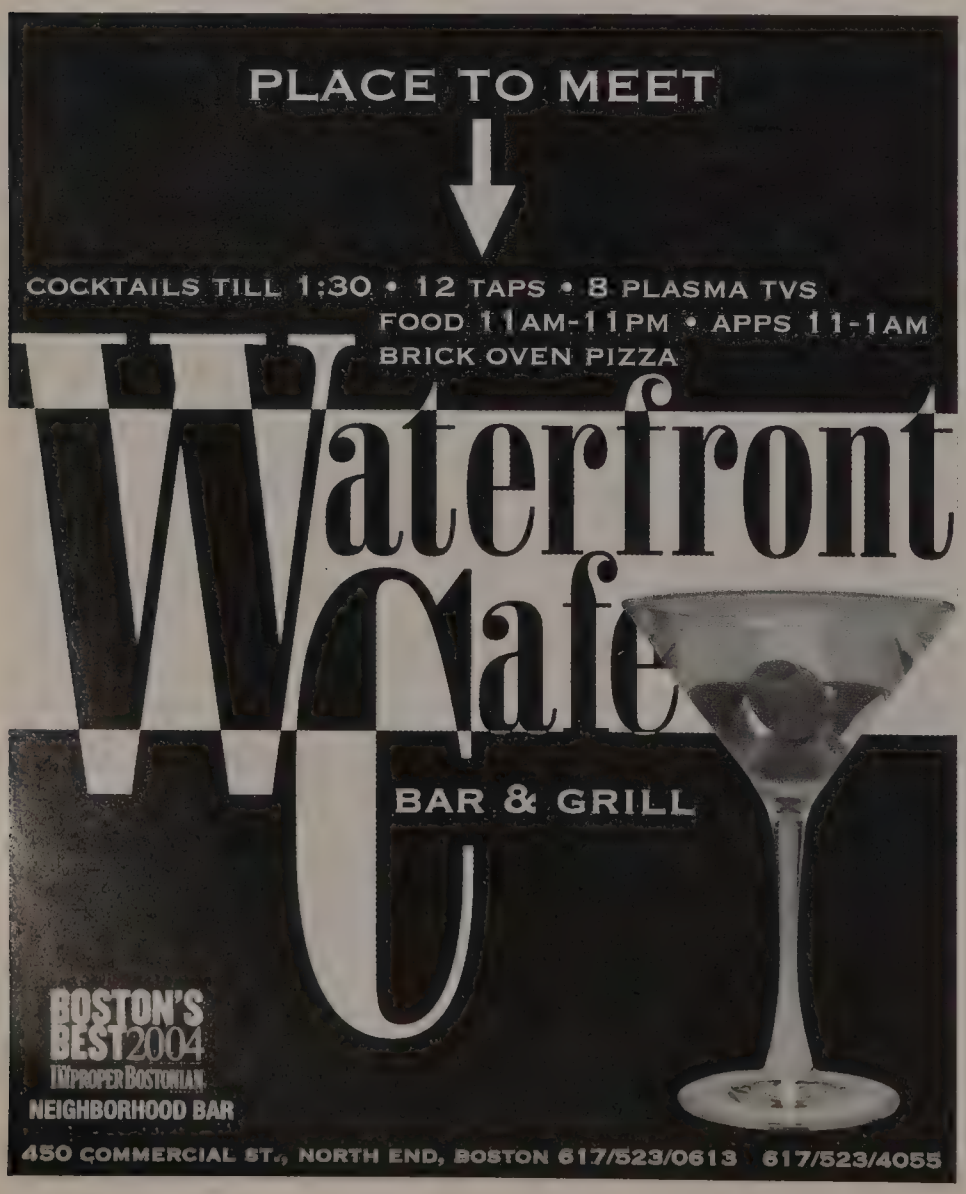
Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin S Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MBT Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 6-9 p The Boston Alliance for Gay Lesbian Bisexual a Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and cial events for young people seeking commun support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-8 1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and l bians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlingt Wed., 7 pm. Come share thoughts about boo videos and other topics of interest in a supportive vironment. Open to all bisexual men and women.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Ca bridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tuesday of month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.



Boston Bay Blades
www.bayblades.org/boston. All are welcome to join this competitive, recreational group of rowers and scullers.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). www.bgbl.com. The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year.

Boston Gay Skins
Ramrod, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). www.bostongayskins.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. *11 pm.* Boston's nonracist gay skinhead collective meets the third Friday of the month.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. *Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri, 3-5 pm.* The center provides social activities for questioning young people, ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. *www.lesbianavengers.org. Thu., 7-8 pm.* This bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. *Wed., 7 pm.* A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
(617-417-0876). Third Saturday of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for interested parents and their partners. For info, e-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-9595). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. *First Wednesday and third Thursday of each month, 7 pm, free.* An informal group for people who think they may be bisexual or are attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning People
(617-256-8693). This group welcomes those who want to discuss the challenges and the joys of coming out. It meets Thursday nights, from 7-8:30 pm, in Cambridge.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area support, information and social group for people assigned female at birth who feel that is not an accurate or complete description of their gender. Part of the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group meets monthly. E-mail CompassFTM@usa.com for details.

East Coast Wrestling Club
(401-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www.eastcoastwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay male wrestlers has more than 160 members.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional women 30 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophisticated to get together with like-minded women for conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Fenway Community Health
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Fenway Community Health offers a wide array of programs and services for the GLBT community ranging from discussions about parenting and safe-sex practices to domestic violence and substance abuse. Call for more information

GLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Join Boston's GLBT Flag Football League for a casual spring season, followed by a formal fall season. All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring.com/frontrunners. Sat., 10 am. All are welcome to join this running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Group
Address available upon request, Boston. Learn more about photography, socialize and meet new people at these monthly meetings. For more information e-mail amateurgphoto@yahoo.com.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
(617-267-9001 or 888-340-4528). Mon.-Fri., 6-11 pm; Sat. and Sun., 5-10 pm. This confidential, toll-free hotline provides support for GLBT and questioning callers.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Professionals Building Community
(617-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to join this networking organization for GLBT professionals. Monthly networking meetings.

Gaymes Group
(508-339-4250). Members of this social group for gay men and lesbians get together on a regular basis to play board, card and parlor games.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. *$5-$10.* An open-mike night open to new performers, this queer-positive, dyke-positive, bi-positive and trans-positive spoken-word event meets the second Thursday of each month, 7:30 pm.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

Girlz 2 Girlz
(781-893-6113). This mentoring program is for girls ages 13-19 who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered. For information, contact Marcela Aldez-Osorio.

Laffan
This social and networking group for women includes single women, couples and parents interested in art, cultural events, outdoor and sporting activities, intellectual and social pursuits, public service and travel. Members receive a weekly email calendar of events. For info, e-mail Laffan_Boston2004@yahoo.com.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue., Wed. and Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

The Network/La Red
(617-423-7233). The Network is a support group working to end abuse in lesbian and bisexual women's and transgender communities. E-mail info@thenetworklared.org for more information.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

Peer Listening Line
(800-399-7337). Trained volunteers provide confidential information, referrals and support to their GLBT peers.

The Rainbow Café
rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social group for activist, academic, intellectual or artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. *Wed., 6-7 pm.* This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatinos lgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Road, Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. *First Sat. of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing. $8.* Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the GLBT community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the first Thursday of every month.





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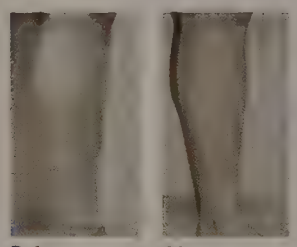
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body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Alternative Connections Expo
Holiday Inn, Holyoke (413-258-0228). www.angelconnections.com. Oct. 24, 9 am-5 pm. $5 for expo only or $25 for expo and all workshops. This expo features vendors and workshops that focus on alternative health, healing and esoteric studies. Psychic readings also available.

Halloween Costume Dance Party
Masonic Center, 32 Church St., Watertown (617-923-4334). Oct. 30, 8-12 pm. $20. This Halloween party includes food, raffles, entertainment by Deuces 'R Wild, and prizes for best costume. Hosted by the Greater Boston Church of Spiritualism.

Theology on Tap
Rattlesnake Bar and Grill, 384 Boylston St., Boston (617-523-2377, ext. 32). www.friendsattheadvent.org. Oct. 26, 7 pm. Free. People in their 20s and 30s who are interested in learning about and discussing issues involving Christian faith are invited to this bar night. Each week features different topics and speakers.

Lectures

Botánicas and Cross-Cultural Medicine Practices
Boston Medical Center, 88 East Newton St., Boston (617-414-5465). Oct. 23, 8:30 am-6:30 pm. $170, includes lunch. The Integrative Medical Alliance and BU Medical School co-sponsor this herbal tour. Several speakers discuss the traditional healing practices of Cuba, Haiti and the Caribbean, where local botánicas provide natural remedies used in those cultures.

Sex-Positive Education Series
Lifestyles, 269 Moody St., Waltham, (781-891-6060). www.healingheartpower.com. BDSM: Oct. 20, 7:30-9:30 pm. Linda Marks: Oct. 27, 7:30-9:30 pm. $10 per talk. Black Key Club founder and sex-positive educator Scratch gives an introduction to BDSM (bondage and discipline, dominance and submission) as part of the Sex-Positive Education Series on the 20th. On the 27th, learn about integrating sexuality and spirituality with psychotherapist Linda Marks, founder of the Boston Area Sexuality and Spirituality Network.

Workshops

The Art of Living
MIT, 70 Pacific St., Cambridge (781-901-9821). www.artofliving.org. Oct. 22-26, 21.5 hours. $300, $150 for students. Dr. Richard Brown, Associate Professor of Clinical Psychiatry at Columbia University and author of *Stop Depression Now*, leads this workshop on Sudarshan Kriya yoga, or yoga breathing. The practice is said to alleviate stress and related problems such as depression and anger.

Beyond the Basics Yoga
Cambridge Studio, 2000 Mass. Ave. (617-661-6565). www.baronbaptiste.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Oct. 30, 1-4 pm. $40. The Baron Baptiste Yoga Institute hosts asanas teacher Elizabeth Huntsman, who shows how practicing poses can help to relive physical and psychological blockages.

Bones for Life
Institute for Body, Mind and Spirituality, Lesley College, 29 Everett St., Cambridge (617-349-8129 or 800-999-1959 ext. 8129). www.lesley.edu/gsass/bodymind/index.html. Oct. 30, 10:30 am-4:30 pm. $125. Lesley's holistic program and the Muscular Therapy Institute co-sponsor this workshop, which is designed to stimulate bone strength through easy movement, aligning processes, breathing and weight-bearing postures.


Dr. Richard Brown hosts a workshop on Sudarshan Kriya yoga October 22–26.

Mind, Body, Emotions and Integrated Awareness
Wellspace, 1 New St., Fresh Pond Mall, Cambridg (617-876-2660 or 617-661-3414). www.wellspace com or www.mfourman.com. MBTA: Red Line t Alewife. Oct. 22, 7-9 pm. $10. Participants are in vited to bring a problem they'd like to work on i this workshop, which teaches how movement is use to improve emotional barriers and mental attitudes.

Moon Salutations
Art and Soul, 91 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-661 7376). www.artsoulyoga.com. MBTA: Red Line t Kendall. Oct. 29 6-8 pm. $20. This series of yog postures is designed to stimulate the core energy c the body as well as broaden and lengthen the limb and pelvis.

Play the Game of Life
Open Doors, 360 Washington St., Brighton (617-202 6333). www.opendoors7.com. MBTA: B Green Lin to Washington St. Oct. 30, 10-4 pm. $75. In thi "playshop," participants experiment with new atti tudes toward what they want in life and learn t seek success with "vibration-raising" practice philosophies and meditation.

Meir Schneider on Self-Healing
Yoga East, 20 Del Carmine Road, Wakefield (781-224 0722). www.self-healing.org or www.yogaeast.net. Ir teractive lecture: Oct. 22, 7:30-9 pm. $10. Self-Hea ing Workshop: Oct. 23 and 24, 10 am-5 pm. $125 fc one day, $210 for both. Dr. Meir Schneider, healt educator, therapist and author of *The Handbook Self-Healing*, explains his holistic methods of stimu lating natural healing powers within the bod through a combination of movement, massage breathing and visualization.

Sound Healing Circle
Art and Soul, 91 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-661 7376). www.artsoulyoga.com. MBTA: Red Line t Kendall. Oct. 24, 6:30-9 pm. $20. Participants see relaxation and healing through sound and the na ture of vibration, an ancient healing practice.

Thai Massage
Earthsong Yoga, 186 Main St., Marlboro (508-480 8884 or 508-259-2847). www.earthsongyoga.com Oct 26, 7-9 pm. $20 per person. Bring a friend loved one and learn the two-person exercise pra tice of Thai massage, which features a series of po tures and massage techniques designed to increas flexibility and decrease stress. All levels welcome.

Weekend of Ashtanga Yoga with Tim Miller
Back Bay Yoga, Cambridge Masonic Hall, 1950 Mas Ave., Cambridge. www.backbayyoga.com or www ashtangayoga. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Oct. 22-2 11 hours. $175. Tim Miller, a student of Ashtang yoga for more than 20 years, leads this weeken workshop.

Ongoing

Active Stretching for Everybody
Star Tech Healing and Learning Center, 14 Nason St Maynard (978-897-0110). www.startechhealing.com Mon., 7:30-8:30 am. Wed., 12-1 pm. $10 per clas Exercise and practice healing techniques designe to help rejuvenate muscles, reduce soreness, an promote overall good health.

Gentle Yoga
Pathways to Wellness, 142 Berkeley St., 2nd Floo Boston (617-859-3036). www.pathwaysboston.or Mon., 5:30-6:45 pm. Wed., 5:30-6:30 pm. Sat 10:45-11:45 am. $12, drop-in. Suited to beginni students or those in need of a gentle style, this cla emphasizes proper alignment and core stabilizatio

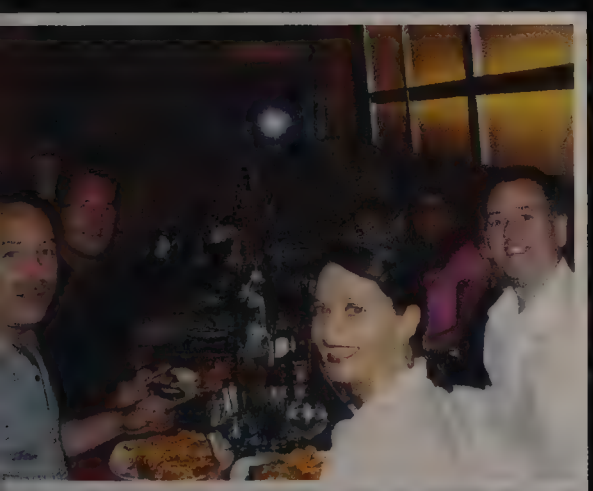
Hatha Yoga
Brookline Community Center for the Arts, 14 Gre St., Brookline (617-738-2800 or 617-522-9797 www.bccaonline.com or www.dancingoutloud.co MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Tue. 7:30 pm. $15, drop-in. This class aims to impro breathing, flexibility and strength, as well as relea tension and quiet mind chatter.

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sports

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Home Games

New England Patriots
•Gillette Stadium, Foxboro
Tickets: 800-543-1776
Oct. 24, 1 pm vs. New York Jets

Events

Boogie Woogie 5K and Block Party
Start at Magoun Square, end in front of the Powderhouse Pub, Somerville. www.baevents.com. Oct. 21, 7:30 pm. This 5K road race ends with a block party featuring buffets, bands, DJs and beer.

Head of the Charles Regatta
Charles River, from BU DeWolf Boathouse to Artesani Park, Brighton (617-868-6200). www.hocr.org. Oct. 23-24. More than 7,000 rowers converge on the Charles to compete in this annual race. In addition to food vendors along the banks, this year includes Row-a-Palooza, a concert at the Weeks Footbridge (on the Cambridge side) on Sunday headlined by Gavin DeGraw.

Moakley's Run for Research
Start at the north entrance of the Bayside Expo Center, South Boston (617-527-5600). www.liverfoundation-ne.org. Oct. 24, 10 am. $20. This five-mile race along the South Boston waterfront raises money for the American Liver Foundation.

Ropes Course Challenge
Outdoor Explorations, Boxford (781-395-4999). www.outdoorexp.org. Oct. 23. Call for location information. This one-day ropes course event challenges participants to test their fear while navigating cables suspended 20 to 40 feet in the air.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club seeks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club (BSSC) Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

DODGEBALL

BSSC Dodgeball
(617-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting now for dodgeball teams to compete in a fall league.

ENDURANCE TRAINING

Team in Training
(800-688-6572). www.teamintraining.org. This organization provides fund-raising athletes with group training and support, personalized coaching and guaranteed race entry for events.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
561 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville. (617-591-0101). www.baystatefencers.com. Fencing and stage combat programs offered in the fall.

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070); www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Saturday mornings. Women's teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.com. Training Tuesdays and Thursdays in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wednesday or Sunday year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, then consider joining these self-proclaimed "serious drinkers with a running problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Run
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Thursdays, 7 pm. Weekly runs.

Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thursdays, 7:30 pm. Weekly 2.6-mile runs.

SOCCER

BSSC Outdoor Soccer
(617-789-4070). Outdoor teams forming now. Games played in Charlestown, Lexington, Reading and Canton. Individuals and teams are welcome.



ULTIMATE FRISBEE

BSSC Ultimate League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070). Coed games each week in Charlestown.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed teams forming for summer leagues in Cambridge, Watertown, Brookline and Newton.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-868-8379). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels.

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Session One (1-5pm) or Session Two (6-10pm). 21+ w/valid ID.

Buy your advance tickets now @ **BeerAdvocate.com** or at participating locations.

See website for more details.

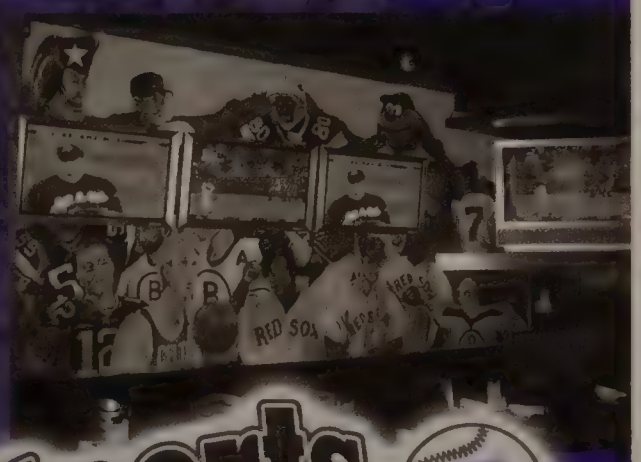
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SOMERVILLE THEATRE
Wednesday, November 3rd 7:00 pm
Thursday, November 4th 7:00 & 10:00 pm

BERKLEE PERFORMANCE CENTER
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Saturday, November 6th 6:00 & 9:00 pm

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PHOTO CONTEST

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN is proud to launch its first photography contest. We invite photographers whose work fits the contest's theme, Hidden Boston, to send us (previously unpublished) pictures of the city: its people, its objects and its landscape.

SPECIFICATIONS

Since the winning images will run in our December 1 issue, photographs of the outdoors should depict fall or winter in the city.

PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in each of the two categories (places/objects, and people). A panel of professional photographers will judge all entries.

DEADLINE

Deadline for entries is Tuesday, November 9, 2004. Entries received after this date will not be eligible for the contest.

SEND ALL ENTRIES TO

Photo Contest
The Improper Bostonian Magazine
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116

WINNERS

Winners will be notified prior to publication date.

CONTEST RULES

1. The contest is free and open to all photographers who live in Boston and the surrounding area. The submitted work may not have been previously published or used in any promotional effort.

2. We will accept photographic prints, digital images and slides. If you wish to have your entry returned, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope. Entries will be returned following the publication date (December 1, 2004).
   a. Digital images must be at least 300 dpi at 8"x 10" and be submitted on a CD. If CD contains multiple entries, please state what category each entry belongs in by file name on a printed page submitted with the CD.
   b. Printed materials must be unmounted and have relevant entry information affixed to the back of the image (see #6 for details). No laser or inkjet printouts will be accepted. Photographers must supply negatives for winning prints.

3. Entries may be color or black-and-white.

4. The deadline for entries is Tuesday, November 9, 2004. Entries received after this date will not be eligible for the contest.

5. A signed model release form must be provided upon request for images that contain easily identifiable people.

6. Each photograph must be clearly labeled with the following information: 1) Category, 2) Photo location, 3) Photographer's name, 4) Photographer's address and 5) Photographer's phone number and email address, for prize notification.

7. Photographs will be judged on treatment of the subject matter, visual effectiveness and technical ability.

8. All winning photographers must grant first-time publication rights to THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN. Photo credits will be given.

9. Winners will be notified in advance of the publication date, December 1, 2004.

children

Advice to Contributors

Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Borders Books and Music

Cambridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Every Sat., 1 pm. Staff members read from new and classic storybooks.

Harvard Coop

1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Every Tue. and Sat., 11 am. Staff members read children's stories. Snacks and craft activities follow.

ImprovFoundry Family Show

ImprovBoston, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA Red Line to Central. Sat., 6 pm. $10-$12. This short improvisational show is suitable for the whole family.

Puppet Showplace Theatre

32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50; members, $7. Reservations recommended. •Oct. 20 and 21, 10:30 am, ages 3-6. Deborah Costine presents a new version of the Cinderella story in, *Cinderella, A Woodland Fairy Princess.* •Oct. 23 and 24, 1 and 3pm, ages 4-8. The Pobbley Grey Theatre presents *The Case of the Secret Ballot,* in which the audience votes for a new President of the Animal Kingdom. •Oct. 27 and 28, 10:30 am, ages 3-6. Blue Moon Puppets presents *Witch's Brew,* a story about three witches and the magical recipe they create.

Things to Do

Boston Art Tours

Meets at Starbucks, 443 Boylston St., Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tours for children: Tue.-Sat., 1-2 pm; tours for teens: Tue.-Sat., 2-3:30 pm. Adults, $30; teens, $15; children under 12, free. Take a walking tour of contemporary art galleries along Newbury Street.

Boston by Little Feet

Faneuil Hall, Congress Street, Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Through October, Sun, 2 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am. $8. Explore Boston's history and architecture by taking a walking tour of the Freedom Trail designed specifically for kids.

Boston Duck Tours

Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston; Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-267-3825). www.bostonducktours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Science Park. Daily through Nov., 9 am-sunset, every 30-60 minutes. $24; seniors and students, $21; children 3-11, $15; children under 3, $3. These amphibious vehicles tour Boston's most popular sights via city streets and the Charles River.

Children's Museum

Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8; children, $7. •Daily, KidsStage is an interactive theater featuring professional actors and museum staff. •Fri., 3-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2-4 pm. In the Zoom Zone is a hands-on science challenge culled from the PBS TV show *Zoom.* •Mon.-Fri., 10 am-4 pm. The art studio is open for bookmaking, painting, finger-puppet making and more.

Coolidge Corner Theatre

290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2501). www.coolidge.org. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. $10; children, $8. Saturday Morning Kids Variety Show: •Oct. 23, 10:30 am. Puppeteer Michael Wolski's show includes Mr. William Whiskers. •Oct. 30, 10:30 am. Storyteller Bob E. Thomas' act includes dance and comedy bits.

The Great Pumpkin Pageant

The Harborwalk at Children's Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-451-2860 x 109). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Oct. 22. 12-5 pm and 5-7 pm. Free. •Friends of the Fort Point Channel hosts a pumpkin-carving event for all ages. Pumpkins and supplies are provided and all entries are illuminated after 5 pm.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •Oct. 30, 1-5 pm. $7.50; children, $5; children under 3, free. HMNH's Halloween Family Festival is an afternoon of Halloween activities that include presentations on bats and owls, Halloween arts and crafts and spooky scavenger hunts.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $5; ages 5-18, $2; students, seniors and kids under 5, free (free admission the third Sunday of every month). •*Holography, the Light Fantastic* is a display featuring the world's largest collection of holograms. Ongoing. •*Robots and Beyond* offers a look at MIT's artificial intelligence research labs. Ongoing. •*Ship Models: The Evolution of Ship Design* features 40 ship models, from warships to clippers. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. $15; children 17 and under, free. •Mon.-Thu., 3:30 pm. The Children's Room combines arts and crafts with a variety of cultural themes. •Tue.-Thu., 3:30-4:30 pm. Books Bring Art Alive is a program for children and families.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13; seniors, $11; children, $10. •*The Lord of the Rings Motion Picture Trilogy—The Exhibition* features memorabilia from the films, including costumes, props and the ring itself. Through Oct. 24. •*Strange Matter* explores the use of everyday materials in cardiac surgery, space exploration and more-common events. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models* is an interactive exhibition that features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •Science in the Park is a permanent playground with a scientific spin. •Sat. and Sun., 11 am. Animals and Stories Alive is an interactive story hour featuring folk tales, myths and live animals.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat. & Sun., 9 am-6 pm. $15.95; seniors, $13.95; children, $8.95. •*Amazing Jellies* features thousands of jellyfish. Through 2005. •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank contains sharks, stingrays and a 600-pound California sea lion. Ongoing. •*Edge of the Sea* is a hands-on exhibition that features sea stars, hermit crabs and more. Ongoing. •Take a high-speed catamaran on a whale watch. Through October. Call or visit the Web site for times. Adults, $29; seniors, college students and military, $26; children 12-18, $23; children 3-11, $20.

Newton Free Library

330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us/library. •Thursdays, 7 pm. Staff members read to children ages 4 and up at Pajama Story time. •Fridays, 10:30 am. Films for preschoolers screen. •Oct. 21, 4:15 pm, ages 7 and up. Fun with Folktales–Magic Items: Children listen to magical folktales and make their own "magic" items. •Oct. 26, 7 pm, all ages welcome. WINGS (Writers and Illustrators for Newton enGaging Students), a citywide program which brings children's authors and illustrators as guest presenters, welcomes Caldecott Medal–winning author and illustrator Allen Say, who speaks on his new book *Music for Alice,* a true story based on the life of Alice Sumida, a Japanese-American dancer.

Wheelock Family Theatre

200 the Riverway, Boston (617-879-2147). www.wheelock.edu/wft. MBTA: Green Line to Fenway. Oct. 29-Nov. 28, Fri., 7:30 pm, Sat. and Sun. matinee, 3pm. $20, $16, $12. Wheelock Family Theatre presents *Ramona Quimby,* a play based on the popular Ramona books by author Beverly Cleary about the boisterous third grader who can't seem to stay out of trouble.

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Nov. 3 - Ages 22-32
Nov. 10 - Ages 30-40
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Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
Coit Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5pm; Fri., 10 am - 9 pm. $9; children and seniors, $7. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.

Faneuil Hall
75 State St., Boston (617-338-2323). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 am. Free.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6, children, $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; seniors and students, $8; 12 and under, free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH, or Green Line to Park Street. Labor Day through Memorial Day: Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm; summer: daily, 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Daily, 9 am-5 pm (Fri., 9 am-9 pm). $14; seniors, $12; children, $11.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5; children, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2–June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1: Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, $13.95 seniors; children, $8.95.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-5 pm. Free.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. $5, seniors and students, $4; children, $1.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $9.50; seniors, $7; children 12 and under, $6.50; children under 3, free.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily, 7 am-6 pm. $4; children 12 and under, free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). www.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. May 1-Oct. 15: daily, 9 am-6 pm; Nov. 1-Apr. 30: daily, 10 am-5 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster-care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay
(617-375-0700). www.bostonredcross.org. Volunteer in the administrative department.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act a friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-563-4441). www.bostoncares.org. More tha 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volun teer organization of people between the ages of 2 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and de veloping business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. HIV AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, of fice work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor youn students from the city in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). www.ccaa.org. Volun teers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers an tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support fo children and adults with developmental disabilities

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adult living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000). Tutor adult students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
(617-995-3250). www.everybodywinsmetroboston.org Spend your lunch hour reading with elementar school children.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hospice.org. Volunteers neede to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-online.com Volunteers provide over-the-phone counsel for peo ple affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelders.org. Volunteer needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

Pine Street Inn
(617-482-4944). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve breakfast to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740). www.projectplace.org. Become mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteer at this agency for bat tered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dinin room, clothing room and groceries program at th homeless shelter.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportun ties to volunteer with other young professionals.



Mainstage:

10/22 Kenny Werner
10/23 Yoron Israel & Higher Standard
10/29 & 10/30 Mose Allison
11/4 Ellen O'Brien
11/5 Vox One
11/11 Harry Miller
11/12 Thaddeus Hogarth
11/13 Chicken Slackers
11/18 Willie and Lobo
11/19 Mango Blue
11/20 Eguie Castrillo Group
11/26 Gilson Schachnik
12/11 Steve Smith & Vital Information

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

Dave at the Bar Near Fenway

OK, so I worked for you about two years ago and even though I have only seen you once since then, I have had a huge crush on you ever since. You are flat out hot and when I worked for you, you seemed like a nice guy. So yeah, I want to go on a date with you and basically that's all I have to say. If you see this, e-mail me and tell me your last name so I know it's you and then I'll tell you mine. Oh, and then, I'll rock your world.

—Lovesit3456@yahoo.com

To Gary at the Tiki Lounge

You are a jackass.

—The "Jealous" girl

What's the Big Rush?

I'd like to give a shout-out to all of the people in their 20s who are getting engaged, married and having babies. I don't understand the urgency right now to have the whole white-picket-fence life. I mean, is there nothing else you think you can do as an individual? Is there no more you'd like to do—and you're all set with the person you're with every single day? Is it not possible that you may be settling for something right now, for fear that it won't appear later in life? I thought living in the city and dating was the fun part of being young—and now it seems everyone wants to grow up so fast. I feel like a part of the deep South has started to hit our beloved Boston. I lived in the South for five years and most of my friends went to college down there to get a husband. I moved back up here to gain experience in life—not become like everyone else. Maybe my biological clock is behind the rest of the world, but I am content with myself right now, and my goals, ambition and life plan. I guess my question was more rhetorical—but I just don't understand the current trend.

—The Un-Newlywed

Pete R.

I think I spotted you in Pearl in Cambridge on September 27. A few years ago we had dinner a few times. We talked about traffic lights at the Grasshopper and you almost went on a trip to Guatemala with me. I thought you moved out to the Midwest after you graduated. If you're in town, if it was you I spotted, you should drop a line.

—Jen

Not in Such a Rush

I ran into you at Store 24 in Charlestown. I was wearing a black polo and shorts, you were wearing a smile brighter than any I've ever seen. We chatted about who should go first in line and both agreed that after work we're not in such a rush anymore. You thanked me as you left the counter, and I was awestruck and couldn't get out a word. I'd love to have another chance to learn how to speak.

—drew1212242@yahoo.com

To Nick Flynn,

I heard you read from your new book at Barnes & Noble at Boston University September 17. I was sitting to your right, third row back, blonde hair, striped shirt and black skirt. In about a half hour, you were able to invoke feelings of sadness, loss, excitement and happiness in me all at once. Though I've been on God's path for almost three years, it has still been difficult to feel any emotion in its entirety. Your words made me feel alive.

You wrote "Welcome to the Eternal Present" on the inside cover of my book, and I think I have such a clearer meaning of what that means now. Thanks for your hope and beauty.

—A Fan in Suck City

Applefest Half-Marathon

To the guy who ran in the Applefest half-marathon in Hollis, N.H., October 2. I looked for you after the race to thank you for taking the time to pick up my tape after I clumsily dropped it at about mile 8. Without A Tribe Called Quest, I don't think I would have had the motivation to keep going at my target pace...especially with all of those hills! Thanks again, and maybe I'll see you next year!

—Keep on running

Cornelius,

Happy Birthday to the best lawn wrangler that ever wrangled! Max Fischer's got nothing on you. Let's get lucky!

Your Pal, Inez

Trains' love

A map, one train, two bikes. Full moon. September 26 in a commuter station. Tell me where we started and decide where we go.

—Catch it!

Make My Dream Come True

I am the girl in white, walking slowly on the arm of a man I will love forever. You are the serious-looking guy in a tux, no doubt sweating, and patiently awaiting my arrival. All of the bright flashes and expressive faces from my sides are creating the dream like tunnel for me to pass through. My focus is on the strong standing, familiar figure in the distance. As I move closer, it becomes clear that this is not a dream. I see you and want to run into your arms. I too will be patient and take in every moment and feeling of this day; the day I will vow before God, family and friends to spend the rest of my life making you as happy as you make me. Meet me and make my dreams come true. Happy Wedding Day!

—Dreamgirl

My Fox

Whether sipping wine at Lo Conte's or drinking Abita at the Bulldog, you make my life extraordinary. Thank you for following me to Lucky's and beyond. As our adventure continues, know that you have tamed me as I have tamed you. Two down, the rest of our lives to go.

—Your Rose

Ciao, Ms. Mistral

Thanks for reaching out. It's been "two" long. Perhaps we should pick up our conversation about our favorite places sometime. If you'd like to do that, drop me an e-mail and we'll pick up where we left off.

—itnyfr@yahoo.com

The Big Dog on Newbury Street

I noticed you walking your German shepherd past the Starbucks on upper Newbury Street. I was sitting alone at a table outside, wearing a gray, hooded sweatshirt. You were in a baby blue shirt and jeans. Your dog seemed to walk you more than you walked him. You had the most amazing smile on your face, even though you could barely keep up. Our eyes met and I asked if you needed help. You laughed and said it was good exercise. Hoping you and your giant dog will pass my way again.

—Starbucks Girl

Brookline Star

To the cute blond boy from Boston College who I kept running into at the Star Market in Brookline Sept. 26, let's make it a spaghetti dinner for two.

—Der

Sox-Shooter

To the photo-girl in the Red Sox press box next to the team's dugout with the long brown hair and tight blue jeans: I can't believe my luck that I had season tickets just several rows behind you and saw you nearly every home game. I also can't believe I never walked the short distance to ask you your name. You were more exciting to watch than Manny.

—Ungah

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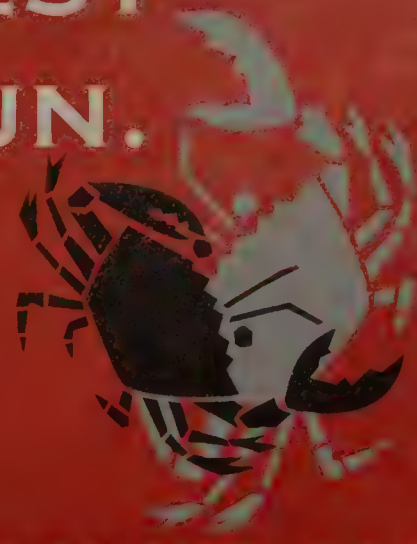
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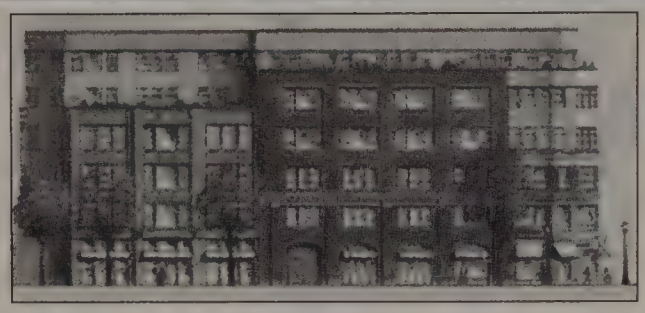
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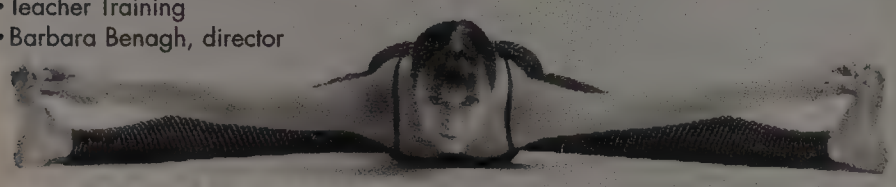


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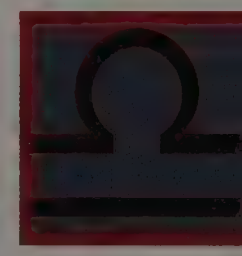
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OCTOBER 20 – NOVEMBER 2, 2004 BY ROCKIE GARDINER



LIBRA SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

By dealing with one issue at a time, one person after another, you can do a fairly decent job of clearing up the confusion at home or among other family members. You could also wait until impressionable Neptune comes out of its retrograde stupor on the 24th and begins to lift the fog that encompassed you in May. Or you can stall until Venus enters Libra on the 28th and makes whatever you're offering more desirable. However, while there's passion and power behind your words, why wait?

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

You're in a situation somewhat similar to your Libra neighbor's this week, i.e., empowered by the strong emotions behind well-chosen words, especially if your audience belongs to a group you were once allied with. There's something inexplicably arousing about the connection between your passionate Pluto co-ruler and affectionate Venus, so if the conversation heats up or the wordplay becomes suggestive, you may decide to press on to the natural conclusion. You could also play it safe and pass.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

Since so many unexpressed emotions may surface when Venus challenges Pluto in your sign this week, gird yourself for the fallout. Not only another Sagittarius, but a Virgo, Libra, Taurus or Scorpio you either work with or are related to might launch a purely personal attack. While you've defended yourself before or, more effective yet, ignored what was being said, this time information you've kept to yourself may be released to the public. Everything else is up in the air until the full moon eclipse kicks off the scary Halloween weekend.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

Information that may have gotten your goat last week could turn out to be a full-fledged problem this week when your well-organized Saturn ruler is tested by the Libra sun. Rest assured you won't be alone in this matter; Saturn in your Cancer house of partners ensures that a significant other will also feel the squeeze. This hard-working person may have a better chance of succeeding right now than you do, so if you can comfortably relinquish a modicum of control, do it.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

Your current attitude about yourself, what you want and how you intend to go about getting it may change when impressionable Neptune in your sign changes direction on the 24th. Will you become more idealistic or suddenly turn cynical? Less image-conscious or more artificially enhanced? You might also notice that your workload feels burdensome and that your exercise routine no longer energizes you. Try to persevere, because you'll be amply rewarded with compliments and kudos, perhaps a prize, by Thanksgiving.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

Having responsible Saturn in your house of romance, recreation and risk means always having to say you're sorry. And when the willful sun tests Saturn, as it does this week, you may come to the conclusion that you're the one who has to pay if you still want to play. A child or a lover can be especially problematic right now. Try to enlist the help of significant others; if they won't contribute financially, they may have other resources, e.g., information or connections, you can tap into.

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

This is when two years' worth of visualization, planning and step-by-step follow-through finally comes to fruition. While your single-minded Mars ruler and idealistic Neptune form a rewarding trine, your hidden talent—perseverance?—becomes evident to all concerned, especially an ally who has maintained a "fair and balanced" distance. Despite one more challenge around Thanksgiving, figure on launching another project in April when the Mars-Neptune conjunctio inaugurates the next two-year cycle.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

A lot more passion than you expected can be unleashed when your Venus ruler is tested, teased and turned on by manipulative Pluto. Down-and-dirty is how Pluto in your house of sex and transformation prefers to play, so make sure you're prepared for a memorable encounter. Since this aspect is better suited to Halloween fun and games, the appropriate costume could be just what the doctor ordered. A career matter that has you puzzled becomes less ambiguous next week after nebulous Neptune inches forward.

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

Although a question about a career or family issue may b answered while your informative Mercury ruler calms erratic Uranus, it is far from the last word on the subject. Mercury in secretive Scorpio tends to discover facts that have been suppressed or simply unavailable, but when th Messenger advances to expansive Sagittarius a few days after the election, that knowledge may become wide-spread. Apply this timeline to your own situation, factoring in the resolution of a lingering financial hassle around Halloween.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

If you had the foresight to stick last issue's forecast on the fridge, you know what to expect for the rest of the month. You may also have a hint of how the Libra new moon/solar eclipse will affect what you're currently into. But if you're still wondering, simply wait until the sun moves out of its challenging square to Saturn in your sig Crabs born close to the Leo cusp are the ones currently facing the restrictive policies of the dour, sour planet. Those who have already shouldered Saturn's responsi-bilities should be relieved.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

You don't have to understand why you're paying dues as long as you realize that you're feeling drained, anxious or depressed simply because your ebullient sun ruler is being restrained by sad-sack Saturn energy. Get past this brief encounter with harsh reality, and your innate good spirits should bounce back in time for UN Day. The 24th is also when elusive Neptune in your house of partners—past an present—turns direct. Shortly thereafter, there'll be news to surprise and delight you. A veritable breakthrough.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

Relish the last of the homage being paid, the attention you're receiving, because magnetic Venus remains in Virg only until the 28th. And while you won't go back to being plain Jane, other aspects of your life could be affected by the total lunar eclipse that week. Stay focused on various money matters, since a steady hand plus good research ca help you steer through the waves, the financial highs and lows, generated by the eclipse. You seem to be more psychic whenever your Mercury ruler is in Scorpio, so follow your intuition.

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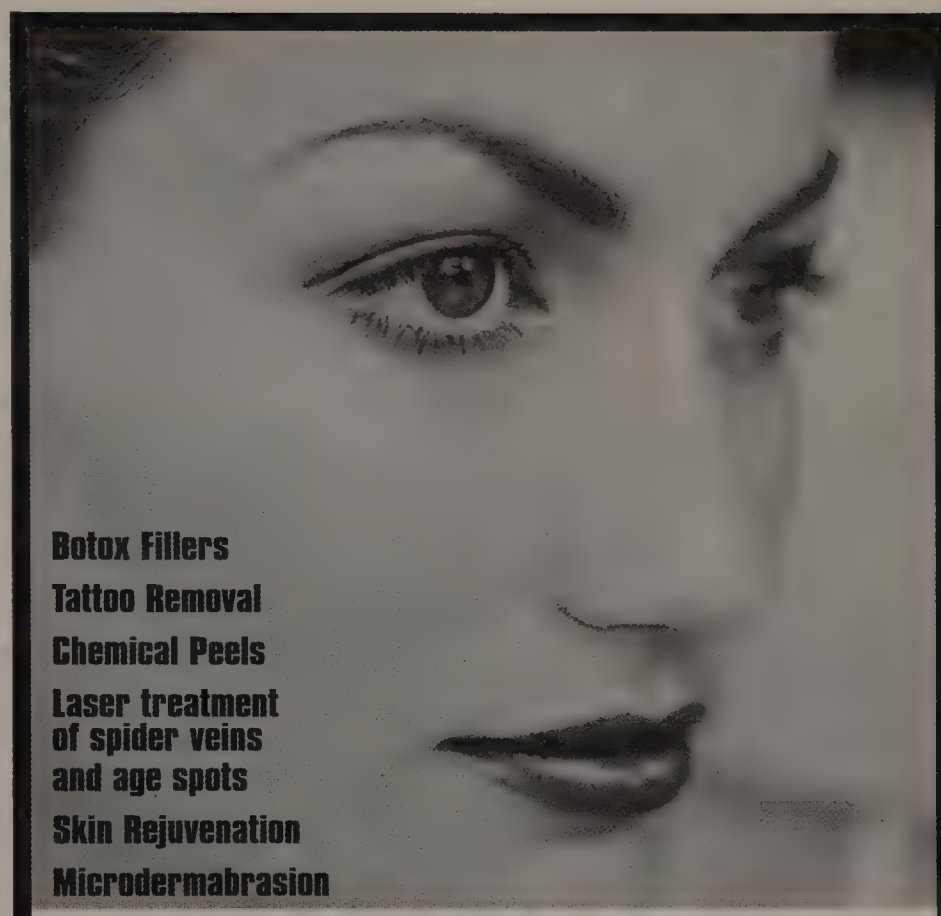
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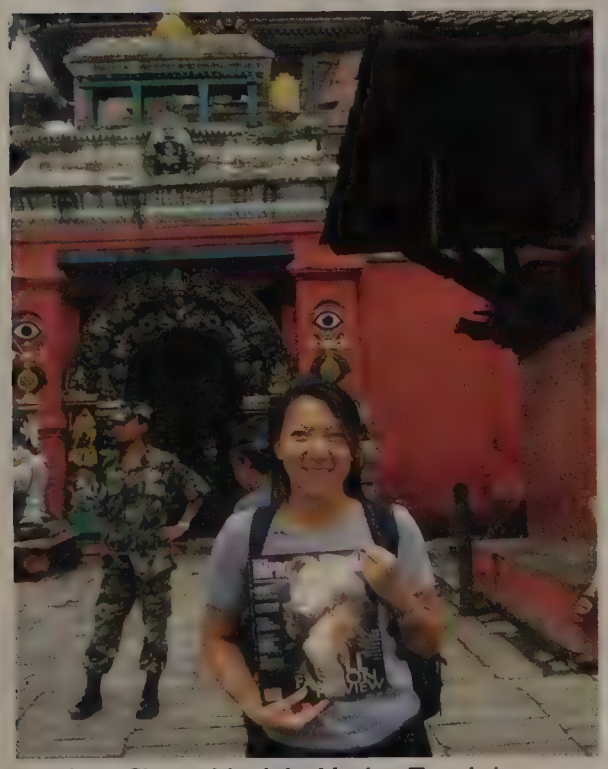
Kristen and Ashley Rumble spent their honeymoon in St. Lucia, West Indies. Ashley is a British lord, thus making him a royal Rumble.



Cindy Rodzen and Andrea Whipple ventured to Samburu National Reserve in Kenya, where warriors Seraiyo, Sidai, Learamu and Buku rechristened furry green idol Wally the Green Monster as "Jobu."



Mississippi Governor Haley Barbour and aide de camp Joe Cloyd know that we can thank their state for Dunkin' Donuts' excellent new Mississippi lids.



May-Lynn Chang visited the Monkey Temple in Kathmandu, Nepal. It's guarded by the brass monkey.



Sharon Marsh hiked to Cloud's Rest in Yosemite National Park in California, where dehumidifier use has driven clouds to extinction.



Alex Iglecia and Beth Turgeon flied one on at the El Avión restaurant in Manuel Antonio, Costa Rica.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Looking for booty, cleaning the termites out of their peg legs and enunciating their "Arrrrr"s at Pirates' Week, October 24–November 7 in George Town, Cayman Islands.

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IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Thursday, September 23, **The Green Briar** celebrated its 15 Year Anniversary with food, drinks and live entertainment.







1. Back row: **Jimmy Del Ray**, manager of Starlight Karaoke Service; **Jim Merrill**, business development manager for Burke Distributing Corporation; **Danelle Sarvas**, promotions/marketing director for WFNX; **Dessie Kerins**, general manager of The Briar Restaurant Group; **Michael Braccia**, area manager for Burke Distributing Corporation; Front row: **Joe Fenton**, manager of The Green Briar.
2. **Tom Treacy** and **Clelia Castro**, students at Boston College.
3. **Sheila O'Connell**, paralegal for Goldstein and Herndon; **Andrea Esposito**, interior designer for DRA Architects; **Noelle Quinn**, Brigham & Women's Hospital; **Kerie Seamans**, finance for Raytheon; and **Danielle Angus**, contracts for Raytheon.

On Friday, September 17, **Opal** celebrated its Grand Opening.







1. **Julie Pettit**, model for Maggie Inc.; **Mike Greggorio**, sales representative for United Liquor and **Lindsay Smith**, manager for Sephora, Chestnut Hill.
2. **Nicole Yarman**, sales representative for M.S. Walker; **Terry Smith**, president of Associated Insurance Agency; and **Lucy Rivera**, lawyer with Suffolk Lawyers for Justice.
3. **Michael Rossi**, stylist with Salon Fontana; **Roseanna Martino**, owner of The Altered Bride; **Bryan Huck** and **Tyron Croon**, co-owners of Opal.

On Friday and Saturday, September 24 and 25, the **Liquor Store** celebrated its Grand Opening Weekend with cocktails, contests and prizes.







1. **Nick Driskill**, model from Cambridge; **Tyler Littwin**, guitar and vocals for Thick as Thieves; and **Esen Caglar**, student at Harvard Business School.
2. **Janine Sadaka**, student at Long Island University; **Igal Nassi**, student at Brandeis University; and **Yasemin Arik**, co-founder and vice president of Bim Consulting.
3. **Andrew Fraker**, research assistant with the Harvard School of Public Health; **Bianca Kricek**, student at Boston University; **Gabriel Mugar**, producer at Press Pass TV; and **Nicole Brown**, clinical assistant from Wellesley.

On Wednesday, September 29, **The Improper Bostonian** sponsored the Boston Music Awards at **Avalon**. Local artists gathered to applaud each other's achievements over the past year.







1. **Femi**, artist, and **Jide Akindele**, vice president, both of Nu Tyme Entertainment; a **Chris Reuning**, violin maker.
2. **Barry Rosen** of Boston, and **Erica Kay**, or air personality for Citadel Broadcasting, Q10
3. **Norman Dalager**, producer for Boston.co and **Bridget Barrett**, makeup artist for M cosmetics.

PHOTOS: GREEN BRIAR AND LIQUOR STORE, ALISON MORANT; OPAL, JULIE KANE; AVALON, KATIE SCHM

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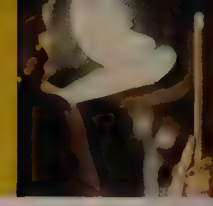
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Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2002. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston 617-426-3333.* Open 11am - 2am, 7days a week. Kennedy's Midtown is a cultural experience far from the maddening crowd while set in heart of it. Kennedy's serves a lunch and dinner menu of international cuisine. In the evenings they play host to some of Boston's finest Pianists who entertain with a range of tunes from Broadway to Jazz and Blues. Kennedy's embraces all the finer qualities of regal Boston and throws in a dash of old fashioned Irish Hospitality for measure.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the Motor-Mart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., South Boston,617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Ned Devine's *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere inthe heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Science Street Café *Science Park, Boston, 617-723-2500 www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out Boston's newest nightspot - The Science Street Café at the Museum of Science. And while you're there be sure to checkout our new exhibit, The Lord of the Rings Motion Picture Trilogy – The Exhibition. Try our out-of-this world signature martinis, gourmet appetizers and decadent desserts. Open 6-10pm. Parking available.

Sidney's Grille *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why Bon Appétit magazine says, "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breakfast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus visit www.sidneysgrille.com.

Solas *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am 7 days a week.

Strega *379 Hanover St., Boston 617-523-8481 www.stregaristorante.com.* A fine dining experience in Boston's historic North End. Enjoy our cozy, romantic atmosphere, splendid wine list and savory Italian dishes. Strega buzzes with a mix of casual tourists, local residents and love-struck couples. The menu offers something for everyone. Traditional dishes like the gnocchi are anything but simple, featuring flavor just as robust as that found in intricate dishes. Find yourself in the company of celebrities, including owner Nick Varano's pals from of the Sopranos. Available for corporate and private functions.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

BARS/CLUBS

Beer Specialty

Boston Beer Works *112 Canal St., near the Fleet Center, 617-896-BEER, 61 Brookline Ave., across from Fenway Park, 617-536-BEER and 278 Derby St., in Historic Salem, 978-745-BEER.* Boston's oldest and largest restaurant brewery with 3 locations! Bold American Food. Award Winning Beer. 15 microbrewed beers always on tap. 16 American wines by the glass. 15 championship billiards tables at our Canal Street location. Complete party planning capabilities. Private Rooms. Customizeable menus. Lunch. Dinner. Late Night. Always a good time. Check out the BIGGER and BOLDER menu.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exotic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

Big City - pool hall, pizza kitchen, Beer Bar *138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8pm, free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Clubs

Felt *533 Washington St., Boston 617.350.5555* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, right next door to the Opera House; in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering sophisticated billiards, NewYork style Lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere of DJ's and dancing, combined with the delicious entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Contemporary cusine by Chef Ben Stevens.

Stadium – Clubhouse *232 Old Colony Ave. South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Stadium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale nightclub featuring two bars, a hardwood dance floor and parking. An exciting yet relaxed 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety of music and beautiful people crowding the dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights. An ideal place for your next bachelor, bachelorette or birthday party.

Club Q Boston *25 Union St., Boston, 617 742-2121.* Open 9pm - 2am Wednesday through Saturday. What nightlife in Boston has been waiting for, this state of the art Nightclub in the heart of Faneuil Hall attracts a stylish and eclectic crowd. Open Wednesday through Saturday Club Q hosts Boston's top DJs spinning Hip Hop, House and Top 40's. With two bars three VIP areas and pool tables, Club Q is the place to see and be seen. Credit cards accepted

Comedy

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday night Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, the is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451 9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors



three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www. theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. Mingle. Let your hair down; see and be seen on the big screen. Simply the hippest way to spend a night of all-out fun in Boston's Financial District. Come after work. Come to dance. Come to go wild with your friends. There's always something exciting happening – and you never know who you'll bump into. Join us and experience what the buzz is all about.

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 617-227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

Irish

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 617-742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston,617-742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton 517-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11am - 1am 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

The Green Dragon *11Marshall St., Boston, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern toasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 617-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

General

The Alley *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. www.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

Aqua *120 Water St., Boston, 617-720-4900.* Boston's newest place to be seen is now open in the heart of the Financial District. Whether relaxing with a martini in one of our cozy booths, sipping a margarita on our roof deck or watching your hometown favorites on our high definition plasma TV. Aqua has what you're looking for after work and late night with our resident and guest DJs spinning your favorite mixes through our state of the art sound system all night long.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Boston Rocks *245 Quincy Market Place Boston,617-726-1110 www.boston-rocks.net. 21+.* Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St.,617- 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2003. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Downtown Lounge *138 Portland St., Boston 617-523-8383.* Tempting tapas, modern martinis and contemporary cocktails are just a few of the elements awaiting your arrival. A distinctive destination in the heart of North Station, located just one block from the Fleet Center. Share crab taquitos, shaved portobello mushrooms or grilled white pizza. Revive with a specialty martini while sinking into soft curvy seating. Spacious and sublime, Dowtown Lounge is an attractive meeting place for business, luncheons, social, after work cocktails and events.

The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010.* Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St.,Boston 617-722-0161.* The newest edition to Boston's night scene. This New Orleans style bar is just steps away from the Fleet Center. Hurricane O'Reilly's serves up the best that Boston nightlife has to offer. Come dance the night away with the hottest music around. We will leave you yearning for Bourbon Street.

Jillian's Boston *145 Ipswich St., Boston, 617-437-0300.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring more than 200 high tech games, six full bars, 50 pool tables, racing simulators, Black Jack for Fun and much more. Atlas Bar and Grill on Jillian's first floor offers full service dining featuring innovative American cuisine, a giant screen video wall and dancing every Friday & Saturday night. www.jilliansboston.com.

The Junction – Your Neighborhood Bar & Grill. *110 Dorchester St., South Boston, 617-268-6429.* Delicious food, great atmosphere and friendly staff –and it all happens at the Junction -South Boston's Neighborhood Bar & Grill. Enjoy our half-priced appetizers on weekdays from 3 to 6 pm. Join us for live music & entertainment on the weekends and for our fun trivia nights on Tuesdays.

Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Lounge. Cocktails. Dancing. Nightlife. Come see the lights of Parris. Sample the eclectic lounge menu featuring grilled pizza, oyster shooters ans steak tartar. Sip a Classic, Apple or French 75 martini, and then motion onto the huge dance floor featuring Live Music with the best bands and DJs Thursday through Saturday. Named for the original architect of the Greek-revival-style building, Alexander Parris, you're nightlife experience at Parris will be Boston and beyond. Open 5pm - 2am Wednesay - Saturday. Cover charge on Friday and Saturday.

Jazz

Regattabar *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Tuesday-Saturday nights and occasional Sunday afternoons. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square. Shows at 8:30pm Tues-Thurs, 7:30pm & 10:00pm Fri. & Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617.876.7777 for tickets and information, 800.881.1818 for hotel reservations and information.

Latin

Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston 617-351-7001.* A multistory Latin-themed restaurant and club, Sophia's treats guests to a tantalizing Tapas-style menu, live Salsa bands and hi-energy Latin dance. From a romantic dinner and salsa lessons to hi-energy dance and mingling on the roof deck over sangria and Salsa, an evening at Sophia's is always Hot! Hot! Hot!

Sports Bar - Upscale

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www.theplaceboston.com.* Voted Boston's Best Sports Bar 3 years in a row by The Improper Bostonian! Mingle with your favorite sports celebrities: Brady, Thornton, Walker, Garciaparra. You never know who you'll run into. Enjoy the wildest party atmosphere in the heart of the Financial District. It's never the same experience twice – we've got exclusive sports video productions and game coverage on our state-of the-art flat screen TVs. So join us to see what the buzz is all about and find out why people in-the-know feel right at home.

Stadium *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* Boston's Best Damn Sports Bar, Period. A brand new, high-end sports bar featuring two floors, three bars, 30 flat screen TVs – including the one in the men's room, a dance floor and parking. Stadium menu offers an enticing selection of appetizers, salads, steak & burgers, fresh seafood and drinks

BRUNCH

Harvard Gardens *315 Cambridge St., Beacon Hill, Boston, 617-523-2727. www.harvardgardens. com.* Cozy up to the beautiful mahogany bar or slip into a comfy booth and enjoy Harvard Gardens' menu of cool cocktails and comfort food. Brunch serves up eggs and pastrami hash, thick-cut French toast with caramelized bananas, specialty pizzas and Boston's best Bloody Mary. Harvard Gardens serves brunch Saturday and Sunday, 11:00am - 3:00pm.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $6, entrees $16, desserts $7 or all 3 courses for $24. Sundays: $39 adults and $17.50 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended 617-661-5005.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**, *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. F menu also available. 112 taps, 380 mic

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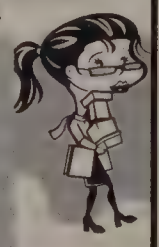
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Boston Young Professionals Association. 617-591-1400. For more information visit www.-bostonypa.com. Please see our display on page 117.

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For Boston's 40-60-somethings. www.boomergang.com. See display on pg 117.

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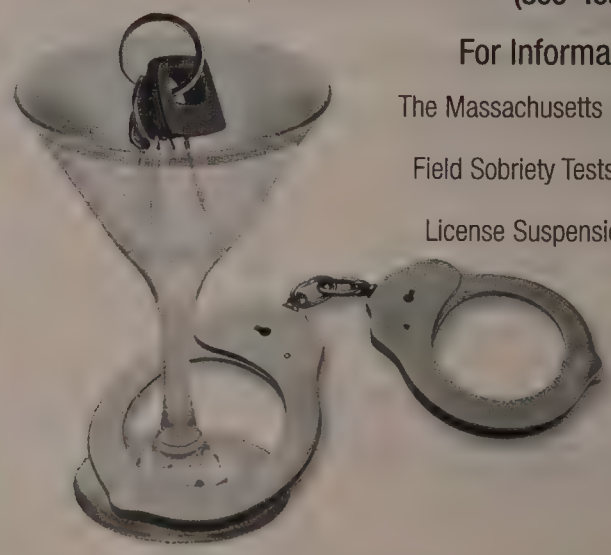
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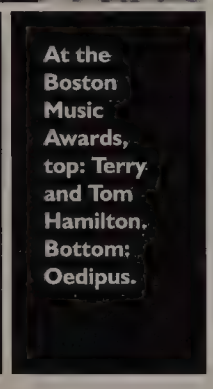
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LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF







At the Boston Music Awards, top: Terry and Tom Hamilton. Bottom: Oedipus.

WHERE'S SID VICIOUS WHEN YOU NEED HIM?

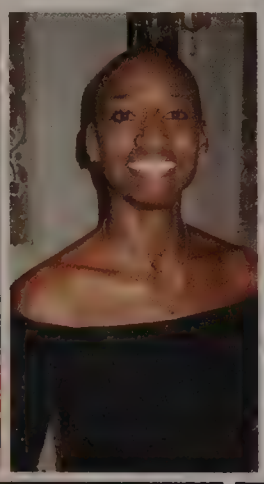
On the fun scale, attending an awards ceremony is right up there with an IRS audit and getting a root canal, but the **NEMO Foundation** took the sting out of it by hosting the **17th annual Boston Music Awards** at **Avalon**.

Outside, there may have been a dearth of limousines, hyperventilating teenage fans and other trappings of rock 'n' roll fabulousness (unless you count the two stretch Hummers parked down the block), but there was a reasonable level of celebrity wattage inside, and attendees at the VIP reception had a chance to lubricate themselves adequately before the evening got under way.

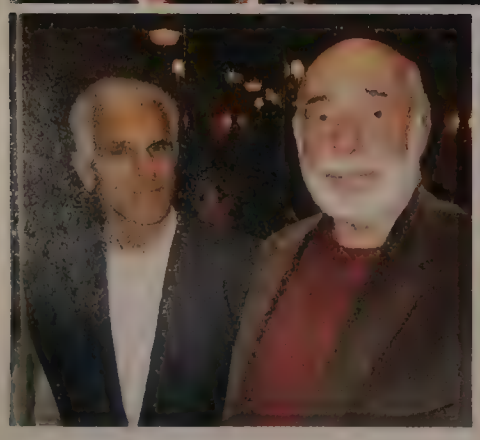
Present and accounted for: Aerosmith bassist **Tom Hamilton** and his stunning spouse, **Terry**; hip-hop mega-star **Mr. Lif**; folk heartthrob **Ellis Paul**; Celtics legend **Bill Russell**; alternababe **Kay Hanley**; radio god **Oedipus**; drive-time DJ and Burt Convy stunt double **Neal Robert**; former Extreme member **Paul Geary**; Wang CEO **Josiah Spaulding Jr.**; filmmaker **John MacNeil**; lunachick **Linda Comstock**; record producer **Ralph Jaccodine**; marketing beauty **Radka Opalka**; perky publicist **Erika Schermerhorn**; rock photographer **Leo Gozbekian**; hometown favorites **the Dropkick Murphys**; legendary '50s doo-wop group **the G-Clefs**; and lots of people with important hair, significant tattoos and imaginative body piercings, making some bold fashion statements.

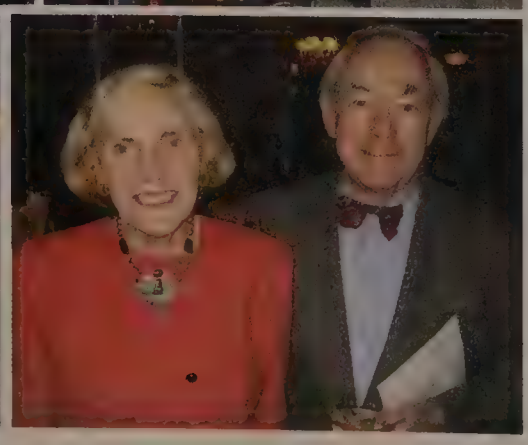
Of course, musical hipster mystique requires adopting a blasé attitude toward everything, which explains why many attendees affected complete boredom during the awards portion of the evening, which was blessedly short and was spiced up by live performances.











At the BALF auction, clockwise from top left: Rhys Gardiner; Andrea Spence; Lynne Smith and Angela Menino; Smoki Bacon and Dick Concannon; Louis Mula and Edgar Knudsen

It also explains comments like the following, overheard in line for the bar: "What's wrong with rock stars today? Nobody ODs on heroin anymore."

WHAT WOULD EMILY POST DO?

If fantasy auctions have become the workhorses of charity fund-raising, the **Boston Adult Literacy Fund** has a prize-winning Clydesdale on its hands.

The organization's 12th **Auction for Literacy**, held in the ballroom of the **Colonnade Hotel**, featured items such as a game of Pictionary at the Cambridge home of intellectual giants **Anne Bernays** and **Justin Kaplan**, an inscribed first edition by Nobel Prize–winning poet **Seamus Heaney**, a day of bird-watching with guidebook author and foremost authority **David Allen Sibley**, and literary immortality in the form of having your name assigned to a character in the next mystery by **Jeremiah Healy**.

Among the glitterati and literati on-hand: TV personalities **Smoki Bacon** and **Dick Concannon**; babe-alicious blonde news anchor **Lisa Hughes**; movie theater executive **Edgar Knudsen** and his other half, **Louis Mula**; Brahmin beauty **Rhys Gardiner**; bejeweled fashion designer **Paula Jaq'lyn**; ubiquitous do-gooders **Gary** and **Lynne Smith**; first lady **Angela Menino**; Cambridge eminences **Joan** and **John Bok**; the breathtakingly beautiful **Andrea Spence** and so on and so forth.

"I have an interesting problem," said one guest. "I'm having lunch with a writer whose new book is all about anal sex, and I'm not sure how to broach the subject politely."

Truth be told, neither do we, but we'd suggest waiting until after the dishes are cleared.

At the Design Walk About, clockwise from top left: Deb Freelove and Cindy Pasquina; Chris and Liz Bates; Tatiana Armstrong and Heather Wells; Philip Guarino and Tony Pangaro; Julie Bargeron and Deb Savona.











WHO NEEDS BOTOX?

For design junkies, touring a furniture showroom is akin to ogling porn, so for them, the **Design Walk About** proved to be a highly titillating evening to benefit the **Institute of Contemporary Art**.

After visiting upscale home furnishing stores like **Montage**, **Thomas Moser**, **Landry & Arcari**, **Arclinea**, the **Morson Collection** and **Adesso**, guests gathered in the atrium of **10 St. James St.** for a cocktail reception and raffle.

Prominent among the throng: interior designers **Heather Wells** and **Tatiana Armstrong**; real estate titan **Tony Pangaro**; visual artist **Julie Bargeron** and graphic designer **Deb Savona**; Arclinea owner **Philip Guarino**; Montage owners **Chris** and **Liz Bates**; and one fashion plate who responded to a compliment on her scarf by saying, "Thanks. I think it's made of rabbit testicles."

However, the evening's funniest exchange took place when a man was being introduced to a woman and said, "I think we met once when you worked over at the Design Center."

"Oh, I've blocked out that whole period of my life," she said.

"But you were there a long time, weren't you?"

"Yes," she said. "Which means that as far as I'm concerned, I'm still only 27." IB

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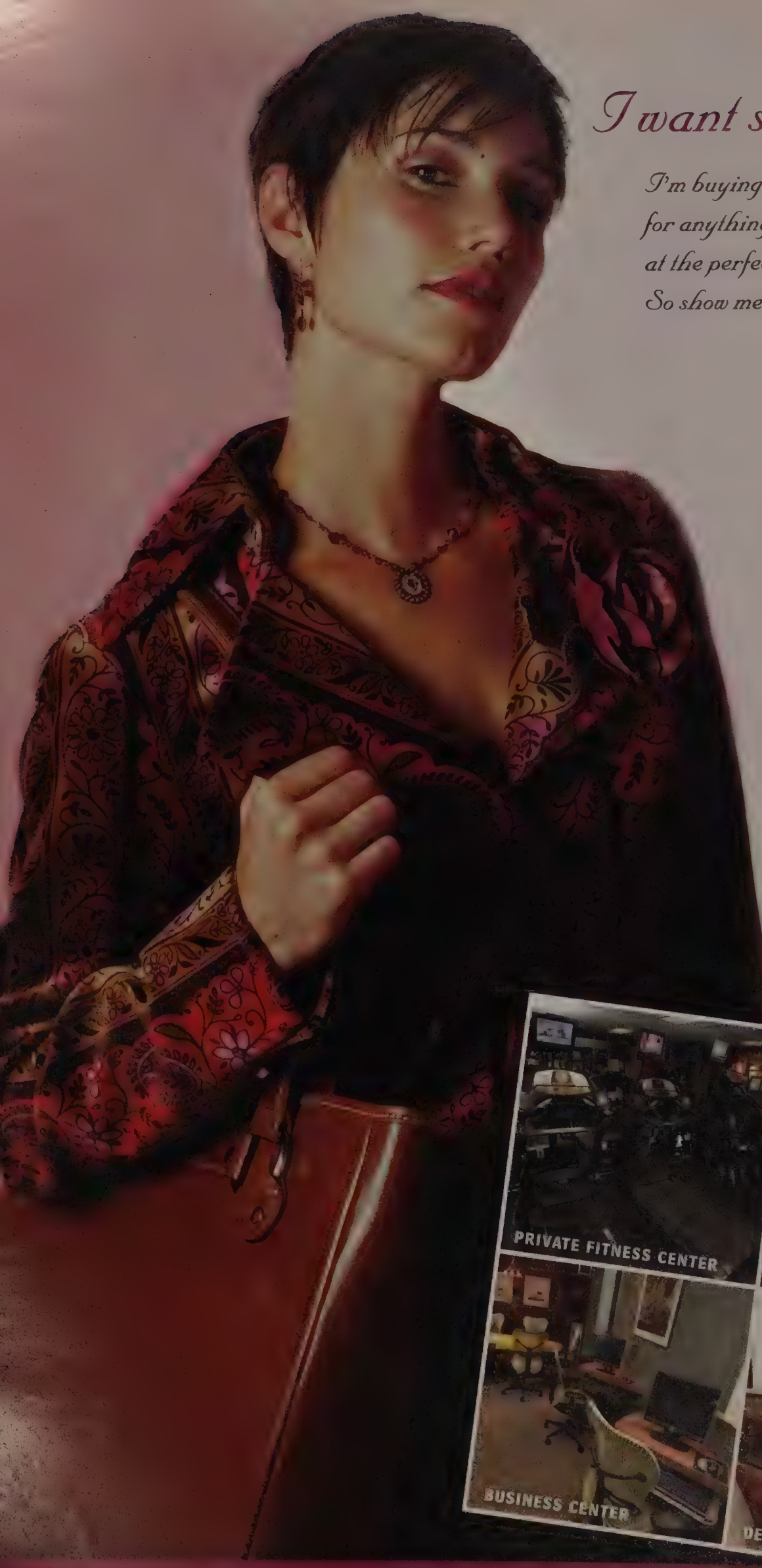
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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR



SEEING RED

Red Sox caps, tees, and even red body paint might be the hottest fashions on the streets of Boston these days. But when you feel ready to separate from those wardrobe essentials for a few hours (and don't let us rush you), our Winter Fashion issue is here with some fresh ideas and advice.

On these pages you'll find the latest looks for the coming season—from coats in every color to trendy metallic accessories and flashy diamond jewelry to the sleek suits the fashion world has decreed a must for men.

The last few pages of this issue were shipping to the printer as the Sox won the World Series, so our Red Sox tribute will appear in our November 17 issue. But be sure to read Chris Collins' column on page 18 of this issue, and check out Rich Levine's pre-Series Q&A with Johnny Damon (The Word, page 10).

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

BOOK 'EM

I'm surprised that author Ben Mezrich has such poor reading comprehension skills (Letters, Oct. 20). In its Literary Issue, the IMPROPER was clearly looking to feature writers who were of the up-and-coming set, and Susan Orlean earned the cover as contest judge, interviewee of Soroff, and, yes, Boston-based writer. As well, Ben contradicts himself: whining for your attention and then reminding you of his IMPROPER interview in 1997. His cheap plug will hopefully be transparent enough to not yield book sales. There are other Boston area authors who've surpassed your achievement, Ben. Perhaps, like Gish Jen, you might turn out something new and then come calling.

As for Orem's short story being poorly researched, it was also grammatically awkward. Long sentences are fine when done with literary mastery, but Orem's read like run-ons (even though they weren't). I also feel strongly that next year's contest should allow for different types of writing; that way, those of us who excel at essays, poetry or news stories might have a chance to compete.

—BRIAN ETHAN BRANDT
Boston

BIG FOUR?

There is no such thing as the "Big Four" in Boston sports anymore (The Collins Card, Oct. 20). Sports radio in this town invariably refers to the period between the Super Bowl and the start of spring training as "the dead zone." Any mention of a team besides the Red Sox and Patriots is usually met with some sort of ridicule. At least the Bruins managed to pull some decent TV numbers in the playoffs, while the Celtics were competing with the Revolution just to make the Tuesday ratings chart. That said, Boston is a two-horse town, and with, of all things, an NBA lockout looming next year, this may become a two-horse nation.

—CHRIS PECK
Waltham

Chris Collins' column about the NHL lockout in this past issue of the IMPROPER was a good article and I enjoyed it. He closed the piece with the question, "Is this still a hockey town?" Well, Chris, being a lifelong hockey fan (40 years) and hardly missing any games, I think I can answer that question. I believe the answer is nobody misses the NHL now because hockey disappeared over 15 years ago.

The NHL Board of Governors expanded a little too much, thus watering down the league with players who couldn't have played minor league hockey 15 or 20 years ago. Transferring a regional game where fans are loyal and knowledgeable to other places where hockey is just a night out wasn't progressive, either. You don't make progress by taking one step forward (expansion to Florida, Phoenix, etc.) and one step back (moving teams from known passionate cities like Quebec, Hartford and Winnipeg).

Which brings me to the style aspect of the game. It seems that the players being drafted are no less than 6'5", 250-pound cyborgs that can skate like the wind and still don't have an ounce of finesse. Combine that with the fact that everyone wears padding made by NASA that's five times bigger than the past, throw in the fact that everyone wears helmets, and you end up with a rink that's been outgrown by players who make it look like a giant pinball machine.

Mention the game of 30 years ago and everyone seems to remember the fighting. What everyone seems to forget is that there was a hell of a lot more finesse in the game as well.

Question: Do you think that if there had been a lockout in the late '70s the response in Boston would have been the same as today? Answer: That's a no brainer!

—FRANK BLANCIFORTE
East Boston

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MATTHEW JORDAN SMITH

Photographer Matthew Jordan Smith has worked with celebrities ranging from Halle Berry and Britney Spears to Oprah Winfrey and Angela Bassett. His clients include Revlon, L'Oreal and HBO, and his book, *Sepia Dreams: A Celebration of Black Achievement Through Words and Images*, was featured on E! Entertainment. Smith has also taught at the School of Visual Arts in Manhattan, where he is based. He shot this issue's men's fashion feature, "The Gentleman Is Back," which begins on page 28.

Tell Us What You Think

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EDITED BY ERIN HAGEDORN

new in town

CAMBRIDGE COCKTAILS

Chris Lutes and Matthew Curtis, owners of Audubon Circle and Cambridge 1, keep adding to their empire of trendy-yet-casual bar-restaurants. Their newest spot, Middlesex Lounge, opened in early October on Mass. Ave., a few doors down from another bar the pair owns, Miracle of Science. Like the other three, Middlesex is funky, fashionable and fun.

Sparsely decorated, and outfitted with one small bar, high ceilings and low tables that are the same height as the seats, the new lounge-restaurant hybrid is more industrial-chic than Lutes and Curtis' other hangouts. The furniture is modular, meaning the small seats and benches are on wheels (and equipped with brakes), so patrons can create their own seating arrangement. GM Jason Tobin tells us the sliding seats also come in handy when the mood strikes for late-night dancing—they're shoved aside to create a dance floor.

Middlesex's lunch menu (available 11:30 am–2:30 pm) offers pressed sandwiches (like the tasty turkey, bacon and swiss), soups and salads, all priced between $4.50 and $7. In the evening (5 pm–1 am), Middlesex reopens with a focus on the drinks. In addition to wine—by the glass ($6–$15) and by the bottle ($21–$70)—the menu includes a few interesting brews and an array of specialty cocktails. Among them: aged rum punch ($8.50); the Demi-peche (a $5.50 concoction made with peach sirop and Hefeweizen); a Pimms cup with soda and cucumber ($6) and a Dark and Stormy ($6.50). Light bites—small plates meant for sharing—available on the lounge menu include Ten Tiny Tacos ($8), bite-size shells layered with cilantro, jalapeno, avocado and tomato; shrimp shumai in soy sauce ($5); and jerk chicken sticks ($5).



While the funky decor and fun drinks are a draw in themselves, Tobin sees Middlesex's DJs as the main attraction. A laptop DJ provides the music at lunchtime, and at night there's an eclectic mix of vinyl—according to Tobin, everything from "murky thunderclap chop to golden-era hip-hop to rock and funk." *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-6739). www.middlesexlounge.com.* —*E.H.*

this just in

SKY'S THE LIMIT?

The MasterCard commercial where a guy says he'd trade his girlfriend for World Series tickets isn't far from the mark, as it turned out. The bubbly was barely uncorked after ALCS Game 7 when the Red Sox ticket frenzy reached an unheard-of level. Some of the items being offered on Craigslist in exchange for World Series tickets: a year's rent on a one-bedroom apartment in the Back Bay; a slew of cars, from a 1988 Saab convertible to a 1997 Isuzu Trooper; personal chef services; a week's stay at a house in France; laser hair removal services; and of course, sexual favors. But aside from one guy trying to trade his tickets for a boat (which he planned to name "Game 6") most lucky ticket-holders were looking for good, old-fashioned greenbacks—the more the better. Ace Ticket's cheapest grandstand seats started at $1,225 apiece, while StubHub was, for a time, home to possibly the most expensive ticket in baseball history: field box seats for the never-played Game 7, at $15,430. Call it the Curse of Supply and Demandino. —*Ezra Dyer*



inner view

JOHNNY DAMON

During the past three seasons, Red Sox centerfielder Johnny Damon has become many things to many people in this city. He's inspired a bearded cult following called Damon's Disciples (not to mention the similarly holy slogan WWJDD?—What Would Johnny Damon Do?) and also just finished up what was possibly the most productive season ever for a Red Sox lead-off hitter, registering personal career highs in homers (20), RBIs (94) and walks (76) while finishing second in the American League with 123 runs. But big hits and facial hair aside, Damon also gives a generous chunk of his time to charity. The night after the Sox embarked upon their four-game World Series mangling of the St. Louis Cardinals, we caught up with Damon at the Nike Store on Newbury Street, where he was donating his cleats from ALCS Game 7 to raise funds for Franciscan Children's Hospital.

IB: *We see you're auctioning off your cleats from Game 7. Ever think about how much a couple locks of hair from that night might fetch?*

JD: We're not too sure because the locks are going to be sticking around for a little while longer. I think it's probably a better choice that we decided to donate the cleats.



IB: *Speaking of Game 7, who do you think felt worse after you guys clinched the pennant, Jeter or Nomar?*

JD: Definitely Jeter. Nomar actually called and congratulated me and the team. He's really happy about all that we're achieving.

IB: *It would have been great to finish the Yankees off at Fenway, but how sweet was it getting to celebrate in Yankee Stadium in front of all their fans?*

JD: That was pretty great, but to be honest, I think their fans showed us a lot of respect as the game was winding down. They weren't happy, but they still congratulated us.

IB: *What's the craziest thing you've ever had a female fan say or do in your presence?*

JD: Wow, the craziest thing was probably the one who came up to me and said that the night before she had made her boyfriend pretend that he was me in bed.

IB: *That's intense. Speaking of females, how did you feel about A-Rod's little base-running escapades?*

JD: Bronson got slapped pretty good, that's about all I can say.

IB: *What do you think the chances of seeing Nelson de la Rosa [Pedro Martinez's good-luck charm] in uniform for the Sox next year? Maybe as a batting tee or Wally's Mini-Me?*

JD: [Laughs]. I wouldn't be surprised. It depends on if Pedro is back with us next year again, which we are planning on. But that little guy has brought us some serious luck.

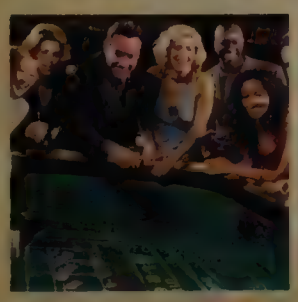
IB: *Did you have any idea what you were in for when you signed here a couple of years ago?*

JD: I could have never imagined that things would be like this here. I mean I knew that I could come to Boston and get a chance to play for the World Series, but never could have imagined everyone would be this passionate. —*Rich Levine*



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GET SAUCED

That's Saucy... Restaurateurs Joe Arcari and Martin Murphy are at it again. On November 4, the group, which also owns Joshua Tree, Tonic and Boston Beer Garden, is slated to introduce Sauce in Somerville's Davis Square. The wine bar/small plates joint offers a wine list of roughly 50 bottles, a menu of about 25 items (most of which can be enhanced by special sauces) and live music. "People in Davis Square need a place to let their hair down," says manager Rob Ames. "And we'll do that without killing their wallets." *400 Highland Ave., Somerville (617-625-0200).*

Getting Fresh... Southie continues to spawn new restaurant offerings with the recently opened Fresh Tortillas on West Broadway. Around the corner on Dorchester Avenue, Salsa's caters to sit-down diners, but Fresh Tortillas takes aim at the takeout crowd looking for a quick Mexican fix. The extra-thick tortillas add a unique tasty element to staples like burritos and fajitas, and the pound of fajita fixings—$13.99 for chicken, slightly more for steak or shrimp—makes a solid meal for two. *475 West Broadway, South Boston (617-269-0061).*

Restaurant Year... In the past, we've had to wait for the last week in August to reap the benefits of Boston's Restaurant Week and its special prix fixe menus. Now, we only have to wait until we're hungry. Two local eateries—33 Restaurant and 75 Chestnut—have announced a daily three-course prix fixe dinner mirroring those of Restaurant Week. In addition, UpStairs on the Square is offering a $20 prix fixe lunch Monday–Saturday and a $30 and $40 dinner Monday–Thursday. The menu items will change from time to time, but the prices ($33 for 33 Restaurant and $30 for 75 Chestnut) will stay the same.

Brotherly Love... It's only natural for two brothers to share a little friendly competition. But with their new restaurant at Atelier 505, brothers David and Bob Kinkead take that concept to the next level. At Sibling Rivalry, which opened on October 25, the two created a paired menu that gives diners a choice: Order a dish prepared by Bob—a James Beard Award winner and owner of Kinkead's in Washington D.C.—or a similar item from David, former head chef at Kingfish Hall and former corporate chef for Todd English. It probably won't be an easy decision, but judging by the chefs' credentials, we doubt you'll go home unhappy, or hungry. *505 Tremont St., Boston (617-510-4195).*



improper reports

TURKEY DAY TREATS

If you await Thanksgiving with the eagerness of an underfed Pilgrim but think cooking a 20-pound turkey is for the birds, head to one of the following restaurants offering dinner on Thanksgiving day.


UpStairs on the Square

Excelsior
272 Boylston St., Boston (617-426-7878)
Enjoy a whopping six courses, with or without a wine pairing, that include free-range roast turkey, old Chatham's shepherd's cheese and pumpkin panna cotta. *1–9 pm. $75 ($100 with wine pairing).*

Grill 23 & Bar
161 Berkeley St., Boston (617-542-2255)
In addition to its beef-laden regular menu, the Back Bay steakhouse offers a four-course prix-fixe of sweet corn soup, arugula salad, Narragansett turkey breast and braised leg, and pumpkin Indian pudding. *1–9 pm. $60, ($85 with wine pairing.)*

Oak Room
Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 St. James Ave., Boston (617-267-3500)
In addition to turkey dinners to go, the Oak Room offers four seatings for its four-course prix-fixe with options ranging from house-cured gravlax with smoked Bay scallops and smoked bluefish to roasted butternut squash and Maine crab bisque to free-range Vermont turkey or American Kobe ham. *5:15, 6, 7:30 and 8 pm. $83 for adults, $35 for children.*

Harvest
44 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-868-2255)
Harvest offers three- and four-course Thanksgiving specials with selections ranging from eggplant soufflé to sage-studded roasted turkey breast to roast venison saddle. *12–8 pm. Three courses, $55 ($70–$80 with wine pairing); four courses, $65 ($80–$90 with wine pairing).*

Henrietta's Table
1 Bennett St., Cambridge (617-661-5005)
Expect a buffet brunch/dinner of traditional Thanksgiving fixings including turkey, sage bread stuffing, mapled yams and pumpkin pie. *12–8 pm. $50 for adults, $25 for children.*

Legal Sea Foods
The Prudential Center, Boston (617-266-0600)
Legal's Prudential Center location expands its traditional seafood menu to include apple cider and herb brined turkey breast with oyster or sausage stuffing. *12–8 pm. Prices vary.*

UpStairs on the Square
91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933)
UpStairs' four-course Thanksgiving special includes smoked duck salad, farm-raised Vermont turkey, corn bread and pecan stuffing, native swordfish with blood orange butter, a trio of Thanksgiving pies and more. *1–7 pm. $68 for adults, $34 for children. —Christine Meade*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

Looking Up...Business is on the rise over at Saint, literally. In early December, the chic nightlife hot spot will expand to two floors. The owners have revamped the empty space above the Exeter Street club to create a brand new, modern Italian restaurant seating 70 (with extra outside seating during the summer). Executive chef Rene Michelena will continue to cook up tapas for the downstairs nightclub but will devote most of his time and energy to the new venture. The name is still being decided, since the one they had in mind was just taken by another restaurant. May we suggest Sinner? *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134).*

A San Francisco Treat...Fresh off his two-year run as DJ at the San Francisco hot spot Zendo, Keven Thibeault is now bringing that laid-back West Coast club atmosphere to the Hub. At the end of October, Thibeault and the crew over at Mantra started Meet Market, a new Wednesday lounge night featuring three king-size lounge beds, and an Indian/French tapas menu that's served until 1 am. The music's played at a reasonable level too, so you can converse without going hoarse. This might be the best concept to come out of San Francisco since Rice-a-Roni. *52 Temple Place, Boston (617-877-6325).*



Cheap & Chic...While Bostonians wait and wait for a nearby Ikea outlet, H&M, the other Scandinavian emporium specializing in hip, low-priced stuff, is on the rise. On September 10, H&M opened a new outlet for its hip yet affordable men's and women's clothing and accessories, in the Cambridgeside Galleria. The chain opened its first Boston locale in Downtown Crossing in 2001, and since it's always jam-packed, it's a wonder it's taken nearly three years to open store number two. *100 Cambridgeside Place Cambridge (617-225-0895).*

Got What It Takes?...With 21 straight wins (and counting, at press time) the New England Patriots are making this NFL thing look easier than Paris Hilton. Wonder how easy it really is? Through Thanksgiving, Boston Sports Club offers the chance to get a taste of what NFL players go through, with a football-themed workout developed by former New York Jets conditioning coach Joshua Zitomer. On selected Sunday and Monday nights, BSC hosts workouts of catching, throwing and tackling drills designed to simulate an NFL training camp. Visit www.mysportsclubs.com for schedules at participating BSCs, but don't hold your breath for that call from Coach Belichick. *(800-301-1231).*

Gallery Gals...After 16 years at the helm of two Newbury Street fine art galleries, Susan Lanoue, former director of the now-defunct Dyansen and, more recently, Galerie d'Orsay, has struck out on her own with Lanoue Fine Art, in Harley-Davidson's old Newbury headquarters. Evidently, all that time spent amongst Renoirs and Picassos made Lanoue long to switch gears. "I wanted to work with living artists whose work says something about today's world," she says. Although the art is contemporary, Lanoue isn't a gallery for emerging artists—it specializes in established, midcareer artists. Meanwhile, in Somerville, Heather Somershein, formerly of Chestnut Hill's Wentworth Gallery, also recently opened her own venture. Art Attack opened in late October and specializes in contemporary art, from graffiti to sculpture to lacquered furniture to jewelry. *Lanoue Fine Art, 160 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4400). Art Attack, 108 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-3833). —E.H., J.I. and R.L.*

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PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY





Storybook Ball 2004, a benefit for MassGeneral Hospital for Children, took place October 16 at the Park Plaza Castle. Guests gathered first at the atrium of the Millennium Building on St. James Street and then made their way to the Castle. More than 600 people attended the fifth annual gala which raised close to $2 million for MassGeneral Hospital for Children's asthma and cystic fibrosis programs for treatment and related research.

1. Actor **Chris Cooper** and his wife, actress **Marianne Leone**; **Lenny Clarke**, comedian/actor star of FX's *Rescue Me*, and his wife, **Jennifer**, fishing captain in Martha's Vineyard.
2. **Courtney Forrester**, director of special events for the Gardner Museum; **Michael Rodeno**, investment banker for J&K Securities and his wife, **Carolyn**, owner of the Hey Baby children's clothing line.
3. **Rachael Kennedy**, store planner for Talbot's in Hingham, and her husband, **David**, manager at Ernst & Young.
4. **Jun Oh**, investment analyst for Wellington Management, and his wife, **Jay**, student at Harvard.
5. **Tom Hamilton**, Aerosmith bassist, and his wife, **Terry**.
6. **Peggy Henry**, wife of Red Sox owner John Henry; **Stacey Lucchino**, wife of Red Sox president Larry Lucchino; and **Shonda Schilling**, wife of Red Sox pitcher Curt Schilling.
7. **Alex Sugar**, investment adviser for Bear Stearns, and his wife, **Lauri**.







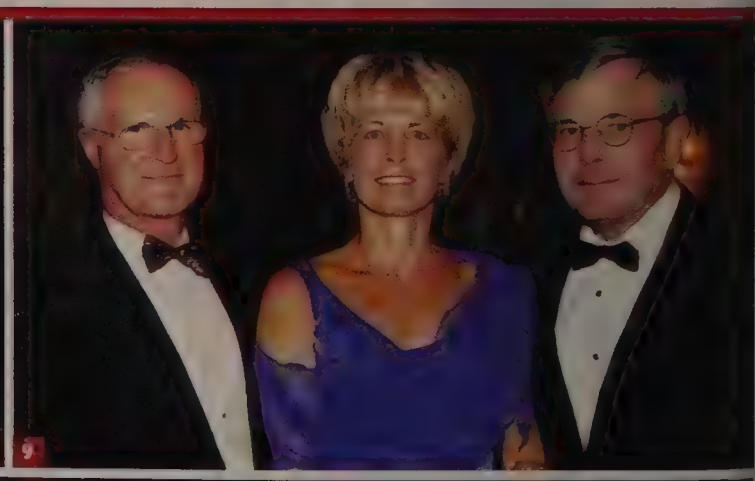




The **Pink Ribbon Gala** to benefit Winchester Hospital's Breast Care Center took place October 16 at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel. More than 500 friends of the hospital gathered at the fourth annual gala, which raised $200,000 toward the purchase of a digital mammography unit.

8. **Sunny Adler** and her husband, **Jon**, doctor at Winchester Hospital; **Sherry Laverty**, leader at Weight Watchers, and her husband, **Steve**, former president of Winchester Hospital.
9. **Barry McDonough**, leasing manager for Cummings Properties in Woburn; his wife, **Deb**, chair of the gala; and **Dale Lodge**, president of Winchester Hospital.
10. **Lynne Sibo**, independent clinical hospital specialist, and **Dave Emerson**, independent contractor.
11. **Jason Driscoll**, mortgage banker for Amerihome in Burlington; his wife, **Danielle**, owner of Teresa's Designer Collection in Winchester; **Ann Steeves**, handbag designer and owner of Gorgeous Things in Burlington; and **Larry Gilbert**, musician.









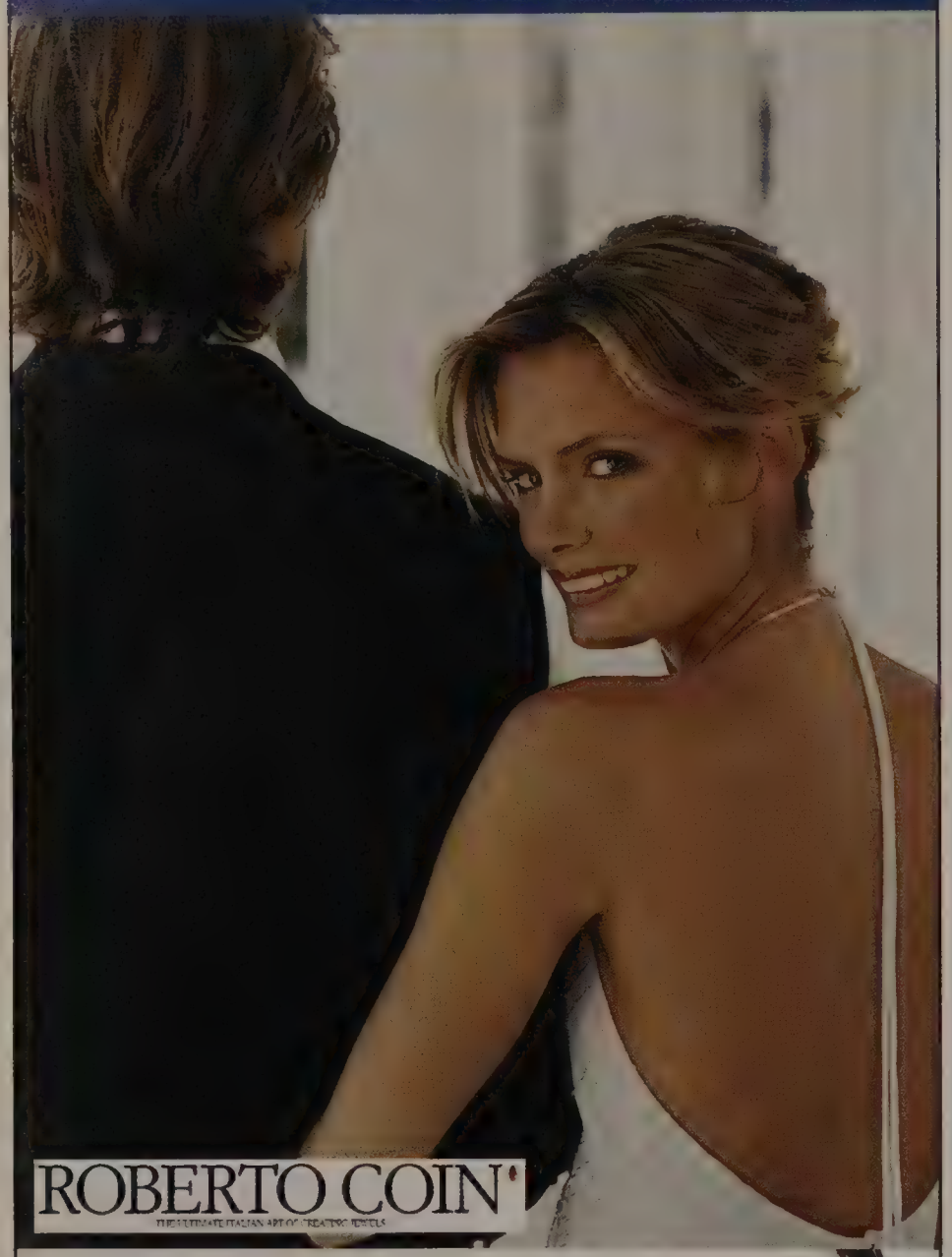


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BY EZRA DYER



ALL SOXED UP

How do you say "Who's your Papi?" in Mandarin?

If you're sick of columns about the Red Sox... I don't care. Give it up, because you can't escape them. (This month in *Cosmo*: "Eight ways to make your man scream in ecstasy besides a series of historic comeback wins against the Yankees!") As I sit here, with the Sox still soaked in World Series champagne, I feel like I need to smoke opium and watch a three-hour PBS special about the life of the cuttlefish. Anything to calm down.

Let me back up a bit: When the series against the Yankees started, I wasn't in the best spot to watch the games. And I'm not talking about a seat at the end of the sectional that's perpendicular to the TV, or the booths directly beneath the plasma screens at Sully O'Smitty's Sports Bah. I'm talking China—Shanghai to be specific. I was in Shanghai for a story on how the Chinese are about to trade their bicycles for cars, thus plunging the world into a massive energy crisis. While all around me I saw evidence of the impending Dark Ages as a result of the Westernization of China, what I didn't see was evidence of anywhere to watch the Sox-Yankees games, and that was even worse. Starbucks didn't have TVs. Neither did McDonald's. And the Hooters around the corner wasn't slated to open for another two weeks. What the hell, Shanghai? If you're going to co-opt a culture, do it all the way.

I bought a coffee at the aforementioned Starbucks and returned to my hotel in the futile hope that the game might be on TV there—after all, I did have ESPN in my room. There was only one problem: ESPN Asia is about as useful as a two-legged tripod. Even if they'd cut a deal with Fox to show the game, they'd certainly delay it to show something more important, like cricket or ping-pong or, as was the case one morning, bass fishing. I imagined a Chinese guy somewhere out in the countryside avidly tuning in to learn the intricacies of trolling near docks. "Ahh!" he'd say, while chowing down on some bird's nest soup, "big fish hide near dock pilings! I'll have to remember that if I ever find myself aboard a bass boat on Wisconsin's Upper Chain Lake." If there's an upside to ESPN Asia's baseball coverage, it's that the Chinese were spared Tim "a walk's as good as a home run" McCarver, whose powers of baseball insight would be rivaled by your average bass.

Thankfully, my hotel had broadband Internet access. Thus I paid $3 on MLB.com and got streaming video of Game 1 live from New York at the entirely inappropriate hour of 7:30 am. Sure, the popup video screen on my laptop was roughly three inches square, but dammit, I was watching baseball!

My efforts didn't pay off quite the way I'd hoped, with the Sox dropping the first game despite a teaser comeback. OK, I told myself, it's just one game. Not a big deal. The next day, I tuned in again, and again the Sox fell flat. I commiserated over e-mail, since I was the only patron in my improvised sports bar. "I know it's the wrong culture," my friend Wilson wrote, "but you might want to think about committing hari kari." I needed a walk after that, so I wandered out to a restaurant and distracted myself by guessing what kinds of meat were in the pictures on the menu. I read an article in the *Shanghai Daily* about the hairy crab, a local autumn delicacy (Headline: "Grab a hairy crab!") but in the back of my mind I was wondering how they'd react at customs when they asked if

IF THERE'S AN UPSIDE TO ESPN ASIA'S BASEBALL COVERAGE, IT'S THAT THE CHINESE WERE SPARED TIM "A WALK'S AS GOOD AS A HOME RUN" MCCARVER

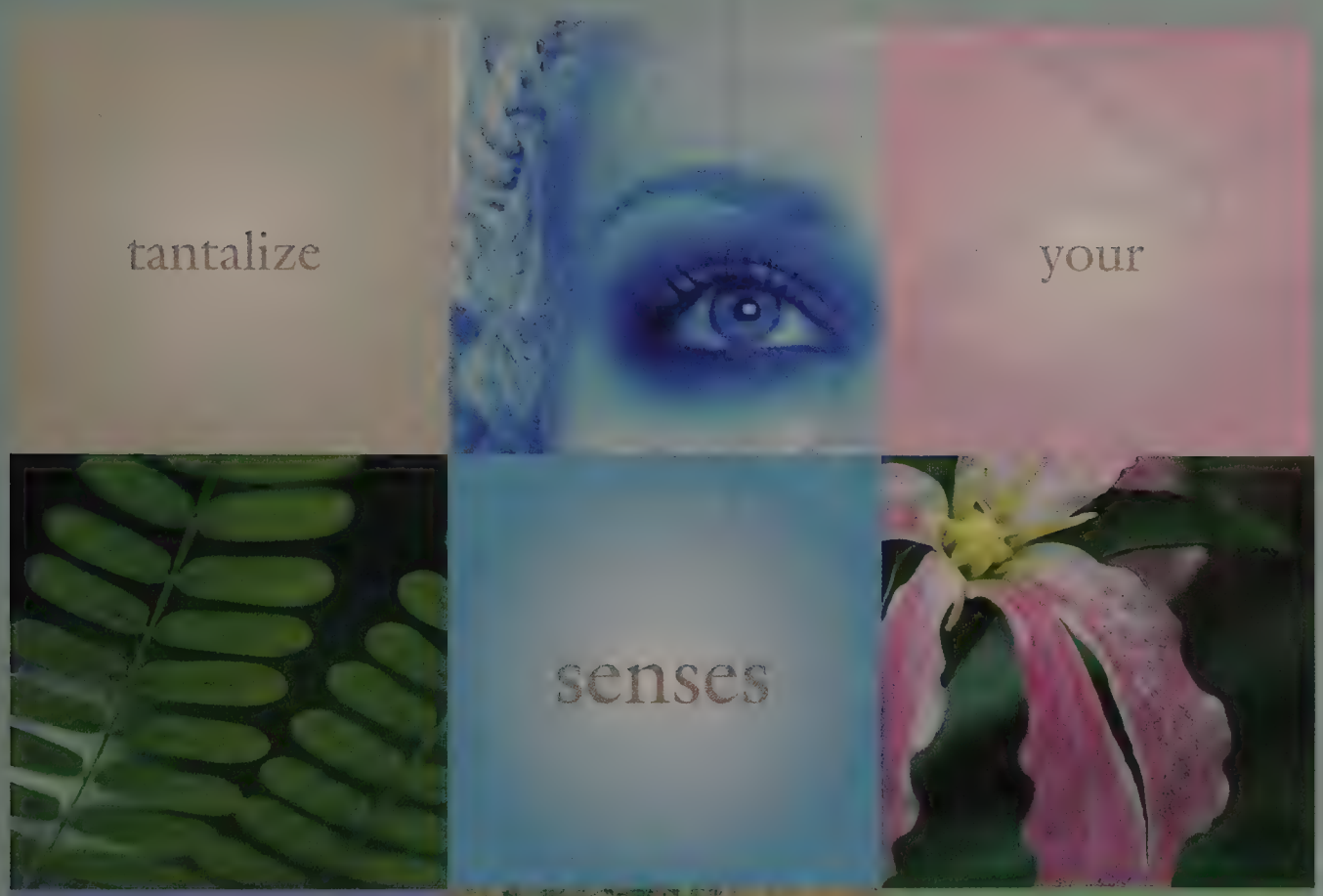
I had anything to declare, and I replied, "Yes. Derek Jeter is a penis."

For Game 3, the good news is that I was back in the States. The bad news is that I was at a wedding on Shelter Island, off Long Island, which meant that I got to watch the worst postseason drubbing in history while surrounded by smug, gloating Yankees fans. I'd traveled a total of 32 hours via bus, plane, car and ferry only to watch the Yankees administer a beating so severe that the Supreme Court nearly stopped the game in the eighth inning for violating the constitutional prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment.

You know how the rest of it turned out. The problem is, I'm a superstitious Red Sox fan, and if something works I've got to repeat it. Assuming the Sox and Yankees meet again in the postseason next year, I've got to figure out how to get back to China so we can start losing. iB

YOU THINK THAT'S FUNNY?

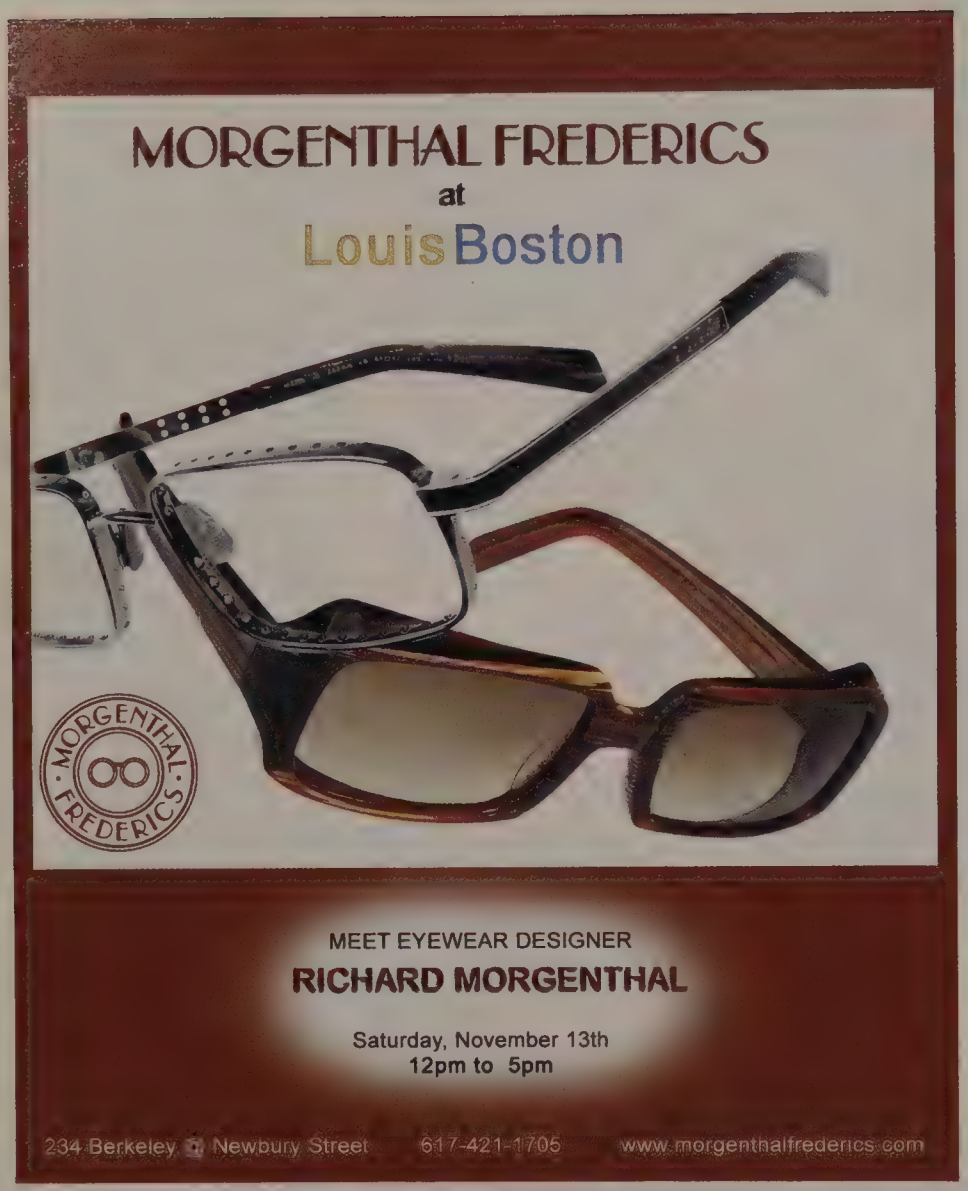
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THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS



TWO DAYS WE'LL NEVER FORGET

Pedro was right about his friend David Ortiz... Football players notice this is a baseball town...

Where were you on Monday, October 18, say about 1:23 am? My guess is you know. My guess is you'll never forget. Within a 24-hour window at Fenway Park, David Ortiz became a legend. The already immensely popular slugger not only breathed new life into the "Dead" Sox, but he did it so mightily against the New York Yankees, setting the Sox on course to end 86 years of futility.

Two games, back to back, and two walk-off game-winners. They're stuck in our memory bank forever. No offense, Mayor Menino, but Mr. Ortiz is "the Mayor" of Boston.

Ortiz has without question been Sox general manager Theo Epstein's greatest work. In fact, his signing from the Minnesota bench may be the greatest free agent steal in the team's storied history. They got him for nothing. Think about that—nothing! Apparently we have his Dominican Republic countryman Pedro Martinez to thank. It was he who told Epstein that Ortiz was a can't-miss.

The American League Championship Series has been a troubling experience for the Boston Red Sox in the past. Lots and lots of bad memories. However, there might never be a better two-day stretch in Boston sports history than October 17 and 18.

Ten hours and 52 minutes—but who's counting—was the total duration of those two epic battles. In that time span you could have played four games. Ortiz's heroics actually happened on the same day, as Game 4 ended early Monday morning and Game 5 ended late Monday night.

At the beginning of Game 4 of the ALCS, the Sox were one more miserable loss away from an offseason that would have been ugly beyond belief. But it didn't happen that way. Not even close. After a three-game hiatus against the Yankees, the Red Sox showed heart. And nobody's heart was beating bigger than Ortiz's. Ask yourself, could it have happened to a better guy?

Think about all the whining that has gone on at Yawkey Way the last two years, primarily about contract status or lack of respect. Not one word of it has come from the person most responsible for the team's successes. Ortiz has not only shut his mouth, but he's smiling while doing it.

This guy apparently didn't read the book on Red Sox superstar etiquette. With increased RBIs, batting average and home runs, he's supposed to be ornery. He's supposed to demand a contract renegotiation. He's supposed to bitch about the local radio station. There's none of that with Ortiz.

So how do you not root for him? It's impossible, according to Kevin Millar, who said that Ortiz should hold out in spring training to get Manny Money. He was joking, of course, but that's the point. You can joke about David Ortiz. He's the greatest bargain in baseball, not to mention the most trusted clutch hitter in the game.

Are the New England Patriots incredible, or what?

Lost in the Red Sox shuffle is one of the other greatest stories in pro sports. The week the Patriots were preparing to break the 18-game winning streak record, linebacker Ted Johnson pulled me aside and played the media for a change. He asked me a question—one that got to the heart of the disparity between football and baseball media coverage:

"How could you guys (in the media) analyze every pitch? How? It's unbelievable how every single pitch is broken down."

> AFTER A THREE-GAME HIATUS AGAINST THE YANKEES, THE RED SOX SHOWED HEART AND NOBODY'S HEART WAS BEATING BIGGER THAN ORTIZ'S

Johnson is right. The fans and the media are nuts when it comes to the Red Sox. Nevertheless, the Patriots—who are the best team this region of the universe has ever seen—continue to go about their business like construction workers. They wake up, punch in, do their job and go home. On Sundays, they wake up, go to work, do their job, win, and then go home.

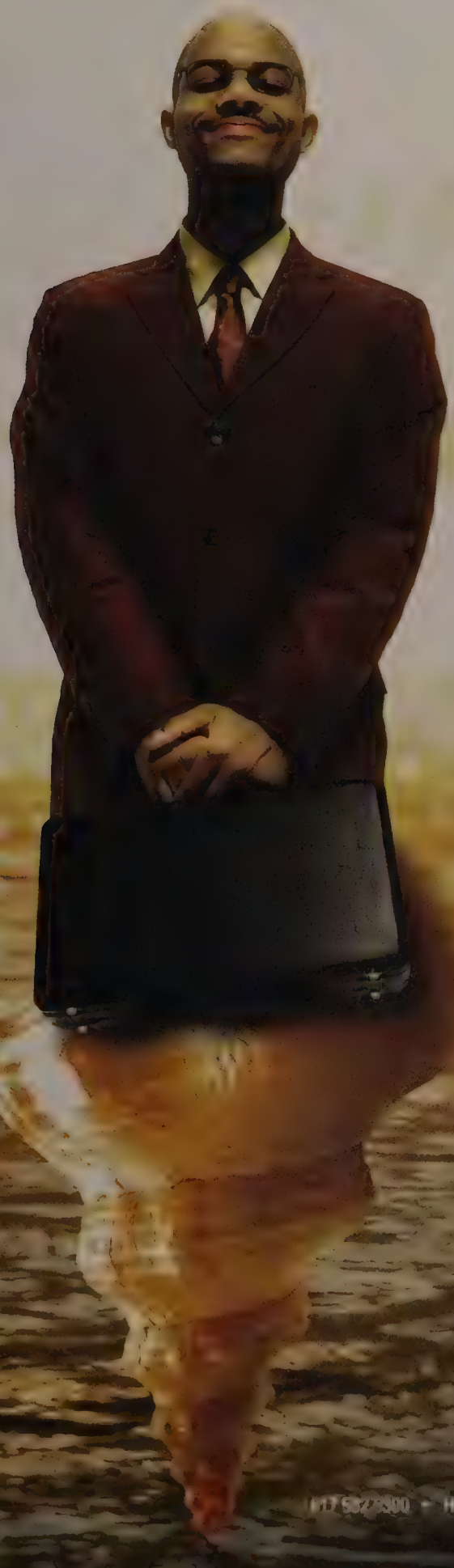
It makes me wonder how this team would be treated by the media and fans if it were in Dallas, Pittsburgh or Cleveland. My guess is that they would have named a sandwich after Bill Belichick (the "Belichicken Sandwich") and Tom Brady would be in hiding like Elvis Presley.

But here in New England, they're just winners. iB

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

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KEN BURNS

BY JONATHAN SOROFF



Award-winning documentarian Ken Burns was born in New York and raised primarily in Delaware and Michigan. After graduating from Hampshire College in Amherst in 1975, he became one of the founders of Florentine Films. In 1981, his first major project, Brooklyn Bridge, earned him an Academy Award nomination, and he has since gone on to make such landmark films and television series as *Baseball*, *The Civil War*, *Jazz*, *Frank Lloyd Wright*, *The West*, *Thomas Jefferson*, *Mark Twain* and *Lindbergh*. In addition to the Oscar nod, his accolades include two Emmys, two Grammys, a Peabody award, a Guggenheim fellowship and numerous honorary degrees. On November 8th, the Boston Center for Adult Education will present him with the American Journey Award for Artistic Achievement at a reception to be held at Fenway Park. He lives in Walpole, N.H.

Jonathan Soroff: Baseball *was the highest rated show in PBS history…*

Ken Burns: Actually, no. There's a strange distinction that neither we nor PBS should really worry about, but *The Civil War* was the highest rated in terms of ratings points, while *Baseball* was the most watched, as in the greatest number of people saw it. I'll leave you and your editor to fuss over that distinction.

JS: *So what does that say about American tastes?*

KB: Well, what makes baseball appealing to people is the intersection between metaphor—why we stay up late to watch the Red Sox—and fact: the statistics, the accumulated record of the game. For me, it's one of the more phenomenal intersections of humankind.

JS: *Would you call yourself a fact junkie?*

KB: That's a good question. Yeah. I think I soak up a lot of stuff. I do *The New York Times* crossword puzzle in ink every single day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. I can't go to bed until I've done it.

JS: *Are documentaries an attempt to pin their subjects down?*

KB: No, let's put to bed once and for all the idea that documentaries are objective. They're as subjective as feature films. I tell narratives that are based in fact, as opposed to fictional stories, but it's still an interpretation of the facts, which can be more truthful than the mere recitation of them.

JS: *What character trait of yours most informs your films?*

KB: Doggedness.

JS: *How do you choose your topics, or do they choose you?*

KB: They choose me. I get possessed by a subject. I hear about someone like Jack Johnson [the first black heavyweight boxing champion], and I spent 10 years absolutely driven to do a film about him, which I just finished. It's called *Unforgivable Blackness: The Rise and Fall of Jack Johnson*. It'll be on in January.

LET'S PUT TO BED ONCE AND FOR ALL THE IDEA THAT DOCUMENTARIES ARE OBJECTIVE. THEY'RE AS SUBJECTIVE AS FEATURE FILMS.

JS: *Of all the big film festivals—Sundance, Toronto, Telluride—which do you like best?*

KB: Maybe Telluride. Sundance is a horrendous place. It's not about film. It's about deals and meetings and parties and sightings. What makes Telluride and the New York Film Festival so exciting is that they're about the films.

JS: *When you go to the movies, are you more likely to see a documentary or a feature?*

KB: A feature. It's thrilling that the options now include a lot more documentaries, which I do go and see, but I'm as interested in the dramatic film as I am in documentaries, even though that's my chosen field.

JS: *Any chance you'll ever make a feature film?*

KB: Probably not. It's very important to understand—and this happened to me after *Civil War*, when I'd been working 15 years making documentaries—suddenly people assumed that because I'd had success with a documentary, that meant it was the lower rung on a career ladder that I wanted to climb up. I said, 'No.' This is what I always wanted to do. I'm also in the wonderful position that if you don't like one of my films, it's all my fault. In the feature world, you can't say that. With documentaries, I have all the control.

JS: *Biggest mistake you ever made in a film?*

KB: Good question. I think it may have been in taking myself too seriously. In *Baseball*, there are places where I took the drama of the game a little too seriously, so that it had the same sort of narrative rhythm as *The Civil War*, and of course, you can't really compare the closest we've ever come to national suicide with, say, the ball going through Buckner's legs [laughs]. Although it's almost as close, make no mistake.

JS: *Historical event you wish you'd witnessed?*

KB: You don't have room in your column. I would've loved to see Pickett's charge at Gettysburg, or the day before, when the 20th Maine executed this obscure textbook maneuver that saved the Union Army and maybe even the Union itself. I would've loved to have known whether Thomas Jefferson and Sally Hemings had real affection, or whether this was just yet another power trip. I would have liked to be at the opening of the Brooklyn Bridge, or to live, for about a week, in a celibate Shaker village. I'd love to have heard Huey Long deliver a speech. I'd like to have met Jackie Robinson. But more than anything else, I would've loved to have known Louis Armstrong.

JS: *Do you care about awards?*

KB: On my refrigerator, I have a *New Yorker* cartoon. It's two guys standing around in Hell, and the caption says, "Apparently, my over 200 screen credits don't mean a damn thing." That sort of puts it in perspective.

JS: *Is there a subject you'd never touch?*

KB: Not in American history.

JS: *Michael Moore: agent provocateur or brilliant truth-teller?*

KB: He's both those things and more. He's got a kind of shotgun approach to filmmaking. The principle of a shotgun is you don't require all the pellets to necessarily hit.

JS: *You've been called one of the most influential documentary filmmakers of all time. What one thing would you most like to influence?*

KB: Well, I've been passionately interested in the question of race in America. I don't think you can deal with American history without coming to terms with the monumental hypocrisy born at our inception. That a man who wrote, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal" owned more than 200 human beings when he wrote that. I would hope that I could continue, as I tried to in *Civil War* and *Baseball* and *Jazz*, and most recently with *Unforgivable Blackness*, to keep the question open. I don't think it's done.

JS: *Part of the filmmaking process you enjoy the most?*

KB: There are three. One is getting up at 4 am and capturing the beautiful shot, the physical task of that. The second is the moment in editing when it comes together. All of this collected beautiful stuff means nothing unless you can figure out how to tell a story by arranging it, and there's this great sense of the alchemy of it all. And third, the evangelical part. The describing it, talking about it and sharing it.

JS: *One part of your life you'd never want to see on film?*

KB: I certainly wouldn't want my sex life on film. I consider that very private. There are a lot of private areas of my life, as a matter of fact, that I'm not sure would be appropriate fodder for film.

JS: *OK, fill in the blank. Ken Burns is 100 percent sure that _____*

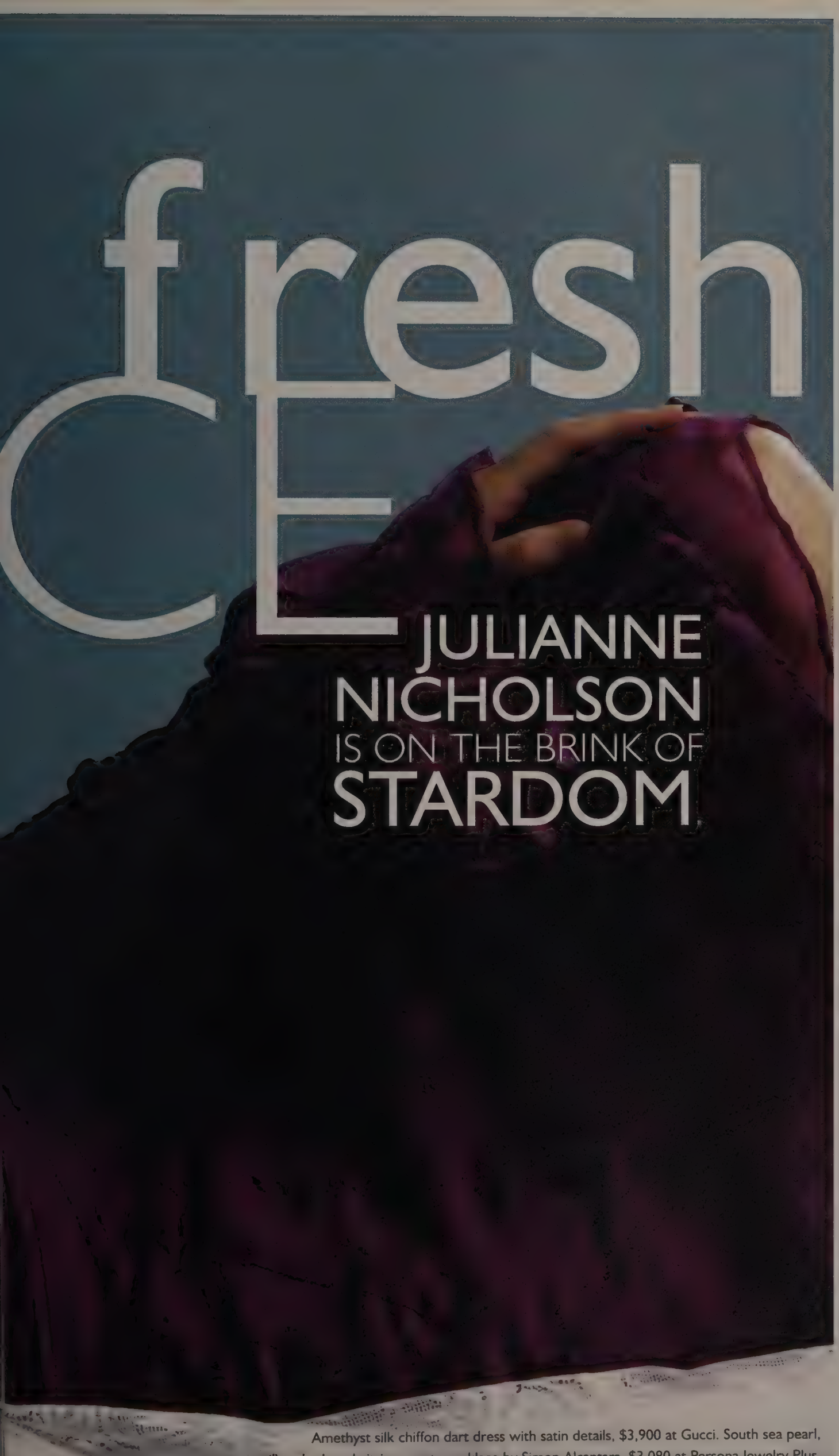
KB: The sun'll come up tomorrow [laughs.] iB


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fresh

JULIANNE NICHOLSON IS ON THE BRINK OF STARDOM



Amethyst silk chiffon dart dress with satin details, $3,900 at Gucci. South sea pearl, willow bark and citrine quartz necklace by Simon Alcantara, $3,080 at Persona Jewelry Plus.

When I first saw actress Julianne Nicholson, 28 years old at the time, sporting a crewcut in 1999's *The Love Letter*, I expected that the Medford-raised redhead would become a superstar in a New York minute. It turns out it's taken a little longer than that. Nicholson showed up on *Ally McBeal* in 2001, right when things were winding down for the show. Though her time on *Ally* was brief (about a year), the role of attorney Jenny Shaw put Nicholson on the map. Recently, she got a lot of attention for her on-screen energy when she appeared in *Little Black Book*.

Waiting for Nicholson to arrive at the photo shoot, I half expect her to be tired, and eager to get it over with quickly. "Julianne is filming a movie right now," her manager had told me. "She only has one day off. She may need that time to do something silly like sleep." Nicholson is currently shooting an indie film, *Flannel Pajamas*, with Emmy-nominated actor Justin Kirk. But as it turns out, she wants to do the shoot because she loves Boston.

When Nicholson arrives, she doesn't look or act like a grouchy actress. Instead, she's a breath of fresh air, her freckled face clean, without a bit of makeup, and her wavy, reddish-brown hair softly brushing her shoulders. She stands taller than I expect, at 5'10", and her frame is thin and delicate. She flashes a smile and introduces herself.

As we shoot, every outfit fits as if it were made for her, and she tells me about her days as a model. She always dreamed of acting, she says, but shied away from it because she was intimidated and didn't know where to begin. While modeling during her teenage years, however, Nicholson took a trip to New York and decided she wanted to move there. A few years later, she did just that, working as a waitress to make ends meet. When she was 24, she began taking acting classes. "When I started acting," she says, "I gave myself five years to pursue it before making a decision to either give up or continue."

Nicholson clearly knows what she's doing when she steps in front of the camera, moving fluidly and turning on the charm. She makes fun of herself and asks questions about everyone in the room. During makeup and hair changes, she tells me about her wedding to actor Jonathan Cake, which took place in Italy two weeks earlier, and whips out photographs. She beams as she talks about her new husband. "I used to always hear people say that you just know when you've found the one," she says, "and it used to really piss me off because I thought it was untrue. When I met Jonathan, it all made sense."

Nicholson doesn't seem obsessed with becoming the next It Girl or a major icon. She speaks about her career with a mixture of pride and humility. "I love what I do," she says. "I feel really lucky to have come as far as I have in my career, but there's still more that I want to do." After all, she's just a girl from Medford who happened to New York, and who happens to be on her way to the top.

—*Samantha House*

Black A-line trench coat by Y and Kei, $1,330. Black mink and Swarovski crystal sandals with python heel, $995 at Gucci. Estate gold and diamond brooches (clockwise from left), $5,000, $5,000, $15,000; gold and diamond ring by Alex Soldier, $5,000. All at Persona Jewelry Plus.

Silver python leather jacket with mink fur inserts and satin
boot, $12,770 at Gucci. Blue topaz and white gold ring by
Alex Soldier, $3,200 at Persona Jewelry Plus.

Animal print cocktail dress, $1,200; brown leather boots with buckles, $980. Both at Escada. Gold necklace, $10,100; matching earrings, $2,000. Both by Yossi Harari, both at Persona Jewelry Plus

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37 Newbury St.
617-236-0476

Escada
308 Boylston St.
617-437-1200

Gucci
Copley Place
617-247-3000

Persona Jewelry Plus
504 Commonwealth Ave.
617-266-3003

Y and Kei
212-477-7278

Hair: Marc Harris
for Ecocentrix
30 Newbury St.
617-262-2222

Makeup: Jenny Brown

Photographer's assistant:
Brian Silverstein

Slip dress with ribbon detail by Y and Kei, $920. Call 212-477-7778 for details. Gold, citrine, opal and quartz necklace by Yossi Harari, $18,650 at Persona Jewelry Plus.

Buckingham Height suit in ripe black, $850; beau formal shirt in stone, $140; mint herringbone tie, $75. All at Aquascutum.

the Gentleman IS BACK

ASUAL DAY.

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHS BY MATTHEW JORDAN SMITH

Wool suit with brown pinstripes, $1,995; cotton dress shirt, $275; striped silk tie, $135. All at Ermenegildo Zegna.

Brown wool suit, $2,195; checked cotton dress shirt, $260; knit tie, $135. All at Ermenegildo Zegna



Charcoal pinstripe wool suit, $2,095; pinstripe cotton dress shirt, $260; red and brown polka-dot silk tie, $135. All at Ermenegildo Zegna.

Aquascutum
450 Boylston St.
617-262-0066

Ermenegildo Zegna
39 Newbury St.
617-424-9300

Grooming:
Jenny Brown

i ON STYLE

BY SAMANTHA HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHS BY TONY SCARPETTA

METALLICS

Shimmer and shine in winter's luxe trend: metallics. They're popping up everywhere and range in price from frugal to frivolous. Plus, the metals pair up well with this season's opulent mind-set. Don't go head-to-toe; instead, add pieces—like copper shoes or a gold cuff—to your existing wardrobe.



1. Gold and lucite necklace by Alexis Bittar, $550 at Persona Jewelry Plus, 617-266-3003.

2. Mesh tank with metallic sequins, $345 at DKNY, 617-236-0476.

3. Gold hoop drop earrings, $225; matching necklace, $175; both by Jane Elizabeth, www.jejewelry.com.

4. Gold-toned bracelet; silver-toned bracelet; $28 each at Chico's, 617-247-3771.

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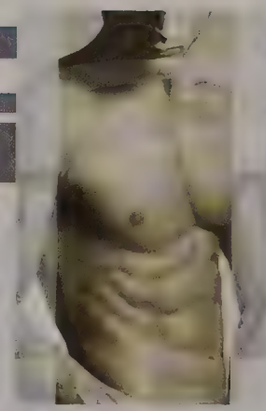
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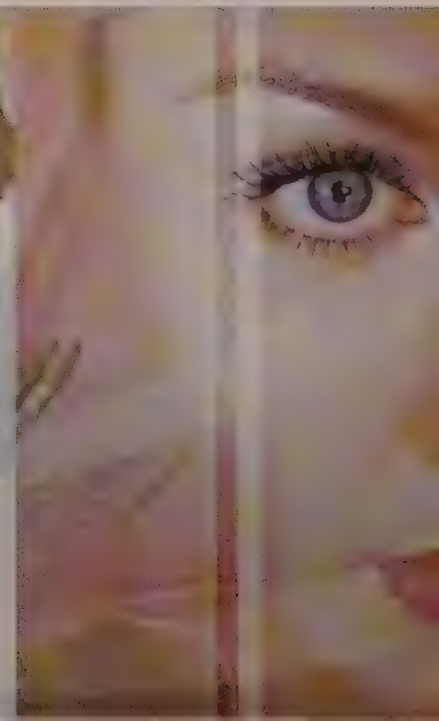
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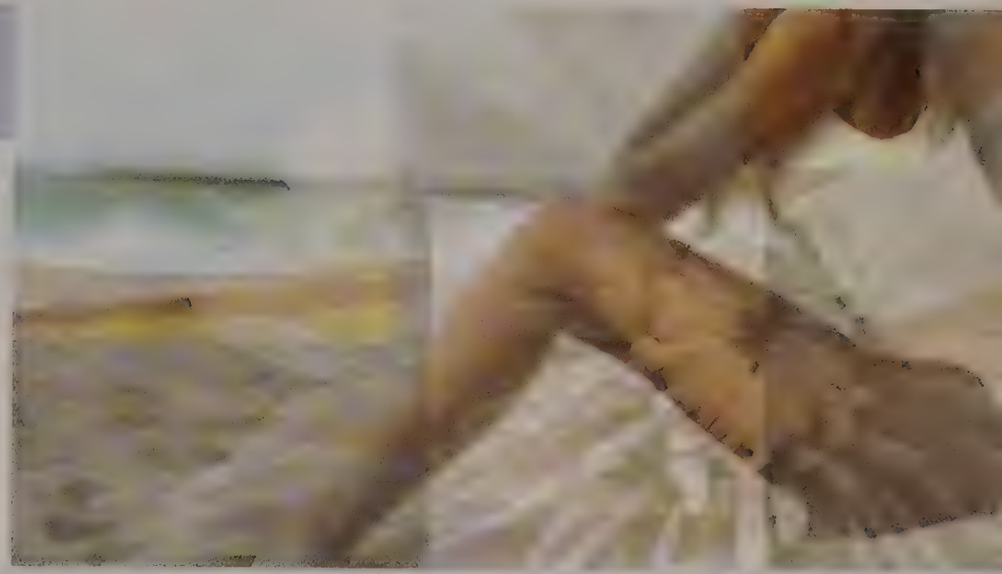


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mmed glasses, $209; smoky silver-rimmed glasses, $199; copper glasses, $189. All at See, 617-236-0105.

bracelet by Mawi, $346 at Intermix, 617-236-5172.

r paillette purse, $58 at Jasmine Sola.



8. Gold cuff with rhinestones, $58 at Banana Republic, 617-424-7817.

9. Silver and gold lamé bags with detachable bow, by Dantebeatrix, $165 each at National Jean Co., 617-969-2888.

COAT TALES

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BY SAMANTHA HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHS BY OLIVIA GATTI



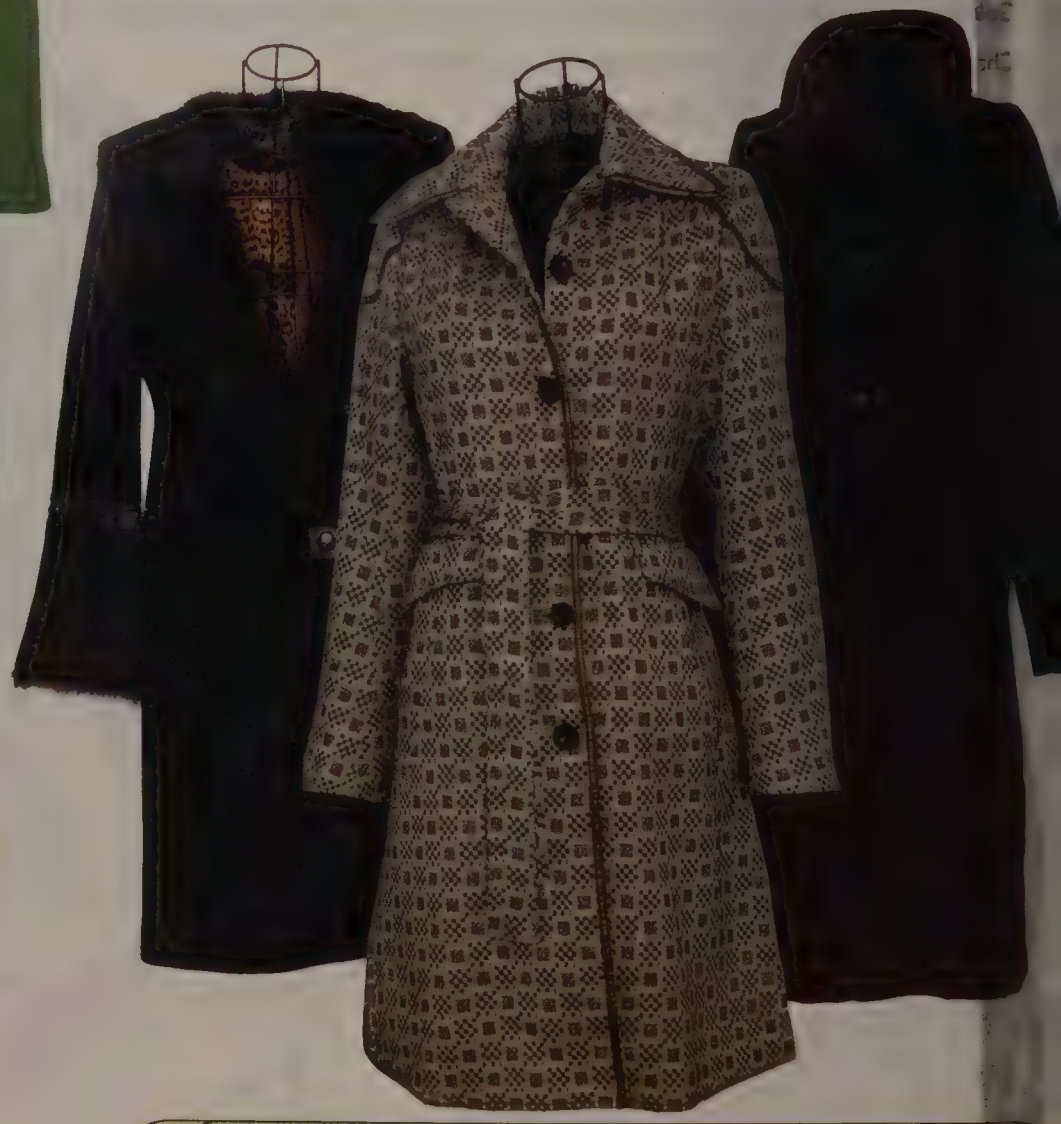
MODERATE

Left to right: orange wool coat by Michael by Michael Kors, $315 at Filene's; honeycomb tweed trench, $278 at Banana Republic; ivy coat, $298 at J. Crew



INEXPENSIVE

Left to right: blue tweed coat, $99.90 at H&M; light green Alexandra coat, $115 at www.delias.com; faux shearling coat, $49.80 at www.forever21.com



HIGH-END

Left to right: black, fur-trimmed coat, $995 at St. John; vintage-inspired coat by Bruuns Bazaar, $550 at Stil; mantel coat, $1,600 at Escada.

Banana Republic, 28 Newbury St., 617-267-3933; Escada, 308 Boylston St., 617-437-1200; Filene's, 426 Washington St., 617-357-2100; H&M, 350 Washington St., 617-482-7001; J. Crew, Copley Place, 617-236-5950; Stil, 170 Newbury St., 617-859-7845; St. John, 292 Boylston St., 617-338-6130

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Left to right: 18 karat gold circle earrings with encrusted yellow diamonds, $5,000, by Gary Shteyman for Persona Jewelry Plus; gold and diamond necklace, $72,000 at Tiffany and Co.; white gold and diamond necklace with three-pearl pendant, $26,300 at Cartier

ICE ICE BABY

DIAMONDS ADD BLING TO EVERY LITTLE THING.

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHS BY MICHELLE JOYCE

Left to right: 18 karat white gold and diamond cuff, $21,000 at Royal Jewelers; pink sapphire and diamond ring, $8,900 at Shreve, Crump & Low; multicolored diamond-bead necklace with 18 karat gold circles with encrusted yellow diamonds, $10,000, by Gary Shteyman for Persona Jewelry Plus; 18 karat white gold and diamond feather-shaped brooch, $1,0750 at Royal Jewelers; pink sapphire and diamond bracelet, $12,800 at Shreve, Crump & Low; 18 karat white gold and diamond American Tank Riviere, $78,000 at Cartier



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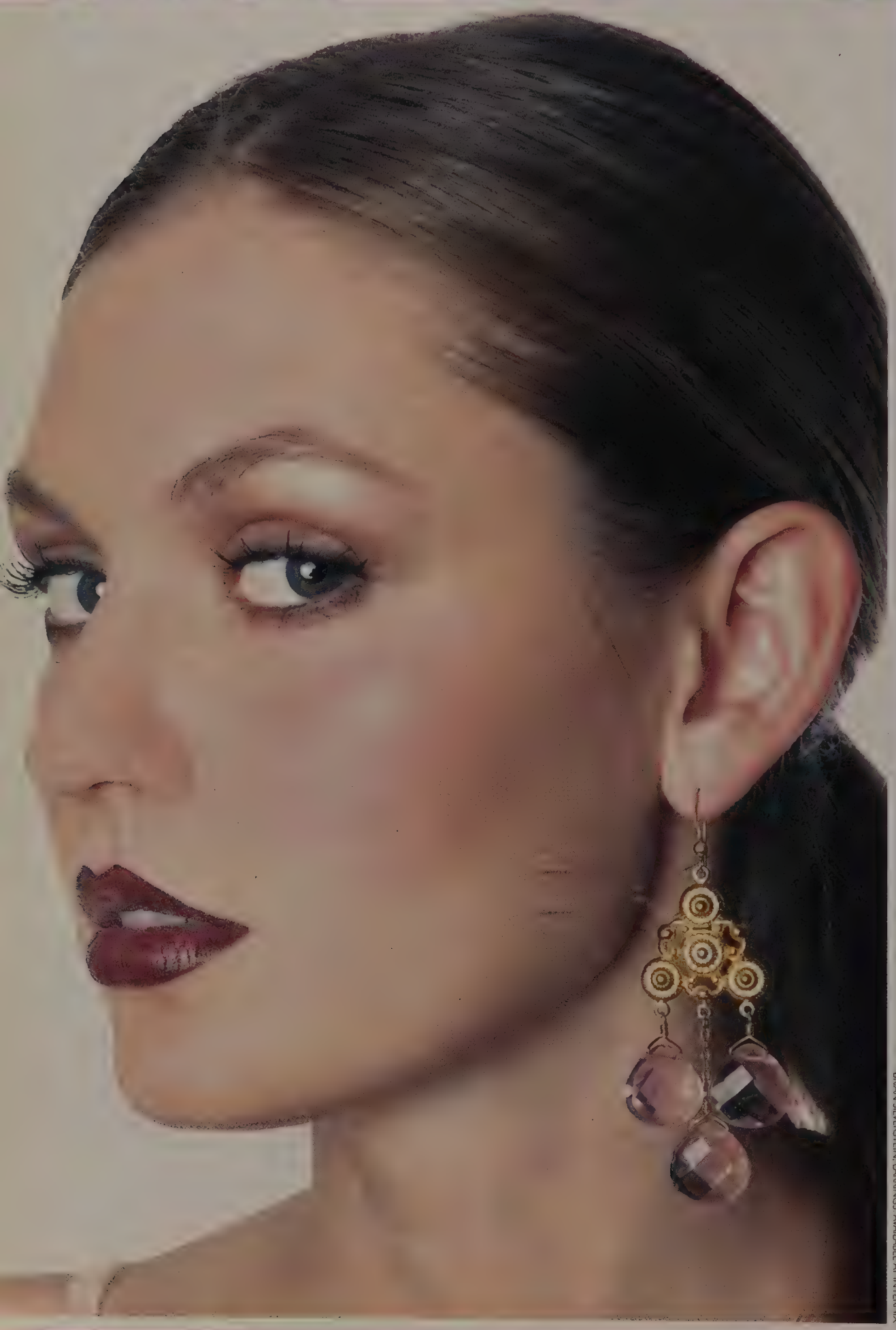
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WINTER WOW!

BY SAMANTHA HOUSE



BRIAN SILVERSTEIN; EARRINGS AVAILABLE AT INTERMIX

This season, eyes are swept with a light, shimmery shadow. Define them with plum eyeliner, instead of brown or black, for a softer look, and finish with two coats of plum mascara. Try BeComing Multi-look Eye and Face Shimmer in Patina Pink ($12 at www.becoming.com) all over the eyes for natural-looking shimmer. Nars eyeliner in Bamako ($18 at Neiman Marcus) and Bourjois Pump up the Volume mascara in Violet Tutu vu 24 ($13 at Sephora) work perfectly together. Cheeks should have a slight cherry color with just a hint of brown for a wind-burnt appearance. My favorite blush for all skin tones is Sin by Nars ($22.50 at Neiman Marcus). Lips, the final step and the most dramatic element of this look, are well-lined and dark. Choose either a dark plum or a dark brown lipstick, in either matte or glossy, layered over a coordinating lipliner. Both MAC and Giorgio Armani have excellent selections. —*Samantha House*

Neiman Marcus, Copley Place, 617-536-3660; Sephora, Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., 617-262-4200

BEAUTY AND THE BEST: TRISH MCEVOY



Cosmetics queen Trish McEvoy got her start working as a New York makeup artist in the mid 1970s. Disappointed with the quality of makeup brushes on the market, she decided to create her own. Since then, McEvoy's beautiful brushes have become an industry staple and gained a reputation as the best that money can buy. But she didn't stop there. Over the years, McEvoy has expanded her line to include makeup, skin care products, fragrances, and her newest addition, candles, and she continues to work constantly to come up with innovative ideas to keep her clients happy. At a recent appearance at Neiman Marcus, she gave out hugs and honest opinions to everyone who crossed her path. Here's what she had to say to the IMPROPER.

What's your best-selling product?
My Even Skin beta hydroxy pads ($58 at Neiman Marcus). They exfoliate and even out skin tone to give the skin a wonderful surface for makeup. I also love the planner [a zippered case that holds makeup and brushes]—it's compact and keeps you organized.

What's the one product that everyone needs?
Powder is the greatest product because it erases things. If you put on too much blush, it covers it just enough. But there really isn't any one product for everyone. Each person has her own personal needs.

Who is your muse? Who inspires you?
My clients are my muses. Each one inspires me. There are younger women, older women, all with varying personal styles. I love all of them.

What's the hottest trend right now?
The one big trend is a very '50s style, which means a more pronounced lip and a lot of eyeliner. The hot eye color is definitely aubergine.

What current makeup trend do you dislike?
I don't dislike trends. Makeup, like fashion, is all about self-expression. Even dark lip-liner and light lips looks great on some people.

How do you decide what your new products will be?
I have my finger on the pulse of the times. Everything around me influences what I come out with. I take it all from life—politics to fashion to music.

What do you think are the most impressive advances in beauty over the past decade?
For skin care I would say AHAs [alpha hydroxy acids]. For makeup, I would say the items that truly mimic skin's texture.

What drugstore product do you love?
I love Wet 'n' Wild #666 lip pencil and, of course, Altoids!

What makeup trick would you like to share with our readers?
Brush face powder over your lips before applying lipstick, to keep it on much longer.

Is there a product you feel is perfect for Bostonians?
It gets very cold here, so Bostonians need to protect their skin. My vitamin C cream does just that.

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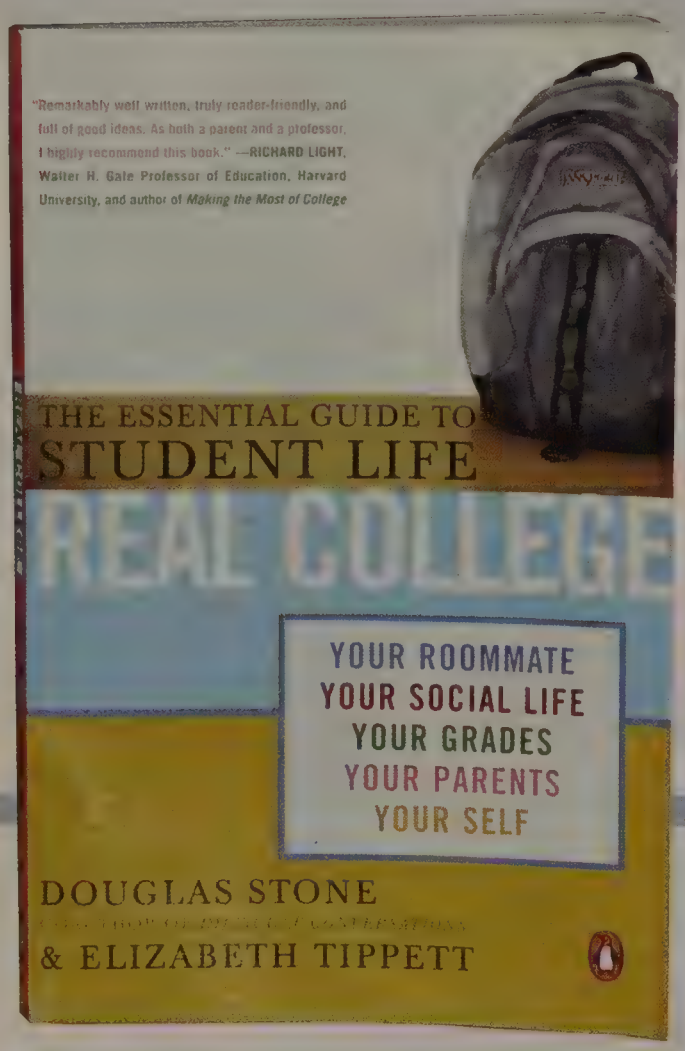
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BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



COLLEGE CONVERSATIONS, LESS DIFFICULT

Author Douglas Stone and Harvard law student Elizabeth Tippett have written *Real College*, a book of advice that could apply to real life too.

If someone you know is heading into that exhilarating, terrifying maw of college, point his or her apprehensions toward this consoling book. The authors, both of Harvard Law School where Stone is a lecturer and Tippett a student, have advised and mediated at colleges. They use imaginary students—emailing and nail-biting, slangy and appealing—to illustrate the myriad misunderstandings that beset students. Echoing the useful approach of *Difficult Conversations* (a 2000 best seller co-authored by Stone), the authors break down the various meanings that even a straightforward-seeming statement can include. A student and professor trying to understand each other beyond simple assumptions and defenses could profit from the way Tippett/Stone drill helpful and less helpful ways of approaching sensitive matters into the reader's head. Relations to parents, now on new footing (though real and symbolic laundry are still brought home), roommate politics, term paper timeliness ("Get panicked early!" they advise procrastinators) and sex, including coming out, are all covered. Wise without being hierarchical, the authors invite the student to employ his or her own wisdom regarding drinking, studying and not being a jerk.



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That subtly choreographed, hip-wiggling, briskly whipping action that constitutes the golf swing has happy home at Big Sticks Golf Academy. In one golf bay, the Astar golf video-learning system, all bi mechanics and instant visualization, converts the essential dimensions of your body into crayone "stickman" lines. This virtual version of yourself gets superimposed upon the likes of Tiger, Vijay or or of 198 other pro golfers, and your swing is recorded on a video loop, so you can compare the precise a tions of the real pro golfer with the stick-figure you side-by-side to calibrate your own performanc Next, you can walk right over to Pebble Beach, whose course is projected gigantically on the wall (th same stroll takes you to Scotland's St. Andrews) and thwock the ball against the picture. Althoug there is a real hole for your ball a few feet before you, the screen renders it in big-picture form and le you know where on those famous greenswards your ball would have landed. You're also treated to an i stant report of the distance, in yards, between your ball and the flag and other landmarks. Another ci ematic marvel lets you golf on the edge of the Grand Canyon.

THE FRESHEST GAME IN TOWN

Like Mayflower Poultry Co.'s sign says, it's Fresh Killed. The store offers all sorts of chicken items, some frozen fancy poultry, and fresh turkeys at Thanksgiving. At 621 Cambridge St., Cambridge. Call 617-547-9191.

With its arrestingly candid logo showing the ill-fated bird of choice—the chicken—in flight, Mayflower Poultry Co. is a fixture in East Cambridge. But before you buy, cook and eat these wares, broil up some "tray pack" supermarket chicken and do a side-by-side taste test. Mayflower's soft, young chicken, packed on its little mountain of moisture-retaining ice—noticeably freshissimo!—will win out. Chicken breasts, fingers, and the fowl used for soups and stews (ironically, toughness is a virtue in this case) are the mainstays here. Outrageously fresh chicken livers can provide a meal for two for about one buck. And those piquant particulars—hearts and gizzards—that adventuresome cooks use are also for sale. The more exotic sidekicks of chicken—pheasant, partridge, goose, quail, Cornish game hens, guinea fowl and poussin—come mostly frozen, alongside goats and even sirloin tips that never flew an inch. With a flavorful, old-fashioned, ethnic-neighborhood atmosphere, and lots of friendly joking, it's fun to shop here. Get acquainted with their chicken now, and come Thanksgiving, your raised standards will require you to order here.



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IN THIS SECTION: Review: Pierrot Dish: A "modern steakhouse" in Chestnut Hill Wine: Prosecco Tastings: Belgian Beer Fest

REVIEW

NO CLOWNING AROUND

Pierrot brings top-notch French cuisine to Beacon Hill.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

A new ambassador of French culture and cuisine has arrived in Boston: Pierrot Bistrot Francais, named for the white-faced clown of French children's lore. Framed posters of this melancholy, mischievous comic icon in his signature black skullcap and ruffled collar, his loose-fitting costume draping his lanky body, festoon the walls of this engaging bistro, signaling a lighthearted yet earnestly authentic French eatery that brings first-rate food at reasonable prices to Boston's West End.

Located on Cambridge Street at the bottom of Beacon Hill, Pierrot seats almost 40 diners at small tables and booths set with crisp white napery, oversized wineglasses and elegant plates. The room is appointed in exposed brick, wood paneling below wainscoting and burnt sienna paint, and lantern sconces. French recorded music—including songs from soulful chanteuse Edith Piaf—augment its Gallic ambience, while a sonorous grandfather clock adds pleasant but muted chimes on the hour.

Hard-crusted ficelles (the French word means "pieces of string", which well describes these slender loaves) and small spheres of softened butter, served from a silver basket, helped keep our appetite at bay as we perused the inviting menu. Bistro favorites like escargots Bourguignonne ($7.95), lobster bisque ($6.95) and French onion gratiné ($6.25) struck a predictably familiar, but nonetheless satisfying note. Expertly rendered, with fresh, first-rate ingredients, these classics evidenced skill and sound culinary instinct in the kitchen. The half dozen plump, tender snails arrived in an oven-hot ceramic ramekin with individual wells in which the snails swam in garlic butter flecked with chopped parsley and a touch, perhaps, of Pernod. The bisque turned out to be one of the most splendid exemplars of this dish I have enjoyed in some time, light yet intense in flavor, with a generous supply of sweet lobster morsels, its broth made elegant by a splash of Cognac. The onion soup profited from a profoundly flavorful beef stock, plentiful onions and a crouton swaddled in melted cheese.

A more upscale first course, the *Napoleon de foie gras et pain d'epice* ($11.95), brought layers of foie gras alternating with slices of poached apples, a tower of tantalizing tastes, with the sweet tang of the apple providing a welcome counterpoint to the richness of the fatty liver.



Grilled lamb leg steak with garlic cream sauce and hand-cut french fries

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Finally, most provocative among the starters—but not as provocative as the *tripe à la mode de Caen* offered as a main course—the *salade de pieds de cochon* (pig's feet salad, $6.95) hit a home run. The rich, boneless meat, sautéed gently in olive oil, accompanied buttery Bibb lettuce, grape tomatoes and a well-constructed vinaigrette redolent of shallots.

Main courses covered all the bases. *Confit de canard aux choux rouge* ($16.75), preserved duck with red cabbage, delighted with its pleasantly salty skin and succulent, fork-tender flesh. The garnish of a broiled half tomato topped with bread crumbs and al dente zucchini and broccoli nicely complemented the rich, full flavored duck. *Tranche de gigot grillé à la crème d'ail* ($16.75), a substantial, thick slab of tender, robustly flavored lamb cut from the leg arrived a perfect shade of pink, juicy and succulent, accompanied by a light garlic cream sauce. The accompanying carrots, onions, turnips and broccoli, together with a stack of thin-sliced potatoes Lyonnaise (sautéed with butter and onions) made this a hearty dish. Grilled tuna steak was cut thin but retained a decent texture thanks to careful, brief searing on the outside, which also gave it a pleasant, caramelized finish.

Boeuf bourguignonne ($14.75) is one of the most well known of classic French bistro dishes. Beef stewed in red wine with mushrooms and onions at its best is a beef stew made in heaven. Pierrot's beef Burgundy, full of potential, nevertheless missed its mark. The problem may have been that we arrived so early in the evening that this dish—which requires slow cooking in the oven to tenderize the beef, exchange flavors with the accompanying vegetables and herbs, and develop a rich, hearty sauce—had not had time to do its work. As a result, although the flavors and potential were there, the beef was tough and the dish disappointed.

The kitchen redeemed itself with dessert. Profiteroles au chocolat ($7.95), three tennis ball–size pastry puffs filled with vanilla ice cream and drizzled with bittersweet chocolate sauce, proved a worthy exemplar of this bistro favorite. Crème brûlée ($6.95), with a crisp, caramelized surface, was creamy and mellow within. Finally, a strawberry tart ($5.95) contained firm, fresh, sweet-tart strawberries; mellow, soothing pastry cream and tender pastry. The tart was served too cold—apparently directly from the refrigerator—on our first visit, but at appropriate room temperature on our return.

Service at Pierrot did justice to its French atmosphere and aspirations. The host, a congenial young Breton, set a tone that transported us from Cambridge Street to the Boulevard St. Germain. Jacky Robert, former chef at Maison Robert and



Fricassée de Saint Jacques Provençale compote de fenouil, scallops Provençale with fennel compote



Boeuf bourguignonne



Salade de pieds de cochon, boneless pig's feet salad with shallots and aged balsamic vinegar



Executive Chef Pierre Sosnitsky and General Manager Sam Nedialkova



Pierrot seats about 40 in small tables and booths.

cion of that accomplished culinary family, presides over the kitchen with precision and flair.

Pierrot has assembled a respectable wine list, but unfortunately, its alcoholic beverage license had not yet issued when I visited. However, my review of the list revealed that Pierrot plans to offer some of the most remarkable wine bargains in town, with far lower markups than many area restaurants impose. Wine by the glass will also be available, with prices set to range from $5.25 to $8 (excluding the $4.75 white zinfandel, which really doesn't belong on the list, and the $12 Roederer Champagne). It appears that Pierrot plans to resist the temptation to subsidize its reasonably priced food—its $26.95 three-course dinner is by far the best deal in town—through excessive wine prices, recognizing that wine is part of a good meal, not a luxurious add-on.

Although Pierrot is named for a clown, there's nothing frivolous about its performance as a serious restaurant. A reasonable walk from the Financial District, it serves lunch five days a week. Drawing people in the evening will be more of a challenge, since Cambridge Street is not an obvious destination for evening diners. But on the other hand, the restaurant's location near Beacon Hill—a notorious bastion of Francophiles—should make this spot a success. iB





DISH

Club Steak

Chestnut thrill...

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX


Jeff Fournier heads the Metropolitan Club kitchen.

Even under construction, the **Metropolitan Club** makes an impression as a really big deal. The site of the former **Figs** in Chestnut Hill has been reconfigured to accommodate a copper-topped turret above a corner entrance through which diners will enter what owner **Kathy Trustman** terms a "modern steakhouse." But wait—there's more. An elegant lounge/waiting area. Private dining rooms. A bar space where well-heeled neighbors can drop by for a burger or a sandwich. Price points generally lower than the **Capital Grille** that's just a half mile or so down the street. Plus—drum roll here—a culinary combo who could create a destination diner's dream. When the Metropolitan Club opens in late November, **Jeff Fournier**, fresh from making a splash as chef at **Sophia's**, will head the kitchen as executive chef. And **Paige Retus**, who spent six years as **Olives'** pastry chef and co-wrote *The Olives Dessert Table* with **Todd English**, will be (of course) the pastry chef. In addition to dinner and a bar menu, The Metro Club will serve weekend brunch, and the kitchen will be open till midnight.

SECOND COURSE

Speaking of sweets, pastry chef **Lee Napoli** has exchanged one pair of jobs—at **Sandrine's** and **Dedo**—for another twofer. In addition to running her burgeoning one-woman custom-chocolates business, Napoli is now officially pastry chef at **Umbria** and **Bricco**, and she's thrilled with her new professional digs. After one taste of her chestnut semifreddo with bitter orange sauce, it's a surprise to find that Napoli hasn't made Italian desserts before. And after one bite of the truffle gelato created by the former pastry chef—that's truffle as in the fungus, not the eponymous chocolate—it's sheer joy to sample a few crunchy biscotti and a wedge of chocolate-hazelnut torte.

Around the corner from Umbria, on Broad Street, the newly opened **Pizza Oggi**—the sister restaurant of chef **Steve Welch**'s Italian trattoria in Jamaica Plain—is specializing in pizza, pasta and sandwiches for takeout, for lunch and dinner.

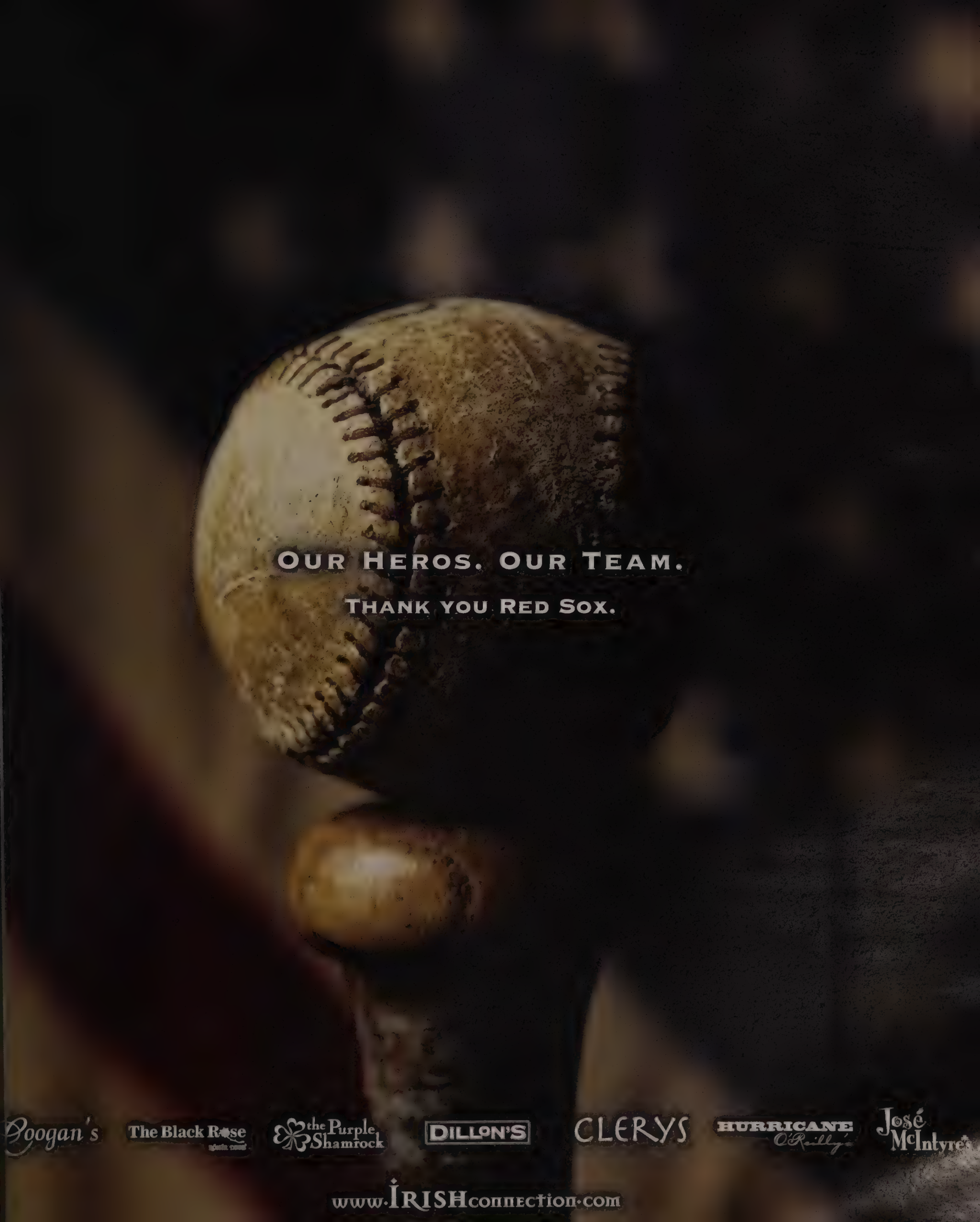
The new executive chef at **Bambara** in Cambridge has hit the ground running, with three new menus: lunch, dinner, and late night. **Michael Haimowitz**, formerly of **Morrells** in New York City, is serving up such seasonal fare as autumn mushroom chowder with roasted fingerlings, parsnips, and lardons, and grilled Bobo Farms poussin with fall squash hash, sweet and sour shallots, and toasted pumpkin seed oil. Haimowitz also plans to offer a series of wine dinners; stay tuned.

Happy 10th anniversary to **Sonsie** chef **Bill Poirier**, who recently introduced his 40th seasonal menu at the Newbury Street eatery. And happy 10th birthday to **Rialto** in Cambridge.

There are chains, and then there are chains. You know the difference between a gold-plated necklace and its solid 18 karat counterpart. Let's also consider the gulf between, say, **Applebee's** and **McCormick & Schmick's**. One is the kind of eatery that makes "chain" such a pejorative term. The other provides probably your only opportunity in Boston to sample West Coast seafood such as plump, sweet, Penn Cove mussels and big, tender weathervane scallops from Alaska. If you're sneering at the value of an Alaskan import, note that Curt Schilling was born in Anchorage. Note also that McCormick & Schmick's is planning to offer a series of West Coast wine dinners. We'll keep you posted. iB

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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors

Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Ancien Wine Dinner

Ariadne Restaurant, 344 Walnut St., Newton (617-332-4653). www.ariadnerestaurant.com. MBTA: #59 bus to Newtonville. Nov. 9. 7 pm. $80. Wines from **Ken Bernards** and his Napa-based Ancien Wines accompany a multicourse menu from chef **Christos Tsardounis**.

California Wine Dinner

Legal Sea Foods, 26 Park Square, Boston (617-530-9175). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Nov. 4. 6-8 pm. $50. Executive Chef **Rich Vellante** prepares appetizers and a five-course dinner to complement wines from California's Neibaum-Coppola winery.

Chianti: America's Favorite Italian Red

Seasons at the Millennium Boston Hotel, 26 North St., Boston (617-859-37170). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Nov., 9, 7 pm. $60. Local Italian wine expert **Deidre Magnello** hosts this tasting and discusses the diversity of wines from the Chianti region.

Devlin's Wine Dinner

Devlin's, 332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822). www.edevlins.com. MBTA: #57 bus to Brighton Center. Nov. 8. 6-10 pm. $44.95. Executive chef **Gary O'Hanlon** prepares dishes from a new cookbook entitled *Great Chefs Cooking for Great Friends* that features recipes from local chefs.

Fireside Chats

The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). www.fireplacerest.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Every other Saturday, 3 pm. $25. Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** hosts experts who discuss subjects from wines to foods to microbrews. •Nov. 13: Pinot noir.

Hot off the Vine at 33

33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** for a sampling of four wines paired with a complementary food tasting. •Nov. 3: California. •Nov. 10: Bordeaux.

Season's Sweetest Pastry Classes

Rialto Restaurant at the Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge (617-661-5050). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. $40. This fall, Rialto pastry chef **Lynn Moulton** leads classes on how to make some of her favorite desserts. •Nov. 12: Warm chestnut soufflé with chocolate espresso sauce and whole-orange compote.

Second Saturdays at Grill 23 & Bar

Grill 23 & Bar, 161 Berkeley St., Boston (617-542-2255). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Second Saturday of each month, 12-2 pm. $55. Executive chef **Jay Murray** and wine director **Alex deWinter** lead monthly cooking and tasting demonstrations. •Nov. 13: Seafood Thanksgiving.

Tequila Night at Tremont 647

Tremont 647, 647 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-4600). www.tremont647.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Nov. 15. 6 pm. $50. A margarita reception is followed by a four-course, Latin-inspired meal from executive chef **Jamie Bissonnette**. Each course is accompanied by a Sauza Tequila tasting.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting

Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $25. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, and chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •Nov. 9: Argentina. •Nov. 16: Champagne Shootout ($40).

Upstairs on the Square Wine Events

UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933). www.upstairsonthesquare.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Wine director **Shane Lessard** highlights wines from different regions, accompanied by food prepared by chefs **Susan Regis** and **Amanda Lydon**. •Nov. 4: Terrabianca Tuscan dinner, $100. •Nov. 10: Bordeaux tasting, accompanied by small plates, $55.

Vintage Danforth

Danforth Museum of Art, 123 Union Ave., Framingham (506-620-0050, ext. 10). www.danforthmuseum.org. Nov. 6. 7 pm. $50. Danforth Museum of Art holds its annual wine tasting event, featuring wines from New Zealand, Australia, France, Italy and the U.S.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre

Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-720-1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Every Wed., 7 pm. $38. Chef Geoff Gardner pairs French cuisine with wines selected by sommelier Erik Johnson. •Nov. 3: Califonia dreaming. •Nov. 10: Burgundy with winemaker **Alex Gambal**.

TASTY TIDBIT

BELGIAN BREW-HA-HA

No offense to those hard at work in the chocolate and waffle factories, but when it comes to Belgian imports, beer always tops our list. On November 6, the best of Belgian beer is on display at the Cyclorama for Boston's first-ever Belgian Beer Fest. Upwards of 100 Belgian-style beers will be ripe for the tasting, complemented by sandwiches from the Elephant Walk, artisanal cheeses from Formaggio Kitchen and waffles from the Waffle Haus. The afternoon also features a beer forum including such guest speakers as brewmasters Peter Bouckaert of New Belgium Brewing Co. and Randy Thiel of Brewery Ommegang, who'll be sure to stimulate your brain cells (hopefully canceling out what the beer's doing to them). *The Cyclorama at the Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-277-2880 or 617-254-1331). www.beeradvocate.com MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Nov. 6, 1–10 pm. $20–$25.*





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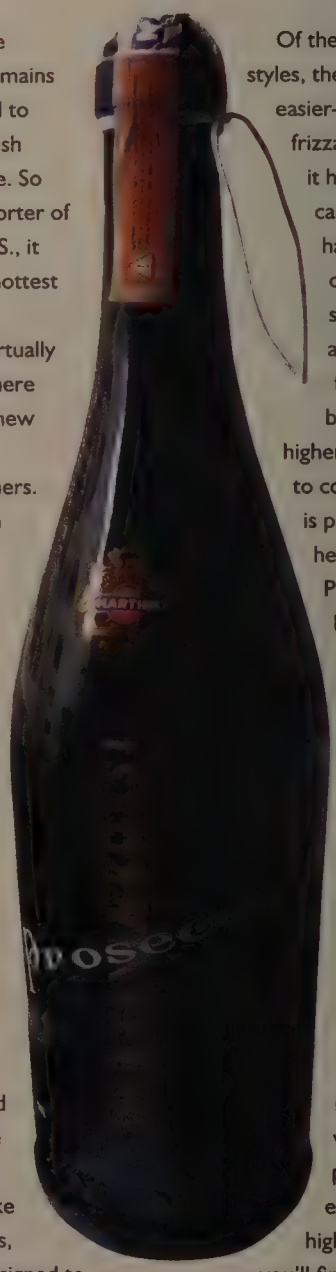
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WINE

Prosecco's Pleasures

BY SANDY BLOCK, M.W.

In the world of wine, as in haute couture and fine dining, Italy remains ultrafashionable. We've learned to associate quality, elegance and stylish packaging with the country's image. So while Italy is by far the largest exporter of commercial-grade wines to the U.S., it also supplies us with many of the hottest wine categories every year. The prevalence of Italian restaurants virtually guarantees a ready-made market here for any bottles from Italy that are new and interesting, but some have inevitably taken off better than others. One of these is Prosecco, which in the last few years has risen from obscurity to become extremely popular. It's a fun wine that has been produced without fanfare for years in northeast Italy's Veneto region.



Prosecco is actually a grape variety native to the area, but the name most often appears on bottles of fruity sparkling, or semisparkling, wine. These are made differently than Champagne and other traditional-method sparkling wines in the sense that Prosecco doesn't undergo a lengthy fermentation inside the bottle you buy, and there's no need to age it. In fact, it doesn't improve at all after being bottled. Fermented in pressurized tanks, like most of the world's sparkling wines, it's a mild, fragrantly fruity wine designed to drink fresh, shortly after purchase, and its flavors are closer to their grape origins. But the most important difference is that Prosecco is ideal for enjoying in casual settings with food, rather than as a beverage of celebration or a connoisseur's drink. The wine's moderate price tag (generally from $8 to $12) reflects its informality.

The Prosecco grape is marked by its slightly bitter-flavored finish, which is ideal for service as an aperitif. Most Proseccos you'll encounter are semi-dry, meaning you'll taste not only peachy, flowery-accented flavors but also a bit of sugar. The wine's nowhere near as aromatic or as sweet, however, as Italy's best-known sparkling wine export, Asti. Therefore it's more acceptable to those who prefer drinking drier wines, regardless of whether they have bubbles. Aside from its less overt sweetness, Prosecco is also usually a bit fuller in body than Asti, averaging about 11 percent alcohol, so it's adaptable to a wider range of foods. To me Prosecco is delicious with slightly salty appetizers, and I've also enjoyed drinking it with cured meats, salads, and cheeses of all kinds.

Of the two predominant Prosecco styles, the milder, more adaptable and easier-drinking is the Prosecco frizzante, named as such because it has fewer bubbles. This lightly carbonated version generally has a soft creaminess that comes across on your palate somewhere between bubbly and still. Prosecco spumante is fully sparkling. It often tastes a bit less sweet because the higher degree of carbonation tends to counterbalance whatever sugar is present. To be more precise in helping you find the type of Prosecco that you want, most labels also indicate either brut (relatively, although never absolutely dry), extra dry (the traditional and most prevalent style; confusingly enough, it indicates the wine is partly sweet), dry (which in the bizzaro language of wine labeling means fully sweet) or dulce (very sweet).

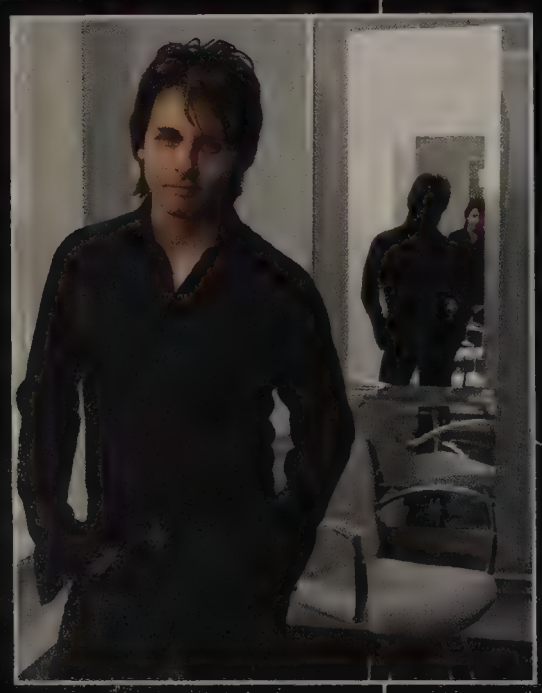
Some Proseccos are produced at the DOC level, which indicates the wine is made from precise grape varieties from specific production zones within the eastern Veneto. Although it's a higher quality classification than you'll find on most bottles, the DOC designation does not guarantee that you'll like the wine more. If the virtue of Prosecco is that it's lively, clean and fresh, then the IGT designation, which is most prevalent, fills the bill. Still, if you're looking for an upgrade in terms of ripeness and a bit more weight on the palate, the area within the Veneto that carries the best quality reputation labels its wine "Prosecco di Conegliano-Valdobbiadene." The vineyards at Valdobbiadene sit at higher elevations and the climate is cooler than it is elsewhere in the Prosecco production zones, leading to grapes with more potential structure and acidity. There's a further subdivision based on geography. Wines from Cartizze, a tiny zone within Valdobbiadene, are considered the most prestigious. Most are quite dry, however, meaning that they're not in the style that defines Prosecco and its charms for the average aficionado. IB

One of only 18 Americans certified as a master of wine, Sandy Block is assistant vice president of wine for Horizon Beverage.


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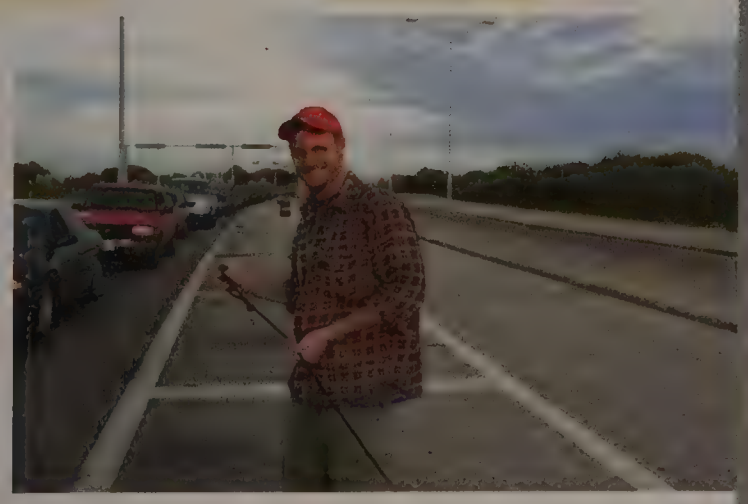
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IMPROPER PICKS

november 3 - 16

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			3 	4 Local author **Ha Jin** reads from his new novel at Harvard Book Store. *See Books & Poetry on page 88.*	5 	6 The Middle East Downstairs hosts a show with **El Vez, Bobby Conn** (left) and **Mary McBride.** *See Music on page 70.*
7	8	9 The **Boston Lyric Opera** performs *L'Italiana in Algeri* at the Shubert Theatre. *See Classical Music on page 76.*	10	11	12 Get pampered with manicures and massages while you play pool at Felt's **Spa Bar.** *See CityScope on page 54.*	13 See Melia Bensussen's play ***All of a Kind Family*** at the Cutler Majestic Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 56.*
 14 **R. Kelly** and **Jay-Z** rock the FleetCenter. *See Music on page 72.*	15 **Flavors of Fall** at the Regattabar features fare from top local eateries like Rialto, Rustic Kitchen, Harvest and Finale. *See CityScope on page 54.*	16				



WED./NOV. 10

Books & Poetry: Dry Wit

Instead of collapsing under the baggage of growing up with an alcoholic father, eventual adoption by his mother's therapist, and an unstable adolescence spent pill-popping with an eccentric extended family, Augusten Burroughs parlayed the story of his troubled youth into the satiric, best-selling memoir *Running with Scissors*. A few years later, the recovering alcoholic again proved his knack for painting painful experiences in a humorous light with his second memoir, *Dry*, which chronicled his road to sobriety. Now a critics' darling and reliable literary wit, the western Mass. resident has poured his self-deprecating humor into his latest book, *Magical Thinking: True Stories*, a collection of musings on his own bumpy road. Fans have two opportunities to hear the scribe read from *Magical Stories* Nov. 10, first at the Harvard Coop and later in the evening at the Attic at the Union Street Bar as part of the Newtonville Books in the Attic series. *Harvard Coop, 1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000), 12:30 pm. Union Street Bar, 107 R Union St., Newton (617-244-6619). 7:30 pm.*

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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CALENDAR EDITED BY
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Rich Levine CityScope, Dance Clubs, Gay & Lesbian, Music
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Ezra Dyer Sports
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules







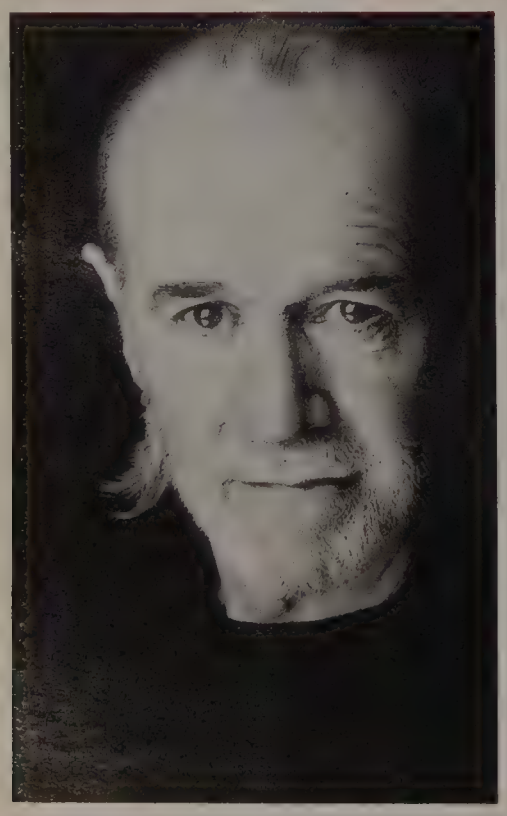
THU.–SUN./NOV. 11–14

Museums and Galleries: Arts International

It might be easy for wealthy art enthusiasts to jet-set around the world picking up pricy pieces for their private collections. But most of us who want to check out fine art have to wait till it comes to us. For four days beginning November 11, the Cyclorama brings in works from more than 40 American and European galleries for the eighth annual Boston International Fine Art Show. A range of fine art including antiquities, 17th- to 21st-century paintings, works on paper, sculpture, fine prints and photography is on display through the weekend, but if you're looking to rub shoulders with rich upper crusties at a swanky arts affair, your best bet is opening night. The whole shebang kicks off with a black tie–optional gala on the 11th. The $100 ticket price, which supports Bank of America's Project Discovery program, includes hors d'oeuvres, all the wine you can drink and first pick of the art. *539 Tremont St., Boston (617-787-2637). www.fineartboston.com. Nov. 11, 6–9 pm, $100. Nov. 12, 1–8 pm; Nov. 13, 11 am–8 pm; Nov. 14, 11 am–5 pm. $10.*

TUE./NOV. 9

Books & Poetry: Crazy for Carlin



George Carlin began his career as a nightclub and television comic, lampooning the 1960s counterculture as Al Sleet, "the hippy-dippy weatherman" on the *Ed Sullivan Show*. But he soon realized that he had more in common with the era's youth than with their parents. So he grew his hair long, got booted out of a Vegas palace for obscenity and released a string of top-selling albums consisting of childhood reminiscences, drug references and crass and canny remarks. After a down period in the '80s, Carlin resurfaced with a new persona: a vitriolic ranter, hectoring his live and movie audiences with barbed wit and blunt punchlines. He also turned his talents to the printed word, penning *Braindroppings*, a collection of observations on language and other aspects of human interaction. Carlin comes to town November 9 to offer more social commentary as he reads from his new book, *When Will Jesus Bring the Pork Chops?* at the Coolidge Corner Theatre. You can probably also count on some sharp (and funny) commentary on the previous week's presidential election. *290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. 6 pm. $2.*

FRI./NOV. 5

CityScope: Sweet Philanthropy

It's no secret that we regard chocolate as a gift from the gods. So it doesn't take much convincing to get us to commit to a night sampling the wares of Boston's best chocolatiers, bakeries, and restaurants, including L.A. Burdick's, Godiva and Teuscher Chocolates, while sipping champagne and viewing modern art. Dana Zemack, chocolate enthusiast and star of Cambridge Community Television's *The Tasty Show*, plans to tickle your taste buds and stimulate your artistic vision at Chocolate...For a Change, at the Institute of Contemporary Art November 5. Only the fact that the proceeds go to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society could further sweeten the deal. *955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.thetastyshow.com. 7-9 pm. $25, $30 at the door.*



NOV. 3–14

Movies: Cultural Celebration

Every year, the Boston Jewish Film Festival expands its schedule, bringing in more movies, speakers, actors and filmmakers for a week-and-a-half cinematic spree. The festival, now in its 16th year, features an array of international contemporary films that focus on Jewish themes. It kicks off November 3 with a comedy from Belgium, *The Rashevski's Tango*, at the Museum of Fine Arts. The next night, the English movie *Wondrous Oblivion* screens at the Coolidge Corner Theatre. In addition to the film screenings, there's a slew of panel discussions, with directors, journalists, actors and people who appear in documentaries. And on November 10, at 8 pm, the Coolidge hosts a concert with Joshua Nelson, aka "the Jewish Gospel Singer." All in all, there are about 45 films, from 16 countries, screening in six venues. For a complete schedule and to buy tickets, go to www.bjff.org. *$10 most films (concert is $20 in advance, $25 day of show). (866-468-7619).*

VICTORIA'S SECRET

WHAT'S SEXY BOSTON

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OCTOBER 18, 2004

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cityscope

Advice to Contributors

Submit updated listings for benefits, festivals, activities and events by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Benefits

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Canstruction Cocktail Party
Seaport World Trade Center West, 155 Seaport Blvd., Boston (978-744-7379, ext. 120). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6-9 pm. $25-$30. Canstruction Boston, an organization that provides food to local shelters, pantries and soup kitchens, hosts this cocktail party and silent auction to benefit the Greater Boston Food Bank.

Courage and Curiosity Fund-Raiser
Hotel Marlowe, 25 Edwin H. Land Blvd., Cambridge (617-868-8000). www.kinnect.org. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. 6-10 pm. $100. This event in celebration of National Adoption Month includes an award ceremony, live music, and live and silent auctions. Proceeds benefit the Center for Family Connections.

The Great Campout
Seaport Hotel, 1 Seaport Lane, Boston (781-395-4999). www.outdoorexplorations.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6:30 pm. $150. This gala dinner benefits Outdoor Explorations, an organization for people with disabilities that promotes personal growth through outdoor adventures.

"I'm Animal Friendly" License Plate Auction
Doubletree Guest Suites, 550 Winter St., Waltham (617-541-5101). www.massachusettsanimalcoalition.org. 6-8 pm. $25. This live auction of the new "I'm Animal Friendly" Massachusetts license plates features 40 special low-number plates. Proceeds benefit the Massachusetts Animal Coalition.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Chocolate...for a Change
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston. www.thetastyshow.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 7-9 pm. $25-$30. Sample chocolate truffles, pastries and desserts from some of the city's top chocolatiers, restaurants and bakeries, like Godiva, Lumiere, Radius and the Tasty Show. Proceeds benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Newbury Street League Auction Gala
The Ritz-Carlton Boston, 15 Arlington St., Boston (617-267-2224). www.newburystreetleague.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6 pm-12:30 am. $250. A live performance by Urban Renewal and both a live and a silent auction highlight this gala event benefiting the Newbury Street League and the Women's Lunch Place, a group that provides aid to poverty-stricken women.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6

CCAE Benefit Party
Crate & Barrel, 48 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789, ext. 1). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Nov. 6. 8-10:30 pm. $25. This annual party at Crate & Barrel features wine tasting, music, dancing and a silent auction. Proceeds benefits the Cambridge Center for Adult Education.

MSPCA's Happy Endings Banquet
Thorny Lea Golf Club, 159 Torrey St., Brockton (508-586-2053). www.mspca.org. 6 pm. $50. WFXT-TV 25 news anchors David Wade and Bianca de la Gaza host this benefit dinner and auction featuring items including two-week vacation getaways, autographed sports memorabilia and 2005 Red Sox tickets. Proceeds benefit the Metro South Animal Care & Adoption Center.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Speranza for Somerville
Dante Alighieri Society of Massachusetts, 41 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-776-2800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 12-5 pm. $50. This fund-raising event benefiting Somerville Cares About Prevention features a selection of Italian fare from Amelia's Kitchen and Amelia's Trattoria, and desserts from La Contessa and Lyndell's Bakery.

Preview

Xmas in November

Holiday extravaganza returns to Boston


A gingerbread house contest highlights this year's Christmas Crafts Festival

We're not saying it isn't fun to wait in endless lines during the last-minute holiday rush and battle frenzied crowds determined to get this year's must-buy toy. But this year, we're going to try to stay a little ahead of the Christmas shopping curve. A good place to start is the Christmas Craft Festival, which runs from November 5–7.

For the past 18 years, artisans from all over the country have flocked to Boston's World Trade Center for this weekend-long event, and this year, more than 350 bring their wares. There's jewelry from Beth Russo and M&S, art from Mario Novak and Barbara Garrison, hundreds of unique holiday ornaments, even a partridge in a pear tree. There's also a gourmet food section where you can sample and buy products that might give your dinner that little extra boost—or make a great gift for that foodie on your list.

One highlight of this year's festival is a special gingerbread house competition, with extravagant gingerbread houses (and in some cases, towns) created by local restaurants, hotels and bakeries, including the New England Culinary Institute, 33 Restaurant, Legal Sea Foods and Jer–ne. The cakes are for sale, and proceeds benefit Community Servings, a local, home-delivered meals program dedicated to helping people suffering from AIDS and their families.

World Trade Center, Northern Ave., Boston (617-385-5000). www.christmascraftfestival.com. Nov. 5–7. Fri., 12–7 pm; Sat., 10 am–7 pm; Sun, 10 am–5 pm. $10. —Rich Levine

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Gala Preview Benefit
The Cyclorama, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-598-3201). www.fineartboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 6-9 pm. $100. This gala, which celebrates the start of the Boston International Fine Arts Show, features appetizers, music by the Sonny Watson Jazz Quartet and a chance for guests to get a first look at some of the show's art. Proceeds benefit Project Discovery.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Visions of a Future: Charity Art Auction
38 Cameron, 38 Cameron Ave., Cambridge (617-492-4091). www.standupforkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 7-9:30 pm. $20. Tom Block's painting *Refugee, 2000* highlights this auction to benefit StandUp for Kids—Boston, a group that provides outreach services to indigent young people.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

BCO's Class Acts Gala & Auction
Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-423-3883). www.bostonclassicalorchestra.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6:30 pm. $250. Michael and Kitty Dukakis serve as honorary chairs at this benefit gala for the Boston Classical Orchestra featuring dinner plus musical performances by local celebrities like former Celtics coach K.C. Jones and NECN anchorwoman Amanda Rosseter.

Fall Fandango
Lewis Gallery at the AFH Epicenter, 100 West Second St., Boston. www.thegiftfoundation.org. MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. 8 pm-12 am. $75-$85. This 10th annual event, featuring dessert, dancing, open bar and a silent auction, benefits Shelter Legal Services, a group that provides professional legal services to those who can't afford them.

High Hopes Diamond Gala
Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 64 Arlington St., Boston (888-567-5462). www.joslin.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8:30 pm. $350. Douglas Melton, Ph.D., co-director of the new Harvard Stem Cell Institute, is honored at this annual gala featuring everything from palm readers to performances by magician Mac King and musician Clint Holmes. Proceeds benefit the Joslin Diabetes Center.

Steppin' Out
World Trade Center, Boston (866-468-7619). www.dimock.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 8 pm-2 am. $150. Live jazz performances by Will Downing, Andre Ward, Pieces of a Dream and others highlight this 17th annual multicultural event to benefit the Dimock Community Health Center, which provides services to Boston's urban neighborhoods.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Flavors of Fall
Regattabar, Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge (617-441-8600). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5:30-8:30 pm. $50. This autumn-inspired event features fare from top local eateries like Rialto, Rustic Kitchen, Harvest and Finale. Proceeds benefit Project PlayGroup, an organization that provides child and family services in Cambridge.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Understanding Our Differences
The Brae Burn Country Club, 326 Fuller St., West Newton (617-559-6075). MBTA: #59 bus to Newtonville. 7-9 pm. $50. MSNBC's Chris Matthews is the keynote speaker at this event honoring Legal Sea Foods president Roger Berkowitz and Newton North High School teacher Dr. David Ticchi for their charitable work. Proceeds benefit Understanding Our Differences, a nonprofit disability-awareness organization.

Festivals & Parties

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Warren Miller's 55th Ski Season Kickoff
Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-591-1400). www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 9:30-11 pm. $22. Skiers can get pumped up for the 2005 ski season with a viewing of *Impact*, a film showing extreme skiing and snowboarding clips, accompanied by food and a cash bar.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6

New England International Auto Show
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Boston (800-322-4821). www.bostonautoshow.com. MBTA: Red Line to JFK. Nov. 6-14. Sat., 10 am-10 pm; Sun., 10 am-7 pm; Mon.-Tue., 1-9 pm; Wed.-Fri., 1-10 pm. $10. Hundreds of domestic and imported cars are on display, and guests can view special exhibits like the NASCAR simulator and remote-control car racing.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12

The Blizzard of Oz
Hyatt Regency Hotel, 575 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8 pm-2 am. $20-$30. JetSet Events and Boston Ski & Sports Club present this party to kick off the ski season with live music, a DJ, prize giveaways and various ski exhibits.

Spa Bar
Felt, 533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555). www.anthemevents.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7 pm. $15-$20. Enjoy pampering as you party on Felt's third floor with manicures and massages, plus appetizers and pool.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14

The Copley Soiree
Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Ave., Boston (617-227-9009). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7-10 pm. $40-$45. Spend the night dancing ballroom, Latin, swing and salsa in the Copley's Grand Ballroom

Fair Trade Fair
First Parish in Brookline, 382 Walnut St., Brookline (617-566-1933). www.firstparishinbrookline.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. 1-5 pm. Free. Vendors including Equal Exchange, 10,000 Villages and the Harvest Co-op sell items like fair-trade coffee, tea, clothing, jewelry and crafts.

Singles

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Eight Minute Dating
Hard Rock Café, 131 Clarendon St., Boston (617-424-7625). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 22-32.

Hurry Date
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $35 for nonmembers. Embark on 20 five-minute dates and enjoy drink specials from 33 restaurant. For ages 30-45.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Eight Minute Dating
Orleans, 65 Holland St., Boston (617-669-8754). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 7 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 27-40.

Eight Minute Dating
Soho, 386 Market St., Brighton (617-562-6000). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: #57 bus to Brighton Center. 7:08 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 21-32.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

Eight Minute Dating
Vox Populi, 755 Boylston St., Boston (617-424-8300). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 25-35.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Eight Minute Dating
Clarke's at Faneuil Hall, 21 Merchants Row, Boston (617-227-7800). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 30-40.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Single Professionals for the Arts Tour
Starbucks, 443 Boylston St., Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 4-6:30 pm. $40. Tour Boston-area galleries with other singles and mingle over post-tour cocktails at 29 Newbury. Reservations required.

Twentysomethings for the Arts Tour
Starbucks, 443 Boylston St., Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12-2:30 pm. $40. Tour Boston-area galleries with other singles and mingle over post-tour coffee at the Garden of Eden. Reservations required.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Eight Minute Dating
BlueWave, 343 Congress St., Boston (617-790-0720). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 28-38.

Eight Minute Dating
Cambridge Common, 1667 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-319-4678). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 25-35.

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SALEM

stir the senses

performing arts

Advice to Contributors
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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater

JUST OPENED

All of a Kind Family
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (800-233-3123). www.telecharge.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Nov. 13-14, Sat., 2 pm; Sun., 1 and 5 pm; Nov., 20, 2pm. $8-19. Melia Bensussen direct's her stage adaptation of Sydney Taylor's book about a family life of five girls growing up on the Lower East Side of New York City in the early 1900s.

Annie Get Your Gun
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). www.turtle-lane.com. Nov. 5-Dec.30. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm; Nov. 27, 2 pm and 8 pm. $24. The Turtle Lane players present Irving Berlin's classic wild West musical.

Big River: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Nov.16-21. Tue and Thu., 7:30 pm; Wed. and Sun., 7 pm. $35.50-$40.50. This production of Roger Miller and William Hauptman's adaptation of Mark Twain's classic tale features a combination of sign language and spoken word.

Burn This
Boston University Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Nov. 11- Dec. 12. Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm; Tue. and Thu., 7:30 pm. $30-$55. Susan Fenichell directs Lanford Wilson's contemporary romantic drama about four people in a state of personal chaos after the death of a friend.

The Diet Monologues
Theater at Old South Church, 645 Boylston St., Boston (781-842-0393). www.oldsouth.org. Nov. 5-7 and Nov. 11-14. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2pm. $10-12. Tom Keydel directs this series of comic and tragicomic monologues and musical interludes about America's obsession with becoming thin.

Lend Me a Tenor
Yamawaki Center, Lasell College, 47 Mertyle Ave., Newton (617-244-9538). www.newtoncountryplayers.org. Nov. 5-20. Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., Nov. 7, 4 pm; Sun., Nov. 14, 2 pm. $13-$15. The Newton Country Players present Ken Ludwig's play about a deceased opera singer's understudy who fools the audience into believing that he is the tenor.

Permanent Collection
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands (617-332-1646). www.newrep.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. Nov. 10-Dec. 12. Wed., 2 pm and 7pm; Thurs., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 3pm. $28-$48. New Rep presents the New England premiere of Thomas Gibbons' play about present-day racism and a museum director who feels that the museum neglects black artists.

The Value of Names
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-1300). www.theatrecoop.org. Nov. 12-Dec. 11. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm. Nov. 21 and Dec. 5, 3 pm. $15-$20. An aging actor, blacklisted during the McCarthy era, realizes the significance of names when he learns who put his name on the blacklist.

The Well of the Saints
BCA Plaza Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through Nov. 20. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $34-$38. Two blind beggars get a chance to see the world and each other when a holy man gives them sight in the Súgán Theatre Company's production of J.M. Synge's play.

NOW RUNNING

Aida
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Durham Road, Beverly (978-232-7200). www.nsmt.org. Through Nov. 21. Tue.-Sat., 8pm; Wed., Sat.-Sun., 2pm. $30-$60. The North Shore Music Theatre presents Tim Rice and Elton John's adaptation of Verdi's opera about a love triangle involving a Nubian princess.

Bat Boy: The Musical
Vokes Theater, Route 20, Wayland (508-358-4034). www.vokesplayers.org. Through Nov.13. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Nov. 6 and 13, additional show, 2 pm. $18-$23. Nancy Curran Willis directs Keythe Farley and Brian Flemming's campy cult musical about a half-boy/half-bat's attempts to blend into society.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. Ongoing. $46-$56. This dialogue-free production features tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Company
Roberts Studio Theatre, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.speakeasystage.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through Nov. 13. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun. 3 pm. $35. Paul Daigneault directs Stephen Sondheim's musical about a bachelor discussing his romantic status with his married friends.

Cooking with Elvis
Chelsea Theatre Works, 189 Winnisimmet St., Chelsea (617-887-2336). www.theatrezone.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Wellington. Through Nov. 6. Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 7 and 9:30 pm; $10-$18. In Lee Hall's dark comedy, the family of an Elvis impersonator must cope after he is paralyzed in a car crash.

Ears on a Beatle
Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through Nov.20. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri. 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm; Oct. 27 and Nov. 17, 2 pm. $21-$45. Mark St. Germain's off-Broadway hit follows two FBI agents who turn their ears on former Beatle John Lennon during the paranoia of the Nixon administration.

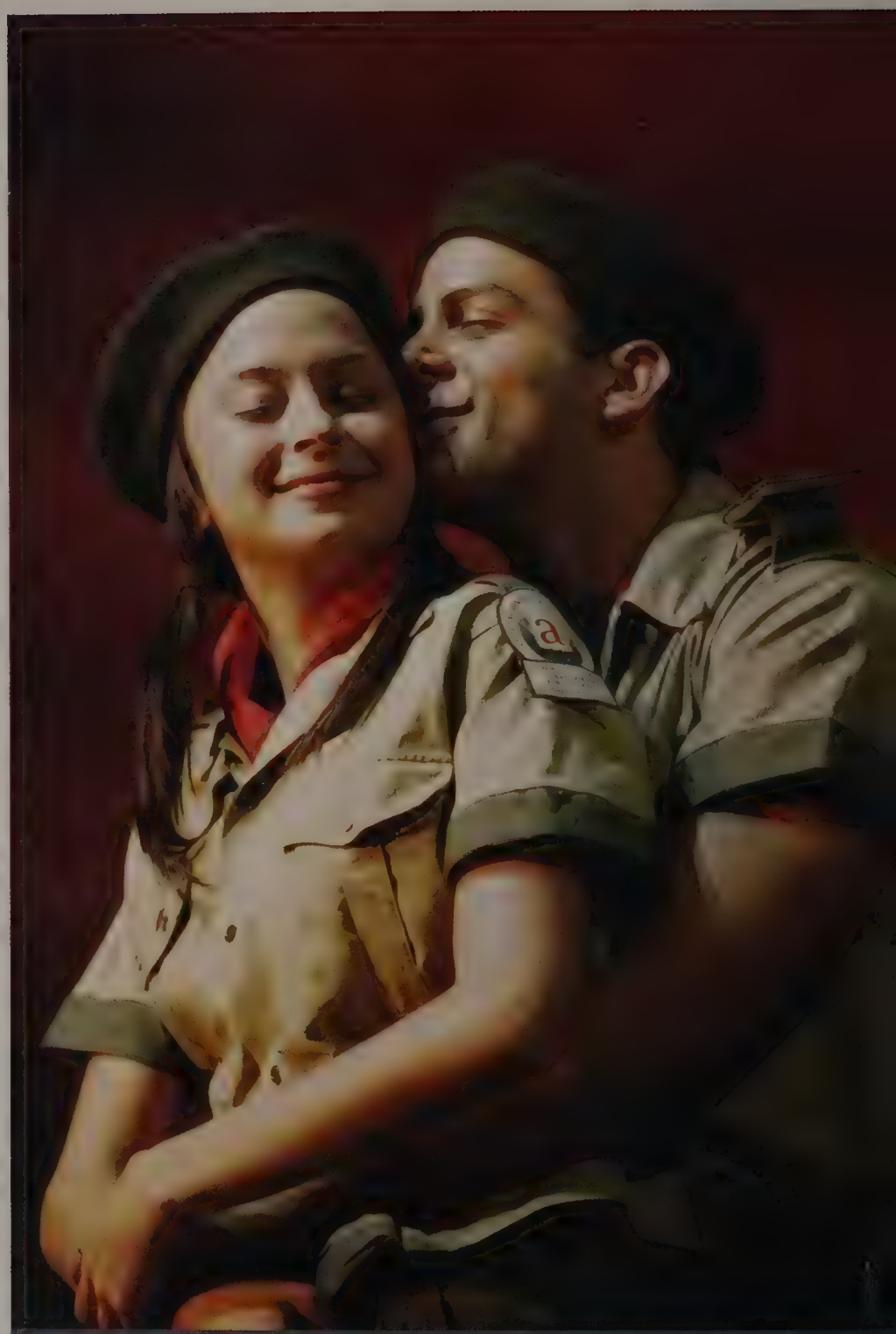
Evita
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-426-9366). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Nov. 14. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $37.50-$77.50. Hal Prince directs Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's Tony Award–winning musical about Eva Peron, the charismatic wife of Argentine dictator Juan Peron.

The Exorsissy
Machine, 1256 Boylston St., Boston (617-265-6222). www.golddustorphans.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Through Nov. 20. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm. $25. Ryan Landry directs and stars in the Gold Dust Orphans' production of his play about the Republican presidential candidate's 12-year-old daughter whose gender is questioned after she's possessed by the devil.

The Glider
Boston Playwright's Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-358-7529). www.bu.edu/bpt. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant Street. Through Nov 14. Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $12-$22. Wesley Savick directs Kate Snodgrass' play about three sisters who relive old memories during a visit to their childhood home.

Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding
Matrix Nightclub, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123). www.comedywedding.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. 18. Sat. and Sun., 7:30 pm. $49. Tickets include dinner, show and entry to Matrix. The nation's longest-running comedy/dinner-theater show spoofs a traditional Italian wedding with audience participation and dinner.

The Lion King
Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (800-347-0808). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. 26. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 1 pm and 6:30 pm. $22-$132. Julie Taymor directs this stage adaptation of the popular Disney film about a young lion cub's struggle to become king.



Amelia Alvarez and Ivan Quintanilla star in *Sonia Flew* at the Wimberly Theatre

Menopause: The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617-426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 pm and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $42.50. A quartet of aging baby boomers meet at a lingerie sale, and singing and dancing ensues.

The Playboy of the Western World
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-423-4008). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Nov. 28. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $25.50-$67.50. Ben Barnes directs the Abbey Theatre's production of J.M. Synge's play about a stranger who claims he murdered his father and becomes a hero in a small village in Ireland's County Mayo.

Professional Skepticism
Actors Workshop Proscenium Theatre, 327 Summer St., Boston (866-811-4111). www.theatremania.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Through Nov. 14. Thu.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $25-$28. Chip Egan directs James Rasheed's comedy about four accountants who bluff their way through a critical audit.

Richard the Third
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (866-811-4111). www.theatermania.com. MBTA: Orange Line to State. Through Nov. 7. Thu., Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Wed. and Sun., 7:30 pm. $25-$35. John Kuntz plays the title role in the Actors Shakespeare Project's production of the Bard's political drama.

The Rocky Horror Show
The Footlight Club, 7A Eliot St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3200). www.footlight.org. Through Nov. 13. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm. $12-$20. Jimmy Girgenti directs the Footlight Club's production of the cult classic.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $34. This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

Sonia Flew
Virginia Wimberly Theatre, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through Nov. 28. Thu. and Fri., 7:30 pm; Wed., Sat. and Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $14-$42. A Cuban family sends its only daughter to the United States for a better life. Now a mother of two in the Midwest, Sonia must reconcile her past with her present.

Spell #7
Boston Center for the Arts, BCA Plaza Black Box, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through Nov. 20. Thu.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 7pm. Call for ticket prices. Company One's production follows nine black performers struggling to make it in show business.

The Violet Hour
Stoneham Theatre, 295 Main St., Stoneham (718-279-2200). www.stonehamtheatre.org. Through Nov. 14. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun.


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2 pm. $16-$32. Wylin Symes directs Richard Greenberg's play about a young publisher whose life is about to change in unimaginable ways.

University Theater

Polaroid Stories
Spingold Theater Center, Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3400). www.brandeis.edu/theater.com. Nov. 4-14. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $10-$14. Janet Morrison directs Naomi Lizuka's play. Inspired by Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, it combines the classic mythological story with experiences of modern-day street kids to depict the dangerous life of runaway teens.

Therese Raquin
Boston University Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.bu.edu/but/seasons. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Through Nov. 6. Fri., 8 pm; Nov. 6., 8 pm. $5. Jim Petosa directs Neal Bell's stage adaptation of Emile Zola's novel about a repressed woman in 19th-century Paris.

Trojan Women
Ruth Nagel Jones Theatre, Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2000). www.wellesley.edu/Theatre. Nov. 11-14. Thu., 7 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 3 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. $15. Irish playwright Brendan Kennelly's adaptation of Euripides' classic play portrays the strong, active women of ancient Troy.

Dance

Dances to the Music of Archangelo Corelli
The Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-9363). www.dancecomplex.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Nov. 5-6. 8 pm. $12, seniors, students and BDA members, $15. Six dancers perform pieces choreographed by Kathy Hessinger to Corelli's music.

Experimental Dance
The Greene Theatre, 10 Boylston Place, Boston (617-824-8369). www.ticketweb.com. MBTA: B Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 4-6, Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 8 pm. $5. Emerson Stage presents a program of original work from Emerson choreographers.

The Taming of the Shrew
Wang Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.bostonballet.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 4-7. Thu., 7 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $18-$98. John Cranko choreographs the Boston Ballet's production of this Shakespeare comedy.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. Deadline for listings is four weeks prior to publication.

STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café
All Asia Café, 334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). www.stashcomedyjam.com MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue. 7-10 pm. $5. The All Asia Café hosts local comedy shows on Tuesday nights.

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault features local stand-up comedians. •Thu.: Greg Howell and friends •Fri. and Sat.: Boston's Best Standup •Sun.: Open Mike Night.

Cantab Lounge
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.cantablounge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Thursdays, 8 pm: Chris Waller performs improv downstairs, no cover, 21+.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Nov. 3, 8 pm: Rich Ceisler, $12. •Nov. 4, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •Nov. 5, 8 and 10:15 pm: Former host of MTV's *Carson Daly Bash* Jeffrey Ross, $20.•Nov. 6, 6, 8 and 10:15 pm: Jeffrey Ross, $22. •Nov. 7, 7 pm: Frank Santorelli, $12. •Nov. 10, 7:30 pm: Make-a-Wish Foundation Benefit, $25. •Nov. 11, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15 . •Nov. 12, 7:30 pm: Jeff Garlin, $25; 9:45 pm: John Valby (aka Dr. Dirty), $20. •Nov. 13, 8:30 and 10:15 pm: *Curb Your Enthusiasm*'s Jeff Garlin $27.•Nov. 14, 7 pm: Rich Ceisler, $12.

Comedy Studio
Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Nov. 3: Tony V with Steve Calechman, Dan Hirshon, Nick Lettic Tissa Hami. Tom Dustin and others. •Nov. 5: EJ Murphy, Adam Pearlman, Randy Winn, Noah Garfinkle and others. •Nov. 6: Andy O'Fish, Sean Lily, EJ Murphy and Tissa Hami. •Nov. 7: Greg Thibideau Tammy Two-Tone, Nate Johnson, Kevin Neales, Ira Proctor and others. •Nov. 9: Magic Lounge: mind reading, card manipulation and disappearing doves •Nov. 10: Tony V with Tim Kaelin, Mark Morrell Daniella Caolina and others. •Nov. 11: Janet Cormier, Amanda White, Tissa Hami, Tony Moschetto, Joe Mande and Myq Kaplan. •Nov. 12 Emily Singer, Erin Judge, Mike Whitman, Chris Torres, the Walsh Bros. and others. •Nov. 13: Erin Judge Amy Tee, Sandy Asai, Mike Whitman, Ku and others. •Nov. 14: Jim Flaherty, Andy O'Fish, Eric Cheung, Joe Wong, Rob O'Reilly and others. •Nov. 16 Magic Lounge: Five professional magicians.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. $10-$22. •Nov. 4, 8:30 pm: Bob Seibel and Dave Russo •Nov. 5, 8:45 pm: Bob Seibel and Steve Scarfo and Mike Cote. •Nov. 6, 8:45 pm: Bob Seibel, Steve Scarfo and Mike Cote•Nov. 11, 8:30 pm: Larry Miles, EJ Murphy •Nov. 12, 8:45 pm: Larry Miles Mike O'Neil, EJ Murphy •Nov.13, 8:45 pm: Larry Miles, Mike O'Neil, EJ Murphy.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. •Ongoing: The Midnight Show, Saturdays at midnight, $10; Lies, Half Truths and the American Way, Wed., and Thu., 8 pm; Sat., and Sun., 8 and 10 pm, $15.

ImprovBoston
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: characters, stories, settings, even the songs and dances. •Thursdays, 8 pm, $10-12: Unnatural Selection. A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one is left. 10 pm, $5: The Great and Secret Comedy Show. Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and music, play short films and do character sketches in a display of sibling rivalry. •Fridays, 8 pm, $10-12: Boston Creem. Boston's first all-women improv troupe performs. •Saturdays, 6 pm, $10-12 (children 11 and under accompanied by an adult admitted free): Improv Boston Family Show. A short-form improvisational show appropriate for all ages. 8 and 10 pm, $10-12: ImprovBoston Mainstage. Blending storytelling, music and audience participation, a cast of improvisers creates a show that changes with every performance. •Sundays, 7 pm, $5: Sgt. Culpepper/Open Jam. This evening combines three shows into one. Watch performances by visiting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry
327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-308-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Saturdays, 6 pm. $12. Boston's newest short-form improv group performs skits that involve audience participation.

The Tribe
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Every Thursday, 8 pm. $5 before 8 pm, $10 after. 21+. Improv comedians poke fun at everything, including themselves.

COMEDY SHOWS

Comics Come Home
Orpheum Theatre, 1 Hamilton Place, Boston (617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Nov. 13. 8 pm. $41.50-$106.50. At this annual event, local comics come back to Boston to help raise money for the Cam Neely Foundation.

Stephen Lynch & Mitch Hedberg
Orpheum Theatre, 1 Hamilton Place, Boston (617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Nov. 6. 7:30 pm. $24.50-$29.50. The comedians perform as part of their nationwide tour.

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Grape Nuts

Sideways is tipsy fun.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Alexander Payne's *Sideways* does for the approach of middle age what his *About Schmidt* did for the onset of old age: uses it as a springboard for bittersweet comedy and a road trip. At first, this makes the latest from the director of *Citizen Ruth* and *Election* a letdown. Those two earlier movies had a real satiric sting, especially the unjustly obscure *Ruth*, while *Schmidt* was a tamer experience. Still, even if *Sideways* is part rehash for Payne and his regular cowriter, Jim Taylor (who've adapted a novel by Rex Pickett this time), their movie hits such a pleasant comic groove that it's hard not to be charmed by it.



Paul Giamatti and Thomas Haden Church play two buddies who road-trip to wine country.

In *Sideways*, we get two characters who find age must bring emotional adjustments in life. Miles, played by Paul Giamatti (*American Splendor*), is a junior high English teacher who couldn't make his marriage last and can't get his novel published. His buddy Jack (Thomas Haden Church of TV's *Wings*) is a handsome actor whose boyish appeal is beginning to weather. With Jack about to get married, Miles decides the two southern Californians will head north to his favorite spot, California wine country, for a week-long trip where they'll have quality time together before Jack serves as Miles' best man at the wedding.

There's an amusing interplay between both Miles and Jack and the actors playing them. It's hard to say where the characters leave off and the actors begin in the hilarious little moments in which the pair goes to wineries to sample the latest vintages. Giamatti, who could be amusing reading a shopping list, gives a colorful tilt to wine connoisseur Miles' picky assessments of his tastings; in Giamatti's hands, sometimes Miles is being intentionally funny, sometimes not. Meanwhile, Jack has an endearing dumb-jock quality, and his response to Miles' "knowledgeable" wine talk is usually "tastes pretty good to me." Each man's approach to wine mirrors his approach to life, of course, with Jack blindly leaping in and Miles analyzing and analyzing (the metaphor only strains once, during a Miles speech about how his favorite grape is the fragile pinot, from which only a few growers can being out the best).

The detour-filled road trip only brings out the worst in Miles and Jack. That's what makes *Sideways* so funny and so bittersweet, usually at the same time. Miles' funk over learning that his book has been rejected and that his ex-wife has remarried sends him on a downer that even his anti-depressants can't fight, while Jack's insecurity over getting married makes him go after nearly everything in a skirt. These extremes of behavior play out most obviously in the men's relationship to two women they start hanging out with: Maya (Virginia Madsen), a waitress Miles has a crush on and very gingerly pursues, and Stephanie (Sandra Oh), a winery employee with whom Jack practically moves in, without telling her he's getting married in days.

What makes *Sideways* even funnier is the way the pals themselves bring out the worst in each other at times. Miles' skittishness makes Jack want to act in the opposite way, and Jack's irresponsibility only makes Miles even more cautious. The two pals have a relationship that's somewhere between the sitcom broadness of *The Odd Couple* and the bruised masculinity of Robert Altman's great *California Split* (the bluesy 1970s buddy movie that never came out on VHS but is now finally on DVD).

Sideways lays in that fertile midground between studio releases and independent movies—it's not precious, as an indie film might be, and Payne has made some interesting choices that you don't often get at the multiplex. First, there's the casting of Church. He's not as down on the acting food chain as Jack, who never made it beyond soap operas, but it helps the role that Church has never really become a star—the last time he had a role this big was when he took over Brendan Fraser's part in the video-only *George of the Jungle 2*. The same goes for casting Madsen as world-weary divorcee Maya. She had a string of splashy roles in the 1980s, in such films as *Dune* and *The Hot Spot*, but hasn't had a movie part this meaty in a decade. Like Maya, she's been around the block, and it helps her character.

With Giamatti front and center—along with Philip Seymour Hoffman, he's movies' most convincing and appealing everyman nowadays—*Sideways* is refreshingly down-to-earth. Its comedy and its emotions are life-sized, its laughs generous and compassionate. This movie will age just fine. iB

Sideways ★★★

Directed by Alexander Payne. Written by Payne and Jim Taylor. With Paul Giamatti, Thomas Haden Church, Virginia Madsen and Sandra Oh. Rated R. At Boston Common, Coolidge Corner, Kendall Square and Waltham Embassy.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Donnie Darko: The Director's Cut ★★

If it ain't broke, don't fix it. Writer-director Richard Kelly's brilliant *Donnie Darko* returns—not in the version that struck an emotional chord in many, despite being barely marketed in 2001, but in *Donnie Darko: The Director's Cut*, a new version running 20 minutes longer. Except this isn't a true "director's cut"; this 133-minute version never existed before now. If you haven't seen *Donnie Darko*, the original version is a better introduction; if you have, you've probably seen the added stuff already. Most of the "restored" footage comes from deleted scenes on the *Donnie Darko* DVD. Meanwhile, Kelly has also gone back and changed some of the songs to what he originally wanted, but couldn't afford in the budget. But wait a minute. Kelly originally wanted U2's "MLK" at the climax, not Michael Andrews and Gary Jules, unforgettably haunting version of Tears for Fears' "Mad World," which became a surprise hit. So why didn't he replace that, too? Kelly should have remained satisfied with the *other* happy accidents in his movie, too. (Midnight shows at Coolidge Corner, Nov. 5, 6, 12 and 13.)

Dr. Strangelove ★★★★

Peter Sellers (times three), Slim Pickens, Sterling Hayden, George C. Scott and the most wicked satire of the bogus arms race and the Cold War. 'Nuff said. Back for a 40th-anniversary rerelease, Stanley Kubrick's dynamo is still as funny as hell and still scarily relevant. (At Kendall Square.)

Friday Night Lights ★★

As an "inspirational sports movie," this tale of Texas high school football at least mixes in some unusual touches with the usual clichés. Its cinematography has a semidocumentary, fly-on-the-wall style most of the time, and you have to respect any football movie that uses the Stooges "I Wanna Be Your Dog" during game footage. But it still has nauseating Bible Belt pseudoreligion, the tired device of play-by-play commentary over game action and overinflated "big" moments, and it sometimes feels like director Peter Berg's audition reel to land car-commercial gigs. Surprisingly, the lead character—the pressured coach played by Billy Bob Thornton—is very vague; he's either a loud hard-ass or a caring father figure, rarely anything in between. Fortunately the footballers, including those played by Lucas Black and Derek Luke, are more defined. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Garden State ★★½

The first film by actor-director Zach Braff (TV's *Scrubs*) has its moments of daffy humor, as Braff plays a struggling L.A. actor who returns to his New Jersey hometown for the first time in nine years. It recaptures the mixed emotions of such a visit, especially of seeing old high school friends, but it treads on very familiar territory. It feels like it wants to be a version of *The Graduate* directed by Wes Anderson (*Rushmore*), and it struggles to find any voice of its own. Plus, the story of a guy returning to his hometown who develops a quick bond with a Natalie Portman character has already been done, in 1996's *Beautiful Girls*. Braff and Portman have a pleasing chemistry, and Braff is to be commended for trying to make something quirky and personal. But it's hard not to feel this movie is redundant. (At Boston Common, Fenway, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

I [Heart] Huckabees ★★★

Writer-director David O. Russell's world is a chaotic one in which he amusingly forces characters to face up to their place in it, sometimes willingly, sometimes not. In Russell's latest film, troubled activist Albert (Jason Schwartzman) is somewhat willing, but he's not prepared to be pulled into the rabbit hole by the existential detectives (Lily Tomlin, Dustin Hoffman) he hires to find meaning in his life. The duo drags Albert into the lives of his nemesis (Jude Law)—a junior executive trying to turn Albert's environmental group into a PR-friendly front for his chainstore—and a fellow client (Mark Wahlberg) obsessed with petroleum consumption. The movie ricochets around like a pinball, sometimes distractingly so, but most about every direction it heads in is hilarious. (At Boston Common, Coolidge Corner, Harvard Square and suburbs.)

Lightning in a Bottle ★★★

Filmed on the enormous stage of Radio City Music Hall, the musicians in this blues concert movie sometimes seem as if they're in different states, rather than actually interacting with each other, and director Antoine Fuqua films half the movie in isolating close-ups. But there are enough thrilling performances from Ruth Brown, Mavis Staples

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Peter Sellers in one of his three roles in Stanley Kubrick's *Dr. Strangelove*, which has been rereleased for its 40th anniversary

B.B. King, Solomon Burke, Odetta, Shemekia Copeland, Bonnie Raitt and (surprise of surprises) Natalie Cole—generally covering other people's songs—to overcome that. And I'm willing to accept Steven Tyler and Joe Perry's questionable presence here as a trade-off for the blessed absence of default white wannabe bluesman Eric Clapton. (At Coolidge Corner.)

The Machinist ★★½
Former Bostonian Brad Anderson's latest isn't as gripping as it might have been, but it's an intriguing, *Twilight Zone*–style slab of genre story. Christian Bale plays the frazzled hero, an insomniac who's losing his mind and, literally, his body. Bale dropped a ton of weight for the part, but turns his meaty role into more than a freak. As the story progresses, we learn there are concrete reasons why the guy has been checking out from reality, and the movie's grimy visuals perfectly reflect his state of mind. *The Machinist* is more in the line of Anderson's creepy *Session 9* than his arthouse hit *Next Stop Wonderland*, and that's fine with me. (At Harvard Square.)

Shall We Dance? ★★
It's hard to think of an American remake of a foreign film that's as faithful to the original as this tale of a businessman whose drab life turns upbeat when he starts secretly taking ballroom-dancing lessons. But while the 1996 Japanese original was a charmer that won you over, the American remake gets the slick Hollywood treatment, and all that that cliché suggests. Stars Richard Gere, Susan Sarandon and Jennifer Lopez don't always have the everyday quality required of their characters; the American gregariousness smothers the Japanese reserve that was a hallmark of the original; and the remake awkwardly overreaches at times, especially in the over-the-top climax set to the cringe-worthy Peter Gabriel song "Book of Love." (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Shaun of the Dead ★★★
Director and cowriter Edgar Wright's zombie comedy isn't just a horror spoof à la *Scream*, it's a movie about funny characters. Wright knows how to set up gags and put them across, and horror has nothing to do with his characters' amusing habits, like saying "What's that supposed to mean?" to glaringly obvious accusations. Like the zombies that slowly surround him and his circle of friends, the title character of this very funny English comedy springs back to life over the course of the movie. Shaun (co-writer Simon Pegg) is an affable bloke whose lack of ambition finds him stuck at a job requiring a name tag, and whose lack of romantic inspiration finds him dumped by girlfriend Liz (Kate Ashfield). But when zombies walk the streets of London, Shaun leads the survivors (to the pub, of course). Shots are fired, flesh is ripped, friends are mourned and, somewhere along the way, Liz is perhaps convinced that Shaun has left his feckless ways behind him. (At Boston Common, Fenway, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

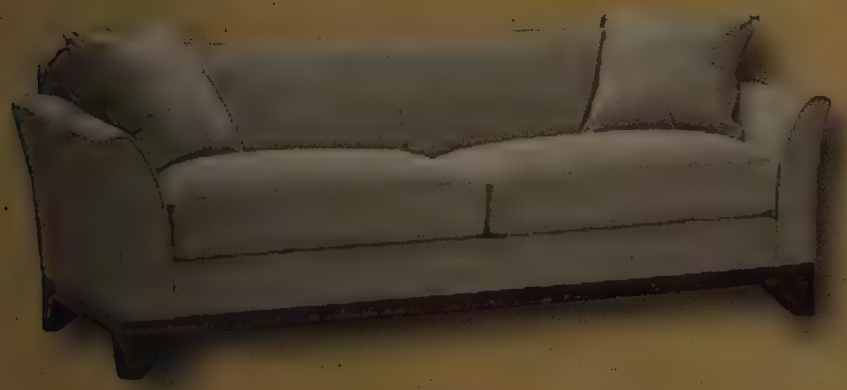
Tarnation ★★★½
In a year of too many remakes, sequels and "same old, same old" movies, Jonathan Caouette's distinctive documentary stands out. Culled from 20 years of the home movies he's shot since he was a boy, it tells the unforgettable, tragedy-laced story of his family and of his relationship with his mother Renee, who was subjected to numerous sessions of questionable electro-shock therapy as a teenager. It's a cycle of madness that Caouette's grandparents foisted on his mom, and that he has continued to try to fight off. Almost as remarkable as the family history is the way Caouette tells the personal story, in a fast-moving collage of home movies punctuated by deadpan onscreen text. Few movies this year have been as compellingly involving. (At Kendall Square.)

Team America: World Police ★★★½
Trey Parker and Matt Stone's return to the big screen is much, much funnier than its so-so trailer. Some have called the *South Park* creators' puppet-animated comedy politically impotent, since it makes fun of both the right and the left, but it's much more a pop-culture satire than a political satire. Its story of a team of terrorist-fighting Americans is most of all a priceless spoof of ego-thumping Hollywood action movies. The title characters carelessly destroy other countries' national treasures (the Eiffel Tower, the Sphinx, etc.) on the way to protecting American security because, as in most pumped-up Hollywood action pictures, other countries just aren't as important as we are (the parody of the clichéd disrespect that action movies show Arabs and other ethnicities is a hoot). Of course, the similarity between the swaggering American self-image parodied here and our government's behavior is in the eye of the beholder. Meanwhile, Korean dictator Kim Jong Il is the WMD-distributing bad guy, a cross between Elmer Fudd and Blofeld, while *Team America*'s domestic nemeses are Hollywood lefties including Alec Baldwin, Tim Robbins and Michael Moore. Sure, it's childish to make fun of celebrities who've spoken out against the war in Iraq, but it's childish to have a puppet puking for a minute and a half, yet that's also the funniest movie scene all year. And, as in the *South Park* movie, Trey Parker's song parodies just can't be beat. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Undertow ★½
Writer-director David Gordon Green's Bible Belt drama includes a Cain-and-Abel fraternal conflict that spills over to one of the brother's sons. But despite such grand themes, the backwoods story is supremely dull. Dermot Mulroney is the Georgia recluse whose ex-con brother (Josh Lucas) returns with vengeance in mind, and whose sons (Jamie Bell, Devon Alan) get caught in the crossfire. Green's quirky rhythms and his use of mostly nonprofessional actors gave last year's *All the Real Girls* a realistic touch, but there's little that's quirky or interesting this time around. (At Copley Place and Harvard Square.)

Vera Drake ★★
The latest from Mike Leigh (*Secrets & Lies*, *Topsy-Turvy*) starts as one of his most involving recent

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movies, as we meet his title character, played by solid Imelda Staunton. She's an industrious, generous housekeeper in 1950s England who works hard, never complains and also happens to "help young girls out" by performing abortions. She's simply a fascinating person to watch, until halfway through the movie. That's when she gets arrested after one of the girls nearly dies, and the legal procedures and family complications she suffers turn the story utterly predictable. Instead of being involving, the action just becomes a long-winded exercise in contrasting Vera's treatment to that of a young rich woman (Sally Hawkins) who, in a too-short subplot, gets an abortion through doctors who'll skirt the law for a price Vera's lower-class patients could never pay. (At Harvard Square and West Newton.)

What the Bleep Do We Know? ★★

It's different, all right, but that's not always a good thing in this indie, new-agey blend of documentary and drama. The documentary has some generally interesting scientific theorizing about the way the body perceives the world and about the effect of emotion on cells. But the interesting stuff is married to goofy animation and, even worse and even goofier, dramatic sequences starring Marlee Matlin as a two-timed photographer who undergoes an attitude adjustment. These scenes are as clunky as an airline safety video. (At Copley Place, Harvard Square and suburbs.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

•Nov. 8, 6 pm. **The Caveman's Valentine** 2001. A mentally ill man living in New York City attempts to solve the mystery behind a young man's death. Kasi Lemmons directs.

•Nov. 15, 6 pm. **Thanatos Rx: The Death Penalty Debate in America** *2001*. Director Maryanne Galvin is present for this screening of her documentary about the death penalty debate in the U.S.

BRATTLE THEATRE

Chlotrudis Short Film Festival

•Nov. 3, 7:30 pm. The Chlotrudis Society for Independent Film's 5th Annual Short Film Festival screens short films from all over the world, including drama, comedy, foreign-language, documentary and animated films.

Cries and Whispers: The Cinema of Ingmar Bergman

•Nov. 5, 8 pm; Nov. 6, 1:30 pm; Nov. 7, 1, 4:30 and 8 pm. **Fanny and Alexander** *1982*. A brother and sister are forced to move in with their mother and her horrible new husband after their father's death. Ingmar Bergman directs.

•Nov. 8, 7:15 pm; Nov. 9, 5 and 9:30 pm. **Viskningar och Rop** *(Cries and Whispers) 1972*. Two girls watching over their sister's sick bed remember their childhoods. •Also showing, Nov. 8, 5 and 9:30 pm; Nov. 9, 7:15 pm. **Höstsonaten** *(Autumn Sonata) 1978*. A mother visits her estranged daughters, one of whom is mentally impaired and the other her caretaker.

•Nov. 10, 7:45 and 9:45 pm. **Ansiktet** *(The Magician) 1958*. Charlatans touting a magnetic health theater fool a small town.

•Nov. 11, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm. **Persona** *1966*. A mute actress begins to take on the personality of her chatty nurse.

•Nov. 12, 7:30 pm; Nov. 13, 3:30 and 7:30 pm. **Jungfrukällan** *(The Virgin Spring) 1960*. Barbaric shepherds rape and murder a young virgin, and her parents take revenge when the murderers unknowingly ask them for shelter. •Also showing, Nov. 12, 5:30 and 9:30 pm; Nov. 13, 1:30, 5:30 and 9:30 pm. **Det Sjunde inseglet** *(The Seventh Seal) 1960*. A knight challenges the Grim Reaper to a game of chess during the Black Plague.

•Nov. 14, 5 and 8 pm; Nov. 15, 2, 5 and 8 pm. **Trollflöjten** *(The Magic Flute) 1975*.This film is an adaptation of Mozart's opera.

•Nov. 16, 7:30 pm. **Sommarnattens Leende** *(Smiles of a Summer Night) 1955*. A man ignores his virgin wife in favor of a mistress.

Special Engagements

•Nov. 1-4, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm. **Goodbye Dragon Inn** *2003*. An old movie theater screens its final film, *Dragon Inn*. Tsai Ming-liang directs.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Coolidge Selects

•Now playing. **The Motorcycle Diaries** *2004*. Gael García Bernal stars as a young Che Guevara on a road trip across Argentina during the 1950s. Walter Salles directs.

•Now playing. **I [Heart] Huckabees** *2004*. See New Releases for a description.

•Now playing. **Sideways** *2004*. See review on page 60.

•Now playing. **Virgin** *2004*. A wild teenager in a small Baptist town blacks out and is raped and impregnated. Thinking she's still a virgin, she assumes she's carrying the child of God. Deborah Kampmeier directs.

•Opens Nov. 5. **Lightning in a Bottle** *2004*. Antoine Fuqua's documentary captures a concert at Radio City Music Hall featuring more than 50 legendary blues artists.

Films to See Before You Vote Festival

Through Nov. 4. This festival presents documentaries that expose stories and issues that have not received wide exposure in the mainstream media. Films include *Bush's Brain*, *Liberty Bound*, *WMD: Weapons of Mass Destruction* and several others. Check www.coolidge.org for complete schedule.

Midnight Movies

•Nov. 5, 6, 12 and 13, 12 am. **Donnie Darko: Director's Cut** *2004*. See New Releases for a description.

•Nov. 5, 12 am. **Hot and Bothered.** Brookline sex boutique Grand Opening presents clips of its favorite sex scenes, including scenes from classics, mainstream plot-based videos, indies, instructional videos and others.

•Nov. 6, 12 am. **Qing Feng di Shou** *(Mismatched Couples) 1985*. Woo-ping Yuen's kung fu flick is a breakdance/fighting extravaganza.

•Nov. 12, 12 am. **Turbonegro: The Movie** *1999*. Ubermensch's documentary about Norwegian rock band Turbonegro includes concert footage, videos and more.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Adventures in Surrealism

•Nov. 7, 7 pm. **L'age D'or** *1930*. Luis Buñuel and Salvador Dali collaborated on this film about an everyman who tries to liberate himself from morals by kicking a dog and hitting a blind man and the mother of his loved one.

•Nov. 9, 9 pm. **Meshes of the Afternoon** *1943*. A woman experiences dreams within dreams about suicide, sexual attacks and threatening objects in Maya Deren's film. •Deren's short films **At Land, Witch's Cradle** and **Ritual in Transfigured Time** and Alexander Hammid's **The Private Life of a Cat** follow.

•Nov. 14, 7 pm. Joseph Cornell's **Rose Hobart** (1937) and Hans Richter's **Dreams That Money Can Buy** (1947) screen.

•Nov. 16, 9 pm. **The Discreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie** *1972*. Luis Buñuel's film follows a group of European elites who end up starving because they're too image-obsessed.

Cinema Francais

•Nov. 8, 9:15 pm. **Irma Vep** *1997*. A Hong Kong actress arrives in Paris to take on the lead role in a neurotic director's ill-fated film.

•Nov. 15, 9 pm. **Les 400 Coups** *(The 400 Blows) 1959*. Francois Truffaut's film follows a teenage boy whose lack of parental supervision leads him to skip school.

Contemporary Hollywood Cinema

•Nov. 8, 7 pm. **Batman** *1989*. Michael Keaton stars as the caped crusader in Tim Burton's version of the classic comic.

•Nov. 15, 7 pm. **Boyz N the Hood** *1991*. John Singleton's debut film follows a group of teenage boys dealing with gang violence and discrimination in South Central Los Angeles.

An Evening with Hara Kazuo

•Nov. 4, 7 pm. **Yuki Yukite Shingun** *(The Emperor's Naked Army Marches On) 1987*. Hara Kazuo's documentary probes postwar Japanese society through the story of WWII veteran Kenzo Okuzaki, who served prison terms for murder and for shooting pachinko balls at the emperor.

An Evening with Gina Kim

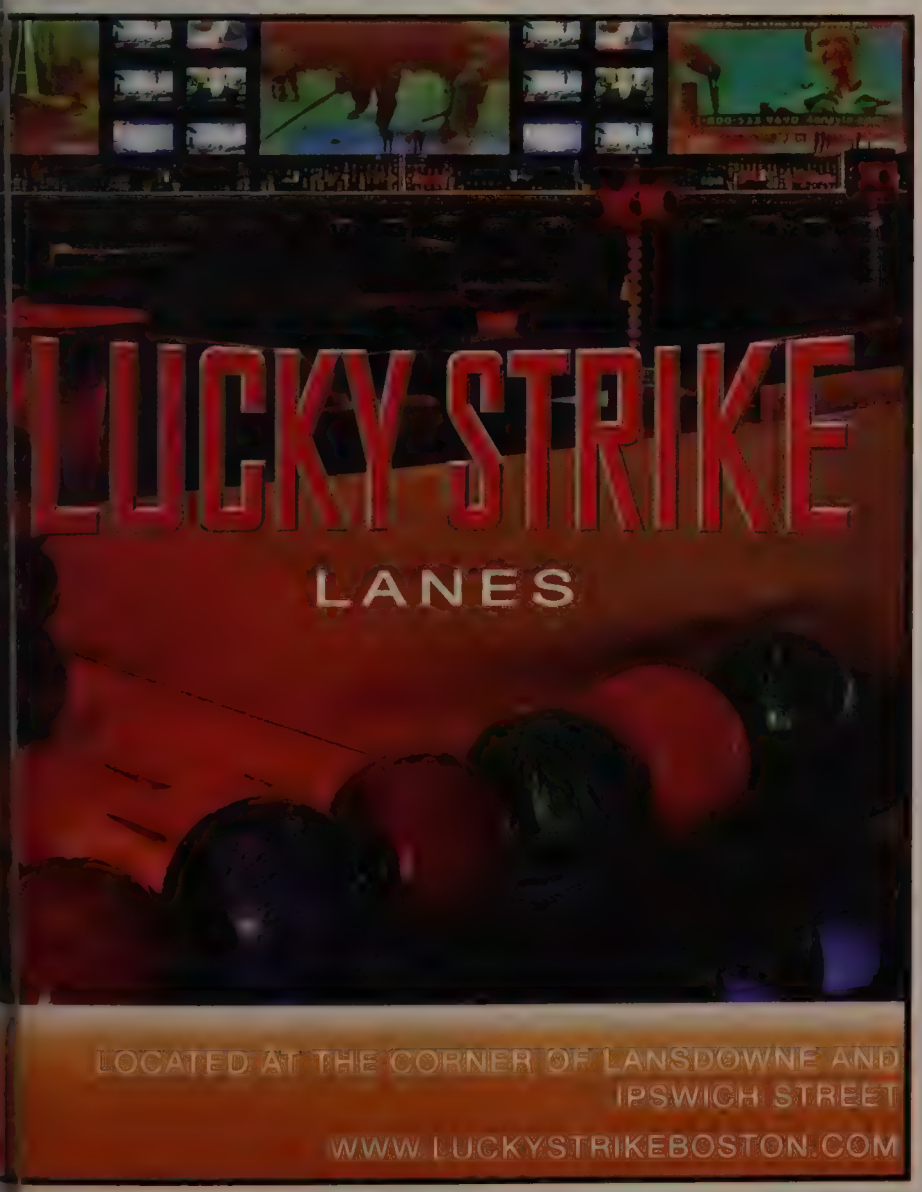
•Nov. 7, 8:15 pm. **Invisible Light** *2003*. Director Gina Kim appears in person for the screening of her video diary.

Film Architectures

•Nov. 9, 7 pm; Nov. 10, 7 pm. **All Night Long** *(Toute une nuit) 1982*. Chantal Ackerman's film follows 11 separate dramas about people looking for love over the course of a night.

•Nov. 16, 6:30 pm. **Playtime** *1967*. Director Jacques Tati reprises his role as hapless Parisian Monsieur Hulot, who gets caught up with a group of Americans on an architectural tour of Paris.


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Humanist Masterworks: The Films of Satyajit Ray

•Nov. 6, 7 pm. **Satyajit Ray** *1984*. Having survived a heart attack, filmmaker Ray reflects on his life's work in Shyam Benegal's documentary.

•Nov. 10, 9 pm; Nov. 13, 6 pm. **Pather Panchali** *1955*. Satyajit Ray's first film, and the first of his Apu trilogy, based on the novel by Bhibuti Bashan Bannerjee, follows a poor Bengali writer and his family trying to get by on meager earnings.

•Nov. 12, 7 pm. **The Music Room** *1958*. An aging aristocrat bankrupts himself by hiring the best classical musicians to bring his music room to life. •Also showing, Nov. 12, 9 pm; Nov. 13, 8 pm. **Aparajito** *1957*. The second part of Ray's Apu trilogy follows the boy to the city where his father finds him a job to help support the family.

•Nov. 13, 10 pm; Nov. 14, 9 pm. **Apu Sansar (The World of Apu)** *1959*. After the deaths of several family members, Apu moves to Calcutta to become a writer and eventually enters into an arranged marriage.

The Moving Image and Visual Representation

•Nov. 3, 7 pm. **Craig's Wife** *1936*. Rosalind Russell plays a housewife obsessed with controlling every inch of her home in Dorothy Azner's adapatation of George Kelly's play.

Selected Films of Roy Andersson

•Nov. 3, 9 pm. **Something Happened** *1987*. Andersson presents a bleak view of the AIDS epidemic. •Immediately following, **Härlig är Jorden** *(A World of Glory) 1991*. A troubled man discusses his average life as a real estate agent and eventually reveals secrets that cause his world to crumble. •Immediately following, **Roy Andersson's Commercials**. A compilation of the director's commercials screens.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Art on Film

•Nov. 6, 10:30 am. **Antonio Gaudi** *1984*. Hiroshi Teshigahara's ode to Antonio Gaudi captures the Spanish architect's greatest achievements, including the Temple of Sagrada Familia.

Boston Festival of Films from Iran

•Nov. 12, 7:45 pm. **Mehman-e Maman** *(Mama's Guest) 2004*. A laid-off filmmaker botches his wife's attempt to give their nephew a proper Iranian banquet in Dariush Mehrjui's comedy.

New England Film Artists Present

•Nov. 10, 6 pm. **Inside Out** *2004*. Cindy Kleine's documentary looks at the works of six self-taught, "outsider" American artists.

•Nov. 13, 10:30 am. **10 on Ten** *2003*. Iranian filmmaker Abbas Kiarstomi uses his movie *Ten* to explain his theory of filmmaking in 10 chapters.

•Nov. 13, 3 pm. **Lezate Divanegi** *(Joy of Madness) 2003*. Fourteen-year-old Hana Makhmalbaf's film follows her sister Samira as she tries to make her own film, *At Five in the Afternoon*, in Kabul. •Also showing, 4:30 pm. **Panj e Asr** *(At Five in the Afternoon) 2003*. An Iranian coachman's daughter rebels against his old-world ideals and dreams of becoming the president in post-Taliban Iran. Samira Makhmalbaf directs.

Sundance Channel Screening

•Nov. 12, 5:45 pm. **Rick** *2003*. Curtiss Clayton's adpatation of Verdi's opera *Rigoletto* stars Bill Pullman as a recent widower who gets caught up in a case of murder, mistaken identity, lust and envy.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater

•Through Feb. 17, 2005. **Extreme**. Audiences get experience the most extreme outdoor sports, from skiing and snowboarding perilous untouched mountain peaks; climbing frozen waterfalls and magnificent red-rock spires; surfing some of the largest waves ever surfed and windsurfing El Niño–strength winds.

•Through Feb. 17, 2005. **Roar: Lions of the Kalahari**. Journey deep into the Kalahari Desert as two Botswana lions battle it out over a water hole.

•Through May 26, 2005. **Forces of Nature**. Experience the power of earthquakes, volcanoes and storms as scientists attempt to forecast and understand them.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater

•Through Nov. 9. **Galapagos**. Marine biologist Carole Baldwin leads a scientific expedition through the coral reefs of the Galapagos Islands.

•Through Nov. 9. **Ghosts of the Abyss**. James Cameron journeys miles beneath the ocean surface to the ruins of Titanic.

•Through Nov. 9. **NASCAR 3D**. Experience life in the fast lane with NASCAR pit crews and drivers clocking over 200 mph.

•Through Nov. 9. **Ocean Wonderland 3D**. Watch as eagle rays, sharks, dolphins and more create an underwater wonderland.

•Through Nov. 9. **Spiderman 2: The IMAX Experience**. Peter Parker, aka Spiderman, struggles with his destiny in this sequel directed by Sam Raimi.

•Through Nov. 9. **Volcanoes of the Deep Sea**. Dive to the bottom of the sea with a team of scientists, as they explore hydrothermal vents, shipwrecked gardens, predators and bioluminescent creatures.

Special Events

Boston Jewish Film Festival

•Nov. 3-14. The 16th Annual Boston Jewish Film Festival screens more than 40 films in the Greater Boston area. Screenings include area local and national premieres and highlights include Sam Garbarski's *The Reshevski's Tango* and Paul Morrison's *Wondrous Oblivion*. Venues include the Museum of Fine Arts and the Coolidge Corner Theatre. Check www.bjff.org for a schedule.

Cinema Venues

BELMONT

Studio Cinema

376 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Public Library

666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)

100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre

201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common

175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science

Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema

399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Reservoir.

Coolidge Corner Theatre

290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre

40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Fresh Pond

168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive

24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema

One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony

10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

MIT

77 Mass. Ave., Room 6-120 (617-612-0091). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema

27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema

1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony

35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre

55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

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Campfire Girl

Australia's Kasey Chambers brings her back-country music to Boston.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

I'm looking at the ocean and the sun is shining," Kasey Chambers says from the balcony of her coastal Australian home, an hour north of Sydney. "It's a beautiful day."

Chambers, who crosses that ocean for a U.S. tour that hits the Somerville Theatre November 12, is indeed enjoying a beautiful outlook these days. She's a new mother whose son inspired some of the songs on her new country-pop album, *Wayward Angel*, her third multi-platinum release at home, having already spent seven weeks atop the Australian charts. And the scene she describes from her balcony is, literally and figuratively, miles from where she spent her childhood.



Kasey Chambers has gone from the touring the Australian outback to topping the charts.

The 28-year-old singer-songwriter grew up in the Australian outback, where her parents, Bill and Diane Chambers, hunted foxes on the Nullarbor Plain and imparted a love for country music to Kasey and her brother Nash around nightly campfires.

"Music was a big part of our lives, but it was more of a form of entertainment back then," she says. "My dad used to get out the guitar and play, and we'd all sing along, and it was just like listening to music, because we didn't have TV or radio, and weren't in touch with any civilization.

"It was sort of like listening to my dad's tapes," says Chambers, whose father shared his love for Merle Haggard, Johnny Cash, Gram Parsons and Emmylou Harris with the two children. "I was really only exposed to that music for the first 10 years of my life. I didn't know that there was pop music."

The family formed the Dead Ringer Band, touring Australia in a Toyota Land Cruiser through the early '90s and making a name for themselves in country music circles. When her parents separated and the band broke up, Chambers went solo with 1999's *The Captain*, retaining her brother as producer and father as guitarist, an arrangement that remains in place today.

"It's funny how my life has changed so much in the past 10 years," says Chambers, whose mother also remains aboard the family ship, handling merchandise. "The only similarity is that we still travel so much. I think that side of it comes from living on the Nullarbor Plain, because we lived in a different place every night. We lived in our car.

"Obviously, it went from the most remote lifestyle ever, when you didn't even see people for weeks and weeks, to playing for people every night," she says. "[The change] was really strange, but I love it now. I think I would go absolutely mental if I had to not be around people now."

Nonetheless, that stark shift in lifestyle appears to have influenced songs on *Wayward Angel* that address fame and privacy issues. "This is not Hollywood, there is no camera in my room," Chambers sings in "Hollywood," while noting in "For Sale" that, "You can buy my life on radio, and order me by mail, but not everything about me is for sale."

"There are definitely moments when I just enjoy being mum instead of being Kasey Chambers," she says. "It's not that bad. I get to sell a lot of albums here in Australia, as many as the big pop acts, but I don't have the paparazzi following me around. I get asked more for autographs and I'm recognized on the street. But I like being around people."

Chambers co-wrote two songs on the new CD with Australian television host and video director Cori Hopper, the father of her toddler, Talon. "He's not really a songwriter, but he seems to have a bit of a knack for it," she says of Hopper. "I don't co-write very well with other people. I find it hard to sit in a room and pull my heart out, but I guess with him being my partner, I found it a little easier to do that."

Luckily, Chambers discovered her own knack for writing and singing songs as a teenager. "My dad took me when I was about 12 years old to see Roseanne Cash when she toured here," she says. "On the show was Lucinda Williams and I had never heard of her before, and I remember that as a turning point. I had never seen women like that singing their own songs before."

Now the sweet-voiced Aussie upstart has earned the respect of such country-rooted heroes as Williams (with whom she last played Boston) and Emmylou Harris. "When I was really little, all I wanted to do was be a fox hunter like my mom," she says, "and I'm so glad I didn't." iB

Kasey Chambers plays the Somerville Theatre Nov. 12.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or by email to music@improper.com. Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double-check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

The Alarm Nov. 15, Middle East Upstairs (617-931-2000).
Buddahead Nov. 13, Paradise Lounge (617-423-NEXT).
Kasey Chambers Nov. 12, Somerville Theatre (617-625-4088).
Marc Cohn Nov. 5, Somerville Theatre (617-625-4088).
Everclear Nov. 10, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
John Fogerty Nov. 16, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Arlo Guthrie Nov. 15-19, Club Passim (617-492-7679).
Percy Hill Nov. 13, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Bruce Hornsby Nov. 5, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Jem Nov. 15, Middle East Downstairs (617-931-2000).
R. Kelly and Jay-Z Nov. 14, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Megadeth Nov. 13, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Los Prisioneros Nov. 4, Middle East Downstairs (617-931-2000).
Sly & Robbie, Tony Rebel, Half Pint, Blu Fox, Mishka Nov. 16, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Abbey Lounge Andrea Gillis, Triple Thick, $5-$7.
All Asia Café Michelle Lewis, Dani Linnetz, 10 pm, $5.
Axis Bayside, Hawthorne Heights, Mest, Punchline, 6:30 pm, $15.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster.
Breezeway Jeff Felder, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Peter Molloy, Fabian Joyce.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Rob Laurens, Lloyd Thayer, 8 pm, $12.
Common Ground Chad Perrone & Friends.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am.
Harper's Ferry Sarah Blacker, Michelle Malone, 9 pm, $12.
Hennessy's Joe Carson Band.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie.
Middle East Downstairs: Antibalas Afrobeat Orchestra, Dub Is a Weapon, 8 pm $13-$15, 18+. Upstairs: Grey Star Morning, the Vinyl Skyway, Bowman, Lemonpeeler, John Brodeur, Girl on Top, John Larson, 7:30 pm, $10.
Milky Way Lyrical and Lifted, 9 pm.
Oak Bar Steve Heck, 7:30 pm.
Paradise Lounge: Found Magazine open mike night, 7 pm, no cover.
PA's Dimwits, For What It's Worth, Wasted Chance.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble.
Regattabar Dave Stryker, Steve Slagle Band, 7:30 and 10 pm, $15.
Ryles Jazz Club Felipe Salles Quintet, 8:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Cassandre McKinley, 8 and 10 pm, $16.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Soledad Brothers, Michael Tarbox, Sarah Borges, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Ed Broms Organ Trio, 7 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Sofia Koutsovitis, 8 pm.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Abbey Lounge Spouse, 10:30 pm; Kahoots, 11 pm, $5-$7.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster.

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Breezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Helena Delaney, Peter Molloy, Shannon Aaron.
Cantab Lounge ChickenSlacks Soul Revue, 9 pm.
Club Passim Jim's Big Ego, Paul & Storm, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Beantown Project, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Fireplace Restaurant Irie Roots.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am.
Harper's Ferry Royal Pop Collective, 9 pm, $7.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
High Street Grill Little Joe Cook, 9 pm, no cover.
Johnny D's Kris Delmhorst, 9 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Kinsale Sirsy.
Kirkland Café Will Champlin Band, 10 pm, $7.
Lizard Lounge Nikulydin, 9 pm.
Lucky's Lounge The Alex MacDougall Band, 10 pm.
Middle East Downstairs: Los Prisioneros, 8 pm $35, 18+. Upstairs: the Montgomerys, Gone Baby Gone, Violet Nine, Din, Lincoln Conspiracy, School for the Dead, Rosie Huntress, 7:30 pm, $10.
Oak Bar Jane Potter, 7:30 pm.
O'Brien's Motherseat.
PA's The Debutantes.
Paradise Rock Club: Del tha Funkee Homosapien, Haiku De Tat, Zion-I, Bukue One, 8 pm, $18. Lounge: Jess McDonough, Soulasious, Selfonix, 6 pm, $8.
Plough and Stars Zipper.
Regattabar The Spirit of Django: Django Reinhardt Festival, 7:30 and 10 pm, $22.50.
Ryles Jazz Club Ellen O'Brien, 8:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Myanna, Bernard "Pretty" Purdie, 8 and 10 pm, $14.
Sky Bar Colin Saap, 10:30 pm, $6.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Futureheads, Pitty Sing, Duresse, $8-$10.
Western Front Ari Chambo, 9 pm, $5.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Socially Awkward Composers Ensemble, 7 pm, $8; Seekonk, the Low Country Messiahs, Stockholm Syndrome, 9:30 pm, $7.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Badly Drawn Boy Nov. 19, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Barenaked Ladies Dec. 9 and 10, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Better Than Ezra, Pat McGee Band Dec. 5, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Carol Channing Dec. 5, Berklee Performace Center (617-931-2000).
Karl Denson's Tiny Universe Nov. 22, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Disco Biscuits Dec. 22, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Minnie Driver Nov. 23, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
G. Love & Special Sauce Nov. 27, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Marilyn Manson Nov. 26, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Medeski, Martin & Wood Dec. 2, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Bret Michaels Nov. 29, Axis (617-931-2000).
Lou Rawls Nov. 17, 19 and 20, Scullers Jazz Club (617-562-4111).
The Derek Trucks Band, Addison Groove Project Nov. 20, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Dar Williams Dec. 2, Somerville Theatre (617-931-2000).
Johnny Winter Nov. 19, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Abbey Lounge Slater, 10:30 pm; Cheater Pint, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
Asgard Stu Lee.
Avalon Muse, the Exit, 7 pm, $20.25, sold out.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm; Maxi, 10:30 pm.
Boston Harbor Hotel Fall jazz nights.
Bravo at the MFA Damon Carter.
The Burren Tina Lech,Ted Davis, Patrick Murray.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Bill Staines, John Schindler, 8 pm, $15.
Common Ground Wasted Sunday.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Green Briar Pie Alley.
The Green Dragon Tavern Freeze Pop.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am.
The Harp Peatmoss, 10 pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry Kweejeebo, Sam Kininger Band, 10 pm, $8.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5:30-7:30 pm; Incadence, 8 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton, 5-7 pm.
Middle East Downstairs: Luna, Maplewood, 8 pm $15, 18+. Upstairs: Clandestino, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Milky Way Mittens, Carlisle Sound, Spanish for Hitchhikers, This Radiant Boy, 9 pm, $10.
Museum of Fine Arts Juanito Pascual, 7:30 pm, $20-$24.
Mr. Dooley's Christy O'Connell.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm.
Orpheum Bruce Hornsby, 8 pm, $35-$45.
Paradise Rock Club: The Waifs, Erin McKeown, 8 pm, $15. Lounge: HEM, David Berkley, 9 pm, $12.
Parris Kristen & the Noise, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's Scuba, Ara Vora, Saturday Saints, Joey A.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 6-8:30 pm; The Coachmen, 9:30 pm-12:45 am.
Regattabar The Spirit of Django: Django Reinhardt Festival, 7:30 and 10 pm, $22.50.
Ryles Jazz Club Vox One, 9 pm, $12.
Scullers Jazz Club Oleta Adams, 8 and 10:30 pm, $30.
Somerville Theatre Marc Cohn, 8 pm, $25.50-$49.50.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway, Bob Nieske Trio, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place International Pop Overthrow: Boyce's Road, Ad Frank, Redletter, King Radio, Jeremy, Señor Happy, the Brill Bedroom, $10.
Western Front Hip-hop producer's showcase, 9 pm, $10
Zeitgeist Gallery The Callithumpian Consort, 7 pm, $10; Jorrit Dyjkstra, John Hollenbeck, 9:30 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 7 pm.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Abbey Lounge Johnny & the Jumper Cables, 9:30 pm; Heap, 10:30 pm; Reducers, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
Arlington Center for the Arts Mystic Drummers, 4 pm, $10.
Avalon Jimmy Eat World, Razorlight, Recover, 6:30 pm, $20.25, sold out.
The Black Rose Tom O'Carroll, 4 pm; Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm; Maxi, 10:30 pm.
The Burren The Bagboys bluegrass session, 5 pm; Tommy, Louise, Helena Delaney, Fabian Joyce, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Jackopierce, Kyle Riabko, 8 pm, $25.
Common Ground Brightwings, $4.
Dick's Last Resort Central Basement, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Green Briar Undercover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Random Axis.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am.
The Harp Peatmoss, 10 pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry Spookie Daly Pride, Toothpick, 9 pm, $10.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm.
Johnny D's Wildest Dreams, 9:45 pm.
Middle East Downstairs: El Vez, Bobby Conn, Mary McBride, 8 pm $10-$12, 18+. Upstairs: Karate, Mary Timony, Roh Delikat, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Christy O'Connell.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm.
Paradise Rock Club: Dear Leader, the Good North, Emergency Music, 8 pm, $10. Lounge: Robin Guthrie, 9 pm, $12.
Parris Kristen & the Noise, 10 pm, $5-$10.
Plough and Stars Stan Martin, 5 pm; the Twilight Ranchers & the Two Timin' Threee, 9:30 pm.
Purple Shamrock The Scooby Snax.
Regattabar The Spirit of Django: Django Reinhardt Festival, 7:30 and 10 pm, $22.50.
Ryles Jazz Club Mr. Nick's Blue Mafia, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Oleta Adams, 8 and 10:30 pm, $30.
Somerville Theatre The Wayfaring Strangers, 8 pm, $20-$25.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway, Bob Nieske Trio, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place International Pop Overthrow Flashcubes, Rock E. Rollins, Rocketscience, th Tint, Fireking, the Details, Crybabies, Raquels Boys $10.
Western Front Medina Sod, 9 pm, $5.
Zeitgeist Gallery Todd Martin, 7 pm, $7; Joe Jack Talcum, Micah Blue Smaldone, 9:30 pm, $7.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 7 pm.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7

All-Asia Café Sunday night songwriter series with Christie Leigh, 5 pm, $5.
The Attic The Coalboilers.
Berklee Performance Center Neo Soul Nite with Kem, 7 pm, $35.50-$42.40.
Bill's Bar Dub Station.
The Black Rose Tom O'Carroll, 4 pm; Sunday Well, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz Brunch with Ronnie Ro Duo.
Breezeway Rollins Ross, 11 am-3 pm.
The Burren The Gannon Family, 3-6 pm; th American Session Band, 6-9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Jackopierce, Kyle Riabko, 7:30 pm $25.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Green Briar Finbar Doyle.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnson
Hennessy's Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe.
Johnny D's Jazz Brunch with Tom Pendergast 9 am 2:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Irish Jazz Trio, Julia Lloyd.
Middle East Downstairs: American Music Club Will Johnson, 8 pm, $12-$14, 18+. Upstairs: Karat Helms, Charlene, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett.
Paradise Rock Club: Laibach, Bonfire Madigan, pm, $17. Lounge: Fresh Start!, 9 pm, $3-$5.
Plough and Stars Ed Munafo & Friends, 5 pm; Eile Jewell Band, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Coco Montoya, 7:30 and 10 pm, $15.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday Jazz Brunch with Patrici Adams, 10 am.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12-2 pm; Pa Tillotson Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place International Pop Overthro The Click, Ike, Cliff Hillis & the Forward Thinker Mike Previti, the Jane Anchor, Charlie Chesterma & the Legendary Motorbikes, Shecky & the Pim Monkeys, Modulator, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Vardan Ousepian Trio, 7 pm, $1 Andreea Pauta Quartet, 9:30 pm, $8.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8

The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm.
The Burren Johnny O'Leary, Vinny Costell Tommy Peoples.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's open mike, 8pm; B Isles, 9:30 pm.
Club Passim Songwriter Tribute Night, 7 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, cover.
Green Briar Irish Seisiun.
Harper's Ferry Two Cow Garage, 9 pm, $5.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Johnny D's Andrew Bird, 8 pm, $9.
Middle East Upstairs: The Advantage, Menomen Confusatron, Night Wounds, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Paradise Lounge: Pamela Martinez, the Volum Pretty the Boat, 7 pm.
Plough and Stars The Gilmans.
Top of the Hub Paul Tillotson Trio, 8 pm, no cove
T.T. the Bear's Place Black Dice, Animal Colle tive, Sunburned Hand of the Man, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery 3Play, 7 pm, $8; the Fringe, pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Nicole Hajj, 9 pm.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
The Burren Tommy, Louise, Peter Molloy, Ma Glover.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm; t Pegheads, 10 pm.
Club Passim Open mike with the Ryan Affair, 7 p $5.
Dick's Last Resort Pat Funk, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Pete Morton, 8:30 pm, $8.
Kennedy's Midtown Michael Larson.
Middle East Upstairs: Sally Timms, Johnny Dow pm, $10, 18+.
Milky Way Nickel and Dime, 9 pm, $3-$5.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 7:30 pm.
Paradise Rock Club: Clinic, Sons and Daughte Midnight Movies, 7 pm, $15. Lounge: the Migh Purple, 8 pm, $8.



Pedro the Lion headlines at the Middle East Downstairs November 11.



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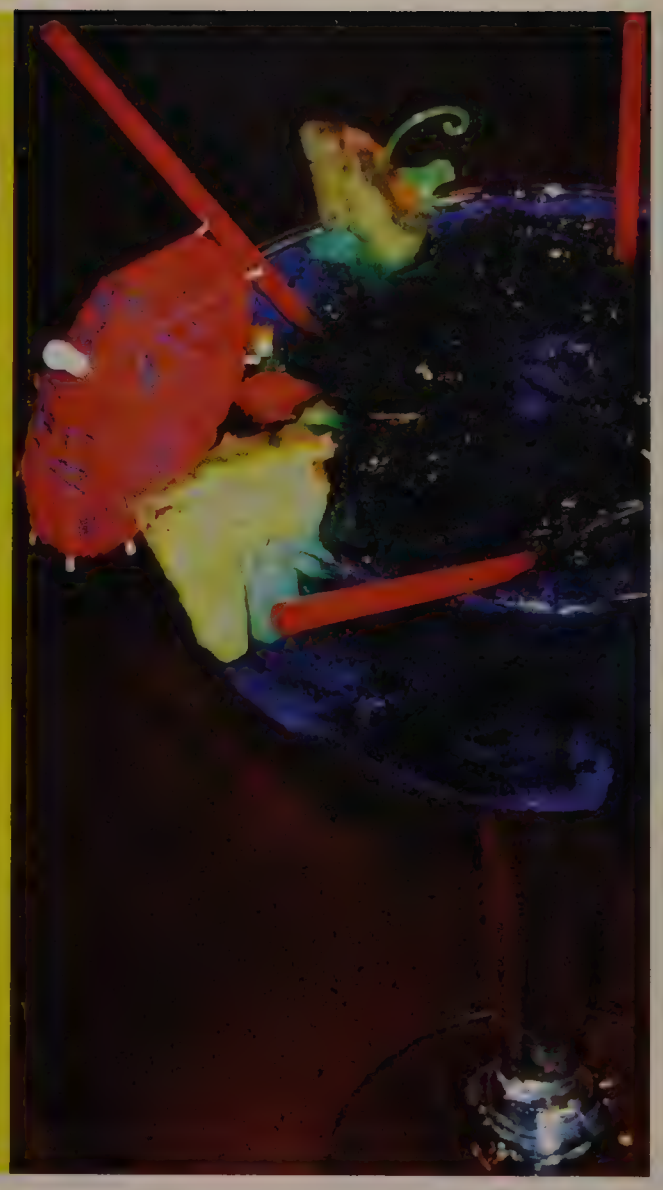
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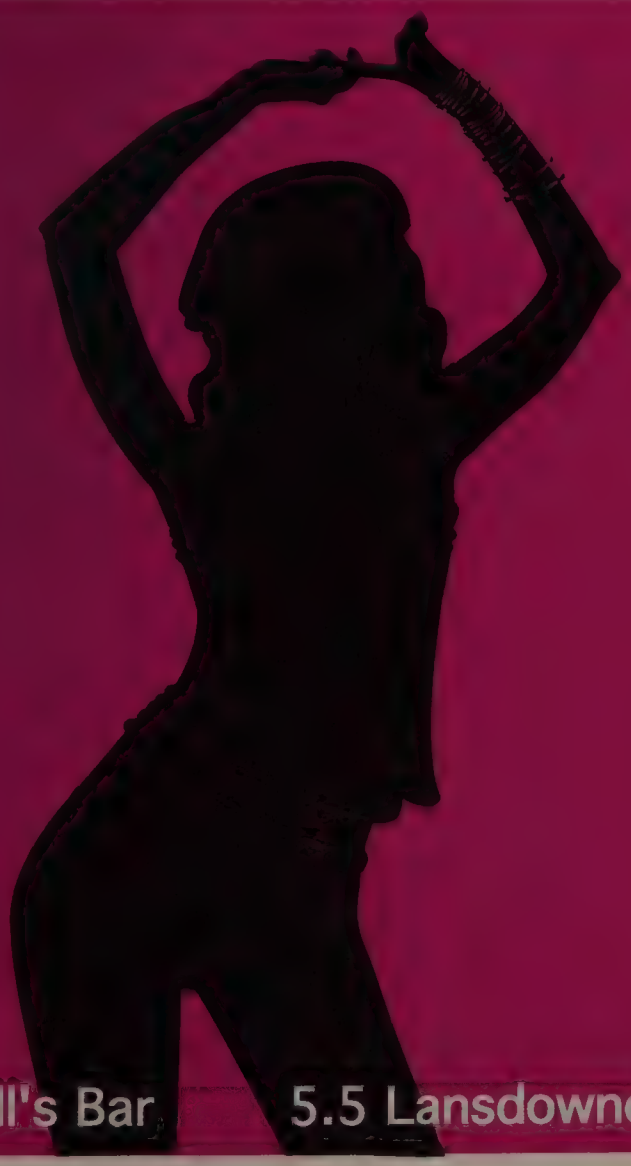
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PA's Grand Buffet, UV Protection, Height and Bow, Plunge into Death.
Plough and Stars Larry Flint.
Redline Lifted, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.
Regattabar Charlie Haden, Gonzalo Rubalcaba, 7:30 and 10 pm, $25.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Artist Showcase, 7:30 pm, $7.
Scullers Jazz Club Gabrielle Goodman, 8 and 10 pm, $15.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Earlimart, Silversun Pickups, Aberdeen City, $8.
Zeitgeist Gallery Julie Doiron, Kevin O'Rourke, Bruce Tull, 9:30 pm, $8.
Les Zygomates Sandra Aran, 8 pm.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Abbey Lounge Andrea Gillis, Triple Thick, $5-$7.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster.
Breezeway Frank Wilkens, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Peter Molloy, Fabian Joyce.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim 3 Men on Bass, 8 pm, $12.
Common Ground Chad Perrone & Friends.
Dick's Last Resort Music Schmusic, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am.
Hennessy's Joe Carson Band.
Johnny D's David Lindley, 8:30 pm, $20.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie.
Middle East Downstairs: Project/Object performing the music of Frank Zappa, 8 pm, $15, 18+. Upstairs: Battles, Black Helicopter, the Arrangement, Shortfilm, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Milky Way Lyrical and Lifted, 9 pm.
Oak Bar Steve Heck, 7:30 pm.
Paradise Rock Club: Everclear, Avion, 8 pm, $26.
Scullers Jazz Club Marta Gomez, 8 and 10 pm, $14.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble.
Regattabar Charlie Haden, Gonzalo Rubalcaba, 7:30 and 10 pm, $25.
Ryles Jazz Club Vardan Ovsepian, 8:30 pm, $10.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Giant Sand, the Handsome Family, Verona Downs $12.
Zeitgeist Gallery Jerald Harscher, 7 pm, $10; Avantrio, 9:30 pm, $8.
Les Zygomates Leo Blanco, 8 pm.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Axis Juliette and the Licks, Salem, Val Emmich, 7 pm, $12.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster.
Breezeway Serious Bizness, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Helena Delaney, Peter Molloy, Shannon Aaron.
Cantab Lounge The Kassie Buckley Band, 9 pm.
Club Passim An evening of the songs of Chris Smither, 8 pm, $18.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am.
Harper's Ferry Liquid Soul, 9 pm, $12.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
High Street Grille Little Joe Cook, 9 pm, no cover.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Lucky's Lounge The Alex MacDougall Band, 10 pm.
Middle East Downstairs: Pedro the Lion, Starflyer 59, 8 pm, $12, 18+. Upstairs: Travis Morrison, the Brett Rosenberg Problem, 9 pm, $10, 18+.
Oak Bar Jane Potter, 7:30 pm.
PA's Jason Liebman.
Paradise Rock Club: Blues Explosion, the Rogers Sisters, 8 pm, $15-$17.
Plough and Stars Hot Day at the Zoo.
Regattabar Don Byron Quartet, 7:30 and 10 pm, $18.
Ryles Jazz Club Harry Miller, 8:30 pm, $7.
Scullers Jazz Club Acoustic Alchemy, 8 and 10 pm, $22.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Helicopter Helicopter, the Halogens, Unbusted, Max Heinegg, $10.
Western Front Soulkore R&B, 9 pm, $6.
Zeitgeist Gallery Jay McCarrol, Taylor Greenwood, 7 pm, $7; Secretive Mobius Band, 9:30 pm, $7.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Abbey Lounge Ms. Lynn's Birthday Bash, 9:30 pm, $5-$7.
Asgard Stu Lee.
Axis Westbound Train, the Ducky Boys, Capital Radio, 6 pm, $12.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm; Tony O'Riordan, 10:30 pm.


The Alex MacDougall Band performs at Lucky's Lounge every Thursday night.

Boston Harbor Hotel Fall jazz nights.
Bravo at the MFA Rusty Scott.
The Burren Tina Lech,Ted Davis, Patrick Murray.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Jay O'Callahan and Doug Lipman, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Classic Trax, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Green Briar Ego System.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scooby Snax.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am.
The Harp The Zoo, 10 pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry The Joshua Tree, 9 pm, $8.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5:30-7:30 pm; Freeze Pop, 8 pm.
Johnny D's BR549, 9:45 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton, 5-7 pm.
Middle East Downstairs: Eyedea & Abilities, 8 pm, $12-$14, 18+. Upstairs: Bling Kong, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm.
Paradise Rock Club: Dierks Bentley, Cross Canadian Ragweed, 9 pm, $20-$22. Lounge: Amusia, 9 pm, $8.
Parris Blackthorn, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's Plumerai, Cabiria, Guillermo Sexo, Pamela Martinez.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 6 pm; Handsome Frank, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Don Byron Quartet, 7:30 and 10 pm, $18.
Ryles Jazz Club Thaddeus Hogarth, 9:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Acoustic Alchemy, 8 and 10:30 pm, $22.
Somerville Theater Kasey Chambers, 8 pm, $31.50.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway, Bob Nieske Trio, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Arcade Fire, Hidden Cameras, Union Ares, Car Crash Show, $10.
Western Front Crucial Massive, 9 pm, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Alejandro Cimadoro Quintet, 7 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 7 pm.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Abbey Lounge Choo Choo, La Rouge, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
Avalon Megadeth, 6 pm, $25.25.
Axis Helmet, Totimoshi, 7 pm, $15.
Berklee Performance Center Jane Birkin, 8 pm, $25-$37.
Bill's Bar American Made.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 4 and 10:30 pm; Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
The Burren The Bagboys bluegrass session, 5 pm; Tommy, Louise, Helena Delaney, Fabian Joyce, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Peter Kastner, 8 pm, $12.
Common Ground The Reaganomics, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Big '80s, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Velvet Jones.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am.
The Harp The Zoo, 10 pm, $10.
Harper's Ferry Lemonstone, Steve Poquette, the New Left (featuring Kyle Cook of Matchbox 20, 8 pm, $12.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm.
Johnny D's CJ Chenier, 9:45 pm, $12.
Matt Murphy's The Akashic Sessions, 10:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Downstairs: Hot Water Music, Alexisonfire, Planes Mistaken for Stars, Moments in Grace, 1 pm, $12; Scissorfight, Antler, the Benders, 8 pm, $10-$12, 18+. Upstairs: the Candy Snatchers, Electric Frankenstein, the Shemps, Shanghai Valentine, the Coffin Lids, 9 pm, $9, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm.
Paradise Rock Club: Percy Hill, 9 pm, $15. Lounge: Buddahead, 9 pm, $10.
Parris Blackthorn, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's Paper Thin Stages, Tristan Da Chuna, This Band Is Called the You.
Plough and Stars The Flexible Flyer String Band, 5 pm; One Thin Dime, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Chicken Slacks Soul Revue, 9 pm, $10.
Somerville Theatre Dan Zanes & Friends, 11 am and 3 pm, $17.50.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway, Bob Nieske Trio, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Cyanide Valentine, the December Sound, the Brothers Diamond.
Les Zygomates Theresa Inez, 7 pm.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14

All-Asia Café Sunday night songwriter series with Christie Leigh, 5 pm, $5.
Axis Strung Out, 7 pm, $13.
Bill's Bar Dub Station.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 4 pm; Celtic Clan 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz Brunch with Ronnie Ro Duo.
Breezeway Michael Shea, 11 am-3 pm.
The Burren The Gannon Family, 3-6 pm; th American Session Band, 6-9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam.
Club Passim King Wilkie, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, n cover.
FleetCenter R. Kelly and Jay-Z, 7 pm, $39.50-$10
Green Briar Finbar Doyle.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnson
Hennessy's Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe.
Johnny D's Jazz Brunch with Matt Dorko & Larr Kukers, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Irish Jazz Trio, Julia Lloyd.
Middle East Downstairs: Hot Snakes, Demolitio Doll Rods, Dan Sartain, 8 pm, $13-$15, 18+. Up stairs: Sufjan Stevens, Nikolai Dunger, Awry, 1 an 9 pm, $10-$12, 18+.
Paradise Lounge: Fresh Start!, 8 pm, $3-$5.
Plough and Stars Kind of Bluegrass, 5 pm; th Cranktones, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday Jazz Brunch with Yok Miwa, 10 am, no cover.
Somerville Theatre Bright Horizons Benefit wit Dan Zanes & Friends, 3 pm, $29.50.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12-2 pm; Mart Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Valdisa Moura Sextet, 7 pm, $ Whimsy, 9:30 pm, $5.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Axis The Casualties, Lower Class Brats, Monst Squad. 6:30 pm, $12.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm.
The Burren Johnny O'Leary, Vinny Costell Tommy Peoples.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's open mike, 8 pn Anne Feeney & Chris Chandler, 9:30 pm.
Club Passim Arlo Guthrie, 8 pm, $40.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, n cover.
Green Briar Irish Seisiun.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Middle East Downstairs: Jem, Blue Merle, 8 pr $12, 18+. Upstairs: The Alarm, 9 pm, $15-$18, 18
Paradise Rock Club: Glen Phillips, Kyle Riabko, pm, $15.
Plough and Stars Beek, Rhodes & Jefferies.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Morr Music Tour: La Puna, Styrofoam, the Go Find, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Jaap Blonk, Jorrit Dijkstra, 7: pm, $10; the Fringe, 10 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Yoko Miwa, 9 pm.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 9:30 pm.
The Burren Tommy, Louise, Peter Molloy, Ma Glover.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8p Chatham County Line, 10 pm.
Club Passim Arlo Guthrie, 8 pm, $40.
Dick's Last Resort Pat Funk, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Paul Geremia & David Hull, 8:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Michael Larson.
Middle East Upstairs: Red Door Exchange, She water, Barn Burning, Hotel, 9 pm, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Nickel and Dime, 9 pm, $3-$5.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 7:30 pm.
Orpheum John Fogerty, 7:30 pm, $35-$45.
Paradise Rock Club: Sly & Robbie,Tony Reb Half Pint and Blue Fox, Mishka, 8 pm, $22-$25.
Plough and Stars Lloyd Thayer.
Redline Lifted, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Artist Showcase, 7:30 pm,
Scullers Jazz Club Follen Angels, 8 pm, $18.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cov
T.T. the Bear's Place The Shills, $5.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Action Figures, 7 pm, $5.
Les Zygomates Rusty Scott Quartet, 8 pm.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-44 9631).*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-4 1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Arlington Center for the Arts *41 Foster St., Arlin ton (781-648-6220). MBTA: Bus #77 to Arlington Heights.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*

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Avenue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-422-5579).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Boston (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3473). MBTA: Green Line to Azure.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Choppin' Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-734-4177). MBTA: Green Line to Brigham Circle.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Fireplace Restaurant *1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square.*
First and Second Church *66 Marborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (617-728-1600). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Forsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetary, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston (617-524-3354).*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Hampshire House *84 Beacon St., Boston (617-227-9600). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
High Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-266-9095). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., Boston (617-357-5825). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*


Bonfire Madigan plays the Paradise November 7.

Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
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Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Murphy's Law *837 Summer St., South Boston (617-269-6667).*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617 562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278)*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

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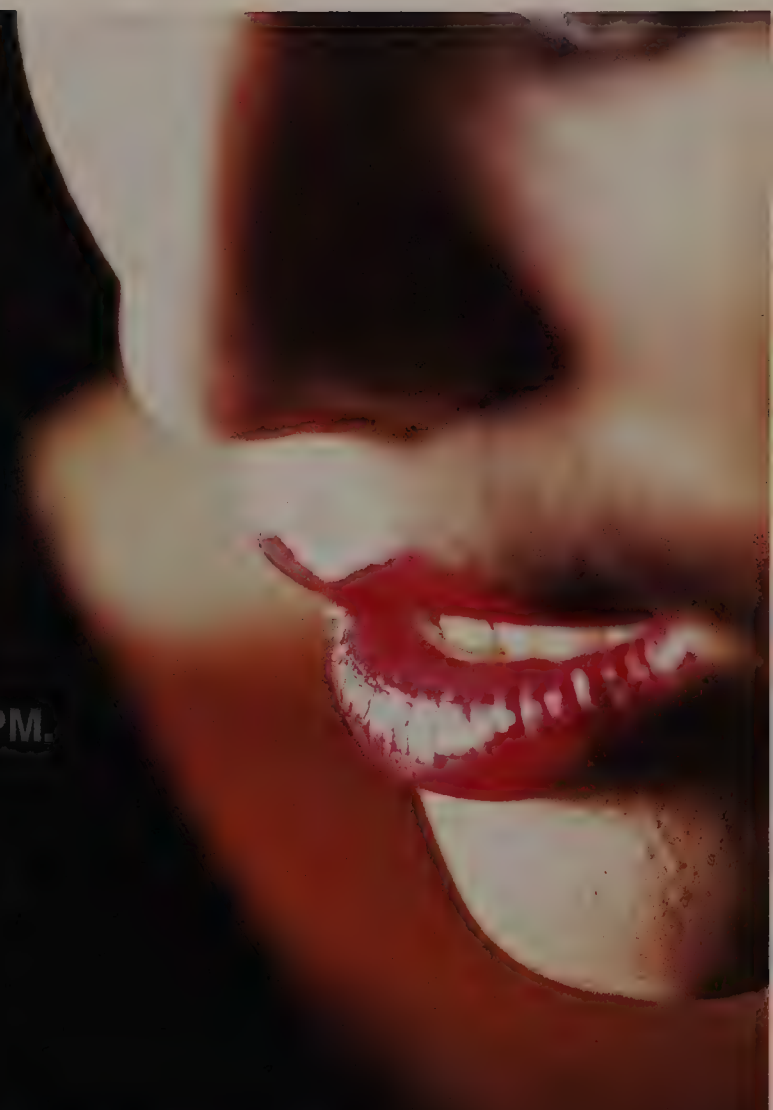
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classical music

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Boston Conservatory
Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-9222). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 8 pm. Free. Soprano Lucy Shelton and pianist Karl Paulnack perform as part of the conservatory's New Music Festival.

Boston Lyric Opera: L'Italiana in Algeri
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.blo.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7:30 pm. $34-$159. The BLO presents Gioacchino Rossini's comic opera about the beautiful and clever Isabella and the men who fall at her feet.

The Cathedral Church of St. Paul Recitals
138 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-4826 ext.1103). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm. $3 suggested donation. Organist James Woodman performs a 35-minute concert.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston (781-424-0900) www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. NEC faculty members Robert Cogan and Pozzi Escot present premieres of original compositions. The NEC's Callithumpian Consort performs on the program.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Boston Conservatory
Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-9222). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 8 pm. Free. Cellist Rhonda Rider and pianist Judith Gordon perform as part of the New Music Festival.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (888-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$105. Conductor James Levine leads the BSO in a program of works by Schubert and Richard Strauss.

New England Conservatory
Brown Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston (781-424-0900). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Violinist Maria Benotti performs works by Mozart and Prokofiev.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5

American Classics
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, Longy School of Music, 1 Follen St., Cambridge (617-254-1125) www.amclass.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $25. The Ensemble American Classics presents the original 1927 version of George Gershwin's musical *Strike Up the Band.*

Boston Conservatory
Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-9222). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 8 pm. Free. The Florestan Projects perform as part of the New Music Festival.

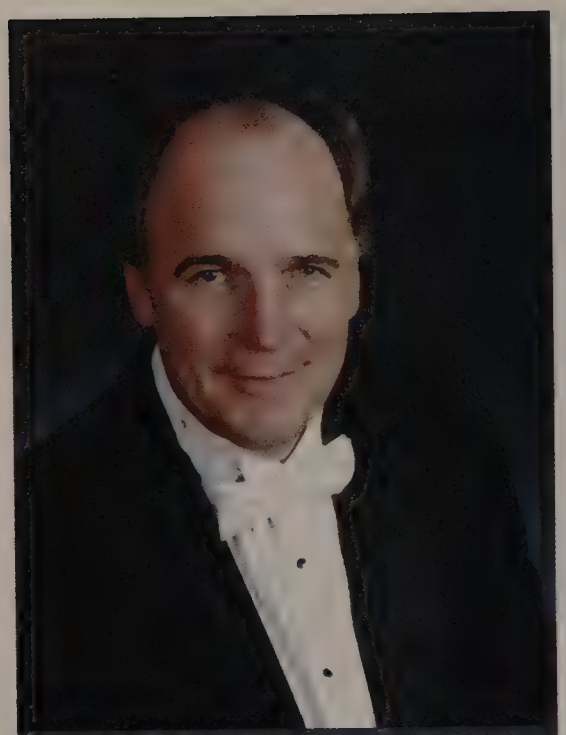
Boston Lyric Opera: L'Italiana in Algeri
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.blo.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7:30 pm. $34-$159. Same program as Nov. 3.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (888-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$105. Same program as Nov. 4.

Cantata Singers
Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-868-5885). www.cantatasingers.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $15-$48. David Hoose directs the opening concert of the Cantata Singers' 41st season, featuring Robert Schumann's adaptation of Goethe's fable *Faust.*

Chameleon Arts Ensemble
The Goethe-Institute Boston, 170 Beacon St., Boston (617-427-8200). www.chameleonarts.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm. $16-$34. The Ensemble presents *Behind me–dips Eternity*, a program of chamber music by female composers.

Longwood Opera: La Boheme
First Baptist Church, 5 Magazine St., Cambridge (781-455-0960). 2:30 pm. $12-$20. J. Scott Brumit conducts Longwood Opera's first show of the fall season, a performance of Puccini's classic opera.



Jeffrey Rink directs a performance by Chorus pro Musica November 7

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Bank of America Celebrity Series
Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260) www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $47. Grammy award–winning violinist Hilary Hahn performs.

Boston Conservatory
Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-9222). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 8 pm. Free. The Ludovico Ensemble performs chamber works as part of the the conservatory's New Music Festival.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (888-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$105. Same program as Nov. 4.

Wellesley-Brandeis Orchestra
Houghton Memorial Chapel, Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2028). www.wellesley.edu. 8 pm. Free. Neal Hampton conducts works by Beethoven, Gershwin and Franck in a concert featuring pianist Adam Marks.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7

American Classics
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, Longy School of Music, 1 Follen St., Cambridge (617-254-1125). www.amclass.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $25. Same program as Nov. 5.

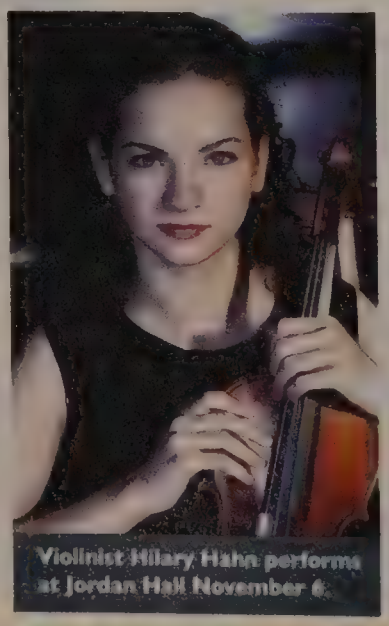
Bank of America Celebrity Series
Memorial Hall, Sanders Theatre, Harvard University, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: Red line to Harvard. 3 pm. $33-$48. Director Joel Cohen leads the Boston Camerata in Kurt Weill's 1936 musical, *Johnny Johnson.*

Boston Conservatory
Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-9222). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 8 pm. Free. Student composers lead performances as part of the New Music Festival.

Boston Lyric Opera: L'Italiana in Algeri
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.blo.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 3:30 pm. $34-$159. Same program as Nov. 3.

Cantata Singers
Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-868-5885). www.cantatasingers.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $15-$48. Same program as Nov. 5.

Chorus pro Musica
The Church of the Advent, 30 Brimmer St. Boston (781-721-7464). www.choralarts-newengland.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 3:30 pm. $30. Jeffrey Rink directs a concert with Chorus pro Musica featuring soloists including Alice Parker.



Violinist Hilary Hahn performs at Jordan Hall November 6

First Sundays at Holy Name
Holy Name Parish, 1689 Centre St., West Roxbury (617-325-4865). 2 pm. Organist Ed Brom presents well-known organ works and original compositions and improvisations to benefit The Holy Name Organ Trust Fund.

Longwood Opera: La Boheme
First Baptist Church, 5 Magazine St., Cambridge (781-455-0960). 2:30 pm. $12-$20. Same program as Nov. 5.

New England Conservatory Philharmonia
Symphony Hall, 101 Mass Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 12 pm. Free. BSO assistant conductor Jens George Bachman leads the NEC Philharmonia as part of the BSO's open house at Symphony Hall.

Newton Free Library
330 Homre St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: Green Line to Newton Highlands. 2 pm. Free. Pianist Constantine Finehouse performs music by Schumann, Scriabin, Mozart, and Prokofiev.

Suzuki School of Newton
Trinity Church, 11 Homer St., Newton (617-964-4522). www.suzukinewton.org. MBTA: Green Line to Newton Highlands. 4 pm. $15-$35. This concert showcases young artists and benefits the James Thornblade Memorial Scholarship.

Wellesley Symphony Orchestra
John F. McKenzie Auditorium, Massachusetts Bay Community College, 50 Oakland St., Wellesley Hills (781-235-3584). www.wellesleysymphony.org. 3 pm. $14-$18. Pianist Janice Webber performs selections from Mozart, Khachaturian and Mendelssohn.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston (781-424-0900). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Vocalist Dominique Eade performs with pianist Jeb Wilson and other guests.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

Boston Lyric Opera: L'Italiana in Algeri
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.blo.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7:30 pm. $34-$159. Same program as Nov. 3.

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals
King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm. $3 suggested donation. Guitarist Kevin Hubbard performs works by Giovanni Palestrina, Lars Werle and Ildebrando Pizzetti.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston (781-424-0900). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Malcolm Peyton leads several pieces by NEC composers as part of the conservatory's composer series.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

The Cathedral Church of St. Paul
138 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-4826, ext.1103). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park St. 12:15 pm. $3 suggested donation. Pianist Fredericka King performs a 35-minute concert.

Triple Helix Piano Trio
Jewett Auditorium, Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2028). www.wellesley.edu. 12:30 pm. Free. Pianist Lois Shapiro, violinist Bayla Keyes and cellist Rhonda Rider present a lecture-recital called Singing with Different Tongues: Cultural Identity Revealed Through Music.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (888-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$105. Conductor James Levine leads the BSO in a program of works by Carter and Beethoven.

NEC Wind Ensemble
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston (781-424-0900). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. This concert features several of the conductors who founded and conducted the ensemble over the past 30 years.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Boston Chamber Music Society
Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-428-6661). www.bostonchambermusic.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. $17-$46. The BCMS presents soprano Mary Nessinger, violinist Scott Yoo, violist Marcus Thompson and others performing works by Brahms, Dvorák and Stravinsky.

Boston Lyric Opera: L'Italiana in Algeri
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.blo.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7:30 pm. $34-$159. Same program as Nov. 3.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (888-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$105. Same program as Nov. 11.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Bank of America Celebrity Series
Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-428-6661). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $42-$47. Pianist Krystian Zimmerman performs.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (888-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$105. Same program as Nov. 11.

Triple Helix Piano Trio
Alumnae Hall, Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2028) www.wellesley.edu. 8 pm. Free. Nora Hussey directs this concert entitled A Sense of Place: Music Shaped by Its Culture featuring music by Charles Ives, Astor Piazolla and others.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Boston Chamber Music Society
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-349-0086). www.bostonchambermusic.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $17-$46. The BCMS presents an all-Beethoven show featuring clarinetist Thomas Hill, violinist Ida Levin, Harumi Rhodes and others.

Boston Lyric Opera: L'Italiana in Algeri
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (1-800-447-7400). www.blo.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 3:30 pm. $34-$159. Same program as Nov. 3.

Boston Symphony Chamber Players
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (888-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $27-$95. Featuring James Levine on piano, the Chamber Players present a concert with works by Mozart, Dutilleux and Schubert.

Newton Free Library
330 Homre St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: Green Line to Newton Highlands. 2 pm. Free. Guitarists Peter Clemente and John Muratore perform classical, Latin and jazz duets.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston (781-424-0900). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The George Whitefield Chadwick 150th Birthday Concert, in memory of the former NEC director, features excerpts from Chadwick's opera, *The Padrone*, as well as other works.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Boston Lyric Opera: L'Italiana in Algeri
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.blo.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7:30 pm. $34-$159. Same program as Nov. 3.

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals
King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm. $3 suggested donation. Harpist Barbara Poeschl-Edrich performs works by Hindemith, Tailleferre and others.

New England Conservatory Contemporary Ensemble
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston (781-424-0900). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. David Heiss leads an evening of works by Ives, Hindemith, Jo Heiss and others.

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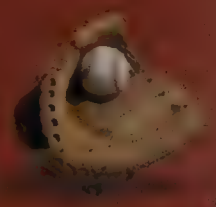
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Nights

MONDAYS

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Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $3, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Adilson spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJs spin R&B and hip-hop, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance salsa, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aria
Industry Tuesday Dance to hip-hop and R&B.

Boston Rocks
Smooth Groove Tuesday Old-school jams, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Soul'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spins hits from the '70s and '80s, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Deep Tones DJ Brynmore spins a mix of reggae, soul, funk, trance and acid jazz, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Night varies with an assortment of performances, dancers and themed events, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Havana Club Latin Dance Night A Latin dance night features an assortment of local DJs, 10 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
Kez McDaddy spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Aria
Lust DJ John Morris spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, $8, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.


The Rack

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins Greek and international tunes upstairs and a live reggae band plays downstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
British Accents Presents Starshape DJ Dave spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and funk, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
VIP Wednesdays Live performances every Wednesday hosted by DJ/producer Joe Bermudez, who spins house and dance beats. 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple –The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up hip-hop, top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mercury DJs Nomadik and Timmy Allen host a night of soul, funk and house, 9 pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin house and techno, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
School Girl Night DJs spin top-40 music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
International Wednesdays DJ JC is in the Latin Lounge; DJs Alex and Felix spin in the back, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Wacky Wednesdays Magic with Peter Gross, 6-9 pm, DJ Massi all night, no cover, 21+

Q
Violation Wednesdays Weekly guest DJs spin today's best music, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of dance and hip-hop, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays Boogie down to rock-and-roll, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band brings R&B and dance to the main lounge, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Martinez spins salsa, cumbia and merengue on one floor, while DJ Supreme spins a New York lounge set (hip-hop, R&B and rock covers) on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; guest DJs spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men); 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Boston's Biggest College Hip-Hop Night DJs Caprice, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School College Night Old-school rap, funk and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Djs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs spin upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Hip-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance and disco, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ghost spins international house and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursdays The Toussaint Band plays reggae, funk, no cover, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
Live band, 6 pm; DJ Massi, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran spin dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Misha spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B, and pop, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Milky Way
Club Thursdays Rotating DJs spin dance music, 9 pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJs spin upbeat lounge music in the front, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Q
Hip-Hop Thursdays DJ Craig Smooth spins hip-hop all night long, 9 pm, $5 (ladies free), 21+.

The Rack
Exotic Midnight Brazilian night with music and samba dancing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
Reunion Thursdays NGP All-Stars spin party classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross, and Paul spin a mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
DJs Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons and dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ DonRico spins salsa, merengue and Latin pop and DJ Tegrem spins downtempo retro international, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip-hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Ladies Night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cover.

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old school hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ Seano 5-9 pm; DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $5 after 10:30 pm, 21+.

Aria
DJs spin Latin, international house, hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men); 19+ (women with college ID).

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Avaland International DJs spin house, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top-40, 9pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
Flavor Fridays DJ Mastermillions, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover bands, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents a night of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and hip-hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal spins a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+, after 11 pm.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
DJ Steve plays house and old-school music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggáe and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
Persuassion DJ Sun One spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Enormous Room
All-Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everything from hip-hop and house to funk and soul, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs spin high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Angirsano spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Briar
•Nov. 5: Pie Alley. •Nov. 12: Ego System.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •Nov. 5: Peatmoss. •Nov. 12: The Zoo.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

I/D
Bashment Fridays DJ Illibash spins reggae, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs Big Daddy spins, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Cadillac spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B, and pop, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s favorites, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before midnight, 21+.

La Boom
Fashion Fridays Firefly Promotions hosts this fashion night featuring DJ Rick Naples, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Adilson of Roxy Saturdays spins high-energy house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Reggaeton: Spanish reggae music, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies, free; men, $5 before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $10, 21+; $15, 18+. •**Rockpile** Rotating bands perform, 9 pm, Ladies free before 11:30 pm; $12, 18+; $8, 21+.


Phoenix Landing

Parris
• Nov. 5: Kristen & the Noise, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+. •Nov. 12: Blackthorn, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Greg spins top-40 and '80s hits, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop as he spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ spins in the front and DJ Gabe spins vocal house in the back, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Hip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

Q
DJ Massi plays hip-hop and top-40, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 8 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Diversion DJ Erik spins a mix that includes neo-soul, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top-40, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins Latin house and Latin dance on one floor while DJ Franklin spins international on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats all night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
International Saturdays Guest DJs spin high-energy vocal house and hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Tease Saturdays Resident DJ Rick Naples performs along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Seductive Saturdays DJ Jin spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ Matt Phipps spinning the hottest top-40, hip-hop and '80s , along with cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. DJs presents top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Franklin creates a lounge atmosphere with international, Latin and house sounds, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs Dan Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance and house, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood Women's night, with two floors of hip-hop and house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
Essence DJs Ed and Sal, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Enormous Room
Reverberate Mark Estrada spins current and classic hip-hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins and KISS 108's Romeo hosts hip-hop, house and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites, disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Briar
•Nov. 6: Undercover.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •Nov. 6: Peatmoss. •Nov. 13: The Zoo.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Ryan Bis spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

I//D
Identity Crisis Dance to an eclectic mix of rock and top-40, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, while downstairs DJ Kieran plays top-40, 9 pm, $6, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Ring spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B, and pop, 21+.

La Boom
Wild on @ La Boom DJ Tim Collins and KISS 108 host a night of music and dancing, 10 pm, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 9 pm, 21+.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ spins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, $8, 21+, $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortiz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10 pm, $10, men; $5, women (women admitted free before 10:30 pm); 21+.

The Modern
Material DJ Dru Nyce plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•Nov. 6: **Battle of the Bods 4**. The Palace's Male Encounter dance team competes against L.A.'s Hollywood Hunks. •**The Beach House** Classic party music and top-40, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies, free; men, $5 before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Alex D. spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
•Nov. 6: Kristen & the Noise, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+. •Nov. 13: Blackthorn, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wonders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles Boston's best DJs spin.

Pravda 116
DJ spins in the front and DJ Gabe spins vocal house in the back, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom Hogan spins the groove, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Q
DJ Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Roch spins, 9 pm- 2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins modern mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Adilson spins house and techno, 9 pm, $15, 21+.

Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ J.C. plays house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancing, pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
Resident DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin, international and dance, often joined by live bands and special guest DJs, 10 pm, $10-$15, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

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The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins classic old-school, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
Curses Wretched Design presents an evening of gothic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Live reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+

Caprice
DJ spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Devlin's
Industry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixes and remixes, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hip-hop downstairs, karaoke upstairs, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Revolutions A night of electronic music, $3, 11 pm-3 am.

Green Briar
•Nov. 7 and 14: Finbar Doyle.

Green Street Grill
Live Middle Eastern music with belly dancing, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Satellite A lesbian night featuring DJ Dee, with dance music, amateur drag contests and films, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
Chad Lamarch appears with VJ Leathers, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Malibu Beach Party DJ Thom spins music from reggae to top-40, with prizes all night, 4-9 pm, DJ Massi spins, 9 pm, $5 men, free for ladies, 21+.

Q
Reggae with Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins dance and top-40, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
Sunday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and guests spin reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
Action Sunday DJs play punk, garage and classic rock-and-roll, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Wepa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sunday of each month, DJ Nik and DJ Hernan play salsa music, 6-10 pm, $12.

Saint
Spice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night featuring Latin and International grooves, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock, retro and hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Tiki Room
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop a Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilia night as DJ Leandro spins, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae a world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Club Venues

An Tain 35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678)*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874)*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939)*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186)*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-78 4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617 876-1655).*
The G Spot *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649)*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-908*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-940*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Light *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617 524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-868-5900)*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-188*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-065*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300)*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-651*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-700*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-000*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-030*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-258*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-669*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061)*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-030*
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museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors

Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum

Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Closely Focused, Intensely Felt: Selections from the Norma Jean Calderwood Collection of Islamic Art* features Persian artwork from the last millennium. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Masterworks of East Asian Painting* features works on paper and silk from China, Korea and Japan. Through April 13, 2005.

Boston Public Library

666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm. •*Handfuls of Lilies: The Art of Sarah Whitman* is an exhibition of book and stained glass designs of the Boston artist Sarah Wyman Whitman. Through December.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park

51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $6; students and seniors, $4. •Robert ParkeHarrison's *The Architect's Brother* is a five-part exhibition of photographs that contemplate the fate of the planet. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Luminous Forms: Abstractions in Color Photography* features photographs that focus on color, form and light as their subjects. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Henry Richardson: Chiseled Orb and Mortal Coil* is an exhibition featuring the artist's large glass sculptures. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Abstract Elements: The Dr. Beatrice H. Barrett Collection of Art* is a selection of abstract works by regional and international 20th-century artists. Through July 31, 2005.

Fogg Art Museum/Busch-Reisinger Museum

32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Dependent Objects* displays multidimensional works by German artists that both defy and embrace the concepts of object and sculpture in art. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Prints: System, Style and Subject* is a history of printmaking and graphic systems. Through Jan. 30, 2005. •*Extra Ordinary Every Day: The Bauhaus at the Busch-Reisinger* is an online exhibition that can be accessed at www.artmuseums.harvard.edu/sites/eoed. Through 2005. •*Rococo Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* is an ongoing exhibit. •*To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* is an ongoing display of 19th-century art. •The exhibits *Basic Research: A Selection of Postwar German Painting and Sculpture* and *The Figure in French Sculpture 1780-1900* are ongoing.

French Library and Cultural Center

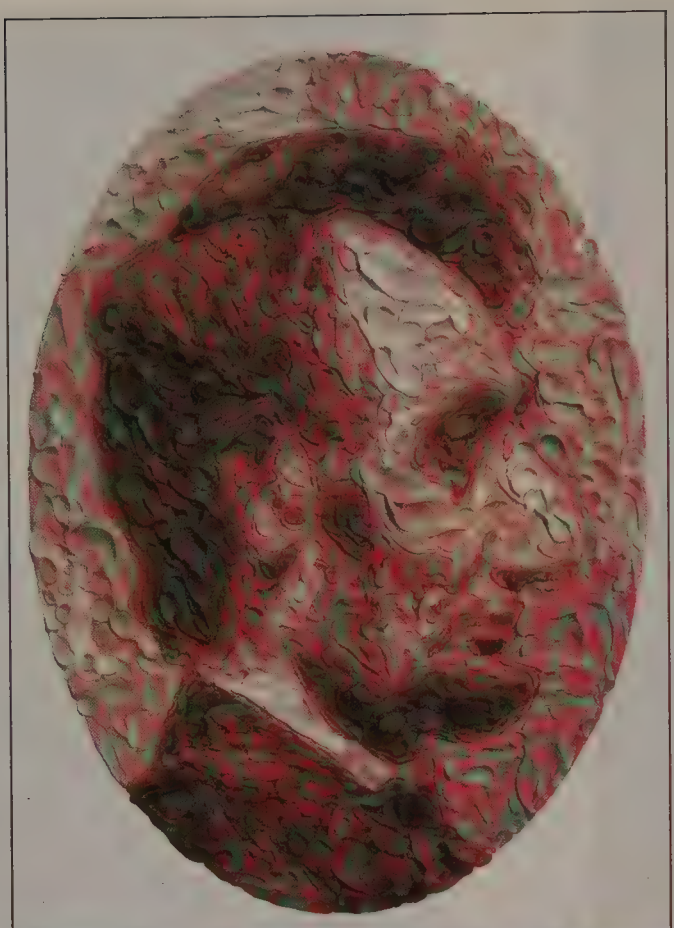
53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Fri. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. Free. •Swiss painter Beatrice Dauge Kaufmann shows abstract paintings. Nov. 3-27.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •*Origins: Life's First Three Billion Years* explores the evolution of life on Earth through paleontological, molecular-biological and geochemical research. Through April 2005. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species, by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5. •*Boris Mikhailov: A Retrospective* features more than 500 photographs by the Russian photographer. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Momentum 2/Lucy McKenzie* is an exhibition of new pop culture–inspired works. Through Jan. 2, 2005.



This untitled painting is part of James Esber's *Lincoln Project*, at the Bernard Toale Gallery through November 27.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; seniors, $7; students, $5. members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18 free. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •*Off the Wall: New Perspectives on Early Italian Art at the Gardner Museum* is an exhibition of works by Giotto, Giuliano da Rimini and Fra Angelico. Through Jan. 9, 2005. •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. •Elaine Reichek's embroideries depicting Biblical images borrowed from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists display online in the virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum

Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $8; seniors and students $6; children ages 13-17 $4; children 12 and under admitted free. •*Gifts from the World to the White House: Caroline Kennedy's Doll Collection* features 77 dolls from 30 countries that were given to JFK's daughter between 1961 and 1963. Through Nov. 5. •In honor of this election year, *Campaign!* is an exhibition following JFK's nomination, campaign and inauguration, from 1960-61. Through Jan. 20, 2005.

McMullen Museum of Art

Boston College, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill, (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-3 pm.; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Fernand Khnopff: Inner Visions and Landscapes* includes more than 80 paintings by the European symbolist. Through Dec. 5.

MIT List Visual Arts Center

20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. The museum's permanent collection includes more than 1,500 pieces of contemporary art including paintings, murals, sculptures, photography and prints. •*Selections from the Collection* spotlights the work of 17 artists. Through Nov. 19. • *Body Parts: A Self-Portrait by John Coplans* includes black-and-white images of Coplans' aging body and a series of large photographs completed before the artist's death. Through Dec. 31. •*Cerith Wyn Evans: Thoughts unsaid, now forgotten…* is an installation by the Welsh artist. Through Dec. 31.•*Yael Bartana: Three Works* is an exhibition of three short video works focusing on everyday life in Israel. Through Dec. 31.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5; students and seniors, $3; children, $1. •*Telling It Like It Is: Student Activism at MIT During the Vietnam War* displays posters from that era. Through fall 2004. •*The Art of Structural Design: A Swiss Legacy* highlights Swiss influences in 20th-century architecture. Through Dec. 30. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features works by the self-described cross between "a mechanical engineer and a choreographer." Ongoing.

Museum of Afro-American History

46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. •*Visual Stories: The Artwork of James Ransome* features paintings depicting important moments in black history. Through Dec. 31. •*The Times We Had* is an ongoing exhibition spotlighting Boston's African-American community of the 19th century. •*Building on a Firm Foundation* is a 17-minute multimedia presentation that looks at 19th-century Beacon Hill through the eyes of an African-American teenager. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15; students and seniors, $13; children 17 and under, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free (doesn't include special exhibitions). •*High Style and Hoopskirts: The 1850s* features mid-19th-century men's and women's clothing. Nov. 6, 2004-March 13, 2005. •*Games for the Gods: The Greek Athlete and the Olympic Spirit* features vases, marbles, bronzes and coins illustrating the ancient Greek games. Through Nov. 28. •*Art Deco: 1910-1939* features more then 240 works, including furniture, textiles, ceramics, fashion and jewelry. Through Jan. 9, 2005. •*Josef Sudek: Poet with a Camera* is an exhibition of the Czech photographer's landscapes, still-lifes and architectural photos. Through Jan. 17, 2005. •*Cerith Wyn Evans* is an installation of seven chandeliers flashing Morse code. Through Jan. 30, 2005. •*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13; seniors, $11; children, $10. •*Strange Matter* features 10 "experience pods" that explore the use of everyday materials in cardiac surgery, space exploration and more-common events. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Roar: Lions of the Kalahari* explores vast and harsh African landscapes and the day-to-day life and power struggles of the Kalahari lion. Through Feb. 17, 2005. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum

33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Allen Sisters Pictorial Photographs* is a collection of 25 platinum prints dating from 1885-192[illegible]. Through Dec. 12. •*A Changing World: New England in the Photographs of Verner Reed, 1950-1972* display through Jan. 2, 2005. •Learn how mail-order catalogs revolutionized American shopping in *Satisfaction Guaranteed*. Through Feb. 6, 2005. •*Western Pursuit of the American Dream*, a compilation of artifacts and sculpture from the American West, show through April 24, 2005. •*The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'd*, an exhibition of 18th-century local history, is ongoing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household objects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. •*To Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community* is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; students, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem free. •*Treasures from Chatsworth, a British Noble House*, is a look at centuries of English domestic life through the Cavendish family's rare collection of old master drawings and paintings, books and jewelry. Through Nov. 7. •*Havana: Photographs by Robert Polidori* features 18 large-scale photographs. Through Jan. 9, 2005. •*Bringing Japan to Boston* features Japanese artifacts from the Edward S. Morse Collection. Through April 30, 2005. •*Carved by Nature* displays ancient Chinese wood carving. Through June 2005. •*In Nature's Company* is an exhibition of nature-inspired works by 20 Massachusetts artists. Through Sept. 18, 2005. •The only installation of its kind in North America, *Yin Yu Tang* is a Chinese merchant's home from the late Qing Dynasty, relocated and reconstructed. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students, $[illegible]; children, $5. •*Field Photography, The Marsh Arabs of Iraq, 1934* features 34 prints of Arab tribes in the marshlands of southern Iraq. Thorugh Feb. 28, 200[illegible]. •*Bringing Japan to Boston: the Edward S. Morse Collection* is a rare display of Japanese artifacts collected from 1877-1879. Through April 2005. •*Painted by a Distant Hand: Mimbres Pottery from the American Southwest* features artifacts from New Mexico's Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through June 2005. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through December 200[illegible]. •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments* features the museum's large Mesoamerican cast collection. Ongoing. •*Hall of the North American Indian: Change and Continuity* features art depicting the response of Native Americans across the continent since the arrival of Europeans. Ongoing. •*Encounters with the Americas* is an ongoing exhibition featuring original sculpture and plaster casts of Mesoamerican structures. •*Pacific Islands Hall*, another ongoing exhibition, displays artifacts from the Pacific Islands.

Rose Art Museum

415 South St.,Waltham (781-736-3434). www.brandeis.edu/rose. MBTA: Commuter Rail Fitchburg/South Acton Line to Brandeis/Roberts Station. $3 (children under 12 free). Tue.-Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Tandon Satori and Commonplace*, a collection of paintings and watercolors by Italian painter Franses[illegible] Clemente, displays through Dec. 12. •*The Empty City* features Yun-Fei Ji's sketches and paintings depicting the displaced inhabitants and environmental destruction of China's 2009 Three Gorges Dam Project. Through Dec. 12. •*Tide Table* is a short hand-drawn animated film by artist William Kentridge. Through Dec. 12.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art

38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Early Works*, a collection of paintings by Herman Maril dating from 1929-1956, shows through Nov. 13. • *Inner Visions and Landscapes*, paintings by Fernand Khnopff, shows through Dec.

Alianza Gallery

154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). www.alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Images in Glass*, scenic impressions and images of the human form, shows through Nov. 5.

Alpha Gallery

14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Thu., 10 am-5:30 pm.•Landscape and still-

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paintings by Bernard Chaet show through Nov. 3. •Susanna Coffey shows portraits and self-portraits. Nov. 6-Dec.1.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm.* • *Cityscapes* features abstract images of Boston and New York by Paul Balmer. Through Nov. 30.

Artana
1378 Beacon St. Suite B, Brookline (617-879-3111) www.artanagallery.com. MBTA: C *Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Tue.- Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am-7 pm.* •Kathleen McDonough shows new oil paintings in *The Colors of Light III*. Nov. 6-30.

Art Interactive
130 Bishop Allen Dr., Cambridge (617-498-0100). www.artinteractive.org. MBTA: *Red Line to Central. Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm.* •Paper Sculpture Show. Through winter 2005.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •An exhibition by Fred Sandback displays through Dec. 8.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.berenberggallery.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •*Transitions*, a show of art by Rose deSmith Greenman, displays through Dec. 31.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm.* •Andrea Robbins and Max Becher shows photographs in *German Indian*, and James Esber shows drawings in *The Lincoln Project*. Both through Nov. 27.

Boston Architectural Center
320 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-5000). www.the-bac.edu. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 8:30 am-6 pm; Fri., 8:30 am-9 pm; Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-7 pm.* •*Art Without Boundaries* is an exhibition of jewelry, paintings, fashion and photography that includes works by Giorgio Armani, Frank Gehry and Moshe Safdie. Through Nov. 19.

Boston Sculptors Gallery
486 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-7781). www.bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm.* •Ellen Wetmore and Peter Lipsitt show their work. Through Nov. 27.

Brickbottom Gallery
1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5.* •Brickbottom Open Studios feautres photography, painting, sculpture, print making and film. Nov. 20-21.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Monmouth St., Brookline. (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C *Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-4:30 pm.* •*The Brookline Arts Center Treasures Past and Present*, works by BAC faculty from the past 40 years, shows through Nov. 8.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). www.cmacusa.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm.* •*Domestic Threats* is an exhibition of Mexican dolls, masks and papier mâché by Barbara Rachko. Through Nov. 4.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm.* •Enrique Santana shows paintings. Nov. 3-27.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm.* •Works by Fritz Eichenberg and Bernard Brussel-Smith, and the *Painting Annual* exhibit are on display through Nov. 6. •Three exhibitions—*Boston Scenes* (paintings), *Les Petits Tableaux* (paintings) and *We Like It So Much* (prints)—display Nov. 15, 2004-Jan. 7, 2005.

Clifford-Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 300, Boston (617-695-0255). www.cliffordsmithgallery.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5:30 pm.* •Nao Tomii shows sculpture. Nov. 5-27.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm.* •*Ralph Bush: Paintings of Cape Ann and Monhegan* and *Ellen Granter: New Works* display Nov. 4-13.

Crump McCole Gallery
200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: *Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm.* •*Painters of the New Boston* features works



Azechi Umetaro's *Embracing a Bird* is at the Boston International Fine Art Show.

by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm.* •Nancy C. Scull shows new black-and-white photography in *Floral Fantasies*. Through Nov. 27.

Equator Gallery
450 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-540-9236). MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. www.equatorgallery.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm.* •The gallery specializes in Latin American fine art, including paintings, textiles and ceramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: *Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm.* •Kathy A. Halamka and Nicole Margaretten show their work in *Liminal Space–Constructing Home*. Nov. 5-Dec. 11.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm.* •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu. and Sat.,12-5 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm.* •*Recent Paintings*, works by Barbara Baum and Vasta-Carr, shows Nov. 4-Dec. 18.

The Gallery at Black and White
295 Huntington Ave., Suite 205 (617-266-2641). MBTA: *E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Mon.-Fri, 10 am-5 pm.* •Susan Wilson's *Monument and Memory*, an exhibition of black-and-white photographs of Paris and the Pere Lachaise Cemetery, displays through Nov. 8.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave #305, Boston (617-423-6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* • Michael Yoder displays abstract landscapes through Nov. 27.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •*John Eric Byers: New Work* displays through Nov. 6. •George Nick shows new paintings. Nov. 12-Dec. 4.

Gateway Gallery
62 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-1577). MBTA: *Green Line to Brookline Village. Mon.-Fri., 9am-4:30pm; Sat., 12am-5pm.* • *Magnificent Obsessions*, a group show of abstract works by Yasmin Arshad, John Colby, Maria Covino, John Herzog, Joe Howe and others, shows through Nov. 6.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Calvin Brown presents a retrospective of abstract paintings from 1986 to the present. Nov. 8-Dec. 2.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.haleysteele.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment.* •The gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prints. Ongoing.

HallSpace
31 Norfolk Ave., Boston (617-989-9985). www.hallspace.org. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., by appointment; Fri. and Sat., 12-5 pm.* •*Doug Bell: Nail to Nail* shows through Nov. 6. •Cynthia Von Buhler and Leonie Bradbury shows their work in *I am no Angel*. Nov. 13-Dec. 11.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •*Robert Feintuch: Paintings* and *James Tellin: New Wood Constructions* display through Nov. 16.

Hurst Gallery
53 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-491-6888). www.hurstgallery.com. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Thu., 12-7 pm.* •*The Kepes Collection: Antiquities, Asian and Ethnographic Art* features Indian miniatures, pre-Columbian art, Chinese paintings and Japanese folk art from the Kepes family collection. Through Nov. 20.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm.* •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters. •*Art Deco Poster Masterpieces, 1921-1939* shows through Nov. 22.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm.* •Jason Berger shows oil paintings. Through Nov. 24.

Kaji Aso Studio
40 St. Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www.kajiasostudio.com. MBTA: *E Green Line to Symphony. Tue. and Thu., 4:30-6:30 pm; Sat., 3-5 pm, and by appointment.* •*The Annual Holiday Store* features ceramics, paintings, jewelry and prints. Through December.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm.* •Ralph Hamilton shows his work in *New Paintings*. Through Nov. 27

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay Station. Tue.-Sat., 12 pm-5 pm and by appointment.* •Hilary Tolan shows her work. Through November.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm.* •*Stone and Ceramic Abstracted* is a show of new works by Paul Braun and Michael Gustavson. Through Nov. 18.

Mark Gallery
141 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6275). www.markartgallery.com. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm, and by appointment.* •*Aura*, an exhibition of paintings, sculptures and drawings by Juan Jose Barboza Gubo, Marie Coppola and Jean Sbarra, shows through Nov. 12. •*The Gift* features works by 19 artists. Nov. 13-Dec. 23.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •*Louis Schanker: A Retrospective of Works from 1924-1981* shows through Nov. 16.

Mills Gallery
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Boylston. Wed., Thu. and Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-10 pm.* •*Cut* is an exhibition of sculpture, painting and drawings by Chris Nau, Randal Thurston, and Debra Weisberg. Nov. 12, 2004-Jan. 9, 2005.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Linda Behar shows small-scale embroideries, and Tod Pardon shows new work. Through Nov. 30.

NAO Project Gallery
535 Albany St., Boston (617-451-2977). www.naoprojectgallery.info. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Sat., 12am-5pm and by appointment.* •Debra Weisberg presents *Sculpture*. Through Dec. 19.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment.* •John Walker displays new paintings through Dec. 4.

OHT Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-1677). www.ohtgallery.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm.* •*John Obuck: Imperfect Abstractions/New Paintings* shows Nov. 5-27.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: *Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm.* •Rachel Berman shows mixed-media murals in *The Length and Breadth of Land*. Nov. 7-Dec. 3.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •Michael David displays his paintings in *Works from Provincetown*. Through Nov. 13.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm.* •*Samuel Bak: The Perception of Appearances* is on display through Nov. 30.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm.* •Chris Hooper's photographs of the Pacific Ocean display through Nov. 13.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat., 11 am-5:00 pm.* •*Fine Lithographs and Etchings* features works by Marc Chagall, Joan Miro, Georges Rouault and others. Through Dec. 31.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm.* •A show of works by William St. George, Christina Keating, Sandra Mueller-Dick, Judy St. Peter and Anne Grandin is ongoing.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm.* •*A Centennial Exhibition: Polly Thayer Starr, A Celebration of the Artist's 100th Birthday* features paintings, drawings and water colors. Through Dec. 31.

Wentworth Gallery
The Mall at Chestnut Hill, 199 Boylston St. (Route 9), Chesnut Hill (617-262-8770). www.wentworthgallery.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri. 10 am-9:30 pm; Sat. 10 am-8 pm; Sun. 12-6 pm.* •The gallery's permanent collection features works by Dali, Chagall and Miro.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: *Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5.* •*Armenia and Karabagh: The Aftermath* is a show of photographs by Paul Mellor. Through Nov. 26.

Panopticon Gallery Kenmore
502-C Comm Ave., Boston (617-267-8929). www.panopt.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Kenmore. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-7 pm.* •*American Politics*, a collection of historical political photographs, shows through Nov. 13.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www.panopt.com. Commuter Rail to Waltham. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*American Politics*, a collection of historical political photographs, shows through Nov. 13.

Photographic Resource Center
832 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). www.bu.edu/prc. MBTA: *B Green Line to Boston University West. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm.* •*In the Vernacular: Everyday Photographs from the Rodger Kingston Collection* is a group show including family, found and domestic photographs. Nov. 5, 2004-Jan. 23, 2005.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Allston/Brighton Open Studios
(617-254-3333). www.allstonarts.org. MBTA: #57 *Bus to Brighton Cetner Nov. 13 and 14. 12-6 pm.* The 18th annual Allston/Brighton Open Studios features works by local artists.

Boston International Fine Art Show
The Cyclorama at the Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-787-2637). www.fineartboston.com. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. Nov. 11-14. Fri.,1-8 pm; Sat.,11 am-8 pm; Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10.* The 8th annual BIFAS features antique paintings, sculpture, photography, works on paper and other works from 40 galleries across the U.S. and Europe.

South Boston Open Studios
(617-464-3561). www.artistsfoundation.org. MBTA: *Red Line to Broadway or Andrews. Nov. 6 and 7. 12 pm.* South Boston artists showcase their work at sites throughout the neighborhood.

04 exhibit auction: art without boundaries

10.19.04 exhibit opening
drawing, painting, digital media, sculpture, fashion, jewelry
all on display through november 19. mccormick gallery is
open to the public, free of charge.

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complimentary bar, hors d'oeuvres, entertainment
throughout the building from 6-10pm
silent auction open 6pm
live auction & raffle 8pm

exhibit auction

music fashion cuisine theater interiors fiber redesign photography choreography cinema architecture performance landscape architecture furniture jewelry painting dance typography sculpture

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books & poetry

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to books @improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Barnes & Noble at BU
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-236-7448). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 6 pm. Free. BU history professor **Julian E. Zelizer** discusses his book *The American Congress: The Building of Democracy*, a look at the history of the American Congress and how it works today.

Boston Playwrights' Theatre
949 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-7135). www.bu.edu/agni. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St. 7 pm. Free. Fiction writers **Jack Pulaski**, **Katherine Vaz** and **Kim Drain** celebrate the publication of *AGNI 60*, a collection of works by known and emerging writers, with readings and a presentation by artist Katherine Jackson.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-0372). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **David Lodge** discusses his novel *Author, Author*, a fictionalized account of writer Henry James' final years.

Hotel Marlowe
25 Edwin Land Blvd., Cambridge (617-395-2523). http:// harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:15 pm. Free. Salamander editor and poet **Jennifer Barber** reads from her work.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. Wall Street Journal writer **Ken Wells** reads from his new book, *Travels with Barley: A Journey Through Beer Culture in America*, about his search for "the perfect beer joint."

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Associate professor of medicine at Harvard **Jerry Avorn** discusses his book *Powerful Medicines: The Benefits, Risks and Costs of Prescription Drugs*, which examines the relationship between the prescription drug industry and American health care.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-0372). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. **Ha Jin** reads from his new novel, *War Trash*, about the experiences of Chinese POWs during the Korean War.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. Thoreau scholar **Jeffrey Cramer** reads from *Walden: A Fully Annotated Edition*, his new edition of Thoreau's classic chronicle of his experiment in simple living.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Grolier Poetry Bookshop Event
Adams House LCR/Conservatory, 26 Plympton St., Cambridge (617-661-0372). www.grolierpoetrybookshop.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. **Lola Haskins** reads from her poetry.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-0372). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Former U.S. ambassador to Austria **Swanee Hunt** discusses her book *This Was Not Our War: Bosnian Women Reclaiming the Peace*, which presents 26 first-person accounts of Bosnian women attempting to reconstruct their society.

Somerville News @ Toast Series
Toast Lounge, 70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. Free. Poets **Harris Gardner** and **Joanna Nealon** read from their work.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http:// harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Malachy McCourt**, from the television series Oz, reads from his new book, *Malachy McCourt's History of Ireland*, which presents Ireland's history through 16 sections about different famous Irish figures.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
Longfellow Hall, 13 Appian Way, Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $8-$12. Poets **Robert Pinsky**, **Gail Mazur**, **James Carroll**, **Gail Caldwell** and **David Daniel** read from their works at a benefit reading titled "Poetry of War and Peace."

Harvard Book Store
First Parish Church, Zero Church St., Cambridge (617-661-0372). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Yale professor **Harold Bloom** discusses his book *Where Shall Wisdom Be Found?*, which examines ways that literature can transform lives and provide wisdom..

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

Barnes & Noble at BU
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-236-7448). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 6 pm. Free. **Harold Bloom** discusses *Where Shall Wisdom Be Found?* See Nov. 8 Harvard Book Store listing for details.

Brookline Booksmith
Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 6 pm. $2. Comedian and actor **George Carlin** discusses his book *When Will Jesus Bring the Pork Chops?*, a satirical commentary on social and political issues.

Harvard Book Store
First Parish Church, Zero Church St., Cambridge (617-661-0372). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Columbia professor **Louis Menand** discusses *The Best American Essays 2004*, a collection he edited. Contributors **Susan Orlean**, **Janna Malamud Smith** and series editor **Robert Atwan** also appear.

MIT
Kresge Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-796-1360). www.mit.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. 4:30 pm. Free. MIT President **Charles M. Vest**, who is stepping down this fall, discusses his new book, *Pursuing the Endless Frontier*, which reflects on his time at MIT and presents issues that face academic institutions.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton Centre (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us/library. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 7 pm. Free. Poets **Betty Buchsbaum**, **Joanna Nealon** and **Anne Fowler** read from their selected works.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Barnes & Noble at BU
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-236-7448). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 6 pm. Free. Pulitzer Prize–winning author and historian **Richard Rhodes** discusses *John James Audubon: The Making of an American*, his biography of the famous naturalist.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Kirk Bloodsworth**, a man who journeyed from death row to freedom, joins his biographer, **Tim Junkin**, in a discussion of Junkin's new book *Bloodsworth: The True Story of the First Inmate Exonerated by DNA.*

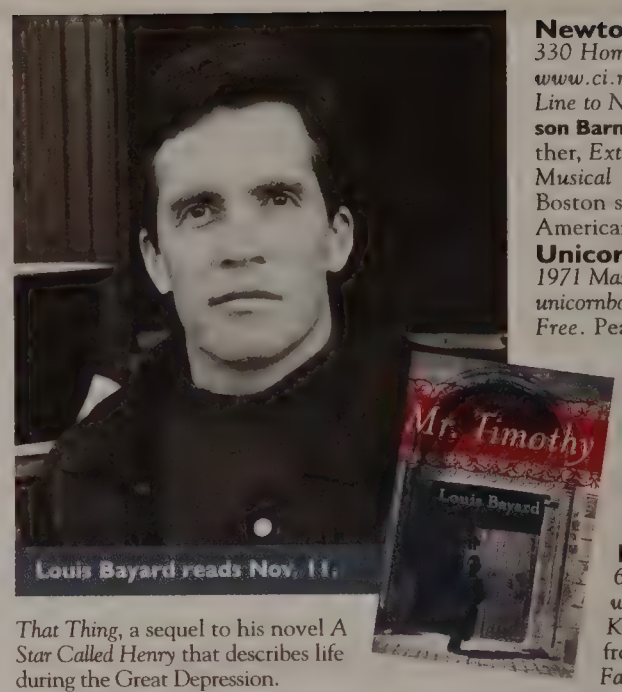
Harvard Book Store
Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-661-0372). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free tickets available at Harvard Book Store. Oxford University biologist **Richard Dawkins** discusses his book, *The Ancestor's Tale: A Pilgrimage to the Dawn of Evolution* which traces 4 billion years of the evolution of life on Earth.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 12 pm. Free. **Augusten Burroughs** reads from his new collection of humorous essays, *Magical Thinking: True Stories.*

Newtonville Books in the Attic
Union Street Bar, 107 R Union St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre 7:30 pm. Free. **Augusten Burroughs** reads from *Magical Thinking: True Stories.* See today's Harvard Coop listing for details.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Roddy Doyle** discusses *Oh, Play That Thing*, a sequel to his novel *A Star Called Henry* that describes life during the Great Depression.



Louis Bayard reads Nov. 11.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.mitpress.mit.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ ICA. 7 pm. Free. Los Angeles art teacher **Chris Kraus**, joined by *Boston Globe* editor **Joshua Glenn**, discusses her new book, *Video Green: Los Angeles Art and the Triumph of Nothingness*, which looks at the relationship between the city's art and its pop culture industry.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Katherine Weber** reads from *The Little Women*, her contemporary reworking of the Louisa May Alcott classic. Also, **Louis Bayard** reads from his novel *Mr. Timothy*, which imagines the post–*Christmas Carol* life of Charles Dickens' character Tiny Tim.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Grolier Poetry Bookshop
Adams House LCR/Conservatory, 26 Plympton St., Cambridge (617-661-0372). www.grolierpoetrybookshop.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. **James Tate** reads from his poetry.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-661-0372). www. harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. Harvard government professor **Russell Muirhead** discusses his book, *Just Work*, which examines the relationship between the work people do and who they are. • Also, *7 pm.* **Margot Livesey** reads from her novel *Banishing Verona*, about a couple who separate 24 hours after beginning their affair.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 4 pm. Free. **Gregory Maguire** reads from *Mirror, Mirror: A Novel*, his take on the tale of *Snow White*.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14

A Tribute to Anne Sexton
Forest Hills Cemetery, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-524-0128). www.foresthillstrust.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 2 pm. $5. Four Boston writers who knew Anne Sexton—**Lois Ames**, **Suzanne Berger**, **Robert J. Clawson** and **Victor Howes**—talk about Sexton and read from her work as well as their own.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Barnes & Noble at BU
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-236-7448). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. **Brent Runyon** discusses his memoir, *The Burn Journals*, about his suicide attempt at the age of 14 and his recovery.

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $8-$12. Poets **Tom Sleigh**, **Frank Bidart**, **Lloyd Schwartz** and **Robert Pinsky** read poems by Thom Gunn.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-0372). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Cambridge family and adoption therapist **Joyce Maguire Pavao** and Hunter College professor **Gerald Mallon** discuss adoption and their respective books on the subject, *The Family of Adoption* and *Gay Men Choosing Parenthood.*

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton Centre (617-796-1360) www.ci.newton.ma.us/library. MBTA: D Gree Line to Newton Centre. 7:30 pm. Free. **Anne Allison Barnet** discusses her biography of her grandfather, *Extravaganza King: Robert Barnet and Bosto Musical Theater*, which describes his life as Boston sugar merchant and his contributions t American musicals.

Unicorn Books
1971 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4448). www unicornbooks.org. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 6 pm Free. Peace activist and Wicca expert **Starhaw** signs copies of her new book, *The Ear Path: Grounding Your Spirit in th Rhythms of Nature*, about how peop can have a more intimate connection t their surroundings.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Barnes & Noble at BU
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-236-7448 www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. **Mark St. Amant** rea from his book *Committed: Confessions of Fantasy Football Junkie*, which examines th unique appeal of a fast-growing obsession.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Green Line to Coolid Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Thalassa Ali** reads from *A Beggar the Gate*, the second novel in her trilogy about life an exotic kingdom in 19th-century India.

Harvard Book Store
First Parish Church, Zero Church St., Cambrid (617-661-0372). www.harvard.com. MBTA: R Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Harvard psych ogy professor **Steven Pinker** discuss the collecti he edited, *Best American Science and Nature Wr ing 2004*. Contributors **Atul Gawande**, **Ch Raymo**, **Daniel Dennett** and **Mike O'Connor** al appear.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). ww harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard pm. Free. **Brent Runyon** discusses *The Burn Journa* See Nov. 15 Barnes & Noble listing for a descriptio

New England Poetry Club
Central Square Library, Cambridge (617-353-7135 www.bu.edu/agni. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 p Free. Poets **Lia Purpura**, **Chad deNiord** and **Dan Ci asson** celebrate the publication of *AGNI 60*, a colle tion of works by known and emerging writers, wi poetry readings.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). ww newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. Form *Newsweek* media columnist **Seth Mnooking** rea from his book, *Hard News: The Scandals at T New York Times and Their Meaning for Americ Media*, which examines the changing world American journalism.

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (61 354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. 21 $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Loun hosts this poetry slam downstairs in the Third Ra

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). ww poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 p $5. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background mu for the poetry slam team.

New Voices Open Mike (Third Frida
Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St., Ca bridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.o MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $5. The Cen hosts this open mike for women and their all with five- and 10-minute slots available.

Out of the Blue Gallery (Saturdays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambri (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Centr •Mondays, 8 pm (7:30 pm sign-up): Jack Pow hosts Stone Soup, with poetry features and an op mike. $4 donation suggested. •Saturdays, 8 p Come share or listen to poetry and prose. Debo Priestly hosts. $3-$5 suggested donation.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursda
Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-718 MBTA: Blue Line to Government Center. 6:30 p Free. The second Thursday of each month offe selection of featured poets and an opportunity others to take the open mike.

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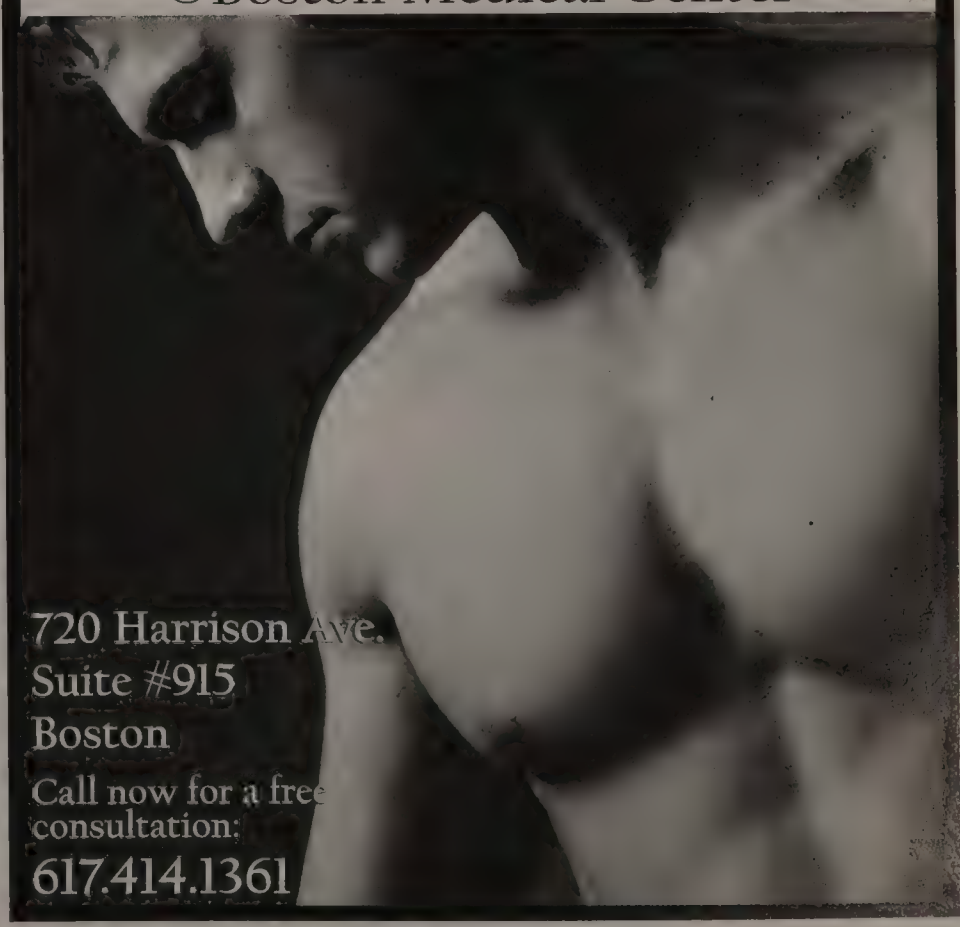
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education

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Ben Franklin and Being American
Cambridge Forum, First Parish, 3 Church St., Cambridge. (617-495-2727). www.cambridgeforum.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. Free. Pulitzer Prize winner **Gordon S. Wood** discusses his book *The Americanization of Ben Franklin.*

Domini Social Investments
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $5. **Amy Domini**, founder and president of the Domini Social Equity Fund, discusses socially responsible investing.

Perspectives on Multilateralism in the Wake of the Presedential Elections
The French Library and Cultural Cener, 53 Marlborough St., Boston. (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30 pm. Free. Political experts **Stanley Hoffmann, Peter Schneider** and **Kirsty Milne** discuss French, German, and British views on the results of American presidential elections.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Midwifery and Medicine in Boston
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Orange Line to State. 12:15-1 pm. $5. **Amalie M. Kass** of Harvard Medical School discusses 19th-century doctor Walter Channing and his fight to use anesthesia in childbirth.

The New Censorship: Going Global
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (617-5643). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: Green Line to Museum. 6:30 pm. $13. Gardner artist-in-residence and *Ouest France* correspondent **Anne Nivat** and Associated Press international editor **Deborah Seward** discuss the media's responsibility in reporting on global issues and war.

Park Square, Bay Village, and the Theater District
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm Ave., Boston (617-495-3045). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 am-12 pm. $50. President of the New England Chapter of the Victorian Society Ed Gordon leads a tour of Park Square, Bay Village and the Theater District.

The Scandal of the Visual
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 6:30 pm. Free. Harvard University professor of Slavic languages and literature **Svetlana Boym** discusses the images in Boris Mikhailov's photo retrospective at the ICA.

Telescopes in Space
Boston Public Library, 800 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7-8 pm. Free. The Spitzer, Swift, Herschel and Kepler space telescopes are on display.

Why Is Earth Like It Is? Lessons from Geobiology
Harvard Museum of Natural History, Geological Lecture Hall, 24 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. University of Southern California professor of geobiology **Ken Nealson** lectures on Earth's biology and its geological makeup plus clues about the possibility of life on other planets.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Havana and Its Architecture: Colonial to Modern
Peabody Essex Museum, East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www. pem.org. 3 pm. Free with museum admission. Harvard professor **Leland Cott** discusses Cuban architecture from pre-revolutionary and modern times.

Treasures of the Stage: Chatsworth
Peabody Essex Museum, East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www.pem.org. 2 pm. Free with museum admission. **Matteo Pangallo**, artistic director of the Salem Theatre Company and a PEM staff member, explores 300 years of England's theatrical history through objects from the Chatsworth collection, a private art collection currently on exhibit at the PEM.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Life with the Hemingways
JFK Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 5:30 pm. Free. Author of *Running with the Bulls* **Valerie Hemingway** shares her stories of living and traveling with her future husband's parents, Nobel Prize-winning writer Ernest Hemingway and his wife, Mary.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

American Indian Art: History Recorded
Lecture Yenching Institute, 2 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-0099). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5:30 pm. Free. Curator at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art **Gaylord Torrence** discusses Native American pictorial and sculptural forms.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Images of African Americans in the MFA Collections
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA E Green Line to Museum. 6 pm. Free with museum admission. Harvard University assistant professor **Gwendolyn DuBois Shaw** discusses African American representation in the museum's collections.

The Importance of Matriarchs in Elephant Society
Harvard Museum of Natural History, Geological Lecture Hall, 24 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045) www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Charles Foley**, who spent 10 years studying the elephant population in northern Tanzania, discusses conservation issues affecting elephants, and the animals' response to the rapidly changing landscape and increasing human influence in their habitats.

The Media and the Election
Cambridge Forum, First Parish, 3 Church St., Cambridge. (617-495-2727). www.cambridgeforum.com MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. Free. Boston Globe reporter **Mark Jurkowitz** speaks about the media's role in the presidential campaign and election. Topics include "liberal bias" and the Internet.

Society and Culture of the Sperm Whale
New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5300). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 7 pm. Free. Sperm whale researcher **Hal Whitehead** draws on his 20 years of study to discuss the social culture of sperm whales.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Psychological Illness in the White House: Calvin Coolidge and the Death of His Son
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org MBTA: Orange Line to State. 12:15-1 pm. $5. **Robert E. Gilbert**, professor of political science at Northeastern University, discusses Calvin Coolidge and the pscyhological impact that his son's death had on the 30th president.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Greek Mythology at the Museum of Fine Arts
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-730-2700). www.brooklineadulted.org. MBTA E Green Line to Museum. 10:30 am-12 pm. $20. **Garrett Avery**, director of New Acropolis, explores Greek mythology with a tour of the MFA's Greek artifacts.

Treasures from the Countway Library of Medicine and the Warren Anatomical Museum
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Orange Line to State. 12:15-1 pm. $5. Curator of the Warren Anatomical Museum **Virginia Hunt** discusses Harvard Medical School's Francis A. Countway Library collections of rare books, photographs, artifacts and museum specimens documenting the history of medicine.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Newest Insights into the Biggest Animal on Earth: The Blue Whale
New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5300). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 7 pm. Free. Whale expert **John Calambokidis** shares his research on the surprisingly large blue whale population off the coast of California.

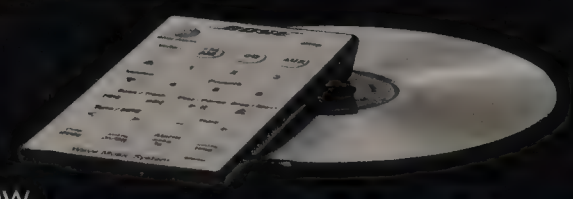
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gay & lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information, including telephone numbers and nearest T-stop, by fax (617-859-1446) or mail, or e-mail gaylesbian@improper.com.

Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am.; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $8 under 21. $5 for 21+. DJ John Morris spins progressive house for Lust, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $15, 21+. Sunday night parties include three separate dance floors and drag acts. Resident DJ Ted Elison spins house music.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show, and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Club Europa (Fridays)
57 Stuart St., Boston (617-417-0186). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.twistboston.com. Fri., 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+ after 11 pm. DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s tunes at this women's night.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $8 weekends, 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month, the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground features musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Tuesdays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Latin night with resident DJ Amador, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Tue.: Service Industry Night, with DJ Afrodite.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 19+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: New Wave Dance Party with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Milky Way Lounge (Sundays)
401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+. Every Sunday the Milky Way Lounge presents Satellite, a queer night for women. Live entertainment varies from week to week and includes Fireballs Drag Bingo, spoken-word events and jazz.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Omar. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This private, members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-587-0000). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am. $15. 21+. DJ Danae of Star 93.7 spins house music in the main room while DJ Mikey spins new wave, '80s funk and electro-clash in the side room. There are also occassional drag shows with Eileen Dover.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room and video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstai lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano b and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Lati groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and con plimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House musi 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with hou music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Servic Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Class movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, pm-1 am, no cover.


The Gold Dust Orphans present *The Exorsissy* at Machine, through November 20.

Shows & Events

Bisexual Resource Center Board Meeting
Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living Center, 1 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-9595). www.resource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Nov 10, 6:30-8:30 pm. Members of the bisexual comm nity are welcome to attend and participate in the BR board's discussion. New board members are needed.

The Exorsissy
Machine, 1256 Boylston St, Boston (617-265-6222 www.golddustorphans.com. MBTA: Green Line to Ke more. Through Nov. 20, Thu.-Sat. 8 pm, $25. Ry Landry and the Gold Dust Orphans perform the twisted take on *The Exorcist*.

Fourth Annual Cut It Out!
Simply Erinn's, 268 Brookline Ave, Cambridge (61 695-0877). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 12-4 pm. Su gested donation of $15-$35. Get your hair cut at t annual cut-a-thon to benefit The Network/La Re which aims to end abuse in lesbian, bisexual a transgendered communities.

Gay Night at the Latino Film Festival
Center for Latino Arts, 85 West Newton St., Bost (617-491-5654). www.bliff.org. MBTA: Green Li to Boylston. Nov. 6. 9 pm-1 am. $7. The Bost Latino International Film Festival hosts a g night featuring a screening of Ira Rosenswei *One Man Show: A Musical Documentary*, whi tells the true story of a gay Latino artist who w the New York state lottery. An after-party follo the movie.

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Bost (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 6-9 pm. The Bost Alliance for Gay Lesbian Bisexual and Transgen Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events young people seeking community, support an place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-88 1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and l bians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlingt Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women sh thoughts about books, videos and other topics of terest in a supportive environment.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Ca bridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tuesday of

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oston Bay Blades
ww.bayblades.org/boston. All are welcome to join his competitive, recreational group of rowers and ullers.

oston Boasts Squash
17-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 n; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symhony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players nd their friends.

oston Gay Basketball League
17-937-5858). www.bgbl.com. The league offers a ll regular season and playoff schedule each year.

oston Gay Skins
mrod, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). ww.bostongayskins.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenore. 11 pm. Boston's nonracist gay skinhead collecve meets the third Friday of the month.

oston GLASS Community Center
3 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: reen Line to Hynes. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri, 3-5 n. The center provides social activities for questoning young people, ages 13-25.

oston Lesbian Avengers
oston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston. MBTA: reen Line to Hynes. www.lesbianavengers.org. hu., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly, dict-action political group focuses on issues affectg lesbians.

oston Uncommons
entral Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., maica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. BTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm. A y and lesbian square-dancing group.

hiltern Mountain Club
88-831-3100). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400ember gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

OLAGE
17-417-0876). Third Saturday of each month, 10:30 -12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and ays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and tivities and holds a concurrent meeting for interted parents and their partners. For info, e-mail edfordcolage@hotmail.com.

oming Out as Bisexual
oston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living enter, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-9595). ww.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. st Wednesday and third Thursday of each month, 7 pm, e. An informal group for people who think they ay be bisexual or are attracted to more than one sex.

oming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, isexual, Transgender and uestioning People
17-256-8693). This group discusses the challenges d joys of coming out. It meets Thursday nights, om 7-8:30 pm, in Cambridge.

ompass
81-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area pport, information and social group for people asned female at birth who feel that is not an accuce or complete description of their gender. Part of e FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group eets monthly. E-mail CompassFTM@usa.com for tails.

ast Coast Wrestling Club
01-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www.east stwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay male wrestlers s more than 160 members.

egant Outings
66-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group lcomes gay and gay-friendly professional women and older who are intelligent, chic and sophistited to get together with like-minded women for nversations, dinners, theater and networking.

enway Community Health
Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fenway alth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Fenay Community Health offers a wide array of proams and services for the GLBT community rangg from discussions about parenting and safe-sex actices to domestic violence and substance abuse. ll for more information

AG Flag Football
ww.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Join Boston's BT Flag Football League for a casual spring sean, followed by a formal fall season. All are welme, regardless of skill level.

rontrunners Boston
etropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., oston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring.com/ rontrunners. Sat., 10 am. All are welcome to join is running club.

ay Amateur Photography Group
ddress available upon request, Boston. Learn more out photography, socialize and meet new people at ese monthly meetings. For more information e-hil amateurgphoto@yahoo.com.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
(617-267-9001 or 888-340-4528). Mon.-Fri., 6-11 pm; Sat. and Sun., 5-10 pm. This confidential, toll-free hotline provides support for GLBT and questioning callers.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Professionals Building Community
(617-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to join this networking organization for GLBT professionals. Monthly networking meetings.

Gaymes Group
(508-339-4250). Members of this social group for gay men and lesbians get together on a regular basis to play board, card and parlor games.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second Thursday of each month. 7:30 pm. $5-$10. Members of the GLBT community are invited to share poetry, prose or performance pieces at this open-mike event.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

Girlz 2 Girlz
(781-893-6113). This mentoring program is for girls ages 13-19 who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered. For information, contact Marcela Aldez-Osorio.

Laffan
Members of this social and networking group for women receive a weekly e-mail calendar of events. For info, e-mail Laffan_Boston2004@yahoo.com.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue.-Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

The Network/La Red
(617-423-7233). The Network is a support group working to end abuse in lesbian and bisexual women's and transgender communities. E-mail info@thenetworklared.org for more information.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

Peer Listening Line
(800-399-7337). Trained volunteers provide confidential information, referrals and support to their GLBT peers.

The Rainbow Café
This social group for activist, academic, intellectual or artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments. Send an e-mail to rainbowboston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatinos lgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Road, Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. First Sat. of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing. $8. Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the GLBT community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the first Thursday of every month.

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body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Erotic Art
Lifestyles, 269 Moody St., Waltham, (781-891-6060). Nov. 3, 7:30-9:30 pm. $10 per class. As part of the Sex-Positive Education Series, this store introduces local creators of erotic art in the media of film, illustration, painting and photography.

Evening Concert of Harmonic Touch
Yoga East Center for Alternative Medicine, 20 Del Carmine St., Wakefield (781-224-0722). www.yogaeast.net. Nov. 6, 7-9 pm. $30. Harmonic Touch integrates Celtic harp music, harmonics, overtones, voice and Reiki healing energy. This evening aims to stimulate a deepening of consciousness and connection to the realm of spirit through sound, music and touch.

An Evening of Experimental Dance and Music Improvisation
CasaNia Studio, 46 Porter Road, Cambridge (617-491-5144). www.casania.com. Nov. 6, 8 pm. $8 suggested donation. The yoga studio presents movement and music improvisation with eight artists performing in various configurations. The evening also includes a solo piece choreographed by Nicole Bindler and performed by Stephanie Sherman.

Holistic Expo
Holiday Inn Newton, 399 Grove St. Newton (617-527-0247). www.centerforbalance.org. MBTA: Green Line to Riverside. Nov. 7, 9 am-5 pm. $5. Lectures take place throughout the day on various holistic techniques, and attendees can meet practitioners in the fields of bodywork, yoga, nutrition, Asian medicine, meditation and more.

North Shore Yoga Conference
Sheraton Ferncroft, Danvers (781-631-6416). northshoreyoga.com. Nov. 7, 8 am-6 pm. $170, includes lunch. Handicapped accessible. Learn how yoga can enhance both physical and emotional health in this yoga immersion, which features lectures and workshops with teachers Cyndi Lee, Ann Greene and Kim Valeri. All levels welcome.

Saluting the Spirit '04
Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center, 85 W. Newton St., South End (617-859-3036). www.pathwaysboston.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Nov. 14, 9 am-1 pm. $25. Nine yoga teachers lead participants in energetic sun salutes to raise funds for the Pathways to Wellness health center's chronic-disease holistic health services.

Sexuality and Spirituality Network
HealingHeartPower, 3 Central Ave., Newton (617-965-7846). www.healingheartpower.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. Nov. 13, 2-5 pm. $10 suggested donation. The Boston Area Sexuality and Spirituality Network gathers regularly to discuss topics related to the holistic exploration of sex. This month's meeting focuses on the sacred erotic community.

Women's Health Forum 2004
Boston Marriott Copley Place, Boston (800-294-9999). www.brighamandwomens.org. Nov. 13, 8 am-4:30 pm. $55. Sponsored by Brigham and Women's Hospital, this forum features workshops, health screenings and information. Keynote speakers include author Christiane Northrup and CBS news anchor Liz Walker.

Lectures

Enhancing Fertility Through Diet and Stress Management
Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel, Marlborough (781-647-3840). Nov. 13, 11 am-12:30 pm. This presentation and discussion with dietitian and nutritionist Hilary Wright focuses on how to minimize conditions harmful to fertility.

Nutrition and Cardiovascular Disease
Veggie Planet Restaurant at Club Passim, 47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-824-4225 or 617-492-5300). http://boston.earthsave.org or www.veggieplanet.net. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard, Nov. 14, 2:30 pm. Free, $10 for dinner. Dr. Harvey Zarren discusses how the cardiovascular system becomes diseased and blocked. His lecture also addresses osteoporosis, six common cancers, the average American diet and the cardiovascular role of nutrition.

Transformation and The Navajo Sand Painting Ceremony
The C.G. Jung Institute, 116 St. Botolph St., Boston. (617-267-5984). www.cgjungboston.com. Nov. 13, 10 am-5 pm. $70. Explore this Navajo ceremony through slide images, lecture and discussion, and learn about what Jungian psychotherapy has in common with the rituals, images and experiences of this tradition.

Workshops

Food Cravings, Compulsions and Addictions
Yoga East Center for Alternative Medicine, 20 Del Carmine St., Wakefield (781-224-0722). www.yogaeast.net. Nov. 13, 1-4 pm. $60. This class provides a holistic approach for people who are struggling with food. Participants learn techniques that may help reveal hidden mental, emotional or spiritual problems related to eating, and ways to solve these difficulties.

Medicine Dance
Brookline Community Center for the Arts, 14 Green St., Brookline (617-522-9797 or 617-738-2800). www.bccaonline.com or www.dancingoutloud.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Nov. 13, 1-5:30 pm. Sliding scale, $70-$125. This workshop encourages participants to breathe from the heart and let spirit and intuition guide them to healing and shamanic consciousness. All levels welcome.

Relieving Back Pain Naturally
Star Tech Healing and Learning Center, 14 Nason St., Maynard (978-897-0110). www.startechhealing.com. Nov. 7, 2-4:30 pm. $10. Learn a specialized self-help technique that may help improve flexibility and relieve back pain caused by soft-tissue problems.

SoulSong
Earthsong Yoga, 186 Main St., Marlborough (508-480-8884 or 508-259-2847). www.earthsongyoga.com. Nov. 14, 10:30 am-12:30 pm. $18. Experience the freedom, power and pleasure of your voice while rediscovering singing as a fun, creative tool for self expression. No singing experience required.

Turning the Mind into an Ally
Shambhala Meditation Center, 646 Brookline Ave., Brookline (617-734-1498). www.primordialdot.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. Nov. 13. 10 am-4 pm. $60. In Sakyong Mipham's book *Turning the Mind into an Ally*, he describes how the mind can become strong and flexible through the practice of meditation. Adam Lobel, a co-editor of Mipham's book, leads this workshop on learning how to develop equanimity, courage and wisdom in daily life.

Ongoing

Kripalu Yoga
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org or www.kimchilds.com. Mon., 9:30-11 am., Wed., 6-7:30 pm. $15, drop in. Instructor Kim Childs' classes are designed to help participants stretch, tone and strengthen their muscles, as well as reconnect with the body's wisdom. All levels welcome.

Under 30 Meditation Night
Shambhala Meditation Center, 646 Brookline Ave., Brookline (617-734-1498). www.primordialdot.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. Tue., 7-8:30 pm. Free. For young adults who practice meditation or are just beginning, this night is a chance to join with peers, discuss the teachings of Buddha and relax.


CasaNia hosts an improvisational music and movement performance November 6.

sports


The Bay State Warriors women's pro football team holds tryouts November 13.

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

New England Patriots
•Gillette Stadium, Foxboro
Tickets: 800-543-1776
Nov. 14, 8:30 pm vs. Buffalo Bills

Boston Celtics
•FleetCenter, Boston
Tickets: 617-931-2000
Nov. 3, 7:30 pm vs. Philadelphia 76ers
Nov. 5, 7:30 pm vs. Indiana Pacers
Nov. 10, 7 pm vs. Portland Trailblazers
Nov. 12, 7:30 pm vs. Charlotte Bobcats
Nov. 19, 7:30 pm vs. San Antonio Spurs
Nov. 21, 6 pm vs. Seattle SuperSonics

Events

Bay State Warriors Tryouts
Reservation Road Field, Hyde Park, Boston. www.baystatewarriors.com. Nov. 13, 10 am-2 pm. Women are invited to this open tryout for the Bay State Warriors women's professional football team.

U.S. Marines Boxing Team Great Northeast Tour
The Roxy, 279 Tremont St., Boston (617-931-2000). Nov. 9, 7:30 pm. $30 general admission, $50 VIP ringside. U.S. Marine Grace Kelly takes on New England champion Lisa Kuronya headline the card at this boxing tour, which raises money for the U.S. Marines Scholarship Fund.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club seeks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club (BSSC) Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

DODGEBALL

BSSC Dodgeball
(617-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting now fo dodgeball teams to compete in a fall league.

ENDURANCE TRAINING

Team in Training
(800-688-6572). www.teamintraining.org. This or ganization provides fund-raising athletes with grou training and support, personalized coaching an guaranteed race entry for events.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
561 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville. (617-591 0101). www.baystatefencers.com. Fencing and stag combat programs offered in the fall.

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119) www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings an Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070) www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men' teams compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395 8326). Saturday mornings. Women's teams pla eight-on-eight flag football each week.

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.com Training Tuesdays and Thursdays in Jamaica Plain Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is lookin for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seek new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysti rugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club wel comes both new and experienced players who wan to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. an Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays. New an experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash com. Weekly runs on either Wednesday or Sunda year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking an singing bawdy songs, then consider joining thes self-proclaimed "serious drinkers with a runnin problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm Weekly runs.

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Run
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (781-27 1584). www.srr.org. Thursdays, 7 pm. Weekly runs.

Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-62 2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thursdays, 7:30 pm Weekly 2.6-mile runs.

SOCCER

BSSC Outdoor Soccer
(617-789-4070). Outdoor teams forming no Games played in Charlestown, Lexington, Readir and Canton. Individuals and teams are welcome.

ULTIMATE FRISBEE

BSSC Ultimate League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070). Coe games each week in Charlestown.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070, ext. 222 Sun.-Thu. Coed teams forming for summer leagues Cambridge, Watertown, Brookline and Newton.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-868-8379). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. An ateur folk-style wrestling group open to all sk levels.

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children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Big River
270 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-29393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 16-21, Tue.,Thu. and Fri., 7:30 pm, Wed., 7 pm, Sat., 2 and 7:30 pm, Sun., 1 and 7 pm. $12.50-$32.50.* The Wang Center's Family Series kicks off the 2004-05 season with *Big River*, a musical based on Mark Twain's *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. This production combines sign language and spoken word to appeal to hearing-impaired audiences.

Borders Books and Music
Cambridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Lechmere. Every Sat., 1 pm.* Staff members read from new and classic storybooks.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. Every Tue. and Sat., 11 am.* Staff members read children's stories. Snacks and craft activities follow.

ImprovFoundry Family Show
ImprovBoston, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA *Red Line to Central. Sat., 6 pm. $10-$12.* This short improvisational show is suitable for all ages.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: *D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50; members, $7. Reservations recommended.* •Nov. 3 and 4, 10:30 am, ages 3-6. Watch a rabbit sneak into a pumpkin patch, and meet a shy monkey who gets advice from a lion in Sparky's Puppets *Animal Tales*. •Nov. 6 and 7, 1 and 3 pm, ages 4-8. Find out what life was like millions of years ago for the tyrannosaurus rex and brontosaurus in *The Dinosaur Show*. •Nov. 10 and 11, 10:30 am, ages 3-6. Join adventures and fun with Sir George and his clumsy dog in *Sir George and the Dragon*. •Nov. 17 and 18, 10:30 am, ages 3-6. Sarah Lamstein presents *Funny Bone Tales*, a journey into three magical worlds.

Things to Do

Boston Art Tours
Meets at Starbucks, 443 Boylston St., Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Arlington. Tours for children: Tue.-Sat., 1-2 pm; tours for teens: Tue.-Sat., 2-3:30 pm. Adults, $30; teens, $15; children under 12, free.* Take a walking tour of contemporary art galleries along Newbury Street.

Boston by Little Feet
Faneuil Hall, Congress Street, Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: *Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Through October, Sun, 2 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am. $8.* Explore Boston's history and architecture by taking a walking tour of the Freedom Trail designed specifically for kids.

Boston Duck Tours
Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston; Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-267-3825). www.bostonducktours.com. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley or Science Park. Daily through Nov., 9 am-sunset, every 30-60 minutes. $24; seniors and students, $21; children 3-11, $15; children under 3, $3.* These amphibious vehicles tour Boston's most popular sights via city streets and the Charles River.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm.* •Nov. 5, 10:15 am, ages 3-7. Kids Cinema is a film program for children. •Nov. 7, 1:30 pm, ages 3-5; 2:30 pm ages 6 and up. Local performer Tom Krusinski teaches children to translate sound into visual movements in Music and Movement for Children. •Nov. 12, 10 am, ages 2-5. Reading Readiness is a program in which children and adults participate in music, stories, fingerplays and crafts, educational toys and games.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: *Red Line to South Station. $8; children, $7.* •Daily, KidsStage is an interactive theater featuring professional actors and museum staff. •Fri., 3-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2-4 pm. In the Zoom Zone is a hands-on science challenge culled from the PBS TV show *Zoom*. •Mon.-Fri., 10 am-4 pm. The art studio is open for bookmaking, painting, finger-puppet making and more.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2501). www.coolidge.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Coolidge Corner. $10; children, $8.* •Saturdays, 10:30 am: Saturday Morning Kids Variety Show. Nov. 6: French-American performer Etienne presents his one-man comedy show that includes juggling, musical instruments and other stunts. Nov. 13: Tribal Rhythms presents a show of African music.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: *Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $5; ages 5-18, $2; students, seniors and kids under 5, free (free admission the third Sunday of every month).* •*Holography, the Light Fantastic* is a display featuring the world's largest collection of holograms. Ongoing. •*Robots and Beyond* offers a look at MIT's artificial intelligence research labs. Ongoing. •*Ship Models: The Evolution of Ship Design* features 40 ship models, from warships to clippers. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: *E Green Line to Museum. $15; children 17 and under, free.* •Mon.-Thu., 3:30 pm. The Children's Room combines arts and crafts with a variety of cultural themes. •Tue.-Thu., 3:30-4:30 pm. Books Bring Art Alive is a program for children and families.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13; seniors, $11; children, $10.* •*Strange Matter* explores the use of everyday materials in cardiac surgery, space exploration and more-common events. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models* is an interactive exhibition that features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •Science in the Park is a permanent playground with a scientific spin. •Sat. and Sun., 11 am. Animals and Stories Alive is an interactive story hour featuring folk tales, myths and live animals.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: *Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat. & Sun., 9 am-6 pm. $15.95; seniors, $13.95; children, $8.95.* •*Amazing Jellies* features thousands of jellyfish. Through 2005. •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank contains sharks, stingrays and a 600-pound California sea lion. Ongoing. •*Edge of the Sea* is a hands-on exhibition that features sea stars, hermit crabs and more. Ongoing. •Simons IMAX Theatre. Check Web site for listings.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us/library. •Thursdays, 7 pm. Staff members read to children ages 4 and up at Pajama Storytime. •Fridays, 10:30 am. Films for preschoolers screen. •Nov. 4, 4:15 pm. World Cultures Korea features stories, crafts and food from Korea. •Nov. 9, 4 pm. Carol Peacock reads from her book *Pilgrim Cat* about a young girl who discovers a stray cat on the *Mayflower*. •Nov. 16, 10:30 am. NFL staff lead a musical program.

Wheelock Family Theatre
200 The Riverway, Boston (617-879-2147). www.wheelock.edu/wft. MBTA: *Green Line to Fenway. Through Nov. 28, Fri., 7:30 pm, Sat. and Sun. matinee, 3 pm. $20, $16, $12.* Wheelock Family Theatre presents *Ramona Quimby*, a play based on author Beverly Cleary's popular Ramona books about a boisterous third-grader who can't seem to stay out of trouble.

around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
Coit Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: *B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm. Free.*

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: *Red Line to South Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5pm; Fri., 10 am - 9 pm. $9; children and seniors, $7. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.*

Faneuil Hall
75 State St., Boston (617-338-2323). MBTA: *Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 am. Free.*

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6, children, $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.*

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: *Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; seniors and students, $8; 12 and under, free.*

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.*

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: *Red Line to Charles/MGH, or Green Line to Park Street. Labor Day through Memorial Day: Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm; summer: daily, 10 am-4 pm. Free.*

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Science Park. Daily, 9 am-5 pm (Fri., 9 am-9 pm). $14; seniors, $12; children, $11.*

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). *Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5; children, $3.*

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: *Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1: Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, $13.95 seniors; children, $8.95.*

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: *Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-5 pm. Free.*

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: *Orange or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. $5, seniors and students, $4; children, $1.*

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $9.50; seniors, $7; children 12 and under, $6.50; children under 3, free.*

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: *Green Line to Copley. Open daily, 7 am-6 pm. $4; children 12 and under, free.*

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). www.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. May 1-Oct. 15: daily, 9 am-6 pm; Nov. 1-Apr. 30: daily, 10 am-5 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster-care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay
(617-375-0700). www.bostonredcross.org. Volunteer in the administrative department.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-563-4441). www.bostoncares.org. More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor young students from the city in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). www.ccaa.org. Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000). Tutor adult students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
(617-995-3250). www.everybodywinsmetroboston.org. Spend your lunch hour reading with elementary school children.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hospice.org. Volunteers needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-online.com. Volunteers provide over-the-phone counsel for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelders.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

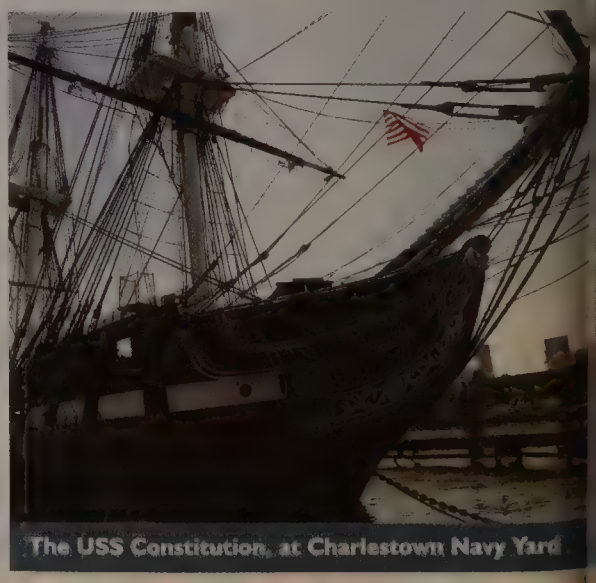
Pine Street Inn
(617-482-4944). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve breakfast to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room and groceries program at this homeless shelter.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young professionals.


The USS Constitution, at Charlestown Navy Yard



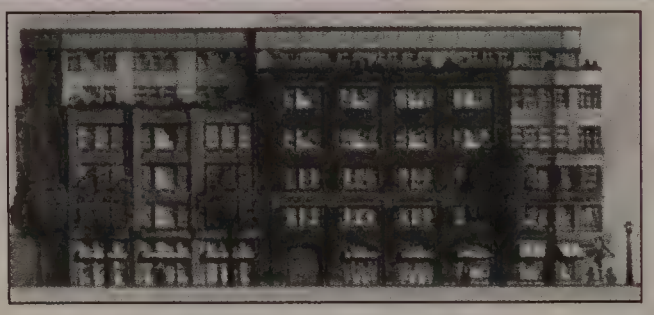
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NOVEMBER 3 – 16, 2004 BY ROCKIE GARDINER

SCORPIO OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21



Assume you're being lied to, especially if you've got a birthday coming up. Nothing malicious intended, but a deception just the same. Pray it's simply a surprise party in the works, something that won't embarrass you or an esteemed colleague. You're also likely to become frustrated if you challenge any authority figure—client, mentor or executive chef. And while you rarely submit to someone else's agenda, for the sake of maintaining the peace, try to be a bit more amenable. Smile.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

Do you habitually rely on your Jupiter ruler to protect and serve your assorted causes? Then, by all means, keep it up. Because generous Jupiter is joined by beneficial Venus this week, your chances of obtaining something you want or being the chosen one increase appreciably. Their meeting in likable, civilized Libra suggests that the outside world will take more notice of you. Since that combination is often a justification for "too much of a good thing," try to behave in a socially acceptable manner. No horsing around.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

Election Day results could affect you more than you know. While your pragmatic, paternal Saturn ruler is uncharacteristically receptive to mercurial Mercury's arguments and fact-finding forays, you might ask questions you normally wouldn't. Especially of a group you're allied with, colleagues at work and partners in crime. Or, you can just as easily have faith that the open-hearted, open-handed merger of Jupiter and Venus will assuage any fears and doubts. Cockeyed optimism?

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

Can you put a happy face on every value, every asset you share with a loved one? How effective a spin can you come up with? Postelection results are informed by two contradictory planetary alignments. First there's the intense, power-crazed Scorpio sun testing your faith, your willingness to believe when it squares impressionable Neptune in your sign. Then there's the (overly?) optimistic merger of megabucks Jupiter and acquisitive Venus (ruler of the NYSE) in your house of other people's money wishing you good luck.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

Another pitch for bucks from an organization you've been lending financial support to? That's one possible result from the sun's square to your idealistic Neptune ruler. Another possibility is accepting a challenge to advance your talent by using other people's resources. And while your inherent romanticism might be questioned, your confidence gets an enormous boost from the fortuitous collaboration of Venus and Jupiter, the gods who bestow both the manna and the money. Six of one, half a dozen of the other.

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

Let significant others call the shots since the tremendous amount of good fortune heading their way can also be a boon to you. The twice-blessed merger of loving Venus and protective Jupiter in your Libra house of partnership is a rare (once or twice every 12–13 years) event. Rams born in the first half of the sign meet Lady Luck this week; those born in mid April see her next Labor Day. They should plan accordingly. Everyone could try to be more diplomatic. Mend fences and don't make any more demands.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

A cause for celebration, another for misgivings. Two separate, but hardly equal, energies influence your week. First, the good news: Your pleasure-seeking Venus ruler joins jolly Jupiter in your house of romance and recreation, making for memorable fun and fooling around. Now the bad: The sun in your Scorpio marriage house may be mesmerized by Neptune's veil of illusion. Is a close relationship starting to reek? However, if your mate has a glamorous gig, the deception might not have an adverse effect on anyone but you.

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

Spread the word: No matter what your reaction to the election results may be, you could feel compelled to voice your opinion in any way and to anybody within reach. Once your Mercury ruler makes the leap out of secretive Scorpio into Sagittarius on the 4th, broadcasting your version of the truth becomes more important than ever. Don't worry that you'll overstate your position and get in trouble—the two "benefics," Venus and Jupiter in air-sign-friendly Libra, have your back. You might even be rewarded.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

Home is where the heart is. Trite but never more true than when affectionate Venus and expansive Jupiter get together every decade or so at your Libra base of operations. They offer a renewed attachment to family and cultural roots, a greater desire to make your house look its best, no matter what the cost. Just watch out for unexpected weirdness, a sense that a scam is in the works. Impressionable and often delusional Neptune in your house of shared resources may entertain an entirely different vision.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

You're still riding the money train thanks to the fortuitous merger of Venus and Jupiter, the cosmic benefactors, in most Lions' house of assets and acquisitions. Rake it in while you can, kitties, because nothing this good lasts forever. Leos born in July receive the benefits being doled out in other ways: greater admiration by siblings and peers, a more prominent presence among the neighbors, a more luxurious set of wheels. That is, after you've paid the repair bill. Don't be careless or gullible, either.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

Insisting on learning the truth, not the same as gathering the facts, may be your next cause célèbre. After your Mercury ruler enters Sagittarius on the 4th, you're apt to fixate on a subject that'll carry you into next year. No kidding. Mercury in late Sag turns retrograde at the end of November and doesn't cross over to Capricorn until January 9. That can turn into one long, strange trip. Meanwhile, enjoy the goodies you gather courtesy of the happy coupling this week of Venus and Jupiter in your house of valuables.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

Double happiness. You might grow overly confident or take all those compliments for granted, but that's only because prosperous, protective Jupiter and your Venus ruler are meeting, for the first time in 12 years, in your sign. Milk this moment for all its worth and, if you're a gambler, it could be worth a lot. Nothing is quite as lucky as having the two good guys of the solar system combine their fortunes. September Librans have the best odds; those born in mid October cash in next summer.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

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FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

To Her Royal Highness

I didn't come to the Gloucester restaurant where you're known to help out on occasion to meet or to talk with you. It so happens my friend from Gloucester suggested it, and mentioned that you might be working there if we went. Forgive me if I intruded on your "community service" but for some foolish reason, I thought you might like to know that I was incensed over your firing. My first apparent mistake was respectfully addressing you by your last name. When you responded with "Yeah?" that should've been my first clue that you were not going to be receptive. I told you I was glad that despite the flak you took, you stuck to your guns. Your trite and condescending "Thank you" was about as sincere as a Hallmark card.

Now, it would be a different story had you been an actual patron of the restaurant, and I had intruded on your meal to offer my support. But even then, a simple "I appreciate that" would have been the civilized thing to say. But you choose to volunteer your time at the establishment, and if you weren't a celebrity, I don't know any restaurant that would find such attitude an admirable trait in an employee. The waitresses at Durgin Park back in the day had better manners than you displayed the evening of October 25. By the way, I work for an ad agency that does PR for major studios, and I've met my share of temperamental actors, directors and screenwriters. If this is how you behave when you're not performing, God only knows what it must be like working with you. If I were the actors on your short-lived sitcom, I'd be grateful it got canceled. Don't worry, however. I won't be going back to that restaurant any time soon, so you can continue to pretend you're "keeping it real" by joining the working class while in between acting and stand-up gigs. And here's one last piece of advice: If you really want to blend in with the rest of the waitstaff, ditch the sunglasses and signature 'do—they're a dead giveaway.

—Unimpressed

Hot Elevator Guy

I saw you in my elevator in my West Side apartment. It was the first week of October. You were visiting someone in my building. You had to get buzzed in—I hope it was not a girlfriend. It was 11 pm, my friend and I just got home from the grocery store and we filled the elevator with our bags. You got off at the 4th floor. We exchanged glances and smiles. I thought you were so hot, I really wanted to talk to you, but was not sure how to go about it. I was hoping that I would run into you again, but I believe it is highly unlikely. If you happen to be reading this and remember me, contact me.

—Karfro@aol.com

Looking for Rob

I met you the night of October 9 upstairs at Vox on Boylston Street when I set a cup of water on your table. You live in the South End and work for Gillette. You were with a friend named Jeff, who is 46 and said he worked in the corporate cafeteria business. You are around 6'1" or 6'2", 39 years old, dark hair, clean cut, great smile and very nice (even though you're a Yankees fan). I really enjoyed talking to you and I was going to go back to your table and get your phone number or give you mine, but you were gone. I know this isn't the greatest information, but if anyone reads this and knows Rob or can help me find him, please let me know. Thank you!

—Amanda, AEO2626@aol.com

Beacon Hill Babies?

Instead of expecting others to deal with your noise, you should instead be considerate in close quarters—no matter what the hour. For your information, music emissions above 70 decibels are in violation of the local noise ordinance. And, citywide, if any two parties feel any other party is a nuisance, the complaint overrides the decibel threshold. If the complaining party heard your music in their home, it was indeed too loud. No one needs to move or close windows to accommodate you, you arrogant butthead. As for your silly expectation that people who stay at home on Fridays are uncool or miserable, grow up. I have a vivid social life and stay home most Friday nights because they are a hassle, amateur. If you can't stay home by yourself on any night, you are insecure and uncomfortable in your own skin. On one count, you are right: The personal approach works best, and the complainers were just as immature in their behaviors as you were in your expectations. Despite your professional, post-college status, you are still clearly a kid.

—The girl next door

Cutie Shopping

It was mid afternoon, October 11 at Neiman Marcus. I caught your eye as I was coming down the escalator into the men's department. You were wearing a brown suede jacket with a reddish shirt and a had a sparkly smile. I have dark curly hair and was sporting a blue sweater. When our eyes connected I smiled and gave you my best "Queen Mary Wave." I was running to put money in the meter and by the time I came back you were gone—would you like to grab a cocktail and see if those sparks were real? Drop me a line.

—escalatorgirl@yahoo.com

Claire's Beauty

You: long, straight black hair, black T-shirt, jeans, tattoos and beautiful face. Me: longish, red hair, T-shirt, jeans and glasses. I stopped in Claire's Boutique in Downtown Crossing on the afternoon of October 16 to ask you a good place to get a Halloween costume. You were so pretty putting up displays that I noticed you outside the window from the sidewalk and just had to talk to you, but I couldn't screw up the courage to ask you if you were single. If you are interested in getting to know me, send me an e-mail.

—halloweencostumegirl@yahoo.com

Squirrel B Gon

You are the beautiful blond-haired girl with the fabulous smile who was sitting on Boston Common October 20 at 1:45 pm, reading what looked like a movie script. I am the guy, age 28 with brown hair, who was sitting a few benches down from you. We shared a few nice glances and your smile made my heart skip a beat. Then you laughed, smiled and tossed your hair as you watched me fight off the vicious squirrels that attacked me as I ate my lunch. After I successfully fended off the squirrels and finished my lunch I thought about what it would be like to kiss you and tried find the courage to introduce myself. Then all of a sudden the squirrels swarmed you and we shared another magical glance. I tried to offer you my skillful squirrel-defeating assistance, but you just smiled and walked away. I had hoped that you would have come over and sat next to me, but you continued off toward the Park Street T station and flashed back to me one of the most amazing smiles I have ever seen. Right then and there I knew I had to see you again. I hope I will see you back at the benches where I promise I will always protect you from the attacking squirrels. If I don't see you in the park, please send me an e-mail.

—iwillprotectyou5@yahoo.com

To the Brewers Fan in Southie

At times in the morning while we walk our dogs, our routes cross, and for a few blocks we talk: about the Sox, work and the park we take our four-legged friends to. I always mean to but forget to ask if you would want to meet up for coffee around work (Fair Trade coffee of course). It's been a while since I've seen you, so I thought I might leave our meeting up to more than serendipity!

—southie2102@yahoo.com







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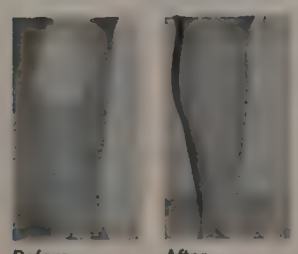
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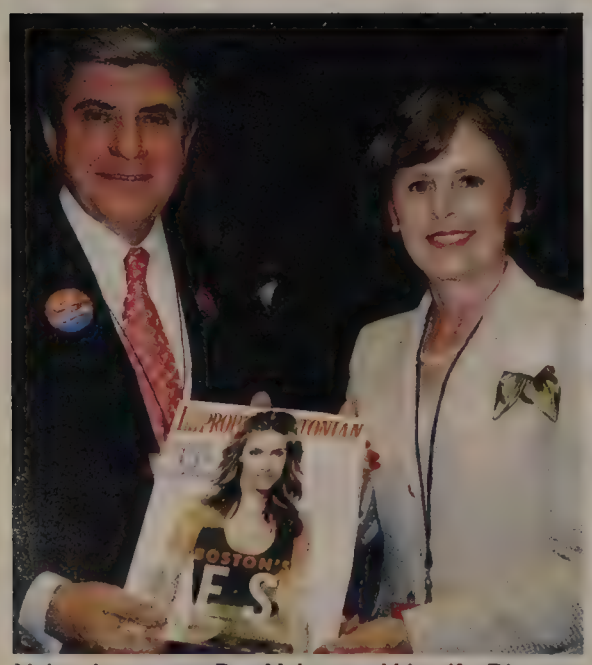
Keith Neal overheard several sharks discussing how they'd like to bite Derek Jeter, but they don't like the taste of conceit, at the Great Barrier Reef off Australia.



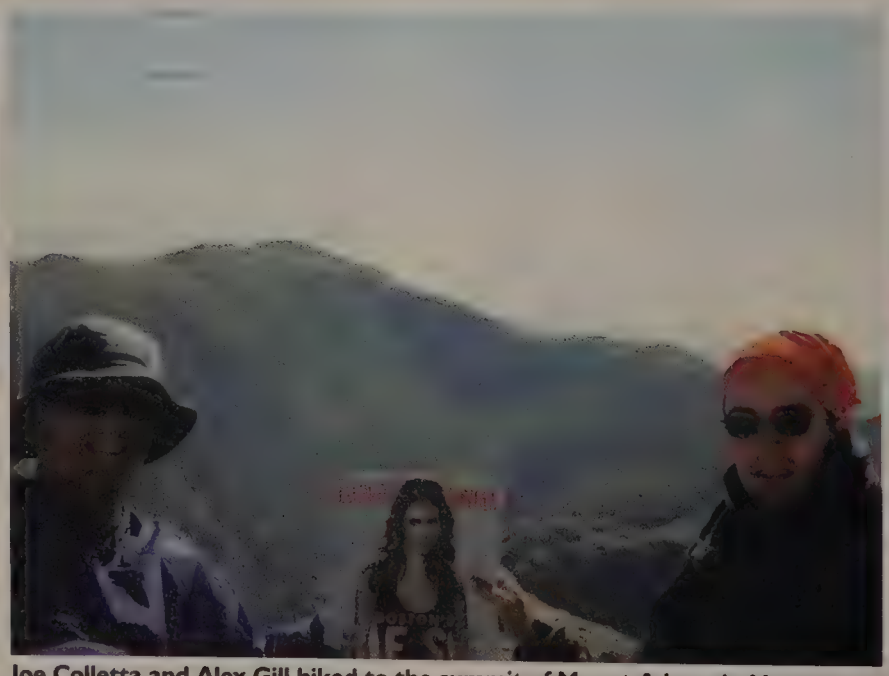
Kristin Sarkisian toted an IMPROPER to York, England, where she didn't choke, unlike a certain team from *New* York.



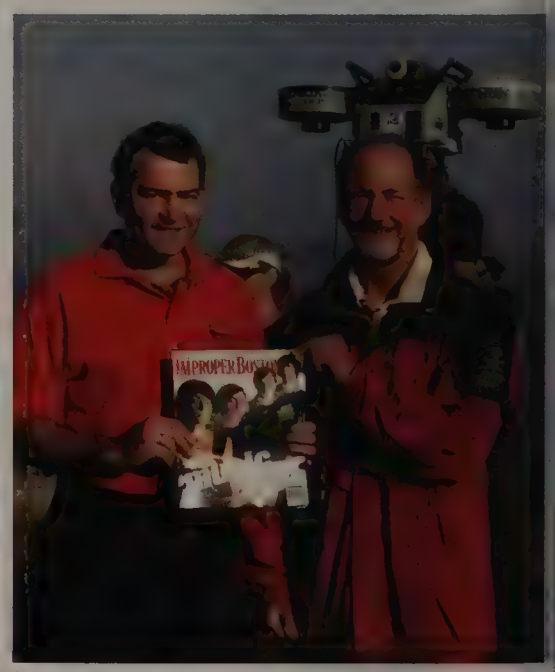
Steve, A-Rod and Rachel Kelly and Becky and Jamie Marks visited Hubbard Glacier in Yukutat, Alaska—hold on, correction: Pictured second from left is the Kellys' infant daughter, Abby, not Yankees shortstop Alex Rodriguez. Honest mistake.



Nebraska senator Ben Nelson and his wife, Diane, remind us of our favorite Emerald Nuts ad during the ALCS: eavesdropping Nebraskans! Mmmmm.



Joe Colletta and Alex Gill hiked to the summit of Mount Adams in New Hampshire. Behind them is Tuckerman Ravine, where George Steinbrenner plans to hide Brian Cashman's body once the snow is deep enough.



Ioannis Miaoulis and Greg MacGillivray say they went to Greece to film an IMAX movie, but we think Babe Ruth's in that ecto-backpack.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Telling about the time in 2004 when the Yankees beat the Red Sox to advance to the World Series, at the World's Biggest Liar Competition, November 18, in Santon Bridge, England.

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IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Monday, October 18, **The Improper Bostonian** hosted a party at **Troquet** to celebrate **Boston Lyric Opera**'s new season. Guests enjoyed hors d'oeuvres from Troquet, cocktails and wine from **Chivas Regal** and **Jacob's Creek Reserve Range**, and a sneak peek of the beauty that the BLO's new season beholds with special live performances.







1. **Judith McMichael**, director of marketing for Boston Lyric Opera; **Ross Dickson** of Virtuetech Inc.; **Janice Mancini Del Sesto**, general director for Boston Lyric Opera; and **Kristin Bray** of Mass. General Hospital.
2. **Nicole Yacovone** and **Jennifer Curato**, promotional representatives for Chivas Regal.
3. **Michelle Alexander**, pianist; **Stephanie Chigas**, mezzo-soprano; and **Darren Anderson**, tenor; all of Boston Lyric Opera.

On Wednesday, October 20, **The Improper Bostonian** presented Into the Deep in celebration of **Azure**'s second anniversary. Guests enjoyed **Wyborowa Single Estate** cocktails and Azure's tantalizing appetizers. Body-painted models from **Maggie Inc.** sported **National Jean Company** apparel and hair by **Blue** salon. Pearl earrings were given away by the **Ruby Door**.









1. **Austin O'Connor Jr.,** chief executive officer of the Briar Restaurant Group, with wife **Mary**.
2. **Gerald Luna**, assistant store manager, and **Thea Reid**, stylist, both of H&M.
3. **Amy Blanco**, on-premise state manager, Massachusetts, for Pernod-Ricard USA; **Adam Rosen**, brand manager for Wyborowa Single Estate Vodka; and **Sheri Saperstein-Richberg**, marketing director for the Briar Restaurant Group.
4. **Claire**, **Liza**, **Feyi** and **Kevin**, all of Maggie Inc.

On Sunday, October 3, **The Improper Bostonian** sponsored The 5th Annual Celebrity Hat Trick to benefit The **Leary Firefighters Foundation**. Two celebrity hockey teams battled it out at The **FleetCenter** to raise money to keep our local fire departments strong and our communities safe.







1. **Steven Tyler**, lead singer of Aerosmith, and his daughter **Chelsea Anna**.
2. **Frank Raffa**, president of Worcester Firefighters Local 1009 and the board of advisers for the Leary Firefighters Foundation, with actor, **George Wendt**.
3. **Denis Leary** and **Lenny Clarke**, actors, comedians and members of the Leary Firefighters Foundation.

On Thursday, September 30, **The Improper Bostonian** was a sponsor for Paul Pierce's Runway 34 at **Avalon**. Guests enjoyed a fashion show featuring clothes from **Saks Fifth Avenue**'s Modernists collection. Proceeds from the event will benefit the **Truth Fund, Junior Achievement** and The **Mark Wahlberg Youth Foundation**.







1. **Paul Pierce**, of the Celtics and **Slim Goolsby** of New York.
2. **Mark Blount**, center for the Boston Celtics, and **John D. Meola Jr.**, director of the Dental Associates of N.E.
3. **Ernest Brown** center for the Celtics, and **Tony Brown,** assistant for the Celtics.

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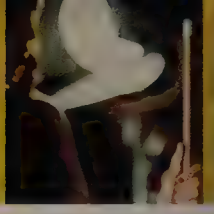
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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch





RESTAURANTS

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled PortabellaPaninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC, V.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2002. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston 617-426-3333.* Open 11am - 2am, 7days a week. Kennedy's Midtown is a cultural experience far from the maddening crowd while set in heart of it. Kennedy's serves a lunch and dinner menu of international cuisine. In the evenings they play host to some of Boston's finest Pianists who entertain with a range of tunes from Broadway to Jazz and Blues. Kennedy's embraces all the finer qualities of regal Boston and throws in a dash of old fashioned Irish Hospitality for measure.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the Motor-Mart - 617-426-4444, Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., South Boston,617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Ned Devine's *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere inthe heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Sidney's Grille *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why Bon Appétit magazine says, "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breakfast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus visit www.sidneysgrille.com.

Solas *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am 7 days a week.

Strega *379 Hanover St., Boston 617-523-8481 www.stregaristorante.com.* A fine dining experience in Boston's historic North End. Enjoy our cozy, romantic atmosphere, splendid wine list and savory Italian dishes. Strega buzzes with a mix of casual tourists, local residents and love-struck couples. The menu offers something for everyone. Traditional dishes like the gnocchi are anything but simple, featuring flavor just as robust as that found in intricate dishes. Find yourself in the company of celebrities, including owner Nick Varano's pals from of the Sopranos. Available for corporate and private functions.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

BARS/CLUBS

Beer Specialty

Boston Beer Works *112 Canal St., near the Fleet Center, 617-896-BEER, 61 Brookline Ave., across from Fenway Park, 617-536-BEER and 278 Derby St., in Historic Salem, 978-745-BEER.* Boston's oldest and largest restaurant brewery with 3 locations! Bold American Food. Award Winning Beer. 15 microbrewed beers always on tap. 16 American wines by the glass. 15 championship billiards tables at our Canal Street location. Complete party planning capabilities. Private Rooms. Customizeable menus. Lunch. Dinner. Late Night. Always a good time. Check out the BIGGER and BOLDER menu.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exotic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Billiards

Big City - pool hall, pizza kitchen, Beer Bar *138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8pm, free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Clubs

Felt *533 Washington St., Boston, 617.350.5555* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, right next door to the Opera House; in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering sophisticated billiards, NewYork style Lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere of DJ's and dancing, combined with the delicious entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Contemporary cusine by Chef Ben Stevens.

Stadium – Clubhouse *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Stadium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale nightclub featuring two bars, a hardwood dance floor and parking. An exciting yet relaxed 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety of music and beautiful people crowding the dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights. An ideal place for your next bachelor, bachelorette or birthday party.

Club Q Boston *25 Union St., Boston, 617-742-2121.* Open 9pm - 2am Wednesday through Saturday. What nightlife in Boston has been waiting for, this state of the art Nightclub in the heart of Faneuil Hall attracts a stylish and eclectic crowd. Open Wednesday through Saturday Club Q hosts Boston's top DJs spinning Hip Hop, House and Top 40's. With two bars, three VIP areas and pool tables, Club Q is the place to see and be seen. Credit cards accepted.

Comedy

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www. theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. Mingle. Let your hair down; see and be seen on the big screen. Simply the hippest way to spend a night of all-out fun in Boston's Financial District. Come after work. Come to dance. Come to go wild with your friends. There's always something exciting happening – and you never know who you'll bump into. Join us and experience what the buzz is all about.



The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 617-227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

Irish

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 617-742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston,617-742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11am - 1am 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

The Green Dragon *11Marshall St., Boston, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 617-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

General

The Alley *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. www.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

Aqua *120 Water St., Boston, 617-720-4900.* Boston's newest place to be seen is now open in the heart of the Financial District. Whether relaxing with a martini in one of our cozy booths, sipping a margarita on our roof deck or watching your hometown favorites on our high definition plasma TV. Aqua has what you're looking for after work and late night with our resident and guest DJs spinning your favorite mixes through our state of the art sound system all night long.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Boston Rocks *245 Quincy Market Place Boston,617-726-1110 www.boston-rocks.net. 21+.* Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St.,617- 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2003. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Downtown Lounge *138 Portland St., Boston 617-523-8383.* Tempting tapas, modern martinis and contemporary cocktails are just a few of the elements awaiting your arrival. A distinctive destination in the heart of North Station, located just one block from the Fleet Center. Share crab taquitos, shaved portobello mushrooms or grilled white pizza. Revive with a specialty martini while sinking into soft curvy seating. Spacious and sublime, Dowtown Lounge is an attractive meeting place for business, luncheons, social, after work cocktails and events.

The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010.* Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St.,Boston 617-722-0161.* The newest edition to Boston's night scene. This New Orleans style bar is just steps away from the Fleet Center. Hurricane O'Reilly's serves up the best that Boston nightlife has to offer. Come dance the night away with the hottest music around. We will leave you yearning for Bourbon Street.

Jillian's Boston *145 Ipswich St., Boston, 617-437-0300.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring more than 200 high tech games, six full bars, 50 pool tables, racing simulators, Black Jack for Fun and much more. Atlas Bar and Grill on Jillian's first floor offers full service dining featuring innovative American cuisine, a giant screen video wall and dancing every Friday & Saturday night. www.jilliansboston.com.

The Junction – Your Neighborhood Bar & Grill. *110 Dorchester St., South Boston, 617-268-6429.* Delicious food, great atmosphere and friendly staff –and it all happens at the Junction -South Boston's Neighborhood Bar & Grill. Enjoy our half-priced appetizers on weekdays from 3 to 6 pm. Join us for live music & entertainment on the weekends and for our fun trivia nights on Tuesdays.

Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Lounge. Cocktails. Dancing. Nightlife. Come see the lights of Parris. Sample the eclectic lounge menu featuring grilled pizza, oyster shooters ans steak tartar. Sip a Classic, Apple or French 75 martini, and then motion onto the huge dance floor featuring Live Music with the best bands and DJs Thursday through Saturday. Named for the original architect of the Greek-revival-style building, Alexander Parris, you're nightlife experience at Parris will be Boston and beyond. Open 5pm - 2am Wednesay - Saturday. Cover charge on Friday and Saturday.

Jazz

Regattabar *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Tuesday-Saturday nights and occasional Sunday afternoons. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square. Shows at 8:30pm Tues-Thurs, 7:30pm & 10:00pm Fri. & Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617.876.7777 for tickets and information, 800.881.1818 for hotel reservations and information.

Latin

Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston 617-351-7001.* A multistory Latin-themed restaurant and club, Sophia's treats guests to a tantalizing Tapas-style menu, live Salsa bands and hi-energy Latin dance. From a romantic dinner and salsa lessons to hi-energy dance and mingling on the roof deck over sangria and Salsa, an evening at Sophia's is always Hot! Hot! Hot!

Sports Bar - Upscale

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www.theplaceboston.com.* Voted Boston's Best Sports Bar 3 years in a row by The Improper Bostonian! Mingle with your favorite sports celebrities: Brady, Thornton, Walker, Garciaparra. You never know who you'll run into. Enjoy the wildest party atmosphere in the heart of the Financial District. It's never the same experience twice – we've got exclusive sports video productions and game coverage on our state-of the-art flat screen TVs. So join us to see what the buzz is all about and find out why people in-the-know feel right at home.

Stadium *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* Boston's Best Damn Sports Bar, Period. A brand new, high-end sports bar featuring two floors, three bars, 30 flat screen TVs – including the one in the men's room, a dance floor and parking. Stadium menu offers an enticing selection of appetizers, salads, steak & burgers, fresh seafood and drinks

BRUNCH

Harvard Gardens *315 Cambridge St., Beacon Hill, Boston, 617-523-2727. www.harvardgardens.com.* Cozy up to the beautiful mahogany bar or slip into a comfy booth and enjoy Harvard Gardens' menu of cool cocktails and comfort food. Brunch serves up eggs and pastrami hash, thick-cut French toast with caramelized bananas, specialty pizzas and Boston's best Bloody Mary. Harvard Gardens serves brunch Saturday and Sunday, 11:00am - 3:00pm.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $6, entrees $16, desserts $7 or all 3 courses for $24. Sundays: $39 adults and $17.50 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended 617-661-5005.

Museum of Science – Skyline Room *Science Park, Boston, Ma, 02114.* Enjoy Sunday Brunch in the beautiful Skyline Room overlooking the Charles River at 11 a.m. & 1 p.m., then check out the latest Omni film or visit our new exhibit, The Lord of the Rings Motion Picture Trilogy – The Exhibition. Tickets start at $32 and include on-site parking when available. Brunch only, $24. Reservations recommended. For more information call (617) 723-2500 or visit mos.org.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**, *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

IMPROPER SHOPPER

Classifieds for Bostonians

ART ON THE WEB

EVENTJAR.COM

Cultural and Entertainment Event Search Engine. Nationwide movie, museum exhibit and gallery show listings. Search by artist, location, and date. Directory of dance, theater and music orgs., club bands, sport arenas, and clubs.

COSMETICS

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FASHION

CLOSET SMARTS

Wardrobe revamping, fashion tuning and personal shopping. 617-797-4097. Also featured before by Improper's own Samantha House! For more information see display on this page.

HEALING

ACURELIEF FOR WOMEN

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LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF







Above: actor Danny Glover greets Archbishop Desmond Tutu. Left: Marti Wilson-Taylor, Bill Walczak and Mary Tiseo. Bottom: Agnes Bundy Scanlan, Charles Stith and Michele Whitham.

WATCH YOUR TOES...

"Someone once asked, 'Why are you such a name-dropper?' I said, 'You know, when I was at Buckingham Palace, the queen asked me the same thing.'"

That joke was even funnier when Archbishop **Desmond Tutu** told it while introducing actor **Danny Glover**, the evening's honoree, at an awards dinner held by **South Africa Partners** in the ballroom of the **Back Bay Sheraton**.

In addition to a Nobel Prize winner and a movie star, there were numerous other names worth dropping, like presidential adviser **Eli Segal** (the evening's other honoree); event co-chair and Antiguan glamazon **Colette Phillips**; lieutenant governor **Kerry Healey**; Harvard School of Public Health dean **Howard Koh**; his colleague, **Dr. Deborah Prothrow-Stith**, with her husband, former U.S. ambassador to Tanzania **Charles**; blue-blooded do-gooders **Bill** and **Jane Saltonstall**; sizzling State House hottie **Jodi Charles**; banking bigwigs **Bernie** and **Carol Fulp**; gorgeous Ghanaian **Obenewa Amponsah**; esteemed journalist **Sari Boy**; and American Repertory Theater head honcho **Bob Woodruff** (a friend of Glover's from the days when they were starting out in San Francisco).

In addition to drinks and dinner (at tables decorated with South Africa's national flower, the protea), there was music by the Milton Academy Jazz Combo and speeches that were actually worth listening to. Eventually, the evening turned into one big birthday party for the bishop, who danced around on stage while everyone sang along to Stevie Wonder's "Happy Birthday."

Summing up the evening, one starry-eyed guest put it this way: "I got two kisses from Tutu and a hug from Glover." Now that's something worth bragging about.

WELL, BOOZE DOES MAKE EVERYONE LOOK BETTER...

The fabulousness was almost blinding at **FashionPlates 2004**, a benefit for **Community Servings** held at **Filene's** and featuring a few of our favorite things—namely cocktails, little nibbly treats, a fashion show and shopping.

White-hot designer **Michael Kors** flew in from New York to debut his new ready-to-wear collection, and among the crowd clustered around the runway and having a case of the vapors over the clothing, the models, or both, were foxy Fox reporter **Glenn Jones**; absurdly attractive executive coach **Rich Merritt**; mystery scribbler **Robert B. Parker** and the über-groovy **Joan**; fashion designer **Elaine Perlov**; impossibly hot couple **Brian Lighty** and **Andy Bigelow**; Newbury Street hair deities **William George**, **Marc Harris** and **Jeremy Dellaria**; tie designer **Tony Corey** and his delightful sidekick, **Barry Pett**; the personification of hospitality, **Cedric Adams**; intimidatingly chic interior decorator **Eileen Patterson**; handsome scamp **Richard Gordon**; real estate titan **Jerry Finegold**, and two women who both loved a rabbit fur vest so much they bought it off a mannequin's back and agreed to joint custody.

Meanwhile, another guest raved about the spiced nuts on the bar, to which a friend wisely replied, "I'll leave that one alone," and someone else observed, "I just love being able to walk up to the cosmetics counter and order a vodka martini."











At Sweet Harvest, top row: Rick DiCecca and Caterina Bandini; Joe Quattrocchi. Middle row: Ken Dietz; Gita and Mark Costa. Bottom: Grace Regan and J.B. and Tiffany Dowd.

A ROOMFUL OF SUGAR MAKES THE PARTY GUESTS GO "WOW!"

If you're of the opinion that Sweet Tarts, Tootsie Rolls, Swedish Fish and Red Hots deserve a food group of their own and belong at the top of the USDA's food pyramid, you might've lapsed into a sugar-induced coma at **Sweet Harvest**, a cocktail party to benefit the **Greater Boston Food Bank**, held at the **Parkman House** on Beacon Hill.

Spotted among the natty, good-looking crowd were such junior movers and shakers as Channel 7 anchorbabe **Caterina Bandini**; makeup maestro **Rick DiCecca**; puckish restaurateur **Joe Quattrocchi**; newlyweds **Tiffany** and **J.B. Dowd**; philanthropic fun couple **Gita** and **Mark Costa**; the incomparable **Emily Webster**; South End force of nature **Molly Dunne**; swanlike socialite **Grace Regan**; ubiquitous groover **Dan Karp**, and so on and so forth.

While trays of tasty hors d'oeuvres (including caviar on blinis) circulated throughout the room and the bartenders valiantly tried to keep up with requests, guests took their chances with a $20 balloon raffle, but the evening's dominant and unavoidable theme was candy. Enormous, artfully arranged jars containing everything a sweet tooth could crave were prominently displayed on every available flat surface.

"It's a good thing my kids aren't here," said one parent. "I'd need a spatula to pee 'em off the ceiling." IB















At FashionPlates 2004, top row: Glenn Jones; Jeremy Dellaria; Richard Gordon, Andy Bigelow and Brian Lighty. Middle row: Jane and Serge Davis; Robert and Joan Parker; Eileen Patterson and Rich Merritt. Bottom: Cedric Adams, Tony Corey and Barry Pett.

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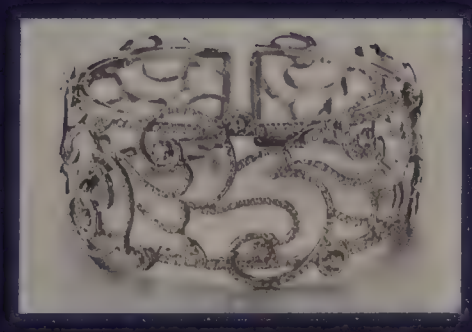


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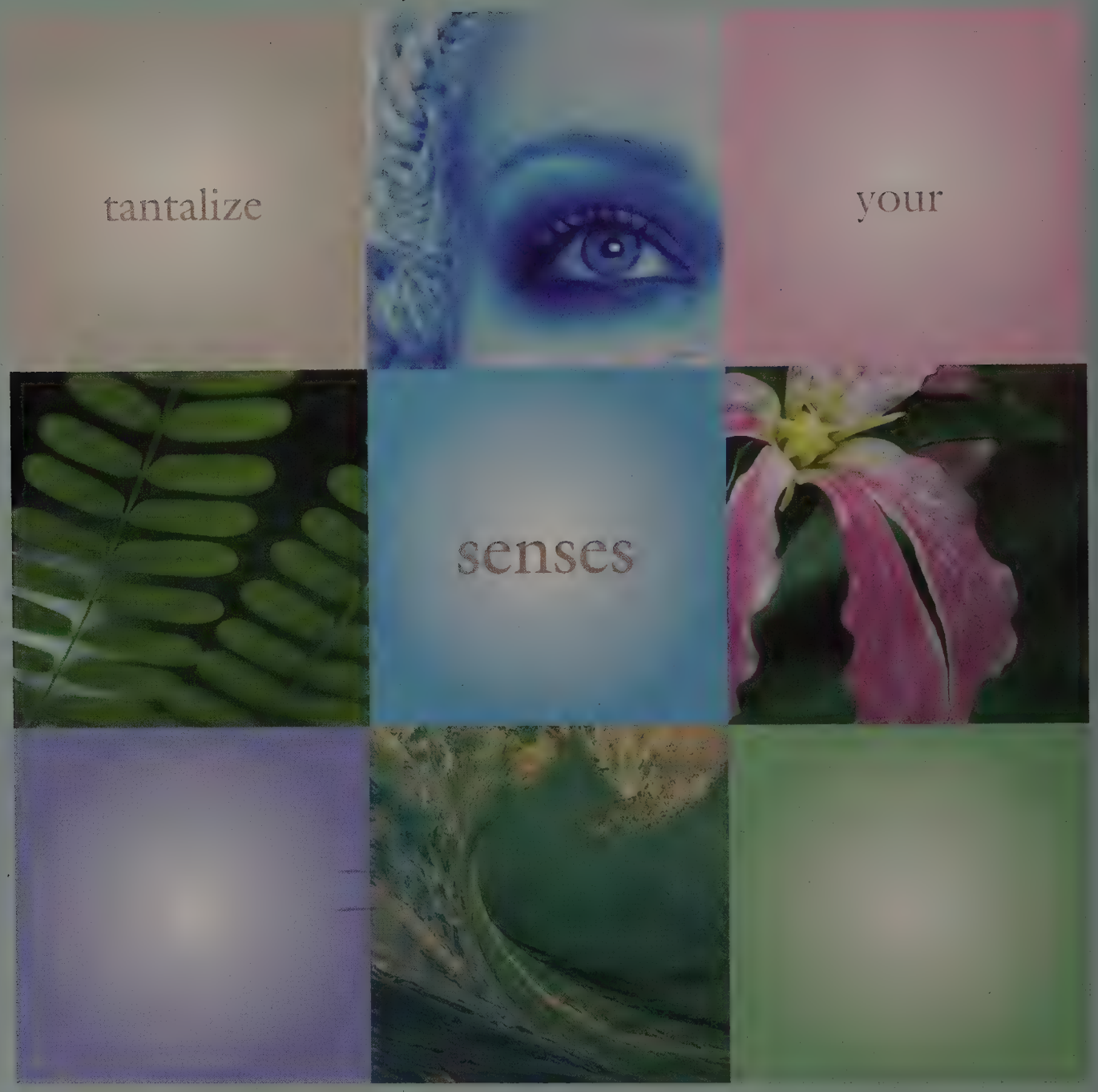
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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR



WON NATION

Who better than catcher Jason Varitek, the player who's routinely called the soul of the team and unofficial team captain, to grace the cover of the IMPROPER's first-ever Red Sox tribute issue? In the midst of the Sox' post-Series bliss-out, and his own contract negotiations, Varitek kindly agreed to pose for an issue you'll want to read and stow away for posterity.

Our Sox stories include Ezra Dyer's take on the real meaning of the Series victory, Chris Collins' observations from the press box, and interviews with fans, sportscasters and celebs—plus a closer look at what it's like to be Jason Varitek at this moment in baseball history.

Championship revelry aside, it's time to start thinking about practical stuff like holiday shopping, so we've stocked this issue with tools and inspiration to get you started—five pages of stylish gifts, and a look at what's on local boutiques' shelves this season. Even if you're not much of a shopper, you're probably in a good mood for the task this year.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

SUIT ALORS!

Come on, now! Your latest issue (Nov. 3) had a great opportunity to showcase some of Boston's classically suited hunks, and there you go again…putting some 20-year-old in a $3,000 suit! Not only does he look foolish (page 31 specifically), but in the four-page spread, there wasn't one shot showing the pants! Probably because they needed some alterations, right? Let's focus on reality here—even if you have to go to Zegna to see who's really buying their beautiful suits.

—JULIE MARIE DELANEY
Boston

DOWN WITH FRIVOLOUS REVERIE

Good Lord! John Kerry, a distinguished Bostonian, is up for the presidency in the most seethingly fought national election, and all your staff can muse on is the Red Sox comeback and a freckly, seashell-adorned damsel on your cover (Nov. 3 issue). Now I firmly believe that your publication is just a showcase for trivialities, for the mindless page-riffling of white, heterosexual, fashion-crazy, attention-deficit-stricken T commuters. I should just tear out the Books/Poetry event section and throw the remainder of your magazine in the recycling bin. Wake up! End your frivolous reverie, before the IMPROPER becomes insignificant!

—YUSUF NASRULLAH
Cambridge

UP WITH FRIVOLOUS REVERIE

When baseball has World Series champions that perform in dramatic style and continually refer to themselves as idiots, haven't we found some true improper Bostonians? They have class, style and a healthy irreverence. Some call it magic, some a dream, I call it simply the Best. How about an entire issue devoted to them? It could be entitled Boston's Best, Volume 86, Issue 86, and all kinds of new Best or IMPROPER categories are possible: Best come-from-behind win, best clutch hitter/pitcher, best hairstyle? Thanks for a great magazine.

—CHARLIE METJIAN
Boston

BEN THERE, DONE THAT

I really like your new recurring feature: the Ben Mezrich letters section. Ben's letter (Oct. 20) and Brian Ethan Brandt's response (Nov. 3) were both enjoyable. I do hope you will continue this feature, and publish letters by or about Ben Mezrich in every issue. Consider this my contribution.

—SCOTT STOSSEL
Belmont



YOU HAD A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO SHOWCASE SOME OF BOSTON'S CLASSICALLY SUITED HUNKS, AND THERE YOU GO AGAIN—PUTTING A 20-YEAR-OLD IN A $3,000 SUIT.

—JULIE MARIE DELANEY
BOSTON

CONTRIBUTORS

GREGORY MILLER



Atlanta-based photographer Gregory Miller is enjoying his second year of shooting professionally after studying photography at Portfolio Center. His clients include Georgia Pacific, Snap-on Tools and Manpower Inc. Miller recently shot for *Fortune*, and this issue's cover photo of Jason Varitek is his first work for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN.

ERIC LEVIN



Photographer Eric Levin's work is sold in two galleries in Boston and is part of the permanent collection at Standard and Poor's and other businesses around the city. His work can be seen in "Decking the Shelves," beginning on page 38 and on his Web site at www.elevin.net.

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

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new in town

BIG SMILE

On Nov. 9, the Leather District got another dose of international flavor when chef/owner Ian Just opened the doors to his new Italian restaurant, Sorriso, just a couple of doors down from his bistro Les Zygomates. Although the restaurants are practically side by side, there are some marked differences. Whereas Les Zygomates serves up fancy French fare in elegant surroundings, with live music and a romantic vibe, Sorriso (the name is Italian for "smile") specializes in less expensive rustic Italian cuisine and has a hip, neighborhood feel.

Just says, "In a way it's an extension of what we're trying to do with Les Zyg—bring people to a neighborhood they don't know about yet. This neighborhood is very unique, filled with artists and upwardly mobile professionals." Just also hopes Sorriso will attract more of the neighbors themselves and hopes his relatively low prices will do the trick.


Chef John Paine


Salmon with caponata olive vinaigrette

Local interiors guru Peter Niemitz designed Sorriso's space, occupied most recently by Epiphany and before that Oskar's. The restaurant seats about 150, with a few tables near the entrance and bar area, which was already bustling on Sorriso's opening night, and more in a larger dining room near the back. Exposed-brick walls are adorned with murals of Italian scenes, and the tables are spaced widely, giving the room an open feel. A little pizza bar at the back lets you sit face to face with chefs tossing pizza dough.

Just has enlisted John Paine (from Lumiere, Casablanca and Caprice) as executive chef at Sorriso, and the two have created a menu of seasonal pastas and pizzas, tapas-like dishes and entrées. Appetizers, including white bean and roasted-garlic puree ($5), arancini ($6) and fried calamari with gremolata($8), are easily shared, as are the seafood-heavy antipasto options, like steamed mussels with Sardinian couscous ($8). Other smaller dishes from the *carne* category include Italian cured meats and oxtail and egg ravioli (both $9).

For a *secondi* course, we especially liked the terrazzo steak with roasted brussels sprouts and *patate fritte* ($21), and Just recommends the seasonal baked gnocchi ($14)—a potato gnocchi al Forno, with mushroom and fontina ragu. He's also excited about showing off Sorriso's pizzas, which you can see chefs making at the big brick oven in the back of the restaurant. "I'm such a stickler for thin-crusted pizza," Just laughs. "It shouldn't be droopy and you shouldn't need to use two hands. It wasn't perfect on the first try, but they nailed it." *107 South St., Boston (617-259-1560). www.sorrisoboston.com.*

—Erin Hagedorn

sam says

LASH OUT

False eyelashes tend to conjure up visions of '60s go-go girls, but lately subtle versions of the falsies are making a comeback. As more women discover the eye-opening benefits of faux lashes, makeup companies are finding new ways to create more-natural looking lashes—Madonna and J. Lo are among the celebrities who've been spotted sporting mink tips. My favorites are made by the Japanese beauty line Shu Uemura. They look completely natural and deliver big results. Shu Uemura offers the following tips for applying them:

Step 1: Curl your own lashes.
Step 2: Apply mascara.
Step 3: Apply lash adhesive to the back of the false lashes.
Step 4: Using tweezers, line up the fake lashes with your own lash line and press in gently.
Step 5: Let dry.

For a complete selection, check out www.shuuemura.com.

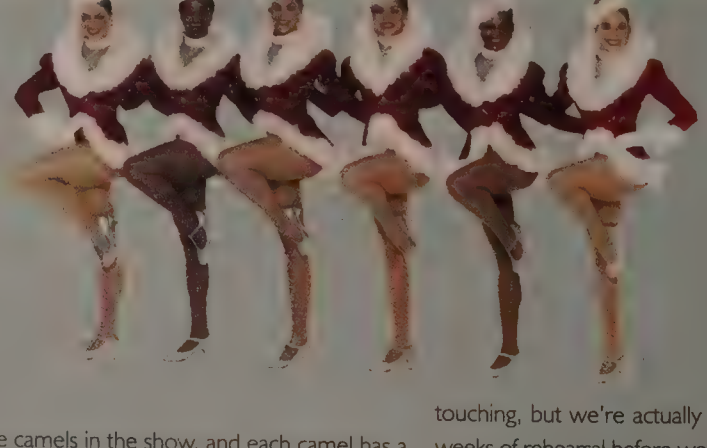
—Samantha House



inner view

A SPECTACULAR ARRIVAL

Since 1933, the Rockettes have been kicking off the holiday season with their legendary Christmas Spectacular at New York's Radio City Music Hall. The show took to the road in 1994, and after 10 years the Rockettes and the Christmas Spectacular make their Boston debut at the Wang Theatre. Veteran Rockette Stephanie Lang, who will be front and center at all 60 productions, took a few minutes to chat with us about high-stepping it on stage before the show's opening, December 2.



IB: *Is being a professional dancer anything like they portray it in* A Chorus Line*?*

SL: Actually it's pretty close. You constantly go to auditions thinking "I hope I get it." Sometimes they keep having you come back, and it can go on for a couple of weeks until they decide who they want. It's nerve-racking, but if you choose the career, that's your job. You have to develop a thick skin for it.

IB: *Have you ever seen a football player miss a field goal and think "I could've hit that?'*

SL: Well, yeah. Actually, when I was in high school, I was on the powderpuff team and I was the kicker. We were a lot closer than a normal field goal line, but still I was able to make it over.

IB: *There are animals on stage for the Christmas Spectacular. Have you ever had a Siegfried and Roy–like encounter?*

SL: No. We have three camels in the show, and each camel has a handler that they know, so they're not going to give someone who's meeting the camel for the first time a leash to lead them around. And the other animals are pretty docile. I mean, it's a donkey, who is on the older side, and then sheep. So the most that would happen is somebody might get their toe stepped on.

IB: *What are the criteria for being a Rockette?*

SL: You have to be at least 18. Five-six-and-a-half to five-eleven is the height. And then proficient in tap, jazz and ballet.

IB: *How long do you have to train before you're allowed to perform as a Rockette?*

SL: If you're a brand-new Rockette, they do what's called rockette boot camp where you learn how to stand on a line and link up when we have our arms on each others backs. And it's actually a secret: You're not allowed to touch. We do what's called feeling the fabric, so it looks like we're touching, but we're actually standing on our own. We have three weeks of rehearsal before we're on stage and it's eight hours a day six days a week, and then we open and that's it. So on top of being a good dancer you have to be really quick on picking up the choreography.

IB: *Is there an aging out-clause in your contract?*

SL: There isn't. You can never be too old. As long as you have the stamina and can do the kicks and everything, you are welcomed in the line

IB: *What do the guys say when you tell them you're a Rockette?*

SL: We walk around in costume when we go to the cities, so everybody's just like "Oh my god. Look at the legs."

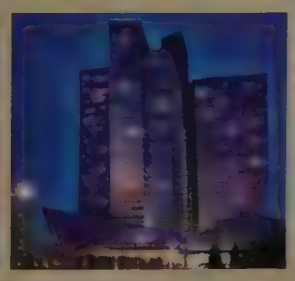
—Jessica Iredale



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tasty tidbits

WHAT A DEAL



Getting Carded... We thought trading cards were as stale as the stick of gum they come with, but SR Media's Chef Cards are a new take on an old concept. Available in packs of 20 (for $4.95) beginning December 1, Chef Cards are marketed as collectible trading cards, and while they don't provide the chefs' height and weight stats, they are emblazoned with your favorite local chef's mug. You don't have to wait for the cards to appreciate; they're immediately redeemable for rewards like free dessert or 10 percent off your check at participating restaurants including 75 Chestnut, Tremont 647, Temple Bar, Bia Bistro and Pho Republique. *www.chefcards.com.*

Jae Walking... Jae Chung, proprietor of popular Jae's restaurant in the South End and Brookline, is opening another location of his pan-Asian eatery in early November, at 711 Boylston Street. Diners can expect Jae's classic menu—a combination of Japanese, Korean and American cuisine—as well as a sushi bar, an extensive sake selection and Chung's signature salt-water aquariums at the new Back Bay locale. *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-236-1777).*

Steaktown, USA... With new steakhouses popping up in Boston about as a frequently as Jude Law movies at the cinema, we weren't surprised to hear a little rustling from one of the Hub's established meat markets. During the second week in October, Fleming's Steak House and Wine Bar expanded its Stuart Street location with a new 40-person dining room. The Vineyard Room is equipped with a window view plus A/V and DSL hook-ups and serves prix-fixe meals (starting at $59). It'll host power lunchers during the week but opens up for public wining and dining on the weekends. *217 Stuart St., Boston (617-292-0808).*

A Decade of Delicious... Although greatest-hits projects don't always live up to the hype, when we heard "greatest hits" and "Jody Adams" in the same sentence, there was no cause for worry. The head chef and owner of Rialto announced this fall that she'll celebrate the eatery's 10th anniversary with a year-long series of seasonal menus highlighting her favorite dishes of the last 10 years. The first fall menu features items like grilled bluefish, seared venison and BBQ pork tenderloin, but you'd better act quickly before other fall favorites take their place. *1 Bennett St., Cambridge (617-661-5050). www.rialto-restaurant.com.*

improper reports

GIFTS FOR A CAUSE

This holiday season give a gift that keeps on giving. The following local retailers stock items that benefit local or national charities.

Alpha Omega

57 JFK St., Cambridge (617-864-1227); Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston (617-424-9030)

The jeweler has teamed up with the Boston Celtics to create a commemorative Celtics logo pin. It retails for $10 and benefits the Celtics' Shamrock Foundation, which supports local youth programs.

The Beauty Mark

33 Charles St., Boston (617-720-1555)

For a variety of gifts-for-a-cause options, try the Beauty Mark. The store donates proceeds from the sale of several small items, including styling products, tweezers and a necklace to breast cancer research.

Filene's

426 Washington St., Boston (617-357-2100), www.filenes.com

Help the Red Sox fan on your list celebrate the 2004 World Series victory with Filenes' exclusive limited-edition crystal commemorative baseball from Waterford ($155). Each piece is individually engraved, and $10 from each purchase goes to the Jimmy Fund at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

Fresh

121 Newbury St., Boston (617-421-1212), www.fresh.com

Beauty enthusiasts will enjoy Fresh's new limited-edition Burnished Earth eye shadow palette ($59). The palette has a combination of six warm fall colors, and 100 percent of the proceeds benefit breast cancer research through Step Up and the Joan English Fund.

Pier 1

Retail locations nationwide (800-245-4595). www.pier1.com

Holiday cards for everyone on your list can also benefit children around the world. The cards ($10–$14 per box of 10) are available in eight different designs, and Pier 1 donates 100 percent of the proceeds to support UNICEF's worldwide efforts on behalf of children's health and nutrition.



Sunny Window's Lavender Gift Set

Sunny Window

(508-485-8132), www.barcc.org

Help support the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center's many programs when you purchase a Healing Lavender Gift Set from Sunny Window. The sweet-smelling package includes an aromatherapy candle, a set of four lavender bags for the dryer and a set of four guest soaps made with pure, essential oils. ($29.95).

Virgin Megastore

360 Newbury St., Boston (617-896-0950)

For the music lover on your list, pick up *In Honor: A Compilation to Beat Cancer* ($12.99). This two-CD set features many previously unreleased tracks by popular bands. Proceeds benefit two cancer-related foundations, the Syrentha Savio Endowment and the Sean McGrath Fund.

—Rachel Baker and Cassidy Stockwell

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

The Next Best Thing... When we heard the former owners of the Financial District sports bar/dance club the Place were opening a new venture called the Greatest Bar, one word came to mind: cocky. But judging from the lines that have formed outside the Friend Street watering hole since its opening last month, they weren't far off the mark. The enormous projection screen over the main bar—and TVs throughout the gigantic four-story space—made it a hot spot during the World Series with the twentysomething set, and its popularity shows no signs of relenting. *262 Friend St., Boston (617-367-0544).*

I Spa... Boston's beauty biz is booming, as evidenced by the arrival of two new spas, both of which hail from New York City's tony Park Avenue.



The MedSpa at 30 Newbury opened this past summer and offers the usual assortment of laser hair removal, Botox, collagen, chemical peels, facials, laser vascular therapy and microdermabrasion. Meanwhile, überspa Exhale, which also has New York outlets on Madison Avenue, Central Park South and in the Hamptons, is prepping for its December opening at the Heritage on the Garden. The 13,000-square-foot space, formerly occupied by Candela, will feature 15 treatment rooms, a mani/pedi bar, tea bar, organic café and "quiet" room, as well as two 1,200 square-foot yoga and Core Fusion studios. *The MedSpa, 30 Newbury St., 4th floor, Boston (617-266-6330). Exhale, 28 Arlington St., Boston (617-532-7000).*

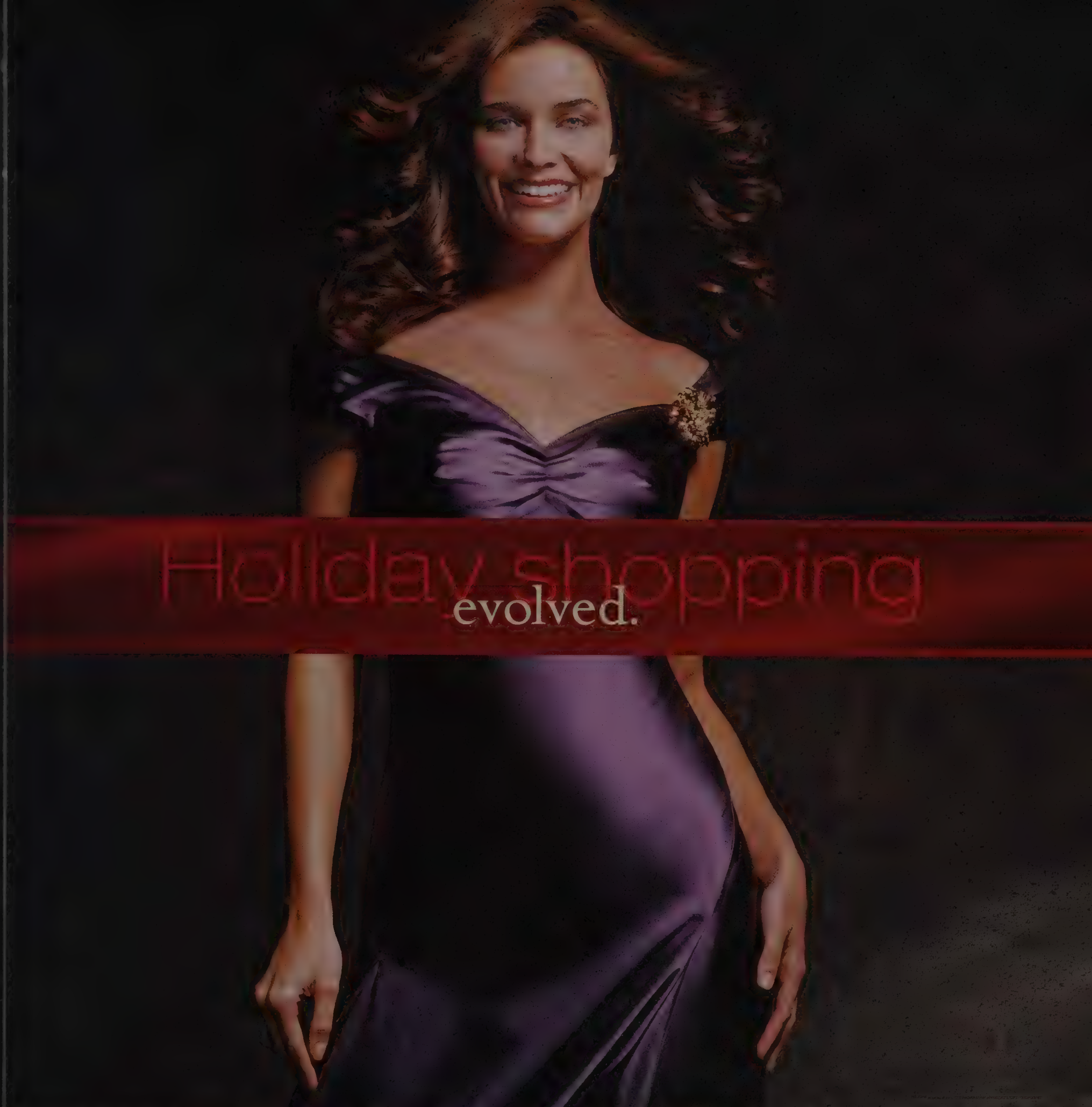
A Tangled Web... There's something to be said for acting as a liaison between America's darkest secrets and the public eye—it can land you a book deal. Jamaica Plain's Gabriel Jeffrey has been posting anonymous confessions on his Web site, www.grouphug.us, since October 2003. Entries range from harmless (One time I wanted a chicken parm sub so badly that I cried) to strange (I hate artists, but I wish I could paint) to too twisted to print here (sex, drugs, bestiality, you name it), and are completely untraceable. Over the past year, millions have posted their naughtiest, queasiest thoughts for the world to see. For your reading pleasure, Jeffrey compiled the best entries (264 pages worth) into one book, *Stoned, Naked and Looking in My Neighbor's Window,* scheduled to hit shelves this month.

Reality to the Rescue... With baseball on hiatus for the next couple of months and the NHL on the back burner, the gang over at NESN had some significant airtime to fill this fall. Enter reality TV. On November 3, NESN premiered *Roughing It,* an unscripted outdoor adventure series. Host Charlie Moore and a group of guests, like former Pats QB Steve Grogan and local comedians Kevin Knox and Frank Santorelli, partake in everything from white-water rafting and hang gliding to dog sledding. Sounds adventurous. But may we suggest upping the stakes a bit with, say, a Sox vs. Patriots steel cage battle royal? Check www.nesn.com for a schedule.

Contain Your Excitement... Boston's tight living quarters require the average city dweller to turn storage into an art form. Fortunately, organization emporium the Container Store has creative storage options to spare. The Dallas-based retail giant, which just opened its 33rd store, in Chestnut Hill, has enough shelving and storage options to keep the editors of *Real Simple* happy for months. From closet to kitchen to laundry room, it's all about numbers: The 27,000-square-foot retail space stocks more than 10,000 items, including 103 types of hangers, 38 tie rack models, 47 styles of laundry baskets, 56 trash can varieties and 14 different paper towel holders. *27 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-566-7400).—E.H., J.I. & Rich Levine*

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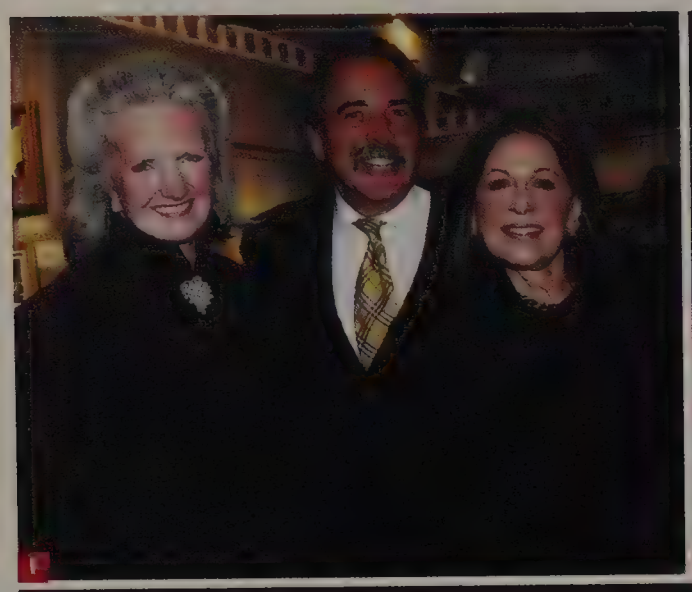
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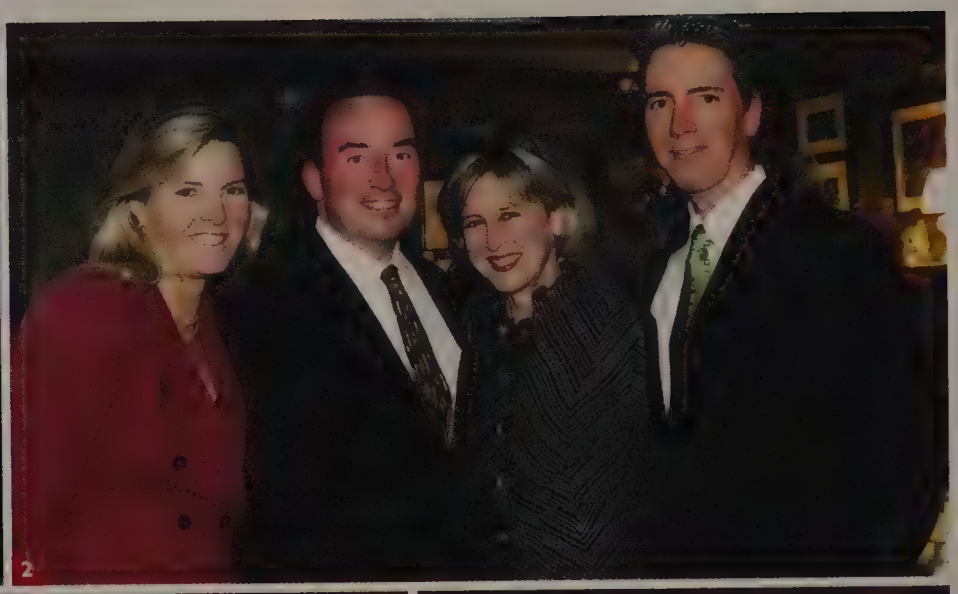
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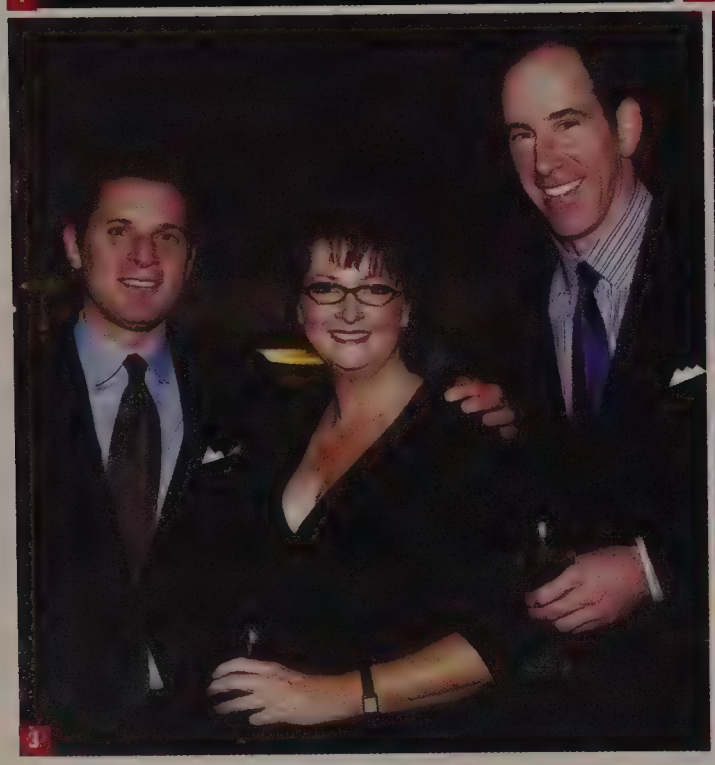
A SIMON Company

PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

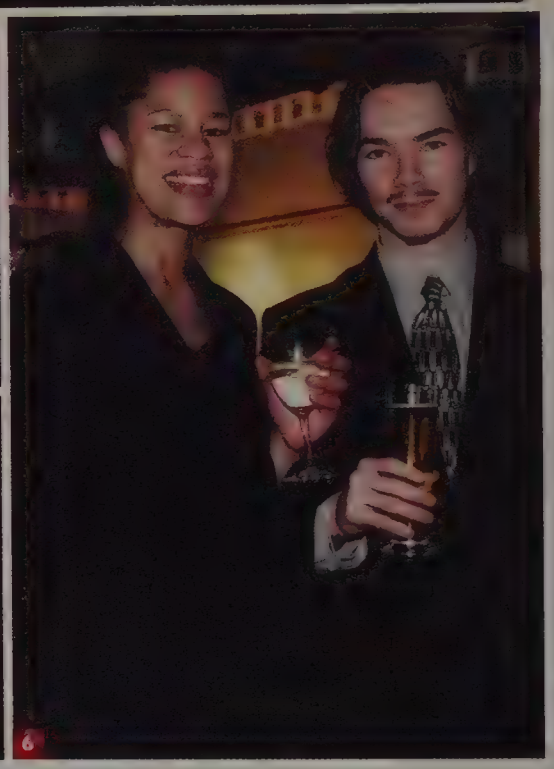












The 45th Ellis Antiques Show Gala Preview Party was held November 3 at the Castle at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel. More than 300 partygoers gathered to celebrate charity, Boston and antiques while raising funds to benefit the Ellis Memorial & Eldredge House, Inc. and Massachusetts General Hospital's support of the Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program.

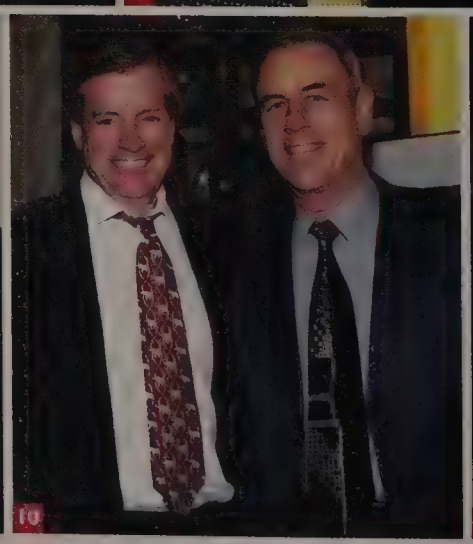
1. **Kathryn O'Connell**, chairman of the Ellis Antiques Show; **Lee Bierly**, co-owner of Bierly-Drake Associates; and **Susan Zises Green**, interior decorator
2. **Linda Pritchard**, insurance appraiser for Chubb & Son; **Bob Curry**, investment banker for KFS; **Nancy O'Connor**, partner at InterContinental Insurance Brokers; and **Tim Devin**, principal and vice president of InterContinental Insurance Brokers
3. **John Debastiani**, interior designer; **Emelie Nixon**, account executive for Scalamandre; and **Curt Alexander**, private investor
4. **Emily** and **Peter Webster**, sales associate and vice president, respectively, for Webster & Co.
5. **Elizabeth** and **Caleb Clapp**, partner at Elkus Manfredi Architects and president of Cushing Development, respectively
6. **Emilie Boone**, events and campaign coordinator for State Street Corp., and **Max Ubelaker**, Spanish teacher at Boston University

The celebration to kick off the year-long **10th Anniversary Commemoration of the New England Holocaust Memorial** took place November 3 at the Parkman House. The memorial was conceived by a group of Holocaust survivors who made new lives in the Boston area. More than 100 guests attended the celebration.











7. **Mark Maloney**, director of the Boston Redevelopment Authority; **Barbara Tyrrell**, managing director of MMA Financial LLC; and **Gill Fishman**, original designer of the commemoration brochure for the New England Holocaust Memorial
8. **Steve Ross**, founder of the New England Holocaust Memorial; **Carol Goldberg**, president of the Avcar Group Ltd.; and **Ira Jackson**, vice president of the New England Holocaust Memorial and senior fellow at the Harvard Center for Public Leadership
9. **Dave Lamere**, CEO of Mellon New England; his wife, **Laura**, co-chair of the 10th Anniversary commemoration; and **Steve Grossman**, president of MassEnvelope Plus of Somerville
10. **Jim Rappaport**, member of Combined Jewish Philanthropies' board of directors and vice chairman of the Boston Fund Inc., and **Alan Eisner**, CEO of Regan Communications
11. **Liz Page**, principal of Liz Page Associates, and **Robert Klein**, owner of Robert Klein Gallery

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ROGER AND ME

You haven't known fear until you've been to a strip club with your girlfriend's dad.

Let's consider the relationship a guy has with his girlfriend's dad. At worst, it can be purely adversarial—he hates you; you're afraid of him. I can sympathize with the plight of the girlfriend's dad, because he, being a guy, knows that men are scumballs. And you're considered a scumball until you prove otherwise by, say, rescuing his daughter from a burning building or marrying her.

That's not to say you can't be friends with Dad of Girlfriend, but even those scenarios involve a measure of fear. Take, for example, one of my high-school friends, who last summer lived in an apartment above his girlfriend's dad's garage. My buddy was friends with the Dad of Girlfriend, Sully, but he was friends with him in the careful way you might be friends with a volatile bear who likes to hang out in your backyard and occasionally eat one of the neighbors.

Physically, Sully made Paul Teutul Sr. on *American Chopper* look like Woody Allen, and he didn't like to take no for an answer. One night when I was visiting, we partied with Sully until 2 am and then went to bed. Around 3 am, Sully bounded up the stairs, turned on the lights, threw beers at us and yelled, "Drink, you pussies!" After satisfying himself that we were awake and imbibing, Sully proceeded to grill my friend on why, after dating his little girl for four years, a ring had still not been produced. This is the toughest Dad of Girlfriend ever, I thought as I sipped my wake-up Budweiser.

My girlfriend's dad, Roger, is also a Harley owner, but that's thankfully the only thing he has in common with Sully. Roger has never awakened me in the middle of the night to demand I drink beer and/or marry his daughter, although he is good at exuding the vibe that he could kill you with his bare hands if he so chose (which might actually be a trait that all Girlfriend's Dads begin developing naturally from the moment they hear "It's a girl!").

Which brings me to my girlfriend's brother's wedding in North Carolina over Labor Day. The night before the rehearsal dinner, the menfolk decided to celebrate the pending nuptials with a trip to Solid Gold, an establishment that is neither a music store nor a jeweler. It was easy to spot the three most well-behaved guys in the strip club: me, Roger and the groom. We were all keeping one another in check, because none of us wanted to look like a dirtbag in front of the others. It was a veritable cold war of strip-club propriety.

It was also completely uncharted territory for hanging out with a girlfriend's dad. Under normal circumstances, you're not supposed to admit to a girl's father that you've ever even been to a strip club. If asked, you'd reply, "Strip club? Is that some sort of steak sandwich?" Now here I was, one chair away from my girlfriend's dad, while between us sat a decidedly topless woman with a name like Buxxxie who was cheerfully explaining the pros and cons of nipple piercing. I responded to this information like I was possessed by Eugene Levy. "Oh, so they go through right there? My, that's sure something, isn't it? That's healthy, miss. You're very comfortable with your sexuality and that's just great. Waitress!" When Buxxxie started propositioning Roger and me for lap dances, I sent her over to the groom, who in turn passed her off on another member of our party like some kind of topless hot potato. None of us were gonna go there.

I've never been as self-aware as I was that night at Solid Gold. I was trying to strike a careful balance between being one of the guys and not being too much of one of the guys. Lap dances were obviously out of the question, and even your standard leering seemed like a no-no. I was like a kid with ADD, never paying attention to any one thing for more than a few seconds. I consumed beers at a furious rate.

> WHEN BUXXXIE STARTED OFFERING LAP DANCES, I SENT HER TO THE GROOM, WHO PASSED HER OFF AGAIN LIKE SOME KIND OF TOPLESS HOT POTATO

Eventually I got a little more comfortable with the situation, as evidenced by the fact that at one point I blurted, "I feel like a perverted high school gym teacher!" Never mind the circumstances. It just came out. I couldn't help it. Roger laughed. Phew.

In the end, I'd recommend going to a strip club with your girlfriend's dad if you get the chance. After all, if you can't look like a prince next to the guys at a strip joint, then even a diamond ring might not save you from a solid gold entry in the scumbag file.

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Soroff ON

MICHAEL WILLIAMS

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Film and television producer Michael Williams is a co-creator of *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy* and last year won an Academy Award for producing Errol Morris' documentary feature film *The Fog of War*. Born in Andover, Williams studied communications at Boston University's School of Film. His numerous credits include the movies *Mermaids*, *Little Man Tate*, *Housesitter*, *Hoffa*, *The Good Son*, *Oleanna* and *Celtic Pride*, as well as such television projects as *The MatchMaker*, *The Wedding*, *Truman* and *Spenser: For Hire*. In 1994, he co-founded Scout Productions, an independent film and television production company. His other projects with director Morris have included the award-winning feature documentary *Mr. Death* and both seasons of the critically acclaimed TV series *Errol Morris' First Person* for Bravo and the Independent Film Channel. In addition to executive-producing *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy* and the teen bedroom makeover show *Knock First*, Williams is the executive producer of the programs *Face Time* and *24w/*. His feature film *Home Before Dark*, meanwhile, won the Grand Prize at the Hamptons International Film Festival. He lives in West Roxbury with his partner, David Collins.

Jonathan Soroff: *I auditioned for* Queer Eye for the Straight Guy. *Give me one good reason why you didn't cast me.*

Michael Williams: You weren't gay enough.

JS: *I'd beg to differ. So since* Queer Eye *went on the air and you won the Oscar, your life must've gone a bit insane. Biggest adjustment you've had to make?*

MW: I used to buy all my clothes at Banana Republic. Now I've been thrown into the world of John Varvatos, or going to Barneys on the weekend.

JS: *Which sort of begs the rudest question of all: Exactly how rich has* Queer Eye *made you?*

MW: Well, we're certainly doing better than before.

JS: *Biggest indulgence since you hit it big? New cars? Major appliances?*

MW: An Italian sofa. NBC gave us a flat-screen TV. I guess one of the biggest indulgences was on one of the rare occasions David and I happened to both be here in Boston, and we wanted to go out for dinner. We said, "Let's go to the South End." We were heading for B&G Oysters, which I love, but they were really crowded, so we went to Hamersley's instead. A year and a half ago, I would've said, "Hamersley's is way too expensive. We can't afford it. That's only for special occasions." So going someplace really nice without thinking about it.

JS: *When was the moment you said, "I've really arrived"?*

MW: Well, this year, we went to the Emmys, the Grammys and the Oscars.

> THE BEST PART OF [*QUEER EYE*] IS THE HUNDREDS OF LETTERS WE GET FROM GUYS SAYING WE'VE HELPED SOMEONE ACCEPT THEIR HOMOSEXUALITY, OR OPENED THEIR EYES IN SOME WAY

That was pretty heady. At the Emmys, people were coming up to us; they knew who we were. Then we went to the Grammys and walked the red carpet and had great seats, and got to watch the best concert in the world and see every star close up. And then we got to the Oscars. David and I arrived in a car, and we got out, and people were screaming. It was crazy. I'm thinking, "Wow, they recognize us!" But then we turned around and saw that Elijah Wood and the Hobbits were right behind us.

JS: Queer Eye *is now an official part of pop culture. Does that make you feel immortal?*

MW: Well, not me personally, but what we've created is immortal. I always knew in my heart that this was going to be a big hit. I had no idea of the phenomenon, but I knew it would be successful. And the best part of that is the hundreds of letters we get from guys saying we've helped someone to accept their homosexuality, or opened their eyes in some way. That, to me, more than ratings or money or anything, is what I'm most proud of.

JS: *If Andy Warhol was right that everyone gets 15 minutes of fame, where's the clock for Carson & company?*

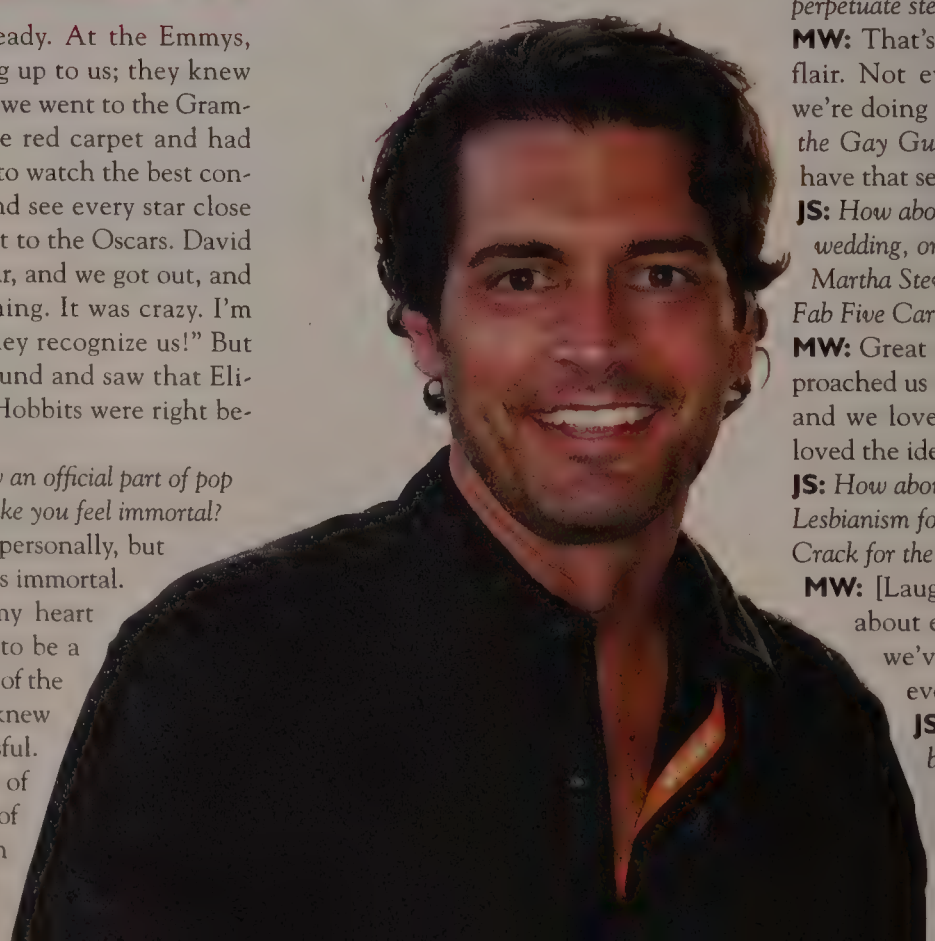
MW: I don't know. I remember last year, in September, someone yelled at one of the guys, "You've got about a minute left!" We'd like to be around for a while. Will we be around for 10 years, like *Friends*? No. But three or four? Maybe. We want to keep it fresh, which is why we're traveling, and having some guest stars come in. If people are still liking it and watching, we'll try to keep it interesting for them, instead of fading out quickly.

JS: *First thought when you learned you were nominated for an Academy Award?*

MW: What should I wear?

JS: *Where do you keep your Oscar?*

MW: For the first month or two I took it from my home to the office every day, but for the past few months it's sorta been in a linen closet next to the liquor bottles.



JS: *Celebrity most in need of a makeover?*

MW: I don't want to be catty.

JS: *C'mon! How about Donald Trump? He could use some help with that bad rug...*

MW: You know, we had dinner at Mayor Bloomberg's house, and the Donald was there, and the Fab Five were sorta looking at this bright orange hair thing and making comments. But, hey, he's the Donald.

JS: *Best way to get onto* Queer Eye*?*

MW: It's not so much trying as having a great story as to why you want to make those changes: I'm going to see my old girlfriend. I have a class reunion. I want to propose. I'm meeting my in-laws. It's not just "I want a room full of free furniture." Something has to be at stake that makes us root for the guy.

JS: *What's the most valuable stuff the guys on the show get?*

MW: Well, a room full of furniture costs a lot of money.

JS: *What's your response to people saying you perpetuate stereotypes about gay men?*

MW: That's crazy. We do have style and flair. Not everyone does, which is why we're doing a special called *Queer Eye for the Gay Guy*. Sure, some gay men don't have that sensibility, but a lot do.

JS: *How about planning Ellen DeGeneres' wedding, or hosting a holiday special from Martha Stewart's jail cell—Martha and the Fab Five Caroling on Cellblock Nine?*

MW: Great idea. Actually, her people approached us about having her on the show, and we loved the idea, and the network loved the idea. The advertisers didn't.

JS: *How about serious spin-off ideas: Lipstick Lesbianism for the Butch Chick? Relax Your Crack for the Uptight Investment Banker?*

MW: [Laughs.] Yeah, we've gotten just about every idea under the sun, and we've been parodied by just about everyone.

JS: *Last question, and I'm begging you: Could you please do something about Rosie O'Donnell? It's getting scary.*

MW: Sure, we'll try and fix that 'do. IB

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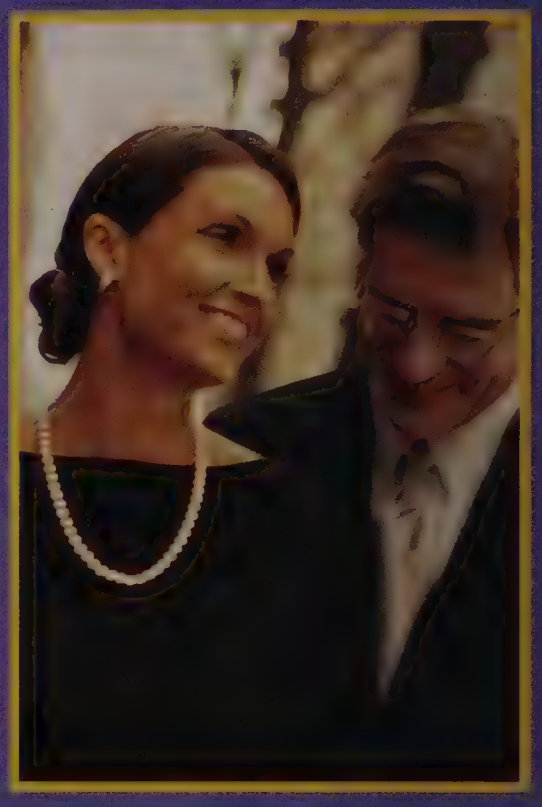
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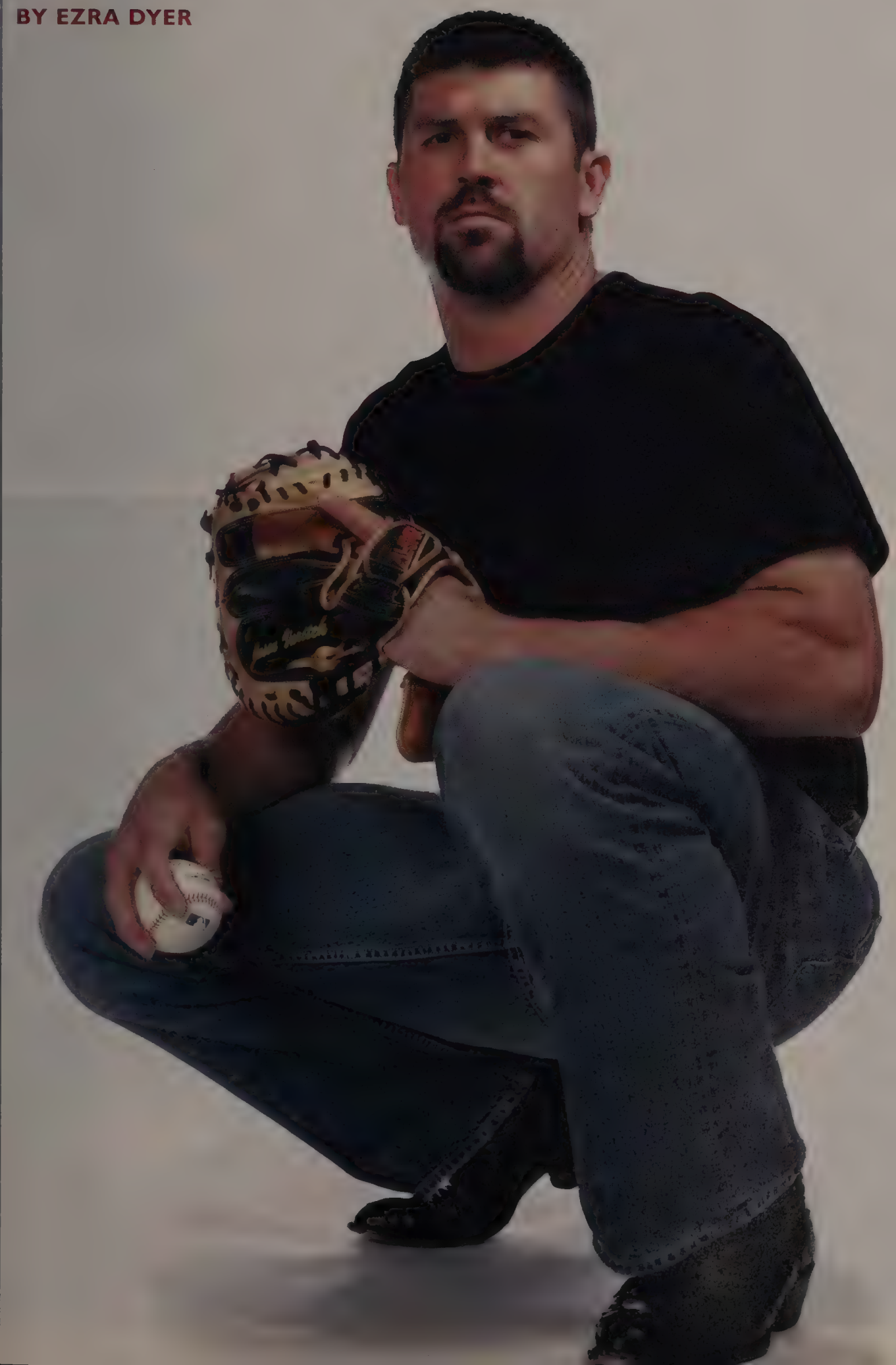
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'TEK SECTOR

BY EZRA DYER



The 2004 Red Sox clubhouse got a lot of attention for its freewheeling ways. But amongst the pranksters, space cases and follicles gone wild, there stood Jason Varitek, the man who ran the game from behind the plate, calmed nervy pitchers and, when necessary, provided a 230-pound incentive for hit batsmen to go quietly to first base without making a detour to assault the battery. He was the crew-cut in a room full of shags—literally—and one of the central reasons that last season's wild ups and downs culminated in a championship.

Along the way, Varitek was tested as much as anyone, particularly in the epic Games 3, 4 and 5 of the ALCS, which lasted a combined 15 hours. Was the man who was crouching behind the plate for nearly all that time completely gassed by the end? "It was probably tougher in Game 3 because our pitching got slaughtered," says Varitek.

It's hard to believe that in the space of barely two weeks, Varitek went from suffering the ultimate front-row view of the Yankees' Game 3 onslaught to gracing the cover of *Time* magazine in a delirious embrace with closer Keith Foulke, captured moments after winning the World Series. Winning the championship brought "pure joy," says Varitek. "Thankfulness. It's a lifelong dream. It's the pinnacle of your occupation. I can't really explain it more than that."

Along the way, he had to corral Tim Wakefield's knuckleball in ALCS Game 5 ("I missed a few balls. It's stressful. But if you never miss any, you're probably not catching many either.") He watched Yankees nemesis Alex Rodriguez get his best comeuppance since Varitek himself stuffed his mitt in A-Rod's face July 24. He switched his pregame headphone music from Eminem's "Sing for the Moment" to Rascal Flatts' "Mayberry." Now that the demons have been slain, does this mean the pressure will be lessened for subsequent Red Sox teams?

"No," Varitek quickly replies. "These fans are going to be as hungry as they ever were, but hopefully they'll be able to lose some of their anxieties. They always expected a World Series, but they expected to get their hearts broken. This will bring more joy to spectating, without that back-of-the-mind hurt that Red Sox fans have had to live with from generation to generation."

As this issue of the IMPROPER goes to press, it remains to be seen whether Varitek himself will be part of the team's future. When I call the catcher at his home in Shawnee, Ga., the first thing he says is, "This is really bizarre, but your voice... You sound exactly like our general manager." As we near the end of the interview, I put forth a scenario that both Varitek and Red Sox Nation would like to see unfold: "Since I sound just like Theo, see how this sounds: 'Jason, we'd like to offer you a five-year contract...'"

"Out*standing*," he replies.

Let's hope that whatever the final terms, Varitek gets to say that same thing to the real Theo. IB

SEASON IN THE sun

THE RED SOX MAY HAVE DEFEATED ST. LOUIS IN THE WORLD SERIES, BUT THOSE FOUR GAMES WERE REALLY ABOUT ALTERING THE POWER BALANCE WITH NEW YORK FOREVER.

BY EZRA DYER

For a little while this October, it was looking like Vegas got burned. Red Sox fans everywhere had groaned at the start of the season when oddsmakers proclaimed the Sox favorites to win the World Series, and after ALCS Game 3 against the Yankees it appeared the wiseguys had underestimated the team's capacity to disappoint. Sure, they looked solid on paper, but there were intangibles not to be dismissed. What if Manny dropped a crucial fly ball during the pennant race because he was daydreaming about unicorns? What if Pedro threw out his back picking up his 28-inch friend, Nelson De La Rosa? What if third base coach Dale Sveum had to drive the team bus for some reason, and he got in a huge accident by running a red light? Most importantly, what about the fact that the Red Sox clubhouse carried the emotional mass of an 86-year championship drought? Mass creates its own gravity, and in the Red Sox's case, bad luck historically came crashing down from the ether in critical situations, like a Russian satellite landing on your Sunday picnic. Inept fielding. Inept managing. Unlikely clutch heroes on the other team. If the Red Sox were a country song, they'd be a sad ballad about a woman who done left and took the truck, the dog and the last tin of tobacco with her.

"Next year we'll do it," we'd say each fall. But in past seasons, that mantra recalled the scene in *Liar Liar* when Jim Carrey's son says, "My teacher tells me beauty is on the inside," and Carrey replies, "That's just something ugly people say." For 86 seasons, "This is the year" was just something Red Sox fans said.

But beginning with Kevin Millar's ninth-inning walk against Mariano Rivera in Game 4 against the Yankees, the smoldering ember of hope that this might *really* be the year caught a faint draft and sent up a thin wisp of smoke. Either that or the smoke was coming off pinch runner Dave Roberts' cleats as he stole second base. The Yankees had him under closer watch than Winona Ryder in *Recordtown*, but Roberts, his back leg cocked at almost a 90-degree angle, took off so fast that by the time he got to second, crash test dummies everywhere were wincing at the sheer G-forces involved. Then came Bill Mueller's single—the game was tied and I knew that I'd be staying up late be-



Ezra and pals at the Rack wave the Sox on to victory against the Cards in Game 4.

A crowd celebrates the Red Sox World Series victory outside the 109 Brookline bar on Brookline Avenue.



Fans watch ALCS Game 7 at Cornwalls.

cause the Sox can never, ever, simply come back and win in the bottom of the ninth. I assumed they'd flirt with victory for a couple of innings before sending me to bed at 1 am with the sour taste of a season-ending extra-innings loss—nay, sweep—in my mouth. But this time, David Ortiz ended the game with a walk-off home run in the 12th. This Is the Year was still alive. Vegas was not yet proven wrong.

But even if you watched that game, how many Red Sox fans honestly thought the Sox had a chance to do anything but save face? I watched it mostly by myself. There were no parties for Game 4. My attitude was that if there were only going to be one more Red Sox game this year, then damn if I wasn't gonna watch it. But the whole "We believe" mantra? At that point I believed that Hideki Matsui might become the first player to hit .982 in the postseason. I believed that Randy Johnson had put on a Jon Leiber costume for Halloween and was now pitching for the Yankees. I believed Gary Sheffield had developed a superhuman ability to read pitches by observing reflections off his mustache. I believed Denis Leary's pregame prognostication that the Yankees would beat the Red Sox, and the Cardinals would beat the Yankees (taking grim satisfaction in that second part).

Then came Game 4. Then Game 5. Then Game 6—each time, the next day's TV schedule amended with the clause "if necessary."

Well, those games were necessary, in so many ways. Theo's moves validated. Curt Schilling redeemed. Terry Francona's lineup stubbornness rewarded by Mark Bellhorn and Johnny Damon. The Yankees mortalized forever. The American League Championship Series had more riding on it than a trip to the World Series. The 2004 ALCS was about the future of hope in Boston. Every year, Fort Myers is filled with optimism, but how would we have gotten our hopes up next spring if *this* team couldn't win? If you can't win with Schilling and Martinez on the mound, Keith Foulke in the bullpen, a lineup anchored by two .300 hitters with 40-plus home runs, and a bench so deep that your backup catcher has a .525 slugging percentage, what the hell are you going to do to win next time? Where's the hole to fill? What move could Theo pull in the offseason that would make us say, "*Now* we're all set"? According to the pattern of history, we'd sign Carlos Beltran and get [illegible] cited for a day or two before Steinbrenner countered with Barr[illegible] plus, for good measure, Bo Jackson, who would come out [illegible]

"Where Fox played up the history between the Sox and Yankees during the ALCS, during the World Series they were reduced to showing graphics like the one pointing out that 1918 was sure a long time ago."



and hit 45 home runs, since that's what washed-up veterans do for the Yankees.

But for once, after seven games and so much stress that my liver is the new Green Monster, the Sox advanced to the World Series.

This wasn't last year's team. Last year, Manny got in trouble for coming to the plate to Styles' "I Get High." This year we had Keith Foulke running out of the bullpen to Danzig's "Mother," which features the cheery lyrics,

"If you wanna find hell with me
I can show you what it's like
Till you're bleeding!"

And you thought Mariano Rivera's "Enter Sandman" routine was menacing.

Last year we had Grady Little pulling the strings, or rather, not pulling the strings. This year we had Terry Francona, who totally rocked (back and forth, especially during tense games). Last year we had an imperative, Cowboy Up; this year we had a rhetorical question, Why Not Us? Last year Derek Lowe was an unpredictable head case who could either give up six runs in the first inning or throw a shutout. This year...OK, so not everything was different.

When the World Series started, the games had a feeling of denouement, an aftershock to the earth-rendering quake of the ALCS. There was just nothing sinister about the Cardinals. Where Fox played up the history between the Sox and Yankees during the ALCS, during the World Series they were reduced to showing graphics like the one pointing out that 1918 was sure a long time ago. Granted, the Sox had a couple of long-ago World Series losses at the hands of the Cardinals, but the 2004 World Series was still about New York, not getting revenge for 1946 and 1967. It was about ensuring that Yankees fans have to make new signs next year, come up with new chants, bow down to the champs. We wanted to beat the Cardinals, sure, but we wanted to beat them so New Yorkers would get no leeway to claim the American League pennant had been stolen by a fluke streak of luck.

As the Sox neared victory in the final game of the World Series, my friend Andy pontificated on the meaning of the triumph: "New York is a miserable place," he said. "People live there only because they have to. Boston's the better city—where would you rather live? But New Yorkers were always able to throw the Yankees in our faces. Now we not only have the better city, we've got the better team too."

Who'd have thought a Red Sox fan would ever sound that confident, and before the last game of the World Series had even ended, no less? Being on the winning side of the scoreboard is a pretty sweet feeling. I think I could get used to it. If I ever miss rooting for an epically maligned loser, I can always move to Chicago iB



Fans outside Faneuil Hall celebrate the Sox' series sweep.

CURSING OUT THE BABE

BY RICH LEVINE

In the past, bad luck and questionable decisions had been the calling cards of the Red Sox. But in 2004, everything came up Boston

October 2, 1978
One-game playoff for American League Eastern Division title, vs. Yankees
Light-hitting Yankees shortstop Bucky Dent (who had hit .120 in the previous 20 games) comes up in the 8th inning and hits a seemingly weak fly ball to left field. The ball gets a little boost from the wind (and possibly the Babe) and somehow falls over the Green Monster for a three-run homer. Yankees win game 5–4, go on to sweep the Los Angeles Dodgers in the World Series.

October 15, 1946
World Series Game 7, vs. Cardinals
Cardinals outfielder Enos Slaughter goes from first to home on a base hit to left field after normally slick-fielding shortstop Johnny Pesky hesitates on his relay throw home. Cardinals win game and series by a 4–3 margin.

October 17, 1999
ALCS Game 4, vs. Yankees
On a crucial play, umpire Tim Tschida, with his head up his ass, fails to see that Yankee second baseman Chuck Knoblauch misses a tag on Sox baserunner Jose Offerman by about 19.18 feet. Sox lose game and series.

October 25, 1986
World Series Game 6, vs. Mets
Red Sox first baseman Bill Buckner commits his first and only error of the World Series, but his inability to field the routine ground ball enables the Mets to complete an improbable comeback and gives Sox bashers 18 more years to gloat, after the Sox lose the game and, two days later, the series.

October 16, 2003
ALCS Game 7, vs. Yankees
With a three-run lead heading into the 8th inning, Sox manager Grady Little decides to leave a worn-down Pedro Martinez in the game. Yankees come back, Sox lose series and Little joins the likes of Buckner and Harry Frazee as guys who you can bet won't have their own bobblehead day at Fenway.

October 19, 2004
ALCS Game 6, vs. Yankees
Relatively light-hitting Red Sox second baseman Mark Bellhorn (who had hit .129 in the 2004 playoffs to that point) comes up in the 4th inning and hits an opposite-field line drive that barely clears the left field wall of Yankee Stadium, giving Boston a 4–0 lead. Sox win game 4–2, go on to win ALCS and World Series.

October 26, 2004
World Series Game 3, vs. Cardinals
Normally sick-fielding left fielder Manny Ramirez and first baseman David Ortiz each throw out would-be run scorers, including pitcher Jeff Suppan, who unlike Slaughter was unable to go even from third to home. Sox win game and series.

October 19, 2004
ALCS Game 6, vs. Yankees
On a crucial play, umpire Randy Marsh calls Alex Rodriguez safe after he karate chops the ball out of Bronson Arroyo's glove. Umpires convene, reverse call and possibly the curse. Sox win game and series.

October 23–24, 2004
World Series Games 1 and 2, vs. Cardinals
Red Sox first baseman Kevin Millar commits his first and only error of the World Series—followed by seven more by his teammates over the next two games—enabling the Cardinals to do absolutely nothing. The eight errors in two games set a World Series record, but the Sox win both games and the series.

October 26, 2004
World Series Game 3, vs. Cardinals
With a four-run lead heading into the 8th inning, Sox manager Terry Francona decides to take a worn-down Pedro Martinez out of the game. Mike Timlin and Keith Foulke get the job done, Sox win the game and series, and Francona joins the likes of Bill Belichick and Red Auerbach as guys who you can bet won't ever have to pay for another drink or meal in Boston.



Amy Beedle of Somerville and Martha Gaudrea of Hartford, Conn., at the Red Sox celebration October 30



Watching the Sox parade on Boylston Street

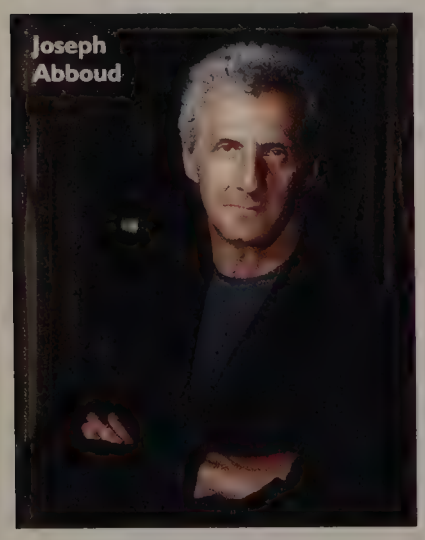


One fan gets carried away as the Sox celebration hits the Charles

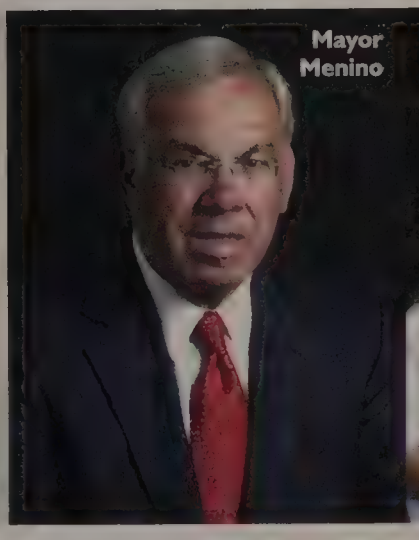


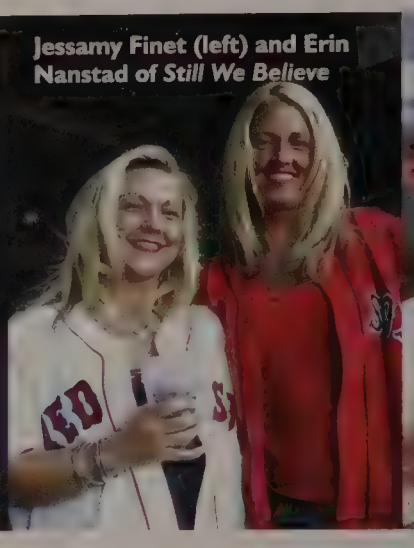
The parade moves down Tremont Street

LET'S TALK ABOUT SOX


Joseph Abboud


Dane Cook


Mayor Menino


Jessamy Finet (left) and Erin Nanstad of *Still We Believe*


Jim Lonborg

Question #1: *What was your highlight of the 2004 season?*

Bill James, baseball guru/Sox adviser: Foulke to Mientkiewicz, 1–3.

Bob Neumeier, sports radio host: Forty-five minutes after Game 4, when all the fans who made the trip to St. Louis gathered around the Sox dugout cheering "Thank You, Red Sox."

Joseph Abboud, fashion designer: Coming back from destruction and climbing Mount Everest to beat the Yankees. The baseball gods have had enough of George Steinbrenner.

Dan Shaughnessy, *Boston Globe* columnist: Still being alive when it ended, I suppose. Sitting at the keyboard and writing a Page One story about an 86-year quest ending.

Johnny Pesky, Red Sox legend: I'd say winning the wild card because without that, none of this would have possible.

Bill Simmons, ESPN.com columnist/Boston Sports Guy: Attending Games 4 and 5 of the Yankees series at Fenway, the two greatest baseball games I've ever seen, and they happened within 20 hours of each other. My runner-up was the day Cesar Crespo was sent down to the minors.

Mayor Thomas Menino: The way the Sox played as a unit. These guys exemplified teamwork.

Bill Lee, former Red Sox pitcher: Watching the Sox beat the Yankees from a bar in Maui. All four games were just thrilling. It was so exciting to see them come back from the dead, like Lazarus.

Edward Cossette, www.bambinoscurse.com: You can't top the simple toss to first from Foulke that gave the club their first World Series in 86 years.

Dane Cook, comedian: Schilling, pitching hurt in the ALCS. What he did was miraculous. I hope they make a statue with a bloody foot for the guy.

Erin Nanstad, fan featured in *Still We Believe—The Red Sox Movie*: Being at Fenway for the Game 5 victory over the Yankees.

Hazel Mae, NESN sports anchor: For me, the highlight was getting called up from Toronto to join Red Sox Nation!

Question #2: *Most satisfying series victory, Yankees or Cardinals?*

Bill James: Of course there's a lot of history around the Yankees, but nothing beats the World Championship. That's the big one.

Joseph Abboud: After living in New York City since 1981, it was great to be able to shut the Yankee fans up, but nothing was more gratifying than the World Series.

Bob Neumeier: Yankees, just because you hate them, or maybe just envy them as rivals.

Bill Simmons: Yankees. No question. I knew the Cardinals were going down after they choked away Game 1. The comeback against the Yankees was the greatest comeback of all time, combined with David vs. Goliath (if David has a $120 million payroll).

Edward Cossette: The Cardinals victory became more satisfying because it came after that oh-so-satisfying ALCS.

Dan Shaughnessy: You had to beat the Cardinals to lift the Curse of the Bambino, but you had to beat the Yankees to get there, and that was one for the ages.

David Littlefield, Sausage Guy: Without question, beating the Yankees. I'm thrilled that we had to go through them to win the World Series. It wouldn't have been the same any other way.

Jim Lonborg, former Red Sox pitcher: The Yankees. I had no animosity toward the Cardinals. When they beat us [in 1967] they were the better team, just as the Red Sox were the better team this year.

Jessamy Finet, fan featured in *Still We Believe—The Red Sox Movie*: The Yankees series was more exciting, but nothing could beat sweeping the Cardinals and knowing that we had finally won it all.

Mayor Menino: The Yankees. There was so much intensity. There are only about four Cardinals fans in Boston—the Yankees were the team that we worried about.

Hazel Mae: No question, the Yankees. You have to revel in any form of doom-and-gloom that's bestowed upon them.

Question #3: *Where were you when the Sox won the World Series?*

Bob Neumeier: I was in the WEEI radio booth behind longtime Red Sox play-by-play guy Joe Castiglione. It was great because I knew how much it meant to him and everyone who grew up in New England after all the near misses.

Joseph Abboud: I was at home in New York wearing my Nomar T-shirt [Garciaparra is a friend of Abboud's], a Ted Williams hat and a Curt Schilling wristband. I had all my bases covered but wasn't exactly the picture of fashion.

Bill Simmons: At my house writing a running diary of the game for ESPN.com. Not exactly how I imagined it growing up, but I wanted to have a column that people could reread 20 years later and think, "Oh, I remember when that happened." I ended up getting drunk, anyway.

Jessamy Finet: I had taken a flight to Chicago that day, drove down to St. Louis and got to Busch Stadium just in time for the game.

Edward Cossette: Where I was for all the playoff games; at home, splitting time between the couch, pacing the floors, jumping up and down or laying in the middle of the road hoping to get run over.

Bill Lee: In a bar full of Red Sox fans in Mesa, Ariz. One guy took all his clothes off and streaked through the bar when they won.

Erin Nanstad: I called in every favor imaginable, got really lucky and was able to get down to St. Louis for the game.

Johnny Pesky: It was too important for me not to see it in person, so I grabbed a flight to St. Louis so I could be there when they won.

Dane Cook: I was there when the Red Sox won the World Series! The night before the game I got a message from a hookup in St. Louis. I called my dad, who still lives in Arlington, Mass., and told him, "We're going to watch the Red Sox make history, Pops."

Question #4: *What do you think the Red Sox' top priorities are this off-season in regard to their potential free agents?*

Bill James: From my standpoint, our priority is to act logically in the midst of an emotional whirlwind.

Bob Neumeier: I'd be satisfied with Varitek and either Pedro Martinez or Derek Lowe. Replacing two pitchers of that caliber through free agency is almost impossible.

Bill Simmons: They should bring back the main guys: Pedro, D-Lowe, Cabrera and Varitek. We won the World Series and the owners made about a kajillion dollars. If any team deserves to be kept together, it's that one.

Jessamy Finet: I'm going to have to stick with Derek Lowe because I'm a huge fan. But where would the great pitching be without Varitek?

Bill Lee: They're going to sign them all. I'm holding a meeting with the team next week where I'm going to convince them to run a socialist ball club.

Joseph Abboud: This is like asking me to choose my favorite child, but I think Varitek is key. I have total faith that ownership will make the right moves.

Johnny Pesky: I'm a real Lowe guy, I'd keep him under any circumstances after what he did for this team in the playoffs.

David Littlefield: In one word, Varitek. An incredible leader and, I feel, the Sox' backbone.

Dane Cook: I don't pretend to know what works best. But I'm sure that George Steinbrenner is probably going to try to get the Lord to pitch for him next year.

Erin Nanstad: I have a hard time choosing just because I become so dedicated to every guy on the team. But I do have every Jason Varitek jersey ever made for a reason. iB

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SEEING IS BELIEVING

The Red Sox players expected to win all along, even if much of Boston thought they were going to make idiots of us again.

Packing my bags the morning of Monday, October 4, I really had no idea what was going to happen. Well, that's not entirely true. I figured, in the end, it would probably be something resembling two trains crashing head-on.

As always, the Patriots had won the night before. Pats Hall of Famer Steve Nelson was my football guest on NECN that night, and as it turned out, it would be the last time I said the word "football" for a month. How's that possible when the hometown team is by far the best team in the NFL and spends the next three weeks extending its record-setting winning streak? The reason can only be described in two words: Red Sox.

The playoffs started out atypically. I ran into a bunch of the players—Trot Nixon, Tim Wakefield, Johnny Damon, Derek Lowe and Mike Timlin—the night before Game 1 in Anaheim at a local steakhouse. It struck me how surprisingly relaxed everybody was, but earlier that day at the team workout, Johnny Damon had informed me that this group is too dumb to have emotions like nervousness.

Regardless, I asked the group if they were ready. They all laughed before D-Lowe said, "We'll probably do what we always do. Get the Angels right where we want them and drop the first two games of the series." Everybody at the table nodded their heads and agreed.

Though the comments were made in jest, the feeling I came away with that night was unequivocal. Those players thought they were the best baseball team in the world.

The Anaheim series seems so long ago, but it will always be remembered as the series where David Ortiz, aka "Big Papi," started his assault on the moniker of "Mr. October," or shall I say "Señor October," a modern-day Sultan of Swat with a flair for the dramatic.

Three quick wins capped off by Señor October's walk-off home run, and it was on to what every red-blooded New Englander had waited 12 months for: a date with the Yankees.

After a pit stop in Boston, I traveled to Yankee Stadium not feeling too well. Memories of 2003 and Game 7 were fresh. I kept telling myself the Red Sox didn't blow a 5–2 lead, in the eighth inning, in *Game 7* of the American League Championship Series.

But as I stepped into Yankee Stadium for the first time since that awful April Fools' joke of October 2003, the sight of that damn 2003 American League pennant was a constant affirmation that it was no joke. The 2003 ALCS was an early Halloween with no treats, just a bad trick.

After picking the Red Sox to win the ALCS last year and remembering how angry I was at the entire world upon the completion of that series, I vowed that I'd never be fooled again. So what did I do this year? I gave my best Don King impersonation and told anyone who would listen that the Red Sox were better than the Yankees and they wouldn't need seven games to right all that was wrong in the world. Six games, at most, and on to the World Series, I proclaimed.

Before I knew it, the Red Sox were down 3–0 to the Yankees, and three outs away from seeing their season end miserably again. Three outs from making me look like an idiot...again.



David Ortiz was "Señor October" in the 2004 playoffs.

THREE QUICK WINS AND IT WAS ON TO WHAT EVERY NEW ENGLANDER HAD WAITED 12 MONTHS FOR: A DATE WITH THE YANKEES.

But that scene in the Anaheim steakhouse came back to me. The Red Sox had a saying in the clubhouse after golfer Phil Mickelson, a constant runner-up in the big tournaments, finally won the Masters this past spring. They said if Mickelson can win, why not us? Mickelson was considered the best golfer in the world never to win a major. And we all know the Sox owned the equivalent status in baseball.

Before the start of ALCS Game 4, a couple of things struck me. I was sitting in the dugout with some of my contemporaries in the media, in a miserable mood, when Johnny Damon came in whistling a tune before asking, "Why is everyone so down?"

Is this guy nuts, I thought to myself? Then I remembered who I was dealing with. Yes, JD is nuts.

Another memorable scene was Red Sox first baseman Kevin Millar jawing with a Yankee broadcaster. The boisterous and always entertaining Millar (he really should do stand-up in the off-season) was screaming across the field, "You know the toughest game of the series is the clinching game. After we get that one we've got Pedro coming back tomorrow, after that it's Schilling in Game 6. Then on to Game 7 when anything can happen."

When Millar stopped walking, I cornered him at the batting cages and asked him if that was really his plan. He snapped, "Guaranteed."

Underneath the comedy skit, Millar made cogent points. The series really wasn't over, and soon, the pressure was on the Yankees. And remember, when he said these things, nobody was sure if Schilling would even be able to pitch, never mind beat the Yankees. Millar, we later found out, was right about many other things, like Ortiz in October and those damn Yankees not being able to seal the clinching game. Before you could say "1918," the Red Sox had done everything Millar said they would do and tied the series.

Before Game 7, I stood on that same field, the one I stood on about this time last year with such angst and disbelief. But something had happened prior to this Game 7 evening. Since Game 4, the breaks and questionable calls had suddenly gone the Red Sox's way. And when Game 7 came, they didn't beat the Yankees—they obliterated them. I stood in the clubhouse with Ortiz, who was holding onto the ALCS MVP trophy, thinking, "My God, the Red Sox won Game 7."

Before I'd signed off the air of my NECN broadcast I had no less than 20 calls from friends and family looking for World Series tickets. I can only imagine how many calls Señor October got.

I'd never been to a World Series, professionally or privately, but like everyone who grew up in New England, I knew a dozen or so people who claimed they were at Game 6 of the 1975 World Series and saw, live and in-person, Carlton Fisk's home run in extra innings. Now it was my turn, after six years of covering sports in Boston. I was ready to witness history.

Two quick wins in Boston and another early-morning flight—to St. Louis for Game 3 with Pedro pitching—and even the Sox' traditional bad World Series karma couldn't stop this steamroller. I went on the air after the Game 3 win with a broom in hand declaring the Sox would sweep the Cardinals the next night. I'd quit laughing at Millar's claims because now they finally made sense (and that in itself was a revelation—Millar making sense).

Of course, after the broom routine the hate mail started clogging up my e-mail account. Beat-up members of Red Sox Nation said I was jinxing the team. I understood their concerns, but after witnessing every single playoff game in person, nothing was going to alter my optimistic mindset.

This time, the team celebrating at the end of October was our team. New England was starving for a World Series title and finally, after 86 years and endless taunts of "1918!" emanating from metropolitan New York, it was all over.

The Red Sox are world champs. I know it happened, I saw it happen, but I'm still not sure I really believe it. IB

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

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this holiday season,

give the gift of...

BY SAMANTHA HOUSE

PHOTOGRAPHS BY OLIVIA GATTI



2 kingly kitsch



3 stunning sterling



cool cases

1. If the $500 dress is beyond your budget, you can still give a little luxury with these cashmere scarves from Marc Jacobs, available in loads of colors and great for men and women. *$110 each, 81 Newbury St., 617-425-0707.*
2. Designer Paul Frank channels Elvis in this belt and buckle gift set. *$98 at Market, 558 Tremont St., 617-338-4500.*
3. Handmade sterling silver cufflinks by Boston artist Michelle Mercaldo are originals, just like your favorite guy. *$98 at Michelle Mercaldo Contemporary Jewelry Design, 280 Shawmut Ave., 617-350-7909.*
4. Juicy Couture's super-cool new Ipod covers offer colorful protection for a stylish gal's beloved tunes. *$58 at Bloomingdale's, 55 Boylston St., Newton, 617-630-6000.*



5 picture perfection

6 friendly competition

7 time



8 fine swine

5. Sony's ultraslim Cybershot digital camera makes it easy to capture memorable moments. *$499.95 at Sony Style, Copley Place, 617-859-1407.*

6. Ante up high-rollin' fun with this poker set from the Games People Play. *$186, 1100 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 617-492-0711.*

7. Custom-design a gift watch, choosing the colors for the strap, face and hands, with an optional country flag—the perfect personalized gift. *$85 at www.nikeid.com.*

8. This cute, inexpensive wine opener is a great gift to stock up on. *$5 at Anthropologie, 799 Boylston St., 617-262-0545.*



9 gorgeous gems

10 fresh fragrance

11 spirited sips

9. This luxe necklace with white and green pearls, garnets and 18-karat gold, by Simon Alcantara, makes a striking statement. *$3,150 at Persona Jewelry+, 504 Comm. Ave., 617-266-3003.*

10. Prada Beauty is the newest fragrance from the famed fashion house—ideal for women who worship the label. *$95 at Neiman Marcus, Copley Place, 617-536-3660.*

11. Help a friend toast many holidays to come with this old-fashioned gin decanter and four glasses. *$75 for the set at Posh on Tremont, 557 Tremont St., 617-437-1970.*



12 brilliant bags



14 a clean shave



13 feather fancy



15 tantalizing tips

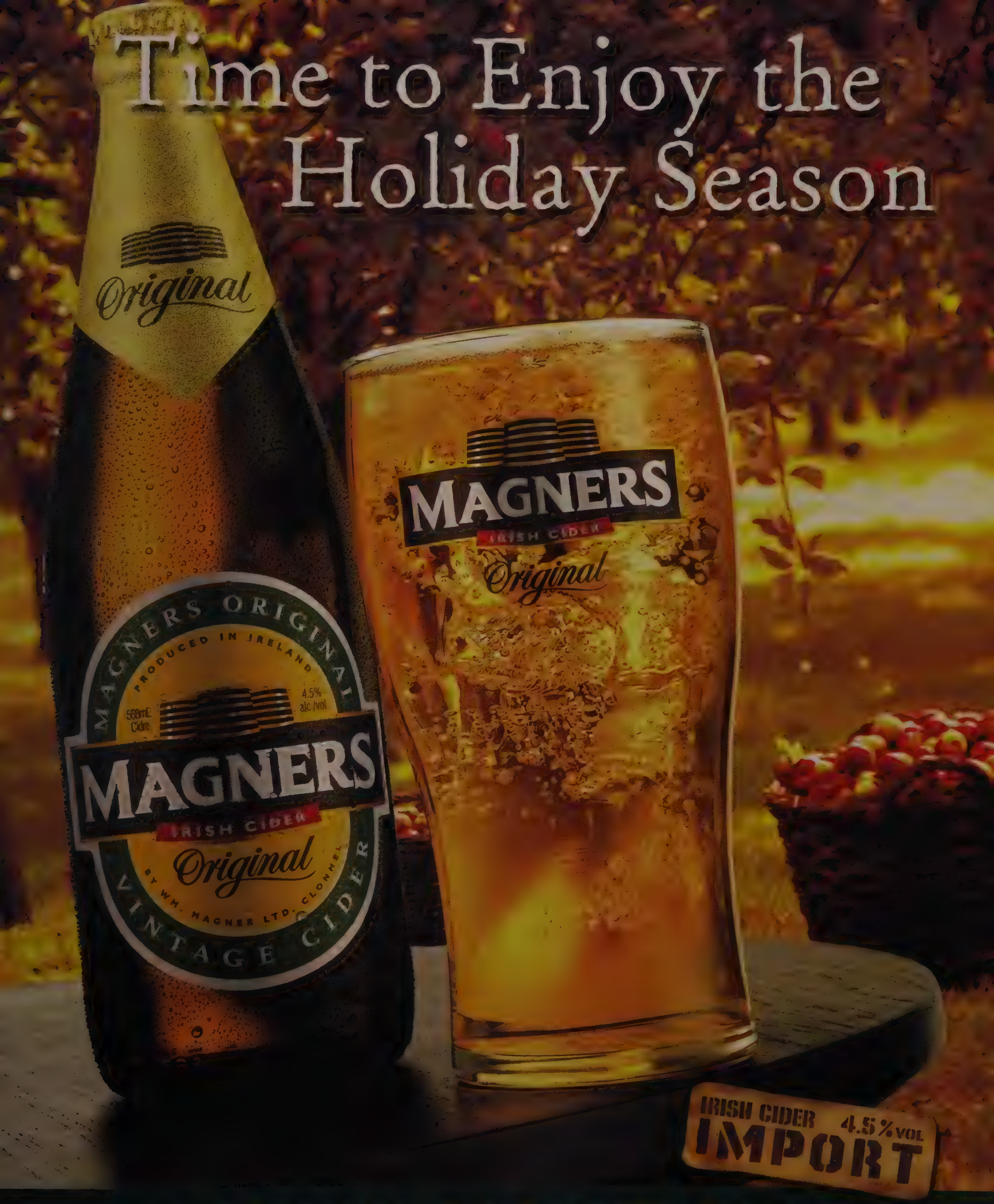
12. Cute and smart clutches by Designers Guild unfold to reveal compartments for all your essentials. *$94 at Linens on the Hill, 52 Charles St., 617-227-1255.*

13. The fashionista on your list will love one of these feather and Swarovski brooches by Gerard Yosca. They come in lots of designs and add oomph to any outfit. *$220 at Saks Fifth Avenue, Prudential Center, 617-262-8500.*

14. Like your man smooth as silk? Splurge on this python and sterling silver shaver and brush set by John Allan. *$625 at Barneys New York, 199 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill, 617-969-5354.*

15. Shower her with precious metal: There's 14-karat gold in every bottle of polish in this remover and five nail polish set from Paul & Joe. *$87.50 at G Spa, 35 Newbury St., 617-267-4772.*

Time to Enjoy the Holiday Season



THE ORIGINAL PINT BOTTLE & ICE

decking THE SHELVES

Local boutique owners give us a preview of what's in store this holiday season.

BY ALICIA ABELL

Your feet hurt, you're hungry and you still can't figure out what to buy for austere Aunt Margaret. If you see one more poncho, you might have to call the fashion police, and—wait, did that woman just cut in line!?

Ahh, 'tis the season... Shopping season, that is. And while we all know what it's like to fight the crowds in the hunt for holiday treasure, have you ever wondered how it is on the other side of the cash register? To find out, we talked to the owners of some of Boston's hippest boutiques. We asked them how they're preparing for the shopping surge, what they're betting will be hot gifts this year and how they feel about the holiday hoopla. Here's what they had to say.



Abodeon carries modern design furniture as well as unique pieces like this lamp made from an old-fashioned hair dryer.




Vintage stapler–bottle opener, at Abodeon.

ABODEON

When asked how he feels about the holiday season, Abodeon's Dale Anderson can't help but laugh. "I'm ambivalent about it," he says. "Before opening this store, I rebelled against the whole Christmas thing, all the money-spending. But now I'm pretty dependent on it. And when the store's full of people, I love it."

So how do Anderson and wife Terri, co-owner of the Cambridge boutique, prepare for the feeding frenzy? The first task is to slowly change the layout of the store: Because it gets so crowded beginning in late November, the Andersons reduce the number of furniture displays, so people can move around more easily. They also modify the lighting, adding wattage as days get darker earlier and the store stays open later. In addition, they save some of their favorite merchandise for December. "We want people to come in and say, 'Wow, look at this,'" says Dale.

Terri came up with the store's name. It's meant to combine the words "abode" and "beyond," and the shop lives up to the moniker. Modern-design furniture and home goods make up most of the merchandise, but attentive shoppers will find plenty of vintage items and one-of-a-kind gifts, like a 1940s stapler with a bottle opener on the bottom ($48) or a 1930s-style hair dryer that's been made into a lamp ($275), as well as unique products like the Morph, a sculptable notepaper pad ($18.50).

In keeping with the vintage theme, Abodeon also boasts a small, discreet record room in a back corner of the store. The nook houses 5,000 or so albums at any one time, mostly jazz and rock from the 1950s and '60s. According to Dale, Joe Strummer, the late former Clash singer, visited Abodeon the week it first opened and said it had the best record collection he'd seen.

If you're looking for a useful gift, Dale recommends bamboo, a popular trend this year. "They now have sustainable bamboo farms in China, and they're making some extraordinary things," he explains. Not only is bamboo harder than most types of wood, it also absorbs less water and is more resistant to bacteria, making it ideal for cutting boards, salad bowls, sushi sets and other kitchen ware. He also thinks Japanese pottery will be popular. For years, Anderson says, there was a distinction between products the Japanese made for export and those they made for the Japanese market. ("Made in Japan" used to be as common as "made in China" is nowadays, he notes.) But that difference is rapidly dwindling, and beautiful, handmade pieces are selling for remarkably low prices—a set of four high-fired bowls can cost as little as $24.

Anderson says Boston shoppers like these types of gifts because "people here are well educated and smart. They're able to discern quality objects from poor materials." Other characteristics of Boston shoppers? Believe it or not, they tend to start their holiday shopping early, he says. "At the least, they're trying to avoid the madness that happens the last two weeks." He does report, however, that one Abodeon regular comes in every year on Christmas Eve, spends 15 minutes picking out several thousand dollars worth of gifts and then says, "Bag it up, and I'll be back in a half hour to pick it up."

1731 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (between Harvard and Porter squares), 617-497-0137. Open 10 am–8 pm daily through Christmas

MATSU

For Dava Muramatsu, owner of this Newbury Street boutique, the best part of the holiday season is that Bostonians have more fun. "People are more open to taking risks in terms of what they're wearing," she says. "All the occasions and chances to dress up… It gives them an excuse to be more daring style-wise."

THE BUYING GAME

A bevy of new shops will shake up your holiday spree.

BY JESSICA IREDALE

Cross

The hunt for stylish accessories for your favorite organization freak ends here. Notepads, designer laptop cases, ribbon-bound journals and Italian stationery are available in kicky color schemes like powder blue–and–chocolate brown, and burnt and day-glo orange. Almost as noteworthy as Cross' stock are the displays, arranged with such painstakingly color-coordinated detail that truly obsessive neatniks and type A's might enjoy browsing here as much as buying. *0 Brattle St., Cambridge, 617-868-7020. Mon.–Wed., 10 am– 7 pm; Thu., 10 am–8 pm; Fri.–Sat., 10 am–9 pm; Sun, 12–6 pm.*

k ko

The latest addition to the South End's smattering of trendy boutiques carries cashmere "tattoo" sweaters by Raw 7, coats and cashmere ponchos, and jeans, bags and jewelry by such hard-to-find designers as How & Wen, Ya-Ya, Yanuk and Kooba. *652 Tremont St., Boston, 617-247-4200. Tue.–Fri., 11 am–7 pm; Sat., 11 am–6 pm; Sun., 12–5 pm.*

Luna

It's high time the god-awful logo bag (you know, the ones covered in tiny G's for Gucci, C's for Coach and LV's for Louis Vuitton) epidemic was wiped out. Newbury Street handbag and accessory boutique Luna packs a hefty dose of high-end labels like Kooba, Buzz by Jane Fox, and Lorelei that just might do the trick. Owner Sarah Johnson strives to stock brands that rival LV and Gucci in quality but aren't quite as standard-issue. *286 Newbury St., Boston, 617-262-3900. Daily, 11 am–7 pm.*

Magic Beans

If nothing else, television shows like *I Love the '90s* and *Best Week Ever* reaffirm the popular obsession with the very recent past. Gen X-ers looking to wax nostalgic over their not-so-distant youth can head to Coolidge Corner's Magic Beans. It looks like a kids' toy store, but owner Sheri Gurock says twenty- and thirty-somethings have been going ga-ga for items like Trivial Pursuit '90s Time Capsule Edition and the new Cabbage Patch Kids and Smurf figurines. *312 Harvard St., Brookline, 617-264-2326. Mon.–Wed., Fri. & Sat., 10 am–7 pm; Thu. 10 am–9 pm; Sun., 12–5 pm.*

Mint Julep

This boutique owned by childhood friends Brooke Garber and Stephanie Nist is perhaps Coolidge Corner's only women's fashion destination. Trendy trappings range from fancy dresses by Helen Wang and Cynthia Steffe to casual and colorful Splendid T-shirts to kitschy Yiddish logo tees ("Oy Vey") by the Rabbi's Daughter. Other must-have brands of the moment include Joe's Jeans, Alice & Olivia, Ben Sherman and Mint. *1302 Beacon St., Brookline, 617-232-3600. Mon.–Sat., 10 am–7 pm; Sun., 11 am–6 pm.*

Remedix

Remedix's all-natural bath and body line might be the first beauty regimen inspired by a Communist regime. Boutique owner Claudia Starkey grew up in Cold War–era Romania where a simple bar of soap was considered a luxury. Instead of waiting around in a bleak beauty haze, Starkey used minerals, ground flowers and fruits from the Transylvanian forest to create her own products. Now she sells her all-natural, handmade potions like Pink Clay facial cleanser, Babassu Butter moisturizing cream, Orange Turbinado Sugar body polish or Rose Petal facial exfoliator at her Newbury Street shop. *279 Newbury St., Boston, 617-437-1155. Mon.–Sat., 10 am–8 pm; Sun., 11 am–6 pm.*

The Ruby Door

Set just off Charles Street, this plucky jewelry and accessories boutique is as charming as its Beacon Hill surroundings. It stocks Miller Grove Designs beaded jewelry and slick leather clutches and handbags from Ply that can't be found in department stores. Among the more unique pieces are chunky resin rings by Angelique, lemon citrine chokers and mink shawls. *92B Pinckney St., Boston, 617-720-2001. Mon.–Tue., Sat., 11 am–6 pm; Wed.–Fri., 11 am–7 pm.; Sun., 12–5 pm.*

Stel's

From vintage belts to the latest in high-end urban wear for men and women, Newbury Street newcomer Stel's stocks an enviable array of under-the-radar Italian and American designers that include Petro Zillia, Trunk, Gary Graham and Coast & Weber. Expect nothing less from the trio of owners whose retail repertoire includes stints at Louis Boston and Ermenegildo Zegna. *334 Newbury St., Boston, 617-262-3348. Mon.–Sat., 11 am–8 pm; Sun. 12–6 pm.*

In fact, it's an attitude she wishes shoppers would adopt year-round. Because Boston is such an intellectual area, Muramatsu says, people make fashion decisions from their head and not their heart. "Maybe it has something to do with the weather too. But let's bundle up in color, and not navy blue and khaki!"

Muramatsu's philosophy is to stimulate people through their senses. At her store, you'll find gifts for the fashion-forward woman on your shopping list. Exotic music plays in the background, and artsy, avant-garde pieces like aprons and deconstructed T-shirts line the pink and lime green walls.

In addition to clothing in a range of textures, Matsu carries perfumes and candles, jewelry, accessories and a few home goods as well. Favorite designers include Lilith, Rozae Nichols and Comme des Garcons. As for this year's trends, "I think color will be big," Muramatsu says, "as well as anything that dazzles, like stones and jewelry." Other timely gifts? Cashmere sweaters, velvet pants, anything purple and anything embellished.

For the holidays, Muramatsu also creates whimsical, prepackaged gift bundles (think $200 handbags with body-and-bath goodies inside). The store also offers an unofficial "holiday registry." Customers tell staffers what they want, and boyfriends and husbands can come in and purchase the gifts later.

"The men are the best," Muramatsu says. They're generally last-minute. They're so innocent, and they really want your help. They're just so charming."

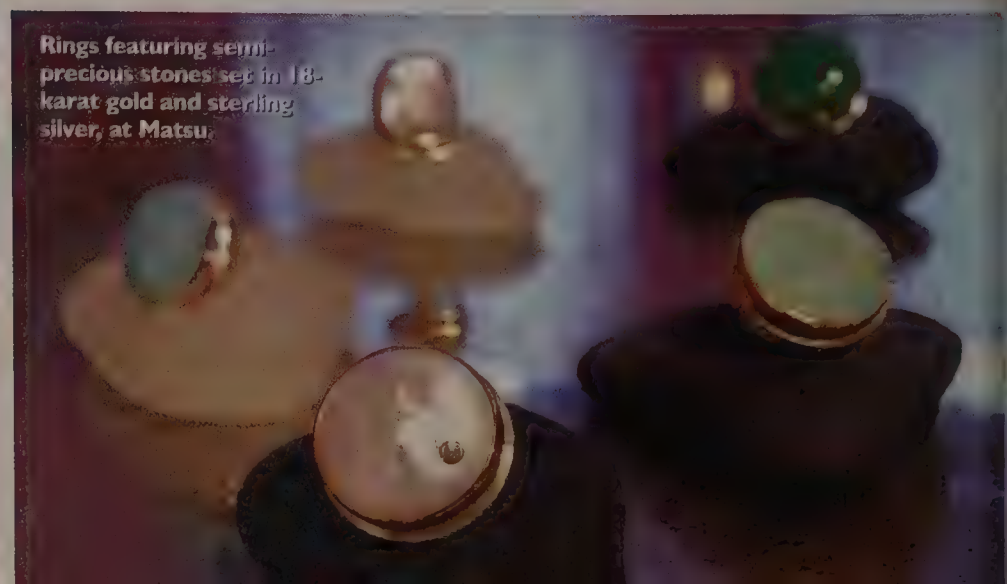
259 Newbury St., Boston, 617-266-9707. Mon.–Wed. 11 am–6 pm, Thu.–Sat. 11 am–7 pm, Sun. 1–6 pm.

TURTLE

In general, "stuff gets fancier" around the holidays, says Storey Hieronymus Hauck, so she stocks her South End boutique, Turtle, with extra party clothes, shawls, scarves and jewelry at this time of year. Starting in November, she also puts more gift-type items, from address books to fun pajamas and cashmere robes, on the shelves. Turtle's mission is to showcase emerging designers, but while the clothes here have an individual feel, they aren't overly avant-garde, and there's as much feminine frippery as there is urban edge.



Matsu owner Dava Muramatsu's philosophy is to stimulate shoppers through their senses.



Rings featuring semi-precious stones set in 18-karat gold and sterling silver, at Matsu.

Felt brooches at Turtle

Hauck doesn't fixate on trends, but she does have some predictions for the upcoming season. In addition to the two C's—cashmere and color—she expects vintage-style pieces to be popular. Pink and purple will be hot hues this year, and shoppers will continue to look for sparkle and shine. Overall, she says, "there's probably more glitz" than in seasons past.

As for gift options, cashmere sweaters and the ubiquitous poncho are good choices, Hauck says. Shoppers looking for other ideas can come to one of three trunk shows—featuring cashmere, handbags and jewelry, respectively—on successive weekends in December. (Prices at the jewelry trunk show will range from $40 to $75.) And muddled males are invited to a "men's night," on December 16 (from 5 to 9 pm), where they can get special attention and help picking out presents.

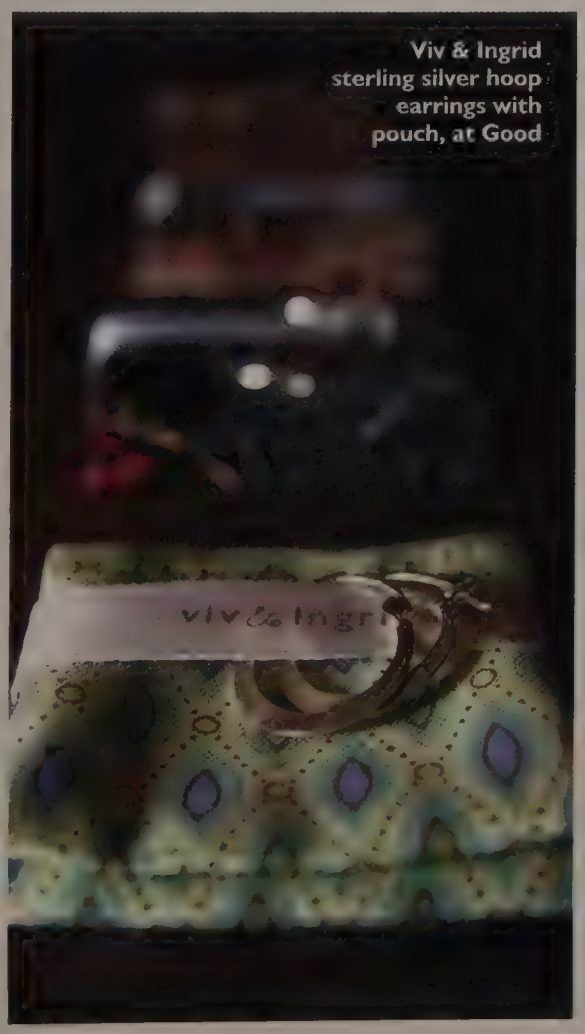
Last year, Hauck recalls, one guy came in looking for a gift for his girlfriend but had no idea what he wanted. She and her colleagues suggested a night out on the town and a dress, shawl and jewelry to match. It's this kind of personalized attention that makes shopping in boutiques so special, Hauck says—and makes her job so much fun.

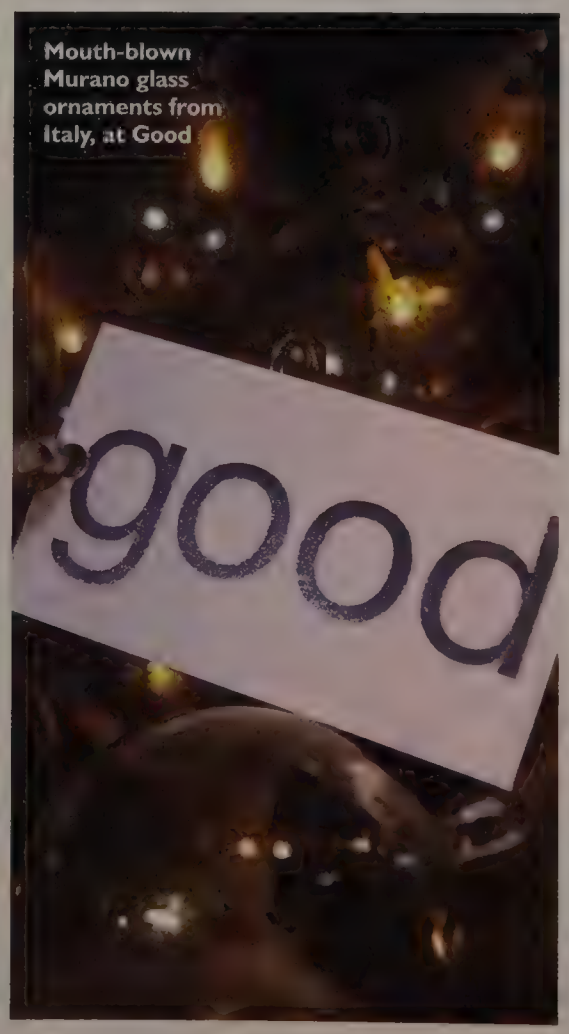
619 Tremont St., Boston, 617-266-2610. Tue.–Fri. 11 am–7 pm, Sat. 10 am–7 pm, Sun. 12–5 pm; extended hours in December.

GOOD

While Beacon Hill's Good has a reputation as a home store, its owner, Paul Niski, says his real mission is to find "beautiful objects," whatever they may be. The result is an eclectic mix of home items, furniture, jewelry and accessories.

Despite Good's hip, minimalist feel, it stocks both vintage and modern merchandise. Contemporary Chinese porcelain shares shelves with china from the 1800s, and stylish new jewelry abuts antique brooches. Prices also range widely. "People assume we're very expensive because we're on Beacon Hill," says Niski, "but we have a whole selection of 1950s vintage pins starting at $20, and necklaces that go up to $1,500. We try to do the ridiculous and the reasonable." Catering to the "reasonable" end, he selects some 20 gifts of $50 or less for the holiday season and displays them in piles of presents, wrapped and ready to go.





As part of the new "First Thursday" series organized by a group of Beacon Hill boutiques, Niski will keep Good open until 8:30 pm on December 2, offering cocktails, plus 15 percent off everything in the store. He expects products by Italian designer Luisa Cevese—who makes lovely, one-of-a-kind handbags, change purses and placemats from textile scraps—to be particularly popular.

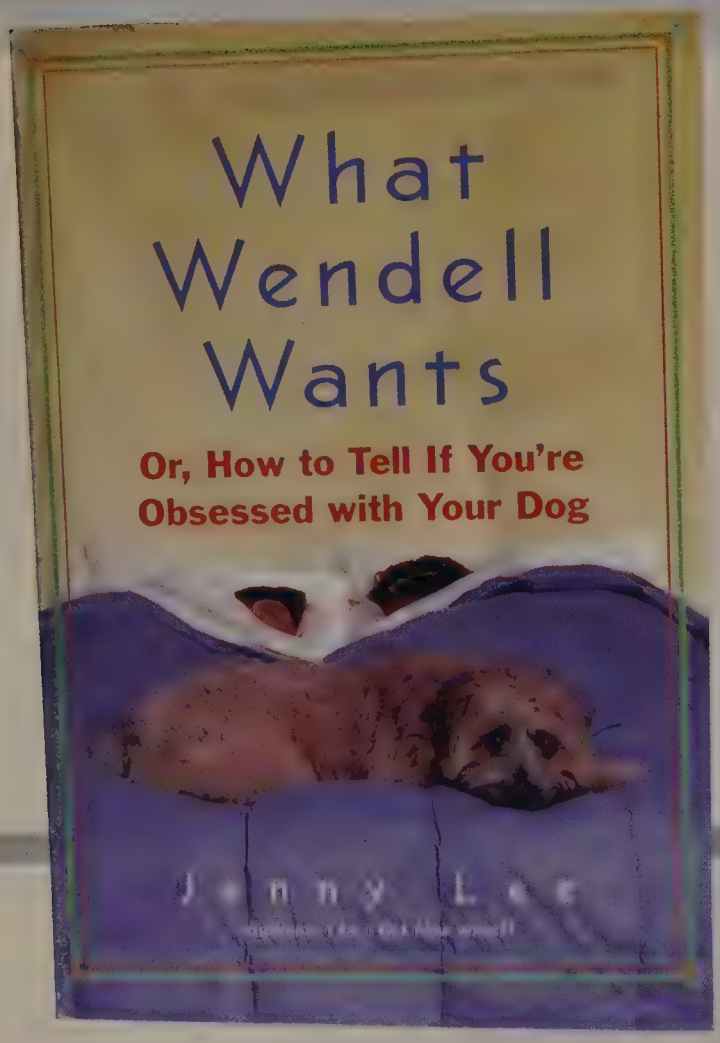
So what does Niski, who moved here from New York, think of Boston shoppers? "Compared to people from other metropolitan areas, Bostonians take longer to decide," he says. "They're thoughtful consumers, not impulsive." They're also more price-conscious, he adds, with a twinkle in his eye. "It's part of that quintessential Yankee thrift."

88 Charles St., Boston, 617-722-9200. Mon.–Fri. 11–7, Sat. 10 am–6 pm, Sun. 12–5 pm; later hours selected nights in December. IB

MOPSY

SERENDIPITOUS SHOPPING: OUR UNFETTERED CORRESPONDENT SEEKS OUT THE SALUBRIOUS AND THE CEREBRAL.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



NO DOG LEFT BEHIND

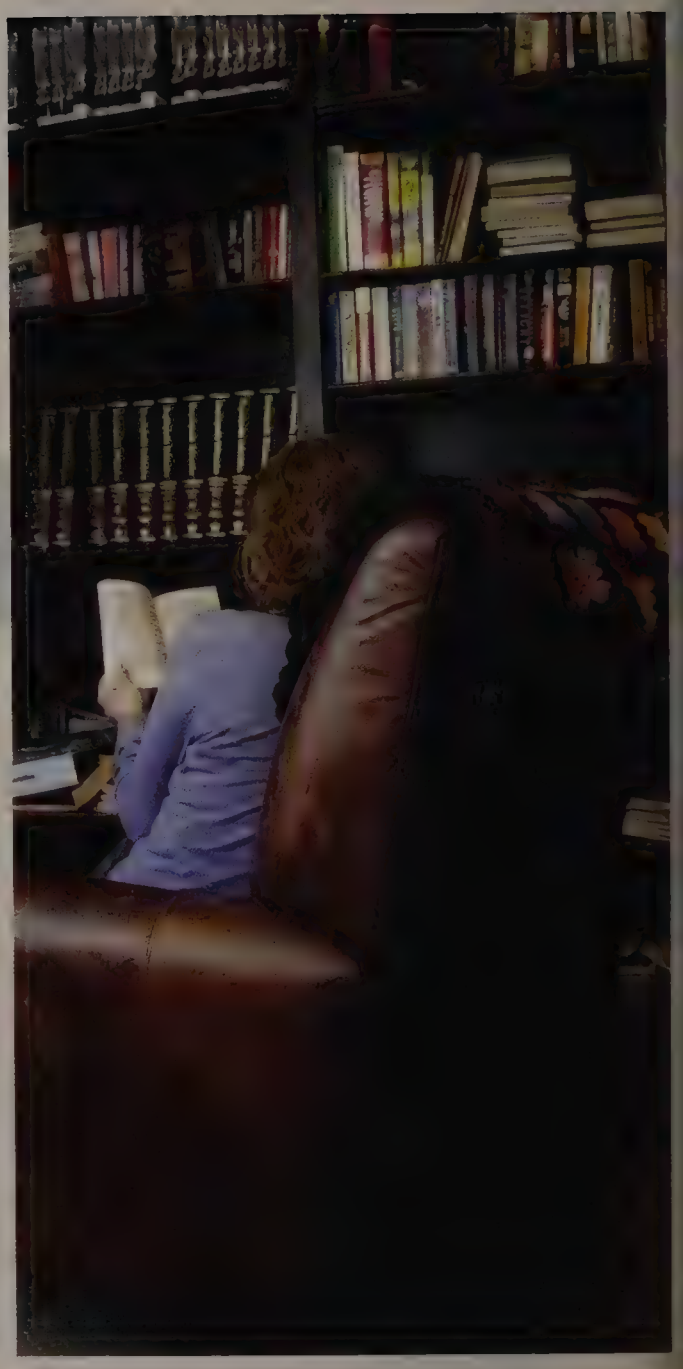
Cambridge writer Jenny Lee, author of I Do! I Did! Now What?, a book about her marriage, has a new dog book: *What Wendell Wants—Or, How to Tell if You're Obsessed With Your Dog*.

Jenny Lee lives with her husband on a street named after her dog—Wendell. (Well, who really knows which came first!) Her breathlessly shameless confessions—which will for many elicit a blush of guilty identification—detail the drama-Mama devotion she lavishes upon her wonderful wheaten terrier. After detailing in each chapter the lengths she'll go to gratify her dog's needs (and very high-end needs they are too), she provides a quiz so you can see how you score, crazydoglove-wise—Lee scores a perfect 800 in obsession. What with birthday-cake commissioning, will-writing (provisions for doggy in the case of some God-forbid event), coif-perfecting and portrait-commissioning, Lee's in a love triangle in which her doctor-husband is the sometimes bemused, sometimes annoyed, and often left-out party—though he gamely devotes hours to "squeak-replacement" surgery, putting the rubbery noisemaker back into Wendell's toy. And he patiently repairs the marital wound inflicted by his carelessly calling the anointed canine "just a dog." Lee is at least aware of her besotted condition; hence the book's charm.

HELPING YOUR FELLOW WOMAN

On the Rise Safe Haven, at 341 Broadway, in Cambridge, is a daytime program for women struggling with homelessness or other life problems. Volunteer opportunities are available. Call 617-497-7968 or see the donation "Wish List" at www.ontherise.org.

Women dealing with crises including homelessness, addictions, domestic violence or legal issues come to the welcoming arms of this pretty Victorian corner house, which provides about 25 women daily with a comfortable and sympathetic place to visit as they tackle issues that constrain and define their lives. Calling itself "the mortar between the bricks" On the Rise helps these women put together the resources—legal, medical and housing support, and referrals—that they'll need to eventually get their lives back on track. Legal and medical professionals visit On the Rise weekly, and the staff works holistically to help the women figure out what they need to do to achieve greater safety and solidity in their lives. Offerings, pragmatic and some fun ones, include a nap room, washing machines, showers, art classes and even massages. Volunteer opportunities include offering your skills to work on a specific pro bono project, or enlisting a group to bring a cooked meal on a regular basis (or even just once). On the Rise also seeks donations of clothing, shampoo and toiletries. Or you can contribute money in the name of a philanthropically minded friend, say, in lieu of a birthday present.



A SCREEN OF GREEN AND SUBTLE COLOR

Winston Flowers has eight retail locations, including at 131 Newbury St. and 569 Boylston St. in Boston. Or go to their larger Winston Flowers and Garden at Route 9 and Florence Street, in Newton, which offers garden consultations as well as flowers and plants for events. Call 800-457-4901.



The wide-open, stony gray space in which Winston Flowers and Garden is located provides a hushed purity, almost sere and medieval, that highlights these green plants. Displayed in burgeoning bursts, plants tend to be arranged in effective multiplications of the same variety; vivid muchness, self-contained. One of their fascinating bromeliads, for instance, has tart spikes of green with what looks rather like praying pink hands in the middle; out of that center sometimes spurts a little purple flower. Three together form a mini-hedge. Winston's has droopy feather boa-like amaranthus, crimson or green. Celosia is another flower that gratifies with a little mountaintop of red blooms tiptoeing over a tight furry stem. The fatigue-green "air plant" sits on a nest of its own roots. Winston's European garden furniture matches the gigantic metal urns from which you expect a Delphic sage to emerge: pale-colored log-like planters on legs of faux bois, garden adornments made of old tin ceiling materials and mirrors, and a large stone lion fountain suggesting, or requiring, an estate.


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Holiday Gift Guide 2004

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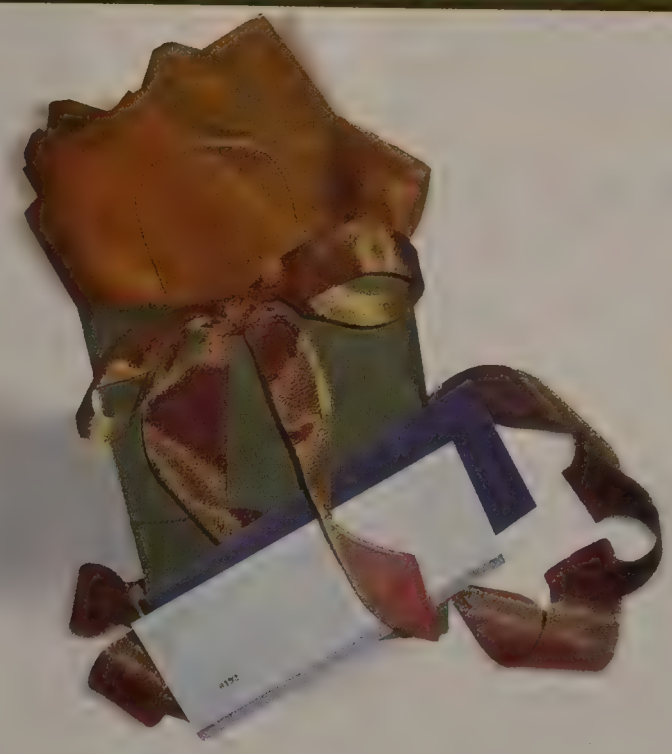
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REVIEW

STEADY MANTRA

New executive chef Ernie Quinones has ensured Mantra will remain in Boston's culinary elite.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS



Grilled Colorado lamb rack with cumin-roasted fingerling potatoes and ginger jus

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When Thomas John accepted a managerial position in a large, locally headquartered food service organization, he left big shoes to fill as departing executive chef of Mantra. John had been successful in establishing Mantra as one of a half dozen premiere dining venues in Boston, with a fusion cuisine that combined imaginative, creative flavors—distinguished by well-chosen Mediterranean and Asian herbs and spices—with classic, culinary instincts and know-how. When Ernie Quinones was named as John's successor, there was some skepticism among Mantra's devotees. Quinones had served as the restaurant's pastry chef, and while his performance as such had been superlative, some wondered whether he could assume responsibility for the whole menu.

Fortunately for Mantra, and for Boston gastronomes, Quinones' stewardship has yielded remarkably superb and consistent results. His passion and enthusiasm for his trade, his unassuming and unpretentious manner, and his old-fashioned hard work have confirmed Mantra as a first rate dining destination, a place to which the Michelin guide writers would recommend not just a detour but a voyage.

A graduate of the Culinary Institute of America, Quinones is hooked on flavor, which he coaxes from intense vegetable reductions. These, in lieu of conventional thickeners, give flavorful body to sauces, enhanced by a deft hand on a repertoire of herbs and spices ranging from basil and cumin to ginger, coriander, cilantro, cinnamon and star anise.

On one lunchtime and two evening visits, I experienced a veritable symphony of tastes, textures and aromas. At dinner one night an amuse gueule of rare tuna topped by a thin slice of salty prosciutto and garnished with tiny dollops of wasabi mayonnaise titillated our taste buds, while on a subsequent visit a more prosaic but nonetheless delicious roast salmon with cilantro delighted. Among Mantra's appetizers, celeriac (celery root) soup ($8) with pumpkin seed, squash and crème fraîche proved a heady brew, filling but not ponderous. More extravagantly priced, but worth every penny, were the sea scallops ($18). The kitchen seared these three mammoth mollusks, almost two inches across, to a moist, perfect texture, their sweet, nutlike flavor intact. Resilient lobster mushrooms and pleasantly bitter endive accompanied the scallops along with a seductively toothsome sauce based on a red pepper reduction, spiced with cinnamon and star anise. This portion was large enough to have served as a main course and proved ample for sharing as an appetizer.

Appetizers at lunch included vegetable momos ($6), five delicate moist, steamed Himalayan dumplings wrapped in tender, thin, translucent wrappers, and filled with savory cabbage, carrots and celery. A provocative ginger sauce spiked with mustard and black onion seed made these exquisite, palate-pleasing pillows memorable. Less successful but still tasty were lamb samosas ($7), three gram-flour turnovers stuffed with pulled lamb—actually more ground than pulled—accompanied by a baby tomato sauce with a mild, exotic sweetness, with perhaps a touch of citric bite. I received conflicting reports from two different servers about whether it contained tamarind, the classic Indian citrus flavor.

Between appetizer and main courses in the evening, Mantra served an intermezzo of passion fruit sorbet, an effective and welcome palate cleanser. The main courses that followed included spice-roasted lamb ($29), juicy, rare and full-flavored, accompanied by onion leek compote, baby eggplant, and spinach seasoned with garlic, cumin and coriander. Wild striped bass and curried mussels ($28) came garnished with napa cabbage, fresh coconut and fingerling potatoes. The first-rate texture of both the fish and the vegetable accompaniments distinguished this dish, which needed little in the way of herbal embellishment to render it delicious. Clay oven–roasted monkfish ($28) brought a substantial hunk of firm-textured fish served on a bed of wilted spinach made heady with garlic and accompanied by a sweet pepper chutney redolent of cilantro.

Moving from sea to land, the tamarind-glazed poussin ($28), a young spring chicken, boasted crisp skin and moist flesh, and a dazzling array of garnishes that included al dente potato salad, tiny lima beans and a chutney of plum tomatoes and bell peppers redolent of bay leaf, coriander, basil and cumin. Finally among the dinner main courses was the venison tenderloin ($27). The robust, gamy flavor of venison calls for assertive, often fruit based accompaniments. Mantra rose to the occasion with a cherry peppercorn reduction that complemented these two tender, rare slices of venison fillet. Sautéed broccoli rabe and a cylinder of sliced potatoes rounded out the ensemble.

Luncheon entrées, like the luncheon appetizers, occupied the Asian side of the fusion spectrum. *Saag makai* ($12) brought a small casserole of creamed minced spinach with black cumin, corn and tomatoes, seasoned with lively fresh ginger and accompanied by basmati rice. The dish was superb enough to tempt me to sign up as a vegetarian—at least until the tandoor chicken tikka ($9) arrived. This large portion of tender, juicy chunks of chicken marinated with yogurt, cardamom and cumin presented a distinct contrast to most tandoori meats that I've experienced. Far from dry, the chicken arrived moist and flavorful, and the garnish of refreshingly cool slices of marinated cucumber and greens hit the spot.

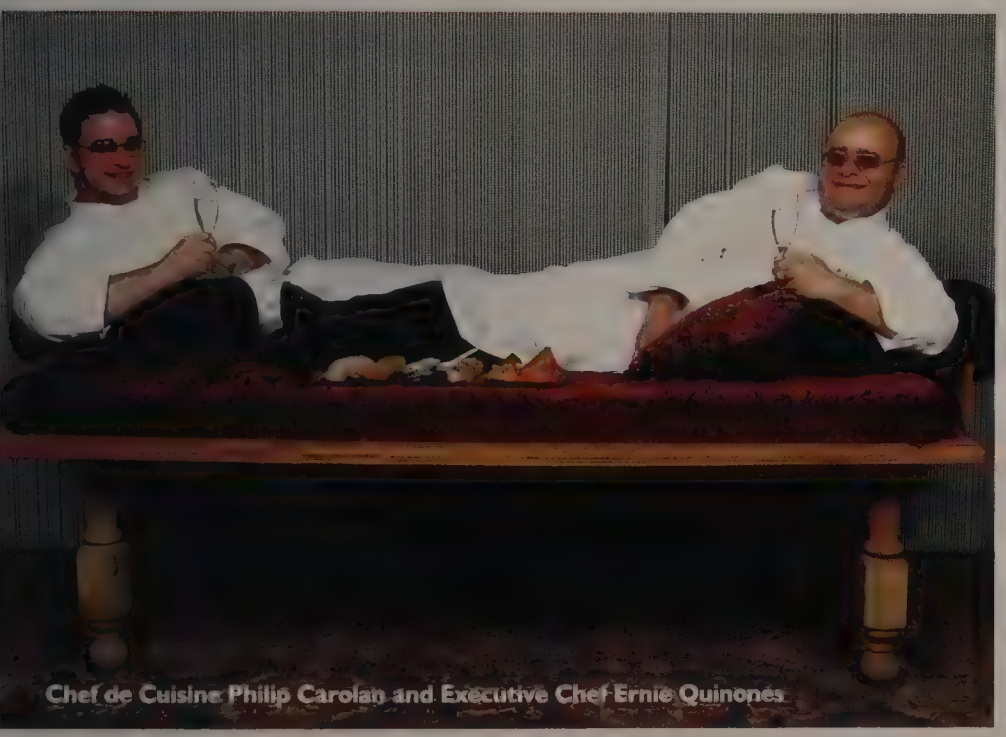
A review of Mantra would not be complete without discussing its breads. At



Seared foie gras on a lobster–morel–goat cheese dumpling with sour cherry sauce



The Chocolate Tasting includes Grand Marnier chocolate mousse, chocolate sorbet and chocolate truffle cake served over candied orange slices.



Chef de Cuisine Philip Carolan and Executive Chef Ernie Quinones

lunch, breads were served à la carte, but they merited the price. The olive naan ($3), a light, moist bread with thinly sliced olives between its gossamer layers, was served with a spread of cilantro and cashew chutney. In the evening, breads accompany the meal without extra cost, and included flavorful potato rolls and Boston brown bread studded with raisins from Cambridge's High Rise Bakery, as well as more interesting Indian flat breads, such as naan and poori, made on the premises.

Mantra's wine list was first-rate. Although thin in the lower price ranges, it included affordable options such as a 2002 Tavel rosé ($30) that combined intense flavor, good acidity and a clean finish. Equally enjoyable was the 2003 Beaujolais from the commune of Morgon, Côte du Py, by Jean Marc Burgaud, which definitive demonstrated that Beaujolais doesn't have to be a fruity, frivolous quaff, and the region can produce wines of considerable finesse and depth ($35).

After feasting on herb- and spice-infused appetizers and main courses, I was almost relieved to arrive at the familiar, comfortable territory of dessert. Fallen chocolate espresso soufflé ($9), a variation on a familiar theme, arrived atop a banana foundation. This combination of milk and dark chocolate, drizzled with dark chocolate sauce, provided the fitting punctuation mark to conclude a fabulous meal.

Mantra's physical environment, which has been written about extensively, is almost over the top. The classical lines of an old bank building with high-tech and outré touches such as the hookah den (with smoking banned in Boston restaurants, the elaborately sculpted enclosure is now relegated to private parties or cocktails), an imposing golden colored statue of Buddha, and restrooms that became the talk of Boston when first unveiled, have all survived the change of regime in the kitchen. And to be sure, Chef Quinones has preserved the most important aspect of this estimable eatery: imaginative, sometimes exotic and provocative, but always delicious and satisfying cuisine. iB

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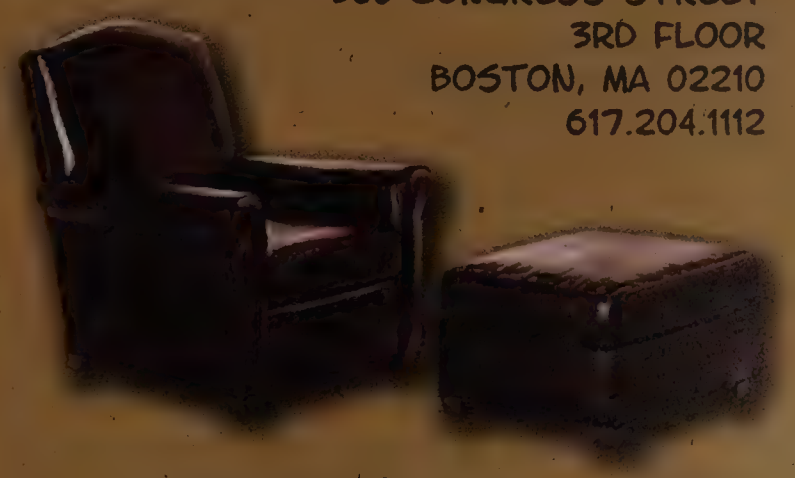
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DISH

Lucy's Loosens Up

Just add oil and a happy chef...

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

For a long time, lots of people didn't love **Lucy's**. The Coolidge Corner eatery was respected, maybe, but loved? No. Owner **Mitzi Kaitz**'s philosophy of healthy, very low-fat dining was a worthy concept that came up short in execution. When all fats are dissed, the flavor will be missed. And since BYOB (bring your own butter) would be silly, Kaitz took stock of the situation and made two key decisions. First, she dropped the ban on oil, and even allowed the baking of desserts with butter (under the new, liberal regime, butter is available for bread by request). Then she hired **Eric Bogardus**, former executive sous chef at **Locke-Ober**, to run the newly lubricated kitchen.

Bogardus took one look at the old menu, and realized "it definitely wasn't my style. I could see what they were going for, but nothing compensated for the [lack of] butter. It wasn't up to par with what Mitzi wanted for the restaurant." To create a new menu—healthful, but with enough fat and flavor to please people with palates—Bogardus drew on his experience cooking with **Jacky Robert** at Locke-Ober and **Daniele Baliani** at the former **Pignoli**, and on his degree in anthropology. Anthropology?

"It goes hand-in-hand with cooking," says Bogardus, who travels to Mexico every year with friends to cook produce from the local markets and fish he's caught by himself. He's been to Italy, France, Germany and Egypt; worked in catering, bread baking, cake decorating and as a kosher trainer; and brought the sum of his experiences to bear on the totally revamped menu at Lucy's. (Actually, the cheese plate is still on the menu). Bogardus is already envisioning his winter menu—"I'm thinking about bison short ribs, cassoulet"—but in the meantime, the fall fare includes some real treats. Kabocha squash soup with roasted corn, black beans, chilies and curried croutons is vegan, gluten-free and deeply, sumptuously flavorful. The "Forager's Delight" mushroom pizza, from the wood-burning stove, is a sensual delight of earthy mushrooms, parmesan, sweet caramelized onion, and sun-dried tomato. The warm goat cheese tart with figs, grilled pear slices, and cinnamon syrup tastes like a smoky autumn afternoon.

Lucy's is lucky to have Bogardus, and even if he continues his world travels, it seems a safe bet he'll return happily to the Brookline kitchen. He eats his own food, and he's lost 30 pounds since he took the job eight months ago. "I love it," he says. "Nothing's better than the people being happy eating the food you've cooked."


New chef Eric Bogardus has buttered up the menu at Lucy's.

SECOND COURSE

Opening: Out in Deep Suburbia, specifically Southboro, **Tommaso Trattoria** has opened under the guidance of general manager/wine guy **Lorenzo Savona**.

Updates: Chef **Carmen Quagliata**, who's been "looking for a place" to call his own since **The Vault** closed last November, is *this close* to nailing down a venue in a Boston suburb. Meanwhile, he's been cooking around town, helping out chef **Rene Michelina** at **Saint** and working with **Bill Bradley** on the opening of **Rustic Kitchen** in Cambridge. If all goes according to plan, Quagliata will open his Italian restaurant by the end of January with longtime sous chef **Adam Laliberte**. **Steve Johnson**, former chef/owner of the **Blue Room** in Cambridge, is back in town after spending the summer in Westport "working on my fishing skills." Now, he's working on his real estate skills, exploring various restaurant-worthy sites in Cambridge. "I'm interested in getting back into the business," he says. "I miss it. I've looked at 50 places so far, at least on paper." We'll let you know when he picks one. iB

Serving Dish

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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Celebration of Bordeaux Dinner
UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-864-1933). www.upstairsonthesquare.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Nov. 17. 6:30 pm. $100. UpStairs on the Square concludes its fall wine series with a Bordeaux-themed dinner prepared by chefs **Susan Regis** and **Amanda Lydon**, complemented by wines from wine director **Shane Lessard**.

Cooking Class Series at Radius
Radius, 8 High St., Boston (617-426-1234). www.radiusrestaurant.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Nov. 20. 11 am-2 pm. $125. Chef **Michael Schlow** offers tips for making cooking easy, like how to slice a chive. The afternoon includes a lunch featuring the foods used in that day's lesson.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). www.fireplacerest.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Every other Saturday, 3 pm. $25. Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** hosts experts who discuss subjects from wines to foods to microbrews. •Nov. 27: Merlot.

Hot off the Vine at 33
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** for a sampling of four wines paired with a complementary food tasting. •Nov. 17: Spain. •Nov. 24: Italy.

Mariachi, Tequila and Salsa Dinner
Anthem, 138 Portland St., Boston (617-523-8383). www.anthemboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to North Station. Nov. 17. 6:30 pm. $65. This night of Tequila-infused cocktails, mariachi music and salsa dancing also features a four-course, Latin-inspired dinner prepared by chef **Robert Fathman**.

Pork Cordon Rouge Dinner
Rouge, 480 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-867-0600). www.rougeboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Nov. 22. 6 pm. $35. A cheap-beer reception is followed by a pork-themed three-course dinner prepared by chef/owner **Andy Husbands**.

The Science Behind Beer
Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-589-0473). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Nov. 30. 6:30-9:30 pm. $35. **Jim Koch**, president of the Boston Beer Co., discusses the science, technology and history behind some of his most popular beers while guests sample the company's latest brews.

Toro, Tonna, Tuna
Harvest, 44 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-868-2255). www.the-harvest.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Nov. 17. 6 pm. $39. Fisherman **Jeff Jendras** discusses the work that goes into catching bluefin tuna and provides a 150-pound tuna to serve as the basis for chef **Keith Pooler**'s menu for the night.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $25. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, and chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •Nov. 23: Just desserts. •Nov. 30: Port and blue cheese ($30).

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mondays, 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Johnson** offers descriptions of the wines that complement a French–New England meal by chef **Frank McClelland**. •Nov. 22: Home for the holidays. •Nov. 29: Italy.

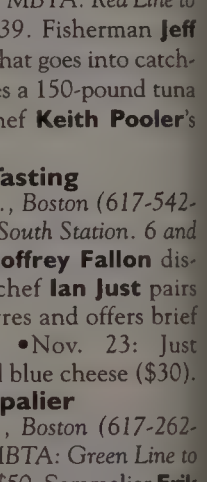
Wine Tasting at Vinalia
Vinalia, 101 Arch St., Boston (617-591-1400). www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Nov. 19. 7 pm. $40. Sample an assortment of red and white wines while snacking on appetizers prepared by Vinalia chef **Jay Silva**.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-720-1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Every Wed., 7 pm. $38. Chef Geoff Gardner pairs French cuisine with wines selected by sommelier Erik Johnson. •Nov. 17: Southern France. •Nov. 24: Holiday table wines.

PREVIEW

BEAUJOLAIS SOIREES

Football fans have Super Bowl Sunday, children have Halloween and wine connoisseurs have the third Thursday of November, or as the French call it, *le jour le Beaujolais Nouveau est arrivé*. Beaujolais Nouveau is probably the closest to a white wine that a red can be, in that it's meant to be served chilled (at about 55°F) and drunk quickly, and it also lacks the strong acidity that you'll find in most reds. In other words, it's perfect for partying. Each year, more than 100 festivals in France celebrate the release of the new vintage, but if you can't make it across the pond, a number of local celebrations are helping to fill the void. On Wednesday, November 17, Brasserie Jo hosts a Moulin Rouge–themed dinner ($40) at 9 pm, complete with can-can dancers and cabaret music all night long. At the stroke of midnight, the party culminates with the unveiling of the 2004 Beaujolais Nouveau. The next night, Pigalle hosts a special three-course dinner paired with Beaujolais ($48) from 5:30–8 pm, and at Les Zygomates, sommelier Geoffrey Fallon hosts a special five-course educational wine dinner at 7 pm, entitled 10 Things You Probably Didn't Know About Beaujolais ($65). *Brasserie Jo, 120 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-425-3740); Pigalle, 75 Charles St. South, Boston (617-423-4944); Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108).*



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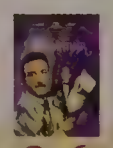
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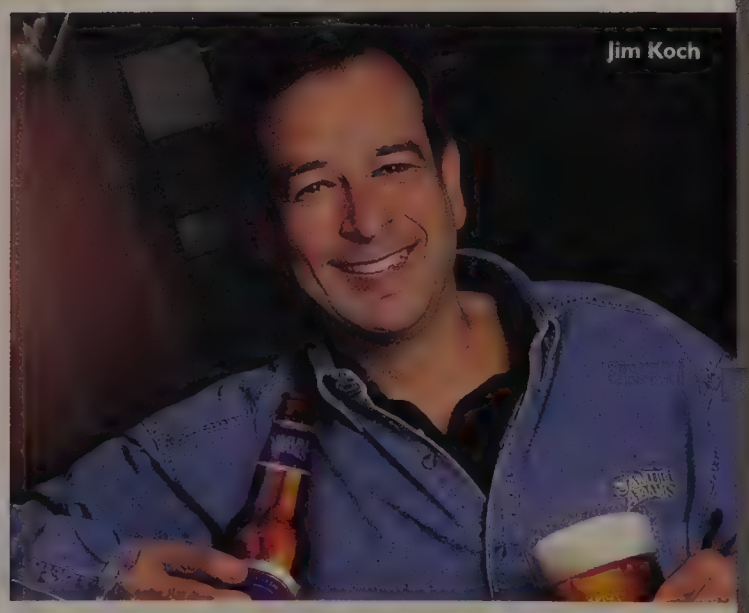
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agenda

IMPROPER PICKS

november 17 - 30

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			17 **Arlo Guthrie** performs at Club Passim. *See Music on page 70.* 	18 Walter McCarty and friends mash the grapes at the **Celebrity Stomp.** *See CityScope on page 56.*	19 	20 Tour the artists' workspace at **Brickbottom Open Studios.** *See Museums & Galleries on page 94.*
21 Tonight's the last night you can see ***The Playboy of the Western World*** at the Wilbur Theatre. *See Performing Arts on page 58.*	22 	23 **Joyce Carol Oates** reads from her latest novel, *The Falls*, at Harvard Book Store. *See Books & Poetry on page 96.*	24	25 Run the 5K **Thanksgiving Day Road Race** through Brighton to benefit Best Buddies. *See CityScope on page 56.*	26 ***The Pink Panther*** screens at the Brattle Theatre. *See Movies on page 66.*	27
28 *Last Comic Standing* winner **John Heffron** is at the Comedy Connection. *See Performing Arts on page 60.* 	29	30				



TUE./NOV. 30

Tastings: Sudsy Science

For the latest installment in its dinner/lecture series, the Museum of Science turns its attention to the weighty matter of the Science Behind Beer. Boston Beer Co. brewer and founder Jim Koch serves as master of ceremonies, explaining the appeal of pairing foods with beers, from pilsner to porter, lager to lambic. He'll also discuss the science, technology and history behind some of his most popular beers and address bigger topics like beer's history and future. The four-course dinner starts with soup (spiced butternut squash bisque with chive crème fraîche) and continues with a salad and polenta course. That's followed by seared peppered New York strip sirloin topped with Sam Adams Boston Lager sauce and served with corn flan and grilled asparagus. Each dish is paired with a Sam Adams beer. Dessert, double chocolate soufflé cake with a melted ganache center, comes with a glass of Sam's Holiday Porter. *Skyline Room, Science Park, Boston (617-589-0185). www.mos.org. 6:30–9:30 pm. $35.*

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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AGENDA EDITED BY
Erin Hagedorn & Jessica Iredale
CALENDAR EDITED BY
Erin Hagedorn Books & Poetry, Movies
Jessica Iredale Around Town, Children, Education, Movies, Museums & Galleries, Performing Arts
Rich Levine CityScope, Dance Clubs, Gay & Lesbian, Music
ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
Ezra Dyer Sports
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules





MON./NOV. 22

Performing Arts: Make Me a Match


Charles Busch

You've never seen a version of Thornton Wilder's *The Matchmaker* like this before. First, it's a staged reading, in which performers act out a few of the scenes but mostly read the comedy from stools on a setless stage. Second, this reading adds a little twist to the tale: Dolly is portrayed by female impersonator Charles Busch, the playwright and star of *Vampire Lesbians of Sodom*, one of the longest-running off-Broadway plays in history. (Busch has also starred in the film versions of his plays *Psycho Beach Party* and *Die Mommie Die!*)

The farcical play, which was later adapted into the musical *Hello, Dolly!*, centers on matchmaker Dolly Levi, a Yonkers, N.Y., widow who has a knack for pairing up singles. When a wealthy man hires her to find him a wife, Dolly decides she wants him for herself. So she tries to trick him into proposing to her by setting up several silly scenarios, including matching him with another woman. Steven Maler, resident director at the Wang Center and artistic director of Commonwealth Shakespeare Company, directs. If you like what you hear, this series of play readings, titled American Voices, continues throughout the fall. *Shubert Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.wangcenter.org. 7 pm. $10.*


Tom Perrotta

THU./NOV. 18

Books & Poetry: From Page to Screen

Having a novel optioned by a major movie studio would seem to be the stuff of every author's dreams—seeing their characters brought to life by Meryl Streep, Ben Kingsley or Reese Witherspoon, not to mention getting a colossal paycheck. Or is it a nightmare of fussy studio execs, gargantuan egos and dumbed-down story-telling? Get the straight dope when three of the Boston area's most successful authors, Susan Orlean (*The Orchid Thief*), Andre Dubus III (*House of Sand and Fog*), and Tom Perrotta (*Election*), discuss their novel-to-movie experiences at the Grub Street Writers event titled Adaptations, at the Coolidge Corner Theatre November 18. All three read from their original works and examine clips of the resulting films. *Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2501) www.coolidge.org. 7:30 pm. $10, $8 Grub Street and Coolidge members.*


Boston Ballet performs selections from *The Nutcracker*.

SAT./NOV. 20

CityScope: Christmas Time in the City

It's that time of year again. Slowly but surely, Christmas movies and commercials flood the networks, invites for holiday parties arrive in the mail and peppermint lattes make their brief annual run at Starbucks. But if you're looking for an event to officially welcome the yuletide season, head to Faneuil Hall November 20. While old St. Nick makes his rounds in a horse-drawn carriage, members of Boston Ballet perform selections from the holiday classic *The Nutcracker*, and the Chatham Handbell Choir and Alleluia Bell Ringers literally ring in the holidays with performances scattered throughout the afternoon. Mayor Menino lightens things up at 5:30 pm when he flips the switch on more than 100,000 bulbs strung throughout the North and South Markets. *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-523-1300). 12–5:30 pm. Free.*

THU./NOV. 18

CityScope: Shake a Tail Feather

We know you hardly need an excuse to don your favorite '70s duds and break into the Hustle. But we'll give you some incentive anyway: Just in time for Thanksgiving, THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN, Star 93.7 and Wild Turkey are throwing the Jive Turkey party—a '70s-themed benefit for the Massachusetts Food Bank—at Hurricane O'Reilly's. DJs spin tunes from the decade of decadence all night long. So grab a dashiki and your grooviest platforms and bring the funk to the dance floor (and bring a nonperishable food item to donate too). *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161). 8 pm. Free.*

Now Booking Holiday Parties!

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Advice to Contributors

Submit updated listings for benefits, festivals, activities and events by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Benefits

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Fund-Raiser for Metro Boston Children

38 Cameron, 38 Cameron St., Cambridge (617-995-3250). www.everybodywinsmetroboston.org. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 6:30-9:30 pm. $10-$15. The proceeds from this auction and raffle, which include prizes like a tour of Fenway Park, a sunset sail on Boston Harbor and a weekend in Greenwich Village, go toward finding reading mentors for Boston children.

International Wine Tasting and Jazz Extravaganza

State Room, 60 State St., Boston (617-515-3241). www.mutualfundsdagainstcancer.com. MBTA: Orange Line to State. 6:30-9:30 pm. $100-$125. This event, benefiting Mutual Funds Against Cancer, features wine stations offering selections from different parts of the world, live and silent auctions, and live jazz music.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Home Is Where the Art Is

Design Within Reach, 519 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-4996). www.amearts.org/give.htm. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 7-9 pm. $25. This second annual event features wine, hors d'oeuvres, contemporary art and a silent auction benefiting Abstraction Made Elementary, an organization that offers art programs for children.

The Jive Turkey '70s Party

Hurricane O'Reilly's, 150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. 8 pm. Free. Instead of paying a cover, guests at this benefit party, sponsored by THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN, Star 93.7 and Wild Turkey, are encouraged to dress in '70s attire and bring nonperishable food items to donate to the Massachusetts Food Bank.

Nora Theatre Company Benefit Party

The Hotel at MIT, 20 Sidney St., Cambridge (617-491-2026). www.thenora.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7:30 pm. $28. Live jazz from Cercie Miller, appetizers, desserts and a silent auction highlight this night benefiting the Nora Theatre Company.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Razzle Dazzle 2004 Gala Auction

Danversport Yacht Club, 161 Elliot St., Danvers (978-232-72000). www.nsmt.org. 6:30 pm. $75-$100. Cocktails, appetizers and a performance by North Shore Music Theatre's Youth Performance Academy highlight this live auction benefiting the NSMT's education programs.

A Time for Love Benefit Concert

Old South Church, 645 Boylston St., Boston (617-262-1831). www.communityworks.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7 pm. $15-$25. The Vari-Asians, the Handel and Haydn Youth Chorus, the Rosie's Place Jazz Choir and Mili Bermejo are the featured performers at this annual benefit concert. Proceeds go to Community Works, an umbrella group dedicated to promoting positive social change in Boston.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20

Big Sister Association Annual Gala

Sheraton Boston Hotel, 99 Dalton St., Boston (617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 7 pm-12 am. $200. This annual gala benefiting the Big Sister Association of Greater Boston includes a Champagne reception, a silent auction, dinner and live music from the Urban Renewal Band.

Earth Night

Boston Convention and Exhibition Center, 415 Summer St., Boston (508-698-6810). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6:30-11 pm. $75. The ninth annual Earth Night party benefits the Environmental League of Massachusetts and features a DJ, live and silent auctions, and food from Legal Sea Foods.

Junior League of Boston's Fall Ball

Ritz-Carlton Boston, 15 Arlington St., Boston (617-251-3331). www.jlboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6 pm-1 am. $75-$150. This annual event featuring dinner, drinks, dancing and a silent auction raises money for the Junior League of Boston's community projects.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25

5K Charity Road Race

Ray Ciccolo's Boston Volvo Village, 75 North Beacon St., Brighton (617-560-1700). www.bostonvolvo.com. Registration, 7:30 am; race begins, 9 am. $20-$25. This 5K Thanksgiving Day road race through Brighton benefits Best Buddies Massachusetts, a nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing the lives of people with intellectual disabilities

Festivals & Parties

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Annual Holiday Boutique

The College Club of Boston, 44 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-536-9510). www.collegeclubofboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Through Nov. 21. 10 am-5 pm. $3. Craftspeople and artisans from Boston and other parts of the country convene for this annual boutique that features linens from Italy and France, handmade baskets and jewelry, and a children's corner.

International Antiquarian Book Fair

Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-6540). www.bostonbookfair.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Through Nov. 21. Fri., 5-9 pm; Sat., 12-7 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Fri., $15; Sat. and Sun., $8. More than 135 dealers gather at the Hynes Convention Center for this annual event featuring museum-quality works on paper for display and sale.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20

Artrages: The Annual Art Party

368 Congress St., Boston (617-542-7416). www.mobius.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 8 pm-1 am. $15-$20. This annual art party, with performance, music, video and installation art by the Mobius Artists Group, features live music from Beat Circus, PeeWee Fist and Fluttr.

Faneuil Hall Holiday Celebration

Quincy Marker, Boston (617-523-1300). www.faneuilhallmarketplace.com. MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. 12-5:30 pm. Free. Faneuil Hall Marketplace celebrates the start of the holiday season with this day-long event featuring performances by Boston Ballet, the Alleluia Bell Ringers and the Chatham Handbell Choir, plus a chance to meet and take pictures with Santa Claus.

Singles

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Eight Minute Dating

29 Newbury, 29 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-0290). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 22-32.

Hurry Date

The Harp, 85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $35 for nonmembers. Embark on 20 five-minute dates and enjoy drink specials from the Harp. For ages 25-35.

Preview

Stomping Grounds

Local athletes gather for a good cause.

You know what they say about guys with big feet, right? They're unbelievably adept at stomping grapes. That talent will be on full display November 18th at Maggiano's Little Italy for the I Love Music Foundation's first annual Famous Feet Celebrity Stomp.

Boston Celtics forward Walter McCarty, who established the foundation in 2002, will be joined at Maggiano's by some of his teammates plus members of the Patriots and Revolution, who will all get their feet wet for charity at the kick-off event for the new Maggiano's Wine Club. The night will also feature a silent auction of memorabilia from the sports and entertainment worlds.

"It's a great way to celebrate the harvest season and raise awareness for our charitable efforts," McCarty says. "I'm looking forward to rolling up my pant legs and stomping some grapes."

The $50 ticket price includes hors d'oeuvres, an open bar and a VIP gift bag, and all proceeds benefit the I Love Music Foundation, which provides access to musical instruction, instruments and equipment for disadvantaged children in Boston.

Maggiano's Little Italy, 4 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-542-3456). www.ilovemusicfoundation.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Nov. 18. 6:30–9:30 pm. $50. —Rich Levine



Celtic Walter McCarty hosts a benefit for the I Love Music Foundation.



Beat Circus headlines Mobius' Artrages party November 20.

It's in the Stars

State Room, 60 State St., Boston (617-357-5777). MBTA: Orange Line to State. 5:30 pm. $60-$75. This event for singles over 40 features hors d'oeuvres, music by the Tom Pittman Duo and psychic readings. A portion of the proceeds benefits the Home for Little Wanderers.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20

50+ Singles for the Arts Tour

Starbucks, 443 Boylston St., Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12-2:30 pm. $40. Tour Boston-area galleries with other singles and mingle over post-tour coffee at the Garden of Eden. Reservations required.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Eight Minute Dating

Tommy Doyle's Irish Pub, 1 Kendall Square, Cambridge (617-424-8300). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 6:38 pm. $35. Sample appetizers and enjoy Monday Night Football during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 35-45.

Eight Minute Dating

Boston Billiard Club, 126 Brookline Ave., Boston (617-669-8754). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. $35. Sample appetizers and enjoy Monday Night Football during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 27-40.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Eight Minute Dating

Chart House, 60 Long Wharf, Boston (617-227-1576). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 35-45.

Eight Minute Dating

Cityside Bar and Grill, 1960 Beacon St., Brighton (617-566-1002). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle. 7:08 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 23-34.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Eight Minute Dating

Tommy Doyle's Irish Pub, 1 Kendall Square, Cambridge (617-424-8300). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 7:08 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 21-29.

Hurry Date

33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $35 for nonmembers. Embark on 20 five-minute dates and enjoy drink specials from 33 restaurant. For ages 25-35.



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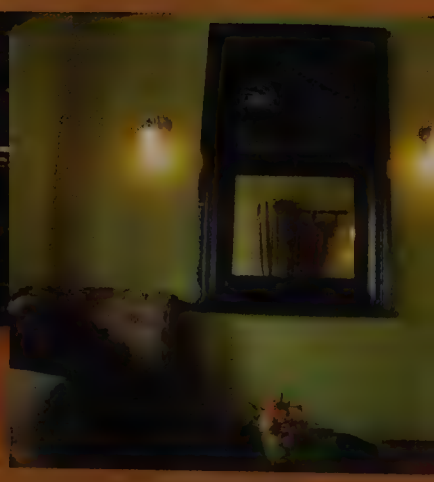


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performing arts

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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater

JUST OPENED

American Voices: The Matchmaker
Shubert Thatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 22. 7 pm. $10. Steven Maler directs Thorton Wilder's farce about a widow playing Cupid.

Fully Committed
Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Nov. 26-Dec. 23. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm.; Dec. 1 and Dec. 22, 2pm. $21-$45. John Kuntz stars in Becky Mode's comedy about an out-of-work actor manning the reservation line at a hot Manhattan restaurant. Spiro Veloudos directs.

Johnny Guitar: The Musical
Calderwood Pavilion, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.speakeasystage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 19-Dec. 18., Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat. 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $30-$40. A saloon owner and a business tycoon get caught in a power struggle in a small Western town. Martin Silvestri and Joel Higgins' music and lyrics combine 1950s country, lounge and rock music.

The Provok'd Wife
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-4547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Nov. 27-Dec. 26. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. No performances Dec. 24-25. $36-$72. Mark Wong-Davey directs the American Repertory Theatre's production of John Vanbrugh's 17th-century social commentary about an English couple who married for the wrong reasons.

NOW RUNNING

Aida
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Durham Road, Beverly (978-232-7200). www.nsmt.org. Through Nov. 21. Tue.-Sat., 8pm; Wed., Sat.-Sun., 2pm. $30-$60. The North Shore Music Theatre presents Tim Rice and Elton John's adaptation of Verdi's opera about a love triangle involving a Nubian princess.

All of a Kind Family
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (800-233-3123). www.telecharge.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Nov., 20, 2pm. $8-19. Melia Bensussen directs her stage adaptation of Sydney Taylor's book about a family of five girls growing up on New York's Lower East Side in the early 1900s.

Annie Get Your Gun
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). www.turtle-lane.com. Throug Dec.30. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm; Nov. 27, 2 pm and 8 pm. $24. The Turtle Lane players present Irving Berlin's classic Wild West musical.



Big River: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn is at the Wang Theatre through November 21.

Big River: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Nov. 21. Tue and Thu., 7:30 pm; Wed. and Sun., 7 pm. $35.50-$40.50. This production of Roger Miller and William Hauptman's adaptation of Mark Twain's classic tale features a combination of sign language and spoken word.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. Ongoing. $46-$56. This dialogue-free production features tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Burn This
Boston University Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Through Dec. 12. Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm; Tue. and Thu., 7:30 pm. $30-$55. Susan Fenichell directs Lanford Wilson's contemporary romantic drama about four people in a state of personal chaos after the death of a friend.

Ears on a Beatle
Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through Nov.20. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri. 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm; Oct. 27 and Nov. 17, 2 pm. $21-$45. Mark St. Germain's off-Broadway hit follows two FBI agents assigned to watch former Beatle John Lennon during the paranoia of the Nixon administration.

The Exorsissy
Machine, 1256 Boylston St., Boston (617-265-6222). www.golddustorphans.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Through Nov. 20. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm. $25. Ryan Landry directs and stars in the Gold Dust Orphans' production of his play about a Republican presidential candidate's 12-year-old daughter whose gender is questioned after she's possessed by the devil.

Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding
Matrix Nightclub, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123). www.comedywedding.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. 18. Sat. and Sun., 7:30 pm. $49. Tickets include dinner, show and entry to Matrix. The nation's longest-running comedy/dinner-theater show spoofs a traditional Italian wedding with audience participation and dinner.

Lend Me a Tenor
Yamawaki Center, Lasell College, 47 Myrtle Ave., Newton (617-244-9538). www.newtoncountryplayers.org. Nov. 19 and 20, 8 pm; $13-$15. The Newton Country Players present Ken Ludwig's play about a deceased opera singer's understudy who fools the audience into believing that he is the star tenor.

The Lion King
Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (800-347-0808). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Feb. 20. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 1 pm and 6:30 pm. $22-$132. Julie Taymor directs this stage adaptation of the popular Disney film about a young lion cub's struggle to become king.

Macbeth
Tower Auditorium, Mass College of Art, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (718-326-3643). www.theatermania.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Through Nov. 23. Mon.-Fri. 10am. $10. The Shakespeare Now! theater company presents the Bard's famous tragedy.

Menopause: The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617-426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 pm and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $42.50. A quartet of aging baby boomers meet at a lingerie sale, and singing and dancing ensues.

Permanent Collection
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands (617-332-1646). www.newrep.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. Through Dec. 12. Wed., 2 and 7pm; Thu., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 3pm. $28-$48. New Rep presents the New England premiere of Thomas Gibbons' play about a museum director who feels his institution neglects black artists.

The Playboy of the Western World
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-423-4008). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Nov. 21. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $25.50-$67.50. Ben Barnes directs the Abbey Theatre's production of J.M. Synge's play about a stranger who claims he murdered his father and becomes a hero in a small village in Ireland's County Mayo.

The Price
Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 East Merrimack St., Lowell (978-454-3926). www.merrimackrep.org. Through Dec. 12. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat, 4:30 pm and 8:30 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:00 pm. $42. Two estranged brothers confront each other while negotiating the sale of their parents' estate in Arthur Miller's drama.

Scotland Road
Abbot Theatre, 9 Spring St., Waltham (781-893-9171).www.hoveyplayers.com. Through Nov. 27. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $15. Lissi Engvall directs Jeffrey Hatcher's play about the discovery and interrogation of a self-proclaimed Titanic survivor.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225).www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $34. This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

Sonia Flew
Virginia Wimberly Theatre, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through Nov. 28. Thu. and Fri., 7:30 pm; Wed., Sat. and Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $14-$42. A Cuban couple sends their only daughter to the United States for a better life. Now a mother of two in the Midwest, Sonia must reconcile her past with her present.

Spell #7
Boston Center for the Arts, BCA Plaza Black Box, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through Nov. 20. Thu.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 7pm. Call for ticket prices. Ntozake Shange's play, presented by Company One, follows nine black performers struggling to make it in show business.

The Value of Names
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-1300). www.theatrecoop.org. Through Dec. 11. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm. Nov. 21 and Dec. 5, 3 pm. $15-$20. An aging actor who was blacklisted during the McCarthy era realizes the significance of names when he learns who put his name on the blacklist in this play by Jeffrey Sweet.

The Well of the Saints
BCA Plaza Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through Nov. 20. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $34-$38. The Súgán Theatre Company stages J.M. Synge's play about two blind beggars who get a chance to see the world and each other when a holy man gives them sight.

University Theater

Dreaming Shakespeare
Robsham Theater Arts Center, Boston College, Chestnut Hill (617-552-4002). www.bc.edu/offices/robsham. MBTA: Green Line to Boston College. Nov. 18-21. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $10-$15. John Houchin directs this play that imagines dreams that inspired Shakespeare's comedies, histories and tragedies.

The Physicists
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.fas.harvard.edu/~tickets/. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Nov. 20. Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm. $7-$12. Mike Donahue directs Friedrich Durrenmatt's play about three nuclear physicists in a mental institution who are all believed beyond cure.

Dance

Lord of the Dance
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., (617-482-9393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 26-27. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat., 2 pm. $28.50-$68.50. Michael Flatley's international hit showcases dancing inspired by Irish folklore.

The Nutcracker
Colonial Theater, 106 Boylston St., (617-695-6955). www.bostonballet.com MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 26- Dec. 30. $25-$100. Boston Ballet performs Tchaikovsky's holiday classic.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. Deadline for listings is four weeks prior to publication.

STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café
All Asia Café, 334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). www.stashcomedyjam.com MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue. 7-10 pm. $5. The café hosts local comedy shows on Tuesday nights.

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault features local stand-up comedians. •Thu.: Greg Howell and friends •Fri. and Sat.: Boston's Best Standup •Sun.: Open Mike Night.

Cantab Lounge
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.cantablounge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central.

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Comedy Connection

245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Nov. 18, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •Nov. 19, 8 and 10:15 pm: Brian Regan, $26. •Nov. 20, 6, 8:15 and 10:30 pm: Brian Regan, $25.•Nov. 21, 6 pm: Brian Regan, $22.50; 8 and 10:15 pm: Sommore, $25. •Nov. 22, 8 pm: Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy" hosts the Amateur Showcase, $12. •Nov. 23, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi & Robbie Printz, $12. •Nov. 24, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15 . •Nov. 26, 8 and 10:15 pm: John Heffron, $23 •Nov. 27, 6, 8:15 and 10:30 pm: John Heffron, $22.50.•Nov. 28, 7 pm: John Heffron, $22.50. •Nov. 29, 8 pm: Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy" hosts the Amateur Showcase, $12. •Nov. 30, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi & Robbie Printz, $12.

Comedy Studio

Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Nov. 17: Tony V with Mike Herman, Matt Wininger, Arielle Goldman, Paul Day, Chris Coxen and others. •Nov. 18: Tissa Hami, Andrea Henry, David Powell, John Lincoln, Charlie Hatton, Alvin David and others. •Nov. 19: Tommy Morello, Mark McKay, Brian Longwell, David Grabiner, Ken Reid, Corey Manning and others. •Nov. 20: Eskunder Boyd, Malene Welch, Brian Longwell, Tissa Hami and others. •Nov. 21: Caitlin Jewell, Tom Flynn, Ben Boime, Constantine, Walter Dixon, Joe Mande, Seth Early and others. •Nov. 23: Magic Lounge: mind reading, card manipulation and disappearing doves. •Nov. 24: Tony V Experiment with Ben Murray, Jesse Gersten, Tissa Hima and Dan Sally. •Nov. 26: Steve Calechman, Val Kappa, Tissa Hami, Patrick Borelli and the Walsh Bros. •Nov. 27: Steve Calechman, Val Kappa, Tissa Hami, Patrick Borelli and Andy O'-



The American Repertory Theatre's production of *The Provok'd Wife* is at the Loeb Drama Center through December 26

Fish. •Nov. 28: Smiley, Patrick Bulger, Shane Mauss, Eric Riley Moore, Myq Kaplan, MB Crown and Tissa Hami. •Nov. 30: Magic Lounge: Five professional magicians.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. $10-$22. •Nov. 18, 8:30 pm: Mike Donovan and Johnny K. •Nov. 19, 8:45 pm: Mike Donovan, Ted Barrett and Wayne Soares. •Nov. 20, 8:45 pm: Mike Donovan, Ted Barrett and Wayne Soares. •Nov. 26, 8:45 pm: Paul Nardizzi, Mark Riley and Ben B. •Nov. 27, 8:45 pm: Paul Nardizzi, Mark Riley, Ben B.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. •Ongoing: The Midnight Show, Saturdays at midnight, $10; Lies, Half Truths and the American Way, Wed., and Thu., 8 pm; Sat., and Sun., 8 and 10 pm, $15.

ImprovBoston

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: the characters, the stories, the settings—even the songs and dances. •Thursdays, 8 pm, $10-12: Unnatural Selection. A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one is left. 10 pm, $5: The Great and Secret Comedy Show. Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and character sketches and play music and short films in a display of sibling rivalry. •Fridays, 8 pm, $10-12: "Carole Lombard Live!," a reverently irrelevent, one-woman show performed by Melinda Coneys. •Saturdays, 6 pm, $10-12 (children 11 and under accompanied by an adult admitted free): Improv Boston Family Show. A short-form improvisational show appropriate for all ages. 8 and 10 pm, $10-12: ImprovBoston Mainstage. Blending storytelling, music and audience participation, a cast of improvisers creates a show that changes with every performance. •Sundays, 7 pm, $5: Sgt. Culpepper/Open Jam. This evening combines three shows into one. Watch performances by visiting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry

327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-308-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Saturdays, 6 pm. $12. Boston's newest short-form improv group performs skits that involve audience participation.

The Tribe

Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Every Thursday, 8 pm. $5 before 8 pm, $10 after. 21+. Improv comedians poke fun at everything, including themselves.

COMEDY SHOWS

First Annual Lowell Comedy Festival

Cobblestones Restaurant, 91 Dutton St., Lowell (978-970-2282); the Brewery Exchange, 201 Cabot St., Lowell (978-937-2690). www.lowellcomedyfestival.com. Nov. 19 and Nov. 20, 8 and 9 pm (improv shows at Cobblestones), 10 pm stand-up shows at the Brewery Exchange), $10-$12. Some of Boston's top improv and stand-up comedians, including Erin Judge, Gregg Thibodeau and Eric Riley Moore, perform at Lowell's first comedy festival.

"I Didn't Vote for George W."

Jimmy Tingle's Off-Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square. Nov. 18, 19 and 21. 7:30 pm. $15. Brian Longwell performs this one-man show that explores the American political process.

Stella Comedy Show

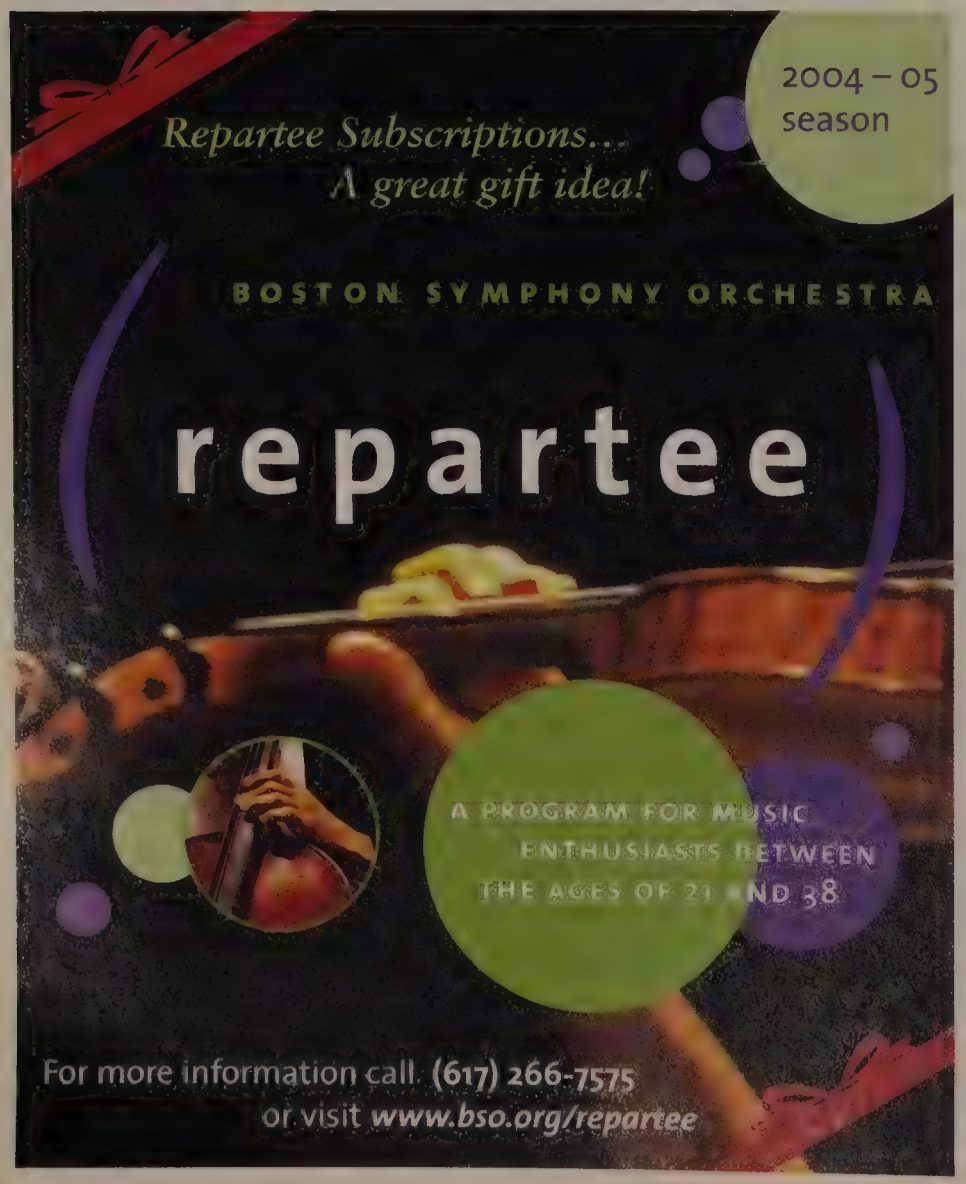
Paradise Rock Club, 969 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). www.thedise.com. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant Street, Nov. 18. 8 pm. $17, 18+. Eugene Mirman hosts this show by the Stella comedy troupe, featuring Michael Ian Black, Michael Showalter and David Wain.

Wanda Sykes

Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). www.berkleebpc.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Nov. 18. 7:30, pm. $35. The comedian and actress comes to town on her "Cotton T-Shirt Tour."

Steven Wright

Orpheum Theatre, 1 Hamilton Place, Boston (617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Nov. 26. 7:30 pm. $23.50-$33.50. The legendary Boston comic returns.





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When Johnny Met Peter

Finding Neverland doesn't fly.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Nothing against J.M. Barrie and *Peter Pan*, but isn't a celebration of Barrie's legendary play that presents it as *the* work that brought fantasy into pop culture cutting its own throat? Is laying the burden of today's pop culture—so much of which is targeted at 10-year-olds—really the best way to pay tribute to Barrie's ode to retaining childlike imagination and innocence? That's probably not the best tribute, but it's exactly the route *Finding Neverland*, a movie dramatizing the genesis of Barrie's play, takes. In this day and age, a story telling you to tap into your inner child, as *Peter Pan* does, is as common as dirt (and audiences certainly didn't find much special about last year's live-action Pan movie).



Johnny Depp tries to patch up Kate Winslet's family in *Finding Neverland*.

Finding Neverland concocts a sickly-sweet soap opera surrounding J.M. "James" Barrie (Johnny Depp), the Scottish-born playwright who has a big flop (*Little Mary*) and a dissatisfied wife (Radha Mitchell) on his hands as the story opens in 1903 London. This bit of Edwardian fluff finds Barrie and wife Mary already distant when he meets the young Davies brothers one afternoon at the local park where he sits and writes. The four boys are still grieving from the death of their father and have a tense relationship with loyal mother Sylvia Llewelyn Davies (Kate Winslet). The boys have lost trust in her, as her wishful assurances that their father would be all right turned out to be wrong.

Sensing the boys need to be cheered up, Barrie starts involving them in games of cowboys-and-Indians and pirate adventures. Soon he's spending more time with Sylvia and the boys than with his wife, much to the chagrin of Mary and of the boys' stern grandmother (Julie Christie). He especially takes time to encourage Peter (Freddie Highmore), who seems unable to grieve for his late father and whose emotional wound has dulled his boyish energy.

There's one moment in *Finding Neverland* when a Davies boy mentions how one of these pretend games leaves much to the imagination to fill in the gaps, and Barrie replies, "As it should be." But that's not a sentiment director Marc Forster adheres to, unfortunately. *Finding Neverland* could have easily been called *The Attack of the Art Department*, and that's a surprise from Forster, whose previous movies were the much rawer *Everything Put Together* (starring Mitchell) and the Billy Bob Thornton–Halle Berry drama *Monster's Ball*.

Instead of putting his faith in Barrie's resourcefulness to spin yarns for the boys, which Depp plays wonderfully, Forster trucks in overblown fantasy sequences that momentarily take the action to the circus, the Wild West and a pirate ship. Forster gilds the proverbial lily in these sequences and brings three wise words to mind: Less is more.

That advice might have helped with the melodrama too. When Sylvia gets a consumptive cough, *Finding Neverland* becomes a deathwatch movie, and a race for Barrie to finish his new play, with which he hopes to literally put the "play" back in the theater. Meanwhile, as American-born producer Charles Frohman (Dustin Hoffman) amusingly scoffs and the cast members scratch their heads (a dog suit? a pirate ship onstage?), *Peter Pan* takes shape, based on the boys and their game mom.

It all leads to an opening-night climax in which the drama of whether the boys will get to the theater (now mom's *really* sick) mixes with the saccharine ploy of Barrie reserving 25 tickets for orphans to sit in and break the ice for the stuffy adults, who are soon ooh-ing and aah-ing at the action as if they were 6-year-olds. This zealous climax gave me the creeps and came off like a cheesy, greeting-card version of the truly moving sequence in Preston Sturges' sharp 1940s comedy *Sullivan's Travels*, in which a group of worn-down chain-gang convicts have their spirits lifted by a Mickey Mouse cartoon.

But the only real lift *Finding Neverland* provides is Johnny Depp's performance. Nailing Barrie's Scottish accent, Depp also gives him a pent-up imagination that bursts loose when the Davies boys show up, as well as a sadness about his failing marriage. It's hard to imagine anyone else giving this role as rousing a performance as Depp does; still, his movie never made me want to clap my hands in approving belief. IB

Finding Neverland ★★½

Directed by Marc Forster. Written by David Magee. With Johnny Depp, Kate Winslet, Radha Mitchell, Julie Christie, Freddie Highmore and Dustin Hoffman. Rated R. At Boston Common.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Birth ★★★
In the end the story doesn't really amount to a hill of beans, but for most of the way, *Sexy Beast* director Jonathan Glazer's latest is a spellbinding little psychological thriller. The premise—a 10-year-old boy (Cameron Bright) appears at the door of a well-to-do New York woman (Nicole Kidman) and tells her that he's her husband, who died a decade before—sounds ridiculous, yet it's played for real and comes across surprisingly well. The characters act as you imagine they really would. The woman doubts the boy is the reincarnated husband at first, but when he knows intimate details about her life, she starts to believe him and become infatuated with him. Much of the awkwardness comes late in the movie, when it has to either prove or disprove the boy's claims, and the story doesn't quite wriggle out of its predicament unscathed. Even so, as a *Donnie Darko*–like metaphysical wrinkle in time and space, this is an intriguing oddity. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Dig ★★★
Ondi Timoner's documentary about the up-and-down relationship between the bands the Dandy Warhols and the Brian Jonestown Massacre is at its most interesting when it touches upon the battle between creativity and commerce. Each band has to decide how much it's willing to compromise to get its music heard, and for a time the bands were cohorts in fighting the system. As the relationship between sensible Dandy Warhols leader Courtney Taylor and self-destructive Brian Jonestown Massacre leader Anton Newcombe becomes more contentious, the bands actually become less interesting, despite the supposed drama, and so does the movie. (Midnight shows at Coolidge Corner, Nov. 26 and 27.)

End of the Century: The Story of the Ramones ★★★
After years in the works, Jim Fields and Michael Grimaglia's outstanding documentary on the prototypical punk band is finally here. The movie celebrates the fast, loud, darkly humorous three-chord rock of the Queens punks by charting the Ramones' rise in its first half. Then it peers into the unhappy offstage relationships that made much of the band's 22 years miserable for its members. Mainly, the feud between shy liberal Joey and hard-nosed conservative Johnny—sent to extremes when Joey's girlfriend left him for Johnny, whom she then married—is the source of the most discontent. Although the movie includes frank interviews from Johnny—the leader who took a "soldier on," all-business attitude to the band's commercial struggle—and colorful Dee Dee, its main flaw is that it never broaches such emotional topics with Joey. But now that all three are dead, this is the best we'll ever get. (Midnight shows at Coolidge Corner, November 19 and 20.)

I [heart] Huckabees ★★★
Writer-director David O. Russell's world is a chaotic one in which he amusingly forces characters to face up to their place in it, sometimes willingly, sometimes not. In Russell's latest film, troubled activist Albert (Jason Schwartzman) is somewhat willing, but he's not prepared to be pulled into the rabbit hole by the existential detectives (Lily Tomlin, Dustin Hoffman) he hires to find meaning in his life. The duo drags Albert into the lives of his nemesis (Jude Law)—a junior executive trying to turn Albert's environmental group into a PR-friendly front for his chainstore—and a fellow client (Mark Wahlberg) obsessed with petroleum consumption. The movie ricochets around like a pinball, sometimes distractingly so, but just about every direction it heads in is hilarious. (At Boston Common, Coolidge Corner, Harvard Square and suburbs.)

Kinsey ★★★
Scientist Alfred Kinsey became obsessed with researching the sexual habits of Americans and having his scientific findings replace myth and traditional morality in shaping people's view of "average" sexual behavior. Bill (*Gods and Monsters*) Condon's period piece does a fascinating job of capturing the fervent work of Kinsey (Liam Neeson) and showing how his findings of the 1940s and 1950s shook up the public and put the powers-that-be on high alert. Neeson's performance recalls the fixation of his Oskar Schindler, with getting as many people's sex history on paper the goal this time, while Laura Linney, Peter Sarsgaard, John Lithgow and Oliver Platt fill out the deep cast. The intensity of this rise-and-fall story starts to peter out, though, when it gets to the third act, thanks to vagueness in chronology and the sense that many events are being rushed through and oversimplified, right down to the rather mystifyingly upbeat ending. (At Kendall Square and West Newton.)

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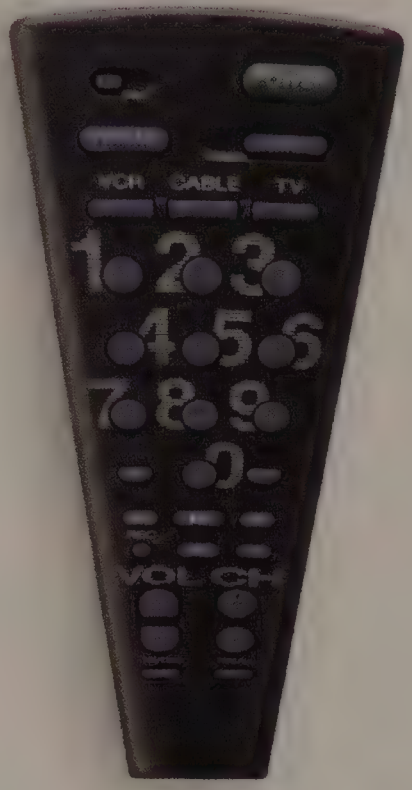
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Chris, Gary, Sarah and Joe in the puppet comedy *Team America: World Police*

Overnight ★★★
Is this the greatest Hollywood cautionary tale of all-time or hogwash with a hidden agenda? Probably a little of both, but it's enough of the first to make your jaw drop. You might remember Troy Duffy, the New Hampshire native who seemed to have struck it big in 1997 when Miramax snapped up his first screenplay, signed Duffy to direct it, signed his band to do the soundtrack and even agreed to buy the West Hollywood bar where he tended bar for him. Ultimately, Miramax decided not to make the movie or buy the bar, and the band's record contract fell through. When Duffy finally did make *Boondock Saints*, it played in a grand total of five theaters, and when the band finally released an album, it was even more of a flop. This documentary shows that a lot of the reason people didn't want to work with Duffy, when all was said and done, was Duffy himself, who generally acted as if he could do everyone's job better than they could, and let them know it. Two of the people he let know were Tony Montana and Mark Brian Smith, who were co-managing the band as well as making a documentary about Duffy's sudden success. They stopped managing the band but kept making the documentary, and they certainly have reason to make Duffy look bad. But Duffy does plenty of that himself, to the point that his brother, also in the band, splits with him. It's a chilling tale of hubris run amok, yet the ending might not be as dismal as that suggests. The Internet Movie Database shows that a sequel to the Tarantino-esque *Boondock Saints*, which did well on video, is in production, with the estranged brother listed as Duffy's co-writer. So this story isn't over. (Opens Nov. 26 at Kendall Square.)

Ray ★★★
Jamie Foxx's monumental performance dominates this fairly conventional biopic in which a talented hero (R&B/pop pioneer Ray Charles) overcomes adverse circumstances (witnessing his brother's drowning, going blind at age 7) and inner demons (a heroin habit, infidelity) to become a beloved American institution. Sometimes director Taylor Hackford's Hollywood treatment stretches credibility, particularly when the movie contrives to have Charles concoct the classic "What'd I Say?" as an impromptu time filler onstage one night. And the movie might be too forgiving of the pain Charles caused his wife. But Foxx is so immersed in the role, giving Charles a sly charisma, and the musical moments (with Foxx lip-synching to Charles' recordings) are so good that the movie's life-affirming intentions win out. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Shall We Dance? ★★
It's hard to think of an American remake of a foreign film that's as faithful to the original as this tale of a businessman whose drab life turns upbeat when he starts secretly taking ballroom-dancing lessons. But while the 1996 Japanese original was a charmer that won you over, the American remake gets the slick Hollywood treatment, and all that that cliché suggests: Stars Richard Gere, Susan Sarandon and Jennifer Lopez don't always have the everyday quality required of their characters; the American gregariousness smothers the Japanese reserve that was a hallmark of the original; and the remake awkwardly overreaches at times, especially in the over-the-top climax set to the cringe-worthy Peter Gabriel song "Book of Love." (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Sideways ★★★
Alexander Payne's *Sideways* does for the approach of middle age what his *About Schmidt* did for the onset of old age: uses it as a springboard for bittersweet comedy and a road trip. At first, this makes the latest from the director of *Citizen Ruth* and *Election* a letdown. But Payne and writing partner Jim Taylor's riffs on male bonding make this story of two 40-ish buddies' trip to California wine country painfully funny. It's hard to say where the characters leave off and the actors begin in the hilarious little moments in which the pair goes to wineries to sample the latest vintages. Paul Giamatti (*American Splendor*), who could be amusing reading a shopping list, gives a colorful tilt to wine connoisseur Miles' picky assessments of his tastings; in Giamatti's hands, sometimes Miles is being intentionally funny, sometimes not. Meanwhile, Thomas Haden Church's Jack has an endearing dumb-jock quality, and his response to Miles' "knowledgeable" wine talk is usually "tastes pretty good to me." Each man's approach to wine mirrors his approach to life and to the women they meet, of course, with Jack blindly leaping in and Miles analyzing and analyzing. (At Boston Common and Kendall Square.)

Tarnation ★★★½
In a year of too many remakes, sequels and "same old, same old" movies, Jonathan Caouette's distinctive documentary stands out. Culled from 20 years of the home movies he's shot since he was a boy, it tells the unforgettable, tragedy-laced story of his family, and of his relationship with his mother Renee, who was subjected to numerous sessions of questionable electro-shock therapy as a teenager. It's a cycle of madness that Caouette's grandparents foisted on his mom, and that he has continued to try to fight off. Almost as remarkable as the family history is the way Caouette tells the personal story, in a fast-moving collage of home movies punctuated by deadpan, onscreen text. Few movies this year have been as compellingly involving. (At Coolidge Corner.)

Team America: World Police ★★★½
Trey Parker and Matt Stone's return to the big screen is much, much funnier than its so-so trailer. Some have called the *South Park* creators' puppet-animated comedy politically impotent, since it makes fun of both the right and the left, but it's much more a pop culture satire than a political satire. Its story of a team of terrorist-fighting Americans is most of all a priceless spoof of ego-thumping Hollywood action movies. The title characters carelessly destroy other countries' national treasures (the Eiffel Tower, the Sphinx, etc.) on the way to protecting American security because, as in most pumped-up Hollywood action pictures, other countries just aren't as important as we are. (The parody of the clichéd disrespect that action movies show Arabs and other ethnicities is a hoot.) Of course, the similarity between the swaggering American self-image parodied here and our government's behavior is in the eye of the beholder. Meanwhile, Korean dictator Kim Jong Il is the WMD-distributing bad guy, a cross between Elmer Fudd and Blofeld, while *Team America*'s domestic nemeses are Hollywood lefties including Alec Baldwin, Tim Robbins and Michael Moore. Sure, it's childish to make fun of celebrities who've spoken out against the war in Iraq, but it's childish to have a puppet puking for a minute and a half, yet that's also the funniest movie scene all year. And, as in the *South Park* movie, Trey Parker's song parodies just can't be beat. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Vera Drake ★★
The latest from Mike Leigh (*Secrets & Lies*, *Topsy-Turvy*) starts as one of his most involving recent movies, as we meet his title character, played by solid Imelda Staunton. She's an industrious, generous housekeeper in 1950s England who works hard, never complains and also happens to "help young girls out" by performing abortions. She's simply a fascinating person to watch, until halfway through the movie. That's when she gets arrested after one of the

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girls nearly dies, and the legal procedures and family complications she suffers turn the story utterly predictable. Instead of being involving, the action just becomes a long-winded exercise in contrasting Vera's treatment with that of a young rich woman (Sally Hawkins) who, in a too-short subplot, gets an abortion through doctors who'll skirt the law for a price Vera's lower-class patients could never pay. (At Copley, Harvard Square and West Newton.)

What the Bleep Do We Know? ★★

It's different, all right, but that's not always a good thing in this indie, new-agey blend of documentary and drama. The documentary has some generally interesting scientific theorizing about the way the body perceives the world and about the effect of emotion on cells. But the interesting stuff is married to goofy animation and, even worse and even goofier, dramatic sequences starring Marlee Matlin as a two-timed photographer who undergoes an attitude adjustment. These scenes are as clunky as an airline safety video. (At Copley Place and Waltham Embassy.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Betty Thomas: from *Hill Street Blues* to Hollywood Auteur

•Nov. 29, 6 pm. **The Brady Bunch Movie** 1995. It's an all-out culture clash when the wholesome, upbeat 1970s TV family is transplanted into the harsh, moody 1990s. Betty Thomas directs. Film critic Betsy Sherman discusses the film after the screening.

BRATTLE THEATRE

Being Peter Sellers

•Nov. 26 and 27, 2:15 and 7:15 pm. **The Pink Panther** *1963*. Peter Sellers stars as clueless inspector Clouseau, who travels to a ritzy ski resort in pursuit of jewel thief known as the Phantom. Blake Edwards directs. •Also showing, 5 and 9:45 pm. **A Shot in the Dark** *1964*. In Blake Edwards' sequel to *The Pink Panther*, Sellers reprises his role as Clouseau. This time, the hapless detective falls for a killer while pursuing her in a nudist colony.

•Nov. 28, 3:15 and 7:30 pm. **I Love You, Alice B Toklas!** *1968*. Sellers is an average Joe who gets caught up in New York's hippie underground when he goes in search of his lost brother. Hy Averback directs. •Also showing, 5:15 and 9:30 pm. **The World of Henry Orient** *1964*. Two teenage girls fall for a womanizing pianist (Sellers) and try their best to win his affections in 1960s mod New York City. George Roy Hill directs.

•Nov. 29, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm. **Murder by Death** *1976*. Five of the world's most brilliant detectives are invited to a remote mansion to solve a murder mystery that takes place after dinner. Robert Moore directs.

•Nov. 30, 5:15 and 9:45 pm. **What's New, Pussycat?** *1965*. Sellers stars as a psychoanalyst hired to help a notorious womanizer stay faithful to his fiancée. Clive Donner directs. •Also showing, 7:30 pm. **The Party** *1968*. Sellers plays an Indian actor hired to star in a Hollywood film. When he arrives, he accidentally destroys the film's elaborate set and is banned from the production. Blake Edwards directs.

Cries and Whispers: The Cinema of Ingmar Bergman

•Nov. 17, 5 and 9:30 pm. **Sommarnattens Leende** *(Smiles of a Summer Night) 1955*. A man married to a virgin visits his old mistress and is thrown out by her new lover. Bergman directs. •Also showing, 7:15 pm. **Smultronstället** *(Wild Strawberries) 1957*. An aging professor on his way to accept an award examines the emptiness of his life and faces his own mortality. Berman directs.

Midnights

•Nov. 19, 20, 26 and 27, 12 am. **Shaun of the Dead** *2004*. While attempting to win back his girlfriend, a dead[illegible] tries to defeat a horde of zombies terrorizing London. Edgar Wright directs.

[illegible] to Casablanca

[illegible] The Brattle hosts a seat-sale and for[illegible] to benefit the Brattle Film Foundation. [illegible]themed event honors screenwriters [illegible] Epstein and includes music plus food [illegible]888 Vodka, Casablanca Restaurant, [illegible]rie and Mahoney's Garden Center. [illegible] *876-8021 for more information.*

[illegible]s and Special Engagements

[illegible] and 21, 12:30, 2:45 and 5 pm. [illegible] *1942*. Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman star as the star-crossed Rick and Ilsa in Michael Curtiz' classic romance.

•Nov. 19-21, 7:15 and 9:30 pm; Nov. 22-25, 5, 9:15 and 9:30 pm. **Infernal Affairs** *2002*. The Hong Kong police try to catch an evasive crime lord who keeps slipping through their fingers in Andrew Lau's cops- and-robbers flick.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Box Office Babies

•Nov. 28, 1 pm. The Coolidge's biweekly series provides an infant-friendly setting for viewing recent international, independent and documentary films., Titles are announced the week before the screening at www.coolidge.org.

Coolidge Selects

•Now playing. **Lightning in a Bottle** *2004*. Antoine Fuqua's documentary captures a concert at Radio City Music Hall featuring more than 50 legendary blues artists.

•Now playing. **Sideways** *2004*. See New Releases for a description.

•Now playing. **Tarnation** *2003*. See New Releases for a description.

•Opens Nov. 19. **Kinsey** *2004*. See New Releases for a description.

•Opens Nov. 26. **Huutajat** *(Screaming Men) 2004*. Mika Ronkainen's documentary follows the Finnish Screaming Male Choir, which tours the world performing shouted renditions of songs and anthems.

Midnight Movies

•Nov. 19, 12 am. **Future Animators of the Future**. The collective of artists and filmakers return with a show of new uncensored animated shorts.

•Nov. 19 and 20, 12 am. **End of the Century: The Story of the Ramones** *2004*. See New Releases for a description.

•Nov. 20, 12 am. **Gui da Gui** *(Encounters of the Spooky Kind) 1980*. Sammo Hung Kam-Bo directs this kung fu horror/comedy about a man who bets he can spend the night in a haunted temple.

•Nov. 26 and 27, 12 am. **Dig** *2004*. See New Releases for a description.

•Nov. 27, 12 am. **Wong Fei-Hung Zhi-Sei: Wang Zhe Zhi Feng** *(Once Upon a Time in China 4) 1993*. Yuen Bun directs this martial-arts sequel in which the hero battles a series of surreal opponents like a giant crab and a centipede.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Cinema Francais

•Nov. 22, 9 pm. **Demonlover** *2002*. Two corporations compete for 3D software that could revolutionize the online porn industry. Olivier Assayas directs.

Contemporary Hollywood Cinema

•Nov. 22, 7 pm. **Beauty and the Beast** *1991*. A young woman trades places with her imprisoned father and falls in love with her captor. Gary Trousdale and Kirk Wise direct.

•Nov. 29, 7 pm. **Titanic** *1997*. Director James Cameron brings the ill-fated voyage of the "unsinkable" ship to life with a story of a rich girl and poor boy who fall in love during the journey.

Contemporary Turkish Documentaries

•Nov. 26 and 28, 7 pm. **Alin Kullanin Beni!—Oyunaunun Portres: Necdet Mahfi Ayral** *(Take Me and Use Me!—Portrait of an Actor: Necdet Mahfi Ayral) 2004*. Mehmet Güreli's documentary looks at Turkish entertainer Necdet Mahfi Ayral. •Immediately following, **Koleksiyoncu** *(The Collector) 2002*. Pelin Esmer's documentary follows a man from Istanbul who has spent 70 years accumulating a variety of items. •Also showing, Nov. 26, 9 pm; Nov. 27, 7 pm. **Hititler** *(The Hittites) 2003*. Jeremy Irons narrates Tolga Örnek's documentary about the ancient Hittites and their battles against Pharaoh Ramses II.

•Nov. 27 and 28, 9 pm. **Nazim Hikmet Sarkilari** *(The Songs of Nazim Hikmet) 2000*. Memhet Eryilmaz's documentary chronicles the life of Turkish poet Nazim Hikmet.

Film Architectures

•Nov. 17, 6:30 pm. **Playtime** *1967*. Director Jacques Tati reprises his role as hapless Parisian Monseiur Hulot, who gets caught up with a group of Americans on an architectural tour of Paris.

•Nov. 23, 7 pm. **Madam Satan** *1930*. In an attempt to win the fading attention of her husband, a socialite transforms herself into an alluring devil woman at a masquerade ball. Cecil B. DeMille directs

•Nov. 30, 7 pm. **Aelita: Queen of Mars** *1924*. An inventor shoots his wife and flees to Mars in this early science-fiction film. Yakov Protazanov directs.

Humanist Masterworks: Satyajit Ray

•Nov. 17, 9 pm. **Devi** *1960*. A man is convinced his daughter-in-law is the goddess Kali reincarnated.

•Nov. 19, 7 pm. **Mahanagar** *(The Big City) 1963*. A housewife ignores the cultural standard and becomes a door-to-door salesperson to support her family. •Also



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showing, Nov. 19, 9:15 pm; Nov. 20, 9 pm. **Charulata** (aka *The Lonely Wife*) *1964*. Neglected by her husband, Charulata develops a strong connection to his cousin, who encourages her writing and sparks a sexual and intellectual awakening.

•Nov. 20, 7 pm; Nov. 21, 9:15 pm. **Aranyer Din Ratri** *(Days and Nights in the Forest) 1970*. Four city slickers from Calcutta take off for the forest and coerce the locals into providing them with accommodations.

•Nov. 21, 7 pm. **Shatranj ke Khiladi** *(The Chess Players) 1977*. Set in late-19th-century Lucknow, Ray's film follows two parallel stories, one about two aristocrats who are obsessed with chess, and the other about a monarch who ignores the threat of British imperial expansion.

•Nov. 23, 9 pm. **Agantuk** *(The Stranger) 1991*. A middle-class Calcutta family's life is disrupted when a man arrives claiming to be a long-lost relative.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Art on Film

•Nov. 18, 4:30 pm; Nov. 20 and 28, 10:30 am; Nov. 26, 1 pm. **Antonio Gaudi** *1984*. Hiroshi Teshigahara's ode to the Spanish architect captures his greatest achievements, including the Temple of Sagrada Familia.

Boston Festival of Films from Iran

•Nov. 19, 6 pm; Nov. 20, 12 pm. **Ashk-e Sarma** *(The Tear of the Cold) 2003*. Azizollah Hamidnezhad's film is a love story about two supposed enemies unexpectedly thrown together.

•Nov. 19, 8 pm; Nov. 27, 2 pm. **Shahre Ziba** *(Beautiful City) 2004*. A paroled convict promises to help a lonely young woman overturn her brother's death sentence. Ashgar Farhadi directs.

•Nov. 20, 2:30 pm; Nov. 26, 4:30 pm. **Boutique** *2004*. Expressed through the quirky relationship between a boutique clerk and a girl from a poor family, Hamid Nematollah's film looks at the troubles of the younger generations in Tehran, Iran.

•Nov. 26, 6:30 pm. **Lezate Divanegi** *(Joy of Madness) 2003*. Fourteen-year-old Hana Makhmalbaf's film follows her sister Samira as she tries to make her own film, *At Five in the Afternoon*, in Kabul. •Also showing, 8 pm. **Panj e Asr** *(At Five in the Afternoon) 2003*. Samira Makhmalbaf directs this film about an Iranian coachman's daughter who rebels against his old-world ideals.

•Nov. 27, 10:30 am. **Ghanari** *(Canary) 2002*. Seven-year-old Pares retreats from the chaos of war, family troubles, and school bullies by caring for the local priest's prized canary. •Also showing, Nov. 27, 2 pm. **10 on Ten** *2003*. Iranian filmmaker Abbas Kiarstomi uses his movie *Ten* to explain his theory of filmmaking in 10 chapters.

•Nov. 28, 1:50 pm. **Abjad** *(The First Letter) 2003*. Abolfazl Jalili directs an autobiographical coming-of age-story about Jews in pre-revolutionary 1970s Iran.

Environmental Films from the Asian Diaspora

•Nov. 18, 7:45 pm. **Alexei to Izumi** *(Alexei and the Spring) 2001*. Seiichi Motohashi's documentary follows the residents of a village in the Republic of Belarus affected by the nuclear accident at Chernobyl.

Israeli Cinema

•Nov. 26, 2:30 pm; Nov. 27, 12:10 pm; Nov. 28, 4 pm. **Ha'Kohavim Shel Shlomi** *(Bonjour Monsieur Shlomi) 2003*. Sixteen-year-old Shlomi's overlooked intellectual gifts surface despite his chaotic family environment in this coming-of-age story that captures the lives of a multigenerational Israeli clan. Shemi Zarhin directs.

New England Film Artists Present

•Nov. 18, 6 pm. **Killing Silence: Taking on the Mafia in Sicily** *2004*. Director and Boston College professor John Michalczyk looks at Palermo citizens working to reclaim their neighborhoods from the Sicilian Mafia.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater

•Through Feb. 17, 2005. **Extreme**. Audiences experience the most extreme outdoor sports, including skiing and snowboarding on perilous untouched mountain peaks; climbing frozen waterfalls and red-rock spires; surfing some of the largest waves ever surfed and windsurfing El Niño–strength winds.

•Through Feb. 17, 2005. **Roar: Lions of the Kalahari**. Journey into the Kalahari Desert as two Botswana lions battle it out over a water hole.

•Through May 26, 2005. **Forces of Nature**. Experience the power of earthquakes, volcanoes and storms as scientists attempt to forecast and understand them.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater

•Through Jan. 18. **Galapagos**. Marine biologist Carole Baldwin leads a scientific expedition through the coral reefs of the Galapagos Islands.

•Through Jan. 18. **Ocean Wonderland 3D**. Watch as eagle rays, sharks, dolphins and other creatures create an underwater wonderland.

•Through Jan. 18. **Polar Express 3D.** Tom Hanks and director Robert Zemeckis collaborate for a 3D adventure inspired by Chris Van Allsburg's children's book about a young boy who takes an extraordinary train ride to the North Pole.

•Through Jan. 18. **Santa vs. the Snowman 3D**. A lonely snowman becomes jealous of Santa during the holiday season.

•Through Jan. 18. **Volcanoes of the Deep Sea**. Dive to the bottom of the sea with a team of scientists, as they explore hydrothermal vents, shipwrecked gardens, predators and bioluminescent creatures.

Special Events

Do It Your Damn Self Film Festival

•Nov. 19, 9:30 am-1:30 pm at the Boston Public Library; Nov. 20, 7:30-9:30 pm at MIT Bartos Theater. The ninth annual DIYDS festival features 13 films produced and directed by local inner-city teens. www.doityourdamnself.org.

Cinema Venues

BELMONT

Studio Cinema

376 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Public Library

666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)

100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre

201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common

175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science

Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema

399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Reservoir.

Coolidge Corner Theatre

290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre

40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Fresh Pond

168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive

24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema

One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony

10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

MIT

77 Mass. Ave., Room 6-120 (617-612-0091). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema

27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema

1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony

35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre

55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

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2 oz. Ron Zacapa Centenario
Juice of two limes
2 tbs. superfine granulated sugar
Splash club soda
5-10 mint leaves

Combine ingredients in a cocktail shaker with ice. Shake and strain into an ice-filled glass. Top with a splash of club soda and garnish with a sprig of mint.

Honey Martini
Created by Christopher (Stretch) Gerdon, China Grill, Miami
2 1/2 oz. Zacapa Centenario
1 oz. of diluted Honey
Squeeze 1/2 Lemon
Splash of Soda Water

Shake juice and ingredients together with ice, and strain into martini glass. Add splash of soda and garnish with lime wheel.

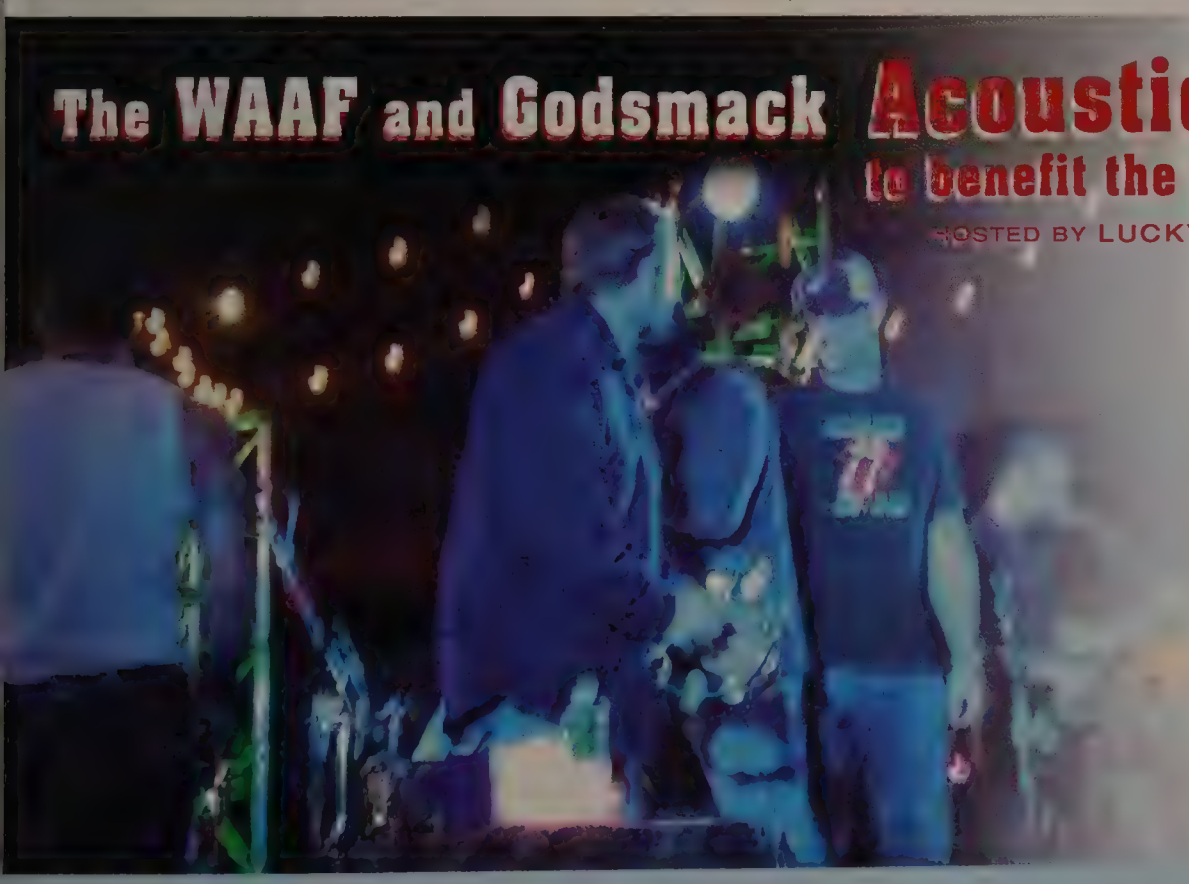
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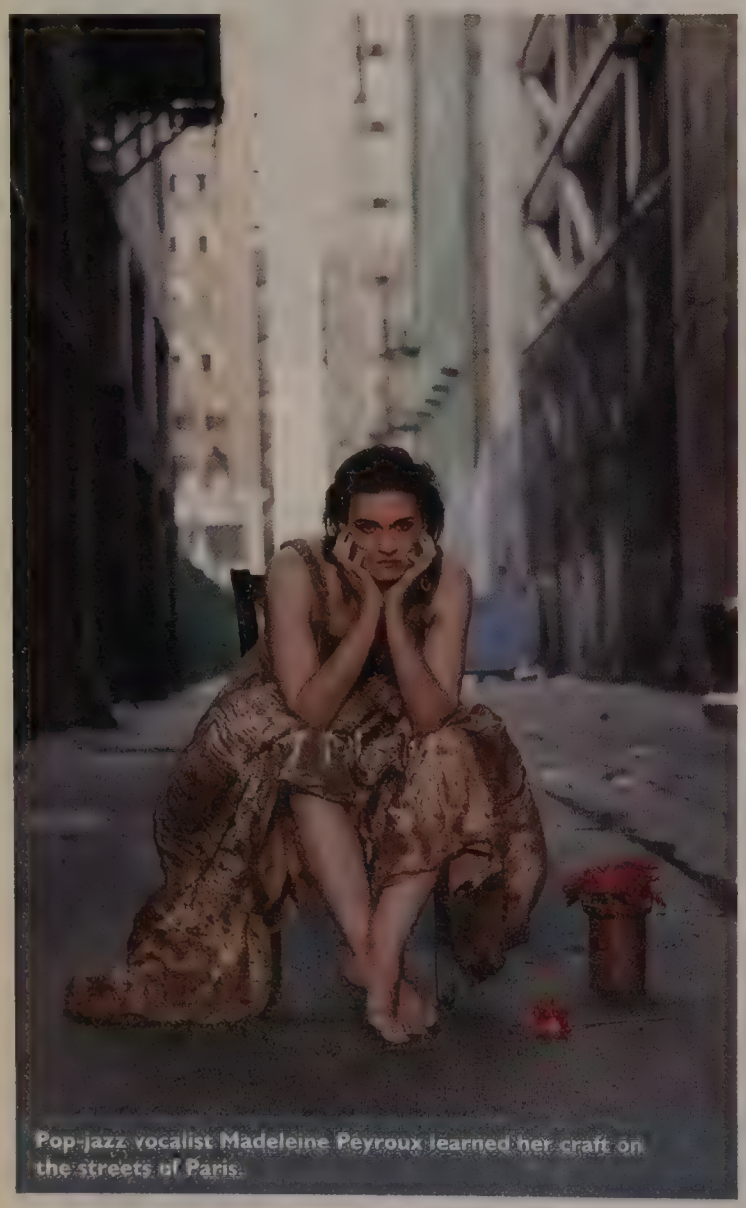
Madeleine Peyroux returns to share sweet transformations in song.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Preconceptions are lost when one hears Madeleine Peyroux's sweet, lingering alto inhabit the lyrics of a tune like Bob Dylan's "You're Gonna Make Me Lonesome When You Go," one of several exquisite covers on her new CD, *Careless Love*.

One preconception that listeners might find hard to dispel, however, is Peyroux's eerie similarity in tone and phrasing to jazz icon Billie Holiday, who left a huge impression on the singer during her teens.

"For me, Billie Holiday created a technique that gave insight into the performance and, consequently, into the meaning of the performance," says the pop-jazz singer (whose last name is pronounced *pe-RU*, like the country). "That's probably why I could never shake [that influence]. Why would you want to? But there you go. It's a catch-22."



Pop-jazz vocalist Madeleine Peyroux learned her craft on the streets of Paris.

"It's only a frustration when I get the impression that I haven't gotten across to the audience, like when I get a reviewer who says it was derivative to the point that the performance was distracting," Peyroux says from her Brooklyn home. "But if that's his experience, that's a big part of it. My best hope is that because this is such an organic process, I can keep on kicking and growing."

Smart listeners will take the same journey beyond initial perceptions, or they'll miss out on some extraordinarily deft music. Bostonians get the chance to see Peyroux perform with her quartet at John Hancock Hall November 26 (for free admission, with a donation of food for charity) to cap the hall's two-week Equinox Music Festival.

In 1996, before the pop breakthroughs of Norah Jones and Diana Krall, Peyroux sold 200,000 copies of her startling debut, *Dreamland*, which *Time* magazine called "the most exciting, involving vocal performance by a new singer this year." But after that first album, which she recorded at age 22, Peyroux disappeared from the radar for eight years.

"Until you've been in the public eye, it doesn't mean as much not to be," says Peyroux, 31, who tried twice to deliver a second CD before developing a cyst on her vocal cords. During the intervening years, she spent time with church and family, and even did some waitressing. "It can appear that things are not going well when, in fact, things are just incubating.

"One of the interesting things was playing in a café in Nashville for two or three months, just five nights a week by myself," she says. "When I was trying to be a waitress and it didn't work out, I actually jumped in with both feet and got this job. Occasionally I'd go out and play on the street again, and was booking myself in various clubs."

Peyroux knew how to be a street musician. Born in Georgia, but raised in Paris by her mother, a French teacher, she learned her craft on the boulevards of the Old World.

"The streets themselves had the energy—it almost felt as if you were just there to pick up on it," she says. "A lot of what we were able to do was reliant on how much [people] were willing to pay, so it had something to do with the fact that it was a tourist neighborhood. But the spirit of the Latin Quarter was also full of this artistic attitude.

"I was capable of honing my skills in this really rich environment," adds Peyroux, who sings one song in seamless French on the new disc. "People that I knew on the street were like characters out of a comic book, and nobody really did anybody any harm... I don't remember major tragedies other than that a lot of my friends died young from alcoholism.

"Besides the fact that we had this safe world to live in, we were able to communicate with an audience in a musical format that was just as adventurous, that was something you could learn from, because jazz is so many layers deep," she says. "I think that's why I'm still doing it now."

After quietly rebuilding a presence through club dates in the U.S. and abroad, Peyroux signed with Rounder Records. She recorded *Careless Love* in Los Angeles with producer Larry Klein, known for his work with ex-wife Joni Mitchell. Klein helped assemble a cast of facile players anchored by keyboardist Larry Goldings, and co-wrote the breezy "Don't Wait Too Long" with Peyroux and Jesse Harris, who lent similar assistance on Norah Jones' blockbuster *Come Away with Me*.

"I met Jesse Harris right about the time I was getting off tour in 1997, and the following year was when Norah moved to New York," Peyroux says. "I remember her seeing me off. I feel like everything is really following its own path. I'm just raring to go. I think it's just the beginning." IB

Madeleine Peyroux
plays John Hancock Hall November 26.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or by email to music@improper.com. Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double-check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Authority Zero, Eden Row, New Blood Revival Nov. 22, Harpers Ferry (800-594-8499).
Bacilos Nov. 17, the Roxy (617-931-2000).
The Bacon Brothers Nov. 17, Somerville Theatre (617-876-4275).
Regina Belle Nov. 26-27, Scullers Jazz Club (617-783-0090).
The Chick Corea Elektric Band Nov. 21, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).
Doug E. Fresh & Slick Rick Nov. 24, the Roxy (617-931-2000).
The Bill Frisell Trio Nov. 18-20, Regattabar (617-395-7757).
G. Love & Special Sauce, Slightly Stoopid Nov. 27, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Grenada / Hurricane Ivan Relief Concert: Babaloo, Sam Bisbee, Simon Friend, Paddy Stratton, Branches Steel Pan Band, Frank Morey, Uncle Shaker Nov. 17, Middle East Downstairs (617-492-9181).
Gruppa-Geroi Leningrad Nov. 19, Middle East Downstairs (617-492-9181).
Arlo Guthrie Nov. 17-19, Club Passim (617-492-7679).
Leukemia/Lymphoma Society Benefit with Paranoid Social Club, Sucka Brown, On the Drop, Gaffney, the Meanwhiles Nov. 17, Middle East Upstairs (617-492-9181).
Marilyn Manson Nov. 26, Avalon (617-931-2000). Sold out.
Bret Michaels Nov. 29 Axis (617-931-2000).
The Jane Monheit Quintet Nov. 26, Sanders Theatre (617-496-2222).
Lou Rawls Nov. 17-20, Scullers Jazz Club (617-783-0090).
Pharoah Sanders, Kenny Garrett Quintet Nov. 26-28, Regattabar (617-395-7757).
The Derek Trucks Band, Addison Groove Project Nov. 20, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Johnny Winter, Albert Cummings Nov. 19, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Abbey Lounge Tony Goddess, the Dents, Beer, Wine & Plants, Andrea Gillis, 8:15 pm, $5-$7.
Asgard Puddin'.
Axis Mushroomhead, Dogfight, Haloburn, 7 pm, $15.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Eric Merrill & Western Star, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Arlo Guthrie, 8 pm, $40.
Dick's Last Resort Music Schmusic, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
The Hamphshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry PCR, Trek, 9 pm, $5.
Hennessy's Joe Carson Band.
Johnny D's Mahavishnu Project, 8:30 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie.
Lizard Lounge Dennis Brennan Band, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Leukemia/Lymphoma Society benefit concert: Paranoid Social Club, Sucka Brown, On the Drop, Gaffney, the Meanwhiles, 8 pm, $9. Downstairs: Grenada / Hurricane Ivan Relief concert: Babaloo, Sam Bisbee, Simon Friend, Paddy Stratton, Branches Steel Pan Band, Frank Morey, Uncle Shaker, 7 pm, $15.
Midway Café Karms Junction, Amalgam.
Milky Way Lyrical and Lifted, 9 pm.
Oak Bar Steve Heck, 7:30 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's The Chainletter, Fleshpetal, Evelyn's Dead, $6.
Paradise The Delgados, Crooked Fingers, 8 pm, $12.

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Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Jamie Baum Septet, 8:30 pm, $12.
Roxy Bacilos, 9 pm, $30.
Ryles Jazz Club Nando Michelin Quintet, 8:30 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Lou Rawls, 8 and 10 pm, $45.
Somerville Theatre The Bacon Brothers, 7:30 pm, $22-$37.
Toad Brian Webb and His Band, 7 pm; the Ken Clark Organ Trio, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Reckless Daughter, Grand Evolution, Thirdshift, $5.
Zeitgeist Gallery Mouth of the Architect, Conifer, 6:30 pm, $7; Explorations in Music, 9:30 pm, $8.
ZuZu Lady of Spain, 10 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Sofia Koutsovitis, 8 pm.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Abbey Lounge Pony, 10:30 pm; Steel Poniez, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
Asgard The Ken Selcer Trio.
Avalon Taking Back Sunday, Atreyu, Funeral for a Friend, Like Yesterday, 6 pm, sold out.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Groove Authority, 7 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Swingin Johnsons, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Stone Crazy, 9 pm.
Club Passim Arlo Guthrie, 8 pm, $40.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
The Hamphshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Carla Ryder, 9 pm.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
High Street Grille Little Joe Cook, 9 pm, no cover.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Kinsale Sirsy.
Kirkland Café Supervain, Medicine Hat, Emily Dahmen, Andres Paquin, $5.
Lizard Lounge Club D'Elf, 9:30 pm, $10.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band.
Middle East Upstairs: Junction 18, Endway, Fenwick, My Little Radio, 9 pm, $8. Downstairs: Gogol Bordello, Beat Circus, Barbez, 8 pm, $12.
Oak Bar Jane Potter, 7:30 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's High Rocktane Round 2, $5.
PA's From Bubblegum to Sky, Ultraplush, $5-$7.
Plough and Stars Brass Roots, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Bill Frisell Trio, 7:30 and 10 pm, $25.
Ryles Jazz Club Willie and Lobo, 8:30 pm, $15.
Scullers Jazz Club Lou Rawls, 8 and 10 pm, $45.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Toad Blast Off!, 7 pm; Todd Thibaud, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio,. 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Benefit for Kitty Angels Cat Rescue: The Modifiers, Fluttr, Caged Heat, the Charms, Garagedogs, Rose Huntress, Rachael Cantu, $8.
The Western Front Invasion Entertainment, 9 pm, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Joe Della Penna Trio, 7 pm, $10; Greg Davis, Signer, Ariel Pink, 9:30 pm, $8.
ZuZu Mittens, 11 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Abbey Lounge Dirty Truckers, 10:30 pm; the Throttles, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
Asgard Ryan McHugh & Stu Lee.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Darren Barrett Quartet, 7:30 pm.
Boston Harbor Hotel Fall jazz nights.
Bravo at the MFA Damon Carter, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Classic Trax, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Arlo Guthrie, 8 pm, $40.
Dick's Last Resort Death by Marriage, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Random Axis.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
The Hamphshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm, no cover.
The Harp Life Speed, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Toussaint & the China Band, 9 pm, $6.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30 pm; Spike the Punch.
Johnny D's Funky White Honkies, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kinsale Undercover.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton, 5-7 pm.
Kirkland Café Driftwood, Greesome, Rollo Tomasi Quartet, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Kresge Auditorium Kenny Werner, 8 pm, $5.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

American Hi-Fi Dec. 7, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Barenaked Ladies Dec. 9 and 10, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Better Than Ezra, Pat McGee Band Dec. 5, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Blonde Redhead Dec, 5 Paradise Rock Club (617-931-2000).
Carol Channing Dec. 5, Berklee Performace Center (617-931-2000).
Disco Biscuits Dec. 22, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Kottonmouth Kings Dec. 6, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Medeski, Martin & Wood Dec. 2, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Pixies and Mission of Burma Dec. 1 & 2 (Dec. 1 sold out), Tsongas Arena (617-931-2000).
Josh Ritter Dec. 11, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Los Straitjackets Dec. 8, Axis (617-931-2000).
WBCN Xmas Rave Dec. 1, Various venues (617-931-2000).
Dar Williams Dec. 2, Somerville Theatre (617-931-2000).

Lizard Lounge Galactic Fractures, 7:30 pm, no cover; Shivaree, Ad Frank and the Fast Easy Women, 9:30 pm, $10.
Middle East Upstairs: Reverend Glasseye and his Wooden Leg, Alec K. Redfearn and the Eyesores, the Flesh, the Collisions, 9 pm, $8. Downstairs: Gruppa-Geroi "Leningrad," 8 pm, $40.
Mr. Dooley's Tommy and Alan.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's The Slaves, Rock City Crimewave, Polarized, $6.
Paradise Rock Club: Johnny Winter, Albert Cummings, 9 pm, $25. Lounge: Mieka Pauley, Emm Gryner, Scott Sylvester, 9 pm, $10.
Parris The Zone, 10 pm, $10.
PA's International Penpal, the Jumblies, $5-$7.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 6-8:30 pm; Eilen Jewell Band, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Bill Frisell Trio, 7:30 and 10 pm, $25.
Ryles Jazz Club Mango Blue, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Lou Rawls, 8 and 10:30 pm, $55.
Toad The Freelance Bishops, no cover.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway, Bob Nieske Trio, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Crash & Burn, Bionic, Bury the Needle, Side Effects, $8.
The Western Front Strictly Yard, 9 pm, $5.
Zeitgeist Gallery David Haas, 7 pm, $10.
ZuZu Latin night with Gian Carlo Buscaglia, 11 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 7 pm.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20

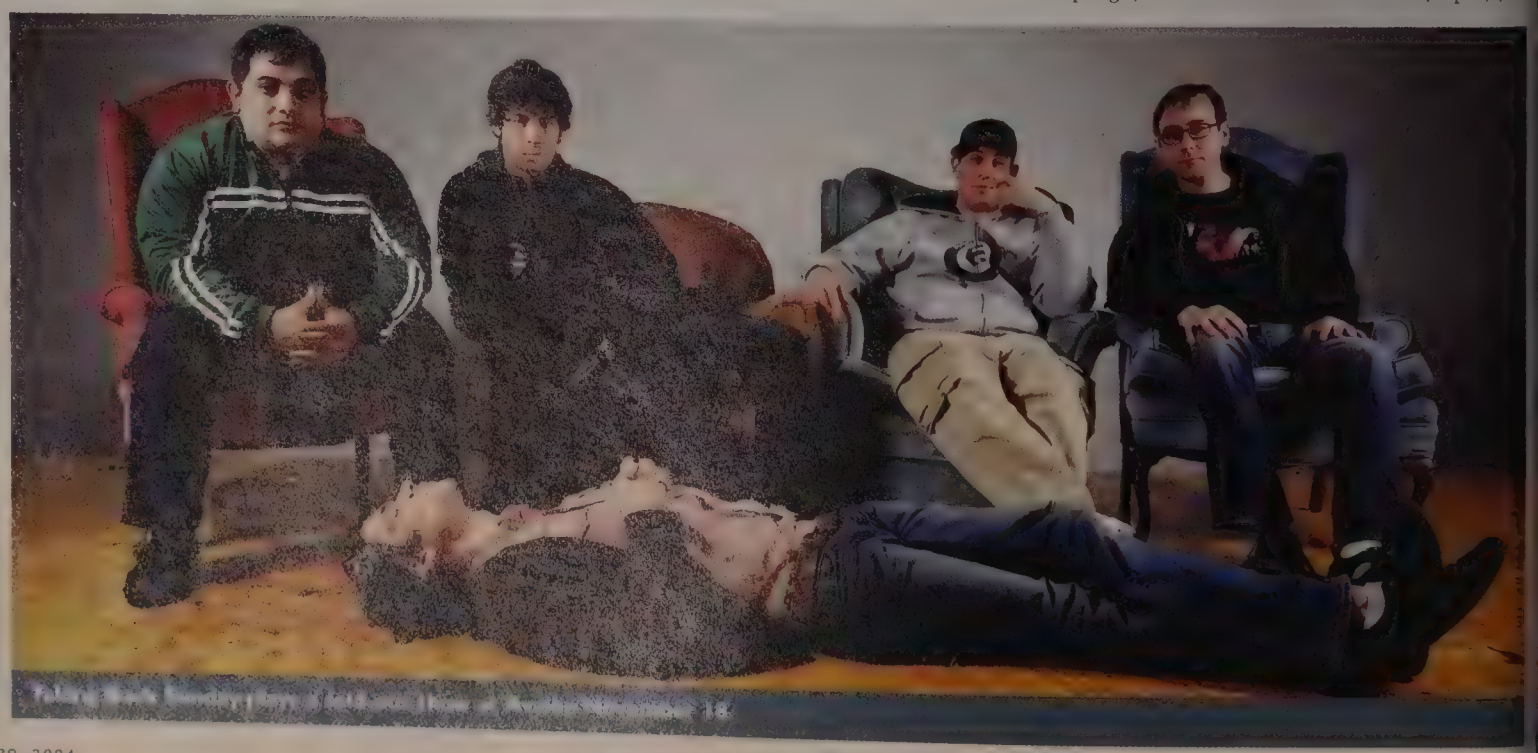
Abbey Lounge Downbeat 5, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
Asgard The Ripchordz.
Avalon The Derek Trucks Band, Addison Groove Project, 6 pm, $20.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Highland Jazz, 7:30 pm.
The Burren 4" Stud, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Kelly Joe Phelps, Jeremy Wallace, 7 and 10 pm, $18.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Inchicore.
The Green Dragon Tavern Bald Walter.
The Hamphshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm, no cover.
The Harp Life Speed, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Meet the Day, Fighting Gravity, 9 pm, $8.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm.
Johnny D's Rock Bottom, 9:45 pm, $8.
Kennedy's Midtown Reggae Nights with Bobbie Steelz & Moon.
Kinsale Symbolics.
Kirkland Café Soup Bone Throne, Victims of Circumstance, AJ Crowe & the Airconditioners, Gavin House, $5.
Lizard Lounge Jabe Beyer, 7:30 pm, no cover; Molly Coddle, Guitarzan, 9:30 pm, $8.
Middle East Upstairs: Holly Golightly, the Woggles, Eli "Paperboy" Reed, 9 pm, $12. Downstairs: J. Mascis and the Fog, Dave Schools and Kyle Spence, 8 pm, $15. The Corner: Adam Ezra.
Midway Café Angelic Slugs, Frequency 7.
Mr. Dooley's Tommy and Alan.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's Triplock, My First Handgun, Gone Baby Gone, $6.
Paradise Rock Club: Ryan Montbleau Band, Dwight Ritcher Band, Kabir, 9 pm, $10. Lounge: Greesome, 9 pm, $7.
Parris The Zone, 10 pm, $10.
PA's The Operators, Shenzou Five, Squids, $5-$7.
Plough and Stars Larry Flint & the Road Scholars, 5-7:30 pm; the Ray Corvair Trio, 9:30 pm.
Purple Shamrock Brick Park.
Regattabar Bill Frisell Trio, 7:30 and 10 pm, $25.
Ryles Jazz Club Eguie Castrillo Group, 9 pm, $10.
Scullers Jazz Club Lou Rawls, 8 and 10:30 pm, $55.
Somerville Theatre Greg Brown, 8 pm, $25.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 7 pm; Natalie Flanagan Band, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway, Bob Nieske Trio, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Kills, Blanche, Runner & the Thermodynamics, Headband, $10.
The Western Front Hot Like Fire, 9 pm, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Dan Burke, Hooker Street Band,7 pm, $7; Color & Talea, 9:30 pm, $10.
ZuZu Soul-le-lu-jah, 11 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 7 pm.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

All-Asia Café Sunday night songwriter series with Christie Leigh, 5 pm, $5.
The Attic The Coalboilers.
Avalon Bouncing Souls, Against Me!, Murphy's Law, Let It Burn, Lordz of Brooklyn, 5:30 pm, $13.50.
Berklee Performance Center The Chick Corea Elektric Band, 5 pm, $35.
Bill's Bar Dub Station.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Maggie Rose, 10 am-2:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz brunch with Ronnie Ron Duo.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Tony Trischka Trio, Bruce Molsky, Paula Bradley, 7:30 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Forsyth Chapel Cloistered Women, 4 pm, $15.
The Green Briar Finbar Doyle.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Hennessy's Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe, 9 am-1 pm.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Tom Pendergast, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Irish Jazz Trio, 12-3 pm; Julia Lloyd.
Middle East Upstairs: Moki, the States, Last Week, the Strines, 9 pm, $8.
Midway Café Stump the Undertakers Organ.
Milky Way Zygote Showcase, 9 pm.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett.
O'Brien's Electric Donkey, Chinggis, Dubmassive, $6.
Plough and Stars DownDog, 5-7:30 pm; the Stumbleweeds, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday jazz brunch with Steve Rochinski, 10 am, no cover.
Somerville Theatre Huun Huur Tu, 7 pm, $22-$28.
Toad Kelly Buchanan, 7 pm; Ry Cavanaugh, Sean Staples, Dinty Child, Jimmy Fitting, Kimon Kirk, and Billy Beard, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12-2 pm; Tim Ray Trio, 8 pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Maxxtone, $5.
Zeitgeist Gallery Chuck E. Costa, Daniel Burke, Audrey Ryan, Naomi Sommers, 7 pm, $5; Brian Michael Roff & the Deer, Raymond Morin, Jeffrey Simmons and the Symptoms, 9:30 pm, $7.
ZuZu Central Square Hay Ride Anniversary, 10 pm, no cover.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Axis A Static Lullaby, Code 7, Firescape, the Break, 5:30 pm, $12.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
The Burren Singer songwriter series with Danielle, 8 pm.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's open mike, 8 pm; Tim Grimm, 9:30 pm.
Club Passim Arabesque, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Authority Zero, Eden Row, New Blood Revival, 8 pm, $10-$15, 18+.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Lizard Lounge Sara Sweet and Little Joe's Karaoke, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Damon & Naomi, Kurihara, Nmperign, Matt Valentine & Erika Elder, 8 pm, $9.



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Midway Café Midway Groove Thang.
O'Brien's Republic, $6.
Paradise Karl Denson's Tiny Universe, 9 pm, $17.50.
Plough and Stars The RPM's, 9:30 pm.
Toad Anita Suhanin, 7 pm; Tim Gearan Band, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Tim Ray Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Other Side of the Bear: Chris Wagner, Dana Labb, Gabe Lopez, $3.
Zeitgeist Gallery Boston Jazz Collective membership drive, 7 pm, no cover; the Fringe, 10 pm, $10.
ZuZu Verona Downs, 10 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Nicole Hajj, 9 pm.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Asgard Tom Courtney.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
The Burren Open mike with Hugh McGowan, 8 pm.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm; Hickory Project, 10 pm.
Club Passim Open mike with Tom Bianchi, 7 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Pat Funk, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Harpers Ferry Toussaint & the China Band, 9 pm, $5.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Jess Tardy, Noam Weinstein, 8:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Michael Larson.
Kinsale Tom Courtney.
Lizard Lounge The World's Greatest Sinners, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: St. Helena, New Fire, the Ferns, Jesus H. Christ, 9 pm, $8.
Milky Way Nickel and Dime, 9 pm, $3-$5.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 7:30 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's Hostile Takeover, Reserve, Red Army, $6.
Paradise Rock Club: Minnie Driver, Gingersol, Rusty Truck, 8 pm, $15. Lounge: EJ Labb, Quantum Physis, 8 pm, $10.
PA's Cathy Cathodic, SPF A Lot, Flax, Ktheory, $5-$7.
Plough and Stars Josh Lederman, 9:30 pm.
Redline Lifted, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.
Regattabar Wess "Warmdaddy" Anderson, 8 pm, $14.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Artist Showcase, 7:30 pm, $7.
Scullers Jazz Club Craig Chaquico, 8 and 10 pm, $22.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
Toad Jenny Reynolds, Christian McNeill, 7 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Sam Roberts, the Shore, Lincoln Conspiracy, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Dean Marcellana Latin Jazz Group, 7 pm, $10.
ZuZu Sean Micka, Animal Hospital, 10 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Sandra Aran, 8 pm.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Abbey Lounge Muck & the Mires, the Coffin Lids, World's Greatest Sinners, Andrea Gillis, 8:15 pm, $5-$7.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
The Burren Swingin Johnsons, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Licia Sky, 8 pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
The Hamphshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry E3, MC Exposition, OVM, REKS, 9 pm, $7.
Hennessy's Joe Carson Band.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie.
Lizard Lounge Dave Houghton of Fancy Trash, 7:30 pm, no cover; Dennis Brennan Band, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: The Glow, the Call Up, the Pop Kids, the Cult of Phoenix, 9 pm, $8.
Milky Way Lyrical and Lifted, 9 pm.
Oak Bar Steve Heck, 7:30 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's Boatyard Resin, Cool Black Kettle, Dr. Jack, $6.
Parris The Zone, 10 pm, $10.
PA's Bourbon Princess, $5-$7.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Russell Gunn, 8 pm, $20.
Roxy Doug E. Fresh & Slick Rick, 9 pm, $35-$50.
Ryles Jazz Club Jequere & Friends, 8:30 pm, $10.
Toad Bruce Millard and His Band, 7 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Thalia Zedek, Brother JT, Beautiful Weekend, $10.
Les Zygomates Leo Blanco, 8 pm.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25

The Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
The Burren Swingin Johnsons, 10 pm.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
The Hamphshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
High Street Grille Little Joe Cook, 9 pm, no cover.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band.
Oak Bar Jane Potter, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Top of the Hub Thanksgiving Celebration, 11:30 am, no cover.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Abbey Lounge Starr Faithful, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
Asgard Steve Mardon.
Avalon Marilyn Manson, 7 pm, sold out.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Sunday's Well; Downstairs: Eugene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Popa Soul Phactor, 7:30 pm.
Boston Harbor Hotel Fall jazz nights.
Bravo at the MFA Rusty Scott, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Jim Ambrose, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Bob Franke, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Howling Devils, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Inchicore.
The Green Dragon Tavern Freeze Pop.
The Hamphshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm, no cover.
The Harp Flavor, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Jiggle, Hi8tus, 9 pm, $8.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30 pm..
Johnny D's Beatle Juice, 9:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton, 5-7 pm.
Kirkland Café Micker Bliss Organ Trio, Brothers to Brothers, Richie & the Melodies, Maple Street Project, $5.
Lizard Lounge The Benders, Sarah Borges and the Confidence Men, 9:30 pm, $7.
Middle East Upstairs: Papermoon, Midnight Shakedown, 9 pm, $9. Downstairs: Furvis, the Red Telephone, the Dij, Zoo 88, 8 pm, $9.
Mr. Dooley's Inchicore.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's Hirudinea, Cryptic Warning, Abhorred, $6.
Paradise Rock Club: State Radio, Zox, 9 pm, $12. Lounge: Money Penny, Elephant House, Mundo's Circus, 9 pm, $5.
Parris The Catunes, 10 pm, $10.
PA's The Resentments, the Bamboo Steamers, Natalie Flanagan Band, $5-$7.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 6-8:30 pm; the Tullamores, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Pharoah Sanders, Kenny Garrett Quintet, 7:30 amd 10 pm, $27.50.
Ryles Jazz Club Gilson Schachnik, 9 pm, $9.
Sanders Theatre Jane Monheit Quintet, 8 pm, $22.50-$27.50.
Scullers Jazz Club Regina Belle, 8 and 10:30 pm, $38.
Toad Dave Johnston, no cover.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway, Bob Nieske Trio, 9 pm, no cover.
The Western Front Edu Leeds Presents, 9 pm, $10.
ZuZu Latin night with Gian Carlo Buscaglia, 11 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 7 pm.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Abbey Lounge Bad Saints, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
Asgard Sun Five.
The Black Rose Upstairs: Sunday's Well; Happy Hour: Jim Coyle; Downstairs: Eugene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Pat Loomis, 7:30 pm.
The Burren Six Shot Brody, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim The Rounders, Jake Armerding, the Shiftless, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Parrothead Party, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Jon Frederik Band.
The Green Dragon Tavern Death by Marriage.

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The Hamphshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm, no cover.
The Harp Flavor, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Freight Train, 9 pm, $5.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7 pm.
Johnny D's Beatle Juice, 9:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Reggae Nights with Bobbie Steelz & Moon.
Kirkland Café Daniel Burke, Shiner Jones, Melodeego, Ceremony, Steve Carter, Amy Corea, $5.
Lizard Lounge Karaugh Brown, 7:30 pm, no cover; the Jeff Harris Band, Kevin Devine, Richard Julian, 9:30 pm, $8.
Middle East Upstairs: Drinkfist, September Twilight, A Different Self, Screams of Erida, the Underdogs, 9 pm, $9. Downstairs: Reddy Teddy, Jon Macey & the Score, 8 pm, $10. The Corner: Tom Glynn Band.
Midway Café Coachmen.
Mr. Dooley's Inchicore.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's Robby Roadsteamer, Capital Radio, Stolen Bike Crusade, $6.
Orpheum Theatre G. Love & Special Sauce, Slightly Stoopid, 8 pm, $27.50.
Paradise Rock Club: Ari Hest, Keri Noble, 9 pm, $12. Lounge: Jordan Carp Band, Julian Velard, Josh Fix, 9 pm, $8.
Parris Candiflyp, 10 pm, $10.
PA's Micah Blue Smaldone, Cerberus Shoal, $5-$7.
Plough and Stars Tom Hagerty & Friends, 5-7:30 pm; Kevin Connolly Band, 9:30 pm.
Purple Shamrock American Made.
Regattabar Pharoah Sanders, Kenny Garrett Quintet, 7:30 amd 10 pm, $27.50.
Scullers Jazz Club Regina Belle, 8 and 10:30 pm, $38.
Toad Greg's Saturday Showcase, 7 pm; Trailer Park, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway, Bob Nieske Trio, 9 pm, no cover.
The Western Front King Django, 9 pm, $10.
ZuZu Soul-le-lu-jah, 11 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Theresa Inez, 7 pm.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28

All-Asia Café Sunday night songwriter series with Christie Leigh, 5 pm, $5.



Somerville-based group the Operators play at PA's Lounge November 20.

The Attic The Coalboilers.
Bill's Bar Dub Station.
The Black Rose Happy Hour: Jim Coyle; Downstairs: Eugene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Sonny Watson Jazz Quartet, 10 am-2:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz brunch with Ronnie Ron Duo.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Jan Smith, Lisa Bastoni, Rebecca Hall, Ken Anderson, 7:30 pm, $12 .
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Finbar Doyle.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Hennessy's Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe, 9 am-1 pm.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Matt Dorko and Larry Kukers, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Irish Jazz Trio, 12-3 pm; Julia Lloyd.
Middle East Upstairs: Baby Boy H, UWA, 9 pm, $8.
Milky Way Zygote Showcase, 9 pm.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett.
O'Brien's The Volume, Angel of the Odd, Left Handed Thieves, $6.
Paradise Fresh Start!, 8 pm, $3-$5.
Plough and Stars Eilen Jewell Band, 5-7:30 pm; the Cranktones, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Pharoah Sanders, Kenny Garrett Quintet, 7:30 amd 10 pm, $27.50.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday jazz brunch with Yoko Miwa, 10 am, no cover.
Toad Paul Ahlstrand Band, 7 pm; Ry Cavanaugh, Sean Staples, Dinty Child, Jimmy Fitting, Kimon Kirk, and Billy Beard, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12-2 pm; Bobby Keys Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
ZuZu The Cobramatics, 2-timin'3, 10 pm, no cover.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Axis Bret Michaels, 7 pm, $18.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
The Burren Singer songwriter series with Danielle, 8 pm.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's open mike, 8 pm; Roseanne Ranieri, 9:30 pm.
Club Passim Rachel Bissex, Aoife Clancy, Amy Fairchild, Jack Kid, Kristina Olsen, David Roth, Jacqueline Schwab, 7 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Lizard Lounge Sara Sweet and Little Joe's Karaoke, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Kinnar, Alienist Outfit, Seneca, Of the Hour, 9 pm, $8.
Midway Café Midway Groove Thang.
Milky Way Nickel and Dime, 9 pm, $3-$5.
O'Brien's Five Central, Ketman, $6.
Paradise Lounge: Burzum, Darkthrone, Graveland, Celtic Frost, 9 pm, no cover.
Plough and Stars Beek Rhodes & Jefferies, 9:30 pm.
Toad Anita Suhanin, 7 pm; Tim Gearan Band, 10 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Bobby Keys Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Lola Danza, 7 pm, $7; the Fringe, 10 pm, $10.
ZuZu Tom Thumb, 10 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Yoko Miwa, 9 pm.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Asgard Tom Courtney.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan.





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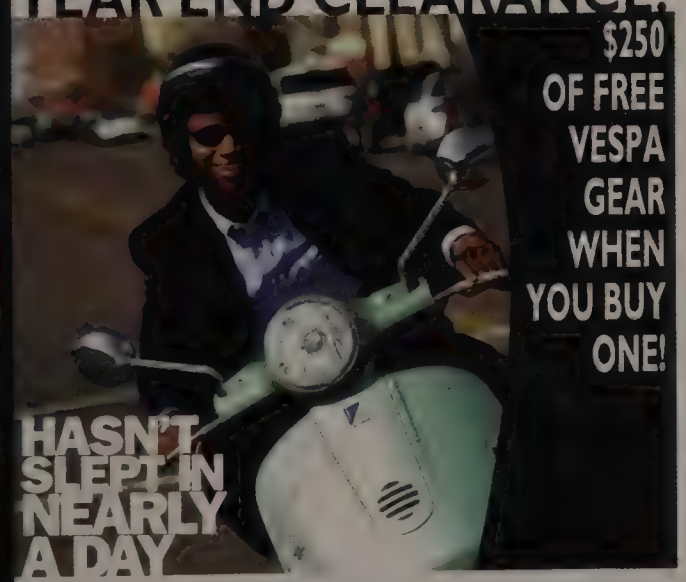
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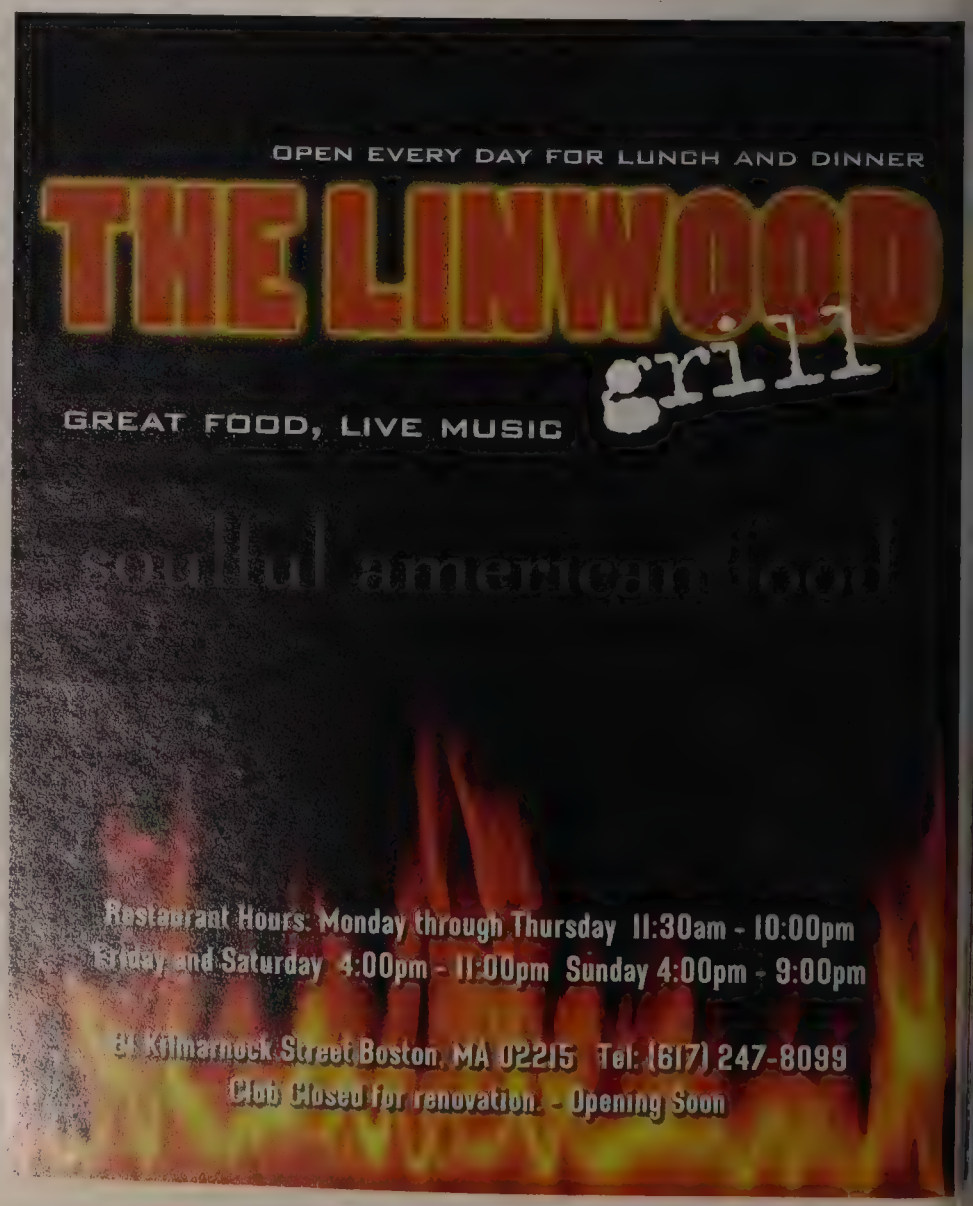
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Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm; Tru Life Bluegrass, 10 pm.
Club Passim Open mike with Boys Suck, 7 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Pat Funk, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Harpers Ferry Toussaint & the China Band, 9 pm, $5.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Kennedy's Midtown Michael Larson.
Kinsale Tom Courtney.
Lizard Lounge Old Dogs/New Tricks, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: The Vershok, Taxpayer, Harris, Human Flight Committee, Colossal, 8 pm, $8.
Midway Café Kid Chameleon, Cassette, White Mice, Two Dead Sluts, One Good F*ck.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 7:30 pm, no cover.
O'Brien's Eschellon, $5.
Plough and Stars Steve Hurl, 8:30 pm.
Redline Lifted, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.
Regattabar Sonny Fortune, Rashied Ali, Cecil McBee, 8 pm, $16.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Artist Showcase, 7:30 pm, $7.
Scullers Jazz Club Janis Siegel, 8 and 10 pm, $20.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
Toad Christian McNeill, 7 pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place RTX, Radar Eyes, the Howl, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Dig Trio, 7 pm, $10.
ZuZu Kristina Johnson, Drew O'Doherty, 10 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Todne Texeira, 8 pm.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-422-5579).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Boston (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3473). MBTA: Green Line to Azure.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Choppin' Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-734-4177). MBTA: Green Line to Brigham Circle.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Fireplace Restaurant *1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square.*
First and Second Church *66 Marborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Forsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetary, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston (617-524-3354).*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Hampshire House *84 Beacon St., Boston (617-227-9600). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harpers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
High Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-266-9095). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kresge Auditorium *84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-1000).*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278).*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*





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classical music

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 10 and 11:50 am. $10. Conductor Bruce Hangen leads the BSO in a program titled A Day in the Life of Vivaldi.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-236-0999). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The NEC Chamber Orchestra performs works by Mozart, Stravinsky and Haydn.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 10 and 11:50 am. $10. Same program as Nov. 17.

Boston Philharmonic
Sanders Theater, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-236-0999). www.bostonphil.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $15-$59. The Philharmonic, with pianist Kevin Cole, performs works by Gershwin, Stravinsky and Ravel.

New England Conservatory
Brown Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-424-0900). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Viola soloist Jessica Bodner performs works by Sapieyevski and Schleiermacher.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Ben Heppner
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-482-6661). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $41-$61. Opera tenor Ben Heppner performs a program of vocal pieces.

Boston Classical Orchestra
Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-423-3883). www. bostonclassicalorchestra.org. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 8 pm. $25-$49. Pianists Benjamin Pasternack and Steven Lipsitt and the Boston Classical Orchestra perform works by Beethoven, Mozart and Boston composer Tison Street.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 10 and 11:50 am. $10. Same program as Nov. 17.

Chamber Music Society
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2028). www.wellesley.edu. MBTA: D Green Line to Woodland. 7 pm. Free. Chamber Music Society directors Nancy Cirillo and Isabelle Plaster and coach Suzanne Stumpf perform at Jewett Auditorium.

Handel and Haydn Society
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3605). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $26-$60. The Handel and Haydn Orchestra plays Handel's *Water Music* and Johan Helmich Roman's *Drottningholmsmusiquen.*

Hindemith Viola Sonatas
Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-424-0900). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8:30 pm. Free. NEC faculty member Kim Kashkashian presents a night of composer Paul Hindemith's viola sonatas performed by her students.

Kalistos Chamber Orchestra
St. Paul's Church, 15 St. Paul St., Brookline (617-876-0956). www.kalistos.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 8 pm. $10-$20. Guest conductor Joan Tower directs the orchestra in an original piece entitled *In Memory*, as well as works by Britten and Shostakovich.



Organist James David Christie performs at the Church of the Advent November 28.

Longy School of Music
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $5-$10. Bassist Panagiotis Terzakis and a team of select musicians, including soparano Maria Georgakarakou, perform Greek art songs of the 20th century.

Music at the Immaculate
Jesuit Urban Center, 775 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-536-8440). www.immaculateboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm. $5-$10. Organist Thomas Fielding performs original works.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20

Boston Philharmonic
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-236-0999). www.bostonphil.org. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $26-$69. Same program as Nov. 18.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 10 am and 12 pm. $10. Same program as Nov. 17.

New Philharmonia Orchestra
Babson College, 231 Forest St., Wellesley (617-527-9717). www.newphil.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Woodland. 2 pm. $8-$14. The Philharmonia presents an all-American holiday concert at Babson's Sorenson Center for Arts.

The Spectrum Singers
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-492-8902). www.spectrumsingers.org MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm. $30-$40. The Spectrum Singers perform Respighi's *Laud to the Nativity* and Britten's *Ceremony of Carols.*

University Chorus
Slosberg Recital Hall, Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3395). www.brandeis.edu/art/abc. 8 pm. $5-$10. Conductor James Olesen leads the Brandeis University Chorus.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Boston Classical Orchestra
Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-423-3883). www.bostonclassicalorchestra.org. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center or Haymarket. 3 pm. $25-$49. Same program as Nov. 19.

Boston Conservatory Orchestra
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St. Cambridge (617-912-9222). www.bostonclassicalorchestra.org.

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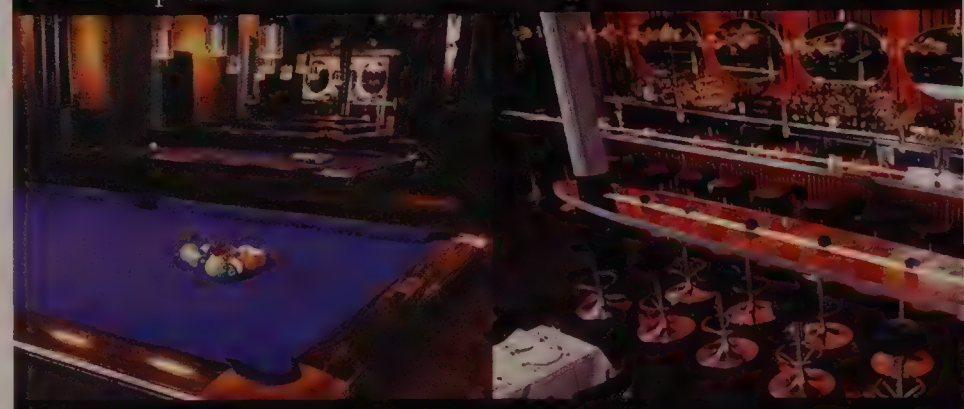
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MBTA: *Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $5-$12.* The orchestra performs works by Mendelssohn, Haydn and Rimsky-Korsakov with guest conductor Christopher Wilkins.

Boston Philharmonic
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy Street, Cambridge (617-236-0999). www.bostonphil.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. $26-$69. Same program as Nov. 18.

Brandeis Wind Ensemble
Slosberg Recital Hall, Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3395). www.brandeis.edu/art/abc. 3 pm. $5-$10. Conductor J. Darren Maule leads a symphonic band repertoire for brass and winds.

Charles Fisk
Wellesley College, 106 Central Street, Wellesley (781-283-2028). www.wellesley.edu. MBTA:Green Line to Woodland. 7 pm. Free. Organist Fisk performs preludes by Chopin, Debussy, Rachmaninoff and Zallman at Jewett Auditorium.

Emmanuel Music: Bach Cantata Series
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 am. Free. Emmanuel Music presents Bach's Cantata BWV 26.

Handel and Haydn Society
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3605). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $26-$60. Same program as Nov. 19.

Hindemith Viola Sonatas
Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-424-0900). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8:30 pm. Free. Same program as Nov. 19.

Mixed Faculty Concert
New School of Music, 25 Lowell St., Cambridge (617-492-8105). www.cambridgemusic.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5 pm. Free. Musicians from the New England School of Music's faculty perform.

Music at the Mansion
The Commander's Mansion, The Arsenal on the Charles, 440 Talcott Ave., Watertown (617-923-0100). www.arsenalarts.org. 4 pm. $10-$20. The Jupiter String Quartet performs works by Mozart, Shostakovich and Dvorak.

Newton Free Library
330 Homor St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: Green Line to Newton Highlands. 2 pm. Free. Mezzo-soprano Ana Maria Ugarte performs works of the late 18th and early 19th centuries with sopranos Anya Volvvsky and Linda Croskey and pianist Scott Nicholas.

Pincus & the Pig
Coolidge Corner Theater, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-876-7777). www.concertix.com. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 11 am and 1 pm. $12-$18. The Shirim Klezmer Orchestra performs Maurice Sendak's *Pincus & the Pig: A Klezmer Tale*, a modern update of Provokiev's *Peter and the Wolf*, along with other klezmer pieces.

The Vox Consort
St. Paul Episcopal Church, 15 St. Paul St., Brookline (617-281-8569). www.voxconsort.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 4 pm. $12-$25. The Vox Consort presents Handel's *Acis and Galatea*.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Chamber Music by Candlelight
Adolphus Busch Hall, 29 Kirkland St., Cambridge (617-489-2062). www.csem.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. $25. The Cambridge Society for Early Music presents pianist Kenneth Drake performing a program titled England's Gift to Beethoven: Sonatas on an 1816 Broadwood piano.

New England Conservatory
Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-424-0900). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The NEC's Bach Ensemble performs.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals
King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm. $3 suggested donation. Violinist Lino Tanaka performs original works.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston (781-424-0900). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. The Jupiter String Quartet performs original works.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30 pm. $27-$95. Cellist Lynn Harrell joins conductor James Levine and the BSO in a performance of works by Luto Slawski, Schumann, Ligeti and Dvorak.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$105. Same program as Nov. 26.

Venice Baroque Orchestra
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617 424-7232). www.bemf.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $23-$59. Director Andrea Marcon presents the North American premiere of *Andromeda Liberata*, a recently discovered work by Vivaldi.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28

The Church of the Advent
30 Brimmer St., Boston (617-532-2377). www.theadvent.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 4:30 pm. Free. Organist James David Christie performs with the Choir of the Church of the Advent.

Emmanuel Music: Bach Cantata Series
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 am. Free. Emmanuel Music presents Bach's Cantata BWV 62

King's Chapel Concert Series
King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 5 pm. $8-$12. King's Chapel celebrates the 40th anniversary of the C.B. Fisk organ with Heinrich Christensen performing works by Buxtehude, Heiller, Gade, Laukvik and Bach.

Newton Free Library
330 Homor St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us. MBTA: Green Line to Newton Highlands. 2 pm. Free. Tenor Thomas Gregg performs British and American art songs.

Somerville Museum
Somerville Museum, 1 Westwood Road, Somerville (617-666-9810). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 3 pm. $10-$15. A program entitled Sweet Was the Song the Virgin Sang: Christmas Music from Renaissance Europe features music by Palestrina, Monteverdi, Praetorius and others.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29

New England Conservatory
Brown Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-424-0900). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Pianist Roberto Poli performs.

Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra
Sanders Theater, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-661-7067). www.proarte.org. MBTA: Red. Line to Harvard. 3 pm. $9-$45. Kevin Rhodes conducts pianist Paul Barnes and the Pro Arte Orchestra in Philip Glass' new piano concerto, *Mozart and Ibert*.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Bach Keyboard Project: Tuesdays with Sebastian
First Church Cambridge, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (617-661-0570). www.tuesdayswithsebastian.com MBTA: Red. Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $10 suggested donation. Harpsichordist Christa Rakich and organist Peter Sykes continue their presentation of J.S. Bach's complete keyboard music.

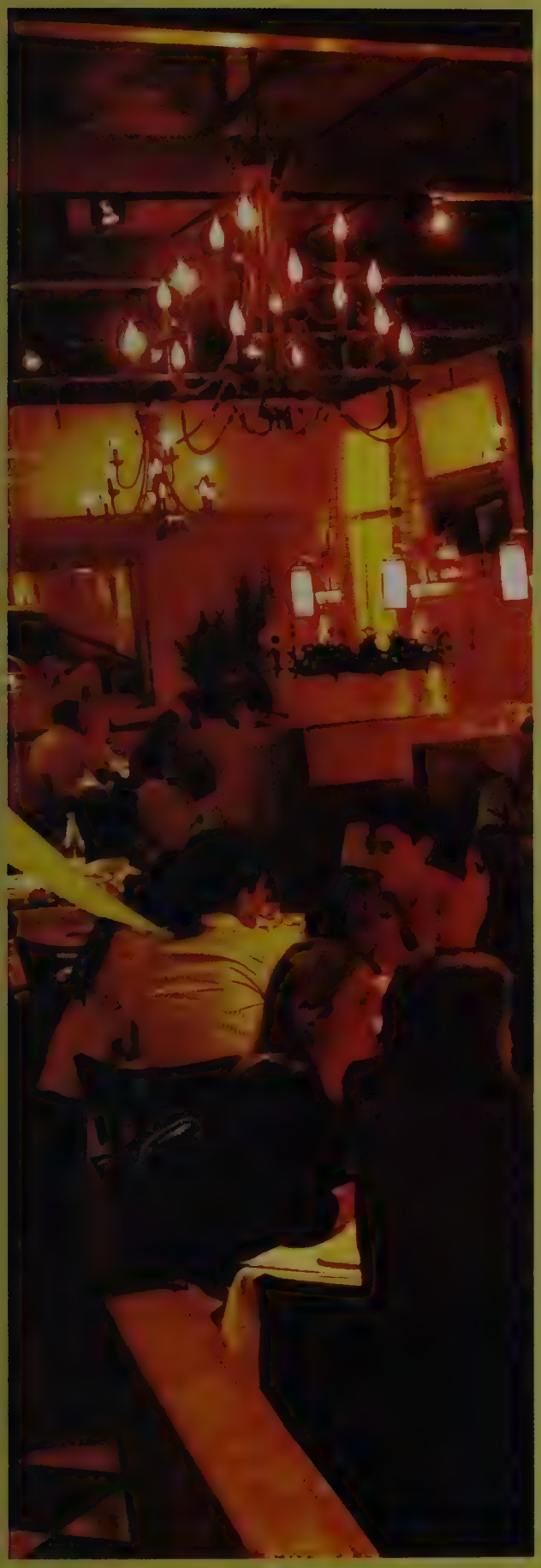
Boston Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-912-9222). www.bostonconservatory.edu MBTA: Green. Line to Hynes/ICA. 8 pm. Free. Pianist Janice Weber performs works by Shostakovich, William Bolcom, Frank Martin and Brahms.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $27-$95. Same program as Nov. 26.

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals
King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm. $3 suggested donation. Gynsook Byun plays the C.B. Fisk organ.









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Fri-Sat • 5-11pm

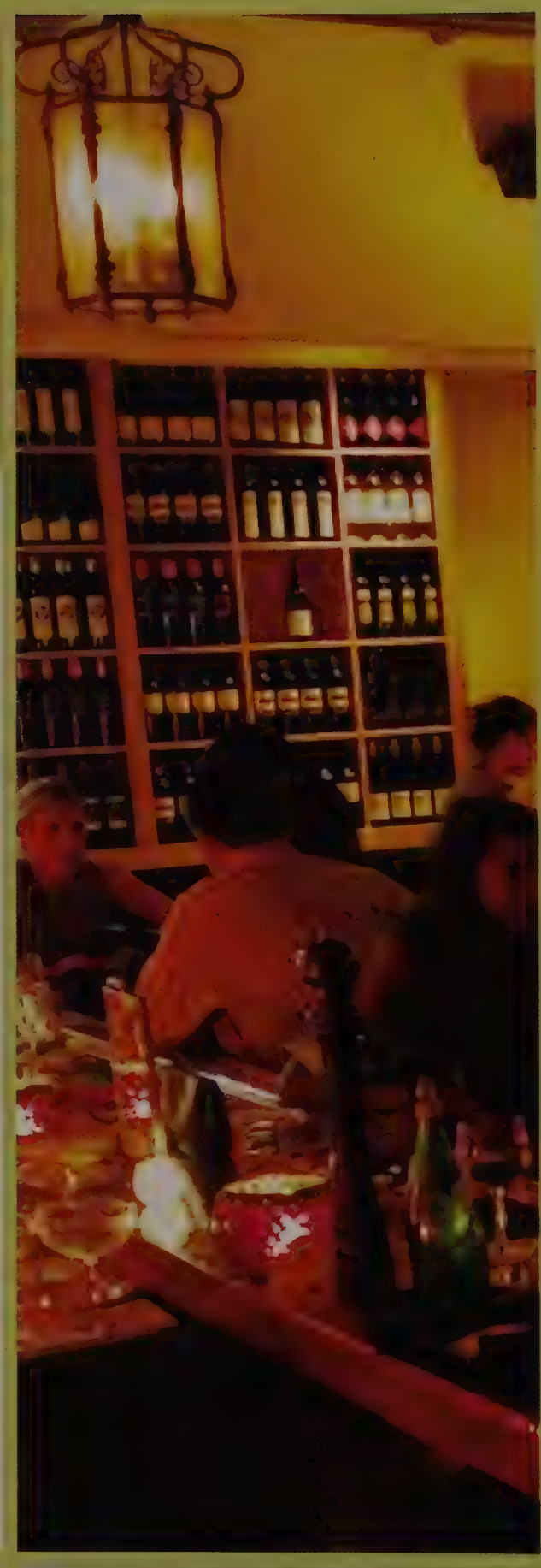
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Tues-Thurs • 5pm-12am
Fri-Sat • 9:30pm-12am
Sun-Mon • 5-11:30pm

Brunch
Sat-Sun • 10:30am-3pm

Pre-theatre Menu
• $19.99
• In by 6:30

Live Latin Jazz
no cover
Thursdays • 9:30pm-1am

Events
Five-Year Anniversary Celebration
Tuesday, Nov. 16th
• 5 course menu, $45
• open bar & tapas from 6-8pm









dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $3, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Adilson spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJs spin R&B and hip-hop, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance salsa, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aria
Industry Tuesday Dance to hip-hop and R&B.

Boston Rocks
Smooth Groove Tuesday Old-school jams, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Soul'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spins hits from the '70s and '80s, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Deep Tones DJ Brynmore spins a mix of reggae, soul, funk, trance and acid jazz, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Night varies with an assortment of performances, dancers and themed events, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Havana Club Latin Dance Night A Latin dance night features an assortment of local DJs, 10 pm-1 am, $10.

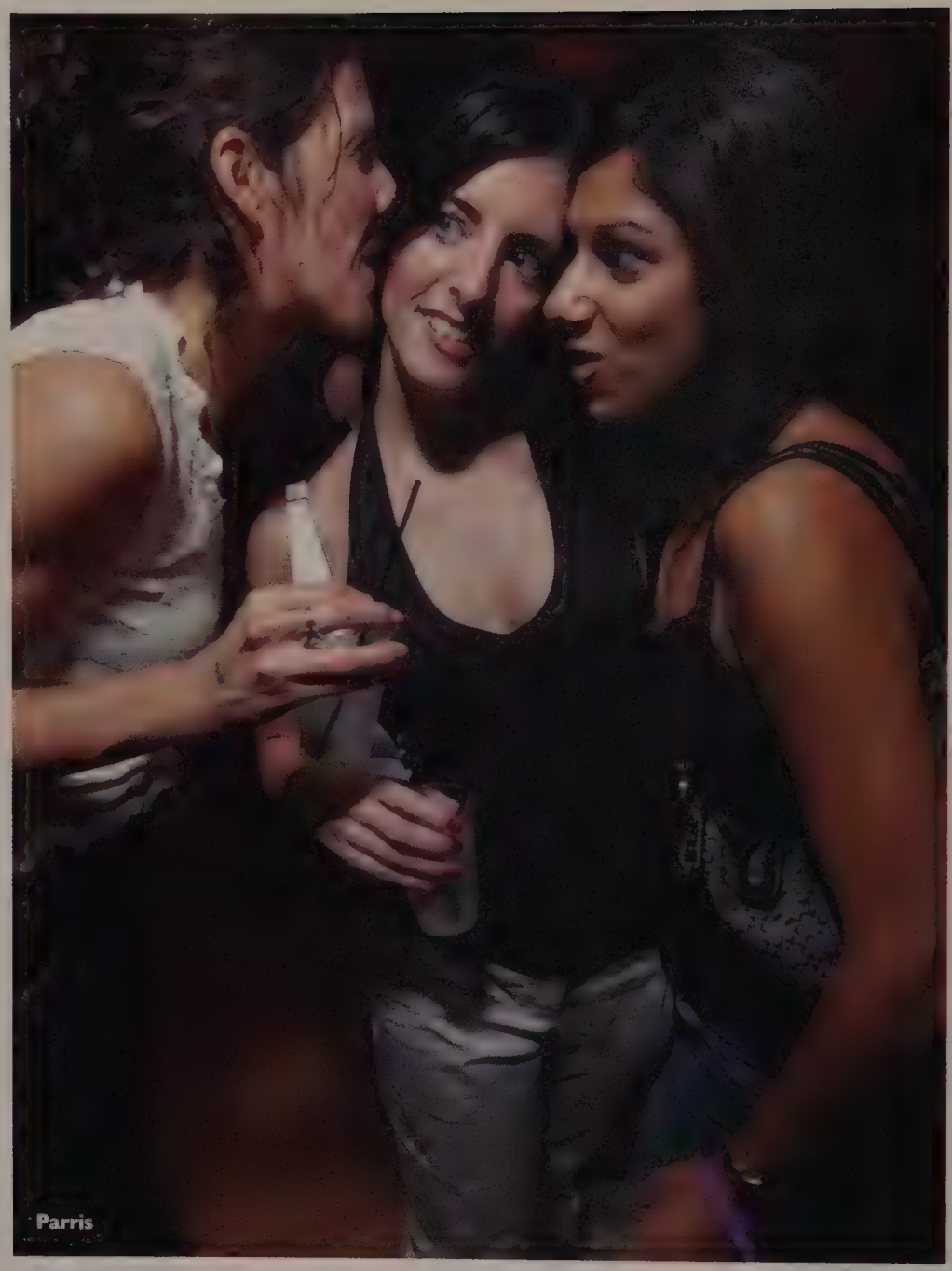
Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
Kez McDaddy spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Aria
Lust DJ John Morris spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, $8, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.


Parris

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins Greek and international tunes upstairs and a live reggae band plays downstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
British Accents Presents Starshape DJ Dave spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and funk, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
VIP Wednesdays DJ/producer Joe Bermudez hosts live performances every Wednesday and spins house and dance beats. 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
International Wednesdays DJs spin a mix of international music.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up hip-hop, top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mercury DJs Nomadik and Timmy Allen host a night of soul, funk and house, 9 pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin house and techno, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
School Girl Night DJs spin top-40 music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Wacky Wednesdays Magic with Peter Gross, 6-9 pm, DJ Massi all night, no cover, 21+

Q
Violation Wednesdays Weekly guest DJs spin today's best music, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
The NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of dance and hip-hop, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays Boogie down to rock-and-roll, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band brings R&B and dance to the main lounge, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Martinez spins salsa, cumbia and merengue on one floor, while DJ Supreme spins a New York lounge set (hip-hop, R&B and rock covers) on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; guest DJs spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men); 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Boston's Biggest College Hip-Hop Night DJs Supreme, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 19+

Bill's Bar
Old-School College Night Old-school rap, funk and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs spin upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Hip-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance and disco, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ghost spins international house and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursdays The Toussaint Band plays reggae, funk, no cover, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
Live band, 6 pm; DJ Massi, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran spin dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Misha spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B, and pop, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Liquor Store
Ladies Night Kiss 108 and Joe Public host.

Milky Way
Club Thursdays Rotating DJs spin dance music, 9 pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Q
Hip-Hop Thursdays DJ Craig Smooth spins hip-hop all night long, 9 pm, $5 (ladies free), 21+.

The Rack
Exotic Midnight Brazilian night with music and samba dancing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
Reunion Thursdays The NGP All-Stars spin party classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross and Paul spin a mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
DJs Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons and dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ DonRico spins salsa, merengue and Latin pop and DJ Tegrem spins downtempo retro international, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip-hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Ladies Night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cover.

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old-school hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

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FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ Seano 5-9 pm; DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $5 after 10:30 pm, 21+.

Aria
DJs spin Latin, international house, hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men); 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Avaland International DJs spin house, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top-40, 9pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
Flavor Fridays DJ Mastermillions, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover bands, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents a night of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and hip-hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal spins a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+, after 11 pm.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
European Night DJs play a diverse mix of Euro-style music, 10 pm- 2 am, no cover.

Devlin's
DJ Steve plays house and old-school music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
Persuassion DJ Sun One spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Enormous Room
All-Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everything from hip-hop and house to funk and soul, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs spin high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Angirsano spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Briar
•Nov. 19: Random Axis. •Nov. 26: Inchicore.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJ Gabe spins.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •Nov. 19: Life Speed. •Nov. 26: Flavor.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

I/D
Bashment Fridays DJ Illibash spins reggae, $15, 19+.

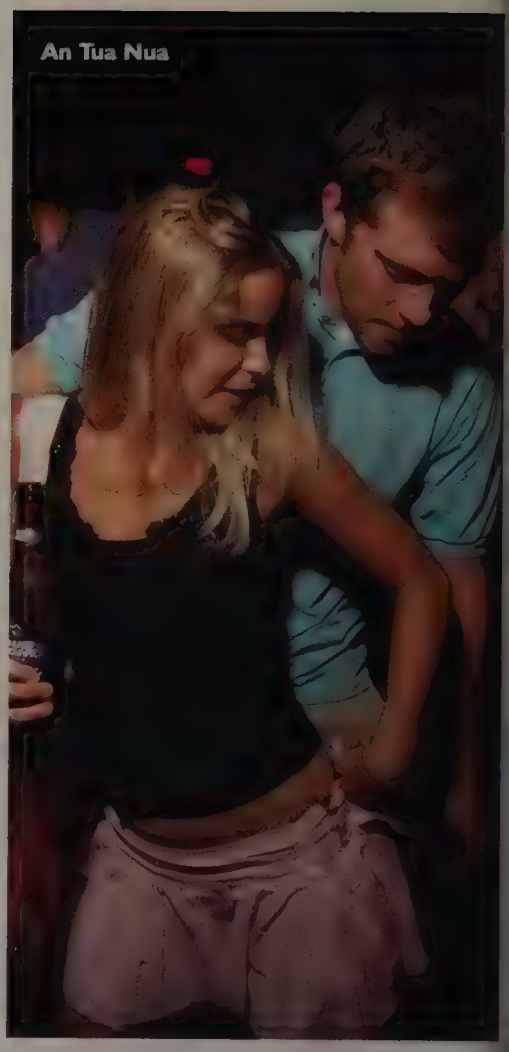
Jose McIntyre's
DJs Big Daddy spins, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Cadillac spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B, and pop, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s favorites, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before midnight, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.


An Tua Nua

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Adilson of Roxy Saturdays spins high-energy house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Reggaeton: Spanish reggae music, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies, free; men, $5 before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $10, 21+; $15, 18+. •**Rockpile** Rotating bands perform, 9 pm, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $12, 18+; $8, 21+.

Parris
• Nov. 19: The Zone, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+. •Nov. 26: The Catunes, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Greg spins top-40 and '80s hits, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop as he spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Hip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

Q
DJ Massi plays hip-hop and top-40, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 8 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Diversion DJ Erik spins a mix that includes neo-soul, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top-40, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins Latin house and Latin dance on one floor while DJ Franklin spins international on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

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Saturday, November 20th







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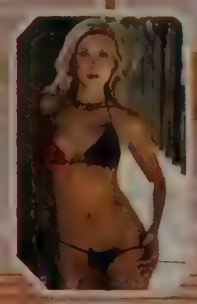
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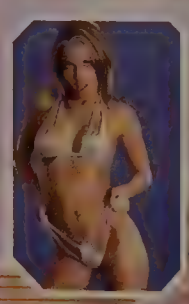
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Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats all night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
International Saturdays Guest DJs spin high-energy vocal house and hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Tease Saturdays Resident DJ Rick Naples performs along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Seductive Saturdays DJ Jin spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras every weekend with DJ Matt Phipps spinning the hottest top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. DJs presents top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Franklin creates a lounge atmosphere with international, Latin and house sounds, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs Dan Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance and house, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood Women's night, with two floors of hip-hop and house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
Essence DJs Ed and Sal, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Enormous Room
Reverberate Mark Estrada spins current and classic hip-hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins and KISS 108's Romeo hosts hip-hop, house and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites, disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Briar
•Nov. 20: Inchicore.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm,

The G Spot
and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9

Bar
Felix Cutilio spins an eclectic blend of dance

Harp
stairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with
and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •Nov.
•Nov. 27: Flavor.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Ryan Bis spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

I//D
Identity Crisis Dance to an eclectic mix of rock and top-40, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, while downstairs DJ Kieran plays top-40, 9 pm, $6, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Ring spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B, and pop, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 9 pm, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ spins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, $8, 21+, $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortíz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10 pm, $10, men; $5, women (women admitted free before 10:30); 21+.

The Modern
Material DJ Dru Nyce plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Classic party music and top-40, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies, free; men, $5 before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Alex D. spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
•Nov. 20: The Zone, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+. •Nov. 27: Candiflyp, DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wonders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles Boston's best DJs spin.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom Hogan spins the groove, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
•Nov. 20: Brick Park. •Nov. 27: American Made.

Q
DJ Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Roche spins, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins modern mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Adilson spins house and techno, 9 pm, $15, 21+.

Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ J.C. plays house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancing, 9 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
Resident DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin, international and dance, often joined by live bands and special guest DJs, 10 pm, $10-$15, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

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Questions: 617-737-1777,

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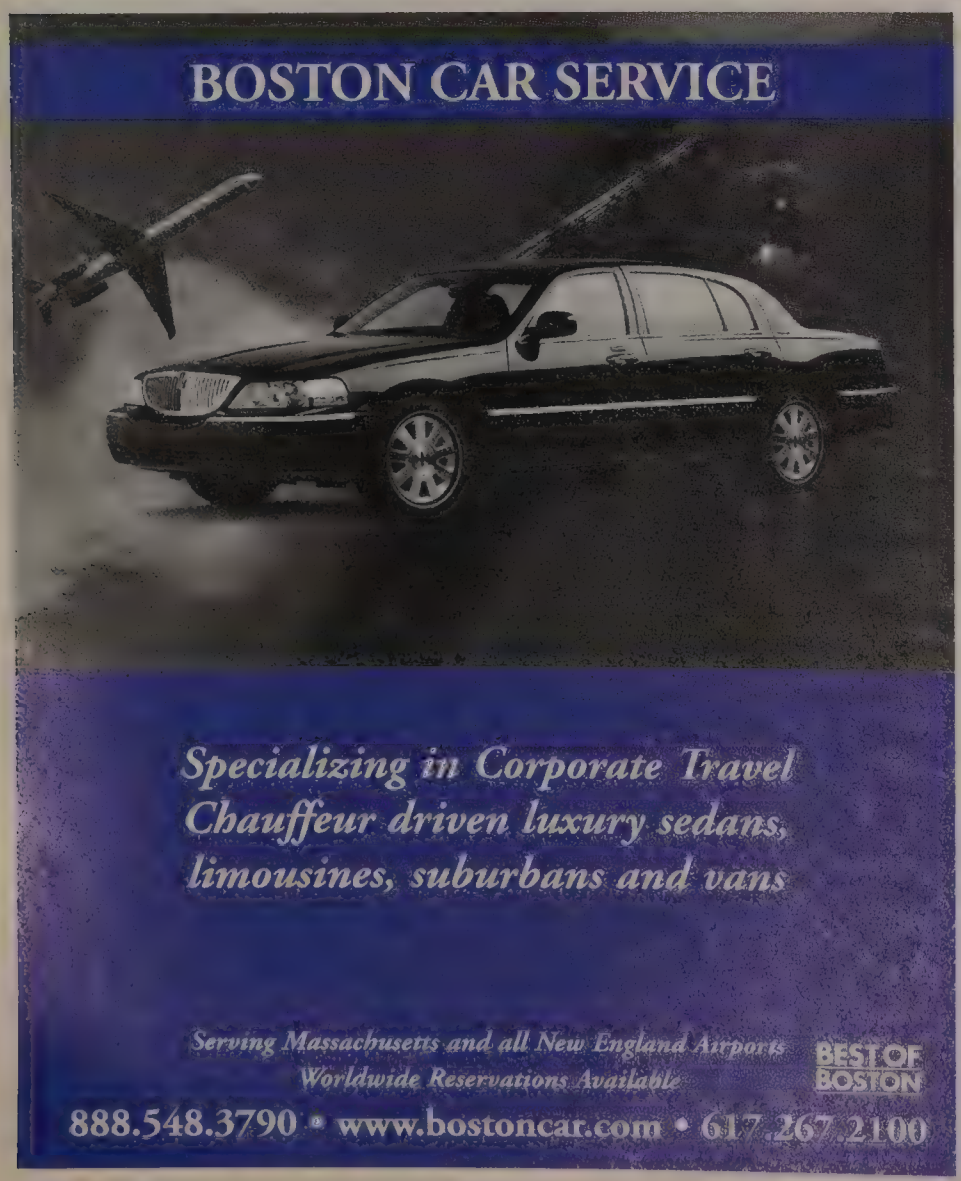
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Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins classic old-school, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
Curses Wretched Design presents an evening of gothic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Live reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+

Caprice
DJ spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Devlin's
Industry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixes and remixes, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hip-hop downstairs, karaoke upstairs, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Revolutions A night of electronic music, $3, 11 pm-3 am.

Green Briar
•Nov. 21 and 28: Finbar Doyle.

Green Street Grill
Live Middle Eastern music with belly dancing, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Satellite A lesbian night featuring DJ Dee, with dance music, amateur drag contests and films, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
Chad Lamarsh appears with VJ Leathers, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Malibu Beach Party DJ Thom spins music from reggae to top-40, with prizes all night, 4-9 pm, DJ Massi spins, 9 pm, $5 men, free for ladies, 21+.

Q
Reggae with Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins dance and top-40, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
Sunday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and guests spin reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
Action Sunday DJs play punk, garage and classic rock-and-roll, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Wepa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sunday of each month, DJ Nik and DJ Hernan play salsa music, 6-10 pm, $12.

Saint
Spice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night featuring Latin and International grooves, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock, retro and hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Tiki Room
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Cosmopolitan *33 Batterymarch St., Boston (617-695-9333).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
The G Spot *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Gypsy Bar *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Light *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Liquor Store *The Alley, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-868-5900)*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300)*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2580)*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699)*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*

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museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors
Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Closely Focused, Intensely Felt: Selections from the Norma Jean Calderwood Collection of Islamic Art* features Persian artwork from the last millennium. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Masterworks of East Asian Painting* features works on paper and silk from China, Korea and Japan. Through April 13, 2005.

Carpenter Center for Visual Arts
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors. •*Huyghe + Corbusier: Harvard Project* features a puppet opera, a film and a temporary architectural extension of the Carpenter Center by Pierre Huyghe. Nov. 18-April 17, 2005.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $6; students and seniors, $4. •Robert ParkeHarrison's *The Architect's Brother* is a five-part exhibition of photographs that contemplate the fate of the planet. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Luminous Forms: Abstractions in Color Photography* features photographs that focus on color, form and light as their subjects. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Henry Richardson: Chiseled Orb and Mortal Coil* is an exhibition featuring the artist's large glass sculptures. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Abstract Elements: The Dr. Beatrice H. Barrett Collection of Art* is a selection of abstract works by regional and international 20th-century artists. Through July 31, 2005.

Fogg Art Museum/Busch-Reisinger Museum
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Dependent Objects* displays multidimensional works by German artists that both defy and embrace the concepts of object and sculpture in art. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Prints: System, Style and Subject* is a history of printmaking and graphic systems. Through Jan. 30, 2005. •*Extra Ordinary Every Day: The Bauhaus at the Busch-Reisinger* is an online exhibition that can be accessed at www.artmuseums.harvard.edu/sites/eoed. Through 2005. •*Rococo Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* is an ongoing exhibit. •*To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* is an ongoing display of 19th-century art. •The exhibits *Basic Research: A Selection of Postwar German Painting and Sculpture* and *The Figure in French Sculpture 1780-1900* are ongoing. •*Highlights from the Carpenter Center Photography Collection* are on display from Nov. 20 through March 20, 2005.

French Library and Cultural Center
53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Fri. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. Free. •Swiss painter Beatrice Dauge Kaufmann shows abstract paintings. Through Nov. 27.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •*Origins: Life's First Three Billion Years* explores the evolution of life on Earth through paleontological, molecular-biological and geochemical research. Through April 2005. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species, by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.


A silk taffeta dress from *High Style and Hoop Skirts: The 1850s*, at the MFA through March 13, 2005

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5. •*Boris Mikhailov: A Retrospective* features more than 500 photographs by the Russian photographer. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Momentum 2/Lucy McKenzie* is an exhibition of new pop culture–inspired works. Through Jan. 2, 2005.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; seniors, $7; students, $5. members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18 free. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •*Off the Wall: New Perspectives on Early Italian Art at the Gardner Museum* is an exhibition of works by Giotto, Giuliano da Rimini and Fra Angelico. Through Jan. 9, 2005. •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. •Elaine Reichek's embroideries depicting Biblical images borrowed from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists display online in the virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum
Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $8; seniors and students $6; children ages 13-17 $4; children 12 and under admitted free. •In honor of this election year, *Campaign!* is an exhibition following JFK's nomination, campaign and inauguration, from 1960-61. Through Jan. 20, 2005.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill, (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-3 pm.; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Fernand Khnopff: Inner Visions and Landscapes* includes more than 80 paintings by the European symbolist. Through Dec. 5.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. The museum's permanent collection includes more than 1,500 contemporary art works including paintings, murals, sculptures, photography and prints. •*Selections from the Collection* spotlights the work of 17 artists. Through Nov. 19. • *Body Parts: A Self-Portrait by John Coplans* includes black-and-white images of Coplans' aging body and a series of large photographs completed before the artist's death. Through Dec. 31. •*Cerith Wyn Evans: Thoughts unsaid, now forgotten...* is an installation by the Welsh artist. Through Dec. 31.•*Yael Bartana: Three Works* is an exhibition of three short videos focusing on everyday life in Israel. Through Dec. 31.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5; students and seniors, $3; children, $1. •*Telling It Like It Is: Student Activism at MIT During the Vietnam War* displays posters from that era. Through fall 2004. •*The Art of Structural Design: A Swiss Legacy* highlights Swiss influences in 20th-century architecture. Through Dec. 30. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features works by the self-described cross between "a mechanical engineer and a choreographer." Ongoing.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. •*Visual Stories: The Artwork of James Ransome* features paintings depicting important moments in black history. Through Dec. 31. •*The Times We Had* is an ongoing exhibition spotlighting Boston's African-American community of the 19th century. •*Building on a Firm Foundation* is a 17-minute multimedia presentation that looks at 19th-century Beacon Hill through the eyes of an African-American teenager. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15; students and seniors, $13; children 17 and under, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free (doesn't include special exhibitions). •*Games for the Gods: The Greek Athlete and the Olympic Spirit* features vases, marbles, bronzes and coins illustrating the ancient Greek games. Through Nov. 28. •*Art Deco: 1910-1939* features more then 240 works, including furniture, textiles, ceramics, fashion and jewelry. Through Jan. 9, 2005. •*Josef Sudek: Poet with a Camera* is an exhibition of the Czech photographer's landscapes, still-lifes and architectural photos. Through Jan. 17, 2005. •*Cerith Wyn Evans* is an installation of seven chandeliers flashing Morse code. Through Jan. 30, 2005. •*High Style and Hoopskirts: The 1850s* features mid-19th-century men's and women's clothing. Through March 13, 2005. •*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13; seniors, $11; children, $10. •*Strange Matter* features 10 "experience pods" that explore the use of everyday materials in cardiac surgery, space exploration and more-common events. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*Roar: Lions of the Kalahari* explores vast and harsh African landscapes and the day-to-day life and power struggles of the Kalahari lion. Through Feb. 17, 2005. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum
33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Allen Sisters Pictorial Photographs* is a collection of 25 platinum prints dating from 1885-1920. Through Dec. 12. •*A Changing World: New England in the Photographs of Verner Reed, 1950-1972* displays through Jan. 2, 2005. •Learn how mail-order catalogs revolutionized American shopping in *Satisfaction Guaranteed*. Through Feb. 6, 2005. •*Western Pursuit of the American Dream*, a compilation of artifacts and sculpture from the American West, shows through April 24, 2005. •*The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'd*, an exhibition of 18th-century local history, is ongoing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household objects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. •*To Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community* is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; students, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem, free. •*Havana: Photographs by Robert Polidori* features 18 large-scale photographs. Through Jan. 9, 2005. •*Bringing Japan to Boston* features Japanese artifacts from the Edward S. Morse Collection. Through April 30, 2005. •*Carved by Nature* displays ancient Chinese wood carvings. Through June 2005. •*In Nature's Company* is an exhibition of nature-inspired works by 20 Massachusetts artists. Through Sept. 18, 2005. •The only installation of its kind in North America, *Yin Yu Tang* is a Chinese merchant's home from the late Qing Dynasty, relocated and reconstructed. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology
11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students, $6; children, $5. •*Field Photography, The Marsh Arabs of Iraq, 1934* features 34 prints of Arab tribes in the marshlands of southern Iraq. Through Feb. 28, 2005. •*Bringing Japan to Boston: the Edward S. Morse Collection* is a rare display of Japanese artifacts collected from 1877-1879. Through April 2005. •*Painted by a Distant Hand: Mimbres Pottery from the American Southwest* features artifacts from New Mexico's Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through June 2005. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through December 2005. •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments* features the museum's large Mesoamerican cast collection. Ongoing. •*Hall of the North American Indian: Change and Continuity* features art depicting the response of Native Americans across the continent to the arrival of Europeans. Ongoing. •*Encounters with the Americas* is an ongoing exhibition featuring original sculpture and plaster casts of Mesoamerican cultures. •*Pacific Islands Hall*, another ongoing exhibition, displays artifacts from the Pacific Islands.

Rose Art Museum
415 South St.,Waltham (781-736-3434). www.brandeis.edu/rose. MBTA: Commuter Rail Fitchburg/South Acton Line to Brandeis/Roberts Station. $3 (children under 12 free). Tue.-Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Tandoori Satori and Commonplace*, a collection of paintings and watercolors by Italian painter Fransesco Clemente, displays through Dec. 12. •*The Empty City* features Yun-Fei Ji's sketches and paintings depicting the displaced inhabitants and environmental destruction of China's 2009 Three Gorges Dam Project. Through Dec. 12. •*Tide Table* is a short, hand-drawn animated film by artist William Kentridge. Through Dec. 12.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Inner Visions and Landscapes*, paintings by Fernand Knopff, shows through Dec. 5.

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). www.alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*The Accessories Show* features functional and nonfunctional interpetations of clothing accessories. The Jewelry Show features works by four New England artists. Through Dec. 31.

Allston Skirt Gallery
65 Thayer Street, Boston (617-482-3652). www.allstonskirt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Pia Schachter: Defiance* and *Donna Veverka: Personal Architecture* show through Nov. 27.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington Tue.-Thu., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Susanna Coffey shows portraits and self-portraits. Through Dec.1.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Cityscapes* features abstract images of Boston and New York by Paul Balmer. Through Nov. 30.

04 exhibit auction: art without boundaries

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exhibit auction

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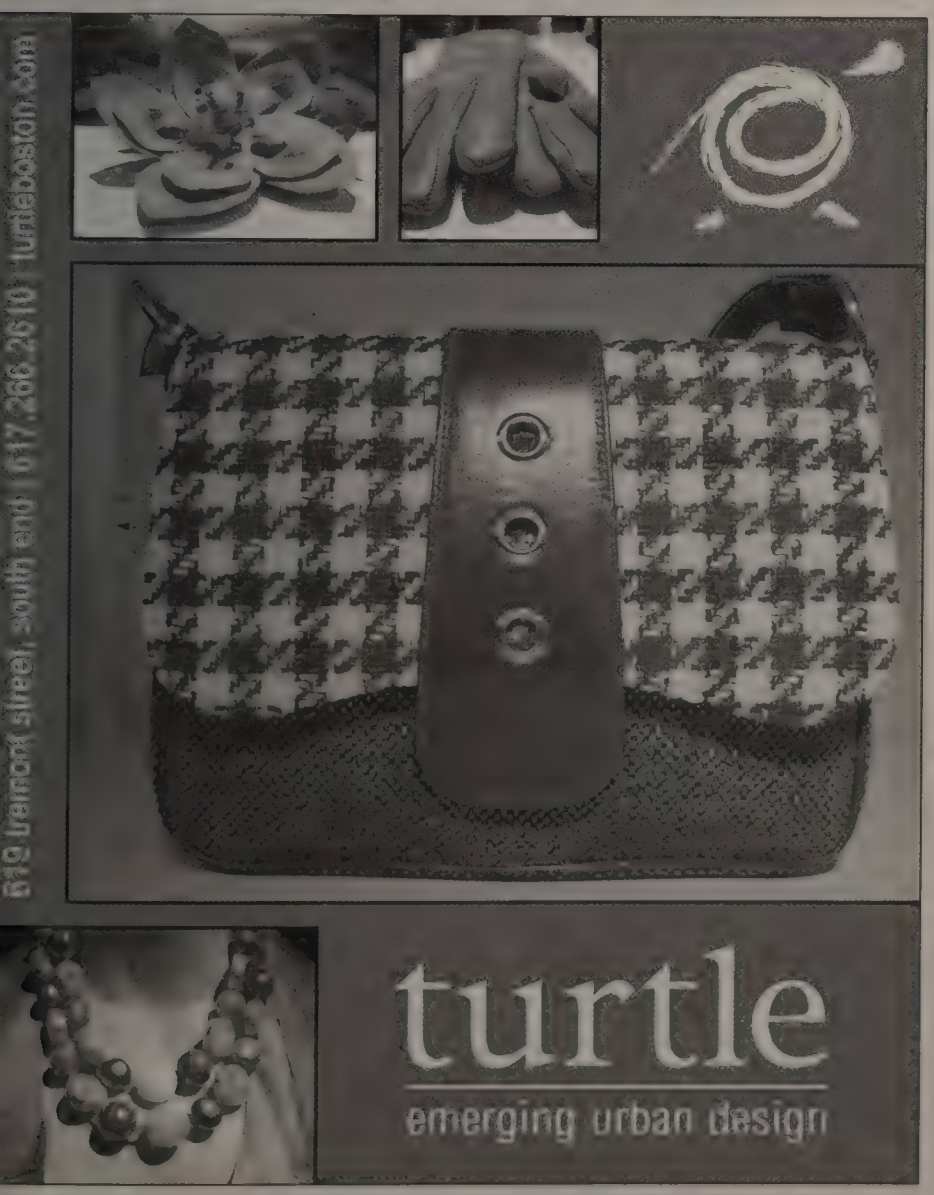
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Artana
1378 Beacon St. Suite B, Brookline (617-879-3111). www.artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Tue.- Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am-7 pm. •Kathleen McDonough shows new oil paintings in *The Colors of Light III*. Through Nov. 30.

Art Attack
108 Beacon St., Boston (617-441-3833). www.artattack108.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Tue.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Spooktacular* displays works—including furniture, jewelry, paintings and photography—by 20 local artists. Through Nov. 30.

Art Interactive
130 Bishop Allen Dr., Cambridge (617-498-0100). www.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Paper Sculpture Show* displays through January 2005.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •An exhibition by Fred Sandback displays through Dec. 8.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Transitions*, a show of works by Rose deSmith Greenman, displays through Dec. 31.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Andrea Robbins and Max Becher show photographs in *German Indian*, and James Esber shows drawings in *The Lincoln Project*. Both through Nov. 27.

Boston Architectural Center
320 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-5000). www.the-bac.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 8:30 am-6 pm; Fri., 8:30 am-9 pm; Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-7 pm. •*Art Without Boundaries* is an exhibition of jewelry, paintings, fashion and photography that includes works by Giorgio Armani, Frank Gehry and Moshe Safdie. Through Nov. 19.

Boston Sculptors Gallery
486 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-7781). www.bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •Ellen Wetmore presents rubber and metal sketches of vegetables in *Bell Peppers & Other Inedibles*, and Peter Lipsitt's *Tangent Links* features a wood tower and several smaller works. Through Nov. 27.

Brickbottom Gallery
1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5. •Brickbottom Open Studios feautres photography, painting, sculpture, prints and film. Nov. 20-21.

Bromfield Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-451-3605). www.bromfieldartgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-5. •*Subliminal Illuminations*, abstract ceramic sculptures by Debra Giller, and *B Sea*, abstract seascapes by John van Rens, show through Nov. 27.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). www.cmacusa.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •Jamal Elias shows black-and-white portraits of residents of Bangladesh in *33-Life Apart*. Through Jan. 6, 2005. •Faye Zhang shows calligraphy and landscape paintings in *Word Path*. Through Jan. 7, 2005.

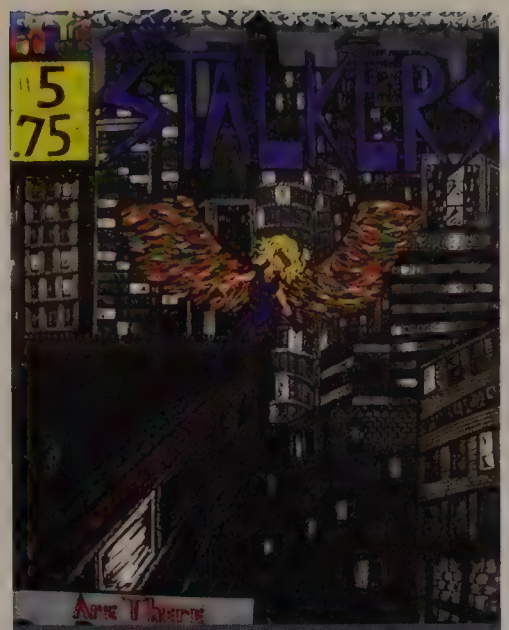
Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •Enrique Santana shows paintings. Through Nov 27.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Three exhibits—*Boston Scenes* (paintings), *Les Petits Tableaux* (paintings) and *We Like It So Much* (prints)—display through Jan. 7, 2005.

Clifford-Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 300, Boston (617-695-0255). www.cliffordsmithgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Nao Tomii shows sculpture. Through Nov. 27. •Penn Young shows sculpture. Nov. 30-Jan. 1, 2005.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •The annual *Small Works* art sale event features more than 1,000 small paintings, sculptures, photographs and prints. Nov. 18-Dec. 24.

Crump McCole Gallery
200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Painters of the New Boston* features works by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.



Michael Scoggins' *The Stalkers*, at Samson Projects through November 26

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •Nancy C. Scull shows new black-and-white photography in *Floral Fantasies*. Through Nov. 27.

Equator Gallery
450 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-540-9236). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.equatorgallery.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •The gallery specializes in Latin American fine art, including paintings, textiles and ceramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •Kathy A. Halamka and Nicole Margaretten show their work in *Liminal Space–Constructing Home*. Through Dec. 11.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu. and Sat.,12-5 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm. •*Recent Paintings*, a show of works by Barbara Baum and Vasta-Carr, shows through Dec. 18.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 305, Boston (617-423-6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. • Michael Yoder displays abstract landscapes in *As We Go Up, We Go Down*. Through Nov. 27.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •George Nick shows new paintings. Through Dec. 4.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Calvin Brown presents a retrospective of abstract paintings from 1986 to the present. Through Dec. 2.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.haleysteele.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •The gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prints. Ongoing.

HallSpace
31 Norfolk Ave., Boston (617-989-9985). www.hallspace.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., by appointment; Fri. and Sat., 12-5 pm. •Cynthia Von Buhler and Leonie Bradbury show their work in *I Am No Angel*. Through Dec. 11.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Robert Feintuch shows his paintings through Nov. 19. •John Coplans shows self portraits. Nov. 19-Dec. 24.

Hurst Gallery
53 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-491-6888). www.hurstgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sat., 12-6 pm; Thu., 12-7 pm. •*The Kepes Collection: Antiquities, Asian and Ethnographic Art* features Indian miniatures, pre-Columbian and Chinese paintings and Japanese folk art from the Kepes family collection. Through Nov. 20.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters. •*Art Deco Poster Masterpieces, 1921-1939* shows through Nov. 22.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Jason Berger shows oil paintings. Through Nov. 27.

Kaji Aso Studio
40 St. Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www.kajiasostudio.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Tue. and Thu., 4:30-6:30 pm; Sat., 3-5 pm, and by appointment. •*The Annual Holiday Store* features ceramics, paintings, jewelry and prints. Through December.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Ralph Hamilton shows his new paintings. Through Nov. 27

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay Station. Tue.-Sat., 12 pm-5 pm and by appointment. •Hilary Tolan shows her work. Through November.

Lanoue Fine Art
160 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4400). www.lanouefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The gallery's collection features works by Andrew Saftel, Ruth Block, Emil Alzamora and Carrie McGee.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Stone and Ceramic Abstracted* is a show of new works by Paul Braun and Michael Gustavson. Through Nov. 18. •*Great Gifts, Small Packages* is a group show featuring work by Cynthia Simonds, Bernice Koff, Jack Charney, Jon Bush, Dick Huss, Rebecca Scott and Sarah Hicks. Nov.19-Dec. 31.

Mark Gallery
141 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6275). www.markartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm, and by appointment. •*The Gift* features works by 19 artists. Through Dec. 23.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Daniel Robinson displays his new paintings Nov.20-Dec. 28.

Mills Gallery
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed., Thu. and Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-10 pm. •*Cut* is an exhibition of sculpture, painting and drawings by Chris Nau, Randal Thurston and Debra Weisberg. Through Jan. 9, 2005.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Linda Behar shows small-scale embroideries and Tod Pardon shows new work. Through Nov. 30.

MPG Contemporary
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-8881). www.mpgallery.net. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11am-5 pm. •Jim Peters shows new paintings and constructions through Nov. 27.

NAO Project Gallery
535 Albany St., Boston (617-451-2977). www.naoprojectgallery.info. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Sat., 12am-5pm and by appointment. •Debra Weisberg presents *Sculpture*. Through Dec. 19.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •John Walker displays new paintings through Dec. 4.

OHT Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-1677). www.[illegible].com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*John Obuck: Imperfect Abstraction: New Paintings* shows through Nov. 27.

OSP Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 304, Boston (617-778-5263). www.ospgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Jill Moser shows paintings, drawings and monotypes in *Pairings*. Through Nov. 27.

Out of the Blue Gallery
[illegible] Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.[illegible]blazartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •Rachel Berman shows mixed-media murals in *The Length and Breadth of Land*. Through Dec. 3.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Tabitha Vevers shows miniature oil-on-ivory paintings from her *Lover's Eye* series. Nov. 18-Dec. 23.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. • *Samuel Bak: New Perceptions of Old Appearances* is a show of paintings. Through Nov. 30.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Laura Letinsky and D.W. Mellor: Still Life* is a photograph exhibition. Nov. 18, 2004 through Jan. 15, 2005.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat., 11 am-5:00 pm. •*Fine Lithographs and Etchings* features works by Marc Chagall, Joan Miro, Georges Rouault and others. Through Dec. 31.

Samson Projects
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-7177). www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Fri.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Super Heroes* features work by Michael Scoggins and Craig Drennan. Through Nov. 26.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Panoply*, a show of works by William St. George, Christina Keating, Sandra Mueller-Dick, Judy St. Peter and Anne Grandin, runs through Nov. 30.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*A Centennial Exhibition: Polly Thayer Starr, A Celebration of the Artist's 100th Birthday* features paintings, drawings and watercolors. Through Dec. 31.

Wentworth Gallery
The Mall at Chestnut Hill, 199 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-262-8770). www.wentworthgallery.com. Mon.-Fri. 10 am-9:30 pm; Sat. 10 am-8 pm; Sun. 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection features works by Dali, Chagall and Miro.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. •*Armenia and Karabagh: The Aftermath* is a show of photographs by Paul Mellor. Through Nov. 26. •*We Skate Hardcore* is a collection of photographs and video images by Vincent Cianni. Nov. 18, 2004 through Feb. 3, 2005.

Panopticon Gallery Kenmore
502-C Comm Ave., Boston (617-267-8929). www.panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-7 pm. •*Digging* is an exhibition of original photographs from Michael Hintilian's new book depicting the laborers behind Boston's Big Dig. Through Nov. 20.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www.panopt.com. Commuter Rail to Waltham. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*Picture Taken* is an exhibition of anonymous vintage snapshots. Nov. 18, 2004 through Jan. 15, 2005.

Photographic Resource Center
832 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). www.bu.edu/prc. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University West. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. •*In the Vernacular: Everyday Photographs from the Rodger Kingston Collection* is a group show including family, found and domestic photographs. Through Jan. 23, 2005.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Fenway Open Studios
(617- 536-6176). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Nov. 20 and 21, 11 am-6 pm. More than 25 artists in the Fenway area open their studios to the public.

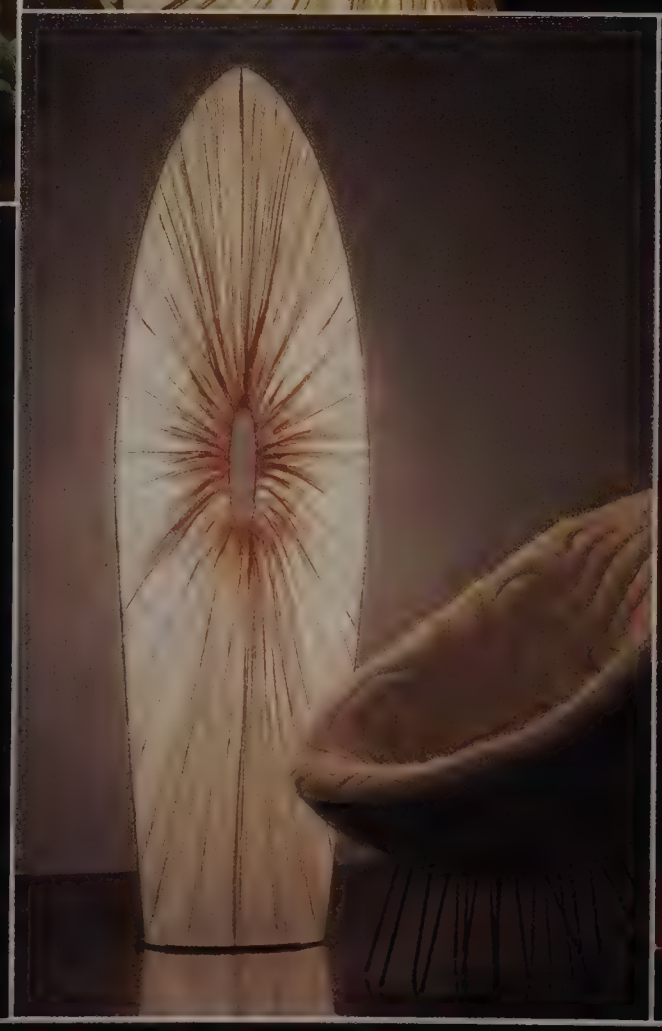






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Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Boston College
Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-552-4820). www.bc.edu. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. 7:30 pm. Free. BC sociology professor **Juliet Schor** discusses her book *Born to Buy: The Commercialized Child and the New Consumer Culture*, which argues that marketing campaigns have turned children into voracious consumers.

Brandeis University
Rose Art Museum, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3434). www.brandeis.edu. MBTA: Commuter rail Fitchburg/South Acton line to Brandeis/Roberts Station. 7 pm. Free. Poet **Robert Creeley** reads from his work in conjunction with the opening of a new museum exhibition by his long-term collaborator, artist Francesco Clemente.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Arnon Grunberg** discusses *The Story of My Baldness*, a satirical coming-of-age novel about a Viennese teenager that he wrote under the pseudonym **Marek Van Der Jagt**. Also, **Jeffrey Lewis** reads from his novel *Meritocracy*, about privileged college graduates in the 1960s.

Grolier Poetry Bookshop
Adams House LCR/Conservatory, 26 Plympton St., Cambridge (617-547-4648). www.grolierpoetrybookshop.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. **Sophie Cabot Black** reads from her poetry.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-0372). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Harvard Library Bulletin editor **Matthew Battles** reads from his book *Widener: Biography of a Library*, a visual and narrative record of Harvard's celebrated library.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 12 pm. Free. **Nicholas Delbanco** reads from his new novel, *The Vagabonds*, which traces nearly 100 years in the life of a New England family over the generations. Also at 7 pm, former *Newsweek* media columnist **Seth Mnookin** discusses his book, *Hard News: The Scandals at the New York Times and Their Meaning for American Media*, which examines the changing world of American journalism in the wake of recent scandals at the *New York Times*.

Newtonville Books in the Attic
Union Street Bar, 107 R Union St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre 7:30 pm. Free. **Emma McLaughlin** and **Nicola Kraus**, co-authors of *The Nanny Diaries*, read from the new novel they've co-written, *Citizen Girl*, about a young woman trying to succeed in New York.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Barnes & Noble at BU
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-236-7448). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. Bombay native **Suketu Mehta** reads from his book *Maximum City: Bombay Lost and Found*, which explores various aspects of modern Bombay life.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2500). www.coolidge.org. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7:30 pm. $10. **Susan Orlean** *(The Orchid Thief)*, **Tom Perrotta** *(Election)* and **Andre Dubus III** *(House of Sand and Fog)* discuss the experience of seeing their novels made into films.

Harvard Book Store
Longfellow Hall, Askwith Lecture Hall, 13 Appian Way, Cambridge (617-661-0372). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4:30 pm. Free. Hinduism and mythology scholar **Wendy Doniger** discusses her book *The Woman Who Pretended to Be Who She Was: Myths of Self-Imitation*, which suggests that women present different versions of themselves in different situations.



Maria Flook reads November 23 at Brookline Booksmith.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Bernard Corbett** and **Paul Simpson** discuss their latest book, *The Only Game That Matters: The Harvard/Yale Rivalry*, a chronicle of the historic college football matchup.

Massachusetts State House
Grand Staircase, Corner of Beacon and Park streets, Boston (413-559-5678). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 4 pm. Free. **Shona Ramaya** receives the Massachusetts Book Award for *Operation Monsoon*, her collection of stories about modern life in India.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Kathleen Hughes** reads from her debut novel, *Dear Mrs. Lindbergh*, about a woman trying to find a balance between her life as a wife and mother and her dreams of flying planes.

Poetry @ MIT
MIT Room, 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-7894). www.mit.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 7 pm. Free. Poet **Tom Pickard** reads from his works.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. Brown professor **David Kertzer** reads from his book *Prisoner of the Vatican: The Popes' Secret Plot to Capture Rome from the New Italian State*, which examines religious and political unrest in Italy in the 19th century.

Unitarian Universalist Society
Chapel at the Unitarian Universalist Society, 309 Washington St., Wellesley (781-431-1470). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. 7:30 pm. Free. British food columnist **Nigel Slater** reads his memoir, *Toast: The Story of a Boy's Hunger*, about his early years spent longing for both food and love.

Woodberry Poetry Room
Lamont Library, Harvard Yard, Cambridge (617-495-2454). http://hcl.harvard.edu/houghton/departments/poetry.html. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5:30 pm. Free. **Michael Fried** reads his poetry.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Boston International Antiquarian Book Fair
Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St.,Boston (617-954-2000). www.bostonbookfair.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 5 pm. $8-$15. Through Nov. 21. The fair features rare and collectible books, maps and manuscripts.

Calamus Books
92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). www.calamusbooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 7 pm. Free. **Scott & Scott** read from *Nick of Time* and *Spare Parts*, novels they co-wrote about gay men finding true love.

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-0372). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. BU professor of classical studies **Loren J. Samons II** discusses his book *What's Wrong with Democracy?: From Athenian Practice to American Worship*, in which he examines the founding fathers' distrust of democracy.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Joseph Badal** reads from *Terror Cell*, his new suspense thriller about a CIA officer trying to prevent a terrorist attack at the 2004 Olympics.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. International Law Report editor **Howard Friel** discusses his book *The Record of the Paper: Fifty Years of the New York Times on U.S. Foreign Policy*, which accuses the newspaper of consistently misreporting the facts related to wars waged by the United States.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Maria Flook** reads from *Lux: A Novel*, a story about a woman who lives on Cape Cod, and the year-round residents around her.

Harvard Book Store
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-661-0372). www. harvard.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30 pm. Free. **Joyce Carol Oates** reads from her latest novel, *The Falls*, a story of an American family in crisis set against the backdrop of Niagara Falls.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Merrill Feitell** reads from her short-story collection *Here Beneath Low-Flying Planes*.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Somerville News @ Toast Series
Toast Lounge, 70 Union Square, Somerville (617-628-2313). www.authorsden.com/douglasholder. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. Free. Poets **Lainie Senechal** and **Marc Goldfinger** read from their works.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
Longfellow Hall, 13 Appian Way, Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. Poets **Elizabeth Edwards** and **Sholeh Wolpe** read from their works.

Brookline Booksmith
Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 6 pm. $2. Chef and *Cooks Illustrated* founder **Chris Kimball** and contributing members of America's Test Kitchen Staff discuss the latest *Cooks Illustrated* cookbook, *The New Best Recipe Cookbook*.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Harvard fellow and former Pakistani police officer **Hassan Abbas** discusses his book *Pakistan's Drift into Extremism: Allah, the Army and America's War on Terrorism*, which looks at the rise of religious extremism in that country.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Lia Larson**, **Naomi Ages**, **Elena Matsui**, **Anat Maytal** and **Kate Nielson** discuss the book they edited, *Skirting Tradition: Women in Politics Talk to the Next Generation*.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton Centre (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us/library. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 7 pm. Free. Former Massachusetts Congressman **Father Robert Drinan** reads from his new book, *Can God and Caesar Coexist?: Balancing Religious Freedom and International Law*, which examines the state of religious freedom worldwide.

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. 21+. $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge hosts this poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). www.poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $5. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background music for the poetry slam team.

New Voices Open Mike (Third Friday)
Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $5. The Center hosts this open mike for women and their allies with five- and 10-minute slots available.

Out of the Blue Gallery (Saturdays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central •Mondays, 8 pm (7:30 pm sign-up): Jack Power hosts Stone Soup, with poetry features and an open mike. $4 donation suggested. •Saturdays, 8 pm: Share or listen to poetry and prose. Deborah Priestly hosts. $3-$5 suggested donation.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188) MBTA: Blue Line to Government Center. 6:30 pm Free. The second Thursday of each month offers a selection of featured poets and an opportunity for others to take the open mike.

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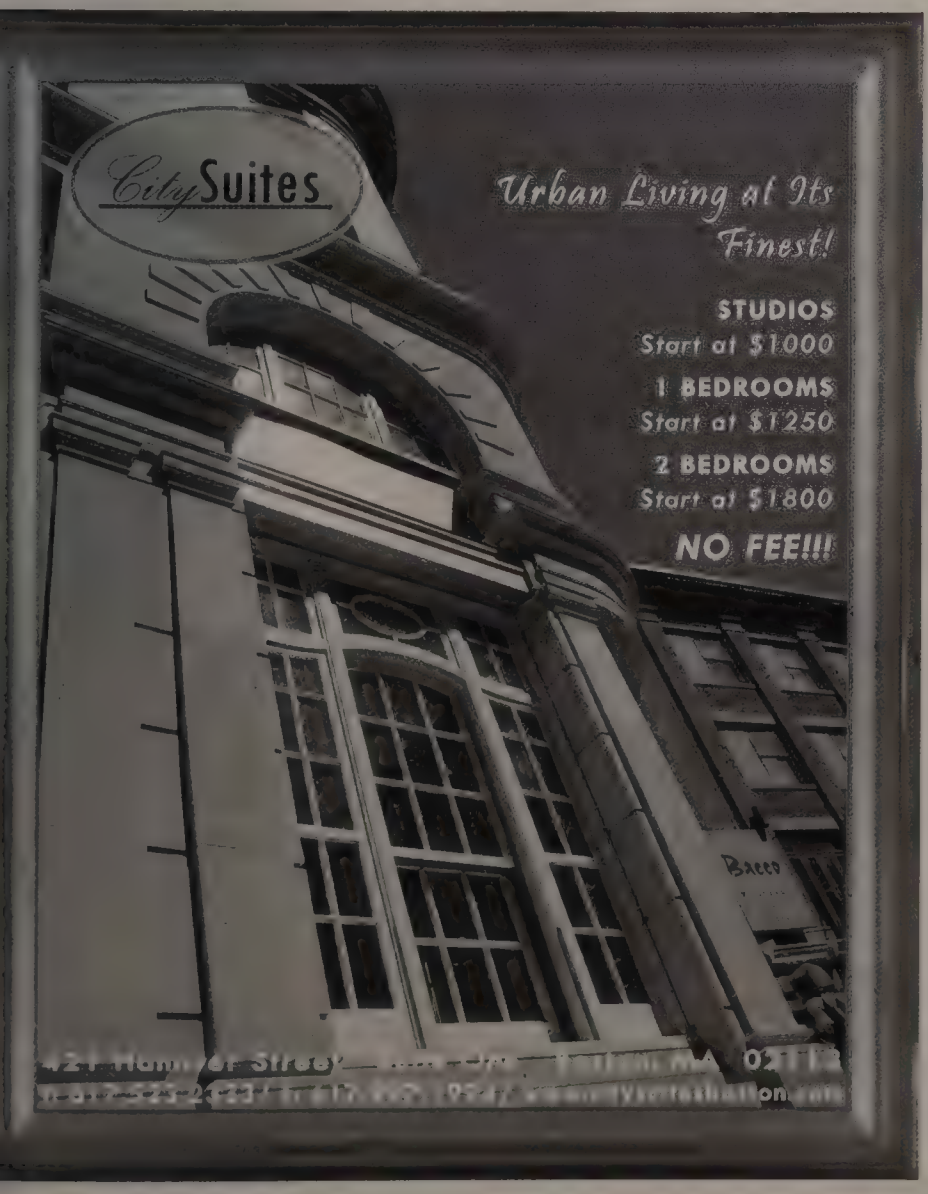
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Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Conserving and Considering Images of Piety
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston. (617-566-5643). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 12 pm. Free with museum admission. Gardner collection coordinator **Ian Chong** and head of conservation **Gianfranco Pocobene** discuss Giuliano da Rimini's 1307 painting *Virgin and Child Enthroned with Saints.*

Into the Light: A Family's Epic Journey
Peabody Essex Museum, East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www.pem.org. 7 pm. $13. **Dave** and **Jaja Martin** recount their family's experience traveling to Iceland in a 33-foot sailboat in 1998.

Judicial Conceptions of Intergroup Bias and the Evolving Science of Prejudice
Radcliffe Institute, 2nd floor Colloquium Room, 34 Concord Ave., Cambridge. (617-495-8600). www.radcliffe.edu/events. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free. University of California at Berkeley professor **Linda Hamilton Kriger** discusses her research on the application of social cognition theory to civil rights law and policy.

Sacco and Vanzetti
Boston Public Library, Mezzanine Conference Room, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-2270). www.bpl.org. 6:30 pm. Free. Film producer **David Rothauser** discusses the famous murder trial of two immigrants in Boston in the 1920s.

"Voices of Inclusion"—Disparities in Health Care Summit
JFK Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (617-451-5010 ext. 15). www.nccjboston.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK. 8 am-3 pm. Free. The National Conference for Community and Justice sponsors a daylong seminar with workshops on skill building, community action and health care policy.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Asking Big Questions in Children's Literature
Cambridge Forum, 3 Church St., Cambridge. (617-495-2727). www.cambridgeforum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30 pm. Free. Author **Katherine Paterson** discusses children's literature and how it addresses adult issues such as good and evil and life and death.

Confessional Journalism
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge. (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 10:30am. $2, $1 Seniors. Novelist **Elizabeth Benedict** discusses the popularity of memoirs and the work of memoirists Joan Didion, Susanna Kaysen, Mary Gordon and others.

The Mythology of Self-Imitation in Passing: Race, Gender, and Politics
Askwith Lecture Hall, 13 Appian Way, Cambridge (617-495-8600). www.radcliffe.edu/events. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4:30 pm. Free. University of Chicago **Wendy Doniger** draws on a variety of subjects, from ancient Indian culture to English novels, to discuss the concept of passing, or pretending to belong to a racial, political or gender group other than one's own.

Smallpox in Boston: A Complex Affair
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington Street, Boston (617-373-5800). 12:15 pm. $5. **Dr. Phillip Cash** of Emmanuel College speaks about the history of smallpox in Boston.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19

The Art and Design of the Italian Motorcycle
Larz Anderson Auto Museum, 15 Newton St., Brookline. (617-522-6547). www.mot.org. 7 pm. $9. **Pierre Terblanche**, director of Ducati Designs in Bologna, Italy, discusses Ducati's history in motorcycle design.

The Ways Between the Worlds
Revels, 80 Mt. Auburn St., Watertown. (617-972-8300). www.revels.org. 8 pm. $20. Novelist and performer **Ellen Kushner** discusses folklore and traditions like Halloween and reads excerpts from her novel, *Thomas the Rhymer*, about a medieval minstrel.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Out of Sight, Out of Mind: Telling Disability History
National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington. (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. 2 pm. Free. **Laurie Block**, producer of the NPR radio documentary *Beyond Affliction: The Disability History Project*, discusses how American society's perception of the disabled evolved throughout the 20th century.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Mean Girls: Making Sense of Media's Mixed Messages and Their Influence on Mothers and Daughters
Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. Free. Following the screening of Mark Waters' 2004 film *Mean Girls*, about a clique of popular high school girls, **Jessica Henderson Daniel**, a psychologist at Children's Hospital, leads a discussion on the media's effects on adolescent girls.

Urban Whales: Can North Atlantic Right Whales Survive Modern Industrial American
New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 7 pm. Free. **Dr. Scott Kraus**, the aquarium's vice president of research, discusses how the shipping and fishing industries and pollution affect the biology of the North American right whale.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Improving Sexuality Across the Life Course
Brandeis University, Epstein Building, 515 South St., Waltham (718-736-8100). www.brandeis.edu. 12:30 pm. Free. Brandeis University Women's Studies Research Center scholar **Margaret Morganroth Gullette** discusses how women can explore their sexuality as they age.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Mother and Child: Changing Images of Mary in Medieval and Renaissance Devotion
Museum of Fine Arts, 450 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 12 pm. Free with museum admission. **Shirin Fozi** leads a gallery talk about maternal images in the MFA's European Art collection.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Founding Mothers: The Women Who Raised Our Nation
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-373-5800). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. 6:30 pm. Free. ABC News political commentator **Cokie Roberts** discusses women's involvement in the framing of the Constitution.

What Is Love: A Discussion of Ideas and Ideals
Boston Public Library, Mezzanine Conference Room, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-2270). www.bpl.org. 6:30 pm. Free. Clinical psychologist and psychoanalyst **Dr. Tim Kochems** discusses the experiences and understandings of love.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Desires and Domesticities: American Modern Housing in the 20th Century
Cronkite Living Room, 6 Ash St., Cambridge (617-495-8600). www.radcliffe.edu/events. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free. Columbia University professor of architecture and planning **Gwendolyn Wright** discusses design trends in the modern home.

The Past, Present, and Future of Human Nature
Geological Lecture Hall, Harvard Museum of Natural History, 24 Oxford St., Cambridge. (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. Harvard psychology professor **Steven Pinker** discusses modern biotechnology and its potential influence on human genetic evolution.







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Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am.; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $8 under 21. $5 for 21+. DJ John Morris spins progressive house for Lust, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $15, 21+. Sunday night parties include three separate dance floors and drag acts. Resident DJ Ted Elison spins house music.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show, and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Club Europa (Fridays)
57 Stuart St., Boston (617-417-0186). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.twistboston.com. Fri., 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+ after 11 pm. DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s tunes at this women's night.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). www.fritzboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 12 pm-2 am. This gay sports bar, with four large-screen plasma TVs, serves brunch Saturday and Sunday.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $8 weekends, 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month, the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground features musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Tuesdays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Latin night with resident DJ Amador, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Tue.: Service Industry Night, with DJ Afrodite.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 19+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: New Wave Dance Party with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Milky Way Lounge (Sundays)
401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+. Every Sunday the Milky Way Lounge presents Satellite, a queer night for women. Live entertainment varies from week to week and includes Fireballs Drag Bingo, spoken-word events and jazz.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Omar. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This private, members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-587-0000). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am. $15. 21+. DJ Danae of Star 93.7 spins house music in the main room while DJ Mikey spins new wave, '80s funk and electro-clash in the side room. There are also occasional drag shows with Eileen Dover.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room and video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Scott Kennedy.

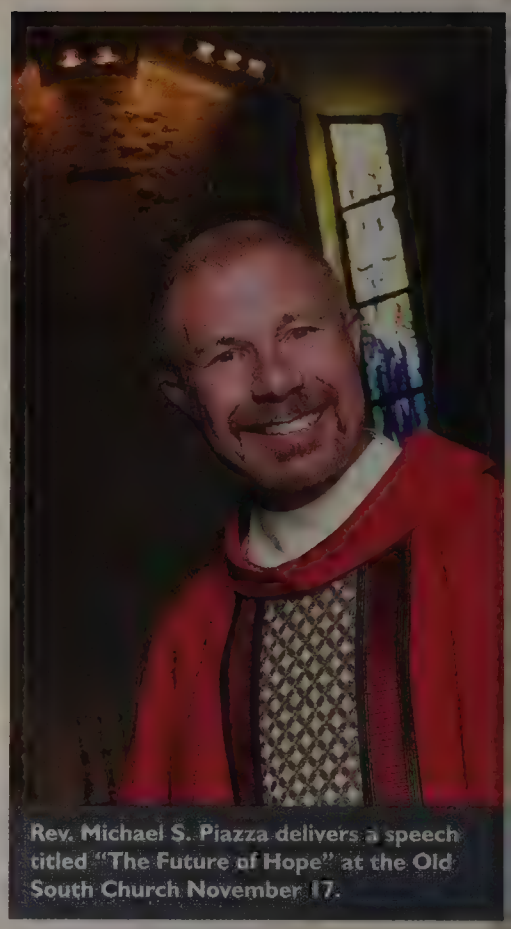
Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.

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Shows & Events

The Exorsissy
...line, 1256 Boylston St, Boston (617-265-6222). ...oldcustorphans.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Through Nov. 20. Thu.-Sat. 8 pm, $25. Ryan Landry and the Gold Dust Orphans perform their ...ted take on *The Exorcist*.

The Future of Hope
...South Church, 645 Boylston St., Boston (617-...) www.oldsouth.org. MBTA: Green Line to ...y. Nov. 17. 6 pm. Free. Rev. Michael S. Piazza,



Rev. Michael S. Piazza delivers a speech titled "The Future of Hope" at the Old South Church November 17.

dean of the Cathedral of Hope, a liberal Christian church serving the GLBT community, delivers a speech. The event also includes live music from Coro Allegro and the Back Bay Ringers.

GBBC 2004 Awards for Excellence
Westin Copley Place, 10 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Nov. 30, 6 pm. $80. The 11th annual Awards for Excellence gala dinner, hosted by the Greater Boston Business Council (GBBC), honors companies that have demonstrated a commitment to diversity and supported the GBLT community.

Reconstruction: A Gender Bender Benefit
Midway Café, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain. www.dykenight.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. Nov. 19. 9 pm. $8-$10. Jess Dugan, Tom Foolery and Cephus Leroy are among the many drag king and high-femme acts at this event benefiting GLBT causes. Provincetown's DJ Rodd Hott spins music until 2 am after the show.

The Romentics Book Reading
Calamus Books, 92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). www.romentics.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Nov. 19. 7 pm. Free. Local authors Scott Pomfret and Scott Whittier read from and sign their series of romantic novels for gay men called Romentics.

Single Gay and Lesbian Professionals for the Arts
Starbucks, 443 Boylston St., Boston (617-732-3920) www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Nov. 20. 4 pm-6:30 pm. $40. Tour Boston-area galleries with other singles and mingle over post-tour cocktails at 29 Newbury St. Reservations required.

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 6-9 pm. The Boston Alliance for Gay Lesbian Bisexual and Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlington Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women share thoughts about books, videos and other topics of interest in a supportive environment.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tuesday of t

month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

Boston Bay Blades
www.bayblades.org/boston. All are welcome to join this competitive, recreational group of rowers and scullers.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). www.bgbl.com. The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year.

Boston Gay Skins
Ramrod, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). www.bostongayskins.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 11 pm. Boston's nonracist gay skinhead collective meets the third Friday of the month.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri, 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. www.lesbianavengers.org. Thu., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
(617-417-0876). Third Saturday of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for interested parents and their partners. For info, e-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-9595). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. First Wednesday and third Thursday of each month, 7 pm, free. An informal group for people who think they may be bisexual or are attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning People
(617-256-8693). This group discusses the challenges and joys of coming out. It meets Thursday nights, from 7-8:30 pm, in Cambridge.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area support, information and social group for people assigned female at birth who feel that is not an accurate or complete description of their gender. Part of the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group meets monthly. E-mail CompassFTM@usa.com for details.

East Coast Wrestling Club
(401-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www.eastcoastwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay male wrestlers has more than 160 members.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional women 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophisticated to get together with like-minded women for conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Fenway Community Health
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Fenway Community Health offers a wide array of programs and services for the GLBT community ranging from discussions about parenting and safe-sex practices to domestic violence and substance abuse. Call for more information

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Join Boston's GLBT Flag Football League for a casual spring season, followed by a formal fall season. All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring.com/~frontrunners. Sat., 10 am. All are welcome to join this running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Group
Boston (address available upon request). Learn more about photography, socialize and meet new people at these monthly meetings. For more information e-mail amateurgphoto@yahoo.com.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
(617-267-9001 or 888-340-4528). Mon.-Fri., 6-11 pm; Sat. and Sun., 5-10 pm. This confidential, toll-free hotline provides support for GLBT and questioning callers.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Professionals Building Community
(617-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to join this networking organization for GLBT professionals. Monthly networking meetings.

Gaymes Group
(508-339-4250). Members of this social group for gay men and lesbians get together on a regular basis to play board, card and parlor games.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second Thursday of each month. 7:30 pm. $5-$10. Members of the GLBT community are invited to share poetry, prose or performance pieces at this open-mike event.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

Girlz 2 Girlz
(781-893-6113). This mentoring program is for girls ages 13-19 who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered. For information, contact Marcela Aldez-Osorio.

Laffan
Members of this social and networking group for women receive a weekly e-mail calendar of events. For info, e-mail Laffan_Boston2004@yahoo.com.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue.-Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

The Network/La Red
(617-423-7233). The Network is a support group working to end abuse in lesbian and bisexual women's and transgender communities. E-mail info@thenetworklared.org for more information.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

Peer Listening Line
(800-399-7337). Trained volunteers provide confidential information, referrals and support to their GLBT peers.

The Rainbow Café
This social group for activist, academic, intellectual or artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments. Send an e-mail to rainbow boston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatinos lgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Road, Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. First Sat. of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing. $8. Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the GLBT community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the first Thursday of every month.





body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Dances of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767 or 617-491-8694). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Nov. 19, 7:30-9:30 pm. Requested donation, $6-10. Everyone is welcome to join hands in simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honoring the spiritual traditions of the world. Dances accompanied by live music.

Drum and Dance Saturday
First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (978-371-2502). www.earthdrum.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Nov. 20, 8-11:30 pm. $6. Bring drums, spoons, tambourines and clapping hands for this day of dance and percussion.

Gratitude Gathering
Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Nov. 25, 11:00 am-12:30 pm. This meditation center welcomes attendees to spend Thanksgiving. The day includes readings on the subject of gratitude and a period of sitting meditation.

Holiday Fair and Medium's Day
Greater Boston Church of Spiritualism, Masonic Center, 32 Church St., Watertown (617-923-4334). www.greaterbostonchurchofspiritualism.com. Nov. 27, 10 am-4 pm. $20 general admission, $15 for seniors and students. Get your aura photographed, check out card readers, new-age vendors and the book sale, and experience spiritual readings and healing.

Sex Toys Info Party
Grand Opening, 318 Harvard St., Suite 32, Arcade Bldg., Brookline (617-731-2626). www.grandopening.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Nov. 22, 7:30-9 pm. $5. This sexuality boutique hosts an informational party about sex toys.

True Story Theater
Art and Soul, 91 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-661-7376). www.artsoulyoga.com or www.truestorytheater.org. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Nov. 21, 4-6 pm. $10. The True Story Theater group performs *Creative Journeys: Our Greatest Struggles and Breakthroughs*, an interactive play using improv theater, movement and music and incorporating stories told by audience members.

Lecture

Intro to Chinese Medicine
Harvest Co-op Market, 581 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1580). www.harvestcoop.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Nov. 30, 6-8 pm. Learn about the fundamentals of acupuncture, shiatsu, qi gong, the concept of chi energy and how to integrate these healing arts in a practical way.

Retreat

Improve & Save Your Sight Naturally
Kripalu Center, Lenox, Mass. (800-741-7353). www.kripalu.org. Nov. 19-21. $320-611. Preregistration required. Optometrist, acupuncturist and author Marc Grossman teaches therapeutic exercises designed to improve many vision problems by integrating the physical, emotional and spiritual aspects of vision.

Workshops

Banish Winter Blues
YWCA, 7 Temple St., Cambridge (617-491-6050 or 617-201-3977). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Nov. 17, 6:30-8:30 pm. $20, of which 10 percent benefits the YWCA Women's Empowerment Fund. Seasonal affective disorder (SAD) is a condition whose symptoms may include food cravings, irritability, sleeplessness and more. This class teaches meridian therapy (the practice of strengthening one's mind and removing negative thought patterns) as a tool for alleviating SAD.

Chen Straight Sword Form with Master Wang Hai Jun
MacDuffie School, 1 Ames Hill Dr., Springfield (860-836-1068 or 781-648-3980). www.wanghaijun.com. Nov. 20-21, 10 am-4:30 pm. $125 for one day or $195 for both. Master Wang, an expert in tai chi and martial arts theory, teaches workshops on straight sword. The practice aims to promote stronger whole-body movement. All levels welcome. Broad swords available for purchase.

Healing with Laughter
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. Nov. 20, 1-3 pm. $25. Dr. Lynn Caesar hosts this presentation on laughter's physiological and immune-enhancing benefits, which are tested in a "laughter session."

Learn First Aid
Framingham School of Nursing, 85 Lincoln St., Framingham (877-228-3638). Nov. 17, 6-9 pm. $50. Preregistration required. Learn how to deal with bleeding, shock, bandaging, burns, fractures, poisoning, splints, stings and more. Participants also receive a National Safety First Aid Manual to take home.

Thai Massage
Earthsong Yoga, 186 Main St., Marlboro (508-480-8884 or 508-259-2847). www.earthsongyoga.com. Nov. 19, 7-9 pm. $20 per person. Bring a friend or a loved one and learn the two-person exercise practice of Thai massage, which features a series of postures and simple massage techniques designed to increase flexibility and decrease stress. All levels welcome.

The Yoga of Sound
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 90 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circlesofwisdom.com. Nov. 21, 1-4 pm. $60. Explore your voice as a tool for spiritual development and overall well-being. This class covers the topics of silence, vibration, breath, voice, mantra and chanting.

Ongoing

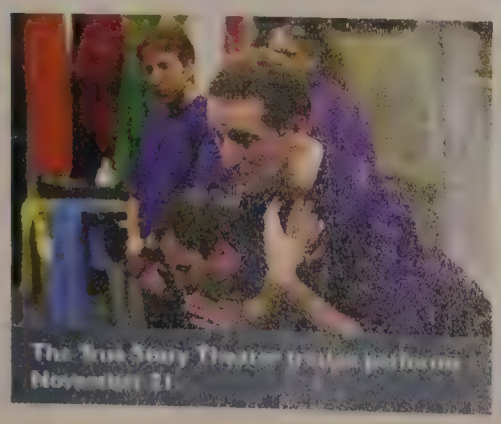
Friday Night Chill Out
Blissful Monkey Yoga Studio, 663 Centre St. Jamaica Plain (617-522-4411). www.blissfulmonkey.com. Fri., 6:30-8 pm. $15, drop-in. This class begins with sequenced Vinyasa postures for loosening up muscles and sweating out tension and ends with deep restorative yoga.

Gentle Restorative Yoga
Back Bay Yoga Studio, 1112 Boylston St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-375-0785). www.backbayyoga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon., 5:45-7:15 pm. Tue., 4-5:30 pm. $14. drop-in. Restorative yoga aims to promote physical and mental balance, self-awareness and deep relaxation. This class is appropriate for anyone experiencing fatigue, stress, or recovery from illness or injury.

Inner Workout Yoga
Living Yoga, 613 Mt. Auburn St., Watertown (617-924-6085). www.livingyogactr.org. Fri., 5:30-6:30 pm. Donation appreciated. Work toward increasing your energy while relaxing mind and body at this drop-in Kundalini yoga and meditation class.

Pilates
The Inner Space, 17 Station St., Brookline (617-730-5757). www.yogainthevillage.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. Wed., 9-10 am and 7:30-8:45 pm. $15, drop-in. Try out this mat class in classical pilates, an exercise designed to strengthen and tighten your core muscles and improve posture, flexibility and balance.

Yoga/Newton
Myrtle Church, 21 Curve St, West Newton (617-320-9792). Wed., 5:45-7 pm. $12, drop-in. This class helps participants develop movement awareness, so that balance, strength, and flexibility can emerge naturally.


The True Story Theater [illegible] November 21

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

New England Patriots
•Gillette Stadium, Foxboro
Tickets: 800-543-1776
Nov. 28, 1 pm vs. Baltimore Ravens

Boston Celtics
•FleetCenter, Boston
Tickets: 617-931-2000
Nov. 19, 7:30 pm vs. San Antonio Spurs
Nov. 21, 6 pm vs. Seattle SuperSonics
Nov. 26, 7:30 pm vs. Cleveland Cavaliers

Events

Gobble Gobble Gobble Road Race
Start/finish at the Burren, 247 Elm St., Somerville (781-395-0349). www.srr.org. Nov. 25, 9 am. $20. Run off the turkey you'll eat later in the day at this 4-mile Thanksgiving road race, which raises money for several charities including Project Soup.

New England Championship Wrestling
Framingham Civic League, 214 Concord St., Framingham (617-327-3945). www.necwwrestling.com. Nov. 20, 7 pm. $15. The triple main event at this show includes a Texas Death Match between "The Egomaniac" Johnny Idol and "Strangler" Steve King and a "tables, ladders and chairs" match between tag team champions Pride and challengers the Logans.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club seeks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club (BSSC) Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Corporate Basketball League
(781-248-7811). Three men's divisions and one women's play weeknight games in the Cambridge, Newton and Waltham areas. All levels welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

DODGEBALL

BSSC Dodgeball
(617-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting now for dodgeball teams to compete in a fall league.

ENDURANCE TRAINING

Team in Training
(800-688-6572). www.teamintraining.org. This organization provides fund-raising athletes with group training and support, personalized coaching and guaranteed race entry for events.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
561 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville. (617-591-0101). www.baystatefencers.com. Fencing and stage combat programs offered in the fall.


A scene from the 2003 Gobble Gobble Gobble Road Race

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Saturday mornings. Women's teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.com. Training Tuesdays and Thursdays in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wednesday or Sunday year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, then consider joining these self-proclaimed "serious drinkers with a running problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Run
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Thursdays, 7 pm. Weekly runs.

Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thursdays, 7:30 pm. Weekly 2.6-mile runs.

SOCCER

BSSC Outdoor Soccer
(617-789-4070). Outdoor teams forming now. Games played in Charlestown, Lexington, Reading and Canton. Individuals and teams are welcome.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed teams forming for summer leagues in Cambridge, Watertown, Brookline and Newton.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-868-8379). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels.

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children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Big River
270 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-29393). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 16-21, Tue.,Thu. and Fri., 7:30 pm, Wed., 7 pm, Sat., 2 and 7:30 pm, Sun., 1 and 7 pm. $12.50-$32.50. The Wang Center kicks off the 2004-05 season of its Family Series with this musical based on Mark Twain's *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. This production combines sign language and spoken word to appeal to hearing-impaired audiences.

Borders Books and Music
Cambridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Every Sat., 1 pm. Staff members read from new and classic storybooks.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Every Tue. and Sat., 11 am. Staff members read children's stories. Snacks and craft activities follow.

ImprovFoundry Family Show
ImprovBoston, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA Red Line to Central. Sat., 6 pm. $10-$12. This short improvisational show is suitable for all ages.

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Children Theatre
255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616) www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. •Nov. 20 and 27, 11 am and 1 pm, ages 3-10. $10 adults, $5 children. Boston Children's Theatre presents *Adventures with Alice and Friends*, an interactive show based on Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland*. •Nov. 21 and 28, 1 pm, ages 3-10. $10 adults, $5 children. Theater of Relativity presents *Stupid Einstein*, a show that encourages kids to think like Albert Einstein.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). www.jfkmusuem.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Free. •Nov. 26, 10:30 am. Angkor Dance Torupe, a Cambodian youth ensemble of members ages 4 through 18, peforms.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50; members, $7. Reservations recommended. •Nov. 18, 10:30 am, ages 3-6. Sarah Lamstein presents *Funny Bone Tales*, a journey into three magical worlds. •Nov. 20 and 21, 1 and 3 pm, ages 3-8. Len Gerwick performs several stories adapted from *Aesop's Fables*. •Nov. 24, 10:30 am, ages 3-6. Paul Vincent Davis of Puppets Arts presents *Raccoon Tales*, three humorous tales inspired by stories of the Seneca Native American tribe. •Nov. 26, 1 and 3 pm, ages 4-8. Paul Vincent Davis presents *Rumplestiltskin*, a lively retelling of this famous tale. •Nov. 27 and 28, 1 and 3 pm, ages 4-9. Tanglewood Marionettes presents the Grimm Brothers' classic *Hansel and Gretel*.

Wheelock Family Theatre
200 The Riverway, Boston (617-879-2147). www.wheelock.edu/wft. MBTA: Green Line to Fenway. Through Nov. 28, Fri., 7:30 pm, Sat. and Sun. matinee, 3 pm. $20, $16, $12. Wheelock Family Theatre presents *Ramona Quimby*, a play based on author Beverly Cleary's popular Ramona books about a boisterous third-grader who can't seem to stay out of trouble.

Things to Do

Boston Art Tours
Meets at Starbucks, 443 Boylston St., Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tours for children: Tue.-Sat., 1-2 pm; tours for teens: Tue.-Sat., 2-3:30 pm. Adults, $30; teens, $15; children under 12, free. Take a walking tour of contemporary art galleries along Newbury Street.

Boston Duck Tours
Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston; Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-267-3825). www.bostonducktours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Science Park. Daily through Nov., 28, 9 am-sunset, every 30-60 minutes. $24; seniors and students, $21; children 3-11, $15; children under 3, $3. These amphibious vehicles tour Boston's most popular sights via city streets and the Charles River.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm. •Nov. 21, 1:30 pm, ages 5-7; 2:45 pm, ages 8 and up. Let's Book, a celebration of Children's Book Week, features an appearance by author and illustrator Yetti Frenkel.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8; children, $7. •Daily, KidsStage is an interactive theater featuring professional actors and museum staff. •Fri., 3-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2-4 pm. In the Zoom Zone is a hands-on science challenge culled from the PBS TV show *Zoom*. •Mon.-Fri., 10 am-4 pm. The art studio is open for bookmaking, painting, finger-puppet making and more.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2501). www.coolidge.org. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. $10; children, $8. •Saturdays, 10:30 am: Saturday Morning Kids Variety Show. •Nov. 20, 10:30 am: Bond Street Theater presents a comedy and magic act. •Nov. 21, 11 am and 1 pm. Adults, $18, children, $12. Shirim's Klezmer Orchestra presents the Boston premiere of Maurice Sendak's *Pincus & the Pig*, an updated klezmer interpretation of Prokofiev's *Peter & the Wolf*. •Nov. 27, 10:30 am: The BJ Hickman Magic Show.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $5; ages 5-18, $2; students, seniors and kids under 5, free (free admission the third Sunday of every month). •*Holography, the Light Fantastic* is a display featuring the world's largest collection of holograms. Ongoing. •*Robots and Beyond* offers a look at MIT's artificial intelligence research labs. Ongoing. •*Ship Models: The Evolution of Ship Design* features 40 ship models, from warships to clippers. Ongoing.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13; seniors, $11; children, $10. •*Strange Matter* explores the use of everyday materials in cardiac surgery, space exploration and more-common events. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models* is an interactive exhibition that features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •Science in the Park is a permanent playground with a scientific spin. •Sat. and Sun., 11 am. Animals and Stories Alive is an interactive story hour featuring folk tales, myths and live animals.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat. & Sun., 9 am-6 pm. $15.95; seniors, $13.95; children, $8.95. •*Amazing Jellies* features thousands of jellyfish. Through 2005. •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank contains sharks, stingrays and a 600-pound California sea lion. Ongoing. •*Edge of the Sea* is a hands-on exhibition that features sea stars, hermit crabs and more. Ongoing. •Simons IMAX Theatre. Check Web site for listings.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us/library. •Thursdays, 7 pm. Staff members read to children ages 4 and up at Pajama Story time. •Fridays, 10:30 am. Films for preschoolers screen. •Nov. 18, 7 pm. Lois Lowry reads from *Messenger*, her children's story about a boy making his way through the forest to deliver the message that his village will soon be closed to outsiders. •Nov. 29, 10 am-7 pm. Fred Reidy brings his assortment of puppets for an all-day fund-raiser. •Nov. 30, 4 pm. Faster Than a Speeding Bullet is an experiment with color, light, speed and optical illusions.

around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
Coit Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am - 9 pm. $9; children and seniors, $7. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.

Faneuil Hall
75 State St., Boston (617-338-2323). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 am. Free.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6, children, $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; seniors and students, $8; 12 and under, free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroam museum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH, or Green Line to Park Street. Labor Day through Memorial Day: Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm; summer: daily, 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Daily, 9 am-5 pm (Fri., 9 am-9 pm). $14; seniors, $12; children, $11.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5; children, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1: Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, $13.95 seniors; children, $8.95.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-5 pm. Free.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. $5, seniors and students, $4; children, $1.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $9.50; seniors, $7; children 12 and under, $6.50; children under 3, free.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily, 7 am-6 pm. $4; children 12 and under, free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). www.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. May 1-Oct. 15: daily, 9 am-6 pm; Nov. 1-Apr. 30: daily, 10 am-5 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster-care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-437-6200). www.aac.org. ...p someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay
(617-375-0700). www.bostonredcross.org. Volunteer in the administrative department.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-563-4441). www.bostoncares.org. More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor young students from the city in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). www.ccaa.org. Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000). Tutor adult students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
(617-995-3250). www.everybodywinsmetroboston.org. Spend your lunch hour reading with elementary school children.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hospice.org. Volunteers needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-online.com. Volunteers provide over-the-phone counsel for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelders.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

Pine Street Inn
(617-482-4944). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve breakfast to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room and groceries program at this homeless shelter.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young professionals.



The Children's Museum

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RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

Legal Eagle?

1) Venue: 28th day of October, 2004/County of Norfolk/Town of Brookline/MBTA C Train;
2) Whereas: your daytime domicile Towers over the Stephen L. Brown;
3) And whereas: it may now be MFC but, a fortiori, 142 years will always make it JHF (the pin proves it);
4) Know all persons by these presents: nota bene, the conversation ended prematurely with your departure at St. Paul;
5) Remedy is hereby stipulated: grant of conversational continuance pending communication of modus operandi within these pages two weeks hence.
—The prosecution

Mystery Red Sox Fan

It was October 29, two days after our beloved Red Sox won the World Series. I was on a mission to buy Sox memorabilia at the Souvenir Store on Yawkey Way. You were with a buddy visiting from San Francisco standing behind me in line. You have brown hair, blue eyes and were wearing tan cords with a Sox cap…not to mention a smile that melted my heart! I was the girl in front of you wearing jeans and a Burberry poncho. We shared idle chit-chat until our wait was up, and went our separate ways once we got into the store. You did, however, tap me on the back to say goodbye when you were leaving. I will never forgive myself for not asking you your name. Am I crazy—are we just two ships passing? If the odds are in my favor that you read this, I would love to hear from you and complete our introduction in more comfortable surroundings.
—mchllrspl@yahoo.com

Ballerina at the Harp

I met you at the bar downstairs at the Harp on October 30. We were there for the BostonYPA 2nd Annual Mayhem and Madness: Halloween party. You were simply beautiful as a ballerina. I remember I asked you to pirouette, you know, that twirl thing that ballerinas do? You did it and giggled with a lovely smile. We talked about where we were from; you recently moved to Boston from Medfield. You said you work for a brokerage firm and are 23 years old. Oh and the music was loud, but I believe your name is Kristin. You ordered a Molson Light and paid using your credit card. I was wearing a black jacket, black jeans, Red Sox cap (with a "B" in front). (Note: I had a Scary Movie mask on, but took it off to drink a beer. Plus it was HOT down there!) I danced with a few women that night and even got a kiss or two, but you stood out over all of them. I wanted to get your number and ask you out for dinner and a movie, but I was hoping to run into you on the dance floor (but didn't). You simply disappeared like one of those ghost stories you hear about (you know, the ones where a guy sees a woman on the side of the road then takes her to his prom then she asks him to drive her to the nearest cemetery where she disappears. Creepy, yet romantic! Let me know if you were interested.
—MIKEFAB3@aol.com

I Thought It Was Over

When I first witnessed a "Yankees Suck" chant at Fenway I was confused to say the least...the Red Sox were not playing the Yankees. There were no pinstripes to be found. I understand the competition. I understand the rivalry. I even at times understand the hatred. But when there are 3.2 million members of Red Sox nation celebrating at the rolling rally and the Yankees Suck chant starts, I am as confused as ever. It sounds as if it is coming out of the mouths of a group of second-place also-rans, not the home of the World Series Champions. So ENOUGH please...let's let this one die with the Curse.
—Yankees Suck sucks

Shy Guy

Blame it on being a shy guy, but I should have asked for your number. We walked together from Cambridge to Canal Street before Game 1 of the World Series. You are new in town from Dallas and asked me for directions to Marquee—I was on my way to Beer Works to watch the game, so we walked together. We joked about how much of a great walking city Boston is and how lazy some people are to take cabs everywhere. I was too much of a gentleman to ask for your number even though I wanted to. I would love to continue our conversation.
—canalstreet2004@yahoo.com

Beacon Hill Friday Nights

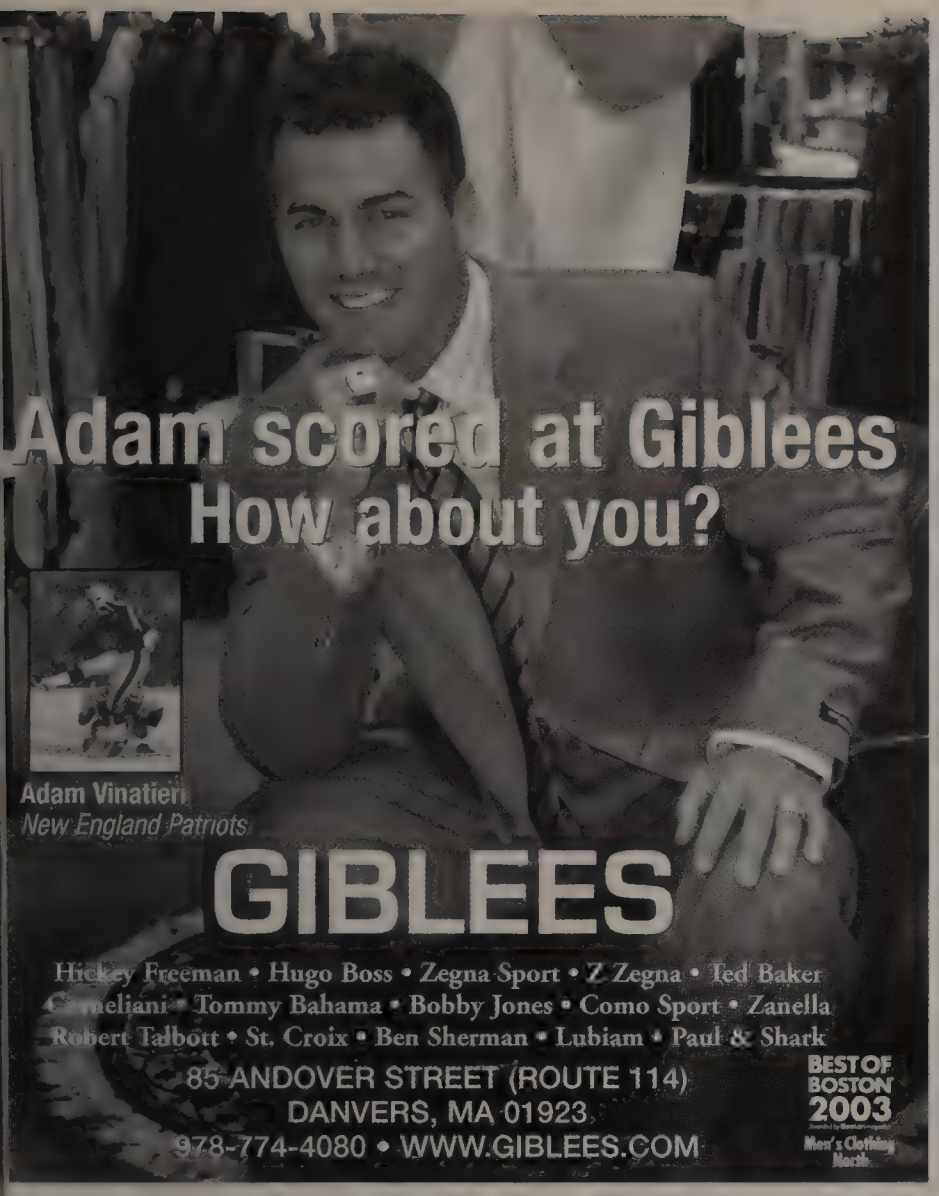
About dealing with each other's noise: We should all do our share of being considerate for others—it's a part of living in the city. Some of those Friday nights or Tuesday afternoons, or any odd time could be sleep time for shift workers, or peace time for someone else. Being a busy area for medical facilities, one should realize that any extra noise at any time could disturb a sleeper before their night shift. That nurse or doctor or someone else could be the one that needs to care for your loved ones, or even yourself... Wouldn't it be nice to know that the person caring for you wasn't disturbed by your noise, and had a good sleep before coming to work? You shouldn't have to wait for a neighbor to let you know when enough is enough. Just be responsible!
—Your Neighbor

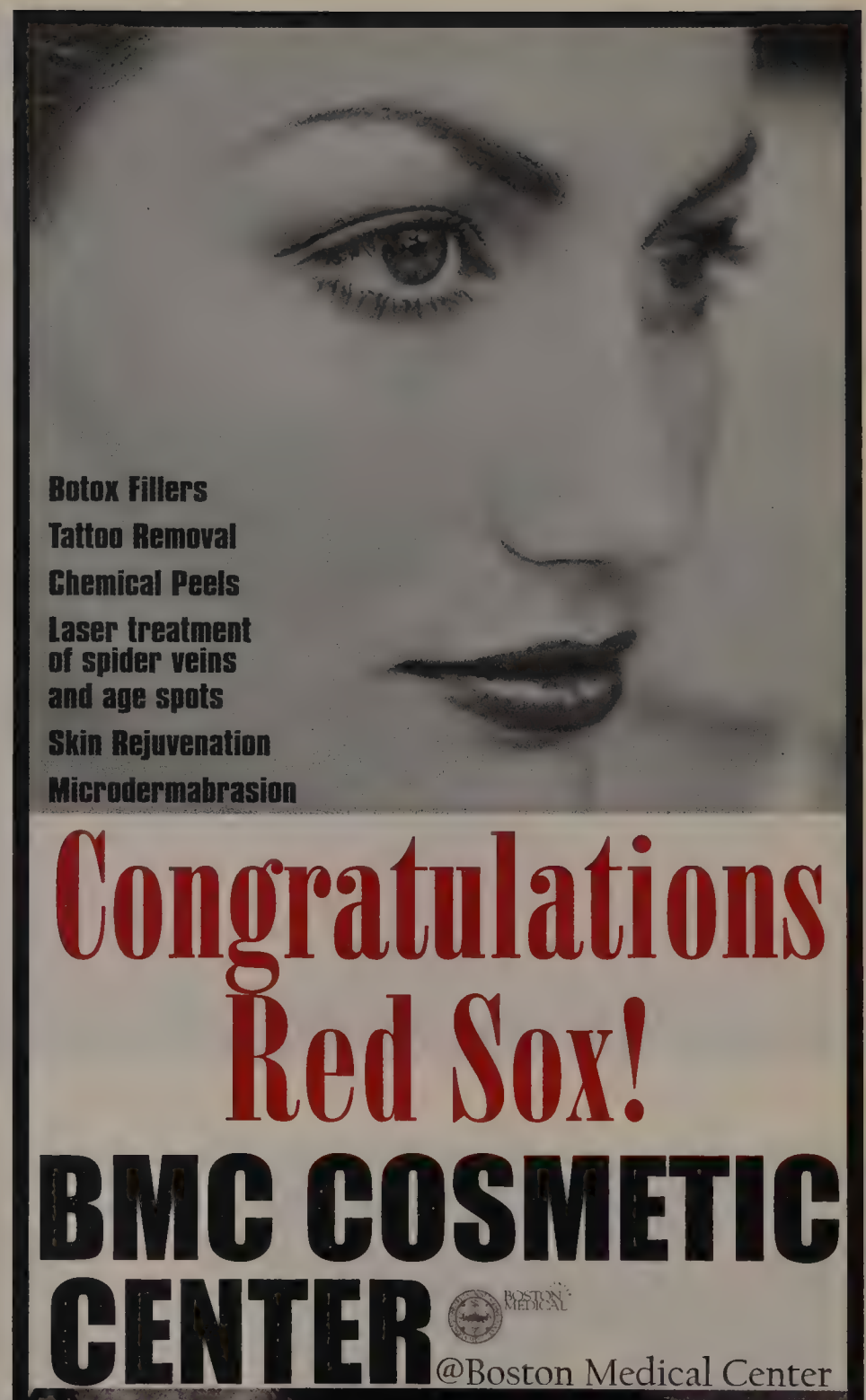
Crossword Puzzle Fanatic

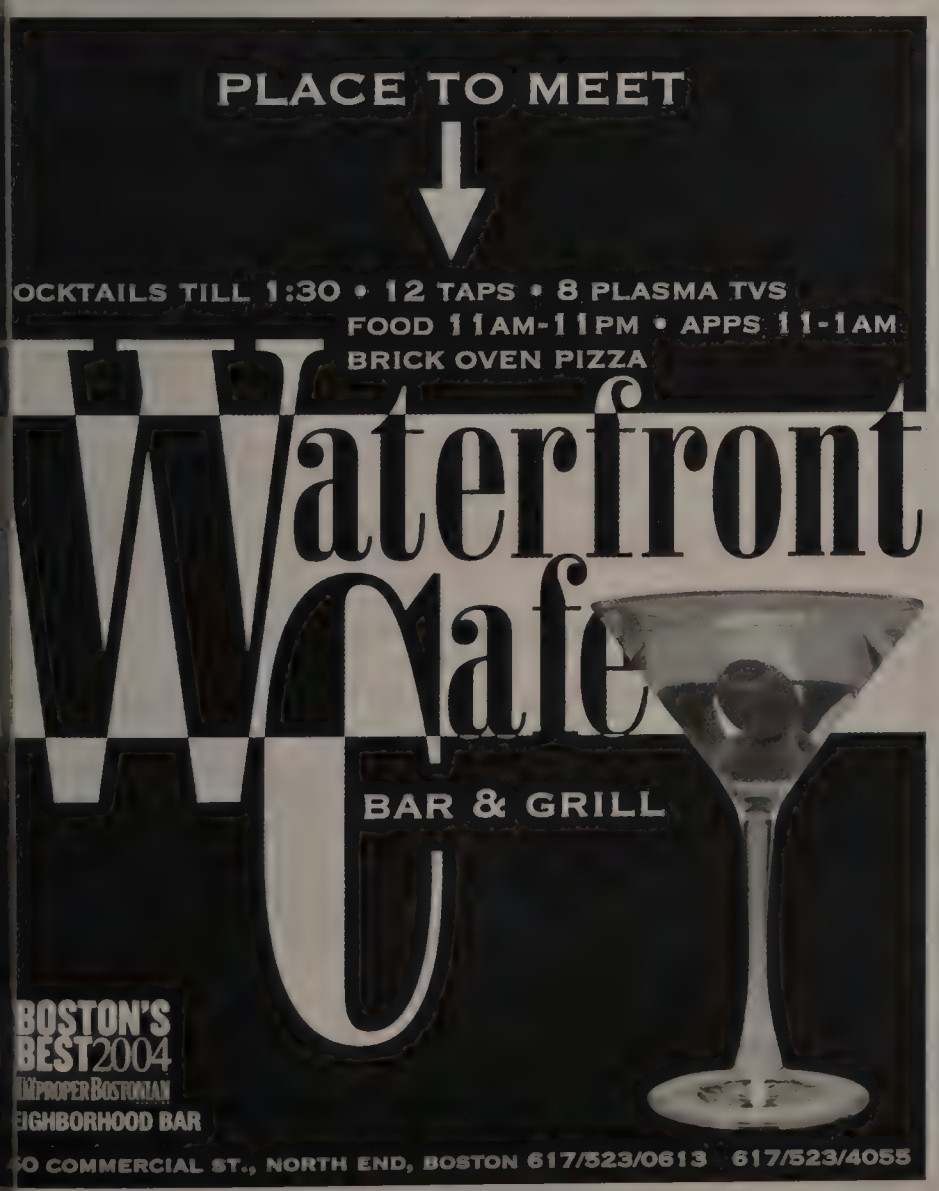
So it was the evening the Sox won it all, around 5 pm, Green Line leaving Government Center. You were sitting to my left, I was standing (actually hovering) as you were working on your Globe crossword puzzle. You said you liked the Globe because it gets easier the more you do. You were whizzing through it. I think I was able to help decipher 36 down: "what an ump calls." I mentioned "walk," and we helped each other with the remainder until my stop. Actually, you did it all. I suck at crosswords. I was trying to mutter something to say, but nothing would come out. I forget what I was wearing then, I can only remember you. Your wavy, brown short hair was so beautiful and you seemed so sophisticated and enthralled with your swatting of the crosswords. You were wearing a sweater of sorts. That color between purple and red, not sure how to describe it. When I left, I told you good luck, the only pathetic thing that I could say at the time, our eyes met outside the train, and now I find myself looking for you evenings at the Green Line in Government Center. With all the coffee shops in this joint, maybe I could see you again and learn some more basic vocabulary.
—Daydream841@yahoo.com

Dear Mommy

Thank you for pulling ticks off me and combing my coat all the time. And for clipping my nails and putting olive oil on my kibble and taking me to the Fells to run and swim. Thank you for not cutting off my balls. Thank you for spending so much time with me and protecting me from daddy, especially when he drinks beer. Thank you for letting me lick your feet in the morning and for kicking daddy out of bed to walk me at 6 am in sub-zero weather. Thanks for the rawhide, the bones, the stuffed-toys, the squeaky toys and all the other crap. Thanks for the lobster, the chicken, the steak, the scrambled eggs, the sugar cereal, the cannolis and all the other stuff you aren't supposed to feed me. Thanks for giving me my own TV chair and for generally letting me do whatever the hell I want. You're the best. Love,
—Hillman


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SCORPIO OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

The scene at home, especially between the spacier members of the family, may continue to mystify you. But that situation can, if the occasion arises, improve, or it can degenerate into pure chaos. Don't let it take center stage. Better to focus on yourself, the way you look and how you come across. Magnetic Venus will enter Scorpio on the 22nd, making your charms fairly irresistible. Figure out what you want to do with this gift because it'll only work its magic until December 16; after that, you're on your own.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

Hook up with a Virgo, perhaps even a Gemini, who is as willing as you are to make a significant adjustment in your daily routines. You both have itchy feet and a desire to discover "the real you." It may take another month, until the Sagittarius sun merges with transformational Pluto, before you make your move, but you can use the time to plan ahead. Mercury in your sign helps to sort through the details, which, because Mercury turns retrograde on the 30th, may have to be revised. Twice.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

If it's been rocky for you lately, then you'll be relieved around the 18th when the life-giving sun lends its support to your Saturn ruler. Even if nothing notable happens, your mood can lift considerably. However—and there always seems to be one of those—sweet smiles can turn into frowns the very next day when artistic, affectionate Venus denies whatever it is Saturn (and by association, you) wants. Their square aspect is cold; it's the kind of challenge that primarily excites artists and their dealers.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

While the rest of us are preparing for a successful (as in enjoyable) holiday season, Aquarians, like Dick Cheney, may be focusing on a success that is more in line with public recognition. The new moon in your power-obsessed Scorpio midheaven introduced a month-long cycle of ambitious intentions that only you know about. However, this cycle could take a full year, not a mere month, before coming full circle. Merchants might envision dollar signs; the military, a reversal of fortune; couples, an intriguing love life.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

Faraway places with strange-sounding names can seem very attractive right about now. How far from home can you travel and still maintain an attachment to the personal changes you're going through? But after so many years, you might be immune to the call of the wild you hear whenever Sagittarius approaches. Whether you investigate the possibility of exploring unknown terrain or decide to check out the exotic and erotic potential of the neighborhood is a dilemma the dualist Fish faces every holiday season.

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

Feeling frisky? Willing to risk making a significant change? The astrological auspices support following your gut instinct, at least until Thanksgiving. Then repercussions from the holiday feast may arise and upset future plans. Although you think you can count on other people's money, because Mercury is turning retrograde as the month ends, you can't be certain you have the correct information. That's also the time that your Mars ruler falls under the spell of delusional Neptune. Keep the faith, but don't neglect to read the small print.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

Thanks to that new moon in Scorpio, partnership concerns over the next three weeks might matter more than ever. Your desire could easily lead to dirty tricks, but you'll soon be as subtly manipulative as your mate. After your Venus ruler enters Scorpio on the 20th, pulling the rug out from under or doing an about-face may seem the appropriate, even the natural thing to do. Your reasoning seems justifiable, especially if you grow frustrated by an adamant attitude at home or an overly anxious relative.

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

If you start your holiday shopping early—say, around the 18th—you'll have an uncanny eye for a bargain and an ear finely tuned to the hints being dropped. Right now, you're in an excellent position for uncovering the truth, the nitty-gritty of an unpleasant situation that begs to be revealed. Because your detail-driven Mercury ruler will cover the same ground for the next two months, make sure you aren't cocksure of your facts—and that you see the full extent of the forest and the importance of the different trees.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

Since a Moon Child is more sensitive than other signs to the potential of each new-moon period, take time to check out the romantic possibilities introduced by the recent Scorpio lunation (even the ones that exist only in your head). Don't pick up on the first come-on you get; keep your options open and follow through as it suits your own schedule, not anybody else's. By Thanksgiving, you'll have made a connection you can play with, perhaps work with as well. Truly creative fun and games lie ahead.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

Home and hearth are the main focus of this lunar cycle, so if you're already obsessing about decorating and entertaining, go with the impulse. For some reason—probably sensible Saturn's steady hand on your sun ruler's love of luxury—you won't go overboard this season. However, you could throw both tradition and caution to the wind and come up with a brilliant idea for a one-of-a-kind Thanksgiving celebration. Keep those plans fairly flexible, just in case erratic Uranus plays havoc with the entire holiday weekend.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

If you're feeling antsier than usual, ready to jump ship or take to the road, blame your Mercury ruler in footloose, but not totally fancy-free Sagittarius. It won't help quiet your nerves if a partner is also eager and willing to break with tradition. See who's carrying the heavier obligation and try to manage it gracefully. Then, when Mercury turns retrograde on the 30th, you'll have room to maneuver, change your mind or do preliminary research on an assignment that you promise you won't assume until next year.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

Maybe the decision will be too tough to make; maybe your ego will get in the way. However, while your amenable Venus ruler and stern Saturn form a challenging square, you'll be aware that as a mere plaything of the gods you are being sorely tested. Whether you pass or fail depends in part on how well you fit the image the rest of the family wants to project. Career matters could take a similar turn as pressure from above is brought to bear on you personally instead of on your contribution to a group effort. Come turkey time, it'll all be history.

...ous about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise ... next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE ... Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

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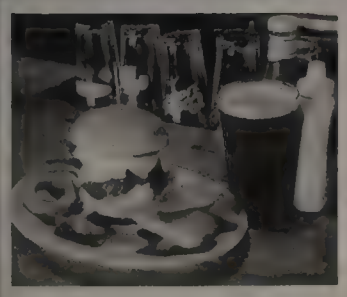
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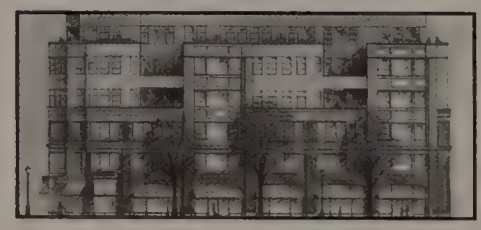
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IMPROPER sightings

UNLIKE THE REST OF YOUR FRIENDS, WE WANT TO SEE THE PHOTOS FROM YOUR NEXT TRIP.

Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you were. The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.



Lacey Holcomb represents Boston at the Upper Crust in Key West, Fla. Key West is just like Boston except for the weather and all the naked people.



Captain F. John Nicoll skippers his ship, the Horizon Expedition, under San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge. Even though it's foggy, he's still happy. He's a chipper skipper.



Erika Clark and Scott McDonald heeded the sign that reads "Tipping is not a city in China" at Charlie's Bar in Aruba. However, Taiping *is* a city in Taiwan, where tipping is not customary. Carry on.



Dan Reichgott and Rachel Glaser stopped by the Western Wall and the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem, Israel, on their way to Fenway. They say you can't get into the Dome of the Rock on game day without tickets.



John Garrity, Laurie Shemansky, Justin Grant, Kristin Garrity and Shayne Holland cheer for some kind of animal called a "gos ox" at a baseball game in Baltimore.



Mike Mackey visited the Red Sox' dugout during the World Series. He pinch-ran to the bathroom for Manny.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER: Driving an Escalade to Escalade, a Swiss festival that has nothing to do with big-pimpin' Cadillac SUVs, in Geneva, Switzerland, Dec. 12–14.

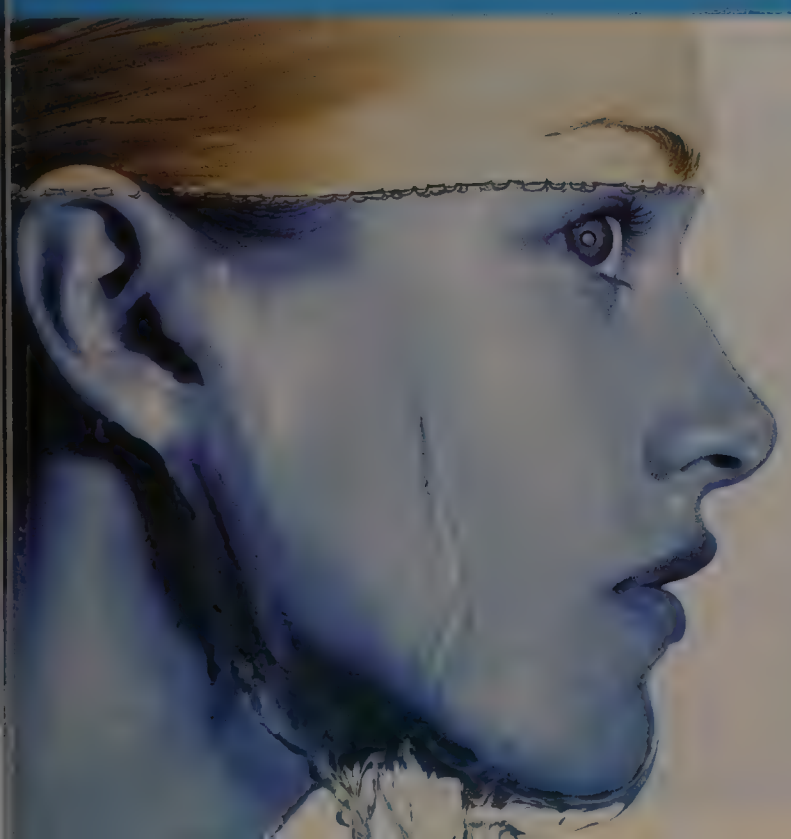
Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
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VICHY

LABORATOIRES

HEALTH IS VITAL. START WITH YOUR SKIN.

Treat your dry winter skin!

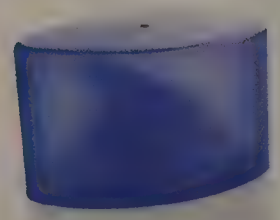


Vichy Laboratoires, the No.1 skincare brand in European pharmacies, has the solution for dry winter skin.

Dry skin needs more than just water replenishment or a protective layer. Vichy's Nutrilogie range goes farther--to the root of the problem--with US-patented Sphingo-Lipid which helps the skin re-create its own lipids.

Skin treated with Nutrilogie is relieved of tightness, roughness, flakiness and discomfort. Skin is soft and supple. 24 hour comfort with no oily sensation.

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For lips:
Nutrilogie Lips cream



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- 1195 Boylston Street Chestnut Hill, MA 02467
- 12 Harvard Street Waltham, MA 02453
- 647 VFW Parkway West Roxbury, MA 02132
- 36 White Street Cambridge, MA 02138
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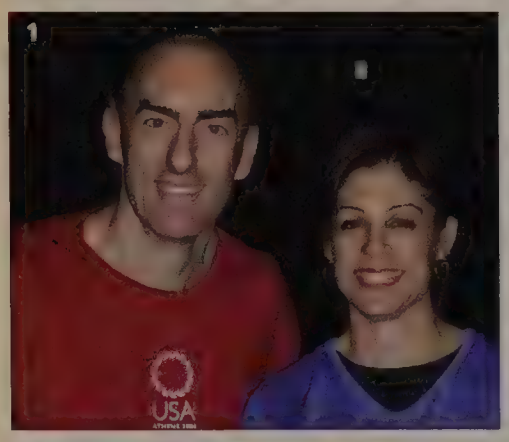
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- 359 Broadway Saugus, MA 01906
- 393 Highland Avenue Somerville, MA 02143
- 710 East Broadway S. Boston, MA 02127

For other locations please log on to www.vichy.com or call toll-free 1-877-37-VICHY

IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Thursday, October 28, **The Improper Bostonian** hosted and **Focus Fitness** sponsored the 10th Annual **Halloween Fun Run** at **The Rack**. Runners in costumes ran three miles around Boston Common to benefit the **Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.**



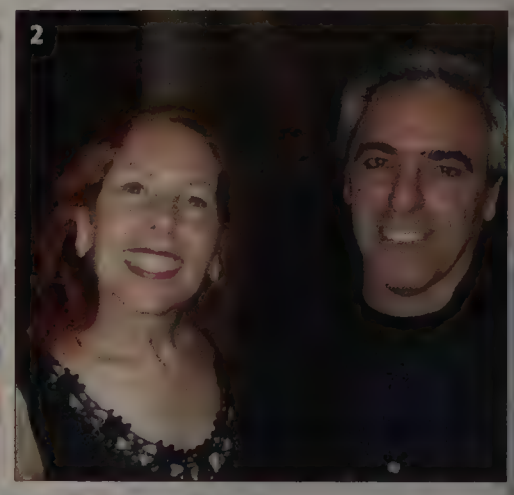




1. **Peter Donohoe**, two-time Olympian and owner of Focus Fitness, with **Keo Opton**, fitness director at Focus Fitness.
2. **Mary Ellen Chopoorian**, manager at PWC, and **Chris Scheu**, consultant at Accenture.
3. **Sharon Smith**, electrical engineer at EMC; **Mike Coughlin**, pilot engineer at Ionics Inc.; and **Melanie Yasner**, associate investment analyst at John Hancock.

On Thursday, October 21, **Mitchell Gold** held a reception to celebrate the grand opening of the new store at the corner of Berkeley and Columbus.







1. **Chris Shine**, on-air personality for KISS 108; **Mike Latchford**, account executive with Reed Business Informal; and **Ryan Donnelly**, sales representative with Mitchell Gold.
2. **Barbara Maran Goldberg**, owner of Mitchell Gold Boston, with **Mitchell Gold**.
3. **Dustin Mevis**, design assistant for Mitchell Gold; **Jill Goldberg**, interior designer with Pickett Fence Interior Design; **Stacy Bueschel**, owner of Court Gallery; and **David Schuster**, artist, Studio Gallery.

On Saturday, October 30, **The Living Room** celebrated it's 2nd annual Halloween Costume Party. The event was a benefit for **The Ellie Fund**.

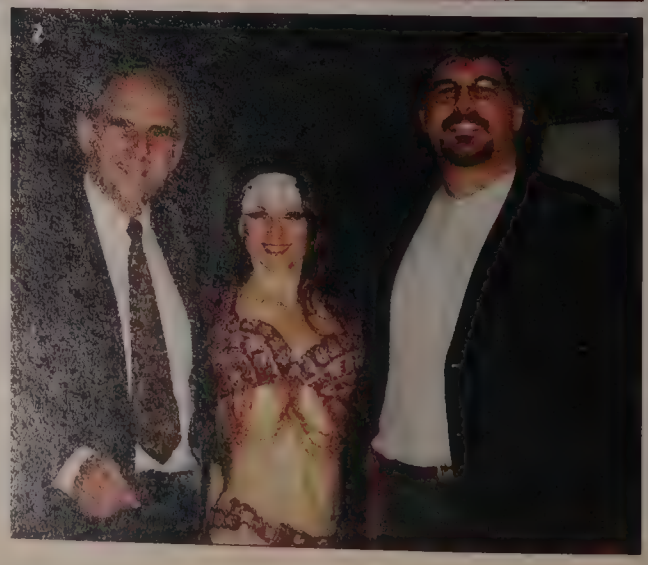






1. **Brian Silverstein**, founder of YouShoot.com; **Sarah Thompson**, lawyer with Cambell, Cambell, Edwards and Conroy; and **William George**, owner of James Joseph Salon.
2. **Dan Karp**, director of marketing and development for The Ellie Fund.
3. **Melissa Henry**, assistant coordinator for Filene's; **John Hauck**, owner of The Living Room; and **Kari Norgaard**, HR coordinator with Tsoi-Kobus Architects.





On Thursday, October 14, **WCRB-FM** hosted "A Night to Remember," a grand celebration in honor of **Arthur T. Gregorian Inc. Oriental Rugs**' 70th Anniversary, at the Newton showroom. Guests enjoyed a wine tasting from **Robert Mondavi Wines** and Middle Eastern hors d'oeuvres from **Solea Restaurant** and **Trader Joe's** and listened to the string trio Musique Makers. The grand finale boasted a spectacular belly dancing performance from Melina Heywood of Daughter's of Rhea in Boston.

1. **Sarah Gregorian, Justin and Jennifer Redmond, Judith and John Gregorian, Melissa and Paul Bebelos**, all of Gregorian Rugs.
2. **John Gregorian**; **Melina Heywood**, belly dancer with Daughter's of Rhea; and **Scott Gregorian**.

PHOTOS: LIVING ROOM AND MITCHELL GOLD BY JULIE KANE; BLACK ROSE, ALISON MORRIS

On Wednesday, October 27, Red Sox fans and supporters of **Men with Heart** joined at **The Black Rose** to watch the final game of the World Series, gamble, and raise money for breast cancer prevention, treatment and awareness. The event was sponsored by **Dewar's 12**.







1. **Scott Walters**, sales and marketing for Paytronix Systems Inc.; **Gordon Jacobs**, Board of Directors for Men with Heart; and **Scott Cullen**, M.D., principal for Primetics Solutions.
2. **Sharon Lilien-Zwiebel**, Barcadi market manager for Team Enterprises USA, and **Terri Cronin**, vice president of Pro Staff.
3. **Tracy Saradnik**, marketing director for the Glynn Hospitality Group, with **Bert Saville**, district manager for Bacardi U.S.A Inc.

On Friday, October 29, **Professionals in the City** hosted a Halloween Bash at **The Greatest Bar** benefiting the **Ronald McDonald House**.







1. **Marai Stamatopoulos**, staff assistant at Tufts University, with **Srbui Seferian**, senior investment analyst for Sunlife.
2. **Danielle Murphy**, sales representative for T-Mobile; **Michael Fatalo**, customer assistant specialist for Firestone Financial Corp. and **Kathryn McDevitt**, finance department of the Greater Boston's Visitors Bureau.
3. **Kelli Corson** and **Kathy Varpahovsky**, co-directors for the Boston chapter of www.prosinthecity.com.; with **Micheal Kalil**, marketing and events manager for The Greatest Bar.

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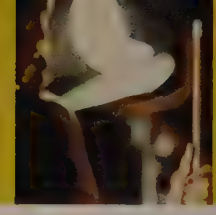
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The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled PortabellaPaninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1 am. AE, DC, MC, V.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2002. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston 617-426-3333.* Open 11am - 2am, 7days a week. Kennedy's Midtown is a cultural experience far from the maddening crowd while set in heart of it. Kennedy's serves a lunch and dinner menu of international cuisine. In the evenings they play host to some of Boston's finest Pianists who entertain with a range of tunes from Broadway to Jazz and Blues. Kennedy's embraces all the finer qualities of regal Boston and throws in a dash of old fashioned Irish Hospitality for measure.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the Motor-Mart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., South Boston,617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11 am - 2am 7 days a week.

Ned Devine's *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere inthe heart of downtown Boston. Open 11 am - 2am 7 days a week.

Science Street Café *Science Park, Boston, 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out Boston's newest nightspot - The Science Street Café at the Museum of Science. Try our out-of-this world signature martinis, gourmet appetizers and decadent desserts. Open 6-10pm. And while you're there be sure to check out the latest breathtaking Omni film or our always-changing exhibit halls. Parking available.

Sidney's Grille *20 Sidney St., Cambridge. 617-494-0011* Enjoy fresh flavors, good friends, and a great bar at Sidney's Grille in Central Square. Discover why Bon Appétit magazine says, "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. Serving breakfast, lunch, dinner and weekend brunch. Private dining available. For menus visit www.sidneysgrille.com.

Solas *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11 am - 2 am 7 days a week.

Strega *379 Hanover St., Boston 617-523-8481 www.stregaristorante.com.* A fine dining experience in Boston's historic North End. Enjoy our cozy, romantic atmosphere, splendid wine list and savory Italian dishes. Strega buzzes with a mix of casual tourists, local residents and love-struck couples. The menu offers something for everyone. Traditional dishes like the gnocchi are anything but simple, featuring flavor just as robust as that found in intricate dishes. Find yourself in the company of celebrities, including owner Nick Varano's pals from of the Sopranos. Available for corporate and private functions.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

BARS/CLUBS

Beer Specialty

Boston Beer Works *112 Canal St., near the Fleet Center, 617-896-BEER, 61 Brookline Ave., across from Fenway Park, 617-536-BEER and 278 Derby St., in Historic Salem, 978-745-BEER.* Boston's oldest and largest restaurant brewery with 3 locations! Bold American Food. Award Winning Beer. 15 microbrewed beers always on tap. 16 American wines by the glass. 15 championship billiards tables at our Canal Street location. Complete party planning capabilities. Private Rooms. Customizeable menus. Lunch. Dinner. Late Night. Always a good time. Check out the BIGGER and BOLDER menu.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exotic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1 am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

[illegible] - POOL HALL, PIZZA KITCHEN, BEER BAR *138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8pm, free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Clubs

Felt *533 Washington St., Boston, 617.350.5555* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, right next door to the Opera House; in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering sophisticated billiards, NewYork style Lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere of DJ's and dancing, combined with the delicious entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Contemporary cusine by Chef Ben Stevens.

Stadium – Clubhouse *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Stadium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale nightclub featuring two bars, a hardwood dance floor and parking. An exciting yet relaxed 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety of music and beautiful people crowding the dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights. An ideal place for your next bachelor, bachelorette or birthday party.

Club Q Boston *25 Union St., Boston, 617-742-2121.* Open 9pm - 2am Wednesday through Saturday. What nightlife in Boston has been waiting for, this state of the art Nightclub in the heart of Faneuil Hall attracts a stylish and eclectic crowd. Open Wednesday through Saturday Club Q hosts Boston's top DJs spinning Hip Hop, House and Top 40's. With two bars, three VIP areas and pool tables, Club Q is the place to see and be seen. Credit cards accepted.

Comedy

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!



The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www.theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. Mingle. Let your hair down; see and be seen on the big screen. Simply the hippest way to spend a night of all-out fun in Boston's Financial District. Come after work. Come to dance. Come to go wild with your friends. There's always something exciting happening – and you never know who you'll bump into. Join us and experience what the buzz is all about.

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 617-227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

Irish

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 617-742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston,617-742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11 am - 1 am 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

The Green Dragon *11Marshall St., Boston, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11 am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11 am - 2 am 7 days a week.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 617-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

General

The Alley *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. www.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

Aqua *120 Water St., Boston, 617-720-4900.* Boston's newest place to be seen is now open in the heart of the Financial District. Whether relaxing with a martini in one of our cozy booths, sipping a margarita on our roof deck or watching your hometown favorites on our high definition plasma TV. Aqua has what you're looking for after work and late night with our resident and guest DJs spinning your favorite mixes through our state of the art sound system all night long.

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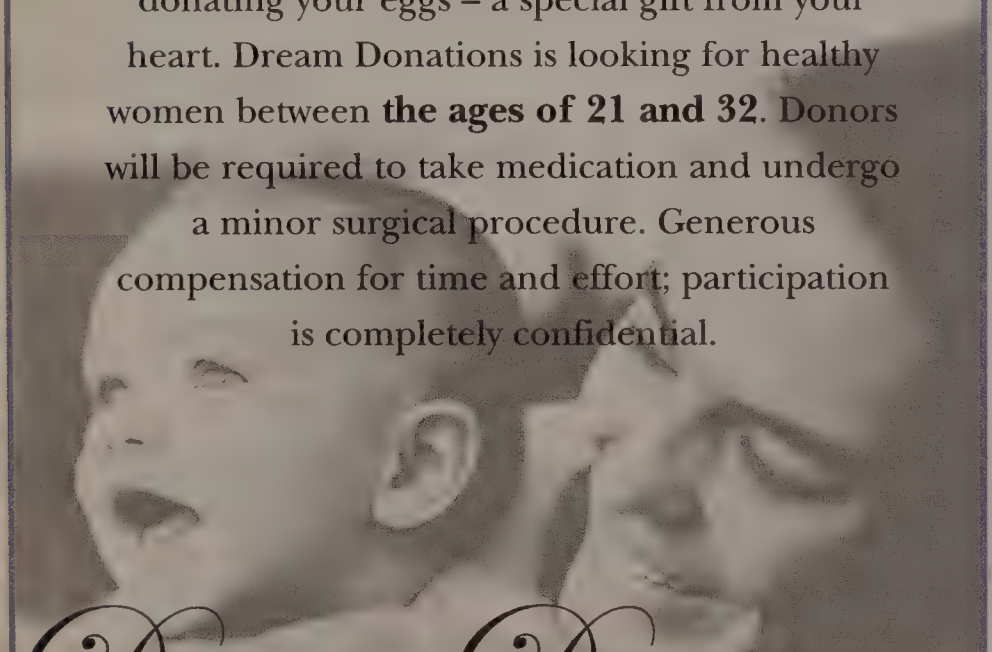
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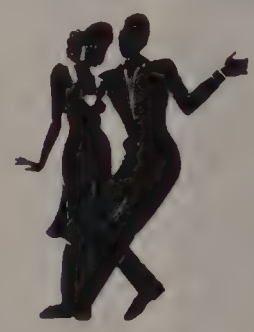
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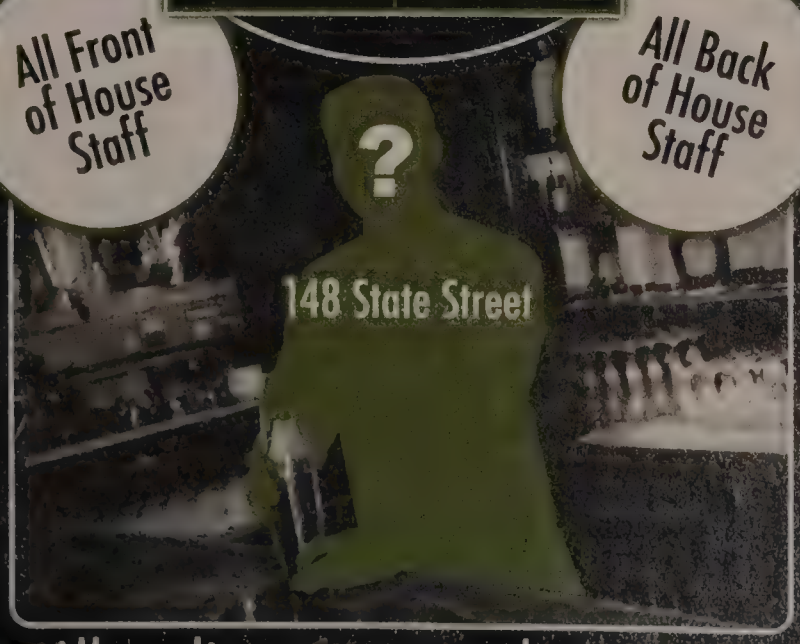
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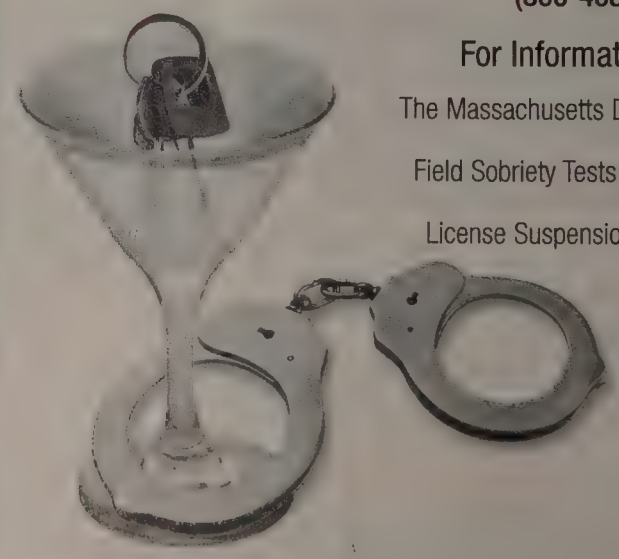
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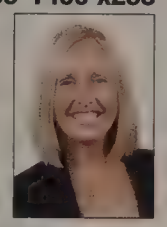
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BY JONATHAN SOROFF









At the BSO Inaugural Gala, top: Keith Lockhart. Bottom row: Gideon Lester; James Levine; Kim and James Taylor.

AUSPICIOUS BEGINNINGS...

"Historic" and "monumental" were just two of the hyperbolic but apropos words that were being bandied about at the BSO's **Inaugural Gala**, which this year marked the debut of maestro **James Levine**, who takes over as the 14th music director of the **Boston Symphony Orchestra**. Levine's legion of tooters, strummers and bangers ushered in the new era with a performance of Mahler's Symphony No. 8.

Seen crowding into **Symphony Hall** were such prominent socialites and music mavens as major benefactors **Leo** and **Gabriella Beranek**; über-philanthropists **Ray** and **Maria Stata** and **John** and **Diddy Cullinane**; bigtime arts patrons **Mark** and **Joyce Goldweitz**; Cambridge writer (and Ann Landers offspring) **Margo Howard** and the dashing **Ron Weintraub**; blonde bombshell **Joanne Dickinson**; Back Bay party pair **Bert** and **Rosalie Cohen**; incorrigible scamp **Gideon Lester** of the American Repertory Theatre; mustachioed muchacho **Avram Goldberg** and the delightful **Carol**; conductor/hepcat **Keith Lockhart**; 'BUR bigwig **Peter Fiedler**; enduring pop icon **James Taylor** with his stunning wife, **Kim** (sporting a dazzling necklace he gave her); silver fox **Pamela Humphrey**; ex-senatorial spouse **Joan Bennett Kennedy**; TV's answer to Cary Grant, **Frank Avruch**, with his beloved **Bette**; blue-blooded bohemian **Linda Cabot Black**; North Shore grande dame **Helen Spaulding**; velvet-voiced radio personality **Ron Della Chiesa** and the fabulous **Joyce**, and just about everybody else you might care to mention.

The concert was followed by a standing ovation that probably belongs in the *Guinness Book of World Records*, which, in turn, was followed by a benefactors dinner worthy of Escoffier, held at the **Fairmont Copley Plaza**.

All in all, it was a spiffy start to the symphony season and Levine's tenure in Boston. As board chair emeritus Peter Brooke put it, with characteristic understatement: "Jim, I think you're getting a really great band."

THEY SHOULD OFFER A DEGREE IN PARTY PLANNING...

Most black-tie fund-raisers aren't worth the hassle of fumbling to get the cufflinks and studs into your tuxedo shirt, which is why the party at **Mass Art** to open the **Elizabeth and Robert Pozen Center for Interrelated Media** was such a refreshing change of pace.

The evening began with guests gathered in a gallery where mice in acrylic versions of a piano, cello, harp and assorted other instruments ran around, creating the eery yet atmospheric background music for the cocktail hour.

"I'd love to own some of the artist's work," said one collector, "but I'm not sure I'm ready for art that needs to be fed or cleaned up after."

Dinner, meanwhile, was accompanied by some intriguing video and performance art, and was followed by an eye-popping fashion show and a salsa performance that kept everyone transfixed.

In addition to the **Pozens**, the crowd included arts patrons **Cecile** and **Fraser Lemley**; style setter **Meryl Bralower**; PR powerhouse **Sally Jackson**; publishing poobah **Nader Darehshori**; charming Chestnut Hillions **Lynn** and **Bruce Dayton**; MFA curator **Frederick Ilchman**; fashionista **Caroline Collings** and her car and plane collector husband, **Bob**; art dealer **Pat Stavaridis**; dashing financial titan **John Hamill** and the lovely **Kathryn**; venture capitalist **Sheryl Marshall** and her art collector husband, **Howard Salwen**; and one woman who uncharitably observed, "There's enough Botox in this room to freeze all of Baghdad."

As if that weren't entertainment enough, everyone was invited outside afterward to the courtyard, where members of the school's iron guild were pouring molten metal into molds.

"All this creativity is exhausting," said one guest, "but it does distract from the fact that my feet hurt like hell in these shoes."





At the Mass Art party, top row: musical mice; artists pour the iron. Bottom: the fashion show; Caroline Collings and Trevania Henderson.





AGING GRACEFULLY...

Forget the fact that most of them are well into or rapidly approaching their forties—**Young Friends of the Public Garden** simply sounds better than Middle-Aged Friends of the Public Garden, and they still know how to party like rock stars (albeit rock stars with baby-sitters waiting for them at home and a slightly diminished capacity to bounce back after a night of imbibing Champagne).

All of which is to say that the Friends' annual **Swing into Fall** gala, held, as usual, at the **Four Seasons**, was an elegant and lively affair, with women in stunning designer gowns and men behaving like gentlemen.

Among them: besotted new parents **Karyn** and **Kevin Lamb** (one of the organization's founders and the evening's honoree); bright young things **Lisa** and **Alex Pierpont**; recent returnees from Paris **Andrew** and **Maud Cabot**; Venezuelan playboys **Ricardo** and **Raphael Jaimes-Branger**; banking babe **Dyan Goodwin**; design duo **Peter** and **Emily Webster**; Back Bay fun couple **Courtney** and **Michael Forrester**; yummy mummy **Meg Gordon** and her sidekick for the night, **Suzanne Daley**; plastic surgeon to the incrowd **Ramsey Alsaraff**; statuesque stunner **Hollis Colby**; super-glamorous couple **Kim** and **Pel Stockwell**; and one person who asked a tanned-looking friend with a house in Palm Beach whether she'd just been to Florida, to which she replied: "No, I've just been in my makeup bag."

By the time dinner was over and the dancing began, those of us who are getting older quietly excused ourselves. As one pre-facelift socialite explained, "After 10 o'clock, those fine lines start to look like crevasses." iB









At the Young Friends of the Public Garden party, from top: Lisa and Alex Pierpont; Stephens Dunne and Andrew Cabot; Kim Stockwell and Peter Webster; Karyn and Kevin Lamb.

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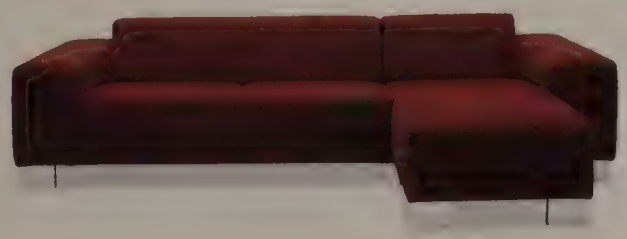


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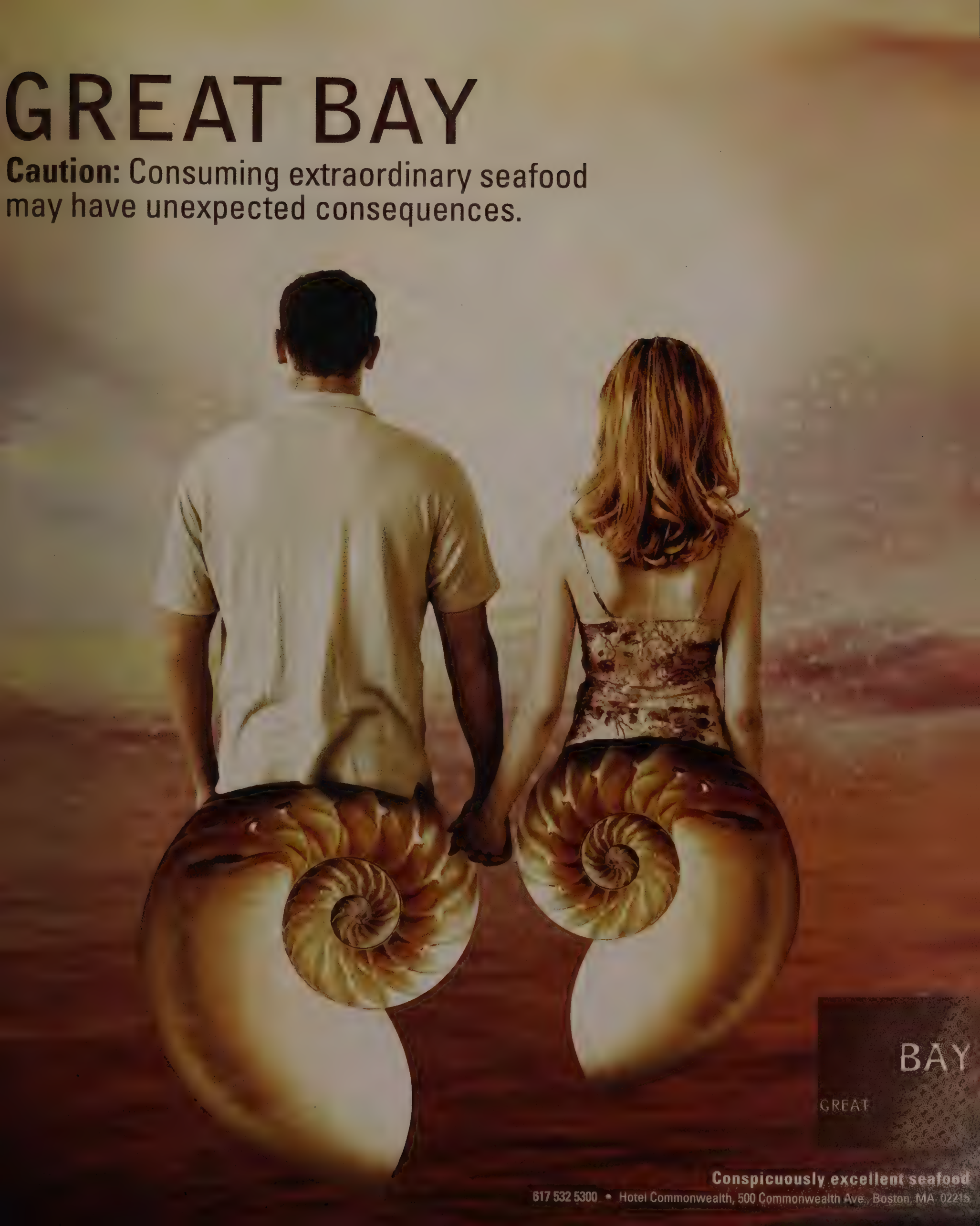


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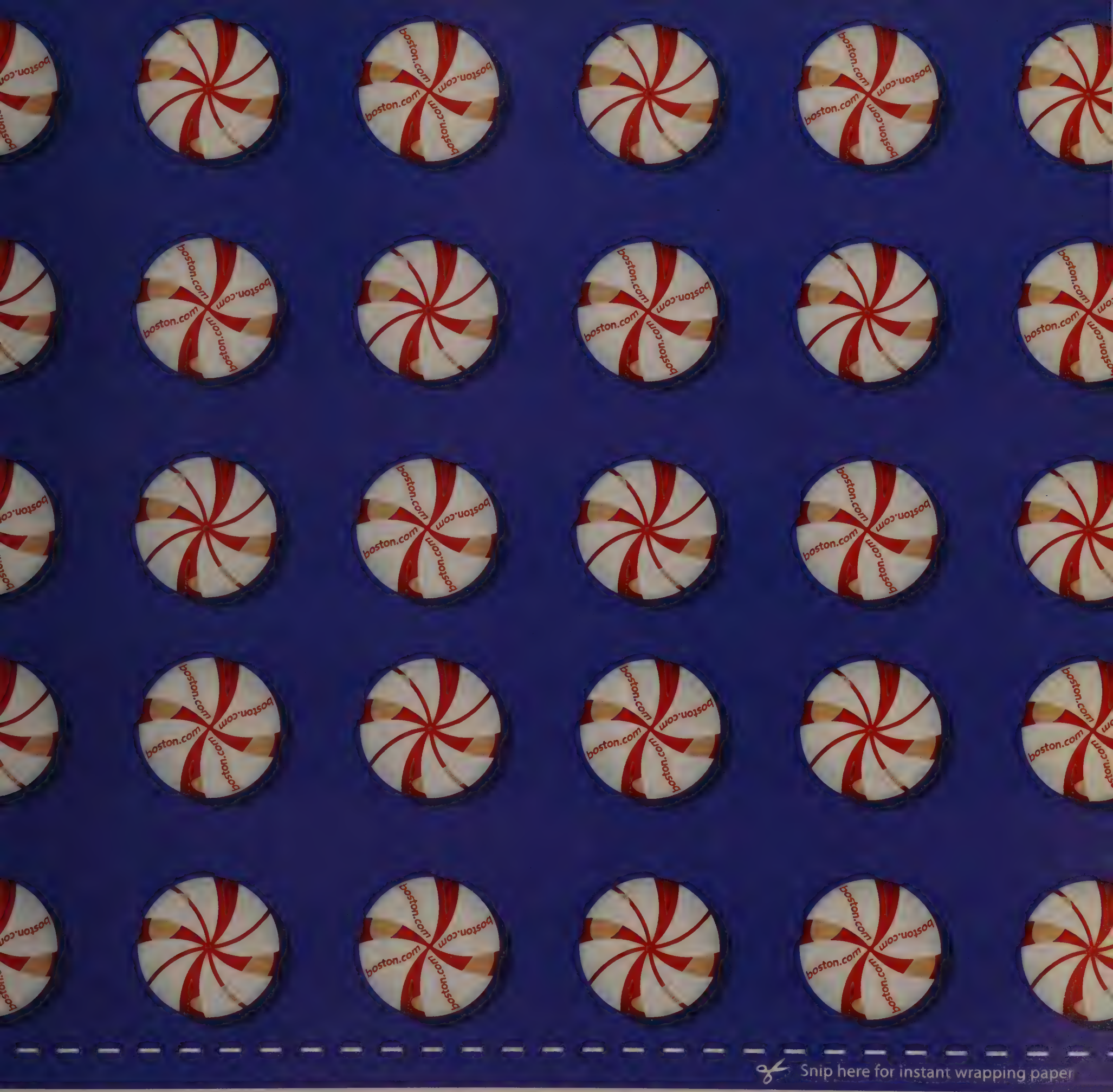


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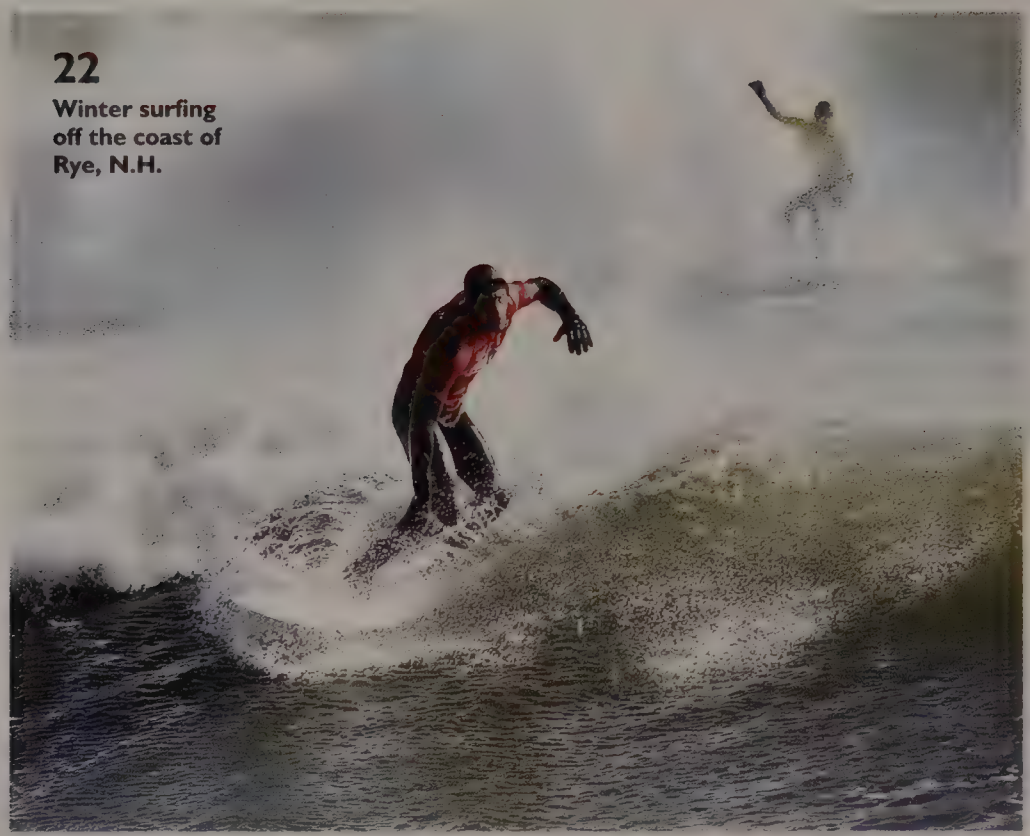
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Photographed for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by
Tatiana/LaMoine Photo Group

Photographer's assistant: **Peter Spain;** clothing: **courtesy of O'Neill;**
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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR



MAKING TRACKS

Even if you've never snowboarded, it's impossible not to feel a huge thrill when you watch Jeremy Jones drop from a helicopter onto a tiny ridge and then blaze the first track down a near-vertical mountainside. As IMPROPER staffers huddled around a computer screen, gasping at footage of Jones' breath-taking moves, we realized why the Cape Cod native was named one of the 25 toughest guys in America by *Men's Journal*.

Luckily for us, Jones (not to be confused with the other snowboarder of the same name from Utah) made it back safely from his most recent trip to Europe, and we had a chance to catch up with him before he headed off to Alaska for more adventures.

After reading about Jones' exploits (page 20), we hope you'll be inspired to plan a few (slightly tamer) adventures of your own when the snow falls this season.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

CAPTAIN CRUNCH-TIME

As an avid reader of the IMPROPER, I have to say that my favorite cover to date is the Jason Varitek cover. It was such a fitting tribute to the 2004 World Champions to have the "unofficial captain" on the cover. Varitek has truly defined what being a Red Sox player is all about. The Walt Whitman quote also sums up an unbelievable season.

—ERIN MITCHELL
Boston

STOP PROMOTING SKIN

I realize Ezra Dyer's column on strip clubs (Nov. 17) was supposed to be light-hearted, but the subject matter is just not a joke. "Adult" entertainment, especially the live variety, is an industry that doesn't care who it exploits or humiliates to turn a profit. It's puzzling how such a grotesque and heartbreaking thing has been mainstreamed, and how so many decent people have been persuaded to fuel a demand for it. Guys should know that doing so is unlikely to increase women's esteem for them, and it's doubtful that women's toleration for this profoundly disrespectful stuff increases men's esteem for us. The skin industry has lost its taboo, but it still degrades men's and women's sexuality alike. Who benefits from the normalization of obscenity?

—JOANNE MEEGAN
Roslindale

PUBLICAN NOMINEES

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN's 2005 Beloved Bartenders issue comes out March 23, and the deadline to nominate your favorite tapsmith or mixmaster is approaching. Turn to page 75 of this issue for a nomination form, or print one out at www.improper.com. Entries must be received by January 3. Questions? Send an e-mail to jessica@improper.com.

STOP PROMOTING FUR

I'm very disappointed that your magazine feels the need to include fur in its photo shoots. In your Nov. 3 issue, you have a pair of shoes and a jacket made of mink. The animals from which this fur comes live in cramped cages until they're large enough to be killed. The manner in which they're killed is also pretty horrific—they're electrocuted in the rectum. Please do not support the fur industry anymore. Needless suffering so that someone can wear shoes with fur on them has to stop!

—ELLA DUBOIS
Boston

CORRECTIONS

The photo that ran in the Performing Arts calendar of the Nov. 17 issue was misidentified. Tea at Five, starring Kate Mulgrew, is playing at the Shubert Theatre December 7–19.

We incorrectly reported that the boutique Good is having a 15 percent off sale for Beacon Hill's "First Thursday" event December 2.



IT WAS SUCH A FITTING TRIBUTE TO THE 2004 WORLD CHAMPIONS TO HAVE THE "UNOFFICIAL CAPTAIN" ON THE COVER.

—ERIN MITCHELL
BOSTON

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TATIANA



Los Angeles–based photographer Tatiana had a chance to combine her passion for snowboarding with her love of photography when she shot Jeremy Jones for this issue's cover and feature story. "Jonesing for a Rush" begins on page 20.

RYAN BRANDT

Ryan Brandt grew up on the coast of New Hampshire, scouring New England for the best adventures in every season. Some of his favorites for winter near Boston can be found in "Snow Escape," on page 22. Today, Brandt contributes to *Outside*, *Skiing* and the *Los Angeles Times*, among others.

COVER PHOTO: GREG MILLER

Tell Us What You Think

SEND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR TO: **The Improper Bostonian, 142 Berkeley St., Third Floor, Boston, MA 02116. E-mail: letters@improper.com. Fax: 617-859-1446.** Letters must be signed; please include your town and phone number. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

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REOPENING THE VAULT

The Vault originally opened in downtown's Liberty Square in 1997, much to the delight of discerning diners and businessmen looking for a quality power lunch. Brian O'Neill and company bought the restaurant in 2001 and reinvented it three times, first with an Italian/Asian theme, then as an upscale Italian steakhouse, and finally with a focus on Italian fine dining. In the year since the restaurant shut its doors, we all thought the story had ended. But in fact, there's a new chapter. Three friends and restaurateurs decided the Vault needed another chance: Packy Norton (who also runs the Chicken Box in Nantucket), fellow Nantucketer Ty Costa (of Straight Wharf Restaurant) and Barry Hannon, owner of Jamaica Plain's Dogwood Cafe, got together and reopened the space in late November.

Downtown workers "told us they were dying for a new place for lunch and that they missed the Vault," Norton explains. The owners are temporarily keeping the restaurant's name (there's a bank vault in the basement) and say they're planning a "name-our-restaurant" contest for the near future.

At first glance, the place hasn't changed. It's got the same polished, elegant decor with lots of dark wood, a fireplace on one end and an enormous bar. But the owners aim to take it down a notch or two in terms of showy atmosphere. They've replaced some of the dining tables with hightop bar-style tables and added two giant TVs above the bar. "Before, it was fine dining," Norton says. "Now the overtone is more casual. You can sit back and read the paper, or you can sit by the fireplace for dinner."



What's old is new at the Vault.

Instead of the Vault's previous emphasis on high-end food and wines, the new wine options are standard (roughly 30 wines are offered by the bottle and about 15 by the glass), and the food runs the gamut. The menu holds everything from bar fare—grilled paninis ($7.95); chicken tenders and wings ($8.95); fried calamari and burgers ($9)—to gussied up options like shrimp shu mai ($11.95), seared ahi tuna ($13.95) and Angus steak ($22). Let's hope the Vault has at last found a bankable concept. *Food is served 11:30 am-11 pm; bar is open until 2 am. 105 Water St., Boston (617-292-3355). —E.H.*

sam says

FEELING BALMY

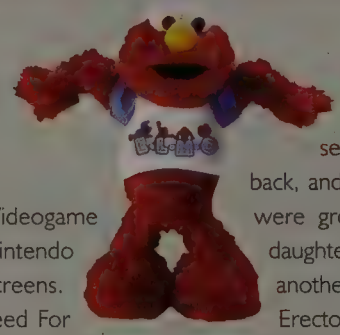
I'm not sure exactly what message the campy brand Agent Provocateur is trying to send with its Titillation lip and nipple balm. The $36 package resembles a sex toy, consisting of two spheres that you unscrew. One orb holds a nourishing lip plumper that makes lips look fuller and more seductive and also includes a tingling, cooling agent. The other sphere holds a hydrating nipple refresher containing Wild Indigo, which is said to help stimulate the senses. Incidentally, the nipple balm has a sweet flavor. So, if you're oh-so-dedicated to your beauty regime and simply must rehydrate your nipples, go to www.agentprovocateur.com to get yourself some.

—Samantha House



inner view

DAZED IN TOYLAND



Inevitably, every holiday season there's one toy that flies off shelves faster than you can say Tickle Me Elmo, leaving parents and gift givers to roam the aisles in desperation. What plaything tops little Eddie and Susie's list this year? We surveyed the experts at local toy stores to find out.

Boing! *729 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-522-7800).*

Elain Hackney, owner: This year, one of the things that's really great is called Kick It Stick It. It's a hover-action, six-inch puck that you charge. You can use it indoors or outdoors, and it works on carpets and hardwood floors. You tap it with your foot or a hockey stick and it just glides along. Another is called 20 Q. It's a little round thing you hold in your hand. When you turn it on, letters come along the screen and it says, "I know what you're thinking." You have to think of something and it'll ask you questions and narrow it down within 20 questions. Calico Critters have been around a long time and they're still very popular. Lego has their knights in a canister. It's a knight kingdom with individual knights and those are really popular.

KB Toys *100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge (617-494-8519).*

John Mazzarella, assistant manager: Videogame systems are pretty hot right now, like the Nintendo DS. It's kind of like a Game Boy, but with two screens. The hot games are Grand Theft Auto and Need For Speed Underground 2. For toys, we have stuffed toys that are really squishy and soft called the Snugeez. They come in soccer balls, fish, cows. Power Ranger action figures. And the Tickle Me Elmo of this season is the E-L-M-O Dancing Plush. It's an Elmo doll that does a parody of the YMCA dance and spells out his own name.

Magic Beans, *312 Harvard St., Brookline (617-264-2326).*

Sheri Gurock, owner: The big-ticket hot item for boys is the Robosapien, a robot that performs a multitude of actions. It dances, karate chops, it walks forward and back. It's really easy to play with for kids who are technologically oriented. We're also seeing a lot of nostalgia. Cabbage Patch dolls are back, and all of us who were part of that craze when we were growing up are parents now and we want our daughters to have one the way we did. Erector Sets are another nostalgia thing. They've come out with an Erector remote control car. It's a combination of the nostalgia of the Erector Set and the basic construction toy. For younger kids, Elmo is definitely still big. Thomas the Tank Engine train sets are really big. Gund has come out with a Sesame Street finger puppet stage. We're selling a lot of those.

Zoinks! *1 Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-6266).*

Roisin Barrett, general manager: The things that seem to be going well for us are games. We have this game called Gobblet, it's a cross between checkers and tic-tac-toe and you gobble up your opponent. It's really been flying. Also, knickknacky things like Rubik's Cubes and anything SpongeBob (because of the movie).

—Jessica Iredale

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THE Tavern in the square

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HOT DOG!

Sit-Down Sausage... Fenway's favorite vendor, David Littlefield (better known as the Sausage Guy), has put down roots in the former home of tubesteak staple Joe and Nemo's, atop Beacon Hill. Fans of the famous sausages can now choose how and where to eat the huge links: You can still order from the cart Thursday through Saturday year-round on Lansdowne Street, or you can sit down at the casual new joint. At the Sausage Guy restaurant, Littlefield has expanded his repertoire, offering an array of new kinds of hot dogs as well as hand-packed burgers and hand-cut fries. *138 Cambridge St., Boston (617-722-0016). www.thesausageguy.com.*

Home Brew Hero... Lots of people like to brew their own beer, and lots of people's home brew tastes like fermented socks. But Michael Robinson has taken his hobby to the next level, earning first place in Beer Summit's national home brew contest. His winning Witbier not only bagged him a $1,000 cash prize, but Boston Beer Co. (makers of Sam Adams) will be brewing a batch of his recipe to be served at a few bars around town. We might have to try it, even though we're a little bitter that Robinson's entry beat out our Grandma's Original-Recipe Mango-Pomegranate Pilsner.


Warm goat cheese salad at the Navy Yard

In the Navy Yard... Unless you're in the mood for pricey pizza, Charlestown's dining options are split pretty evenly between the high-end (Olives, Meze, Tangierino,) and low-end (Warren Tavern, Tavern on the Water). Now, the Navy Yard Bistro and Wine Bar, new in C-town as of September, bridges the gap with its reasonably priced menu. "People see the word 'bistro' and think $25 entrées," says owner John Moore. But Moore aims to keep the main courses (which range from pan-roasted monkfish with chorizo, lobster risotto, cipollini and pea tendrils to hanger steak) at an average of $15. *1 First Ave., Charlestown Navy Yard (617-242-0036). www.navyyardbistro.com.*

Maki Me Hungry... Venerable Beacon Hill sushi/noodle spot Ma Soba recently revamped its menu with a selection of West Coast–inspired rolls. Of particular note are the baked rolls, which consist of a maki roll topped with seafood and baked for 10 minutes. Two favorites are the snow cone roll ($11.95)—a California roll topped with lobster, albacore and sauce—and the disco shrimp roll ($11.95), which tops a spicy crab and avocado roll with shrimp and scallops. Just a warning: The disco shrimp roll might be the tastiest thing you ever eat. *156 Cambridge St., Boston (617-973-6680).*

improper reports

PAMPER YOUR PETS

When it comes to holiday shopping, Fido and Snowball need some love too, and these days pet gift options range far beyond milkbones and catnip. Here's what some local boutiques have in store for the four-legged friends on your list.




The Harness Play Pack (top and bottom) is at Pet Supplies Plus in West Roxbury.

Fi-Dough

103 Charles St., Boston (617-723-3266). www.fidough.com.

Your pet can recline in luxury with Fi-Dough's Easy Chair and Leatherette Sofa ($89.95 each), and travel in style with the faux-lambskin-lined Sherpa Bag on Wheels (starting at $89.90). Felines will go crazy for Kookamunga ($5.99) bubbles made with catnip.

No Bones About It

1786 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-2627). www.nobonesaboutitgrooming.com.

Doggie can rest comfy in No Bones' divan-style Bagel Bed ($110–$150) or stave off the Boston chill in a stylish Dog Warmer ($32) Polar-Tec pajama body suit.

The Pet Cabaret

4278 Washington St., Roslindale (617-323-7387). www.thepetcabaret.com.

This pet supply store is like a Whole Foods for animals, specializing in organic pet foods and treats including Steve's Real Food and Newman's Own Organic for pets.

Pet Supplies Plus

1220 VFW Pkwy., West Roxbury (617-469-4545); 625 Southern Artery, Quincy (617-472-0505). www.petsuppliesplus.com.

The Harness Play Pack, starting at $24.95, holds everything man's best friend could need for a fun outing. The kit, which snaps handily on Fido's back, includes a harness, leash, flying disc, water bottle, pick-a-poop bags and even some room for your own possessions. Back at home, cats can live the high life in the Kitty Condo ($22.88 and up), a carpeted cathouse ranging from one to four stories.

Polka Dog Bakery

256 Shawmut Ave., Boston (617-338-5155). www.polkadog.com.

Treat your pet to Polka Dog Lunch Box ($14.50), which comes fully packed with gourmet dog treats.

Raining Cats and Dogs

368 A Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-354-9003).

For cats, Loopies ($7) is an organic catnip toy with 20 dangling fleece straps.

s'Poochie Spa & Boutique

400 Tremont St., Boston (617-357-7387).

s'Poochie's pet boutique carries lavish pet accessories like FuzzFace ($70 and up) alligator skin and imported leather pet collars by jewelry designer Jordan Meryl. *—Lauren Cole*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION


Violet Cosmetics

Purple Reign... West Roxbury-based skin care company Violet Cosmetics has found a new home among the legions of salons and spas on Newbury Street. Twin sisters and former IMPROPER bachelorettes Susanna and Rousanna Gevondian run the business end of the skin boutique, which opened in November, while their mother (and company namesake), Violet, creates the handmade products used in all their treatments. Violet specializes in facials, which last 75 minutes and use handmade products, and selections include herbal, hydrofruit, and Victorian rose treatments. Body wraps, massages and waxing are available too. *257 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-7546). www.violetskinboutique.com.*

Good News and Bad News... First the bad news: According to a recent study by Trust for America's Health, obesity is on the rise in the U.S. The good news? According to the same report, our beloved commonwealth has the third lowest obesity rate in the country (behind only Hawaii and Colorado). To what can we attribute our sensible eating and overall healthiness? Perhaps the fact that in another recent study, this one conducted by Morgan Quitno Press, Massachusetts was also named the smartest state in the union for the second straight year. Combine that with two professional sports championships, and 2004 truly is the year of the Masshole.


A rendering of the new rink at the Charles

Skating the Square... Already the stuff of a snowy Currier & Ives print, Harvard Square ups its winter quaint quotient with a new ice skating rink, courtesy of the Charles Hotel. A longtime ambition of real estate mogul and Charles Hotel proprietor Dick Friedman, the 2,900-square-foot rink in the Charles' courtyard opens to the public December 11. Skate rentals are rinkside, as is a cabana, manned by the Harvard ice hockey team, serving hot chocolate, mulled cider and hot toddies.

Livening Things Up... November was a good month for the local live music scene. The deVille Lounge (the swanky half of Kings bowling alley) introduced its live music night November 13, becoming one of a few Back Bay spots where you take in a live band without paying a cover. Over in the Bulfinch Triangle, Anthem started its live music series November 19 and will continue with jazz, Latin, acoustic and pop shows every Friday and Saturday from 10 pm till 1 am in its main dining room. *Kings, 10 Scotia St., Boston (617-266-2695), www.backbaykings.com; Anthem, 138 Portland St., Boston (617-523-8383), www.anthemboston.com.*

—J.I. and R.L.

Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to theword@improper.com.

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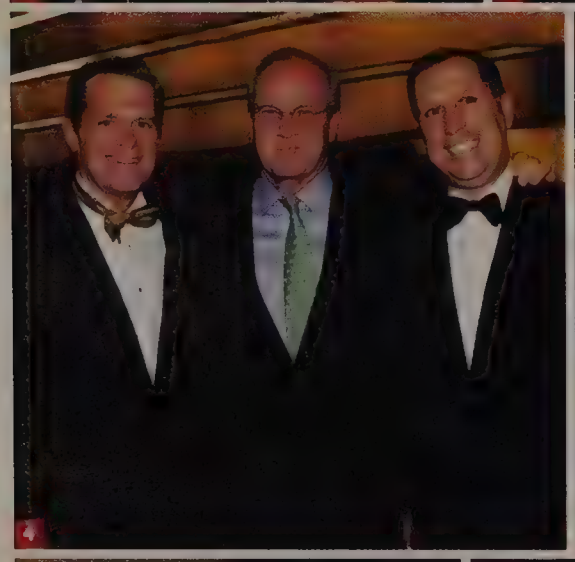
PROPER BOSTONIANS

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY


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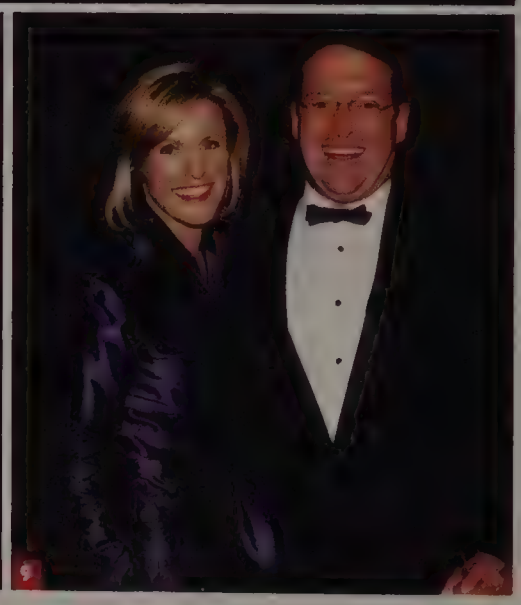

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The American Ireland Fund dinner took place November 11 at the Marriott Hotel, Copley Place. More than 1,000 people attended the 23rd anniversary celebration of the American Ireland Fund in New England, raising $2 million to support programs of peace and reconciliation, arts and culture, education, and community development in Ireland.

1. Lt. Governor **Kerry Healy** and **Kingsley Aikins**, president and CEO of the American Ireland Fund.
2. **Bob Crowe**, investor; **Tom Reilly**, Massachusetts attorney general; and **Mike Sheehan**, dinner chairman and CEO of Hill Holliday.
3. **Jay Carroll**, financial planner for Colonial Vault Management, and **Carolyn McCoy**, owner of Paper & Presents in Wellesley.
4. **Brian Leary**, partner at Gadsby Hannah; **Mike Barnicle**, columnist for the *Boston Herald*; and **Peter Welsh**, vice president of Suffolk Construction.
5. **Kevin Phelan**, executive vice president of Meredith and Grew, and **Don Rodman**, president of Rodman Ford in Foxboro.
6. **Michael Vaughan**, president of Nauset Strategies, his wife, **Lee**; and **Laurene** and **Michael Flaherty**, Boston City Council president.
7. **Karen Kaplan**, president of Hill Holliday, and **Anne Finucane**, president of Northeast for Bank of America.
8. **Bill Russell**, Boston Celtics Hall-of-Famer; **Helen Wyner**, and **John O'Connor**, vice chairman of PWC.
9. **Lisa Hughes**, news anchor for CBS Channel 4 and **Bob Kenney**, real estate developer for Kenney Development.

The New England Shelter for Homeless Veterans' second annual **"Leave No One Behind"** black-tie event took place on Veterans Day, November 11, at the Seaport Hotel. More than 300 partygoers gathered to benefit the Homeless Veterans of New England. The event raised more than $200,000 to support the services the shelter provides.

10. **David Brown**, partner at Ernst & Young, and **Gina Wong**, underwriting manager for Atlantic Charter Insurance Group.
11. **Dr. Tom O'Donnell**, surgeon at Tufts New England Medical; **Karyn Frisch**, recruiter; and **George Regan**, president of Regan Communications.
12. **Mitch Weisman** and **Jacquie Willett**, vice president and marketing director, respectively, of Atlantic Charter Insurance Group.


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GOING HOUSE

Joining the ranks of the landed gentry

If you're thinking about buying a condo, here's one way to do it. First, go to Harpoon Oktoberfest the night before and drink IPAs until you get that metallic taste in your mouth. Then, later on that night, get in a wedgie contest with your friend Whits and pull down your pants so onlookers can judge your boxer thongs and take pictures. Then, the next morning, go look at open houses with your girlfriend as "research" for when you actually might want to buy. Except, instead of just looking, go right ahead and buy a place that day. There you have it—from striving to inflict an Atomic Wedgie to striving to understand a 5/1 adjustable rate mortgage within 24 hours.

Prior to this, my most recent impulse-buy was a Swiffer WetJet, a purchase that taught me an important lesson about not going to Walgreens drunk. But hey, if you've got a Swiffer, you're going to need a floor, and a few months ago, one of my coworkers lent me *Homebuying for Dummies* so I could learn the step-by-step process of buying a house. Honestly, this book was far too complicated. I barely made it past Chapter 1: "Houses: how to tell them from horses and hoses." I guess I needed something more my speed, like *Homebuying for Corky from Life Goes On*.

The new crib is in Southie. A lot of people think Southie's this gritty, slummy place because of Whitey Bulger, *Good Will Hunting* and minor crime problems like that fatal gang fight earlier this year. But it's really becoming yuppified, just like every other neighborhood. Of course, it's not completely there yet, which is why I'm buying a bunch of Celtics track suits to wear until gentrification is complete. Just kidding, Southie neighbors! Please don't key my BMW.

I'm going to miss my next door neighbor Elmer, with his crazy-dash-filled-signs-all-over-the-laundry-room and his flypaper hanging outside the building year-round, to snag those pesky December mosquitoes. I'm going to miss Scott, with whom I've lived for four years, and stealing his Kiehl's products that I'm too cheap and closeted-metrosexual to buy myself. I'm going to miss my messy bedroom, as my new roommate has expressed an opinion that an unobstructed path from the bed to the doorway does not constitute a clean room.

Speaking of which, living with a girl is something I've never done, either. It remains to be seen how well she fares at taming the Wild Ez, an uncivilized creature that washes all its clothes on the cold cycle, regardless of color. A hairy beast that will eat dinner with a tiny salad fork to avoid washing a big one, which are all in the dishwasher. An uncouth savage that keeps using the same Oral B toothbrush long after the blue wear indicator has signaled it's time for a new one. Her whip hand had better be strong if that toilet seat is ever to be down.

One other thing that people have told me I'd have to prepare for is fixing problems myself. I suppose these are people who've had helpful landlords in the past. In my current apartment, if I have a problem, my building management company promptly dispatches someone to make the problem worse while Elmer takes the opportunity to come snoop around. Most recently, this consisted of a clogged furnace flue, and I came home one day to find my living room covered in dust, the ceiling torn up, and Elmer sitting on my couch happily watching the proceedings (thus garnering him a nomination in the Nosies, the Nosiest Neighbor in Boston awards). The job is now done, but

THERE YOU HAVE IT—FROM STRIVING TO INFLICT AN ATOMIC WEDGIE TO STRIVING TO UNDERSTAND A 5/1 ADJUSTABLE RATE MORTGAGE WITHIN 24 HOURS.

they never got around to repairing the ceiling, so a large, exposed vent pipe now runs over the couch. I choose to look at it as industrial-chic.

Then there's the kitchen sink, which Elmer complained made too much noise with the hot water running. So the hot-water spigot was replaced with one that's both quieter and threaded backwards. Now, when you go to turn on the hot water, tighten the tap instead of opening it, you then have to force it open, inevitably spraying water all over yourself. It's a great system and I'm really going to miss it.

But that's the past. The future is next week, when I'm going to be $150,000 in debt and possibly have potpourri in my bathroom. What happened to the guy who used to get in drunken wedgie contests? Well, the new place is only two blocks away from Whits'. iB

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THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS



IN THE END, D-LOWE D-LIVERED

From head case to head ace, Derek Lowe redeemed his season in October.

As the champagne was spewing at Busch Stadium after Game 4 of the World Series, almost all of the Red Sox were sobbing with joy. Those tears have long since dried up and the Red Sox are back to the cold part of this relationship—business. The uniform stays the same, but the players do not. And there's one guy New England and I are especially going to miss: Derek Lowe.

The same Derek Lowe who endured a rocky 14–12 season. The same Derek Lowe who was down as much as he was up. The same Derek Lowe with the embarrassing 5.42 earned run average. The same, emotional Derek Lowe who, unfortunately for him, doesn't have a great poker face.

Everyone surmised Lowe couldn't handle a contract year. He couldn't handle the fact that he turned down an alleged three-year, $27 million deal. Simply put, he was not consistent, as guys making that much money are supposed to be.

But something happened beginning in August. The Red Sox fortunes turned, and not coincidentally so did Lowe's. It's a fact lost in David Ortiz's walk-off specials and Curt Schilling's bloody sock. When it mattered most, D-Lowe delivered.

During a stretch in early August to mid-September, Lowe won all six of his starts—a remarkable recovery. It seemed outing by outing in May, June and July, Lowe's value dropped to Internet-stock low. Then he started getting into the seventh inning again. His sinker was moving. And one of his "out" pitches, the curveball, was back in his repertoire.

It wasn't a total surprise. The reason the Red Sox even played the Yankees in the 2003 American League Championship Series was Lowe. His relief performance in Game 5 of the division series, striking out the last two Oakland A's batters, was every bit as clutch as Bernie Carbo's three-run homer or Dwight Evans' catch while falling into the right field seats.

So as Lowe's critics kept harping on his fragile psyche, and rumors circulated of his party-boy nature, Lowe pitched his way back into the hearts of Red Sox fans when the pressure started really cooking around here.

Remember, when the starting rotation was announced for the Anaheim Angels series, there was one major omission—Derek Lowe. He was relegated to the bullpen. He didn't like it. Fortunately, he did something about it.

Because of the tendon injury in Curt Schilling's ankle, Lowe's place in Red Sox lore changed forever. All of sudden, Lowe was needed. He came in to pitch the 10th inning of the Game 3 against Anaheim and picked up the series clinching win.

Lowe stepped up in Game 4 versus the Yankees and kept the Sox alive, pitching five-plus solid innings.

He saved his best, though, for Game 7, allowing only one hit in six innings, throwing only 69 pitches, and again picking up the series-clinching win.

The same thing happened in the World Series. With Lowe officially moved to the rotation, he was a master in the clinching game, blanking the Cardinals. When it was over, Lowe was 3–0 in the playoffs, with his three victories coming in the three series-clinching games. Amazing.

Lowe, though, has been even more impressive since he helped make history in Boston. He was one of the first guys to hug Johnny Pesky. On national TV he said,

> BECAUSE OF THE TORN TENDON IN CURT SCHILLING'S ANKLE, LOWE'S PLACE IN RED SOX LORE CHANGED FOREVER.

"You can come home now, Bill Buckner!" The head case was nowhere to be found.

Lowe couldn't be a more likable guy. It was so easy to see why thousands of residents came out to support him when his adopted hometown, Quincy, threw a "Derek Lowe Day" in his honor. Lowe didn't have to accept the honor. There were tough times when neighbors, probably kids, weren't always so welcoming. There was a time when eggs were thrown at his home.

But Lowe endured and we're all better for it. He really showed his true mental makeup when he was needed most.

Now Lowe is in perfect position to make a killing. Like the football player Rod Tidwell in *Jerry Maguire*, Lowe's ready to say "show me the money," and somebody undoubtedly will. Damn, I just wish that someone were the Red Sox. IB

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.

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ERNIE BOCH JR.

BY JONATHAN SOROFF



Ernie Boch Jr. was born and raised in Norwood, where his grandfather owned the Route 1 car dealership that formed the nucleus of what is now known as "the Automile." In the 1970s, Ernie Boch Sr. (famous for his hokey "Come on down!" ads) acquired Oldsmobile, Toyota and Subaru distributorships, followed by franchises for Kia, Mitsubishi, Honda and Dodge. Ernie Jr. began in the business as a teenager, working as a "lot boy" and later as a used car salesman, before becoming general manager. In 1996, his father promoted him to vice president in charge of all the Boch retail operations, and in 2003, following his father's death, he took over the rest of the family's interests. His business empire now includes extensive automotive enterprises, vast real estate holdings, four FM radio stations and a marina on Martha's Vineyard. Boch finances a yearly college scholarship along with a fund named for his grandfather. He is on the board of Cape Cod's Boch Center for the Performing Arts and has backed an off-Broadway play in addition to offering substantial support to the Massachusetts Film Bureau. He lives in Norwood with his wife, Kristen, and their two children.

Jonathan Soroff: *OK, so cars, real estate, radio stations, music. Are you the consummate Renaissance man?*
Ernie Boch Jr.: Some friends have called me that. I don't believe it.
JS: *Rude question: Exactly how rich are you?*
EB: Put it this way: Last year, we did $1.3 billion in sales with zero debt. A lot of companies do a billion in sales, but not with zero debt. So you figure about five percent to the net…you do the math.
JS: *Ever feel bad for poor people, like Donald Trump?*
EB: I'm poor compared to him.
JS: *Growing up, were you embarrassed by your father's ads?*
EB: Of course. Not only that, but I was on TV as a 10-year-old, doing ads where I said how we put five brand new tires on every used car. I got a lot of ribbing at school.
JS: *Speaking of embarrassing ads, how does Dave Dinger do it?*
EB: Dave Dinger doesn't do it anymore. He sold out.
JS: *If you were a car, what make, model and year would you be?*
EB: Right now, this second? A 2005 Bentley GT Coupe.
JS: *Nice. How many cars do you own?*
EB: I only own one car myself, personally—a 1976 Triumph.
JS: *OK, at any given time, how many cars does the company own?*
EB: Tens of thousands.

STRANGE COMPLAINTS AND BAD LETTERS ARE MY PASSION: "NICE HONDA COMMERCIAL, BUT WHAT'S UP WITH THOSE GLASSES? YOU PUTZ!" AND THEY SPELLED "PUTZ" WRONG.

JS: *Biggest toy?*
EB: My jet. A Sovereign. It's the latest and greatest corporate jet, and it's the ultimate freedom, I think.
JS: *Do people who buy a Chrysler PT Cruiser wake up a few months later and say, "What was I thinking?!"*
EB: [Laughs.] Probably. You know, that car went from being the most popular car in the country to they can't even give it away.
JS: *Best way to get a deal on a new car?*
EB: Either know someone who works at the dealership or go in the last three days of the month.
JS: *One secret that anyone buying a car should know?*
EB: OK, here it is: The most powerful thing somebody can do when negotiating on a car is threaten to, or actually leave the dealership.
JS: *Surest way to spot a lemon?*
EB: You mean a brand new car that doesn't perform well? You can generally avoid that by doing your research, but I'd say that any new car that has serious problems within the first hundred miles is a lemon.
JS: *What is that "new car smell"?*
EB: I think it's a combination of plastic and manmade fiber.
JS: *Best car for picking up women?*
EB: Well, the standard Corvette is tried and true. Not that I'd know anymore. I'm married.
JS: *What do the following cars say about their owners: a white Porsche?*
EB: A penis substitute.
JS: *Not cocaine dealer?*
EB: That was the '80s.
JS: *Red Camaro?*
EB: Mullet.
JS: *Green Volvo?*
EB: It could either be a very bland guy or a really sophisticated, cool lady.
JS: *Band Aid–colored Ford Taurus?*
EB: "I need help."
JS: *Biggest bargain in a car these days?*
EB: One of the Koreans: Kia or Hyundai. They're good cars and cheap, cheap, cheap.
JS: *Enzo, Carrera GT or McLaren SLR?*
EB: Enzo. The McLaren just looks too mean.
JS: *Stupidest option on a car?*
EB: Well, I'm not crazy about those back-up sensors. They're obnoxious. If you're backing up, you're supposed to be looking behind you anyway.
JS: *How many speeding tickets do you get?*
EB: I used to have a lot. Up until about eight years ago, I was a terrible driver, but I learned my lesson. I almost never drive now, though. I made a one-of-a-kind limousine by cutting a Forester Turbo [Subaru] in half and stretching it 26 feet. It's the only turbo, four-wheel-drive Forester limo on the planet. So I mostly use that.
JS: *If you were going to a desert island, what one CD would you take?*
EB: Miles Davis, *Kind of Blue*. I love jazz.
JS: *Do you play an instrument?*
EB: I'm a guitar hacker, but I wouldn't call myself a musician. Most of my friends are either professional musicians or in the entertainment business.
JS: *OK, name-drop for me.*
EB: OK. I'm very friendly with Joey Kramer [from Aerosmith], Paul Geary [from Extreme], radio guys like Greg Hill from 'AAF, comedians like Lenny Clarke…
JS: *How's Chico the llama (from the old TV ads) doing?*
EB: Alive and well and living on Martha's Vineyard.
JS: *Most kids don't have it as good as that llama.*
EB: Chico and Charmin and Burrito have it very good.
JS: *Strangest complaint you've ever gotten from a customer?*
EB: Oh, God! That's what I live for! Strange complaints and bad letters are my passion. I mean, I appreciate the good ones, but I frame the bad ones. [He grabs two framed letters and reads.] "Dear Mr. Boch, or Ernie, if I may. Shame on you for advertising on the Ellen Degenerate show! My wife and I were on our way to your place until we saw your ad on that pervert's TV show." Then there's this e-mail: "Nice Honda commercial, but what's up with those glasses? They'd be hot if it was 1952. You putz! I would never buy a car from you because you wear those glasses." And they spelled "putz" wrong. Isn't that great?
JS: *What's the worst part of the car salesman stigma?*
EB: Before I got married, I was madly in love with a girl. I kept asking her out, and finally I said, "What's the problem?" She said, "You sell cars. I would never go out with a car salesman." That was the worst for me.
JS: *Last question: Do car dealers actually think those balloons out front are going to make me stop and buy a car?*
EB: Yes. Absolutely. [Laughs.] It's just part of the festive atmosphere we're trying to cultivate. iB

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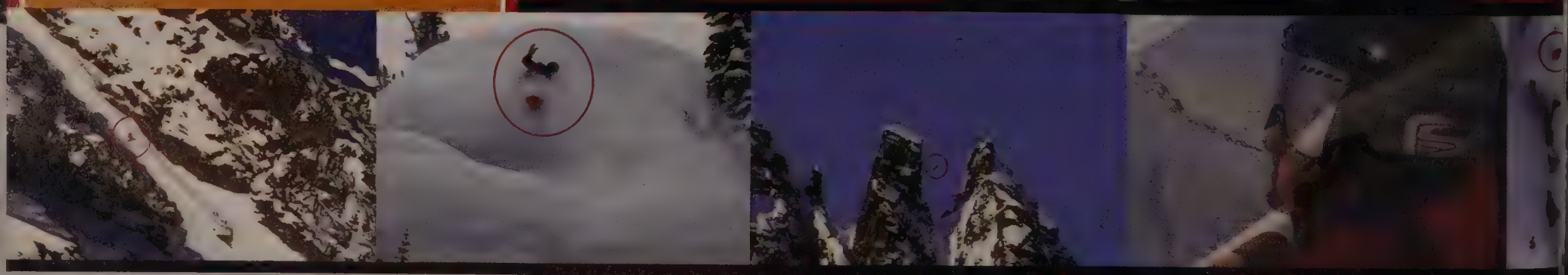
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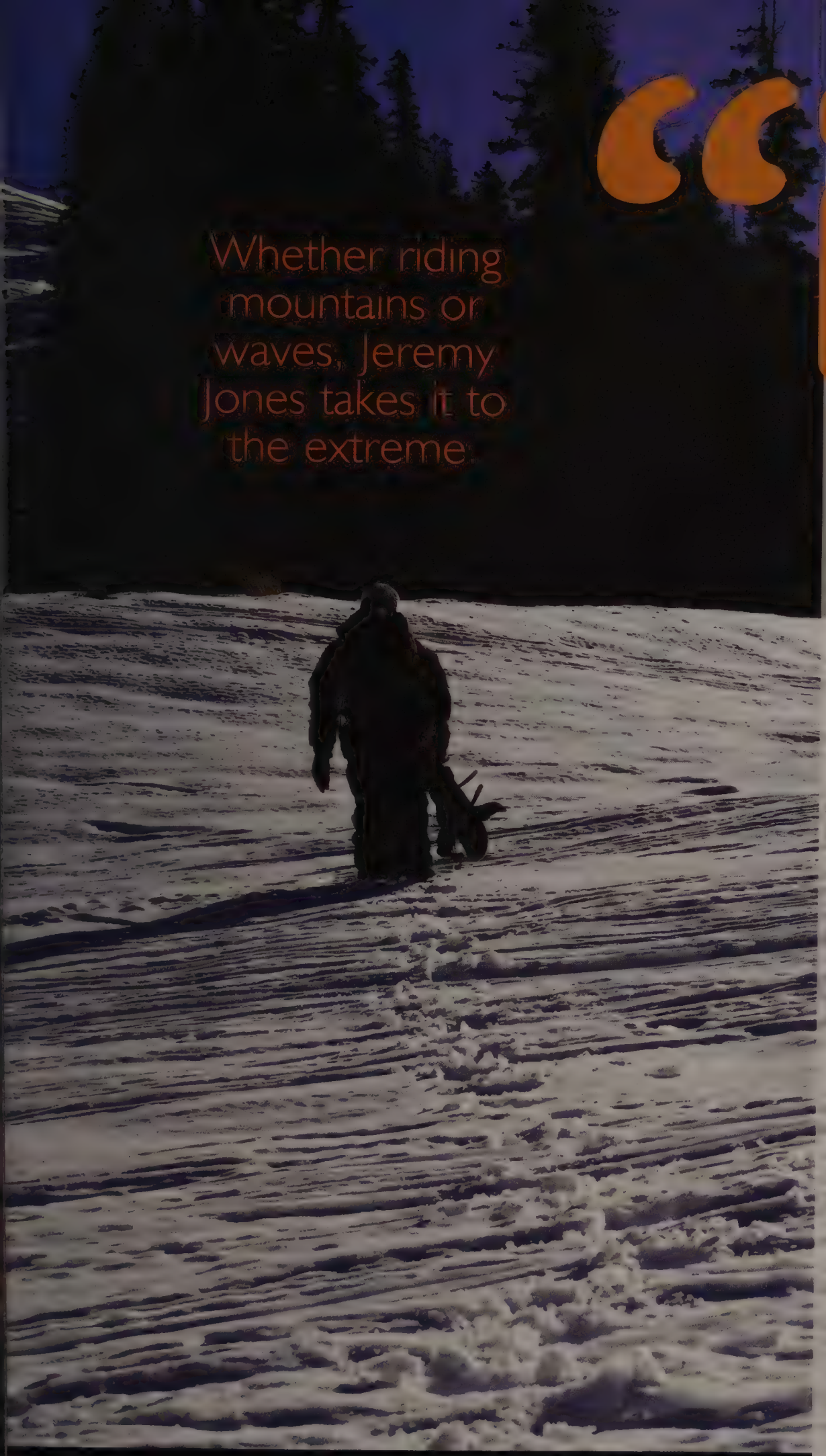
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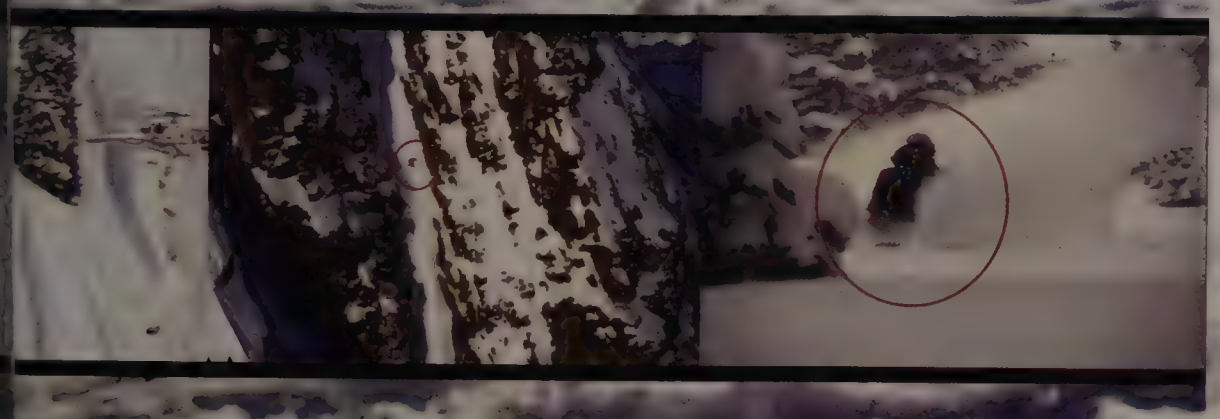
JONESING FOR A RUSH

where's jeremy jones?





Whether riding mountains or waves, Jeremy Jones takes it to the extreme



BY EZRA DYER

PHOTOGRAPHED BY TATIANA

"I can't ever remember being scared for my life snowboarding," says Jeremy Jones, Cape native and big-mountain snowboard star. If you've ever seen Jones ride in any of the Teton Gravity Research extreme ski movies, that might be hard to comprehend—many of the mountains he tackles are accessible only by helicopter and feature lines so narrow and steep they look like a string of dental floss hanging off the top of the Hancock building. Maybe he's not scared for his life, but after watching one of his TGR segments, you might wonder how Jones has made it to the ripe old age of 29.

"I guess in '96 I saw my life flash before my eyes," Jones admits. "I was hiking to a couloir and had a cornice break on me on a knife-edge ridge with no rideable lines. I took a 50-foot free-fall into a tight chute, set off an avalanche and fell 1,200 feet down in eight seconds. I was doing about 80 miles per hour." Eighty miles per hour—in front of an avalanche? "No," Jones says. "In an avalanche."

That kind of situation wasn't so much of a problem on the mountain where Jones first honed his chops, Sugarloaf in Maine. Jones attended Carrabassett Ski Academy right down the road from the slopes, and while you don't need a helicopter or avalanche beacon at the Loaf, Jones says the weather there hardens Carrabassett alumni against anything else in the world. "I've never seen anything like it," he says. "I've definitely had some gnarly missions up there. I've had days where you might as well have been on Everest."

Chilly peak notwithstanding, Jones ranks Sugarloaf, along with Stowe in Vermont, as one of the top two mountains in the East. "Sugarloaf with their direct fall line, Stowe with their hiking above the growth, which is pretty unique to the East. Out west, Jackson Hole and Squaw Valley [where Jones now lives] have always been special places to me."

During the off-season, Jones shelves his snowboard and breaks out his surfboard, spending 40 to 60 days per year riding the waves. Last year, he took on the breakers in Indonesia, something like the aquatic equivalent of the fearsome slopes he's known for attacking on his snowboard. "They were mandatory barrels with really shallow bottoms. Getting ready to take off, the only way you're going to make them is to get barreled and make it out." To underscore the danger of an inopportune wipeout, Jones acknowledges that surfing in Indonesia did make him fear for his life.

As impossible as some of his endeavors might look—Teton Gravity Research's slogan is "Purveyors of the Inconceivable"—Jones never tempts fate on a slope that's giving him a bad vibe, even when the cameras are ready to roll and the pressure's on to get the next great shot. "I do that a lot," he says. "In my head, I know that if we're gonna be pushing it, I say, 'Don't ride anything you don't feel good about.' It's tough to walk away from a line that you think you can probably do, but later on I always say, 'Why was that even a tough decision?' You've got to listen to your gut instinct. There've been times when the doors are off the helicopter, the camera's ready to roll, and I say, 'Sorry guys, not today. Something's bothering me.'"

It might help that the guys making the movies have a personal interest in Jones' well-being, as Teton Gravity Research was co-founded by his two older brothers, Steve and Todd. "I get to spend a bunch of time with them," Jones says. "I travel half the winter for the TGR movies. We go to the coolest places in the world, and I'm sitting there in the helicopters with my two brothers, and we look at each other and say, 'Is this real?'"

The elder Jones brothers are skiers, which begs the question of whether Jeremy has ever longed to trade in his board for some sticks—and the answer is a definite no. There's always new ground to be broken in his mission to fuse freestyle tricks with big-mountain riding, and he needs all the practice he can get. "Out west, I can find powder every day, and I'm always working on something. I never tire of the feeling of standing sideways on my board." iB



Bill Woodward (front) of York, Maine, and Roy Yamada of Newmarket, N.H., catch big waves in Rye, N.H., following a late-November nor'easter.

SNOW ESCAPE

SIX NEARBY ADVENTURES TO HELP YOU SHAKE OFF THE COLD-WEATHER BLUES

BY RYAN BRANDT

Ho hum, it's wintertime in Boston again. Your liver is begging for a break from the bar scene, and the thought of Jack Frost nipping at your nose actually sounds appealing...but sitting behind the wheel for hours to get to the ski resorts up north does not. No options? Think again. Within a 90-minute drive from the city, you can yodel atop coastal mountains, thwack a ball on the links, or hang ten with the best of them. Here are six outdoor winter adventures that can spice up a midweek evening or add fun to a weekend getaway. It may get a bit chilly, but what did you expect, Florida?

SURFING THE NEW HAMPSHIRE COAST

Rye, N.H.

"Obviously, I'd rather be surfing every day just in trunks, but summers here can be really flat," says Jeff Pilibosian of Seabrook, N.H. "We're lucky to get waist to chest-high waves. The winter storms bring in larger, more powerful waves."

While the New England coast holds countless surfing spots from Rhode Island to northern Maine, the stretch of coastline in Rye, N.H., is one of Pilibosian's favorites—offering renowned rocky point breaks like Rye on the Rocks and Fox Hill and the tamer beach break of Jenness State Beach. At Jenness, there's something surreal about running toward the Atlantic covered head to toe in five millimeters of neoprene and a foot of snow crunching beneath your feet. When the surf's up, the parking lot is dotted with guys hopping around to stay warm as they get their boards on and off cars, plus the incredulous onlookers bundled in coats or nestled in their cars with the heat on high.

"Sure, it's colder," says Pilibosian, who took up the sport 24 years ago at the age of 7. "You're wearing at least an extra 20 pounds of rubber. But when the waves are good, you don't think about anything other than that next set coming in."

After bracing yourself for the splash of the first few waves and paddling beyond the break, you have your pick of the waves crashing in sections along the entire length of the mile-long cove, because the below-freezing weather (with water temperatures in the 30s) keeps all the fair-weather surfers at home until after Memorial Day.

Chill factor: ***
Challenge factor: +++

For daily surf reports, call Hampton, N.H.–based surf shop Cinnamon Rainbows (603-929-1467). 50 miles from Boston.

SNOWSHOEING MOUNT AGAMENTICUS

York, Maine

Like many avid mountain bikers, Troy Michaud spends the warmer months racing along the trails of Mt. A—as Agamenticus is known to locals. Once the snow falls, snowshoeing provides a different perspective. "You don't see much when you're flying along on a mountain bike," he says. "Snowshoeing is a completely different experience here because it's so peaceful. I love coming out after a new snow and breaking trail. I've seen deer, owls, all types of birds and even moose."

The 692-foot peak used to be home to an eight-trail ski resort that closed in the early 1970s, and remnants of the chairlifts poke through the snow along the Ring Trail. Two-thirds of the way up the hill, the well-marked path winds its way through hemlock and oak forests and across the clearings of the old ski trails now overgrown with blueberry bushes and young birch trees. A handful of spur trails lead to the summit, which offers views to the northwest that can stretch all the way to the White Mountains, 90 miles away, on a clear day. The rugged coastline of the Atlantic is laid out to the east.

"That view has to be the highlight," says Robin Stanley, Mount Agamenticus Conservation Coordinator, who receives her paycheck from a group of conservation organizations and the towns of South Berwick and York, which came together than 30 years ago to help protect the area. "You have rolling hills on one side and the coast on the other, there aren't many places like it."

Chill factor: ❄❄
Challenge factor: ✚

Directions and downloadable maps available from York Parks and Recreation. http://parksandrec.yorkmaine.org, 207-363-1040. Parking is free at the base of the mountain, but donations are welcome. 70 miles from Boston.

TUBING AT AMESBURY SPORTS PARK

Amesbury, Mass.

You have to look only as far as the child restrictions at the Amesbury Sports Park to deduce that this is the king of sledding hills. Children ages 4 to 6 must wear helmets, and kids younger than that aren't allowed. Too bad for them. Now in its 13th year of operation, the tube park boasts eight quarter-mile-long runs that hurtle riders down the terraced terrain at speeds up to 35 miles per hour. The best part? There's no hiking—three rope tows pull you up the hill while you relax on the back of your 3-foot-diameter red tube.

For all the warnings though, sledding can be fun for anyone wanting to satisfy their inner 9-year-old. "The craziest thing I've seen was four generations of one family all coming down in a train together. The great-grandma, she was in her 80s, and she had to leave her walker at the base of the lift. But she was laughing along with the rest of them," says the park's general manager, Bryan McCann.

With snowmaking, and 40 lights lining the hill, the park operates weekday evenings and throughout the weekend, providing quite a spectacle for drivers whizzing by on I-495 and those taking a break from the action in the slopeside bar. But get there early on Saturdays and Sundays: The park's 750-tube capacity can fill in a matter of hours.

Chill factor: ❄❄❄
Challenge factor: ✚

www.goslide.com, 978-388-5788. Tue.–Thu., 4–9 pm, $10; Fri., 4–9 pm, $15; Sat–Sun., 9 am–10 pm, $18 (three-hour pass), $25 (all day). 40 miles from Boston.

GOLFING AT CAPE COD'S OCEAN EDGE

Brewster, Mass.

The Cape conjures visions of glorious sunlit days spent lolling on the beach or barbecuing with friends—hardly typical scenes of winter. Last year, though, while Boston got dumped with just shy of 40 inches of snow, the mid-Cape got only half that amount for the season. The same infamous nor'easters that dump snow on the city drop rain on the ocean-surrounded arm. That means it's time to dig out the clubs you stowed away in October and head south.

Situated on Route 6A in Brewster, a half-hour's drive from the Sagamore Bridge, Ocean Edge Resort & Golf Club boasts one of the Cape's most challenging and palatial golf courses. Like most courses in the area, Ocean Edge remains open through the winter months, but its sand-based greens allow golfers to putt on the same undulating carpets used in summer. (Soil-based greens are more susceptible to damage from frost, so many resorts set-up crude "temporary greens" on the fairways.)

The best things about winter golf are that the prices dip with the temperature (which hovers in the 40s) and the crowds have flown south with the birds. "If you don't like playing in 90-degree heat with 90 percent humidity, the winter months can be great," says Ocean Edge club pro Harry Parker. "As long as you keep your hands and ears warm, you're pretty comfortable." If the temperature gets too arctic, just slip on a pair of winter golf gloves. The tricky, 6,602-yard course has its share of narrow holes and doglegs lined by evergreen that will swallow the slightest of slices and hooks—the 601-yard, par 5 eighth hole may be the one that gets your blood boiling the most.

Chill factor: ❄
Challenge factor: ✚✚

Call for hours and to make sure the course is open. 508-896-5911. $25 for 18 holes, $40.75 with cart. 95 miles from Boston.



Assistant golf pro Craig Archer swings away at Ocean Edge, in Brewster, Mass., on a blustery day.

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING AT WALDEN POND

Concord, Mass.

"The wonderful purity of nature at this season is a most pleasing fact. Every decayed stump and moss-grown stone and rail, and the dead leaves of autumn, are concealed by a clean napkin of snow. In the bare fields and tinkling woods, see what virtue survives."

—HENRY DAVID THOREAU

"See what virtue survives"? If there was ever a place to understand what exactly Thoreau was rambling on about, it's Walden Pond. This is the spot where the naturalist holed up in a cabin for more than two years and wrote one of the most famous pieces of American literature. Winter is certainly the best time of year to reflect on Thoreau's words, when the blanket of snow muffles all human noise. You might find inspiration yourself, circumnavigating the pond on skis.

The 1.7-mile-long, five-foot-wide Pond Path hugs the water's border, ambling through stands of pitch and white pine and oak forest and taking you past the site where the writer's cabin formerly stood. At the west end of the park, you can extend your expedition by crossing over into more than 15 miles of trails on conservation land owned by the town of Lincoln.

"I went out skiing one day in March and everything was perfect," says park supervisor Denise Morrissey. "It wasn't too cold, the water was reflecting this incredibly blue sky, the snow conditions were great. It was one of those 'life is good' kind of feelings." Sounds like a place for anyone to find their inner naturalist.

Chill factor: ❄❄
Challenge factor: ✚✚
Parking, $5. Gates are open 8 am to sunset. 978-369-3254. 20 miles from Boston.

NIGHT SKIING AT BRADFORD AND GUNSTOCK

Haverhill, Mass. (Bradford) and Gilford, N.H. (Gunstock)

Both Bradford and Gunstock are relatively tame compared with their bigger White and Green Mountain brethren to the north, but with long shadows playing along trails and wind whipping at your face, skiing takes on a new dimension at night no matter where you are. Bumps and natural features—dissolving and then reappearing in the flat light—can turn normally easy terrain into a challenge for the most advanced skiers and riders.

Whether the visibility is regarded as an exciting test or daunting deterrent, the strongest attraction of both sites is their proximity to Boston. At Bradford, a half-hour's drive from the city, a top-to-bottom run on the 250 feet of vertical can take less than a minute. One hundred thousand watts of mercury vapor and halogen light pump across all 13 trails. Bradford also continues to make improvements, recently adding a new half-pipe and triple chair.

"It can get tricky between light poles, but that's just a few spots," says Seth Miles, who regularly ducks out of his Cambridge office to work as a night ski instructor at Bradford during the week. "It's so close. I can be working at my desk and skiing an hour later."

Further north, in Gilford, N.H., Gunstock offers a bit more varied terrain, with five lifts and almost half of its 50 trails staying open after the moon comes up. The Tiger Triple lift accesses the most challenging runs, like Cannonball and Redhat. No matter which mountain you choose, both will give you plenty of time to learn the basics or get your ski legs back before heading off to larger resorts for the weekend. IB

Chill factor: ❄❄❄
Challenge factor: ✚✚
Bradford: www.skibradford.com, 978-373-0071. 3–10 pm, $25; 6–10 pm, $22. 35 miles.
Gunstock: www.gunstock.com, 800-486-7862. Tue.–Thu., 4–9 pm, $22; Fri.–Sat., 4–10 pm, $25. 100 miles from Boston.

FAIR FORECAST



Individuals and teams compete at the Mushers Bowl every February in Maine.

There's no avoiding it: New England in the winter is a cold place. But even if you're not a ski bum, there are lots of opportunities for outdoor fun in the region. Here are a few winter carnivals that are worth a snowy excursion—or just a side trip on your next ski weekend.

North Conway, N.H., in the heart of the White Mountains, hosts what may be the region's biggest winter festival, the **Mount Washington Valley Winter Carnival.** Running from February 25 though March 6, 2005, the event features an opening-ceremonies performance by Disney on Ice skater and Soviet medalist Vitaly Opekan; a snow parade and fireworks show (February 26); an ice sculpture competition (February 27) and a slew of ski and sledding events and concerts. A button ($4, available at www.mwvevents.com) gets you into most of the events and activities—some, like the dog sled rides (February 27 and March 5) and the Chocolate Festival (February 27) cost extra.

New Hampshire's western neighbor, Vermont, hosts its own 10-day winter festival. The **Stowe Winter Carnival** (January 21–30, 2005) features a Fire and Ice theme, in honor of the town fire department's 100th anniversary. Events include a 15K cross-country ski race, a 5K snowshoe race, the "world's coldest parade," and a classic Vermont chicken pie church supper.

A little over two hours north of Boston, the neighboring towns of Freeport and Falmouth host the **Maine Winter Fest**, which takes place January 14–18, 2005. Unique activities here include the "fire-breathing drag-on slide," and the Luge Run, in which kids 10 and older can ride down the track with members of the USA Luge Team. The International Ice Park (in Freeport) and Snow Park (in Falmouth) feature sculptures by teams from around the world.

The next month, in Lovell, Maine (three hours north of Boston), you can have a real Arctic experience at the **Mushers Bowl**. As the name suggests, this three-day event (February 4–6) centers on dog-sled racing, with individuals and teams competing. Skijoring, in which a dog pulls a rider on skis, is another highlight.

Newport, R.I., is best known for its sailing and folk and jazz music events, but the town is also home to another of the area's bigger winter carnivals. The 17th annual **Newport Winter Festival** takes place from February 18 to 27, 2005. It features children's activities, ice sculpture displays, dance and music performances and other artistic displays, as well as historical mansion tours, and "ghost tours" of Belcourt Castle by the Newport Preservation Society. *—David Plunkett*

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THE INSIDE STORY

LOCAL INSTITUTIONS OFFER INDOOR ATTRACTIONS TO ENTERTAIN YOUR BRAIN WHILE YOU STAY WARM.

BY WENDY WOLFSON PHOTOGRAPHS BY ERIC LEVIN

The Harvard Museum of Natural History houses thousands of rare and extinct animal specimens.

If the idea of standing in line for a ski lift or hiking across snowy fields leaves you cold, why not embark on some adventures of the indoor variety this winter? Boston's specialty libraries and collections hold fascinating (even downright odd) discoveries from lost works of art, to mummies and scandals, to skillful taxidermy. You can spend a day (or several) exploring their nooks and crannies and forget all about the icy temperatures outside.

NATURAL SELECTION

Stroll among the giant fossils of the Harvard Museum of Natural History and discover that nature has experimented over the long term in the weirdest of ways. For instance, the Palaeologus, a giant fanged creature that roamed the earth 35 million years ago during the Eocene period, evolved into the modern bunny rabbit.

The HMNH collections encompass stuffed gorillas, a giraffe, cheetahs, ocelots, lions, a Bengal tiger and thousands of birds that were shot, trapped or stolen for specimens in a more cavalier time. Skeletal whales swim suspended from the ceiling. Birds, categorized by species, have evocative names like the Blue Splendid Bird, the iridescent Quetzal, the Dollar Bird, the Purple Breasted Chatterer; and with unmistakable charisma even when embalmed, a stuffed raven who seems about to utter "Nevermore."

Some species are indeed nevermore. A glass case poignantly displays a model of a dodo bird—hunted to extinction in the 17th century. The case also houses a photograph of the gastric brooding frog, which disappeared from the Australian highlands in the mid 1980s. This fascinating creature swallowed its fertilized eggs and then regurgitated its live young when they were ready to hatch.

A new book, *The Rarest of the Rare: Stories Behind the Treasures at the Harvard Museum of Natural History*, by science writer Nancy Pick and photographer Mark Sloan, tells how the museum's mastodon skeleton was key to a notorious murder case. John White Webster, a Harvard professor of chemistry, murdered Harvard grad George Parkman in a dispute over money borrowed to buy the mastodon. Parkman disappeared. The janitor led investigators to Parkman's bones, distributed in various places, including a thorax and left thigh found in Webster's tea chest.

Also worth peeping at are the wildflower and plant specimens in the museum's famed glass flower collection. Though they look freshly picked, they were in fact crafted in obsessive detail over a 50-year period by German glass-flower Leopold Blaschka and his son, Rudolph. The carnivorous plant *Drosera Rotundifolia*, also known as the common sundew, is rendered in lifelike detail. Naturalist Charles Darwin admired the sundew because of the way its tentacles move to grab flies, and featured it in his tome *Insectivorous Plants*. You can compare the glass version with the real one when it blooms in New England's bogs come spring.

26 Oxford St., Cambridge. Daily 9 am–5 pm. Admission $7.50 (free Sunday 9 am–12 pm, Wednesday 3–5 pm). 617-495-3045. www.hmnh.harvard.edu.

GEEK CROSSING

Conversational Klingon anyone? You can achieve fluency by the spring thaw for your next trip to another dimension with tapes from the MIT Science Fiction Society Library. At 50,000 volumes the library contains the largest public collection of science fiction, fantasy and horror books in the Western Hemisphere. Among its holdings are the complete works of H.P. Lovecraft and Stephen King (products of morbid imaginations nourished young), obscure adventure yarns like George Chappell's *Through Alimentary Canal with Gun and Camera* (a 1930 precursor to *Fantastic Voyage*) as well as vintage pulp sci-fi magazines, several thousand foreign-language books and a handful of books on tape. The volunteer staff members are knowledgeable about the library's collection and some are unabashedly quirky. (One wore a fur-lined aviator's cap and goggles when I visited.) Anybody can borrow books for a $12 yearly subscription fee, or about the cost of two paperbacks. Best of all, if you join, you never need to be alone again. The MIT Science Fiction Society, which runs the library, meets Friday nights at 5:30. Meetings are called to order with a gigantic wrench, and liberal quantities of junk food are consumed.

For part two of your campus adventure, hop over to the MIT Museum, where you can see the witty and pointless machinery of Arthur Ganson, which includes a sculpture with 12 sets of rotating, cumulatively reducing gears (the last one is embedded in concrete). Kismet, the gremlin-like robot with the big eyes and pointy ears that's trained to mimic human emotions, was created by MIT scientists who worked for years figuring out what, exactly, makes a machine cute. You can also view the iconic Harold Edgerton photo of the bullet exploding the apple. And check out the museum's Holography Collection; the ongoing exhibition, *Holography: The Light Fantastic*, displays 23 historical examples of the form, including a three-dimensional image of a 2,000-year-old man discovered in an English bog that was used as an educational aid, and works by renowned holographic artists.

MIT Science Fiction Society Library, MIT Student Center, Fourth Floor, 84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. Hours are irregular. Check http://web.mit.edu/~mitsfs for information. E-mail: mitsfs@mit.edu.

MIT Museum, 265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. Tue.–Fri., 10 am–5 pm, Sat.–Sun., 12–5 pm. $5; kids 5–18 and seniors, $2; kids under 5 and MIT card holders, free. 617-253-4444. http://web.mit.edu/museum.



The library of MIT's Science Fiction Society doesn't fit the classic image, and neither do the librarians.

WHERE THE BRAHMIN BROWSED

Step through the massive padded doors of the Boston Athenaeum and you land in the middle of an Edith Wharton novel. The Athenaeum, Boston's oldest private library, was established in 1807 by a group of Boston gentlemen, among them the renowned Boston surgeon John Collins Warren. Portraits by John Singer Sargent and Gilbert Stuart hang downstairs, and the high-ceilinged galleries are padded with lush oriental carpets and adorned with marble busts.

For bibliophiles with esoteric tastes, the Athenaeum is hog heaven. The collections include a trove of imprints from the Confederate states. After the Civil War, library committee member Francis Parkman (a nephew of the George Parkman who met his unfortunate demise in that nasty mastodon business at Harvard), funded a mission to the Confederate states to preserve publications, including the collection of a Richmond, Va., newspaper documenting the Civil War up through that city's evacuation in April 1865. You can pull from the Athenaeum's stacks books like Henry Watson's 1852 *Nights in a Block-House, or Sketches of Border Life: Embracing Adventures Among the Indians.* There are the papers of P.T. Barnum, a collection of documents in Indian languages, Gypsy literature, and books on alchemy and chemistry. Perhaps most famously, the Athenaeum houses the memoirs of a 19th-century highwayman bound in his own skin. (You can see the book at the Athenaeum and also read the text on its Web site.) It also owns George Washington's personal library of military histories and tracts on sheep farming.

Associate membership is $100 a year for those 40 and younger ($200 thereafter) and includes talks and wine-and-cheese social events. Members can take Wednesday afternoon tea October through May in the gracious rooms downstairs. The schedule for the literary lecture series can be found on the Web. (Colson Whitehead, whose 1999 novel *The Intuitionist* wowed critics, gave a talk recently.) Associate members can attend the monthly salon and edify their minds with discussion of culture, society and politics. Salon topics in coming months address the seven deadly sins—at the December 14 discussion, participants will muse on Gluttony (vs. Temperance), and in January will talk about Anger (vs. Kindness)—and refreshments are provided.

Keeping true to the city's Puritan traditions, the well-furnished children's library overlooks the headstones in the Granary Burial Ground. After all, morbid imaginations are best nourished young.

10½ Beacon St., Boston. Mon., 9 am–8 pm; Tue.–Fri., 9 am–5:30 pm; Sat. 9 am–4 pm (hours from September through May). Tours Wednesdays at noon. Art and architecture tours Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3 pm (reservations required). 617-227-0270. www.bostonathenaeum.org.



The reading room of the Boston Athenaeum

MUMMY DEAREST

Padihershef, a 2,500-year-old mummy, has presided over the Ether Dome, Massachusetts General Hospital's old operating amphitheater since he was abducted from his tomb by grave snatchers and acquired by MGH in 1823. Publically dissected by John Collins Warren (mummy unrollings were fashionable in 19th-century Boston), Padihershef, distinguished by a fabulous set of teeth, had enough star power to be sent on a fund-raising tour around America, garnering $1,500 for MGH at a quarter a head.

In 1846, the mummy witnessed the first public demonstration of ether for anesthesia in surgery. Warren performed that operation as well (his original ether inhaler is part of the Warren Collection at the Countway Medical Library). A giant portrait hung on the Ether Dome wall shows the attending physicians in their muttonchop whiskers, frock coats and bow ties.

The Ether Dome is open to the public 9 am to 8 pm daily. If the door is locked, buzz hospital security to let you in. It's best to visit during daylight hours.

55 Fruit St., Boston. Daily, 9 am–8 pm.

FINE SPECIMENS

On the fifth floor of the Countway Library of Medicine at Harvard Medical School's Longwood campus, you can inspect Dr. John Collins Warren's personal collection of medical curiosities. Born two years after the Declaration of Independence was signed, Warren taught anatomy and surgery at the school and worked as a surgeon at Massachusetts General Hospital. He was also a founder of the *New England Journal of Medicine* and was a proponent of the temperance movement.

The Warren Anatomical Museum contains some 13,000 specimens. Probably most famous is the skull of Phineas Gage, who made a curious contribution to early brain research. Gage was working on the railroad in Vermont in the 1840s when a tamping iron was blown straight through his head, landing several yards away. Amazingly, Gage remained lucid and could converse with his doctor. He went home after10 weeks of treatment, but his personality had radically changed. Formerly a friendly fellow, he became distinctly disagreeable; he could no longer plan and could work only odd jobs (including a stint exhibiting himself at the Barnum Museum in New York). Gage died in 1860, but in 1867 his body was exhumed, and his skull was acquired by the doctor who had treated him. It's unclear if Gage willingly donated the skull to science.

The museum also contains the Johann Gaspar Spurzheim Phrenological Collection—an artifact from the days when some believed that intelligence and personality were determined by the shape of the skull—as well as the Oliver Wendell Holmes microscope collection, plus photographs, paintings, drawings, medical instruments and machines, and anatomical models from the early days of medicine. You need to make an appointment to see the core collection, but some items are on display to the casual browser.

10 Shattuck St., Boston. Mon.–Fri., 9 am–5 pm. 617-432-6196. www.countway.med.harvard.edu/warren.

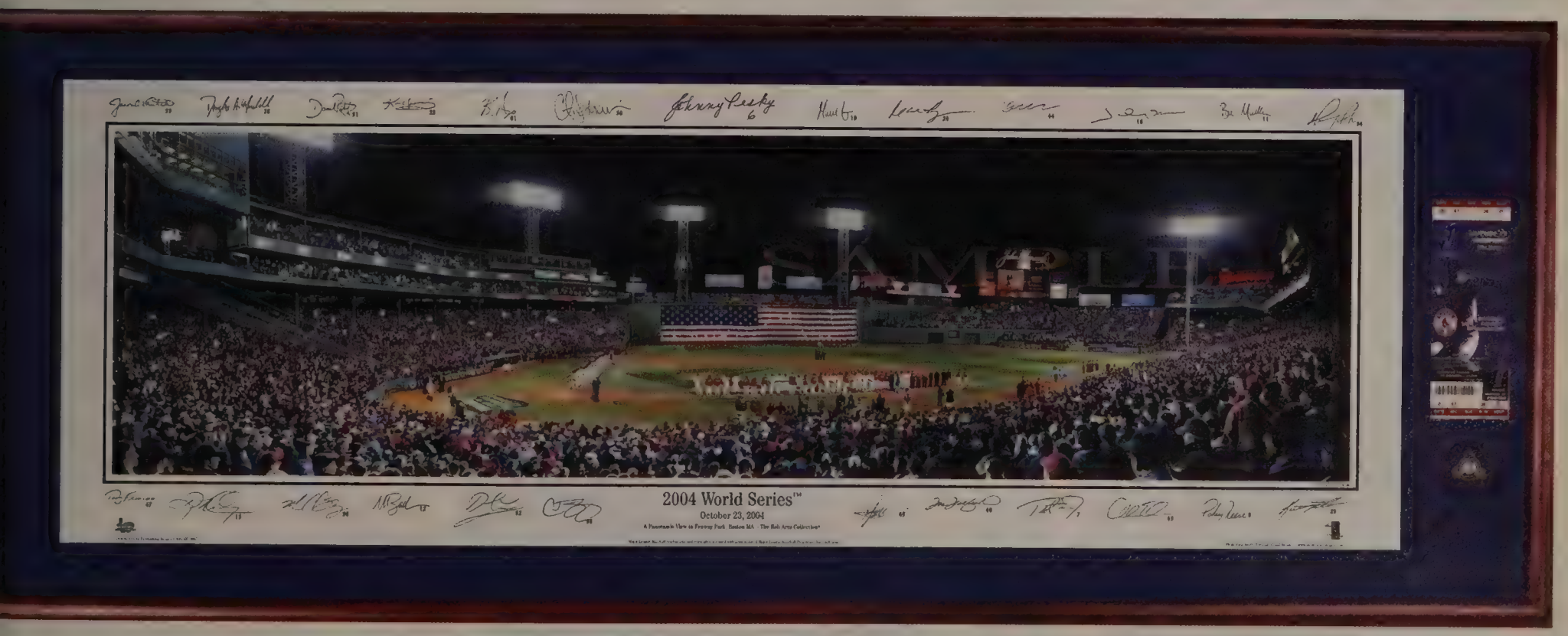






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the science of STAYING WARM

DON'T LET THE COLD WEATHER FREEZE YOU OUT OF WINTER FUN.



BY WENDY HOLT

ILLUSTRATIONS BY BEEGEE TOLPA

Each fall, rumors and speculation fly regarding the upcoming winter. How much snow will the gods toss on New England this year? Last December, one of the whitest on record, delivered a major snowstorm in its first week, coating Boston with 17 inches. In a city that averages 33 inches per year, according to the National Weather Service, that sounds like an awful lot for one month. Can we expect more of the same this winter? *The Old Farmer's Almanac* (whose weather predictions my grandfather, a farmer, always swore by) projects that we'll see "near or above normal" snowfall in the Northeast. Many of us love winter's first flurries, but the Boston cold really has a way of getting under your skin. Here are a few tips for beating that Yankee chill.

DRESS LIKE AN ONION

The key to staying warm is layering. "In the past 10 years, layering has become the way to go," says David Teufel of L.L. Bean, the popular New England shop devoted to outfitting people with outdoor gear. Layers trap the warm air from our bodies, adding extra insulation between clothing and keeping us snug.

"Everything you've heard about layering being good is true," confirms Dr. Michael Sawka of the U.S. Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine, in Natick. If anyone should know, it's Sawka, whose institute studies how people's bodies react in extreme hot and cold environments. The other advantage to layering is that it allows a "wicking effect," as people in the "cold-know" like to say. To stay warm, we need to keep dry, but our bodies naturally give off moisture. Layers allow that moisture to travel up and away from the skin. Rob Burbank, public affairs director of the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC), points out that when you're active, you can also add or "peel away" a layer as needed, hence the "dress like an onion" motto. Dr. Michelle Finkel, an attending ER physician at Mass. General Hospital who treats hypothermia, confirms that "the key is wearing appropriate clothing, lots of layers."

So what types of clothing do the experts recommend? Start with your long underwear, but forget the cotton long johns you sported as a kid on winter mornings. Cotton should be avoided says Teufel, even for socks. Cotton absorbs moisture, trapping wet perspiration and chilling you unnecessarily. Instead, try a synthetic fiber, like polyester (or polypropylene), which is good at wicking moisture. Next, a thin polyester fleece typically makes a good midlayer and is well suited to aerobic activities like cross-country skiing or ice skating. Your final, third layer depends on the weather conditions. If you'll be heading out for a winter saunter, a layered Gore-Tex parka or a down-fill jacket is a good option. For a day of skiing, Thinsulate or a waterproof down-fill jacket that's not too bulky works well. All of our experts stressed the importance of having an outer shell that's both waterproof and windproof.



GET DOWN

Down, that fluffy plumage, still reigns as the king of warmth. That's because it has what Teufel describes as "loft," or air space. "It wraps warm air around you, and you're surrounded by heat," he says. It's also why anything made of down—jackets, sleeping bags, comforters—is so toasty. Still, Teufel admits that while down is warmer than a synthetic fill like Thinsulate, it can be "more bulky, so it's a trade-off." Down also significantly loses its warming effect when it gets wet. Thinsulate is "more compact and dries more easily. It's become the standard alternative," according to Teufel. While some outfitters now offer newly sleek down jackets, Thinsulate remains an appealing option if your fashion sense steers you away from coats that turn you into a puffy marshmallow.

Interestingly, the old standard, scratchy wool, is making a comeback in winter fashion and warmth. "Wool's great," says Teufel. "It's a survival fabric. The best thing about wool is that even when it gets wet, it keeps you warm. [Unlike with down,] the loft is still there."

As for those fleece jackets that abound in a kaleidoscope of colors, apparently they really do break the chill. Fleece, essentially spun polyester, is effective because of its nap, the nubby part that traps air around us. And what about those fleece vests? They're good for maintaining your core temperature but still provide mobility for outdoor adventures, says Burbank. These days you can even buy "windblock fleece," which Teufel says allows breathability from the inside, but doesn't let in wind. Very cool—or should we say, very warm?

COLD FEET? PUT ON YOUR HAT

We've all heard that you lose the majority of heat through your head, but that theory turns out to be a bit misleading. True, when the rest of you is bundled up, the most heat will escape through your head. But that's not because the head serves as a prime area for heat loss. "The more insulation you have, the more heat you conserve," explains Sawka. "The main reason [the head] is important is that we usually don't cover it." So, what to wear on your top? A plain old wool hat works just fine for kicking around town. For especially blustery Boston days, a fleece cap with built-in wind resistance is ideal. And as for those feet? Layering your socks can further help you stay cozy, right down to your toes.

MITTENS TRUMP GLOVES

While gloves may be more fashionable than mittens, mittens win the warmth contest hands down. It might not make sense intuitively—wouldn't it be better to wrap each finger individually?—but the science prevails. Mittens expose less surface area to the cold and wind, says Sawka, and they also trap more air inside, providing further insulation. A mitten with a synthetic fleece inner covered by a breathable waterproof shell is best, says Burbank. And, yes, those little hand warmers that you can buy for under two dollars at any sports shop really do work. Drop them in your pocket or the tip of your boot, and they'll emit heat for six to eight hours. They're perfect for football or ice hockey viewing.

SET ASIDE THE HOT TODDY

Alcohol may a best friend make at a football game, but it's best to leave it at home on a cold day. While "a nip" may flush your cheeks and make you feel warmer at first, in fact it can hinder your "ability to perceive cold," explains Dr. John Castellani, also from the army's Research Institute of Environmental Medicine. Under normal conditions, when you're cold, blood vessels in the skin constrict. This minimizes heat loss and sends more blood to the body's core, protecting vital organs like the heart, brain and lungs. Alcohol can work against this built-in warming trick; it encourages blood flow away from our core and can lead to increased heat loss, says Dr. Gian Corrado, a Boston physician. Too much alcohol can also lower your glucose levels, inhibiting your ability to shiver (shivering is a heat-generating mechanism for our bodies).

On the other hand, "when you have hot foods, like tea or soup," explains Dr. Ann Yelmokas McDermott, a nutrition scientist at Tufts University, "they do help to raise your body's core temperature." Eating plenty of foods high in carbohydrates (like trail mix) and good fats (like nuts) is also important for aerobic activity in the cold. You need the calories to stoke your body's furnace. And don't forget to drink plenty of water, something that's easy to do in frigid weather. "Figure on at least two quarts per person per day" while hiking, says Rob Burbank.



WATCH OUT FOR THE "UMBLES"

If you're thinking of traveling beyond the city limits for serious outdoor adventuring, you'll want to make sure you can spot the first signs of hypothermia, such as shivering vigorously and experiencing a decrease in sensation. "People can get confused and dizzy too," says MGH's Finkel. Inveterate hiker Burbank describes it as a case of "the umbles: fumble, mumble, grumble, stumble, tumble." Watch out for signs of confusion, irritability and loss of fine motor control, like the ability to zip up a jacket. Burbank also cautions to bear in mind that "hiking distances are, in effect, longer in the winter because the weather will slow you down." The AMC offers courses on beginner cross-country skiing, winter first aid, snow-shelter building, and even avalanche awareness and rescue. It's worth checking out their Web site (www.outdoors.org) for tailored lists of gear and tips for winter adventuring.

And if all else fails, may we recommend cozying up next to the fire with a good book, a cup of hot cocoa, and your significant other to stave off the chill till...well, till the snow starts to melt outside your window. iB

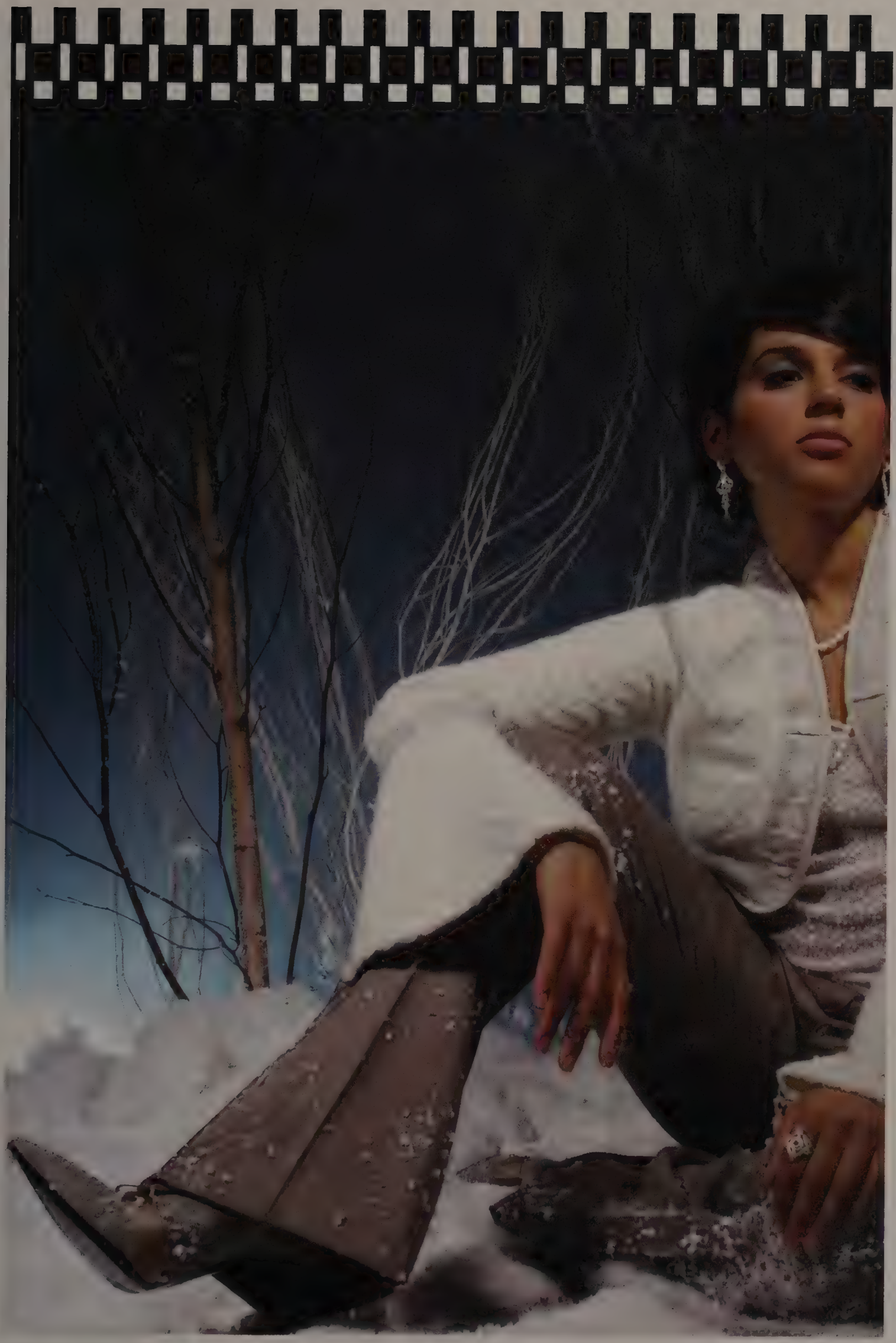


FASHION FLURRY

From ski bunny to lodge lounger, these winter looks will keep you warm and cozy.

Santana frosted rose mandarin collar jacket, $1,280; fox fur cuffs, $320. All at St. John Boutique. Burton Feel Good snowboard, $499.99 at Ski Market. Diamond and pink sapphire bracelet, $21,000; diamond and pink sapphire earrings, $15,000. All by Nini at Long's Jewelers.

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHS BY MELISSA MAHONEY



Wool pants by Stella McCartney, $580; sequined shell by Walter, $288; white cropped jacket by Walter, $345; tweed stiletto boots by Stella McCartney, $615. All at Intermix. Pearl strands by Mikimoto, $3,040 and $4,650; diamond drop earrings by Leslie Greene, $3,435; diamond ring by Leslie Greene, $2,875. All at Long's Jewelers.

Fox fur jacket by Bruuns Bazaar, $1,999; cream silk ruched top by Minimal, $145. Both at Stil.
18 karat gold and diamond earrings; $5,980; 18 karat gold and diamond link on cord by Di Modolo, $1,975. All at Long's Jewelers.



Bonnies parka, $448; Sofie boots, $400; quilted signature duffel, $398. All at Coach. Green pants by Bruuns Bazaar, $199 at Stil. Sterling and 18 karat gold with pearls necklace by Judith Ripka, $1,850; black pearl and diamond ring by Mikimoto, $5,000; pearl and diamond pave ring by Mikimoto, $7,100. All at Long's Jewelers.



Wool peacoat with silver buttons, $198; wool gloves, $22; matching hat, $22. All at Banana Republic. Phat Love skis by K2, $549.99 at Ski Market. Pink and blue diamond linear drop earrings, $3,505; sapphire and diamond ring, $3,655. Both by Antonini at Long's Jewelers.

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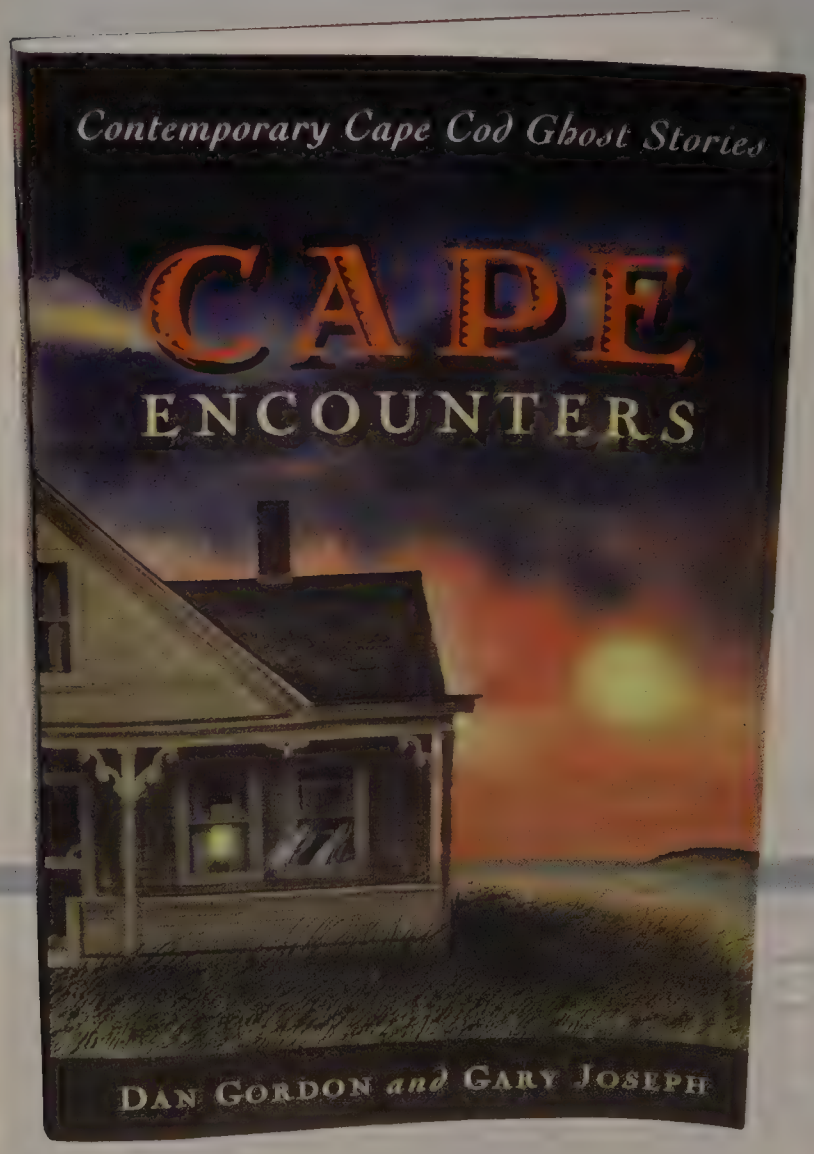
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BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



HEY! I LIVED HERE ONCE

***Cape Encounters*, by Dan Gordon and Gary Joseph, reports "real" ghost encounters on Cape Cod.**

The many people in this book who claim to have seen, heard, even been kissed by intruders from the gauzy past in their Cape Cod houses seem remarkably sane. If anything, they have an almost Puritan practicality that would suggest they'd never believe in such things as ghosts. The stair-tromping, door-unlocking, window-opening visitors described in these exciting, uncanny stories are mostly sympathetic, as are the visitees. One of the spirits appears, in a ghostly millisecond, looking like Lincoln in a big black hat (no ordinary Cape hoodlum!). Another, much to the terror of a baby-sitter, manages to open all the sliding glass doors of a huge mansion at once. As if yoo-hooing across time to current inhabitants of "their" house weren't enough, one ghost defied the indignity of burial by moving a huge gravestone—no crowbar marks and no telltale signs of teen vandalism, like beer cans, were found. Moreover it was estimated that moving it would've taken six breathing people. Objects in one attic of an empty house were shifted from one side to the other. And some ghosts "speak" in the medium of perfume—or cigar smoke. Now that's the past!



YOU'VE GOT A FRIEND

The Wellness Community, at 1039 Chestnut St., in Newton Upper Falls (617-332-1919), offers many kinds of support to people with cancer and their families, caregivers and survivors. On December 9, volunteers are needed to help prepare gift baskets.

Founded 22 years ago by a doctor whose wife had cancer, the Wellness Community is designed to offer a personal connection that medical personnel can't always provide. In a safe and comfy environment—an important antidote to the antiseptic fluorescence of hospitals—people join therapist-run support groups. Here, patients are returned to relieving ordinariness by being called "participants." Not a health club, not a medical clinic, it's a place where participants find comfort with fellow travelers on their unchosen journey and can, so to speak, let their no-hair down. The center's driving spirit is the belief that one can become an active player in the whole experience, giving and getting help and hope, while also countering the worry that cancer must be a death sentence. Tears, laughter and the freedom from isolation in a scary time are among the benefits. As one woman put it, "I could be 100 percent myself there, especially on bad days, without worrying about hurting or burdening my family. I couldn't have gotten through cancer without this place." The Wellness Community offers twice-weekly orientation meetings, education, art, singing, tai chi and yoga—and it's all free.

SWEET AND SAVORY, RUSTIC AND ROSEMARY-TINGED

Toscanini and Sons, at 406 Washington St., Somerville, replaces the old Panini and adds new treats. They do catering too.



This sometimes-buzzing, often-peaceful corner spot—bakery, ice cream parlor and café—represents continuity in flux, and crosstown marketing too. Toscanini and Sons is located in the spot formerly inhabited by Panini and is still imbued with that café's European flavor. The shop imports from Central Square the high-class ice cream of Toscanini. Its savory offerings include sandwiches on substantial slices of crusty bread. There's La Bella Mozzarella, with homemade pickle pesto; that salty old Jewish New York favorite, the reuben with pastrami; and, shades-of-childhood, egg salad containing fresh peas. Their chicken salad sandwiches also crunch in red grapes, pecans, apples, parsley and mayonnaise. Yet another has black olive tapenade, a harder cheese called ricotta salata with what owner Greta describes as "really nice tangy flavor," and roasted tomatoes. Toscanini's focaccia-crusted pizza slices have subtly autumnal toppings like eggplant, caramelized onions, capers, tomato and black olives; frittatas follow suit. After a leisurely, literary visit (people come and read books here), take home one of their rustic breads made daily: sourdough, potato and plain white rounds with just a bit of whole wheat. Toscanini's Italian-style ice cream, rich with egg yolk and beautifully creamy, comes in subtle, unusual flavors, like nocciola, burnt caramel, gingersnap molasses and mocha almond chip.

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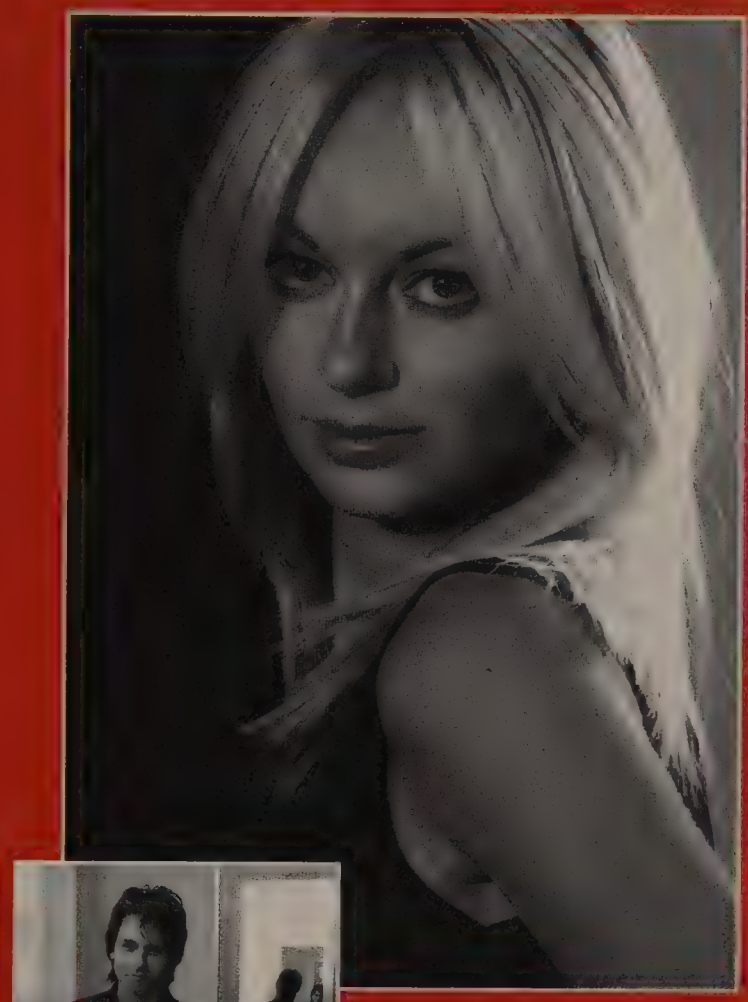
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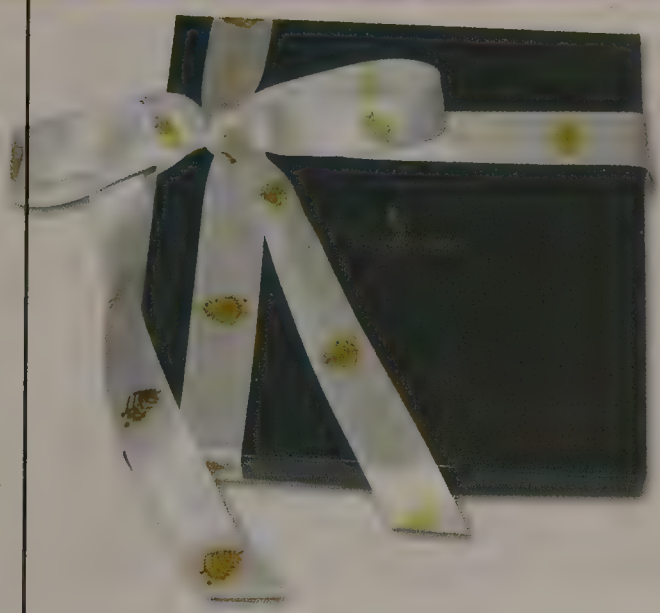
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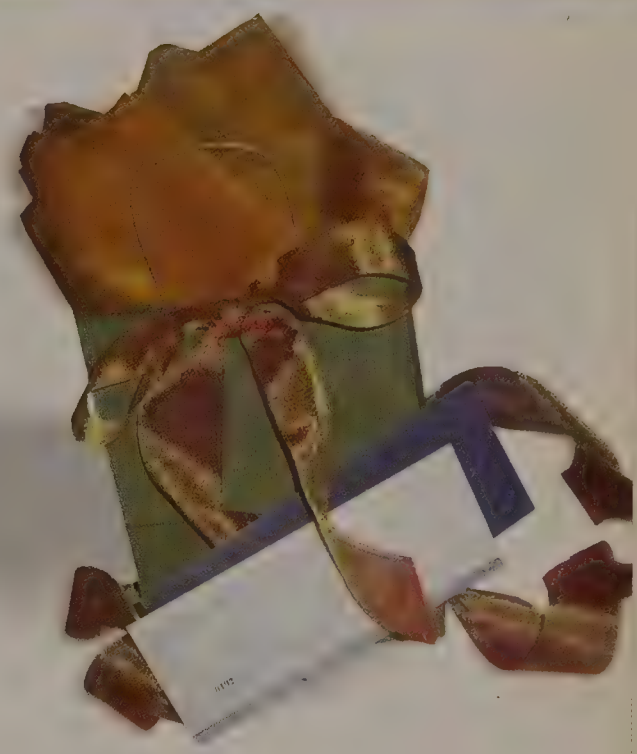
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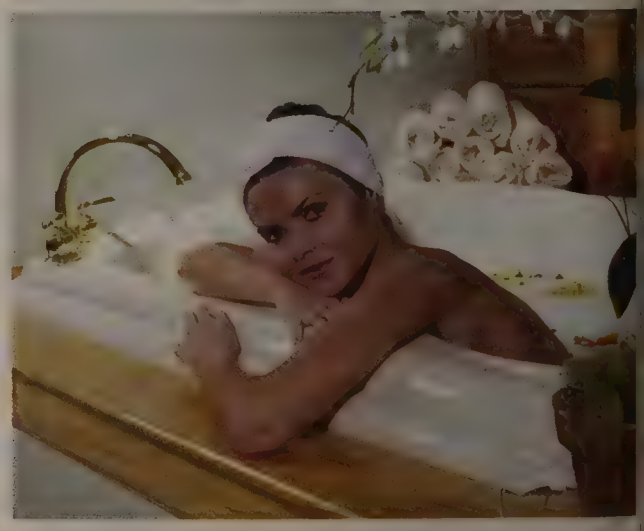
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TWO TIMING

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN's Year End Double Issue is out on the streets longer than our other issues. By any measure, 2004 was a remarkable year in Beantown. Ezra Dyer reminds us what made the past 12 months memorable, with The Year in Review. The editors declare what's hot and what's not for 2005 in The IMPROPER's second annual In and Out list. If you're tired of the same old eggnog and mistletoe gatherings that abound around the holidays, the IMPROPER can help with ways to organize unique, activity-oriented parties from handbag designing to golf lessons. To wrap up the year in style, we'll bring you everything you ever needed to know about buying a tuxedo (or updating the one you have) and elegant dressing for the holidays' most fabulous parties. We also look at the most unusual trends to hit our city this year, as well as a few strange fads that Bostonians wisely rejected.

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN
MAGAZINE

REVIEW

SPINNING THE 33

33 has ditched its schizophrenic menu; now it just needs to make its flashes of excellence more consistent.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

If at first you don't succeed..." This cliché sprang to mind as I embarked on a review of 33 Restaurant & Lounge. This chic restaurant and nightspot was launched in 2002 without a clearly defined culinary vision. It had initially recruited one of the best food people in Greater Boston, Charles Draghi, to re-create the refined Italian fare he had produced with such success at Marcuccio's in the North End, but at the same time it proceeded on a parallel track, featuring French cuisine in equal measure. This muddled concept didn't work, and in an early visit I found the results less than satisfactory. Apparently I was not alone, and eventually the bifurcated approach was abandoned.

Earlier this year, 33 brought in chef Anthony Dawodu to run the kitchen. Dawodu trained in London, served a stint as saucier at the Park Lane Hilton, and eventually ended up at Boston's Four Seasons, where he assumed increasing responsibility first at Aujourd'hui and then at the Bristol Lounge. Well traveled, curious and adventurous about cuisine, and with a rich heritage reaching back to the Caribbean and West Africa, Dawodu brings great energy and enthusiasm to his new post. So far, the results, while mixed, show great promise.

Ensconced on Stanhope Street, which separates the South End from the Back Bay, 33 caters to a young crowd of merrymakers. To reach its dimly lit downstairs cocktail lounge and cabaret, you walk down a flight of stairs bathed in colored lights that continuously move slowly across the spectrum from red to yellow, green, blue, and violet and back again. The same effect is created on the long bar that bisects the main dining room. Mini-globe light fixtures hang from a ceiling of wooden slats, while poster-size photographs and thin, flat speakers for the sound system cover much of the exposed brick walls. A small carafe containing a single rose adorns each table.

A first-rate tapenade, surrounded by a small pool of flavorful, aromatic extra virgin olive oil, accompanies 33's bread, which included good, crusty French baguettes and somewhat dry, undistinguished focaccia. The minor inconsistency of the bread mirrored the inconsistency of the kitchen generally. Like the little girl with the curl on the middle of her forehead, when it was good it was very very good, and when it was bad it was horrid. Fortunately, the former outweighed the latter.



Chilled lobster Caesar salad

33 RESTAURANT & LOUNGE

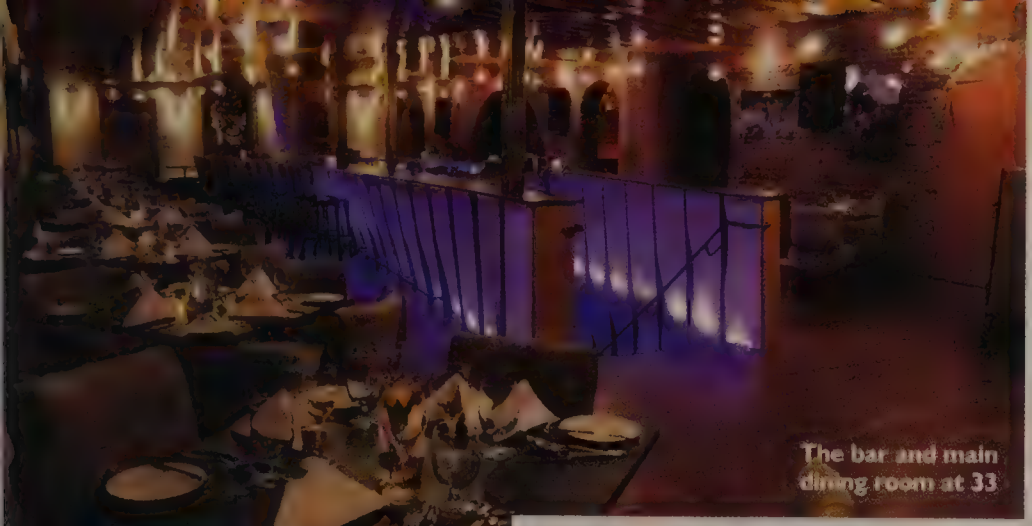
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I'll start with the very, very good. Lobster risotto, which the kitchen made available in an appetizer-size half portion ($11), rang the bell. Moist, creamy, and flavorful, with morsels of delicate, sweet lobster, the risotto included thin slices of poached leek and salsify, which added their subtle, mildly savory flavor. While my wife enjoyed the risotto, I struggled to understand how my appetizer, sesame-crusted soft-shell crab (part of the $33 fixed-price three-course dinner) could have come out of the same kitchen. Seldom have I endured a preparation quite as disagreeable. While this crustacean had been crusted at one time during its preparation, by the time it reached the table it was soggy. A pathetic garnish of tofu cubes, some white, some breaded and fried, shared the bowl with the unhappy crustacean, a hard carrot, soft peas and indifferent spinach.

Somewhere in between the excellent risotto and abysmal crab, 33's Sonoma seared foie gras with braised short ribs and parsnip puree ($14) was enjoyable up to but not including the foie gras itself. That had been coated in crushed almonds and fried crisp, totally obscuring its flavor and texture. Indeed, foie gras' heavenly, buttery texture constitutes one of the delicacy's major attractions, and 33's preparation squandered that texture while overwhelming the sweet, rich flavor that constitutes foie gras' other principal attraction. Despite the mishandling of the foie gras, the tender, full-flavored, boneless short ribs and mellow pureed parsnip studded with nuggets of apple that arrived beneath it almost rescued the dish.

Often restaurants produce excellent appetizers only to stumble with their main courses. At 33 the main courses were the stars, and of the four I sampled, three were superlative and only one didn't measure up. The last mentioned, couscous-crusted salmon ($23), suffered from a conceptual misstep not dissimilar to the one afflicting the foie gras. On the three recent evenings I visited, 33's kitchen seemed enamored of "crusted" preparations. But what's the point of a couscous crust? Why not spaghetti crust or linguini crust? Crusted starches may have their place—potato crusted preparations abound—but turning pasta into a crust adds nothing to a dish, and it clearly added nothing to the salmon; it didn't even succeed in keeping parts of it from being dried out. The light red sauce that surrounded—indeed, inundated—the salmon contributed little of merit; ditto the undercooked brussels sprout quarters and cubes of chayote squash. The final ingredient of the dish, baby spinach, on the other hand, was delicious, but there was not much of it.

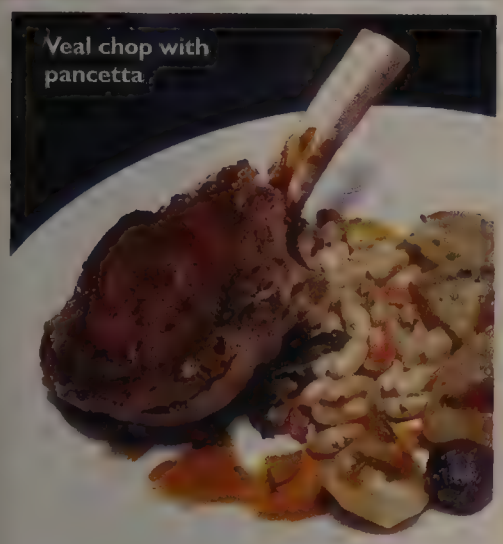
33's kitchen performed superbly on the poultry and meat side of the menu. Its Long Island duck breast with leg confit ($27) took top honors. The succulent breast, rare as ordered, included a thin layer of rich, pleasantly salty skin. The texture contrast between the resilient yet tender breast and the characteristic fall-off-the-bone texture of the leg confit, as well as the first-rate, mildly and pleasantly gamy flavor shared by breast and leg, increased



The bar and main dining room at 33



Chef Anthony Dawodu



Veal chop with pancetta



Herbed halibut

the bird's appeal. A veal chop ($28) was thick, juicy and tender, a magnificent slab of meat, fully the peer of veal chops fetching a substantially higher price at other area restaurants. Its garnish of white beans, carrots, pearl onions, spinach and roasted wedges of potatoes made this a substantial, varied, toothsome ensemble. Loin of lamb (the main course on the $33 fixed-price dinner menu) replicated the superb texture of the veal, tender and juicy. The strong, but not too strong, flavor of lamb was nicely suited to our bottle of 1998 Bergerac ($25), an austere but well structured wine containing classic grapes of the South of France: Cabernet Franc Mourvedre, and Carignane.

Desserts at 33 varied from an unexceptional crème brûlée (included on the fixed price dinner menu) with decent flavor and texture and a properly caramelized shell, to the astoundingly good warm chocolate cake ($9), among the best exemplars of that au courant fixture on Boston area menus I have encountered. Warm, runny, chocolate encased in moist cake supported by a slice of mellow, sweet pear terrine and garnished with a scoop of Tahitian-Tonkinese vanilla ice cream and crème anglaise, it formed a multifaceted treat that satisfied the chocolate craving while delivering far more.

With an accomplished chef like Anthony Dawodu on board, I'm confident the missteps by 33's kitchen will become rarer, and that preparations as good as the duck, veal chop, lamb loin, and risotto will set the standard. I'm not so sure, however, about 33's service, which on two of my three visits was disorganized and slipshod. One could not but applaud the earnestness of its young waitstaff, but they appeared to lack training, discipline and supervision. Dining alone one night, I was seated at a table for four, and the person who seated me neglected to clear the three other place settings. When another person returned to do that, she also removed my bread plate. A well run restaurant with professional, well organized, and vigilant direction and supervision is the first step toward customer satisfaction. Great service cannot rescue bad food, but the converse is unfortunately true: Substandard service can diminish the handiwork of the most talented of chefs. Chef Dawodu has shown that he can produce first rate food. It would be a shame if he were subverted by the front of the house. iB



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DISH

Table-Hopping

Familiar faces, new places...

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

Since it opened about a year ago, **Union Bar & Grille** has hit all the right notes in establishing its position as a solid success on Washington Street in the South End. Now, **Jeffrey Iovino** has joined the mix as general manager. Most recently general manager of **Teatro**, which he helped open in January 2003, Iovino was formerly an assistant general manager at **Mistral**. That's where he met manager **Jennifer Gower**, who is now his new bride. Congratulations on both your unions!



Jeffrey Iovino, former general manager of Teatro, is now at the head of the house at Union.

SECOND COURSE

The pasta is prologue: When we heard that **Guy Neil**, **Via Matta**'s general manager and a longtime friend of chef **Michael Schlow**, had left his post to become general manager at **Atlantic Fish Company**, we wondered why he'd give up such a cool job. Well, cool jobs demand long hours and late hours, and although the friendship remains solidly intact—"we're still family," says Neil, pointing out that Schlow is his son's godfather—Neil has more time for his own family now. "I've been putting my kids to bed three nights a week," he says. Besides, he adds, Atlantic Fish Company is part of **Back Bay Restaurant Group**, "a company that's been around for 30 years and is still growing. I'm very excited [about the career move]." Meanwhile, back at Via Matta, **Scott Fraley** is the new general manager. Fraley was formerly wine director at **Radius**.

More movement: **Medhi Barrabah**, whose background includes a stint at **Mantra**, is the new chef at **Sophia's**. He's been promoted from line cook to take over the kitchen from **Jeff Fournier**, who is now executive chef at the new **Metropolitan Club and Bar** in Chestnut Hill. **Icarus** chef/owner **Chris Douglass** is making slow but steady progress on his forthcoming Dorchester eatery.

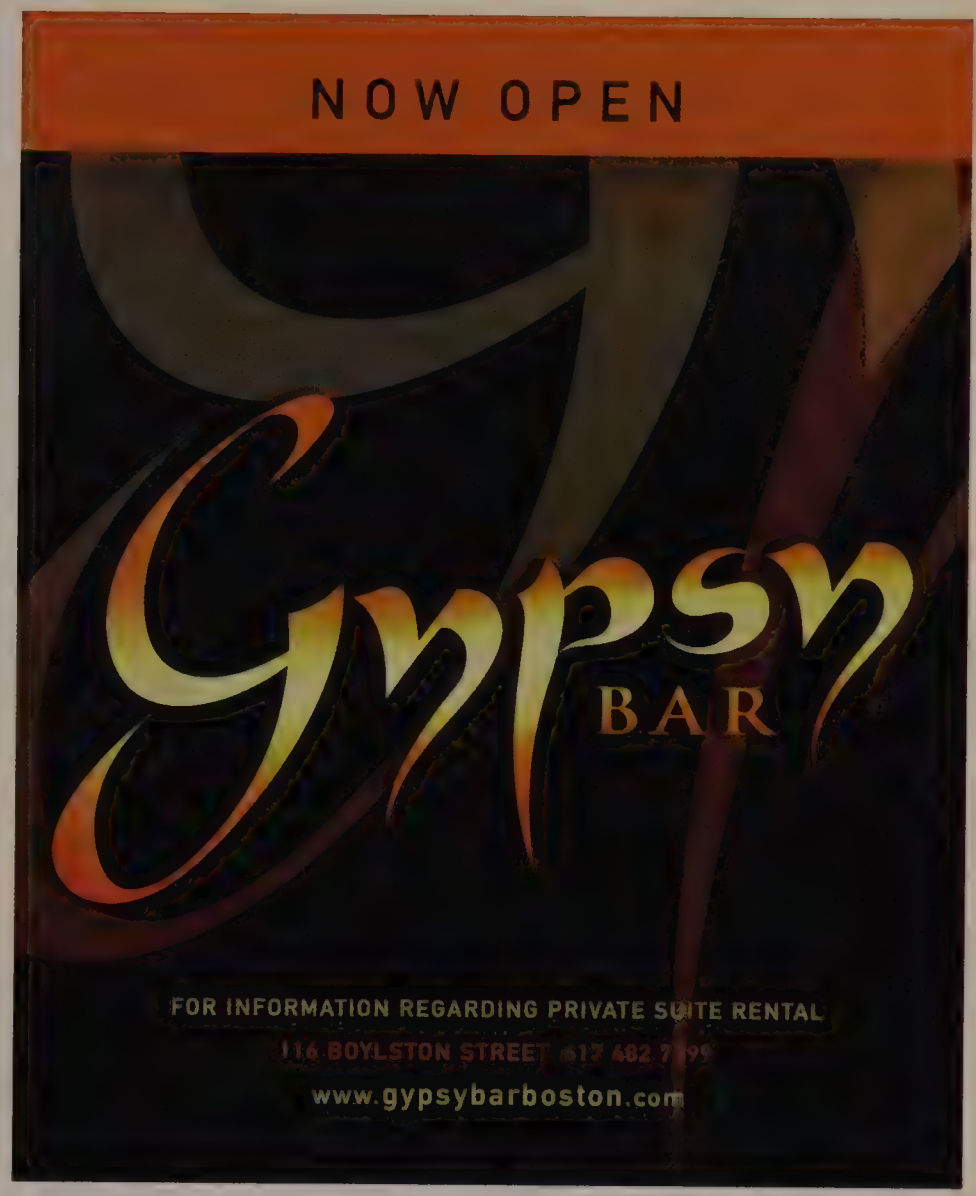
Everything old is (cobalt) blue again: The **Dining Room at the Ritz Carlton** has been named one of only six four-star restaurants in Massachusetts by the 2005 *Mobil Travel Guide*. Only 140 restaurants throughout the United States and Canada earn this honor, so kudos to executive chef **Tony Esnault** and manager/sommelier **Peter Greerty**...

Mantra is reincarnating some favorite dishes from its earliest menus, including the truly memorable spice-crusted tuna with eggplant caviar, arugula and a pinot noir reduction. Co-chefs **Ernie Quinones** and **Philip Carolan** have also whipped up a new bar menu with mega-nibbles such as coal-smoked steak tartare with black truffles, and Kobe beef miniburgers with roasted-garlic aioli and rassam-spiced pommes frites...Trumpet mushrooms? The **Spinnazola Foundation Gala Festival of Food and Wine** will celebrate its 20th annual event with a special flourish on January 28 at the Seaport World Trade Center: **Keith Lockhart** and the Boston Pops will perform a specially commissioned musical work. Perhaps a nice piece of bass with piccolo on the side... iB

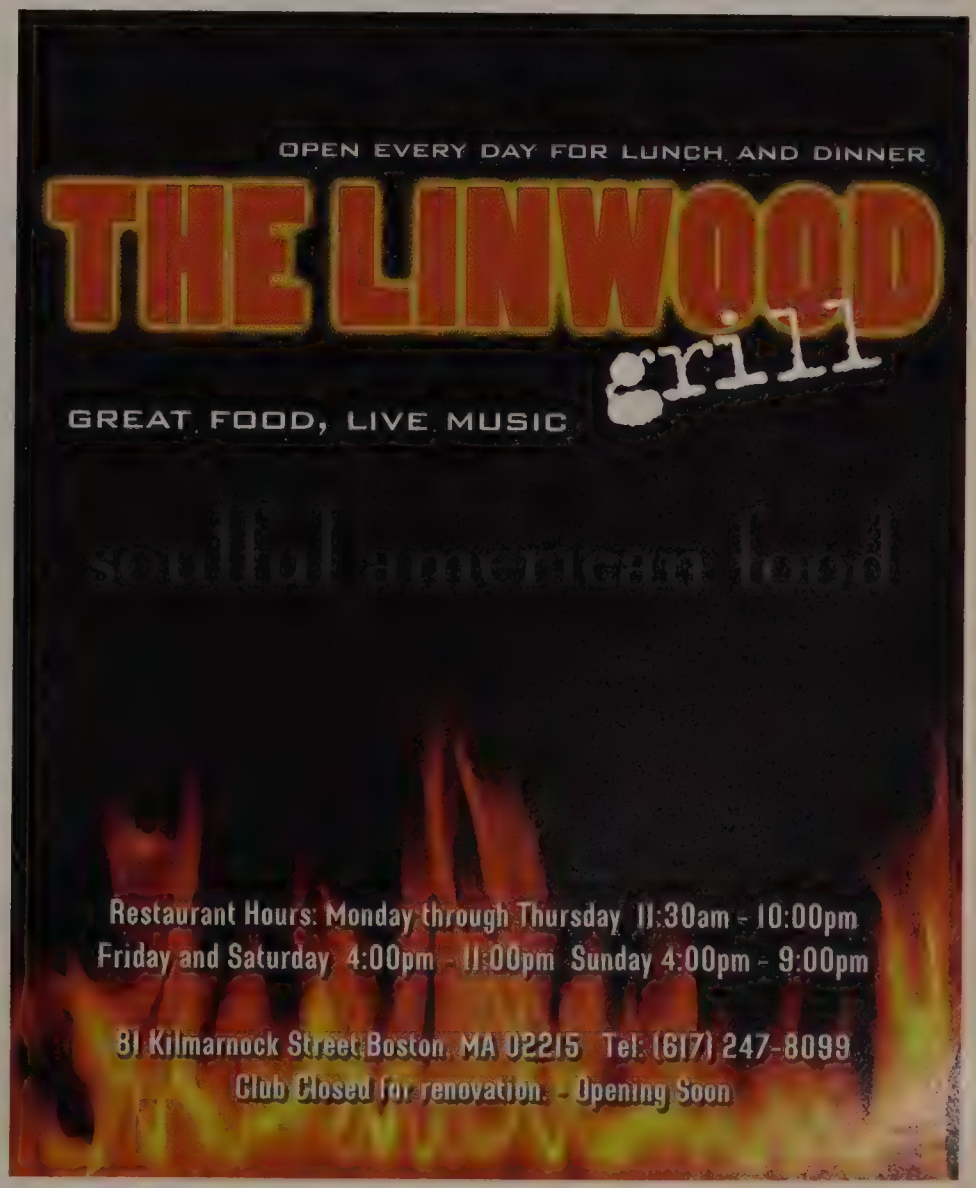
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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Bauer Wine Tastings
Bauer Wine & Spirits, 330 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0363). www.bauerwines.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Free. This winter, Bauer Wine & Spirits hosts a series of free beer and wine tastings. •Dec. 2, 5-7 pm: Winter warmers. •Dec. 4, 4:30-6:30 pm: The Return of Shiraz vs. Syrah. •Dec. 9, 5-7 pm: A Stout by Any Other Name.•Dec. 11, 4:30-6:30 pm: Cabernet Sauvignon.

California's Central Coast
Seasons at the Millennium Boston Hotel, 26 North St., Boston (617-859-37170). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Dec., 7, 7 pm. $65. Wine professional **Dellie Rex** discusses the wines of California's central coast and leads a tasting of various chardonnays, pinot noirs and cabernets from the region.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). www.fireplacerest.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Every other Saturday, 3 pm. $25. Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** hosts experts who discuss subjects from wines to foods to microbrews. •Dec. 11: Cabernet sauvignon.

Hot off the Vine at 33
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** for a sampling of four wines paired with a complementary food tasting. •Dec. 1: Southern France. •Dec. 8: South Africa.

La Morra's Prezzo Fisso
La Morra Ristorante, 48 Boylston St., Boston (617-739-0007). www.lamorra.com. MBTA: Green Line D to Brookline Village. Through Dec. 31. 5:30-10:30 pm. $45. In honor of La Morra's first anniversary, chef/owner **Josh Ziskin** offers a special menu featuring his favorite dishes of the past year, like tagliatelle with ragu di nobile, bone marrow risotto and braised short ribs.

Nutcracker Brunch
Four Seasons Hotel Boston, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2037). www.fourseasons.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Dec. 5 and 12. 10 am-12:30 pm. Children, $35; adults, $75. The Four Seasons' annual holiday Nutcracker Brunch features a breakfast buffet, live music and a performance by the Nutcracker Players.

Second Saturdays at Grill 23 & Bar
Grill 23 & Bar, 161 Berkeley St., Boston (617-542-2255). www.grill23.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Second Saturday of each month, 12-2 pm. $55. Executive chef **Jay Murray** and wine director **Alex deWinter** lead monthly cooking and tasting demonstrations. Dec. 11: Breaking Out the Bubbly.

Tasca Wine Dinner
Tasca Restaurant, 1612 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-730-8002). www.tascarestaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line B to Washington Street. Dec. 6. 7 pm. $49. **Veronica Picon** of Boston Wine hosts a five-course Spanish dinner paired with wines like Marques de Gelida Brut Cava and 2003 Basa sauvignon blanc.

Taste of Quincy Market
The Colonnade, Quincy Market, Boston (617-523-1300). www.faneuilhallmarketplace.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Dec. 1, 5-7 pm. Free. Quincy Market merchants including Baja Fresh, Bangkok Express and Bombay Club line the Colonnade and offer free samples.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $25. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, and chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •Dec. 7: New Zealand. •Dec. 14: Pinot noir.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mondays, 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Johnson** offers descriptions of the wines that complement a French–New England meal by chef **Frank McClelland**. •Dec. 6: Burgundy. •Dec. 13: Rhone.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-720-1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Every Wed., 7 pm. $38. Chef Geoff Gardner pairs French cuisine with wines selected by sommelier Erik Johnson. •Dec. 1: Bubbles, Bubbles Everywhere.

PREVIEW

SOUS SWEET


Jamie Bissonette

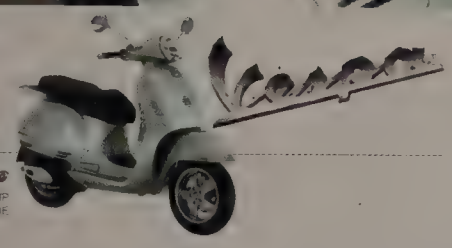
One of the many lessons we've learned from cliches over the years is that two heads are always better than one, but what about four chefs? Find out on December 7, when Tremont 647 executive chef Jamie Bissonette hosts Sous Chef Night, where four sous chefs—locals Jimmy Whelen of Tremont 647, Jason Lord of the East Coast Grill, and Drew Greer of Boston's Ate Seasons Restaurant Group, plus Ed Cotton Jr. from Daniel Boulud Bistro Modern in New York City—combine their talents for a special dining event.

The night begins with a 6 pm cocktail reception featuring appetizers created by the chefs and suggestions for beverages that best complement the dishes. A four-course sit-down dinner follows, with each chef preparing a course.

Admission is $45 and includes one drink at the reception, although a cash bar is available all night. Reservations are strongly recommended.

647 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-4600). www.tremont647.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. December 7, 6 pm. $45





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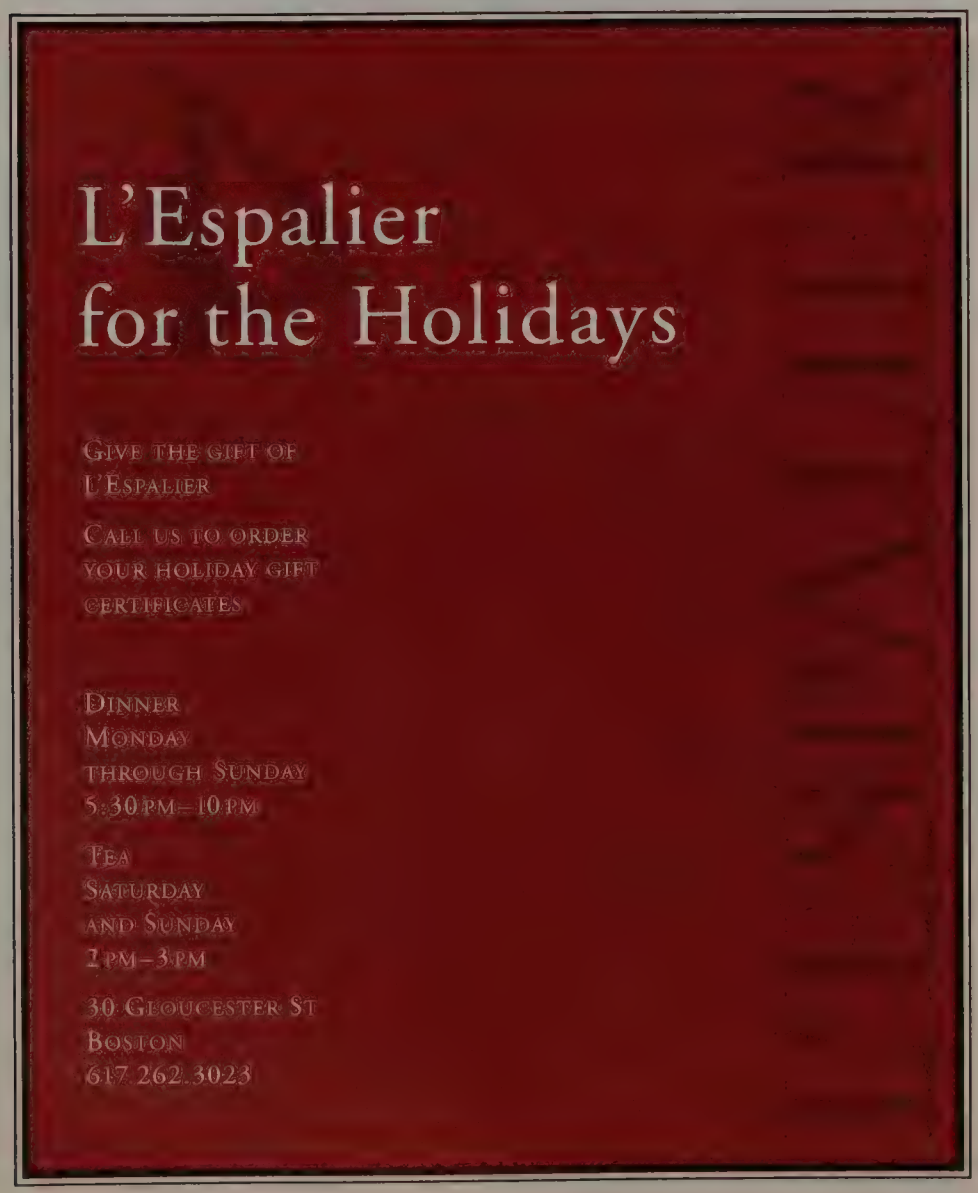
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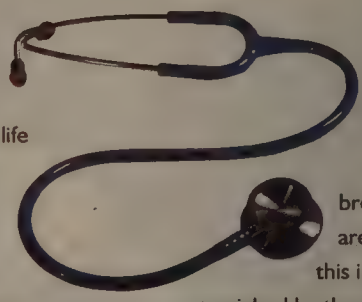




WINE

To Your Health?

BY SANDY BLOCK, M.W.



It puts hair on your chest, cures the common cold, is good for your sex life and can even make nerds popular. What's this magic elixir? Wine, of course. If it seems to you that there's a generalized sense of euphoria afoot concerning the beneficial effects of wine drinking, you're right. So it's time to look at the facts. But first let's establish something. The worst reason to drink wine is because you think it's good for you. Wine may be many things, most of them wonderful, but it's not medicine. If you don't enjoy it, there are plenty of other less controversial "health foods" out there.

The whole relationship between wine drinking and health is so shrouded in hype and confusion that it's worth disentangling. By now we all probably know that medical research has correlated moderate wine consumption, however that's defined, with greater longevity as compared to abstinence or heavy wine drinking. But what's less well known is that moderate intake of beer and spirits are also related to lower overall mortality rates, and that once you cross over the line into heavy alcohol consumption in any form your chances of dying early shoot up dramatically. The rub is that it's impossible to specify precisely what amount is "moderate" for any one person. Everyone's got different body chemistry, and an appropriate amount of wine for one individual may prove toxic to another. So it's always better to err on the side of caution.

What specific effect does alcohol have on the body? The most beneficial appears to be its tendency to increase the amount of so-called good cholesterol (HDL) that the body manufactures and decrease the level of bad, artery-clogging cholesterol (LDL) in the bloodstream. It also aids in thinning the blood and reducing the risk of clotting. An additional health benefit often attributed to wine is that it contains powerful antioxidants that protect against a range of vascular diseases. The effect has been noted for white wine as well as for red. And moderate wine drinkers tend to have lower blood pressure, lower rates of both heart disease and diabetes, and less risk of stroke. So far so good.

There are risks as well, most of them associated with crossing the invisible line into heavy drinking. The observed benefits, one should also note, are much stronger for people in their forties and older; at this point research has established only vague evidence of the health benefits of moderate wine drinking for younger consumers. And along with the many studies that have suggested correlations between wine drinking with lower risks of cancer overall, at least one disturbing report has associated even moderate consumption of alcohol with a slightly higher risk of younger women developing breast cancer. Researchers are quick to point out that this increased risk is far outweighed by the massive vascular benefits. On the other side of the coin, the much-ballyhooed mandatory wine label warning against pregnant women drinking because it can lead to increased risk of fetal alcohol syndrome, is surely overstated. Virtually all known cases of this syndrome have involved women who have chronic problems with alcohol abuse.

One of the interesting facets of the research that's been done focuses on the regularity of consumption. It turns out that people who drink moderate amounts of wine—or liquor or beer— five to seven days per week have a much lower risk of heart disease than binge drinkers who consume comparable quantities but over a shorter period. Binge drinking, of wine or anything else, poses a definite health risk. But since studies have suggested that many of the protective effects of wine consumption are transient, lasting less than 24 hours, the most positive results occur among those who drink small quantities of wine every day.

This is all useful information, but why does none of it appear on the label of a wine bottle? Why is the only message a compulsory warning that wine drinking may be detrimental to your health? The warning is a holdover from the days when any form of alcohol was treated as an evil that one must just say no to. But it no longer squares with the facts as we know them today, and certainly has the potential for being misleading. In fact, it's illegal for wine producers to provide positive statements about the proven health benefits of wine. This is largely because of the fear of litigation. Any general claims made could provide fodder for legal action, particularly since there are so many people who can't tolerate alcohol and shouldn't drink under any circumstances.

So the general feel-good message that "drinking is good for you" is just as dangerous as suppressing information about the real benefits. It all depends on your individual circumstances. And no one should assume that moderate wine consumption shows the positive effects with which it's correlated in isolation from other lifestyle choices. In other words, in the absence of a healthy diet, regular excess and reduced levels of stress in your life, you can't simply drink wine and expect that it will protect you. IB

One of only 18 Americans certified as a master of wine, Sandy Block is assistant vice president of wine for Horizon Beverage.

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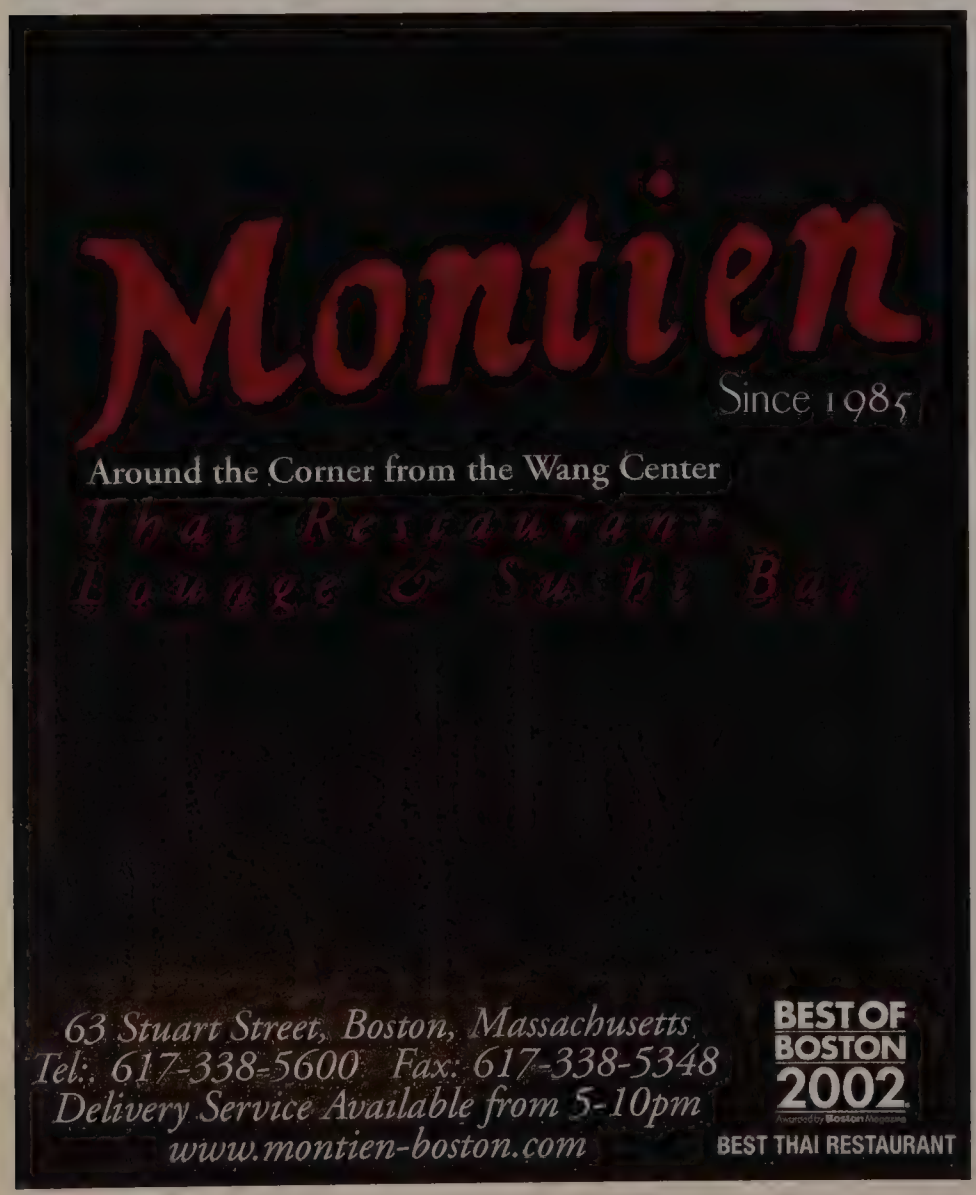


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agenda

IMPROPER PICKS

december 1 - 14

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
			*Queer Eye for the Straight Guy*'s **Kyan Douglas** reads at Barnes and Noble at BU. *See Books & Poetry on page 78.*			The **Handel and Haydn Society** performs Handel's *Messiah* at Symphony Hall. *See Classical Music on page 68.*
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Last day for **Crafts at the Castle**. *See CityScope on page 56.*		Local funnymen **Paul Nardizzi** and **Robbie Printz** are at the Comedy Connection. *See Performing Arts on 59.*			*Bad Santa*, starring **Billy Bob Thornton**, screens at midnight at the Coolidge. *See Movies on page 61.*	The **Christmas Rock 'n' Roll Odyssey** is at T.T. the Bear's. *See Music on page 64.*
12	13	14				
Kevin Spacey sings the songs of Bobby Darin at the Somerville Theatre. *See Music on page 68.* 						



THROUGH DEC. 19

Comedy: Hail to the Ding

Stand-up stalwart Jimmy Tingle celebrates the second anniversary of his Off Broadway Theater in Somerville by bringing in some long-time comedian cohorts for a **Ding Ho Reunion** show. The four-week celebration features local and national stars who got their start at Inman Square's now defunct Ding Ho Chinese restaurant/comedy club. Tingle himself hosts all the performances, and he'll reflect on the legacy of the Ding, which began hosting comedians in the summer of 1979 when aspiring comic Barry Crimmins pestered the owners to let him put on shows. A slew of big-name comedians—including Steven Wright, Lenny Clarke, Bobcat Goldthwait, Paula Poundstone and Denis Leary—got their start there. And many favorites from the Ding Ho days are coming back to perform during the reunion, among them Crimmins, Teddy Bergeron, Bill Campbell, Mike Donovan, Jack Gallagher, Don Gavin, Tom Gilmore, DJ Hazard, Brian Kiley, Chance Langton and Bob Siebel. Steve Sweeney will also pop in to do some skits. *Thursdays through Sundays, 7:30 pm. $25. 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com.*

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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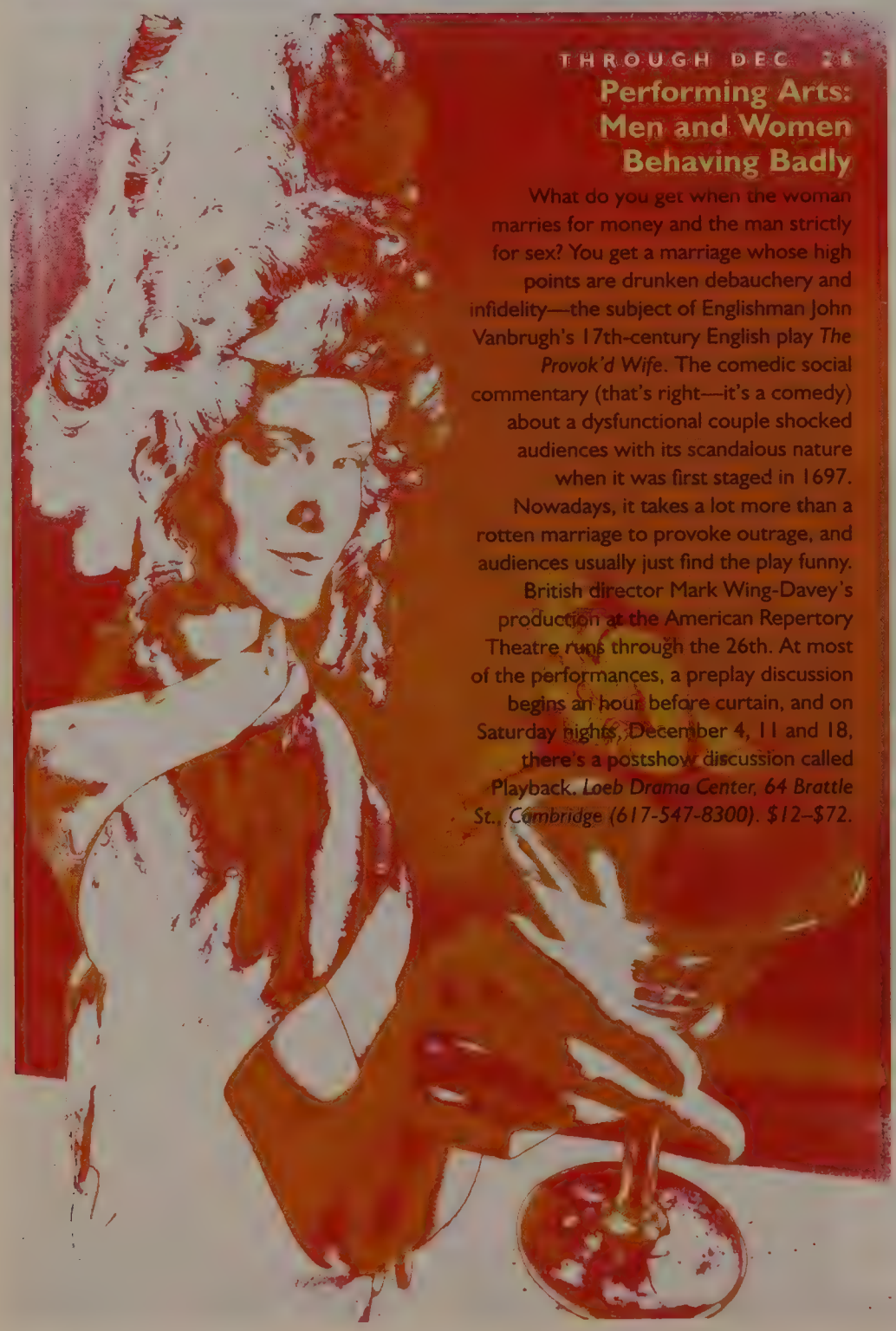


THROUGHOUT DECEMBER

Music and Performing Arts: 'Tis the Season

It's holiday time, and theater audiences around the city are seeing red...and green. Sugar plum fairies cavort in Boston Ballet and Jose Mateo's productions of *The Nutcracker*. The Radio City Rockettes kick into town with their Christmas Spectacular. Gloucester Stage Company brings back *Babes in Toyland*, and perennial faves Black Nativity and the Christmas Revels are at it again. Where the Dickens is Tiny Tim? He and the ghosts of Christmas are on stage at the Stoneham Theatre and the North Shore Music Theatre. If all this tradition brings out your inner Scrooge, try David Sedaris' *Santaland Diaries* at Chelsea Theatre Works for a little comic relief. See pages 58 and 64 for performance dates and contact information.

The Radio City Rockettes' *Christmas Spectacular* is at the Wang Theatre through December 31.



THROUGH DEC. 26

Performing Arts: Men and Women Behaving Badly

What do you get when the woman marries for money and the man strictly for sex? You get a marriage whose high points are drunken debauchery and infidelity—the subject of Englishman John Vanbrugh's 17th-century English play *The Provok'd Wife*. The comedic social commentary (that's right—it's a comedy) about a dysfunctional couple shocked audiences with its scandalous nature when it was first staged in 1697. Nowadays, it takes a lot more than a rotten marriage to provoke outrage, and audiences usually just find the play funny. British director Mark Wing-Davey's production at the American Repertory Theatre runs through the 26th. At most of the performances, a preplay discussion begins an hour before curtain, and on Saturday nights, December 4, 11 and 18, there's a postshow discussion called Playback. *Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). $12–$72.*

SUN./DEC. 12

CityScope: Teatotallers

Beer drinkers know him as the namesake of their favorite local brew, but historically speaking, **Samuel Adams** is more closely associated with an herbal beverage: tea. On December 16, 1773, Adams and his fellow patriots made history with the Boston Tea Party. Old South Meeting House, the site of the fiery debate that led to the famous political protest, celebrates the Tea Party's 231st anniversary with its annual reenactment on December 12. WBZ-4 news anchor Jack Williams hosts the mock protest, which features members of Old South's Tea Party Players suited up in Revolutionary garb. Only the first 600 guests gain admission to Old South Meeting House, and if you come clad in historic attire, the $5 fee is waived. *310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. 5:30–7:30 pm. $5.*



Members of klezmer rock band Golem

SAT./DEC. 11

Cityscope: Oy Vey

Just when you thought there weren't enough wacky Hanukkah-related wingdings to go to this holiday season, one comes along that tops them all. There are more klezmer ditties than you can shake a menorah at when **Hot Latkas** comes to town. The holiday celebration at the Paradise with comedy, music, burlesque and just a hint of vaudeville features two New York acts: Golem and Nice Jewish Girls Gone Bad. The sassy lasses of Nice Jewish Girls Gone Bad perform a very unkosher show indeed: a vaudeville-meets-rock-meets-standup routine. Six-member band Golem takes traditional klezmer sounds and adds an edgy twist of rock. The show is hosted by comedian/singer the Goddess Perlman. *Paradise Lounge, 969 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8814). 9 pm. $15.*

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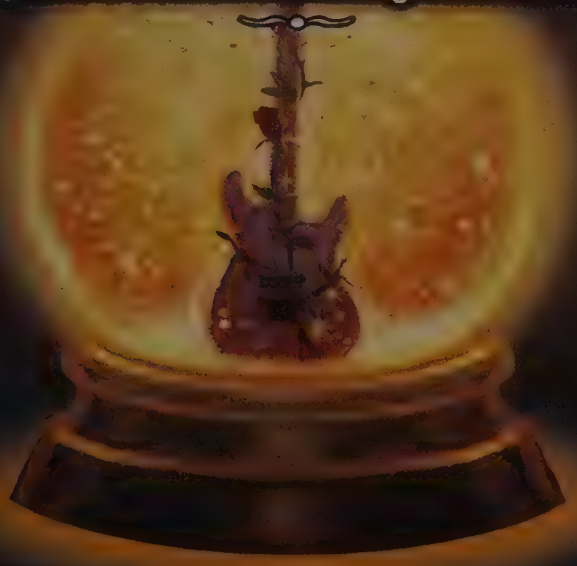
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cityscope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings for benefits, festivals, activities and events by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Benefits

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1

Boston Jaycees Children's Holiday Party
The Rack, 24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). www.bostonjaycees.org. MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. 6:30 pm. $15 or donation of new unwrapped toy. The Boston Junior Chamber of Commerce hosts this annual fund-raiser to benefit children of the Col. Daniel Marr Boys & Girls Club in Dorchester.

Boston Women Communicators' Holiday Hoopla
The College Club, 44 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-723-5642). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-9 pm. $50-$65. The festivities at the organization's 11th annual party include a holiday buffet, wine and beer, door prizes and a raffle to benefit the Hale House and Women's Lunch Place.

Cheers for Children
Hampshire House, 84 Beacon St., Boston (617-723-1898). www.cheersboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 5:30 pm. $25. Proceeds from this event featuring cocktails and a silent and live auction (with guest auctioneer Matt Siegel of KISS 108) benefit the Globe Santa Fund, the Neely Cancer Fund, the Jimmy Fund and Friends of Floating Hospital for Children

Unite for Arts Benefit Concert
Sanders Theatre, Harvard University, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). www.uniteforarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $25-$100. Cambridge native and international jazz recording artist Nnenna Freelon headlines this benefit concert in support of the Cambridge Arts Council's annual grant programs.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

December Sale at the School of the MFA
The School of the Museum of Fine Arts, 230 The Fenway, Boston (617-369-3718). www.smfa.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. Through Dec. 5. Thu., 12-8 pm; Fri.-Sun., 12-6 pm. Free. This annual sale offers guests a chance to buy original artwork by some of the Museum School's most accomplished alumni and faculty. Proceeds support the school's student financial aid program.

It's in the Bag
Luna Boston, 286 Newbury St., Boston (617-469-5822). www.lunaboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6-10 pm. Free. Generation Next hosts a cocktail party and shopping spree at Luna Boston. A percentage of all sales benefits Rogerson Communities, an organization that helps elderly and low-income people.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3

Crafts at the Castle
Corner of Arlington Street and Columbus Avenue, Boston (617-523-6400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Through Dec. 5. Fri.-Sat., 10 am-8 pm; Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $15. Proceeds from this 19th annual crafts show benefit Family Service of Greater Boston.

Snowball Celebration
Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 64 Arlington St., Boston (781-690-2120). www.scaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 9 pm-2 am. $60-$100. Live entertainment by NovaKane, DJ Ed Foley and Boston City Lights, as well as a casino, a silent auction and pictures with Santa Claus are some of the highlights of this annual benefit for local youth organizations.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

Annual Winter Bazaar
Pound Hall, Harvard University, 1536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-5410). www.cs.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Dec. 5. Sat., 10 am-7 pm; Sun., 10 am-5 pm. Free. This event features arts and crafts from all over the world, Tibetan and west African food, and Ecuadorian and Kenyan music. Proceeds support Cultural Survival's work with indigenous people.

Benefit for Children
Davio's Northern Italian Steakhouse, 75 Arlington St., Boston (617-585-7528). www.thehome.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1-4 pm. $30 donations welcome. The 12th annual Benefit for Children features heavy hors d'oeuvres, raffle prizes and a silent auction to benefit the Home for Little Wanderers and St. Ann's Home. Guests are also asked to bring new and unwrapped gifts for children ages infant to 18.

Christkindlmarkt Fair
German International School, 54 Essex St., Cambridge (617-497-8454). www.gisboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 12-5 pm. Free. The German International School of Boston re-creates a traditional German holiday market with music, refreshments, activities for children and holiday wares. Sales benefit the school.

Gift It Up
Arlington Street Church, 351 Boylston St., Boston (617-792-5522). www.giftitup.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 11 am-4 pm. Free. At this alternative gift fair, guests can choose a variety of gifts, such as art supplies for autistic adults, cattle for a family in Cambodia, or dinner for a hungry person in Boston, that are donated to those in need.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7

MSPCA Holiday Tree Lighting
The Prudential Center, near the Huntington Arcade, Boston. www.mspca.org. MBTA: Green Line to Prudential. 5:30 pm. Free. The MSPCA hosts a lighting of this canine- and cat-inspired tree that's decorated with ornaments featuring photos of local pets. The ornaments are available for purchase, with proceeds benefiting the MSPCA. The night also features a performance from the Fontbonne Academy Choir and other holiday attractions.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10

South End Holiday Fair
South End Open Market, 500 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-481-2257). www.southendholidaymarket.com. MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Through Dec. 12. Fri., 6-10 pm; Sat.-Sun., 10 am-4 pm. Free. This weekend-long holiday fund-raiser features works by more than 80 artisans from around New England, as well as a silent art auction benefiting the Washington Gateway.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11

CCAE's Holly Fair
42 and 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789, ext. 1). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Dec. 12. Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. The Cambridge Center for Adult Education's 51st annual Holly Fair features clothing, jewelry, ornaments, cards and stocking stuffers being sold by jury-selected vendors. Proceeds benefit the CCAE's scholarship fund.

Holiday Party '04
Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 64 Arlington St., Boston (617-566-2732). www.brfc.org/holidayparty. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm-1 am. $50-$60. The Boston and Beantown Rugby Clubs host this fund-raising party featuring cocktails, dancing and a raffle benefiting the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston.

The Mayflower Foundation Annual Holiday Party
Vinalia, 101 Arch St., Boston (617-737-1777). www.mayflowerfoundation.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 8:30 pm-2 am. $100. This annual holiday party, sponsored by the Mayflower Foundation, features a night-long open bar, hors d'oeuvres and live music. Proceeds benefit the National Braille Press.

Festivals & Parties

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

Bay Colony Cluster Dog Show
Bayside Exposition Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., Boston (508-533-1153). www.baycolonydogshow.com. MBTA: Red Line to UMass/JFK. Through Dec. 5. 8 am-5 pm. $7-$12. This annual American Kennel Club dog show features more than 160 breeds competing for the title of Best in Show.

Brookline Arts Center Holiday Sale
Brookline Arts Center, 86 Monmouth St., Brookline (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Through Dec. 19. Thu., 12-9 pm; Fri.-Sun., 12-6 pm. This annual holiday crafts sale features handmade gifts from more than 85 national artists working in media like jewelry, metal work, woodwork and handmade glass.

Cambridge Chamber of Commerce Holiday BAHsh
Spinnaker, Hyatt Regency Cambridge, 575 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (617-876-4100). www.cambridgechamber.org. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 5:30-8 pm. $20-$50. The CCC's networking holiday party features hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar.

Girls' Night Out
Persona Jewelry, 504 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-266-3003). www.yossiharari.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 6 pm. Free. Jewelry designer Yossi Harari hosts a girls' night out at Persona Jewelry+ featuring food, drinks and makeup from Armani.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3

Holiday Art Sale
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3355). www.artzoe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 11 am-7:30 pm. Free. This sale offers original art works and oil paintings, limited-edition prints, jewelry and handmade cards.

Le Marché de Noel
The French Library and Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib. org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 am-5 pm. Free. The FLCC's third annual Christmas Fair features a tour of the Back Bay mansion that houses the center. Visitors can view French luxury items like candles, linens and decorations for sale by local vendors.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

Downtown Crossing Holiday Stroll
Multiple streets in Downtown Crossing, Boston (617-482-2139). www.downtowncrossing.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 11 am-5 pm. Free. This second annual family holiday event features a scavenger hunt with characters form the Lion King, carolers, story telling, a magic show and more.

Gateway's Holiday Fair
Gateway Crafts Store and Gallery, 60-62 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-1577). www.gatewayarts.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. 10 am-5 pm. Free. This 31st annual fair features handmade items like necklaces, ceramic bowls and men's ties, and includes live jazz from Blue's Cabaret.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

The BYPA Holiday Crystal Ball
Vox Populi, 755 Boylston St., Boston (617-591-1400). www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm-12 am. $20-$30. This holiday party features appetizers from Vox executive chef Paul Scheffler, an hour and a half of Dewar's open bar, music from DJ Lou and a charity raffle.

Creating Day Jobs
Flora Restaurant, 190 Mass. Ave., Arlington (617-641-1664). www.florarestaurant.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. 11 am-3:30 pm. Free. The staff at Flora Restaurant and some of their friends display their original art at this second annual holiday craft show.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9

Honah Lee Holiday Extravaganza
Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center, 85 W. Newton St., Boston (617-927-0061). www.claboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7-11 pm. $8. Shop for holiday merchandise from local shops and enjoy live performances by Through the Keyhole Burlesque, the Boston League of Women Wrestlers and the Campaign for the Real Time.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11

Festival Noir
Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston (508-877-8601). www.festivalnoir.com, MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 12-6 pm. Free. The 12th annual Festival Noir gives guests a chance to see and purchase the work of African-American artists and artisans from around the world. Bring an unwrapped gift for donation to the Home for Little Wanderers.

Hot Latkas
Paradise Lounge, 969 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8814). www.thedise.com. MBTA: Green Line B to Pleasant Street. 8 pm. $15. This Hanukkah celebration features performances by the rock band Golem and the comedy/burlesque troupe Nice Jewish Girls Gone Bad.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

Tea Party Reenactment
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 5:30-7:30 pm. $5. WBZ-4 news anchor Jack Williams hosts this reenactment of the Boston Tea Party by the Old South's Tea Party Players on the 231st anniversary of the historic event.



Don Gorvett's *Wharf Street Lights* is one of the works on display at the Museum School's December Sale, taking place December 2–5.

Singles

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1

Eight Minute Dating
Hard Rock Café, 131 Clarendon St., Boston (617-424-7625). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 28-38.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6

Eight Minute Dating
Clarke's at Faneuil Hall, 121 Merchants Row, Boston (617-227-7800). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 25-35.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8

Hurry Date
The Harp, 85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Orange Line to North Station. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $35 for nonmembers. Embark on 20 five-minute dates and enjoy drink specials from the Harp. For ages 30-45.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11

Single Professionals for the Arts Tour
Starbucks, 443 Boylston St., Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 4-6:30 pm. $40. Tour Boston-area galleries with other singles and mingle over post-tour cocktails at Aquitaine. Reservations required.

Single Twentysomethings for the Arts Tour
Starbucks, 443 Boylston St., Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12-2:30 pm. $40 ($20 with student I.D.). Tour Boston-area galleries with other singles and mingle over post-tour coffee at the Garden of Eden. Reservations required.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

Single Jewish Professionals for the Arts Tour
Fogg Museum, Harvard University, 32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 12-2:30 pm. $40. Tour Harvard's Fogg Museum with other Jewish singles and mingle over post-tour cocktails at Aquitaine. Reservations required.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13

Eight Minute Dating
Chart House, 60 Long Wharf, Boston (617-227-1576). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 30-40.

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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater

JUST OPENED

Babes in Toyland
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4433). www.gloucesterstage.com. Dec. 1-23. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5 pm. $15. Gloucester Stage's production of Glen MacDonough and Victor Herbert's classic holiday musical features a cast of local children and professionals.

Barrage: Vagabond Tales
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-) www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Dec. 14-19. Tue.-Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $25.50-$57.50. The instrumental group Barrage presents its newest production, which tells a story about a traveler and a troupe of minstrels.

A Christmas Carol
Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). www.stonehamtheatre.org. Dec. 2-23. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm. Sat., 4 and 8 pm. Sun., 1 and 5 pm. $32, $27 seniors, $16 students. Stoneham Theatre premieres its musical adaptation of Charles Dickens' classic.

A Christmas Carol
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Durham Road, Beverly (978-232-7200). www.nsmt.org. Dec. 3-21. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm (except Dec. 24); Sun., 1 pm; Dec. 12 and 19, 6 pm; Dec. 16, 7 pm; Dec. 21-23, 7 pm; Dec. 23-24, 2 pm. $30-$63. Greg Ganakas directs North Shore Music Theatre's musical, based on Charles Dickens' classic holiday story.

Death by Chocolate
Arlington Friends of the Drama, 22 Academy St., Arlington (781-646-5922). www.afdtheatre.org. Dec. 3-12. Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 4 pm. $15. When the members of a health resort start turning up dead, the manager tries to find the cause. All signs point to a mysterious box of chocolates.

Encore!!
John Hancock Hall, 180 Berkeley St., Boston (617-542-9155). www.chambertheatre.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Dec. 6 and Dec. 14, 10:30 am. $13.95. Chamber Repertory Theatre presents staged productions of Edgar Allan Poe's "The Tell Tale Heart," Washington Irving's "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," W.W. Jacobs' "The Monkey's Paw," Guy de Maupassant's "The Necklace," and Mark Twain's "The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County."

The Good Woman of Setzuan
Boston Conservatory Theater, 31 Hemenway St., Boston (617-338-9966). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Dec. 2-5. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $5-$12. Jason Slavick directs Bertolt Brecht's musical about a young Chinese woman torn between following her dreams and obeying cultural norms.

Jesus Christ Terrorist
Zeitgeist Gallery, 1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-338-9966). www.massglobalaction.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Dec. 2, 7:30 pm. $20. Massachusetts Global Action's production ponders what would happen if Jesus returned during the current "war on terror" and features music by local band the Reagan Babies.

Matter Familias
Boston Playwright's Theater, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-358-7529). www.bu.edu/bpt. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.. Dec. 2-19. Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $12-$20. Wesley Savick directs Ginger Lazarus' comedy about a woman who adopts a son who is older than she is.

Ovation!
John Hancock Hall, 180 Berkeley St., Boston (617-542-9155). www.chambertheatre.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Dec. 10, 10:30 am. $13.95. The Chamber Repertory Theatre brings four stories to the stage: Edgar Allan Poe's "The Cask of Amontillado" and "The Black Cat"; Saki's "The Open Window"; Roald Dahl's "Lamb to the Slaughter"; and O. Henry's "A Retrieved Reformation."

Pygmalion
Cambridge Family YMCA Theatre, 820 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (866-811-4111). www.longwoodplayers.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Dec. 3-Dec. 11. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sat., Dec 11, 2 pm. $16. The Longwood Players present George Bernard Shaw's classic play about a phonetics professor who molds a young cockney woman into a refined aristocrat.

The Radio City Christmas Spectacular
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-816). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Dec. 2-28. $18.50-$74.50. The famous Christmas extravaganza starring the Radio City Rockettes comes to Boston for the first time.

Santaland Diaries
Chelsea Theatre Works, 189 Winnisimmet St., Chelsea (617-887-2336). www.theatrezone.org. MBTA: Dec. 3-26. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm (except Dec. 24); Dec. 19 and 26, 7 pm; Dec. 25, 7 pm. $18, $15 in advance. Chelsea Theatre Works presents David Sedaris' play based on his experience working as an elf at Macy's in Manhattan.

Tea at Five
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Dec. 7-19. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 an d8 pm; Sun., 1 and 7 pm. Kate Mulgrew stars as Katharine Hepburn in Matthew Lombardo's play about the actress' life in Old Saybrook, Conn.

Turn of the Screw
Cutler Majestic Theater, 219 Tremont St., Boston (617-824-8000) www.maj.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Dec. 10-12. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $15. John Greer conducts Benjamin Britten's opera based on Henry James' novella about a group of people trading ghost stories on Christmas Eve.

Two Plays by Israel Horovitz
Boston Center for the Arts, BCA Plaza Black Box, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.alarmclocktheatre.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Dec. 3-19. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Dec. 12 and 19, 2 pm. Alarm Clock Theatre presents two one-act plays by the Gloucester playwright. *It's Called the Sugar Plum* is the story of two friends who cope with a death by bickering over who was more affected by the tragedy. *The Indian Wants the Bronx* is the story of two young men who abuse a foreigner in their neighborhood.

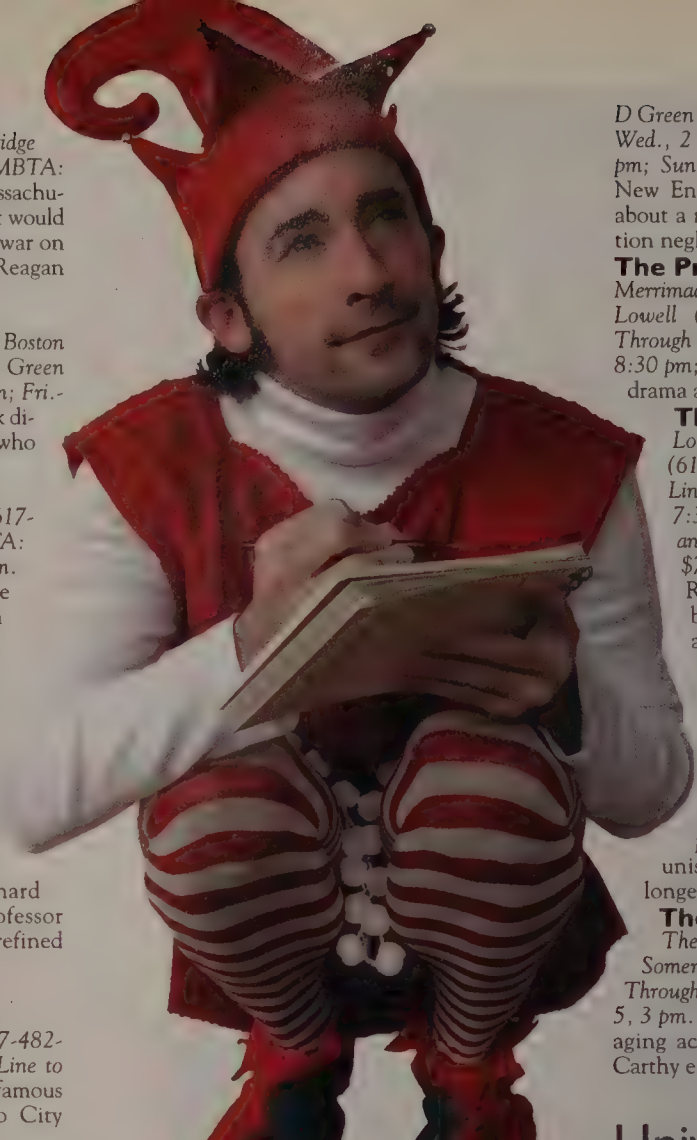
NOW RUNNING

Annie Get Your Gun
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). www.turtle-lane.com. Through Dec.30. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm; Nov. 27, 2 pm and 8 pm. $24. The Turtle Lane players present Irving Berlin's classic Wild West musical.

Beauty and the Beast
Norwood Theater, 109 Central St., Norwood (781-762-4069). www.fiddleheadtheatre.com. Through Dec. 12. Sat., 2 pm and 7 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $30. Michael Hammond directs this classic Disney musical.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. Ongoing. $46-$56. This dialogue-free production features tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Burn This
Boston University Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org.



Rodney Rafferty stars in *Santaland Diaries* at Chelsea Theatre Works through Dec. 26.

MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Through Dec. 12. Fri. and Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm; Tue. and Thu., 7:30 pm. $30-$55. Susan Fenichell directs Lanford Wilson's contemporary romantic drama about four people in a state of personal chaos after the death of a friend.

Fully Committed
Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through Dec. 23. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm.; Dec. 1 and Dec. 22, 2pm. $21-$45. John Kuntz stars in Becky Mode's comedy about an out-of-work actor working the reservation line at a hot Manhattan restaurant. Spiro Veloudos directs.

Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding
Matrix Nightclub, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123). www.comedywedding.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. 18. Sat. and Sun., 7:30 pm. $49. Tickets include dinner, show and entry to Matrix. The nation's longest-running comedy/dinner-theater show spoofs a traditional Italian wedding with audience participation and dinner.

Johnny Guitar: The Musical
Calderwood Pavilion, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.speakeasystage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. 18., Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat. 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $30-$40. A saloon owner and a business tycoon get caught in a power struggle in a small western town. Martin Silvestri and Joel Higgins music and lyrics combine the sounds of 1950s country, lounge and rock music.

The Lion King
Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (800-347-0808). www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Feb. 20. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 1 pm and 6:30 pm. $22-$132. Julie Taymor directs this stage adaptation of the popular Disney film about a young lion cub's struggle to become king.

Menopause: The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617-426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 pm and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $42.50. A quartet of aging baby boomers meet at a lingerie sale, and singing and dancing ensues.

Permanent Collection
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands (617-332-1646). www.newrep.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. Through Dec. 1. Wed., 2 and 7pm; Thu., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:3 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $28-$48. New Rep presents th New England premiere of Thomas Gibbons' pla about a museum director who feels that his institu tion neglects black artists.

The Price
Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 East Merrimack St Lowell (978-454-3926). www.merrimackrep.or Through Dec. 12. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat, 4:30 pm ar 8:30 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:00 pm. $42. Arthur Mille drama about sibling rivalry is performed.

The Provok'd Wife
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambrid (617-4547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: R Line to Harvard. Through Dec. 26. Tue.-Thu 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., and 7:30 pm. No performances Dec. 24-25. $3 $72. Mark Wong-Davey directs the America Repertory Theatre's production of John Va brugh's 17th-century social commentary abo an English couple who married for the wro reasons.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St Boston (617-426-5225). www.she madness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Li to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:3 pm. $34. This comedic whodunit set in unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston longest-running play.

The Value of Names
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadwa Somerville (617-625-1300). www.theatrecoop.or Through Dec. 11. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm. Nov. 21 and De 5, 3 pm. $15-$20. In this play by Jeffrey Sweet, a aging actor who was blacklisted during the Mc Carthy era learns who put his name on the list.

University Theater

How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying
MIT, Stratton Student Center 84 Mass. Ave., Cam bridge (617-235-6294). http://web.mit.edu/mtg/www MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Dec. 3-11. Thu.-Sat., pm; Sun., 2 pm. $6-$10. MIT's Musical Theatr Guild presents this classic 1960s musical based o Abe Burrows' book about an ambitious windo washer in New York City.

Picnic
The Semel Theatre, Tufte Performance & Productio Center, 10 Boylston Place, Boston (617-824-8369 www.emerson.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Boylsto Dec. 9-11. Thu.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm. $8 $14. Courtney O'Connor directs William Inge's pla about a small town changed by the presence of a nev comer at the town picnic.

The Who's Tommy
Brandeis University, Spingold Theater Center, 415 Sou St., Waltham (781-736-3400). www.brandeis.edu/th ater. Dec. 2-12. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Dec. 11-12, 2 pm $16-$20. Brandeis presents a production of the Who rock and roll musical about a catotonic boy who b comes an international superstar.

Dance

Caitlin Corbett Retrospective
Massachusetts College of Art, 621 Huntington Ave Boston (617-864-3191). MBTA: E Green Line Longwood. Dec 3-4. 8 pm. $12-$15. The Caitlin Co bett Dance Company presents its 20th-anniversa concert, featuring works from Corbett's repertoire.

A Dancer's Christmas
Robsham Theater Arts Center, Boston College, Ches nut Hill (617-552-4002). MBTA: B Green Line Boston College. Dec. 10-19. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., pm; Dec. 18, 2 pm. $15-$25. The Boston Liturgic Dance Ensemble performs its interpretation of th Christmas story.

Ensemble Winter Concert
Kresge Little Theater, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambrid (617-25-4720). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. De 2-4. 8 pm. $4-$6. MIT's Dance Theater Ensemb performs a winter concert.

An Evening of Dances
Green Street Studios, 185 Green St., Cambridge (6 864-3191). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Dec. and 11, 8 pm. $25. Choreographer Marc Schulkind presents a concert of dances by Dav Dorfman, Elliot Feld and performers from Fran furt/the Forsythe Company, the Bill T. Jones/Arn Zane Dance Company, the Contemporary Dan Company of Cuba and Boston Ballet, as well works by Jeanine Durning.

The Nutcracker
Colonial Theater, 106 Boylston St., (617-695-6955). www.bostonballet.com MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. 30. $25-$100. Boston Ballet performs Tchaikovsky's classic holiday ballet.

The Nutcracker
Sanctuary Theatre, 400 Harvard St., Cambridge (617-354-7467). www.ballettheatre.org MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Dec. 19. $15-$35. Jose Mateo's Ballet Theatre presents the company's 17th annual production of the classic holiday ballet.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
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STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café
All Asia Café, 334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). www.stashcomedyjam.com MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue. 7-10 pm. $5. The café hosts local comedy shows on Tuesday nights.

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Beantown Comedy Vault features local stand-up comedians. •Thu.: Greg Howell and friends •Fri. and Sat.: Boston's Best Standup •Sun.: Open Mike Night.

Cantab Lounge
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.cantablounge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Thursdays, 8 pm: Chris Waller performs improv downstairs, no cover, 21+.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Dec. 1, 8 pm: Harrison Stebbins, $12. •Dec. 2, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •Dec. 3, 8 and 10:15 pm: Robert Schimmel, $22.50. •Dec. 4, 5 pm: General Hospital's Tyler Christopher and Greg Vaughan, $35. •Dec. 4, 7 and 9:15 pm: Robert Schimmel, $27.50.; •Dec. 5, 7 pm: Dave Greenberg, $12. •Dec. 6, 8 pm: Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy" hosts the Amateur Showcase, $12. •Dec. 7, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi & Robbie Printz, $12. •Dec. 8, 8 pm: Harrison Stebbins, $12. •Dec. 10, 8 and 10:15 pm: Sinbad, $39. •Dec. 11, 7:30 pm: Sinbad, $39. •Dec. 12, 7 and 9:15 pm: Sinbad, $39. •Dec. 13, 8 pm: Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy" hosts the Amateur Showcase, $12. •Dec. 14, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi & Robbie Printz, $12.

Comedy Studio
Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Dec. 1: Tony V Experiment with Robby Roadsteamer, rebecca Anderson, Erin Judge and others. •Dec. 2: Marc Basch, Morgan Gold, B. Nason and others. •Dec. 3: David Powel, Eric Riley Moore, Korte Yeo and others. •Dec. 4: Andy Turco, Paul Day, MB Cowan and others. •Dec. 5: Boston comics showcase for the Montreal International Comedy Festival. •Dec. 7: Magic Lounge: mind reading, card manipulation and disappearing doves. •Dec. 8: Tony V Experiment with Mandy Donovan, MB Cowan, Chris Torres, Timmy Two-Tone and others. •Dec. 9: John Lincoln, Rob O'Reilly, Shane Mauss, Christian Lynch and others. •Dec. 10: Brian Kiley, John Curtin, Thomas Mitchell and others. •Dec. 11: Brian Kiley, John Curtin, MB Cowan and others. •Dec. 12: Patrick Bulger, Andrea Henry, Dan Sally and others. •Dec. 14: Magic Lounge: Five professional magicians.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. $10-$22. •Dec. 2, 8:30 pm: Frank Del Pizzo, Al Klemick. •Dec. 3, 8:45 pm: Frank Del Pizzo, Al Klemick and Marc Scalia. •Dec. 4, 8:45 pm: Frank Del Pizzo, Al Klemick and Marc Scalia. •Dec. 8, 8:45 pm: Jim Coliton, Jack Lynch. •Dec. 9, 8:45 pm: Jim Coliton, Jack Lynch and Mike Kaplan. •Dec. 10, 8:45 pm: Jim Coliton, Jack Lynch and Mike Kaplan.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. •Ongoing: The Midnight Show, Saturdays at midnight, $10; Lies, Half Truths and the American Way, Wed., and Thu., 8 pm; Sat., and Sun., 8 and 10 pm, $15.

ImprovBoston
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: the characters, the stories, the settings—even the songs and dances. •Thursdays, 8 pm, $10-12: Unnatural Selection. A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one is left. 10 pm, $5: The Great and Secret Comedy Show. Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and character sketches and play music and short films in a display of sibling rivalry. •Fridays, 8 pm, $10-12: "Carole Lombard Live!," a reverently irreverent, one-woman show performed by Melinda Coneys. •Saturdays, 6 pm, $10-12 (children 11 and under accompanied by an adult admitted free): Improv Boston Family Show. A short-form improvisational show appropriate for all ages. 8 and 10 pm, $10-12: ImprovBoston Mainstage. Blending storytelling, music and audience participation, a cast of improvisers creates a show that changes with every performance. •Sundays, 7 pm, $5: Sgt. Culpepper/Open Jam. This evening combines three shows into one. Watch performances by visiting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry
327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-308-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Saturdays, 6 pm. $12. Boston's newest short-form improv group performs skits that involve audience participation.

The Tribe
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA. Red Line to Central. Every Thursday, 8 pm. $5 before 8 pm, $10 after. 21+. Improv comedians poke fun at everything, including themselves.

COMEDY SHOWS

The Ding Ho Reunion
Jimmy Tingle's Off-Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square. Through Dec. 19. 7:30 pm. $25. Jimmy Tingle hosts this four-week celebration featuring notable comics who got their starts at Boston's Ding Ho Restaurant. • Dec. 2: DJ Hazard, Kevin Meaney, Kenny Rogerson, Tony V. •Dec. 3: Teddy Bergeron, Mike Donovan, DJ Hazard, Kevin Meaney. •Dec. 4: Mike Donovan, DJ Hazard, Kevin Meaney. •Dec. 5: DJ Hazard, Kevin Meaney, Bob Siebel. •Dec. 9: Barry Crimmins, Jack Gallagher, Don Gavin, Kenny Rogerson. •Dec. 10: Barry Crimmins, Jack Gallagher, Brian Kiley, Tony V. •Dec. 11: Barry Crimmins, Jack Gallagher, Brian Kiley. •Dec. 12: Barry Crimmins, Jack Gallagher.

Larry Lee Lewis Blues Jam
Charles Playhouse Lounge, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-6912). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Dec. 1. 10 pm. $3. Comedian Lewis hosts a Blues Jam at the Charles Playhouse Lounge.

Bill Maher
Orpheum Theatre, 1 Hamilton Place, Boston (617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com. MBTA: Red or Green or Red Line to Park Street. Dec. 4. 7:30 pm. $29.50- $38.50. The comedian performs his latest one-man show.

Mingle All the Way Christmas Comedy Show
Kennedy's Midtown, 42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). Dec. 6. 8 pm. Free. This comedy show, hosted by Boston Comedy Festival semifinalist Jessica Casciano, features DJ Hazard, Mandy Donovan, Joe List, Mike Whitman, Owen Bowness and others.



Bruckheimer Lite

National Treasure offers no rewards.

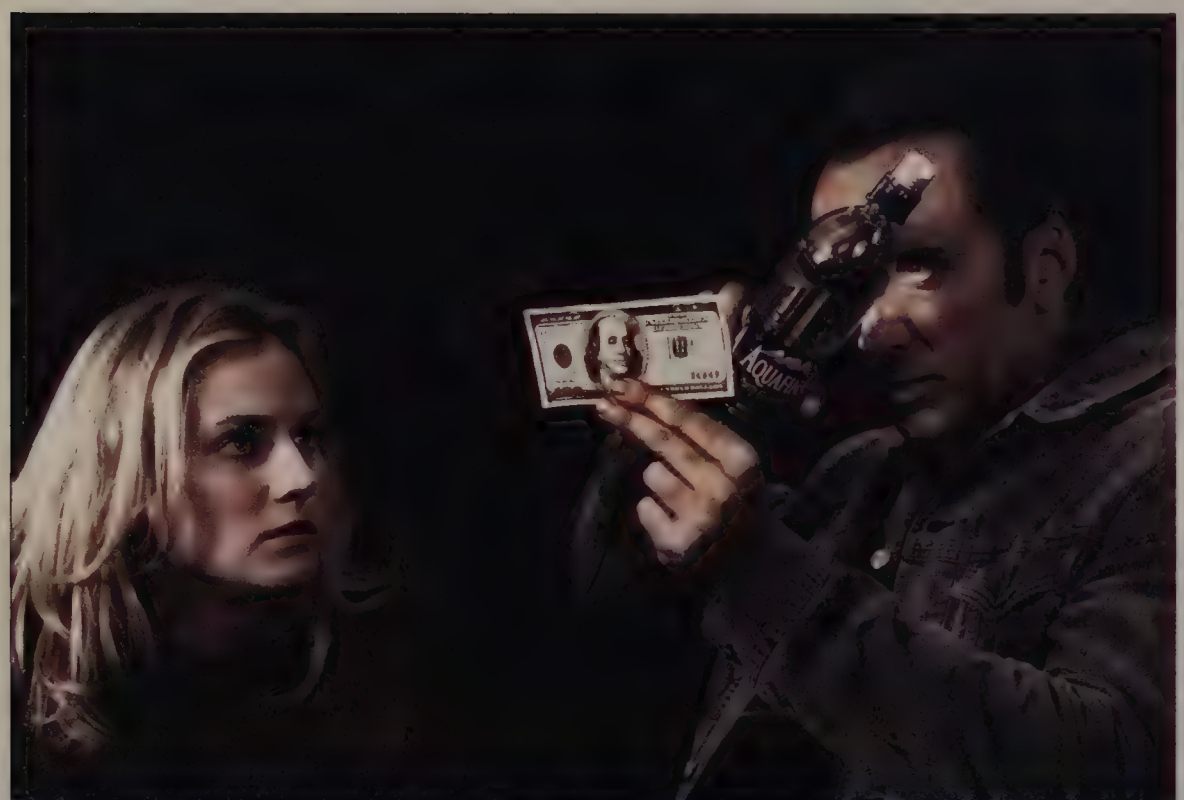
BY PAUL SHERMAN

Dang. After Trey Parker and Matt Stone's dead-on parody of Jerry Bruckheimer's action monstrosities in *Team America*, I was ready to laugh my ass off at Bruckheimer's new *National Treasure*. But what a drag. The gimmicky founding-fathers-hid-a-treasure-and-Nicolas-Cage-is-gonna-find-it action-thriller from the producer of such obnoxious ordeals as *Armageddon*, *Bad Boys* and *Pearl Harbor* isn't even bad enough to be good. It's just mediocre and forgettable.

I guess the tip-off should have been that Walt Disney Pictures, not the studio's more adult Touchstone division, is releasing *National Treasure*. Plus, it's rated PG. Let's face it, there are only so many buildings and people you can blow up with no regard for human life in a Disney PG movie. There are plenty more tips that this movie might be a trip to Dullsville. Just look at the writers: Jim Kouf, whose past films include *Taxi*, *Snow Dogs* and *Operation Dumbo Drop*; and the team of Cormac and Marianne Wibberley, who were responsible for *I Spy* and *Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle* (no more TV privileges for you two). All those movies have scripts that not only shouldn't have been filmed, they should have been buried, preferably in kitty litter.

If the signs for a mundane multiplex movie were there, why couldn't Nicolas Cage see them? Cage had success with Bruckheimer in the one-two punch of *Con Air* and *The Rock*, but it was big, dull movies like Bruckheimer's later *Gone in 60 Seconds* and John Woo's *Windtalkers* that sent Cage's career into a tailspin before it righted with the more idiosyncratic *Adaptation* and *Matchstick Men*. A Nicolas Cage character without neuroses is like a baseball player without a bat. He's got nothing to work with. Compared to something like *Adaptation*, in which Cage immersed himself in a double role, his performance here feels half-hearted, and who can blame him? We simply don't need Nicolas Cage playing heroes like Benjamin Franklin Gates, the National Treasure protagonist who comes from a long line of men who've traced the trail of the reputed treasure that was safeguarded by Freemasons through the centuries and safely socked away by those Masons who signed the Declaration of Independence.

In National Treasure, Cage's Ben and all of the characters take a backseat to their gadgets. Laptops, fiber optic cameras, fingerprint lifters, laser pointers that can heat whatever they're aimed at and the like dominate the action much more than the stick-figure humans who follow the clues from the Arctic Circle to Washington, D.C., Philadelphia and New York City. One character who's given up on believing that there's a treasure keeps complaining that the hunt is an endless pursuit of one clue after another, and he's right. From a sunken British ship lodged in the Arctic ice to the Declaration of Independence to the Franklin Institute to Independence Hall to Wall Street, this is a tedious jigsaw puzzle that's easy to stop caring about.



Diane Kruger and Nicolas Cage try to learn all about the Benjamins in *National Treasure*.

More to the point, it's hard to *start* caring about it. With Cage strait-jacketed by a dull role, uncharismatic Diane Kruger (*Troy*) as the archivist who's his arm candy, all those gadgets and the rushed shifts of locale, *National Treasure* is much more mechanical than fun. Then again, director Jon Turtletaub's idea of action and comedy is just caricature—he's the guy who gave us *3 Ninjas* and *Cool Runnings*—and the romantic sparks here between Cage and Kruger make the Ben Affleck–Liv Tyler romance in *Armageddon* seem deep.

National Treasure is not without a few unintentionally silly moments, like when Ben deciphers a cryptic riddle with absolutely none of the panache with which Adam West did the same sort of decoding on *Batman*, or when the obligatory foreign bad guy (Sean Bean) instructs Ben to "meet me on the flight deck of the USS Intrepid." They're in Philly at the time, so there's no logical reason for them to go to New York to palaver. Yet the thick plot needs to get them there. But such little gaffes do not add up to much entertainment. If you want to see how enjoyable a movie like this could be, find a DVD of Jackie Chan's more imaginative and stylish *Armour of God II: Operation Condor*. IB

National Treasure ★½

Directed by Jon Turtletaub. Written by Jim Kouf, Marianne Wibberley and Cormac Wibberley. With Nicolas Cage, Diane Kruger, Sean Bean, Justin Bartha, Jon Voight, Harvey Keitel and Christopher Plummer. Rated PG. At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Bright Leaves ★★½
Locally based documentary director Ross (*Sher*
man's March) McElwee returns to North Carolin
to examine his family's and his home state's am
bivalent relationship with tobacco. It all start
when a movie-buff cousin shows him *Bright Leaf*,
1950 Hollywood melodrama in which Gar
Cooper plays a fictionalized version of McElwee
great-grandfather, a tobacco-industry pionee
eventually run out of business by competitor Buc
Duke. That sets McElwee off to visit othe
Tarheels, since, in his words, "So many peopl
down here have their own complicated relation
ship with tobacco." We get a couple that keep
promising to quit smoking, yet never does;
woman who remains in tobacco farming, eve
though smoking killed her mother; and even Patri
cia Neal, Cooper's co-star. The movie ultimatel
muses on the relationship between film and reality
a perennial McElwee preoccupation. This time, h
wonders why he's been compelled to film his son
life so much, but the cut-ins of such footage feel la
bored, and the narration-heavy movie sometime
merely slogs along. (At Coolidge Corner.)

Finding Neverland ★★
As *Peter Pan* playwright J.M. Barrie, Johnny Dep
nails a Scottish accent and gives his character
pent-up imagination that bursts loose when h
meets a quartet of boys grieving for their late fathe
It's hard to imagine anyone else giving as rousing
performance as Depp does. Still, his movie neve
made me want to clap my hands in approving belie
This Edwardian fluff means to be a celebration o
Barrie's tale of retaining your inner child, but whe
half of pop culture tells us that these days, is it reall
very special? Meanwhile, the film could have easil
been called *The Attack of the Art Department*, an
that's a big surprise from director Marc Forste
whose previous movies were the much rawer *Every*
thing Put Together and *Monster's Ball*. There's also
soap opera surrounding the boys' sickly mom (Kat
Winslet), and the entire mix is rather cheesy an
creepy. (At Boston Common.)

I [heart] Huckabees ★★★
Writer-director David O. Russell's world is
chaotic one in which he amusingly forces charac
ters to face up to their place in it, sometimes wil
ingly, sometimes not. In Russell's latest film, trou
bled activist Albert (Jason Schwartzman)
somewhat willing, but he's not prepared to b
pulled into the rabbit hole by the existential dete
tives (Lily Tomlin, Dustin Hoffman) he hires t
find meaning in his life. The duo drags Albert int
the lives of his nemesis (Jude Law)—a junior execu
tive trying to turn Albert's environmental grou
into a PR-friendly front for his chainstore—and
fellow client (Mark Wahlberg) obsessed with petro
leum consumption. The movie ricochets aroun
like a pinball, sometimes distractingly so, but ju
about every direction it heads in is hilarious. (A
Boston Common, Coolidge Corner, Harvar
Square and suburbs.)

The Incredibles ★★★
The animation in Pixar's computer-generated movi
keeps improving, and this is the first one that's ha
the nerve to put humans—albeit semi-abstract on
—in the foreground. That's not a problem at all,
the animation's ability to portray facial expressions
so much better than it was for past Pixar movies
which human action was kept to a minimum (like th
Toy Story series). Still, this is the first Pixar mov
that's merely good, not great. Once again, there's a
amazing mesh of voice actors and characters, wit
Craig T. Nelson and Holly Hunter playing retire
husband-and-wife superheroes forced back into a
tion along with their supergifted kids (Sarah Vowe
and Spencer Fox). But the story is an awful lot lik
Spy Kids, with more emphasis put on the parents, ar
for much of the middle section, this is merely a dece
animated "big" action movie, with less of a satir
twist than *Team America*. Pixar has raised the bar
high that, when taken against other animat
movies, *The Incredibles* is still very creative. But i
also disappointing at times and overstretched. (A
Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Kinsey ★★★
Scientist Alfred Kinsey became obsessed with r
searching the sexual habits of Americans and ha
ing his scientific findings replace myth and trad
tional morality in shaping people's view
"average" sexual behavior. Bill (*Gods a*
Monsters) Condon's period piece does a fascina
ing job of capturing the fervent work of Kins
(Liam Neeson) and showing how his findings
the 1940s and 1950s shook up the public and p

the powers-that-be on high alert. Neeson's performance recalls the fixation of his Oskar Schindler, with getting as many people's sex history on paper the goal this time, while Laura Linney, Peter Sarsgaard, John Lithgow and Oliver Platt fill out the deep cast. The intensity of this rise-and-fall story starts to peter out, though, when it gets to the third act, thanks to vagueness in chronology and the sense that many events are being rushed through and oversimplified, right down to the rather mystifyingly upbeat ending. (At Copley, Kendall Square and West Newton.)

Overnight ★★★
Is this the greatest Hollywood cautionary tale of all-time or hogwash with a hidden agenda? Probably a little of both, but it's enough of the former to make your jaw drop. You might remember Troy Duffy, the New Hampshire native who seemed to have struck it big in 1997 when Miramax snapped up his first screenplay, signed him to direct it, signed his band to do the soundtrack and even agreed to buy the West Hollywood bar where he tended bar for him. Ultimately, Miramax decided not to make the movie or buy the bar, and the band's record contract fell through. When Duffy finally did make *Boondock Saints*, it played in a grand total of five theaters, and when the band finally released an album, it was even more of a flop. This documentary shows that a lot of the reason people didn't want to work with Duffy, when all was said and done, was Duffy himself, who generally acted as if he could do everyone's job better than they could, and let them know it. Two of the people he let know were Tony Montana and Mark Brian Smith, who were co-managing the band as well as making a documentary about Duffy's sudden success. They stopped managing the band but kept making the documentary, and they certainly have reason to make Duffy look bad. But Duffy does plenty of that himself, to the point that his brother, also in the band, splits with him. It's a chilling tale of hubris run amok, yet the ending might not be as dismal as that suggests. The Internet Movie Database shows that a sequel to the Tarantino-esque *Boondock Saints*, which did well on video, is in production, with the estranged brother listed as Duffy's co-writer. So this story isn't over. (At Kendall Square.)

Ray ★★★
Jamie Foxx's monumental performance dominates this fairly conventional biopic in which a talented hero (R&B/pop pioneer Ray Charles) overcomes adverse circumstances (witnessing his brother's drowning, going blind at age 7) and inner demons (a heroin habit, infidelity) to become a beloved American institution. Sometimes director Taylor Hackford's Hollywood treatment stretches credibility, particularly when the movie contrives to have Charles concoct the classic "What'd I Say?" as an impromptu time filler onstage one night. And the movie might be too forgiving of the pain Charles caused his wife. But Foxx is so immersed in the role, giving Charles a sly charisma, and the musical moments (with Foxx lip-synching to Charles' recordings) are so good that the movie's life-affirming intentions win out. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Reconstruction ★★★
This stylish Danish romantic drama takes place at least partially within the head of one of its characters. Is it the photographer (Nikolaj Lie Kaas) who's unsure of his love for his girlfriend (Maria Bonnevie)? The neglected married woman he meets (Bonnevie, as well) and starts a fling with? Or the woman's novelist husband (Krister Kenriksson)? The story certainly gets balled up in such questions by the time it's over, but its adulterous centrel relationship also gives off such a palpable charge of physical attraction, and it's such an intriguing experience that it never becomes as pretentious as it might have. (At the Brattle, December 10-16.)

Seed of Chucky ★
Six years after the surprisingly amusing *Bride of Chucky* comes this plot-heavy fifth movie in the *Child's Play* series. The plot is too dense for the movie to actually be fun, and writer-director Don Mancini indulges in the sort of self-referential tale that usually spells the desperate end of a horror franchise. In this case, much of the action involves the "real" events of *Bride* being made into a Hollywood movie, with a game Jennifer Tilly playing both a self-effacing version of herself and voicing killer-doll Chucky's equally homicidal wife. There are plenty of B-movie in-jokes, with John Waters playing a tabloid photographer and much reference made to Ed Wood's gender-bending, grade-Z *Glen or Glenda*. But the thick plot and unimaginative horror suffocate the comedy. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)



Jason Flemyng stars with Chucky and Tiffany in Don Mancini's *Seed of Chucky*.

Sideways ★★★
Alexander Payne's *Sideways* does for the approach of middle age what his *About Schmidt* did for the onset of old age: uses it as a springboard for bittersweet comedy and a road trip. At first, this makes the latest from the director of *Citizen Ruth* and *Election* a letdown. But Payne and writing partner Jim Taylor's riffs on male bonding make this story of two 40-ish buddies' trip to California wine country painfully funny. It's hard to say where the characters leave off and the actors begin in the hilarious little moments in which the pair goes to wineries to sample the latest vintages. Paul Giamatti (*American Splendor*), who could be amusing reading a shopping list, gives a colorful tilt to wine connoisseur Miles' picky assessments of his tastings; in Giamatti's hands, sometimes Miles is being intentionally funny, sometimes not. Meanwhile, Thomas Haden Church's Jack has an endearing dumb-jock quality, and his response to Miles' "knowledgeable" wine talk is usually "tastes pretty good to me." Each man's approach to wine mirrors his approach to life and to the women they meet, of course, with Jack blindly leaping in and Miles analyzing and analyzing. (At Boston Common and Kendall Square.)

Repertories and Revivals

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BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
Color of Film Collaborative Series
•Dec. 14, 6:30 pm. **A Stranger in the Kingdom** *1998*. Set in Vermont in the 1950s and inspired by real events, Jay Craven's film follows a black minister falsely accused of murder in a racist town.

Werner Herzog Film Series
•Dec. 6, 6 pm. **Invincible** *2001*. Based on a true story, Herzog's film follows a Polish Jew who performs as a strongman in Berlin during Hitler's reign. As anti-Semitic sentiments grow stronger, he believes he's been chosen by God to warn the Jewish people of impending danger.
•Dec. 13, 6 pm. **Aguirre, der Zorn Gottes** *(The Wrath of God) 1972*. After the destruction of the Incan empire, a Spanish expedition headed by a ruthless leader goes in search of gold in the Peruvian mountains.

BRATTLE THEATRE
Being Peter Sellers
•Dec. 1, 4:30, 7 and 9:30 pm. **Being There** *1979*. A Washington, D.C., gardener is mistaken for a political pundit when he becomes houseguest to an influential couple. Hal Ashby directs.
•Dec. 2, 7 pm. **The Life and Death of Peter Sellers** *2004*. Geoffrey Rush stars as Peter Sellers in Stephen Hopkins' film biopic on the British actor's life and career. •Also showing, 4:45 and 9:30 pm. **After the Fox** *1966*. Sellers stars as a criminal mastermind who escapes from prison to rescue his sister from prostitution only to find she's actually playing a prostitute in a film. Vittorio De Sica directs.

Midnights
•Dec. 3 and 4, 12 am. **Napoleon Dynamite** *2004*. An oddball teen in a bizarro midwestern town tries to help his equally odd friend become class president. Jared Hess directs.

Weekends and Special Engagements
•Dec. 3-9, 4:30 and 8 pm; Sat., 1 pm. Dec. 6, 4:30 pm only. **The Big Red One** *1980*. Samuel Fuller's film follows an infantry captain and his platoon from North Africa to D-Day to an extermination camp in Czechoslovakia.
•Dec. 5, 2 pm; Dec. 6, 8 pm. **Autism Is a World** *2004*. Gerardine Wurzburg's documentary chronicles the life an autistic girl who was originally diagnosed and treated as mentally retarded but is now a junior in college.
•Dec. 10-16, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm. **Reconstruction** *2003*. After having an affair with a stranger, a man returns to his life to find his apartment doesn't exist and his girlfriend doesn't recognize him. Christoffer Boe directs.
•Dec. 10, 12 am; Dec. 11, 1 pm, 3:15 pm and 12 am; Dec. 12, 1 and 3:15 pm. **Mothra** *1961*. When an entertainment booker kidnaps a pair of foot-high singers to perform in Tokyo, they call on their gigantic moth goddess for help.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE
Box Office Babies
•Dec. 12, 1 pm. The Coolidge's biweekly series provides an infant-friendly setting for viewing recent international, independent and documentary films. Titles are announced the week before the screening at www.coolidge.org.

Coolidge Selects
•Opens Dec. 3. **Bright Leaves** *2004*. See New Releases for a description.
•Now playing. **Sideways** *2004*. See New Releases for a description.
•Now playing. **Kinsey** *2004*. See New Releases for a description.
•Now playing. **Huutajat** *(Screaming Men) 2004*. Mika Ronkainen's documentary follows the Finnish Screaming Male Choir, which tours the world performing shouted renditions of songs and anthems.

Midnight Movies
•Dec. 3 and 4, 12 am. **Ghost World** *2000*. Thora Birch and Scarlett Johansson star as cynical, hipster high school grads who play an ongoing prank on a middle-aged record store geek.
•Dec. 10 and 11, 12 am. **Bad Santa** *2003*. Billy Bob Thornton stars as a foul-mouthed, drunken, sex-crazed department store Santa in Terry Zwigoff's holiday comedy.

Special Events
•Dec. 1, 7:30 pm. **Brother Outsider: The Life of Bayard Rustin** *2003*. Nancy D. Kates and Bennett Singer's documentary chronicles the life and work of civil rights advocate Rustin, who organized the 1963 march on Washington but was publicly shunned because of his homosexuality.
•Dec. 6, 7:30 pm. **Adventures in Illegal Art**. Mark Hosler of the anti-corporate experimental performance group Negativland appears in person for the screening of his film, which combines found sounds and media imagery.
•Dec. 14. **Con Man** *2003*. Jesse Moss' documentary explores the life of James Arthur Hogue, a con man who successfully created a number of identities for himself, one of which got him enrolled in Princeton. Judy Yanof of the Boston Psychoanalytical Society and Institute leads a post-screening discussion.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE
Contemporary French Cinema
•Dec. 6, 9:15 pm. **A Vendre** *(For Sale) 1998*. A man hires a private detective to trail the woman who left him at the alter. Laetitia Masson directs.
•Dec. 13, 9:15 pm. **Love Me** *2000*. A French woman finds herself stranded in an American airport and has no idea how she got there. Laetitia Masson directs.

Contemporary Hollywood Cinema
•Dec. 6, 6:30 pm. **Gladiator** *2000*. Russell Crowe stars as an enslaved gladiator in ancient Rome. Ridley Scott directs.
•Dec. 13, 6:30 pm. **Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl** *2003*. Johnny Depp, Orlando Bloom and Keira Knightley star in Gore Verbinski's pirate thriller.

Film Architectures
•Dec. 7 and 8, 7 pm. **The Belly of an Architect** *1987*. An American's obsession with his stomach



In *The Incredibles*, the latest computer-animated feature from Pixar, Craig T. Nelson and Holly Hunter provide the voices of the superhero parents.

pushes him into a downward spiral while in Rome to mount an exhibtion. Peter Greenaway directs. •Dec. 14, 7 pm. **Der Himmel über Berlin** *(Wings of Desire) 1987*. Wim Wenders' film follows a pair of angels who descend from heaven to observe the residents of preunification Berlin.

Ingmar Bergman: Early Works

•Dec. 3, 7 pm. **Hets** *(Frenzy) 1944*. A high school senior falls in love with a girl who's being harassed by a local Latin teacher. Alf Sjöberg directs. •Also showing, 9 pm. **Kris** *(Crisis) 1946*. Bergman's film follows a young adoptee who leaves for the big city when her birth mother shows up.

•Dec. 4, 7 pm. **Hamnstad** *(Port of Call) 1948*. A manic depressive woman living with her mother meets a potential suitor. Bergman directs. •Also showing, 9 pm. **Törst** *(Thirst) 1949*. Bergman's film follows the stories of a ballet dancer and her husband reminiscing about lost loves on a train ride, and a middle-aged widow in a rocky relationship with her psychiatrist.

•Dec. 5, 7 pm. **Sommarlek** *(Illicit Interlude) 1951*. A ballerina falls in love with a young college student, who dies in a tragic accident. Years later, the ballerina reflects how her life changed after the accident. •Also showing, 9 pm. **Sommaren med Monika** *(Monika) 1953*. A pair of teenage lovers sail to a remote archipelago after a falling out with their disapproving parents.

•Dec. 7, 9:15 pm. **Kvinnors Väntan** *(Secrets of Women) 1952*. Four women married to four brothers exchange stories about their marriages while vacationing.

•Dec. 8, 9:15 pm. **Gycklarnas Afton** *(Sawdust and Tinsel) 1953*. A ringmaster visits his estranged family when the circus arrives in their town.

The Moving Image and Visual Representation

•Dec. 1, 7 pm. **Russkij Kovcheg** *(Russian Ark) 2002*. Alexander Sokurov's film is an continuous 87-minute shot leading the audience through 200 years of Russian history.

Remembering Truffaut

•Dec. 1, 9 pm. **La Sirène du Mississippi** *(Mississippi Mermaid) 1969*. Francois Truffaut's film stars Jean-Paul Belmondo as a plantation owner awaiting the arrival of his mail-order bride (Catherine Deneuve).

Setting the Document: Artists Working in the Ethnographic Mode

•Dec. 10, 11 pm. An Evening with Stephen Prina. Artist and musician Prina hosts a night of film and music. A screening of **Vinyl II**, a music film shot at the J.Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles, precedes a musical perforamnce by Prina.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Art on Film

•Dec. 2, 1 pm. **Antonio Gaudi** *1984*. Hiroshi Teshigahara's ode to the Spanish architect captures his greatest achievements, including the Temple of Sagrada Familia.

Boston Festival of Films from Iran

•Dec. 3, 6 pm; Dec. 11, 11 am. **Alefbay-e Afghan** *(Afghan Alphabet) 2001*. Mohsen Makhmalbaf's documentary looks at the post-9/11 education system in the villages on the Iran/Afghanistan border. •Immediately following, **Return to Kandahar** *2003*. Paul Jay's documentary follows actress Nelofer Pazira as she returns to her native Afghan village for the first time in 13 years. •Also showing, Dec. 3, 8:15 pm. **Asheghe Matarsak** *(In Love with the Scarecrow) 2004*. A farmer's daughter thinks a wounded soldier is her scarecrow come to life in Mahdi Nourbakhsh's parable set in rural Iran.

•Dec. 4, 3:30 pm; Dec. 12, 3:45 pm. **Inja Cheraghi Roshan Ast** *(Here, A Shining Light) 2003*. The caretaker at a moutainside shrine believes he's in contact with a celestial being. Seyyed Reza Mir-Karimi directs.

Cinema Tropical

•Dec. 8, 7:45 pm; Dec. 10, 6 pm; Dec. 11, 3:30 pm; Dec. 12, 1:30 pm. **La Ley de Herodes** *(Herod's Law) 2000*. Luis Estrada's black comedy follows an idealistic junkyard supervisor whose morals quickly fade when he's installed as town mayor.

Israeli Cinema

•Dec. 2, 2:30 pm; Dec. 5, 10:30 am. **Ha'Kohavim Shel Shlomi** *(Bonjour Monsieur Shlomi) 2003*. Sixteen-year-old Shlomi's overlooked intellectual gifts surface despite his chaotic family environment in this coming-of-age story that centers on a multigenerational Israeli clan. Shemi Zarhin directs.

New England Film Artists Present

•Dec. 4, 12 pm. **Inside Out** *2004*. Cindy Kleine's documentary looks at the works of six self-taught, "outsider" American artists. •Also showing, 1:30 pm. **Killing Silence: Taking on the Mafia in Sicily** *2004*. Director and Boston College professor John Michalczyk looks at Palermo citizens working to reclaim their neighborhoods from the Sicilian Mafia.

•Dec. 8, 6 pm. **Ringl and Pit** *1995*. Juan Mandelbaum's documentary follows the lives of Jewish photographers Grete Stern and Ellen Auerbach from their start in Germany to their flight from the Nazis.

•Dec. 12, 11 am. **Anya in and out of Focus** *2004*. Marian Marzynski chronicles his and his wife's relationship with their daughter over the course of 30 years.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater

•Through Feb. 17, 2005. **Extreme.** Audiences experience the most extreme outdoor sports, including skiing and snowboarding on perilous untouched mountain peaks; climbing frozen waterfalls and red-rock spires; surfing some of the largest waves ever surfed and windsurfing El Niño–strength winds.

•Through Feb. 17, 2005. **Roar: Lions of the Kalahari.** Journey into the Kalahari Desert as two Botswana lions battle it out over a water hole.

•Through May 26, 2005. **Forces of Nature.** Experience the power of earthquakes, volcanoes and storms as scientists attempt to forecast and understand these phenomena.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater

•Through Jan. 18. **Galapagos.** Marine biologist Carole Baldwin leads a scientific expedition through the coral reefs of the Galapagos Islands.

•Through Jan. 18. **Ocean Wonderland 3D.** Watch as eagle rays, sharks, dolphins and other creatures create an underwater wonderland.

•Through Jan. 18. **Polar Express 3D.** Tom Hanks and director Robert Zemeckis collaborate for a 3D adventure inspired by Chris Van Allsburg's children's book about a young boy who takes an extraordinary train ride to the North Pole.

•Through Jan. 18. **Santa vs. the Snowman 3D.** A lonely snowman becomes jealous of Santa during the holiday season.

•Through Jan. 18. **Volcanoes of the Deep Sea.** Dive to the bottom of the sea with a team of scientists, as they explore hydrothermal vents, shipwrecked gardens, predators and bioluminescent creatures.

Cinema Venues

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science
Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Reservoir.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

MIT
77 Mass. Ave., Room 6-120 (617-612-0091) MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.

NEWTON

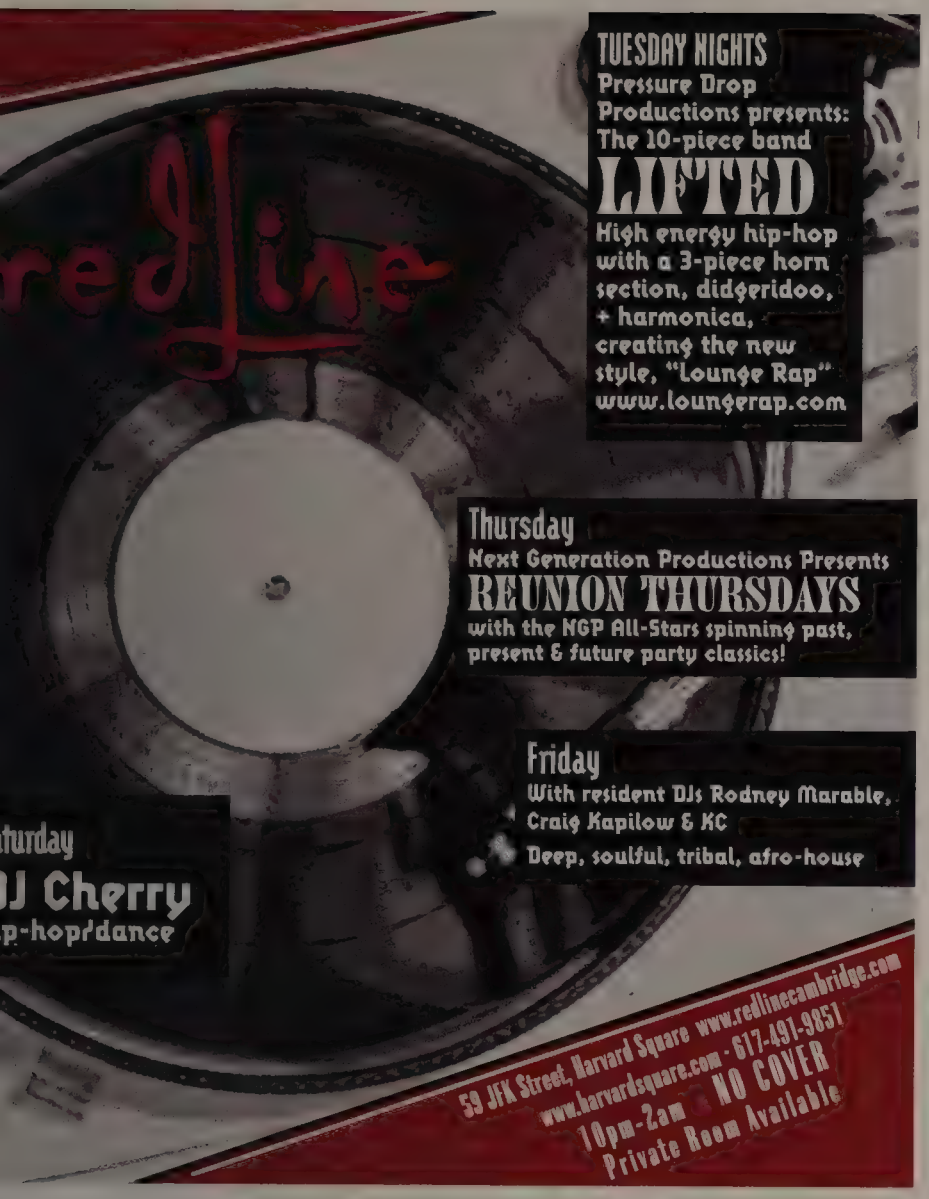
Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.



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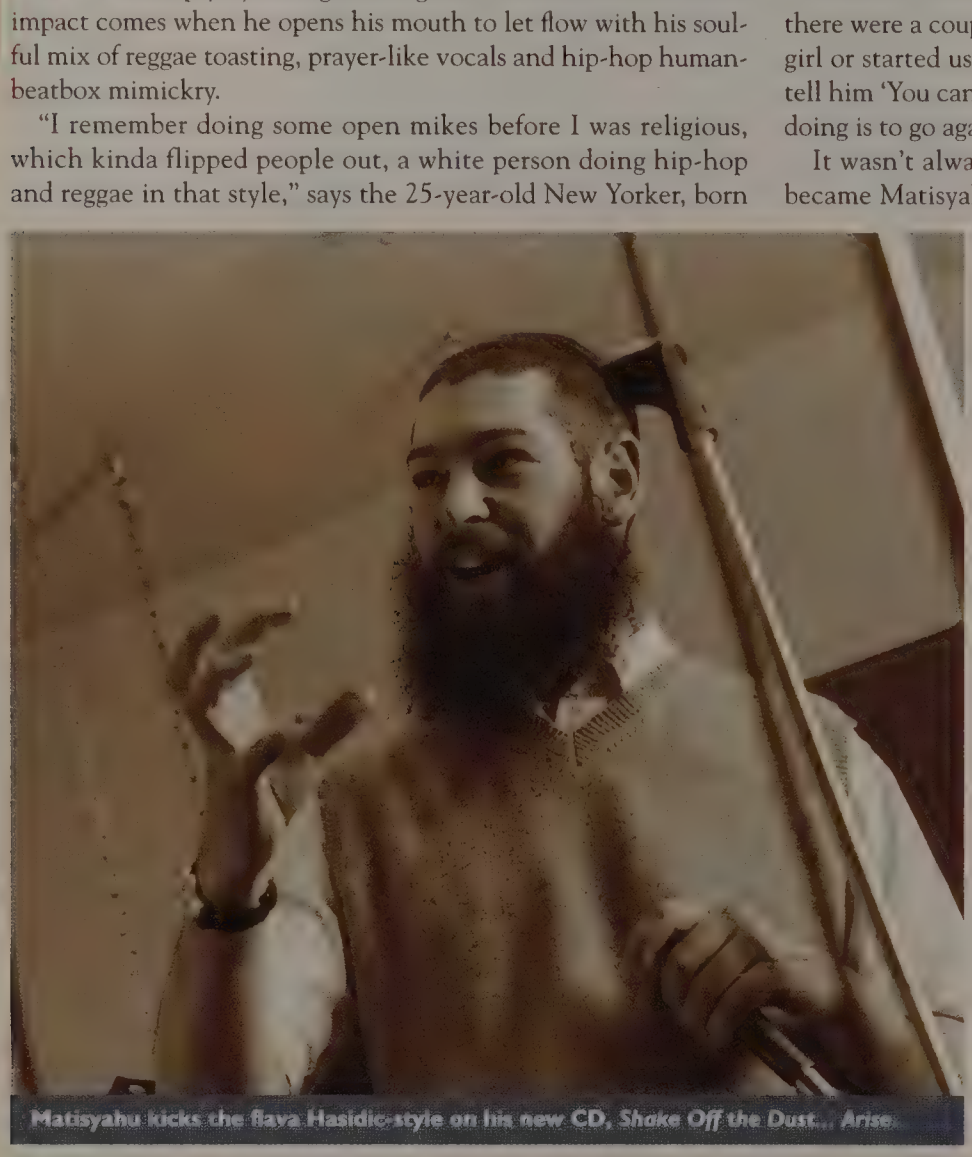
Conscious and Kosher

Matisyahu finds his direction as a Hasidic reggae rapper.

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

With his long beard and black hat telegraphing his identity as a Hasidic Jew, Matisyahu can turn heads simply by taking the stage at a rock club. But the full impact comes when he opens his mouth to let flow with his soulful mix of reggae toasting, prayer-like vocals and hip-hop human-beatbox mimickry.

"I remember doing some open mikes before I was religious, which kinda flipped people out, a white person doing hip-hop and reggae in that style," says the 25-year-old New Yorker, born Matthew Miller. "Jaws were still hitting the ground when I started singing, and now it's even more."



Matisyahu kicks the flava Hasidic-style on his new CD, *Shake Off the Dust... Arise*.

Sure, the Orthodox garb is an unusual twist. But anyone who thinks of Matisyahu as mere novelty hasn't tuned into the quality and sincerity of his music, whether on his debut CD *Shake Off the Dust... Arise* or in a venue like Harpers Ferry, where Matisyahu and his trio play December 9.

"The music speaks for itself, and I think it's a sneak-attack effect, that it gets to people stronger," says Matisyahu, whose songs carry a universal appeal despite themes of Jewish spiritualism inspired by two years of living and studying in a Brooklyn yeshiva.

"I'm a Hasidic Jew and I play music, but I'm not a traveling synagogue," Matisyahu says from the Manhattan office of his label, JDub Records, which promotes Jewish artists in popular culture. "I'm a performer and I want people to hear my music and have a good experience. The majority of the people at a reggae show are not Rastafarian."

In keeping with the strict guidelines of the Lubavitch community in Crown Heights, Matisyahu won't perform from Friday night to Saturday sundown, to observe the Sabbath, and his backstage needs include kosher food. When he sings "I'm getting you high" in "Close Your Eyes," it's "not high from any external substance," he explains, and Matisyahu avoids sharing the stage with performers he deems "gross."

"I have a friend who raps and I've had him come onstage, and there were a couple of times he started talking about being with a girl or started using curse words," Matisyahu says, "and I had to tell him 'You can't do that with me. The whole point of what I'm doing is to go against that.'"

It wasn't always that way. The story of how Matthew Miller became Matisyahu (the Hebrew equivalent of "gift from God") is as intriguing as the cultural and musical culmination.

A teenage Deadhead with dreadlocks who loved reggae and hip-hop, Miller was a searcher. Threatened with expulsion, he bounced from one school to another, traveled to Israel ("the first time I felt positive about being Jewish," he says) and followed Phish on its 1996 fall tour. It was all part of a quest to find a deeper meaning to life than his classrooms and his nonreligious Jewish family, which sent him to a wilderness school in Oregon after the Phish jaunt, offered.

"When I was at a Phish concert, here were kids my age that were probably in a similar predicament, frustrated with the system and the situation that they were living in," says Matisyahu. "They just dropped everything and were going for the truth that they felt when they heard this music. They felt something that resonated, and weren't afraid to say, 'Screw the world, I'm going for that.' At a certain point, it got bad enough, and I said 'That's what I'm doing too.'

"In a certain respect, the same thing happened when I became religious," he says. "I saw people that became religious and were willing to give up everything."

Matisyahu gave up music when he first immersed himself in Torah studies with the Lubavitch community. Having returned to New York for college, he was attracted to the Jewish prayer songs of Shlomo Carlebach at an Upper West Side shul, in addition to the instrumental reggae tapes he blasted at his apartment to rap original lyrics over.

"I had been into reggae from when I was 14 years old, the first time I heard Bob Marley, who was a major figure to me, like a role model," he says. "When I went to college, I got into more modern reggae, like dancehall stuff."

Eventually he came to balance his studies with music again. "Everyone [in the community] felt it was a positive thing for the most part," Matisyahu says. "It's 'kiddush hashem,' which means if somebody sees you doing something and they feel good about it, and they see that you're religious, they connect that feeling with God."

The album title *Shake Off the Dust... Arise* even comes from Friday night prayers. "It's like shaking off the dust of the week," he says, "shaking off the profane and connecting to the sacred." **iB**

Matisyahu
plays Harpers Ferry December 9.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fa (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or b email to music@improper.com. Include dates, times prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not ac cepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers

Information for the Music section is compiled from dif ferent sources. Although we make every effort to provid accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahea to double-check dates and times (see complete list o venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Barenaked Ladies Dec. 9-10, Orpheum Theatr (617-931-2000).
Black Nativity Dec. 1-19, Tremont Temple (617 423-NEXT).
Better Than Ezra and Pat McGee Band Dec. 5 Avalon (617-931-2000).
Carol Channing Dec. 5, Berklee Performance Cente (617-931-2000).
Christmas Rock 'N' Roll Odyssey: The Raging Teens, Sean Mencher Combo, Dana Stewart & the Old Howards, Lenny & the Piss Poor Boys, Rhythm Bound, the Two Timin' Three and others Dec. 11 T.T. the Bear's Place (617-931-2000).
Gaelic Storm Dec. 4, Harpers Ferry (800-594-8499)
Eddie and Gerald Levert Dec. 12, Orpheum The atre (617-931-2000).
Medeski Martin & Wood Dec. 2, Avalon (617-931 2000).
Miracle on Tremont Street: Sugarhill Gang, Shan non, Amber, Rose Royce Dec. 2, Roxy (617-931 2000).
Old School/New School with Andre Ward and Lou Donaldson Dec. 4, Berklee Performance Cente (617-931-2000).
Martin Sexton, Keller Williams Dec. 3, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Kevin Spacey Dec. 12, Somerville Theatre (617 931-2000).
Los Straitjackets, the World Famous Pontani Sis ters Dec. 8, Paradise Rock Club (617-931-2000).
Butch Walker, American Hi-Fi, Val Emmich Dec. 7 Paradise Rock Club (617-931-2000).
WBCN Xmas Rave: Collective Soul, the Datsuns Dec. 1, Paradise Rock Club (617-931-2000).
WBCN Xmas Rave: The Donnas Dec. 1, Axis (617 931-2000).
WBCN Xmas Rave: Hoobastank, Coheed and Cambria, Lost Prophets Dec. 1, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
WBCN Xmas Rave: Korn, Three Days Grace, Breaking Benjamin Dec. 1, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Dar Williams Dec. 2, Somerville Theatre (617-931 2000).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1

Avalon WBCN Xmas Rave: Korn, Three Days Grace Breaking Benjamin, 7:30 pm, $35.
Axis WBCN Xmas Rave: The Donnas, 8 pm, $17.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30pm
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Peter Molloy, Fabian Joyce.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Chris Elliott, Dave Dersham, Car Cacho, 8 pm, $12.
Fireplace Restaurant Leah Souza, 9:30 pm, n cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee.
Hennessy's Joe Carson Band.
Johnny D's Girlyman, Ancha, 8:30 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie.
Middle East Downstairs: Jesse Malin, 8 pm, $12 Upstairs: The Stairs, the Kissers, Bright Side, Gladi ola, 9 pm, $8
Milky Way Mercury Lounge, 9 pm.
Oak Bar Steve Heck, 7:30 pm.
Paradise WBCN Xmas Rave: Collective Soul, th Datsuns, 8 pm, $17.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar The Young Turks, Tiger Okoshi, 8 pm $15.
Ryles Jazz Club Anita Coelho Quintet, 8:30 pm, $10
Scullers Jazz Club Bobbi Carrey & Will McMillan 8 and 10 pm, $18.
Tír na nÓg Bow Thayer, 9 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, n cover.

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T.T. the Bear's Place Benefit for Charles River Skatepark: Red Invasion, Dead Ellington, Blue Letter Days, Up to Here, 9 pm, $7.
The Western Front Mike Olson, Mike Calabrese, Villray Bolles, 8:30 pm.
Zeitgeist Gallery Ed Broms Organ Trio, 7 pm, $7.
Les Zygomates Ziaf, 8 pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

Avalon Medeski Martin & Wood, 7 pm, $22.25.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Helena Delaney, Peter Molloy, Shannon Aaron.
Cantab Lounge Chris Waller.
Club Passim Brian Joseph, Rich Price, 8 pm, $12.
Fireplace Restaurant Irie Roots, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee.
Harpers Ferry Stoic, Rubikon, Sinapse, Breathe, 9 pm, $8-$13, 18+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
High Street Grille Little Joe Cook, 9 pm.
Johnny D's Emeline Michel, 9 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Kirkland Café Emily White, Steph Taylor, Shills, David Harold, $5.
Kinsale Sirsy.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band.
Middle East Downstairs: The Halogens, Scamper, the So And So's, Fooled by April, 8 pm, $12. Upsatirs: Helms, Ho-Ag, Night Rally, Shore Leave, 9 pm, $9
Milky Way DIF Entertainment presents, 9 pm, $6.
Oak Bar Jane Potter, 7:30 pm.
PA's The Line, the Midnight Collective, Madding Crowd, $5-$7.
Plough and Stars Zipper, 9:30 pm.
Roxy Miracle on Tremont Street: Sugarhill Gang, Shannon, Amber, Rose Royce, 7 pm, $25.
Scullers Jazz Club Strunz & Farah, 8 and 10 pm, $15.
Somerville Theatre Dar Williams, 8 pm, $26.50-$29.50.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 9 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Gossip, the Starlite Desperation, the Eternals, 9 pm, $10.
The Western Front Libra Project, 9 pm, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Jesus Christ Terrorist, the Reagan Babies, 7 pm, $20.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3

Abbey Lounge Pimp and Ho Ho Holiday Getdown with Booty Vortex, Velvet Stylus, $7.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
Boston Harbor Hotel Friday night jazz series.
Bravo at the MFA Adam Feldman, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Tina Lech, Ted Davis, Patrick Murray.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Carol Noonan, Kathryn Priestley, 8 pm, $15.
The Green Dragon Tavern Say When.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee.
The Harp The Zoo, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Badfish, Red Wanting Blue, 9 pm, $10.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, Swerve.
Johnny D's Tarbox Ramblers, Whoa Man Jesus, 9:30 pm, $8.
Kinsale Sirsy.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton.
Kirkland Café Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Middle East Downstairs: Isis, These Arms Are Snakes, Tim Hecker, Dysrhythmia, 8 pm, $12. Upstairs: The Good North, Max Heinegg, the Fly Seville, Passenger, 9 pm, $9.
Milky Way Dennis Brennan Band, the Coachmen, 9 pm, $8.
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm.
O'Brien's Nightstick, Leukorrhea, Nefarious, Deathamphetamine, Porphyria, 8:30 pm, $7.
Orpheum Theatre Martin Sexton, Keller Williams, 8 pm, $25-$35.
Paradise Rock Club: Donna the Buffalo, Hackensaw Boys, 9 pm, $14.
Parris Mr. Greengenes, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's Hilken Mancini, Heidi Saperstein, Emily Grogan Band, $5-$7.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 6-8:30 pm; Hot Day at the Zoo, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Dominique Eade, 9 pm, $10.
Somerville Theatre Louise Grasmere, 8 pm, $22.



American Hi-Fi plays the Paradise Rock Club December 7.

Tír na nÓg Jason Parish, 9 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Panthers, Vietnam, Death from Above 1979, 10:15 pm, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Callithumpian Consort, 7 pm, $10; Weisstronauts, Escuela, Dave Coniglio, 9:30 pm, $8.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 7 pm, no cover.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

Abbey Lounge Drag the River, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
Avalon Robert Randolph & the Family Band, Kaki King, 7 pm, $18.25.
Berklee Performance Center Old School/New School with Andre Ward and Lou Donaldson, 7 pm, $35.50-$55.50.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm
The Burren The Bagboys Bluegrass session, 5 pm; Tommy, Louise, Helena Delaney, Fabian Joyce, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Garnet Rogers, Karaugh Brown, 8 pm, $15.
The Green Dragon Tavern Random Axis.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee.
The Harp The Zoo, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Gaelic Storm, 8 pm, $15, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin.
Johnny D's Roots Nation, Westbound Train, 9:30 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown Reggae Nights with Bobbie Steelz & Moon.
Kirkland Café Smack, Gary Rand, $5.
Middle East Downstairs: Dear Leader, the Information, the Static Age, the Cignal, 9 pm, $10. Upstairs: Clandestino, 8 pm, $10.
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm.
Parris Mr. Greengenes, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's Number 6, $5-$7.
Plough and Stars Eilen Jewell Band, 5-7:30 pm; Stan Martin, 9:30 pm.
Purple Shamrock Scooby Snax, 9 pm, $5.
Ryles Jazz Club Marta Gomez, 9 pm, $12.
Tír na nÓg Jennifer Matthews, 9 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
Tremont Temple Black Nativity, 8 pm, $17.50-$37.50.
T.T. the Bear's Place Legendary Shack Shakers, the Konks, Classic Ruins, Worlds Greatest Sinners, 9:15 pm, $10.
The Western Front Shaka Black, 9 pm, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Al Isshiki, 7 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Marianne Solivan, 7 pm, no cover.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

All-Asia Café Sunday night songwriter series: Christie Leigh, 5 pm, $5.
Avalon Better Than Ezra and Pat McGee Band, 6:30 pm, $20.25.
Berklee Performance Center Carol Channing, 7 pm, $37.50.
Bill's Bar Dub Station.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz brunch with Ronnie Ron Duo.
The Burren The Gannon Family, 3-6 pm; the Americans Session Band, 6-9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Vinx, Jen Chapin, 7:30 pm, $15.
First Evangelical Lutheran Church Elisabeth von Trapp, 3:30 pm.
Forsyth Chapel The Alvin Terry Group, 4 pm, $15.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Tom Pendergast, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Julia Lloyd.
Middle East Upstairs: Lucia Lie, A Hero Next Door, Anti-Love Project, Via Audio, 9 pm, $9.
Milky Way Zygote Showcase, 9 pm.
Paradise Rock Club: Blonde Redhead, Cam Cameo, 9 pm, $16.
PA's Josephine Foster, Nick Castro, Milo Jones, Marissa Nadler, $5- $7.
Plough and Stars DownDog, 5-7:30 pm; Hot Tamale Brass Band, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday jazz brunch with Patricia Adams, 10 am, no cover.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12-2 pm; Tim Ray Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
Tremont Temple Black Nativity, 3:30 pm, $17.50-$37.50.
T.T. the Bear's Place Brent Best of Slobberbone, Walter Salas Humara of the Silos, 9:55pm, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Jeremy Udden Quintet, 7 pm, $7; Picastro, Tigersaw, 9:30 pm, $9.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6

Avalon Kottonmouth Kings, Pepper, OPM, Judge D, Big B, 7 pm, $15.25.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30pm
The Burren Johnny O'Leary, Vinny Costello, Tommy Peoples.
Cantab Lounge Singer-songwriter open mike , 8 pm.
Harpers Ferry PGroove, 9 pm, $5.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Johnny D's Riot Act open mike, 7 pm.
Middle East Upstairs: The List Exists, the Sanguine Sparrows, 9 pm, $8.
Plough and Stars The Gillmans, 9:30 pm.
Tír na nÓg Christian McNeil &Co., 9 pm.
Top of the Hub Tim Ray Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Fringe, 10 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Steven Spungin, 9 pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7

Axis Motion City Soundtrack, Tsunami Bomb, Limebeck, 8 pm, $12.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30pm
The Burren Tommy, Louise, Peter Molloy, Matt Glover.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm.
Club Passim Open mike with Erik Balkey, 7 pm, $5.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Harpers Ferry Toussaint & the China Band, 9 pm, $5.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Chris Pandolfi, 8:30 pm, $8.
Kennedy's Midtown Michael Larson.
Middle East Downstairs: Fishbone, Audible Mainframe, 8 pm, $15. Upstairs: Moving Units, 9 pm, $10.
Milky Way Nickel and Dime, 9 pm, $3-$5.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 8 pm.
Paradise Rock Club: Butch Walker, American Hi-Fi, Val Emmich, 8 pm, $15.
Plough and Stars Larry Flint, 8:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Artist Showcase: Boston A Cappela Scene, 7:30 pm, $7.
Tír na nÓg David Johnson Band, 9 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Medicine Line, 10:40 pm $6..
Les Zygomates Tony Gallo, 8 pm, no cover.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8

The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Peter Molloy, Fabian Joyce.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim James O'Brien, Adam White, Randy Kaplan, 8 pm, $10.
Fireplace Restaurant Rob Mitzner, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee.
Hennessy's Joe Carson Band.
Johnny D's Ball in the House, Ditto, 8:30 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie.
Middle East Downstairs: Ted Leo and the Pharmacists, Spitzz, U.V. Protection, 8 pm, $10. Upstairs Jericho, Lock and Key, Slater, Crisis Bureau, 9 pm, $8
Milky Way Mercury Lounge, 9 pm.

ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

The Assembly of Dust Dec. 30, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Benevento/Russo Duo, Mike Gordon Dec. 29, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Catch 22 Dec. 27, Axis (617-931-2000).
Peter Cincotti Dec. 17, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).
Steve Connolly Jan. 8, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).
Disco Biscuits Dec. 22, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Juliana Hatfield Dec. 18, T.T. the Bear's Place (617-931-2000).
Hot Stove, Cool Music: a Benefit for the Jimmy Fund Jan. 9, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Keane Feb. 5, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Patty Larkin & Catie Curtis Jan. 1, Sanders Theatre (617-931-2000).
The Perceptionists, Aesop Rock Dec. 16, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Kenny Wayne Shepherd Dec. 17, Roxy (617-931-2000).
Social Distortion Feb. 22, Avalon (617-931-2000).

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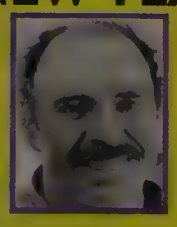


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Paradise Los Straitjackets, the World Famous Pontani Sisters, 8 pm, $12.
PA's The Modeles, Poola Bomb, the Flight Orchestra, If, $5-$7.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Grupo Shekere, 8:30 pm, $10.
Tír na nÓg Bow Thayer, 9 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Western Front Wicked Children, Jeff Chang Quintet, 8:30 pm.
Les Zygomates Yoko Miwa, 8 pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9

Abbey Lounge Mark McKay, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
Axis Lars Frederiksen and the Bastards, Roger Miret and the Disasters, APA, 6:30 pm, $13.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Helena Delaney, Peter Molloy, Shannon Aaron.
Cantab Lounge Chris Waller.
Club Passim Sam Shaber Trio, Milton, 8 pm, $14.
Fireplace Restaurant Vanessa Morris, 9:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee.
Harpers Ferry Matisyahu, 9 pm, $8-$13, 18+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
High Street Grille Little Joe Cook, 9 pm.
Johnny D's Tom Hambridge Band, 9 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Lucky's Lounge Alex MacDougall Band.
Middle East Downstairs: Ted Leo and the Pharmacists, Matt Pond PA, Vague Angels, 8 pm, $10. Upstairs: Bleu's Holidang Bash: Bleu, Raymond, the Unbusted, 9 pm, $10
Milky Way DIF Entertainment presents, 9 pm.
Oak Bar Jane Potter, 7:30 pm.
Orpheum Theatre Barenaked Ladies, 7:30 pm, $37.50-$45.50.
PA's Smittens, Shumai, Specific Heats, Spoilsport, Snoozer, $5- $7.
Paradise Umphrey's McGee, 9 pm, $15.
Plough and Stars Handsome Frank, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Kris Adams, 8:30 pm, $7.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 9 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Reverend Glasseye & His Wooden Legs, Drab, Sweetthieves, 10:15 pm, $7.
The Western Front Sister Gretchen, 9 pm, $6.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10

Abbey Lounge The Figgs, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm; Celtic Clan, 10:30 pm.
Boston Harbor Hotel Friday night jazz series.
Bravo at the MFA Damon Carter, 5:30 pm, no cover.
The Burren Tina Lech, Ted Davis, Patrick Murray.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Alastair Moock, Milton, 8 pm, $14.
The Green Dragon Tavern Freeze Pop.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee.


Keller Williams comes to the Orpheum Theatre, along with Martin Sexton, December 3.

The Harp Kristen and the Noise, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Railroad Earth, Astrograss, 9 pm, $10.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, Spike the Punch.
Johnny D's James Montgomery Band, Big Top Vertigo, 9:30 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton.
Middle East Downstairs: Sand Machine, PCR, Big Toe, Lemonstone, 8 pm, $9; Upstairs: Bleu's Holidang Bash: Bleu, Mike Viola, the Rudds, 9 pm, $10.
Milky Way Live music, 9 pm, $6-$10.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy and Tony.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm.
Orpheum Theatre Barenaked Ladies, 7:30 pm, $37.50-$45.50.
Paradise Soulive, Sam Kininger Band, 9 pm, $18.
Parris Loudmouth, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's Jeff Klein, Little Indian, B.J. Snowden, California Stadium, $5-$7.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisun, 6-8:30 pm; the Armadillos, 9:30 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.


The Hackensaw Boys play the Paradise December 3.

Tremont Temple Black Nativity, 8 pm, $17.50-$37.50.
T.T. the Bear's Place Ducky Boys, the Marvels, Avoid One Thing, Far from Finished, 9:15 pm, $10.
The Western Front Live hip-hop & reggae, 9 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Trio, 7 pm, no cover.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11

The Black Rose Frank Ryan, 4 pm; Eugene Byrne, 9:30pm; Celtic Clan, 10:30 pm.
The Burren The Bagboys Bluegrass session, 5 pm; Tommy, Louise, Helena Delaney, Fabian Joyce, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim IndieGuy Night with Brian Webb, Rod Picott, Justin Rosolino, 8 pm, $15.
The Green Dragon Tavern Bald Walter.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee.
The Harp Kristen and the Noise, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Beatlejuice, 8 pm, $10.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin.
Johnny D's Babaloo, 9:45 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown Reggae Nights with Bobbie Steelz & Moon.
Middle East Downstairs: Boston Hip Hop Fest, 8 pm, $12-$15. Upstairs: Bayside, Action Action, the Sleeping, 1 pm, $10; Gang Green, Superpower, Septic Youth Command, the Chubbs, Drawing Dead, 9 pm, $9.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy and Tony.
Paradise Josh Ritter, Ollabelle, 9 pm, $15.
Parish of All Saints Boston City Singers, 7 pm, no cover.
Parris Loudmouth, 10 pm, $5-$10.
PA's The Commons, Andres Wilson, $5- $7.
Plough and Stars Ed Munafo & Mountain Laurel, 5-7:30 pm; One Thin Dime, 9:30 pm.
Purple Shamrock Syndicate, 9 pm, $5.
Ryles Jazz Club Steve Smith, Vital Information, 9 pm, $25.
Somerville Theatre Eddie From Ohio, 8 pm, $21.5-$22.50.
Tír na nÓg Eileen Rose, 9 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cover.
Tremont Temple Black Nativity, 3:30 and 8 pm, $17.50-$37.50.
T.T. the Bear's Place Christmas Rock 'n' Roll Odyssey: The Raging Teens, Sean Mencher Combo, Dana Stewart & the Old Howards, Lenny & the Piss Poor Boys, Rhythm Bound, Johnny Carlevale & the Broken Rhythm Boys, the Cobra-Matics, the Revival Preachers, Maureen Marie & the Two Timin' Three, 4:30 pm, $15.
The Western Front Bellyful, 9 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Leah Souza, 7 pm, no cover.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

All-Asia Café Sunday night songwriter series: Christie Leigh, 5 pm, $5.
The Attic The Coalboilers.
Bill's Bar Dub Station.
The Black Rose Frank Ryan, 4 pm; Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz brunch with Ronnie Ron Duo.
The Burren The Gannon Family, 3-6 pm; the Americans Session Band, 6-9 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Woodwork, 8 pm, $12.
Gasson Hall Tommy Makem, 3 pm, $15.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Matt Dorko, Larry Kuk ers, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Julia Lloyd.
Middle East Upstairs: Cub Country, Great Ameri can, the Blind King, Iowa 80, 9 pm, $9.
Milky Way Zygote Showcase, 9 pm.
Orpheum Theatre Eddie and Gerald Levert, 7:3 pm, $41-$66.
Plough and Stars Kind of Bluegrass, 5-7:30 pm; Ho Tamale Brass Band. 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday jazz brunch with Yok Miwa, 10 am, no cove.
Somerville Theatre Kevin Spacey singing the song of Bobby Darin and *Beyond the Sea*, 7:30 pm $35.50.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12-2 pm; Gordo Beadle Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
Tremont Temple Black Nativity, 3:30 pm, $17.50 $37.50.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13

The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm.
The Burren Johnny O'Leary, Vinny Costello Tommy Peoples.
Cantab Lounge Singer-songwriter open mike, 8 pm
Club Passim Brother Blue, Ruth Hill, 7 pm, $12.
Harpers Ferry String Theory, 9 pm, $3.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Middle East Upstairs: The Chainletter, Throne Thirdshift, Brilliant Misstake, 9 pm, $8.
Plough and Stars Beek Rhodes & Jefferies, 9:30 pm.
Tír na nÓg Christian McNeil & Co., 9 pm.
Top of the Hub Gordon Beadle Trio, 8 pm, no cover
Les Zygomates Rusty Scott Quartet, 9 pm, n cover.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14

The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
The Burren Tommy, Louise, Peter Molloy, Mat Glover.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm.
Club Passim Open mike with Katherine Pritchard, pm, $5.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Harpers Ferry Toussaint & the China Band, 9 pm $5.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Ian Moore, 8:30 pm, $10.
Kennedy's Midtown Michael Larson.
Middle East Upstairs: Slow Motion Driver, Quick Release, Soft Caustic, Levy, 9 pm, $8.
Milky Way Nickel and Dime, 9 pm, $3-$5.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 8 pm.
Paradise Spiraling, 10 pm, $8.
Plough and Stars Lloyd Thayer, 8:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Artist Showcase, 7:30 pm, $7
Scullers Jazz Club Harvey Mason, 8 amd 10 pm $25.
Sky Bar Singer-songwriter revue: Susan Levine Charlene DiCalogero, Teresa Storch, Tim Riordan Eddie Felker, 8 pm, $5.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band, 9 pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, n cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Beans, 11 pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Zdenek Zansky Trio, 8 pm, n cover.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-422-5579).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Boston (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286) MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3473). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.*

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Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Choppin' Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-734-4177). MBTA: Green Line to Brigham Circle.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Fireplace Restaurant *1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square.*
First Evangelical Lutheran Church *900 Main St., Brockton (508-586-9021).*
First and Second Church *66 Marborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Forsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetary, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston (617-524-3354).*
Gasson Hall *Boston College, 140 Comm. Ave., (617-552-0490). MBTA: B Green Line to South Street.*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Hampshire House *84 Beacon St., Boston (617-227-9600). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harpers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
High Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-266-9095). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kresge Auditorium *84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-1000).*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parish of All Saints *209 Ashmont St. Dorchester (617-825-0674). MBTA: Red Line to Ashmont.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Tremont Temple *88 Tremont St., Boston (617-931-200). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278).*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*



Medeski Martin & Wood play Avalon on December 2.

classical music

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1

NEC Philharmonia

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. 8 pm. Free. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Guest conductor Andrea Quinn, who has previously led the London Symphony and Philharomia orchestras, performs *Britten's Four Sea Interludes.*

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave., Boston (888-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $27-$105. The Tanglewood Festival Chorus, conducted by John Oliver, joins the BSO and conductor James Levine in a presentation of Berlioz's *Romeo et Juliette.*

Goethe-Institut Boston

Goethe-Institut, 170 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-6050). www.goethe.de/uk/bos/eindex.html. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington or Copley. 7:30 pm. Donations appreciated. German cellist Joachim Woitun and Israeli pianist Vered Reznik collaborate on a program of music by German and Israeli composers.

NEC Youth Symphony

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $5-$10. The NEC Youth Symphony, led by Steven Karidoyanes, performs works by Liszt, Wieniawski and Howard Hanson, with violinist Hilary Ditmars.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3

Bank of America Celebrity Series

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-482-6661). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $25. Conductor Robert Kapilow collaborates with the Handel and Haydn Society in a performance of Handel's *Messiah.*

Boston Conservatory Women's Chorus

Suelly Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-912-9222). www.bostonconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 8 pm. Free. John Delorey leads the Boston Conservatory Women's Chorus in works by Britten.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave., Boston (888-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $27-$105. Same program as Dec. 2.

Holiday Opera Gala

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 1 Follen St., Boston (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Director Donna Roll leads opera scenes, arias and music of the season presented by the Longy Opera Department.

MIT Symphony Orchestra

Kresge Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-253-9800). www.mit.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8 pm. $5. Director Dante Anzolini leads the MIT Orchestra in works by Harbison, Ravel, Debussy and Mozart.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

Back Bay Ringers

Arlington Street Church, 351 Boylston St., Boston www.backbayringers.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm. Free. The Ringers' debut winter concert features readings, carols and a performance of works by Tavener, Britten, Byrd, Vaughan Williams, and John Rutter.

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave., Boston (888-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $27-$105. Same program as Dec. 2.

Carols for Dancing

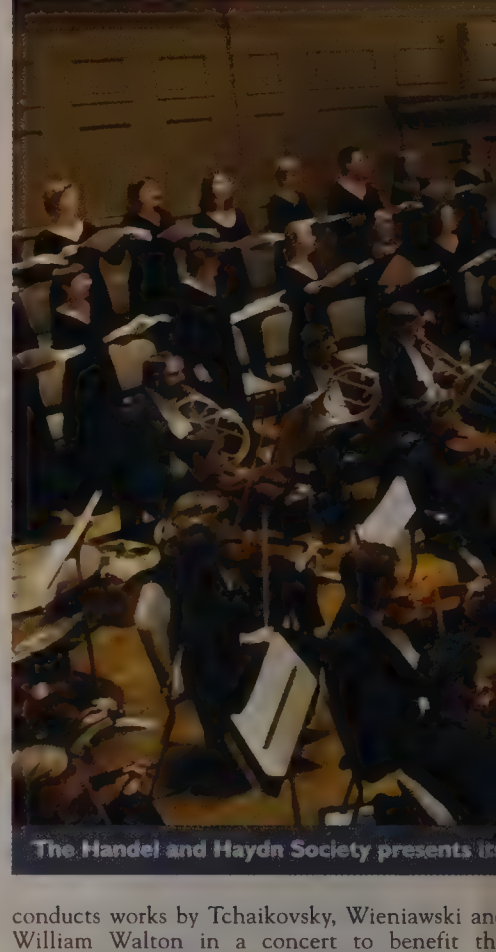
St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 838 Mass Ave., Cambridge. (617-661-8097). www.bostonrecordersociety.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central . 8 pm. $10-$15. A performance of three centuries' worth of holiday carols, chamber music and improvisations.

Early Music Ensemble

Slosberg Recital Hall, Brandeis University, Waltham (781-736-4200). www.brandeis.edu. 8 pm. $5-$10. Director Sarah Mead performs vocal and instrumental works from 15th-17th century Europe.

Longwood Symphony Orchestra

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1260). www.longwoodsymphony.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $15-$25. Jonathan McPhee



The Handel and Haydn Society presents its

conducts works by Tchaikovsky, Wieniawski and William Walton in a concert to benefit the Massachusetts Consortium for Children with Special Health Care Needs.

The Messiah

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave., Boston (617-266-3605). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $15-$77. The Handel and Haydn Society Chorus and Orchestra presents its 151st annual performance of Handel's *Messiah.* Conducted by John Finney.

MIT Wind Ensemble

Kresge Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-253-9800). www.mit.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8 pm. $5. Director Frederick Harris leads the ensemble in a special program featuring works by Percy Grainger, Holst, Prokofiev and Peter Schickele.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

Cantilena

First Parish Unitarian Church, 630 Mass.Ave., Arlington (781-648-2019). www.cantilena.org. 3 pm. $10 $15. Cantilena, a women's chorale of 30 voices sings holiday music by a variety of 20th-century composers including William Mathias, Gyorgy Orban, Egil Hovland and others.

The Messiah

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave., Boston (617-266-3605). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $15-$77. Same performance as Dec. 4.

NEC Percussion Ensemble

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Will Hudgins leads the NEC Percussion Ensemble in works by Brent Dietz, Toru Takemitsu, Andy Vores and others.

Vienna Choir Boys

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-482-6661). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $41-$51. As part of the Bank of America Celebrity Series, the Vienna Choir Boys return to Boston for their annual performance of holiday classics.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6

NEC Avant Garde Ensemble

Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Stephen Drury directs the ensemble in works by Toshio Hosokawa, John Zorn and others.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7

Chamber Music Ensemble

Brandeis University, Slosberg Recital Hall, Waltham (781-736-4200). www.brandeis.edu. 8 pm. Free. Director Judith Eissenberg performs ensemble works for strings, winds and piano.

Noon Hour Recitals

King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm. $3 suggested donation. Vocalist



annual performance of Handel's *Messiah* December 4–11 at Symphony Hall.

Kathryn Mannyng performs a program entitled A Celtic Holiday Garland.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8

NEC Sinfonietta

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Sergio Monterisi leads the NEC Sinfonietta in a performance of Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet.*

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10

Balmus Ensemble

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, 41Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). www.cmacusa.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. 8 pm. $12-$15. Musicians from Yugoslavia, Japan, Israel, Puerto Rico, Somalia, Bulgaria, China and Boston perform works inspired by Balkan and Byzantine culture.

Longy Chamber Winds

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 1 Follen St., Boston (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Conductor Frank Battisti presents works by Vincent Persichetti, Jon Washburn, Stephen Dodgson, Krommer and Mozart.

The Messiah

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave., Boston (617-266-1605). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. $15-$77. Same program as Dec. 4.

New England String Ensemble

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-482-0661). www.celebrityseries.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $25-$38. Susan Davenny Wyner conducts the ensemble in works by Handel, Shostakovich and Schubert.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11

Balmus Ensemble

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, 41Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). www.cmacusa.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. 8 pm. $12-$15. Same program as Dec. 10.

Here We Come a Wassailing

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 1 Follen St., Boston (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free. Longy Preparatory Chorales and Heritage Choir present their annual holiday concert.

Lyrica Boston

Edward M. Pickmen Concert Hall, 1 Follen St., Boston (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $25. Violin duo Yuri and Dana Kazurkevich perform works by Schnittke, Tchaikovsky and Handel.

The Messiah

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave., Boston (617-266-1605). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $15-$77. Same program as Dec. 4.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

A French Baroque Christmas

Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (781-466-1694). www.oldpostroad.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 4 pm. $20. The Musicians of the Old Post Road chamber ensemble presents A French Baroque Christmas, a collection of classical music from 17th- and 18th-century France.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston (617-278-5102). www.gardnermuseum.org. 1:30 pm. $10-$20. The Sunday concert series presents cellist Steven Isserlis and fortepianist Robert Levin performing the first part of a series of the complete Beethoven cello sonatas.

MIT Women's Chorale Holiday Concert

Killian Hall, 14W-111, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge, (617-484-8187) web.mit.edu/womensleague /womens chorale. 3 pm. Director Nancy Kushlan Wanger leads the women's chorus in works by Fauré, Holst, Mendelssohn and Kodaly.

Music of Robert Schumann

Edward M. Pickmen Concert Hall, 1 Follen St., Boston (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 2 pm. Free. Pianists from Longy's conservatory, preparatory studies and continuing studies programs present a concert featuring the music of Schumann.

St. Paul's Cathedral Choir

Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston, (617-482-4826 ext. 1103) www.diomass. org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 4 pm. Free. Director, Mark Engelhardt and the Cathedral's Synergy Brass Ensemble present Lessons and Carols for Advent and Christmas, a program that combines scripture readings, congregational hymns, motets and anthems.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13

NEC Concert Choir and Chamber Singers

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Director Amy Lieberman leads members of the NEC Wind Ensemble in Paul Hindemith's *Apparebit Repentina Dies.*

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14

Bach Keyboard Project: Tuesdays with Sebastian

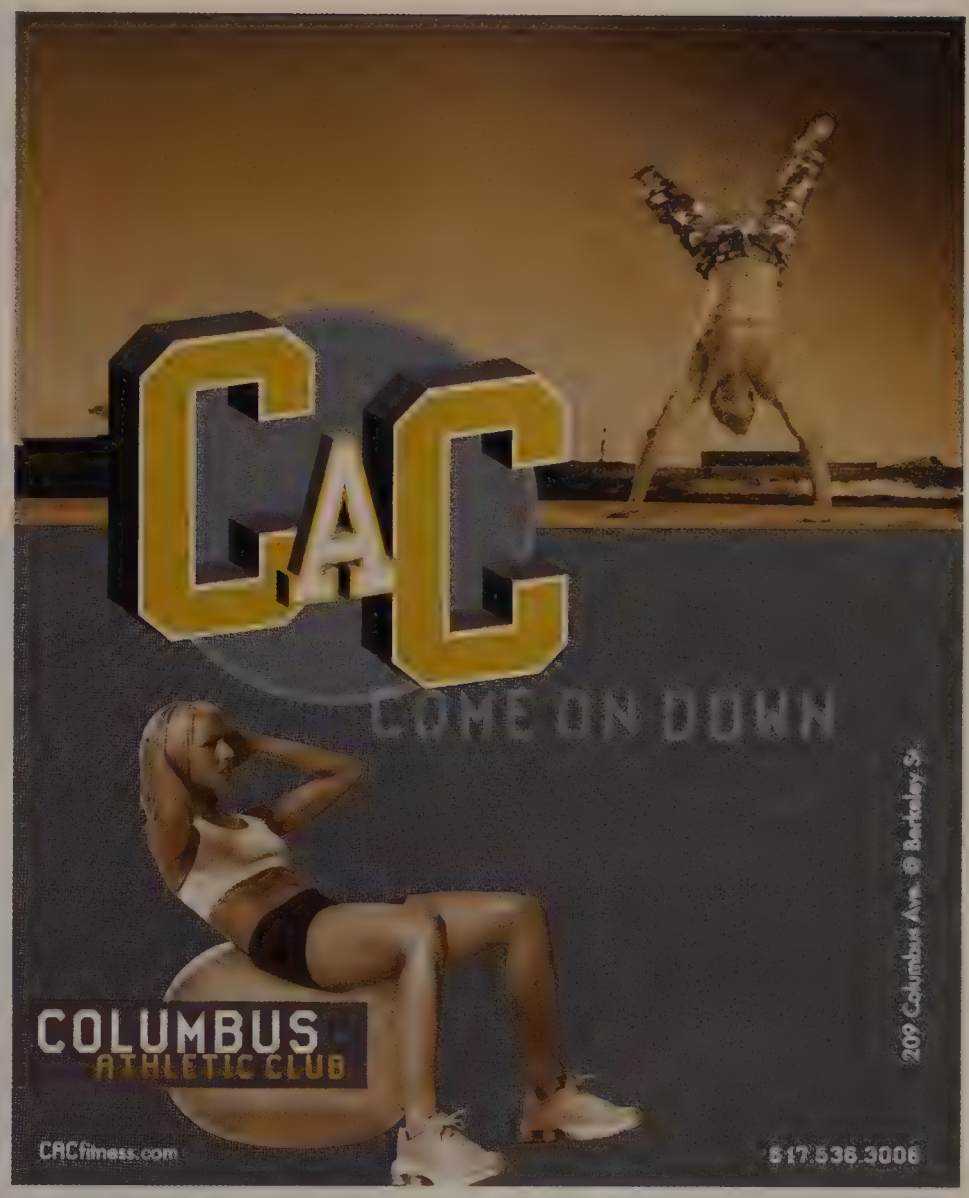
Old West Church, 131 Cambridge St., Boston (617-661-0570). www.tuesdayswithsebastian.info. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 8 pm. $10 suggested donation. Organist Peter Sykes and harpsichordist Christa Rakich perform Bach's Prelude and Fugue in A minor and Partita 5.

Conservatory Chamber Ensembles

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 1 Follen St., Boston (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. 7 pm. Free. The Longy Orchestra presents works by Beethoven, Dvorak and Brahms, as well as 20th-century composers.

Gala Chamber Music

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. This gala concert features performances by the Parker Quartet, violinist Yura Lee, cellist Minji Kim and the debut of the Nielsen Quartet.



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dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $3, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Adilson spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJs spin R&B and hip-hop, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance salsa, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aria
Industry Tuesday Dance to hip-hop and R&B.

Boston Rocks
Smooth Groove Tuesday Old-school jams, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Soul'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spins hits from the '70s and '80s, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Deep Tones DJ Brynmore spins a mix of reggae, soul, funk, trance and acid jazz, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Night varies with an assortment of performances and themed events, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Havana Club Latin Dance Night Latin dance night features an assortment of local DJs, 10 pm-1 am, $10.

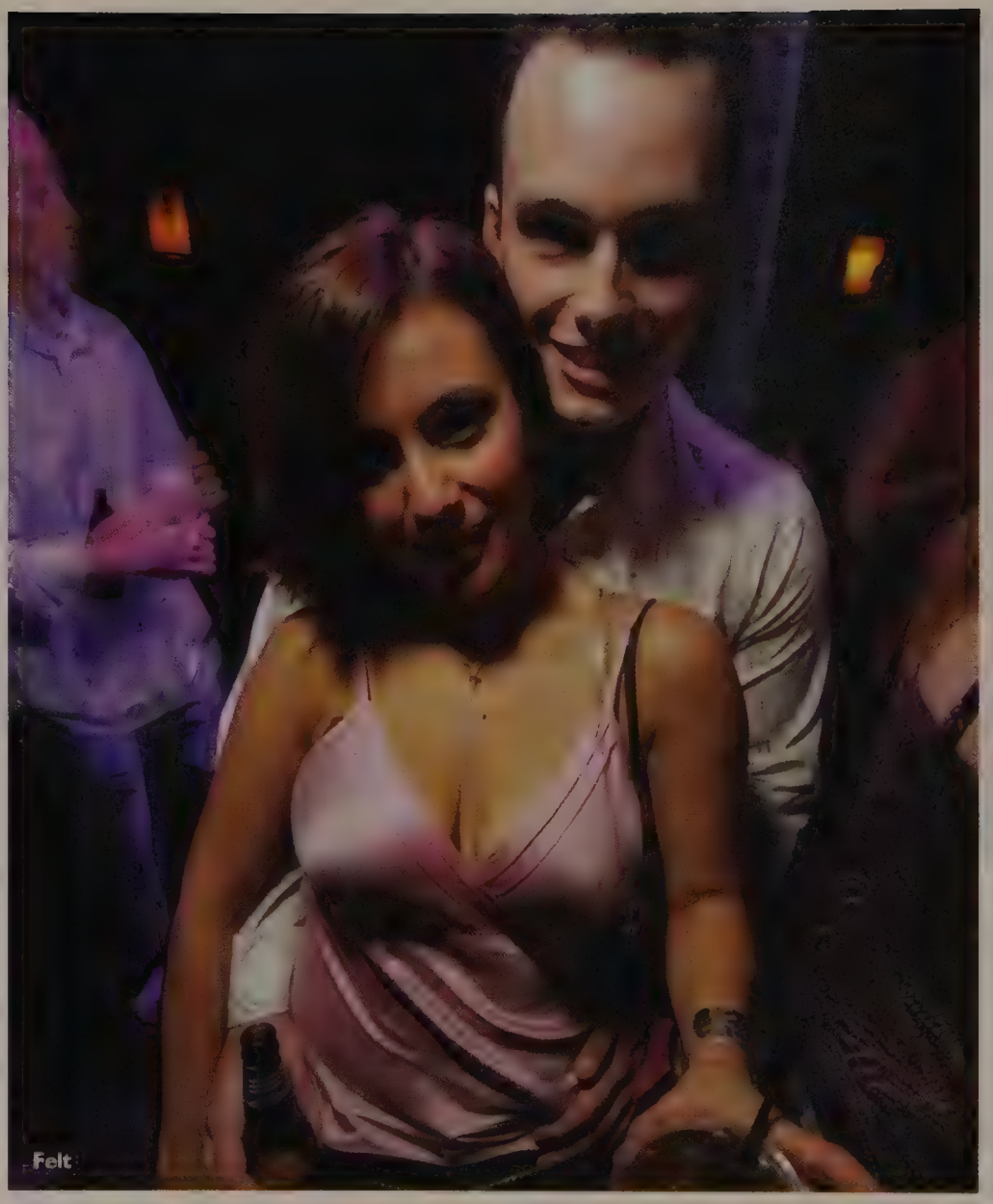
Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
Kez McDaddy spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Aria
Lust DJ John Morris spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, $8, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.


Felt

Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins Greek and international tunes upstairs and a live reggae band plays downstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
British Accents Presents Starshape DJ Dave spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and funk, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
VIP Wednesdays DJ/producer Joe Bermudez hosts live performances every Wednesday and spins house and dance beats. 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
International Wednesdays DJs spin a mix of international music.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up hip-hop, top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mercury DJs Nomadik and Timmy Allen host a night of soul, funk and house, 9 pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin house and techno, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
School Girl Night DJs spin top-40 music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Wacky Wednesdays Magic with Peter Gross, 6-9 pm, DJ Massi all night, no cover, 21+

Q
Violation Wednesdays Weekly guest DJs spin today's best music, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
The NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of dance and hip-hop, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays Boogie down to rock-and-roll, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band brings R&B and dance to the main lounge, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Martinez spins salsa, cumbia and merengue on one floor, while DJ Supreme spins a New York lounge set (hip-hop, R&B and rock covers) on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; guest DJs spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men); 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Boston's Biggest College Hip-Hop Night DJs Caprice, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School College Night Old-school rap, funk and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Djs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+

Devlin's
DJs spin upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Hip-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance and disco, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ghost spins international house and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursdays The Toussaint Band plays reggae, funk, no cover, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
Live band, 6 pm; DJ Massi, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran spin dance tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Misha spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B, and pop, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Liquor Store
Ladies' Night KISS 108 and Joe Public host.

Milky Way
Club Thursdays Rotating DJs spin dance music, 9 pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Q
Hip-Hop Thursdays DJ Craig Smooth spins hip-hop all night long, 9 pm, $5 (ladies free), 21+.

The Rack
Exotic Midnight Brazilian night with music and samba dancing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
Reunion Thursdays The NGP All-Stars spin party classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross and Paul spin a mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
DJs Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons and dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ DonRico spins salsa, merengue and Latin pop and DJ Tegrem spins downtempo retro international, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Ladies Night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15, 19+

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cover.

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old school hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ Seano 5-9 pm; DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $5 after 10:30 pm, 21+.

Aria
DJs spin Latin, international house, hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men); 19+ (women with college ID).

Mainstage:

11/26 Gilson Schachnik
11/30 Ryles Artist Showcase
12/1 Anita Coelho Brazilian Jazz Ensemble
12/3 Dominique Eade
12/4 Marta Gomez
12/6 Comedy Night at Ryles
12/7 Ryles Artist Showcase w/ Boston A Cappela Scene
12/8 Groupe Shekere
12/9 Kris Adams
12/11 Steve Smith & Vital Information
12/18 The Groove Barbers/ "What I Like About Jew"
12/31 New Year's Eve Extravaganza at Ryles

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Avalon
Avaland International DJs spin house, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top-40, 9pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
Flavor Fridays DJ Mastermillions, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover bands, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents a night of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and hip-hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal spins a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+, after 11 pm.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
European Night DJs play a diverse mix of Euro-style music, 10 pm- 2 am, no cover.

Devlin's
DJ Steve plays house and old-school music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
Persuassion DJ Sun One spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Enormous Room
All-Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everything from hip-hop and house to funk and soul, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs spin high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Angirsano spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Briar
Live music every Friday night.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJ Gabe spins.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

I/D
Bashment Fridays DJ Illibash spins reggae, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs Big Daddy spins, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Cadillac spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B, and pop, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s favorites, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before midnight, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 5 pm, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Adilson of Roxy Saturdays spins high-energy house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Reggaeton: Spanish reggae music, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies, free; men, $5 before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.•**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $10, 21+; $15, 18+. •**Rockpile** Rotating bands perform, 9 pm, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $12, 18+; $8, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Greg spins top-40 and '80s hits, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop as he spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Hip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

Q
DJ Massi plays hip-hop and top-40, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 8 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Diversion DJ Erik spins a mix that includes neo-soul, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top-40, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins Latin house and Latin dance on one floor while DJ Franklin spins international on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9pm, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats all night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
International Saturdays Guest DJs spin high-energy vocal house and hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).



Avalon
Tease Saturdays Resident DJ Rick Naples performs along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Seductive Saturdays DJ Jin spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. DJs presents top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Franklin creates a lounge atmosphere with international, Latin and house sounds, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs Dan Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance and house, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood Women's night, with two floors of hip-hop and house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
Essence DJs Ed and Sal, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Enormous Room
Reverberate Mark Estrada spins current and classic hip-hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins and KISS 108's Romeo hosts hip-hop, house and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites, disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Briar
Live music every Saturday night.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

The G Spot
DJs Paul Incus and Mike Traylor spin deep house, 9 pm, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJ Felix Cutillo spins an eclectic blend of dance music.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Ryan Bis spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

I//D
Identity Crisis Dance to an eclectic mix of rock and top-40, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, whil downstairs DJ Kieran plays top-40, 9 pm, $6, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Ring spins the latest tunes including hip-hop R&B, and pop, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spin Russian and international music on the third floo 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** D Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, voca house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fift floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Light
DJ Gabriel David Leon spins house, 9 pm, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ spins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, $8 21+, $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Orti spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10 pm $10, men; $5, women (women admitted free befor 10:30); 21+.

The Modern
Material DJ Dru Nyce plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $1 19+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Classic party music and top-40 $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanis and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Her nandez and Willie D, ladies, free; men, $5 befor 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Th Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies onl •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+ $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Alex D. spins mainstream hip hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
•DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit won ders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles Boston's best DJs spin.

The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom Hogan spins the groove, 10 pm, $5, 21+ •Dec. 4: Scooby Snax. •Dec. 11: Syndicate.

Q
DJ Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Roch spins, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, n cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins moder mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Adilson spins house and techno, 9 pm, $15, 21+.

Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ J.C. play house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancing, pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
Resident DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin, internationa and dance, often joined by live bands and specia guest DJs, 10 pm, $10-$15, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in th front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro fa vorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, $8 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 1 pm, $5.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins clas sic old-school, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cove 21+.

Toast
Curses Wretched Design presents an evening o gothic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Live reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+

Caprice
DJ spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Devlin's
Industry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixes and remixes, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hip-hop downstairs, karaoke upstairs, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Revolutions A night of electronic music, $3, 11 pm-3 am.

Green Briar
•Nov. 5 and 12: Finbar Doyle.

Green Street Grill
Live Middle Eastern music with belly dancing, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Milky Way
Satellite A lesbian night featuring DJ Dee, with dance music, amateur drag contests and films, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.

The Place
Chad Lamarsh appears with VJ Leathers, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Malibu Beach Party DJ Thom spins music from reggae to top-40, with prizes all night, 4-9 pm, DJ Massi spins, 9 pm, $5 men, free for ladies, 21+.

Q
Reggae with Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe.

The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins dance and top-40, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
Sunday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and guests spin reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
Action Sunday DJs play punk, garage and classic rock-and-roll, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Ryles Dance Hall
Wepa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sunday of each month, DJ Nik and DJ Hernan play salsa music, 6-10 pm, $12.

Saint
Spice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night featuring Latin and International grooves, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock, retro and hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Tiki Room
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

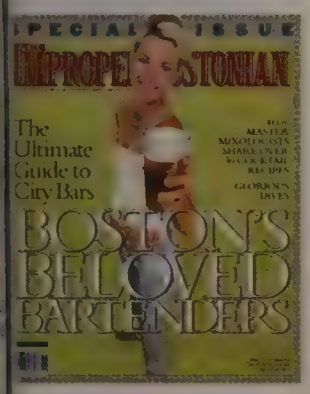
Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Cosmopolitan *33 Batterymarch St., Boston (617-695-9333).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
Gypsy Bar *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Liquor Store *The Alley, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851)*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300)*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2580).*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*







It's time again for you to choose

BOSTON'S BELOVED BARTENDERS

Who's your favorite bartender? _____

Where does he/she work? _____

Which night(s) does he/she work? _____

What's his/her signature drink? _____

What makes him/her the best? _____

_____

_____

Your name/phone number/e-mail: _____

[Deadline: January 3, 2005]

WHAT MAKES A GREAT BARTENDER?

Is it sheer *Cocktail*-esque flair with the bottles, an encyclopedic knowledge of potent potions, a simple willingness to go through the credit-card routine for someone with a two-drink tab? We want to know. Pick up a pen and tell us who makes the mixes, pours the pints and sets up the shots that shake and stir your unflagging adoration. Show your appreciation by voting to immortalize your favorite mixologist in our next Beloved Bartender issue.

Send to:
BELOVED BARTENDERS
The Improper Bostonian Magazine
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor, Boston, MA 02116
Fax: 617-859-1446







museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors

Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum

Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Closely Focused, Intensely Felt: Selections from the Norma Jean Calderwood Collection of Islamic Art* features Persian artwork from the last millennium. Through Jan. 2. •*Masterworks of East Asian Painting* features works on paper and silk from China, Korea and Japan. Through April 13.

Carpenter Center for Visual Arts

24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors. •*Retrospection Under Duress, Reprise* is a solo exhibition of works by Stephen Prina. Dec. 2-Jan. 7. •*Huyghe + Corbusier: Harvard Project* features a puppet opera, a film and a temporary architectural extension of the Carpenter Center by artist Pierre Huyghe. Through April 17.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park

51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $6; students and seniors, $4. •Robert ParkeHarrison's *The Architect's Brother* is a five-part exhibition of photographs that contemplate the fate of the planet. Through Jan. 2. •*Luminous Forms: Abstractions in Color Photography* features photographs that focus on color, form and light as their subjects. Through Jan. 2. •*Henry Richardson: Chiseled Orb and Mortal Coil* is an exhibition featuring the artist's large glass sculptures. Through Jan. 2. •*Abstract Elements: The Dr. Beatrice H. Barrett Collection of Art* is a selection of abstract works by regional and international 20th-century artists. Through July 31.

Fogg Art Museum/Busch-Reisinger Museum

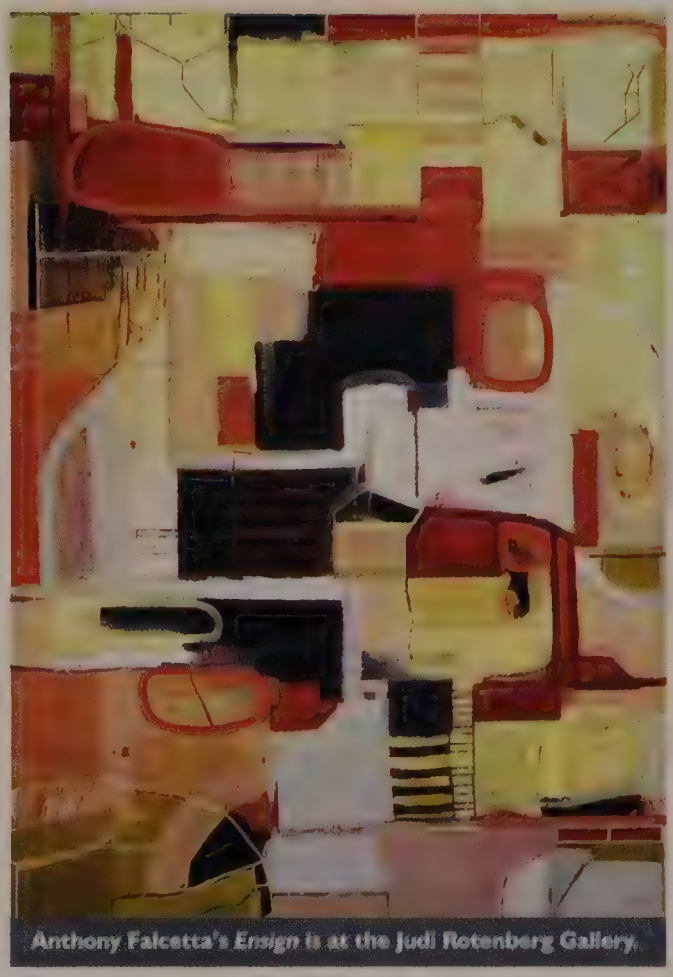
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Dependent Objects* displays multidimensional works by German artists that both defy and embrace the concepts of object and sculpture in art. Through Jan. 2. •*Prints: System, Style and Subject* is a history of printmaking and graphic systems. Through Jan. 30. •*Extra Ordinary Every Day: The Bauhaus at the Busch-Reisinger* is an online exhibition that can be accessed at www.artmuseums.harvard.edu/sites/eoed. Through 2005. •*Rococo Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* is an ongoing exhibit. •*To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* is an ongoing display of 19th-century art. •The exhibits *Basic Research: A Selection of Postwar German Painting and Sculpture* and *The Figure in French Sculpture 1780-1900* are ongoing. •*Highlights from the Carpenter Center Photography Collection* are on display through March 20.

French Library and Cultural Center

53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Fri. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. Free. •Local artist Susan Stone presents an exhibit of portraits using watercolor, oil, pastel and silverpoint media. Dec. 1-Jan. 4.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •*Origins: Life's First Three Billion Years* explores the evolution of life on Earth through paleontological, molecular-biological and geochemical research. Through April. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species, by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline*



Anthony Falcetta's *Ensign II* at the Judi Rotenberg Gallery.

showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5. •*Boris Mikhailov: A Retrospective* features more than 500 photographs by the Russian photographer. Through Jan. 2. •*Momentum 2/Lucy McKenzie* is an exhibition of new pop culture–inspired works. Through Jan. 2.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; seniors, $7; students, $5. members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18 free. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •*Holiday Table* is an annual installation inspired by Isabella Stewart Gardner's holiday dinner parties. Through Jan. 9. •*Off the Wall: New Perspectives on Early Italian Art at the Gardner Museum* is an exhibition of works by Giotto, Giuliano da Rimini and Fra Angelico. Through Jan. 9. •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. •Elaine Reichek's embroideries depicting Biblical images borrowed from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists display online in the virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum

Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $8; seniors and students $6; children ages 13-17 $4; children 12 and under admitted free. •In honor of this election year, *Campaign!* is an exhibition following JFK's nomination, campaign and inauguration, from 1960-61. Through Jan. 20.

McMullen Museum of Art

Boston College, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill, (617-552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Mon.-Fri., 11 am-3 pm.; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Fernand Khnopff: Inner Visions and Landscapes* includes more than 80 paintings by the European symbolist. Through Dec. 5.

MIT List Visual Arts Center

20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. The museum's permanent collection includes more than 1,500 contemporary art works including paintings, murals, sculptures, photography and prints. • *Body Parts: A Self-Portrait by John Coplans* includes black-and-white images of Coplans' aging body and a series of large photographs completed before the artist's death. Through Dec. 31. •*Cerith Wyn Evans: Thoughts unsaid, now forgotten...* is an installation by the Welsh artist. Through Dec. 31.•*Yael Bartana: Three Works* is an exhibition of three short videos focusing on everyday life in Israel. Through Dec. 31.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5; students and seniors, $3; children, $1. •*The Art of Structural Design: A Swiss Legacy* highlights Swiss influences in 20th-century architecture. Through Dec. 30. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features works by the self-described cross between "a mechanical engineer and a choreographer." Ongoing.

Museum of Afro-American History

46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. •*Visual Stories: The Artwork of James Ransome* features paintings depicting important moments in black history. Through Dec. 31. •*The Times We Had* is an ongoing exhibition spotlighting Boston's African-American community of the 19th century. •*Building on a Firm Foundation* is a 17-minute multimedia presentation that looks at 19th-century Beacon Hill through the eyes of an African-American teenager. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15; students and seniors, $13; children 17 and under, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free (doesn't include special exhibitions). •*Art Deco: 1910-1939* features more then 240 works, including furniture, textiles, ceramics, fashion and jewelry. Through Jan. 9. •*Josef Sudek: Poet with a Camera* is an exhibition of the Czech photographer's landscapes, still-lifes and architectural photos. Through Jan. 17. •*Cerith Wyn Evans* is an installation of seven chandeliers flashing Morse code. Through Jan. 30. •*High Style and Hoopskirts: The 1850s* features mid-19th-century men's and women's clothing. Through March 13. •*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13; seniors, $11; children, $10. •*Strange Matter* features 10 "experience pods" that explore the use of everyday materials in cardiac surgery, space exploration and more-common events. Through Jan. 2. •*Roar: Lions of the Kalahari* explores vast and harsh African landscapes and the day-to-day life and power struggles of the Kalahari lion. Through Feb. 17. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum

33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Allen Sisters Pictorial Photographs* is a collection of 25 platinum prints dating from 1885-1920. Through Dec. 12. •*A Changing World: New England in the Photographs of Verner Reed, 1950-1972* displays through Jan. 2. •Learn how mail-order catalogs revolutionized American shopping in *Satisfaction Guaranteed*. Through Feb. 6. •*Western Pursuit of the American Dream*, a compilation of artifacts and sculpture from the American West, shows through April 24. •*The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'd*, an exhibition of 18th-century local history, is ongoing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household objects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. •*To Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community* is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; students, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem, free. •*Havana: Photographs by Robert Polidori* features 18 large-scale photographs. Through Jan. 9. •*Bringing Japan to Boston* features Japanese artifacts from the Edward S. Morse Collection. Through April 30. •*Carved by Nature* displays ancient Chinese wood carvings. Through June. •*In Nature's Company* is an exhibition of nature-inspired works by 20 Massachusetts artists. Through Sept. 18. •The only installation of its kind in North America, *Yin Yu Tang* is a Chinese merchant's home from the late Qing Dynasty, relocated and reconstructed. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students, $6; children, $5. •*Field Photography, The Marsh Arabs of Iraq, 1934* features 34 prints of Arab tribes in the marshlands of southern Iraq. Through Feb. 28. •*Bringing Japan to Boston: the Edward S. Morse Collection* is a rare display of Japanese artifacts collected from 1877-1879. Through April. •*Painted by a Distant Hand: Mimbres Pottery from the American Southwest* features artifacts from New Mexico's Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through June. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through December. •*Imazighen! Beauty and Artisanship in Berber Life* features 20th-century artifacts by North Africa's Berbers. Dec.1-June 30.•*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments* features the museum's large Mesoamerican cast collection. Ongoing. •*Hall of the North American Indian: Change and Continuity* features art depicting the response of Native Americans across the continent to the arrival of Europeans. Ongoing. •*Encounters with the Americas* is an ongoing exhibition featuring original sculpture and plaster casts of Mesoamerican cultures. •*Pacific Islands Hall*, another ongoing exhibition, displays artifacts from the Pacific Islands.

Rose Art Museum

415 South St.,Waltham (781-736-3434). www.brandeis.edu/rose. MBTA: Commuter Rail Fitchburg/South Acton Line to Brandeis/Roberts Station. $3 (children under 12 free). Tue.-Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Tandoori Satori and Commonplace*, a collection of paintings and watercolors by Italian painter Fransesco Clemente, displays through Dec. 12. •*The Empty City* features Yun-Fei Ji's sketches and paintings depicting the displaced inhabitants and environmental destruction of China's 2009 Three Gorges Dam Project. Through Dec. 12. •*Tide Table* is a short hand-drawn animated film by artist William Kentridge. Through Dec. 12.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art

38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue. Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Inner Visions and Landscapes* paintings by Fernand Knopff, shows through Dec. 5.

Alianza Gallery

154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). www.alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*The Accessories Show* features functional and nonfunctiona interpetations of clothing accessories. *The Jewelry Show* features works by four New England artists Through Dec. 31.

Alpha Gallery

14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue. Thu., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Susanna Coffey shows portraits and self-portraits. Through Dec.1. •Scott Prio shows landscapes, interiors and still lifes. Dec. 4-Jan. 5

Arden Gallery

129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Joann Mattera shows new panel paintings. Dec. 1-30.

Artana

1378 Beacon St. Suite B, Brookline (617-879-3111 www.artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green Line t Coolidge Corner. Tue.- Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am

7 pm. •*Holiday Group Show* features 40 new paintings. Dec. 3-30.

Art Attack
108 Beacon St., Boston (617-441-3833). www.artattack108.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Tue.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •Caleb Sonik displays graffiti art inspried by Kathmandu and Nepal. Dec. 8-Jan. 14.

Art Interactive
130 Bishop Allen Dr., Cambridge (617-498-0100). www.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Paper Sculpture Show* displays through January.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •An exhibition of sculpture, drawings and prints by Fred Sandback displays through Dec. 8.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Transitions*, a show of works by Rose deSmith Greenman, displays through Dec. 31.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Phil Bergerson shows new photographs. Dec. 1-24.

Boston Sculptors Gallery
486 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-7781). www.bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •A group show of contemporary works by 28 New England sculptors displays Dec. 3-24.

Brickbottom Gallery
1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5. •*Affordable Art* is a group show of small works. Dec. 5-15.

Bromfield Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-451-3605). www.bromfieldartgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-5. •The *10 X 10 Holiday Show* displays artwork 10" x 10" or smaller by local artists. Dec. 1-18.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Mammoth St., Brookline (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri. 9 am-4:30 pm. •*The 30th Annual Crafts Showcase* features ceramics, jewlery, metalwork, boutique clothing, woodwork, glass, photography, prints and watercolors. Dec. 2-19.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). www.cmacusa.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •Jamal Elias shows black-and-white portraits of people in Bangladesh in *33-Life Apart*. Through Jan. 6. •Faye Zhang shows calligraphy and landscape paintings in *Word Path*. Through Jan. 7.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •Steve Hollinger shows sculpture. Dec. 1-31.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Three exhibits—*Boston Scenes* (paintings), *Les Petits Tableaux* (paintings) and *We Like It So Much* (prints)—display through Jan. 7.

Clifford-Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 300, Boston (617-695-0255). www.cliffordsmithgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Penn Young shows sculpture.Through Jan. 1.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •The annual *Small Works* art sale event features more than 1,000 small paintings, sculptures, photographs and prints. Through Dec. 24.

Crump McCole Gallery
200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Painters of the New Boston* features works by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •Michael Harlan Domina shows new paintings. Through Jan. 3.

Equator Gallery
150 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-540-9236). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.equatorgallery.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •The gallery specializes in Latin American fine art, including paintings, textiles and ceramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •Kathy A. Halamka and Nicole Margaretten show their work in *Liminal Space–Constructing Home*. Through Dec. 11.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu. and Sat.,12-5 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm. •*Recent Paintings*, a show of works by Barbara Baum and Vasta-Carr, displays through Dec. 18.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 305, Boston (617-423-6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Structure* is a group show of photography by Aaron Siskand, Alex MacLean and others. Dec. 3-Jan. 15.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •George Nick shows new paintings. Through Dec. 18.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Calvin Brown presents a retrospective of abstract paintings from 1978 to the present. Through Dec. 2.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.haleysteele.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •The gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prints. Ongoing.

HallSpace
31 Norfolk Ave., Boston (617-989-9985). www.hallspace.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., by appointment; Fri. and Sat., 12-5 pm. •Cynthia Von Buhler and Leonie Bradbury show their work in *I Am No Angel*. Through Dec. 11.

Harriet Tubman House
566 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-8610). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., 8 am- 9 pm; Fri., 8 am-7 pm. •Eric Antoniou shows photographs in *1,000 Hands*. Dec. 8-Feb. 4.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •John Coplans shows self portraits. Through Dec. 24.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Fresh from Providence* features new work by Anthony Falcetta and Dave Cole. Dec. 2-30.

Kaji Aso Studio
40 St. Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www.kajiasostudio.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Tue. and Thu., 4:30-6:30 pm; Sat., 3-5 pm, and by appointment. •*The Annual Holiday Store* features ceramics, paintings, jewelry and prints. Through December.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •California artist Morgan Carver shows paintings. Dec. 1-Jan. 15.

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay Station. Tue.-Sat., 12 pm-5 pm and by appointment. •Janet Hansen Kawada displays fiber art works *The Sisterhood*. Through Dec. 24.

Lanoue Fine Art
160 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4400). www.lanouefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The gallery's collection features works by international and local artists including Andrew Saftel, Ruth Block, Emil Alzamora and Carrie McGee.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Great Gifts, Small Packages* is a group show of works by Cynthia Simonds, Bernice Koff, Jack Charney, Jon Bush, Dick Huss, Rebecca Scott and Sarah Hicks. Through Dec. 31.

Mark Gallery
141 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6275). www.markartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm, and by appointment. •*The Gift* features works by 20 artists. Through Dec. 23.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Daniel Robinson displays his new paintings. Through Dec. 28.

Miller Block Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). www.millerblockgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30-5:30 pm. •Kay Ruane shows graphite drawings in *Lucid Dream*, and Jane Masters shows recent works on paper in *Oops!*. Through Dec. 23.

Mills Gallery
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed., Thu. and Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-10 pm. •*Cut* is an exhibition of sculpture, painting and drawings by Chris Nau, Randal Thurston and Debra Weisberg. Through Jan. 9.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*Blue Show* displays works in all media, all depicted in various expressions of the color blue. Dec. 2-Jan. 29.

MPG Contemporary
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-8881). www.mpgallery.net. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Prints and Drawings*, a group show of works by eight area artists, shows Dec. 3-21.

NAO Project Gallery
535 Albany St., Boston (617-451-2977). www.naoprojectgallery.info. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Sat., 12-5 pm and by appointment. •Debra Weisberg presents new sculpture works. Through Dec. 19.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •John Walker displays new paintings through Dec. 4.

OHT Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-1677). www.ohtgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*White, Black, and Inbetween* features works by Katherine Jackson, Peik Larsen, Marietta Hoferer, Ryan Steadman and others. Dec. 3-22.

OSP Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 304, Boston (617-778-5265). www.ospgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am- 5 pm. •Jill Moser shows abstract monotypes and drawings in *Pairings*. Through Dec. 27.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •A local-artists showcase is ongoing. •Rachel Berman shows mixed-media murals in *The Length and Breadth of Land*. Through Dec. 3.


Billboard by Rachael Fallace is at MPG Contemporary through December 21.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Tabitha Vevers shows miniature oil-on-ivory paintings from her *Lover's Eye* series. Through Dec. 23.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Mallory Lake shows pastel Italian landscapes in *Mystery and Light*. Dec. 4-Jan. 5.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Laura Letinsky and D.W. Mellor: Still Life* is a photography exhibition. Through Jan. 15.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat., 11 am-5:00 pm. •*Fine Lithographs and Etchings* features works by Marc Chagall, Joan Miro, Georges Rouault and others. Through Dec. 31.

Samson Projects
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-7177). www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Fri.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •Jeffrey Gibson shows paintings and Rune Olsen shows sculptures in *The Urge That Binds*. Dec. 3-Jan. 14.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •William St. George, Christina Keating, Judy St. Peters, Anne Grandin, and Sandra Dick shows paintings. Dec.1-31.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*A Centennial Exhibition: Polly Thayer Starr, A Celebration of the Artist's 100th Birthday* features paintings, drawings and watercolors. Through Dec. 31.

Wentworth Gallery
The Mall at Chestnut Hill, 199 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-262-8770). www.wentworthgallery.com. Mon.-Fri. 10 am-9:30 pm; Sat. 10 am-8 pm; Sun. 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection features works by Dali, Chagall and Miro.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. •*We Skate Hardcore* is a collection of photographs and video images by Vincent Cianni. Through Feb. 3.

Panopticon Gallery Kenmore
502-C Comm Ave., Boston (617-267-8929). www.panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-7 pm. •*A Photo Medley* is a group show of photography by gallery artists. Through Jan. 15.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www.panopt.com. Commuter Rail to Waltham. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •*Picture Taken* is an exhibition of anonymous vintage snapshots. Through Jan. 15.

Photographic Resource Center
Boston University Art Gallery, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-975-0600). www.bu.edu/prc. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University West. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. •*In the Vernacular: Everyday Photographs from the Rodger Kingston Collection* is a group show including family, found and domestic photographs. *Contemporary Vernacular* features modern artists' responses to everyday photos of the past. Through Jan. 23.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Charlestown Open Studios
Stove Factory Gallery and Studios, 523 Medford St., Charlestown (617-241-0130). www.bostonopenstudios.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Community College. Dec. 4 and 5, 11 am-5 pm. The seventh annual Charlestown Open Studios and Holiday Show features works by neighborhood artists.

Crafts at the Castle
30 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-523-6400). www.artfulgift.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Dec. 3 and 4, 10 am-8 pm; Dec. 5, 10 am-5 p m. $15, $12 seniors. Close to 100 artists show their crafts for a juried exhibition.

Hyde Park Open Studios
(617-276-3223). www.hydeparkopenstudios.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Readville Station. Dec. 4 and 5, 12-5 pm. More than 100 artists from the Hyde Park/Readville area show their work at 12 locations throughout the community.

books & poetry

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Books and Poetry or e-mail to books @improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1

Barnes and Noble at BU
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-236-7448). www.bu.bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 6 pm. Free. *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy* host **Kyan Douglas** reads from his book, *Beautified!: Secrets for Women to Look Great and Feel Fabulous*, in which he gives women style advice and grooming tips.

Brandeis University
Shapiro Campus Center, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-4205). www.brandeis.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 12 pm. Free. Brandeis University scientist **Rosalind Barnett** discusses the book she cowrote, *Same Difference: Why Gender Myths Are Hurting Our Relationships, Our Children and Our Jobs*, which downplays the importance of innate differences between the sexes.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Donald Pfarrer** discusses his novel *The Fearless Man: A Novel of Vietnam*, about a Marine captain, his infantry squad, and their stories of courage and cowardice.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. **Nancy Pick** reads from *Rarest of the Rare: The Stunning Specimens at the Harvard Museum of Natural History*, a book she co-authored with photographer Mark Sloan that traces the history of the institution and its artifacts.

Hotel Marlowe
25 Edwin Land Blvd., Cambridge (617-395-2523). www.hotelmarlowe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. 6:15 pm. Free. **Christopher Castellani** reads from his novel, *A Kiss from Maddalena*, a WWII love story about the people left behind in a small town when most of the townsmen have gone to war.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Margot Livesey** reads from her novel *Banishing Verona*, about two people who are separated less than 24 hours after beginning an affair.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. Former children's book publisher **Anita Silvey** discusses her book, *100 Best Chirldren's Books*, in which she describes her favorite children's books and tells the stories behind their creation.

Trident Bookseller & Caffé
338 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-8688). www.tridentbookscafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 7 pm. Free. **Sholeh Wolpe** reads from her poetry.

Village Books
751 South St., Roslindale (617-325-1994). www.village-books.net. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Rosindale Village. 7 pm. Free. Christian Science Monitor senior book editor **Ron Charles** talks about how he chooses which books to review and reveals his choices for the year's most underrated books.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

Boston Public Library
Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-2270). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 2 pm. Free. Judge **Hiller Zobel** reads from his book *Boston Massacre*, which examines John Adams' defense of the British soldiers who were tried for the massacre. •Also, at 6 pm in Conference room 5, Vassar College professor of philosophy **Giovanna Borradori** discusses her book *Philosophy in a Time of Terror*, in which she interviews two modern philosophers, Jurgen Habernas and Jacques Derrida, about their views on the post Sept. 11 world.



Michael Holley reads December 7

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Margot Livesey** reads from her novel *Banishing Verona*. See Dec. 1 Newtonville Books listing for description.

Emerson College
Emerson Room, 80 Boylston St., Boston (617-824-8750). www.emerson.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Park. 7 pm. Free. **Junot Diaz** reads from *Drown*, his collection of short stories about life in struggling communities in the Dominican Republic, New York and New Jersey.

Harvard Book Store
Harvard Information Center, 1350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-0372). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Anita Desai** reads from her novel *The Zigzag Way*, about a young American man's path to self-discovery in 20th-century Mexico.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Mother **Clare Watts** discusses her book *Giving Birth to God: A Woman's Path to Enlightenment*, about her spritual development based on her experiences as a midwife, mother and mystical Christian teacher.

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. **Maria Flook** reads from *Lux: A Novel*, a dark comedy set on Cape Cod about a woman who falls for the man who's believed to have killed her husband.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3

Kate's Mystery Books
2211 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-2660). www.katesmysterybooks.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 5:30 pm. Free. Kate's Mystery Books hosts its annual holiday party. Authors including **Robert Parker**, **Dennis Lehane** and **Jane Langton** sign copies of their books.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 2 pm. Free. Thoreau scholar and curator of collections at the Thoreau Institute at WaldenWoods **Jeffrey S. Cramer** discusses his book *Walden: A Fully Annotated Version*, in which he provides annotations to accompany Thoreau's classic text.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. **Lan Samantha Chang** reads from her novel *Inheritance*, about a love triangle within a distinguished Chinese circle. Also, **Rachel De Woskin** reads from her memoir, *Foreign Babes in Beijing*, about her experience playing an American vixen on a Chinese soap opera.

Boston University
Jacob Sleeper Auditorium, 871 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2510). www.bu.edu/writing. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7:30 pm. Free. BU faculty members **Martha Cooley**, **Leslie Epstein**, **Geoffrey Hill**, **Ha Jin**, **Daphne Kalotay**, **Robert Pinskey**, **Derek Walcott** and **Rosanna Warren** read from selected works.

Harvard Book Store
First Parish Church, corner of Mass. Ave. and Church St., Cambridge (617-661-0372). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30 pm. Free. Harvard professor **Harvey Cox** discusses his book *When Jesus Came to Harvard: Making Moral Choices Today*, which examines contemporary approaches to looking at the meaning of Jesus.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7

Barnes and Noble at the Prudential Center
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-247-6959). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12 pm. Free. **Rosalie T. Masella** discusses her book, *Rosalie's Guide to Restaurants in the North End of Boston*.

Borders Books
10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). www.borders stores.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. Free. Former *Boston Globe* sports columnist **Michael Holley** reads from his book *Patriot Reign: Bill Belichick, the Coaches and the Players Who Built a Champion*, which takes an in-depth look at the championship football team.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Editor of the *New York Post* and the *Daily News* **Pete Hamill** disusses his latest book, *Downtown: My Manhattan*, which offers historical and personal perpectives on the author's hometown.

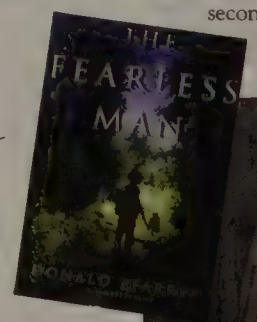
Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. Poets **Kathleen Aguero**, **Dan Tobin** and **Jean Monahan** read from selected works.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8

An Evening with Gary Baseman
The Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7 pm. Free. ABC's *Teacher's Pet* creator **Gary Baseman** discusses his new art book, *Dumb Luck: The Art of Gary Baseman*, a collection of his paintings.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2012). www.harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Harvard professor **Alan Dershowitz** discusses his newest book, *Rights from Wrongs: The Origins of Human Rights in the Experience of Injustice*, about his theory that human rights derive from the world's expereince with injustice.



New England Poetry Club
Yenching Library, 2 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (781-643-0029). www.nepoetryclub.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Poet **Jennifer Barber** reads from her work.

Porter Square Books
25 White St., Cambridge (617-491-2220). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 7 pm. Free. *Boston Globe* science writer **Ann Parson** discusses her book *The Proteus Effect: Stem Cells and Their Promise for Medicine*, an account of the controversial practice of stem cell research.

Village Books
751 South St., Roslindale (617-325-1994). www.village-books.net. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Needham Line to Rosindale Village. 7 pm. Free. Musician **Susan J. Gedutis** reads from her book, *See You at the Hall: Boston's Golden Era of Irish Music and Dance*, about Roxbury during the '40s, '50s and '60s when the neighborhood was a hub for Irish music. She also performs holiday music.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11

McIntyre and Moore Books
255 Elm St., Somerville (617-628-2313). www.authorsden.com/douglasholder. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 5 pm. Free. Ibbetson Street contributors **Douglas Holder**, **Robert K. Johnson**, **Lo Galluccio** and **Deb Priestly** read from their short works.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $3. **Tony Sanders** and **Robert Cording** read from their poetry.

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-2270). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. Free. Boston College sociology professor **Jeanne Guillemin** discusses her latest book, *Biological Weapons: From the Invention of State-Sponsored Programs to Contemporary Bioterrorism*, which examines the history of biological and chemical weaponry from WWI to the present.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14

Harvard Book Store
Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-661-0372). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30 pm. Free. **Susanna Clarke** discusses her novel *Jonathan Strange & Mr. Norrell*, about two rival magicians in 19th-century England.

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. 21+. $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge hosts this poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). www.poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $5. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background music for the poetry slam team.

New Voices Open Mike (Third Friday)
Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $5. The Center hosts this open mike for women and their allies with five- and 10-minute slots available.

Out of the Blue Gallery (Saturdays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Mondays, 8 pm (7:30 pm sign-up): Jack Powers hosts Stone Soup, with poetry features and an open mike. $4 donation suggested. •Saturdays, 8 pm Come share or listen to poetry and prose. Deborah Priestly hosts. $3-$5 suggested donation.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). MBTA Blue Line to Government Center. 6:30 pm. Free. The second Thursday of each month offers a selection of featured poets and an opportunity for others to take the open mike.


Donald Pfarrer discusses his new novel at Brookline Booksmith December 1.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Education or e-mail to education@improper.com. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1

Bill T. Jones: A Conversation About Making and Doing
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 6:30 pm (sold out). **Bill T. Jones**, choreographer, dancer and co-founder of the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company, speaks about his career.

Breadwinners, Caregivers and Sluts: Russian Jewish Women in Israel
Brandeis University Women's Studies Research Center, 515 South St., Waltham (781-736-2064). www.brandeis.edu. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Waltham Center. 4 pm. Free. **Larissa Remennick**, a sociology professor at Israel's Bar Ilan University, discusses the challenges Russian Jewish women face when they emigrate to Israel.

World AIDS Day
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 4:45-8 pm. $5-7. In honor of World AIDS Day, activist and filmmaker **Gregg Bordowitz** and art historian **James Meyer** discuss the current AIDS crisis after a screening of Bordowitz' film *Habit*, about contemporary AIDS activism.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

John Adams for the Defense—of What?
Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 2 pm. Free. Retired Massachusetts Superior Court associate justice **Hiller B. Zobel** discusses John Adams' defense of the British soldiers who stood trial for the Boston Massacre.

Origins of the Separate but Equal Doctrine
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. 10:30 am. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. $2 ($1 seniors). Legal historian **Alonzo D. Saunders** discusses origins of the doctrine, later ruled unconstitutional, that permitted "separate but equal" facilities for different ethnic groups, as well as some historic cases.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3

While You Were Sleeping: The Migrants We Miss at Night
Peabody Essex Museum, Phillips Library, East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www.pem.org. 7:45 pm. Free. **Andrew Farnsworth** of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology discusses the nocturnal activities of migrating birds.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

Don't Leave Me Hanging! A Look into the Museum's Gallery and Architectural Space
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 2 pm. Free with museum admission. **Jamisen Jenkins** discusses the MFA's interior.

Ferrari and the Evolution of Grand Prix Technology
Larz Anderson Auto Museum, 15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). www.mot.org. 1 pm. $9. **Peter Wright**, author of *Ferrari Formula 1: Under the Skin of the Championship-Winning F1-2000*, discusses his experience working with Scuderia Ferrari and F1 racing.

Hidden in Plain View: The Children's Rights Movement in Historical Perspective
National Heritage Museum, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington. (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. 2 pm. Free. University of Memphis history professor **Joseph M. Hawes** discusses children's rights from the colonial period to the development of state services and child-protective agencies.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6

Ho Chi Minh: A Portrait
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us/library. 7:30 pm. Free. Artist **C. David Thomas** discusses the book he compiled, *Ho Chi Minh: A Portrait*, which includes unpublished samples of Ho's writing and poetry from his prison diary, as well as historic photos and illustration.

More Lasting Than Brass: A Thread of Family from Revolutionary New York to Industrial Connecticut
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-6500). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. Free. **Peter Haring Judd**, author of *More Than Lasting Brass*, discusses the research that went into his book, which chronicles seven generations of a New Engalnd family.

What's Happened to the News?
JFK Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston. (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/Umass. 5:30 pm-7 pm. Free. Washington Post executive editor **Ben Bradlee** and *60 Minutes* creator **Don Hewitt** discuss the evolution of print and broadcast news over the past 40 years.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9

Conserving Wild Russia
Harvard Museum of Natural History, Geological Lecture Hall, 24 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-496-6972). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free. **Margaret Williams**, director of the Center for Russian Nature Conservation, discusses Russia's role in protecting the world's remote places.

The Situation in Darfur
JFK Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston. (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/Umass. 5:30 pm-7 pm. Free. **Jennifer Leaning** of Harvard School of Public Health, **Eric Reeves** of Smith College and **Alex de Waal** of Harvard's Global Equity Initiative discuss the civil conflict in Sudan's Darfur region. **William Schulz** of Amnesty International moderates.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

Boston Tea Party Reenactment
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 5:30-7:30 pm. $5. WBZ news anchor **Jack Williams** hosts this 231st-anniversary reenactment of the Boston Tea Party.

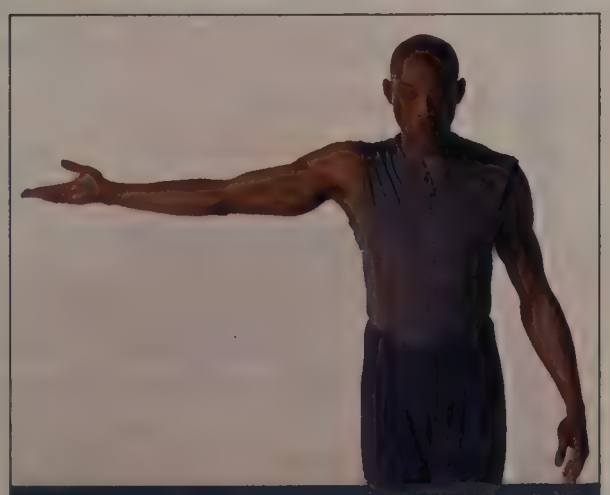
MONDAY, DECEMBER 13

Basic Documentary Filmmaking: A Demonstration of Shooting and Editing
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-6500). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. Free. This first session of a two-part series covers basic production techniques, such as close-ups and long shots with two video cameras. (See Dec. 15 listing for details on the second session.)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14

The Andersons as Collectors
Larz Anderson Auto Museum, 15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). www.mot.org. 7pm. Free. **Emily Schulz**, curator of Anderson House in Washington, D.C., discusses the history of the Anderson family.

Basic Documentary Filmmaking: A Demonstration of Shooting and Editing
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-6500). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. Free. The second session of this two-part series (see Dec. 13 listing for part one) focuses on editing the footage from session one and creating a five-minute video.



Bill T. Jones gives a lecture at the Museum of Fine Arts December 1

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Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am.; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $8 under 21. $5 for 21+. DJ John Morris spins progressive house for Lust, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $15, 21+. Sunday night parties include three separate dance floors and drag acts. Resident DJ Ted Elison spins house music.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show, and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Club Europa (Fridays)
57 Stuart St., Boston (617-417-0186). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.twistboston.com. Fri., 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+ after 11 pm. DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s tunes at this women's night.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). www.fritzboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 12 pm-2 am. This gay sports bar, with four large-screen plasma TVs, serves brunch Saturday and Sunday.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $8 weekends, 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month, the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground features musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Tuesdays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Latin night with resident DJ Amador, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Tue.: Service Industry Night, with DJ Afrodite.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 19+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: New Wave Dance Party with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Milky Way Lounge (Sundays)
401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+. Every Sunday the Milky Way Lounge presents Satellite, a queer night for women. Live entertainment varies from week to week and includes Fireballs Drag Bingo, spoken-word events and jazz.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Omar. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

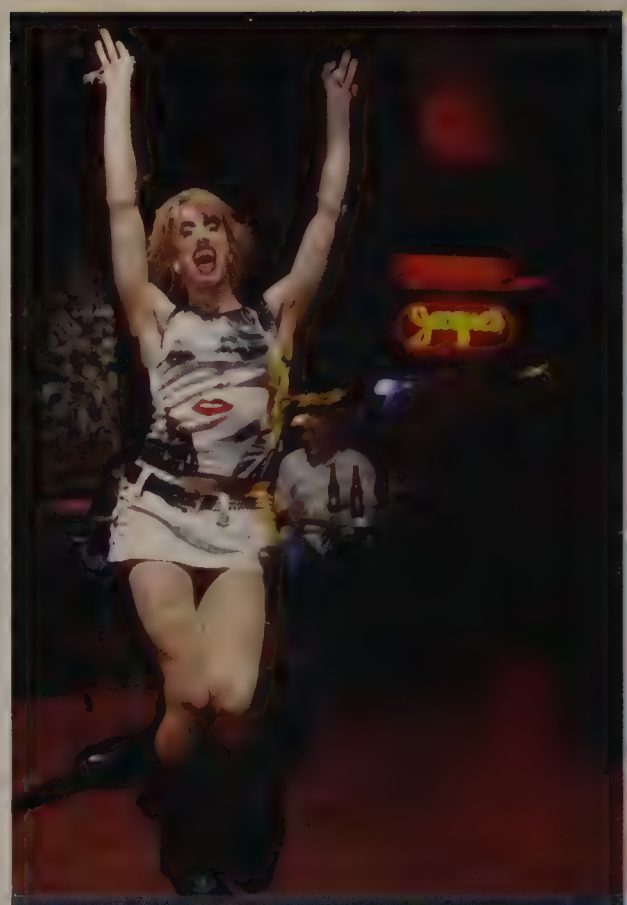
Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This private, members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-587-0000). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am. $15. 21+. DJ Danae of Star 93.7 spins house music in the main room while DJ Mikey spins new wave, '80s funk and electro-clash in the side room. There are also occasional drag shows with Eileen Dover.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room and video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.


Jacques Cabaret hosts an assortment of nightly drag shows.

Shows & Events

Honah Lee Holiday Extravaganza
Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center, 85 West Newton St., Boston (617-927-0061). www.claboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Dec. 9. 7-11 pm. $8. Shop for holiday merchandise from local shops and enjoy live performances by Through the Keyhole Burlesque, the Boston League of Women Wrestlers and the Campaign for the Real Time. The event is hosted by Boston drag king Heywood Wakefield.

Let's Talk About Stress: Relaxation Through Yoga and Meditation
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6026). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Dec. 2. 7-9 pm. Living Well presents yoga instructor Danny Arguetti's program for gay men that focuses on relieving stress and finding ways to lead a more peaceful and fulfilling life.

MLGBA Holiday Party
Anthem, 138 Portland St., Boston (617 984-0535). www.mlgba.org. MBTA: Green Line to North Station. Dec. 9. 5:30 pm. $30. MLGBA, a voluntary statewide association of lesbian, gay and bisexual professionals within the Massachusetts legal community, celebrates its Annual Eastern Mass. Holiday Party.

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 6-9 pm. The Boston Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women share thoughts about books, videos and other topics of interest in a supportive environment.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tuesday of the month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

Boston Bay Blades
www.bayblades.org/boston. All are welcome to join this competitive, recreational group of rowers and scullers.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). www.bgbl.com. The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year.





Boston Gay Skins
Ramrod, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). www.bostongayskins.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 11 pm. Boston's nonracist gay skinhead collective meets the third Friday of the month.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri, 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. www.lesbianavengers.org. Thu., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu. MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
(617-417-0876). Third Saturday of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for interested parents and their partners. For info, e-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-424-9595). www.biresource.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. First Wednesday and third Thursday of each month, 7 pm, free. An informal group for people who think they may be bisexual or are attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning People
(617-256-8693). This group discusses the challenges and joys of coming out. It meets Thursday nights, from 7-8:30 pm, in Cambridge.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area support, information and social group for people assigned female at birth who feel that is not an accurate or complete description of their gender. Part of the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group meets monthly. E-mail CompassFTM@usa.com for details.

East Coast Wrestling Club
(401-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www.eastcoastwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay male wrestlers has more than 160 members.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional women 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophisticated to get together with like-minded women for conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Fenway Community Health
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Fenway Community Health offers a wide array of programs and services for the GLBT community ranging from discussions about parenting and safe-sex practices to domestic violence and substance abuse. Call for more information

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Join Boston's GLBT Flag Football League for a casual spring season, followed by a formal fall season. All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring.com/~frontrunners. Sat., 10 am. All are welcome to join this running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Group
Boston (address available upon request). Learn more about photography, socialize and meet new people at these monthly meetings. For more information e-mail amateurgphoto@yahoo.com.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
(617-267-9001 or 888-340-4528). Mon.-Fri., 6-11 pm; Sat. and Sun., 5-10 pm. This confidential, toll-free hotline provides support for GLBT and questioning callers.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Professionals Building Community
(617-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to join this networking organization for GLBT professionals. Monthly networking meetings.

Gaymes Group
(508-339-4250). Members of this social group for gay men and lesbians get together on a regular basis to play board, card and parlor games.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second Thursday of each month. 7:30 pm. $5-$10. Members of the GLBT community are invited to share poetry, prose or performance pieces at this open-mike event.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

Girlz 2 Girlz
(781-893-6113). This mentoring program is for girls ages 13-19 who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered. For information, contact Marcela Aldez-Osorio.

Laffan
Members of this social and networking group for women receive a weekly e-mail calendar of events. For info, e-mail Laffan_Boston2004@yahoo.com.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue.-Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

The Network/La Red
(617-423-7233). The Network is a support group working to end abuse in lesbian and bisexual women's and transgender communities. E-mail info@thenetworklared.org for more information.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

Peer Listening Line
(800-399-7337). Trained volunteers provide confidential information, referrals and support to their GLBT peers.

The Rainbow Café
This social group for activist, academic, intellectual or artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments. Send an e-mail to rainbow boston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatino slgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Road, Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. First Sat. of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing. $8. Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the GLBT community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the first Thursday of every month.

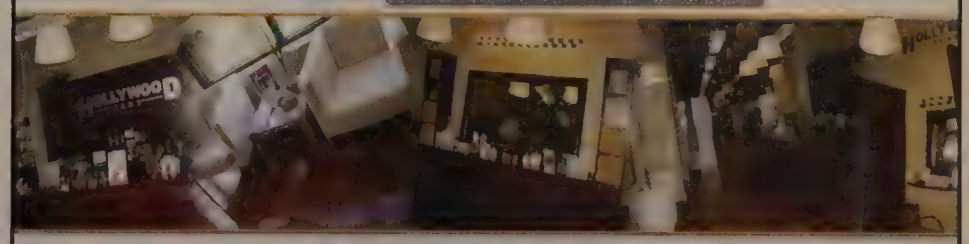
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body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Being Wholistic
Sheraton Ferncroft, Danvers (978-394-5166). www.myholisticnetwork.com. Dec. 4, 10 am-5 pm. $8. Meet local holistic health and metaphysical practitioners from a variety of disciplines. The event also features lectures, hands-on demonstrations, free samples and treatments. Proceeds benefit the MSPCA.

Holiday Herbal Open House
Scentsibilities, 750 Main St., Boylston (508-869-3300). www.scentsibilities.com. Dec. 4-5, 10 am-5:30 pm. Free. Learn how herbs are used medicinally and cosmetically at this open house.

Holiday Spiritual Festival
Swampscott Spiritualist Church, 59 Burrill St Swampscott (617-620-0888). www.fullcircleaura.com. Dec. 4, 10 am-4 pm. Donation suggested. Check out a wide variety of vendors and workshops dealing with alternative health, healing and esoteric studies. Psychic readings are also available.

Sexuality and Spirituality Network: Saturday Afternoon at the Movies
HealingHeartPower, 3 Central Ave., Newton (617-965-7846). www.healingheartpower.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. Dec. 11, 2-5 pm. $10 suggested donation. The Boston Area Sexuality and Spirituality Network screens movies pertaining to the holistic exploration of sex.

Lecture

Doctors and Healers and Gurus...Oh, My!
Wellspace, 1 New St., Fresh Pond Mall, Cambridge (617-876-2660). www.wellspace.com. MBTA: Red Line to Alewife. Dec. 3, 7-9 pm. $10. Participants learn how to select healing approaches from both Western medicine and alternative therapies that are best suited to their specific needs and health goals.

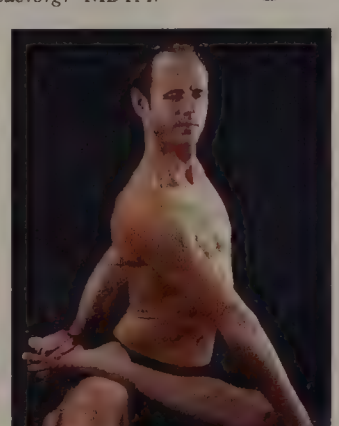
Life-Transforming Wisdom
New Acropolis Organization, First Parish Unitarian Church, 2000 Mass. Ave., #1, Cambridge (617-864-5720). www.newacropolis.org. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Dec. 3, 7:30 pm. $10. This presentation and discussion introduces ancient teachings from Socrates, Plato and the Buddha, and from Rome, Tibet, India and elsewhere.

Workshops

The Alexander Technique
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Dec. 11, 10 am-1 pm. $44. This class covers the history, principles, and application of the Alexander Technique, a practice that aims to restore good posture and reduce strain in the neck, back and shoulders by teaching participants how to correct poor postural habits.

Destress Yoga Workshop
Carmela Cattuti, 151 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-970-5320). www.yogame.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Dec. 7, 6:30-8:30 pm. $30. This restorative yoga workshop aims to release holiday tension by integrating breath, visualization and postures.

Exploring Shamanism
Amethyst Moon, 80 North Washington St., North Attleboro (508-699-0709). www.wolfcall.org. Dec. 4 and 11, 1 pm. $70. Shamans use the mind's imagination to heal the body and spirit. This class explores the roots of shamanism and its practices, along with its current resurgence and study.


Freestyle Power Flow yoga with Rusty Wells

Freestyle Power Flow Yoga with Rusty Wells
Baptiste Power Yoga Institute, 2000 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6565). www.baronbaptiste.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Dec. 12, 1-4 pm. $40. This intensive yoga session is designed to provide a physical workout, steady the mind, open up the heart and energy channels. Class includes chanting and music.

Intro to Continuum Movement
CasaNia Studio, 46 Porter Road, Cambridge (617-491-5144 or 617-628-9271). www.casania.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Dec. 5, 2-4 pm. $45. Continuum movement is about connecting with yourself, the earth and universe and tapping into innate physical movement to express feelings of wholeness.

Power of Breath
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 90 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circlesofwisdom.com. Dec. 1, 7-9 pm. $35. This class teaches ways to increase energy, reduce stress and feel more centered through guided meditation and special breathing techniques.

Psychic Development Workshop
Ross Miller, 1075 Washington St., Newton (617-527-3583). www.themysticway.com. Dec. 4, 10 am-5 pm. $95. Call to register. Psychic and healer Ross Miller discusses how to identify guardian angels and spirit guides and receive their wisdom. Participants also try to feel their aura, rediscover past lives, give psychic readings to others and more.

Reiki Clinic
Arlington Reiki Associates, 366 Mass Ave #304, Arlington (781-648-9334). www.arlingtonreiki.com. Dec. 3, 6:30-9:30 pm. $10. Come experience a Reiki Energy Healing treatment.

Sitting with the Buddha: Yoga, Art& Myth
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. Dec. 4, 2-6:30 pm. $65. Individuals age 11-17 are welcome. Instructors Carol Nelson and Monica Veneziano combine meditation and yoga, followed by a slide presentation, to bring participants a greater understanding of what dharma means and how to incorporate the Buddha's lessons into one's life.

Thai Massage
Earthsong Yoga, 186 Main St., Marlboro (508-480-8884 or 508-259-2847). www.earthsongyoga.com. Dec. 10, 7-9 pm. $20 per person. Bring a friend or loved one and learn the two-person exercise practice of Thai massage, which features a series of postures and simple techniques designed to increase flexibility and decrease stress. All levels welcome.

Retreat

Meditation Intensive
Providence Zen Center, 99 Pound Road, Cumberland (401-658-1464). www.providencezen.org. Dec. 6-12, may begin on either Mon. or Sat., 10 am. $60/day or $40 for students. This zen center hosts a one-week retreat led by zen master and Buddhism teacher Soeng Hyang (Barbara Rhodes). New student orientations begin on Monday and Saturday, and the minimum participation is two full days.

Ongoing

Gentle Yoga
Pathways to Wellness, 142 Berkeley St., 2nd floor., Boston (617-859-3036). www.pathwaysboston.org. Mon., 5:30-6:45 pm. Wed., 5:30-6:30 pm. Sat., 10:45-11:45 am. $12, drop-in. This slow and steady class, with an emphasis on proper alignment and core stabilization, is aimed at beginners or those in need of a gentle style.

Introduction to Kabbalah
The Kabbalah Centre, 751 Beacon St., Newton (617-969-1881). www.kabbalah.com. Wed., 7 pm. Free. Call to enroll. The Kabbalah is a collection of ancient wisdom and philosophy about the nature of the universe that's said to help practicioners get in tune with universal laws and live a more harmonious life.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

New England Patriots
•Gillette Stadium, Foxboro
Tickets: 800-543-1776
Dec. 12, 1 pm vs. Cincinnati Bengals

Boston Celtics
•FleetCenter, Boston
Tickets: 617-931-2000
Dec. 1, 7 pm vs. Milwaukee Bucks
Dec. 3, 7:30 pm vs. Toronto Raptors

Events

Combat Zone 9: Hot Like Fire
Club Lido, Revere (978-828-2149). www.combatzonemma.com. Dec. 4, 7 pm. Tickets start at $35. Four U.S. Kickboxing Association title fights, including Drew Ficket vs. Nashua's Nuri Shakir for the World Light Heavyweight Championship, headline this mixed martial-arts fight show.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.com. The club seeks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club (BSSC) Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Corporate Basketball League
(781-248-7811). Three men's divisions and one women's play weeknight games in the Cambridge, Newton and Waltham areas. All levels welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

DODGEBALL

BSSC Dodgeball
(617-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting now for dodgeball teams.

ENDURANCE TRAINING

Team in Training
(800-688-6572). www.teamintraining.org. This organization provides fund-raising athletes with group training and support, personalized coaching and guaranteed race entry for events.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
561 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville. (617-591-0101). www.baystatefencers.com. Fencing and stage combat programs offered.

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.


Paul Pierce and the Celtics play at the FleetCenter December 1 and 3.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Saturday mornings. Women's teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.com. Training Tuesdays and Thursdays in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wednesday or Sunday year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, then consider joining these self-proclaimed "serious drinkers with a running problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St. Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Run
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Thursdays, 7 pm. Weekly runs.

Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thursdays, 7:30 pm. Weekly 2.6-mile runs.

SOCCER

BSSC Outdoor Soccer
(617-789-4070). Outdoor teams forming now. Games played in Charlestown, Lexington, Reading and Canton. Individuals and teams are welcome.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club (617-789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed teams forming for summer leagues in Cambridge, Watertown, Brookline and Newton.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-868-8379). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels.

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Boston Children's Theatre
Walsh Theatre at Suffolk University, 55 Temple St., Boston (617-424-6634). www.bostonchildrenstheatre.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Dec. 11, 12, 18, 19, and 27-30. 2 pm. $10-$22. Boston Children's Theatre presents *Seussical the Musical*, a Broadway musical based on the characters and stories of Dr. Seuss.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2501). www.coolidge.org. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. $10; children, $8. •Saturdays, 10:30 am: Saturday Morning Kids Variety Show. •Dec. 4, 10:30 am. Dr. Marmalade presents a theatrical puppet show. •Dec. 11, 10:30 am. Davis and Davis present a workshop/variety show that includes palm reading, spoon tricks, yodeling and juggling.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Every Tue. and Sat., 11 am. Staff members read children's stories. Snacks and craft activities follow. •Dec. 4, 11 am-2 pm. Santa and Mrs. Claus visit the Coop to listen to holiday wishes and read stories. •Dec. 5, 5 pm. Rick Goldin leads a Hanukkah sing-along. •Dec. 11, 11 am. Edward Hallowell reads from his new book, *A Walk in the Rain with Brian*.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50; members, $7. Reservations recommended. •Dec. 1 and 2, 10:30 am, ages 3-6. Deborah Costine of the Gerwick Puppets performs *The Three Little Pigs and Other Tales*. •Dec. 4 and 5, 1 and 3 pm, ages 4-9. Ventriloquist and puppeteer Sylvia Markson presents *The Magic Trunk*. •Dec. 8 and 9, 10:30 am, ages 3-6. Paul Vincent Davis presents three humorous tales inspired by the Seneca Native American tribe in *Raccoon Tales*. •Dec. 11 and 12, 1 and 3 pm, ages 4-9. The Spring Valley Puppet Theatre presents *A Holiday Fantasy*, a collection of folktales.

Regent Theatre
7 Medford St., Arlington (781-646-4849). www.regenttheatre.com. MBTA: 350 bus to Arlington Center. Dec. 5, 7 pm. $8, $6 children. •Children's musican Roger Day performs songs from his award-winning repertoire, including his latest recording, *Ready To Fly*.

Things to Do

Borders Books and Music
Cambridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Every Sat., 1 pm. Staff members read from new and classic storybooks.

Boston Art Tours
Meets at Starbucks, 443 Boylston St., Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tours for children: Tue.-Sat., 1-2 pm; tours for teens: Tue.-Sat., 2-3:30 pm. Adults, $30; teens, $15; children under 12, free. Take a walking tour of contemporary art galleries along Newbury Street.

Boston by Little Feet
Faneuil Hall, 77 North Washington St., Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Mon. and Sat., 10 am and 2 pm; $8. This child's-eye view of the Freedom Trail's architecture and history is designed for walkers 6-12 years old.

Boston Public Library
Rabb Lecture Hall, 666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400).www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm. •Fri., Dec. 3, 10:15 am, ages 3-7. BPL screens children's movies at Kids Cinema. •Sun., Dec. 5, 1:30 pm, ages 4-6; 2:45 pm, ages 6-11. Instructors James True and Marisa Cimino teach children conflict resolution and stranger-awareness skills.

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8; children, $7. •Daily, KidsStage is an interactive theater featuring professional actors and museum staff. •Fri., 3-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2-4 pm. In the Zoom Zone is a hands-on science challenge culled from the PBS TV show *Zoom*. •Mon.-Fri., 10 am-4 pm. The art studio is open for bookmaking, painting, finger-puppet making and more.

Ice Skating at Frog Pond
Frog Pond, Boston Common, Boston (617-367-2345). www.cityofboston.gov/parks/FrogPond_winter.asp. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. Mon., 10 am-5 pm; Sun.-Thu., 10 am-9 pm; Fri.-Sat., 10 am-10 pm; $3. Skate on Boston Common's frozen Frog Pond, which features concessions, skate rentals, restrooms, warming areas and music.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $5; ages 5-18, $2; students, seniors and kids under 5, free (free admission the third Sunday of every month). •*Holography, the Light Fantastic* is a display featuring the world's largest collection of holograms. Ongoing. •*Robots and Beyond* offers a look at MIT's artificial intelligence research labs. Ongoing. •*Ship Models: The Evolution of Ship Design* features 40 ship models, from warships to clippers. Ongoing.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13; seniors, $11; children, $10. •*Strange Matter* explores the use of everyday materials in cardiac surgery, space exploration and more-common events. Through Jan. 2, 2005. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models* is an interactive exhibition that features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •Science in the Park is a permanent playground with a scientific spin. •Sat. and Sun., 11 am. Animals and Stories Alive is an interactive story hour featuring folk tales, myths and live animals.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 9 am-6 pm. $15.95; seniors, $13.95; children, $8.95. •*Amazing Jellies* features thousands of jellyfish. Through 2005. •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank contains sharks, stingrays and a 600-pound California sea lion. Ongoing. •*Edge of the Sea* is a hands-on exhibition that features sea stars, hermit crabs and more. Ongoing. •Simons IMAX Theatre. Check Web site for listings.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us/library. •Thursdays, 7 pm. Staff members read to children ages 4 and up at Pajama Storytime. •Fridays, 10:30 am. Films for preschoolers screen. •Dec 4, 2 pm. Chris Van Allsburg reads from *The Polar Express*, his children's book about a young boy invited on a train ride to the North Pole with Santa and other children.


Musician Roger Day performs at Arlington's Regent Theatre December 5.

around town

Sights to See

Boston University Observatory
Coit Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am - 9 pm. $9; children and seniors, $7. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.

Faneuil Hall
75 State St., Boston (617-338-2323). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 am. Free.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6, children, $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; seniors and students, $8; 12 and under, free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH, or Green Line to Park Street. Labor Day through Memorial Day: Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm; summer: daily, 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Daily, 9 am-5 pm (Fri., 9 am-9 pm). $14; seniors, $12; children, $11.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5; children, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1: Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, $13.95 seniors; children, $8.95.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-5 pm. Free.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. $5, seniors and students, $4; children, $1.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $9.50; seniors, $7; children 12 and under, $6.50; children under 3, free.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily, 7 am-6 pm. $4; children 12 and under, free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). www.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. May 1-Oct. 15: daily, 9 am-6 pm; Nov. 1-Apr. 30: daily, 10 am-5 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster-care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay
(617-375-0700). www.bostonredcross.org. Volunteer in the administrative department.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-563-4441). www.bostoncares.org. More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor young students from the city in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). www.ccaa.org. Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000). Tutor adult students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
(617-995-3250). www.everybodywinsmetroboston.org. Spend your lunch hour reading with elementary school children.

Extra Hands ALS
(617-331-3014). www.extrahands.org. High school and college students help ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, aka Lou Gehrig's disease) families with chores and housework.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hospice.org. Volunteers needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-online.com. Volunteers provide counsel over the phone for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time with an elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-738-5110). www.mablind.org. Read or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelders.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium
(617-973-5235). Volunteer as an aquarium guide or research assistant, or work in animal husbandry.

Parental Stress Line
(617-927-0621). Counsel parents and caregivers.

Pine Street Inn
(617-482-4944). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve breakfast to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111). www.rfbd.org. Volunteers read textbooks for recording.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room and groceries program at this homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young, single professionals.



improperimpersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see. (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity.) Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor, Boston, MA 02116 FAX: 617-859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

MJDOT from Clery's

The new U2 makes me think of you. I deeply apologize for being dumb and immature when we were together. You're the best guy I've ever known, the epitome of life, love, and loyalty. Magner's at MJ's, double-burgers from Castle Island, with your fun furry friend in your Blue Room at China Friend. Remember, there's no 3rd floor at the MFA. I'm sorry.

—Spanish Eyes

The Man of My Dreams

I saw you November 11 on the T. You got off the T at the Pru. You had a friend with you and I had my friend with me. We were sitting talking to an older couple and I noticed you when you got on the T. You had a cute tweed hat on, a striped shirt, and khaki-colored jeans. You fit my bill of tall, dark and handsome. I poked my friend and couldn't stop looking at you. We giggled when you dropped your water bottle because you bent over and I got a nice look at your "assets." When you got off the T, I thought you'd walked out of my life forever. I wanted to jump off and get your phone number, but it was too late. Then, to my absolute surprise, you came back and knocked on the window. I was elated, but I still couldn't jump off the T. I waved at you, and would love to see you again. This time, I want at least your name.

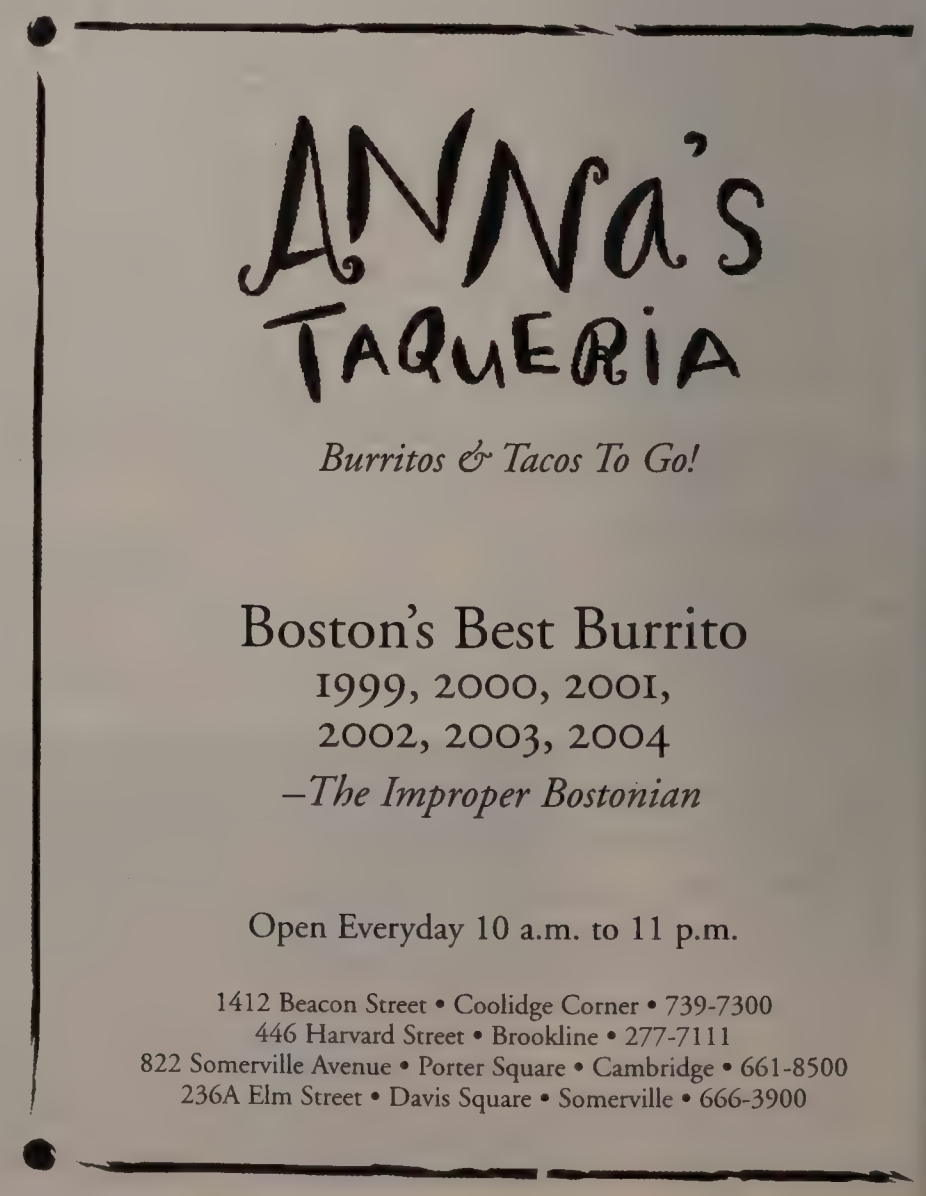
—macdonnell.e@neu.edu.

Purse Lady

This is for the woman at the Cantab downstairs on the evening of Nov. 13 who hit me in the face with her purse. I know that you didn't intentionally swing your purse into my face, as I was sitting down and you stood over me. We had been sitting at our table for awhile, and you came along sort of oblivious and knocked the thing into my cheek rather hard. The only reason that I tapped your elbow and mentioned it to you, is because I feared it would happen again, as you seemed a bit drunk and the place was crowded. I suppose the "normal" reaction from anybody else would have been, "Oh I'm sorry, I didn't realize." Maybe you would have stepped away slightly, and pulled the purse up your arm so that it was closer to you and not swinging around. Instead, you were defensive and rude, saying, "It's not like I did it on purpose, and decided 'Oh there's that girl so I'll hit her in the face with my purse.'" You then had the audacity to call me a weirdo. So this is my little "weird" note to you about basic manners: A simple apology and perhaps an awareness of your personal space would have sufficed. There was no need to insult me, on top of flinging your purse into my head. Maybe you haven't been going to bars for very long, and are new to appropriate behavior in public places. I forgive you for that, and I hope that you'll forgive my equally childish retort to your weirdo comment. You're not a freak, just clueless.

—Cantab Weirdo



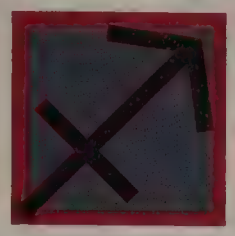


rockie horoscope

DECEMBER 1 – 14, 2004

BY ROCKIE GARDINER

SAGITTARIUS NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21



Like Libra, you too may be elevated to sainthood or its pop culture equivalent while your expansive Jupiter ruler and idealistic Neptune form a rewarding trine. While their alliance is spiritually uplifting and beneficial, watch out for "too much of a good thing." You know how quickly the worm can turn, especially while Mercury is going back and forth in your sign. Mercury's retrograde period ends the day before winter officially begins, so don't make any carved-in-stone birthday plans. Be willing to adjust and adapt to changing circumstances.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

Goats are liable to be hailed as heroes while benevolent Jupiter in your reputation-making midheaven exchanges blessings with idealistic Neptune. Even though smoke and mirrors are nowhere in sight, some sort of magical act could be involved. Hopefully, it won't turn out to be a classic bait-and-switch routine. Just remember that there's lots of money to be made, and spread, if you expand your current objective. Use your imagination; envision a higher benefit—spiritual capital?—for all concerned.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

It seems that you've passed a test of your significant relationship—one set in motion two years ago—with flying colors. Now sit back and count how much your shared resources have grown in the interim. And hasn't the image you project improved as well? The rewarding trine between prosperous, protective Jupiter and enigmatic Neptune in your sign reaches perfection (becomes exact) this week. Enjoy the goodies that land at your feet; perfection doesn't last long, but it will return for summer.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

Old-school as well as new-school Fish should benefit royally from the favors bestowed when Jupiter, your former ruling planet, trines Neptune, the modern ruler of Pisces. This mutually supportive alignment is relatively rare, with four-year intervals between payoffs. However, you might be more intrigued by the sexual excitement being generated while both girly Venus and macho Mars come on to Neptune in a not-so-rare square. Provocative to say the least, and, if the truth be told—which it probably won't be, at least not to you—rare enough.

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

Divine intervention or merely divine inspiration? While protective Jupiter supports spiritual Neptune at the high point of your chart, consider the benefits bestowed on you—probably via a prosperous partner—an act of God. What other entity, besides a higher power or an all-forgiving mate, would deign to deal with your doubting Thomas or, conversely, superfan routine? Horny Rams are also headed for one of those relatively rare, once-every-two year interludes when your rambunctious Mars ruler weds romantic Venus, this time in sexy Scorpio.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

Yesterday, Mercury turned retrograde in your house of sex and death, inheritances and insurance; ways you can be deeply affected by other people's values. Don't assume you can take information for granted until mid January, especially delivery and departure dates. Despite the helter-skelter atmosphere of the holiday season party plans, you're due to experience perhaps the most romantic encounter of the past two years. And because ballsy Mars and your Venus ruler meet in your Scorpio marriage house, who knows down what aisle that'll lead?

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

Your Mercury ruler's flip into retrograde on the 30th can affect significant relationships for far longer than the usual three weeks. Not until January 8 will the Messenger (and by association, you) be free and clear of whatever began with the new moon on November 13. So resign yourself to going back and forth, revising your position and realigning with allies/adversaries, until then. Bored already at the prospect? Don't be—there's enough variation on the theme to maintain interest, especially when less-significant others become involved.

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

Your philanthropic sentiments could know no bounds while prosperous Jupiter and idealistic Neptune form a supportive trine. Will it be a deserving charity or an artistic partner who benefits from your good intentions? Or will you direct that optimism inward and spend all that money on making your home a better place to live? This could be the most spiritually rewarding holiday season since 2000, the last time these visionaries were in such harmony, so before you become totally engrossed in a hot-and-heavy romance, choose a beneficiary.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

Prepare to wing it. Mercury turning retrograde in your house of romance, recreation and risk suggests that plans you've made for all of December and the first week of January might have to be revised at a moment's notice. If you're entertaining, keep it casual. Air/hotel reservations? Keep your fingers crossed. A romantic tryst? Keep it a secret from chatty Mercury, while it darts this way and that through Sagittarius. Despite possible detours and delays, the holidays can still meet your high expectations.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

Your Mercury ruler's retrograde trip through Sagittarius will likely center on family relationships, but other than a shift of focus from a partnership arrangement, the Gemini forecast applies to you too. Check the timing so you know when to ease up on what might easily become overly voracious demands. Pluto in Sag amps up the intensity of everyone's unspoken desires while its meeting with Mercury puts additional pressure on your ability to discern what's best for all concerned. This includes priorities as well as presents.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

Feel free to vaunt your moral superiority and breadth of vision while expansive Jupiter in Libra finds favor with idealistic, imaginative Neptune. This hook-up is so rare that canonization for sainthood might not be far behind. Benevolent Jupiter will bestow lots of rewards while it's in your sign, but come next Thanksgiving it'll be gone. Do your good deeds ASAP, so that when your all-embracing Venus ruler joins passionate Mars in Scorpio on the 5th, nothing will distract you from wholeheartedly pursuing romance.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

Knowing that Mercury is retrograde in your Sagittarius house of money and values until December 19 could change your Xmas plans. Would it be safer to wait until then and order all your gifts online and shipped FedEx overnight? Too expensive? How about giving everyone on your list a check postdated for January 8, which is when Mercury finally emerges from the shadow it fell under the weekend of November 12? That's also when the Scorpio new moon launched another phase of your ever-evolving personal development.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405, www.rockiehoroscope.com. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

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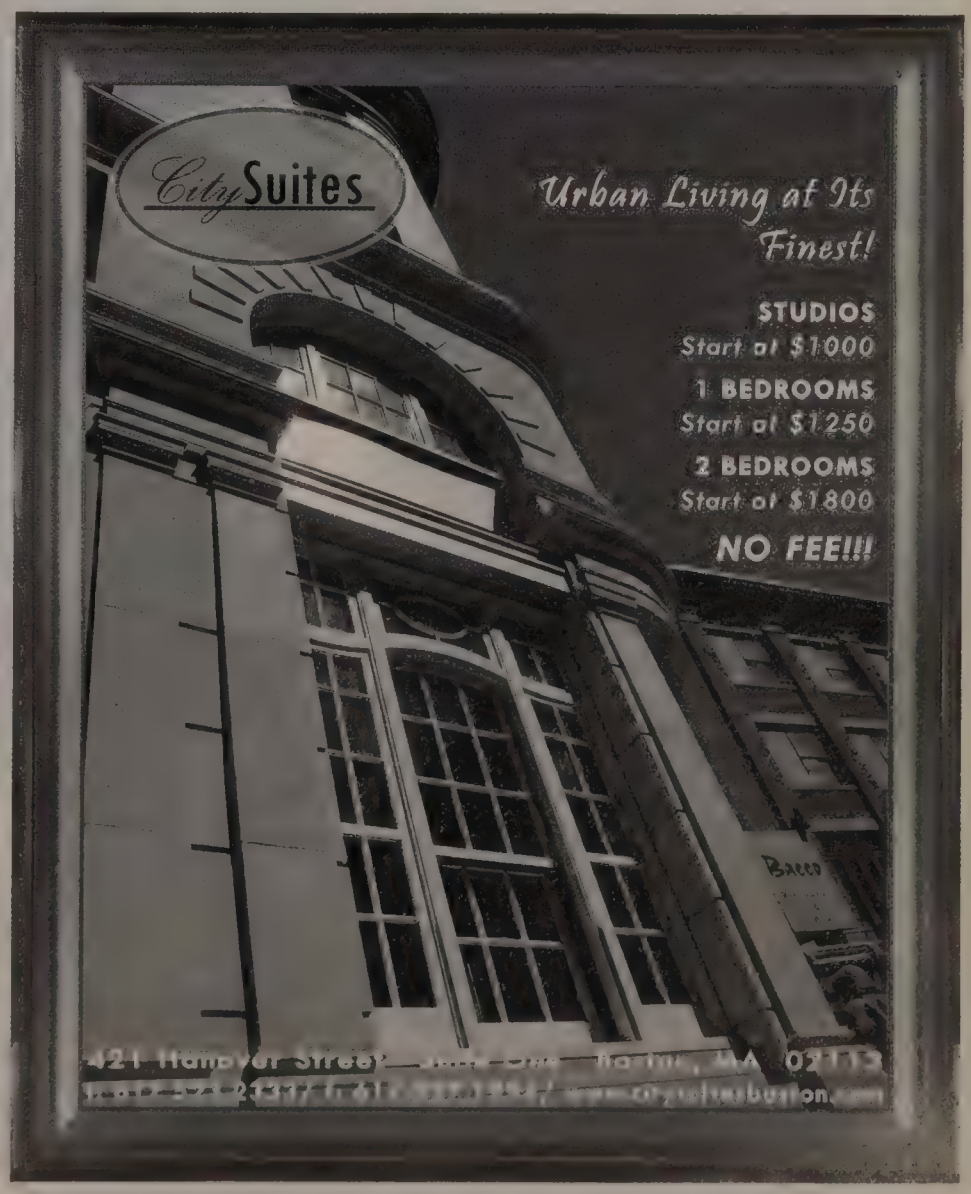
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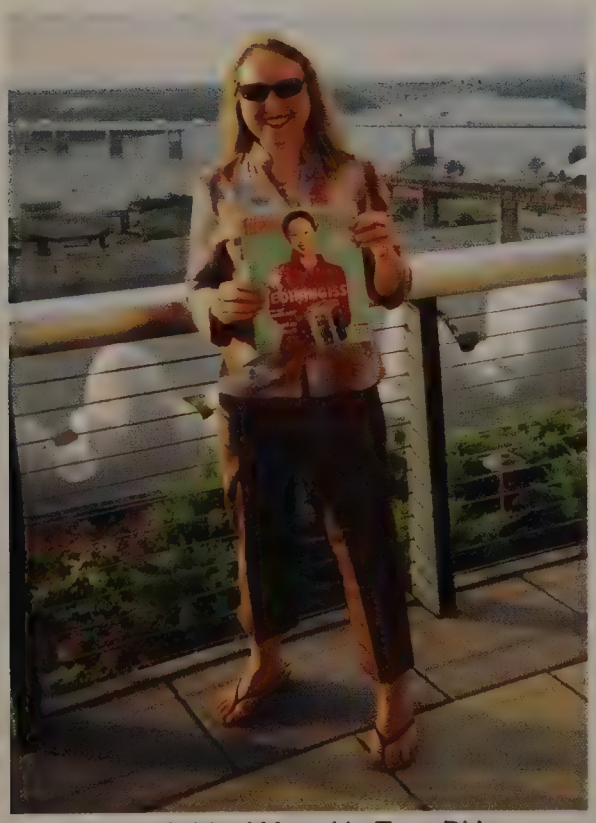
Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you were. The wilder your destination and the more creative your photo, the better your chances of making the cut in the esteemed Improper Sightings.



Suzanne Edmondson and Barry Kirby kicked back at Sandals Grand Resort in St. Lucia, West Indies. This photo was taken moments before a gang of Huns from rival Club Med razed the resort and installed their own regime.



Renee Ostrowski sits on lava on Hawaii's Big Island. We're not geoldojusts, but ain't lava s'posed to be mighty hot?



Laura Bernieri visited Memphis, Tenn. Did you know Memphis has an NBA team? It's true.



Denise Perrault met Ben Affleck in Las Vegas, where he was playing poker. Looks like he's really waxing the competition.



University of Hawaii president Evan Dobelle and his son Harry say aloha to the Boston's Best issue.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Wooo hoo ha ha ha... ha haaaaaaaa! Ha ha ha ha... Leading a group guffaw at the Laughter Club, which meets every—baaa ha ha aha haahah!—Saturday in Stockholm, Sweden.

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Una Bella Serata

IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Saturday, November 6, the **Grettacole Salons and Spas** hosted a "Day at the Plaza" event.







1. **Stacia Simonian**, business development manager for Botox Cosmetic; **Anthony Dingolo**, sales specialist, and **Annamaria Hansberger**, regional manager both of Medicis Aesthetics.
2. **Ora Dunbar**, executive assistant, **Christine Foley**, chief operating officer, both of Skincare Physicians; and **Danielle Browning**, general manager of Gspa.
3. **Andrea Camacho**, nail technician, **Jessamy Baxter**, esthetician, **Sherri Bennce**, esthetician, **Cameron Ryan**, stylist, **Jennia Irving**, beauty advisor, all from The Grettacole Salons and Spas.

On Wednesday, November 3, **Stel's**, a new boutique on Newbury Street, celebrated its grand opening with a gathering of family and friends. Retail gurus and fashion lovers raised a glass to the success of the owners' first store.







1. **Margarita Druker**, owner of Persona Jewelry+ store; **Tina Burgos**, co-owner of Stel's; and **Leila Moore** of Persona Jewelry+.
2. **Jon Callahan**, co-owner of Stel's, and **Daniel Davis** of the Expo Design Center.
3. **Marcelo Fernandes**, owner of Market: Designer Wear for Men; **Dave Nauyokas**, co-owner of Stel's; and **Christina Thirkell**, director of marketing and public relations for Mutual Funds Against Cancer.

On Thursday, October 21, **The Improper Bostonian** sponsored **StyleFixx** at the Cyclorama.







1. **Becky Cooke**, model; **Josie Hewitt**,owner; and **Erin Hagerly**, model, all of JoJo jewelry.
2. **Yulia Bortkevich**, project manager for Dyer Brown Architects; **Mel Reynolds** of Boston; and **Stevan Adams** national makeup artist for Tarte New York.
3. **Tina Fabulous** of ABC's *The Bachelor*; **Heather Barry**, senior sales executive of Ikow Office Solutions; and **Johnnie Raines**, casting producer for *The Bachelor*.

On Tuesday, September 14, the Comprehensive School-Age Parenting Program held their second annual Comedy Night Benefit show at the **Comedy Connection** in Faneuil Hall. Proceeds benefit CSAPP's counseling and education sevices for at risk youth.







1. **Ryan Cott**, manager of the Comedy Connection; **Alex Keller**, comic with the Comedy Connection; **Michelle Trousil**, board member for CSAPP.
2. **Larry Lee Lewis**, comic; **Ellen Payzant**, board member for CSAPP; and **Bette Bohlke-O'Gara**, executive director for CSAPP.
3. **Thomas Payzant**, superintendent of Boston Public Schools; **Ellen Payzant**, member of the CSAPP Board of Directors; **Rick Jenkins**,comic and owner of the Comedy Studio; **Chris Coxen**, comic; **Mark Beamis**, treasurer of CSAPP; **Jenny Gigl**, counselor for CSAPP; **Alana Devich**, comic; **Peter Dutton**, **Benari Poulten**, **Tim McIntire** all comics; and **Ross Garmil**, CSAPP administrator and comic.

PHOTOS: GSPA, JULIE KANE; STEL'S, DANA D'ALFONSO; CYCLORAMA, JENNIFER JI; COMEDY CONNECTION, ROSS GARMI

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN
MAGAZINE

Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch



RESTAURANTS

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled PortabellaPaninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC,V.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Improper's Best in 2002. Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* Chef Davis, whose motto is "fresh and honest", creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's Table is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations strongly recommended. Breakfast, Mon-Fri 6:30am-11:00am, Saturday 7:00am-11:00am, Sunday 7:00am-10:30am; Brunch, Sat-Sun noon-3:00pm; Lunch, Mon-Fri noon-3:00pm; Supper, Daily 5:30pm-10;00pm. For reservations and information, please call 617.661.5005.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston 617-426-3333.* Open 11am - 2am, 7days a week. Kennedy's Midtown is a cultural experience far from the maddening crowd while set in heart of it. Kennedy's serves a lunch and dinner menu of international cuisine. In the evenings they play host to some of Boston's finest Pianists who entertain with a range of tunes from Broadway to Jazz and Blues. Kennedy's embraces all the finer qualities of regal Boston and throws in a dash of old fashioned Irish Hospitality for measure.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the Motor-Mart - 617-426-4444,Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., South Boston,617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Ned Devine's *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere inthe heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Sidney's Grille *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Countdown 2005 at Sidney's Grille! Discover why Bon Appétit magazine says "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. With dinner offerings and special overnight packages available, make this a New Year's Eve to remember. Book your reservation today or for more information, call Christine Kane at (617) 551-0303 or visit www.sidneysgrille.com.

Solas *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am 7 days a week.

Strega *379 Hanover St., Boston 617-523-8481 www.stregaristorante.com.* A fine dining experience in Boston's historic North End. Enjoy our cozy, romantic atmosphere, splendid wine list and savory Italian dishes. Strega buzzes with a mix of casual tourists, local residents and love-struck couples. The menu offers something for everyone. Traditional dishes like the gnocchi are anything but simple, featuring flavor just as robust as that found in intricate dishes. Find yourself in the company of celebrities, including owner Nick Varano's pals from of the Sopranos. Available for corporate and private functions.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

BARS/CLUBS

Beer Specialty

Boston Beer Works *112 Canal St., near the Fleet Center, 617-896-BEER, 61 Brookline Ave., across from Fenway Park, 617-536-BEER and 278 Derby St., in Historic Salem, 978-745-BEER.* Boston's oldest and largest restaurant brewery with 3 locations! Bold American Food. Award Winning Beer. 15 microbrewed beers always on tap. 16 American wines by the glass. 15 championship billiards tables at our Canal Street location. Complete party planning capabilities. Private Rooms. Customizeable menus. Lunch. Dinner. Late Night. Always a good time. Check out the BIGGER and BOLDER menu.

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Billiards

Big City - pool hall, pizza kitchen, Beer Bar *138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8pm, free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Clubs

Felt *533 Washington St., Boston, 617.350.5555* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, right next door to the Opera House; in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering sophisticated billiards, NewYork style Lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere of DJ's and dancing, combined with the delicious entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Contemporary cusine by Chef Ben Stevens.

Stadium – Clubhouse *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Stadium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale nightclub featuring two bars, a hardwood dance floor and parking. An exciting yet relaxed 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety of music and beautiful people crowding the dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights. An ideal place for your next bachelor, bachelorette or birthday party.

Club Q Boston *25 Union St., Boston, 617-742-2121.* Open 9pm - 2am Wednesday through Saturday. What nightlife in Boston has been waiting for, this state of the art Nightclub in the heart of Faneuil Hall attracts a stylish and eclectic crowd. Open Wednesday through Saturday Club Q hosts Boston's top DJs spinning Hip Hop, House and Top 40's. With two bars, three VIP areas and pool tables, Club Q is the place to see and be seen. Credit cards accepted.

Comedy

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www. theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. Mingle. Let your hair down; see and be seen on the big screen. Simply the hippest way to spend a night of all-out fun in Boston's Financial District. Come after work. Come to dance. Come to go wild with your friends. There's always something exciting happening—and you never know who you'll bump into. Join us and experience



what the buzz is all about.

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 617-227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

Irish

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 617-742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston,617-742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11am - 1am 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

The Green Dragon *11Marshall St., Boston, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 617-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

General

The Alley *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. www.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

Aqua *120 Water St., Boston, 617-720-4900.* Boston's newest place to be seen is now open in the heart of the Financial District. Whether relaxing with a martini in one of our cozy booths, sipping a margarita on our roof deck or watching your hometown favorites on our high definition plasma TV. Aqua has what you're looking for after work and late night with our resident and guest DJs spinning your favorite mixes through our state of the art sound system all night long.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Boston Rocks *245 Quincy Market Place Boston,617-726-1110 www.boston-rocks.net. 21+.* Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St.,617- 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 years running! Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Downtown Lounge *138 Portland St., Boston 617-523-8383.* Tempting tapas, modern martinis and contemporary cocktails are just a few of the elements awaiting your arrival. A distinctive destination in the heart of North Station, located just one block from the Fleet Center. Share crab taquitos, shaved portobello mushrooms or grilled white pizza. Revive with a specialty martini while sinking into soft curvy seating. Spacious and sublime, Dowtown Lounge is an attractive meeting place for business, luncheons, social, after work cocktails and events.

The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010.* Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St.,Boston 617-722-0161.* The newest edition to Boston's night scene. This New Orleans style bar is just steps away from the Fleet Center. Hurricane O'Reilly's serves up the best that Boston nightlife has to offer. Come dance the night away with the hottest music around. We will leave you yearning for Bourbon Street.

Jillian's Boston / Lucky Strike Lanes *145 Ipswich St., Boston, 617-437-0300 www.jilliansboston.com.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring 16 bowling lanes, 50 pooltables, high-tech games, high definition video walls, multiple lounges and private rooms. Located on the first floor is Tequila Rain, which offers an amazing Tex-Mex menu and dancing to the hottest DJs Friday and Saturday nights.

The Junction – Your Neighborhood Bar & Grill. *110 Dorchester St., South Boston, 617-268-6429.* Delicious food, great atmosphere and friendly staff –and it all happens at the Junction -South Boston's Neighborhood Bar & Grill. Enjoy our half-priced appetizers on weekdays from 3 to 6 pm. Join us for live music & entertainment on the weekends and for our fun trivia nights on Tuesdays.

Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Lounge. Cocktails. Dancing. Nightlife. Come see the lights of Parris. Sample the eclectic lounge menu featuring grilled pizza, oyster shooters ans steak tartar. Sip a Classic, Apple or French 75 martini, and then motion onto the huge dance floor featuring Live Music with the best bands and DJs Thursday through Saturday. Named for the original architect of the Greek-revival-style building, Alexander Parris, you're nightlife experience at Parris will be Boston and beyond. Open 5pm - 2am Wednesay - Saturday. Cover charge on Friday and Saturday.

Jazz

Regattabar *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Tuesday-Saturday nights and occasional Sunday afternoons. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square. Shows at 8:30pm Tues-Thurs, 7:30pm & 10:00pm Fri. & Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617.876.7777 for tickets and information, 800.881.1818 for hotel reservations and information.

Latin

Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston 617-351-7001.* A multistory Latin-themed restaurant and club, Sophia's treats guests to a tantalizing Tapas-style menu, live Salsa bands and hi-energy Latin dance. From a romantic dinner and salsa lessons to hi-energy dance and mingling on the roof deck over sangria and Salsa, an evening at Sophia's is always Hot! Hot! Hot!

Sports Bar - Upscale

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www.theplaceboston.com.* Voted Boston's Best Sports Bar 3 years in a row by The Improper Bostonian! Mingle with your favorite sports celebrities: Brady, Thornton, Walker, Garciaparra. You never know who you'll run into. Enjoy the wildest party atmosphere in the heart of the Financial District. It's never the same experience twice – we've got exclusive sports video productions and game coverage on our state-of-the-art flat screen TVs. So join us to see what the buzz is all about and find out why people in-the-know feel right at home.

Stadium *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* Boston's Best Damn Sports Bar, Period. A brand new, high-end sports bar featuring two floors, three bars, 30 flat screen TVs – including the one in the men's room, a dance floor and parking. Stadium menu offers an enticing selection of appetizers, salads, steak & burgers, fresh seafood and drinks

BRUNCH

Harvard Gardens *315 Cambridge St., Beacon Hill, Boston, 617-523-2727. www.harvardgardens.com.* Cozy up to the beautiful mahogany bar or slip into a comfy booth and enjoy Harvard Gardens' menu of cool cocktails and comfort food. Brunch serves up eggs and pastrami hash, thick-cut French toast with caramelized bananas, specialty pizzas and Boston's best Bloody Mary. Harvard Gardens serves brunch Saturday and Sunday, 11:00am - 3:00pm.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $6, entrees $16, desserts $7 or all 3 courses for $24. Sundays: $39 adults and $17.50 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended 617-661-5005.

Museum of Science – Skyline Room *Science Park, Boston, Ma, 02114.* Enjoy Sunday Brunch in the beautiful Skyline Room overlooking the Charles River at 11 a.m. & 1 p.m., then check out the latest breathtaking Omni film or visit our always changing exhibit halls. Tickets start at $32 and include on-site parking when available. Brunch only, $24. Reservations recommended. For more information call (617) 723-2500 or visit mos.org.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**, *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

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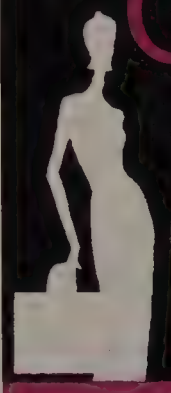
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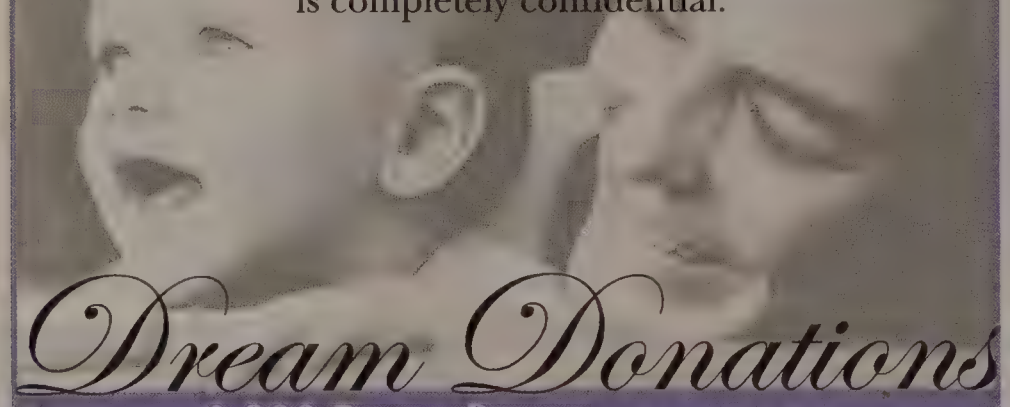
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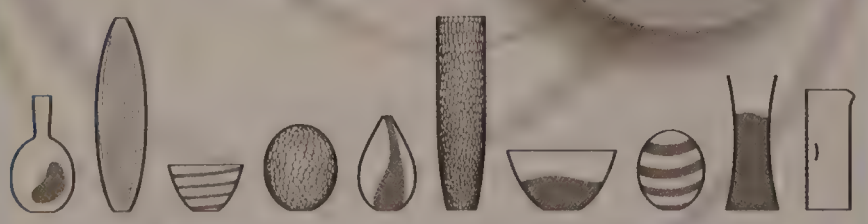
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LAST SCENE HERE

BY JONATHAN SOROFF




At the Joey O'Donnell Film Premiere, from left: Kathryn Quirk and Joe O'Donnell; Susie and Joe Shortsleeve



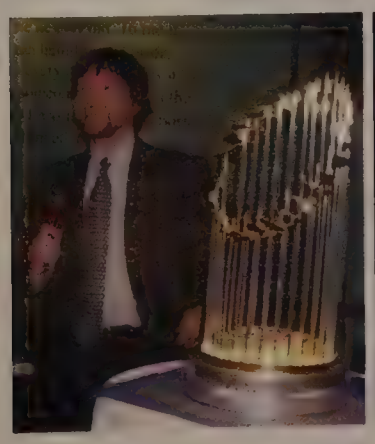
At the Boston International Fine Art Show: Eileen Patterson

IF IT'S TUESDAY, THIS MUST BE A CHARITY FUND-RAISER...

Even before the holiday season started in earnest, the social season was fully underway, as a blizzard of invitations kept arriving for more soirees than you could shake a shillelagh at.

On a Sunday night, the biggest of bigshots showed up in Chestnut Hill for the 20th annual **Joey O'Donnell Film Premiere** to raise money to fight cystic fibrosis. Hosted by concessions mogul **Joe O'Donnell** and his lovely wife, **Kathy** (for whose son the evening is named), it attracted such potent notables as the almost lifelike **Mitt Romney**; news anchor **Joe Shortsleeve** and his gorgeous blonde wife, **Susie,** stockbroker-to-the-stars **John Spooner** and the delectable **Susan**, and hordes of others, who enjoyed a cocktail reception at the **Atrium Mall** before heading over to the **Chestnut Hill Cinema** for a sneak peek at the new Johnny Depp movie, *Neverland*. Needless to say, the popcorn and candy were on the house, and the only thing that could have improved the evening was if Johnny Depp himself had appeared, but then again, the whole point was to do good, not to start a riot.

The following night, a long overdue meeting took place when the **Boston Center for Adult Education** hosted a VIP reception at Fenway Park's **406 Club** for documentary filmmaker and rabid Red Sox fan **Ken Burns**. It's difficult to say which commanded more attention: the guest of honor or the World Series trophy, which was front and center the entire time, giving guests like Cambridge real estate tycoon **Marvin Gilmore** and Red Sox bigwig **Dr. Charles Steinberg** an opportunity to pose for pictures with it, although one guest remained blasé, saying, "Not to sound negative or anything, but it needs to be polished."



At the 406 Club: Ken Burns and the World Series Trophy

Midweek found Everyone Who's Anyone at the **Cyclorama** for the preview party for the **Boston International Fine Art Show**, which this year benefited **Project Discovery**. Browsing among the dealers' stalls (where we were sorely tempted by a beautiful seascape but soundly rebuffed by the five-digit price tag), we spotted such connoisseurs and cognoscenti as super-smooth restaurateur **Darryl Settles**; social butterfly **Natalie Gardiner**; the ever affable **Bert Cohen** and his delightful wife, **Rosalie**; Dover art dealer **David Hall** and his wife, **Corinne**; the aforementioned Spooners, and so on and so forth.

By the weekend, it was time to break out the formalwear for **Steppin' Out**, the fund-raiser for the **Dimock Community Health Center**, which transformed the **World Trade Center** into a multiplex of re-created legendary jazz clubs like the Hi-Hat, the Jazz Workshop and the Savoy, with different entertainers performing in each. This year's headliner was Grammy-winning R&B sensation **Will Downing**, and, as always, the evening attracted a high-powered, predominantly African-American crowd, like über mover-and-shaker **Earl Tate**; power couple **Frances** and **Bud Moseley**; the soignee **Millie Clements** and her spectacular daughter, **Michelle**; the aforementioned Marvin Gilmore; *Boston Globe* gadfly **BMaynard Scarborough**; and welcome new additions to Boston **Milton Little** (the new head of the United Way of Massachusetts Bay), and his wife, **Traci**.

Meanwhile, across town at the **Orpheum**, Bruins legend **Cam Neely** was hosting the umpteenth annual **Comics Come Home**, an evening of stand-up comedy to raise money for cancer patients and their families. Following the performance, a VIP party was held at **Vinalia**, where star-struck guests rubbed elbows with the likes of funnymen **Denis Leary**, **Lenny Clarke**, **Steve Sweeney** and **Dane Cook**, although the highest-wattage celebrity had to have been corn-rowed baseball deity **Bronson Arroyo**, who helped not only to lift the curse of the Bambino but forced Denis Leary to retire that joke about "Bucky f---ing Dent."

It seems that Monday is the new Thursday, as the beginning of the work week brought all of deep-pocketed Back Bay and Beacon Hill to **Kings** for the 2nd annual **Bowl-A-Rama** to benefit **Kids Can Cook**. Spotted enjoying the sport of...well, if not of kings, then at least of guys named Earl, were such socialites and swanky folks as philanthropists **Susan** and **Bill Poduska**; globe-trotting adventurer **Linda Schwabe**; mondo-party planner **Bryan Rafanelli** and his other half, **Mark Walsh**; the super-glamorous **Rachael Goldfarb**; design avatar **Denise Korn**; stunning blonde **Simone Winston**; and interior designer **Fotene DeMoulas**, who deserved big prizes for the shirts she had made for her team with fake names (Among them: Regina Upright, Terry Cloth, Rick Liner, and Bob Barcalounger.) However, the evening's biggest props go to fashion plate **Barbara Lemperly-Grant** of Chanel, who gamely donned appropriate footwear, prompting an acquaintance to say, "I never thought I'd see you wearing rented shoes."

With so many parties and worthwhile fund-raisers, it's a wonder anyone had time to do anything else, and now might be a good time to look into vitamin B shots, since the festive season is upon us, and the pace is only going to get more frenetic. In the meantime, you'll find yours truly wading through a pile of invitations, soaking my feet and repeating, "Tonight, I promise not to eat or drink more than I ought to." iB




At Comics Come Home: Bronson Arroyo; Cam Neely and Denis Leary

At Steppin' Out, top: Milton and Traci Little; Michelle and Millie Clements. Bottom: Aleen Rutherford, Earl Tate and Susan Gordon





At Kings, from top: Barbara Lemperly-Grant; Maggie Seelig, Matthew and Lori Sidman; Fotene DeMoulas and Meredith Tomlin-Hilliard




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Created by Christopher (Stretch) Gerdon, China Grill, Miami
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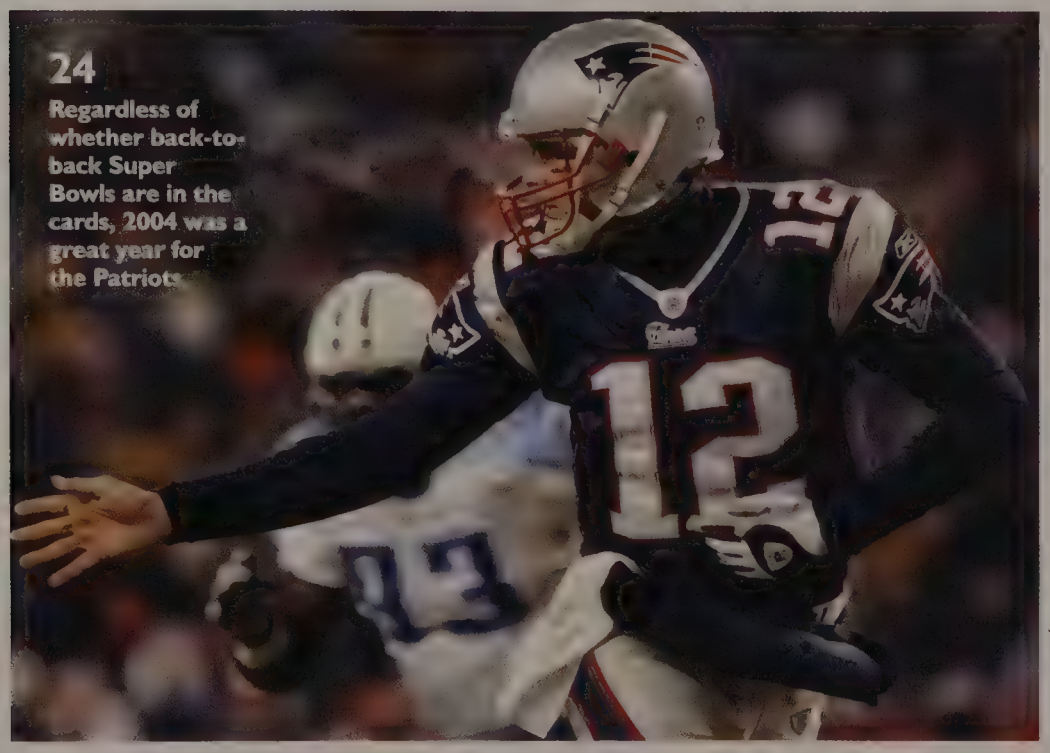
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JESSICA RINALDI

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Stylist: **Joanna Saunders;** hair: **Kristen Hetland/Caliente Beauty;** makeup: **Lauren Cohen/Luxe;** dress: **Richard Tyler Couture;** earrings: **Erica Courtney**

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LETTERS

FROM THE EDITOR



DOUBLE CROSS

With Marlborough native Marcia Cross on our cover this issue, we say goodbye to 2004 and ring in the New Year with a bang. ABC describes Cross' character on its "darkly comedic" new show *Desperate Housewives* as "Martha Stewart on steroids," and in her interview with Jonathan Soroff, Cross says she loves playing the neurotic suburbanite. And audiences obviously love watching: The show is tops in the ratings, even beating out reality heavies like *The Apprentice*.

You'll see Cross' face in our newsboxes for twice as long as usual—this extra-chunky issue covers four weeks instead of two. You'll also notice one format change. We've temporarily moved Ezra Dyer's widely read humor column to the back page to fill the spot normally occupied by Jonathan Soroff's popular Last Scene Here. We're happy to report that Soroff is recovering rapidly from his recent heart surgery, and, like his many fans, we look forward to his social column's return very soon.

Veronica Chao

VERONICA CHAO, Editor
veronica@improper.com

HEADING SOUTHIE

I just read Ezra's column about moving to South Boston (Dec. 1). I'm part of the yuppification of Southie—I bought one of those condo rehabs last year—and I think he's going to love it here. It's amazing how close Southie is to the rest of Boston, and yet how few Bostonians come here. Plus, granted it's not Malibu, but we have beachfront. Here are a few tips for Ezra and other new Southie transplants:

The Beer Garden and Playwright on Broadway are good eats and drinks. The 6 House is decent as well. Of course, lots of the older Southie haunts (Amrhein's, Shenanigan's, the L Street Tavern) are solid too. I've avoided the hole-in-the-wall places that I'm sure aren't as welcoming to nonlifers. (There's a place down the street from me simply called Pub, which makes me laugh, but not laugh enough to join those inside.)

Parking isn't as daunting as you might imagine—especially in comparison to the South End, Back Bay and Beacon Hill. Don't be shocked if your bumper gets a few dings and dents in it, though. In fact, if you take someone's shoveled and marked parking spot during a huge snowstorm, don't be surprised to see more than a few dents or dings.

You might want to get a decent paper shredder as well. I'm convinced some of my longer-term Southie neighbors are a little nosey.

And if you're a Yankees fan like me, you won't want to publicize that in Southie.

—JASON MUTH
South Boston

WHERE HAVE YOU BEN?

It was with great dismay that I discovered you had discontinued your Ben Mezrich letters feature. Over the past few weeks, I had come to depend on the IMPROPER as my source for letters by and about the "Sexiest Author Alive" (according to a recent *People* magazine). Unfortunately, I'll now have to turn to the *Metro* for my Ben Mezrich fix. If I had a subscription, I'd ask to you to cancel it. But I don't, so I won't.

—ANIL ADYANTHAYA
Brookline



IT'S AMAZING HOW CLOSE SOUTHIE IS TO THE REST OF BOSTON, AND YET HOW FEW BOSTONIANS COME HERE.

—JASON MUTH
SOUTH BOSTON

CONTRIBUTORS

MICHAEL IVINS



Michael Ivins earned his degree in photojournalism from Boston University in 2001, and he worked as a staff photographer for the *Salem News* before moving to Boston. His debut work for the IMPROPER appears with the feature "Mix It Up," on page 28.

GREG HENRY



Greg Henry, who photographed Marcia Cross for this issue's cover and Soroff/On interview, is a freelance photographer specializing in portraits of entertainment personalities. His editorial credits include *Cosmopolitan*, *Details*, *Elle*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *Maxim*, *People* and numerous Australian, European and Japanese publications. He's living happily ever after in Los Angeles with his partner of 15 years and a pug named Buster.

SEE YOU NEXT YEAR

This double issue of the IMPROPER is on the stands until January 12, when we return with the 2005 Man Issue. Happy holidays!

Tell Us What You Think

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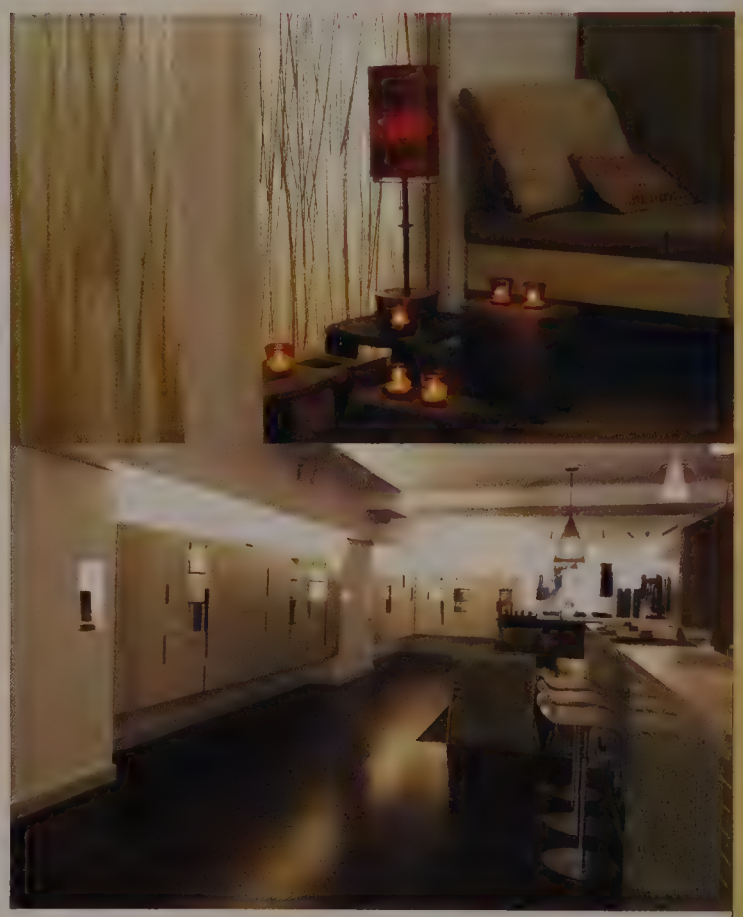
new in town

A BREATH OF FRESH AIR

Psychotherapists, Lamaze coaches, yogis and pilates instructors agree: Breath is the key to relaxation and the mind/body connection. Believers in the power of breath will appreciate the focus at Exhale, a brand new, 13,000-square-foot spa that opened in the Back Bay in mid December. Exhale, which has three locations in New York, takes a holistic approach to spa service, focusing as much on replenishing clients' spiritual and physical well-being as on their physical appearance.

With 15 treatment rooms devoted to the art of making you look and feel good, there's no shortage of luxurious beauty options. An array of massages, facials, waxing, peels, and mani- and pedi- options are available, as are holistic therapies like shiatsu, reflexology, reiki and craniosacral therapy. You can even purify your body with acu-organ detox (a $150-an-hour treatment meant to bring higher levels of energy and mental clarity by combining acupuncture and hot-oil abdominal therapy). Similarly healing-oriented, Exhale's fusion massage uses herbal and aromatherapy oils for detox purposes ($110 for an hour; $80 half an hour). Body enlightening is another choice that's been popular at Exhale's New York locations. It's a mind-body therapy that incorporates yoga, assisted stretching, relaxation and body alignment ($150 an hour).

Exhale also offers exercise classes in two giant workout studios. Several yoga classes are available daily, in addition to Exhale's signature class in core fusion, an exercise that combines pilates with orthopedic stretching and yoga. The physical well-being doesn't come cheap: Core fusion classes are $30 for an hour-long session; $20 for a half hour.



If you're going to a spa appointment before or after your fitness class, you can take a "breather" in the official quiet room. On your way out, you can stop by the spa's organic café counter, which sells fruit juices and smoothies, and a retail shop where you can buy Exhale brand workout gear and beauty products. *28 Arlington St., Boston (617-532-7000). www.exhalespa.com.* —*E.H.*

around town

REPLAY

Keith Foulke's World Series–ending toss to Doug Mientkiewicz was pretty memorable, but fast-forward two months, and the whirlwind 176-game season that preceded it might be a little foggy. Luckily, there are enough World Series/Red Sox tributes out there to keep baseball fans busy until the pitchers-and-catchers reports surface. From Major League Baseball comes *The Official 2004 World Series* ($19.95), a DVD narrated by Denis Leary that focuses on the Sox' three playoff series. Rabid fans might prefer NESN's *Faith Rewarded: The Historic Season of the 2004 Boston Red Sox* ($19.99). True to the network's devotion to the local nine, *Faith* provides in-depth regular-season coverage as well as gratuitous Yankee bashing. How does the World Series rank in comparison with other historic moments in Boston sports? The *Globe*'s three-hour DVD, *Boston's Greatest Sports Stories: Beyond the Headlines* ($19.99), highlights Sox hits, along with some Celtics, Pats and Bruins moments. MLB released one official World Series magazine, *Keep the Faith* ($10), which sums up the season in 100 pages containing 200-plus action photos. —*Rich Levine*



inner view

SUE GRAFTON



Popular and prolific mystery author Sue Grafton is the woman behind the "alphabet series" of novels, the latest of which is *R Is for Ricochet* (Putnam). An exhibition of manuscript pages, photos and memorabilia, titled *Sue Grafton: Woman of Mystery*, is on display on the main floor of Boston University's Mugar Library through January 7. We spoke with Grafton by phone at her home in Kentucky.

Improper Bostonian: *So, what is "S" for?*
Sue Grafton: Usually what I do is keep the title under my hat because book stores will have contests to see if readers can guess what the next title's going to be. Also, I don't know the title for sure from the start. Usually I'll have a couple of possibilities and hold out to see what the book tells me.
IB: *What happens when you're done with Z Is for Zonian [a U.S. citizen who lives in the Panama Canal Zone]?*
SG: I don't know. It'll take me 15 years to get to that point, and who knows what they'll be doing 15 years from now? I've got a long way to go with eight more books, but I'll get there. I'd be drawn and quartered if I didn't.
IB: *How much time do you spend writing on a given day?*
SG: Between three and five hours. But not all of that is writing. It's cogitating, researching, getting stuck. There are people who can write more than eight hours a day, but I'm not one of them. I don't know what kind of drugs they're on, but I want some.
IB: *Do you ever paint yourself into a corner with a story?*
SG: Yes. I've started books, got five chapters in and realized it wasn't gonna fly. That's the hardest thing, when you realize you have to dump a book. That happened with *H Is for Homicide*. But in the end, it's cleansing. It's cathartic.
IB: *How much research goes into one of your books?*
SG: I do a lot, because one of the horrors is that I'll make a fool of myself by not doing my research. I need to know if a scheme is going to work long before I get to it in the book. But on the other hand, you've got to resist the temptation to keep researching forever and not get to the story.
IB: *Is a murder the single most compelling plot element you can use to begin a story?*
SG: I think it is. There are a great many compelling story elements, but murder is still a great taboo, and such a devastating event in people's lives. And the public is more interested in it these days, especially the forensic side. One of the differences in fictional crime, though, is that there's always a strong motive. In real life, that's not always true. People get killed for a pair of tennis shoes. They get hit by a stray bullet. In fiction, there's a scheme, and somehow that's comforting. It's not just mayhem.
IB: *Do real-life crimes inform your books?*
SG: *Q Is for Quarry* was taken from a murder that happened in 1965 in Santa Barbara. It was the only time I've done that. A girl was murdered and left by the side of the road. I paid to have the body exhumed and the face reconstructed. There's a picture of her in the back of the book, and I was hoping someone would see it and know who she was. She hasn't been identified, but I'm in an odd way optimistic.
IB: *So you're actively involved in trying to solve a crime yourself.*
SG: No. I'm just trying to get her identified, which, I suppose, is the first step.
IB: *Would Kinsey Millhone have found the real killer in the O.J. case?*
SG: Sure. She's busy working on one right now. In real life, some crimes are never solved, and that's the joy of fiction—there's always resolution.
IB: *What's a mystery to you?*
SG: How we get by from day to day. Just putting one foot in front of the other. How these books get written. —*Ezra Dyer*

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A TASTE OF THE GOOD LIFE



Trans Fatty Farewell... Let's face it, we've got as good a chance of making it through the holiday season without indulging our sweet tooth as we do of heading to Fenway and not hearing that the Yankees suck. But this winter, Au Bon Pain can help lift some of the guilt with its new Zero Grams Trans Fat Cookies. The new, healthier option for satisfying your cookie cravings is available in 14 different flavors, like Chocolate Chip, Oatmeal Raisin and English Toffee. They may not be low in calories, but you and your arteries should be on great terms heading into 2005.

Big-Time Bubbly... Not a hip-hop video goes by where we don't find ourselves wondering what it must be like to sit back and casually sip on some Dom Perignon or Cristal, that is until we remember that one bottle can cost upwards of $200. Through the month of December, however, Aujourd'hui at the Four Seasons is offering diners a taste of the good life, with a temporary menu of 16 of the world's most high-class champagnes (think Dom, Cristal and Grande Cuvée) by the glass. You can try these high-class champagnes, which are usually only available in the bottle, for between $18 and $50 a glass.

Dunkin' Debit... In the ongoing battle between Dunkin' Donuts and Starbucks, the latest salvo from the DD camp is actually long-delayed return fire: Three years after Starbucks introduced the Starbucks Card, Dunkin' now offers its own plastic for cashless coffee. Customers can put between $5 and $100 on the card, enough to buy a wicked lotta crullahs. The question now is how long we'll have to wait for Starbucks to retaliate against Dunkin's killer innovation, the reclosable sippy lid.

Two-Faced Fare... When the space that used to be home to the Good Life Cambridge became available, restaurateur Joe Arcari couldn't resist the chance to extend his dining empire. He liked it so much, in fact, he opened two new restaurants. "The space was so big it just seemed to work better as two places," Arcari says. "That way both areas could be a little more intimate." The Tavern is a casual, neighborhood-style pub, with two bars and a standard American fare menu. The other half, Wish, is a more upscale, 40-seat Italian-American bistro. The new spots, which opened November 22, are open nightly for dinner (the Tavern also serves lunch), and Arcari plans to feature DJs and live music throughout the week from acts like the Catunes (whose lead singer, Mark Morris, is a partner in the venture). *720 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-868-8800).*

sam says

VIVA VIDAL



Let's face it, haircuts don't come cheap anymore, especially when the name Vidal Sassoon hangs above the door. But the designer hair guru has taken pity on shallow pockets and introduced a new concept with a sister salon, Sassoon Studio, which recently opened in Newton Centre (only the second U.S. location). The idea is to get Vidal quality (complete with Sassoon's Newbury Street salon–trained stylists) in a more casual environment. Vidal Sassoon International creative director Tim Hartley explains, "We want to offer consumers options in their hair-care experience." Translation: fashion-forward hair styles at affordable prices. Cuts and color both start at $50. *796 Beacon St., Newton Centre (617-243-9400).* —*Samantha House*

improper reports

NEW YEAR'S EVE HOTEL PACKAGES

A memorable meal and a bottle of bubbly are a great start to a corker of a New Year's Eve, but if you really want to take it up a notch, why not add overnight accommodations into the mix? Many local hotels offer special packages that'll have you and your sweetie greeting 2005 in luxury.

Boston Harbor Hotel

70 Rowes Wharf, Boston. (617-439-7000). www.bhh.com.

One package includes luxury accommodations for two, a bottle of champagne and full American breakfast at the Intrigue Café for $425. Another, at $545, gets you two passes to the First Night festivities, accommodations for two, a five-course dinner with a glass of champagne at Meritage, and New Year's Day brunch for two in the Atlantic Room.

Boston Park Plaza Hotel

64 Arlington St., Boston (617-426-2000). www.bostonparkplaza.com.

Boasting an ultra convenient First Night location for New Year's accommodations, and two First Night buttons, the Park Plaza's package runs from $209–$229.

Charles Hotel

1 Bennett St., Cambridge (617-864-1200). www.charleshotel.com.

Enjoy an overnight in a deluxe room, dinner for two, a bottle of sparkling wine, and breakfast in bed or at Henrietta's Table, starting at $425. Or opt for the Jazz Package: an overnight stay, dinner at Henrietta's Table, a midnight champagne toast and dancing to live music, starting at $499.

Charles Street Inn

94 Charles St., Boston (617-314-8900). www.charlesstreetinn.com.

The Charles' two-night package might suit out-of-town visitors. After celebrating First Night (compliments of the Charles), retire to your room for a bottle of champagne and Frette slippers. $850 for Friday and Saturday; $750 for Thursday and Friday nights.

Kendall Hotel

350 Main St., Cambridge (617-577-1300). www.kendallhotel.com.

The Kendall's NYE package includes a chilled bottle of champagne, dinner for two at the Black Sheep Restaurant, two First Night buttons, and a late checkout to boot, for $199.

Langham Hotel Boston

250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900). www.langhamhotels.com.

Guests can indulge at the Langham's Chocolate Bar Buffet while listening to Brazilian music by the Evan Gutierrez Quintet, and cure their champagne hangover with a Sunday Recover brunch for two and a late checkout. Starts at $345.

The Lenox Hotel

61 Exeter St., Boston (617-536-5300). www.lenoxhotel.com.

In addition to prime real estate in the center of the city's festivities, the Lenox's package includes two free First Night buttons, champagne, chocolates and deluxe accommodations for two for $399.

—*Christine Meade*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

SEEN, OVERHEARD OR OTHERWISE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION

The Hub's Newest Pub...As the country's most Irish city, we know a thing or two about pubs, but even Boston hasn't necessarily seen a watering hole of this magnitude. In early January, McFadden's Restaurant and Saloon takes over the huge 7,500-square-foot former State Street home of the Exchange. The Financial District spot will serve lunch and dinner—both American and traditional Irish fare—and boasts six 42-inch flat screens as well as smaller, individual flat screens in each of six booths. There are also two DJs (one on each floor) every night, three bars and a VIP room with available bottle service. *148 State St., Boston (617-227-5100).*

Manic Monday... Monday's not known as an especially hot night around the Hub, but the Back Bay's 33 Restaurant and Lounge might change that. On December 6, 33 debuted the Lundi Lounge, a new Monday night venture in its downstairs bar that features weekly theme parties, as well as a quick cure for an extreme case of the Mondays. Upcoming concepts include a World Cup soccer party December 27. *33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311).*

Diamonds and Rubies and Gold, Oh My... As Carol Channing once said, diamonds are a girl's best friend. As are gold, emeralds and pretty much any jewelry that'll set you back several thousand dollars. Such is the stuff of Pageo fine jewelers, which after 28 years in Newton Centre and eight in Nantucket, opened a branch on Newbury Street in November. Owners Pam Swartz and George Pelz deal mainly in contemporary jewels from Italy as well as custom-made items, and pride themselves on carrying unique pieces that can't be found at Neiman's and Saks' counters. Stock ranges from diamond hoops ($500–$700) to custom-made diamond rings that top out around $400,000, with nary a Tiffany Bean or Yurman bangle in sight. *33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-0066).*



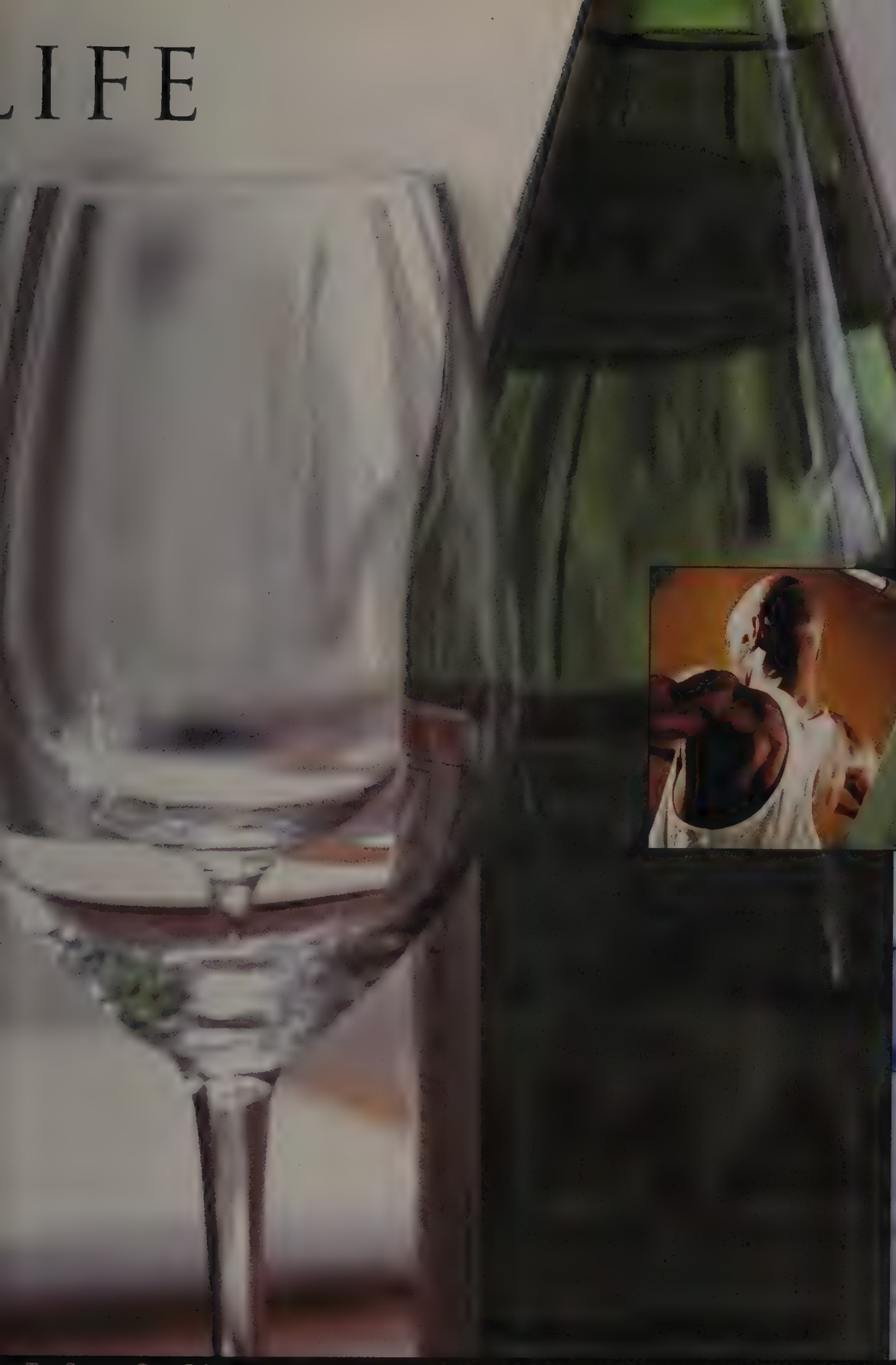
Fabulous Fabric Find... If you're looking for upholstery that's beyond the garden-variety cotton twills and leathers of stores like Pottery Barn and Crate and Barrel, then check out Baranzelli Silk Wholesalers, Charles Street's newest designer addition. Interiors enthusiasts will recognize the brand as the more affordable version of über textile house Scalamandre. In addition to its own line of cottons, silks and linens, Baranzelli features discounted Scalamandre close-out fabrics. Reupholstery and window treatment services are to come. *28 Charles St., Boston (617-227-1515).* —*R.L. and J.I.*



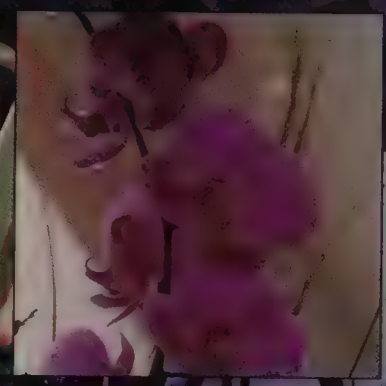
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BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

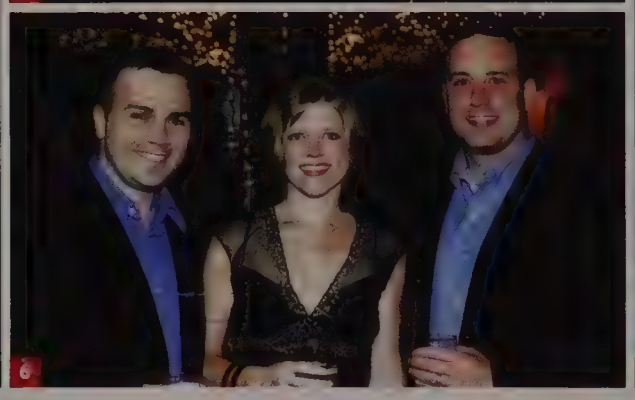












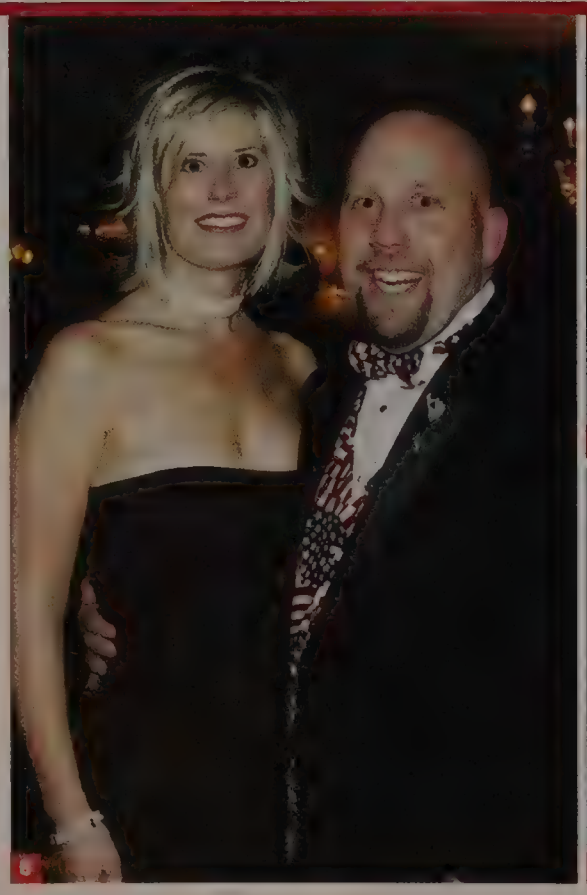


The **Rodman Celebration for Kids** took place December 3. More than 1,600 partygoers enjoyed two bands, food prepared by 40 Boston chefs, and live and silent auctions in a winter setting inside Boston's World Trade Center. The event raised $500,000 for the Rodman Ride for Kids, which benefits underprivileged children in Massachusetts.

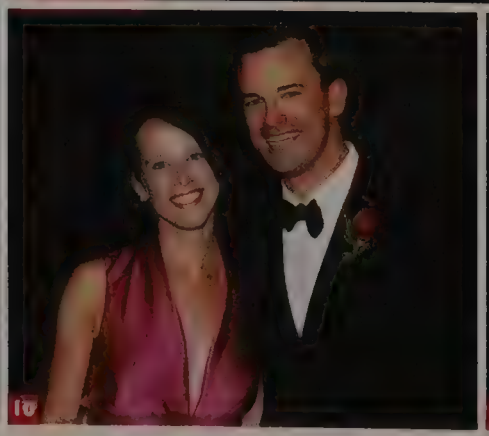
1. **Dave Manganaro**, owner of Manganaro Construction in Woburn; his wife, **Barbara**; **Michele Pasciuto** and her husband, **Carl**, owner of Custom Machine Inc. in Woburn
2. **Steven Young**, architect in the South End, and **Patti Cusack**
3. **Scott Ariel**, COO of the Northeast Specialty Hospital in Braintree, and **Marin Blitzer**, administrator for the Northeast Specialty Hospital in Natick
4. **Lori** and **Frank Giannelli**, vice president of sales for MCSI in Waltham
5. **Ted** and **Joan Cutler**, Boston philanthropists, and **Don Rodman**, CEO of Rodman Ford in Foxboro
6. **Chris Nolty**, adviser for the Morton Group in Wellesley; his wife, **Anna**, Carlisle Public School teacher; and **Chris Cantone**, product manager for Color Kinetics
7. **Susan Wornick**, news anchor for WCVB-TV 5, and **Valerie Leary**

The **Snowball 2004** took place December 3 at the Park Plaza Hotel. The 18th annual event hosted 1,000 attendees and raised about $50,000 to benefit Boston inner-city youth. The evening included a casino, silent auction and pictures with Santa.

8. **Carrie Burr**, co-chair of the Snowball's Black Diamond champagne reception, and **Stephen Macary**, Snowball chairman
9. **Wendy Krayer**, **Mike Volpe**, and **Ann** and **Matthew Mittelstadt**; vice president, marketing director, director of admissions and director of development, respectively, for the Boston Scholars Program
10. **Eva** and **Rob Higby**, director of events and executive director, respectively, of the Boston Scholars Program
11. **Todd Kurland**, co-founder of the Snowball, and his wife, **Amy**











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THE COLLINS CARD

BY CHRIS COLLINS



KRAFT HAS MADE PATS THE MODEL FRANCHISE

Are Patriots fans getting complacent?... A happy Paul Pierce moment, off the court

These days, when I watch the New England Patriots I find myself, like many, just waiting, expecting the Pats to make a play, and for the other team to screw it up. And you know what? They never fail me. Death, taxes and the Patriots steamrolling somebody have become the new inevitables. As a matter of fact, it's so normal, so routine, and Patriots fans are becoming so spoiled, that a lot of the energy that used to permeate Route 1 in Foxboro is now being reserved for the real season, the playoffs.

I've never seen a more subdued crowd in Foxboro than the one at last month's Sunday night game, when the Patriots hosted the Buffalo Bills. All the story lines that used to get us riled up and panting—ex-Pats Drew Bledsoe and Lawyer Milloy back in town; the Bills, a divisional rival hoping to return the favor after the Pats beat them a month earlier—were in place. But the crowd didn't care. It felt more like being at Symphony Hall than at an NFL game.

The Patriots dismantled the Bills that night in such a methodical manner that the game was never in doubt. It was like the Road Runner and Wile E. Coyote. You knew Bledsoe was going down hard.

Are we taking this team for granted? Worse, have we become like Atlanta Braves fans, who've had one of the greatest runs in pro sports over the last quarter century, nailing down 13 consecutive divisional titles? The same unimaginative fans who could only muster the Tomahawk Chop as their calling card? Atlanta fans, though, seem to get a little louder come playoff time. Maybe that's what I witnessed against Buffalo: fans who don't want to waste their energy on the games that don't matter.

In the new, salary-cap NFL, teams get to the Super Bowl by selling their soul for just one chance (see Baltimore, New York Giants, Tampa and Oakland). Somehow, not only have the Patriots bucked the odds, but there doesn't seem to be an end in sight. That's not supposed to happen any more.

With all the winning and joy Bob Kraft has brought to the area, my personal favorite moment happened on January 2, 1999, in Jacksonville. It was the night before the Pats' playoff game against the Jaguars. Kraft was watching a football game with his son Jonathan and a couple of friends in the hotel bar where I was staying. I went over and said hello. As I was leaving, Bob Kraft asked where I was going. When I replied that I was going to a club the doorman had recommended, Kraft said, "We're going back to our hotel. Come with us. We'll give you a ride."

My photographer and I jumped in Kraft's limo and were dropped off at the club. It was a little thing, but it told me a lot about the man on top of the Patriots organization. He's a winner, but more importantly, he's a good guy. It's nice when good guys finish first.

While Paul Pierce hasn't been a very happy camper thus far this season, expressing frustration at spending the prime of his career on a team that's mired in mediocrity, it was bittersweet to see him happily joking around with former teammate Antoine Walker at his Runway 34 fashion show, which took place just before the Celtics embarked on the 2004 campaign. A public relations woman tried desperately to get a picture early in the evening by asking Pierce if he could join Walker, who was standing about 10 feet away. Pierce's response: "He knows where I am."

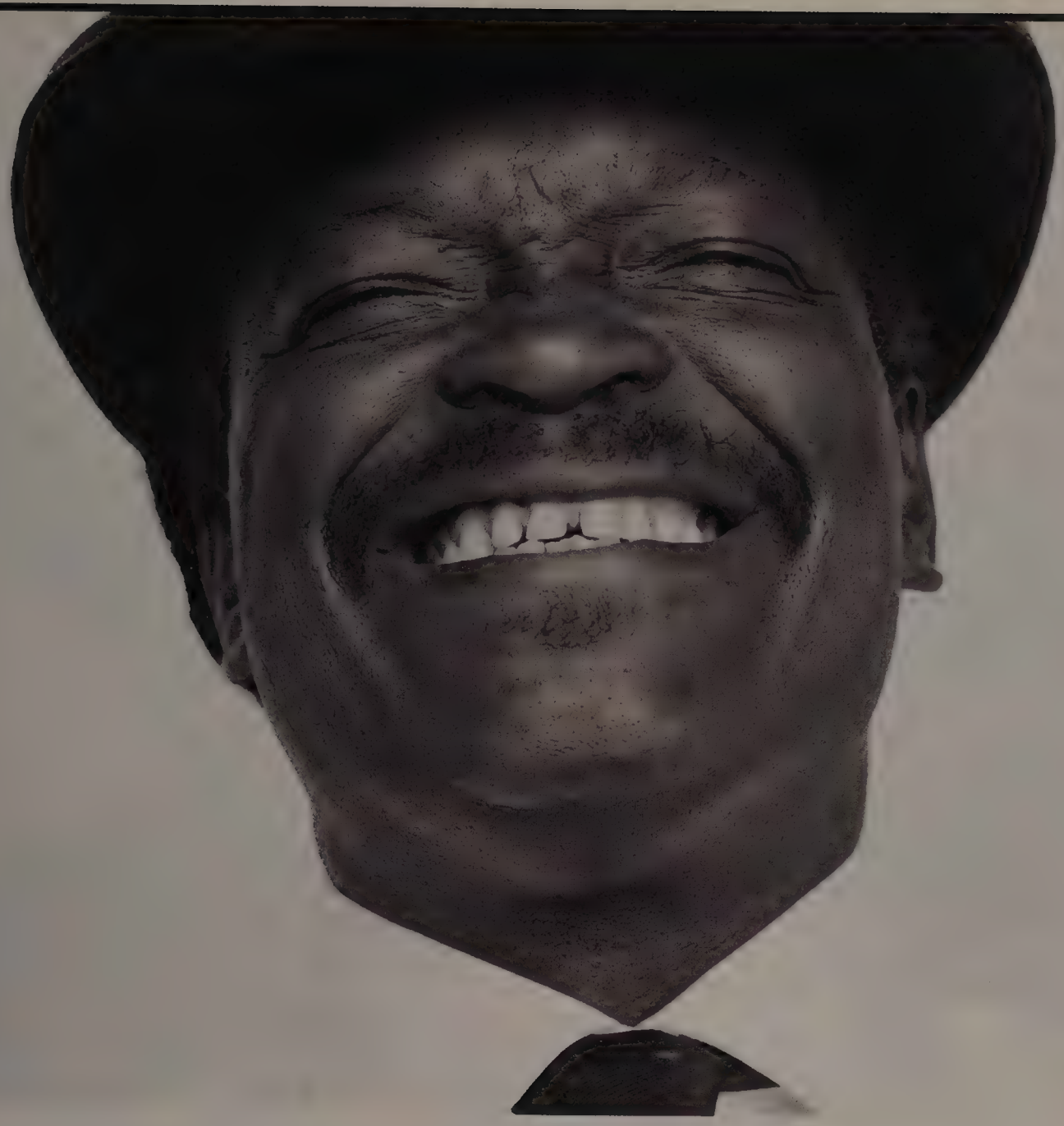
THE PATRIOTS DISMANTLED THE BILLS THAT NIGHT IN SUCH A METHODICAL MANNER THAT THE GAME WAS NEVER IN DOUBT. IT WAS LIKE THE ROAD RUNNER AND WILE E. COYOTE.

So the PR woman tried asking Walker. His response was, "If Paul wants to take a picture he can come over here."

The poor PR woman went back and forth between the two parties while the photographer, who was just looking for a quick shot so he could leave, viewed the scene like he was watching a tennis match.

When the joking stopped, the pair took the photo. It was nice to see—two old friends, who went through a lot of their growing years together, at peace. IB

Chris Collins is a sportscaster for New England Cable News. Address sporting opinions and feedback to sportsdesk@improper.com.



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MARCIA CROSS

INTERVIEW BY JONATHAN SOROFF PHOTOGRAPH BY GREG HENRY/LAMOINE PHOTO GROUP

Long before she got the role of Bree Van De Kamp in ABC's hit series *Desperate Housewives*, Marlborough native Marcia Cross was determined to become an actress. At the age of 18 she was accepted at the Juilliard School as a drama major. On stage Cross performed in *La Ronde* at the Williamstown Theater Festival, in *Twelfth Night* at the Hartford Stage Company, and in *Two Gentlemen of Verona* at the Old Globe in San Diego. Her first television job was on the daytime drama *The Edge of Night*. Leaving New York to try her luck in Los Angeles, Cross was soon landing roles in television movies such as *The Last Days of Frank and Jessie James*, co-starring with Johnny Cash and Kris Kristofferson. Her role as Dr. Kimberly Shaw on *Melrose Place* began when she was hired for one episode. The producers were so impressed, they kept asking her back for additional appearances, eventually bringing her character back from the dead to continue on the hit show.

Cross also guest-starred on such series as *Seinfeld*, where she played Jerry's dermatologist girlfriend, and *Cheers*, where she portrayed the younger sister of Kirstie Alley's character. Cross has also appeared on the comedies *Ally McBeal*, *Spin City*, *The Garry Shandling Show* and *The King of Queens*. Her dramatic roles include appearances on *CSI*, *Profiler* and *Touched by an Angel*. Cross' film credits include *Living in Fear*, *Always Say Good-bye*, *Dancing in September* and *Bad Influence*. Aside from her career as an actress, Cross has also recently completed her clinical training to earn a master's degree in psychology. She lives in Los Angeles.

Jonathan Soroff: *So are you really a certifiable lunatic or do you just play one on TV?*

Marcia Cross: Well, this character isn't insane…

JS: *She's pretty tightly wound.*

MC: I always say she's neurotic, not psychotic, and they've promised to keep her that way. She will not be going Kimberly on me.

JS: *Did you major in over-the-top psychos at Juilliard?*

MC: Seems to be my specialty.

JS: *Any correlation between the fact that you just got a master's degree in psychology and that you play some unhinged women on TV?*

MC: Oh, I think everyone is unhinged to some degree. I just happen to like portraying those people.

JS: *Do you ever look at your education and your career and say to yourself, "All that classical training for this?!"*

MC: It takes all that training to do this.

JS: *So are you mentally prepared to be the next pop-cultural it-girl?*

MC: No, I'm not. [Chuckles.] I'm already exhausted.

JS: *On* Melrose Place, *you got killed and came back to life like three times. Do you believe in life after death?*

MC: Absolutely.

JS: *The famous scene where Kimberly pulled her wig off was worthy of an Emmy, don't you think?*

MC: I don't know that I deserve an Emmy.

JS: *Did they teach soap opera acting at Juilliard?*

MC: Oh, yeah. You have to make it to the fourth year, which I did, and then I had a private class in it, and a tutor…

JS: *Really?! I was being facetious!*

MC: So am I!

JS: *Wow, you really are an incredible actor. Speaking of which, you have one of the best screams in the business…*

MC: …I actually am a screamer.

JS: *I don't think I'm gonna touch that one…*

MC: Oh, no, there hasn't been a lot of that lately.

JS: *Safer territory: You played Seinfeld's girlfriend?*

MC: Well, we went on a date. That to me doesn't count as being his girlfriend.

JS: *How about your hair color. Is it real?*

MC: Not anymore.

JS: *What's the maintenance on that?*

MC: It's a lotta work, and I'd say it's pricey, too.

[BREE VAN DE KAMP] IS NEUROTIC, NOT PSYCHOTIC, AND THEY'VE PROMISED TO KEEP HER THAT WAY… I THINK EVERYONE IS UNHINGED TO SOME DEGREE. I JUST HAPPEN TO LIKE PLAYING THOSE PEOPLE.

JS: *Worst line you ever had to deliver?*

MC: Oh, my God. There have been too many to count. On *One Life To Live*, every time we got a bad line, we'd write it on the wall, but the ones I remember were from my first job, on *Edge of Night*, and they weren't mine. We'd always quote the famously bad ones, like, "Does that cellar door still lead to the basement?" Or "It's a lie, a lie, I tell you—a lie designed to conceal the truth!"

JS: *Botox—yea or nay?*

MC: I'm pro anything that makes you happier.

JS: *So are you a Botox user, and if so, how do you still make all those horrified facial expressions?*

MC: Oh, yeah, I use it. But I have more muscles in my face than a normal person needs to make any kind of expression.

JS: *Are you sick of people quoting* The Brady Bunch: *"Marcia, Marcia, Marcia."*

MC: Oh, no. Doesn't bother me a bit.

JS: *Let's discuss Marsha vs. Marcia.*

MC: Personally, I just like the way it ["c-i-a"] looks visually, with a capital M and then all small letters. I was named after my father.

JS: *Your father's name is Marcia?!*

MC: No. It's Mark. But they could've called me Martha, so I'm grateful.

JS: *OK. Fill in the blank: Redheads do it _____.*

MC: Redheads do it brilliantly.

JS: *Oooooooh. I've heard your character on* Desperate Housewives *compared to Martha Stewart…*

MC: Yeah, but I don't get that. I understand in the sense that in our culture, she's the one responsible for doing everything domestic so beautifully, but I don't really relate to her in a psychological or emotional way. I think I play the character more energetically.

JS: *What's up with her name: Bree Van De Kamp, like the fish sticks?*

MC: Or the pork and beans, or something. Umm, I don't know, but I love it.

JS: *What's not to love, since Bree's gonna buy you a big new house or a shiny new car?*

MC: [Laughs.] I have a new fabulous mattress. I think that's where everyone should start when spoiling themselves. It's just absolutely deliciously comfortable.

JS: *So who does Bree remind you of?*

MC: Oh, there are several people I have in mind. She's a composite of several people who shall remain nameless. There's little bits of all sorts of people I know.

JS: *What does your closet at home look like?*

MC: [Laughing.] It could use a little Bree touch.

JS: *How about your purse? What's in it?*

MC: It's pretty boring. Aside from the ordinary, like wallet and keys, there's as many lip glosses as I can fit, or none, cause I can never find them. So it's either 15 or zero.

JS: *Not a handgun?*

MC: Afraid not.

JS: *Does Heather Locklear have the Midas touch when it comes to TV?*

MC: Well, she's fantastic, but I know that I personally don't want to be at an airport every week, and I don't know if even she can glamorize an airport. But she is gold that girl. For sure.

JS: *So which members of the* Melrose Place *cast did you sleep with?*

MC: In real life? Not a one.

JS: *What a missed opportunity! It was such a sexy cast.*

MC: I know, but unfortunately, there was nothing there.

JS: *Last question: As a psychologist, what's your advice to desperate housewives?*

MC: Get thee to a spa! IB



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WHAT'S IN AND OUT FOR

As the undisputed arbiters of all that is cool, we at the IMPROPER once again present, for your benefit, our annual In and Out list. If it's In for next year, it's here. If it's Out, it's smurf to us, as it should be to you, unless you yourself are as Out as a cheese plate on Air Tran. But we're firm believers that with a little guidance, everyone can live the In life. Except maybe R. Kelly. So dig In!

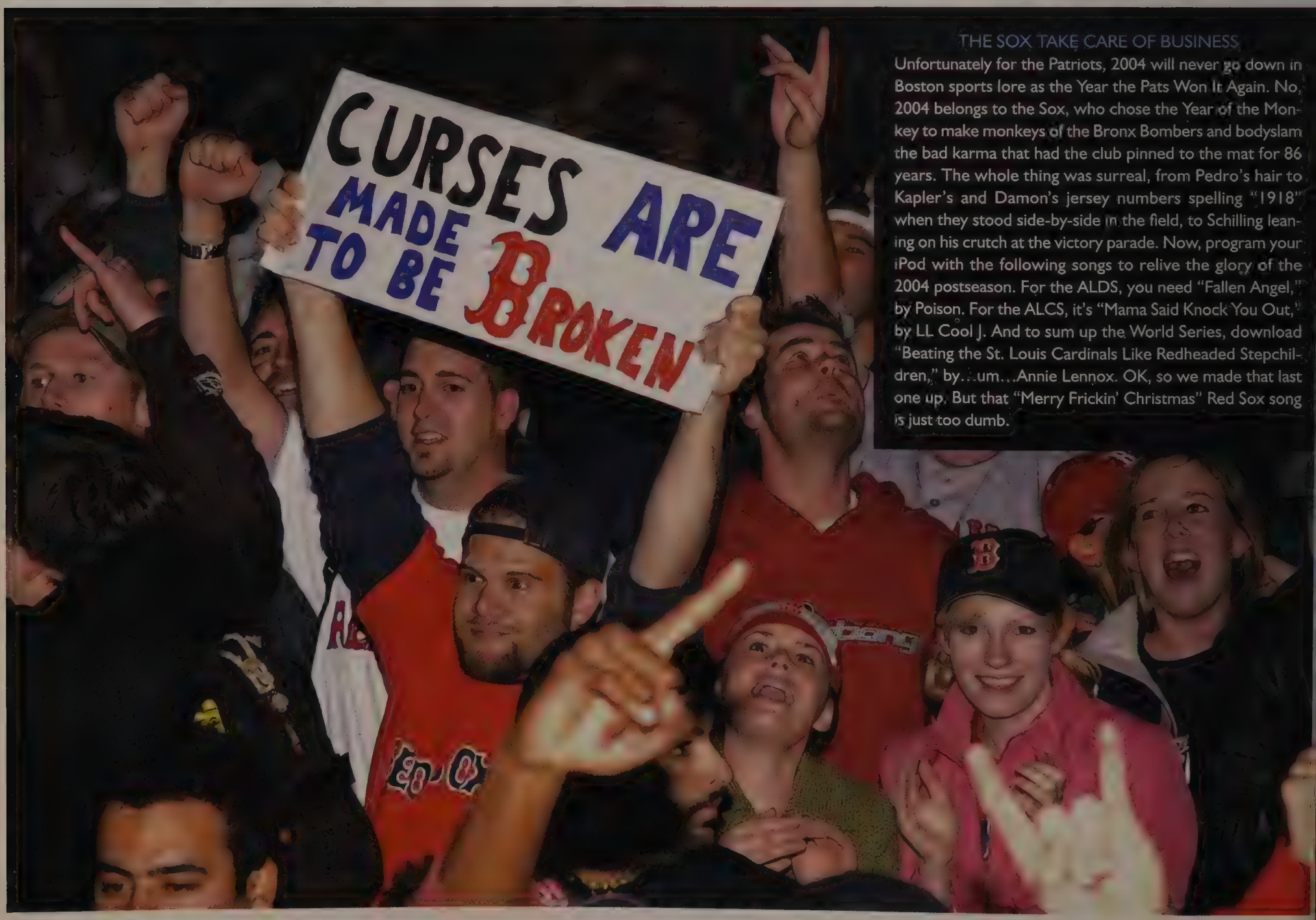
IN	OUT
Crunk	Gangsta
Ali G.	Triumph the Insult Comic Dog
Cowboys	Cowboy up
Moccasins	Uggs
Sex and the City reruns	Cynthia Nixon
Asexual	Metrosexual
Dodge Power Wagon	Crossover vehicles
In Touch	*Us Weekly*
Sick	Hella
Rich hippies	Rich preppies
2004	1918
Lindsay Lohan	Hilary Duff
Acid Reflux	Talent
Cough syrup	Gin and Juice
"You're Smurf to me"	"Talk to the hand"
Canines	Kids
Gmail	E-mail
Jude Law overexposure	Paris Hilton overexposure
Anybody but…	Ben Affleck
Orlando	Nomar
Orlando Bloom	Leonardo DiCaprio
Brak	Bart
Gossip Lit	Chick Lit
Nerds	Hipsters
Greyhounds	Dark & Stormies
Having friends	Friendster

IN	OUT
Knitting	Sewing
Housewives	Working moms
Bitching	Bitches
Fondue	Cheese plates
Slacking	Working
Rickshaws	Taxis
Basement shows	Club shows
Jewcy.com	Juicy Couture
Jet Blue	Air Tran
Trump	Richard Branson
Jon Stewart	Dan Rather
Lil' Flip	Eminem
The Third Coast	The East and West Coasts
Personal chefs	Personal trainers
Double Dubs	Dubs
Conservatives	Conservation
Jay-Z	R. Kelly
Corey Dillon	Antowain Smith
Hummers	Scooters
TheSmokingGun.com	Blogs
Labradoodles	Labs or poodles
Zipcar	Auto insurance
'90s	'80s
AwfulPlasticSurgery.com	HotorNot.com
Capes	Ponchos
Leaky tunnels	Double-sealed slurry walls

The 411 on 2004

IT WAS THE BEST OF TIMES, IT WAS THE WORST OF TIMES,
BUT 2004 CONFIRMED BOSTON'S POSITION AS THE HUB OF THE UNIVERSE.

BY EZRA DYER



THE SOX TAKE CARE OF BUSINESS

Unfortunately for the Patriots, 2004 will never go down in Boston sports lore as the Year the Pats Won It Again. No, 2004 belongs to the Sox, who chose the Year of the Monkey to make monkeys of the Bronx Bombers and bodyslam the bad karma that had the club pinned to the mat for 86 years. The whole thing was surreal, from Pedro's hair to Kapler's and Damon's jersey numbers spelling "1918" when they stood side-by-side in the field, to Schilling leaning on his crutch at the victory parade. Now, program your iPod with the following songs to relive the glory of the 2004 postseason. For the ALDS, you need "Fallen Angel," by Poison. For the ALCS, it's "Mama Said Knock You Out," by LL Cool J. And to sum up the World Series, download "Beating the St. Louis Cardinals Like Redheaded Stepchildren," by...um...Annie Lennox. OK, so we made that last one up. But that "Merry Frickin' Christmas" Red Sox song is just too dumb.

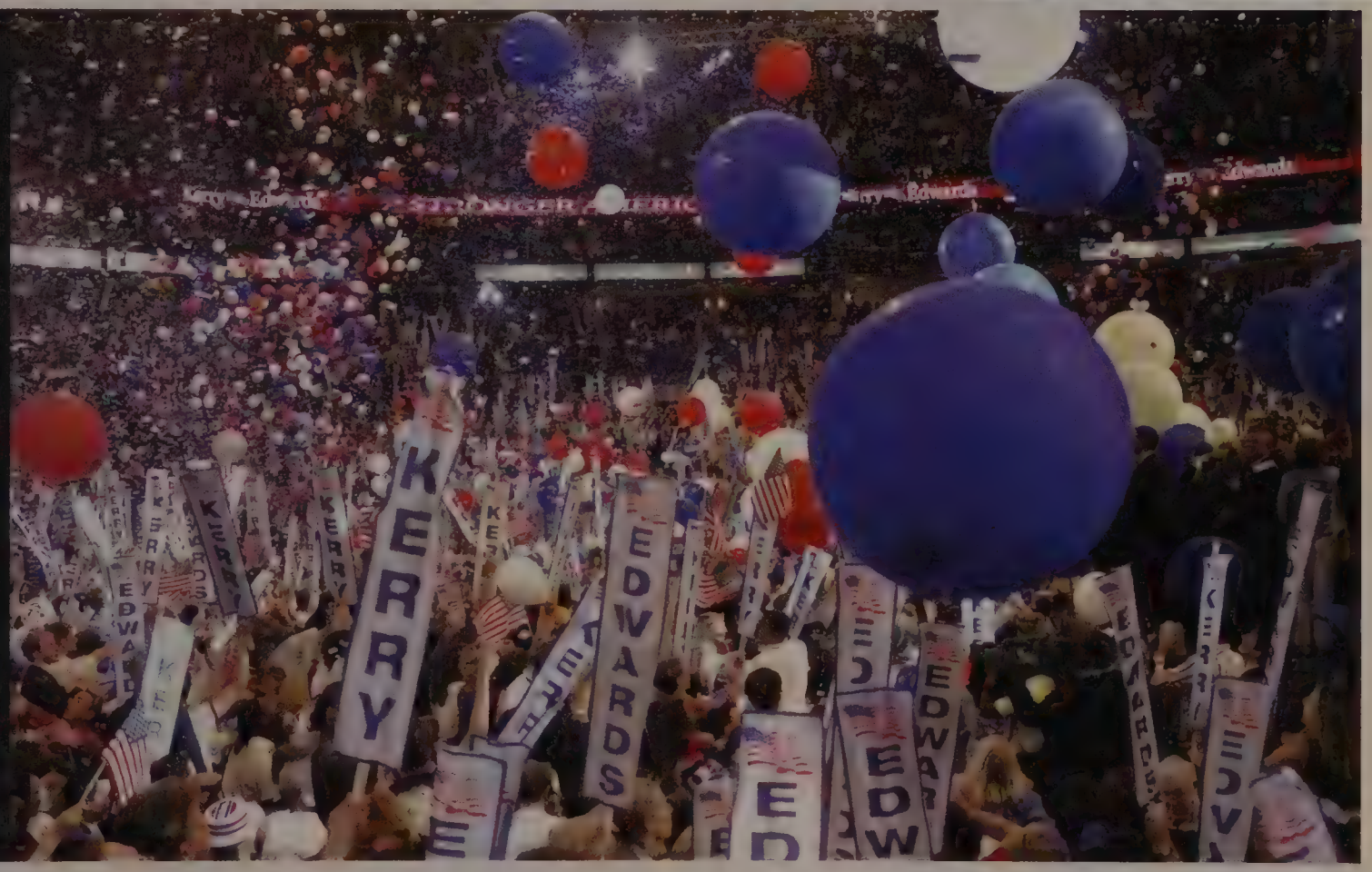


CAUSEWAY STREET T TRACKS NO MORE

Sure, the Central Artery gets all the attention, but what about the MBTA's work on Causeway Street? Pedestrians who walk past the FleetCenter saw the light last year as the grimy elevated Green Line T tracks and North Station platform were dismantled, replaced by the new underground "Super Platform" near Canal Street. Cabbies might be disappointed, as there will soon be fewer pedestrians for them to clip or morbidly frighten (the Super Platform will connect to the FleetCenter through a tunnel). But the area's entertainers and entrepreneurs are psyched that their favorite street has become a brighter, sunnier place to drum on buckets and scalp Celtics tickets.

DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION

Up until the day it actually began on July 26, nobody could figure out what impact the DNC would have on the city. Would it be an economic bonanza? A constant traffic jam? Why build a huge convention center near the waterfront and then hold the city's biggest event in the FleetCenter? Citywide, Bostonians decided that the answer to these questions was: screw it, I'm going on vacation. Despite the influx of delegates and media, the DNC made Boston look about as populous as post–ice age New York in *The Day After Tomorrow*. Commuters not only found clear roads, but could get out of their cars and picnic in the HOV lane on I-93. Tumbleweeds rolled past local restaurants unlucky enough to have been left off the party planners' schedules. Walking around the city was like going to work on Thanksgiving—everyone was somewhere else. Whether or not you think the DNC was a success, we can probably all agree that if you want to reap an economic bonus by attracting 30,000 visitors to the city, it's simpler to just let Jimmy Buffett play a concert at Fenway Park.



THE BIG DIG BECOMES THE BIG SIEVE

Just when commuters were getting used to the idea of being stuck in traffic in a tunnel instead of being stuck in traffic on an elevated highway, along comes another curveball in the public works soap opera that is the Big Dig: The tunnels are leaking. This is not a good thing for tunnels to do, unless you're Bruce Willis in *Die Hard 3* and you need to surf on the roof of a dump truck and get blown through a manhole to meet Samuel L. Jackson and thwart the terrorists. We recommend that commuters watch that movie and study Willis' moves in the dump truck-surfing scene a few times per year. You know, just in case.

BANK OF AMERICA COMES TO TOWN

Bank of America totally pinkie-swore when they bought Fleet that they wouldn't have massive layoffs. Then, when the deal went through, there weren't massive layoffs...there were *super-massive* layoffs! And some Fleet employees who weren't laid off were forced to move to company headquarters in North Carolina, an awful place where you can play golf year-round and a 4,000-square-foot house costs as much as a two-bedroom condo in Boston. Are there any winners here? Yes, you, John Q. Customer, reap the rewards of banking with a colossus. First of all, Bank of America has free coffee, whereas Fleet just had lollipops. More important, Bank of America employees are required to be preternaturally friendly or else they receive an electric shock from a manager watching via closed-circuit TV. And nothing makes banking fun like forced friendliness. Mark down 2004 as the year Boston's biggest bank turned its frown upside down!

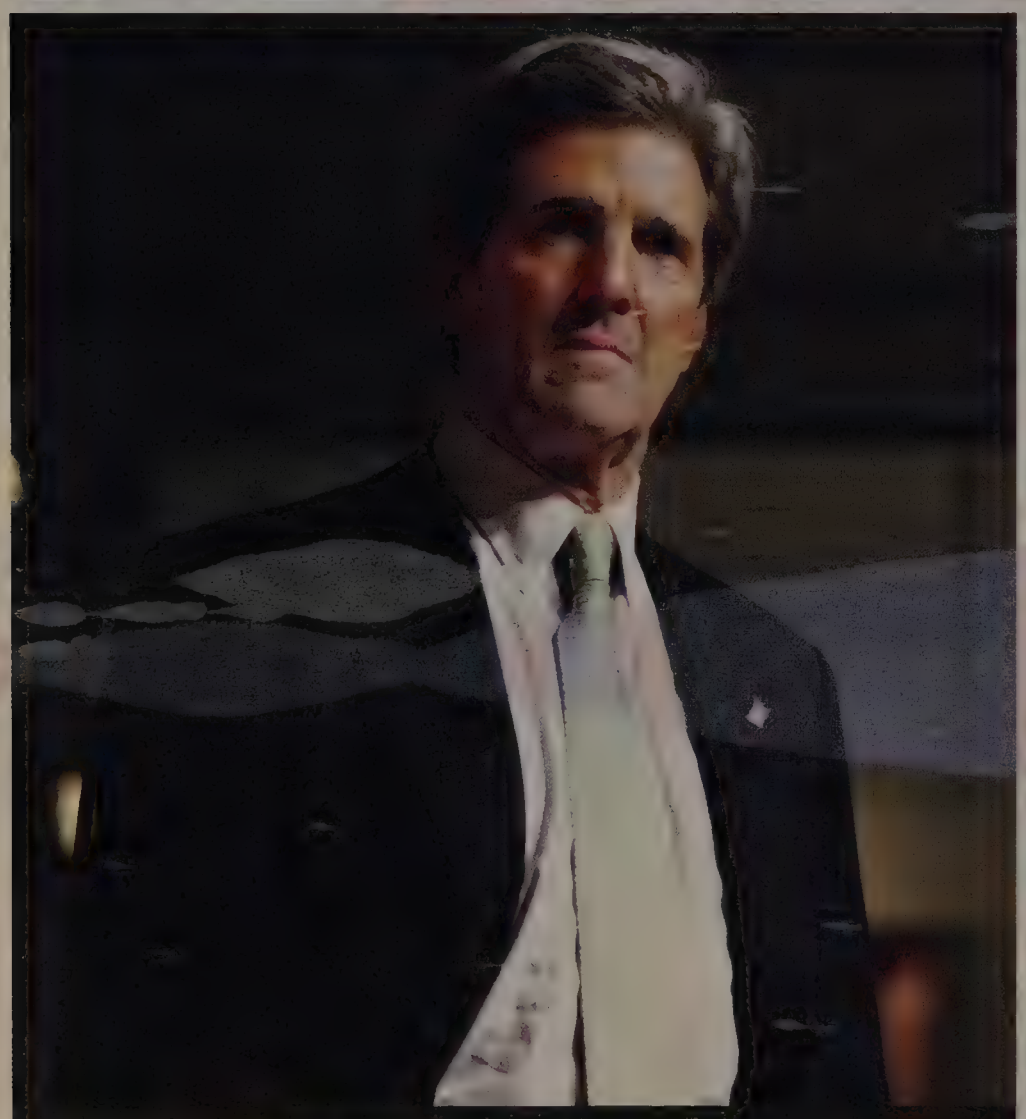
CONVENTION CENTER COMPLETED

Stardate 2004. Captain to the bridge: We've completed construction of the biggest starship yet seen in the fleet. She's docked down by the waterfront. She's not too quick, but we think she's got what it takes to host a gigantic dentists' convention or two. We call her the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center. What? The Hynes? The Hynes is amateur hour, baby. The Hynes is done. Yeah, we heard the Hynes is hosting a big convention next year—a loser convention! Ha ha ha ha! Please, hold your convention at the new place. Please.

PATS WIN THEIR SECOND SUPER BOWL

Just when you thought the Patriots could never replicate the excitement of their 2002 Super Bowl win, when Adam Vinatieri kicked a last-second field goal to ice the championship, the Pats won their second title in the waning seconds on...an Adam Vinatieri field goal! With a fresh title banner flying at the Razor, Patriots fan cockiness reached an all-time high in 2004. And why not? Even with so many injuries that Pat the Patriot is playing right tackle and those guys with the muskets are blocking on punt returns, da Pats just keep winning. Also, importantly, all the New York teams stink. 2004 was a good year to be a Flying Elvis fan.





JOHN KERRY'S PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN

Over intermittent periods, Beacon Hill's own windsurfing, ketchup-loving senator looked like he might have what it takes to go all the way to the White House, adding a presidential victory to Boston's football and baseball triumphs. But it was not to be, and the crowd assembled in Copley Square anticipating a rowdy party instead got only an uninspiring mumble from John Edwards, followed by a rude awakening the next morning—the electoral college map looked redder than Ted Kennedy's face after a balloon-inflating competition. The reason for this is obvious: The rest of the country is jealous of us because of the Super Bowl and World Series, and they couldn't handle the thought of us winning the White House Bowl too. In the end, it seems, John Kerry was an innocent victim of Boston's friggin' awesomeness.

A GAY OLD MARRIAGE

Someday, a grandpa will sit a little moppet on his lap and tell her about his wedding back in 2004, when he made his vows to grandpa. And the protests that accompanied the legalization of gay marriage in Massachusetts will seem rather silly, because by then people will be marrying animals, and animals will be marrying trees, and it all started down the slippery slope of gay marriage in Massachusetts in 2004, we tell ya! Actually, we're waiting for 2005, when the first round of gay divorces brings another judicial firestorm, this time over whether the bottom gets the alimony.



HOCKEY, OR A LACK THEREOF

History will record 2004 as a black year for Boston hockey. First, the Bruins choked on their sticks in the playoffs. Then they got no chance to redeem themselves because of the NHL lockout. Oh well. It could be worse. Imagine how they feel in Canada, where there's now officially no reason to go on living. IB

Happy Holidays

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Bored with the usual cocktail or dinner gatherings? These ideas can add some life to your party.

mix it up



1154 Lill Studio on Newbury Street hosts handbag-making parties for 12 to 25 people.

BY LARYN IVY

PHOTOGRAPHS BY MICHAEL IVINS

Although most everyone looks forward to the holiday season's whirlwind of parties, by the end of December, the black dress cocktail party can get a little tired. Believe it or not, here in Boston, there are plenty of fun (and we don't mean hokey) and unique alternatives for getting friends together—from a Vegas-style gambling night to a "futuristic" cocktail party complete with a psychic offering readings. So mix it up during the holidays, or after, with some of these no-black-dress- and no-punch-bowl-required events. Long after the start of the New Year, when memories of December's gatherings are just a blur, your party will be sure to stand out.

Diamonds may be a girl's best friend, but for many women, handbags run a close second. At **1154 Lill Studio**, your girlfriends can have a party while each of you custom-designs a purse, combining one of 21 styles with any of the shop's hundreds of unique fabrics. Lill, which opened last winter on Newbury Street, books parties for 12 to 25 people Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday nights after store hours. Guests mingle over wine and food provided by the hostess (who receives an Anna William gift certificate for organizing the party). Then, store stylists talk about the bags and help guests choose the design and fabrics. There's no fee for the party, and handbag prices range from $25 to $150, depending on the design.

Anna William, a custom handbag store in Cambridge, also offers in-store parties for seven to 40 people, during or after business hours. In either case, hostesses and their guests are welcome to bring food and drinks. If you prefer, store staff will bring bag designs and fabric samples to your home. Anna William offers 19 bag designs and more than 200 fabrics, and prices range from $22 to $110 (the hostess receives a $78 credit toward her bag). Keep in mind that at both 1154 Lill and Anna William, it takes about four weeks to create the bag you design.

If you like the sound of make-your-own, but purses aren't your bag, get your girlfriends together for a night of jewelry-making. **Beadworks** stores in Boston and Cambridge host small parties (maximum of eight people) and also provide kits ($20 each) for larger groups for at-home parties. You can book a party in the Boston store for a Tuesday night or Sunday morning, or schedule a Saturday afternoon or Wednesday night in the Cambridge location. At the two-hour-long event, guests receive instructions and enough beads to assemble a necklace, a bracelet and beaded earrings. Kits include freshwater pearls, Swarovski crystal beads and seed beads in a variety of seasonal colors, as well as stringing materials, clasps and hooks. The stores don't allow alcohol at their parties, but food and nonalcoholic beverages are OK. The fee for a party is $40, plus $20 per person for the jewelry kits.

At **Rugg Road Paper Co.**, a group of up to 10 friends can get together to learn skills from wrapping presents to making lampshades. Events are custom-designed, so there's plenty of flexibility in planning the evening. At a quick, one-hour party, guests can receive instruction on card making or present wrapping for about $10 per person (plus the cost of materials selected). A more intensive, two- to three-hour workshop on album-making includes instruction and materials, for about $45–$70 per person (excluding paper for an outside cover). Hosts may bring hors d'oeuvres, wine and music for the festivities. Rugg Road can also bring the party to you—all you need is enough table space for your guests.

Most guys won't get charged up about a handmade-paper-album party, but the chance to roll the dice at the craps table is another story. Gambling is illegal in Massachusetts, of course, but **Monte Carlo Productions** re-creates a casino experience, complete with play money. The Lynn-based company runs gambling nights for groups of 20 to more than 300 people. The typical evening starts with a cocktail hour, after which the tables—blackjack, craps and roulette are the most popular options—open up. The professional dealers are trained in all the games, and each guest receives $2,000 in play money to use at the tables. Monte Carlo owner Scot Johnson suggests using a gambling party to learn new games, tips and strategies from the dealers, something you can't do at a real casino. Gambling lasts around two hours, then the tables close, the money is counted, tally sheets recorded and, if you choose, prizes awarded to the big winners. The cost for an event depends on travel time and the number of dealers and tables. Johnson estimates that a party for 30 at a Boston apartment would run about $475, including two blackjack tables, one roulette table, three dealers plus chips, play money and other accessories.

1154 Lill Studio
220 Newbury St.
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617-247-1154
www.1154Lill.com

Anna William
2014 Mass. Ave.
Cambridge
617-547-2662
www.annawilliam.com

Baseball Unlimited
55 Athletic Field
Waltham
781-647-1981
www.baseballunlimited.com

Beadworks
167 Newbury St., Boston
23 Church St, Cambridge
617-868-8600 (event line for both locations)

City Golf
38 Bromfield St.
Boston
617-357-4653
www.citygolfboston.com

A Fresh Endeavor
www.afreshendeavor.com
781-860-0222

Monte Carlo Productions
877-834-2711
www.montecarloproductions.com

Rugg Road Paper Co.
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617-742-0002

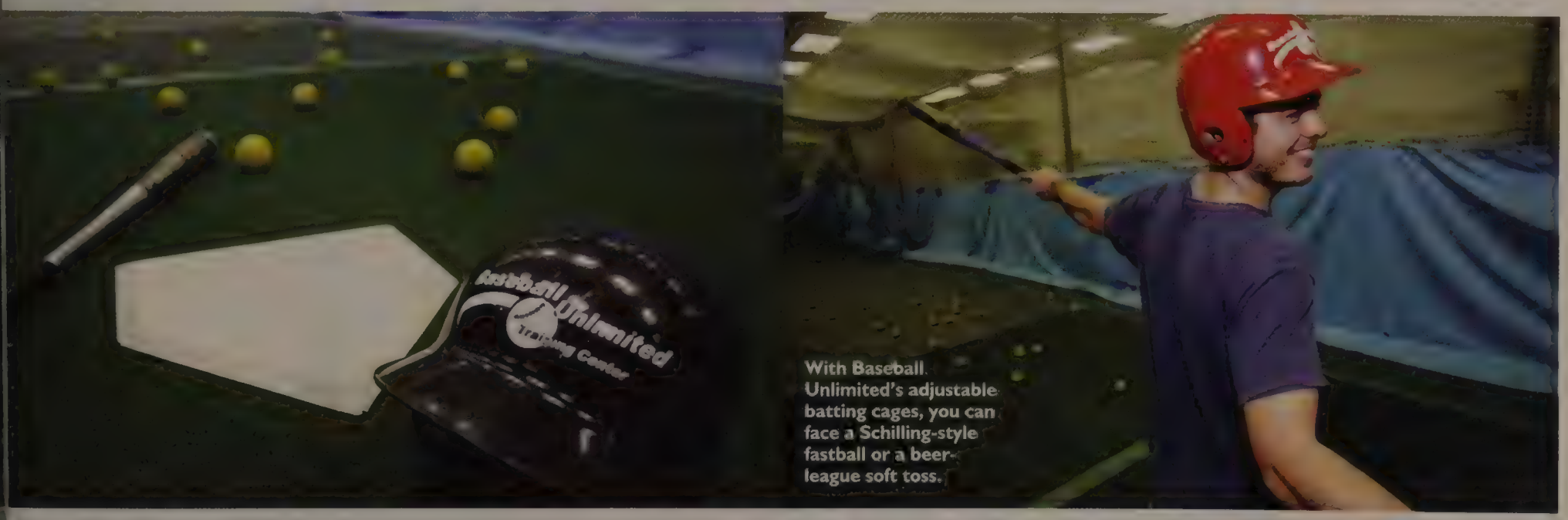
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Looking for something more physical? Head to the batting cages. **Baseball Unlimited** in Waltham has five indoor, heated cages available for rent by the half hour ($30/cage) or the hour ($50/cage). The machines are completely adjustable, so if you're up for taking a Schilling-esque 95 mph fastball, you have the option. And if Little League is more your speed, the machines can be set as low as 20 mph. Instructors are available—$50 a half hour or $90 an hour—to provide tips on fielding, pitching, hitting and catching. The rental fee includes bats, helmets and as many balls as you can hit. There's no catering, but Baseball Unlimited lets you bring in your own food and drinks to fuel your swings.

You can take your swing in a different direction at **City Golf** on Bromfield Street. Its training and practice facility has six hitting bays and two simulators, plus video swing analysis equipment and four PGA pros on staff. Bring a group of 10 to 75 people for a golf party and use the simulators for a closest-to-the-pin or long-drive contest. Or you can have a pro set up in one of the hitting bays to give instruction. Prices vary depending on number of people, the duration of the party, catering (City Golf can arrange for food from nearby restaurants like Sebastian's and Silvertone) and number of pros on duty. Director of marketing Justin LaMontagne estimates that a two-hour party for 15 people with catering, two pros and access to all the facilities would run between $1,200 and $1,500.

If you like the idea of a dinner party but don't want to cook or shop or even clean up, for that matter, **A Fresh Endeavor** can make that dream a reality, and you and your guests can learn something new to boot. This personal-chef and in-house-catering service creates a unique dinner party by providing a chef to lead a cooking class and prepare food in your own kitchen. Owners Christine Robinson and Dennis Nosko work with you to plan a menu for the evening—they can handle high-end French to Mexican cuisine and everything in between. They'll do the shopping, run a cooking class while preparing the meal, and clean up afterwards. Guests participate as much or as little as they like in the cooking, and the chefs offer helpful hints on ingredients and techniques. The flat rate of $575 for nights and weekends includes one hour of planning/shopping time and four hours with the chefs in your home. It's $125 per extra hour, and groceries are an additional fee. Guests have dinner at your house and leave with new recipes and inside tips, and you don't even have to do the dishes.

Finally, here's an idea for spicing up your standard cocktail party: Add a fortune teller or other medium to your guest list. The **Tremont Tearoom** has psychics on staff who read tarot cards, tea leaves and palms. For $100 per hour, a psychic will come to your home (or other location) and read your friends' futures. Tea leaves and palmistry provide general readings, or you can opt for a tarot card reader, which manager Peter Blocker says works best for a bigger party, as guests can ask specific questions. For a smaller party (minimum of six people) the psychic provides half-hour readings at a rate of $50 per person. This way, even a small informal gathering with friends can be memorable. IB



With Baseball Unlimited's adjustable batting cages, you can face a Schilling-style fastball or a beer-league soft toss.

BY ANDREW GRAHAM ILLUSTRATIONS BY ALLI ARNOLD

trend spotting

Which of the year's most unusual fads stand a chance in no-nonsense Boston, and which will go the way of oxygen bars and Crystal Pepsi?

ake and Susan are an average young New York couple out for a fancy night on the town, starting at the coolest new restaurant in the city. Jake slips the maitre d' a little something, to get the best table possible. "But of course, sir," the tuxedoed gent replies with a gracious smile. "If you'll just follow me." He turns a corner, and Jake and Susan find themselves facing the best seat in the house, a luxurious double bed?! "It's the latest thing, I assure you, madame," the maitre d' murmurs, as he pulls back the covers for Susan. She and Jake make themselves comfortable, and a waiter approaches with menus. They can't keep from chuckling. "Only in New York," Susan laughs. "Only in New York," Jake agrees.

But is that really true? For decades—centuries, even—Boston has languished in the shadow of its notorious neighbor to the south. The center of world culture and a wellspring of styles, fashions and trends, New York's cachet as the locus of all things hip remains unchallenged (look who gave us those ridiculous Mark Jacobs moon boots). Recently, however, Boston has not only been on top of the latest trends—the posh local eatery Mantra recently added a bed to its lounge—but also blazing some new trails of its own. So dig the following new and exciting trends and lifestyles that we may soon be able to import or export (or just outright ban).



TREND THAT'S...HERE TO STAY? HARD TO SAY

Bikeshaws

The pedi-cab, which seemed like such a good idea (especially during the Democratic National Convention, when they were first introduced to Boston en masse) seems to have all but disappeared. Many cities, like New York, London and Amsterdam have welcomed these modern-day rickshaws (imagine a horse and buggy crossed with a bike messenger's rig). But the word is, Boston city officials made some fiscally prohibitive demands on this fledgling industry, and the fate of the bicycle cab in Boston remains uncertain. All we can say is, (at least during the few months when weather permits) Boston could use a few more stylish late-night travel options, especially ones that don't add to congestion—of the roads or the lungs.

TREND THAT BLENDS REALITY TV WITH THE DRUNKEN OFFICE NIGHT OUT

Movieoke

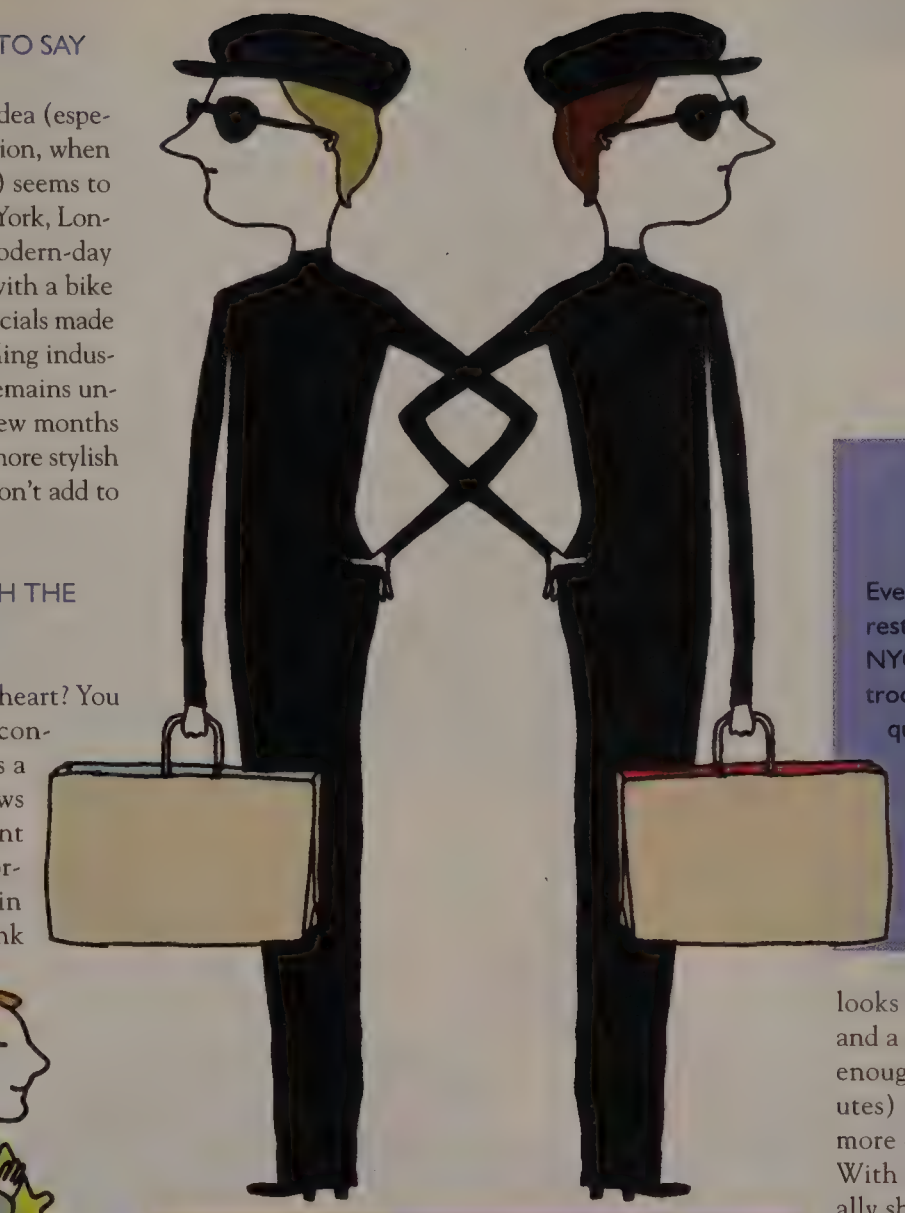
So you know Monty Python's *Life of Brian* by heart? You can do Marlon Brando's "I coulda been a contendah" speech word for word? Finally there's a way to flex your useless skill. Movieoke allows would-be thespians to strut their stuff in front of their friends without suffering through boring night classes or paying lengthy dues in community theater. All you have to do is drink enough to get up the guts to read lines from a monitor, just like with karaoke. Meanwhile, your movie of choice runs on the screen while you act out your role, your voice is dubbed in over the audio, and presto: You're a contender after all! Unfortunately, you'll have to take a weekend trip to the Big Apple or start a local letter-writing campaign. Boston doesn't have the movieoke hookup just yet.



TREND THAT NEW YORK CAN JUST HANG ON TO, THANKS

Cuddle parties

There are some New York–based trends that Boston has turned away at the border. "Cuddle parties," the brainchild of a pair of "relationship coaches," have so far been given a cordial "um, we'll pass" by Bostonians. A gathering of pajama-clad wallflowers for the purpose of exploring friendly, intimate physical contact (but emphatically without a sexual element) seems like a fun idea to base a *Seinfeld* episode around, but that's about as far as it goes. Frankly, once you start to take the idea of "relationship coaching" seriously, there's not that much further to go before you've jumped feet-first into fantasyland. We're not really sure cuddle parties are worth spending much more than a paragraph on, but who knows? Maybe they'll be the next big thing in Boston. And maybe Mayor Menino will start schlepping tourists around on a bike.



TREND WE CAN'T QUITE PUT OUR FINGER ON

Asexuals

This crowd of not-interested-thank-yous is making its presence more visible through Web sites such as Asexuality.org and news stories on CNN and in magazines like *Details* and *New Scientist*. One can only hope that, given its currently progressive attitude, Massachusetts will be the site of the first asexual marriage. Or, to be more accurate, the first *openly* asexual marriage. Still we have to wonder, are these folks campaigning for equal rights in the workplace? ("I demand to not look at Internet porn on company time!") Protected status for their unconventional asexual practices? ("What I don't do in the privacy of my own bedroom is my business!") Nonreproductive freedom? ("I support a woman's right to choose not to have sex with me!") According to Asexuality.org, there's a regular meeting of Boston asexuals on the first Saturday of every month. It's a small group, but that's just because nobody brings a date.

TREND THAT SHOULD HURRY UP AND GET TO BOSTON ALREADY

The Nap Pod

Another NYC novelty that we hear is navigating northward is the Nap Pod. This productivity-boosting gadget looks like a cross between a giant motorcycle helmet and a massage table. A cushy, stylish black recliner, long enough to stretch out on (for a recommended 20 minutes) extends from a large, bulbous white sphere that more or less encloses the sleeper's shoulders and head. With the optional "privacy visor" (which your boss really should spring for), the Nap Pod becomes a cocoon-like capsule, ready to blast you off into the naposphere. Now the pod is of course meant for single-person use. But when we look at it, all we can think is office-party after-party, if you catch our meaning. It might not be a bad idea to give your cushy Nap Pod the Windex treatment the morning after the holiday festivities at your place of business.



TREND WE COULD REALLY USE RIGHT NOW, MAN

Nicotine cocktails

Ever wish you could get around the antismoking laws in restaurants and bars? Well, the owners of joints like NYC's Suba must have had that in mind when they introduced drinks like the Nicotini, a martini that also quells the craving for a coffin nail. Providing the convenience and luxury of satiating your addiction without going outside and freezing your lighter-finger off, nicotine drinks are ever so much classier than a cheekful of tobacco (plus, you don't have to spit them out every few minutes).

TREND WE CAN SEE LOOMING (BUT CAN'T HEAR)

Silent dating

With silent dating, speed-dating's shier cousin, mum's the word. The challenge of hitting it off using mime and/or a pad of paper seems to appeal to singles who are sick of small talk. Invented in New York City by a pair of audio-sensitive socialites, these "quiet parties" have proven wildly popular there (as well as in London, Chicago and Washington, D.C.). They offer the opportunity to see what your prospective date brings to the table when he or she can't fall back on "So, seen any good reality TV shows lately?" A picture is, after all, worth a thousand words, and we can certainly remember dates where we wished we could slap a gag order on a dinnertime dullard and cut to the slide show.

TREND WE'RE CONFIDENT BOSTON WILL WHOLEHEARTEDLY EMBRACE

World Series championship

Last but not least, there's the trend that's been synonymous with the Big Apple for years. It's a time-honored tradition that New Yorkers have almost taken for granted, and which, to them, has come to signify a ritual only slightly more important than, say, the Thanksgiving Day parade, or the shelving of the white wing tips after Labor Day. But for fans in other cities, particularly Boston, it's far more crucial to the enjoyment of life itself. This is one New York City custom that Boston can proudly commandeer. IB

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PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHED BY JOE GREENE

Black velvet jacket by Armani Collezioni, $1,895; black pants by Armani Collezioni, $495; striped shirt by Paul Smith, $215; burgundy tie by Paul Smith, $125. All at Neiman Marcus.
Tarawa watch in stainless steel by Ebel, $2,950 at DeScenza Diamonds.



Black suit, $1,095; blue shirt, $195; silver tie, $135. All by Z Zegna, all at Ermenegildo Zegna. Automatic strap watch by Movado, $850 at DeScenza Diamonds.

Times have changed quite a bit since the roaring '20s, when a basic black tuxedo was the standard menswear for any formal occasion. Nowadays, men have more options, but a tux remains the ultimate in formal style.

When it comes to black-tie attire, there are a few things for men to remember. First is fabric. Whether you're buying or renting, a wool tuxedo is always the best choice—it looks more sophisticated and lasts quite a bit longer than the polyester alternative. As for the cut, double-breasted is now considered passé, as are tails on a tux jacket. Instead, go for simple jacket styles like two- or three-button versions.

Pants are pretty straightforward: Flat-fronts are in style and will also make you look taller than pleated pants do. (Only men over six feet tall should ever attempt pleats, though flat-fronts are still the more stylish option.)

While you should follow those simple rules for the suit itself, there's a little room for creativity when you're choosing a shirt. Collars can range from wide to sleek, and you can even opt for prints and textures.

Shoes should be black, but you don't have to go with the traditional patent leather. Whatever you do, though, don't ruin the look with shoes that are too casual.

A basic tuxedo won't make you a trend-setter, but you will look dapper. Chicks routinely swoon for a man in black tie, so don't worry about whether everyone else will be wearing one too. If you're ready to be a little more daring, however, consider the following options:

The basic tux with a twist. You can play around with different styles to make your tux more versatile. Try mixing a colored shirt with a funky tie instead of sporting the typical bow tie with white tuxedo shirt.

Black suit with tie and dress shirt. A black suit is an acceptable alternative to a tuxedo. Choose a tie with a little sheen, and a dress shirt, or even a traditional tuxedo shirt and black bow tie, to finish off the look.

Push the envelope. Ready to set free your inner rock star? Try a tux in velvet or a fabric with a sheen to it. Since these looks are so unique, you can wear them with a shirt and tie or skip the tie and wear your shirt open. Top it off with cuff links and tuxedo studs and you're on your way to a memorable evening.

Black jacket by Ted Baker, $695; black pinstriped pants by Ted Baker, $275; white tuxedo shirt by Ermenegildo Zegna, $245. All at Bloomingdale's.

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Ermenegildo Zegna
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617-424-9300

Neiman Marcus
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617-585-6000

Grooming:
William George for
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Models:
Kevin and Feyi
for Maggie Inc.



Hugo Boss tuxedo, $795; white shirt by Ermenegildo Zegna, $1[illegible]; yellow tie by Canali, $98; black loafers by Johnston and Murphy, $185. All at Bloomingdale's. L.U.C. Tonneau watch in 18 karat yellow gold by Chopard, $10,480 at DeScenza Diamonds.



Black wool tuxedo, $1,400 at Classic Tuxedo. Sterling silver knot cufflinks, $75; matching tuxedo studs, $90. All at DeScenza Diamonds.

dance 'til dawn

BY SAMANTHA HOUSE

Brown silk gathered top by Alyx, $198 at Intermix.

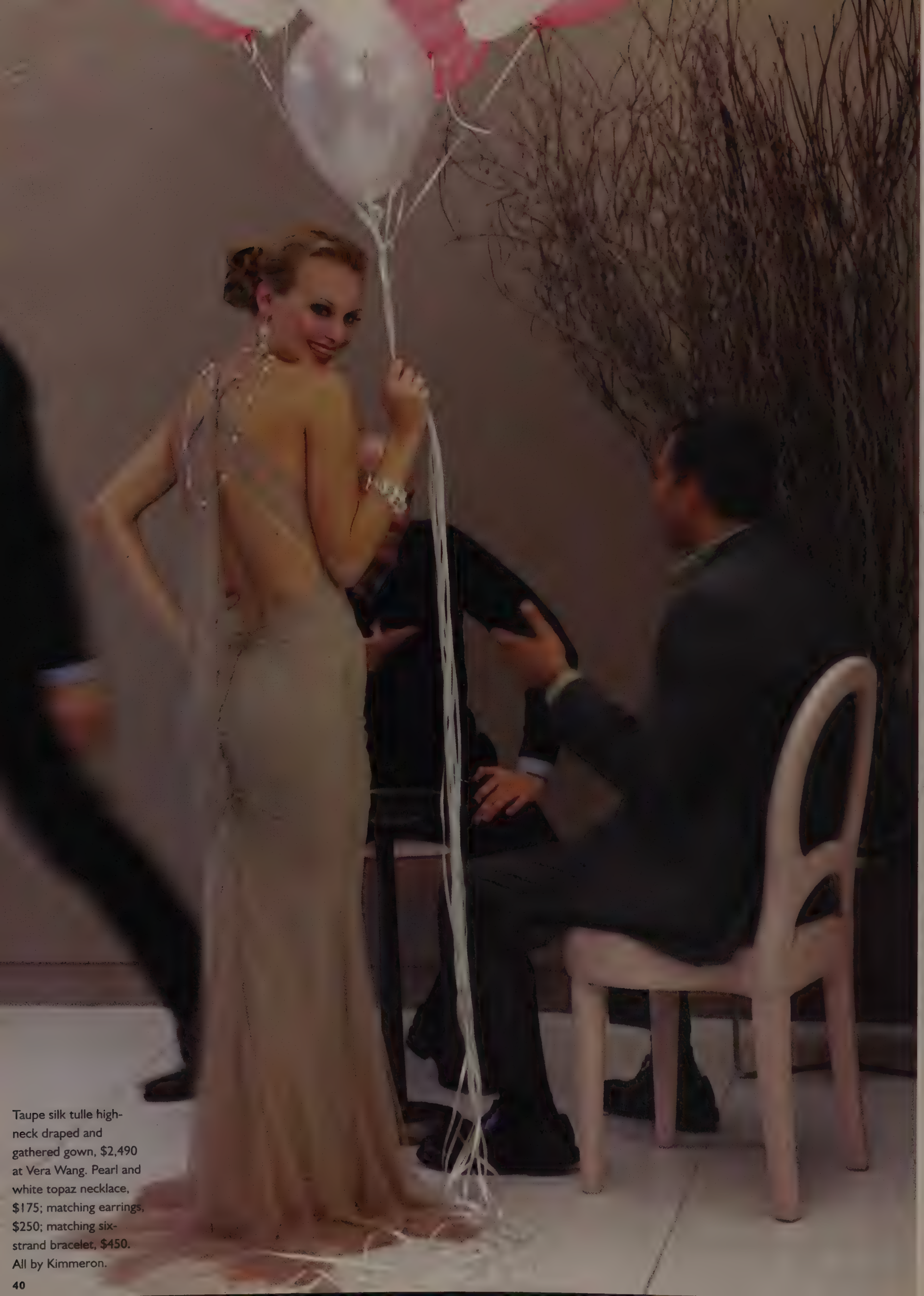
TIME

PHOTOGRAPHS BY BILL STREICHER

in these fun frocks.

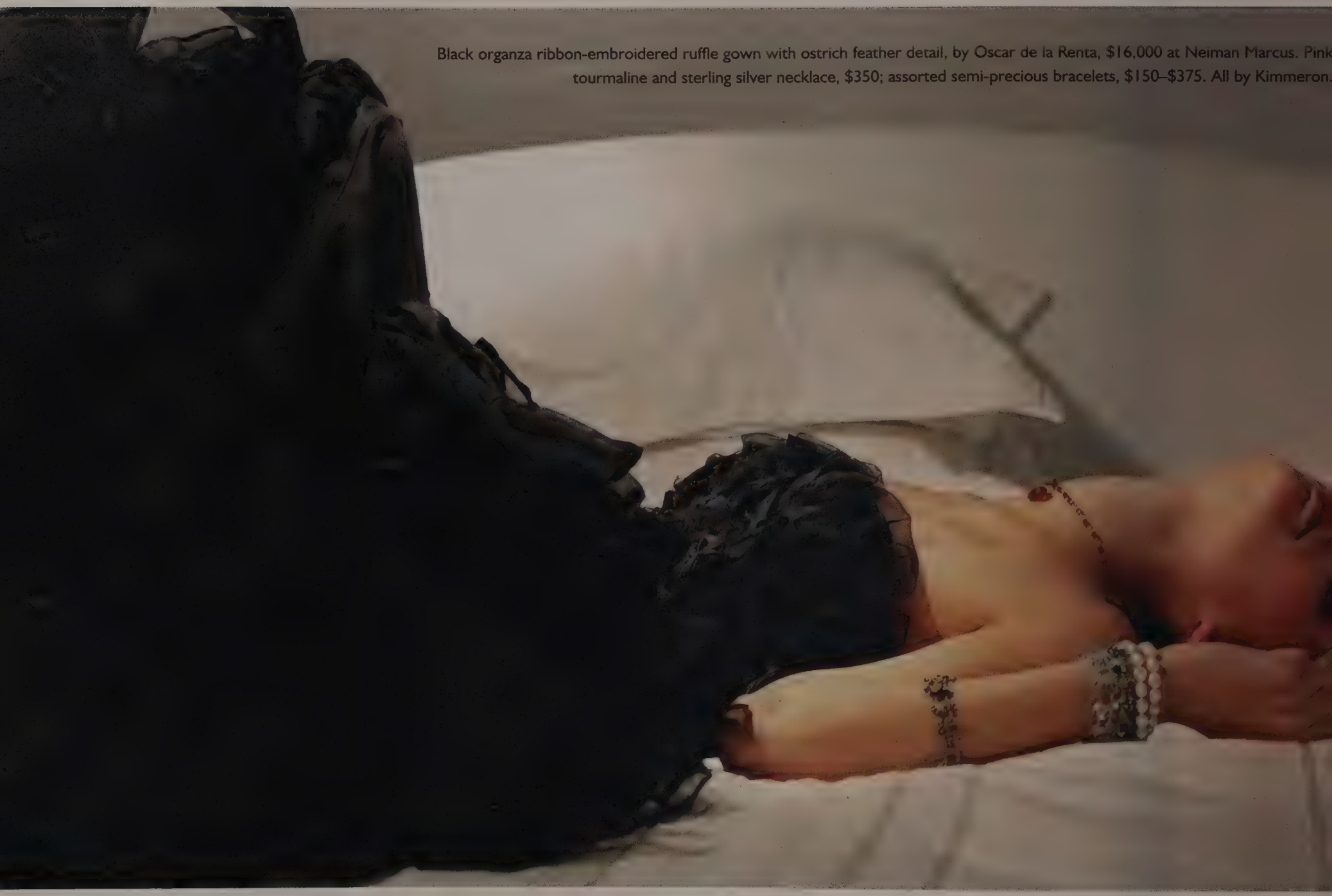


Silver lame gown with pink iridescent silk chiffon skirt and embroidered flowers, $3,850 at Vera Wang. Hammered garnet, amethyst and gray pearl sterling silver earrings, $248; assorted ruby necklaces $350-$750. All by Kimmeron.



Taupe silk tulle high-neck draped and gathered gown, $2,490 at Vera Wang. Pearl and white topaz necklace, $175; matching earrings, $250; matching six-strand bracelet, $450. All by Kimmeron.

Burgundy halter gown with crystal beading, $4,300 at Escada. Castellani earrings in pink tourmaline, $1,200 by Kimmeron.



Black organza ribbon-embroidered ruffle gown with ostrich feather detail, by Oscar de la Renta, $16,000 at Neiman Marcus. Pink tourmaline and sterling silver necklace, $350; assorted semi-precious bracelets, $150–$375. All by Kimmeron.

Shot on location at Repertoire Furniture, New York
Makeup: Jenny Brown
Hair: Charles Maksou for Maksou Artisan

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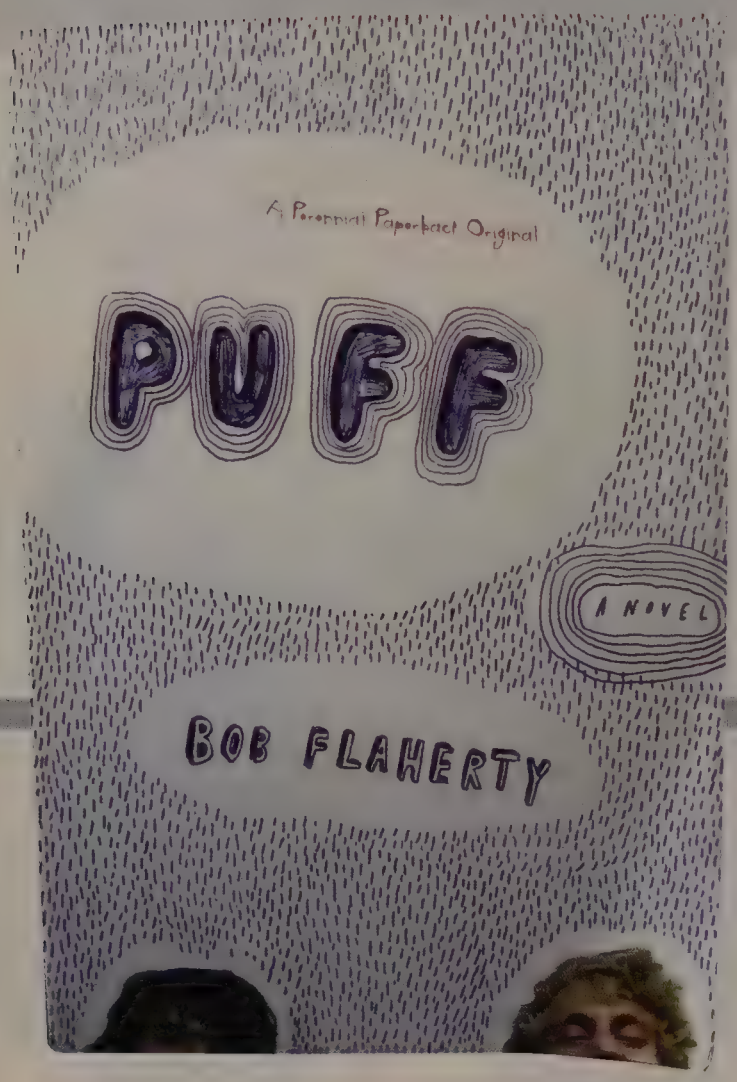
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BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



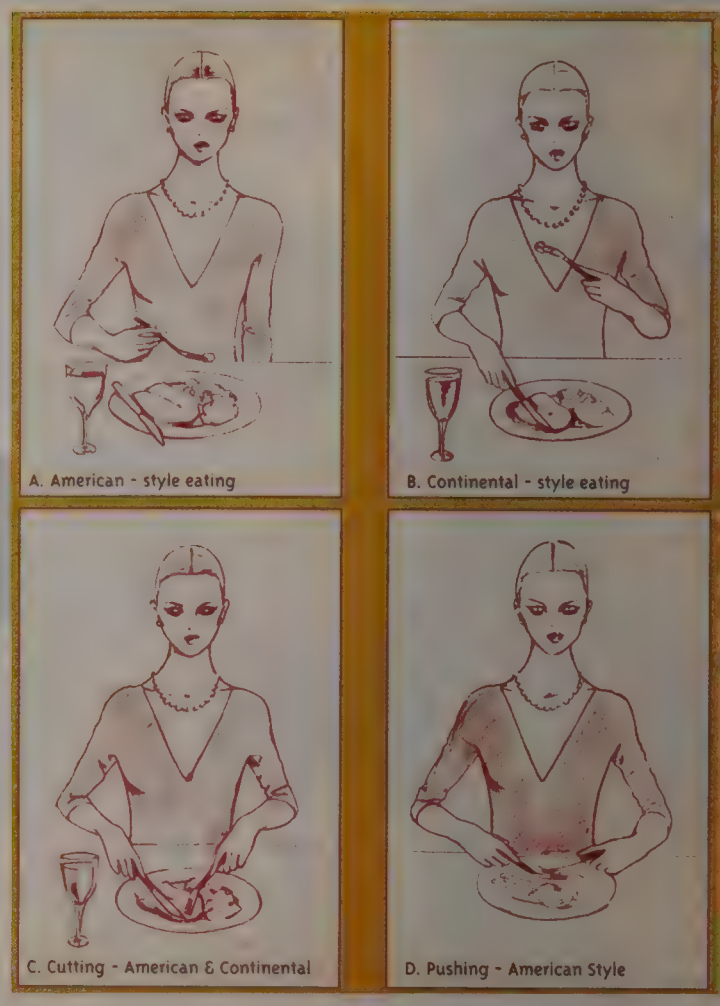
CALLING ALL BAD BOYS

***Puff*, by Bob Flaherty—writer, cartoonist, comedian—follows two brothers' hysterical escapades in Boston during the Blizzard of '78. Flaherty lives with his wife "who seems to understand him," and his three sons.**

If you tend to look with a sympathetic eye at mischievous kids' irreverent chipping-away at life's absurdities, read *Puff*. Working-class Catholic brothers John and Gully, who live near Boston with a father who "distribs" newspapers, are two such young men, their childhoods characterized by drawing "fat naked nuns in chalk on the walls of the rectory garage" as the enraged Monsignor of St. Ukelele's, with his "immense steak-colored face" rages after them. During the Blizzard of '78, as their mother lies dying, these lads manically charge through the snowstorm to score a bag of pot. During this caper, they impersonate Red Cross personnel before hatching an idea. Flaherty writes: "'I think we should break into the school,' I declared, the words hanging in the frigid air like underpants on a line." There, the boys transgress nakedly and hilariously with a sarcastic charmer, Gally, a girl John has longed for since childhood. There are also marvelously raw and raunchy priests in the book, and Flaherty tells the tale in such a loose, merry, naughty-boy-grown-up style that his mother's death tucks itself into the book gracefully.

LESSONS IN BECOMING AUDREY HEPBURN

UdefineU is a series of four DVDs that serve as a "finishing school in a box." Designed by a formerly overweight woman who wanted to deploy her svelte self more elegantly, the set costs $99. Call 877-333-4638 or go to www.udefineu.com.



In a style that's almost touchingly crisp and formal, these four videos go about teaching women "the foundations of grace and elegance." In each segment, a cheery, elegantly dressed woman, standing up inspiringly straight, interviews another glamorous professional woman regarding posture and poise, voice and speech, etiquette and fundamentals of style. In one video, a speech coach discusses the elements of melodious speaking, showing us a range of vocal ugliness to be avoided—including voices that are monotonous, harsh, nasal, mumbling, bossy and overbearing, or thin and childlike—and suggests corrective exercises. Throughout, the negative impressions—let alone damaged self-esteem—resulting from gauchery, nonstylish dressing, slouchiness, and uncouth or just uninformed table manners is emphasized. Ballerina Maria Vardeja, gorgeous as a gazelle, demonstrates just how effective erect posture can be when one employs a soft airiness of movement; balletic grace in everyday life. Formal or professional table manners require an exacting and artful geometry and choreography of fork, knife and napkin that you might well not know. Fashion designer Victoria Lopez-Castro offers extremely stringent wardrobe direction; only six "pieces," subtly shuffled.

OPEN A BOOK IN A NEWLY OPENED BOOKSTORE.

Porter Square Books is a new independent bookstore in the Porter Square Shopping Center, next to Tags in the former Dress Barn space. Call 617-491-2220.



Just as Wordsworth has sadly shut its doors in Harvard Square after 28 years, Cambridge has been compensated with the opening of another independent bookstore. Porter Square Books' inviting, cheerfully painted, 3,600-square-foot space includes tables in cozy, library-like areas where you can schmooze with the lit. Some of the homey furniture comes from the nearby store Home, run by the lively Dorinda Jaquith—who also works here. Fiction, mystery, history, sci-fi, biography, art, photography, poetry—good books abound. And you won't find indoor skyscrapers built of Danielle Steel in this shop. Many interesting writers live nearby—among them Margot Livesey, Mameve Medwed, Gish Jen—their apples falling not far from their respective trees. The eclectic staff has "100 years of experience" in bookstores, corporate life, poetry, and in mutual friendship which lends a neighborhood feeling even in a shopping center. The children's area is slated to offer story hours, adding to the store's festive, neighborly vibe.



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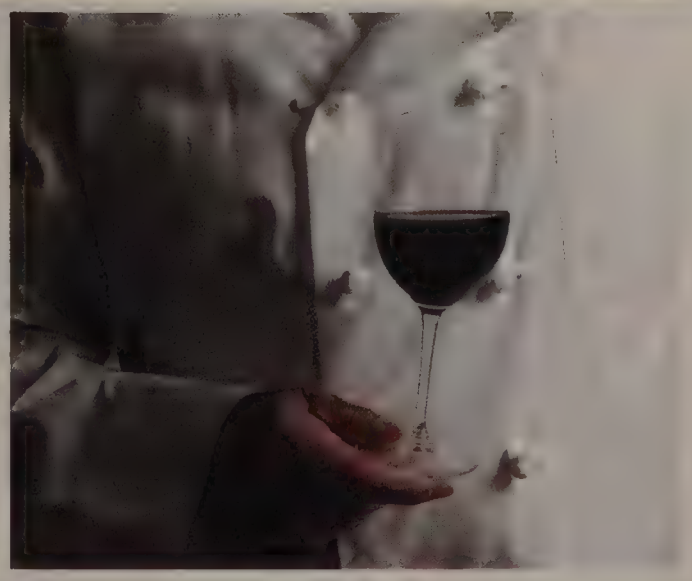
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REVIEW

LOFTY AMBITIONS IN ORIENT HEIGHTS

Zafferano's uncompromising, affordable Italian food is worth the trek to East Boston.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

For many Bostonians, East Boston is almost terra incognito. Logan Airport, while located in East Boston, is not really of it, and most visitors to the airport confine themselves to the tunnels and highway ramps leading to the terminals, bypassing the area's neighborhoods. Once strongly Italian-American in ethnic flavor, East Boston has become increasingly diversified, with Caribbean, Latin American and Asian arrivals making their presence known in their colorful, lively restaurants and shops. For many of the neighborhoods of East Boston, however, an Italian flavor persists, and nowhere more than in Orient Heights, at a charming new restaurant called Zafferano at the corner of Saratoga and Bennington streets, not far from the Winthrop town line.

Crisp white tablecloths and napkins dress comfortably spaced tables for two, four or six. Peach walls are illuminated with Victorian sconces and festooned with framed photographs of Grottaminarda, a small town in the hills of Campagna to the east of Naples. Delightful recorded music, including Italian opera and Neapolitan songs, drowns out the sound from the nearby T and low-flying aircraft.

Zafferano's menu is reasonably priced, with most appetizers in the single digits, many main courses under $20, and wine selections starting below $20 a bottle. The consumer-friendly prices should not mislead one into thinking this to be a casual, bargain bistro, however. Rather, it's a serious, substantial restaurant in which a dedicated owner-chef starts with first-rate ingredients and treats them with the respect that is the hallmark of good Italian cooking, rendering them into memorable dishes that please the palate and warm the soul.

Spinacini con noci al miele, balsamico e Gorgonzola ($7) proved a light and refreshing starter, with young, tender spinach leaves and huge, crunchy walnut halves bathed in a honey-sweetened balsamic vinaigrette enriched with crumbled Gorgonzola cheese that provided a welcome tangy counterpoint. A more substantial antipasto, *trofeo di melanzane* ($7), brought two thick slices of sautéed eggplant combined with fresh mozzarella and a well balanced tomato sauce. While not quite justifying its graphic name, translated as "tower of eggplant," the combination of earthy eggplant, lively tomato sauce and creamy mozzarella with the lingering flavor of fruity oil in which the eggplant had been sautéed made the dish a Mediterranean flavor holiday.



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***Gamberoni alla costiera con zafferano*—jumbo shrimp sautéed in a saffron and limoncello sauce**

Antipasto Zafferano ($11), a large platter of silky Parma prosciutto, spicy salami, grilled eggplant and zucchini bathed in aromatic, extra-virgin olive oil, luscious olives, fresh mozzarella and aged provolone, touched all the bases of classic Italian antipasti in fine fashion, save the flavorless hothouse tomatoes that would have been better omitted. A special appetizer one evening, *fagottino mozzarella* ($7), a little bundle of firm asparagus buried beneath a velvety blanket of melted mozzarella, arrived warm from the oven, the cheese enhancing but not overshadowing the fresh flavor of the asparagus. Finally, the *zuppa di vongole e cannellini* ($11) turned out to be substantial enough to serve as a main course. This mountain of littleneck clams, steamed in their own juice with garlic, olive oil, and tomato, exchanged flavors with toothsome white cannellini beans that contributed substance and savor to the ensemble.

Zafferano's *primi* (pasta courses) actually surpassed the elevated expectations generated by the appetizers. *Garganelli noci, speck e zafferano* ($14) reprised the chef's use of walnuts in the salad, combining them with nuggets of pleasantly smoky, salty German ham and a touch of saffron to dress a generous portion of ziti-like pasta, appropriately al dente in texture. Even better were a duo of pasta preparations offered on the menu with penne (for which the house, at my request, substituted two of its homemade longer pastas, for a $2 surcharge per dish). As a result of the substitutions, *penne pulcinella* became *tagliolini pulcinella* ($14). These long spaghetti-like noodles dressed with red and green peppers, onions, vibrantly flavored fresh basil, and plum tomatoes combined superlative flavor with first-rate texture. The dish that became *papardelle boscaiolla* ($15) brought broad, flat, fresh noodles dressed with peas, mushrooms, Italian ham, onions and tomato, and replicated the perfect, resilient texture of the tagliolini, this time enriched with the medley of flavors and textures provided by the mushrooms, peas and ham.

Although it wasn't on the menu, the waiter brought a salad of arugula and baby spinach with a well-balanced vinaigrette between the primi and main courses. The latter ranged from a superb *grigliata di carne mista* (mixed grill, $25) to *gamberoni alla costiera con zafferano* (sautéed jumbo shrimp with limoncello and saffron, $22) to *pollo al Gorgonzola* (chicken breast with zucchini, carrots and Gorgonzola cheese, $16), with an off-the-menu special one evening of grilled veal chop ($26). The superb mixed grill consisted of two thick and succulent lamb chops, a small, tender and robustly flavorful sirloin steak, and a spicy, satisfying sausage redolent of fennel and sage. The other main courses did not quite attain the high standards of the antipasti and pastas. Most disappointing was the chicken dish, in which the flavor of the carrots and zucchini clashed with the assertive Gorgonzola, suggesting that this was a better combination on paper than on the plate. Better were the shrimp, with perfect texture and agreeable, if not memorable, flavor. Surprisingly, the promised saffron was almost undetectable, lending nei-



Garganelli noci, speck e zafferano—
garganelli with walnuts, speck and saffron



Zuppa di vongole e cannellini—
littleneck clams sautéed with garlic, olive oil, tomatoes and cannellini beans



Zafferano seats 49 at tables for two, four and six



Chef/co-owner Pietro Del Viscovo (left) and pastry chef/co-owner Pina Del Viscovo

ther its distinctive color, aroma nor flavor to the dish, despite the fact that the restaurant takes its name from the Italian word for this aromatic spice. The veal chop, a standard premium offering at Italian restaurants and steakhouses alike, arrived rare and juicy, but for some reason had been cut into sections in the kitchen, perhaps on the assumption that our party would be sharing it and needed the assistance. This presentation detracted from the impact that this regal dish can make, but the accompanying sautéed mushrooms, moistened in the delicious sauce rendered from a reduction of the cooking juices, rescued the dish.

Zafferano's desserts ($6) included a first-rate tiramisu served in a large dish shaped like a martini glass. Dusted with powdered, unsweetened cocoa on top, it combined ladyfingers soaked in pleasantly bitter coffee and mildly sweet mascarpone cheese, and unlike many tiramisus was not drowned in liquor. A *fruittino* (Italian fruit cake) contained candied fruits, blueberries, strawberries and kiwi, and in contrast with traditional dense, heavy English fruitcake, was light and refreshing on the palate.

From Zafferano's very reasonably priced wine list, we chose a Zaldetti prosecco ($20), a charming sparkler whose restrained sweetness and lively effervescence made it the perfect aperitif. In a gesture too often lacking in restaurants when they serve a white or sparkling wine from the lower-priced end of their lists, our waiter brought a silver-plated ice bucket to keep the prosecco chilled. To go with our robustly flavored food, we chose the Plaio Primativo ($19) from Apuglia, at Italy's heel, a grapey, simple wine with sufficient structure to make it a decent food companion. A single glass of the house Chianti ($4.50) provided a slightly drier alternative at a remarkable price.

The earnest, congenial husband-and-wife proprietors of Zafferano, Pietro and Pina Del Viscovo, bring a passion and drive for perfection to their engaging eatery. Pina runs the front of the house with Mediterranean grace and warmth, while Pietro brings a passionate commitment to quality and authenticity to his kitchen. A friend called this restaurant to my attention, comparing it to the ill-fated trattoria of the film *Big Night*, which chronicled the attempt of a pair of Italian brothers to create a restaurant of excellence and authenticity in a New Jersey suburb, only to founder on their own uncompromising integrity. I was dismayed at the paucity of patrons on both nights I visited Zafferano, one a weekday and one a Friday evening, and I feared for its future. On the other hand, once lovers of honest Italian food learn of its merits and value, not to mention the fact that it is a three-minute walk from the Orient Heights T station, word of mouth should empower Zafferano to attract the attention and patronage it deserves. IB



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DISH

Dining in the Dark

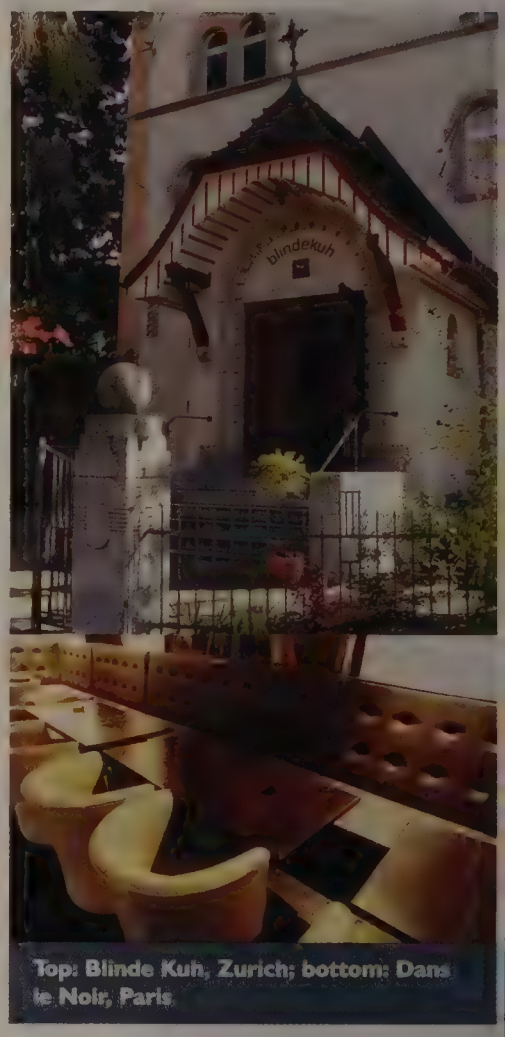
A simple proposition

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

Here's the situation: Several very fine chefs have been AWOK—absent without a kitchen—for some time now. All want to open their own restaurant. Ed Doyle has been the culinary equivalent of a pop-up ad (albeit much more welcome) around town since leaving Aura at the Seaport Hotel. Steve Johnson, formerly of the Blue Room, continues to scope out locations in Cambridge, when he's not fishing in Westport. Carmen Quagliatta, formerly of the Vault, had almost all his ducks in a row for an Italian restaurant in the suburbs, before his flight was grounded at the last minute.

It's expensive to open a restaurant. You have to court investors, negotiate real estate deals, hire an architect or designer, buy lots of equipment and decor, and that's before you even serve a single diner. So here's a suggestion: Chefs already travel overseas to gain culinary inspiration and bring back new dishes for their menus. Now they could think outside the icebox by visiting, for example, one of several European restaurants that plunge diners into absolute darkness to replicate blindness. In Paris, the City of Light, Dans le Noir features blind waiters, a choice of Provencal fare or a "mystery menu," a bar and lounge, wine tastings, and mixers. Run by two entrepreneurs and a major association for the blind in France, Dans le Noir offers diners the opportunity to sharpen their senses and focus on conversation. The concept also offers restaurateurs the opportunity to save big bucks on decor and tabletop—not to mention electricity—and the time and expense of garnishes. Note: this may be the only restaurant in Paris that forbids smoking. Cell phones, watches and anything else that may shed light must be checked at the entrance.

A dark horse, you think? Mais non. Four years ago, a similarly themed restaurant called Blinde Kuh ("blind cow") was opened in Zurich by a Swiss foundation for the blind. It has a months-long waiting list. Berlin is home to two such restaurants, as well as a café for the deaf called "Hands Up!" next to the Berlin Center for the Deaf. Most bizarre of all is Berlin's new eatery called Sehnsucht ("longing"), inspired by, and designed for, people with eating disorders. Menu items are described in terms of sensation. Order *heisshunger* ("ravenous hunger"), for example, and you'll receive rack of lamb. Presented to you by a bulimic waitress. Prepared by an anorexic chef (note: because she's thin, you can save money on kitchen space). Sehnsucht's owner is a recovered anorexic, and the restaurant is attached to an "advice center" that provides a resource for her target demographic. Could this possibly work? Would an "all-you-can-eat" special for bulimics have to be limited to a half hour?



Top: Blinde Kuh, Zurich; bottom: Dans le Noir, Paris

Imagine the concept here. The ADD Diner would have a menu that changes every five minutes. The Food Allergy Bistro would serve EpiPens with the bread basket. Sybil's Multi-Personality Trattoria would provide multiple place settings per person, and automatically split every single check.

Closer to home: Piattini Wine Bar has opened on Columbus Avenue between Arlington and Berkeley streets. Like its Newbury Street sister restaurant, the focus here is on small plates (you know, "piattini"), and a wide variety of wines (30!) by the glass. If you're hungrier, or thirstier, PWB also offers complete entrées, wine by the bottle, and a full bar at lunch and dinner. iB

Serving Dish

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TASTINGS

BY RICH LEVINE

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Tastings, or e-mail to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Events

Bauer Beer and Wine Tastings
Bauer Wine & Spirits, 330 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0363). www.bauerwines.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Free. This winter, Bauer Wine & Spirits hosts a series of free beer and wine tastings. •Dec. 16, 5-7 pm: Stone Brewery beer tasting. •Dec. 18, 4:30-6:30 pm: The Wonderful World of Port. •Dec. 30, 5-7 pm: Beer Tasting.

Cooking Class Series at Radius
Radius, 8 High St., Boston (617-426-1234). www.radiusrestaurant.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Dec. 18. 11 am-2 pm. $150. Chef **Michael Schlow** gives a step-by-step lesson on how to make the perfect four-course celebratory menu using ingredients like foie gras, veal, scrambled eggs and caviar.

Fireside Chats
The Fireplace, 1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). www.fireplacerest.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Every other Saturday, 3 pm. $25. Chef/owner **Jim Solomon** hosts experts who discuss subjects from wines to foods to microbrews. •Dec. 18: Sparkling wine. •Jan. 8: Cognac, Brandy, Port.

Hot off the Vine at 33
33 Restaurant, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Every Wed., 5-7 pm. $20-$25. Join chef **Anthony Dawodu** for a sampling of four wines paired with a complementary food tasting. •Dec. 15: Spain. •Dec. 22: Central Italy.

La Morra's Prezzo Fisso
La Morra Ristorante, 48 Boylston St., Boston (617-739-0007). www.lamorra.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. Through Dec. 31. 5:30-10:30 pm. $45. In honor of La Morra's first anniversary, chef/owner **Josh Ziskin** offers a special menu featuring his favorite dishes of the past year, like tagliatelle with ragu di nobile, bone marrow risotto and braised short ribs.

Oysteria Bar
Rustic Kitchen, 1815 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-7766). www.rustickitchen.biz. MBTA: Red Line to Porter Square. Thursday and Fridays. 6 and 8:30 pm. $45. Chef de Cuisine **Mark Usewicz** prepares a tastings menu of classic Italian small plates in front of guests at the restaurant's Oysteria Bar. Reservations required.

Second Saturdays at Grill 23 & Bar
Grill 23 & Bar, 161 Berkeley St., Boston (617-542-2255). www.grill23.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Second Saturday of each month, 12-2 pm. $55. Executive chef **Jay Murray** and wine director **Alex deWinter** lead monthly cooking and tasting demonstrations.

Tuesday Night Wine Tasting
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6 and 8 pm. $25. Sommelier **Geoffrey Fallon** discusses various wines, and chef **Ian Just** pairs the wines with hors d'oeuvres and offers brief cooking demonstrations. •Dec. 21: The Best of the Rest.

Wine Mondays at L'Espalier
L'Espalier, 30 Gloucester St., Boston (617-262-3023). www.lespalier.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mondays, 7 pm. $50. Sommelier **Erik Johnson** offers descriptions of the wines that complement a French–New England meal by chef **Frank McClelland**. •Dec. 20: Bordeaux. •Dec. 27: Bubbles Bubbles Everywhere.

Wine Wednesdays at Sel de la Terre
Sel de la Terre, 255 State St., Boston (617-720-1300). www.seldelaterre.com. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Every Wed., 7 pm. $41. Chef **Geoff Gardner** pairs French cuisine with wines selected by sommelier Erik Johnson. •Dec. 15: Burgundy with winemaker **Alex Gambal**. •Dec. 22: An Evening of Wine and Chocolate. •Jan. 5: Cabin' Fever: Cabernet Sauvignon & Cabernet Franc.

PREVIEW

A WINTER OF WINE

Wintertime in Boston is never easy, but the dreary days are always more tolerable when you can and relax with a glass of wine. This winter, the Boston Harbor Hotel gives everyone a chance to escape the cold and enter the world of cabernets and chardonnays as it embarks on the 16th annual Boston Wine Festival.


Chef Daniel Bruce

Starting with the opening reception on January 7, the hotel hosts up to four wine events a week in its many banquet rooms right up until the April 9 closing ceremony. This year's festival features appearances from well-known wineries such as Robert Mondavi, Penfolds, Stag's Leap and many others.

The opening reception (7 pm, $100) includes a sampling of more than 50 wines from around the world as well as an extensive buffet created by chef Daniel Bruce to complement the various wines.

So unless you made a New Year's resolution to cut back on guzzling the grape, check out www.bostonwinefestival.net for a schedule of events, including the Battle of the Cabernets dinner on January 11 (7 pm, $210).

Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.





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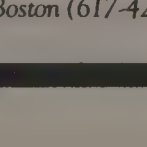
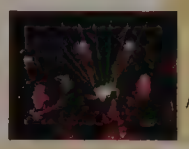
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agenda

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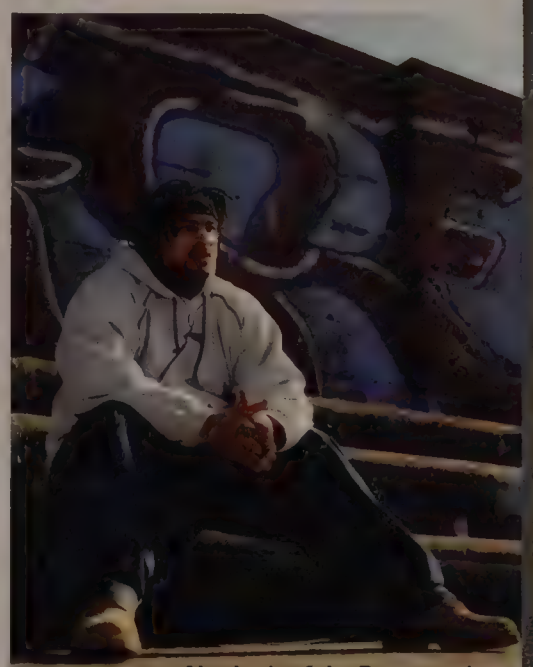
december 15 - january 11

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			15	16	17	18 The **Reindeer Parade** hits Faneuil Hall. *See CityScope on page 60.*
19 Last chance to see Jose Mateo's production of **The Nutcracker.** *See Performing Arts on page 66.*	20	21 	22	23 The **Boston Pops** present their Holiday Concert. *See Classical Music on page 94.*	24	25
26 Get mo' Moe at the Brattle's **Stooge-O-Rama.** *See Movies on page 74.* 	27	28 See the **Radio City Christmas Spectacular.** *See Performing Arts on page 64.*	29 	30 The **Trans-Siberian Orchestra** performs at the FleetCenter. *See Music on page 78.*	31	1
2 **Dane Cook** is at the Comedy Connection. *See Performing Arts on page 66.*	3	4	5	6 ***The Last Little Porn Shop in Manhattan*** opens at the BCA. *See Performing Arts on page 62.*	7	8
9 Last chance to see ***Art Deco*** at the MFA. *See Museums & Galleries on page 104.*	10 ***My Fair Lady*** screens at the Wang Theatre. *See Movies on page 76.* 	11				

THU./DEC. 16

Music: Homecoming Weekend

If you're looking for a musical alternative to the season's ubiquitous cheery carols, the Perceptionists' upcoming show at the Paradise could fill the bill. A local supergroup made up of Mr. Lif, Akrobatik and DJ Fakts One, this trio's priorities include lambasting political doubletalk and bringing "conscious rap" back to its former prominence. With influences evident from KRS-ONE to A Tribe Called Quest, there's every indication that these Boston natives' soon-to-be-released debut will be one for the history books. Also on the bill is NYC indie rap champ Aesop Rock. Known for his imagery-laden rhymes and distinctive, gruff delivery, Ace Rizzle has charmed hordes of devoted fans into scrutinizing (and memorizing) his every line. *Paradise Rock Club, 969 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-423-NEXT). 8 pm, 18+. $20.*



Akrobatic of the Perceptionists

THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

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AGENDA EDITED BY
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CALENDAR EDITED BY
Erin Hagedorn Books & Poetry, Movies
Jessica Iredale Around Town, Children, Education, Movies, Museums & Galleries, Performing Arts
Rich Levine CityScope, Dance Clubs, Gay & Lesbian, Music
ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY
Ezra Dyer Sports
Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind
Paul Sherman Movie Capsules





THU./DEC. 16

Music: Royal Pop Collective Central Square Christmas Party


Cyanide Valentine

Once again, the local radio stations' annual holiday concert events have come and gone. If you missed these extravaganzas for whatever reason (too expensive, too mainstream, too sold out) and are jonesing for a multi-band holiday rock show, the Royal Pop Collective's Christmas Tour 2004 is an alt-rock alternative. Nine of RPC's 200-plus bands and musicians showcase their stuff December 16 at T.T. the Bear's and the Middle East Upstairs. The Middle East show features a lineup of Northeast-based bands, including alt-rockers Aberdeen City, techno pop by Cyanide Valentine (led by the former frontman of the hard-rockin Quick Fix, Jake Zavracky) as well as Faces on Film, Silent Service and MYTVS. At T.T.'s, power-pop outfits Anushka Pop, the Bocks and Orange Park are joined by Malvern's eclectic combo of indie pop and rock. *Middle East Upstairs, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge; T.T. the Bear's Place, 10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-931-2000). www.theroyalpop.com. 9 pm. $9 for the Middle East; $10 for the T.T.'s show; $17 for both.*


This year's Christmas Revels includes a flying canoe number based on the folktale "La Chasse-Galerie."

THROUGH DEC. 28

Performing Arts: Christmas Revels

For the 34th consecutive year in a row, the Christmas Revels takes to the stage to perform folk songs, carols, musical numbers, skits and dances, all tied around the theme of celebrating the winter solstice. This year's show, directed by Patrick Swanson with music director George Emlen, features a mix of entertainment—from fiddling to clog dancing to spoon playing ("kitchen music"). Introverts beware: The show is interactive. The audience participates in singing carols, and when the traditional "Lord of the Dance" number starts, the spectators jump to their feet to dance through the aisles. New this year is the enactment of the folk tale "La Chasse-Galerie" ("The Flying Canoe"). *Sanders Theatre, corner of Kirkland and Quincy streets, Cambridge (617-496-2222). $20–$42. www.revels.org.*



SAT./DEC. 18 AND STARTING SUN./JAN. 2

Cityscope: Two Terrific Trolley Tours

One upside of the soon-to-be-frigid weather is the beautification of the city, as lights, wreaths and ornaments adorn the lamp posts, trees and buildings. A couple of seasonal trolley tours offer easy (and fun) ways to see some of the festive frippery. The Illuminations Tour is a 45-minute trolley ride through the streets of Somerville. On December 18, you can see the best Somervilluminations—the over-the-top holiday decorations on many of the city's houses, from giant creches and glowing lawn ornaments to thousands of Christmas lights. After the holidays, you can tour the downtown sights while gorging on baked goods and sweets during Old Town Trolley's Boston Chocolate Tour. This jaunt brings you to the Top of the Hub restaurant (where there's a different chocolate treat every week through April), the Omni Parker House Hotel (where you feast on Boston cream pie) and then to the the mothership, the Langham Hotel Boston, for its insane Chocolate Bar Buffet, to eat as many of the 25 chocolate desserts as you can handle. *Illuminations Tour: Somerville City Hall (617-625-6600); Dec. 18, 4:30, 5, 5:45, 6:15, 7, 7:30, 8:15 and 8:45 pm; $5–$10. Chocolate Tour: Jan. 2–April 10, Sat. and Sun., 11:30 am and 12:45 pm; $60 (617-269-3626).*

WED./JAN. 5 AND SAT./JAN. 8

CityScope: Hail to the King

Had the King of Rock and Roll lived to celebrate his 70th birthday, he probably would have retired his bedazzling jumpsuits, pompadour and massive aviators long ago. Yet because Elvis "left the building," we get to celebrate his birthday with eternally young, hip-swivelling impersonators, and this year is no different, as three local venues are throwing Elvis birthday bashes. With more than 3,000 performances under his glittery belt, Elvis impersonator Steve Connolly has probably put on as many Elvis shows as the King himself did. The Winchester native returns to Boston for two shows in early January. For his show January 8 at the Berklee Performance Center, which commemorates what would have been Elvis' 70th birthday, a leather-clad Connolly will go all out—he'll be joined by a seven-piece band and the costumed Vegas Dancers. He also performs a toned-down version of the birthday show on the 5th at Boston Rocks, which includes a buffet of Elvis' favorite foods. Meanwhile, Dick's Last Resort puts on its own annual bash for the King on the 8th. Elvis impersonator Mike Viselli performs his Jailhouse Rockin' Musical Tribute to the King and gets the audience to sing along. Dick's also has a slew of competitions: an Elvis look-alike/sound-alike karaoke contest, a jelly donut–eating contest and a Priscilla look-alike contest. *Boston Rocks, 245 Quincy Market, Boston (617-726-1110); Jan. 5, 7 pm; no cover. Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261); Jan. 8, 8 pm; $27.50–$37.50. Dick's Last Resort, 55 Huntington Ave. Boston (617-267-8080); Jan. 8, 8 pm; no cover.*

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Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings for benefits, festivals, activities and events by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Benefits

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17

Toys for Tots Drive
The Purple Shamrock, 1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Bring an unwrapped toy to contribute to the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves' Toys for Tots program.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18

Illuminations Tour
Tours leave from Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville (617-625-6600, ext. 2985). www.somervilleartscouncil.org. Tours leave at 4:30, 5, 5:45, 6:15, 7, 7:30, 8:15 and 8:45 pm. $5-$10. This eighth annual 45-minute trolley tour through Somerville allows passengers to view the various holiday decorations around town. Entertainment at City Hall features a performance by the Somerville Community Chorus and craft activities for children. Proceeds benefit the Somerville Arts Council's public programs.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19

Aardvark Jazz Orchestra Christmas Benefit Concert
Emmanuel College, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3355, ext. 11). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7:30 pm. $15. Music director Mark Harvey and gospel singer Grace Hughes are featured in this annual concert benefiting Doctors Without Borders.

Festivals & Parties

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16

Christmas Cocktail Soirée
Whiskey Park, 64 Arlington St., Boston. www.jetsetevents.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm-2 am. $20-$30. This holiday party features live performances by NYC DJ and the Japanese Swing Cats, food from Meze Estiatorio and a chance to win prizes including a trip to Mohegan Sun or a membership to Mike's Gym.

Harvard Square Holiday Crafts Fair
First Parish Unitarian Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-876-7772). www.firstparishcambridge.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Dec. 23 (closed Dec. 20). Mon.-Fri., 11 am-7 pm; Sat., 10 am-7 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. Free. This 19th annual juried fair features items like clocks, photographs, fleece hats and jewelry from New England craftspeople.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18

Reindeer Parade
Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-523-1300). www.faneuilhallmarketplace.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Through Dec. 19. 12-4 pm. Free. This holiday celebration in Faneuil Hall features activities like Radio Disney stage shows, singalongs and a petting zoo.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24

The Matzo Ball
Avalon, 20 Lansdowne St., Boston (888-633-5326). www.matzoball.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 8 pm. $20-$25. This 18th annual Christmas Eve party for Jewish singles features a live DJ, hors d'oeuvres and door prizes.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

Edward L. Cooper Holiday Open House
Community Gardening and Education Center, 32 Linwood St., Roxbury (617-541-8642). 2-5 pm. Free. The Edward L. Cooper Center hosts this dual community celebration of Christmas and Kwanzaa.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

Old Town Trolley Chocolate Tour
The Trolley Stop Store, Corner of Boylston and South Charles streets, Boston (617-269-3626). Sat. and Sun., through April 10. Tours depart at 11:30 am and 12:45 pm. $60. This fully narrated tour includes chocolate-tasting stops at the Top of the Hub, the Omni Parker Hotel and the chocolate bar buffet at the Langham Hotel.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5

Elvis 70th Birthday Bash
Boston Rocks, 245 Quincy Market Place, Boston (617-726-1110). www.spiritoftheking.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 7 pm. Free. Elvis impersonator Steve Connolly and the Vegas Dancers perform some of the King's most popular hits at this prebirthday party that also features a buffet from Viva Bene Ristorante.

Singles

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15

Hurry Date
33 Restaurant and Lounge, 33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.hurrydate.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 7 pm. $26.25 for members, $35 for nonmembers. Embark on 20 five-minute dates and enjoy drink specials from the 33 Restaurant. For ages 25-35.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20

Eight Minute Dating
Cambridge Common, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-1228). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 6:45 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 21-29.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4

Eight Minute Dating
Vox Populi, 755 Boylston St., Boston (617-424-8300). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 25-35.

MONDAY, JANUARY 10

Eight Minute Dating
Orleans, 65 Holland St, Somerville (617-591-2100). www.eightminutedating.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 7 pm. $35. Sample appetizers during eight different eight-minute dates. Then mingle and meet the people you didn't get the chance to share a date with. For ages 27-40.

Preview

Ringing in the New Year

A guide to the Hub's New Year's Eve celebrations

Aria
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). www.newyears.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-3 am. $50. Aria's New Year's Eve gala includes DJs playing top-40, hip-hop, house and dance music, a champagne toast, party favors and a continental breakfast.

Bill's Bar
5.5 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). www.billsbar.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 9 pm. $40. Bill's party features a buffet, assorted hors d'oeuvres, party favors, a champagne toast and dance music all night long.

The Big Easy Bar
The Alley, 1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000). www.bigeasybar.com. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 8 pm. $50. This Mardi Gras–style party features music from Dick 'n' Jane and DJ Matt Phipps, Mardi Gras street performers, a dinner buffet and more.

Boston Park Plaza Hotel: The Resolution Ball
64 Arlington St., Boston (781-444-7771). www.resolutionball.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7 pm-2 am. $95-$125. The eighth annual Resolution Ball features live music from the Felix Brown Band and NYC DJ Alex S, an open premium bar, hors d'oeuvres and a silent auction benefiting the Ellie Fund.

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 10:15 pm. $75-$165. The Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra plays its annual New Year's concert, with refreshments and dancing.

Dick's Last Resort
55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 8:30 pm. $49.50. Dick's party features appetizers, dinner, dessert and a midnight giveaway of a pair of airline tickets.

Felt: Carnival
533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555). www.newyears.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 9 pm-3 am. $60. This carnival-themed celebration features dancers in costume, hors d'oeuvres, a dessert station, DJs and live music.

First Night: Family Festival
Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St. Boston (617-542-1399). www.firstnight.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA 1-5:30 pm. Boston's First Night Family Festival features storytelling, puppet shows, children's music, arts workshops and more.

First Night: Fireworks
Boston Common and Boston Harbor, Boston (617-542-1399). www.firstnight.org. Family fireworks celebration over Boston Common, 7:10 pm; main fireworks over Boston Harbor, 12 am. First Night presents an early fireworks display for families who can't stay up till midnight, and then a more extravagant celebration over the harbor when the clock strikes 12.

First Night: Grand Procession
Boylston Street (Dalton Street to Charles Street) and Charles Street (to Beacon), Boston (617-542-1399). www.firstnight.org. 5:30-7 pm. This Mardi Gras–style parade moves through the streets of Boston and includes, among other things, giant floats and puppets.

The Green Briar
304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100). www.greenbriarpub.com. Doors close at 9:30 pm. $25. Party includes a champagne toast, party hats and favors and a DJ.

Gypsy Bar
116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799). www.gypsybarboston.com. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Open until 3 am. $50. The Gypsy Bar offers hors d'oeuvres, a dancing and a champagne toast.

The Harp
85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). www.harpboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to North Station. Doors close at 9:30 pm. $35. The Harp's annual New Year's bash includes a DJ and dancing upstairs and downstairs.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
150 Canal St., Boston (617-451-7400). www.irishconnection.com. MBTA: Green Line to North Station. 8 pm. $25. Hurricane O'Reilly's offers hors d'oeuvres, dancing, a DJ and a champagne toast at midnight.

Jake Ivory's
9 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-247-1222). www.jakeivorys.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 9 pm. $40. Jake's offers a New Year's edition of the Dueling Piano Show, a buffet and champagne toast.



First Night celebrates the New Year with a fireworks display over Boston Harbor.

Langham Hotel
250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900). www.langhamhotels.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 9 pm. $504 per couple (includes tax and tip). The Langham Hotel offers a six-course French dinner, a champagne toast and live music from Jeffrey Moore. The hotel's Café Fleuri also offers a First Night Chocolate Bar.

Lucky Strike
145 Ipswich St., Boston (617-437-0300). www.lucky strikeboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Open until 3 am. $20-$40. Reserve a private lane at Lucky's for complimentary bowling, shoe rental, hors d'oeuvres, champagne toast at midnight and party favors.

Midway Café
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). www.midwaycafe.com. 9 pm. $10 ($25 for full open bar). DJ MicL Ptvn and live music from Lovewhip highlight this party also featuring an optional open bar.

New Years Eve Party Cruise
Boat departs from 60 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-542-8000). www.massbaylines.com. 9:30 pm. $55. This three hour tour of Boston Harbor includes appetizers, a DJ, cash bar, champagne toast and fireworks

Parris/Ned Devine's
Quincy Market Building, Upper Rotunda, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-248-8800). www.parrisboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Doors close at 9:30 pm. $60. Parris offers live music by Flavor, appetizers and champagne.

Regattabar
One Bennett St., Cambridge, (617-661-5000). www.regattabarjazz.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $120. The Regattabar's party features performances by the David Maxwell Trio and Nicole Nelson, a three-course dinner and a midnight toast.

Redline
59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 10-4 am. $5. Former Boston resident and now West Coast DJ Shannon Shalako spins house and techno music all night along with resident DJs Rodney Marable and Craig Kapilow.

Scullers Jazz Club
400 Soldiers Field Road, Boston (617-562-4111). www.scullersjazz.com. 8 pm, $50; 11 pm, $60; dinner and show, $269 per couple. Jazz star Chris Botti headlines this party that also includes an optional five-course dinner.

Sheraton Tara Hotel: Draw the Line
37 Forbes Road., Braintree (617-848-0600). www.drawtheline.net. 8 pm, $20-$75. A show by Aerosmith cover band Draw the Line is accompanied by a cocktail party, Chinese food, a champagne toast and a rock star costume contest.

Temple Bar
1688 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-5055). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Dinner, 5-9:30 pm, $75; 9:30-10 pm, $95; bar only, free. Partiers at Temple Bar can choose from two different seating times for a three-course dinner, or just stay at the bar for a champagne toast.

33 Restaurant & Lounge
33 Stanhope St., Boston (617-572-3311). www.33restaurant.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 5 and 7 pm, $79; 9 pm, $99. 33 Restaurant offers three separate dinner seatings, the last of which includes a champagne toast at midnight and party favors.

Tiki Room
1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2580). www.tikiroomboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 9 pm-2 am. $40. This party features a tropical luau style buffet, party favors, a champagne toast and a raffle.

Vinalia: Global Gala
101 Arch St., Boston (617-737-1777). www.bostonypa.com. MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 9 pm-2 am. $150-$300 (optional VIP package). The Boston Young Professionals Association sponsors this black-tie-optional event featuring music from KISS 108 and a live four-piece jazz band, and nine individually themed rooms representing New Year's celebrations around the world.

Les Zygomates
129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). www.les zygomates.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Dinner seating at 7 and 10 pm. $100. Les Zyg's celebration features dinner, a champagne toast and live music from the Ronnie Ron Jazz Trio and vocalist Karen Parker.

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Tickets

Ace Tickets
(800-MY-SEATS or 617-734-6666). www.acetickets.com. Get tickets to sold-out shows.

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.artsboston.org. Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of the hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth). Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.nextticketing.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854). Purchase tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticket City of Boston
(617-787-2370). www.coolguitars.com/tickets.htm. Open seven days a week, Ticket City sells tickets to sold-out shows.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Theater

JUST OPENED

Dressed Up! Wigged Out!
Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-358-7529). www.bu.edu/bpt. www. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St. Jan. 6-17. Mon. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 3 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $25, $20 students and seniors. Boston Playwrights' Theatre presents two one-act, one-woman plays about motherhood, sex and death: *Dressed Up!*, written and performed by Leslie Dillen, and *Wigged Out!*, written and performed by Paula Plum.

Foreign Aids
Theatre at Zero Arrow St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Jan. 5-23. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $35-$45. Playwright and performer Pieter-Dirk Uys takes the stage in a number of different incarnations for his play about the South African AIDS crisis.

The Glass Menagerie
Lyric Stage, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Jan. 7-Feb. 5. Wed., 2 and 7:30 pm; Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $19-$43. Eric C. Engel directs Tennessee Williams' classic play about an overbearing mother and her two adult children in 1930s St. Louis.

The Kreutzer Sonata
Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 East Merrimack St., Lowell (978-454-3926). www.merrimackrep.org. Dec. 30-Jan. 29. Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8 pm; Sun., 7 pm. The Merrimack Rep presents the world premiere of Larry and Margaret Pine's adapatation of Leo Tolstoy's book about a jealous, obsessed man with a deadly secret.

The Last Little Porn Shop in Manhattan
Boston Center for the Arts Plaza Theatre, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Jan. 6-22. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm (Jan. 18, 8 and 10:30 pm); Sun., 7 pm. $19.50. T&A Theatre Company presents Anne Continelli's play about a family's plan to keep its porn business afloat during New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani's 1998 crackdown on pornography.

Quills
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands (617-332-1646). www.newrep.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. Jan. 5-Feb.6. Wed., 7 pm; Thu.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $28-$48. Rich Lombardo directs Doug Wright's play about the Marquis de Sade's imprisonment in 18th-century France.

Ritalin Readings
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-1300). www.theatrecoop.org. MBTA: #89 or #101 bus. Jan. 7 and 8, 8 pm. $20, $15 students and seniors. The Theatre Cooperative's sixth annual Ritalin Readings features two nights of 10-minute plays performed and/or written by local playwrights.

The Rivals
Boston University Mainstage, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). www.huntingtontheatre.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Jan. 5-Feb.6. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7 pm. $14-$55. Nicholas Martin directs Richard Sheridan's play about an affluent naval captain who disguises himself as a lowly officer in order to woo a simple woman.

The Syringa Tree
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Dec. 30-Jan. 16. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $36-$72. Playwright Pamela Gien stars in the American Repertory Theatre's production of her play about four generations of two families, one white, one black, living in the same South African household.

Theremin
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St. (781-643-0277). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Dec. 16-18. Thu.-Fri, 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm. $10 (students, $5). The Blue Cake Theatre Company presents an original play based on the life of electronic music pioneer Leon Theremin as seen through the imagined perspective of Brian Wilson of the Beach Boys.

NOW RUNNING

Annie Get Your Gun
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). www.turtle-lane.com. Through Dec. 30. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $24. The Turtle Lane players present Irving Berlin's classic Wild West musical.

Babes in Toyland
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4433). www.gloucesterstage.com. Through Dec. 23. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5 pm. $15. Gloucester Stage's production of Glen MacDonough and Victor Herbert's classic holiday musical features a cast of local children and professionals.

Barrage: Vagabond Tales
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-931-2787) www.broadwayinboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. 19. Tue.-Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. $25.50-$57.50. The instrumental group Barrage presents its newest production, which tells a story about a traveler and a troupe of minstrels.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-931-2787). www.blueman.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Wed. and Thu., 8 pm; Fri., 7 pm; Sat., 4, 7 and 10 pm; Sun., 2 and 5 pm. $46-$56. This dialogue-free production features tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

A Christmas Carol
Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). www.stonehamtheatre.org. Through Dec. 23. Wed. and Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm. Sat., 4 and 8 pm. Sun., 1 and 5 pm. $32, $27 seniors, $16 students. Stoneham Theatre premieres its musical adaptation of Charles Dickens' classic.

A Christmas Carol
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Durham Road, Beverly (978-232-7200). www.nsmt.org. Through Dec. 24. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm (except Dec. 24); Sun., 1 pm; Dec. 16, 7 pm; Dec. 21-23, 7 pm; Dec. 23-24, 2 pm. $30-$63. Greg Ganakas directs North Shore Music Theatre's musical based on Charles Dickens' classic holiday story.

Fully Committed
Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). www.lyricstage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through Dec. 23. Wed.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm.; Dec. 22, 2pm. $21-$45. John Kuntz stars in Becky Mode's comedy about an out-of-work actor working the reservation line at a hot Manhattan restaurant. Spiro Veloudos directs.

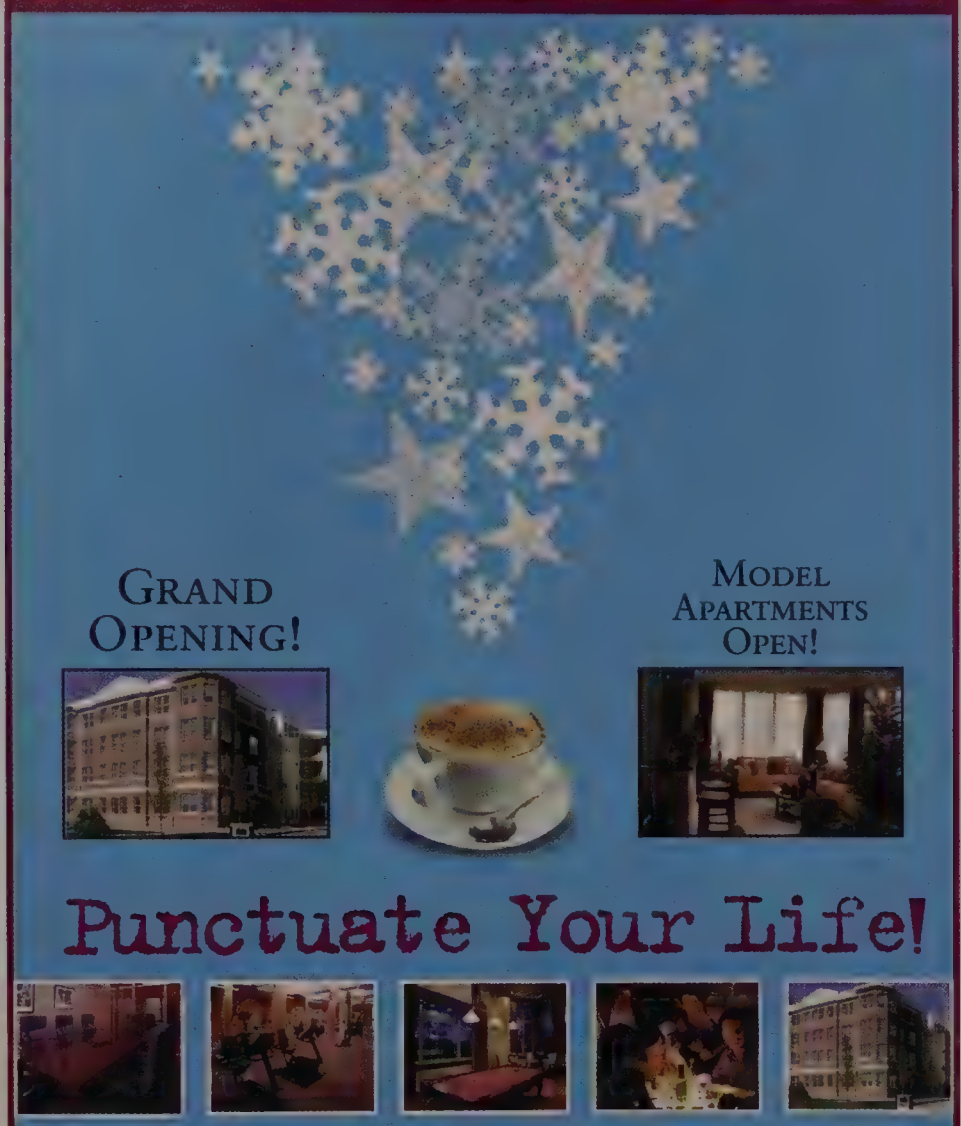
I'm Away from My Desk Right Now...An Indie Play
Boston Center for the Arts, Calderwood Pavilion, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.rough-and-tumble.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through Dec. 18. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm.$1[illegible] Fri. and Sat., $12 Thu. and Sun. Dan Milstein directs Bill Donnelly's play, which centers on a series of odd stories that take place in an office.

Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding
Matrix Nightclub, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123). www.comedywedding.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. 18. Sat. and Sun. 7:30 pm. $49. Tickets include dinner, show and entry to Matrix. The nation's longest-running comedy/din[illegible]


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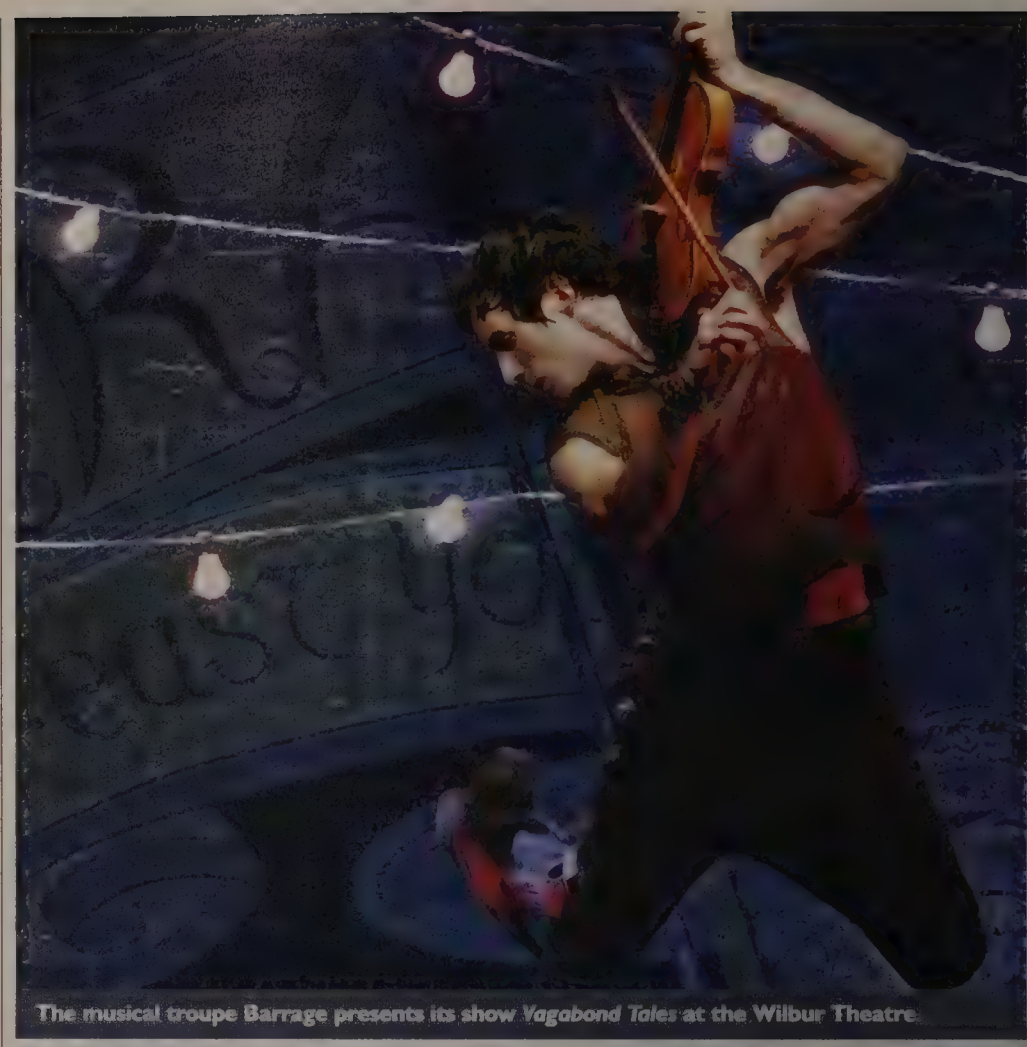
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ner-theater show spoofs a traditional Italian wedding, with audience participation and dinner.

Johnny Guitar: The Musical
Calderwood Pavilion, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). www.speakeasystage.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. 18., Wed.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat. 4 and 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. $30-$40. A saloon owner and a business tycoon get caught in a power struggle in a small Western town. Martin Silvestri and Joel Higgins' music and lyrics combine the sounds of 1950s country, lounge and rock music.

The Lion King
Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston (800-347-0808). www.broadwayinboston. com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Feb. 20. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 1 pm and 6:30 pm. (Additional shows Dec. 22, 23, 29 and 31, 2 pm. No show Dec. 24. No matinee Dec. 25 and Jan 1. No evening show Dec. 31.) $22-$132. Julie Taymor directs this stage adaptation of the popular Disney film about a young lion cub's struggle to become king.

Matter Familias
Boston Playwright's Theater, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-358-7529). www.bu.edu/bpt. MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St. Through Dec. 19. Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $12-$20. Wesley Savick directs Ginger Lazarus' comedy about a woman who adopts a son who is older than she is.

Menopause: The Musical
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (617-426-4499). www.stuartstreetplayhouse.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 pm and 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm. $42.50. A quartet of aging baby boomers meet at a lingerie sale, and singing and dancing ensues.

The Provok'd Wife
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-4547-8300). www.amrep.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Dec. 26. Tue.-Thu., 7:30 pm; Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30 pm. No performances Dec. 24-25. $36-$72. Mark Wong-Davey directs the American Repertory Theatre's production of John Vanbrugh's 17th-century social commentary about an English couple who married for the wrong reasons.

Radio City Christmas Spectacular
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-816). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. 28. $18.50-$74.50. The famous Christmas extravaganza starring the Radio City Rockettes comes to Boston for the first time.

Santaland Diaries
Chelsea Theatre Works, 189 Winnisimmet St., Chelsea (617-887-2336). www.theatrezone.org. Through Dec. 26. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm (no show Dec. 24); Dec. 19 and 26, 7 pm; Dec. 25, 7 pm. $18, $15 in advance. Chelsea Theatre Works presents David Sedaris' play based on his experience working as an elf at Macy's in Manhattan.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-5225). www.shearmadness.com/boston. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Ongoing. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30 pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30 pm. $34. This comedic whodunit set in a unisex hair salon holds the record as Boston's longest-running play.

Tea at Five
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. 19. Tue.-Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 and 8 pm; Sun., 1 and 7 pm. Kate Mulgrew stars as Katharine Hepburn in Matthew Lombardo's play about the actress' life in Old Saybrook, Conn.

Two Plays by Israel Horovitz
Boston Center for the Arts, BCA Plaza Black Box, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). www.alarmclocktheatre.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through Dec. 19. Thu.-Sat., 8 pm; Dec.19, 2 pm. Alarm Clock Theatre presents two one-act plays by the Gloucester playwright. *It's Called the Sugar Plum* is the story of two friends who cope with a death by bickering over who was more affected by the tragedy. *The Indian Wants the Bronx* is the story of two young men who abuse a foreigner in their neighborhood.

Under Her Umbrella
The Actor's Workshop, 327 Summer St., Studio 4, Boston (617-851-8321). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Dec. 17 and 18, 8 pm. $15. 11:11 Productions presents the world premiere of Brian Tuttle's play about six characters trying to get through a dinner party.

University Theater

Noises Off
Virginia Wimberly Theatre, 527 Tremont St., Boston (617-933-8600). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. 19. $10. Sid Friedman directs Michael Frayn's play that follows a theater company from dress rehearsal to the distastrous closing night of their production.

Dance

Lorraine Chapman: The Company
Green Street Studios, 185 Green St., Cambridge (617-864-3191). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Dec. 17 and 18, 8 pm. $20, $17.50 students. Choreographer Chapman presents an evening of performances by Commonwealth Ballet, Elizabeth Waterhouse of Ballet Frankfurt, and Mucuy Bolles of New York's Feld Ballets, as well as music by the Vox Consort.



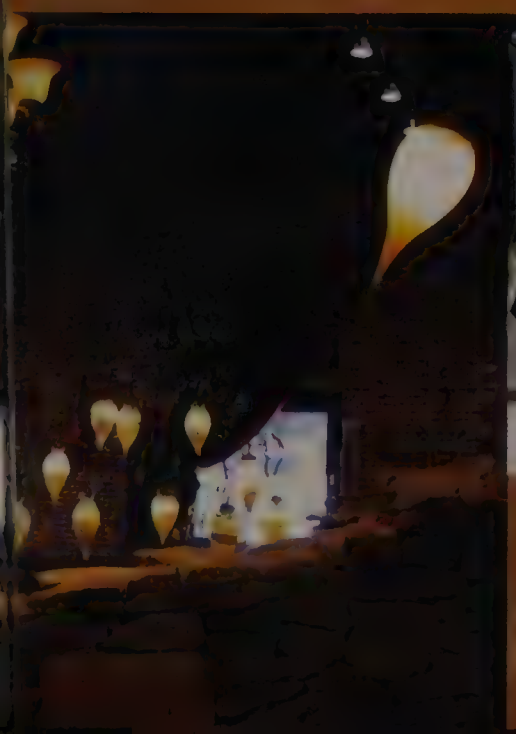
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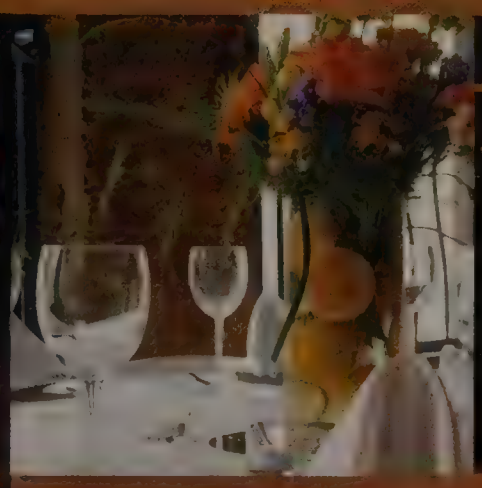
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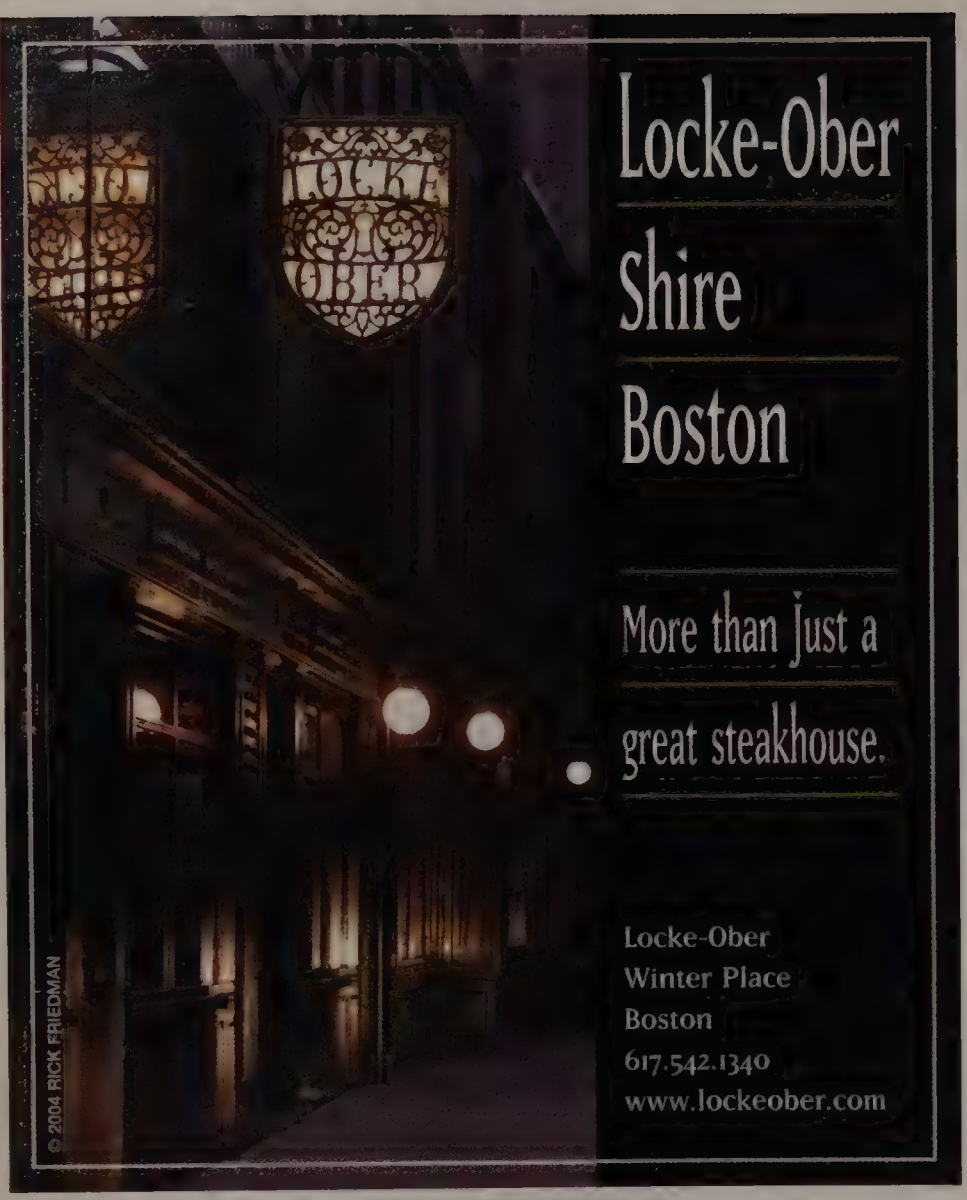


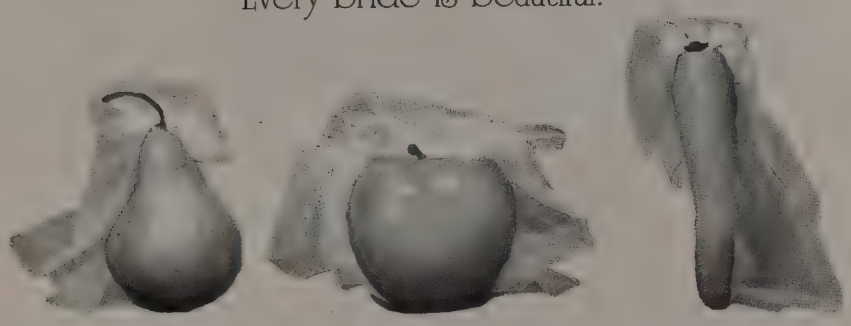




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A Dancer's Christmas
Robsham Theater Arts Center, Boston College, Chestnut Hill (617-552-4002). MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Dec. 10-19. Fri.-Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 2 pm; Dec. 18, 2 pm. $15-$25. The Boston Liturgical Dance Ensemble performs its interpretation of the Christmas story.

La Meira: Al Compas Del Flamenco
Jorge Hernández Cultural Center at the Center for Latino Arts, 85 West Newton St, Boston (617-927-1730). www.claboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Prudential. Dec. 17 and 18, 8 pm. $20. New York–based flamenco dancer Meira Goldberg performs.

The Nutcracker
Colonial Theater, 106 Boylston St., (617-695-6955). www.bostonballet.com MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. 30. $25-$100. Boston Ballet performs Tchaikovsky's classic holiday ballet.

The Nutcracker
Sanctuary Theatre, 400 Harvard St., Cambridge (617-354-74670. www.ballettheatre. org MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Dec. 19. $15-$35. Jose Mateo's Ballet Theatre presents the company's 17th annual production of the classic holiday ballet.

Twelve Dancers Dancing...A Christmas in Cambridge
The Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-tktk). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Dec. 18, 8 pm; Dec. 19, 7 pm. $15. Nine dance companies—Rainbow Tribe, Mass Motion Dance Project, Disco Brats, Mosaic Dance Body, Riverside Dance Company, Morse Movement, Brookline Academy, Amara and Synergy Dance Company—perform holiday-themed hip-hop, jazz, ballet and modern dance numbers.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. Deadline for listings is four weeks prior to publication.

STAND-UP CLUBS

All Asia Café
All Asia Café, 334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). www.stashcomedyjam.com MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue. 7-10 pm. $5. The café hosts local comics on Tuesday nights.

Beantown Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9 pm. $10-$12. The Comedy Vault features local stand-up comedians. •Thu.: Greg Howell and friends •Fri. and Sat.: Boston's Best Stand-up •Sun.: Open Mike Night.

Cantab Lounge
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.cantablounge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Thursdays, 8 pm: Chris Waller performs improv downstairs, no cover, 21+.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center, Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. The oldest comedy club in Boston draws nationally known comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Dec. 16, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •Dec. 17, 8 and 10:15 pm: Gary Gulman, $20. •Dec. 18, 8 and 10:15 pm: Gary Gulman, $20. •Dec. 19, 7 pm: Gary Gulman, $20. •Dec. 20, 8 pm: Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy" hosts the Amateur Showcase, $12. •Dec. 21, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi & Robbie Printz, $12. •Dec. 22, 8 pm: Frank Santorelli, $12. •Dec. 23, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •Dec. 27, 8 pm: Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy" hosts the Amateur Showcase, $12. •Dec. 28, 8 pm: Paul Nardizzi & Robbie Printz, $12. •Dec. 29, 8 pm: Mike Donovan, $12. •Dec. 30, 8:30 pm: Frank Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist," $15. •Dec. 31, 7 pm: Steve Sweeney, $70. •Dec. 31, 9:15 and 11:30 pm: Dane Cook, $70. •Jan. 1, 8 and 10:15 pm: Dane Cook, $70. •Jan. 2, 7 and 9:15 pm: Dane Cook, $35.

Comedy Studio
Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507) www.thecomedystudio.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sun., 8 pm. $7-$10. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Dec. 15: Tony V Experiment with Sarah Osteen, Professor Bromberg, Bill Campbell and others. •Dec. 16: Patrice Vinci, Malene Welch, Seth Early and others. •Dec. 17: Tim McIntire, Myq Kaplan, Constatine and others. •Dec. 18: Tim McIntire, Myq Kaplan, MB Cowan and Greg Thibideau. •Dec. 19: Brian Longwell, David Powell, MB Cowan and others. •Dec. 21: Mystery Lounge: Professional magic show. •Dec. 22: Tony V Experiment with Ken Reid, MB Cowan and Malissa Hunt. •Dec. 23: Ellen Moschetto, Dan McCaul, Kris Earle and others. •Dec. 26: Mike Dorval, Eddie Pence and MB Cowan. •Dec. 29: Tony V Experiment with Patrice Vinci, Anthony Pike, MB Cowan and Steve Macone. •Dec. 30: Rick Jenkins and MB Cowan. •Jan. 2: The Erin Judge Show with Ellen Moschetto, Ethan Kramer and Hugh Chatfield. •Jan. 4: Magic Lounge: Magic with comedy and more. •Jan. 5: The Tony V Experiment with Tom Liszanckie. •Jan. 6: Joe Wong. •Jan.7 Sam Walters with Andrew Riordan. •Jan. 8: Sam Walters, Eric Cheung and Rick Jenkins. •Jan. 9: The Erin Judge Show with Ellen Moschetto, Ethan Kramer and Hugh Chatfield. •Jan. 11: Magic Lounge.

DeVille Lounge
The DeVille Lounge at Kings, 50 Dalton St., Boston (617-266-2695). www.backbaykings.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Every Sun., 8 pm. Free. Tony V hosts "Comedy Hell," a weekly open-mike stand-up night. Sign up is at 6 pm.

Kennedy's Midtown
Kennedy's Midtown, 42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Every Mon., 8 pm. Free. Each week, Boston Comedy Festival semifinalist Jessica Casciano hosts a night of stand-up by local comedians.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-423-2900). www.nickscomedystop.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. $10-$22. •Dec. 16, 8:30 pm: Paul Del Angelo, Joe Carroll. •Dec. 17, 8:45 pm: Paul Del Angelo, Joe Carroll and John Turco. •Dec. 18, 8:45 pm: Paul Del Angelo, Joe Carroll and John Turco. •Dec. 23, 8:45 pm: Kevin Knox, the Wildman of Comedy.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. $15-$20. Dinner packages also available. •Ongoing: The Midnight Show, Saturdays at midnight, $10; Lies, Half Truths and the American Way, Wed., and Thu., 8 pm; Sat., and Sun., 8 and 10 pm, $15.

ImprovBoston
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). www.improvboston.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. $5-$12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe creates everything on the spot: the characters, the stories, the settings—even the songs and dances. •Thursdays, 8 pm, $10-12: Unnatural Selection. A master of ceremonies randomly eliminates players until only one is left. 10 pm, $5: The Great and Secret Comedy Show. Brothers Chris and David Walsh perform stand-up and character sketches and play music and short films in a display of sibling rivalry. •Fridays, 8 pm, $10-12: "Carole Lombard Live!," a reverently irreverent, one-woman show performed by Melinda Coneys. •Saturdays, 6 pm, $10-12 (children 11 and under accompanied by an adult admitted free): Improv Boston Family Show. A short-form improvisational show appropriate for all ages. 8 and 10 pm, $10-12: ImprovBoston Mainstage. Blending storytelling, music and audience participation, a cast of improvisers creates a show that changes with every performance. •Sundays, 7 pm, $5: Sgt. Culpepper/Open Jam. This evening combines three shows into one. Watch performances by visiting and local troupes.

Improv Foundry
327 Summer St., Studio 4, South Boston (617-308-6421). www.improvfoundry.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Saturdays, 6 pm. $12. Boston's newest short-form improv group performs skits that involve audience participation.

The Tribe
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-510-4447). www.thetribepresents.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Every Thursday, 8 pm. $5 before 8 pm, $10 after. 21+. Improv comedians poke fun at everything, including themselves.

COMEDY SHOWS

The Ding Ho Reunion
Jimmy Tingle's Off-Broadway Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). www.jtoffbroadway.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square. Through Dec. 19. 7:30 pm. $25. Jimmy Tingle hosts this four-week celebration featuring notable comics who got their start at Boston's Ding Ho Restaurant. • Dec. 16: Tom Gilmore, Martin Olson (on piano), Chance Langton, Jim Morris, Bob Siebel. •Dec. 17-19: Chance Langton, Martin Olson (on piano), Jim Morris.

Kitsch in Sync
Puppet Showplace Theatre, 32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). http://kitschinsync.org. MBTA: Green Line D to Brookline Village. Jan. 7. 8 pm. $5-$8. The local troupe performs improv comedy.

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Those '60s Shows

Two new films try to channel the Rat Pack era.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Back when Frank Sinatra was alive and singing, there was a one-liner that went "It's Frank's world, we just live in it." At the movies this month, you might change that to "Frank's dead, but it's *his* multiplex." Two new movies hope to channel the casual cool of Camelot-era Sinatra. First, there's *Ocean's Twelve*, the sequel to the remake of Sinatra's Rat Pack caper picture *Ocean's Eleven*. Then there's *Beyond the Sea*, Kevin Spacey's docudrama on the life of Bobby Darin, the versatile entertainer fueled by his drive to be the Sinatra of his generation.

Since *Beyond the Sea* takes place mostly during the late 1950s and 1960s, it's literally trying to capture the era (dig all those striped cardigans). Darin, played by Spacey, makes for a great example of early-1960s cool, and he also had a versatile career that might never get over today. Since today's marketing dictates that commercial radio stations each play only one type of music and effectively prevents eclectic variety programs like *The Ed Sullivan Show* from existing, Darin might never get any exposure. His hits ranged from rock ("Splish Splash") to show tunes ("Mack the Knife") to folk ("If I Were a Carpenter") to—like Sinatra's "My Way"—a ballad translated from French ("Beyond the Sea").



Matt Damon, Brad Pitt and George Clooney in *Ocean's Twelve*

Although it's a loving tribute to Darin and his times, *Beyond the Sea* fails the ultimate test: unlike *The Buddy Holly Story* or *Ray*, it doesn't make you want to run out and buy music by its subject. You can't fault Kevin Spacey for trying; not only does he don a prosthetic nose to play Darin, he directed the movie and sings the songs himself. But even a movie about a "star" needs to establish its hero's entertainment chops, and *Beyond the Sea* never really does. In skipping over early career details of career—like working as a songwriter in the famed Brill Building and then getting a recording contract—the movie just assumes that *we* assume Darin is a great talent.

Bad move. Meanwhile, despite Darin's remarkable offstage life—big-time maternal issues, romance with starlet Sandra Dee (Kate Bosworth) and a heart condition that took his life at 37—*Beyond the Sea*'s storytelling is all over the place. There are musical fantasies (yes, Spacey dances) and an occasional abstract touch (as when a narrator appears onstage, only to be shushed by the actors in the next scene), along with more conventional biopic kismet. (Did Darin, born Walden Robert Cassotto, really come up with his stage name when he saw the broken "Mandarin" in a Chinese restaurant's neon sign?) The movie celebrates the fact that, after a down period in which Darin lost faith in his career and the world, he could integrate all of his elements and regain his stardom and happiness. Yet the movie can't integrate all of its own elements.

If *Beyond the Sea* goes for the same 1960s American cool that *Ocean's Eleven* sought to update, *Ocean's Twelve* goes more for the 1960s vibe you might have found at its European locations. Using the zooms and jump cuts of the French New Wave and the European movies it inspired, Steven Soderbergh's sequel sends its band of thieves abroad.

The heist in this caper comedy comes about because the casino owner (Andy Garcia) they robbed the first time around finds out where Danny Ocean (George Clooney) and his cohorts are, and gives them two weeks to pay back the $160 million they stole, plus three years' worth of interest. So we trade Vegas' fake Bellagio for the real thing, with the gang targeting the Fabergé coronation egg on display at a Rome museum. Danny's former wife from the first film (Julia Roberts), now back with him, is enlisted, hence the sequel's title. On the law enforcement side, the sequel also offers the savvy Europol agent (Catherine Zeta-Jones) who's the sometime love interest of Brad Pitt's Rusty Ryan.

Ocean's Twelve isn't the effortless lark its predecessor was. Clooney, who gave the ultimate movie-star performance of recent years in that film, has less to do here, while the elaborate plot bloats the running time up to 130 minutes (an hour after the movie was over, I realized much of the last hour's twists and turns were immaterial to the caper). Still, it's hard to argue with a comedy that supplies so many laughs and that, despite its overextended length, is nonetheless lighter on its feet than most thrillers. Clooney, Pitt (in the rare role in which he actually comes off smart), Elliott Gould and Matt Damon all give mischievous performances, with much nudge-nudge joking about post-Jason Bourne Damon's skittish character asking for an "increased role" in the Rome caper. Not surprisingly, he gets it. iB

Beyond the Sea ★★

Directed by Kevin Spacey. Written by Lewis Colick. With Spacey, Kate Bosworth, John Goodman, Brenda Blethyn, Bob Hoskins and Caroline Aaron. Rated PG-13. Opens December 29.

Ocean's Twelve ★★★

Directed by Steven Soderbergh. Written by George Nolfi. With George Clooney, Brad Pitt, Matt Damon, Julia Roberts, Don Cheadle, Bernie Mac, Carl Reiner, Elliott Gould and Catherine Zeta-Jones. Rated PG-13. At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Alexander ★★
Silly dialogue? Check. Phony accents up the wazoo? Check. An old British coot overacting? Check. Confusing battle scenes? Check. An overall stiffness that makes you wonder if a Viagra product placement is right around the corner? Check. In other words, this stodgy costume epic about the Greek conqueror (Colin Farrell) is full of things that usually plague such movies. Jeez, you'd expect something a little more unconventional from Oliver Stone. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Closer ★
The youth and early career of Red Sox reliever Keith Foulke come alive in this—aw, hell, it's just Mike Nichols' insufferably talky drama about the infidelities among a quartet of blah characters. The two male Brits (Jude Law, Clive Owen) and two American women (Julia Roberts, Natalie Portman) hook up, break up and make up so often that you never really take an interest in who ends up with whom. Then again, the characters are just pawns that writer Patrick Marber pushes around without putting much effort into turning them into fleshy, believable people. Poor Marber thinks because his characters talk about sex (and have it offscreen), they're "real." Only Owen, who steals scene after scene, makes his character interesting. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

End of the Century: The Story of the Ramones ★★★
After years in the works, Jim Fields and Michael Grimaglia's outstanding documentary on the prototypical punk band is finally here. The movie celebrates the fast, loud, darkly humorous three-chord rock of the Queens punks by charting their rise in its first half. Then it peers into the unhappy offstage relationships that made much of the band's 22 years miserable for its members. The feud between shy liberal Joey and hard-nosed conservative Johnny—sent to extremes when Joey's girlfriend left him for Johnny, whom she then married—is the source of the most discontent. Although the movie includes frank interviews from Johnny, the leader who took a "soldier on," all-business attitude to the band's commercial struggle, and from colorful Dee Dee, its main flaw is that it never broaches such emotional topics with Joey. But now that all three are dead, this is the best we'll ever get. (At the Brattle, Dec. 17 and 18.)

Finding Neverland ★★
As *Peter Pan* playwright J.M. Barrie, Johnny Depp nails a Scottish accent and gives his character a pent-up imagination that bursts loose when he meets a quartet of boys grieving for their late father. It's hard to imagine anyone else giving as rousing a performance as Depp does. Still, his movie never made me want to clap my hands in approving belief. This Edwardian fluff means to be a celebration of Barrie's tale of retaining your inner child, but when half of pop culture tells us that these days, is it really very special? Meanwhile, the film could have easily been called *The Attack of the Art Department*, and that's a big surprise from director Marc Forster, whose previous movies were the much rawer *Everything Put Together* and *Monster's Ball*. There's also a soap opera surrounding the boys' sickly mom (Kate Winslet), and the entire mix is rather cheesy and creepy. (At Boston Common.)

Hey! Is Dee Dee Home? ★★★
Director Lech Kowalski (*D.O.A.*) interviewed late punk icon/junkie Dee Dee Ramone for *Born to Lose*, his 1999 movie about late proto-punk icon/junkie Johnny Thunders (of New York Dolls and Heartbreakers fame). Now, he's taken an hour's worth of outtakes from his Dee Dee interview and cobbled them into this colorful, entertaining movie. Those who've seen the recent Ramones documentary, *End of the Century* (see above) know Dee Dee had many tales to tell and an undeniable charisma that made him an oddly lovable screw-up. (Midnights at the Coolidge Corner, Jan. 7 and 8.)

House of Flying Daggers ★★½
There's something oddly distasteful about Zhang Yimou's recent artsy forays into martial arts. His latest doesn't look so much like a perfume commercial as his *Hero* did, and some of the action sequences in this 9th-century tale are imaginative and well executed (though heavy on the digital effects). But if you like martial-arts movies with a gritty, rock 'n' roll energy, Zhang's two most recent films have the antiseptic, classical-music sterility (this one ends incredulously with opera diva Kathleen Battle bellowing a ludicrously over-the-top reprisal of a song from the tale). Storywise, this starts out with a Western-like economy, as an undercover lawman (Takeshi Kaneshiro) befriends a mysterious female martial

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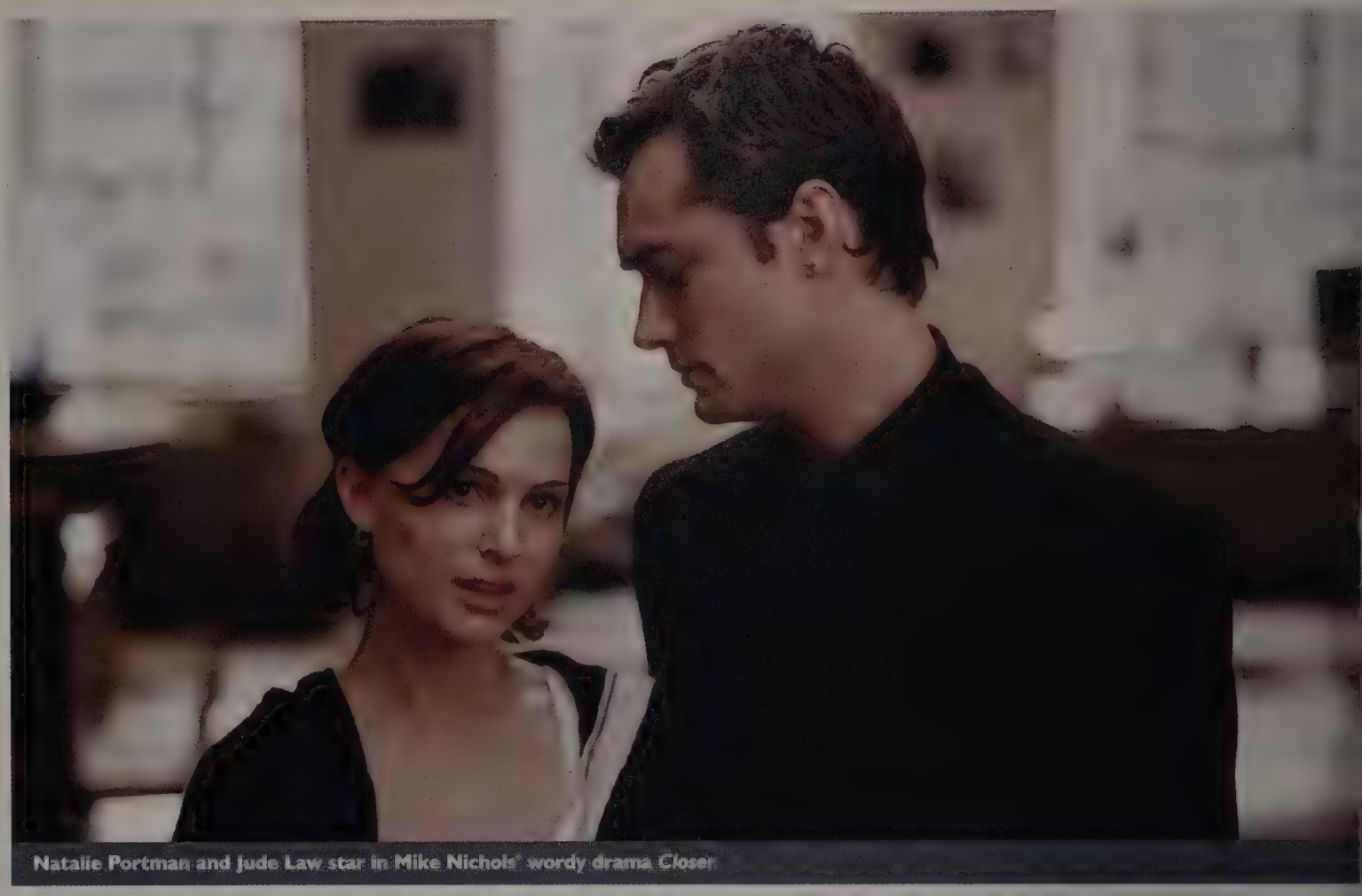
artist (Zhang Ziyi) who may be a member of the anti-government gang that gives the movie its name. Early complications effectively thicken the drama, but there are eventually so many people pretending to be so many fake identities that the drama, which morphs into a love triangle, gets all balled up—culminating in an emotionally overblown final action sequence that just gets silly. (At Boston Common, Fenway, Coolidge Corner, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

The Incredibles ★★★

The animation in Pixar's computer-generated movies keeps improving, and this is the first one that's had the nerve to put humans—albeit semi-abstract ones—in the foreground. That's not a problem at all, as the animation's ability to portray facial expressions is so much better than it was for past Pixar movies, in which human action was kept to a minimum (like the *Toy Story* series). Still, this is the first Pixar movie that's merely good, not great. Once again, there's an amazing mesh of voice actors and characters, with Craig T. Nelson and Holly Hunter playing retired husband-and-wife superheroes forced back into action along with their supergifted kids (Sarah Vowell and Spencer Fox). But the story is an awful lot like *Spy Kids*, with more emphasis put on the parents, and for much of the middle section, this is merely a decent animated "big" action movie, with less of a satiric twist than *Team America*. Pixar has raised the bar so high that, when taken against other animated movies, *The Incredibles* is still very creative. But it's also disappointing at times and overstretched. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

Kinsey ★★★

Scientist Alfred Kinsey became obsessed with researching the sexual habits of Americans and having his scientific findings replace myth and traditional morality in shaping people's view of "average" sexual behavior. Bill (*Gods and Monsters*) Condon's period piece does a fascinating job of capturing the fervent work of Kinsey (Liam Neeson) and showing how his findings of the 1940s and 1950s shook up the public and put the powers-that-be on high alert. Neeson's performance recalls the fixation of his Oskar Schindler, with the goal this time of getting people's sex histories on



Natalie Portman and Jude Law star in Mike Nichols' wordy drama *Closer*

paper, while Laura Linney, Peter Sarsgaard, John Lithgow and Oliver Platt fill out the deep cast. The intensity of this rise-and-fall story starts to peter out, though, when it gets to the third act, thanks to vagueness in chronology and the sense that many events are being rushed through and oversimplified, right down to the rather mystifyingly upbeat ending. (At Copley Place, Kendall Square, Coolidge Corner and suburbs.)

National Treasure ★½

After Trey Parker and Matt Stone's dead-on parody of Jerry Bruckheimer's action monstrosities in *Team America*, I was ready to laugh my ass off at Bruckheimer's latest. But what a drag. The gimmicky founding-fathers-hid-a-treasure-and-Nicolas-Cage-is-gonna-find-it action-thriller from the producer of such obnoxious ordeals as *Armageddon*, *Bad Boys* and *Pearl Harbor* isn't even bad enough to be good. This gadget-heavy, character-light diversion is just mediocre and forgettable. From a sunken British ship lodged in the arctic ice to the Declaration of



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Independence to the Franklin Institute to Independence Hall to Wall Street, it's a long-winded jigsaw puzzle that is easy to stop caring about. More to the point, it's hard to *start* caring about it. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)

On the Waterfront ★★★½
The gritty method drama is back for a 50th-anniversary rerelease, and there are plenty of reasons to like its drama of union corruption on the docks and one big reason not to like it. Among the many likable: the cast of downright strong and colorful performers, from Marlon Brando, Lee J. Cobb and Rod Steiger to Fred Gwynne, Martin Balsam and boxer "Two Ton" Tony Galento. Let's not forget Eva Marie Saint on the distaff side, too. The big reason not to like it? That director Elia Kazan may have made this story of testifying against lawbreakers to rationalize his own "naming names" during the 1950s congressional witch hunt for Communists. (At Kendall Square.)

Ray ★★★
Jamie Foxx's monumental performance dominates this fairly conventional biopic in which a talented hero (R&B/pop pioneer Ray Charles) overcomes adverse circumstances (witnessing his brother's drowning, going blind at age 7) and inner demons (a heroin habit, infidelity) to become a beloved American institution. Sometimes director Taylor Hackford's Hollywood treatment stretches credibility, particularly when the movie contrives to have Charles concoct the classic "What'd I Say?" as an impromptu time filler onstage one night. And the movie might be too forgiving of the pain Charles caused his wife. But Foxx is so immersed in the role, giving Charles a sly charisma, and the musical moments (with Foxx lip-synching to Charles' recordings) are so good that the movie's life-affirming intentions win out. (At Boston Common, Fenway and suburbs.)



House of Flying Daggers is the latest from *Hero* director Zhang Yimou

Sideways ★★★
Alexander Payne's *Sideways* does for the approach of middle age what his *About Schmidt* did for the onset of old age: uses it as a springboard for bittersweet comedy and a road trip. At first, this makes the latest from the director of *Citizen Ruth* and *Election* a letdown. But Payne and writing partner Jim Taylor's riffs on male bonding make this story of two 40-ish buddies' trip to California wine country painfully funny. It's hard to say where the characters leave of and the actors begin in the hilarious little moment in which the pair goes to wineries to sample the lat est vintages. Paul Giamatti (*American Splendor*), wh could be amusing reading a shopping list, gives a col orful tilt to wine connoisseur Miles' picky assess




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ments of his tastings; in Giamatti's hands, sometimes Miles is being intentionally funny, sometimes not. Meanwhile, Thomas Haden Church's Jack has an endearing dumb-jock quality, and his response to Miles' "knowledgeable" wine talk is usually "tastes pretty good to me." Each man's approach to wine mirrors his approach to life and to the women they meet, of course, with Jack blindly leaping in and Miles analyzing and analyzing. (At Boston Common, Coolidge Corner, Kendall Square and suburbs.)

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Werner Herzog Film Series

•Dec. 20, 6 pm. **Fitzcarraldo** *1982*. An obsessed opera lover hopes to make his fortune in the rubber business in order to build an opera in the jungle. Herzog directs.

•Dec. 27, 6 pm. **Cobra Verde** *1987*. A bandit turned slave trader goes to Africa and becomes a revolutionary. Herzog directs.

Women Behind the Camera

•Dec. 21, 6 pm. **Shadow of a Doubt** *1943*. In Alfred Hitchcock's mystery, written by his wife, Alma Reville, a young girl suspects her uncle is guilty of murdering rich widows.

BRATTLE THEATRE

It's a Punk Rock Christmas

•Dec. 17 and 18, 10 pm. **End of the Century: The Story of the Ramones** *2003*. Jim Fields and Michael Gramaglia's documentary follows the rise and fall of the American rock band. •Also showing Dec. 17 and 18, 12 am. **Mondo Punko: Punk Rock Performance Footage**. Brattle Theatre and Coolidge Corner Theatre program directors present a selection of clips from TV sources including David Letterman and MTV.

Stooge-O-Rama

•Dec. 26-Jan. 1, 2 pm. To celebrate its 70th anniversary, Columbia Pictures presents a compilation of new 35mm prints of some of the most popular shorts from the Three Stooges.

Weekends and Special Engagements

•Dec. 16, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 pm. **Reconstruction** *2003*. After having an affair with a stranger, a man returns to his life to find his his apartment doesn't exist and his girlfriend doesn't recognize him. Christoffer Boe directs.

•Dec. 17-21, 4:30 and 7:15 pm; 1:15 pm matinees Sat. and Sun. **It's a Wonderful Life** *1945*. Frank Capra's Christmas classic stars Jimmy Stewart as man who realizes what his friends' and family's lives would be like without him.

•Dec. 22 and 23, 4 and 7:30 pm; Dec. 26, 4:30 and 8 pm. **The Leopard** *1963*. Set in Sicily in 1860, Luchino Visconti's film follows an aristocratic landowner who watches the decrease of his power and influence following the unification of Italy.

•Dec. 24, 1, 4:30 pm, and 8 pm; Dec 27 and 28, 4:30 and 8 pm. **La Dolce Vita** *1960*. Federico Fellini's film follows a society gossip columnist who seeks out Rome's celebrities, playboys, and aristocrats, and gets caught up in their lifestyle along the way.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Box Office Babies

•Dec. 27 and Jan. 10, 1 pm. The Coolidge's biweekly series provides an infant-friendly setting for viewing recent international, independent and documentary films. Titles are announced the week before the screening at www.coolidge.org.

Coolidge Selects

•Through Dec. 17. **Bright Leaves** *2004*. Ross McElwee's documentary chronicles the tobacco industry's influence on his home state of North Carolina.

•Now playing. **Huutajat** *(Screaming Men) 2004*. Mika Ronkainen's documentary follows the Finnish Screaming Male Choir, which tours the world performing shouted renditions of songs and anthems.

•Through Dec. 17. **Kinsey** *2004*. See New Releases for a description.

•Now playing. **Sideways** *2004*. See New Releases for a description.

•Now playing. **Tarnation** *2003* . Thirty-one-year-old Jonathan Caouette directs a documentary about his chaotic upbringing with a schizophrenic mother and his dysfunctional Texas family.

•Opens Dec. 17. **House of Flying Daggers** *2004*. See New Releases for a description.

•Opens Dec. 17. **Paper Clips** *2004*. Joe Fab and Elliot Berlin direct this documentary about a project by a group of middle school students who try to collect 6 million paper clips to represent the 6 million Jews killed in the Holocaust.

•Opens Dec. 17. **The Sea Inside** *2004*. Alejandro Amenâbar's drama tells the story of Ramon Sampedro, a Spanish man who fought for the right to end his own life through euthanasia.

Midnight Movies

•Dec. 18, 12 am. **Pantyhose Hero** *1990*. Sammo Hung Kam-Bo directs and stars as a homophobic detective who goes undercover to investigate the murder of a gay man.

•Jan. 7, 8, 14 and 15, 12 am. **Fight Club** *1999*. Brad Pitt plays a disillusioned man who is tired of his comfortable life and joins a destructive subculture. David Fincher directs.

Special Events

•Dec. 31, all day. **The First Night Film Festival**. Boston's annual New Year's Eve celebration presents a selection of new films to ring in the new year. The festival showcases family-friendly sneak preview features on the giant main screen and new documentaries in the screening room.

•Jan. 10, 7:30 pm. **Holy Water-Gate** *2004*. Mary Healy-Conlon's documentary examines the Catholic Church's sex-abuse crisis.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE

Conservator's Choice

•Jan. 10, 7 pm; Jan. 11, 9 pm. HFA conservator Julie Buck introduces a set of short films, including **Le Sang des Bêtes** *(Blood of the Beasts)1949* by Georges Franju; **New Domestic Animal** *1964* by Dusan Makevejev; **Bespoke Overcoat** *1956* by Jack Clayton; and **Anticipation** *1966* by Jean-Luc Godard.

•Jan. 10, 8:30 pm; Jan. 11, 7 pm. Conservator Julie Buck introduces a series of short films including **Land Without Bread** *1932* by Luis Buñuel; **Borom Sarret** *1964* by Ousmane Sembene; and **Toby Dammit** *1968* by Federico Fellini.

Ingmar Bergman: Early Works

•Dec. 15, 9:15 pm. **Kvinnodrom** *(Dreams) 1955*. A model agency owner and her top model go on a photo shoot and end up having affairs with married men.

A Tribute to Pacific Street Films

•Jan. 7, 7 pm; Jan. 8, 9 pm. **Red Squad** *1972*. Steven Fischler, Joel Sucher, Howard Blatt and Francis Freedland's documentary examines the surveillance activities of the Red Squad, New York City Police Department's Bureau of Special Services, at protest rallies. •Immediately following. **Anarchism in America** *1982*. Directors Steven Fischler and Joel Sucher investigate the historical development and popular misconceptions about anarchism in America.

•Jan. 7, 9 pm; Jan. 9, 7 pm. **The Other Half Revisited** *1996*. Drawing on photojournalist Jacob Riis' book *How the Other Half Lives*, this documentary explores issues of poverty, homelessness, health care and other plights of America's poor. MartinToub directs. •Immediately following. **Frame Up** *1974*. Stephen Fischler, Joel Sucher and Howard Blatt's film documents the case of Martin Sostre, a black Puerto Rican man framed for drug possession in Buffalo, N.Y.

•Jan. 8, 7 pm; Jan. 9, 9 pm. **From Swastika to Jim Crow** *2000*. Based on the book by Gabrielle Simon Edgcomb, Lori Cheatle's documentary looks at Jewish intellectuals who escaped Nazi Germany and then settled into teaching positions at black universities in the segregated American South. •Immediately following. **Free Voice of Labor: The Jewish Anarchists** *1980*. Stephen Fischler and Joel Sucher direct a documentary about immigrant life for the sweatshop workers who made up the Jewish anarchist movement of the turn of the last century.

JIMMY TINGLE'S OFF BROADWAY THEATER

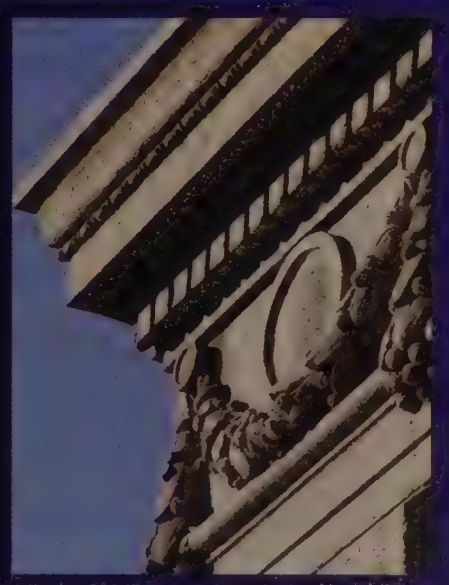
•Dec. 18 and 19, 4 pm. **When Stand Up Stood Out: The Story Behind the Boston Comedy Explosion** *2003*. Fran Solomita's documentary follows the rise and fall of Boston's comedy scene and includes rare footage of Jimmy Tingle and Lenny Clarke as well as interviews with local comics. Solomita attends a Q&A session following both screenings.













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MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Asian Cinevisions

•Dec. 15, 8 pm; Dec. 16, 6 pm; Dec. 18, 12:30 pm; Dec. 19, 1:30pm. **Yudan Taiteki** (*The Hunter and the Hunted*) 2003. Izuru Narushima directs a crime thriller about two loners.

•Dec. 22, 8 pm; Dec. 26, 12:45; Dec. 29, 6 pm; Dec. 30, 8:15. **Daai Cheung Foo** (*Men Suddenly in Black*) 2003. When their wives leave for a trip to Bangkok, a gang of four buddies attempts to find women. Edmond Ho-Cheung Pang directs.

•Jan. 2, 10:45 am. **Zangiku Monogatari** (*The Story of the Last Chrysanthemums*) 1939. Set in Tokyo in 1885, Kenji Mizoguchi's film follows the son of an important actor who's questioning his own fame and success.

•Jan. 6, 7:30 pm; Jan. 8, 11 am. **Tengoku to Jigoku** (*High and Low*) 1963. An executive has to choose between saving his company or saving a child's life. Akira Kurowasa directs.

•Jan. 9, 10:30 am. **Onna ga Kaidan o Agaru Toki** (*When A Woman Ascends the Stairs*) 1960. Mikio Naruse directs the story of a middle-aged geisha who faces the choice to get married or go into business for herself.

Cinema Tropical

•Dec. 23, 7 pm; Dec. 26, 2:45; Dec. 29, 2:30; Dec. 30, 1 pm. **Lavoura Arcaica** (*To the Left of the Father*) 2002. Luiz Fernando Carvalho's film tells the story of a Lebanese family transplanted to the interior of Brazil.

•Jan. 7, 6:10 pm; Jan. 8, 3:50 pm; Jan. 9, 1:45. **Amarelo Manga** (*Mango Yellow*) 2002. Cláudio Assis' film intertwines the stories of several eccentric personalities who hang out at a hotel bar.

First Night Film Program

•Dec. 31, 12:15 pm, 1:30 pm, 2:45 pm; 4 pm. **First Night Films**. This collection includes short films and videos. First Night buttons are required and are available at the MFA's Remis Box Office.

French Cinema

•Dec. 16, 8:15 pm; Dec. 18, 2:45 pm; Dec. 19, 11:30 am; Dec. 22, 6 pm; Dec. 23, 5 pm; Dec. 26, 10:30 am; Dec. 29, 12:30 pm; Dec. 30, 4:15 pm; Jan. 2, 3:15 pm; Jan. 5, 6 pm. **As if Nothing Happened** 2003. Pierre-Olivier Mornas directs this romance about a theater director who falls in love with a museum guide.

•Dec. 29, 8 pm; Dec. 30, 6:15 pm; Jan. 2, 1:30 pm; Jan. 5, 8 pm; Jan. 7, 4:30 pm; Jan. 9, 12:10. **Notre Musique** (*Our Music*) 2002. Jean-Luc Godard mixes documentary footage and fiction in his film about two women who meet in the city of Sarajevo.

Italian Cinema

•Jan. 7, 8:10 pm; Jan. 8, 1:50 pm; Jan. 9, 3:45. **Incantato** 2003. Pupi Avati's film tells the story of a 35-year-old Greek and Latin teacher who travels to Bologna to visit his father.

New England Film Artists Present

•Dec. 15, 5;30 pm; Dec. 18. 10:30 am; Dec. 19, 1:30 pm. **Anya In and Out of Focus** 2004. Marian Marzynski's documentary follows a father and daughter's relationship over the course of 30 years.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Mugar Omni Theater

•Through Feb. 17, 2005. **Extreme**. Audiences experience the most extreme outdoor sports, including skiing and snowboarding on perilous untouched mountain peaks; climbing frozen waterfalls and red-rock spires; surfing some of the largest waves ever surfed and windsurfing El Niño–strength winds.

•Through Feb. 17, 2005. **Roar: Lions of the Kalahari**. Journey into the Kalahari Desert as two Botswana lions battle it out over a water hole.

•Through May 26, 2005. **Forces of Nature**. Experience the power of earthquakes, volcanoes and storms as scientists attempt to forecast and understand them.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Simons IMAX Theater

•Through Jan. 18. **Galapagos**. Marine biologist Carole Baldwin leads a scientific expedition through the coral reefs of the Galapagos Islands.

•Through Jan. 18. **Ocean Wonderland 3D**. Watch as eagle rays, sharks, dolphins and other creatures create an underwater wonderland.

•Through Jan. 18. **Polar Express 3D.** Tom Hanks and director Robert Zemeckis collaborate for a 3D adventure inspired by Chris Van Allsburg's children's book about a young boy who takes an extraordinary train ride to the North Pole.

•Through Jan. 18. **Santa vs. the Snowman 3D**. A lonely snowman becomes jealous of Santa during the holiday season.

•Through Jan. 18. **Volcanoes of the Deep Sea**. Dive to the bottom of the sea with a team of scientists, as they explore hydrothermal vents, shipwrecked gardens, predators and bioluminescent creatures.

WANG CENTER

Classic Film Series

•Jan. 10. **My Fair Lady** 1964. George Cukor directs the film adaptation of George Bernard Shaw's play about a snobby linguistics professor who makes a bet that he can turn a cockney flower girl into a high-society aristocrat. Audrey Hepburn and Rex Harrison star.

Cinema Venues

BELMONT

Studio Cinema

376 Trapelo Road (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Public Library

666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)

100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway 13 Theatre

201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common

175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum of Science

Science Park (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf (866-815-4629). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinema

399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Reservoir.

Coolidge Corner Theatre

290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre

40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Fresh Pond

168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive

24 Quincy St. (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema

One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony

10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

MIT

77 Mass. Ave., Room 6-120 (617-612-0091). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema

27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). MBTA: D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema

1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

SOMERVILLE

Jimmy Tingle's Off Broadway Theater

255 Elm St., Somerville (617-591-1616). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

Loews/Sony

35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre

55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.



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Rock the Halls

Making a list of the year's best CDs and concert DVDs

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Once again, 'tis the season for year-end lists and last-minute holiday gifts. Here are my picks for CDs and concert DVDs. The CD list favors my critical choices of 2004, while my DVD recommendations sample a range of current entries.

CDs



U2, How to Dismantle an Atomic Bomb (Interscope). Bono and the boys deliver grand, melodic statements that echo past glories while connecting with the heart of the present.



Angelique Kidjo, Oyaya! (Columbia). Afro-pop star Kidjo captures her onstage spark in the studio on this final piece of a trilogy that traces African roots in the New World. She tackles Caribbean styles with crisp authority.

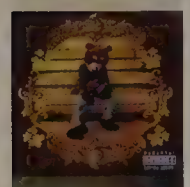


Loretta Lynn, Van Lear Rose (Interscope). The grande dame of country mines authentic ground with blues-punk prodigy Jack White, bringing an airy grace and grit to her songs.

Green Day, American Idiot (Reprise). These West Coast punks have long nodded to the Who with their coiled combustion, but take it up a notch with this seamless, Bush-whacking rock opera.



Nick Cave & the Bad Seeds, Abattoir Blues/The Lyre of Orpheus (Anti). The prolific prince of post-Goth darkness branches to extremes on a double CD that balances gospel-blues outbursts and adventurous ballads. Combined, it's a peak work that's theatrical, tuneful and tongue-in-cheek.



Kanye West, The College Dropout (Rock-A-Fella). Hot hip-hop producer lays rhymes with Jay-Z and company while mixing gospel and sped-up samples on his cocky, cynical, catchy debut.



Modest Mouse, Good News for People Who Love Bad News (Epic). Like the Flaming Lips (who assist on one track), Modest Mouse float from indie-rock cultdom to major-label breakthrough with a fractured, hypnotic blend, serving up orchestral minimalism, psychedelic funk and Talking Heads-style exhortations.



Grant Lee Phillips, Virginia Creeper (Zoe/Rounder). Mystery and melancholy steeped in Americana; the ex-leader of Grant Lee Buffalo finds his place again with charming songcraft.



Don Byron, Ivey-Divey (Blue Note). Inspired by the conceptual blueprint of a bassless 1946 Lester Young trio, jazz clarinetist Byron stretches out in brash new directions with pianist Jason Moran and drummer Jack DeJohnette.



Elvis Costello & the Imposters, The Delivery Man (Lost Highway). Costello hits a comfortable prime with rootsy rock, backup from Lucinda Williams and Emmylou Harris, and the brilliant touch of visualizing Elvis Presley in the title track.







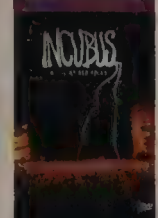














Concert DVDs

David Byrne, Live at Union Chapel (WSM). Glorious colors bathe the contours of an English chapel behind the ex–Talking Head's striking 2002 blend of rock and acoustic strings.

Live Aid (WSM). A good cause (African famine relief) and bad haircuts rule intercontinental stadium concerts that feature most every pop star of 1985. Four discs of timeless highs (Queen, David Bowie) and dated lows (Spandau Ballet, Kenny "Footloose" Loggins), plus collaborative moments like Mick Jagger and Tina Turner trying to outstrut each other.

Eric Clapton, Crossroads Guitar Festival (Reprise). More killer matchups. Clapton faces off with Santana, Buddy Guy, Robert Randolph and others in a 2004 benefit for his drug treatment center. The diverse lineup also showcases Joe Walsh, John Mayer, Vince Gill, John McLaughlin and ZZ Top.

Norah Jones and the Handsome Band, Live in 2004 (Blue Note). The focus is on Jones' gorgeous voice in a setting that's more light country than jazz, with relaxed camera work and smart cameos by Dolly Parton and Gillian Welch.

Phish, IT (WSM). A surprise, free-form jam atop a control tower is among the musical and conceptual delights captured at the just-disbanded Vermont group's 2003 IT fest in Maine. There's an excess of self-inflating chat, but 10 uncut bonus songs are a plus (even if the choices aren't as epic as the bonus tracks on the new DVD release of *The Grateful Dead Movie*, a 1974 performance with a mellower tone).

Ani DiFranco, Trust (Righteous Babe). A folk-punk radical engages her troops in a stripped-down D.C. setting, filmed at creative, intimate angles by photographer Danny Clinch.

Aerosmith, You Gotta Move (CMV). The pacing is flashy, with too many busty fan sing-alongs, but Aerosmith wields a rock-solid punch both on its hits and raunchy blues covers.

Susan Tedeschi, Live from Austin TX (New West). Norwell's soulful blues-rock star gets her first DVD from the *Austin City Limits* vaults, part of a crop that also includes a mean 1986 show from lean country renegade Steve Earle.

Incubus, Alive at Red Rocks (EMV). Brandon Boyd apes Bono's emotive impact at the same natural amphitheater where U2 filmed a breakthrough concert video in 1983, as this California band takes flight with a rush of hard rock and hip-hop atmospheres heightened by rotating views.

Simon & Garfunkel, Old Friends: Live on Stage (Warner Reprise Video). Fans who missed the high-priced 2003 tour can settle into their living room for the duo's hit parade with guests the Everly Brothers (plus 1970 TV clips for contrast). More close-ups might have been cool, or not. IB

Advice to Contributors
Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (617-859-1446), by mail to Calendar/Music, or by email to music@improper.com. Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.

Advice to Readers
Information for the Music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double-check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

The Assembly of Dust Dec. 30-31, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Benevento/Russo Duo featuring Mike Gordon Dec. 29, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Big Bad Voodoo Daddy Dec. 16, Scullers Jazz Club (617-783-0090).
Catch 22, Punchline, Socratic, Stray Bullets Dec. 27, Axis (617-931-2000).
Christmas Revels Dec 16-28, Sanders Theatre (617-496-2222).
Sonia Dada Dec. 28, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Evan Dando, Jake Brennan & the Confidence Men, Bob Cenci Dec. 17, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Disco Biscuits Dec. 28, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Juliana Hatfield Dec. 18, T.T. the Bear's Place (617-931-2000).
Hot Stove, Cool Music: A Benefit for the Jimmy Fund, with Dropkick Murphys, Kay Hanley and others Jan. 9, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
The Lot Six Dec. 18, Middle East Upstairs (617-931-2000).
The Perceptionists, Aesop Rock Dec. 16, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Read Yellow Dec. 27, Middle East Upstairs (617-931-2000).
Royal Pop Collective Christmas Show Dec. 16, Middle East Upstairs (617-931-2000).
Strangefolk Dec. 28 and 29, Harpers Ferry (617-254-9743).
Trans-Siberian Orchestra Dec. 30, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15

Abbey Lounge The Buckners, 9:30 pm; Superlow, 10:30 pm; Rocket Science, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster.
The Burren Night in Wyoming, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Crescent & Frost and Ana Egge, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Music Schmusic, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Fireplace Restaurant Joe Therrien.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Hampshire House Piano Lounge Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am.
Hennessy's Joe Carson Band.
Johnny D's Benefit for Bread & Jam: Chandler Travis Philharmonic, 8:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie.
Lizard Lounge Naomi Sommers, Noam Weinstein, 7:30 pm; Dennis Brennan Band, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Suburban Sky, Distinguished Members, the Non Famous, Mad Man Films, 9 pm, $8.
Midway Café Track Suit and Shrinking Island, 21+
Oak Bar Steve Heck, 7:30 pm.
O'Brien's Sarah Blacker, Omer, $6.
Paradise Lyfe, 6 pm.
PA's The Picture Index, Mycroft, Rivulets, Miles from Land, $5-$7.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Bossa Nova Trio, 8:30 pm, $10.
Tír na nÓg Dave Foley.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place 50 Ft. Wave, Songs from Random House, $10.
The Western Front Brian Knoxtet, Cancura Ramspersaud Quartet, 8:30 pm.
Zeitgeist Gallery Austin McMahon Jazz Trio, 7 pm, $8; Laurel Brauns, Dan Blakeslee, Casey Dienel, 9:30 pm, $7.
ZuZu The Specific Heats. 10 pm, no cover.

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ADVANCE SEATING

UPCOMING HEADLINERS

Averi Feb. 26, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Brothers Past Feb. 10, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Dropkick Murphys March 17-20, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Kristin Hersh, Ben Weaver Jan 28, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Keane Feb. 5, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Ray Lamontagne Jan. 15, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Pat Metheny Group March 26, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Scissor Sisters Jan. 14, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Jill Scott March 13, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Sister Hazel Jan. 19, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Patty Smyth and Scandal Feb. 5, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Social Distortion Feb. 22, Avalon (617-931-2000).
Third World, Keith Reggae Hurlock, Vibewise Feb. 1, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Ron White, Feb. 26, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16

Abbey Lounge Adventures in Tourism, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
Asgard Sunset Is a Battle.
Axis Denver Harbor, Unwritten Law, Dropping Daylight, 7 pm, $10-$12.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster.
The Burren Swingin' Johnsons, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge The Ray Greene Band, 9 pm.
Club Passim Pamela Means, Natlia Zukerman, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Blue Soul, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Hampshire House Piano Lounge Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am.
Harper's Ferry Todd Martin, 9 pm, $6.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
High Street Grille Little Joe Cook, 9 pm.
Johnny D's Make-A-Wish Benefit: Commander Cody, 9 pm, $15.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7:30, no cover; the Mittens, Stargazer Lily, Sean Altman, 9:30 pm, $7.
Lucky's Lounge Alec MacDougall.
Middle East Downstairs: Masta Killa, Killah Priest, Ra the Rugged Man, Vordul of Cannibal Ox, Jake the Snake, Irepress, 8 pm, $10-$13. Upstairs: Royal Pop Collective: Aberdeen City, Faces on Film, Silent Service, MYTVS, Cyanide Valentine, 9 pm, $10.
Midway Café International Pen Pal, Swim Team.
Oak Bar Jane Potter, 7:30 pm.
O'Brien's High Rocktane, $5.
PA's The Residence, Sunchunck, $5-$7.
Paradise Rock Club: The Perceptionists, Aesop Rock, 8 pm, $20. Lounge: Butterfly Boucher, 6 pm, $10, 18+; the Bubble Up, 10 pm, $3-$5.
Plough and Stars Paul Speidel, 9:30 pm.
Sanders Theatre Christmas Revels, 7:30 pm, $20-$42.
Scullers Jazz Club Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, 8 and 10 pm, $26.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover
T.T. the Bear's Place Royal Pop Consortium Xmas Party: Anushka Pop, the Bocks, Orange Park, Malvern, $10.
The Western Front Elephant House, 9 pm, $5.
Zeitgeist Gallery The Dead Texan, 9 pm, $8.
ZuZu Puma presents: Beats and Treats, 11 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Chris Stovall Brown, 8 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17

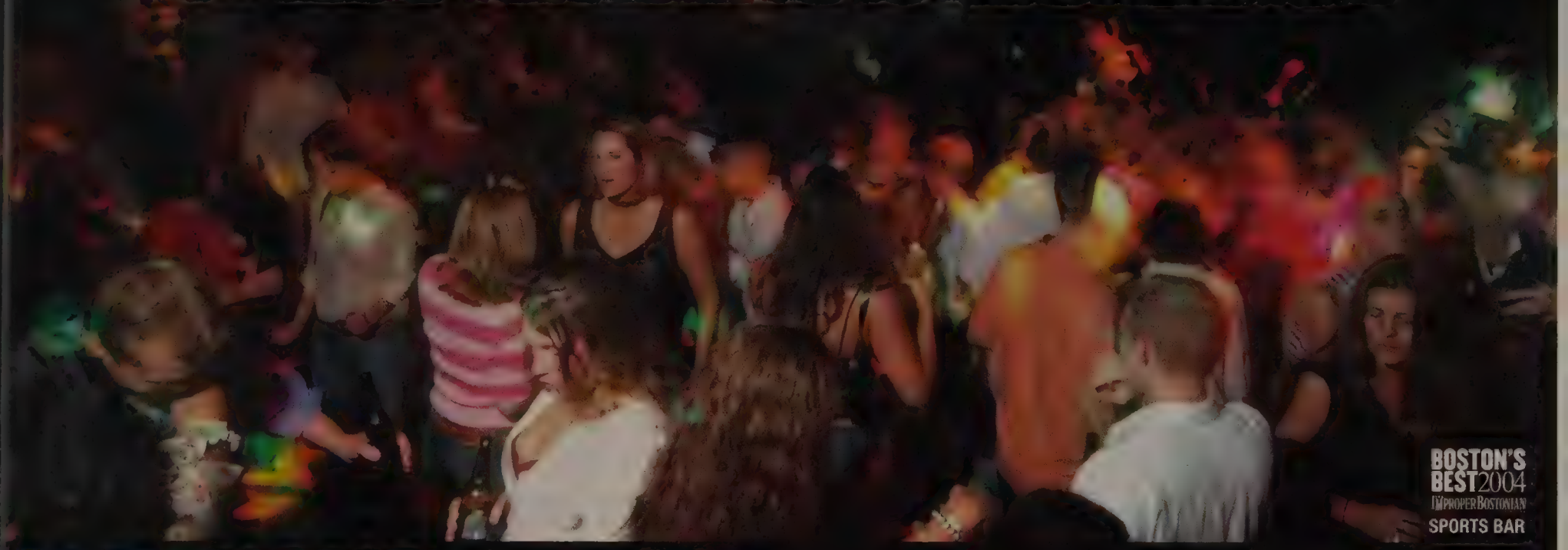
Abbey Lounge Choo Choo/La Rouge, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
Asgard Asconsion.
Berklee Performance Center Peter Cincotti.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Boston Harbor Hotel Jazz series.
Bravo at the MFA Rusty Scott.
The Burren 4" Stud, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Rachel McCartney, Rose Cousins, 7 and 10 pm, $14.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scooby Snax.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am
The Harp Peatmoss, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Max Creek, 9 pm, $12.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5 pm
Johnny D's Dwigth Ritcher, Julian Velard, 9:30 pm, $8.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton, 5 pm
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7:30 pm, no cover; Miko Previti Band, 9:30 pm, $7.
Museum of Fine Arts/Remis Auditorium New England Conservatory Millennium Gospel Choir, 7:30 pm, $24.
Middle East Dowstairs: Jinx Motive, Meet the Day, 8 pm, $10-$12. Upstairs: The Robby Roadsteamer Holiday Special: IIJ, Wack Ass Egyptians, Mad Larry, Elliot Timmers, 9 pm, $9.
Midway Café Driftwood Citizens.
Milky Way Dave Hannon and the Solid Sinners.
Mr. Dooley's Tommy and Alan.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm.
O'Brien's Nirvanah, Drinkfist, My Little Radio, the Worst, $7.
Paradise Rock Club: Evan Dando, Jake Brennan & the Confidence Men, Bob Cenci, 8 pm, $15.
Parris Darik & the Funbags, $10, $5-$10.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 6-8:30 pm; Eilé Jewell Band, 9:30 pm.
Sanders Theatre Christmas Revels, 8 pm, $20-$42.
Somerville Theatre A Christmas Celtic Sojourn Concert, 8 pm, $24-$44.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies, Chris Murphy.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cover
The Western Front Pure Underground, 9 pm, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Andy Pratt, 7 pm, $7; Jeff Platz Bright Light Group, Dan Levin Trio, 9:30 pm, $10.
ZuZu Latin Night with Gian Carlo Buscagilla 11 pm, no cover.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18

Abbey Lounge Coffin Lids, $5-$7.
Axis Toxic Narcotic 15th Anniversary Show, 6 pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
The Burren Bagboys, 5 pm; the T Band, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers 9 pm.
Club Passim David Mallett, 7 pm, $20; Ann Heaton, 10:30 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Howling Devils, 8:30 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am.
The Harp Peatmoss, 10 pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry The Joshua Tree, Asect, 9 pm, $8.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Reggae Night with Bobi Steelz & Moon.
Lizard Lounge Nate Cozzolino, 7:30 pm, no cover the Gulf, Reaxis, Fluttr, 9:30 pm, $6-$8.
Middle East Downstairs: Traktor7 Second Anniversary: Quintaine Americana, Crash and Burn, the Hidden, Morgan Knockers, 8 pm, $10. Upstairs The Radio Takeover Tour: MewithoutYou, Owen the Snake the Cross the Crown, Despistado, 1 pm $8-$10; the Lot Six, Officer May, Eyes Like Knives Animal Hospital, 9 pm, $9.
Midway Café Baby Macaroni, Spampinato Brothers Tom Ardolino.
Mr. Dooley's Tommy and Alan.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm.
O'Brien's The Scrooges, Black Salad, New York Dolls, $7.
Parris Darik & the Funbags, $10, $5-$10.
PA's Tampoffs, Ghetto Ways, Spitzz, $5-$7, 21+.
Plough and Stars Larry Flint and the Road Scholars, 5-7:30 pm; Ponticello Chris Murphy, 9:30 pm.
Purple Shamrock Brick Park.
Ryles Jazz Club The Groove Barbers, What I Like About Jew, 8 pm, $10.
Sanders Theatre Christmas Revels, 3 and 8 pm $20-$42.
Somerville Theatre A Christmas Celtic Sojourn Concert, 8 pm, $24-$44.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Quartet, 9 pm, no cover

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The Assembly of Dust plays December 30 and on New Year's Eve at the Paradise.

T.T. the Bear's Place Juliana Hatfield, Stone Coyotes, Unbusted, Mr. Burns, $12.
The Western Front Hot Like Fire, 9 pm, $10.
Zeitgeist Gallery Dead Cat Bounce, 7 pm, $10; the Ugly American, 9:30 pm, $7.
ZuZu Soul le lu jah, 11 pm, no cover.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19

All-Asia Café Sunday night songwriter series with Christie Leigh, 5 pm, $5.
The Attic The Coalboilers.
Bill's Bar Dub Station.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz Brunch w/ Ronnie Ron Duo
The Burren Singer-songwriter series with Danielle, 8 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Dick's Last Resort Brian Locher, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Tom Pendergast 9 am-2:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Julia Lloyd, 12 pm.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio, 9 pm, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Watchmaker, Adolf Satan, Defcon 4, Continued Without a Finding, 9 pm, $8.
Midway Café Gold Light Hour.
Milky Way Lee Wilson.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett.
O'Brien's The Atomic Bitchwax, the Howl, $6.
Plough and Stars Flexible Flyer String Band, 5-7:30 pm; Hot Tamale Brass Band, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday jazz brunch with Steve Rochinski, 10 am, no cover.
Sanders Theatre Christmas Revels, 1 and 5 pm, $20-$42.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12 pm, no cover; Marty Ballou Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Anders Parker, Sparrowhawk, $8.
Zeitgeist Gallery Vardan Ousepian Trio, 7 pm, $10; Boston Jazz Composers Collective, 9:30 pm, $7.
ZuZu Central Square Hay Ride with Two-Timin' 3, 10 pm, no cover.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20

The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's open mike, 8 pm; Timothy Mason, 9:30 pm.
Club Passim Arabesque, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Lizard Lounge Sara Sween, Little Joe, 7 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: OSB, Laura Glyda Band, Hooker Street Band, the Soupbone Throne, 9 pm, $8.
Midway Café Midway Groove Thang.
O'Brien's Ascendancy, Anoxia, Rasing Kubrick, the Nightmare Continues, $6.
Paradise Lounge: Open mike night, 6 pm, $5.
Plough and Stars Dig in the Dirt Band, 9:30 pm.
Tír na nÓg Christian McNeil & Co.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Other Side of the Bear: Dan Rogers, $3.
Zeitgeist Gallery Theresa Perez & Friends, 7 pm, $7; the Circadian Rhythm Kings, 9 pm, $5.
ZuZu Cassette and the Westward Trail, 10 pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21

The Black Rose Sundays Well, 9:30 pm.
The Burren Open mike with Hugh McGowan, 8 pm.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm; Flynn Cohen & Tony Watt, 10 pm.
Club Passim Open mike with Danielle Miraglia, 7 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Pat Funk, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Harpers Ferry Toussaint & the China Band, 9 pm, $5.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Johnny D's Old Time Music Night Xmas show, 8:30 pm, $8.
Kennedy's Midtown Michael Larson.
Lizard Lounge Carla Ryder Band, 7:30 pm; Boston Undercover, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Last Born, Stock 7, Panacea, Down II Zero, 9 pm, $8.
Midway Café Donna Parker.
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 7:30 pm.
O'Brien's Smogmonster, $6.
Paradise Lounge: All Star Cabaret with John Powhida, 8 pm, $7.
Plough and Stars Josh Lederman, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Artist Showcase, 7:30pm, $7.
Sanders Theatre Christmas Revels, 7:30 pm, $20-$42.
Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Ben Paton & the Most, 7 pm, $7.
ZuZu The Invisible Rays ,Turkish Queen, 10 pm, no cover.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22

Abbey Lounge Auto Interiors, 10:30 pm; Rocket Science, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
The Black Rose Sundays Well, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster.
The Burren Night in Wyoming, 10 pm
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim BCMFest Teaser with Shannon Heaton & 10-Speed Trad, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Music Schmusic, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Fireplace Restaurant James Meranda.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am.
Hennessy's Joe Carson Band.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie.
Lizard Lounge Lisa Bastoni, 7:30, Dennis Brenna Band, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Ska for the Holidays: Kin Django, Mass Hysteria, the Harmonics, Rikki Rock steady, 9 pm, $8.
Midway Café Customer Appreciation Bash wi Dann Russo,
Oak Bar Steve Heck, 7:30 pm.
O'Brien's Sarah Blacker, Omer, the Kyle Meekin Dan Crothers Band, Jason Kalk, Steve Britton, $6.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30 pm.



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Rockers Catch 22 headline a show at Axis December 27.

Ryles Jazz Club Fernando Brandao Quartet, 8:30 pm, $10.
Sanders Theatre Christmas Revels, 7:30 pm, $20-$42.
Tír na nÓg James Christensen.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover
Zeitgeist Gallery Jamie McLaughlin, 7 pm, $7; Leo Stephens' Jazz Report, 9:30 pm, $7.
ZuZu Thru the Keyhole Burlesque Holiday Special, 10 pm, no cover, 21+

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23

Abbey Lounge Vintage Radio, 9:30 pm, $5-$7.
The Black Rose Sundays Well, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster.
The Burren Swingin' Johnsons, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge The Franklin Wilkins Ensemble, 9 pm.
Club Passim Aine Minogue, 8 pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
High Street Grille Little Joe Cook, 9 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7:30 pm, no cover.
Lucky's Lounge Alec MacDougall.
Middle East Upstairs: Kweejeebo, 9 pm, $9.
Oak Bar Jane Potter, 7:30 pm.
PA's U.V. Protection, $5-$7, 21+.
Paradise Lounge: The Bubble Up, 9 pm, $3-$5.
Plough and Stars Brass Roots, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Harlem Gospel Choir, 8 pm, $15.
Sanders Theatre Christmas Revels, 7:30 pm, $20-$42.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover
T.T. the Bear's Place Mr. Airplane Man, the Tampoffs, the Black Clouds, $8.
ZuZu The Scrapple Christmas Special, 11 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24

The Black Rose Sundays Well, 9:30 pm.
Boston Harbor Hotel Jazz series.
The Burren Jim Ambrose, 10 pm
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5 pm
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton, 5 pm
Milky Way Dave Hannon and the Solid Sinners, 10 pm, $8.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover
ZuZu Latin Night with Gian Carlo Buscaglia, 11 pm, no cover.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25

The Black Rose Sundays Well, 9:30 pm.
The Burren Bagboys, 5 pm; Six Shot Brandy, 10 pm.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Reggae Night with Bobie Steelz & Moon
Midway Café Frequency 7.
ZuZu Soul le lu jah, 11 pm, no cover, 21+

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

All-Asia Café Sunday night songwriter series with Christie Leigh, 5 pm, $5.
The Attic The Coalboilers.
Bill's Bar Dub Station.
The Black Rose Sundays Well, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz Brunch with Ronnie Ron Duo.
The Burren Singer-songwriter series with Danielle, 8 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Dick's Last Resort John Erickson, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch Matt Dorko and Larry Kukers, 9 am-2:30 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown Julia Lloyd, 12 pm.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio, 9 pm, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: 18 Wheels of Justice, 9 pm, $8.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett.
Plough and Stars Tom Hagerty & Friends, 5-7:30 pm; Hot Tamale Brass Band, 9:30 pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday jazz brunch with Yoko Miwa, 10 am.
Sanders Theatre Christmas Revels, 1 and 5 pm, $20-$42.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.
Top of the Hub Lee Childs Group, 12 pm, no cover; Bobby Keys Trio, 8 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Cirqu Du Singe Brisé #5 Holiday Special: Best Performers of the Year, 7 pm-12 am, no cover.
ZuZu Central Square Hay Ride, 10 pm, no cover.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27

Axis Catch 22, Punchline, Socratic, Stray Bullets, 6 pm, $13.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's open mike, 8 pm; Chuck Hall, 9:30 pm.
Club Passim Songwriter tribute night: Greg Brown, 7 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Nate Watkins, 7:20 pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Joe Carson.
Lizard Lounge Sara Sweet, Little Joe, 7 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Read Yellow, Sex Positions, Shanghai Valentine, Cocked 'n' Loaded, 9 pm, $8.
Midway Café Midway Groove Thang.
Paradise Lounge: Open-mike night, 6 pm, $5, 18+.
Plough and Stars Beek Rhodes & Jefferies, 9:30 pm.
Sanders Theatre Christmas Revels, 7:30 pm, $20-$42.
Tír na nÓg Christian McNeil & Co.
Top of the Hub Bobby Keys Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Other Side of the Bear, Thea Hopkins, $3.
Zeitgeist Gallery Zygote Nights, 7 pm, $8; Ara Sarkissian Exultation, 9 pm, $5; the Fringe, 10 pm, $10.
ZuZu Frank Morey, 10 pm, no cover, 21+

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28

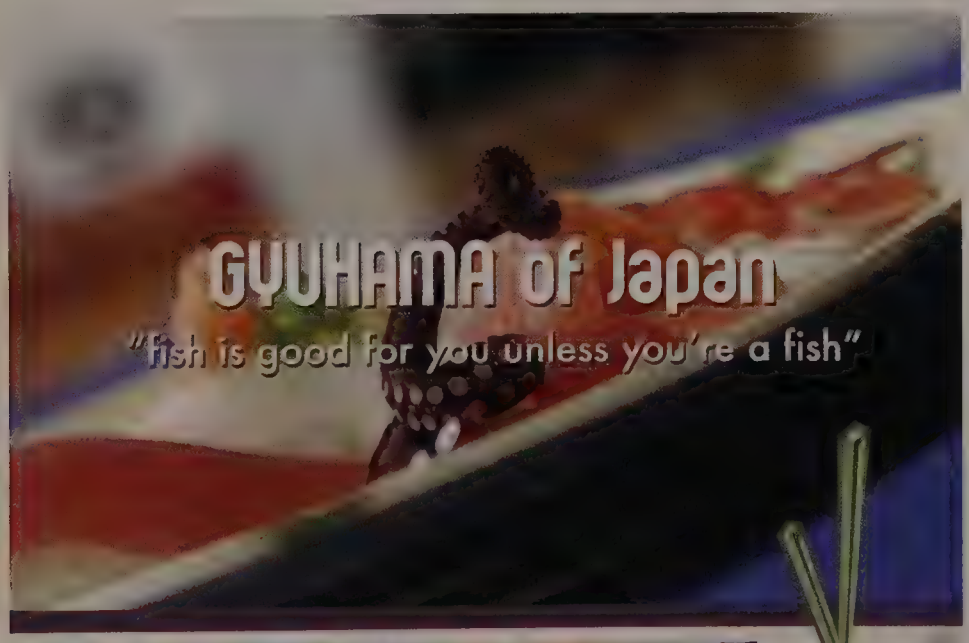
Avalon The Disco Biscuits, 8 pm, $20.25,.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
The Burren Open mike with Hugh McGowan, 8 pm
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8 pm.
Club Passim Open-mike with Julie Rosenthal, 7 pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Pat Funk, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dave Leeb.
Harpers Ferry Strangefolk, 9 pm, $15, 18+.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard.
Kennedy's Midtown Michael Larson
Lizard Lounge Carla Ryder Band, 7:30 pm; Old Dogs/ New Tricks, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Oma, Caspian, the Alienist Outfit, Appomattox, 9 pm, 18+, $8.
Midway Café Donna Parker, 21+
Oak Bar Rebecca Cline, 7:30 pm.
Paradise Rock Club: Sonia Dada, 7 pm, $15.
Plough and Stars Steve Hurl, 8:30 pm.
Regattabar Irma Thomas, 7:30 and 10 pm, $30.
Sanders Theatre Christmas Revels, 3 pm, $20-$42



Happy Holidays, *from our family to yours*

The Staff of Felt







Juliana Hatfield comes to T.T. the Bear's Place December 18.

Tír na nÓg David Johnston Band.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Sam Rosen Quartet, 7 pm, $5.
ZuZu Model A, 10 pm, no cover.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29

Abbey Lounge Rocket Science, 11:30 pm, $5-$7.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster.
The Burren Night in Wyoming, 10 pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9 pm.
Club Passim Regie Gibson, 8 pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Big Time, 7:20 pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Scott Damgaard.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am.
Hennessy's Joe Carson Band.
Harpers Ferry Strangefolk, 9 pm, $15, 18+.
Kennedy's Midtown Michelle Currie.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7:30 pm; Vinyl Skyway, 9:30 pm, no cover.
Middle East Upstairs: Why Versus Rome, Blue Ribbon Envy, On the Surface, Easton Legacy, 9 pm, $8.
Oak Bar Steve Heck, 7:30 pm.
Paradise Rock Club: Benevento and Russo Duo, Mike Gordon, Hopewell, 7 pm, $3-$5.
Plough and Stars Bad Art Ensemble, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Irma Thomas, 7:30 and 10 pm, $30.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Andrew Bergman & Tyler Wood, 9:30 pm-12 am, $7.
ZuZu Minimalist Orchestra and the Heygoods, 10 pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30

Abbey Lounge Vintage Radio, 9:30 pm, $5-$7.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
Bravo at the MFA Ron Poster.
The Burren Swingin' Johnsons, 10 pm
Cantab Lounge Aftermath Blues Band, 9 pm.
Club Passim Ellis Paul, Chad Perrone, 7 pm, $20; Ellis Paul, Flynn, 10 pm, $20.
Dick's Last Resort Hard Drive, 7:20 pm, no cover.
FleetCenter Trans-Siberian Orchestra, 7:30 pm, $30-$51.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
High Street Grille Little Joe Cook, 9 pm.
Kennedy's Midtown John Mansfield.
Lizard Lounge Soul Low, 7:30 pm, no cover; Nikulydin, 9:30 pm, $7.
Lucky's Lounge Alec MacDougall.
Middle East Downstairs: Natural Born Spitters and more, 8 pm, $15-$25. Upstairs: Radar Recordings 2nd Annual End of the Year Bash: On Fire, Seneca, Constants, Harris, Those Who Wait, 9 pm, $9.
Midway Café James O'Brien.
Oak Bar Jane Potter, 7:30 pm.
O'Brien's South Street Band, $6.
PA's Arrogant Bastard, Soupbone Thron, Pi Theta Pi, $5-$7.
Paradise Rock Club: Assembly of Dust, 8 pm, $20.
Plough and Stars The Tint, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Irma Thomas, 7:30 and 10 pm, $30.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Zeitgeist Gallery Sleeping Weather and Valerie Allen, 9:30 pm, no cover.
ZuZu The Debutantes and the Shills, 11 pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31

Abbey Lounge Beefy DC, Clock Stikes Ten, $5-$7.
Asgard Ascension.



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The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 9:30 pm.
The Burren Classic Trax, 10 pm
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9 pm.
Club Passim Ellis Paul, Jason Myles Goss, 7 pm, $25; Ellis Paul, Stuart Ferguson, 10 pm, $25.
Dick's Last Resort Death by Marriage, 8:30 pm, no cover.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am.
Hennessy's Me and Julio.
Johnny D's Presure Cooker.
Kennedy's Midtown Matt Fulton.
Lizard Lounge Fooled by April.
Middle East Downstairs: Darkbuster, Lost City Angels, Road to Ruin, 8 pm, $12-$15. Upstairs: Baby Strange, Aloud, Violator, 9 pm, $10.
Midway Café Lovewhip.
Oak Bar Bill Laughlin Quartet, 8 pm.
O'Brien's The Silver Lining, the Ferns, Punk Monkees, John O'Hara, $8.
Paradise Rock Club: Assembly of Dust, Ryan Montbleau, 8 pm, $20.
Parris The Flavor.
Plough and Stars Irish Seisiun, 6-8:30 pm; Hot Day at the Zoo, 9:30 pm.
Regattabar Nicole Nelson with the David Maxwell Trio, 8 pm, $120.
Ryles Jazz Club Chicken Slacks Soul Revue, 9 pm, $40.
Scullers Jazz Club Chris Botti, 8 pm, $50.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, Maggie Galloway, 8 pm, no cover; the Common Ground Orchestra, 9 pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Emergency Music, the Charms, $10.
ZuZu Gian Carlo Buscaglia, 11 pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Ronnie Ron Jazz Trio, Karen Parker.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1

Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am.
Harpers Ferry The Knot, 9 pm, $18, 21+.
Johnny D's Jazz brunch with Tom Pendergast, 9 am-2:30 pm.
PA's Number Six featuring DJs Colbourne and Sileni, $5-$7, 21+.
Scullers Jazz Club Chris Botti, 8 and 10:30 pm, $30.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

All-Asia Café Sunday night songwriter series with Christie Leigh, 5 pm, $5.
The Attic The Coalboilers.
Bill's Bar Dub Station.
Bravo at the MFA Jazz Brunch with Ronnie Ron Duo.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday Jazz Brunch with Patricia Adams, 10 am, no cover.

MONDAY, JANUARY 3

Zeitgeist Gallery Anul Nou with Katt Hernandez, 9 pm, $5; the Fringe, 10 pm, $10.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4

Axis A Wilhelm Scream, Rise Against, the Explosion, Most Precious Blood, 7 pm, $12.
Club Passim Open mike with Cathy Schumer, 7 pm, $5.
Regattabar The Bad Plus, 7:30 and 10 pm, $25.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Artist Showcase, 7:30pm, $7.
Zeitgeist Gallery Joe Ball, 9:30 pm, $5.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5

Club Passim Carolyn Hester, 8 pm, $15.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am.
Middle East Upstairs: Vision USA Showcase: Medina Sod, Michelangelo, These Thieves, 9 pm, $8.
PA's The Kissers, $5-$7.
Regattabar The Bad Plus, 7:30 and 10 pm, $25.
Ryles Jazz Club Jean-Marie Corrois Band, 9pm, $10.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6

Club Passim Charlotte Kendrick, Amelia White, 8 pm, $12.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am.
High Street Grille Little Joe Cook, 9 pm.
Lucky's Lounge Alec MacDougall.
Regattabar The Bad Plus, 7:30 and 10 pm, $25.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7

Boston Harbor Hotel Jazz series.
Club Passim BCMFest: The Hanneke Cassel Band, Boston Celtic Singers in the Round, Noel Scott & Chris McGrath, 7 pm, $15.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am.
Middle East Downstairs: Throe, Plan B, Lost Cause, My Little Radio, Jonas Complex, 8 pm, 18+ $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Black Sea Salsa Band, 9 pm, $10.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8

Axis Me First and the Gimme Gimmes, 7 pm, $15.
Berklee Performance Center Steve Connolly, 8 pm, $27-$37.
Club Passim Odetta, 7 and 10 pm, $25.
Hampshire House Bobby Wetherbee, 9 pm-12 am.
Harpers Ferry Fast Times, 9 pm, $5.
Middle East Downstairs: Mike Previti, Tommy Dempsey, Common Thrill, 8 pm, $9.
Museum of Our National Heritage Doyle Lawson & Quick Silver.
Regattabar The Bad Plus, 7:30 and 10 pm, $25.
Ryles Jazz Club Wildest Dreams, 9 pm, $10.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9

All-Asia Café Sunday night songwriter series with Christie Leigh, 5 pm, $5.
The Attic The Coalboilers.
Bill's Bar Dub Station.
The Black Rose Sundays Well, 9:30 pm.
Club Passim Kenny White, 8 pm, $12.
Paradise Rock Club: "Hot Stove, Cool Music" benefit for the Jimmy Fund, 6 pm, $35.
Ryles Jazz Club Sunday jazz brunch with Yoko Miwa, 10 am, no cover.

MONDAY, JANUARY 10

Middle East Upstairs: Razorlight, 9 pm, $10-$12.
Milky Way Acoustic Universe open-mike.
PA's The Easter Bloodhounds, My Way My Love, Blue Velvet, $5-$7.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11

Club Passim Open-mike with Kayla Ringelhelm, 7 pm, $5.
Middle East Upstairs: Speak Easy, Haverchuck, 9 pm, $8.
Regattabar Hector Cuevas & The Boston Latin Band, 8 pm, $16.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Artist Showcase, 7:30 pm, $7.

Music Venues

Abbey Lounge *3 Beacon St., Somerville (617-441-9631).*
All-Asia Cafe *334 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-1544). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Asgard *350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-577-9100). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
The Attic *107 Union St., Newton (617-964-6684). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue One *One Avenue de Lafayette, Boston (617-422-5579).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Berklee College of Music *1140 Boylston St., Boston (617-747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Horse Tavern *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bravo @ the MFA *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3473). MBTA: Green Line to Azure.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston Harbor Hotel *70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Breezeway *153 Blue Hill Ave. Roxbury (617-541-5400).*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Fireplace Restaurant *1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square.*
First and Second Church *66 Marborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*

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Forsyth Chapel *Forest Hills Cemetary, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston (617-524-3354).*
The Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Hampshire House *84 Beacon St., Boston (617-227-9600). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harpers Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
High Street Grill *200 High St., Boston (617-266-9095). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Independent *75 Union Square, Somerville (617-440-6022).*
Jacob Wirth *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (617-338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston (617-426-3333). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Kinsale *2 Center Plaza, Boston (617-742-5577). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kresge Auditorium *84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-1000).*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookine (617-232-0188). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green.*
Milky Way *403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center.*
Museum of Fine Arts' Remis Auditorium *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3473). MBTA: Green Line to Azure.*
Museum of Our National Heritage *33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559).*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
Parris *250 Quincy Market Building (617-248-8800). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
PA's Lounge *345 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-776-1557).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-395-7757). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Road, Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Square, Somerville (617-876-4275).*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Boston (617-351-2665). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard.*
Zeitgeist Gallery *1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-876-6060).*
ZuZu *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278).*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15

Boston Camerata

Wellesley Congregational Church, 2 Central St., Wellesley (866-427-2092). www.bostoncamerata.com. 8 pm. $20-$40. The Camerata performs A Mediterranean Christmas, a program that tells the Christmas story using songs, chants and instrumental pieces from Southern Europe.

New England Conservatory Symphony Orchestra

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-424-0900). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Benjamin Zander conducts Tchaikovsky's *Romeo and Juliet Overture* and Mahler's *Symphony No. 1.*

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16

Boston Camerata

Church of the Covenant, 67 Newbury St., Boston (866-427-2092). www.bostoncamerata.com.MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8 pm. $20-$40. Same program as Dec. 15.

Boston Pops

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 and 8 pm. $30-$107. The Boston Pops present their annual Holiday Pops concert.

Handel and Haydn Society

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-266-3605). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $26-$60. Conductor Grant Llewellyn conducts the orchestra in Silent Night: A German Christmas, a program featuring works by Fux, Pachelbel and Schutz.

Longy School of Music

Edward M Pickman Hall, One Follen St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free. Violinist Belinda Yu performs.

New England Conservatory

Brown Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-424-0900). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. NEC students direct the NEC Wind Ensemble and Jordan Winds in works by Beethoven, Stravinsky and Bernard.

New England Conservatory

Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-424-0900). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 7 pm. Free. NEC string students pay tribute to Beethoven with performances of three of his quartets.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17

Boston Boy Choir

St. Paul Church, 29 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-868-8658). www.bostonboychoir.org MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $10-$25. The Boston Boy Choir and the St. Paul Men's Scola present the 42nd annual Festival of Carols, with guest soprano Charlene Dalrymple and the Beacon Brass.

Boston Camerata

First Church, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (866-427-2092). www.bostoncamerata.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $20-$40. Same program as Dec. 15.

Boston Pops

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 4 and 8 pm. $30-$107. Same program as Dec. 16.

Chorus Pro Musica

Old South Church, 645 Boylston St., Boston (617-267-7442). www.choruspromusica.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8 pm. $20-$40. The chorus presents Joyeux Noel, a program featuring French carols and the motets of Francis Poulenc.

Longy School of Music

Edward M Pickman Hall, One Follen St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. Free. Instructor Laurie Monahan leads the Early Music Department in works by Palestrina and Arvo Pärt.

Music at the Immaculate

Jesuit Urban Center, 775 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-536-8440). www.immaculateboston.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 8 pm. Free. The Jesuit Urban Center Choir presents an Advent service of lessons and carols.



Global Gala

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 11 am, 3 and 7:30 pm. $30-$107. Same program as Dec. 16.

Longy School of Music
Edward M Pickman Hall, One Follen St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. George Ogata conducts the Young Perfromers Chamber Orchestra.

Longy School of Music
Edward M Pickman Hall, One Follen St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4:30 pm. Free. Rohan Gregory conducts the Junior Young Perfromers Chamber Orchestra.

Musica Sacra: Christmas Music for Chorus and Brass
First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (617-349-3400). www.musicasacra.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8 pm. $15-$40. Musica Sacra performs the Boston premiere of Gregg Smith's *A Mary Trilogy*, as well as works by Baroque composers Gabrieli, Schutz, Scheidt, Hammerschmidt and Bassano.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-424-0900). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1 pm. Free. The NEC's Preparatory School presents its Winter Festival Concert.

Stambandet
Church of the Messiah Episcopal, 1900 Comm. Ave., Newton (617-527-8505). www.stambandet.org. 7 pm. $9-$15. The Scandinavian vocal enemble performs a program titled Christmas and the Winter Solistice in Sweden.


Hans Graf leads the BSO in a series of January concerts.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19

Boston Boy Choir
St. Paul Church, Harvard Square, Cambridge (617-868-8658). www.bostonboychoir.org MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3:30pm. $10-$25. Same program as Dec. 17

Boston Camerata
Hancock United Church Of Christ, 1912 Mass. Ave., Lexington (866-427-2092). www.boston camerata.com. 3 pm. $20-$40. Same program as Dec. 15.

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 11 am, 3 and 7:30 pm. $30-$107. Same program as Dec. 16.

Chorus Pro Musica
Old South Church, 645 Boylston St., Boston (617-267-7442). www.chorusprомusica.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 3 pm. $20-$40. Same program as Dec. 19.

Emmanuel Music: Bach Cantata Series
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 am. Free. Emmanuel Music presents Bach's cantata BWV 147.

Handel and Haydn Society
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-266-3605). www.handelandhaydn.org. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 3 pm. $26-$60. Same program as Dec. 16.

Longy Chamber Singers
Edward M Pickman Hall, One Follen St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Lorna Cooke de Varon conducts the Longy Chamber Singers' Holiday Concert, featuring works by Bach and Leonard Bernstein.

Longy School of Music
Edward M Pickman Hall, One Follen St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3 pm. Free. Violinist Gabriel

Music
Follen St., Cambridge (617-876-edu. MBTA: Red Line to Har-
ganist Joshua T. Lawton per-
dt, Pärt, Franck and others.

Concert
, 25 Lowell St., Cambridge (617-mbridgemusic.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5 pm. Free. Musicians from the New England School of Music's faculty perform.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-424-0900). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Michael Mucc leads the NEC Massachusetts Youth Wind Ensemble in works by Holst, Purcell, Ives, Arnold, Eugene Bozza and Paul Hart.

Willona Henderson Sinclair Memorial Concert
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway Boston (617-278-5102). www.gardnermuseum.org MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 1:30 pm. $5-$20. Cellist Steven Isserlis and fortepianist Robert Levin perform part two of their program of the complete Beethoven cello sonatas.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 4 and 8 pm. $30-$107. Same program as Dec. 16.

Longy School of Music
Edward M Pickman Hall, One Follen St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. The conservatory's chamber ensembles perform works by Beethoven, Dvorak, Brahms, Prokofiev, Britten, Bartok and others.

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-424-0900). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. Free. David Samour leads the NEC Junior Massachusetts Wind Ensemble in works by Holst, Rimsky-Korsakov, Chance, Berlioz and others.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 4 and 8 pm. $30-$107. Same program as Dec. 16.

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals
King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm. $3 suggested donation. Solo Violinist Lino Tanaka performs original works.

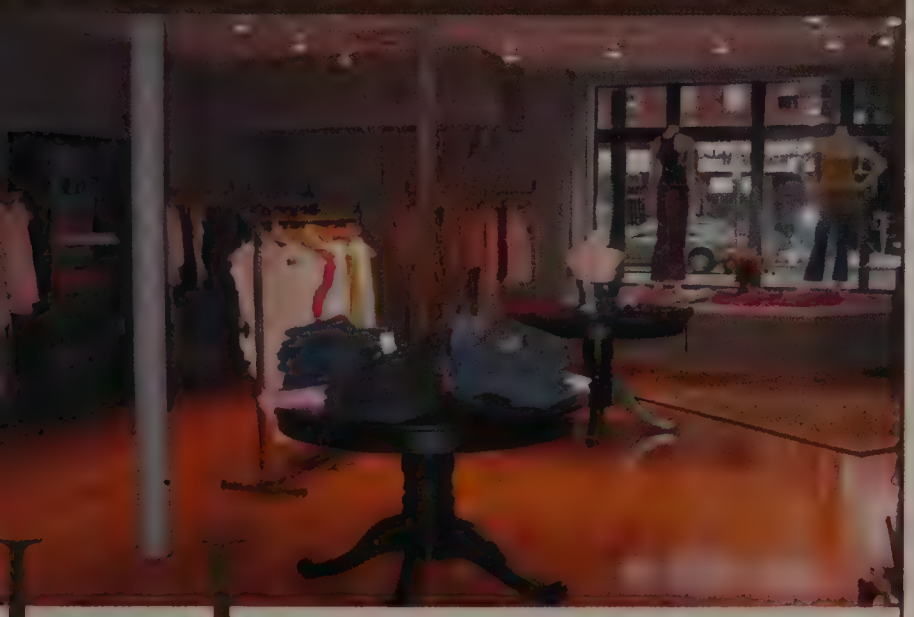
Longy School of Music
Edward M Pickman Hall, One Follen St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). www.longy.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Same program as Dec. 20.

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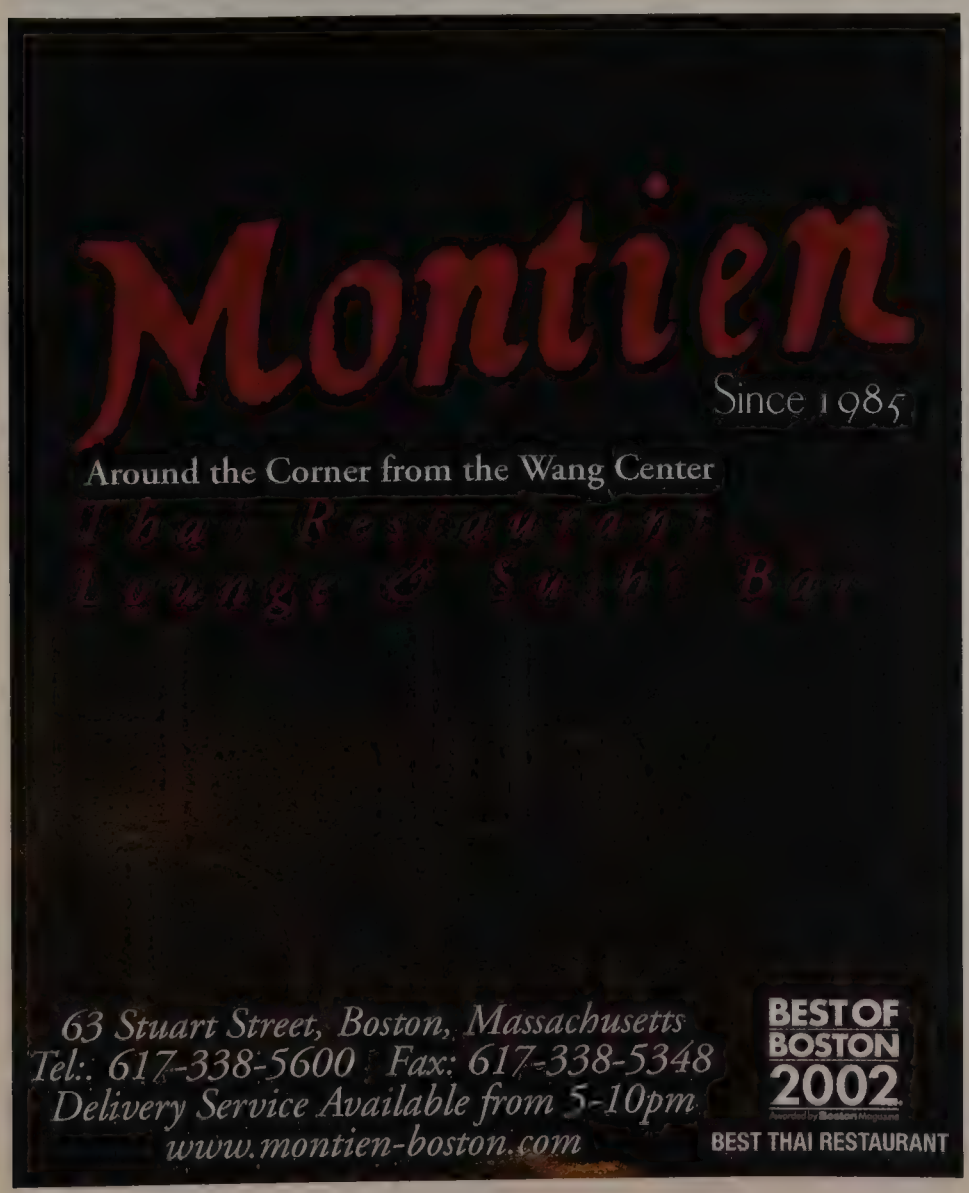
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New England Conservatory
Brown Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston (781-424-0900). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. Free. Students from the NEC's School of Continuing Education perform selected opera scenes.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 4 and 8 pm. $30-$107. Same program as Dec. 16.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 4 and 8 pm. $30-$107. Same program as Dec. 16.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 12 pm. $30-$107. Same program as Dec. 16.

Emmanuel Music: Bach Cantata Series
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 am. Free. Emmanuel Music presents Bach's cantata *Vivaldi Gloria.*

King's Chapel Concert Series
King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 5 pm. $8-$12. King's Chapel celebrates the 40th anniversary of the C.B.Fisk organ with Heinrich Christensen performing works by Anton Heiller, Jon Laukvik, Buxtehude, Gade and Bach.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3 and 7:30 pm. $30-$107. Same program as Dec. 16.

Boston Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-912-9222). www.bostonconservatory.edu MBTA: Green. Line to Hynes/ICA. 8 pm. Free. Pianist Janice Weber performs works by Shostakovich, Brahms, Frank Martin and William Bolcom.

King's Chapel Tuesday Recitals
King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 12:15 pm. $3 suggested donation. Gynsook Byun plays the C.B. Fisk organ.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 4 and 8 pm. $30-$107. Same program as Dec. 16.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $30-$107. Same program as Dec. 16.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $30-$107. Same program as Dec. 16.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $30-$107. Same program as Dec. 16.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 10:15 pm. $30-$107. The Boston Pops present their annual New Year's Eve concert.

Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols by Candlelight
Church of The Advent, 30 Brimmer St., Boston (617-523-2377). www.theadvent.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles. 6 pm. Free. Edith Ho conducts the choir of the Church of the Advent in works by 12 composers including Weelkes, Siegfried, Sheppard and Mendelssohn.


The Boston Pops play their annual New Year concert at Symphony Hall on December 31

King's Chapel First Night
King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). www.kings-chapel.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 9 pm. Free. Heinrich Christensen plays the C.B. Fisk organ.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $27-$95. Hans Graf conducts the orchestra, with flutist Sir James Galway, in works by Paul Hindemith, William Bolcom and Mozart.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$105. Same program as Jan. 6.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $29-$105. Same program as Jan. 6.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9

Emmanuel Music: Bach Cantata Series
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10 am. Free. Emmanuel Music presents Bach's Cantata BWV 58.

Emmanuel Music: Chamber Series
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). www.emmanuelmusic.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 4 pm. $10-$60. Emmanuel Music presents works by Robert Schumann with baritone James Maddalena and pianists Judith Gordon and Craig Smith.

Rashi Auditorium
15 Walnut Park, Newton (617-965-2555). www.newtonsymphony.org. 7pm. $35-$45. The Newton Symphony Orchestra presents Verdi's *Rigoletto.*

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11

Boston Modern Orchestra Project: Club Concerts
Moonshine Room, Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-363-0396). www.bmop.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7 pm. $15. The BMOP continues its informal and interactive concert series hosted by Gil Rose with performances by Sarah Bob on piano, Kate Vincent on viola and Robert Schulz on percussion.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $27-$95. Same program as Jan. 6.

New Year's Eve Luau

Escape to the islands this New Year's Eve!

Party from 9 PM to 2 AM
Open till 3 AM
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New Year's Eve Extravaganza

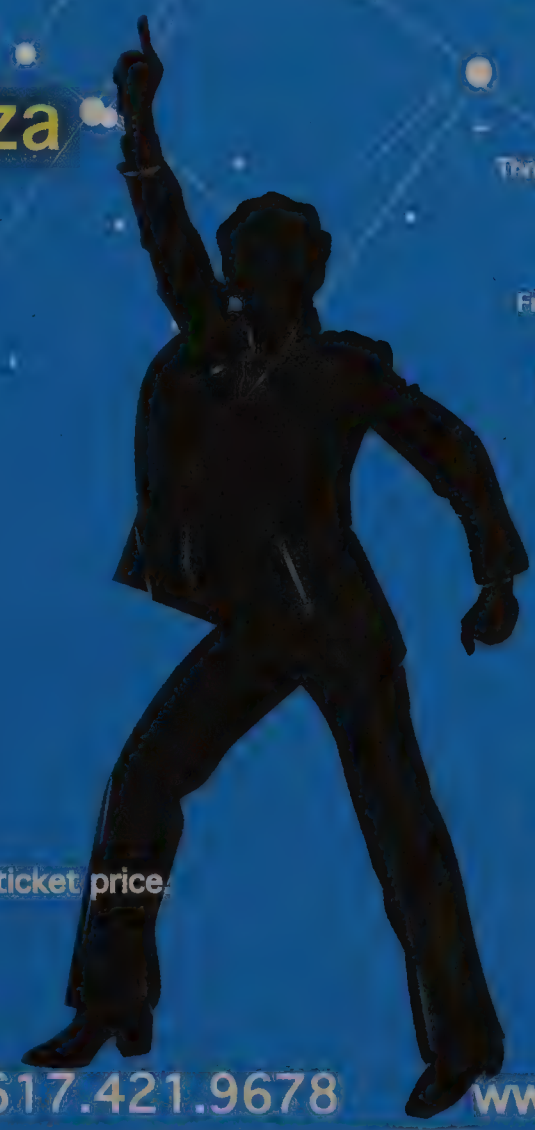
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dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony A night of gothic and industrial music, 9 pm, $3, 19+.

Axis
Static Gay night with DJ Adilson spinning house, 10 pm, $7, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Martini Mondays DJs spin R&B and hip-hop, 5 pm, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Buddha Bar DJ Kamel and DJ Christophe spin a mix of Middle Eastern and international beats, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
Irish Seisiun.

Green Street Grill
Learn to dance salsa, 9:30 pm, $10 ($8 after lesson), 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Makka Mondays Featuring hip-hop, reggae and rap, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Weekly Wax Each week two local DJs hold a musical face-off, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.

Saint
S.I.N. Service Industry Night DJ Tony Moreno spins house, breaks and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aria
Industry Tuesday Dance to hip-hop and R&B.

Boston Rocks
Smooth Groove Tuesday Old-school jams, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Caprice
Le Prize DJs spin funky house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Simone spins hip-hop, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Soul'd Out DJ duo Tommy and Knife spins hits from the '70s and '80s, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Motown, pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Deep Tones DJ Brynmore spins a mix of reggae, soul, funk, trance and acid jazz, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
DJs spin top-40 and dance music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Karaoke with Dana Z, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
DJs spin dance music, 6 pm-10 pm, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Eavesdrop The weekly listening party kicks off at 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Night varies with an assortment of performances and themed events, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Havana Club Latin Dance Night Latin dance night features an assortment of local DJs, 10 pm-1 am, $10.

Venu
MYNT International Tuesdays DJ Eddy Lee spins hip-hop and house. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
Kez McDaddy spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Aria
Lust DJ John Morris spins progressive house for a gay and lesbian dance party, 11 pm, $8, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Hump Rotating DJs spin top-40, hip-hop, R&B and dance music, along with interactive videos, 8 pm, no cover, 21+.



Caprice
DJ Vagellis spins Greek and international tunes upstairs and a live reggae band plays downstairs, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
British Accents Presents Starshape DJ Dave spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Galactic Fractures DJ P.J. Gray spins soul and funk, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
VIP Wednesdays DJ/producer Joe Bermudez hosts live performances every Wednesday and spins house and dance beats. 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
International Wednesdays DJs spin a mix of international music.

The Kells
Get Over the Hump Wednesdays DJ Doc cues up hip-hop, top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Milky Way
Mercury DJs Nomadik and Timmy Allen host a night of soul, funk and house, 9 pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin house and techno, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
School Girl Night DJs spin top-40 music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Wacky Wednesdays Magic with Peter Gross, 6-9 pm, DJ Massi all night, no cover, 21+

Q
Violation Wednesdays Weekly guest DJs spin today's best music, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Star 93.7's DJ Ricky spins dance music, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
The NGP All-Stars spin an eclectic collection of dance and hip-hop, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
Primitive Wednesdays Boogie down to rock-and-roll, gospel and blues, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Rumor
Latino night with DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am.

Saint
Wednesdays Music Series The Brian Walkley Band brings R&B and dance to the main lounge, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Martinez spins salsa, cumbia and merengue on one floor, while DJ Supreme spins a New York lounge set (hip-hop, R&B and rock covers) on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Supper Club
Overtime After-Work Lounge Live jazz and complimentary appetizers, 5-9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
DJs spin house music, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Vertigo
Analogue Lounge DJs Pete Yagmin, Special Pete, Peter Ellis and Greg Blake spin house music, 10 pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared spins techno, top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $3, 21+.

Aria
Fashion House Weekly fashion shows; guest DJs spin vocal house, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men); 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Boston's Biggest College Hip-Hop Night DJs Caprice, Dru Nyce and Gee Spin, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Bill's Bar
Old-School College Night Old-school rap, funk and disco, 8 pm-2 am, 19+.

Boston Rocks
Djs spin pop and dance music, 8 pm-12 am, no cover, 21+.

Buzz
DJ Carlos C spins Latin and salsa music, 10 pm-2 am, $15, 19+

Caprice
Hip Hop & International DJ Pup Dawg spins Indian and hip-hop music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Common Ground
Love Night DJ Brian plays tunes from the '80s, 10 pm, $3, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Steve spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs spin upbeat house and dance, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJ Steve Austin spins R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Enormous Room
Hip-Hop with Hua DJ Hsu spins hip-hop, dance and disco, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ghost spins international house and hip-hop, 1[0] pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Robert Weintraub spins R&B, Mo[town], pop and acid jazz, 8:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
The Jon Frederik Band.

Green Street Grill
Throwdown Thursdays The Toussaint Band play[s] reggae, funk, no cover, 21+.

The Harp
DJ Lou spins, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Jose McIntyre's
Live band, 6 pm; DJ Massi, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Kells
The Fun House DJ Edgar and DJ Kieran spin danc[e] tunes and hip-hop, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Misha spins the latest tunes including hip-hop[,] R&B, and pop, 21+.

Liquor Store
Ladies' Night KISS 108 and Joe Public host.

Milky Way
Club Thursdays Rotating DJs spin dance music, [$] pm, $3-$5, 21+.

Parris
@ Thursdays DJ Lou, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Elements DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass with special guests, 10 pm, $5, 19+; $3, 21+.

The Place
DJ Garrett spins top-40 and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+

The Purple Shamrock
Jim Plunkett and friends perform live, 9 pm, $[3] 21+.

Q
Hip-Hop Thursdays DJ Craig Smooth spins hip-hop all night long, 9 pm, $5 (ladies free), 21+.

The Rack
Exotic Midnight Brazilian night with music and samba dancing, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
Reunion Thursdays The NGP All-Stars spin part[y] classics, 10 pm-2 am, no cover 21+.

River Gods
For Real, Too Reel DJs Dali, Ross and Paul spin [a] mix of electro, funk and '80s flashback, 9 pm, [no] cover, 21+.

Rumor
DJs Roger M. and J.C. spin, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Temporada Latina A night of salsa lessons and dancing, 8:30 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Saint
Deja Vu DJs and weekly guest hosts spin lounge music, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ DonRico spins salsa, merengue and Latin pop and DJ Tegrem spins downtempo retro international, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Sugar Shack
The Fun House Rotating DJs spin the hottest hip-hop, 10 pm, cover varies, 18+ with college ID.

Toast
Ladies Night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Nu-Lite Hip-hop and house music, 11 pm, $15 19+.

Vertigo
Total Recall Dance to classic disco, funk, soul and rock from the '60s, '70s and '80s, 5-10 pm, no cover

West Street Grille
Old-School Thursdays DJ Matty D spins old-school hip-hop and funk, 10 pm-2 am, no cover 21+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
TGIF DJ Seano 5-9 pm; DJ David spins hip-hop, progressive tech and funky house, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
Superlovers DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 from the '70s, '80s and '90s, $5 after 10:30 pm, 21+.

Aria
DJs spin Latin, international house, hip-hop and R&B, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men); 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Avaland International DJs spin house, 10 pm, $15 19+.

The Avenue
DJ Canyon Cody spins hip-hop and top-40, 9pm-[2] am, no cover, 21+.

Axis
Flavor Fridays DJ Mastermillions, 10 pm, $15 19+.

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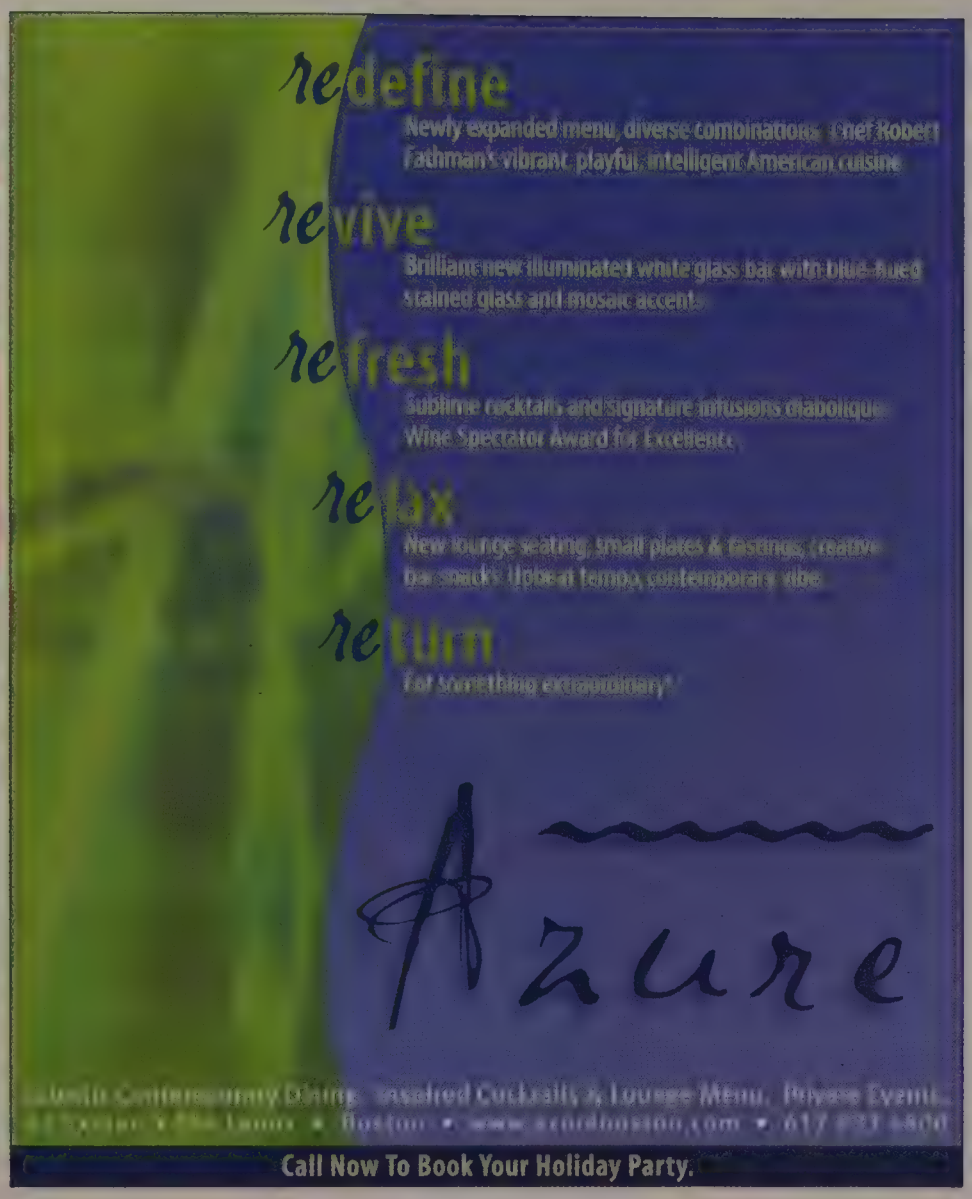
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Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover bands, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Fridays at the Loft 6one7 Productions presents a night of local DJs spinning top-40, dance and hip-hop tunes, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Caprice
DJ Kamal spins a mix of international, Latin and house music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Club Europa
Twist DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s for the lesbian crowd, 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+, after 11 pm.

Coogan's
DJ Tom spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Cosmopolitan
European Night DJs play a diverse mix of Euro-style music, 10 pm- 2 am, no cover.

Devlin's
DJ Steve plays house and old-school music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
The Pill DJ Ken spins Brit-pop, indie, mod and '60s on the second floor, 10 pm, 21+.

Embassy
Persuassion DJ Sun One spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Enormous Room
All-Stars Have Eyes Guest DJs spin everything from hip-hop and house to funk and soul, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
After-work live jazz, 6-9 pm. KISS 108's Romeo hosts and DJs spin high-energy dance, hip-hop and top-40, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ Joe Angirsano spins '70s, '80s, '90s and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJ Gabe spins.

The Harp
Friday Night Vibe JAM'N 94.5's DJ Krazy Kulo spins downstairs, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •Dec. 17: Peatmoss.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ spins classic beats, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before 10 pm, 21+.

I/D
Bashment Fridays DJ Illibash spins reggae, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJs Big Daddy spins, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Cadillac spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B, and pop, 21+.

The Kells
Ladies Night DJ Doc spins top-40, R&B and dance while DJ Kieran spins '80s and '90s favorites, 9 pm, $5, ladies free before midnight, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ Adilson of Roxy Saturdays spins high-energy house and DJ Steve Spinelli plays top-40 and hip-hop, 9 pm, $10, 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
DJ Mark Estrada spins soul, funk, downtempo and hip-hop, no cover.

The Modern
Ego DJ Glenn, 10 pm, $20, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Reggaeton: Spanish reggae music, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies, free; men, $5 before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.•**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Rio** DJ Donnie Bennett spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $10, 21+; $15, 18+. •**Rockpile** Rotating bands perform, 9 pm, ladies free before 11:30 pm; $12, 18+; $8, 21+.

Parris
DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+. •Dec. 17: Darik & the Funbags. •Dec. 31: Flavor.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Greg spins top-40 and '80s hits, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

The Place
Hang out with VJ Laptop as he spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, and enjoy Boston sports video highlights, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Purple Shamrock
Hip-hop with DJ Buddah, 10 pm, $5.

Q
DJ Massi plays hip-hop and top-40, 21+.

The Rack
DJ Mike Bowes, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Redline
Rodney Marable and Craig Kaplow spin house, 8 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Diversion DJ Erik spins a mix that includes neo-soul, mellow techno and scuzzy disco, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
DJ Val Beatz spins hip-hop, top-40, R&B and reggae, 10 pm, $20, 18+; $15, 21+.

Rumor
Lounge 54 DJs spin hip-hop, reggae, R&B and old-school, 9:30 pm, $15, ladies free before 11 pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins Latin house and Latin dance on one floor while DJ Franklin spins international on another, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Spin
Red Martinis Live jazz, 6-10 pm, $5 after 9pm, 21+.

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The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss plays hip-hop and dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Toast
DJs spin mixed beats all night, 8 pm-1 am, $5.

Venu
Roomba DJ Tarek Antabi spins international house while DJ Roger M kicks things up with a Latin vibe. Jacket required, 11 pm, $15, 21+.

Vertigo
International Fridays DJ Luca spins house, R&B, Latin and international, 10 pm-2 am, 21+.

West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
Old-school house with DJ Steve, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ G Squared mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
International Saturdays Guest DJs spin high-energy vocal house and hip-hop, 11 pm, $15, 21+ (men), 19+ (women with college ID).

Avalon
Tease Saturdays Resident DJ Rick Naples performs along with international guest DJs, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

The Avenue
DJ Murray spins hip-hop, 9 pm, 21+.

Axis
Seductive Saturdays DJ Jin spins hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 19+.

Big Easy Bar
Celebrate Mardi Gras with DJ Matt Phipps spinning top-40, hip-hop and '80s, along with cover bands, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Bill's Bar
Live cover band followed by DJ Ren Justice, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.

Boston Rocks
Shotgun Saturdays Cover bands perform, 9-11 pm. DJs presents top-40 dance and hip-hop interactive video shows till 2 am, $5, 21+.

Buzz
The gay crowd gets busy with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Caprice
Masai-Latin International Lounge DJ Franklin creates a lounge atmosphere with international, Latin and house sounds, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Clerys
DJ Rhythm Nights, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Coogan's
DJ Craig spins a mix of dance favorites, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Devlin's
DJs Dan Spurling and Chris Deorio spin dance and house, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.

Dockside
DJs spin R&B, reggae and hip-hop, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Ekco Lounge
Hollywood Women's night, with two floors of hip-hop and house music. DJ MixMistress spins upstairs, 10 pm, $8, 21+.

Embassy
Essence DJs Ed and Sal, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Enormous Room
Reverberate Mark Estrada spins current and classic hip-hop, $3, 10 pm-2 am.

Felt
DJ Ricky Fatts spins and KISS 108's Romeo hosts hip-hop, house and dance, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Golden Temple
The E Room DJ John Reed spins retro favorites, disco, Motown and the latest top-40, hip-hop and vocal house, 9:30 pm, 21+.

Green Briar
Live music every Saturday night.

Green Street Grill
House band Kilombo Mambo performs at 11:30 pm, $5, 21+.

Gypsy Bar
DJ Felix Cutillo spins an eclectic blend of dance music.

The Harp
DJ Lou is downstairs and DJ Rowdy B is upstairs with hip-hop, R&B and top-40, 10 pm, $10, 21+. •Dec. 18: Peatmoss.

Hurricane O'Reilly's
DJ Ryan Bis spins top-40, dance and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

I//D
Identity Crisis Dance to an eclectic mix of rock and top-40, 10 pm, $15, 19+.

Jose McIntyre's
DJ Dennis McCarthy cues up top-40, R&B and hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Darren Drag spins dance, R&B and top-40, while downstairs DJ Kieran plays top-40, 9 pm, $6, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Ring spins the latest tunes including hip-hop, R&B, and pop, 21+.

Level
•**Red Square Russian Lounge** DJ Albertik spins Russian and international music on the third floor, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •**Suspended Saturdays** DJ Peter D and DJ Rob D spin mainstream, vocal house, travel and funk music on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.

Liquor Store
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and rock, $5.

Matrix/Paradise City
DJ spins '80s, '90s, hip-hop and rock, 10 pm, $8, 21+, $15 for ladies 18+.

McGann's
DJs spin dance beats, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Middlesex Lounge
Stickman Productions presents golden era hip-hop, no cover.

Milky Way
Mango's Latin Dance Night DJ Antonio Ortiz spins merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10 pm, $10, men; $5, women (women admitted free before 10:30); 21+.

The Modern
Material DJ Dru Nyce plays hip-hop, 10:30 pm, $15, 19+.

The Palace
•**The Beach House** Classic party music and top-40, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Club Copa** Shake it to Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop by DJs Rip Hernandez and Willie D, ladies, free; men, $5 before 10:30 pm; after 10:30 pm, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**The Male Encounter** New England's longest-running all-male dance revue, doors at 8:30 pm, show runs 9 pm-12:30 am, $25, 18+; $20, 21+. Ladies only. •**Oxygen** DJ Chaos spins a hip-hop mix, $15, 18+; $10, 21+. •**Rio** DJ Alex D. spins mainstream hip-hop in a Brazilian atmosphere, $15, 18+; $10, 21+.

Parris
•DJ at 8 pm, band at 10 pm ($5 before 9 pm), 21+. •Dec. 18: Darik & the Funbags.

Phoenix Landing
Boom Boom Room DJ Vinney spins one-hit wonders, '80s new wave and disco, 10 pm, $4, 21+.

The Place
VJ Laptop entertains, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

The Point
Turnstyles Boston's best DJs spin.

The Purple Shamrock
•Dec. 18: Brick Park, 10 pm, $5, 21+.

Q
DJ Josh Profenna spins dance, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Saturday Greatest Hits Party DJ Brian Roche spins, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

Red Line
DJ Cherry spins dance and hip-hop, 10 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.

River Gods
Peer Pressure DJ Unlockedgroove spins modern mixes, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.

Roxy
Dueling DJs DJ Massi and DJ Play each spin their own style of house, progressive and techno music, 9 pm, $15, 21+.

Rumor
DJ Sender spins hip-hop and R&B while DJ J.C. plays house and Latin vibes, 10 pm-2 am.

Ryles Dance Hall
Four on the Floor Latin, tango and salsa dancing, 9 pm-1 am, $8-$12.

Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, $5, 21+.

Sophia's
Resident DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin, international and dance, often joined by live bands and special guest DJs, 10 pm, $10-$15, 21+.

Spin
DJ Anthony Salvatie spins top-40 dance in the front room and DJ Steve Anderson spins retro favorites in the white room, 10 pm, 21+, $5.

The Sugar Shack
DJ Boss blends hip-hop and top-40 dance, 9 pm, $8, 21+.

Tequila Rain
DJ Tim Collins spins top-40, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $5.

Tiernan's
Saturday Night Dance Party DJ Littles spins classic old-school, top-40 and dance, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.

Toast
Curses Wretched Design presents an evening of gothic/industrial music, 9 pm-1 am, $10.

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Venu
Nula DJ JC plays Latin house, and DJs Tarek Antabi and Gamble spin house and hip-hop, 11 pm, 19+.
Vertigo
DJ Ron Steele plays R&B, hip-hop and house, 10 pm, $15, 21+.
West Street Grille
Late Night Lounge DJ Joe plays funk and top-40 all night, 10:30 pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

Avalon
Gay Night DJs spin progressive house, trance and techno, 10 pm, $10, 19+.
Bill's Bar
Live reggae with Dub Station, 8 pm-2 am, 21+.
Boston Rocks
DJs spin hip-hop, 9 pm, $5, 21+.
Buzz
Brazilian night features DJ Adilson, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 19+
Caprice
DJ spins Brazilian music, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
Devlin's
Industry Night DJ Paul Dailey plays mixes and remixes, 9 pm-1 am, no cover, 21+.
Ekco Lounge
Hip-hop downstairs, karaoke upstairs, 10 pm, $5, 21+.
The Enormous Room
Revolutions A night of electronic music, $3, 11 pm-3 am.
Green Street Grill
Live Middle Eastern music with belly dancing, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Level
Rotating DJs spin Latin and international on the third floor and hip-hop, reggae, R&B and house on the fourth and fifth floors, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.
Milky Way
Satellite A lesbian night featuring DJ Dee, with dance music, amateur drag contests and films, 9 pm, cover varies, 21+.
Phoenix Landing
Bump This house-music night has a rotating roster of local and international guest DJs, 10 pm, $5, 19+.
The Place
Chad Lamarsh appears with VJ Leathers, 10 pm, no cover, 21+.
The Purple Shamrock
DJ Thom spins top-40 beats, no cover, 21+.
Q
Reggae with Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe.
The Rack
DJ Mike Janedy spins dance and top-40, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
Red Line
Sunday Dubby Sunday DJ Brynmore and guests spin reggae-style music, 9 pm-1 am, no cover 21+.
River Gods
Action Sunday DJs play punk, garage and classic rock-and-roll, 9 pm, no cover, 21+.
Ryles Dance Hall
Wepa Salsa Sundays The second and fourth Sunday of each month, DJ Nik and DJ Hernan play salsa music, 6-10 pm, $12.
Saint
Spice Sundays Manos and Christophe host a night featuring Latin and International grooves, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+.
Sissy K's
Ramu and the Crew, 9 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+.
Sophia's
DJ Ricky Fatts spins rock, retro and hip-hop, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Tiki Room
Reggae Sundays Sunday night reggae features Dub Station and DJ D-Kon, 10 pm, $10, 21+.
Toast
DJs wind down the weekend with chill hip-hop and Brazilian beats, 8 pm-1 am, $5.
Venu
Carnivale comes to Boston with this Brazilian night as DJ Leandro spins, 11 pm, $15, 19+.
Vertigo
Haitian Connection DJ Deville spins reggae and world beats, 10 pm, $10, 21+.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Boston Rocks *245 Quincy St., Boston (617-726-1110).*
Buzz *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Circuit Girl *Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., Somerville (617-628-1000).*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-262-9874).*
Club Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415).*
Cosmopolitan *33 Batterymarch St., Boston (617-695-9333).*
Devlin's *332 Washington St., Brighton (617-779-8822).*
Dockside *183 State St., Boston (617-723-7050).*
Ekco Lounge *41 Essex St., Boston (617-417-0186).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Enormous Room *567 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-5599).*
Felt *533 Washington St., Boston (617-350-5555).*
Golden Temple *1651 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-9722).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655).*
Gypsy Bar *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010).*
Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St., Boston (617-722-0161).*
I/D *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
Level *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Liquor Store *The Alley, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4077).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059).*
Middlesex Lounge *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-6739).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-248-9900).*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
The Point *147 Hanover St., Boston (617-523-7020).*
The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060).*
Q *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Redline *59 JFK St., Cambridge (617-491-9851)*
River Gods *125 River St., Cambridge (617-576-1881).*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Rumor *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-943-0656).*
Ryles Dance Hall *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9300)*
Saint *90 Exeter St., Boston (617-236-1134)*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001).*
Spin *1466 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Supper Club *711 Boylston St., Boston (617-437-0002).*
Tequila Rain *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Tiernan's *99 Broad St., Boston (617-350-7077).*
Tiki Room *1 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2580).*
Toast *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211).*
Tonic *1316 Comm. Ave., Brighton (617-566-6699).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-8746).*
The Upstairs Lounge *65 Causeway St., Boston (617-792-3382).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-723-7277).*
West Street Grille *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*
Whiskey Park *64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1483).*

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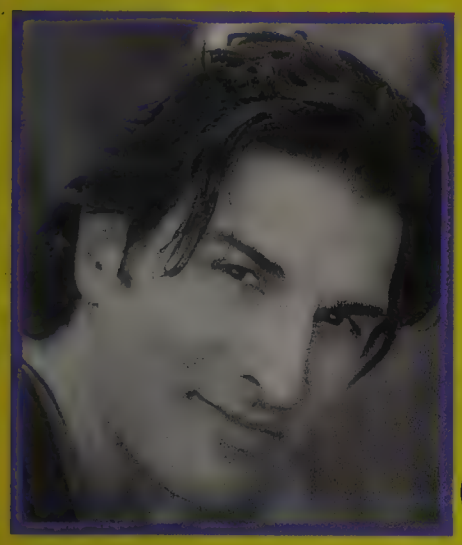
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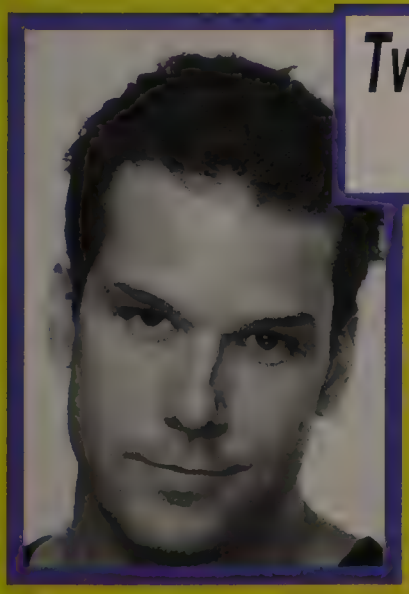
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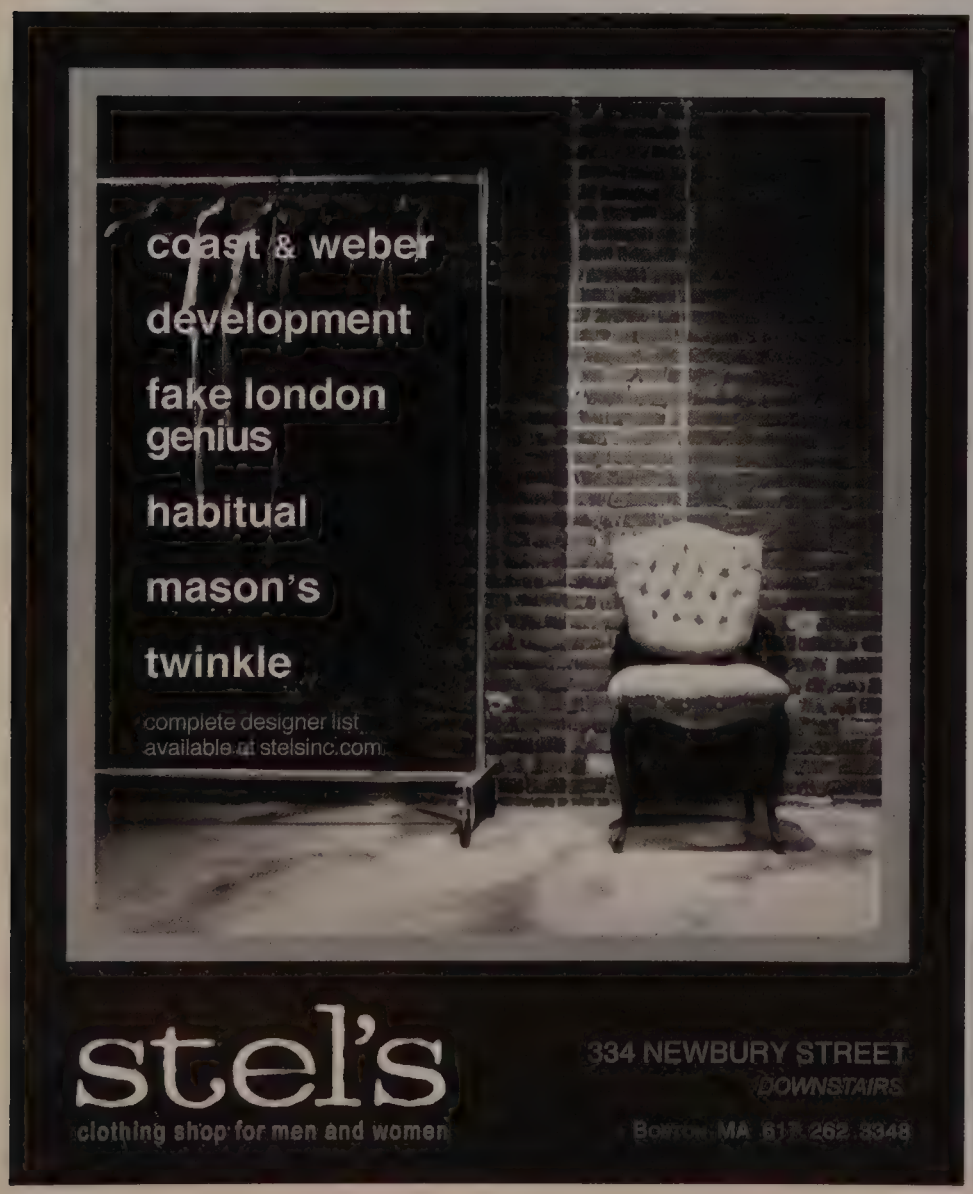


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museums & galleries

Advice to Contributors

Submit gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Galleries. Or e-mail arts@improper.com. Include dates, nearest T stop and phone number. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum

Harvard University, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Marks of Enlightenment, Traces of Devotion: Japanese Calligraphy and Painting from the Sylvan Barnet and William Burto Collection* features more than 70 objects from the 8th through the 20th century, including Buddhist scriptures. Dec. 23-April 17. •*Closely Focused, Intensely Felt: Selections from the Norma Jean Calderwood Collection of Islamic Art* features Persian artwork from the last millennium. Through Jan. 2. •*Masterworks of East Asian Painting* features works on paper and silk from China, Korea and Japan. Through April 13.

Carpenter Center for Visual Arts

24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors. •*Retrospection Under Duress, Reprise* is a solo exhibition of works by Stephen Prina. Through Jan. 7. •*Huyghe + Corbusier: Harvard Project* features a puppet opera, a film and a temporary architectural extension of the Carpenter Center by artist Pierre Huyghe. Through April 17.

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park

51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $9; students and seniors, $6. •Robert ParkeHarrison's *The Architect's Brother* is a five-part exhibition of photographs that contemplate the fate of the planet. Through Jan. 2. •*Luminous Forms: Abstractions in Color Photography* features photographs that focus on color, form and light as their subjects. Through Jan. 2. •*Henry Richardson: Chiseled Orb and Mortal Coil* is an exhibition featuring the artist's large glass sculptures. Through Jan. 2. •*Abstract Elements: The Dr. Beatrice H. Barrett Collection of Art* is a selection of abstract works by regional and international 20th-century artists. Through July 31.

Fogg Art Museum/Busch-Reisinger Museum

32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sat., 10 am-12 pm. •*Dependent Objects* displays multidimensional works by German artists that both defy and embrace the concepts of object and sculpture in art. Through Jan. 2. •*Prints: System, Style and Subject* is a history of printmaking and graphic systems. Through Jan. 30. •*Extra Ordinary Every Day: The Bauhaus at the Busch-Reisinger* is an online exhibition that can be accessed at www.artmuseums.harvard.edu/sites/eoed. Through 2005. •*Rococo Religion: Four Objects from the Collection* is an ongoing exhibit. •*To Students of Art and Lovers of Beauty: Highlights from the Collection of Grenville L. Winthrop* is an ongoing display of 19th-century art. •The exhibits *Basic Research: A Selection of Postwar German Painting and Sculpture* and *The Figure in French Sculpture 1780-1900* are ongoing. •*Highlights from the Carpenter Center Photography Collection* are on display through March 20.

French Library and Cultural Center

53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Thu., 10 am-6 pm; Fri. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. Free. •Local artist Susan Stone presents an exhibition of portraits using watercolor, oil, pastel and silverpoint media. Through Jan. 4.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $6.50; students and seniors, $5; free Sun., 9 am-12 pm. •*Origins: Life's First Three Billion Years* explores the evolution of life on Earth through paleontological, molecular-biological and geochemical research. Through April. •*The Glass Flowers* features the Ware Collection of glass models of plants, including more than 830 plant species, by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Ongoing. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* showcases the museum's collection of fine jewelry and rough tourmalines. Ongoing.

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed. and Fri., 12-5 pm; Thu., 12-9 pm; Sat. and Sun., 11 am-5 pm. Free admission Thu. after 5 pm. $7; students and seniors, $5. •*Boris Mikhailov: A Retrospective* features more than 500 photographs by the Russian photographer. Through Jan. 2. •*Momentum 2/Lucy McKenzie* is an exhibition of new pop culture–inspired works. Through Jan. 2.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5 pm. $10; seniors, $7; students, $5; members, patrons named Isabella and those under 18 free. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30 pm. •*Holiday Table* is an annual installation inspired by Isabella Stewart Gardner's holiday dinner parties. Through Jan. 9. •*Off the Wall: New Perspectives on Early Italian Art at the Gardner Museum* is an exhibition of works by Giotto, Giuliano da Rimini and Fra Angelico. Through Jan. 9. •The permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative pieces, including works by Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and Degas. •Elaine Reichek's embroideries depicting Biblical images borrowed from Dürer, Michelangelo and other artists display online in the virtual exhibition *Madam I'm Adam*. Ongoing.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum

Columbia Point, Boston (617-514-1643). www.jfklibrary.org. MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $8; seniors and students $6; children ages 13-17 $4; children 12 and under admitted free. •In honor of this election year, *Campaign!* is an exhibition following JFK's nomination, campaign and inauguration, from 1960-61. Through Jan. 20.

MIT List Visual Arts Center

20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). http://web.mit.edu/lvac. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm; Fri., 12-8 pm. The museum's permanent collection includes more than 1,500 contemporary art works including paintings, murals, sculptures, photography and prints. •*Body Parts: A Self-Portrait by John Coplans* includes black-and-white images of Coplans' aging body and a series of large photographs completed before the artist's death. Through Dec. 31. •*Cerith Wyn Evans: Thoughts unsaid, now forgotten...* is an installation by the Welsh artist. Through Dec. 31. •*Yael Bartana: Three Works* is an exhibition of three short videos focusing on everyday life in Israel. Through Dec. 31.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri. 10 am-5 pm; weekends 12-5 pm. $5; students and seniors, $3; children, $1. •*The Art of Structural Design: A Swiss Legacy* highlights Swiss influences in 20th-century architecture. Through Dec. 30. •The interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* explores student life over the past 150 years. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays selections from the world's largest hologram collection. Ongoing. •*Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* features the artist's strobe photography. Ongoing. •*Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson* features works by the self-described cross between "a mechanical engineer and a choreographer." Ongoing.

Museum of Afro-American History

46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm. •*Visual Stories: The Artwork of James Ransome* features paintings depicting important moments in black history. Through Dec. 31. •*The Times We Had* is an ongoing exhibition spotlighting Boston's African-American community of the 19th century. •*Building on a Firm Foundation* is a 17-minute multimedia presentation that looks at 19th-century Beacon Hill through the eyes of an African-American teenager. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-9:45 pm; Sat.-Tue., 10 am-4:45 pm. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, only the West Wing is open. $15; students and seniors, $13; children 17 and under, free. Thu. and Fri. after 5 pm, admission is reduced by $2. Wed., 4-9:45 pm, admission is free (doesn't include special exhibitions). •*Art Deco: 1910-1939* features more then 240 works, including furniture, textiles, ceramics, fashion

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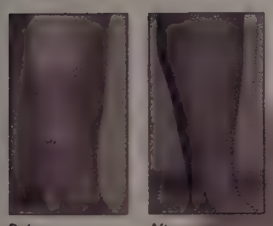
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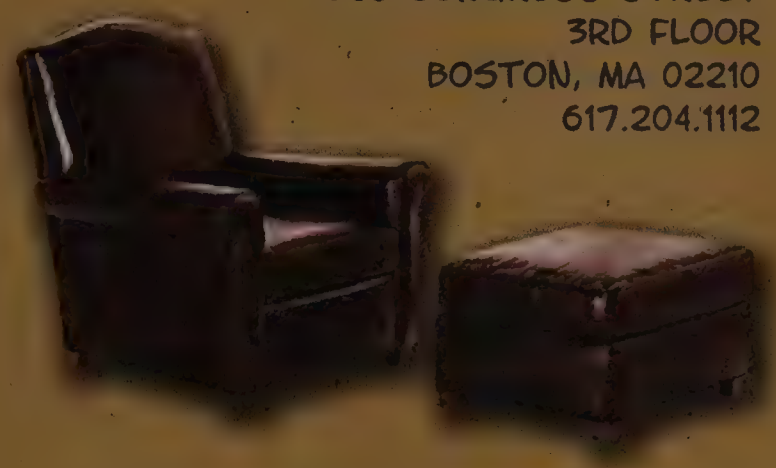
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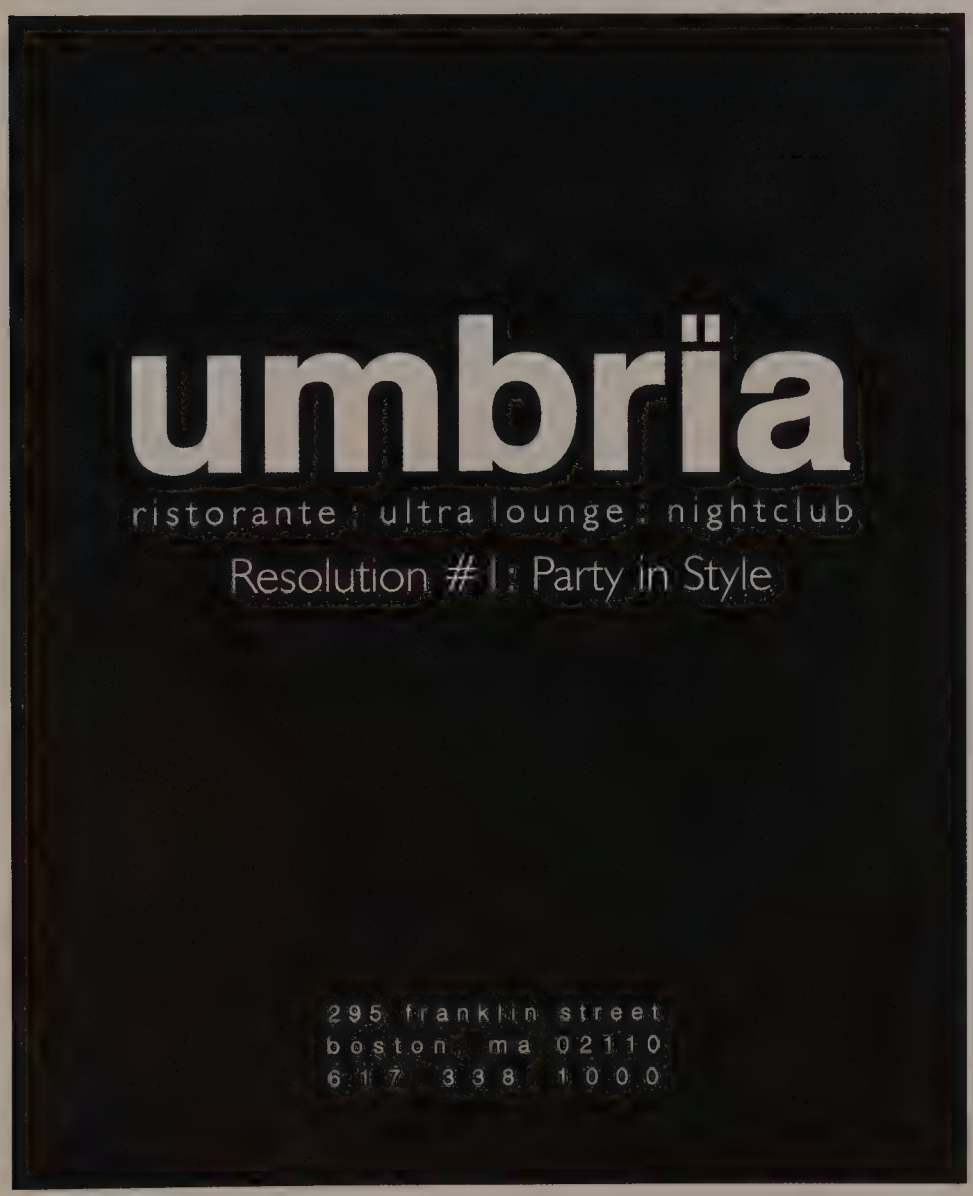


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Joanne Mattera's triptych *Ruby Road*, at Arden Gallery through December 30

and jewelry. Through Jan. 9. •*Josef Sudek: Poet with a Camera* is an exhibition of the Czech photographer's landscapes, still lifes and architectural photos. Through Jan. 17. •*Cerith Wyn Evans* is an installation of seven chandeliers flashing Morse code. Through Jan. 30. •*High Style and Hoopskirts: The 1850s* features mid-19th-century men's and women's clothing. Through March 13. •*18th Century French Royal Furniture from the Swan Collection* features the only complete set of 18th-century French royal furniture in the United States. Ongoing. •*Arts of the Colonial Americas* displays historical American masterpieces. Ongoing.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13; seniors, $11; children, $10. •*Strange Matter* features 10 "experience pods" that explore the use of everyday materials in cardiac surgery, space exploration and more-common events. Through Jan. 2. •*Roar: Lions of the Kalahari* explores vast and harsh African landscapes and the day-to-day life and power struggles of the Kalahari lion. Through Feb. 17. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models*, an interactive exhibition, features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing.

National Heritage Museum

33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). www.monh.org. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. Free. •*Deep Inside the Blues: Photographs by Margo Cooper* features 38 black-and-white photographs taken by Cooper over the past 10 years during her travels through the Mississippi Delta. Dec. 18-June 15. •*A Changing World: New England in the Photographs of Verner Reed, 1950-1972* displays through Jan. 2. •Learn how mail-order catalogs revolutionized American shopping in *Satisfaction Guaranteed*. Through Feb. 6. •*Western Pursuit of the American Dream*, a compilation of artifacts and sculpture from the American West, shows through April 24. •*The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden* is ongoing. •*Lexington Alarm'd*, an exhibition of 18th-century local history, is ongoing. •*Made in Massachusetts* features household objects from the past three centuries. Ongoing. •*To Build and Sustain: Freemasons in American Community* is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, Salem (978-745-1876). www.pem.org. Daily, 10 am-5 pm. $13; seniors, $11; students, $9; children 16 and under and residents of Salem, free. •*Havana: Photographs by Robert Polidori* features 18 large-scale photographs. Through Jan. 9. •*Bringing Japan to Boston* features Japanese artifacts from the Edward S. Morse Collection. Through April 30. •*Carved by Nature* displays ancient Chinese wood carvings. Through June 2005. •*In Nature's Company* is an exhibition of nature-inspired works by 20 Massachusetts artists. Through Sept. 18. •The only installation of its kind in North America, *Yin Yu Tang* is a Chinese merchant's home from the late Qing Dynasty, relocated and reconstructed. Ongoing.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology

11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-496-1027). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; seniors and students, $6; children, $5. •*Field Photography, The Marsh Arabs of Iraq, 1934* features 34 prints of Arab tribes in the marshlands of southern Iraq. Through Feb. 28. •*Bringing Japan to Boston: the Edward S. Morse Collection* is a rare display of Japanese artifacts collected from 1877-1879. Through April. •*Imazighen! Beauty and Artisanship in Berber Life* features 20th-century artifacts by North Africa's Berbers. Through June 30. •*Painted by a Distant Hand: Mimbres Pottery from the American Southwest* features artifacts from New Mexico's Swarts Ranch Ruin. Through June. •*From Nation to Nation: Examining Lewis and Clark's Indian Collection* features Native American artifacts from the explorers' journey. Through December 2005. •*Distinguished Casts: Curating Lost Monuments* features the museum's large Mesoamerican cast collection. Ongoing. •*Hall of the North American Indian: Change and Continuity* features art depicting the response of Native Americans across the continent to the arrival of Europeans. Ongoing. •*Encounters with the Americas* is an ongoing exhibition featuring original sculpture and plaster casts of Mesoamerican cultures. •*Pacific Islands Hall*, another ongoing exhibition, displays artifacts from the Pacific Islands.

Galleries

FINE ART

Acme Fine Art

38 Newbury St., Boston (617-585-9551). www.acmefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Teachers and Students* includes works by Edwin Dickinson, Blanche Lazzell, Hans Hofmann, Lillian Orlowsky, Jim Forsberg and others. Through Dec. 23. •*Towards Geometric Abstraction* is a show of works by Michael Loew. Jan. 6-Feb. 5.

Alianza Gallery

154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). www.alianzagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*The Accessories Show* features functional and nonfunctional interpetations of clothing accessories. *The Jewelry Show* features works by four New England artists. Through Dec. 31.

Alpha Gallery

14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Thu., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Scott Prior shows landscapes, interiors and still lifes. Through Jan. 5.

Arden Gallery

129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Joanne Mattera shows new panel paintings. Through Dec. 30. •Tom Paiement shows mixed-media work in *Acoustical/Visual Resonance*. Jan. 4-30.

Artana

1378 Beacon St. Suite B, Brookline (617-879-3111). www.artanagallery.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Tue.- Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Thu., 10 am-7 pm. •*Holiday Group Show* features 40 new paintings. Through Jan. 15.

Art Attack

108 Beacon St., Boston (617-441-3833). www.artattack108.com. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Tue.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •Caleb Sonik displays graffiti art inspried by Kathmandu and Nepal. Through Jan. 14.

Art Interactive

130 Bishop Allen Dr., Cambridge (617-498-0100). www.artinteractive.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat. and Sun., 12-6 pm. •*Paper Sculpture Show* displays through January. •*Intimachine: The Art of Intimacy, Expectation and Behavior* is a group show of interactive works in various media. Through Jan. 30.

Barbara Krakow Gallery

10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*Anything*

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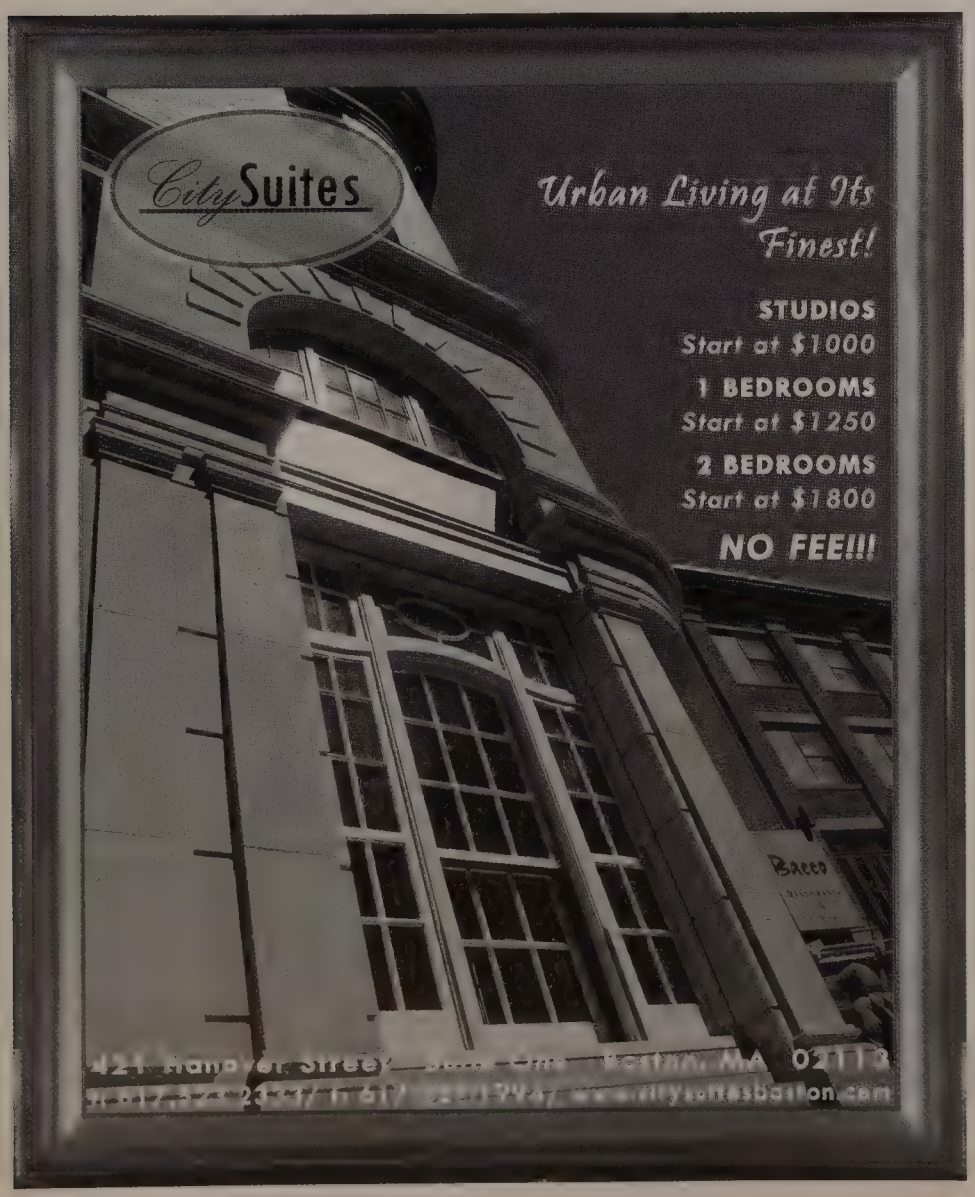
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Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). www.berenberggallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Transitions*, a show of works by Rose deSmith Greenman, displays through Dec. 31. •*New England Self-Taught Artists* is a group show of mixed-media works. Jan. 5-Feb. 26.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •Phil Bergerson shows new photographs. Through Dec. 24. •*Tanja Hollander: New Photographs* shows Jan. 4-Feb. 12.

Boston Sculptors Gallery
486 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-7781). www.bostonsculptors.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-6 pm. •*Paper.Scissors.Sculpture* is a group show of contemporary works by 28 New England sculptors displays Through Dec. 24. •*Unbecoming* features works by Pat Shannon, and *Weightless* features works by Leslie Wilcox. Jan. 4-29.

Brickbottom Gallery
1 Fitchburg St., Somerville (617-776-3410). www.brickbottomartists.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Thu.-Sat., 12-5. •*Affordable Art* is a group show of small works. Through Dec. 15. •*A Certain Journey: Reflections on Lives Passing* is a group show of works by Susanna Darling, Lois Fiore, Riki Moss, Ted Prato and Beverly Sky. Jan. 9-Feb. 13.

Bromfield Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-451-3605). www.bromfieldartgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-5. •The *10 X 10 Holiday Show* displays artwork 10" x 10" or smaller by local artists. Through Dec. 18.

Brookline Arts Center
86 Mammoth St., Brookline (617-566-5715). www.brooklineartscenter.com. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Mon.-Fri. 9 am-4:30 pm. •*The 30th Annual Crafts Showcase* features ceramics, jewlery, metalwork, boutique clothing, woodwork, glass, photography, prints and watercolors. Through Dec. 19. •*Corinne Ulmann, New Paintings and Constructions* features oil paintings and 3-D constructions. Jan. 4-Feb. 4.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). www.cmacusa.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm. •Jamal Elias shows black-and-white portraits of people in Bangladesh in *33-Life Apart*. Through Jan. 6. •Faye Zhang shows calligraphy and landscape paintings in *Word Path*. Through Jan. 7.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm. •Steve Hollinger shows sculpture in *Borrowed Time*. Through Dec. 31. •Bill Brauer shows new work. Jan. 5-29.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9 am-6 pm; Mon. and Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •Three exhibits—*Boston Scenes* (paintings), *Les Petits Tableaux* (paintings) and *We Like It So Much* (prints)—display through Jan. 7.

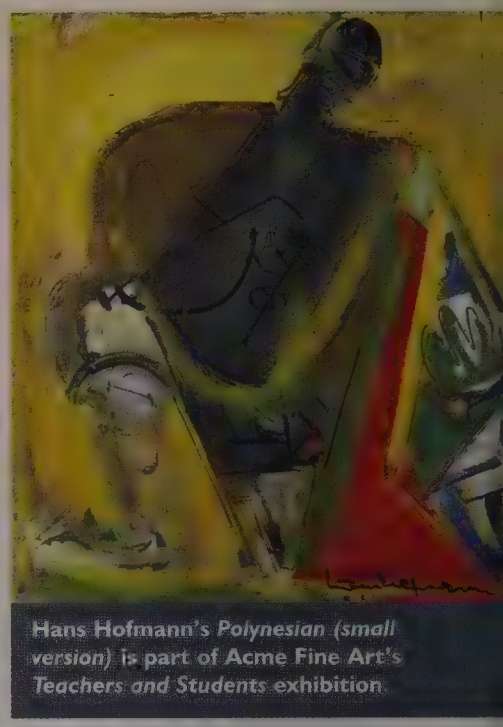
Clifford-Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 300, Boston (617-695-0255). www.cliffordsmithgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sun., 11 am-5:30 pm. •Penn Young shows sculpture.Through Jan. 1.

Copley Society of Art
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •The annual *Small Works* art sale event features more than 1,000 small paintings, sculptures, photographs and prints. Through Dec. 24.

Crump McCole Gallery
200 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-330-1133). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •*Painters of the New Boston* features works by Dan McCole, Norman Crump and other local artists. Ongoing.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9 am-6 pm. •Michael Harlan Domina shows new paintings. Through Jan. 3. •Michael Comina shows abstract works in *Man2Man*. Through Jan. 29.

Equator Gallery
450 Harrison Ave, Suite 201, Boston (857-540-9236). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.equatorgallery.com. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm.



Hans Hofmann's *Polynesian (small version)* is part of Acme Fine Art's *Teachers and Students* exhibition

•The gallery specializes in Latin American fine art including paintings, textiles and ceramics.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10 am-3 pm; Sat., 12-5 pm. •Deborah Bohnert and Jessie Morgan show their work in *Skin*. Dec. 17-Jan. 28.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •An ongoing exhibition of paintings, sculpture and fine prints from the 15th to 20th centuries focuses on Rembrandt, Pissarro, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall.

Gallery AA/B
535 Albany St., Suite 3B, Boston (617-574-0022). www.artadvisoryboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu. and Sat.,12-5 pm; Fri., 11 am-4 pm. By appointment only through January. •*Recent Paintings*, a show of works by Barbara Baum and Vasta Carr, displays through Dec. 18. •*Last Look: 2004 Gallery Artists* shows through January.

Gallery Katz
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 305, Boston (617-423-6328). www.gallerykatz.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Structure* is a group show of photographs by Aaron Siskand Alex MacLean and others. Through Jan. 15.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). www.gallerynaga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •George Nick shows *Ar Artist's Conscience*. Through Dec. 23.

Genovese/Sullivan Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30 am-5:30 pm. •New paintings by David Omar White show through Jan. 3.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.haleysteele.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri. 10 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •The gallery displays 18th- and 19th-century prints Ongoing.

HallSpace
31 Norfolk Ave., Boston (617-989-9985). www.hallspace.org. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay Mon.-Thu., by appointment; Fri. and Sat., 12-5 pm. •Cynthia Von Buhler and Leonie Bradbury show their work in *I Am No Angel*, and Dough Bell shows new work in *Nail to Nail*. Through Jan. 15.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •John Coplans shows self portraits. Through Dec. 24.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). www.internationalposter.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection showcases a variety of vintage posters.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). www.judirotenberg.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •*Fresh from Providence* features new work by Anthony Falcetta and Dave Cole. Through Dec. 30. •Natalie Loveles shows video installation. Jan. 4-11

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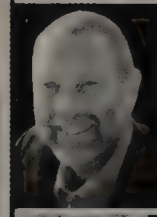
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Judy Ann Goldman Fine Art
14 Newbury St., Bostn (617-424-8468). www.judygoldmanfineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Jill Solsburg-Ackerman shows sculpture. Through Jan. 9.

Kaji Aso Studio
40 St. Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www.kajiasostudio.com. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Tue. and Thu., 4:30-6:30 pm; Sat., 3-5 pm, and by appointment. •*The Annual Holiday Store* features ceramics, paintings, jewelry and prints. Through December.

Kidder Smith Gallery
131 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6900). www.kiddersmithgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •California artist Morgan Carver shows paintings. Through Jan. 15.

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). www.kingstongallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay Station. Tue.-Sat., 12 pm-5 pm and by appointment. •Janet Hansen Kawada displays fiber art works in *The Sisterhood*. Through Dec. 24.

Lanoue Fine Art
160 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4400). www.lanouefineart.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •The gallery's collection features works by international and local artists including Andrew Saftel, Ruth Block, Emil Alzamora and Carrie McGee.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). www.lattitudegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •*Great Gifts, Small Packages* is a group show of works by Cynthia Simonds, Bernice Koff, Jack Charney, Jon Bush, Dick Huss, Rebecca Scott and Sarah Hicks. Through Dec. 31. •A selection of works by gallery artists shows Jan. 1-31.

Mark Gallery
141 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6275). www.markartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Fri. and Sat., 12-6 pm, and by appointment. •*The Gift* features works by 20 artists. Through Dec. 23.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •Daniel Robinson displays his new paintings. Through Dec. 28.

Miller Block Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). www.millerblockgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30-5:30 pm. •Kay Ruane shows graphite drawings in *Lucid Dream*, and Jane Masters shows recent works on paper in *Oops!*. Through Dec. 23. •William Ciccariello and Greg Parker show recent paintings. Jan. 1-Feb. 15.

Mills Gallery
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). www.bcaonline.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed., Thu. and Sun., 12-5 pm; Fri. and Sat., 12-10 pm. •*Cut* is an exhibition of sculpture, painting and drawings by Chris Nau, Randal Thurston and Debra Weisberg. Through Jan. 9.

Mobilia Gallery
358 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-876-2109). www.mobilia-gallery.com. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-6 pm; Sat., 10 am-5 pm. •*Blue Show* displays works in all media, all depicted in various expressions of the color blue. Through Jan. 29.

MPG Contemporary
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-8881). www.mpgallery.net. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Prints and Drawings*, a group show of works by eight area artists, shows Through Dec. 21.

NAO Project Gallery
535 Albany St., Boston (617-451-2977). www.naoprojectgallery.info. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Sat., 12-5 pm and by appointment. •Debra Weisberg presents new sculpture works. Through Dec. 19.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm and by appointment. •Jake Berthot presents *Survey Exhibition:1968-Present*. Through Jan. 22.

OHT Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-1677). www.ohtgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-5:30 pm. •*White, Black, and Inbetween* features works by Katherine Jackson, Peik Larsen, Marietta Hoferer, Ryan Steadman and others. Through Dec. 22.

OSP Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 304, Boston (617-778-5265). www.ospgallery.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Tue.-Sat., 11 am- 5 pm. •Jill Moser shows abstract monotypes and drawings in *Pairings*. Through Dec. 18.

Out of the Blue Gallery
106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.outoftheblueartgallery.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •A local-artists showcase is ongoing.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). www.peppergalleryboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •Tabitha Vevers shows miniature oil-on-ivory paintings from her *Lover's Eye* series. Through Dec. 23.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). www.puckergallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun., 1-5 pm. •Mallory Lake shows pastel Italian landscapes in *Mystery and Light*. Through Jan. 5.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat. 11 am-5 pm. •The gallery features an ongoing exhibition of 19th- and 20th-century American and European paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.robertkleingallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 11 am-5 pm. •*Laura Letinsky and D.W. Mellor: Still Life* is a photography exhibition. Through Jan. 15.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 11 am-4 pm; Sat., 11 am-5:00 pm. •*Fine Lithographs and Etchings* features works by Marc Chagall, Joan Miro, Georges Rouault and others. Through Dec. 31.

Samson Projects
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-357-7177). www.samsonprojects.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Fri.-Sun., 12-6 pm. •Jeffrey Gibson shows paintings and Rune Olsen shows sculptures in *The Urge That Binds*. Through Jan. 14.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5 pm; Sun., 12-5 pm. •William St. George, Christina Keating, Judy St. Peters, Anne Grandin, and Sandra Dick shows paintings. Through Dec. 31. •*Integral*, is a group show of oils, acrylics, watercolors by William St. George, Sandra Mueller-Dick, Christina Keating, Anne Grandin and Judy St. Peter. Jan. 1-30.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Sat., 10 am-5:30 pm. •*A Centennial Exhibition: Polly Thayer Starr, A Celebration of the Artist's 100th Birthday* features paintings, drawings and watercolors. Through Dec. 31. •*Sunlight and Shadow: American Impressionism in New England and Abroad* features 19th- and 20th-century impressionist paintings. Through January.

Wentworth Gallery
The Mall at Chestnut Hill, 199 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-262-8770). www.wentworthgallery.com. Mon.-Fri. 10 am-9:30 pm; Sat. 10 am-8 pm, Sun. 12-6 pm. •The gallery's permanent collection features works by Dali, Chagall and Miro.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Griffin Museum of Photography
67 Shore Road, Winchester (781-729-1158). www.griffinmuseum.org. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Winchester Center. Tue.-Sun., 12-4 pm. $5. •*We Skate Hardcore* is a collection of photographs and video images by Vincent Cianni. Through Feb. 3.

Panopticon Gallery Kenmore
502-C Comm Ave., Boston (617-267-8929). www.panopt.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Tue.-Sat., 11 am-7 pm. •*A Photo Medley* is a group show of photography by gallery artists. Through Jan. 15.

Panopticon Gallery Waltham
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www.panopt.com. Commuter Rail to Waltham. Mon.-Fri 10 am-6 pm. •*Picture Taken* is an exhibition of anonymous vintage snapshots. Through Jan. 15.

Photographic Resource Center
Boston University Art Gallery, 855 Comm. Ave. Boston (617-975-0600). www.bu.edu/prc. MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University West. Tue., Wed. and Fri., 10 am-6 pm; Thu., 10 am-8 pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5 pm. •*In the Vernacular: Everyday Photographs from the Rodger Kingston Collection* is a group show including family, found and domestic photographs. *Contemporary Vernacular* features modern artists' response to everyday photos of the past. Through Jan. 23.

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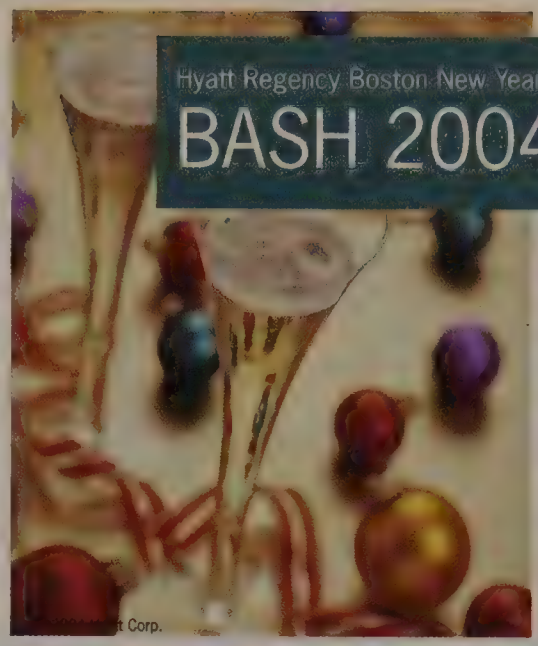
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Readings & Signings

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15

MIT Killian Hall
160 Memorial Dr., 14W-111, Cambridge (617-253-9821). www.web.mit.edu/abd. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. 12 pm. Free. **Karyn Jones** reads her poetry.

Sackler Museum
485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-661-0372). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6 pm. Free tickets are available at Harvard Book Store. Art historian **Martin Kemp** discusses his book *Leonardo*, about Leonardo Da Vinci's life and work.



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16

Barnes & Noble @ BU
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). www.bu. bkstore.com. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7 pm. Free. **Donald Pharrer** reads from *The Fearless Man: A Novel of Vietnam*, his book about a marine captain, his wife, his compatriots and the changes in all of their lives stemming from the Vietnam War.

Boston Public Library
Mezzanine Conference Room, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org/news/upcoming events. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. Free. **Margaret McLean** discusses her novel *Under Oath*, about a murder trial in Charlestown in which a homicide detective and the victim's sister struggle against a crime boss who's manipulating the justice system.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17

Somerville News at Toast Series
Toast Lounge, 70 Union Square, Somerville (617-628-2313). www.authorsden.com/douglasholder. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. Free. Poets **Jacquelyn Pope** and **Gary Duehr** read from their works.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22

Toys for Tots Benefit Event
World Trade Center West, 155 Seaport Blvd., Boston (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12-2 pm. **Margaret McLean** signs her novel *Under Oath*. See Dec. 16 Boston Public Library listing for a book description. A portion of proceeds from copies sold at this event supports Toys for Tots.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

Tapestry of Voices
Forsyth Chapel, Forest Hills Cemetery, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain. 2 pm. $5. The Forest Hills Educational Trust presents Poetry in the New Year, an event featuring readings by poets including Michael R. Brown, Meg Campbell, Tom Daley and Mary Pinard.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4

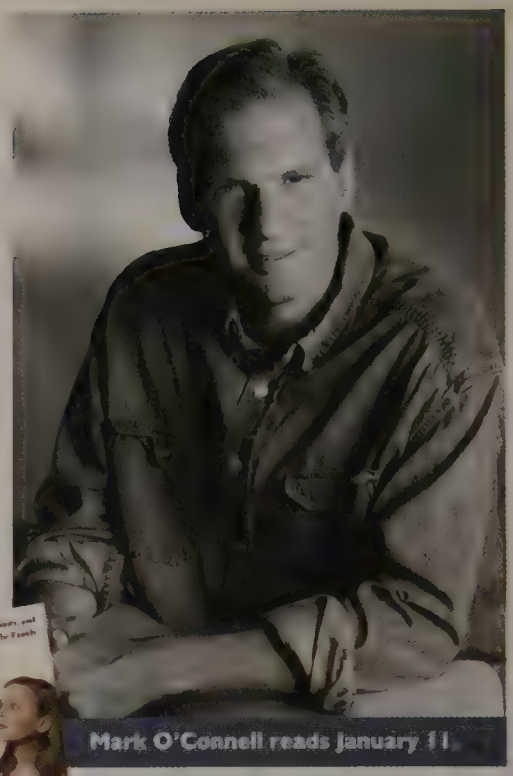
Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. **Ron McLarty** discusses his novel *The Memory of Running*, about an unhealthy, middle-aged man who rides his bike across the country after a family tragedy and rediscovers life along the way.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5

Newtonville Books & Brews
296 Walnut St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. 7:30 pm. Free. Poet **David Surette** reads from *Young Gentleman's School: New and Collected Poems.*

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6

Boston Public Library
Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org/news/upcomingevents. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 2 pm. Free. **Pamela McLaughlin** discusses her book, *Celia, Army Nurse and Mother Remembered*, a collection of letters that her mother wrote to her family while serving in Europe during World War II.


Mark O'Connell reads January 11.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.brooklinebooksmith.com. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7 pm. Free. Former *Boston Globe* sports columnist **Michael Holley** reads from his book *Patriot Reign: Bill Belichick, the Coaches and the Players Who Built a Champion*, which takes an in-depth look at the championship football team.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8

Newtonville Books in the Attic
Union Street Bar, 107 R Union St., Newton (617-244-6619). www.newtonvillebooks.com. MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. 4 pm. Free. **Jennifer Haigh** reads from her latest novel, *Baker Towers*, a family saga and love story set in a western Pennsylvania mining town following World War II.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11

Harvard Book Store
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-0372). www.harvard.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30pm. Free. Psychologist and father of three **Mark O'Connell** reads from his book *The Good Father: On Men, Masculinity and Life in the Family*, which examines the role of fathers in a family and how they tackle life's issues.

Ongoing

Boston Poetry Slam (Wednesdays)
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8 pm. 21+. $3. Every Wednesday night, the Cantab Lounge hosts this poetry slam downstairs in the Third Rail.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam Jam (Sundays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). www.poetryjam.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. $5. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background music for the poetry slam team.

New Voices Open Mike (Third Friday)
Center for New Words, 186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.centerfornewwords.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7 pm. $5. The Center hosts this open mike for women and their allies, with five- and 10-minute slots available.

Out of the Blue Gallery (Saturdays)
Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Mondays, 8 pm (7:30 pm sign-up): Jack Powers hosts Stone Soup, with poetry features and an open mike. $4 donation suggested. •Saturdays, 8 pm: Come share or listen to poetry and prose. Deborah Priestly hosts. $3-$5 suggested donation.

Tapestry of Voices (Second Thursday)
Borders, 10 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). MBTA: Blue Line to Government Center. 6:30 pm. Free. The second Thursday of each month offers a selection of featured poets and an opportunity for others to take the open mike.

education

Advice to Contributors
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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15

Form Follows Faith: Fonte Avellana
Rabb Lecture Hall, Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-2212). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. Free. Architect **Paul Rovinelli** discusses Fonte Avellana, a monastery in North Central Italy, and examines the relationship between religious faith and architectural form.

Object Lessons: Amazing Bubbles
MIT Museum, 265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 12 pm. Free. MIT professor emeritus **Irwin Pless** discusses the museum's iMethyl-Iodide Bubble Chamber and the experiments that it's used for.

Travel, Theory and the Search for Knowledge: Western and Islamic Journeys to "The Other Shore"
34 Concord Ave., 2nd Floor Colloquium Room, Cambridge (617-495-8600). www.radcliffe.edu/events. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4 pm. Free. Wellesley College professor **Roxanne L. Euben** discusses the intersection of Western and non-Western political theory.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16

Fischerspooner: Self-Constructed and Deconstructed
Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, 24 Quincy St. Cambridge (617-495-3251). www.peabody.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5:30 pm. Free. **Warren Fischer** and **Casey Spooner** of the music and performance group Fischerspooner discuss how their backgrounds in film and art influence their act.

Wal-Mart and Sweatshop Workers
Brandeis University, Epstein Building, 415 South St. Boston (781-736-8100). www.brandeis.edu. 2 pm. Free. Women's Studies Research Center scholar **Ellen Rosen** examines Wal-Mart's labor practices in the U.S. and abroad.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21

Davis Square Philosophy Café
McIntyre & Moore Booksellers, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-629-4840). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 7:30 pm. **Tom Clark**, director of the Boston-based Center for Naturalism, hosts a discussion session titled The Meaning of It All: Can Existence Be Construed?

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22

Victorian Dining at the Holiday Table
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 12 pm. $7. Women's Studies Research Center scholar **Elizabeth Parker** discusses the Victorian dining rituals of Boston's upper class in the late 1800s.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29

Geneology and Public History
Boston Public Library, Mezzanine Conference Room 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-2661). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30 pm. Free. BPL curator of microtext **Henry Scanell** and curator of social sciences **Marta Pardee-King** lead a tour of the library's genealogical resources.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4

The Anderson Collection—An American Treasure
Larz Anderson Auto Museum, 15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). www.mot.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir. 7:30 pm. $7-$9. Curator **Evan P. Id** discusses the museum's automobile collection.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7

Lonely Planets: The Natural Philosophy of Alien Life
Wright Theater, Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-589-0386). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. 7 pm. Free. Planetary scientist **David Grinspoon** discusses recent findings in astrobiology.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8

Public Forum on HIV Prevention
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-2371). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 1 pm. Free. Representatives of local HIV/AIDS service organizations participate in a panel discussion about HIV prevention.

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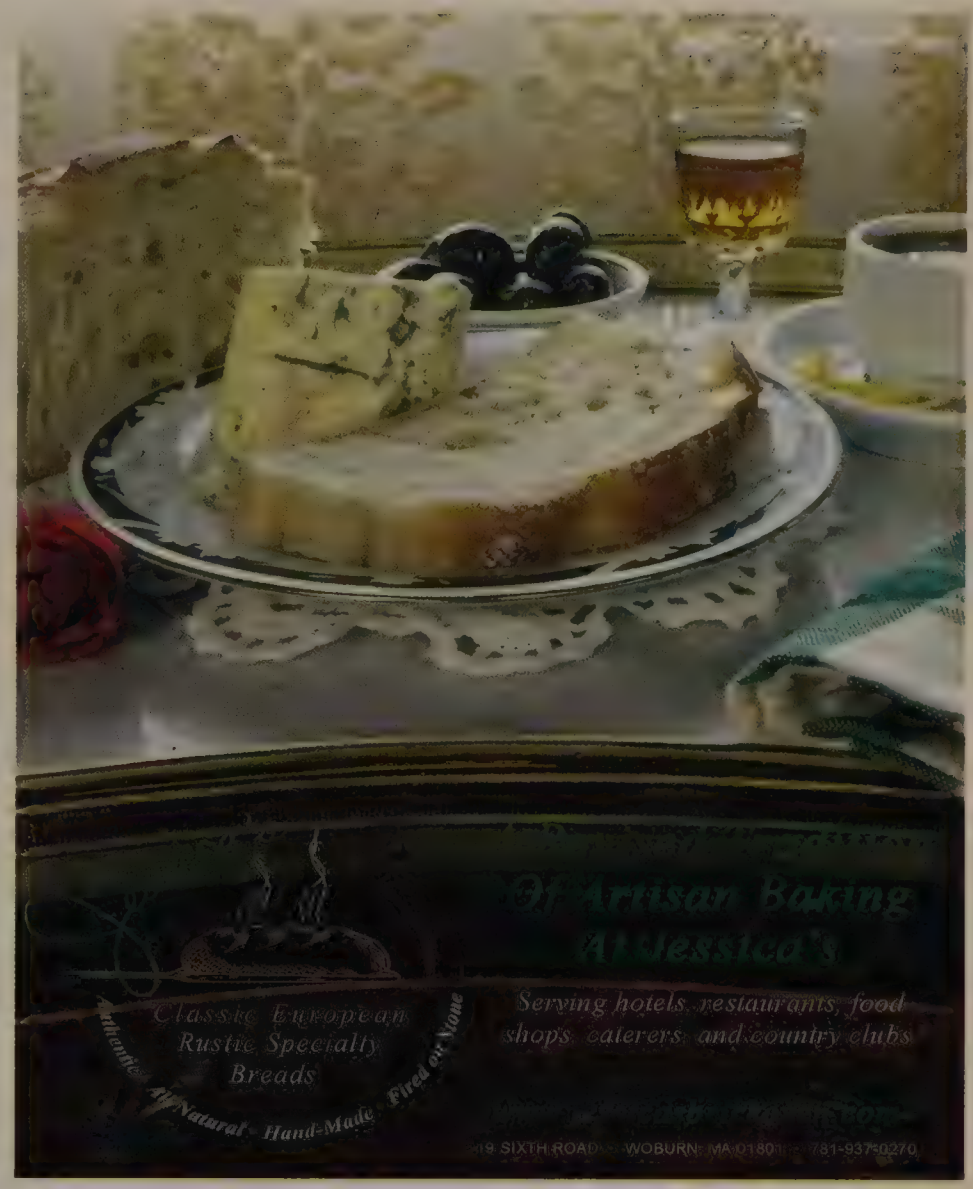
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Clubs, Bars & Hangouts

The Alley (Daily)
14 Pi Alley, 275 Washington St., Boston (617-263-1449). www.thealleybar.com. MBTA: Blue or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 2 pm-2 am.; Sat. and Sun., 12 pm-2 am, no cover, 21+. Boston's leather-and-Levi's neighborhood bar offers pool, pinball, a jukebox and video games as well as regular theme nights.

Aria (Wednesdays)
246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 11 pm, $8 under 21. $5 for 21+. DJ John Morris spins progressive house for Lust, the Wednesday night gay and lesbian dance party.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $15, 21+. Sunday night parties include three separate dance floors and drag acts. Resident DJ Ted Elison spins house music.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 10 pm, $7, 19+. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show, and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. An amateur drag show takes place the last Monday of every month.

Buzz (Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-267-8969). www.buzzboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm, $10, 21+. On Saturdays, Buzz's pool room, lounge and two dance floors—with DJ Mary Alice spinning popular dance and DJ Michael Sheehan's deep house and trance—keep the men busy until 2 am.

Club Europa (Fridays)
57 Stuart St., Boston (617-417-0186). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.twistboston.com. Fri., 10 pm, $10, 21+; $15, 19+ after 11 pm. DJ MsLadyJ spins R&B, hip-hop and '70s and '80s tunes at this women's night.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). www.fritzboston.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 12 pm-2 am. This gay sports bar, with four large-screen plasma TVs, serves brunch Saturday and Sunday.

Hollywood at the Ekco Lounge (Saturdays)
41 Essex St., Boston (617-338-8283). www.shuttavac.com. $8, 21+. MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 10 pm-2 am. This lesbian bar has two floors with go-go girls and live music all night.

Jacques Cabaret (Daily)
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 11 am-12 am; Sun., 12 pm-12 am. $6 weekdays; $8 weekends, 21+. Patrons mingle with disco-dancing drag queens. •Fri. and Sat. feature live music. •Sun.: Drag-on Showgirl Showcase produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10 pm. •Mon.: Cabaret drag show. •Tue., Thu.: Avalon bartender Miss Kris performs. •On the second Friday of each month, the Raw Bar series at Jacques Underground features musicians, puppeteers, poets, dancers, performance artists and comedians.

Machine (Tuesdays, Thursdays–Saturdays)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 9 pm-2 am. •Thu.: Karaoke Competition. •Fri.: Best Night Out, with NYC DJ/producer Darrin Friedman spinning deep house. 10 pm-2 am, $6, 21+. •Sat.: Latin night with resident DJ Amador, 10 pm-2 am, $10, 21+. •Tue.: Service Industry Night, with DJ Afrodite.

ManRay (Wednesdays–Saturdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). www.manrayclub.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed., 9 pm-1 am; Thu. and Fri., 9 pm-2 am; Sat.,10 pm-2 am. $15 for 19+, $10 for 21+. Catering to a young, alternative clientele, ManRay features two dance floors. •Wed.: Crypt features DJ Chris Ewen in the cage and DJ Mothra in the front room. 19+. •Thu.: Campus is a testosterone night with DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen. 19+. •Fri.: Rotating themes include Sin, Hell, Fantasy Factory, Ooze and scheduled special events. •Sat.: New Wave Dance Party with DJ Chris Ewen and Disco Inferno with DJ Gary Conzo. 19+.

Milky Way Lounge (Sundays)
401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). www.milkywayjp.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. 7:30 pm, no cover, 21+. Every Sunday the Milky Way Lounge presents Satellite, a queer night for women. Live entertainment varies from week to week and includes Fireballs Drag Bingo, spoken-word events and jazz.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). www.paradisecambridge.com. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun.-Wed., 7 pm-1 am; Thu.-Sat., 7 pm-2 am. No cover, 21+. Male strippers perform every night. The dance floor features top-40 tunes Thursday through Saturday and T-Dance on Sunday.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 12 pm-2 am. Billing itself as the largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room on weekends). •Wed.: Twitch 4.0 with DJ Omar. •Thu.: Tranceport, a night of trance with DJ Jason Taylor. •Fri.: Bound to Please with DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Sat.: Leather Cruise with DJ Dennis Sargent. •Sun.: Mandance with house music from DJ Skate. •Mon.: Pool and dart tournaments and pizza.

Rise (Saturdays)
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30 am-6:30 am. Members, $10; guests, $20. This private, members-only club is predominantly gay on Saturdays. Storm Saturdays feature resident DJs Billy Carroll, Chad Jack, Gilles Massicotte, Joe Gauthreaux and Mark Anthony upstairs and David McNeary downstairs.

Rumor (Sundays)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-587-0000). www.rumorboston.com. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 10 pm-2 am. $15. 21+. DJ Danae of Star 93.7 spins house music in the main room while DJ Mikey spins new wave, '80s funk and electro-clash in the side room. There are also occasional drag shows with Eileen Dover.

Toast (Wednesdays, Thursdays)
70 Union Square, Somerville (617-623-9211). www.toastlounge.com. 8 pm-1 am. $5. 21+. Wednesday is gay night and Thursday is lesbian night, with cocktails and dancing.

209 at Club Café (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-2 am; Sat., 2 pm-2 am; Sun., 11 am-2 am. No cover, 21+. This South End spot offers dining and unobtrusive music in the front room and video entertainment in the back at Moonshine. •On Thursdays and Fridays, VJ Tom Yaz hosts a nonstop show featuring new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Scott Kennedy.

Upstairs @ Dedo's (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-338-9999). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. No cover, 21+. A predominantly gay crowd frequents the upstairs lounge at Dedo's, which features a nightly piano bar and club room. •Wed.: Latino Lounge with Latin groove music. •Thu. and Fri.: Boys in Ties and complimentary after-work buffet, 5-7 pm. House music, 7 pm-1 am. •Sat.: High Energy Night with house music. •Sun.: Disco Night. •Mon.: S.I.N. (Service Industry Night). •Tue.: Stage and Screen. Classic movies screen 7-9 pm. Showtune videos screen, 9 pm-1 am, no cover.



Shows & Events

Fetish Fair Fleamarket
Boston Sheraton Hotel, 39 Dalton St., Boston (800-325-3535). www.nla-newengland.org/fff.html. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Dec. 17-19. Sat., 11-6 pm; Sun., 11 am-3 pm. $10. The largest fetish/leather/S&M event in New England features hundreds of vendors showcasing everything from whips to corsets and also offers a variety of social events and classes. Must be 18 years old to attend.

Junk: An Evening of Queer Underground Cinema
Hollywood, 41 Essex St., Boston (800-325-3535). www.truthserum.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boyl-
ston. Dec. 18. 8 pm. $8. Truth Serum presents a traveling film festival featuring independent, underground camp films curated by filmmaker Devon Devine.

Quick Dates: GLBT Jewish Speed-Dating
Temple Beth Zion, 1566 Beacon St., Brookline (617-524-9227). www.boston-keshet.org. MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Dec. 25. 8 pm. $36. This singles night features eight eight-minute dates for Jewish members of the GLBT community.

Single Gay and Lesbian Professionals for the Arts
Starbucks, 443 Boylston St., Boston (617-732-3920) www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Dec. 18. 4 pm-6:30 pm. $40. Tour Boston-area galleries with other singles and mingle over post-tour cocktails at Aquitaine. Reservations required.

Tiferet Social & Discussion Group Meeting
Keset Office, 284 Amory St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9227). www.boston-keshet.org Dec. 19. 4 pm. Free Tiferet is a support and discussion group for Jewish people who identify as GLBT.

Ongoing

BAGLY
St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston (617-227-4313) www.bagly.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Wed., 6-9 pm. The Boston Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Youth hosts weekly meetings and social events for young people seeking community, support and a place to discuss relevant issues.

Beantown South G/L Bowling League
Boston Bowl, Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester (617-889-1552). 7 pm. This bowling league for gays and lesbians in the Boston area meets Wednesdays.

Bi Focus
(617-697-9244) MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 7 pm. Bisexual men and women discuss books, videos and other topics of interest.

Bi Rap
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge (617-354-8807). First and third Tuesday of the month, 7:30 pm. This discussion group is open to all bisexual, bi-friendly and questioning women.

Boston Bay Blades
www.bayblades.org/boston. All are welcome to join this competitive, recreational group of rowers and scullers.

Boston Boasts Squash
(617-536-0316). www.bostonboasts.com. Tue. 7-9 pm; Sat. 10 am-12 pm. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. The league comprises gay and lesbian players and their friends.

Boston Gay Basketball League
(617-937-5858). *www.bgbl.com.* The league offers a full regular season and playoff schedule each year.

Boston Gay Skins
Ramrod, 1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). www.bostongayskins.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 11 pm. Boston's nonracist gay skinhead collective meets the third Friday of the month.

Boston GLASS Community Center
93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Thu., 3-8 pm; Fri, 3-5 pm. The center provides social activities for questioning young people ages 13-25.

Boston Lesbian Avengers
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. www.lesbianavengers.org Thu., 7-8 pm. This bi- and transsexual-friendly, direct-action political group focuses on issues affecting lesbians.

Boston Uncommons
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave Jamaica Plain (617-926-9267). www.lcfd.org/bu MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed., 7 pm. A gay and lesbian square-dancing group.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org. This 1,400-member gay club takes part in outdoor activities.

COLAGE
(617-417-0876). Third Saturday of each month, 10:30 am-12 pm. COLAGE (Children of Lesbian and Gays Everywhere) meets in Medford for support and activities and holds a concurrent meeting for interested parents and their partners. For info, e-mail medfordcolage@hotmail.com.

Coming Out as Bisexual
Boston's Bisexual Resource Center at the Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-42-

595). *www.biresource.org*. MBTA: *Orange Line to Back Bay. First Wednesday and third Thursday of each month, 7 pm, free*. An informal group for people who think they may be bisexual or are attracted to more than one sex.

Coming Out Group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning People
(617-256-8693). This group discusses the challenges and joys of coming out. It meets Thursday nights, from 7-8:30 pm, in Cambridge. Call for more information.

Coming Out Support Group for Adults
(617-482-2166). This group offers a confidential place for men and women who are looking for a safe space to discuss issues of sexual identity. It meets Thursday nights from 7-8:15 pm, near Coolidge Corner in Brookline. Call for more information.

Compass
(781-899-2212). Compass is a New England–area support, information and social group for people assigned female at birth who feel that is not an accurate or complete description of their gender. Part of the FTM (Female-to-Male) Center, this group meets monthly. E-mail CompassFTM@usa.com for details.

East Coast Wrestling Club
(401-467-6737 or 617-937-5858, ext. 6). www.eastcoastwrestlingclub.org. This club for gay male wrestlers has more than 160 members.

Elegant Outings
(866-335-7730). www.elegantoutings.com. This group welcomes gay and gay-friendly professional women 40 and older who are intelligent, chic and sophisticated to get together with like-minded women for conversations, dinners, theater and networking.

Fenway Community Health
Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0900). www.fenwayhealth.org. MBTA: *Green Line to Hynes/ICA*. Fenway Community Health offers a wide array services for the GLBT community, ranging from discussions about parenting and safe-sex practices to programs addressing domestic violence and substance abuse. Call for more information

FLAG Flag Football
www.flagflagfootball.com. Sat. mornings. Join Boston's GLBT flag football league for a casual spring season, followed by a formal fall season. All are welcome, regardless of skill level.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-937-5858). www.mindspring.com/~frontrunners. Sat., 10 am. All are welcome to join this running club.

Gay Amateur Photography Group
Boston (address available upon request). Learn more about photography, socialize and meet new people at these monthly meetings. For more information e-mail amateurgphoto@yahoo.com.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
(617-267-9001 or 888-340-4528). Mon.-Fri., 6-11 pm; Sat. and Sun., 5-10 pm. This confidential, toll-free hotline provides support for GLBT and questioning callers.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
First Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham (617-742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. $2. This group for gay/bisexual fathers meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month 8-10 pm.

GayLab
www.gaylab.org. This experiment in developing healthy gay relationships features alternatives for meeting and dating, communication games, singles mixers and a date-matching system.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Professionals Building Community
(617-236-4222). www.gbbc.org. All are welcome to join this networking organization for GLBT professionals. Monthly networking meetings.

Gaymes Group
(508-339-4250). Members of this social group for gay men and lesbians get together on a regular basis to play board, card and parlor games.

Gender Crash
Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6373). www.butchdykeboy.com. MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. Second Thursday of each month. 7:30 pm. $5-$10. Members of the GLBT community are invited to share poetry, prose or performance pieces at this open-mike event.

Girlfriends: Bisexual and Lesbian Women of Color
Cambridge Family and Children's Services, 929 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4210). MBTA: Red Line to Central. This discussion group for all ages meets every Saturday, 10:30 am-12 pm.

Girlz 2 Girlz
(781-893-6113). This mentoring program is for girls ages 13-19 who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered. For information, contact Marcela Aldez-Osorio.

Laffan
Members of this social and networking group for women receive a weekly e-mail calendar of events. For info, e-mail Laffan_Boston2004@yahoo.com.

Liquid Assets Swimming
www.swim-lanes.org. Tue.-Thu. evenings and Sat. and Sun. mornings. This predominantly gay and lesbian swim team is open to both competitive and fitness swimmers of all ages and abilities.

The Network/La Red
(617-423-7233). The Network is a support group working to end abuse in lesbian and bisexual women's and transgender communities. E-mail info@thenetworklared.org for more information.

Newly Diagnosed Group
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 329). MBTA: Red or Orange line to Downtown Crossing. First and tirrd Monday of the month 7:30-9 pm. Free. This group offers support for gay and bisexual men who have been diagnosed with HIV during the last two years. E-mail nlongtin@jri.org.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Out TwentySomethings Boston
twentysomethingsbostonsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. This social and peer support group is for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgendered and questioning folks and their straight allies in their 20s and early 30s.

Peer Listening Line
(800-399-7337). Trained volunteers provide confidential information, referrals and support to their GLBT peers.

POZ Social
Moonshine Room at Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 326). MBTA: Orange line to Back Bay. Second Mon. of every month, 6-11 pm. Free. This monthly event featuring raffles, food, music and drinks benefits people affected by HIV/AIDS.

POZ 30s Plus
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 132 Boylston St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext. 314). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. Wed., 7-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men age 30 and over. E-mail hyee@jri.org for more info.

POZ 20s
JRI Health Peer Support Services, 25 West St., Boston (617-457-8142, ext.329). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Thu., 7:30-9 pm. This social group offers support for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men in their 20s.

The Rainbow Café
This social group for activist, academic, intellectual or artistic lesbians meets biweekly in gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments. Send an e-mail to rainbow boston-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

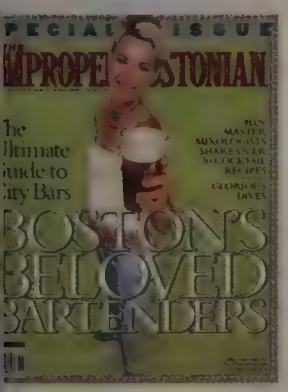
Slice of Rice
Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). sungyun@chickmail.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed., 6-7 pm. This peer-run queer Asian youth group (under 25) meets for support.

Somos Latin
The only social and networking group for GLBT Latinos and Latinas in the Boston area. Viernes Sociales take place every month. E-mail somoslatino slgbt@hotmail.com for more information.

Swingtime Boston
Brookline Academy of Dance, 185 Corey Road, Brookline (617-364-7207). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. First Sat. of each month. 8-9 pm, lesson; 9-11:30 pm, dancing. $8. Swing, Latin and ballroom dancing classes are offered for the GLBT community.

Wonder Women Boston
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wonder_women_boston. This social group for lesbian and bisexual women in their 20s and 30s meets the first Thursday of every month.







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body & mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or e-mail information to bodymind@improper.com. Include a brief but thorough description of the event, including time, date, location, directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Events

Dances of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767 or 617-491-8694). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Dec. 17 and Jan. 7, 7:30-9:30 pm. Requested donation, $6-10. Participants join hands in simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honoring the spiritual traditions of the world.

Dharma Film: *Shower*
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. Jan. 7, 7 pm. $10. Co-sponsored with the Institute for Meditation & Psychotherapy, this film series explores the mind and spirit of cinema. *Shower*, by Zhang Yang, explores the survival of Buddhist spirit through China's Cultural Revolution.

Holistic Center Open House
The Arlington Center, 369 Mass. Ave. Arlington (781-316-0282). www.arlingtoncenter.org. Jan. 2, 10 am-6 pm. Free. This open house features free classes in yoga, meditation, pilates, tai chi, dance and more. Meet the Center's wellness providers and receive a free consultation.

Meditation Circle of Peace and Courage
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-646-3680). www.unicornbooks.org. Dec. 26, 4-5 pm. Free. This discussion focuses on learning how to remain positive during troubling times, and using detachment while still caring. The day concludes with guided visualization and meditation.

New Year's Eve/Arlington
Theosophical Society in Boston, 21 Maple St., Arlington (781-648-0101). www.tsboston.org. Dec. 31, 7:30 pm-1 am. Free. Gather with others for quiet meditation, reflection, refreshments and to welcome the New Year.

New Year's Eve/Cambridge
Cambridge Insight Meditation Center, 331 Broadway, Cambridge (617-441-9038). www.cimc.info. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Dec. 31, 7:30-1am. Free. Join this meditation community for periods of sitting, walking, chanting, and sharing readings and reflections. Refreshments served after midnight. Guests welcome for part or all of the evening.

Open House at Brookline Tai Chi
Brookline Tai Chi, 1615 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-2975). www.brooklinetaichi.com. MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Jan 2, 7:30 pm. Free. Instructors informally discuss and demonstrate the various qi gong and tai chi arts taught at the center.

Sexuality and Spirituality Network
Healing Heart Power, 3 Central Ave., Newton (617-965-7846). www.healingheartpower.com. MBTA: Commuter Rail to Newtonville. Jan.8, 2-5 pm. $10, suggested donation. The Boston Area Sexuality and Spirituality Network gathers regularly to discuss the holistic exploration of sex. This month's topic is BDSM (bondage and discipline, dominance and submission and sadomasochism) as a spiritual practice.

Tai Chi Open House
Wah Lum Kung Fu Tai Chi Institute, Millbury (508-752-3534). www.millburywahlum.com. Jan. 8, 10:30 am. Free. Try out a free class in tai chi, the theory of harmonizing opposites that has evolved into a gentle activity for enriching one's life.

Winter Solstice Celebration and 108 Sun Salutes for Solstice
Earthsong Yoga Center, 186 Main St., Marlboro (508-480-8884). www.earthsongyoga.com. Dec. 17, 6-9 pm. Free. Celebrate the solstice with sun salutations, a series of yoga poses designed to invigorate the body and mind. The hosts also provide readings, meditation and music.

Lecture

Global Climate Change and Us
Veggie Planet Restaurant at Club Passim, 47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-824-4225 or 617-492-5300). http://boston.earthsave.org or www.veggieplanet.net. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Jan. 9, 2:30 pm. Free, $10 for dinner. Geologist Jason Lederer answers questions about climate change and global warming, the kinds of changes we can expect in the future, and what we can do about it.

Workshops

Butoh and Moving Nature
Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (774-353-7175 or 617-547-9363). www.butoh.net or www.dancecomplex.org. MBTA: Red Line to Central. Dec. 19, 2-5 pm. $30. Butoh began as a rebellious dance from Japan in the 1960s. Called the dance of utter darkness, Butoh invites practitioners to heighten their perceptions and move their bodies without thinking too much. Exercises include solo, partner and group movements, which may go from slow intensive focus to chaotic movement. Led by Jennifer Hicks, practitioner of shiatsu, acupuncture and reiki and instructor of yoga and Shintaido martial arts.

Chakra Yoga
Art and Soul, 91 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-661-7376). www.artsoulyoga.com. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Dec. 19, 3-6 pm, $30. Chakra centers of the body conduct our "energy nervous system," and when the energies are in balance we feel good. Learn all about chakras, how they relate to the organs of the body, and yoga exercises for activating our chakra centers.

Feng Shui: House Clearing
Circles of Wisdom Bookstore and Resource Center, 90 Main St., Andover (978-474-8010). www.circlesofwisdom.com. Jan. 5, 7:15-9:15 pm. $30. Feng shui specialist Donna Stellhorn demonstrates easy methods to clear your space of negative or blocked energy.

Kirtan with Shubalananda
Back Bay Yoga Studio, 1112 Boylston St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-375-0785). www.backbayyoga.com. MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Dec 19, 7 pm. Donation suggested. Kirtan, a simple form of Hindu devotional music, is designed to resonate with one's chakras to help move the energy up the spine and allow the participant to enter a higher plane of consciousness. Kirtan may also help with developing concentration.

Moving with the Heart of Matter
CasaNia Studio, 46 Porter Road, Cambridge (617-491-5144). www.casania.com. MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Dec. 18, 2-7 pm. $108. Learn how stress, pain, hypervigilance and a fast-paced lifestyle create density and tightness in the body. Using breath, sound and movement, this workshop teaches participants how to slow down, decompress and regain health and freedom of movement.

Retreat

Calm Abiding Retreat
Shambhala Meditation Center, 646 Brookline Ave., Brookline (617-734-1498). www.primordialdot.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. Dec. 26-31, 29 hours. $80. New Year's celebration: Dec. 31, 7 pm. Close the year in a state of clarity, awareness and unbiased reflection through the practice of shamatha meditation. The retreat culminates with a community celebration on New Year's Eve.

Ongoing

Introduction to Kabbalah
The Kabbalah Centre, 751 Beacon St., Newton (617-969-1881). www.kabbalah.com. Wed., 7 pm. Free. Call to enroll. The Kabbalah is a collection of ancient wisdom and philosophy about the nature of the universe, and its philosophy is intended to help anyone get in tune with universal laws and live a more harmonious life. Find out more at this lecture.

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Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.

Home Games

New England Patriots
•Gillette Stadium, Foxboro
Tickets: 800-543-1776
Jan. 2, 1 pm vs. San Francisco 49ers

Boston Celtics
•FleetCenter, Boston
Tickets: 617-931-2000
Dec. 15, 7 pm vs. Denver Nuggets
Dec. 17, 7:30 pm vs. Utah Jazz
Dec. 22, 7 pm vs. New York Knicks
Dec. 31, 3 pm vs. Washington Wizards
Jan. 3, 7 pm vs. New Orleans Hornets

Events

BSSC New Year's Montreal Ski Trip
(617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Dec. 30-Jan. 2. Transportation departs from Newton at 9 am; Methuen at 10 am. $329 members; $359 nonmembers. New Year's Eve party option $70. The Boston Ski and Sports Club makes a New Year's pilgrimage to Canada for skiing and New Year's revelry. Price includes three nights' lodging and transportation to Montreal and the slopes. Skiers also have the option to join the New Year's party at Club Dome, which features open bar from 10 pm-3 am.

To Play

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Boston Demons
(617-290-7101). www.bostondemons.co.n. The club seeks new players for nine-a-side competition.

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball
(781-891-0621). Seeking players ages 17-40.

BASKETBALL

Boston Ski & Sports Club (BSSC) Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues exist in Watertown, Belmont, Dedham and Waltham. Teams and individuals are welcome.

Corporate Basketball League
(781-248-7811). Three men's divisions and one women's play weeknight games in the Cambridge, Newton and Waltham areas. All levels welcome.

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). www.nevertoolate.com. Adults of all ages practice in locations throughout Boston.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. Mon.-Sat., 2-10 pm. Red Line to Harvard, then #71 bus. The club offers Olympic-style boxing lessons for all levels.

DODGEBALL

BSSC Dodgeball
(617-789-4070). The BSSC is recruiting now for dodgeball teams.

ENDURANCE TRAINING

Team in Training
(800-688-6572). www.teamintraining.org. This organization provides fund-raising athletes with group training and support, personalized coaching and guaranteed race entry for events.

FENCING

Bay State Fencers
561 Windsor St., Suite A 401, Somerville. (617-591-0101). www.baystatefencers.com. Fencing and stage combat programs offered.

Boston Fencing Club
110-112 Clematis Ave., Waltham. (781-891-0119). www.bostonfencingclub.org. Adult classes evenings and Saturdays. Learn the basics of fencing.

FLAG AND TOUCH FOOTBALL

BSSC Football
Leagues are held in Brighton (617-789-4070). www.bssc.com. Six-on-six and four-on-four men's teams compete each weekend.

New England Storm Indoor League
Greater Boston Indoor Sports, Revere (781-395-8326). Saturday mornings. Women's teams play eight-on-eight flag football each week.

RUGBY

Boston Irish Wolfhounds
(617-254-9732). www.bostonirishwolfhounds.com. Training Tuesdays and Thursdays in Jamaica Plain. Home field at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton. New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Rugby Club
(617-566-2732). www.brfc.org. The club is looking for players for its national-level team.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. The club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30 pm. Games on Saturdays. New and experienced players are welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.bostonhash.com. Weekly runs on either Wednesday or Sunday year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, then consider joining these self-proclaimed "serious drinkers with a running problem."

Cambridge Friday Night Fun Run
Cambridge Racquet and Fitness Club, 215 First St., Cambridge (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Fri., 6 pm. Weekly runs.

Khoury's Thursday Four-Mile Fun Run
Khoury's Pub, 118 Broadway, East Somerville (781-275-1584). www.srr.org. Thursdays, 7 pm. Weekly runs.

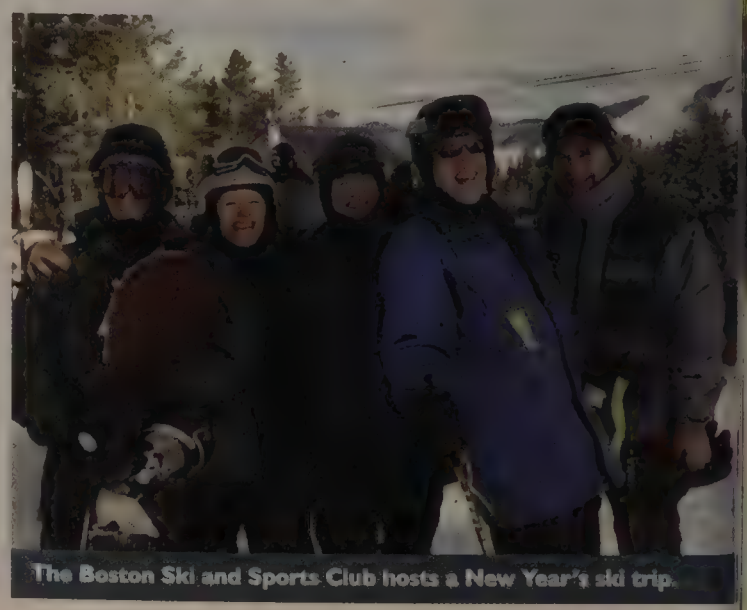
Marsh Post Races
5 Greenough Blvd., Eliot Bridge, Cambridge (617-625-2140). www.clydesdale.org. Thursdays, 7:30 pm. Weekly 2.6-mile runs.

SKATING

Bay State Skating School
(781-890-8480) www.baystateskatingschool.org. Classes for adults and kids at 14 rinks around the city.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-868-8379). bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur folk-style wrestling group open to all skill levels.



The Boston Ski and Sports Club hosts a New Year's ski trip.

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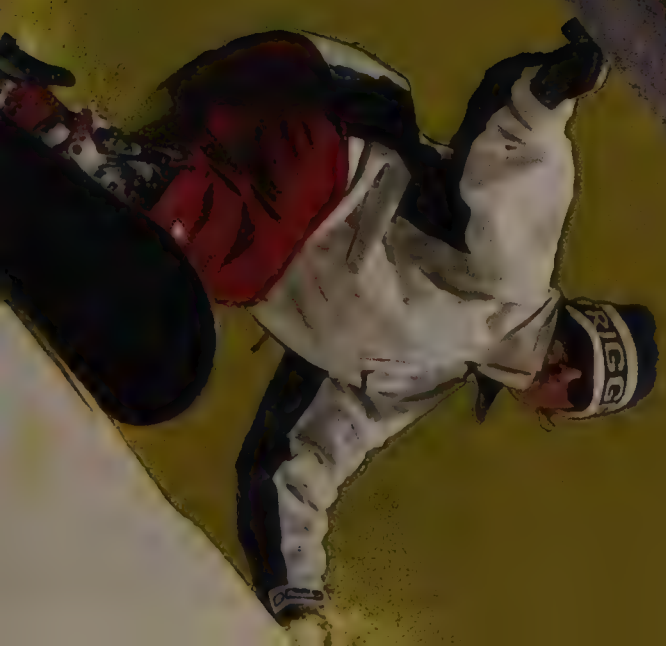
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Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Things to See

Boston Children's Theatre
C. Walsh Theatre, 55 Temple St., Boston (617-424-6634). www.bostonchildrenstheatre.org. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. Dec. 18, 19, and 27-30. 2 pm. $10-$22. Boston Children's Theatre presents *Seussical the Musical*, a show based on the characters and stories of Dr. Seuss.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2501). www.coolidge.org. MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge Corner. $10; children, $8. •Saturdays, 10:30 am: Saturday Morning Kids Variety Show. •Dec. 18, 10:30 am. The Holiday Extravaganza features music, comedy, dancing and story-telling.

Hi-5 LIVE
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). www.wangcenter.org. MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Jan. 2, 10 and 2 pm. $20-$25. Cast members from Discovery Kids' and the Learning Channel's *Hi-5* perform a show for kids.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). www.puppetshowplace.org. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $8.50; members, $7. Reservations recommended. •Dec. 15 and 16, 10:30 am, ages 3-6. Ann Davidson of Blue Moon Puppets performs *Forest Tales*, a story of animals living in the forest. •Dec. 18 and 19, 1 and 3 pm, ages 4-9. Magpie Puppets' Maggie Whalen performs *Leopard Learns a Lesson*, a show adapted from an Malawi tale about a young leopard who bullies other animals. •Dec. 22 and 23, 10:30 am, ages 3-6. Patricia Boylan performs *The Gingerbread Boy & Other Tales.* •Dec. 24, 1 pm; Dec. 26-30, 1 and 3 pm, ages 4-9. Paul Vincent Davis performs *Beauty and the Beast.*

Regent Theatre
7 Medford St., Arlington (781-646-4849). www.regenttheatre.com. MBTA: 350 bus to Arlington Center. Dec. 26, 7 pm; Dec. 27, 2 pm; Dec. 28, 7:30 pm; Dec. 29, 2 pm; Dec. 30, 2 and 7:30 pm. $16, $12 children. •*Sing-A-Long Wizard of Oz* is a new twist on the classic film. A master of ceremonies introduces the film and leads the crowd through an evening of singing along with Dorothy and the gang.

Things to Do

Borders Books and Music
Cambridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge (617-679-0887). www.bordersstores.com. MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Every Sat., 1 pm. Staff members read from new and classic storybooks.

Boston Art Tours
Meets at Starbucks, 443 Boylston St., Boston (617-732-3920). www.bostonarttours.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tours for children: Tue.-Sat., 1-2 pm; tours for teens: Tue.-Sat., 2-3:30 pm. Adults, $30; teens, $15; children under 12, free. Take a walking tour of contemporary art galleries along Newbury Street.

Boston by Little Feet
Faneuil Hall, 77 North Washington St., Boston (617-367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Mon. and Sat., 10 am and 2 pm; $8. This child's-eye view of the Freedom Trail's architecture and history is designed for walkers 6-12 years old.

Boston Public Library
Rabb Lecture Hall, 666 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). www.bpl.org. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9 am-9 pm; Fri. and Sat., 9 am-5 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm. •Dec. 19, 2:30 pm. Mrs. Santa Claus and her puppets share stories, music, poetry and games during this interactive hour. •Dec. 29, 10:30 am. Wayne Martin presents a large-scale puppet and marionette show in *Santa's North Pole Express.*

Children's Museum
Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $8; children, $7. •Daily, KidsStage is an interactive theater featuring professional actors and museum staff. •Fri., 3-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 2-4 pm. In the Zoom Zone is a hands-on science challenge culled from the PBS TV show *Zoom.* •Mon.-Fri., 10 am-4 pm. The art studio is open for bookmaking, painting, finger-puppet making and more.

Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). http://harvard.bkstore.com. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Every Tue. and Sat., 11 am. Staff members read children's stories. Snacks and craft activities follow. •Dec. 18, 11 am. Staff members read Chris Van Allsburg's *The Polar Express.*

Ice Skating at Frog Pond
Frog Pond, Boston Common, Boston (617-367-2345). www.cityofboston.gov/parks/FrogPond_winter.asp. MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. Mon., 10 am-5 pm; Sun.-Thu., 10 am-9 pm; Fri.-Sat., 10 am-10 pm; $3. Skate on Boston Common's frozen Frog Pond, which offers concessions, skate rentals, restrooms and warming areas.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). http://web.mit.edu/museum. MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-5 pm. $5; ages 5-18, $2; students, seniors and kids under 5, free (free admission the third Sunday of every month). •*Holography, the Light Fantastic* is a display featuring the world's largest collection of holograms. Ongoing. •*Robots and Beyond* offers a look at MIT's artificial intelligence research labs. Ongoing. •*Ship Models: The Evolution of Ship Design* features 40 ship models, from warships to clippers. Ongoing.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm; Fri., 9 am-9 pm. $13; seniors, $11; children, $10. •*Strange Matter* explores the use of everyday materials in cardiac surgery, space exploration and more-common events. Through Jan. 2. •*A Bird's World* explores the behavior and calls of birds in the wild. Ongoing. •*The Computing Revolution* traces the history of computers from the electronic giants of the 1940s to today's smallest laptops. Ongoing. •*Dinosaurs: Modeling the Mesozoic* showcases the museum's collection of dinosaur models, including the giant T. rex. Ongoing. •*Making Models* is an interactive exhibition that features models of a wave tank, Mount Everest and a giant grasshopper. Ongoing. •Science in the Park is a permanent playground with a scientific spin. •Sat. and Sun., 11 am. Animals and Stories Alive is an interactive story hour featuring folk tales, myths and live animals.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat. and Sun., 9 am-6 pm. $15.95; seniors, $13.95; children, $8.95. •*Amazing Jellies* features thousands of jellyfish. Through 2005. •The 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank contains sharks, stingrays and sea turtles. Ongoing. •*Edge of the Sea* is a hands-on exhibition that features sea stars, hermit crabs and more. Ongoing. •Simons IMAX Theatre. Check Web site for listings.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-796-1360). www.ci.newton.ma.us/library. •Thursdays, 7 pm. Staff members read to children ages 4 and up at Pajama Storytime. •Fridays, 10:30 am. Films for preschoolers screen.



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Boston University Observatory
Coit Observatory, 725 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wed. (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30 pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30 pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). www.bostonkids.org. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat.-Thu., 10 am-5 pm; Fri., 10 am - 9 pm. $9; children and seniors, $7. Fri., 5-9 pm, $1.

Faneuil Hall
75 State St., Boston (617-338-2323). MBTA: Blue Line to State, Orange or Green Line to Haymarket, or Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sat., 10 am-9 pm; Sun., 12 pm-6 pm. Tours start at 9:30 am. Free.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9 am-5 pm. $7.50; students and seniors, $6, children, $5; free to all Sun., 9 am-12 pm.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-514-1600). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9 am-5 pm. $10; seniors and students, $8; 12 and under, free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge (617-547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Daily, 8 am-7 pm.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-725-0022). www.afroammuseum.org. MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH, or Green Line to Park Street. Labor Day through Memorial Day: Mon.-Sat., 10 am-4 pm; summer: daily, 10 am-4 pm. Free.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Daily, 9 am-5 pm (Fri., 9 am-9 pm). $14; seniors, $12; children, $11.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10 am-5 pm. $5; children, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). www.neaq.org. MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Sept. 2-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9 am-5 pm; Sat.-Sun., 9 am-6 pm. July 1-Sept. 1: Mon.-Thu., 9 am-6 pm; Fri.-Sun., 9 am-7 pm. $15.95, $13.95 seniors; children, $8.95.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to Haymarket. Daily., 9 am-5 pm. Free.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. Daily, 9 am-6 pm. $5, seniors and students, $4; children, $1.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10 am-10 pm. $9.50; seniors, $7; children 12 and under, $6.50; children under 3, free.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily, 7 am-6 pm. $4; children 12 and under, free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-242-5671). www.ussconstitutionmuseum.org. May 1-Oct. 15: daily, 9 am-6 pm; Nov. 1-Apr. 30: daily, 10 am-5 pm. Free.

Volunteer

AFC Mentoring Program
(617-695-2441). Mentor a foster-care child.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-437-6200). www.aac.org. Help someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). www.cancer.org. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay
(617-375-0700). www.bostonredcross.org. Volunteer in the administrative department.

Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay
(617-956-0281). www.bbmb.org. BBMB seeks volunteers to provide friendship to boys in need.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Volunteers act as friends and mentors to young girls.

Boston Cares
(617-563-4441). www.bostoncares.org. More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). www.bostonjaycees.org. A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 focusing on charitable involvement and developing business opportunities.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). www.bostonlivingcenter.org. HIV/AIDS organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Partners in Education
(617-451-6145). www.bostonpartners.org. Tutor young students from the city in all subjects.

Cambridge Cares About AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 213). www.ccaa.org. Volunteers are needed to educate the public about HIV.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). www.csvinc.org. Volunteers and tutors needed in Cambridge public schools.

Charles River Arc
(781-444-4347). www.crarc.org. Provide support for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). www.dfci.harvard.edu. Help adults living with cancer.

Downtown Initiative for Adult Literacy
(617-357-6000). Tutor adult students.

Everybody Wins Power Lunch
(617-995-3250). www.everybodywinsmetroboston.org. Spend your lunch hour reading with elementary school children.

Extra Hands ALS
(617-331-3014). www.extrahands.org. High school and college students help ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, aka Lou Gehrig's disease) families with chores and housework.

HealthCare Dimensions Hospice
(781-894-1100). www.hospice.org. Volunteers needed to support terminally ill patients and their families.

Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). www.helpline-online.com. Volunteers provide counsel over the phone for people affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-267-3700). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Volunteer for homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-547-2620). Support terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). www.cjp.org. Spend time with an elderly adult, mentor a child or teach adults to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

MAB Community Services
(617-738-5110). www.mablind.org. Read or shop with a blind person.

Match-Up Interfaith Volunteers
(617-482-1510). www.matchelders.org. Volunteers needed to assist elders.

Neighborhood Action Inc.
(617-723-5800). Serve meals to the homeless.

New England Aquarium
(617-973-5235). Volunteer as an aquarium guide or research assistant, or work in animal husbandry.

Parental Stress Line
(617-927-0621). Counsel parents and caregivers.

Pine Street Inn
(617-482-4944). www.pinestreetinn.org. Serve breakfast to homeless guests.

Project Place Inc.
(617-262-3740). www.projectplace.org. Become a mentor or tutor for homeless men and women.

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
(617-577-1111). www.rfbd.org. Volunteers read textbooks for recording.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996). Volunteer at this agency for battered women.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room and groceries program at this homeless shelter.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Single Volunteers Boston
www.svboston.org. SVB offers one-shot opportunities to volunteer with other young, single professionals.

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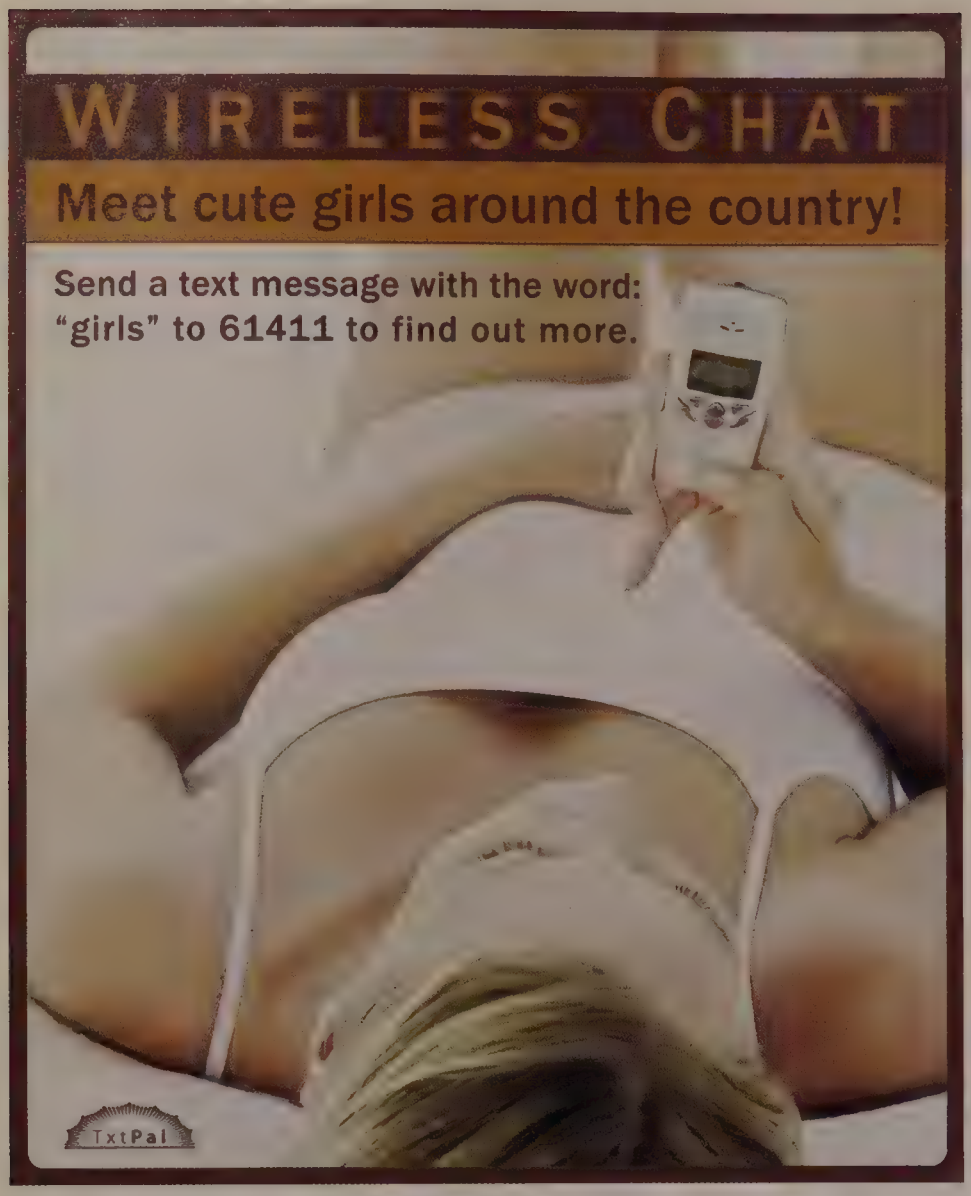
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RECENT CORRESPONDENCE FOLLOWS.

Thank You!

Thank God there are still good samaritans out there in the world. I just want to thank the person who found my stolen bag and actually turned it in to the police! You have saved me hours and hours of work to recover the stuff that was in there and I truly appreciate it! And to the scum who broke into my car and stole my money and my bag—YOU'RE AN ASSHOLE! I hope you couldn't find your dealer that night to get a quick fix! As a matter of fact, I hope you did get your quick fix and dropped dead soon after! Sincerely,

—A truly appreciative teacher

Fresh Air Beauty

It was a warm November night and I was tired and on my way home from a long day at work when I spotted you. You were in Fresh Hair on South Street in Jamaica Plain servicing a customer at the reception area. Your wonderful smile breathed new air into my tired spirit. I stopped and acted as if I was reading the sign in the window. I couldn't get your attention, and felt a bit intimidated by your beauty, so I kept on walking rather than go in and introduce myself. You had on a maroon or purple sweater with your brown hair up. It was the evening of November 18. I would very much like to meet you! If you are interested, please respond.

—freshairbeauty@yahoo.com

Hot Lowell Train Conductor

Sometimes you're on my 6:50 am Lowell train when Jay the normal conductor is out. You're the conductor who looks and acts like a Marine—maybe you are a Marine. I just wanted to let you know that when you're my conductor, you make me smile and that smile lasts all day. I'll be standing at the North Billerica station and see your face go by and know that it's going to be a good day. There's something about your confidence that drives me wild. I look forward to the next time you're my conductor and take me to work. I just wish that you were my "conductor" every day.

—hotforconductor@yahoo.com

Redheaded Georgetown Hoya

I think it was late November 17. I walked up to the Green Line at Park Street with my beagle, Madison, and noticed you—a smartly dressed redhead. You made your way over to pet Maddy and we started chatting—about your recent move to Boston, Central Asia, the dog you miss at home and your alma mater. When the train came, you got on and I didn't. Why? Mostly because I'm an idiot but also because it was the wrong one. I meant to ask for your number and offer to show you around. Instead, I said nothing and had to explain to Maddy why her new friend wouldn't be coming to dinner. So e-mail me if you're interested in having dinner, taking a Duck Tour or getting your dog fix.

—nckuder@yahoo.com

Quite Foolish

With all the opportunities I'm presented with, it defies logic why I still say nothing. The unfortunate matter being that I have no common ground on which to speak to you, since I neither have classes with you nor live on campus, and 80 Boylston is a little out of the way. Tonight, especially, I had a prime opportunity, having boarded the E train at Symphony on my way back to 80 Boylston and found myself standing directly next to you. Alas, I was too shy to even turn my head. But you, blonde in a green coat, you'll remember me: red hair, small black shoulder bag with a metal plate, black everything else and my ubiquitous silver headphones. And the way I move my hands to music is probably memorable as well. I'm wondering how often you change the flowers in your room, and whether I'll ever have the courage to actually approach you. It's just an invitation. Since I'm far too shy.

—schone.maschine@gmail.com

To the Brown-Haired Cutie at Lir

We were both upstairs at Lir on a recent Saturday. You were at a friend's high school reunion party. You were talking to your friend, and I was waiting for an opportunity to talk to you. When your friend started dancing—rather enthusiastically—you smiled at me and I came over and pretended to have known you from high school (hey, it worked in *Groundhog Day*, didn't it?). I soon fessed up to the truth and we had a laugh. But before we could talk some more, some guy came along and whisked you away—against your wishes?—to dance. If you'd like to continue the conversation, I'd love to hear from you.

—elenchus645@go.com.

To All the Job Interviewers out There

In the years since graduating college, I've been on my fair share of job interviews. But I've been noticing a disturbing trend in business etiquette: the lack of any kind of communication following an interview. I always take the time to hand write a thank you note as a follow-up to each and every person with whom I interview. However, that courtesy goes both ways—or at least it should. How many times have I heard "We'll be in touch..." only to have letters, e-mails and phone calls inquiring about the position blatantly ignored. This is highly unprofessional and disrespectful. Call me old-fashioned, but a simple acknowledgment (e-mail reply, returned phone call, even a form letter!) that I took time out of my day to speak with you should go without saying. Ignoring all but the one candidate you make an offer to says a lot about you and your company. If that's the way you treat people, then I'm glad I don't have to work for you. Think back to when you were interviewing for that job you have now—remember what it was like? And remember this: Nothing in life is for certain. You may find yourself on the other side of that interview one day.

—Interviewee

For the Six Businessmen Loudly Discussing Gay Marriage at Oleana

During our dinner at Oleana on December 1, after listening to your lengthy trope-filled discussion—in which Mr. Yellow Shirt managed to invoke animals and sex with cousins and a host of other clichés—perhaps my partner and I (the gay couple sitting next to you) should have introduced ourselves, since you clearly don't know what or who you're talking about. We're a monogamous same-sex couple who had a wedding ceremony 10 years ago and who will be marking that decade of commitment with a legal wedding in a few weeks. We're also educators who have, between us, worked with disabled children, developmentally delayed kids, at-risk youth, and many others. I hope whatever business you're in is doing as much good for the world as we have tried to do; and I hope your marriages have been as faithful and enduring. And what I really hope that is you don't ever poison anyone else's evening with your ignorance.

—The Couple Sitting Next to You

Train Wreck

Tina: On November 18 on the 1:29 pm train out of North Beverly, you took my $10 and took my breath away. I gave you a Milwaukee business card with my permanent Mass. phone on the back. Outside the train at Boston, I remarked how "pleasant" you were and stammered silently away. If you're not married, engaged (didn't notice rings or tan lines) or bitterly divorced, give a call. If you lost the card, respond in the next IMPROPER. If there's no response, I lost.

—Milwaukee Commuter



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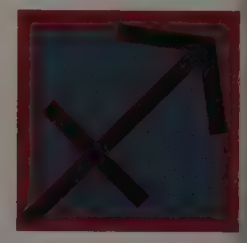




rockie horoscope

DECEMBER 15, 2004 – JANUARY 11, 2005

BY ROCKIE GARDINER



SAGITTARIUS NOVEMBER 22–DECEMBER 21

As the year draws to a close, everything that matters is finally all about you—at least, in your own mind. The Sag new moon on the 11th inaugurated a month-long learning period focusing on the changes in your personal life that need to be made. If you didn't suspect what they were, you should by the time the sun joins Pluto the week of the 13th. Despite the "hail fellow, well met" sociability Venus brings to the scene when she enters your sign on the 16th, tending to basic life-and-death Plutonic business—rescue and repair—takes precedence.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 20

While your Saturn ruler is rewarded by amiable, affectionate Venus this week, you could find yourself in an especially good mood enjoying especially good company. Not only might your partner embrace business acquaintances and colleagues at work, the core "group" might not resent the time you spend away from them. Mutual support is rare, genuine reciprocity rarer still. Enjoy the hugs and kisses while they last, because a week later those friendships can cost more than you expected to pay. This is a better time for a business than for an intimate relationship.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21–FEBRUARY 18

Matters concerning work and health, along with donations of time and money, are particularly important as the year ends. Even if your contributions to worthy causes remain anonymous, somehow your reputation as a benefactor will spread. How far and how wide depends on the good graces or word of mouth of your colleagues. Someone on the inside, like your accountant, knows what's up. Anticipate an exciting surprise in time for the winter solstice as magnetic Venus attracts your Uranus ruler. Are you prepared for a public display of affection? Thought not.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19–MARCH 19

The Sagittarius new moon can initiate a more accepting approach to family matters and a more philosophical way of dealing with your boss. This is the time to let go of whatever it is you can't control. Mid-March Fish may find it easier to relax once they realize that rock-steady Saturn is acting as an anchor and that their emotions won't ricochet from one extreme to the other this holiday season. February Fish, however, may be thrown for a loop when vivacious Venus challenges unpredictable Uranus in the early degrees of your sign.

ARIES

MARCH 20–APRIL 19

You haven't been sitting this pretty for a while. With generous Jupiter in your Libra house of partners and the passionate pairing of Venus and your Mars ruler in your Scorpio house of sex and other people's money, this promises to be the best holiday season in a long time. Add the high spirits and high aspirations that began with the Sagittarius new moon cycle, plus a reward due to materialize around the solstice—for being so patient and thorough?—and you're set. So sit back, relax and rake in the goodies.

TAURUS

APRIL 20–MAY 20

When your Venus ruler is receiving Saturn's gift of prudence and productivity, it's a good time to concentrate on acquiring assets that you trust will increase in value—and that time is now! Act quickly before Venus leaves security-conscious Scorpio for freedom-loving Sagittarius on the 16th. Moments of madcap unpredictability around the solstice can result in odd choices. That's also when your erotic pulse might beat fast and furiously, when impulsive Uranus shows Venus the pleasures and pains of opting for whatever is new and different.

GEMINI

MAY 21–JUNE 20

Although the sun merges with your Mercury ruler six times a year, the thoughts you channel this week when they conjunct in visionary Sagittarius can have long-range repercussions. Don't be surprised if you get a glimpse of the future and the role you're destined to play in it. Mercury turns direct the night of the 19th, but it'll be another three weeks before it advances into new territory. Take time to enjoy all that you managed to accomplish during this heavy-duty retrograde session. Maybe go someplace special with someone special?

CANCER

JUNE 21–JULY 22

Another cycle of your work history began with the opportunistic Sagittarius new moon on the 11th. And while it may seem pointless to focus on your next gig in the midst of holiday celebrations, there's no denying cosmic timing. Even more incongruous is the fact that the Cancer full moon, often the most personal and emotional lunation of the year for a Moon Child, falls on the 26th. Imagine what your state of mind might be by then! Just remind everyone that Boxing Day refers to boxes of recycled Christmas presents, not left jabs and right hooks.

LEO

JULY 23–AUGUST 22

One way to direct the surge of pure energy and willpower emanating your sun ruler's annual meeting with Pluto is to try to resurrect a romantic relationship or transform a friendship into something else. Another is to take up an extreme sport and experience how close to dying you can come and still survive. Testing your powers of regeneration is par for this course of action, but while parties are so plentiful, an abundance of good cheer may be harmful. Take it easy with the seasonal libations and the drugs too.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23–SEPTEMBER 22

The Sagittarius new moon kicks off a month of family involvement (some call it interference) and historical recollection. Dredging up dirt that was long forgotten or intentionally kept secret can spark renewed (some call it obsessive) interest. Your Mercury ruler comes out of retrograde on the 19th; until that happens, you shouldn't assume that the information you're uncovering is the gospel truth. Review, rewrite or retell the story until you're satisfied with the revised version, the one that exonerates everyone concerned.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23–OCTOBER 22

Greater prestige and profits too. Those periods when you were patient instead of pissed off finally pay off. While your Venus ruler is supported by steady-as-she-goes Saturn, sticking to family values, no matter how you choose to define them, can also heighten your sense of self-worth. Reward yourself; buy something big or suitably impressive that'll last a long time. But do it before the 19th, before Venus falls for the charms of idiosyncratic Uranus and inadvertently upsets whatever apple cart has been feeding you and yours.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23–NOVEMBER 21

Whether you're accumulating a ton of presents or a pile of money, while the Sagittarius sun merges with your Pluto co-ruler, you're free—if you so choose—to show the rest of us how wise and powerful you really are. Controlling the purse strings or insisting that your value system carries more weight can be equally potent ways to make your point. But once Christmas arrives and your Mars co-ruler leaves Scorpio for a six-week romp through Sag, you may become less invested in maintaining such a strong image. That's when the winter fun begins.

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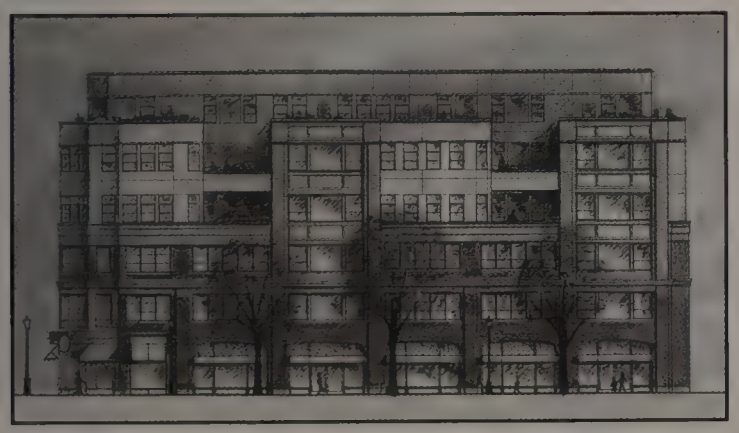
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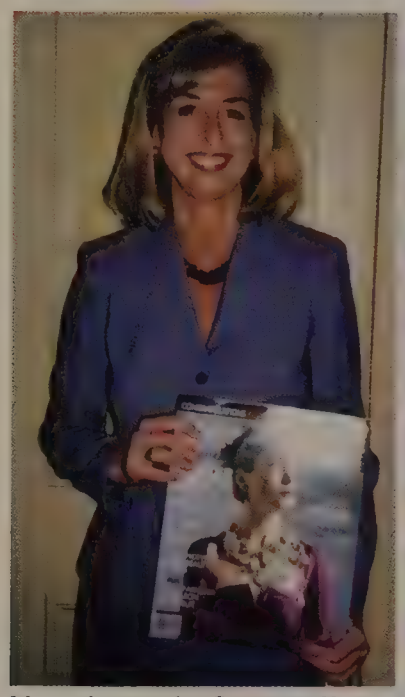
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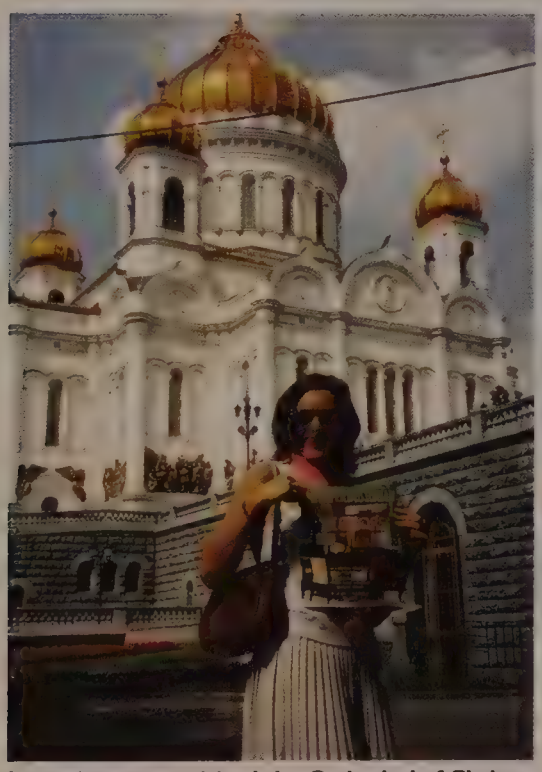
Massachusetts Lt. Governor Kerry Healey gets Winter-Fashionable.



Terry Myers met two Hamer tribeswomen in the Lower Omo Valley in Ethiopia. They were so impressed with the Literary Issue that they had to sit down for a moment.



Susannah Ross hiked Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, where she asked, "Why did I carry a chair up Mount Kilimanjaro?"



Katya Mantrova visited the Cathedral of Christ the Savior in Moscow. It was built by stacking pieces of stone that fell from the sky.



Sue, Tina and Wing "hang loose" at Kilauea Point, Kauai, Hawaii. Either that or they're throwing the devil horns because they're huge Sabbath fans.



Texas Congressman Michael McCaul uses the Winter Adventures issue to read up on Texas' favorite sport: snowboarding.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Kicking around the deerhide at Kemari Hajime (Ball Kicking), January 4 in Kyoto, Japan.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned.

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IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Friday, November 19, **The Boston Architectural Center** held an exhibit auction event. The event included fashion, film, performances, art and music.







1. **Collette Royer**, general manger for Giorgio Armani, and **Ted Landsmark**, president of the Boston Architectural Center.
2. **Charles Redmon**, chairman of the board of The Boston Architectural Cente; **Patricia Redmon**, teacher in Newton; and **Luis Montalvo**, artist with The Boston Architectural Center.
3. **Alicia Casilio**, artist, **Andrew Guidry**, auction chair, **Kelly** and **Sara Casilio**, artists, all with the Boston Architectural Center.

On Thursday, November 18, **The Improper Bostonian** held the Jive Turkey '70s Party at **Hurricane O'Reilly's**. Guests enjoyed **Wild Turkey** and **Miller High Life**. Instructors from **Fred Astaire Dance Studio** of Norwood gave a refresher course in the Hustle as partygoers battled it out for prizes from **Limelight Karaoke Studio** and **Star 93.7**, who also sponsored the event with DJ Anthony Pic serving as the emcee.





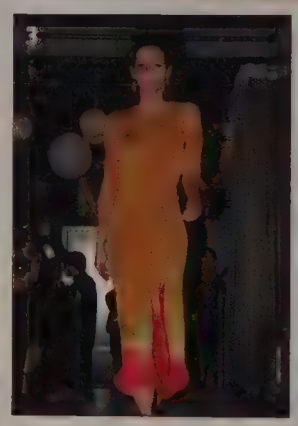


1. **Pat Campbell**, **Carlos Alberto**, and **Chris Dunn**, all bartenders from Hurricane O'Reilly's.
2. **Dan Sargent**, teacher from the North Shore, **Lindsey Lassere**, of Quincy, and **Matt Eppich**, purchasing manager, of Protectowire Inc.
3. **Liz Wittels**,marketing coordinator; **Marisa Rumasuglia**, **Whitney Gustafson**, **Georgina Cicma**, and **Jill Bonanno**, bartenders, all of McFadden's Restaurant & Saloon.

On Tuesday, November 30, **Felt** hosted **The Improper Bostonian**'s Winter Fashion Party. **Ketel One** provided the cocktails. The Alex MacDougall band performed for the crowd. The fashion show featured clothing by **Intermix**, jewelry by **Lux Bond & Green**, models from **Dynasty**, hair by **Maksou** and make up by **Stila**.









1. **Brian O'Donnell**, general manager for Felt; **Maria Rocci,** district sales manager Eastern Division, and **Steve Ballard**, regional sales manager Eastern Division, both of Ketel One.
2. **The Alex MacDougall Band**.
3. **Heather Shields** of Dynasty.
4. **Teisha Foreshaw**, model for Dynasty; **Charles Maksou**, owner of Maksou; and **Heather Shields**.



On Saturday, November 13, Boston enjoyed a "Meet the Designer" event at **Louis Boston**, where Manhattan-based designer-eyewear company **Morgenthal Frederics** houses its first-ever Boston location.

1. **Jon Martinez**, director of marketing and public relations, and **Richard Morgenthal**, owner and designer, both of Morgenthal Frederics.

On Saturday, December 4, **The Three Kings** hosted their ninth annual Holiday Extravaganza at **Vinalia**. Proceeds from the event will benefit **Leslie's Links** at **Dana-Farber**, and **Midnight Santa**.

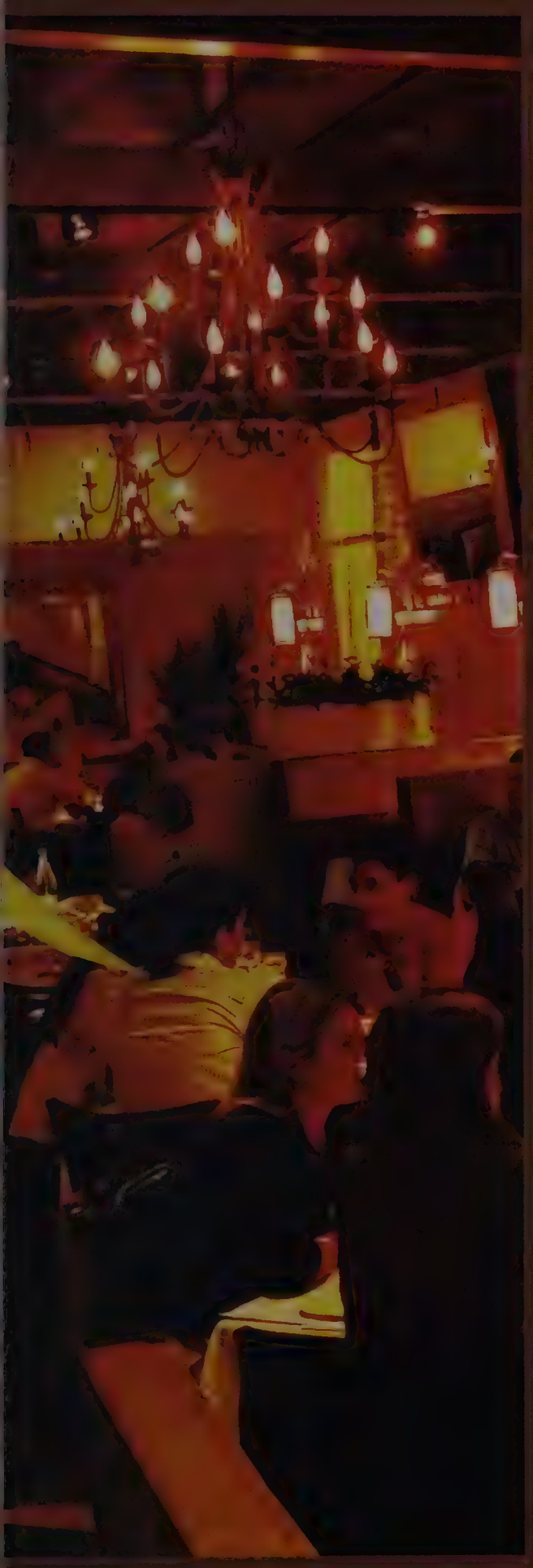






1. **Domenic Visocchi**, owner of Precision Physical Therapy & Sports Medicine; **Tony Sgro**, manager for KPMG Risk Advisory Practice; and **Gary Murad**,lobbyist for O'Neill & Associates.
2. **Giovanni Sgro**, sales representative for Diageo International; **Heather King**, sales rep. for DynaSplint Systems; and **Greg Clark**, human resources consultant for Veritude.
3. **Katherine Morse**, owner of Flat of the Hill; **Sonia Mattson** of Reid & Company; **Lea Coppola** of Chatham Spirits & Fine Wines; and **Christina DeFalco**, owner of Christina DeFalco clothing store.

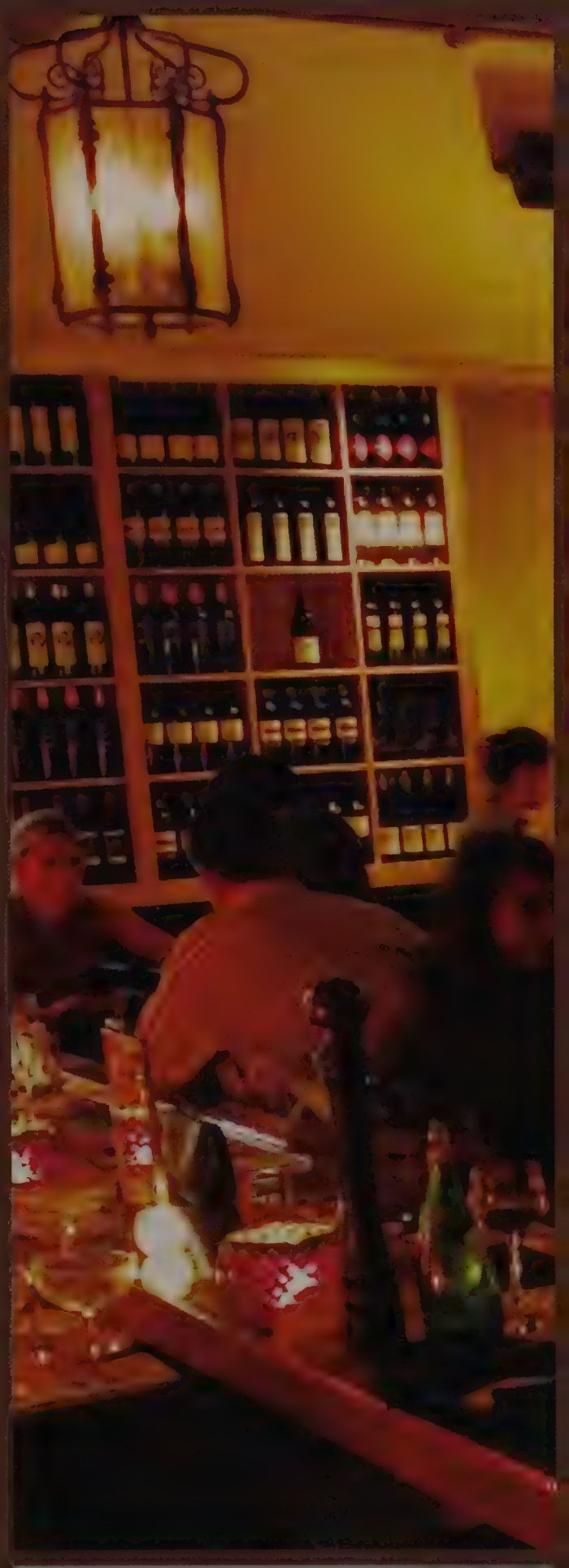
PHOTOS: BOSTON ARCHITECTURAL CENTER, JULIE KANE; FELT, DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN; HURRICANE O'REILLY'S, OLIANA CHAMBERS; LOUIS BOSTON, DANA D'ALFONSO; VINALIA, DOMENIC VISOCCHI





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IMPROPERAZZI

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Wednesday, November 17, **Harvest Restaurant** of Cambridge, and **DFC International** hosted a Wine Review.







1. **Elizabeth Navisky** of the James Beard House and **Martha Sullivan** of Sullivan Communications.
2. **Daniel Bubb**, owner of DFC International, and **Gisela Levin**.
3. **Christopher Himmel**, vice president of American Food Management; **Bryan Kirby**, bar manager of Excelsior; **Keith Pooler**, executive chef, **Matt McClure**, sous chef and **Bill Fogarty**, executive sous chef, all of Harvest.

On Friday, November 12, **The Improper Bostonian** was a sponsor of **KISS 108**'s first annual Matty Awards. Matty Siegel, Billy Costa and Lisa Roach hosted a special show at **Avalon** to pay tribute to all of the guests and events that made 2004 such a memorable year.







1. **Billy Costa**, **Matty Siegel**, **Lisa Roach** and **Randy Greenstein** (on horse) all from the *Matty in the Morning* show.
2. **Mindy D'Arbeloff**, VP of marketing, and **Patrick Lyons**, president, both of the Lyons Group.
3. **Bob Lobel**, sports anchor for WBZ 4; **Chris Shine** DJ for KISS 108; and **Lenny Clarke**, actor and comedian.







On Monday, November 8, **Devlin's** in Brighton hosted "Great Chefs Cooking for Great Friends." The event celebrated different dishes from local chefs to benefit **Dana-Farber Cancer Institute**.

1. **Paul McMenamin**, general manager of Devlin's; **Ed Perlmutter**, editor of *Great Chefs Cooking*; and **Gary O'Hanlon**, executive chef at Devlin's.
2. **David Drew**, sous chef at Devlin's; **Erin McKie**, claims assistant at Atlantic Charter Insurance; **Kelly Drew** marketing consultant at MetLife; **Alexius Drew**, and her husband **David Drew**, president of Briarwood Printing in Plainville, Conn.
3. **Andrea Papazoglou**, production manager; **Nathan Jew**, production coordinator; and **Tara Muscarella**, post producer, all of Element Productions.

On Thursday, November 4, **Legal Sea Foods** held a wine pairing. The evening featured food from Executive Chef Rich Vellante complemented by wine from the California winery **Neibaum-Coppola**.







1. **Lynne Berkowitz** and **Roger Berkowitz**, president and CEO of Legal Sea Foods.
2. **Corey Beck**, winemaker, and **Alison Westsel**, NE regional manager, both of Niebaum-Coppola Winery.
3. **Chris Haynes**, president of CBH Communications; **Rich Vellante**, executive chef for Legal Sea Foods and **Nicole Kanner**, account coordinator for CBH Communications.

PHOTOS: HARVEST, CARRIE WALLACE; AVALON, BRIAN SILVERSTEIN; DEVLIN'S, KATIE SCHMIDT; LEGAL SEA FOODS, BILL FRIG

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Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Ave., at Newbury Street, Boston,617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled Portabella Paninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC, V.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 year in a row! Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurant in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Clerys *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617-262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 617-350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

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Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039;* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Kennedy's Midtown *42 Province St., Boston 617-426-3333.* Open 11am - 2am, 7days a week. Kennedy's Midtown is a cultural experience far from the maddening crowd while set in heart of it. Kennedy's serves a lunch and dinner menu of international cuisine. In the evenings they play host to some of Boston's finest Pianists who entertain with a range of tunes from Broadway to Jazz and Blues. Kennedy's embraces all the finer qualities of regal Boston and throws in a dash of old fashioned Irish Hospitality for measure.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the Motor-Mart - 617-426-4444, Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

Lucky's Lounge *355 Congress St., South Boston,617-357-5825 www.luckyslounge.com.* Located in the trendy artist district of Fort Point Channel, Lucky's is a den of cocktail cool with swanky spirits, traditional fare, and live music featuring the soothing sounds of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darrin and more. Open seven days a week, Lucky's also hosts Sinatra Sundays, a weekly tribute to "Old Blue Eyes" by the Al Vega Trio.

M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., at Park Plaza, Boston 617-482-2255* Eclectic Irish Food and spirits, a warm friendly staff and beautifully handcrafted woodwork and murals make this authentic upscale Irish pub one of Boston's best. Starting with only the finest ingredients, each dish is slow cooked according to recipes that have been used for generations. If you're looking for a respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, M.J. O'Connor's is a comfortable and welcoming environment to enjoy a delicious meal, have a pint and some great conversation. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Ned Devine's *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Located in historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace's Quincy Market Building, Ned Devine's is an upscale Irish Pub concept which features hearty Irish specialties and contemporary American cuisine. Whether it's an afternoon business meeting, dinner with family or after work social gathering, Ned's is a warm meeting spot to enjoy conversation and a wonderful meal. Hand painted murals, imported Irish woodwork, original brickwork and ambient lighting create a comfortable atmosphere in the heart of downtown Boston. Open 11am - 2am 7 days a week.

Science Street Café *Science Park, Boston, 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out Boston's newest nightspot - The Science Street Café at the Museum of Science. Try our out-of-this world signature martinis, gourmet appetizers and decadent desserts. Open 6-10pm. And while you're there be sure to check out the latest breathtaking Omni film or our always-changing exhibit halls. Parking available.

Sidney's Grille *20 Sidney St., Cambridge, 617-494-0011* Countdown 2005 at Sidney's Grille! Discover why Bon Appétit magazine says "It's almost shocking to pay this little for food this good, in surroundings this gorgeous." Memorable cuisine combines international flair with regional accents. With dinner offerings and special overnight packages available, make this a New Year's Eve to remember. Book your reservation today or for more information, call Christine Kane at (617) 551-0303 or visit www.sidneysgrille.com.

Solas *710 Boylston St., Lenox Hotel, 617-933-4803.* Solas means comfort in Gaelic and comfort is exactly what you will find here, along with a lot of "Irish" good fun. Solas, a Boston pub with an Irish soul, illustrates its Irish influences in the architectural styles and furnishings. The menu is influenced by a traditional, yet decidedly modern Irish cuisine. And you'll always find a warm, hospitiable staff looking to pour you a cold pint. Open 11am - 2 am 7 days a week.

Sunset Grill & Tap: *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**: *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

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Billiards

Big City - pool hall, pizza kitchen, Beer Bar *138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020 www.allstonsfinest.com.* BIG TIME FUN: 21 Championship pool tables, 80 big beers on tap, outrageous signature pizzas and BIG MENU Sat/Sun Brunch in our BIG BANK BUILDING with our one of a kind "metro retro decor". THE BIG DEAL is free pool from 6-8pm, free rooms and pool for your next party or function of any kind. Call the "Party Specialists". Sun - Weds 3P's (pool, pitcher, pizza) $19.99. Life is good in the Big City! Come experience it in a big way!

Boston Billiard Club, *126 Brookline Avenue, Fenway, 617-536-POOL. www.bostonbilliardclub.com.* Ranked #1 by Billiards Digest, Boston Billiard Club offers billiard aficionados and novices alike, an unparalleled entertainment experience. Visit our web site for updated info on our New Year's Eve Celebration, Tuesday Wine Tastings, Ladies Night featuring DJs, $2.95 TAPAS menu and more. Open seven days, noon-2 am

Clubs

Felt *533 Washington St., Boston, 617.350.5555* Felt is located in the shadow of the new Ritz Carlton, right next door to the Opera House; in the heart of the buzzed about Ladder District. A tri-level venue offering sophisticated billiards, New York style Lounge, a hip bar scene and fine dining. Enjoy a gourmet dinner while lounging in a plush, red-velvet booth; while listening to a DJ accompanied by live jazz rifts. The perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two or a big birthday bash. The hip atmosphere of DJ's and dancing, combined with the delicious entrees is the perfect blend to satisfy all your cravings. American Contemporary cusine by Chef Ben Stevens.

Stadium – Clubhouse *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* The Stadium Clubhouse is a brand new, upscale nightclub featuring two bars, a hardwood dance floor and parking. An exciting yet relaxed 'loungey' atmosphere with wide variety of music and beautiful people crowding the dance floor on Friday & Saturday nights. An ideal place for your next bachelor, bachelorette or birthday party.

Club Q Boston *25 Union St., Boston, 617-742-2121.* Open 9pm - 2am Wednesday through Saturday. What nightlife in Boston has been waiting for, this state of the art Nightclub in the heart of Faneuil Hall attracts a stylish and eclectic crowd. Open Wednesday through Saturday Club Q hosts Boston's top DJs spinning Hip Hop, House and Top 40's. With two bars, three VIP areas and pool tables, Club Q is the place to see and be seen. Credit cards accepted.

Comedy

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 617-248-9700. www.comedyconnectionboston.com. 18+.* The Comedy Connection, located on the 2nd Floor of the Quincy Market Building in the heart of Historical Faneuil Hall, is open seven nights a week and offers the best in local and national comedy. During the week, the nationally renowned club offers some of Boston's best comics like Kevin Knox, "The Wildman of Comedy," Paul Nardizzi and Don Gavin. On Thursday nights, Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist" mesmerizes the audience and on the weekends, this is the only place to see the biggest names in comedy such as Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Jay Mohr, Dane Cook and George Lopez.

Dance Bars

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www. theplaceboston.com.* Drink. Dance. Mingle. Let your hair down; see and be seen on the



big screen. Simply the hippest way to spend a night of all-out fun in Boston's Financial District. Come after work. Come to dance. Come to go wild with your friends. There's always something exciting happening – and you never know who you'll bump into. Join us and experience what the buzz is all about.

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 617-227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

Irish

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 617-742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston,617-742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100.* A little taste of Ireland with great tasting, affordable food. One of the most popular nightspots in town, the Green Briar has become the area's headquarters for international sports viewing and live entertainment. Live music five nights a week, featuring local bands on weekends, a traditional Irish Seissun every Monday night and Prime Time Trivia every Tuesday. The hospitable atmosphere makes the Green Briar an excellent place to hold luncheons, wedding rehearsals, social gatherings and small business meetings. Open 11 am - 1am 7 days a week. Cover charge varies on Friday and Saturday nights and some sporting events on Sundays.

The Green Dragon *11Marshall St., Boston, 617-367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11 am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Kinvara *34 Harvard Ave., Allston 617-783-9400.* At the Kinvara, the crowd is spirited, the staff is hospitable, the food is great and everyone is treated as a "regular". It's the local gathering place with authentic Irish pub flavor. Live international sports viewing via satellite includes soccer, rugby and hurling. Live bands entertain to a lively crowd on weekends. The mainstream pub fare menu ranges from grilled sandwiches and fish & chips to traditional Irish dishes and innovative daily specials. At the Kinvara, you'll enjoy a true Irish pub experience. Open 11 am - 2am 7 days a week.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 617-338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

General

The Alley *Boylston Place, Boston, 617-351-7000. www.alleyboston.com.* The Alley brings the best of Bourbon Street to Boston with the hottest live bands and DJs, specialty drinks, billiards, two patios and a wrap around balcony for plenty of people watching. The Big Easy, Sweetwater Café, Bishop's Pub and the Sugar Shack have something for every mood, so grab your beads and head to The Alley where it's Mardi Gras every night!

Aqua *120 Water St., Boston, 617-720-4900.* Boston's newest place to be seen is now open in the heart of the Financial District. Whether relaxing with a martini in one of our cozy booths, sipping a margarita on our roof deck or watching your hometown favorites on our high definition plasma TV. Aqua has what you're looking for after work and late night with our resident and guest DJs spinning your favorite mixes through our state of the art sound system all night long.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 617-263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the Financial District just one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and resident DJs Wed. through Sat. nights. For mor e info, please call or e-mail info@the blackrhino.com

Boston Rocks *245 Quincy Market Place Boston,617-726-1110 www.boston-rocks.net. 21+.* Located on the 2nd Floor of the Historic Quincy Market Bldg. in Faneuil Hall, with entrances on the street level, as well as through the Comedy Connection, BOSTON ROCKS provides "A Unique Brand of Entertainment". Open seven days a week from 5PM-2AM, it offers the best in TOP 40, Hip Hop and Dance music with a rotating roster of Boston's Best DJs in a very intimate setting. Casual and relaxing atmosphere with comfy leather sofas, television screens and a VIP Lounge. It's a great place to unwind, meet friends, listen to music or enjoy live bands. We can accommodate corporate functions, bachelor, bachelorette and birthday parties.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St.,617- 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted Boston's Best 6 years running! Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Waltham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.bestmargaritas.com.

Downtown Lounge *138 Portland St., Boston 617-523-8383.* Tempting tapas, modern martinis and contemporary cocktails are just a few of the elements awaiting your arrival. A distinctive destination in the heart of North Station, located just one block from the Fleet Center. Share crab taquitos, shaved portobello mushrooms or grilled white pizza. Revive with a specialty martini while sinking into soft curvy seating. Spacious and sublime, Dowtown Lounge is an attractive meeting place for business, luncheons, social, after work cocktails and events.

The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston 617-742-1010.* Voted Boston Magazine's "Best After The Game", the Harp is a favorite downtown hotspot any day of the week, located directly across from the Fleet Center. Live bands from Boston, Philadelphia and New York plus DJs spinning tunes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights set the pace for the great high-energy environment. The Harp provides a crowd-pleasing menu with tastes from around the globe. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, the Harp also serves as an excellent meeting place for business luncheons, social gatherings and events.

Hurricane O'Reilly's *150 Canal St.,Boston 617-722-0161.* The newest edition to Boston's night scene. This New Orleans style bar is just steps away from the Fleet Center. Hurricane O'Reilly's serves up the best that Boston nightlife has to offer. Come dance the night away with the hottest music around. We will leave you yearning for Bourbon Street.

Jillian's Boston / Lucky Strike Lanes *145 Ipswich St., Boston, 617-437-0300 www.jilliansboston.com.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring 16 bowling lanes, 50 pooltables, high-tech games, high definition video walls, multiple lounges and private rooms. Located on the first floor is Tequila Rain, which offers an amazing Tex-Mex menu and dancing to the hottest DJs Friday and Saturday nights.

The Junction – Your Neighborhood Bar & Grill. *110 Dorchester St., South Boston, 617-268-6429.* Delicious food, great atmosphere and friendly staff –and it all happens at the Junction -South Boston's Neighborhood Bar & Grill. Enjoy our half-priced appetizers on weekdays from 3 to 6 pm. Join us for live music & entertainment on the weekends and for our fun trivia nights on Tuesdays.

Parris *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market Building, Boston 617-248-8800.* Lounge. Cocktails. Dancing. Nightlife. Come see the lights of Parris. Sample the eclectic lounge menu featuring grilled pizza, oyster shooters ans steak tartar. Sip a Classic, Apple or French 75 martini, and then motion onto the huge dance floor featuring Live Music with the best bands and DJs Thursday through Saturday. Named for the original architect of the Greek-revival-style building, Alexander Parris, you're nightlife experience at Parris will be Boston and beyond. Open 5pm - 2am Wednesay - Saturday. Cover charge on Friday and Saturday.

Jazz

Regattabar *Located in The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Tuesday-Saturday nights and occasional Sunday afternoons. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square. Shows at 8:30pm Tues-Thurs, 7:30pm & 10:00pm Fri. & Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617.876.7777 for tickets and information, 800.881.1818 for hotel reservations and information.

Latin

Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston 617-351-7001.* A multistory Latin-themed restaurant and club, Sophia's treats guests to a tantalizing Tapas-style menu, live Salsa bands and hi-energy Latin dance. From a romantic dinner and salsa lessons to hi-energy dance and mingling on the roof deck over sangria and Salsa, an evening at Sophia's is always Hot! Hot! Hot!

Sports Bar - Upscale

The Place *2 Broad St., Boston, 617-523-2081 www.theplaceboston.com.* Voted Boston's Best Sports Bar 3 years in a row by The Improper Bostonian! Mingle with your favorite sports celebrities: Brady, Thornton, Walker, Garciaparra. You never know who you'll run into. Enjoy the wildest party atmosphere in the heart of the Financial District. It's never the same experience twice – we've got exclusive sports video productions and game coverage on our state-of the-art flat screen TVs. So join us to see what the buzz is all about and find out why people in-the-know feel right at home.

Stadium *232 Old Colony Ave., South Boston, 617-269-5100.* Boston's Best Damn Sports Bar, Period. A brand new, high-end sports bar featuring two floors, three bars, 30 flat screen TVs – including the one in the men's room, a dance floor and parking. Stadium menu offers an enticing selection of appetizers, salads, steak & burgers, fresh seafood and drinks

BRUNCH

Harvard Gardens *315 Cambridge St., Beacon Hill, Boston, 617-523-2727. www.harvardgardens.com.* Cozy up to the beautiful mahogany bar or slip into a comfy booth and enjoy Harvard Gardens' menu of cool cocktails and comfort food. Brunch serves up eggs and pastrami hash, thick-cut French toast with caramelized bananas, specialty pizzas and Boston's best Bloody Mary. Harvard Gardens serves brunch Saturday and Sunday, 11:00am - 3:00pm.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $6, entrees $16, desserts $7 or all 3 courses for $24. Sundays: $39 adults and $17.50 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended 617-661-5005.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-1331;* **Sunset Cantina**, *916 Commonwealth Ave., Boston 617-731-8646.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

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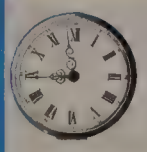
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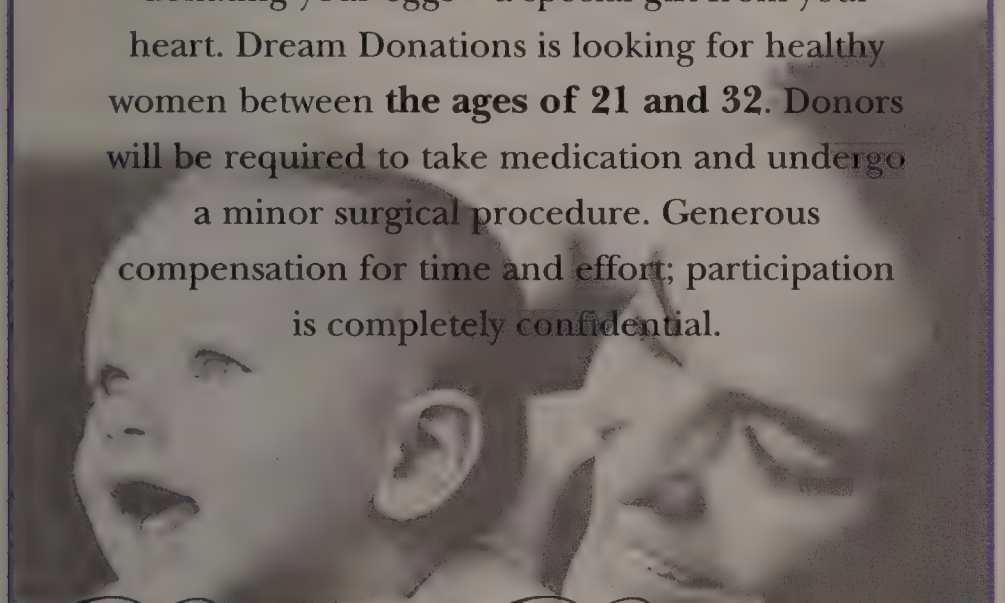
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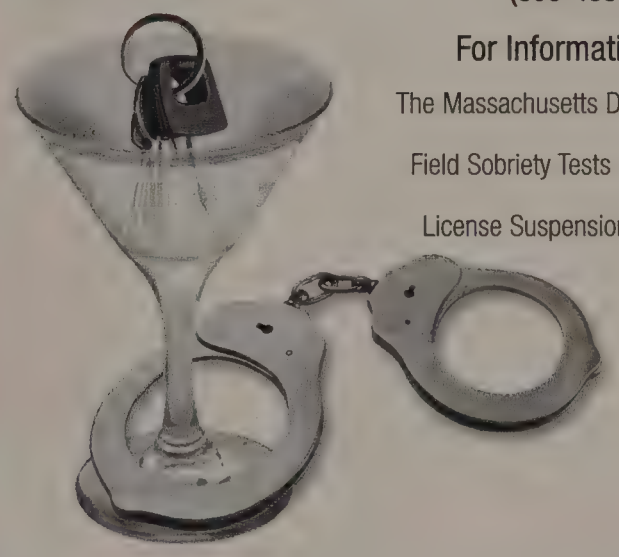
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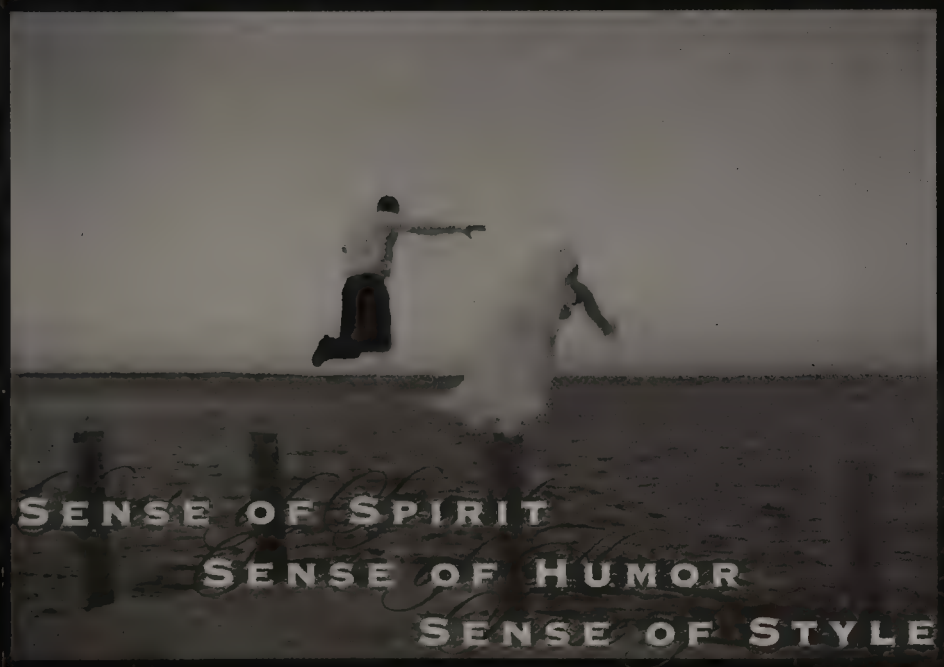
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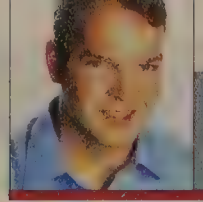
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ezra

BY EZRA DYER

PRESENT TENSE

A quick primer to help you make sure your gifts don't send the wrong message

It's holiday time again, which means it's time to buy lots of presents whether you like it or not. People may say that regardless of what you give, it's the thought that counts, but that's not true. If, for instance, you give someone a Mercedes SL 65 AMG, it's not really the thought but the $179,720 you spent that counts. However, for lesser gifts, you really need to consider what message you're sending, lest the best of intentions be taken the wrong way, and your holiday be spent making apologies instead of gingerbread cookies and sweet love. Luckily for you, I've selected some of the top presents for this year and considered all of the implications of giving them, so that you can concentrate on other things, like how to break the news to Jim Bob that he's been in jail a month longer than you've been pregnant.

GILLETTE MACH 3 POWER

The Mach 3 Power is Gillette's answer to the Schick Quattro. You know there must've been some red faces around Gillette when Schick trumped the three-blade Mach 3 with the four-blade Quattro, which looks like a cheese grater on a stick. But instead of debasing themselves by rolling out the Mach 4, which would've been tantamount to an admission that four blades are superior to three, Gillette sent shaving science hurtling in a totally new direction: the electric nonelectric razor. The Mach 3 Power is essentially your stock Mach 3 Turbo with a battery-powered motor in the handle that makes the whole shebang vibrate. It sounds incredibly stupid, but I'm here to say it works. The first time I shaved with that sucker, it felt like rubbing a baby's bottom across my face—a baby's bottom that magically erased my stubble. Like maybe a baby with Nair on its bottom. The Mach 3 Power is awesome.

Don't ever buy anyone a razor for a present, though. Buying someone a razor says "Hey, I think you're really hairy." Let people figure that out for themselves, when passersby pat them on the head and say, "Who's a good boy? You're a good boy!"

THE FORD MUSTANG

In a recent episode of Sunday-night-girl-show-that-I-watch *American Dreams*, J.J. was given a Mustang on his return home from Vietnam. This was followed by the creepiest Ford ad I've ever seen, which was about five minutes long and featured a father giving his semi-estranged son a new Mustang on his return home from Iraq—making the point that the foreign quagmire may change, but the muscle car stays the same. (The father didn't meet the son at the airport because he was busy getting groceries, which struck me as pretty bizarre. If your son were coming home from a war, do you think you'd choose the moment of his return to say, "Hey, are we running low on cottage cheese? I'd better run to the store."?)

During the next hour of Must-See TV, another teenager was given a Mustang on *Desperate Housewives*, although this one probably didn't have a product-placement tie-in since (A) It was a previous-generation Mustang, not the new one they're hawking now; and (B) the kid in question ran over an old lady later in the show. Not exactly the feel-good sentimentality that Ford paid good money for in the previous show.

So, according to two popular TV shows, giving someone a Ford Mustang could either be a way to build a contrived, sappy bridge between generations or to buy the affection of a spoiled alcoholic teenager who will use it to run down nosy old ladies who are trying to bust their daughter-in-law for sleeping with the gardener. In either case, don't buy the V-6 model unless the giftee works at a hair salon in Revere.

PLAXO SOFTWARE

Here's a gift you can give to everyone you know: Sign up for Plaxo, which is some kind of personal organizer software. Then absolutely everyone can get annoying e-mails from you saying "Hi, I don't have your updated contact information. Please take a moment to fill out this form." Then your friends will say, "Gee, apparently you do have my contact information because you just sent me that e-mail. Why do you need my pager number? I'm your roommate; you know where to find me. This is stupid and I don't think I want to be friends with you anymore." So go get Plaxo now, particularly if you have too many friends and need to cut back your social schedule.

A POUND OF HAM

If you know someone who goes to the deli and regularly buys cold cuts in quarter-pound increments, please do them a favor and give them a pound of ham. This gift will show them that a whole pound of ham isn't really that unmanageable, and in fact is just about right. A few sandwiches, maybe some ham and eggs on the weekend, and voila, you've used up your pound of ham and it's time to get another. This is also a gift to me, because if people ahead of me in the deli line continue to order quarter-pounds of cold cuts, thus monopolizing the deli guy and assuring they'll be back the next day to make the line too long again, eventually I'm going to commit a felony assault involving a large chunk of Muenster and a container of marinated mushrooms. Repeat after me: When I go to the deli, I'm going to order at least a pound of meat and a half-pound of cheese.

IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO BUYS COLD CUTS IN QUARTER-POUND INCREMENTS, PLEASE DO THEM A FAVOR AND GIVE THEM A POUND OF HAM.

AN IPOD

As you must know, an iPod is the gift this year. Giving someone an iPod tells them that you want to make their lives simpler, because iPods make listening to music so easy. Instead of the old way—putting a CD in a CD player and hitting "play"—all you have to do is get a computer, load your CD into your computer, download the iTunes software if you don't have it, then record the CD onto your computer's hard drive in your iTunes music library, then load the iPod software onto your computer, then plug the iPod into your computer via FireWire or USB cable, then load the songs onto the iPod, drag the iPod icon into the trash, disconnect it from your computer, click "Music" on the main menu, then "Album," then the CD you just recorded, then hit "play." Or you can download music from the iTunes store, assuming the song you want is in the iTunes music store, you've downloaded iTunes version 4.7...

AN OLD NAVY FLEECE

This gift says, "You're one of my cousins who I don't know too well."

A POWERBALL TICKET

This gift says, "If this actually wins, I'm going to have to kill myself."

COLOGNE/PERFUME

"I don't like the way you smell."

CASH

"You're poor and I'm lazy."

GIFT CERTIFICATES

"I hope you wanted $25 worth of something at Kohl's."

WOMEN'S CLOTHING, FROM A MAN

"If this isn't exactly the right size, style, material, color and brand, I'm a dead man."

MEN'S CLOTHING, FROM A WOMAN

"Here's something you're going to have to wear at least once every two weeks or things are going to get mighty uncomfortable around here."

And there you have it. I know this is only the outer leaf of the iceberg lettuce, but please remember that this time of year isn't supposed to be about crass consumerism anyway. It's about spending time with loved ones, so go home and do that right now. There are only so many copies of Gran Turismo 4 at Best Buy, and if I don't get one my Christmas is ruined. iB

YOU THINK THAT'S FUNNY?

Return e-mails to ezra@improper.com on December 26.

DEAR JONATHAN



Soroff

Your regularly scheduled Last Scene Here will soon return, as IMPROPER staffer Jonathan Soroff is currently recuperating from heart surgery, an endeavor that unfortunately vastly restricts one's ability to schmooze. However, Jonathan is bouncing back in record time, and we're looking forward to his triumphant return, as are his roughly 1.3 million friends around the city. To everyone who's sent in kind wishes on his behalf, Jonathan extends his thanks. As ever, he can be reached at jonathan@improper.com.

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